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Me₃SiBr-Mediated Intramolecular Cyclization of γ-Functionalized Trimethylsilyl Nitronates.

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Abstract: The silylation of nitro compounds of general formula X^1X^2 CHCH(Ar)CH₂NO₂ with Me₃SiBr/Et₃N at -30°C leads to hitherto unknown 2-(*N*,*N*-bis(trimethylsilyloxy)amino-2,3-dihydrofurans (X^1 =PhCO, X^2 =H) or to *N*,*N*-bis(trimethylsilyloxy)aminocyclopropanes (X^1 =X²=COOMe). *N*,*N*-Bis(trimethylsilyloxy)immonium cations appear to be the key intermediates in this process. © 1999 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

The silulation of aliphatic nitro compounds is known to lead to trialkylsilyl nitronates A or bis(trialkylsilyloxy)enamines (BSENA) C (Scheme 1).¹

The trialkylsilyl nitronates A have been well investigated and widely used as versatile synthetic intermediates.² On the other hand, the chemical reactivity of BSENA C is not yet clearly understood. However, they reveal the promising ability to be good equivalents of α -carbonylcarbenium ions in reactions with N-^{2,3} and C-nucleophiles.⁴ γ -Functionalized BSENA may be good precursors for stereoselective synthesis of trans- α , β -unsaturated oximes.⁵



Scheme 1.

Recently we have developed a simple procedure for the preparation of BSENA C, which undoubtedly increases their attractiveness as reagents for organic synthesis.⁶ The apparent precursor of BSENA, carboimmonium ion **B**, that is formed upon reversible transfer of the Me₃Si-group to nitronate oxygen has not 0040-4039/99/\$ - see front matter © 1999 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved. *PII*: S0040-4039(99)00985-5 attracted the attention of chemists.⁷ However, during attempts to synthesize β , β -disubstituted BSENA bearing electron-withdrawing substituents in the γ -position, we encountered two unanticipated transformations of the starting γ -functionalized- β -aryl nitro compounds 1 (Scheme 2).⁸ The expected BSENA products were not isolated, but cyclic products — 3-aryldihydrofuranes 4a,b and arylcyclopropanes 5a,b⁹ — were isolated instead.



Scheme 2. i: Me₃SiBr/Et₃N in CH₂Cl₂ at -30°C; ii: NH₄F/MeOH

nitro compound 1	Ar	X ¹	X ²	Product, (Yield, %) [†]
1 a	Ph	Н	COPh	4a , (83) [†]
1b	p-ClPh	н	COPh	4b , (87) [†]
1c	Ph	COOMe	COOMe	5a , (61)
1 d	p-MeO	COOMe	COOMe	5b, (88)

[†]The yield was determined by NMR with internal standard.

The proposed mechanisms of these reactions include the intramolecular interception of cationic intermediates 3 with nucleophilic moieties as the key step followed by deprotonation or elimination of the Me₃Si-group. The participation of silyl nitronates 2 in these cyclizations was supported by an independent experiment.¹⁰ The immonium cations 3 undergo either base-induced deprotonation or intramolecular cyclization. A priori, it could be anticipated that, the bulky β -aryl group would hinder the approach of the base;

as the result, the cyclization rate would be higher than that of the usual β -C-deprotonation to give BSENA (Schemes 1 and 2).

The structures of the 4-aryldihydrofurans 4 and arylcyclopropanes 5 were determined by NMR spectroscopy and additionally by elemental analysis (for 5).^{9,11} The structure of 4 was confirmed by their transformations into known 3,5-diarylfurans 6 upon treatment with NH₄F/MeOH (Scheme 2).¹² The presence of a three-membered ring in 5 unambiguously follows from the three characteristically small spin-spin coupling constants ${}^{1}J({}^{13}C-{}^{13}C)$ (9.8, 13.8 and 19.5 Hz, defined by INADEQUATE) and from the large ${}^{1}J({}^{1}H-{}^{13}C)$ coupling constants for the cyclic protons and the carbon atoms as well as by their upfield chemical shifts (NMR-data for cyclic atoms are marked by boldface characters).^{9,13} The evidence in favour of a *trans*-arrangement of substituents both in the arylcyclopropanes 5 and the 3-aryldihydrofurans 4 results from the observation of a NOE between the ortho-protons of the aryl substituent and all cyclic protons. The ¹⁵N-chemical shift of the N(OSiMe₃)₂-group in 4 and 5 (see⁹) ressembles the corresponding data for known BSENA.⁶

In conclusion, two new transformations of γ -functionalized aliphatic nitro compounds, leading to arylcyclopropanes and 3-aryldihydrofurans bearing the new N(OSiMe₃)₂-moiety attached to the sp³-carbon atom, have been found. Further investigations of these cyclizations interconnected by a common reaction intermediate — a carboimmonium ion — are being pursued in our group.

