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## SYNTHESIS OF 1,2-DIALKYNYLDISILANES INCORPORATED IN 10-MEMBERED-RING SYSTEM

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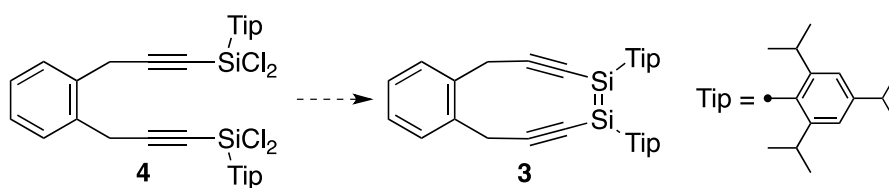
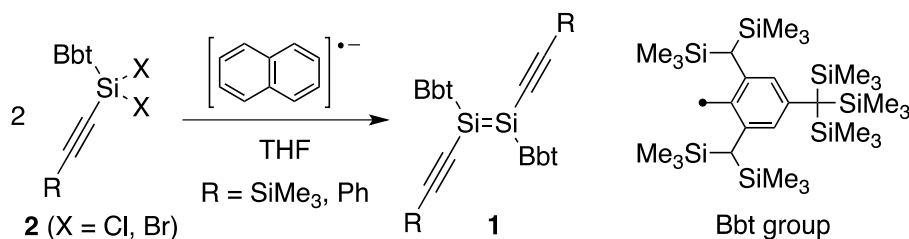
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**Abstract** – The reduction of a bis(dichloroethynylsilane) bridged by *o*-xylylene by lithium naphthalenide afforded *trans*- and *cis*-isomers of novel 10-membered-cyclic disilanes. Their structures were characterized by X-ray crystallographic analysis, showing the strain around the C≡C bonds and the close distances between two ethynylene moieties.

# Dedicated to Dr. Professor Isao Kuwajima, Professor emeritus of Tokyo Institute of Technology on the occasion of his 77th birthday

### INTRODUCTION

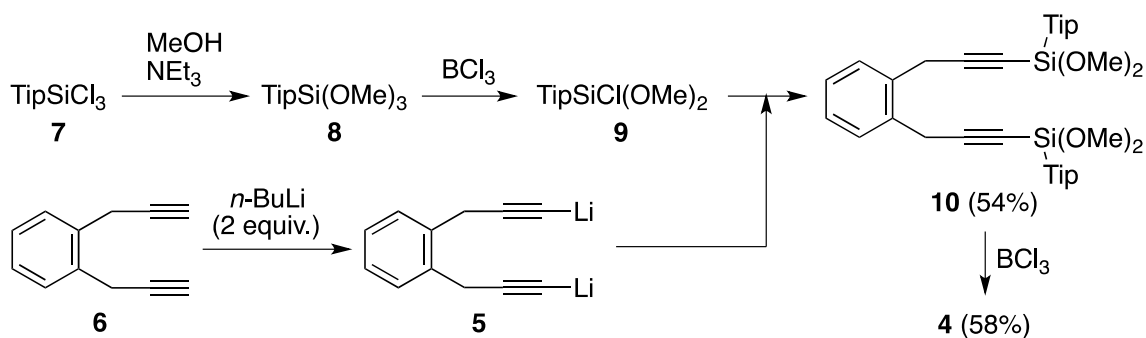
Disilenes are silicon–silicon double-bond compounds, the first example of which was reported by West *et al.* in 1981.<sup>1</sup> Since then, a number of disilenes that are kinetically stabilized by bulky substituents have been reported.<sup>2</sup> Recently, several  $\pi$ -conjugated systems between the Si=Si unit and the connected aryl groups have been reported, which exhibited optically and electrochemically unique properties.<sup>3</sup> From the viewpoint of elucidation of the  $\pi$ -conjugation between the Si=Si and C≡C units, we have succeeded in the synthesis and isolation of the first stable silicon analogues of (*E*)-enediyne, (*E*)-1,2-dialkynyldisilenes **1**, by the reductive coupling of the corresponding dihalosilanes **2** (Scheme 1).<sup>4</sup> The experimental and theoretical results indicated that the Si=Si unit conjugated with two alkynyl groups. On the other hand, (*Z*)-isomers are expected to show through-space interaction between two alkynyl groups in addition to the through-bonds interaction observed similarly in the (*E*)-isomers, resulting in the different electronic properties from those of (*E*)-isomers. However, the generation of the (*Z*)-1,2-dialkynyldisilenes could not be observed under those synthetic conditions. In order to synthesize the (*Z*)-isomers selectively, we attempted the introduction of *o*-xylylene bridge between two ethynyl units leading to the synthesis of (*Z*)-1,2-dialkynyldisilene **3** (Scheme 2).



## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

For the synthesis of disilenes, the reduction of dihalosilanes is known as one of the efficient methods.<sup>2</sup> Actually, those methods were applicable toward the synthesis of **1**, where the reduction of dichloro- or dibromosilanes **2** by lithium naphthalenide gave **1** in moderated yields. Accordingly, the bis(dichlorosilane) **4** was designed as the precursor of (*Z*)-dialkynyldisilene **3** (Scheme 2).

