## $\beta$ -Chlorovinylsilanes as Masked Alkynes in Oligoyne

### Assembly: Synthesis of the First Aryl-End-Capped

### Dodecayne

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## **Supporting Information II**

# **β**-Chlorovinylsilanes in the Synthesis of Lower Order Oligoynes: Synthesis of Hexaynes

Whilst the dodecayne product 9 exhibited very poor stability, which precluded its isolation, the  $\beta$ -chlorovinylsilane methodology outlined in the paper can be used to generate lower oligoynes, specifically hexaynes, which are much more readily isolated and characterised. We have prepared a range of hexaynes with both aryl and silyl end-caps using this methodology. The syntheses of phenyl-end-capped hexayne **11** and triisopropylsilyl-end-capped hexayne **13** are illustrative:

## 1,12-Diphenyldodeca-1,3,5,7,9,11-hexayne (11)



TBAF (0.19 mL of a 1 M solution in THF, 0.186 mmol) was added at 0 °C to a solution of masked hexayne **10** (79 mg, 0.093 mmol) in THF (1.5 mL). After 10 min, the resulting solution was warmed to rt and stirred for 20 min. Concentration of the residue under reduced pressure followed by purification of the residue through a short silica column (eluent: hexane) afforded hexayne **11** as an orange solid (25 mg, 90%);  $R_{\rm f} = 0.29$  (hexane); UV-Vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): 301 (210691), 319 (224595), 336 (252436), 353 (144683), 394 (22441), 426 (20247), 464 (10155);  $v_{\rm max}$ (Nujol)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 2920s, 2853s, 2172m (C=C), 2157m (C=C), 1461s, 1377m, 1174w, 997w, 753m, 722w;  $\delta_{\rm H}$ (300 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.34 (4H, app t, *J* 7.2, Ph*H*), 7.42 (2H, t, *J* 7.4, Ph*H*), 7.54 (4H, dd, *J* 7.0, 1.5, Ph*H*);  $\delta_{\rm c}$ (75 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 62.5 (quat. C, *C*=C), 63.6 (quat. C, *C*=C), 64.6 (quat. C, *C*=C), 67.2 (quat. C, *C*=C), 74.3 (quat. C, *C*=C), 77.4 (quat. C, *C*=C), 120.1 (quat. C, *ipso* Ph), 128.6 (CH, Ph), 130.3 (CH, Ph), 133.4 (CH, Ph); *m*/*z* (EI) 298 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100%), 149 (8), 84 (18), 69 (6), 43 (7); HRMS (EI) Found (M)<sup>+</sup> 298.0788. C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>10</sub> requires (M)<sup>+</sup>, 298.0782. Data were in agreement with those reported in the literature.<sup>1,2</sup>

The masked hexayne precursor **10** was prepared according to the methodology described in this paper and previously by us.<sup>3</sup> Data for **10**: m. p. 199-201 °C (from hexane);  $R_f = 0.29$  (hexane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 10:1); Anal Calcd for C<sub>56</sub>H<sub>48</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>: C, 79.31; H, 5.70. Found: C, 79.35; H, 5.49; UV-Vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) 383 (51752); 401 (48126); 428 (39624);  $v_{max}$ (Nujol)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 3070m, 2924s, 2187m (C=C), 1596w, 1503w, 1462s, 1428m, 1377s, 1296w, 1190w, 1110s, 1025w, 998w, 936w, 891w, 848w, 819m, 756m, 741m, 699s, 688s;  $\delta_{H}$ (300 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.19 (18H, s, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 7.26-7.39 (18H, stack, Ph*H*), 7.43-7.49 (4H, stack, Ph*H*), 7.58-7.65 (8H, stack, Ph*H*);  $\delta_{C}$ (75 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 19.7 (quat. C, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 28.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 83.9 (quat. C), 84.2

