# Direct chlorination of alcohols with chlorodimethylsilane catalyzed by a gallium trichloride/tartrate system under neutral conditions<sup>†</sup>

Makoto Yasuda, Kenji Shimizu, Satoshi Yamasaki and Akio Baba\*

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The reaction of secondary alcohols 1 with chlorodimethylsilane (HSiMe<sub>2</sub>Cl) proceeded in the presence of a catalytic amount of GaCl<sub>3</sub>/diethyl tartrate to give the corresponding organic chlorides 3. In the catalytic cycle, the reaction of diethyl tartrate 4a with HSiMe<sub>2</sub>Cl 2 gives the chlorosilyl ether 5 with generation of H<sub>2</sub>. Alcohol-exchange between the formed chlorosilyl ether 5 and the substrate alcohol 1 affords alkoxychlorosilane 6, which reacts with catalytic GaCl<sub>3</sub> to give the chlorinated product 3. The moderate Lewis acidity of GaCl<sub>3</sub> facilitates chlorination. Strong Lewis acids did not give product due to excessive affinity for the oxy-functionalities. Although tertiary alcohols were chlorinated by this system even in the absence of diethyl tartrate, certain alcohols that are less likely to give carbocationic species were effectively chlorinated using the GaCl<sub>3</sub>/diethyl tartrate system.

### Introduction

Chlorination of alcohols is an important process in organic transformation. There are numerous chlorination systems, but most of them are employed under acidic conditions.<sup>1</sup> Therefore, substrate selection is severely limited and development of chlorination systems that operate under neutral conditions is required. Recently, we reported a neutral system for chlorination of alcohols using dimethylchlorosilane (HSiMe<sub>2</sub>Cl) and an InCl<sub>3</sub> catalyst.<sup>2</sup> However, this system requires an equimolar amount of benzil to avoid background reduction of the alcohol.<sup>3</sup> To the best of our knowledge, a completely catalytic system for direct chlorination of a wide range of alcohol substrates under neutral conditions has never been realized.

Chlorohydrosilane (HSiR<sub>2</sub>Cl) has interesting structural features. In particular, the silicon center has two reactive sites hydrogen and chlorine - either of which can be utilized for organic transformations. Both chlorosilane (R<sub>3</sub>SiCl) and hydrosilane (R<sub>3</sub>SiH) react with alcohols to give silvl ethers in the presence of either promoters or catalysts.<sup>4,5</sup> Both chlorohydrosilane (HSiR<sub>2</sub>Cl) sites react with diols to give cyclic silanes.<sup>6</sup> The selective reaction of HSiR<sub>2</sub>Cl at only the Si-H site prior to reaction with the Si-Cl site is a difficult problem. The reaction of chlorohydrosilanes (HSiR<sub>2</sub>Cl) with alcohols is effectively catalyzed by InCl<sub>3</sub>to give a reduced product (alkane) D through hydrosilyl ether A with release of HCl. In this reaction, Si-Cl reacts prior to reaction with Si-H.<sup>3</sup> During chlorination, formation of chlorosilyl ether **B** necessitates H<sub>2</sub> release, although this phenomenon is rarely observed. Thus, we were motivated to develop a new, effective catalytic system that yields **B**. A dummy alcohol (R'OH) that favors production of  $H_2$ 

over HCl when reacted with chlorohydrosilane would give a route to chlorosilyl ether C, followed by alcohol-exchange to give the chloride E *via* B. Moreover, R'OH should not give the chloride, R'Cl, under these conditions. In this paper, we report GaCl<sub>3</sub>-catalyzed direct chlorination of alcohols with chlorohydrosilane using tartrate as a dummy alcohol.

