

Cobalt Complexes with 1,3-Bis(trimethylsilyl)cyclopentadienyl and Substituent-Free P_n Ligands

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Keywords: Phosphorus / P_n / C₅H₃(SiMe₃)₂ ligands / Cobalt / Coordination chemistry / Crystallography

The thermal or photochemical reaction of [Cp''Co(CO)₂] (**1**) [Cp'' = C₅H₃(SiMe₃)₂-1,3] with white phosphorus (P₄) gives [[Cp''Co]₂(P₅-P₅){CoCp''}₂] (**2**) and [[Cp''Co]₃P₄(μ-CO)] (**3**)

as well as [[Cp''Co]₂(μ-η²:η²-P₂)₂] (**4**). Cobalt complexes **2**, **3**, and **4** have been characterized by an X-ray crystal-structure determination.

Introduction

In the chemistry of transition-metal complexes with substituent-free ("naked") P_n ligands the choice of the additional Cp^R ligands plays an important role.^[1] Illustrative examples are the reactions of [[Cp^R(OC)₂Fe]₂](Fe-Fe) with white phosphorus (P₄).

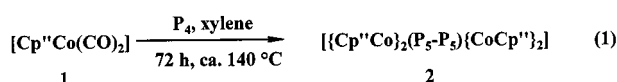
Starting with Cp^R = C₅H₅ the cothermolysis gives the tetranuclear cluster [[CpFe]₄(P₂)₂] with a triangulated dodecahedral Fe₄P₄ skeleton.^[2] In the case of Cp^R = C₅H₂tBu₃-1,2,4 the complex [[Cp^R(OC)₂Fe]₂(μ-η¹:η¹-P₄)] a molecule with a P₄ butterfly framework was synthesized.^[3] Finally, the use of Cp^R = C₅Me₅ gave for the first time [Cp*Fe(η⁵-P₅)], a sandwich complex with a *cyclo*-P₅⁻ ligand, the all-phosphorus analogue of the cyclopentadienide ion C₅H₅⁻.^[4]

The photochemical route, realized for Cp^R = C₅H₄Me or C₅H₃tBu₂-1,3 (Cp''), affords [Cp^R₄Fe₄(CO)₆P₈] with an open-edged P₈ cuneane geometry^[5] and all five members of the series [Cp''₂Fe₂P₄(CO)_{4-n}] (n = 0–4) with different P₄ ligands.^[6]

The experiences of the last decade have shown that especially highly alkylated Cp^R ligands are very useful in the coordinative stabilization of different P_n ligands. Interestingly, to the best of our knowledge, until now transition-metal complexes with trimethylsilyl-substituted Cp^R ligands are unknown as starting materials in P_n chemistry.

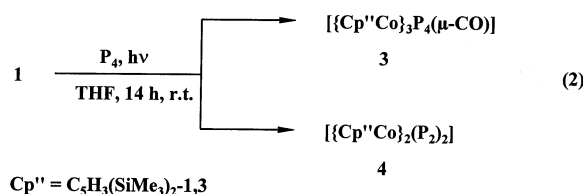
Thermal and Photochemical Reaction of [Cp''Co(CO)₂] (**1**, Cp'' = C₅H₃(SiMe₃)₂-1,3) with White Phosphorus (P₄)

According to Equation 1 the cothermolysis of [Cp''Co(CO)₂] (**1**) and P₄ (Co/P ≈ 1:7) affords exclusively the tetranuclear cobalt complex **2** with a P₁₀ ligand in the unusually high yield of 87%.



Cp'' = C₅H₃(SiMe₃)₂-1,3

For a stoichiometry of Co/P ≈ 1:2 the photochemical alternative gives 30 % of **3** and 10 % of **4** (Equation 2) besides traces of **2**.



The air-sensitive olive-green (**2**), dark-red (**3**), or black-purple (**4**) complexes are sparingly to well soluble in *n*-hexane and dissolve readily in toluene or dichloromethane.

NMR- and IR-Spectroscopic Investigations

The ¹H-, ³¹P-NMR data of the complexes **2**, **3**, and **4** as well as $\tilde{\nu}(\text{CO})$ of **3** are compiled in Table 1.

