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Si–H-containing cyclosilanes and their behaviour in the dehydrogenative polymerization reaction ¹

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Abstract

To study the behaviour of some cyclosilanes containing Si-H bonds in dehydrogenative polymerization, cyclosilanes with Si-H bonds directly on the ring and cyclosilanes with Si-H bonds in silyl- and disilanyl side chains were synthesized and characterized by the usual spectroscopic and analytical methods. The ease of the polymerization is affected by steric hindrance and oligomers can be formed along with other side products. Only 1,4-bis(silyl)decamethylcyclohexasilane gave a polymer. $Cp_2HfCl(Si_6Me_{11})$ was prepared for use as a catalyst.

Keywords: Silicon; Hafnium; Cyclosilanes; Polycyclosilanes; Dehydrogenative polymerization; Hf-Si compounds

1. Introduction

Dehydrogenative polymerization, catalyzed by early transition element cyclopentadienyl derivatives, has been investigated for simple monosilanes [1] and disilanes [2]. No investigations have been carried out with cyclosilanes so far. Cyclosilanes with Si-H bonds have the potential to form polysilanes with cyclosilane units in the polymeric chain or with cyclosilanes as side groups in simple polysilanes. Both structural types promise interesting feature; for example, optical and semiconducting properties. It is known that simple cyclosilanes can form radical anions with completely delocalized electrons, but nothing is known about this behaviour in the case of cyclosilane-containing polysilanes.

Only a few examples of polycyclic silanes are known, and the number of cyclosilane units in these molecules is rather small. We synthesized some linearly-connected five- and six-membered silanes starting from cyclosilanylpotassium compounds. A summary of that work was published recently [3]. Only one annelated cyclosilane is known, it has two permethylated six-membered cyclosilanes connected as in decalin. West and Indrik-

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sons [4] made this compound first, and later investigations established the structure and revealed formation of a radical anion [5].

Dehydrogenative polymerization offers a new route to such compounds. Si-H bonds are necessary and two structural types are of interest in this connection, one with the Si-H bond attached directly to the ring and the other with the bond in a side chain. The first type should lead to polymers with cyclosilanes in the main chain, the second to a simple polysilane with cyclosilanes as pendant substituents. In both cases relevant materials were previously unknown, so we made examples of both type. This first investigation involved sixmembered rings because of the ready availability of dodecamethylcyclohexasilane.

2. Hydrogen-substituted cyclohexasilanes

Some cyclosilanes are known with hydrogen attached to the ring. Monohydroundecamethylcyclohexasilane was previously known, and made by published methods. By treatment of dodecamethylcyclohexasilane with antimony pentachloride, one methyl group was cleaved from the ring and monochloroundecamethylcyclohexasilane was formed [6]. Hydrogenation with LiAlH₄ gave the required compound.

Dedicated to Professor Robert Corriu.

1,4-Dihydrodecamethylcyclohexasilane was synthesized by action of LiAlH_4 on 1,4-dichlorodecamethylcyclohexasilane. The dichloro compound was prepared by reaction of dodecamethylcyclohexasilane with antimony pentachloride [7]; 1,3- and 1,4-dichlorodecamethylcylcohexasilane were formed simultaneously, and we recently developed an improved method for their separation [8].

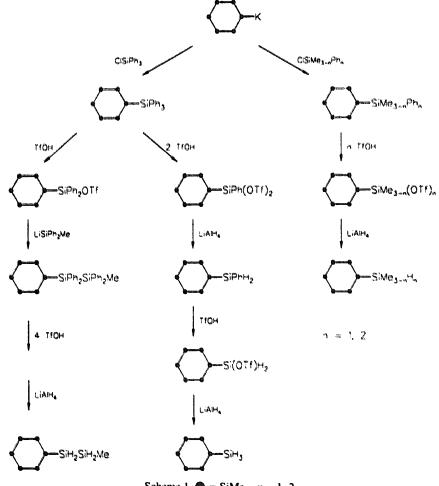
3. Monofunctional cyclosilanes

Cyclohexasilanes with Si-H-containing side chains were previously unknown. We were interested in monoand disilanyl side chains with one or more Si-H bonds. We started from undecamethylcyclohexasilanyl-potassium, an improved preparation of which was published recently [9]. Reaction with various chloromethylphenylsilanes led to the corresponding methylphenylsilylcyclohexasilanes. Replacement of the phenyl groups with the triflate group and subsequent reaction with LiAlH₄ gave the required derivatives (Scheme 1). The disilanyl derivative was synthesized by a stepwise procedure because $ClSiPh_2SiPh_2Me$ was not formed in the reaction of Cl_2SiPh_2 with $LiSiPh_2Me$, the only product being $Ph_2MeSiSiPh_2SiPh_2Me$. A better way was to cleave one phenyl group from triphenylsilylundecamethylcyclohexasilane with triflic acid and to treat the product with the $LiSiPh_2Me$ group. The method used to cleave phenyl groups with triflic acid [10] removes only up to two phenyl groups from one Si atom. Therefore, hydrogenation was first necessary, followed by triflic acid cleavage again, as can be seen from Scheme 1.

4. Difunctional cyclosilanes

For the polymerization experiments described later we need cyclosilanes with hydrogen-containing silyl substituents in 1- and 4-positions. The 1,4-disposition seems to be particularly interesting for the formation of polysilanes.

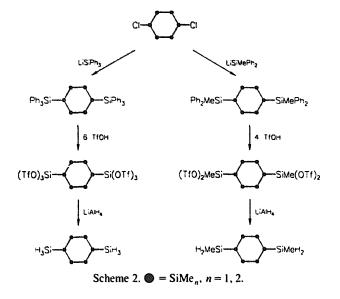
The starting material was 1,4-dichlorodecamethylcyclohexasilane again, now prepared in the new way [8]. With Ph₃SiLi and Ph₂MeSiLi this gave the corre-



Scheme 1. \bigcirc = SiMe_n, n = 1, 2.



