Indirect Nuclear Spin–Spin Coupling Constants of Nitrogen-15 to Silicon-29 in Silylamines

Eriks Kupče, Edvards Liepinš, Olga Pudova, and Edmunds Lukevics

Institute of Organic Synthesis, Latvian SSR Academy of Sciences, Riga, U.S.S.R.

The ¹⁵N–²⁹Si spin–spin coupling constants in silylamines have been measured from ²⁹Si satellites in their natural abundance ¹⁵N n.m.r. spectra in an INEPT sequence for accumulation of signals and interpreted in terms of Fermi-contact interaction; the sensitivity of ¹J(¹⁵N–²⁹Si) to d_{π} -p_{π} bonding was noted.

Spin–spin coupling is a valuable source of information on the nature of chemical bonds in and the structure of compounds in solutions.¹ To investigate ¹⁵N–X spin-spin coupling (where X is a group 4A element), ¹⁵N-enriched samples are generally used. For instance, ¹⁵N–¹³C coupling has been studied in detail in this manner.² Recently, ¹J(¹⁵N–¹¹⁹Sn) and ¹J(¹⁵N–²⁰⁹Pb) have been measured and their properties studied in several compounds.³ ¹J(¹⁵N–²⁹Si) has not been examined systematically until recently. The present communication reports a study of ¹⁵N–²⁹Si coupling in silylamines at the natural abundance level of the ¹⁵N isotope. ¹J(¹⁵N–²⁹Si) values were measured from ²⁹Si satellites in ¹⁵N n.m.r. spectra (Figure 1) using the INEPT sequence for accumulation of signals.⁴

¹⁵N-X Spin-spin coupling constants are generally interpreted by assuming a dominant Fermi-contact interaction.^{2,3} This is, in part, indicated by the fact that the reduced constants ¹*K*(¹⁵N-X) > 0 for X = ¹³C, ²⁹Si, or ¹¹⁹Sn.^{2,3,5} The negative ¹*K*(¹⁵N-X) values for X = ²⁰⁹Pb and, in some cases, ¹¹⁹Sn are ascribed to the small values of the N-X s-overlap integral (β_{NX}).³ For increasing electronegativity of substituents on N and X there is an increase in β_{NX} to give more positive ¹*K*(¹⁵N-X) values.³ Therefore, the systematic increase in ¹*J*(¹⁵N-²⁹Si) with increasing electronegativity of substituents on N and Si within the series of silylamines in Table 1 suggests that ¹*K*(¹⁵N-²⁹Si) > 0 for these compounds. This also indicates that the s-character of the N-Si bond also increases in the same way in this series.⁶

The exception to this rule, *i.e.*, that ${}^{1}J({}^{15}N{}^{-29}Si)$ values for NPh derivatives are less than those of their NBu^t analogues, suggests that the coupling constant is sensitive to $d_{\pi}{}^{-}p_{\pi}$ bonding between the lone electron pair (lp) on the nitrogen atom and the vacant d-orbitals on Si. The $d_{\pi}{}^{-}p_{\pi}$ bonding affects ${}^{1}J({}^{15}N{}^{-29}Si)$ only to the extent that it affects β_{NSi} .⁷

Therefore, the differences in ${}^{1}J({}^{15}N{}^{-29}Si)$ of the NBu^t and NPh derivatives (where for the NPh compounds there is a stronger competitive conjugation of the nitrogen lone pair with the phenyl ring) are small.

The values for PhHNSi(OEt)₃ (compound 22) in different solvents (Table 1) show that the effect of these solvents on ${}^{1}J({}^{15}N{}^{-29}Si)$ is negligible. A slight decrease in the ${}^{15}N{}^{-29}Si$



Figure 1. ²⁹Si Satellites in the ¹⁵N n.m.r. spectra of a 50% solution of $(PhNH)_2Si(OEt)_2$ in CDCl₃ (15 mm sample tube, INEPT pulse sequence, overnight run, relaxation time 2 s).

Table 1. N.m.r.^a parameters for 50% solutions of silylamines^b in CDCl₃.

No.	Compound	$^{1}J(^{15}N-^{29}Si)/(\pm 0.1)$ Hz	$\delta(^{15}N)$ (±0.1) p.p.m.	No.	Compound	$^{1}J(^{15}N-^{29}Si)/(\pm 0.1)$ Hz	$\delta(^{15}N)$ (±0.1) p.p.m.
1¢	$N(SiH_3)_3$	+6	_	13	PhHNSiHMe ₂	16.4	-320.4
2 ^d	$HN(SiMe_3)_2$	13.4	-354.2	14ª	PhHNSiMe ₂ Ph	17.3	-317.7
3d	$(HNSiMe_2)_4$	16.9	-341.7	15	PhHNSiMePh ₂	18.3	-319.5
4	Bu ^t HNSiMe ₃	17.2	-323.9	16	(PhHN) ₂ SiMe ₂	19.9	-312.7
5 ^d	Bu ^t HNSiMe ₂ Ph	18.8	-325.7	17	PhHNSi(OEt)Me ₂	19.9	-310.8
6 ^d	Bu ^t HNSiMePh ₂	19.8	-327.3	18	(PhHN) ₃ SiMe	25.4	-313.1
7	$(Bu'HN)_2SiMe_2$	20.8	-317.4	19	(PhHN) ₂ Si(OEt)Me	27.3	-313.5
8	Bu ^t HNSi(OEt)Me ₂	21.5	-317.6	20	PhHNSi(OEt) ₂ Me	29.0	-314.6
9	Bu ^t HNSi(OEt) ₂ Me	30.9	-321.5	21	$(PhHN)_2Si(OEt)_2$	40.1	-319.2
10	$(Bu^{t}HN)_{2}Si(OEt)_{2}$	39.8	-324.9	22	PhHNSi(OEt) ₃	43.9	-322.3
11	ButHNSi(OEt) ₃	44.6	-330.4	e	,,	43.7	-321.5
12	PhHNSiMe ₃	15.7	-314.9	f	,,	43.2	-320.7

^{a 15}N N.m.r. spectra were recorded on a Bruker WM-360 spectrometer, at 36.5 MHz, INEPT pulse sequence, sweep width = 3600 Hz, 4 K data points, relaxation time 2 s, number of scans = 2000-4000, digitalization 0.11 Hz per point, temperature 303 K. ^b Silylamines 4–22 were synthesized from the reactions of excess of the amines with the corresponding chlorosilanes, compounds 2 and 3 were commercial products. ^c Taken from ref. 5. ^d In [²H₆]acetone. ^e In [²H₁₂]cyclohexane. ^f In [²H₆]dimethyl sulphoxide.

spin-spin coupling with increasing solvent polarity may be accounted for in terms of co-ordination of the solvent to Si.

 ${}^{1}J({}^{15}N{}^{-1}H)$ shows little dependence on the substituent on Si, however, it is significantly increased by an increase in the electronegativity of substituents on N so that SiR₃ (67) < But (73-75) < Ph (76-79 Hz). The similarity of the values of these constants for the NPh an NBu¹ derivatives suggests a similar (planar) configuration of the nitrogen atom in these compounds in solution.²

Changes in the shielding of ¹⁵N nuclei correspond to those found earlier in silylamines.⁸

Received, 21st October 1983; Com. 1383

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