

LITHIATED 2-ALKYNYL-1,3-DIOXANES AS FULLY OXYGENATED  
 ACYL-ANION EQUIVALENTS: SYNTHESIS OF 1-ALKYNYL KETONES

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Abstract- 2-Lithio-2-(trimethylsilylethynyl)-1,3-dioxane **3** is prepared from 2-(trimethylsilylethynyl)-1,3-dioxane with *n*-BuLi. Alkylation of **3** produces propargylic ketals **2** exclusively. Reaction with group IV-B chlorotrimethylmetalanes gives both propargylic products **2** and allenes **6** depending on the solvent used. Desilylation of **2** as well as hydrolysis to the alkynyl ketones **1** can be carried out under mild conditions. The first 1-alkynyl stannyl ketone has been prepared in this way. Formation of 2-lithio-2-(3,3-dimethyl-1-butynyl)-1,3-dioxane **10** requires *t*-BuLi. With various electrophiles **10** yields propargylic products and/or allenes in ratios depending on the solvent used.

roduction

agents exhibiting reversed polarity ("umpolung") have become important tools of modern synthetic organic chemistry<sup>1,2</sup>.

sked acyl-anions are frequently used in the synthesis of aldehydes and ketones<sup>3,4</sup>.

ong the many known synthons of that kind eters of  $\alpha,\alpha$ -dialkoxyacetic acids<sup>5</sup> and substituted 2-arylacetal<sup>6</sup>, are the ly representatives of the fully oxygenated type.

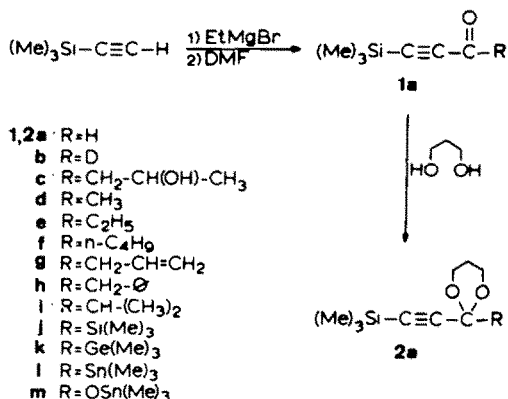
now report that 2-alkynyl-2-lithio-1,3-dioxanes are useful fully oxygenated acyl-anion synthons, easily accessible by deprotonation of the corresponding 2-alkynyl-1,3-dioxanes.

ng these synthons we were able to synthesize a variety of 1-alkynyl ketones, including substrates containing a group IV-B ligand as the second carbonyl substituent.

the latter case, we took advantage of the easy hydrolysis of 1,3-dioxanes.

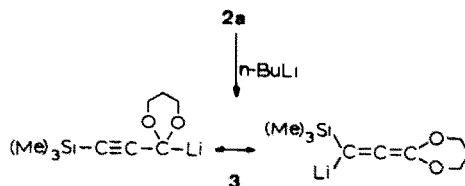
thesis and lithiation of 2-(trimethylsilylethynyl)-1,3-dioxane 2a

title compound, **2a** was synthesized according to Scheme I, starting from trimethylsilyl-ethyne<sup>7</sup>.



Scheme I

Lithiation of **2a** is preferably carried out by reaction with *n*-butyllithium at -65°C though *t*-butyllithium leads to similar results.

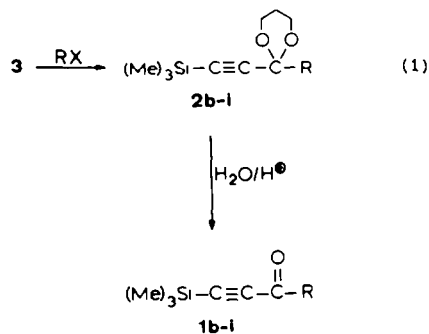


Both diethyl ether (DEE) and tetrahydrofuran (THF) can be used as solvent: in the latter case it is necessary to add **2a** to the solution of the organolithium reagent, otherwise attack

of initially formed **3** on the alkynyltrimethylsilyl group of **2a** leads to **2j**. Under the conditions of inverse addition the contribution of this reaction, not observed in DEE, amounts 5% or less.

Reaction of **3** with deuterium oxide, 1,2-epoxypropane and alkyl halides

Unlike many other lithium compounds derived from propargylic starting materials, which upon reaction with electrophiles yield mixtures of acetylenic and allenic products<sup>8,9</sup>, **3** reacted with D<sub>2</sub>O, 1,2-epoxypropane and primary and secondary alkyl halides to give propargylic derivatives exclusively (eqn. (1), Table 1):



With the epoxide attack on the primary carbon led to the formation of **2c**. Since the ring opening proceeds rather slowly<sup>10</sup> extensive desilylation of the product formed, **2c**, leads to **2j** and **4a**.

Hydrolysis of ketals **2** was performed with 0.2 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> in acetone/water (4:1), leading to the corresponding 1-alkynyl ketones **1** (eqn. 1), which are useful reagents for further synthetic elaboration. It is pointed out that a dithiane derivative closely related to **2** is reported to require delicate control of reaction conditions in order to obtain the corresponding ketone<sup>11</sup>.

Desilylation of 1-trimethylsilylalkynes is easily effected by several reagents, including hydroxide ion<sup>12</sup>, fluoride ion<sup>13</sup> and silver(I) ion followed by cyanide ion<sup>14</sup>. The latter combination was applied successfully to **2f** (see Scheme II).

Removal of the silicon moiety from the conjugated alkynyl ketones **1** is still easier. In the case tested, **1f**, even methanolic borax<sup>15</sup> was sufficient. In order to demonstrate the possibility of further modification **4d** was deprotonated with *n*-BuLi. Subsequent methylation with iodomethane gave **4e** (Scheme II).



