

**PHOSPHAHYDROQUINONES AND OXAPHOSPHOLES
VIA CARBENE ANNULATION AND CYCLOADDITION REACTIONS OF
CHROMIUM CARBONYL CARBENE COMPLEXES AND PHOSPHAALKYNES¹⁾**

K.H. DÖTZ, ^{*2)} A. TIRILIONIS and K. HARMS

Fachbereich Chemie der Philipps-Universität Marburg,
Hans-Meerwein-Straße, D-3550 Marburg, Germany

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Abstract - Fischer-type alkoxy(aryl or vinyl)carbene complexes of chromium undergo regiospecific carbene annulation and cycloaddition upon reaction with *tert*.butyl phosphaacetylene to give highly substituted phosphahydroquinones and/or oxaphospholes. The product distribution is governed by steric and electronic effects arising from the substitution pattern in the carbene ligand. The phosphaaannulation products such as phosphabenzene, -naphthalene, -benzofuran, -benzothiophene and -phenanthrene skeletons as well as the 1,3-oxaphospholes are obtained in yields up to 89% and - in part - are characterized by X-ray diffraction.

Soon after their discovery in 1964³⁾ Fischer type carbene complexes $[(CO)_5M=C(R)R']$ turned out to gain considerable potential in organic synthesis⁴⁾. The interaction of a low-valent transition metal such as Cr⁰, Mo⁰ or W⁰ and pronounced acceptor coligands renders the carbene carbon a strongly electrophilic center⁵⁾. This is in accord with the isolobal analogy of the metal carbonyl fragment and an oxygen atom⁶⁾, and has led to the description of these complexes as "metal-tuned carbonyl compounds"⁷⁾. Their chemical behaviour is in distinct contrast to that of complexes introduced by Schrock in 1974⁸⁾ which are characterized by a reversed polarity of the metal-carbene bond ("metal-tuned ylides") resulting from the combination of a higher-valent metal center and efficient donor coligands⁹⁾. Whereas Schrock-type compounds are mainly used as well-defined catalysts in olefin metathesis and ROMP reactions¹⁰⁾, Fischer type complexes have become valuable reagents for stoichiometric carbon-carbon bond formation⁴⁾.

BACKGROUND

The application of Fischer type carbene complexes in organic synthesis is based on two grounds: In one respect the metal-carbene unit may act as a novel functional group. As a consequence of the electrophilic carbene carbon adjacent C-H bonds exhibit an enhanced acidity; metal carbene "enolates" obtained by

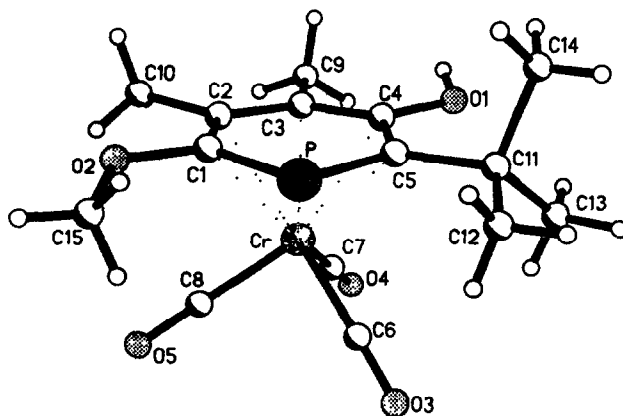
α -deprotonation have been used in diastereoselective aldol and Michael reactions^{11,12}). Similarly, α,β -unsaturated carbene ligands are activated towards cycloaddition; for instance, Diels-Alder and Pauson-Khand reactions proceed at distinctly milder conditions than with the corresponding organic carbonyl analogues^{13,14}). In all these reactions the metal-carbene bond is unaffected, and thus can be subsequently modified by nucleophilic addition or oxidative cleavage.

On the other hand, the low-valent metal center is able to act as a template at which one pot cycloaddition patterns unprecedented in organic chemistry may be set up. Typical examples are the chromium-mediated three component cycloaddition reactions which in a [4+2+1-2] mode lead to cyclopentenones¹⁵) or in a [3+2+1] carbene annulation afford oxygenated arenes¹⁶). The latter process in which an alkyne, an α,β -unsaturated carbene and a carbonyl ligand are connected in a highly chemo- and regioselective manner has been increasingly used in the synthesis of natural products containing fused ring systems during the past decade¹⁷). The benzannulation proceeds under mild conditions and is compatible with alkenyl-, aryl- and five-membered heteroaryl carbene ligands as well as with terminal and internal alkyl- and arylalkynes. The reaction fails with nucleophilic alkynes such as ynamines which - in competition with the required η^2 -side on-coordination to the metal - primarily add directly to the carbene carbon atom and finally undergo insertion into the metal-carbene bond¹⁸). A similar addition/insertion sequence is observed for nitriles¹⁹), the resulting iminocarbene complexes which are also accessible from alkoxycarbene complexes and imines or from aminocarbene precursors²⁰) have been shown to undergo a competitive [3+2+1] carbene annulation to 3-hydroxypyridines and [3+2] cycloaddition to pyrroles upon reaction with alkynes^{20, 21}); the chemoselectivity is controlled by the substitution pattern both in the imino side chain and in the alkyne, and further seems to depend on the solvent used. An independent access to the pyridine skeleton is based on a formal [4+2] cycloaddition of alkynes to Z- β -(monoalkylamino)vinylcarbene ligands²²).

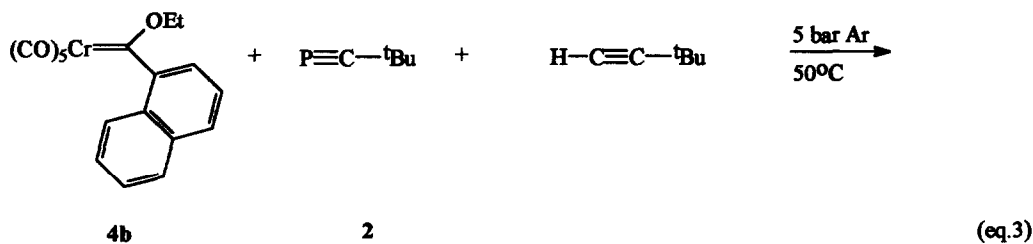
The development of kinetically stabilized phosphalkynes²³) - the higher homologues of nitriles - prompted us to investigate whether the carbene annulation methodology can be extended to heteroannulation using the P $\equiv$ C bond as a heteroalkyne equivalent. We were encouraged by previous results from the coordination chemistry of phosphalkynes which - towards low-valent metal centers - generally prefer an η^2 -side on-coordination of the P $\equiv$ C bond over an η^1 -end on-coordination of the phosphorous lone pair²⁴). The chemical similarity of alkynes and phosphalkynes is further documented by common metal-induced cyclooligomerization²⁴) and insertion reactions into metal-alkyl and metal-carbene bonds²⁵). In this paper we present another analogy of these two classes of compounds which is based on carbene annulation and cycloaddition reactions leading to phosphahydroquinone and oxaphosphole structures²⁶).

CARBENE ANNULATION REACTIONS

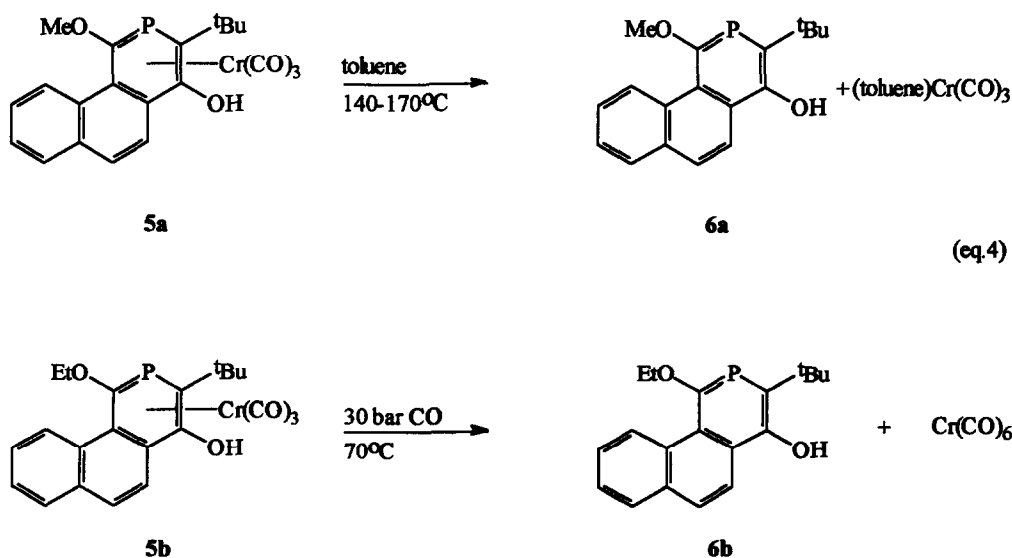
Extending previous work on the benzannulation of vinylcarbene complexes²⁷) we turned to the (*E*)-2-butenylcarbene complex **1a** which was reacted with *tert.* butylphosphaacetylene **228**), a stable compound which is easy to handle. After warming a ^tBuOMe solution under 5 bar Ar to 100° for 2 h ³¹P-NMR monitoring of the reaction indicated a signal compatible with a coordinated double-bound sp² phosphorous center; in addition, the IR spectrum confirmed the formation of a Cr(CO)₃ complex. Although

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{(CO)}_5\text{Cr}=\text{C}(\text{OMe})\text{C}(\text{Me})=\text{C}(\text{Me}) \\
 \text{1a}
 \end{array}
 +
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{P}\equiv\text{C}-\text{tBu} \\
 \text{2}
 \end{array}
 \xrightarrow[100^\circ\text{C}]{5\text{ bar Ar}}
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{OH} \\
 | \\
 \text{Me}-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3(\text{OMe})-\text{C}(\text{tBu})-\text{P}(\text{CO})_3 \\
 | \\
 \text{Me} \\
 \text{3}
 \end{array}
 \quad (\text{eq. 1})$$


In contrast to vinylcarbene complexes synthetically useful yields may be obtained from fused arylcarbene complexes. The phosphaaannulation of the 1-naphthylcarbene ligand in **4a,b** affords a >70% yield of the phosphaphenanthrene hydroquinone complexes **5a,b**, partly along with a small amount of decomplexation product **6** (eq. 2). The incorporation of the phosphaaalkyne is highly regioselective: The sterically less shielded terminus of the triple bond system is connected exclusively with the carbene carbon atom, while the bulky *tert*-butyl substituent ends up next to the phenolic group. A corresponding regiochemical preference is known from benzannulation reactions with alkynes³⁰) In addition to NMR data the regiochemistry and the coordination of the phosphinine ring have been confirmed by an X-ray analysis of **5a** (fig. 2). Ring-puckering which continues

