

# Organosilicon chalcogenides with trisilane units — adamantanes and noradamantanes

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## Abstract

1,1,3,3-Tetrachlorotetramethyltrisilane (1b) has been prepared from Ph<sub>2</sub>MeSiCl and Me<sub>2</sub>SiCl<sub>2</sub> via Ph<sub>2</sub>MeSi—SiMe<sub>2</sub>—SiMePh<sub>2</sub> (1a). Reaction of 1b with Li<sub>2</sub>E (E = S, Se) furnishes the new tricyclic organosilicon chalcogenides (Me<sub>2</sub>Si)<sub>2</sub>(MeSi)4E<sub>4</sub> (E = S (2a), Se (2b)) with adamantane structures. If a mixture of 1b and Cl<sub>2</sub>MeSi—SiMeCl<sub>2</sub> is reacted with H<sub>2</sub>S/NEt<sub>3</sub>, (Me<sub>2</sub>Si)(MeSi)4S<sub>4</sub> (3a), a noradamantane with a trisilane and a disilane unit is formed. The molecular structures of 2a and 3a are reported. All new compounds are characterized by NMR spectroscopy (1H, 13C, 29Si, 77Se).

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## 1. Introduction

Adamantane cages are a structural motif frequently observed in inorganic as well as organometallic chemistry [1].

Adamantanes-like Si<sub>4</sub>E<sub>10</sub>— ions (E = S, Se, Te) have been observed in several chalcogenosilicates [2–5], while silsesquichalcogenides (RM)<sub>4</sub>E<sub>6</sub> (I; E = S, Se; M = Si, Ge, Sn) which usually adopt adamantane-like structures have been prepared starting from organotrichlorosilanes, germanes or stannanes by reactions with alkali metal chalcogenides or other chalcogen transfer reagents [6–8].

However, in case of bulky substituents (R = tBu [9], 1,1,2-trimethylpropyl [10]), the reactions of RMCl<sub>3</sub> (M = Si, Ge) with (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>S<sub>5</sub> or Li<sub>2</sub>E (E = S, Se) resulted in the formation of sesquichalcogenides with double-decker-like structures [(RME)E]₂ (II).

Recently, we were able to show [11] that reactions of tetrachlorodisilylmethane Cl<sub>2</sub>MeSi—CH<sub>2</sub>—SiMeCl<sub>2</sub> with either H<sub>2</sub>S/NEt<sub>3</sub> or Li<sub>2</sub>E (E = Se, Te) led to the

formation of adamantane-like cages (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(SiMe)₄E<sub>4</sub> (III; E = S, Se, Te).

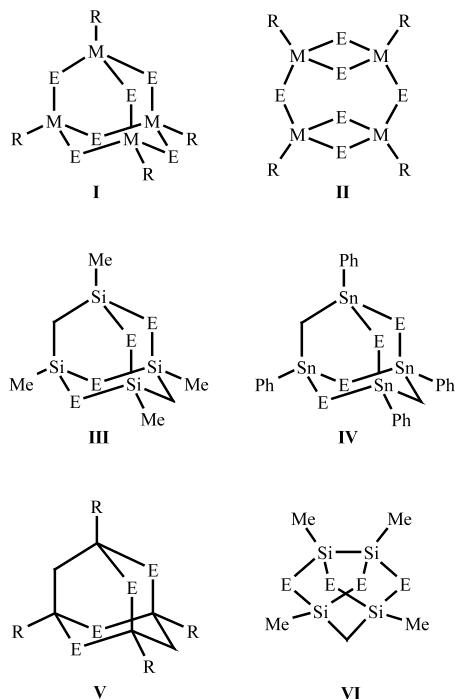
The molecular structures of the three compounds revealed an increasingly distorted geometry of the adamantane cage with growing size of the chalcogen atoms as a result of the difference of the bond lengths Si—C and Si—E. Related adamantane cages with tin atoms instead of silicon and E = S, Se have (IV) been prepared by Jurkschat and coworkers [12] by the reaction of a corresponding distannylmethane with Na<sub>2</sub>E while compounds with carbon atoms at the positions of silicon (V) are known to be formed starting from β-diketones with H<sub>2</sub>S [13–15] or H<sub>2</sub>Se [16] in acid reaction mixtures (HCl, ZnCl<sub>2</sub>/HOAc).

