

[A0048]

X-Ray Structures of Bicyclic Organophosphates

Illustrating the Anomeric Effect

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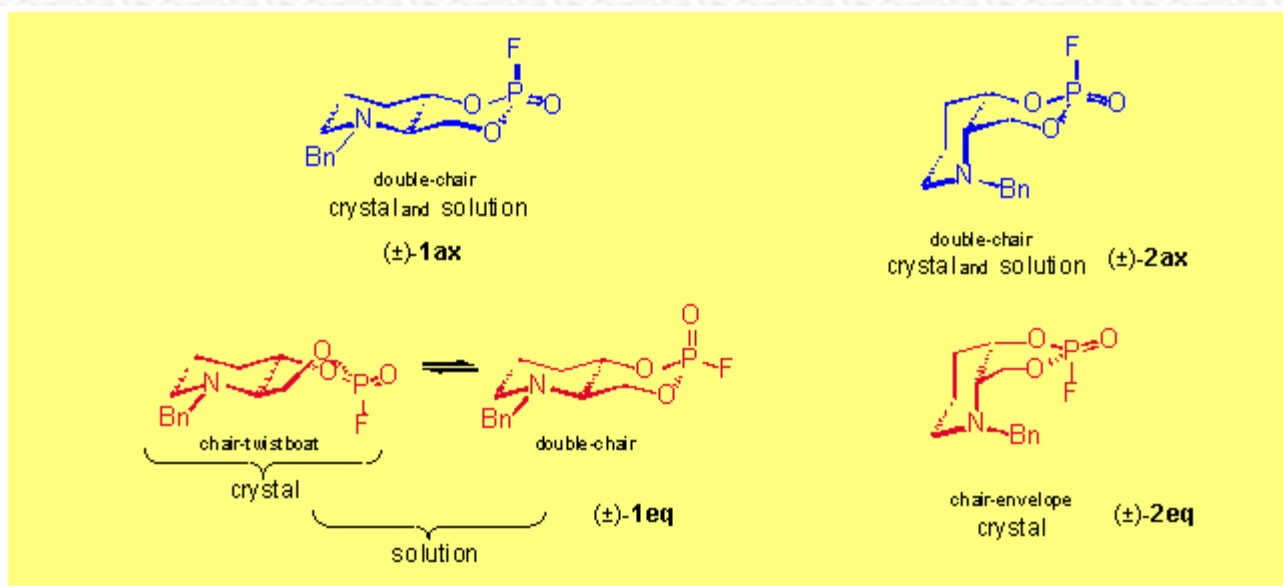
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Introduction

The influence of the anomeric effect on bicyclic organophosphates could be shown for the first time by means of X-ray analysis.

In the course of our syntheses of bicyclic organophosphates as inhibitors of acetylcholinesterase we have been able to crystallize a series of four isomeric compounds: (\pm)-7-aza-7-benzyl-3-fluoro-2,4-dioxo-3 λ^5 -phosphabicyclo[4.4.0]decan-3-ones (\pm)-**1ax,eq** and (\pm)-**2ax,eq**, *cis*- and *trans*-decaline-type congeners with the F-substituent in the *axial* and *equatorial* position.

The syntheses of the mentioned and of some related compounds as well as their inhibitory effects on acetylcholinesterase are described on a separate [Poster A0047](#).



