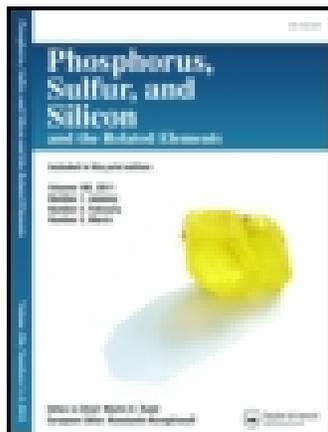


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SIMPLE AND IMPROVED PREPARATION OF α -OXOPHOSPHONATE MONOLITHIUM SALTS

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SIMPLE AND IMPROVED PREPARATION OF α -OXOPHOSPHONATE MONOLITHIUM SALTS

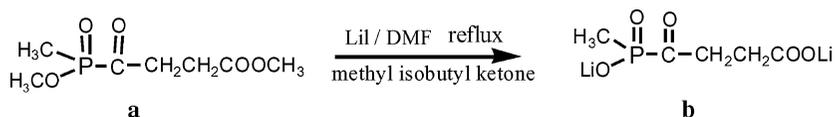
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*Some α -OxoPhosphonate monolithium salts were synthesized by a facile one-step procedure. In this way, α -(2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetoxy)alkyl phosphonic acid dimethyl esters **5** can be transformed into the corresponding phosphonate monolithium salts **6** without influence on the carboxylic ester group under mild conditions.*

Keywords: Phosphonate monolithium salt; synthesis

In continuation of our work on the synthesis of substituted phenoxy acetoxy alkyl phosphonic acid derivatives with good biological activities,¹ we are interested in the preparation of phosphonate salts because its corresponding salts would be of greater biological interest, such as for herbicidal activities.² A. C. Baillie reported that some phosphinate monolithium salts could be obtained by directly converting a phosphinate ester (**a**) into the corresponding salts (**b**) in a 0.5 M solution of anhydrous lithium iodide in methyl isobutyl ketone³ (Scheme 1).



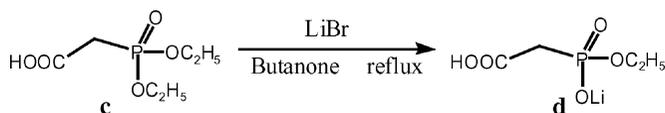
SCHEME 1

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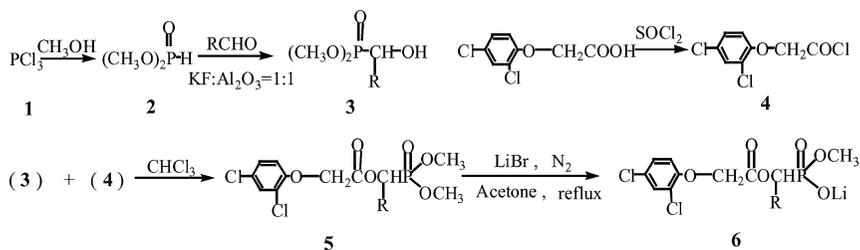
However, this method is not applicable to prepare the title compounds under harsher conditions. This was probably due to the cleavage of the carboxylate ester bond in substituted phenoxy acetoxy alkyl phosphonic acid derivative in methyl isobutyl ketone.

An alternative method,³ by reaction of a phosphonate ester (**c**) with lithium bromide in butanone giving the corresponding phosphonate monolithium salt (**d**), was reported (Scheme 2). However, attempts to prepare the title compounds in butanone according to these conditions were also unsuccessful.



SCHEME 2

Herein we report the reaction of α -(2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetoxy) alkyl phosphonic acid dimethyl esters with lithium bromide in acetone to produce the corresponding phosphonate monolithium salts. The reaction under mild conditions resulted in high yields of the products **6a-p** (Table I) as shown in Scheme 3.



SCHEME 3 Syntheses of title compounds **6**.

