

Synthesis of Si- and N-containing bicyclo[4.2.1]nona-2,4-dienes and bicyclo[4.2.1]nona-2,4,7-trienes*

V. A. D'yakov,*, D. I. Kolokol'tsev, G. N. Kadikova, and U. M. Dzhemilev

Institute of Petrochemistry and Catalysis, Russian Academy of Sciences,
141 prosp. Oktyabrya, 450075 Ufa, Russian Federation.
Fax: +7 (347) 284 2750. E-mail: DyakonovVA@rambler.ru

A $[6\pi+2\pi]$ cycloaddition of Si- and N-containing alkynes and 1,2-dienes to cyclohepta-1,3,5-trienes in the presence of the two-component catalytic system $(\text{acac})_2\text{TiCl}_2\text{—Et}_2\text{AlCl}$ gives rise to the corresponding bicyclo[4.2.1]nona-2,4-diene and bicyclo[4.2.1]nona-2,4,7-triene derivatives.

Key words: cyclohepta-1,3,5-trienes, propargylamines, 1,2-dienes, metal complex catalysis, medium size cycles, cycloaddition, organoaluminum compounds, organosilicon compounds.

Development of efficient methods for the construction of medium size cycles is among the most important problems of organic chemistry because of their wide application in the composition of medicines exhibiting antitumor, antiviral, and other activities.¹

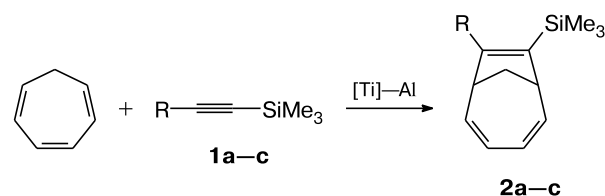
Recently, we pioneered to show that 1,2-dienes selectively underwent the $[6\pi+2\pi]$ cycloaddition to cyclohepta-1,3,5-trienes (CHT) in the presence of the catalytic system $\text{TiCl}_4\text{—Et}_n\text{AlCl}_{3-n}$ ($n = 1\text{—}3$) with the formation of practically important bicyclo[4.2.1]nonadienes in high yields.^{2,3}

To continue this research and examine a possibility of the $[6\pi+2\pi]$ cycloaddition between functionally substituted 1,2-dienes and acetylenes to cyclohepta-1,3,5-trienes, we studied reactions of CHT and 7-alkyl(phenyl)-cyclohepta-1,3,5-trienes with Si-containing allenes and disubstituted acetylenes, as well as with propargylamines, catalyzed by Ti complexes in combination with trialkyl- and alkylhaloalanes.

To search for the optimal catalyst for this reactions, we studied a number of titanium complexes: $(\text{Cp}_2\text{TiCl}_2)$, $(\text{Pr}^i\text{O})_2\text{TiCl}_2$, $(\text{Bu}^i\text{O})_2\text{TiCl}_2$, $\text{Ti}(\text{acac})_2\text{Cl}_2$, $(\text{Pr}^i\text{O})_4\text{Ti}$ in combination with such cocatalysts as Et_3Al , Bu^i_3Al , Et_2AlCl , Bu^i_2AlCl , and Bu^i_2AlH used previously for the transformation of unsaturated compounds. The selection was carried out for the model reaction of 1-phenyl-2-trimethylsilylacetylene (**1a**) with CHT (Scheme 1). The highest yields ($>70\%$) of the $[6\pi+2\pi]$ -adducts **2a** were observed in the case of $(\text{RO})_2\text{TiCl}_2$ and $\text{Ti}(\text{acac})_2\text{Cl}_2$ reduced with Et_2AlCl or Bu^i_2AlCl at 80°C , in the benzene solution and at the concentration of the catalyst of

6 mol.%. The best yields of adducts **2** under the conditions of choice (CHT : Si-alkyne : $\text{Ti}(\text{acac})_2\text{Cl}_2$: Et_2AlCl = 1 : 2 : 0.06 : 0.4, benzene, 80°C , 8 h) were 84 (**2a**), 71 (**2b**), and 78% (**2c**) (see Scheme 1).