The ¹H-NMR spectrum of **2** (measured at 340 K) affords 11 signals with relative integrals 2:2:2:2:2:1:1:18:18:18:18 in agreement with a local symmetric environment for each Cp'' ligand. In the ³¹P-NMR spectrum of **2** (340 K) the P₁₀ skeleton (Figure 1) consists of an ABCC'DD'EE'FF' spin system. A comparison of the ¹J(P_AP_B) coupling constants of the P₂ bridge in **2** (–205 Hz) and **5** (–95 Hz)^[7] suggests deviation of the lone pairs in the "bridge" P1–P1' from an antiperiplanar position for complex **2**.

The Schakal plot shows that each C₅H₃(SiMe₃)₂-1,3 ligand of **2** is locked between two adjacent ligands.

Comparing the spectroscopic data of **3** and **7**^[8] the following discrepancies were found: In contrast to the "remarkable high-field shift" discussed for **7**^[8] (δ = –398.6) for the P atom surrounded by three cobalt atoms, a value of δ = 487.8 (Table 1) was measured for **3**. A redetermination of the ³¹P-NMR spectrum of **7** gives instead of the

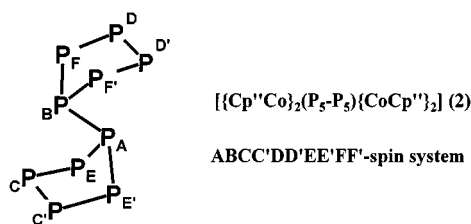
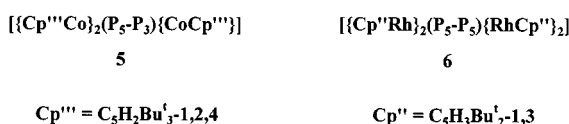
[†] Crystal-structure analyses.

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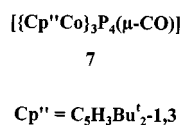
Table 1. ^1H -, ^{31}P -NMR, and $\tilde{\nu}(\text{CO})$ data of the complexes **2**, **3**, and **4**

$\text{Cp}'' = \text{C}_5\text{H}_3(\text{SiMe}_3)_{2-1,3}$	$[\{\text{Cp}''\text{Co}\}_4\text{P}_{10}]$ (2)	$[\{\text{Cp}''\text{Co}\}_3\text{P}_4(\text{CO})]$ (3)	$[\{\text{Cp}''\text{Co}\}_2(\text{P}_2)_2]$ (4)
^1H NMR ^[a] δ [ppm]	5.66 (s, 2 H) 5.52 (s, 2 H) 5.17 (s, 2 H) 5.02 (s, 2 H) 4.90 (s, 2 H) 4.68 (s, 1 H) 4.66 (s, 1 H) 0.70 (s, 18 H) 0.68 (s, 18 H) 0.36 (s, 18 H) 0.35 (s, 18 H)	5.89 (s, br, 2 H) 5.77 (s, br, 1 H) 5.05 (s, br, 6 H) 0.49 (s, 18 H) 0.45 (s, 18 H) 0.32 (s, 18 H)	4.54 (s, br, 4 H) 4.36 (s, br, 2 H) 0.47 (s, 36 H)
Spin system	ABCC'DD'EE'FF'	AM ₂ X	A ₄
^{31}P NMR ^[b] δ [ppm]	269.6 (m, 1 P, P _A) 268.7 (m, 1 P, P _B) 74.4 (pdd, 2 P, P _C) 70.7 (pdd, 2 P, P _D) −137.2 (m, 2 P, P _E) −139.6 (m, 2 P, P _F) $^1J_{\text{AB}} = -205$, $^1J_{\text{AE}} = -311$ $^2J_{\text{AD}} = 33$	487.8 (t, 1 P, P _A) 239.7 (dd, 2 P, P _M) 22.0 (t, 1 P, P _X) $J_{\text{AM}} = 43$ $^1J_{\text{MX}} = -364$	−36.3 (s)
nJ [Hz]	$^1J_{\text{BF}} = -307$, $^2J_{\text{BC}} = 6$ $^1J_{\text{CE}} = -359$, $^2J_{\text{CC}'} = 79$ $^1J_{\text{DF}} = -358$, $^2J_{\text{DD}'} = 75$ $^2J_{\text{CE}'} = 34$, $^2J_{\text{DF}'} = 46$		
$\tilde{\nu}(\text{CO})$ [cm^{-1}] ^[c]		1808 (s)	

[a] 400 MHz: **2**: 340 K; **3/4**: 298 K. — [b] 162 MHz: **2**: 340 K; **3/4**: 298 K (C_6D_6 , 85% H_3PO_4 ext.). — [c] 298 K, THF.