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sponding disilylated derivatives (Scheme 2). It was possible to remove all phenyl groups from the cyclosilane with triflic acid in one step; this was expected in the case of the SiPh₂Me group but was surprising in the case of the triphenylsilyl group, since for the monosubstituted product only two phenyl groups were split off, and the third could not be removed. After longer reaction time methyl groups were cleaved from the cyclosilane. With the disubstituted derivatives no displacement of the methyl groups occurred, and it was possible to use a longer reaction time and so bring about complete removal of all the phenyl groups. The electronic influence of the groups in the 1- and 4-positions seems to stabilize the Si-methyl bonds.

5. NMR

The ²⁹Si NMR chemical shifts for some silyl-substituted derivatives of (Me₂Si)₆ are shown in Table 1, and the ¹³C NMR chemical shifts in Table 2. Substitution of one of the methyls in $(Me_2Si)_6$ with a silyl group SiR, produces four non-equivalent silicons designated α , β , γ , δ , where SiR₃ is attached to the α silicon. Since the resulting methyls can be *cis* or *trans* to the substituent, there are seven non-equivalent ring methyls in the ratio 1/2/2/2/1/1. This should lead to seven methyl resonances in ¹³C NMR. The 1,4-disubstituted derivatives of $(Me_2Si)_6$ have three different ring methyls (4/4/2) in each isomer (*cis* or *trans*), so the 13 C NMR spectra of a mixture of these isomers are expected to show six methyl resonances. This is consistent with the observations of West and coworker [11] on mono- and disubstituted derivatives of $(Me_2Si)_6$. While the methyl resonances are resolved in many cases, some are too similar to be assigned to particular positions.

6. Cyclosilane-substituted metallocenes

The dehydrogenative polymerization reaction is catalyzed by titanocenes or zirconocenes. Most of the proposed reaction mechanisms involve a silyl derivative of the metallocene as an intermediate. Silyl derivatives can also be used as catalysts [12]. We were interested in looking at the catalytic activities of cyclosilane-substituted metallocenes, and prepared some of these for the first time [13]. In addition, we have now also prepared the corresponding hafnium derivative using the same methods. (Scheme 3).

7. Polymerization reactions

The hydrogen-containing cyclosilanes were subjected to polymerization. The catalysts used were dicyclopentadienyl-dimethylzirconium and the corresponding Ti compound.

Cyclosilanes with hydrogen bonded to the ring directly, such as monohydroundecamethylcyclohexasilane and 1,4-dihydrodecamethylcyclohexasilane, did not react. Probably steric factors prevent formation of the usual intermediates between the catalyst and the cyclosilane.

The hydrides $(Si_6Me_{11})SiMe_2H$ and (Si_6Me_{11}) -SiMeH₂ react with the catalysts only to a small extent. This is understandable in the case of the monohydro compound because it is known that tertiary hydrosilanes exhibit only very low reactivity [1], but the dihydrogen compounds also react only slowly to give the dimeric species (a 20% yield being observed after several days at elevated temperature). Undecamethylcyclohexasilane and $(Si_6Me_{11})SiMe_2H$ were formed as side products. Removal of the side chain seems to take place, but migration of the methyl group is also possible. We observed such a methyl migration earlier in similar polymerization reactions. The reaction mechanism of these side reaction is unclear.

Dimerization took place in high yield with $(Si_6Me_{11})SiH_3$ to give $(Si_6Me_{11}SiH_2)_2$ as the main product, only 5% of $Si_6Me_{11}H$ being found. Further oligomerization or polymerization was not possible because of steric hindrance. Dimerization took place mainly with the zirconium catalyst, the Ti catalyst being less reactive.

Disilanyl-substituted cyclosilanes gave a yellow oil containing oligomers (x = 2-4, GPC). Oligomerization is accompanied by much Si-Si cleavage (MeSiH₃, Si₆Me₁₁SiH₃ were detected by GC/MS). This is understandable in view of the previously postulated reaction mechanism [14].

In the light of these results we examined the 1.4-disubstituted derivatives $1.4-(SiH_2Me)_2Si_6Me_{10}$ and 1.4-