- 4,5a**: R<sup>1</sup> = CH-CH(OH)-CH<sub>3</sub>, R<sup>2</sup> = H  
**b**: R<sup>1</sup> = CH-(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, R<sup>2</sup> = H  
**c**: R<sup>1</sup> = Si(Me)<sub>3</sub>, R<sup>2</sup> = H  
**d**: R<sup>1</sup> = *n*-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>, R<sup>2</sup> = H  
**e**: R<sup>1</sup> = *n*-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>, R<sup>2</sup> = CH<sub>3</sub>  
**f**: R<sup>1</sup> = Si(Me)<sub>3</sub>, R<sup>2</sup> = Ge(Me)<sub>3</sub>

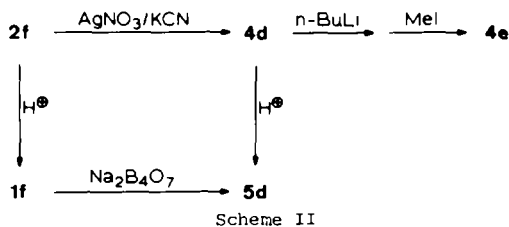


Table 1. Reaction of **3** with electrophiles<sup>(a)</sup>; hydrolysis to ketones

E	Dioxane Yield <sup>(c)</sup> (%)	Ketone Yield(%)
D <sub>2</sub> O	<b>2b</b>	95,88 <sup>b)</sup> <b>1b</b> - <sup>d)</sup>
CH <sub>3</sub> -CH-CH <sub>2</sub>	<b>2c</b>	12 - <sup>d)</sup>
CH <sub>3</sub> I	<b>2d</b>	78 <b>1d</b> 63
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> I	<b>2e</b>	81 <b>1e</b> 84
<i>n</i> -C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub> Br	<b>2f</b>	74 <b>1f</b> 86
CH <sub>2</sub> =CH-CH <sub>2</sub> Cl	<b>2g</b>	73 <b>1g</b> 89
$\beta$ -CH <sub>2</sub> Cl	<b>2h</b>	83 <b>1h</b> 67
(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CBr	<b>2i</b>	25 <b>1i</b> <sup>d) e)</sup>
(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> CBr	- <sup>f)</sup>	- -

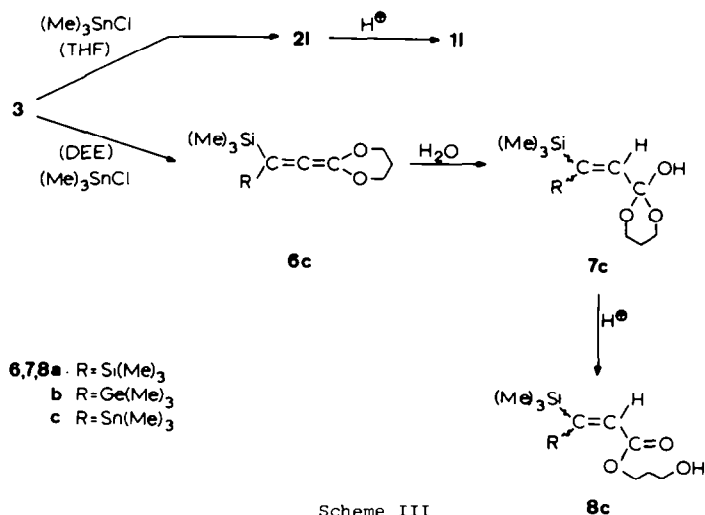
a) Solvent THF; b) Solvent DEE; c) Isolated yield after distillation; d) Not determined; e) Isolated by prep. GLC; f) No reaction.

Reaction of **3** with group IV-B chlorotrimethylmetalanes<sup>16</sup>

Reaction of **3** with chlorotrimethylstannane in THF led to propargylic substitution product **2i** exclusively (Scheme III, Tables 2 and 3).

By contrast reaction in DEE gave the allenic isomer **6c**, as the only reaction product isolated by basic work-up (Scheme III, Tables 2 and 3). All allenes **6** reacted rapidly with water yielding a mixture of **E** and **Z-7** which was detectable by NMR, but could not be isolated. Traces of acid isomerize **7** to the esters **8**, whose (*E-Z*)-isomers could be separated by preparative GLC.

Reaction of **3** with chlorotrimethylsilane yielded a mixture of propargylic and allenic products in a ratio that was solvent dependent (Tables 2 and 3).



and 7a could be detected by NMR but could not be isolated. Addition of water gave 8a immediately.

Using THF/HMPT (9:1) as solvent 2j could be isolated as the only detectable product (Tables 2 and 3).

Similar results were obtained in the germanium case. Using THF/HMPT as solvent exchange of trimethylmetal groups led to a mixture of 2j, 2k, and 4f (Tables 2 and 3).

Table 2. Propargylic vs. allenylic products (2/6) upon reaction of 3 with Me<sub>3</sub>MCl

THF	DEE	THF/HMPT (9:1)
60/40	35/65	100/0
50/50	20/80	100/0 <sup>a)</sup>
100/0	0/100	- <sup>b)</sup>

see text; b) Not determined.

Hydrolysis of 2j yielded 1j (Table 3). 1-Alkyl-1-trimethylsilyl ketones, hardly known up to now, are interesting starting materials for the synthesis of diols, dienols and allenol silyl ethers<sup>17</sup>. Especially, the 1-alkynyl germynyl and 1-alkynyl silyl ketones, 1k and 1l, were obtained from compound 2l (Table 3). To our knowledge 1k and 1l are novel compounds.

The tin case is of particular interest, since earlier attempts to hydrolyse stannyl-1,3-dioxanes failed<sup>18</sup>, thereby excluding the versatile dithiane-method<sup>19</sup> as an approach to allenyl ketones.

2m was rapidly oxidised<sup>20</sup> by atmospheric oxygen to the stannyl ester 2n, which upon chromatography decomposed to trimethylsilyltrimethylsilyl ethyne and CO<sub>2</sub>.

Table 3. Reaction of 3 with Me<sub>3</sub>MCl; hydrolysis to ketones

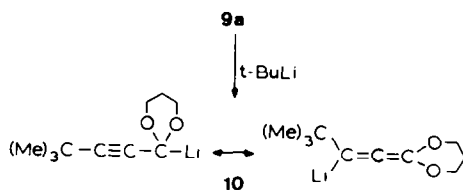
M	Solvent	Dioxane	Yield <sup>a)</sup> (%)	Ketone Yield (%)
Si	THF/HMPT <sup>c)</sup>	2j	70	1j <sup>b)</sup> 84
Si	THF	2j	48	-
Ge	THF	2k	25	1k <sup>b)</sup> 68
Sn	THF	2l	76	1l <sup>a)</sup> 70
Sn	DEE	6c	59	- <sup>d)</sup>

a) Yield after distillation; b) Yield after column chromatography; c) THF/HMPT (9:1); d) 8c was formed in this case.

