

GaCl₃-Assisted Cyclization Reactions in
Hypersilyl(trimethylsilyl)aminodichlorophosphineAlexander Villinger,[†] Andrea Westenkirchner,[†] Ronald Wustrack,[†] and Axel Schulz^{*,†,‡}

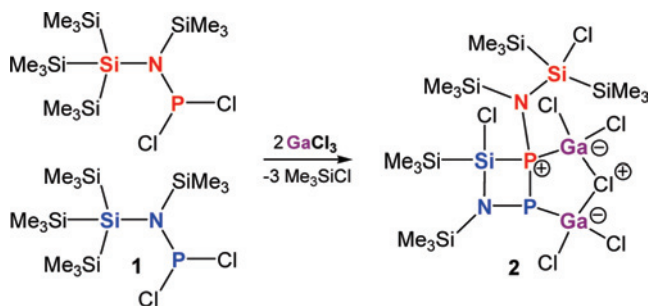
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Hypersilyl(trimethylsilyl)aminodichlorophosphine, (hyp)N(SiMe₃)PCl₂, was treated with GaCl₃, which resulted in the formation of an interesting novel bicycle, composed of a four-membered SiNP₂ ring and a five-membered P₂Ga₂Cl ring. In the presence of Me₃SiN₃, the same reaction provided access to a *cyclo*-2-phospha-4-sila-1,3-diazonium tetrachlorogallate. The free chloro-*cyclo*-phosphasiladiazane was obtained by the addition of nucleophilic bases.

Lewis-acid-assisted reactions such as [3 + 2] cyclizations, methyl/halogen exchange, or ring extension have attracted considerable interest in the last years.^{1,2} With the help of such reactions, it was possible to generate a series of low-coordinated P^{III}/N and As^{III}/N heterocycles and cationic PN species bearing reactive multiple E–N bonds (E = P, As). Recent work in our group has focused on a new strategy for the ostensible generation and stabilization of cyclic and linear P^{III}/N cations utilizing both Lewis-acid-assisted reactions and nonaryl bulky groups such as the hypersilyl group [(Me₃Si)₃Si = hyp]. The hypersilyl group was first introduced

Scheme 1. Reaction of **1** with GaCl₃ Leading to the Formation of Bicycle **2**



by Gilman and Harrell in 1966,³ but tris(trimethylsilyl)silylamine and its lithium salt were not reported until 1993.⁴

In the present work, we report on the preparation of hitherto unknown hypersilyl(trimethylsilyl)aminodichlorophosphine, (hyp)N(SiMe₃)PCl₂ (**1**), which seemed to be an attractive candidate for a GaCl₃-assisted Me₃SiCl elimination, resulting in the formation of the kinetically stabilized hypersilylated iminophosphine, (hyp)N=PCl. However, instead of (hyp)N=PCl, a surprising heterobicycle, involving only heteroatoms, was formed (Scheme 1).

Aminophosphine **1** is easily prepared in a two-step synthesis starting from *N*-hypersilyl-*N*-(trimethylsilyl)amine: (i) The lithium amide is formed in situ by the addition of *n*-BuLi in *n*-hexane at 0 °C. (ii) The reaction of lithium amide with PCl₃ at –30 °C leads to **1** in good yields (86%). The structure of **1** was determined from an X-ray crystallographic study of colorless monoclinic crystals grown from an *n*-hexane solution at –40 °C. The observed molecular structure (Figure 1) exhibits the expected geometry, with a short P–N distance [1.6451(9) Å; cf. the sum of the covalent radii $d_{\text{cov}}(\text{N}–\text{P}) = 1.8$ and $d_{\text{cov}}(\text{N}=\text{P}) = 1.6$ Å],⁵ indicating partial double-bond character for this P–N bond due to hyperconjugation.^{1,6}

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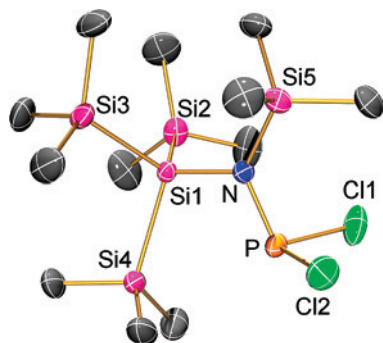


Figure 1. ORTEP drawing of the molecular structure of **1** in the crystal. Thermal ellipsoids with 50% probability at 173 K (hydrogen atoms omitted for clarity). See the text for values of selected metrical parameters.

