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Syntheses and Structures of Tetraazadisilacyclo-Hexanes

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SYNTHESES AND STRUCTURES OF TETRAAZADISILACYCLO-HEXANES

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Abstract Several tetraazadisilacyclohexanes, with general formula $R_2Si(NHNR')_2SiR_2$ (R = Me or Ph, R' = H or Me), have been synthesized by a dehydrocoupling methodology. Structural study showed that planar and pyramidal coordinations about nitrogen atoms exist in these molecules.

INTRODUCTION

Cyclic silvlhydrazine compounds, containing the Si-N-N unit, constitute an important family of cyclic silicon-nitrogen compounds. The conventional synthetic method for the preparation of these molecules is the intermolecular reaction of a hydrazine with a dihalosilane, with the elimination of hydrogen halide. However, the application of this method has its limitation when some dihalosilanes are too reactive towards hydrazines and side-reaction occurs. The dehydrocoupling of organosilanes with hydrazines provides a new and more efficient route to cyclic and acyclic silylhydrazine compounds.¹ In the presence of a dimethyltitanocene catalyst, diphenylsilane reacts with hydrazine to give 1,2,4,5-tetraaza-3,3,6,6-tetraphenyl-3,6-disilacyclohexane (1). The reaction of diphenylsilane with methylhydrazine afforded bis(2-methylhydrazino)diphenylsilane (2) in high yield. 2 was subsequently cyclized to two isolatable six-membered ring isomers, namely, 1,2,4,5tetraaza-1,4-dimethyl-3,3,6,6-tetraphenyl-3,6-disilacyclohexanes (3) and 1,2,4,5tetraaza-1,5-dimethyl-3,3,6,6- tetraphenyl-3,6-disilacyclohexanes (4), by the reaction with MeI, HCl or Ph₂SiCl₂, or by thermolysis at 250 - 300 °C,² or by the reaction with n-BuLi and Ph₂SiCl₂ followed by anionic rearrangement.³

Structural study of tetraazadisilacyclohexanes reveals some striking features. The crystal structures of 1 and 3 show that 1 adopts a chair conformation of the Si_2N_4 ring, 1 while 3 adopts a twist-boat conformation. 3 Two geometries about nitrogens are found in each -N(R)- N(H)- unit (R = H for 1; Me for 3), i.e., planar at N(R), and pyramidal at N(H). The driving force of the structural preference still remains unknown.

In the development of cyclic silylhydrazine chemistry, 1,2,4,5-tetraaza-3,3,6,6-tetramethyl-3,6-disilacyclohexane may play an important role as a building block for interesting polymeric materials due to its simple structure and NH functionality. However, its synthesis has not been reported. In this paper, we will describe its synthesis and characterization.

SYNTHESIS AND CHARACTERIZATION OF 1,2,4,5-TETRAAZA-3,3,6,6-TETRAMETHYL-3,6-DISILACYCLOHEXANE

In the absence of solvent, the dehydrocoupling reaction of 1,2-bis(dimethylsilyl)hydrazine with hydrazine took place spontaneously to form 1,2,4,5-tetraaza-3,3,6,6-tetramethyl-3,6-disilacyclohexane (5) in 78% yield. In the ¹H-NMR spectrum of 5, two resonances at 2.35 ppm and 0.10 ppm in 1:3 ratio are assigned to N-H and Si-CH₃, respectively. The ²⁹Si-NMR spectrum exibits a single resonance at -3.71 ppm. The identification of 5 was further confirmed by EI-MS (molecular ion: m/e = 176). 5 is a crystalline solid at ambient temperature. It can be purified by sublimation at 65°C under vacuum (0.01 mmHg). Equation (1) shows its synthesis starting from dimethylchlorosilane and hydrazine.

2 Me₂HSiCl + H₂NNH₂
$$\xrightarrow{Et_3N/Et_2O}$$
 MeH₂Si-NHNH-SiHMe₂ (60%)
+ H₂NNH₂ Me₂Si $\xrightarrow{N-N}$ SiMe₂ (78%) + 2 H₂ (1)

In a comparative experiment, only 15% of 5 was obtained by the conventional method, *i.e.*, the reaction of dimethyldichlorosilane with hydrazine (1:1 ratio, at the presence of Et₃N). Again, this result demonstrates the efficiency of the dehydrocoupling method in the synthesis of this class of molecules.

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