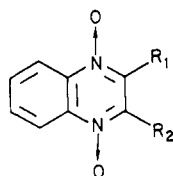


Table I^c

	R ₁	R ₂	R ₁	R ₂	yield, %	R ₁	R ₂	yield, %
1a	CH ₃	H	1b	CH ₂ Br	H	1c	CH ₂ NO ₂	56 ^b
3a	-(CH ₂) ₄ -		4a	BrCH(CH ₂) ₂	CHBr	5a	CHNO ₂ (CH ₂) ₂	87 ^a
3b	-(CH ₂) ₆ -		4b	BrCH(CH ₂) ₃	CHBr	5b	CHNO ₂ (CH ₂) ₃	70 ^b
3c	COCH ₃	CH ₃	4c	COCH ₃	CH ₂ Br	5c	COCH ₃	70 ^a
3d	CH ₂ C ₆ H ₅	C ₆ H ₅	4d	CHBrC ₆ H ₅	C ₆ H ₅	5d	CHNO ₂ C ₆ H ₅	70 ^b
3e	COC ₆ H ₅	CH ₃	4e	COC ₆ H ₅	CH ₂ Br	5e	COC ₆ H ₅	65 ^b
								97
								70
								82
								90
								71

^a CH₃OH as solvent. ^b CH₃COOC₂H₅ as solvent. ^c Satisfactory analyses ($\pm 0.3\%$ for C, H, N, and Br if present) were recorded for 4b,d and 5a,b,d. Compounds 1c, 5c, and 5e could not be obtained in analytical purity.

2-(Bromobenzyl)-3-phenylquinoxaline 1,4-Dioxide (4d).

The same procedure as for 4b was followed using 2-benzyl-3-phenylquinoxaline 1,4-dioxide⁵ (3d, 1.29 g, in 75 mL of ethyl acetate) and bromine (0.64 g, in 10 mL of ethyl acetate); reaction time 4 h. 4d: 1.12 g (70%); mp 178–180 °C; IR (cm⁻¹) 3100, 3020, 1600, 1510, 1490, 1440, 1360, 1335, 1290, 1270, 1085, 1020, 1000, 990, 965, 890, 855, 815, 765, 750, 715, 700, 660.

trans-1,4-Dibromo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrophenazine 5,10-Dioxide (4a). To a magnetically stirred suspension of 1,2,3,4-tetrahydrophenazine 5,10-dioxide (3a, 3.20 g) in methanol (30 mL) was added bromine (5.64 g) dropwise. Stirring was continued in the dark for 5 days at room temperature. The resulting yellow precipitate was collected by suction filtration, washed with cold CH₃OH and ether, and recrystallized from CH₃OH-CHCl₃. 4a: 5.11 g (87%); mp 179–181 °C (lit.⁷ mp 171–173 °C).

Preparation of Quinoxaline 1,4-Dioxide Nitrate Esters. General Procedure. A solution of silver nitrate (7.1 mmol) and the specific bromo derivative (1b, 4a–e; 1.3 mmol) in CH₃CN (30 mL) was stirred in the dark at room temperature for 1.5 h unless otherwise specified. The solution was filtered and the precipitate was washed twice with CHCl₃ (30 mL each). The combined filtrates were concentrated. Ethyl acetate (100 mL) was added to the concentrate and any precipitate formed was filtered out. The ethyl acetate solution was washed twice with water (50 mL each), the organic layer was dried, and ethyl acetate was evaporated under reduced pressure to yield products 1c and 5a–e which were recrystallized from CHCl₃-CH₃OH (Table I).

1c (R₁ = CH₂NO₂, R₂ = H): mp 137–139 °C; yield 56%; IR (cm⁻¹) 3100, 3030, 1660, 1640, 1550, 1510, 1370, 1355, 1285, 1270, 1240, 1160, 1095, 1045, 1000, 975, 945, 860, 850, 785, 755, 710, 660; NMR δ 5.90 (s, 2 H), 8.00 (m, 2 H), 8.63 (m, 3 H).

5a (R₁, R₂ = -CHNO₂(CH₂)₂CHNO₂): mp 205–207 °C dec; yield 97%; reaction time 20 min; IR (cm⁻¹) 3100, 3000, 1650, 1515, 1445, 1370, 1330, 1315, 1275, 1100, 1015, 940, 910, 845, 785, 670; NMR δ 2.3 (br s, 4 H), 6.8 (br s, 2 H), 7.9 (m, 2 H), 8.6 (m, 2 H).

