# ADDITION OF PROPARGYLTRIMETHYLSILANE TO N-METHYLENEAMINE EQUIVALENTS: GENERATION AND ELECTROPHILIC CYCLIZATION OF VINYLIC CARBOCATIONS<sup>1</sup>

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Abstract - Lewis acid induced N-methyleneamine equivalents from N-(methoxymethyl)anilines or 1,3,5-triphenylhexahydro-1,3,5-triazines reacted with propargyltrimethylsilanes to give N-buta-2,3-dienylanilines, 4-methylene-1,2,3,4tetrahydroquinolines and its oxidized product of 4-methylquinolines. These products came from branching reactions of the elimination and electrophilic aromatic substitution from the same vinylic carbocation intermediate.

Limitted number of methods to generate vinyl cations has been reported consisting of electrophilic addition to triple bond of alkynes or the cumulene bond of allenes.<sup>2</sup> The mechanistic detail of the electrophilic addition of alkyne is in dispute.<sup>3</sup> Furthermore its synthetic application is very rare. In this paper we wish to show generation and utilization of vinyl cation as an intermediate for the synthesis of poly-substituted quinolines.<sup>4</sup>

A series of our previous reports shows that *N*-methyleneamine equivalents<sup>5</sup> could be generated *in situ* from *N*-methoxymethylamines or hexahydro-1,3,5-triazines in the presence of a Lewis acid and served as electrophiles for the synthesis of aminomethylated products.<sup>6,7</sup> One of those reactions is addition to allyl nucleophiles leading to the selective synthesis of 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolines and homoallylic amines through branching reactions from the same cationic intermediates.<sup>7</sup>c Based on this observation

generation and utilization of vinyl cation is possible from the addition of *N*-methylenamine equivalents to propargyl nucleophiles.

N-(Methoxymethyl)anilines (1) and 1,3,5-triphenylhexahydro-1,3,5-triazines (2) with diverse substituents on benzene ring reacted with propargyltrimethylsilanes<sup>8,9</sup> in the presence of TiCl<sub>4</sub> to give a mixture of 4-methylene-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolines (5), its oxidized product of 4-methylquinolines (6), and N-buta-2,3-dienylanilines (7).

#### Scheme



This reaction proceeded well with the most of compounds bearing the substituents of 2-Me, 2,5-Cl<sub>2</sub> and 4-NO<sub>2</sub> on the benzene ring. Among Lewis acids of TiCl<sub>4</sub>, SnCl<sub>4</sub>, AlCl<sub>3</sub>, and TMSOTf, TiCl<sub>4</sub> was the best for most of the substrates. The reactions with BF<sub>3</sub>·OEt<sub>2</sub> yielded **6** as a dominant product while all the others with TiCl<sub>4</sub> and SnCl<sub>4</sub> gave a mixture of **5**, **6** and **7**. The reactions were successful not only with simple propargyltrimethylsilane (R = H) but with 2-butynyltrimethylsilanes (R = Me) to yield moderate amount of 3,4-dimethylguinolines (Table).

For the mechanistic detail *N*-(methoxymethyl)aniline and 1,3,5-triphenylhexahydro-1,3,5-triazine yield the *N*-methyleneamine equivalents in the presence of a Lewis acid assumed to be coordinated complexes as shown in the Scheme. The addition of propargylTMS forms the vinylic carbocation intermediate (3) which is stabilized by a  $\beta$ -silicon atom. The subsequent branching from the vinyl cation occurs in two different pathways of electrophilic aromatic cyclization (pathway i) and the removal of TMS (pathway ii). The similar branching from the vinylic carbocation intermediate was reported consisting of propargyltrimethylsilane and *N*-alkoxycarbonyliminium ions from carbamate in the presence of Lewis acid to yield both of the cyclized oxazinones and allenes.<sup>9b</sup>

Substrate	Ar	R	Lewis Acid	5	6	7
 1a	Ph	Н	TiCl4	26	41	12
1a	Ph	Н	SnCl <sub>4</sub>	18	34	8
1a	Ph	Н	BF3·OEt2		58	
1a	Ph	Me	BF3·OEt2		47	
1 b	2-Me-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Н	BF3·OEt2		43	
1 c	2,5-Cl <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub>	Н	TiCl4	23	29	22
1 c	2,5-Cl <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub>	Н	BF3·OEt2		48	
1 <b>d</b>	4-NO2-C6H4	H	TiCl4	6	30	23
1 d	4-NO2-C6H4	Н	BF3 OEt2		46	
2a	Ph	н	TiCl <sub>4</sub>	19	31	29
2a	Ph	н	BF3-OEt2		41	
2a	Ph	Me	BF3·OEt2		48	
2 b	2-Me-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Н	BF3·OEt2		41	
2 c	2,5-Cl <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub>	Н	TiCl4	13	21	27
2 c	2,5-Cl2-C6H3	Н	BF3·OEt2		62	
2 c	4-F-C6H4	Н	BF3 OEt2		56	

Table. Reactions of N-methoxymethylaniline (1) or 1,3,5-triphenylhexahydro-1,3,5-triazine (2) with propargyltrimethylsilane in the presence of Lewis acid.

