

The Structure of PO-Substituted Norcaradienes.

I. The Crystal and Molecular Structure of 7-Dimethoxyphosphoryl-7-phenylnorcaradiene

BY GERHARD MAAS AND KARL FISCHER

Fachrichtung Kristallographie der Universität des Saarlandes, D-66 Saarbrücken, Germany (BRD)

AND MANFRED REGITZ

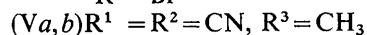
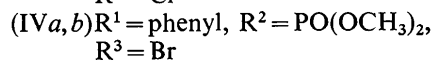
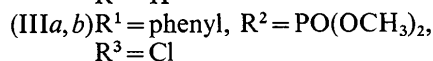
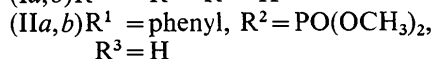
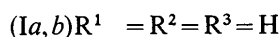
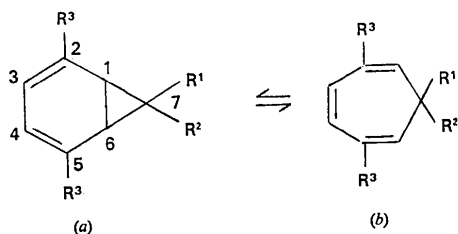
Fachbereich Chemie der Universität Trier – Kaiserslautern, D-675 Kaiserslautern, Pfaffenbergstrasse, Germany (BRD)

(Received 3 January 1974; accepted 5 January 1974)

7-Dimethoxyphosphoryl-7-phenylnorcaradiene crystallizes in the space group $P\bar{1}$, with $a = 13.259$ (2), $b = 8.698$ (3), $c = 6.507$ (2) Å, $\alpha = 110.97$ (2), $\beta = 97.62$ (2), $\gamma = 91.26$ (3)°. The structure has been solved by direct methods; refinement by block-diagonal least-squares cycles gave $R = 4.07\%$ for 2184 observed reflexions collected on a Siemens single-crystal diffractometer with Cu $K\alpha$ radiation. Whereas in solution a rapid equilibrium between the norcaradiene and its valence-isomeric cycloheptatriene can be observed, the molecules in the crystalline state show clearly the norcaradiene structure with an *endo* phenyl ring. The three C–C bonds of the cyclopropane ring are equal within the standard deviation.

Introduction

In the valence-isomeric equilibrium norcaradiene \rightleftharpoons cycloheptatriene ($Ia \rightleftharpoons Ib$), the monocyclic system dominates to the extent that no norcaradiene could be observed by the usual analytical methods. However, ap-



propriate substitution of the system leads to a remarkable stabilization of the norcaradiene skeleton [for a review see Maier (1967)]. In recent years, several compounds have been prepared, where the norcaradiene form is stabilized by introducing one or two π -electron acceptors in the 7-position. Hoffmann (1970) and Günther (1970) have discussed this π -type conjugation of the three-membered ring with neighbouring π -systems on the basis of the Walsh (1949) model for the cyclopropane ring. Their results are as follows: If the group R possesses a low-lying unoccupied molecular orbital, interaction with the cyclopropane electrons leads to weakening of 1,6-*anti*-bonding and 6,7 (1,7)-bonding.

Norcaradienes stabilized in this way should therefore have C(1)–C(6) bond shorter than the C(6)–C(7) and C(1)–C(7) bonds. This has been confirmed in the structure of 2,5-dimethyl-7,7-dicyanonorcaradiene (Va) (Fritchie, 1966), with C(1)–C(6) = 1.501 Å and C(1)–C(7), C(6)–C(7) 1.554, 1.558 Å. Among the norcaradienes/cycloheptatrienes (II)–(IV), (II) exhibits a rapid equilibrium between the two valence isomers in solution. On the other hand, the compounds substituted by chlorine or bromine (III, IV) prefer the norcaradiene form. This can be derived from the increasing independence on temperature of their n.m.r. spectra (Günther, Tunggal, Regitz, Scherer & Keller, 1971). We undertook structural studies of these three compounds in order

(a) to obtain an insight into the acceptor strength of the group by considering the bonding parameters in the cyclopropane ring according to the theory cited above, and

(b) to explore how the increasing stability of the norcaradiene form caused by halogen substitution appears in the molecular geometry.

The structure analysis of (II) (Fig. 1) is described here, those of (III) and (IV) will be reported in forthcoming papers.

