peri-Interactions in Naphthalenes, 6 [1]. On Hypercoordination of Phosphorus in 8-Dialkylamino-naphth-1-yl Phosphonium Salts

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Under favourable conditions, the phosphorus centres in tetraorganophosphonium cations are sufficiently electrophilic to become hypercoordinate by reaction with *strong* nucleophiles. However, as a *peri* substituent at the naphthalene system, such a centre proved to be unable to induce the nitrogen of a *peri*-bound dialkylamino group to bond formation. The distortion of the naphthalene skeleton revealed by X-ray structure determination of four 8-dialkylamino-naphth-1-yl phosphonium salts does not exhibit the criteria of N-P bond formation but rather those of intersubstituent repulsion.