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Synthesis of Dichloromethylphosphonates

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Efficient synthesis of O,O-dialkyl, O-alkyl-N,N-dialkylamido and N,N,N',N'-tetraalkyldiamido dichloromethylphosphonates via treatment of O,O-dialkyl, O-alkyl-N,N-dialkylamido, and N,N,N',N'-tetraalkyldiamido trichloromethylphosphonates with diethyl phosphite in the presence of triethylamine in ethanol has been described.

Keywords Dichloromethylphosphonates

INTRODUCTION

The chemistry of *O,O*-dialkyl, *O*-alkyl-*N,N*-dialkylamido, and *N,N,N',N'*-tetraalkyldiamido dihalogenomethylphosphonates has been extensively investigated 30 years ago^{1,2,3a} and later.^{3b,c} These phosphonates have found wide application as starting materials for the synthesis of functionalized 1-halogenomethylphosphonates,^{1–3} 1,1-dihalogenoalkenes,² and 1,2-epoxyalkanephosphonates.¹ 1,1-Dihalogenophosphonates can be also readily transformed into the corresponding carbanions, which are the goal of carbon–carbon bond forming strategy.²

Three general methods have been commonly used for the preparation of *O,O*-dialkyl and *N,N,N',N'*-tetraalkyldiamido dichloromethylphosphonates **2**.

The Normant's pioneering approach is based on the dechlorination of 1,1,1-trichloromethylphosphonates **1** with *n*-butyllithium/hexamethylphosphoramide and subsequent quenching of the resulting dichloromethylphosphonate anion **5** with water or ethanol

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Dedicated to Professor Marian Mikołajczyk from the CBMiM PAN in Łódź, Poland, on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

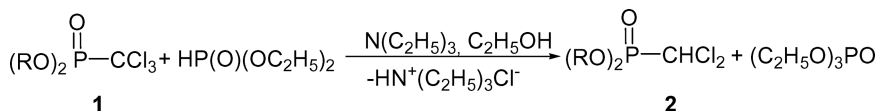
Address correspondence to Piotr Majewski, Technical University of Łódź, Institute of Organic Chemistry, Żeromskiego 116, 90-924 Łódź, Poland. E-mail: biotr.majewski@p.lodz.pl



The third method involves the standard preparation of the phosphorus trichloride/aluminum chloride/chloroform complex **6** and its decomposition with the selected alcohol or secondary amine, respectively (Scheme 2).⁶



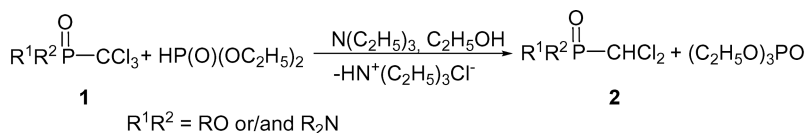
In this article, we describe an efficient and general procedure for the preparation of *O,O*-dialkyl, *O*-alkyl-*N,N*-dialkylamido, and *N,N,N',N'*-tetraalkyldiamido dichloromethyl-phosphonates using mild reaction conditions and readily available starting materials.



SCHEME 3

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

From the synthesis of *O,O*-dialkyl dichloromethylphosphonates, using diethyl phosphite, triethyl amine, and stoichiometric amounts of ethanol, we assumed that this method can be successfully used for the synthesis of *O*-ethyl-*N,N*-dialkylamido and *N,N,N',N'*-tetraalkyldiamido dichloromethylphosphonates **2** according to Scheme 4.



1,2	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i
R ¹	C ₂ H ₅ O	<i>n</i> -C ₃ H ₇ O	<i>i</i> -C ₃ H ₇ O	<i>n</i> -C ₄ H ₉ O	CH ₃ O	C ₂ H ₅ O	C ₂ H ₅ O	(C ₂ H ₅) ₂ N	(<i>n</i> -C ₃ H ₇) ₂ N
R ²	C ₂ H ₅ O	<i>n</i> -C ₃ H ₇ O	<i>i</i> -C ₃ H ₇ O	<i>n</i> -C ₄ H ₉ O	CH ₃ O	(CH ₃) ₂ N	(C ₂ H ₅) ₂ N	(C ₂ H ₅) ₂ N	(<i>n</i> -C ₃ H ₇) ₂ N

SCHEME 4

When *O*-alkyl-*N,N*-dialkylamido and *N,N,N',N'*-tetraalkyldiamido trichloromethyl-phosphonates **1f-i** were treated with dialkyl phosphite in the presence of triethylamine and stoichiometric amounts of ethanol in a neutral solvent, the corresponding dichloromethyl-phosphonates were produced in rather low yield. However, when similar reactions were carried out in ethanol at ambient temperature, the yields of the *O*-alkyl-*N,N*-dialkylamido and *N,N,N',N'*-tetraalkyldiamido dichloromethylphosphonates **2f-i** were high to excellent.

