Transition-Metal-Free Boryl Substitution Using Silylboranes and Alkoxy bases

Eiji Yamamoto A, Satoshi Maeda B, Tetsuya Taketsugu C, Hajime Ito D

A Division of Applied Chemistry & Frontier Chemistry Center, Graduate School of Engineering, Hokkaido University, Sapporo 060-8628, Japan.
B Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Hokkaido University, North-10, West-8, Kita-ku, Sapporo 060-0810, Japan.

Abstract: Silylboranes can be used as a borylation reagent for organohalides in the presence of alkoxy bases without transition metal catalysts. PhMe3Si−B(pin) reacted with a variety of aryl, alkenyl, and alkyl halides including sterically hindered ones to provide the corresponding organoboronates in good yields with high borylation/silylation ratios, showing good functional group compatibility. Halogenophilic attack of a silyl nucleophile on organohalides and following nucleophilic attack on boron electrophile have been identified as crucial based on the results of extensive theoretical and experimental studies. This borylation reaction was further applied to the first direct dimesityl boryl (BMes2) substitution of aryl halides using Ph2Me3Si−BMes2 and Na(O-t-Bu), affording Aryldimesitylboranes, which are regarded as an important class of compounds for organic materials.

1. Introduction
Organoboron compounds have become an indispensable reagent in modern organic chemistry as they can be converted into a wide variety of functional groups. In addition, their modulable reactivity and good stability toward air and moisture play important roles to achieve the transformations and increase their utility. Reactions of boron electrophiles with organolithium reagents or Grignard reagents are a common method for the preparation of organoboron compounds. However, these methods generally have low functional group compatibility and are limited by the availability of the organometallic reagents. In recent years, a number of functional-group-tolerant transition-metal-catalyzed borylation reactions have been developed as the complementary methods. However, there exist a strong need for developing transition-metal-free synthetic methods that can reduce the transition metal impurities in the products for pharmaceutical application as well as the high process cost accompanied with the use of expensive transition-metal catalysts.

In order to solve the issue, several transition-metal-free borylation methods have been developed, including borylation reactions involved with Lewis-base activation of a B−B bond, or radical-mediated borylation. Despite these recent advances, these reactions still have issues in terms of their reactivity, regioselectivity and functional group compatibility. Among these transition-metal-free borylation reactions, boryl substitution reaction of organohalides is a reliable method to access the desired organoboron compounds. One of the major challenges is the compatibility of the reaction system with sterically-hindered and/or functionalized substrates.

Recently, we have developed formal nucleophilic boryl substitution reactions of organohalides with silylboranes and alkoxy bases, which are involved with Lewis base activation of the Si−B bond (Figure 1). This reaction was counterintuitive in that the reaction of silylborane with Lewis-base is supposed to generate a silyl nucleophile (Figure 1b), as seen in the reactions related to Lewis-base activation of Si−B bonds. For example, Kawachi, Tamao and co-workers reported that reactions of a silylborane with a stoichiometric amount of strong base such as organolithium reagent, Grignard reagent, or...
K(0-t-Bu) provides the corresponding silyl nucleophiles, which can react with a variety of electrophiles. Hoveyda and coworkers reported chiral N-heterocyclic carbene (NHC)- catalyzed enantioselective 1,4-silyl addition of α,β-unsaturated carbonyl compounds with silylborane in the presence of stoichiometric amount of base. These reactions indicate that silylboranes react with a base or nucleophilic catalyst to generate the silyl nucleophile rather than the boryl silylboranes. There had been no reports for silylborane to generate the silyl nucleophile rather than the boryl silylboranes. We found that silylborane can react with a variety of nucleophiles. 913 and there had been no reports for silylborane showing a boryl nucleophile.

