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## Styrylsilane Coupling Reagents for Immobilization of Organic Functional Groups on Silica and Glass Surface

Received 00th January 20xx,  
Accepted 00th January 20xxSoo-Bin Kim,<sup>§</sup> Chang-Hee Lee<sup>§</sup> and Chul-Ho Jun\*

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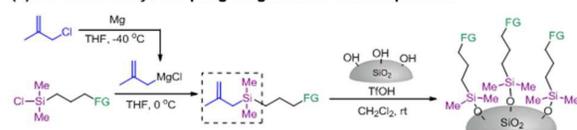
**Styrylsilanes serve as new coupling reagents for introducing organic functional groups on silica and glass surfaces. Functionalized styrylsilanes, which are readily prepared via catalytic hydrosilylation of the corresponding phenylacetylenes with silanes, are immobilized on silica through acid catalyzed processes under mild conditions.**

Surface modifications of inorganic solids, such as silica or glass, utilizing covalent bond-forming reactions have received considerable attention because of their widespread applications in the fabrication of chemical and bio-sensor<sup>1</sup>, drug delivery<sup>2</sup> and enzyme immobilization<sup>3</sup> systems, DNA probe films<sup>4</sup>, and polymer brushes<sup>5</sup>. Among the various substances used in silica surface-grafting methods<sup>6</sup>, alkoxy silanes<sup>7</sup> are the most common. Unfortunately, alkoxy silanes are unstable, moisture sensitive substances that are difficult to purify by employing chromatographic methods. Alkenylsilane such as allyl-<sup>8</sup>, methallyl-<sup>9</sup> and vinyl-silanes<sup>10</sup> have been developed to overcome this problem. However, stoichiometric reactions of organometallic compounds such as Grignard reagents with chlorosilanes are required to prepare these silanes<sup>8-10</sup>, and this limits their large-scale production (Fig. 1a).

Below, we describe the preparation and applications of novel styrylsilane coupling reagents for introducing organic functional groups on silica and glass surfaces. These substances are readily prepared in large quantities via catalytic hydrosilylation reactions of phenylacetylene with silanes. Using this protocol, various styrylsilanes were prepared and employed to generate functionalized silica and glass surfaces. In addition, styrylsilane moieties were linked the backbone of polybutadiene as part of a sequence to produce a unique organic-inorganic hybrid materials, which is stable toward hydrolysis because it possess robust multiple covalent bonds

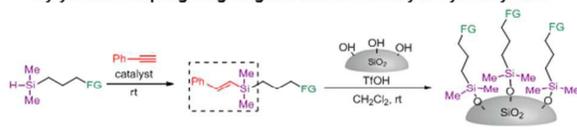
between the silyl groups on the polymer and hydroxy groups on the silica or glass surfaces (Fig. 1b).<sup>10b</sup> Finally, the new protocol was utilized to fabricate a recyclable sensor for aromatic nitro compound.

### (a) Previous study : coupling reagent hard to mass-produce



### (b) This report

#### -Styrylsilane coupling reagent generated from catalytic hydrosilylation



#### - Dual-functionalized polymer based organic-inorganic hybrid material



Fig. 1 (a) Previous approach using methallylsilane derivatives. (b) Conceptual basis of the new styrylsilane coupling reagent.

Initial exploratory studies focussed on immobilization reactions of benzyldimethyl(styryl)silane (**1a**) on silica promoted by various acid catalysts **3** (Table 1). The results show that reaction of **1a** (0.08 mmol) with silica **2** (20 mg) in the presence of a catalytic amount of TfOH (**3a**, 5 mol%) at room temperature for 2 h, followed by washing with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, produces surface-modified silica **4a** (entry 1).<sup>11</sup> The amount of immobilized benzyl(dimethyl)silane moieties loaded on **4a** was determined by using elemental analysis to be 1.02 mmol/g, corresponding to 1.98 molecules/nm<sup>2</sup> of the surface density of the benzyl(dimethyl)silane moieties on silica **4a**.<sup>12</sup> Reactions

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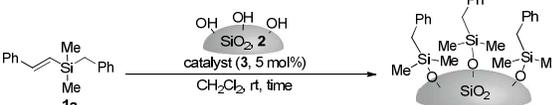
§ These authors equally contributed to this work.

