

to a 150-ml titration flask which was to serve as the cathode compartment of the electrolysis cell. Mercury was added to a depth of ca. 0.5 in. (surface area, 17 cm<sup>2</sup>), a magnetic stirrer bar was added, and a Teflon cap was placed on the cell. The cap was fitted with a nitrogen inlet and outlet, a saturated calomel reference electrode, a cathode connection, and a 30-ml alundum cup which was positioned in the center of the cell, its bottom ~1 in. from the mercury. The alundum cup served as the anode compartment. The cell was made airtight. A few milliliters of electrolyte solution were added to the anode compartment and a platinum gauze anode inserted. The appropriate electrical connections were made to the Anatro potential controller.

The current-voltage relationship of the system was determined by increasing the electrode potential in steps and recording the current. The cathode solution was magnetically stirred during these measurements. The cell was immersed in an ice bath, the magnetic stirrer was started, nitrogen was passed over the cathode solution, and the controlled potential electrolysis was carried out at an appropriate voltage.

During the electrolysis, the cathode compartment was continuously swept with N<sub>2</sub>, and the sweepings were passed into a conventional glass, high-vacuum system and condensed in liquid nitrogen. These sweepings were then fractionated by low-temperature distillation *via* -78, -126, and -196° baths. The various fractions and the cathode solution were analyzed for NH<sub>3</sub>, HNF<sub>2</sub>, and F<sup>-</sup> as required.

**Formation and Decomposition of Complexes.** All work was carried out in a conventional glass, high-vacuum system. Equimolar quantities (~3 mmoles) of HNF<sub>2</sub> and the solvent to be studied were measured separately and condensed together in a cold finger at -126°. The reagents were further mixed by allowing them to warm to room temperature and recooling to -126°. The dissociation pressures of the complexes were measured as they were allowed to warm slowly from -96 to 0°. Three or four points were taken on cooling the mixtures back to -96° at the end of each experiment

to determine if the dissociation was completely reversible. Temperatures were measured to ±0.1° with an iron-constantan thermocouple, and pressures were read to ±0.2 mm. Equations were obtained through simple regression analysis of the data on a Bendix G-15 computer.

**HNF<sub>2</sub> + H<sub>2</sub>O.** Some association of HNF<sub>2</sub> with H<sub>2</sub>O was observed below -23°, but a true equilibrium expression was not obtainable.

**HNF<sub>2</sub>·CH<sub>3</sub>OH.** This complex exerts little or no measurable vapor pressure up to -55°. The reversible dissociation over the range -47.7 to 0.0° is described by the equation  $\ln Kp = (-4143.2/T) + 23.22$ , where  $Kp = P^2/4$ ;  $\Delta H = 8.24$  kcal mole<sup>-1</sup>.

**HNF<sub>2</sub>·CH<sub>3</sub>CN.** This complex exerts little or no measurable vapor pressure up to -62°. The reversible dissociation over the range -56.6 to -1.2° is described by the equation  $\ln Kp = (-6538.2/T) + 31.461$ ;  $\Delta H = 13.01$  kcal mole<sup>-1</sup>.

**HNF<sub>2</sub> + (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO and HNF<sub>2</sub> + (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>NC(H)O.** These mixtures exerted little vapor pressure up to 0°. No equilibrium expressions were obtained: vapor pressure of HNF<sub>2</sub>·DMF at 0°, 5.0 mm; of HNF<sub>2</sub>·DMSO at 0°, 5 mm.

**Infrared Spectra.** Spectra of the solvation complexes in the solid state at -196° were obtained by techniques similar to those described earlier.<sup>13</sup> The 1 M HNF<sub>2</sub> solutions were examined in conventional liquid cells. The spectra were obtained with a Perkin-Elmer Model 137 spectrometer.

**Acknowledgment.** The research reported in this publication was supported by the Advanced Research Projects Agency through the U. S. Army Research Office (Durham), Contract DA-31-124-ARO(D)-62. The authors thank Professor H. A. Laitinen for his many valuable suggestions and discussions concerning the work.