(quat. C), 91.2 (quat. C), 109.7 (quat. C), 123.3 (quat. C), 127.5 (quat. C), 127.8 (CH, Ph), 128.5 (CH, Ph), 129.1 (CH, Ph), 129.8 (CH, Ph), 130.5 (quat. C), 131.4 (CH, Ph), 132.4 (quat. C), 136.0 (CH, Ph); m/z (TOF ES<sup>+</sup>) 869 [(M+Na)<sup>+</sup>, 100%]; HRMS (TOF ES<sup>+</sup>) Found (M)<sup>+</sup> 869.2565. C<sub>56</sub>H<sub>48</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>Na requires (M + Na)<sup>+</sup>, 869.2569. The structure of this compound was confirmed by X-ray crystallography.<sup>4</sup>



#### 1,12-Bis-triisopropylsilyldodeca-1,3,5,7,9,11-hexayne (13)



For the formation of silyl-end-capped hexayne **13** we elected to use  $K_2CO_3$  in MeOH to effect dechlorosilylation rather than TBAF, which we more commonly use nowadays, in order to minimise any problems associated with competing deprotection of the silyl end-capping groups. Unmasking the hexayne, once again, proceeded efficiently:

K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (14 mg, 0.092 mmol) was added to a solution of masked hexayne **12** (32 mg, 0.042 mmol) in THF-MeOH (4 mL, 1:1) at rt. After 75 min, the reaction mixture was diluted with hexane (5 mL) and filtered through a short plug of silica. Removal of the solvent under reduced pressure and purification of the residue by silica column chromatography (eluent: hexane) afforded hexayne **13** as a yellow solid (15 mg, 79%);  $R_f = 0.73$  (hexane); UV-Vis (solvent) 261 (53460), 275 (103910), 290 (214480), 308 (274230), 354 (9674), 397 (12860), 409 (9190);  $\delta_H$ (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.08 (42H, br s, Si(CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta_C$ (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 11.3 (CH, Si(CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 18.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>, Si(CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 61.3 (quat. C), 62.4 (quat. C), 62.66 (quat. C), 62.72 (quat. C), 87.0 (quat. C), 89.4 (quat. C); m/z (EI) 458 [(M)<sup>+</sup>, 32%], 415 [100, (M-<sup>*i*</sup>Pr)<sup>+</sup>], 387 (20), 373 (25), 359 (15), 345 (30), 157 (25). Data were in agreement with those reported in the literature.<sup>5,6</sup>

The masked hexayne precursor **12** was prepared according to the methodology described in this paper and previously by us.<sup>3</sup> Data for **12**:  $R_f = 0.63$  (hexane); UV-Vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) 398 (39428), 369 (39732), 341 (37537), 320 (34196) 307sh (28062), 292 (23720), 250 (19671);  $v_{max}$ (film)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 2925s, 2866s, 2111s (C=C), 1519w, 1636w, 1463s, 883s;  $\delta_H$ (300MHz; C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>) 0.85 (12H, q, *J* 7.7, Si(CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.99 (18H, t, *J* 7.7, Si(CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 1.10 (42H, s, Si<sup>*i*</sup>Pr<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta_C$ (75MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>) 4.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>, SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 7.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 11.7 (CH, SiCH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 18.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiCH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 80.5 (quat. C), 84.6 (quat. C), 106.3 (quat. C), 113.6 (quat. C), 125.2 (quat. C), 136.1 (quat. C); *m*/*z* (TOF ES<sup>+</sup>) 797.2 [(M+K)<sup>+</sup>, 19%]; HRMS (TOF ES<sup>+</sup>) Found (M)<sup>+</sup> 797.3759. C<sub>42</sub>H<sub>72</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>4</sub>K requires (M + K)<sup>+</sup>, 797.3725.

#### Modified approaches to hexayne synthesis:

As discussed in more detail in the paper, the formation of our masked hexayne monomers involves an oxidative coupling (transformation **3** to **4** in the paper). We have investigated a range of methods for carrying out this reaction, and our modified Eglinton-Glaser-Hay copper-mediated coupling reaction is invariably the most effective. On occasions, however, Pd-mediated dimerisations have been effective for carrying out this transformation, *and* an *in-situ* dechlorosilylation, to provide the oligoyne directly in one-pot.<sup>7</sup> This was the case for aryl-end-capped hexayne **17**. Fritsch-Buttenberg-Wiechell reaction on the dibromide precursor **14** proceeded uneventfully to provide the masked triyne **15**, which was used directly in a Pd-mediated oxidative coupling. Rather than generate the masked hexayne **16**, in this case, oxidative dimerisation to **16** was followed by *in situ* two-fold dechlorosilylation, leading directly to hexayne **17**.



