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Phosphorus, Sulfur, and Silicon and the Related Elements

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information: http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~content=t713618290

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To cite this Article Teichmann, Herbert and Schulz, Joachim(1990) 'PHOSPHOROCHLORIDATE AND DICHLOROTHIOATE IONS: APROTIC ACCESS AND EVIDENCE FOR CHLORIDE ION RELEASE TO FORM METAPHOSPHATE TYPE INTERMEDIATES', Phosphorus, Sulfur, and Silicon and the Related Elements, 54:1,31-37

To link to this Article: DOI: 10.1080/10426509008042117

URL: http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10426509008042117

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PHOSPHOROCHLORIDATE AND DICHLOROTHIOATE IONS: APROTIC ACCESS AND EVIDENCE FOR CHLORIDE ION RELEASE TO FORM METAPHOSPHATE TYPE INTERMEDIATES

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(Received January 30, 1990)

Monomeric, non-coordinated salts of the dichlorophosphoric, dichlorophosphorothioic and dithioic acid are obtained in high yields by dealkylation of the corresponding methyl esters using quaternary ammonium or phosphonium halides. The mono and dithioate anions react under mild conditions with 4-dimethylaminopyridine as trapping agent to form the thiometaphosphate adducts 11b and 11c, respectively, whereas the dichlorophosphate anion merely yields condensation products. The capability of the title compounds to act as metaphosphate type precursors by chloride ion release may be compared with the analogous behaviour of phosphorochloroimidate and chlorosulfate anions.

Key words: phosphorodichloridate, phosphorodichloro(di)thioate ions; methyl phosphorodichloridate; methyl phosphorodichloro(di)thioate; chloro(di)thiometaphosphate; pyridinium thiophosphate betaines; 4-dimethylaminopyridine.

INTRODUCTION

Definite salts of the dichlorophosphoric acid not existing in the state of coordination polymers were first obtained in 1939 by deoxygenative halogenation with POCl₃ of phenylogous carboxamides.¹ The validity of the same principle in reactions generating Vilsmeier reagents with POCl₃ was postulated by Wizinger² in 1945 and later proved by Martin and Martin³⁻⁵, who also demonstrated the analogous mode of formation of dichlorophosphorothioates and dithioates from PSCl₃.⁶

For preparative purposes, however, organic oxygen donors are not in use. Instead, hydrolytic processes in presence of bulky cations are employed to substitute one chlorine by anionic oxygen in $POCl_3^{7,8}$ and $PSCl_3^{9,10}$, respectively. Though similar mechanisms of thiohydrolysis may work¹¹, to obtain dichlorophosphorodithioates preformed PS_2 moieties like $P_4S_{10}^{12}$ or the betaine $C_5H_5NPS_2Cl_1^{13}$ are used and subject to cleavage by hydrogen chloride. Since careful drying procedures may be required to obtain stable and analytically pure samples of dichlorophosphate and phosphorodichlorothioate salts from $P(X)Cl_3$ hydrolysis, we report here a simple aprotic high yield preparation under remarcably mild conditions of such salts as well as of the corresponding dithioates.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

During the study of betaine formation from RY-P(X)Cl₂ (X, Y = O, S)¹⁴⁻¹⁶ we observed, depending on the nature of the pyridine base used, some N-alkylation

competing with the main reaction of N-phosphorylation. In the case of α -substituted pyridines N-methylation becomes strongly favoured for steric reasons. Thus, equimolar amounts of collidine and 1b in CH_2Cl_2 at room temperature form 74% of hygroscopic 1,2,4,6-tetramethylpyridinium dichlorophosphorothioate. An oily, hygroscopic salt also results from dealkylation of 1b by Et_3N . However, dealkylation by quaternary ammonium or phosphonium halides 2–5 which form high yields of pure, non-hygroscopic salts 6–9 is to be preferred. Thiolester bonds as in 1c or 1d (X = O, Y = S) are likewise subject to C—S bond cleavage, whereby 1b and 1d yield identical salts.