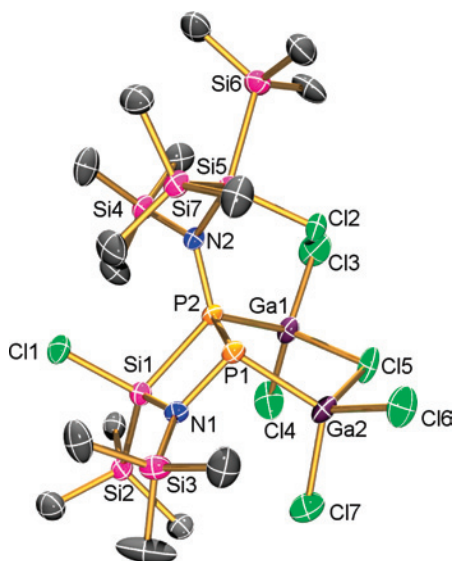
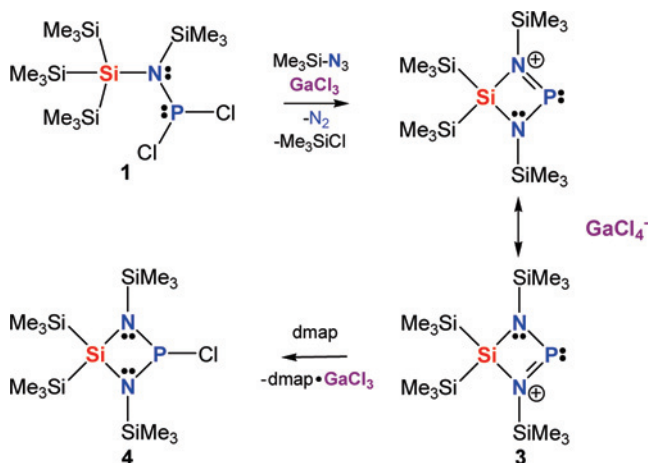


Figure 2. ORTEP drawing of the molecular structure of **2** in the crystal. Thermal ellipsoids with 50% probability at 173 K (hydrogen atoms omitted for clarity). See the text for values of selected metrical parameters.

The reaction of **1** and GaCl_3 (1:1 mixture; Scheme 1) over the course of 4 h at -25°C in CH_2Cl_2 gave a new compound with two ^{31}P NMR signals at 27.0 and 65.2 ppm [$J(^{31}\text{P}-^{31}\text{P}) = 192\text{ Hz}$] as the only product (isolated yield of compound **2** = 98%). The existence of two strongly coupled ^{31}P NMR signals clearly demonstrated the presence of an unexpected P–P bond. The product **2** was crystallized from CH_2Cl_2 at -80°C , and an X-ray diffraction study confirmed the formation of a P–P bond and a surprising bicycle composed of five different heteroatoms (Figure 2). We do want to stress that this reaction can be reproduced always in high yields (>95%). To the best of our knowledge, neither a four-membered SiNP_2 nor a five-membered $\text{P}_2\text{Ga}_2\text{Cl}$ cycle has been reported before. Furthermore, both structural motifs are unknown. Obviously, upon the addition of GaCl_3 , the elimination of Me_3SiCl is triggered¹ and a formal $\text{Me}_3\text{Si}/$

Scheme 2. Reaction of **1** with a 1:1 Mixture of GaCl_3 and Me_3SiN_3 and the Proposed Reaction Mechanism Leading to the Formation of **3** and **4**, Respectively (after the Addition of a Base Such as *dmap*)



chlorine exchange^{1g} occurs at the hypersilyl group.

