

Photochemical Addition of Benzyltriethylgermane and Dibenzyl-diethylgermane to Olefins

Masanori KOBAYASHI, Masato YOSHIDA, and Michio KOBAYASHI*

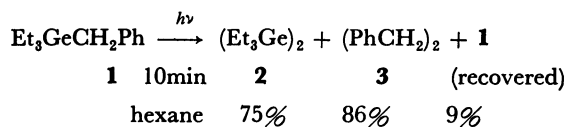
Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Tokyo Metropolitan University, Fukazawa, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo 158
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A novel photochemical addition of a germyl radical to the olefinic double bond was discovered when benzyltriethylgermane or dibenzyl-diethylgermane was irradiated with a medium-pressure mercury lamp in the presence of olefins.

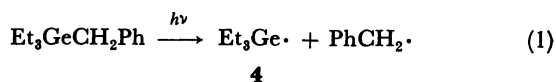
There have been only scattered reports on the photochemical behavior of organogermanium compounds.¹⁾ We have reported previously that the photolysis of aryltrialkylgermanes and diaryldialkylgermanes generated germyl and aryl free radicals.²⁾ In order to widen the scope of this photochemical reaction, the photolysis of benzyltrialkylgermane and dibenzyl-diethylgermane were investigated. Contrary to the arylalkylgermanes, which show no tendency to add to the olefinic double bond but to abstract a hydrogen atom from solvent hydrocarbon upon irradiation, the photolysis of benzylsubstituted germanes in the presence of olefins were found to readily form 1,2-adducts. Even in the absence of olefins, the photolysis of the Ge-benzyl bond of these benzylgermanes proceeded rapidly. The high photoreactivity of alkylbenzylgermanes makes a good contrast to the very low rate of conversion of analogous trimethylbenzylsilanes that have recently been reported.³⁾

Results and Discussion

Photolysis of Benzyltriethylgermane and Diethyldibenzylgermane. The photolysis of benzyltriethylgermane (**1**) in hexane with a medium-pressure mercury lamp through a Vycor filter for 10 min resulted in the facile decomposition of **1** to give hexaethyldigermene (**2**)⁵⁾ and bibenzyl (**3**) as shown below:



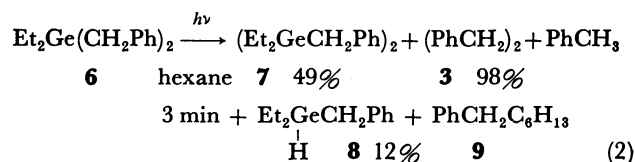
The formation of the above two products can be explained by assuming the photochemical dissociation of the benzyl-germanium bond (Eq. 1) and a subsequent dimerization of triethylgermyl and benzyl radicals. Both the germyl radical (**4**) and the benzyl radical are known to be relatively inactive and to possess little ability to abstract hydrogen atoms from saturated aliphatic hydrocarbons such as hexane.¹⁾



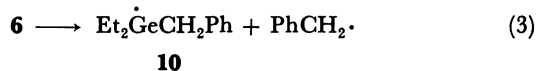
When **1** was irradiated in benzene under similar conditions, a small amount of triethyl-*p*-tolylgermane (**5**) was detected among the products in addition to

bibenzyl and digermene (**2**). The formation of **5** suggests an intramolecular rearrangement of the triethylgermyl group from the benzyl carbon to the benzene ring by recombination in a solvent cage of the benzyl radical and the triethylgermyl radical pair once generated by the homolysis of Ge-benzyl bond. A similar rearrangement was observed in the photolysis of trimethylbenzylsilane.³⁾ An intramolecular photorearrangement of the germyl group has also been observed in cinnamylgermanes.⁴⁾

When dibenzyl-diethylgermane (**6**) was irradiated in hexane under similar conditions for 3 min, about 40% of **6** was photolyzed to form bibenzyl (**3**) and 1,2-dibenzyl-1,1,2,2-tetraethyldigermene (**7**) as major products. However, in this case, small amounts of germane (**8**), toluene and heptylbenzene (**9**) were also detected.