The transformation of *O,O*-dialkyl trichloromethylphosphonates into *O,O*-dialkyl dichloromethylphosphonates **2a-d** was also very effective following the same protocol. The dechlorination reaction was readily monitored by ³¹P NMR. The reaction products were isolated by distillation under reduced pressure. The structures of the new compounds were confirmed by IR and NMR spectroscopy. All of them have IR (film) absorption band characteristic for a P=O moiety: broad band at 1280 cm⁻¹. Their ¹H NMR spectra (CDCl₃) showed characteristic doublets at δ = 5.65–5.75 ppm (²J_{PH} = 1 Hz) for the methine proton of CHCl₂ moiety (see the Experimental section).

O,O-dialkyl, *O*-alkyl-*N,N*-dialkylamido, and *N,N,N',N'*-tetraalkyldiamido dichloro-methylphosphonates (**2a–d**, **f–i**, and **1f**) gave satisfactory elemental analyses ($C \pm 0,3\%$, $H \pm 0,2\%$). Yields and physical constants are presented in Table I.

As shown in Table I, *O,O*-dimethyl dichloromethylphosphonate (**2e**) could not be obtained by the present method, probably due to the extensive dealkylation of the substrate **1e** as well as of the potential product **2e**. In all other cases, no traces of the dealkylation reaction of the substrates and the products were observed.

CONCLUSION

Here we have reported a general synthetic procedure providing *O,O*-dialkyl, *O*-alkyl-*N,N*-dialkylamido, and *N,N,N',N'*-tetraalkyldiamido dichloromethylphosphonates under mild conditions in high to excellent yields.

EXPERIMENTAL

Organic solvents and reagents were purified by commonly used procedures.¹⁹ IR spectra were recorded with a Specord M-80 spectrophotometer. ^1H NMR (250 MHz) and $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz) spectra were recorded with a Bruker DPX-250 spectrometer with TMS as an internal standard for ^1H and 85% H_3PO_4 as an external standard for ^{31}P . ^{31}P NMR spectra were recorded using broadband proton decoupling. All chemical shifts (δ) are reported in ppm. In the case of ^1H , the residual solvent peak was used as the internal standard (CHCl_3 at 7.26 ppm). Coupling constants (J) are reported in Hz. *O,O*-Dialkyl trichloromethyl-phosphonates have been prepared according to literature procedures.^{11,15–17}

Physical and analytical data of the phosphonates **2** are presented in Table I.

Reaction of *O,O*-Dialkyl-, *O*-Alkyl-*N,N*-dialkylamido-, *N,N,N',N'*-Tetraalkylamido-1,1,1-trichloromethylphosphonates **1a–i** with Diethylphosphite: General Procedure

To a solution of the dialkyl 1,1,1-trichloromethylphosphonate **1** (0.1 mol) and triethylamine (12.1 g, 0.12 mol) in ethanol (50 mL), diethyl phosphite (16.5 g, 0.12 mol) was added dropwise at 20°C. The mixture was kept at room temperature, and the progress of the reaction was monitored by ^{31}P NMR spectroscopy. After six days, or longer if

TABLE I Synthesis of *O,O*-Dialkyl, *O*-Alkyl-*N,N*-dialkylamido, and *N,N,N',N'*-Tetraalkylamido Dichloromethylphosphonates **2a-d**, **f-i** via the Reaction of 1,1,1-Trichloromethylphosphonates **1a-i** with Diethyl Phosphite in the Presence of Triethylamine in Ethanol at Room Temperature