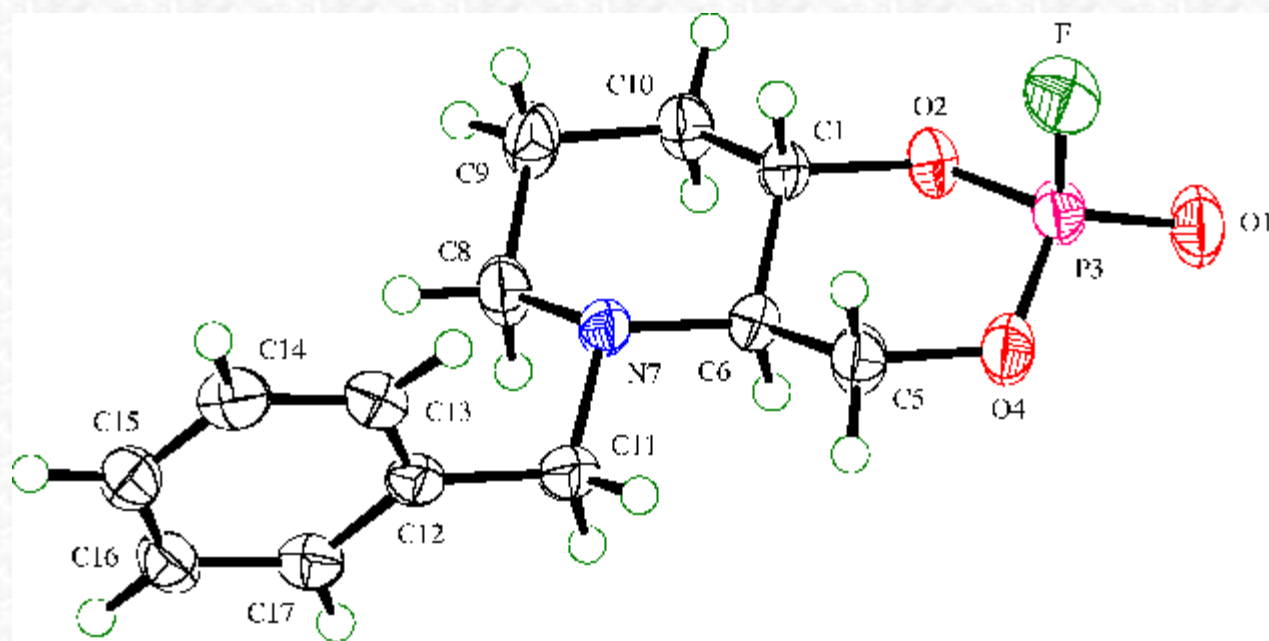
X-Ray Structures

(\pm)-**1ax,eq** and (\pm)-**2ax,eq** had been crystallized and submitted to X-ray analysis. As expected, both axially substituted

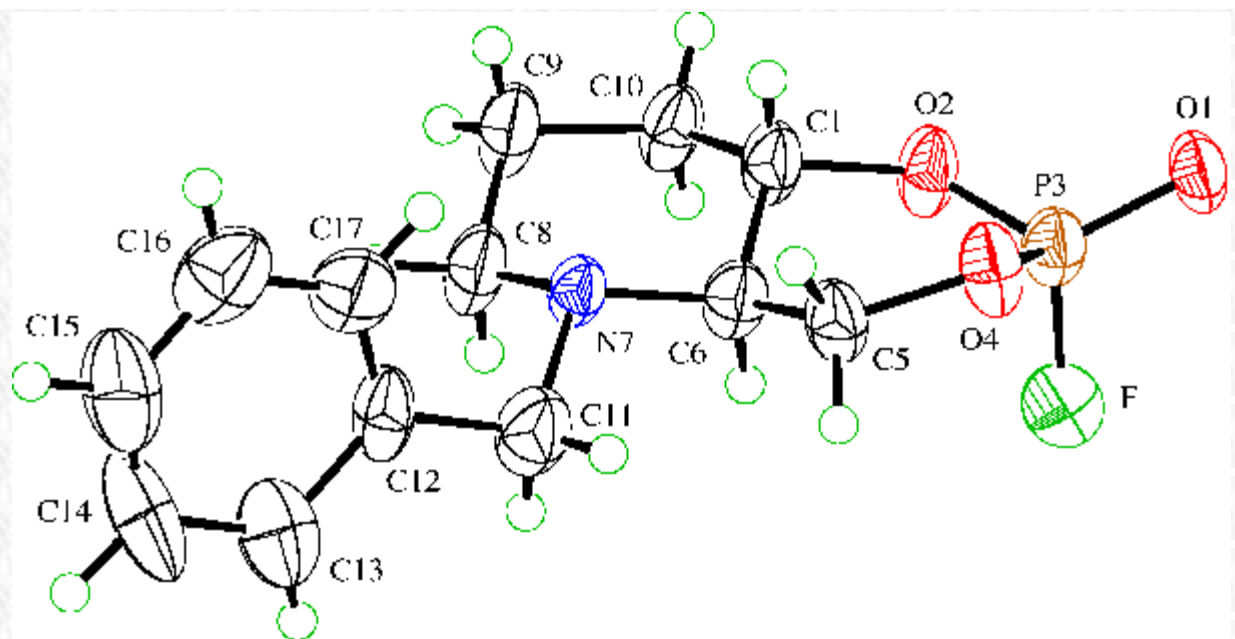
isomers adopt the sterically and stereoelectronically favoured double-chair conformation in the crystals (as well as in solution).