Compound $2 \cdot \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ crystallizes in the orthorhombic space group $Pna2_1$ with $Z = 4$. The $\text{Ga}1\text{--P}2$ and $\text{Ga}2\text{--P}1$ distances are 2.366(2) and 2.369(2) Å, respectively, while the distances $\text{P}1\text{--N}1$ and $\text{P}2\text{--N}2$ are significantly different [1.763(6) vs 1.677(8) Å]. The $\text{P}1\text{--P}2$ bond length is 2.217(2) Å, in accordance with the sum of the covalent radii (2.2 Å;⁵ cf. 2.23–2.28 Å in azatriphosphabutadienes^{7a} or 2.1374(9) Å in the three-membered $\text{P}_2\text{C}(\text{R}^1)\text{MoR}^2$ complex, where $\text{R}^1 = \text{adamantyl}$ and $\text{R}^2 = \text{N}(\text{Ar})\text{-}i\text{-Pr}$).^{7b} The four-membered SiNP_2 ring is almost planar [deviation from planarity 6.6(2)°], while the five-membered $\text{P}_2\text{Ga}_2\text{Cl}$ ring is nonplanar with torsion angles between 20 and 35°. The dihedral angle ($\text{N}1\text{--P}1\text{--P}2\text{--Ga}1$) between both rings is 112.6(2)°. The $\text{P}1$ atom adopts a trigonal-pyramidal coordination geometry [$\Sigma(\text{P}1) = 292.2^\circ$], $\text{P}2$ a distorted tetrahedral geometry, and both nitrogen atoms are in a nearly trigonal-planar environment [$\Sigma(\text{N}) = 358.1^\circ$ ($\text{N}1$) and 360.0° ($\text{N}2$)]. The $\text{Si}1\text{--P}2\text{--P}1$ angle is rather small at 76.1(1)°. The $\text{N--P}1\text{--P}2$ angle is 89.5(2)°.

Despite the surprising formation of **2** in the reaction of **1** with GaCl_3 , we carried out the same reaction in the presence of the 1,3 dipole molecule Me_3SiN_3 . The idea was to cyclize iminophosphine, $(\text{hyp})\text{N}=\text{P}(\text{Cl})$ (formed in situ after GaCl_3 addition), with Me_3SiN_3 yielding a tetrazaphosphole GaCl_3 adduct attached to a hypersilyl group.¹ The reaction of **1**, Me_3SiN_3 , and GaCl_3 (1:1:1 mixture) over the course of 1 h at 0°C in CH_2Cl_2 gave again a new unexpected compound (**3**) with a ^{31}P NMR signal at 394.4. ppm as the major product (Scheme 2). This phosphorus resonance was observed in the range typical for dicoordinated cationic phosphorus(III) compounds (cf. 365.7 ppm in 1-chloro-2,4-bis-*tert*-butyl-*cyclo*-1,3-diphospha-2,4-diazanium tetrachloridoaluminate).¹¹

The solvent volume was then reduced to incipient crystallization in vacuo, and the solution was stored at -20°C for 10 h, resulting in the deposition of colorless crystals of **3** (isolated yield: 91%). Single-crystal X-ray studies revealed a 1,3,4,4-tetrakis(trimethylsilyl)-*cyclo*-2-phospha-4-sila-1,3-diazanium tetrachlorogallate (Figure 3). Interestingly, treating

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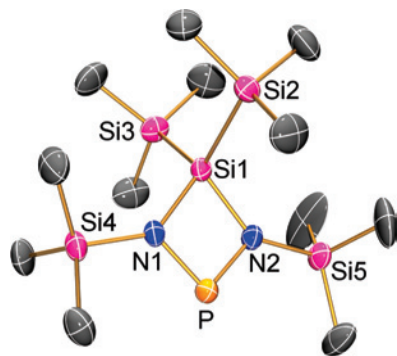


Figure 3. ORTEP drawing of the molecular structure of **3** in the crystal. Thermal ellipsoids with 50% probability at 173 K (hydrogen atoms and anion omitted for clarity). See the text for values of selected metrical parameters.

