

## NEW SYNTHETIC METHOD OF O,S-THIOACETALS OF FORMYLPHOSPHONATES

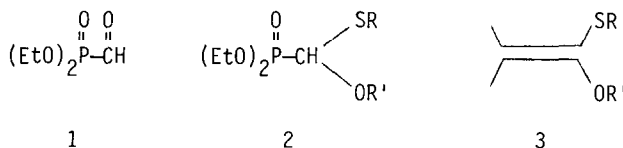
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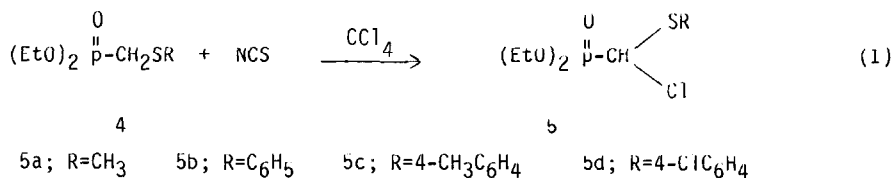
**Abstract:** The reaction of diethyl [(methylthio or arylthio)methyl]phosphonate with N-chlorosuccinimide (NCS) affords  $\alpha$ -chloromethanephosphonate(5), which can be converted into a variety of O,S-thioacetals of formylphosphonates(2) by reaction with alcohols.

Phosphonate esters containing an electron-withdrawing substituent form stabilized carbanions which can effect the synthesis of certain olefins from aldehydes and ketones.<sup>1</sup> O,S-Thioacetals of formylphosphonates(2) which are the derivatives of the practically unknown formylphosphonate(1)<sup>2</sup> are the intermediates for the conversion under Wittig-Horner reaction conditions into the corresponding ketene O,S-thioacetals(3).<sup>3</sup> Ketene O,S-thioacetals are also valued reagents for the conversion into thioesters and amides.<sup>4</sup> Until now, the synthetic methods for 2 have been described by M. Mikolajczyk et al.<sup>1b,2,5b</sup> However their use is still hampered by low yield and reaction conditions.



We wish to report both the preparation and reaction of diethyl [chloro(methylthio or arylthio)methyl]phosphonate(5) to develop a new general route to prepare O,S-thioacetals of formylphosphonates(2) in high yields. The  $\alpha$ -chloromethanephosphonates(5) are potential precursors of the corresponding carbanions and carbenes. Some methods now exist for the synthesis of these reagents.<sup>5</sup> The required phosphonates(5) were prepared quantitatively by reaction of diethyl [(methylthio or arylthio)methyl]phosphonates with N-chlorosuccinimide(NCS) in carbon tetrachloride at room temperature(eq.1). Although the best yields were generally obtained by using a 10-20% excess of NCS, it was proved to give only monochloro-substituted phosphonates(5) without dichloro-substituted phosphonates by means of the careful examination of <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectroscopy. The phosphonates(5) were obtained in better than 98% purity as a pale yellow liquid, but they were not purified by distillation.

Diethyl [(methylthio or arylthio)methyl]phosphonates(4) as starting agents were prepared by Arbuzov reaction of triethyl phosphite with chloromethyl methyl(or aryl)sulfides(eq.2).<sup>6,7</sup>



A new approach to the synthesis of thioacetals(2) involves the reaction of  $\alpha$ -chloromethane phosphonates(5) with alcohols(eq.3). The general procedure was the reaction between 5 and excess refluxing alcohols without other solvent. Using this procedure, a variety of thioacetals(2) were prepared in nearly quantitative yield without any traces of side product(Table I). The structure of all compounds prepared in the present work was confirmed by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR, IR,  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR, and mass spectroscopy.<sup>8,9</sup>

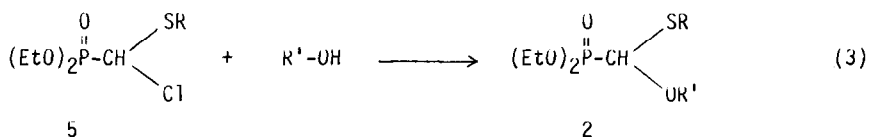
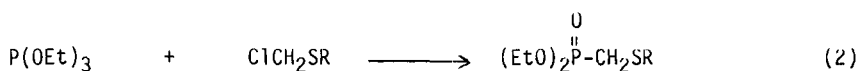