For the two equatorially substituted compounds the electronegative substituent (F) tends to occupy the sterically unfavoured *pseudo-axial* position according to the anomeric effect [1]. This results *e.g.* in a chair-twistboat conformation. Although we showed by means of NMR-spectroscopy that in solution (\pm)-**1eq** and (\pm)-**2eq** exist in a mixture of double-chair and chair-twistboat conformations ((\pm)-**1eq** in CD₂Cl₂: 33:67 at 293 K, 21:79 at 213 K) we obtained crystals of a chair-twistboat form ((\pm)-**1eq**) and a chair-envelope form ((\pm)-**2eq**) as they seem to have a slightly lower DG than the double-chair forms. The envelope conformation is highly surprising, it represents a middle position between the two possible twistboat conformations with five ring-atoms in plane, only C(6) laying outside.

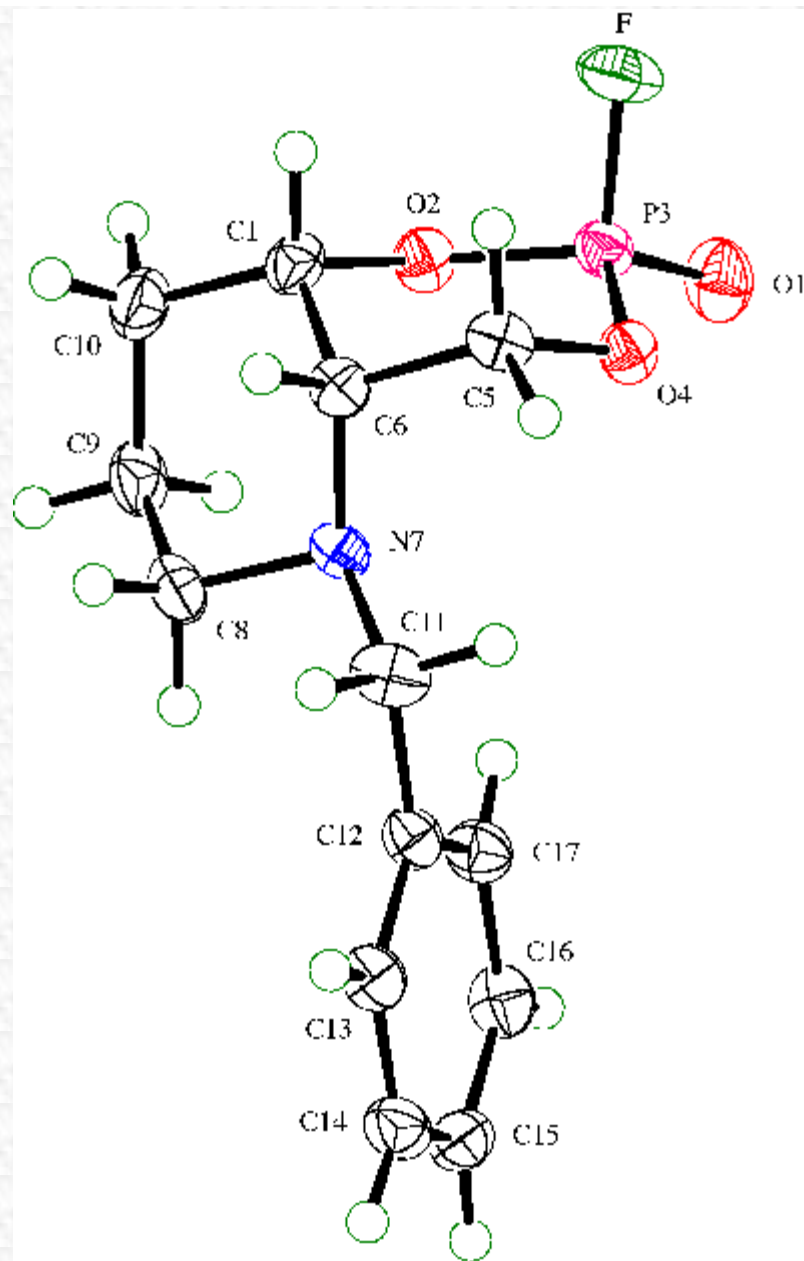
This is the first time the anomeric effect could be illustrated by X-ray analysis of such bicyclic phosphates. Former attempts to crystallize related compounds lead to X-ray structures only with double-chair conformations, the electronegative substituent (*O*-phenyl, *O*-4-methoxyphenyl, *N*(CH₂CH₂Cl)₂, resp.) being located in the *axial* resp. *equatorial* position [2], see also [poster](#). However, a 1,4-*bis-t*-butyl substituted monocyclic organophosphate yielded an X-ray structure showing a boat conformation [3].



