of the surface in A resulting in Hammond movement toward the top of the figure and anti-Hammond movement toward the neutral sulfurane intermediate.⁸ Of these, the Hammond movement will dominate since the reaction coordinate has a larger vertical component.⁸ The resultant will be net movement toward the protonated sulfurane intermediate. This will lead to an *increase* in the Brønsted α value with a decrease in the pK_a of the leaving group. This prediction is consistent with the change in Brønsted α shown in Figure 3. In Figure 4B, lowering the pK_a of the leaving group will have the largest effect on the upper-left and lower-right corners of the diagram.⁸ The transition-state motion will be away from the dicationic sulfilimine and toward the nitrogen anion. The net resultant will be anti-Hammond movement toward the lower right with a *decrease* in the Brønsted α as the pK_a of the leaving group decreases. This prediction is contrary to the observed fact.

The second parameter to examine on the surfaces in Figure 4 is the effect of lowering the pK_a of the catalyzing acid. In A, this will result in the raising of the energy of the bottom edge. Coupled movements parallel and perpendicular to the reaction coordinate are predicted with parallel movement again dominating. The resultant is movement toward starting materials with a decrease in both β_{lg} and β_{nuc} as the acid strength is increased. Both of these are consistent with the observed data. In Figure 4B, the effect of acid strength will be greatest on the ionic intermediates in the upper-left and lower-right corners. This is because high-energy intermediates tend to dominate changes in potential energy surfaces for S_N2 reactions.¹⁴ This phenomena is most often observed as the dominant anti-Hammond movement in $S_N 2$ and E2 reactions involving benzyl carbons.¹⁵ The effect of the anti-Hammond movement in B is to move the transition state toward the dicationic intermediate with a resulting *increase* in β_{lg} coupled to a decrease in β_{nuc} . The predicted increase in the leaving group effect is inconsistent with the observed facts.

The coupled structure-reactivity data given above are consistent with a reaction coordinate oriented largely across the front face

(14) Young, P. R.; Ruekberg, B. P. J. Am. Chem. Soc., submitted.

of the cube in the scheme. The overall reaction, however, cannot be stepwise with the protonated sulfurane as a distinct intermediate since the pK_a of this sulfurane is estimated to be about 2 ± 1.16 With acetic acid as the general acid the pK_a change for the formation of the sulfurane intermediate is unfavorable, hence concerted catalysis of sulfurane formation by acetate is not expected.¹⁷ The first "intermediate", therefore, must be the final product, and the overall reaction is, indeed, an example of a general catalyzed $S_N 2$ reaction. The dashed line in the scheme represents a suggested reaction coordinate, proceeding largely in the face of the cube, "missing" the intermediate, and then proceeding toward products. This somewhat circuitous route allows a minimum of coupled motions in the rate-limiting transition state, probably allowing the fully concerted transition state to be observed. There are other reports of general catalyzed S_N2 reactions¹⁸ although they seem to be most often associated with ring-closure reactions, and the Brønsted α values usually reflect a fairly early transition state. In his original study of the thiol reduction of dehydromethionine, the concerted reactionwas favored by Lambeth,¹ although insufficient data were available to distinguish the stepwise and concerted reactions. The ability of sulfonium compounds to expand their valence states and exist as sulfuranes no doubt contributes to the relative ease of the concerted reaction, and the sulfonium oxidation state would seem to be a useful system for investigating transitions from stepwise to concerted addition reactions.

Acknowledgment. This work was supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation, CHE 80-00054.

Registry No. I·Cl⁻, 35357-68-7; II·Cl⁻, 97732-00-8; H₂PO₄, 14066-20-7; CH₃CO₂H, 64-19-7; HCO₂H, 64-18-6; ClCH₂CO₂H, 79-11-8; Cl₂CHCO₂H, 79-43-6; F₂CHCO₂H, 381-73-7; F₃CCO₂H, 76-05-1; ca-codylic acid, 75-60-5; 3-nitro-5-mercaptobenzoic acid, 97732-46-2; 3-mercaptobenzoic acid, 4869-59-4.

(16) The pK_{as} for N-protonation of sulfilimines and sulfuranes derived from them are estimated to be about 16 and 7 units, respectively, below the pK_{a} of the parent amine. See ref 3a.

