

1,1'-Bis(methylphenylphosphanyl)ferrocene: Synthesis and Complexes with the Tetracarbonylchromium Fragment

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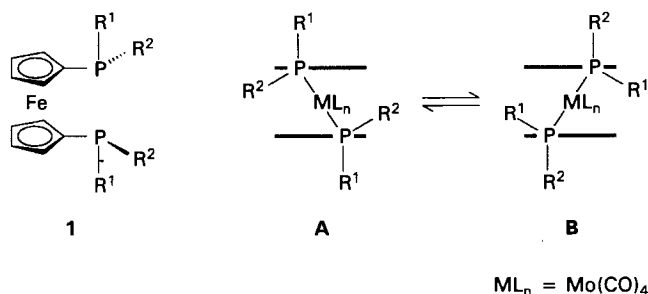
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1,1'-Bis(methylphenylphosphanyl)ferrocene (mppf) (**2**) was synthesized from dilithioferrocene and $\text{PMePh}(\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4\text{-4-Me})$. The diastereomers *rac-2* and *meso-2* were separated by fractional crystallization from ethanol. The tetracarbonylchromium complexes (*rac-2*) $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_4$ (*rac-5*) and (*meso-*

2) $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_4$ (*meso-5*) were obtained photochemically from hexacarbonylchromium and mppf in near quantitative yield. The structures of *rac-2*, *rac-5*, and *meso-5* were determined by X-ray crystallographic analysis.

Ferrocenylphosphanes, both chiral and achiral, play an important role as ligands in many areas of chemistry, especially in coordination chemistry, enantioselective organic synthesis, and homogeneous catalysis^[1]. 1,1'-Bis(diphenylphosphanyl)ferrocene (dppf) is probably the most widely used ferrocenediylbisphosphane ligand, and its coordination chemistry has been studied in great detail^[2].

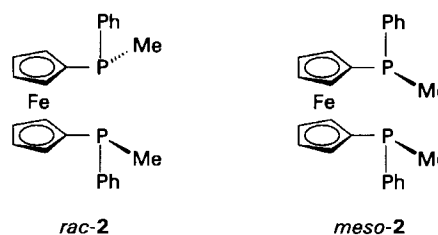
In this paper we consider ligands of type **1**. When the two substituents R^1 and R^2 are equal as in dppf the ligand displays effective C_{2v} symmetry. Most commonly, dppf is coordinated to a single metal centre as a chelating ligand. In this situation it possesses a synclinal sandwich conformation. For instance, (dppf) $\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_4$ exists as two enantiomers **A** and **B** ($\text{R}^1 = \text{R}^2 = \text{Ph}$) which, according to NMR-spectroscopic observation, rapidly interconvert^[3]. This internal motion is governed by a symmetrical double-minimum potential.



For different substituents R^1 and R^2 stereoisomerism comes into play. The ligands **1** then exist in two chiral forms with effective C_2 symmetry and as *meso* form which possesses effective C_s symmetry in its synperiplanar conformation. In racemic complexes as e.g. *rac-1* · $\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_4$ the two conformations **A** and **B** are no longer equal in energy and one will be preferred to the other. The case of the *meso* form is entirely analogous. It is obvious from this discussion that ligands **1** with different substituents at the phosphorus

atom offer better stereocontrol when used as auxiliaries in catalysis.

Previous work on 1,1'-bis(phosphanyl)ferrocene ligands $\text{Fe}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_4\text{PR}^1\text{R}^2)_2$ with two different substituents at the phosphorus atom comprises a preliminary communication on *tert*-butylphenyl derivatives ($\text{R}^1 = t\text{Bu}$, $\text{R}^2 = \text{Ph}$)^[4] and a report on isopropylphenyl derivatives ($\text{R}^1 = i\text{Pr}$, $\text{R}^2 = \text{Ph}$)^[5]. We decided to study the as yet unknown $\text{Fe}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_4\text{PMePh})_2$ (mppf) (**2**) and give here a first account of the ensuing chemistry.