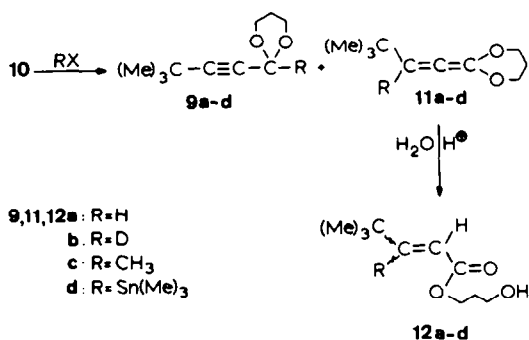
#### 2-(3,3-Dimethyl-1-butynyl)-1,3-dioxane 9a; synthesis, lithiation and reaction with electrophiles

In order to investigate the influence of the trimethylsilyl group of 2a, the title compound 9a was synthesized from 3,3-dimethyl-1-butyne<sup>7</sup> following a route analogous to that leading to 2a.

Under similar conditions, deprotonation of 9a with *n*-BuLi was much slower than that of 2a. In order to achieve lithiation within a reasonable time use of *t*-BuLi was necessary.



Reaction of 10 in THF with H<sub>2</sub>O or D<sub>2</sub>O gave a mixture of propargylic (9a,b) and allenylic (11a,b) products (Table 4), the latter undergoing hydrolysis to 12a,b during aqueous work-up; only the *E*-isomer could be detected (Scheme IV).



Scheme IV

Reaction of 10 with iodomethane yielded, both in THF or DEE, the propargylic product 9c only (Table 4).

The reaction of 10 with chlorotrimethylstannane was strongly solvent dependent (Table 4). In contrast with the behaviour of 3 the ratio of propargylic to allenic isomers increased with decreasing solvent polarity.

Table 4. Reaction of 10 with electrophiles

E	Solvent	Product(s)	(9/12)
H <sub>2</sub> O/D <sub>2</sub> O	THF	9a,b,12a,b	80/20
H <sub>2</sub> O/D <sub>2</sub> O	DEE	9a,b	100/0
CH <sub>3</sub> I	THF	9c	100/0
CH <sub>3</sub> I	DEE	9c	100/0
Me <sub>3</sub> SnCl	THF/HMPT (9:1)	9d,12d	25/75
Me <sub>3</sub> SnCl	THF	9d,12d	70/30
Me <sub>3</sub> SnCl	DEE	9d	100/0

### Discussion

Although the acidity of acetals is less than that of the corresponding sulfur compounds, due to the lesser polarizability of oxygen compared to sulfur<sup>21</sup>, the proton abstraction from 2a proceeds very smoothly.

This is in line with the recent findings of Meyers, Eliel and coworkers<sup>22</sup> that aryl acetals undergo proton abstraction by *n*-BuLi or LDA at -45°C in THF, if H(a) can assume the equatorial or an "equatorial-like" position.

Clearly, fulfillment of this condition (rooted in stereoelectronics) is facilitated by the low conformational energy of the 1-alkynyl group (-ΔG<sup>o</sup><sub>-C≡CH</sub> = 0.18 kcal/mole)<sup>23</sup>.

In addition, carbanion stabilization by silicon<sup>24</sup> plays a role, since 9a is less reactive towards base than 2a.

No products resulting from fragmentation and/or rearrangement of the α,α-dialkoxy carbanions were detected<sup>25</sup>.

Steric effects have been invoked to explain the predominant formation of propargylic products from 3-lithio-1-trimethylsilylpropyne<sup>26</sup>. The difference in regioselectivity towards water and chlorotrimethylstannane displayed by 3 and 10, respectively, shows that acetylene/allene ratios are governed by factors more complicated. Besides solvent polarity the nature of the metal has been shown to influence the regioselectivity of electrophile attack upon Me<sub>3</sub>Si-C≡C-CH<sub>2</sub><sup>⊖</sup> derived anionoids<sup>27a,b</sup>.

Closely related systems, lacking the trimethylsilylgroup, are reported to react with electrophiles in the allenic form exclusively<sup>28,29</sup>.

### Experimental

IR-spectra were recorded of 10% solutions in CCl<sub>4</sub> on a Perkin-Elmer 580B spectrophotometer. Only absorptions used for structure elucidation are given (cm<sup>-1</sup>) with a precision of 5 cm<sup>-1</sup>. UV-spectra were recorded (λ<sub>max</sub>(nm)(ε)) from solutions in cyclohexane on a Cary 118 spectrophotometer.

Mass spectra were obtained from a Varian Mat CH<sub>5</sub>-DF mass-spectrometer (70 eV) or a Finnigan 4000 mass-spectrometer (70 eV) coupled with a gaschromatograph fitted with a capillary C<sub>sil</sub> 5 (fused silica; 0.2 mm x 25 m) column for GCMS analysis. Peak heights of the most relevant fragments (m/z) are given in brackets relative to the base-peak (100%). Data given for compounds containing germanium or tin refer to the most abundant isotope, <sup>74</sup>Ge and <sup>120</sup>Sn, respectively. NMR-spectra were recorded on a Bruker WH-90 (1H) or WH-250 (13C) in CDCl<sub>3</sub> with CHCl<sub>3</sub> or CDCl<sub>3</sub> as internal standard. Chemical shifts (δ<sub>TMS</sub>) are given in ppm with a precision of 0.01 ppm (1H) or 0.1 ppm (13C); coupling constants (Hz) have an accuracy of 0.4 Hz (1H) or 1.5 Hz (13C).

Gaschromatographic analyses (GLC) were performed on an Intersmat GC 120, equipped with a katharometer detector, using H<sub>2</sub> as carrier-gas. Columns used: A 10% SE-30 on Chromosorb WAW-DMCS, 60-80 mesh (glass, 0.4 x 180 cm); B 10% SE-30 on Chromosorb P-AW, 80-100 mesh, (stainless steel, 0.2 x 100 cm); C 10% Carbowax 20M on Chromosorb W-AW, 80-100 mesh (glass, 0.4 x 180 cm). The column temperature was linearly raised by 6°C/min starting at the temperature given. Column chromatography (glass, 1 x 30 cm) was performed on Kieselgel 60, 70-230 mesh ASTM. Some of the reaction products were purified by short-path evaporative distillation (MDA); temperatures given are heating bath temperatures. Chromatograms were integrated using a Pye Unicam DP 101. All compounds were colourless liquids, unless stated otherwise. Solvents were distilled shortly before use: THF and DEE from LiAlH<sub>4</sub>, then stored under N<sub>2</sub> over sodium-wire; hexamethylphosphoric triamide (HMPT) from CaH<sub>2</sub>, then stored over molecular sieves (3Å). All reactions using organometallics were carried out in dried glassware under an inert atmosphere (Ar). Abbreviations used: b = broad, d = doublet, m = multiplet, p = perturbed, q = quadruplet, qi = quintuplet, s = singulet, t = triplet, rrt = relative retention time.