Our boryl substitution reactions are considered to follow a representative mechanism depicted in Scheme 1, based on experimental observations11 and DFT studies using artificial force induced reaction (AFIR) method, which involves the formation of a carbanion species via a metal–halogen exchange. The silyl substitution of phenyl halides with a silylborane reagent was reported by Strohmann and coworkers.10 Taking their proposed mechanism and our results into account, PhMe2Si–B(pin) (1a) and potassium methoxide (KOMe) initially form silylborane/KOMe complex A. Subsequent nucleophilic attack of the silyl moiety of complex A on the bromine atom of phenyl bromide 2a leads to the formation of phenyl anion species. Then, the carbon nucleophile attaches to the boron electrophile rather than PhMe2SiBr to give the corresponding organoborate salt PhB(pin)OMe K+(B), which gives phenylboronate ester 3a through the reaction of [PhB(pin)OMe]−K+ with the in situ generated PhMe2SiBr. PhMe2Si (4a), silyl methyl ether and potassium bromide were formed as byproducts. This account highlights our recent research on the transition-metal-free boryl substitution reactions using silylborane reagents containing B(pin)11−13 or dimethylboron (BMes2) group,14 and alkoxyl bases, focusing on the scope, mechanism and limitations.

2. Boryl Substitution Reaction of Organohalides with PhMe2Si–B(pin)/Alkoxyl Base

Silylborane has been used as a versatile reagents for the synthesis of organoboron- and silicon compounds.12−15 During the course of our study on developing reactions using silylborane reagents,12 We found that boryl substitution reaction with aryl halides with PhMe2Si–B(pin) 1a in the presence of alkoxyl bases.11−13 Screening of the reaction conditions identified the optimum conditions using silylborane 1a (1.5 equiv), KOMe (1.2 equiv) in 1,2-dimethoxyethane (DME) at 30 °C for 1 h (Scheme 2). The use of the less bulky alkoxyl base and ethereal solvent is important to ensure the good yield and Borylation/Silylation (B/Si) selectivity. The selected examples of substrates for this boryl substitution reaction of aryl halides are shown in Scheme 2. Electron-deficient or rich aryl bromides are tolerant under the reaction conditions (Scheme 2, left). The reaction of p-allyloxybromobenzene gave the borylated product in good yield. It should be noted that allyloxy group in aryl bromide 2g is easy removed under the typical Pd(0)-catalyzed borylation conditions due to the formation of α-allyl Pd species.13a No trans-stereofication was observed when the substrate having ethyl ester group was used. In addition, sterically-hindered 2,4,6-trisopropyl bromobenzene substrate also underwent the reaction providing the corresponding aryl boronic acid ester in high yield. It is noteworthy that transition-metal-catalyzed borylation of 2i has been reported to be difficult without an exquisite ligand system. This method was also successfully applied to the synthesis of heteroaryl boron compounds (Scheme 2, right). Boryl substitution of heteroaryl bromides including indole, benzothiophene, carbazole, pyrazole, thiophene, oxazole, thiazole derivatives underwent to give the corresponding organoboron compounds in good yields.15 On exploring the substrate scope with aryl and heteroaryl bromides, three limitations emerged. First, this borylation conditions could not accommodate substrates having electrophilic or protic functional groups. For example, aryl bromide containing nitro, ketone or terminal alkene functional group resulted in very low yield or complex mixtures although several silyl groups such as ethyl esters and dialkyl amides were tolerant under the conditions (Scheme 3). This would be attributable to the side reactions of the functional groups with in situ generated silyl nucleophile. The other issues are contamination of silyl substituted product and decomposition of the borylated products in the purification process. For example, borylated products from 3-bromopyridine or 3- bromoquinoline using this method could not be isolated in
acceptable yields although $^1$H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixtures indicated the formation of borylated products in 68 and 58 % yields, respectively.

$$\text{Ar–Br} \quad 2 \quad \text{PhMe}_2\text{Si–B(pin)} \quad 1a \quad \text{KOMe (1.2 equiv)} \quad (\text{Ar–B(pin)} \quad 3 \quad \text{Ar–SiMe}_3\text{Ph} \quad 4)$$

### Scheme 2 Boryl substitution of aryl- and heteroaryl bromides with PhMe$_2$Si–B(pin) and alkoxy base: a) 3 equiv of 1a and 2.4 equiv of KOMe were used.