Results

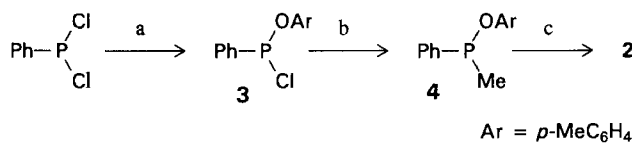
Synthesis of mppf and Separation of the Diastereoisomers

The synthesis of **2** is summarized in Scheme 1^[6]. Dichlorophenylphosphane was treated with 4-methylphenol (1:1) in the presence of pyridine to give chloro(4-methylphenoxy)phenylphosphane (**3**). Treatment of **3** with methyl lithium at low temperature afforded methyl(4-methylphenoxy)phenylphosphane (**4**) with good chemoselectivity. Finally, dilithioferrocene $\text{Fe}[\text{C}_5\text{H}_4\text{Li}(\text{tmeda})]_2$ ^[7] was treated with **4** to give the two diastereomers *rac-* and *meso-2* in a 3:1 ratio.

The two diastereomers can be separated by crystallization from ethanol. The racemic isomer *rac-2* readily forms clusters of orange needles. The composition of the mother liquor is typically *rac:meso* = 1:4. After concentration of the solution *meso-2* crystallizes slowly as thin orange plate-

lets. We note that equilibration at temperatures above 140 °C (e.g. in the melt at 200 °C for 15 min) produces mixtures with *rac*:*meso* = 45:55 and subsequent crystallization from ethanol gives a further crop of *rac*-2. In principle, all material can thus be transformed into the more valuable isomer.

Scheme 1



a: ArOH, py / hexane, 0 °C

b: MeLi / Et₂O, -78 °C

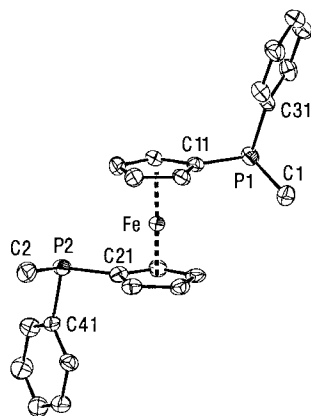
c: Fe{C₅H₄Li(tmeda)}₂ / hexane, r. t., inverse addition

Ar = *p*-MeC₆H₄

Structure of *rac*-mppf

The structure of *rac*-2 was determined by X-ray diffraction analysis (Figure 1). The ferrocene skeleton shows very small to insignificant deviations from idealized geometry (Table 1). The cyclopentadienyl rings are planar and coplanar; their rotational position corresponds to an anticlinally staggered conformation with a torsion angle (C11–X1–X2–C21, where X1 and X2 are the Cp ring centroids) of 139.7°. The phenyl groups are arranged perpendicularly to the *exo* faces of the ferrocene skeleton with dihedral angles of 71.1(2) (for the Ph group C31...C36) and 88.8(2)° (for the Ph group C41...C46). This orientation of the PMePh substituents seems to be energetically most favorable.

Figure 1. Molecular structure of *rac*-2; selected bond lengths [pm]: Fe–C(Cp)_{av} 204.8 [203.2(4)–206.3(5)], C–C(Cp)_{av} 141.0 [137.4(7)–145.2(7)], P1–C1 181.5(6), P1–C11 180.9(5), P1–C31 184.3(4), P2–C2 184.2(5), P2–C21 182.9(5), P2–C41 184.0(4)



Synthesis of (mppf)Cr(CO)₄ Complexes

The tetracarbonylchromium complexes (*rac*-2)Cr(CO)₄ (*rac*-5) and (*meso*-2)Cr(CO)₄ (*meso*-5) can readily be obtained from hexacarbonylchromium and mppf. Under photochemical conditions in toluene both mppf isomers afford the corresponding diastereomers *rac*- and *meso*-5 as stable yellow crystals in near quantitative yield. The correspond-