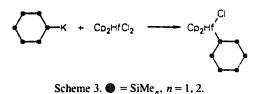
Compound (solvent ^a) δ (ppm) (no. of silicons)	b (ppm) (no. of silicons)	Nurger ye was transmered				
(Si ₆ Me ₁₁)SiMePh ₂ (1)	- 15.41(1)	- 38.12(2)	- 40.44(2)	- 42.40(1)	- 81.35(1)	
$(Si_6Me_{11})SiMe_2Ph(2)$	- 13.82(1)	- 38.50(2)	- 40.63(2)	- 42.29(1)	-81.90(1)	
(Si ₆ Me ₁₁)SiPh ₂ SiPh ₂ Me(2)	-21.31(1)	- 33.68(1)	- 36.83(2)	- 40.63(2)	- 43.36(1) - 76.54(1)	
$1.4 (SiPh_2 Me)_2 - (Si_6 Me_{10})(1)$	- 15.55(2)	- 40.40(4)	- 80.50(2)			
(Si ₆ Me ₁₁)SiPh ₂ OTK(I)	25.16(1)	- 38.30(2)	- 40.16(2)	- 42.49(1)	- 79.77(1)	
(Si ₆ Me ₁₁)SiPh(OTf) ₂ (1)	9.87(1)	- 38.20(2)	- 39.88(2)	- 42.42(1)	- 76.58(1)	
(Si ₆ Me ₁₁)SiMe ₂ OT(1)	52.60(1)	- 39.73(2)	- 40.41(2)	- 42.14(1)	- 80.53(1)	
$(Si_6Me_{11})SiMe(OTf)_2(1)$	33 72(1)	- 39.86(2)	- 40.41(2)	- 42.21(1)	- 77.66(1)	
(Si ₆ Me ₁₁)SiH ₂ OTK(I)	5.03(1)	- 38.64(2)	- 40.45(2)	- 41.80(1)	- 80.53(1)	
$1,4-(Si(OT0)_2 Me)_2 - (Si_6 Me_{10})(1)$	32.78/32.09(2)	- 37.87/- 33.05(4)	- 77.45 / - 77.54(2)			
$1,4-(Si(OTf)_3)_2-(Si_6Me_{10})(1)$	- 46.77(4)	- 40.25(2)	- 82.25(2)			
(Si ₆ Me ₁₁)SiMe ₂ H(1)	- 34.14(1)	- 38.57(2)	- 40.72(2)	- 41.91(1)	- 82.08(1)	
	J _{Si-H} = 1/4.19°12					
(Si ₆ Me ₁₁)SiMeH ₂ (1)	- 38.28(2)	- 40.45(2)	- 41.28(1)	- 64.81(1)	- 82.45(1)	
				$J_{S_{i-H}} = 181.26 \text{ Hz}$		
(Si ₆ Me ₁₁)SiPhH ₂ (1)	- 38.57(2)	-40.64(2)	- 41.81(1)	- 57.34(1)	- 82.42(1)	
				${}^{1}J_{\text{Si-H}} = 182.46 \text{ Hz}$		
(Si ₆ Me ₁₁)SiH ₃ (3)	- 38.77(2)	- 40.72(2)	- 41.68(1)	- 83.91(1)	(1)16-66-	
					¹ J _{Si - H} = 185.72 Hz	
(Si ₆ Me ₁₁)SiH ₂ SiH ₂ Me(1)	- 38.21(2)	- 40.51(2)	- 41.80(1)	- 65.56(1)		
(14 CENTER) (ESTATE AND				'J _{Si-н} = 187.53 Hz	$J_{\rm Si-H} = 171.73 \rm Hz$	73 Hz
$1,4-(3)$ (1) (3) $2^{-1}(3)_{6}$ (3) (3) (1)	(4)(6)(6)	- 03.4.0.2)	- 82.27(2)			
1,4-(SiH ₃) ₂ -(Sí ₆ Me ₁₀)(1)	- 37.84/ - 38.11(4)	$J_{S_1-H} = 100.00 \text{ nz}$ - 83.36/ - 84.27(2)	- 98.89(¹ J _{5i-H} = 186.63 Hz)/ - 100.82 (¹ J _{5i-H} = 175.76 Hz)(2)	Hz)/-100.82 (¹ J _{Si-H} =	175.76 Hz)(2)	
^a 1 = toluene/D ₂ O as an external standard, 2 = CDC1 ₃ , 3 = C ₆ D ₆ .	ard, $2 = CDCI_{11}$, $3 = C_6D_6$.					

 Table 1
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 Si chemical shifts for some silyl-substituted derivatives of dodecamethylevelohexasilane

Table 2 ¹³ C chemical shifts for some silyl-substituted derivatives of dodecamethylcyclohexasilane	yl-substituted	derivatives of	f dodecameth	ylcycłohexasil	lane				
Compound (solvent ^a)	s (ppm) (no	δ (ppm) (no. of carbons)							Phenyl
(SikMe,,)SiMePh ₂ (1)	- 1.53(1)	- 3.14(5)	- 4.70(2)	- 5.16(3)	- 6.55(3)	- 9.53(1)			138.81(<i>i</i>), 135.09(<i>o</i>), 128.61 (<i>p</i>), 127.96 (<i>m</i>)
(Si, Me.,)SiMe, Ph(1)	-0.69(3)	- 3.37(2)	- 4.83(2)	- 5.25(2)	- 6.69(3)	- 10.69(1)			[41.11(i), 133.83(o), 128.48(p), 127.88(m)
(Si ₆ Me ₁₁)SiPh ₂ SiPh ₂ Me(1)	- 1.78(2)	- 2.77(1)	- 4.79(4)	-5.40(1)	- 6.21(2)	- 6.37(1)	- 7.60(!)		137.39 (i), 137.03 (o), 136.32 (i), 135.68 (o) 138.91 (n), 128.65 (n), 127.75 (m)
1 4.(SiDh. Me)(Si, Me))	- 1 49(4)	- 2.66(4)	- 5,11(2)	- 9.54(2)					138.75 (i), 135.07 (o), 128.89 (p), 127.97 (m)
(Si, Me)SiMe. H(2)	- 3.09(2)	- 3.25(2)	- 4.34(2)	- 4.71(2)	- 4.94(1)	- 5.93(2)	- 6.01(1)	- 11.19(1)	
(Si, Me.,)SiMeH,(2)	- 3.56(2)	- 4.55(2)	- 4.97(2)	- 5.15(1)	- 5.78(2)	- 5.88(1)	- 9.55(1)	- 10.96(1)	
(Si, Me.,)SiPhH. (2)	- 4.10(2)	- 5.36(4)	-5.56(1)	- 6.37(2)	- 6.50(1)	- 10.90(1)			
(Si, Me.,)SiH.(2)	- 3.09(2)	- 4.03(2)	- 4.89(1)	- 5.65(2)	- 6.45(2)	- 9.17(1)	- 10.81(1)		
(Siz Me.,)SiH, SiH, Me(2)	- 3.52(2)	- 4.68(2)	- 4.88(2)	- 5.10(1)	- 5.69(2)	- 5.95(1)	- 8.79(1)	- 9.43(1)	
1.4-(SiMeH,),-(Sir Mein)(2)	- 3.26(4)	- 4.62(4)	- 9.72(2)	- 10.76(2)					
$1,4(SiH_3)_2 - (Si_6Me_{10})(2)$	-3.59/	- 4.52/	- 9.83/						
	- 3.98(4)	- 4.04441	17/7701 -						
$\frac{a}{1}$ 1 = CDCl ₃ , 2 = C ₆ D ₆ .									

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 $(SiH_3)_2Si_6Me_{10}$. The first compound reacted with Cp_2MMe_2 (M = Ti, Zr) to form oligomers with x = 2-4 (Scheme 6); the second gave a polymeric product. The molecular weight M_w was found to be (GPC, polystyrol standard) approximately 10500 for reaction with Cp_2ZrMe_2 and 4200 for reaction with Cp_2TiMe_2 . The polymer is a soluble powder (toluene, THF). Thermogravimetric analysis reveals a transition of the polymer at 160°C, and decomposition starting at approximately 430°C. Analysis and spectroscopic results (NMR, IR) show the compound to be oxygen-free, and no tertiary Si-H group (NMR) could be detected. All these results indicate that the structure is linear.