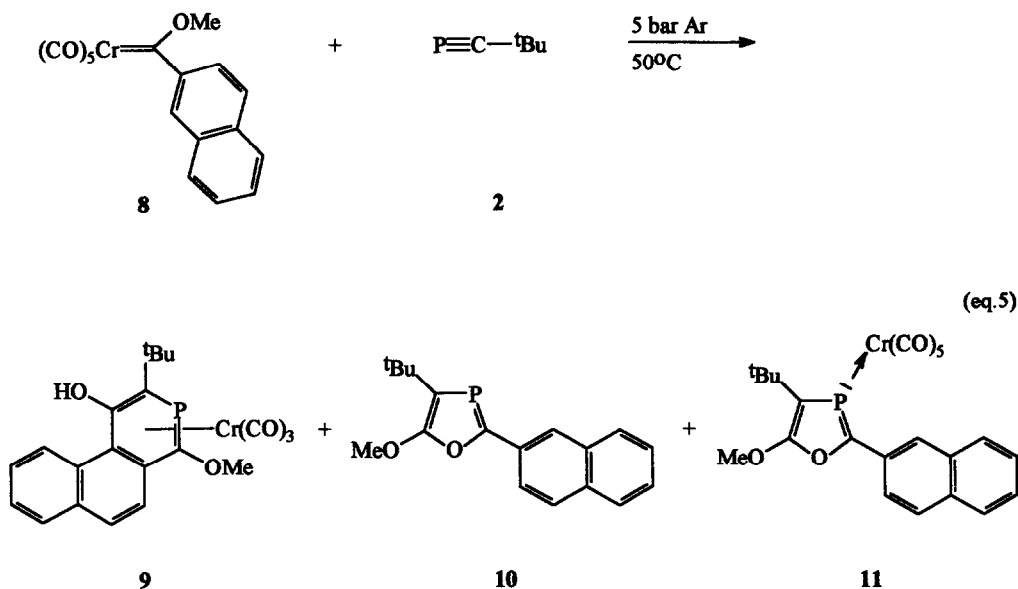


The coordination of the phosphinine ring to the $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$ -fragment in the phosphaaannulation product is rather strong. When **5a** is warmed in toluene, slow decomplexation occurs no sooner than at 140°C leading to the free phosphahydroquinone **6a** while the metal is trapped as $(\text{toluene})\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$. No haptotropic metal migration to the terminal arene ring is observed under these conditions. As preceded in the $(\text{arene})\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$ series much milder conditions are sufficient for decomplexation when carried out under CO pressure. For instance, warming of an ether solution of **5b** to 70°C under 30 bar CO results in a 95% yield of uncoordinated phosphahydroquinone **6b** (eq. 4).

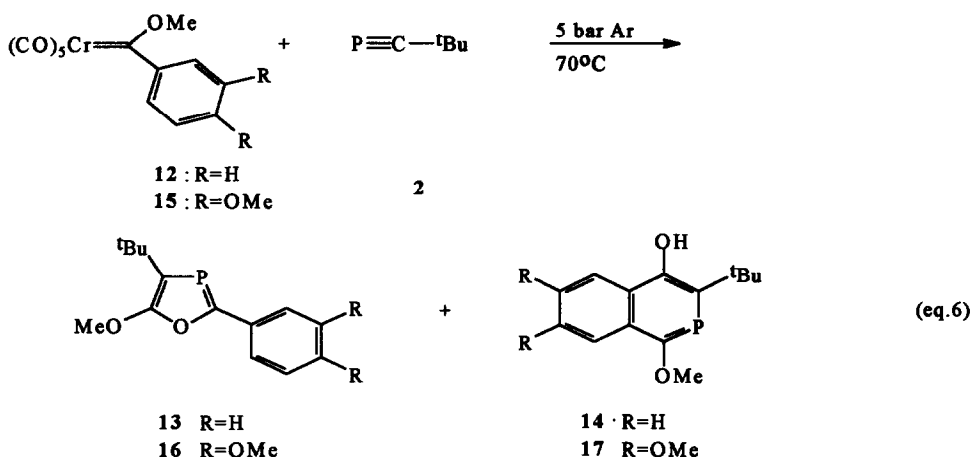


COMPETITIVE PHOSPHAARENE AND OXAPHOSPHOLE FORMATION

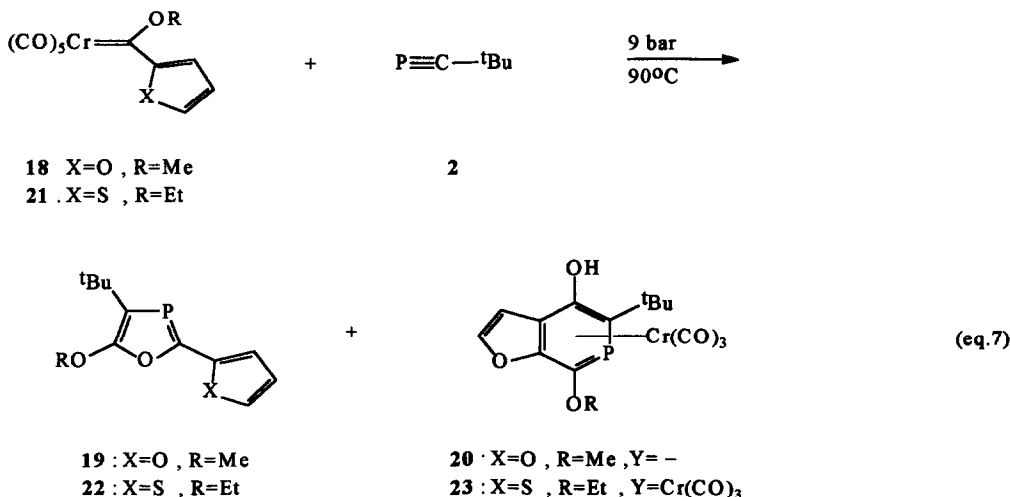
Reactions of chromium alkoxy(aryl)carbene complexes with non-nucleophilic alkynes are known to give rise to various types of cycloaddition products with six-membered oxygenated arenes generally prevailing^{4a,d}. The chemoselectivity is influenced by the substitution pattern both in the carbene ligand and in the alkyne, for instance, steric congestion in the alkyne favours the formation of cyclobutenones³³) whereas bulky or *ortho*-disubstituted aryl substituents in the carbene ligand may lead to furans³⁴) or indenes³⁵). In the phosphaaannulation, the substitution pattern in the carbene ligand has even a more pronounced effect on the chemoselectivity. Changing the 1-naphthyl group in complex **4a** to a 2-naphthyl substituent in **8** the yield of phosphaphenanthrene annulation product **9** drops from 82% to 19% while a five-membered cycloaddition product, the oxaphosphole **10** and its $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_5$ adduct **11**, is isolated in a similar amount (eq. 5). Analogous to benzannulation reactions with alkynes³⁶) no linear annulation product (phosphaanthracene) was detected.



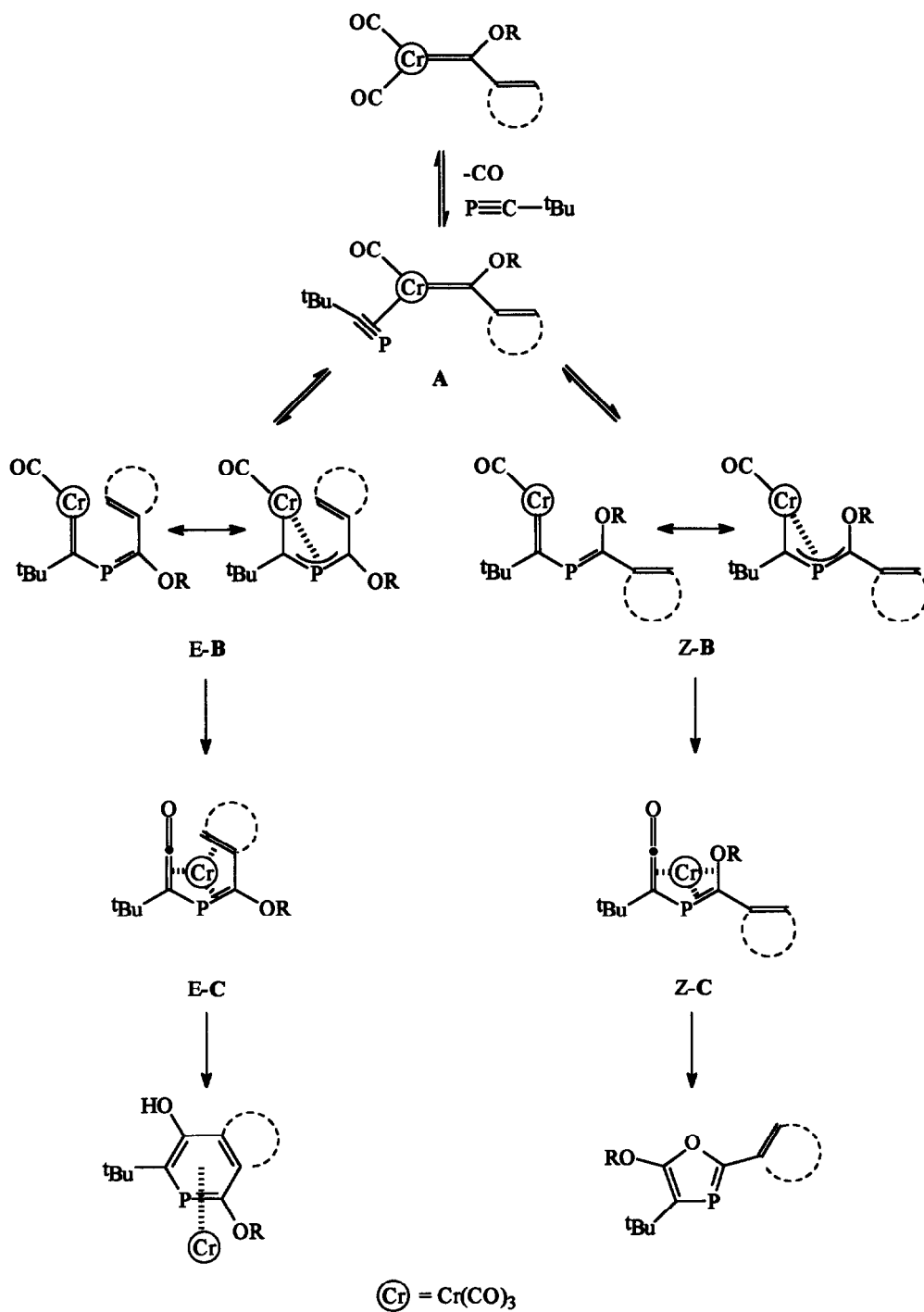
The competition of phosphaaannulation and oxaphosphole formation is a general feature of reactions of alkoxy(aryl)carbene complexes and phosphaaalkyne **2**. Using molecular sieve (3Å) as CO absorber the phenylcarbene complex **12** affords oxaphosphole **13** along with two minor products which could not be separated by chromatography; NMR spectroscopic analysis indicated that one component of this mixture is the 3-phosphanaphthalene **14** while the other - a $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_5$ coordinated organophosphorus compound - could not be fully identified. Introduction of donor substituents such as methoxy groups into the arene ring shifts the product distribution to the five-membered cycloaddition product. Upon reaction of complex **15** containing a non-chelating 1,2-dimethoxy substitution pattern with phosphaaalkyne **2** the oxaphosphole **16** and the phosphaaarene **17** are obtained in an approximately 2/1 ratio (eq. 6).