Table 1. Structural parameters of the ferrocene skeleton

	<i>rac</i> -2	<i>rac</i> -5	<i>meso</i> -5
conformation	anticlinally eclipsed	synclinally staggered	synperiplanar eclipsed
τ [°] [a]	139.7	42.2	11.1
θ [°] [b]	1(4)	4(2)	2(2)
X _A FeX _B [°]	178.6	179.2	177.6
PFeP [°]	140.5	59.4	65.0
P...P [pm]	648.4(3)	361.4(1)	340.9(1)
d _p [pm] [c]	-4.8(2), -1.9(2)	8.3(1), -8.8(1)	9.5(1), 7.6(1)
d _C [pm] [d]	0.56, 0.29	0.50, 0.45	0.23, 0.14

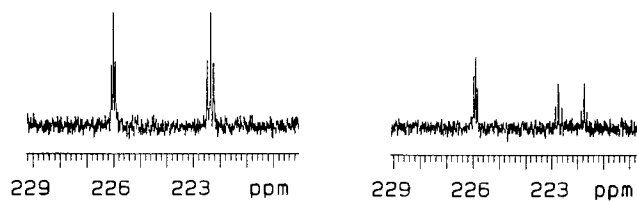
[a] Torsion angle τ = C_A–X_A–X_B–C_B, where C_A is C-1 in Cp ring A (likewise for C_B); X_A, X_B are the centroids of the two Cp rings. – [b] Dihedral angle θ between the two Cp rings. The values show no significant deviation from zero. – [c] Deviation d_p of the linked P atom from the Cp least-squares plane. A positive sign means that the P atom is on the same side of the Cp ring as the Fe atom. – [d] Mean deviation d_C of the C atoms in a Cp ring from their least-squares plane.

ing thermal synthesis^[8] (140 °C, in xylene, 3 h, 63% yield) is complicated by partial epimerization and hence is of no further interest.



The purity of the new compounds can best be monitored by ³¹P{¹H}-NMR spectroscopy, while the ¹³C{¹H}-NMR spectra allow unambiguous identification of the diastereomers (Figure 2). *rac*-5 displays effective C₂ symmetry in solution with two pairs of chemically equivalent CO groups. In contradistinction to this situation, *meso*-5 shows effective mirror symmetry. While its equatorial CO groups (those *trans* to one of the two phosphorus atoms) are symmetry-related, the two axial CO groups (*cis* to both phosphorus atoms) are chemically inequivalent. Hence, three CO signals are observed in this case with an approximate 2:1:1 intensity ratio. It also follows that the CO groups *trans* to a phosphorus atom resonate at lower field.

Figure 2. ¹³C{¹H}-NMR spectra of carbonyl region for *rac*-5 (left) and *meso*-5 (right)



Structures of (*rac*-mppf)Cr(CO)₄ and (*meso*-mppf)Cr(CO)₄

The molecular structure of (*rac*-1)Cr(CO)₄ (Figure 3 for *rac*-5) is of approximate C₂ symmetry with very small distortions of the ferrocene skeleton (Table 1). The sandwich conformation is synclinally staggered with a torsion angle of 42.2°. The conformation of the PMePh substituents places the phenyl groups in a roughly perpendicular orientation relative to the *exo* face of the cyclopentadienyl rings [with dihedral angles C11-5/C31-6 76.1(1)° and C21-5/C41-6 73.6(1)°].

In the case of (*meso-1*)Cr(CO)₄ (Figure 4 for *meso-5*, Table 1) the sandwich conformation is nearly synperiplanar with a torsion angle of 11.1°. This forces the Cr(CO)₄ fragment to bend sideways and to twist somewhat to avoid close non-bonding intramolecular contacts. The phenyl groups are again in a perpendicular orientation relative to the *exo* face of the cyclopentadienyl rings [with dihedral angles C11-5/C31-6 85.7(2)° and C21-5/C41-6 87.6(2)°].