5b (R₁, R₂ = -CHNO₂(CH₂)₃CHNO₂): mp 196–198 °C yield 70%; IR (cm⁻¹) 3080, 2940, 1640, 1500, 1445, 1355, 1320, 1275, 1110, 1070, 1045, 980, 955, 915, 855, 800, 770, 660; NMR δ 2.03 (br s, 6 H), 7.2 (m, 2 H), 7.9 (m, 2 H), 8.6 (m, 2 H).

5c (R₁ = COCH₃, R₂ = CH₂NO₂): mp 136–138 °C dec; yield 82%; IR (cm⁻¹) 3110, 2960, 2940, 1715, 1665, 1605, 1445, 1430, 1375, 1340, 1290, 1270, 1105, 1055, 980, 955, 855, 790, 760, 700, 690; NMR δ 2.80 (s, 3 H), 5.86 (s, 2 H), 7.93 (m, 2 H), 8.63 (m, 2 H).

5d (R₁ = CHNO₂C₆H₅, R₂ = C₆H₅): mp 138–140 °C dec; yield 90%; IR (cm⁻¹) 3060, 1640, 1495, 1455, 1445, 1365, 1325, 1280, 1270, 1090, 1025, 1050, 995, 980, 940, 925, 905, 860, 845, 785, 770, 730, 715, 705, 670.

5e (R₁ = COC₆H₅, R₂ = CH₂NO₂): mp 177–180 °C; yield 71%; IR (cm⁻¹) 3100, 3050, 1655, 1600, 1585, 1510, 1440, 1430, 1330, 1275, 1245, 1185, 1170, 1110, 1065, 1030, 1010, 950, 880, 840, 820, 790, 760, 740, 710, 690, 665; NMR δ 5.86 (s, 2 H), 7.80 (m, 7 H), 8.70 (m, 2 H).

Methyl (Quinoxalinylmethylene)carbazate (Mecadox, 2).

A solution of 2-[(nitroxy)methyl]quinoxaline 1,4-dioxide (1c, 1.52 g) and methyl carbazate (3.24 g) in dichloromethane (15 mL) was

heated on a steam bath to dissolve the starting materials. The reaction mixture was allowed to stand overnight at room temperature. The product precipitated out and was collected, washed with dichloromethane, and recrystallized from ethanol: 1.60 g (96%); mp 243–245 °C; IR (cm⁻¹) 3220, 1755, 1555, 1535, 1445, 1385, 1335, 1245, 1205, 1160, 1135, 1095, 1055, 995, 845, 795, 775. The product was identical with an authentic sample (mmp, TLC, IR) prepared by an independent method.⁸

1-Hydroxyphenazine 5,10-Dioxide (8). A solution of 1,4-bis(nitroxy)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrophenazine 5,10-dioxide (5a, 0.17 g) and triethylamine (0.14 mL) in dichloromethane (5 mL) was refluxed for 35 min. The dichloromethane was evaporated and product 8 was isolated by TLC: 0.06 g (55%); mp 187–189 °C (lit.⁹ mp 184–185 °C).

2-Benzoyl-3-phenylquinoxaline 1,4-Dioxide (9). The same procedure used in the preparation of 8 was followed with 2-[[[(phenyloxy)nitros]oxy]-3-phenylquinoxaline 1,4-dioxide (5d, 0.13 g) and triethylamine (0.25 mL) in 5 mL of dichloromethane; reaction time 1.25 h. Product 9 was purified by TLC: 0.08 g (72%); 228–230 °C (lit.¹⁰ mp 234 °C).

Registry No. 1a, 6639-86-7; 1b, 18080-66-5; 1c, 93222-85-6; 2, 6804-07-5; 3b, 18965-43-0; 3c, 13297-17-1; 3d, 53326-80-0; 3e, 19803-53-3; 4a, 93222-83-4; 4b, 18965-53-2; 4c, 60949-39-5; 4d, 93222-84-5; 4e, 62686-03-7; 5a, 93222-86-7; 5b, 93222-87-8; 5c, 93222-88-9; 5d, 93222-89-0; 5e, 93222-90-3; 8, 18274-55-0; 9, 13494-38-7; silver nitrate, 7761-88-8; methyl carbazate, 6294-89-9; dichloromethane, 75-09-2.