Initially, we prepared the title compounds **6** (Scheme 3) from α -(2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetoxy) alkyl phosphonic acid dimethyl esters according to the method in Scheme 2. The experiment showed that the reaction of compounds **5a-p** with lithium bromide was affected by reaction temperature, base, solvent, and water. We attempted to prepare the title compound **6d** by the reaction of **5d** with lithium bromide, which was dried in the presence of butanone for 36 h, but no title compound **6d** was found. Instead, only 2,4-dichlorophenoxy acetic acid lithium salt and the methyl-1-hydroxy phenyl phosphonate monolithium salt as a by-product were found.

TABLE I Preparation of α -OxoPhosphonate Monolithium Salts

| Compd. | R | Formula | Color | m.p. (C) | rt (h) | Yield (%) |
|-----------|---------------------------------|---|-------|----------|--------|-----------|
| 6a | H | C ₁₀ H ₁₀ Cl ₂ LiO ₆ P | White | 138–139 | 3 | 76 |
| 6b | CH ₃ | C ₁₁ H ₁₂ Cl ₂ LiO ₆ P | White | 103–105 | 3 | 74 |
| 6c | n-C ₃ H ₇ | C ₁₃ H ₁₆ Cl ₂ LiO ₆ P | White | 151–152 | 4 | 67 |
| 6d | Ph | C ₁₆ H ₁₄ Cl ₂ LiO ₆ P | White | 244–245 | 3 | 79 |
| 6e | o-ClPh | C ₁₆ H ₁₃ Cl ₃ LiO ₆ P | White | 76–78 | 3 | 69 |
| 6f | p-ClPh | C ₁₆ H ₁₃ Cl ₃ LiO ₆ P | White | 187–189 | 3 | 70 |
| 6g | p-FPh | C ₁₆ H ₁₃ Cl ₂ FLiO ₆ P | White | 236–237 | 2.5 | 91 |
| 6h | p-CH ₃ OPh | C ₁₇ H ₁₆ Cl ₂ LiO ₇ P | White | 202–203 | 4 | 73 |
| 6i | p-CH ₃ Ph | C ₁₇ H ₁₆ Cl ₂ LiO ₆ P | White | 131–133 | 3 | 91 |
| 6j | 2,4-Cl ₂ Ph | C ₁₆ H ₁₂ Cl ₄ LiO ₆ P | White | 259–262 | 3 | 81 |
| 6k | 3,4-OCH ₂ OPh | C ₁₇ H ₁₄ Cl ₂ LiO ₈ P | White | 238–239 | 2.5 | 84 |
| 6l | m-NO ₂ Ph | C ₁₆ H ₁₃ Cl ₂ LiNO ₈ P | White | 227–228 | 3 | 80 |
| 6m | p-NO ₂ Ph | C ₁₆ H ₁₃ Cl ₂ LiNO ₈ P | White | 216–218 | 3 | 78 |
| 6n | o-Fural | C ₁₄ H ₁₂ Cl ₂ LiO ₇ P | White | 132–134 | 2 | 82 |
| 6o | o-Thiophenyl | C ₁₄ H ₁₂ Cl ₂ LiO ₆ PS | White | 171–172 | 1.5 | 93 |
| 6p | o-Pyridyl | C ₁₅ H ₁₃ Cl ₂ LiNO ₆ P | White | 227–228 | 1 | 95 |

Therefore, in the molecular structure of 0,0-dimethyl- α -(2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetoxy)alkyl phosphonate, the carboxylate ester bond may be easier to cleave than phosphonate ester bond under such harsh conditions. Based on the above results, we needed milder conditions for selective cleavage of phosphonate ester bond without cleavage carboxylate ester group. Consequently, the formation of the title compounds **6** can be rationalized in terms of direct reaction of

