

**A Novel Ring-Enlargement Reaction of (3-Oxa-2-silacyclopentyl)methyl Radicals into 4-Oxa-3-silacyclohexyl Radicals. Stereoselective Introduction of a Hydroxyethyl Group via Unusual 6-Endo-Cyclization Products Derived from 3-Oxa-4-silahexenyl Radicals and Its Application to the Synthesis of a 4'- $\alpha$ -Branched Nucleoside<sup>1</sup>**

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Radical cyclization is a highly versatile method for forming C–C bonds.<sup>2</sup> There has been growing interest in the use of a silicon-containing tether for intramolecular radical cyclization reactions,<sup>3</sup> which are very useful for the regio- and stereoselective introduction of a carbon substituent based on a temporary silicon connection. We report here an efficient method for introducing a 2-hydroxyethyl group via a radical cyclization reaction with a silicon-containing tether. During this study, we identified a novel ring-enlargement reaction of (3-oxa-2-silacyclopentyl)methyl radicals into 4-oxa-3-silacyclohexyl radicals.

Over the past few years, we have studied antisense oligonucleotides with modified nucleoside units.<sup>4</sup> This work has required a 2'-deoxy-4'- $\alpha$ -(2-hydroxyethyl)adenosine derivative, such as **1** (eq 4), as a novel, modified nucleoside unit to be incorporated into oligonucleotides.

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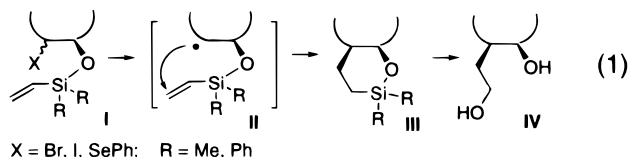
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**Table 1. Synthesis of **6** and **7** via Radical Cyclization Reaction of **3a** or **3b**<sup>a</sup>**

entry	substrate	method <sup>b</sup>	temp, °C	% yield ( <b>6</b> + <b>7</b> )	ratio <sup>d</sup> ( <b>6</b> : <b>7</b> )
1	<b>3a</b>	A	80	71 <sup>c</sup>	6:1
2	<b>3a</b>	B	80	72 <sup>d</sup>	15:1
3	<b>3a</b>	C	26	91 <sup>d</sup>	1:11
4	<b>3a</b>	D	80	84 <sup>d</sup>	1:17
5	<b>3b</b>	A	80	70 <sup>d</sup>	2.8:1
6	<b>3b</b>	C	26	72 <sup>d</sup>	1:23
7	<b>3b</b>	D	80	81 <sup>d</sup>	1:31

<sup>a</sup> Compounds **6** and **7** were obtained after treating the crude reaction mixture of the radical reaction under Tamao oxidation conditions. <sup>b</sup> A: To a solution of substrate (0.01 M) in benzene was added a mixture of Bu<sub>3</sub>SnH (1.1 equiv) and AIBN (0.6 equiv) in benzene slowly over 4 h. B: To a solution of substrate (0.002 M) in benzene was added a mixture of Bu<sub>3</sub>SnH (1.1 equiv) and AIBN (0.6 equiv) in benzene slowly over 7 h. C: To a solution of substrate (0.01 M) in benzene were simultaneously added a solution of Bu<sub>3</sub>SnH (1.1 equiv) in benzene and a solution of Et<sub>3</sub>B (0.6 equiv) in benzene over 4 h. D: To a mixture of substrate (0.01M) and Bu<sub>3</sub>SnH (3.0 equiv) in benzene was added AIBN (0.6 equiv) in benzene over 2 h. <sup>c</sup> Isolated yield. <sup>d</sup> Determined by HPLC.

Although several methods for preparing 4'-branched nucleosides have been reported,<sup>5</sup> these methods are not stereoselective and only limited types of carbon substituents can be introduced. Therefore, we explored an efficient method for introducing a 2-hydroxyethyl group stereoselectively via a radical cyclization reaction using a silicon-containing tether bearing a radical acceptor. Our synthetic plan is outlined in eq 1. Halohydrins or  $\alpha$ -(phenylseleno)alkanols are converted to the corresponding vinylsilyl ethers (**I**). If radical intermediate **II**, generated from **I**, is cyclized to 6-endo-product **III**, stereoselective introduction of a 2-hydroxyethyl group at the  $\beta$ -position of the hydroxyl can be achieved, after an oxidative ring-cleavage reaction.<sup>6</sup>