Figure 1. Spin system of complex **2**

reported^[8] $\delta = -398.6$ the expected low-field shift ($\delta = 413.8$). The other ^{31}P -NMR signals (**7**: $\delta = 227.5$, 9.9) are in agreement with the published data.^[8] Going from **7** to **3** all ^{31}P -NMR signals are shifted down-field in the bis(trimethylsilyl)cyclopentadienyl derivative **3** (cf. Table 1).



The redetermination of $\tilde{\nu}(\text{CO})$ in **7** gives 1793 cm^{-1} instead of the published 1934 cm^{-1} .^[8] This value is in accordance with 1808 cm^{-1} measured for **3**. Both bands are in the region expected for a $\mu\text{-CO}$ ligand (cf. Figure 5).

X-ray Crystal-Structure Determinations of the Complexes **2**, **3**, and **4**

Compound **2**

The most interesting structural aspect of complex **2** is its Co_4P_{10} skeleton (Figure 2).

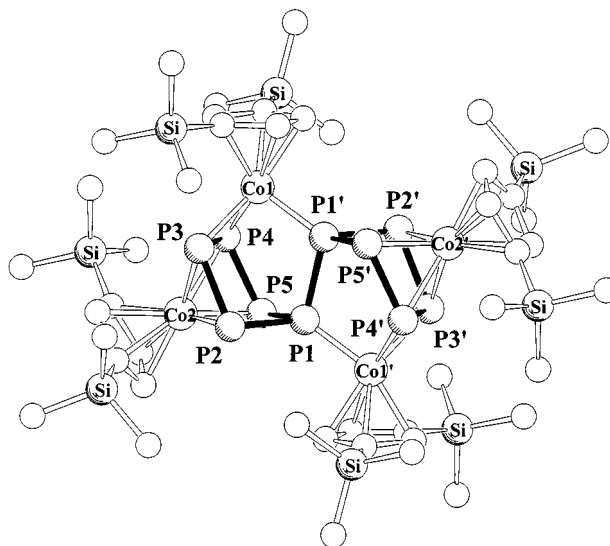


Figure 2. Selected bond lengths [\AA] and angles [$^\circ$]: P1–P1' 2.1793(18), P2–P1 2.1948(14), P2–P3 2.1573(14), P3–P4 2.4743(15), P4–P5 2.1573(14), P5–P1 2.1985(14), Co1–P1' 2.1311(11), Co1–P3 2.2405(11), Co1–P4 2.2446(11), Co2–P2 2.3108(12), Co2–P5 2.3196(12), Co2–P3 2.3355(11), Co2–P4 2.3753(11), Co1–Cp''(centr.) 1.72, Co2–Cp''(centr.) 1.72; P1'–Co1–P3 93.95(4), P1'–Co1–P4 93.44(4), P3–Co1–P4 66.96(4), Co1–P1'–P1 111.43(6), P2–P1–P1' 100.11(7), P2–P1–P5 90.82(5), P5–P1–P1' 101.18(6)

The P_{10} framework can be derived formally from the P_{10} dihydrofulvalene **A** (Figure 3) where the two 4π systems bind to $Co_2(2')$ giving $18e^-$ per cobalt atom. This electron count can also be obtained for $Co_1(1')$ taking into account the lone pair on $P_1(1')$ and the bond(s) $P_3(3')-P_4(4')$ (2.47 Å, Figure 2) which is reasonably close to the longest known $2c2e^-$ -P-P bonds. For the side-on coordinated white phosphorus (P_4) in $[(Ph_3P)_2Rh(Cl)(\eta^2-P_4)]$ this edge is elongated from 2.21 Å (P_4 itself) to 2.46 Å.^[9] Interestingly, for the analogous Rh_4P_{10} compound **6** a distinctly longer P...P bond (open edged) of 2.62 Å was found.^[10] All the other P-P bond lengths of the P_{10} ligand in the complexes **2** and **6** are comparable [two shorter P_2-P_3 , P_4-P_5 : 2.16/2.15 Å (**2/6**); two longer: 2.20/2.19 Å (**2/6**)].

