

## Organophosphazenes.

### XIV. *Para* Substituted Aryl and Mixed *Para* Substituted Aryl/Phenyl Fluorocyclo-triphosphazene Derivatives [1]

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*The reactions of aryl lithium reagents containing electron donating substituents in the para position with hexafluorocyclo-triphosphazene,  $P_3N_3F_6$ , have been examined. These reactions yield the appropriate monoaryl pentafluorocyclo-triphosphazenes,  $P_3N_3F_5-C_6H_4X$  ( $X = F, Cl, OCH_3, CH_3$ ) in moderate yields. The monoaryl phosphazenes are converted to the geminally substituted mixed aryl/phenyl derivatives,  $2,2-P_3N_3F_4(C_6H_5)C_6H_4X$  ( $X = F, Cl, OCH_3, CH_3$ ), by the Friedel–Crafts reaction. The infrared and nmr spectroscopic data along with the mass spectrometry data are discussed in terms of perturbations of the aryl system by both the phosphazene and electron donor substituents.*

#### Introduction

The reactions of aryl lithium reagents with cyclic [1–4] and polymeric phosphazenes [5] have proved to be of value for the preparation of aryl-phosphazenes. To date phenyl [2, 3], tolyl [2, 3], *p*-dimethylaminophenyl [1], fluorophenyl [4] and perfluorophenyl [4] derivatives have been synthesized. In addition to aryl species, a wide variety of other organolithium reagents have been shown to undergo reactions with cyclophosphazenes [6–11]. This investigation involves the extension of this synthetic technique to the preparation of aryl phosphazenes with a variety of electron donating functional groups in the *para* position of the aryl ring. Interest in this type of compound is related to two topics of continuing interest in our studies of organophosphazenes. We have previously shown that the *p*-dimethylaminophenyl group functions as an effective electron donor to the strongly electron accepting fluorophosphazene moiety [12]. Consequently, it was of interest to prepare aryl phosphazenes with a range of electron donating groups on the aryl ring in order to probe the manifestations of these elec-

tronic effects on basic spectroscopic properties. We also have been developing organofunctional phosphazenes in order to provide starting materials for the preparation of new organophosphazenes *via* synthetic transformations of the exocyclic group [10, 11, 13]. Organofunctional arylphosphazenes would provide another possible source to new organophosphazenes.

#### Experimental

##### Materials and Measurements

Hexachlorocyclo-triphosphazene (Ethyl Corp.) was converted to hexafluorocyclophosphazene ( $P_3N_3F_6$ ) [14] which in turn was converted to paratolylpentafluorocyclo-triphosphazene [2] by previously reported procedures. Benzene\*\* and diethylether were distilled over sodium. Triethylamine was distilled from potassium hydroxide. The following reagents were used without further purification: *n*-butyl lithium (Alfa), 1-bromo-4-chlorobenzene (Aldrich), 1-bromo-4-fluorobenzene and 4-bromo-anisole (Eastman Kodak). Nmr spectra were obtained on a JEOL C-60HL spectrophotometer as fifteen percent cyclohexane solutions. Further dilutions did not produce any change in chemical shifts [15]. Second order spectra were simulated with the LACON III Program. Infrared spectra were obtained on thin films or nujol mulls using a Beckman IR-20A spectrophotometer with sodium chloride disks and were calibrated with polystyrene bands. Mass spectra were obtained on a Perkin-Elmer RMU-6D spectrophotometer at 80 eV. In certain cases ionizing voltages were varied from 80 to 15 eV with the lower limit taken as approaching the appearance potential. Calibration was accomplished using perfluorokerosene. Elemental analyses were performed by the Robertson Laboratories.

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\*\*Benzene is a suspect cancer agent and hence all manipulations involving benzene should be done in a fume hood and utilizing appropriate precautions.