Figure 3. Molecular structure of *rac-5*; selected bond lengths [pm]: Cr–P1 237.14(8), Cr–P2 238.38(9), Cr–C3 184.9(4), Cr–C4 184.7(3), Cr–C5 185.8(4), Cr–C6 187.4(3), C3–O3 114.4(6), C4–O4 114.3(4), C5–O5 114.9(6), C6–O6 114.8(5), Fe–C(Cp)_{av} 203.7 [201.4(3)–206.2(4)], C–C(Cp)_{av} 141.9 [139.3(5)–144.0(4)]

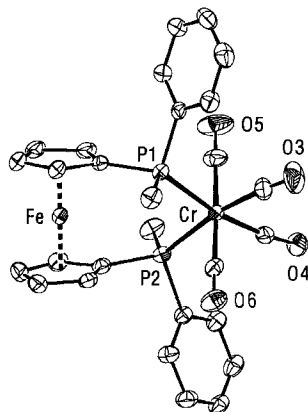
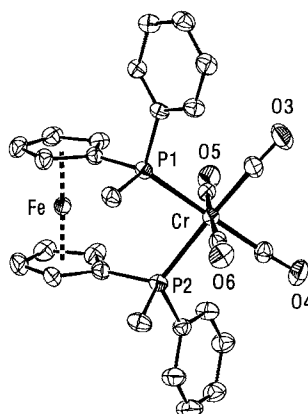


Figure 4. Molecular structure of *meso-5*; selected bond lengths [pm]: Cr–P1 240.44(9), Cr–P2 238.34(9), Cr–C3 184.7(4), Cr–C4 183.9(3), Cr–C5 185.5(4), Cr–C6 187.8(4), C3–O3 115.9(4), C4–O4 116.4(4), C5–O5 116.7(4), C6–O6 115.4(4), Fe–C(Cp)_{av} 204.1 [202.9(3)–205.9(3)], C–C(Cp)_{av} 142.6 [140.3(6)–144.7(5)]



Conclusion

Our synthesis of the diastereomeric mppf ligands **2** first modified PhPCl₂. The use of 4-methylphenoxy derivatives ensured sufficient chemoselectivity in the methylation step; monitoring of the preparations by means of NMR spectroscopy was greatly facilitated by the *para*-methyl substituents. We also note that our preparation of the mppf isomers can easily be upscaled and is not fully optimized.

The structural results suggest that the use of different substituents at the phosphorus atom does indeed induce a strong preference for one of the two alternative dispositions

of the substituents R¹ and R². The smaller one of the two substituents (Me) extends into the equatorial region. In the related work on *rac*- and *meso*-Fe(C₅H₄PPhiPr)₂ the phenyl groups are smaller than the isopropyl substituents and are roughly placed into the equatorial plane^[5], in nice agreement with our interpretation. This effect should be of considerable interest for the design of chiral auxiliary ligands on the basis of *rac-2*.

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Experimental

Reactions were carried out under nitrogen by means of conventional Schlenk techniques. Pentane and hexane were distilled from Na/K alloy and THF from sodium benzophenone ketyl. Sand and alumina were heated in a high vacuum at 300 °C prior to use; alumina was deactivated (7% H₂O, deoxygenated) after cooling. – Melting points: sealed capillaries, uncorrected. – NMR: WP-80 PFT (¹H, 80.1 MHz), Bruker; WH-270 PFT (³¹P, 109.3 MHz), Bruker; Varian Unity 500 (¹H, 500 MHz; ¹³C, 125.7 MHz; ³¹P, 202.3 MHz); Varian VXR 300 (¹H, 300 MHz; ¹³C, 75.4 MHz); vt = virtual triplet; ¹H and ¹³C spectra are referenced to internal TMS, ³¹P spectra to external H₃PO₄ (85%). – MS: Varian MAT CH-5-DF. – IR: Perkin-Elmer 1720 X FTIR.

