New functionalized derivatives of mono- and diphosphonic acids substituted with five-membered nitrogen heterocycles

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New types of (hydroxymethyl)phosphonic and (methylene)diphosphonic acids bearing heterocyclic fragments were synthesized by addition of tris(trimethylsilyl) phosphite to *N*-formyl derivatives of five-membered nitrogen heterocycles.

Key words: tris(trimethylsilyl) phosphite, five-membered nitrogen heterocycles, *N*-formyl-substituted heterocycles, trimethylsilyl triflate.

Functionalized phosphonic and (methylene)diphosphonic acids and their derivatives bearing fragments of nitrogen heterocycles are well known biomimetics of hydroxy(amino) acids and natural pyrophosphates. Some of these compounds, for instance, zoledronic, risedronic, and minodronic acids, are widely applied in medicine as the therapeutic agents for disorders of bone and calcium metabolism. They are also of interest as promising plant growth regulators and efficient polydentate ligands.¹⁻³ Earlier, we have described convenient synthetic procedures to access a series of aminomethylenediphosphoric acids and their derivatives from highly reactive synthones, *i.e.*, trimethylsilyl esters of trivalent phosphorus acids.4-7The aim of the present work is to study the addition of excess tris(trimethylsilyl) phosphite to readily available N-formyl-substituted five-membered rings with two or three nitrogen heteroatoms. The heterocyclic compounds were generated in situ using formic acid and N,N'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide as earlier described.⁸ It was found that phosphite adds to the carbonyl group of N-formyl heterocycle only in the presence of the catalyst, trimethylsilyl triflate (cf. Refs 5 and 9). The reaction proceeds under mild conditions and produces mixtures of phosphonates 1 and diphosphonates 2 in the ratios depending on the structure of the starting N-formyl heterocycle. For instance, N-formyl-3,5-dimethyl-1H-pyrazole gives predominantly phosphonate 1c and N-formylimidazole produces diphosphonate 2a in high yield (Scheme 1). Owing to unusual variability, this reaction allows simultaneous synthesis of two types of the target products and, therefore, advantageously differs from the similar reaction between formamides and tris(trimethylsilyl) phosphite always giving only aminomethylene diphosphonates.⁵

Thus, the addition of *N*-formyl derivatives of fivemembered nitrogen heterocycles to tris(trimethylesilyl)



Reagents and conditions: *i*. HCOOH, $(cyclo-C_6H_{11}N=)_2C$, $-(cyclo-C_6H_{11}NH)_2CO$, 20 °C; *ii*. P(OSiMe₃)₃ (3 equiv.), CF₃SO₃SiMe₃ (0.26 equiv.), 40 °C.

phosphite proceeds similarly to the reactions of formamides of simple structure.⁵ The role of trimethylsilyl triflate as a catalyst is to favor the formation of highly reactive intermediate iminium salts (Scheme 2). The absence of further conversion of substituted trimethylsilyloxymethyl phosphonates **1** during the reaction is apparently can be rationalized in terms of the bulkiness of the heterocyclic fragment impeding substitution of the C(1) trimethylsilyloxy group of phosphonates **1**.

Trimethylsilyl esters 1 and 2 readily react with excess methanol under mild conditions to give functionalized mono- and diphosphonic acids 3 and 4, respectively (Scheme 3).

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The synthesized compounds 1–4 can found applications in the synthesis of new types of organophosphorus compounds bearing both heterocyclic and phosphonic moieties. These compounds are promising precursors for pharmaceuticals for multifunctional targeted therapy, plant growth regulating agents, and efficient polydentate ligands to access new complexes of different (including biogenic) metals with mono- and diphosphorus-containing ligands.

It should be emphasized that in contrast to formamide diethyl acetals reacting with esters of phosphorous acids to give aminomethylene diphosphonates,¹⁰ reactions of readily available *N*-diethoxymethyl derivatives of fivemembered nitrogen heterocycles^{11–13} with tris(trimethylsilyl) phosphite involve the nitrogen—carbon bond cleavage and produce diethoxymethyl phosphonates **5** in high yields (Scheme 4).

Scheme 4



Reagents and conditions: *i*. $(XO)_2POSiMe_3$, Me_3SiCl , CH_2Cl_2 , 40 °C.

In summary, we elaborated convenient procedures to synthesize new functional derivatives of mono- and diphosphonic acids bearing fragments of five-membered nitrogen heterocycles *via* the unique reaction of tris-(trimethylsilyl) phosphite with *N*-formyl-substituted heterocycles.