TABLE I. Selected IR Data.<sup>a</sup>

Compound	$\nu$ NPN	$\nu$ PF <sub>asym</sub>	$\nu$ PF <sub>sym</sub>
P <sub>3</sub> N <sub>3</sub> F <sub>5</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> F	1263vs 1238s	938vs	853s, 822vs 793ms, 726ms, 723s, 709m
P <sub>3</sub> N <sub>3</sub> F <sub>4</sub> (C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> )C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> F	1254vs 1234s	922s, 900m	814 s 728m, 719w
P <sub>3</sub> N <sub>3</sub> F <sub>5</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	1262vs	977s 941vs	857s, 830vs 801s, 731s, 655s
P <sub>3</sub> N <sub>3</sub> F <sub>4</sub> (C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> )C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	1252vs	962m 953s, 910s	820s, 810s 799ms, 727s, 649ms
P <sub>3</sub> N <sub>3</sub> F <sub>5</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> OCH <sub>3</sub>	1260vs	931vs	846s, 822w
P <sub>3</sub> N <sub>3</sub> F <sub>4</sub> (C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> )C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	1252vs 1217s	937w, 906s	825m, 809ms 800ms, 723s, 709m
P <sub>3</sub> N <sub>3</sub> F <sub>5</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Cl	1261vs	935vs	850s 832vs, 813s 738m
P <sub>3</sub> N <sub>3</sub> F <sub>4</sub> (C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> )C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Cl	1250vs	949w 921s, 902s	806s 739ms, 727ms

<sup>a</sup>All frequencies in cm<sup>-1</sup>; calibrated with polystyrene band at 1601.8 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### Preparation of Mono (*p*-fluorophenyl)pentafluorocyclotriphosphazene

The procedure discussed here is a modification of those reported for the preparation of phenyl [3] and *p*-fluorophenyl fluorocyclotriphosphazenes [4]. A three-necked round-bottomed flask charged with 200 ml of diethyl ether, a stirring bar and 6.88 ml (0.06 mole) of *p*-FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Br was fitted with a nitrogen inlet, a pressure-equalizing dropping funnel and a reflux condenser attached to a mercury bubbler. The flask was cooled to -78 °C and flushed with nitrogen for 10 min. A solution of *n*-butyl lithium in hexane (25 ml, 0.06 mole) was admitted to the dropping funnel through a septum cup with a syringe. The butyl lithium solution was added to the *p*-FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Br solution dropwise over a period of 30 min with constant stirring. The solution was allowed to come to room temperature and stirring was continued for 45 minutes. A second three-necked flask was charged with a solution of 15.0 g (0.06 mole) of P<sub>3</sub>N<sub>3</sub>F<sub>6</sub> in 70 ml of diethyl ether and fitted with a nitrogen inlet and a reflux condenser attached to a mercury bubbler. An angled tube with 24/40 outer joints at each end was fitted to a pressure-equalizing dropping funnel at one end while the other end replaced the reflux condenser on the flask containing the *p*-FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Li solution, thus allowing transfer of the organometallic reagent. The dropping funnel was fitted to the flask containing the phosphazene solution. The assembled system was flushed with nitrogen at -78 °C and then the *p*-FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Li solution was added at 0 °C over a period of 90 min. The mixture was allowed to stir for an additional 2 hours at room temperature. After the solvent was removed, 100 ml of medium boiling petroleum ether was added and the solution was stored overnight at 10 °C. Repeated filtrations through filter aid were required to remove all of the lithium halides. The clear solution was treated with activated carbon. After removal of the carbon and solvent, the oily residue was distilled through a vigreux column at

0.6 mm, and the fractions boiling at 66–68 °C were collected; yield 6.2 g (32% of theory [16]) of a water white liquid. *Anal.* Calcd. for P<sub>3</sub>N<sub>3</sub>F<sub>5</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>F: C, 22.17; H, 1.24% mol wt., 325. Found: C, 22.26; H, 1.32%; mol wt., 325 (mass spectrum).