The competition of phosphaaannulation and oxaphosphole formation seems to be a balance of steric and electronic factors. Whereas the chemoselectivity observed in the 1- and 2-naphthylcarbene series might be traced back mainly to steric factors, the results obtained from phenylcarbene complexes could be rationalized in terms of electronic control. Further support for electronic control comes from reactions involving five-membered heteroaromatic carbene ligands: Using the 2-furylcarbene complex **18** the phosphaaannulation prevails by 2/1 (**20/19**), while with the 2-thienyl analogue **21** the oxaphosphole formation dominates by 10/1 (**22/23**) (eq 7)



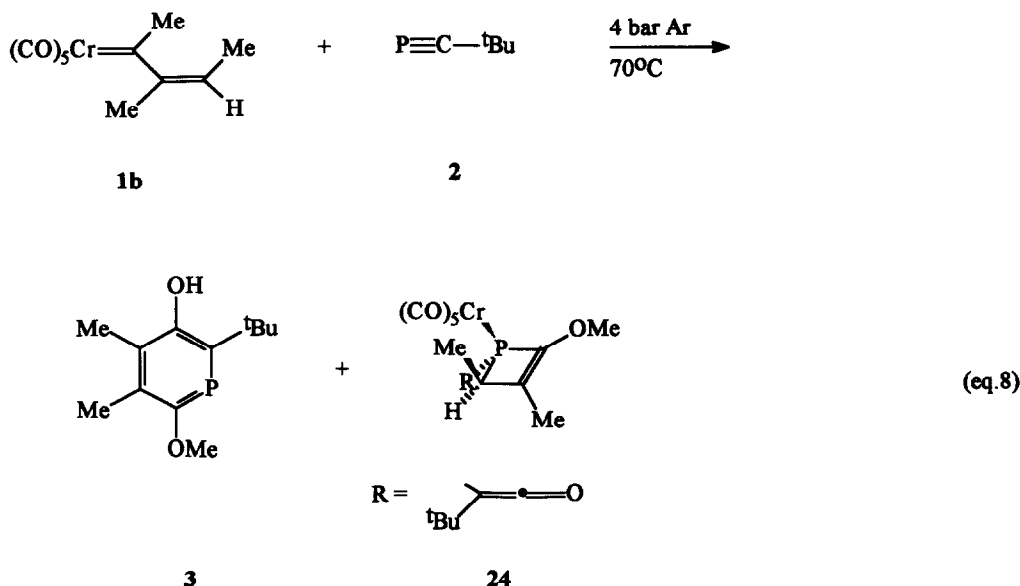
A mechanistic description of the competing phosphaaannulation and oxaphosphole formation starts from a common carbene-phosphaalkyne-complex intermediate **A**. Insertion of the phosphaalkyne into the metal-carbene bond may lead either to an *E*- or a *Z*-isomer **B** which can be described as a σ,π -phosphaallyl or a π -phosphaalkenylcarbene complex³⁷). The *E*-isomer is expected to undergo a carbene-CO coupling to give *E*-vinyl ketene **C** which by an electrocyclic 1,6-ring closure is converted to the annulation product. The *Z*-vinyl ketene **C**, however, obviously undergoes an overall alkoxy shift to the ketene carbonyl carbon atom followed by a cyclization to give the oxaphosphole skeleton (scheme 1).



Scheme 1 Mechanistic scheme for the competition of phosphaanulation and oxaphospole formation.

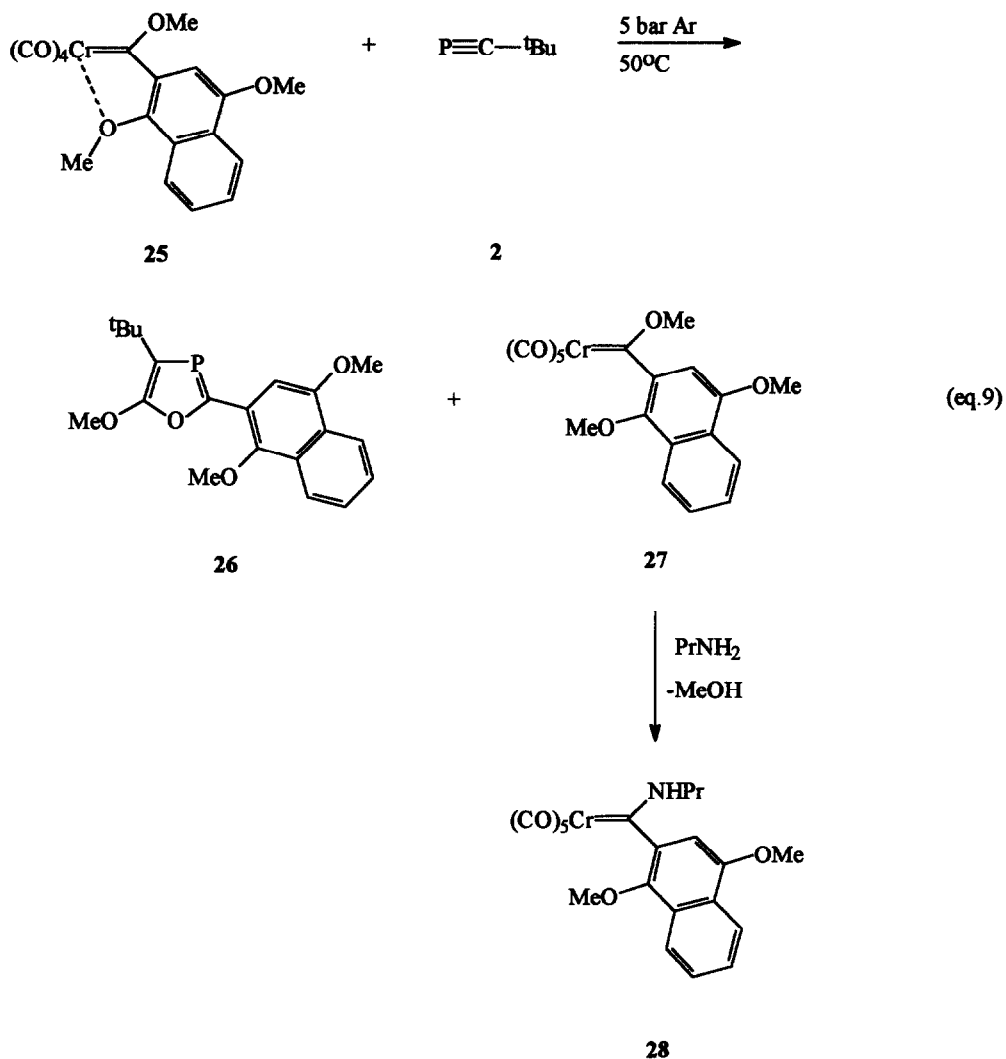
The competition of carbene annulation and formation of five-membered heterocycles has precedents in the reaction of carbene complexes with alkynes. Whereas chromium-coordinated alkoxy(aryl)- and alkoxy(vinyl)carbene ligands are generally incorporated into hydroquinones, the furan skeleton was obtained as the major product from the bulky ferrocenyl(methoxy)carbene complex upon reaction with tolane^{34a}). The connectivity of alkyne, carbene and carbonyl ligands leading to the furan nucleus was established by labelling studies^{34b}). Extension of this work to the formation of the oxaphosphole ring implies that the phosphorous atom is attached to the former carbene carbon and the alkoxy substituent has migrated to the former carbonyl carbon atom.

Further support for the idea that similar steps in the mechanism are operative in the reaction of carbene complexes with alkynes and phosphalkynes is provided from the reaction of *Z*-2-butenylcarbene complex **1b** with phosphalkyne **2**. The *Z*-isomer was chosen in order to hamper the final heterocyclic ring closure, and thus eventually to trap suggested phosphavinylcarbene or ketene intermediates. In analogy to the reaction of the *E*-isomer **1a** again the phosphinine complex **3** was observed as a minor product indicating that partial isomerization across the C=C bond must have occurred in the course of the reaction³⁸). In addition, an orange solid was isolated in low yield; by NMR and IR spectroscopy its structure was elucidated as dihydrophosphate complex **24**, the intramolecular [2+2] cycloaddition product of a presumed phosphadienylketene intermediate **C** (eq. 8)³⁹). NMR-Data suggest that a single diastereomer was obtained. The $^3\text{J}_{\text{P,H}}$ coupling constant (16.1 Hz) observed for the 2-methyl group is consistent with a *cis*-configuration with respect to the metal carbonyl fragment⁴⁰)

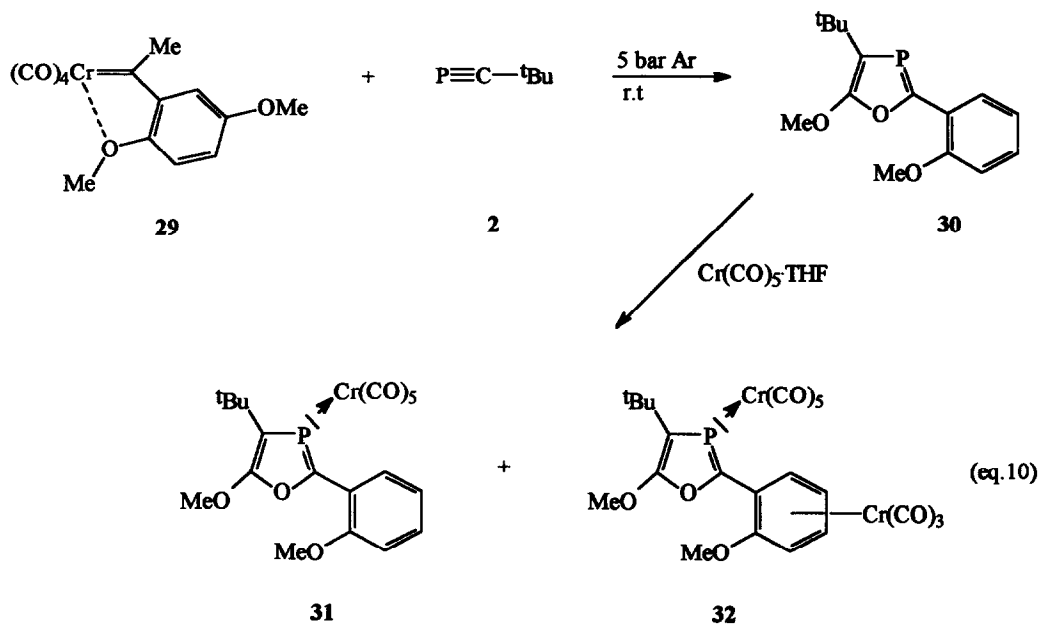


CARBENE CHELATE COMPLEXES IN CYCLOADDITION REACTIONS

In arylcarbene complexes *ortho*-methoxy substituents have been used to control the regiochemistry of carbene annulation by *alkynes*. By this strategy, annulation of 2-naphthylcarbene ligands could be shifted from the generally preferred phenanthrene formation to the construction of the anthracene skeleton^{17a}). An extension of this work to the *phosphaalkyne* demonstrated that - in this case - the phosphaaannulation could not successfully compete with oxaphosphole formation. No linear phosphaaanthracene complex could be detected after the carbene chelate complex **25** was reacted with phosphaalkyne **2**. Only oxaphosphole **26** was observed along with the carbonylation product **27** (eq. 9). Since separation by chromatography turned out to be tedious the carbene complex was modified into the easily separable aminocarbene analogue **28**.



