Radical Cyclization of β-Aminoacrylates: Synthesis of (−)-Indolizidine 223AB
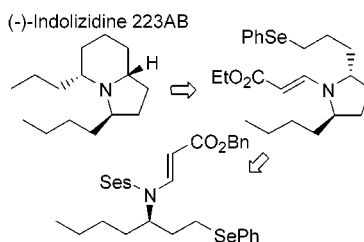
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ABSTRACT

(−)-Indolizidine 223AB was synthesized via radical cyclization of the β-aminoacrylate derivative of a *trans*-2,5-disubstituted pyrrolidine. The *trans*-2,5-disubstituted pyrrolidine substrate was prepared by radical cyclization of a Ses-protected β-aminoacrylate.

Radical cyclization of β-alkoxyacrylates and β-aminoacrylates has developed into a useful general method in the synthesis of oxacyclic[1,2] and azacyclic[3] compounds. In the radical cyclization reactions of β-alkoxyacrylates derived from secondary alcohols, *cis*-2,5-disubstituted tetrahydrofurans and *cis*-2,6-disubstituted tetrahydropyrans are obtained in high stereoselectivity. On the contrary, β-aminoacrylates prepared from 2-amino-4-bromobutane were converted into product mixtures favoring *trans*-2,5-disubstituted pyrrolidine products. The level of trans/cis stereocontrol varied depending on the nature of amino protecting groups: the carbamate substrates exhibited ∼3:2 selectivity whereas a useful level of selectivity (∼4:1) was ascertained when the methanesulfonamide substrate was employed. For further studies on the stereocontrol in the azacycle synthesis via radical cyclization of β-aminoacrylates, the 2-(trimethylsilyl)ethanesulfonyl (Ses) protecting group was chosen;[4] the Ses amides were expected to behave like Ms amides,[5] and they offer further advantage of easier deprotection protocol. The results of the 6-exo cyclization reactions for preparation of piperidine products are summarized in Table 1.

From the results of reactions of the substrates **1a**, **1b**, and **1c**, it appears that use of bulkier R′ improves overall

(1) (a) Lee, E.; Tae, J. S.; Lee, C.; Park, C. M. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1993**, *34*, 4831. (b) Lee, E.; Tae, J. S.; Chong, Y. H.; Park, Y. C.; Yun, M.; Kim, S. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1994**, *35*, 129. (c) Lee, E.; Park, C. M. *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* **1994**, 293. (d) Lee, E.; Jeong, J.-w.; Yu, Y. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1997**, *38*, 7765. (e) Lee, E.; Park, C. M.; Yun, J. S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1995**, *117*, 8017. (f) Lee, E.; Yoo, S.-K.; Cho, Y.-S.; Cheon, H.-S.; Chong, Y. H. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1997**, *38*, 7757. (g) Lee, E.; Yoo, S.-K.; Choo, H.; Song, H. Y. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1998**, *39*, 317. (h) Lee, E.; Choi, S. J. *Org. Lett.* **1999**, *1*, 1127. (i) Lee, E.; Song, H. Y.; Kim, H. J. *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1* **1999**, 3395.

(2) For further developments, see the following references. (a) Use of acyl radicals: Evans, P. A.; Roseman, J. D.; Garber, L. T. *J. Org. Chem.* **1996**, *61*, 4880, and the references therein. (b) Formation of oxepanes in the presence of a Lewis acid: Yuasa, Y.; Sato, W.; Shibuya, S. *Synth. Comm.* **1997**, *27*, 573. (c) Photosensitized electron-transfer cyclization of aldehydes: Pandey, G.; Hajra, S.; Ghorai, M. K.; Kumar, R. *J. Org. Chem.* **1997**, *62*, 5966. (d) SmI₂−Induced cyclization of aldehydes: Hori, N.; Matsukura, H.; Matsuo, G.; Nakata, T. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1999**, *40*, 2811. (e) O-Linked oxepane synthesis: Sasaki, M.; Noguchi, T.; Tachibana, K. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1999**, *40*, 1337.