### Scheme 3 Unsuccessful aryl bromide substrates

To utilize these unpurified borylated products, sequential boryl substitution/Suzuki-Miyaura coupling was developed (Scheme 4). This one-pot borylation/cross coupling sequence provided a facile access to the corresponding coupling products in good to high yields (58–84%). The present boryl substitution reaction is also applicable to the synthesis of alkyl boronates although the reaction condition requires higher reaction temperature than those for the synthesis of aryl boronate [equation 1, silylborane 1a (1.5 equiv), KOMe (1.2 equiv) in 1,4-dioxane at 100 °C for 1 h].

### Scheme 4 Sequential boryl substitution/Suzuki-Miyaura coupling

$$\text{Ar–Br} \quad 2 \quad \text{PhMe}_2\text{Si–B(pin)} \quad 1a \quad \text{KOMe (1.2 equiv)} \quad (\text{Ar–B(pin)} \quad 3 \quad \text{Ar–Ar'} \quad 5)$$

Equation 1 Boryl substitution of phenethyl bromide using PhMe$_2$Si–B(pin) and KOMe

With regard to the synthesis of alkenyl boronates, the non-catalytic hydroboration of alkynes is a common and straightforward method to access (E)-alkenyl borates. In contrast, the preparation of (Z)-alkenyl boronates requires an indirect trans-hydroboration using alkynyl bromides. With this in mind, optimization of reaction conditions for boryl substitution of (Z)-alkenyl iodide was investigated, which lead to the optimum reaction conditions using PhMe$_2$Si–B(pin) (2 equiv) and NaOEt (1.5 equiv) in DME solvent at 30 °C (Scheme 5). The use of NaOEt is of importance to obtain the desired (Z)-
alkenyl boronate in high yield with high B/Si and Z/E ratios. With this conditions in hand, substrate scope was explored with a variety of (Z)- or (E)-alkenyl iodides and bromide (Scheme 5). This reaction conditions tolerated sterically hindered (Z)- or (Z)-alkenyl iodides and (Z)-alkenyl iodides having benzoyl or acetal functional group. Tetrasubstituted alkenyl bromides are also viable substrates. It is worthy of note that a sterically hindered substrate containing butyl ester group underwent the reaction to afford the borylated product in good yield (53%).

Next, several experiments were carried out to investigate the possibility of a radical-mediated mechanism (Scheme 6). For this aim, boryl substitution reaction of o-(3-butetyl) bromobenzene (2w) was conducted. The corresponding aryl radical species has been reported to undergo 5-exo-trig cyclization with a rate constant of $10^8$ s$^{-1}$ to form 1-methylindane after hydrogen atom abstraction. The reaction underwent to provide the corresponding aryl radical species has been reported to undergo 5-exo-trig cyclization with a rate constant of $10^8$ s$^{-1}$ to form 1-methylindane after hydrogen atom abstraction. The reaction underwent to provide the corresponding aryl radical species has been reported to undergo 5-exo-trig cyclization with a rate constant of $10^8$ s$^{-1}$ to form 1-methylindane after hydrogen atom abstraction. The reaction underwent to provide the corresponding aryl radical species has been reported to undergo 5-exo-trig cyclization with a rate constant of $10^8$ s$^{-1}$ to form 1-methylindane after hydrogen atom abstraction.

We then explored the possibility of a radical-anion-mediated mechanism by conducting a competition reaction with two different aryl bromides (Scheme 7). The competition reaction with these substrates afforded radical cyclization process in high yield, and the related mechanistic studies of silylated products did not indicate that radical intermediates are involved (Scheme 6a).