Substrate ^a	R ¹	R ²	Products, Yield (%) ^b	B.p. [°C]/Torr (Mp) [°C]	³¹ P NMR δ (ppm)	Lit. or or Molecular Formula (Mol. Weight)
1a	C ₂ H ₅ O	C ₃ H ₅ O	2a (84)	80–82/0.5 120/12 ^{6a}	9.8	[6a,14]
1b	<i>n</i> -C ₃ H ₇ O	<i>n</i> -C ₃ H ₇ O	2b (81)	100–101/0.8	10.0	C ₇ H ₁₅ Cl ₂ O ₃ P (249.07)
1c	<i>i</i> -C ₃ H ₇ O	<i>i</i> -C ₃ H ₇ O	2c (82)	82–84/0.3 72/1 ¹⁸	8.0	[4,18]
1d	<i>n</i> -C ₄ H ₉ O	<i>n</i> -C ₄ H ₉ O	2d (79)	110–112/0.7 110/66 Pa ¹⁴	9.5	[14]
1e	CH ₃ O	CH ₃ O	2e (0) ^c			
1f	C ₂ H ₅ O	(CH ₃) ₂ N	2f (72)	92–93/0.5	17.0	C ₅ H ₁₂ Cl ₂ NO ₂ P (220.03)
1g	C ₂ H ₅ O	(C ₂ H ₅) ₂ N	2g (62)	100/0.6	18.2	C ₇ H ₁₆ Cl ₂ NO ₂ P (248.09)
1h	(C ₂ H ₅) ₂ N	(C ₂ H ₅) ₂ N	2h (58)	115/0.6 157–160/8 ¹¹	24.8 24.4 ¹¹	[11]
1i	(C ₃ H ₇) ₂ N	(C ₃ H ₇) ₂ N	2i (64)	(107–108) petroleum ether (107–109) ⁷	23.2 23.7 ⁷	[7]

^aMolar ratio (RO)₂P(O)CCl₃, HP(O)(OC₂H₅)₂, N(C₂H₅)₃ 1:1:2:1:2 was used.

^bYields refer to isolated products.

^cCompound **2e** cannot be obtained due to extensive dealkylation.

necessary, the solvent from the reaction mixture was evaporated under reduced pressure, and the residue was diluted with chloroform (100 mL). The solution was washed with water (2×50 mL), dried over sodium sulfate, and the solvent was removed in vacuo. The residue was purified by distillation under reduced pressure after separating triethylphosphate at $60^\circ\text{C}/0.8$ mm Hg.

***O,O*-Di-*n*-propyl-1,1-dichloromethylphosphonate (2b)**

20.5 g (81%); b.p. $100\text{--}101^\circ\text{C}/0.8$ mm Hg. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): $\delta = 1.0$ (t, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7$ Hz, 6H), 1.75 (sextet, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7$ Hz, 4H), 4.20 (m, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7$, $^3J_{\text{PH}} = 7$ Hz, 4H), 5.70 (d, $^2J_{\text{PH}} = 1$ Hz, 1H). $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CDCl_3): $\delta = 10.0$. IR (CCl_4): $\nu(\text{P}=\text{O})$ 1280 cm^{-1} .

***O*-Ethyl-*N,N*-dimethyl-1,1-dichloromethylphosphonate (2f)**

15.8 g (72%); b.p. $92\text{--}93^\circ\text{C}/0.5$ mm Hg. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): $\delta = 1.35$ (t, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7$ Hz, 3H), 2.78 (d, $^3J_{\text{PH}} = 8.7$ Hz, 6H), 4.25 (m, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7$, $^3J_{\text{PH}} = 7$ Hz, 2H), 5.75 (d, $^2J_{\text{PH}} = 1$ Hz, 1H). $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CDCl_3): $\delta = 17.0$. Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_5\text{H}_{12}\text{Cl}_2\text{NOP}$: C 27.29, H 5.49. Found: C 27.10, H 5.30%.

***O*-Ethyl-*N,N*-diethyl-1,1-dichloromethylphosphonate (2g)**

1.2 g (62%); b.p. $100^\circ\text{C}/0.6$ mm Hg. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): $\delta = 1.10$ (t, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7$ Hz, 6H), 1.28 (t, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7$ Hz, 3H), 3.05 (m, 4H), 3.96 (q, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7$, $^3J_{\text{PH}} = 7$ Hz, 2H), 5.65 (d, $^2J_{\text{PH}} = 1$ Hz, 1H). $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CDCl_3): 18.2. Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_7\text{H}_{16}\text{Cl}_2\text{NO}_2\text{P}$: C 33.89, H 6.50. Found C 33.62, H 6.32%.

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