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employing other acid catalysts generate modified silica with loading amounts that are lower than that of **4a** (entries 2-6). The reaction conducted in the absence of an acid catalyst leads to silica **4g** with a loading extent of only 0.17 mmol/g (entry 7). When the reaction time is increased from 2 h to 6 h under TFOH catalyst, the loading extent of immobilized silane moiety is increased to 1.11 mmol/g and a longer reaction times (eg., 12 h) do not cause a significant enhancement of the loading efficiency (entries 8 and 9).

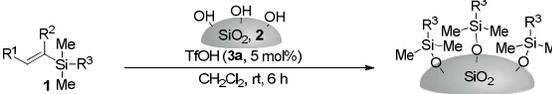
Table 1 Immobilization reactions with styrylsilane **1a** on silica **2** in the presence of the various acid catalysts **3<sup>a</sup>**



entry	catalyst	time (h)	loading extent <sup>b</sup> (mmol/g)
1	TfOH <b>3a</b>	2	1.02 ( <b>4a</b> )
2	Acetic acid <b>3b</b>	2	0.18 ( <b>4b</b> )
3	HCl in 1,4-dioxane <b>3c</b>	2	0.72 ( <b>4c</b> )
4	Cu(OTf) <sub>2</sub> <b>3d</b>	2	0.21 ( <b>4d</b> )
5	Sc(OTf) <sub>3</sub> <b>3f</b>	2	0.56 ( <b>4e</b> )
6	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub> <b>3g</b>	2	0.85 ( <b>4f</b> )
7	-	2	0.17 ( <b>4g</b> )
8	<b>3a</b>	6	1.11 ( <b>4h</b> )
9	<b>3a</b>	12	1.12 ( <b>4i</b> )

<sup>a</sup>All reactions were carried out with **1a** (0.08 mmol), **2** (20 mg) and **3** (5 mol%) in 0.1 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at room temperature. <sup>b</sup>Determined by using the C value derived from elemental analysis.

Table 2 Immobilization reactions with various alkenylsilane **1** on silica **2** in the presence of **3a<sup>a</sup>**

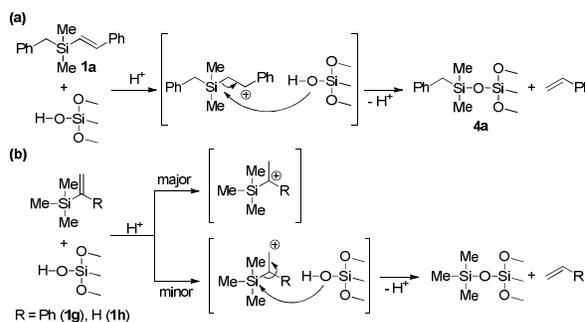


entry	silane <b>1</b> (R <sup>1</sup> , R <sup>2</sup> , R <sup>3</sup> )	loading extent <sup>b</sup> (mmol/g)
1	<b>1b</b> (C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub> , H, Bn)	0.83 ( <b>4j</b> )
2	<b>1c</b> (C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub> , C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub> , Bn)	0.73 ( <b>4k</b> )
3	<b>1d</b> (Ph, Ph, Bn)	0.44 ( <b>4l</b> )
4	<b>1e</b> (4-fluoro-Ph, H, Bn)	1.04 ( <b>4m</b> )
5	<b>1f</b> (4-methoxy-Ph, H, Bn)	0.73 ( <b>4n</b> )
6	<b>1g</b> (H, Ph, Me)	0.42 ( <b>4o</b> )
7	<b>1h</b> (H, H, Me)	0.44 ( <b>4p</b> )

<sup>a</sup>All reactions were carried out with **1** (0.08 mmol), **2** (20 mg) and **3a** (5 mol%) in 0.1 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at room temperature. <sup>b</sup>Determined by using the C value derived from elemental analysis.

