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

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### Asymmetric Syntheses of $\alpha$ -Sulfinylphosphonates in the Thiolane Series

Mihaela Gulea<sup>a</sup>; Piotr Kielbasinski<sup>b</sup>; Marian Mikolajczyk<sup>b</sup>; Piotr Lyzwa<sup>b</sup>; Serge Masson<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Laboratory of Molecular and Thio-Organic Chemistry, University and ENSICAEN, Caen, France <sup>b</sup> Centre of Molecular and Macromolecular Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences, Lodz, Poland

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## Asymmetric Syntheses of $\alpha$ -Sulfinylphosphonates in the Thiolane Series

**Mihaela Gulea**

Laboratory of Molecular and Thio-Organic Chemistry,  
University and ENSICAEN, Caen, France

**Piotr Kielbasinski**

**Piotr Lyzwa**

**Marian Mikolajczyk**

Centre of Molecular and Macromolecular Studies,  
Polish Academy of Sciences, Lodz, Poland

**Serge Masson**

Laboratory of Molecular and Thio-Organic Chemistry,  
University and ENSICAEN, Caen, France

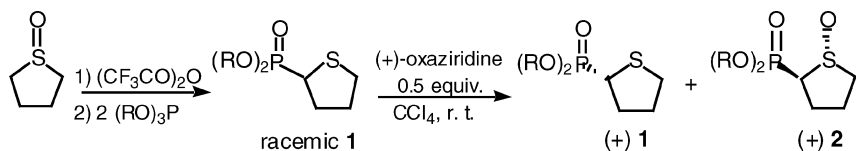
Enantiopure  $\alpha$ -sulfinyl phosphonates are useful chiral olefinating reagents for the generation of  $\alpha,\beta$ -ethylenic sulfoxides, which in turn can be used as asymmetric dienophiles or Michael acceptors.<sup>1</sup> The first enantioselective synthesis of a 1-oxo 2-phosphonothiolane **2** had already been achieved *via* the [2,3]-sigmatropic rearrangement of the carbanion derived from di(-)-menthyl (allylsulfanyl)methanephosphonate.<sup>2</sup> We now describe more direct and general ways to prepare nonracemic sulfoxides of the same series by the methods involving asymmetric oxidations of racemic or achiral thiolanes.

When racemic 2-phosphonothiolanes **1** (R = ethyl, isopropyl, 2,2-dimethylpropane-1,3-diyl), prepared from 1-oxothiolane by a Pummerer-phosphorylation reaction,<sup>3</sup> were treated with one half equiv of (+)-(2S, 8aR)-8,8-dichloro-camphorsulfonyloxaziridine, a preferential oxidation of one of the enantiomers of thiolane **1**, together with a diastereoselective formation of the *trans*-sulfoxides **2**, was observed leading to enantioenriched **1** and **2** (ee ~ 75% with R = iPr)

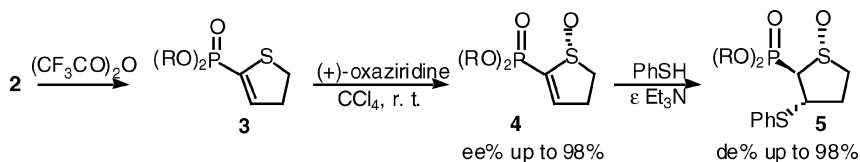
2-Phosphono-2,3-didehydrothiolanes **3** were further prepared from the racemic sulfoxides **2** under Pummerer conditions. Their enantioselective oxidation using the same oxaziridine led to the enantioenriched

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Address correspondence to Mihaela Gulea, Laboratory of Molecular and Thio-Organic Chemistry (UMR CNRS 6507), University and ENSICAEN, 6, Bd. Maréchal Juin, 14050, Caen, France. E-mail: gulea@ismra.fr



ethylenic sulfoxides **4** (ee up to 98% with  $\text{R} = 2,2\text{-dimethylpropane-1,3-diyl}$ ). A highly diastereoselective 1,4-addition of benzenethiol to these sulfoxides resulted in the formation of 1-oxo-2-phosphono-3-phenylthiothiolanes **5** with three stereogenic centers controlled simultaneously.



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