**Trimethylsilylpropynal, 1a**<sup>30</sup>. To a magnetically stirred solution of 0.13 mol EtMgBr<sup>7</sup> (1.5 M in THF, 87 ml) was added 10.5 g trimethylsilylethyne (0.11 mol) dissolved in 75 ml THF. The temperature was kept at 10–15 °C by an ice-water bath. After stirring at room temperature for 1 hour the mixture was transferred into a dropping funnel and added to an efficiently stirred mixture of 28 g dimethylformamide (DMF) and 50 ml DEE at -25 °C over a period of 45 minutes. The white suspension was allowed to reach room temperature, stirred for 1 hour, heated at 30 °C for 15 minutes and poured into 200 ml 5% H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> at 0 °C. After two extractions with DEE the water layer was stirred overnight, under N<sub>2</sub>, with a fresh portion of DFE to which was added a trace of hydroquinone<sup>31</sup>. The organic layer was separated and the water layer was extracted four times with DEE. The combined organic layers were washed with a saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and carefully concentrated in vacuo. Distillation (trace of hydroquinone added, bp. 44–45 °C/20 mm) yielded 9.59 g 1a (69%), which should be collected in an ice-cooled receiver and stored in the cold. IR<sup>32</sup>: 2160, 1670; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 9.16 (s, 1H, CHO), 0.27 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); MS: 125(1), 111(100), 97(62), 83(28); calculated for C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>9</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si: 125.0423, found: 125.0420.]

**2-Trimethylsilylethyne-1,3-dioxane, 2a**. 3.80 g 1a (30 mmol) was dissolved in 125 ml benzene; 15 ml 1,3-propanediol and 700 mg *p*-toluenesulfonic acid were added and the mixture was refluxed overnight using a water separator. After cooling the mixture was poured into 150 ml brine, the organic layer was separated and the water layer was extracted three times with DEE. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated in vacuo. Distillation (bp. 75–76 °C/3 mm) yielded 4.48 g (81%) 2a. IR: 2170; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 5.34 (s, 1H, O<sub>2</sub>C-H), 4.4–4.1 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.0–3.7 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.2–1.4 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.21 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); MS: 183(28), 169(5), 111(88), 75(100), 73(44); calculated for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si: 183.0841; found: 183.0835.

**Lithiation of 2a.** **A.** 15 ml THF, magnetically stirred, was cooled to -65 °C and 5.4 ml *n*-BuLi (1.6 M in hexane, 8.6 mmol) was slowly added with a syringe. 1.38 g 2a (7.5 mmol) was slowly added and the mixture was stirred at low temperature for 30 minutes. The clear, yellow solution of 3 formed was used for further reactions. **B.** 5.4 ml *n*-BuLi (8.6 mmol) was slowly added to a magnetically stirred solution of 1.38 g 2a (7.5 mmol) dissolved in 15 ml DEE and cooled to -65 °C. After 30 minutes a white suspension of 3 had formed, which was used for further reactions.

**2-Deutero-2-(trimethylsilylethynyl)-1,3-dioxane, 2b.** To a solution of 3 in THF or a suspension in DEE, obtained as described from 230 mg 2a (1.25 mmol), was added with vigorous stirring 1 ml D<sub>2</sub>O. After warming to room temperature the mixture was poured into a saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, the organic layer was separated and the water layer was extracted twice with DEE. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated in vacuo, yielding 220 mg 2b (95%; d<sub>1</sub> > 95%) when the reaction was performed in DEE and 200 mg 2b (88%; d<sub>1</sub> > 95%) contaminated with 5% 2j when the reaction was run in THF.

**2b:** MS: 183(11), 170(8), 144(25), 140(37), 112(98), 99(28), 75(100), 73(38); calculated for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>12</sub>D<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si: 170.0747; found: 170.0749.

**2-(Trimethylsilylethynyl)-2-(2-hydroxypropyl)-1,3-dioxane, 2c.** To a solution of 3 in THF obtained as described from 460 mg 2a (2.5 mmol) was added 200 mg freshly distilled 1,2-epoxypropane (3.5 mmol). The mixture was stirred overnight, during which time the temperature rose to room temperature. After aqueous work-up the product was distilled (MDA, 120 °C/2 mm) yielding 300 mg of an oil containing (GLC; B; 120 °C) 2j (rrt = 0.62; 40%), 2c (rrt = 1.00; 24%) and 4a (rrt = 0.51; 36%). 2c was purified by preparative GLC (A; 120 °C): IR: 2160; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 4.5–4.1 (m, 3H, HC(OH), OCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.0–3.8 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.41 (bs, 1H, OH), 2.4–1.8 (m, 3H, CH<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>C-CHOH), 1.5–1.3 (m, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.19 (d, 3H, J = 6.3, CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.23 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); MS: 227(2), 183(78), 141(28), 127(25), 125(55), 97(26), 75(62), 73(100). 4a: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 2.71 (s, 1H, ≡CH); MS: 169(4), 155(6), 111(100), 69(40), 68(55).

**Reaction of 3 with alkyl halides; general procedure.** To a solution of 3 in THF, or a suspension in DEE, (for the synthesis of 2c) obtained as described above from 460 mg 2a (2.5 mmol) was added 25 mmol alkyl halide. The mixture was stirred overnight, during which time the temperature slowly reached room temperature. After aqueous work-up the residue was distilled and analysed.

**2-Methyl-2-(trimethylsilylethynyl)-1,3-dioxane, 2d.** (MDA, 90 °C/2 mm) 390 mg (78%); IR: 2170; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 4.4–4.1 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.0–3.7 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.3–1.8 (m, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.59 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.5–1.2 (m, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.21 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); MS: 183(34), 153(40), 141(31), 125(99), 97(35), 85(100), 75(79), 73(63); calculated for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si: 183.0841; found: 183.0851.

**2-Ethyl-2-(trimethylsilylethynyl)-1,3-dioxane, 2e.** Use of an equimolar amount of 2a and *n*-BuLi is necessary to prevent formation of 2f due to bromine-metal exchange between *n*-BuLi and bromoethane. (MDA, 100 °C/2 mm) 430 g (81%); IR: 2160; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 4.4–4.1 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.0–3.8 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.3–1.2 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.02 (t, 3H, J = 7.2, CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.22 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); MS: 197(3), 183(82), 139(23), 125(73), 109(66), 99(25), 97(38), 83(45), 75(74), 73(100); calculated for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si: 183.0841; found: 183.0855.