1,12-bis(4-(triisopropylsilylethynyl)phenyl)dodecahexa-1,3,5,7,9,11-yne (17)

<sup>n</sup>BuLi (0.54 mL of a 2.12 M solution in hexane, 1.13 mmol) was added over 5 min to a pre-chilled (0 °C) solution of <sup>*i*</sup>Pr<sub>2</sub>NH (0.17 mL, 2.26 mmol) in THF (2.5 mL). After

30 min, the resulting LDA solution was cooled to -78 °C and transferred via cannula to a cooled (-78 °C) solution of dibromide 14 (147 mg, 0.192 mmol) in THF (2.5 mL). After 15 min, the resulting purple solution was quenched at -78 °C with NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution (8 mL) and allowed to warm to rt. The product was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3  $\times$ 5 mL), and the combined extracts were washed with brine  $(3 \times 8 \text{ mL})$ , dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford the masked trivne 15 as a deep red oil, which was used directly without further purification. Acetonitrile (5 mL), palladium(II) acetate (1 mg, 5 µmol), copper(I) iodide (microspatula tip) and 1,4diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane (22 mg, 0.192 mmol) was added to masked trivne 15 at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 6 h with warming to rt, at which point the reaction mixture was filtered through a short silica plug, eluting with hexane (20 mL) and 10%  $Et_2O$  in hexane (3 × 10 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography (10% toluene in hexane) to give hexayne 17 as a dark amber residue (20 mg, 16%);  $R_{\rm f} = 0.62$  (10%) toluene in hexane); UV-Vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): 267sh (37740), 280 (50780), 295 (68465), 308 (88740), 353 (212240), 375 (147840), 401 (52240), 434 (38660), 473 (18120);  $v_{\text{max}}(\text{Nujol})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  2157m (C=C), 2057w, 1505w, 1494w, 1231w, 1177vw, 1072w, 1016w, 996w, 919vw, 883w, 836m, 784w, 661m; δ<sub>H</sub>(300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.12 (42H, s,  $6 \times \text{SiCH}(CH_3)_2$ ), 7.42 (4H, A of AB system,  $J_{A-B}$  8.1, ArH), 7.47 (4H, B of AB system, J<sub>B-A</sub> 8.1, ArH); δ<sub>C</sub>(75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 11.3 (CH, 6 × SiCH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 18.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>, 6 × SiCH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 62.5 (quat. C), 63.8 (quat. C), 65.0 (quat. C), 68.1 (quat. C), 76.0 (quat. C), 95.2 (quat. C), 106.1 (quat. C), 119.7 (quat. C), 125.5 (quat. C), 132.1 (CH, Ph), 133.2 (CH, Ph), 1 resonance (quat. C) not observed (resonance overlap); m/z $(TOF ES^{+})$  799.5  $[(M+Ag+MeOH)^{+}, 100\%]$ , 767  $[45, (M+Ag)^{+}]$ ; the molecular

isotope peak distributions for both  $(M+Ag+MeOH)^+$  and  $(M+Ag)^+$  match theoretical predictions.

