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Hypervalent Organoiodine Chemistry: a New Synthesis of β -Methylene Cyclic Ethers

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The allylsilanes (1), containing suitably-substituted hydroxy-groups, on treatment with iodosylbenzene in the presence of BF₃-Et₂O in an ether solvent, give 5- or 6-membered β -methylene cyclic ethers (3) in good yields, presumably *via* the highly reactive allylaryliodonium intermediates (2).

Hypervalent organoiodine compounds have been shown to be useful mild oxidizing reagents,¹ and diaryliodonium salts are synthetically important owing to their reactivity with a variety of nucleophiles.² However the synthetic utility of the promising alkylaryliodonium intermediate is not well known because of their thermodynamic instability.³ We report a new synthesis of the β -methylene cyclic ether (3) via the probable reactive alkylaryliodonium intermediate (2), itself derived from the reaction between the allylsilane (1) and iodosylbenzene in the presence of BF₃-Et₂O as shown in Scheme 1.

Allylsilane normally acts as the equivalent of an allyl anion and will transfer the allyl group to various electrophiles in the presence of a Lewis acid.⁴ Therefore, the umpolung type of reactivity for the allylsilyl group of (1) must be achieved for the conversion of (1) into the cyclic ether (3).⁵ The allylsilanes (1a-d) were prepared as follows. Treatment of the commercially available γ -lactones (4a) and (4b) with trimethylsilylmethylmagnesium chloride (4 mol. equiv.) in refluxing ether for 2 h followed by treatment of the product with silica gel in chloroform yielded the allylsilanes (1a) and (1b)in 41 and 45% yields, respectively, *via* the 1,3-disilanes (5a)and (5b) (Scheme 2). The alcohols (6a) and (6b), obtained by the Grignard reaction of the corresponding aldehydes with 2-methylprop-2-enyl-magnesium chloride underwent disilylation⁶ (BuⁿLi-tetramethylethylenediamine-hexane and then Me₃SiCl) to give (7a) and (7b), whose selective protodesilylation $(10\% H_2SO_4$ -tetrahydrofuran) afforded the allylsilanes (1c) and (1d) in 57 and 46% yields, respectively.

The allylsilane (1a), on treatment with iodosylbenzene (1 mol. equiv.) and BF_3 -Et₂O (2 mol. equiv.) in ether at -20 °C

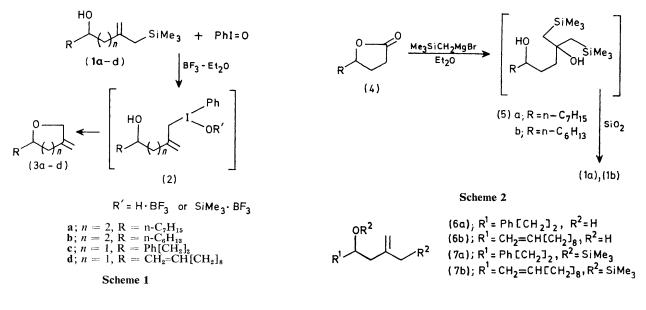


Table 1. Intramolecular cyclisation of allylsilane (1) using iodosylbenzene and BF_3 -Et₂O.

(1)	Solvent	Conditions	Product (% yield) ^a
(a)	Et ₂ O	-20 °C, 2 h and	(3a) (58)
(b) (c) (c) (d)	dioxan glyme dioxan dioxan	then 0 °C, 1 h r.t., ^b 2 h 0 °C, 1.5 h r.t., 3 h r.t., 4 h	(3b) (65) (3c) (52) (3c) (68) (3d) (40)

^a Yield refers to pure isolated compound. ^b r.t. = room temperature.

for 2 h and then 0 °C for 2 h, afforded the 6-membered β methylene cyclic ether (3a) in 58% yield after chromatographic purification (SiO₂).† In a similar manner, intramolecular cyclisations of (1c) and (1d) gave the 5-membered cyclic ethers (3c) and (3d). The results are shown in Table 1. The use of ether solvents proved better than the use of dichloromethane or n-hexane. The formation of iodobenzene in the cyclisation reaction was usually observed.

The first step of the intramolecular cyclisation is probably the nucleophilic attack of an allylsilyl group of (1) on iodosylbenzene, activated by BF_{3} -Et₂O, to produce a highly reactive allylphenyliodonium salt (2); the latter can now act as an allyl cation equivalent. The successive intramolecular nucleophilic attack of the suitably-substituted hydroxy-group on the iodonium group produces the cyclic ether (3).

Kliegman⁷ reported the displacement reaction of the trimethylsilyl group in allyltrimethylsilane by methanol in the presence of palladium(II) acetate. However, the yield of allyl methyl ether was only 5%. We have established the umpolung type of reactivity for the allylsilyl group by using a hypervalent organoiodine compound; the yield of the cyclisation product (3) was good.

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[†] Selected spectroscopic data: (3) ¹H n.m.r. (CDCl₃) δ 0.7–2.5 (19H), 3.1–3.5 (1H, m), 3.94, 4.16 (each 1H, AB type, *J* 12.5 Hz), and 4.75 (2H, s); mass spectrum *m*/*z* 196 (*M*⁺, 4%), 126(6), 97 (100), 69(31), and 67(37).