We first suspected that trace transition-metal impurities in the reaction mixture might catalyze the boryl substitution reaction.20 However, ICP-AES analysis of KOMe base for the presence of various transition-metals (Ni, Pd, Pt, Rh, Au, Ag, Ir, Ru and Co) revealed that the concentrations of trace-transition metals were lower than those of the detection limits. In addition, the boryl substitution reaction was repeated in the presence of catalytic amount of transition-metal salts, which resulted in no acceleration in the yield or selectivity. Furthermore, control experiments with virgin reagents and labwares performed by another research group showed almost the same results. These results indicated no involvement of trace-transition-metal catalysis in this system.13a

We then explored the possibility of a radical-anion-mediated mechanism by conducting a competition reaction with two different aryl bromides (Scheme 7). The competition reaction with these substrates afforded radical cyclization process in high yield, and the related mechanistic studies of silylated products did not indicate that radical intermediates are involved (Scheme 6a).

3. Mechanistic investigations

We were intrigued to pursue the mechanism of the present borylation reaction. We assumed that the boryl substitution could undergo through one of four possible processes: (1) trace-transition-metal catalysis, (2) a radical-mediated mechanism, (3) a radical-anion-mediated mechanism or (4) a carbanion-mediated mechanism. It is worthy of note that a mechanism including a dearomatization process seems unlikely based on the results of the reaction of sterically hindered aryl halides 2i, which proceeded rapidly and afforded the borylated product in high yield, and the related mechanistic studies of silylated aryl halides 16.

We first suspected that trace transition-metal impurities in the reaction mixture might catalyze the boryl substitution reaction. However, ICP-AES analysis of KOMe base for the presence of various transition-metals (Ni, Pd, Pt, Rh, Au, Ag, Ir, Ru and Co) revealed that the concentrations of trace-transition metals were lower than those of the detection limits. In addition, the boryl substitution reaction was repeated in the presence of catalytic amount of transition-metal salts, which resulted in no acceleration in the yield or selectivity. Furthermore, control experiments with virgin reagents and labwares performed by another research group showed almost the same results. These results indicated no involvement of trace-transition-metal catalysis in this system.13a

Next, several experiments were carried out to investigate the possibility of a radical-mediated mechanism (Scheme 6). For this aim, boryl substitution reaction of o-(3-butetyl) bromobenzene (2w) was conducted. The corresponding aryl radical species has been reported to undergo 5-exo-trig cyclization with a rate constant of $10^8$ s$^{-1}$ to form 1-methylindane after hydrogen atom abstraction. The reaction underwent to provide the corresponding aryl radical species has been reported to undergo 5-exo-trig cyclization with a rate constant of $10^8$ s$^{-1}$ to form 1-methylindane after hydrogen atom abstraction. The reaction underwent to provide the corresponding aryl radical species has been reported to undergo 5-exo-trig cyclization with a rate constant of $10^8$ s$^{-1}$ to form 1-methylindane after hydrogen atom abstraction.

We then explored the possibility of a radical-anion-mediated mechanism by conducting a competition reaction with two different aryl bromides (Scheme 7). The competition reaction with these substrates afforded radical cyclization process in high yield, and the related mechanistic studies of silylated products did not indicate that radical intermediates are involved (Scheme 6a).
Next, the possibility of a carbanion-mediated mechanism was investigated. The halogenophilic attack process by the silyl nucleophile would be the key reaction in the carbanion-mediated mechanism. It is important to note that this process has not yet been studied in great detail. With these considerations in mind, silyl substitution of p-bromoanisole 2u with [dimethylphenylsilyl]lithium, which is a common silyllithium reagent, was examined (Scheme 8a). The reaction underwent to afford the silyl-substituted product 4u in 51% yield. This reaction most probably involved an initial halogenophilic attack by the silyl nucleophile on the bromine atom, followed by reaction of the resultant silyl bromide with the aryllithium species to provide the silyl substitution product 4u. Further experiment for trapping a carbanion intermediate observed intramolecular retro-Brook rearrangement product 3a', and no boryl substituted product 3a' was detected (Scheme 8b). These observations provide evidences in support of the formation of the carbanion intermediate under the standard reaction conditions for the present boryl substitution reaction.

