

Unique Ionic Iodine Atom Transfer Cyclization: A New Route to Iodomethylated Pyrrolidine Derivatives from γ -Iodoolefin and Chloramine-T

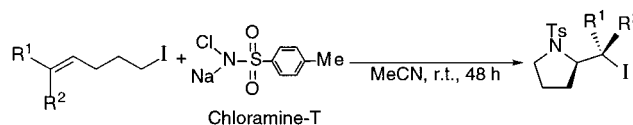
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ABSTRACT



Pyrrolidines and bicyclic pyrrolidine derivatives can effectively be synthesized from γ -iodoolefins using commercially available chloramine-T (CT) as a nitrogen source. The cyclization proceeds with high stereoselectivity via a cyclic iodonium intermediate.

Saturated nitrogen-containing heterocycles, including pyrrolidines, piperidines, and related compounds, are often present as substructures of natural products and frequently show potent and diverse biological activities.¹ Thus, their syntheses have attracted considerable attention over the years.² Chloramine-T (CT) is a well-known commercially available oxidizing reagent and also serves as a source of chloronium cation and/or nitrogen anion.³ The most impressive synthetic methodology using CT as a nitrogen source to date has been reported by Sharpless and co-workers. Their procedure involves the catalytic aminohydroxylation of olefins with CT, and the method has been elegantly extended to an asymmetric version.⁴ Recently, we and other groups have reported that CT is a good source of nitrogen for use

in the catalytic aziridination of olefins.⁵ With the intention of developing the utility of CT as an N1 unit, the potent reagent was applied to the synthesis of five-membered nitrogen heterocycles. In this paper, we report on a novel and convenient synthesis of pyrrolidine derivatives from γ -iodoolefins using CT as a nitrogen source, in which an iodo substituent of the substrates plays a key role in successfully achieving the cyclization and a high degree of stereoselectivity.

In a preliminary experiment, the iodo group of 1-iodooctane was smoothly substituted by CT in MeCN at room temperature to give octylsulfonamide, with no need for treatment with a reagent such as Na₂SO₃ to reduce the initial substitution product (TsSO₂NCIR). Considering our previous

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(2) For recent reviews, see: (a) Sundberg, R. J. In *Comprehensive Heterocyclic Chemistry II*; Bird, C. W., Ed.; Pergamon: Oxford, 1996; Vol. 2, pp 119–206. (b) Nadin, A. *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1* **1998**, 3493–3513. (c) Nadin, A.; Mitchinson, A. *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1* **1999**, 2553–2581. (d) Nadin, A.; Mitchinson, A. *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1* **2000**, 2862–2892. (e) Gribble, G. W.; Gilchrist, T. L. *Progress in Heterocyclic Chemistry*; Pergamon: Oxford, 2001; Vol. 13.

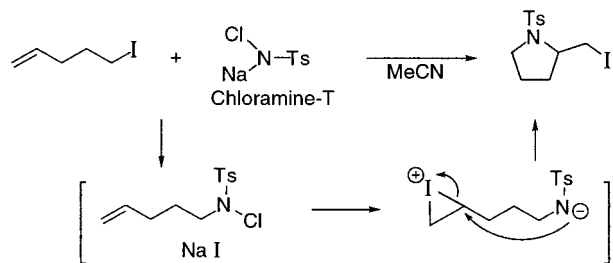
(3) (a) Campbell, M. M.; Johnson, G. *Chem. Rev.* **1976**, *78*, 65–79. (b) Bremner, D. H. In *Synthetic Reagents*; Pizey, J. S., Ed.; Wiley: New York, 1985; Vol. 6, pp 9–59. (c) Agarwal, M. C.; Upadhyay, S. K. *J. Sci. Ind. Res.* **1990**, *49*, 13–32.

(4) (a) Sharpless, K. B.; Chong, A. O.; Oshima, K. *J. Org. Chem.* **1976**, *41*, 177–179. (b) Herranz, E.; Sharpless, K. B. *J. Org. Chem.* **1978**, *43*, 2544–2548. (c) Li, G.; Chang, H.-T.; Sharpless, K. B. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.* **1996**, *35*, 451–454. (d) Rubin, A. E.; Sharpless, K. B. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.* **1997**, *36*, 2637–2640.

