The Novel Behaviour Of Dialkyl Phosphites Toward 1,4- Benzoquinone Monoimines

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Abstract : Diethyl phosphite 2a reacts with N- (phenylsulfonyl) - 1,4 - benzoquinone monoimine la to give 1,4-diethyl { (2-hydroxy-5-[(phenylsulfonyl) amino] phenyl } bisphosphonate 3a, diethyl {1-hydroxy -4- [(phenylsulfonyl) imino] -2,5-cyclohexadiene) }phosphonate 3b and amide 3c, respectively. When quinone monoimine la was reacted with dimethyl- and diisopropyl phosphites (2b,c), the corresponding dialkyl phosphonate adducts 3e and 3f were obtained. Whereas quinone monoimine 1b is reduced mainly to amide 4b when treated with diethyl phosphite 2a, it reacts with dimethyl phosphile 2b to give the dialkyl phosphonate adduct 4a together with amide 4b. Possible reaction mechanism are considered and the structural assignments are based on compatible analytical and spectroscopic results.

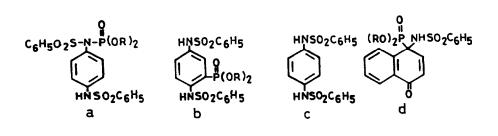
INTRODUCTION

It has been reported ¹ that dialkyl phosphites react with p-benzoquinone diffiences to form the corresponding phosphoramidates a, phosphonates b, and amide c, respectively. On the other hand, p-naphthoquinone monoimine is known ² to react with dialkyl phosphites yielding the phosphonate adducts d.

Since 1,4-benzoquinone monoimines la,b bear both the carbonyl and imino function, it appeared therefore of interest to examine their behaviour toward the same phosphite reagents to determine the preferential site of attack.

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 $R = CH_3$ or C_2H_5 or $CH(CH_3)_2$

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

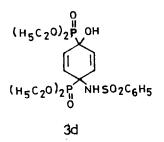
When N-(phenylsulfonyl)-1,4- benzoquinone monoimine la was allowed to react with freshly distilled diethyl phosphite 2a, in 1:15 molar ratio, in boiling benzene for 16 hrs, 1,4-diethyl {2-hydroxy-5-[(phenylsulfonyl) amino] phenyl } bisphosphonate 3a, diethyl { 1-hydroxy-4- [(phenylsulfonyl) imino] -2,5 - cyclohexadiene} phosphonate 3b, and 4-phenylsulfonyl-aminophenol 3c were isolated (Scheme 1). The same compounds were likewise formed when the reaction of quinone imine la and diethyl phosphite 2a was conducted without solvent. Structures 3a-c are chromatographically pure and possess sharp melting points. Elemental and mass spectral analyses for compound 3a corresponded to an empirical formula of $C_{20}H_{29}NO_9P_2S$.

The structure assigned for compound 3a was based on the ³¹P-NMR shifts (+18.28 ppm and + 22.30 ppm, vs. 85% H₃PO₄) which corresponds to the presence of bis (phosphonate) groups in position C-1 and C-4 respectively, with coupling constant value Jpp = 16.4 Hz. Long-range coupling between two phosphorus-nuclei in organic molecules have rarely been reported. Ernst ³ reported (3-9 Hz) J(pp) values over five to seven bonds in isomeric xylylene phosphonate. Recently, Duddeck et al.⁴ reported (17-18.2 Hz, ⁴Jpp) values for 3-substituted -1-adamantyl phosphoryl derivatives. Coupling constant value of 16.4 Hz (⁵Jpp) in bisphosphonate **3a** can be explained in terms of dominating π -electron mechanisms.³

The IR spectrum of **3a** revealed the absence of C=O and C=N absorption bands recorded at 1665 and 1585 cm⁻¹, respectively, in the starting quinone imine **Ia**. The spectrum also showed strong absorption bands at 3150 (NH), 3250 (OH), 1335, 1183 (SO₂), 1230 \Leftrightarrow P=O, bonded) ⁵, 1035, and 1175 cm⁻¹ (P-O-C₂H₅), ⁵