Bis(dichlorosilane) **4** was synthesized as shown in Scheme 3. At first, we attempted the reaction of dilithio compound **5**,<sup>5</sup> which was prepared by the treatment of **6**<sup>6</sup> with *n*-butyllithium, with  $\text{TipSiCl}_3$  **7**.<sup>7</sup> Although the formation of **4** was indicated by the results of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR measurement, the isolation of **4** from this reaction mixture was difficult due to its high sensitivity toward moisture. The attempted reaction of  $\text{TipSi}(\text{OMe})_3$  **8**, which was prepared by the treatment of **7** with methanol in the presence of triethylamine, with **5** was unsuccessful leading to the recovery of the starting material. Partial chlorination of **8** by boron trichloride was found to give  $\text{TipSiCl}(\text{OMe})_2$  **9** as a main product along with ca. 10% of starting material **8** and  $\text{TipSiCl}_2(\text{OMe})$ . The reaction of this mixture with **5** afforded bis(dimethoxysilane) **10** in 54% yield. Compound **10** had enough stability to be handled in the air and was purified by HPLC and recrystallization to be isolated. Following chlorination of **10** proceeded almost quantitatively to give **4** in 58% isolated yield (after recrystallization). Compound **4** was characterized by NMR spectroscopy together with elemental analysis, and the structure of **4** was finally determined by X-ray crystallographic analysis (Figure 1). The two  $\text{TipSi}(\text{Cl}_2)\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-$  moieties were situated at opposite sides each other in the crystalline state.



Scheme 3

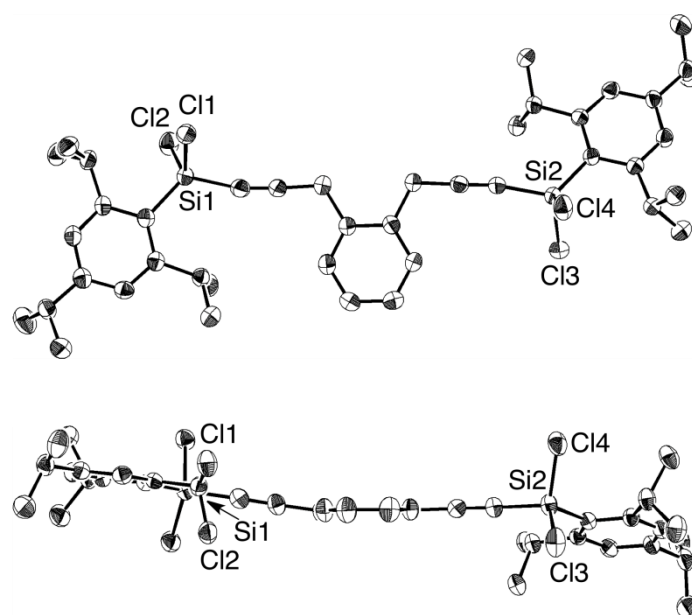
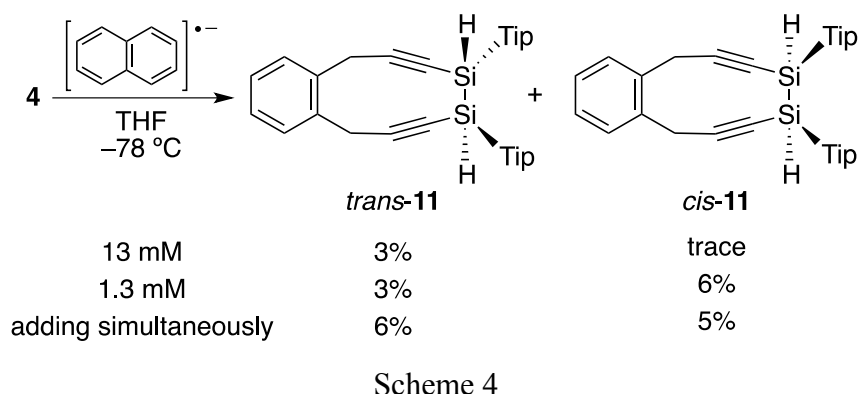


Figure 1. Thermal ellipsoid plots of compound **4** (50% probability) from front (a) and side (b). Hydrogen atoms were omitted for clarity.

The reduction of **4** was examined by using lithium naphthalenide under several conditions (various concentrations and ways of adding substrates). However, each reaction afforded a complicated mixture, the  $^{29}\text{Si}$  NMR spectra of which showed no signal characteristic of a disilene in low field region.<sup>2</sup> HPLC analysis of the mixture suggested that the main component should be oligomeric materials. Finally, the 10-membered-cyclic products, *trans*- and *cis*-**11**, were isolated from the mixture in low yields. The yield of **11** was up to 11% by the method of simultaneous addition of **4** and lithium naphthalenide. On the contrary to our expectation, the chlorine atoms on the silicon atoms were fully replaced by the hydrogen atoms, which were probably derived from solvent and/or benzylic protons of **4**.



The structures of *trans*- and *cis*-**11** were shown in Figure 2, and the selected bond lengths and angles were summarized in Figure 3 together with the theoretically optimized structures for real molecules **11** and model compound **12** (Chart 1) bearing hydrogen atoms instead of Tip groups for comparison. The optimized structures calculated at M06-2X/6-31G(d) level showed good agreement with the observed ones, and their details were described later. In both cases of *trans*- and *cis*-**11**, the bridging *o*-xylylene units were found to flip toward C≡CSiSiC≡C cores. This trend was reproduced by the optimized structures of **11** and **12**. In *cis*-isomer **11**, interestingly, the *o*-xylylene moiety flipped toward the same side from C≡CSiSiC≡C core as two Tip groups probably due to the more condensed packing in the crystalline state. In the gas-phase calculations at M06-2X/6-31G(d) level, the energy difference between two configurations, *cis*-**11a** and *cis*-**11b** (Chart 1) was 0.0 kcal/mol. In the <sup>1</sup>H NMR of *trans*-**11**, the signal assignable to the Si–H was observed as a singlet, suggesting their free flipping in solution at room temperature.

