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# Reaction of silyl- and germyl-ketenes with silyldiazomethanes

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#### Abstract

The reaction of trialkylsilyl- and trialkylgermyl-ketenes with trialkylsilyldiazomethanes proceeds stereoselectively to give one of two feasible stereoisomers, the Z-2,3-bis(Si,Ge)-substituted cyclopropanone. The addition of nucleophilic reagents such as benzyl alcohol,  $\text{LiAlH}_4$  or (trimethylsilyl)dialkylphosphites is highly stereoselective and is a convenient method for assigning the stereochemical configuration of 2,3-substituted cyclopropanones.

#### Introduction

Previously we reported the reaction of silyl- and germyl-ketenes with diazomethane [1,2,3] to afford mono(Si,Ge)-substituted cyclopropanones which were relatively stable compounds under ambient conditions but were at the same time also very reactive [1-5] as compared to the more common cyclopropanones [6].

Like cyclopropanone itself and its derivatives, monosilylcyclopropanones react readily with water, alcohols, dialkylamines, carboxylic acids etc. The resulting addition compounds are easily isomerized by heat e.g. during distillation leading to propionic acid derivatives, the products of  $C^1-C^3$  bond cleavage [3].

$$R_{3}Si \longrightarrow 0 \xrightarrow{H-X} R_{3}Si \xrightarrow{OH} R_{3}SiCH_{2}CH_{2}COX$$
(1)
$$X = OH, OR, NR_{2}, OCOR$$

Silyl- and germyl-cyclopropanones also react with a variety of organometallics of the IVB elements, resulting in new organoelement compounds of linear and cyclic structures [3]:



Silylcyclopropanones also undergo  $C^2-C^3$  cleavage when treated with bromine: R<sub>3</sub>Si  $\longrightarrow 0$   $\xrightarrow{Br_2}$  R<sub>3</sub>SiCH(Br)COCH<sub>2</sub>Br

In our present paper we report on the syntheses and the structural assignment studies of 2,3-bis(Si,Ge)cyclopropanones.

## **Results and discussion**

We have studied the reaction of trialkylsilyl- and trialkylgermyl-ketenes [3] with trialkylsilyldiazomethanes [2], now readily available reactants due to recent synthetic developments [2]. The following main routes for the syntheses of trimethyl-silyldiazomethanes were used [7,8]:

 $R_{3}SiOSO_{2}CF_{3}$  +  $R_{3}SiCHN_{2}$  +  $R_{3}SiCHN_{2}$  +  $R_{3}SiCHN_{2}$  + (1)  $CH_{2}N_{2}/i - Pr_{2}NEt$  (2)  $(PhO)_{2}P(O)N_{3}$   $\frac{(2)}{a}$   $R_{3}$  b  $MeEt_{2}$ 

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A new organometallic diazomethane, methyldiethylsilyldiazomethane, was obtained by a similar reaction.

In earlier experiments we found that one usually had to work at low temperature  $(-78^{\circ} \text{C})$ , at relatively high dilutions of reactants and with slow addition of the diazomethane solution to an excess of trimethylsilylketene (3a) in order to synthesize mono-element-substituted cyclopropanones(1) [1-3].

Violation of these conditions leads to the formation of the corresponding isomeric silylcyclobutanones owing to subsequent reaction of the cyclopropanones with diazomethane to the partial polymerization of the cyclopropanone.

However, the reaction of trimethylsilyldiazomethane (2a) with trimethylsilylketene (3a) in an equimolar ratio proceeds smoothly by mixing etherial solutions of the reactants at  $-10^{\circ}$ C and warming to ambient temperatures thus obtaining 2,3-bis(trimethylsilyl)cyclopropanone (4a) in 64% yield. Satisfactory elemental analyses were obtained for this compound and its suggested structure was confirmed by IR and <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, <sup>29</sup>Si NMR spectra together with additional chemical evidence. In the IR spectrum of 4a an intense absorption band at 1815 cm<sup>-1</sup> is characteristic and is identified as (C=0), the valence vibration of the carbonyl group in cyclopropanones [9].