Using procedures identical to those described above, *para* substituted monoaryl pentafluorocyclotriphosphazenes with the formulae P<sub>3</sub>N<sub>3</sub>F<sub>5</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>X (X = Cl, OCH<sub>3</sub>) were prepared. These compounds were identified by ir and nmr spectroscopy and mass spectrometry.

#### Preparation of Geminal (*p*-methoxyphenyl)(phenyl)-tetrafluorocyclotriphosphazene

In a typical reaction, 20 ml of benzene was distilled into a 50 ml, three-necked, round-bottomed flask containing 1.04 ml (0.007 mole) of triethylamine and a stirring bar. The flask was charged with 6.0 g (0.023 mole) of aluminum chloride and fitted with a reflux condenser attached to a mercury bubbler and a pressure-equalizing funnel containing 1.9 g (0.005 mole) of P<sub>3</sub>N<sub>3</sub>F<sub>5</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>OCH<sub>3</sub> in 5 ml of freshly distilled benzene. The flask was heated to reflux with constant stirring. After 30 minutes, the P<sub>3</sub>N<sub>3</sub>F<sub>5</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>OCH<sub>3</sub> solution was added dropwise. The reaction was allowed to continue for 24 hours. After allowing the reaction mixture to cool, it was poured into a 150 ml beaker which was one-third filled with cracked ice and contained 0.5 ml of concentrated hydrochloric acid. The layers were separated and the water layer was extracted with benzene. The benzene layers were combined, extracted with water, aqueous sodium bicarbonate and water. The benzene layer was then dried over magnesium sulfate and treated with activated carbon. The solids and solvent were successively removed and the resulting oil was heated in a sublimation apparatus at 150 °C and 0.5 mm. A white crystalline solid, 1.1 g (53% of theory), m.p. 102–103 °C was obtained. *Anal.* Calcd. for P<sub>3</sub>N<sub>3</sub>F<sub>4</sub>(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>OCH<sub>3</sub>: C, 39.49; H, 3.03%; mol wt.,

TABLE II.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR Data for Aryl Pentafluorocyclotriphosphazenes,  $\text{P}_3\text{N}_3\text{F}_5\langle\text{O}\rangle\text{-X}$ .

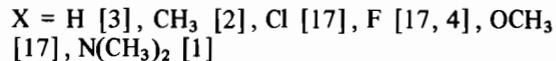
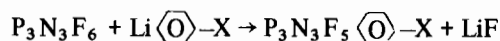
X	$\delta_{\text{Ho}}$	$\delta_{\text{Hm}}$	$\Delta_{\text{on}}$	$J_{\text{HoHm}}$	$J_{\text{PHo}}$	$J_{\text{PHm}}$
OCH <sub>3</sub>	7.80	6.94	0.86	9.1	15.5	4.0
F	7.96	7.17	0.79	9.0	15.0	4.0
CH <sub>3</sub>	7.80	7.28	0.52	8.2	16.2	4.5
Cl	7.82	7.46	0.36	8.5	15.7	3.5

395. Found: C, 37.53; H, 2.95%; mol wt., 395 (mass spectrum).

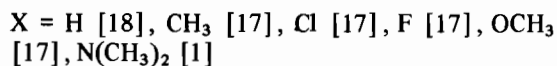
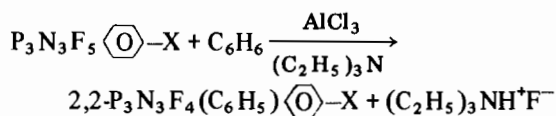
Using procedures identical to those described above, mixed phenyl, parasubstituted aryl tetrafluorophosphazenes with the formulae  $2,2\text{-P}_3\text{N}_3\text{F}_4\text{-}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{X}$  (X = CH<sub>3</sub>, F, Cl) were prepared. These compounds were identified by ir and nmr spectroscopy, and mass spectrometry.