Pathway i yielded the cyclized product (4) which was converted to 4-methylene-1,2,3,4tetrahydroquinolines (5) in the way of well-known allyITMS protodesilylation in the presence of Lewis acid.<sup>10</sup> Then some of them were oxidized under the reaction conditions to yield mixtures of 5 and  $6.^{11}$  Most of the compounds (5) were converted slowly to 6 by standing at room temperature under the air in a few days. With BF<sub>3</sub>·OEt<sub>2</sub> was yielded 6 as a dominant product. Relatively lower nucleophilicity of BF<sub>3</sub>·OEt<sub>2</sub> toward the silyl group compared to TiCl<sub>4</sub> might prolong the lifetime of vinyl cation to be cyclized and oxidized to yield  $6.1^2$  4-Methylene-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinilone (5) was aromatized oxidatively to 6 with DDQ in 1,4-dioxane. This procedure was applicable for the general synthesis of poly-substituteded quinolines.

This reaction sequence of addition of N-methyleneamine equivalent to alkyne followed by interamolecular cyclization of vinylic carbocation intermediate is supported by the observation of N-buta-2,3-dienylaniline as a minor product discarding the possibility of  $[4\pi+2\pi]$  cycloaddition mechanism with subsequent tautomerization pathway.<sup>13,14</sup> However, the observation that the reaction with BF<sub>3</sub>·OEt<sub>2</sub> yielded 6 as a dominant product does not allow to remove the possibility of the different reaction pathway compared to those with either TiCl<sub>4</sub> or SnCl<sub>4</sub>. Still there is a chance to have  $[4\pi+2\pi]$  cycloaddition and the following oxidative desilvlation mechanism.<sup>10b</sup> Pathway ii with the removal of TMS from vinylic carbocation intermediate yielded N-buta-2,3-dienylaniline. When the life time of the initially generated vinyl cation is not long enough to be cyclized the pathway i is suppressed. With propargyltriphenyltin<sup>15</sup> instead of propargyltrimethylsilane as a nucleophile in the presence of TiCl<sub>4</sub> was obtained N-buta-2,3-dienylaniline in 36% isolated yield without detectable amount of the cyclized product. This supports the initial formation of vinyl cation intermediate between N-methyleneamine equivalents and propargyl compounds, and the subsequent removal of triphenyltin group. The weakness of carbon-tin bond compared to carbonsilicon bond shorten the lifetime of the vinylic carbocation and suppressed the cyclization process.<sup>16,7e</sup> In conclusion we could obtained vinylic carbocation intermediate and its branching to the cyclization in the way of electrophilic aromatic substitution to yield quinolines and to the elimination to give N-buta-2,3dienylaniline.

### EXPERIMENTAL

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra were recorded on a Gemini 200 (200 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H and 50.3 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C). Chemical shifts were given in ppm using TMS as internal standard. MS spectral data were obtained using a Hewlett Packard Model 5985B spectrometer or a Kratos Concept 1-S double focusing mass spectrometer. Elemental analysis was taken on a Perkin-Elmer 240 DS elemental analyzer. The silica gel used for column chromatography was Merck 200-230 mesh. Thin layer chromatography was carried out

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with Merck 60F-254 plates with 0.25 mm thickness. *N*-Methoxymethylanilines were prepared by the reported method.<sup>7a</sup> propargyltrimethylsilane purchased from Fluka was distilled prior to use. All the other chemicals were reagent grade and used without further purification. 1,3,5-Trisubstituted hexahydro-1,3,5-triazines were obtained by the conventional method with amine and formaldehyde. Some of the *N*-methoxymethylanilines and 1,3,5-triphenylhexahydro-1,3,5-triazines were inter-convertible.<sup>7c</sup> 2-Butynyltrimethylsilanes was prepared from methylation of lithiated propargyltrimethylsilane with MeI in THF followed by distillation.