### **Results and discussion**

#### Optimization of catalytic chlorination of alcohol

Table 1 summarizes optimization of the catalyst system for the reaction of 4-phenyl-2-butanol 1a with chlorodimethylsilane (HSiMe<sub>2</sub>Cl) 2. After testing many alcohols, diethyl tartrate was found to be effective in the synthesis of the chlorinated product. As shown in entry 2, combined use of 10 mol% of diethyl tartrate 4a and 5 mol% of GaCl<sub>3</sub> effectively catalyzed the reaction to give the corresponding chloride 3a.<sup>7</sup> As the reaction progressed, generation of H<sub>2</sub> gas was observed. Exclusive use of GaCl<sub>3</sub> or tartrate 4a did not yield the product (entries 1 and 8). GaBr<sub>3</sub>, GaI<sub>3</sub>, or Ga(OTf)<sub>3</sub> showed low product yields (entries 4-6). InCl<sub>3</sub> also acted as a catalyst, giving **3a**, but in lower yield (entry 7). The amount of 4a, an R'OH, was important as loading of 50 mol% of 4a gave a low yield (entry 3). Other metal halides, such as AlCl<sub>3</sub>, ZnCl<sub>2</sub>, TiCl<sub>4</sub>, or BiCl<sub>3</sub>, were examined, but did not yield the product (entries 9–12). An α-hydroxyl carbonyl unit in the alcohol (R'OH) is indispensable. Both hydroxyl ester 4b and ketone 4c gave the product when the GaCl<sub>3</sub> catalyst was used, although the yields were low (entries 13 and 14). Neither benzoin ethyl ether 4d (containing a protected hydroxy carbonyl group) nor the diol 4e showed catalytic activity.

# $\label{eq:chlorination} Chlorination of secondary alcohols catalyzed by the GaCl_3/tartrate system$

Next, we explored the generality of the  $GaCl_{\rm 3}/tartrate\text{-}catalyzed$  reaction with chlorodimethylsilane by testing different alcohols

Department of Applied Chemistry and Center for Atomic and Molecular Technologies, Graduate School of Engineering, Osaka University, 2-1 Yamadaoka, Suita, Osaka, 565-0871, Japan. E-mail: yasuda@chem. eng.osaka-u.ac.jp; Fax: +81 6-6879-7387; Tel: +81 6-6879-7386 † Electronic supplementary information (ESI) available: Experimental procedures. See DOI: 10.1039/b804589e

D٢ catalyst system HSiMe<sub>2</sub>Cl CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt, 6 h 1a ĊН 2 3a ĊI Catalyst system Entry R'OH (10 mol%) Metal halide (5 mol%) Yield (%) 0 1 None GaCl<sub>3</sub> 2 3 75 4a GaCl<sub>3</sub> 4a (50 mol%) 19 GaCl<sub>3</sub> 4 5 35 4a GaBr<sub>3</sub> 15 4a GaI<sub>3</sub> 6 7 4a Ga(OTf)<sub>3</sub> 4 4a 28 InCl 8 0 4a None 9 4a AlCl<sub>3</sub> 0 10 4a ZnCl<sub>2</sub> 0 11 0 4a TiCl<sub>4</sub> 12 4a BiCl<sub>3</sub> 0 19 13 4hGaCl<sub>3</sub> 14 4c GaCl<sub>3</sub> 65 15 0 **4**d GaCl 16 0 4e GaCl<sub>3</sub> OH EtO Ft( Ċ⊦ ÓR 4a (+)-DET 4b R = H; 4c R = Et; 4d

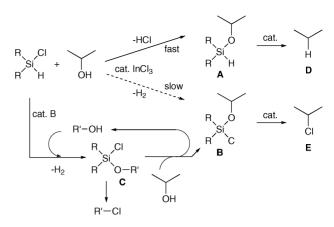
 Table 1
 Optimization of the catalyst system for chlorination of alcohol