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Heteroacylsilanes: Synthesis and Synthetic Potentialities of New Nucleophilic Acylation Agents

Alfredo Ricci, Alessandro Degl'Innocenti,* Stefano Chimichi, Mariella Fiorenza, and Gabriele Rossini

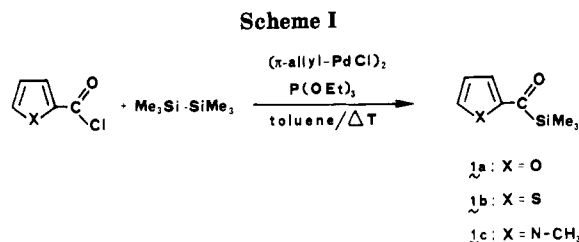
Centro di Studio del C.N.R. sulla Chimica e la Struttura dei Composti Eterociclici e loro Applicazioni, c/o Istituto di Chimica Organica dell'Università, I-50121 Firenze, Italy

Hans Jurgen Bestmann

Institut für Organische Chemie der Universität der Erlangen-Nürnberg, D-852 Erlangen, FRG

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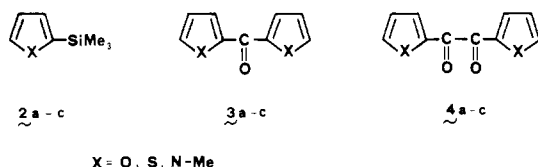
As a part of our continuing interest in the chemistry of acylsilanes, we describe here the first synthesis dealing with the hitherto unknown class of heteroacylsilanes and the



preliminary results on their potential use as nucleophilic heteroacylation agents.

The high reactivity of five-membered heterocyclic rings toward brominating and metalating agents, coupled with the easy desilylation of the target compounds prevented use of the previously reported methods, based mainly upon the hydrolysis of (*gem*-dibromobenzyl)trimethylsilanes¹ and on the Corey-Seebach procedure² for the synthesis of 2-furoyl- (**1a**), 2-thenoyl- (**1b**), and (2-*N*-methylpyrrolyl)-trimethylsilane (**1c**).³ However, the transition metal catalyst based procedure of forming C-Si bonds, first described by Atwell and Bokerman⁴ and further developed by other authors,⁵ proved (Scheme 1) to be suitable for the synthesis of **1a-c**, starting from the corresponding acyl chlorides.

Among the transition-metal catalysts, the (π -allyl-PdCl)₂ complex and (CH₃COO)₂Pd appeared to be the most effective, whereas the use of (PPh₃)₂PdI₂ or (PPh₃)₄Pd led to a sizeable lowering of yields. All these reactions were run in the presence of 10% P(OEt)₃ and 5% of the catalyst, with toluene as solvent. Yields ranged from 50% to 70% and (see Experimental Section) the products were isolated by column chromatography. Careful GC/MS analysis of the crude reaction mixtures, revealed, besides **1a-c**, byproducts (**2a-c**, **3a-c**, **4a-c**) whose relative



amounts were related to the nature of the catalyst as well as that of the heterocyclic ring. Attempted silylation of pyridine-2-carbonyl chloride according to the previously outlined procedure failed, and not even traces of the expected ketone were detected by GC/MS analysis.⁶

The new heteroacylsilanes showed unusual spectroscopic features, some of them previously noticed⁷ in the case of aroylsilanes and of the aliphatic analogues. The ¹³C and ²⁹Si NMR chemical shifts of **1a-c** collected in Table I together with those of reference compounds are strongly indicative of an unexpectedly low electron density on the carbonyl carbon, whereas the high upfield shift of the ²⁹Si

Table I. Spectral Data of Heteroacylsilanes

compd	¹³ C NMR, ^a $\delta_{\text{C=O}}$	²⁹ Si NMR, ^a δ	IR, ^b $\nu_{\text{C=O}}$
1a	220.7 ^c	-6.3 ^c	1590
1b	223.1	-6.9	1580
1c	220.0	-8.8	1575
PhCOSi(CH ₃) ₃	234.2 ^d	-7.9 ^d	1617 ^d
PhCOCH ₂ Si(CH ₃) ₃	197.5	2.3	1670 ^e
PhCOC(CH ₃) ₃	206.9 ^f		1680 ^g
PhCH ₂ Si(CH ₃) ₃		1.2 ^h	

