## Electronic Supplementary Information

## Diverse reactivity of an isolable dialkylsilylene toward

### imines

Weifeng Chen, Liliang Wang, Zhifang Li\*, Aiqin Lin, Guoqiao Lai\*, Xuqiong Xiao, Yuan Deng, Mitsuo Kira\*

Key Laboratory of Organosilicon Chemistry and Material Technology of Ministry of Education, Hangzhou Normal University, Hangzhou, 310012, P.R. China

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#### **1. X-ray structure determination.**

#### X-ray analysis of 12c'

Molecular structure of **12c** was determined by X-ray structural analysis. There were two independent molecules (**12c** and **12c'**) in an asymmetric unit. Molecular structure of **12c'** is shown in Fig S1.



**Figure S1**. ORTEP drawing of **12c'**. Thermal ellipsoids are shown at the 30% probability level. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Thermal ellipsoids are shown at the 30% probability level. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (deg): Si6-N2=1.706(2), Si6-C34=1.879(3), C34-N2=1.480(4), C34-C35=1.484(4), C41-N2=1.396(3), Si6-C30=1.884(3), Si6-C33=1.885(3); N2-Si6-C34=48.49(11), C34-N2-Si6=71.86(14), N2-C34-Si6=59.65(13), C30-Si6-C33=101.79(12). Dihedral angles between two planes (deg): 15.25 for C34-Si6-N2/N-aryl planes, 81.31 for C34-Si6-N2/C30-Si6-C33 planes, and 81.76 for C-aryl/N-phenyl planes.

#### X-ray analysis of 14f



**Figure S2.** ORTEP drawing of **14f**. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Thermal ellipsoids are shown at the 30% probability level. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (deg):Si1-N1=1.7392(14), Si1-C1=1.8994(17), Si1-C2=1.9135(15), Si1-H1=1.432(18), N1-C3=1.480(2), N1-C4=1.454(2); C1-Si1-C2=101.23(7).

Table S1. Crystal and refinement data for 12a-c, 13d-e and 14f						
Parameters	12a	12b	12c	13d	13e	14f
Empirical formula	$C_{29}H_{51}NSi_5 \\$	$C_{30}H_{53}NOSi_5\\$	$C_{29}H_{50}ClNSi_5$	$C_{30}H_{50}F_3NSi_5\\$	$C_{31}H_{49}F_6NSi_5 \\$	$C_{30}H_{55}NSi_5 \\$
Formula weight	554.16	584.18	588.60	622.16	690.16	570.20
Crystal system	Triclinic	Triclinic	Triclinic	Monoclinic	Orthorhombic	Triclinic
Space group	P-1	P-1	P-1	P2(1)/n	Pbca	P-1
<i>a</i> [Å]	9.9889(8)	10.1986(8)	13.1571(11)	11.6872(8)	22.667(4)	11.4647(8)
<i>b</i> [Å]	10.8412(8)	11.4219(9)	15.9991(13)	23.8106(16)	14.110(2)	11.7712(9)
<i>c</i> [Å]	16.4060(13)	16.3207(12)	17.0546(14)	14.0462(10)	23.682(4)	14.2938(11)
$\alpha$ [deg]	81.7450(10)	77.5760(10)	72.259(2)	90	90	74.1470(10)
$\beta$ [deg]	78.7950(10)	78.1960(10)	84.025(2)	112.988(2)	90	82.1350(10)
$\gamma \text{ [deg]}$	78.6920(10)	71.5880(10)	89.806(2)	90	90	69.5230(10)
V[Å <sup>-3</sup> ]	1698.6(2)	1742.3(2)	3399.2(5)	3598.4(4)	7574(2)	1736.6(2)
Ζ	2	2	4	4	8	2
$D_{\text{calcd}} [\text{g cm}^{-3}]$	1.083	1.114	1.150	1.148	1.210	1.090
$\mu$ [mm <sup>-1</sup> ]	0.228	0.227	0.307	0.233	0.239	0.224
F (000)	604	636	1272	1336	2928	624
Reflections	23618	24536	36538	26379	25486	23579
collected						
Independent	5936	6091	12553	6332	7395	6067
Reflections						
R(int)	0.0205	0.0245	0.0386	0.0283	0.0505	0.0210
Data/restraints	5936/6/359	6091/ 0/347	12553/0 /673	6332/87/392	7395/17 / 447	6067/0/341
/parameters						
final R indices	0.0411	0.0399	0.0445	0.0391	0.0527	0.0340
$[I \ge 2\sigma(I)] R_I$						
R indices (all	0.1554	0.1563	0.1545	0.1456	0.1509	0.1298
data) $wR_2$						

Table S1. Crystal and refinement data for 12a-12c, 13d, 13e, and 14

# 2. A plausible mechanism for the reaction of silylene 10 with *N*-benzylbenzaldimine 11f

The reaction would also begin with the formation of the corresponding imine silaylide **19**. The reaction of imine ylide **20**, which is formed by the migration of a benzylic proton of **19**, with starting imine **11f** may give carbanion **21** and 2-azaallyl cation **22**. Carbanion **21** is trapped by water to give the final product **14f**, while **22** gives unidentified products. The fact that the yield of **14f** is lower than 50% is compatible with the proposed mechanism but no other supporting evidence is obtained.



Scheme S1.





Figure S3.



Figure S4.



Figure S5.



Figure S6.



Figure S7.



Figure S8.



Figure S9.



Figure S10.



Figure S11.

2. <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, <sup>19</sup>F, and <sup>29</sup>Si NMR spectra of silaazetidines 13d and 13e (Figures



Figure S12.



Figure S13.



Figure S14.



Figure S15.



Figure S16.



Figure S17.



Figure S18.



Figure S19.





Figure S20.



Figure S21.



Figure S22.