The formation of bibenzyl and digermene (**7**) suggests the splitting of the Ge-benzyl bond under irradiation to give a diethylbenzylgermyl radical (**10**) and a benzyl radical, and a subsequent dimerization of each radical.



Since neither the germyl radical nor the benzyl radical can abstract hydrogen atom from a saturated hydrocarbon (as stated before), it is unreasonable to explain the formation of germane (**8**), toluene and **9** by the simple hydrogen abstraction of a germyl radical from hexane and a subsequent recombination of the hexyl and benzyl radicals. The formation of these products can be tentatively explained by the following reaction sequence:

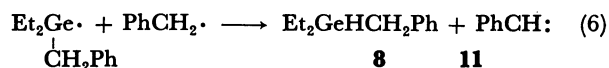
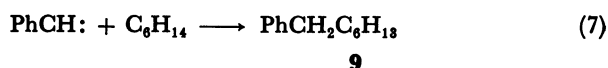


Table 1. Photochemical Addition of **1** to 1-Hexene

Product	Yield/% ^{a)}
Et ₃ GeCH ₂ CH(CH ₂) ₃ CH ₃ (12)	50
Et ₃ Ge(CH ₂) ₅ CH ₃ (13)	35
Et ₃ GeCH=CH(CH ₂) ₃ CH ₃ (14)	
Et ₃ GeCH ₂ CH=CH(CH ₂) ₂ CH ₃ (15)	
Et ₃ GeCH ₂ CH(CH ₂) ₃ CH ₃ (17)	15
(PhCH ₂) ₂ (3)	35

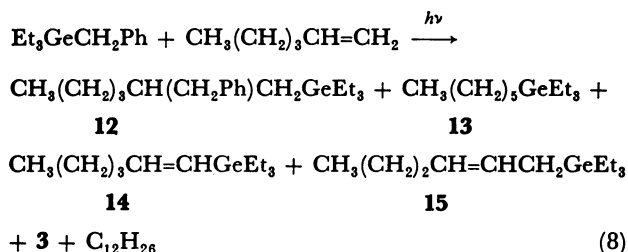
a) Yields were determined by GLC.

and

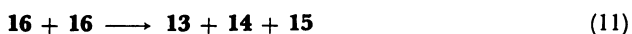
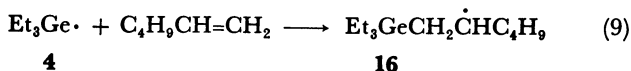


By a metathesis between **10** and benzyl radical or by a direct alpha elimination from **6**, phenylcarbene (**11**) which undergoes insertion into the C-H bond of the solvent (hexane) to give heptylbenzene (**9**).

Photolysis in the Presence of Olefins. When benzyltriethylgermane **1** was irradiated with a medium-pressure mercury lamp in the presence of 1-hexene for 1.5 h, **1** was completely consumed to give the following products (yields are shown in Table 1):



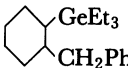
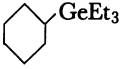
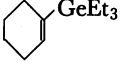
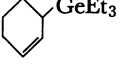
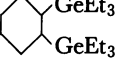
This reaction can also be understood by assuming a splitting of the Ge-benzyl bond to give a triethylgermyl radical (**4**) and a benzyl radical (Eq. 1). **4** would add (Eq. 9) to 1-hexene to give a 1-(triethylgermylmethyl)pentyl radical (**16**), which may recombine (Eq. 10) with a benzyl radical to form 1,2-adduct (**12**) or may disproportionate^{2,5)} (Eq. 11) to give 1-triethylgermylhexane (**13**) and 1-triethylgermyl-1-hexene (**14**) or 1-triethylgermyl-2-hexene (**15**), accompanying the dimerization of excess benzyl radicals to bibenzyl.



The formation of adduct **12** indicates the attack of a germyl radical to a terminal carbon atom of the olefinic double bond during the first step of the addition (Eq. 9), thus showing the higher addition ability of a germyl radical than that of a benzyl radical.

