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## CHAPTER 1

## <span id="page-4-0"></span>**IONIC AND ORGANOMETALLIC-CATALYZED ORGANOSILANE REDUCTIONS**

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#### **INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this chapter is to present a critical review of synthetically useful variations of ionic methods for hydrogenation of organic compounds. In practice, ionic hydrogenation involves the formal introduction of hydride from a donor source to an electron-deficient carbon center. The electrophilic centers can be formed by the departure of a leaving group (nucleofuge) from a saturated center or by the addition of an electrophile to a multiple bond. In the former mechanism, substitution of hydrogen for the leaving group is the net chemical consequence. In the latter, addition across the multiple bond is the result.

In this chapter, we cover the use of organosilicon hydrides as the source of ionic hydride with the goal of completing and updating earlier review works on the subject.<sup>1–4</sup> Similar chemistry is observed when molecular hydrogen<sup>5,6</sup> or various hydrocarbons<sup> $7-9$ </sup> are used as hydride sources; these methods have been reviewed previously and are not covered herein. The use of organosilicon hydride-metal catalyst mixtures<sup>10-12</sup> for effecting reductions is included in this review, but use of trichlorosilane-tertiary amine combinations<sup>13</sup> is not.

Organosilicon compounds with at least one Si-H bond (called hydrosilanes, organosilicon hydrides, or simply silanes) have the ability to serve as mild air- and water-stable sources of hydride and thus have reducing properties. For example, triethylsilane is reported to reduce a variety of inorganic metal salts directly to the free metals.<sup>14,15</sup> Even the hexachloroantimonate anion can be reduced to  $Sb(0)$ upon contact with this silane.<sup>16</sup> Organotellurium chlorides are reduced to tellurium metal by a number of organosilicon hydrides.<sup>17</sup> Reaction of organosilicon hydrides with strong Brønsted acids leads to decomposition of the silane and the production of hydrogen gas.<sup>14</sup> In general, organosilicon hydrides do not undergo spontaneous reactions with organic compounds unless the organic substrate is a reasonably strong electrophile or the silane has been first activated by the interaction of a nucleophilic species with the silicon center. The organosilicon hydrides are covalent compounds that have little or no nucleophilic properties of their own. Aside from the parent silane,  $SiH<sub>4</sub>$ , which is pyrophoric, the organosilicon hydrides are fairly innocuous compounds whose physical properties bear resemblance to their hydrocarbon analogs. Thus, their physical and chemical reducing properties differ from those of many familiar metal hydride reducing agents.<sup>18</sup>*,*<sup>19</sup> The use of organosilicon hydrides often provides a means of effecting reductions of organic substrates under very mild conditions and with excellent functional group selectivity.

Consideration of the nature of the Si–H bond provides insight into the chemical behavior of organosilicon hydrides. Comparison of the bond strengths as

<span id="page-9-0"></span>represented by bond dissociation energy (BDE) of hydrosilanes with those of hydrocarbon analogs shows that, in general, the Si–H bond is not much weaker than the C–H bond. Thus, the BDE values for the respective Si–H bonds in TMS–H and  $(C_2H_5)$ <sub>3</sub>Si–H are 90.3<sup>20</sup> and 90.1 kcal/mol<sup>21</sup> compared with a value of approximately 92 kcal/mol<sup>20</sup> for the tertiary C–H bond in  $(CH_3)_3C-H$ . On the other hand, there is a significant difference between the polarization characteristics of the Si-H and C-H bonds.<sup>22</sup> Compared to the Pauling electronegativity of hydrogen (2.20), the electronegativity of carbon (2.50) is greater and that of silicon  $(1.90)$  is less.<sup>23</sup> Carbon-hydrogen bonds are thus polarized in the direction  $C^{\delta-} - H^{\delta+}$ , whereas Si–H bonds are  $Si^{\delta+} - H^{\delta-}$ . As will be seen, this enhanced hydridic nature manifests itself in the chemical behavior of essentially all hydrosilanes.

Limited studies of the germanium and tin hydride analogs of the silicon hydrides show that they share this ability to function as hydride sources in ionic hydrogenations; however, their relatively greater reactivity toward acids appears to restrict their practical applications in organic synthesis.<sup>24</sup>*,*<sup>25</sup>

#### **MECHANISM**

## **General Considerations**

The mechanistic discussion of silane reductions will be limited to those of cationic reductions, thus excluding the many silane reductions that involve metal catalysis.

Since tetravalent organosilicon hydrides intrinsically lack nucleophilicity, they react only with atomic centers that are substantially electron deficient, for example, carbocations. Because of this, organosilicon hydride reductions are potentially very selective. The "ionic" reductions of organic compounds by organosilicon hydrides are understood on the basis of two mechanisms. In the first, substitution by hydrogen of a leaving group bonded to a saturated carbon occurs. This path may be called a  $\sigma$ -route as it involves the stepwise cleavage of a  $\sigma$ -bond to a saturated center and the intervention of a carbocation intermediate that is captured by donation of hydride from the organosilicon hydride (Eq. 1). Alternatively, addition of an electrophile/hydride pair takes place across a multiple bond. This path may be termed a  $\pi$ -route (Eq. 2). Complexation of an electrophile to one end of a  $\pi$ -bond is followed by capture of the intermediate cation or complex by organosilicon hydride. The electrophile may be as simple as a proton or be one of a variety of Lewis acids or alkylating agents. The group Y can be C, O, N, or S. Sometimes the product of Eq. 2 can continue reacting by way of Eq. 1, with the moiety  $Y-E$  acting as a leaving group. When this occurs, the net effect is to replace the  $C=Y$  functionality with  $CH<sub>2</sub>$ . The normal caveats regarding carbocation behavior such as the possible occurrences of eliminations, skeletal isomerizations, and bimolecular reactions prior to capture by hydride must be expected in all of these scenarios.

$$
\longrightarrow x \xrightarrow{\quad -X^{-}} \qquad \downarrow + \xrightarrow{\quad R_{3}S iH} \qquad \qquad +H \qquad \qquad (Eq. 1)
$$

<span id="page-10-0"></span>
$$
\searrow Y \longrightarrow \searrow_{X_{E}}^{+} \longrightarrow \searrow_{Y_{E}}^{+} Y_{E} \longrightarrow \searrow_{Y_{E}}^{R_{3}SiH} \longrightarrow \searrow_{E}^{H} (Eq. 2)
$$

It is necessary for the intermediate cation or complex to bear considerable carbocationic character at the carbon center in order for effective hydride transfer to be possible. By carbocationic character it is meant that there must be a substantial deficiency of electron density at carbon or reduction will not occur. For example, the sesquixanthydryl cation  $1$ ,<sup>26</sup> dioxolenium ion  $2$ ,<sup>27</sup> boron-complexed imines **3**, and O-alkylated amide **4**, <sup>28</sup> are apparently all too stable to receive hydride from organosilicon hydrides and are reportedly not reduced (although the behavior of 1 is in dispute<sup>29</sup>). This lack of reactivity by very stable cations toward organosilicon hydrides can enhance selectivity in ionic reductions.



## **Role of Trivalent Silicon Species**

The overall stoichiometry of hydride transfer from a silicon center to an electron-deficient carbon center is quite straightforward. Almost without exception, it appears that there is simple interchange of hydride to the carbocation while the silicon center receives the elements of the carbocation's counterion (Eq. 3).

$$
R_3C^+X^- + R_3'SiH \longrightarrow R_3CH + R_3'SiX \qquad (Eq. 3)
$$

When the counterion is complex, for example metal-halogen anions such as BF<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>, the most electronegative portion of the counterion becomes attached to the silicon center. Because of this attachment, it is natural to consider the intermediacy of a silicenium cation (silylium or silylenium ion) intermediate in such reactions (Eq. 4). Bond energies derived from electron impact studies indicate that Eq. 4 is exothermic in the gas phase by about 8 kcal/mol.<sup>26,29</sup> There seems little doubt that trivalent silicon-centered cationic species do exist in the gas phase<sup>30,31</sup> or that processes similar to that shown in Eq. 4 do occur there.<sup>32,33</sup>

$$
\text{Me}_3\text{C}^+ \quad + \quad (\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiH} \longrightarrow \quad (\text{CH}_3)_3\text{CH} \quad + \quad (\text{CH}_3)_3\text{Si}^+ \tag{Eq. 4}
$$

The existence of trivalent silicenium cations as reactive species in solution is more controversial. Many early attempts to demonstrate the solution-phase existence of stable silicenium ions by using techniques analogous to those successfully applied to carbocation formation failed. $34-36$  Other reports of attempts

to generate silicenium ions in solution under stable ion conditions $37-46$  and in solvolyses<sup>47</sup> are more convincing, but not without controversy.<sup>48-51</sup> The singlecrystal X-ray determination of a non-planar triethylsilylium moiety paired in the crystalline state with the tetrakis(pentafluorophenyl)borate gegenion and toluene solvate stirred much debate about its interpretation and extension to reaction systems.<sup>52,53</sup> Recent crystallographic evidence supports the notion of a threecoordinate structure of a trimesitylsilylium cation paired with a carborane anion in the solid phase.<sup>54</sup>*,*<sup>55</sup> The balance of experimental evidence seems to indicate that, whereas trivalent silicenium cations may have fleeting existence as reaction intermediates, it is unlikely that they exist as stable, long-lived species in solution.<sup>56</sup> The failure to observe such trivalent species in solution is related to the very strong ability of electron-deficient silicon centers to coordinate with the media in which they are formed.53*,*57*,*<sup>58</sup> This is true even in solvents that exhibit little or no nucleophilicity toward carbocations and is further enhanced by the relatively long bond lengths to silicon centers that allow a close approach by coordinating species. $53$ 

The available experimental information is suggestive, but not unambiguously conclusive, of the intervention of electron-deficient silicon-centered species that may resemble silicenium cations in simple hydride exchanges occurring in solvents with low coordinating abilities. For example, substituted triarylmethane derivatives such as chlorotriphenylmethane (trityl chloride) undergo reduction through halogen-hydride exchange with organosilicon hydrides. The reactions proceed more rapidly in solvents with high ionizing power, but are kinetically first order with respect to both organosilicon hydride and triarylmethane derivative in benzene solvent.<sup>59</sup> In benzene, the exchange of halogen with hydride occurs with retention of configuration at the silicon center. $60$  These results have led to the suggestion that the exchanges proceed by way of a four-center transition state **5**, in which there is simultaneous attack by the halide of the carbocation-halide ion pair on the silicon center as hydride undergoes transfer to the carbocation  $center<sup>60</sup>$ 



Simple variation of the solvent has a very significant effect on the stereochemistry at the silicon center for these exchange reactions. The stereochemistry changes from essentially complete retention to inversion and even to racemization. For example, in dichloromethane the halogen is delivered to the silicon center with complete racemization.<sup>61</sup> This implies that the degree of "tightness" of the carbocation-counterion pair must change depending on the solvent.

Organosilicon hydride reductions of preformed stable carbocations such as triphenylmethyl (trityl) tetrafluoroborate and hexafluoroantimonate salts are rapid <span id="page-12-0"></span>and essentially quantitative.<sup>62</sup>*,*<sup>63</sup> Reductions of these and similar stable ions in dichloromethane/trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) show primary deuterium kinetic isotope effects in the range  $k_H/k_D = 1.27^{64}$  to 1.89<sup>65</sup> at room temperature, whereas effects equal to  $k_H/k_D = 1.50 - 2.33$  are seen for the reduction of diarylcarbenium ions with deuteriosilanes at  $-70^{\circ}$ .<sup>66</sup> The kinetic rate dependence for similar reactions in acetic acid is first order in both the cation and the silane. The rates of a series of substituted arylsilanes correlate with  $\sigma$  constants, but not with  $\sigma^+$  constants, to produce Hammett plots with  $\rho = -1.84$  for triarylsilanes and  $\rho = -1.01^{65}$  to  $-2.46^{66}$  for aryldimethylsilanes. These results are interpreted to mean that the reactions occur through a four-center transition state in which the silicon center assumes a trigonal-bipyramidal shape with hydride exiting from an equatorial position while the carbocation's counterion approaches axially.<sup>65</sup>

Trityl and tropylium (cycloheptatrienyl) cation salts having complex metalhalide anions such as  $\text{SbX}_6^-$ ,  $\text{AsF}_6^-$ ,  $\text{PF}_6^-$ ,  $\text{FeCl}_4^-$ , and  $\text{BF}_4^-$  undergo reduction with trialkylsilanes and aryldialkylsilanes at rates that are independent of the nature of the anion or of ring strain in the organosilicon hydride, are kinetically first order with respect to both cation and organosilicon hydride, and that display primary deuterium kinetic isotope effects of  $k_H/k_D = 1.41 - 1.49$  in dichloromethane.<sup>67,68</sup> It is argued that these reactions proceed by way of a threestep mechanism involving a rate-determining single-electron transfer step $^{69}$  to create a charge-transfer complex between the carbocation and the organosilicon hydride followed by a faster transfer of hydride to the carbon center and the creation of a silicenium ion intermediate that is then rapidly captured by the counterion present  $(Eq, 5)$ .<sup>68</sup> Others regard this argument as doubtful compared to the polar mechanism in which Si–H bond cleavage is rate determining.<sup>66</sup>

$$
R'_{3}SiH + R_{3}C \xrightarrow{+} [R'_{3}SiH - C_{3}] \xrightarrow{slow}
$$
  
\n
$$
R'_{3}Si \cdots H-C_{3} \xrightarrow{+} R'_{3}Si + R_{3}CH
$$
\n(Eq. 5)

Uncertainties in understanding the exact mechanistic details of these reactions are sure to stimulate continued work to define the nature of trivalent silicon cations in ionic reductions by organosilicon hydrides.

#### **Role of Hypervalent Silicon Species**

It is well known that strong electrophiles such as carbocations are reduced by organosilicon hydrides (Eq. 1).<sup>3,70,71</sup> On the other hand, simple mixtures of organosilicon hydrides and compounds with weakly electrophilic carbon centers such as ketones and aldehydes are normally unreactive unless the electrophilicity of the carbon center is enhanced by complexation of the carbonyl oxygen with Brønsted acids<sup>3,70-73</sup> or certain Lewis acids (Eq. 2).<sup>1,70,71,74,75</sup> Using these acids, hydride transfer from the silicon center to carbon may then occur to give either alcohol-related or hydrocarbon products.

Alternatively, unreactive mixtures of organosilicon hydrides and carbonyl compounds react by hydride transfer from the silicon center to the carbon center when certain nucleophilic species with a high affinity for silicon are added to the mixture.<sup>76-94</sup> This outcome likely results from the formation of valence-expanded, pentacoordinate hydrosilanide anion reaction intermediates that have stronger hydride-donating capabilities than their tetravalent precursors  $(E<sub>0</sub>, 6)$ <sup>22,95-101</sup>

$$
R_3\text{SiH} + \text{Nu}^- \xrightarrow{\text{max}} R_3\text{SiHNu}^- \xrightarrow{\text{1. R}_2' \text{C}=\text{O}} R_3\text{SiNu} + R_3'\text{CHOH} \qquad (\text{Eq. 6})
$$

The bicyclic silatrane molecule **6**, which has a strong degree of coordination between the silicon center and the nitrogen bridgehead, has been shown to have unusually strong reducing properties compared to normal tetravalent organosilicon hydrides.<sup>102</sup> The hypothesis that valence-expanded pentacoordinate silicon species are the actual reducing species<sup>76,77,83</sup> is plausible, for such species are well known.<sup>96,99,101,103-107</sup> Other examples are known of the enhanced reducing powers of organosilicon hydrides that undergo intramolecular coordination and expansion to pentavalent<sup>82</sup> and even hexavalent states.<sup>84*,*101*,*108-111</sup>



A variety of nucleophilic species cause valence expansion of organosilanes and the enhancement of reducing reactivity. These include formate, thiocyanate, tartrate, and phthalate salts,<sup>78</sup> as well as alkoxides<sup>91,92,96,99,107</sup> and catecholates.<sup>93</sup> The strong propensity of fluoride ion to cause silicon centers to undergo valence expansion<sup>95,112</sup> makes it especially effective in activating organosilicon hydrides as reducing agents. Aldehydes, ketones, and esters may all be reduced by such a technique, frequently with excellent functional group and stereochemical selectivity.<sup>76-89</sup>

The valence-expanded silicon intermediate retains some measure of stereochemical integrity up to the point of hydride transfer as evidenced by the small degrees of asymmetric induction that are observed in the reduction of prochiral ketones coupled with similar degrees of chirality found at the silicon center.<sup>85</sup> The transfer of hydride from the silicon center to the carbonyl carbon takes place in the rate-determining step as judged by the primary deuterium kinetic isotope effect of 1.50 observed in the fluoride-induced reduction of acetophenone with dimethylphenylsilane- $d_1$ .<sup>88</sup> There is also evidence that the pentacoordinate silicon hydride can serve as a single-electron-transfer donor since radical-coupling products are sometimes obtained, although the general importance of this process is open to question.<sup>89</sup>*,*<sup>99</sup>

<span id="page-14-0"></span>A diaryldihydrosilane with a hexacoordinated silicon center, produced through intramolecular coordination, is reported not to react with benzaldehyde, although the silane is capable of reducing silver ion to silver metal.<sup>113</sup> There is also a report of a heptacoordinate silicon hydride species with the ability to transfer hydride to trityl cation while remaining inactive toward methanol.<sup>108,114</sup>

## **Role of O/N-Silylated Cationic Intermediates**

An interesting variation of the reaction mechanisms discussed above has been offered following studies of the hydrosilation reductions of aldehydes, ketones, and esters to their corresponding silyl ethers and acetals, respectively, when catalyzed by tris(pentafluorophenyl)borane,  $(C_6F_5)$ <sub>3</sub>B,<sup>115*,*116</sup> and related boranes.<sup>117</sup> This mechanism proposes a pathway in which the first step is the reversible formation of a linear silane-borane adduct that undergoes subsequent nucleophilic attack by the carbonyl compound of the substrate to yield an O-silylated cationic intermediate along with a boron hydride anion.<sup>118</sup> The boron hydride ion then transfers a hydride to the carbon center of the O-silylated cation to yield the reduction product and regenerated free borane. A simplified view of the suggested mechanism is shown below (Scheme 1). Similar reaction paths have been proposed for the hydrosilation of enones and silyl ethers<sup>119</sup> as well as imines<sup>120</sup>



#### **Scheme 1**

#### **Role of Metal Catalysts**

A wide variety of metals can effectively catalyze the reduction of multiple bonds by organosilicon hydrides (Eq. 2). No doubt, the function of some of these metals is to serve as Lewis acids by adding to the most electron-rich end of a bond and promoting transfer of hydride to the other center. On the other hand, it is clear that many transition metal complexes function through significantly different and more complex catalytic pathways to promote silane reductions. A common reaction stage suggested for many of the catalytic cycles is the creation of a reactive intermediate having a metal-hydrogen bond that is formed by hydrogen transfer from the silane to the catalytic metal center.<sup>116</sup> This reducing center, often with appropriate coordinating ligands, subsequently delivers hydrogen to the substrate and the metal center is freed for additional catalytic cycles. When the catalytic metal ligands are chiral, this process can lead to very high degrees of enantiomeric selectivity in the reduction of prochiral substrates.<sup>121-125</sup>

#### **SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS**

#### **Reduction of Substituted Alkanes**

<span id="page-15-0"></span>**Alcohols to Alkanes.** Many alcohols are converted directly into hydrocarbons when treated with acid in the presence of organosilicon hydrides (Eq. 7). The mechanism normally follows the pathway shown in Eq. 1.

$$
ROH \xrightarrow{\text{rad}^{\text{rad}}} \text{R's}^{\text{3} \text{H}} \qquad \text{RH} \tag{Eq. 7}
$$

The reaction generally proceeds cleanly and in high yields  $(70-100\%)$  when the starting alcohol permits the formation of reasonably stable carbocation intermediates. Alcohols capable of producing carbenium ions spanning a range of stabilities of more than 24 pK<sub>R+</sub> units undergo this reduction.<sup>26</sup> Depending on the reaction conditions, secondary<sup>126</sup> and tertiary<sup>127</sup> aliphatic alcohols, secondary and tertiary benzylic alcohols,<sup>26,126</sup> some ring-substituted primary benzylic alcohols,  $^{26,128,129}$  and cyclopropylcarbinols<sup>130</sup> are reduced to the corresponding alkanes. However, olefinic and rearrangement products can occur from side reactions under these acid conditions.<sup>126</sup>*,*131*,*<sup>132</sup> Phenols are not reduced under the same conditions.

Almost any organosilicon hydride causes reduction of the cations produced, although the order of reactivity of simple alkyl and aryl-substituted silanes is observed to be triethyl *>* trioctyl ∼ diethyl *>* diphenyl ∼ triphenyl.<sup>26</sup> A detailed quantitative study of the reactions of organosilicon hydrides with diarylcarbenium ions in dichloromethane at  $-70^\circ$  indicates a relative reactivity order of  $R_3$ SiH  $>$   $R_2$ SiH<sub>2</sub>  $>$  RSiH<sub>3</sub>, with alkyl substituent groups generally producing greater reactivity than aryl substituents.<sup>61</sup> Use of a deuterated silane yields the corresponding deuterated hydrocarbon (Eq. 8).<sup>127</sup>*,*133*,*<sup>66</sup>

$$
ROH \xrightarrow{\text{``acid''}} \text{RD} \qquad (Eq. 8)
$$

Normally, only a small stoichiometric excess  $(2-30 \text{ mol\%})$  of silane is necessary to obtain good preparative yields of hydrocarbon products. However, because the capture of carbocation intermediates by silanes is a bimolecular occurrence, in cases where the intermediate may rearrange or undergo other unwanted side reactions such as cationic polymerization, it is sometimes necessary to use a large excess of silane in order to force the reduction to be competitive with alternative reaction pathways. An extreme case that illustrates this is the need for eight equivalents of triethylsilane in the reduction of benzyl alcohol to produce only a 40% yield of toluene; the mass of the remainder of the starting alcohol is found to be consumed in the formation of oligomers by bimolecular Friedel-Crafts-type side reactions that compete with the capture of the carbocations by the silane.<sup>129</sup>

Both Brønsted and Lewis acids are effective in coordinating with the hydroxyl oxygen to induce heterolysis of the C–O bond and cause formation of the necessary carbocation intermediate. The reactions are frequently conducted

under homogeneous conditions in inert solvents such as dichloromethane or chloroform. Conditions used include the treatment of alcohols with organosilicon hydrides in neat acetic acid,<sup>26,29</sup> neat trifluoroacetic acid<sup>134</sup> or trifluoroacetic acid/ammonium fluoride<sup>135</sup> as well as mixtures of trifluoroacetic acid,<sup>26</sup> methanesulfonic acid,<sup>126</sup> or triflic (trifluoromethanesulfonic) acid with triflic anhydride<sup>126</sup> in dichloromethane or chloroform, mixtures of acetic acid and sulfuric or  $p$ -toluenesulfonic acid,<sup>134</sup> acetic acid and hydrogen chloride/aluminum chloride,<sup>136</sup> and boron trifluoride<sup>126</sup> or boron trifluoride etherate in dichloromethane<sup>137,133</sup> or chloroform.<sup>138</sup> The use of very strong Brønsted acids such as methanesulfonic and triflic acids may cause decomposition of the organosilane through hydrogen production<sup>14</sup> and/or cleavage of  $Si-C$ bonds<sup>139</sup> which compete with the desired reduction of the alcohol.<sup>126</sup> These undesirable side reactions may be avoided or reduced by running the reaction at −78◦ . <sup>140</sup> Sulfuric acid may cause undesirable oxidations to occur.<sup>134</sup> On balance, the most commonly chosen set of conditions for the reduction of alcohols is triethylsilane and trifluoroacetic acid  $(Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA)$  in dichloromethane solution.

The experimental evidence is convincing, at least with benzyl alcohols, that a "free" carbenium ion intermediate devoid of influence from its progenitor is the species that is captured by the non-nucleophilic organosilicon hydride. When optically active 2-phenyl-2-butanol is treated with  $Et_3SH/TFA$  in chloroform, the 2-phenylbutane product is formed with complete racemization.<sup>26</sup> When a dichloromethane solution of the same alcohol is treated with trifluoroacetic acid in the presence of enantiomerically enriched 1-naphthylphenylmethylsilane, the 2-phenylbutane product obtained shows a small, but reproducible enantiomeric excess of  $2-3\%$ .<sup>141</sup> The predominant enantiomer formed in the product is dependent only on the predominant enantiomer of silane used as the reducing agent and is independent of whether one of the pure enantiomers or the racemic alcohol is used as substrate.<sup>142</sup> The same stereochemical results are obtained in the hydrocarbon product when the alkene 2-phenyl-1-butene is the precursor to the carbenium ion intermediate  $(π$ -route, Eq. 2) instead of the tetrahedral alcohol ( $\sigma$ -route, Eq. 1).<sup>142</sup> A similar conclusion is reached from a study of the reduction of optically active 1-phenylethanol to phenylethane- $d_1$  with boron trifluoride etherate and triethylsilane- $d_1$ .<sup>133</sup> These experiments illustrate the lack of nucleophilicity or  $S_N$ 2-like behavior of the organosilicon hydrides in these reactions and presage the stereochemistry expected from such transformations.

*Primary Alkyl Alcohols*. Primary alkyl alcohols do not undergo reduction when treated with Brønsted acids and organosilicon hydrides under usual laboratory conditions.<sup>143</sup> This reflects the relative instability of primary alkyl carbenium ions in the condensed phase and the weak intrinsic nucleophilicity of organosilicon hydrides. On the other hand, the combination of excess  $Et<sub>3</sub>SH$  and catalytic amounts (5–10 mol%) of  $(C_6F_5)_3B$  reduces primary aliphatic alcohols to the alkanes in high yields (Eq. 9), but the reaction stops at the non-reductive silylation of the alcohol with only a single equivalent of the silane.<sup>144</sup>*,*<sup>145</sup> This type of reaction is thought to proceed via a direct nucleophilic displacement rather than by way of a carbenium ion mechanism.<sup>145</sup>

$$
Ph \longrightarrow OH \quad \xrightarrow{\text{Et}_3\text{SiH, B}(C_6F_5)_3} \text{Ph} \quad \text{(>95%)} \quad \text{(Eq. 9)}
$$

*Secondary Alkyl Alcohols*. Treatment of secondary alkyl alcohols with trifluoroacetic acid and organosilicon hydrides results only in the formation of the trifluoroacetate esters; no reduction is reported to occur.<sup>1</sup>*,*<sup>2</sup> Reduction of secondary alkyl alcohols does take place when very strong Lewis acids such as boron trifluoride<sup>126,129</sup> or aluminum chloride<sup>136,146</sup> are used. For example, treatment of a dichloromethane solution of 2-adamantanol and triethylsilane (1.3 equivalents) with boron trifluoride gas at room temperature for 15 minutes gives upon workup a 98% yield of the hydrocarbon adamantane along with fluorotriethylsilane (Eq. 10).<sup>129</sup>

 $\sim$ 

$$
\underbrace{\bigcap}_{\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2, \text{BF}_3} \underbrace{\bigcap}_{\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2, \text{BF}_3} \underbrace{\bigcap}_{\text{O8\%}} (98\%) + \text{Et}_3\text{SiF} \qquad \text{(Eq. 10)}
$$

In contrast, when boron trifluoride etherate is substituted for the free boron trifluoride, only a trace of the hydrocarbon is formed, even after weeks of reaction.<sup>143</sup> The unique effectiveness of boron trifluoride gas in promoting these reductions is believed to be due to several factors, including the ability of the coordinatively unsaturated boron center to rapidly and tightly coordinate with oxygen centers and to the thermodynamically favorable creation of a  $Si-F$  bond.<sup>1</sup> A slight pressure of boron trifluoride gas must be maintained over the surface of the solution throughout the reaction because boron trifluoride has only limited solubility in the weakly coordinating dichloromethane solvent.

The formation of alkenes and alkene-related polymerization products can seriously reduce the yields of desired alkane products from secondary alcohols, which can undergo elimination reactions. For example, reduction of 2-octanol at  $0<sup>°</sup>$  with boron trifluoride gas in dichloromethane containing 1.2 equivalents of triethylsilane gives only a 58% yield of *n*-octane after 75 minutes (Eq. 11).<sup>129</sup> The remainder of the hydrocarbon mass comprises nonvolatile polymeric material.<sup>126</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}\n\text{OH} & \xrightarrow{\text{Et}_3\text{SiH}} & n-\text{C}_8\text{H}_{18} & (58\%) & + \text{ polymer} \\
\hline\n\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2, \text{BF}_3 & n-\text{C}_8\text{H}_{18} & (58\%) & + \text{ polymer}\n\end{array}
$$
(Eq. 11)

Aluminum chloride, used either as a stoichiometric reagent or as a catalyst with gaseous hydrogen chloride, may be used to promote silane reductions of secondary alkyl alcohols that otherwise resist reduction by the action of weaker acids.<sup>136</sup> For example, cyclohexanol is not reduced by organosilicon hydrides in the presence of trifluoroacetic acid in dichloromethane, presumably because of the relative instability and difficult formation of the secondary cyclohexyl carbocation. By contrast, treatment of cyclohexanol with an excess of hydrogen chloride gas in the presence of a three-to-four-fold excess of triethylsilane and 1.5 equivalents of aluminum chloride in anhydrous dichloromethane produces 70% of cyclohexane and 7% of methylcyclopentane after a reaction time of 3.5 hours at

room temperature (Eq. 12).<sup>136</sup> The cyclohexane is presumably formed by capture of the secondary cyclohexyl cation, whereas the methylcyclopentane must arise from hydride capture of the more stable tertiary methylcyclopentyl cation formed by rearrangement of the cyclohexyl cation.<sup>147</sup>*,*<sup>148</sup> Diminishing the amount of aluminum chloride to only 0.5 equivalents results in no reaction after one-half hour and the formation of only 8% of cyclohexane after four hours reaction time. The reaction proceeds slowly in the absence of hydrogen chloride, producing 53% of cyclohexane and 6% of methylcyclopentane after 16.5 hours using two equivalents of aluminum chloride.



*Tertiary Alkyl Alcohols*. Tertiary alkyl alcohols generally undergo facile reduction when treated with acids in the presence of organosilicon hydrides.<sup>127</sup>*,*<sup>136</sup> This comparative ease of reduction reflects the enhanced stability and ease of formation of tertiary alkyl carbenium ions compared with primary and secondary carbenium ions. Thus, treatment of 1-methylcyclohexanol with mixtures of triethylsilane and aluminum chloride in dichloromethane produces near quantitative yields of methylcyclohexane with or without added hydrogen chloride in as little as 30 minutes at room temperature, in contrast to the more vigorous conditions needed for the reduction of the secondary alcohol cyclohexanol. $136$ 

Similarly, and in contrast to the behavior of its secondary isomer, 2-adamantanol, 1-adamantanol undergoes smooth, quantitative reduction to adamantane in less than an hour at room temperature in dichloromethane solution containing triethylsilane under the catalysis of either free boron trifluoride<sup>129</sup> or boron trifluoride etherate (Eq. 13). $143$ 

$$
\bigotimes_{\text{OH}} \qquad \xrightarrow{\text{Et}_3\text{SiH, CH}_2\text{Cl}_2} \qquad \qquad \bigotimes_{100\%} \qquad (100\%)
$$
 (Eq. 13)

Although the synthetic yields of hydrocarbon products obtained from the reduction of tertiary alkyl alcohols are frequently quite high, studies show that the reaction pathways taken by the reactants are not always as direct or straightforward as might be suggested by the structural relationships between reactants and products. For example, preparative-scale treatment of a dichloromethane solution of 3-ethylpentan-3-ol and triphenylsilane (1.2 equivalents) with excess trifluoroacetic acid (1.5 M) at room temperature for 24 hours gives 3-ethylpentane in 78% yield  $(Eq. 14).<sup>127</sup>$  Under these reaction conditions, the alcohol rapidly

undergoes elimination to 3-ethyl-2-pentene, which is the actual species undergoing reduction.

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}\n\text{Et}\n\end{array}\n\begin{array}{ccc}\n\text{TFA} & \begin{bmatrix}\n\text{Et}\n\end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix}\n\text{Et}\n\end{bmatrix} \\
\text{Et}\n\end{array}\n\end{array}\n\begin{array}{ccc}\n\text{Ph}_3\text{SiH} & \text{Et}\n\end{array}\n\begin{array}{ccc}\n\text{Et} & (78\%) & (Eq. 14)\n\end{array}
$$

The tertiary alcohol *cis,cis,trans*-perhydro-9*b*-phenalenol (**7**) is converted stereospecifically and in high yield (92%) to *trans,trans,trans*-perhydrophenalene (**10**) when treated with either triethylsilane or triphenylsilane and trifluoroacetic acid in dichloromethane (Eq. 15). Studies indicate that the reaction path follows the cation rearrangement  $8 \rightarrow 9$  and that the trans trifluoroacetate ester related to cation **9** is an intermediate, which accumulates during the reaction.<sup>127</sup>



The conversion of alcohols directly into the structurally related hydrocarbons by ionic hydrogenation can provide a means of synthesis for compounds that would be extremely difficult or impossible to obtain by other methods. A good example is the synthesis of 2-tert-butyladamantane  $(12, R = Me)$ . This interesting, highly strained compound may be synthesized in moderate overall yield by a conventional multiple-step route.<sup>149</sup> Alternatively, it is obtained in 90% isolated yield upon treatment of a dichloromethane solution of the readily available 2-*tert*-butyl-2-adamantanol (11,  $R = Me$ )<sup>150</sup> and one equivalent of either tri-*n*hexylsilane<sup>151,152</sup> or triethylsilane<sup>153</sup> with trifluoroacetic acid at room temperature (Eq. 16).



In a similar fashion, 2-cumyladamantane  $(12, R = Ph)$  is formed in nearly quantitative yield upon treatment of the easily synthesized 2-cumyl-2-adamantanol (11,  $R = Ph$ )<sup>154</sup> with triethylsilane and methanesulfonic acid in dichloromethane at -78°.<sup>155</sup> The high yield of a single very strained hydrocarbon product in each reaction is quite surprising in view of the very complex interconversions of carbocations known to take place from the alcohol precursors.<sup>140</sup>*,*151*,*152*,*<sup>156</sup>

The remarkable chemoselectivity of this reductive technique is demonstrated by the conversion of the functionally rich compound **13** into **14** in 86% yield upon treatment with  $Et_3SiH/TFA$  at room temperature for two hours (Eq. 17).<sup>157</sup>



Several sterically congested aryldiadamantylmethanols are reduced to atropisomeric diastereomeric mixtures of the corresponding aryldiadamantylmethanes with Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA (Eq. 18).<sup>158-161</sup>



This reagent combination reduces a tertiary alcohol in the presence of a quinone moiety (Eq. 19).<sup>162</sup> Tertiary alcohols are also reduced with the reagent combinations  $Et_3SiH/MeSO_3H^{140}$  and  $Et_3SiH/AlCl_3/HCl^{136}$ 



 $Cycloprop\nVlcarbinols$ . Treatment of cyclopropylcarbinols **15** ( $R = Ph$ ,  $c$ -C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>) with trifluoroacetic acid in dichloromethane leads to the rapid formation of ring-opened 4-substituted 3-butenyl-1-trifluoroacetate esters **16** (Eq. 20).<sup>130</sup> Cyclopropylcarbinyl trifluoroacetates are not formed. Ring opening is facilitated by phenyl substituents. Addition of organosilicon hydrides to the reaction mixture favors the formation of cyclopropylmethanes **17** and suppresses the formation of the ring-opened esters.<sup>130</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{c|c}\n & R \\
\hline\nR\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{c|c}\n & R_3 \text{SiH} & R \\
\hline\n\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2, \text{TFA} & R\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{c|c}\n & R \\
\hline\n\text{R} & 0_2 \text{CCF}_3 & + \\
\hline\n\text{R} & \text{R} \\
\text{R} & \text{R} \\
\text{R} = c - C_3 \text{H}_5 & R' = \text{Et} \\
\text{R} = \text{Ph} & R' = \text{Et} \\
\text{R} = \text{Pt} & \text{I6} + \text{17} \ (\text{---}), \text{16:17} = \text{19:81}\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{c|c}\n & R \\
\hline\n\text{R} & \text{I7} \\
\text{R} & \text{I8} \\
\text{R} & \text{I9} \\
\text{R} & \text{I0} \\
\text{R} & \text{I1} \\
\text{R} & \text{I2} \\
\text{R} & \text{I3} \\
\text{R} & \text{I4} \\
\text{R} & \text{I5} \\
\text{R} & \text{I6} \\
\text{R} & \text{I6} \\
\text{R} & \text{I7} \\
\text{R} & \text{I8} \\
$$

Triethylsilane and diethylsilane are somewhat more effective than triphenylsilane at increasing the amount of reduced product **17**. <sup>130</sup> Yields of **17** in excess of 90% may be obtained. The remainder of the product is butenyl ester **16**. Hydrogenolysis of the cyclopropyl rings does not occur under these conditions. A better yield of **17** is obtained when the reaction is carried out at −15◦ than at room

temperature. Under the same set of reaction conditions (dichloromethane, 0.5 M trifluoroacetic acid, 0.5 hour, room temperature), the amount of hydrocarbon product 17  $(R = Ph)$  obtained from diphenylcyclopropylcarbinol changes from 16% with triphenylsilane as the hydride-donating reagent to 45% with triphenylgermane,  $85\%$  with triphenylstannane, and  $78\%$  with tri-*n*-butylstannane.<sup>24</sup>

*Benzyl Alcohols*. Benzyl alcohols of nearly all kinds undergo reduction when treated with acid in the presence of organosilicon hydrides. The most obvious exception to this is the behavior of benzyl alcohol itself. It resists reduction by the action of trifluoroacetic acid and triethylsilane, even after extended reaction times.<sup>26</sup> Reducing systems consisting of triethylsilane and sulfuric acid/acetic acid or *p*-toluenesulfonic acid/acetic acid mixtures also fail to reduce benzyl alcohol to toluene.<sup>134</sup> As previously mentioned, substitution of boron trifluoride for trifluoroacetic acid results in the formation of modest yields of toluene, but only when a very large excess of the silane is used in order to capture the benzyl cation intermediate and suppress Friedel-Crafts oligomerization processes.<sup>129</sup>*,*<sup>143</sup>

Ring-substituted benzyl alcohols sometimes undergo such reduction more effectively than unsubstituted alcohols. For example, treatment of a dichloromethane solution of 2,4,6-trimethylbenzyl alcohol with trifluoroacetic acid and triphenylsilane produces a 41% isolated (89% by GLC) yield of isodurene.<sup>26</sup> Treatment of 2-methyl-4,6-di-*tert*-butylbenzyl alcohol with a three-fold excess of triethylsilane and trifluoroacetic acid in dichloromethane at room temperature gives an 85% yield of 2-methyl-4,6-di-*tert*-butyltoluene together with 15% of 3,5-di-*tert*-butyltoluene. The latter is presumably formed by loss of protonated formaldehyde from the C1 ring-protonated substrate.<sup>128</sup> Similar treatment of 2,4,6-tri-*tert*-butylbenzyl alcohol produces a 90% yield of 2,4,6-tri-*tert*butyltoluene within one hour  $(Eq. 21).$ <sup>128</sup>



The reduction of 2-(hydroxymethyl)-1,4,6,8-tetramethylazulene to 1,2,4,6,8 pentamethylazulene occurs quantitatively upon treatment with triethylsilane and trifluoroacetic acid at  $60^{\circ}$  for 19 hours (Eq. 22).<sup>163</sup>



Treatment of either the cis or trans isomer of 4-*tert*-butyl-1-phenylcyclohexanol with trifluoroacetic acid and one of a variety of organosilicon hydrides in dichloromethane yields a mixture of *cis*- and *trans*-4-*tert*-butyl-1-phenylcyclohexane and the elimination product, 4-*tert*-butyl-1-phenylcyclohexene

 $(22-72%)$  (Eq. 23).<sup>26</sup> More elimination product is obtained from the cis than from the trans alcohol. The trans/cis ratio of reduced products is independent of the isomer of starting alcohol used and depends only on the nature of the silane used. This ratio is ca. 1.8 for triorganosilanes (e.g., triethyl, tri-*n*-octyl, triphenyl) and ca. 4.0 for diorganosilanes (e.g., diethyl, diphenyl) and phenylsilane. The most important factor for the stereoselectivity of product formation seems to be the degree of steric bulk provided by the organic groups bonded to silicon, rather than the electronic nature of the substituents. The smaller the effective steric bulk of the reducing agent, the greater is the trans/cis product ratio.<sup>26</sup> Replacement of the silanes with germanes or stannanes as the hydride donors causes a decrease in the amount of elimination product formed so that it becomes a minor product  $(10-38\%)$ .<sup>24</sup> The trans/cis ratio of reduced products is ∼2 when triphenylgermane is used, ∼1*.*4 with triphenylstannane, and ∼0*.*85 with tri-*n*-butylstannane.<sup>24</sup>



Reduction of either the exo or endo isomer of 2-phenyl-2-norbornanol with trifluoroacetic acid and triethylsilane, triphenylsilane, or phenylsilane in dichloromethane gives endo-2-phenylnorbornane quantitatively  $(Eq, 24)$ .<sup>164</sup> The stereospecific formation of only the endo-hydrocarbon can be understood on the basis that only exo approach by organosilicon hydride toward the 2-phenylnorbornyl cation intermediate is kinetically competitive for product formation.<sup>164</sup>



The bornyl system is less subject than the norbornyl system to exclusive exo approach by organosilicon hydrides and related reducing agents because of the steric restraints imposed by the additional methyl groups. Thus, treatment of a dichloromethane solution of *p*-anisylisoborneol (**18**) with trifluoroacetic acid and triphenylsilane quantitatively provides the isomeric reduced products *p*-bornylanisole (19) and *p*-isobornylanisole (20) in a ratio of 68 : 32 (Eq. 25).<sup>24</sup> Replacement of the triphenylsilane with triphenylstannane produces 98% of **19** and 2% of **20**. Use of the sterically less demanding phenylsilane gives **19** as the exclusive product. By comparison, trapping of the cation derived from **18** with borohydride gives 87% of **19** and 13% of **20**. 165



Reductions of tertiary or benzylic alcohols do not always take place as quickly and simply as might be expected. A study of the reduction of 2-methyl-1 phenylpropan-1-ol  $(21, R = OH)$  and its isomer, 2-methyl-1-phenylpropan-2-ol  $(22, R = OH)$ , illustrates this observation.<sup>166</sup> Both of these alcohols are reduced in high yield (98%) by the action of acid and triphenylsilane to the same hydrocarbon, 2-methyl-1-phenylpropane (21 or 22,  $R = H$ ). The immediate products formed from either alcohol in a 55% solution of trifluoroacetic acid in nitrobenzene are the trifluoroacetate esters  $(R = CF_3CO_2)$ . Surprisingly, at 25<sup>°</sup> in the absence of organosilicon hydride, ester 21 ( $R = CF_3CO_2$ ) undergoes complete isomerization to ester  $22 (R = CF_3CO_2)$  within two hours. Use of triphenylsilane $d_1$  as the reducing agent indicates that alcohol 21 ( $R = OH$ ) actually produces a mixture of the two isotope-position isomers of the reduction product (**21** and **22**,  $R = D$ ), with isomer 22 favored by a factor of 2 to 3 over isomer 21. Similar results are found when the starting alcohol is **22**. The conclusion is reached that the species actually captured by the organosilicon hydride consists of a dynamic mixture of the two cations derived from **21** and **22**. 166



In some instances, treatment of polyfunctional benzylic alcohols with acid in the presence of organosilicon hydrides causes multiple functional group transformations to occur simultaneously. This phenomenon is illustrated by the reduction of the secondary benzylic alcohol function and concomitant loss of the methoxymethyl protecting group of 2-(1-hydroxydecyl)-5-methoxy-1-(methoxymethyleneoxy)naphthalene upon treatment with Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA in dichloromethane  $(Eq. 26).<sup>167</sup>$ 



An example of an exclusive chemoselective reduction of a benzylic hydroxy function in a polyfunctional compound is seen in the conversion of **23** into **24** in 76% yield using Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA (Eq. 27).<sup>168</sup> The benzylic hydroxy group in a complex polypeptide derived from lysobactin is selectively reduced with the same reagents (Eq. 28). $169$ 



Studies reveal an advantage to using boron trifluoride in dichloromethane at reduced temperatures instead of Brønsted acids in the organosilicon hydride reductions of a number of dialkylbenzyl alcohols.<sup>126</sup>*,*<sup>129</sup> The use of Brønsted acids may be unsatisfactory under conditions in which the starting alcohol suffers rapid skeletal rearrangement and elimination upon contact with the acid, and also in which the alcohol does not yield a sufficient concentration of the intermediate carbocation when treated with protic acids.<sup>126</sup>

An example of an alcohol that can undergo rapid skeletal rearrangement is 3,3-dimethyl-2-phenyl-2-butanol (Eq. 29). Attempts to reduce this alcohol in dichloromethane solution with 1-naphthyl(phenyl)methylsilane yield only a mixture of the rearranged elimination products 3,3-dimethyl-2-phenyl-1-butene and 2,3-dimethyl-3-phenyl-1-butene when trifluoroacetic acid or methanesulfonic acid is used. Use of a  $1:1$  triflic acid/triflic anhydride mixture with a 50 mol% excess of the silane gives good yields of the unrearranged reduction product 3,3-dimethyl-2-phenylbutane, but also causes extensive decomposition of the silane.<sup>126</sup> In contrast, introduction of boron trifluoride gas into a dichloromethane solution of the alcohol and a 10 mol% excess of the silane

at  $-60^\circ$  produces 86.5% of the desired, structurally intact hydrocarbon, 3,3dimethyl-2-phenylbutane, along with 13.5% of the methyl-shifted product, 2,3 dimethyl-2-phenylbutane, within only six minutes. Clean formation of the fluorosilane related to the organosilicon hydride accompanies the reduction. The workup consists of quenching with solid potassium carbonate followed by addition of water, drying of the dichloromethane solution, and normal product isolation.<sup>126</sup>

$$
p_h \nightharpoonup^{OH}_{Bu-t} \xrightarrow{\text{Ph}(1-Np)MeSiH} p_h \nightharpoonup^{H} p_h \nightharpoonup^{H} p_h
$$
\n
$$
(Eq. 29)
$$
\n
$$
(100\%) 86.5:13.5
$$

A variety of para-substituted 2-phenyl-2-butanols undergo quick and efficient reductions to the corresponding 2-phenylbutanes when they are dissolved in dichloromethane and a 2–10% excess of phenylmethylneopentylsilane and boron trifluoride is introduced at  $0^{\circ}$  (Eq. 30).<sup>126</sup> Several reactions deserve mention. For example, when  $R = CF_3$ , use of trifluoroacetic acid produces no hydrocarbon product, even after two hours of reaction time. In contrast, addition of boron trifluoride catalyst provides an 80% yield of product after only two minutes. When  $R = MeO$ , both trifluoroacetic acid and boron trifluoride produce a quantitative yield of the hydrocarbon within two minutes. However, when  $R = NO<sub>2</sub>$ , attempts to promote the reduction with either trifluoroacetic acid or even methanesulfonic acid fail; even after reaction periods of up to eight hours, only recovered starting alcohol is obtained. Use of boron trifluoride provides a quantitative conversion into 2-(*p*-nitrophenyl)butane after only ten minutes. It is significant that the normally easily reducible nitro group survives these conditions entirely intact.<sup>126</sup>*,*<sup>129</sup> Triethylsilane may be used as the silane.<sup>143</sup>



Treatment with triethylsilane and boron trifluoride etherate allows a variety of methyl *β*-hydroxy-*β*-arylpropionates to be reduced to methyl *β*-arylpropionates in yields of 85–100% as part of a synthetic sequence leading to the preparation of indanones (Eq. 31).<sup>170</sup> Small amounts of dehydration products formed simultaneously are reduced to the methyl *β*-arylpropionates by mild catalytic hydrogenation.<sup>170</sup>

 $\sim$ 

$$
Ph \longrightarrow CO_2Me \xrightarrow{Et_3SH} Ph \longrightarrow CO_2Me \qquad (100\%) \qquad (Eq. 31)
$$

Diaryl and triaryl benzylic alcohols generally undergo smooth reduction to the corresponding hydrocarbons. Thus, both diphenyl- and triphenylcarbinol quickly give good to excellent yields of the corresponding substituted methanes when treated with triphenylsilane or  $Et_3SiH/trifluoroacetic acid in dichloromethane<sup>26</sup>$ or with triethylsilane and mixtures of either sulfuric or *p*-toluenesulfonic acids in acetic acid.<sup>136</sup> The reductions do not occur with the parent, unsubstituted carbinols using only acetic acid; however, tri-p-anisylcarbinol, 2,2',2",6,6',6"hexamethoxytriphenylcarbinol, 9-phenyl-9*H*-xanthen-9-ol, 9-*p*-anisyl-9*H*xanthen-9-ol,<sup>26</sup> and 9-(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)-1,8-dimethoxy-9*H*-xanthen-9-ol<sup>29</sup> all undergo smooth conversion to the respective hydrocarbons when treated with acetic acid containing triethylsilane.

