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Preliminary communication

**Preparation and X-ray structure of the
bis(pentacarbonyltungsten) complex of 1,3-diphosphaallene
with η^1 -coordination mode**

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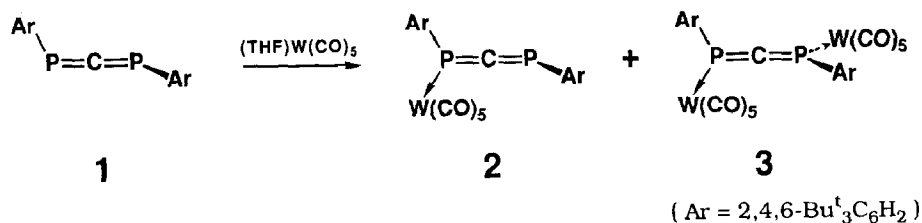
Abstract

The bis(pentacarbonyltungsten) complex of 1,3-bis(2,4,6-tri-*t*-butylphenyl)-1,3-diphosphaallene with η^1 -coordination mode has been isolated and its crystal structure determined by X-ray analysis.

Sterically protected phosphorus-containing multiple-bonded compounds are currently of much interest. Several reports have been published on phosphacumulenes, including phosphaaallenes [1–4] and 1,3-diphosphaaallenes [5–7] carrying the 2,4,6-tri-*t*-butylphenyl group (abbreviated to Ar) as a kinetically protecting group. These phosphacumulenes contain low-coordinated phosphorus atom(s) (coordination number 2) and are interesting molecules because of their several coordination modes as ligand to transition metals [8,9].

We have reported several transition metal complexes of Group 6 with these phosphaaallenes [10], and demonstrated that the coordination to the Group 6 metal occurs at the phosphorus atom in η^1 -fashion by taking into account the chemical shift correlation and phosphorus–tungsten coupling constants in solution ^{31}P NMR. On the other hand, diphosphaaallene **1** has been known to coordinate platinum and palladium as a π -type ligand [11,12].

We now report preliminary results on the preparation and X-ray analysis of the bis(pentacarbonyltungsten) complex with 1,3-bis(2,4,6-tri-*t*-butylphenyl)-1,3-diphosphaaallene.



Scheme 1.

The phosphallaene **1** was allowed to react with an excess of (tetrahydrofuran)- $\text{W}(\text{CO})_5$ to give the monocoordinated complex **2** [10] and the dicoordinated complex **3**. These complexes were purified by gel permeation column chromatography.

The structure of **3** was unambiguously established by X-ray crystallographic analysis, whereas attempts to get suitable crystals for X-ray analysis of complex **2** have failed so far. Figure 1 shows an ORTEP drawing [13] of the molecular structure of **3**, which depicts the first X-ray analysis of the η^1 -type doubly coordinated 1,3-diphosphaallene. Some selected bond distances and angles for **3** together with the data for **1** [7] are listed in Table 1. The diphosphaallene part in **3** has a similar conformation to non-coordinated **1**. The P–W bond distances are 2.522(6) Å and 2.517(5) Å. The P=C bond lengths are 1.62(2) Å and 1.63(2) Å. The W, P, C1, and C2 atoms and W', P', C1', and C2' atoms are coplanar within 0.03 Å and 0.09 Å, respectively, and these planes make an angle of 68.6(5)°. The C2–C7 atoms and

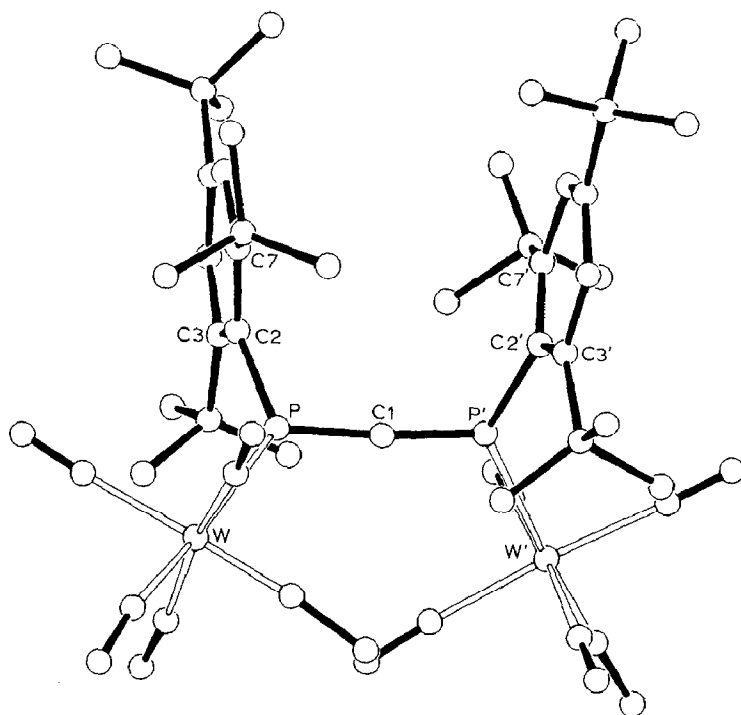
Fig. 1. Molecular structure of the tungsten complex **3**.

