These results indicate promise for the use of readily available methoxyallene (I) in the synthesis of various polyfunctional compounds.

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VINYL PHENYL TELLURIDE FROM METALLIC TELLURIUM, ACETYLENE, AND IODOBENZENE

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The information on the synthesis of vinyl phenyl telluride (I) is extremely limited [1-3]. We have found that the reaction of metallic tellurium with acetylene and iodobenzene in the KOH-HMPTA-SnCl2-H2O system in an autoclave at 100-120°C and 10-12 gauge atmospheres leads to telluride (I) in 20% yield relative to the tellurium taken and to divinyl telluride in 17% yield and diphenyl telluride in 2% yield.

$$Te + IIC \equiv CH + PhI \rightarrow PhTe + Te + Ph_2Te$$

The addition of a radical inhibitor such as hydroquinone into the reaction mixture completely suppresses the formation of (I). Upon carrying out the reaction without SnCl2, only a trace of telluride (I) is detected. When iodobenzene is replaced by bromobenzene, the yield of (I) is less than 1%, while this product is not formed when chlorobenzene is used.

This behavior indicates a chain radical-anion mechanism for the aromatic nucleophilic substitution [4] of the tellurium-containing anions involving SnCl2 as the electron donor and initiator. The spectral and physicochemical data for telluride (I) correspond to the values reported by Bychkova [1] and Kauffmann [2].

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