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AN INVESTIGATION OF THE REACTION PRODUCTS OF $N_3P_3Cl_4(NH_2)_2$ WITH NUCLEOPHILIC REAGENTS. EXAMPLES OF GEMINAL \rightarrow NON-GEMINAL REARRANGEMENTS

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AN INVESTIGATION OF THE REACTION PRODUCTS OF $N_3P_3Cl_4(NH_2)_2$ WITH NUCLEOPHILIC REAGENTS. EXAMPLES OF GEMINAL \rightarrow NON-GEMINAL REARRANGEMENTS

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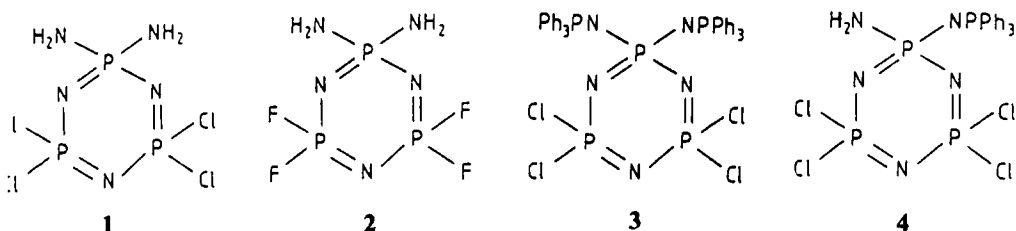
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Based on its reactions with various nucleophiles both geminal and non-geminal structures have been earlier proposed for $N_3P_3Cl_4(NH_2)_2$, although its geminal structure is now considered established. The reactions of this compound with alcohols have been investigated and the products examined by NMR spectroscopy and X-ray crystallography. Evidence for both unrearranged as well as geminal \rightarrow non-geminal rearranged alcoholysis products is presented.

STRUCTURE OF DIAMINOTETRACHLOROCYCLOTRIPHOSPHAZATRIENE, $N_3P_3Cl_4(NH_2)_2$

Although no crystal structure is to date available for $N_3P_3Cl_4(NH_2)_2$ (**1**), much discussion has appeared earlier¹⁻⁸ as to whether its structure is geminal or non-geminal. Little doubt now exists about its geminal nature.

Three derivatives, $N_3P_3(NH_2)_2F_4$,⁹ (**2**), $N_3P_3(NPPh_3)_2Cl_4$,¹⁰ (**3**), and $N_3P_3(NH_2)(NPPh_3)Cl_4$,¹¹ (**4**) have been investigated by X-ray crystallography and were shown to have a geminal disposition of the two nitrogeneous substituents.



The same geminal structure is deduced by ³¹P NMR spectroscopy for compound (**1**).^{5,6,12} Proton coupling is not apparent at room temperature (Figure 1a). At lower temperatures the B part of the A₂B ³¹P spectrum in acetone at δ_B = 8.00 ppm