3 with bases such as tetrahydrofuran (THF) or 4-(dimethylamino)pyridine (dmap) affords neutral *cyclo*-phosphasiladiazane **4** and the THF·GaCl₃ and dmap·GaCl₃ adducts, respectively (Scheme 2). Because the dmap·GaCl₃ adduct precipitates in *n*-hexane, it is easily separated from neutral *cyclo*-phosphasiladiazane by filtration. The unexpected formation of **3** may be explained by an initial Staudinger reaction, followed by a Me₃SiCl elimination and an intramolecular cyclization step (Scheme 2).

cyclo-Phosphasiladiazanes⁹ are known and may be synthesized in a variety of ways such as metal chloride induced cyclization of bis[bis(trimethylsilyl)amino]thiophosphoryl chlorides and the interactions of dimethyldichlorosilane with dilithiobis(amido)phosphines and of aminodichlorophosphines with dilithiobis(amido)dimethylsilanes.¹⁰ All of these reactions lead to product mixtures, requiring additional separation steps. The previously reported displacement of PbCl₂ by PCl₃ from *cyclo*-plumbasiladiazane seems to be a much cleaner synthesis for *cyclo*-phosphasiladiazanes.¹¹ The new method presented here avoids the synthesis of plumbasiladiazane and represents a very clean, high-yielding approach.¹²

The only X-ray structure determination of a *cyclo*-2-phospha-4-sila-1,3-diazenium salt [Me₂Si(N-*t*-Bu)₂P⁺AICl₄⁻] was reported by Veith et al. with *t*-Bu groups attached to the nitrogen atoms.^{9b} In accordance with that structural report, the local C_{2v} symmetry of the planar cation is slightly distorted with two short P–N distances [*d*(P–N1) = 1.639(1) Å, *d*(P–N2) = 1.640(1) Å; cf. Me₂Si(N-*t*-Bu)₂P⁺AICl₄⁻ = 1.633(3) and 1.619(7) Å]^{9b} and two rather long Si–N bonds

[*d*(Si–N1) = 1.807(1) Å and *d*(Si–N2) = 1.810(1) Å]. Compound **3** crystallizes in the monoclinic space group *P*2₁/*c* with *Z* = 4.

In conclusion, this work has demonstrated the successful use of hitherto unknown silylated aminodichlorophosphine **1** in GaCl₃-assisted reactions yielding an interesting fully characterized novel bicycle (**2**) composed of five different heteroatoms. Moreover, we present here an easy, high-yielding (>90%) synthetic procedure and full characterization of a new *cyclo*-2-phospha-4-sila-1,3-diazenium tetrachlorogallate (**3**) when Me₃SiN₃ is added in addition to GaCl₃. Furthermore, neutral *cyclo*-phosphasiladiazanes were synthesized by the addition of bases to **3**.