When **1** was photolyzed in the presence of cyclo-

Table 2. Photochemical Addition of **1** to Cyclohexene

Product	Yield/% ^{a)}
 (19)	35 (cis:trans = 1:4.4)
 (20)	22
 (21)	
 (22)	
 (23)	21 (cis and trans)
(Et ₃ Ge) ₂ (2)	21
(PhCH ₂) ₂ (3)	45

a) Yields were determined by GLC.

hexene under similar conditions for 1 h, the starting germane **1** was completely consumed. Products are summarized in Table 2.

The first step in this reaction was the cleavage of the Ge-benzyl bond (Eq. 1). The triethylgermyl radical (**4**) added to cyclohexene to form a 2-(triethylgermyl)cyclohexyl radical (**18**), which reacted either by recombination with a benzyl radical resulting in the formation of the 1,2-adduct (**19**), or by disproportionation to give triethylgermylcyclohexane (**20**), 1-(triethylgermyl)cyclohexene (**21**) and 3-(triethylgermyl)cyclohexene (**22**). Part of the triethylgermyl radical combined with **18** to form 1,2-bis(triethylgermyl)cyclohexane (**23**) or dimerized to hexaethyldigermane (**2**).⁵⁾ About half of the benzyl radical dimerized to bibenzyl. The formation of digermane **2** and 1,2-digermyl compound **23** suggest that the triethylgermyl radical is rather stable and can diffuse out of the solvent cage to seek combinations with other free radicals.

1,2-Adduct **19** is a mixture of cis and trans isomers. The ratio of cis:trans is 1:4.4, indicating that the addition is mainly trans, but not strictly stereospecific. The formation of both cis and trans isomers indicates that addition is not concerted but proceeds by a two-step mechanism.

In order to survey the effects of substituents, the photolysis of **1** in the presence of di-, tri-, and tetra-substituted olefins were also investigated.

Products of the photolysis of **1** in the presence of 2-hexene are shown in Table 3. Starting germane **1** was completely consumed in 1.5 h. Three types of 1,2-adducts (**24A**, **24B**, **24C**) were detected with GLC and GC-Mass but could not be separated from each other. Most probably, they are the 2- and 3-germyl isomers and their threo-erythro isomers.

Results of the photolysis of **1** in 2-methyl-2-pentene

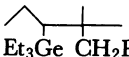
Table 3. Photochemical Addition of **1** to 2-Hexene

Product ^{a)}	Yield/% ^{b)}
1,2-Adducts of 1 with 2-hexene (24A , 24B , 24C)	22
(Et ₃ Ge) ₂ (2)	Trace
(PhCH ₂) ₂ (3)	40
(Et ₃ Ge) ₂ O	21

a) Gernylhexanes, gernylhexenes (total yield 21%), and gernyl-dodecane (3%) were also detected by GC-MS.

b) Yields were determined by GLC.

Table 4. Photochemical Addition of **1** to 2-Methyl-2-pentene

Product	Yield/% ^{a)}
 (25)	5
 (27)	22
 (28)	
 (29)	
(Et ₃ Ge) ₂ (2)	Trace
(Et ₃ Ge) ₂ O	17
(PhCH ₂) ₂ (3)	40

a) Yields were determined by GLC.

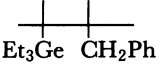
are summarized in Table 4. The structure of 1,2-adduct **25** indicates that the attack of triethylgermyl radical (**4**) occurred at a less-hindered olefinic carbon to give a more stable tertiary carbon radical **26**. The low yield of the 1,2-adduct **25** suggests a steric inhibition toward the recombination between **26** and the benzyl radical. A larger part of radical **26** disproportionated to afford gernylhexane (**27**) and gernylhexenes (**28** and **29**).