(3) (a) Lee, E.; Kang, T. S.; Joo, B. J.; Tae, J. S.; Li, K. S.; Chung, C. K. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1995**, *36*, 417. (b) Lee, E.; Li, K. S.; Lim, J. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1996**, *37*, 1445. (c) Lee, E.; Kang, T. S.; Chung, C. K. *Bull. Kor. Chem. Soc.* **1996**, *17*, 212.

(4) Weinreb, S. M.; Demko, D. M.; Lessen, T. A. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1986**, *27*, 2099.

(5) Cyclization products were not obtained from *p*-toluenesulfonamide substrates, which were mainly recovered.

Table 1

	R	R'	X		trans		cis		acyclic
1a	Me	Et	SePh	**2a**	49 %	**3a**	14 %	**4a**	8 %
1b		Bn	SePh	**2b**	51 %	**3b**	17 %	**4b**	14 %
1c		CHPh₂	SePh	**2c**	59 %	**3c**	19 %	**4c**	16 %
1d	Allyl	Et	Br	**2d**	66 %	**3d**	5 %	**4d**	2 %*
1e	*i*-Pr	Et	Br	**2e**	31 %	**3e**	21 %		
1f	Ph	Et	Br	**2f/3f**	75 % (64:36)#			**4f**	20 %

a) 1.3 eq. Bu₃SnH, 0.15 eq. AIBN, Benzene (0.025 M), Reflux, 6 h (Syringe pump, 5 h). * Cyclohexane products **5d** (7 %).
Stereochemistry undetermined.

5d
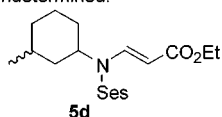
efficiency but does not affect stereoselectivity. From the allyl derivative **1d**, a trans/cis ratio of ∼13:1 was obtained in the product mixture. Use of bulkier R group was detrimental to the stereoselectivity as shown in the case of the substrates **1e** and **1f**.

In the pyrrolidine synthesis, simple reduction products were not isolated, which indicates higher efficiency for the 5-exo mode of cyclization (Table 2). Changing the R′ group

Table 2

	R	R'	X		trans		cis
6a	*n*-Bu	Me	SePh	**7a**	64 %	**8a**	23 %
6b		Et	SePh	**7b**	59 %	**8b**	25 %*
6c		Bn	SePh	**7c**	61 %	**8c**	22 %
6d	Allyl	Et	Br	**7d**	28 %#		

a) 1.3 eq. Bu₃SnH, 0.15 eq. AIBN, Benzene (0.025 M), Reflux, 6 h (Syringe pump, 5 h). * Selenide elimination product **9b** (8 %).
# Cyclopentane products **8d** (3 %) and **9d** (16 %).

8d   **9d**
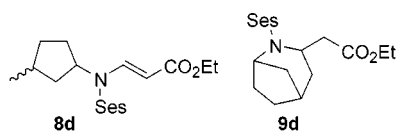
did not have much of an effect on the outcome, as the trans/cis ratio ∼3:1 was obtained with the *n*-butyl substituent. The allyl derivative **6d**, however, afforded the pyrrolidine product **7d** in a low yield; apparently, the alternative mode of 5-exo cyclization affording cyclopentane products becomes more competitive as manifested by the isolation of byproducts **8d** and **9d**.

Synthesis of **7c/8c** (Scheme 1) may serve as a typical example for conversions in Tables 1 and 2. The Ses amide

Scheme 1
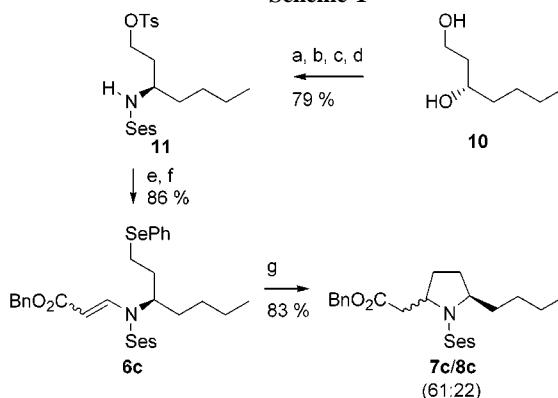
a) TBSCl, TEA, DMAP, DCM, r.t. 5 h. b) SesNHBoc, Ph₃P, DEAD, THF, r.t. 12 h. c) conc. HCl, EtOH, Reflux, 12 h. d) *p*-TsCl, TEA, DCM, 0 °C, 3 h. e) (PhSe)₂, NaBH₄, EtOH, r.t. 2 h. f) HCCCO₂Bn, NMM, CH₃CN, 0 °C, 2 h. g) 2.0 eq. Bu₃SnH, 0.2 eq. AIBN, Benzene (0.025 M), Reflux, 7 h (Syringe pump, 4 h).