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## Trifluoromethylarsinophosphinoamines<sup>1</sup>

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**Abstract:** The new-type compounds (CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>As(NH)P(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (mp -44°, bp estd 110°) and (CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>As(NCH<sub>3</sub>)P(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (mp -30°, bp estd 127°) are easily cleaved by HCl or NH<sub>3</sub>, in contrast to the analogous P-N-P compounds. The point of cleavage is the As-N bond, which lacks  $\pi$  stabilization. BCl<sub>3</sub> is less effective than HCl for As-N-P cleavage and BF<sub>3</sub> still less; however, [(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>As]<sub>2</sub>NH is more easily attacked than the As-N-P compounds. The novel compound (CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>AsN[P(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub> (mp 26°, bp estd 161°) also is cleaved at the As-N bond by HCl or NH<sub>3</sub>, to form the well-stabilized HN[P(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub>. The iminobisarsine [(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>As]<sub>2</sub>NH with (CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>PCl and (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>N catalyst exchanges groups to make (CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>As(NH)P(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and finally HN[P(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub>. The cacodyl oxide [(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>As]<sub>2</sub>O with excess (CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>PCl goes to (CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>AsCl and [(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>P]<sub>2</sub>O or with less (CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>PCl, to [(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>As]<sub>2</sub> and oxidized phosphorus compounds; the unstable (CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>AsOP(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> probably is an intermediate in both cases. Accurate infrared spectra are reported for the three new arsinophosphinoamines.

Compounds containing the As-N-P chain should offer good opportunities for direct comparison of the  $\pi$ -acceptor strength of As<sub>4d</sub> vs. P<sub>3d</sub> orbitals, especially if fluorocarbon groups are placed on As and P to enhance their  $\pi$ -acceptor character. Accordingly, we have made the new arsinaminophosphines (CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>As(NH)P(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and (CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>As(NCH<sub>3</sub>)P(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> for a comparison of their chemical behavior with the previously known analogous As-N-As and P-N-P compounds. The syntheses were accomplished in a quantitative

manner, by the established method whereby trimethylamine removes HCl from the appropriate mixture of reactants.<sup>2,3</sup> For the tertiary amine (CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>AsN[P(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub>, however, it was necessary to employ the sodium salt NaN[P(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub> with (CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>AsCl—a process like that used for N[P(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>3</sub>.<sup>3</sup> Attempts to make an As<sub>2</sub>NP or As<sub>3</sub>N compound did not succeed: like the phosphorus case, the As<sub>2</sub>NH compound failed to react with (CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>AsCl even in the presence of (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>N; and attempts to make the sodium salt NaN[As(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub> failed for lack of protic acid character in the As<sub>2</sub>N-H

(1) This work was supported by National Science Foundation Grants GP-199 and GP-3812. Also, Grant G-14665 made available the Beckman IR7 instrument, required for this research.

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bond. Apparently the fairly easy formation of  $\text{NaN}[\text{P}(\text{CF}_3)_2]_2$  from  $\text{HN}[\text{P}(\text{CF}_3)_2]_2$  had depended upon a withdrawal of electrons into  $\text{N}_{2p}-\text{P}_{3d}$   $\pi$ -bonds, loosening the proton more effectively than in the  $\text{As}_2\text{N}-\text{H}$  case. However,  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{As}(\text{NH})\text{P}(\text{CF}_3)_2$  forms a 1:1  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}$  adduct which, like the analogous  $\text{P}-\text{N}-\text{P}$  case,<sup>3</sup> could be a  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{NH}^+$  salt.