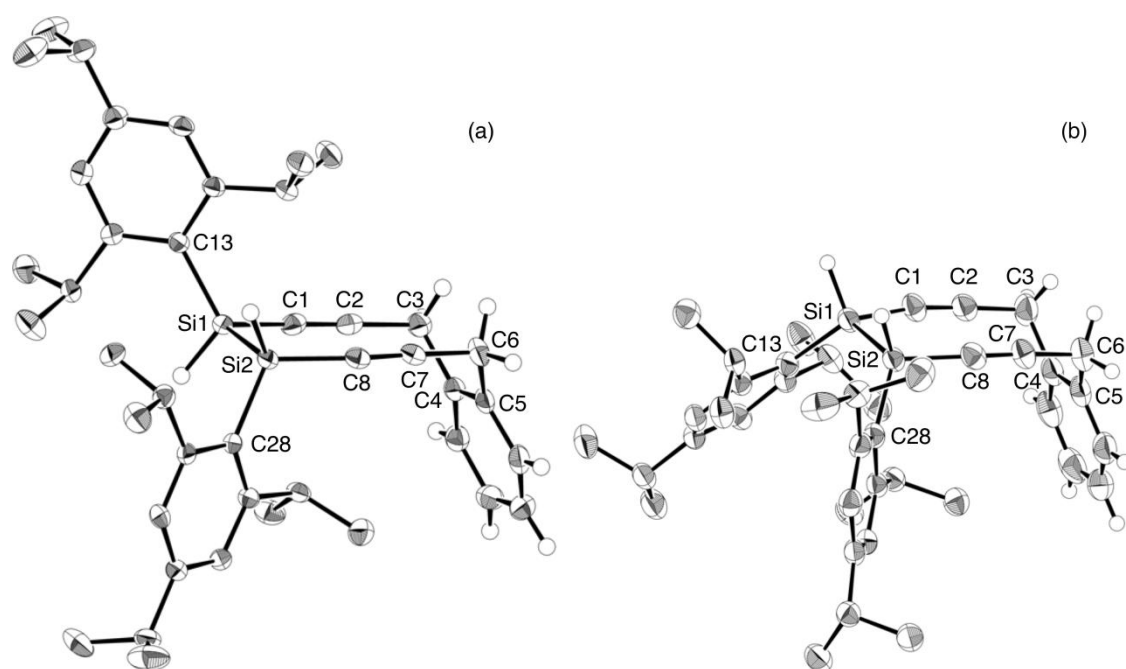
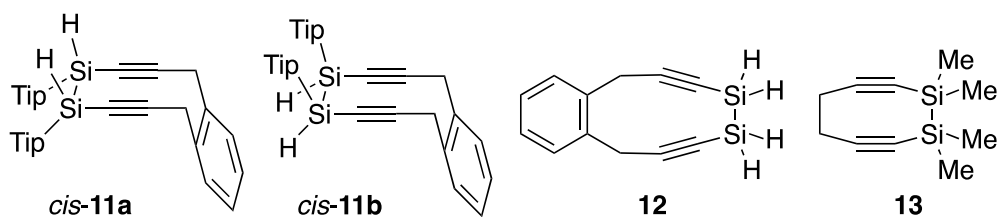
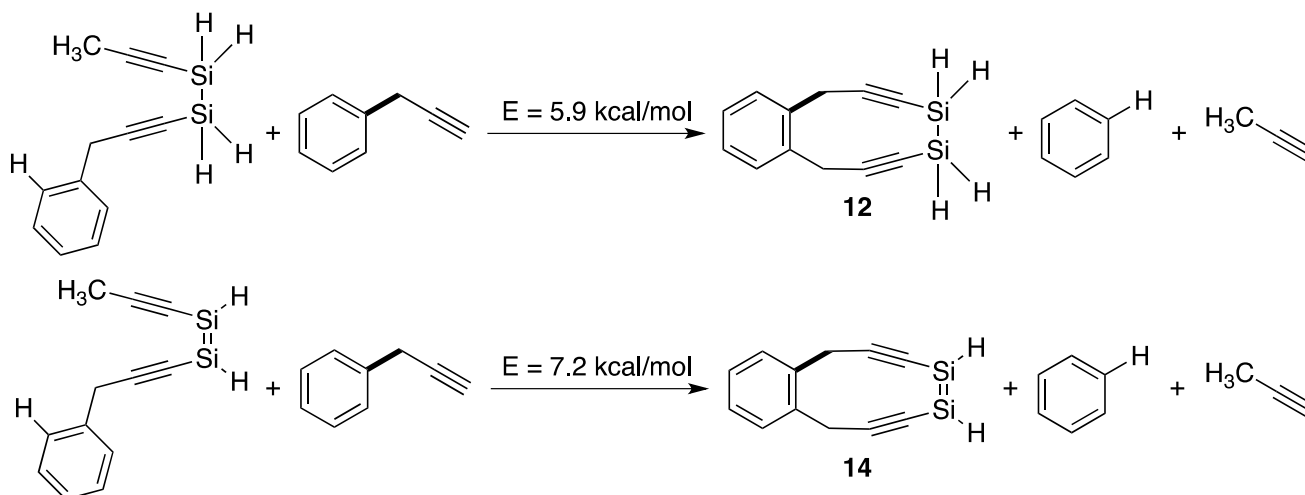


Figure 2. Thermal ellipsoid plots of *trans*-**11** (a) and *cis*-**11** (b) (50% probability). Hydrogen atoms on the Tip groups were omitted for clarity.