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Supporting Information Available: Experimental details, a table of crystal data, list of selected bond lengths and angles, and crystallographic information files in CIF format. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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- (12) **2:** To a stirred solution of **1** (0.873 g, 2.0 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) was added dropwise GaCl₃ (0.387 g, 2.2 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) at –60 °C over a period of 15 min. The resulting red solution is stirred at –25 °C for 4 h and is then warmed to ambient temperatures over a period of 1 h, resulting in a pale-orange solution. Removal of the solvent and drying in vacuo yields 1.767 g (1.96 mmol, 98%) of **2** as a pale-yellow solid. Mp: 82 °C (dec). Anal. Calcd (found): C, 20.02 (19.58); H, 5.04 (5.05); N, 3.11 (2.80). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (25 °C, CD₂Cl₂, 121.5 MHz): δ 65.2 (d, ¹*J*(³¹P–³¹P) = 192 Hz), 24.2 –30.4 (m). ²⁹Si{¹H} NMR (25 °C, CD₂Cl₂, 59.6 MHz): δ –10.8, –6.9, –3.3, 15.3, 16.0, 32.7. ¹H NMR (25 °C, CD₂Cl₂, 300.13 MHz): δ 0.32 (dm, 9H, *J*(³¹P–¹H) = 1.7 Hz, Si(CH₃)₃), 0.36 (m, 9H, Si(CH₃)₃), 0.43 (m, 9H, Si(CH₃)₃), 0.50 (m, 9H, Si(CH₃)₃). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (25 °C, CD₂Cl₂, 75.5 MHz): δ –0.98 (dm, *J*(³¹P–¹³C) = 1.5 Hz, Si(CH₃)₃), 0.02 (m, Si(CH₃)₃), 0.47 (dm, *J*(³¹P–¹³C) = 7.1 Hz, Si(CH₃)₃), 2.00 (dm, *J*(³¹P–¹³C) = 8.1 Hz, Si(CH₃)₃), 3.72 (dm, *J*(³¹P–¹³C) = 3.5 Hz, Si(CH₃)₃). Raman (10 mW, 25 °C, 705 scans, cm⁻¹): 2960 (3), 2901 (10), 2758 (1), 1408 (1), 1256 (1), 839 (1), 797 (1), 749 (1), 695 (1), 630 (2), 540 (1), 472 (1), 397 (1), 327 (1), 295 (1), 235 (1), 166 (2). **3:** To a stirred solution of **1** (2.184 g, 5.0 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) was added dropwise Me₃SiN₃ (0.634 g, 5.5 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) at –40 °C over a period of 5 min. To the resulting colourless solution was added dropwise GaCl₃ (0.968 g, 5.5 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) at –40 °C over a period of 40 min. The resulting orange solution is warmed to 0 °C over a period of 1 h. After stirring for 30 min, the solution was concentrated in vacuo to incipient crystallization. Storage at –25 °C over a period of 10 h resulted in the deposition of colorless crystals. Removal of the supernatant by syringe and drying in vacuo yielded 2.697 g (4.56 mmol, 91%) of **3** as a colorless, crystalline solid. Mp: –101 °C (dec). Anal. Calcd (found): C, 24.37 (23.82); H, 6.14 (6.06); N, 4.74 (5.19). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (25 °C, CD₂Cl₂, 121.5 MHz): δ 394.4. ²⁹Si NMR (25 °C, CD₂Cl₂, 59.6 MHz): δ –12.5 (m, Si(Si(CH₃)₃)₂), 14.5 (m, ²*J*(²⁹Si–³¹P) = 2.8 Hz, NSi(CH₃)₃), 74 (m, Si(Si(CH₃)₃)₂). ¹H NMR (25 °C, CD₂Cl₂, 300.13 MHz): δ 0.39 (s, 18H, Si(Si(CH₃)₃)₂), 0.44 (d, 18H, ⁴*J*(¹H–³¹P) = 0.8 Hz, NSi(CH₃)₃). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (25 °C, CD₂Cl₂, 75.5 MHz): δ –1.86 (s, Si(Si(CH₃)₃)₂), 1.76 (d, ³*J*(¹³C–³¹P) = 4.7 Hz, NSi(CH₃)₃). Raman (150 mW, 25 °C, 451 scans, cm⁻¹): 3068 (1), 2961 (6), 2900 (10), 2787 (1), 2733 (1), 1416 (2), 1267 (2), 1094 (2), 890 (4), 831 (4), 755 (3), 703 (3), 642 (5), 628 (6), 375 (3), 346 (7), 322 (4), 218 (4), 167 (8), 156 (8). MS (FAB⁺, Cs, 20 keV, *p*-NBA matrix): 73 [Si(CH₃)₃]⁺, 381 [M_{cation} – Si(CH₃)₃ + 2H]⁺, 399 [M_{cation} + Cl – H]⁺.

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