In the case of the photolysis of **1** in the presence of 2,3-dimethyl-2-butene, the yield of 1,2-adduct, 2-benzyl-2,3-dimethyl-3-(triethylgermyl)butane (**30**) was only 3%. The major products were hexaethyldigermane (**2**) and bibenzyl. Small amounts of 2,3-dimethyl-2-(triethylgermyl)butane (**31**) and 2,3-dimethyl-3-(triethylgermyl)-1-butene (**32**) were also detected. The formation of these gernylbutane and gernylbutene derivatives can be explained by a disproportionation of the adduct radical **33**.

In the reaction of **1** with a series of the substituted olefins, the yields of the 1,2-adduct greatly decreased with an increase in the number of the substituents on the olefinic carbon; this indicates the important role played by steric hindrance.

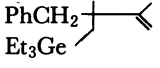
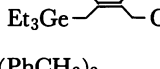
Photolysis in the Presence of 1,3-Dienes. The reaction of benzylgermane **1** with 1,3-diene is also inter-

Table 5. Photochemical Addition of **1** to 2,3-Dimethyl-2-butene

Product	Yield/% ^{a)}
 (30)	3
 (31)	7
 (32)	
(Et ₃ Ge) ₂ (2)	45
(Et ₃ Ge) ₂ O	4
(PhCH ₂) ₂ (3)	71

a) Yields were determined by GLC.

Table 6. Photochemical Addition of **1** to 2,3-Dimethyl-1,3-butadiene

Product	Yield/% ^{a)}
 (34)	22
 (35)	29
(PhCH ₂) ₂ (3)	17

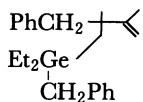
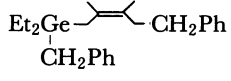
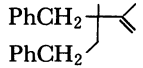
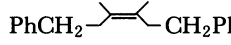
a) Yields were determined by GLC based on the consumed **1**. 5% of **1** was recovered.

esting. When **1** was photolyzed in the presence of 2,3-dimethyl-1,3-butadiene, 1,2-adduct (**34**) and 1,4-adduct (**35**), both having triethylgermyl group on terminal carbon atom, were obtained in a 2:3 molar ratio (see Table 6). The orientation of the gernyl group in the adducts again indicated a more preferential addition of the gernyl free radical to diene than benzyl radical to.

Photochemical Reaction of Diethyldibenzylgermane with 1,3-Dienes. When diethyldibenzylgermane **6** was irradiated in the presence of 2,3-dimethyl-1,3-butadiene for 2 h under similar conditions as in the case of **1**, the major products were 1,2-adduct (**36**) and 1,4-adduct (**37**) in almost the same molar ratio (Table 7). However, in this reaction (although in low yield), the formation of 1,1-diethyl-3,4-dimethylgerma-3-cyclopentene (**38**)⁷⁾ was confirmed by GC-MS. The formation of **38** clearly indicated the generation of diethylgermylene (**39**) by the photolysis of **6**. Dimethylgermylene, thermally generated from 7-dimethylgerma-2,5-norbornadiene, is known to add to styrenes or dienes to give germacyclohexane or germacyclopentene derivatives respectively.⁸⁾

The formation of 1,2- and 1,4-dibenzyl adducts (**40** and **41**) shows that benzyl radical can add to 1,3-diene, which was not observed in the reaction with simple olefins.

Table 7. Photochemical Addition of **6** to 2,3-Dimethyl-1,3-butadiene

Product	Yield/% ^{a)}
 (36)	29
 (37)	30
 (38)	2
 (40)	11
 (41)	
(PhCH ₂) ₂ (3)	17

a) Yields were determined by GLC based on the consumed **6**. 3% of **6** was recovered.

Experimental

IR and UV spectra were recorded on a Hitachi 260-10 IR spectrometer and Hitachi 220A UV spectrometer, respectively. The proton and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded with TMS as an internal standard in CDCl₃ or benzene-*d*₆ at 60 MHz by JNM-PMX-60 and Jeol FX-60, respectively. Mass spectra were measured with a Jeol-DX300 high-resolution mass spectrometer with a JMA-5000 Mass Data System. GLC and HPLC were performed on a Hitachi 163 Gas Chromatograph with SE-30 10% coated column (2m) and a Hitachi 655 Liquid Chromatograph with a Hitachi 638-41 UV monitor.