The proton NMR spectrum shows two singlets with integrals 9/1 assigned by us to the protons of two Me<sub>3</sub>Si groups at  $\delta$  0.12 ppm and two protons of the cyclopropanone ring at  $\delta$  1.49 ppm the latter value being similar to that reported for *trans*-2,3-di(t-butyl)cyclopropanone at  $\delta$  1.55 ppm [10].

The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum supplies only signals corresponding to three types of carbon atom: C<sup>1</sup> ( $\delta$  209.9 ppm); C<sup>2</sup>, C<sup>3</sup> ( $\delta$  12.9 ppm <sup>1</sup>J(C,H) 144.6 Hz); Me<sub>3</sub>Si ( $\delta$  -0.58 ppm <sup>1</sup>2J(C,H) 119.5 Hz). The data obtained give clear evidence for the presence of two possible stereoisomers of **4a**; similarly, the following reactions afford only yields of 65-90% for one of two possible stereoisomers of cyclopropanones **4b**-**4e** (eq. 2).

Physical constants, yields and elemental analyses of compounds 4a-4e are

Table 1

Cyclopropanone	Yield	B.p.	$n_{\rm D}^{20}$	Formula	Analysis (Found (calcd.) (%))			
	(%)	(°C/ mmHg)		(mol. mass)	С	Н	Si	
2,3-Bis(trimethylsilyl)- cyclopropanone (4a)	64	66-67 (2)	1.4535	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>20</sub> OSi <sub>2</sub> (200.42)	53.67 (53.97)	10.12 (10.06)	27.86 (28.02)	
2-Trimethylsilyl-3-methyldi- ethylsilylcyclopropanone ( <b>4b</b> )	90	95-96 (1)	1.4655	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>24</sub> OSi <sub>2</sub> (228.48)	57.56 (57.83)	10.46 (10.59)	24.58 (24.58)	
2,3-Bis(methyldiethylsilyl)- cyclopropanone (4c)	90	93-94 (0.5)	1.4790	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>28</sub> OSi <sub>2</sub> (256.53)	60.45 (60.87)	10.77 (11.02)	21.64 (21.89)	
2-Trimethylsilyl-3-triethylger- mylcyclopropanone ( <b>4d</b> )	65	87-88 (0.1)	1.4872	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>26</sub> GeOSi (286.92)	49.86 (50.23)	9.17 (9.13)	-	
2-Methyldiethylsilyl-3-trieth- ylgermylcyclopropanone (4e)	85	121-122 (0.1)	1.4925	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>30</sub> GeOSi	53.29 (53.39)	9.71 (9.60)		

#### Properties of cyclopropanones (4a)-(4e)

Com- pound	IR v(C=O) (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	<sup>1</sup> H NMR (in CDCl <sub>3</sub> ; internal ref.; CHCl <sub>3</sub> , $\delta$ (ppm), $J$ (H,H) (Hz) <sup>a</sup>
1a	1815	0.052(s,9H,SiMe <sub>3</sub> ); ABC system: 1.28(m,1H,1 <sup>1</sup> ); 1.63(m,1H,H <sup>2</sup> ); 1.41(m,1H,H <sup>3</sup> ); $J(H^{1},H^{2})$ 16.5; $J(H^{1},H^{3})$ 11.2; $J(H^{2},H^{3}) - 10.2$
<b>4</b> a	1815	0.12(s,18H,2SiMe <sub>3</sub> ); 1.49(s,2H,H <sup>1</sup> ,H <sup>2</sup> )
4b	1810	0.11(s,9H,SiMe <sub>3</sub> ); 0.037(s,3H,SiMe); 1.47(s,2H,H <sup>1</sup> ,H <sup>2</sup> )
4c	1810	0.046(s,3H,SiMe); 1.47(s,2H,H <sup>1</sup> ,H <sup>2</sup> )
4d	1810	0.10(s,9H,SiMe <sub>3</sub> ); AB system: 1.52(d,1H,H <sup>1</sup> ); 1.64(d,1H,H <sup>2</sup> ); J(H <sup>1</sup> ,H <sup>2</sup> ) 20.3
<b>4</b> e	1798	0.017(s,3H,SiMe); AB system: 1.50(d,1H,H <sup>1</sup> ); 1.63(d,1H,H <sup>2</sup> ); J(H <sup>1</sup> ,H <sup>2</sup> ) 20.3

IR	and	<sup>1</sup> H NMR	spectral	data	for cy	clopro	nanones	<b>1</b> 9 and	1 49-	-4e
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" Multiplets of the ethyl groups are in their standard range.

summarized in Table 1, IR and NMR data are collected in Table 2 and compared to those of cyclopropanone 1a.