In fact, the use of acetic acid as both solvent and catalyst may be the method of choice in effecting the reductions of very electron-rich benzylic alcohols and those that form acid-labile reduction products. When 2,2',2",6,6',6"-hexamethoxytriphenylcarbinol is treated with  $Et_3SiH/trifluoroacetic acid$  in dichloromethane, the reduction goes beyond the triarylmethane stage to produce one equivalent of 2,2',6,6'-tetramethoxydiphenylmethane and one equivalent of mdimethoxybenzene.26 These additional products are thought to arise from protonation of one of the electron-rich rings of the initially formed  $2,2^{\prime},2^{\prime\prime},6,6^{\prime},6^{\prime\prime}$ hexamethoxytriphenylmethane at C1 by the trifluoroacetic acid. Expulsion of a molecule of *m*-dimethoxybenzene followed by hydride capture of the 2,6,2 ,6 -tetramethoxydiphenylmethyl "daughter" cation formed accounts for the final mixture of products.<sup>26</sup> Sesquixanthydrol **25** undergoes reduction to the hydrocarbon only reluctantly, presumably because of the great stability of the sesquixanthydryl cation (**1**). An early report indicates that the alcohol is able to resist reduction upon treatment with trifluoroacetic acid and excess triethylsilane in dichloromethane for 24 hours and to remain unreduced when dissolved in acetic acid containing triethylsilane.<sup>26</sup> A later report indicates formation of the hydrocarbon in 89% yield (Eq. 32).<sup>29</sup>



Intramolecular Friedel-Crafts reactions can sometimes compete with organosilicon hydride reductions of benzylic-type alcohols to cause formation of undesired products. An example is the attempted reduction of alcohol **26** to the corresponding hydrocarbon. When **26** is treated with triethylsilane in trifluoroacetic acid at room temperature for 15 hours, a mixture of the two fluorene isomers **27** and **28** is obtained in a combined yield of 45%. None of the hydrocarbon structurally related to the substrate alcohol  $26$  is obtained.<sup>171</sup> Whether this problem could be circumvented by running the reduction at a lower temperature or with a different acid remains subject to experimentation.

Both benzylic and secondary aliphatic alcohols are reduced with the combination of Ph2ClSiH and a catalytic amount of indium trichloride. This combination



chemoselectively reduces benzyl alcohols in the presence of both ester and halide functions (Eq.  $33$ ).<sup>172</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{ccccc}\n\text{Ph} & \text{CO}_2R & \text{Ph}_2\text{SiHCl, InCl}_3 & \text{Ph} \sim \text{CO}_2R \\
\hline\n\text{OH} & \text{R} & \text{Conditions} & \text{CB}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2\text{Cl, }50^\circ, 0.5 \text{ h} & (68\%) \\
& \text{CH}_2\text{Cl} & \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2, \text{rt, 3 h} & (95\%)\n\end{array}
$$
\n(Eq. 33)

The combination of excess Et<sub>3</sub>SiH and catalytic amounts  $(5-10 \text{ mol\%})$  of  $(C_6F_5)$ <sub>3</sub>B reduces benzylic alcohols to the hydrocarbons (Eq. 34), although the reaction stops at the non-reductive simple silylation of the alcohol with only a single equivalent of the silane.<sup>144,145</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}\n\text{OH} & \xrightarrow{\text{Et}_3\text{SiH}, (\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3\text{B}} \\
\text{Ph} & \xrightarrow{\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2, \text{rt}, 20 \text{ h}} \\
\end{array} \quad \text{Ph} \quad (98\%) \quad (Eq. 34)
$$

*Allyl Alcohols*. Secondary cyclic allylic alcohols are reduced with the combination of  $Et_3SH$  and ethereal  $LiClO<sub>4</sub>$ , even in the presence of a tertiary alcohol (Eq. 35) or ketal function.<sup>173</sup> Primary allylic alcohols do not undergo deoxygenation under similar conditions.<sup>173</sup>



Treatment of 1-[2-(2-methoxy-5-isopropylphenyl)-1-hydroxyethyl]-2,6,6-trimethylcyclohexene with triethylsilane and boron trifluoride etherate in dichloromethane at  $-10^\circ$  leads to its reduction to 2-(2,6,6-trimethyl-1-cyclohexenyl)-1-(2-methoxy-5-isopropylphenyl)ethane in  $69\%$  yield (Eq. 36).<sup>174</sup>



*Metal-Complexed Alcohols*. It is well known that carbocations are frequently stabilized when organotransition metal centers are present in adjacent portions of the molecule.<sup>175-177</sup> It is thus not surprising that alcohols possessing such centers are prone to undergo facile reduction upon treatment with acids and organosilicon hydrides. Perhaps it is more surprising that the coordinated metal centers survive the reduction conditions so well.

Methylferrocenylcarbinols bearing several functional groups  $(R = H, Cl,$  $CO<sub>2</sub>Me$ , CN) on the distal  $C<sub>5</sub>$  ring undergo reduction to the corresponding ethylferrocenes when treated with an excess of Et3SiH/TFA in acetic acid solution at  $20^{\circ}$  (Eq. 37).<sup>178</sup> The yields of reduced product are no less than 85% within three hours, except when  $R = CN$ . Then the conversion into the ethylferrocene is only 55% complete after 20 hours of reaction time, reflecting the destabilizing effect of the cyano group on the intermediate carbocation. In a similar fashion, symmetrically disubstituted ferrocenylcarbinols undergo facile double deoxidative reduction in yields of more than 80% within three hours at 20◦ when dissolved in trifluoroacetic acid and treated with two equivalents of triethylsilane (Eq. 38).<sup>179</sup> The "half-sandwich" cyclopentadienylmanganese tricarbonyl (cymantrene) carbinol undergoes reduction in a similar way to that of its ferrocenylcarbinol analogs (Eq. 39). $180$ 



Highly diasteroselective and chemoselective reductions may be performed on the hydroxy functions of  $(\eta^6$ -arene)-tricarbonylchromium complexes. Treatment of the chromium-complexed benzylic alcohol **29** with triethylsilane and boron trifluoride etherate in dichloromethane at −78◦ to 0◦ gives only diastereomer **30** in 75% yield (Eq. 40).<sup>181</sup> In a similar fashion, treatment of the complexed exoallyl-endo-benzylic alcohol  $31$  with an excess of  $Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA$  in dichloromethane at room temperature under nitrogen produces only the endo-allyl product **32** in 92% yield after 1.5 hours (Eq. 41). It is noteworthy that no reduction of the isolated double bond occurs.<sup>182</sup>



Treatment of *α*-hydroxyalkylidynetricobalt nonacarbonyl complexes of type **33** with strong acids produces the related highly stabilized carbocations **34**. 183 As expected, heating a tetrahydrofuran solution of the methyl compound (**33**,  $R = Me$ ) with trifluoroacetic acid and triethylsilane at reflux for four hours produces the related hydrocarbon complex  $(35, R = Me)$  in 72% yield. Somewhat surprising, however, is the report that the hexafluorophosphate salt of the phenylsubstituted carbocation (34, R = Ph,  $X^-$  =  $PF_6^-$ ), preformed by treatment of the corresponding alcohol with hexafluorophosphoric acid, produces only 7% of the related hydrocarbon complex when exposed to triethylsilane in tetrahydrofuran for 1.5 hours at room temperature. This lower yield of hydrocarbon complex from the phenyl system compared with the methyl analog is probably a reflection of the greater stability and lower reactivity of the intermediate cation.

\n
$$
\text{QH} \quad H \quad H \quad (CO)_9\text{Co}_3\text{CH}_1^{\text{H}} \times \text{CO}_9\text{Co}_3\text{CH}_2^{\text{H}}
$$
\n

\n\n $\text{R} \quad \text{33}$ \n

\n\n $\text{34}$ \n

\n\n $\text{35}$ \n

\n\n $\text{36}$ \n

\n\n $\text{37}$ \n

\n\n $\text{38}$ \n

\n\n $\text{39}$ \n

\n\n $\text{30}$ \n

\n\n $\text{31}$ \n

\n\n $\text{32}$ \n

\n\n $\text{33}$ \n

\n\n $\text{34}$ \n

\n\n $\text{35}$ \n

*Polyfunctional Hydroxy Compounds*. Different classes of alcohols can serve as the precursors to carbocations that have different stabilities and different degrees of ease of formation. It is thus no surprise that selective acid-catalyzed organosilicon hydride reductions of alcohols of one type may be effected in the presence of others if the proper reaction conditions are employed. For example, either tertiary or secondary benzylic hydroxy groups may be replaced by hydrogen without affecting primary aliphatic-type hydroxy groups in the same molecule when boron trifluoride etherate and triethylsilane are used.<sup>137</sup> This Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/BF<sub>3</sub>• OEt<sub>2</sub> reagent combination is also selective for a benzylic alcohol over an aliphatic alcohol function.<sup>137</sup>

Treatment of 1,1-diphenylpropane-1,3-diol with two equivalents each of boron trifluoride etherate and triethylsilane in dichloromethane at  $0°$  gives a 90% yield of 3,3-diphenylpropan-1-ol after 30 minutes (Eq. 42). Replacement of the terminal  $CH<sub>2</sub>OH$  group by a  $CO<sub>2</sub>Et$  group and similar treatment produces a product mixture containing 50% of the reduced product and 18% of the corresponding <span id="page-30-0"></span>alkene elimination product. The carboethoxy group is unaffected by these reduction conditions.<sup>137</sup>

$$
Ph \longrightarrow OH \qquad \frac{Et_3SH, CH_2Cl_2}{BF_3 \cdot \text{OE}_{2}, 0^\circ, 0.5 \text{ h}} \qquad \qquad Ph \longrightarrow OH \qquad (90\%) \qquad (Eq. 42)
$$

The secondary benzylic alcohol 1-phenylethan-1,2-diol requires 20 hours of treatment at room temperature to produce a 64% yield of 2-phenylethanol (Eq. 43).<sup>137</sup> Under the same conditions, methyl mandelate fails to undergo reduction, presumably because of the greater carbocation-destabilizing effect of a neighboring carboalkoxy compared to a hydroxymethyl group (Eq. 43).<sup>137</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{cccc}\n\text{OH} & \text{Et}_3\text{SiH}, \text{BF}_3\text{\bullet} \text{OEt}_2 \\
\text{Ph} & \text{rt}, 20 \text{ h} & \text{Ph} & \text{R} & (64\%) \\
\end{array}
$$
\n
$$
\begin{array}{cccc}\n\text{R} & \text{CH}_2\text{OH} & (64\%) \\
\text{CH}_2\text{OH} & (64\%) & \\
\text{CO}_2\text{Me} & (0\%) & \text{Pb} & \text{Pb} & \text{Pb} \\
\end{array}
$$
\n
$$
\begin{array}{cccc}\n\text{R} & (64\%) \\
\text{CO}_2\text{Me} & (0\%)\n\end{array}
$$

Triethylsilane/boron trifluoride etherate in chloroform at room temperature reduces only the benzylic 12-hydroxy group of the polyfunctional compound **36** to form  $(\pm)$ -homochelidonine **37** in 92% yield (Eq. 44).<sup>138</sup>



It is possible to effect reduction of tertiary benzylic hydroxy functions in the presence of primary halogens. Treatment of 1,1-diphenyl-1-hydroxy-2 haloethanes in chloroform with a slight excess of triethylsilane and a 9- to 10-fold excess of trifluoroacetic acid yields the corresponding 2,2-diphenyl-1-haloethanes (Eq. 45). The yield of the chloride is 77% after one hour at  $-15^\circ$ , whereas that of the bromide is 66% following one hour at  $0^{\circ}$ .<sup>184</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}\nX \\
\downarrow \\
\downarrow \\
\downarrow \\
\uparrow \\
\uparrow\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{c}\nE_{t_3} S i H, CHCl_3 \\
\uparrow TFA\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{c}\nX \\
\downarrow \\
\uparrow \\
\uparrow \\
\uparrow \\
\uparrow\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{c}\nX \\
\hline\n\text{Cl} & (77\%) \\
\downarrow \\
\uparrow\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{c}\n(Eq. 45)\n\end{array}
$$

**Alkyl Halides and Triflates to Alkanes.** The normal requirements for conversion of alkyl halides (and triflates) to alkanes using organosilicon hydrides are essentially the same as those needed for the reduction of the corresponding alcohols, namely, the substrates must generally be able to serve as precursors to

carbocations that may be captured by the hydride. The reduction of alkyl halides has been accomplished with triethylsilane/aluminum chloride. Substrates that undergo reduction under these conditions include primary alkyl halides,<sup>146</sup>*,*185*,*<sup>186</sup> secondary alkyl halides,<sup>146,187,188</sup> gem-dihalides,<sup>189</sup> vicinal dihalides,<sup>189</sup> and tertiary alkyl halides.<sup>187</sup>*,*<sup>188</sup> As expected, haloarenes generally do not undergo such reductions, even under vigorous conditions.<sup>146</sup>*,*<sup>190</sup>

An exception to the need for carbocation formation is found when the silyl hydride functional group is part of a valence-expanded hydrosiliconate species. For example, potassium tetraethoxyhydridosilicate<sup>104</sup> is capable of reducing primary alkyl and benzylic bromides and chlorides directly to the corresponding hydrocarbons without the need for additional catalysis (Eq. 46).<sup>95</sup> The reaction is not a simple nucleophilic displacement of hydride for halide, however, since dimers can be formed as part of the reaction product mixture. In addition, when 6 bromo-1-hexene is used as the substrate, 4.4% of methylcyclopentane is obtained along with  $63\%$  of 1-hexene product.<sup>95</sup> The presence of the ring-closed product is suggestive of the operation of single-electron transfer (SET) processes.<sup>191</sup>

$$
[(EtO)4SiH]-K+ + RX R = primary alkyl, benzyl
$$
 RH + RR + Si(OEt)<sub>4</sub> (Eq. 46)

*Alkyl Halides*. Commonly, reductions with liquid silanes and liquid alkyl halides do not require the use of a solvent.<sup>186</sup> When the alkyl halide is a solid, either pentane<sup>186</sup> or dichloromethane may be used as solvent.<sup>192</sup> No significant difference in reactivities is observed between alkyl chloride and bromide substrates,<sup>186</sup> but allyl halides are more reactive than 2-halopropanes, which, in turn, are more reactive than 1-halopropanes.<sup>190</sup>*,*<sup>146</sup>

With halides having a strong propensity to undergo ionization, such as trityl halides, reductions may occur in the absence of added Lewis acids.<sup>29,54</sup> Otherwise, the presence of Lewis acids is required. Catalytic amounts of aluminum bromide and aluminum chloride seem to be equally effective unless there are other Lewis base centers such as oxygen in the molecule to compete with the halogen for complexation with the Lewis acid.<sup>192</sup> Then it is necessary to add more than one equivalent of the Lewis acid to effect reduction of the carbon-halogen function.<sup>136</sup>*,*<sup>146</sup> Skeletal rearrangements may occur during these reductions, as in the reduction of bromocycloheptane (Eq. 47).<sup>146</sup>*,*<sup>185</sup>



In contrast to the behavior of primary alcohols, which resist reduction by organosilicon hydrides even in the presence of very strong acids, primary halo alkanes, including methyl iodide and ethyl bromide,<sup>186</sup> undergo reduction when treated with aluminum chloride and organosilicon hydrides.<sup>146*,*185*,*186 Slow</sup> addition of a catalytic amount of aluminum chloride to a nearly equimolar

mixture of 1-chlorohexane and triethylsilane produces a vigorous reaction that, after 28 hours and simple distillation, gives a 57% yield of *n*-hexane and an 88% yield of chlorotriethylsilane (Eq. 48).<sup>185</sup> Similar treatment of 2,2-dimethyl-1-chloropropane gives 2-methylbutane in 37% yield (Eq. 49), whereas treatment of 3,3-dimethyl-1-chlorobutane gives a 50% yield of 2-methylbutane (Eq. 50).<sup>185</sup> Polymeric hydrocarbon by-products accompany the products of the latter two reactions. The structures of the products are clear evidence of the occurrence of 1,2-alkyl shifts leading to more stable carbocationic intermediates.

$$
\sim \sim_{Cl} \qquad \frac{\text{Et}_3 \text{SiH}}{\text{AlCl}_3} \qquad \sim \qquad (57\%) \qquad \qquad (\text{Eq. 48})
$$

$$
\swarrow_{Cl} \qquad \xrightarrow{\text{Et}_3\text{SiH}} \qquad \qquad (37\%) \qquad \qquad (\text{Eq. 49})
$$

$$
\swarrow_{\text{Cl}} \qquad \xrightarrow{\text{Et}_3\text{SiH}} \qquad \qquad (50\%) \qquad \qquad (\text{Eq. 50})
$$

The use of a deuterium-labeled organosilicon hydride and location of the deuterium isotope in the reduced product shows that 1,2-hydride shifts also occur. Thus, reduction of 1-bromohexane with triethylsilane- $d_1$  yields hexane with all of the deuterium at C2 (Eq. 51); similar treatment of cyclohexylmethyl bromide produces methylcyclohexane-1- $d_1$  (Eq. 52).<sup>186</sup>

Br D Et3SiD AlCl3 (—) (Eq. 51) Et3SiD AlCl3 <sup>D</sup> Br (—) (Eq. 52)

Trialkylsilanes are generally more effective than dialkyl- or monoalkylsilanes in minimizing isomerizations. The reduction of 2-bromododecane to dodecane proceeds under aluminum chloride catalysis in 82% yield using *n*-butylsilane and in 87% yield with tri-*n*-butylsilane.<sup>186</sup> However, similar treatment of bromocycloheptane with triethylsilane yields a mixture of 39% cycloheptane and 26% methylcyclohexane. The same substrate yields 65% methylcyclohexane and less than  $1\%$  cycloheptane when *n*-butylsilane is the reducing agent.<sup>186</sup>

Total reduction of unbranched open-chain and cyclic derivatives of dichloro and dibromo alkanes occurs at room temperature within 30 minutes in dichloromethane solutions containing ca. 2.5 equivalents of triethylsilane and ca. 0.25 equivalents of aluminum chloride.<sup>189</sup> The reaction occurs equally well with geminal, vicinal, and *ω*-dihalo alkanes. For example, 1,5-dibromopentane gives *n*-pentane in 85% yield when treated in this way (Eq. 53).<sup>189</sup>

$$
\text{Br} \longrightarrow \text{Br} \quad \xrightarrow{\text{Et}_3\text{SiH}} \qquad \qquad \text{(85%)} \qquad \text{(Eq. 53)}
$$

Chlorocyclohexane is converted into cyclohexane in dichloromethane using ethyldichlorosilane as reducing agent.<sup>192</sup> The product yield is 40% with 25 mol% aluminum chloride and 45% with aluminum bromide. 1-Chloro-1-methylcyclohexane gives a 94% yield of methylcyclohexane using aluminum chloride and a 92% yield with aluminum bromide. Ethyldichlorosilane is superior as a hydride donor to either cumene or dicumylmethane.<sup>192</sup>

2-Bromoadamantane and 1-bromoadamantane are reduced to adamantane in yields of 84% and 79%, respectively, when treated with triethylsilane and catalytic amounts of aluminum chloride.<sup>186</sup> Similar treatment of benzhydryl chloride and *exo*-2-bromonorbornane gives the related hydrocarbons in yields of 100% and 96%, respectively.<sup>186</sup> In contrast, 2-bromo-1-phenylpropane gives only a 43% yield of 1-phenylpropane; the remainder consists of Friedel-Crafts alkylation products.<sup>186</sup> Some alkyl halides resist reduction by this method, even when forcing conditions are employed. These include *p*-nitrobenzyl bromide, 3-bromopropanenitrile, and 5-bromopentanenitrile.<sup>186</sup>

The reduction of 4-chloro-4-methyltetrahydropyran with triethylsilane requires more than a catalytic amount of aluminum chloride. No 4-methyltetrahydropyran is obtained after 20 hours at room temperature even when 0.75 equivalents of the catalyst is used, but a 92% yield is obtained after only 30 minutes when two equivalents of catalyst and three equivalents of triethylsilane are used.<sup>136</sup>*,*<sup>146</sup> This is presumably a result of the ability of the Lewis acid to coordinate at the ring oxygen as well as at the chlorine. The introduction of alkyl groups at C2 appears to introduce enough steric hindrance near the ring oxygen to enable less than one equivalent of aluminum chloride to effect reduction, but also makes the products unstable to the reaction conditions so that the synthetic yields decline compared with the unsubstituted substrate.<sup>136</sup>

Dichloromethane solutions of some sterically congested benzyl chlorides and triethylsilane need only the addition of excess trifluoroacetic acid to promote rapid conversion of the chlorides to the related hydrocarbons.<sup>128</sup> Thus 2,4,6trimethylbenzyl chloride produces a 79% yield of isodurene at room temperature after 2.5 hours, 2-methyl-4,6-di-*tert*-butylbenzyl chloride gives 50% 1, 2-dimethyl-4,6-di-*tert*-butylbenzene after 40 minutes at reflux, and 2,4,6-*tert*-butylbenzyl chloride gives a 100% yield of 2,4,6-tri-*tert*-butyltoluene within 17 minutes at reflux (Eq. 54). The unsubstituted parent benzyl chloride remains unreacted under these conditions even after 30 days.<sup>128</sup>



It is clear that the ionizing power of the solvent used is important in many of these reductions. When 2,4,6-trimethylbenzyl chloride is heated with diphenylsilane in nitrobenzene at temperatures as high as 130°, no isodurene is formed.<sup>193</sup> Not unexpectedly, the same lack of reactivity is reported for a series of benzyl fluorides, chlorides, and bromides substituted in the para position with nitro or methyl groups or hydrogen when they are heated in nitrobenzene solutions with triethylsilane, triethoxysilane, or diphenylsilane.<sup>193</sup>

The combination of boron trifluoride etherate and triethylsilane can cause the reduction of tertiary fluoride centers even in polyfunctional compounds  $(Eq. 55).^{194}$ 



Alkyl iodides, benzyl chlorides, benzyl bromides, and adamantyl bromides and iodides undergo reduction with triethylsilane/palladium chloride.<sup>195</sup> The reduction of a  $\beta$ -chloro ether occurs in excellent yield with this system (Eq. 56).<sup>195</sup>

$$
\text{MeO}_{\text{max}} \text{Cl} \quad \xrightarrow{\text{Et}_3 \text{SiH, PdCl}_2} \text{MeO}_{\text{max}} \quad \text{MeO}_{\text{max}} \quad (>95\%) \quad \text{(Eq. 56)}
$$

*Allyl Halides*. Reduction of a polyfunctional allyl chloride occurs without rearrangement and without reduction of the tosylate using  $Ph_2SiH_2/ZnCl_2/$  $Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>$  (Eq. 57).<sup>196</sup>

 $\overline{1}$ 

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n\text{Sp}_2\text{ToI} \\
\hline\n\text{CH}_2\text{SiH}_2, \text{ZnCl}_2, \text{Pd(PPh}_3)_4\n\end{array}\n\right\}\n\longrightarrow\n\text{SO}_2\text{ToI} (Eq. 57)
$$

*α-Halocarbonyl Compounds*. The reduction of *α*-chloro and *α*-bromo ketones and esters has been accomplished with combinations of PhSiH3/  $Mo(CO)_{6}$ , <sup>197</sup> Ph<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub>/ZnCl<sub>2</sub>/Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, <sup>197</sup> Ph<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub>/Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>, <sup>197</sup> and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/  $PdCl<sub>2</sub>,<sup>195</sup>$  with the first reagent combination giving the best results.<sup>197</sup> One example of an  $\alpha$ -chloro amide reduction is reported.<sup>198</sup> 2-Bromopropiophenone is reduced to propionic acid with polymethylhydrosiloxane (PMHS, **38**), an inexpensive industrial commodity, and  $Pd(PPh_3)_4$  in 35% yield.<sup>199</sup> This reagent combination also reduces  $\alpha$ -halo ketones in high yields (Eq. 58).<sup>199</sup>

$$
Br \xrightarrow{\text{PMHS, Pd(PPh}_{3})_4, Bn_3N} \frac{O}{\text{MeCN/Me}_{2}SO(1:1), 110^{\circ}, 3 h} \qquad (80\%)
$$
\n
$$
Me_{3}Si-O \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} H \\ Si-O \\ Me \\ He \end{bmatrix}_{n}} SiMe_{3}
$$
\n
$$
(Eq. 58)
$$

<span id="page-35-0"></span>*Vinyl and Aryl Halides and Triflates*. The organosilane reduction of aryl halides is possible in high yields with triethylsilane and palladium chloride.<sup>195</sup> The reaction is equally successful with aryl chlorides, bromides, and iodides. Aryl bromides and iodides, but not chlorides, are reduced with PMHS/Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> in moderate to excellent yields.<sup>199</sup> This system also reduces vinyl bromides.<sup>199</sup> *p*-Chlorobenzophenone is reduced to benzophenone with *sym*-tetramethyldisiloxane and Ni/C in excellent yield (Eq. 59).<sup>200</sup> There is a report of the organosilane reduction of aryl and vinyl triflates in very high yields with the combination of Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>/dppp (1,3-bis(diphenylphosphino)propane) (Eq. 60).<sup>201</sup>



## **Reduction of Unsaturated Hydrocarbons**

**Alkenes to Alkanes.** The "ionic hydrogenation" of many compounds containing carbon-carbon double bonds is effected with the aid of strong acids and organosilicon hydrides following the  $\pi$ -route outlined in Eq. 2. A number of factors are important to the successful application of this method. These include the degree and type of substituents located around the double bond as well as the nature and concentrations of the acid and the organosilicon hydride and the reaction conditions that are employed.

The most common reaction conditions for alkene reductions use excess trifluoroacetic acid and triethylsilane either neat<sup>202-204</sup> or in an inert solvent such as nitrobenzene,<sup>134</sup> 2-nitropropane,<sup>205</sup> carbon tetrachloride,<sup>206</sup> chloroform,<sup>207</sup> or dichloromethane.<sup>127,164</sup> Reaction temperatures from  $-78^\circ$  to well over 100 $^\circ$  are reported. Ambient or ice-bath temperatures are most commonly used, but variations of these conditions abound.

Among other silicon hydrides reported are *n*-butylsilane, diethylsilane, triisopentylsilane, tricyclopentylsilane, triphenylsilane, tri-*sec*-butylsilane, di-*tert*butylsilane, di-tert-butylmethylsilane, tri-tert-butylsilane,<sup>204</sup> phenylsilane, diethylmethylsilane,<sup>202</sup> diphenylsilane,<sup>134,208,209</sup> dichloroethylsilane,<sup>192</sup> PMHS,<sup>77</sup> and polyethylhydrosiloxane.<sup>207</sup>

Acids that are used in addition to trifluoroacetic acid include trifluoroacetic acid with added sulfuric acid<sup>203</sup> or boron trifluoride etherate,<sup>210,211</sup> perfluorobutyric acid,<sup>212</sup> hydrogen chloride/aluminum chloride,<sup>136</sup>*,*146*,*<sup>213</sup> perchloric acid in chloroform,<sup>214</sup> *p*-toluenesulfonic acid alone<sup>134</sup> or with aluminum bromide or aluminum chloride,<sup>192</sup> concentrated sulfuric acid in two-phase systems with dichloromethane, alcohol, or ether solvents,<sup>209,215</sup> trifluoromethanesulfonic acid,<sup>216</sup> chlorodifluoroacetic acid,<sup>134</sup> and the monohydrate of boron trifluoride
$(BF_3 \cdot OH_2)$ <sup>217</sup> The use of a sulfonated phenol-formaldehyde polymer in conjunction with formic acid is also reported.<sup>208</sup> Acids that are ineffective include phosphoric,<sup>208</sup> trichloroacetic, dichloroacetic, and acetic acids.<sup>134</sup> It is reported that addition of lithium perchlorate to the reaction mixture improves product yields.<sup>193</sup>*,*<sup>205</sup>

Other organosilane/acid reagent combinations that are used in the reduction of olefins to alkanes include  $Et_3SiH/NH_4F/TFA$ ,  $^{135}Et_3SiH/HClO_4$ ,  $^{214}Et_3SiH/$ TiCl<sub>4</sub>,<sup>218</sup> PMHS/Pd-nanocomposite,<sup>219</sup> Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA/HClO<sub>4</sub>,<sup>205</sup> Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/PdCl<sub>2</sub>,<sup>220</sup> polyethylhydrogensiloxane (PEHS)/TFA,<sup>207</sup> Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TMSOTf,<sup>216</sup> and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/  $HCO<sub>2</sub>H.<sup>208</sup>$ 

The triethylsilane/trifluoroacetic acid reagent system reduces alkenes to alkanes in poor to excellent yields depending largely on the ability of the alkene to form carbocations upon protonation. Under these conditions the more substituted olefins are reduced in better yields and styrene double bonds are reduced in high yields.<sup>127,202,207,221-228</sup> The reduction of 1,2-dimethylcyclohexene with this reagent gives a mixture of *cis*- and *trans*-1,2-dimethylcyclohexane.<sup>229</sup> The formation of the trifluoroacetate esters is a side reaction.<sup>205</sup>*,*<sup>230</sup>

Potential problems associated with double bond reduction by this method may be understood in terms of Eq. 61. Protonation of the double bond leads to the formation of the more stable carbocation. This carbocation may rearrange by a first-order process or react competitively with either indigenous nucleophiles or added silicon hydride by second-order processes. If strong nucleophiles such as those associated with weak Brønsted acids are present, then the limited degree of reversibility of carbocation regeneration following nucleophilic capture may lead to diversion of the desired reduction products to unwanted nucleophilic substitution products.<sup>209</sup> Another problem exists if bimolecular polymerization reactions compete with carbocation capture by organosilicon hydrides because of the proximity of carbocations and unprotonated alkene substrate. When this occurs, yields of reduced product suffer. The yields of hydrocarbons from alkenes are, in fact, frequently lower than those of the same products derived from the corresponding alcohols because of this problem.<sup>134</sup>*,*<sup>142</sup>



When trifluoroacetic acid is used as the source of protons, it is known that rapid formation of trifluoroacetate esters precedes reduction to hydrocarbons.<sup>134</sup>*,*204*,*<sup>206</sup> Use of acetic acid in place of trifluoroacetic acid, for example, would be expected to fail to produce good conversion to reduced product because of the combination of decreased acidity and increased nucleophilicity of acetic acid relative to

trifluoroacetic acid as well as its weaker ionizing power as a solvent. This is consistent with experimental observations.<sup>134</sup>*,*<sup>209</sup>

The relative stability of the carbenium ion resulting from double bond protonation is a controlling factor in the limitation of this method of hydrogenation. On a practical level, only alkenes that can produce carbenium ions at least as stable as tertiary aliphatic ones undergo reduction to alkanes in useful yields. This distinction serves as a basis for selectivity of reduction. Under essentially every set of conditions reported, 1-methylcyclohexene, which forms a tertiary aliphatic carbenium ion upon protonation, undergoes reduction to methylcyclohexane in good to excellent yields, whereas cyclohexene, which can only form a secondary aliphatic carbenium ion intermediate upon protonation, does not normally undergo reduction. Indeed, treatment of an equimolar mixture of cyclohexene and 1-methylcyclohexene with two equivalents of triethylsilane and four equivalents of trifluoroacetic acid at 50◦ gives, after 10 hours, a 70% yield of methylcyclohexane together with completely recovered, unreacted cyclohexene.<sup>231</sup>

An exception is reported when the reactions are conducted using a twofold excess of dichloroethylsilane with equal equivalents of either aluminum chloride or aluminum bromide and *p*-toluenesulfonic acid at  $40^\circ$  for two hours in dichloromethane. Under these conditions, 1-methylcyclohexene affords methylcyclohexane in 65–75% yield, whereas cyclohexene gives cyclohexane in  $17-23\%$  yield.<sup>192</sup>

The use of deuterated organosilicon hydrides in conjunction with proton acids permits the synthesis of site-specific deuterium-labeled compounds.59*,*126*,*<sup>221</sup> Under such conditions, the deuterium atom in the final product is located at the charge center of the ultimate carbocation intermediate (Eq. 62). With the proper choice of a deuterated acid and organosilicon hydride, it may be possible to use ionic hydrogenation in a versatile manner to give products with a single deuterium at either carbon of the original double bond, or with deuterium atoms at both carbon centers.<sup>127</sup>

$$
\searrow \leftarrow + HX \quad \Longleftarrow \quad \xrightarrow{\text{H}} \leftarrow + X - \xrightarrow{\text{R}_3\text{SiD}} + \xrightarrow{\text{H}} \quad \text{(Eq. 62)}
$$

*Monosubstituted Alkenes*. Simple unbranched terminal alkenes that have only alkyl substituents, such as 1-hexene,<sup>203</sup>1-octene,<sup>209</sup> or allylcyclohexane<sup>230</sup> do not undergo reduction in the presence of organosilicon hydrides and strong acids, even under extreme conditions.<sup>1,2</sup> For example, when 1-hexene is heated in a sealed ampoule at 140 $\degree$  for 10 hours with triethylsilane and excess trifluoroacetic acid, only a trace of hexane is detected.<sup>203</sup> A somewhat surprising exception to this pattern is the formation of ethylcyclohexane in 20% yield upon treatment of vinylcyclohexane with trifluoroacetic acid and triethylsilane.<sup>230</sup> Protonation of the terminal carbon is thought to initiate a 1,2-hydride shift that leads to the formation of the tertiary 1-ethyl-1-cyclohexyl cation.<sup>230</sup>

On the other hand, if the single substituent can stabilize an adjacent carbocation center following protonation of the alkene, then reduction may occur.

Styrene is reported to undergo reduction upon treatment with trifluoroacetic acid and triethylsilane, $203$  although competing polymerization reactions limit the yield of ethylbenzene to only  $30\%$  (Eq. 63).<sup>70</sup> Vinylcyclopropane is reduced to ethylcyclopropane within 30 minutes under similar conditions (Eq.  $64$ ).<sup>232</sup> It is important to note that the cyclopropane ring of ethylcyclopropane can be opened under these reaction conditions, albeit with longer reaction times, to give some *trans*-2-pentene in the final reaction mixture. $233$ 

$$
\frac{Et_3SH}{TFA} \longrightarrow \frac{(30\%)}{(100\%)} \qquad (Eq. 63)
$$
\n
$$
\frac{Et_3SH}{TFA, rt} \longrightarrow \frac{(100\%)}{(100\%)} \qquad (Eq. 64)
$$

Examples of the behavior of other substituted vinyl substrates upon exposure to the action of trifluoroacetic acid and triethylsilane are known. For example, *n*-butyl vinyl ether, when reacted at 50◦ for 10 hours, gives *n*-butyl ethyl ether in 80% yield (Eq. 65).<sup>234</sup> In contrast, *n*-butyl vinyl thioether gives only a 5% yield of *n*-butyl ethyl sulfide product after 2 hours and 15% after 20 hours of reaction.<sup>234</sup> It is suggested that this low reactvity is the result of the formation of a very stable sulfur-bridged carbocation intermediate that resists attack by the organosilicon hydride (Eq. 66).



Attempted reduction of vinyl acetate yields a mixture containing 8% ethyl acetate and 3% ethyl trifluoroacetate after 10 hours. The amounts of the two esters change to 13% and 12%, respectively, at reaction times beyond 60 hours.<sup>234</sup> Vinyl trifluoroacetate does not undergo reduction under these conditions, even after 75 hours.<sup>234</sup>

Treatment of *N*-vinyl-3-methyl-6-pyridazone with excess trifluoroacetic acid and triethylsilane at 65◦ for 25 hours yields 67% of the reduced product *N*-ethyl-3-methyl-6-pyridazone (Eq.  $67$ ).<sup>235</sup> It is noteworthy that only the vinyl group in this compound undergoes reduction under these conditions, and not the ring or carbonyl sites. Examination of a solution of the starting *N*-vinyl-3-methyl-6-pyridazone in neat trifluoroacetic acid by  ${}^{1}H$  NMR spectroscopy shows the existence of the trifluoroacetate ester expected from the carbocation formed by protonation of the vinyl group at the terminal carbon. It is of interest that a similar compound, *N*-allyl-3-methyl-6-pyridazone, is inert under these conditions (Eq. 68). This reflects the differences of the relative stabilities of the carbocations formed upon protonation of the C=C groups in each reaction.



*Disubstituted Alkenes*. Simple 1,2-disubstituted alkenes such as 2-octene or cyclohexene, which produce only secondary aliphatic carbocation reaction intermediates, do not undergo reduction upon treatment with a Brønsted acid and an organosilicon hydride. Even when extreme conditions are employed, only traces of reduction products are detected.<sup>192</sup>*,*203*,*207 – 210*,*<sup>214</sup> An exception is the report that 4-methyl-2-pentene forms 2-methylpentane in 70% yield when heated to 50° for 20 hours with a mixture of  $Et_3SH/TFA$  containing a catalytic amount of sulfuric acid. It is believed that 4-methyl-2-pentene is isomerized to 2-methyl-2-pentene prior to reduction.<sup>203</sup>

Unlike cyclohexene, its oxa analog, 3,4-dihydro-2*H*-pyran, undergoes facile reduction to tetrahydropyran in yields ranging from 70 to 92% when treated with a slight excess of triethylsilane and an excess of either trifluoroacetic acid or a combination of hydrogen chloride and aluminum chloride (Eq.  $69$ ).<sup>146</sup> This difference in behavior can be understood in terms of the accessibility of the resonance-stabilized oxonium ion intermediate formed upon protonation.

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}\n\bullet & \xrightarrow{HX} & \xrightarrow{\ } & \xrightarrow{Et_3SH} & \xrightarrow{\ } & (70-92\%) & (Eq. 69)\n\end{array}
$$

The behavior of the isomeric dihydronaphthalenes emphasizes the importance of the relative stabilities of carbocation intermediates in ionic hydrogenations. Treatment of 1,2-dihydronaphthalene with  $Et_3SiH/TFA$  at 50–60 $\degree$  gives a 90% yield of tetralin after one hour. Under the same conditions, the 1,4 dihydronaphthalene isomer gives less than  $5\%$  of tetralin after 70 hours.<sup>224</sup> This difference in reactivity is clearly related to the relatively accessible benzylic cation formed upon protonation of the 1,2-isomer compared to the less stable secondary cation formed from the  $1,4$ -isomer.<sup>224</sup>

The behavior of members of the bicyclo[2.2.1]heptene family is also different from that of other common 1,2-disubstituted alkenes.<sup>230</sup> The parent bicyclo[2.2.1]heptene gives bicyclo[2.2.1]heptane in only 3.5% yield when it is treated with  $Et_3SH/TFA$ . The major product is reported to be a 2-bicyclo[2.2.1]heptyl trifluoroacetate of unspecified configuration (Eq. 70).<sup>230</sup> The carbocation intermediate is presumably the 2-norbornyl cation. Addition of small amounts of boron trifluoride etherate to the reaction mixture causes the yield of hydrocarbon product to rise to 22% after a reaction time of 24 hours at room temperature. Further

exposure of the reaction mixture to the reaction conditions does not result in additional hydrocarbon formation from the ester.

$$
\mathcal{L}\rightarrow \frac{\text{Et}_3\text{SiH}}{\text{TFA}} \quad \mathcal{L}\rightarrow \mathcal{L}\rightarrow O_2\text{CCF}_3 \quad (Eq. 70)
$$

A mixture of exo- and endo-isomers of 5-methylbicylo[2.2.1]hept-2-ene is hydrogenated with the aid of five equivalents of triethylsilane and 13.1 equivalents of trifluoroacetic acid to produce a 45% yield of *endo*-2-methylbicylo[2.2.1] heptane (Eq. 71). The same product is formed in 37% yield after only five minutes. The remainder of the reaction products is a mixture of three isomeric secondary exo-methylbicylo[2.2.1]heptyl trifluoroacetates that remains inert to the reaction conditions. Use of triethylsilane-1-*d*<sup>1</sup> gives the *endo*-2-methylbicylo- [2.2.1]heptane product with an *exo*-deuterium at the tertiary carbon position shared with the methyl group. This result reflects the nature of the internal carbocation rearrangements that precede capture by the silane. $^{230}$ 

$$
\longrightarrow Et_3SH
$$

Alkenes with a 1,1-disubstitution pattern form tertiary carbocations upon treatment with a Brønsted acid. Consequently, such compounds are often easily reduced (Eq. 72). An example of this is the formation of 2-methylpentane in 93% yield after only 5 minutes when a dichloromethane solution of 2-methyl-1-pentene and 1.4 equivalents of triethylsilane is treated with 1.4 equivalents of trifluoromethanesulfonic acid at −75◦ . <sup>216</sup> Similar treatment of 2,3-dimethyl-1 butene gives a 96% yield of 2,3-dimethylbutane.<sup>216</sup>

$$
R = alkyl
$$
\n
$$
R = n \cdot Pr (93\%)
$$
\n
$$
R = n \cdot Pr (93\%)
$$
\n
$$
R = i \cdot Pr (96\%)
$$
\n
$$
(Eq. 72)
$$

Use of deuterated silane and/or acid with this method leads to site-specific deuterium incorporation in the reduced products. Thus, treatment of 2-methyl-1 pentene with one equivalent of deuterated triethylsilane and two equivalents of trifluoroacetic acid at 50 $\degree$  for 24 hours gives 2-methylpentane-2- $d_1$  in 90% yield  $(Eq. 73)$ <sup>221</sup> In the same way, isopropenylcyclopropane gives an 80% yield of deuterated isopropylcyclopropane after 30 minutes at  $-10°$  (Eq. 74).<sup>221</sup>

$$
\frac{Et_3SiD}{TFA, 50^\circ} \qquad \qquad \overbrace{D} \qquad \qquad (90\%) \qquad \qquad (Eq. 73)
$$

$$
\triangleright \swarrow \quad \xrightarrow{\text{Et}_3 \text{SiD}} \qquad \triangleright \searrow \qquad \qquad \text{(80%)} \qquad \qquad \text{(Eq. 74)}
$$

Preferential protonation of oxygen in comparison to carbon prevents 4-methylenetetrahydropyran from undergoing reduction to 4-methyltetrahydropyran even when held at 70° for 10 hours in the presence of triethylsilane and a 20-fold excess of trifluoroacetic acid.<sup>146</sup> However, when the reaction conditions are changed so that a dichloromethane solution of the same substrate is treated with a mixture of four equivalents of triethylsilane and three equivalents of aluminum chloride in the presence of excess hydrogen chloride, a 40% yield of 4-methyltetrahydropyran product is obtained at room temperature after one hour  $(Eq. 75).^{136}$ 

$$
\frac{Et_3SH}{HCI, AICI_3}
$$
 (40%) (Eq. 75)

The cis-to-trans ratios of the isomeric 4-*tert*-butyl-1-methylcyclohexanes derived from treatment of 4-*tert*-butyl-1-methylenecyclohexane with trifluoroacetic acid vary with the steric features of the organosilicon hydrides that are used (Eq. 76).<sup>204</sup> The ratio is 0.04 with *n*-butylsilane, 0.09 with diethylsilane, 0.11 with triethylsilane, 0.10 with triisopentylsilane, and 0.19 with either tri-*sec*-butylsilane or di-*tert*-butylsilane.

$$
\frac{R_3\text{SiH}}{\text{TFA}, \text{rt}} \qquad \qquad \text{C} \qquad \text{C} \qquad \text{(Eq. 76)}
$$

*Trisubstituted Alkenes*. With very few exceptions, trisubstituted alkenes that are exposed to Brønsted acids and organosilicon hydrides rapidly undergo ionic hydrogenations to give reduced products in high yields. This is best illustrated by the broad variety of reaction conditions under which the benchmark compound 1 methylcyclohexene is reduced to methylcyclohexane.<sup>134</sup>*,*146*,*192*,*202*,*203*,*207 – 210*,*214*,*<sup>234</sup>

When 1-methylcyclohexene is reduced with one equivalent of deuterated triethylsilane and two equivalents of trifluoroacetic acid at 50°, methylcyclohexane- $1-d_1$  is obtained in 80% yield after 24 hours (Eq. 77).<sup>221</sup> Under similar conditions, 2-methyl-2-butene gives 2-methylbutane-2- $d_1$  (90%) and 1-methylcyclopentene gives methylcyclopentane-1- $d_1$  (60%).<sup>221</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n\text{Et}_3 \text{SiD} \\
\hline\n\text{TFA}, 50^\circ\n\end{array}
$$
\n
$$
\begin{array}{c}\n\text{D} \\
\text{(80%)}\n\end{array}
$$
\n
$$
\begin{array}{c}\n\text{(Eq. 77)}\n\end{array}
$$

Surprisingly, *α*-cyanoacrylic acid is reported to react spontaneously with triethylsilane in the absence of any additional acid to give a quantitative yield of the triethylsilyl ester of *α*-cyanopropionic acid.<sup>236</sup> Ethyl *α*-cyanoacrylate requires the presence of trifluoroacetic acid to undergo reduction to ethyl 2-cyanopropionate.<sup>236</sup> Many of these reductions are highly stereoselective. For example, treatment of 2-phenylnorbornene with a solution of trifluoroacetic acid and triethylsilane in dichloromethane is reported to yield only *endo*-2-phenylnorbornane (Eq. 78).<sup>164</sup>

$$
\mathcal{L}_{\text{Ph}} \quad \xrightarrow{\text{Et}_3\text{SiH}} \quad \mathcal{L}_{\text{Ph}} \quad (100\%) \quad (\text{Eq. 78})
$$

A mixture of Et3SiH/TFA in dichloromethane reduces 3-methyl-5-*α*-cholest-2-ene to give the pure equatorial methyl isomeric product, 3*β*-methyl-5*α*cholestane, in 66% yield (Eq. 79).<sup>126</sup> On the other hand, attempts to reduce cholest-5-ene using the same technique yield neither 5*α*-cholestane nor 5*β*cholestane, but instead an isomeric mixture of rearranged olefins. This result is presumably because of the inability of hydride attack to compete with carbocation skeletal isomerization and elimination.<sup>126</sup>



Treatment with trifluoroacetic acid and triethylsilane causes octahydro-6,7,8, 12,13,14,16,17-15*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene to form decahydro-6,7,8,9,11,12, 13,14,16,17-15*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene by reduction of the conjugated double bond.<sup>237</sup> Similar treatment of the 3-methyl ether of  $\Delta^{9(11)}$ -dehydro-D-homoestrol gives the 3-methyl ether of estradiol in better than  $50\%$  yield.<sup>226</sup>

A similar transformation occurs as a critical step in the total synthesis of  $(+)$ estrone by a Diels-Alder cycloaddition-cycloreversion pathway (Eq. 80).<sup>227</sup> It is worth noting that in this reaction the conjugated double bond is stereoselectively reduced while both an isolated double bond and a ketone carbonyl are preserved.