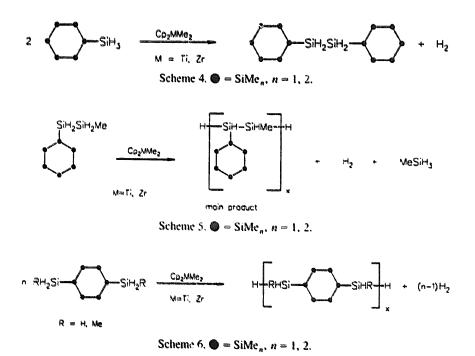
As mentioned before, in all the proposed reaction mechanisms an intermediate with a silicon-transition element bond is involved. In view of these results on the reactivity of cyclosilanes, we thought it of interest to examine the reactivity of catalysts containing a cyclosilane, and so we used $Cp_2M(Si_6Me_{11})X$ [(M = Zr, X = Cl, Me) [13]; (M = Hf, X = Cl)]. The behaviour of these catalysts was tested in the reaction with $Si_6Me_{11}SiH_3$. The activity of the chloro derivatives found was low compared with that of the usual catalysts (Hf < Zr). The activity of $Cp_2Zr(Si_6Me_{11})Me$ was quite similar to that of Cp_2ZrMe_2 .

In conclusion, the results of polymerization reactions of cyclosilanes with hydrogen-containing side chains have revealed that steric hindrance is important. Compared with monosilanyl-substituted cyclosilanes, disilanyl-substituted derivatives exhibit much more Si–Si cleavage, though the disilanyl side chain causes lower steric hindrance and the formation of oligomers becomes possible. A second influence is revealed by the fact that the reactivity in metallocene-catalyzed reactions decreases in the order SiH₃ > SiH₂Me > SiHMe₂. So in the case of 1,4-disubstituted cyclosilanes, 1,4-(SiH₃)₂(Si₆Me₁₀) reacts to a polymer, whereas 1,4-(SiHMe₂)(Si₆Me₁₀) yields only oligomeric products.

8. Experimental section

8.1. General comments

Unless otherwise noted, all reactions and manipulations were carried out under dry nitrogen or argon. Solvents were dried and distilled prior to use. Melting points were determined with a Büchi melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. C and H analyses were performed with a Heraeus-Mikro-K1 apparatus. NMR spectra (¹H, 300.15 MHz; ¹³C, 75.47 MHz; ²⁹Si, 59.63 MHz) were recorded on a Bruker MSL 300 spectrometer at 20°C. Samples were dissolved in C₆D₆ or CDCl₃ or toluene with D₂O as an external standard. IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 883 spectrophotometer. GC-MS data were obtained on a Hewlett-Packard 5890-II model linked to a Hewlett-Packard 5971 mass selective detector. MS data were also obtained on a Kratos Profile spectrometer and a Varian CH-7. Gas chromatography was performed on a cross-linked



dimethylpolysiloxane column (25 m \times 0.32 mm \times 0.1 μ m) and helium was used as carrier gas. The molecular weights of polysilanes were measured with a gel permeation chromatograph (Merck-Hitachi L 6200 intelligent pump, Polymer Standards Service columns, Viscotek 200 detector) with polystyrene standards and tetrahydrofuran as solvent.

8.2. Preparation of Si-Ph-substituted cyclohexasilanes

ClSiMe₂Ph, ClSiMePh₂, ClSiPh₃, LiSiMePh₂ and LiSiPh₃ are well known and readily available compounds. KSi_6Me_{11} [9] and 1,4-Cl₂(Si₆Me₁₀) [8] were prepared as reported previously. The compounds were characterized by ²⁹Si NMR and mass spectroscopy.

8.3. General procedure for the preparation of $(Si_6Me_{11})SiMe_{3-n}Ph_n$, n = 0, 1, 2

In a typical reaction, a solution of the phenylated chlorosilane (50 mmol) in 200 ml of toluene was stirred at 0°C and a solution of 50 mmol of KSi_6Me_{11} in dimethoxyethane (200 ml) was added dropwise over 2 h. Once the addition was complete, the mixture was stirred for 2 h, and then added to 300 ml of 1 M HCl/ice. The organic layer was separated and the water layer extracted with toluene (3 × 50 ml). The combined organic layers were dried (Na₂SO₄) and filtered. The solvent was then evaporated under reduced pressure and the solid residue recrystallized from ⁱPrOH to give (Si₆Me₁₁)SiMe_{3-n}Ph_n (n = 1, 2, 3).

8.3.1. Triphenylsilylundecamethylcyclohexasilane (Si₆ Me₁₁)SiPh₃

Yield 55%. Spectral data are in accordance with the literature [15].

8.3.2. Diphenylmethylsilylundecamethylcyclohexasilane (Si₆ Me₁₁)SiMePh₂

Yield 52.9%, m.p. 187-190°C.

Anal. Found: C, 54.44; H, 8.82. C₂₄H₄₆Si₇ Calc.: C, 54.26; H, 8.73%.

For 29 Si NMR chemical shifts see Table 1, for 13 C NMR chemical shifts see Table 2.

¹H NMR (ppm): 7.58 (4H), 7.37 (6H), 0.33 (3H), 0.19–0.12 (m, 24H), 0.00 (6H).

Mass spectrum (m/e (relative intensities)): 530 (M⁺, 25), 383 (7), 333 (Si₆Me₁₁, 2), 318 (23), 73 (SiMe₃, 100).

8.3.3. Phenyldimethylsilylundecamethylcyclohexasilane (Si₆ Me₁₁)SiMe₂ Ph

Yield 40%, m.p. 173-175°C.

Anal. Found: C, 48.41; H, 9.35. C₁₉H₄₄Si₇ Calc.: C, 48.64; H, 9.45%.

For ²⁹Si NMR chemical shifts see Table 1, for ^{13}C NMR chemical shifts see Table 2.