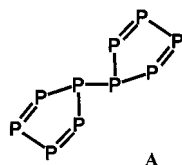


Figure 3. Hypothetic P_{10} dihydrofulvalene

Alternatively, the Co_4P_{10} framework of **2** can also be derived from Li_3P_7 (Figure 4, **B**), a well-known molecule in polyphosphide chemistry.^[11]

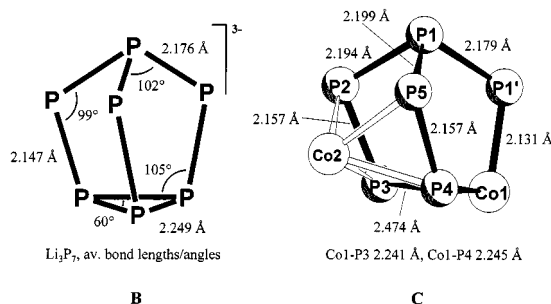
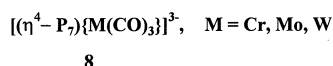


Figure 4. Comparison of P_7^{3-} with the Co_2P_6 cage of **2**

Formally, **C** (Figure 4) can be derived from **B** by replacing one basal P atom by the Co_1Cp'' fragment and capping the four-electron donor $P_2,3,4,5$ unit by the Co_2Cp'' unit. Electron count and $d(P_1'-Co_1)$ are in favour of a multiple-bond character.

The connection of two Co_2P_6 subunits **C** with a common edge (P_1-P_1') formally gives the Co_4P_{10} skeleton of compound **2** (Figure 2). The biggest difference in bond lengths between **B** and **C** occurs, as one would expect, in the basal triangle P_3, P_4, Co_1 (P_3-P_4 2.47 Å).

A further interesting parallel is realized with complexes **8**,^[12] synthesized by Eichhorn's group.



Its carbonylation affords $[(\eta^2-P_7)W(CO)_4]^{3-}$ (**9**) where the norbornadiene-type geometry of the P_7 ligand in **8** has changed to the nortricyclane-like structure of **9** ($\eta^4 \rightarrow \eta^2-P_7$).^[12b]

The polycyclic P_{10} core of the paramagnetic complex $[\{Cp(CO)_2Cr\}_5P_{10}]$ (**10**) consists of a P_7 norbornane with a P_2 bridge and a terminal P atom.^[13]

Compound 3

Bond lengths and angles of the trinuclear cobalt complex **3** (Figure 5) differ only slightly from the values of the analogous complex **7** with $C_5H_3tBu_{2-1,3}$ ligands.^[8]

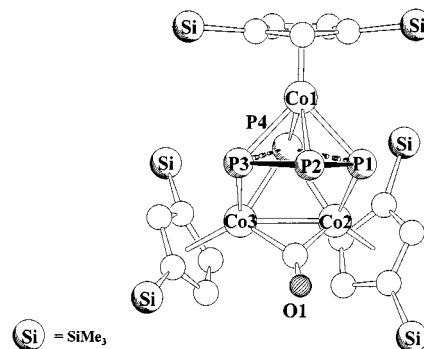


Figure 5. Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [°]: P_1-P_2 2.1609(10), P_2-P_3 2.1585(9), $P_3 \cdots P_4$ 2.5237(9), $P_4 \cdots P_1$ 2.4879(8), Co_2-Co_3 2.4485(5), Co_1-P_1 2.3099(6), Co_1-P_2 2.2706(7), Co_1-P_3 2.3207(7), Co_1-P_4 2.2711(7), Co_2-P_1 2.2714(7), Co_2-P_4 2.2483(6), Co_3-P_3 2.2787(7), Co_3-P_4 2.2290(7), Co_1-Cp'' (centr.) 1.73, Co_2-Cp'' (centr.) 1.75, Co_3-Cp'' (centr.) 1.74, $P_1-P_4-P_3$ 78.93(3), $P_2-P_1-P_4$ 93.02(3), $P_2-P_3-P_4$ 92.09(3), $P_3-P_2-P_1$ 95.03(4), $Co_2-P_4-Co_3$ 66.30(2)

A small kite-like distortion of a *cyclo*- P_4 ligand was realized for the first time in $[\{Cp^*(OC)_2Nb\}(\eta^4-P_4)]$ (**11**), $Cp'' = C_5H_3tBu_{2-1,3}$.^[14] Interestingly, a much stronger distortion was found for **3** and **7**. For both complexes the P...P bonds to P_4 coordinating to three $CoCp^R$ fragments are distinctly longer [average of **3**: 2.50; **7**: 2.503(2) Å]. EHT calculations on **7** are in agreement with a weak P...P bonding^[8] {c.f. the $2c1e^-$ P...P bond length of 2.634(3) Å in the P_4 rectangle of the diradical $[R_2N-CP_2]_2^{\bullet\bullet}$ ($R = iPr$)^{[15]}.}

In contrast to the planar P_4 ligand of **7** the P_4 atom in **3** lies 0.34 Å above the P_1, P_2, P_3 plane (Figure 5). The missing mirror plane in compound **3** leads to small differences in bond lengths and angles relative to those in **7** (the mean values of both compounds are nearly identical).

