# **Stereochemical Investigations of Coordinated Sulfur Stereocenters. X-ray Structures of Diastereomers of**   $(-)_{589}$ -[Pd{(R)-CH<sub>3</sub>CH(1-C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)NMe<sub>2</sub>-C<sup>2</sup>,N}(R/S)-{Ph<sub>2</sub>PCH<sub>2</sub>SMe-P,S}]PF<sub>6</sub>

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The reaction between bis( $\mu$ -chloro)bis[ $(R)$ -1-[(dimethylamino)ethyl]naphthylenyl- $C^2$ , $N$ ]dipalladium(II) and 2 mol of the bidentate Ph,PCH,CH,SMe gave a pair of internal diastereomeric complex cations arising from the coordinated sulfur stereocenter. The hexafluorophosphate salt of the diastereomeric mixture crystallizes as a compound with  $[a]_D - 35^\circ$  (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) in the triclinic space group *P1* with  $a = 7.8690$  (10)  $\hat{A}$ ,  $b = 17.837$  (2)  $\hat{A}$ ,  $c = 21.830$  (2)  $\hat{A}$ ,  $\alpha = 82.86$  (1)<sup>o</sup>,  $\hat{\beta} = 87.19$  (1)<sup>o</sup>,  $\gamma = 83.39$  (1)<sup>o</sup>, and  $Z = 4$  ( $R = 0.0412$  and  $R_w = 0.0666$ ). In solution, the complexes exhibit facile intramolecular asymmetric equilibration between diastereomers epimeric at sulfur at room temperature. A coalescence temperature of -90 °C was recorded for the interconversion by variable-temperature NMR spectroscopy. Similar behavior was observed for analogous complexes of Ph<sub>2</sub>AsCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>SMe and Me<sub>2</sub>AsCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>SMe.

### **Introduction**

The stereodynamics of transition metal complexes containing monodentate and bidentate thioether ligands has received considerable attention<sup>1</sup> and has been the subject of a recent review.<sup>2</sup> In particular, dynamic nuclear magnetic resonance studies of sulfur inversion in platinum(I1) and palladium(I1) complexes are of particular interest.<sup>3</sup> Most work, however, has involved dithioethanes; only a few reports have appeared concerning sulfur inversion in heterobidentate ligands possessing one sulfur donor atom.<sup>2,4</sup> We were interested in the stereochemistry of chelating phosphorus-sulfur and arsenic-sulfur bidentates  $(E-S)$  because of their potential use as chiral auxiliaries for homogeneous asymmetric catalysis.<sup>5</sup>

In general, the reactions of E-S ligands with the elements of the cobalt and nickel triads have uncovered a rich coordination chemistry.6 So far, however, only two optically active mercaptoalkyl-substituted tertiary arsines<sup>7,8</sup> and one phosphine<sup>9</sup> have been resolved. Each of the resolved ligands contained a chiral phosphorus or arsenic stereocenter. With use of the optically active bidentates, a definitive account of the stereochemistry and dynamic behavior of square-planar complexes of bivalent nickel, palladium, and platinum was carried out.<sup>10</sup> We report here a stereochemical investigation of the square-planar complexes of the heterobidentate ligands  $R_2ECH_2CH_2SMe$  (where  $E = P$  or As) coordinated to a  $(R)$ -[dimethyl(1-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)aminato- $C^2$ , $N$ ] palladium unit, **1.** 

#### **Results**

**Stereochemistry Considerations.** The square-planar palladium(I1) complexes containing the thioether ligand R<sub>2</sub>ECH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>SMe and the ortho-metalated dimethyl $(1-(\alpha$ naphthy1)ethyl)amine ring exhibit diastereomerism from three

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sources: (a) the relative regioarrangement of the four different donor atoms **on** the plane; (b) the relative configurations of the carbon and the coordinated sulfur stereocenters; (c) the relative helicities of the two nonplanar chelate rings. Thus, even with an optically pure amine, the preparation of **1** may generate mixtures of up to 16 diastereomers. A detailed literature search revealed, however, that the coordination of unsymmetrical bidentates (such as As-N," **As-S,~** P-N," and **P-S9)** to the ortho-metalated [dimethyl( 1 **-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)aminato-CZJVl** palladium(I1) unit is remarkably regiospecific: the softest of the two donors invariably takes up the position trans to the  $NMe<sub>2</sub>$  group in the complex. Furthermore, X-ray crystal structure determinations of such compounds indicated that the ortho-metalated R-naphthylamine ring adopted a particular conformation,<sup> $7-9,11$ </sup> the helicity apparently being dictated by the repulsive forces between the methyl groups on the  $\alpha$ -carbon and nitrogen centers of the organometallic ring. The five-membered ring adopts a skew configuration with the methyl substituent **on** the carbon center occupying an axial position. Thus the  $\delta$  conformation of the ring will always be observed for the chelate ring when the absolute configuration of the carbon stereocenter is *R.* With these constraints, the number of possible diastereomers of optically active complex **1** is reduced to **4.** Figure 1 shows the structures of the four possible stereomers. In these structures, the N-Me groups are oriented such that the neighboring C-Me group is axial, as found in the present and previously reported crystal structures. Structures A and D have the S-Me groups axial; B and C have the S-Me groups equatorial. Dreiding models indicated, however, that the equatorially oriented S-Me groups will experience enormous steric repulsion from the N-Me groups. We therefore deduced that isomers **A** and D would be favored. In structure **A,** the sulfur-methyl group is axial and the chelate ring has the  $\delta$  conformation; in D the helicities of the E-S chelate ring and the absolute configurations of the sulfur stereocenter are enantiomorphic to the situation in A. Moreover, the axial sulfur-methyl groups in the two structures are located in distinct stereochemical environments. Model studies indicated that the S-Me group in isomer A is occupying a more sterically

