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## Phosphorus, Sulfur, and Silicon and the Related Elements

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## Nucleophilic and Electrophilic Additions to Silylated Ketenimines Generated from Imidothioesters.

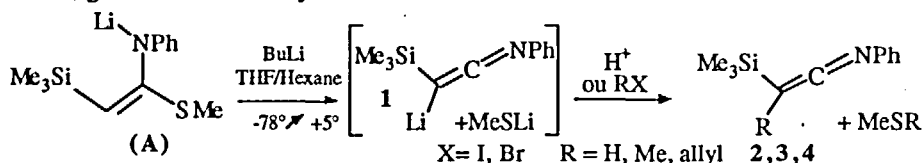
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The reactivity of stable silylated N-phenyl ketenimines towards some nucleophilic (organometallics, alcohols, thiols) and electrophilic reagents (PhSCl) were studied. Imino-coumarines (via tandem nucleophilic-electrophilic additions with Peterson olefination) and new phenylthio- and silyl-substituted ketenimines have been prepared.

### INTRODUCTION :

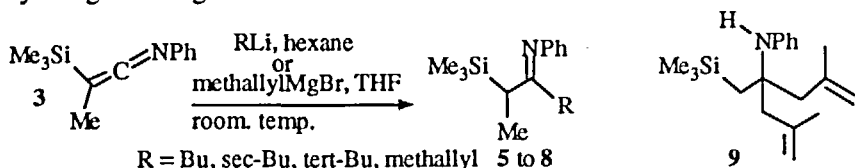
In a previous work we have shown that the reaction of 2 equivalents of butyllithium with the lithiated 2-trimethylsilylethanimidothioate (A), at temperatures higher than 0°C, leads to the silyl and lithium substituted ketenimine 1. The latter, after protonation or alkylation, gives the stable silylated ketenimines 2,3 or 4.<sup>1</sup>



We present herein our first results related to the reactivity of these heterocumulenes, functionalised and stabilised by the trimethylsilyl substituent, towards some nucleophilic and electrophilic reagents.

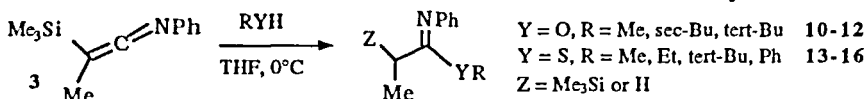
### RESULTS

Although the electrophilic properties of the central carbon are reduced by the silylated substituent (as for silylated ketenes<sup>2</sup>), nucleophilic additions on this carbon were obtained at room temperature by the reaction of ketenimine 3 with organometallics such as BuLi, sec-BuLi, tert-BuLi and methallyl magnesium bromide. The expected imines 5-8 were thus isolated. From the non alkylated ketenimine 2, a surprising double addition of the methallyl Grignard reagent led to the amine 9.

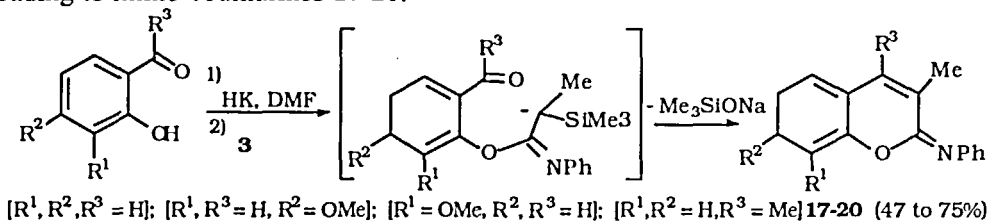


Additions of alcohols (catalyzed by Na or ZnCl<sub>2</sub>) and thiols (in the presence of 1eq. of NEt<sub>3</sub>) or lithium thiolates respectively led to the corresponding imidoesters 10-12 and

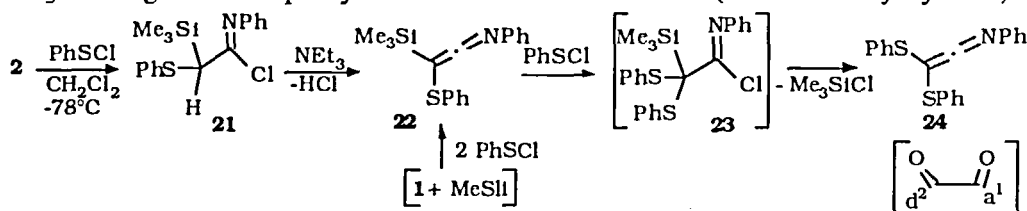
imidothioesters **13-16**. However, in most cases, partial desilylation was observed except for the addition of Phenol ( $\text{ZnCl}_2$ ), lithium benzenethiolate and tert-butylthiolate.



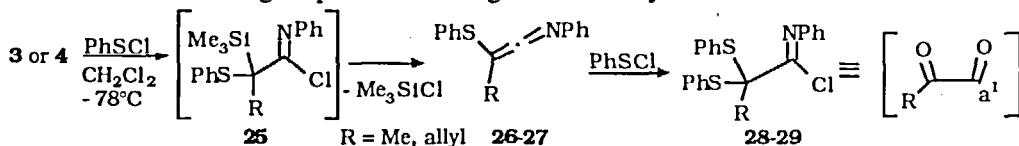
Tandem nucleophilic-electrophilic additions were observed by reaction of potassium salts of salicylic aldehydes or  $\alpha$ -hydroxy acetophenones with ketenimine **3** in DMF. The addition on the central carbon is followed here by an intramolecular Peterson olefination leading to imino-coumarines **17-20**.



The addition of benzene sulfonyl chloride, good electrophilic reagent towards ketenimines<sup>3</sup> was then studied. Addition to the ketenimine **2** led to a stable imidoyl chloride **21** which was dechlorhydrated by  $\text{NEt}_3$  into the phenylthio substituted silylated-ketenimine **22**. The latter was also obtained in good yield (75% after distillation) by *in situ* addition of  $\text{PhSCl}$  to the lithiated ketenimine **1**. A second addition of  $\text{PhSCl}$  to ketenimine **22** led to the unstable imidoyl chloride **23** which spontaneously eliminates  $\text{Me}_3\text{SiCl}$  to give the bis-phenylthio substituted ketenimine **24** (a  $1d^2$  dicarbonyl synthon).



Reaction of the alkylated ketenimine **3** or **4** with  $\text{PhSCl}$ , also led to an unstable imidoyl-chloride **25** which produced the stable methyl-phenylthio ketenimines **26** or **27**. A double addition was again possible leading to the imidoyl chlorides **28-29**.



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