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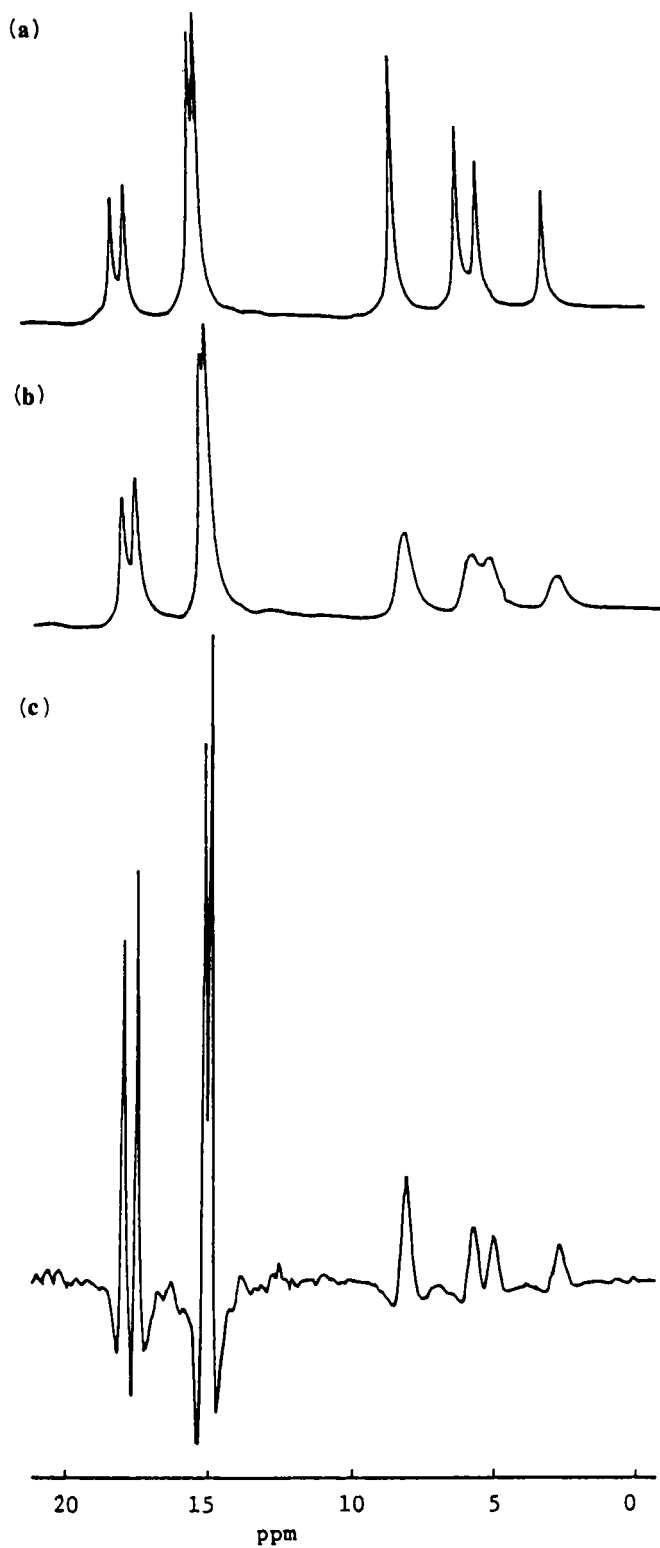


FIGURE 1 The ^{31}P NMR low temperature spectra proton coupled and proton decoupled of compound (1).

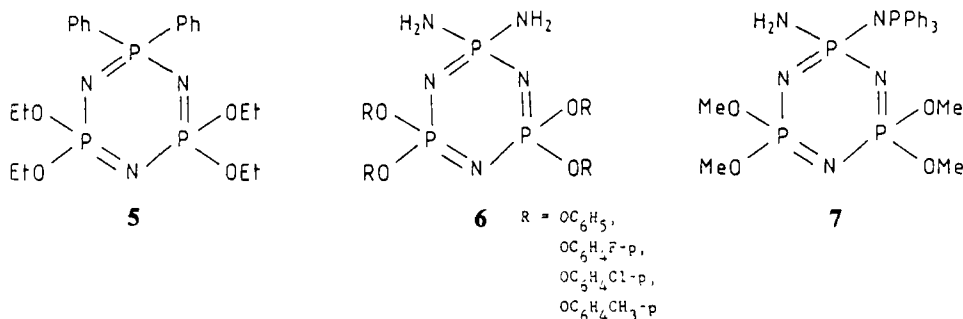
broadens approximately four times in width compared to approximately only one and a quarter times broadening for the A part at $\delta_A = 15.9$ ppm (Figure 1b), resolution enhanced (Figure 1c).

ALCOHOLYSIS REACTIONS

Hexa-alkoxy and hexa-aryloxycyclotriphosphazatrienes have been prepared by the reactions of the appropriate chlorophosphazene either with alkoxide, aryloxide ion, or with an alcohol in the presence of a hydrogen chloride acceptor.¹³⁻¹⁵

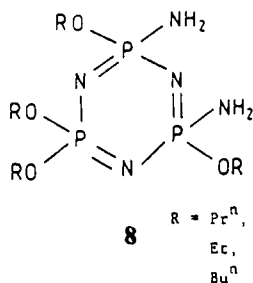
The mixed derivatives [N₃P₃(OR)_nX_{6-n}, alkoxychloro-,¹⁵⁻¹⁷ aryloxychloro-,¹⁸ alkoxydimethylamino-,¹⁹ aryloxydimethylamino-,²⁰ aryloxydiamino-,^{4,12} alkoxydiphenyl-²¹ and alkoxyaminophosphazeny]-²² derivatives] have been prepared using the appropriate alkoxide or aryloxide ion.

