

Chiral α -P,N Ligands From a Diastereoselective Ph_2PH Addition to (η^6 -Benzaldimine)tricarbonylchromium Complexes

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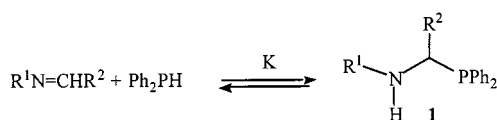
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Chiral α -aminophosphane (α -P-C-N) ligands have been prepared by reversible addition of Ph_2PH to tricarbonylchromium benzaldimine complexes $(\text{CO})_3\text{Cr}[\eta^6\text{-}o\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{Y})(\text{CH}=\text{NR})]$ (with Y, R = CH_3 , CH_3 or $\text{CH}_2\text{COOCH}_3$;

CH_3O , CH_3 or $p\text{-CH}_3\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4$; Cl, C_6H_5), with complete diastereoselectivity. These complexes are stabilized in solution by electron-withdrawing group(s) on the imine.

Introduction

Since the discovery that bifunctional P,N ligands increase considerably the activity and/or the selectivity of palladium, ruthenium, or rhodium catalysts,^[1–4] the preparation of this type of ligand has been the subject of extensive investigations. As an example, pyridyl diphenylphosphane (2-PyPPH₂) crucially controls the activity and selectivity of alkyne methoxycarbonylation catalysts.^[1] Other α -aminophosphane ligands are rare: compound $\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_2$, having a tertiary amine function, is stable in the solid state and in solution,^[5] while $\text{Et}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{NH}t\text{Bu}$ and $\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}(\text{Ph})\text{NHPh}$ have only been described in the solid state.^[5,6] Recent studies by some of us have demonstrated *in solution* a reversible P–C bond cleavage of α -aminophosphane ligands with a secondary amine function (Scheme 1).^[7] It was found, for instance, a $K = 50$ for $\text{R}^1 = \text{R}^2 = \text{Ph}$ and that electron-withdrawing substituents R^1 and R^2 or phosphorus coordination to Cu^{I} favor the formation of the P–C bond. This behavior rationalises previously reported unexpected P–C bond cleavage reactions.^[6,8,9] We now report a stereoselective extension of this synthetic method leading to the preparation of chiral α -P,N ligands.



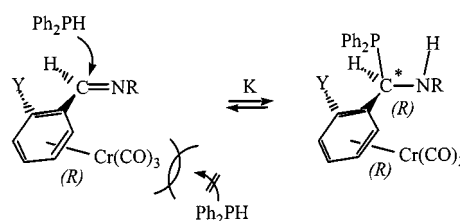
Scheme 1

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Results and Discussion

The synthetic strategy consists in using chiral *ortho*-substituted benzaldimine $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$ complexes (Scheme 2). As it is well-known, in these complexes the coordination of the aromatic ring to the bulky $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$ fragment makes one imine diastereoface inaccessible to the phosphane attack. In addition the presence of the *ortho* substituent favours the conformation in which the *ortho* group is *anti* with respect to the imino moiety. These stereochemical features of planar-chiral chromium tricarbonyl complexes^[10,11] and of $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$ complexed imines^[12–15] in particular, have been previously exploited in stereoselective synthesis.



Scheme 2

The reaction between racemate complexes $(\text{CO})_3\text{Cr}[\eta^6\text{-}o\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{Y})(\text{CH}=\text{NR})]$ (with Y, R = CH_3 , CH_3 or $\text{CH}_2\text{COOCH}_3$; CH_3O , CH_3 or $p\text{-CH}_3\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4$; Cl, C_6H_5) and Ph_2PH in CDCl_3 leads to the formation of equilibrium quantities of the desired aminophosphane ligand (**2–6**) as a single diastereoisomer, within the detection limits of ^{31}P -NMR spectroscopy (Table 1). For the sake of simplicity, Scheme 2 shows this transformation for only one of the two enantiomers. The relative concentrations at equilibrium are determined by integration of the ^1H -NMR resonances of the imine and product methyne protons and/or the Ph_2PH and product ^{31}P -NMR resonances. With the exception of complex **6**, these constants are smaller relative to that previously reported for the formation of **1** ($\text{R}^1 = \text{R}^2 = \text{Ph}$, Scheme 1).^[7] Given the previously established electronic control on the equilibrium of Scheme 1, the presence of the

$\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$ moiety would be expected to enhance the formation of the P–C bond, while the presence of the Y substituent would provide an effect which depends on the relative σ and π donor/acceptor properties. It can therefore be concluded that, when $\text{R} = \text{Ph}$, the combination of the arene-coordinated $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$ group and the Cl substituent is sufficient for a quantitative P–C bond formation. For compound **5**, the electron-withdrawing effect of the $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$ moiety is not sufficient to compensate the overall donor properties of the two methoxy substituents. The individual effect of the $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$ moiety has been evaluated by comparing the formation of **6** with corresponding reaction of the $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$ -free imine, forming product **7**. It can be observed that the constant K increases by at least a factor of 3 upon $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$ coordination.