**2-Butyl-2-(trimethylsilylethynyl)-1,3-dioxane, 2f.** (MDA, 120 °C/2 mm) 450 mg (74%); IR: 2160; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 4.4–4.1 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.0–3.8 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.3–1.2 (m, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.95 (t, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.25 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); MS: 225(0.1), 183(74), 167(7), 125(53), 97(27), 83(27), 75(56), 73(100); calculated for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si: 239.1467; found: 239.1461.

**2-(2-Propenyl)-2-(trimethylsilylethynyl)-1,3-dioxane, 2g.** (MDA, 120 °C/2 mm) 410 mg (73%); IR: 2170; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 5.95 (m, 1H, =CH-), 5.16 (m, 1H, =CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.14 (m, 1H, =CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.5–4.1 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.0–3.8 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.59 (d, 2H, J = 7.2, CH<sub>2</sub>-C=), 2.4–1.8 (m, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.5–1.2 (m, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.24 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); MS: 209(3), 183(78), 151(7), 125(87), 97(50), 75(26), 73(100); calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>17</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si: 209.0998; found: 209.1007.

2-(Phenylmethyl)-2-(trimethylsilylethynyl)-1,3-dioxane, 2h. (Bulb-to-bulb distillation, 130 °C/10<sup>-3</sup> mm) 570 mg (83%); IR: 2170; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 7.6-7.0 (m, 5H, arom.), 4.5-4.1 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.1-3.8 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.15 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>φ), 2.4-1.9 (m, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.6-1.3 (m, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.24 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); MS: 274(0.1), 201(1), 183(100), 125(45), 73(27); calculated for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si: 274.1388; found: 274.1369.

2-(1-Methylethyl)-2-(trimethylsilylethynyl)-1,3-dioxane, 2i. (MDA, 110 °C/2 mm) 310 mg oil containing (GLC; B; 120 °C) 2i (rrt = 0.92; 46%), 2j (rrt = 1.00; 37%), 4b (rrt = 0.30; 10%) and 4c (rrt = 0.36; 7%). 2i: IR: 2160; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 4.5-4.1 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.0-3.8 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.3-1.8 (m, 3H, CH<sub>2</sub>, CH), 1.5-1.3 (m, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.05 (d, 6H, J = 7.2, CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.25 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); MS: 211(2), 183(91), 153(10), 125(89), 123(44), 97(47), 83(29), 75(37), 73(100). 4b: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 2.64 (s, 1H, ≡CH); MS: 139(5), 111(100). 4c: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 2.80 (s, 1H, ≡CH); MS: 143(8), 83(62), 75(52), 73(100). Attempted reaction of 3 with *t*-butyl bromide (THF) gave a brownish reaction product (420 mg) shown by GLC to be a mixture of 2j(49%) and 4c (51%).

Desilylation of 2f. To a magnetically stirred solution of 240 mg 2f (1 mmol) in 2 ml EtOH was added a solution of 500 mg AgNO<sub>3</sub> in 4 ml EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O (3:1). After stirring at room temperature for 30 minutes a solution of 850 mg NaCN in 2 ml H<sub>2</sub>O was added. The resulting orange-yellow solution was poured into a saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution and the water layer was extracted twice with DEE. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), concentrated in vacuo and distilled. 2-Butyl-2-ethynyl-1,3-dioxane, 4d. (MDA, 100 °C/2 mm) 90 mg (54%); IR: 3310, 2110; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 4.5-4.1 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.0-3.8 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.65 (s, 1H, ≡CH), 2.4-1.2 (m, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.93 (bt, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>). MS: 167(0.3), 153(0.2), 139(2), 111(100), 96(17); calculated for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 167.1072; found: 167.1066.

Desilylation of 1f. Na<sub>2</sub>B<sub>4</sub>O<sub>7</sub> (0.6 ml, 0.01 M) was added to a magnetically stirred solution of 130 mg 1f (0.7 mmol) in 5 ml MeOH. After stirring for 30 minutes the mixture was poured into 0.1 M HCl. The water layer was saturated with NaCl and extracted five times with DEE. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated in vacuo. 1-Heptyn-3-one 5d<sup>33</sup> was isolated by preparative GLC (A; 70 °C): 60 mg (78%); IR: 3310, 2090, 1685; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 3.22 (s, 1H, ≡CH), 2.61 (t, 2H, J = 7.2, CH<sub>2</sub>CO), 1.9-1.2 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.95 (pt, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>); MS: 110(0.4), 109(8), 95(8), 81(16), 68(100); calculated for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>9</sub>O: 109.0653; found: 109.0650.

Lithiation and alkylation of 4d. To a magnetically stirred solution of 80 mg 4d (0.4 mmol) in 3 ml THF, cooled to -65 °C 0.5 ml *n*-BuLi (1.6 M, 0.8 mmol) was slowly added. After 15 minutes 500 μl MeI was injected and the reaction mixture was slowly warmed to room temperature. After aqueous work-up the product was distilled.

2-Butyl-2-(1-propynyl)-1,3-dioxane, 4e: (MDA, 100 °C/2 mm) 80 mg (85%); IR: 2240; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 4.5-4.1 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.0-3.7 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.4-1.2 (m, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.95 (s, 3H, ≡CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.93 (bt, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>); MS: 181(0.5), 167(3), 125(54), 67(100).

Formation of 1-alkynyl ketones, general procedure. The dioxane derivative was dissolved in acidified (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, 0.2 M) acetone/H<sub>2</sub>O (4:1) and refluxed for about 5 hours. After cooling a saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution was carefully added, the water layer was extracted three times with DEE, the combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), concentrated in vacuo and distilled. For yields see Table 1. 4-Trimethylsilyl-3-butyn-2-one, 1d<sup>34</sup>. (MDA, 80 °C/70 mm); IR: 2150, 1680; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 2.33 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.22 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); MS: 140(3), 125(100), 97(26), 83(42), 73(5); calculated for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si: 140.0657; found: 140.0651.

1-Trimethylsilyl-1-pentyn-3-one, 1e. (MDA, 90 °C/20 mm). IR: 2150, 1680; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 2.58 (q, 2H, J = 7.2, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.13 (t, 3H, J = 7.2, CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.22 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>). MS: 154 (3), 139 (24), 126(17), 125(100), 83(29), 73(13); calculated for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si: 154.0814; found: 154.0815.