The new  $\text{As}-\text{N}-\text{P}$  compounds, and  $[(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{As}]_2\text{NH}^4$  as well, were easily cleaved by  $\text{HCl}$ , in sharp contrast to the extreme resistance of  $\text{HN}[\text{P}(\text{CF}_3)_2]_2$  to such reactions.<sup>3</sup> Thus we could argue that the weak  $\pi$ -acceptor character of the  $\text{As}_{3d}$  orbital would permit the nitrogen to exert enough base action for  $\text{HCl}$  to attack both the  $\text{As}-\text{N}-\text{P}$  and  $\text{As}-\text{N}-\text{As}$  compounds. Moreover, the Lewis acid  $\text{BCl}_3$ , while slow to attack the  $\text{As}-\text{N}-\text{P}$  chain, very easily cleaved  $[(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{As}]_2\text{NH}$ , presumably through a more effective initial attachment to nitrogen. The difference must be electronic rather than steric, especially since  $\text{BF}_3$  failed to attack either  $\text{As}-\text{N}-\text{P}$  compound but did appreciably cleave  $[(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{As}]_2\text{NH}$  during extensive heating at  $85^\circ$ .

The cleavages of  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{AsN}[\text{P}(\text{CF}_3)_2]_2$  by  $\text{HCl}$  and  $\text{NH}_3$ , like the analogous reactions of  $\text{N}[\text{P}(\text{CF}_3)_2]_3$ , gave equimolar yields of  $\text{HN}[\text{P}(\text{CF}_3)_2]_2$ . Thus the  $\text{As}-\text{N}$  bond here was the exclusive site of cleavage.

The ammonolyses of the  $\text{As}-\text{N}-\text{P}$  compounds also provide interesting comparisons. Whereas  $\text{HN}[\text{P}(\text{CF}_3)_2]_2$  only formed an unstable  $\text{NH}_3$  adduct and  $\text{CH}_3\text{N}[\text{P}(\text{CF}_3)_2]_2$  ammonolyzed only in the liquid phase,<sup>3</sup>  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{As}(\text{NH})\text{P}(\text{CF}_3)_2$  was inert to ammonia in the vapor phase but cleaved even at  $-78^\circ$  in the liquid phase, while  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{As}(\text{NCH}_3)\text{P}(\text{CF}_3)_2$  ammonolyzed in either phase. The  $\text{As}(\text{NH})\text{P}$  compound gave  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{PNH}_2$  and  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{AsNH}_2$  as expected, with the latter condensing to  $[(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{As}]_2\text{NH}$  as it usually does.<sup>4</sup> The specific cleavage of  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{As}(\text{NCH}_3)\text{P}(\text{CF}_3)_2$  at the  $\text{As}-\text{N}$  bond was demonstrated by the formation of  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{PNHCH}_3$  but no  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{PNH}_2$ , while the arsenic aspect formed  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{AsNH}_2$  and its condensation product  $[(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{As}]_2\text{NH}$ .

The ammonolytic cleavages can be rationalized by assuming that the arsenic  $4d$  orbital, while much weaker than  $\text{P}_{3d}$  for  $\pi$ -acceptor bonding, is relatively effective as a  $\sigma$ -bond acceptor. Thus ammonia would form a dative  $\sigma$ -bond to arsenic without encountering much competition from  $\pi$  electrons in the original  $\text{As}-\text{N}$  bond, whereas the strong  $\text{N}\rightarrow\text{P}$   $\pi$ -dative bond would make phosphorus a poor site for such an  $\text{SN}_2$  invasion.

The weak  $\pi$  character of  $\text{As}_{4d}$  would not be fully explained by simple references to orbital diffuseness or electronegativity scales showing little difference between arsenic and phosphorus. Some importance might be attached to the change of sign beyond the node in the  $\psi_{4d}$  function, such that  $\sigma$ -bonding would be little affected, but some cancellation would occur in a  $\pi$  overlap with  $\psi_{2p}$ . A  $4d-5sp$  hybrid would be little better; cancellation again would be serious. On the other hand,  $\text{P}_{3d}$  is described by a nodeless  $\psi$  function, offering excellent overlap with  $\psi_{2p}$  and advantageously combinable with  $\text{P}_{4s}$  and  $\text{P}_{4p}$ .