Table I. Preparations of O,S-Thioacetals of Formylphosphonates (2)

No	R	R'	Reaction time (h)	Yield (%) <sup>a</sup>	b.p. ( $^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{mmHg}$ ) <sup>b</sup>	$^{31}\text{P}$ NMR <sup>c</sup> ( $\text{CDCl}_3/\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$ )
2a	$\text{CH}_3$	$\text{CH}_3$	0.5	94	73-75/0.5	+16.0
2b	$\text{CH}_3$	$\text{C}_2\text{H}_5$	1.0	96	100-101/1.0	+15.6
2c	$\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$	$\text{CH}_3$	24	95	136-138/0.5	+15.4
2d	$\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$	$\text{C}_2\text{H}_5$	36	92	152-154/0.4	+15.5
2e	4- $\text{CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$	$\text{CH}_3$	2.0	95	138-140/0.5	+16.2
2f	4- $\text{CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$	$\text{C}_2\text{H}_5$	3.0	93	142-145/0.4	+16.3
2g	4- $\text{ClC}_6\text{H}_4$	$\text{CH}_3$	24	86	143-145/0.5	+15.5
2h	4- $\text{ClC}_6\text{H}_4$	$\text{C}_2\text{H}_5$	36	85	150-151/0.4	+15.9

<sup>a</sup> Isolated yield by Kugelrohr distillation.

<sup>b</sup> Lit.<sup>5b</sup>; 2a; 64/0.1 2b; 103-105/1.5 2c; 125-128/0.05 2d; 138-142/0.02

<sup>c</sup> The conversion of positive  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR signals to low field from  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  is used.

The general experimental procedure is as follows.

Diethyl [chloro(methylthio or arylthio)methyl]phosphonates(5) : A solution of diethyl [(methylthio or arylthio)methyl]phosphonates(4) (5 mmol) in 3 ml carbon tetrachloride was added to a suspension of 0.81 g NCS (6 mmol) in 17 ml carbon tetrachloride and the mixture was stirred for 3 h at room temperature under nitrogen. Then the insoluble materials were removed and the filtrate was concentrated. The residue was diluted with solution of 4 ml chloroform and 4 ml hexane, chilled and the precipitate so obtained filtered off. The mixture solvent was removed to give 5.

O,S-thioacetals of formylphosphonates(2) : A solution of diethyl [chloro(methylthio or arylthio)methyl]phosphonates(5) (1 mmol) in alcohol was refluxed for 0.5-36 h. After the reaction was complete, the excess alcohol was evaporated, and the product was purified by repeated Kugelrohr distillation.