Experimental

¹H, ¹³C{¹H}, and ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectra were recorded with a Bruker Avance 400 spectrometer at working frequencies of 400, 100, and 162 MHz, respectively. The chemical shifts are given in the δ scale relative to Me₄Si (¹H, ¹³C{¹H}) and a 85% solution of H₃PO₄ in D₂O (³¹P{¹H}). All reactions were carried out in anhydrous solvents under dry argon. The starting trimethylsilyl esters of trivalent phosphorus acids^{14,15} were synthesized by the known procedures.

Bis(trimethylsilyl) (1*H*-imidazol-1-yl)(trimethylsilyloxy)methylphosphonate (1a) and tetrakis(trimethylsilyl) (1*H*-imidazol-1-yl)methylenediphosphonate (2a). To a stirred mixture of imidazole (3.4 g, 0.05 mol) and formic acid (2.8 g, 0.06 mol) in dichloromethane (50 mL), a solution of N, N'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (14.4 g, 0.07 mol) in dichloromethane (20 mL) was added. The mixture was stirred for 6 h and then kept for 12 h. The precipitate was filtered off and the filtrate was successively treated with tris(trimethylsilyl) phosphite (44.8 g, 0.15 mol) and a solution of trimethylsilyl triflate (2.9 g, 0.013 mol) in dichloromethane (10 mL). The mixture was heated in a boiling water bath with simultaneous distillation off of the low-boiling components. Vacuum distillation of the residue afforded 1.8 g (9%) of phosphonate 1a, b.p. 102 °C (1 Torr), and 22.0 g (83%) of diphosphonate 2a, b.p. 126 °C (1 Torr).

Phosphonate 1a. Found (%): C, 39.42; H, 7.83. $C_{13}H_{31}N_2O_4PSi_3$. Calculated (%): C, 39.57; H, 7.92. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ: -0.38 (s, Me₃SiO); -0.24 (s, 2 Me₃Si); 5.22 (d, C(1)H, ²J_{P,H} = 4.8 Hz); 6.57 and 7.15 (both s, CH_{Het}). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃), δ: 1.62 (s, Me₃Si); -0.25 and 0.05 (both s, 2 Me₃Si); 76.47 (d, C(1), ¹J_{P,C} = 213.2 Hz); 106.61, 139.80, 146.52 (all s, C_{Het}). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃), δ: -4.02 (s).

Diphosphonate 2a. Found (%): C, 36.12; H, 7.52. $C_{16}H_{40}N_2O_6P_2Si_4$. Calculated (%): C, 36.21; H, 7.60. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ : -0.15 (s, 2 Me₃Si); -0.14 (s, 2 Me₃Si); 3.55 (t, C(1)H, ²J_{P,H} = 17.2 Hz); 6.57 and 7.15 (both s, CH_{Het}). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃), δ : 0.47 (s, 4 Me₃Si); 67.80 (t, C(1), ¹J_{P,C} = = 168.2 Hz); 121.00 and 134.69 (both s, C_{Het}). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃), δ : -0.32 (s).

Phosphonates **1b**—**d** and diphosphonates **2b**—**d** were synthesized similarly.

Bis(trimethylsilyl) (1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl)(trimethylsilyloxy)methylphosphonate (1b). Yield 30%, b.p. 110 °C (1 Torr). Found (%): C, 45.81; H, 7.40. $C_{17}H_{33}N_2O_4PSi_3$. Calculated (%): C, 45.92; H, 7.48. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ : -0.44 (s, Me₃Si); -0.25 (s, 2 Me₃Si); 5.58 (d, C(1)H, ²J_{P,H} = 4.4 Hz); 6.70–7.45 (m, CH_{Het}). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃), δ : -0.22 (s, Me₃Si); 1.11 (s, 2 Me₃Si); 75.50 (d, C(1), ¹J_{P,C} = 214.1 Hz); 110.40, 120.23, 122.51, 123.19, 139.62, 143.28, 145.74 (all s, C_{Het}). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃), δ : -3.47 (s).

Tetra(trimethylsilyl) (1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl)methylenediphosponate (2b). Yield 62%, b.p. 139 °C (1 Torr). Found (%): C, 41.26; H, 7.20. $C_{20}H_{42}N_2O_6P_2Si_4$. Calculated (%): C, 41.36; H, 7.29. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ: -0.38 and -0.31 (both s, 2 Me₃Si); -0.16 (s, Me₃Si); 3.55 (t, C(1)H, ²J_{P,H} = 16.8 Hz); 6.65-7.55 (m, CH_{Het}). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃), δ : 1.10 (s, 4 Me₃Si); 68.11 (d, C(1), ¹J_{P,C} = 167.3 Hz); 112.46, 119.92, 122.13, 122.75, 139.71, 141.75, 145.46 (all s, C_{Het}). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃), δ : -0.58 (s).