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work,^{5b} NaI generated by the substitution might be expected to act as a reducing agent for the N–Cl bond. This result prompted us to propose the following unique reaction (Scheme 1). Namely, if γ -iodoolefin, in place of iodoalkane,

Scheme 1. Proposed Pathway Leading to a Pyrrolidine



is employed in the reaction with CT, iodine atom transfer cyclization would occur via a cyclic iodonium intermediate to afford an iodomethylated pyrrolidine derivative.

In fact, when 5-iodo-1-pentene (**1a**) was treated with 2 equiv of CT in MeCN at room temperature for 48 h, the predicted iodomethylated pyrrolidine derivative **2a** was obtained in 91% yield (Table 1). This simple method could

Table 1. Synthesis of Various Pyrrolidines from γ -Iodoolefins and CT^a

γ -iodoolefin	product	yield (%)
1a	2a	91
1b	2b	75
1c	2c	81
1d	2d	77 ^b
1e	2e	50 ^c
1f	2f	83 ^c
1g	2g	64 ^c

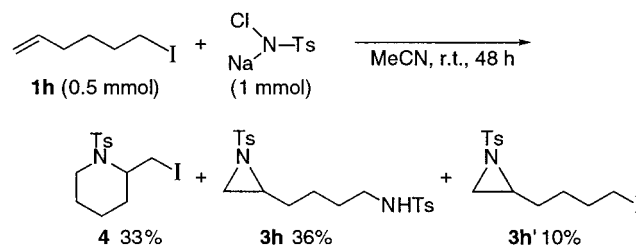
^a Reaction conditions: iodoolefin (0.5 mmol), CT (1 mmol), MeCN (3 mL), rt, 48 h. ^b *cis:trans* = 69:31. ^c Anhydrous CT and 12 mL of MeCN were used.

be applied to the synthesis of a variety of pyrrolidines from γ -iodoolefins. Both *trans*- and *cis*-6-iodo-2-hexene were

effectively converted to the corresponding pyrrolidines in good yields. It is noteworthy that a high degree of stereospecificity was observed in the reactions of geometric isomers of 6-iodo-2-hexene. Bicyclic pyrrolidines were stereoselectively obtained from cyclic olefins of several ring sizes having an iodo substituent at the γ -position in good yields. The stereochemistry of products **2e–g** was determined by NOE measurement, and that of **2g** was confirmed by X-ray crystallographic analysis. These highly stereospecific and stereoselective cyclizations are consistent with a reaction pathway involving an ionic intermediate (a cyclic iodonium cation).

As shown in Scheme 2, the present reaction was applicable

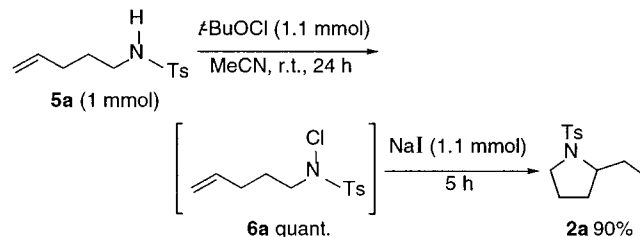
Scheme 2. Piperidine Synthesis from δ -Iodoolefin and CT



to the synthesis of a piperidine from δ -iodoolefin **1h** with CT. The desired piperidine derivative **4** was obtained in 33% yield along with aziridine derivatives **3h** and **3h'**. The latter products, aziridines, presented us with important information in terms of understanding the reaction pathway (*vide infra*).