Scheme 1



R = Ph (**a**), Hex (**b**), Oct (**c**)

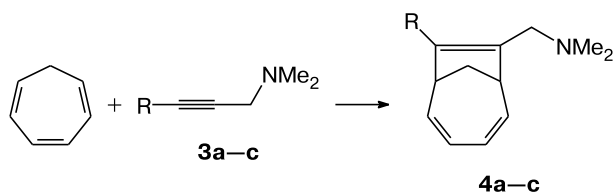
The high efficiency of the $\text{Ti}(\text{acac})_2\text{Cl}_2\text{—Et}_2\text{AlCl}$ catalytic system, in contrast to the catalyst $\text{TiCl}_4\text{—Et}_2\text{AlCl}$ reported in the literature⁴ for the use in the homodimerization of cyclohepta-1,3,5-triene, was demonstrated for the $[6\pi+2\pi]$ cycloaddition of propargylamine **3a–c** to cyclohepta-1,3,5-triene. Using of this catalytic system, nitrogen-containing bicyclo[4.2.1]nona-2,4,7-trienes **4a–c** were obtained in high yields 61–78% (Scheme 2). It should be noted that in the case of TiCl_4 and $(\text{RO})_2\text{TiCl}_2$ in combination with organoaluminum reducing agents mentioned above did not lead to the target cycloadducts were not formed.

Note that no cycloaddition of propargylamine to CHT was previously reported.

We also showed that Si- and N-containing acetylenes similarly add to 7-substituted CHT (CHT : Si-alkyne : $\text{Ti}(\text{acac})_2\text{Cl}_2$: Et_2AlCl = 1 : 2 : 0.06 : 0.4, benzene, 80°C , 8 h; CHT : N-alkyne : $\text{Ti}(\text{acac})_2\text{Cl}_2$: Et_2AlCl =

* Dedicated to Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences I. P. Beletskaya on the occasion of her anniversary.

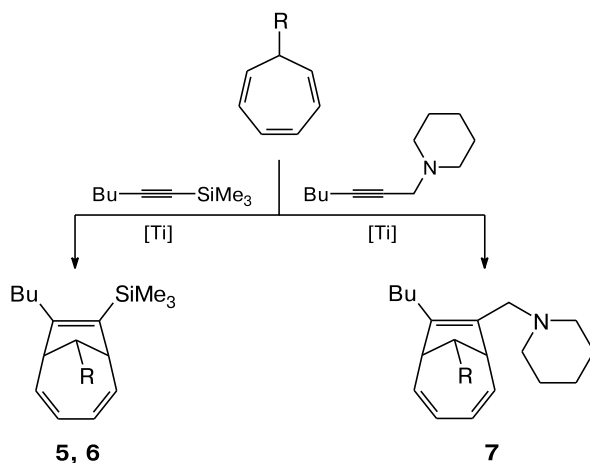
Scheme 2



$R = \text{Bu}$ (**a**), Oct (**b**), Ph (**c**)

$= 1 : 1 : 0.07 : 0.5$, benzene, $80\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, 8 h) in the presence of $\text{Ti}(\text{acac})_2\text{Cl}_2\text{--Et}_2\text{AlCl}$ to give products **5–7** in 74, 52, and 81% yields, respectively (Scheme 3).

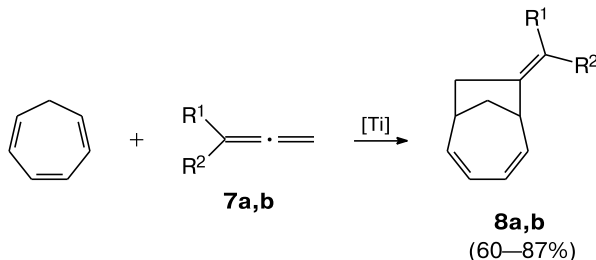
Scheme 3



$R = \text{Et}$ (**5, 7**), Ph (**6**)

The systems selected also catalyzed $[6\pi+2\pi]$ cycloaddition of CHT to allenes (Scheme 4). Thus, the Si-containing 1,2-dienes **7a,b** added to CHT in the presence of the catalyst $\text{Ti}(\text{acac})_2\text{Cl}_2\text{--R}_n\text{AlCl}_{3-n}$ ($R = \text{Et, Bu}^i$; $n = 2, 3$) affording alkylidene-substituted bicyclo[4.2.1]nona-2,4-dienes **8a,b** in 60–87% yields.