By reaction of a 1:1 molar mixture of the tetrachlorodisilylmethane Cl<sub>2</sub>MeSi—CH<sub>2</sub>—SiMeCl<sub>2</sub> and Cl<sub>2</sub>MeSi—SiMeCl<sub>2</sub> with either H<sub>2</sub>S/NEt<sub>3</sub> or Li<sub>2</sub>Se, we have also succeeded in the preparation of noradamantanes (CH<sub>2</sub>)(SiMe)₄E<sub>4</sub> (VI; E = S, Se) (Scheme 1) [11].

In the course of our investigations of the reaction products of several chlorofunctionalized trisilanes with chalcogen transfer reagents such as H<sub>2</sub>S/NEt<sub>3</sub> or Li<sub>2</sub>E, we became interested in the nature of the reaction products of the trisilane Cl<sub>2</sub>MeSi—SiMe<sub>2</sub>—SiMeCl<sub>2</sub> (1b).

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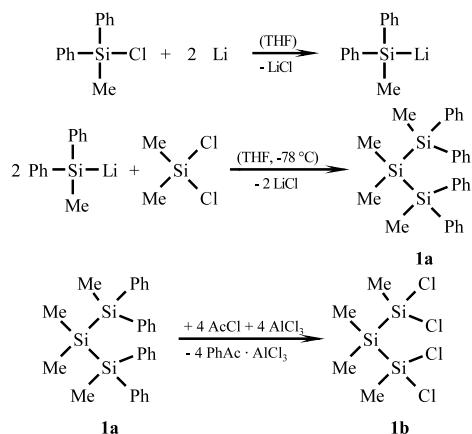
Scheme 1. Structures of sesquichalcogenides  $(RM)4E_6$  of Group 14 elements ( $M = C, Si, Ge, Sn$ ) and related compounds  $(RM)4(CH_2)_x E_4$  ( $x = 1, 2$ ).

The questions arise whether it would be possible to prepare compounds of the types  $(Me_2Si)_2(MeSi)4E_4$  and  $(Me_2Si)(MeSi)4E_4$  and whether these compounds also exhibit adamantine (or noradamantine)-like structures.

## 2. Results and discussion

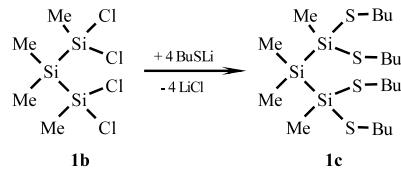
### 2.1. Preparation of $Me_2Si(SiMeCl_2)_2$ and $Me_2Si(SiMe(SBu))_2$

The starting trisilane  $Cl_2MeSi-SiMe_2-SiMeCl_2$  (1b) has been synthesized in three steps from  $Ph_2MeSiCl$  and  $Me_2SiCl_2$ :



In order to compare the NMR chemical shifts of the

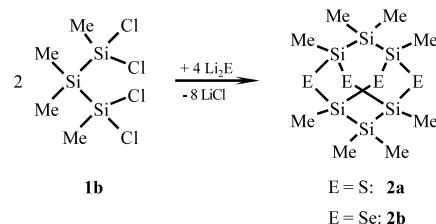
polycyclic target molecules with a related acyclic compound, we reacted the trisilane 1b with  $Bu_3Li$  and obtained an acyclic thiobutyl-substituted trisilane 1c with the same substitution pattern, i.e. the same first coordination sphere at the silicon atoms:



The NMR data of all synthesized trisilanes are given in Table 1.

### 2.2. Adamantanes $(Me_2Si)_2(SiMe)_4E_4$ ( $E = S$ (2a), $Se$ (2b))

Reactions of the trisilane  $Me_2Si(SiMeCl_2)_2$  (1b) with  $Li_2E$  ( $E = S, Se$ ) led to the formation of  $(Me_2Si)_2(SiMe)_4E_4$  (2a and 2b).



The adamantine-like structure of 2a could be proven unambiguously by a crystal structure analysis. Fig. 1 shows the molecular structure, and selected bond distances and angles are given in Table 2.