Bis(trimethylsilyl) (3,5-dimethyl-1*H***-pyrazol-1-yl)(trimethylsilyloxy)methylphosphonate (1c).** Yield 86%, b.p. 106 °C (1 Torr). Found (%): C, 42.49; H, 8.28. C₁₅H₃₅N₂O₄PSi₃. Calculated (%): C, 42.62; H, 8.35. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ: -0.38 and -0.31 (both s, 2 Me₃Si); -0.16 (s, Me₃Si); 1.71 and 1.99 (both s, 2 Me); 5.36 (s, CH_{Het}); 5.40 (d, C(1)H, ²J_{P,H} = 7.2 Hz). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃), δ: -1.62 (s, Me₃Si); -0.25 and 0.05 (both s, 2 Me₃Si); 10.77 and 12.36 (both s, 2 Me); 81.19 (d, C(1), ¹J_{P,C} = 214.1 Hz); 106.61, 139.80, 146.52 (all s, C_{Het}). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃), δ: -3.35 (s).

Tetrakis(trimethylsily) (3,5-dimethyl-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl)methylenediphosphonate (2c). Yield 7%, b.p. 129 °C (1 Torr). Found (%): C, 38.52; H, 7.86. C₁₈H₄₄N₂O₆P₂Si₄. Calculated (%): C, 38.69; H, 7.94. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ : -0.12 and -0.16 (both s, 4 Me₃Si); 1.80 and 2.01 (both s, 2 Me); 3.58 (t, C(1)H, ²J_{P,H} = = 17.2 Hz); 5.36 (s, CH_{Het}). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃), δ : 0.35 (s, 4 Me₃Si); 10.80 and 12.40 (both s, 2 Me); 68.09 (t, C(1), ¹J_{P,C} = 168.2 Hz); 106.68, 139.86, 146.57 (all s, C_{Het}). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃), δ : -0.30 (s).

Bis(trimethylsilyl) (1*H*-benzotriazol-1-yl)(trimethylsilyloxy)methylphosphonate (1d). Yield 59%, b.p. 108 °C (1 Torr). Found (%): C, 43.03; H, 7.16. $C_{16}H_{32}N_3O_4PSi_3$. Calculated (%): C, 43.12; H, 7.24. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ: -0.36 (s, Me₃Si); -0.05 (s, 2 Me₃Si); 6.26 (d, C(1)H, ²J_{P,H} = 6.4 Hz); 6.99-7.76 (m, C₆H₄). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃), δ: -0.93 (s, Me₃Si); -0.75 (s, Me₃Si); -0.43 (s, Me₃Si); 80.73 (d, C(1), ¹J_{P,C} = 13.2 Hz); 113.37, 119.20, 124.17, 127.30, 131.84, 146.45 (all s, C_{Het}). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃), δ: -4.81 (s).

Tetrakis(trimethylsilyl) (1*H*-benzotriazol-1-yl)methylenediphosphonate (2d). Yield 30%, b.p. 133 °C (1 Torr). Found (%): C, 39.03; H, 7.01. C₁₉H₄₁N₃O₆P₂Si₄. Calculated (%): C, 39.22; H, 7.10. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ: -0.11 (s, 4 Me₃Si); 3.75 (t, C(1)H, ²J_{P,H} = 16.8 Hz); 7.17-7.83 (m, C₆H₄). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃), δ: 0.01 (s, 4 Me₃Si); 67.71 (t, C(1), ¹J_{P,C} = 168.2 Hz); 110.50, 114.55, 119.44, 126.22, 129.93, 140.27 (all s, C_{Het}). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃), δ: -0.47 (s).

(1*H*-Imidazol-1-yl)methylenediphosphonic acid (4a). A solution of diphosphonate 2a (10.6 g, 0.02 mol) in diethyl ether (15 mL) was added to methanol (40 mL) at 10 °C under continuous stirring. The mixture was heated to reflux and concentrated. The white crystals were dried *in vacuo* (1 Torr) for 1 h to give 4.7 g (98%) of acid 4a, m.p. 174–176 °C. Found (%): C, 19.69; H, 3.28. C₄H₈N₂O₆P₂. Calculated (%): C, 19.85; H, 3.33. ¹H NMR (D₂O–C₅D₅N), &: 3.33 (t, C(1)H, ²J_{P,H} = 16.0 Hz); 6.55 and 7.85 (both s, CH_{Het}). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (D₂O–C₅D₅N), &: 66.26 (t, C(1), ¹J_{P,C} = 139.9 Hz); 117.83 and 132.43 (both s, C_{Het}). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (D₂O–C₅D₅N), &: 14.66 (s).