MeY-
$$\stackrel{|}{\text{PCl}}_2$$
 + R_3 R' $\stackrel{|}{\text{E}}^{\bullet}$ Hal $\stackrel{|}{\text{Hal}}^{\bullet}$ $\stackrel{|}{-\text{MeHal}}$ $\stackrel{|}{\text{R}}_3$ R' $\stackrel{|}{\text{E}}^{\bullet}$ Cl₂PXY $\stackrel{|}{\text{P}}$ (1)

1 2-5 6-9

 $\frac{1, 6-11}{a}$ $\stackrel{|}{\text{A}}$ $\stackrel{|}{\text{A}}$ $\stackrel{|}{\text{Comp.}}$ $\stackrel{|}{\text{E}}$ $\stackrel{|}{\text{R}}$ $\stackrel{|}{\text{R}}$

Whilst on isolated, monomeric, non-coordinated dichlorophosphates and their thio analogues literature is scarce, in situ generated dichlorophosphate ions repeatedly are recommended to act as phosphorylating agents (see, e.g., lit. 17-18, and references therein). It is difficult to imagine how anionic nucleophiles like $Cl_2PO_2^-$ should be superior to neutral electrophiles of the acid chloride type in phosphorylation reactions unless one assumes the participation of a highly reactive chlorometaphosphate intermediate. There exists in fact some evidence for the formation of such transient species from $Cl_2PS_2^-$ by chloride ion abstraction in the presence of a LEWIS acid, the substances isolated, however, are reorganisation products with a different structure. 12 To prove whether chloride ion expulsion also can occur in absence of any acceptor molecule, 6-8 were reacted in methylene chloride solution at ambient temperature with 4-dimethylaminopyridine as a trapping agent for the metaphosphate species.

1 (5)

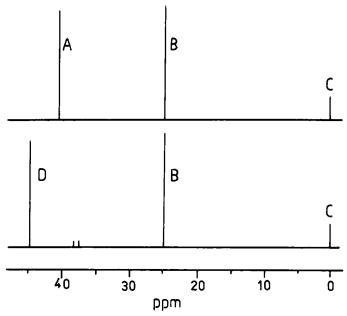


FIGURE 1 ³¹P-NMR spectrum of **7b** (above) and its reaction product with 4-dimethylaminopyridine (below). A: Cl₂PSO ; B: Ph₄P⁺; C: standard (H₃PO₄); D: betaine **11b**; solvent MeNO₂.

Results obtained with the dioxo salt 8a are not conclusive, as 31 P-NMR spectra indicate predominant formation of condensed phosphates (signals and groups of signals at -13.6, -16.3, -17 and -20.5 ppm) which occasionally are products, too, in preparations of betaine 11a from 1a. 16 Under the same conditions, however,

the monothio anion of 7b (δ 31_P 41.3 ppm) completely disappears within one day while a new signal, similar in intensity to that of Ph₄P⁺ (δ 31_P 24.8 ppm, remaining unchanged), at 44.7 ppm is formed which is indicative of the betaine 15b¹⁵ (see, Figure 1). Similarly, the dithio anion of salt 6c (δ 31_P 83.9 ppm) is converted to a large extent into a species of δ 31_P 93.9 ppm (as the dominant signal, along with some minor, in part unidentified ones), thus revealing the presence of betaine 11c¹⁵ as the main reaction product.

First order-type P—Cl bond cleavage in tetracoordinated phosphorus monoanions to form neutral tricoordinated species is not unprecedented and has since long been discussed for explaining the unusually large rates of alkaline hydrolysis in the N-monosubstituted phosphoric 19-21 and thiophosphoric amidochloridate series 22 by an elimination-addition mechanism. Chloroimidate ions 13, thus arising from neutral amidates 12 by deprotonation, may be regarded as perfect analogues of the dichlorophosphate and phosphorothioate anions in 6-8.