### Results and Discussion

This investigation, when combined with previous investigations, demonstrates the broad scope of the organolithium reaction for the preparation of mono-arylpentafluorocyclotriphosphazenes. Furthermore,



all of these species may be effectively converted to the mixed phenyl/aryl tetrafluorocyclotriphosphazenes *via* the Friedel-Crafts reaction



Thus, the organolithium reaction represents a good route to the synthesis of arylphosphazenes with electron donating substituents on the aryl ring. Since aryl lithium reagents with electron withdrawing substituents are only stable at significantly reduced temperatures [19], aryl phosphazenes with electron withdrawing substituents are expected to be difficult to prepare.

The infrared spectra of the aryl fluorocyclotriphosphazenes are reported in Table I. The  $\nu\text{NPN}$  ring vibration of the monosubstituted phosphazenes occurs between  $1260\text{--}1263\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The replacement of a fluorine atom by a phenyl group leads to

decrease of  $8\text{--}10\text{ cm}^{-1}$  in  $\nu\text{NPN}$ . It is of interest to observe that a variation of *para* substituents on the aryl ring produces small variations in the phosphazene ring vibrational frequency. A further discussion of the origin of this effect is not warranted due to broad band width (even after successive dilution) and the complex nature of the transmission of aryl electronic effects to the phosphazene [12]. The magnitude of the decrease in  $\nu\text{NPN}$  on going to the disubstituted derivative is consistent with geminal rather than non-geminal substitution [18]. The geminal nature of the disubstituted derivative may also be demonstrated by the absence of a strong band which occurs in the region of  $760\text{ cm}^{-1}$  in non-geminal phenylfluorocyclotriphosphazenes\*.

The  $^1\text{H}$  nmr data for the aryl protons of the mono-aryl pentafluorocyclotriphosphazenes is reported in Table II. The spectra are of the AA'BB'X type (with the exception of the *para* fluoro derivative which is AA'BB'MX). Although it was tempting to treat the *ortho* protons as a first order case, it was found that simulation of the spectra using the LACON III program was necessary in order to obtain a consistent set of parameters. A combination of unresolved resonances and quadrupole broadening due to nitrogen gave relatively broad lines so that values for the long range hydrogen-hydrogen coupling constants ( $J_{\text{HoHo'}}$  and  $J_{\text{HmHm}}$ ) could not be obtained.

The chemical shifts of the protons *ortho* to the phosphazene ring are essentially constant for the *para* substituent being CH<sub>3</sub>, Cl or OCH<sub>3</sub>. Since the geometry of the system stays constant through the series, the *ortho* shifts are controlled by a combination of the anisotropic and electronic effects of the phosphazene ring. The *ortho* shift for the *para* fluoroderivative is significantly removed from the others in the series suggesting a stronger involvement of the *para* substituent in perturbation of the aryl ring electronic structure in this case. In *para* disubstituted benzene derivatives, one generally observes that the combination of a strong electron donor and

\*This band is reported in the solution ir spectra of non-geminal phenyl fluorophosphazenes [3] however it also occurs in mull spectra.

TABLE III. Mass Spectrometry Data for Aryl Pentafluorocyclotriphosphazenes,  $P_3N_3F_5(\text{O})-X^a$ 