A clean cycloaddition to give the five-membered phosphorous heterocycle occurs with the *ortho*-anisylcarbene chelate **29** (eq. 10). Since carbene chelates often allow milder conditions than their non-chelated analogues we tried to identify possible intermediates. However, at temperatures as low as -30° the oxaphosphole **30** was the only isolable product. A similar result was obtained from UV-irradiation under these conditions; no detectable amount of phosphaanulation product was observed indicating that *E/Z*-isomerization either in the presumed phosphaaalkenylcarbene or phosphavinyl ketene intermediates is slow compared with carbonylation or ring-closure (scheme 1).



While synthetic routes to aza- and thiaphospholes have been recently reported⁴¹⁾ and structural information on the thiaphosphole skeleton is available⁴²⁾, only benzannulated derivatives of 1,3-oxaphospholes have been known⁴³⁾. Efforts to obtain crystals of **30** suitable for X-ray diffraction by coordination of the phosphorous atom to the $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_5$ fragment resulted in a mixture of phosphine and arene complexes **31** and **32**. A clean and high-yield access to coordinated oxaphospholes, however, is provided by the reaction of the chromium-coordinated carbene chelate **33** with phosphalkyne **2** (eq. 11). Complex **34** contains a planar five-membered ring with two distinctly different phosphorous-carbon bond lengths, 1.705(4) and 1.772(4) Å, indicative for a $\text{P}=\text{C}$ and a $\text{P}-\text{C}$ bond. The $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$ fragment is coordinated unsymmetrically to the anisyl group and is shifted away from the substituted ring carbon atoms adopting a nearly eclipsed conformation as expected for donor-substituted arene ligands (fig. 3).

EXPERIMENTAL

General technique

All reactions and workup operations were carried out under an atmosphere of dried inert gas (Ar or N₂). Solvents were dried using standard methods, distilled, N₂-saturated and stored under N₂. Silica gel used for chromatography (E. Merck, type 60, 0.063 - 0.2 mm) was dried at high vacuum and kept under N₂. The following instruments served for spectroscopic characterization. IR-spectra: Perkin Elmer 281 and Bruker IFS 88; NMR-spectra: Bruker AC 300, Bruker WH 400; mass spectra: Varian MAT CH 7A and Varian MAT 711. NMR data are reported in ppm using TMS as internal standard (¹H, ¹³C) or 85% - H₃PO₄ as external standard (³¹P).

Tricarbonyl[5,6-dimethyl-1-hydroxy-4-methoxy-2-tert.butyl-3-phosphinine]chromium (3). 0.6 g (2.07 mmol) Pentacarbonyl[*E*-2-butenyl(methoxy)carbene]chromium (1a)⁴⁴ and 0.23 g (2.30 mmol) 2,2-dimethylpropyldynephosphane (2)²⁸ were dissolved in 20 ml *tert*.BuOMe. The solution was exposed to a pressure of 4 bar Ar and then warmed to 100° for 2 hr. Removal of the solvent and chromatography on silica gel at -25° using dichloromethane/petroleum ether as eluent afforded a marginal amount of yellow crystals. Single crystals suitable for X-ray analysis were obtained by recrystallization from dichloromethane/petroleum ether (1/3). MS *m/z*: 362 (C₁₅H₁₉CrO₅P 362.3)

Tricarbonyl[1-4,4a:10a- η^6 -1-hydroxy-4-methoxy-2-tert.butyl-3-phosphaphenanthrene]chromium (5a) and 1-hydroxy-4-methoxy-2-tert.butyl-3-phosphaphenanthrene (6). A solution of 2.72 g (7.50 mmol) pentacarbonyl[methoxy(1-naphthyl)carbene]chromium (4a)³⁶ and 0.75 g (7.50 mmol) phosphalkyne 2 in 20 ml *tert*.BuOMe was warmed to 50° for 2 hr under 5 bar Ar. The solvent was removed and the residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel at -25° using dichloromethane/petroleum ether (1/3 to 1/0) as eluent. First, a yellow powder of 6a was obtained which was recrystallized from dichloromethane/petroleum ether (1/5). From the second band dark red crystals of 5a were isolated after recrystallization from dichloromethane/petroleum ether (1/1). 5a: 2.59 g (82%) IR (KBr, ν_{OH} cm⁻¹): 3577, (C₆H₁₄, ν_{CO} cm⁻¹): 1965s, 1885s, br. ¹H-NMR (CD₃COCD₃, 400 MHz): δ 1.57 (d, 9H, C(CH₃)₃; ⁴J_{P,H} = 2.75 Hz); 4.00 (d, 3H, OCH₃; ⁴J_{P,H} = 3.04 Hz); 7.64 (m, 2H, H-6, H-7; ³J_{H,H} = 7.12, ⁴J_{H,H} = 1.40 and 1.73 Hz); 7.85 (d, 1H, H-9; ³J_{H,H} = 9.59 Hz); 7.89 (dd, 1H, ³J_{H,H} = 7.54 Hz); 8.32 (d, 1H, H-10; ³J_{H,H} = 9.59 Hz); 8.55 (s, 1H, OH); 9.35 (dd, 1H, H-5; ³J_{H,H} = 8.09 Hz, ⁴J_{H,H} = 1.28 Hz). ¹³C-NMR (CD₃COCD₃, 100.4 MHz): δ 31.62 (d, C(CH₃)₃; ³J_{P,C} = 14.15 Hz); 38.01 (d, C(CH₃)₃; ²J_{P,C} = 19.55 Hz); 59.93 (d, OCH₃; ³J_{P,C} = 34.33 Hz); 101.06 (d, C-4a; ²J_{P,C} = 7.65 Hz); 114.73 (d, C-2; ¹J_{P,C} = 60.07 Hz); 96.97 (s); 123.27 (s); 128.71 (s); 129.19 (s); 129.39 (s); 130.07 (s); 131.04 (s); 131.12 (s); 133.65 (s) (C-4b-C-10a); 134.04 (d, C-1; ²J_{P,C} = 7.55 Hz); 154.72 (d, C-4; ¹J_{P,C} = 68.02 Hz); 233.49 (s, Cr(CO)₃). ³¹P-NMR (CD₃COCD₃, 121.5 MHz): δ -26.50. MS *m/z* (%): 434 (Found C, 57.86; H, 4.43%; C₂₁H₁₉CrO₅P 434.3 Requires C, 58.07, H, 4.41%). 6a 0.15 g (7%) IR (KBr, ν_{OH} cm⁻¹): 3550. ¹H-NMR (CD₃COCD₃, 400 MHz): δ 1.68 (d, 9H, C(CH₃)₃; ⁴J_{P,H} = 2.49 Hz); 4.29 (d, 3H, OCH₃; ⁴J_{P,H} = 2.97 Hz); 7.61 (ddd, 2H, H-6, H-7; ³J_{H,H} = 7.22 Hz); 7.92 (ddd, 2H, H-8, H-9; ³J_{H,H} = 8.32 Hz, ⁴J_{H,H} = 2.38 Hz); 8.39 (d, 1H, H-10; ³J_{H,H} = 9.27 Hz); 8.01 (s, 1H, OH); 9.68 (dd, 1H, H-5; ³J_{H,H} = 7.27 Hz). ¹³C-NMR (CD₃COCD₃, 100.4 MHz): δ 31.64 (d, C(CH₃)₃; ³J_{P,C} = 15.55 Hz); 38.97 (d, C(CH₃)₃; ²J_{P,C} = 23.69 Hz); 59.07 (d, OCH₃; ³J_{P,C} = 38.33 Hz); 131.36 (d, C-4a; ²J_{P,C} = 6.94 Hz); 122.931 (s); 122.933 (s); 127.42 (s); 127.52 (s); 128.47 (s); 129.30 (s); 129.38 (s); 130.52 (s); 133.69 (s) (C-4b-C-10a); 149.87 (d, C-1; ²J_{P,C} = 11.85 Hz); 153.77 (d, C-2; ¹J_{P,C} = 47.17 Hz); 189.80 (d, C-4; ¹J_{P,C} = 46.04 Hz). ³¹P-NMR (CD₃COOD₃, 121.5 MHz): δ 124.30. MS *m/z*: 298 (C₁₈H₁₉O₂P 298.3)

Tricarbonyl[1-4,4a:10a- η^6 -1-hydroxy-4-ethoxy-2-tert.butyl-3-phosphaphenanthrene]chromium (5b). A solution of 2.82 g (7.50 mmol) pentacarbonyl[ethoxy(1-naphthyl)carbene]chromium (4b)³⁶ and 0.75 g (7.50 mmol) phosphalkyne 2 in 20 ml *tert*.BuOMe was warmed to 50° for 2 hr under 5 bar Ar. Workup as described for the preparation of 5a gave red crystals of 5b. 5b: 2.41 g (72%). IR (KBr, ν_{OH} cm⁻¹) 3587,

(C₆H₁₄, ν_{CO} cm⁻¹): 1957 s, 1887 s, br ¹H-NMR (CD₃COCD₃, 400 MHz): δ 1.57 (d, 9H, C(CH₃)₃, ⁴J_{P,H} = 2.09 Hz), 1.58 (t, 3H, OCH₂CH₃; ³J_{H,H} = 6.87 Hz), 4.09 (dq, 1H; ²J_{H,H} = 14.28 Hz, ³J_{H,H} = 7.14 Hz), 4.30 (dq, 1H; ²J_{H,H} = 14.30 Hz, ³J_{H,H} = 7.15 Hz), (OCH₂), 7.66 (m, 2H, H-6, H-7, ³J_{H,H} = 7.70 Hz), 7.90 (m, 4H, H-8-H-10, OH; ³J_{H,H} = 9.22 Hz), 9.50 (d, 1H, H-5; ³J_{H,H} = 8.30 Hz) ¹³C-NMR (CD₃COCD₃, 100.4 MHz): δ 15.20 (d, CH₃CH₂O, ⁴J_{P,C} = 3.99 Hz), 31.46 (d, C(CH₃)₃; ³J_{P,C} = 14.25 Hz), 38.03 (d, C(CH₃)₃; ²J_{P,C} = 19.43 Hz), 70.15 (d, CH₃CH₂O; ²J_{P,C} = 35.25 Hz), 100.89 (d, C-4a; ²J_{P,C} = 7.64 Hz), 115.2 (d, C-2; ¹J_{P,C} = 60.36 Hz), 97.04 (s), 123.34 (s), 128.60 (s), 129.17 (s), 129.41 (s), 130.17 (s), 131.09 (s), 131.11 (s), 133.70 (s) (C-4b-C-10a), 133.90 (d, C-1; ²J_{P,C} = 7.55 Hz), 153.72 (d, C-4; ¹J_{P,C} = 68.21 Hz), 233.67 (s, Cr(CO)₃). ³¹P-NMR (CD₃COCD₃, 121.5 MHz): δ -24.70. MS *m/z*: 448. (C₂₂H₂₁CrO₅P 448.4).