Scheme 4



7a, 8a: $R^1 = \text{CH}_2\text{TMS}$, $R^2 = \text{H}$
7b, 8b: $R^1 = \text{Bu}$, $R^2 = \text{CH}_2\text{TMS}$

The structure of compounds obtained was confirmed by ^1D (^1H , ^{13}C) and 2D (COSY, NOESY) NMR spectroscopy and mass spectrometry.

In conclusion, we developed an efficient synthesis of Si- and N-containing bicyclo[4.2.1]nona-2,4-dienes and bicyclo[4.2.1]nona-2,4,7-trienes based on the $[6\pi+2\pi]$ cycloaddition of functionally substituted alkynes and allenes to cyclohepta-1,3,5-trienes in the presence of the new two-component catalytic system $(\text{acac})_2\text{TiCl}_2\text{--Et}_2\text{AlCl}$. The results obtained show that such catalytic systems seem promising for cycloaddition between heterocyclic analogs of CHT and for the preparation of practically important natural compounds.

Experimental

Chromatographic analysis was carried out on a Shimadzu GC-9A instrument, using a $2000 \times 2\text{-mm}$ column, silicon SE-30 (5%) on Chromaton N-AW-HMDS ($0.125\text{--}0.160\text{ mm}$) as the stationary phase, carrier gas helium (30 mL min^{-1}), the temperature regime from 50 to $300\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ at the rate of 8 deg min^{-1} . ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance-400 spectrometer (100 MHz for ^{13}C and 400 MHz for ^1H) in CDCl_3 relative to Me_4Si . Mass spectrometric analysis was carried out on a Shimadzu GCMS-QP2010 Plus spectrometer (glass capillary column SLB-5ms $60000 \times 0.25\text{ mm} \times 0.25\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ (Supelco, USA), carrier gas helium, the temperature regime from 40 to $280\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ at the rate of 5 deg min^{-1} , the injector temperature $280\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, the source of ions temperature $200\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, 70 eV). Elemental analysis was performed on a Carlo Erba model 1108 analyzer. The yields of the products were determined by GLC. The catalytic cycloaddition was carried out under dry argon. Aromatic solvents were dried with Na. Commercial Et_2AlCl (90%) and Bu^i_3Al (92%) were available from Redkino Experimental Factory Inc., cyclohepta-1,3,5-triene was purchased from Aldrich. Titanium chlorobis(acetylacetonate), trimethylsilylacetylenes, propargylamines, and 1,2-dienes were synthesized as described.^{5,6} 7-Ethylcyclohepta-1,3,5-triene and 7-phenylcyclohepta-1,3,5-triene were obtained according to the literature.⁷

Cycloaddition of Si-containing acetylenes to cyclohepta-1,3,5-trienes (general procedure). Cycloheptatriene (1 mmol), acetylene compound **1** (2 mmol), $\text{Ti}(\text{acac})_2\text{Cl}_2$ (0.06 mmol), and dry benzene (3 mL) were placed into a temperature controlled ($\sim 0\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$) glass tube under dry argon. The tube was cooled to temperature of liquid nitrogen, Et_2AlCl (0.4 mmol) was added, and the tube was sealed. After heating at $80\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 8 h, the tube was unsealed, the content was treated with EtOH. The light solvents were evaporated *in vacuo*, the residue was subjected to chromatography on a column with silica gel (eluent light petroleum, 100%).

Trimethyl(8-phenylbicyclo[4.2.1]nona-2,4,7-trien-7-yl)silane (2a). R_f 0.52 (SiO_2 , light petroleum, 100%). ^1H NMR, δ : -0.73 (s, 9 H, SiMe_3); 1.69 (d, 1 H, $\text{C}(9)\text{H}_2$, $J = 12\text{ Hz}$); 2.33 (dt, 1 H, $\text{C}(9)\text{H}_2$, $J_d = 12\text{ Hz}$, $J_t = 7\text{ Hz}$); 3.31 (t, 1 H, $\text{C}(1)\text{H}$, $J = 7\text{ Hz}$); 3.54 (t, 1 H, $\text{C}(6)\text{H}$, $J = 7\text{ Hz}$); $5.84\text{--}5.91$ (m, 2 H, $\text{C}(3,4)\text{H}$); $5.99\text{--}6.04$ (m, 1 H, $\text{C}(5)\text{H}$); $6.20\text{--}6.24$ (m, 1 H, $\text{C}(2)\text{H}$); $7.17\text{--}7.30$ (m, 5 H, Ph). ^{13}C NMR, δ : 0.60 (SiMe_3), 31.64 ($\text{C}(9)$), 49.22 ($\text{C}(1)$), 51.62 ($\text{C}(6)$), 123.63 ($\text{C}(3)$), 124.70 ($\text{C}(4)$), 126.89 ($\text{C}(13)$), 127.49 ($\text{C}(12)$, $\text{C}(14)$), 129.10 ($\text{C}(11)$),