11 was prepared from the known diol **10**[6] via TBS protection, Mitsunobu reaction using Ses-NH-Boc,[7] TBS deprotection, and tosylation. Phenylselenide substitution of **11** proceeded in high yield, and the formation of the β-aminoacrylate **6c**[8] was achieved via reaction with benzyl propiolate in the presence of *N*-methylmorpholine. Radical cyclization reaction of **6c** under the standard high-dilution conditions then provided a mixture of the products **7c** and **8c** in 83% yield.

The major product **7c** was used in the synthesis of (−)-indolizidine 223AB, a representative alkaloid isolated from the skin of the neotropical dart-poison frogs of the genus *Dendrobates*.[9]

The product mixture **7c/8c** was converted into the homologous alcohol mixture **12/13** via the Arndt−Eistert protocol and LAH reduction (Scheme 2). The Boc-protected
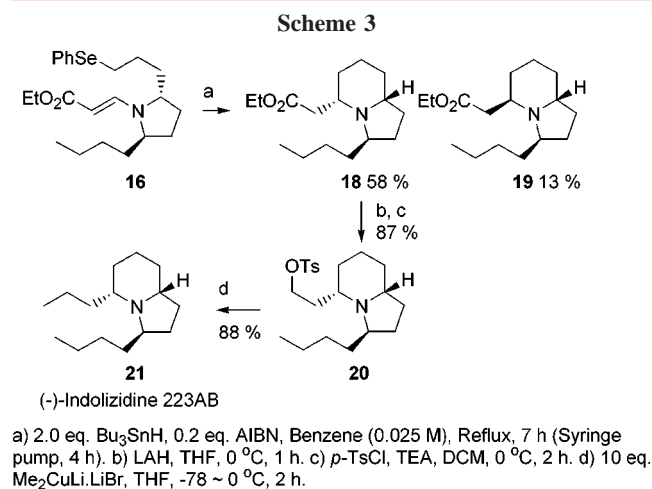
Scheme 2
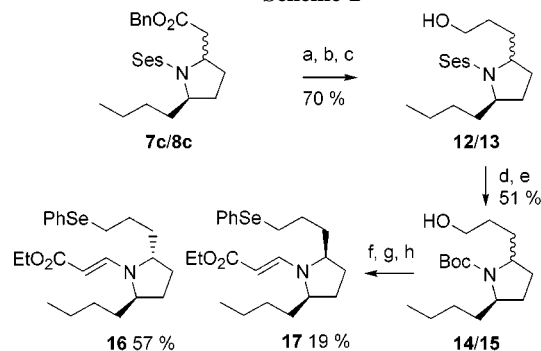
a) H₂, 10 % Pd/C, MeOH, r.t. 12 h. b) (COCl)₂, DCM; CH₂N₂, Ether; Ag₂O, MeOH, 50 °C, 1 h. c) LAH, Ether, 0 °C, 1 h. d) CsF, DMF, 95 °C, 18 h. e) Boc₂O, DCM, 0 °C, 1 h. f) *p*-TsCl, TEA, DCM, 0 °C, 2 h. g) (PhSe)₂, NaBH₄, EtOH, r.t. 2 h. h) TMSI, CH₃CN, r.t. 1 h; HCCCO₂Et, K₂CO₃, r.t. 2 h.

pyrrolidine alcohol mixture **14/15** was then transformed into the phenylselenide via tosylation and selenide substitution. The one-pot procedure consisted of Boc deprotection by TMSI, and reaction with ethyl propiolate in acetonitrile led to the isolation of the β-aminoacrylates **16** and **17** in 57 and 19% yields.[10]

The second radical cyclization reaction using the major product **16** proceeded to give the indolizidine derivatives **18** and **19** in 58 and 13% yields (Scheme 3). The major isomer

Scheme 3

16   **18** 58 %   **19** 13 %

21   **20**
(-)-Indolizidine 223AB

a) 2.0 eq. Bu₃SnH, 0.2 eq. AIBN, Benzene (0.025 M), Reflux, 7 h (Syringe pump, 4 h). b) LAH, THF, 0 °C, 1 h. c) p-TsCl, TEA, DCM, 0 °C, 2 h. d) 10 eq. Me₂CuLi.LiBr, THF, -78 ~ 0 °C, 2 h.