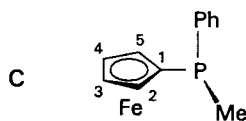
1. *Chloro(4-methylphenoxy)phenylphosphane (3)*: A solution of *p*-cresol (20.4 g, 188 mmol) and pyridine (15.2 ml) in hexane (125 ml) was added dropwise (within 2 h) with stirring to dichlorophenylphosphane (25.5 ml, 188 mmol) in hexane (125 ml) at 0 °C. Stirring was continued at 0 °C for 2 h. After warming of the mixture to ambient temp., the pyridinium chloride formed was removed by filtration. Distillative workup gave three fractions: 5.2 g of PhPCl₂ (b.p. 32–40 °C/5 · 10⁻⁶ bar), 30.6 g of **3** (b.p. 108–129 °C/5 · 10⁻⁶ bar) and 7.8 g of PhP(OC₆H₄Me-*p*)₂ (b.p. 170–190 °C/5 · 10⁻⁶ bar); yield of spectroscopically (NMR) pure **3** 77% (based on PhPCl₂ consumed), colorless liquid. – ¹H NMR (80 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = 2.01 (s, Me), 6.77–7.89 (m, 9H, aromatic H). – ¹³C{¹H} NMR^[9] (75 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = 20.55 (s, Me); Ph: 128.65 (d, ³J_{PC} = 9.2 Hz, C_m), 130.16 (d, ²J_{PC} = 28.2 Hz, C_o), 130.49 (s, C_p), 141.0 (d, ¹J_{PC} = 30 Hz, C_i); *p*-C₆H₄: 119.75 (d, ³J_{PC} = 8.5 Hz, C_o), 131.89 (s, C_m), 134.04 (s, C_p), 152.89 (d, ²J_{PC} = 6.1 Hz, C_i). – ³¹P{¹H} NMR (109 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = 175.2.

2. *Methyl(4-methylphenoxy)phenylphosphane (4)*: A solution of methyllithium in Et₂O (0.5 M, 407 ml, 203 mmol) was added dropwise with stirring (within 4 h) at –78 °C to **3** (51.0 g, 203 mmol) in Et₂O (200 ml). Stirring was continued for 12 h. After warming up to ambient temp., the solvent was partially (400 ml) distilled off, and pentane (400 ml) was added to the residue. The precipitate of LiCl was filtered off through a 3-cm layer of sand. Distillative workup (20-cm Vigreux column, 105–6 °C/2 · 10⁻⁶ bar) gave 38.0 g of spectroscopically (NMR) pure **4** (81%); colourless liquid. – ¹H NMR (80 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = 1.45 (d, ²J_{CH} = 7.3 Hz, PMe), 2.03 (s, *p*-Me), 6.77–7.89 (m, 9H, aromatic H). – ¹³C{¹H} NMR^[9] (126 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = 20.82 (d, ¹J_{PC} = 18.6 Hz, PMe); Ph: 128.72 (d, ³J_{PC} = 7.3 Hz, 2 C_m), 129.41 (d, ²J_{PC} = 21.9 Hz, 2 C_o), 129.67 (s, C_p), 143.92 (d, ¹J_{PC} = 23.6 Hz, C_i); *p*-Tolyl: 20.51 (s, *p*-Me), 118.88 (d, ³J_{PC} = 11.1 Hz, C_o), 130.23 (s, C_m), 131.57 (s, C_p), 155.74 (d, ²J_{PC} = 8.3 Hz, C_i). – ³¹P{¹H} NMR (202 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = 114.8.

