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REACTION OF N-ALKYLPYRIDINIUM SALTS WITH PHOSPHORUS TRICHLORIDE

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Dedicated to Prof. A. Schmidpeter on his 65th Birth Anniversary

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1-Alkylpyridinium bromides 1 having activated N-methylene group react with phosphorus trichloride to give N-(dichlorophosphinomethylene)pyridinium ylides 2. The site of the reaction in 1,2-dialkylpyridinium halides 3 under these conditions is determined by the relative activation of 1- and 2-methylene groups; in the absence of sufficient activation of N-methylene group, reaction occurs at the 2-methylene group to give dichlorophosphinylated anhydrobases 5 and 11. 1,4-Dialkylpyridinium bromide 13 behaves analogously to give the corresponding dichlorophosphinylated anhydrobase 14.

Key words: N-Alkylpyridinium halides, N-(dichlorophosphinomethylene)pyridinium ylides, 1-alkyl-2-(dichlorophosphinomethylene)pyridinium anhydrobases, 1-alkyl-2(or 4)-{bis(dichlorophosphino)methylene}pyridinium anhydrobases, 1-alkyl-2(or 4)-{bis(dichlorophosphino)methylene}pyridinium anhydrobases, 1-alkyl-2(or 4)-{bis(dichlorophosphino)methylene}pyridinium anhydrobases, 1-alkyl-2-(or 4)-{bis(dichlorophosphino)methylene}pyridinium anhydrobases, 1-alkyl-2-(or 4)-{bis(dichlorophosphinomethylene}pyridinium anhydrobases, 1-alkyl-2-(or 4)-{bis(dichlorophosphinomethyl

INTRODUCTION

We have recently developed a facile synthesis of anullated azaphospholes from [4+1]cyclocondensation of 2-substituted cycloiminium salts with phosphorus tri-chloride in the presence of triethylamine. ¹⁻³ In connection with the synthesis of 2phosphaindolizines through this synthetic route, 4.5 two observations were made which were not completely understood at that time. Firstly, if the N-methylene group was not sufficiently activated, either the reaction stopped at the intermediate stage or only 1-dichlorophosphino substituted 2-phosphaindolizine could be generated. For example, 1-benzyl-2-methylpyridinium bromide formed an intermediate ($\delta^{31}P = 145$) which did not cyclize to give the corresponding 2-phosphaindolizine under the given reaction conditions,⁵ whereas 2-methyl-1-(4-nitrobenzyl)pyridinium bromide under these conditions gave a very poor yield (~5%) of 1-unsubstituted 2-phosphaindolizine,4 though the corresponding 1-dichlorophosphino-2-phosphaindolizine could be generated quantitatively.⁶ At that time, it was further suggested that 1-dichlorophosphino-2-phosphaindolizine was formed from the substitution of the initially formed 2-phosphaindolizines.4 Characterization of the isolated reaction intermediate as 1-(dichlorophosphinomethylene)pyridinium ylide in one case⁴ gave the impression that the reaction always initiated at the N-methylene group.

In view of the analogy of our 2-phosphaindolizine synthesis with Kröhnke's synthesis of indolizines, we have now investigated the reactions of differently substituted N-pyridinium salts with phosphorus trichloride in the presence of triethylamine to understand the role of the N-methylene group in determining the site of the initial attack of phosphorus trichloride. The results obtained clearly show that while cycli-

SCHEME 1

zation to 2-phosphaindolizine occurs only if the N-methylene group is sufficiently activated, the reaction may be initiated at either of the two terminal methylene groups depending on their relative activation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Reaction of 2-Unsubstituted 1-Alkylpyridinium Bromides

1-Alkylpyridinium bromides 1 (R = COOMe, COOEt, COPh) react with phosphorus trichloride (1 equiv.) in the presence of triethylamine (2 equiv.) at room temperature to give 1-(dichlorophosphinomethylene)pyridinium ylides 2 (Scheme 1).

1-Benzyl- and 1-(4-nitrobenzyl)pyridinium bromides do not show any reactivity under these conditions which indicates that in the above reaction, the pyridinium salt with an activated N-methylene group undergoes deprotonation in the presence of triethylamine to generate the N-pyridinium ylide which reacts with phosphorus trichloride to form 2. This is analogous to the alkylation of N-pyridinium ylides. Compounds 2a,b are isolated in a pure state as yellow crystalline solids. The 2c, however, could not be separated from the ammonium salt due to its insolubility in diethyl ether. A sample of 2c obtained directly from the filtrate of the reaction mixture (benzene) contains traces of the ammonium salt.

