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Synthesis and Biological Activity of Aminomethanephosphonic Acids and Derivatives

GERHARD HÄGELE

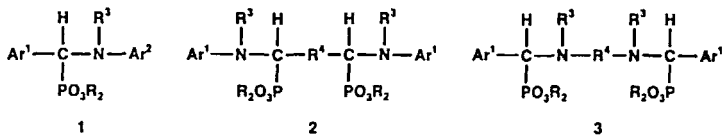
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Synthetic routes to α -aminomethanephosphonic acids and related structures are described. Particular attention is drawn towards aryl and fluoroaryl substituted α -aminomethanephosphonic and corresponding phosphinic acid alkylesters. Some comments on structural aspects and on biological activities are given.

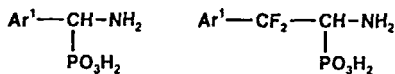
Keywords: NMR; spectral analysis; simulation; PC programs

INTRODUCTION

A broad variety of aminophosphonic acids has attracted widespread attention in chemistry, medicine and agricultural sciences as analogues of natural aminoacids. This lecture describes synthetic routes to α -aminomethanephosphonic acids, corresponding esters and N-acylated compounds and emphasize structural types shown in **1** to **3**^[1]:



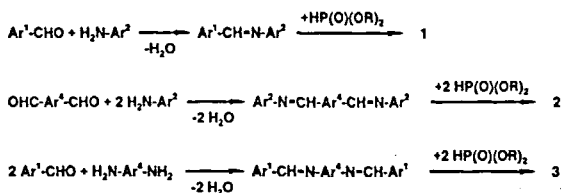
representing alkylesters of N- and C-arylsubstituted mono- and bisphosphonic acids (Ar^1, Ar^2 : phenyl, naphthyl, anthranyl, benzpyrlyl, pyridyl; R^3 : H, CH_3CO ; R^4 : C_6H_4 , $\text{C}_5\text{H}_3\text{N}$, C_2H_4 ; R: H, alkyl). Monophosphonic acids are described with **4**^[1] and **5**^[2]:



The biological activity of such compounds is enhanced^[3] by introducing fluorine or fluorinated substituents into aliphatic, aromatic or heterocyclic substituents (C_6H_4F , C_5H_3NF , trifluoromethyl- and trifluoromethoxybenzene derivatives $C_6H_4CF_3$, $C_6H_4OCF_3$). Replacing^[4] phosphonate units $P(O)(OR)_2$ by analogous phosphinate structures like $P(O)(R^5)OR$ leads to a further increase of biological activity^[3] e.g. in compounds like **6** to **8** shown below. Stereochemical aspects of compounds having one to four chiral centers situated at C- and P-atoms are discussed. Structures are identified by NMR^[3,4], X-ray-diffraction^[6] and molecular modeling^[7].

Example 1

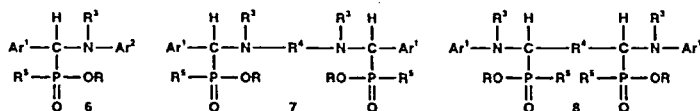
A useful practical route to compounds **1** - **3** involves two steps, the formation of (fluorinated) Schiff bases followed by addition of dialkylphosphite leading to **1** - **3** ($R^3 = H$):



Reaction conditions and catalysts required depend on the nature of substituents. In some cases diastereomeric induction is observed for the formation of **2** and **3**. Compounds **1** to **3** were tested^[3,5] as inhibitors for the mitochondrial NADH-dehydrogenase (Complex I). Molecular modeling studies for $C_6H_5-NH-CH(p-C_6H_4OCF_3)P(O)(OEt)_2$ were carried out to get some insight into the activity observed.

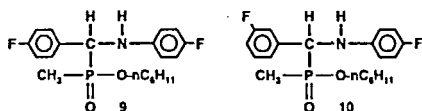
Example 2

Replacing the dialkylphosphite $HP(O)(OR)_2$ by alkylphosphonite $HP(O)(R^4)OR$ leads to corresponding phosphinicacid esters **6** to **8** ($R^3: H$; R^5 : alkyl):



having either two or four chiral centers situated in C and P atoms resp..

Strongest inhibitor properties for the mitochondrial NADH-dehydrogenase (Complex I) were found ^[4,5] for the bis-p-fluorophenyl substituted aminomethane-P-methyl-phosphonicacid n-hexylester **9**:



Interactions of aminophosphonates and aminophosphinates with enzymes cyclooxygenase (COX-1) and 5-lipoxygenase (5-LO) of the arachidonic acid cascade which are involved in the biogenesis of prostaglandins and leukotrienes resp. were studied. Strongest inhibitory activity against COX-1 showed **9** while **10** was superior against 5-LO.

Acknowledgments

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