TABLE II Preparation of the Intermediates **5a–p**

| Compd. | R | Formula | Color | n _D ²⁰ | m.p. (°C) | Yield (%) |
|-----------|---------------------------------|---|--------|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 5a | H | C ₁₁ H ₁₃ Cl ₂ O ₆ P | Yellow | 1.5448 | | 75.8 |
| 5b | CH ₃ | C ₁₂ H ₁₅ Cl ₂ O ₆ P | Yellow | 1.5178 | | 90.7 |
| 5c | n-C ₃ H ₇ | C ₁₄ H ₁₉ Cl ₂ O ₆ P | Yellow | 1.4859 | | 66.0 |
| 5d | Ph | C ₁₇ H ₁₇ Cl ₂ O ₆ P | Yellow | 1.5069 | | 58.9 |
| 5e | o-ClPh | C ₁₇ H ₁₆ Cl ₃ O ₆ P | White | | 76–78 | 58.5 |
| 5f | p-ClPh | C ₁₇ H ₁₆ Cl ₃ O ₆ P | Yellow | 1.5634 | | 58.9 |
| 5g | p-FPh | C ₁₇ H ₁₆ Cl ₂ FO ₆ P | White | | 90–91 | 81.5 |
| 5h | p-CH ₃ OPh | C ₁₈ H ₁₉ Cl ₂ O ₇ P | White | | 96–97 | 67.8 |
| 5i | p-CH ₃ Ph | C ₁₈ H ₁₉ Cl ₂ O ₆ P | Yellow | 1.5429 | | 79.2 |
| 5j | 2,4-Cl ₂ Ph | C ₁₇ H ₁₅ Cl ₄ O ₆ P | White | | 103–104 | 83.2 |
| 5k | 3,4-OCH ₂ OPh | C ₁₈ H ₁₇ Cl ₂ O ₈ P | White | | 120–121 | 84.2 |
| 5l | m-NO ₂ Ph | C ₁₇ H ₁₆ Cl ₂ NO ₈ P | White | | 92–93 | 73.8 |
| 5m | p-NO ₂ Ph | C ₁₇ H ₁₆ Cl ₂ NO ₈ P | White | | 126–127 | 79.5 |
| 5n | o-Fural | C ₁₅ H ₁₅ Cl ₂ O ₇ P | White | | 62–63 | 81.4 |
| 5o | o-Thiophenyl | C ₁₅ H ₁₅ Cl ₂ O ₆ PS | White | | 92–93 | 86.2 |
| 5p | o-Pyridyl | C ₁₆ H ₁₆ Cl ₂ NO ₆ P | White | | 86–87 | 82.5 |

TABLE III ^1H NMR Chemical Shifts (TMS, DMSO) of **6** and Coupling Constants $J(\text{Hz})$