All bond lengths are in the ranges of typical single bonds. Even though all angles  $Si-Si-Si$  and  $Si-Si-S$  are somewhat smaller and all angles  $S-Si-S$  are larger than the ideal tetrahedral angle of  $109.5^\circ$ , in contrast to the adamantine-like compounds  $(CH_2)_2(SiMe)_4E_4$  described previously [11], the  $Si_6S_4$  core represents an almost undisturbed adamantine cage. This is also evident from a comparison of the lengths of the

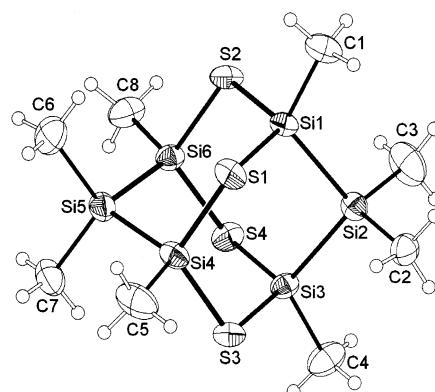


Fig. 1. Molecular structure of  $(Me_2Si)_2(SiMe)_4S_4$  (2a).

Table 1

NMR data (Hz, ppm) of the trisilanes Me<sub>2</sub>Si(SiMeR<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (R = Ph (1a), Cl (1b), SBu (1c))

Compound	$\delta$ Si	$\text{J}_{\text{SiSi}}$	$\delta$ C	$\text{J}_{\text{SiC}}$	$\delta$ H
Me <sub>2</sub> SiB(SiAMEPh <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (1a)	A: -19.05 B: -47.23	72.6	SiAME: -4.24 <sup>a</sup> SiBMe <sub>2</sub> : -5.03		0.441 <sup>b</sup> 0.276
Me <sub>2</sub> SiB(SiAMECl <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (1b)	A: 32.74 B: -35.59	95.7	SiAME: 7.83 SiBMe <sub>2</sub> : -7.77	52.1 41.4	0.955 0.450
Me <sub>2</sub> SiB[SiAME(SBu) <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>2</sub> (1c)	A: 14.27 B: -38.98	80.0	SiAME: 0.80 <sup>c</sup> SiBMe <sub>2</sub> : -4.72		0.657 <sup>d</sup> 0.355

<sup>a</sup> SiAPh<sub>2</sub>: 137.01 (i), 134.82 (o), 127.75 (m), 128.68 (p).<sup>b</sup> SiAPh<sub>2</sub>: 7.36 (o), 7.22 (m+p).<sup>c</sup> SC1H2C2H2C3H2C4H3: 27.0 (C1), 34.7 (C2), 22.1 (C3), 13.8 (C4).<sup>d</sup> SC1H2C2H2C3H2C4H3: 2.68 (C1H2), 1.65 (C2H2), 1.43 (C3H2), 0.92 (C4H2).

diagonals Z–Z and E–E (Z = SiMe<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>) as well as the bond angles Si–Z–Si and Si–E–Si (see Table 3). While for 2a both ratios are almost equal to unity, deviations increase for Z = CH<sub>2</sub> with the size of the chalcogen.

The NMR data of 2a and 2b are summarized in Table 4. A comparison with the <sup>29</sup>Si-NMR chemical shifts of the sulfur compound 2a with those of the acyclic thiobutyl derivative 1c reveals a significant high field shift of SiB despite the same first and second coordination spheres while SiA is only slightly shifted to a higher field in the adamantane 2a. This is in agreement with observations made previously for other cyclic and polycyclic organosilicon chalcogenides. The incorporation of a silicon atom into a six-membered ring is always accompanied by a high field shift of the <sup>29</sup>Si-NMR signal [17]. In oligosilanes, this high field shift is even

Table 2  
Selected bond lengths and bond angles of (Me<sub>2</sub>Si)<sub>2</sub>(SiMe)<sub>4</sub>S<sub>4</sub> (2a)