Materials. **Benzyltriethylgermane (1):** Bromotriethylgermane (5.00 g; 20.9 mmol) in ether (50 cm³) was added to benzylmagnesium bromide prepared from 5.35 g (31.3 mmol) of benzyl bromide and magnesium (0.76 g; 31.3 mg atm) in ether (100 cm³). The reaction mixture was refluxed for one night, then hydrolyzed with ice and dilute hydrochloric acid. After the usual work-up and purification by silica-gel column chromatography with hexane as an eluant and fractional distillation, **1** was obtained in 97% yield. Bp 71–73°C/0.45 mmHg (1 mmHg=133.322 Pa). UV; 270 nm (ϵ 420). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ =0.43–1.43 (m, 15H), 2.17 (s, 2H), 6.76–7.33 (m, 5H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ =3.9, 8.8, 21.1, 123.6, 127.7, 128.1, 141.7. MS *m/z* 252 (M⁺). Exact MS; Found: *m/z* 252.0872. Calcd for C₁₃H₂₂⁷⁴Ge: 252.0933.

Dibenzyl-diethylgermane (6): Dibromodiethylgermane⁹ (11.03 g; 0.038 mol) in ether (30 cm³) was added to benzylmagnesium bromide prepared from benzyl bromide (19.5 g; 0.114 mol) and magnesium (2.77 g; 0.114 g atom) in ether (90 cm³). The reaction mixture was refluxed for one night and hydrolyzed with ice water. The product was purified by silica-gel column chromatography with hexane-ether (50:1 mixture) as an eluant and fractional distillation. Yield 96%. Bp 120–122°C/0.12 mmHg. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ =0.37–1.40 (m, 10H), 2.19 (s, 4H), 6.76–7.47 (m, 10H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ =4.2, 8.6, 21.2, 123.8, 127.9, 128.2, 141.0. MS *m/z* 314 (M⁺).

Exact MS; Found: *m/z* 314.1032. Calcd for C₁₈H₂₄⁷⁴Ge: 314.1089. UV; 267 nm (ϵ 840).

Photolysis. A solution of 0.93 mmol of **6** in 230 cm³ of hexane was irradiated with a medium-pressure mercury lamp through a Vycor filter for 3 min under an argon atmosphere. The products were separated by preparative GLC and identified by GC-Mass, ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR and IR spectroscopy. Yields were determined by GLC.

Photochemical Addition. General procedure is shown in the case of benzyltriethylgermane in the presence of 1-hexene.

A solution of 2.4 mmol of **1** and 14.3 mmol of 1-hexene in 140 cm³ of hexane was irradiated with a medium-pressure mercury lamp through a Vycor filter for 1.5 h under an argon atmosphere. The starting material was completely disappeared at this point. Products were isolated by GPC, preparative GLC and silica-gel column chromatography, and identified by ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, IR, and GC-MS. Yields were determined by GLC using nonane, dodecane or tetradecane as an internal standard.

Physical Properties of the Product. **1,2-Dibenzyl-1,1,2,2-tetraethylgermane (7):** Colorless liquid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ =0.67–1.47 (m, 20H), 2.27 (s, 4H), 6.77–7.37 (m, 10H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ =6.7, 10.3, 22.8, 124.3, 128.2, 128.6, 142.3. MS *m/z* 355 (M⁺–PhCH₂). EX MS Found: *m/z* 353.0583. Calcd for C₁₅H₂₇⁷⁴Ge: 353.0546.

1-Triethylgermyl-2-benzylhexane (12): Colorless liquid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ =0.43–1.13 (m, 18H), 1.13–2.17 (m, 9H), 2.52 (d, *J*=7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.97–7.43 (m, 5H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ =4.7, 8.9, 14.2, 17.1, 23.0, 28.8, 35.8, 37.1, 43.5, 125.5, 128.0, 129.2, 141.8. MS *m/z* 307 (M⁺–C₂H₅). EX MS Found: *m/z* 307.1435. Calcd for C₁₇H₂₉⁷⁴Ge: 307.1481.

