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## Phosphorus, Sulfur, and Silicon and the Related Elements

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~content=t713618290>

### New Sulfur Containing Titanacycles

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**To cite this Article** Westphal, Ursula and Ralfsteudel(1992) 'New Sulfur Containing Titanacycles', *Phosphorus, Sulfur, and Silicon and the Related Elements*, 65: 1, 151 — 155

**To link to this Article:** DOI: 10.1080/10426509208055341

**URL:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10426509208055341>

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## NEW SULFUR CONTAINING TITANACYCLES <sup>1</sup>

URSULA WESTPHAL AND RALF STEUDEL

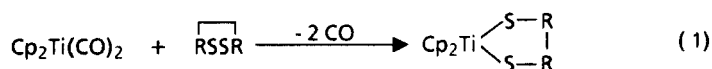
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 Technische Universität Berlin, D-1000 Berlin 12, Germany

**Abstract** Titanocenedicarbonyl,  $\text{Cp}_2\text{Ti}(\text{CO})_2$ , activates the sulfur-sulfur bond in organic disulfides and sulfur homocycles like  $\text{S}_6$ ,  $\text{S}_7$  and  $\text{S}_8$ . Cyclic disulfides form chelating ligands with sulfur atoms attached to the Ti atom. The reaction with  $\text{S}_6$  yields a new compound with an eight sulfur atoms containing ligand. The novel titanocene compounds have been used as precursors for the synthesis of a series of methylene polysulfides.

### INTRODUCTION

$\text{Cp}_2\text{TiS}_5$  is an excellent precursor for the preparation of sulfur homocycles and cyclic methylene polysulfides<sup>2,3</sup>. New possibilities in ring size and number of sulfur and methylene groups are opened up by the synthesis of titanocene chelating ligands containing sulfur and methylene groups.

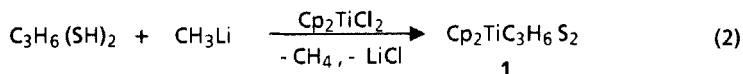
The reaction of  $\text{Cp}_2\text{Ti}(\text{CO})_2$  with cyclic organic disulfides<sup>4</sup> is a new route to generate this kind of ligands:



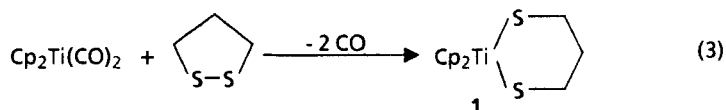
$\text{Cp}_2\text{Ti}(\text{CO})_2$  has also been reacted with  $\text{S}_6$ ,  $\text{S}_7$  and  $\text{S}_8$  under various conditions to obtain  $\text{Cp}_2\text{TiS}_x$  complexes with other ring sizes than six as in  $\text{Cp}_2\text{TiS}_5$ .

REACTIONS AND PRODUCTS

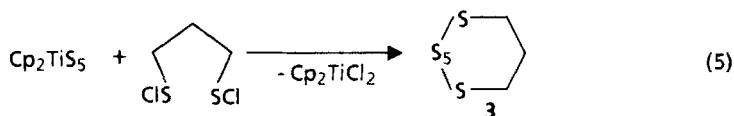
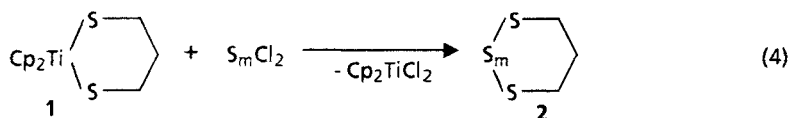
In 1974 Shaver et al. synthesized a new titanocene-sulfur compound with three methylene groups, according to equation (2).<sup>5</sup>



We observed that compound **1** can also be obtained by the reaction of  $\text{Cp}_2\text{Ti}(\text{CO})_2$  with the corresponding organic disulfide.



**1** was identified by C,H-analysis,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and UV spectra. Obviously, this reaction is very suitable for the synthesis of new sulfur containing ligands. The reaction of **1** with various sulfur chlorides or organic bisulfenyl chlorides yields a number of new methylene sulfides. For instance, **1** reacts with a mixture of sulfur chlorides of different chain length to yield a mixture of cyclic sulfur-rich methylene sulfides of corresponding ring sizes (equation 4).



The methylene sulfide mixture **2** was identified by HPLC and UV spectra. The heptasulfide **3** was synthesized according to equation (5) in order to use its HPLC retention time as a reference for the peak assignment in the HPLC analysis of mixture **2**. **3** was also characterised by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectroscopy.

