Electronic Supplementary Information

Synthesis, Characterization and Oxidizing Properties of Diorgano Tellurone Carrying Bulky Aromatic Substituents

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Experimental

General. Melting points were determined using a Yamato MP-21 melting point apparatus in open capillaries and are uncorrected. ¹H, ¹³C, and ¹²⁵Te nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were measured on a Varian Mercury plus 400 spectrometer at 400, 100, and 126 MHz, respectively. All chemical shifts are reported as δ values (ppm) relative to residual chloroform (δ_H 7.26), the central peak of deuteriochloroform (δ_C 77.00), and dimethyl telluride (δ_{Te} 0); and *J* values are expressed in Hz. For ¹²⁵Te NMR, Tip₂TeO (δ_{Te} 1314)¹ was used as a secondary external standard. Fast atom bombardment (FAB) mass spectra were obtained with a JEOL JMS-AX-500 spectrometer using 3-nitrobenzyl alcohol as a matrix. Infrared spectra were recorded with either KBr pellets or in a benzene solution on a JASCO IR Report-100 spectrometer.

Flash column chromatography was performed on a KANTO CHEMICAL Silica gel 60 N (spherical, neutral) 40–50 μ m. For analytical purposes, thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using Merck Silica gel 60 F₂₅₄ precoated aluminum sheets (Merck 5554) which were observed under ultraviolet irradiation. GC measurements were performed on a Shimadzu GC-18A gas chromatograph using a 50 m × 0.25 mm methyl silicone capillary column (Quadrex).

Bis(2,4,6-triisopropyl) telluride (1) was prepared according to the literature.^{2,3} All remaining reagents and solvents were of commercial grade and used according to supplier instructions unless otherwise mentioned.

NaIO₄-Oxidation of Tip₂Te (1) to Tip₂TeO₂ (2). To a stirred solution of bis(2,4,6-triisopropylphenyl) telluride (1, 536.3 mg, 1.00 mmol) in ethanol (10 ml) was added a solution of sodium periodate (480.5 mg, 2.25 mmol) in water (10 ml). After being stirred at room temperature overnight, the mixture was diluted with water and the

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³ Klapoetke, T.; Krumm, B.; Mayer, P.; Polborn, K.; Schwab, I. Z. Anorg. Allg. Chem. **2005**, 631 (13-14), 2677-2682.

precipitated solids were collected by filtration, affording bis(2,4,6-triisopropylphenyl) tellurone **2** (539.2 mg, 0.98 mmol) in 98% yield as colorless crystals (recrystallized from ethyl acetate), mp 108–110 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.12 (d, *J* = 7 Hz, 24H), 1.21 (d, *J* = 7 Hz, 12H), 2.88 (sept, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H), 4.09 (sept, *J* = 7 Hz, 4H), 7.14 (s, 4H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 23.57, 24.26, 32.74, 34.24, 124.79, 137.82 (*J*_{Te-C} = 81 Hz), 152.19, 154.87. ¹²⁵Te NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1326. FAB–MS (*m*-NBA) *m/z* 569 (MH⁺). IR (KBr) v_{max} 3470 (O–H), 3050 (C–H), 2960 (C–H), 825 (Te–O), 800 (Te–O) cm⁻¹. IR (benzene) v_{max} 2960 (C–H), 835 (Te–O), 805 (Te–O) cm⁻¹. Anal. Calcd for C₃₀H₄₆O₂Te•H₂O: C, 61.67; H, 8.28. Found: C, 61.82; H, 8.39.

Oxidation of Alcohols with Tip₂TeO₂ (2). A typical experimental procedure for the oxidation of alcohols with tellurone **2** is as follows. A solution of 4-bromobenzyl alcohol (94.1 mg, 0.503 mmol) and **2** (584 mg, 1.03 mmol) in hexane (5 ml) was refluxed for 1 h. The ¹H NMR analysis of the concentrated reaction mixture showed quantitative formation of 4-bromobenzaldehyde. Purification of the product was performed by flash column chromatography on silica gel and elution with hexane afforded 4-bromobenzaldehyde (90.4 mg, 0.489 mmol) in 97% yield. The structure was confirmed by comparison of the obtained ¹H NMR spectrum and GC retention times with those of an authentic sample.

Computational Methods. All calculations were performed using the Gaussian 03 program package.⁴ Geometry of Tip₂TeO₂ (**2**) was fully optimized at the B3LYP^{5,6} level of theory using the $6-31G(d)^7$ basis set in combination with the LANL2DZdp⁸ effective core potential basis set for Te atom. This combination is denoted 6-31G(d)+LANL2DZdp(Te). Stationary points were confirmed to be minima by vibrational frequency calculations which gave no imaginary frequencies.

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⁷ (a) Rassolov, V. A.; Ratner, M. A.; Pople, J. A.; Redfern, P. C.; Curtiss, L. A. *J. Comp. Chem.* **2001**, *22*, 976-984. (b) Rassolov, V. A.; Pople, J. A.; Ratner, M. A.; Windus, T. L. J. Chem. Phys. **1998**, *109*,

^{1223-1229. (}c) Ditchfield, R.; Hehre, W. J.; Pople, J. A. J. Chem. Phys. **1971**, 54, 724-728.