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**C D** 



**Scheme I** 



favored position than its counterpart in isomer D. The chiral array of the N-Me groups is expected to exercise a discriminating effect on the relative populations of A and D and ipso facto control the absolute configuration of the sulfur stereocenter. Structural investigations of **1** in the solid state and studies of the dynamic properties of the complexes in solution would therefore provide valuable information on the precise chiral inductive effect of alkyl substituents on nitrogen and sulfur in optically active systems. Such information is crucial for the design of catalysts suitable for metal-assisted asymmetric synthesis.<sup>12</sup>

**Synthesis** of **Thioether Ligands.** The methylthio-substituted phosphine and arsines were generally prepared in high yields by treating their mercapto-substituted precursors  $R_2ECH_2CH_2SH$ with *n*-butyllithium and methyl iodide at  $-78$  °C. The thioether ligands are air-sensitive, colorless, foul-smelling oils. **(2- Mercaptoethy1)diphenylphosphine** is light-sensitive. In light, it rearranges quantitatively into ethyldiphenylphosphie sulfide. The corresponding thioether, however, is photochemically stable. We

**Scheme I1** 

 $(R)$ -(2) +  $R_2ECH_2CH_2SH$  $Et_3N$ 1 **Et3N**  Me **Pd** CI **Me, ye**  Me  $\mathbf{H}$  $(R)-(4)$ e n I **en Me Me\** *I*   $\mathbf{H}$  $(R)$ -(3) **1) Me1**  2) excess NH<sub>4</sub>PF<sub>6</sub> I

 $(R_c, R_s) \cdot (1)$  +  $(R_c, S_s) \cdot (1)$ 

**Table I.** Selected Spectroscopic Properties of  $(R_c, R/S_s)$ -1a-c

	1a	1b	1c
<sup>1</sup> H NMR ppm <sup>a</sup>			
CMe	1.91 d	1.94 d	1.88d
		$J_{\text{HH}} = 6.4 \text{ Hz}$ $J_{\text{HH}} = 6.3 \text{ Hz}$	$J_{\text{HH}} = 6.4 \text{ Hz}$
SMe	2.64 s	2.56s	2.52 s
NMe	2.91 d	2.97 s	2.87 s
	$J_{\text{PH}} = 1.3 \text{ Hz}$		
	3.05 <sub>d</sub>	3.08 s	2.98 s
	$J_{\rm pu} = 3.6 \, {\rm Hz}$		
EMe			1.69 s
			1.90 s
$[\alpha]_{\text{D}}$ (CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ), deg	$-35.0$	$-35.8$	$-91.7$

*<sup>a</sup>***300-MHz 'H NMR spectra recorded in CDCI,.** 

have recently reported on the mechanism and the stereospecific nature of the analogous photochemical rearrangement of  $(±)$ -(2-mercaptoethyl)methylphenylphosphine.<sup>9,13</sup>

 $Ph_2PCH_2CH_2SH \xrightarrow{h\nu} Ph_2EtP(S)$ 

**Formation of Complexes.** The diastereomers **la-c** were prepared in high yields from reactions between the optically active dipalladium complex *(R)-2* and the appropriate methylthio-sub-

<sup>(12)</sup> Bosnich, B. *Asymmetric Catalysis*; Martinus Nijhoff: Boston, MA, **1986; Chapter 1. Bogdan. P. L.; Irwin,** J. **J.; Bosnich, B.** *Organometallics* **1989,** *8,* **1450-1453.** 

**<sup>(13)</sup> Leung, P. H.; Wild, S. B.** *Bull. Singapore Natl. Inst. Chem. 1989,17,*  **37-41.** 

**Table II.** Crysal Data for  $(R_c, R_s; R_c, S_s)$ -1a

space group	P <sub>1</sub>	F(000)	1388
a, Å	7.8690 (10)	chem formula	$C_{29}H_{33}F_6NPPdS$
b, Å	17.837(2)	fw	696.9
$c, \lambda$	21.830(2)	z	
$\alpha$ , deg	82.86 (1)	abs coeff, cm <sup>-1</sup>	8.32
$\beta$ , deg	87.19(1)	trans coeff	$0.273 - 0.309$
$\gamma$ , deg	83.39 (1)	temp, $^{\circ}$ C	25
$V, \mathbf{A}^3$	3018(1)	$\lambda$ , $\AA$	0.71069
$D_c$ , g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.534	$R^a$	0.0412
$D_{\rm m}$ , g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.513	$Rw^a$	0.0666
			${}^{\circ}R = \sum  F_{o} - F_{c} /\sum (F_{o})$ and $R_{w} = {\sum w F_{o} - F_{c} ^{2}}/[\sum w(F_{o})^{2}]^{1/2}$ .

**Table 111.** Selected Bond Lengths (A) and Angles (deg) **in** the Four Complex Cations I-IV



 $°C(13)$  is disordered. The two S(14)-C(13) distances are 1.555 (23) and 1.600 (46) Å, respectively.  $b$  The two angles are 116.2 (9) and  $110.0$  (14)<sup>o</sup>, respectively.

stituted ligands in dichloromethane (Scheme I). The cationic complexes can also be prepared by treating the corresponding thiolato compounds *(R)-3* with methyl iodide (Scheme 11), but this method is relatively tedious since unusual  $\mu$ -thiolato-S intermediates *(R)-4* are involved. The monomeric complexes *(R)-3*  could not be formed directly even when 2 equiv of the thiol ligand were used. The overall yields of *la-c* from the methylation reactions are generally lower than those of the direct synthesis (Scheme I).

In each preparation, the 'H NMR spectrum of the product precipitated from the reaction mixture was recorded prior to recrystallization. Selected physical and spectroscopic properties for the recrystallized products *la-c* are given in Table I. All three compounds are highly crystalline and air-stable. The salts behave as 1:l electrolytes in chloroform and acetone. In solution, they are inert to most **common** oxidizing agents. Indeed, the complexes can be recovered unchanged after being treated with hydrogen peroxide in acetone for 7 days. In contact with aqueous cyanide, however, the complexes decompose readily, regenerating the corresponding thioether ligands.