¹H NMR (ppm): 7.35 (m, 5H), 0.60 (6H), 0.15 (m, 26H), 0.05 (6H).

Mass spectrum (m/e (relative intensities)): 468 (M⁺, 18), 333 (Si₆Me₁₁, 2), 318 (8), 303 (3), 73 (SiMe₃, 100).

8.4. (2-Methyltetraphenyldisilanyl)undecamethylcyclohexasilane (Si_6Me_{11})SiPh₂SiPh₂Me

A solution of 12.8 g (21.6 mmol) of $(Si_6Me_{11})SiPh_3$ in 150 ml of toluene was cooled to $-20^{\circ}C$ and 1.89 ml (21.6 mmol) of TfOH was added dropwise over 20 min. The mixture was stirred for 12 h at room temperature. Completion of the reaction was checked by means ²⁹Si NMR spectroscopy. The resulting triflate (Si_6Me_{11}) -SiPh₂(OTf) was used without isolation or purification, a solution of 21.6 mmol of LiSiPh₂Me in 80 ml of THF being added dropwise over 1 h at 0°C. After stirring for 2 h at room temperature, the mixture was added to 300 ml of 1 M HCl/ice. Work up was as described for $(Si_6Me_{11})SiMe_{3-n}Ph_n$. The solid residue was recrystallized from ⁱPrOH.

Yield 11.5 g (74.6%), m.p. 163–164°C.

Anal. Found: C, 60.38; H, 8.02. C₃₆H₅₆Si₈ Calc.: C, 60.60; H, 7.91%.

For ²⁹Si NMR chemical shifts see Table 1, for ^{13}C NMR chemical shifts see Table 2.

¹H NMR (ppm): 7.44–7.18 (m, 20H), 0.83 (3H), 0.26 (3H), 0.14–0.09 (m, 18H), -0.06 (6H), -0.22 (6H).

Mass spectrum (m/e (relative intensities)): 712 (M⁺, 17), 516 (2), 437 (8), 379 (23), 197 (100).

8.5. (Diphenyltrifluoromethanesulfonyloxy)silylundecamethylcyclohexasilane ($Si_{\phi}Me_{11}$)SiPh₂(OTf)

For ²⁹Si NMR chemical shifts see Table 1.

8.6. 1,4-Bis(diphenylmethylsilyl)decamethylcyclohexasilane 1,4-(SiPh₂Me)₂(Si₆Me₁₀) 1,4-bis(triphenylsilyl)decamethylcyclohexasilane 1,4-(SiPh₃)₂(Si₆Me₁₀)

A solution of 19.5 g (50 mmol) of $1,4-Cl_2(Si_6Me_{10})$ in 200 ml of toluene was cooled to 0°C and a solution of 100 mmol of LiSiPh_{3-n}Me_n (n = 0, 1) in THF (200 ml) was added dropwise during 90 min. After 2 h stirring at room temperature, the solution was added to 300 ml of 1 M HCl/ice. Work up was as described for (Si₆Me₁₁)SiMe_{3-n}Ph_n. The solid residue was recrystallized from ethyl acetate.

8.6.1. 1,4-Bis(triphenylsilyl)decamethylcyclohexasilane 1,4-(SiPh₃)₂(Si₆Me₁₀)

Yield 70%. Spectral data were in accordance with the literature [15].

8.6.2. 1,4-Bis(diphenylmethylsilyl)decamethylcyclohexasilane 1,4-(SiPh₂Me)₂(Si₆Me₁₀) Yield 31%, m.p. 175–180°C.

Anal. Found: C, 60.32; H, 7.97. C₃₆H₅₆Si₈ Calc.: C, 60.60; H, 7.91%.

For ²⁹Si NMR chemical shifts see Table 1, for ^{13}C NMR chemical shifts see Table 2.

¹H NMR (ppm): 7.59 (8H), 7.39 (12H), 0.81 (6H), 0.35 (6H), 0.17 (12H), -0.02 (12H).

Mass spectrum (m/z (relative intensities)): 712 (M⁺, 32), 516 (2), 441 (5), 367 (21), 197 (100).

8.7. General procedure for trifluoromethanesulfonylundecamethylcyclohexasilane and 1,4-bis(trifluoromethanesulfonyl)decamethylcyclohexasilane derivatives

A two-necked flask was charged with 10 mmol of $(Si_6 Me_1)SiPhRR'$ [(R = R' = Me); (R = Ph, R' = Mc); (R = R' = Ph); (R = Ph, R' = SiPh, Me)] or 1,4- $(\text{SiPh}_2\text{R})_2(\text{Si}_6\text{Me}_{10})$ (R = Me, Ph) and 100 ml of toluene. The stirred solution was cooled to -20° C and 10 mmol of TfOH for (Si₆Me₁₁)SiMe₂Ph, 20 mmol of TfOH for $(Si_6Me_{11})SiMePh_2$, $(Si_6Me_{11})SiPh_3$ and (Si₆Me₁₁)SiPh₂SiPh₂Me, 40 mmol of TfOH for 1,4- $(SiPh_2Me)_2(Si_6Me_{10})$ and 60 mmol of TfOH for 1,4- $(SiPh_3)_2(Si_6Me_{10})$ were added during 20 min. The mixture was stirred for several hours at room temperature, and completion of the reaction then checked by 29 Si NMR spectroscopy. The resulting triflate derivatives $(Si_6Me_{11})SiMe_2(OTf)$, $(Si_6Me_{11})SiMe(OTf)$, $(Si_6Me_{11})SiPh(OTf)_2$ $(Si_6Me_{11})Si_2Ph_2(OTf)_2Me_{14}$ $(Si(OTf)_2 Me)_2(Si_6 Me_{10})$ and $1.4-(Si(OTf)_3)_2(Si_6 Me_{10})$ were used without isolation or purification. (Si, Me11)-Si₂Ph₂(OTf)₂Me was always formed mixed with $(Si_6 Me_{11})Si_2 Ph_3(OTf)Me_and (Si_6 Me_{11})Si_2 Ph(OTf)_3$ Me, so characterization by ²⁹Si NMR spectroscopy was not possible. After hydrogenation of (Si₆Me₁₁)-SiPh(OTf)₂ and (Si₆Me₁₁)Si₂Ph₂(OTf)₂Me (vide infra), the remaining phenyl groups were split off by TfOH as described earlier. Because $(Si_6 Me_{11})$ - $Si_2 H_2(OTf)_2 Me$ was mixed with monophenylated products, a further dephenylation/hydrogenation sequence was carried out in order to give a clean product (vide infra).

