

Synthesis of hexakis(hydroxyaryloxy)cyclotriphosphazene based on bisphenol A

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Hexasubstituted derivative of cyclotriphosphazene containing hydroxyaryloxy moieties was obtained from bisphenol A using allyl protection of phenolic groups.

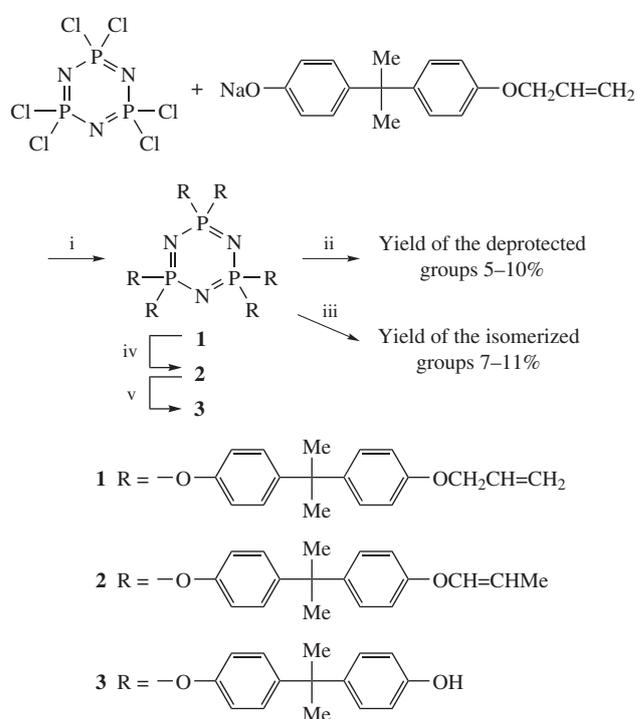
The preparation of phosphazene derivatives containing free hydroxy groups is of extreme importance in modern phosphazene research,^{1,2} since these compounds are of practical interest.^{3–17} In the first studies in this field hexakis(4-hydroxyphenoxy)-cyclotriphosphazene was obtained by treatment of hexakis(4-methoxyphenoxy)cyclotriphosphazene with HBr/AcOH/H₂O mixture¹⁸ or with BBr₃.¹⁹ Among other known methods, there are usage of protective groups,^{3–6} reduction of the aldehyde groups in the hexakis(4-formylphenoxy)cyclotriphosphazene,^{7–9} the nucleophilic substitution of chlorine atoms of hexachlorocyclotriphosphazene, including replacement with discriminate binucleophiles,¹⁰ or partial replacement with mononucleophiles, followed by further replacement of the remaining chlorine atoms with binucleophiles.¹¹

Earlier we have reported the synthesis and epoxidation of hexaallyloxy derivative of aryloxy cyclotriphosphazene **1** from the bisphenol A monoallyl ether and hexachlorocyclotriphosphazene.¹⁶ In this work, allyl group in compound **1** was regarded as protective group for one of the hydroxy groups in bisphenol A (Scheme 1), which provided an access to a new cyclotriphosphazene derivative.

One of the most effective methods of deprotection of allyl ethers is their isomerization into prop-1-enyl derivative followed by hydrolysis.²⁰ Attempted isomerization in derivative **1** using Pd/C was unsuccessful, as well as isomerization with *in situ* acidic removal hydrolysis of the prop-1-enyl derivative. Potassium *tert*-butoxide-promoted isomerization[†] at room temperature was complete only in 20–25 h; however, raising temperature to 70 °C shortened the reaction time to 3–5 h. ³¹P, ¹H NMR spectroscopy and MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry showed the absence of side products.

[†] ³¹P and ¹H NMR spectra were recorded in acetone-*d*₆ solutions on a Bruker CXP-200 spectrometer operating at 81 and 200 MHz, respectively. Melting point analyses of compounds were performed on a Mettler Toledo DSC-822e differential scanning calorimeter at a heating rate 20 °C min⁻¹ under argon flow. Mass spectra were obtained on a Bruker Auto Flex II spectrometer using MALDI-TOF method.