#### References and Notes

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4. (a) A. de Groot and B. J. M. Jansen, *Syn. Commun.*, 985(1983). (b) S. Hackett and T. Livinghouse, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 3539(1984).
5. (a) H. Gross and H. Seibt, *J. Prakt. Chem.*, 312, 475(1970). (b) M. Mikolajczyk, A. Zatorski, S. Grzejszczak, B. Costisella, and W. Midura, *J. Org. Chem.*, 2518(1978).
6. (a) N. Kreutzkamp and J. Pluhatsch, *Arch. Pharm. (Weinheim, Ger.)* 292, 159(1959). (b) M. Green, *J. Chem. Soc.*, 1324(1963).
7. Another routes to these compounds are described by (a) B. A. Arbuzov and N. P. Boyonostseva, *Zh. Obshch. Khim.*, 2419(1956). (b) *Ibid.*, 2360(1957). (c) D. L. Comins, A. F. Jacobine, J. L. Marshall, and M. Turnbull, *Synthesis*, 309(1978). (d) J. G. Smith, M. S. Finck, B. D. Kontoleon, M. A. Trecocke, L. A. Giordano, and L. A. Renzulli, *J. Org. Chem.*, 48, 1110(1983).
8. Characteristics of 5. 5a; H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.48 (6H, t, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.52 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.38 (4H, dq, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 5.08 (1H, d, PCH, J=12); IR (CH<sub>3</sub>Cl) 3010, 1260 (P=O, s), 1060-1025 cm<sup>-1</sup>(vs); <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>/H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>) + 14.1 5b; H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.52 (6H, t, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.43 (4H, dq, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 5.40 (1H, d, PCH, J=12), 7.40-7.83 (5H, m, ArH); IR (CH<sub>3</sub>Cl) 3030, 2990, 1260 (P=O, s), 1050-1020 cm<sup>-1</sup>(vs); <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>/H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>) + 14.3 5c; H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.37 (6H, t, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.33 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>), 5.25 (1H, d, PCH, J=13), 7.06-7.56 (4H, m, ArH); IR (CH<sub>3</sub>Cl), 2995, 1265 (P=O, s), 1050-1020 cm<sup>-1</sup>(vs); <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>/H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>) + 13.6 5d; H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.40 (6H, t, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.23 (4H, dq, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 5.39 (1H, d, PCH, J=14), 7.20-7.67 (4H, m, ArH); IR (CH<sub>3</sub>Cl) 1260 (P=O, s), 1050-1020 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>/H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>) + 13.1
9. Characteristics of 2. 2a; H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.50 (6H, t, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.40 (3H, s, SCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.63 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.73 (4H, dq, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.60 (1H, d, PCH, J=10); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) 3000, 1260 (P=O, s), 1090-1020 cm<sup>-1</sup> (vs); Mass (m/e) 228 (M<sup>+</sup>), 182 (Base peak), 167, 121, 91, 65,

2b; H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.40 (6H, t, CHOCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.50 (3H, t, POCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.40 (3H, s, SCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.53-4.00 (2H, m, CHOCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.40 (4H, dq, POCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.71 (1H, d, PCH, J=11); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) 2955, 1260 (P=O, s), 1055-1030 cm<sup>-1</sup> (vs). 2c; H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.50 (6H, t, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.73 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.38 (4H, dq, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 5.10 (1H, d, PCH, J=11), 7.33-7.81 (5H, m, ArH); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) 3025, 1260 (P=O, s), 1075-1020 cm<sup>-1</sup> (vs); Mass (m/e) 290 (M<sup>+</sup>), 153 (Base peak), 121, 93, 65. 2d; H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.30 (3H, t, CHOCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.50 (6H, t, POCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.53-4.00 (2H, m, CHOCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.38 (4H, dq, POCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 5.21 (1H, d, PCH, J=11), 7.33-7.81 (5H, m, ArH); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) 3025, 1260 (P=O, s), 1075-1020 cm<sup>-1</sup> (vs). 2e; H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.37 (6H, t, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.40 (3H, s, ArCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.63 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.25 (4H, dq, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.90 (1H, d, PCH, J=11), 7.07-7.57 (4H, m, ArH); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) 2990, 1260 (P=O, s), 1080-1025 cm<sup>-1</sup> (vs); Mass (m/e) 304 (M<sup>+</sup>), 167 (Base peak), 121, 93, 65. 2f; H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.33 (3H, t, CHOCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.43 (6H, t, POCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.53-4.10 (2H, m, CHOCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.30 (4H, dq, POCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 5.03 (1H, d, PCH, J=11), 7.10-7.63 (4H, m, ArH); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) 2990, 1260 (P=O, s), 1080-1025 cm<sup>-1</sup> (vs). 2g; H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.43 (6H, t, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.67 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.30 (4H, dq, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.95 (1H, d, PCH, J=11), 7.27-7.68 (4H, m, ArH); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) 3030, 1260 (P=O, s), 1080-1020 cm<sup>-1</sup> (vs); Mass (m/e) 324 (M<sup>+</sup>), 326 (M<sup>+</sup>+2), 187 (Base peak), 121, 93, 65. 2h; H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.31 (3H, t, CHOCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.43 (6H, t, POCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.43 (3H, s, ArCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.57-4.00 (2H, m, CHOCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.30 (4H, dq, POCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 5.03 (1H, d, PCH, J=11), 7.27-7.67 (4H, m, ArH); IR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 3050, 1260 (P=O, vs), 1080-1030 cm<sup>-1</sup> (vs).

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