Atoms	Bond length (Å)	Atoms	bond angle (°)
Si1–Si2	2.316(2)	Si1–Si2–Si3	103.81(6)
Si2–Si3	2.317(2)	Si4–Si5–Si6	104.09(6)
Si4–Si5	2.326(2)	Si1–Si1–Si4	106.93(6)
Si5–Si6	2.321(2)	Si1–S2–Si6	108.10(6)
Si1–S1	2.144(2)	Si3–S3–Si4	107.85(6)
Si1–S2	2.145(2)	Si3–S4–Si6	106.94(6)
Si3–S3	2.145(2)	S1–Si1–S2	115.69(7)
Si3–S4	2.150(2)	S3–Si3–S4	114.93(7)
Si4–S1	2.145(2)	S1–Si4–S3	116.06(7)
Si4–S3	2.151(2)	S2–Si6–S4	113.90(7)
Si6–S2	2.148(2)	S1–Si1–Si2	108.06(6)
Si6–S4	2.143(2)	S2–Si1–Si2	109.47(6)
Si1–C1	1.866(5)	S3–Si3–Si2	108.34(6)
Si2–C2	1.888(5)	S4–Si3–Si2	110.03(7)
Si2–C3	1.884(5)	S1–Si4–Si5	109.19(7)
Si3–C4	1.861(5)	S3–Si4–Si5	107.48(7)
Si4–C5	1.864(5)	S2–Si6–Si5	108.29(6)
Si5–C6	1.882(5)	S4–Si6–Si5	110.50(7)
Si5–C7	1.882(5)	C2–Si2–C3	111.7(3)
Si6–C8	1.865(5)	C6–Si5–C7	112.1(3)

Table 3

Geometric parameters of the adamantanes Z<sub>2</sub>(SiMe)<sub>4</sub>E<sub>4</sub> (Z = SiMe<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>; E = S, Se, Te)

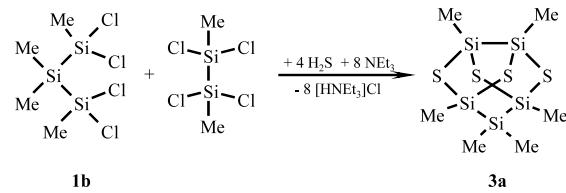
Parameter	Z = SiMe <sub>2</sub> ; E = S	Z = CH <sub>2</sub> ; E = S	Z = CH <sub>2</sub> ; E = Se	Z = CH <sub>2</sub> ; E = Te
E–E <sup>a</sup> (a)	5.13	4.97	5.30	5.78
Z–Z (b)	5.16	4.31	4.35	4.43
a/b	0.99	1.15	1.22	1.30
$\angle$ Si–Z–Si	104.0	118.9	122.6	127.6
(c)				
$\angle$ Si–E–Si	107.5	101.3	98.3	93.9
(d)				
c/d	0.97	1.17	1.25	1.36

<sup>a</sup> Average distance E1–E4 and E2–E3.

more pronounced for the silicon atoms not directly bound to the sulfur atoms [18].

### 2.3. Noradamantane ( $\text{Me}_2\text{Si}(\text{SiMe})_4\text{S}_4$ (3a))

If a 1:1 molar mixture of the trisilane 1b and 1,1,2,2-tetrachlorodimethyldisilane is reacted with H<sub>2</sub>S/NEt<sub>3</sub>, a noradamantane with a trisilane and a disilane unit connected by four sulfur atoms is formed:



The NMR data of this new noradamantane 3a are given in Table 2. In comparison with the acyclic thiobutyl-substituted oligosilanes 1c and (Bus)<sub>2</sub>MeSi–SiMe(SBu)2 ( $\delta$ Si: 9.1 ppm) [19] containing the same oligosilanyl units, the NMR signals of SiA and SiC in 3a are shifted by 12–18 ppm to a lower field as a consequence of the incorporation into five-membered rings.

Merely SiB of 3a, which is part of six-membered rings only, shows an NMR signal high field from the

Table 4

NMR data (Hz, ppm) of the adamantanes ( $\text{Me}_2\text{Si})_2(\text{SiMe})_4\text{E}_4$  ( $\text{E} = \text{S}$  (2a),  $\text{Se}$  (2b)) and the noradamantane ( $\text{Me}_2\text{Si})(\text{SiMe})_4\text{S}_4$  (3a)

	compound	$\delta_{\text{Se}}$	$\delta_{\text{Si}}$	$\delta_{\text{C}}$	${}^1J_{\text{SiC}}$	$\delta_{\text{H}}$
<b>2a</b>		–	A: 13.2	5.36		0.71
			B: –56.2	–8.34	43.2	0.41
<b>2b</b>		–161 ${}^1J_{\text{SiSe}}: 137.0$	A: –1.4	5.03		0.88
			B: –61.3	–9.33		0.42
<b>3a</b>		– ${}^1J_{\text{SiASiB}}: 85.0$	A: 26.2	3.3	45.2	0.80
			B: –49.4	–8.1	41.8	0.33
			C: 25.6	2.2	51.0	0.95

resonance of SiB in 1c; however, it is 7 ppm low field shifted from the signal of SiB in the adamantane 2a.