Assignment	Relative Abundance			
	F	CH <sub>3</sub> O	Cl <sup>b</sup>	CH <sub>3</sub>
$P_3N_3F_5C_6H_4X^+$	100%	100%	100%	100%
$[P_3N_3F_5C_6H_4X-H]^+$	1.8	3.0	2.3	28.5
$P_3N_3F_5C_6H_4O^+$		12.6		
$P_3N_3F_5C_6H_4^+$	2.6	4.4	4.1	1.1
$P_3N_3F_5C_5H_4^+$		19.7		0.5
$m/e = 248$	1.1	1.1	24.3	
$P_3N_3F_5C^+$	5.2	2.8	6.8	3.5
$P_3N_3F_5H^+$	2.3	2.6	3.6	2.0
$P_3N_3F_5^+$	10.5	8.2	11.6	9.6
$P_3N_2F_5^+$	34.1	14.2	50.0	13.2
$P_3N_3F_4H^+$	1.3	1.6	3.9	2.0
$P_3N_3F_4^+$	0.9	0.8	3.3	1.1
$P_3N_2F_4^+$	4.9	6.8	4.5	9.8
$P_2NF_5H^+$				4.3
$P_2NF_5^+$	6.8	6.3	8.2	8.6
$P_3N_3F_5C_6H_4X^{2+}$	2.7	3.3	2.7	4.1
$P_3N_3F_5C_8H_6^{2+}$				6.7
$P_2NF_4^+$	3.9	3.8	4.5	5.3
$P_2NF_3^+$	1.1	1.2	1.8	1.7
$P_2NF_2^+$	3.9	3.0	5.0	0.6
$PN_2F_2^+$	1.7	4.9	2.3	2.1
$NC_6H_4X^+$	4.6	2.8	3.6	5.0
$C_6H_4X^+$	3.9	4.9	3.0	18.0

<sup>a</sup>Obtained at 80 eV; <sup>b</sup>based on <sup>35</sup>Cl.

strong electron acceptor produces a large difference in the *ortho* and *meta* chemical shifts ( $\Delta\text{om}$ ) while in cases where the discrimination between the groups is less dramatic, the value of  $\Delta\text{om}$  is smaller. In the molecules under consideration in this investigation, the strongly electron withdrawing effect of the pentafluorocyclotriphosphazene moiety [12, 15, 20] combined with good  $\pi$  donors (*e.g.* F, OCH<sub>3</sub>) results in significantly larger values of  $\Delta\text{om}$  than when the phosphazene is combined with weak electron donors (*e.g.* CH<sub>3</sub>, Cl). The phosphorus-*ortho* hydrogen coupling constant ( $J_{\text{PHo}}$ ) is of the same order of magnitude as previously reported for aryl phosphorus(V) compounds [15, 21]. The better  $\pi$  donors (F, OCH<sub>3</sub>) exhibit lower coupling constants while the poorer electron donors (Cl, CH<sub>3</sub>) exhibit higher values of  $J_{\text{PHo}}$ . The more electron density in the aryl ring, the lower the effective charge on the *ortho* hydrogen atom and hence one observes a reduction in the value of  $J_{\text{PHo}}$ . In keeping with previous observations [22], the small variation in the hydrogen-hydrogen coupling constant,  $J_{\text{HoHm}}$ , is related to the substituent group electronegativity values.

The mass spectra for the monoaryl pentafluorocyclotriphosphazenes are reported on Table III. The basic fragmentation process observed is the same as previously established for the monophenyl derivative [23]. This consistency throughout a series of compounds is important in the application of mass spectrometry to the identification of new compounds. Features which are unique to individual molecules can usually be related to the known fragmentation tendencies of the organic moiety *e.g.* loss of the methyl group in the *para* methoxy derivative and tropyllium ion formation in the *para* tolyl derivative.

