# Highly Reactive Oligosilyltriflates - <br> Synthesis, Structure and Rearrangement 

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## Supporting Information

## Experimental

The manipulation of air and moisture sensitive compounds involved standard Schlenk line and dry box techniques. All solvents were freshly distilled under argon from alkali metals and also TfOH $\left(\mathrm{CF}_{3} \mathrm{SO}_{3} \mathrm{H}\right)$ was freshly distilled prior to use. Benzene- $\mathrm{D}_{6}$ was dried over activated molecular sieves and stored in the glove box.

## General procedure for the synthesis of the phenyloligosilanes $\mathbf{1 a - d}$ and 8 :

In a Schlenk type flask with magnetic stirrer were placed rapidly phenyltris(trimethylsilyl)silane ( $10 \mathrm{~g}, 30.8 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and $\mathrm{Bu}^{\mathrm{t}} \mathrm{OK}(3.6 \mathrm{~g}, 32 \mathrm{mmol})$. The flask was evaporated and refilled with argon for three times, THF ( 100 mL ) was added and the yelloworange solution immediately formed was stirred overnight. Then, the solvent and other volatiles were removed under vacuum and the phenylbis(trimethylsilyl)silylpotassium x 3 THF obtained as a dark orange solid was suspended in pentane and cooled to $-78^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. To this stirred suspension the related electrophile was added in one portion. Stirring was continued for 1 hour, and the mixture was allowed to warm up to room temperature within 2 hours. After addition of $40 \mathrm{ml}(0.1 \mathrm{M})$ of hydrochloric acid, the organic phase was separated, dried with $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, and the solvent was evaporated. The raw products were purified as described below.

## 2,4-Diphenyl-1,1,1,3,3,5,5,5-octamethyl-2,4-bis(trimethylsilyl)pentasilane (1b)

$\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{SiCl}_{2}(1.9 \mathrm{ml}, 15.7 \mathrm{mmol})$. The solid residue was re-crystallized from acetone to give 2a ( $6.64 \mathrm{~g}, 77 \%$ ); mp 126-128 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 250 \mathrm{MHz}$ ): $\delta 0.20$ (s, $\mathrm{SiMe}_{3}, 36 \mathrm{H}$ ), 7.11-7.57 $(2 \mathrm{~m}, \mathrm{SiPh}, 10 \mathrm{H}) .0 .70\left(\mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{SiMe}_{2}, 6 \mathrm{H}\right) ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $\left.\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 63 \mathrm{MHz}\right): \delta 1.8\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{3}\right), 1.9\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{2}\right)$, 128.0, 128.2, 136.1, 137.3 (SiPh); ${ }^{29} \mathrm{Si}$ NMR ( $\left.\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 79.5 \mathrm{MHz}\right): \delta-12.3\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{3}\right),-33.2$ $\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{2}\right),-70.5(\mathrm{SiPh}) .-\mathrm{MS}:\left(70 \mathrm{eV}, \mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}\right.$ in \%): $560(1)\left[\mathrm{M}^{+}\right], 545$ (4) [ $\left.\mathrm{M}^{+}-\mathrm{Me}\right], 487$ (3) [ $\mathrm{M}^{+}-$ $\mathrm{SiMe}_{3}$ ]. - Anal. Calc. for $\mathrm{C}_{26} \mathrm{H}_{52} \mathrm{Si}_{7}$ (561.29): C, 55.64 ; H, 9.34. Found: C, 54.60; H, 9.27.


## 2,4-Diphenyl-1,1,1,3,5,5,5-octamethyl-2,4-bis(trimethylsilyl)-3-germa-pentasilane (1c)

$\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{GeCl}_{2}$ ( $2.73 \mathrm{~g}, 15.7 \mathrm{mmol}$ ). Raw $\mathbf{1 c}$ was suspended in cold ethanol, filtered off and dried under vacuum, yield $6.63 \mathrm{~g}(71 \%)$; mp $125^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\left.\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 250 \mathrm{MHz}\right): \delta 0.21\left(2 \mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{SiMe}_{3}\right.$, $2 \times 18 \mathrm{H}), 0.82\left(\mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{GeMe}_{2}, 6 \mathrm{H}\right), 7.11-7.14,7.53-7.57(2 \mathrm{~m}, \mathrm{SiPh}, 10 \mathrm{H}) ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 63$ $\mathrm{MHz}): \delta 1.6\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{3}\right), 1.7\left(\mathrm{GeMe}_{2}\right), 127.9,128.3,136.5,137.1(\mathrm{SiPh}) ;{ }^{29} \mathrm{Si}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 79.5\right.$ $\mathrm{MHz}): \delta-12.1\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{3}\right),-62.8(\mathrm{SiPh})$. Anal. Calc. for $\mathrm{C}_{26} \mathrm{H}_{52} \mathrm{GeSi}_{6}$ (605.80): C, 51.55; H, 8.65. Found: C, 51.15; H, 8.58.