Treatment of progesterone with trifluoroacetic acid and triethylsilane in dichloromethane followed by saponification of the mixture of the trifluoroacetate ester intermediates of 5-*β*-pregnane-3*α*,20*β*-diol and 5-*β*-pregnane-3*α*,20*α*-diol and Jones oxidation yields 5- $\beta$ -pregnanedione in 65% yield (Eq. 81).<sup>238</sup>



Hydrogenation of the carbon-carbon double bond occurs without alteration of the ester function when citronellyl acetate is treated with 2.5 equivalents of trifluoroacetic acid and two equivalents of triethylsilane in 2-nitropropane.<sup>205</sup> The reduced product is obtained in 90% yield after 22 hours at room temperature in the presence of one equivalent of added lithium perchlorate (Eq. 82). The yields are lower in the absence of this added salt. Similar reduction of an unsaturated phenolic chroman derivative occurs to give an 85% yield of product with only the carbon-carbon double bond reduced  $(Eq. 83).^{205}$ 



A dichloromethane solution of 4-methyl-5,6-dihydro-2*H*-pyran gives 4-methyltetrahydropyran in 35% yield when treated with a mixture of five equivalents of triethylsilane and 2.5 equivalents of aluminum chloride in the presence of excess hydrogen chloride at room temperature for one hour  $(Eq. 84).$ <sup>136</sup> This behavior is essentially the same as that exhibited by the disubstituted 4 methylenetetrahydropyran isomer under similar conditions.136



Exceptions to the generally facile ionic hydrogenation of trisubstituted alkenes include the resistance of both 2-methyl-1-nitropropene  $(R = NO<sub>2</sub>)$  and 3,3-dimethylacrylic acid  $(R = CO<sub>2</sub>H)$  to the action of a mixture of triethylsilane and excess trifluoroacetic acid at  $50^{\circ}$  (Eq. 85).<sup>234</sup> The failure to undergo reduction is clearly related to the unfavorable effects caused by the electron-withdrawing substituents on the energies of the required carbocation intermediates.

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}\n\mathsf{R} & \xrightarrow{\mathsf{Et}_3 \mathsf{S} \mathsf{i} \mathsf{H}} & \mathsf{No} \ \mathsf{Reaction} \\
\mathsf{R} = \mathsf{NO}_2, \mathsf{CO}_2 \mathsf{H} & & \mathsf{N} \mathsf{o} \ \mathsf{Reaction} & & \n\end{array} \tag{Eq. 85}
$$

*Tetrasubstituted Alkenes*. Tetrasubstituted alkenes lacking electron-withdrawing substituents undergo facile ionic hydrogenation to alkanes in very good yields. Simple examples include 2,3-dimethyl-2-butene,208*,*<sup>214</sup> 1,2-dimethylcyclopentene, 1,2-dimethylcyclohexene,<sup>229</sup> and  $\Delta^{9(10)}$ -octalin.<sup>126,204,212</sup>

Interesting variations are observed in the stereoselectivities of these ionic hydrogenations. Reduction of 1,2-dimethylcyclopentene with  $Et<sub>3</sub>SH/TFA$  near room temperature gives 1,2-dimethylcyclopentane with a cis to trans ratio of 0.083, compared to a ratio of 0.63 for 1,2-dimethylcyclohexene.<sup>229</sup>

The reduction of  $\Delta^{9(10)}$ -octalin to *cis*- and *trans*-decalins occurs with cis to trans stereoselectivities that vary with the nature of the organosilicon hydride employed. The ratios are  $0.28-0.59$  with *n*-butylsilane, 0.67 with diethylsilane,<sup>204</sup>  $0.34^{212}$  or  $0.72^{204}$  with triethylsilane, 0.67 with diphenylsilane, 0.77 with diphenylmethylsilane,<sup>212</sup> 1.38<sup>204</sup> – 1.80<sup>127,212</sup> with triphenylsilane, 0.54 with triisopentylsilane, 1.17 with tricyclopentylsilane, 2.57 with tri-*sec*-butylsilane, 3.35 with di-*tert*-butylsilane, 4.88 with di-*tert*-butylmethylsilane, and 13.3 with tri-*tert*butylsilane.<sup>204</sup> Opinions differ about the mechanistic significance of these changes in isomer ratios.<sup>204</sup>*,*<sup>212</sup>

Treatment of  $\Delta^{8(9)}$ -dehydroestradiol with trifluoroacetic acid and triethylsilane gives estradiol in 96% yield (Eq. 86).<sup>239</sup> The 3-methyl ether is similarly reduced to the 3-methyl ether of estradiol in  $>50\%$  yield.<sup>239</sup> The structurally related 18-ethyl and 18-propyl 17-keto compounds experience reduction of the  $\Delta^{8(9)}$ function in excess of 70% yield without concomitant reduction of the 17-keto group.<sup>239</sup>



Treatment of  $\Delta^{8(9)}$ -dehydro-D-homoestradiol (39, R = H) (or its 3-methyl ether,  $R = Me$ ) with Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA followed by saponification of the trifluoroacetate ester intermediate leads to D-homoestradiol (**40**) (or its 3-methyl ether) containing  $2-15\%$  D-homoequilenol (41) (or its 3-methyl ether).<sup>240</sup> By contrast, reduction and saponification of 3,17-diacetyl- $\Delta^{8(9)}$ -dehydro-D-homoestradiol (39,  $R = AcO$ ) gives a 60% yield of D-homoestradiol without the presence of any D-homoequilenol (Eq.  $87$ ).<sup>240</sup>



*Polyenes*. The behavior of substrates with multiple carbon-carbon double bonds toward the conditions employed for ionic hydrogenations with organosilicon hydrides depends heavily on the number and kinds of substituents and

whether or not the multiple double bonds are conjugated. In the absence of conjugation, the individual double bonds react independently.

The full reduction of 1,3-dienes with  $Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA$  occurs in certain systems although the yields are only modest.<sup>231</sup> For example, 1,3-cyclohexadiene gives a 65% yield of cyclohexyl trifluoroacetate, presumably by way of cyclohexene  $(Eq. 88)$ <sup>211</sup> On the contrary, 1,4-cyclohexadiene fails to undergo reaction with 10 equivalents of triethylsilane and 20 equivalents of trifluoroacetic acid even after 24 hours at room temperature (Eq. 89).

$$
\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|}\n\hline\n\text{Et}_3\text{SiH} & \text{TrA} & \text{TrA} & \text{O}_2\text{CCF}_3 & (65\%) & \text{(Eq. 88)} \\
\hline\n\text{TrA} & \text{TrA} & \text{No Reaction} & \text{(Eq. 89)}\n\hline\n\end{array}
$$

Additional evidence of this pattern of behavior is shown upon treatment of the conjugated diene 1-propenylcyclohexene with two equivalents of triethylsilane and three equivalents of trifluoroacetic acid at 50◦ . This diene gives a 70% yield of completely reduced propylcyclohexane after 10 hours (Eq.  $90$ ).<sup>231</sup> No partially reduced intermediates are found.

$$
\underbrace{\qquad \qquad \text{Et}_3\text{SiH}}_{\text{TFA}} \qquad \qquad \text{(70%)} \qquad \qquad \text{(Eq. 90)}
$$

Similar treatment of the isomeric, nonconjugated 1-(3-propenyl)cyclohexene gives a mixture of products containing 55% of the partially reduced 3-propenylcyclohexane and 15% of the completely reduced propylcyclohexane (Eq. 91).<sup>231</sup> The yield of the latter product increases to  $25\%$  when the amounts of Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA used are raised to 6.5 and 12.1 equivalents, respectively, and the reaction time is increased to 24 hours.<sup>230</sup> The nonconjugated 1-(3-butenyl)cyclohexene gives a  $65\%$ yield of partially hydrogenated 3-butenylcyclohexane under identical conditions.<sup>231</sup>



Reduction of dienes incorporated into steroid structures may lead to different configurations in the products. For example, treatment of 8(9),14(15) bisdehydroestrone **42** ( $R = H$ ) for four hours at room temperature with twenty equivalents of trifluoroacetic acid and two equivalents of triethylsilane leads to an ionic hydrogenation product mixture containing the natural 8*β*,9*α*,14*α*-estrone **43** as a minor component (11%) and the  $8\alpha$ ,  $9\beta$ ,  $14\beta$ -isomer **44** as the major component (83%) (Eq. 92).<sup>241</sup> The related methyl ether (42, R = Me) behaves in a similar fashion.<sup>241</sup> The yield of natural isomer **46** formed from the methyl ether of  $\Delta^{8(9), 14(15)}$ -bisdehydroestradiol analog **45** increases from 22 to 34%, and that of

isomer **47** decreases from 78 to 66%, when the solvent is changed from benzene to dichloromethane (Eq. 93). $242$ 



Treatment of linalyl p-tolyl sulfone  $(R = SO_2C_6H_4Me-p)$  with 2.5 equivalents of trifluoroacetic acid and two equivalents of triethylsilane in 2-nitropropane containing one equivalent of lithium perchlorate gives, after 20 hours at room temperature, an 87% yield of the product in which only the double bond distal to the sulfone function is reduced  $(Eq. 94).^{205}$ 

$$
\frac{\text{TFA, Et}_3\text{SiH, LiClO}_4}{\text{(CH}_3)_2\text{CHNO}_2}
$$
 (Eq. 94)  
R = Ts (87%)

Surprisingly, linalyl acetate  $(R = OAc)$  fails to undergo reduction under these conditions; instead, it rapidly decomposes through cyclization and polymerization pathways.<sup>205</sup> The same reaction conditions transform geranyl *p*-tolyl sulfone  $(R = SO<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Me<sub>-p</sub>)$  into a mixture of 7% reduced and 93% cyclized products within 20 hours, whereas geranyl acetate  $(R = OAc)$  gives only a 20% yield of cyclized and no reduced product  $(Eq. 95)$ .<sup>205</sup>



Homoconjugation results in enhanced reactivity of substrates toward ionic hydrogenation. Bicyclo[2.2.1]hepta-2,5-diene forms a mixture of the trifluoroacetate esters of bicyclo[2.2.1]hepten-2-ol, tricyclo[2*.*2*.*1*.*02*,*6]heptan-3-ol, and bicyclo<sup>[2.2.1]</sup>heptan-2-ol in a  $62:20:17$  ratio on treatment with 10 equivalents of triethylsilane and 20 equivalents of trifluoroacetic acid for 24 hours at room temperature (Eq. 96). $230$ 

$$
\mathcal{D}_{\text{TFA}} \longrightarrow \text{Tr}_{\text{AFA}} \longrightarrow \text{C}_{2} \text{CCF}_{3} + \text{C}_{2} \text{CCF}_{3} + \text{C}_{2} \text{CCF}_{3} + \text{C}_{2} \text{CCF}_{3} \text{ (Eq. 96)}
$$

Treatment of 5-methylenebicyclo[2.2.1]hept-2-ene with 10 equivalents of triethylsilane and 20 equivalents of trifluoroacetic acid either for 24 hours at room temperature or 3 hours at 50◦ gives an 85% yield of completely hydrogenated  $endo-2$ -methylbicyclo<sup>[2.2.1]</sup>heptane (Eq. 97). The combination of Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA/  $BF_3$ • $OEt_2$  gives this product in 80% yield.<sup>230</sup> The reaction presumably proceeds by way of 2-methyltricyclo[2*.*2*.*1*.*02*,*6]heptane as a reaction intermediate, since this compound is expected to rapidly give the same final product when it is subjected to these reaction conditions.<sup>230</sup> The analogous stereospecific behavior is exhibited by 5-ethylidenebicyclo<sup>[2.2.1]</sup>hept-2-ene.<sup>230</sup>

$$
\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow \left[\begin{array}{ccc} E t_3 S i H & \longrightarrow & E t_3 S i H \\ \longrightarrow & \text{TFA} & \longrightarrow & \longrightarrow & (85\%) & (Eq. 97) \end{array}\right]
$$

Transannular interactions lead to ring closures and reductions to adamantane compounds when dienes of the bicyclo[3.3.1]nonane family are treated with Brønsted acids and triethylsilane. Compounds **48**–**51** form reaction mixtures containing various amounts of products  $52-54$  ( $R = OH$ ,  $O_2CCF_3$ , Cl) under such conditions.<sup>243</sup> The best yields of hydrocarbon **52** occur when the dienes are treated with a 25% excess of sulfuric acid and a 50% excess of triethylsilane in dichloromethane at 20°.<sup>243</sup> The stereospecific nature of these transannular reductions is demonstrated by the observation that the enantiomeric purity of the chiral diene **55** is retained in the chiral hydrocarbon product **56** (Eq. 98).<sup>243</sup> Dienes of



the type shown can be reduced to the chlorides  $(Eq. 99)$ .<sup>243</sup> When HCl is replaced with TFA, methyladamantane and methyladamantanol are formed (Eq. 100).



**Alkynes to Alkanes.** In contrast to the facile ionic hydrogenations that many alkenes undergo, alkynes as a group are very resistant to reduction with the organosilicon hydride/acid combinations. Only those alkynes having an electronrich aryl group in conjugation with the carbon-carbon triple bond give even modest amounts of reduced products as seen in the example of *p*-tolylacetylene  $(Eq. 101).<sup>244</sup>$  Alkenes are not observed as products.<sup>244</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\rightleftharpoons \begin{array}{ccc}\n\text{Et}_3\text{SiH, TFA} \\
\text{rt}, 120 \text{ h}\n\end{array}\n\qquad (21\%)\n\qquad (Eq. 101)
$$

The use of stronger acid conditions provides somewhat better synthetic yields of alkanes from alkynes. A useful method consists of treatment of the substrate with a combination of triethylsilane, aluminum chloride, and excess hydrogen chloride in dichloromethane.<sup>146</sup> Thus, treatment of phenylacetylene with 5 equivalents of triethylsilane and 0.2 equivalents of aluminum chloride in this way at room temperature yields 50% of ethylbenzene after 1.5 hours. Diphenylacetylene gives a 50% yield of bibenzyl when treated with 97 equivalents of triethylsilane and 2.7 equivalents of aluminum chloride after 2.8 hours. Even 1-hexyne gives a mixture of 44% *n*-hexane and 7% methylpentane of undisclosed structure when treated with 10 equivalents of triethylsilane and 0.5 equivalent of aluminum chloride for  $0.5$  hour.<sup>146</sup>

The reductive cyclization of enynes has been used to prepare exo-methylenecycloalkanes. Two systems have proven successful in this transformation, namely PMHS/Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub>•CHCl<sub>3</sub><sup>245</sup> (Eq. 102) and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/Pd(dppe)Cl<sub>2</sub>/HCO<sub>2</sub>H  $(Ea. 103).^{246}$ 



$$
Ph \overbrace{\hbox{\scriptsize{ph}}}^{\text{O}} \equiv \underbrace{\text{Et}_3\text{SiH}, \text{Pd(dppe)}\text{Cl}_2, \text{HCO}_2\text{H}}_{1,4\text{-dioxane}, 70^\circ, 10 \text{ h}} \quad \text{Ph} \overbrace{\hbox{\scriptsize{ph}}}^{\text{O}} \leftarrow \underbrace{\hbox{\scriptsize{ph}}}^{\text{O}}_{\text{Ph}} \leftarrow \underbrace{\hbox{\scriptsize{ph}}}^{\text{O}}_{\text{R}^{\text{S}}} \quad \text{(Eq. 103)}
$$

The triethylsilane/ $Pd_2(dba)$ <sub>3</sub> combination is also used for these reductive cyclizations, although lower yields are reported. $247$  1,6-Diynes are reductively cyclized to 1,2-dialkylidenecyclopentanes in good yields with  $Et_3SiH/Pd_2(dba)_3\cdot CHCl_3$  $(Eq. 104).^{248}$ 



*o*-Bromobenzyl alkynylalkyl ethers can be reductively cyclized in modest yields with Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>/Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> as shown in Eq. 105.<sup>249</sup> In a like manner, enynes with a vinyl bromide as the olefin function undergo reductive cyclization  $(Ea. 106).^{249}$ 

Br O Et3SiH, Pd(PPh3)4 Cs2CO3, DMF, 80°, 3 h O (48%) (Eq. 105) EtO2C EtO2C Br Et3SiH, Pd(PPh3)4 Cs2CO3, DMF, 80°, 4 h EtO2C EtO2C (72%) (Eq. 106)

**Cyclopropanes to Alkanes.** Cyclopropanes that can form ring-opened tertiary aliphatic or benzylic carbenium ion intermediates undergo ionic hydrogenation with reasonable ease when treated with Brønsted acids and organosilicon hydrides. Ring opening occurs preferentially between the most and least highly substituted ring carbons. For example, treatment of 1,1,2 trimethylcyclopropane with one equivalent of triethylsilane and two equivalents of trifluoroacetic acid gives a mixture of 2,3-dimethylbutane (75%) and 2 methylpentane  $(25%)$  (Eq. 107).<sup>233</sup> The conversion into the hydrocarbon mixture is 15% after 15 minutes, 65% after 12 hours, and complete after 16 hours at room temperature.<sup>222</sup>*,*<sup>232</sup> Essentially the same results are obtained when 2,3 dimethyl-2-butene is used as the substrate.<sup>222</sup> The disubstituted isomer 1-methyl-2-ethylcyclopropane gives an alkane reaction mixture consisting primarily of 3-methylpentane along with 2-methylpentane (Eq.  $108$ ).<sup>222</sup>





Unlike its disubstituted isomer, the monosubstituted isopropylcyclopropane undergoes reduction to 2-methylpentane to the extent of only 50% after 24 hours (Eq.  $109$ ),<sup>232</sup> a result similar to that observed when 2-methyl-1-pentene is the substrate.<sup>222</sup> It is interesting that deuterated triethylsilane produces 2-methylpentane that contains the deuterium label only at the C2 position.<sup>250</sup> This label position suggests that in this reaction ring protonation and opening are followed by a 1,2-hydride shift that precedes capture by the silyl hydride of any initially formed carbocation intermediates.<sup>250</sup> Ethylcyclopropane, with an unbranched side chain, shows no sign of reduction under these conditions even after 200 hours.<sup>232</sup> Phenylcyclopropane is reduced to 1-phenylpropane. $^{222}$ 

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n\downarrow \qquad \xrightarrow{\text{Et}_3\text{SID}} \\
\hline\n\text{TFA, rt} \qquad \qquad \searrow \qquad \qquad (50\%)\n\end{array} \tag{Eq. 109}
$$

Bicyclic hydrocarbons that contain a three-membered ring slowly undergo ionic hydrogenation when treated with at least one equivalent of triethylsilane and an excess of trifluoroacetic acid at room temperature.<sup>229</sup> Thus, bicyclo<sup>[3.1.0]</sup> hexane gives a product mixture containing methylcyclopentane (28%) and cyclohexane (3%) when reacted with one equivalent of triethylsilane and four equivalents of trifluoroacetic acid for 140 hours (Eq. 110). The main products are the trifluoroacetates of cyclohexanol and *cis*-and *trans*-2-methylcyclopentanol in a ratio of  $10:35.^{229}$  Under the same conditions, bicyclo<sup>[4.1.0]</sup>heptane yields a mixture containing mainly methylcyclohexane (79%) with some cycloheptane (5%) and the corresponding trifluoroacetates (16%) (Eq. 111).<sup>229</sup>

$$
\bigotimes \qquad \qquad \frac{\text{Et}_3 \text{SiH}}{\text{TFA}} \qquad \bigotimes \qquad (28\%) \qquad \bigotimes \qquad (3\%) \qquad \qquad (\text{Eq. 110})
$$

$$
\bigcirc \qquad \qquad \frac{\text{Et}_3 \text{SiH}}{\text{TFA}} \qquad \bigcirc \qquad (79\%) \qquad + \qquad \bigcirc \qquad (15\%) \qquad \qquad (\text{Eq. 111})
$$

After ten days at room temperature in the presence of one equivalent of triethylsilane and two equivalents of trifluoroacetic acid, both 1-methylbicyclo- [3.1.0]hexane and 1-methylbicyclo[4.1.0]heptane form mixtures of the two isomers of their respective 1,2-dimethylcycloalkanes (Eqs. 112 and 113).<sup>229</sup>



Based on the few reported examples, the pattern of ring cleavage that accompanies the ionic hydrogenation of alkylidenencyclopropanes seems to be related to the pattern and degree of substitution on both the ring and the double bond.<sup>233</sup> Thus, treatment of 1,1-dimethyl-2-methylenecyclopropane with two equivalents of triethylsilane and four equivalents of trifluoroacetic acid for 90 hours at room temperature yields  $65\%$  of 2,3-dimethylbutane (Eq. 114).<sup>229</sup> Exposure of 1,1dimethyl-2-isopropylidenecyclopropane to the same ratio of reactants at 50◦ for 16 hours produces a complex mixture containing 63% of 2,5-dimethylhexane, 18.5% of 2,5-dimethyl-3-hexene, 1.6% of 2,5-dimethyl-2-hexene, and 7% of 2,5-dimethyl-2-hexyl trifluoroacetate (Eq. 115).<sup>229</sup>



**Aromatic Substrates.** Aromatic hydrocarbons can be reduced with organosilanes to dienes, alkenes, or alkanes. The combination of  $Et_3SH/TFA/BF_3 OEt_2$ reduces furans to tetrahydrofurans in good yields  $(Eq. 116)$ .<sup>211</sup> In general, poor yields are obtained with the Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA reduction of benzofurans,<sup>251</sup> but the C3substituted benzofuran shown undergoes reduction of the furan ring in excellent yield with this reagent (Eq. 117).<sup>252</sup> Similarly, benzothiophenes are reduced in 60 to 90% yields under the same conditions.<sup>253</sup> The Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA system reduces thiophenes to tetrahydrothiophenes in good yields.<sup>254–257</sup> In  $\alpha$ -hydroxy thiophenes, both double bonds of the thiophene unit and the hydroxy group are reduced (Eq. 118).<sup>258</sup>



Similar reactivity is realized with 2-acetylthiophene using triethylsilane with aluminum chloride.<sup>259</sup> Treatment of the ethylene glycol acetal of 2-thiophenecarbaldehyde with  $Et_3SiH/TFA$  results in reduction of the ring and oxidation of the side chain to the silylated carboxylic acid (Eq. 119),  $^{260}$  whereas similar treatment of 2-thiophenecarbaldehyde gives 2-methyltetrahydrothiophene and 2 acetylthiophene gives 2-ethylthiophene.<sup>257</sup> Some thiophenes are reduced to a mixture of tetrahydrothiophenes and 2,5-dihydrothiophenes.<sup>210</sup>*,*259*,*<sup>261</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{ccccc}\n\mathcal{O} & \xrightarrow{\text{Et}_3\text{SiH, TFA, 55°, 15 h}} & \mathcal{O} & (45\%) & \text{(Eq. 119)} \\
\text{OSiEt}_3 & & & \\
\end{array}
$$

Partial reduction of polyarenes has been reported. Use of boron trifluoride hydrate  $(BF_3$ • $OH_2)$  as the acid in conjunction with triethylsilane causes the reduction of certain activated aromatic systems.<sup>217</sup>*,*<sup>262</sup> Thus, treatment of anthracene with a 4–6 molar excess of  $BF_3$ •O $H_2$  and a 30% molar excess of triethylsilane gives 9,10-dihydroanthracene in 89% yield after 1 hour at room temperature (Eq. 120). Naphthacene gives the analogously reduced product in 88% yield under the same conditions. These conditions also result in the formation of tetralin from 1-hydroxynaphthalene (52%, 4 hours), 2-hydroxynaphthalene (37%, 7 hours), 1-methoxynaphthalene (37%, 10 hours), 2-methoxynaphthalene (26%, 10 hours), and 1-naphthalenethiol (13%, 6 hours). Naphthalene, phenanthrene, 1-methylnaphthalene, 2-naphthalenethiol, phenol, anisole, toluene, and benzene all resist reduction under these conditions. $217$  Use of deuterated triethylsilane to reduce 1-methoxynaphthalene gives tetralin-1,1,3- $d_3$  as product, thus yielding information on the mechanism of these reductions.<sup>262</sup> 2-Mercaptonaphthalenes are reduced to 2,3,4,5-tetrahydronaphthalenes in poor to modest yields.<sup>217</sup>*,*<sup>263</sup>



The combination of PhMeSiH<sub>2</sub> (or Ph<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub>) and C<sub>p2</sub>TiMe<sub>2</sub> (10 mol%) reduces pyridines to N-silylated-di- or tetrahydropyridines or the N-silylated piperidines.<sup>264</sup>*,*<sup>265</sup> With quinoline, only the pyridine ring is reduced preferentially to the benzene ring (Eq. 121).



**Miscellaneous Unsaturated Substrates.** Exposure of 1,1 -bis(*trans*-2 cyanovinyl)ferrocene to a mixture of two equivalents of triethylsilane and 320 equivalents of trifluoroacetic acid at 50◦ for three hours gives a product with the carbon-carbon double bonds reduced in 83% yield, but leaving the nitrile groups intact (Eq. 122).<sup>179</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{cc}\n\text{C_N} & \text{Et}_3 \text{SiH} \\
\text{Fe} & \text{C_N} \\
\text{C_N} & \text{TFA} \\
\end{array}
$$
\n
$$
\begin{array}{cc}\n\text{Et}_3 \text{SiH} & \text{C_N} \\
\text{Fe} & \text{C_N} \\
\text{C_N} & \text{C_N}\n\end{array}
$$
\n
$$
(Eq. 122)
$$

Treatment of a chloroform or dichloromethane solution of 1-bromo-2,2-diphenylethene or 1-bromo-2,2-bis(4 -methoxyphenyl)ethene with a slight excess of triethylsilane and a 9- to 10-fold excess of TFA gives the corresponding ethanes in 62% and 88% yields, respectively, after one hour at  $0^{\circ}$  (Eq. 123).<sup>184</sup>

Ar  
\n
$$
Ar
$$
  
\n $Br$   
\n $Ar$   
\n $Ar$   
\n $Ar$   
\n $Ar$   
\n $Ar$   
\n $Br$   
\n $Ar$   
\n $Br$   
\n $Gr$   
\n $Br$   
\n $Br$   
\n $Gr$   
\n $Br$   
\n $Gr$   
\n $Br$   
\n $Gr$   
\n $Br$   
\n $Gr$   
\n<

The carbonyl groups of 1,3-indanediones are generally resistant to the action of combinations of acid and silanes at room temperature.<sup>266</sup> Accordingly, treatment of a variety of 2-benzylidene-1,3-indanediones with  $Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA$  (ratio of 1 : 5 : 10) in CCl<sub>4</sub> at 55 $\degree$  for 7–20 hours gives the corresponding substituted 2benzyl-1,3-indanediones in 54-78% yields (Eq. 124).<sup>266</sup> Use of a 27-fold excess of trifluoroacetic acid in the absence of a cosolvent reportedly leads to reduction of the carbonyl groups to give a mixture of products.  $267$ 



An interesting hydroiodination reaction occurs when a mixture of cyclohexene and triethylsilane in dichloromethane is treated with a mixture of bis(pyridine) iodonium tetrafluoroborate and tetrafluoroboric acid in diethyl ether (Eq. 125). A 50% yield of iodocyclohexane is produced after one hour at 20°.<sup>268</sup>

$$
\bigodot \qquad \frac{Et_3SH}{I(py)_2BF_4, HBF_4} \qquad \qquad \bigodot^I \qquad \qquad (Eq. 125)
$$

# **Reduction of Ethers**

Because of the high stability of the triphenylmethyl carbocation, the reductive ether cleavage of trityl ethers with  $Et_3SiH/trimethylsilyl$  triflate (TMSOTf) is highly successful. This reaction even occurs in the presence of highly reactive sugar ketals, leaving the ketals intact (Eq. 126).<sup>269</sup>



The combination of PMHS and Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> reduces allyl ethers to propene and alcohols.<sup>270</sup> The best combination for the reductive cleavage of ethers appears

to be  $Et_3SH/(C_6F_5)_3B$ , which gives excellent yields of the alcohol (via the silyl ether) and alkane (Eq. 127). $145$ 

$$
n-C_{16}H_{33}O_{C_{16}H_{33}n} \xrightarrow{Et_3SH, (C_6F_5)_3B} n-C_{16}H_{34} (98\%) + n-C_{16}H_{33}OSiEt_3 (98\%)
$$
\n(Eq. 127)

Dialkyl ethers are reduced with the combination of  $Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA$ , although the yields vary.<sup>144</sup>*,*<sup>271</sup> *tert*-Butyl triphenylcyclopropenyl ether is reduced to the corresponding cyclopropene (Eq. 128), $^{272}$  and a dibenzyl-like ferrocene-derived ether is reduced to the corresponding alkane (Eq. 129).<sup>179</sup>



### **Reduction of Allyl Acetates**

Allyl acetates are reduced to the corresponding olefins with  $PMHS/Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>$ or Ph<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub>/Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>.<sup>196,273</sup> Unfortunately, double bond migration occurs in many of these reactions (Eqs. 130 and 131).<sup>196,273</sup> The combinations of  $Ph_2SiH_2/$  $Pd(P(Tol-p)_{3})_{4}/ZnCl_{2}^{274}$  and  $Et_{3}SiH/TFA^{275}$  are also employed in this transformation.



The  $Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA$  reduction of a 3-acetoxy enol ether is reported. The diastereoselectivity is high for the Z isomer, but much lower for the E isomer (Eq. 132).<sup>276</sup>



# **Reduction of Carboxylic Acids**

Aromatic and aliphatic carboxylic acids are reduced to the trifluoroacetates of the alcohol with  $Et_3SiH/TFA$ <sup>277</sup> Use of an excess of the triethylsilane can give

further reduction to the methyl group. The combination of PMHS/TBAF (tetra*n*-butylammonium fluoride) reduces benzoic acids to the benzyl alcohols in good yields.<sup>278</sup> Comparable yields of this useful transformation can be realized through the use of PMHS/Ti $(OPr-i)_4$  (or PMHS/Ti $(OEt)_4$ ).<sup>279</sup> Both aromatic and aliphatic carboxylic acids can be reduced with  $EtMe<sub>2</sub>SiH$  and the ruthenium-based catalyst **57** (Eq. 133).<sup>280</sup> The latter reagent/catalyst combination also reduces esters to alcohols in high yield.



The highly reactive reagent combination of  $Et_3SiH/(C_6F_5)$ <sub>3</sub>B reduces carboxylic acids to methyl groups (Eq. 134).<sup>281</sup>*,*<sup>282</sup> Isolation of the intermediate silyl ether is also possible. $282$ 

 $\frac{CO_2H}{CH_2Cl_2, \text{rt}, 20 \text{ h}}$  (94%) (Eq. 134)

Benzoic acids with electron-donating groups on the ring are reduced to toluene derivatives with the reagent combination  $Et_3SH/TFA/TFAA$ <sup>283</sup> *p*-Anisic acid gives 4-methylanisole in 97% yield under these conditions (Eq. 135). Formation of the corresponding benzyl trifluoroacetates occurs for substrates without activating groups. *p*-Nitrobenzoic acid is unreactive under these conditions, as are dibasic acids such as phthalic or succinic acid.<sup>283</sup> The same conditions reduce alkyl carboxylic acids to trifluoroacetates.<sup>277</sup> Use of the silane **58** or **59** provides cinnamaldehyde in fair yield from cinnamic acid (Eq.  $136$ ).<sup>284</sup>



# **Reduction of Acid Halides and Acid Anhydrides**

The organosilane reduction of acid chlorides to aldehydes has been accomplished in high yields with the use of the pentacoordinated organosilane **60**  $(Eq. 137).$ <sup>107</sup> This transformation has been reported to occur with tribenzylsilane and triethylsilane, but yields were not reported.<sup>285</sup>*,*<sup>286</sup>



The combination  $Et_3SiH/(C_6F_5)_3B$  reduces acid chlorides to methyl groups (Eq. 138).<sup>281</sup>*,*<sup>282</sup> If a smaller amount of triethylsilane is used, the same combination reduces aryl acid chlorides to the trimethylsilyl ethers of the benzyl alcohols.<sup>281</sup>*,*<sup>282</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{ccccc}\n0 & \text{Et}_3\text{SiH}, (C_6F_5)_3B \\
n-C_{13}H_{27} & \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2, \text{rt, 20 h} & n-C_{14}H_{30} & (97\%) & (Eq. 138)\n\end{array}
$$

One study of the  $Et_3SH/TFA$  reduction of acid anhydrides reports the formation of one equivalent each of the alcohol and the trifluoroacetate ester of the acid (Eq.  $139$ ).<sup>287</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}\n0 & 0 & \text{Et}_3\text{SiH, TFA} \\
\hline\n0 & 0 & \text{C}_3\text{F}_7-n & \xrightarrow{50^\circ, 3 \text{ h}} \\
0 & 0 & 0 \\
\end{array}
$$

## **Reduction of Esters and Lactones**

The combination of (EtO)<sub>3</sub>SiH/CsF (or KF) provides a convenient reagent for the reduction of esters to alcohols.<sup>76</sup>*,*80*,*<sup>83</sup> The yields are in the 70% range. Potassium tetraethoxyhydridosilicate also reduces esters in moderate yields.<sup>288</sup> The combination of PMHS/Cp<sub>2</sub>TiCl<sub>2</sub>/n-BuLi reduces esters in high yields even in the presence of an epoxide and a trisubstituted olefin (Eq. 140).<sup>289</sup> The reagent combination can reduce a methyl ester in the presence of a *tert*-butyl ester (Eq.  $141$ ).<sup>290</sup>



Ester reductions with  $(EtO)$ <sub>3</sub>SiH/(EBTHI)TiCl<sub>2</sub>/n-BuLi (EBTHI = ethylene $bis(n^5-tetrahydroindenyl)titanium)$  result in good yields of the corresponding alcohols.<sup>290</sup> Excellent yields of alcohols result from the reduction of esters with the PMHS/Ti(OPr- $i$ )<sub>4</sub> system.<sup>279,291,292</sup> The reaction catalyzed by (EBTHI)TiCl<sub>2</sub>/ *n*-BuLi occurs in lower yields.<sup>289</sup> Methyl cinnamate is reduced with PMHS/TBAF in good yield.<sup>278</sup> The ruthenium complex **57** (Eq. 135) catalyzes the EtMe<sub>2</sub>SiH reduction of esters to alcohols, although a mixture of the alcohol and the ether are often obtained (Eq.  $142$ ).<sup>280</sup>

$$
\frac{6}{1,4\text{-divane},20^{\circ},0.5 \text{ h}}
$$
OH + COE<sup>o</sup> + COE<sup>o</sup>

High yields in the reduction of esters with  $Ph<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub>/[RhCl(cod)]<sub>2</sub>$  are reported.<sup>293</sup> The combination of  $(MeO)$ <sub>3</sub>SiH/LiOMe is reported to reduce esters to the alcohols, although the advantages of this system over others does not seem to warrant working with the highly hazardous trimethoxysilane.<sup>294</sup> The reduction of the carbonyl group of an ester or lactone is possible. This results in the formation of the corresponding ether. This reaction can be carried out employing  $PhSiH<sub>3</sub>/(PPh<sub>3</sub>)(CO)<sub>4</sub>MnC(O)Me<sub>3</sub><sup>295</sup>$ PhSiH<sub>3</sub>/Mn(CO)<sub>5</sub>Br,<sup>295</sup> Cl<sub>3</sub>SiH/γ-irradiation,<sup>296</sup> or Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TiCl<sub>4</sub>/TMSOTf.<sup>297</sup> The reduction of lactones to cyclic ethers is nicely accomplished with the EtMe<sub>2</sub>SiH/ruthenium catalyst system 57 (Eq. 143).<sup>280</sup> The same transformation can be carried out with  $Et_3SiH/TiCl_4^{297}$  or  $PhSiH_3/Mn(CO)_5Br^{295}$  The reductive etherification of esters occurs by treating an ester with  $Et_3SiH/ZnCl_2$  (Eq. 144).<sup>298</sup>



The reduction of esters to aldehydes is a useful transformation and can be accomplished in good yields with  $Et_3SiH/[RuCl_2(CO)_3]_2^{299}$  or with  $Ph_3SiH/$  $(C_6F_5)_3B^{116}$  Thio esters are reduced to aldehydes in good yields with Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/Pd/C.<sup>300</sup> Lactones can be reduced to hemiacetals with PMHS/Cp<sub>2</sub>TiF<sub>2</sub> or PMHS/Cp2Ti(OC6H4Cl-4)2 (Eq. 145).<sup>301</sup>*,*<sup>302</sup>



The reduction of an ester to the silylated acetal occurs with  $Et_3SH/$  $Et_2NH/[RuCl_2(CO)_3]_2$  (and other Ru catalysts) (Eq. 146),<sup>299</sup> Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/  $(C_6F_5)_3B$ ,<sup>281,282</sup> or Ph<sub>3</sub>SiH/( $C_6F_5$ )<sub>3</sub>B,<sup>115</sup> and with Ph<sub>2</sub>MeSiH/Mn(CO)<sub>5</sub>C(O)Me.<sup>295</sup> The latter system reduces methyl benzoate to toluene. An intramolecular version of the ester to silylated acetal transformation is effected with TBAF (Eq. 147).<sup>303</sup>*,*<sup>304</sup>



The reaction of lactones of benzyl alcohols with  $Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA$  results in complete reduction of the alcohol part of the lactone to the methylene group while preserving the carboxylate function (Eq.  $148$ ).<sup>305</sup>



The *β*-hydroxy ester resulting from the reaction of the *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl ketene acetal of ethyl acetate with a lactone under acid conditions can be reduced to the *β*-alkoxy ester.<sup>306</sup> The overall yields are excellent (Eq. 149).



The reaction of *tert*-butyl esters with  $Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA$  results in the reductive deprotection of the ester and formation of isobutane. The yields of the isobutane are not recorded, but the acids are obtained nearly quantitatively  $(Eq. 150).^{307}$ In a similar manner, the lactone shown in Eq. 151 is converted into the acid in good yield.<sup>308</sup> In like manner, the reductive deprotection of allyl esters provides the carboxylic acids in high yields. $270$ 



The reduction of trifluoroacetates to alkanes occurs with the trifluoroacetates of benzylic and tertiary alcohols. This transformation is reported to occur with reagent combinations such as  $Ph_3SiH/nitrobenzene^{193}$  and  $EtCl_2SiH/AlBr_3$ .<sup>192</sup> Secondary trifluoroacetates give more modest yields.<sup>192</sup>

### **Reduction of Aldehydes**

**Reduction to Alcohols.** Aldehydes do not normally react spontaneously with organosilicon hydrides to form alcohols. Exceptional behavior is displayed with organocobalt cluster complex carbonyl compounds, which form the corresponding alcohols  $(R = H, Me, Ph, etc.)$  after treatment with one equivalent of triethylsilane in refluxing benzene under a carbon monoxide atmosphere and acid workup (Eq. 152).<sup>309,310</sup> Aside from these specific examples of anomalous behavior, the generally observed lack of reactivity is due to the combination of the relatively weak electrophilicity of the aldehyde carbonyl carbon center and the extremely feeble nucleophilicity of most tetravalent silyl hydrides. The reduction of aldehyde carbonyl groups by organosilicon hydrides can be promoted by several means. One way is by the introduction of acidic or electrophilic substances that coordinate with the carbonyl oxygen and thereby enhance the electrophilicity of the carbonyl carbon toward receiving a weakly nucleophilic silyl hydride. As mentioned previously, a second way is through the introduction into the reaction medium of substances possessing high nucleophilicity toward silicon centers. Such substances are thought to activate the silyl hydride by forming valenceexpanded silicon species with enhanced hydride-donating properties capable of attacking even weakly electrophilic centers such as the carbonyl groups of common aldehydes. Both means of promotion can be synthetically useful.