18 was converted into the tosylate **20** via reduction and tosylation. Reaction of the tosylate **20** with lithium dimethylcuprate afforded (−)-indolizidine 223AB (**21**)[11] in good yield.[12] It is interesting that the stereoselectivity shown in

the similar type of radical cyclization involving the substrate without the *n*-butyl pendent[3b] was attenuated in the case of the substrate **16**.

Under identical conditions, conversion of the second β-aminoacrylate **17** to the indolizidine products **22/23** was inefficient (Scheme 4), and the simple reduction product **24**

Scheme 4

17   **22/23** ~20 %   **24** ~60 %

a) 1.3 eq. Bu₃SnH, 0.3 eq. AIBN, Benzene (0.025 M), Reflux, 5 h (Syringe pump, 4 h).

was isolated as the major product.[13] Apparently, the cis *n*-butyl substituent presented more serious steric congestion in the preparation of indolizidine products.

In the present work, radical cyclization reactions of Ses-protected β-aminoacrylates were studied in some detail, and (−)-indolizidine 223AB was synthesized employing two consecutive radical cyclization reactions of β-aminoacrylate substrates. Use of these reactions for preparation of more complex azacyclic natural products will be the subject of our future studies.

(6) Taber, D. F.; Deker, P. B.; Silverberg, L. J. *J. Org. Chem.* **1992**, *57*, 5990.

(7) Campbell, J. A.; Hart, D. J. *J. Org. Chem.* **1993**, *58*, 2900.

(8) A ~4:1 mixture of *E/Z* geometric isomers was obtained, and the mixture was directly used in the radical cyclization reaction.
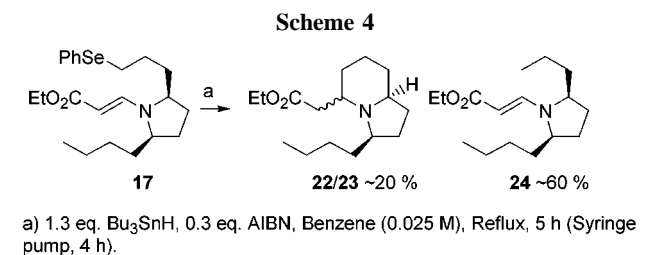
(9) (a) Daly, J. W.; Garraffo, H. M.; Spande, T. F. In *The Alkaloids*; Cordell, G. A., Ed.; Academic Press: San Diego, 1993; Vol. 43, pp 185−288. (b) Daly, J. W. *J. Nat. Prod.* **1998**, *61*, 162.

(10) Only *E* isomers were obtained.

(11) $[\alpha]_D^{26} = -100$ (*c* 0.5, *n*-hexane).

(12) For synthesis of (−)-indolizidine 223AB, see the following references; for synthesis of the racemic mixture, check the references therein. (a) Royer, J.; Husson, H.-P. *Tetrahedron Lett*. **1985**, *26*, 1515. (b) The ref 6. (c) Machinaga, N.; Kibayashi, C. *J. Org. Chem*. **1992**, *57*, 5178. (d) Fleurant, A.; Célérier, J. P.; Lhommet, G. *Tetrahedron: Asymmetry* **1993**, *4*, 1429. (e) Muraoka, O.; Okumura, K.; Maeda, T.; Tanabe, G.; Momose, T. *Tetrahedron: Asymmetry* **1994**, *5*, 317. (f) Célimène, C.; Dhimane, H.; Lhommet, G. *Tetrahedron* **1998**, *54*, 10457.

(13) Using the methyl ester analogue of **17**, methyl ester analogues of **22/23** (23%, 4.9:1, stereochemistry unknown) and **24** (60%) were obtained.