Dibromolefin **14** and masked triyne **15** (not isolated) were prepared according to the methodology described in this paper and previously by us.<sup>3</sup> Data for **14**: Anal Calcd for C<sub>39</sub>H<sub>45</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>ClSi<sub>2</sub>: C, 61.21; H, 5.93. Found: C, 61.22; H, 5.78;  $R_f = 0.61$  (10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexane);  $v_{max}$ (Nujol)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 3072m, 3050w, 2923s, 2862s, 2154m, 1956w, 1909w, 1662w, 1588w, 1505m, 1490m, 1462s, 1428m, 1404w, 1378m, 1364w, 1232w, 1176w, 1158w, 1107w, 1072w, 1016w, 997m, 936w, 919w, 883m, 836, 818, 768m, 739m, 719, 700s, 677m, 660m, 603s;  $\delta_H$ (300 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.15 (21H, s, 3 × SiC*H*(C*H*<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 1.22 (9H, s, SiC(C*H*<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 6.54 (1H, s, C*H*=CBr<sub>2</sub>), 7.30-7.50 (10H, stack, Ph*H*), 7.62-7.81 (4H, m, Ph*H*);  $\delta_C$ (75 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 11.3 (CH, 3 × SiC*H*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 18.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>, 3 × SiCH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 19.4 (quat. C, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 27.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>, SiC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 92.3 (quat. C), 93.2 (quat. C), 98.5 (quat. C), 128.1 (CH, Ph), 129.9 (CH, Ph), 131.1 (CH, Ph), 132.0 (CH, Ph), 132.3 (quat. C, *ipso*Ph), 135.3 (CH, *C*H=CBr<sub>2</sub>), 135.9 (CH, Ph), 143.3 (quat. C); *m*/*z* (TOF ES<sup>+</sup>) 873.1 [(M+Ag)<sup>+</sup>, 100%]; HRMS (TOF ES<sup>+</sup>) Found (M+Ag)<sup>+</sup> 869.0181. C<sub>39</sub>H<sub>45</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>ClBr<sub>2</sub><sup>107</sup>Ag requires (M+Ag), 869.0166.

# Estimating the Effective Conjugation Length for Aryl End-Capped Oligoynes

The dodecayne **9** described in the paper represents the longest aryl-end-capped oligoyne reported to-date. The values for  $\lambda_{max}$  for **9** and the hexaynes **11**, **13** and **17** prepared by us, along with other aryl-end-capped oligoynes prepared by other groups (Figure 1),<sup>2,8,9</sup> are tabulated below (Table 1).



Figure 1. Aryl-end-capped oligoynes prepared by Hirsch<sup>9</sup> and Tykwinski.<sup>2</sup>

number of	end-cap	compound	$\lambda_{max}$	reference
conjugated alkynes		number	/ nm	
2	TBDMSO	-	336	ref 9
4	TBDMSO	-	403	ref 9
4	Ph	-	399	ref 2

6	TBDMSO	-	467	ref 9
6	Ph	11	464	this paper
6	Ph	11	465	ref 2
6	TIPS	17	473	this paper
6	⁴Bu	-	469	ref 2
6	MeO	-	476	ref 2
6	TIPS	13	409	this paper
8	Ph	-	512	ref 2
8	TBDMSO	-	514	ref 9
9	RO RO	-	532	ref 9
	see Fig 1			
10	Ph	-	549	ref 8
10	RO RO	-	546	ref 9
	see Fig 1			
12	F <sub>3</sub> C	9	562	this paper

The empirical Lewis-Calvin equation has been used to investigate how measurable physical parameters in a series of  $\pi$ -conjugated oligomers, such as  $\lambda_{max}$ , vary with conjugation length.

For small values of n:

$$(\lambda_{\rm max})^2 = kn$$

where n = number of conjugated alkynes and *k* is a constant.

A plot of  $(\lambda_{max})^2$  against n for n = 2-10 for the range of aryl-end-capped oligoynes in Table 1 shows a good linear relationship (Figure 2); however using the value of  $\lambda_{max}$ for dodecayne **9** we see for the first time, a deviation away from this line suggestive that with the dodecayne, we are approaching saturation and the effective conjugation length for this class of aryl-end-capped oligoyne (Figure 2). This can only be confirmed by synthesising even longer-chain oligoynes; the trimer in our series, which will be an octadecamer, will be very insightful.



Figure 2. Lewis-Calvin Plot of  $(\lambda_{max})^2$  against n.

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## **Scanned Spectra**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR Spectra for compounds **10-14** and **17**. UV spectra for

hexaynes 11, 13 and 17

# Supplementary Material (ESI) for Chemical Communications # This journal is (c) The Royal Society of Chemistry 2007











Extinction Coefficient				
210 691				
224 595 252 436 144 683				
				22 441
				20 247
10 155				