1. Et<sub>3</sub>SiH, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, CO  
\n(CO)<sub>9</sub>Co<sub>3</sub>CCOR  
\n  
\n3. H<sub>2</sub>O  
\n  
\nR = H (46%)  
\nR = Ph (68%)  
\n
$$
R = Ph (68%)
$$
  
\n(CO)<sub>9</sub>Co<sub>3</sub>CCH(OH)R  
\nR = Me (88%)

*Promotion by Acid*. In principle, the reduction of aldehydes to alcohols and alcohol derivatives by organosilicon hydrides should occur upon exposure to either Lewis or Brønsted acids, as represented in Eq. 2. In practice, although organosilicon hydride reductions of either aliphatic or aromatic aldehydes do occur rapidly under acid conditions, they are frequently complicated by the formation of other products. The reductions rarely give clean yields of alcohols when conducted under anhydrous conditions. The reaction of a mixture of 1-butanal and triethylsilane that occurs upon addition of excess trifluoroacetic acid is a typical example. Analysis of the reaction mixture immediately following the addition of acid shows the formation of 37% of di-*n*-butyl ether along with *n*-butyl alcohol and *n*-butyl trifluoroacetate in a combined yield of  $58\%$  (Eq. 153).<sup>311</sup> No unreacted aldehyde remains. The same process transforms benzaldehyde into dibenzyl ether in  $80\%$  yield (Eq. 154).<sup>311,312</sup> In both reactions, the silicon-containing products are triethylsilyl trifluoroacetate and hexaethyldisiloxane. The  $Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA$ combination can also lead to the trifluoroacetate and toluene derivatives when used with some aryl aldehydes.<sup>69</sup>

$$
n-C_3H_7CHO \xrightarrow{Et_3SH} (n-C_4H_9)_2O + n-C_4H_9OH + n-C_4H_9O_2CCF_3
$$
 (Eq. 153)  
\n
$$
(37%) \xrightarrow{(37%)} (58\%)
$$

$$
\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{c}\n\text{Et}_3\text{SiH} \\
\hline\n\text{TFA}\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\n\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{|
$$

The reduction of aldehydes with the combination  $Et_3SH/BF_3\cdot OEt_2$  gives both the alcohol and the symmetrical ether,<sup>70</sup> as do the Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA (and other acids) combinations.<sup>313</sup> Addition of boron trifluoride etherate to a mixture of 1-octanal and triethylsilane leads to the formation of di-*n*-octyl ether in 66% yield and *n*-octyl alcohol in 34% yield (Eq. 155).<sup>74</sup>

$$
n-C_7H_{15}CHO
$$
  $\xrightarrow{Et_3SH}$   $(n-C_8H_{17})_2O (34%) + n-C_8H_{17}OH (66%)$  (Eq. 155)

The addition of water and a non-hydrogen-bonding solvent to the reduction medium causes the reactions to shift toward the formation of alcohol products.<sup>313</sup> For example, triethylsilane in a mixture of concentrated hydrochloric acid and acetonitrile  $(5:4)$  reduces 1-heptanal to 1-heptanol in quantitative yield after 3 hours at room temperature. In a mixture of triethylsilane in sulfuric acid, water, and acetonitrile  $(2:2:5)$ , *n*-heptanal gives a 97% yield of the same alcohol after 1.25 hours (Eq. 156).<sup>313</sup>

$$
n-C_6H_{13}CHO \xrightarrow{Et_3SH, H_2O, MeCN} n-C_7H_{15}OH \quad (97\%) \qquad (Eq. 156)
$$

Triethylsilane reduces benzaldehyde to benzyl alcohol in 98% yield after 32 hours in a reaction medium containing sulfuric acid, water, and sulfolane  $(1:2:5)$  (Eq. 157). Neither benzene nor dimethylformamide is effective as an interfacing solvent for producing alcohol products under these conditions.<sup>313</sup>



In contrast to the propensity of Brønsted and some Lewis acids such as boron trifluoride etherate to promote the organosilicon hydride reduction of aldehydes to ethers under anhydrous conditions, uncomplexed boron trifluoride used with triethylsilane in dichloromethane solvent leads to the formation of primary alcohols in good yields from aliphatic aldehydes and from aromatic aldehydes containing electron-withdrawing groups.<sup>1</sup> The success of this method depends on the absence of significant quantities of Brønsted acids in the reaction medium and requires that the boron trifluoride gas be scrubbed of hydrogen fluoride prior to introduction. Using this method, 1-undecanal gives a 92% isolated yield of 1-undecanol after only 10 minutes at  $0^{\circ}$  (Eq. 158).

$$
n-C_{10}H_{21}CHO \qquad \xrightarrow{\text{Et}_3\text{SiH}} n-C_{11}H_{23}\text{OH} \quad (92\%) \qquad (Eq. 158)
$$

The same technique causes the transformation of *p*-anisaldehyde ( $R = MeO$ ) and *p*-cyanobenzaldehyde  $(R = CN)$  into the corresponding substituted benzyl alcohols in quantitative yields within 10 minutes at  $0^{\circ}$  (Eq. 159).<sup>1</sup> The reduction of aryl aldehydes to benzyl alcohols without over-reduction to the arylmethanes also occurs with the reagent combinations PMHS/TBAF,<sup>278</sup> PMHS/Triton<sup>®</sup> B,<sup>278</sup> and Ph<sub>3</sub>SiH/( $C_6F_5$ )<sub>3</sub>B.<sup>116</sup> The Ph<sub>3</sub>SiH/( $C_6F_5$ )<sub>3</sub>B combination can be used to isolate the benzyl silyl ethers.<sup>282</sup> Treatment of *p*-nitrobenzaldehyde ( $R = NO<sub>2</sub>$ ) with a catalytic amount of the Lewis acid trimethylsilyl iodide (TMSI, generated in situ from trimethylsilyl chloride and sodium iodide) and tetramethyldisiloxane gives the benzyl alcohol in 91% isolated yield.<sup>314</sup>



The reagent combinations  $PMHS/ZnCl<sub>2</sub>,<sup>315</sup> PMHS/[Bu<sub>2</sub>(AcO)Sn]<sub>2</sub>O<sub>316</sub>$  and PMHS/HCuPPh<sub>3</sub><sup>317</sup> all promote reduction of aldehydes to the corresponding alcohols in good yields. Trichlorosilane in dimethylformamide reduces aldehydes to alcohols in high yields. $318$ 

*Promotion by Valence Expansion*. Addition of nucleophilic substances to mixtures of aldehydes and organosilicon hydrides promotes the reduction of the carbonyl group as depicted previously in Eq. 6. The reductions can occur under homogeneous<sup>83</sup> or heterogeneous<sup>79,80,319</sup> conditions, both with<sup>83,320</sup> and without solvent.<sup>83</sup>*,*<sup>319</sup> When the reactions occur under anhydrous conditions with catalytic amounts of nucleophile, the first-formed product is frequently a silyl ether. This ether can be regarded as an intermediate that normally undergoes facile acidor base-catalyzed hydrolysis to give a final alcohol product (Eq. 160).<sup>80</sup> The silicon-containing products are usually silanols and/or disiloxanes produced by

hydrolysis of the intermediate silyl ethers. These reductions are normally quite chemoselective and tolerate many other functional groups.

 $R_3$ SiH + R'CHO  $\longrightarrow R_3$ SiOCH<sub>2</sub>R  $\longrightarrow H_2O$   $(R_3Si)_2O + R_3SiOH + R'CH_2OH$  (Eq. 160)  $R = H$ , alkyl, aryl R' = alkyl, alkenyl, aryl

Fluoride ion is effective in promoting the reduction of aldehydes by organosilicon hydrides (Eq. 161). The source of fluoride ion is important to the efficiency of reduction. Triethylsilane reduces benzaldehyde to triethylbenzyloxysilane in 36% yield within 10–12 hours in anhydrous acetonitrile solvent at room temperature when tetraethylammonium fluoride (TEAF) is used as the fluoride ion source and in  $96\%$  yield when cesium fluoride is used.<sup>83</sup> The carbonyl functions of both *p*-anisaldehyde and cinnamaldehyde are reduced under similar conditions. Potassium bromide or chloride, or tetramethylammonium bromide or chloride are not effective at promoting similar behavior under these reaction conditions.<sup>83</sup> Moderate yields of alcohols are obtained by the KF-catalyzed PMHS,  $(EtO)$ <sub>3</sub>SiH, or Me(EtO)2SiH reduction of aldehydes.<sup>80</sup>*,*83*,*<sup>79</sup>

$$
\text{ArCHO} + \text{Et}_3 \text{SiH} \quad \xrightarrow{\text{F}^-} \quad \text{ArCH}_2 \text{OSiEt}_3 \quad \text{Ar} = \text{Ph} \left( 36-96\% \right) \tag{Eq. 161}
$$

Diphenylsilane reacts with two equivalents of neat *n*-heptanal in the presence of anhydrous cesium fluoride within three minutes at room temperature to form di-*n*-heptoxydiphenylsilane quantitatively (Eq. 162).<sup>319</sup> Potassium fluoride and potassium phthalate are considerably less effective promoters, even at temperatures up to 140°.<sup>319</sup>

$$
2 n-C_6H_{13}CHO + Ph_2SiH_2 \xrightarrow{CsF} (n-C_7H_{15}O)_2SiPh_2 \quad (100\%) \qquad (Eq. 162)
$$

Alkoxy-substituted organosilicon hydrides are more reactive toward carbonyl functions in the presence of nucleophiles than are organosilicon hydrides that have only alkyl or aryl substituents at the silicon center. The order of reactivity of the silanes used is  $(EtO)_{3}SiH > (EtO)_{2}SiMeH$ , and that of the fluoride salts is  $CsF > KF<sup>83</sup>$  The use of these silane/fluoride salt pairs can lead to some very chemoselective transformations.<sup>79</sup>*,*80*,*<sup>319</sup> For example, after hydrolytic workup, an equimolar mixture of benzaldehyde, diethoxymethylsilane, and cesium fluoride gives an 80% yield of benzyl alcohol after only 10 minutes at room temperature under heterogeneous conditions.<sup>80</sup> The use of triethoxysilane and potassium fluoride gives a 90% yield of benzyl alcohol after six hours at room temperature. The same combination of reagents converts 1-heptanal into 1-heptanol in 70% yield within four hours without affecting benzophenone or 1,3-diphenylpropan-2-one when either is added to the same reaction mixture (Eq. 163).<sup>83</sup>

$$
n-C_6H_{13}CHO + (EtO)_3SiH
$$
  $\xrightarrow{1. KF}$   $n-C_7H_{15}OH$  (70%) (Eq. 163)

These reaction conditions also permit the chemoselective quantitative reduction of benzaldehyde to benzyl alcohol without any concomitant reduction of either acetophenone or 3,3-dimethylbutan-2-one present in the same reaction mixture.<sup>83</sup> Additionally, this useful method permits the reduction of aldehyde functions in polyfunctional compounds without affecting amide, anhydride, ethylenic, bromo, chloro, or nitro groups.<sup>79</sup>*,*80*,*<sup>319</sup>

An improved variation of this reduction method involves the use of potassium fluoride (either anhydrous or as the dihydrate) or potassium formate in a polar aprotic solvent such as dimethylformamide or dimethyl sulfoxide in conjunction with either diethoxymethylsilane or PMHS. The intermediate silyl ethers are worked up by acidic hydrolysis when diethoxymethylsilane is used and by methanolysis when PMHS is the reducing agent.<sup>82</sup> A high chemoselectivity among carbonyl group reductions may be accomplished using this method by adjusting the reaction conditions. Aldehydes are especially easy to reduce this way.

The combination of diethoxymethylsilane and KF in dimethylformamide produces a 90% yield of benzyl alcohol from benzaldehyde in 0.25 hour at 20◦ following workup.<sup>82</sup> In a similar way, 1-heptanal forms 1-heptanol in  $85\%$ yield within 1.75 hours at 10◦ . Other combinations of the salts, solvents, and organosilicon hydrides give useful, if somewhat lower, yields of products. Potassium fluoride dihydrate, although a more active catalyst than the anhydrous salt, requires use of an excess of organosilicon hydride because the water that is present destroys some of the silane. Use of potassium formate and PMHS in dimethylformamide permits facile selective reduction of both alkyl and aryl aldehydes in the presence of ketones and esters.<sup>82</sup> The system of  $Me(EtO)_2SiH$  and  $KO<sub>2</sub>CH$  is very selective toward the reduction of aldehydes in the presence of ketones.<sup>82</sup> In a similar approach aldehydes are reduced with  $[HSi(OEt)_4]K^{288}$ 

Fluoride ion catalyzes the hydrosilylation of both alkyl and aryl aldehydes to silyl ethers that can be easily hydrolyzed to the free alcohols by treatment with 1 M hydrogen chloride in methanol.<sup>320</sup> The most effective sources of fluoride are TBAF and tris(diethylamino)sulfonium difluorotrimethylsilicate (TASF). Somewhat less effective are CsF and KF. Solvent effects are marked. The reactions are facilitated in polar, aprotic solvents such as hexamethylphosphortriamide (HMPA) or 1,3-dimethyl-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2(1*H)*-pyrimidinone (DMPU), go moderately well in dimethylformamide, but do not proceed well in either tetrahydrofuran or dichloromethane. The solvent effects are dramatically illustrated in the reaction of undecanal and dimethylphenylsilane to produce undecyloxyphenyldimethylsilane. After one hour at room temperature with TBAF as the source of fluoride and a 10 mol% excess of silane, yields of  $91\%$  in HMPA, 89% in DMPU, 56% in dimethylformamide,  $9\%$  in tetrahydrofuran, and only  $1\%$  in dichloromethane are obtained (Eq. 164). $320$ 

$$
n-C_{10}H_{21}CHO + PhMe_2SiH \xrightarrow{TBAF} n-C_{11}H_{23}OSiMe_2Ph \quad (1-91\%) \qquad (Eq. 164)
$$

The reduction of aldehydes to alcohols takes place under mild conditions upon treatment with a mixture of trimethoxysilane and lithium methoxide (20 mol% excess of each) in diethyl ether at room temperature (Eq. 165). The reaction occurs with both alkyl and aryl aldehydes and can be used to reduce aldehydes in the presence of ketones, esters, and nitriles. Workup is by treatment with 1 M aqueous hydrochloric acid.<sup>91</sup> For example, benzaldehyde forms benzyl alcohol in 85% isolated yield within 20 hours under these conditions, whereas *o*nitrobenzaldehyde and *p*-anisaldehyde give the corresponding alcohols in yields of 55 and 86%, respectively. 1-Octanal yields 1-octanol in 80% yield after just six hours.<sup>91</sup> Triethoxysilane and diethoxymethylsilane are not as effective as reducing agents as trimethoxysilane. Sodium methoxide, alkali metal ethoxides, and, especially, potassium methoxide also are effective nucleophilic promoters. Lithium and sodium pinacolates are strong promoters that cause the reduction of both aldehydes and ketones.<sup>91</sup>

RCHO + (MeO)<sub>3</sub>SiH 
$$
\xrightarrow{\text{MeOLi}}
$$
 RCH<sub>2</sub>OH R = n-C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>15</sub> (80%)  
\nR = Ph (85%)  
\nR = 2-O<sub>2</sub>NC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub> (55%)  
\nR = 4-MeOC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub> (86%)

There seems little doubt that the active reducing agents in these kinds of reductions are pentavalent hydridosilicates. In fact, it is possible to produce the stable potassium salts of these species in high yield by reacting equivalent amounts of the appropriate trialkoxysilanes and potassium alkoxides in large amounts of tetrahydrofuran or 1,2-dimethoxyethane (DME) at room temperature (Eq. 166).<sup>107</sup> A variety of alkoxy groups may be used ( $R = Et$ , *i*-Pr, Ph), but neither lithium nor sodium alkoxides are effective in this reaction.<sup>107</sup> Potassium tetraethoxyhydrosilicate shows high reducing properties toward both aldehydes and ketones without the need for added catalysts (Eq.  $167$ ).<sup>288</sup> It reduces benzaldehyde to benzyl alcohol in 90% yield and 1-pentanal to 1-pentanol in 80% yield following aqueous acid workup.<sup>288</sup>

(RO)<sub>3</sub>SiH + ROK  
\n
$$
R = Et, i\text{-}Pr, Ph
$$
 (RO)<sub>4</sub>SiH]  $K^+$  (80-90%) (Eq. 166)  
\n[(EtO)<sub>4</sub>SiH]  $K^+$  + RCHO  $\frac{1. THF, 0^{\circ} \text{ or rt}}{2. H_3O^+}$  RCH<sub>2</sub>OH  
\n $R = n\text{-}Bu$  (80%) (Eq. 167)  
\n $R = Ph$  (90%)

A similar reducing system is created by combining dilithium catecholate and trichlorosilane at  $-78°$  in tetrahydrofuran. It is speculated that the relatively unstable pentacoordinate bis(1,2-benzenediolato)hydridosilicate (**61**) is formed in situ and that it is this species that can reduce aldehydes and ketones, but not esters, to alcohols when they are added to the reaction mixture at  $0^{\circ}$  (Eq. 168).<sup>93</sup> In a like manner, the dilithium salt of 2,2 -dihydroxybiphenyl, which forms a pentacoordinate intermediate that is stable enough to react at room temperature, can also be used to promote the reduction reaction. The alkoxides of aliphatic diols

such as 1,2-ethanediol and pinacol are not very effective as ligand promoters in this system and those of simple alcohols are without effect. Use of the dilithium catecholate/trichlorosilane combination gives benzyl alcohol from benzaldehyde in 96% yield within two hours. Substitution of 2,2 -dihydroxybiphenyl for catechol provides a 92% yield of 2,2-dimethylpropanol from 2,2-dimethylpropanal within five hours at room temperature.  $93$ 

$$
2\left[\n\begin{array}{ccc}\n0\text{Li} & \text{THE} \\
\hline\n0\text{Li} & -78^\circ\n\end{array}\n\right]\n\left[\n\begin{array}{ccc}\n0\text{H} & 0 \\
\text{Si} & 0 \\
0\n\end{array}\n\right]
$$
\n
$$
\frac{1. \text{ RCHO, } 0^\circ}{2. \text{ H}_2\text{O}}\n\left[\n\begin{array}{ccc}\n0\text{H} & 0 \\
\text{Si} & 0 \\
61\n\end{array}\n\right]
$$
\n
$$
\text{R} = t\text{-Bu} \quad (92\%) \\
\text{R} = \text{Ph} \quad (96\%) \\
\text{R} = 4\text{-MeC}_6\text{H}_4 \quad (96\%)
$$

Chemoselectivity between aldehydes and ketones is demonstrated by this method in the competitive reduction of a mixture of pentanal and cyclohexanone. The ratios of primary and secondary alcohols are 75 : 25 when catechol is used at  $0^{\circ}$  and  $79:21$  when 2,2'-dihydroxybiphenyl is used at room temperature. These regents are not as chemoselective as other reducing agents such as LiAlH(OBu-*t*)<sub>3</sub> (87:13) and LiAlH(OCEt<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> (94:6) at 0<sup>°</sup>.<sup>93</sup>

Several types of organosilicon hydrides are effective reducing agents toward carbonyl functions because of valence expansion produced by intramolecular effects. Aryl silyl hydrides with amine functions are especially prone to having the proper configuration to permit such intramolecular valence expansion.<sup>321</sup>*,*<sup>322</sup> The valence expanded silicon hydrides compounds **58**–**60** react spontaneously with both *p*-nitrobenzaldehyde and *p*-anisaldehyde to give, within 0.5 to 3 days, the respective benzyl alcohols in quantitative yields following aqueous acidic workup.<sup>321</sup> Under the same conditions, a mixture of  $\alpha$ -naphthylphenylsilane and *N*,*N*-dimethylbenzylamine fails to react even after 17 days.<sup>321</sup> It is of interest to note that the silyl hydrides **58**, **59**, and **60** (Eqs. 136 and 137) all have trigonal bipyramidal structures in which the active hydrogens occupy equatorial positions. Compound **58** is such an effective carbonyl reducing agent that it reduces carbon dioxide to formaldehyde via a stable silylformate intermediate.<sup>323</sup>

The 10-*Si*-5-hydridosiliconate ion **62** is known in association with lithium,<sup>323</sup> tetrabutylammonium,<sup>101</sup> and bis(phosphoranyl)iminium<sup>93</sup> cations. It is synthesized by hydride addition to the 8-*Si*-4-silane **63**, which is derived from hexafluoroacetone.<sup>101</sup> Benzaldehyde and related aryl aldehydes are reduced by solutions of  $62$  in dichloromethane at room temperature<sup>101</sup> or in tetrahydrofuran at  $0^{\circ 96}$  within two hours. The alkyl aldehyde, 1-nonanal, is also reduced by  $62$ in tetrahydrofuran at 0◦ . <sup>96</sup> Good to excellent yields of the respective alcohols are obtained following hydrolytic workup. The reactions are not accelerated by addition of excess lithium chloride,<sup>96</sup> but neutral **63** catalyzes the reaction, apparently through complexation of its silicon center with the carbonyl oxygen prior to delivery of hydride from **62**. 101

### ORGANOSILICON HYDRIDE REDUCTIONS 63



The solid bases CaO and hydroxyapatite catalyze the hydrosilylation of benzaldehyde by triethoxysilane at 90◦ in yields of 59% and 72% within one and two hours, respectively.<sup>323,324</sup> These reductions also very likely involve activation by valence expansion of the silicon hydride reagent.

**Reductive Amidation of Aldehydes.** The reductive amidation of aldehydes using an organosilane as the reducing agent has been realized. Benzaldehyde reacts over a 74-hour period with triethylsilane and acetonitrile in 75% aqueous sulfuric acid at room temperature to produce an 80% isolated yield of *N*benzylacetamide (Eq. 169).<sup>313</sup> Octanal fails to react under the same conditions.<sup>313</sup> Reductive amidation of aldehydes also occurs with the reagent combination Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA/primary amide (Eq. 170).<sup>326</sup>



**Reductive Esterification.** Aldehydes can give ester products when treated with combinations of organosilicon hydrides and carboxylic acids that have appreciable basicity. Benzaldehyde gives a product mixture consisting of 12% dibenzyl ether and 88% of benzyl formate when it is treated for 8 hours at room temperature with a slight excess of triethylsilane in formic acid.<sup>313</sup> *p*-Nitrobenzaldehyde produces 33% bis(*p*-nitrobenzyl) ether and 66% of *p*-nitrobenzyl trifluoroacetate when it reacts with  $Et<sub>3</sub>SH/TFA$  for 5 hours at room temperature. Other aldehydes give small, variable amounts of esters under similar reaction conditions. Although this general approach to the synthesis of esters from aldehydes is an attractive one, it appears not yet to be optimized for maximum synthetic utility because of the frequent formation of considerable amounts of ether products (Eq. 171).<sup>313</sup>

RCHO + R'CO<sub>2</sub>H 
$$
\xrightarrow{Et_3SH}
$$
 (RCH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>O + RCH<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>CR'  
R = alkyl, aryl (variable) (variable) (Eq. 171)

**Reductive Etherification.** As indicated earlier, aldehydes as well as ketones often give very good yields of ethers when they are treated with Brønsted acids or other electrophilic species in the presence of organosilicon hydrides (Eq. 172). In the absence of added alcohols, symmetrical ethers are obtained.

RCHO (RCH2)2O R'3SiH HX (Eq. 172)

When alcohols are added to the reaction mixture, unsymmetrical ether products may be obtained. Starting with a mixture of aldehydes can also give rise to the formation of unsymmetrical ethers. These ether products are formed under conditions different from those used in the formation of ethers directly from alcohols. Thus, it is postulated that the reaction sequence that leads from the carbonyl substrate to the ether involves the intermediate formation of hemiacetals, acetals, or their protonated forms and alkoxycarbenium ions, which are intercepted and reduced to the final ether products by the organosilicon hydrides present in the reaction mix. The probable mechanistic scheme that is followed when Brønsted acids are present is outlined in Scheme 2.<sup>311</sup>*,*327*,*<sup>328</sup>

RCH=O + H<sup>+</sup> 
$$
\longrightarrow
$$
 RCH=OH<sup>+</sup> RCH<sub>2</sub>OH  
\nR = alkyl, aryl  
\nRCH=OH<sup>+</sup> + RCH<sub>2</sub>OH  $\longrightarrow$  R-C-C-OCH<sub>2</sub>R  $\longrightarrow$  RCHOCH<sub>2</sub>R + H<sub>2</sub>O  
\nOH<sup>+</sup>  
\nR'3SH  
\nRCH<sub>2</sub>OCH<sub>2</sub>R  
\nR = alkyl, aryl

## **Scheme 2**

Reduction of aldehydes to symmetrical ethers can be accomplished in good to excellent yields with  $Et_3SH/Ph_3C^+$  ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>,<sup>329</sup>  $Et_3SH/ZnCl_2$ ,<sup>330</sup> Me<sub>2</sub>ClSiH/ In(OH)<sub>3</sub>,<sup>331</sup> Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/BiCl<sub>3</sub>,<sup>332</sup> (HMe<sub>2</sub>Si)<sub>2</sub>O/TMSOTf (or TMSCl/NaI),<sup>314</sup> Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (or PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH)/Bu<sub>4</sub>NClO<sub>4</sub>,<sup>333</sup> Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TMSOTf,<sup>334</sup> Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>,<sup>328</sup> and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/ TFA.<sup>313</sup> The reaction of 1.4 equivalents of triethylsilane with two equivalents of trifluoroacetic acid rapidly reduces benzaldehyde to dibenzyl ether in 80% yield at temperatures below  $40^{\circ}$ .<sup>311</sup> Similar treatment of *n*-butanal with two equivalents of triethylsilane and three equivalents of trifluoroacetic acid produces di-*n*-butyl ether in a more modest  $37\%$  yield.<sup>311</sup> Variations of these simple reaction conditions permit greater yields of desired ether products to be obtained. For example, 1 heptanal reacts with a 10 mol% excess of triethylsilane to give a 90% yield of di-*n*-heptyl ether within 45 minutes at room temperature when the reaction is run in a twenty-fold excess of trifluoroacetic acid acting as solvent.<sup>313</sup> With the exception of *p*-nitrobenzaldehyde, which gives only a 33% yield of the symmetrical ether (the remainder is converted into *p*-nitrobenzyl trifluoroacetate), other representative aryl aldehydes normally give yields of symmetrical ethers on the order of 80% or greater.<sup>313</sup>

Unsymmetrical ethers may be produced from the acid-promoted reactions of aldehydes and organosilicon hydrides when alcohols are introduced into the reaction medium (Eq. 173).<sup>327,328</sup> An orthoester can be used in place of the alcohol in this transformation.<sup>327,335</sup> A cyclic version of this conversion is reported.<sup>336</sup> Treatment of a mixture of benzaldehyde and a 10 mol% excess of triethylsilane with methanol and sulfuric, trifluoroacetic, or trichloroacetic acid produces benzyl methyl ether in 85–87% yields.<sup>328</sup> Changing the alcohol to ethanol, 1-propanol, 2-propanol, or 1-heptanol gives the corresponding unsymmetrical benzyl alkyl ethers in  $45-87\%$  yield with little or no side products.<sup>328</sup> A notable exception is the tertiary alcohol 2-methyl-2-propanol, which requires  $24$  hours.<sup>328</sup> 1-Heptanal gives an 87% yield of *n*-heptyl methyl ether with added methanol and a 49% yield of benzyl *n*-heptyl ether with added benzyl alcohol under similar conditions.<sup>328</sup>

RCHO + R"OH 
$$
\xrightarrow{R'_{3}SH}
$$
 RCH<sub>2</sub>OR" (45-87%)  
\nR = alkyl, aryl R' = aryl  
\nR" = alkyl (Eq. 173)

The yield of ethyl *n*-pentyl ether formed from the reduction of 1-pentanal by Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA in ethanol is 57% after 6–8 hours at 50–60 $^{\circ}$ .<sup>327</sup> The yield of product increases to 72% when one equivalent of ethyl orthoformate and some anhydrous hydrogen chloride are added to the reaction medium.<sup>327</sup> Presumably, this reduces the amount of free water in the reaction medium.

An interesting and effective variation of this general synthetic approach uses electrogenerated acid (EG acid) to assist in the formation of ethers from aldehydes.<sup>333</sup> This method permits the synthesis of both symmetrical and unsymmetrical ethers. The experiments are conducted using platinum electrodes in a simple undivided cell. A mixture of aldehyde and a 20 mol% excess of either triethylsilane or dimethylphenylsilane in dichloromethane solvent containing lithium perchlorate and tetra-*n*-butylammonium perchlorate is electrolyzed by the passage of small amounts of current  $(0.04-0.45$  Faradays/mol) to give symmetrical ethers (Eq. 174). In this way, both dibenzyl and dialkyl ethers may be produced in excellent yields  $(86–96\%)$ <sup>333</sup> Unsymmetrical ethers are produced in 50–99% yields when alkoxytrimethylsilanes are added to the reaction mixture (Eq. 175).<sup>333</sup> The alkoxy groups can include allyl, propargyl, and 3-phenylpropyl moieties. Phenol trimethylsilyl ether is ineffective in producing phenyl ethers.<sup>333</sup>

$$
RCHO \xrightarrow{R'_{3}SIH} RCH_{2}OCH_{2}R \quad (86-96%)
$$
 (Eq. 174)  
\n
$$
R = alkyl, Ph \quad R' = Me, Et, Ph
$$
  
\n
$$
H_{3}SIH, EG \, acid,
$$
  
\n
$$
CH_{2}CCl_{2}, rt \qquad Ph \qquad O \qquad (5%) \qquad (Eq. 175)
$$

Various chemical species with Lewis acid properties are also effective in promoting the direct conversion of aldehydes into ethers by organosilicon hydrides.

They offer the advantage that reductions can be effected under conditions that permit the conversion of substrates that may be adversely sensitive to the presence of strong Brønsted acids. For example, in the presence of a 10% excess of triethylsilane, addition of one-half equivalent of boron trifluoride etherate to octanal results, within one hour, in the formation of a 66% yield of dioctyl ether after a basic hydrolytic workup. Benzaldehyde provides a 75% yield of dibenzyl ether under the same reaction conditions. The remainder of the mass is found as the respective alcohol.<sup>70</sup> Zinc chloride is also capable of catalyzing this reaction. With its use, simple alkyl aldehydes are converted into the symmetrical ethers in about  $50\%$  yields.<sup>330</sup>

Superior yields of ethers from aldehydes are obtained by the use of several other electrophilic species. The addition of 5 mol% of trityl perchlorate to a mixture of triethylsilane and 3-phenylpropanal in dichloromethane at  $0^\circ$  produces an 83% yield of bis-(3-phenylpropyl) ether within 10 minutes (Eq. 176).<sup>329</sup> Reductive polycondensation of isophthalaldehyde occurs with two equivalents of triethylsilane in the presence of 10 mol% of trityl perchlorate to give  $40-72\%$ yields of polyether with average molecular weights ranging from 6,500 to 11,400 daltons (Eq. 177).<sup>337</sup> Addition of one equivalent of an alkoxytrimethylsilane to the reaction mixture produces unsymmetrical ethers in good to excellent yields. Thus, a mixture of (*E)*-cinnamaldehyde, 3-phenylpropoxytrimethylsilane, and triethylsilane in dichloromethane reacts under the influence of a catalytic amount of trityl perchlorate to give the unsymmetrical ether in 88% yield (Eq. 178).<sup>329</sup>

$$
B_{n} \longrightarrow \begin{array}{ccccccccc}\n & P_{h_3}C^{+}ClO_4^- & & & B_{n} & & \sqrt{O_{h_3}} \\ \n & H & \xrightarrow{Et_3SH, CH_2Cl_2, 0^{\circ}} & B_{n} & & \sqrt{O_{h_3}} & & \sqrt{O_{h_3}} \\ \n\end{array}
$$
\n
$$
OHC \longrightarrow CHO \xrightarrow{Ph_3C^{+}ClO_4^-} \begin{array}{cccccc}\n & P_{h_3}C^{+}ClO_4^- & & \sqrt{OCH_2} \\ \n & & E_{t_3}SH, CH_2Cl_2 & & \sqrt{O_{h_3}} \\ \n & & & & (Eq. 177) \\ \n & & & & (40-72\%)\n\end{array}
$$

$$
p_h \sim CHO + p_h \sim \text{OTMS} \xrightarrow{Ph_3C^+ClO_4^-} p_h \sim \text{OTMS} \text{ (Eq. 178)}
$$

The use of trimethylsilyl-based electrophilic catalysts with organosilicon hydrides also promotes the conversion of aldehydes into ethers and avoids the need to employ the potentially hazardous trityl perchlorate salt.<sup>314</sup>*,*334*,*<sup>338</sup> One reagent pair that is particularly effective in the reductive conversion of aldehydes into symmetrical ethers is a catalytic amount of trimethylsilyl triflate combined with either trimethylsilane, triethylsilane, PMHS,  $334$  or 1,1,3,3tetramethyldisiloxane (TMDO,  $64$ ) as the reducing agent (Eq. 179).<sup>314</sup> Either

$$
H-Si-O-Si-H
$$
  
 
$$
Me
$$
  
 
$$
Me
$$
  
 
$$
Me
$$

dichloromethane or benzene can be used as the solvent. The reactions occur at temperatures ranging from  $0^\circ$  to  $80^\circ$ . These conditions produce symmetrical ethers from both aromatic and aliphatic aldehydes in yields frequently exceeding 90%. Aromatic aldehydes tend to give minor amounts of benzyl alcohols as byproducts.<sup>334</sup> The synthesis of cyclic ethers from dialdehydes or keto aldehydes is also possible (Eqs. 180 and  $181$ ).<sup>339</sup>



The formation of unsymmetrical ethers from the reduction of aldehydes in the presence of tetrahydropyran (THP) ethers is reported (Eq.  $182$ ).<sup>340</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}\n0 & + & \text{PhCHO} & \xrightarrow{Et_3SH, TMSOTf} & 0 \\
\downarrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} \\
\downarrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} \\
\downarrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} \\
\downarrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} \\
\downarrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} \\
\downarrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} \\
\downarrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} \\
\downarrow^{O} & \searrow^{O} & \se
$$

Trimethylsilyl iodide can be substituted for the trimethylsilyl triflate catalyst in the reactions of aliphatic aldehydes. TMSI can be generated conveniently in situ either from trimethylsilyl chloride and sodium iodide in acetonitrile<sup>314</sup> or from hexamethyldisilane and iodine in dichloromethane<sup>334</sup> or pentane.<sup>338</sup> It is noted that neither triisopropylsilane nor PMHS is an effective reducing agent for this purpose when used with TMSI under these conditions.<sup>314</sup>*,*<sup>334</sup>

Equivalent amounts of aldehydes and alkoxytrimethylsilanes react to form unsymmetrical ethers in near quantitative yields in the presence of either trimethylsilane or triethylsilane and catalytic amounts (ca. 10 mol%) of TMSI in dichloromethane.<sup>329</sup>*,*333*,*334*,*<sup>341</sup> The procedure is particularly convenient experimentally when trimethylsilane is used with TMSI because the catalyst provides its own color indicator for the reduction step (color change from deep violet to vivid red-gold) and the only silicon-containing product following aqueous workup is the volatile hexamethyldisiloxane (bp 99–100◦ *)*. It is possible to introduce trimethylsilane (bp  $7^\circ$ ) either as a previously prepared solution in dichloromethane or by bubbling it directly into the reaction mixture. Cyclohexyloxytrimethylsilane and *n*-butanal react by this method to give a 93% isolated yield of *n*-butyl cyclohexyl ether (Eq. 183).<sup>334</sup>

$$
n-C_3H_7CHO + \underbrace{1. TMSH, TMSI, CH_2Cl_2}_{2. H_2O} \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{c} OC_4H_9-n \\ \hline \end{array}} (93\%) \quad (Eq. 183)
$$

Trimethylsilane in pentane is a particularly good system for the TMSIcatalyzed reductive coupling of tertiary alkoxytrimethylsilanes with aldehydes to form sterically crowded tertiary-primary ethers.<sup>337</sup> In this way, 1-(*tert*butoxymethyl)-3-methylbenzene is formed in  $87\%$  yield (Eq. 184).<sup>338</sup> Reaction of terephthaldehyde with two equivalents of the trimethylsilyl ether of 1 adamantanol under these conditions leads to a good yield of the diadamantyl ether of 1,4-benzenedimethanol (Eq.  $185$ ).<sup>338</sup>



Cyclic ethers can also be formed in a fashion similar to that of the reactions described previously  $(Eq. 186)$ ,  $306,342$  and also result from the reductive etherification of bis(trimethylsilylated) diols and dialdehydes (Eq. 187).<sup>343</sup>



The reductive silylation of aldehydes provides a one-step route to silyl ethers. This is accomplished with the reagent combinations PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH/CuH(PPh<sub>3</sub>),<sup>317</sup> Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/ZnCl<sub>2</sub> (or SnCl<sub>2</sub> or NiCl<sub>2</sub>),<sup>343</sup> Ph<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub>/CsF (or KF, BnMe<sub>3</sub> NF,  $KO<sub>2</sub>CH$ ,<sup>75,319</sup> Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/(C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub>B,<sup>115,281</sup> PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH/CsF,<sup>320,345-347</sup> and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/ TBAF.<sup>76</sup> Montmorillonite clay that has been subjected to ion exchange with ferric ion catalyzes the hydrosilylation of benzaldehyde with triethylsilane to give benzyl triethylsilyl ether in 79% yield.<sup>324</sup>*,*<sup>325</sup>
Various non-conjugated diene aldehydes react with  $Et_3SiH/Ni(cod)<sub>2</sub>/PPh<sub>3</sub>$  to give O-triethylsilylated cycloalkanols in low to high yields. Acyclic dienes can lead to the silylated cycloalkanols in moderate yields with the proper catalyst (Eq. 188). $348$  Bicyclic systems are also generated by this methodology  $(Ea. 189).$ <sup>349</sup>



 $Et_3SH/Ni(cod)_2$  brings about the reaction of an aldehyde and an alkyne to provide the silylated allyl alcohol (Eq. 190).<sup>350</sup> The reaction also occurs in an intramolecular mode.

$$
\begin{array}{ccccccc}\n\text{CHO} & \xrightarrow{\text{CHO}} & \text{Et}_3\text{SiH}, \text{Ni(cod)}_2 & \text{Et}_3\text{SiO} & \text{H} \\
\hline\n\text{Me} & \xrightarrow{\text{Me}^{\text{-}N}\times\text{Me}^{\text{-}N}} & \text{Ph} & \text{Ph} & \text{m} & \text{(84\%)} & \text{(Eq. 190)}\n\end{array}
$$

**Reduction to Alkanes.** Carbonyl groups can be reductively deoxygenated to methylene functions if both of the two steps represented by Eqs. 1 and 2 proceed to completion. With aldehydes, this process leads to the transformation of the CHO group into a  $CH<sub>3</sub>$  group.

The relative instability of primary alkyl carbenium ions in the condensed phase and the weak intrinsic nucleophilicity of organosilicon hydrides are the reasons that primary alkyl alcohols are not reduced to hydrocarbons. For these same reasons, aliphatic aldehydes do not undergo complete deoxygenation to methylterminated hydrocarbons when treated with acids and organosilicon hydrides under usual laboratory conditions. In contrast, many aryl aldehydes can be transformed into methylarenes by this method. Since the organosilane reduction of benzyl alcohols to the corresponding toluene derivatives is known, it is not surprising that the reduction of an aryl aldehyde to a toluene is possible. This transformation has been carried out with  $Et_3SiH/TFA$ ,<sup>69,351,352</sup> (EtO)<sub>3</sub>SiH, and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH with various catalysts,<sup>353</sup> Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/( $C_6F_5$ )<sub>3</sub>B,<sup>281</sup> PMHS/Pd/C,<sup>316</sup> and PMHS/  $(C_6F_5)$ <sub>3</sub>B.<sup>354</sup> The last combination also reduces alkyl aldehydes to the corresponding alkanes (Eq. 191).<sup>281</sup>*,*282*,*<sup>354</sup>



Trifluoroacetic acid solutions of benzaldehydes having electron-donating ring substituents form the corresponding methyl arenes when at least two equivalents of an organosilicon hydride are added to the solution at room temperature. The reaction conditions permit preservation of the integrity of functions such as halogen, alkoxy, carboxylate, cyano, and nitro. There is little difference in the reducing abilities of triethylsilane, tri-*n*-propylsilane, and tri-*n*-hexylsilane in these reactions. Thus, the silane reducing agent can be chosen that best suits purification of the desired product. Basic aqueous workup converts the silicon reaction products derived from the organosilicon hydride into the corresponding silanols and disiloxanes, which may be removed from the desired reduction products by simple distillation.<sup>69</sup>

Benzaldehyde itself forms no toluene; only dibenzyl ether and benzyl trifluoroacetate are formed. Triethylsilane (2.2 equivalents) causes the transformation of *p*-anisaldehyde into *p*-methylanisole in 76% yield after only 30 minutes. Use of a three-fold excess of dimethylphenylsilane in place of the triethylsilane results in a slight improvement in yield to  $83\%$  after 45 minutes.<sup>69</sup>

Similar treatment of a trifluoroacetic acid solution of *p*-tolualdehyde with triethylsilane gives only a 20% yield of *p*-xylene after 11 hours reaction time followed by basic workup. Use of 2.5 equivalents of dimethylphenylsilane enhances the yield to 52% after only 15 minutes. This reaction proceeds stepwise through the formation of a mixture of the trifluoroacetate and the symmetrical ether. These intermediates slowly form the desired *p*-xylene product along with Friedel-Crafts side products under the reaction conditions  $(Eq. 192)$ .<sup>73</sup> Addition of co-solvents such as carbon tetrachloride or nitromethane helps reduce the amount of the Friedel-Crafts side products.<sup>73</sup>



Treatment of a polyfunctional chromium-tricarbonyl-complexed hydroxy aldehyde with an excess of  $Et_3SH/TFA$  for 4.5 hours gives an 82% yield of fully reduced product with both the formyl and hydroxy groups completely and selectively reduced (Eq. 193).<sup>352</sup>



The sequence of reagent and substrate addition can be quite important in these reactions. For example, a trifluoroacetic acid solution of 2,4,6-trimethylbenzaldehyde forms isodurene in 98% yield within 15 minutes when 2.2 equivalents of triethylsilane are added to the reaction mixture at room temperature.<sup>69</sup> In contrast, when trifluoroacetic acid is added to a stirred solution of triethylsilane and 2,4,6-trimethylbenzaldehyde, isodurene is formed in only 70% yield after basic aqueous workup. Minor side products under these reaction conditions are mesitylene (formed via acid-catalyzed decarbonylation of the aldehyde) and the Friedel-Crafts product 2,4,6,2',3',4',6'-heptamethyldiphenylmethane (Eq. 194).<sup>311</sup>



The  $Et_3SH/BF_3 OEt_2$  combination fails to cause complete deoxidative reduction of aldehydes, forming instead mixtures of primary alcohols and symmetrical ethers.<sup>74</sup> By contrast, aryl aldehydes lacking electron-withdrawing ring substituents, when reacted in dichloromethane with at least two equivalents of triethylsilane and gaseous boron trifluoride at 0◦ , form the corresponding methylarenes within a few minutes (Eq. 195).<sup>1</sup> Even benzaldehyde produces a 52% yield of toluene by this method when 18 equivalents of triethylsilane are added to suppress formation of Friedel-Crafts oligomers. The method offers the advantage that fluorotriethylsilane is formed, which is volatile and is easily separated from the desired organic products. $<sup>1</sup>$ </sup>

ArCHO ArMe + Et3SiF Et3SiH, CH2Cl2 BF3, 0° Ar = Ph (52%) Ar = 4-MeC6H4 (45%) Ar = 4-ClC6H4 (68%) Ar = 4-MeOC6H4 (100%) (Eq. 195)

If Friedel-Crafts products are desired, a clever method exists for the direct conversion of aryl aldehydes into diarylmethanes. Reaction of a mixture of an aromatic aldehyde and a catalytic amount of trimethylsilyl trifluoromethanesulfonate and excess polymethylhydrosiloxane in either benzene or toluene at reflux results in the formation of the respective arylphenyl or tolylmethanes in reasonably good yields within  $1-3$  hours (Eq. 196).<sup>314</sup> Thus, benzaldehyde reacts in refluxing benzene containing a few drops of TMSOTf and excess PMHS to give diphenylmethane in 92% yield within two hours and in refluxing toluene within one hour to give a 95% yield of a mixture of phenyl-*p*-tolylmethane and phenyl-*o*-tolylmethane in a 70 : 30 ratio. *p*-Tolualdehyde gives a 60% yield of phenyl-*p*-tolylmethane when heated at reflux in benzene for 2.5 hours and an 80% yield of di-*p*-tolylmethane and *p*-tolyl-*o*-tolylmethane in a 90 : 10 ratio when heated at reflux in toluene for 30 minutes. *o*-Chlorobenzaldehyde gives a mixture of 25% phenyl-*o*-chlorophenylmethane and 55% of bis(*o*-chlorophenyl)ether, and *p*-chlorobenzaldehyde gives a 65% yield of a mixture of phenyl-*p*-chlorophenylmethane and bis(*p*-chlorophenyl)ether in a 75 : 25 ratio when heated at reflux in benzene for  $3$  hours  $314$ 

 $ArCHO + Ar'H$   $ArCH<sub>2</sub>Ar'$ PMHS **TMSOTf**  $Ar = Ph$ , 4-Me $C_6H_4$ , 4-Cl $C_6H_4$ , 2-Cl $C_6H_4$  $Ar' = Ph$ , 4-Me $C_6H_4$ (25-95%) (Eq. 196)

The TFA-catalyzed triethylsilane reductive condensation of an aldehyde with indoles provides a convenient route to 3-substituted indoles in modest to good yields (Eq. 197).<sup>355</sup>



**Reduction to Methylene Halides.** Treatment of aryl aldehydes with selected organosilicon hydrides and an appropriate trimethylsilyl halide produces benzyl chlorides, bromides, and iodides directly in good to excellent yields by reductive halogenation (Eq. 198). This protocol offers the advantage of being simple and leading only to the monohalo derivatives. The method is specific for the carbonyl group of both aryl ketones and aldehydes and preserves the integrity of many other groups (e.g. ring halogen, alkyl, alkoxy, cyano, nitro, hydroxy, ester) that may be found in polyfunctional compounds. Alkyl aldehydes form symmetrical ethers instead of halides under these reaction conditions.314*,*356*,*<sup>357</sup> Several variations of this general method exist. In the most straightforward approach for synthesizing iodides, the addition of an external trimethylsilyl reagent is not required. Aromatic aldehydes normally react within minutes at room temperature with iodine and TMDO in dichloromethane solution to produce benzyl iodides in high yields (66–87%) (Eq. 199). A reactive silyl iodide is believed to be formed in situ from tetramethyldisiloxane and iodine under these conditions. The reaction is not limited to aryl rings with only electron-donating groups; chloro-, hydroxy-, alkyl-, alkoxy-, cyano-, and carboalkoxy-substituted rings all undergo the transformation.<sup>357</sup> The same transformation can be carried out with diiodosilane.<sup>358</sup>

ArCHO 
$$
\frac{\text{TMDO}}{\text{TMSX}} \quad \text{ArCH}_2X \quad (40-97%) \quad (Eq. 198)
$$
\n
$$
\text{Ar} = \text{various substituted ary!}
$$
\n
$$
\text{CHO} \quad \text{CH}_2I \quad (87%) \quad (Eq. 199)
$$
\n
$$
\text{OH} \quad (Eq. 199)
$$

Another variation of this method involves the treatment of an acetonitrile solution of the aryl aldehyde, trimethylsilyl chloride, and either sodium iodide, if iodide products are desired, or lithium bromide, if bromide products are desired, with TMDO. After an appropriate reaction time  $(5-195$  minutes) at a temperature in the range of  $-70°$  to  $80°$ , the upper siloxane layer is removed and the benzyl iodide or bromide product is isolated from the remaining lower portion after precipitation of the inorganic salts by addition of dichloromethane. For example, *p*-anisaldehyde reacts to form *p*-methoxybenzyl bromide in 84% isolated yield under these conditions (Eq. 200).<sup>314</sup>*,*<sup>356</sup>

$$
\text{MeO} \quad \text{THO} \quad \xrightarrow{\text{TMSCI, NaBr}} \quad \text{MeO} \quad \text{CH}_2\text{Br} \quad (84\%) \quad \text{(Eq. 200)}
$$

In the preparation of iodides, but not bromides, PMHS may be substituted for the TMDO. Chlorides can be obtained if thionyl chloride and zinc iodide are added to suppress the formation of symmetrical ethers.<sup>314</sup> An example of this type of reductive chlorination is shown by the TMDO-mediated conversion of *p*tolualdehyde into  $p$ -methylbenzyl chloride (Eq. 201).<sup>313</sup> To obtain chlorides from aldehydes having electron-withdrawing groups such as nitro or carbomethoxy, the initial reaction is first carried out at  $-70^\circ$  and the mixture is then heated to reflux in order to reduce the formation of symmetrical ether by-products. Zinc chloride is substituted for zinc iodide for the synthesis of chlorides of substrates with electron-donating groups such as methoxy and hydroxy. $314$ 

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n\text{CHO} \\
\hline\n\text{SOCl}_2, \text{ZnI}_2 \text{(cat.)}\n\end{array}
$$
\n  
\n
$$
\begin{array}{c}\n\text{Cl} \\
\text{(87%)}\n\end{array}
$$
\n  
\n
$$
\begin{array}{c}\n\text{CHO} \\
\text{SOCl}_2, \text{ZnI}_2 \text{(cat.)}\n\end{array}
$$
\n  
\n
$$
\begin{array}{c}\n\text{Cl} \\
\text{(87%)}\n\end{array}
$$
\n  
\n
$$
\begin{array}{c}\n\text{CHO} \\
\text{SOCl}_2, \text{ZnI}_2 \text{(cat.)}\n\end{array}
$$

**Reductive Amination.** Reaction of an aminohydrodimethylsilane with aldehydes in the presence of a Lewis acid catalyst gives the corresponding amine in good to high yields (Eq. 202).<sup>359</sup> The use of an Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA/amine reagent combination also leads to the reductive amination of aldehydes (Eq. 203).<sup>360</sup> Comparable reductive aminations of aldehydes are possible in moderate yields with PhSiH<sub>3</sub>/Bu<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub>/amine,<sup>361,362</sup> and in good yields with PMHS/TiCl<sub>4</sub>/amine<sup>363</sup> or with amine/ $Cl<sub>3</sub>SiH.<sup>364</sup>$ 



**Reductive Thiolation.** Treatment of aldehydes with triethylsilane, thiols, and boron trifluoride monohydrate<sup>6,217</sup> yields sulfides in a one-flask process. For example, this method gives a 97% yield of benzyl isopropyl sulfide from benzaldehyde and 2-propanethiol (Eq. 204).<sup>365</sup>

$$
\text{PhCHO} \quad \frac{1. \, i\text{-PrSH}, \text{BF}_3\text{-OH}_2, \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2, 0^\circ, \text{1 min}}{2. \, \text{Et}_3\text{SH}, 0^\circ \text{ to } \text{rt}, 3 \text{ h}} \quad \text{ph} \quad \text{SPr-}i \quad (97\%) \quad (\text{Eq. 204})
$$

### **Reduction of Ketones**

The selective organosilane reduction of ketone functions can be effected in the presence of a number of other functional groups including epoxides,  $320,366$ <br>ketals,  $86,367$  thioketals,  $368$  other ketones,  $369,370$   $\beta$ -lactams,  $371$  alkynes,  $372$ other ketones,<sup>369,370</sup>  $\beta$ -lactams,<sup>371</sup> alkynes,<sup>372</sup>  $\alpha$ -bromides.<sup>76,80,83</sup> amides<sup>80,83,84,86,276,320,375</sup> esters,<sup>79</sup>*,*80*,*83*,*84*,*87*,*320*,*373*,*<sup>374</sup> *α*-bromides,<sup>76</sup>*,*80*,*<sup>83</sup> amides80*,*83*,*84*,*86*,*276*,*320*,*<sup>375</sup> ureas,<sup>84,276</sup> trifluoroacetamides,<sup>83,376</sup> sulfonamides,<sup>83,86</sup> and nitro groups.<sup>80</sup>

**Reduction to Alcohols.** The organosilane-mediated reduction of ketones to secondary alcohols has been shown to occur under a wide variety of conditions. Only those reactions that are of high yield and of a more practical nature are mentioned here. As with aldehydes, ketones do not normally react spontaneously with organosilicon hydrides to form alcohols. The exceptional behavior of some organocobalt cluster complex carbonyl compounds was noted previously. Introduction of acids or other electrophilic species that are capable of coordination with the carbonyl oxygen enables reduction to occur by transfer of silyl hydride to the polarized carbonyl carbon (Eq. 2). This permits facile, chemoselective reduction of many ketones to alcohols.