Table 1

Some selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°)

Atom	1 ^a	3
P–W		2.522(6)
P'–W'		2.517(5)
P–C1	1.635(8)	1.62(2)
P'–C1	1.630(8)	1.63(2)
P–C2	1.86 ^b	1.85(2)
P'–C2'	1.88 ^b	1.86(2)
P–C1–P'	172.6(5)	171(1)
C1–P–C2	100.3(4)	110(1)
C1–P'–C2'	99.9(4)	108(1)
W–P–C1		120.3(9)
W'–P'–C1		119.1(9)
W–P–C2		129.9(5)
W'–P'–C2'		131.5(5)

^a Data taken from Ref. 7. ^b Values calculated from atomic coordinates deposited at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre.

C2'–C7' atoms are also coplanar within 0.03 Å and 0.05 Å, respectively, and the former and the latter rings make angles of 88(1)° and 90(1)° with the W, P, C1, C2 and W', P', C1', C2' planes, respectively. Dihedral angles C2–P···P'–C2' and W–P···P'–W' are 71.4(8)° and 66.2(4)°, respectively. In the uncoordinated diphosphaallene **1**, the dihedral angle C2–P···P'–C2' is 83.0°, whereas in the complex **3** the angle is compressed by about 10°, probably because of steric congestion on coordination, while the π -system of the Ar rings and $p\pi$ of the P=C system are perpendicular. The crystal structure of **3** is quite different from that observed for bis(triethylphosphine)palladium complex [12], where the P=C bond that is η^2 -ligated to palladium is lengthened to 1.73(3) Å.

Experimental

Preparation of [W(CO)₅]₂[ArP=C=PAR] (3). The starting material, bis(2,4,6-tri-*t*-butylphenyl)-1,3-diphosphaallene (**1**) was prepared from diphosphirane, obtained from bis(2,4,6-tri-*t*-butylphenyl)diphosphene and dichlorocarbene, followed by ring opening with methyllithium, as described before [6]. The phosphaaallene **1** (89.3 mg, 0.158 mmol) and hexacarbonyltungsten(0) (304.2 mg, 0.864 mmol) were dissolved in THF (3 ml) and were irradiated with a mercury lamp at 0°C for 13 h to give the tungsten complexes of **1**. These complexes were purified by recycling preparative HPLC over gel permeation columns (Japan Analytical Industry, Co., Ltd., JAIGEL H1 + H2) using THF as eluent to give **3** in 27% yield and **2** [10] in 23% yield. **3**: m.p. 174.5–176.5°C (decomposition), ³¹P {¹H} NMR: δ_p 144.3 accompanied by satellite peaks of an AA'X pattern with ¹J_{PW} = 285.0 Hz, ²J_{P–C–P} = 97.7 Hz, and ³J_{PW} = 17.0 Hz due to ¹⁸³W of 14.4% natural abundance.

X-Ray structure determination of 3. Compound **3** was recrystallized from pentane. C₄₇H₅₄O₁₀P₂W₂, *M* = 1208.59, monoclinic, space group *P*2₁/*a*, *a* 19.988(6), *b* 21.989(5), *c* 11.688(3) Å, β = 98.25(2), *U* 5084(2) Å³, *Z* = 4, *D*_c 1.579 g cm^{−3}. 6655 reflections with $2\theta \leq 45^\circ$ were recorded on a four circle diffractometer using

graphite-monochromated Mo- K_{α} radiation. Of these 3803 [with $I > 2\sigma(I)$] were judged observed. The structure was solved using MULTAN 80 [14]. At the last stage of the refinement, hydrogen atoms (calculated) were included in the structure factor calculations only. Full matrix least-squares refinement [15] with anisotropic temperature factors for nonhydrogen atoms converged to $R = 0.075$. The large thermal motion and/or partial disorder of t-butyl and carbonyl groups are the cause of low resolution of the X-ray data, resulting in large e.s.d.'s of the atomic coordinates. Atomic coordinates and thermal parameters and bond lengths and angles have been deposited at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre.

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