Experimental

The compound was prepared by the method given by Scherer, Hartmann, Regitz, Tunggal & Günther (1972). After recrystallization from ether, colourless prisms were obtained. A crystal with dimensions $0.212 \times 0.356 \times 0.091$ mm was selected: precession photographs showed it to be triclinic. Precise lattice constants were obtained from a least-squares fit of 21 diffraction angles measured on a Siemens off-line diffractometer (AED). Crystal data are given in Table 1.

For the collection of intensities the crystal was mounted with c parallel to the ϕ axis of the diffractom-

Table 1. *Crystal data of 7-dimethoxyphosphoryl-7-phenylnorcaradiene*

Formula: C ₁₅ H ₁₇ O ₃ P
F.W. 276.3
Space group: <i>P</i> $\bar{1}$ (No. 2)
Unit cell: <i>a</i> = 13.259 (2) Å
<i>b</i> = 8.698 (3)
<i>c</i> = 6.507 (2)
α = 110.97 (2)°
β = 97.62 (2)
γ = 91.26 (3)
<i>V_c</i> = 692.5 (4) Å ³
<i>D_m</i> = 1.35 g cm ⁻³
<i>D_c</i> = 1.326
<i>Z</i> = 2
<i>F</i> (000) = 292
μ (Cu <i>K</i> α) = 17.68 cm ⁻¹

eter equipped with a Cu tube (Ni filter), a scintillation counter and a pulse-height discriminator. With the $\theta/2\theta$ -scan technique and the five-values method, 2552 independent reflexions were measured in the range $2^\circ \leq \theta \leq 68.50^\circ$. A standard reflexion (572) was monitored after every 50 reflexions to detect decomposition of the crystal or instability of the diffractometer. At the end, its intensity was 3.6% less than at the beginning. Assuming a linear and isotropic decomposition,

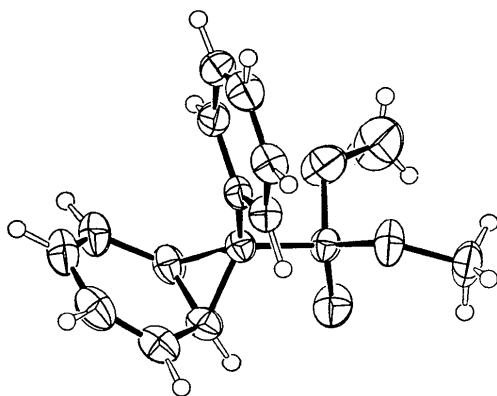


Fig. 1. Perspective view of the molecule. The thermal ellipsoids correspond to 50% probability.

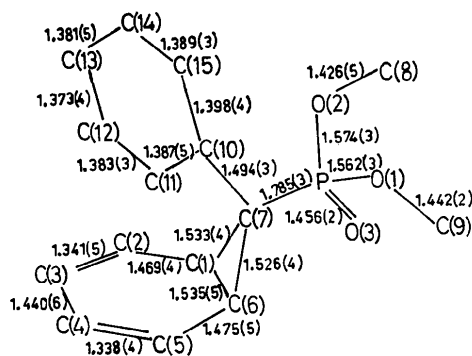


Fig. 2. Bond distances (Å) of 7-dimethoxyphosphoryl-7-phenylnorcaradiene. E.s.d.'s are in parentheses.

all intensities were rescaled according to the observed time-dependent loss. 54 strong reflexions were re-measured with a 0.085 mm thick Cu foil as attenuator. The attenuation factor was determined experimentally.

Corrections for Lorentz and polarization effects were made in the usual way. No absorption correction was applied. All reflexions with $F_o < 5\sigma(F_o)$ were treated as unobserved. The remaining 2189 reflexions were used for solution of the structure. From a Wilson plot, a scale factor and an overall temperature factor were obtained. The space group was determined from a statistical test based on the magnitudes of the normalized structure factors (Karle, Dragonette & Brenner, 1965). This test indicated a centric distribution, although the expected *C_s* symmetry of the molecule suggested a critical look at this result; nevertheless, refinement later confirmed the centrosymmetric space group. All calculations were carried out on a CDC 3300 computer at the Universität des Saarlandes, Saarbrücken.

