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MIXED-VALENCE DIPHOSPHORUS COMPOUNDS

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We have reported in 1981/82 1,2 the symmetric diphosphorylation of N.N'-dimethyl-N.N'-bis(trimethylsilyl)urea, 1, with methyl dichlorophosphine. Dechlorination of the resulting product, 2a, led to the formation of a bridged diphosphine, 3a, which, in turn, served as a precursor to the synthesis of various mixed valence ($\lambda^{3}P^{AP}$ and $\lambda^{3}P^{AP}$) diphosphorus compounds, as a result of selective oxidative addition at one of the two λ^{3} phosphorus atoms which leaves the P-P bond intact,

 $\frac{2a}{2b} : R = Me$ 2b : R = Ph

Me
$$\stackrel{O}{\stackrel{C}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}}}}$$
 $\stackrel{Me}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}}}}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}}}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}}}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}}}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}}}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}}}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}}}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}}}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}}}}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}}}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}}}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}}}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}}}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}}}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}}}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}{\stackrel{N}}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{A}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}}$ $\stackrel{A}{\stackrel{N}}$ $\stackrel{A}\stackrel{A}\stackrel{A}}$ $\stackrel{A}\stackrel{\stackrel{A}}{\stackrel{N}}$ $\stackrel{A}\stackrel{N}}$ $\stackrel{A}\stackrel{\stackrel{A}}{\stackrel{N}}$ $\stackrel{A}\stackrel{\stackrel{A}}{\stackrel{N}}$ $\stackrel{A}\stackrel{$

We have now prepared the P.P'-diphenyl analogue of 2a, 2b by the reaction of 1 with PhPCl₂. An attempt at the preparation of the N.N'-dimethyl urea-bridged diphosphine, 3b, by treating 2b with a reagent newly introduced into phosphorus chemistry, oxalic acid bis(trimethylsilyl)ester, surprisingly furnished the previously known $3\lambda^3$ P λ^4 P mixed valence diphosphorus compound, 4, in one step:

$$\frac{2b + Me_{3}SiOC(:0)C(:0)OSiMe_{3}}{-CO, CO_{2}} \xrightarrow{Ph} \xrightarrow{P} \xrightarrow{P} \xrightarrow{P} Ph$$
(1)

The new synthesis is superior to the previous one, providing $\frac{4}{9}$ in good yield and high purity. Its identity has been confirmed by a single crystal X-ray diffraction study $\frac{4}{9}$.

Oxidative addition of tetrachloro-o-benzoquinone (TOB) at the λ^3 phosphorus atom in 4 was found to provide an easy access to a $\lambda\,^5\text{P}\lambda^4\text{P}$ diphosphorus compound, 5.

Me N
$$\stackrel{0}{\stackrel{|}{\mathbb{C}}}$$
 Me $\stackrel{\circ}{\stackrel{\circ}{\mathbb{C}}}$ $\stackrel{\circ}{\stackrel{}}$ $\stackrel{\circ}{\stackrel{\circ}{\mathbb{C}}}$ $\stackrel{\circ}{\stackrel{\circ}{\mathbb{C}}}$ $\stackrel{\circ}{\stackrel{}}$ $\stackrel{\circ}{\stackrel{}}{\stackrel{}}$ $\stackrel{\circ}{\stackrel{}}$ $\stackrel{\circ}{\stackrel{}}$ $\stackrel{\circ}{\stackrel{}}$ $\stackrel{\circ}{\stackrel{}}$ $\stackrel{\circ}{\stackrel{}}$

Several new classes of organophosphorus compounds involving a phosphorus-phosphorus bond have become accessible via simple one-step syntheses by an extension of the phosphorylation of $\underline{1}$, employing dialkyl-amino dichlorophosphines, R_2NPCl_2 . The overall reaction proceeds in accord with eq. (2),

<u>6a</u>: R = Me; <u>6b</u>: R = Et; <u>6c</u>: $R_2 = (CH_2)_4$; <u>6d</u>: $R_2 = O(CH_2CH_2)_2$

