

Inside Cover

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Reduction of phenyl silyl acetylenes with lithium led to the unexpected formation of a dilithium dibenzopentalenide derivative together with the expected 1,4-dilithio-1,3-butadiene. The bulkiness of the silyl substituent of the phenyl silyl acetylene strongly affects its reduction mode. Further details may be found in the Communication by M. Saito and co-workers on page 1504 ff.