In principle, the assignment of the structure of a 2,3-disubstituted cyclopropanone may be achieved on the basis of comparing the magnitude of the coupling constant of protons  $H^1$  and  $H^2$  at the adjacent carbon atoms of the ring:

:HN <sub>2</sub> +	R' <sub>3</sub> MCH=( (3)	C=0 —	·N <sub>2</sub>	1		<del></del> 0 (4)	(2)
R <sub>3</sub>	(3)	R <sub>3</sub> M		(4)	R <sub>3</sub>	R <sub>3</sub> M	
Me <sub>3</sub>	a	Me <sub>3</sub> Si	-	۵	Me <sub>3</sub>	Me <sub>3</sub> Si	
MeEt <sub>2</sub>	b	MeEt <sub>2</sub> Si		b	Me <sub>3</sub>	MeEt <sub>2</sub> Si	
	с	Et <sub>3</sub> Ge		с	MeEt <sub>2</sub>	Me Et <sub>2</sub> Si	
				d	Me <sub>3</sub>	Et <sub>3</sub> Ge	
				е	MeEt <sub>2</sub>	Et <sub>3</sub> Ge	
	HN <sub>2</sub> + R <sub>3</sub> Me <sub>3</sub> MeEt <sub>2</sub>	$\frac{R_3}{Me_3} + \frac{R'_3MCH=0}{(3)}$ $\frac{R_3}{Me_3} - \frac{(3)}{a}$ $\frac{MeEt_2}{c}$	HN2 + R'3MCH=C=0 (3) R3 (3) R'3M Me3 a Me3Si MeEt2 b MeEt2Si c Et3Ge	$\frac{R_3}{Me_3} = \frac{(3)}{a} \frac{R_3}{Me_3Si}$ $\frac{R_3}{Me_2Si}$ $\frac{R_3}{Me_2Si}$ $\frac{R_3}{Me_2Si}$ $\frac{R_3}{Me_2Si}$ $\frac{R_3}{K_3Si}$	$\frac{R_3}{Me_3} = \frac{(3)}{a} \frac{R_3}{MeEt_2} \frac{(3)}{a} \frac{R_3}{MeEt_2} \frac{(3)}{a} \frac{R_3}{MeEt_2} \frac{(4)}{a} \frac{R_3}{a} \frac{(4)}{a} \frac{R_3}{a} \frac{R_3}{MeEt_2} \frac{R_3}{AeEt_2} \frac{R_3}{AeEt_3} \frac{R_3}{AeEt_2} \frac{R_3}{AeEt_3} \frac{R_3}{AE$	$\frac{R_3}{Me_3} = \frac{(3) R'_3 M}{a Me_3 Si} = \frac{(4) R_3}{a Me_3}$ $\frac{R_3}{MeEt_2} = \frac{(3) R'_3 M}{a Me_3 Si} = \frac{(4) R_3}{a Me_3}$ $\frac{(4) R_3}{a Me_3} = \frac{(4) R_3}{a Me_3}$ $\frac{(4) R_3}{a Me_3} = \frac{(4) R_3}{a Me_3}$ $\frac{(4) R_3}{a Me_3} = \frac{(4) R_3}{a Me_3}$	$\frac{R_3}{Me_3} = \frac{(3)}{a} \frac{R'_3 M}{R_3 Si} = \frac{(4)}{a} \frac{R_3}{R_3 M} \frac{R'_3 M}{R_3 Si} = \frac{(4)}{a} \frac{R_3}{R_3 M} \frac{R'_3 M}{R_3 Si} R'_$

The 200 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of cyclopropanone **4b** with different substituents (Me<sub>3</sub>Si, MeEt<sub>2</sub>Si), run in different solvents CDCl<sub>3</sub> and C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, exhibits only a singlet for the cyclopropane protons whereas protons H<sup>1</sup> and H<sup>2</sup> of the cyclopropanones **4d** and **4e** are not equivalent: their spectra are characterized by an AB-system with  $J_{AB}$  20.3 Hz.

