LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Regio- and Stereoselective Chlorination of 2,6-Dichloro-4-phenyl-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-1,2 λ^5 -benzoxaphosphinin-2-one: Addition of Two Equivalents of Chlorine with Aromaticity Disturbance

E. N. Varaksina, V. F. Mironov, S. A. Mezentsev, R. Z. Musin, and A. I. Konovalov

Arbuzov Institute of Organic and Physical Chemistry, Kazan Research Center, Russian Academy of Sciences, ul. Arbuzova 8, Kazan, Tatarstan, 420088 Russia

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Recently we showed that the reaction of 2,2,2-trichloro-1,3,2λ⁵-benzodioxaphosphole with phenylacetylene gives rise to 2,6-dichloro-4-phenyl-3,4,5,6tetrahydro-2H- $1,2\lambda^5$ -benzoxaphosphinin-2-one (**I**) that is a phosphorus analog of natural coumarins and α-chromenes [1]. Chemical properties of 1,2-benzoxaphosphinine derivatives have not been investigated. In the present work we found that compound I can be chlorinated under mild conditions to form a 1:2 adduct in nearly quantitative yield. The ³¹P NMR spectrum of the reaction mixture no longer shows the signal of starting compound I (δ_P 17.4 ppm, d, $^2J_{PCH}$ 24.6 Hz) and contains signals at $\delta_{\rm P}$ 22.4 (d, $^2J_{\rm PCH}$ 11.8 Hz) (d_1) and 17.9 ppm (d, $^2J_{\rm PCH}$ 8.3 Hz) (d_2) with the intensity ratio 2:3. The 1H NMR spectrum contains the corresponding doublets of the H³ proton at δ 5.30 (${}^{2}J_{\text{PCH}^{3}}$ 11.9 Hz) and 5.26 ppm (${}^{2}J_{\text{PCH}^{3}}$ 8.6 Hz). Detailed inspection of the 13 C and 13 C- $\{^{1}$ H $\}$

NMR spectra (see below) shows that, together with the chlorination of the C³=C⁴ bond, regioselective addition of a chlorine molecule by one of the double bonds of the benzene ring takes place, which disturbs aromaticity of the phenylene system. The spectral data also point to formation of two isomeric compounds. This effect distinguishes benzophosphinines from coumarines where such processes are unknown. It is necessary to note that such an easy loss of aromaticity is energetically compensated for by the formation of two new C-Cl bonds, because the possible elimination of HCl to form a benzo fragment does not take place even under fairly strong heating (100–120°C, 30 min).

Taking into account the chemical shifts and multiplicity of signals in the ^{13}C and $^{13}C-\{^1H\}$ NMR spectra, we assigned to the obtained isomers structure

II. In spite of the presence of four chiral atoms, a mixture of two diastereomers $(d_1 \text{ and } d_2)$ is formed. It is interesting to note that the electron impact mass spectrum lacks the molecular ion of compound II but contains the molecular ion of compound III that results from the elimination of two HCl molecules at high temperatures.

The reaction evidently begins with chlorination of the more reactive $C^3=C^{4}$ bond to give tetrahydrophosphinine A which is further chlorinated to compound **II**. There have been a few works on the halogenation of organic compounds, involving aromaticity disturbance. The authors of these works explain this process in terms of the radical mechanism (for review, see [2]). Nevertheless, the majority of such reactions require rigid conditions to occur and provide complex mixtures of diastereomers. The unusually high regioand stereoselectivity of the chlorination of phosphinine I is evidently connected with the presence of an annelated heterocycle which significantly alters the electron density distribution in the benzo fragment. This reaction can be regarded as a promising synthetic approach to new phosphorus-containing cyclodienes.

Chlorination of phosphinine I. To a solution of 4.4 g of phosphinine I in 10 ml of CH₂Cl₂, a solution of 2.0 g of chlorine in 20 ml of CH₂Cl₂ was added dropwise with stirring at -40°C. The reaction mixture was kept for 6 h until it warmed up to 20°C and then for 2 days at this temperature. The solvent and excess chlorine were removed in a vacuum, and the residue was dried in a vacuum (0.1 mm Hg) at 80°C.