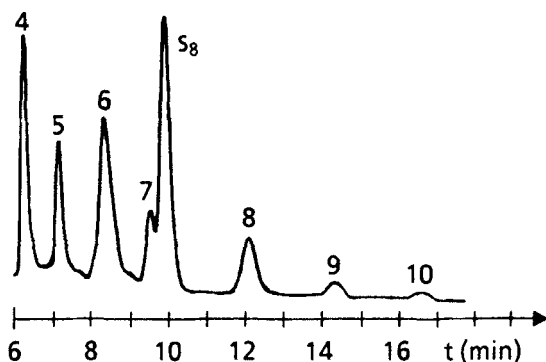


FIGURE 1 HPLC Analysis of the  $C_3H_6S_n$ -mixture obtained by reaction (4)

The numbers given in Fig. 1 correspond to the values of  $n$ . The signals were assigned by comparison with 3 and on the basis of the linear relationship between the logarithm of the capacity factor and the number of sulfur atoms as shown in FIGURE 2.<sup>6</sup>

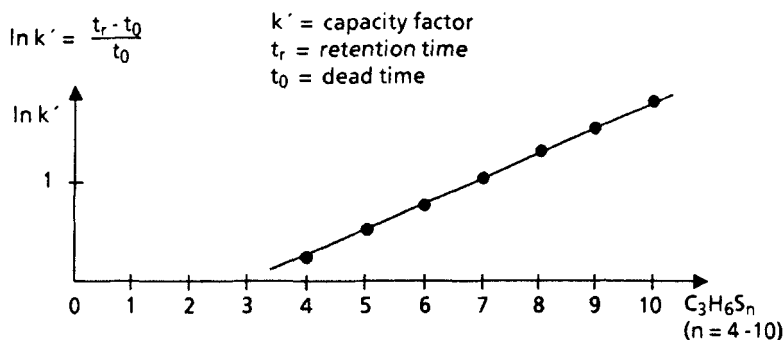


FIGURE 2 Logarithm of the capacity factor of  $C_3H_6S_n$  ( $n = 4-10$ ) as a function of  $n$

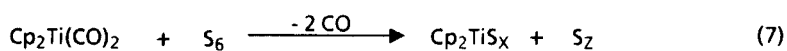
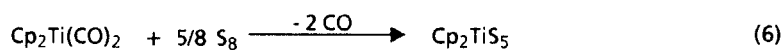
The UV absorption spectra of the chromatographically separated products of reaction (4) were measured during the continuing HPLC analysis using a Waters diode array detector. The increasing number of sulfur atoms in the ring causes a bathochromic shift (see TABLE 1).<sup>7</sup>

TABLE 1 UV Absorption maxima of the methylene sulfides  $C_3H_6S_n$  ( $n = 4-10$ )

Reaction products	UV Absorption maxima (nm)
$C_3H_6S_3$	218, 278
$C_3H_6S_4$	218, 298
$C_3H_6S_5$	222, 306
$C_3H_6S_6$	224, 314
$C_3H_6S_7$	222, 318
$C_3H_6S_8$	222, 325
$C_3H_6S_9$	224, 328
$C_3H_6S_{10}$	224, 338

The reaction of  $Cp_2Ti(CO)_2$  with  $S_8$  in boiling hexane yields  $Cp_2TiS_5$  only (equation 6).<sup>8</sup> No reaction is taking place at room temperature because of the high activation energy of  $S_8$ .

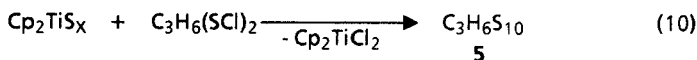
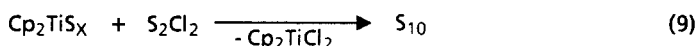
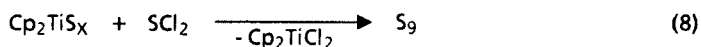
The reaction of  $Cp_2Ti(CO)_2$  with  $S_6$  proceeds at  $0^\circ C$  and yields a dark red solid, which was identified as a new titanocene compound by HPLC,  $^1H$  NMR and UV spectra.



**4**  $^1H$  NMR: 6.32 ppm s (Cp)  
 UV: 218, 298, 442, 532 nm  
 $t_r = 9.35$  min

The reaction of **4** with sulfur chlorides and subsequent identification of the resulting sulfur homocycles as well as the reaction with propylene bissulphenyl chloride indicate that **4** contains eight sulfur atoms. The new compound has not been isolated from the mixture so far, but its reactions were monitored by HPLC. The treatment of **4** with sulfurdichloride yields  $S_9$ , the reaction with disulfurdichloride results in  $S_{10}$  (equations 8 and 9).

HPLC analysis of the reaction mixture of **4** with propylene bissulfenylchloride shows a HPLC peak with exactly the same retention time and UV spectrum as the compound  $C_3H_6S_{10}$  obtained from reaction (5) (see FIGURE 1 and 2).



The new titanocene complex **4** obviously reacts as a transfer reagent for eight sulfur atoms.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Support by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft and Verband der Chemischen Industrie is gratefully acknowledged. We thank Dipl.-Chem. H. Balz for helpful discussions.

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