The thiophosphine complex *la* was subsequently found by X-ray crystallography to be an equimolar mixture of the two diastereomers: *(R,,R,)-la* and *(R,,S,)-la,* that is, structures A and D of Figure 1. The complexes therefore crystallized as a compound wherein each unit cell in the crystal lattice contains both diastereomeric cations. Attempts to separate the isomers by fractional crystallization of the mixture under different conditions were unsuccessful.

**Crystal and Molecular Structures of**  $(R_{\alpha}R_{\beta})$ **- and**  $(R_{\alpha}S_{\beta})$ **-1a.** Colorless needles of  $(R_c, R/S_s)$ -la suitable for X-ray crystallography were grown by vapor diffusion of diethyl ether into an acetone solution of the complex. Crystal data for the complex are given in Table 11. The structural analysis indicated four molecules in the unit cell. Selected bond distances and bond angles of the molecules are given in Table 111. Of the four complex cations present, one cation of *(R,,R,)-la* (molecule I) and two cations of  $(R_c, S_s)$ -la (molecules II and III) were clearly identified; the fourth cation was disordered about the S14 atom resulting in half-occupancy in two diastereomers. The hexafluorophosphate anions are uncoordinated. The molecular geometries and absolute configurations of these diastereomers are represented by the **ORTEP**  diagrams in Figure 2. Table IV gives the fractional atomic



**Figure 2.** Molecular structures and labeling schemes for  $(R_c, R_s)$ -1a and  $(R_c, S_s)$ -1a.

coordinates for non-hydrogen atoms. Complete lists of atomic coordinates, thermal parameters, and structure factors have been deposited as supplementary material.

Of the four diastereomeric complex cations in the crystal unit, there are no major differences in the Pd-C, Pd-N and Pd-P distances. The Pd-S distances in the *R,,S,* isomer are 2.397 and 2.400 **A** with an average of 2.398 **A,** which is shorter than that of the  $R_c$ , $R_s$  isomer (2.420 Å). Interestingly, the Pd-S bond in the  $R_c, R_s$  isomer is also longer than those in an analogous palladium(I1) complex incorporating the deprotonated form of PhMeAsCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>SH and ortho-metalated dimethyl(1-( $\alpha$ naphthyl)ethyl)amine (2.393 Å),<sup>7</sup> the latter being similar to the  $R_c$ , *S<sub>s</sub>* isomer. The lengthening of the Pd-S bond in the  $R_c$ ,  $R_s$ isomer is due to the steric repulsion between the axially oriented S-Me and N-Me groups. Nevertheless, the Pd-C, Pd-N, Pd-S, and Pd-P distances of the four molecules are within the range of literature values. The other bond distances are also normal.

Bond angles about the palladium atom are very close to those reported for similar complex cations.<sup>7,9,11</sup> Thus the Cl-Pd-N12 angles range from 80.6 to 81.9° in this study compared to 81.0 and 82.5° observed in  $[(R)-dimethyl(1-ethyl-\alpha-naphthyl)$ aminato-C<sup>2</sup>,N][(S)-methylphenyl(quinolyl)phosphine] palladium-(II) hexafluorophosphate.<sup>11</sup> The S14-Pd-P17 angles are from 86.4 to 87.0'. The C1-Pd-S14 and N12-Pd-P17 angles range from 171.3 to 178.2°. With the palladium atom less than 0.1 Å from the plane defined by C1, N12, S14, and P17 atoms, the coordination geometry of the Pd atoms is square-planar. All of the other angles are unexceptional. However, the orientation of the phenyl rings in the diphenylphosphine group with respect to the plane formed by the atoms C1, N12, S14, and PI7 seems to be isomer dependent. This is best illustrated by considering the torsion angles indicated in Table V. The conformations of the  $Ph_2PCH_2CH_2SMe$  ligand in the  $R_c, R_s$  and  $R_c, S_s$  isomers are essentially mirror images of each other, but in the *R,,R,* cation

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IV, in which C13 and C15 atoms are disordered, the torsion angles are quite different. It appears that while the (methy1thio)ethyl portion **of** the ligand is relatively flexible, the bulky phenyl rings are locked in positions dictated by available space.

**NMR Spectra of 1.** The two internal diastereomers  $(R_o, R_s)$ -1 and **(&&)-l** are chemically distinct **species** in solid state (Figures 1 and **2).** Thus, with use of high-field 'H and 31P NMR spectroscopies, it should be possible to detect and determine the relative populations of the two diastereomers in solution. At room temperature, however, each of the complexes **la-c** exhibited one set of signals in their 300-MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (Table **I).** Similar results were obtained with the several different NMR solvents **used.** Consistent with the 'H NMR studies, the 31P NMR spectrum of the diastereomeric mixture 1a in CDCl<sub>3</sub> showed a singlet at  $\delta$  54.1 for the phosphorus of the complex cation and a septet centered at  $\delta$  -143.8 ( $J_{PF}$  = 144 Hz) for the hexafluorophosphate ion.

The NMR spectra for **la-c** are consistent with the following three explanations: (a) the thioether ligands are behaving as monodentates through P or As (this mode of coordination of the ligand would destroy the chirality at sulfur thus giving one isomer for each complexes); (b) the two isomeric cations are of different free energies, and only one of them is stable under the conditions  $employd;$ <sup>14</sup> (c) the spectra recorded are the average resonance signals of the two isomers, which are in rapid equilibration. It should be noted, however, that in the latter two considerations, the activation energies involved in the corresponding asymmetric transformations must be small since the spectra were recorded under ambient conditions.

All the examples known **of** a E-S ligand coordination to palladium via the E donor only contain halide or other coordinating anions. $9.15$  In the absence of such species, it is unlikely that the sulfur donor will come free from the metal, especially in chloroform. Furthermore, the stabilities of **la-c** toward strong oxidizing agents also indicate coordination of both donors of the E-S ligands (protection). Free thioethers and tertiary phosphines are oxidized to their oxides under considerably milder conditions.