The structural parameters of **12** were similar to those of *trans*-**11**, suggesting the negligible steric effect in *trans*-**11**. On the other hand, those of *cis*-**11**, especially the distances between two ethynylene moieties, were different from those of *trans*-isomer, e.g., C1...C8: 3.345(4) (*trans*)/3.202(5) (*cis*) and C2...C7: 3.281(4) (*trans*)/3.182(5) (*cis*) Å. This is likely interpreted in terms of the steric repulsion between two Tip groups in *cis*-**11** as follows. The C13–Si1–Si2/C28–Si2–Si1 angles in *cis*-**11** [118.34(8)/121.37(9)°] were much larger than those in *trans*-**11** [114.63(9)/108.06(9)°], these changes [Figure 4, arrow (a)] induced the movement (b) in Figure 4. As a result, Si2–Si1–C1 angle [99.99(9)°] in *cis*-**11** was smaller than that in *trans*-**11**. While those distances were larger than the smallest values in cyclic 1,2-diethynyldisilanes structurally characterized so far [**13** (Scheme 4),<sup>8</sup> C1...C8: 3.155, C2...C7: 2.672 Å], those were one of the closest distances. The ethynylene moieties in *trans*- and *cis*-**11** were highly strained, and the angles of Si–C1–C2/Si2–C8–C7 were 160.7(3)/164.6(3)° (*trans*) and 163.0(2)/168.7(3)° (*cis*), respectively. These values were within the range of the Si–C≡C angles of cyclic 1,2-diethynyldisilanes (smallest one is 155.8(1)/156.3(1)° observed in **13**).

In order to estimate the ring strains in compounds **11** and **3**, the calculations on isodesmic reactions of model compounds **12** and **14** were performed together with prop-2-yn-1-ylbenzene (Scheme 5) at M06-2X/6-31G(d) level. In both cases, the energy differences were 6–7 kcal/mol, which values were not so large and close to the strain energies for cyclopentane and cycloheptane.<sup>9</sup> Judging from these results, the ring strains did not affect the low yield of the product very much.



