## Application of <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectroscopy and <sup>13</sup>C-Labeled Benzylammonium Salts to the Study of Rearrangements of Ammonium Benzylides

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Received July 1, 1996 (Revised Manuscript Received November 21, 1997)

Ylides generated from *N*-(cyanomethyl)-*N*,*N*-dimethyl-*N*-[ $\alpha$ -(trimethylsilyl)benzyl]ammonium chloride (**4**) and fluoride anion afford the products of [1,2] shift **11** and [2,3] shift **13**. Formation of product **13** shows that, in the presence of water from TBAF, rearrangements and [1,3]H shift in ylide intermediates become competitive processes. The reaction of *N*-benzyl-*N*,*N*-dimethyl-*N*-[ $\alpha$ -(trimethylsilyl)benzyl]ammonium bromide (**5**) and <sup>13</sup>C labeled (at the benzyl carbon) salt **5**\* gave a mixture of **10**, **14**, and **15** as products of [1,4], [1,2], and [2,3] rearrangement, respectively. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of products derived from salt **5**\* exclude [1,3]H shift in ylide **9a**<sup>+-</sup>. Rearrangement of ylides generated from *N*-benzyl-*N*,*N*-dimethyl-*N*-[(dimethylphenylsilyl)methyl]ammonium bromide (**6**\*) (enriched in <sup>13</sup>C at benzyl carbon) and *n*-BuLi reveals that *N*,*N*-dimethyl-2-[(dimethylphenylsilyl)methyl]benzylamine (**20**\*) is not formed by a [1,4] shift but instead, via a [2,3] shift in silylmethylide followed by subsequent [1,4]Si and [1,2]H shift, as previously suggested in the literature. This mechanism is unique to some silyl-substituted ylides.

Recently, we have shown that ylides  $2^{+-}$  and  $3^{+-}$ , generated from benzylammonium salts 1 by means of suitable base-solvent systems, yield a mixture of products 2 and 3 via [2,3] (Sommelet-Hauser) and the hitherto unknown [1,4] ("reverse" Sommelet-Hauser) rearrangement, respectively (Scheme 1).<sup>1</sup>

The use of salt **1a** enriched in <sup>13</sup>C at the benzyl cyano group allowed us to confirm this mechanism.<sup>2</sup> However, the salts **1** and some structurally related thienyl analogues are so far the only examples of ammonium salts that generate arylides prone to [1,4] shift.<sup>1–4</sup> To collect more information on this rearrangement, we investigated ylides generated from silyl-substituted salts **4–6** and fluoride anion or *n*-BuLi and applied <sup>13</sup>C NMR technique and labeled benzylammonium salts. This method, already shortly described by us,<sup>2</sup> which allows us to distinguish the paths of rearrangements of ylides, is now developed and detailed. Regioselective generation of ylides via desilylation of ammonium salts by means of fluoride anion has been extensively studied.<sup>5</sup>

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**Results and Discussion** 

**Rearrangements of Ylides Generated via Desilylation of Ammonium Salts.** On the basis of the reactivity of ylide **3**<sup>+-</sup> (Scheme 1) benzylides **7**<sup>+-</sup> and **9**<sup>+-</sup>, regioselectively generated from the salts **4** and **5** by means of fluoride anion (tetra-*n*-butylammonium fluoride, TBAF, or cesium fluoride) in aprotic dipolar solvents, were expected to undergo [1,4] rearrangement to afford products **8** and **10**, respectively (Schemes 2 and 3).

Commercial hydrated TBAF is not suitable for desilylation of ammonium salts because it favors equilibration of the ylides formed.<sup>5,6</sup> Furthermore, due to solvation of the fluoride anion by water, TBAF $\cdot$ 3H<sub>2</sub>O did not desilylate salt **5** effectively. Dehydration of molten TBAF $\cdot$ 3H<sub>2</sub>O in vacuo usually causes partial decomposition of this

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<sup>(7)</sup> Dehydrated TBAF contains up to 0.3 mol of water and some other products: (a) Sharma, R. K.; Fry, J. L. *J. Org. Chem.* **1983**, *48*, 2112. (b) Cox, D. P.; Terpiński, J.; Lawrynowicz, W. *J. Org. Chem.* **1984**, *49*, 3216.



material.<sup>7</sup> Another procedure for drying this salt involves azeotropic removal of water with benzene or benzeneacetonitrile,<sup>8</sup> followed by reduced pressure replacement of these solvents with dry DMF, DMSO, or HMPA.