The following derivatives were prepared and characterized by ²⁹Si NMR spectroscopy. For ²⁹Si NMR chemical shifts see Table 1.

(Dimethyltrifluoromethanesulfonyloxy)silylundecamethylcyclohexasilane: (Si₆Me₁₁)SiMe₂(OTf).

(Methylbis(trifluorosmethaneulfonyloxy))silylundecamethylcyclohexasilane: (Si₆Me₁₁)SiMe(OTf)₂.

(Phenylbis(trifluoromethanesulfonyloxy))silylundecamethylcyclohexasilane: (Si₆Me₁₁)SiPh(OTf)₂.

(Dihydro(trifluoromethanesulfonyloxy)silyl)undecamethylcyclohexasilane: (Si₆Me₁₁)Si(OTf)H₂.

1,4-Bis(methylbis(trifluoromethanesulfonyloxy)silyl)

decamethylcyclohexasilane: $(1,4-(Si(OTf)_2Me)_2(Si_6-Me_{10}))$.

1,4-Bis(tris(trifluoromethanesulfonyloxy)silyl)decamethylcyclohexasilane: 1,4-(Si(OTf)₃)₂(Si₆Me₁₀).

8.8. Silylundecamethylcyclohexasilane and 1,4bis(silyl)decamethylcyclohexasilane derivatives

To a solution of 10 mmol of $(Si_6Me_{11})Si(OTf)RR'$ [(R = R' = Me); (R = OTf, R' = Me); (R = OTf, R' = P:); (R = H, R' = OTf); (R = H, R' = SiH(OTf)Me)] or 1,4-(Si(OTf)_2R)_2(Si_6Me_{10}) (R = Me, OTf) in 100 ml of toluene was added 100 ml of Et₂O. The stirred solution was cooled to 0°C and 0.5 equiv. LiAlH₄ per (OTf) group in Et₂O was added dropwise. The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature during 1 h and was then added to 100 ml of 1 M HCl/ice. The organic layer was separated and the water layer extracted with pentane (3 × 20 ml). The combined organic layer was then evaporated under reduced pressure and the solid residue recrystallized from Et₂O.

8.8.1. Dimethylsilylundecamethylcyclohexasilane (Si₆Me₁₁)SiMe₂H

Yield 84.8%, m.p. 122–125°C.

Anal. Found: C, 39.73; H, 10.20. $C_{13}H_{40}Si_7$ Calc.: C, 39.72; H, 10.26%.

For ²⁹Si NMR chemical shifts see Table 1, for ¹³C NMR chemical shifts see Table 2.

'H NMR (ppm): 4.32 (Si–H), 0.33 (m, 39H).

Mass spectrum (m/z (relative intensities)): 392 (M⁺, 16), 333 (Si₆Me₁₁, 2), 318 (12), 303 (7), 73 (SiMe₃, 100).

IR (Nujol, CsBr, cm^{-1}): 2091 (Si-H).

8.8.2. *Methylsilylundecamethylcyclohexasilane* (Si₆Me₁₁)SiMeH₂

Yield 79.7%, m.p. 111–113°C.

Anal. Found: C, 37.89; H, 10.03. $C_{12}H_{38}Si_7$ Calc.: C, 38.03; H, 10.10%.

For ²⁹Si NMR chemical shifts see Table 1, for ¹³C NMR chemical shifts see Table 2.

'H NMR (ppm): 3.93 (Si-H), 0.24 (m, 36H).

Mass spectrum (m/z (relative intensities)): 378 (M⁺, 11), 333 (Si₆Me₁₁H, 1), 318 (3), 304 (3), 73 (SiMe₃, 100). IR (Nujol, CsBr, cm⁻¹): 2106 (Si-H).

8.8.3. Phenylsilylundecamethylcyclohexasilane $(Si_6Me_{11})SiPhH_5$

Yield 91.9%, m.p. 118-120°C.

Anal. Found: C, 46.09; H, 9.23. C₁₇H₄₀Si₇ Calc.: C, 46.29; H, 9.14%.

For ²⁹Si NMR chemical shifts see Table 1, for ^{13}C NMR chemical shifts see Table 2.

¹H NMR (ppm): 7.37 (m, 5H), 4.58 (Si–H), 0.21 (m, 33H).

Mass spectrum (m/z (relative intensities)): 440 (M⁺, 13), 333 (Si₆Me₁₁, 22), 306 (12), 292 (12), 259 (27), 73 (SiMe₃, 100).

IR (Nujol, CsBr, cm^{-1}): 2106 (Si-H).

8.8.4. Silylundecamethylcyclohexasilane $(Si_6 Me_{11})SiH_3$ Yield 95.3%, m.p. 105–107°C. Anal. Found: C, 36.00; H, 10.03. C₁₁H₃₆Si₇ Calc.:

C, 36.20; H, 9.94%.

For ²⁹Si NMR chemical shifts see Table 1, for ¹³C NMR chemical shifts see Table 2.

'H NMR (ppm): 3.50 (Si-H), 0.23 (33H).

Mass spectrum (m/z (relative intensities)): 364 (M⁺, 16), 333 (Si₆Me₁₁, 3), 304 (Si₆Me₉, 4), 290 (3), 73 (SiMe₃, 100).

IR (Nujol, CsBr, cm^{-1}): 2122 (Si-H).

8.8.5. 2-Methyldisilanylundecamethylcyclohexasilane (Si₆Me₁₁)SiH₂SiH₂Me

Yield 90%, m.p. oil.

Anal. Found: C, 35.74; H, 9.92. $C_{12}H_{40}Si_8$ Calc.: C, 35.23; H, 9.85%.