Table 1. Results of the reaction between $(\text{CO})_3\text{Cr}[\eta^6\text{-}o\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{Y})(\text{CH}=\text{NR})]$ and $\text{Ph}_2\text{PH}^{[a]}$

	Y	R	d.e. (%)	% P–C ^[b]	K	δ_{P} (ppm)
2	CH_3	CH_3	> 98	44	3.1	10.4
3	CH_3O	CH_3	> 98	54	5.8	10.9
4	CH_3	$\text{CH}_2\text{COOCH}_3$	> 98	62	10.7	11.5
5	CH_3O	$p\text{-CH}_3\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4$	> 98	73	17	12.4
6	Cl	C_6H_5	> 98	> 99	> 1000	13.7
7	Cl	$\text{C}_6\text{H}_5^{[c]}$	–	92	330	4.7

^[a] Solvent = CDCl_3 ; $[\text{imine}]_0 = [\text{Ph}_2\text{PH}]_0 = 0.57 \text{ M}$. – ^[b] Calculated by integration of the ^1H and ^{31}P resonances. – ^[c] Without the $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$ fragment.

The comparison between compounds **3** and **5** on one side and compounds **2** and **4** on the other side shows that K increases by changing R from CH_3 to $p\text{-CH}_3\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4$ and $\text{CH}_2\text{COOCH}_3$, respectively. These variations are consistent with the previously established electronic control on the stability of the P–C bond.^[7] The comparison between compounds **2** and **3**, on the other hand, shows that K increases by changing Y from CH_3 to CH_3O , indicating that the methyl group is an even stronger donor than the methoxy group. While the nature of R and Y has an important effect on the equilibrium, the rate at which the equilibrium is achieved is not significantly changed (for instance, $t_{1/2} = 12 \text{ min}$ for the formation of **6**, close to that observed for the formation of **1**).^[7]

It is interesting to remark that the ^{31}P -NMR chemical shifts of the aminophosphane products **2–6** qualitatively correlate with their stability. The equilibrium constant increases as the ^{31}P -NMR resonance of the product shifts downfield. Both changes are related to the electronic properties of the substituents R and Y, while steric differences may be considered negligible. The strong variation of ^{31}P -NMR chemical shift between compounds **6** and **7**, on the other hand, may be attributed to the combination of a weak electronic effect (K changes only by a factor of ca. 3) and a larger steric effect.

The aminophosphane **6** was isolated by crystallization from CHCl_3 in 70% yield as yellow crystals and its absolute configuration has been confirmed by X-ray crystallography. The asymmetric unit contains both enantiomers and one

CHCl_3 solvent molecule. It is interesting to note a dimeric structure (see Figure 1), the two monomer units being held together by two rare intermolecular $\text{P}\cdots\text{H}\cdots\text{N}$ bridges. The $\text{P}\cdots\text{N}^*$ and $\text{P}^*\cdots\text{N}$ separations are 3.638 and 3.702 Å, respectively, which are similar to those found for compound $\text{Ph}_2\text{P}-\text{C}(\text{S})-\text{NHMe}$ (3.607 Å).^[16] It is to be noted that an (*R*) configuration for the (arene)tricarbonylchromium(0) unit induces an (*R*) configuration for the new stereocenter in the product (and vice versa), as predicted on the basis of the stereochemical considerations presented above.

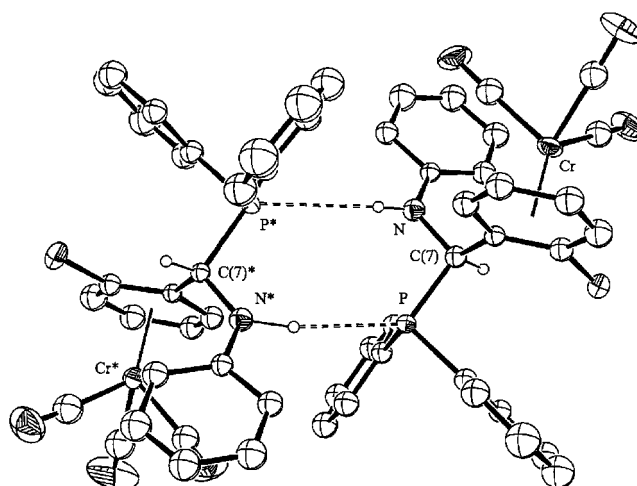


Figure 1. ORTEP view of compound **6** with ellipsoids shown at the 30% probability level; all hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity, except those on the N, N*, C(7), and C(7)*, highlighting the hydrogen-bonding interactions and the absolute configuration at C(7) and C(7)*.