2,3,4,5,6,6-Hexachloro-4-phenyl-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2*H***-1,2**λ⁵**-benzoxaphosphinin-2-one** (**II**) was obtained as a light brown glassy substance. ¹H NMR spectrum (600 MHz, CDCl₃), δ, ppm (*J*, Hz): 5.26 d (PCH, $^2J_{\text{PCH}}$ 8.6); 5.30 d (PCH, $^2J_{\text{PCH}}$ 11.9 Hz); 6.77 br.d (H⁵, $^3J_{\text{H}^4\text{CCH}^5}$ 1.0), 7.03 d (H⁵, $^3J_{\text{H}^4\text{CCH}^5}$ 1.8), 7.10 and 7.15 two d (H⁸, $^3J_{\text{HH}}$ 8.6 and $^3J_{\text{HH}}$ 8.5); 8.34 br.d (H⁷, $^3J_{\text{HH}}$ 8.5–8.6), 7.39–7.48 m (C₆H₅). ¹³C NMR spectrum (150.9 MHz, CDCl₃), δ_C, ppm (*J*, Hz) (the multiplicity of signal in ¹³C–{¹H} NMR spectrum is given in brackets): 64.04 d.d (d) (C³, $^1J_{\text{HC}^3}$ 153.3, $^1J_{\text{PC}^3}$ 122.0); 60.49 d.d (d) (C³, $^1J_{\text{HC}^3}$ 150.1, $^1J_{\text{PC}^3}$ 118.8), 74.34 br.s (s) (C⁴), 73.61 br.s (d) (C⁴, $^1J_{\text{PC}^3\text{C}^4}$ 2.5); 131.23 d.d.d (d) (C^{4a}, $^3J_{\text{POC}^{4a}}$ 5.0, $^3J_{\text{HCCC}^{4a}}$ 4.0, $^3J_{\text{HCCC}^{4a}}$ 4.0); 130.75 d.d (d) (C^{4a}, $^3J_{\text{HCCC}^{4a}}$ 6.6); 77.72 br.d (s) (C⁵, $^1J_{\text{HC}^5}$ 181.9); 79.54

br.d (s) (C⁵, $^{1}J_{\text{HC}^{5}}$ 210.7); 93.74 br.m (br.s) (C⁶); 131.85 d.d (s) (C⁷, $^{1}J_{\text{HC}^{7}}$ 169.4, $^{3}J_{\text{HC}^{5}\text{CC}^{7}}$ 6.3); 132.02 d.d (s) (C⁷, $^{1}J_{\text{HC}^{7}}$ 168.7, $^{3}J_{\text{HC}^{5}\text{CC}^{7}}$ 6.3); 121.53 d.d (d) (C⁸, $^{1}J_{\text{HC}^{8}}$ 167.3 $^{3}J_{\text{POCC}^{8}}$ 8.4); 121.63 d.d (d) (C⁸, $^{1}J_{\text{HC}^{8}}$ 8.6); 146.92 m (d) (C^{8a}, $^{2}J_{\text{POC}^{8a}}$ 8.6), 146.77 m (d) (C^{8a}, $^{2}J_{\text{POC}^{8a}}$ 8.3), 138.08 m (d) (C⁹, $^{3}J_{\text{PCCC}^{9}}$ 8.5, $^{3}J_{\text{HC}^{11}\text{CC}^{9}}$ 7.5), 135.95 br.m (br.d) (C⁹, $^{3}J_{\text{PCCC}^{9}}$ 10.0), 127.92 d.d.d (s) (C¹⁰, $^{1}J_{\text{HC}^{10}}$ 159.6, $^{3}J_{\text{HC}^{10}\text{CC}^{10}}$ 6.8), 129.76 d.d.d (s) (C¹⁰, $^{1}J_{\text{HC}^{10}}$ 162.3, $^{3}J_{\text{HC}^{10}\text{CC}^{10}}$ 6.6, $^{3}J_{\text{HC}^{12}\text{CC}^{10}}$ 6.6), 128.95 d.d (s) (C¹¹, $^{1}J_{\text{HC}^{11}}$ 161.3, $^{3}J_{\text{HC}^{11}\text{CC}^{11}}$ 8.0), 129.07 d.d (s) (C¹¹, $^{1}J_{\text{HC}^{11}}$ 162.8, $^{3}J_{\text{HC}^{10}\text{CC}^{12}}$ 7.3), 130.74 d.t (s) (C¹², $^{1}J_{\text{HC}^{12}}$ 158.0, $^{3}J_{\text{HC}^{10}\text{CC}^{12}}$ 7.1), 129.79 d.t(s) (C¹², $^{1}J_{\text{HC}^{12}}$ 159.0, $^{3}J_{\text{HC}^{10}\text{CC}^{12}}$ 7.2). Mass spectrum, m/z (ions containing the most abundant isotopes are given): 386, 384, 382, 380, 378 [C₁₄H₇ClO₄P] [M^{+}] (III), 343, 345, 347, 349, 351 [M^{+} – C1], 307, 309, 311, 313, 315 [M^{+} – HC1 – C1]. Found, %: C1 47.79. C₁₄H₉Cl₆O₂P. Calculated, %: C1 47.02.

The NMR spectra were measured on Bruker Avance-600 (600 MHz, ¹H; 150.9 MHz, ¹³C) and Bruker CXP-100 (36.48 MHz) spectrometers against internal HMDS or external H₃PO₄. The mass spectra were obtained on a Finnigan MAT TRACE–MS instrument, ionizing energy 70 eV, ion source temperature 200°C. Direct sample injection into the ion source was applied. The injector ampule was heated from 35 to 150°C at a step of 35 deg min⁻¹. The mass spectra were treated using the Xcalibur program.

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