1-Trimethylsilyl-1-heptyn-3-one, 1f<sup>35</sup>. (MDA, 100 °C/20 mm). IR: 2150, 1680; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 2.58 (bt, 2H, J = 7.2, CH<sub>2</sub>CO), 1.9-1.2 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.95 (pt, 3H, J = 7.2, CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.27 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); MS: 167(14), 140(40), 125(100), 97(24), 83(28), 75(43), 73(23); calculated for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si: 167.0892; found: 167.0892.

1-Trimethylsilylhex-5-en-1-yn-3-one, 1g. (MDA, 130 °C/50 mm). IR: 2155, 1640, 1630; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 7.4-7.0 (m, 1H, -CH=), 6.2-6.0 (m, 2H, =CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.00 (dd, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.26 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); MS: 166(12), 151(100), 123(30), 83(34), 73(12); calculated for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si: 166.0814; found: 166.0819.

4-Phenyl-1-trimethylsilyl-1-butyn-3-one, 1h. (MDA, 100 °C/2 mm). IR: 2155, 1680; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 7.5-7.2 (m, 5H, arom.), 3.84 (s, 2H, φ-CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.19 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>). MS: 216 (7), 188(9), 173(25), 125(100), 97(43), 73(53); calculated for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si: 216.0970; found: 216.0975.

4-Methyl-1-trimethylsilyl-1-pentyn-3-one, 1i<sup>36</sup>. (MDA, 90 °C/40 mm). IR: 2150, 1680; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 2.64 (heptet, 1H, J = 7.0, ≡CH), 1.20 (d, 6H, J = 7.0, CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.24 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); MS: 168 (1), 153(9), 140(9), 125(100), 73(15); calculated for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si: 168.0970; found: 168.0972.

Reaction of 3 with Me<sub>3</sub>SnCl. To a solution of 3 in THF obtained from 460 mg 2a (2.5 mmol) was added 642 mg Me<sub>3</sub>SnCl (3.2 mmol) dissolved in 1 ml THF. After stirring for 3 hours the cooling bath was removed. After warming to room temperature (1 hour) the mixture was poured into a saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and worked-up as usual.

2-(Trimethylsilylethynyl)-2-trimethylstannyl-1,3-dioxane, 2l. (MDA, 85 °C/10<sup>-2</sup> mm) 660 mg (76%); IR: 2150; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 4.5-4.1 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.9-3.6 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.5-1.9 (m, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.6-1.2 (m, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.28 (s, 9H, Sn(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.24 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); MS: 333(1), 183(100), 125(51); calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>2</sub>SiSn: 333.0332; found: 333.0333.

To a suspension of 3 in DEE obtained from 1.00 g 2a (5.4 mmol) was added 1.2 g Me<sub>3</sub>SnCl (6 mmol) in 1 ml DEE. After stirring for 2 hours at low temperature the mixture was allowed to reach room temperature in 1 hour. 250 μl Triethylamine (TEA) was added and the mixture was poured into brine to which a little TEA had been added. Separation of the organic layer, three extractions of the water layer with DEE, washing of the combined organic layers with brine, drying (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentration in vacuo yielded 2-(trimethylsilyltrimethylstannylethynylidene)-1,3-dioxane (6c), which could be distilled but decomposed upon GLC.

**6c**: (MDA, 100 °C/5.10<sup>-2</sup> mm) 410 mg (59%) light yellow oil; IR: 2070, 1330, 1110, 1060; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 4.15 (t, 4H, J = 5.6, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.00 (qi, 2H, J = 5.6, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.25 (s, 9H, Sn(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.16 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: 201.2 (=C=), 145.3 (C-O, O), 117.8 (C-Si, Sn), 69.9 (C-O), 26.5 (-C-), -0.4 (Si-C), -7.9 (Sn-C); calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>2</sub>SiSn: 348.0567; found 348.0581.

Work-up without addition of TEA resulted in the formation of considerable amounts of **8c** while the NMR spectrum also showed both isomers of **7c**. Treatment of **6c** with dilute acid (acetone/H<sub>2</sub>O (4:1); 0.2 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) yielded, after aqueous work-up, a mixture of the *E*- and *Z*-isomer of **8c** directly, which was separated by preparative GLC (A; 120 °C; isomer 1, rrt = 0.95; isomer 2, rrt = 1.00 = 3:2); no efforts were directed at an *E-Z* assignment of these isomers.

**7c**: isomer 1: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 6.53 (s, 1H, =CH-); isomer 2: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 6.35 (s, 1H, =CH-).

**8c**: isomer 1: IR: 3640, 3440, 1710, 1695, 1195; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 6.91 (s, 1H, =CH-), 4.35 (t, 2H, J = 6.1, CH<sub>2</sub>OCO), 3.72 (bt, 2H, J = 6.1, CH<sub>2</sub>OH), 2.1-1.8 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.60 (bs, 1H, OH), 0.20 (s, 9H, Sn(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.18 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); MS: 351(92), 293(65), 165(100), 127(30); calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>23</sub>O<sub>3</sub>SiSn: 347.0437; found: 347.0433  
**8c**: isomer 2: IR: 3640, 3480, 1720, 1705, 1180; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 6.78 (s, 1H, =CH-), 4.33 (t, 2H, J = 6.1, CH<sub>2</sub>OCO), 3.73 (bt, 2H, J = 6.1, CH<sub>2</sub>OH), 2.1-1.8 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.58 (bs, 1H, OH), 0.22 (s, 9H, Sn(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.20 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); MS: 351(29), 293(35), 165(100), 143(40), 127(25).

**Reaction of 3 with Me<sub>3</sub>GeCl**. Solvent THF: The procedure given for Me<sub>3</sub>SnCl was followed, using 490 mg Me<sub>3</sub>GeCl (3.2 mmol) and work-up with TEA. The crude product was distilled (MDA, 90 °C/2 mm) giving 380 mg of distillate containing (NMR) **2k** (50%) and **6b** (50%). **2k** was isolated by preparative GLC, (A; 120 °C); **6b** decomposed upon GLC.

2-(Trimethylsilylethynyl)-2-trimethylgermyl-1,3-dioxane, **2k**. IR: 2160; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 4.5-4.1 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.9-3.7 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.4-1.8 (m, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.5-1.2 (m, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.29 (s, 9H, Ge(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.22 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); MS: 287(0.4), 229(2), 183(100), 125(77), 119(27), 97(29), 73(48); calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>2</sub>GeSi: 302.0757; found: 302.0756.