C(15)), 135.20 (C(10)), 138.01 (C(5)), 139.00 (C(2)), 147.24 (C(7), C(8)). MS, m/z : 266 [M]⁺. Found (%): C, 80.91; H, 8.33. C₁₈H₂₂Si. Calculated (%): C, 81.14; H, 8.32.

(8-Hexylbicyclo[4.2.1]nona-2,4,7-trien-7-yl)trimethylsilane (2b). R_f 0.59 (SiO₂, light petroleum, 100%). ¹H NMR, δ : 0.17 (s, 9 H, SiMe₃); 0.91 (t, 3 H, CH₃, J = 6 Hz); 1.20–1.46 (m, 8 H, C(11–14)H₂); 1.56 (d, 1 H, C(9)H₂, J = 12 Hz); 2.08–2.14 (m, 2 H, C(10)H₂); 2.23–2.32 (m, 1 H, C(9)H₂); 3.08 (t, 1 H, C(1)H, J = 7 Hz); 3.26 (t, 1 H, C(6)H, J = 7 Hz); 5.70–5.83 (m, 2 H, C(3,4)H); 6.05–6.17 (m, 2 H, C(2,5)H). ¹³C NMR, δ : 0.63 (3 C, SiMe₃), 14.07 (C(15)), 22.64 (C(14)), 29.49 (C(11)), 29.57 (C(12)), 30.30 (C(13)), 31.44 (C(9)), 31.83 (C(10)), 48.31 (C(1)), 48.36 (C(6)), 123.05 (C(3)), 124.32 (C(4)), 132.61 (C(7)), 138.62 (C(5)), 139.91 (C(2)), 149.87 (C(8)). MS, m/z : 274 [M]⁺. Found (%): C, 78.49; H, 10.99. C₁₈H₃₀Si. Calculated (%): C, 78.75; H, 11.02.

Trimethyl(8-octylbicyclo[4.2.1]nona-2,4,7-trien-7-yl)silane (2c). R_f 0.63 (SiO₂, light petroleum, 100%). ¹H NMR, δ : 0.17 (s, 9 H, SiMe₃); 0.91 (t, 3 H, CH₃, J = 6 Hz); 1.21–1.48 (m, 12 H, C(11–16)H₂); 1.56 (d, 1 H, C(9)H₂, J = 12 Hz); 2.05–2.14 (m, 2 H, C(10)H₂); 2.22–2.33 (m, 1 H, C(9)H₂); 3.08 (t, 1 H, C(1)H, J = 7 Hz); 3.25 (t, 1 H, C(6)H, J = 7 Hz); 5.70–5.83 (m, 2 H, C(3,4)H); 6.05–6.17 (m, 2 H, C(2,5)H). ¹³C NMR, δ : 0.64 (3 C, SiMe₃), 14.10 (C(17)), 22.67 (C(16)), 29.48 (C(11)), 29.91 (C(13)), 29.57 (C(12)), 29.91 (C(13)), 30.33 (C(15)), 31.44 (C(9)), 31.88 (C(10)), 48.30 (C(1)), 48.35 (C(6)), 123.03 (C(3)), 124.31 (C(4)), 132.61 (C(7)), 138.65 (C(5)), 139.94 (C(2)). MS, m/z : 302 [M]⁺. Found (%): C, 79.15; H, 11.30. C₂₀H₃₄Si. Calculated (%): C, 79.39; H, 11.33.