However, if salt 4 was allowed to react with such "anhydrous" TBAF in DMSO or HMPA, it gave an equimolar mixture of products 11 (via  $7^{+-}$ ) and 13 (via  $1\hat{2}^{+-}$ ), in a total yield  $\hat{8}0-90\%$ . These results show that ylide  $7^{+-}$  prefers reaction via a [1,2] instead of a [1,4] shift (for the reasons unknown at present) and that 7<sup>+-</sup> equilibrates with ylide  $12^{+-}$ , leading to formation of  $\alpha$ -amino nitrile **13** (Table 1, Scheme 2) via [2,3] rearrangement.

Preferential [2,3] rearrangement of cyanomethylides is well documented, for example, in the products of *N*-aryl- or *N*-(hetarylmethyl)-*N*-(cyanomethyl)-*N*,*N*-dialkylammonium salts and a base.9

Table 1. Products 11 and 13 Formed from the Salt 4

	source		ratio of the	total vield	
entry	of F <sup>-</sup>	solvent	11	13	ca. (%)
1	TBAF	DMSO	50	50	86
2	TBAF	HMPA	55	45	80
3	CsF	DMF	96	4	80

<sup>a</sup> Determined by GC and <sup>1</sup>H NMR.

Table 2. Products 10, 14, and 15 from Salts 5 and 5\* and **TBAF in DMSO** 

		vield	ratio of products		ratio of ${}^{13}C/{}^{13}C$ in products of rearrangement of $9^*a^{+-}$ and $9^*b^{+-}a^{,b}$			
entry	salt	(%)	10	14	15	10*	14*	15*
1	5	<b>80</b> <sup>c</sup>	12	35	53			
2	5	$22^d$	10	40	50			
3	5*	80 <sup>c</sup>	9	38	53	9.21	10.51	10.22
4	5*	$20^d$	10	40	50	10.03	10.46	9.71

<sup>a</sup> Ratio of the concentrations of <sup>13</sup>C in positions marked by \* (Scheme 4) in products 10\*, 14\*, and 15\* (s<sub>a</sub>/s<sub>b</sub>). <sup>b</sup> Estimated error is  ${\leq}10\%$  for 10, and possibly lower in the case of products formed with high yields. <sup>c</sup> "Anhydrous" TBAF. <sup>d</sup> Reaction with CsF.

The same reaction carried out by using anhydrous CsF in DMF afforded mainly product 11 (yield 80%) and only a small amount of aminonitrile 13 (Table 1). Recently, salt 4 (with bromide counterion) has been rearranged under the same conditions to give only the product **11**.<sup>5c</sup>

We attribute the generation of the more stable ylide  $12^{+-}$  (precursor of the product 13) to the presence of water remaining in the "anhydrous" TBAF, which facilitates the equilibration of ylides  $(7^{+-} \rightleftharpoons 12^{+-})$ . Indeed, the Karl Fischer method applied for water determination in "anhydrous" TBAF obtained according to above cited method<sup>8</sup> indicated that the amount of water varies but does not drop below ca. 10% (what corresponds to the formula TBAF ·1.6H<sub>2</sub>O).

Reaction of salt 5 in DMSO either with "anhydrous" TBAF, or with CsF, afforded a mixture of products 10, 14, and 15 via [1,4], [1,2], and [2,3] shifts, respectively. A low yield was obtained using CsF, due to the poor solubility of CsF in DMSO. On the other hand, reaction of 5 with CsF in DMF led to formation of some unidentified products, apart from compounds 10, 14, and 15 (Scheme 3, Table 2).

Degenerate [1,3]H shift in the ylide **9**<sup>+-</sup> intermediate would have no consequence on the product distribution from an unlabeled precursor. Therefore, to determine whether rearrangements are preceded by [1,3]H shift in ylide 9<sup>+-</sup>, the salt 5<sup>\*</sup> <sup>13</sup>C labeled at the benzyl carbon was synthesized and allowed to react with TBAF or CsF in DMSO, and the products were analyzed by <sup>13</sup>C NMR in a manner previously described by us.<sup>2</sup> In all cases studied the product mixture consisted of 10\*a,b, 14\*a,b, and 15\*a,b (Scheme 4).