Certain catalysts promote the reduction of ketones with organosilanes. The reduction of acetophenone with  $Et_3SH$  is catalyzed by the diphosphine **65** and gives only a small amount of overreduction to ethylbenzene.<sup>377</sup> Aryl alkyl enones and ynones are reduced to the corresponding alcohols with triethoxysilane and the titanium-based catalyst **66**. <sup>378</sup> Trichlorosilane reduces acetophenone in 90% yield with  $N$ -formylpyrrolidine catalysis.<sup>379</sup>



*Promotion by Acid*. The same range of Lewis and Brønsted acids that promote the silane reduction of aldehydes can be used for the reduction of ketones. These acid-catalyzed reductions appear to proceed by direct hydride transfer rather than by a single-electron transfer mechanism.<sup>380</sup> Similar to the case of aldehydes, the silane reductions of ketones promoted by Brønsted acids rarely give clean yields of alcohols when conducted under anhydrous conditions. Instead, mixtures of alcohols, esters, and silyl ethers often result.<sup>313</sup>*,*<sup>381</sup> The reagent combination of  $Et_3SH/HCl$  (or  $H_2SO_4$ ) gives good yields of the alcohol, although

by-products of the sym-ether among others can complicate the reduction.<sup>313</sup> Use of zinc chloride to promote organosilicon hydride reduction of ketones to siloxanes that can be hydrolyzed to alcohols is well known. It is one of the first Lewis acid catalysts reported to be useful for this purpose,<sup>382</sup>*,*<sup>383</sup> although others are known.<sup>384</sup> The combination of  $Et_3SiH/TFA/NH_4F$  provides a good yield of the alcohol with some ether formation.<sup>135</sup> High yields of the alcohol from both aryl and alkyl ketones are realized by the  $HMDS/(AcOBu<sub>2</sub>Sn)<sub>2</sub>O<sup>316</sup>$ and HMDS/Sn(OTf)<sub>2</sub><sup>385</sup> reagent combinations. The Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/( $C_6F_5$ )<sub>3</sub>B combination cleanly reduces aryl ketones to the substituted benzyl alcohols.<sup>116</sup>

Under certain conditions, the trifluoroacetic acid catalyzed reduction of ketones can result in reductive esterification to form the trifluoroacetate of the alcohol. These reactions are usually accompanied by the formation of side products, which can include the alcohol, alkenes resulting from dehydration, ethers, and methylene compounds from over-reduction.<sup>68</sup>*,*70*,*207*,*208*,*313*,*<sup>386</sup> These mixtures may be converted into alcohol products if hydrolysis is employed as part of the reaction workup. An example is the reduction of cyclohexanone to cyclohexanol in 74% yield when treated with a two-fold excess of both trifluoroacetic acid and triethylsilane for 24 hours at  $55^\circ$  and followed by hydrolytic workup (Eq. 205).<sup>203</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n0 \\
1. Et_3SH, TFA \\
2. aq. K_2CO_3\n\end{array}
$$
\n
$$
(74%)
$$
\n
$$
(Eq. 205)
$$

*Promotion by Valence Expansion*. As in reactions of aldehydes, addition of nucleophilic substances to mixtures of ketones and organosilicon hydrides promotes reduction of the carbonyl group as depicted in Eq. 6. Ketones are conveniently reduced in high yields with reagent combinations of  $(EtO)_{3}SiH$  or  $Me(EtO)_2SiH$  and KF (or CsF).<sup>80</sup> The pentacoordinate silane 67 itself reduces ketones in high yields (Eq. 206).<sup>84</sup> In a somewhat similar approach, the lithium salt of silicate  $68$  is a good reducing agent for ketones (Eq. 207).<sup>96</sup> Other hydridosilicates are known to similarly reduce ketones.<sup>93</sup>



The PMHS/TBAF system provides both an excellent and practical approach to the reduction of aryl ketones to the benzyl alcohols.<sup>278</sup> Similarly, the PMHS/ Triton<sup>®</sup>B combination gives high yields of the benzyl alcohols.<sup>278</sup>

*Diastereoselective Reductions*. The diastereoselectivity of organosilane reductions of ketones has been the topic of a number of studies. Extensive studies of the Brønsted acid promoted reductions of alkyl-substituted cyclohexanones by mono-, di-, and trialkylsilanes show that chain branching and other steric features of both the silane and the carbonyl substrate can be important factors in determining the isomeric compositions of reduction product mixtures.<sup>68</sup>*,*381*,*384*,*<sup>386</sup> In general, the reduction of various substituted cyclohexanones does not show effective diastereoselectivity even when very sterically hindered silanes such as  $Ph_3SiH^{387,388}$  or  $(t-Bu)_3SiH^{386}$  are employed. A quite good system is a silane under Triton<sup>®</sup>B or TBAF catalysis.<sup>278</sup> The best system for the trans-selective reduction of 4-*tert*-butylcyclohexanone is the sterically encumbered  $(TMSO)_{3}SiH/TBAF$  (Eq. 208).<sup>278</sup> This system is not successful in the stereoselective reduction of 2-methylcyclohexanone, giving a cis:trans selectivity of 18 : 82, although 3-methylcyclohexanone gives a cis:trans ratio of 7 : 93 and a high (*>*90%) yield of 3-methylcyclohexanol. The combination of PMHD/dibutylacetoxytin oxide (DBATO) reduces 4-*tert*butylcyclohexanone exclusively to *trans*-4-*tert*-butylcyclohexanol.<sup>316</sup> The active reducing agent in this system is likely a tin hydride species. A system of Ph<sub>2</sub>MeSiH (or Ph<sub>3</sub>SiH)/TBAF/HMPA reduces 2-methylcyclohexanone in a cis:trans ratio of 95 : 5.<sup>320</sup> Only *cis*-2-methylcyclohexanol is isolated from the reduction of 2-methylcyclohexanone with  $Ph_3SiH/(C_6F_5)$ <sub>3</sub>B.<sup>116</sup> Other systems give only moderate selectivities in the reduction of substituted cyclohexanones.<sup>70</sup>*,*79*,*93*,*116*,*278*,*313*,*367*,*381*,*382*,*384*,*386*,*389 – 392



Naphthoquinone is reduced to 1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalene with  $Et_3SiH/TFA$ in  $60\%$  yield.<sup>393</sup> Quinones can be reduced to hydroquinones in good yields with hydridosiloxanes such as TMDO with iodide present (Eq. 209).<sup>314</sup>*,*316*,*<sup>357</sup> The reductive dehydration of a 1,3-diketone leads to an enone (Eq. 210).<sup>374</sup>



Reduction of the ketone carbonyl of *cis*-1,2,3,4,4a,9b-hexahydro-8-hydroxydibenzofuran-3-one with trifluoroacetic acid and triethylsilane at 0◦ produces a mixture of the  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -isomers of the C3 alcohol with an  $\alpha$ :  $\beta$  ratio of 1:4 (Eq. 211).<sup>394</sup> This result can be compared with the isomer ratio of  $100:1$  that results when sodium borohydride is used as the reducing agent.<sup>394</sup> The same cis pair of alcohol isomers is formed in 77% combined yield, but in a reversed ratio of  $\alpha$  :  $\beta = 4$  : 1, when the less saturated tetrahydrodibenzofuran analog is used as the substrate (Eq. 212). $394$ 



Treatment of a pentacyclic  $1\alpha$ ,11-(2-oxethano) thioketal steroid with excess  $Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA$  causes reduction of the carbon-carbon double bonds as well as the 17-carbonyl group to give a single reaction product (Eq. 213).<sup>368</sup> Other work utilizes trifluoroacetic acid, triethylsilane, and anisole in the presence of a catalytic amount of boron trifluoride etherate to reduce the acetyl carbonyl of a 3-acetyl-2-azetidinone derivative with a dr of  $8:1$  (Eq. 214).<sup>395</sup>



In a similar way, a mixture consisting of 2% boron trifluoride etherate in trifluoroacetic acid and triethylsilane brings about the regioselective reduction of the acyclic carbonyl group of the diketovinyl chloride shown in Eq. 215 in high yield (*>*94%), but with formation of approximately equal amounts of the two possible diastereomers formed from the creation of a new chiral center.<sup>396</sup>



The stereoselective reduction of the carbonyl group of *β*-hydroxy ketones can be accomplished by a silylation-intramolecular reduction sequence. The best results are obtained when diisopropylchlorosilane is employed.<sup>397</sup> The clever use of an intramolecular hydride transfer from a pre-anchored silyl hydride site allows  $\beta$ -hydroxy ketones to be reduced to 1,3-diols with a very high degree of diastereoselectivity.<sup>397–399</sup> A specific example is the reaction of the hydroxy ketone shown in Eq. 216, first with chlorodiisopropylsilane to form the acyclic siloxane and then with a Lewis acid catalyst to cause intramolecular hydride transfer with formation of a pair of cyclic trans- and cis-disiloxanes. The respective anti- and syn-diols are obtained after fluoride ion catalyzed hydrolysis. The trans:cis ratio of the disiloxane intermediates varies with the Lewis acid employed: TiCl<sub>4</sub> (30:1), MgBr<sub>2</sub>•OEt<sub>2</sub> (60:1), SnCl<sub>4</sub> (120:1), and BF<sub>3</sub>•OEt<sub>2</sub>  $(320:1)$ .<sup>397-399</sup> A similar reduction with chlorodimethylsilane also gives good results (Eq. 217). $400$ 



The diastereoselectivity of the reduction of  $\alpha$ -substituted ketones has been the subject of much investigation. The reagent combination of trifluoroacetic acid and dimethylphenylsilane is an effective method for the synthesis of erythro isomers of 2-amino alcohols, 1,2-diols, and 3-hydroxyalkanoic acid derivatives.<sup>86</sup>*,*87*,*276*,*<sup>375</sup> Quite often the selectivity for formation of the erythro isomer over the threo isomer of a given pair is *>*99 : 1. Examples where high erythro preference is found in the products are shown below (Eqs.  $218-220$ ).<sup>276</sup> Similar but complementary results are obtained with  $R_3$ SiH/TBAF, where the threo isomer product predominates (Eqs. 221 and 222).<sup>86,87,320</sup> The threo isomer also predominates with the PMHS/TBAF system  $(Eq. 223).^{401}$ 



*α*-Fluoroketo esters are reduced with high stereoselectivity but in only moderate yields with the combination  $Ph_3SiH$  (or  $PhMe_2SiH$ )/AlCl<sub>3</sub> (Eq. 224).<sup>90</sup> The use of PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH/TBAF does not give comparable selectivities.<sup>90</sup>

$$
n \to \n\begin{matrix}\n0 & \text{Ph}_3\text{SiH, AlCl}_3 \\
\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2, 0^\circ \text{ to } \text{rt, } 14 \text{ h}\n\end{matrix}\n\quad\n\text{m-Pr}\n\begin{matrix}\n0^\text{H} & 0^\text{H} \\
\text{CO}_2\text{Et} & +n\text{Pr}\n\end{matrix}\n\begin{matrix}\n0^\text{H} &
$$

Other systems that are highly stereoselective in the reduction of 2-substituted ketones include PMHS/Triton<sup>®</sup>-B (erythro:threo =  $95:5$ ),<sup>278</sup> (TMSO)<sub>3</sub>SiH/ Triton<sup>®</sup>-B (erythro:threo =  $95:5$ ),<sup>278</sup> and PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH/TASF/HMPA (erythro: threo =  $93 : 7$ .<sup>320</sup>

**Reductive Amidation.** The  $Et<sub>3</sub>SiH$  reduction of ketones in the presence of acid and acetonitrile results in the reductive amidation of the ketone (Eq. 225).<sup>313</sup> Ethers and carbinols may be by-products.



**Reductive Esterification.** Organosilane reductions of  $\gamma$ - or  $\delta$ -keto acids and esters provide the corresponding lactones as the final products (Eqs. 226 and 227).<sup>69</sup>*,*79*,*<sup>402</sup>



**Reductive Etherification.** The organosilane reduction of ketones can result in the direct formation of symmetrical ethers. The treatment of ketones with  $Et_3SH/BiBr_3$  (or  $BiCl_3$ ) gives good yields of the symmetrical ethers. The reaction is much better with aldehydes than with ketones, with acetophenone and benzophenone giving only traces of the ether.<sup>332,343</sup> Benzophenone is converted into bis(diphenylmethyl)ether in good yield with  $(HMe<sub>2</sub>Si)<sub>2</sub>O/TMSOTf<sup>314</sup>$ . The treatment of various ketones with  $Et_3SH/TMSOTf$  (or TMSI) leads to the symmetrical ethers in excellent yields.<sup>334</sup> Treatment of cyclohexanone with  $(n-Bu)$ <sub>3</sub>SiH/ TFA gives dicyclohexyl ether and cyclohexyl trifluoroacetate with formation of the ether favored at lower temperatures.<sup>313</sup> Other combinations of triethylsilane and various catalysts all result in the formation of mixtures of the ether and the silyl ether of the corresponding alcohol.<sup>70,313,353</sup> The PEHS/TFA combination also converts cyclohexanone into a mixture of the ether and the trifluoroacetate.<sup>207</sup>

It is possible to form cyclic ethers from diketones as seen by the cyclic hemiketal formed by the reduction of 1,5-cyclooctanedione (Eq. 228) and the conversion of 2,5-hexanedione into *cis*- and *trans*-2,5-dimethyltetrahydrofuran (Eq. 229).<sup>392</sup> A naphthopyran can be formed in a similar manner.  $339$ 



The organosilane reduction of ketones in the presence of alcohols provides an excellent route to unsymmetrical ethers. The reaction of cyclohexanone with ethanol and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA gives cyclohexyl ethyl ether in good yield.<sup>327,328</sup> The

same conversion can be accomplished with  $Et_3SiH/HC(OEt)3/HCl^{327}$  Adamantanone provides adamantyl methyl ether when treated with  $Et_3SiH/HC(OMe)<sub>3</sub>/$ Nafion<sup>®</sup>-H,<sup>335</sup> and adamantyl cyclohexyl ether with  $Et_3SiH/TMSI/c-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>11</sub>$ OTMS, but diadamantyl ether with Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TMSOTf.<sup>334</sup>

The employment of the trimethylsilyl ether of an alcohol as the partner to ketones in the synthesis of unsymmetrical ethers is highly useful. Ketones react with trimethylsilyl ethers in an electrolytic process with  $Et_3SiH$  or  $PhMe_2SiH$ as the reducing agent.<sup>333</sup> Benzyloxytrimethylsilane with  $Et_3SiH/BiBr_3$  provides unsymmetrical benzyl ethers in high yields from ketones and aldehydes with aldehydes being more reactive. $343$  The reaction has been carried out with both the trimethylsilyl ethers of secondary alcohols and hindered ketones.<sup>334</sup> The combination of Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TMSOTf/ROTMS gives good yields of the desired ethers  $(Eq. 230).^{341}$ 

$$
\begin{array}{cccc}\n & 0 & + & \text{OTMS} & \xrightarrow{Et_3\text{SiH, TMSOTf} & & \\
 & & \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2, 0^\circ \text{ to rt} & & \\
 & & & \text{(Eq. 230)}\n\end{array}
$$

The cyclization of *γ* -hydroxy ketones is useful for the formation of pyrans,<sup>306,403</sup> both directly and via rearrangement, as illustrated in Eq. 231.<sup>153</sup> As with their acyclic counterparts, these cyclizations also occur with the silyl ethers of the hydroxy ketones where  $Et_3SiH/BiBr_3$  is used with the TBS and TES ethers.<sup>342</sup>*,*<sup>404</sup> A methyl thiomethyl ether is also capable of undergoing the reductive cyclization.<sup>405</sup> In like manner, 1,4-diols and  $\varepsilon$ -hydroxy ketones provide oxepanes, with  $Et_3SH$  or PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH/TMSOTf being especially effective (Eqs. 232 and 233).<sup>336</sup>*,*<sup>406</sup> The trimethylsilyl ether of the alcohol also provides the oxepane.<sup>306</sup>



The reductive ether formation from keto epoxides is an acid-catalyzed process (Eqs.  $234^{407}$  and  $235^{408}$ ).



Diketones are reductively cyclized in a TFA-catalyzed reaction. The cyclization of the cage structure shown in Eq. 236 illustrates this ring closure in the formation of an acetal of trifluoroacetaldehyde.<sup>409</sup> The organosilane reduction of triketone **69** followed by Jones oxidation gives the cyclic ketoether in fair yield  $(Eq. 237).<sup>410</sup>$ 



**Reductive Silylation.** The reductive silylation of ketones and subsequent deprotection of the silylated alcohol to the alcohol can be accomplished in a variety of ways. Phenyldimethylsilane in the presence of KF, CsF, or RbF gives the (1-phenylethoxy)phenyldimethylsilane from acetophenone in high yields. $345 - 347$ The reagent combination of  $Ph_3SiH/(C_6F_5)$ <sub>3</sub>B gives good yields of the silyl ether with aryl ketones.<sup>115</sup> The combination of  $Et_3SiH/(C_6F_5)$ <sub>3</sub>B gives an excellent yield of silyl ether with threo selectivity in the reduction of  $α$ -substituted ketones  $(Eq. 238).$ <sup>372</sup>

$$
Ph \longrightarrow Et_3SiH, (C_6F_5)_3B
$$
 
$$
Ph \longrightarrow Et_3(99%)
$$
 (Eq. 238)

The reduction of ketones or aldehydes with  $Ph<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub>/KF$  produces either the mono- or dialkoxydiphenylsilane depending on the stoichiometry of the reaction.<sup>75,319</sup> The dendrimeric catalysts **70, 71**, or **72** work with Et<sub>3</sub>SiH to give the silyl ether of acetophenone in excellent yield  $(Eq. 239)$ .<sup>117</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n 0 \\
 \hline\n 100\% \\
 \end{array}
$$
\n $\xrightarrow{Et_3SH, 70 \text{ or } 71 \text{ or } 72}$ \n $\xrightarrow{OSEt_3}$ \n $(100\%)$ \n $(Eq. 239)$ 



Benzil is reductively triethylsilylated to the bis(silyl) ether in 83% yield.<sup>411</sup> The combination of  $Et_3SiH/ZnCl_2$  reductively triethylsilylates ketones in good yield.<sup>382</sup> Excellent yields of triethylsilyl ethers from ketones are accomplished with the use of triethylsilane and catalyst **73** or **74**. <sup>412</sup> *tert*-Butyldimethylsilyl ethers can be synthesized by the reaction of TBSH/TBSOTf with a ketone  $(Eq. 240).^{392}$ 



**Reduction to Halocarbons.** The best conditions for the reductive chlorination of ketones use the reagent combination  $Me<sub>2</sub>ClSiH/In(OH)<sub>3</sub> (Eq. 241).<sup>331</sup>$ Examples include conversions of aryl ketones to benzyl chlorides, ethynyl ketones to propargyl chlorides, and alkyl ketones to alkyl chlorides (Eq. 242).  $331$  Addition of lithium iodide to the reaction mixture yields the corresponding iodide product. The combination of  $TMDO/I<sub>2</sub>$  reductively iodinates aryl ketones and aldehydes in good yields  $(Ea, 243).^{357}$ 



**Reduction to Alkanes.** Carbonyl groups can be reductively deoxygenated to methylene functions if both of the two steps represented by Eqs. 1 and 2 are followed to completion. The direct reduction of a carbonyl function to a methylene group is an important reaction of organosilanes that is applicable to a variety of ketones. A number of reagents have been employed in the direct reduction of aromatic ketones such as acetophenone to the corresponding methylene derivatives. These include  $Et_3SiH/BF_3\cdot OEt_2$ , <sup>210,217,375,413</sup> Et3SiH/TFA,<sup>73</sup>*,*135*,*180*,*207*,*210*,*257*,*376*,*414 – 419 Et3SiH/HCO2H,<sup>208</sup> Et3SiH/HClO4, 214 Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/AlCl<sub>3</sub>/HCl,<sup>136</sup> Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/CF<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>H,<sup>420</sup> ClMe<sub>2</sub>SiH/In(OH)<sub>3</sub>,<sup>331</sup> PMHS/  $(C_6F_5)_3B^{354}$  Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA/NH<sub>4</sub>F,<sup>135</sup> and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (or PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH)/TiCl<sub>4</sub>.<sup>421</sup> Diaryl ketones are reduced with  $Et_3SiH/PPHF$  (pyridinium poly(hydrogen fluoride)) in excellent yields.<sup>135</sup> The triketone **75** is reduced to a diketone in good yield using Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA at  $0^{\circ}$  (Eq. 244).<sup>418</sup> On the other hand, 2-methyl-2*H*-indene-1,3-dione is reduced completely to 2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1*H*-indene at elevated temperature (Eq. 245). $422$ 



The reduction of 2-acetylfuran to 2-ethylfuran is possible with  $Et_3SH/TFA/$  $BF_3$ •OEt<sub>2</sub> (80%).<sup>211</sup> Both Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/AlCl<sub>3</sub><sup>259</sup> and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA<sup>257</sup> reduce 2-acetylthiophene to 2-ethylthiophene without any reduction of the thiophene group. A series of strong acid catalysts and various silanes was used to study the reduction of ketones, with aliphatic ketones leading to the corresponding ethers and aromatic ketones providing methylene compounds.<sup>353</sup> The acylpyrone **76** is also reduced to the methylene derivative in good yield (Eq. 246). $423$ 

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n\text{OH} \\
\text{LiClO}_4, \text{rt, 4 h} \\
\hline\n\text{LiClO}_4, \text{rt, 4 h} \\
\hline\n\text{LiClO}_4, \text{rt, 4 h} \\
\hline\n\text{O} \\
\text{O} \\
\text{O} \\
\text{O} \\
\hline\n\end{array}
$$
\n
$$
(84\%)
$$
\n
$$
(84\%)
$$
\n
$$
(Eq. 246)
$$

The triflic acid catalyzed triethylsilane reduction of cyclohexanone gives cyclohexane, albeit in low yield.<sup>420</sup> 2-Methylcyclohexanone is reduced to methylcyclohexane and adamantanone to adamantane with  $EtMe<sub>2</sub>SiH/BF<sub>3</sub>$  in good vield.<sup>1</sup> Adamantanone is also reduced to adamantane with  $Et_3SiH/BF_3\bullet OEt_2^{217}$  and TMSH/NaTFPB.<sup>424</sup> The reagent PMHS/ $(C_6F_5)_3B$  effects the reduction of alkyl ketones to methylenes.<sup>354</sup> Thus, 1-phenyl-3-heptanone is reduced to 1-phenylheptane in excellent yield under these conditions (Eq. 247).

PMHS, 
$$
(C_6F_5)_3B
$$
,  $CH_2Cl_2$   
\nrt, 5-20 min (Eq. 247)

Acyl cobalt complexes are reduced to their alkyl counterparts in good yields with Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA (Eq. 248).<sup>183,310,425</sup> Acyl ferrocene derivatives are reduced to the respective methylene compounds with Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA (Eqs. 249<sup>180</sup> and 250).<sup>179</sup> Acylcyclopentadienylmanganese tricarbonyl is similarly reduced in good yield.<sup>351</sup>



**Reductive Amination.** An excellent application of organosilane reductions is found in the reductive amination of ketones. This method is a useful alternative

to the cyanoborohydride approach to this transformation. In one version the ketone is reacted with *N*,*N*-diethylaminodimethylsilane, thus incorporating both the amine and the hydride in a single organosilane reagent  $(Eq. 251)$ .<sup>359</sup> Other aminosilanes are also useful in this sequence. Another version of this transformation makes use of the inexpensive PMHS reducing agent to react a ketone directly with an amine in a two-step, one-pot, high-yield reaction.<sup>363</sup> The PhSiH<sub>3</sub>/(*n*- $Bu$ <sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>2</sub> combination also reductively aminates ketones in good yields.<sup>361</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|}\n\hline\n & & \text{Et}_{2}NSiHMe_{2}, TiCl_{4} \\
\hline\n & & CH_{2}Cl_{2}, 0^{\circ} \text{ to rt, 36 h} \\
\hline\n & & & \text{NEt}_{2} \quad (65\%)\n\end{array}
$$
 (Eq. 251)

**Reductive Thiolation.** Ketones are reductively thiolated when treated first with a thiol under acidic conditions followed by addition of a silane (Eq. 252).<sup>365</sup>*,*<sup>426</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n0 \\
1. t-BuSH, BF_3\text{-}OH_2, CH_2Cl_2, 0^\circ, 1 \text{ min} \\
2. Et_3SH, 0^\circ \text{ to rt, 3 h}\n\end{array}
$$
\n
$$
(Eq. 252)
$$

**Miscellaneous Ketone Reductions.** The reductive allylation of aromatic ketones occurs with the reagent combination of Me<sub>2</sub>ClSiH/allyltrimethylsilane/  $InCl<sub>3</sub>$  (Eq. 253).<sup>427</sup>

$$
C1
$$
\n
$$
Me_2CISiH, TMSCH_2CH=CH_2
$$
\n
$$
C1
$$
\n
$$
C1
$$
\n
$$
(84%) (Eq. 253)
$$

Cyclododecanone is reduced to a mixture of *cis*- and *trans*-cyclododecene in high yield with trimethylsilane and tetrakis-3,5-bis(trifluoromethylphenyl)borate  $(TFPB, 77)$  (Eq. 254).<sup>424</sup>



Because the organosilane reduction of ketones passes through a positively charged intermediate via the complexation or protonation of the carbonyl oxygen, the presence of suitably placed C=C functions can lead to cyclizations with the hydride of the silane adding to the  $C=C$  group. This strategy applies to

a number of conversions of *δ*,*ε*-unsaturated ketones into tetrahydrofuran derivatives (Eq. 255).<sup>428</sup>*,*<sup>429</sup> In these systems, the cyclization is clearly favored over the simple carbonyl reduction pathway. The phenylsilane reduction of 6-methylhept-5-ene-2-one results in the straightforward 1,2-reduction of the carbonyl group to the alcohol.<sup>79</sup>*,*320*,*<sup>358</sup> Under different conditions involving sulfuric acid, cyclization and hydration is preferred over reduction (Eq.  $256$ ).<sup>243</sup>



# **Reduction of Amides**

The organosilane/Cp<sub>2</sub>TiF<sub>2</sub> reduction of *N*,*N*-diethylbenzamide illustrates the various possible pathways of reductive coupling, carbonyl reduction, and aldehyde formation  $(Eq. 257)$ .<sup>430</sup> Conditions have been developed for all of these pathways. The combination of  $PhMeSiH<sub>2</sub>/Cp<sub>2</sub>TiF<sub>2</sub>$  gives good to excellent yields of the 1,2-diamine in nearly equal molar ratios of meso to racemic diastereomers (Eq. 258).<sup>430</sup> On the other hand, conditions for the reduction of amides to the amines include the use of  $Ph_2SiH_2/HRh(CO)(PPh_3)_3$ ,<sup>431</sup> various silanes with ruthenium catalysts,<sup>432</sup> the EtMe<sub>2</sub>SiH/Ru-complex,<sup>280</sup> and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/various Mn, Ru, Re, Os, Rh, Ir, Pd, and Pt catalysts.<sup>432</sup> All of these reducing systems give high yields of the amine (Eq. 259). The reduction of an amide to the aldehyde is best accomplished with  $Ph<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub>/Ti(OPr<sub>-i</sub>)<sub>4</sub>$  wherein the yields range from 65% to  $90\%$  (Eq. 260).<sup>433</sup>



$$
NC \downarrow_{10}^{0} NP_{r-i_2} \xrightarrow{Ph_2SiH_2, Ti(OPr-i)_4, 20^{\circ}} NC \downarrow_{10}^{0} H \quad (80\%)
$$
 (Eq. 260)

## **Reduction of** *α***,***β***-Unsaturated Aldehydes**

When carried out under standard conditions with  $Et<sub>3</sub>SH/TFA$ , reduction of acrolein leads to a mixture of allyl alcohol, 1-propanol, and di-*n*-propyl ether in addition to allyl trifluoroacetate and *n*-propyl trifluoroacetate.<sup> $434$ </sup> The 1,2reduction of cinnamaldehyde with triethoxysilane in the presence of fluoride ion provides the corresponding allyl alcohol in good yields (Eq. 261).

$$
ph \sim CHO \qquad \xrightarrow{\text{(EtO)}_3\text{SiH (1.1 eq)}} \qquad \text{ph} \qquad \text{OH} \qquad (95\%) \qquad \text{(Eq. 261)}
$$

Diphenylsilane catalyzed by various salts promotes the 1,2-reduction of cinnamaldehyde.<sup>318</sup> Cesium fluoride catalysis is particularly effective.<sup>320</sup> It is possible to stop these reactions at the silyl ether stage.73*,*<sup>320</sup> The 1,2-reduction of citral is accomplished in high yield with diphenylsilane and Wilkinson's catalyst (Eq. 262).<sup>435</sup> Interestingly, the trialkylsilanes, ethyldimethylsilane and triethylsilane, give high yields of the 1,4-reduction product whereas diisopropylsilane gives a 1 : 1 mixture of 1,2- and 1,4-reduction (Eq. 263).<sup>435</sup>

CHO 
$$
\xrightarrow{Ph_2SiH_2, CIRh(PPh_3)_3}
$$
 OH (97%) (Eq. 262)  
\n $\xrightarrow{Et_3SiH, CIRh(PPh_3)_3}$  CHO (97%) (Eq. 263)

The 1,4-reduction of  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated aldehydes is best carried out with diphenylsilane in the presence of zinc chloride and tetrakis(triphenylphosphine) palladium436 or a combination of triethylsilane and tris(triphenylphosphine) chlororhodium.<sup>437</sup> Other practical approaches use phenylsilane with nickel (0) and triphenylphosphine<sup>438</sup> and diphenylsilane with cesium fluoride.<sup>83</sup> It is possible to isolate the initial silyl enol ether intermediate from the 1,4 hydrosilylation of  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated aldehydes (Eq. 264).<sup>73,411</sup> The silyl enol ethers are produced as a mixture of E and Z isomers.

$$
\leftarrow
$$
CHO  $\xrightarrow{\text{Et}_3\text{SiH, CIRh}(PPh_3)_3}$  OSiEt<sub>3</sub> (95%) (Eq. 264)

**Reduction of** *α***,***β***-Unsaturated Ketones**

The 1,2-hydrosilylation of  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated ketones is possible and provides a convenient route to allyl alcohols. The standard conditions of  $Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA$  lead to overreduction to the saturated alcohol with mesityl oxide.<sup>434</sup>*,*<sup>439</sup> The combination of  $Et_3SH/AlCl<sub>3</sub>/HCl$  with mesityl oxide gives a mixture of the 1,2-reduction product 4-methylbut-3-ene-2-ol and the fully reduced product, 2-methylpent-2 ene.<sup>136</sup> The Ph<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub>/RhH(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> reduction of cyclohexenone gives reaction at

both the C=O and the C=C bonds, resulting in a mixture of cyclohexenol and cyclohexanol, with cyclohexenol predominating.<sup>320</sup> Diethylsilane, diphenylsilane, or phenylsilane with Wilkinson's catalyst effectively reduce the carbonyl group of  $\alpha$ ,*β*-unsaturated ketones (Eq. 265).<sup>435</sup> Under similar conditions, triethylsilane gives predominantly reduction of the C=C bond (Eq. 266).<sup>435</sup>



The triethylsilane reduction of the alkylidene-1,3-dione **78** occurs in a 1,2 fashion at the acyclic carbonyl group (Eq.  $267$ ).<sup>396</sup>



The 1,2-reduction of enones is also accomplished with the combination of PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH/TBAF, conditions that show good anti stereoselectivity in the reduction of *α'*-substituted-*α*,*β*-unsaturated ketones (Eq. 268).<sup>86,440</sup> Similar behavior is seen with the reagent combinations  $Ph_2SiH_2/CsF$ <sup>320</sup> Ph<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub>/RhH  $(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>$ ,<sup>374</sup> and  $(EtO)<sub>3</sub>SiH/CsF<sup>.80</sup>$  Cyclohexenone is reduced to cyclohexenol with hydridosilicates such as  $79^{0.93}$  The triethylsilane/TFA reduction of dibenzylidene ketone causes reduction of the carbonyl group along with both double bonds to give 1,5-diphenyl-3-pentanol in  $85\%$  yield.<sup>434,439</sup>



The full reduction of a carbonyl to a methylene group occurs with certain *β*-aminoalkylidene-1,3-diones (Eq. 269).<sup>395</sup>*,*<sup>441</sup> A similar reduction is seen with

the *β*-methoxy- and *β*-chloro analogs.<sup>396</sup> The *γ* -(carboxyethyl)cyclohexenone **80** is fully reduced to the methylene derivative (Eq. 270).<sup>434</sup>*,*439*,*<sup>442</sup>



*α*,*β*-Unsaturated *α*-aryl ketones can be reduced to the methylene compounds without concomitant reduction of the C=C bond. Enone 81 is reduced in a 1,2-fashion to the corresponding methylene compound (Eq.  $271$ ).<sup>443</sup>



The 1,4-hydrosilylation of enones can be accomplished under a variety of conditions using various reagent combinations. Among the useful ones are: Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA,<sup>266,434,439</sup> Ph<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub>/RhH(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>,<sup>374</sup> PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH/CuF (or CuCl)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>,<sup>444–446</sup> PMHS/Pd-nanocomposite,<sup>219</sup> Ph<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub>/ZnCl<sub>2</sub>/Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>,<sup>436</sup>  $Et_3SiH/RhCl(PPh_3)_{3}$ ,<sup>435</sup>  $Ph_2SiH_2/RhCl(PPh_3)_{3}$ <sup>435</sup> <sup>435</sup> PhSiH3/RhCl(PPh3*)*3, 435  $EtMe_2SiH/RhCl(PPh_3)_{3}$ <sup>435</sup> PhSiH<sub>3</sub>/[CuH(PPh<sub>3</sub>)]<sub>6</sub>,<sup>447</sup> Ph<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub>/CsF,<sup>83</sup> PhSiH<sub>3</sub>/ Mn(dpm)<sub>3</sub>,<sup>448</sup> Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TiCl<sub>4</sub>,<sup>435,449</sup> Ph<sub>3</sub>SiH/Mo(CO)<sub>6</sub>,<sup>450</sup> PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH/CuF/  $(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>$ ,<sup>444,445</sup> Cl<sub>3</sub>SiH/Ni/CoCl<sub>2</sub>,<sup>451</sup> and PMHS/Pd/C.<sup>316</sup> All of these methods show good to excellent selectivity for 1,4- over 1,2-hydrosilylation. The PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH/CuCl system reduces the unsaturated diketone in Eq. 272 with a high degree of cis-selectivity.<sup>445</sup>



The PhSiH<sub>3</sub>/Mn(dpm)<sub>3</sub> combination nicely reduces the conjugated C=C bond in a polyfunctional ketone without affecting the trityl group or causing reaction at the  $\alpha$ -alkoxyketone function (Eq. 273).<sup>448</sup>



*α*,*β*,*γ*,*δ*-Unsaturated ketones are reduced at the *α*,*β*-double bond with the combination PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH/RhCl(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> (Eq. 274).<sup>437,452</sup> Employment of diethylsilane or diphenylsilane results in only the 1,2-hydrosilylation products.



The 1,4-reduction of an enone in the presence of a ketal is shown in Eq. 275.<sup>436</sup> The Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA system reduces the polyfunctional cyclic  $\alpha$ ,*β*-enone in Eq. 276 without affecting the  $\alpha$ -hydroxy carboxyl or  $\alpha$ -chloro keto groups.<sup>453</sup>



The use of PMHS/TFA and a base leads to the 1,4-reduction of enones  $(Eq. 277).$ <sup>454</sup>



The 1,4-hydrosilylation of enones can be used as a method for the introduction of the silyl enol ether functionality, and may be accomplished with the combination of PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH/RhH(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (Eq. 278),<sup>374</sup> Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/RhCl(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>,<sup>411</sup>  $(HMe<sub>2</sub>Si)<sub>2</sub>O/[CuH(PPh<sub>3</sub>)]<sub>2</sub><sup>455</sup> Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/Pt-complex<sub>4</sub><sup>456</sup> chlorometryldimethyl$ chlorosilane/RhH(PPh3*)*4, <sup>374</sup> or Ph3SiH/RhCl(PPh3*)*3. 411



Several steroidal *α*,*β*-unsaturated ketones have been subjected to silane reductions. In particular, enones of ring A have been reduced in a 1,4-manner to give the saturated ketone with a preference for trans AB ring fusion. This and comparable transformations are nicely accomplished with the  $Ph_2SiH_2/ZnCl_2/Pd(PPh_3)_4$ system (Eq.  $279$ )<sup>457</sup> used in the 1.4-reduction of non-steroidal enones. Other conditions for this transformation use  $Et_3SiH/TiCl_4^{449}$  and  $Et_3SiH/TFA$ ,  $^{243}$  but these lead to mixed stereochemistry at the AB ring fusion. The  $PhSiH<sub>3</sub>/Mo(dpm)<sub>3</sub>$ combination is also used for this reduction.<sup>448</sup>



The conjugated dienone  $82$  reacts with  $Et_3SiH/TiCl_4$  to yield the nonconjugated product **83** shown in Eq. 280.<sup>449</sup> Other analogous dienones behave similarly with triethylsilane, but TMDO gives the best yields.<sup>458</sup>



The intermediate enolate or enol ether from the initial reduction of an enone may be alkylated in situ (Eq. 281).<sup>455</sup> β-Substituted cyclopentenones may be asymmetrically reduced and alkylated<sup>459</sup> (see section on asymmetric reductions of enones). Enolates may also be trapped with an aldehyde in a reductive aldol condensation of an enone with an aldehyde,<sup>455</sup> permitting a regioselective aldol condensation to be carried out as shown in Eq. 282.<sup>455</sup> This class of reductive aldol condensation reactions can also occur in a cyclic manner (Eq. 283). $460$ 



$$
Ph \longrightarrow \text{CHO} \longrightarrow \text{CHO} \longrightarrow \text{CICH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Cl, rt, 30 min} \longrightarrow \text{Ph} \longrightarrow \text{Ch} \longrightarrow \text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Cl, rt, 30 min} \longrightarrow \text{Ch} \longrightarrow \text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH} \longrightarrow \text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH} \longrightarrow \text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH} \longrightarrow \text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH} \longrightarrow \text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH} \longrightarrow \text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH} \longrightarrow \text{CH}_2\text{
$$

A tandem 1,4-hydrosilylation/Michael addition of suitably arranged bis enones is reported employing the systems  $PhSiH<sub>3</sub>/Co(dpm)<sub>2</sub>$  (Eq. 284),<sup>460,461</sup> various silanes/Co(dpm)<sub>2</sub>,<sup>462</sup> PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH/Co(dpm)<sub>2</sub>,<sup>460</sup> Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/AlCl<sub>3</sub>,<sup>461</sup> and Et<sub>2</sub>MeSiH/  $Rh_4(CO)_{12}$ <sup>464</sup> The competing 2 + 2 cycloaddition reaction can be a complication  $(Ea. 285)$ <sup>460</sup>



A further example of the trapping of the in situ generated silyl enol ether from the reduction of an enone is the conversion of an enone into an  $\alpha$ -hydroxy ketone via oxidation of the silyl enol ether (Eq. 286). $465$ 



### **Reduction of** *α***,***β***-Unsaturated Esters**

The reduction of the C=C bond of  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated esters has been carried out with various silane/catalyst combinations. The combination of  $Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/$ RhCl(PPh3*)*<sup>3</sup> gives the silyl ketene acetal along with the silylated hemiacetal, the result of the 1,2-reduction of the carbonyl group (Eq. 287).<sup>466</sup> The use of other silanes in this transformation gives similar results. Acrylates give hydrosilylation of the C=C bond, leading to *β*-silyl esters and their silyl ketene acetals as the major products (Eq. 288).<sup>466</sup>*,*<sup>467</sup>

$$
\underbrace{O}_{\text{OEt}} \xrightarrow{\text{Et}_3\text{SiH, CIRh(PPh}_3)_3} \underbrace{O_{\text{SiEt}_3}}_{\text{C}_6\text{H}_6, 80^\circ, 2 \text{ h}} + \underbrace{O_{\text{SiEt}_3}}_{\text{(74%)}} \underbrace{O_{\text{SiEt}_3}}_{\text{(6%)}} \text{ (Eq. 287)}
$$

$$
\underbrace{\circledcirc}_{OEt} \quad \xrightarrow{Et_3SH, CIRh(PPh_3)_3} \underbrace{C_6H_6, 70^\circ, 3 \text{ h}}_{Et_3Si} \underbrace{\circledcirc}_{(52\%)} \underbrace{O}_{OEt} \quad + \underbrace{C_{tr_3Si}}_{Et_3Si} \underbrace{OSEt_3}_{OEt} \quad (Eq. 288)
$$

Triethoxysilane and  $RhH(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>$  produce the silyl ketene acetal in high yield.<sup>374</sup> Methyl acrylate is reduced to methyl propionate with  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiH/CoCl}_2^{\text{448}}$  or PMHS/Pd-nanocomposite catalyst, $2^{19}$  and to a mixture of methyl propionate, the methyl  $\beta$ -silylpropionate, and the methyl  $\alpha$ -silylpropionate with R<sub>3</sub>SiH/H<sub>2</sub>PtCl<sub>6</sub> or R<sub>3</sub>SiH/RhCl(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> where R = Me, Et, or *n*-Pr.<sup>467</sup> The reduction of ethyl acrylate shows similar behavior.<sup>451,466</sup> The combination of  $Et_3SiH/Mo(CO)_{6}$ works well for the conjugate reduction of  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated esters.<sup>450</sup> This method appears to be free of some of the side reactions mentioned above. The use of metallic nickel, triphenylphosphine, and phenylsilane reduces *α*,*β*-unsaturated esters to the saturated esters in moderate yields.<sup>438</sup> Dimethylphenylsilane carries out the same transformation in the presence of CuCl.<sup>444</sup>*,*<sup>445</sup> Triethylsilane and trifluoroacetic acid can reduce  $\alpha$ ,*β*-unsaturated esters in good yields<sup>468</sup> as can Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TMSOTf.<sup>469</sup> Excellent yields of the silane reduction of  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated esters are obtained by the reaction of PMHS and sodium *tert*-butoxide in the presence of catalyst  $73$  (Eq. 289).<sup>454</sup>

$$
Ph \n\begin{array}{ccc}\n & \text{PMHS, 73, NaOBu-} \\
 & \text{McC}_6H_5, t\text{-BuOH, rt, 4 h} \\
 & \text{Pr}\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{ccc}\n & \text{PMHS, 73, NaOBu-} \\
 & \text{Pr}\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{ccc}\n & \text{Ph} \\
 & \text{OEt} \\
 & \text{CN} \\
 & \text{CN} \\
 & \text{CN} \\
 & \text{Pr}\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{ccc}\n & \text{PH} \\
 & \text{PH} \\
 & \text{OH} \\
 & \text{CN} \\
 & \text{CN} \\
 & \text{N} \\
 & \text{Pr}\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{ccc}\n & \text{PH} \\
 & \text{PH} \\
 & \text{OH} \\
 & \text{OH
$$

The Ph<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub>/AlCl<sub>3</sub> reduction of  $\beta$ -sulfonyl- $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated esters results in the formation of the *β*-sulfonyl ester. Good yields are obtained and AlCl<sub>3</sub> is the best Lewis acid catalyst for this reaction (Eq. 290).<sup>373</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{ccccc}\n & & \text{Ts} & & \text{Ph}_2\text{SiH}_2, \text{AlCl}_3 \\
 & & \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2, 20^\circ, 15 \text{ h} & & \text{Co}_2\text{Me}\n\end{array}
$$
\n(Bq. 290)

In the reductive aldol condensation of an  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated ester and an aldehyde shown in Eq. 291, the initial step is believed to be the addition of an in situ formed rhodium hydride to the  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated ester, followed by reaction of the resulting rhodium enolate with the aldehyde. $470$  The reaction has been carried out both inter- $470$  and intramolecularly $471,472$  as well as in an asymmetric fashion (Eq. 291).