We investigated the reaction with the diphenyl- and dimethylvinylsilyl ethers **3a** and **3b**, prepared from commercially available ( $\pm$ )-*trans*-2-bromo-1-indanol (**2**).<sup>7</sup> Radical reactions were performed with Bu<sub>3</sub>SnH and either AIBN or Et<sub>3</sub>B in benzene, followed by Tamao oxidation,<sup>6</sup> to give a mixture of diols **6** and **7**,<sup>8</sup> and the results are summarized in Table 1.<sup>9</sup> First, a mixture of Bu<sub>3</sub>SnH (1.1 equiv) and AIBN in benzene was added slowly over 4 h to a solution of **3a** in benzene (0.01 M) under reflux, to give the desired 2-hydroxyethyl derivative **6** via 6-endo cyclization product **4a**, as a major product, along with **7** via 5-exo cyclization product **5a** (entry 1; 71%, **6**:**7** = 6:1). The selectivity for the formation of **6** increased significantly when a lower concentration of Bu<sub>3</sub>SnH was employed (entry 2; 72%, **6**:**7** = 15:1). Interestingly, when the reaction was performed at room temperature, the regioselectivity was almost completely reversed to give **7** preferentially (entry 3; 91%, **6**:**7** =

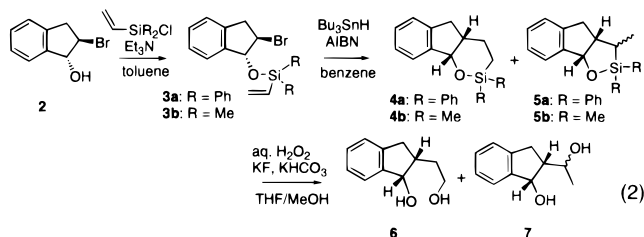
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(8) Compound **7** was obtained as an epimeric mixture of the 2-(1-hydroxyethyl) moiety.

(9) Isolation of the radical reaction products **4** and **5** was attempted, but they were not obtained in a pure form due to contamination with compounds derived from Bu<sub>3</sub>SnH.

1:11). Furthermore, the radical reaction of **3a** in the presence of excess of  $\text{Bu}_3\text{SnH}$  at  $80^\circ\text{C}$  also gave **7** with high selectivity (entry 4; **6:7** = 1:17). Similar results were obtained when dimethylvinylsilyl derivative **3b** was used as a substrate (entry 5–7). These results suggest that the formation of the 6-*endo* product **4** may not be kinetic but thermodynamic, since the ratio of the *endo* and *exo* products should be independent of the concentration of  $\text{Bu}_3\text{SnH}$  if the reaction is controlled kinetically. These results conflict with well-known findings (Baldwin–Beckwith rule) that the cyclization reactions of hexenyl radicals and their equivalents are controlled kinetically to give 5-*exo* cyclization products preferably over 6-*endo* cyclization products.<sup>10</sup> Two pathways may explain the selective formation of 6-*endo* cyclization product **4**: (1) the cyclization reaction is reversible, or (2) 5-*exo* cyclized radical **B**, which is initially formed, is rearranged to give **C** (eq 3). However, it is unlikely that the cyclization is reversible, since reversible radical cyclizations of hexenyl radical or their equivalents have been observed only when radical centers are attached to radical-stabilizing groups, such as carbonyl groups.<sup>11</sup>



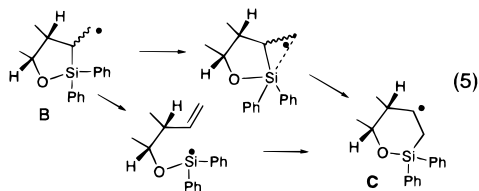
To examine the reaction mechanism, the reaction was performed with  $\text{Bu}_3\text{SnD}$  under the same conditions as for entry 1 (at  $80^\circ\text{C}$ ). After Tamao oxidation, it could be shown by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum that in product **9** only the protons  $\beta$  to the primary hydroxyl were exclusively replaced by deuterium.<sup>12</sup> On the other hand, product **11**, which was produced *via* a radical reaction as shown for entry 3 (at  $26^\circ\text{C}$ ), was deuterated exclusively at the methyl group.<sup>12</sup> These results suggest that this cycliza-