(8-Butyl-9-ethylbicyclo[4.2.1]nona-2,4,7-trien-7-yl)trimethylsilane (5). R_f 0.66 (SiO₂, light petroleum, 100%). ¹H NMR, δ : 0.13 (s, 9 H, SiMe₃); 0.84 (t, 3 H, C(11)H₃, J = 7 Hz); 0.93 (t, 3 H, C(15)H₃, J = 7 Hz); 1.11–1.33 (m, 2 H, C(10)H₂); 1.34–1.57 (m, 4 H, C(13,14)H₂); 2.05–2.28 (m, 3 H, C(9)H, C(12)H₂); 2.87 (t, 1 H, C(1)H, J = 7 Hz); 3.10 (t, 1 H, C(6)H, J = 7 Hz); 5.83–5.91 (m, 4 H, C(2–5)H). ¹³C NMR, δ : 0.71 (3 C, SiMe₃), 13.16 (C(11)), 14.09 (C(15)), 20.87 (C(10)), 22.98 (C(14)), 29.76 (C(12)), 32.58 (C(13)), 40.68 (C(9)), 50.67 (C(1)), 50.74 (C(6)), 124.96 (C(3)), 126.26 (C(4)), 134.76 (C(7)), 136.09 (C(2)), 137.33 (C(5)), 151.82 (C(8)). MS, m/z : 274 [M]⁺. Found (%): C, 78.69; H, 11.00. C₁₈H₃₀Si. Calculated (%): C, 78.75; H, 11.02.

(8-Butyl-9-phenylbicyclo[4.2.1]nona-2,4,7-trien-7-yl)trimethylsilane (6). R_f 0.59 (SiO₂, light petroleum, 100%). ¹H NMR, δ : 0.26 (s, 9 H, SiMe₃); 1.02 (t, 3 H, CH₃, J = 6 Hz); 1.39–1.51 (m, 2 H, C(12)H₂); 1.59–1.70 (m, 2 H, C(10)H₂); 2.23–2.44 (m, 2 H, C(11)H₂); 3.51–3.60 (m, 2 H, C(1,6)H); 3.72–3.81 (m, 1 H, C(9)H); 5.67–5.76 (m, 2 H, C(3,4)H); 6.14–6.23 (m, 2 H, C(2,5)H); 7.43–7.44 (m, 5 H, Ph). ¹³C NMR, δ : 0.80 (3 C, SiMe₃), 14.21 (C(13)), 23.09 (C(12)), 29.80 (C(11)), 32.67 (C(10)), 44.18 (C(6)), 49.98 (C(9)), 50.01 (C(1)), 125.14 (C(3)), 125.22 (C(17)), 126.35 (C(4)), 127.19 (C(15), C(19)), 128.40 (C(16), C(18)), 133.66 (C(14)), 136.57 (C(2)), 137.69 (C(5)), 141.64 (C(7)), 150.57 (C(8)). MS, m/z : 322 [M]⁺. Found (%): C, 81.74; H, 9.34. C₂₂H₃₀Si. Calculated (%): C, 81.92; H, 9.37.

Cycloaddition of N-containing acetylenes to cyclohepta-1,3,5-trienes (general procedure). Cyclohepta-1,3,5-triene (1 mmol), propargylamine **3** (1 mmol), Ti(acac)₃Cl₂ (0.07 mmol), and dry benzene (3 mL) were placed into a temperature controlled (–0 °C) glass tube under dry argon. The tube was cooled to temperature of liquid nitrogen, Et₂AlCl (0.5 mmol) was added,

and the tube was sealed. After heating at 80 °C for 8 h, the tube was unsealed, the content was treated with aqueous KOH (25%). The reaction products were extracted with benzene, dried with KOH, the target compounds were isolated by fractional distillation.