Although terminal thioether-S stereocenters in palladium(I1) complexes usually have inversion barriers16 of **50-70 kJ** mol-', the lower activation energy for this process in **la-c** was not unexpected. Sulfur inversion barriers are dependent upon the nature and size of the chelate ring and upon the trans substituent.<sup>2,16</sup> Thus, a striking drop in the energy barriers was observed when the halogens in  $[PtCl_2(EtSCH_2CH_2SEt)]$  were replaced by phenyl groups." Since the sulfur donors in **1** are coordinated trans to a similar aromatic carbon, a low activation energy for sulfur inversion is likely. Further, in the absence of major steric factors, the torsional barrier of  $E-CH_2-CH_2-S$  five-membered rings will be small.1\* Thus, the coordination **of** thioether ligands or the methylation of thiolato complexes (as in Schemes I and 11, respectively) are kinetically nonstereospecific, the distribution of the two isomers in solution being governed by thermodynamics. Therefore, a CDC13 solution of **1** may either contain a sole stable compound or a rapid equilibrium mixture of the two diastereomers of similar energies. Variable-temperature 'H NMR investigations of **la-c** were subsequently carried out in order to unequivocably determine which of the alternatives were correct. Due to its low freezing point, acetone- $d_6$  was used for the low-temperature NMR experiments. At room temperature, the spectra for compounds **la-c** were almost identical to those recorded in CDC13. The resonance signals, however, broadened as the temperature of the solution lowered and collapsed at ca.  $-90$  °C. Thus, the spectra recorded at 25  $\,^{\circ}$ C in both acetone- $d_6$  and CDCl<sub>3</sub> represent dy-

- (14) An example of a thermodynamically controlled asymmetric transformation has been reported for related trans-As<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> macrocyclic palladi-<br>um(II) complexes.<sup>8</sup>
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namic intramolecular conversions between the two isomers **of** the complexes. Further, because the coalescence temperatures recorded for **la-c** were similar, the activation energies involved in the diastereomeric equilibrations **of** these complexes appear to be similar also.

In the solid state, the terminal alkyl substituent of a coordinated thioether consistently occupies a sterically favored location. $3,19$  It is not clear why both diastereomers are found in the present case, where crystal packing forces must be significant. In solution, a small lengthening of the metal-ligand bonds could minimize the ground-state energy differences. However, the reasons for the facile configurational and conformational interconversions observed remain unclear and will be investigated further.

#### **Experimental Section**

All reactions involving air-sensitive compounds were performed under a positive pressure of purified nitrogen. Routine <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectra were recorded at 25 °C either on a Bruker ACF 300 or on a JEOL FX-9OQ spectrometer. Optical rotations were measured in a I-dm cell of 22 °C with a Perkin-Elmer Model 241 polarimeter. Melting points were determined by using a Electrothermal IA 9200 apparatus. Elemental analyses were performed by the Microanalytical Laboratory staff of the Department of Chemistry.

Bis(u-chloro) bis [(R)-1-[(dimethylamino)ethyl] naphthylenyl-C<sup>2</sup>,N]. dipalladium(II)-dichloromethane,<sup>11</sup> dimethyliodoarsine,<sup>20</sup> and 2-(di**phenylphosphino)ethanethio12'** were prepared as previously described. **[2-(Methylthi0)ethyl]diphenylphosphine'~\*~~** and [2-(methy1thio)ethylldiphenylarsine<sup>22</sup> were prepared by modified literature methods.

2-(Dimethylarsino)ethanethiol. A solution of sodium dimethylarsenide in tetrahydrofuran (175 mL) was prepared from dimethyliodoarsine (40.0 g) and sodium (8.1 g) over *5* h with stirring. The excess sodium was filtered off, and the arsenide solution was cooled to -78 °C and then treated with ethylene sulfide (10.2 mL) in THF (50 mL). The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature with stirring being continued for another 16 h. At this stage, the solvent was removed by distillation and a solution of ammonium chloride (9.3 **g)** in water (175 mL) was added to the residue. The product was extracted into dichloromethane and isolated by distillation after the solution had been dried  $(MgSO<sub>4</sub>)$ . The product was obtained as a volatile, offensive smelling, colorless oil: bp 92-93 °C (20 mmHg); yield 11.5 g (40%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.97 (s, 6 H, AsMe<sub>2</sub>), 1.35-1.85 (m, 3 H, AsCH<sub>2</sub> and SH),  $2.56-2.89$  (m, 2 H, SCH<sub>2</sub>).

**[2-(Methylthio)ethyl]dimethylarsine. 2-(Dimethy1arsino)ethanethiol**  (6.1 g) was dissolved in dry THF (100 mL). The solution was cooled to -78 °C and treated with 1.6 M n-butyllithium (23 mL) followed by methyl iodide (2.3 mL) in tetrahydrofuran (50 mL). The reaction mixture was then allowed to warm to room temperature, with stirring being continued for a further 16 h. At this stage, the solvent was removed by distillation, and water (80 mL) was added to the residue. The product was extracted into dichloromethane and isolated by distillation after the solution had been dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>). The tertiary arsine was thus obtained as a colorless oil: bp 97-98 °C (20 mmHg); yield 4.6 g (70%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDC13): 6 0.97 **(s,** 6 H, AsMe), 1.62-1.80 (m, 2 H, AsCH,), 2.12 **(s,**   $3$  H, SMe), 2.56-2.89 (m, 2 H, SCH<sub>2</sub>).

