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Publisher Taylor & Francis

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## Phosphorus, Sulfur, and Silicon and the Related Elements

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~content=t713618290>

### ORGANOPHOSPHORUS COMPOUNDS WITH TERTIARY ALKYL SUBSTITUENTS. VI<sup>1</sup>: A CONVENIENT METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION OF DI-1-ADAMANTYLPHOSPHINE AND DI-1-ADAMANTYLCHLOROPHOSPHINE

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**To cite this Article** Goerlich, Jens R. and Schmutzler, Reinhard(1995) 'ORGANOPHOSPHORUS COMPOUNDS WITH TERTIARY ALKYL SUBSTITUENTS. VI<sup>1</sup>: A CONVENIENT METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION OF DI-1-ADAMANTYLPHOSPHINE AND DI-1-ADAMANTYLCHLOROPHOSPHINE', *Phosphorus, Sulfur, and Silicon and the Related Elements*, 102: 1, 211 – 215

**To link to this Article:** DOI: 10.1080/10426509508042559

**URL:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10426509508042559>

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# ORGANOPHOSPHORUS COMPOUNDS WITH TERTIARY ALKYL SUBSTITUENTS. VI<sup>1</sup>: A CONVENIENT METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION OF DI-1-ADAMANTYLPHOSPHINE AND DI-1-ADAMANTYLCHLOROPHOSPHINE

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*(Received December 30, 1994)*

Di-1-adamantylchlorophosphine **3** is obtained by a three step sequence from commercially available adamantane. Despite the bulky 1-adamantyl groups at the phosphorus atom, it reacts readily with water to give di-1-adamantylphosphine oxide **4**.

**Key words:** 1-Adamantyl phosphorus compounds, Friedel-Crafts reaction, H/D-exchange, NMR.

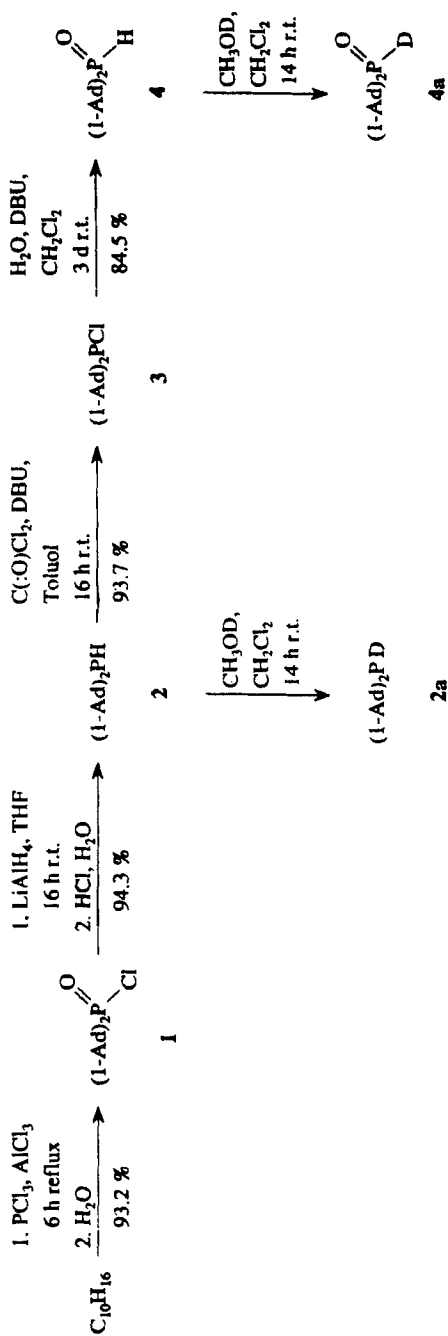
## INTRODUCTION

Diorganochlorophosphines are of great utility as starting materials in organo-element- and co-ordination chemistry.<sup>2,3</sup> Steric protection of the phosphorus atom is often used for the kinetic stabilization of thermodynamically unstable molecules.<sup>4</sup> Compared with <sup>1</sup>butyl-substituted phosphorus compounds, the analogous 1-adamantyl compounds are of higher stability due to their higher molecular weight and the rigidity of the adamantyl cage.<sup>5–8</sup> While di-<sup>1</sup>butylphosphine and -chlorophosphine are extensively used in organophosphorus chemistry, the difficulties in preparing and handling 1-adamantyl lithium or 1-adamantyl magnesium reagents<sup>9,10</sup> have hitherto prevented a more widespread application of the analogous 1-adamantyl-substituted compounds.