^a Spectra recorded in C₆D₆ (ppm) with respect to internal Me₄Si. ^b ν in cm⁻¹, as film liquid. ^c In CDCl₃. ^d Lit. 236.7, ref 7b. ^e Lutsenko, I. F.; Baukov, Yu. I.; Dudukina, O. V.; Kramarova, E. N. *J. Organomet. Chem.* **1968**, *11*, 35. ^f Dhama, K. S.; Stothers, J. B. *Can. J. Chem.* **1965**, *43*, 479. ^g Adelfang, J. L.; Hess, P. H.; Cromwell, N. H. *J. Org. Chem.* **1961**, *26*, 1402. ^h 0.4 (neat), Chuy, N. D.; Chvalovsky, V.; Schraml, J.; Magi, M.; Lipmaa, E. *Collect. Czech. Chem. Commun.* **1977**, *42*, 306.

of **1a-c** compared with that of benzyltrimethylsilane suggests abnormally high electron density on the silicon atom. Also the IR frequencies collected in Table I support the inadequacy of the ketonic structure for a description of the ground-state features of compounds **1a-c**.⁸

The behavior of aroylsilanes and allied substrates as nucleophilic acylation agents, being outlined in one of our previous papers⁹ and shortly after by Heathcock et al.,¹⁰ we thought it worthwhile to extend this reversed polarity reaction to the synthetically attractive transfer of pyrrolyl, thenoyl, and furoyl anions by reacting **1a-c** under F⁻ catalysis with a variety of representative carbon electrophiles (Scheme II).

Satisfactory, although not optimized, yields of the products of nucleophilic heteroacyl transfer were obtained for furoyl- and thenoyltrimethylsilane (Table II), whereas only trace amounts (<10%) of the expected products were revealed by GC/MS analysis with pyrrolyltrimethylsilane which was recovered unchanged from the reaction mixture. This lack of reactivity is more likely due to steric rather than electronic effects. In fact, according to a previously reported mechanism the attack of the F⁻ ion in this class of compounds is expected to take place at the carbonyl carbon¹¹ which in the case of **1c** is much more sterically hindered due to the presence of the Si(CH₃)₃ and NCH₃ groups.

With most reactive electrophiles such as benzaldehyde a clean transfer of the heteroacyl moiety was observed, whereas with aliphatic aldehydes the reaction proved to be successful only when long chain derivatives such as butyraldehyde were used in 1,3-dimethylimidazolidin-2-one (DMI) as solvent, (entry 4 in Table II). Any attempt at functionalizing acetaldehyde failed, the main reaction being desilylation of the acylsilane.

Reactions of compounds **1a-c** with ketones according to Scheme II were also unsuccessful.

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(2) Corey, E. J.; Seebach, D.; Freedman, R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1967**, *89*, 434.

(3) Only in the case of thiophene derivative was the bromination based procedure partially successful (yields ca. 25%).

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(6) The difficulties in getting the pure pyridine-2-carbonyl chloride, coupled with the expected high reactivity of the C-Si bond, might be responsible for the failure of this reaction.

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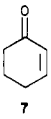
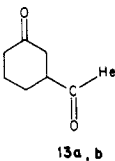
(8) Ab initio calculations now in progress seems to point out that a carbenoid like structure might also be worth taking into consideration.