While the mechanism of the formation of 6 has not been elucidated it must, clearly, involve a sequence of $\overline{S}i-N$ cleavage reactions, as well as a scrambling reaction, producing $(R_2N)_2PC1$. The facile

formation of the P-P bond in 6 may probably be rationalized in terms of the ideas advanced by Sisler and his co-workers 5 . Compounds of type 6 involve an entirely novel structural element in phosphorus chemistry, viz. the direct and stable combination of a phosphonium (P⁺) and a phosphoranide (P⁻) phosphorus atom. The identity of compounds 6 is clearly established by their 1 H and, especially, 31 P n.m.r. spectra (with 1 J(PP) of the order of 160 Hz). For 6 b (R = Et) a single crystal X-ray diffraction study has been conducted which has revealed, for the solid state, the presence both of molecules of type 6 b (r(4 P(4), 4 P($^-$) 2.195(1) A), as well as of chlorine-bridged dimers of 6 b in which the two phosphoranide (4 P($^-$)) phosphorus atoms and two chlorine atoms form a planar ring with bond angles near 90 0.

Chlorine-fluorine exchange in 6, using the simple reagent, sodium fluoride in acetonitrile, has furnished a novel type of mixed valence diphosphorus compound, viz. $\lambda^{3}P$ -substituted $(\lambda^{5}P)$ -fluorophosphoranes, 7, 0

$$\frac{6}{\text{reflux}}$$
Me No Con Me
$$\frac{NaF \text{ in MeCN}}{\text{reflux}}$$
Me No Con Me
$$\frac{P - P(F)(NR_2)}{N - C - N - Me}$$
Me No Con Me No Con Me

This class of compounds, although evidence for its transient existence has been obtained 6 , has resisted all previous attempts at its isolation and complete characterization 7 . A number of fluorophosphoranes of type 7 have now been obtained. The crystal structure of 7 (R = Et) has been determined, and has revealed a butterfly-type arrangement of the $\lambda^3 P[(Me)NC(:0)N(Me)]_2$ group at largely trigonal-bipyramidal, penta-coordinate phosphorus, with F and $\lambda^3 P$ occupying one axial position each.

The lower-valent phosphorus atom in compounds of type $\underline{6}$ was found to display characteristic reactivity, e.g. in the reaction of $\underline{6}b$ with TOB which led to a product of oxidative addition, 8:

Chlorine-fluorine exchange in 8 with AsF₃ (but not with NaF/MeCN) has furnished another new type of zwitterionic phosphorus compound, 9 which has been characterized by 19F and 31P n.m.r. spectroscopy.

¹⁹F and ³¹P n.m.r. spectroscopy.

The preparation of a $\lambda^5 P \lambda^4 P$ mixed valence diphosphorus compound, 10, from 7b by addition of elemental sulfur at $\lambda^3 P$ is also noteworthy,

The identity of 10, as a novel, λ^4 P-substituted monofluorophosphorane, has been established on the basis of its ¹⁹F and ³¹P n.m.r. spectra.

Finally, a first substitution reaction at a five-coordinate phosphorus atom by a lower-valent phosphorus substituent has been achieved, in the reaction of the spiro-monochlorophosphorane, $\frac{11}{12}$; with $\text{Ph}_2\text{PSiMe}_3$, producing a $\lambda^3\text{P}$ -substituted spirophosphorane, $\frac{12}{12}$:

Characterization of $\underline{12}$, aside from n.m.r. ($^{1}J(PP)$ 269 Hz) and mass

spectrometry, was by single crystal X-ray diffraction 9.

As has previously been noted by Weferling 10 , the P-P bond in all our mixed valence diphosphorus compounds is of strikingly constant length, regardless of the oxidation state and/or coordination number of the two phosphorus atoms. Four new values of rpp, obtained in the course of the present work (for compounds 4 , 6 b, 7 (R = Et), and 12 further serve to illustrate this point, with only the number for the 3 P-substituted fluorophosphorane, displaying a slight deviation from the "standard" value, of the order of 2 . 2

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