The geminal derivatives N₃P₃Cl₄X₂[X₂ = Ph₂,²¹ (NH₂)₂,^{4,12} (NH₂)(NPPh₃)²²] have been reported to yield fully alcoholised geminal derivatives (5), (6) and (7), the structures being deduced by ³¹P NMR spectroscopy. We now report that the alcoholysis of N₃P₃Cl₄(NH₂)₂ (1) with sodium alkoxides in alcohols yields not only unrearranged, but also rearranged alcoholysis products involving a geminal P(NH₂)₂ grouping rearranging to two non-geminal P(NH₂)(OR) groupings.⁸



The first reaction to be investigated by us was that of compound (1) with sodium *n*-propoxide in *n*-propanol.

The ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃) is very complex, showing the presence of two environments. The OCH₂ signals with ³¹P heteronuclear decoupling of compound (8), N₃P₃(NH₂)₂(OR)₄ where R = Prⁿ is shown in Figure 2. An initial spectrum



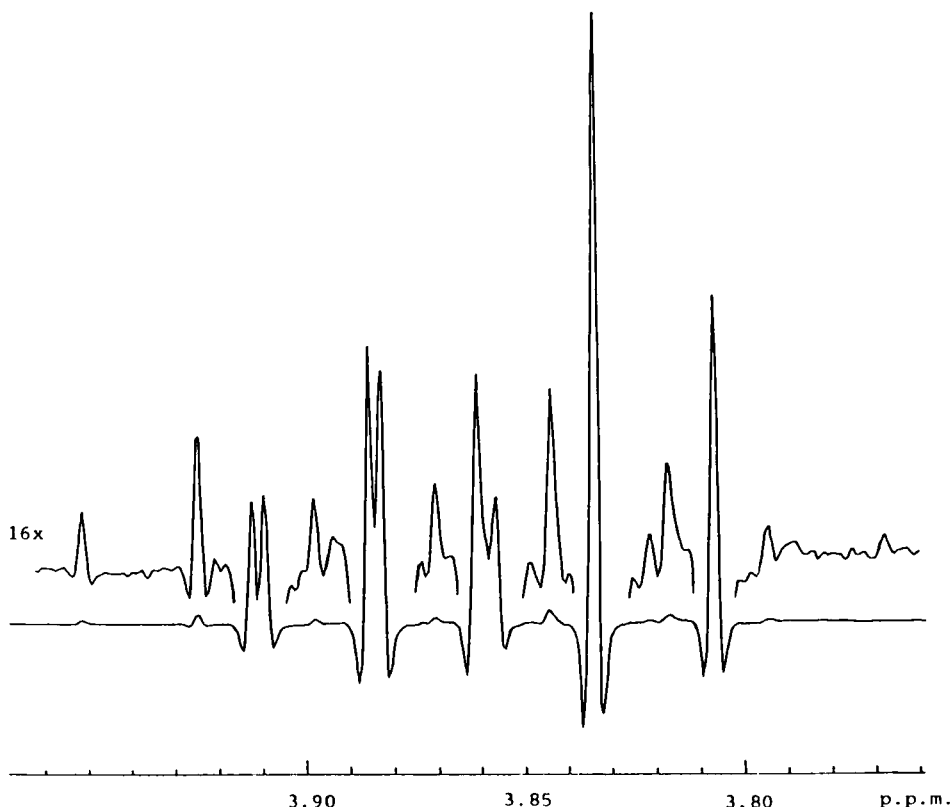


FIGURE 2 The $^1\text{H}\{^{31}\text{P}\}$ NMR spectrum of compound (9) showing the OCH_2 region.

suggested *three environments* (and hence a *cis* structure), but following the X-ray crystallographic structure determination (see below), a longer accumulation time showed low intensity peaks (Figure 2), indicating that the apparent two low-field environments of the OCH_2 groups of the *n*-propoxy groups are the central two lines of an AB quartet, due to intrinsic asymmetry of the OCH_2 protons. Both *n*-propoxy environments $[\text{P}(\text{OPr}^n)_2]$ and $[\text{P}(\text{OPr}^n)(\text{NH}_2)]$ have this intrinsic asymmetry, but only the one of the former has been observed.