 1a
 Ph
 Ph</

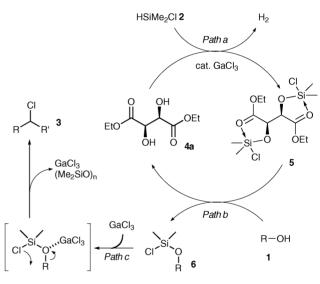
(Table 2). Various secondary alcohols were effectively converted to the corresponding chlorides, while primary alcohols did not yield the product.<sup>8</sup> The reaction of 2-octanol 1b afforded the 2chlorooctane 3b in moderate yield with some unidentified rearranged chlorides (entry 2). The elemental analysis of the mixture of the products showed good agreement with chlorooctane. The ratio of 3b to byproducts is almost 1 : 0.6 by NMR. This result suggests that our system includes cationic mechanism that often gives rearranged isomers. Cyclohexanol 1c exclusively gave the chlorocyclohexane 3c (entry 3). 2-Adamantanol 1d, 3-phenyl-2propanol le and 2-butanol lf gave the corresponding chlorides in high yields (entries 4-6). The acid-sensitive substrate 1g exclusively gave the corresponding product 3g without any contamination because the system was employed under neutral conditions (entry 7). Substrate 1h, bearing both secondary and primary hydroxyl sites, was chlorinated exclusively at the secondary site (entry 8). In contrast, conventional chlorination of 1h using a Ph<sub>3</sub>P/CCl<sub>4</sub> system afforded 13-chloro-2-tridecanol (81% yield) via reaction at a primary OH group. Our system was selective for chlorination of polyols. The N-phthaloyl-substituted starting alcohol 1i was effectively transformed into the chloride form, while the nitrogen moiety was not involved in the reaction (entry 9).

#### Investigation of reaction mechanism

A plausible reaction mechanism is shown in Scheme 2. Diethyl tartrate **4a** acts as a dummy alcohol (R'OH), as shown in Scheme 1, and gives chlorosilyl ether **5** and  $H_2$  as a byproduct (path a). Compound **5** undergoes alcohol-exchange with the substrate alcohol **1** to form chlorosilyl alkoxide **6** with regeneration of **4a** (path b). The chlorosilyl alkoxide **6** is catalyzed by GaCl<sub>3</sub>



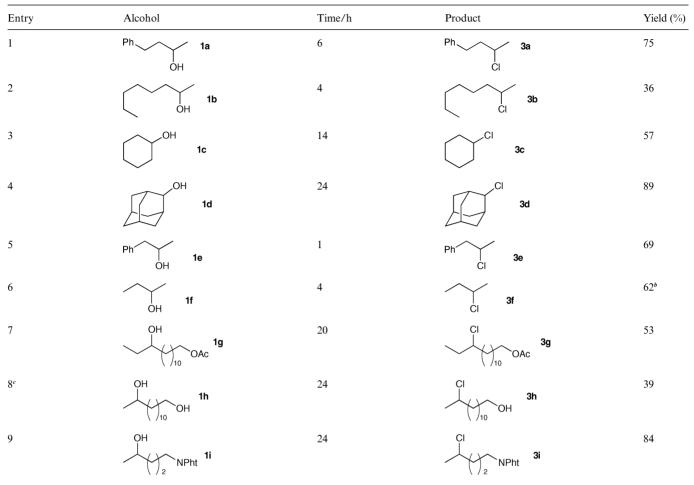
Scheme 1 Catalytic chlorination mediated by a dummy alcohol (R'OH).



Scheme 2 Plausible reaction mechanism.

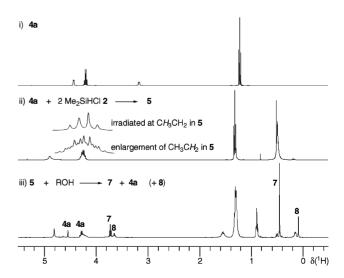
to give the chlorinated product 3 with siloxane release (path c). Among paths a-c, path a is crucial. We sought dummy alcohols (R'OH) that favor production of H<sub>2</sub> over HCl during generation of chlorosilyl ethers. In addition, the formed chlorosilyl ether should not transform into chloride. The tartrate 4a satisfies these requirements for the dummy alcohol. Typically, formation of hydrosilyl ether with generation of HCl is kinetically favored; this was the only reaction observed during the reaction of benzhydrol with chlorohydrosilane.<sup>3</sup> In the case of tartrate, however, chlorosilyl ether 5 forms with evolution of  $H_2$ . Even if the hydrosilyl ether was generated, transformation into the reduced tartrate would not take place because the carbocation generated with assistance from GaCl<sub>3</sub> is destabilized by the electron-withdrawing carbonyl group in 4a. The pathway to the hydorosilyl ether is reversible; therefore, the irreversible and thermodynamically favorable pathway to the chlorosilyl ether proceeds, giving  $H_2$ . The chlorosilyl ether 5 does not form chlorinated tartrate, also due to destabilization of the carbocation. Thus, 4a appears to be a suitable dummy alcohol, although direct evidence is yet to be obtained.

