

N-Acyliminium ion cyclizations of trimethylsilylmethylallenes

Sang Hee Kim,^{a,b} Hyung Gyu Kim,^{a,b} Hyunah Choo,^a Joo Hwan Cha,^a Ae Nim Pae,^a
Hun Yeong Koh,^{c,*} Bong Young Chung^b and Yong Seo Cho^{a,*}

^aBiochemicals Research Center, Korea Institute of Science and Technology, Cheongryang, Seoul 130-650, South Korea

^bDepartment of Chemistry, Korea University, Seongbuk-gu, Seoul 136-704, South Korea

^cDepartment of Chemistry, Inha University 253 Younghyun-dong, Nam-gu, Incheon 402-751, South Korea

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Abstract—*N*-Acyliminium ion cyclizations were studied with allenylmethylsilanes to synthesize nitrogen heterocycles. *N*-Acyliminium ion cyclizations were carried out by exposure of precursors **6** and **7** to Lewis acid. The precursors **6** were converted to pyrrolizidinone derivatives **9** with an exo-allene moiety, while the precursors **7** to indolizidinone derivatives **10** with an exo-1,3-diene moiety.

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N-Acyliminium ion cyclizations have attracted considerable interest because they are very useful in syntheses of nitrogen-containing heterocycles.¹ Various nucleophiles are available for C–C bond formation via *N*-acyliminium ion cyclizations such as alkenes, alkynes, aryl groups, and silicon-containing π -nucleophiles.¹ Especially, silicon-containing π -nucleophiles such as allylsilanes, propargylsilanes, allenylsilanes, and vinylsilanes have been used for *N*-acyliminium ion cyclizations.^{1,2} However, allenylmethylsilanes have not been used as π -nucleophiles, even though they are very useful in reactions with aldehydes and acetals like Prins type cyclizations.³ There is only one example where allenylmethylsilanes are used in intermolecular reactions with *N*-acyliminium ions.⁴ Herein, we report the use of trimethylsilylmethylallenes for intramolecular *N*-acyliminium ion cyclizations to afford nitrogen-containing heterocycles bearing an exo-allene and an exo-1,3-diene unit.

N-Acyliminium ion precursors **6** and **7** were synthesized to examine intramolecular reactions of *N*-acyliminium ions bearing allenylmethylsilanes (Scheme 1). *N*-Acyliminium ion precursors **6** and **7** were obtained from several imides **1** such as succinimides and phthalimides. The imides **1** were coupled with trimethylsilylmethylallenes **2**

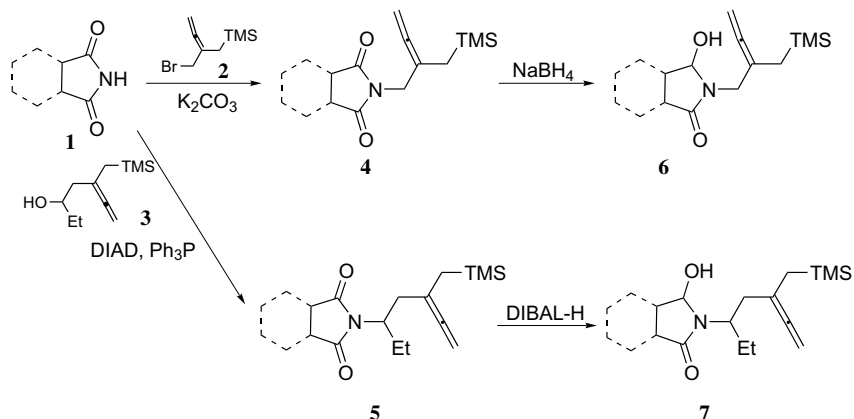
and **3**⁵ by S_N2 reaction and Mitsunobu reaction to give *N*-alkylated imides **4** and **5**, respectively, in 46–87% yields. The *N*-alkylated imides **4** and **5** were reduced by NaBH₄ or DIBAL-H to give the corresponding *N*-acyliminium ion precursors **6** and **7** in 24–88% yields. The precursors **6** were designed for pyrrolizidinone derivatives, while the precursors **7** were designed for indolizidinone derivatives.