For ²⁹Si NMR chemical shifts see Table 1, for ¹³C NMR chemical shifts see Table 2.

'H NMR (ppm): 3.90 (m, Si–H), 3.26 (t, Si–H), 0.24 (m, 33H).

Mass spectrum (m/z (relative intensities)): 408 (M⁺, 12), 362 (Si₆Me₁₁SiH₂, 1), 333 (Si₆Me₁₁, 4), 288 (10),

73 (SiMe₃, 100).

IR (Nujol, CsBr, cm⁻¹): 2122 (Si-H), 2100 (Si-H).

8.8.6. 1,4-Bis(methylsilyl)decamethylcyclohexasilane 1,4-(SiMeH₂)₂(Si₆Me₁₀)

Yield 85.3%, m.p. 102-103°C.

Anal. Found: C, 35.32; H, 9.91. $C_{12}H_{40}Si_8$ Calc.: C, 35.23, H, 9.85%.

For ²⁹Si NMR chemical shifts see Table 1, for ¹³C NMR chemical shifts see Table 2.

¹H NMR (ppm): 3.92 (Si–H), 0.25 (m, 36H).

Mass spectrum (m/z (relative intensities)): 408 (M⁺, 17), 363 (Si₆Me₁₀SiMeH₂, 3), 319 (Si₆Me₁₀, 1), 73

(SiMe₁, 100). (SiMe₁, 100).

IR (Nujol, CsBr, cm^{-1}): 2108 (Si-H).

8.8.7. 1,4-Bis(silyl)decamethycyclohexasilane 1,4- $(SiH_3)_2(Si_6Me_{10})$

Yield 63.4%, m.p. 98–100°C.

Anal. Found: C, 31.88, H, 9.53. C₁₀H₃₆Si₈ Calc.: C, 31.51; H, 9.52%.

For ²⁹Si NMR chemical shifts see Table 1, for ${}^{13}C$ NMR chemical shifts see Table 2.

¹H NMR (ppm): 3.47 (Si-H)/3.46 (Si-H), 0.25 (m, 30H).

Mass spectrum (m/z (relative intensities)): 380 (M⁺, 12), 349 (Si₆Me₁₀SiH₃, 1), 319 (Si₆Me₁₀, 1) 73 (SiMe₃, 100).

IR (Nujol, CsBr, cm⁻¹): 2122 (Si-H).

8.9. Chloro(undecamethylcyclohexasilanyl)-bis(η^{5} cyclopentadienyl)hafnium (η^{5} - $C_{5}H_{5}$)₂Hf(Si₆Me₁₁)Cl

A two-necked flask was charged with 2.50 g (6.59 mmol) of Cp_2HfCl_2 and n-pentane (30 ml). The stirred solution was cooled to $-55^{\circ}C$ and a solution of 6.59 mmol of KSi_6Me_{11} in 25 ml of DME was added dropwise. The stirred mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature during 2 h and the solution then evaporated to dryness and the residue extracted with n-pentane (2 × 20 ml). The combined extracts were concentrated by removing 50% of the solvent and cooling to $-70^{\circ}C$. After 2 days orange crystals had been formed. Purification was by fractional crystallization from n-pentane.

Yield 1.80 g (40.3%), m.p. 175-179°C.

Anal. Found: C, 37.41; H, 6.45. $C_{21}H_{43}ClHfSi_6$ Calc.: C, 37.20; H, 6.39%.

²⁹Si NMR (ppm): -16.66, -30.74, -38.12, 42.84. ¹H NMR (ppm): 5.80 (Cp, 10H), 0.50 (m, 33H).

¹³C NMR (ppm): 110.16, -0.69, -0.92, -2.86, -3.64, -4.44, -4.97, -5.84.

Mass spectrum (m/z (relative intensities)): 678 (M⁺, 3), 639 (2), 380 (11), 334 (Si₆Me₁₁, 46), 73 (SiMe₃, 100).

IR (Nujol, CsBr, cm⁻¹): 1243 s, 1017 s, 812 vs, 795 s, 780 m, 768 m, 683 m, 648 m, 400 w.

8.10. Polymerisation of $(Si_6Me_{11})SiMeRH$ (R = Me, H) and 1,4- $(SiMeH_2)_2(Si_6Me_{10})$ catalyzed by Cp_2MMe_2 (M = Ti, Zr)

A Schlenk flask was charged with 1 mmol of the hydrosilane and 2 ml of toluene and 2 mol.% of catalyst was added. The catalyst dissolved immediately. The mixture was heated to 80° C, the color turning to orange (Cp₂ZrMe₂) or dark green (Cp₂TiMe₂). The mixture was heated for 2 days and the catalyst was then inactivated by exposure to air for a few minutes. Removal of the volatiles left a yellow product.

8.10.1. $(Si_6Me_{11})SiMe_2H$ and Cp_2TiMe_2

5% of $[(Si_6Me_{11})SiMe_2]_2$ and 3% of $Si_6Me_{11}H$ (spectral data were in accordance with the literature [16]). The rest is unreacted product.

8.10.2. $(Si_6Me_{11})SiMe_2H$ and Cp_2ZrMe_2

5% of $[(Si_6Me_{11})SiMe_2]_2$ and 2% of $Si_6Me_{11}H$ (spectral data were in accordance with the literature [16]). The rest is unreacted product.

8.10.3. $(Si_6Me_{11})SiMeH_2$ and Cp_2TiMe_2

18% of $Si_6Me_{11}H$, 11% of $(Si_6Me_{11})SiMe_2H$ and 17% of $[(Si_6Me_{11})SiMeH]_2$, which could be isolated by Kugelrohr distillation.

Spectral data of $[(Si_6 Me_{11})SiMeH]_2$. ²⁹Si NMR (ppm): -37.36/-38.03, -40.³8/-40.52, -41.94, -67.63 (¹J_{Si-H} = 171.73), -76.65. ¹H NMR (ppm): 4.02 (Si-H), 0.42 (m, 72H). Mass spectrum (*m*/*z* (relative intensities)): 754 (M⁺, 53), 696 (2), 563 (3), 334 (Si₆Me₁₁, 73), 73 (SiMe₃, 100).