This noradamantane has also been characterized by a crystal structure analysis. The asymmetric unit contains two independent molecules with almost identical geometries. Molecule A is shown in Fig. 2. Important bond lengths and angles are summarized in Table 5. Like in 2a, the four chalcogen atoms span an almost ideal square with S–S distances of 3.48–3.56 Å and angles S–S–S between 89.6° and 90.3°.

Due to the smaller ring size, the Si–S–Si angles in 3a are in average 11.5° smaller than in 2a.

The most striking difference to the geometry of the related noradamantane ( $\text{H}_2\text{C})(\text{SiMe})_4\text{S}_4$  [11] is the bond angle Si–Si–Si of the trisilane unit which is 104.8° (average of the two independent molecules). It is almost 17° smaller than the angle Si–C–Si of the

disilylmethane unit and results from the larger bond length Si–Si in comparison with Si–C.

### 3. Experimental

#### 3.1. NMR and GC/MS measurements

All NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DPX 400 in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  solution and TMS as internal standard for  ${}^1\text{H}$ ,  ${}^{13}\text{C}$  and  ${}^{29}\text{Si}$ . In order to get a sufficient signal to noise ratio of  ${}^{29}\text{Si}$ -NMR spectra for obtaining  ${}^1\text{JSiC}$ ,  ${}^1\text{JSiSi}$  or  ${}^1\text{JSiSe}$  satellites,  ${}^{29}\text{Si}$  INEPT spectra were also recorded.  ${}^{77}\text{Se}$ -NMR spectra were obtained using an IGATED pulse program.

External  $\text{Ph}_2\text{Se}_2$  ( $\delta_{\text{Se}}: 460$  ppm [20]) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  was used as standard for  ${}^{77}\text{Se}$ .

Mass spectra were measured on a Hewlett Packard 5971 (ionization energy: 70 eV, column: 30 m × 0.25 mm × 0.25 μm, phenylmethylpolysiloxane, column temperature: 80 °C (3 min)/20 K min–1/200 °C, flow: He 0.5 ml min–1).

#### 3.2. Crystal structure analyses

X-ray structure analysis measurements of 2a and 3a were performed on a Rigaku AFC7 with Mercury CCD. Crystal data of 2a and 3a as well as data collection and refinement details are given in Table 6.

For the data collection, unit cell refinement and data reduction of 2a and 3a the program package Crystal Clear [21] was used. The structures were solved using direct methods, refined using least-squares methods

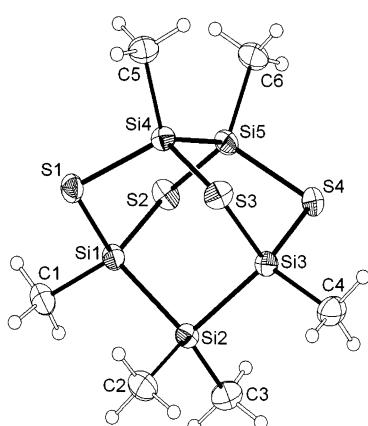


Fig. 2. Molecular structure of  $(\text{Me}_2\text{Si})(\text{SiMe})_4\text{S}_4$  (3a), molecule A.

Table 5

Selected bond lengths and bond angles of  $(\text{Me}_2\text{Si})(\text{SiMe})_4\text{S}_4$  (3a), molecules A and B