Similarly, methyl methacrylate reacts with ketones and TMSH/RuCl<sub>3</sub>•3H<sub>2</sub>O to give *β*-trimethylsiloxy-2,2-dimethyl methyl esters in good yields. A lactone example is shown in Eq. 292.<sup>473</sup> Methyl acrylate, trans methyl  $(E)$ -cinnamate, and 3,4-dehydro-*δ*-lactone react in an analogous manner, albeit in lower yields.<sup>473</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{ccccccc}\n0 & & & \text{TMSH, RhCl}_{3} \cdot 3 \text{ H}_{2}\text{O, rt} & & & \text{TMSO} & & \text{(Bq. 292)} \\
& & & & & & \text{(A4%)} & & \text{(B5) } & \text{(B6) } & \text{(B7) } & \text{(B8) } & \text{(B9) } & \text{(B9) } & \text{(B1) } & \text{(B1) } & \text{(B1) } & \text{(B2) } & \text{(B3) } & \text{(B4) } & \text{(B5) } & \text{(B6) } & \text{(B7) } & \text{(B8) } & \text{(B9) } & \text{(B9) } & \text{(B1) } & \text{(B1) } & \text{(B2) } & \text{(B3) } & \text{(B4) } & \text{(B5) } & \text{(B6) } & \text{(B7) } & \text{(B8) } & \text{(B9) } & \text{(B9) } & \text{(B1) } & \text{(B1) } & \text{(B2) } & \text{(B3) } & \text{(B4) } & \text{(B5) } & \text{(B6) } & \text{(B7) } & \text{(B8) } & \text{(B9) } & \text{(B9) } & \text{(B1) } & \text{(B1) } & \text{(B1) } & \text{(B2) } & \text{(B3) } & \text{(B4) } & \text{(B5) } & \text{(B6) } & \text{(B7) } & \text{(B8) } & \text{(B9) } & \text{(B9) } & \text{(B1) } & \text{(B1) } & \text{(B1) } & \text{(B2) } & \text{(B3) } & \text{(B4) } & \text{(B5) } & \text{(B6) } & \text{(B6) } & \text{(B7) } & \text{(B8) } & \text{(B9) } & \text{(B9) } & \text{(B1) } & \text{(B1) } & \text{(B1) } & \text{(B2) } & \text{(B3) } & \text{(B4) } & \text{(B5) } & \text{(B6) } & \text{(B6) } & \text{(B7) } & \text{(B8) } & \text{(B9) } & \text{(B9) } & \text{(B1) } & \text{(B1) } & \text{(B1) } & \text{(B1) } & \text{(B2) } & \text{(B3) } & \text{(B4) } &
$$

Allyl acrylates have been reacted with the combination of  $CIME_2SiH/$  $[({\rm cod})RhCl]_2/Me-DuPHOS$  (1,2-bis(2,5-dimethylphospholano)benzene) to bring about reduction of the  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated ester followed by a Claisen rearrangement to the  $\gamma$ , $\delta$ -unsaturated carboxylic acid (Eq. 293).<sup>474</sup> Other silanes did not perform as well in this sequence.

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n0 \\
0 \\
\hline\n0\n\end{array}
$$
\n
$$
\begin{array}{c}\n\text{MeCl}_{2}\text{SiH, [(cod)RhCl]}_{2} \\
\hline\n\text{MeDuPhos, } C_{6}\text{H}_{6}, \text{rt, } 15 \text{ h} \\
\hline\n\text{HO}_{2}\text{C} \\
\hline\n\end{array}
$$
\n
$$
\begin{array}{c}\n\text{O} \\
\hline\n\text{O} \\
\h
$$

In yet another example of an in situ reductive generation of an enolate, *β*amido esters are formed via the reaction of an  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ -unsaturated ester with a silane in the presence of an isocyanate (Eq. 294). $475$  The yields obtained using methyl acrylate and methyl crotonate as substrates are generally excellent.

$$
\swarrow \text{CO}_2\text{Me} \xrightarrow{\text{Et}_2\text{MeSiH, [Rh(cod)(P(OPh)_3]_2)OTf}} \text{PhNCO, CH}_2\text{Cl}_2,45^\circ,13 \text{ h} \xrightarrow{\text{Pt}^N} \text{CO}_2\text{Me} \quad (88\%) \quad \text{(Eq. 294)}
$$

The organosilane reduction of pentafluorophenyl acrylate in the presence of an imine was shown to lead to *β*-lactams in good yields (Eq. 295).<sup>476</sup> The conversion of an ethyl ynoate into an E-ethyl enoate in high yield is shown in Eq. 296.<sup>477</sup>





### **Reduction of** *α***,***β***-Unsaturated Amides**

The conjugate hydrosilylation of  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated amides can be carried out in high yields with PhSiH<sub>3</sub>/Mo(CO)<sub>6</sub> (Eq. 297)<sup>450</sup> or Ph<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub>/ZnCl<sub>2</sub>/Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>.<sup>436</sup> Primary, secondary, and tertiary amides are equally reactive.<sup>450</sup> The reduction of a *β*-tributylstannyl-*α*,*β*-unsaturated tosylamide is also reported.<sup>469</sup>

$$
\underbrace{\bigvee}_{NH_2}^{O} \underbrace{\qquad \qquad \text{PhSiH}_3, \text{Mo(CO)}_6}_{THF, \text{ reflux, } 1.7 \text{ h}} \qquad \underbrace{\bigvee}_{NH_2}^{O} \qquad (100\%) \qquad \qquad (Eq. 297)
$$

## **Reduction of** *α***,***β***-Unsaturated Nitriles**

The reaction of  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated nitriles with organosilanes in the presence of Wilkinson's catalyst gives the  $\alpha$ -silyl nitriles in good yields (Eq. 298).<sup>466</sup> The PhSiH<sub>3</sub>/Mo(CO)<sub>6</sub> combination reduces  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated nitriles to the nitriles in good yields, although the  $β, β$ -disubstituted 3-methylcrotonitrile does not react.<sup>450</sup> Cinnamonitrile is reduced to the saturated nitrile in good yield with PMHS/Pdnanocomposite<sup>219</sup> and in only modest yield with  $Ph_2SiH_2/ZnCl_2/Pd(PPh_3)_4$ .<sup>436</sup> The ferrocenyl unsaturated nitrile shown in Eq. 299 is reduced with  $Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA$ in good yield.<sup>179</sup> The PhSiH<sub>3</sub>/Co(dpm) reductive aldolizations of an  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ unsaturated nitrile and an aldehyde also occur in good yields  $(Eq. 300).$ <sup>478</sup>



# **Reduction of Acetals, Ketals, Hemiacetals, Hemiketals, and Orthoesters**

The ketals of both aryl and alkyl ketones can be reduced to the methylene derivatives in good vields (Eqs. 301 and  $302$ ).<sup>479</sup>



Simple dimethylacetals and ketals are reduced with the  $Et_3SiH/acid$  combination where the acid catalyst can be  $TMSOTf, <sup>339,480-482</sup> BF<sub>3</sub>· $OEt<sub>2</sub>, <sup>483-485</sup>$$ TFA,<sup>327,486</sup> Nafion<sup>®</sup>-H,<sup>335</sup> tin-montmorillonite,<sup>353</sup> FSO<sub>3</sub>H/BSA,<sup>487</sup> TiCl<sub>4</sub>,<sup>488–492</sup> AlCl<sub>3</sub>/HCl,<sup>146</sup> and FSO<sub>3</sub>H/BSU.<sup>487</sup> Of these, Nafion<sup>®</sup>-H, BF<sub>3</sub>•OEt<sub>2</sub>, BSA, and TMSOTf all give excellent isolated yields of the corresponding ether. The 1, 3-propanediol acetals of acetophenone and benzaldehyde are reduced to monoortho-benzyldiols with  $PhSiH_3/RhCl(PPh_3)$ <sub>3</sub> (Eq. 303),<sup>493</sup> Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA,<sup>494</sup>  $Et_3SiH/BF_3 OEt_2$ ,  $495$  or PMHS/AlCl<sub>3</sub> (Eq. 304).  $496$ 



This reduction technique also applies to the benzaldehyde acetals of sugars with reduction of the benzaldehyde acetals taking place in preference to reduction of the anomeric acetal (Eq. 305). $497$ 



A highly useful and important regioselective reduction of substrate **84** leads to a mixture of 3-hydroxy ethers **85** and **86** in a 32 : 1 ratio (Eq. 306). Compound **85** is further converted to the anti-influenza drug oseltamivir phosphate, better known as Tamiflu<sup>® 498</sup>



The triethylsilane reduction of the peroxy ethyl ether shown in Eq. 307 takes place at the C–O bond of the methyl ether without reduction of either the iodide or the peroxide functionalities (Eq. 307).<sup>499</sup>In contrast, a bridged peroxy ether undergoes reduction of both C–O bonds of the peroxide linkage rather than at the ether bridge (Eq.  $308$ ).<sup>499</sup>



The  $Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/tetracyanoethylene combination reduces acetals and ketals to the$ corresponding ethers but the yields are mixed.<sup>500</sup> The full reduction of benzaldehyde acetals to the toluene derivatives is realized by the initial reduction with  $Et_3SiH/SnBr_2-AcBr$  followed by  $Bu_3SnH/AIBN$  (azobis(isobutyronitrile)) or  $LiAlH<sub>4</sub>.<sup>479</sup>$  The overall yields are excellent.

Diphenylmethylsilyl-protected hemiacetals are reduced upon treatment with  $Ph_2SiH_2/Mn(CO)_3Ac.^{295}$  Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TiCl<sub>4</sub> reduces *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl ketals.<sup>306</sup> The combination of TBSH/Sn( $\text{OTf}_{2}$  and a silyl ether converts ethylene glycol acetals and ketals into ethers (Eq. 309). $501$ 

$$
\begin{array}{ccccc}\n\text{Ph} & \text{TBSH, } n\text{-C}_6\text{H}_{13}\text{OTMS} \\
\odot & \text{Sn(OTf)}_2, \text{MeCN}, -20^\circ, 3\text{-6 h} \\
\end{array}\n\quad\n\text{Ph}^{\bullet} \text{OC}_6\text{H}_{11} \text{-} n \quad (86\%) \qquad \text{(Eq. 309)}
$$

 $\alpha$ -Trimethylsilyloxythianes are reduced to the respective thianes with Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/ TMSCl/InCl<sub>3</sub> (Eq. 310).<sup>426,502</sup> Trimethylsilane with TMSI or TMSOTf effects this conversion as well.<sup>392</sup>

 $Q_{\text{max}}$ se

$$
Ph \longrightarrow \text{SEt} \quad \xrightarrow{\text{Et}_3\text{SiH, TMSCl, InCl}_3} \quad Ph \longrightarrow \text{SEt} \quad (68\%) \quad \text{(Eq. 310)}
$$

A number of conditions are available for the reduction of the anomeric acetals to the reduced sugars. Among these are the combinations  $Et_3SH/BF_3·OEt_2$  $TFA^{483}$  and  $Et_3SiH/TMSOTf,$ <sup>503,504</sup> although some isomerization is found to

occur with this latter system. The polysaccharide shown in Eq. 311 is converted into the the deoxysugar in good yield. $483$ 

$$
\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|}\n\hline\n\text{MeO} & \text{1. Et}_3\text{SiH, BF}_3\text{\text{-}OE1}_2, \text{TFA, 0}^\circ \\
\hline\n\text{MeO} & \text{MeO} & \text{2. Ac}_2\text{O, rt, 24 h} \\
\hline\n\text{MeO} & \text{MeO} & \text{MeO} & \text{MeO} \\
\hline\n\text{MeO} & \text{MeO} & \text{MeO} & \text{2. A11}\n\end{array}
$$

Diiodosilane reduces acetals to alkyl iodides in a reductive iodination reaction (Eq. 312).<sup>358</sup>*,*<sup>505</sup> Alkyl bromides are formed from the reductive bromination of benzaldehyde acetals with the combination  $Et_3SiH/SnBr_2.$ <sup>506</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n0 \\
\hline\n0 \\
\hline\n\end{array}
$$
CHO\n
$$
\begin{array}{c}\nI_2 \text{SiH}_2, \text{CH}_2 \text{Cl}_2, \text{rt, 4 h} \\
\hline\n\end{array}
$$

There is a report of a reductive amination of an acetal. Thus,  $(Et_2N)Me_2SiH/$ TiCl4 reacts with the dimethylacetal of benzaldehyde to form benzyldiethylamine in good yield (Eq. 313). $359$ 

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n\text{OMe} \\
\text{OMe} \\
\text{CH}_{2}\text{Cl}_{2}, 0^{\circ} \text{ to } \text{rt, } 36 \text{ h}\n\end{array}\n\quad\n\begin{array}{c}\n\text{NEt}_{2} \\
\text{NEt}_{2} \\
(79\%) \\
(79\%) \\
\text{CH}_{2}\text{Cl}_{2}.\n\end{array}
$$

Hemiacetals and hemiketals also undergo reduction to ethers with organosilanes under acid catalysis. These reductions generally occur in good yield. They are carried out with  $Et_3SiH/BF_3·OE_2$ ,<sup>497,507–512</sup>  $Et_3SiH/TFA$ ,<sup>162,513–516</sup> PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH/TMSOTf,<sup>517</sup> and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TMSOTf,<sup>518,519</sup> which prove especially useful for sugar systems. The combination of  $Ph<sub>3</sub>SiH/TiCl<sub>4</sub>$  reduces hemiketals in the presence of a dithioketal (Eq. 314).<sup>520</sup>



The PhSiH<sub>3</sub>/RhCl(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> combination reduces trimethyl orthobenzoate to the dimethyl acetal of benzaldehyde with small amounts of methyl benzyl ether product (Eq.  $315$ ).<sup>493</sup>



## **Reduction of Aminals and Hemiaminals**

As demonstrated with acetals and ketals, aminals are also readily reduced with silanes under acid catalysis. The  $Et_3SH/BF_3 OEt_2$  combination reduces

aminals to the amines in excellent yields  $(Eq. 316).$ <sup>521-523</sup> A similar reduction with Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA occurs in equally high yield (Eq. 317).<sup>524</sup> Hemiaminals are reduced with  $Et_3SiH/TFA$  (Eq. 318).<sup>525</sup>



Amidoaminals and amidohemiaminals are reduced to the amides with organosilanes and an acid catalyst. Best among the reported reagent combinations are Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TiCl<sub>4</sub>,<sup>524</sup> and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/BF<sub>3</sub>•OEt<sub>2</sub>.<sup>521</sup> Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA<sup>526</sup> (Eq. 319) and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/  $BF_3 \cdot OEt_2^{527}$  are effective in reducing amidoaminals in high yields.

$$
\begin{array}{ccccc}\n & & & & \\
 & \mathbf{O} & & \\
 & \mathbf{O} & & \\
 & \mathbf{H} & & \\
\hline\n & \mathbf{O} & & \\
 & \mathbf{H} & & \\
\hline\n & \mathbf{O} & & \\
 & \mathbf{O} & & \\
\hline\n & \mathbf{O} & & \\
 & \mathbf{O} & & \\
 & \mathbf{O} & & \\
\hline\n & \mathbf{O} & & \\
 & \mathbf{O} & & \\
\hline\n & \mathbf{O} & & \\
 & \mathbf{O} & & \\
\hline\n & \mathbf{O} & & \\
 & \mathbf{O} & & \\
\hline\n & \mathbf{O} & & \\
 & \mathbf{O} & & \\
\hline\n & \mathbf{O} & & \\
 & \mathbf{O} & & \\
\hline\n & \mathbf{O} & & \\
 & \mathbf{O} & & \\
\hline\n & \mathbf{O} & & \\
 & \mathbf{O} & & \\
\hline\n & \mathbf{O} & & \\
 & \mathbf{O} & & \\
\hline\n & \mathbf{O} & & \\
 & \mathbf{O} & & \\
\hline\n & \mathbf{O} & & \\
 & \mathbf{O} & & \\
\hline\n & \mathbf{O} & & \\
 & \mathbf{O} & & \\
\hline\n & \mathbf{O} & & \\
 & \mathbf{O} & & \\
\hline\n & \mathbf{O
$$

*N*-Trimethylsilyloxymethylimines can be reduced to the corresponding *N*alkylimines with  $Et_3SiH/BF_3OEt_2$  (Eq. 320).<sup>522</sup>

oms va

$$
\text{CF}_{3} \longrightarrow \text{NP}_{\text{Ph}} \longrightarrow \text{Et}_{3} \text{SiH}, \text{BF}_{3} \cdot \text{OE}_{2} \longrightarrow \text{CF}_{3} \longrightarrow \text{CF}_{3} \longrightarrow \text{P}_{\text{Ph}} \tag{Eq. 320}
$$

*O*-Aminomethyl lactones are reduced to amino acids with the  $Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA$ combination (Eq.  $321$ ).<sup>528</sup>

$$
\text{Fmoc-}\n\begin{matrix}\n & & \text{Et}_3\text{SiH, TFA} \\
 & & \text{CHCl}_3, \text{rt}, 22 \text{ h}^+ \\
 & & \text{Me} \\
 & & \text{Me} \\
 & & & \text{OH}\n\end{matrix}\n\qquad \text{(98%)} \qquad \text{(Eq. 321)}
$$

## **Reduction of Enamines**

Enamines are reduced to amines in good yields with  $Et_3SiH/TFA$ .<sup>529–533</sup> This reagent combination causes a variety of indoles to undergo stereoselective cis reduction of the indole ring while other potentially reducible functional groups in the molecule are unaffected (Eq.  $322$ ).<sup>534</sup> The organosilane reduction of enamides proceeds in excellent yields with the Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA reagent system (Eq. 323).<sup>524,535</sup>



The enamide double bond is reduced in preference over that of the enone moiety in each of the two examples shown below (Eqs. 324 and 325).<sup>536</sup>*,*<sup>537</sup> Other enamides are reduced under similar conditions.235*,*537*,*<sup>538</sup>



## **Reduction of Imines**

The reduction of imines with organosilanes is reported to take place with the reagent combinations PMHS/ZnCl<sub>2</sub>,<sup>539</sup> Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA,<sup>540,541</sup> Cl<sub>3</sub>SiH,<sup>318,542</sup> PMHS/ butyltin trioctanoate,<sup>543</sup> PhSiH<sub>3</sub>,<sup>544</sup> Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/HCO<sub>2</sub>H,<sup>208</sup> PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH/TFA,<sup>276</sup> Cl<sub>3</sub>SiH/BF<sub>3</sub>•OEt<sub>2</sub>,<sup>545</sup> Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (and related silanes)/RhCl(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>,<sup>546</sup> and Cl<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub>.<sup>545</sup> Imines are reduced in high yields with various silanes in the presence of Wilkinson's catalyst or  $\mathrm{PdCl}_{2}$ .  $^{120}$  Triethylsilane and diethylsilane are the most effective reducing agents. Diimine **87** undergoes reduction of the imine functions with diethylsilane without reduction of the amide functionality, even though the amide carbonyl is in the more reactive *α*-heteroaryl position (Eq. 326).<sup>547</sup>



## **Reduction of Oximes**

Oximes can be reductively converted into the Boc-protected primary amines in good yields with the combination of PMHS/(Boc)<sub>2</sub>O/Pd/C (Eq. 327).<sup>548</sup> O-Benzyloxyimines<sup>549</sup> are reported to be reduced in good to excellent yields by this method.

O O O  $HO^N$  M  $_0$  w OMe O O OMe H <sup>N</sup> Boc PMHS,  $(t \text{-} BuCO)_2O$ <br>  $10\% \text{ Pd/C}$ ,  $40 \text{-} 50^\circ$ , 6 h H<sub>3</sub> (85%) (Eq. 327)

*O*-Benzoyloximes are nicely reduced to *O*-benzoylhydroxylamines with Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA (Eq. 328).<sup>550,551</sup> *O*-Acetyloximes are reduced with Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TMSOTf in moderate to high yields.<sup>552</sup> The diethylphosphatoimine **88** is reduced to the hydroxylamine derivative.553



# **Reduction of Nitroalkanes**

The combination PMHS/Pd/C reduces nitrobenzenes to anilines in high yields (Eq. 329),<sup>316</sup> as does Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/RhCl(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> (Eq. 330).<sup>554</sup> This latter combination can also reduce both nitro and enone functionalities.<sup>554</sup>



Tertiary nitro alkanes or activated nitro groups are reduced to the alkane with loss of the nitro group by a combination of  $PhSiH<sub>3</sub>$  and catalytic amounts of (*n*-Bu)3SnH and 1,1 -azobis(cyclohexanecarbonitrile) (ACHN), even in the presence of other potentially reducible functional groups.<sup>555</sup> The examples shown in Eqs. 331 and 332 illustrate this behavior.<sup>555</sup>



## **Reduction of Miscellaneous Nitrogen-Containing Compounds**

The combination of PhSiH<sub>3</sub> with a catalytic amount of bis(tri-*n*-butyltin) oxide reduces azides to primary amines in excellent yields  $(Eq. 333).$ <sup>556</sup> The reducing agent is  $(n-Bu)$ <sub>3</sub>SnH formed in situ by the silane. Azides are converted into Boc-protected primary amines with the PMHS/Pd/C reagent (Eq. 334).<sup>557</sup>*,*<sup>558</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|}\n\hline\n & \text{PhSiH}_3, \text{[(n-Bu)_3Sn]_2O, n-PrOH, C_6H_6} & \text{NH}_2 \\
\hline\n & \text{AIBN, reflux, 90-120 min} & (99\%) & \text{(Eq. 333)} \\
\hline\n & \text{QH} & \text{PMHS, 10% Pd/C} & \text{OH} \\
 & \text{Boc)_2O, EtoH, rt, 5 h} & \text{WHBoc} & (90\%) & \text{(Eq. 334)}\n\end{array}
$$

The combination of  $Et_3SH/Co_2(CO)_8$  reduces nitriles to the *N*,*N*-bis(trimethylsilyl)amine (Eq. 335).<sup>559</sup> These derivatives can be readily hydrolyzed to the primary amines.



The organosilane reduction of hydrazones to hydrazines is readily accomplished in good yields with Et<sub>3</sub>SiH/TFA (Eq. 336).<sup>560,561</sup> *N*-Tosylimines<sup>294</sup> are reduced to their  $N$ -Boc tosylamino counterparts,<sup>294</sup> and are also reduced with  $(MeO)$ <sub>3</sub>SiH/LiOMe in good yields.<sup>294</sup> Benzyl-protected hydroxylamines are reduced with PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH/TFA.<sup>551</sup>

$$
Ph \longrightarrow_{H}^{O} N \longrightarrow_{H}^{N} \longrightarrow_{O^{\circ}, 4h}^{Et_3SH, TFA} Ph \longrightarrow_{H}^{O} H \longrightarrow_{H}^{N} (86\%) \qquad (Eq. 336)
$$

In an analogous fashion to the reductive deprotection of allyl alcohols and allyl esters, the deallylation of allylamines is also possible (Eq.  $337$ ).<sup>270</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n\text{H} \\
\hline\n\text{THH, H, 3-5 h} \\
\hline\n\text{THH, H, 3-5 h} \\
\end{array}
$$
\n
$$
\begin{array}{c}\n\text{NH}_2 \\
\text{(90%)} + \text{(Eq. 337)} \\
\end{array}
$$

The tetrachloroferrate or tetrafluoroborate salts of alkylated alkyl- or arylnitriles (nitrilium ions) are reduced to imines with triethylsilane. Subsequent hydrolysis of the intermediate imines leads to aldehydes in good yields, thus providing an excellent overall route to aldehydes from nitriles (Eq. 338).<sup>28</sup>*,*<sup>562</sup>

$$
\sum_{\text{L}} \frac{1}{2. \text{NEt } BF_4} = \frac{1. \text{Et}_3 \sin \theta, \text{CH}_2 \text{Cl}_2, \pi, 0.5-6 \text{ h}}{2. \text{H}_2 \text{O}} \tag{Eq. 338}
$$

Aryldiazonium salts are reduced to the benzene derivatives in good yields  $(Ea. 339).$ <sup>563</sup>

$$
O_2N \stackrel{\text{N}_2^+}{\longrightarrow} \stackrel{\text{BF}_4^-}{\longrightarrow} \underbrace{\stackrel{\text{Et}_3\text{SiH, MeCN}}{\text{rt, 16 h}}} \quad O_2N \stackrel{(72\%)}{\longrightarrow} \quad (Eq. 339)
$$

## **Reduction of Miscellaneous Sulfur-Containing Compounds**

Et3SiH/TFA reduces disulfides to the corresponding mercaptans in modest yields (Eq. 340).<sup>564</sup> Naphthyl thio ethers are reduced in rather poor yields to tetrahydronaphthalene with the combination  $Et_3SH/BF_3$ •OH<sub>2</sub> (Eq. 341).<sup>263</sup> There is one report of the reduction of a diaryl sulfide to the hydrocarbon but the yield is low (Eq.  $342$ ).<sup>217</sup>

$$
S-S
$$
 
$$
E1SiH, TFA
$$
 
$$
60^{\circ}, 25 h
$$
 
$$
SH
$$
 (45%) 
$$
(Eq. 340)
$$

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n\text{SMe} \\
\hline\n\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2, 0^\circ, 24 \, \text{h}\n\end{array}\n\quad\n\begin{array}{c}\n\text{Et}_3\text{SiH, BF}_3 \bullet \text{OH}_2 \\
\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2, 0^\circ, 24 \, \text{h}\n\end{array}\n\quad (20\%)\n\quad (Eq. 341)
$$

$$
\frac{1}{\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2, 0^\circ, 22 \text{ h}} \quad \text{H}_{2} \quad + \quad \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2, 342)
$$

The reduction of 2,2 -dithiobis(1,3-dithiolanium) bis(tetrafluoroborate) to the thiocarbonate compound by triethylsilane takes place quantitatively (Eq. 343).<sup>565</sup>

$$
\begin{pmatrix} S \\ S \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{S} \begin{pmatrix} 8F_4 & 2 & \text{Et}_3\text{SiH, MeCN, <5 min} \\ 8 & 100\% & 100\% \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 100\% & 100\% \\ 8 & 100\% & 100\% \end{pmatrix} \tag{Eq. 343}
$$
### **Reduction of Small-Ring Heterocycles**

The reduction of epoxides occurs with the reagent combinations  $Et_3SH/BF_3^{566}$ and  $Et_3SH/BF_3 \cdot OEt_2$ .<sup>407</sup> The reductive iodination of epoxides is carried out with the combination of TMDO and iodine  $(Eq. 344).^{357}$  The yields are good to excellent. The reductive bromination of epoxides is accomplished in a similar manner. Trimethylchlorosilane is found to enhance these reactions.<sup>567</sup>

$$
\bigotimes^{\mathbf{O}} \quad \xrightarrow{\text{TMDO, I}_2, \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2} \quad \bigotimes^{\mathbf{I}} \quad (90\%) \tag{Eq. 344}
$$

*N*-Tosylaziridines are reduced with the combination PMHS/Pd/C in ethanol to yield the ring-opened *N*-tosyl primary amines (Eq.  $345$ ).<sup>568</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n\text{TS} \\
\text{N} \\
\text{CO}_2\text{Me} \\
\end{array}\n\quad\n\begin{array}{c}\n\text{PMHS, EtoH} \\
\text{Pd/C, rt, 6 h} \\
\text{Pd/C, rt, 6 h}\n\end{array}\n\quad\n\begin{array}{c}\n\text{NHTs} \\
\text{CO}_2\text{Me}\n\end{array}\n\quad\n\begin{array}{c}\n\text{(Eq. 345)} \\
\text{O} \\
\text{Pd} \\
\end{array}
$$

### **Asymmetric Reduction of Ketones**

The asymmetric organosilane reduction of prochiral ketones has been studied as an alternative to the asymmetric hydrogenation approach. A wide variety of chiral ligand systems in combination with transition metals can be employed for this purpose. The majority of these result in good to excellent chemical yields of the corresponding alcohols along with a trend for better ee results with aryl alkyl ketones than with prochiral dialkyl ketones.

Oxazolinylferrocenylphosphines complexed in situ with  $RuCl<sub>2</sub>PPh<sub>3</sub>$  is one system used to catalyze the diphenylsilane reduction of prochiral ketones.<sup>569–571</sup> The best results are obtained when AgOTf or Cu(OTf)<sub>2</sub> is employed as an additive. Although the chemical yields are modest, the ee values range from 43% (methyl cyclohexyl ketone) to 97% (propiophenone). Chiral bis(oxazolinyl)bipyridine (bipymox) ligands in combination with rhodium(II) chloride, AgBF4, and diphenylsilane reduce prochiral ketones in good to excellent yields and 24 to 90% ee.<sup>572</sup> The complexes formed with rhodium(I) are not as effective and some silyl enol ethers are formed from enolizable ketones. Rhodium(I) complexes with  $(+)$ - or  $(-)$ -DIOP  $[(2,2$ -dimethyl-1,3-dioxolane-4,5diyl)bis(methylene)bis(diphenylphosphine)] ligands catalyze the diphenylsilane reduction of 17-keto steroids with only a moderate enhancement for the *α*-hydroxy steroid over the results obtained from the corresponding achiral reductions.<sup>573</sup>

The combination of  $[Rh(Cl(NBD)]_2$  and ligands **89, 90, 91,** or **92** with diphenylsilane asymmetrically reduces aryl alkyl ketones, including acetophenones, in excellent yields and in 81 to 90% ee (Eq. 346).<sup>574</sup> The best results are with ferrocene **91** and acetophenone in toluene.<sup>575</sup> Other phosphine-substituted ferrocenes do not give comparable results. Rhodium(I) complexes of TADDOL-derived



phosphates containing a chiral dihydrooxazole unit such as **93** are also used to catalyze the diphenylsilane reduction of prochiral ketones.

$$
\begin{array}{ccccc}\n0 & \text{Ph}_2\text{SiH}_2, [\text{RhCl(NBD)}]_2, 91 \\
\hline\n\text{THF, 20}^{\circ} & \text{PH} & (94\%) 89\% \text{ ee} & \text{(Eq. 346)}\n\end{array}
$$

The combination of 1-naphthylphenylsilane and a rhodium(I) catalyst derived from Evans' mixed phosphine/sulfur ligands, for example **94**, reduces acetophenone in 95% ee. Other aryl alkyl ketones are reduced with similarly excellent ee values.<sup>576</sup> Under similar conditions, dialkyl ketones and *β*-keto esters are reduced in good yields and moderate to excellent ee. The asymmetric reduction of aryl alkyl ketones with diphenylsilane is accomplished with excellent ee values through the use of a rhodium(I) complex with TRAP (2,2 -bis[(dialkylphosphino) methyl]-1,1 -biferrocene) ligands.577*,*<sup>578</sup> These systems are also successful for the 1,2 asymmetric reduction of *α*,*β*-unsaturated ketones. The (*S*,*S*)-Phos-Biox ligand **95**, when complexed with rhodium(I), provides a catalyst that can be used in the diphenylsilane reduction of acetophenones to give the corresponding Rconfigured alcohols in high yields and  $>90\%$  ee.<sup>579</sup> The complex **96** is highly successful in the diphenylsilane reduction of aryl alkyl ketones with high yields and *>*90% ee values.<sup>580</sup>*,*<sup>581</sup> Dialkyl ketones are reduced with more mixed results, with 2-octanone showing 63% ee and ethyl 4-oxopentanoate 95% ee. The same system can be used to reduce 2-phenylcyclohexanone with no cis/trans selectivity, but excellent enantioselectivity (Eq. 347).<sup>390</sup>



A chiral oxazolinoferrocene ligand with iridium(I) is used for the diphenylsilane reduction of aryl alkyl ketones in nearly quantitative yields and *>*83% ee values.<sup>582</sup> The dialkyl ketone, 2-octanone, is reduced with a poor 19% ee under these conditions. A catalyst prepared by the alkylation of [1,2-bis(tetrahydroindenyl)ethane]titanium(IV) 1,1 -binaphth-2,2 -diolate with methyllithium or *n*-butyllithium can be employed in the methyldiethoxysilane reduction of acetophenone with 99% ee.<sup>583,584</sup> Other ketones do not show nearly the same ee values. Methylsilane is the actual proposed reducing agent in this system. The phosphinophenyloxazoline **97** is an effective ligand for the asymmetric rhodium(I) diphenylsilane reduction of aryl alkyl ketones, even with propiophenone, which has proven difficult with other systems, showing  $91\%$  ee and  $91\%$  yield (Eq. 348).<sup>585</sup> A more general system involving mesitylphenylsilane and catalyst **98** permits the reduction of aryl alkyl ketones in very high chemical yields and *>*96% ee.<sup>586</sup> The reduction of dialkyl ketones ranges from 72% ee for 2-octanone to 96% ee for the more stereo-differentiated adamantly methyl ketone.



Alkylated (*R*,*R*)-tetrahydroindenyltitanium difluoride and phenylsilane serve to asymmetrically reduce a variety of ketones, especially aryl alkyl ketones, in excellent chemical yields and  $>96\%$  ee.<sup>587</sup> The use of the easier to handle and less expensive PMHS is also highly effective in these transformations. In a related study using the  $(R, R)$ -tetrahydroindenyltitanium 1,1'-binaphth-2,2'-diolate precursor to the active catalyst, similarly impressive results are obtained.<sup>588</sup>

The in situ generation of CuH from organosilanes in the presence of either a BIPHEP (**99)** or a SEGPHOS (**100**) type ligand represents a general method for the asymmetric hydrosilylation of aryl alkyl ketones at low temperatures.



These excellent catalyst systems show high reactivity, substrate-to-ligand ratios of *>*100,000 : 1, high chemical yields, the ability to employ the inexpensive PMHS as the hydride donor, and typical ee values in the >90% range.<sup>589,590</sup> The most promising ligand found to date is DTBM-SEGPHOS (5,5 -bis[di(3,5-di-*tert*butyl-4-methoxyphenyl)phosphino]-4,4 -bi-1,3-benzodioxole) **100** (Eq. 349). The BIPHEP ligand with copper(I) is also capable of asymmetrically reducing aryl alkyl ketones under similar conditions and with comparable results.<sup>589</sup>*,*<sup>591</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{|c|c|}\n\hline\n\text{Ph}_2\text{MeSiH, CuCl, } t\text{-BuONa} \\
\hline\n100, \text{MeC}_6\text{H}_5, -78^\circ\n\end{array}
$$
\n
$$
\begin{array}{|c|c|}\n\hline\n\text{OH} \\
(90\%) 95\% \text{ ee} \\
\hline\n\end{array}
$$
\n(Eq. 349)

### **Asymmetric Reduction of** *α***,***β***-Unsaturated Ketones**

The enantioselective hydrosilylation of 2-pentylcyclopentenone is effected with PMHS and an active catalyst derived from (*R*,*R*)-ethylenebis(tetrahydroindenyl)titanium difluoride and phenylsilane (EBTHI)Ti (Eq. 350).<sup>587</sup> The use of diphenylsilane, a rhodium catalyst, and (*R*,*R*)-(*S*,*S*)-BuTRAP as the chiral ligand gives similar results.576 Other related approaches give greatly inferior enantioselectivies<sup>592-594</sup>

1. PhSiH<sub>3</sub>, (EBTHI)Ti, MeOH,  
\n
$$
\begin{array}{c}\n 0.0^{\circ}, \text{pyrrolidine, MeOH, THF} \\
 \hline\n 2. \text{PMHS, ketone, MeOH, 15°, 4 h} \\
 \hline\n (90\%) 84\% \text{ ee}\n \end{array}
$$
\n(Eq. 350)

The PMHS, copper-catalyzed reduction of  $\beta$ -substituted  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated ketones to saturated ketones is accomplished in good yield with ee values in the 90 to 95% range when  $(S)$ -p-Tol-BINAP is employed as the chiral ligand.<sup>595,596</sup> Higher ee values are achievable with the use of a copper catalyst and (*R*)-**100** as the chiral ligand (Eq.  $351$ ).<sup>597</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n0 \\
\hline\n\text{PMHS, CuH(PPh3), (R)-100}\n\end{array}\n\quad\n\begin{array}{c}\n0 \\
\hline\n\text{MeC6H5, -35°, 16 h}\n\end{array}\n\quad\n\begin{array}{c}\n(95\%) 99.5\% \text{ ee (Eq. 351)}\n\end{array}
$$

The sequence of chiral 1,4-reduction of a *β*-substituted cyclopentenone followed by electrophilic trapping of the intermediate enolate provides an efficient route to chiral 2,3-disubstituted cyclopentanones that generates two chiral centers in the process (Eq.  $352$ ).<sup>459</sup>



### **Asymmetric Reduction of** *α***,***β***-Unsaturated Esters and Lactones**

The chiral hydrosilylation of  $\beta$ -substituted  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated esters to their saturated counterparts is the subject of reports by two groups. The combination of triphenylphosphinecopper hydride and (*R)*-DTBM-SEGPHOS is reported to give excellent yields of the  $\beta$ -substituted esters (Eq. 353).<sup>598</sup> Comparable yields, but with lower ee values, are reported for this transformation.<sup>599</sup>*,*<sup>600</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{cccc}\n0 & & & \\
\hline\n0 & & & \\
\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{cccc}\n\text{PMHS, CuH(PPh)}_{3}, (R)-100 \\
\text{L-BuOH, MeC}_{6}\text{H}_{5}, 0^{\circ} & \\
\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{cccc}\n0 & & \\
\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{cccc}\n0 & & \\
\hline\n\end{array}\n\qquad (92\%)\n\quad 98\% ee & (Eq. 353)\n\end{array}
$$

The copper-catalyzed chiral reduction of  $\beta$ -substituted  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated lactones with PMHS and (*S*)-*p*-Tol-BINAP in the presence of a hindered alcohol can be carried out in moderate to good yields with moderate ee values.<sup>599</sup> The reaction is useful for both butenolides and pentenolides. Inferior results are realized with diphenylsilane as the reducing agent. Excellent results employing PMHS and the DTBM-SEGPHOS ligand are possible (Eq. 354).<sup>598</sup>

$$
\begin{array}{cc}\n0 & \text{PMHS, CuH(PPh3), 100}\n\hline\n0 & \text{TMHS, CuH(PPh3), 100}\n\hline\n0 & \text{Q} & (96%) 99% ee\n\end{array}
$$
\n(Eq. 354)

The asymmetric reductive rhodium- and iridium-catalyzed aldol reaction of  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated esters with aldehydes<sup>470,601,602</sup> is proposed to involve a rhodium(I) or iridium(I) hydride as the active catalyst, which adds to the *α*,*β*unsaturated ester, followed by reaction of the intermediate rhodium or iridium enolate with an aldehyde. $470$  These transformations provide an excellent entry into *α*-alkyl-*β*-hydroxy esters in both high yields and high enantiomeric ratios. The reactions were first carried out with moderate success using the BINAP (2,2'bis(diphenylphosphino)-1,1 -binaphthyl) ligand to introduce the asymmetry.<sup>470</sup>*,*<sup>603</sup> The use of various pybox ligands improves the yields of these transformations.<sup>604</sup> The best results are obtained from the ligand indane-pybox (**101**) and an iridium catalyst,<sup>604</sup> which was applied to an enantioselective synthesis of the macrocycle borrelidin (Eq. 355).<sup>601</sup>*,*<sup>602</sup>



#### **Asymmetric Reduction of** *α***,***β***-Unsaturated Lactams**

The chiral reduction of  $\beta$ -substituted  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated lactams with PMHS in the presence of  $(S)$ - $p$ -Tol-BINAP as the chiral ligand with a copper catalyst results in  $\beta$ -substituted lactams in excellent yield and with greater than 90% ee.<sup>599</sup> This method has been applied in an efficient enantioselective synthesis of the antidepressant  $(-)$ -paroxetine (Eq. 356).



### **Asymmetric Reduction of Imines**

Various chiral ligands with metal catalysts can be employed in the organosilane reduction of imines to amines. Many of these provide modest success. These include (oxazolino)diphenylphosphinoferrocene ligands with ruthenium,<sup>605</sup> (−)- $DIOP/Rh(I),<sup>606,607</sup>$  3,3'-BINOL (1,1'-bi-2-naphthol) and LiHMDS,<sup>608</sup> and (S)phenyl *N*-formylprolinamide with trichlorosilane.<sup>609</sup>

Some excellent findings in the asymmetric organosilane reduction of both aryl alkyl and dialkyl imines have resulted in the development of practical, scaleable methodologies for this key transformation. The reduction of imines with the ethylenebis(*η*<sup>5</sup>-tetrahydroindenyl)titanium (EBTHI)–TiF<sub>2</sub>-derived catalyst **102** with either phenylsilane or PMHS as the reducing agent gives high chemical yields of the corresponding amine and ee values well in excess of 90% with most at 99% (Eq. 357).  $610-613$  Straight-chain dialkyl imines are not as successful; for example, 2-(*N*-benzylimino)octane gives a 96% yield of (*S)*-(2 benzylamino)octane with  $69\%$  ee.<sup>612</sup> The CuH approach employed so successfully for the asymmetric organosilane reduction of ketones can be applied with equal success to the reduction of phosphoryl imines, thus providing a route to the asymmetric reduction of imines to primary amines via the hydrolysis of the resulting aminophosphorane.<sup>598</sup>*,*<sup>614</sup>



### **COMPARISON WITH OTHER METHODS**

Many different methods are known and used for the reduction of organic functional groups. These have been reviewed many times over the years and are too numerous to repeat here. The sequence of hydrosilylation of a multiple bond followed by removal of the silyl group is tantamount to the addition of hydrogen. Coupled with the keen current interest in asymmetric reductions, the use of hydrogen in asymmetric reductions and related reactions is highlighted here. The numerous asymmetric hydrogenations and asymmetric reductions with metal hydrides, including lithium aluminum hydride, sodium borohydride, and borane, coordinated or reacted with chiral diols, amino alcohols, diamines, and variations of these have been extensively reviewed.<sup>615-631</sup> In view of the very large number of methods for the reduction of organic functional groups and the high interest in asymmetric reductions, the choice of competitive examples is limited to those that are representative of asymmetric hydrogenations.

# **Asymmetric Hydrogenation of Olefins**

EBTHI–Ti, when treated with *n*-BuLi, catalyzes the hydrogenation of trisubstituted olefins in good yields and excellent enantioselectivity though undetermined configuration (ee =  $83\%$  to > 99%) (Eq. 358)<sup>632</sup> A zirconium version of this approach is also successful in the asymmetric hydrogenation of terminal olefins, although the enantioselectivities are not high.<sup>633</sup> On the other hand, this system gives excellent ee values when applied to the hydrogenation of disubstituted cyclic olefins  $(Eq. 359)^{634}$ 

Ph  
\n
$$
H_2 (2000 \text{ psi})
$$
 Ph  
\n $H_2 (2000 \text{ psi})$  Ph  
\n $Ph$  (91%) 99% ee (Eq. 358)  
\n $Ph$  (91%) 99% ee (Eq. 358)  
\n $Ph$  (89%) 99% ee  
\ncis:trans = 98:2

Chiral phosphinodihydrooxazole iridium ligands are used to hydrogenate trisubstituted olefins in moderate yields and high enantioselectivity albeit of undetermined configuration.<sup>635</sup> In a similar fashion and with equally impressive results, phosphine-oxazoline complexes of iridium  $104$ , derived from  $[Ir(cod)Cl]_2$ and **103**, are able to catalyze the hydrogenation of stilbenes (Eq. 360) and *β*methyl cinnamic esters with both excellent conversion and enantioselectivity of undetermined configuration.<sup>636</sup> The complex **105** also gives excellent results  $(Ea. 361).<sup>637</sup>$ 



The asymmetric hydrogenation of trisubstituted olefins with iridium complexes of chiral phosphinite-oxazoline ligands of the general structure **106** also provides excellent results with ee values in the  $85-99\%$  range.<sup>638</sup> The asymmetric hydrogenation of imines with these systems gives only moderate results. A similar fused phosphinite-oxazoline iridium catalyst, **107**, gives good results with 1,1 disubstituted and trisubstituted olefins with ee values of *>*97%, although ethyl  $\beta$ -methylcinnamate gives poor results.<sup>639</sup>

# **Asymmetric Hydrogenation of Ketones**

A number of asymmetric hydrogenations of prochiral ketones to highly enantiomerically enriched alcohols are available. A select few are highlighted here.



The PennPhos ligands, for example **108**, complexed with rhodium, provide an excellent system for the hydrogenation of aryl alkyl ketones with ee values in the range of  $94-96\%$  (Eq. 362). Phenyl isopropyl ketone shows only a  $72\%$ ee under similar conditions. Dialkyl ketones exhibit ee values in the range of 73–94% with this system (Eq. 363).<sup>640</sup>



Enantioselectivities in the range of 97.7–99.9%, with the majority in the range of 98.4–99.1%, are obtained in the asymmetric hydrogenation of aryl alkyl ketones with ruthenium catalyst **109**. <sup>641</sup> The same systems can hydrogenate *β*-keto esters (95.2–98.6% ee) and *α*,*β*-unsaturated acids (96.2% in a single example).<sup>642</sup>

Asymmetric transfer hydrogenation can be employed in the asymmetric hydrogenation of prochiral ketones with a ruthenium complex of bis(oxazolinylmethyl) amine ligand 110. Enantioselectivities are greater than 95%.<sup>643</sup>

The BINAP system of general structure **111** can be used in asymmetric hydrogenations; the compound in which  $Ar = 3.5 \text{-Me}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$ ,  $R^1 = R^2 = 4 \text{-MeOC}_6\text{H}_4$ ,



 $Ar = Ph$ , 4-Me $C_6H_5$ , 3,5-Me<sub>2</sub> $C_6H_3$ 







and  $R^3 = i$ -Pr effects the asymmetric hydrogenation of cyclopropyl methyl ketone (95% ee), cyclopropyl phenyl ketone (96% ee), and other aryl alkyl ketones (94 to 100% ee), and is also useful for the 1,2-reduction of enones ( $>90\%$  ee).<sup>644</sup> 2,4-Pentanedione is hydrogenated to the  $2-(R)-4-(R)-2,4$ -pentanediol in 97% ee with ligand 112 and  $\text{Rul}_2(p\text{-symene})_2$ . This system gives a wider range of enantioselectivity with prochiral ketones (22–97% ee) and  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated acids and esters  $(8-95\% \text{ ee})$ . <sup>645</sup>

*o*-BINAPO ligands of the type **113** complexed with ruthenium give good enantioselectivity in the hydrogenation of *β*-keto esters with the more hindered ortho-substituted aryl substituents giving the best results.<sup>646</sup> The selectivities range from 87–99% ee. These same systems hydrogenate the double bond of *β*-amido acrylates in *>*90% ee.

