

3	R	3	R	3	R
a		d		g	
b		e		h	
c		f		i	

Synthesis of 2-Phenoxy-2,2'(3*H*,3'*H*)-spirobi[1,3,2-benzoxazaphosphole]

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The chemistry of cyclic phosphoranes is a rapidly growing field drawing much attention in recent times¹⁻⁵. Only trace amounts of pentacoordinate phosphorus spiro compounds have been isolated by Koizumi et al.⁶ while investigating the reaction between 2-aminophenol and phenyl phosphorodichloridate. During our studies on the synthesis of organophosphorus heterocyclic compounds, we found that 2-(substituted phenoxy)-2,3-dihydro-1*H*-1,3,2-benzodiazaphosphole 2-oxides were easily prepared by the condensation of *o*-phenylenediamine with substituted phenyl phosphorodichloridates^{7,8}. In continuation of this study, we undertook the synthesis of 2-substituted phenoxy-2,3-dihydro-1,3,2-benzoxazaphosphole 2-oxides by the same procedure but obtained 2-phenoxy-2,2'(3*H*,3'*H*)-spirobi[1,3,2-benzoxazaphosphole] in good yields.

The mechanism of the formation of the bicyclic compounds **3** appears to be complex. However, we assume that the condensation of 2-aminophenol with the aryl phosphorodichloridate **1** proceeds via the phosphate intermediates **2a** and **2b**.

The I.R. spectra of products **3** show characteristic bands of P—NH⁹, P—O—C_{arom}¹⁰, and P—N—C_{arom}¹¹ stretching vibrations and are thus compatible with the structure **3**. In the ¹H-N.M.R. spectra, all compounds **3** show a doublet in the region δ = 8.55–8.70 ppm with *J*_{P—N—H} = 24 Hz for the NH protons which are coupled to the P-atom¹². Compounds **3a**, **b**, **c**, **d**, **i** show a down-field one-proton doublet with a coupling constant 7–9 Hz which could be assigned to one of the *o*-protons of the aryloxy group. The non-observance of similar down-field proton signals with compounds **3e**, **f**, **g** indicates the prevalence of *o*-aryl conformation different from that of the above compounds due to the presence of *ortho* and *meta* substituents. The chemical shifts of the two methyl groups of **3f** could not be differentiated; the 6.05 ppm signal of this compound

Table 1. 2-Phenoxy-2,2'(3*H*,3'*H*)-spirobi[1,3,2-benzoxaphospholes] (**3**)

3	Yield ^a [%]	m.p. [°C] (solvent)	Molecular formula ^b
a	56	209–211° (2-propanol)	C ₁₈ H ₁₅ N ₂ O ₃ P (338.2)
b	59	231–232° (2-propanol)	C ₁₉ H ₁₇ N ₂ O ₃ P, ½ H ₂ O (361.2)
c	61	219–221° (2-propanol)	C ₁₉ H ₁₇ N ₂ O ₃ P (352.2)
d	61	218–220° (2-propanol)	C ₁₉ H ₁₇ N ₂ O ₃ P (352.2)
e	63	231–233° (2-propanol/DMF)	C ₂₀ H ₁₉ N ₂ O ₃ P (366.3)
f	65	234–236° (2-propanol)	C ₂₀ H ₁₉ N ₂ O ₃ P (366.3)
g	60	235.5–236.5° (2-propanol/DMF)	C ₂₀ H ₁₉ N ₂ O ₃ P (366.3)
h	68	239–240° (2-propanol)	C ₁₈ H ₁₄ ClN ₂ O ₃ P (372.65)
i	70	197–199° (2-propanol)	C ₁₈ H ₁₄ ClN ₂ O ₃ P (372.65)

^a Yield after one recrystallization.

^b All products gave satisfactory microanalyses: C, ± 0.43; H, ± 0.20. The analyses were performed by Dr. R. D. MacDonald, Australian Microanalytical Service, CSIRO, University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, 3001 and at C.D.R.I., Lucknow, India.

could be assigned to the *O*-aryl *para* proton. The chemical ionization mass spectra of all compounds **3** show peaks corresponding to (M+2)⁺, (M+1)⁺, M⁺, and (M–OR)⁺, thus corroborating the assigned structures.