The ratio of <sup>13</sup>C/<sup>13</sup>C in products derived from salt 5\* shows that very little if any [1,3]H shift in ylide intermediate  $9^*a^{+-}$  occurred (Table 2), due to equal acidities of both benzylic positions. On the other hand, partial [1,3]H shift in ylide  $7^{+-}$  leading to ylide  $12^{+-}$  is well explained by better stabilization of the latter species (Scheme 2, Table 1).

Structure 5 is another example of a salt that generates ylides prone to [1,4] shift, although to only a small extent.

Rearrangements of Ylides Generated via Reaction of a Base with Ammonium Salts. Our earlier

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Scheme 4



investigations indicated that concerted mechanisms with six-electron aromatic transition states and suprafacialsuprafacial characteristics are possibly involved in the [1,4] rearrangement of ammonium benzylides.<sup>1</sup> However, another explanation for the formation of the products of formal [1,4] shift of ammonium benzylides has been proposed.<sup>10</sup> Thus, treating salt **6** with NaNH<sub>2</sub>/NH<sub>3</sub>(liq) or *n*-BuLi/THF led to the formation of product **20**, as well as **19** and **21**.<sup>10</sup> The formation of **20** was explained by sequential [1,4]Si and [1,2]H shifts from intermediate 18, which in turn is a result of [2,3] rearrangement of silylmethylide 16<sup>+-</sup>. These previous studies gave no experimental evidence that would support the suggested route a,  $18 \rightarrow 20$  (Scheme 5), but they referenced the precedence of anionic C–C shifts of silvl group during reactions of  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -silvl substituted amines.<sup>11</sup> Alternatively, product 20 may result via [1,4] rearrangement of benzylide **17**<sup>+-</sup>, which also appears as the precursor of amine 21 (route b, Scheme 5).

<sup>13</sup>C labeling (\*) the salt **6** at the benzyl carbon should allow a choice between these two alternative mechanisms (Scheme 5). Thus, salts 6 and 6\* (enriched up to ca. 10% in <sup>13</sup>C at the benzyl carbon, Figure 1) were prepared and allowed to react with *n*-BuLi following literature procedures,<sup>10</sup> and the product mixtures were analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR.

We found that this reaction afforded the three silylamines 19-21, as described, in the ratio of ca. 1:5:1, with a yield of ca. 100%. The same reaction carried out with 6\* resulted in a similar yield and product ratio. Determination of the abundance of <sup>13</sup>C in both benzyl positions in  $20^*$  (by comparison with the natural abundance of <sup>13</sup>C in 20) from the <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra (Figure 2) indicated that all of the marker was located at the benzyl carbon  $\alpha$  to Si (20a\* not 20b\*, Scheme 5).

This result was consistent with product 20 being formed via the route suggested by Sato et al.<sup>10</sup> (i.e., 16<sup>+-</sup>  $\rightarrow$  **18**  $\rightarrow$  **20** not **17**<sup>+-</sup>  $\rightarrow$  **20**, Scheme 5).

At this point in our investigations the question arises whether product **3** might result from **1** via a mechanism similar to that which forms **20** from **6** (Scheme 6).



Figure 1. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra (aliphatic carbons region) of salts 6 and 6\* (enriched up to ca. 10% in <sup>13</sup>C at the benzyl carbon). For full description of spectra see Experimental Section.

In this case, <sup>13</sup>C labeling at the benzylic and/or either of the cyano groups in 1 does not lead to unequivocal results because identical structures are formed irrespective of [1,4] rearrangement or [2,3], then [1,4]NMe<sub>2</sub> and [1,2]H shifts. Assuming that the route leading to formation of 3, visualized in Scheme 6, is valid, the amino groups in  $\alpha$ -cyano amines should be susceptible to attack by nucleophiles (or electron pairs), which is against the

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experimental facts indicating that the cyano group exhibits such reactivity.<sup>12</sup> Therefore, we should observe the formation of structure **22**, which, in fact, is not found. So route a in Scheme 5 is probably unique to some silyl-substituted ylides only.

Our data show that ylides generated from the salts of select structures (like 1 or 5) in some base-solvent systems undergo [1,4] rearrangement. We have also demonstrated that  $^{13}C$  NMR spectroscopy of the products formed from reactions of a base with ammonium salts enriched in  $^{13}C$  at the benzyl carbon atom is a convenient tool to study rearrangements of ammonium ylides.