Acids **3a**–**d** and **4b**–**d** were synthesized similarly.

1*H*-**Imidazol-1-yl(hydroxy)methylphosphonic acid (3a).** Yield 96%, m.p. 144–145 °C (decomp.). Found (%): C, 26.86; H, 3.88. C₄H₇N₂O₄P. Calculated (%): C, 26.98; H, 3.96. ¹H NMR (D₂O–C₅D₅N), δ: 6.81 (d, C(1)H, ²J_{P,H} = 4.2 Hz); 6.57 and 7.92 (both s, CH_{Het}). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (D₂O–C₅D₅N), δ: 78.81 (d, C(1), ¹J_{P,C} = 180.4 Hz); 117.96 and 132.86 (both s, C_{Het}). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (D₂O–C₅D₅N), δ: 7.47 (s).

1*H***-Benzimidazol-1-yl(hydroxy)methylphosphonic acid (3b).** Yield 94%, m.p. 157–159 °C (decomp.). Found (%): C, 41.97; H, 3.91. $C_8H_9N_2O_4P$. Calculated (%): C, 42.12; H, 3.98. ¹H NMR (D₂O-C₅D₅N), δ : 5.15 (d, C(1)H, ²J_{P,H} = 6.4 Hz); 7.17 (dd, ³J_{H,H} = 16.0 Hz, ⁴J_{H,H} = 3.2 Hz); 7.47 (dd, ³J_{H,H} = 16.0 Hz, ⁴J_{H,H} = 3.2 Hz); 7.57 (s) (CH_{Het}). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (D₂O-C₅D₅N), δ : 78.85 (d, C(1), ¹J_{P,C} = 170.0 Hz); 114.16, 125.86, 129.74, 138.52 (all s, C_{Het}). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (D₂O-C₅D₅N), δ : 6.88 (s).

3,5-Dimethyl-1*H*-**pyrazol-1-yl(hydroxy)methylphosphonic acid (3c).** Yield 97%, m.p. 357–359 °C (decomp.). Found (%): C, 34.78; H, 5.30. $C_6H_{11}N_2O_4P$. Calculated (%): C, 34.96; H, 5.38. ¹H NMR ((CD₃)₂SO– C_5D_5N), δ : 1.86 and 2.20 (both s, 2 Me); 4.92 (d, C(1)H, ²J_{P,H} = 6.0 Hz); 5.64 (s, CH_{Het}). ¹³C{¹H} NMR ((CD₃)₂SO– C_5D_5N), δ : 10.47 and 12.44 (both s, 2 Me); 88.18 (d, C(1), ¹J_{P,C} = 191.4 Hz); 103.71, 144.05 (both s, C_{Het}). ³¹P{¹H} NMR ((CD₃)₂SO– C_5D_5N), δ : 10.42 (s).

1*H*-Benzotriazol-1-yl(hydrox))methylphosphonic acid (3d). Yield 95%. m.p. 105–107 °C (decomp.). Found (%): C, 36.55; H, 3.48. C₇H₈N₃O₄P. Calculated (%): C, 36.70; H, 3.52. ¹H NMR ((CD₃)₂SO), δ : 6.43 (d, C(1)H, ²*J*_{P,H} = 7.2 Hz); 7.41 (dd, ³*J*_{H,H} = 6.4 Hz, ⁴*J*_{H,H} = 3.2 Hz); 7.89 (dd, ³*J*_{H,H} = 6.4 Hz, ⁴*J*_{H,H} = 3.2 Hz) (CH_{Het}). ¹³C{¹H} NMR ((CD₃)₂SO), δ : 79.96 (d, C(1), ¹*J*_{P,C} = 187.7 Hz); 114.92, 118.84, 125.42, 126.86, 131.87, 145.86 (all s, C_{Hef}). ³¹P{¹H} NMR ((CD₃)₂SO), δ : 10.62 (s).

1*H*-**Benzimidazol-1-ylmethylenediphosphonic acid (4b).** Yield 98%. m.p. 348–350 °C (decomp.). Found (%): C, 32.74; H, 3.40. $C_8H_{10}N_2O_6P_2$. Calculated (%): C, 32.89; H, 3.45. ¹H NMR ((CD₃)₂SO), &t 4.18 (t, C(1)H, ²*J*_{P,H} = 16.0 Hz); 7.18 (dd, ³*J*_{H,H} = 6.0 Hz, ⁴*J*_{H,H} = 3.2 Hz); 7.46 (dd, ³*J*_{H,H} = 6.0 Hz, ⁴*J*_{H,H} = 3.2 Hz); 7.56 (s) (CH_{Het}). ¹³C{¹H} NMR ((CD₃)₂SO), &t 66.86 (d, C(1), ¹*J*_{P,C} = 142.1 Hz); 113.79, 125.73, 129.59, 138.88 (all s, C_{Het}). ³¹P{¹H} NMR ((CD₃)₂SO), &t 15.63 (s).