The structure of compound (8), $\text{N}_3\text{P}_3(\text{NH}_2)_2(\text{OR})_4$ where $\text{R} = \text{Pr}^n$ is shown in Figure 3.⁸

Similar NMR data were obtained for ethoxy and *n*-butoxy derivatives indicating that here too *trans* non-geminal structures are the major products. The $\text{O} \rightarrow \text{N}$ alkyl group migration in alkoxyphosphazenes to yield oxophosphazanes is well established,²³⁻³⁰ as are the *cis* \rightleftharpoons *trans* rearrangements in non-geminal aminochlorocyclotriphosphazatrienes.³¹⁻³⁵

The compounds of type (8) are the first recorded examples in phosphazene chemistry in which a geminal $\text{P}(\text{NH}_2)_2$ group rearranges to give two *trans* non-geminal groupings $\text{P}(\text{NH}_2)(\text{OR})$.

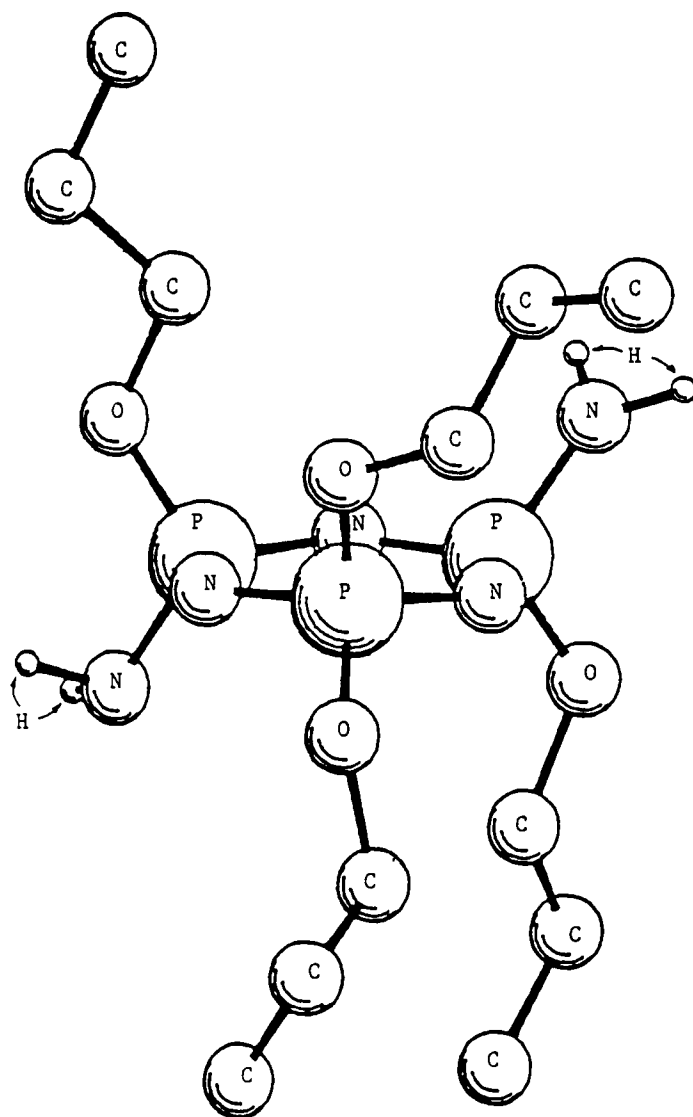


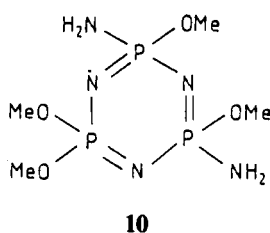
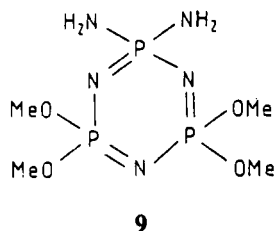
FIGURE 3 The X-ray structure of compound (8), R = Prⁿ.