The structure of 2 has been confirmed on the basis of ^{31}P - and ^{1}H -NMR spectroscopy (Table I). The ^{31}P -NMR chemical shift at $\delta \sim 146$ agrees well with those reported for dichlorophosphino derivatives. $^{4.9}$ The ylidic nature of 2 is supported by the absence of any ^{1}H -NMR signal in the range $\delta 6-7$ characteristic for the proton on the ylidic carbon of N-pyridinium ylides. 10

1-(Dichlorophosphino, methoxycarbonylmethylene)pyridinium ylide 2a on refluxing in methylene chloride forms a dark orange solution ($\delta^{31}P = 182.8$) from which a highly insoluble solid separates out, the structure of which could not be determined.

Reaction of 1,2-Dialkylpyridinium Halides

1-Alkyl-2-methylpyridinium halides 3 (R = H, C_6H_5 , $C_6H_4NO_2-p$) react with phosphorus trichloride (2 equiv.) in presence of triethylamine (3 equiv.) in benzene at

TABLE I
Physical and spectral data of 2, 5, 11 and 14

	_				
Cpd.	R	mp. °C	Yield (%)	Mol. Form.	¹ H-NMR : δ ppm (J Hz) ^a
2a	СООМе	75-77	62	C ₈ H ₈ NO ₂ PCI ₂	3.44(s, 3H; OCH ₃), 6.16 (t, ³ J _{HH} = 7.5, 2H; 3-H, 5-H), 6.47 (t, ³ J _{HH} : 8.0, 1H; 4-H), 7.99 (d, ³ J _{HH} = 7.4, 2H; 2-H, €-H).
2b	COOEt	81-82	65	C ₉ H ₁₀ NO ₂ PCl ₂	0.88 (I, ${}^3J_{\rm HH}$ = 7.1, 3H; CH ₃), 3.97 (q, ${}^3J_{\rm HH}$ = 7.1, 2H; OCH ₂), 5.97 (I ${}^3J_{\rm HH}$ = 6.4, 2H; 3-H, 5-H), 6.19 (I, ${}^3J_{\rm HH}$ = 7.6, 1H; 4-H), 7.84 (d, ${}^3J_{\rm HH}$ = 5.9, 2H; 2-H, 6-H).
2 c	COPh	84-90 ^b	-	C ₁₃ H ₁₀ NOPCI ₂	7.63-7.39 (m, 3H; <i>m</i> -H, <i>p</i> -H), 7.94 (t, ${}^{3}J_{HH}$ = 7.5, 2H; 3-H, 5-H), 8.02 (t) ${}^{3}J_{HH}$ = 7.5, 2H; o-H), 8.39 (t, ${}^{3}J_{HH}$ = 8.0, 1H; 4-H), 9.38 (dd, ${}^{3}J_{HH}$ = 5.1, ${}^{4}J_{HH}$ = 1.5, 2H; 2-H, 6-H) ^b .
5a	н	116-19	58	C7H7NP2CI4	4.48 (s, 3H; CH ₃), 7.80 (t, ${}^3J_{HH}$ = 6.1, 1H; 5-H), 7.95 (d, ${}^3J_{HH}$ = 8.0 1H; 3-H), 8.89 (t, ${}^3J_{HH}$ = 7.0, 1H; 4-H), 8.73 (d, ${}^3J_{HH}$ = 6.4, 1H; 6-H).
S b	C ₈ H ₅	115-17	56	C ₁₃ H ₁₁ NP ₂ CI ₄	5.74 (s, 2H, CH ₂), 6.23 (t, ${}^3J_{\rm HH}$ = 7.4, 1H; 5-H), 6.95 (dd. ${}^3J_{\rm HH}$ = 7.3, ${}^4J_{\rm HH}$ = 2.0, 2H, ϕ -H), 7.01-7.12 (m, 3H; m -H, ϕ -H), 7.16 (t, ${}^3J_{\rm HH}$ = 7.8, 1H; 6-H), 7.21 (d, ${}^3J_{\rm HH}$ = 6.5, 1H; 3-H), 7.80 (d, ${}^3J_{\rm HH}$ = 7.8, 1H; 6-H)
fa .	н	104-10 ^b	_	C ₁₃ H ₁₂ NPCI ₂	4.60 (s, 3H; CH ₃), 7.41 (bs, 5H; C ₆ H ₅), 7.68 (t, ${}^3J_{\rm HH}$ = 7.0, 1H; 5-H), 7.99 (d, ${}^3J_{\rm HH}$ = 7.5, 1H; 3-H), 8.35 (t, ${}^3J_{\rm HH}$ = 7.5, 1H; 4-H), 9.64 (d, ${}^3J_{\rm HH}$ = 7.0, 1H; 6-H) ^b .
a	C ₆ H ₅	107-10	53	C ₁₃ H ₁₁ NP ₂ CI ₄	3.79 (s, 2H; CH ₂), 6.30 (d, ${}^{3}J_{\text{HH}}$ = 7.6, 2H; 3-H, 5-H), 6.34 (t, ${}^{3}J_{\text{HH}}$ = 8.0, 1H; ρ -H), 6.89 (t, ${}^{3}J_{\text{HH}}$ = 6.6, 2H; m -H), 6.90 (d, ${}^{3}J_{\text{HH}}$ = 7.0, 2H; ρ -H), 7.85 (d, ${}^{3}J_{\text{HH}}$ = 7.6, 2H; 2-H, 6-H).