According to the electron-counting rules^[16] of Wade and Mingos complex **3** belongs to an *arachno* cluster with $(n + 3) = 10$ SEPs (skeleton electron pairs). Its framework can formally be derived from a *closo* tricapped trigonal prism by successive elimination of two vertices.

Compound 4

The bond lengths and angles of complex **4** (Figure 6) are very similar to those of the X-ray-crystallographically characterized derivatives $[\{Cp^*Co\}_2(\mu-\eta^2:\eta^2-P_2)_2]$ (**12**)^[17] and $[\{Cp'''Co\}_2(\mu-\eta^2:\eta^2-P_2)]$ (**13**) ($Cp''' = C_5H_2tBu_{3-1,2,4}$).^[18]

For the side-on coordinated $4e^-$ donor P_2 , which is iso-electronic and isolobal with acetylene ($P \equiv P \longleftrightarrow C \equiv C$),

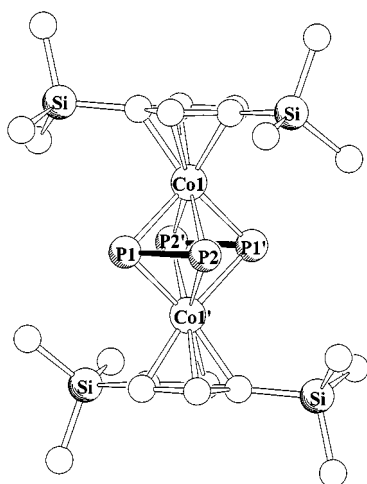


Figure 6. Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [°]: P1–P2 2.0538(15), P1...P2' 2.7131(14), Co1–P1 2.3069(10), Co1–P1' 2.3162(10), Co1–P2 2.3050(10), Co1–P2' 2.3164(10), Co1–Cp''-(centr.) 1.70, Co1...Co1' 3.127; P1–P2–P1' 90.04(4), P2–P1–P2' 89.96(4)

HC≡CH), $d(\text{P}–\text{P})$ lies in the range of 2.054 (**4**), 2.053 (**12**), and 2.052 Å (**13**) which is typical for P–P double bonds.^[1] The long P...P edges of the rectangular (P₂)₂ ligands have nonbonding distances of 2.713, 2.705 (mean value), and 2.663 Å, $d(\text{Co}–\text{P})$ ranges from 2.311 to 2.305 and 2.308 Å, respectively. Such small differences also exist for Co...Co (3.127, Figure 6) (**12**: 3.102; **13**: 3.164 Å). For all three complexes the least-squares plane defined by the two $\mu\text{-}\eta^2\text{-}\eta^2\text{-P}_2$ units and the planes of the two Cp^R rings differ only slightly (2°, 1°, and 2°) from a parallel arrangement.

Experimental Section

All experiments were carried out under argon in anhydrous solvents. – NMR: Bruker AMX 400, ¹H NMR (400.13 MHz), ³¹P NMR (161.98 MHz). – The ³¹P-NMR spectra of **2** was simulated with PERCH.^[20] IR spectra were recorded with an FT-IR spectrometer Perkin–Elmer 16 PC. – UV irradiation: 150-W Hg high-pressure lamp, TQ 150, Heraeus Quarzlampen GmbH, Hanau. – [Cp''Co(CO)₂] (**1**) [Cp'' = C₅H₃(SiMe₃)₂] was synthesized from [Co₂(CO)₈] and Cp''H in analogy to ref.^[19]

Cothermolysis of [Cp''Co(CO)₂] (1**) and White Phosphorus (P₄):** 1.72 g (5.3 mmol) of **1** and 1.2 g (9.7 mmol) of P₄ were heated to reflux in 50 mL of xylene for 72 h. After evaporation of the solvent under oil-pump vacuum (0 → 35°C), the residue was dissolved in ca. 20 mL of dichloromethane, and ca. 5 g of neutral Al₂O₃ (activity grade II) was added. The solvent was evaporated under oil-pump vacuum from the mixture until the residue was free-flowing. It was placed on top of a column (2 × 15 cm) filled with neutral Al₂O₃ and petroleum ether. A mixture of petroleum ether/diethyl ether (40:1) eluted [{Cp''Co}₂(P₅–P₅){CoCp''}₂] (**2**); yield 1.7 g (87 %) of olive-green crystals. – C₅₀H₉₈Co₄P₁₀Si₈ (1469.4): calcd. C 40.86, H 6.72; found C 40.34; H 6.77.