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Experimental Search for the Silanone-to-Silylene Rearrangement

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Abstract: Pyrolysis of 1,3,5,7-tetramethyl-1,3,5,7-tetrakis(trimethylsilyl)cyclotetrasiloxane in the presence of 1,3-butadiene affords the silacyclopentene product from trapping of silylene, Me₃SiOSiMe. Although this result is consistent with isomerization of silanone, Me₃Si(Me)Si=O, to the silylene by a 1,2-silyl shift, an alternative route to the silylene cannot be ruled out. No evidence for the reverse reaction, isomerization of Me₃SiOSiMe to the silanone, could be found, although this silylene apparently decomposes to silanones.

Silanones, the silicon analogues of ketones, have frequently been postulated¹ as transient intermediates in a variety of organosilicon reactions since 1952 when Adrianov² proposed their invovement in the thermal redistribution of poly(dimethylsiloxanes). Most

recently, the silicon-oxygen double bond has been subjected to the scrutiny of theoretical studies³ which reveal moderate thermodynamic stability, with the C=O bond of formaldehyde being 20 kcal/mol stronger than the Si=O bond of $H_2Si=O.^4$ How-

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 Andrianov, K. A.; Sokolov, N. N. Dokl. Akad. Nauk SSSR 1952, 82,

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⁽³⁾ Kudo, T.; Nagasse, S. J. Phys. Chem. 1984, 88, 2833 and references therein.

⁽⁴⁾ Gordon, M. S.; George, C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1984, 106, 609. These authors report a difference of only about 10 kcal/mol.

ever, dimerization of H₂Si=O has been investigated by ab initio molecular orbital calculations⁵ and found to proceed with no barrier. Thus, the only direct spectral observations have been performed by matrix isolation studies (Me₂SiO₂⁶ Cl₂SiO₂⁷ F₂SiO₂⁸ and H_2SiO^9).

In view of the current theoretical¹⁰ and experimental¹¹ activity regarding the thermal isomerization of silenes 1 to silvlenes 2, via a 1,2-shift of either H or Me₃Si, it is of obvious interest to discover whether appropriately substituted silanones 3 would undergo an analogous rearrangement to oxysilylenes (4).



At the onset, we (naively) thought it not unlikely that if the migrating group were trimethylsilyl (as in silylsilanone, 5), the formation of an additional silicon-oxygen single bond would provide sufficient driving force for the rearrangement to 6 to occur under relatively mild conditions.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{He}_{3}\text{Si} \longrightarrow \text{Si} \longrightarrow 0 \\ \text{Me} \longrightarrow \text{Si} \longrightarrow 0 \\ \text{Si} \longrightarrow 0$$

Ν

Our initial efforts¹² utilized the Diels-Alder adducts of 1methyl-1-(trimethylsilyl)sila- α -pyran (7) for the production of silanone 5. While this approach proved successful for the apparent production of 5, it was not particularly amenable to the goal of demonstration of the rearrangement to silvlene 6. Diels-Alder



adduct 8 could never be isolated or observed, and thus it was not possible to subject it to thermal conditions likely to be required for the desired isomerization. The most severe conditions employed involved copyrolysis of 7 and excess CF₃C=CCF₃ at ca. 460 °C in a flow system. Although apparent chemical trapping of 5 was observed, no evidence for the formation of 6 was obtained. Even though adduct 9 was isolable, thermolysis was limited to the solution phase due to lack of volatility, and photolysis of 9 could

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not be performed under severe thermal conditions.

Our inability to gain experimental evidence for the isomerization of silanone to silylene is in keeping with theoretical studies³ which have subsequently appeared. Indeed, Kudo and Nagase³ have calculated that the barrier for isomerization of H₂Si=O to H—Si—OH via 1,2-hydrogen shift is 60.8 kcal/mol even though the reaction is slightly (2.4 kcal) exothermic.