The TunaPhos ligands of general structure **114**, when complexed with  $[RuPhCl<sub>2</sub>]$ <sub>2</sub>, bring about the asymmetric hydrogenation of  $\beta$ -keto esters with







high ee values. The results compare very favorably with those obtained with  $(R)$ -BINAP and  $(R)$ -BIPHEP. The best results are found where  $n = 4$ , which gives a dihedral angle of the phosphines of 88 degrees.<sup>647</sup>

 $(R)$ -BINAP-RuBr<sub>2</sub> can be successfully applied to the enantioselective hydrogenation of  $\beta$ -keto esters in the synthesis of  $(+)$ - $(2R,3R)$ -corynomycolic acid **115**. (*S*)-MeO-BIPHEP-RuBr<sub>2</sub> was used in a similar manner in the synthesis of  $(R)$ -fluoxetine (116, Prozac<sup>®</sup>) and (*S*)-duloxetine (117).<sup>648</sup>



The highly enantioselective reductive amination of  $\alpha$ -keto acids as a route to amino acids is possible with ligand **118** [(3*R*,4*R)*-1-(*N*-benzyl)-3,4 bis(diphenylphosphanyl)pyrrolidine, DEGUPHOS] and  $[Rh(cod)_2]BF_4$ .<sup>649</sup> (*R*,*R*)-NORPHOS (2-exo-3-endo-bis(diphenylphosphino)bicyclo[2.2.1]heptene) and (2*S*,3*S)*-CHIRAPHOS (bis(diphenylphosphino)butane) are also good ligands for this transformation. Arylpyruvic acids give the best results (*>*95% ee).



The industrially important cis-(+)-methyl jasmonate **119** is conveniently prepared by the hydrogenation of enone **120** with Me-DuPHOS and [Ru(1,2 : 5,6-*η*cod)( $\eta^3$ -methallyl)<sub>2</sub>.<sup>650</sup>



(*S)*-C3-TunePhos (1,13-bis(diphenylphosphino)-7,8-dihydro-6*H*-dibenzo[f,h] [1,5]dioxonin) ruthenium catalyzes the hydrogenation of  $\alpha$ -phthalimido ketones with enantioselectivities of  $>94\%$ ,<sup>651</sup> leading to a highly enantioselective route to *β*-aminoethanols.

# **Asymmetric Hydrogenation of Enol Acetates**

The diphosphine ligand **108** is useful in the asymmetric hydrogenation of enol acetates to chiral acetates, with  $80.9\%$  to  $>99\%$  ee values being realized.<sup>652</sup> The ruthenium TunaPhos complexes from ligand **114** catalyze the asymmetric hydrogenation of enol acetates with high enantiomeric excesses (Eq. 364).<sup>653</sup> High yields and high ee values are obtained via hydrogenation of enol acetates with an achiral ruthenium catalyst and a lipase.<sup>654</sup> This same system is used to convert prochiral ketones into chiral acetates with high enantiomeric excess.



# **Asymmetric Hydrogenation of** *α***,***β***-Unsaturated Acids**

A study of various diphosphine ligands with rhodium catalyst systems for the hydrogenation of 2-methylenesuccinamic acid favors the DuPHOS (substituted 1,2-bis(phospholano)benzene) Rh(I) and Et-ferroTANE<sup>®</sup> (1,1'-bis-2,4diethylphosphotano)ferrocene) Rh(I) systems, with the former being slightly better than the latter  $(Eq. 365)$ .<sup>655</sup> The conversions are high for both systems. BINAP-ruthenium complexes are successful in the asymmetric hydrogenation of *α*,*β*-unsaturated acids, with catalyst **121** showing the best results of those complexes studied.656 The chiral diaminoferrocenediphosphine ligand **122** catalyzes the reduction of trisubstituted acrylic acids with ee values of  $>92\%$  (Eq. 366).<sup>657</sup>

$$
_{\text{HO}_2C} \bigcup \bigcup_{NH_2}^{O} \underbrace{\frac{[(R,R)\text{-}Me\text{-}Du\text{PHOS Rh(cod)}]BF_4}{H_2,\text{MeOH},\text{rt}}}_{(98\%)\ 94\%\text{ ee}} \bigcup_{NH_2}^{O} \bigcup_{CH_2}^{O} (Eq.\ 365)
$$

Itaconic acids are reduced in very high enantiomeric excesses (*>*97%) with Rh-TangPhos catalysts.<sup>658</sup> Itaconic acid is reduced in 99.5% ee with the sugar-derived ferrocenyl phosphine **123**. 659



### **Asymmetric Hydrogenation of Acetamidoacrylates**

The understandably strong interest in the synthesis of highly enantiomerically enriched *α*- and *β*-amino acids has made the asymmetric hydrogenation of *α*- and *β*-acetamidoacrylates an active area of investigation. The catalyst Rh-TangPhos catalyze the reduction of *β*-aryl-*α*-acetamidoacrylates with high enantioselectivity (*>*99% and *>*97%, respectively).<sup>660</sup> Chiral norbornadienyl diphosphoryl rhodium(I) complexes of the type **124** catalyze the asymmetric hydrogenation of *α*-acetamidoacrylates with high ee values (Eq. 367).<sup>661</sup> Rhodium(I) trap complexes catalyze the hydrogenation of the *α*-acetamidoacrylates with ee values in the 80-88% range.<sup>662</sup>



The rhodium(I) complexes with hydroxyphospholane ligand **125**<sup>663</sup> or **126**<sup>660</sup> catalyze the asymmetric hydrogenation of *α*-acetamidoacrylates with ee values in excess of 98%. System**125** is also very effective in the asymmetric hydrogenation of *β*-acetamidoacrylates (up to 99.6% ee).<sup>664</sup> The planar-chiral heterocyclic ligand **127** complexed with rhodium(I) catalyzes the hydrogenation of *α*-acetamidoacrylates in excellent yields and ee values from  $79-96\%$  under mild conditions.<sup>665</sup>

Other systems that prove successful in the highly enantioselective hydrogenation of *α*-acetamidoacrylates include the spirophosphinites **128** (94.2–97.2% ee)<sup>666</sup> and the Josiphos ligands **129** with rhodium(I) (84–96% ee). Excellent



results are also obtained with dimethyl itaconate and styrenes.<sup>667</sup> The bis (phospholanes) of type **130**, again with rhodium(I), catalyze the hydrogenation of α-acetamidoacrylates in 92.6–99.1% ee.<sup>668</sup> The ligands 131,<sup>659</sup> 132,<sup>669</sup> **133**, <sup>670</sup> and **134**<sup>670</sup> all show good results in the asymmetric hydrogenation of *α*acetamidoacrylates, with **131** being especially effective, often rendering ee values of 0*>*99.9%.



The various TunaPhos ligands with ruthenium(0) all catalyze the asymmetric hydrogenation of 2-acetylaminocyclopent-1-enecarboxylic acid ethyl ester in *>*99% ee.<sup>671</sup> The larger ring sizes give lower ee values. Good results are obtained in the asymmetric hydrogenation of  $\beta$ -acetamidoacrylates with the Et-ferroTANE<sup>®</sup> rhodium(I) complex.<sup>672</sup> The Rh-TangPhos catalyst system brings about the hydrogenation of *α*-aryl-*β*-substituted enamides with high enantioselectivity.<sup>660</sup>

### **Asymmetric Hydrogenation of Enamides**

Enamides, in addition to the acrylates shown above, are also asymmetrically hydrogenated with many of the same systems that prove useful for the acetamidoacrylate reductions. The Rh(I)/BICP (2(*R)*-2 (i)-bis(dipenylphosphino)- 1(*R)*,1 (*R)*-dicyclopentane) **132** and Rh(I)/DuPHOS systems work well (*>*90% ee) for the asymmetric hydrogenation of *β*-acetamidovinyl methoxymethyl ethers

in an approach to enantiomerically enriched *β*-aminoethanols.<sup>673</sup> The Rhbinaphane system **138** catalyzes the reduction of aryl alkyl enamides in up to 99.6% ee.<sup>674</sup> Cyclic enamides are reduced in 37–99% enantiomeric excess with the Rh(I)/**135** system (Eq. 368).<sup>675</sup>



The Rh(I)/**136** or Rh(I)/**137** combination can be used in the asymmetric hydrogenation of 1-arylenamides in 90–99% ee, with Rh(I)/**137** being the better of the two.<sup>676</sup> Me-DuPHOS and related ligands with rhodium(I) reduce 1-aryl-2-alkylenamides in  $>90\%$  ee<sup>677</sup> whereas the Rh(I)/DIOP combination carries this out in 97.3–99% ee selectivity.<sup>678</sup> Finally, the Rh(I)/138 system reduces  $\beta$ substituted- $\alpha$ -arylenamides in 95–99% ee, and  $\alpha$ -substituted acetamidoethylenes in  $75.7-90\%$  ee.<sup>674</sup>



### **Asymmetric Hydrogenation of Imines**

As an extension of the asymmetric hydrogenation of prochiral ketones to enantiomerically enriched alcohols, the reduction of imines has been a topic of interest in obtaining chiral amines of high enantiomeric purity. Several entries to enantiomerically enriched amines based on the approaches outlined above are available. These asymmetric hydrogenations have proved to be more difficult than those for prochiral ketones, but nevertheless show good promise.

Iridium(III) hydride forms complexes with DIOP, BDPP (2,4-bis(diphenylphosphino)pentane), NORPHOS, and BINAP ligands to produce amines in 11– 80% ee.<sup>679</sup> Similar modest results are obtained in the reduction of *N*arylketimines with an iridium(III) complex with (2*S*,3*S)*-CHIRAPHOS as the chiral ligand.<sup>680</sup> The indium complexes with chiral phosphinodihydrooxazoles catalyze the enantioselective hydrogenation of imines in supercritical carbon dioxide with up to 80% ee, but generally lower ee values are observed in

dichoromethane. The Rh(I)/chiral phosphine-catalyzed hydrogenation of imines is reported to give the chiral amines in up to  $60\%$  ee.<sup>681</sup> This work presents a crystal structure of an intermediate rhodium(diphos)imine complex. The iridium(III) complex with the diphosphine ligand **138** gives amines in up to 99% ee and in excellent yields  $(Eq. 369)$ .<sup>682</sup> Cyclic imines undergo asymmetrical reduction via transfer hydrogenation using the catalyst EBTHI-Ti **102** (Eq. 370).<sup>683</sup>



The asymmetric hydrogenation of acyclic imines with the *ansa*-titanocene catalyst **102** gives the chiral amines in up to 92% ee.<sup>684,685</sup> This same system applied to cyclic imines produces the chiral amines with  $>97\%$  ee values.<sup>684,685</sup> The mechanism of these reductions has been studied.<sup>686</sup>

#### **EXPERIMENTAL CONDITIONS**

Normal precautions to protect laboratory workers from exposure to chemical reagents should be followed. Strong acids such as trifluoroacetic acid and trifluoromethanesulfonic acid are often used in the preparations and should be handled with extreme care. The physical properties of organosilicon hydrides are similar to those of the analogous hydrocarbons, after taking account of the differences in molecular weights. They are generally lipophilic in nature. As previously mentioned, the chemical properties of organosilicon hydrides are considerably more benign than those of many metal-based reducing agents. However, organosilicon hydrides do react with strong bases and acids to produce hydrolysis products and hydrogen gas. This reaction occurs more rapidly with bases than with acids. Also, some of the lower molecular weight organosilicon hydrides, especially the parent compound SiH4, are pyrophoric. A few of the organosilicon hydrides, such as trimethoxysilane and triethoxysilane, are toxic and have the ability to cause corneal damage.

Many of the synthetically useful reactions of organosilicon hydrides are conducted in solution using solvents such as  $CH_2Cl_2$ ,  $CHCl_3$ ,  $CCl_4$ , MeCN, or THF. In general, it is important that anhydrous reaction conditions be used and that normal purification procedures be followed to ensure that the solvents used are pure and anhydrous.

Finally, it must be mentioned that there are advantages in synthetic methods using polymeric organosilicon hydride reagents, such as PMHS, which are both relatively inexpensive and give high molecular weight products that are reasonably easy to separate from the desired organic products.

#### **EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES**



**2-Decyl-5-methoxy-1-naphthol [Reduction of a Secondary Benzylic Alcohol to a Methylene Group with Concomitant Loss of a MOM Protecting Group].<sup>167</sup>** To a solution of 2-(1-hydroxydecyl)-5-methoxy-1-methoxymethyleneoxynaphthalene (0.525 g, 1.4 mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (1.628 g, 14 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (8 mL) was added TFA (2.16 mL, 28 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 mL) at room temperature and under an atmosphere of argon. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 hours at room temperature, and then was poured into a saturated aqueous  $NaHCO<sub>3</sub>$  solution (20 mL) and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3  $\times$  15 mL). The extract was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (15 mL), brine (15 mL), dried with MgSO4, and evaporated. The crude product was purified by chromatography  $(SiO<sub>2</sub>, benzene as eluent) to afford 2-decyl-5-methoxy-1-naphthol as needles:$ 0.319 g (68%); mp 61–62◦ (hexane); IR (CCl4) 3600, 1600, 1505, 1254, 1055, 880 cm<sup>−</sup>1; 1H NMR (100 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* 7.60 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (dd, *J* = 2, 8 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (t, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 1H), 6.56 (dd, *J* = 2, 8 Hz, 1H), 4.90 (br s, 1H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 2.68 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H), 1.68 (m, 2H), 1.26 (m, 14H), 0.90 (t, *J* = 8 Hz, 3H).



**Cyclohexane [Aluminum Chloride Catalyzed Reduction of a Dichloroalkane to a Hydrocarbon].<sup>189</sup>** After a solution of *cis*-1,2-dichlorocyclohexane (0.1582 g, 1.033 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 mL) was cooled to  $0^{\circ}$ , Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (0.299 g, 2.57 mmol) and AlCl<sub>3</sub> (0.0345 g, 0.173 mmol) were added. The mixture was stirred for 30 minutes and then quenched with water (10 mL). Heptane (23.1 mg, 0.231 mmol) was added as an internal standard and the aqueous layer was separated and extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The combined organic layer was dried  $(MgSO_4)$ and analyzed by GLC:  $0.064 \text{ g}$  (74%).

1. (EtO)<sub>3</sub>SiH, CsF, N<sub>2</sub>  
\n
$$
n-C_{11}H_{23}CO_2Et
$$
  $\xrightarrow{30 \text{ min}, 60^\circ}$   $n-C_{12}H_{25}OH$  (90%)

**1-Dodecanol [Fluoride-Promoted Reduction of an Ester to an Alcohol].<sup>83</sup>** A mixture of ethyl dodecanoate (2.18 g, 10.0 mmol) and triethoxysilane  $(3.77 \text{ g}, 23.0 \text{ mmol})$  was added to CsF  $(1.52 \text{ g}, 10.0 \text{ mmol})$  under nitrogen. The reaction was followed by IR spectroscopy. After 30 minutes at 60°, 12 N HCl (1 mL) in acetone (5 mL) was added. After 30 minutes, the mixture was extracted

with ether  $(2 \times 150 \text{ mL})$ . The combined extracts were dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvents were removed. The residue was distilled under vacuum to give 1 dodecanol: 1.8 g (90%); bp 145◦ /15 Torr. The GLC retention time was identical with that of an authentic sample.



**Dibenzyl Ether [Brønsted Acid Promoted Reduction of an Aldehyde to a Symmetrical Ether].<sup>311</sup>** To a stirred solution of benzaldehyde (5.4 g, 0.05 mol) and TFA (11.4 g, 0.1 mol) under argon was added dropwise, with cooling,  $Et<sub>3</sub>SiH$ (8.1 g, 0.07 mol) at a rate such that the temperature of the reaction mixture did not exceed 40◦ . The solution turned a crimson color that gradually disappeared. Analysis by GLC showed the complete absence of the aldehyde immediately after addition of all of the silane. The products were separated by vacuum distillation at 20 Torr, collecting the fractions up to 125◦ . Dibenzyl ether was obtained from the residue by freezing out: 4 g (0.02 mol, 80%); mp  $3-6^\circ$ ; n<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> 1.5608.

$$
\begin{array}{cccc}\n\text{CHO} & 1. \text{Cl}_3\text{CCO}_2\text{H, Et}_3\text{SiH, 50-60°, 4 h} \\
+ & \text{EtOH} & \xrightarrow{2. \text{H}_2\text{O, NaHCO}_3} & & \text{CH}_2\text{OEt} \\
\end{array}
$$
\n(90%)

**Ethyl Benzyl Ether [Brønsted Acid Promoted Reduction of an Aldehyde to an Unsymmetrical Ether].<sup>327</sup>** To a cooled mixture of benzaldehyde (4.3 g, 41 mmol) and absolute ethanol (3.7 g, 80 mmol) was added trichloroacetic acid  $(18.2 \text{ g}, 111 \text{ mmol})$ . Et<sub>3</sub>SiH  $(6.96 \text{ g}, 60 \text{ mmol})$  was then added dropwise with stirring while the mixture was maintained at 50–60◦ . After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with water, neutralized with aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  solution, and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The dried ether extract was distilled and the  $170-190°$ fraction was collected. Distillation from sodium gave ethyl benzyl ether: 4.8 g (90%); bp 187–189◦ .

$$
n-C_6H_{13}CHO + Ph
$$
  $0$   $0$  TMS  $\xrightarrow{PhMe_2SiH}$   $n-C_7H_{15}O$   $0$   $0$  (82%)

**1-Heptyl 3-Phenylpropyl Ether [Electrogenerated Acid-Promoted Reduction of an Aldehyde to an Unsymmetrical Ether].<sup>333</sup>** A mixture of 1-heptanal (1.0 mmol), 3-phenylpropoxytrimethylsilane (1.2 mmol), tetra-*n*butylammonium perchlorate (0.1 mmol), and lithium perchlorate (0.1 mmol) was dissolved in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3 mL) in an undivided cell. The mixture was electrolyzed under constant current  $(1.67 \text{ mA cm}^{-2})$  with platinum electrodes at ambient temperature. After 5 minutes, dimethylphenylsilane (1.2 mmol) was added dropwise and the electrolysis was continued (0.06 Faraday/mol). After completion of the reaction, one drop of  $Et_3N$  was added and the solution was concentrated. The residue was chromatographed on  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  to give 1-heptyl 3-phenylpropyl

ether: 0.82 mmol (82%); bp 80–83°/1.0–2.0 Torr; IR (neat) 2955, 2925, 1605, 1110 cm<sup>−</sup>1; 1H NMR (CDCl3*) δ* 7*.*22 (s, 5H), 3.37 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 2H), 2.86–2.47 (m, 2H), 1.50–2.10 (m, 2H), 1.31 (br m, 10H), 0.87 (m, 3H).



**Dicyclohexyl Ether [Brønsted Acid Promoted Reduction of a Ketone to a Symmetrical Ether].**<sup>313</sup> Cyclohexanone (3.92 g, 40 mmol) and tri $(n$ -butyl) silane (1.78 g, 20 mmol) were placed in a round-bottomed flask. TFA (75 mmol) was added slowly over a one-hour period to the reaction mixture, which was held at −35◦ . After complete addition, the reaction flask was placed in a freezer at −15◦ for 70 hours. Direct distillation gave dicyclohexyl ether: 2.91 g (16 mmol, 80%); bp 119-121°/18 Torr.

$$
\begin{array}{cccc}\n\text{CHO} & & \text{Ph} & \text{OTMS} & \xrightarrow{1. \text{TrClO}_4, 0^\circ, 5 \text{ min}} \\
\text{D} & & \text{D} & \text{D} & \text{D} \\
\hline\n\end{array}
$$

**Benzyl 3-Phenylpropyl Ether [Trityl Perchlorate Catalyzed Reduction of an Aldehyde to an Unsymmetrical Ether].<sup>329</sup>** Under an argon atmosphere, a  $CH_2Cl_2$  (2 mL) solution of benzaldehyde (53 mg, 0.5 mmol) and 3phenylpropoxytrimethylsilane (0.5 mmol) was added to trityl perchlorate (9 mg, 0.026 mmol), and the solution was stirred for 5 minutes at  $0^\circ$ . A CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1 mL) solution of  $Et_3SiH$  (59 mg, 0.5 mmol) was added and stirring was continued for another 5 minutes. Then phosphate buffer was added, and the organic materials were extracted with  $Et<sub>2</sub>O$  and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After removal of the solvents under reduced pressure, isolation by TLC on  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  provided 94 mg (83%) of benzyl 3-phenylpropyl ether: IR (NaCl) 1100 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.10 (s, 5H), 7.00 (s, 5H), 4.30 (s, 2H), 3.30 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 2H), 2.8-2.4 (m, 2H), 2.1-1.5 (m, 2H).



**Di-***n***-pentyl Ether [TMSI-Catalyzed Reduction of an Aldehyde to a Symmetrical Ether].<sup>314</sup>** A mixture of sodium iodide (0.15 g, 1 mmol), 1pentanal (1.06 mL, 10 mmol), and trimethylsilyl chloride (2.0 mL, 15.4 mmol) was stirred in MeCN (5.0 mL) at room temperature for 10 minutes, after which 1,1,3,3-tetramethyldisiloxane (TMDO, 1.79 mL, 10 mmol) was added. When the exothermic reaction had ended (30 minutes), a solution of 2.5 N HF in MeOH (30 mL) was added to the reaction mixture, which was then refluxed for 5 minutes. Work-up was carried out by diluting the solution with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (40 mL), washing with water (30 mL) and saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (20 mL), drying, and evaporating the solvents. Crude di-*n*-pentyl ether was purified by distillation:  $0.65$  g (84%); bp 185–189°/760 Torr.

$$
\bigodot \bigodot \bigodot \text{ H UOTMS} \quad \xrightarrow{\text{1. HMDS, I}_2, 0^\circ, 10 \text{ min}} \bigodot \bigodot \text{OEt} \quad (91\%)
$$

**Cyclohexyl Ethyl Ether [TMSI-Catalyzed Reduction of a Ketone to an Unsymmetrical Ether].<sup>334</sup>** In a 100-mL, three-necked flask equipped with a rubber septum, thermometer, magnetic stirring bar, and nitrogen inlet were placed finely powdered iodine  $(0.13 \text{ g}, 0.50 \text{ mmol})$  and hexamethyldisilane  $(0.079 \text{ g},$ 0.54 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (14 mL). The violet solution was stirred 10 minutes at room temperature, cooled to  $0^\circ$ , and a solution of cyclohexanone (1.04 g, 10 mmol) and ethoxytrimethylsilane (1.10 g, 10 mmol) in 10 mL of  $CH_2Cl_2$  was introduced via syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred for 10 minutes at  $0^\circ$ , after which TMSH was added directly from a gas cylinder by means of Tygon tubing attached to a hypodermic needle inserted through the rubber septum. The gas was allowed to slowly bubble through the solution until the color changed from violet to red-gold. During this time the internal temperature rose from  $0^\circ$ to 15°. The cold bath was removed and stirring was continued at room temperature for 2 hours. The mixture was washed with  $10\%$  aqueous  $Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>$  solution  $(4 \times 30 \text{ mL})$  and water  $(4 \times 30 \text{ mL})$ , and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure on a steam bath to obtain pure cyclohexyl ethyl ether: 1.37 g (91%); bp 141–144<sup>°</sup>, <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 76.8, 63.0, 32.6, 26.4, 24.2, 15.9.



**4-Methylbenzyl Chloride [Reductive Halogenation of an Aldehyde to a Benzyl Chloridel**,<sup>314</sup> A mixture of 4-methylbenzaldehyde (1.18 g, 10 mmol). **Benzyl Chloride].<sup>314</sup>** A mixture of 4-methylbenzaldehyde (1.18 g, 10 mmol), chlorotrimethylsilane (2.0 mL, 15.7 mmol), 1,1,3,3-tetramethyldisiloxane (TMDO, 1.79 mL, 10 mmol), and thionyl chloride (1.0 mL, 13.7 mmol) was cooled at  $0°$ . Then ZnI<sub>2</sub> (0.02 g) was added and a very exothermic reaction took place. When the spontaneous heating had ended, the mixture was heated at reflux with stirring for 45 minutes, and a 2.5 M solution of HF in MeOH (10 mL) was added. After being heated at reflux for 10 minutes, the solution was cooled to  $0^{\circ}$ , filtered, and taken up in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (30 mL)/water (40 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (2 × 10 mL). The combined organic phases were dried  $(Na_2SO_4)$  and the solvents were evaporated to afford crude 4-methylbenzyl chloride, which was purified by distillation: 1.22 g, 87%; bp 190-195°/760 Torr.

$$
\text{PHCO}_2\text{Et} \xrightarrow{\text{PhSiMe}_2\text{SiH, TFA}} \text{Ph} \xrightarrow{\text{OH}} \text{NHCO}_2\text{Et} \quad (87\%)
$$

**(1***R***,2***S* **)-2-[(Ethoxycarbonyl)amino]-1-phenyl-1-propanol [Brønsted Acid Promoted Reduction of an** *α***-Amino Ketone to an Erythro** *α***-Hydroxy** **Amine].<sup>276</sup>** Dimethylphenylsilane (0.184 mL, 1.20 mmol) was added slowly to a TFA (1 mL) solution of (*S)*-2-[(ethoxycarbonyl)amino]-1-phenyl-1-propanone (221 mg, 1.00 mmol) at  $0^\circ$ , and the solution was stirred for 2.5 hours at  $0^\circ$ . Saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution  $(20 \text{ mL})$  was added, and the resulting mixture was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 mL). The extract was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure to give the crude product, whose 1H NMR spectrum showed exclusive formation (*>*99% selectivity) of (1*R,* 2*S)*- 2-[(ethoxycarbonyl)amino]-1-phenyl-1-propanol. Purification by preparative TLC (SiO2, AcOEt/hexane, 1/1) afforded (1*R,* 2*S)*-2-[(ethoxycarbonyl)amino]-1 phenyl-1-propanol (194 mg, 87%) as colorless crystals: mp 71<sup>°</sup>;  $[\alpha]^{20}$ <sub>D</sub> – 40<sup>°</sup> (*c* 0*.*245, CH2Cl2*)*; IR (KBr) 3350, 1694, 1552, 1273, 1043, 1028, 708 cm<sup>−</sup>1; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.34 (s, 5H), 4.9 (br s, 1H), 4.84 (d,  $J = 3$  Hz, 1H), 4.10 (q, *J* = 7*.*2 Hz, 2H), 4.2-3.8 (m, 1H), 2.83 (br s, 1H), 1.24 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 3H), 0.99 (d,  $J = 7$  Hz, 3H); MS (70 eV)  $m/z$  (relative intensity): M<sup>+</sup> 223 (trace), 117 (18), 116 (66), 107 (11), 88 (21), 79 (15), 77 (14), 72 (11), 51 (5), 44 (100), 29 (23), 27 (7), 18 (5). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>: C 64.55, H 7.67, N 6.27. Found: C 64.35, H 7.53, N 6.25.

Ph 
$$
\xrightarrow[2. \text{rt}, 3 \text{ h}]{} \frac{1. Et_3\text{SiH}, \text{NH}_4\text{F}, \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2, 0^\circ, 0.5 \text{ h}}{2. \text{rt}, 3 \text{ h}}
$$
 (85%)

**Phenylcyclopentane [Brønsted Acid Catalyzed Reduction of an Alkene to an Alkane].<sup>135</sup>** To a stirred solution of 1-phenylcyclopentene (1.44 g, 10 mmol), NH<sub>4</sub>F (0.48 g, 13 mmol), and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (1.5 g, 13 mmol) was added TFA (5.1 g, 50 mmol) at  $0^\circ$  over a 10-minute period. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 20 minutes at  $0^\circ$  and at room temperature for 3 hours. The reaction mixture was quenched with ice water and extracted with  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$ . The organic extract was washed with  $10\%$  aqueous saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, dried (CaCl<sub>2</sub>), and concentrated. Distillation provided phenylcyclopentane: 1.22 g (85%); bp 108–111◦ /20 Torr.

*n*-C15H31COCl *n*-C16H34 1. Et3SiH, (C6F5)3B, CH2Cl2, rt, 20 h 2. aq. HF, reflux, 7 h (96%)

*n***-Hexadecane [Tris(pentafluorophenyl)boron-Catalyzed Reduction of an Acid Chloride to an Alkane].<sup>282</sup>** Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (20 mmol) was added to a stirred solution of hexadecanoyl chloride (5 mmol) and tris(pentafluorophenyl)boron  $(5 \text{ mol\%})$  in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The reaction mixture was stirred for 20 hours at room temperature, quenched with  $Et_3N$  (0.25 g), filtered through Celite, and concentrated. The residue was mixed with 40% HF (5 mL) in EtOH (30 mL) and heated at reflux for 7 hours. Water (60 mL) was added, and the crude product was extracted with pentane ( $3 \times 30$  mL). The combined pentane solutions were washed with water and dried over  $MgSO<sub>4</sub>$ . After the solvent and triethylfluorosilane were removed under vacuum, the product was purified by flash chromatography to give a 96% yield of *n*-hexadecane.

$$
n-C_{11}H_{23}CO_2H \longrightarrow 1. Et_3SH, (C_6F_5)_3B, CH_2Cl_2, rt, 20 h
$$
  
2. aq. HF, reflux, 7 h  

$$
n-C_{12}H_{26}
$$
 (91%)

*n***-Dodecane [Tris(pentafluorophenyl)boron-Catalyzed Reduction of a Carboxylic Acid to an Alkane].<sup>282</sup>** Dodecanoic acid (5 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  was added to a  $CH_2Cl_2$  solution of tris(pentafluorophenyl)boron (5 mol%) and  $Et_3SH$ (30 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 20 hours at room temperature, quenched with  $Et_3N$  (0.25 g), filtered through Celite, and concentrated. The residue was mixed with 40% HF (5 mL) in EtOH (30 mL) and heated at reflux for 7 hours. Water (60 mL) was added and the crude product was extracted with pentane  $(3 \times 30 \text{ mL})$ . The combined pentane solutions were washed with water and dried over MgSO4. After the solvent and triethylfluorosilane were removed under vacuum, the product was purified by flash chromatography to give a  $91\%$ yield of *n*-dodecane.



**4-Iodobenzyloxytriethylsilane [Tris(pentafluorophenyl)boron-Catalyzed Reduction of a Carboxylic Acid to a Benzyl Triethylsilyl Etherl.<sup>282</sup> Et<sub>3</sub>SiH** (16.5 mmol) was added to a stirred solution of 4-iodobenzoic acid (5 mmol) and tris(pentafluorophenyl)boron (5 mol%) in  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The reaction mixture was stirred for 20 hours at room temperature, quenched with  $Et_3N$  (0.25 g), filtered through Celite, and concentrated. The solvent was removed under vacuum and the product was purified by flash chromatography to give a 94% yield of 4 iodobenzyloxytriethylsilane. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.48 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8*.*4 Hz, 2H), 4.71 (s, 2H), 1.02, 0.68 (q, *J* = 8*.*0 Hz, 6H); 13C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 126 MHz) *δ* 140*.8*, 131*.7*, 128*.3*, 121*.07*, 64*.*4, 7*.2*, 4*.9*; GC–MS *m/z* (% relative intensity, ion): 300 (1, M<sup>+</sup>*)*, 271 (77, M–Et), 169 (100).



*N* **-(Phenylmethylsilyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyridine [Reduction of a Pyridine].<sup>264</sup>** Phenylmethylsilane (3.5 mL, 25.6 mmol) and pyridine (1.0 mL, 12.5 mmol) were added to  $Cp_2TiMe_2$  (0.13 g, 0.7 mmol, 6 mol%). The solution color changed to dark blue, then purple, accompanied by gas evolution. The mixture was stirred for 12 hours at  $80^\circ$ . The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum showed that *>*95% of the pyridine had reacted to give a yield of ca. 80% of the crude product, which was distilled under vacuum to give 1.29 g  $(50\%)$  of the title compound as a colorless liquid: bp 57◦ /0.12 Torr; 1H NMR (300 MHz, C6D6*) δ* 7*.*5 and 7.2 (2m, 5H), 5.01 (q, *J* = 3*.*3 Hz, 1H), 4.62 (m, 1H), 2.99 (m, 2H), 2.00 (m, 2H), 1.57 (m, 2H), 0.28 (d,  $J = 3.3$  Hz, 3H); <sup>29</sup>Si NMR (59.9 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  −10.5; EIMS *m/z* (% relative intensity, ion): 203 (100, M<sup>+</sup>*)*, 188 (18.5, M<sup>+</sup> –CH3*)*, 121  $(76.6, M^+$ -C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N).



**Camphor [Reduction of an** *α***-Bromo Ketone to a Ketone].<sup>197</sup>** A mixture of *α*-bromocamphor (2.24 g, 9.69 mmol),  $Mo(CO)_{6}$  (0.11 g, 0.53 mmol), phenylsilane  $(1.30 \text{ g}, 12 \text{ mmol})$ , and NaHCO<sub>3</sub>  $(0.88 \text{ g}, 10.5 \text{ mmol})$  in THF (6 mL) was heated at reflux for 1.5 hours. The mixture was cooled to room temperature, water (0.15 mL) was added, and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. Distillation afforded camphor in 81% yield.



**2-Phenyl-5-decylpyrimidine [Reduction of an Aryl Triflate to an Arene].<sup>201</sup>** To a mixture of 2-(4-trifluoromethanesulfonyloxyphenyl)-5-decylpyrimidine  $(1 \text{ mmol})$ , Pd $(OAc)_{2}$  (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol), and dppp (8 mg, 0.02 mmol) in DMF  $(5 \text{ mL})$  at  $60^\circ$  was added Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (0.4 mL, 2.5 mmol). At this time the solution changed color from light brown to deep brown. Stirring was continued for 4 hours, and the reaction mixture was cooled and diluted with  $Et<sub>2</sub>O$ . The ether phase was washed with water, and with aqueous saturated solutions of NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and NaCl. The ether layer was dried  $(Na_2SO_4)$  and concentrated. The crude product was purified (99% yield) by chromatography: IR (KBr) 1549, 1435, 745, 691, 654 cm<sup>−</sup>1; 1H NMR: *δ* 8*.*62 (s, 2H), 8.41 (m, 2H), 7.46 (m, 3H), 2.62 (t, *J* = 7*.*7 Hz, 2H), 1.8-1.4 (m, 2H), 1.27 (br s, 14H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 6*.*2 Hz, 3H).

(*n*-C16H33)2O *n*-C16H34 + *n*-C16H33OSiEt3 Et3SiH, (C6F5)3B CH2Cl2, rt, 20 h (98%) (98%)

*n***-Hexadecane and 1-(Triethylsiloxy)hexadecane [Reduction of a Symmetrical Ether].<sup>145</sup>** Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (1.1 mmol) was added to tris(pentafluorophenyl)boron (5 mol%) and bis- $(n$ -hexadecyl) ether (1 mmol) in 1 mL of  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The reaction mixture was stirred for 20 hours at room temperature and then quenched with  $Et_3N$  (0.05 mL), filtered through Celite, and concentrated. GLC analysis with an internal standard showed the presence of *n*-hexadecane (98%) and 1- (triethylsiloxy)hexadecane (98%).



**3-Phenyl-1-propanol [Reduction of a Carboxylic Acid to an Alcohol].<sup>280</sup>** To a solution of ruthenium catalyst  $57$  (616.5 mg, 25.2  $\mu$ mol) in dioxane (0.45 mL) was added dimethylethylsilane (0.84 mL, 6.3 mmol). After the mixture had been stirred for 30 minutes at room temperature, hydrocinnamic acid (380 mg, 2.55 mmol) was added, and the stirring was continued for 30 minutes. Vigorous gas evolution occurred. The reaction was quenched with aqueous HCl, and the mixture was extracted with  $Et<sub>2</sub>O$ . The organic phase was washed with aqueous saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and aqueous saturated NaCl solutions, and then dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under vacuum and the product was purified by chromatography (EtOAc/hexane 1/9) to give 3-phenylpropyl alcohol: 248 mg, 72%.

$$
\mathit{t-BuO}_2C \underset{H}{\overset{SBu-t}{\underset{M}{\bigwedge}}\hspace{-0.2cm}}\underset{CO_2Bu-t}{\overset{SBu-t}{\underset{H}{\bigwedge}}\hspace{-0.2cm}}\underset{\text{C}}{CO_2Bu-t}}\xrightarrow{\overset{Et_3SH,\hspace{0.1cm}TFA,\hspace{0.1cm}CH_2Cl_2}{\underset{H_1,1.5\hspace{0.1cm}h}{\bigwedge}}\hspace{-0.2cm}}\underset{H_2N}{\overset{SBu-t}{\underset{M}{\bigvee}}\hspace{-0.2cm}}\hspace{-0.2cm}CO_2H\hspace{0.1cm}}+\hspace{0.1cm}\text{Me}_3CH
$$

**Cys(SBu-***t***)Gly [Reductive Deprotection of Boc and** *tert***-Butyl Ester Groups in the Presence of a** *tert***-Butyl Sulfide].<sup>307</sup>** Boc•Cys(SBu-*t)*Gly•OBu-*t* (1 mmol) was stirred with TFA (13 mmol), CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (32 mmol), and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (2.5 mmol) at room temperature for 1.5 hours. After solvent removal, the residue was triturated with  $Et<sub>2</sub>O$  and the precipitated product was removed by filtration, washed with  $Et<sub>2</sub>O$ , and dried: 100%.



*N* **-Boc-cyclododecylamine [Reductive Boc-protection of an Oxime].<sup>549</sup>** To a stirred solution of cyclododecanone oxime (1 mmol) in EtOH (10 mL) were added PMHS (180 mg, 3.0 mmol), di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate (240 mg, 1.1 mmol), and 10% Pd/C (10 mg). The reaction mixture was stirred at  $40-50^\circ$  for 7 hours, after which time it was filtered and the filtrate concentrated under vacuum. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to give *N*-Boccyclododecylamine: 80%.



**(3***R***)-***N* **-Acetyl-3-(***tert***-butyldimethylsiloxy)pyrrolidine [Reduction of an Aminal to an Amine].<sup>521</sup>** A solution of *N*-acetyl-2-methoxy-4-*tert*-butyldimethylsiloxy)pyrrolidine (2 mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (4 mmol) in dry  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3 mL) was treated with  $BF_3$ •OEt<sub>2</sub> (4 mmol) at −40°. The reaction was monitored by TLC  $(1-2)$  hours). The mixture was diluted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> and washed with aqueous saturated Na $HCO<sub>3</sub>$  and aqueous saturated NaCl solution. The organic layer was dried (MgSO4*)* and evaporated under reduced pressure. Purification of the residue by chromatography on  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  (hexane/EtOAc 10:1) gave the title compound as a colorless syrup:  $97\%$ ;  $[\alpha]^{24.5}$ <sub>D</sub>  $-23.4^{\circ}$  (*c* 1.22, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); IR (film) 3350, 1650 cm<sup>−</sup>1; 1H NMR (CDCl3*) δ* 4*.*58 − 4*.*25 (m, 1H), 3.80-3.10 (m, 4H), 2.10–1.60 (m, 2H), 1.98, 1.95 (2s, 3H), 0.80 (s, 9H), 0.01 (s, 6H); MS *m/z*: 228 (M<sup>+</sup>-CH<sub>3</sub>); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>Si: C 59.21; H 10.35; N 5.75; Si 11.54. Found: C 58.85; H 10.38; N 5.80; Si 11.18.



**3,5-Dimethyl-l-cyclohexen-l-yl Dimethylphenylsilyl Ether [Reductive 1,4-Hydrosilylation of an Enone].<sup>374</sup>** 3,5-Dimethyl-2-cyclohexen-1-one  $(0.124 \text{ g}, 1.0 \text{ mmol})$  and RhH(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (6 mg, 0.0052 mmol) were treated with PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH (0.177 g, 1.3 mmol) at  $50^{\circ}$  for 48 hours. After hexane (1 mL) was added, the reaction mixture was filtered and concentrated under vacuum. The crude product was purified by Kugelrohr distillation (90◦ / 1 Torr) to give a colorless liquid: 225 mg, 87%: IR 2952, 2918, 2913, 2902, 2870, 1666, 1428, 1369, 1253, 1197, 1182, 1121, 1079, 826, 787, 699 cm<sup>−</sup>1; 1H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.37 (m, 3H), 4.66 (s, 1H), (s, 1H), 2.21 (br s, 1H), 1.93 (m, 1H), 1.63 (m, 4H), 0.90 (d, *J* = 7*.*9 Hz, 3H), 0.86 (d, *J* = 7*.*0 Hz, 3H), 0.43 (s, 6H); 13C NMR *δ* 149.7, 138.0, 133.4, 129.5, 127.7, 111.3, 40.8, 38.4, 30.9, 29.6, 22.6, 22.0,  $-0.9$ ,  $-1.0$ ; EIMS m/z: M<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>24</sub>OSi, 260.1596; found 260.1584. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>24</sub>OSi: C 73.80; H 9.30; found: C 73.78; H 9.25.



**6,8-Dioxabicyclo[3.2.1]octan-4-one [1,2-Reduction of an Enone in the Presence of an Acetal].<sup>436</sup>** 6,8-Dioxabicyclo[3.2.1]oct-2-ene-4-one (19 mg, 0.15 mmol) was dissolved in  $3 \text{ mL}$  of CHCl<sub>3</sub> along with Ph<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub> (55 mg,

0.30 mmol) and  $ZnCl_2$  (20 mg, 0.15 mmol). Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (17 mg, 0.015 mmol) was added and the mixture was stirred at room temperature until the reaction was complete as determined by GLC. The reaction mixture was filtered through a short  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  column and purified by Kugelrohr distillation to give 18 mg (95%) of 6,8-dioxabicyclo[3.2.1]octan-4-one, having physical properties identical with literature values.

$$
O \xrightarrow{Et_3SH, H_2SO_4, H_2O} \xrightarrow{R} N_{AC} \qquad (78\%)
$$

*N* **-(***exo***-2-Norbornyl)acetamide [Reductive Amidation of a Ketone].<sup>313</sup>** To an acetonitrile (15 mL) solution of norcamphor (6.6 g, 60 mmol) and triethylsilane (7.7 g, 66 mmol) was added water (3.0 mL) followed by 9.0 mL of concentrated  $H_2SO_4$  (9.0 mL) at ice-bath temperature. The heterogeneous reaction mixture was stirred rapidly at room temperature for 65 hours. The mixture was then quenched by addition of 50% aqueous NaOH solution (30 mL) and the aqueous solution was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3  $\times$  50 mL). The combined extracts were passed through anhydrous  $MgSO_4$  and the  $CH_2Cl_2$  was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was washed three times with pentane to remove hexamethyldisiloxane and other soluble reaction products. The crude product was crystallized from  $Et<sub>2</sub>O$  to give *N*-( $exo-2$ -norbornyl)acetamide (6.5 g, 78%) whose <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum and melting point were in accord with literature values.



**Dihydro-***β***-Ionone [1,4-Reduction of an** *α***,***β***-Unsaturated Ketone].<sup>435</sup>** A mixture of  $\beta$ -ionone (1.91 g, 10 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (1.27 g, 11 mmol), and RhCl(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> (9 mg, 0.01 mmol) was stirred at 50 $\degree$  for 2 hours under nitrogen. The NMR spectrum of the reaction mixture showed the exclusive formation of the 1,4-addition (silyl enol ether) product: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CCl<sub>4</sub>)  $\delta$  5.23 (m, 1H), 4.28 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 1H), 2.25-1.75 (m, 4H), 1.72 (br s, 3H), 1.63 (br s, 3H), 1.75- 1.20 (m, 3H), 0.4–1.20 (m, 21H). The silyl enol ether was readily desilylated by treatment with  $K_2CO_3$  (10 mg)/MeOH (10 mL) with stirring for 1 hour at room temperature. After solvent removal, the crude product was distilled under reduced pressure to give dihydro- $β$ -ionone: 1.70 g, 88.1% bp 88°/2.5 Torr.



*β***-Ionol [1,2-Reduction of an** *α***,***β***-Unsaturated Ketone].<sup>435</sup>** A mixture of  $\beta$ -ionone (1.93 g, 10 mmol),  $Ph_2SiH_2$  (2.02 g, 11 mmol), and RhCl(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> (9 mg, 0.01 mmol) was stirred at room temperature under nitrogen. An exothermic reaction took place and the reaction was complete in 30 minutes. The NMR spectrum of the reaction mixture indicated the 1,2-reduction (silyl ether) product was formed exclusively: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CCl<sub>4</sub>)  $\delta$  7.80-7.10 (m, 10H), 5.55-5.18 (m, 3H), 5.40 (s, 1H), 4.39 (m, 1H), 2.30-1.00 (m, 5H), 1.53 (m, 3H), 1.27 (d, *J* = 6 Hz, 3H), 1.0 (m, 5H), 0.86 (s, 3H), 0.77 (s, 3H). To the reaction mixture was added  $n$ -hexane (50 mL), and the precipitated catalyst was removed by filtration. Then MeOH (10 mL) and  $K_2CO_3$  (10 mg) were added to the filtrate. Methanolysis was complete within 1 hour at room temperature. The ratio of dihydro-*β*-ionone/*β*-ionol was 0 : 100 based on GLC and NMR analyses. After solvent evaporation, the residue was distilled to give  $\beta$ -ionol: 1.74 g, 89%; bp 99◦ /2 Torr.

$$
\oslash\overline{\bigcup_{\textbf{N}}^{O}\underset{\textbf{NE}t_2}{\bigcup}}\ \xrightarrow{\text{Ph}_2\text{SiH}_2}\ \xrightarrow{\text{Ch}_2\text{SiH}_2}\ \oslash\overline{\bigcup_{\textbf{N}}^{O}\underset{\textbf{N}}{\bigcup}}\ \text{ (90\%)}
$$

**Undec-10-enal [Reduction of an Amide to an Aldehyde].<sup>433</sup>** To a dry flask containing neat *N*,*N*-diethylundec-10-enamide (0.155 mL, 0.65 mmol) under argon was added Ph<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub> (0.135 mL, 0.72 mmol) and Ti(OPr- $i$ )<sub>4</sub> (0.196 mL, 0.65 mmol). Initial effervescence was observed [CAUTION!] and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature until TLC analysis showed complete consumption of the starting material (ca. 5 hours). The mixture was diluted with THF (20 mL), treated with 1 M HCl (10 mL), stirred for 1 hour, and poured onto Et<sub>2</sub>O (80 mL). The organic layer was washed with 1 M HCl (3  $\times$  10 mL), saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution ( $2 \times 10$  mL), and saturated aqueous NaCl solution (10 mL), and then dried (MgSO4*)* and concentrated under vacuum. Flash column chromatography on  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  (hexane: Et<sub>2</sub>O 15 : 85) afforded undecenal (99 mg, 90%).