Atoms	Bond length ( $\text{\AA}$ )	Atoms	Bond angle ( $^{\circ}$ )
Si1–Si2	2.345(2)	Si1–Si2–Si3	105.11(7)
Si2–Si3	2.338(2)	Si1–S1–Si4	95.85(7)
Si1–S1	2.160(2)	Si1–S2–Si5	96.09(7)
Si1–S2	2.145(2)	Si3–S3–Si4	95.70(7)
Si3–S3	2.158(2)	Si3–S4–Si5	95.91(8)
Si3–S4	2.149(2)	S1–Si1–S2	107.89(8)
Si4–S1	2.136(2)	S3–Si3–S4	108.55(8)
Si4–S3	2.134(2)	S1–Si4–S3	112.61(9)
Si5–S2	2.145(2)	S2–Si5–S4	112.49(8)
Si5–S4	2.143(2)	S1–Si1–Si2	108.70(7)
Si4–Si5	2.359(2)	S2–Si1–Si2	109.56(8)
Si1–C1	1.855(5)	S3–Si3–Si2	108.89(8)
Si2–C2	1.860(5)	S4–Si3–Si2	109.07(7)
Si2–C3	1.881(5)	S1–Si4–Si5	105.44(7)
Si3–C4	1.848(5)	S3–Si4–Si5	105.60(7)
Si4–C5	1.844(4)	S2–Si5–Si4	104.93(8)
Si5–C6	1.841(5)	S4–Si5–Si4	105.24(7)
		C2–Si2–C3	111.6(2)
Si6–Si7	2.343(2)	Si6–Si7–Si8	104.52(7)
Si7–Si8	2.344(2)	Si6–S5–Si9	96.32(7)
Si6–S5	2.144(2)	Si6–S6–Si10	96.31(8)
Si6–S6	2.152(2)	Si8–S7–Si9	95.90(8)
Si8–S7	2.146(2)	Si8–S8–Si10	95.88(7)
Si8–S8	2.150(2)	S5–Si6–S6	108.51(8)
Si9–S5	2.140(2)	S7–Si8–S8	108.56(8)
Si9–S7	2.145(2)	S5–Si9–S7	111.89(8)
Si10–S6	2.141(2)	S6–Si10–S8	111.39(9)
Si5–S4	2.143(2)	S5–Si6–Si7	108.20(8)
Si9–Si10	2.358(2)	S6–Si6–Si7	109.54(7)
Si6–C7	1.857(5)	S7–Si8–Si7	108.85(8)
Si7–C8	1.879(6)	S8–Si8–Si7	109.70(8)
Si7–C9	1.877(5)	S5–Si9–Si10	105.43(8)
Si8–C10	1.859(5)	S7–Si9–Si10	105.03(7)
Si9–C11	1.855(5)	S6–Si10–Si9	105.15(7)
Si10–C12	1.852(5)	S8–Si10–Si9	105.55(8)
		C8–Si7–C9	110.9(3)

(shelx-97 [22]) and drawn using Diamond [23]. The ellipsoids at the non-hydrogen atoms are shown at the 30% probability level.

### 3.3. Starting materials

Sulfur, selenium, 1.0 M Li[BEt<sub>3</sub>H] in THF (Super Hydride<sup>®</sup>), Me<sub>2</sub>SiCl<sub>2</sub>, Ph<sub>2</sub>MeSiCl, lithium powder, H<sub>2</sub>S and NEt<sub>3</sub> were commercially available. Cl<sub>2</sub>MeSi–SiMeCl<sub>2</sub> was prepared as described in [24]. THF was distilled from sodium potassium alloy prior to use. Hexane was dried over KOH. All reactions were carried out under argon applying standard Schlenk techniques.

### 3.4. Synthesis of Me<sub>2</sub>Si(SiMePh<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (1a)

Ph<sub>2</sub>MeSiCl (7.7 g, 33 mmol) was dissolved in 30 ml THF and lithium powder (0.78 g, 0.11 mol) was added.

Table 6

Crystal data of 2a and 3a as well as data collection and refinement details

	2a	3a
Empirical formula	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>24</sub> S <sub>4</sub> Si <sub>6</sub>	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>18</sub> S <sub>4</sub> Si <sub>5</sub>
Formula weight	417.05	358.89
Crystal shape	block	block
Temperature (K)	295(2)	293(2)
Crystal color	colorless	colorless
Crystal size (mm <sup>3</sup> )	0.37 × 0.25 × 0.16	0.17 × 0.11 × 0.07
Crystal system	monoclinic	monoclinic
Space group	P21/n	P21/c
Unit cell dimensions		
a (Å)	12.827(2)	8.2255(5)
b (Å)	10.897(1)	15.820(1)
c (Å)	16.449(2)	27.722(2)
$\beta$ (°)	96.187(7)	90.502(4)
V (Å <sup>3</sup> ), Z	2285.8(5), 4	3607.3(4), 8
Density (calc., g cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.212	1.322
Linear absorption coeff. (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.717	0.833
Scan method	φ-scans	φ-scans
Absorption correction	numerical	numerical
Measured reflections	19 502	21 471
Independent reflections	3987	5628
Observed reflections	3270	3481
R <sub>int</sub>	0.0406	0.1008
θ range for collection (°)	1.92–25.00	1.95–24.00
Index ranges	$-15 \leq h \leq 12, -12 \leq k \leq 12, -18 \leq l \leq 19$	$-9 \leq h \leq 8, -18 \leq k \leq 18, -31 \leq l \leq 18$
Completeness to θ <sub>max</sub> (%)	99.2	99.3
Number of parameters	171	283
Final R1/wR2 [I > 2σ(I)] <sup>a</sup>	0.0786/0.1668	0.1195/0.1046
Final R1/wR2 (all data) <sup>a</sup>	0.0632/0.1572	0.0521/0.0909
Goodness-of-fit (S) on F <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup>	1.098	0.994
H-locating and refining	geom./mixed	geom./mixed
Max./min. e-density (e Å <sup>-3</sup> )	0.492/–0.342	0.268/–0.333

