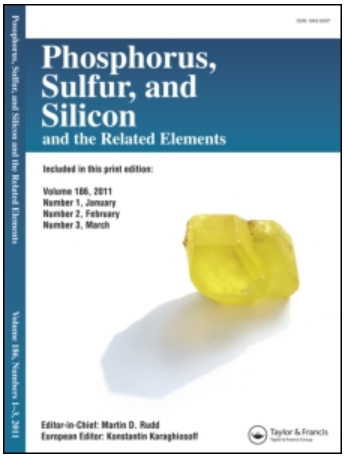

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A Non Ambiguous Evidence of the Betain Dissociation as a Part of the "Retro-Wittig" Process

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A NON AMBIGUOUS EVIDENCE OF THE BETAIN DISSOCIATION AS A PART OF THE "RETRO-WITTIG" PROCESS.

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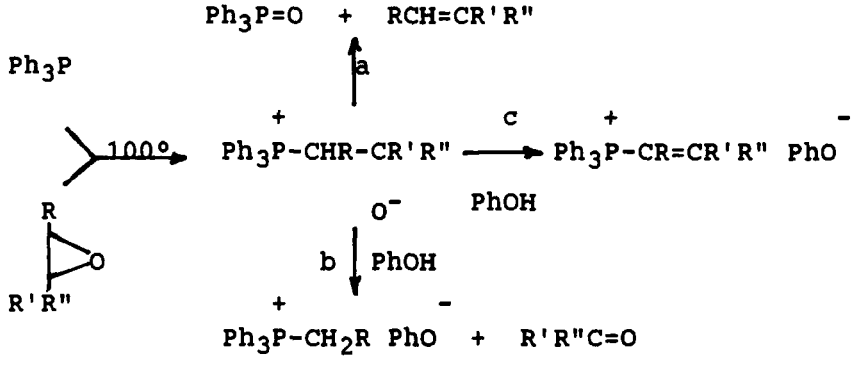
The ring-opening of oxiranes by triphenylphosphine in phenol as solvent, at 100°C, follows pathways (a) and (b) in the case of R= phenyle, or R', R"= alkyle, or pathway (c) in the case of R, R'= alkyle, R"= H.



The isolation of benzyl-or methyltriphenylphosphonium species, together with carbonyl compounds, affords an evidence for the betaïne dissociation as a part of the "Retro-Wittig" process.

From the preparative point of view, the control of the various reactions affords good synthesis of vinyl- or β-hydroxyalkyl-triphenylphosphoniums salts.