However, undaunted by this extreme theoretical barrier, we have continued to seek appropriate precursors to silanone 5 and look for its isomerization to silylene 6. The thermal gas-phase decomposition of cyclic siloxanes appeared particularly attractive since Davidson^{13,14} had convincingly demonstrated by kinetic means that octamethylcyclotetrasiloxane (10) produced hexamethylcyclotrisiloxane (11) by way of a unimolecular extrusion of dimethylsilanone.15



Thus, 1,3,5,7-tetramethyl-1,3,5,7-tetrakis(trimethylsilyl)cyclotetrasiloxane (12) was prepared in 44% yield by slow hydrolysis of 1,1-dichlorotetramethyldisilane. Pyrolysis of 12 was performed both by flash vacuum (780 °C, ca. 10⁻⁴ torr) and by N_2 flow (610 °C) to produce a complex product mixture from which cyclotrisiloxane 13 was identified by GCMS comparison with an authentic sample. Also identified by GCMS as major products were several isomers of 12 and 13.



The observance of 13 was suggestive of extrusion of 5 from 12 and allowed a search for the isomerization of 5 to 6. This was done by using butadiene as a chemical trap since it is an excellent trap for silylenes¹⁶ but has never been observed to react with silanones. A benzene solution of 12 was pyrolyzed at 610 °C by dropwise addition to a flow-pyrolysis system using butadiene as the carrier gas. Surprisingly, analysis of the pyrolysate by GCMS revealed only three major silicon-containing components: unreacted 12 (67% completion), 13 (11%), and 1-methyl-1-(trimethylsiloxy)-1-silacyclopent-3-ene (14, 72% based on reacted 12). The low yield of 13 is due to its instability under the reaction conditions. Indeed, it was found that an identical copyrolysis of 13 (610 °C, butadiene flow, 91% completion) afforded 14 in 11% yield.

The formation of silacyclopentene 14 from the copyrolysis of 12 and butadiene demands the intermediacy of methyl(tri-

⁽¹³⁾ Davidson, I. M. T.; Thompson, J. F. J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. 1971, 251.

⁽¹⁴⁾ Davidson, I. M. T.; Thompson, J. F. J. Chem. Soc., Faraday Trans. 1 1975, 2260.

⁽¹⁵⁾ This extrusion now suffers badly from the attentions of theory for it has been calculated⁵ that the insertion reaction $(H_2SiO)_3 + H_2Si=O \rightarrow$ (H₂SiO)₄ is exothermic by 120.8 kcal/mol.
 (16) Gaspar, P. P. In "Reactive Intermediates"; Moss, R. A., Jones, M.,

Jr., Eds.; Wiley-Interscience: New York, 1981, Vol. 2, pp 335-387.



methylsiloxy)silylene (6). However, it does not demand that 6 arises from isomerization of silanone 5. Indeed, pyrolysis of 12 (610 °C, N₂ flow) in the presence of excess dimethyldimethoxysilane did not produce any of the desired product of silanone insertion, disiloxane 15. Thus, while this result could be accommodated by isomerization of 5 to 6 at a rate greater than that of the bimolecular reaction of 6 and Me₂Si(OMe)₂, or by complete decomposition of the unobserved 15 via a reductive elimination of Me₃SiOMe, one is forced to consider alternative routes from 12 to silvlene 5. As alkoxydisilanes have long been known¹⁶ to undergo reductive elimination of alkoxysilanes to produce silylenes, the possibility that 12 isomerizes to silvlene 16 is very real. Intramolecular Si-O insertion (another precedented silylene reaction¹⁷) by 16 would yield siloxane 17 which could produce silylene 6 and 13 by a second reductive elimination. The only argument against this pathway is the fact that no butadiene trapping of silylene 16 is observed.



The isomerization of silylene 6 to silanone 5 by 1,2-silyl migration from oxygen to silicon was also investigated. Slow addition of water to a stirring solution of 1,1-dichlorotetramethyldisiloxane and excess chlorotrimethylsilane afforded a 31% yield of disiloxane 18, the desired thermal precursor to 6. Pyrolysis of 18 was carried out at 620 °C with butadiene as the carrier gas to produce hexamethyldisiloxane (19) (70%) and the expected product of butadiene trapping of 6, silacyclopentene 14 (48%). In the absence of butadiene, the pyrolysis of 18 formed one major product, 19 (73%), and only small amounts of other volatile silicon-containing products. The two most abundant of the minor products could be isolated and were identified as octametyltrisiloxane (20, 4.0%)and 1,1,1,3,5,5,5-heptamethyltrisiloxane (21, 5.4%). The yields of 20 and 21 more than doubled to 10% and 14%, respectively, in the flash vacuum pyrolysis (850 °C, ca. 10⁻⁴ torr) of 18 with excess 19. In neither pyrolysis was there any evidence for the presence of silanone 5.