Determination of the structure

The structure was solved by direct methods with the program *MULTAN* (Main, Woolfson & Germain, 1971). With 340 reflexions with normalized structure factors $|E| > 1.5$, phases were computed from a starting set of six reflexions, three of which determined the origin. From the resulting eight sets of phases, the most consistent (apart from the trivial solution for which all phases are zero) was used to calculate an *E* map. It revealed all 19 non-hydrogen atoms. A structure factor calculation with these coordinates led to an *R* of 0.246. The atomic form factors were those of Onken & Fischer (1968), who have represented the scattering curves from *International Tables for X-ray Crystallography* by

$$f(\sin \theta/\lambda) = \exp \left[\sum_{n=1}^7 a_n (\sin \theta/\lambda)^{n-1} \right].$$

Refinement was based on $|F|$'s and carried out with the block-diagonal least-squares program *BLKLS* (Bartlett, 1972). The shifts of positional parameters were multiplied by 0.75, those of thermal parameters by 0.4. After 4 cycles with isotropic temperature factors, *R* had decreased to 0.131. Another 4 cycles with anisotropic thermal parameters lowered *R* to 0.084. During these cycles the two strongest reflexions ($\bar{1}01$ and 020) were removed because they showed considerable extinction, and also three other reflexions ($\bar{1}\bar{1}3$, $1\bar{1}3$ and $3\bar{1}4$) which had unreasonably high residuals.

A difference synthesis computed at this stage revealed all 17 H atoms. Six cycles in which the positional and isotropic thermal parameters of the hydrogens were also allowed to vary, reduced *R* to 0.0415 and $R_w = [\sum w(\Delta F)^2 / \sum w F_o^2]^{1/2}$ to 0.039. The error of fit, $[\sum w(\Delta F)^2 / (m-n)]^{1/2}$ (with $m=2184$, $n=240$), was still 9.48. This relatively high value indicated that either refinement was not yet finished or the weighting

from the diagonal elements of the inverse matrix. Bond lengths and angles are shown on Figs. 2 and 3.

In solution, a rapid equilibrium between norcaradiene and the valence-tautomeric cycloheptatriene can be observed. The solid consists of norcaradiene molecules. This is indicated by the short contacts between C(1) and C(6) (1.535 (5) Å). A similar case has been found for spiro(indene-1,7'-norcaradiene), where the norcaradiene structure is also stable in the crystal (Dreissig, Luger, Rewicki & Tuchscherer, 1973). The configuration of the molecule is that predicted from its n.m.r. spectrum (Scherer *et al.*, 1972): the phenyl ring lies *endo* to the cyclohexadiene skeleton. The most surprising feature of the structure is that all bonds of the cyclopropane ring are equal within their standard deviations: C(1)–C(6) 1.535 (5) Å, C(1)–C(7) 1.533 (4) Å, C(6)–C(7) 1.526 (4) Å. They are also considerably longer than in cyclopropane (1.510 Å, Bastiansen, Fritsch & Hedberg, 1964). According to Hoffmann (1970) and Günther (1970), we would expect an appreciable difference between the bond lengths C(1)–C(6) on the one hand and C(1)–C(7) and C(6)–C(7) on the other. Instead of that, the bonding situation is similar to that in 6,6-diphenyl-3,3-diethyl-3-azoniabicyclo-[3,1,0]hexane bromide monohydrate (Ahmed & Gabe, 1964), in which the bond lengths are all equal to 1.520 (6) Å. For comparison, the cyclopropane bond lengths of some simple norcaradienes, which are stabilized by π -acceptor ligands at C(7), are listed in Table 5. It can be seen that the variation of the bond length is strongly correlated with the π -acceptor strength of the substituents. The phosphoryl group is necessary to influence the norcaradiene–cycloheptatriene equilibrium in favour of the bicyclic structure. Its acceptor strength, however, is not sufficient to cause a notable strengthening of the C(1)–C(6) bond or weakening of the C(1)–C(7) or C(6)–C(7) bonds.

There are two additional features of the structure which have already been pointed out by Fritchie for (Va): (i) all bonds adjacent to the cyclopropane ring are shortened: The mean value of the two $C_{sp^3}-C_{sp^2}$ bonds is 1.472 (4) Å, the $C_{sp^3}-C_{sp^2,aromatic}$ bond is 1.494 (3) Å and the C–P distance is 1.785 (3) *vs.* 1.820 Å for a 'normal' C–P bond (Daly & Wheatley, 1967). (ii) The six-membered ring is not quite planar, but folded along the axis C(2)–C(5), C(3) and C(4) lying on the side of the phenyl ring. The normals to the least-squares planes C(2)–C(3)–C(4)–C(5) and C(2)–C(1)–C(6)–C(5) enclose an angle of $6.4 \pm 0.4^\circ$, which is somewhat greater than that found in (Va) (4.2°). The normal to the three-membered ring is inclined at an angle of

$68.9 \pm 0.4^\circ$ to that of the plane C(2)–C(1)–C(6)–C(5) (Va: 71.9°). Several least-squares planes are given in Table 6.