This value of the coupling constant suggests a *cis*-structure for compounds 4. However, further evidence supporting this assumption was needed since we had no spectra of the *trans*-isomers to compare with. This piece of evidence was then obtained during our investigation of addition reactions of several nucleophiles, e.g. benzyl alcohol, LiAlH<sub>4</sub>, (trimethylsilyl)dialkylphosphites, to the carbonyl group: as a result, the C<sup>1</sup>-atom of the cyclopropanone became pseudo symmetric in the addition product.

Table 2

#### Reaction of cyclopropanone (4a) with benzyl alcohol

The reaction was found to proceed exothermally forming adduct 5 in 90% yield (after purification) eq. 3.

The signals of the two Me<sub>3</sub>Si groups, the cyclopropane protons, the OH and OCH<sub>2</sub> groups are observed in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum as singlets in a 18/2/1/2 ratio:



Atom C<sup>1</sup> of the adduct 5 is not asymmetric giving only evidence for the *cis*-configuration of the Me<sub>3</sub>Si-groups; a *trans*-configuration of the Me<sub>3</sub>Si groups would induce chirality on C<sup>1</sup> of the ring resulting in a non-equivalence of the diastereotopic methylene protons [10] and the Me<sub>3</sub>Si groups.

Taking into account the spectroscopic evidence after addition of the nucleophile to cyclopropanone (1a) [3] we assume that in the isomer under consideration the Me<sub>3</sub>Si and OH groups are in a *cis*-configuration. Its formation may be explained by steric hindrance exerted by two bulky organoelement residues: thus addition is preferentially from the opposite side of the cyclopropanone ring plane.

# Reactions of cyclopropanones 4a, 4b and 4e with LiAlH<sub>4</sub>

Cyclopropanones 4a, 4b and 4e react smoothly with  $LiAlH_4$  to give the corresponding cyclopropanols 6 (eq. 4):



The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **6a** shows singlets for Me<sub>3</sub>Si (at  $\delta$  0.06 ppm) and OH (at  $\delta$  1.48 ppm) groups, also signals of the A<sub>2</sub>X system of the cyclopropane protons with  $J_{AX}$  6.6 Hz. Therefore we assume that **6a** is one of the three possible stereoisomers, viz. that of Z, Z-configuration, all three H atoms of the ring are in the *cis*-position:



The alternative Z, E-6a structure, with a *trans*-configuration of the Me<sub>3</sub>Si groups, would appear in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum with two singlets for the non-equivalent Me<sub>3</sub>Si groups and with an ABX pattern for the ring protons. We discarded structure E, Z-6a considering the fact that the value of  $J_{AX}$  must be equal to about 3-4 Hz as detected in a <sup>1</sup>H NMR study of the isomeric 2-trimethylsilylcyclopropan-1-ols (7), which were obtained as a mixture of the Z, E-isomers (70/30) after reduction of the cyclopropanone 1a with LiAlH<sub>4</sub> [5]:



For similar reasons cyclopropanol **6b** is ascribed the Z, Z-structure: in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of cyclopropanol **6c** there are signals of an ABX system of the cyclopropane ring protons with  $J_{AB}$  13.4 Hz,  $J_{AX} = J_{BX} = 6.5$  Hz (see Table 3). The <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>29</sup>Si NMR spectra also confirm the predominant formation of only one stereoisomer (reaction 4).

In the <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **6a** three signals are present: C<sup>1</sup> ( $\delta$  55.86 ppm), C<sup>2</sup>, C<sup>3</sup> ( $\delta$  11.33 ppm) Me<sub>3</sub>Si ( $\delta$  0.8 ppm) and <sup>29</sup>Si NMR spectrum of **6a** with  $\delta$  0.97