3,5-Dimethyl-1*H*-pyrazol-1-ylmethylenediphosphonic acid (4c). Yield 98%. m.p. 357–359 °C (decomp.). Found (%): C, 26.49; H, 4.52. $C_6H_{12}N_2O_6P_2$. Calculated (%): C, 26.68; H, 4.48. ¹H NMR ((CD₃)₂SO–C₅D₅N), δ : 1.82 and 2.14 (both s, 2 Me); 3.97 (t, C(1)H, ²J_{P,H} = 15.6 Hz); 5.60 (s, CH_{Het}). ¹³C{¹H} NMR ((CD₃)₂SO–C₅D₅N), δ : 10.44 and 12.34 (both s, 2 Me); 55.57 (t, C(1), ¹J_{P,C} = 181.7 Hz); 105.63, 140.83 (both s, C_{Het}). ³¹P{¹H} NMR ((CD₃)₂SO–C₅D₅N), δ : 15.03 (s).

1*H*-**Benzotriazol-1-ylmethylenediphosphonic acid (4d).** Yield 96%. m.p. 355–357 °C (decomp.). Found (%): C, 28.56; H, 3.14. $C_7H_9N_3O_6P_2$. Calculated (%): C, 28.68; H, 3.09. ¹H NMR ((CD₃)₂SO–C₅D₅N), &: 3.88 (t, C(1)H, ²*J*_{P,H} = 17.2 Hz); 8.01 (d, ³*J*_{H,H} = 8.2 Hz); 8.95 (d, ³*J*_{H,H} = 8.2 Hz). ¹³C{¹H} NMR ((CD₃)₂SO–C₅D₅N), &: 65.28 (t, C(1), ¹*J*_{P,C} = 150.2 Hz); 113.61, 118.64, 124.03, 125.42, 126.86, 138.69 (all s, C_{Het}). ³¹P{¹H} NMR ((CD₃)₂SO–C₅D₅N), &: 16.41 (s).

Bis(trimethylsilyl) diethoxymethylphosphonate (5a). A solution of *N*-diethoxymethylimidazole (4 g, 0.024 mol), tris(trimethylsilyl) phosphite (18 g, 0.06 mol), and chlorotrimethylsilane (5 g, 0.046 mol) in dichloromethane (20 mL) was refluxed for 1 h and then the solvent was carefully distilled off upon heating in a boiling water bath. Vacuum distillation of the residue afforded 5.8 g (74%) of compound **5a**, b.p. 104 °C (2 Torr). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ : 0.03 (s, Me₃Si); 0.97 (t, 2 CH₃, ³*J*_{H,H} = 6.8 Hz); 3.38–3.55 (m, 2 CH₂O); 4.34 (d, C(1)H, ²*J*_{P,H} = 5.2 Hz). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃), δ : 0.67 (s, 2 Me₃Si); 14.85 (s, 2 Me); 63.97 and 64.08 (both s, 2 CH₂O); 98.97 (d, C(1)H, ¹*J*_{P,C} = 216.0 Hz). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃), δ : -3.58 (s) (*cf.* Ref. 16).

Phosphonate **5b** was synthesized similarly.

Diethyl (diethoxymethyl)phosphonate (5b). Yield 78%, b.p. 93 °C (2 Torr). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ : 0.81 (t, 2 CH₃, ³J_{H,H} = 6.8 Hz); 0.91 (t, 2 CH₃, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz); 3.10-3.50 (m, 2 CH₂O); 3.60–3.80 (m, 2 CH₂O); 4.32 (d, C(1)H, ${}^{2}J_{P,H} =$ = 4.8 Hz). ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ NMR (CDCl₃), δ : 14.62 (s, 2 Me); 15.93 (d, Me, ${}^{3}J_{P,C} =$ 5.5 Hz); 62.41 (d, CH₂O, ${}^{3}J_{P,C} =$ 6.5 Hz); 63.99 (d, CH₂O, ${}^{2}J_{P,C} =$ 10.1 Hz); 98.59 (d, C(1)H, ${}^{1}J_{P,C} =$ 207.7 Hz). ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$ NMR (CDCl₃), δ : 13.63 (s) (cf. Ref. 17).

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