

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reactions of 4-Hydroxy-3,5-di-*tert*-butylbenzylidene Chloride with Aminals

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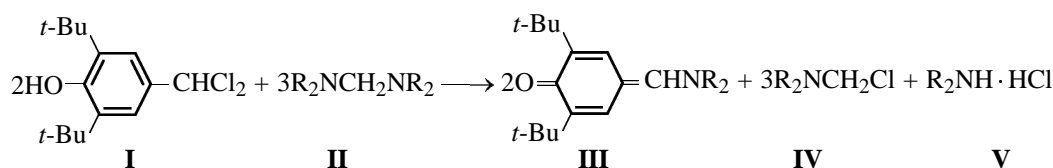
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It is known that the C-N bond in aminals is cleaved under the action of carboxylic and inorganic acid halides [1, 2].

We found that this bond is also cleaved with 4-hydroxy-3,5-di-*tert*-butylbenzylidene chloride **I**. Reactions of **I** with amins **II** occur with a heat release upon mixing the reactants (neat or in solvents such as ether or hexane). Irrespective of the structure of the amina and reactant ratio, *gem*-dichloride **I** undergoes dehydrochlorination and dechloroamination with the

formation of 4-(dialkylamino- or piperidino)methylene-3,5-di-*tert*-butylcyclohexa-2,5-dienones **III**. The dialkylamine formed in the dehydrochlorination step, as found in additional experiments, further reacts with **I** to form salt **V** [3, 4]. When the reaction of **I** with **IIa** was performed in diethyl ether, a crystalline mass consisting of **IVa** and **Va** was obtained. By its treatment with ethyl diphenylphosphinite, we obtained individual products: (dimethylamino)methyldiphenylphosphine oxide **VI** and dimethylammonium chloride **Va**.



II-V, R = Me (**a**), Et (**b**), R + R = (CH₂)₅ (**c**).

$$\text{IVa} + \text{Va} + \text{Ph}_2\text{POEt} \longrightarrow \text{Ph}_2\text{P}(\text{O})\text{CH}_2\text{NMe}_2 + \text{EtCl} + \text{Va.}$$

VI

The structure of 4-(dialkylamino- or piperidino)-methylene-3,5-di-*tert*-butylcyclohexa-2,5-dienones **III** was confirmed by elemental analysis, spectroscopic methods, and independent synthesis from 4-hydroxy-3,5-di-*tert*-butylbenzenecarbaldehyde and the corresponding amines [5].

Reaction of 4-hydroxy-3,5-di-*tert*-butylbenzylidene chloride **I with *N,N,N',N'*-tetramethylmethanediamine **IIa**.** *a.* A solution of 2.89 g of *gem*-dichloride **I** in 30 ml of diethyl ether was added dropwise to a solution of 1.53 g of aiminal **IIa** in 120 ml of diethyl ether at 5 to 0°C with stirring. In the pro-

cess, a colorless crystalline compound precipitated. The mixture was allowed to stand for 18 h at 20°C. After filtration and washing the crystalline product with ether, 1.55 g (83%) of a mixture of chloromethyl-dimethylamine and dimethylammonium chloride was obtained. After removal of volatiles from the filtrate in a vacuum, 1.80 g (69%) of 4-(dimethylamino)methylene-3,5-di-*tert*-butylcyclohexa-2,5-dienone **IIIa** was obtained; mp 169–170°C (ether) (published data [4]: mp 171–173°C). ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃), δ, ppm: 1.32 s [18H, C(CH₃)₃], 3.32 s (6H, CH₃N), 6.95 d (1H, CH, ⁴J_{HH} 2 Hz), 7.05 s (1H, CHN), 7.60 d (1H, CH, ⁴J_{HH} 2 Hz). Found N, %: 5.48, 5.61. C₁₇H₂₇NO. Calculated N, %: 5.36.