## **Experimental Section**

**General Methods.** Commercial TBAF·3H<sub>2</sub>O, Ph<sup>13</sup>CO<sub>2</sub>H (99% <sup>13</sup>C), (chloromethyl)dimethylphenylsilane, and a 2 M solution of *n*-BuLi in cyclohexane (all Aldrich) were used. Melting points (measured with a capillary melting point apparatus) and boiling points are uncorrected. Gas chromatography (GC) analyses were performed on a HP 50+ capillary



**Figure 2.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra (aliphatic carbons region) of the mixture of silylamines **19–21** (upper) and **19\*–21\*** (lower). Signals with reported shifts are ascribed to silylamine **20** (**20\***), see Experimental Section for details.



column. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were measured at 200 and 50 MHz, respectively. Additionally, for carbon peak assignment the attached proton test  $(APT)^{13}$  was applied.

 $^{13}$ C NMR spectra of compounds of natural and enriched in  $^{13}$ C isotopomers populations were measured (concentration 100 mg/mL; at 1 s; decoupler profile WALZ 16; nt 10000). The degree of enrichment in  $^{13}$ C isotopomers (*s*) was calculated from the following equation

$$s = \frac{I_{\rm A} * I_{\rm S}}{I_{\rm S} * I_{\rm A}} (1.108\%)$$

where  $I_A$ ,  $I_A^*$  and  $I_S$ ,  $I_S^*$  denote integral intensities of <sup>13</sup>C signals of investigated carbon A and standard one (S) in spectra of compound of natural and enriched in <sup>13</sup>C isotopomers population, respectively, and 1.108% means natural content of <sup>13</sup>C isotopomers.<sup>2</sup>

The  ${}^{13}C/{}^{13}C$  ratios of the concentrations of markers in the two considered positions A and B in salt 5\* and products 10\*, 14\*, and 15\* were calculated as follows

$${}^{13}C/{}^{13}C = \frac{I_{\rm A} * I_{\rm B}}{I_{\rm B} * I_{\rm A}}$$

where  $I_A$ ,  $I_A^*$  and  $I_B$ ,  $I_B^*$  denote integral intensities of <sup>13</sup>C signals of investigated carbons A and B in spectra of compounds of natural and enriched in <sup>13</sup>C isotopomers population, respectively. The estimated error of this approach is 10%.

**N**-Cyanomethyl-*N*,*N*-dimethyl-*N*-[α-(trimethylsilyl)benzyl]ammonium Chloride (4). A mixture of [α-(dimethylamino)benzyl]trimethylsilane<sup>14</sup> (11.8 g, 56 mmol) and chloroacetonitrile (6.3 g, 84 mmol) was heated at ca. 40 °C for 24 h, diluted with the mixture of benzene and acetone (2:1), and thoroughly stirred, and the solid product was filtered to give 4 (10.0 g, 63%): mp 170–173 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 0.17 (s, 9H), 3.27 (s, 3H), 3.38 (s, 3H), 4.75 and 4.89 (AB, *J* = 16.3 Hz, 2H), 4.92 (s, 1H), 7.45–7.65 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 0.0, 51.7, 52.9, 53.7, 73.7, 112.1, 129.4, 129.8, 130.6, 131.4, 133.8. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>23</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>Si: C, 59.45; H, 8.20; N, 9.90. Found: C, 59.28; H, 7.98; N, 9.65.

**N-Benzyl-***N*,*N*-**dimethyl-***N*-[α-(**trimethylsilyl**)**benzyl**]**ammonium Bromide (5).** A solution of [α-(dimethylamino)benzyl]trimethylsilane<sup>14</sup> (2.1 g, 1 mmol) and benzyl bromide (2.1 g, 1.2 mmol) in ethanol (3 mL) was heated at ca. 40 °C for 24 h and diluted with ethyl acetate (10 mL), and the solid product was filtered and washed with ethyl acetate to give 5 (3.6 g, 96%): mp 188–190 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 0.23 (s, 9H), 2.85 (s, 3H), 2.94 (s, 3H), 4.47 and 4.67 (AB, *J*=12.3 Hz, 2H), 5.11 (s, 1H), 7.45–7.75 (m, 10H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 0.4 (SiMe<sub>3</sub>), 49.7 (<sup>+</sup>NMe), 49.8 (<sup>+</sup>NMe), 67.4 (*C*H<sub>2</sub>Ph), 74.2 (*C*HPh), 128.1, 128.7, 129.0, 129.3, 129.4, 130.3, 131.1, 132.6, 133.4, 134.0. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>28</sub>BrNSi: C, 60.03; H, 7.46; N, 3.70. Found: C, 60.11; H, 7.48; N, 3.58.