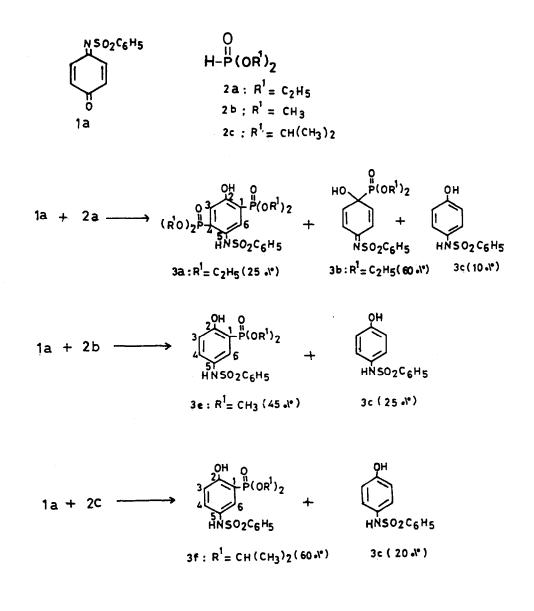
The ¹H-NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of compound **3a** in CDCl₃ disclosed the presence of two exchangeable (D_2O) -NH and - OH protons appeared as two signals at 11.38 and 12.12 ppm, respectively. The four ethoxy-CH₃ protons attached to both phosporus appear as a complex pattern in the region (1.23-1.30 ppm, 12H, m). The quintets of the same ethoxy-CH₂ protons of the bisphosphontae groups appear as a complex

pattern in the region 3.79-4.14 ppm (8H, m). The 5 aromatic protons of the (phenylsulfonyl) group appeared as a multiplet at 7.30-7.58 ppm. The spectrum also showed a doublet of doublets centered at 7.15 ppm with ${}^{3}J_{HP}$ = 9 Hz corresponding to the C-3 proton. C-6 proton appeared as doublet of doublets centered at 7.97 ppm with ${}^{3}J_{HP}$ = 9 Hz (cf. Scheme 1). The ${}^{13}C$ -NMR spectrum of compound **3a** furnishes strong evidence in support of the bisphosphonate structure. The ${}^{13}C$ -NMR of **3a** in CDCl₃ shows a doublet at 129.71 ppm with coupling constant value ${}^{1}J_{PC}$ = 114.28 Hz ascribed to C-1 attached to phosphorus. Another doublet at 125.66 ppm with ${}^{1}J_{PC}$ = 114.28 Hz attributed to C-4 attached to the other phosphorus atom⁶. Also, the spectrum shows signals at 62.8, 62.7 (\supseteq P-OCH₂) and at 16.1, 16.05 ppm (P-O-CH₂-CH₃). ${}^{1}H$ and ${}^{13}C$ -NMR of compound **3a** are in favour of the 1,4 diethylphosphonate structure which rule out the other possible alternative form **3d**.



Actually, the mass spectrum of compound **3a** provided strong evidence in support of the bisphosphonate adduct. The mass spectrum of **3a** yielded a prominent peak for M^+ at m/e 521 (60%), (M^+ -SO₂Ph) = 380 (100%). Compound **3a** responds positively to the ferric chloride test (an indication of the presence of a phenolic - OH group).

The structure of the other isolated compound **3b** is deduced from its analysis , IR, ¹H , ³¹P, ¹³C-NMR and mass spectral data . Elemental and mass spectral analyses for compound **3b** corresponded to an empirical formula of C₁₆ H₂₀NO₆PS . Its IR spectrum , in KBr, revealed the presence of strong - OH absorption band at 3200 cm⁻¹. Moreover, its IR spectrum lacked the carbonyl absorption band at 1656 cm⁻¹ recorded for quinoneimine **1a**. Also , the IR spectrum of **3b** exhibits strong absorption bands at 1558 cm⁻¹ (C=N) , 1347 cm⁻¹ , 1185 cm⁻¹ (SO₂), 1230 ($\stackrel{>}{_{2}}$ P=O, bonded) ⁵, 1035 ,1175 cm⁻¹ ($\stackrel{>}{_{2}}$ P-O-C₂H₅) ⁵and at 1440 (P-Ph).⁶ ¹H-NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of diethyl {1-hydroxy-4-[(phenylsulfonyl)- imino]-2,5-cyclohexadiene} phosphonate **3b** in CDCl₃ disclosed the presence of a triplet centered at 1.17 ppm, due to the two ethoxy-CH₃ groups attached to phosphorus (6H, t) , and a 4 H quintet centered at 1.389 ppm with J_{HP} = 12.5 Hz , due to the ethoxy-CH₂ protons attached to phosphorus.⁷ It also shows doublets centered at 6.90 ppm with J_{HP} = 15.5 Hz and J_{HH} = 8.80 Hz (H-2, H-3) and another pair of doublets centered at 6.73 ppm with J_{HP} 15.5 Hz and J_{HH} = 8.80 Hz (H-3, H-2).⁸ The 5 aromatic protons of the (phenylsulfonimino) appeared as a multiplet at 7.62-7.82 ppm . The ¹H-NMR of **3b** disclosed the presence of a signal at 9.20 ppm (-OH, s, exchangeable with D₂O). The ¹³C-NMR spectrum of **3b** proved that C-1 appears at 69.8 ppm (d, ¹J_{CP} = 149.7 Hz) corresponding to the quatenary carbon atom (head bridged saturated carbon) and C-4 appears at 139.1 (C=N).⁹ Also , the ¹³C-NMR spectrum of **3b** shows signals at 62.96 ppm(P-O-CH₂) and at 15.98 ppm (P-O-CH₂-CH₃). The structure assigned for compound **3b** was also based on the ³¹P-NMR shift (+18.3 ppm, vs. 85% H₃PO₄) which corresponds to a phosphonate structure.^{10,11} The mass spectrum of **3b** yielded a prominent peak for M⁺