The mass spectra of the mixed aryl/phenyl tetrafluorocyclotriphosphazenes (Table IV) are also understandable in terms of the basic process established for phenyl fluorocyclotriphosphazenes [23] with perturbations reflecting *para* substituent fragmentation. Organic group substituent decomposition makes significant contributions to the mass spectra of the diorgano derivatives, particularly in the *para* methoxyl and tolyl derivatives. The basic phosphazene fragmentation route observed is the successive cleavage of the aryl groups which is characteristic of geminally substituted derivatives [23]. Thus, the mass spectrometry data confirm the infrared results in the assignment of the geminal configuration to the disubstituted derivatives (the expected product in a Friedel-Crafts reaction [18]). It is of particular interest to compare the intensity of the ion resulting from the loss of the phenyl group ( $P_3N_3F_4C_6H_4X^+$ ) compared to the ion resulting from the loss of the *para* substituted aryl group ( $P_3N_3F_4C_6H_5^+$ ). Previously, we have shown that a phenyl group is lost in preference to a *para* dimethylaminophenyl group in geminal phenyl/*para*dimethylaminophenyl fluorocyclotriphosphazenes and this observation was attributed to higher bond strength in the phosphorus-*para*dimethylaminophenyl unit than in the phosphorus-phenyl bond [23]. The tendency to lose a phenyl group in preference to the aryl group with an electron donating substituent is observed in most of the mixed aryl/phenyl derivatives in this investigation. The apparent reversal of this trend in the *para* chloro derivative relates to the fact that there are two possible precursors to the  $P_3N_3F_4C_6H_5^+$  ion *i.e.*  $P_3N_3F_4(C_6H_5)C_6H_4Cl^+$  and  $P_3N_3(C_6H_5)C_6H_4^+$ . The mass spectrum of  $P_3N_3F_4(C_6H_5)C_6H_4CH_3$  is rather complex with no  $P_3N_3F_4C_6H_5^+$  ion and a very intense ion associated with tropyllium derivative. In order to insure that the observed intensity differences are related to thermodynamic parameters, the spectra of the two derivatives with strong electron donors (fluoro and methoxy) were run at successively lower ionization energies until the region approaching the appearance potential was reached (approximately 15 to 18 eV). In the *para* methoxyl derivative the intensity

TABLE IV. Selected Mass Spectrometry Data for Aryl Phenyltetrafluorocyclotriphosphazenes,  $P_3N_3F_4(C_6H_5)C_6H_4X$ .<sup>a</sup>

Assignment	Relative Abundance			
	F	CH <sub>3</sub> O	Cl <sup>b</sup>	CH <sub>3</sub> <sup>c</sup>
$[P_3N_3F_4(C_6H_5)C_6H_4X + H]^+$	93	26		
$P_3N_3F_4(C_6H_5)C_6H_4X^+$	100	34	97	4
$[P_3N_3F_4(C_6H_5)C_6H_4X - H]^+$		17.2	100	7
$P_3N_3F_4(C_6H_5)C_6H_5O^+$		100		
$P_3N_3F_4(C_6H_5)C_6H_4O^+$		100		
$P_3N_3F_4(C_6H_5)C_6H_4^+$			24.7	
$P_3N_3F_4C_6H_4X^+$	31		39	52
$P_3N_3F_4C_7H_7^+$				100
$P_3N_3F_4C_6H_5O^+$		56		
$P_3N_3F_4C_6H_5^+$	10.5	18	48	0
$P_3N_3F_4^+$	13.7	8.9	24.7	11
$P_3N_2F_4^+$	18.7	4.3	32.5	15.2

<sup>a</sup>Obtained at 80 eV; only ions relevant to the discussion reported; <sup>b</sup>based on <sup>35</sup>Cl; <sup>c</sup>complex spectrum, possibly due to impurity peaks.

difference between the  $P_3N_3F_4C_6H_5O^+$  and the  $P_3N_3F_4C_6H_5^+$  ions increases at lower ionization energies. While in the case of the *para* fluoro derivative, the ratio of the  $P_3N_3F_4C_6H_4F^+$  to the  $P_3N_3F_5C_6H_5^+$  ion intensities approaches unity at lower ionization energies. Thus in the *paramethoxy* case, phosphorus-carbon bond enthalpy is greater in the bond to the *para* substituted aryl group. In the *para* fluoro derivative, there is no preferential phosphorus-carbon stabilization in the appearance potential region consequently the intensity difference at higher ionization energies is related to kinetic effects. Two of most probable kinetic effects which are reasonable for this system are stabilization of the developing positive ion by the electron donating *para*-fluorophenyl moiety and the superior leaving group ability of the phenyl group.

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