**Salt 5\*.** Benzoic-*carboxy*-<sup>13</sup>C acid (1.0 g, 8.2 mmol) was added to benzoic acid (10.0 g, 82 mmol), and this mixture was converted to benzyl bromide via the following intermediates: Ph<sup>13</sup>COCl (with SOCl<sub>2</sub>, 90%), Ph<sup>13</sup>CO<sub>2</sub>Et (with EtOH, 90%), Ph<sup>13</sup>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (with LAH in Et<sub>2</sub>O, 96%), and Ph<sup>13</sup>CH<sub>2</sub>Br (with triphenylphosphine dibromide,<sup>15</sup> 96%). Starting from this benzyl bromide and [ $\alpha$ -(dimethylamino)benzyl]trimethylsilane,<sup>14</sup> the salt **5**\* (mp 187–190 °C) was prepared as described above for **5**.

**5**\*: <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 0.4 (SiMe<sub>3</sub>), 49.7 (<sup>+</sup>NMe<sub>2</sub>), 67.5 (\**C*H<sub>2</sub>Ph), 74.1 (*C*HPh), 128.0, 128.7, 128.9, 129.2, 129.3, 130.2, 131.0, 132.5, 133.3, 134.0.

Calculated concentration of <sup>13</sup>C in both benzyl positions:  $s_{^{*}CH_2Ph} = 10.75\%$  (relative to integral intensity of signals of <sup>+</sup>NMe<sub>2</sub>) and 10.85% (relative to integral intensity of signal of SiMe<sub>3</sub>);

 $s_{\rm CHPh}=1.08\%$  (relative to  $^+\rm NMe_2)$  and 1.09% (relative to SiMe\_3).

Calculated ratio of  ${}^{13}C/{}^{13}C$  in both benzyl positions: 9.95. General Procedure for the Reactions of 4, 5, and 5\* with TBAF in DMSO. Commercial TBAF·3H<sub>2</sub>O (4.0 g, 12.5 mmol) was dissolved in the mixture of benzene/acetonitrile (1/1 v/v, ca. 50 mL), and water was removed with these solvents on a rotary evaporator. The procedure was repeated twice, and the residual sticky oil was evaporated at 40 °C/0.01 Torr for 30 min to obtain a white semisolid containing ca. 10% water (Karl Fischer titration) that was dissolved in dry DMSO (15 mL). This solution was placed in an ice bath, and during stirring the salt 4, 5, or 5\* (2.5 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at 20–25 °C for 24 h, poured into water (100 mL), and extracted with benzene (3 × 10 mL), the organic extracts were washed once with water and twice with brine and dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>). The solvent was evaporated, and the residue was analyzed by means of GC and NMR spectroscopy. The yields of crude products were 80-100%.

Salt 4. The product mixture consisted of equimolar amounts of 11 and 13 (Table 1). A benzene solution of the products, obtained after extraction, was shaken with 3% aqueous HCl  $(3 \times 10 \text{ mL})$ , the phases were separated, the combined water phases were made alkaline with solid NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and extracted with benzene (3  $\times$  10 mL), and the organic extracts were washed with brine, and dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>). The solvent was evaporated, and the residue was distilled to give 11 (0.2 g, 46%): bp 80 °C (0.075 Torr); mp 56-58 °C (cyclohexanehexane); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.22 (s, 6H), 2.78 and 2.83 (part AB of ABX,  $J_{AB} = 16.77$ ,  $J_{AX} = 7.65$ ,  $J_{BX} = 5.37$  Hz, 2H), 3.54 (part X of ABX, 1H), 7.30–7.45 (m, 5H);  $^{13}\mathrm{C}$  NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 22.9, 42.7, 66.6, 117.9, 127.6, 128.2, 128.6, 138.3. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>: C, 75.82; H, 8.10; N, 16.08. Found: C, 75.69; H, 8.30; N, 16.07. The organic phase, after being shaken with aqueous HCl, was washed with aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and dried  $(Na_2SO_4)$ , the solvent was evaporated, and the residue was distilled to give 13 (0.15 g, 35%): bp 70 °C (0.075 Torr) [lit.9c bp 105–107 °C (5 Torr)]; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.29 (s, 6H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 4.87 (s, 1H), 7.16–7.32 (m, 3H), 7.50–7.57 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  18.3, 41.1, 60.8, 114.9, 125.5, 128.0, 128.7, 130.7, 131.5, 137.1. An authentic sample of 13 was prepared from 2-methylbenzaldehyde, aqueous dimethylamine, and sodium cyanide [yield 65%, bp 79 °C (0.1 Torr)], as described for  $\alpha$ -(dimethylamino)phenylacetonitrile.<sup>16</sup>