There exists even further analogy in the chlorosulfate series. It is known since more than a century that chlorosulfonic acid is not merely neutralized by pyridine to give the pyridinium salt but that the reaction proceeds to form the betaine 16^{23,24} which also can directly be obtained as a "pyridine-SO₃ adduct" from the components.²⁴

$$CISO_3H \xrightarrow{+py} CISO_3^{\Theta} \xrightarrow{-Cl^{\Theta}} [SO_3] \xrightarrow{+py} N-SO_3^{\Theta}$$
 (4)

Monomeric SO₃ and monomeric metaphosphate species have in common that they strongly tend to increase their coordination number. In both instances pyridine bases act as excellent donors to stabilize the low-coordinated moieties by forming betaines of type 11 and 16, respectively.

The aptitude for ready chloride ion release may suggest the anions in 6–8 to be regarded as a kind of donor-stabilized chloro(thio)metaphosphates, just the same way as are the betaines 11, with the chloride ion being a poorer stabilizing donor than the pyridine base. In the pyridinium betaines 11 there is obviously some tendency to dissociate, yet, similar to that in the SO_3 -adduct 16 which enables 16 to act as a sulfonating agent.²⁵ On mixing MeNO₂ solutions of the monothio salt 6b (δ 31_P of the anion 41.4 ppm) and the dioxo betaine 11a (δ 31_P -8.6 ppm) after 6 hours at 60°C new signals arise at -7.8 and 45.3 ppm which unambigously belong to the dichlorophosphate anion and the monothio betaine 11b, respectively¹⁶ (see, Figure 2).

$$Me_2N - N - P = 0 + Cl_2PSO^{\Theta} \longrightarrow Me_2N - N - P = S + Cl_2PO_2^{\Theta}$$
 (5)

EXPERIMENTAL

Starting materials were either commercially available or prepared according to known literature procedures. All reactions were performed with carefully dried substances and solvents and protected against moisture by dry nitrogen gas. Melting points were estimated by using a Boetius apparatus. ³¹P-NMR spectra were obtained in MeNO₂ solutions with a Bruker MSL 400 operating at 162 MHz²⁶; 85% H₃PO₄ was used as an external standard.

Ammonium and phosphonium phosphorodichloridates and dichloro(di)thioates 6-9. General procedure. To 5 mmol methylester 1 dissolved in 10 ml CH₂Cl₂, a solution of 5 mmol ammonium or phosphonium salt 2-5 in 15 ml CH₂Cl₂ is added dropwise with stirring. Agitation at room temperature is then continued for 5 hours. After removal of the solvent at reduced pressure by rotary evaporation the residue is recrystallized from benzene/chloroform. Data see tables 1 and 2.

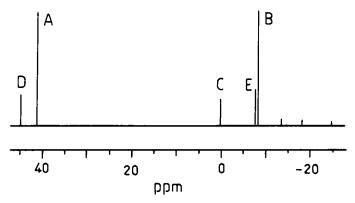


FIGURE 2 ³¹P-NMR spectrum of a 1:1 mixture of **6b** and betaine **11a** after 6 h warming to 60°C in MeNO₂. A: Cl₂PSO⁻; B: betaine **11a**; C: standard (H₃PO₄); D: betaine **11b**; E: Cl₂PO₂.

TABLE I

Ammonium and phosphonium dichloridates and dichloro(di)thioates 6-9. Yields, melting points and elemental analyses