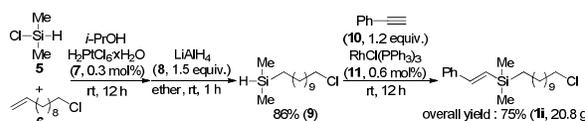
The efficiencies of loading other alkenylsilane moieties on silica were also determined (Table 2, entries 1-7). Immobilization reaction of 1-pentenylsilane **1b**, using TFOH (**3a**, 5 mol%) at room temperature for 2 h, takes place to form benzyl(dimethyl)silane modified silica **4j** with a loading extent of 0.83 mmol/g (entry 1). Reactions of  $\alpha,\beta$ -disubstituted alkenylsilanes **1c** and **1d** lead to lower loading amounts (0.73 and 0.44 mmol/g) (entries 2 and 3). Reaction of the *p*-electron withdrawing group substituted (F) styrylsilane **1e** leads to higher loading efficiency than that of the *p*-electron donating

substituted (MeO) styrylsilane **1f** (entries 4 and 5). Compared to those of  $\beta$ -substituted vinylsilanes (entries 1 and 4-5), reactions of the  $\alpha$ -phenyl-substituted vinylsilane **1g** and vinylsilane **1h** generate modified silica with very low loading amounts (0.42 and 0.44 mmol/g) (entries 6 and 7). The low reactivities of **1g** and **1h** might be caused by the propensity of reactions of **1g** and **1h** with acids to form  $\alpha$ -silyl carbocations intermediates which would resist substitution reaction at Si by a silanol silophile (see below).

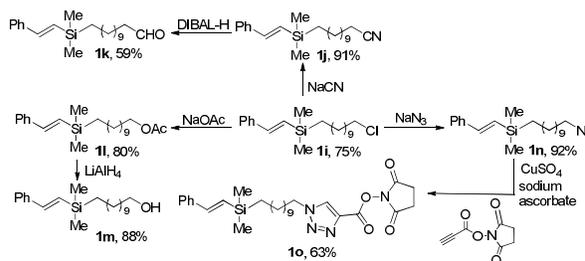


Scheme 1 (a) Proposed mechanism of immobilization with **1a**. (b) Proposed mechanism of immobilization with  $\alpha$ -phenyl-substituted vinylsilane **1g** and vinylsilane **1h**.

A plausible mechanism for the immobilization reaction of styrylsilane **1a**, displayed in Scheme 1a, begins with protonation of the styryl group to form a  $\beta$ -silyl cation. Regioselective formation of this intermediate occurs because of the higher stabilities of benzyl<sup>13</sup> and  $\beta$ -silyl cations.<sup>14</sup> The  $\beta$ -silyl carbocation then undergoes substitution at silicon with silanol groups on silica or glass serving as the nucleophile.<sup>8b</sup> This step generates surface modified silica **4a** and styrene. In contrast, protonation of  $\alpha$ -phenyl-substituted vinylsilane **1g** and vinylsilane **1h** should preferentially occur to generate respective *tert*- and *sec*-carbocations, both of which are  $\alpha$ -silyl cations that should not readily undergo substitution at their Si centers (Scheme 1b).



Scheme 2 Large-scale production of (11-chloroundecyl)dimethyl(styryl)silane (**1i**).



Scheme 3 Chemical transformation of the functional groups of **1i**.

Functionalized styrylsilane coupling reagents can be readily prepared in large-scale by sequences involving catalytic



produces glass **18**, which has a surface that is significantly more hydrophobic than that of untreated glass (contact angles of surface before and after reaction are 7° and 112°, respectively).