a 2a-c, 11a and 14a in C_6D_6 ; 5a in CD_2CI_2 ; 5b in $C_6D_6 + CD_2CI_2$

room temperature to give 1-alkyl-2-{bis(dichlorophosphino)methylene}-1,2-dihydropyridines 5 (Scheme 2).

Compounds **5a,b** are orange amorphous solids, highly sensitive to moisture and are soluble in common organic solvents. Its characterization as the bis dichlorophosphino derivative is supported by elemental analysis and NMR-spectroscopy (Table I). The 31 P-NMR signal at $\delta \sim 145$ does not split under the proton coupled mode showing the absence of any proton on 2-methylene carbon. In the 13 C-NMR spectrum (Table II) of **5b**, the signal of 2-methylene carbon appears as a triplet at $\delta 88.4$ ($^{1}J_{PC} = 77.8$ Hz) indicating the presence of two dichlorophosphino moieties on this carbon. The C-2 also gives a triplet at $\delta 157.5$ ($^{2}J_{PC} = 14.2$ Hz).

These results indicate that if the N-methylene group is not activated, deprotonation of the 2-methylene group is preferred as the resulting anhydrobase is stabilized by

b of impure sample containing traces of the ammonium salt

TABLE II $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ data of 5b (C_6D_6 + CD_2Cl_2) δ (ppm), J(Hz)

SCHEME 2

	C THIRT date of DD (CGD)	CD2C12/5(PP111/), 5 (-	,
C-2	157.5	C-i	134.1
2 _{JPC}	14.2	² J _{CH}	4.7
² J _{CH}	5.7	C-o	130.0
C-3	142.4	¹ J _{CH}	152 .6
$^{3}J_{PC}$	5.7	² J _{CH}	8.1
1 _{Jch}	169.7	C-m	130.6
² J _{CH}	7.1	¹ <i>J</i> cн	158.7
C-4	135.6	² J _{CH}	10.4;4.7
J _{PC}	2.9	C-p	130.1
1 _{JcH}	176.8	¹ <i>J</i> _{CH}	161.1
² J _{CH}	7.1	² J _{CH}	7.9
		_P	
C-5	123.9	2- <u>C</u>	88.4
1,	470.4	` P	
¹ J _{CH}	173.4	1 _{JPC}	77.8
² J _{CH}	7.5;2.9	N-CH₂	61.3
C-6	139.2	¹ Јсн	150.5
¹ J _{CH}	170.0		

SCHEME 3

resonance.⁸ The initially formed monodichlorophosphino derivative 4 could not be isolated even on using one equivalent of phosphorus trichloride under controlled conditions. This shows that the methine proton of 4 is highly activated and undergoes instantaneous substitution by phosphorus trichloride. In the case of 3a, a ³¹P-NMR signal at δ 173.1 of very low intensity which splits into a doublet ($^2J_{PH} = 7.0 \text{ Hz}$)¹¹ under 1H -coupled ^{31}P -NMR mode indicates the initial formation of the monodichlorophosphino derivative 4a.