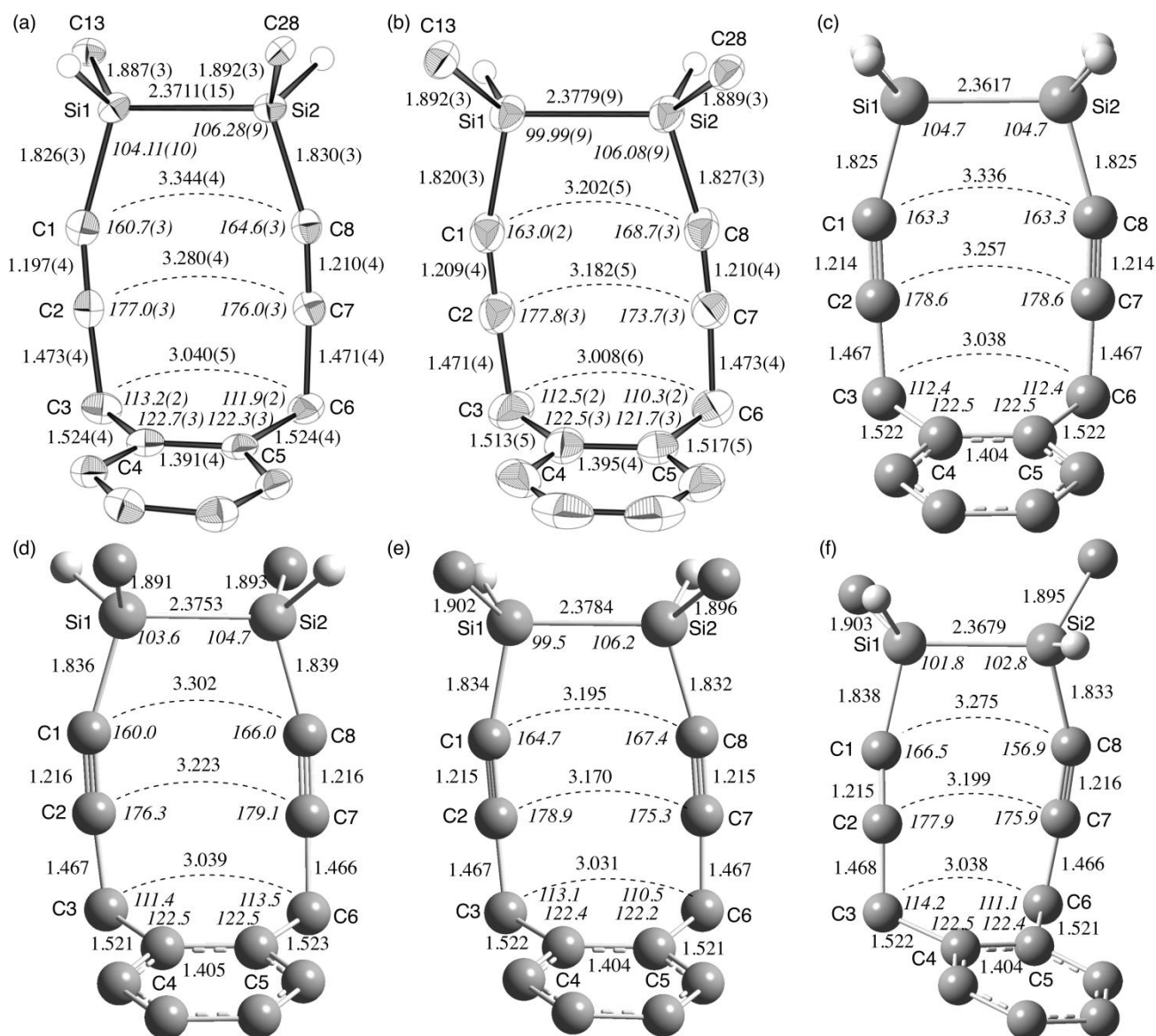


Figure 3. Selected bond lengths (Å, plain) and angles (deg, *italic*) in *trans*-**11** (a), *cis*-**11** (b), and the optimized structures for **12** (c), *trans*-**11** (d), *cis*-**11a** (e), and *cis*-**11b** (f) calculated at M06-2X/6-31G(d) level. Tip groups were omitted for clarity.

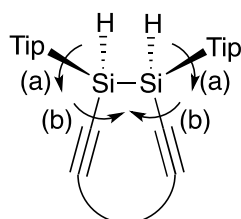


Figure 4

Molecular orbitals of *trans*-**11**, *cis*-**11a**, and **12** were shown in Figure 5. In the model compound **12**, the HOMO and LUMO apparently expanded to whole of the 10-membered ring and *o*-phenylene moiety. The HOMO showed the effective  $\sigma$ - $\pi$  conjugation between the Si-Si bond and C $\equiv$ C bonds, which

corresponded to the HOMO-4's in *trans*-**11** and *cis*-**11a**. The dominant component of HOMOs of **11** was  $\sigma(\text{Si}-\text{Si})-\pi$  conjugation along with small contribution of ethynyl moieties.

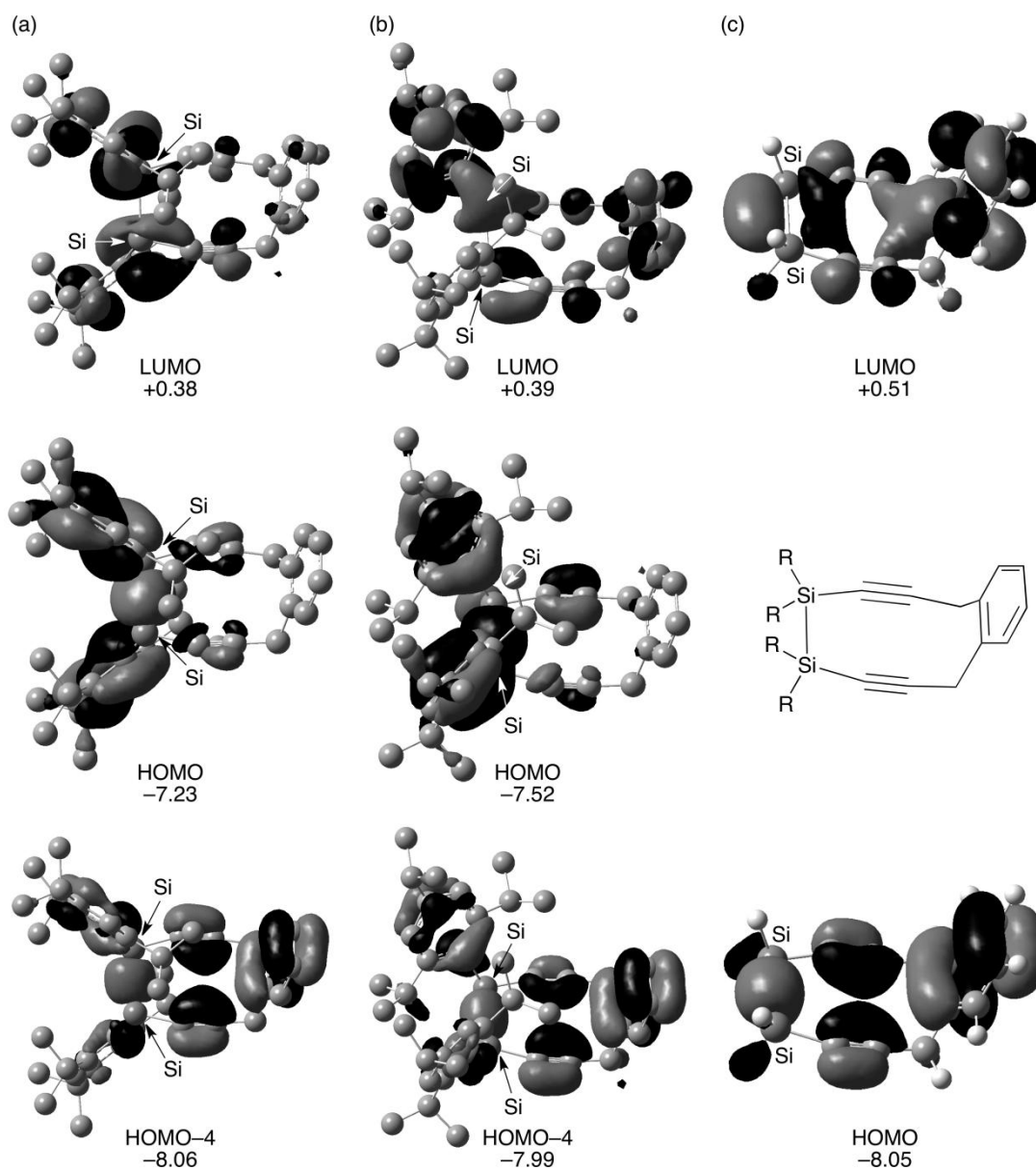


Figure 5. Molecular orbitals (isovalue = 0.03) and energies (eV) for *trans*-**11** (a), *cis*-**11a** (b), and **12** (c). Hydrogen atoms on compounds **11** were omitted for clarity.

