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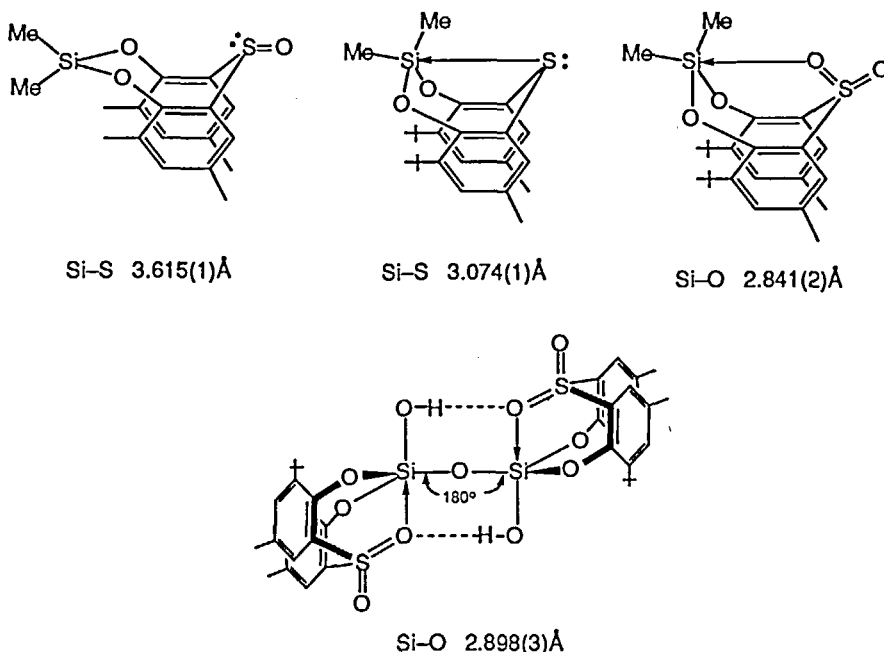
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Structural Variation Provided by Sulfur, Sulfinyl, and Sulfonyl Groups in Cyclic Silanes and Phosphoranes

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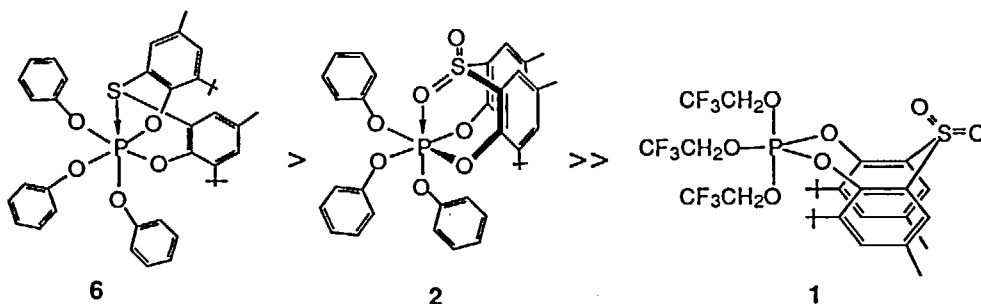
A series of new monocyclic diorganosilanes were prepared by condensation reactions of the appropriate diorganodichlorosilane with sulfur containing diols.¹⁻³ The eight-membered rings containing bridging sulfinyl groups² are positioned in *anti* chair-like conformations which precluded any additional coordination at silicon. This contrasts with silanes having sulfur¹ or sulfonyl³ groups in place of sulfinyl in the ring system where Si-S or Si-O coordination was evident. In these molecules, X-ray studies showed^{1,3} that the rings had *syn* boat-like conformations.



Likewise the cyclic disiloxane, $\{O_2S[(t\text{-}Bu)MeC_6H_2O]_2Si(OH)\}_2O$, prepared as a hydrolysis product, possessed a similar pentacoordinate structure at each of the silicon centers.³ The geometries are intermediate between a tetrahedron and a trigonal

bipyramid.^{1,3} Similar donor action is known with oxygen and nitrogen ligands in acyclic silanes.⁴ In view of the reduced electronegativity of sulfur, the results suggest that the attainment of hypervalency through donor action may be a more common feature of silane chemistry than previously thought.³

In an analogous fashion, introduction of a sulfonyl group in a cyclic pentaoxyphosphorane leads to oxygen-phosphorus donor action with formation of octahedral phosphorus.⁵ When these cyclic hexacoordinated phosphorus compounds that contain phenoxy ligands (*e.g.*, 2) are reacted with catechols at 90°C, enhanced reactivity is observed compared to cyclic pentaoxyphosphoranes that contain trifluoroethoxy ligands (*e.g.*, 1).⁵ With a sulfur atom in place of a sulfonyl group (*e.g.*, 6), reaction with catechols is even faster.⁶ Investigation of the reaction process indicates an associative mechanism involving a seven-coordinated intermediate.⁵



Thus, introduction of either sulfur atoms or sulfonyl groups in ring components (that have *t*-butyl substituents) allows donor action that leads to increased coordination for both cyclic dioxysilanes and cyclic pentaoxyphosphoranes.

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