Diethylbenzylgermane (8): Colorless liquid; ¹H NMR (benzene-*d*₆) δ =0.72–1.17 (m, 10H), 2.20 (d, *J*=3 Hz, 2H), 3.90–4.20 (m, 1H), 6.87–7.14 (m, 5H). IR (neat) 2001 cm^{–1} ($\nu_{\text{Ge-H}}$). MS *m/z* 224 (M⁺). EX MS Found: *m/z* 224.0679. Calcd for C₁₁H₁₈⁷⁴Ge: 224.0620.

1-(Triethylgermyl)-2-benzylcyclohexane (19) (cis: trans=1:4 mixture): Colorless liquid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ =0.57–2.03 (m, 25H), 2.49 (m, 2H), 6.92–7.48 (m, 5H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ =4.6, 9.4, 22.0, 25.6, 26.4, 28.3, 29.1, 29.8, 32.1, 33.4, 37.4, 39.0, 42.0, 43.6, 125.7, 128.2, 129.2, 141.7. MS *m/z* 305 (M⁺–C₂H₅). EX MS Found: *m/z* 305.1284. Calcd for C₁₇H₂₇⁷⁴Ge: 305.1325.

1,2-Bis(triethylgermyl)cyclohexane (23) (cis-trans mixture): Colorless liquid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ =0.50–1.33 (m, 32H), 1.33–1.87 (m, 8H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ =5.1, 9.2, 25.3, 26.5, 27.2, 27.6, 30.1, 30.5. MS *m/z* 404 (M⁺). EX MS; Found: *m/z* 243.1125. Calcd for C₁₂H₂₅⁷⁴Ge (M⁺–Et₃Ge): 243.1082.

1,2-Adduct of 1 with 2-Hexene (24A, 24B, 24C) (mixture of **3** isomer): Colorless liquid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ =0.50–1.77 (m, 27H), 2.30–2.93 (m, 2H), 6.80–7.30 (m, 5H). MS *m/z* 307 (M⁺–C₂H₅). EX MS: Found Isomer A; *m/z* 307.1443. Isomer B; *m/z* 307.1504. Isomer C, *m/z* 307.1418. Calcd for C₁₇H₂₉⁷⁴Ge; (M⁺–C₂H₅): 307.1481.

2-Methyl-2-benzyl-3-trimethylgermylhexane (25): Colorless liquid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ =0.65–1.14 (m, 27H), 2.54 (s, 2H), 6.97–7.30 (m, 5H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ =6.1, 8.9, 14.7, 17.4, 26.0, 27.5, 37.4, 44.2, 49.0, 125.6, 127.5, 130.7, 139.7. MS *m/z* 307 (M⁺–C₂H₅). EX MS Found *m/z* 307.1394. Calcd for C₁₇H₂₉⁷⁴Ge (M⁺–C₂H₅): 307.1481.

2,3,3-Trimethyl-4-phenyl-2-(triethylgermyl)butane (30): Colorless liquid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ =0.76–1.23 (m, 27H),

2.58 (s, 2H), 7.07–7.28 (m, 5H). MS m/z 307 ($M^+ - C_2H_5$). EX MS Found: m/z 307.1481. Calcd for $C_{17}H_{29}^{74}Ge$ ($M^+ - C_2H_5$); 307.1481.

2,3-Dimethyl-3-benzyl-4-triethylgermyl-1-butene (34): Colorless liquid; 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ =0.52–1.32 (m, 20H), 1.83 (s, 3H), 2.54, 2.78 (AB q, J =13.8 Hz, 2H), 4.51 (s, 1H), 4.73 (m, 1H), 6.93–7.37 (m, 5H). ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ =5.7, 9.0, 20.4, 25.6, 26.1, 42.9, 50.1, 111.4, 125.8, 127.4, 130.5, 139.2, 150.8. MS m/z 334 (M^+). EX MS Found: m/z 334.1699. Calcd for $C_{19}H_{32}^{74}Ge$; 334.1716.