We confirmed each step for paths a-c of the catalytic cycle shown in Scheme 2. *Path a*: A 1 : 2 mixture of **4a** and **2** in the presence of 5 mol% of GaCl<sub>3</sub> generated H<sub>2</sub> gas and gave the starting material **4a**, after aqueous work-up. The corresponding

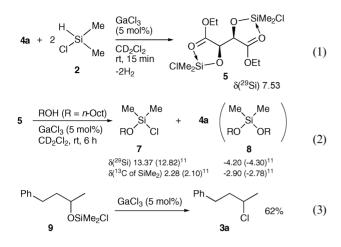


<sup>*a*</sup> All reactions were carried out at room temperature in  $CH_2Cl_2$  with 1.0 equiv of alcohol 1, 1.3 equiv of  $HSiMe_2Cl 2$ , 5 mol% of  $GaCl_3$ , and 10 mol% of diethyl tartrate 4a. <sup>*b*</sup> Direct observation of the product by NMR because of the high volatility of 3f. <sup>*c*</sup>  $HSiMe_2Cl (3.0 equiv)$  was used.

reduced or chlorinated compounds did not form, probably because the carbocation at the  $\alpha$ -position of the carbonyl is unstable. This result suggests generation of chlorosilyl ether 5. In fact, NMR analysis of the reaction mixture prior to work-up indicated generation of 5 (eqn 1, Fig. 1-ii). The  $OCH_2Me$  signal appeared as an ABq when irradiated at the Me group, presumably because of a rigid structure caused by Si-chelation in 5. <sup>29</sup>Si NMR showed a reasonable chemical shift at 7.53 ppm without  ${}^{1}J_{SiH}$  coupling. Since the use of Et<sub>3</sub>SiH instead of HSiMe<sub>2</sub>Cl resulted in slow generation of H<sub>2</sub> under the same conditions, chlorine on Si must be important for the formation of the silvl ether. GaCl<sub>3</sub> is indispensable in this step because a control experiment, in which the GaCl<sub>3</sub>-catalyst was not used, did not give 5. Path b: Addition of 1-octanol to the generated species 5 afforded a mixture of Me<sub>2</sub>(OctO)SiCl 7 and 4a by alcohol-exchange (eqn 2).<sup>10</sup> The species formed showed <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, and <sup>29</sup>Si NMR signals comparable to those reported for similar compounds (Fig. 1(iii)).<sup>11</sup> Path c: The isolated chlorosilyl ether 9 reacted with catalytic GaCl<sub>3</sub> (5 mol%) to give the chloride 3a in 62% yield (eqn 3). These results provide strong support for the reaction course illustrated in Scheme 2.



**Fig. 1** NMR study for mechanistic investigation (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>). *Reagents and conditions*: (i) diethyl tartrate **4a**. (ii) 2 : 1 mixture of HSiMe<sub>2</sub>Cl **2** and **4a**. (iii) Mixture of generated **5** with 1-octanol (ROH).



Chlorination of tertiary alcohols

When tertiary alcohols were used as the substrate, diethyl tartrate 4a was not necessary when the GaCl<sub>3</sub> catalyst was used (Table 3, entries 1-3). These reactions proceeded via a mechanism different from that shown in Schemes 1 and 2, as H<sub>2</sub> generation was not observed during the reaction. The reaction probably proceeded through an  $S_N$ 1-type chloro-dehydroxylation with the assistance of a GaCl<sub>3</sub> as a Lewis acid, as has been reported for the same type of reaction using BiCl<sub>3</sub>.9 However, certain tertiary alcohols that would not be good substrates for  $S_N$ 1-type reactions showed low chloride product yields (entries 4 and 6). In fact, BiCl<sub>3</sub>-catalyzed reactions of 11 and 1m with 2 for 3 h resulted in low yields (19% and 0%), respectively,<sup>9</sup> probably due to destabilization of the tertiary carbocation either by steric or electronic effects. Interestingly, the GaCl<sub>3</sub>/tartrate system significantly improved chlorination of 11 and 1m, resulting in satisfactory yields (entries 5 and 7). In this case, generation of H<sub>2</sub> was observed. Thus, it was concluded that the reaction proceeds via the mechanism shown in Scheme 2. The

