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Foreword

The volume of published work in organophosphorus chemistry has again increased, and several Reporters have had great difficulty in keeping within their allotted space. Much, but not all, of the research has been of a routine and predictable nature. The stimulus provided by the discovery of phosphonomycin is still being felt. It would be interesting to know just how many research projects and proposals have been linked, however tenuously, to this phosphorus-containing antibiotic. Six-co-ordinate species are being identified more frequently. Some are remarkably stable and have been isolated, whereas the intermediacy of others in reactions has been inferred from kinetic data. Clearly, much more will be heard of these. Finally, on the instrumental front, Fourier-transform ³¹P n.m.r. spectroscopy is proving to be a very powerful tool for the detection and study of unstable intermediates, for example in Arbusov reactions, and one can look forward to the solution of many long-standing problems in organophosphorus chemistry using this technique. We hope to report on some of these in Volume 9.

S. Trippett

Abbreviations

TMPT

UDPGal UDPGlc

ADP adenosine 5'-pyrophosphate AIBN bisazoisobutyronitrile AMP adenosine 5'-phosphate adenosine 5'-triphosphate ATP cytidine 5'-phosphate CMP 1,5-diazabicyclo[4,3,0]non-5-ene DRN DBU 1.5-diazabicyclo[5,4,0]undec-5-ene dicyclohexylcarbodi-imide DCC NN-dimethylformamide DMF DMSO dimethyl sulphoxide FAD flavin-adenine dinucleotide GDP guanosine 5'-pyrophosphate gas-liquid chromatography g.l.c. hexamethylphosphoric triamide HMPT hexamethylenetetramine HMT nicotinamide-adenine dinucleotide NAD nicotinamide-adenine dinucleotide phosphate NADP N-bromosuccinimide NBS nicotinamide mononucleotide **NMN** nuclear quadrupole resonance n.q.r. inorganic pyrophosphate ppi TCNE tetracyanoethylene tris(dimethylamino)phosphine TDAP trifluoroacetic acid TFAA tetrahydrofuran THE. t.1.c. thin-layer chromatography

uridine 5'-pyrophosphate galactose

uridine 5'-pyrophosphate glucose

trimethylphosphoric triamide

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BY D. W. ALLEN

1 Phosphines

Preparation.—From Halogenophosphine and Organometallic Reagents. The cyclopentadienylphosphines (1) have been obtained from the reaction of cyclopentadienylthallium with chlorophosphines in ether. Diphenyl (4-pyridyl) phosphine (2) is prepared from 4-pyridyl-lithium and chlorodiphenylphosphine, and an improved procedure for the synthesis of tri-(2-pyridyl) phosphine (3) from 2-pyridyl-lithium and phosphorus trichloride has been reported.

$$\begin{bmatrix} PR_{3-n} \\ H \end{bmatrix}_{n}$$
(1) R = Me or Ph; $n = 1$ or 2 (3)

Treatment of phosphorus trichloride with an excess of the Grignard reagent (4) leads to the sterically hindered phosphine (5).⁴ A sample of ¹⁴C-labelled triethylphosphine has been synthesized from ¹⁴C-labelled ethylmagnesium iodide and phosphorus trichloride.⁵ The reaction of chlorodiphenylphosphine with the Grignard

reagent derived from 2,2'-dibromobibenzyl in THF solution leads to the diphosphine (6), which is dehydrogenated by various rhodium complexes to form *trans*-2,2'-diphenylphosphinostilbene (7).6

² M. A. Weiner and P. Schwartz, Inorg. Chem., 1975, 14, 1714.

3 R. K. Boggess and D. A. Zatko, J. Coordination Chem., 1975, 4, 217.

6 M. A. Bennett, and P. W. Clark, J. Organometallic Chem., 1976, 110, 367.

¹ F. Mathey and J.-P. Lampin, Tetrahedron, 1975, 31, 2685.

⁴ B. I. Stepanov, A. I. Bokanov, A. B. Kudryavtsev, and Yu. G. Plyashkevich, J. Gen. Chem. (U.S.S.R.), 1975, 44, 2312.

⁵ M. Kanska and S. Drabarek, Nukleonika, 1974, 19, 977 (Chem. Abs., 1975, 83, 10270).