1c

## 2,5-Diphenyl-1,1,1,3,3,4,4,6,6,6-decamethyl-2,5-bis(trimethylsilyl)hexasilane (1d)

$\mathrm{ClMe}_{2} \mathrm{Si}^{-\mathrm{SiMe}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}}(2.91 \mathrm{ml}, 15.6 \mathrm{mmol})$. The solid residue was re-crystallized from acetone to give $7.71 \mathrm{~g}(81 \%)$ of $\mathbf{1 d} ; \mathrm{mp} 155-162^{\circ} \mathrm{C} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\left.\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 250 \mathrm{MHz}\right): \delta 0.31\left(\mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{SiMe}_{3}, 36 \mathrm{H}\right)$,

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0.35 (s, $\mathrm{SiMe}_{2}, 12 \mathrm{H}$ ), 7.11-7.20, 7.61-7.64 (2m, SiPh, 10 H ); ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $\left.\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 63 \mathrm{MHz}\right): \delta$ $2.0\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{3}\right),-0.6\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{2}\right), 128.1,128.3,136.1,137.1(\mathrm{SiPh}) ;{ }^{29} \mathrm{Si} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 79.5 \mathrm{MHz}\right): \delta-$ $72.0(\mathrm{SiPh}),-34.2\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{2}\right),-12.5\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{3}\right) .-\mathrm{MS}:\left(70 \mathrm{eV}, \mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}\right.$ in \%): $618(3)\left[\mathrm{M}^{+}\right], 603(5)\left[\mathrm{M}^{+}-\right.$ $\mathrm{Me}], 367$ (100) $\left[\mathrm{M}^{+}-\mathrm{SiPh}\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$. - Anal. Calc. for $\mathrm{C}_{28} \mathrm{H}_{58} \mathrm{Si}_{8}$ (619.45): C, 54.29; H, 9.44. Found: C, 53.26; H, 9.15.


## 2,6-Diphenyl-1,1,1,3,3,4,5,5,7,7,7-undecamethyl-2,6-bis(trimethylsilyl)-4-[1,1,3,3,3-pentamethyl-2-phenyl-2-trimethylsilyl-trisilanyl]heptasilane (8)

$\left(\mathrm{ClMe}_{2} \mathrm{Si}_{3}\right)_{3} \mathrm{SiMe}(3.23 \mathrm{~g}, 10 \mathrm{mmol})$. The solid residue was re-crystallized from acetone to give $7.1 \mathrm{~g}(73 \%)$ of $\mathbf{8} ; \mathrm{mp} 180^{\circ} \mathrm{C} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 250 \mathrm{MHz}$ ): $\delta 0.31\left(\mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{SiMe}_{3}, 54 \mathrm{H}\right), 0.32(\mathrm{~s}$, $\mathrm{SiMe}_{2}, 18 \mathrm{H}$ ), 0.63 (s, Me, 3 H ), 7.10-7.22, 7.59-7.74 (m, phenyl, 15 H ), ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}$, 62.9 MHz ): $\delta 2.0$ (SiMe), 2.1 (SiMe), 2.4 (SiMe), 128.4, 137.4 (arom. C-H); 136.5, 137.3 (arom. quart. C); ${ }^{29} \mathrm{Si}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 59.6 \mathrm{MHz}\right): \delta-68.5(\mathrm{SiPh}) ;-56.8(\mathrm{SiMe}) ;-29.9\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{2}\right) ;-$ 12.0, -11.5 ( $\mathrm{SiMe}_{3}$ ). - MS (CI isobutane / FAB): $\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}(\%)=955(16)\left[\mathrm{M}^{+}-\mathrm{Me}\right] ; 897(11)\left[\mathrm{M}^{+}-\right.$ $\left.\mathrm{SiMe}_{3}\right] ; 719$ (100) $\left[\mathrm{M}^{+}-\mathrm{PhSi}\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$. Anal. Calc. for $\mathrm{C}_{43} \mathrm{H}_{90} \mathrm{Si}_{13}$ (972.29): C, 53.12; H , 9.33. Found: C, 52.33; H, 9.19.


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## 2,2,4,4-Tetramethyl-3,3,5,5-tetrakis(trimethylsilyl)-1-oxa-tetrasilacyclobutane (4)

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$\mathrm{TfOH}(0.5 \mathrm{ml}, 5.7 \mathrm{mmol})$ was added at room temperature to a solution of oligosilane $\mathbf{1 d}$ ( 1.67 $\mathrm{g}, 2.7 \mathrm{mmol})$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}(30 \mathrm{ml})$ and the mixture was stirred for 2 hrs . After addition of water $(30 \mathrm{ml})$ to the stirred solution the organic phase was separated, dried with $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, and the solvent was evaporated. The solid residue was re-crystallized from acetone to give $4(1.18 \mathrm{~g}$, $86 \%$ ); ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 250 \mathrm{MHz}$ ): $\delta 0.31,0.28\left(2 \mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{SiMe}_{3}, 2 \times 18 \mathrm{H}\right), 0.55,0.44\left(2 \mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{SiMe}_{2}, 2\right.$ $\times 6 \mathrm{H}) ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $\left.\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 63 \mathrm{MHz}\right): \delta 3.4\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{3}\right)$, 6.6, $0.1\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{2}\right) ;{ }^{29} \mathrm{Si}$ NMR ( $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 79.5$ MHz ): $\delta-8.2,-15.5\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{3}\right), 28.3\left(\mathrm{OSiMe}_{2}\right),-1.4\left(\mathrm{OSi}\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{3}\right)_{2}\right)-23.7\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{2}\right)$, -145.7 (quart. Si). - MS: (70eV, m/z in \%): $480(90)\left[\mathrm{M}^{+}\right], 465(20)\left[\mathrm{M}^{+}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 407(80)\left[\mathrm{M}^{+}-\mathrm{Si}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3}\right]$. Anal. Calc. for $\mathrm{C}_{16} \mathrm{H}_{48} \mathrm{OSi}_{8}$ (481.246): C, 39.93; H, 10.05. Found: C, 39.89; H, 9.86.