N-[(8-Butylbicyclo[4.2.1]nona-2,4,7-trien-7-yl)methyl]-N,N-dimethylamine (4a). ¹H NMR, δ : 0.91 (t, 3 H, CH₃, J = 7 Hz); 1.28–1.46 (m, 6 H, C(10,11,12)H₂); 1.62 (d, 1 H, C(9)H₂, J = 11 Hz); 2.19 (s, 6 H, (CH₃)₂N); 2.23–2.30 (m, 1 H, C(9)H₂); 2.69 (d, 1 H, C(14)H₂, J = 13 Hz); 3.13 (t, 1 H, C(6)H, J = 7 Hz); 3.19 (d, 1 H, C(14)H₂, J = 13 Hz); 3.29 (t, 1 H, C(1)H, J = 7 Hz); 5.73–5.78 (m, 2 H, C(3,4)H); 6.14–6.18 (m, 1 H, C(5)H); 6.24–6.27 (m, 1 H, C(2)H). ¹³C NMR, δ : 14.03 (C(13)), 22.71 (C(12)), 25.87 (C(11)), 30.61 (C(9)), 31.84 (C(10)), 45.43 ((CH₃)₂N), 45.47 (C(6)), 46.75 (C(1)), 54.59 (C(14)), 123.76 (C(4)), 124.06 (C(3)), 132.86 (C(7)), 139.02 (C(8)), 139.81 (C(5)), 140.80 (C(2)). MS, m/z : 231 [M]⁺. Found (%): C, 82.92; H, 10.87; N, 6.01. C₁₆H₂₅N. Calculated (%): C, 83.06; H, 10.89; N, 6.05.

N,N-Dimethyl-N-[(8-octylbicyclo[4.2.1]nona-2,4,7-trien-7-yl)methyl]amine (4b). ¹H NMR, δ : 0.90 (t, 3 H, CH₃, J = 7 Hz); 1.28–1.46 (m, 14 H, C(10–16)H₂); 1.61 (d, 1 H, C(9)H₂, J = 12 Hz); 2.20 (s, 6 H, (CH₃)₂N); 2.22–2.29 (m, 1 H, C(9)H₂); 2.66 (d, 1 H, C(18)H₂, J = 13 Hz); 3.12 (t, 1 H, C(6)H, J = 7 Hz); 3.19 (d, 1 H, C(18)H₂, J = 13 Hz); 3.28 (t, 1 H, C(1)H, J = 7 Hz); 5.72–5.75 (m, 2 H, C(3,4)H); 6.13–6.17 (m, 1 H, C(5)H); 6.22–6.26 (m, 1 H, C(2)H). ¹³C NMR, δ : 14.09 (C(17)), 22.66 (C(16)), 26.11 (C(11)), 29.28 (C(14)), 29.50 (C(13)), 29.62 (C(12)), 30.61 (C(9)), 31.83 (C(10)), 31.88 (C(15)), 45.52 ((CH₃)₂N), 44.11 (C(6)), 46.77 (C(1)), 54.69 (C(18)), 123.71 (C(4)), 124.06 (C(3)), 132.85 (C(7)), 139.00 (C(8)), 139.78 (C(5)), 140.79 (C(2)). MS, m/z : 287 [M]⁺. Found (%): C, 83.29; H, 11.53; N, 4.84. C₂₀H₃₃N. Calculated (%): C, 83.56; H, 11.57; N, 4.87.

N,N-Dimethyl-N-[(8-phenylbicyclo[4.2.1]nona-2,4,7-trien-7-yl)methyl]amine (4c). ¹H NMR, δ : 1.75 (d, 1 H, C(9)H₂, J = 12 Hz); 2.18 (s, 6 H, (CH₃)₂N); 2.40–2.43 (m, 1 H, C(9)H₂); 2.75 (d, 1 H, C(16)H₂, J = 12 Hz); 3.31 (d, 1 H, C(16)H₂, J = 16 Hz); 3.50 (t, 1 H, C(6)H, J = 7 Hz); 3.55 (t, 1 H, C(1)H, J = 7 Hz); 5.81–5.90 (m, 2 H, C(3,4)H); 6.17 (t, 1 H, C(5)H, J = 8 Hz); 6.31 (t, 1 H, C(2)H, J = 8 Hz); 7.24–7.39 (m, 5 H, Ph). ¹³C NMR, δ : 30.61 (C(9)), 45.55 ((CH₃)₂N), 45.93 (C(1)), 48.96 (C(6)), 55.01 (C(16)), 124.40 (C(3), C(4)), 126.69 (C(13)), 127.94 (C(12), C(14)), 129.28 (C(11), C(15)), 135.16 (C(10)), 136.44 (C(8)), 137.60 (C(7)), 139.59 (C(5)), 139.93 (C(2)). MS, m/z : 251 [M]⁺. Found (%): C, 85.81; H, 8.39; N, 5.59. C₁₈H₂₁N. Calculated (%): C, 86.01; H, 8.42; N, 5.57.