| Compd. | ^1H NMR |
|-----------|---|
| 6a | 3.36 (d, 3H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 4.8$ Hz), 4.13 (d, 2H, $-\text{OCH}_2\text{P}$, $J = 8.6$ Hz), 5.13 (s, 2H, $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$), 7.07–7.59 (m, 3H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 6b | 1.32 (q, 3H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $J = 6.75$ Hz), 3.41 (d, 3H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.81$ Hz), 4.75 (d, 1H ^a , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.53$ Hz), 4.89 (d, 1H ^b , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.54$ Hz), 5.01 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 15.63$ Hz), 7.06–7.58 (m, 3H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 6c | 0.88 (t, 3H, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2$, $J = 7.4$ Hz), 1.25–1.47 (m, 2H, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$), 1.82–2.05 (m, 2H, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$), 3.67 (d, 3H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.90$ Hz), 4.96 (d, 1H ^a , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.50$ Hz), 5.00 (d, 1H ^b , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.50$ Hz), 5.30 (d, 2H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 8.40$ Hz), 7.04–7.42 (m, 3H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 6d | 3.31 (d, 3H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.84$ Hz), 4.94 (d, 1H ^a , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.59$ Hz), 5.05 (d, 1H ^b , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.56$ Hz), 5.80 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 12.81$ Hz), 7.05–7.59 (m, 8H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 6e | 3.31 (d, 3H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.94$ Hz), 4.91 (d, 1H ^a , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.56$ Hz), 4.98 (d, 1H ^b , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.59$ Hz), 6.18 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 12.06$ Hz), 6.98–7.64 (m, 7H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 6f | 3.31 (d, 3H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.9$ Hz), 4.90 (d, 1H ^a , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.56$ Hz), 4.96 (d, 1H ^b , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.56$ Hz), 6.15 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 12.20$ Hz), 7.02–7.57 (m, 7H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 6g | 3.32 (d, 3H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.30$ Hz), 4.93 (d, 1H ^a , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.80$ Hz), 5.03 (d, 1H ^b , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.80$ Hz), 5.80 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 12.80$ Hz), 7.04–7.58 (m, 7H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 6h | 3.29 (d, 3H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.90$ Hz), 3.74 (s, 3H, CH_3OPh), 4.88 (d, 1H ^a , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.50$ Hz), 5.01 (d, 1H ^b , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.56$ Hz), 5.67–5.73 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 13.6$ Hz), 6.86–7.58 (m, 7H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 6i | 2.26 (s, 3H, $-\text{CH}_3\text{Ph}$), 3.30 (d, 3H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.82$ Hz), 4.91 (d, 1H ^a , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.56$ Hz), 5.03 (d, 1H ^b , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.57$ Hz), 5.76 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 12.57$ Hz), 7.03–7.59 (m, 7H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 6j | 3.38 (d, 3H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.00$ Hz), 4.94 (d, 1H ^a , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.56$ Hz), 4.99 (d, 1H ^b , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.62$ Hz), 6.12 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 12.21$ Hz), 6.99–7.65 (m, 6H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 6k | 3.34 (d, 3H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.90$ Hz), 4.91 (d, 1H ^a , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.50$ Hz), 5.03 (d, 1H ^b , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.56$ Hz), 5.74 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 12.42$ Hz), 5.97 (s, 2H, $-\text{OCH}_2\text{OPh}$), 6.77–7.59 (m, 6H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 6l | 3.37 (d, 3H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 10.02$ Hz), 4.99 (d, 1H ^a , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.62$ Hz), 5.13 (d, 1H ^b , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.62$ Hz), 5.91 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 13.02$ Hz), 7.07–8.22 (m, 7H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 6m | 3.36 (d, 3H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 10.02$ Hz), 4.94 (d, 1H ^a , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.60$ Hz), 5.13 (d, 1H ^b , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.50$ Hz), 5.90 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 12.80$ Hz), 7.06–8.10 (m, 7H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 6n | 3.35 (d, 3H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.7$ Hz), 4.91 (d, 1H ^a , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.80$ Hz), 4.96 (d, 1H ^b , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.80$ Hz), 5.84 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 12.6$ Hz), 6.37–7.27 (m, 3H, $\text{C}_4\text{H}_3\text{O}-$), 7.03–7.65 (m, 3H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 6o | 3.37 (d, 3H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 8.40$ Hz), 4.90 (d, 1H ^a , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.80$ Hz), 4.97 (d, 1H ^b , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.40$ Hz), 6.06 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 12.40$ Hz), 6.38–7.05 (m, 3H, $-\text{C}_4\text{H}_3\text{S}$), 7.07–7.58 (m, 3H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 6p | 3.34 (d, 3H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 10.40$ Hz), 5.01 (d, 1H ^a , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.80$ Hz), 5.06 (d, 1H ^b , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.80$ Hz), 5.85 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 13.20$ Hz), 7.13–7.65 (m, 3H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$), 7.15–8.45 (m, 4H, $-\text{C}_5\text{H}_4\text{N}$) |

the phosphonates **5a-p** with lithium bromide in acetone which was dried by molecular sieves (4 Å) under nitrogen for 1–4 h. Thereby, we could obtain the title compound **6p** by the reaction of compound **5p** and lithium and 1 h at reflux. The preliminary biological tests showed that most of the title compounds **6a-p** have excellent inhibitory activities against *Echinochloa crusgalli*, *Brassica napus*, *Digitaria adscendens*, *Amaranthus retroflexus*, and *Medicago sativa*.