After a convenient synthesis of 1-adamantyldichlorophosphine is known since 1987,<sup>11</sup> the recently observed di-substitution of PCl<sub>3</sub> with adamantane under Friedel-Crafts conditions<sup>12,13</sup> enables the high yield synthesis of di-1-adamantylphosphine and -chlorophosphine in a simple and efficient way (Scheme I).

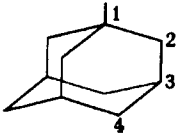
## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Light yellow di-1-adamantylphosphinic chloride **1** was obtained as an amorphous solid in 93.2% yield by refluxing a mixture of adamantane and aluminium trichloride in phosphorus(III) chloride, followed by hydrolysis.<sup>12,13</sup> Reduction of **1** with lithium aluminium hydride in tetrahydrofuran led to di-1-adamantylphosphine **2** in nearly quantitative yield.<sup>12,14</sup> By treatment of **2** with phosgene (as a 20% solution in



SCHEME I Synthesis of compounds 1-4, 2a and 4a.

TABLE I  
 $^1\text{H}$ -,  $^{13}\text{C}$ - and  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR data of compounds 1–4



No.	$\delta(\text{P})$	$\delta(\text{H})$	$\delta(\text{C}^1)$ $^1\text{J}(\text{PC})$	$\delta(\text{C}^2)$ $^2\text{J}(\text{PC})$	$\delta(\text{C}^3)$ $^3\text{J}(\text{PC})$	$\delta(\text{C}^4)$ $^4\text{J}(\text{PC})$
1	86.51	1.75 – 2.17 ( $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{15}$ )	45.61 60.01	36.83 2.20	27.79 10.86	36.32 1.55
2	18.23 $^1\text{J}(\text{PH})$ 209.1	1.56 – 1.93 ( $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{15}$ ) 2.70 ( $\text{PH}$ )	34.05 15.29	43.32 9.84	28.75 7.97	36.70
3	138.45	1.66 – 2.05 ( $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{15}$ )	40.06 42.31	36.07 1.10	27.14 10.33	36.30
4	60.40 $^1\text{J}(\text{PH})$ 427.0	1.53 – 1.93 ( $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{15}$ ) 5.52 ( $\text{P}(\text{O})\text{H}$ )	37.68 60.62	36.60	27.45 9.60	36.54

The NMR investigations were carried out at room temperature with  $\text{CDCl}_3$  as solvent.

toluene) in the presence of 1,8-diaza[5.4.0]undec-7-en (DBU) di-1-adamantyl-chlorophosphine **3** was obtained as a pale yellow solid which was found pure by  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR-spectroscopy. Further purification of **3** is possible by recrystallization from  $\text{PCl}_3$ /*n*-hexane (1:1). In contrast to this, the same reaction using triethylamine as a base gave the desired product **3** only in poor yield.<sup>7</sup> (The base strength of DBU is also high enough to liberate  $(1\text{-Ad})_2\text{PI}$  from the highly stable phosphonium salt  $[(1\text{-Ad})_2\text{P}(\text{H})\text{I}]^+\text{I}^{-7,15}$ ).

When a solution of **3** in dichloromethane was stirred with water in the presence of catalytic amounts of DBU, quantitative hydrolysis with formation of di-1-adamantylphosphine oxide **4**<sup>13</sup> as the only product was observed.

When solutions of **2** or **4** in a mixture of  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{CH}_3\text{OD}$  were kept for 14 hours at room temperature quantitative exchange of the P-H protons for deuterium with formation of **2a** and **4a** was found to occur.

$^1\text{H}$ -,  $^{13}\text{C}$ - and  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR data of **1–4** are presented in Table I.

## EXPERIMENTAL

Adamantane and DBU were purchased from Janssen Chimica, phosgene (20% solution in toluene) from Fluka. Tetrahydrofuran was dried over KOH, toluene over sodium. Melting points are uncorrected. NMR: Bruker AC 200. MS: Finnigan MAT 8430. Further experimental details: Lit.<sup>5</sup>.

### Di-1-adamantylphosphinic chloride **1**

A mixture of 200 g (1.47 mol) of adamantane, 210 g (1.57 mol) of aluminium(III) chloride and 650 ml of phosphorus(III) chloride was refluxed for 6 h. Then the excess of phosphorus(III) chloride was distilled off until a viscous substance remained. After addition of 1.5 l of chloroform the resulting suspension was cautiously hydrolyzed with 1 l of an ice/water mixture. After separation of the layers,

the organic layer was dried over sodium sulfate and evaporated to give **1** as a faintly yellow solid. Yield: 259.4 g (93.2%); mp.: 195°C (Lit.<sup>12</sup>: 95%; mp.: 197–199°C).