A 2.30-g portion of ethyl diphenylphosphinite was added to 1.21 g of the isolated mixture of chloromethyl-dimethylamine and dimethylammonium chloride. The reaction was accompanied by heat release and evolution of ethyl chloride; the mixture became crystalline. After 30 min, the mixture was treated with refluxing toluene (2 × 15 ml). The fraction insoluble in toluene consisted of dimethylammonium chloride {yield 0.24 g (93%); mp 172–175°C (published data [6]: mp 171°C)}. On cooling the toluene solution, 1.47 g (57%) of (dimethylamino)methyldiphenylphosphine oxide was isolated; mp 186–188°C (toluene). ¹H NMR spectrum (CCl₄ + CDCl₃), δ, ppm: 2.40 s (6H, CH₃N), 3.20 d (2H, CH₂P, ²J_{PH} 7.5 Hz), 7.55 m, 7.87 m (10H, C₆H₅). Found, %: N 5.95, 5.95; P 12.15, 12.2. C₁₅H₁₈NOP. Calculated, %: N 5.41; P 11.97.

b. A 2.89-g portion of **I** was added to 3.06 g of amination **IIa**. The mixture warmed up, and restructurization of the crystalline mass occurred. After 3 h, this mass was treated with a refluxing mixture of 40 ml of isooctane and 5 ml of toluene. The solution was decanted from a dark tar. After cooling the solution, 1.99 g (76%) of **IIIa** was isolated; mp 166–167.5°C (hexane).

4-(Diethylamino)methylene-3,5-di-*tert*-butylcyclohexa-2,5-dienone IIIb. *a.* A 1.45-g portion of **I** was added to 2.37 g of amination **IIb**. Compound **IIIb** was obtained; yield 0.98 g (68%), mp 138–139°C (heptane) (published data [4]: mp 134–135°C). ¹H NMR spectrum (CCl₄ + CDCl₃), δ, ppm: 1.28 s [18H, C(CH₃)₃], 1.35 t (6H, CH₃, ³J_{HH} 7.5 Hz), 3.50 q (4H, CH₂, ³J_{HH} 7.5 Hz), 6.82 d (1H, CH, ⁴J_{HH} 2 Hz), 6.90 s (1H, CHN), 7.37 d (1H, CH, ⁴J_{HH} 2 Hz). Found N, %: 5.15, 5.25. C₁₉H₃₁NO. Calculated N, %: 4.84.

b. A 3.65-g portion of diethylamine was added to 2.34 g of 4-hydroxy-3,5-di-*tert*-butylbenzenecarbalde-

hyde. The mixture warmed up, and restructurization of the crystalline mass occurred. After 18 h, the mixture was treated with hexane; 2.35 g (81%) of **IIIb** was obtained, mp 137–139°C (heptane).

4-Piperidinomethylene-3,5-di-*tert*-butylcyclohexa-2,5-dienone IIIc. *a.* A 1.45-g portion of **I** was added to 2.73 g of amination **IIc**. Compound **IIIc** was obtained; yield 0.95 g (63%), mp 165–166°C (heptane) (published data [4]: mp 169–170°C [4]). ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃), δ, ppm: 1.22 s [18H, C(CH₃)₃], 1.70 br.s (6H, CH₂), 3.62 br.s (4H, CH₂N), 6.82 br.s (1H, CH), 6.95 s (1H, CHN), 7.37 br.s (1H, CH). Found N, %: 4.75, 4.90. C₂₀H₃₁NO. Calculated N, %: 4.65.

b. A 4.30-g portion of piperidine was added to 2.34 g of 4-hydroxy-3,5-di-*tert*-butylbenzenecarbaldehyde. Compound **IIIc** was obtained; yield 2.80 g (93%), mp 168–169°C (heptane).

The structures of **IIIa–IIIc** were confirmed by comparison with authentic samples (identity of the ¹H NMR spectra and no depression of the melting point of the mixed samples).

The ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on a Tesla BS-567A spectrometer (100 MHz); the proton chemical shifts are given relative to (CH₃)₄Si.

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