### Scheme 7 Reaction of substrates having different reduction potential and electrophilicity

![Scheme 7](image)

### Scheme 8 Mechanistic investigation of an carbanion-mediated mechanism

#### a) Reaction of p-bromoanisole with a Silyl nucleophile

\[
\text{Ph}_2\text{Si} \xrightarrow{\text{Li}} \text{PhMe}_2\text{Si}-\text{Br} \xrightarrow{(1.0 \, \text{equiv})} \xrightarrow{\text{THF, 30 oC, 1 h}} \xrightarrow{\text{PhMe}_2\text{Si}-\text{Br} \text{OMe}} \xrightarrow{(1.5 \, \text{equiv})} \xrightarrow{\text{KOMe (1.2 equiv)} \text{DME, 30 oC, 15 min}} \xrightarrow{3x, \text{7% yield}} \text{PhMe}_2\text{Si}-\text{Br} \text{OMe}
\]

#### b) Trapping the Carbanion Intermediate under the Standard Conditions

\[
\text{TBSO}-\text{Br} \xrightarrow{\text{DME, 30 oC, 1 h}} \xrightarrow{\text{PhMe}_2\text{Si}-\text{Br} (1.5 \, \text{equiv}) \text{KOMe (1.2 equiv)}} \xrightarrow{(\text{pin}) (1.5 \, \text{equiv}) \text{C, 1 h}} \text{PhMe}_2\text{Si}-\text{Br} \text{OMe}
\]

### Scheme 8 Mechanistic investigation of an carbanion-mediated mechanism

#### a) Reaction of p-bromoanisole with a Silyl nucleophile

\[
\text{Ph}_2\text{Si} \xrightarrow{\text{Li}} \text{PhMe}_2\text{Si}-\text{Br} \xrightarrow{(1.0 \, \text{equiv})} \xrightarrow{\text{THF, 30 oC, 1 h}} \xrightarrow{\text{PhMe}_2\text{Si}-\text{Br} \text{OMe}} \xrightarrow{(1.5 \, \text{equiv})} \xrightarrow{\text{KOMe (1.2 equiv)} \text{DME, 30 oC, 15 min}} \xrightarrow{3x, \text{7% yield}} \text{PhMe}_2\text{Si}-\text{Br} \text{OMe}
\]

#### b) Trapping the Carbanion Intermediate under the Standard Conditions

\[
\text{TBSO}-\text{Br} \xrightarrow{\text{DME, 30 oC, 1 h}} \xrightarrow{\text{PhMe}_2\text{Si}-\text{Br} (1.5 \, \text{equiv}) \text{KOMe (1.2 equiv)}} \xrightarrow{(\text{pin}) (1.5 \, \text{equiv}) \text{C, 1 h}} \text{PhMe}_2\text{Si}-\text{Br} \text{OMe}
\]

### 4. DFT Mechanistic Studies Using Artificial Force Induced Reaction (AFIR) Method

DFT theoretical studies using artificial force induced reaction (AFIR) method were performed to understand the mechanistic details of the present boryl substitution. The AFIR method is an fully automated reaction path search method, developed by Maeda and Morokuma, which explores association pathways between multiple reactant molecules, and identify approximate local minima (LM) and transition states (TS). In AFIR, the sum of the potential energy function of the reacting system and a force term are used as a model function. The force term eliminates potential barriers along a reaction coordinate, which enables rapid identification of the LMs and TSs by minimizing this function. The approximate stationary points can be reoptimized to locate the true LMs and TSs. DFT studies with AFIR method enable the identification of working reaction pathways, including unexpected ones, from the many different possibilities without estimating any of the TS structures.