N-Acyliminium ion precursor **6a** was exposed to several Lewis acids for *N*-acyliminium ion cyclization. Surprisingly, the reaction product was not a pyrrolizidinone derivative **8** with an exo-1,3-diene moiety as expected, but a pyrrolizidinone derivative **9a** with an exo-allene moiety (Scheme 2). It is very interesting that the precursor **6a** was cyclized via direct substitution at the α -carbon of TMS group, resulting in an exo-allene product **9a**.⁶ There are some examples that allenylmethylsilanes act as π -nucleophiles.³ However, there has been no example where an allenylmethylsilane is used as α -nucleophile up to now. A similar example was reported where an alkylsilane was employed as α -nucleophile in transfer of an alkyl group to an acylium ion.⁷

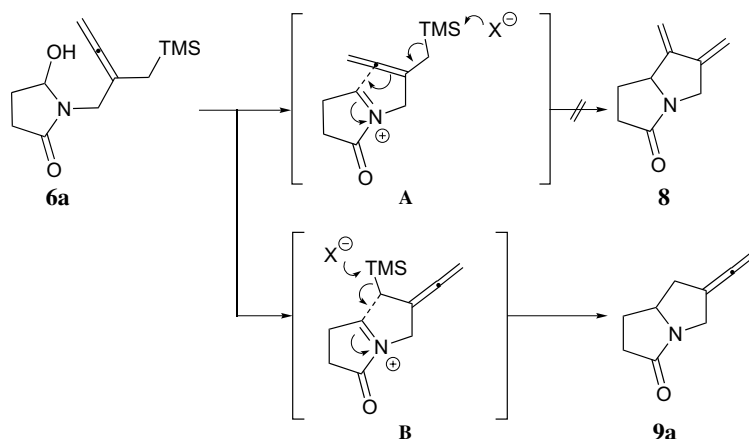
In order to optimize the reaction conditions, several Lewis acids were tried in CH₂Cl₂ as shown in Table 1. No product was obtained with trifluoroacetic acid, and BF₃OEt₂ gave a pyrrolizidinone derivative **9a** in a very poor yield, while indium(III) halides such as InBr₃ and InCl₃, and TMSOTf were effective for the cyclization.

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* Corresponding authors. Tel.: +82 2 958 5156; fax: +82 2 958 5189 (Y.S.C.); e-mail: ys4049@kist.re.kr



Scheme 1.



Scheme 2.

TMSOTf was chosen as Lewis acid for the *N*-acyliminium ion cyclization.

The substrates **6** were converted to the corresponding pyrrolizinone derivatives **9** in CH₂Cl₂ at 0 °C to room temperature in the presence of TMSOTf in 39–70% yields (Table 2). All the products have characteristic chemical

Table 1. Optimization of *N*-acyliminium ion cyclizations^a

Entry	Lewis acid ^b	Time (h)	Yield ^c (%)
1	TFA	2	NR ^d
2	BF ₃ OEt ₂	24	18
3	InBr ₃	24	45
4	InCl ₃	1	65
5	TMSOTf	24	70

^a All reactions were carried out on a 0.15–0.2 mmol scale at 0 °C–rt.

^b 1.0 equiv was used.

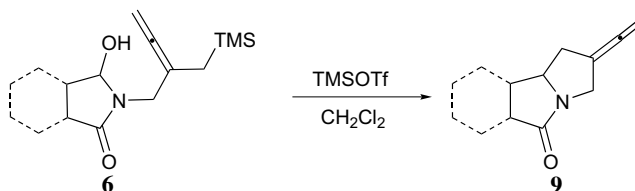
^c Isolated yields.

^d No reaction.

shifts in all ¹H NMRs and ¹³C NMRs, where the chemical shift of the two protons in the allene moiety was about δ 4.8 ppm in multiplet and that of the sp-hybridized allene carbon was about δ 200 ppm in ¹³C NMR.⁶

We extended the *N*-acyliminium ion cyclization to one-carbon-elongated substrates **7** compared to substrates **6**. Cyclization reactions of substrates **7** proceeded well in the presence of TMSOTf to give the indolizinone derivatives **10** with a *exo*-1,3-diene in high yields (Table 3). *N*-Acyliminium ions were attacked by π-nucleophiles of the allenylmethylsilanes to give the products with a *exo*-1,3-diene from 6-*endo* cyclization as expected (Scheme 3). When the substrates **7** were exposed to TMSOTf, *N*-acyliminium ions were generated as intermediates, which underwent cyclization via transition states **C** or **D**. In the transition state **D**, there would be steric hindrance between the carbonyl group of the *N*-acyliminium moiety and the ethyl group.⁹ The transition state **C** would be more favorable, resulting in *cis*-**10** obtained as majors, which was proved by difference NOE experiment where there was a very weak NOE between H_a and H_b in *trans*-**10**, while there was no NOE between H_a and H_b in *cis*-**10** (Scheme 3).

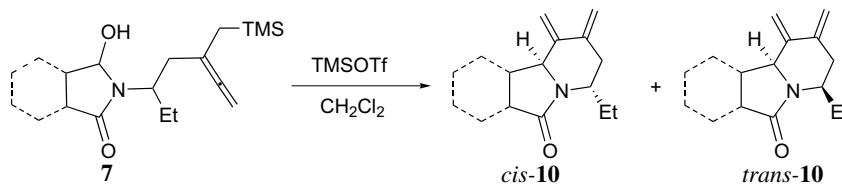
We also studied *N*-acyliminium ion cyclization starting with a glutarimide, which was converted to a compound

Table 2. The five-membered ring cyclizations^a

Entry	Reactants	Products	Yield ^b (%)
1	 6a	 9a	70
2	 6b	 9b	40
3	 6c	 9c ⁸	39

^a All reactions were carried out on a 0.15–0.5 mmol scale by treatment with 1.0 equiv of TMSOTf.