Scheme 1

at m/e 385 (100%), ($M^+ - P^{\neq O} - (OC_2H_5)_2$) = 248 (22%).

A possible explanation for the reaction of diethyl phosphite 2a with N - (phenylsulfonyl) 1,4 - benzoquinone monoimine 1a is shown in (Scheme 2). Product 3a is presumably formed via a series of 1,4 - additions and oxidations.¹² Formation of compound 3b is explained by assuming a 1/2 - addition of diethyl phosphite to the starting quinone imine 1a.

The significance of this finding is not only the discovery of an anomalous behaviour of diethyl phospite but also the demonstration of a novel route for preparing the new 1,4 - bisphosphonate adduct **3a** via diethyl phosphite .

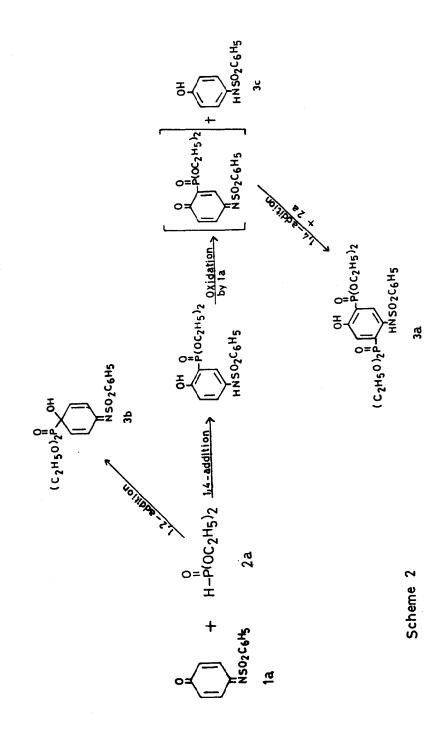
Dimethyl - , and diisopropyl phosphites 2b, c, on the other hand, react with N - (phenylsulfonyl) – 1,4- benzoquinone monoimine 1a in the coventional manner to give the corresponding dialkyl phosphonate adducts 3e and 3f, respectively. 4 - Phenylsulfonyl aminophenol 3c is also isolated in both reactions (Scheme 1), Structure elucidation of dimethyl { 2 - hydroxy - 5 - [(phenylsulfonyl) amino] phenyl } phosphonate 3e was performed from the following evidence : (a) Microanalysis and molecular mass determination (MS) for compound 3e correspond to $C_{14}H_{16}NO_6PS$. (b) The IR spectrum of adduct 3e, in KBr, reveals the presence of strong NH, and - OH absorption bands at 3290 and 3300 cm⁻¹, respectively. Moreover, its IR spectrum lacked both the carbonyl and C=N absorption bands appearing in the starting quinone imine 1a at 1656 and 1585 cm⁻¹, respectively. Also, the IR spectrum of 3e exhibits strong absorption bands at 1347 cm⁻¹, 1183 cm⁻¹ (SO₂), 1230 cm⁻¹ ($\stackrel{>}{\sim}$ P=O, bonded), 1056 cm⁻¹ ($\stackrel{>}{\sim}$ P-O-CH₃) and 1447 cm⁻¹ ($\stackrel{>}{\sim}$ P-Ph). (c) Compound 3e responds positively to the ferric chloride test and dissolves in aqueous alkali (due to the presence of phenolic - OH group). The ¹H - NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of 3e (in CDCl₃) disclosed the presence of a doublet centered at 3.68 ppm with J_{HP} = 11.60 Hz, ascribed to the two OMe groups attached to phosphorus.⁷