Entry	Alcohol	Time/h	Product	Yield (%)
1	OH 1j	1.5	CI 3j	99
2	OAc OH	2	OAc CI 3k	99
3	PhtN OH	3	PhtN Cl	99
4 5 <sup>b</sup>	OH 1m	3 3	Cl 3m	6 65
6 7 <sup>b</sup>	HO CI In	2 2	CI CI 3n	16 <sup>c</sup> 89 <sup>c</sup>

 Table 3
 Chlorination of tertiary alcohols 1<sup>a</sup>

GaCl<sub>3</sub>/tartrate system can be applied to chlorination of variety of tertiary alcohols.

#### Conclusions

In summary, the combination of GaCl<sub>3</sub> and diethyl tartrate effectively catalyzed the chlorination of secondary alcohols. Tertiary alcohols that give destabilized carbocations can also be chlorinated using this combined catalyst system. With this system, we have developed a completely catalytic reaction for the chlorination of alcohols under neutral conditions.

#### Experimental

IR spectra were recorded as thin films or as solids in KBr pellets on a HORIBA FT-720 spectrophotometer. <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, and <sup>29</sup>Si NMR spectra were obtained with a 400, 100, and 78.7 MHz spectrometer, respectively, with TMS as internal standard. Mass spectra were recorded on a JEOL JMS-DS303 spectrometer. All reactions were carried out under nitrogen. GLC analyses were performed on a Shimadzu GC-14A with FID using a 15 m × 3 mm capillary column packed with TC-WAX, TC-5, or TC-1701 (0.25  $\mu$ m). Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (MERK C60). Bulb-to-bulb distillation (Kugelrohr) was accomplished in a Sibata GTO-250RS at the oven temperature and pressure indicated. Yields were determined by GLC or <sup>1</sup>H NMR using internal standards.

### General procedure for chlorination of alcohols catalyzed by the GaCl<sub>3</sub>/tartrate system (Table 2)

To a solution of (+)-diethyl tartrate (0.1 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (1 mL) were added  $GaCl_3$  in pentane (0.5 M, 0.1 mL, 0.05 mmol), alcohol 1 (1.0 mmol), and  $HSiMe_2Cl 2$  (1.3 mmol) under nitrogen. The

<sup>*a*</sup> All entries were carried out at room temperature in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> with 1.0 equiv of alcohol 1, 1.3 equiv of HSiMe<sub>2</sub>Cl 2, and 5 mol% of GaCl<sub>3</sub>. <sup>*b*</sup> (+)-DET (10 mol%) 4a was added. <sup>*c*</sup> Direct observation of the product by NMR because of the high volatility of 3n.

reaction mixture was stirred under the conditions noted in text.  $H_2$  gas was generated for the first *ca.* 15 minutes. The mixture was quenched by addition of water (10 mL) and extracted with diethyl ether (3 × 10 mL). The collected organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated *in vacuo*.

# General procedure for chlorination of alcohols catalyzed by the GaCl<sub>3</sub> system (Table 3)

To a solution of GaCl<sub>3</sub> (0.5 M in pentane, 0.1 mL, 0.05 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1 mL) were added alcohol **1** (1.0 mmol) and HSiMe<sub>2</sub>Cl **2** (1.3 mmol) under nitrogen. The reaction mixture was stirred under the conditions noted in the text. The mixture was quenched by addition of water (10 mL) and extracted with diethyl ether (3  $\times$  10 mL). The collected organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated *in vacuo*.

#### Product data

The spectral data of 3a,<sup>13</sup> 3b,<sup>14</sup> 3d,<sup>2a</sup> 3e,<sup>2a</sup> and  $3k^{12}$  were in an excellent agreement with the reported data. The spectral data of **3c**, **3f**, **3m**, and **3n** were in an excellent agreement with those of commercially available products.