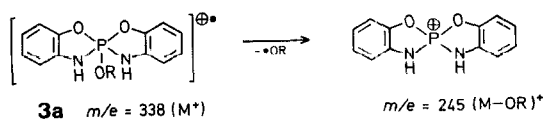


Table 2. Spectral Data of Compounds 3

3	C.I. Mass Spectra ^a (<i>m/e</i>)				I.R. (Nujol) ^b ν [cm ⁻¹]			¹ H-N.M.R. (DMSO- <i>d</i> ₆) ^c δ [ppm]
	(<i>M</i> +2) ⁺	(<i>M</i> +1) ⁺	<i>M</i> ⁺	(<i>M</i> -OR) ⁺	P-N-H	P-N-C _{arom}	P-O-C _{arom}	
a	340	339	338	245	3420	1320, 915	1235, 960	8.64 (d, 2H, NH, <i>J</i> = 24 Hz); 7.23 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 7 Hz); 6.62-6.87 (m, 12H)
b	354	353	352	245	3500	1330, 920	1240, 960	8.60 (d, 2H, NH, <i>J</i> = 24 Hz); 7.01 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 7 Hz); 6.56-6.93 (m, 11H); 2.00 (s, 3H)
c	354	353	352	245	3420	1320, 920	1238, 955	8.57 (d, 2H, NH, <i>J</i> = 24 Hz); 7.04 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 7 Hz); 6.53-6.93 (m, 11H); 2.10 (s, 3H)
d	354	353	352	245	3500	1330, 920	1242, 955	8.58 (d, 2H, NH, <i>J</i> = 24 Hz); 7.08 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 9 Hz); 6.58-6.88 (m, 11H); 2.22 (s, 3H)
e	368	367	366	245	3450	1328, 910	1240, 950	8.55 (d, 2H, NH, <i>J</i> = 24 Hz); 6.40-7.00 (m, 11H); 2.10 (s, 3H); 2.03 (s, 3H)
f	—	367	366	245	3500	1330, 910	1245, 950	8.57 (d, 2H, NH, <i>J</i> = 24 Hz); 6.05 (s, 1H); 6.60-6.87 (m, 11H); 2.10 (s, 6H)
g	368	367	—	245	3500	1325, 914	1240, 955	8.60 (d, 2H, NH, <i>J</i> = 24 Hz); 6.47-7.10 (m, 11H); 1.95 (s, 3H); 2.07 (s, 3H)
h	373	372	371	245	3400	1320, 910	1220, 950	8.70 (d, 2H, NH, <i>J</i> = 24 Hz); 7.57-7.53 (m, 12H)
i	373	372	371	245	3495	1325, 910	1230, 955	8.66 (d, 2H, NH, <i>J</i> = 24 Hz); 7.32 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 9 Hz); 6.63-6.97 (m, 11H)

^a Recorded with a CEC (Dupont) 21-110B Mass spectrometer. Reactant gas: methane for **3a** and **3g** and isopentane for others.

^b Measured on a Perkin-Elmer Model 137 infrared spectrometer.

^c Recorded at 60 MHz on a Varian T 60 NMR spectrometer.

The phenyl phosphorodichloridates (**1**) are prepared by the procedure described in Ref.^{7,8}.

2-Phenoxy-2,2'(3*H*,3'*H*)-spirobi[1,3,2-benzoxazaphospholes] (**3a**); General Procedure:

A solution of the phenyl phosphorodichloridate (**1**; 0.025 mol) in dry toluene (20 ml) is added dropwise over a period of 20 min to a stirred and refluxing solution of 2-aminophenol (3.46 g, 0.05 mol) and triethylamine (5.06 g, 0.05 mol) in dry toluene (70 ml). Stirring and refluxing is continued for 4 h. Triethylamine hydrochloride is removed by filtration and the solvent is removed in a rotavapor. The residue is washed with water and recrystallized three times from isopropanol.

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