Table 6. *Some least-squares planes in terms of the triclinic axes and deviations (Å) of the atoms defining the plane*

(a) Phenyl ring					
$11.48567x - 0.96617y + 2.41838z = 2.88218$					
C(10)	0.002	C(12)	0.005	C(14)	0.002
C(11)	-0.005	C(13)	-0.004	C(15)	-0.002
(b) Plane C(2)–C(3)–C(4)–C(5)					
$5.28484x + 6.15166y + 1.41556z = 1.76043$					
C(2)	-0.0001	C(3)	0.0002	C(4)	-0.0002
C(5)	0.0001				
(c) Plane C(2)–C(1)–C(6)–C(5)					
$4.10285x + 6.71114y + 1.18429z = 1.77153$					
C(1)	-0.005	C(2)	0.002	C(5)	-0.002
C(6)	0.005				

In the crystal strong deviations from the ideal C_s -*m* symmetry of the molecule can be noted. Only the bicyclic system itself and the adjacent atoms P and C(10) can be used to describe this 'mirror plane'. It is defined by the atoms C(7) and P and the midpoints of the bonds C(1)–C(6) and C(3)–C(4). From Table 7 it can be seen that the phenyl ring is tilted slightly with respect to this plane by rotation around the bond C(7)–C(10).

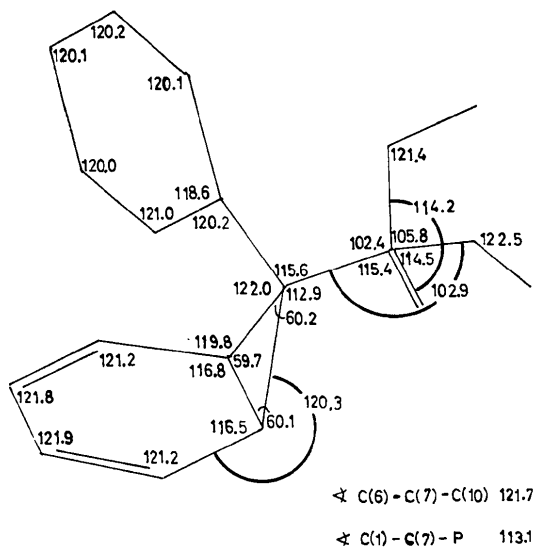


Fig. 3. Bond angles ($^\circ$). Standard deviations are in the range of 0.1° for the angles involving phosphorus and 0.2 – 0.35° for all others.

Table 5. *Bond lengths in the cyclopropane skeleton of some norcaradienes in Å*

	C(1)–C(6)	C(1)–C(7)	C(6)–C(7)	
2,5-Dimethyl-7,7-dicyanonorcaradiene	1.501	1.559	1.554	Fritchie (1966)
Spiro(indene-1,7'-norcaradiene)	1.520	1.532	1.536	Dreissig, Luger, Rewicki & Tuchscherer (1973)
7-Phenyl-7-dimethoxyphosphoryl-norcaradiene	1.535	1.533	1.526	This work

The carbons in the phosphonate group show much greater deviations, e.g. O(3) lies 0.233 Å from the hypothetical mirror plane.

Table 7. Distance (Å) of the atoms from the 'symmetry plane' of the molecule

Equation of the plane [defined by P, C(7), midpoints of C(1)-C(6) and C(3)-C(4)]:

$$6.69478x + 2.96418y - 5.99644z = 1.28629$$

C(3)	-0.719	C(4)	0.721
C(2)	-1.427	C(5)	1.428
C(1)	-0.768	C(6)	0.766
	C(7)	-0.001	
	P	0.001	
O(2)	-1.396	O(1)	1.067
C(8)	-1.873	C(9)	1.710
	O(3)	0.233	
	C(10)	0.004	
C(15)	-1.188	C(11)	1.205
C(14)	-1.154	C(12)	1.232
	C(13)	0.056	