Closely related to the cleavage reactions are the group exchanges involving  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{P}(\text{Cl})$ . In the relatively simple case of  $[(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{As}]_2\text{NH}$ , there was first an exchange to form  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{As}(\text{NH})\text{P}(\text{CF}_3)_2$  and  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{AsCl}$ , and then a

second exchange arriving at  $\text{HN}[\text{P}(\text{CF}_3)_2]_2$  and a second  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{AsCl}$ . For both stages the driving force is obvious: a greater bond-energy difference between  $\text{N}-\text{P}$  and  $\text{P}-\text{Cl}$  than between  $\text{As}-\text{N}$  and  $\text{As}-\text{Cl}$ .

In the case of  $[(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{As}]_2\text{O}$  with equimolar  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{P}(\text{Cl})$ , it may be assumed that the first stage was like that for the  $\text{As}_2\text{NH}$  compound, but the instability of the expected product  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{AsOP}(\text{CF}_3)_2$  led to a prompt and quantitative formation of the cacodyl  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{As}-\text{As}(\text{CF}_3)_2$  and nonvolatile material containing oxidized phosphorus. However, with a fair excess of  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{P}(\text{Cl})$  it was possible to engage most of the  $\text{As}-\text{O}-\text{P}$  intermediate compound in further group exchange before it could disproportionate, so that a high yield of  $[(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{P}]_2\text{O}$  was observed.

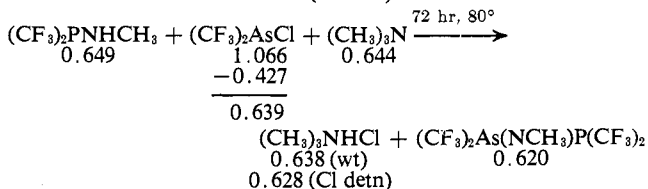
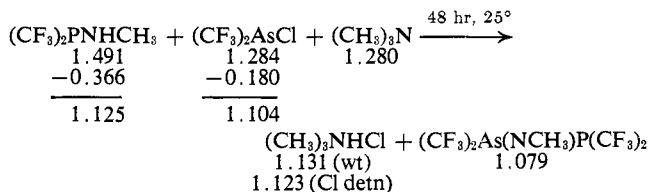
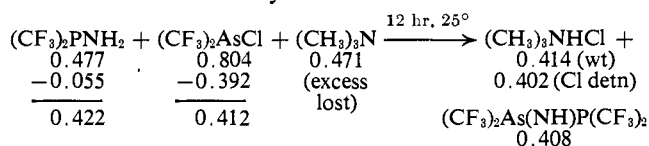
## Experimental Methods

The experimental work described in the following sections was based upon modified Stock high-vacuum methods, whereby our new volatile compounds could be synthesized in a quantitative manner and chemically studied with an accurate account of reactants and products. Closure between U-traps was done by mercury float valves designed to serve also as differential (or low-range absolute) manometers. Numerous special devices such as stopcocked or sealable reaction tubes, steel cylinders, tube openers, weighing tubes, small fractionating columns, or vapor-phase infrared cells, could be attached to the main vacuum manifold through interchangeable ground-glass joints. Wherever a stopcock was necessary, its interior contact region was lubricated with a chloro-fluorocarbon grease, and Apiezon grease T on the outside parts protected against leakage.

Literature methods were repeated for the synthesis of known starting materials not otherwise available—especially  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{AsCl}$ ,<sup>5</sup>  $[(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{As}]_2\text{NH}$ ,<sup>4</sup>  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{PNH}_2$ ,<sup>6</sup> and  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{PNHCH}_3$ .<sup>6</sup>

## The As-N-P Compounds

**Syntheses.** Either  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{PNH}_2$  or  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{PNHCH}_3$  was allowed to react with  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{AsCl}$  and  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}$  in appropriate proportions at  $25^\circ$ . The compound  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{As}(\text{NH})\text{P}(\text{CF}_3)_2$  formed easily enough in a stopcocked bulb, but the reaction was not quite complete after 12 hr. At  $80^\circ$  the mixture formed a trace of  $\text{HN}[\text{P}(\text{CF}_3)_2]_2$ , detectable by its very strong infrared band at  $925\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The formation of  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{As}(\text{NCH}_3)\text{P}(\text{CF}_3)_2$  was slower, but could be brought to completion at  $80^\circ$ . Three experiments on these syntheses are described by the following equations with millimole stoichiometry.