It also shows a doublet of doublets centered at 7.03 with $J_{HP} = 14.95$ Hz and $J_{HH} = 2.4$ Hz ascribed to the C - 6 proton (Scheme 1). The spectrum also showed doublets at 6.87 ppm and 6.85 ppm with a coupling constant value of $J_{HH} = 7.32$ for (H-3, H-4)⁸, 7.43 with coupling constant value $J_{HH} = 7.33$ Hz for (H-4, H-3).⁸ The 5 aromatic protons of the (phenyl sulfonylamino) appeared as a multiplet at 7.62 - 6.78 ppm. The exchangeable (D_2O) protons (NH) and (OH) appeared as singlets at 8.7 and 10.01 ppm, respectively. The structure assigned for compound 3e was also based on the ³¹P-NMR shift (+23.2, vs 85% H₃PO₄) which corresponds to a phosphonate structure. ^{10,11} The mass spectrum of compound 3e yielded a prominent peak for M⁺ at m/e 357 (35%), M⁺P^{=O} (OCH₃)₂) = 249 (50%), P^{=O} (OCH₃)₂ = 108 (100%)

The ¹³C- NMR of dimethyl { 2- hydroxy - 5 - [(phenylsulfonyl) amino] - phenyl } phosphonate 3e in CDCl₃, shows a doublet at 127.30 ppm with coupling constant ${}^{1}J_{PC} = 91.5$ Hz ascribed to C-1 attached to phosphorus. The presence of $P^{=O}$ - (OCH₃)₂ group in 3e was also performed from a signal at 53.139 ppm in its ¹³C-NMR.

The identity of diisopropyl { $2 - hydroxy - 5 - [(phenylsulfonyl) amino] phenyl } phosphonate 3f was deduced from its elemental analysis, IR, ¹H - NMR and mass spectral data (cf. Experimental).$

From the above results, it is evident that although N-(phenylsulfonyl) - 1, 4 - benzoquinone monoimine 1a behaves toward dimethyl and diisopropyl phosphites in a manner quite similar to that described for p-benzoquinone diimines where the phosphonate adducts 3e, f are predominately or exclusively formed¹, yet the reaction of diethyl phosphite with the same quinone imine 1a proceeds in an anomalous manner where



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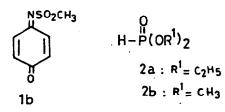
1,4 - diethyl bisphosphonate and 1 - diethyl phosphonate adducts 3a and 3b are formed, respectively.

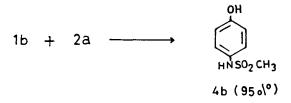
Further, this study was extended to include the reaction of N-(methylsulfonyl) - 1,4- benzoquinone monoimime 1b with the same phosphite reagents to establish whether it would behave in a similar manner.

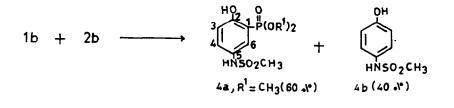
We have found that the reaction of dimethyl phosphite 2b with p-quinone imine 1b, in boiling benzene, proceeds according to a 1,4 addition mechanism to give mainly the phosphonate adduct 4a in (60%) and the corresponding amide 4b in 40% yield (Scheme 3).

The structure of dimethyl { 2 - hydroxy - 5 - [(methylsulfonyl) - amino] phenyl } phosphonate 4a was elucidated as follows : Compound 4a gave correct combustion values corresponding to the formula $C_9H_{14}NO_6PS$. The structure assigned for compound 4a was also based on ³¹P-NMR shift (+20.7 ppm, 85% H₃PO₄) which corresponds to a phosphonate and not to phosphate adduct ^{10,11}. The IR spectrum of 4a revealed the absence of C=O and C=N absorption bands at 1656 and 1587 cm⁻¹ recorded for quinone imine 1b.

The spectrum showed, however, strong absorption bands at 1280 cm⁻¹ ($\geq P=O$), at 1050 cm⁻¹ (P-O-CH₃), at 3320 (OH) and at 3200 (NH).