The phosphonate group itself shows significant differences between 'equivalent' bonds and angles: 1.562 (3) Å for P-O(1) vs. 1.574 (3) Å for P-O(2), and 1.426 (5) and 1.442 (4) Å for O(2)-C(8) and O(1)-C(9) respectively. Also, P-O(2)-C(8) is 121.4 (2)° vs. 122.5 (2)° for P-O(1)-C(9). These findings correspond to the high thermal motion of the atoms of the ester groups. Nevertheless, the mean values of these bond lengths [P-O(-C)=1.568 ± 0.006 Å; (P-)O-C=1.434 Å] and the P=O distance fall in the expected range of 1.57 ± 0.02, 1.40-1.45, 1.46 ± 0.02 Å, respectively (Kraut & Jensen, 1963; Chiu & Lipscomb, 1969; Höhne & Lohs, 1969). The deviations from the tetrahedral symmetry around the phosphorus atom due to P-O linkages of different bonding type have already been discussed by several authors [see for example Daly & Wheatley (1967), Kraut & Jensen (1963)]. In the compound dis-

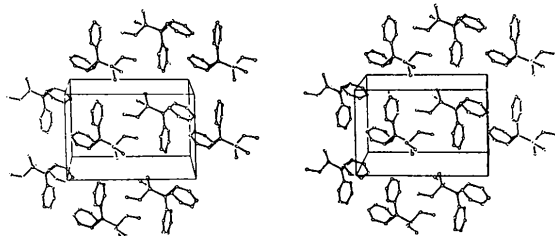


Fig. 4. Stereoscopic view of the unit cell.

cussed here, mutual repulsion between P-O single bond and the shorter P=O bond results in an increase of the bond angle (C-)O-P=O from 109.5° to 114.4°.

The arrangement of the molecules in the unit cell is shown in Fig. 4, which is a stereoscopic view drawn by the program ORTEP (Johnson, 1965). All intermolecular contacts are longer than the sum of the van der Waals radii.

We thank Dr R. Hoge for advice and assistance. We are also indebted to the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft who supported this work by various grants.

References

- AHMED, F. R. & GABE, E. J. (1964). *Acta Cryst.* **17**, 603-608.
 BARTLETT, M. W. (1972). *BLKLS - A Crystallographic Block-diagonal Least-squares Program*. ETH Zürich, Schweiz.
 BASTIANSEN, O., FRITSCH, F. N. & HEDBERG, K. (1964). *Acta Cryst.* **17**, 538-543.
 CHIU, Y. H. & LIPSCOMB, W. N. (1969). *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.* **91**, 4150-4155.
 CRUICKSHANK, D. W. J. (1961). *Computing Methods and the Phase Problem in X-ray Crystal Analysis*. Edited by R. PEPINSKY, J. M. ROBERTSON and J. C. SPEAKMAN. Oxford: Pergamon Press.
 DALY, J. J. & WHEATLEY, P. J. (1967). *J. Chem. Soc. (A)*, pp. 212-221.
 DREISSIG, W., LUGER, P., REWICKI, D. & TUCHSCHERER, C. (1973). *Cryst. Struct. Commun.* **2**, 197-200.
 FRITCHIE, C. J. (1966). *Acta Cryst.* **20**, 27-36.
 GÜNTHER, H. (1970). *Tetrahedron Lett.* pp. 5173-5176.
 GÜNTHER, H., TUNGGAL, B. D., REGITZ, M., SCHERER, H. & KELLER, T. (1971). *Angew. Chem.* **83**, 585.
 HOFFMANN, R. (1970). *Tetrahedron Lett.* pp. 2907-2909.
 HÖHNE, E. & LOHS, K. (1969). *Z. Naturforsch.* **24b**, 1071-1074.
 JOHNSON, C. K. (1965). *ORTEP*. Report ORNL-3794, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee.
 KARLE, I. L., DRAGONETTE, K. S. & BRENNER, S. A. (1965). *Acta Cryst.* **19**, 713-716.
 KRAUT, J. & JENSEN, L. H. (1963). *Acta Cryst.* **16**, 79-88.
 MAIER, G. (1967). *Angew. Chem.* **71**, 446-457.
 MAIN, P., WOOLFSON, M. M. & GERMAIN, G. (1971). *MULTAN - A Computer Program for the Automatic Solution of Crystal Structures*. Univ. of York, York, England.
 ONKEN, H. & FISCHER, K. F. (1968). *Z. Kristallogr.* **127**, 188-199.
 SCHERER, H., HARTMANN, A., REGITZ, M., TUNGGAL, B. D. & GÜNTHER, H. (1972). *Chem. Ber.* **105**, 3357-3381.
 WALSH, A. D. (1949). *Trans. Faraday Soc.* **45**, 179-190.