**Salt 5.** Treating salt **5** or **5**<sup>\*</sup> with "anhydrous" TBAF in DMSO afforded the mixtures of **10** (**10**<sup>\*</sup>), **14** (**14**<sup>\*</sup>), and **15** (**15**<sup>\*</sup>) (Table 2, entries 1 and 3), ratios of which were determined by GC and <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy. These mixtures were also analyzed by <sup>13</sup>C NMR to determine the <sup>13</sup>C/<sup>13</sup>C ratios of the concentration of marker in both benzylic positions (Scheme 4). Reference samples of the products **10**, **14**, and **15** were prepared as follows.

*N*,*N*-Dimethyl-2-benzylbenzylamine (10) via rearrangement of ylide generated from benzhydryltrimethylammonium iodide by means of NaNH<sub>2</sub> in NH<sub>3</sub>(liq):<sup>17</sup> bp 189–191 °C (33 Torr) [lit.<sup>17</sup> bp 189–191 °C (33 Torr)]; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.29 (s, 6H), 3.42 (s, 2H), 4.25 (s, 2H), 7.18–7.40 (m, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  38.3 (*C*H<sub>2</sub>Ph), 45.5, 62.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>N), 125.8, 126.0, 127.2, 128.2, 128.8, 130.3, 130.5, 137.2, 139.8, 141.0.

**1,2-Diphenyl-1-(dimethylamino)ethane (14)** was obtained by reduction of 1,2-diphenyl-1-(dimethylamino)ethene<sup>18</sup> with NaBH<sub>4</sub> in methanol: bp 140–142 °C (0.4 Torr) [lit.<sup>19</sup> bp 142 °C (1 Torr)]; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.33 (s, 6H), 3.02 (dd, <sup>2</sup>J = 13.1, <sup>3</sup>J = 9.55 Hz, 1H), 3.38 (dd, <sup>2</sup>J = 13.1, <sup>3</sup>J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 3.52 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 9.55, <sup>3</sup>J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 7.00–7.35 (m, 10H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  39.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 42.9, 72.6 (CHN), 125.6, 126.9, 127.7, 127.8, 128.6, 129.2, 139.4, 139.6.

**2-Methyl-***N*,*N*-dimethylbenzhydrylamine (15) was obtained from 2-methylbenzhydryl chloride<sup>20</sup> with an excess of aqueous dimethylamine: mp 47–49 °C (lit.<sup>21</sup> mp 46 °C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.22 (s, 6H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 4.29 (s, 1H), 7.00–7.10 (m, 2H), 7.18–7.32 (m, 4H), 7.40–7.50 (m, 2H), 7.83 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  19.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>Ar), 44.9, 72.8 (CHN), 126.2, 126.3, 126.8, 127.0, 128.3, 128.4, 130.4, 135.4, 141.5, 142.4.

**Reaction of Salt 4 with CsF in DMF.** Dried (180 °C, reduced pressure) CsF (0.76 g, 5 mmol) was suspended in freshly dried DMF (5 mL), the mixture was stirred and cooled to ca. 0 °C, and salt **4** (0.28 g, 1 mmol) was added in one portion. The cooling bath was removed, stirring was continued for 24 h, and the mixture was worked up as described in the General Procedure. The crude oil (0.20 g) was analyzed by GC to show 86% of **11** and ca. 3% of **13** (Table 1, entry 3) and

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solidified when degassed in vacuo. Recrystallization afforded **11** (0.14 g, 80%), mp 56–58 °C (cyclohexane-hexane).

**Reaction of Salt 5 or 5\* with CsF in DMSO.** The suspension of dried CsF (0.76 g, 5 mmol) in dry DMSO (6 mL) was stirred while salt 5 or 5\* (0.38 g, 1 mmol) was added in one portion. The mixture was stirred at rt for 48 h and worked up as described in the General Procedure to give a mixture of amines 10, 14, and 15 or 10\*, 14\*, and 15\* (Table 2, entries 2 and 4), which were analyzed by GC (purity ca. 90%) and <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectroscopy in the manner already described above.