General Procedure: To a stirred solution of *N*-methoxymethylanilines (1) (3.0 mmol) or 1,3,5triphenylhexahydro-1,3,5-triazine (2) (1.0 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL) under nitrogen atmosphere was slowly added the Lewis acid (3.1 mmol) at -78°C. After being stirred for 10 min propargyltrimethylsilanes (9.1 mmol) was added to it. The resulting solution was stirred at -78°C until all starting materials were consumed on TLC. The reaction mixture was poured into ice-water. The resulting solution was neutralized with cold sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution. The reaction product was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Organic layer was washed successively with water and brine, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude reaction product was purified by flash chromatography. To obtain only quinoline (6) the crude reaction product containing both of 5 and 6 was dissloved in 1,4-dioxanes (5 mL) and acetic acid (500 mg) and reacted with DDQ (114 mg, 0.5 mmol). After refluxing an hour the reaction was stopped by adding sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, and the organic material was extracted with EtOAc, which was treated as above and purified by flash chromatography.

**4-Methylene-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoline (5a):** oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (200 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 2.56 (2 H, t, J = 6.0 Hz), 3.26 (2 H, t, J = 6.0 Hz), 3.88 (1 H, br s), 4. 71 (1 H, d, J = 1.0 Hz), 5.32 (1 H, d, J = 1.0 Hz), 6.44 (1 H, dd, J = 8.1 and 1.2 Hz), 6.62 (1 H, td, J = 7.2, and 1.2 Hz), 6.93 (1 H, td, J = 7.2 and 1.2 Hz) and 7.41 (1 H, dd, J = 8.1 and 1.2 Hz). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N: C, 82.7; H, 7.64; N, 9.65. Found: C, 82.5; H, 7.66; N, 9.54.

**4-Methylene-5,8-dichloro-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoline** (5c): oil;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (200 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 2.41 (2 H, t, J = 6.0 Hz), 3.42 (2 H, t, J = 6.0 Hz), 4.62 (1 H, br s), 5.22 (1 H, td, J = 2.6 and 1.0 Hz), 5.77 (1 H, d, J = 1.0), 6.52 (1 H, d, J = 8.6 Hz) and 6.91 (1 H, d, J = 8.6 Hz);  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (50.3 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 31.9, 43.0, 116.2, 116.5, 118.1, 119.1, 128.0, 130.3, 137.1 and 141.7. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>9</sub>NCl<sub>2</sub>: C, 56.1; H, 4.24; N, 6.54. Found: C, 56.4; H, 4.38; N, 6.81.

**4-Methylene-6-nitro-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoline (5d):** oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (200 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 2.57 (2 H, t, J = 6.1 Hz), 3.40 (2 H, t, J = 6.1 Hz), 4.37 (1 H, br s), 4.90 (1 H, s), 5.48 (1 H, s), 6.38 (1 H, d, J = 8.6 Hz), 7.86 (1 H, dd, J = 8.6, and 2.6) and 8.28 (1 H, d, J = 2.6). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 63.2; H, 5.30; N, 14.7. Found: C, 63.3; H, 5.18; N, 14.5.

**4-Methylquinoline** (6a): oil;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (200 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 2.58 (3 H, d, J = 1.0 Hz), 7.10 (1 H, d, J = 4.4 Hz), 7.47 (1 H, t, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.61 (1 H, t, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.87 (1 H, dd, J = 8.2 and 1.0 Hz), 8.02 (1 H, dd, J = 8.4 and 0.8 Hz) and 8.67 (1 H, d, J = 4.4 Hz);  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (50.3 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 18.4, 121.8, 123.8, 126.2, 128.2, 129.1, 130.0, 144.3, 147.9 and 150.2 [HREIMS. Found: 143.0741. C<sub>10</sub>H9N(M<sup>+</sup>) requires: 143.0735].

**4,8-Dimethylquinoline** (6b): oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (200 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 2.63 (3 H, s), 2.76 (3 H, d, J = 1.0), 7.17 (1 H, d, J = 4.6 Hz), 7.39 (1 H, t, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.47 (1 H, d, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.78 (1 H, d, J = 8.0Hz) and 8.74 (1 H, d, J = 4.6 Hz);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  (50.3 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 18.5, 18.9, 121.8, 121.9, 126.2, 128.1, 129.8, 130.6, 137.2, 145.3 and 148.7; m/z 157 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100%), 142 (45), 120 (17), 115 (20). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N: C, 84.0; H, 7.05; N, 8.91. Found: C, 84.2; H, 6.84; N, 8.82.

