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## Phosphorus, Sulfur, and Silicon and the Related Elements

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### Phosphonic and Phosphinic Acids: Monitoring Protolytic and Complex Formation Equilibria by Titration Dependend Stopped-Flow-NMR-Techniques

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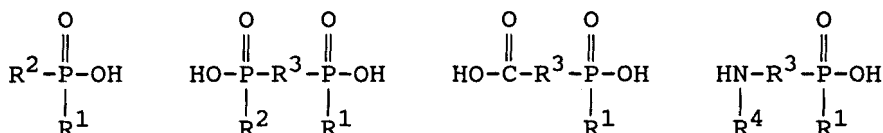
# PHOSPHONIC AND PHOSPHINIC ACIDS: MONITORING PROTO- LYTIC AND COMPLEX FORMATION EQUILIBRIA BY TITRATION DEPENDENT STOPPED-FLOW-NMR-TECHNIQUES.

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**Abstract:** Protolytic and complex formation equilibria are  
 investigated by fully automated titration dependent NMR.

Substituted phosphonic and phosphinic acids e. g.



( $\text{R}^1\text{-R}^2=\text{OH}$ , H, Alkyl, Aryl;  $\text{R}^3=-(\text{CH}_2)_n-$ ,  $-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)-$ ;  $\text{R}^4=\text{H}$ , Alkyl, Aryl) and related structures give rise to protolytic and complex formation equilibria relevant to chemistry, biology, medicine, agriculture and technical chemistry. Handling these model systems as n-basic acids of general type  $\text{H}_n\text{L}$  the dynamic chemical shift  $\langle \delta \rangle$  in protolytic equilibria may be described as the weighted mean according to eqs (1)-(3):

$$(1) \quad \langle \delta \rangle = \sum_i x(\text{H}_i\text{L}) \cdot \delta(\text{H}_i\text{L}) \quad i=0-n$$

$$(2) \quad x(\text{H}_i\text{L}) = 10^{\text{exp}(\lg \beta_i - i \cdot \text{pH})} / (\sum_j 10^{\text{exp}(\lg \beta_j - j \cdot \text{pH})}) \quad j=0-n$$

$$(3) \quad \lg \beta_i = \sum_k \text{pK}_{n-k+1} \quad k=0-i$$

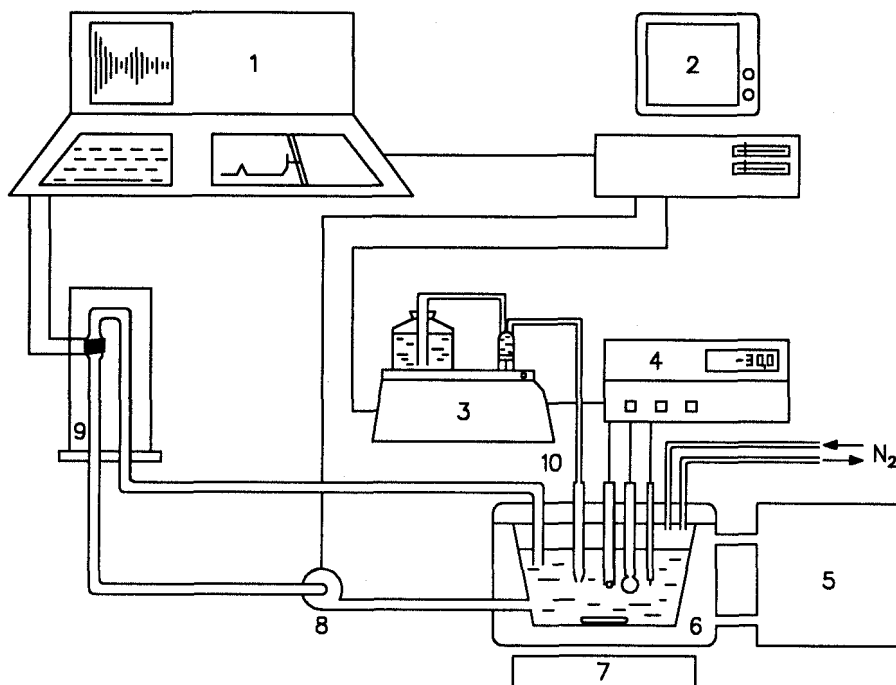
$b[x(\text{H}_i\text{L})]$ : molar fraction of  $\text{H}_i\text{L}$ ;  $\delta(\text{H}_i\text{L})$ : "ion-specific" chem. shift of  $\text{H}_i\text{L}$ ;  
 $\lg \beta_i = + {}^{10}\lg \beta_i$ ;  $\beta_i$ : stab. const. for  $i\text{H} + \text{L} \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_i\text{L}$ ;  $\beta_0 = 1$ ;  $\text{pK}_k = -$   
 ${}^{10}\lg K_k$ ;  $K_k$ : diss. const. for  $\text{H}_{n-k+1}\text{L} \rightleftharpoons \text{H} + \text{H}_{n-k}\text{L}$ ;  $K_{n+1} = 1$ ].

Analogous expressions are derived involving stability constants in complex formation processes.

New tools were developed in our laboratories combining automated high-precision titration and NMR-methods in "Stopped-Flow" techniques of nuclei  $^{31}\text{P}$  (and  $^{19}\text{F}$  in case of fluorinated phosphonic acids, e. g.  $\text{FCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{PO}_3\text{H}_2$ ).

A solution of  $\text{H}_n\text{L}$  (in absence or presence of metal ions) is titrated vs.  $\text{NaOH}$  or  $\text{TMAOH}$ . One-dimensional FIDs are taken for each step of titration, stored and Fourier transformed. The set of one-dimensional NMR spectra is plotted in two-dimensional techniques (stacked plot, contour plot) correlating the observable chemical shift  $\delta$  vs. pH or  $\tau$ , the degree of titration. Two-dimensional spectra result resembling the more familiar COSY-type. A special program package SPECTROTIT was designed to organize fully automated Stopped-Flow-NMR. The hardware set up used is shown in *fig. 1*.