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Table II. Reactions of Heteroacylsilanes 1a-c with Carbon Electrophiles

entry	compd ^a	electrophile	catlyst ^b /conds ^c	product	% yield ^e	MS (M ⁺), m/e	ref
1	1a	PhCHO 5	CsF/rt, 6 h	HO O PhCHC-Het	68 ^f	202	13
2	1b		CsF/rt, 6 h	11a-c	60 ^f	218	14
3	1c		CsF/reflux, 20 h		10	215	
4	1a	CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₂ CHO 6	CsF/rt, 3 h ^d	HO O CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₂ CHC-Het	55	168	15
5	1a		CsF/reflux, 12 h		30	192	
6	1b		CsF/reflux, 10 h		40	208	
7	1a	PhCOCH ₂ Br	CsF/reflux, 12 h	PhCOCH ₂ COHet	40	214	16
8	1b	8	CsF/reflux, 12 h	14a-c	50	230	17
9	1a	PhCH ₂ Br 9	18.C.6/KF/rt, 10 h	PhCH ₂ COHet	45	186	18
10	1b		18.C.6/KF/rt, 10 h		50	202	19
11	1c		CsF/reflux, 20 h		< 10	199	
12	1a	PhCH=CHCH ₂ I 10	CsF/rt, 3 h ^d	PhCH=CHCH ₂ C(=O)-Het 16a	45	212	

^a 1:1 molar ratio of the reagents. ^b 10% molar with respect to the reagents. ^c Unless otherwise specified all reactions were run in anhydrous THF. ^d Reaction run in 1,3-dimethylimidazolidin-2-one (DMI) as solvent. ^e Determined by quantitative GC/MS analysis. ^f Isolated yield of chromatographically pure product.

When less reactive electrophiles such as 2-cyclohexenone were used, thenil and furil were formed besides the expected products,¹² thus lowering the overall yields of the reactions. In this case interaction of the heteroacyl anion with the electrophile occurred in a regioselective fashion at position 3 (entries 5 and 6 in Table II).

Finally, reactions employing allyl bromide as an electrophile afforded complex reaction mixtures in which ca. 2% of the expected product was present besides unreacted starting material and sizeable amounts of unidentified byproducts. Much better results were achieved however when the reaction was performed in DMI employing phenyl allyl iodide as an electrophile.

Experimental Section

General Methods. ¹H, ¹³C, and ²⁹Si nuclear magnetic resonance spectra were obtained on Perkin-Elmer R-32 or Varian FT-80A spectrometers, infrared spectra on a Perkin-Elmer 283 spectrophotometer, and mass spectra on a Varian MAT 112 or HP 5970A apparatus. NMR spectra were measured in CCl₄, CDCl₃, or C₆D₆ solutions, and, when not otherwise specified, IR spectra were recorded as neat liquids.

Starting materials were commercially available except for 2-*N*-methylpyrrolicarbonyl chloride which was obtained from the corresponding acid by treatment under reflux with an excess of SOCl₂ in dimethoxyethane, bp 84 °C (1 mmHg).

THF was freshly distilled from LiAlH₄ and toluene from sodium. All reactions were run under an atmosphere of dry nitrogen.

GC analyses were performed on a 5% OV 101 column on Chromosorb and preparative chromatography on a Jobin Yvon

Chromatopac Prep. 10 with Merck 60H silica gel as the stationary phase. Column chromatography was carried out on silica gel grade 923 or "Florisil".

Elemental analyses were performed on a Perkin-Elmer 240C apparatus.

2-Furoyltrimethylsilane (1a). A dry, nitrogen-purged round-bottomed flask is charged with 0.041 g (0.112 mmol) of (π -allyl-PdCl)₂, 0.073 g (0.075 mL, 0.44 mmol) of freshly distilled P(OEt)₃, and 0.68 g (0.96 mL, 4.7 mmol) of hexamethyldisilane, the mixture is stirred for 5 min, and a 0.584-g (0.441 mL, 4.4 mmol) sample of 2-furoyl chloride and 1.5 mL of toluene are then added via a syringe. The homogeneous solution thus obtained is refluxed for 6 h and then cooled, and the progression of the reaction was monitored by GC. The obtained mixture is taken up in ether, filtered, and chromatographed by using pentane/ether [5:1 v/v] as the eluent. After a short forerun of unidentified material, 2-furoyltrimethylsilane is collected and the solvent evaporated to obtain a greenish yellow oil: 0.443 g (60% yield); IR (neat) 3120, 2960, 1590, 1250, 840 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CCl₄) δ 0.24 (s, 9 H, Si(CH₃)₃), 6.48 (dd, *J*_{4,5} = 1.9 Hz, *J*_{4,3} = 3.8 Hz, 1 H, H-4), 6.92 (d, *J*_{5,3} = 1.9 Hz, 1 H, H-5), 7.56 (d, *J*_{3,5} = 3.8 Hz, 1 H, H-3); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 220.7 (C=O), 158.8 (C-2), 145.8 (C-5), 113.9 (C-3),²⁰ 112.0 (C-4),²⁰ -2.45 (Si(CH₃)₃). Anal. Calcd for C₈H₁₂O₂Si: C, 57.09; H, 7.20. Found: C, 57.16; H, 7.38.