**5,8-Dichloro-4-methylquinoline (6c):** oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (200 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 2.66 (3 H, d, J = 1.0), 7.23 (1 H, d, J = 4.2 Hz), 7.48 (1 H, d, J = 9.2 Hz), 7.89 (1 H, d, J = 9.0 Hz), and 8.70 (1 H, d, J = 4.2 Hz);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  (50.3 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 18.7, 122.1, 125.4, 126.8, 127.9, 128.1, 135.8, 146.1, 147.3 and 150.3. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>7</sub>NCl<sub>2</sub>: C, 56.6; H, 3.33; N, 6.60. Found: C, 56.4; H, 3.29; N, 6.41.

**6-Nitro-4-methylquinoline (6d):** oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (200 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 2.75 (3 H, d, J = 1.0), 7.33 (1 H, d, J = 4.2 Hz), 8.15 (1 H, d, J = 9.4 Hz), 8.41 (1 H, dd, J = 9.2 and 2.6 Hz), 8.87 (1 H, d, J = 4.4 Hz) and 8.91 (1 H, d, J = 2.6 Hz);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  (50.3 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 18.6, 121.0, 122.6, 123.5, 127.4, 131.9, 145.2, 146.8, 150.3 and 153.6; m/z 188 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100%), 142 (41), 129 (25) and 115 (76). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 63.8; H, 4.28; N, 14.9. Found: C, 63.6; H, 4.15; N, 15.1.

**6-Fluoro-4-methylquiniline (6e):** oil;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (200 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 2.60 (3 H, d, J = 1.2), 7.19 (1 H, d, J = 4.4 Hz), 7.35 - 7.54 (2 H, m), 8.06 (1 H, dd, J = 9.0 and 5.4 Hz) and 8.67 (1 H, d, J = 4.4 Hz);  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (50.3 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 18.6, 107.2, 107.6, 119.2, 119.7, 122.4, 132.2, 132.4, 144.2, 144.4, 144.7, 149.1, 149.2, 158.1 and 163.0. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>8</sub>NF: C, 74.5; H, 5.00; N, 8.69. Found: C, 74.8; H, 4.82; N, 8.43.

**3,4-Dimethylquinoline (6f):** oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (200 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 2.36 (3 H, s), 2.50 (3 H, s), 7.43(1 H, t, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.51 (1 H, t, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.90 (1 H, d, J = 8.8 Hz), 7.96 (1 H, d, J = 8.8 Hz) and 8.56 (1 H, s);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  (50.3 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 13.9, 17.2, 123.7, 126.2, 127.9, 128.4, 129.9, 141.0, 146.8 and 152.5. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N: C, 84.0; H, 7.05; N, 8.91. Found: C, 84.3; H, 7.15; N, 8.78.

**N-Buta-2,3-dienylaniline (7a):** oil;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (200 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 3.71 - 3.78 (2 H, m), 4.71 - 4.79 (2 H, m), 5.23 (1 H, quin, J = 6.2 Hz), and 6.51 - 6.94 (5 H, m);  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (50.3 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 55.4, 76.7, 88.6, 110.2, 116.8, 121.3, 147.1 and 208.7. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N: C, 82.7; H, 7.64; N, 9.65. Found: C, 82.6; H, 7.82; N, 9.58.

*N*-Buta-2,3-dienyl-2,5-dichloroaniline (7c): oil;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (200 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 3.72 - 3.76 (2 H, m), 4.80 - 4.84 (2 H, m), 5.22 (1 H, quin, J = 6.0 Hz), 6.52 - 6.59 (2 H, m) and 7.07 (1 H, d, J = 8.2 Hz). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>9</sub>NCl<sub>2</sub>: C, 56.1; H, 4.24; N, 6.54. Found: C, 56.4; H, 4.41; N, 6.62.

*N*-Buta-2,3-dienyl-4-nitroaniline (7d): oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (200 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 3.94 - 4.00 (2 H, m), 4.71 - 4.78 (2 H, m), 5.11 (1 H, quin, J = 6.2 Hz), 6.61 (2 H, dd, J = 6.4 and 2.2 Hz) and 8.04 (2 H, dd, J = 6.4 and 2.2 Hz);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  (50.3 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 49.6, 77.4, 85.9, 111.1, 126.1, 137.7, 152.8 and 209.1; m/z 190 (M<sup>+</sup>, 2%), 151 (100) and 105 (22). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 63.2; H, 5.30; N, 14.7. Found: C, 63.4; H, 5.52; N, 14.8.

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