The origins of trisiloxane products 20 and 21 are of considerable interest as the most obvious route would involve insertion of silanones, $Me_2Si=O$ and MeHSi=O, into an Si-O bond of disiloxane 19. These silanones can be formed from the decompo-





sition of a common precursor, disilaoxetane 22, produced from intramolecular C-H insertion by silylene 6. The analogous reaction of silylene 26 to form 1,3-disilacyclobutane (27) is known to proceed efficiently.¹⁸

Supportive evidence for the intermediacy and decomposition of disilaoxetane 22 is the GCMS identification of disilacyclobutanes 23, 24, and 25 among the minor products from the neat pyrolysis of 18. These are the known dimers of the two silenes expected from the decomposition of 22.



In summary, the first evidence for a silanone-to-silylene rearrangement has been found, but an alternative mechanism cannot be ruled out at this time. No evidence for the reverse reaction, isomerization of a siloxysilylene to a silylsilanone, could be found. However, evidence for silanone production from decomposition of a siloxysilylene was found and interpreted as proceeding via cyclization to a 1,3-disilaoxetane and extrusion of silanone from this intermediate. Further work is in progress in an attempt to gain definitive evidence for (or against) the silanone-to-silylene rearrangement.

Experimental Section

General. Routine ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Model EM-360 spectrometer. High-resolution ¹H and ¹³C NMR was obtained on a Bruker WM-300 spectrometer. Infrared (IR) spectra were recorded on a Beckman IR-4250 spectrometer. Gas chromatograph-mass spectra (GCMS) were recorded on a Finnegan Model 4023 mass spectrometer. Exact mass measurements were obtained on an AEI MS-902 spectrometer. All mass spectra were recorded at 70 eV. Ultraviolet (UV) spectra were obtained on a Perkin-Elmer 320 spectrophotometer. Gas chromatographic (GC) data were obtained on a Varian-Aerograph Model 3700, 1700, or 920 or Fischer/Victoreen Series 4400 gas chromatograph. GC yields were determined with internal standards and predetermined re-

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sponse factors. All melting points (mp) were obtained on a Thomas-Hoover melting point apparatus and are uncorrected.

Preparation of 1.3.5.7-Tetramethyl-1.3.5.7-tetrakis(trimethylsilyl)cyclotetrasiloxane (12) and 1,3,5-Trimethyl-1,3,5-tris(trimethylsilyl)cyclotrisiloxane (13). To 3.01 g (0.017 mol) of 1,1-dichlorotetramethyldisilane¹⁹ contained in 70 mL of THF was slowly added 3 mL of H₂O. After stirring for 10 h, the solution was extracted with saturated aqueous NaCl. The organic layer was separated and dried over MgSO4 and the solvent removed to afford a white semisolid. The D_4 analogue 12 was isolated and purified by crystallization from the residue with MeOH: 0.93 g (44%): NMR (CDCl₃) δ 0.05 (s, 9 H), 0.12 (s, 3 H); IR (KBr) 2955, 2895, 1240, 1040 cm⁻¹; mass spectrum, (21 eV) m/e (% rel intensity) 528 (0.01), 513 (2.7), 455 (66), 309 (39), 249 (43), 233 (86), 131 (100), 73 (26), calcd for $C_{15}H_{45}O_4Si_8$ (M⁺ - CH₃) 513.14723, measd 513.14706; mp 94-95 °C. The D₃ analogue 13 was isolated from the residue by preparative GC (8 ft 15% SE-30): NMR (CDCl₃) δ 0.21 (s, 3 H), 0.12 (s, 9 H); mass spectrum, m/e (% rel intensity) 396 (0.7), 381 (1.4), 323 (13), 265 (2.3), 249 (3.7), 205 (4.6), 189 (5.2), 174 (15), 147 (11), 131 (48), 116 (12), 73 (100), calcd for C₁₂H₃₆O₃Si₆ 396.12801, measd 396.12946.