Competition of phosphalkyne 2 and *tert*.butyl acetylene for carbene annulation. A solution of 1.42 g (3.77 mmol) pentacarbonyl[ethoxy(1-naphthyl)carbene]chromium (4b)³⁶, 0.38 g (3.77 mmol) phosphalkyne 2 and 0.31 g (3.77 mmol) *tert*.butyl acetylene in 20 ml diethylether containing 5 g molecular sieve (3 Å) was warmed to 60° for 2 hr under 5 bar Ar. After removal of the solvent the residue is dissolved in CD₃COCD₃. ¹H-NMR spectroscopic analysis indicated a product distribution of 5b/6b/7 = 27/3/5.

Decomplexation experiments

Thermal decomplexation. A toluene solution of 0.19 g (0.44 mmol) 5a was warmed in an autoclave to 170° for 2 hr. After removal of the solvent the residue was analyzed by ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR spectroscopy which indicated an essentially quantitative formation of 6a and (toluene) Cr(CO)₃.

Ligand exchange A solution of 0.90 g (2 mmol) 5b in 40 ml diethylether was warmed in an autoclave to 70°C for 14 hr under 30 bar CO. Then the solvent and Cr(CO)₆ were removed at 30° in vacuo. Chromatography of the residue on silica gel at 10° using ether/petroleum ether and recrystallization afforded yellow crystals. 6b: 0.63 g (95%). ¹H-NMR (CD₃COCD₃, 400 MHz): δ 1.67 (d, 9H, C(CH₃)₃; ⁴J_{P,H} = 2.45 Hz), 1.71 (t, 3H, CH₃CH₂O; ³J_{H,H} = 6.29 Hz), 4.88 (q, 2H, CH₃CH₂O; ³J_{H,H} = 6.74 Hz), 7.61 (m, 2H, H-6, H-7, ³J_{H,H} = 7.80 Hz), 7.88 (d, 3H, H-8, H-9, OH; ³J_{H,H} = 9.63 Hz), 8.39 (d, 1H, H-10; ³J_{H,H} = 9.32 Hz), 9.80 (d, 1H, H-5, ³J_{H,H} = 7.30 Hz). ¹³C-NMR (CD₃COCD₃, 100.4 MHz): δ 15.39 (d, CH₃CH₂O; ⁴J_{P,C} = 4.08 Hz), 31.64 (d, C(CH₃)₃; ³J_{P,C} = 15.46 Hz), 38.94 (d, C(CH₃)₃; ²J_{P,C} = 23.67 Hz), 68.61 (d, CH₃CH₂O; ²J_{P,C} = 39.32 Hz), 129.43 (d, C-4a; ²J_{P,C} = 5.28 Hz), 122.92 (s), 127.29 (s), 127.46 (s), 128.43 (s), 129.16 (s), 129.23 (s), 130.57 (s), 133.70 (s) (C-4b-C-10a), 149.71 (d, C-1; ²J_{P,C} = 11.85 Hz), 153.97 (d, C-2; ¹J_{P,C} = 47.47 Hz), 188.74 (d, C-4, ¹J_{P,C} = 46.56 Hz). ³¹P-NMR (CD₃COCD₃, 121.5 MHz): δ 125.80. MS *m/z*: 312 (C₁₉H₂₁O₂P 312.4).

Tricarbonyl(1-4, 4a: 10a- η^6 -4-hydroxy-1-methoxy-3-*tert*.butyl-2-phosphaphenanthrene)chromium (9), 2-naphthyl-5-methoxy-4-*tert*.butyl-1,3-oxaphosphole (10) and pentacarbonyl(2-naphthyl-5-methoxy-4-*tert*.butyl-1,3-oxaphosphole)chromium (11). A solution of 1.55 g (4.28 mmol) pentacarbonyl[methoxy(2-naphthyl)carbene]chromium (8)³⁶ and 0.60 g (6.00 mmol) phosphalkyne 2 in 25 ml ^tBuOMe was warmed to 50° for 5 hr under 4 bar Ar. The solvent was removed, and chromatography of the residue on silica gel at -25° using dichloromethane/petroleum ether (1/3 to 1/1) as eluent afforded first a mixture of 10/11 and then a red band containing the phospharene complex 9 which was isolated as red crystals after recrystallization from dichloromethane/petroleum ether (2/5). Further chromatography of the oxaphosphole mixture on silica gel with ether/petroleum ether (1/15) and recrystallization of the products from dichloromethane/petroleum ether (1/10) gave a dark red powder of 10 and an orange solid of 11. 9: 0.35 g (19%) IR (CH₂Cl₂, ν_{CO} cm⁻¹) 1960 s, 1890 s. ¹H-NMR (CD₃COCD₃, 300.1 MHz): δ 1.53 (d, 9H, C(CH₃)₃; ³J_{P,H} = 3.93 Hz), 3.93 (d, 3H, OCH₃), 7.65 (m, 6H, H-6-H-10, OH), 9.35 (d, 1H, H-5; ³J_{H,H} = 7.86 Hz). ¹³C-NMR (CD₃COCD₃, 75.5 MHz): δ 31.50 (d, C(CH₃)₃; ³J_{P,C} = 14.41 Hz), 38.35 (d, C(CH₃)₃; ²J_{P,C} = 19.82 Hz), 59.41 (d, OCH₃; ³J_{P,C} = 32.18 Hz), 105.89 (d, C-10a; ²J_{P,C} = 6.34 Hz), 110.35 (d, C-3; ¹J_{P,C} = 60.60 Hz), 90.82 (s), 119.78 (s), 128.38 (s), 128.62 (s), 128.90 (s), 129.76 (s), 131.99 (s), 132.09 (s), 132.99 (s) (C-4a-C-10), 140.71 (d, C-4; ²J_{P,C} = 8.53 Hz), 150.51 (d, C-1; ¹J_{P,C} = 63.40 Hz), 233.77 (s, Cr(CO)₃). ³¹P-NMR (CDCl₃, 121.5 MHz): δ -33.34. MS *m/z*: 434. (Found: C, 57.41; H, 4.61%; C₂₁H₁₉CrO₅P 434.3. Requires: C, 58.07; H, 4.41%) 10: 0.12 g (9%). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300.1 MHz): δ 1.35 (d, 9H, C(CH₃)₃; ⁴J_{P,H} = 1.29 Hz), 4.10 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 7.43 (m, 2H, H-6', H-7'; ³J_{H,H} = 7.08 Hz), 7.76 (dd, 2H, H-3', H-4',

$^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 9.14$ Hz), 7.80 (dd, 2H, H-5', H-8'; $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.20$ Hz, $^4J_{\text{H,H}} = 1.61$ Hz); 8.06 (s, 1H, H-1'). $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 75.5 MHz): δ 31.37 (d, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^3J_{\text{P,C}} = 7.77$ Hz); 31.59 (d, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 14.79$ Hz); 58.44 (s, OCH_3); 121.18 (d, C-4; $^1J_{\text{P,C}} = 44.22$ Hz); 119.47 (d), 121.69 (d), 125.76 (d), 126.55, 127.76, 128.20 (d), 128.32, 132.23 (d), 132.89, 133.54 (C-1'-C-8a'); 159.07 (d, C-5; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 5.36$ Hz), 180.07 (d, C-2; $^1J_{\text{P,C}} = 47.24$ Hz). $^{31}\text{P-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 121.5 MHz): δ 121.05. MS m/z : 298. ($\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{O}_2\text{P}$ 298.3). 11: 0.16 g (8%). IR (C_6H_{14} , ν_{CO} cm^{-1}): 2070 m, 1961s, 1952s, sh. $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 300.1 MHz): δ 1.45 (d, 9H, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^4J_{\text{P,H}} = 0.95$ Hz); 4.10 (s, 3H, OCH_3); 7.48 (m, 2H, H-6', H-7'; $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.30$ Hz); 7.83 (d, 1H; $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 9.37$ Hz), 7.85 (d, 1H) (H-3', H-4'); 7.72 (ddd, 1H, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.43$ Hz, $^4J_{\text{H,H}} = 1.51$ Hz), 7.88 (d, 1H; $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.05$ Hz) (H-5', H-8'); 8.17 (s, 1H, H-1'). $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 75.5 MHz): δ 31.51 (d, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^3J_{\text{P,C}} = 4.91$ Hz), 32.40 (d, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 10.94$ Hz); 58.02 (s, OCH_3); 123.49 (d, C-4; $^1J_{\text{P,C}} = 8.38$ Hz); 118.49 (s), 125.30 (d), 126.69 (s), 127.71 (s), 128.20 (s), 128.41 (s), 130.02 (d), 133.06 (d), 133.09 (d) (C-1'-C-8a'), 161.12 (d, C-5; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 2.26$ Hz); 179.88 (d, C-2; $^1J_{\text{P,C}} = 23.32$ Hz); 214.82 (d, cis-CO; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 14.49$ Hz); 220.83 (d, trans-CO; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 4.08$ Hz). $^{31}\text{P-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 121.5 MHz): δ 130.35. MS m/z : 490. ($\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{19}\text{CrO}_7\text{P}$ 490.4).

2-Phenyl-5-methoxy-4-tert-butyl-1,3-oxaphosphole (13) and 4-methoxy-2-tert-butyl-3-phosphanaphthol-1 (14). A solution of 0.58 g (1.86 mmol) pentacarbonyl[methoxy(phenyl)carbene]chromium (12)⁴⁵ and 0.22 g (2.20 mmol) phosphalkyne 2 in 20 ml DME was warmed to 80° for 5 hr in the presence of molecular sieve (3 Å) under 5 bar Ar. The solvent was removed in vacuo, and the residue was worked up by chromatography on silica gel. Elution at -25° with dichloromethane/petroleum ether (1/3) afforded a brown oil 13 and a mixture containing 14 and another unidentified product 13. 0.16 g (35%). $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 300.1 MHz): δ 1.33 (d, 9, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$), 4.03 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 7.22 (dd, 1H, H-4'; $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.50$ Hz, $^4J_{\text{H,H}} = 1.03$ Hz); 7.31 (dd, 2H, H-3', H-5'; $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.65$ Hz), 7.68 (dd, 2H, H-2', H-6'; $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.60$ Hz, $^4J_{\text{H,H}} = 1.70$ Hz). $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 75.5 MHz): δ 31.38 (d, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^3J_{\text{P,C}} = 7.82$ Hz); 58.31 (s, OCH_3); 120.96 (d, C-4; $^1J_{\text{P,C}} = 44.07$ Hz); 122.29 (d), 127.52 (d), 128.63 (d), 134.86 (d) (C-1'-C-6'); 158.80 (d, C-5; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 5.43$ Hz); 180.81 (d, C-2; $^1J_{\text{P,C}} = 47.02$ Hz). $^{31}\text{P-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 121.5 MHz): δ 118.05. MS m/z : 248. ($\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}_2\text{P}$ 248.3). 14: 0.02 g (6%). $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 300.1 MHz): δ 1.66 (d, 9H, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^4J_{\text{P,H}} = 2.42$ Hz); 4.21 (d, 3H, OCH_3 ; $^4J_{\text{P,H}} = 2.87$ Hz); 7.57 (m, 2H, H-6, H-7), 8.30 (d, 2H, H-5, H-8; $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 9.30$ Hz); OH not observed. $^{31}\text{P-NMR}$ (CH_2Cl_2 , 121.5 MHz): δ 110.08. MS m/z : 248. ($\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}_2\text{P}$ 248.3).