3. *1,1'-Bis(methylphenylphosphanyl)ferrocene* (mppf) (**2**): Butyllithium in hexane (2.5 M, 66 ml, 166 mmol) was added to ferrocene (15.1 g, 81 mmol) in hexane (400 ml). *N,N,N',N'*-Tetramethylethylenediamine (tmEDA) (25.4 ml, 168 mmol) was then added dropwise. After stirring at ambient temp. for 6 h, a solution of **4** (38.0 g, 165 mmol) in hexane (50 ml) was added with stirring within 30 min, and stirring was continued for 24 h. The reaction mixture was then hydrolyzed by addition of water (30 ml). The resulting yellow solid was collected by filtration and suspended in sodium hydroxide solution (1 M, 150 ml). The raw product was extracted with toluene/ether (1:1) and chromatographed on a short column of alumina. Ferrocene and CpFe(C₅H₄PMePh) were eluted with hexane as separate orange bands, and mppf was eluted with toluene/hexane (1:1). Removal of the eluents left 19.6 g (56%) of mppf as orange powder with *rac-2:meso-2* = 75:25 (³¹P{¹H} NMR).

a) *rac-2*: Two crystallizations from ethanol gave 8.6 g (25%) of *rac-2* as orange needles, *de* = 98% (³¹P{¹H} NMR); m.p. 120.5–121.5°C. – ¹H NMR (500 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = 1.47 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz, 2 PME); Cp: 4.12 (dtd, *J* = 2.4, 1.2, 1.2 Hz^[14], 2 2-H), 4.14 (tdd, *J* = 2.4, 1.2, 0.8 Hz^[14], 2 4-H), 4.17 (td, *J* = 2.4, 1.2 Hz, 2 3-H), 4.23 (dtd, *J* = 2.4, 1.2, 1.2 Hz^[14], 2 5-H); 7.03 (2 H_p), 7.09 (4 H_m), 7.43 (4 H_o). – ¹³C{¹H} NMR^[9,15] (126 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = 12.81 (“d”, *N* = 11.5 Hz, PME); Cp: 69.80 (vt, *N* = 2.2 Hz, C-2), 71.55 (vt, *N* = 2.5 Hz, C-3), 72.21 (vt, *N* = 7.4 Hz, C-4), 75.25 (m, *N* = 28.5 Hz, C-5), 79.34 (m, *N* = 10.8 Hz, C-1); Ph: 128.18 (s, C_p), 128.42 (vt, *N* = 6.3 Hz, C_m), 131.66 (m, *N* = 18.9 Hz, C_o), 142.93 (m, *N* = 15.3 Hz, C_i). – ³¹P{¹H} NMR (202 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = –39.71. – C₂₄H₂₄FeP₂ (430.3): calcd. C 67.00, H 5.62; found C 66.96, H 5.64; mol. mass 430 (MS).

b) *NMR Assignments for rac-2*: The ¹H{³¹P}-NMR spectrum for the Cp ring is of type ABCD. The protons α to the phosphorus atom appear as dt signals while those in the β-position appear as td signals, both with ³*J* = 2.4 and ⁴*J* = 1.2 Hz as expected for ferrocenes^[17]. NOE spectra furnished the required additional information. Irradiation into the PME signal effected a strong intensity enhancement for one (at δ = 4.12) of the two H_α signals. Using the numbering scheme defined in Formula C, we assigned the signal at δ = 4.12 to 2-H. Irradiation into the second H_α signal (at δ = 4.23) produced an intensity enhancement for one (at 4.17, but not at 4.14) of the two H_β signals. This completes the assignment of all Cp ring protons and an H,C-COSY spectrum allowed us to assign all Cp ring C atoms.



c) *meso-2*: The first crystallization of *rac-2* left a mother liquor with *rac:meso* = 1:4. Slow crystallization of 0.73 g of this material from ethanol (60 ml) afforded 0.39 g of *meso-2* as orange platelets, *de* = 96% (³¹P{¹H} NMR), m.p. 103–4°C. – ¹H NMR (500 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = 1.48 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2 PME); Cp: 4.10 (m, 2H), 4.16 (m, 4H), 4.26 (m, 2H); Ph: 7.02 (2 H_p), 7.07 (4 H_m), 7.42 (4 H_o). – ¹³C{¹H} NMR^[9,15] (126 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = 12.72 (m, *N* = 10.4 Hz, PME); Cp: 69.73 (“d”, *N* = 1.1 Hz, C-2), 71.45 (vt, *N* = 2.0 Hz, C-3), 72.23 (m, *N* = 7.7 Hz, C-4), 75.68 (m, *N* = 27.4 Hz, C-5), 79.07 (“d”, *N* = 18.9 Hz, C-1); Ph: 128.16 (s, C_p), 128.44 (“d”, *N* = 6.3 Hz, C_m), 131.60 (“d”, *N* = 18.5 Hz, C_o), 143.19 (“d”, *N* = 15.1 Hz, C_i). – ³¹P{¹H} NMR (202 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = –39.59. – C₂₄H₂₄FeP₂ (430.3): calcd. C 67.00, H 5.62; found C 67.27, H 5.87; mol. mass 430 (MS).