Vacuum Pyrolysis of 12. The D_4 analogue 12 (0.191 g) was sublimed (90 °C, 1×10^{-4} torr) through a horizontal quartz tube packed with quartz chips and heated to 780 °C. The pyrolysate (0.13 g) was collected in a liquid nitrogen cooled trap and analyzed by GCMS. Three major components were observed: unreacted 12 (ca. 25%), 13 (ca. 20%) (both identified by spectral comparison to authentic samples), and an unidentified product whose mass spectrum was consistent with loss of methyl-(trimethylsilyl)silylene from 12 (ca. 30%) [mass spectrum m/e (% rel intensity) 412 (1.4), 397 (3.9), 339 (28), 282 (2.1), 265 (3.8), 252 (2.5), 190 (3.5), 147 (7.9), 116 (100), 73 (12)]. The yield of these products was approximated from relative peak areas. The complexity of the pyrolysate prohibited their isolation. Numerous isomers of 12, 13, and the unidentified product and other unidentified volatile products were also formed.

Pyrolysis of 12 with Butadiene or with Nitrogen. The D_4 analogue 12 (0.219 g) dissolved in 0.8 mL of benzene was slowly dropped through a vertical quartz tube packed with quartz chips and heated to 610 °C. Butadiene was used as the carrier gas (40 mL/min). The pyrolysate was collected in a dry ice/isopropyl alcohol cooled trap and initially analyzed by GCMS. The three major components were identified: recovered starting material 12 (67% completion), 13 (11%), and 14 (72%). Starting material and the D_3 analogue were identified by comparison with their mass spectra to those of an authentic sample. Compound 14 was isolated by preparative GC (8 ft 10% OV101) and identified based on the following spectra data: NMR (CDCl₃) & 0.33 (s, 9 H), 0.48 (s, 3 H), 1.40 (br s, 4 H), 5.91 (br s, 2 H); mass spectrum, m/e (% rel intensity) 186 (20), 171 (47), 143 (17), 117 (100), 73 (65), 59 (31), calcd from C₈-H₁₈OSi₂ 186.08996, measd 186.08894. Pyrolysis of 12 in identical fashion, except nitrogen (30 mL/min) was substituted for butadiene as the carrier gas, afforded a complex mixture of at least 20 volatile products. The D_3 analogue 13 (21%) was identified as the major product based on retention time and comparison of its mass spectrum to that of an authentic sample.

Pyrolysis of 12 with Butadiene. The D_3 analogue 13 (0.153 g) dissolved in 400 μ L of benzene was copyrolyzed with butadiene as the carrier gas (40 mL/min) according to the previously described procedure. Analysis of the pyrolysate by GCMS revealed that 13 had decomposed to several products, all formed in low yield (91% completion). The silylene trapping product 14 (11%) was identified by comparison of its mass spectrum to that of an authentic sample.

Pyrolysis of 12 with Dimethyldimethoxysilane. The D_4 analogue 12 (0.192 g) dissolved in 0.8 mL of dimethyldimethoxysilane was dropped through a vertical quartz tube packed with quartz chips and heated to 610 °C. Nitrogen was used as the carrier gas (30 mL/min). After collection in a dry ice/isopropyl alcohol cooled trap, the pyrolysate was analyzed by GCMS. No evidence for formation of the expected methyl(trimethylsilyl)silanone insertion product (15) was found. As in pre-

vious described pyrolysis of 12 in the absence of butadiene, numerous (>20) unidentified products were formed. The major product was identified as 1,3-dimethoxytetramethyldisiloxane based on spectral comparison to an authentic sample. Pyrolysis of dimethyldimethoxysilane also afforded this product.