8.10.4. $(Si_6Me_{11})SiMeH_2$ and Cp_2ZrMe_2 20% of $[(Si_6Me_{11})SiMeH]_2$ and 8% of $Si_6Me_{11}H$.

8.10.5. 1,4- $(SiMeH_2)_2(Si_6Me_{10})$ and Cp_2TiMe_2

50% yield (oligomeric products), GPC: $M_w = 1800$, $M_n = 900$, DP = 2-4, $M_w/M_n = 2.0$. ²⁹Si NMR (ppm): -39.0 (m), 67.8 (m), -75.7, 82.6 (m). ¹H NMR (ppm): 3.9 (Si-H), 0.33 (m). IR (Nujol, CsBr, cm⁻¹): 2103 (Si-H). 1.4-H₂(Si₆Me₁₀) and 1-SiMeH₂-4-H-(Si₆Me₁₀) were detected as by-products.

8.10.6. 1,4-(SiMeH₂)₂(Si₆Me₁₀) and Cp_2ZrMe_2

50% yield (oligomer products), GPC: $M_w = 1600$, $M_n = 800$, DP = 2-4, $M_w/M_n = 2.0$.²⁹Si NMR (ppm): -38.5 (m), -67.3 (m), -76.1 (m), -82.6 (m). ¹H NMR (ppm): 4.0 (Si-H), 0.32 (m). IR (Nujol, CsBr, cm⁻¹): 2103 (Si-H). 1,4-H₂(Si₆Me₁₀) and 1-SiMeH₂-4-H-(Si₆Me₁₀) were detected as by-products.

8.11. Polymerization of $(Si_6Me_{11})SiH_2R$ (R = H, SiH₂Me) and 1.4- $(SiH_3)_2(Si_6Me_{10})$ catalyzed by Cp₃MMe₂ (M = Ti, Zr)

A Schlenk flask was charged with 1 mmol of the hydrosilane and 2 ml of toluene, and 2 mol.% of catalyst was added. The catalyst dissolved immediately. After an induction period of between 1 and 3 h the mixture turned dark green (Cp_2TiMe_2) or orange (Cp_2ZrMe_2), with strong gas evolution. It was stirred for 24 h and the catalyst then deactivated by exposure to the air for a few minutes. The volatiles were then removed under reduced pressure.

8.11.1. (Si_6Me_{11})SiH₃ and Cp_2TiMe_2

30% $[(Si_6Me_{11})SiH_2]_2$, 10% $Si_6Me_{11}H$ and 60% charged starting material $[(Si_6Me_{11})SiH_2]_2$ were isolated by Kugelrohr distillation.

Spectral data of $[(Si_{\circ}Me_{11})SiH_2]_2$. M.p. 134°C. ²⁹Si NMR (ppm): -37.40, -39.93, -41.07, -78.09, -108.60 (${}^{1}J_{SI-H} = 177.39$ Hz). ${}^{1}H$ NMR (ppm): 3.50 (Si-H), 0.3C (m, 66H). IR (Nujol, CsBr, cm⁻¹): 2098 (Si-H). Mass spectrum (m/z (relative intensities)): 726 (M⁺, 8), 485 (3), 425 (4), 334 (16), 66 (100).

8.11.2. ($Si_6 Me_{11}$)SiH₃ and $Cp_2 ZrMe_2$

8.11.3. $(Si_6 Me_{11})SiH_2SiH_2Me$ and Cp_2TiMe_2

70% yield (oligomer products), GPC: $M_w = 1800$, $M_n = 1800$, DP = 2-4, $M_w/M_n = 1.4$. ²⁹Si NMR (ppm): -21.7, -39.2 (m), -68.0, -77.9 (m), -82.8, -105.8. ¹H NMR (ppm): 3.5 (Si-H), 0.35 (m). IR (Nujol, CsBr, cm⁻¹): 2095 (Si-H). Si₆Me₁₁H, (Si₆Me₁₁)SiH₃ and MeSiH₃ were by-products (detected by GC-MS).

8.11.4. $(Si_6Me_{11})SiH_2SiH_2Me$ and Cp_2ZrMe_2

90% yield (oligomer products), GPC: $M_w = 1700$, $M_n = 1300$, DP = 2-3, $M_w/M_n = 1.4$. ²⁹Si NMR (ppm): -19.6, -38.7 (m), -72.1 (m), -77.8, -78.6. ¹H NMR (ppm): 3.6 (Si-H), 0.45 (m), IR (Nujol, CsBr, cm⁻¹): 2091 (Si-H). Si₆Me₁₁H, (Si₆Me₁₁)SiH₃ and MeSiH₃ were by-products (detected by GC-MS).

8.11.5. 1,4-(SiH₃)₂(Si₆Me₁₀) and Cp_2TiMe_2

98% yield (oligomer products), m.p. > 360°C. GPC: $M_w = 4200$, $M_n = 2300$, $M_w/M_n = 1.8$. ²⁹Si NMR (ppm): -37.9 (m), -68.5, -76.5, -78.9 (m), -100.9, -106.7, -109.7. ¹H NMR (ppm): 3.66 (m, Si-H), 1.3, 0.33 (m). IR (Nujol, CsBr, cm⁻¹): 2089 (Si-H). 1,4-H₂(Si₆Me₁₀) could be detected as a by-product by GC-MS.

8.11.6. 1,4-(SiH₃)₂(Si₆Me₁₀) and Cp_2ZrMe_2

98% yield (oligomer products), m.p. > 360°C. GPC: $M_w = 10500$, $M_n = 4200$, $M_w/M_n = 2.5$. ²⁹Si NMR (ppm): -38.3 (m), -78.2 (m), -83.3, -107.3, -108.7, -112.8. ¹H NMR (ppm): 3.59 (m, Si-H), 2.68, 2.27, 0.35 (m). IR (Nujol, CsBr, cm⁻¹): 2089 (Si-H). 1,4-H₂(Si₆Me₁₀) could be detected as a byproduct by GC-MS.

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