Isomerization of double bond in hexaallyloxy derivative of aryloxy-cyclotriphosphazene 1. Allyloxy derivative **1** (10 g, 0.0057 mol) was added to a 0.5 M solution of Bu^tOK (5.1 g, 0.046 mol) in DMSO. After complete dissolution of compound **1**, the mixture was stirred at 70 °C for 3 h. The mixture was poured into distilled water, the precipitated product was centrifuged, washed with water and dried *in vacuo* at 80 °C for 6 h. Yield 8.2 g (82%). ¹H NMR (acetone-*d*₆) δ: 7.17–7.05 (br. d, 16H, aromatic), 6.92–6.80 (br. d, 16H, aromatic), 6.49–6.38 (d, 6H, O–CH=), 4.92–4.74 (br. m, 6H, C=CH–C), 1.68–1.62 (d, 18H, =CMe), 1.60 (s, 36H, CMe₂). ³¹P NMR (acetone-*d*₆) δ: 7.92 (s). MS (MALDI-TOF), *m/z*: 1738 [M+H]⁺ (calc., *m/z*: 1737).



Scheme 1 Reagents and conditions: i, diglyme, 130 °C, 10 h; ii, TsOH (cat.), Pd/C, anhydrous MeOH, reflux, 20 h; iii, Pd/C, benzene, reflux, 12 h; iv, Bu^tOK, DMSO, 70 °C, 3 h; v, HCl, THF, H₂O, 50 °C, 3 h.

For the removal of prop-1-enyl group in derivative **2**, four methods were tested: the use of hydrochloric acid,[‡] the use of HgCl₂ and HgO, the use of I₂, and oxidation with KMnO₄/OH⁻.

[‡] *Hydrolysis of prop-1-enyl derivative 2.* Compound **2** (8 g, 0.0046 mol) was dissolved in THF (30 ml) and 10% aqueous HCl solution (20 ml) was added dropwise with stirring. The mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 3 h, followed by addition of 10% aqueous KOH solution (20 ml). The solvents were removed *in vacuo*, the dry residue was dissolved in distilled water and treated with activated charcoal. Solution of HCl (10%) was added dropwise to reach a slightly acidic pH. The resulting precipitate was filtered off, washed with water and dried *in vacuo* at 80 °C for 6 h. Yield 6 g (87%), *T*_g = 103–111 °C. ¹H NMR (acetone-*d*₆) δ: 7.11–6.97 (dd, 16H, aromatic), 6.87–6.77 (d, 8H, aromatic), 6.76–6.66 (d, 8H, aromatic), 1.57 (s, 36H, Me). ³¹P NMR (acetone-*d*₆) δ: 7.88 (s). MS (MALDI-TOF), *m/z*: 1500 [M+H]⁺ (calc., *m/z*: 1497).

In the case of mercuric chloride or iodine the reaction proceeded quickly; however, ^{31}P NMR spectra of the product showed that the process is accompanied by the partial destruction of the phosphazene cycle. Oxidative hydrolysis with KMnO_4 at room temperature for 24 h provided removal of only 1 to 3 of protective groups per molecule of derivative **2**. HCl-Promoted hydrolysis proved to be the most promising: at 50°C all four prop-1-enyl groups were removed within 3 h and yield of the purified product **3** was 87%. A singlet peak in the ^{31}P NMR spectrum of derivative **3** indicated that no adverse reactions involving the phosphazene ring occurred in the course of hydrolysis.

In conclusion, we synthesized a new hexahydroxy derivative of aryloxycyclotriphosphazene from bisphenol A. This compound seems prospective for the preparation of various polymer hybrid compositions, which, unlike analogue,¹² can possess improved mechanical properties due to the presence of isopropylidene bridge in their structure.²¹

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