1-[(8-Butyl-9-ethylbicyclo[4.2.1]nona-2,4,7-trien-7-yl)methyl]piperidine (7). ¹H NMR, δ : 0.83 (t, 3 H, C(15)H₃, J = 7 Hz); 0.92 (t, 3 H, C(13)H₃, J = 7 Hz); 1.26–1.48 (m, 8 H, C(10–12,14)H₂); 1.66–1.70 (m, 1 H, C(9)H); 2.00–2.12 (m, 10 H, C(17–21)H₂); 2.78 (d, 2 H, C(16)H₂, J = 7 Hz); 2.85–2.95 (m, 1 H, C(1)H); 3.00–3.12 (m, 1 H, C(6)H); 5.65–5.72 (5.80–5.87) (m, 2 H, C(3,4)H); 5.94–5.99 (6.09–6.12) (m, 1 H, C(5)H); 6.14–6.18 (6.28–6.33) (m, 1 H, C(2)H). ¹³C NMR, δ : 12.40 (C(15)), 12.91 (C(13)), 20.61 (C(14)), 22.72 (C(12)), 22.77 (C(19)), 25.81 (C(11)), 26.28 (C(18)), 26.67 (C(20)), 31.55 (C(10)), 31.88 (C(9)), 48.22 (49.11) (C(6)), 50.92 (51.86) (C(1)), 53.68 (C(16)), 54.26 (C(17)), 54.62 (C(21)), 123.29 (124.00) (C(4)), 125.61 (126.24) (C(3)), 134.12 (C(7)), 136.62 (138.40) (C(5)), 137.59 (C(8)), 138.82 (140.61) (C(2)).

MS, m/z : 299 $[M]^+$. Found (%): C, 84.01; H, 11.07; N, 4.62. $C_{21}H_{33}N$. Calculated (%): C, 84.22; H, 11.11; N, 4.68.

Cycloaddition of Si-containing allenes to cyclohepta-1,3,5-triene (general procedure). Cyclohepta-1,3,5-triene (1 mmol), allene **7** (1.1 mmol), $Ti(acac)_2Cl_2$ (0.06 mmol), and dry benzene (3 mL) were placed into a temperature controlled ($\sim 0^\circ C$) glass tube under dry argon. The tube was cooled to temperature of liquid nitrogen, R_nAlCl_{3-n} ($R = Et, Bu^i$; $n = 2, 3$) (0.2 mmol) was added, and the tube was sealed. After heating at $80^\circ C$ for 8 h, the tube was unsealed, the content was treated with EtOH. The light solvents were evaporated *in vacuo*, the residue was subjected to chromatography on a column with silica gel (eluent light petroleum, 100%) to separate a mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers from the minor reaction products.

[2-(Bicyclo[4.2.1]nona-2,4-dien-7-ylidene)ethyl]trimethylsilane (*E* : *Z* = 1 : 1) (8a). R_f 0.62 (SiO_2 , light petroleum, 100%). 1H NMR, δ : 0.01 (s, 9 H, $SiMe_3$); 1.35 (d, 2 H, $C(11)H_2$, $J = 8$ Hz); 1.54 (d, 1 H, $C(9)H_2$, $J = 11$ Hz); 1.97 (d, 1 H, $C(9)H_2$, $J = 12$ Hz); 2.42–2.53 (m, 2 H, $C(8)H_2$); 2.71–2.75 (m, 1 H, $C(1)H$); 3.19–3.29 (m, 1 H, $C(6)H$); 5.18 (t, 1 H, $C(10)H$, $J = 8$ Hz); 5.56–5.88 (m, 2 H, $C(3,4)H$); 5.96–6.24 (m, 2 H, $C(2,5)H$).

***E*-Isomer.** ^{13}C NMR, δ : -1.55 ($SiMe_3$), 22.60 ($C(11)$), 31.69 ($C(9)$), 38.85 ($C(1)$), 42.31 ($C(6)$), 45.52 ($C(8)$), 118.16 ($C(10)$), 122.85 ($C(3)$), 123.58 ($C(4)$), 138.74 ($C(5)$), 139.49 ($C(2)$), 149.21 ($C(7)$).