$C_{20}H_{30}ClOP$  (352.88)

MS (70 eV):  $m/z$  (%) = 352 (3)  $[M]^+$ , 135 (100)  $[C_{10}H_{15}]^+$ .

#### *Di-1-adamantylphosphine 2*

To a solution of 40 g (0.11 mol) of di-1-adamantylphosphinic chloride **1** in 400 ml of THF, cooled to –14°C by an ice/sodium chloride mixture, was added 10 g (0.26 mol) of lithium aluminium hydride in 1 g portions over a period of 60 min. After warming to room temperature, the reaction mixture was stirred for 16 h, again cooled to –14°C, and hydrolyzed with 200 ml of 1 M hydrochloric acid. After separation of the layers, the organic layer was dried over sodium sulfate and evaporated to give pure di-1-adamantylphosphine **2** as a colourless, amorphous solid. Yield: 31.4 g (94.3%); mp.: 132°C (Lit.<sup>14</sup>: 86.0%; mp.: 134°C).

$C_{20}H_{31}P$  (302.44)

MS (70 eV):  $m/z$  (%) = 302 (4)  $[M]^+$ , 135 (100)  $[C_{10}H_{15}]^+$ .

#### *Di-1-adamantylchlorophosphine 3*

At –14°C to a solution of 4.04 g (13.4 mmol) of di-1-adamantylphosphine **2** and 2.41 g (15.8 mmol) of DBU in 100 ml of toluene were added 10 g of a 20% solution of phosgene in toluene (corresponding to 2 g/20.2 mmol phosgene) over a period of 20 min. The colour of the solution changed to pale yellow and the evolution of gas (carbon monoxide) and the formation of a solid (DBU·HCl) were observed, when the reaction mixture was stirred for 16 h at room temperature. After filtration and removal of the solvent in vacuo (0.1 mm Hg), di-1-adamantylchlorophosphine **3** was isolated as a pale yellow solid, which was washed twice with 10 ml of n-hexane and dried in vacuo (0.1 mm Hg). The <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectra showed that the remaining solid was pure **3**. Yield: 4.23 g (93.7%); mp.: 148°C (Lit.<sup>13</sup>: 27.9 %; mp.: 148–150°C). Recrystallization of **3** from n-hexane/PCl<sub>3</sub> (1:1) led to a product with a slightly increased melting point (150°C).

$C_{20}H_{30}ClP$  (336.88)

MS (70 eV):  $m/z$  (%) = 336 (5)  $[M]^+$ , 135 (100)  $[C_{10}H_{15}]^+$ .

#### *Di-1-adamantylphosphine oxide 4*

A solution of 3.82 g (11.3 mmol) of di-1-adamantylchlorophosphine **3**, 1.0 g (55.5 mmol) of water, and 0.1 ml of DBU in 40 ml of dichloromethane was stirred for 3 d at room temperature. After removal of the solvent in vacuo (0.1 mm Hg) di-1-adamantylphosphine oxide **4** was isolated as a colourless solid, which was purified by recrystallization from n-hexane. Yield: 3.04 g (84.5%); mp.: 257°C (Lit.<sup>12</sup>: 255–258°C).

$C_{20}H_{31}OP$  (318.44)

MS (70 eV):  $m/z$  (%) = 318 (18)  $[M]^+$ , 135 (100)  $[C_{10}H_{15}]^+$ .

#### *H/D Exchange in 2 and 4 with formation of 2a and 4a*

Solutions of 0.30 g (1 mmol) of di-1-adamantylphosphine **2** and 0.32 g (1 mmol) of di-1-adamantylphosphine oxide in 5 ml of dichloromethane/3 ml of CH<sub>3</sub>OD were stirred for 14 h at room temperature. Subsequently the solutions were investigated by <sup>31</sup>P-NMR-spectroscopy.

**2a**: <sup>31</sup>P-NMR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/CH<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  = 18.27 [t, <sup>1</sup>J(PD) 32.1].

**4a**: <sup>31</sup>P-NMR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/CH<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  = 60.54 [t, <sup>1</sup>J(PD) 66.1].

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are grateful to BASF AG, BAYER AG and HOECHST AG, for generous supplies of chemicals used in this research and to Fonds der Chemischen Industrie for financial assistance.

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