The ¹H-NMR spectrum of **4a** showed signals at 3.82 (6H, P (OCH₃)₂, d, J_{HP}= 11.55 Hz), 3 ppm (NSO₂<u>CH₃</u>, 3H, s), 7.1 (d with J_{HP} = 14.2, J_{HH} = 2.3 Hz) ascribed for C-6 proton, 6.9 (d with J_{3,4} = 7.3 Hz), 7.45 (d, with J_{4,3} = 7.3 Hz). The exchangeable (D₂O) protons (OH) and (NH) appeared as two signals at 10.05 and 7.48 ppm, respectively. The mass spectrum of **4a** yielded a prominent peak for M⁺ at m/e 295 (93%), M[±]NSO₂ CH₃ = 216 (90%), M⁺ - P^{\leq O} (OCH₃)₂ = 186 (100%).

The fact that compound 4a responds positively to the ferric chloride test and dissolve in aqueous alkali (an indication for the presence of phenolic -OH group) provided strong evidence in support of the phosphonate structure 4a.

Quinone monoimine **Ib** is reduced mainly to amide **4b** when treated with diethyl phosphite under similar conditions. This disparity in behaviour of quinone imine **1a**, on one hand and **Ib** on the other towards dialkyl phosphites is in accord with the difference in their behaviour towards trialkyl phosphites.¹³ Whereas trialkyl phosphites react with **1a** to give the corresponding phosphate adducts, the same reagents react with quinone imine **1b** to give only the alkylated products.¹³

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

All melting points are uncorrected. Benzene (thiophene-free) and petroleum ether (boiling range, 60-80 C) were dried over sodium. The dialkyl phosphites ^{14,15} were prepared by established procedures and were purified by fractional distillation. The IR spectra were measured in KBr, on Perkin Elmer Infracord Spectrophotometer Model 157 (Grating). The ¹H-NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ on JNM-GX-400 Fa Jeol, Tokyo Spectrometer. The ³¹P-NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ (vs. H₃PO₄ as external standard) on JNM - PS - 100 Fa, Spectrometer . ¹³C-NMR spectra were taken in CDCl₃ on JNM-PS-100 Fa and JNM-GX-400 Fa Spectrometer . The mass spectra were run at 70 eV on Kratos MS equipment and / or varian MAT 311 A Spectrometer .

Reaction of diethyl phosphite 2a with N-(phenylsulfonyl)-p-benzoquinone monoimine 1a

To a solution of quinone imine 1a (0.48 g; 0.002 mol) in dry benzene (20 ml), was added diethyl phosphite 2a (0.03 mol) and the reaction mixture was refluxed for 16 hrs. After evaporation of the volatile materials under reduced pressure, the residue was applied to silica gel column using the eluent stated below. The melting points and yields are also given.

Compound 3b : eluent : ethyl acetate/petroleum ether (30:70, v:v) colourless crystals from benzene ,

mp. 128°C, yield 60%. Anal. Calcd for $C_{16}H_{20}N0_6PS$ (385.352) C, 49.87; H, 5.23; N, 3.64; P, 8.04; S, 8.30. Found: C, 49.80; H, 5.25; N, 3.65; P, 8.07; S, 8.33 (MS) = 385. ¹H-NMR : signals at 1.17 ppm (6H, t, P (OCH₂CH₃)₂), 3.89 (4H, q, J_{HP} = 12.5 Hz, P(OCH₂CH₃)₂). 6.90 (d, H-2,3, J_{HP} = 15.5 Hz, J_{HH} = 8.80 HZ), 6.73 (d, H - 3, 2, J_{HP} = 15.5 Hz, J_{HH} = 8.80 Hz), 7.62-7.82 (m, 5H) and 9.20 ppm (s, OH exchangeable with D₂O). ³¹P-NMR : signal at 18.3 ppm. ¹³C-NMR : signals at 62.69 ppm (P-O-CH₂), 15.98 ppm (P-OCH₂CH₃), 69.8 ppm (d, ¹J_{CP} = 149.7 Hz, C-1) and 139.1 ppm (C=N), C-4)

Compound 3c: (10%) was also isolated and proved to be the amide (mixed mp and comparative IR spectera with authentic sample).¹⁶