EXPERIMENTAL

Instruments

Melting points (m.p.) were measured on an Electrothermal melting-point apparatus and uncorrected; Elemental analysis were performed by Vario EL III elemental analysis; IR spectra were obtained with a Avatar 360 spectrometer; ¹H NMR were measured with a Varian XL-300 spectrometer at 300 MHz, Tetramethyl Silane (TMS) was used as an internal standard, and chemical shift values are expressed in δ (DMSO) ppm. MS were measured on a Finnigen TRACE spectrometer and API2000LC/MS.

Compounds **3** and **4** were prepared according to the literature.^{4,5}

TABLE IV IR Data of Compounds **6**

| Compd. | ν ph-H | ν C-H | ν C=O | ν Ph | ν P=O | ν C-O-C | ν P-O-C | ν P-C |
|-----------|---------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| 6a | 3036 | 2953, 2847 | 1783 | 1662, 1583, 1481 | 1226 | 1092 | 1045, 932 | 775 |
| 6b | 3028 | 2952, 2857 | 1759 | 1633, 1548, 1484 | 1205 | 1082 | 1055, 928 | 717 |
| 6c | 3029 | 2961, 2875 | 1759 | 1638, 1586, 1481 | 1203 | 1081 | 1046, 948 | 719 |
| 6d | 3098 | 2947, 2846 | 1723 | 1648, 1590, 1487 | 1243 | 1099 | 1049, 943 | 726 |
| 6e | 3078 | 2956, 2852 | 1733 | 1643, 1590, 1480 | 1242 | 1078 | 1052, 948 | 745 |
| 6f | 3086 | 2944, 2852 | 1750 | 1638, 1599, 1480 | 1240 | 1105 | 1049, 941 | 788 |
| 6g | 3068 | 2958, 2852 | 1748 | 1637, 1511, 1480 | 1224 | 1106 | 1052, 958 | 787 |
| 6h | 3038 | 2948, 2852 | 1758 | 1638, 1501, 1480 | 1226 | 1086 | 1052, 938 | 727 |
| 6i | 3098 | 2950, 2857 | 1746 | 1646, 1516, 1481 | 1218 | 1080 | 1052, 933 | 716 |
| 6j | 3104 | 2958, 2852 | 1727 | 1649, 1587, 1485 | 1234 | 1083 | 1057, 953 | 760 |
| 6k | 3059 | 2947, 2896 | 1718 | 1633, 1504, 1482 | 1235 | 1082 | 1040, 949 | 719 |
| 6l | 3068 | 2964, 2857 | 1740 | 1635, 1538, 1479 | 1228 | 1104 | 1052, 923 | 730 |
| 6m | 3048 | 2952, 2846 | 1739 | 1638, 1548, 1452 | 1226 | 1081 | 1050, 943 | 731 |
| 6n | 3064 | 2957, 2852 | 1741 | 1645, 1601, 1465 | 1216 | 1078 | 1053, 918 | 732 |
| 6o | 3101 | 2930, 2848 | 1761 | 1654, 1543, 1481 | 1224 | 1101 | 1046, 928 | 728 |
| 6p | 3020 | 2953, 2856 | 1754 | 1599, 1575, 1480 | 1228 | 1085 | 1053, 932 | 721 |

Preparation of Intermediate 5

A solution of 2,4-dichlorophenoxy acetyl chloride **4** (0.022 mol) in trichloromethane (10 ml) was added to stirred mixture of 1-hydroxyalkyl phosphonate **3** (0.02 mol) and organic base (0.022 mol) in trichloromethane (25 ml) at 20–25°C. The mixture was stirred at