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Center	Atomic	Atomic	Coordinates (Angstroms)		
Number	Number	Туре	Х	Y	Ζ
1	52	0	-0.000171	-1.634673	-0.037761
2	8	0	-0.086365	-2.602072	1.462386
3	8	0	0.086623	-2.535121	-1.578986
4	6	0	-1.710614	-0.325999	-0.254129
5	6	0	-1.673052	0.602866	-1.318569
6	6	0	-2.784508	1.436549	-1.495305
7	6	0	-3.913638	1.365891	-0.680130
8	6	0	-3.921100	0.413517	0.340923
9	6	0	-2.845924	-0.450708	0.582857
10	6	0	-0.526206	0.729267	-2.321352
11	6	0	0.041615	2.158563	-2.386355
12	6	0	-0.957285	0.214874	-3.708233
13	6	0	-5.099112	2.292450	-0.912896
14	6	0	-5.340299	3.222454	0.291290
15	6	0	-6.375579	1.509331	-1.274103
16	6	0	-3.007218	-1.491337	1.693595
17	6	0	-4.028618	-2.569341	1.275514
18	6	0	-3.394995	-0.857980	3.043103
19	6	0	1.709187	-0.335274	0.236564
20	6	0	2.843102	-0.419736	-0.607336
21	6	0	3.920058	0.429407	-0.323380
22	6	0	3.914865	1.329515	0.744092
23	6	0	2.785804	1.363032	1.561768
24	6	0	1.672878	0.541045	1.344641
25	6	0	2.999746	-1.401672	-1.770744
26	6	0	4.026219	-2.497138	-1.416497
27	6	0	3.376463	-0.697042	-3.087918
28	6	0	5.104007	2.238171	1.024464
29	6	0	6.371463	1.431486	1.365332
30	6	0	5.363689	3.214371	-0.138735
31	6	0	0.525748	0.620024	2.351952
32	6	0	-0.025368	2.049111	2.503533
33	6	0	0.948042	0.015393	3.704743
34	1	0	-2.771960	2.158387	-2.308103
35	1	0	-4.799782	0.324836	0.973388
36	1	0	0.297954	0.085536	-2.007747
37	1	0	0.381236	2.495572	-1.400859
38	1	0	-0.698199	2.878188	-2.754176
39	1	0	0.898424	2.190379	-3.069096
40	1	0	-0.123283	0.291679	-4.415662
41	1	0	-1.795731	0.795805	-4.109683
42	1	0	-1.256408	-0.835723	-3.648337
43	1	0	-4.847382	2.926864	-1.773594
44	1	0	-4.446435	3.811528	0.523697

Table S1. Standard orientation of $Tip_2TeO_2(2)^a$

45	1	0	-6.161999	3.916953	0.080820
46	1	0	-5.607867	2.652130	1.188536
47	1	0	-6.216062	0.871809	-2.150351
48	1	0	-7.197671	2.199167	-1.497990
49	1	0	-6.697387	0.866301	-0.446528
50	1	0	-2.053453	-1.999933	1.844107
51	1	0	-3.729134	-3.060468	0.343091
52	1	0	-5.028670	-2.144213	1.125397
53	1	0	-4.101312	-3.338875	2.052577
54	1	0	-2.675003	-0.089800	3.347516
55	1	0	-4.388553	-0.394950	3.019120
56	1	0	-3.411198	-1.629375	3.821270
57	1	0	4.798485	0.371634	-0.959717
58	1	0	2.773924	2.044728	2.408490
59	1	0	2.045989	-1.903874	-1.941914
60	1	0	4.095268	-3.225361	-2.232724
61	1	0	3.734102	-3.036308	-0.508603
62	1	0	5.026551	-2.078172	-1.251524
63	1	0	3.393907	-1.427321	-3.904812
64	1	0	4.366894	-0.228616	-3.045050
65	1	0	2.649678	0.080687	-3.348971
66	1	0	4.848576	2.839157	1.907660
67	1	0	6.693991	0.817274	0.516412
68	1	0	7.197460	2.105418	1.621150
69	1	0	6.200068	0.762793	2.215718
70	1	0	5.642491	2.679177	-1.054044
71	1	0	6.184023	3.897646	0.110194
72	1	0	4.474570	3.814831	-0.360077
73	1	0	-0.305721	0.007925	1.997329
74	1	0	-0.357966	2.449718	1.539691
75	1	0	0.720993	2.736384	2.917071
76	1	0	-0.884338	2.048872	3.184346
77	1	0	1.232775	-1.033497	3.579792
78	1	0	1.794073	0.559198	4.140795
79	1	0	0.114678	0.059922	4.415646

^a Total energy = -1328.6542 a.u. (including zero-point vibrational energy correction scaled by 0.9804⁹)

⁹ Bauschlicher, C. W.; Partridge, H. J. Chem. Phys. **1995**, 103, 1788-1791



Figure S1. ¹H NMR spectrum of Tip_2TeO_2 (2)



Figure S2. ¹³C NMR spectrum of Tip_2TeO_2 (2)



Figure S3. ¹²⁵Te NMR spectrum of Tip_2TeO_2 (2)