2-Thenoyltrimethylsilane (1b). Following the procedure described for 1a, from 0.879 g of 2-thenoyl chloride were obtained, after purification by elution on silica gel with pentane/ether (5:1 v/v) as the eluent, 0.405 g (50% yield) of 2-thenoyltrimethylsilane: IR (neat) 3100, 2960, 1580, 1250, 840 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CCl₄) δ 0.19 (s, 9 H, Si(CH₃)₃), 6.91 (dd, *J*_{4,5} = 5 Hz, *J*_{4,3} = 4 Hz, 1 H, H-4), 7.26 (dd, *J*_{5,4} = 5 Hz, *J*_{5,3} = 1 Hz, 1 H, H-5), 7.67 (dd, *J*_{3,4} = 4 Hz, *J*_{3,5} = 1 Hz, 1 H, H-4); ¹³C NMR (C₆D₆) δ 223.1 (C=O), 151.3 (C-2), 132.7 (C-5),²⁰ 132.3 (C-3),²⁰ 128.0 (C-4), -1.8 (Si(CH₃)₃). Anal. Calcd for C₈H₁₂OSSi: C, 52.13; H, 6.56. Found: C, 51.94; H, 6.83.

[(1-Methyl-2-pyrrolyl)carbonyl]trimethylsilane (1c). A 2.0-g (14 mmol) sample of *N*-methylpyrrole-2-carbonyl chloride was reacted as for 1a to give 1.25 g (50% yield) of the silylated ketone after elution on Florisil with pentane/ether (5:1 v/v) as the eluent: IR (neat) 3120, 2960, 1575, 1250, 840 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CCl₄) δ 0.25 (s, 9 H, Si(CH₃)₃), 3.82 (s, 3 H, NCH₃), 6.03 (dd, *J*_{4,5} = 2.6 Hz, *J*_{4,3} = 1.8 Hz, 1 H, H-4), 6.63 (dd, *J*_{5,4} = 3.0 Hz, *J*_{5,3} =

(12) Variable amounts of benzil were also formed in the reactions of acylsilane and carbon electrophiles.

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(20) These assignments may be reversed.

1.0 Hz, 1 H, H-5), 6.87 (dd, $J_{3,4} = 1.6$ Hz, $J_{3,5} = 1.0$ Hz, 1 H, H-3); ^{13}C NMR (C_6D_6) δ 220.0 (C=O), 136.2 (C-2), 130.2 (C-5),²⁰ 121.7 (C-3),²⁰ 108.2 (C-4), 37.4 (NCH₃), -1.4 (Si(CH₃)₃). Anal. Calcd for C₉H₁₅NOSi: C, 59.61; H, 8.35. Found: C, 59.30; H, 8.30.

General Procedure for the Reaction of the Heteroacylsilanes 1a-c with Electrophiles. A dry, nitrogen-purged flask is charged with CsF (0.055 mmol) (dried for 3 h at 150 °C under high vacuum) and THF (1 mL). Equimolar amounts (0.55 mmol) of the acylsilane and of the electrophile dissolved in THF (1 mL) are then added, and the mixture is stirred and eventually refluxed. Reaction progress is monitored by GC, and the obtained mixtures are analyzed by GC/MS analysis.

Reaction of 2-Thenoyltrimethylsilane (1b) with Benzaldehyde. To a stirred suspension of CsF (0.008 g, 0.055 mmol) in 1 mL of anhydrous THF is added dropwise a solution of 1b (0.10 g, 0.55 mmol) and benzaldehyde (0.058 g, 0.55 mmol) in 1 mL of THF. The mixture is stirred for 6 h at room temperature, then taken up in ether, and washed 3 times with water, and the organic layer is dried over Na₂SO₄. Evaporation of the solvent affords a gummy solid, which when washed with cold ether (1 mL) gives 11a (0.08 g, 68%); IR (KBr) 3440, 1650 cm⁻¹; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 4.40 (d, $^3J_{\text{CH-OH}} = 5$ Hz, 1 H, OH), 5.75 (d, $^3J_{\text{CH-OH}} = 5$ Hz, 1 H, CH), 6.97-7.72 (m, 8 H, aromatic and heterocyclic H).