Protonation constants may be assigned conveniently from  $\delta$ -pH-spectra for first order cases ( $\text{p}K_{\text{i}} + 1 - \text{p}K_1 > 3$ ) as shown in several examples. De- and re-protonation schemes, hydrogen-bridges, conformational changes during protolysis are discussed. In addition Stopped-Flow-NMR is a powerful tool to analyze reaction mixtures and to differentiate diastereomers. Polyfunctional structures of technical importance like  $(\text{H}_2\text{O}_3\text{PCH}_2)_2\text{NCH}_2\text{CH}_2(\text{CH}_2\text{PO}_3\text{H}_2)_2$  and phosphono-carboxylic acids are studied. Particular interests are paid towards biorelevant phospho-analogues of natural amino acids. Examples: NMR controlled titrations of phospho-alanin  $\text{NH}_2\text{-CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{-PO}_3\text{H}_2$  are shown in *figs. 2 and 3*. Results are discussed and supported by molecular modelling studies.



**Figure 1:** Hard ware set up for Stopped-Flow-NMR:

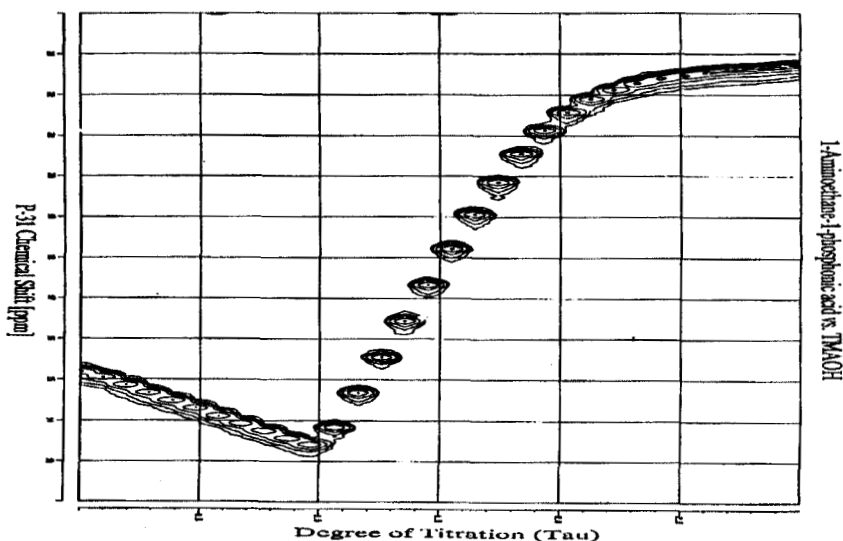
1: AM 200 SY NMR spectrometer [1]; 2: IBM compatible PC; 3: Motor burette T 200 [2]; 4: pH-Meter CG 841 [2]; 5: Thermostat, optional; 6: Titration vessel, home made; 7: magnetic stirrer; 8: magnetically driven pump [3]; 9: special probe head for Stopped-Flow-NMR [1] or home made version; 10: titration equipment (electrode N62, Pt1000 W2130) [2];

[1] BRUKER Analytische Meßtechnik; [2] SCHOTT Geräte GmbH; [3] Reichelt-Chemie-Technik.

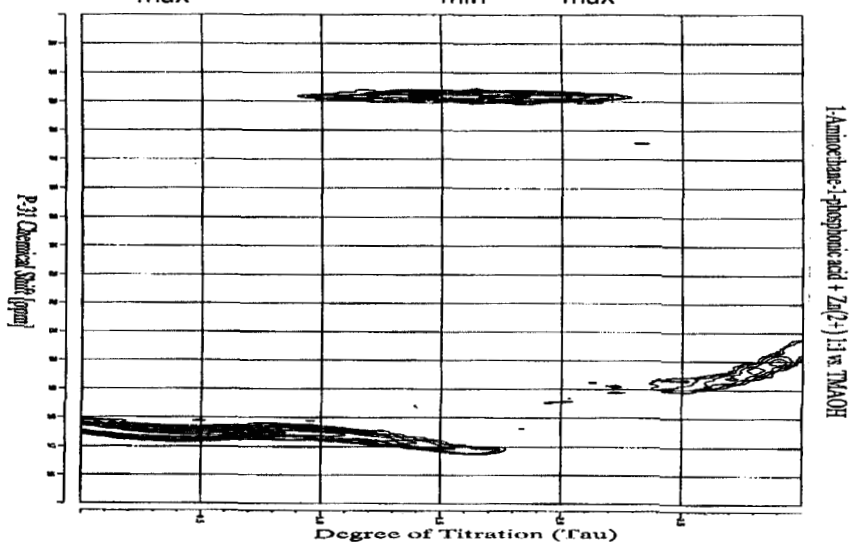
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Monitoring Protolytic and Complex Formation Equilibria by Stopped-Flow- $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR. Technique used:  $\delta$ - $\tau$  contour spectra.



**Figure 2:** Titration of Phospha-Alanin vs. TMAOH. y-axis:  $\delta_{\min} = 12$  ppm,  $\delta_{\max} = 24$  ppm; x-axis:  $\tau_{\min} = 0$ ,  $\tau_{\max} = 3$ .



**Figure 3:** Titration of Phospha-Alanin + Zink (1:1) vs. TMAOH. y-axis:  $\delta_{\min} = 15$  ppm,  $\delta_{\max} = 32$  ppm; x-axis:  $\tau_{\min} = 0$ ,  $\tau_{\max} = 3$ .