Reaction of dimethyl phosphite 2b with quinone imine 1a

A mixture of 1a (0.48 g; 0.002 mol), dimethyl phosphite 2b (1.1 ml; 0.01 mol) and dry benzene (30 ml) was refluxed for 16 hrs. The volatile materials were evaporated under reduced pressure and the residual substance applied to silica gel column using eluent (ethyl actate/petroleum ether 60 : 40, v : v) to give 3e as colourless crystals, mp 172°C, yield (45%). Anal. Calc. For $C_{14}H_{16}NO_6PS$ (357.298) C, 47.06; H, 4.51; N, 3.92 P, 8.67, S, 8.95. Found : C, 47.03; H, 4.58; N, 3.93; P, 8.69; S, 8.99% (MS) = 357-¹H-NMR : signals at 3.68 ppm (d, 6H, , J_{HP} = 11.60 Hz, P (OCH₃)₂), 7.03 (d, 1H, J_{HP}=14.95 Hz, J_{HH}=2.4 Hz, C-6), 6.87 (d, J_{HH}=7.32 Hz, 3-H), 6.85 ppm (d, J_{HH}=7.32 Hz, 4-H), 7.43 ppm (d, J_{HH}=7.33 Hz, 4-H, 3-H), 7.62-6.78 ppm (m, 5H), 8.7 ppm (s, NH exchangeable with D₂O) and 10.01 ppm (s, OH exchangeable with D₂O). ³¹P-NMR : signal at + 23.2. ¹³C-NMR : δ = 127.30 (d, ¹J_{PC}=91.5 Hz, C-1) and signal at 53.139 ppm (d, P^{-O}) (OCH₃)₂). Compound 3c was also isolated (25%) and proved to be the corresponding amide (mixed mp and comparative IR spectra).

Reaction of diisopropyl phosphite 2c with N- (phenylsulfonyl) - 1,4- benzoquinone monoimime 1a

Amixture of diisopropyl phosphite 2c (2 ml) and quinone imine 1a (0.48 g) was refluxed on water bath for 2 hrs. The volatile material was then evaporated under reduced pressure, the residue applied to silica gel column using chloroform/petroleum ether (60:30, v:v) as eluent to give 3f as colourless crystals mp 144°, yield 60%). Anal. Calcd For; $C_{18}H_{24}NO_6PS$ (413.428) C, 52.29; H, 5.85; N, 3.38; P, 7.49; S, 7.75. Found : C, 52.26; H, 5.83; N, 3.36; P, 7.46; S, 7.73% MS = 413. IR: 3250 cm⁻¹ (OH), 3150 cm⁻¹ (NH). ¹H-NMR : δ =1.25 (d, 12H, J_{HH}=7 Hz, isopropyloxy – CH₃), 4.6 ppm (m, 2H, isopropyloxy CH).

Reaction of diethyl phosphite 2a with N-(methylsulfonyl) - 1,4 - benzoquinone monoimime 1b

A mixture of 1b (0.36 g, 0.002 mol), diethyl phosphite 2a (0.03 mol) and dry benzene (30 ml) was refluxed for 16 hrs. The volatile material was evaported in vacuo. The residual substance was crystallized from ethyl acetate and proved to be 4b (yield 95%) (mp. and mixed mp. 154°C).

Reaction of dimethyl phosphite 2b with N-(methylsulfonyl) - 1,4 - benzoquinone monoimine 1b

A mixture of **1b** (0.001 mol), dimethyl phosphite **2b** (0.03 mol), and dry benzene (30 ml) was refluxed for 16 hrs. The volatile material was evaporated in vacuo and the residual substance applied to silica gel column using acetone/petroleum ether (10:90 v:v) as eluent to give **4a** as colourless crystals, mp 120°C, yield 60%. Anal. Calcd. For $C_0H_{14}NO_6PS$ (295.249) C, 36.6; H, 4.77; N, 4.74; P, 10.49; S, 10.85

Found : C, 36.56; H, 4.70; N, 4.70; P, 10.5; S, 10.8. (MS) = 295. ¹H-NMR : signals at 3.82 (d, 6H, J_{HP} =11.55 Hz, P(OCH₃)₂), 3 ppm (s, 3H, NSO₂CH₃), 7.1 (d, J_{HP} =14.2 Hz, J_{HH} = 2.3 Hz C-6), 6.9 (d, $J_{3,4}$ =7.3 Hz), 7.45 (d, $J_{4,3}$ =7.3 Hz), 10.05 ppm (s, OH, exchangeable with D₂O), 7.48 ppm (s, NH). ³¹P.NMR : signal at + 20.7. The amide 4b was also isolated in 40% and identified (mixed mp and comparative IR spectra).

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