***Z*-Isomer.** ^{13}C NMR, δ : -1.65 ($SiMe_3$), 20.16 ($C(11)$), 32.41 ($C(9)$), 39.22 ($C(1)$), 43.04 ($C(6)$), 46.06 ($C(8)$), 116.64 ($C(10)$), 123.41 ($C(3)$), 124.35 ($C(4)$), 134.46 ($C(5)$), 139.36 ($C(2)$), 144.15 ($C(7)$). MS, m/z : 218 $[M]^+$. Found (%): C, 76.84; H, 10.12. $C_{14}H_{22}Si$. Calculated (%): C, 76.99; H, 10.15.

[2-(Bicyclo[4.2.1]nona-2,4-dien-7-ylidene)hex-1-yl]trimethylsilane (*E* : *Z* = 1 : 1) (8b). R_f 0.64 (SiO_2 , light petroleum, 100%). 1H NMR, δ : 0.05 (s, 9 H, $SiMe_3$); 0.93–0.99 (m, 2 H, $C(14)H_2$); 1.30–1.64 (m, 6 H, $C(12,13,15)H_2$); 1.93–2.13 (m, 1 H, $C(11)H_2$); 2.17–2.27 (m, 2 H, $C(9)H_2$); 2.42–2.63 (m, 1 H, $C(8)H_2$); 2.72–2.74 (m, 1 H, $C(1)H$); 3.45–3.49 (m, 1 H, $C(6)H$); 5.57–5.68 (m, 2 H, $C(3,4)H$); 5.97–6.14 (m, 2 H, $C(2,5)H$).

***E*-Isomer.** ^{13}C NMR, δ : -0.32 ($SiMe_3$), 14.13 ($C(14)$), 22.77 ($C(13)$), 24.59 ($C(15)$), 30.34 ($C(12)$), 32.79 ($C(9)$), 36.29 ($C(11)$), 39.28 ($C(1)$), 42.95 ($C(6)$), 45.13 ($C(8)$), 122.92 ($C(4)$), 123.46 ($C(3)$), 127.65 ($C(10)$), 138.14 ($C(2)$), 137.31 ($C(5)$), 141.56 ($C(7)$).

***Z*-Isomer.** ^{13}C NMR, δ : -0.26 ($SiMe_3$), 14.07 ($C(14)$), 22.20 ($C(13)$), 23.01 ($C(15)$), 30.04 ($C(12)$), 33.02 ($C(9)$), 33.99 ($C(11)$), 39.35 ($C(1)$), 42.38 ($C(6)$), 43.93 ($C(8)$), 123.35 ($C(4)$), 123.53 ($C(3)$), 127.65 ($C(10)$), 136.63 ($C(5)$), 138.06 ($C(2)$), 141.56 ($C(7)$). MS, m/z : 274 $[M]^+$. Found (%): C, 78.60; H, 11.00. $C_{18}H_{30}Si$. Calculated (%): C, 78.75; H, 11.02.

This work was financially supported by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research (Project No. 13-03-00167).

References

1. N. A. Petasis, M. A. Patane, *Tetrahedron*, 1992, **48**, 5757.
2. V. A. D'yakonov, G. N. Kadikova, U. M. Dzhemilev, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 2011, **52**, 2780.
3. V. A. D'yakonov, G. N. Kadikova, L. M. Dzhemilev, *Russ. Chem. Bull. (Int. Ed.)*, 2011, **60**, 499 [*Izv. Akad. Nauk, Ser. Khim.*, 2011, 489].
4. K. Mach, H. Antropiusová, F. Tureček, V. Hanuš, P. Sedmera, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 1980, **21**, 4879.
5. U. M. Dzhemilev, N. R. Popod'ko, E. V. Kozlova, *Metallokompleksnyi kataliz v organicheskom sinteze [Metal Complex Catalysis in Organic Synthesis]*, Khimiya, Moscow, 1999, 631 pp. (in Russian).
6. *Best Synthetic Methods: Acetilenes, Allenes and Cumulenes*, Ed. L. Brandsma, Elsevier, Amsterdam, 2003, p. 502.
7. K. Conrow, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 1961, **83**, 2343.

Received January 25, 2013;
in revised form February 22, 2013