4. [*rac-1,1'-Bis(methylphenylphosphanyl)ferrocene*]tetracarbonylchromium (*rac-5*): A solution of Cr(CO)₆ (443.5 mg, 2.02 mmol)

and *rac-2* (880.5 mg, 2.05 mmol) in toluene (180 ml) was irradiated (medium-pressure mercury lamp) until the ν(CO) band of Cr(CO)₆ (1982 cm⁻¹) could no longer be detected. After filtration the solvent was removed to give 1.09 g (91%) of *rac-5* as yellow crystals, m.p. 227–9°C. – ¹H NMR (500 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = 1.80 (vt, *N* = 6.1 Hz, 2 PME); Cp: 3.79 (m, 2H), 3.87 (s br, 2H), 4.07 (s br, 2H), 4.54 (m, 2H); Ph: 6.97 (2H), 7.09 (4H), 7.58 (4H). – ¹³C{¹H} NMR^[9,15] (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 17.50 (m, *N* = 25.5 Hz, PME); Cp: 70.56 (s), 70.68 (s), 73.85 (vt, *N* = 7.1 Hz), 75.70 (vt, *N* = 18.9 Hz), 80.45 (m, *N* = 7.1 Hz, C-1); Ph: 128.03 (vt, *N* = 8.3 Hz, C_m), 128.68 (s, C_p), 129.51 (vt, *N* = 9.3 Hz, C_o), 140.75 (m, *N* = 37.6 Hz, C_i); 222.38 (vt, *N* = 31.3 Hz, CO_{ax}), 226.03 (vt, *N* = 18.6 Hz, CO_{eq}). – ³¹P{¹H} NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 27.37. – MS (70 eV), *m/z* (%): 594 (23) [M⁺], 482 (100) [M⁺ – 4 CO]. – IR (toluene): ν(CO) = 2005 s, 1912 s, 1890 cm⁻¹ vs. – C₂₈H₂₄CrFeO₄P₂ (594.3): calcd. C 56.59, H 4.07; found C 56.28, H 4.19.

5. [*meso-1,1'-Bis(methylphenylphosphanyl)ferrocene*]tetracarbonylchromium (*meso-5*): In the same manner Cr(CO)₆ (101 mg, 0.46 mmol) and *meso-2* (197 mg, 0.46 mmol) in toluene (80 ml) gave 250 mg (92%) of *meso-5* as yellow crystals, m.p. 218–20°C. – ¹H NMR (500 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = 1.77 (vt, *N* = 5.8 Hz, PME); Cp: 3.84 (m, 2H), 3.90 (s br, 2H), 3.97 (s br, 2H), 4.52 (s br, 2H); Ph: 7.00 (2H), 7.10 (4H), 7.66 (4H). – ¹³C{¹H} NMR^[9] (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 19.10 (m, *N* = 25.5 Hz, PME); Cp: 70.58 (vt, *N* = 4.3 Hz), 71.22 (vt, *N* = 5.5 Hz), 72.05 (vt, *N* = 5.8 Hz), 74.36 (vt, *N* = 11.4 Hz), 83.92 (m, *N* = 36.7 Hz, C-1); Ph: 128.23 (vt, *N* = 8.7 Hz, C_m), 129.07 (s, C_p), 130.04 (vt, *N* = 10.4 Hz, C_o), 139.37 (m, *N* = 37.1 Hz, C_i); 221.78 (t, *J* = 14.9 Hz, CO_{ax}), 222.77 (t, *J* = 15.2 Hz, CO_{ax}), 225.92 (t, *J* = 18.1 Hz, CO_{eq}). – ³¹P{¹H} NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 28.28. – MS (70 eV), *m/z* (%): 594 (10) [M⁺], 482 (100) [M⁺ – 4 CO]. – IR (toluene): ν(CO) = 2004 s, 1914 s, 1886 cm⁻¹ vs. – C₂₈H₂₄CrFeO₄P₂ (594.3): calcd. C 56.59, H 4.07; found C 56.62, H 4.32.