The reaction of halogenophosphines with esters of trialkylstannylacetic acids gives a general route to compounds containing the $-P(CH_2CO_2R)_n$ grouping. Diphosphinoacetic acid esters (8) can be prepared from the monophosphino-esters by treatment with sodium and dialkylchlorophosphines.

$$R_{2}^{1}PCH_{2}CO_{2}R^{2} \xrightarrow{fi)} Na \atop (ii) R_{2}^{1}PCI \rightarrow (R_{2}^{1}P)_{2}CHCO_{2}R^{2}$$
(8)

From Metallated Phosphines. The synthesis of polymeric tertiary phosphines based on the reaction of lithium diphenylphosphide with chloromethylated polystyrenes continues to attract interest. 9, 10 Considerable breakdown of the carbon–carbon back-bone of PVC occurs on reaction with lithium diphenylphosphide in THF, and only oligomers of low molecular weight result. 11 The potassium salt (9) reacts with chloromethylated polystyrene to form the polymeric diphosphine (10). 12

$$K^*$$
 O $-CH_2PPh_2$ CH_2PPh_2 CH_2PPh_2 CH_2PPh_2 CH_2PPh_2 CH_2PPh_2 CH_2PPh_2 CH_2PPh_2

The ω -chloroalkyldiphenylphosphines (11) have been prepared by the reaction of equimolar quantities of sodium diphenylphosphide with $\alpha\omega$ -dichloroalkanes. Whereas the phosphine (11; n=3) can be converted into the Grignard reagent (12), which reacts with dimethylchlorophosphine to form the unsymmetrical diphosphine (13), the Grignard reagent (14) undergoes a β -elimination reaction to regenerate diphenylphosphide ion.¹³

⁷ M. A. Kakli, G. M. Gray, E. G. Delmar, and R. C. Taylor, Synth. React. Inorg. Metal-Org. Chem., 1975, 5, 357.

⁸ Z. S. Novikova, S. Ya. Skorobogatova, and I. F. Lutsenko, Russ, P. 497307 (Chem. Abs., 1976, 84, 122038).

⁹ E. Bayer and V. Schurig, Angew. Chem. Internat. Edn., 1975, 14, 493.

¹⁰ J. Basset, R. Mutin, G. Descotes, and D. Sinou, Compt. rend., 1975, 280, C, 1181.

¹¹ K. A. Abdulla, N. P. Allen, A. H. Badran, R. P. Burns, J. Dwyer, C. A. McAuliffe, and N. D. A. Toma, Chem. and Ind., 1976, 273.

¹² I. Tkatchenko, Compt. rend., 1976, 282, C, 229.

¹³ S. O. Grim and R. C. Barth, J. Organometallic Chem., 1975, 94, 327.

Ph₂PNa + Cl(CH₂)_nCl
$$\xrightarrow{\text{liq. NH}_3}$$
 Ph₂P(CH₂)_nCl (11) $n = 1-3$

$$Ph_{2}P(CH_{2})_{3}MgCI \xrightarrow{Me,PCI} Ph_{2}PCH_{2}CH_{2}CH_{2}PMe_{2}$$
(12)
(13)

$$Ph_{2}P \longrightarrow CH_{2} \longrightarrow CH_{2} \longrightarrow Ph_{2}\bar{P} + C_{2}H_{4} + [MgCl]^{+}$$
(14)

Similarly, the chloroalkylarsine (15) (obtained from lithium diphenylarsenide and 1,2-dichloroethane) reacts with lithium diphenylphosphide to form the mixed phosphine-arsine (16).¹⁴

$$Ph_{2}AsCH_{2}CH_{2}CI \xrightarrow{Ph_{1}PLI} Ph_{2}AsCH_{2}CH_{2}PPh_{2}$$
(15)
(16)

Organosilylphosphines are conveniently prepared by cleavage of alkyldiarylphosphines with lithium in THF, followed by treatment with chlorotrimethylsilane, ¹⁵ and tris(trimethylsilyl)phosphine has been prepared from the reaction of chlorotrimethylsilane with a mixture of sodium and potassium phosphides. ¹⁶

The product of the reaction between lithium diphenylphosphide (or trimethyl-silyldiphenylphosphine) and dimethyl 2,3-dichloromaleate has been shown to be the fumarate (17)¹⁷ and not (as previously supposed)¹⁸ the expected maleate (18).

Nucleophilic displacement of halide ion from a saturated carbon atom by alkalimetal diphenylphosphide reagents occurs with inversion of configuration at carbon, as is found in normal S_N2 displacements. ¹⁹ Thus menthyl chloride or bromide gives the *neo*-menthyldiphenylphosphine (19).

An improved procedure has been reported for the synthesis of the C-functionalized tertiary phosphine (20), based on the reaction of potassium diphenylphosphide with ethyl chloroacetate.²⁰

- 14 K. K. Chow and C. A. McAuliffe, Inorg. Chim. Acta, 1975, 14, 5.
- 15 R. Appel and K. Geisler, J. Organometallic Chem., 1976, 112, 61.
- 16 G. Becker and W. Hoelderich, Chem. Ber., 1975, 108, 2484.
- ¹⁷ D. Fenske and J. Löns, Chem. Ber., 1975, 108, 3091.
- 18 H. J. Becher, D. Fenske, and E. Langer, Chem. Ber., 1973, 106, 177.
- ¹⁹ A. M. Aguiar, C. J. Morrow, J. D. Morrison, R. E. Burnett, W. F. Masler, and N. S. Bhacca, J. Org. Chem., 1976, 41, 1545.
- 20 T. Jarolim and J. Podlahova, J. Inorg. Nuclear Chem., 1976, 38, 125.