TABLE I

³¹P NMR Chemical Shifts for N₃P₃(OR)₄(NH₂)₂ (9)

Compound	P(NH ₂)(OR) ppm	P(OR) ₂ ppm	² J(P, P) Hz
R = Et	21.3	16.3	66.7
R = Pr ⁿ	21.4	16.5	66.4
R = Bu ^t	21.5	16.5	66.4
N ₃ P ₃ (OEt) ₆	—	14.3	—

Treatment of compound (1) with an excess of sodium methoxide gives diamino-tetramethoxide derivatives (9) and (10), $N_3P_3(NH_2)_2(OMe)_4$. We have as yet not observed the *trans* non-geminal derivative, but have obtained crystals which contain two different molecules in a 1 : 1 ratio, one being the *cis* non-geminal derivative and the other being the unrearranged geminal derivatives.



Its ^{31}P NMR spectrum ($CDCl_3$) is of an A_2B type at room temperature, $\delta_A = 17.9$, $\delta_B = 21.9$ ppm. At lower temperatures in acetone at $-83^\circ C$ two A_2B patterns are observed (Figure 4).

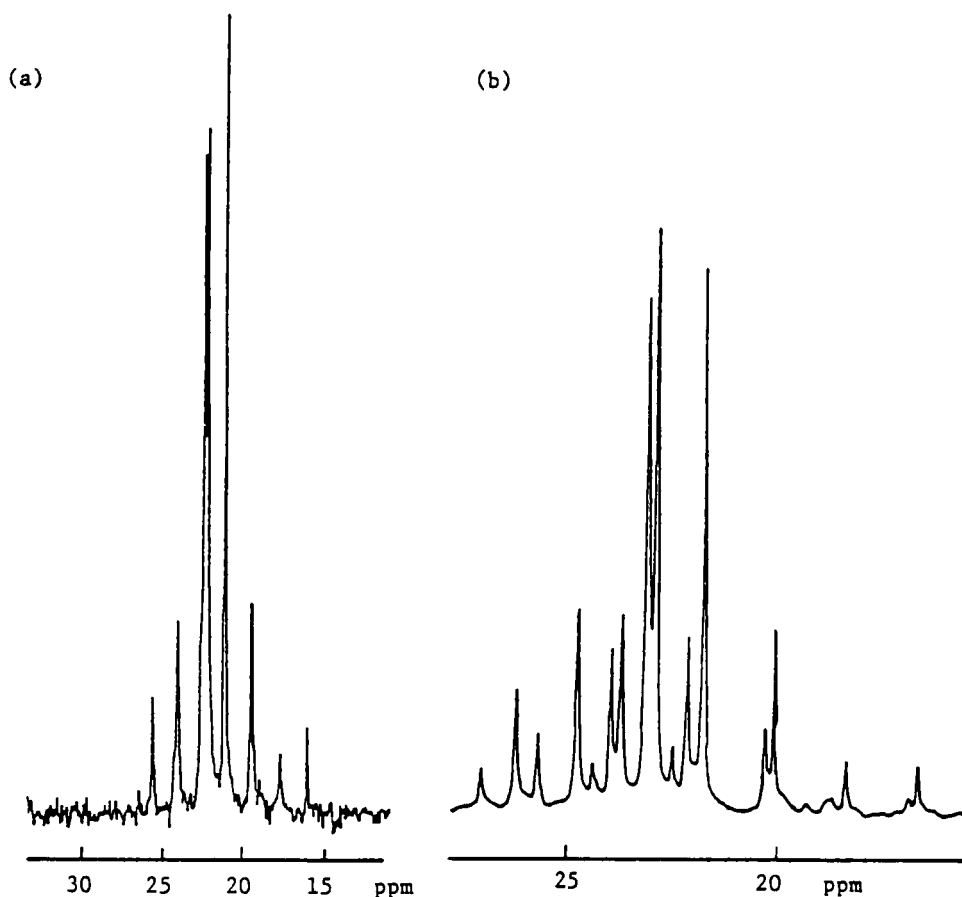


FIGURE 4 The $^{31}P\{^1H\}$ NMR low temperature spectrum of compounds (9) and (10).

The ^1H NMR spectrum (CDCl_3) is complex, but the heteronuclear decoupled spectrum shows the presence of at least four environments.