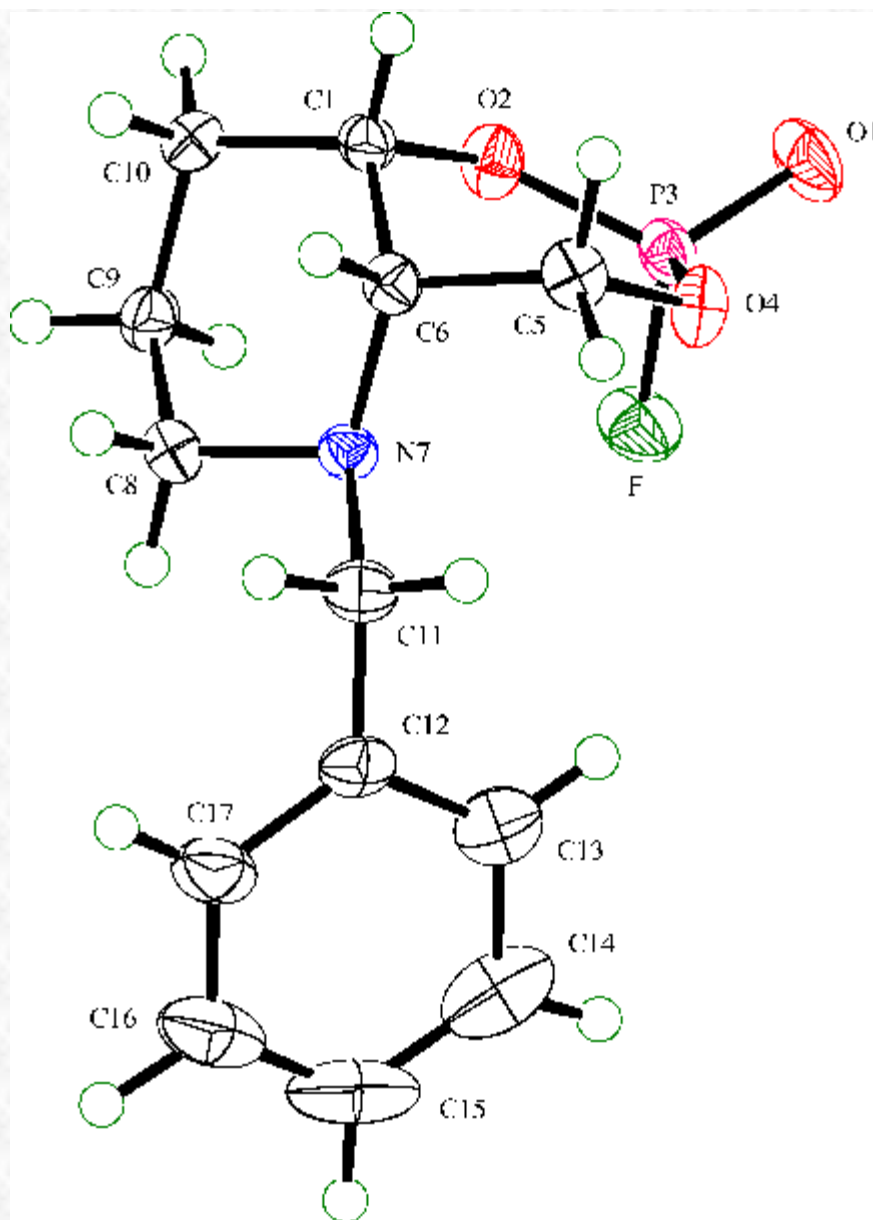
(\pm)-**1ax** (double-chair)



(±)-**1eq** (chair-twistboat)



(±)-2ax (double-chair)



(±)-**2eq** (chair-envelope)

Conformation analysis in solution (CDCl_3) was carried out by means of ^{31}P - and ^1H -NMR-spectroscopy using the $^3J_{\text{PH}}$ -coupling constants. According to the *Karplus*-equation a torsion angle between P–O–C–H of 180° leads to a maximal $^3J_{\text{PH}}$ *ca.* 25 Hz, while a 90° angle corresponds with zero. The characteristic pattern of the three $^3J_{\text{PH}}$ -coupling constants in each compound gives information about the conformations occurring in solution [4].

References

- [1] D.G. Gorenstein, R. Rowell, J. Findlay, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1979**, *102*, 5077.
- [2] R.O. Day, D.G. Gorenstein, R.R. Holmes, *Inorg. Chem.* **1983**, *22*, 2192; P. Van Nuffel, A.T.H. Lenstra, H.J. Geise, *Bull. Soc. Chim. Belg.* **1982**, *91*; J.-C. Yang, D.O. Shah, N.U.M. Rao, W.A. Freeman, G. Sosnovsky, D.G. Gorenstein, *Tetrahedron* **1988**, *44*, 6305.
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[4] S. Furegati, PhD Thesis, University of Zurich, in preparation.

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