TABLE V Elemental Analysis and MS Data of Compound **6**

| Compd. | Calcd. (found) | | | MS/LC-MS |
|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------------|--|
| | C | H | N/Li | |
| 6a | 35.85 (35.80) | 3.01 (3.49) | | 334 (M ⁺), 175, 162, 133, 127, 109, 75, 63, 45 (100%) |
| 6b | 37.85 (37.88) | 3.47 (3.43) | | 348 (M ⁺), 199, 175, 162, 133, 127, 109, 94, 93, 75, 63, 45 (100%) |
| 6c | 41.41 (41.01) | 4.28 (4.61) | | 37634 (M ⁺), 175, 162, 133, 127, 109, 75, 63, 45 (100%) |
| 6d | 46.75 (46.38) | 3.43 (3.65) | 1.71 (1.89) | 410 (M ⁺), 175, 162, 133, 127, 109, 94, 93, 77, 63, 45 (100%) |
| 6e | 43.13 (42.87) | 2.94 (2.86) | | 444 (M ⁺), 175, 162, 133, 127, 111, 109, 94, 93, 75, 63, 45 (100%) |
| 6f | 43.13 (42.91) | 2.94 (2.89) | | 444 (M ⁺), 175, 162, 133, 127, 111, 109, 94, 93, 75, 63, 45 (100%) |
| 6g | 44.79 (44.38) | 3.05 (2.92) | 1.64 (1.72) | 428 (M ⁺), 175, 162, 133, 127, 109, 95, 94, 93, 75, 63, 45 (100%); LC-MS: 421 (M ⁺ -7, 100%, negative); 431 (M ⁺ +7, 92.51%, positive), 428 (M ⁺ , 60.43%, positive) |
| 6h | 46.29 (46.07) | 3.66 (3.58) | | 440 (M ⁺), 175, 162, 133, 127, 109, 107, 94, 93, 75, 63, 45 (100%) |
| 6i | 48.03 (48.30) | 3.79 (3.64) | 1.65 (1.57) | 424 (M ⁺), 199, 175, 162, 133, 127, 109, 94, 93, 91, 75, 63, 45 (100%); LC-MS: 417 (M ⁺ -7, 100%, negative); 431 (M ⁺ +7, 89.77%, positive), 424 (M ⁺ , 18.98%, positive) |
| 6j | 40.04 (39.55) | 2.52 (2.80) | | 478 (M ⁺), 199, 175, 162, 145, 133, 127, 109, 94, 93, 75, 63, 45, 42 (100%) |
| 6k | 44.86 (45.14) | 3.10 (3.35) | | 454 (M ⁺), 199, 175, 162, 133, 127, 121, 109, 94, 93, 75, 63, 45 (100%) |
| 6l | 42.13 (41.71) | 2.87 (2.90) | 3.07 (2.97) | 455 (M ⁺), 175, 162, 133, 127, 122, 109, 94, 93, 75, 63, 45 (100%) |
| 6m | 42.13 (41.83) | 2.87 (2.88) | 3.07 (2.98) | 455 (M ⁺), 175, 162, 133, 127, 122, 109, 94, 93, 75, 63, 45 (100%) |
| 6n | 41.93 (41.68) | 3.02 (2.86) | | 400 (M ⁺), 199, 175, 162, 133, 127, 109, 94, 93, 75, 67, 63, 45 (100%) |
| 6o | 40.31 (40.02) | 2.90 (2.72) | 1.68 (1.79) | 416 (M ⁺), 175, 162, 133, 127, 109, 94, 93, 83, 63, 45 (100%); LC-MS: 409 (M ⁺ -7, 100%, negative); 423 (M ⁺ +7, 92.87%, positive), 416 (M ⁺ , 10.38%, positive) |
| 6p | 43.72 (43.63) | 3.18 (3.18) | 3.40 (3.39) | 411 (M ⁺), 175, 162, 133, 127, 109, 94, 93, 78, 63, 45 (100%) |

ambient temperature for 4 h and then at 40°C for 1 h, washed with 0.1 M hydrochloric acid, saturated sodium hydrogen carbonate solution, and brine. The resultant mixture was dried and evaporated. The residue was chromatographed on silica with 20% acetone in petroleum ether as eluent to give the compound **5** as a liquid or solid, which was recrystallized from DCM/petroleum ether. Yield, 58–91%. The intermediates **5a–p** are listed in Table II.