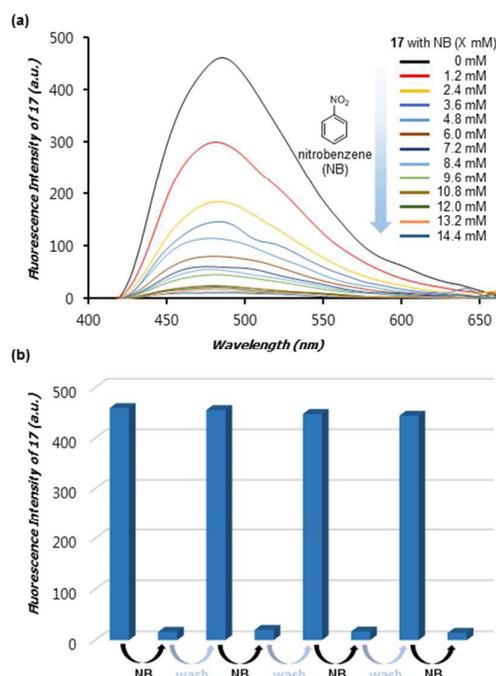


Fig. 2 (a) Fluorescence spectra of solutions of **18** in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  with different concentrations of nitrobenzene (NB) (excitation at 330 nm). (b) Fluorescence intensities of solutions of **18** in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  at 482 nm following addition of nitrobenzene (14.4 mM) and washing with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .

It is known that aromatic nitro compounds are efficient electron transfer quenchers of fluorescent aromatic compounds.<sup>16</sup> To demonstrate potential applications of the immobilization strategy described above, pyrenyl group-immobilized glass **18** was utilized as a recyclable fluorescence sensor of the potential explosive simulant, nitrobenzene (NB). Inspection of the fluorescence spectra displayed in Fig. 2a shows that **18** has strong fluorescence with a maximum at 482 nm. Upon addition of NB to a solution of **18** in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , the intensity of fluorescence at 482 nm decreases, leading to complete quenching when the concentration of NB reaches 14.4 mM. Pyrenyl group-immobilized glass **18** can be separated, washed and used for NB detection multiple times (Fig. 2b).

In the investigation described above, we demonstrated that styrylsilanes serve as a new family of coupling reagents for immobilization of organic functional groups on solid surfaces. Styrylsilanes with high purities can be produced on large scales utilizing catalytic hydrosilylation reactions. This new protocol enables fabrication of unique functionalized materials, as exemplified by the preparation of a polymer-based organic-inorganic hybrid material that serves as a recyclable sensor.

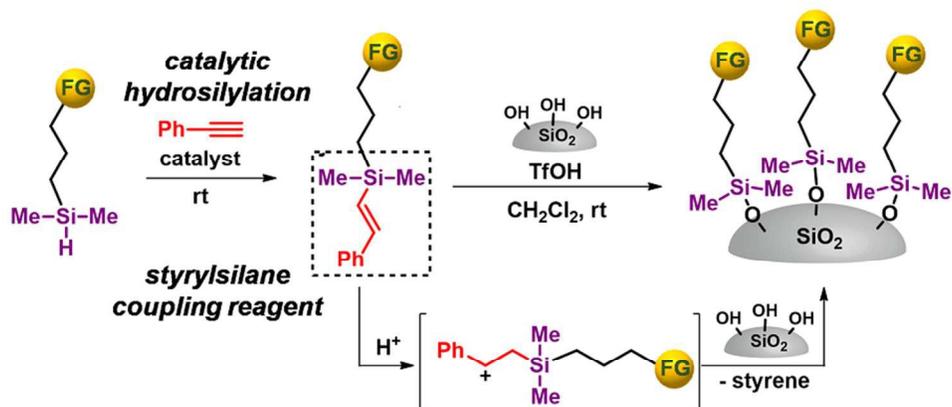
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## Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts to declare.

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- The surface structure of modified silica and its purity were also examined with <sup>13</sup>C CP-MAS NMR and elemental analysis with washing experiment (see ESI<sup>†</sup>).
- The surface density (molecules/nm<sup>2</sup>) of benzyl(dimethyl)silane moiety loaded on **4a** can be estimated by using [loading extent (mmol/g) ×  $N_A$  × 10<sup>-21</sup> / SA (m<sup>2</sup>/g)], where  $N_A$  is Avogadro's number and SA is the surface area (310 m<sup>2</sup>/g) of the silica **2**.
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