Table 3 IR and <sup>1</sup>H NMR data for cyclopropanols 6 and 7

Com- pound	IR ν(C=O) (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	<sup>1</sup> H NMR (in CDCl <sub>3</sub> ; internal ref.: CHCl <sub>3</sub> , $\delta$ (ppm), $J$ (H,H) (Hz) <sup><i>a</i></sup>
6a	3390	0.06(s,18H,2Me <sub>3</sub> Si); 1.48(s,1H,OH); $A_2X$ system: $-0.1(d,2H,H^1,H^2)$ ; 3.99(t,1H,H <sub>X</sub> ); $J(H^{1,2},H^X)$ 6.6
6Ь	3480	$0.12(s,9H,Me_3Si); 0.07s,3H,MeSi); 1.63(s,1H,OH); A_2X system: -0.1(d,2H,H^1,H^2); 4.07(t,1H,H^X); J(H^{1.2},H^X) 6.5$
бс	3480	0.04(s,3H,MeSi); 1.46(s,1H,OH); ABX system: $-0.1(q,1H,H^1)$ ; 0.19(q,1H,H <sup>2</sup> ); $J(H^1,H^2)$ 13.4; 4.05(t,1H,H <sup>X</sup> ); $J(H^{1,2},H^X)$ 6.5
Z-7	3350	0.04(s,9H,Me <sub>3</sub> Si); 1.58(s,1H,OH); ABCX system: $-0.38(m,1H,H^1; 0.48(m,1H,H^3); -0.66(m,1H,H^2); 3.72(m,1H,H^X); (J(H^1,H^2) 11.4; J(H^1,H^3) 4.6; J(H^1,H^3) 8.7; J(H^2,H^3) -4.6; J(H^1,H^X) 7.0; J(H^2,H^X) 6.0; J(H^3,H^X) 2.9$
<u>Е-7</u> )		$-0.08(s,9H,Me_3Si)$ ; 1.64(s,1H,OH); ABCX system: 0.16(m,1H,H <sup>1</sup> ); $-0.70(m,1H,H_2)$ ; 0.34(m,1H,H <sub>3</sub> ); 3.36(m,1H,H <sup>X</sup> ); $J(H^1,H^2)$ 11.9; $J(H^1,H^3)$ 8.3; $J(H^2,H^3)$ -4.7; $J(H^1,H^X)$ 4.0; $J(H^2,H^X)$ 2.6; $J(H^3,H^X)$ 5.7

<sup>a</sup> See ref. for Table 2.

 Table 4

 Properties of cyclopropanols 6a-6c

Cyclopropanol	Yield %	B.p. (°C/ mmHg)	n <sub>D</sub> <sup>20</sup> (M.p.	Formula (mol. mass)	Analysis (Found (calcd.) (%))		
			(°C))		C	Н	Si
2,3-Bis(trimethylsilyl)- cyclopropan-1-ol (6a)	74	55-56/1	(55–56)	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>22</sub> OSi <sub>2</sub> (202.43)	53.28 (53.40)	10.82 (10.95)	27.36 (27.74)
2-Trimethylsilyl-3-methyl- diethylsilylcyclopropan- 1-ol ( <b>6b</b> )	92	75-76/1	1.4735	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>26</sub> OSi <sub>2</sub> (230.48)	57.80 (57.32)	11.67 (11.37)	24.26 (24.37)
2-Methyldiethylsilyl-3- triethylgermylcylopropan- 1-ol (6c)	80	110-112/2	1.4930	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>32</sub> GeOSi (316.99)	52.88 (53.04)	10.06 (10.18)	-

ppm. Physical constants, yields and elemental analyses of 6a-6c are listed in Table 4.

# Reaction of cyclopropanones 4a, 4b and 1a with (trimethylsilyl)dialkylphosphites (8)

Reactions of the cyclopropanones 4a and 4b with silylphosphites (8) normally take several hours at ambient temperature affording the corresponding addition products 9a, 9b in 90% yield. In accordance with <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, <sup>31</sup>P NMR data the compounds 9 are only obtained as one isomer (see Tables 5, 6, and eq. 6).

The appearance of a doublet for the cyclopropane protons  $H^1$  and  $H^2$  in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum confirms their *cis*-configuration; a *trans*-configuration of the same protons would induce an ABX spin system (X being the phosphorus atom).