2,3-Dimethyl-5-phenyl-1-triethylgermyl-2-pentene (35): Colorless liquid; 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ =0.43–1.30 (m, 17H), 1.65 (s, 6H), 2.47 (m, 4H), 6.93–7.47 (m, 5H). ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ =5.0, 8.9, 18.8, 20.3, 20.6, 34.9, 37.0, 123.9, 125.6, 127.5, 128.2, 128.4, 142.9. MS m/z 334 (M^+). EX MS Found: m/z 334.1781. Calcd for $C_{19}H_{32}^{74}Ge$; 334.1716.

2,3-Dimethyl-3-benzyl-4-diethylbenzylgermyl-1-butene (36): Colorless liquid; 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ =0.43–1.24 (m, 12H), 1.57 (s, 3H), 1.66 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 2H), 2.33, 2.51 (AB q, J =9 Hz, 2H), 4.48 (s, 1H), 4.72 (m, 1H), 6.77–7.43 (m, 10H). MS m/z 396 (M^+). EX MS Found: m/z 396.1837. Calcd for $C_{24}H_{34}^{74}Ge$; 396.1872.

2,3-Dimethyl-5-phenyl-1-diethylbenzylgermyl-2-pentene (37): Colorless liquid; 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ =0.38–1.33 (m, 12H), 1.56 (s, 6H), 2.33 (s, 2H), 2.49 (m, 4H), 6.96–7.32 (m, 10H). MS m/z 396 (M^+). EX MS Found: m/z 396.1846. Calcd for $C_{24}H_{34}^{74}Ge$; 396.1872.

5-(Triethylgermylmethyl)undecane (17): Colorless liquid; 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ =0.43–1.80 (m, 40H), ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ =4.8, 9.0, 11.7, 14.0, 14.2, 23.2, 23.3, 30.2, 30.5, 32.7, 33.8, 36.9, 38.5. MS m/z 301 ($M^+ - C_2H_5$). EX MS Found: m/z 245.1331. Calcd for $C_{12}H_{27}^{74}Ge$ ($M^+ - C_6H_{13}$); 245.1324.

1,1-Diethylgermacyclo-3,4-dimethyl-3-pentene (38): Due to the low yield this product could not be isolated in pure state in the photoreaction of diethyldibenzylgermane and 3,4-dimethyl-1,3-butadiene. Its mass fragmentation pattern [m/z 214 (M^+), 185 ($M^+ - C_2H_5$, base peak), 157 ($M^+ - 2 C_2H_5$), 132 (Et_2Ge), 115, and 103 ($EtGe$)] is identical with that of the authentic sample prepared as described below.

Synthesis of 38: To a solution of trichlorogermane (0.025 mol) in ether (20 ml) was added 2,3-dimethyl-1,3-butadiene (0.027 mol) in ether (10 ml) with stirring at room temperature. Stirring was continued for 1 h, and a precipitated white solid was filtered off. A filtrate containing 1,1-

dichloro-3,4-dimethyl-1-germacyclo-3-pentene was added dropwise to a solution of ethylmagnesium bromide, prepared from ethyl bromide (0.25 mol) and magnesium (0.25 mol) in ether (200 ml), under reflux. After refluxing for 3 h, excess Grignard reagent was hydrolyzed with a saturated ammonium chloride solution. The solvent was expelled at room temperature and the residue was purified by silica-gel chromatography (eluant: hexane) and GPC to give **38**. Yield 22%. Bp 60°C/7 mmHg (lit.⁷ 102°C/26 mmHg (1 mm Hg=133.322 Pa)). 1H NMR δ =0.54–1.30 (m, 10H, C_2H_5), 1.47 (s, 4H, CH_2), 1.68 (s, 6H, CH_3). ^{13}C NMR δ =5.8, 9.2, 19.5, 22.9, 131.0. Mass: m/z 214 (M^+), 185, 157, 132 (Et_2Ge), 115, 103, 83, 75.

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