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Formation of C-Si bond in carbohydrates

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It is known that nucleosides can be linked by phosphate or peptide linkers. In this work we start the development of novel C-Si-C linkers, which could influence the properties of oligomers such as biological and chemical activity, stability and bond flexibility. The work begins with C-Si bond formation in 3-deoxyallose and 5-deoxyribose. Several different methods for creating C-Si bonds were tried.

Terminal alkenes 1a and 1b were subjected to transition metal catalyzed hydrosilylation (Scheme 1, A) and metathesis reactions with alkenylsilanes (Scheme 2, B).

Scheme 1. Use of alkenes 1a and 1b (A: HSiR₃, cat., B alkenylsilane, Grubbs 2nd)

Bromides 4a and 4b and terminal alkynes 6a un 6b were lithiated and silylated with halosilanes (Scheme 2, A and C, respectively).

Scheme 2. Use of bromides **4a** and **4b** (**A**: 1. *t*-BuLi, 2. R₃SiCl, THF, -78° C, **B**: R₃SiLi, THF, -78° C, **C**: 1. *n*-BuLi, 2. R₃SiCl, THF).

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