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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## First Example of Stereoselective Aza-Perkow Reaction

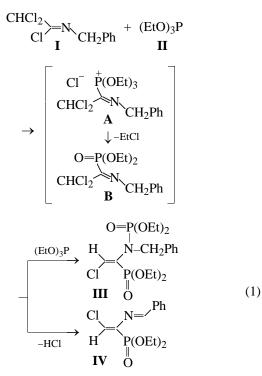
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Reactions of *N*-benzylpolychloroalkylimidoyl chlorides  $R_{Hlg}CCl=NCH_2Ph$  with trialkyl phosphites proceed unusually and, depending on the number of  $\alpha$ -atoms of chlorine, yield either *C*,*N*-diphosphorylated vinylamides ( $R_{Hlg} = CCl_3$ ) [1] or *C*-phosphorylated azadienes ( $R_{Hlg} = Me_2CCl$ ) [2]. The behavior of *N*benzyldichloroacetimidoyl chloride **I** in this reaction is of particular interest, because it furnishes information not only on the direction but also on stereochemistry of the process.

We have found that imidoyl chloride **I**, irrespective of the reactant ratio, reacts with 2 mol of triethyl phosphite to give chlorovinylphosphoroamidate **III**. Note that it is the first example of the reaction of aza-Perkow type involving the CHCl<sub>2</sub> group. Analogous transformations were previously known only for the derivatives containing CCl<sub>3</sub> and CF<sub>3</sub> groups at the C=N bond [3].



Only one geometric isomer of **III** was detected, which shows that the reaction of the aza-Perkow type is highly stereoselective. Large coupling constant between the phosphorus and the proton at the double bond ( ${}^{3}J_{\text{HP}}$  30.6 Hz) indicates the *trans* arrangement of the proton and phosphoryl group (cf. [4]).

Formation of diphosphorylated product **III** even at an excess of imidoyl chloride **I** shows that intermediates **A** and **B** exhibit considerably higher reactivity in relation to phosphite than the starting imidoyl chloride. For example, the <sup>31</sup>P NMR data show that the final mixture obtained in the reaction of equimolar amounts of compounds **I** and **II** (80–90°C, 1 h) contains bisphosphorylated vinylamide **III** (~65 mol %), azadiene **IV** (5–10%), and unidentified products (~25%). At a 1 : 2 ratio of **I** and **II** the yield of vinylamide decreases. Phosphorylated azabutadiene **IV** is evidently formed by dehydrochlorination of intermediates **A** and **B** (cf. [2]). It was prepared independently by the reaction of dichloroazadiene **V** with triethyl phosphite.

$$\mathbf{I} \xrightarrow{\mathrm{Et}_{3}\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{CHCl}=\mathrm{C(Cl)}\mathrm{N}=\mathrm{CHPh} \xrightarrow{(\mathrm{EtO})_{3}\mathrm{P}} \mathbf{IV} \qquad (2)$$

It is noteworthy that reactions (1) and (2) yield the same geometric isomer of phosphonate IV, and dehydrochlorination of I also yields a single geometric isomer of chloroazabutadiene V. The coupling constant between the phosphorus atom and the proton in azadiene IV ( ${}^{3}J_{\rm HP}$  9.4 Hz) is considerably smaller than that in vinylamide III and suggests the *cis* location of hydrogen and the phosphoryl group. Thus, the aza-Perkow reaction as well as phosphorylation of chloroazadiene V yield sterically less hindered isomers of III and IV.

*N*-Benzyldichloracetimidoyl chloride I was prepared by the reaction of *N*-benzyldichloroacetamide with phosphorus pentachloride. Yield 72%, bp 98– 99°C/0.09 mm. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (CDCl<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta$ , ppm:

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4.75 s (2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.37 s (1H, Cl<sub>2</sub>CH), 7.4 m (5H, Ph). Found, %: Cl 45.15; N 6.01.  $C_9H_8Cl_3N$ . Calculated, %: Cl 44.97; N 5.92.

(Z)-1-Chloro-2,3-bis(diethoxyphosphoryl)-4-phenyl-3-aza-1-butene III. A mixture of equimolar amounts of imidoyl chloride I and triethyl phosphite was heated in a Claisen flask at 80–90°C until the gas evolution ceased (~1 h) and then was distilled. Yield 35%, bp 173–179°C/0.05 mm Hg. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (CDCl<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta$ , ppm: 1.4 m (12H, Me), 4.2 m (8H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.69 d (2H, CH<sub>2</sub>N, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NP</sub> 9.6 Hz), 6.45 d.d (1H, =CH, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HP</sub> 30.6, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>HP</sub> 2.6 Hz), 7.3 m (5H, Ph). <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectrum (CDCl<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta_{P}$ , ppm: 5.0 m (1P, NP), 9.7 d.m (1P, =CP, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>PC=CH</sub> 30.6 Hz). Found, %: Cl 7.60; N 3.32; P 14.28. C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>18</sub>ClNO<sub>6</sub>P<sub>2</sub>. Calculated, %: Cl 8.06; N 3.18; P 14.08.

**4-Chloro-3-(diethoxyphosphoryl)-1-phenyl-2-aza-1,3-butadiene IV** was prepared by heating of a 1 : 2 mixture of dichloroazadiene V and  $(EtO)_3P$  at 90–100°C for 1 h. Yield 35%. The compound was not isolated analyticaly pure; after distillation it contained about 25 mol % unidentified admixtutes ( $\delta_P$  12, 7.1, and 3.8 ppm). The spectral characteristics of **IV** were close to those of the previously synthesized phosphorylated azadienes [2]. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (CDCl<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta$ , ppm: 1.34 t (Me,  $J_{HH}$  7.5 Hz), 4.2 m (OCH<sub>2</sub>), 6.78 d (1H, CHCl, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HP}$  9.4 Hz), 7.5 m and 7.8 m (Ph), 8.45 d (1H, CH=N, <sup>4</sup> $J_{HP}$  1.8 Hz). <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectrum (CDCl<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta_P$ , ppm: 9.8.

**1,2-Dichloro-4-phenyl-2-aza-1,3-butadiene V**. To a solution of imidoyl chloride **I** in ether an equimolar

amount of triethylamine was added at 20°C. A day later the precipitate was filtered off, the filtrate was evaporated, and the residue was distilled in a vacuum. Yield 88%, bp 97–100°C/0.09 mm Hg. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (CDCl<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta$ , ppm: 6.88 s (1H, =CHCl), 7.4 m (3H) and 7.8 m (2H) (Ph), 8.44 (1H, =CHN). Found, %: Cl 34.82; N 6.79. C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>7</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>N. Calculated, %: Cl 35.44, N 7.0.

The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian VXR-300 spectrometer, working frequencies 299.5 and 121.42 MHz, respectively. The chemical shifts were measured against internal TMS (<sup>1</sup>H) and external 85% phosphoric acid (<sup>31</sup>P).

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