In conclusion, we have described the use of an arene-coordinated tricarbonylchromium template for the diastereoselective addition of Ph_2PH to an imine, leading to chiral $\alpha\text{-P}-\text{C}-\text{N}$ ligands. Further information on the electronic control of the reversible P–C bond formation has been obtained by the use of various $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$ complexes' aromatic imine substrates. In addition to promoting the asymmetric induction, the $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$ moiety exerts an electronic contribution favouring the formation of the P–C bond. The coordination chemistry of the α -aminophosphane ligands obtained is currently under investigation in order to evaluate their potential in catalytic asymmetric reactions.

Experimental Section

General Remarks: All manipulations were carried out under purified argon and in the dark using standard Schlenk techniques. All solvents were dried and deoxygenated prior to use. – ^1H - and $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR measurements were carried out with a Bruker AC200 spectrometer. The peak positions are reported with positive shifts in ppm downfield of TMS as calculated from the residual solvent peaks (^1H) or downfield of external 85% H_3PO_4 (^{31}P). – IR spectra were recorded with a Bruker IFS 66V spectrophotometer with KBr optics. – Elemental analysis was carried out by the analytical service of the Laboratoire de Synthèse et d'Electrosynthèse Organométalliques with a Fisons Instruments EA1108 an-

alyzer. – The starting complexes $(\text{CO})_3\text{Cr}[\eta^6\text{-}o\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{Y})(\text{CH}=\text{NR})]$ used in this study were obtained as previously described in the literature.^[12–14,17]

Aminophosphanes 2–5: All experiments were conducted with identical operating procedures and concentrations. The equilibrium formation of product **5** is described in detail. Ph_2PH (50 μL , 0.287 mmol) was added to a solution of the benzaldiminetricarbonylchromium complex $(\text{CO})_3\text{Cr}[\eta^6\text{-}o\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{OCH}_3)(\text{CH}=\text{N-}p\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4\text{OCH}_3)]$ (0.108 g, 0.287 mmol) in CDCl_3 (0.5 mL). The resulting solution was stirred at room temperature for 3 h. – ^{31}P NMR (81.03 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 12.5 (s) and –36.6 (s), respectively, for **5** and the free Ph_2PH . – IR (ν_{CO} , CHCl_3): 1970 (b), 1904 (vb) cm^{-1} . – The equilibrium constant was determined by integration of the ^1H -NMR signals, whose intensity did not change over the subsequent 48 h.

Aminophosphane 6: Ph_2PH (50 μL , 0.287 mmol) was added to a solution of the complex $(\text{CO})_3\text{Cr}[\eta^6\text{-}o\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{Cl})(\text{CH}=\text{NPh})]$ (0.181 g, 0.474 mmol) in CHCl_3 (10 mL). The resulting solution was stirred at room temperature for 3 h, filtered, and concentrated to half volume. Addition of pentane afforded the complex **6** as yellow crystals (0.188 g, 70%). – ^1H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.41–4.53 (m, 20 H, aromatics + NH), 4.12 (dd, 1 H, PCH, $^2J_{\text{PH}}$ = 3.4 Hz, $^3J_{\text{HH}}$ = 7.3 Hz). – ^{31}P NMR (81.03 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 13.7 (s). – ^{13}C NMR (50.32 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 231.61 (s, CO), 145.37–84.68 (m, aromatics), 51.39 (d, PCH, $^1J_{\text{PC}}$ = 18.5 Hz). – IR (ν_{CO} , CHCl_3): 1980 (b), 1917 (vb) cm^{-1} . – $\text{C}_{56}\text{H}_{42}\text{Cl}_2\text{Cr}_2\text{N}_2\text{O}_6\text{P}_2 \cdot 1/2 \text{CHCl}_3$ (1135.5): calcd. C 59.75, H 3.75, N 2.48; found C 59.90, H 3.75, N 2.59.

Crystal Structure Analysis of 6: $(\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{21}\text{ClNPO}_3\text{Cr})_2 \cdot \text{CHCl}_3$, M = 1195.12. Enraf–Nonius CADA diffractometer, $\text{Mo-K}\alpha$ radiation (λ = 0.71073 Å), T = 293 K; monoclinic, $P2_1/c$, a = 11.267(2), b = 28.202(4), c = 18.014 (3) Å, β = 104.808(14)°, V = 5533.9(16) Å³, Z = 4, D_x = 1.434 g cm^{-3} , μ = 0.744 mm^{-1} . The structure was solved by Patterson methods and subsequent difference Fourier analysis.^[18] Due to the weak diffracting power of the crystal, the refinement was performed on the 2338 observed reflections [$I > 2\sigma(I)$] among the 5365 unique reflections collected. The model was refined isotropically except for the Cr, Cl, and P atoms. Except one hydrogen atom bonded to a nitrogen atom located in the final fourier difference map, hydrogen atoms were included in their calculated positions and refined with a riding model. A final refinement on F^2 with 2338 intensities [$> 2\sigma(I)$] and 292 parameters con-

verged at $wR(F^2)$ = 0.208 and $R(F)$ = 0.081. Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the structure reported in this paper have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication no. CCDC-127927. Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge on application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK [Fax: (internat.) + 44-1223/336-033; E-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk].

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