2-(Trimethylgermyltrimethylsilylethenylidene)-1,3-dioxane, **6b**. IR: 1335, 1110, 1065; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 4.15 (t, 4H, J = 5.6, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.01 (qi, 2H, J = 5.6, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.31 (s, 9H, Ge(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.16 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>).

Treatment of reaction mixture containing **2k** and **6b**, and often small amounts of **7b**, with dilute acid yielded, besides **1k**, a (*E-Z*)-mixture (1:1) of the esters **8b** which only could be separated by GCMS.

**7b** (*E-Z* mixture): <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 6.41 (s, 1H, =CH-), 6.33 (s, 1H, =CH-).

**8b** (*E-Z* mixture): IR: 3640, 3440, 1725, 1710, 1190; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 6.78 (s, 1H, =CH-), 6.70 (s, 1H, =CH-), 4.31 (t, 4H, J = 6.1), CH<sub>2</sub>OCO), 3.72 (t, 4H, J = 6.1, CH<sub>2</sub>-OH), 2.02 (s, 2H, OH), 1.93, (qi, 4H, J = 6.1, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.36 (s, 9H, Ge(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.33 (s, 9H, Ge(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.23 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.19 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); MS (isomer 1): 305(9), 247(20), 119(100), 75(29), 73(86); (isomer 2): 305(5), 247(15), 143(41), 119(100), 75(40), 73(58).

Solvent DEE: The procedure given for THF was followed: (MDA, 85 °C/2 mm) 400 mg oil containing (NMR) **3k** (20%) and **6b** (80%).

Solvent THF/HMPT: The procedure given for THF was used, however before adding Me<sub>3</sub>GeCl HMPT (500 μl) was added. The crude reaction product was (GLC, NMR) a mixture of **2j** (23%), **2k** (13%)

and **4f** (64%). **4f**: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 0.40 (s, 9H, Ge(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.15 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>).

**Reaction of 3 with Me<sub>3</sub>SiCl**. Solvent THF: The procedure given for Me<sub>3</sub>SnCl was followed, using 350 mg Me<sub>3</sub>SiCl (3.3 mmol). The crude reaction product contained (NMR) **2j** (60%) and **6a** (40%). **2j** was isolated by column chromatography (pentane/DEE, 95:5): 310 mg.

2-(Trimethylsilylethynyl)-2-trimethylsilyl-1,3-dioxane, **2j** (48%): IR: 2150; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 4.5-4.1 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.9-3.7 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.4-1.8 (m, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.5-1.2 (m, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.23 (s, 9H, =C-Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.16 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); MS: 256(1), 241(2), 183(31), 155(30), 125(42), 97(25), 73(100); calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>: 256.1315; found: 256.1313.

2-(Bistrimethylsilylethenylidene)-1,3-dioxane, **6a** could not be chromatographed and data given were obtained from a mixture containing **2j**. IR: 1330, 1065; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 4.41 (t, 4H, J = 5.6, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.01 (qi, 2H, J = 5.6, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.18 (s, 18H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>). Despite all precautions a small amount of **7a** was formed during work-up. Treatment of the reaction mixture with dilute acid converted **6a** and **7a** into **8a**.

**7a**: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 6.42 (s, 1H, =CH-).

**8a**: IR: 3640, 3440, 1725, 1710, 1190; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 6.76 (s, 1H, =CH-), 4.33 (t, 2H, J = 6.1, CH<sub>2</sub>OCO), 3.74 (bt, 2H, J = 6.1, CH<sub>2</sub>OH), 1.94 (qi, 2H, J = 6.1, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.25 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.21 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); MS: 259(6), 201(33), 75(28), 73(100).

Solvent DEE: Following the same procedure as described for the reaction in THF 470 mg of an oil (MDA, 80 °C/2 mm) was obtained containing (NMR) **2j** (35%) and **6a** (65%).

Solvent THF/HMPT: The procedure given for Me<sub>3</sub>GeCl was followed, using 340 mg Me<sub>3</sub>SiCl (3.2 mmol).

Distillation (MDA, 80 °C/2 mm) afforded 450 mg **2j** (70%) uncataminated (NMR, GLC) by allenic products or derivatives thereof.

**Silyl, germyl and stannyl ketones**. 300 mg **2j** (1.17 mmol) was stirred overnight in 10 ml acidified (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, 0.2 M) acetone/H<sub>2</sub>O (4:1) at room temperature. Saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution was carefully added and the water layer was extracted three times with DEE. The combined organic layers were washed twice with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated in vacuo. Trimethylsilylethynyl trimethylsilyl ketone, **1j** was isolated as a bright yellow liquid by column chromatography (pentane/DEE: 95:5): 194 mg (84%); IR: 2135, 1600; UV: 224(8529); <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 0.29 (s, 18H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: 227.1 (CO), 107.3 (=C), 104.7 (=C), -0.7 (=C-SiC), -3.7 (OC-SiC); MS: 198(0.1), 183(0.1), 170(5), 155(90), 73(100); calculated for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>18</sub>OSi<sub>2</sub>: 198.0896; found: 198.0884. Anal. calculated for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>18</sub>OSi<sub>2</sub>: C, 54.48; H, 9.14; found: C, 52.65; H, 8.47. In the same way, starting with 200 mg **2k** (0.66 mmol) trimethylsilylethynyl trimethylgermyl ketone **1k** was obtained: 110 mg (68%) yellow liquid; IR: 2130, 1610; UV: 222(11086); <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 0.44 (s, 9H, Ge(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.29 (s, 9H, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: 227.5 (CO), 108.9 (=C), 103.6 (=C), -0.7 (Si-C), -3.2 (Ge-C); MS: 244(0.1), 216(0.2), 201(40), 119(100), 97(52), 73(71); calculated for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>18</sub>OGeSi: 244.0338; found: 244.0331. Anal. calculated for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>18</sub>OGeSi: C, 44.50; H, 7.47; found: C, 44.15, H, 7.69. 430 mg **2l** (1.24 mmol) was stirred at room temperature under an argon atmosphere in 15 ml acidified (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, 0.2 M) acetone/H<sub>2</sub>O (4:1) for 30 minutes.

Saturated  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  was added and the usual work-up was conducted under a nitrogen atmosphere: 250 mg trimethylsilylethynyl trimethylstannyl ketone, **11** (70%) was isolated as an orange-yellow liquid by distillation (MDA, 120 °C/2 mm). Upon contact with air a solution of **11** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  rapidly decolourised giving **1m**.