The ^{13}C NMR spectrum (CDCl_3) also is complex, showing the presence of four environments.

The structures of compounds (9) and (10), $\text{N}_3\text{P}_3(\text{NH}_2)_2(\text{OMe})_4$ are shown in Figure 5.

The compound (10) is the first recorded example in phosphazene chemistry in which a geminal $\text{P}(\text{NH}_2)_2$ group rearranges to give two *cis* nongeminal groupings $\text{P}(\text{NH}_2)(\text{OMe})$. It also represents a rare, possibly unique, example of two structural isomers being present in the same unit cell.

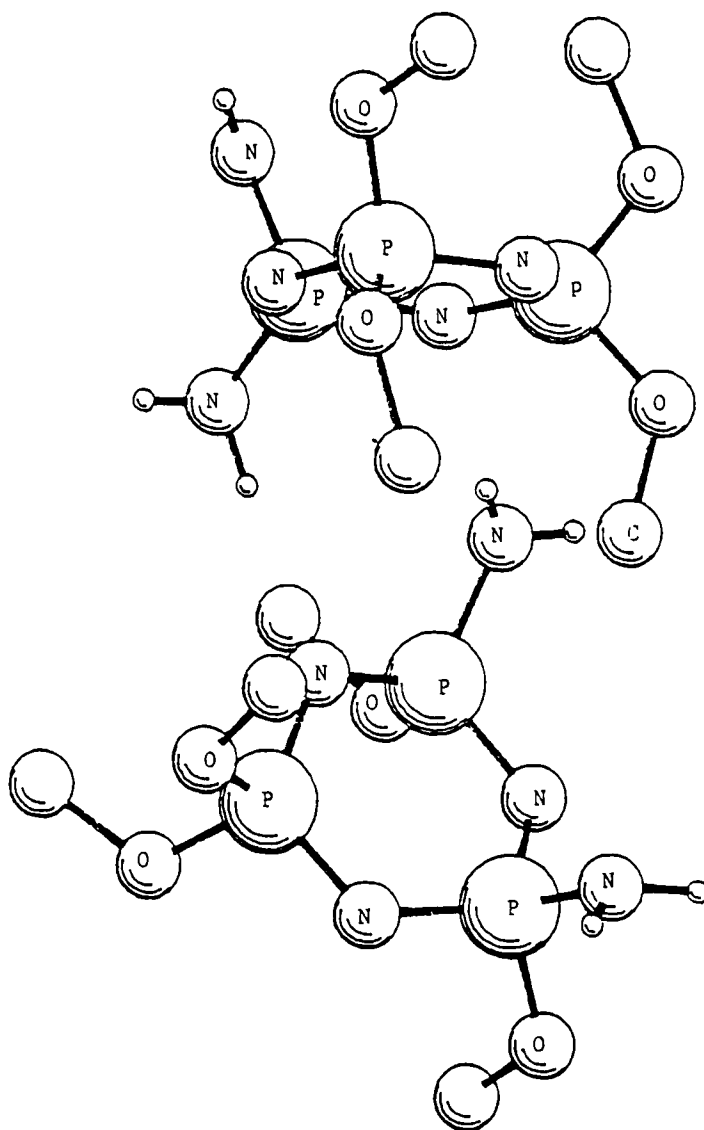
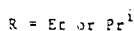
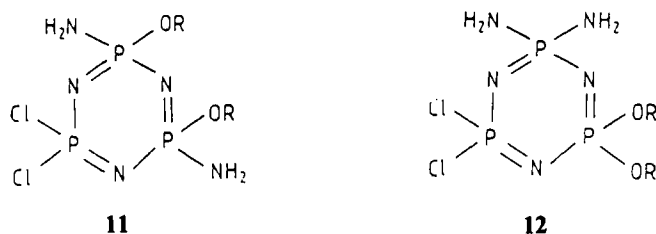


FIGURE 5 The X-ray structure of compounds (9) and (10).

MECHANISM

As the rearranged products have both *cis* and *trans* structures, an intermolecular mechanism seems likely.