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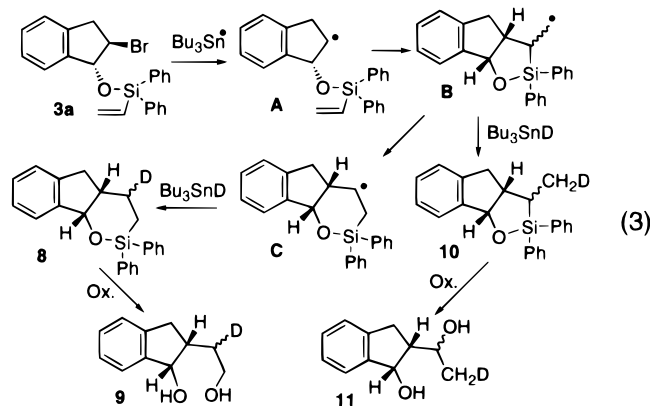
(12) The deuterium contents were also assayed by mass spectroscopy: **9**, 99.9%; **11**, 97.9%.

(13) Although the reaction pathway of the radical **B** to **C** is unclear, two intermediates may be postulated: as shown below, (1) a fragmentation intermediate and (2) an intermediate assisted by a bridging interaction between silicon and the unpaired electron of the  $\beta$ -silyl radical [this kind of bridging interaction has been suggested through both kinetic studies (Auner, N.; Walsh, R.; Westrup, J. *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* **1986**, 207–208), and MO calculation (Pitt, C. G. *J. Organomet. Chem.* **1973**, *61*, 49)].

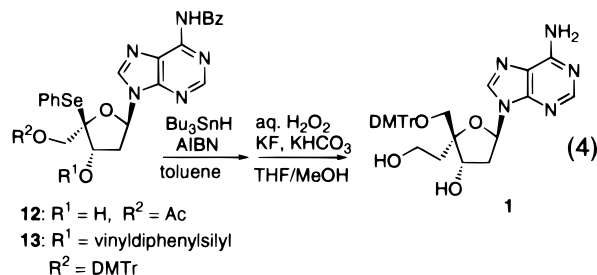


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tion would be irreversible and that the 5-*exo* cyclized radical **B** would be formed first and is mainly trapped when the concentration of  $\text{Bu}_3\text{SnH(D)}$  is high enough or the reaction is done at room temperature; under a low  $\text{Bu}_3\text{SnH(D)}$  concentration at a higher reaction temperature, radical **B** is rearranged into the ring-enlarged radical **C**,<sup>13</sup> which is then trapped with  $\text{Bu}_3\text{SnH(D)}$  (eq 3). To the best of our knowledge, such a ring-enlarging 1,2-radical rearrangement of  $\beta$ -silyl carbon-centered radicals has not been previously reported.<sup>14–17</sup>



This reaction was applied to the stereoselective synthesis of our target nucleoside unit **1**. A known 4'-phenylseleno derivative of 2'-deoxyadenosine **12**<sup>18</sup> was converted to the 3'-*O*-vinylsilyl derivative **13**. When **13** was treated under the conditions similar to those for entry 2 in Table 1, 4'- $\alpha$ -hydroxyethyl nucleoside **1**<sup>19</sup> was obtained successfully in 72% yield. Thus, this radical reaction with a vinylsilyl tether may be applicable to a variety of halohydrins and related compounds for introducing a hydroxyethyl group at the  $\beta$ -position of the hydroxyl with a *cis*-configuration.



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**Supporting Information Available:** Experimental details, characterization data for compounds, and  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and mass spectral charts of **6**, **7**, **9**, and **11** (17 pages).

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(16) Carbon to oxygen or to nitrogen 1,2-silicon migrations in oxygen- or nitrogen-centered  $\beta$ -silyl radicals have been known: (a) Harris, J. M.; MacInnes, I.; Walton, J. C.; Maillard, B. *J. Organometal. Chem.* **1991**, *403*, C25. (b) Tsai, Y.-M.; Cherng, C.-D. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1991**, *32*, 3515.

(17) An intramolecular homolytic substituent of  $\delta$ -silyl carbon-centered radicals at the silicon in liquid phase has been reported: Kulicic, K. J.; Chatglatiglu, C.; Kopping, B.; Giese, B. *Helv. Chim. Acta* **1992**, *75*, 935.

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(19) The stereochemistry of **1** was determined by NOE experiments.