Preparation of Bis(trimethylsiloxy)(trimethylsilyl)methylsilane (18). 1,1-Dichlorotetrmethyldisiloxane (2.81 g, 0.015 mol) and trimethylchlorosilane (4.10 g, 0.038 mol) were added to 100 mL of THF. To this stirring solution was added 6.0 g (0.076 mol) of pyridine followed by the slow addition of 2.5 mL of H₂O. After stirring for 12 h, 100 mL of pentane was added and the resulting solution was extracted with saturated aqueous HCl. Following separation of the organic layer and drying over MgSO₄, the solvent was removed. Compound 18 was isolated from the residue by preparative GC (10 ft 10% OV101): 31%; NMR (CDCl₁) $\delta 0.15$ (s, 18 H), 0.11 (s, 3 H), 0.10 (s, 9 H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl₃) $\delta -2.3$, 2.1, 3.4; IR (neat) 2965, 2900, 1260, 1075, 1040, 845 cm⁻¹; mass spectrum m/e (% rel intensity) 294 (0.3), 279 (1.9), 221 (42), 191 (12), 147 (8.8), 117 (7.9), 73 (100), 59 (5.4), calcd for $C_{10}H_{30}O_2Si_4$ 294.132 30, measd 294.13238.

Pyrolysis of 18 with and without Butadiene. Trisiloxane 18 (0.390 g) was dropped through a vertical quartz tube packed with quartz chips and heated to 620 °C. Butadiene was used as the carrier gas (40 mL/min). The pyrolsate (98% completion) was collected in a dry ice/isopropyl alcohol cooled trap. The two major silicon-containing products were isolated by preparative GC (8 ft 10% OV101) and identified as hexamethyldisiloxane (19) (70%) and 14 (48%) based on comparison of their GCMS and ¹H NMR spectra to those of authentic samples. An identical pyrolysis of 18 (0.213 g), except nitrogen was used as the carrier gas (30 mL/min), afforded a yellow pyrolysate (0.181 g, 96% completion) from which hexamethyldisiloxane (73%) was identified by GCMS as the major product. Several minor products were also formed. The two minor products formed in highest yield were identified as octamethyltrisiloxane (4.0%) and 1,1,1,3,5,5,5-heptamethyltrisiloxane (5.4%) based on comparison of their mass spectra to an authentic sample or to that previously reported.20

Vacuum Pyrolysis of 18 with Added Hexamethyldisiloxane. Hexamethyldisiloxane (1.0 mL) and 18 (0.189 g) were flash-distilled (100 °C, 1×10^{-2} torr) through a horizontal quartz tube packed with quartz chips and heated to 850 °C. The pyrolysate was collected in a liquid nitrogen cooled trap. The three major components were isolated by preparative GC (8 ft 10% OV101) and identified as starting material (61% completion), 21 (14%) [NMR (CCl₄) δ 0.13 (s, 18 H), 0.21 (d, 3 H, J = 3 Hz), 4.95 (q, 1 H J = 3 Hz); IR (neat) 2965, 2140, 1255, 1055, 840 cm⁻¹; mass spectrum, m/e (% rel intensity) 222 (0.5), 221 (2.8), 207 (66.2), 191 (3.5), 175 (1.1), 133 (11), 96 (20.3), 73 (100)], and 20 (10%) [NMR (CCl₄) δ 0.15 (s, 18 H), 0.19 (s, 6 H); mass spectrum, m/e (% rel intensity) 221 (52), 205 (4.0), 147 (5.2), 133 (9.5), 103 (15), 73 (100), 59 (12)].

Vacuum Pyrolysis of 18 with No Added Trap. Trisiloxane 18 (0.125 g) was slowly distilled (55 °C, 1×10^{-3} torr) through a horizontal quartz tube packed with quartz chips and heated to 850 °C. The pyrolysate (0.091 g) was collected in a liquid nitrogen cooled trap and analyzed by GCMS. The two major components were identified as hexamethyldisiloxane (in significant, but undetermined, yield) and starting material. Minor products (<5% yield) were identified by comparison of their mass spectrum to that previously reported: 20, 21, 23^{21} [mass spectrum, m/e(% rel intensity) 166 (84), 115 (19), 101 (100), 99 (22), 85 (12), 69 (17)]; 25²² [mass spectrum, m/e (% rel intensity) 130 (53), 129 (7), 115 (100), 99 (6), 73 (31), 59 (14)]; and 24²³ [mass spectrum, m/e (% rel intensity) 144 (24), 129 (100), 101 (12), 73 (13), 59 (25)]

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