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

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## Chiral Symmetric Alkylamides of Phosphoric and Phosphonic Acids

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## CHIRAL SYMMETRIC ALKYLAMIDES OF PHOSPHORIC AND PHOSPHONIC ACIDS

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Chiral symmetric alkylamides of trivalent phosphorus acids 1 exist in prototropic equilibrium with PH-iminophosphoranes 2. Phosphorus—nitrogen diad tautomeric equilibrium  $1 \rightleftharpoons 2$  depends on the nature of solvents and the substituents at the phosphorus and nitrogen atoms shifting toward the tautomeric form possessing the least mobile proton.

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**SCHEME 2** 

The chemical properties of compounds 1 are similar to those of other trivalent phosphorus compounds, confirming their structure. Compounds 1 are alkylated by methyl iodide to furnish phosphonium salts, the alkaline hydrolysis of which results in the formation of chiral amidophosphinates 3 (de  $\sim$ 100%). The reaction of aminophosphines 1 with formic acid resulted in amides of phosphinic acid 4. The compounds 1 are also easily oxidized and add sulfur with the formation of P=S or P=O derivatives.