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}\n0 & \text{Me}_{2}\text{CISiH, TMSCH}_{2}\text{CH=CH}_{2} \\
\hline\n\text{InCl}_{3}, \text{CH}_{2}\text{Cl}_{2}, \text{rt, 2 h} & \text{Ph}\n\end{array} \tag{86\%}
$$

**4-Phenylpent-1-ene [Reductive Allylation of an Aryl Ketone].<sup>427</sup>** Acetophenone (2.0 mmol) was added to a mixture of  $InCl<sub>3</sub>$  (0.1 mmol), ClMe<sub>2</sub>SiH (2.2 mmol), and allyltrimethylsilane (2.2 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 hours, quenched with water (20 mL), and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3  $\times$  20 mL). After the organic layer was dried (MgSO4*)* and concentrated under vacuum, the residue was purified by chromatography (hexane) on  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  to give 4-phenylpent-1-ene (86%).



**6-Phenylhex-1-ene [Reduction of an Aliphatic Ketone Function to a Methylene Function].<sup>354</sup>** To a solution of 6-phenylhex-1-ene-4-one (1 mmol) in dry  $CH_2Cl_2$  (5 mL) and tris(pentafluorophenyl)boron (5 mol%) was slowly added PMHS (3 mmol) at room temperature. After 20 minutes, a vigorous effervescence was observed. The solvent was evaporated and the reaction mixture was dissolved in hexane and then filtered through a  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  pad using hexane. Evaporation of the volatiles afforded the 6-phenylhex-1-ene (88%) in pure form.

$$
\bigvee \bigwedge_6 CO_2Me \xrightarrow{\qquad \text{(EtO)}_3\text{SiH, Ti(OPr-i)}_4} \bigvee \bigvee_6 OH \qquad (87\%)
$$

**10-Undecen-1-ol [Reduction of an Ester to an Alcohol].<sup>291</sup>** Triethoxysilane (1.7 mL, 9 mmol) and methyl 10-undecenoate (594 mg, 3 mmol) were added to a test tube. Ti $(OPr-i)$ <sub>4</sub> (45 µL, 0.15 mmol) was added, and the test tube was fitted with a drying tube packed with Drierite to exclude excess moisture. The contents of the vessel were then stirred while being heated in an oil bath at  $50^\circ$  for 16 hours. The reaction mixture was washed into a 100-mL round-bottomed flask with THF  $(10 \text{ mL})$ . Then 1 N NaOH  $(20 \text{ mL})$  was added slowly with stirring. NOTE: CAUTION: vigorous bubbling was observed. After 4 hours, the mixture was added to  $Et<sub>2</sub>O$  (50 mL) and water (50 mL). After shaking, the layers were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with an additional 50 mL of  $Et<sub>2</sub>O$ . The combined organic extracts were washed with 1 M HCl ( $2 \times 50$  mL), dried  $(MgSO<sub>4</sub>)$ , filtered, and concentrated under vacuum to afford 10-undecen-1-ol as a clear oil: 443 mg, 87%. The product was *>*95% pure as determined by GLC and <sup>1</sup>H NMR analyses.

$$
(CO)_3Cr^{-1}\left[\begin{array}{c|c}\n\cdot & \cdot & \text{Et}_3SH, TFA \\
\hline\n\cdot & \cdot & \text{CH}_2Cl_2, \text{rt, 1.5 h} \\
\hline\n\cdot & \cdot & \text{CO}_3Cr^{-1}\n\end{array}\right]
$$
 (92%)

**Tricarbonyl(1-***endo***-allyltetralin)chromium [Stereoselective Reduction of an Alcohol to a Hydrocarbon].<sup>182</sup>** A solution of tricarbonyl(1-*exo*-allyl-1 *endo*-tetralol)chromium (150 mg, 0.46 mmol),  $Et<sub>3</sub>SH$  (0.22 mL, 1.4 mmol), and  $CH_2Cl_2$  (1 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 1.5 hours under nitrogen. The mixture was poured into water (10 mL) and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O ( $2 \times 10$  mL). Evaporation of the organic layer under reduced pressure and purification by silica gel chromatography on  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  (1 : 8 Et<sub>2</sub>O/petroleum ether) afforded tricarbonyl(1*endo*-allyltetralin)chromium as yellow crystals: 131 mg, 92%; mp 88–89◦ ; IR (CHCl3*)*1960, 1880, 1635 cm<sup>−</sup>1; 1H NMR (CDCl3*) δ* 6*.*15-4*.*80 (m, 7H), 2.95- 2.10 (m, 5H), 2.05-1.35 (m, 4H).



**5-Methoxytetralin [Partial Reduction of a Substituted Naphthalene to a Tetralin].<sup>262</sup>** 1,5-Dimethoxynaphthalene (300 mg, 1.0 mmol) dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3–4 mL) was added dropwise to a flask containing BF<sub>3</sub>•OH<sub>2</sub> (1.1 g, 13 mmol) at 0◦ . After the addition was completed, the mixture was stirred for  $10-15$  minutes and allowed to warm to room temperature, and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (742 mg, 6.4 mmol) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for an additional 5–6 hours, neutralized with cold saturated aqueous  $Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>$  solution, and extracted with  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$  (3  $\times$  15 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water  $(2 \times 10 \text{ mL})$ , dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and evaporated to leave ca. 270 mg of brownish oil, which according to NMR and GC analyses contained ca. 90% of 5-methoxytetralin. Purification of the crude product was accomplished by column chromatography on  $SiO<sub>2</sub> (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/Et<sub>2</sub>O)$ .

$$
\underbrace{\downarrow}_{\text{OAC}} \underbrace{\text{Ph}_2 \text{SiH}_2, \text{ZnCl}_2, \text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4}_{\text{THF, rt, 13 h, 50^\circ, 2 h}} \longrightarrow \underbrace{\text{OAc}}_{\text{ACO}} \tag{90\%}
$$

**1,2,3-Trideoxy-D-***ribo***-hex-1-enopyranose Diacetate [Reduction of an Allyl Ester**].<sup>196</sup> To a THF (10 mL) solution containing tri-*O*-acetylglucal (349 mg, 1.28 mmol), diphenylsilane (489 mg, 403 mmol), and  $ZnCl<sub>2</sub>$  (541 mg, 4.0 mmol) was added  $Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>$  (70 mg, 0.06 mmol, 12 mol%). The solution was stirred at room temperature for 13 hours, then at  $50^\circ$  for 2 hours, and then mixed with  $Et<sub>2</sub>O$  and washed several times with water. The ether layer was dried over  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>$  and the solvent was evaporated. The yield of 1,2,3-trideoxy-D-ribo-hex-1-enopyranose diacetate was 90% as determined by NMR using bibenzyl as an internal standard. The product was partially decomposed upon chromatographic purification over  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$ , yielding 120 mg (53%).



**6-(2-Butyl)-4-hydroxy-3-ethyl-2-pyrone (Germicidin) [Reduction of a Ketone Carbonyl to a Methylene Group in a Multifunctional Compound].<sup>423</sup>** A TFA (15 mL) solution containing 3-acetyl-6-(2-butyl)-4-hydroxy-2-pyrone  $(2 \text{ mmol})$ , Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (1.29 mL, 8.0 mmol), and LiClO<sub>4</sub> (2 mg, 0.02 mmol) was stirred at room temperature for about four hours while being monitored by TLC. The solvent was evaporated under vacuum and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (CHCl<sub>3</sub> eluent) to yield racemic  $6-(2$ butyl)-4-hydroxy-3-ethyl-2-pyrone: 337 mg,  $86\%$ ; mp  $95-97^\circ$  (Et<sub>2</sub>O/hexane); IR (KBr) 1160, 1285, 1430, 1595, 1680, 2885, 2945, 2980 cm<sup>−</sup>1; 1H NMR (CDCl3*) δ* 6*.*22 (s, 1H), 2.48 *(q*, *J* = 7*.*4 Hz, 2H) and (m, 1H), 1.75-1.24 (m, 2H), 1.20 (d, *J* = 6*.*7 Hz, 3H), 1.11 (t, *J* = 7*.*5 Hz, 3H), 0.89 (t, *J* = 7*.*5 Hz, 3H); 13C NMR (CDCl3*) δ* 69*.*6, 168.8, 168.0, 105.0, 100.9, 39.8, 27.5, 17.7, 16.4, 12.4, 11.6.



**1-(1-Chloroethyl)-4-nitrobenzene [Deoxygenative Chlorination of a Ketone].**<sup>331</sup> To a mixture of  $In(OH)_{3}$  (0.1 mmol) and *p*-nitroacetophenone  $(2.0 \text{ mmol})$  in CHCl<sub>3</sub>  $(4.0 \text{ mL})$  was added ClSiMe<sub>2</sub>H  $(2.4 \text{ mmol})$  under nitrogen. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 hours at room temperature, and then was poured into EtOAc (50 mL) and washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (50 mL). The organic layer was dried over  $MgSO<sub>4</sub>$  and concentrated under vacuum to yield 99% of 1-(1-chloroethyl)-4-nitrobenzene. The physical and spectral data of the product were in excellent accord with known values.

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n\text{Et}_{2}\text{MeSiH, PhNCO} \\
\text{ORe} \\
\hline\n\text{CH}_{2}\text{Cl}_{2},45^{\circ},13 \text{ h}\n\end{array}\n\quad\n\begin{array}{c}\n\text{Bt}_{1}\text{MeSiH, PhNCO} \\
\text{Pt}_{1}\text{Me}\\
\text{H}\n\end{array}\n\quad\n\begin{array}{c}\n\text{O} \\
\text{Pt}_{1}\text{Me}\\
\text{M} \\
\text{H}\n\end{array}\n\quad\n\begin{array}{c}\n\text{O} \\
\text{OMe}\\
\text{OMe}\\
\text{H}\n\end{array}\n\quad\n\begin{array}{c}\n\text{O} \\
\text{M} \\
\text{H}\n\end{array}\n\quad\n\begin{array}{c}\n\text{O} \\
\
$$

**Methyl 2-(Phenylcarbamoyl)butanoate [Hydrocarbamoylation of an** *α***,***β***-Unsaturated Ester<sup>1,475</sup>** To a solution of  $[Rh(cod){P(OPh)_3}_2]$ OTf (9.9 mg, 0.01 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (4 mL) was added a mixture of phenyl isocyanate  $(121 \text{ mg}, 1.0 \text{ mmol})$ , methyl crotonate  $(210 \text{ mg}, 2.1 \text{ mmol})$ , and Et<sub>2</sub>MeSiH (205 mg, 2.0 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (2 mL). The resulting mixture was heated at reflux for 13 hours under a nitrogen atmosphere. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  (4:1 hexane/EtOAc) to afford methyl 2-(phenylcarbamoyl)butanoate: 194 mg, 88%; mp 76.0–77*.*0◦ (hexane/EtOAc); IR (CCl4*)* 3371, 1722, 1689 cm<sup>−</sup>1; 1H NMR (CDCl3*) δ* 8*.*74 (br s, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8*.*4 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (dd, *J* = 8*.*4 and 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (t, *J* = 7*.*5 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.32  $(t, J = 7.3 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H})$ , 2.03 (dq,  $J = 7.4$  and 7.3 Hz, 2H), 0.99 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H); 13C NMR (CDCl3*) δ* 172*.*7, 166.3, 137.4, 128.8, 124.3, 119.9, 54.9, 52.5, 24.9, 11.8. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{12}H_{15}NO_3$ : C 65.14; H 6.83; N 6.33. Found: C 65.30; H 6.57; N 6.28.



**Benzyl Bromide [Reductive Bromination of an Acetal].<sup>506</sup>** To a suspension of tin(II) bromide (5.1 mg, 0.02 mmol) and benzaldehyde dimethyl acetal  $(54.8 \text{ mg}, 0.36 \text{ mmol})$  in  $CH_2Cl_2$   $(2.5 \text{ mL})$  were added successively  $Et_3SiH$  $(65.0 \text{ mg}, 0.56 \text{ mmol})$  and acetyl bromide  $(96.8 \text{ mg}, 0.79 \text{ mmol})$  in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ (1 mL) at room temperature under an argon atmosphere. The mixture was stirred for 3 hours at room temperature and quenched with a phosphate buffer (pH 7).

The organic materials were extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  and the extract was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Benzyl bromide (54.7 mg, 89%) was isolated by TLC on  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$ .



**2-(Benzyloxy)-3-bromo-5-[(2-ethoxycarbonyl)ethyl]phenyl Ethyl Carbamate [Reduction of an Enamide to an Amide].<sup>535</sup> A mixture of Et<sub>3</sub>SiH** (170 µL, 1.07 mmol) and (*E)*-2-(benzyloxy)-3-bromo-5-(2-ethoxycarbonyl) vinyl)phenyl ethyl carbamate (32 mg, 0.69 mmol) was cooled to  $-10^\circ$  in an ice-salt bath under nitrogen, and treated with pre-cooled TFA (1.0 mL) in one portion. The two-phase mixture was *rapidly* stirred at −10◦ for 0.5 hour, poured into ice-cold saturated aqueous  $NAHCO<sub>3</sub>$  solution, and worked up by extraction with  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The extracts were dried  $(Na_2SO_4)$  and concentrated to give essentially pure title product: 30 mg,  $94\%$ ; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.5-7.3 (m, 5H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 2*.*0 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 2*.*0 Hz, 1H), 4.99 (s, 2H), 4.74 (br t, *J* = 5*.*6 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (q, *J* = 7*.*2 Hz, 2H), 4.10 (q, *J* = 7*.*2 Hz, 2H), 3.38 (dt, *J* = 5*.*6 and 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.74 (t, *J* = 6*.*8 Hz, 2H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 7*.*2 Hz, 3H), 1.22 (t, *J* = 7*.*2 Hz, 3H); 13C NMR (CDCl3*) δ* 156*.*5, 152.9, 146.8, 145.1, 136.6, 136.4, 131.1, 128.4, 128.3, 128.2, 122.6, 118.1, 75.5, 65.2, 60.8, 41.7, 35.2, 14.6, 14.1; HRMS (CI)  $m/z$ :  $[M + H]^{+}$  calcd for  $C_{21}H_{25}BrNO_6$ , 466.0865; found, 466.0864.

$$
NO_2 \xrightarrow{PMHS, ZnCl_2, Et_2O} NO_2 \xrightarrow{r, 12 h} NO_2 \xrightarrow{75\%}
$$

**3-Nitrobenzylamine [Reduction of an Imine to an Amine].<sup>539</sup>** To PMHS (300 mg) in a 25-mL flask fitted with a septum inlet and magnetic stirring bar was added freshly fused  $ZnCl_2$  (270 mg, 5 mmol) in dry Et<sub>2</sub>O (5 mL) under a nitrogen atmosphere. After 10 minutes, *N*-phenyl-3-nitrophenylmethanimine (225 mg, 1 mmol) was added, and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 hours and extracted with 1 M HCl ( $2 \times 15$  mL). The aqueous layer was washed with  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$  (15 mL) to remove non-amine impurities. The purified aqueous layer was made basic (pH  $\sim$  10) with 1 N NaOH and extracted with EtOAc ( $3 \times 15$  mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water (15 mL) and brine (15 mL), and dried  $(Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>)$ . The volatiles were removed and the residue was purified by column chromatography to yield 170 mg (75%) of the title product: 1H NMR (CDCl3*) δ* 7*.*20 (d, *J* = 7*.*5 Hz, 2H), 7.70-6.50 (m, 7H), 3.50 (s, 2H); MS *m/z*: M<sup>+</sup> 228, 136, 106, 91, 77.



**Cyclohexyl Iodide [Iodoreduction of an Oxirane to an Iodoalkane].<sup>357</sup>** A mixture of cyclohexene oxide (1.01 mL, 10 mmol), NaI (2.00 g, 13.3 mmol), and TMSCl (1.92 mL, 15 mmol) in anhydrous MeCN (10 mL) was stirred at  $5-10°$ for 2–3 minutes. Then TMDO (1.79 mL, 10 mmol) was added and the mixture was heated at reflux for 0.5 hour. The remaining siloxane products were destroyed by adding 45% aqueous HF (2.0 mL) and heating at reflux for 5 minutes. The reaction mixture was taken up in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (30 mL), and the organic layer was washed with water (20 mL),  $1 \text{ N } \text{NaHSO}_3$  (10 mL), and water (20 mL) again. Drying  $(Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>)$  and evaporation of the solvents afforded crude cyclohexyl iodide, which was purified by Kugelrohr distillation to give pure product, 1.58 g (75%); bp 180–183◦ ; 1H NMR (CCl4*) δ* 4*.*14 (m, 1H), 1.92 (m, 4H), 1.41 (m, 6H).



**(***R***)-3,3-Dimethyl-5-(2-phenylethyl)cyclohexanone [Asymmetric 1,4-Reduction of an Enone].<sup>597</sup>** To a 5-mL round-bottomed flask, flame-dried and purged with argon, was added CuHPPh<sub>3</sub> (2.3 mg, 7.0  $\mu$ mol) and (*R*)-DTBM-SEGPHOS  $(1.9 \text{ mg}, 1.6 \mu \text{mol})$ . Toluene  $(0.60 \text{ mL})$  was added and the solution was cooled to  $-35^\circ$ . After PMHS (215 µL, 3.3 mmol) was introduced by syringe, 3-(2-phenylethyl)-5,5-dimethylcyclohexenone (192 mg, 0.84 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at  $-35°$  for 12 hours until the reaction was complete as determined by TLC  $(20\%$  Et<sub>2</sub>O/ligroin) and was then quenched by pouring into 3 N NaOH. Ether and water were added, and the mixture was stirred for 2 hours at room temperature. The aqueous layer was extracted with  $Et_2O$  (2 x), and the combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over  $MgSO<sub>4</sub>$ , filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash chromatography  $(10\% \text{ Et}_2\text{O/ligroin})$  to afford the title ketone as a clear oil: 185 mg  $(95\%)$ , chiral GC (ketal from (*R*,*R)*-2,3-butanediol, Chiraldex B-DM 140) showed 99.5% ee. 1H NMR (CDCl3, 400 MHz) *δ* 7*.*31-7*.*17 (m, 5H), 2.64 (t, *J* = 8*.*2 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (ddd,  $J = 9.2, 2.0, 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.21 (d,  $J = 13.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.10 (ddd,  $J = 13.2$ , 2.2, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 1.35 (t, *J* = 12*.*4 Hz, 1H), 1.09 (s, 3H), 0.88 (s, 3H), 1.99-1.91 (m, 2H), 1.73-1.62 (m, 3H); 13C NMR (CDCl3, 125 MHz) *δ* 25*.*3, 32.3, 33.2, 34.6, 35.4, 39.3, 45.3, 47.6, 54.7, 126.0, 128.4, 128.6, 142.2, 212.0; HRMS calcd for  $C_{16}H_{22}O$  230.1671; found 230.1663.

#### **TABULAR SURVEY**

A thorough coverage of the literature through 2004 has been carried out based on the search of certain silanes. A small number of additional pertinent articles, particularly regarding the asymmetric silane reductions that were published later, are included.

Tables are organized by the functional group classes undergoing change in the substrates. Table entries are ordered by increasing carbon count of the starting substrate. Protecting groups are included in the carbon count. Unspecified yields are denoted by  $(-)$ .

The following abbreviations are used in the tables:










CHART 1. LIGAND AND CATALYST STRUCTURES USED IN TABLES



CHART 1. LIGAND AND CATALYST STRUCTURES USED IN TABLES (Continued) CHART 1. LIGAND AND CATALYST STRUCTURES USED IN TABLES (*Continued*)





CHART 1. LIGAND AND CATALYST STRUCTURES USED IN TABLES (Continued)





CHART 1. LIGAND AND CATALYST STRUCTURES USED IN TABLES (Continued) CHART 1. LIGAND AND CATALYST STRUCTURES USED IN TABLES (*Continued*)































CHART 2. ORGANOSILANE COMPOUND DESIGNATIONS USED IN TABLES CHART 2. ORGANOSILANE COMPOUND DESIGNATIONS USED IN TABLES



















TABLE 1. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALKENES (*Continued*) TABLE 1. ORGANOSII ANE REDUCTION OF ALKENES (Contin



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O



TABLE 1. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALKENES (*Continued*)  $\overline{\zeta}$  $\frac{1}{6}$ TABLE 1 ORGANOSIT ANE REDI



 $(30e$ 

209

208

134



Á Ĉ



 $\mathrm{C}_{8\text{-}9}$ 



Á ĉ













214 205



TABLE 1. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALKENES (Continued) TABLE 1. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALKENES (*Continued*)



C15-16

 $\approx$ 

 $\rm C_{16}$ 

Ar

Ar

s

 $C_{15}$ 

s

S

z.  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ 

 $C_{14}$ 















 $^b$  The product was a single diaster<br>comer of unknown stereochemistry. *b* The product was a single diastereomer of unknown stereochemistry.





 $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$ j












TABLE 3. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF AROMATIC HYDROCARBONS TABLE 3. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF AROMATIC HYDROCARBONS

182



 $C_5$ 

O ka

211 211 257 265

N

183



TABLE 3. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF AROMATIC HYDROCARBONS (*Continued*) Ĕ j Ğ



 $\sim$ O  $\sim$ 

185

 $\sim$ 





 $C_9$ 



TABLE 3. ORGANOSII ANE REDUCTION OF AROMATIC HYDROCARBONS (Continued) TABLE 3. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF AROMATIC HYDROCARBONS (*Continued*)







 $\sim$ 

 $CO<sub>2</sub>Me$ 



TABLE 3. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF AROMATIC HYDROCARBONS (*Continued*)  $\zeta$  $\sim$  $\frac{1}{3}$ **TIC HYDD**  $\overline{A}$  $\overline{C}$ most TABLE 3 ORGANOSILANE REDU





TABLE 4. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF HALOCARBONS TABLE 4. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF HALOCARBONS







TABLE 4. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF HALOCARRONS (Continued) TABLE 4. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF HALOCARBONS (*Continued*)



 $\geq$ 

189











TABLE 4. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF HALOCARBONS (*Continued*) TABLE 4. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF HALOCARBONS (Continu



 $\times$ 

Br

 $\mathbf{r}$   $\mathbf{r}$ 

 $\mathbf{r}$ 

Br

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F

 $\stackrel{\scriptscriptstyle \mathrm{d}}{\mathstrut}_{\phantom{0}}\hspace{0.025cm} \longrightarrow$ 

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 $\circ$ OTf Oă  $C_{10}$ 

Br

C9

 $\overline{C}$ 

Br



TABLE 4. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF HALOCARBONS (Continued) TABLE 4. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF HALOCARBONS (*Continued*)















195

Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (1.4 eq), PdCl<sub>2</sub> (5-10 mol%),

Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (1.4 eq), PdCl<sub>2</sub> (5-10 mol%),

rt, 40 min

rt, 40 min



128

Et3SiH (2 eq), TFA (2 eq),  $CH_2Cl_2$ , 40°, 40 min, rt, 15 h

CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 40°, 40 min, rt, 15 h Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (2 eq), TFA (2 eq),



706, 705



196



60

59



C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub><br>CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>

10 min

(100) (100)

Et3Si

X Cl Cl Cl Br Br Br





TABLE 5. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALCOHOLS TABLE 5. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALCOHOLS





211
























TABLE 5. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALCOHOLS (Continued) TABLE 5. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALCOHOLS (*Continued*)









TABLE 5. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALCOHOLS (*Continued*)  $\zeta$ TOT O  $\lambda$  i  $\frac{1}{6}$  $\tilde{a}$ ANTE DED  $\overline{\mathbf{c}}$ TARIE 5 OPGANO















 $727\,$ 

 $174\,$ 



TABLE 5 ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALCOHOLS (Continued) TABLE 5. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALCOHOLS (*Continued*)

















 $\ensuremath{^b}\xspace$  Various product ratios were observed for this reaction. *b* Various product ratios were observed for this reaction.  $\emph{a}$  The yield was determined by gas chromatography. *a* The yield was determined by gas chromatography.



ON OF FITHERS TABLE 6. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ETHERS TABLE 6. ORGANOSIL ANE REDI














 $C_{22}$ 











TABLE 7. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALLYL ESTERS (*Continued*)  $\Gamma$ Ė  $\frac{1}{7}$ 













TABLE 8. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ACIDS (Continued) TABLE 8. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ACIDS (*Continued*)





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 $\circ$ 

 $\mathcal{C}^8$ 

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Č  $E_{10}$ 







TABLE 10. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ESTERS AND LACTONES (*Continued*) Ú ċ å  $\Omega$ 









TABLE 10. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ESTERS AND LACTONES (*Continued*) È ċ Ĉ  $\overline{10}$ ĵ



(44) (97)

353

 $R^{17}$   $R^2$ 



ï









**I**



TABLE 10. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ESTERS AND LACTONES (*Continued*)  $\overline{\zeta}$ j  $\overline{1}$ ت<br>ج TARLE 10 ORGANOSII ANE REDI











193 301, 302 301



TABLE 10. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ESTERS AND LACTONES (*Continued*) TABLE 10. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ESTERS AND LACTONES (Continu




 $\tilde{a}$ 









*n*-C9H19 OEt  $\circ$ 

293

o<br>Dry ome<br>Oxy

292 290



TABLE 10. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ESTERS AND LACTONES (Continued) TABLE 10. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ESTERS AND LACTONES (*Continued*)





TABLE 10. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ESTERS AND LACTONES (*Continued*) È ċ å  $\tilde{a}$ 









 $\mathbf{C}_{17\text{-}18}$ 





.CO<sub>2</sub>Me ΞC  $CO<sub>2</sub>Me$ `OMe  $\int_{H}$ CO<sub>2</sub>Me  $\rm \mathcal{L}O_{2}Me$  $SO<sub>2</sub>Ph$ OMe 1-Np  $\circ$  $n-C_{17}H_{35}$  $C_{19}$ 

297

**OMe** 



 $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$ TABLE 10. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ESTERS AND LACTONES (*Continued*)  $\overline{\zeta}$  $\lambda$  NID  $I$ ļ Ě TARLE 10 ORGANOSII ANE REF







 $^a$  The yield was determined by NMR spectroscopy. *a* The yield was determined by NMR spectroscopy.

 $b$  No reduction occurred in this reaction. No reduction occurred in this reaction.

 $^{\rm c}$  The product was isolated as the phenylhydrazone. *c* The product was isolated as the phenylhydrazone.



TABLE 11. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALDEHYDES TABLE 11. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALDEHYDES





TABLE 11. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALDEHYDES (Continued) TABLE 11. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALDEHYDES (*Continued*)



 $400\,$ 



TABLE 11. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALDEHYDES (Continued) TABLE 11. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALDEHYDES (*Continued*)



Bn Bn  $\circ$ +



TABLE 11. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALDEHYDES (Continued) TABLE 11. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALDEHYDES (*Continued*)



Ph<br>
H  $\circ$ 



ă  $\overline{\phantom{a}}$ Ę TABLE 11. ORGANOSILANE REDI





TABLE 11. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALDEHYDES (*Continued*) TABLE 11. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALDEHYDES (Contin


















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116

333



 $\tilde{\mathcal{E}}$ TABLE 11. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALDEHYDES (*Continued*) j. TABLE 11. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALDEHYDES (Cor





è Ĉ



344



Š Ě  $\ddot{\phantom{0}}$ Ē  $\overline{\phantom{a}}$ į TABLE 11. ORGANOSILANE RED



 $\overline{ }$ 





Ph O H  $\mathsf{e}\mathsf{e}$ 

O H





CF3O  $\mathsf{H}$ 





$$
333\,
$$



TABLE 11. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALDEHYDES (*Continued*) Á











 $C_{12}$ 



TABLE 11. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALDEHYDES (*Continued*) TABLE 11. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ALDEHYDES (Continu









 $^b$  The product associated with this yield is (PhCH<sub>2</sub>OCH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>.  $b$  The product associated with this yield is (PhCH<sub>2</sub>OCH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>.





TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*)  $\ddot{\phantom{0}}$ ONEC IC  $\alpha$ e  $V$ en  $\tilde{c}$ TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE RED



365









TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*) TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (Contin













 $\frac{1}{8}$   $\frac{3}{8}$   $\frac{3}{8}$   $\frac{3}{8}$ 



TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*) h um c ne V er ANIE DET TABLE 12. ORGANOSII




 $\leq$ TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*) Ĵ. TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (Can





TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*) TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (Contin



25<br>259<br>359<br>346<br>346





343

332



TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*) TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (Continu



353

**II**

365

 $C_{6}$ -1





 $\circ$ 



381, 384

 $\circ$ 



278









 $V_{\rm TFT}$ È TABLE 12 ORGANO



 $\simeq$ 

 $\overline{a}$ 





(91)

389

389



389

392

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$$
\begin{array}{c}\n \text{H)} \\
 \text{H)} \\
 \text{H)} \\
 \text{H} \\
 \text{H}
$$

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n\circ \\
\circ \\
\circ \\
\hline\n\end{array}
$$



Et2MeSi, then Ph<sub>2</sub>HSi

(35)

(65)

46:54







TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*) TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (Contin





TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (Contin



Ph OEt °≕ ⊳ Ph OEt

+ +



 $V_T$ Ā











Ph

Ph

378

 $\mathbf{C}_{8\textrm{-}12}$ 







γF Ā






 $\overline{a}$ 

 $\overline{a}$ 

 $\overline{\phantom{a}}$ 



TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*)  $\zeta$  $\ddot{\phantom{0}}$ í  $\alpha$   $V$   $\alpha$ ĵ TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDI







 $\hat{\mathcal{A}}$ TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*)  $\ddot{\phantom{a}}$  $\zeta$ NIEC  $\alpha$   $V$  Eq  $\tilde{c}$ ANIE DED TARLE 12 ORGANOST



C10-15







Ś **TEC** ć  $\alpha$ e  $V$ em ž ANE DEN TARLE 12 ORGANOST









TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*) J. ON OF VETONES (C TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTI



**III**

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OH<br>C くくくろ

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TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (Continued) TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*)





79, 80





TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*)  $\overline{\Gamma}$ Ì γE Ā ļ ĉ





















R,<br>SiH (1.1-1.2 eq),  $\label{eq:SB} \text{TBAF}$  (5-10 mol%), HMPA TBAF (5-10 mol%), HMPA R3SiH (1.1-1.2 eq),





R1 OAc OAc OAc OAc OAc OAc OAc OAc OAc OBz OEE





 $\mathbf{C}_{12}$ 















Ph<sub>1</sub> O $O < 0$ Ph Ph  $\mathcal{P}$ HO o<br>Jë O ⇘

425

O Ph

 $\circ$ 

 $E$ -



ON OF KETONES (Co TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDI



Ph  $\circ$ 

 $_{\rm H}^{\circ}$ 










O。<br>)

OH

O

C7H15-*n*



 $\tilde{z}$ TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*) TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (Continu





O







135

354

376

86

threo:erythro 95:5 87:13 320

372

TMS

 $\blacksquare$ 

372

TMS









TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*)  $\overline{V}$ Ă  $T$  $\triangle$ BIE17 OP





TABLE 12. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*) -3 TER IC Ě  $\alpha$ E  $V$ ET  $\tilde{C}$ j TARLE 12 ORGANOSII ANE REDI











C37

- $^b$  The yield was determined by gas chromatography. The yield was determined by gas chromatography.
- $^{\rm c}$  This column gives the amount of acid used in a one mmol reaction. *c* This column gives the amount of acid used in a one mmol reaction.



e<br>C



432

5

 $\int_0^{\infty}$ 



TABLE 13. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF AMIDES (*Continued*) TABLE 13 ORGANOSIL ANE REDUCTION OF AMIDES (Continu



 $R^3$  $\mathcal{F}$ <br> $\mathcal{F}$   $\mathcal{$ meso:rac





280 430

431







TABLE 13. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF AMIDES (*Continued*) ÷, í,  $\mathbf{r}$ ANIE DE Ĭ  $\overline{\mathbf{C}}$ Ĉ













 $\frac{NHR^3}{R^2}$ 1. Activator  $(1.25 \text{ eq})$ ,<br>solvent,  $\pi$ , 1 h 2. PMHS  $(2 \text{ eq})$ , THF 1. Activator (1.25 eq),

solvent, rt, 1 h 2. PMHS (2 eq), THF

Activator  $AICI<sub>3</sub>$ Pd-C Ti(OPr-*i*)4  $AICI<sub>3</sub>$ 

Solvent

Time (2)

MeC6H5 EtOH THF

1<br>10 h<br>5 h

363

 $C_{7-13}$ 

Pd-C Ti(OPr-*i*)4 AlCl3 Pd-C Ti(OPr-*i*)4 AlCl3 Pd-C Ti(OPr-*i*)4 AlCl3 Pd-C Ti(OPr-*i*)4 AlCl3 Pd-C Ti(OPr-*i*)4

EtOH<br>THE MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub><br>EtOH<br>THF

13 d<br>10 h<br>6 h

 $\frac{10}{6}$  fig.

MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub><br>EtOH<br>THF MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub><br>EtOH<br>MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub><br>EtOH<br>EtOH

12 h<br>10 h<br>10 h<br>3 h<br>3 h<br>3 h<br>3 h<br>3 h

(40) (60) (90) (52) (62) (92) (48) (55) (85) (45) (56) (88) (45) (55) (90) (50) (58) (90)





361

326














TABLE 16. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ -UNSATURATED KETONES TABLE 16. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF α,β−UNSATURATED KETONES



451

411

469



TABLE 16. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF a B-UNSATURATED KETONES (Continued) TABLE 16. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF α,β−UNSATURATED KETONES (*Continued*)





















 $\overline{a}$ 







(67) (69)

 $\mathrm{CH_{2}Cl_{2}:MeC_{6}H_{5}}$  (1:1)



459



 $\prec$ TABLE 16. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF α,β−UNSATURATED KETONES (*Continued*) ŕ. d ā  $\ddot{\phantom{0}}$ 



 $C_{6-15}$ 

760



TABLE 16. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF a B-UNSATURATED KETONES (Continued) TABLE 16. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF α,β−UNSATURATED KETONES (*Continued*)







TABLE 16. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF α,β−UNSATURATED KETONES (*Continued*) TABLE 16. OBGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF  $\alpha$  8-J INSATURATED KETONES (Continu





TABLE 16. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF a,B-UNSATURATED KETONES (Continued) TABLE 16. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF α,β−UNSATURATED KETONES (*Continued*)

482



483

 $n$ -C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>11</sub><sup> $\sim$ </sup>



TABLE 16. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF α,β−UNSATURATED KETONES (*Continued*)  $V$ ET j Ĕ è  $16$  Op







83<br>3<br>4<br>4<br>4<br>4<br>5

Ph

 $\circ$ 

444

435

435

487



TABLE 16. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF a B-UNSATURATED KETONES (Continued) TABLE 16. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF α,β−UNSATURATED KETONES (*Continued*)





Ph O



TABLE 16. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF a B-UNSATURATED KETONES (Continued) TABLE 16. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF α,β−UNSATURATED KETONES (*Continued*)







TABLE 16. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF α,β−UNSATURATED KETONES (*Continued*) n Kr I Ì ţ R I N ķ TARIE 16 ORGANOSII ANE REDI









TABLE 16. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF α,β−UNSATURATED KETONES (*Continued*) TABLE 16. ORGANOSILANE REDITCTION OF  $\alpha$  B-LINSATURATED KETONES (Continu














 $C_{19}$ 

ò

Ph O

O≵<br>≥≍

O

Ph

ò



TABLE 16. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF α,β−UNSATURATED KETONES (*Continued*) N<sub>r</sub> É Á  $16 \text{ }$  OB



448

460

460

460

 $C_{21}$ 









 $\frac{1}{2}$ TABLE 17. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF α,β−UNSATURATED ESTERS ñ f. ć  $\mathbf{17}$ 



TABLE 17. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ -UNSATURATED ESTERS (Continued) TABLE 17. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF α,β−UNSATURATED ESTERS (*Continued*)



601

762

762





 $\circ$ 



TABLE 17. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF α,β−UNSATURATED ESTERS (*Continued*) Ě ċ Ğ















°⊾<br>⊡ É Ğ  $\frac{1}{2}$ 













 $C_{12}$ 







Ó







 $\sim$   $\approx$ 



í

 $\epsilon$ 

 $\begin{array}{c} \hline \end{array}$ 



TABLE 19. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF α,β−UNSATURATED NITRILES Ā  $\overline{\mathbf{C}}$ å





C°




 $\overline{\text{GR}^3}$ 

 $C_{8-12}$ 

(87) (82) (87) (86) (80) (86) (93) (70) (93) (83) (86) (80) (81)

501







TABLE 20. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ACETALS, KETALS, AND HEMIKETALS (Continued) TABLE 20. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ACETALS, KETALS, AND HEMIKETALS (*Continued*)



(48) (40) OSSR1 R2 Htrans:cis 10:1 7:1 13:1 (70) (63) (83)

63:1 16:1 9:1

(72) (81) (82)

(61) (43) (51) (79)



TABLE 20. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ACETALS, KETALS, AND HEMIKETALS (Continued) TABLE 20. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ACETALS, KETALS, AND HEMIKETALS (*Continued*)







H







 $C_{11-16}$ 





















 $C_{18-28}$ 

 $\mathrm{C_{18\text{-}19}}$ 

γk<br>Ε

。<br>舌

Ph′

`N<br>Fli



TABLE 20. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ACETALS, KETALS, AND HEMIKETALS (Continued) TABLE 20. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ACETALS, KETALS, AND HEMIKETALS (*Continued*)



496

520





 $C_{21}$ 











TABLE 20. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ACETALS, KETALS, AND HEMIKETALS (*Continued*) TABLE 20. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF ACETALS KETALS AND HEMIKETALS (Continu









 $^a$  The yield was determined by NMR spectroscopy. *a* The yield was determined by NMR spectroscopy.

 $\ensuremath{^b}$  The product is a single isomer of undetermined configuration. *b* The product is a single isomer of undetermined configuration.



TABLE 21. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF AMINALS AND HEMIAMINALS


















 $\mathbf{C}_{21}$ 

 $\mathrm{C}_{20}$ 

 $C_{17}$ 

 $C_{18}$ 





 $^a$  The yield was determined by NMR spectroscopy. *a* The yield was determined by NMR spectroscopy.





R1

544 545 545







TABLE 23. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF IMINES (Continued) TABLE 23. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF IMINES (*Continued*)





TABLE 23. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF IMINES (*Continued*) ċ Ğ  $\tilde{\mathcal{C}}$ 



543

539

476

545

545





543

539

544

 $778$ 

 $C_{18}$ 

 $C_{19}$ 



TABLE 23. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF IMINES (Continued) TABLE 23. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF IMINES (*Continued*)



TARI E 24 ORGANOSII ANE REDUCTION OF HYDROXYLIMINES TABLE 24. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF HYDROXYLIMINES







TABLE 24. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF HYDROXYLIMINES (Continued) TABLE 24. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF HYDROXYLIMINES (*Continued*)













TABLE 26. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF MISCELLANEOUS NITROGEN COMPOUNDS TABLE 26. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF MISCELLANEOUS NITROGEN COMPOUNDS  $\ensuremath{\mathcal{C}}$ 









TABLE 26. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF MISCELLANEOUS NITROGEN COMPOUNDS (*Continued*) t Á Ĉ  $20 - 16$ 










TABLE 27. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF MISCELLANEOUS SULFUR COMPOUNDS Č ċ Ğ  $\tilde{c}$ 





TABLE 28. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF SMALL RING COMPOUNDS (*Continued*) TABLE 28. ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF SMALL RING COMPOUNDS (Continua













C43



TABLE 30. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES ì ċ ć  $\tilde{c}$ 



1. R3SiH (1 eq), catalyst*a* (0.1 eq), rt 1. R,SiH (1 eq), catalyst<br/>" $(0.1$ eq), rt 2. PhMgBr

 $R^{17}$   $R^2$  $\circ$ 

 $\tilde{C}_{4-10}$ 







385

## 576 587 783 784



TABLE 30. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*)





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580, 581

ti<br>O ¤ ¤ ¤ ¤ ¤ ∞ ¤ ¤

785





Ns O

O

EtO

O

O

O  $\circ$ 





 $\circ$ 





787





Conf. S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S R R R R R R R

 $^{\circ}$ 



TABLE 30. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*)  $\cap$   $V$ AND DENT ξT  $\epsilon$ Č  $\overline{\underline{\zeta}}$  $T$ ARIE 30 ASYMM

 $\overline{t}$ j



575

578 578





576



රී





Ph

OH







ନ<br>(38) ମି <del>ମ</del>ୁ

9 9 7 7<br>9 9 7 8







 $\overline{1}$ ř  $m$  Dr ć  $\ddot{\xi}$ 



586



TABLE 30. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (Continued) TABLE 30. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*)





TABLE 30. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (Continued) TABLE 30. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*)




**II**



R:S<br>65:35<br>56:55<br>55:45<br>55:45<br>55:45

 $\mathrm{Ph}_2\mathrm{SiH}_2$  (1 eq), catalyst, ligand,  $\mathrm{C}_6\mathrm{H}_6$  ,rt, 16 h Ph<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub> (1 eq), catalyst, ligand, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, rt, 16 h

**II**







Ph2SiH2 (1.25 eq), Rh[(NBD)Cl]2 (0.5%), **117**  $\mathrm{Ph}_2\mathrm{SiF}$ 







TABLE 30. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (Continued) TABLE 30. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*)



798

(–)-BPPFA





800

580, 581



TABLE 30. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (Continued) TABLE 30. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*)







I

Į,







Ph<br>CF<sub>3</sub>

Ar  $\circ$ 

 $\mathcal{C}_{8-9}$ 

Ar Ph 4-ClC6H4 4-MeC6H4

 $4-{\rm MeOC}_6{\rm H}_4$ 

o<br>O

 $\circ$ 





783



TABLE 30. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*) TABLE 30. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (Contin















 $\frac{26}{15}$  =  $\frac{48}{35}$   $\frac{48}{35}$   $\frac{48}{35}$   $\frac{49}{25}$   $\frac{49}{25}$   $\frac{49}{25}$   $\frac{49}{25}$   $\frac{49}{25}$   $\frac{49}{25}$   $\frac{49}{25}$ 

 $\mathrm{C}_{8-11}$ 

 $\circ$ 



TABLE 30. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (Continued) TABLE 30. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*)



us<br>Sanglandan kan

806



 $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}$ TABLE 30. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*) TABLE 30. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (Contin





TABLE 30. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF KETONES (*Continued*) ON OF KETONES (Co TARIE 30 A SYMMETRIC ORGANOSII ANE REDITOTI









Ph  $\circ$ 













 $_{\rm C}^{\rm o}$ Ph  $\circ$ 

OMe














 $^a$  The catalyst is S,S-[1, 2-bis(tetrahydroindenyl)<br>ethane]ittanium (IV) and derivatives. *a* The catalyst is *S*,*S*-[1,2-bis(tetrahydroindenyl)ethane]titanium (IV) and derivatives.

 $\ensuremath{^b}$  The configuration of the product was not determined. *b* The configuration of the product was not determined.

 $^c$  The reducing agent was  $(\mathrm{EtO})_3\mathrm{SiH}.$ *c* The reducing agent was (EtO)3SiH.

 $^d$  10 mol% of the catalyst was employed. *d* 10 mol% of the catalyst was employed.

*e* 20 mol% of the catalyst was employed.  $^e$  20 mol% of the catalyst was employed.

 $^f$  An additional 5 mol% of BINOL was added. *f* An additional 5 mol% of BINOL was added.

 $^{\ensuremath{g}}$  10 mol% of cinchonidine was added. *g* 10 mol% of cinchonidine was added.

 $h$  1-Naphthylphenylsilane was used as the reducing silane. *h* 1-Naphthylphenylsilane was used as the reducing silane.



TABLE 31. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF α,β−UNSATURATED KETONES  $-1$  $\overline{A}S$ - 31.



 $\overline{1}$ 

 $\epsilon$ 





i

















Ě É ć è Ō R  $\tilde{\zeta}$ 





















 $\tilde{\epsilon}$ TABLE 33. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF α,β−UNSATURATED LACTAMS ŧ j. r ís  $\ddot{\phantom{0}}$ Á Ō J,  $\mathcal{L}$ J



TABLE 34. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF IMINES  $24 \Delta s$ 





 $\bigwedge^{\infty}$ 

605

605

 $\left[ \mathrm{Ir(cod)Cl}_{2}\right]$ 

**41**

40 h

(>95)











 $\tilde{z}$ TABLE 34. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF IMINES (*Continued*) TABLE 34 ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF IMNES (Continu









 $\tilde{z}$ TABLE 34. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSILANE REDUCTION OF IMINES (*Continued*) TABLE 34. ASYMMETRIC ORGANOSII ANE REDUCTION OF IMINES (Contin



us<br>Sangara dan 1







608

Ts






717



 $\sqrt{b}$  The configuration of the product was not determined. *b* The configuration of the product was not determined.

 $\degree$  This reaction was carried out at  $-20^{\circ}$ . *c* This reaction was carried out at –20°.

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