Treatment of compound (1) with ethanol in the presence of sodium phenoxide and with an excess of sodium isopropoxide gave non-geminal di-isopropoxide and di-ethoxy-diaminodichloro derivatives, $N_3P_3Cl_2(NH_2)_2(OR)_2$ ($R = Et, Pr^i$). Of the various structural possibilities basicity measurements excluded all except the rearranged (11) and unrearranged ones (12).³⁶



Partial alcoholysis of chlorocyclophosphazenes has so far given almost exclusively non-geminal derivatives with monofunctional alcohols; hence (12) is unlikely on chemical grounds. Virtual coupling effects in the 1H and ^{13}C spectra suggest a non-geminal rearranged structure (11), though this does not distinguish between *cis* and *trans* structures. Thus on chemical and NMR grounds, we favour the rearranged structures. We must make a proviso, however, that we were misled into believing that the product $N_3P_3[O(CH_2)_3O]_2[(NHBu^i)_2]Cl_2$ ³⁷ had a non-geminal structure from NMR data, due to the accidental isochrony of the $P(NHBU^i)_2$ and the $P[O(CH_2)_3O]$ groupings. X-ray crystallography, however, revealed an unrearranged spiro substituent. We note that diols overwhelmingly prefer gem spiro substitution in contrast to monofunctional alcohols. Hence another accidental isochrony for our partially alcoholised structures seems unlikely (Table II).

The ^{31}P NMR spectra ($CDCl_3$) of $N_3P_3Cl_5(OEt)$,¹⁷ $N_3P_3Cl_5(OPr^i)$,¹⁹ and $N_3P_3Cl_5(NH_2)$ ^{6,7} are included in Table III as a comparison of shift values. At lower temperatures ($-85^\circ C$) compound (11) ($R = Pr^i$) shows that the A part of the A_2B ^{31}P spectrum in acetone at $\delta_A = 14.8$ ppm broadens, whilst the B part at $\delta_B = 19.2$ ppm is unaffected.

TABLE II
 ^{31}P NMR data for $N_3P_3Cl_2(OR)_2(NH_2)_2$ (11)

Compound	$\underline{P}Cl_2$ ppm	$\underline{P}(NH_2)(OR)$ ppm	$^2J(P, P)$ Hz
$R = Et$	21.3	15.7	58.6
$R = Pr^i$	21.1	14.2	58.1

TABLE III
Selected ^{31}P NMR data of Alkoxy and Amino Cyclophosphazenes

Compound	PCl_2 ppm	PClR' ppm
$\text{N}_3\text{P}_3\text{Cl}_5\text{OEt}$	21.3	13.6
$\text{N}_3\text{P}_3\text{Cl}_5\text{OPr}^i$	21.7	12.6
$\text{N}_3\text{P}_3\text{Cl}_5\text{NH}_2$	20.4	19.0

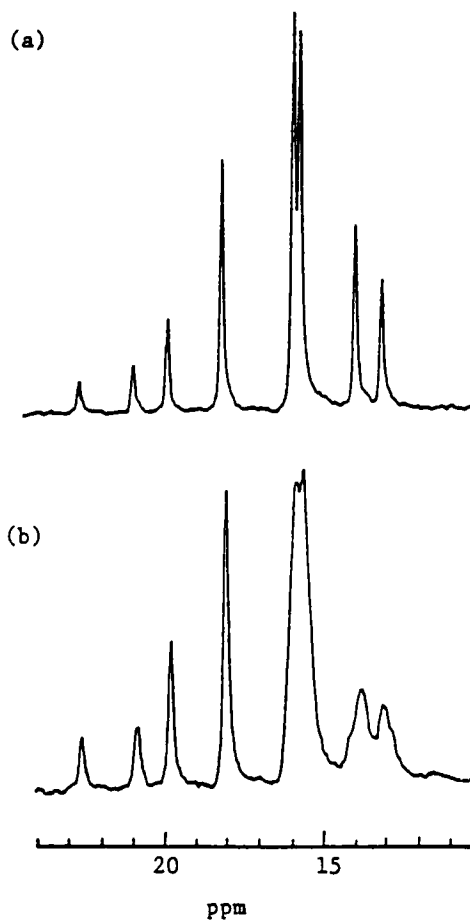


FIGURE 6 The ^{31}P NMR low temperature ^1H decoupled and coupled spectra of compound (11). $\text{R} = \text{Pr}^i$.

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