2-(1,2-Dimethoxy-4-phenyl)-5-methoxy-4-tert-butyl-1,3-oxaphosphole (16) and 4,6,7-Trimethoxy-2-tert-butyl-3-phosphanaphthol-1 (17). In the presence of molecular sieve (3 Å) a solution of 0.87 g (2.34 mmol) pentacarbonyl[1,2-dimethoxy-4-phenyl(methoxy)carbene]chromium (15)⁴⁶ and 0.28 g (2.80 mmol) phosphalkyne 2 in 30 ml DME was warmed to 70° for 4 hr under 5 bar Ar. Removal of the solvent and chromatography of the residue on silica gel using dichloromethane/petroleum ether as eluent gave 0.54 g of a 2/1-mixture of 16/17 which could not be further separated. MS m/z : 308 ($\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}_4\text{P}$ 308.3). 16: $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 300.1 MHz): δ 1.33 (d, 9H, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^4J_{\text{P,H}} = 0.86$ Hz); 3.87 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.90 (s, 3H, OCH_3); 4.03 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 6.81 (d, 1H, H-6'; $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.38$ Hz); 7.20 (d, 1H, H-3'); 7.26 (dd, 1H, H-5'; $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.25$ Hz, $^4J_{\text{H,H}} = 2.24$ Hz). $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 75.5 MHz): δ 31.35 (d, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^3J_{\text{P,C}} = 8.30$ Hz), 55.81 (s, OCH_3), 58.49 (s, OCH_3), 120.65 (d, C-4; $^1J_{\text{P,C}} = 43.02$ Hz), C-1'-C-6' not resolved; 158.20 (d, C-5; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 5.28$ Hz), 181.44 (d, C-2; $^1J_{\text{P,C}} = 46.04$ Hz). $^{31}\text{P-NMR}$ (CH_2Cl_2 , 121.5 MHz): δ 110.10. 17: $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 300.1 MHz): δ 1.65 (d, 9H, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^4J_{\text{P,H}} = 2.22$ Hz); 3.99 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 4.01 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 4.19 (d, 3H, 4-OCH₃; $^4J_{\text{P,H}} = 2.59$ Hz); 7.60 (s, 1H); 7.68 (s, 1H) (H-5, H-8); OH not observed. $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 75.5 MHz): δ 31.74 (d, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^3J_{\text{P,C}} = 15.09$ Hz), 36.80 (d, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 24.90$ Hz); 55.87 (s, 6-OCH₃, 7-OCH₃); 58.29 (d, 4-OCH₃; $^3J_{\text{P,C}} = 30.20$ Hz); 125.36 (d, C-4a; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 5.28$ Hz), 140.13 (d, C-2; $^1J_{\text{P,C}} = 50.56$ Hz); 147.03 (d, C-1; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 12.53$ Hz); 186.75 (d, C-4; $^1J_{\text{P,C}} = 44.52$ Hz); C-5-C-8 not resolved. $^{31}\text{P-NMR}$ (CH_2Cl_2 , 121.5 MHz): δ 101.48.

2-(2'-Furyl)-5-methoxy-4-tert-butyl-1,3-oxaphosphole (19) and 4-hydroxy-7-methoxy-5-tert-butyl-6-phosphaenzofuran (20). A solution of 1.00 g (3.30 mmol) pentacarbonyl[2-furyl-(methoxy)carbene]chromium (18)⁴⁷ and 0.42 g (4.20 mmol) phosphalkyne 2 in 40 ml DME was warmed to 90° for 3 hr under a pressure of 9 bar Ar while a gentle stream of Ar was bubbled through the vessel to remove cleaved CO. Monitoring of the reaction by $^1\text{H-NMR}$ indicated that oxaphosphole 19 and the chromium-coordinated phosphaenzofuran

20 • $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$ had formed in an approximately 1/2 ratio. Chromatographic workup on silica gel at -25° using dichloromethane/petroleum ether (1/3 to 1/0) gave first a yellow powder of **19**. The following red band contained the coordinated phosphabenzofuran. To avoid uncontrolled decomposition it was warmed in boiling toluene for 3 hr; column chromatography at -25° (petroleum ether/ether 5/1) gave a yellow powder of **20** along with (toluene) $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$. **19**: 0.17 g (22%). $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CD_3COCD_3 , 300.1 MHz): δ 1.32 (d, 9H, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$, $^4J_{\text{P,H}} = 1.44$ Hz); 4.06 (s, 3H, OCH_3); 5.56 (m, 1H, H-3'); 6.63 (m, 1H, H-4'); 7.56 (m, 1H, H-5'). $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CD_3COCD_3 , 75.5 MHz): δ 31.62 (d, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^3J_{\text{P,C}} = 7.83$ Hz); 32.09 (d, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 14.70$ Hz); 59.25 (s, OCH_3); 104.86 (d, C-3'; $^3J_{\text{P,C}} = 12.53$ Hz); 112.64 (s, C-4'); 122.97 (d, C-4; $^1J_{\text{P,C}} = 44.37$ Hz); 143.08 (d, C-5'; $^5J_{\text{P,C}} = 4.75$ Hz); 151.38 (d, C-2'; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 12.00$ Hz); 159.53 (d, C-5; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 6.18$ Hz); 172.25 (d, C-2; $^1J_{\text{P,C}} = 46.41$ Hz). $^{31}\text{P-NMR}$ (CD_3COCD_3 , 121.5 MHz): δ 113.41. MS m/z : 238 (Found: C, 60.34; H 6.22%; $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_3\text{P}$ 238.2. Requires: C, 60.50; H, 6.35%). **20**: 0.07 g (9%). $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CD_3COCD_3 , 300.1 MHz): δ 1.56 (d, 9H, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^4J_{\text{P,H}} = 2.59$ Hz); 4.08 (d, 3H, OCH_3 ; $^4J_{\text{P,H}} = 2.05$ Hz); 7.24 (s, br, 1H, H-4'); 7.81 (s, br, 1H, H-5'); 8.45 (s, 1H, OH). $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CD_3COCD_3 , 75.5 MHz): δ 31.71 (d, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^3J_{\text{P,C}} = 15.98$ Hz); 38.56 (d, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 25.28$ Hz); 58.71 (d, OCH_3 ; $^3J_{\text{P,C}} = 29.60$ Hz); 106.72 (d, C-2; $^4J_{\text{P,C}} = 3.72$ Hz); 126.22 (d, C-7a, $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 6.74$ Hz); 144.92 (d, C-3; $^4J_{\text{P,C}} = 5.93$ Hz); 148.25 (d, C-3a; $^3J_{\text{P,C}} = 14.59$ Hz); 148.57 (d, C-4; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 10.56$ Hz); 148.97 (d, C-5; $^1J_{\text{P,C}} = 57.25$ Hz); 173.03 (d, C-7; $^1J_{\text{P,C}} = 51.61$ Hz). $^{31}\text{P-NMR}$ (CD_3COCD_3 , 121.5 MHz): δ 120.19. MS m/z : 238 ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_3\text{P}$ 238.2).

5-Ethoxy-2-(2'-thienyl)-4-tert-butyl-1,3-oxaphosphole (22) and tricarbonyl(3a-7a- η^6 -7-ethoxy-4-hydroxy-5-tert-butyl-6-phosphabenzothiophene)chromium (23). A solution of 1.48 g (4.45 mmol) pentacarbonyl[ethoxy(2-thienyl)carbene]chromium (**21**)⁴⁸ and 0.60 g (6.00 mmol) phosphaaalkyne **2** in 35 ml ether was kept at 90° for 3 hr under 9 bar Ar as described above. Chromatographic workup on silica gel at -25° using dichloromethane/petroleum ether (1/1) and ether as eluents gave a black oil of **22** and red crystals of **23**. **22**: 0.51 g (43%). $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 300.1 MHz): δ 1.30 (d, 9H, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^4J_{\text{P,H}} = 1.26$ Hz); 1.41 (t, 3H, $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{O}$; $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.04$ Hz); 4.30 (q, 2H, $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{O}$; $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.08$ Hz); 6.94 (ddd, 1H, H-3'); $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 4.31$ Hz, $^4J_{\text{H,H}} = 1.06$ Hz); 7.12 (d, 1H, H-4'; $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 4.80$ Hz); 7.23 (m, 1H, H-5'). $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 75.5 MHz): δ 15.18 (s, $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{O}$); 31.41 ($\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^3J_{\text{P,C}} = 7.90$ Hz); 67.73 (s, $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{O}$); 121.19 (d, C-4; $^1J_{\text{P,C}} = 45.56$ Hz); 121.41 (d, C-3'; $^3J_{\text{P,C}} = 12.53$ Hz); 123.69 (d, C-5'; $^5J_{\text{P,C}} = 6.79$ Hz); 127.70 (d, C-4'; $^4J_{\text{P,C}} = 1.88$ Hz); 138.73 (d, C-2'; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 14.86$ Hz); 157.59 (d, C-5; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 5.88$ Hz); 175.30 (d, C-2; $^1J_{\text{P,C}} = 44.68$ Hz). $^{31}\text{P-NMR}$ (CH_2Cl_2 , 121.5 MHz): δ 113.04. MS m/z : 268. ($\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}_2\text{PS}$ 268.3). **23**: 0.08 g (4%). $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CD_3COCD_3 , 300.1 MHz): δ 1.44 (d, 9H, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^4J_{\text{P,H}} = 2.72$ Hz); 4.00 (dq, 1H; $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.06$ Hz, $^4J_{\text{H,H}} = 1.70$ Hz); 4.26 (dq, 1H; $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.06$ Hz, $^4J_{\text{H,H}} = 1.70$ Hz) ($\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{O}$); 7.88 (d, 1H, H-4'; $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 5.67$ Hz); 7.99 (d, 1H, H-5'; $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 5.68$ Hz); OH not observed. $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CD_3COCD_3 , 75.5 MHz): δ 14.99 (d, $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{O}$; $^4J_{\text{P,C}} = 2.96$ Hz); 31.68 (d, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^3J_{\text{P,C}} = 14.56$ Hz); 37.80 (d, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 19.75$ Hz); 68.92 (d, $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{O}$; $^3J_{\text{P,C}} = 27.94$ Hz); 110.96 (d, C-5; $^1J_{\text{P,C}} = 71.03$ Hz); 104.10 (s), 115.96 (d, $J_{\text{P,C}} = 8.15$ Hz), 123.64 (s), (C-2-C-3a), 132.16 (s, C-4); 147.93 (d, C-7; $^1J_{\text{P,C}} = 73.75$ Hz), 234.16 (s, $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$). $^{31}\text{P-NMR}$ (CD_3COCD_3 , 121.5 MHz): δ -27.55. MS m/z : 404. ($\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{17}\text{CrO}_4\text{PS}$ 404.4).