As a result, novel 10-membered-cyclic disilanes **11** were found to have unique orbitals expanded to the whole rings. The introduction of Si=Si instead of Si-Si in **11** is expected to exhibit more effective  $\pi$ -electronic conjugation, and the transformation of compounds **11** into cyclic disilenes is now in progress.

## EXPERIMENTAL

**General procedures.** All experiments were performed under an argon atmosphere unless otherwise noted. Solvents used for the reactions were purified by The Ultimate Solvent System (GlassContour

Company).<sup>10</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz), <sup>13</sup>C NMR (76 MHz), and <sup>29</sup>Si NMR (59 MHz) spectra were measured in C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> with a JEOL JNM-AL300 spectrometer. In <sup>1</sup>H NMR, signal due to C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>5</sub>H (7.15 ppm) was used as references, and that due to C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> (128 ppm) was used in <sup>13</sup>C NMR. Multiplicity of signals in <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra was determined by DEPT technique. <sup>29</sup>Si NMR was measured with NNE and INEPT techniques using SiMe<sub>4</sub> as an external standard. GLPC (gel permeation liquid chromatography) was performed on an LC-908, LC-918, or LC-908-C60 (Japan Analytical Industry Co., Ltd.) equipped with JAIGEL 1H and 2H columns (eluent: chloroform). All melting points were determined on a Yanaco micro melting point apparatus and were uncorrected. Elemental analyses were carried out at the Microanalytical Laboratory of the Institute for Chemical Research, Kyoto University. 1,2-Di(prop-2-yn-1-yl)benzene (**6**)<sup>6</sup> and trichloro(2,4,6-triisopropylphenyl)silane (**7**)<sup>7</sup> were prepared by following the procedures reported previously. All theoretical calculations were carried out using the Gaussian 09<sup>11</sup> programs.

**Synthesis of trimethoxy(2,4,6-triisopropylphenyl)silane (8).** To mixture of MeOH (200 mL) and triethylamine (30 mL) was added a *n*-hexane solution (100 mL) of trichloro(2,4,6-triisopropylphenyl)silane **7** (10.7 g, 31.8 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring at 0 °C for 1.5 h, the solvents were removed under reduced pressure. *n*-Hexane was added to the residue, and the resulting suspension was filtered through Celite<sup>®</sup> to remove inorganic salts to give **8** (9.94 g, 30.6 mmol, 96%). **8**: viscous liquid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, δ in ppm) 1.21 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 6H), 1.36 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 12H), 2.79 (sept, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.48 (s, 9H), 3.88 (sept, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, δ in ppm) 24.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 25.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 33.0 (CH), 34.8 (CH), 50.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 121.6 (CH), 123.7 (C), 151.3 (C), 157.7 (C); <sup>29</sup>Si NMR (59 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, δ in ppm) -59.3; HRMS(FAB), *m/z* calcd for ([M-H]<sup>+</sup>): 323.2037, found: 323.2042.

**Synthesis of 1,2-bis{3-[dimethoxy(2,4,6-triisopropylphenyl)silyl]prop-2-yn-1-yl}benzene (10).** To a *n*-hexane solution (60 mL) of **8** (2.08 g, 6.42 mmol) was added boron trichloride (1.0 M heptane solution, 3.2 mL, 3.2 mmol) at 0 °C, and the mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 40 h. The solvents were removed under reduced pressure to give the mixture of chloro(dimethoxy)silane [TipSi(OMe)<sub>2</sub>Cl] **9** mainly with ca. 10% of starting material **8** and TipSiCl<sub>2</sub>(OMe). The mixture was used for the next reaction without further purification. To a THF solution (178 mL) of 1,2-di(prop-2-yn-1-yl)benzene **6** (407 mg, 2.60 mmol) was added *n*-butyllithium (1.61 M in *n*-hexane, 3.3 mL, 5.3 mmol) at -78 °C, and the mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 1 h. The resulting solution was added to a THF solution (25 mL) of the mixture containing **9** at 0 °C, and the mixture was warmed up to room temperature overnight. The solvents were removed under reduced pressure. *n*-Hexane was added to the residue, and the resulting suspension was filtered through Celite<sup>®</sup> to remove inorganic salts. The reaction mixture was purified by GLPC (eluent: CHCl<sub>3</sub>) to afford **10** (1.53 g, 0.207 mmol, 54%). **9**: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, δ in ppm)

1.18 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 6H) 1.33 (d,  $J = 6.7$  Hz, 12H), 2.74 (sept,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.48 (s, 6H), 3.89 (sept,  $J = 6.7$  Hz, 2H), 7.18 (s, 2H). **10**: pale yellow viscous liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , rt,  $\delta$  in ppm) 1.21 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 12H), 1.38 (d,  $J = 6.7$  Hz, 24H), 2.77 (sept,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2H), 3.38 (s, 4H), 3.61 (s, 12H), 4.15 (sept,  $J = 6.7$  Hz, 4H), 6.98 (dd, 2H,  $J = 5.6, 3.5$  Hz), 7.21 (s, 4H), 7.37 (dd, 2H,  $J = 5.6, 3.5$  Hz);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , rt,  $\delta$  in ppm) 23.9 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 24.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 25.4 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 32.9 ( $\text{CH}$ ), 34.8 ( $\text{CH}$ ), 50.9 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 84.1 (C), 104.4 (C), 121.7 ( $\text{CH}$ ), 125.5 (C), 127.7 ( $\text{CH}$ ), 128.1 ( $\text{CH}$ ), 133.9 (C), 151.6 (C), 157.5 (C);  $^{29}\text{Si}$  NMR (59 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , rt,  $\delta$  in ppm)  $-42.9$ ; HRMS (FAB)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{46}\text{H}_{67}\text{O}_4\text{Si}_2$  ( $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ ): 739.4578, found: 739.4577; Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{46}\text{H}_{66}\text{O}_4\text{Si}_2$ : C, 74.74; H, 9.00%. Found: C, 74.81; H, 8.95%.