The polarity of the solvent influences the progress of the above reactions. While in benzene, the reaction stops at stage 5, in acetonitrile the initially formed bis(dichlorophosphino)methylene derivative 5 undergoes intramolecular cyclocondensation if $R = C_6H_5$ or $C_6H_4NO_2$ -p to form species 6 and finally 1-dichlorophosphino-2-phosphaindolizine 7 (Scheme 3). The formation of species 6 is revealed by ³¹P-NMR spectrum of the reaction mixture in which two doublets ($R = C_6H_5$, $\delta P_A = 39.5$, $\delta P_B = 170.0$, $^2J_{PP} = 166.7$ Hz; $R = C_6H_4NO_2$ -p, $\delta P_A = 29.4$, $\delta P_B = 142.0$, $^2J_{PP} = 88.9$ Hz) corresponding to a characteristic AB spin system are observed. The reason for a large difference in $^2J_{PP}$ coupling constants in the above two cases is not understandable, although we have made a similar observation in the case of 1-dichlorophosphino-2-phosphaindolizines. Furthermore, several cases of such large differences in $^2J_{PP}$ coupling constants in differently substituted β -phosphino-1-phosphaethenes have been reported earlier. This type of cyclization is not observed if R = H (5a).

Furthermore, in the case where $R = C_6H_5$, the initially formed 7b undergoes disproportionation to form 9b (Scheme 4) as revealed by A_2B spin system in the ³¹P-NMR spectrum. A highly downfield chemical shift of P_A in 9b ($\delta^{31}P = 310.5$, $^2J_{PP} = 30.6$ Hz) indicates the presence of cationic charge on the ring system. ¹⁴ The ionic nature of 9b is also supported by its insolubility in diethyl ether due to which it could not be separated from the ammonium salt.

A reinvestigation of the synthesis of 1,3-diphenyl-2-phosphaindolizine from the

TABLE III

31P-NMR data of 2, 4-7, 9, 11, 12 and 14

			2	
Cpd.	δP_{A}	δP_{B}	² J _{pp} (Hz)	Solvent
2a	145.4			C ₆ D ₆
2b	145.9			C ₆ D ₆
2c	146.2			C ₆ D ₆
4a	173.1			C ₆ H ₆
5a	144.7			CD ₂ Cl ₂
5b	145.5			C ₆ D ₆ +CD ₂ Cl ₂
5c	146.3			CH₃CN
6b	39.5	170.0	166.7	CH ₃ CN
6c	29.4	142.0	88.9	CH ₃ CN
7b	136.0	165.0	133.9	CH ₃ CN
7c	142.4	164.3	130.0	CH ₃ CN
9b	310.5	293.0	30.6	CH ₃ CN
11a	169.3			C ₆ D ₆
11b	168.3			C ₆ H ₆
12b	120.9			CH ₃ CN
14a	152.1			C_6D_6
14b	153.7			C ₆ H ₆
14b'	145.4			C ₆ H ₆

cyclocondensation of 1,2-dibenzylpyridinium bromide with phosphorus trichloride⁵ indicates that in this case also the reaction is initiated at the 2-methylene group. The reaction of 2-benzyl-1-methylpyridinium iodide **10a** with phosphorus trichloride in the presence of triethylamine in benzene, gives **11a** which does not cyclize on heating or carrying out the reaction in acetonitrile (Scheme 5). The structure of **11a** has been confirmed on the basis of ³¹P- and ¹H-NMR spectra (Table I). Likewise, 1,2-dibenzylpyridinium bromide forms **11b** in benzene ($\delta^{31}P = 168.3$) which does not cyclize to 2-phosphaindolizine under these conditions. However, if the reaction is carried out in acetonitrile the initially formed **11b** finally changes into 2-phosphaindolizine **12b** ($\delta^{31}P = 120.9$).⁵

Reaction of 1,4-Dialkyl- and 1,2,4-Trialkylpyridinium Halides

1-Benzyl-4-methylpyridinium bromide 13a reacts with phosphorus trichloride (2 equiv.) in presence of triethylamine (3 equiv.) to give 1-benzyl-4-{bis(dichloro-