**Z-(Diphenylanino)ethanethiol.** Diphenylarsine (10.0 g) was first dissolved in dry tetrahydrofuran (100 mL). The solution was cooled to -78 **"C** and treated with 1.6 M n-butyllithium (27.1 mL) followed by ethylene sulfide (2.6 mL) in tetrahydrofuran (15 mL). The reaction mixture was then allowed to warm to room temperature, with stirring being continued for a further 16 h. At this stage, the solvent was removed by distillation and a solution of ammonium chloride (2.3 g) in water (100 mL) was added to the residue. The crude product was extracted into dichloromethane and isolated by distillation after solution had been dried (MgSO,). Pure **(2-dipheny1arsino)ethanethiol** was thus obtained as a colorless oil: bp 168-170 °C (0.3 mmHg); yield 7.7 g (61%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCI<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.58 (t, 1 H,  $\frac{3J_{HH}}{9}$  = 7.6 Hz, SH), 2.22-2.45 (m, 2 H, AsCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.54-2.83 (m, 2 H, SCH<sub>2</sub>), 7.23-7.49 (m, 10 H, aromatics).

**[2-(Methylthio)ethyl]diphenylarsine. 2-(Diphenylarsino)ethanethiol**  cooled to  $-78$  °C and treated with 1.6 M n-butyllithium (6.1 mL) followed by methyl iodide (0.6 mL) in tetrahydrofuran (10 mL). The

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Table IV. Atomic Coordinates (×10<sup>4</sup>) and Equivalent Isotropic Displacement Coefficients ( $\hat{A}^2 \times 10^3$ )



**Table IV** (Continued)



<sup>a</sup> Equivalent isotropic U defined as one-third of the trace of the orthogonalized  $U_{ij}$  tensor.

**Table V.** Selected Torsion Angles (deg) in the Complex Cations **I-1v4** 

		Н	ш	ΙV
$S(14)-Pd-P(17)-C(18)$	97.4	$-96.5$	-95.6	$-130.5$
$S(14)-Pd-P(17)-C(24)$	$-134.4$	136.3	139.7	102.7
$S(14)-C(15)-C(16)-P(17)$	$-55.1$	60.6	56.5	$-55.9b$
				52.3
$C(15)-C(16)-P(17)-C(18)$	$-75.9$	75.0	69.8	171.2 <sup>b</sup>
				107.1
$C(15)-C(16)-P(17)-C(24)$	172.9	$-178.6$	$-178.3$	$-82.8^{b}$
				$-146.9$

"C18 and C24 are carbon atoms in the phenyl groups bonded to the phosphorus atom.  $b$  These are two figures when  $C(15)$  is involved since the atom is disordered.

reaction mixture was then allowed to warm to room temperature, with stirring being continued for a further 16 h. At this juncture, the solvent was removed by distillation and water (50 mL) was added to the residue. The product was extracted into dichloromethane and isolated by distillation after solution had been dried (MgS04). The product was thus obtained as a foul-smelling, colorless oil: bp 174-175 'C (0.3 mmHg); yield 2.5 g (83%). 'H NMR (CDC1,): *6* 2.06 **(s,** 3 H, SMe), 2.17-2.74  $(m, 4 H, SCH<sub>2</sub>$  and AsCH<sub>2</sub>), 7.21-7.50 (m, 10 H, aromatics).

**[2-(Methylthio)ethyl]diphenylphosphine.** 2-(Diphenylphosphino) ethanethiol (10.9 g) was dissolved in dry tetrahydrofuran (150 mL). The solution was cooled to -78 °C and treated with 1.6 M n-butyllithium (27.7 mL) followed by methyl iodide (2.8 mL). The reaction mixture was then allowed to warm to room temperature, with stirring being continued for a further 16 h. At this juncture, the solvent was removed by distillation and water (100 mL) was added to the residue. The product was extracted into dichloromethane and isolated by distillation after the solution had been dried  $(MgSO<sub>4</sub>)$ . The tertiary phosphine was thus obtained as a colorless oil: bp  $150-152$  °C (0.25 mmHg); yield 10.2 g (89%). 'H NMR (CDCl,): 6 2.07 **(s,** 3 H, SMe), 2.20-2.72 (m, 4 H, SCH<sub>2</sub> and PCH<sub>2</sub>), 7.23–7.57 (m, 10 H, aromatics). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  -17.02 (s). The ligand was previously reported to be a solid at room temperature.<sup>15,19</sup>

**Photochemical Rearrangement of 2-(Diphenylphosphino)ethanethiol. 2-(Diphenylphosphino)ethanethiol** (2 g) was sealed inside a Schlenk flask under nitrogen. After exposure to room lighting for 4 months, the tertiary phosphine had rearranged quantitatively into ethyldiphenyl-<br>phosphine sulfide. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.19 (d of t, 3 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.6  $= 11.5 \text{ Hz}, CH_2CH_3, 7.27-7.95 \text{ (m, 10 H, aromatics)}.$  No rearrangement was observed after 6 months for a second sample which was kept in the dark.  $Hz$ ,  ${}^{3}J_{PH}$  = 20.3 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.47 (d of q, 2 H,  ${}^{3}J_{HH}$  = 7.8 Hz,  ${}^{2}J_{PH}$ 

Synthesis of  $(R_{\sigma}R/S_s)$ -1a by the Direct Coordination Method: [ *(R* ) - **1-[ 1** - **(Dimethylamino)ethyl]-2-~phthslenyl- C2,Q(** 2-( **methylthio)**  ethyl)diphenylphosphine-P,S|palladium(II) Chloride. A mixture of  $(R)$ -2·CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3.1 g) and Ph<sub>2</sub>PCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>SMe (2.1 g) in dichloromethane (175 mL) was stirred until the solution was homogeneous. After removal of the solvent, the product remained as a yellowish-orange glass: mp 112–113 °C dec; yield 4.5 g (96%); [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub> -22.2° (*c* 1.0, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  2.04 (d, 3 H,  $\delta$ *)*<sub>HH</sub> = 6.1 Hz, CH*Me*), 2.21 (s, 3 H, SMe), 2.42-3.26 (m, 4 H, PCH, and SCH,), 2.74 **(s,** 3 H, NMe), 3.00 CHMe),  $6.59-8.08$  (m, 16 H, aromatics). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  36.48  $(s)$ . (d, 3 H, <sup>4</sup> $J_{PH}$  = 3.4 Hz, NMe), 4.38 (qn, 1 H, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH}$  = <sup>4</sup> $J_{PH}$  = 6.35 Hz,