12-Chlorotetradecyl acetate (3g). According to the general procedure, this compound was prepared from HSiMe<sub>2</sub>Cl, 1g, GaCl<sub>3</sub> and (+)-diethyl tartrate in dichloromethane to give the product as a colorless liquid after chromatography (hexane-EtOAc, 97:3). Further purification was performed by distillation under reduced pressure, to give the product (including some rearrangement products): bp. 165 °C/0.4 mmHg; IR: (neat) 2927 (C-H), 1743 (C=O), 1242 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR: (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 4.05 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H, 1-H<sub>2</sub>), 3.85 (m, 1H, 12-H), 2.05 (s, 3H,  $COCH_3$ , 1.03 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H, 14-H<sub>3</sub>) (other signals could not be identified due to overlap with those of rearrangement byproducts); <sup>13</sup>C NMR: (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 171.3 (C, CO), 65.9 (CH, C-12), 64.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>, C-1), 31.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>, C-13), 10.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>, C-14) (other signals could not be identified due to overlap with those of rearrangement by-products); MS: (CI, 200 eV) m/z 293  $(M^+ + 3, 31), 291 (M^+ + 1, 100), 255 (M^+ + 1 - HCl, 65), 195$  $(M^+ + 1 - HCl - CH_3COOH, 47)$ ; HRMS: (CI, 200 eV) calcd for  $C_{16}H_{32}ClO_2$  291.2091 found m/z 291.2086 (M<sup>+</sup> + 1). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>31</sub>ClO<sub>2</sub>: C, 66.07; H, 10.74. Found: C, 66.36; H, 10.59.

12-Chloro-1-tridecanol (3h). According to the general procedure, this compound was prepared from HSiMe<sub>2</sub>Cl, 1h, GaCl<sub>3</sub> and (+)-diethyl tartrate in dichloromethane to give the product as a colorless liquid after chromatography (hexane-EtOAc, 90 : 10). Further purification was performed by distillation under reduced pressure and GPC, to give the product (including some rearrangement products): bp. 175 °C/0.5 mmHg; IR: (neat) 3309  $(OH) \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; <sup>1</sup>H NMR: (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 4.02 (tq, J = 6.6, 6.6 Hz, 1H, 12-H), 1.50 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H, 13-H<sub>3</sub>) (other signals could not be identified due to overlap with those of rearrangement byproducts); <sup>13</sup>C NMR: (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 63.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>, C-1), 59.0 (CH, C-12), 40.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>, C-11), 25.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>, C-13) (other signals could not be identified due to overlap with those of rearrangement by-products); MS: (CI, 200 eV) m/z 237 (M<sup>+</sup> + 3, 3.47), 235 (M<sup>+</sup> + 1, 12.3), 217 ( $M^+$  + 1 - H<sub>2</sub>O, 41.0), 199 ( $M^+$  + 1 - HCl, 100), 181  $(M^+ + 1 - HCl - H_2O, 22.1), 125 (24.0), 111 (26.6), 97 (21.1);$  HRMS: (CI, 200 eV) calcd for  $C_{13}H_{28}CIO$  235.1829 found m/z 235.1822 (M<sup>+</sup> + 1). Anal. Calcd for  $C_{13}H_{27}CIO$ : C, 66.50; H, 11.59. Found: C, 66.42; H, 11.44.

2-(4-Chloropentyl)isoindole-1,3-dione (3i). According to the general procedure, this compound was prepared from HSiMe<sub>2</sub>Cl, 1i, GaCl<sub>3</sub> and (+)-diethyl tartrate in dichloromethane to give the product as a colorless liquid after chromatography (hexane-EtOAc, 80: 20); further purification was performed by distillation under reduced pressure: bp. 175 °C/1.0 mmHg; IR: (neat) 1774,  $1712 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; <sup>1</sup>H NMR: (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.85 (dd, J = 5.4, 3.2 Hz, 2H, 5-H and 8-H), 7.73 (dd, J = 5.4, 3.2 Hz, 2H, 6-H and 7-H), 4.08 (tg, J = 6.8, 6.8 Hz, 1H, 4'-H), 3.72 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H, 1'-H<sub>2</sub>), 1.92 (m, 1H, 3'-H<sup>A</sup>), 1.87–1.72 (m, 3H, 3'-H<sup>B</sup> and 2'-H<sub>2</sub>), 1.50 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H, 5'-H<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR: (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 168.4 (s, C-1 and C-3), 134.0 (d, C-6 and C-7), 132.0 (s, C-4 and C-9), 123.2 (d, C-5 and C-8), 57.9 (d, C-7'), 37.3 (d, C-1'), 37.3 (d, C-3'), 25.9 (t, C-2'), 25.4 (q, C-5'); MS: (EI, 70 eV) m/z 253 (M<sup>+</sup> + 2, 0.82), 251 (M<sup>+</sup>, 2.5), 160 (M<sup>+</sup> - CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CHClCH<sub>3</sub>, 100); HRMS: (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_{13}H_{14}CINO_2$  251.0709 found m/z 251.0713 (M<sup>+</sup>). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>14</sub>ClNO<sub>2</sub>: C, 62.03; H, 5.61; N, 5.56. Found: C, 61.74; H, 5.49; N, 5.60.