General Preparation of Lithium Monomethyl- α -(2,4-Dichlorophenoxy Acetoxy) Alkyl Phosphonate Salts **6**

A solution of 0,0-dimethyl- α -(2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetoxy)alkyl phosphonate (0.02 mol) and lithium bromide (0.02 mol) in acetone (50 ml) dried over molecular sieves (4 Å) was stirred and refluxed under nitrogen for 1–4 h. The solution was evaporated at reduced pressure. The residual solid was recrystallized from dichloromethane/petroleum to afford the pure product as a white crystals **6a–p** (the product was very deliquescent). The salts were isolated directly in 67–95.2% yields. The structures of compounds **6a–p** were confirmed by ^1H NMR, IR spectra, LC-MS, and elemental analyses.

In the ^1H NMR spectra of **6**, the proton in the P–C moiety and the proton in the P–OCH₃ moiety each displays doublets. The IR spectra of all compounds showed normal stretching absorption bands, indicating the existence of the Ph–H ($\sim 3050\text{ cm}^{-1}$), C–H ($\sim 2950\text{ cm}^{-1}$, $\sim 2860\text{ cm}^{-1}$), C=O ($\sim 1720\text{ cm}^{-1}$), C=C (~ 1620 , $\sim 1450\text{ cm}^{-1}$), P=O ($\sim 1260\text{ cm}^{-1}$), C–O–C ($\sim 1080\text{ cm}^{-1}$), P–O–C ($\sim 1050\text{ cm}^{-1}$, $\sim 930\text{ cm}^{-1}$) and P–C ($\sim 750\text{ cm}^{-1}$). The EI mass spectra of compound **6** gave weak molecular ion peaks. All the fragmentation ions were consistent with the structure and can be clearly assigned. All results are listed in Tables I and III–V.

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APPENDIX

TABLE AI ^1H NMR Chemical Shifts (TMS, CDCl_3) of Compounds **5a–p**

| Compd. | ^1H NMR |
|-----------|---|
| 5a | 3.80 (dd, 6H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.80$ Hz), 4.30 (d, 2H, $-\text{OCH}_2\text{P}$, $J = 8.28$ Hz), 4.75 (s, 2H, $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$), 6.89–7.55 (m, 3H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 5b | 1.53 (q, 3H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $J = 6.75$ Hz), 3.81 (dd, 6H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.86$ Hz), 4.75 (s, 1H, $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$), 5.25–5.40 (m, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$), 6.89–7.56 (m, 3H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 5c | 0.92 (t, 3H, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$, $J = 7.20$ Hz), 1.40–1.86 (m, 2H, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$), 3.85 (dd, 3H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.90$ Hz), 4.80 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$), 5.35 (m, 2H, $-\text{OCHP}$), 6.80–7.46 (m, 3H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 5d | 3.70 (dd, 6H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.54$ Hz), 4.89 (s, 1H, $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$), 6.24 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 11.60$ Hz), 6.72–7.42 (m, 3H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 5e | 3.85 (dd, 6H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.80$ Hz), 4.81 (s, 1H, $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$), 6.40 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 11.80$ Hz), 6.80–7.40 (m, 7H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 5f | 3.75 (dd, 6H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.80$ Hz), 5.10 (s, 1H, $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$), 6.20 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 11.20$ Hz), 7.12–7.67 (m, 7H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 5g | 3.85 (dd, 6H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.58$ Hz), 4.90 (s, 1H, $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$), 6.40 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 11.80$ Hz), 6.94–7.50 (m, 7H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 5h | 3.10 (s, 3H, CH_3OPh), 3.80 (dd, 6H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.80$ Hz), 4.86 (s, 2H, $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$), 6.20 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 11.6$ Hz), 6.80–7.68 (m, 7H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 5i | 2.30 (s, 3H, $-\text{CH}_3\text{Ph}$), 3.74 (dd, 6H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.80$ Hz), 4.70 (s, 1H, $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$), 6.26 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 11.80$ Hz), 6.77–7.42 (m, 7H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 5j | 3.76 (dd, 6H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.80$ Hz), 4.98 (s, 1H, $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$), 6.12 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 11.22$ Hz), 7.20–7.60 (m, 6H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 5k | 3.72 (dd, 6H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.80$ Hz), 4.97 (s, 1H, $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$), 5.67 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 11.80$ Hz), 5.97 (s, 2H, $-\text{OCH}_2\text{OPh}$), 6.76–7.53 (m, 6H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 5l | 3.88 (dd, 6H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.80$ Hz), 5.09 (s, 1H, $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$), 5.95 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 11.60$ Hz), 7.03–8.16 (m, 7H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 5m | 3.86 (dd, 6H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.80$ Hz), 5.01 (s, 1H, $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$), 5.92 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 11.60$ Hz), 7.00–8.02 (m, 7H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 5n | 3.80 (dd, 6H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.80$ Hz), 4.76 (d, 1H ^a , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.54$ Hz), 4.78 (d, 1H ^b , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.54$ Hz), 6.38 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 14.83$ Hz), 6.42–6.76 (m, 3H, $\text{C}_4\text{H}_3\text{O}-$), 7.12–7.47 (m, 3H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 5o | 3.74 (dd, 6H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 10.50$ Hz), 4.74 (d, 1H ^a , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.54$ Hz), 4.77 (d, 1H ^b , $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$, $J = 16.54$ Hz), 6.48–6.53 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 13.50$ Hz), 6.68–7.01 (m, 3H, $\text{C}_4\text{H}_3\text{S}-$), 6.98–7.36 (m, 3H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) |
| 5p | 3.76 (dd, 6H, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $J = 9.95$ Hz), 4.88 (s, 2H, $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CO}-$), 6.36 (d, 1H, $-\text{OCHP}$, $J = 13.76$ Hz), 6.81–7.39 (m, 3H, $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$), 7.27–8.63 (m, 4H, $-\text{C}_5\text{H}_4\text{N}$) |