Pentacarbonyl[2,3-dimethyl-4-methoxy-1-(2-tert-butylketenyl)-1,2-dihydrophosphete]chromium (24). A solution of 1.56 g (5.37 mmol) pentacarbonyl[Z-2-butenyl(methoxy)carbene]chromium (**1b**)⁴⁴ and 0.61 g (6.10 mmol) phosphaaalkyne **2** in 20 ml *tert*-BuOMe was warmed to 70° for 7 hr under 4 bar Ar. Chromatographic work up at -25° using dichloromethane/petroleum ether (1/5) as eluent gave several bands two of which contained the yellow phosphinine complex **3** and the orange 1,2-dihydrophosphete complex **24**. **24**: 0.11 g (5%). IR (C_6H_{14} , ν_{CO} cm^{-1}) 2095 m [$\text{C}=\text{O}$], 2060 m, 1955 vs, sh, 1945 vs [$\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_5$]. $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 300.1 MHz): δ 1.30 (s, 9H, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$); 1.27 (dd, 3H, 2- CH_3 ; $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 9.9$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{P,H}} = 16.1$ Hz); 1.79 (d, 3H, 3- CH_3 ; $^4J_{\text{H,H}} = 1.1$ Hz); 2.54 (m, 1H, H-2); 3.90 (s, 3H, OCH_3); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 75.5 MHz): δ 13.09 (d, 2- CH_3 ; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 15.7$ Hz); 13.92 (d, 3- CH_3 ; $^3J_{\text{P,C}} = 4.4$ Hz); 29.72 (s, $\text{C}=\text{C}=\text{O}$); 31.64 (d, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^3J_{\text{P,C}} = 2.2$ Hz); 33.29 (d, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 3.3$ Hz); 39.55 (d, C-2; $^1J_{\text{P,C}} = 31.3$ Hz); 59.05 (d, OCH_3 ; $^3J_{\text{P,C}} = 6.3$ Hz); 124.09 (d, C-3; $^3J_{\text{P,C}} = 10.1$ Hz); 148.28 (d, C-4; $^1J_{\text{P,C}} = 50.6$ Hz); 184.20 (d, $=\text{C}=\text{C}=\text{O}$; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 14.8$ Hz); 216.20 (d, *cis*-CO; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 13.4$ Hz); 221.12 (d, *trans*-CO; $^2J_{\text{P,C}} = 6.9$ Hz). $^{31}\text{P-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 121.5 MHz): δ 72.72. MS m/z : 418 ($\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{19}\text{CrO}_7\text{P}$ 418.3).

2-(1',4'-Dimethoxy-2'-naphthyl)-5-methoxy-4-tert.butyl-1,3-oxaphosphole (26). A solution of 1.09 g (2.76 mmol) tetracarbonyl[1,4-dimethoxy-2-naphthyl(methoxy)carbene-*C,O*]chromium (25)⁴⁹ and 0.30 g (3.00 mmol) phosphalkyne 2 in 50 ml *tert*.BuOMe was warmed to 70° for 3 hr under 5 bar Ar. Removal of the solvent and chromatographic workup (silica gel, -25°, dichloromethane/petroleum ether 1/3 to 1/0) afforded 0.25 g of starting material 25 and a non-separable mixture of 26 and pentacarbonyl complex 27. The latter was modified into aminocarbene complex 28 via aminolysis with 5 ml *n*-propylamine in 10 ml petroleum ether at 0°. Chromatography on silica gel using dichloromethane/petroleum ether 1/3 gave first oxaphosphole 26 as a yellow solid followed by aminocarbene complex 28. 26: 0.11 g (11%) ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300.1 MHz): δ 1.37 (d, 9H, C(CH₃)₃; coupling not resolved); 3.92 (s, 3H), 4.00 (s, 3H), 4.08 (s, 3H) (1', 4', 5-OCH₃); 7.18 (s, 1H, H-3'); 7.42 (dd, 1H, ³J_{H,H} = 8.08 Hz), 7.52 (dd, 1H, ³J_{H,H} = 7.50 Hz) (H-6', H-7'); 8.03 (d, 1H, H-5'; ³J_{H,H} = 8.38 Hz), 8.18 (d, 1H, H-8'; ³J_{H,H} = 8.31 Hz). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 75.5 MHz): δ 31.43 (d, C(CH₃)₃; ³J_{P,C} = 7.82 Hz); 31.72 (d, C(CH₃)₃; ²J_{P,C} = 14.31 Hz), 55.57 (s), 58.28 (s), 59.58 (d; ²J_{P,C} = 7.34 Hz) (1', 4', 5-OCH₃); 122.91 (d, C-4, ¹J_{P,C} = 46.79 Hz); 98.70 (d, ¹J_{P,C} = 8.68 Hz), 103.17 (s); 122.42 (s); 123.45 (d; ¹J_{P,C} = 5.66 Hz); 125.34 (d, ¹J_{P,C} = 1.58 Hz), 125.79 (d, ¹J_{P,C} = 2.72 Hz); 126.91 (s); 128.84 (s); 145.80 (d; ¹J_{P,C} = 4.75 Hz); 151.95 (s) (C-1'-C-8'); 158.16 (d; ²J_{P,C} = 5.43 Hz); 175.01 (d; ¹J_{P,C} = 56.67 Hz) ³¹P-NMR (Et₂O, 121.5 MHz): δ 141.85. MS *m/z*: 358. (C₂₀H₂₃O₄P 358.4).

(1-Methoxy-2-phenyl)-5-methoxy-4-tert.butyl-1,3-oxaphosphole (30). A solution of 0.47 g (1.51 mmol) tetracarbonyl[methoxy(1-methoxy-2-phenyl)carbene-*C,O*]chromium (29)⁴⁹ and 0.24 g (2.40 mmol) phosphalkyne 2 in 20 ml dichloromethane was kept under 5 bar Ar at room temperature for 8 hr. Chromatographic workup (silica gel, -25°, dichloromethane/petroleum ether 1/3) gave 30 as a dark red oil. 30: 0.25 g (60%). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300.1 MHz): δ 1.35 (d, 9H, C(CH₃)₃; ⁴J_{P,H} = 0.84 Hz); 3.97 (s, 3H), 4.03 (s, 3H) (1', 5-OCH₃); 6.95 (dd, 1H, H-6'; ³J_{H,H} = 8.23 Hz); 6.98 (dd, 1H, H-4'; ³J_{H,H} = 7.39 Hz); 7.18 (dd, 1H, H-5'; ³J_{H,H} = 7.80 Hz); 7.77 (d, 1H, H-3'; ³J_{H,H} = 7.65 Hz). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 75.5 MHz): δ 31.30 (d, C(CH₃)₃; ³J_{P,C} = 7.86 Hz); 31.54 (not resolved); 54.92 (s), 57.92 (s) (1', 5-OCH₃); 110.54 (s, C-6'); 120.40 (s, C-4'); 121.46 (d, C-4, ¹J_{P,C} = 47.32 Hz); 122.66 (d, C-3'; ³J_{P,C} = 10.94 Hz); 124.06 (d, C-2'; ²J_{P,C} = 5.74 Hz); 127.27 (d, C-5'; ⁴J_{P,C} = 4.30 Hz); 155.58 (s, C-1'); 158.01 (d, C-5; ²J_{P,C} = 5.21 Hz); 174.22 (d, C-2, ¹J_{P,C} = 58.87 Hz) ³¹P-NMR (CH₂Cl₂, 121.5 MHz): δ 137.6. MS *m/z*: 278. (C₁₅H₁₉O₃P 278.3).

Pentacarbonyl[(1-methoxy-2-phenyl)-5-methoxy-4-tert.butyl-1,3-oxaphosphole]chromium (31) and pentacarbonyl[2-(η⁶-1-methoxy-2-phenyl-tricarbonylchromium)-5-methoxy-4-tert.butyl-1,3-oxaphosphole]chromium (32). A solution of 0.39 g (1.40 mmol) oxaphosphole 30 and an excess of Cr(CO)₅·THF in 10 ml THF was warmed to 70° for 30 min. Chromatographic workup (silica gel, -25°, dichloromethane/petroleum ether 1/3) afforded first 31 followed by 32 as orange powders. 31: 0.18 g (27%). IR (C₆H₁₄, ν_{CO} cm⁻¹). 2078 m, 1990 w, 1957 vs. ¹H-NMR (CD₃COCD₃, 300.1 MHz): δ 1.44 (d, 9H, C(CH₃)₃; ⁴J_{P,H} = 0.55 Hz); 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.97 (s, 3H) (1', 5-OCH₃); 6.95 (d, 1H, H-6'; ³J_{H,H} = 8.37 Hz); 7.00 (dd, 1H, H-4'; ³J_{H,H} = 7.50 Hz), 7.40 (d, 2H, H-3', H-5'; coupling not resolved). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 75.5 MHz): δ 31.71 (d, C(CH₃)₃; ³J_{P,C} = 5.20 Hz), 32.30 (d, C(CH₃)₃; ²J_{P,C} = 10.80 Hz); 55.67 (s), 57.99 (s) (1', 5-OCH₃); 111.26 (s, C-6'), 121.26 (d, C-4, ¹J_{P,C} = 11.17 Hz); 117.73 (s), 120.29 (s), 131.36 (s), 132.15 (d; ²J_{P,C} = 9.51 Hz) (C-2'-C-5'), 157.67 (d, C-1'; ³J_{P,C} = 7.40 Hz); 160.94 (d, C-5; ²J_{P,C} = 3.40 Hz); 176.65 (d, C-2; ¹J_{P,C} = 30.26 Hz); 214.88 (d, *cis*-CO; ²J_{P,C} = 15.24 Hz), 221.36 (d, *trans*-CO; ²J_{P,C} = 3.90 Hz) ³¹P-NMR (CH₂Cl₂), 121.5 MHz) δ 135.50 MS *m/z*: 470. (C₂₀H₁₉CrO₈P 470.3). 32: 0.18 g (21%) IR (C₆H₁₄, ν_{CO} cm⁻¹) 2078 m, 1975 m, 1957 vs, 1900 m. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300.1 MHz): δ 1.40 (d, 9H, C(CH₃)₃); 3.75 (s, 3H), 4.06 (s, 3H), (1', 5-OCH₃); 4.90 (br, 1H, H-6'); 5.05 (br, 1H, H-4'); 5.67 (br, 1H, H-5'); 5.84 (br, 1H, H-3') ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 75.5 MHz) δ 31.47 (d, C(CH₃)₃; ³J_{P,C} = 4.95 Hz); 32.36 (d, C(CH₃)₃; ²J_{P,C} = 10.40 Hz), 55.92 (s), 57.87 (s) (1', 5-OCH₃); 72.08 (s), 83.30 (s), 95.30 (s), 99.49 (d, ¹J_{P,C} = 8.34 Hz), 142.43 (d, ³J_{P,C} = 7.04 Hz) (C-1'-C-6', 1 signal not observed); 160.97 (s, C-5), 168.91 (d, C-2, ¹J_{P,C} = 32.10 Hz), 214.69 (d, *cis*-CO; ²J_{P,C} = 15.00 Hz); 220.48 (br, *trans*-CO), 232.33 (s, Cr(CO)₃). ³¹P-NMR (CH₂Cl₂, 121.5 MHz) δ 151.2 MS *m/z* 606 (C₂₃H₁₉Cr₂O₁₁P 606.4).