Cophotolysis of **1 and P₄:** 1.13 g (3.5 mmol) of **1** and 0.19 g (1.5 mmol) of P₄ were irradiated (150-W Hg high-pressure lamp) for 14 h in 100 mL tetrahydrofuran until the $\tilde{\nu}(\text{CO})$ bands of **1** had disappeared and a new one at 1808 cm^{–1} had emerged. Column chromatography as described for complex **2** gave with the same mixture of solvents as first fraction 115 mg (10 %) of purple [{Cp''Co}₂(P₂)₂] (**4**) followed by 330 mg (30 %) of red-brown [{Cp''Co}₃P₄(CO)] (**3**). – **3**: C₃₄H₆₃Co₃OP₄Si₆ (957.1): calcd. C 42.66, H 6.63; found C 40.05, H 6.65. – **4**: C₂₂H₄₂Co₂P₄Si₄ (660.7): calcd. C 39.99, H 6.41; found C 27.19 (incomplete combustion), H 5.87.

Single-Crystal X-ray Structure Determination: See also Table 2. Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the struc-

Table 2. Crystallographic data for complexes **2**, **3**, and **4**^[a]

Cp'' = C ₅ H ₃ (SiMe ₃) ₂ -1,3	[{Cp''Co} ₄ P ₁₀] (2)	[{Cp''Co} ₃ P ₄ (CO)] (3)	[{Cp''Co} ₂ (P ₂) ₂] (4)
formula	C ₅₀ H ₉₈ Co ₄ P ₁₀ Si ₈	C ₃₄ H ₆₃ Co ₃ OP ₄ Si ₆	C ₂₂ H ₄₂ Co ₂ P ₄ Si ₄
<i>M</i> _r	1469.4	957.1	660.7
crystal size [mm]	0.51 × 0.30 × 0.22	0.40 × 0.20 × 0.12	0.64 × 0.29 × 0.14
crystal system	triclinic	monoclinic	triclinic
space group	<i>P</i> $\bar{1}$	<i>P</i> 2 ₁ / <i>n</i>	<i>P</i> $\bar{1}$
<i>a</i> [Å]	10.9820(10)	17.7233(15)	6.5930(10)
<i>b</i> [Å]	14.117(2)	12.3106(6)	11.297(2)
<i>c</i> [Å]	14.6760(10)	23.9381(18)	11.981(3)
α [°]	109.180(10)	90	79.42(2)
β [°]	102.050(10)	111.286(9)	79.08(2)
γ [°]	109.890(10)	90	78.95(2)
<i>V</i> [Å ³]	1884.6(3)	4866.6(6)	849.9(3)
<i>Z</i>	1	4	1
<i>T</i> [K]	293	293	293
<i>d</i> _{calcd.} [g cm ^{–3}]	1.295	1.306	1.291
μ [mm ^{–1}]	1.234	1.314	1.315
2 θ range [°]	2.05–25.00	2.43–27.50	2.74–27.50
measured refl.	7676	60076	4905
independent refl.	6341	11105	3897
refined parameters	339	451	152
<i>R</i> 1 (<i>I</i> ≥ 2 σ <i>I</i>)	0.0410	0.0285	0.0409
<i>wR</i> 2 (all data)	0.0997	0.0538	0.1144
residual electron density [e·Å ^{–3}]	0.519/–0.255	0.318/–0.235	0.619/–0.514
diffractometer	Siemens P4	Stoe IPDS	Siemens P4

^[a] Structure solution by Direct Methods SHELXL-97, SIR 92; refinement: full-matrix least-squares methods against *F*².

tures reported in this paper have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication no. CCDC-115135 (2), -115137 (3), -115136 (4). Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge on application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK [Fax: int. code + 44-1223/336-033; E-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk].

Acknowledgments

This work was supported by the Fonds der Chemischen Industrie and the Graduiertenkolleg: "Phosphorus Chemistry as a Link between Different Chemical Disciplines".

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Received December 28, 1998
[198452]