**2-Chloro-2-methylhexane (3j).** According to the general procedure, this compound was prepared from HSiMe<sub>2</sub>Cl, **1j** and GaCl<sub>3</sub> in dichloromethane to give the product as a colorless liquid after chromatography (hexane–EtOAc, 90 : 10); further purification was performed by distillation under reduced pressure: bp. 58 °C/ 50 mmHg; IR: (neat) 2962, 1466 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR: (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.74 (m, 2H, 3-H<sub>2</sub>), 1.57 (s, 3H, 1-H<sub>3</sub> or 2-Me), 1.57 (s, 3H, 2-Me or 1-H<sub>3</sub>), 1.46 (m, 2H, 4-H<sub>2</sub>), 1.33 (tq, J = 7.4, 7.4 Hz, 2H, 5-H<sub>2</sub>), 0.93 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H, 6-H<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR: (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 71.3 (s, C-2), 45.8 (t, C-3), 32.4 (q, C-1 and 2-Me), 27.3 (t, C-4), 22.8 (t, C-5), 14.0 (q, C-6); MS: (EI, 70 eV) *m/z* 121 (M<sup>+</sup> + 2 - CH<sub>3</sub>, 0.75), 119 (M<sup>+</sup> - CH<sub>3</sub>, 2.2), 99 (M<sup>+</sup> - Cl, 17), 77 (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl, 65), 56 (100), 41 (55); HRMS: (EI, 70 eV) calcd for C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>12</sub>Cl 119.0628 found *m/z* 119.0630 (M<sup>+</sup> - CH<sub>3</sub>). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>15</sub>Cl: C, 62.44; H, 11.23. Found: C, 62.59; H, 11.05.

2-(7-Chloro-3,7-dimethyloctyl)isoindole-1,3-dione (31). According to the general procedure, this compound was prepared from HSiMe<sub>2</sub>Cl, 1l and GaCl<sub>3</sub> in dichloromethane to give the product as a solid after recrystallization (hexane-ether): mp. 88-90 °C; IR: (KBr) 1770, 1712 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR: (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.84 (dd, J = 5.6, 3.2 Hz, 2H, 5-H and 8-H), 7.71 (dd, J = 5.6, 3.2 Hz, 2H, 6-H and 7-H), 3.71 (m, 2H, 1'-H<sub>2</sub>), 1.70 (m, 3H), 1.56 (s, 6H, 8'-H<sub>3</sub> and 7'-Me), 1.59-1.21 (m, 5H), 1.21 (m, 1H), 0.99 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 3H, 3'-Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR: (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 168.4 (C, C-1 and C-3), 133.8 (CH, C-6 and C-7), 132.2 (C, C-4 and C-9), 123.1 (CH, C-5 and C-8), 71.2 (C, C-7'), 46.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 35.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 32.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>, 7'-Me), 32.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>, C-8'), 30.6 (CH, C-3'), 22.3  $(CH_2)$ , 19.3  $(CH_3, 3'-Me)$ ; MS:  $(EI, 70 \text{ eV}) m/z 323 (M^+ + 2, 2.41)$ , 321 (M<sup>+</sup>, 6.94), 200 (23.0), 161 (47.2), 160 (PhthNCH<sub>2</sub>, 100), 148 (28.2); HRMS: (EI, 70 eV) calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>24</sub>ClNO<sub>2</sub> 321.1496 found m/z 321.1502 (M<sup>+</sup>). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>24</sub>ClNO<sub>2</sub>: C, 67.17; H, 7.52; N, 4.35. Found: C, 67.15; H, 7.38; N, 4.47.

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