**11**: IR: 2120, 1600, UV: 225(8549);  $^1\text{H-NMR}$ : 0.37 (s, 9H,  $\text{Sn}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ), 0.29 (s, 9H,  $\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ );  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ : 236.8 (CO), 112.3 (CE), 104.7 (EC), -0.7 (Si-C), -8.8 (Sn-C); MS: 290(3), 247(57), 165(100), 97(28), 73(23); calculated for  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_{15}\text{SiSn}$ : 246.9964; found: 246.9972.  
**1m**: IR: 2160, 1580, 1550, 1375; UV: 206(8374);  $^1\text{H-NMR}$ : 0.67 (s, 9H,  $\text{Sn}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ), 0.25 (s, 9H,  $\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ).

**4,4-Dimethyl-2-pentynal**. The same procedure as given for the synthesis of **1a** was followed, using 0.20 mol  $\text{EtMgBr}$  (1.3 M in THF, 154 ml) and 15.2 g 3,3-dimethyl-1-butyne (0.19 mol). The alkylnic grignard reagent was added to 51 g DMF in 90 ml DEE. Distillation (bp 39-41 °C/20 mm) yielded 18.3 g (90%): IR: 2210, 1670;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$ : 9.13 (s, 1H, CHO), 1.29 (s, 9H,  $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ).

**2-(3,3-Dimethyl-1-butynyl)-1,3-dioxane, 9a**. 18.3 g 4,4-dimethyl-2-pentynal (0.17 mol) was dissolved in 500 ml benzene; 80 ml 1,3-propanediol and 1 g pyridinium *p*-toluenesulfonate (PPTS) were added and the mixture was refluxed overnight using a water separator. After aqueous work-up (as described for **2a**) the product was distilled: (bp 58-61 °C/1 mm) 14.5 g (52%): IR: 2270, 2255, 2235;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$ : 5.33 (s, 1H,  $\text{HC}(\text{O})_2$ ), 4.4-4.1 (m, 2H,  $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 4.0-3.7 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.3-1.4 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.29 (s, 9H,  $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ); MS: 167(17), 153(30), 110(35), 109(29), 95(90), 81(55), 79(28), 67(100).

**Lithiation of 9a and reaction with  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) and  $\text{MeI}$** . Solvent THF: to a magnetically stirred solution of 200 mg **9a** (1.2 mmol) in 4 ml THF, cooled to -65 °C, was added by syringe 0.8 t-BuLi (1.7 M in pentane, 1.4 mmol). After 0.5 hours a bright yellow solution of **10** was obtained and 1 ml  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) was injected. After 15 minutes the cooling bath was removed and after reaching room temperature the mixture was worked-up in the usual way, using TEA. The crude product was a mixture (NMR) of **9b** (80%;  $d_1 > 95\%$ ) and **12b** (20%;  $d_1, d_2 > 95\%$ ), (**9a** and **12a** (80/20)).

**9b**: MS: 167(12), 154(30), 111(40), 96(100), 81(43), 67(28), 68(95).  
**12b**: MS: 173(10), 131(48), 115(38), 113(85), 112(34), 111(62), 97(53), 96(62), 85(100), 84(30).

**12a**: IR: 3640, 3470, 1720, 1705, 1650, 985;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$ : 6.99 (d, 1H,  $\text{J} = 15.8$ , =CH-), 5.74 (d, 1H,  $\text{J} = 15.8$ , =CH-), 4.32 (t, 2H,  $\text{J} = 6.0$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{COCO}$ ), 3.72 (bt, 2H,  $\text{J} = 6.0$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{COH}$ ), 1.92 (qt, 2H,  $\text{J} = 6.0$ ,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.58 (bs, 1H, OH), 1.10 (s, 9H,  $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ); MS: 171(9), 129(46), 113(38), 111(67), 110(100), 95(88), 83(90), 67(42).

Reaction in DEE (in which **10** formed a white suspension) was carried out as above, as were the reactions with iodomethane (10 mmol, in THF or DEE) which yielded **9c** (180 mg, 83%).

**2-(3,3-dimethyl-1-butynyl-2-methyl-1,3-dioxane, 9c**: IR: 2250, 2220;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$ : 4.4-4.1 (m, 2H,  $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 4.0-3.7 (m, 2H,  $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 2.4-1.2 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.60 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.29 (s, 9H,  $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ); MS: 181(4), 167(84), 137(61), 109(100), 85(52), 81(80), 79(34), 67(36).

**Reaction of 10 with  $\text{Me}_3\text{SnCl}$** . Solvent DEE. To a stirred suspension of **10** in DEE prepared from 420 mg **9a** (2.5 mmol) at -65 °C, was added 642 mg  $\text{Me}_3\text{SnCl}$  (3.2 mmol) and the mixture was stirred at low temperature for 15 minutes. After warming to room temperature the work-up procedure described before (using TEA) was employed, yielding (MDA, 130 °C/2 mm) 540 mg of an oil, which contained (NMR) **9d** as the only detectable product. Reactions in THF and THF/HMPT (9:1) were performed under the same conditions.

**2-(3,3-dimethyl-1-butynyl)-2-(trimethylstannyl)-1,3-dioxane, 9d**: IR: 2220;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$ : 4.5-4.1 (m, 2H,  $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 3.8-3.6 (m, 2H,  $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 2.4-1.9 (m, 1H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.5-2.1 (m, 1H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.27 (s, 9H,  $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ), 0.22 (s, 9H,  $\text{Sn}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ); MS: 317(0.4), 167(100), 109(38), 81(25).

**2-(3,3-dimethyl-2-trimethylstannyl-1-butenylidene)-1,3-dioxane, 11d**:  $^1\text{H-NMR}$ : 4.12 (t, 4H,  $\text{J} = 5.4$ ,  $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 1.97 (septet, 2H,  $\text{J} = 5.4$ ,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.08 (s, 9H,  $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ), 0.19 (s, 9H,  $\text{Sn}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ); MS: 332(0.4), 317(0.2), 167(100), 109(40), 81(25). Treatment of **11d** with dilute acid (acetone/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (4:1), 0.2 M  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ , 1 hour, room temperature) yielded **12d**; only one isomer was formed.

**12d**: IR: 3640, 3420, 1705, 1695, 1585;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$ : 6.36 (s, 1H, =CH-), 4.30 (t, 2H,  $\text{J} = 6.3$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{COCO}$ ), 3.71 (bt, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ ), 1.97 (heptet, 2H,  $\text{J} = 6.3$ ,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.16 (s, 9H,  $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ), 0.23 (s, 9H,  $\text{Sn}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ); MS: 335(100), 277(88), 165(79), 135(42), 67(27).

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