By comparing spectral data of  ${}^{3}J(P,H)$  12.8 Hz in these spectra with that obtained previously by us for the adduct of cyclopropanone 1a with silvlphosphite **8a** (eq. 7), the positions of the phosphorus atom and the cyclopropane protons were identified:

<sup>3</sup> (P, H<sup>1</sup>) 13.7Hz, <sup>3</sup> (P, H<sup>2</sup>) 9.9 Hz, <sup>3</sup> (P, H<sup>3</sup>) 5.3Hz

IT With data for compounds 2a, 2b and 10							
Compound	<sup>1</sup> H NMR (in CDCl <sub>3</sub> ; internal ref.: CHCl <sub>3</sub> , $\delta$ (ppm), $J$ (H,H), <sup>3</sup> $J$ (P,H) (Hz) <sup>a</sup>						
9a	$-0.01(s,18H,2Me_3SiC); 0.0(s,9H,Me_3SiO); 0.51(d^3, J(P,H) 12.8, H^1,H^2); 3.77(d, {}^{3}J(P,H) 10.5, 6H,2POCH_3)$						
9b	0.11(s,9H,Me <sub>3</sub> SiC); 0.05(s,3H,MeSi); 0.17 (s,9H,Me <sub>3</sub> SiO); 0.54(d, <sup>3</sup> J(P,H) 12.8, 2H,H <sup>1</sup> ,H <sup>2</sup>						
10	0.03(s,9H,Me <sub>3</sub> SiC); 0.07(s,9H,Me <sub>3</sub> SiO); 3.79(d, ${}^{3}J(P,H)$ 10.5, 3H; POCH <sub>3</sub> , 3.77(d, ${}^{3}J(P,H)$ 10.5,3H,POCH <sub>3</sub> ); ABCX system (X-P atom): 0.26(m,1H,H <sup>1</sup> ); 1.16(m,1H,H <sup>2</sup> ); 0.66(m,1H,H <sup>3</sup> ); J(H <sup>1</sup> ,H <sup>3</sup> ) 12.2; J(H <sup>1</sup> ,H <sup>3</sup> ) 9.3; J(H <sup>2</sup> ,H <sup>3</sup> ) -4.8; {}^{3}J(P,H_{1}) 13.7; ${}^{3}J(P,H^{2})$ 9.9; ${}^{3}J(P,H^{3})$ 5.3						

Table 5 <sup>1</sup>H NMR data for compounds **9a**, **9b** and **10** 

<sup>a</sup> See footnote for Table 2.

# Table 6

# <sup>13</sup>C NMR data for compounds 10, 11a and 11b

Compound	<sup>13</sup> C NMR (solvent: CDCl <sub>3</sub> , $\delta$ (ppm), $J$ (C,P), Hz)					
	$\overline{C^1}$	C <sup>2</sup>	C <sup>3</sup>			
10	54.1,d(227.1)	10.8,s	15.7,d(3.9)			
11a	58.3,d(223.1)	15.3,s	13.2,d(0.8)			
11b	52.6,d(225.6)	11.1,s	15.2,d(3.4)			

# Table 7

# Properties of cyclopropylphosphonates 9-11

Compound	Yield %	B.p. (°C∕mmHg)	n <sup>20</sup> <sub>D</sub> (M.p.,	Formula (mol. mass)	Analysis (Found (Calcd.) (%))	
			°C)		С	н
Dimethyl [1-trimethylsiloxy- -2,3-bis(trimethylsilyl)/] cyclopropyl phosphonate ( <b>9a</b> )	88	102-103/0.1	1.4585 (55–56)	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>35</sub> O <sub>4</sub> PSi <sub>3</sub> (382.64)	43.98 (43.95)	8.74 (9.22)
Diethyl (1-trimethylsiloxy-2- -trimethylsilyl-3-methyldiethyl- silyl)cyclopropylphosphonate (9b)	<b>91</b>	135–136/0.5	1.4660	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>43</sub> O <sub>4</sub> PSi <sub>3</sub> (438.75)	49.11 (49.28)	9.75 (9.88)
Dimethyl (1-trimethylsiloxy-2- -trimethylsilyl)cyclopropyl- phosphonate (10)	88	99–100/1	1.4485	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>27</sub> O <sub>4</sub> PSi <sub>2</sub> (310.51)	42.13 (42.55)	9.02 (8.76)
Diethyl (1-hydroxy-2-trimethyl- silyl-3-methyldiethylsilyl)cyclo- propylphosphonate (11a)	a	150-151/1	(72–73)	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>35</sub> O <sub>4</sub> PSi <sub>4</sub> (366.57)	49.36 (49.14)	9.86 (9.62)
Dimethyl (1-hydroxy-2-trimeth- ylsilyl(cyclopropylphosphonate (11b)	а	115-116/0.1	(83–84)	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>19</sub> O <sub>4</sub> PSi (238.26)	40.28 (40.32)	8.04 (8.04)

<sup>a</sup> Quantitative yield; analyzed without additional purification.