TABLE AII IR Data of Compounds **5a-p**

| Compd. | ν ph-H | ν C-H | ν C=O | ν Ph | ν P=O | ν C-O-C | ν P-O-C | ν P-C |
|-----------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| 5a | 3020 | 2990, 2850 | 1760 | 1580, 1490 | 1226 | 1092 | 1045, 929 | 770 |
| 5b | 3030 | 2980, 2860 | 1745 | 1580, 1480 | 1260 | 1170 | 1060, 937 | 751 |
| 5c | 3010 | 2980, 2850 | 1740 | 1590, 1480 | 1240 | 1180 | 1050, 941 | 739 |
| 5d | 3020 | 2956, 2854 | 1772 | 1580, 1480 | 1265 | 1176 | 1032, 943 | 747 |
| 5e | 3020 | 2950, 2849 | 1750 | 1580, 1490 | 1250 | 1180 | 1030, 937 | 742 |
| 5f | 3096 | 2958, 2855 | 1773 | 1587, 1476 | 1262 | 1175 | 1051, 928 | 768 |
| 5g | 3018 | 2952, 2850 | 1758 | 1590, 1457 | 1258 | 1101 | 1040, 958 | 752 |
| 5h | 3020 | 2980, 2850 | 1752 | 1590, 1490 | 1245 | 1170 | 1040, 939 | 757 |
| 5i | 3018 | 2974, 2857 | 1750 | 1585, 1479 | 1262 | 1187 | 1036, 930 | 732 |
| 5j | 3035 | 2962, 2850 | 1746 | 1562, 1474 | 1248 | 1164 | 1063, 946 | 754 |
| 5k | 3015 | 2929, 2875 | 1760 | 1585, 1470 | 1260 | 1180 | 1052, 940 | 754 |
| 5l | 3028 | 2952, 2845 | 1774 | 1580, 1460 | 1235 | 1170 | 1035, 927 | 758 |
| 5m | 3043 | 2958, 2858 | 1773 | 1578, 1472 | 1257 | 1176 | 1056, 948 | 751 |
| 5n | 3074 | 2971, 2852 | 1765 | 1583, 1483 | 1285 | 1188 | 1036, 934 | 753 |
| 5o | 3072 | 2972, 2852 | 1763 | 1582, 1483 | 1275 | 1190 | 1038, 946 | 732 |
| 5p | 3056 | 2963, 2852 | 1766 | 1591, 1478 | 1265 | 1190 | 1027, 926 | 755 |