5-Ethoxy-2-(η⁶-1-methoxy-2-phenyl-tricarbonylchromium)-4-tert.butyl-1,3-oxaphosphole (34). A solution of 1.08 g (2.33 mmol) tetracarbonyl[η⁶-1-methoxy-2-phenyl-tricarbonylchromium(ethoxy)carbene-*C,O*]-

chromium (33)⁵⁰) and 0.31 g (3.10 mmol) phosphalkyne 2 in 50 ml ether was warmed to 70° for 1 hr under 5 bar Ar. Chromatography on silica gel (-25°, dichloromethane/petroleum ether 1/2) followed by recrystallization from dichloromethane/petroleum ether (1/3) gave red crystals. 34: 0.76 g (77%) IR (C₆H₁₄, ν_{CO} cm⁻¹): 1957 vs, 1880 vs ¹H-NMR (CD₃COCD₃, 300.1 MHz): δ 1.37 (d, 9H, C(CH₃)₃; ⁴J_{P,C}= 1.48 Hz); 1.50 (t, 3H, CH₃CH₂O, ³J_{H,H}= 7.09 Hz); 4.02 (s, 3, OCH₃); 4.51 (q, 2H, CH₃CH₂O; ³J_{H,H}= 7.03 Hz), 5.32 (dd, 1H, H-6'; ³J_{H,H}= 6.38 Hz); 5.80 (d, 1H, H-4'; ³J_{H,H}= 6.30 Hz); 5.90 (ddd, 1H, H-5'; ³J_{H,H}= 6.56 Hz, ²J_{H,H}= 1.16 Hz); 6.57 (d, 1H, H-3'; ³J_{H,H}= 6.57 Hz). ¹³C-NMR (CD₃COCD₃, 75.5 MHz): δ 15.47 (s, CH₃CH₂O); 31.67 (d, C(CH₃)₃; ³J_{P,C}= 7.77 Hz); 32.25 (d, C(CH₃)₃; ²J_{P,C}= 14.36 Hz); 56.52 (s, OCH₃); 68.39 (s, CH₃CH₂O); 76.88 (s, C-6'); 86.88 (s), 92.13 (d, ¹J_{P,C}= 7.28 Hz); 94.34 (d, ¹J_{P,C}= 9.08 Hz); 95.13 (s) (C-2'-C-5'); 123.23 (d, C-4'; ¹J_{P,C}= 47.85 Hz); 140.86 (s, C-1'); 159.18 (d, C-5; ²J_{P,C}= 5.74 Hz); 171.36 (d, C-2, ¹J_{P,C}= 59.18 Hz); 234.81 (s, Cr(CO)₃). ³¹P-NMR (CH₂Cl₂, 121.5 MHz): δ 143.00 MS *m/z*: 428 (Found: C, 53.03; H, 5.14% C₁₉H₂₁CrO₆P 428.3 Requires: C, 53, 28; H, 4.94%)

X-Ray structure determinations

3: C₁₅H₁₉CrO₅P (M_r= 362.5): Mo-K_α radiation, λ= 0.71069 Å graphite monochromator, Enraf-Nonius CAD4 diffractometer, space group P2₁/c (No.14) with a=13.098(1), b=7.615(1), c=17.463 (1) Å, β= 110.06 (1)°, V=1636.1(3) Å³, D_c=1.471 g/cm³, F(000)=752, T=-65°C. 4906 Reflections (h ±17, k -10, +1, l ±22), 3760 unique (R_{int}=0.0245), 3500 observed (F>5σ(F)). Correction of the data with DIFABS⁵¹). R(wR)=0.0309(0.0356), w=1/σ²(Fo), for 275 refined parameters (non hydrogens anisotropic, hydrogens isotropic, Siemens SHELXTL PLUS (VMS)). Residual electron density: 0.45 eÅ⁻³. The final atomic coordinates are given in Table. 1. Further details of the crystal structure determination are available from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, University Chemical Lab., Lensfield Road, Cambridge GB2 1EW, U.K. Requests should be accompanied by a full literature citation

Experimental data for 5a and 34 are given in ref 26. Further details have been deposited at the Fachinformationszentrum Energie, Physik, Mathematik GmbH, D-7514 Eggenstein-Leopoldshafen 2 [depository numbers CSD-52863 (5a) and CSD-53363 (34)].

Table 1: Atomic coordinates (x10⁴) and equivalent isotropic displacement coefficients (Å²×10³) for 3

	x	y	z	U(eq)
Cr	2470(1)	2302(1)	9782(1)	20(1)
P	1229(1)	3019(1)	10522(1)	25(1)
O(1)	4078(1)	5496(2)	10869(1)	29(1)
O(2)	-137(1)	3296(2)	8959(1)	33(1)
O(3)	3184(1)	-923(2)	10807(1)	44(1)
O(4)	4494(1)	1820(2)	9378(1)	40(1)
O(5)	1281(1)	-39(2)	8383(1)	54(1)
C(1)	863(1)	3738(2)	9505(1)	24(1)
C(2)	1509(1)	4699(2)	9144(1)	23(1)
C(3)	2586(1)	5193(2)	9605(1)	22(1)
C(4)	3052(1)	4884(2)	10465(1)	21(1)
C(5)	2571(1)	3880(2)	10924(1)	22(1)
C(6)	2906(1)	336(2)	10425(1)	28(1)
C(7)	3708(1)	2030(2)	9533(1)	25(1)
C(8)	1748(2)	872(3)	8916(1)	31(1)
C(9)	3265(2)	6200(3)	9202(1)	31(1)
C(10)	993(2)	5209(3)	8256(1)	36(1)
C(11)	3156(2)	3600(2)	11854(1)	28(1)
C(12)	2547(2)	2253(3)	12196(1)	40(1)
C(13)	4329(2)	2935(3)	12082(2)	39(1)
C(14)	3130(2)	5371(3)	12272(1)	36(1)
C(15)	-762(2)	2036(3)	9208(2)	44(1)

* Equivalent isotropic U defined as one third of the trace of the orthogonalized U_{ij} tensor

Table 2. Atomic coordinates and equivalent isotropic displacement coefficients ($\text{\AA}^2$) for 5a

	x	y	z	B(eq)
Cr	0.18001(4)	0.27500(4)	0.91560(2)	2.274(7)
P1	-0.03950(6)	0.22400(6)	0.83271(4)	2.66(1)
O1	-0.0908(2)	0.2122(2)	0.9846(1)	3.57(4)
O2	0.3005(2)	0.0626(2)	0.8184(1)	3.73(4)
O3	0.4696(2)	0.3075(2)	0.9221(2)	6.18(6)
O4	0.1126(2)	0.4998(2)	0.8348(1)	4.52(5)
O5	0.1983(2)	0.4018(2)	1.0746(1)	6.31(6)
C1	0.0993(2)	0.1735(2)	0.7967(1)	2.55(5)
C2	0.1974(2)	0.1084(2)	0.8476(1)	2.60(5)
C3	0.2064(2)	0.0829(2)	0.9342(1)	2.53(5)
C4	0.3155(3)	0.0118(2)	0.9737(2)	3.20(6)
C5	0.3318(3)	-0.0185(2)	1.0537(2)	3.76(7)
C6	0.2477(3)	0.0239(2)	1.1054(2)	3.29(6)
C7	0.2763(3)	-0.0034(3)	1.1908(2)	4.24(7)
C8	0.2017(3)	0.0409(3)	1.2428(2)	4.97(8)
C9	0.0979(3)	0.1124(3)	1.2112(2)	5.31(8)
C10	0.0667(3)	0.1400(3)	1.1276(2)	4.41(7)
C11	0.1404(2)	0.0951(2)	1.0716(2)	2.99(6)
C12	0.1134(2)	0.1211(2)	0.9811(1)	2.49(5)
C13	-0.0012(2)	0.1818(2)	0.9376(1)	2.57(5)
C14	0.1011(3)	0.1980(2)	0.7038(1)	2.95(6)
C15	0.3584(3)	0.2955(2)	0.9199(2)	3.52(6)
C16	0.2329(3)	0.2524(2)	0.6928(2)	3.79(7)
C17	0.1402(2)	0.4120(2)	0.8648(2)	2.93(6)
C18	0.1935(3)	0.3515(2)	1.0139(2)	3.48(6)
C19	-0.0081(3)	0.2826(3)	0.6659(2)	4.22(7)
C20	0.0719(3)	0.0859(3)	0.6547(2)	3.98(7)
C21	-0.1876(3)	0.2961(3)	0.9532(2)	5.87(8)

Isotropic equivalent displacement parameter defined as:

$$(4/3) * [a^2 * B(1,1) + b^2 * B(2,2) + c^2 * B(3,3) + ab(\cos \gamma) * B(1,2) + ac(\cos \beta) * B(1,3) + bc(\cos \alpha) * B(2,3)]$$

Table 3 Atomic coordinates ($\times 10^4$) and equivalent isotropic displacement coefficients ($\text{\AA}^2 \times 10^3$) for 3a

	x	y	z	U(eq)
Cr(1)	8412(1)	2388(1)	4018(1)	40(1)
P(1)	8026(1)	-1296(2)	1914(1)	47(1)
O(1)	6897(2)	1190(5)	2214(1)	53(1)
O(2)	5577(2)	371(6)	1538(2)	89(2)
O(3)	9490(2)	-184(5)	3010(1)	50(1)
O(4)	6546(2)	1209(7)	3958(2)	103(2)
O(5)	8499(3)	4169(6)	5411(2)	90(2)
O(6)	9000(2)	-1376(6)	4757(2)	72(2)
C(1)	6903(3)	-1465(8)	1486(2)	43(2)
C(2)	6441(3)	-42(8)	1729(2)	53(2)
C(3)	7773(3)	689(7)	2370(2)	39(2)
C(4)	8308(3)	1997(6)	2863(2)	37(2)
C(5)	9190(3)	1566(8)	3193(2)	40(2)
C(6)	9681(3)	2867(8)	3673(2)	47(2)
C(7)	9325(3)	4675(8)	3807(2)	55(2)
C(8)	8469(3)	5216(7)	3467(2)	53(2)
C(9)	7963(3)	3872(8)	3017(2)	48(2)
C(10)	6517(3)	-2958(8)	935(2)	56(2)
C(11)	7214(4)	-4455(10)	841(3)	109(3)
C(12)	6193(5)	-1911(10)	256(2)	120(3)
C(13)	5763(4)	-4113(10)	1129(3)	109(3)
C(14)	5131(3)	1223(9)	1997(3)	75(2)
C(15)	4186(3)	1348(9)	1745(3)	78(2)
C(16)	10344(3)	-813(7)	3350(2)	55(2)
C(17)	7267(3)	1675(8)	3987(2)	61(2)
C(18)	8456(3)	3519(7)	4869(2)	56(2)
C(19)	8774(3)	68(8)	4473(2)	46(2)

* Equivalent isotropic U defined as one third of the trace of the orthogonalized U_{ij} tensor

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