6. *Structure Determination of rac-2, rac-5, and meso-5*: Suitable crystals of *rac-2* were obtained from a warm ethanol solution while *rac-5* and *meso-5* were crystallized from hexane/CH₂Cl₂ (8:1). The crystal data and refinement parameters are listed in Table 2. Ge-

Table 2. Crystal data and structure refinement parameters

compound	<i>rac-2</i>	<i>rac-5</i>	<i>meso-5</i>
formula	C ₂₄ H ₂₄ FeP ₂	C ₂₈ H ₂₄ CrFeO ₄ P ₂	C ₂₈ H ₂₄ CrFeO ₄ P ₂
formula weight	430.25	594.29	594.29
crystal system	orthorhombic	monoclinic	triclinic
space group	<i>Pnn2</i> (No. 34)	<i>P2₁/c</i> (No. 14)	<i>P1</i> (No. 2)
<i>a</i> [pm]	2921.6(3)	855.3(2)	1240.3(9)
<i>b</i> [pm]	1212.1(2)	1806.5(3)	1304(2)
<i>c</i> [pm]	583.9(1)	1774.6(2)	846(1)
α [°]	90	90	107.7(2)
β [°]	90	103.7(1)	98.8(2)
γ [°]	90	90	84.6(1)
<i>V</i> [nm ³]	2.068(1)	2.664(3)	1.286(6)
<i>d</i> _{calcd} [g cm ⁻³]	1.38	1.48	1.53
<i>Z</i>	4	4	2
<i>F</i> (000)	896	1216	608
μ [cm ⁻¹]	73.93	10.92	95.63
radiation, λ [pm]	Cu-K _α (154.06)	Mo-K _α (71.07)	Cu-K _α (154.06)
scanmode	ω-2θ	ω-2θ	ω-2θ
scanrange [°]	5 < θ < 70	0 < θ < 30	5 < θ < 62
total no. of data	3148	8454	4194
unique observed data	2377, <i>I</i> > 3σ(<i>I</i>)	3899, <i>I</i> > 2σ(<i>I</i>)	3301, <i>I</i> > 2σ(<i>I</i>)
no. of variables	244	325	326
absorption correction	emp, psi-scans	emp, psi-scans	emp, DIFABS ^[18]
min, max transmission	0.5943, 0.9941	0.8394, 0.9950	
sec extinction coefficient	2.23·10 ⁻⁷	not refined	1.67·10 ⁻⁶
residuals <i>R</i>	0.055	0.039	0.047
<i>R</i> _w [w ⁻¹ = σ ² (<i>F</i> _o)]	0.064	0.044	0.057
GOF	3.031	1.406	1.893
max res density [10 ⁻⁶ e pm ⁻³]	0.9	0.5	0.29

ometry and intensity data were collected on Enraf-Nonius CAD4 diffractometers equipped with graphite monochromators. The structures were solved by Patterson and difference Fourier methods^[19]. In the final full-matrix refinement, non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic thermal parameters, and hydrogen atoms were included as riding in standard positions (C–H = 0.98 Å). A statistical weighting scheme $w^{-1} = \sigma^2(F_o)$ was used for all reflections^[20]. The polarity of the *c* axis in our crystal of *rac*-2 could be determined: inversion results in $R = 0.113$, $R_w = 0.143$.

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