These results are in good agreement with data reported for the cis/trans coupling constants  ${}^{3}J(P,H)$  of other cyclopropyl phosphonates [12].

In 9b and 10 Me<sub>3</sub>Si groups are quantitatively cleaved off by methanol in the presence of catalytic amounts of Me<sub>3</sub>SiCl:



The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of the hydroxy derivatives **11** clearly show that their configuration is the same as in the initial siloxy compounds. Signals for the phosphorus atoms in 9–11 are found in the same range as those of the cyclopropyl phosphonates ( $\delta$  26 ppm) [13].

<sup>13</sup>C chemical shift data of the cyclopropane carbon atoms are almost identical to those reported for substituted siloxycyclopropanes [14].

Chemical data presented in this paragraph are also in good agreement with an assumed Z-configuration of the cyclopropanones 4. Yields, physical constants and elemental analyses of compounds 9-11 are listed in Table 7.

## Experimental

IR spectra: UR-20 (Nujol mull). NMR spectra: Bruker CPX-200, Bruker AM-360 <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>29</sup>Si NMR spectra: Bruker WP-80; <sup>31</sup>P NMR: Varian FT-80A (H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> as external standard).

Cyclopropanones (4). To a solution of ketene 3 in 25 ml ether, 0.022 mol of silyldiazomethane in 5 ml ether is added. After warming to room temperature, nitrogen evolves from the reaction mixture. The ether is pumped off, distillation of the liquid residue affords 4 (see: Table 1).

*1-Hydroxy-1-benzyloxy-2,3-bis(trimethylsilyl)cyclopropane* (5). 1.2 g (0.006 mol) of **4a** and 0.65 g (0.006 mol) of benzyl alcohol are mixed at room temperature: after distillation results in 1.7 g (90%) of **5**, b.p. 123–125° C/0.1 mmHg; m.p. 53–55° C (uncorr.). IR: ( $\nu$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3420 (OH). <sup>1</sup>H NMR: 0.16 (s, 18H; 2 × Me<sub>3</sub>Si); 0.67 (s, 2H; H<sup>1</sup>, H<sup>2</sup>); 2.7 (s, 1H, OH): 4.73 (s, 2H; OCH<sub>2</sub>). (Found: C, 61.91; H, 9.06; Si, 18.12. C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>28</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si calcd.: C, 62.28; H, 9.15; Si, 18.20%.

Cyclopropanols 6a-6c. An etherial suspension of 0.74 g (0.0193 mol) LiAlH<sub>4</sub> in 75 ml ether is refluxed for  $\frac{1}{2}$  h; after cooling to 5°C, 0.0193 mol of 4, dissolved in 5 ml ether, are added dropwise with vigorous stirring. After a period of 1 h the reaction mixture is treated with 10 ml wet ether, then with 10 ml of water. The etherial layer is dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The ether evaporated and distillation of the residue affords 6 (see Table 4).

Siloxycyclopropylphosphonates 9a, 9b and 10. A mixture of equimolar amounts of 4 and 8 is kept at room temperature for 5 h: 9a, 9b are then isolated by distillation. Adduct 10 is obtained by mixing equimolar amounts of 1a and 8a at -30 °C, followed by immediate distillation (see Table 7).

Hydroxycyclopropylphosphonates 11a, 11b. To a mixture of 0.0027 mol of 9b or 10 in 0.5 ml methanol a drop of freshly distilled Me<sub>3</sub>SiCl is added; at about 7 mmHg pressure volatile substances are removed and further pumping at 1 mmHg for 1 h results in an analytically pure sample of 11.

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