<sup>a</sup>  $R_1 = \Sigma(|Fo| - |Fc|)/\Sigma|Fo|$ ,  $wR_2 = [\Sigma w(Fo<sub>2</sub> - Fc<sub>2</sub>)^2/\Sigma(wFo<sub>2</sub>)]^{1/2}$ ,  $w = 1/[\sigma^2(Fo<sub>2</sub>) + (aP)^2 + bP]$  where  $P = (Fo<sub>2</sub> + 2Fc<sub>2</sub>)/3$ .

<sup>b</sup>  $S = [\Sigma w(Fo<sub>2</sub> - Fc<sub>2</sub>)^2]/(n - p)^{1/2}$ , n = number of reflections, p = parameters used.

After some time, the stirred reaction mixture started to turn green. After reaction overnight, the deep-green solution of Ph<sub>2</sub>MeSiLi was slowly transferred by a cannula into a solution of Me<sub>2</sub>SiCl<sub>2</sub> (2.12 g, 16.5 mmol) in THF (20 ml) at –80 °C. After complete addition, the reaction mixture was brought to room temperature and the THF was removed in vacuo. After addition of n-hexane (50 ml), the mixture was filtered from precipitated LiCl and the solvent was removed in vacuo

yielding 6.4 g (14 mmol, 85%) pure  $\text{Me}_2\text{Si}(\text{SiMePh}_2)_2$  (1a) as an oily residue.

### 3.5. Synthesis of $\text{Me}_2\text{Si}(\text{SiMeCl}_2)_2$ (1b)

1a (6.25 g, 13.8 mmol) was dissolved in 20 ml hexane and  $\text{AlCl}_3$  (8.3 g, 62 mmol) was added. Acetyl chloride (4.4 ml, 62 mmol) was slowly added to this mixture with stirring. After reaction overnight, the upper layer was isolated and the residue extracted with n-hexane ( $2 \times 10$  ml). The combined hexane solutions were concentrated in vacuo at room temperature to yield 2.9 g (10 mmol) pure  $\text{Me}_2\text{Si}(\text{SiMeCl}_2)_2$  (1b) which was checked by NMR spectroscopy.

1b: GC/MS (m/e, rel. int.): 286 ([ $\text{Me}_4\text{Si}3\text{S}5\text{Cl}3\text{S}7\text{Cl}$ ] $[\text{M}^+]$ , 1), 271 ([ $\text{M}^+ - \text{Me}$ ], 1), 249/251 ([ $\text{M}^+ - \text{Cl}$ ], 2), 171 ([ $\text{Me}_3\text{Si}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ], 18), 156 ([ $\text{Me}_2\text{Si}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ], 17), 113 ([ $\text{MeSiCl}_2$ ], 6), 93 ([ $\text{Me}_2\text{SiCl}$ ], 29), 73 ([ $\text{Me}_3\text{Si}$ ], 100).

### 3.6. Synthesis of $\text{Me}_2\text{Si}[\text{SiMe}(\text{SBu})_2]_2$ (1c)

Sulfur (64 mg, 2.0 mmol) was added to a mixture of a 1.6-M BuLi solution in hexane (1.25 ml) and THF (2 ml). The sulfur dissolves immediately under formation of  $\text{BuSLi}$ . 1b (0.14 g, 0.5 mmol) was added to this  $\text{BuSLi}$  solution. After stirring for 30 min, the solvents were removed in vacuo and the residue was dissolved in hexane (10 ml). After filtration from precipitated lithium chloride evaporation of the solvent yielded pure  $\text{Me}_2\text{Si}[\text{SiMe}(\text{SBu})_2]_2$  (1c, 0.16 g, 0.32 mmol) which was characterized by NMR spectroscopy (see Table 1).