**[(R)-1-[ l-(Dimethylamino)ethyl]-2-naphthalenyl-C2,NI(R** /S)-(2- **(methylthio)ethyl)diphenylphosphine-P,S]palladium(II) Hexafluorophosphate**  $((R_{\sigma}R/S_{s})-1a)$ **.** A solution of the above chloride (3.0 g) in ethanol (20 mL) was treated with excess ammonium hexafluorophosphate (1.0 g) in water (15 mL). The yellow precipitate was filtered off and washed with water, ethanol, and diethyl ether. The crude product was then recrystallized from acetone by the addition of diethyl ether: pale yellow needles; mp 199-200 °C dec; yield 3.1 g (86%);  $\left[\alpha\right]_D$  -35°  $(c \ 1.0, \ CH_2Cl_2)$ . Anal. Calcd for  $C_{29}H_{33}F_6NP_2PdS$ : C, 49.1; H, 4.7; N, 2.0. Found: C, 49.1; H, 4.5; N, 2.1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.91 (d, **(s,** 3 H, SMe), 2.91 (d, 3 H, *4JpH* = 1.3 Hz, NMe), 3.05 (d, 3 H, *4JpH*  6.63–7.92 (m, 16 H, aromatics). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  54.12 (s),  $-143.77$  (sep, *J*<sub>PF</sub> = 144 Hz, PF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (acetone-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  1.96 (d, 3 H,  ${}^{3}J_{\text{HH}} = 6.84$  Hz, CHMe), 2.80-3.39 (m, 4 H, PCH<sub>2</sub> and SCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.87 (s, 3 H, SMe), 3.00 (d, 3 H, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>PH</sub> = 1.7 Hz, NMe), 3.22 (d, 3 H, 6.70-8.26 (m, 16 H, aromatics). 3 H,  ${}^{3}J_{\text{HH}}$  = 6.3 Hz, CHMe), 2.51-3.19 (m, 4 H, PCH<sub>2</sub> and SCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.64  $= 3.6$  Hz, NMe), 4.51 (qn, 1 H,  $^{3}J_{HH} = ^{4}J_{PH} = 6.2$  Hz, CHMe),  $^{4}J_{\text{PH}}$  = 3.7 Hz, NMe), 4.80 (qn, 1 H,  $^{3}J_{\text{HH}}$  =  $^{4}J_{\text{PH}}$  = 6.35 Hz, CHMe),

**[(R)-1-[ l-(Dimethylamino)ethyl]-2-naphthalenyl-C2,NI(R** /S)-(2- **(methy1thio)ethyl)diphenylarsine-As ,S]palladium(II) Hexafluorophosphate**  $((R_{c},R/S_{s})-1)$ . A mixture of  $(R)-2-CH_{2}Cl_{2}$  (3.0 g) and Ph<sub>2</sub>AsCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>SMe (2.4 g) in dichloromethane (175 mL) was stirred until the solution was homogeneous. Removal of solvent yielded a yellow glass that was dissolved in ethanol (30 mL) and treated with excess ammonium hexafluorophosphate (1.6 g) in water (20 mL). The precipitate was separated, dried, and redissolved in acetone (30 mL). Yellow needles formed when the solution was allowed to stand at room temperature and diethyl ether was added at regular intervals: mp 198-199  $^{\circ}$ C dec; yield 3.6 g (60%);  $[\alpha]_{D}$  -35.8° (c 1.0, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>). Anal. Calcd for C29H3,AsF6NPPdS: C, 46.2; H, 4.4; N, 1.9. Found: C, 46.1; H, 4.3; N, 2.0. 'H NMR (CDCI,): 6 1.94 (d, 3 H, *'JHH* = 6.3 Hz, CHMe), 2.56 **(s,** 3 H, SMe), 2.87-2.99 (m, 4 H, AsCH, and SCH,), 2.97 **(s,** 3 H, 6.85-7.76 (m, 16 H, aromatics). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (acetone- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  2.77 (s, 3 H, SMe), 2.92-3.28 (m, 4 H, AsCH<sub>2</sub> and SCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.06 (s, 3 H, NMe), 3.24 H, aromatics), CHMe resonances obscured by the solvent. NMe), 3.08 (s, 3 H, NMe), 4.53 (q, 1 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.3 Hz, CHMe),  $(s, 3$  H, NMe), 4.82 (q, 1 H,  $J_{HH} = 6.3$  Hz, CHMe), 6.93-8.06 (m, 16

**[(R)-l-[l-(Dimethylamino)ethyl]-2-naphthalenyl-C2,NI(R** /S)-(2- **(methylthio)ethyl)dimethylarsine-As,S]palladium(II) Hexafluorophosphate** ( $(R_{\sigma}R/S_s)$ -1c). The compound was isolated in 84% yield as pale green needles,  $\left[\alpha\right]_D$  -91.7° (c 1.0, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), mp 161-162 °C dec, with use of  $Me<sub>2</sub> AsCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>SMe$  as ligand. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{19}H_{29}AsF_6NPPdS: C, 36.2; H, 4.7; N, 2.2. Found: C, 36.4; H, 4.6;$ N, 2.1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.69 (s, 3 H, AsMe), 1.88 (d, 3 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub>  $= 6.4$  Hz, CHMe), 1.90 **(s, 3 H, AsMe)**, 2.37-2.66 **(m, 2 H, AsCH<sub>2</sub>)**, 2.52 **(s,** 3 H, SMe), 2.79-3.07 (m, 2 H, SCH,), 2.87 **(s,** 3 H, NMe), 2.98 H, aromatics). 'H NMR (a~et0ne-d~): *6* 1.77 **(s,** 3 H, AsMe), 1.86 (d, AsCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>S), 2.65 (s, 3 H, SMe), 2.90 (s, 3 H, NMe), 3.10 (s, 3 H, NMe), 4.70 (q, 1 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.4 Hz, C*H*Me), 7.36–7.92 (m, 6 H, aromatics).  $(s, 3$  H, NMe), 4.42 (q, 1 H,  $^{3}J_{HH} = 6.4$  Hz, CHMe), 7.13-7.84 (m, 6) 3 H, *3J~~* = 6.4 Hz, CHMe), 1.99 **(S,** 3 H, AsMe), 2.65-3.29 (m, 4 H,