**Synthesis of 1,2-bis{3-[dichloro(2,4,6-triisopropylphenyl)silyl]prop-2-yn-1-yl}benzene (4).** To a *n*-hexane solution (150 mL) of **10** (938 mg, 1.26 mmol) was added boron trichloride (1.0 M heptane solution, 5.1 mL, 5.1 mmol) at 0 °C, and the mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 3.5 h. The solvents were removed under reduced pressure. Toluene was added to the residue, and the resulting suspension was filtered through Celite<sup>®</sup> to remove inorganic salts. The filtrate was re-precipitated from *n*-hexane to afford **4** (550 mg, 0.73 mmol, 58%). **4**: colorless crystals; mp 124 °C (decomp);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , rt,  $\delta$  in ppm) 1.13 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 12H), 1.27 (d,  $J = 6.7$  Hz, 24H), 2.67 (sept,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2H), 3.23 (s, 4H), 4.25 (sept,  $J = 6.7$  Hz, 4H), 6.95 (dd,  $J = 5.7, 3.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.12 (s, 4H), 7.22 (dd,  $J = 5.7, 3.4$  Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , rt,  $\delta$  in ppm) 23.7 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 23.9 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 25.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 33.6 ( $\text{CH}$ ), 34.7 ( $\text{CH}$ ), 85.3 (C), 108.7 (C), 122.6 ( $\text{CH}$ ), 124.9 (C), 128.0 ( $\text{CH}$ ), 129.3 ( $\text{CH}$ ), 132.9 (C), 153.5 (C), 156.8 (C);  $^{29}\text{Si}$  NMR (59 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , rt,  $\delta$  in ppm)  $-42.0$ ; Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{42}\text{H}_{54}\text{Cl}_4\text{Si}_2$ : C, 66.65; H, 7.33%. Found: C, 66.77; H, 7.33%.

**Reduction of 4 (concentration of 4: 13 mM).** To a solution of **4** (102 mg, 0.134 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added lithium naphthalenide (0.29 M, 1.85 mL, 0.536 mmol) at  $-78$  °C. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm slowly to  $-5$  °C, where stirring was continued for 2.5 h. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. Hexane was added to the residue and the resulting suspension was filtered through Celite<sup>®</sup> in order to remove all inorganic salts. The reaction mixture was separated by GPLC ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) to afford oligomeric products (88 mg) and the mixture of *trans*- and *cis*-**11**. The following PTLC ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ :*n*-hexane = 1:1) gave *trans*-**11** (3.1 mg, 0.0050 mmol, 3%) and *cis*-**11** (n.d., <1%).

**Reduction of 4 (concentration of 4: 1.3 mM).** To a solution of **4** (99.4 mg, 0.131 mmol) in THF (100 mL) was added lithium naphthalenide (0.28 M, 1.9 mL, 0.532 mmol) at  $-78$  °C. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm up slowly to  $-5$  °C, where stirring was continued for 2.5 h. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. *n*-Hexane was added to the residue and the resulting suspension was filtered through Celite<sup>®</sup> in order to remove all inorganic salts. The reaction mixture was separated by GPLC ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) to afford oligomeric products (51.8 mg) and the mixture of *trans*- and *cis*-**11**. The following PTLC ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ :*n*-hexane = 1:1) gave *trans*-**11** (2.4 mg, 0.0039 mmol, 3%) and *cis*-**11** (4.7 mg,

0.0076 mmol, 6%).

**Reduction of 4 (adding simultaneously).** A 0.30 M THF solution (1.77 mL) of lithium naphthalenide (0.531 mmol) and a solution of **4** (100 mg, 0.132 mmol) in THF (1.77 mL) were added simultaneously from separate gas-tight syringes to 60 mL of THF at  $-78\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The reaction mixture was allowed to warm slowly to  $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ , where stirring was continued for 4 h. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. *n*-Hexane was added to the residue and the resulting suspension was filtered through Celite<sup>®</sup> in order to remove all inorganic salts. The reaction mixture was separated by GPLC ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) to afford oligomeric products (51.8 mg) and the mixture of *trans*- and *cis*-**11**. The following PTLC ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ :*n*-hexane = 1:1) gave *trans*-**11** (4.5 mg, 0.0073 mol, 6%) and *cis*-**11** (4.2 mg, 0.0068 mmol, 5%).