**Reactions of Salts 6 and 6\* with** *n***-BuLi.** Salt **6** was prepared via reaction of *N*,*N*-dimethyl-*N*-(dimethylphenylsi-lyl)methylamine [synthesized in turn from (chloromethyl)-dimethylphenylsilane and dimethylamine<sup>11c</sup>] with benzyl bromide by literature procedure.<sup>10</sup> The salt **6\*** was obtained similarly using benzyl bromide enriched in <sup>13</sup>C at benzyl carbon to ca. 10%.

**6**\*: yield 90%; mp 157–159 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.51 (s, 6H), 3.00 (s, 6H), 3.65 (s, 2H), 4.96 (s and d,  $J_{C-H} = 145.7$  Hz, 2H, \*CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.20–7.30 and 7.45–7.55 (m, 10H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –2.3 (SiMe<sub>2</sub>,  $J_{Si-C} = 55.2$  Hz), 52.5 (<sup>+</sup>NMe<sub>2</sub>), 57.0 (SiCH<sub>2</sub>, s = 1.09%, concentration of <sup>13</sup>C relative to integral intensity of signal of <sup>+</sup>NMe<sub>2</sub>), 71.0 (Ph\**C*H<sub>2</sub>, s = 10.15%, concentration of <sup>13</sup>C relative to integral intensity of signal of <sup>+</sup>NMe<sub>2</sub>), 127.6 ( $J_{Si-C} = 45.9$  Hz), 128.3, 128.5, 130.1, 130.2, 133.0, 133.7.

Treating of the salt **6** with a 2 M solution of *n*-BuLi in cyclohexane according to literature procedure<sup>10</sup> led to formation of the mixture of **19**, **20**, and **21** (ca. 100%) in a ratio of

1:5:1. Distillation of this mixture gave a fraction of bp 150–155 °C (2 Torr) containing silylamines **19**, **20**, and **21** in the ratio of 1:6:1 (<sup>1</sup>H NMR).

The salt **6**<sup>\*</sup> (1.82 g, 5 mmol) was treated with a 2 M solution of *n*-BuLi in cyclohexane in the same manner as salt **6**. The crude products (yield ca. 100%) were distilled, and the fraction of bp 150-155 °C (2 Torr) was collected and analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR to show silylamines **19**<sup>\*</sup>, **20**<sup>\*</sup>, and **21**<sup>\*</sup> in the ratio of 1:8:1.

Both mixtures (19, 20, 21 and 19<sup>\*</sup>, 20<sup>\*</sup>, 21<sup>\*</sup>) were analyzed by  $^{13}$ C NMR. The large excess of amine 20 (20<sup>\*</sup>) in the samples [relative to 19 (19<sup>\*</sup>) and 21 (21<sup>\*</sup>)] allowed the separation of individual resonance signals of 20 and 20<sup>\*</sup>.

**20**:  $\delta$  -2.9 (SiMe<sub>2</sub>), 22.3 (SiCH<sub>2</sub>,  $J_{Si-C}$  = 47.6 Hz), 45.4 (NMe<sub>2</sub>), 62.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>N), 124.0, 126.7, 127.7, 128.9, 129.3, 130.2, 133.6, 135.7, 139.0, 139.1.

**20\***:  $\delta$  -2.9 (SiMe<sub>2</sub>), 22.3 (SiCH<sub>2</sub>,  $J_{Si-C}$  = 47.6 Hz), 45.4 (NMe<sub>2</sub>), 62.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>N), 124.0, 126.7, 127.7, 129.0, 129.4, 130.2, 133.6, 135.7, 139.0, 139.1.

The determined degree of enrichment in  $^{13}$ C (*s*) at both benzyl carbons in **20**<sup>\*</sup> gave the following results:

 $s_{\text{CH}_2\text{Si}} = 10.31\%$  and  $s_{\text{CH}_2\text{N}} = 1.23\%$  (both relative to NMe<sub>2</sub>).

**Acknowledgment.** The financial support of this work by the State Committee for Scientific Research, Warsaw, Poland (Grant No. 2 2616 92 03), is gratefully acknowledged.

JO961231K