Synthesis of  $(R_{\alpha}R/S_s)$ -1a by the Methylation Method: Chlorobis-[ *(R* )- **1- (1-( dimethylamino)ethyl]-2-naphthalenyl-** C2,NIp[2- **(diphenylphosphino)ethanethiolato-P,S:Sl]dipalladium(II) ((R)-4).** A mixture of  $(R)$ -2·CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10.9 g), 2-(diphenylphosphino)ethanethiol (3.5 g) and triethylamine (2 mL) in dichloromethane (175 mL) was stirred until the solution was homogenous. The solution was then washed with water (to remove [Et,NH]CI), and the organic phase was separated and dried (MgSO,). The product remained as a yellow glass after removal of solvent and was crystallized from a dichloromethane-methanol mixture: mp 196-197 °C dec. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{42}H_{46}Cl_1N_2PPd_2S \cdot 0.5CH_2Cl_2$ : C, 54.9; H, 5.1; N, 3.0. Found: C, 54.9; H, 5.1; N, 2.8. <sup>1</sup>H NMR<br>(CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.97 (d, 3 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.6 Hz, CH*Me*), 2.59–3.37 (m, 4 H, PCH, and SCH,), 2.81 **(s,** 3 H, NMe), 2.88 **(s,** 3 H, NMe), 3.01 **(s,** 3 H, NMe), 3.35 (d, 3 H, *4JpH* = 2.93 Hz, NMe), 4.13-4.47 (m, 4 H, CHMe),  $6.72-8.29$  (m, 22 H, aromatics). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  57.89  $(s)$ 

 $[(R)-1-[1-(Dimethylamino)ethyl]-2-naphthalenyl-C<sup>2</sup>,N[2-(dipheny]-1]$  $phosphino)$ ethanethiolato- $P_{\gamma}S$ ]palladium(II)  $((R)-3)$ . A dichloromethane  $(25 \text{ mL})$  solution of the above-mentioned dinuclei complex  $(3.0 \text{ g})$  pre-

pared above was stirred rapidly for 10 min in contact with excess diamino-1,2-ethane (0.4 mL) in water (20 mL). The organic phase was then separated, washed several times with water, and dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>). The product remained as a yellow glass after removal of solvent: mp 183-185 °C; yield 1.6 g (86%);  $[\alpha]_D$  -41.3° *(c* 1.0, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>30</sub>NPPdS-0.25CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: C, 59.4; H, 5.4; N, 2.5. Found: C, 59.2; H, 5.4; N, 2.3. <sup>1</sup>H<sub>H</sub> = 6.1 Hz, CHMe), 2.24–2.98 (m, 4 H, PCH<sub>2</sub> and SCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.88 (s, 3 H, NMe), 2.97 (d, 3 H, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>PH</sub> = 3.2 Hz, NMe), 4.40 (qn, 1 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = <sup>4</sup>J<sub>PH</sub> = 6.35 Hz, CHMe), 6.74-8.11 (m, 16 H, aromatics). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ 64.08 **(s).** 

 $[(R)-1-[1-(\mbox{Dimethylamino})\n$ ethyl $]-2$ -naphthalenyl- $C^2, N[(R/S)-(2-1)]$  $($ methylthio)ethyl)diphenylphosphine-P,S]palladium(II) Iodide. A solution of the above thiolato complex (0.8 g) in dichloromethane (15 mL) was stirred for 1 h in contact with methyl iodide (91  $\mu$ L) in dichloromethane (5 mL). The product remained as an orange solid after removal of solvent: mp 197-198 OC; yield 0.9 g (90%); **[aID** -61.8O *(c* 1.0,  $CH_2Cl_2$ ). Anal. Calcd for  $C_{29}H_{33}$ INPPdS $\cdot 0.2CH_2Cl_2$ : C, 49.5; H, 4.8; N, 2.0. Found: C, 49.8; H, 4.8; N, 2.0. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCI<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  2.02 (d, **(s,** 3 H, SMe), 2.88 **(s,** 3 H, NMe), 3.15 (d, 3 H, **4JpH** = 2.8 Hz, NMe), aromatics). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 46.17 (s). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (acetone- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$ 2.45-3.35 (m,4 H, PCH2 and SCH2),2.53 **(s,** 3 H,SMe), 2.84 **(s,** 3 H,  $= 6.1$  Hz, CHMe), 6.65-8.30 (m, 16 H, aromatics) CHMe resonances obscured by the solvent signal. Treatment of the iodide with aqueous ammonium hexafluorophosphate gave the desired complex,  $(R_c, R/S_s)$ -1a, in 74% isolated yield. The physical and spectrochemical properties of this product were identical with those for the compound obtained by the direct coordination method. 3 H,  ${}^{3}J_{\text{HH}} = 6.4$  Hz, CHMe), 2.47-3.43 (m, 4 H, PCH<sub>2</sub> and SCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.55 4.46 (qn, 1 H,  ${}^{3}J_{\text{HH}} = {}^{4}J_{\text{PH}} = 6.35$  Hz, CHMe), 6.57-8.11 (m, 16 H, NMe), 3.21 (d, 3 H,  ${}^4J_{\text{PH}} = 2.7 \text{ Hz}$ , NMe), 4.47 (qn, 1 H,  ${}^3J_{\text{HH}} = {}^4J_{\text{PH}}$ 