Compd.	Yield (%)	m.p. (°C)	Formula (mol. weight)	Elemental analysis (calc./found)		
				С	Н	Cl
6aª	75	45-48	C ₁₃ H ₂₂ Cl ₂ NPO ₂	47.84	6.79	21.72
6b [⊦]	90	49-51	(326.3) C ₁₃ H ₂₂ Cl ₂ NPOS (342.3)	47.62 45.6 45.83	7.23 6.47 6.73	21.69 20.71 20.54
6c ^c	81	43-46	C _{1.3} H _{2.2} Cl ₂ NPS ₂ (358.3)	43.57 44.22	6.18 6.70	19.8 20.9
7a	90	223-225	C ₂₄ H ₂₀ Cl ₂ P ₂ O ₂ (473.3)	60.90 61.57	4.25 4.37	14.98 14.81
7b ^d	95	235-236	C ₂₄ H ₂₀ Cl ₂ P ₂ OS (489.3)	58.9 58.9	4.1 4.14	14.48 14.78
7c	75	125-128	C ₂₄ H ₂₀ Cl ₂ P ₂ S ₂ (505.4)	57.03 57.01	3.98 4.57	14.03 14.96
8a°	86	155-156	C ₂₅ H ₂₂ Cl ₂ P ₂ O ₂ (487.3)	61.62 61.61	4.55 4.58	14.55 14.33
8pt	80	188-190	C ₂₅ H ₂₂ Cl ₂ P ₂ OS (503.3)	59.66 59.59	4.37 4.37	14.08 14.63
9a	92	55-58	$C_{19}H_{18}Cl_2P_2O_2$ (411.2)	55.49 55.61	4.41 4.70	17.24 15.5
9b	98	104-106	C ₁₉ H ₁₈ Cl ₂ P ₂ OS (427.3)	53.40 53.17	4.24 4.24	16.59 16.79
9c	79	138-140	$C_{19}H_{18}Cl_2P_2S_2$ (443.3)	51.47 51.03	4.09 4.09	15.99 15.02

^a calc.: N 4.28; P 9.50; found: N 4.24; P 9.48 ^b calc.: N 4.1; P 9.05; found: N 4.21; P 9.13

TABLE II

Observed chemical shifts of the anions in 6-9

	δ 31 _P (ppm)				
Anion	This paper (MeNO ₂)	lit. ²⁶ (various solvents)			
Cl ₂ PO $\frac{1}{2}$ Cl ₂ PSO - Cl ₂ PS $\frac{1}{2}$	-7.88.3 41.0 41.4 83.7 84.0	$-3.5 \dots -9^{\circ}; -11^{27}; -10.5^{28}; -8.8^{29}$ $39.5 \dots 42.5^{\circ}$ $79.5 \dots 82.5^{\circ}; 81.6^{11}; 81.9^{13}$			

^a Chemical shifts of the cations: Ph₄P⁺ 24.8 . . . 24.9; Ph₃PCH₂Ph⁺ 24.3 ppm.

1,2,4,6-Tetramethylpyridinium phosphorodichlorothioate. 3.23 g (26 mmol) 2,4,6-trimethylpyridine are dissolved in 10 ml CH_2Cl_2 and cooled to $-35^{\circ}C$. A solution of 4.4 g (26 mmol) 1b in 10 ml CH_2Cl_2 is slowly added. The mixture is stirred for some hours and the solvent removed i. vac. next day. A hygroscopic oil remains which crystallizes over night, yield 5.5 g (74%), m.p. 60-63°C. Attempts to purify by recrystallization were unsuccessful. Anal. of the crude product: calc. for $C_9H_{14}Cl_2NOPS$ (271.9): C 37.77; H 4.93; Cl 24.77; N 4.91; found: C 36.70; H 4.93; Cl 23.82; N 4.76; δ 31_p: 41.3 ppm.

Reaction of phosphorodichloridates and phosphorodichloro(di)thioates with 4-dimethylaminopyridine. To a solution of 1.1 g (9 mmol) 4-dimethylaminopyridine in 10 ml CH₂Cl₂ at room temperature are added dropwise 4.5 mmol of 6c, 7b, or 8a, respectively, dissolved in 10 ml CH₂Cl₂. Stirring is continued

<sup>calc.: N 3.9; found: N 3.94
d calc.: P 12.65; found: P 12.35
calc.: P 12.72; found: P 12.53</sup>

calc.: P 12.72; found: P 12.33 calc.: P 12.31; found: P 12.30

for 5 hours. The solution becomes gently cloudy and a white precipitation separates. After standing over night the solvent is removed in a rotary evaporator at a bath temperature of 30°C. The residue is dissolved in MeNO₂ and investigated by ³¹P-NMR spectroscopy.

Reaction of 6b with betaine 11a. 320 mg 11a, 500 mg 6b, and 10 ml MeNO₂ are mixed and warmed to 60°C for 6 hours. A clear solution forms which is concentrated to about 40% by vol. and subject to ³¹P-NMR investigation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We thank Dr. B. Costisella for support in NMR measurements.

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