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 - 9. Typical procedure. To a stirred solution of nitro compounds 1a-d (2.4 mmol) and Et₃N (0.83 g, 8.2 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (3.5 mL) a solution of Me₃SiBr (1.22g, 8.0 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (1.5 mL) was added dropwise at -40°C. The mixture was kept for 60 h at -30°C with occasional stirring, diluted with petroleum ether (b.p. 40-70°C) and poured into icecooled water. The organic layer was separated, washed with brine, dried (Na2SO4) and evaporated in vacuo to give compound 4a as a viscous oil. NMR (CDCl₃): δ (¹H) 0.17 (s, 9 H, SiMe₃), 0.19 (s, 9 H, SiMe₃), 4.75 (dd, 1 H, CHPh, ³J = 3.0 and 3.8 Hz), 5.05 (d, 1 H, CHN), 5.58 (d, 1 H, CH=C), 7.18-7.39 (m, 8 H, CH_{Ph}), 7.65 (m, 2 H, ortho-CH at 5-Ph); δ (¹³C) 0.2 (SiMe₃), 0.3 (SiMe₃), 48.6 (CHPh), 99.8 (CH=C), 106.9 (CHN), 125.1 (ortho-CH at 5-Ph), 126.6, 127.9, 128.2 and 128.4 (all CH_{Ph}), 130.2 and 143.3 (both C_{Ph}), 155.1 (C=CH); δ (¹⁵N) -145.00 (d, J = 9.7 Hz); δ (²⁹Si) 24.54, 26.19. Compound 4b, viscous oil, NMR (CDCl₃): δ (¹H) 0.21 (s, 9 H, SiMe₃), 0.22 (s, 9 H, SiMe₃), 4.81 (dd, 1 H, CHAr, ³J = 4.0 and 3.4 Hz), 5.04 (d, 1 H, CHN), 5.56 (d, 1 H, CH=C), 7.29 (m, 3 H, CH_{Ph}), 7.34 (d, 2 H, CH_{Ar}, ³J = 7.4 Hz), 7.34 (d, 2 H, CH_{Ar}), 7.68 (d, 2 H, ortho- CH_{Ph} , ${}^{3}J$ = 8.0 Hz); δ (${}^{13}C$) 0.3 (SiMe₃), 0.4 (SiMe₃), 48.1 (CHAr), 99.3 (CH=C), 106.9 (CHN), 125.3, 128.3, 128.5, 129.5 (CH_{At}+CH_{Ph}), 128.4 (p-CH_{Ph}), 130.1 and 142.1 (C_{At}+C_{Ph}), 155.6 (C=CH); δ (²⁹Si) 24.71, 26.42. Compound 5a, white crystals; m.p. 53 — 57°C (from petroleum ether, b.p. 30 — 40°C). NMR (CDCl₃): δ (¹H) 0.18 (s, 9 H, SiMe₃), 0.20 (s, 9 H, SiMe₃), 3.38 (s, 3 H, OMe), 3.63 (d, 1 H, CHPh, ³J = 7.0 Hz), 3.82 (s, 3 H, OMe), 4.36 (d, 1 H, CHN), 7.25 (m, 5 H, CH_{At}); δ (¹³C) 0.3 (q, SiMe₃, ¹J = 118.9 Hz), 0.5 (q, SiMe₃, ¹J = 119.4 Hz), 35.4 (dm, CHPh, ¹J = 162.3 Hz), 44.2 (dd, C(CO₂Me)₂, ²J = 1.7 and 3.8 Hz), 52.2 (q, OMe, ¹J = 147.6 Hz), 52.8 (q, OMe, ${}^{1}J$ = 147.3 Hz), 62.2 (dd, CHN, ${}^{1}J$ = 182.1 Hz, ${}^{2}J$ = 4.2 Hz), 127.5 (dm, CH_p, ${}^{1}J$ = 160.2 Hz), 128.2 (^{1}J = 160.4 Hz) and 128.6 (^{1}J = 156.0 Hz) (both dm, CH_o and CH_m), 132.9 (m, C_{Ar}), 165.7 (m, C=O), 165.9 (m, C=O); δ (¹⁵N) –146.81 (d, J = 2.9 Hz); δ (²⁹Si) 24.39, 24.68. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₉H₃₁NO₆Si₂: C, 53.62; H, 7.34; N, 3.29; Si, 13.20. Found: C, 53.57; H, 7.30; N, 3.25; Si, 13.23. Compound **5b**, viscous oil, NMR (CDCl₃): δ (¹H) 0.18 $(s, 9 H, SiMe_3), 0.19 (s, 9 H, SiMe_3), 3.39 (s, 3 H, OMe), 3.57 (d, 1 H, CHAr, {}^{3}J = 6.7 Hz), 3.73 (s, 3 H, OMe), 3.80$ (s, 3 H, OMe), **4.32** (d, 1 H, CHN), 6.78 (d, 2 H, CH_{Ar}, ${}^{3}J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.18 (d, 2 H, CH_{Ar}); δ (${}^{13}C$) 0.1 (SiMe₃), 0.4 (SiMe₃), 34.8 (CHAr), 44.1 (C(CO₂Me)₂), 52.1 (OMe), 52.6 (OMe), 54.9 (OMe), 62.3 (CHN), 113.7 (CH_{Ar}), 124.7 (C_{Ar}), 129.7 (CH_{Ar}), 158.9 (C_{Ar}), 165.7 (C=O), 165.8 (C=O); δ (²⁹Si) 24.25, 24.54. Anal. Calcd. for C₂₀H₃₃NO₇Si₂: C, 52.72; H, 7.30; N, 3.07; Si, 12.33. Found: C, 52.59; H, 7.35; N, 3.08; Si, 12.42.
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