**Structural Analysis.** Cell dimensions of  $[Pd](R)$ -CH<sub>3</sub>CH( $1$ -C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)- $NMe<sub>2</sub>-C<sup>2</sup>,N|(R/S)$ -{Ph<sub>2</sub>PCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>SMe-*P<sub>r</sub>S*}]PF<sub>6</sub> were determined from 45 reflections obtained by an automated random search routine at room temperature on a Siemens R3m/v four-circle diffractometer using graphite-monochromated Mo K $\alpha$  radiation. A colorless crystal of approx-<br>imate dimensions  $0.25 \times 0.40 \times 0.60$  mm was used. Data were collected<br>for  $3.0^{\circ} \le 28 \le 50^{\circ}$  and index ranges  $0 \le h \le +9, -21 \le k \le +21, -25$ imate dimensions  $0.25 \times 0.40 \times 0.60$  mm was used. Data were collected for  $3.0^{\circ} \le 2\theta \le 50^{\circ}$  and index ranges  $0 \le h \le +9, -21 \le k \le +21, -25$   $\le l \le +25$  with a variable scan rate of 1.50-15.0° min<sup>-1</sup>. A summary of the crystallographic data is given in Table 11. A total of 11 526 reflections were collected, and 10 278 of these  $[F \ge 6\sigma(F)]$  were used in the refinement. The intensities of three standard reflections were measured after every 97 reflection data were collected. Semiempirical absorption corrections were applied. The structure was solved by direct methods, and the lighter non-hydrogen atoms were located from Fourier difference maps. Non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically except for methyl carbon atoms in the **1-(dimethy1amino)ethylnaphthylene**  molecule and the disordered carbon atoms in cation IV. The function minimized during full-matrix least-squares refinement was  $\sum w(F_o - F_c)^2$ where  $w^{-1} = \sigma^2(F) + 0.0004F^2$ , yielding  $R = 0.041$ ,  $R_w = 0.067$ , and *S*  $= 2.34$ . Phenyl rings and the hexafluorophosphate ions were refined as rigid groups. Hydrogen atoms were introduced in calculated positions only for carbons refined anisotropically and were assigned fixed thermal parameters. All calculations were performed on a Digital Equipment Corp. MicroVax 11 computer using the Siemens **SHELXTL PLUS** package. of the crystallographic data is given in Table II. A total of<br>effections were collected, and 10278 of these [ $F > 6$ of/p] were therefore<br>time refinement. The intensities of three standard reflections we<br>sorption correction

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Registry **No. (R,,&)-la,** 139276-65-6; **(&\$,)-la,** 139276-67-8; 44-1; **(&,S,)-lc,** 139402-46-3; **(R,,R,)-la** (chloride salt), 139276-70-3; **(R,,R,)-la** (iodide salt), 139276-73-6; **(&,&)-la,** 139402-47-4; *(R)-2,*   $Me<sub>2</sub> AsCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>SH$ , 139276-61-2;  $Me<sub>2</sub>AsCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Me$ , 139276-62-3;  $Ph_2AsCH_2CH_2SH$ , 139276-63-4;  $Ph_2AsCH_2CH_2Me$ , 131291-87-7;  $Ph_2PCH_2CH_2SH$ , 3190-79-2;  $Ph_2PCH_2CH_2Me$ , 20859-51-2; NaAsMe<sub>2</sub>, **(R&)-lb,** 139276-69-0; **(Rc,Ss)-lb,** 139402-42-9; *(R,,R,)-lc,* 139402- 80145-77-3; *(R)-3,* 139276-72-5; **(R)-4,** 139276-71-4; 13787-40-1; CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>S, 420-92-8; Ph<sub>2</sub>AsH, 829-83-4; EtPh<sub>2</sub>P(S), 1017-98-7.

**Supplementary Material Available:** For  $(R_c, R/S_s)$ -1a, figures showing atom-labeling schemes and tables of crystallographic data, final positional parameters and equivalent isotropic thermal parameters, bond distances, bond angles, anisotropic thermal parameters of non-hydrogen atoms, and calculated hydrogen parameters (16 pages); a table of observed and calculated structure factors (38 pages). Ordering information is given **on** any current masthead page.

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## **Photochemical Behavior of Thioxophosphoranyl Diazo Compounds: Evidence for Transient X5-Phosphathiirenes and for Structural Isomerizations of the Diazo Group**

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Photolysis of **bis[bis(diisopropylamino)thioxophosphoranyl]diazomethane (1)** in the presence of a slight excess of dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate led to 1,3 $\lambda^5$ -thiaphosphole 5 in 95% yield. This compound was fully characterized including an X-ray diffraction study. Irradiation of **(thioxophosphoranyl)(trimethylsilyl)diazomethane 2** gave rise to [ **bis(diisopropy1amino)thioxo**phosphoranyl] (trimethylsi1yl)carbiimide **6** in 60% yield. Photolysis of **[bis(diisopropylamino)thioxophosphoranyl]diazomethane**  (3) quantitatively afforded **1,3,4-thiadiaza-l,6-dihydro-5Xs-phosphinine 7** in the absence of trapping agent, while in the presence of dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate **N(thioxophosphorany1)pyrazole 8** was obtained in 70% yield. Irradiation of 1 ,3,4,2Xs-thiadiazaphosphole **4** led to **bis[bis(diisopropylamino)thioxophosphoranyl]carbodiimide** *(9)* in 85% yield. From these results it appeared that depending on the nature of the diazo carbon substituent, the photolysis of thioxophosphoranyl diazo compounds leads to transient  $\lambda^5$ -phosphathiirenes with loss of nitrogen and/or to  $1,3,4,2\lambda^5$ -thiadiazaphospholes which under irradiation give rise to nitrilimines which can be trapped or which rearrange into carbodiimides.

Although  $\alpha$ -phosphoranyl diazo derivatives have been widely studied,<sup>1</sup>  $\alpha$ -thioxophosphoranyl diazo compounds have attracted very little attention.<sup>2,3</sup> Their carbon analogues, the diazothio-

ketones are hardly available due to their facile isomerization into 1,2,3-thiadiazoles;<sup>4</sup> these compounds are of special interest since they are the classical precursors of the highly unstable thiirenes **A.5** Here we report evidence for the transient formation of

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