Registry No. 1a, 80671-28-9; 1b, 88372-95-6; 1c, 93303-99-2; 4a, 492-94-4; 4b, 7333-07-5; 5, 100-52-7; 6, 123-72-8; 7, 52844-25-4; 8, 70-11-1; 9, 100-39-0; 10, 59625-54-6; 11a, 36715-43-2; 11b, 36715-42-1; 11c, 93304-00-8; 12a, 20894-97-7; 13a, 93304-01-9; 13b, 93304-02-0; 14a, 5910-23-6; 14b, 10471-74-6; 15a, 86607-65-0; 15b, 13196-28-6; 15c, 93304-03-1; 16a, 93304-04-2; DMI, 80-73-9; PhCOSi(CH₃)₃, 5908-41-8; PhCOCH₂Si(CH₃)₃, 13735-78-9; ((π -allyl)PdCl)₂, 12012-95-2; hexamethyldisilane, 1450-14-2; 2-furoyl chloride, 527-69-5; 2-thenoyl chloride, 5271-67-0; *N*-methylpyrrole-2-carbonyl chloride, 26214-68-6.

Reduction of α,β -Unsaturated Nitro Compounds with Boron Hydrides: A New Route to *N*-Substituted Hydroxylamines

M. Soubei Mourad, Rajender S. Varma, and George W. Kabalka*

Department of Chemistry, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee 37996-1600

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In connection with our ongoing program directed toward the synthesis of radiolabeled amphetamine derivatives,¹ we required a convenient method for the preparation of hydroxylamines. A survey of the literature indicated that the most convenient syntheses of *N*-substituted hydroxylamines involved the reduction of conjugated nitroalkenes.^{2,3} Other methods include the reduction of oximes⁴ and nitro salts⁵ or the oxidation of amines.⁶ The latter methods are involved and are not readily amenable to the synthesis of the desired target molecules.

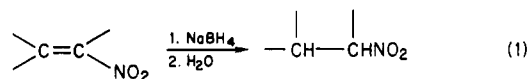
Since catalytic hydrogenation of conjugated nitroalkenes is reported to be a complex reaction,² we investigated the

Table I. Reduction of α,β -Unsaturated Nitro Compounds with $\text{BH}_3 \cdot \text{THF}$ and Sodium Borohydride (Catalytic Amount)

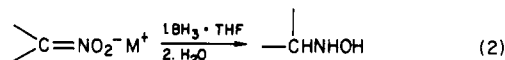
starting material	product	time, h	yield, ^a %
		0.5	85
		1	80
		2	74
		1	78
		1.5	77
		3	85
		1	70
		1	74

^a Isolated yield.

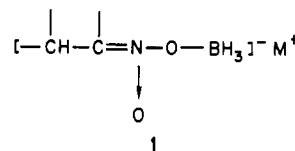
reduction of conjugated nitroalkenes utilizing lithium aluminum hydride.³ Unfortunately, in our hands, mixtures were obtained under a variety of conditions. We then investigated the reduction of conjugated nitroalkenes with boron hydrides. It had been reported that the sodium borohydride reduction of α,β -unsaturated nitroalkenes produces the corresponding nitroalkanes (eq 1).⁷ In a later



study, Feuer reported⁵ that nitro salts (nitronates) are readily reduced to hydroxylamines by borane complexes, eq 2 (i.e., the nitro compounds are unreactive). These



reactions presumably occur through a common intermediate 1, which can then be hydrolyzed directly to nitroalkane or reduced with a borane complex to yield hydroxylamine after hydrolysis. It occurred to us that these reactions could be utilized to prepare the desired hydroxylamine directly from the conjugated nitroalkenes.



We have found that sodium borohydride catalyzes the reaction of borane complexes with α,β -unsaturated nitro compounds. The reaction is straightforward. A catalytic amount of sodium borohydride is added to a normally unreactive mixture of the α,β -unsaturated nitro compound and the borane complex at room temperature. The pure

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