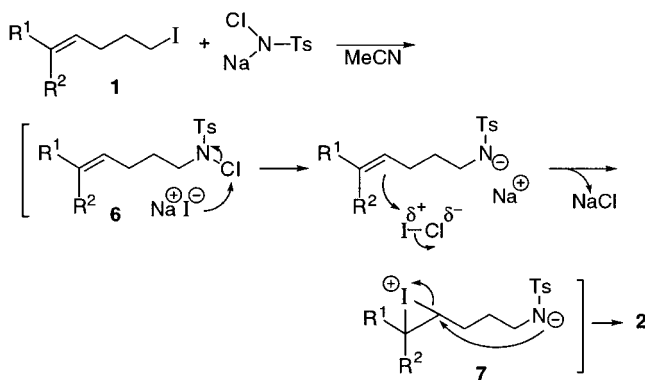
To clarify the most likely pathway for the reaction, the following experiment was carried out. The predicted intermediate **6** was prepared in situ by the chlorination of an authentic sample **5a** with *t*-BuOCl.⁶ The reaction was followed by measurement of ¹H NMR in CD₃CN, and the yield of **6a** was determined. The subsequent addition of NaI to the reaction mixture afforded pyrrolidine **2a** in 90% yield from **5a** (Scheme 3).

Scheme 3. Experiment To Clarify the Intermediacy of *N*-Chloro Derivative **6a** in the Route to Pyrrolidine **2a**



This result supports the view that the formation of pyrrolidines proceeds via the following pathway (Scheme 4). The iodo group of **1** is substituted by CT to give the *N*-chlorinated alkenylsulfonamide **6**. The liberated I[−] reacts with the Cl group of **6**, permitting the interconversion of I[−]

Scheme 4. Plausible Reaction Pathway Leading to Pyrrolidines



to I^+ , thus generating cyclic iodonium cation **7**. The intramolecular cyclization of **7** proceeds smoothly to afford **2**. The formation of **7** is supported by the stereospecific and diastereoselective cyclizations shown in Table 1. The results described in Scheme 2 also support the proposed pathway, namely, the reaction of the iodonium intermediate derived from **1h** with remaining CT might give aziridine **3h**,^{5b} because of the slower rate of the 6-*exo* cyclization compared to that of the 5-*exo* one. Despite the absence of an I_2 catalyst, aziridines **3h** and **3h'** were obtained by the reaction of **1h** with CT, suggesting the generation of ICl ^{7,8} in situ by the reaction of **6** with NaI.

In conclusion, this report is the first description of the synthesis of pyrrolidine derivatives from γ -iodoolefin using

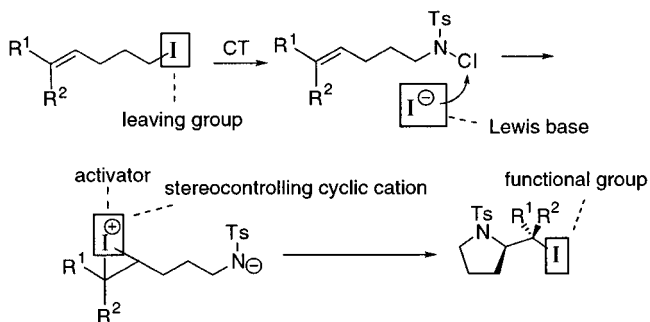
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(7) In the presence of a catalytic amount of ICl , aziridinations smoothly proceed by the reaction of olefins with CT; see ref 5b.

(8) ICl would also generate in situ by the reaction of remaining CT with NaI. See, for example: Kabalka, G. W.; Gooch, E. E. *J. Org. Chem.* **1981**, *46*, 2582–2584.

CT. The iodo group of the substrate has multiple roles as (1) a leaving group for substitution with CT, (2) a Lewis base for the abstraction of the Cl atom, (3) an activator of the olefin moiety, (4) a stereocontrolling cyclic cation, and (5) a functional group on the product.

Scheme 5. Multiple Functions of the Iodo Group



Because the present cyclization is a unique example of an ionic iodine atom transfer reaction,⁹ the application of the system to the synthesis of other functional nitrogen-containing heterocycles is now in progress.

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Supporting Information Available: Experimental procedures and characterization. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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(9) Recently, the synthetic route to pyrrolidines via radical [3 + 2] annulation reaction of *N*-allyl-*N*-chlorotrypsylamides with alkenes was reported by Oshima: Tsuritani, T.; Shinokubo, H.; Oshima, K. *Org. Lett.* **2001**, *3*, 2709–2711.