SCHEME 5

SCHEME 6

phosphino)methylene}-1,4-dihydropyridine **14a** (Scheme 6). As in the case of **3**, the reaction does not stop at the stage of monodichlorophosphinylation. In the case of 1-benzyl-2,4-dimethylpyridinium bromide **13b**, dichlorophosphinylation occurs at either of the two methyl groups forming a mixture of two products **14b** and **14b**' (Scheme 6) as indicated by ³¹P-NMR signals at δ 153.7 and δ 145.4. Although **14a** has been obtained as a yellow crystalline solid (Table I), **14b** and **14b**' could not be separated in the pure form. It may be mentioned that formation of 2- and 4-{bis(dichlorophosphino)methylene} derivatives **5** and **14** parallels bisbenzoylation in the reaction of 1,2- and 1,4-dialkylpyridinium halides with benzoic anhydride.⁷

EXPERIMENTAL

All manipulations involving phosphorus compounds were carried out under dry nitrogen. Solvents and commercial reagents were distilled and dried by standard procedures before use. Melting points were determined by capillary method and are uncorrected. NMR spectra were recorded on a Jeol FX-90Q (¹H and ³¹P) and Jeol EX-400 (¹³C) spectrometer. Chemical shifts are given with respect to 85% H₃PO₄ (³¹P) as external and TMS (¹H and ¹³C) as internal standards.

N-Alkylpyridinium halides (1, 3, 10, 13). General Procedure¹⁰: To a solution of alkyl halide (0.1 mol) in tetrahydrofuran or diethyl ether (50 ml) an equimolar amount of pyridine or alkylpyridine was added and reaction mixture was stirred for 24-48 hrs at r.t. (~25°C). The precipitated solid was filtered, washed with diethyl ether (30 ml) and dried in vacuo. The salts obtained in 70-90% yield were used without further purification.

I-(Dichlorophosphinomethylene)pyridinium ylides (2). General Procedure: To a well stirred suspension of 1-alkylpyridinium bromide 1 (10 mmol) in benzene (40 ml) at r.t. was added triethylamine (2.02 g, 20 mmol) followed by the addition of a solution of phosphorus trichloride (1.37 g, 10 mmol) in benzene (10 ml). The reaction was completed in 4-6 hrs as revealed by 31 P-NMR. The solvent was thereafter removed in vacuo and the residue was extracted with diethyl ether (2 \times 50 ml). The combined extracts were concentrated to about 25 ml and left in the refrigerator overnight when yellow to red crystals deposited which were filtered and dried in vacuo. The 2c however could not be obtained in pure form due to its poor solubility in diethyl ether. A sample directly obtained from the benzene filtrate by removal of the solvent was found to contain traces of the ammonium salt.

```
2a (% Found C 38.52; H 3.45; N 5.32. Calc. for C_8H_8NO_2PCl_2: C 38.12; H 3.20; N 5.56%). 2b (% Found C 40.98; H 3.99; N 5.03. Calc. for C_9H_{10}NO_2PCl_2: C 40.63; H 3.79; N 5.26%).
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1-Alkyl-2-{bis(dichlorophosphino)methylene}-1,2-dihydropyridines (5) and 1-Alkyl-4-{bis-(dichlorophosphino)methylene}-1,4-dihydropyridine (14). General Procedure: The above procedure was followed using 1,2- or 1,4-dialkylpyridinium halide (10 mmol), triethylamine (3.03 g, 30 mmol) and phosphorus trichloride (2.74 g, 20 mmol). The reaction mixture was directly filtered and on removing the solvent from the filtrate under vacuum an amorphous orange solid was obtained.

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5b (% Found: C 41.08; H 2.93; N 3.59. Calc. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>PCl<sub>4</sub>: C 40.55; H 2.88; N 3.64%).
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I-Alkyl-2-(dichlorophosphino, phenylmethylene)-1,2-dihydropyridine (11). General Procedure: The above procedure was followed using 1-alkyl-2-benzylpyridinium halide (10 mmol), triethylamine (2.02 g, 20 mmol) and phosphorus trichloride (1.37 g, 10 mmol). The sample (11a) obtained from removing the solvent from benzene filtrate contained traces of the ammonium salt.

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