^b Isolated yields.

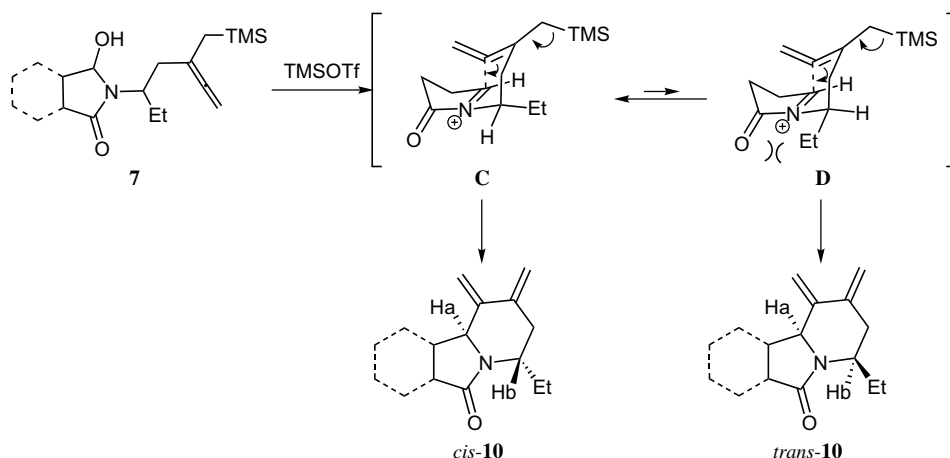
Table 3. The six-membered ring cyclizations^a

Entry	Reactant	10	Yield ^b (%)	dr ^c
1	 7a	 10a	87	2:1
2	 7b	 10b	87	6:1
3	 7c	 10c ⁸	88	1:1

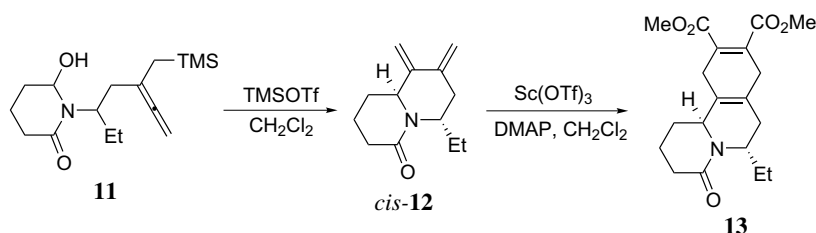
^a All reactions were carried out on a 0.15–0.5 mmol scale.

^b Isolated yields.

^c Diastereomeric ratio between *cis*-10 and *trans*-10.



Scheme 3.



Scheme 4.

11 with a similar procedure as before (Scheme 1). The substrate **11** gave the exo-1,3-diene product *cis*- and *trans*-**12** with 2.5/1 diastereomeric ratio in 90% yield. The exo-1,3-diene *cis*-**12** underwent Diels–Alder reaction with dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate by treatment with $\text{Sc}(\text{OTf})_3$ and DMAP to give a tricyclic compound **13** in 32% yield, which proved the existence of the exo-1,3-diene moiety in the compound **12** (Scheme 4).

We described here *N*-acyliminium ion cyclizations with allenylmethylsilanes. Five-membered exo-allene products **9** were generated by cyclization via direct substitution at the α -carbon of TMS group. On the other hand, the six-membered exo-1,3-diene products **10** were obtained from 6-endo cyclization.

Acknowledgment

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- General Procedure: To a solution of **6a** (0.18 mmol) was added TMSOTf (0.18 mmol) under N_2 at 0 °C. After stirring the mixture for 30 min at 0 °C, the reaction mixture was allowed to slowly warm to rt. The mixture was quenched with saturated NaHCO_3 , extracted with CH_2Cl_2 , dried (MgSO_4), concentrated under reduced pressure, and purified by flash chromatography to afford the desired product **9a**; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 4.89–4.78 (m, 2H), 4.31 (td, 1H, J = 14.8 Hz, J = 4.40 Hz), 4.03 (dq, 1H, J = 9.83 Hz, J = 6.80 Hz), 3.64 (br d, 1H, J = 14.8 Hz), 2.71–2.65 (m, 2H), 2.48–2.41 (m, 1H), 2.38–2.31 (m, 1H), 2.28–2.18 (m, 1H), 1.83–1.73 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 201.0, 174.4, 99.7, 78.4, 61.3, 43.8, 37.6, 34.1, 26.5; EIMS m/z 150 (2.7), 149 (M^+ , 26), 148 (100).
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