### 3.7. Adamantanes ( $\text{Me}_2\text{Si})_2(\text{SiMe})_4\text{E}4$ ( $\text{E} = \text{S}$ (2a), $\text{Se}$ (2b))

1b (0.29 g, 1.0 mmol) was added at 0 °C to a solution of 2.0 mmol  $\text{Li}_2\text{E}$  ( $\text{E} = \text{S}$ ,  $\text{Se}$ ), prepared from 2.0 mmol elemental E and 4.0 ml of a 1.0 M solution of  $\text{Li}[\text{BEt}_3\text{H}]$  in THF (Super-Hydride®). After stirring for 20 min, the solvents were removed in vacuo and the residue dissolved in 10 ml hexane. After filtration from precipitated lithium salts, the removal of the solvent in vacuo yielded the adamantanes 2a and 2b as colorless crystals (60–70% yield, 2a: m.p.: 174 °C).

The sulfur compound 2a can also be prepared by reaction of 1b with  $\text{H}_2\text{S}/\text{NEt}_3$  in hexane solution.

2a: GC/MS: 416 ([ $\text{M}^+$ ], 68), 401 ([ $\text{M}^+ - \text{Me}$ ], 100), 357 ([ $\text{Me}_5\text{Si}_5\text{S}4\text{CH}_2$ ], 20), 343 ([ $\text{Me}_5\text{Si}_5\text{S}_4$ ], 17), 311 ([ $\text{Me}_5\text{Si}_5\text{S}_3$ ], 24), 283 ([ $\text{Me}_5\text{Si}_4\text{S}_3$ ], 18), 266 ([ $\text{Me}_6\text{Si}_4\text{S}_2$ ], 10), 251 ([ $\text{Me}_5\text{Si}_4\text{S}_2$ ], 35), 223 ([ $\text{Me}_5\text{Si}_3\text{S}_2$ ], 9), 191 ([ $\text{Me}_5\text{Si}_3\text{S}$ ], 21), 176 ([ $\text{Me}_4\text{Si}_3\text{S}$ ], 9), 165 ([ $\text{Me}_3\text{Si}_2\text{S}_2$ ], 11), 163 ([ $\text{Me}_5\text{Si}_2\text{S}$ ], 8), 131 ([ $\text{Me}_5\text{Si}_2$ ], 24), 116 ([ $\text{Me}_4\text{Si}_2$ ], 18), 73 ([ $\text{Me}_3\text{Si}$ ], 94).

### 3.8. Noradamantane ( $\text{Me}_2\text{Si})(\text{SiMe})_4\text{S}4$ (3a)

1b (0.29 g, 1.0 mmol) and  $\text{Cl}_2\text{MeSi}-\text{SiMeCl}_2$  (0.23 g, 1.0 mmol) were dissolved in 40 ml hexane and  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  was bubbled through the solution while  $\text{NEt}_3$  (1.7 ml, 12 mmol) was added slowly. After 1 h, the mixture was filtered from precipitated  $[\text{HNEt}_3]\text{Cl}$  and the solvent was removed in vacuo to yield colorless crystalline 3a in 55% yield, m.p.: 169 °C.

3a: GC/MS: 358 ([ $\text{M}^+$ ], 43), 343 ([ $\text{M}^+ - \text{Me}$ ], 41), 283 ([ $\text{Me}_5\text{Si}_4\text{S}_3$ ], 20), 239 ([ $\text{Me}_6\text{Si}_3\text{S}_2\text{H}$ ], 4), 225 ([ $\text{Me}_3\text{Si}_3\text{S}_3$ ], 7), 223 ([ $\text{Me}_5\text{Si}_3\text{S}_2$ ], 9), 208 ([ $\text{Me}_4\text{Si}_3\text{S}_2$ ], 14), 193 ([ $\text{Me}_3\text{Si}_3\text{S}_2$ ], 5), 165 ([ $\text{Me}_3\text{Si}_2\text{S}_2$ ], 26), 133 ([ $\text{Me}_3\text{Si}_2\text{S}$ ], 12), 73 ([ $\text{Me}_3\text{Si}$ ], 100).

### 4. Supplementary material

Crystallographic data for the structural analyses have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, CCDC Nos. 199979 for 2a and 199980 for 3a. Copies of this information may be obtained free of charge from The Director, CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK (Fax: +44-1223-336033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk or www: <http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk>).

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