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(6) G. S. Harris, *J. Chem. Soc.*, 512 (1958).

(4) H. J. Emel us and W. R. Cullen, *J. Chem. Soc.*, 374 (1959).





Table V. Infrared Spectra of Three As-N-P Compounds

Suggested assignment	$(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{As}>\text{NH}$ $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{P}$	$(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{As}>\text{NCH}_3$ $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{P}$	$(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{P}$ $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{P}-\text{N}$ $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{As}$
N-H or C-H stretching	3399 (1.5)	2978 (0.8)	...
	3365 (6.4)	2922 (0.35)	
		2853 (0.35)	
C-F overtones and combinations	2390 (0.16)	2267 (0.69)	...
	2290 (0.66)	2230 (0.38)	
	2264 (0.76)	1900 (0.14)	
C-H bending	...	1475 (0.43)	...
		1444 (0.30)	
C-F stretching (and satellites)	1289 (1.3)		
	1265 (1.9)	1264 (1.5)	
	1249 (6.2)		
	1210 (66)	1208 (32)	
	1182 (186)	1183 (97)	1197 (183)
	1172 (189)	1157 (280)	1167 (383)
	1159 (186)	1132 (82)	
	1134 (117)	1118 (47)	1107 (55)
	1059 (0.8)	1079 (9)	1064 (0.5)
	P-N stretching (and $\text{CH}_3$ rock?); satellites	973 (0.1)	984 (0.1)
943 (0.5)		921 (0.1)	927 (1.0)
901 (26)		854 (2.5)	880 (33)
845 (0.3)		827 (30)	802 (27)
808 (0.2)			
$\text{CF}_3$ , symm deformation	747 (0.4)	770sh (0.15)	
	744sh (-)		744 (5.4)
	734 (3.4)	732 (4.8)	734 (8.9)
As-N stretching	704 (3.7)		
	618 (0.8)	601 (0.7)	592 (3.8)
$\text{CF}_3$ , asymm deformation	547 (4.8)	557 (0.4)	566 (2.6)
	532.5 (5.1)	543 (0.6)	547 (3.2)
	512.5 (7.3)	526 (0.4)	
P- $\text{CF}_3$ stretching	456 (4.3)	461 (6.1)	476 (12)
			455 (2.8)
			440.5 (2.8)
Uncertain	395 (0.3)		
	372 (0.3)		
	352.5 (0.7)	371.5 (0.7)	373 (3.2)
As- $\text{CF}_3$ stretching	328 (6.8)	325 (6.2)	331.5 (5)
			312 (3)
$\text{CF}_3$ rocking and wagging	281 (0.55)		
	255 (0.6)	252 (0.5)	...
	240 (0.4)		
	224 (0.3)	227 (0.3)	

thick annealed high-density polyethylene. For other ranges, the cell was wedge-shaped (of Pyrex glass) with four KBr windows 2 mm thick—providing a choice of two path lengths in a 10:1 ratio.

The results, given in Table V, include in parentheses the relative intensity at each frequency—calculated from the definition  $k = (100/PL) \log I_0/I$  for pressure  $P$  (at  $25^\circ$ ) and path length  $L$ , both in cm.

The assignments for most of the higher frequencies are clear enough, although some of the listed peaks or shoulders probably represent combinations or over-

tones, with most of the latter appearing as satellites of very intense fundamentals on account of the Fermi resonance principle. The weaker neighbors of the C-F stretching bands are good examples of this effect.

The As- $\text{CF}_3$  deformation modes are distinguishable by frequencies lower than for P- $\text{CF}_3$  deformations, but peaks in between might belong to either. Also uncertain of meaning are weak peaks between the P- $\text{CF}_3$  and As- $\text{CF}_3$  stretching modes; and the latter are distinguished from  $\text{CF}_3$  rocking only by high intensities which would be unusual for the latter.