**Compound data for *trans*-11.** colorless crystals; mp  $151\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  (decomp.);  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , rt,  $\delta$  in ppm) 1.10 (d,  $J = 6.6\text{ Hz}$ , 12H), 1.16 (dd,  $J = 6.9, 1.3\text{ Hz}$ , 12 H), 1.32 (d,  $J = 6.6\text{ Hz}$ , 12 H), 2.72 (sept,  $J = 6.9\text{ Hz}$ , 2 H), 3.33 (d,  $J = 1.3\text{ Hz}$ , 4 H), 3.57 (sept,  $J = 6.6\text{ Hz}$ , 4H), 5.31 (s, 2H), 6.86-6.87 (m, 2H), 6.96-6.97 (m, 2H), 7.13 (s, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , rt,  $\delta$  in ppm) 24.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 24.1 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 24.7 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 24.9 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 25.7 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 34.8 (CH), 34.9 (CH), 83.1 (C), 111.0 (C), 121.5 (CH), 125.3 (C), 127.9 (CH), 131.1 (CH), 135.8 (C), 151.2 (C), 156.7 (C);  $^{29}\text{Si NMR}$  (59 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , rt,  $\delta$  in ppm)  $-63.6$ ; HRMS (FAB)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{42}\text{H}_{55}\text{Si}_2$  ( $[\text{M-H}]^+$ ): 615.3842, found: 615.3834.

**Compound data for *cis*-11.** colorless crystals; mp  $153\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  (decomp.);  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , rt,  $\delta$  in ppm) 0.99 (d,  $J = 6.5\text{ Hz}$ , 12H), 1.10 (d,  $J = 6.8\text{ Hz}$ , 12 H), 1.12 (d,  $J = 6.8\text{ Hz}$ , 12 H), 2.66 (sept,  $J = 6.8\text{ Hz}$ , 2 H), 3.15 (d,  $J = 17.1\text{ Hz}$ , 2H), 3.43 (d,  $J = 17.1\text{ Hz}$ , 2H), 3.46 (sept,  $J = 6.8\text{ Hz}$ , 4H), 5.51 (s, 2H), 6.85 (dd, 2H,  $J = 5.5, 3.4\text{ Hz}$ ), 6.96 (dd, 2H,  $J = 5.5, 3.4\text{ Hz}$ ), 6.99 (s, 4H).  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (75 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , rt,  $\delta$  in ppm) 23.9 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 24.3 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 24.7 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 26.0 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 34.5 (CH), 34.7 (CH), 84.1 (C), 112.4 (C), 121.5 (CH), 123.3 (C), 127.9 (CH), 130.9 (CH), 135.8 (C), 151.0 (C), 156.5 (C);  $^{29}\text{Si NMR}$  (59 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , rt,  $\delta$  in ppm)  $-65.5$ ; HRMS (FAB)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{42}\text{H}_{55}\text{Si}_2$  ( $[\text{M-H}]^+$ ): 615.3842, found: 615.3846.

**General procedure for X-ray crystallographic analysis of compounds **4**, *trans*-**11**, and *cis*-**11**.** The intensity data were collected on a Rigaku/MSM Mercury CCD diffractometer with graphite monochromated  $\text{MoK}\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71070\text{ \AA}$ ). A single crystal suitable for X-ray analysis was mounted on a glass fiber. The structures were solved by a direct method (SHELXS-97)<sup>12</sup> and refined by full-matrix least-squares procedures on  $F^2$  for all reflections (SHELXL-97).<sup>12</sup> All hydrogen atoms except for Si-H were placed using AFIX instructions, while all other atoms were refined anisotropically. Deposition numbers CCDC-1012315 (**4**), 1012317 (*trans*-**11**), and 1012316 (*cis*-**11**). Free copies of the data can be obtained via <http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/conts/retrieving.html> (or from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, 12 Union Road, Cambridge, CB2 1EZ, UK; Fax: +44 1223 336033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

Table 1. X-Ray crystallographic data

	<i>trans</i> - <b>11</b>	<i>cis</i> - <b>11</b>	<b>4</b>
Empirical formula	C <sub>42</sub> H <sub>56</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>42</sub> H <sub>56</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>42</sub> H <sub>54</sub> Cl <sub>4</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>
Formula weight	617.05	617.05	756.83
Temperature (K)	103(2)	103(2)	103(2)
Crystal dimensions (mm)	0.15 x 0.05 x 0.05	0.20 x 0.05 x 0.05	0.30 x 0.10 x 0.10
Crystal system	monoclinic	orthorhombic	triclinic
Space group	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> / <i>a</i> (#14)	<i>Pna</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> (#33)	<i>P</i> -1 (#2)
<i>a</i> (Å)	12.288(6)	19.4795(3)	11.1010(7)
<i>b</i> (Å)	17.401(8)	21.1949(4)	13.5386(9)
<i>c</i> (Å)	17.936(9)	8.8915(2)	13.9937(12)
$\alpha$ (°)	90	90	77.746(7)
$\beta$ (°)	98.649(5)	90	89.200(4)
$\gamma$ (°)	90	90	88.854(3)
<i>V</i> (Å <sup>3</sup> )	3791(3)	3671.00(12)	2054.7(3)
<i>Z</i>	4	4	2
<i>D</i> <sub>calc</sub> (g·cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.081	1.116	1.223
$\mu$ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.120	0.124	0.375
$\theta$ range (°)	2.22 to 25.25	1.92 to 25.25	1.83 to 25.25
Independent reflections	6827	6602	7381
<i>R</i> <sub>int</sub>	0.0813	0.0730	0.0556
Completeness to $\theta$ (%)	99.4	99.7	99.0
No. of parameters	417	417	445
Goodness of fit	1.102	1.063	1.050
Final <i>R</i> indices [ <i>I</i> > 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> )]	0.0654	0.0474	0.0529
<i>R</i> indices (all data)	0.1361	0.1190	0.1509
Absolute structure parameter	–	0.16(11)	–
Largest diff. peak (e·Å <sup>-3</sup> )	0.300	0.220	0.398
Largest diff. hole (e·Å <sup>-3</sup> )	–0.314	–0.188	–0.424

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