$$\begin{array}{c}
Me \\
X \\
CHMe_2
\end{array}$$

$$(X = Cl \text{ or Br})$$

$$Me \\
Ph_2P \\
CHMe_2$$

$$(19)$$

$$CICH_{2}CO_{2}Et \xrightarrow{Ph_{1}PK} Ph_{2}PCH_{2}CO_{2}Et \xrightarrow{(i) OH^{2}} Ph_{2}PCH_{2}CO_{2}H$$

$$(20)$$

Two reports of the hitherto little documented attack of organophosphide anions on halogen have appeared. Addition of 1,2-dibromoalkenes to lithium diphenylphosphide in THF gives an acetylene and tetraphenyldiphosphine²¹ (Scheme 1).

$$Ph_{2}P + Br - C = C - Br \rightarrow RC = CR + Ph_{2}PBr \xrightarrow{Ph_{2}P} Ph_{2}PPPh_{2}$$

$$R R$$

$$(R = H \text{ or } Ph)$$

Scheme 1

In the corresponding reactions of o-dihalogenobenzenes, attack on halogen, leading to the generation of benzyne, competes with attack at carbon, leading to the o-halogenophenyldiphenylphosphine (21). Further attack of phosphide on the halogen of the latter gives the anion (22), which on treatment with D₂O gives the ortho-deuterated phosphine (23) (Scheme 2). Lithium diphenylphosphide reacts with the benzyne-furan adduct (24) to give, after dehydration, a mixture of 1- and 2-diphenylphosphinonaphthalenes.²²

Reagents: i, Ph2P-; ii, furan; iii, D2O

Scheme 2

D. G. Gillespie and B. J. Walker, Tetrahedron Letters, 1975, 4709.
 D. G. Gillespie, B. J. Walker, D. Stevens, and C. A. McAuliffe, Tetrahedron Letters, 1976, 1905.

By Addition of P—H to Unsaturated Compounds. This route continues to be exploited for the synthesis of polydentate tertiary phosphine ligands. Thus base-catalysed addition of diphenylvinylphosphine to the secondary phosphine (25) affords (26).²³ Neopentylpolytertiaryphosphines, e.g. (27), have been similarly prepared ²⁴ by addition of primary or secondary phosphines to vinylphosphines (or the related phosphine sulphides, followed by a desulphurization step).

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Me}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{P(H) Ph} + \text{Ph}_2\text{PCH} \Longrightarrow \text{CH}_2 \longrightarrow \text{Me}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{P(Ph) CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{PPh}_2 \\ (25) & (26) \\ \\ \text{(Me}_3\text{CCH}_2)_2\text{PH} + \text{Me}_3\text{CCH}_2\text{P} & \text{CH} \Longrightarrow \text{CH}_2 \longrightarrow \text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{P(CH}_2\text{CMe}_3)_2 \\ \\ \text{CH} \Longrightarrow \text{CH}_2 \longrightarrow \text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{P(CH}_2\text{CMe}_3)_2 \\ \\ \text{CH} \Longrightarrow \text{CH}_2 \longrightarrow \text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{P(CH}_2\text{CMe}_3)_2 \\ \end{array}$$

Free-radical-catalysed additions have also been reported, and provide a genuine alternative to the more familiar base-catalysed addition routes. Thus the secondary diphosphine (28) readily adds to diphenylvinylphosphine in the presence of AIBN to give (29). Similarly, addition of di(pentafluorophenyl)phosphine to diphenylvinylphosphine affords the diphosphine (30). Sequential addition of silanes and secondary phosphines to terminal $\alpha\omega$ -dienes under the influence of u.v. light affords the silylalkylphosphines (31), which may be anchored via silicon to the surface of inorganic oxides and used as polymeric catalysts.

$$PhP(H) (CH2)3P(H) Ph + Ph2PCH = CH2 \xrightarrow{AIBN} Ph2PCH2CH2P(Ph) (CH2)3P(Ph) CH2CH2PPh2$$
(28)
(29)

Ph₂PCH₂P(C₆F₈)₂
$$R_2$$
P(CH₂)₂(CH₂)_n(CH₂)₂SiR₂
(30) (31) $n = 1-4$

Addition of P—H bonds to unsaturated systems also continues to be used as a route to heterocyclic systems. Thus base-catalysed cyclization of the phosphine (32) [prepared by the addition of methyl methacrylate (2 moles) to phenylphosphine], followed by subsequent hydrolysis and decarboxylation, affords the phosphorinanone (33). The phosphorinanone system is also directly accessible by the addition of phenylphosphine to divinyl ketones. The radical-initiated addition of phenylphosphine to dialkynyl systems (34) gives the heterocyclohexadienes (35). The stereochemistry of the addition of phenylphosphine to cyclo-octa-2,7-dienone to give

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