From a number of the reaction mechanisms including unexpected ones, DFT mechanistic studies with AFIR method reached the carbanion-mediated mechanism, which is the most plausible mechanism among the four possible reaction mechanisms mentioned above. In addition, the DFT studies have also discounted the radical or radical-anion-mediated mechanism being involved in the boryl substitution reaction based on the results of CIS- and TDDFT-based electronic excitation energy calculations. Furthermore, the theoretical study revealed the origin of the good functional group compatibility and high reactivity toward sterically hindered aryl halide substrates of the present boryl substitution reaction with silylborane and alkoxy bases. In the case of the boryl substitution of phenyl bromide substrate, the results of the calculations unveiled that the activation free energy of the halogenophilic attack of in situ generated silyl nucleophile on phenyl bromide is significantly low (ΔΔG° 0.2 kcal/mol) while Si–B bond cleavage process in the PhMe2Si–B(pin)/KOMe ate complex has an energy barrier of 18.4 kcal/mol, which is the substantial rate determining step (RDS) (Figure 2a). In addition, activation barriers of the following borylation or silylation process are 1.0 and 2.6 kcal/mol, respectively (Figure 3). The significantly low energy barriers of the halogenophilic attack and the following nucleophilic boryl/silyl substitution process indicate that these processes are significantly rapid enough to show good functional compatibility even when an ester group exists.
In addition, calculated activation energy in the halogenophilic attack on sterically hindered 2,4,6-trisopropylbromobenzene \(2i\) was found to be reasonably low (\(\Delta G^\ddagger = 1.9\) kcal/mol, Figure 2b). This result is in good agreement with the high reactivity of sterically hindered substrates in the present boryl substitution reaction conditions. The TS structures indicate that the steric hindrance of the ortho-isopropyl groups in \(2i\) would be too far from the reactive \(\sigma^*\)(C-Br) orbital to have a noticeable effect on the reactivity, whereas Pd catalysts directly interact with a C-Br bond in the aryl bromides in Miyaura borylation, causing this classical borylation sensitive to the steric hindrance. The overall reaction pathway is shown in Scheme 9. Initially, the silylborane/KOMe ate complex A is formed, followed by Si-B bond cleavage process, which is a reversible reaction. Then, the nucleophilic attack of the silylnucleophile affords the phenyl potassium complex B, and nucleophilic attack of phenyl potassium species on the boron or silicon electrophiles occurs, which determines the B/Si selectivity. After that, resulting boron ate complex C reacts with the silyl bromide, providing the desired phenyl boronate.

5. Dimesityl Boryl Substitution of Aryl Halides with Ph₂MeSi-BMes₂/Na(0-t-Bu)

This borylation reaction was further applied to the direct synthesis of aryl(dimesityl)boranes,\textsuperscript{11d} which have attracted much attention as organic materials for electronic and optoelectronic devices.\textsuperscript{25} Boron-containing \(\pi\)-conjugated systems show intriguing optical properties, which are attributable to the \(\pi^*\)-conjugation between the vacant \(\pi\) orbital of the three-coordinate boron center and the \(\pi^*\) orbital of the attached carbon \(\pi\)-conjugated moieties. Among these compounds, dimesityl boryl (BMes\(_2\)) group has been frequently used because of its high \(\pi\)-acceptor property and high stability toward air and moisture.

The dimesityl borylation of aryl halides were conducted under the optimized reaction conditions using Ph\(\text{MeSi-BMes}_2\) (\(1b\) (1.5 equiv) and Na(0-t-Bu) (1.2 equiv) in dioxane/hexane (1:1) solvent at 50 °C. This reaction requires the use of sterically hindered Na(0-t-Bu) base to efficiently promote the desired boryl substitution reaction while using small alkoxy bases such as KOMe or NaOMe were important for the synthesis of organoboronates using PhMe\(\text{Si-B(pin)}\) (1a) and alkoxy bases. In addition, dioxane solvent is also significant to assure the high yield and B/Si ratio. Selected examples of the viable substrates are shown in Scheme 10. Electronic change on the aryl ring in the substrates did not show significant impact on the yield and B/Si selectivity. A reaction of 2-methyl-bromobenzene substrate \(2h\) showed low yield and low B/Si selectivity (31%, B/Si = 67:33). Aryl bromide bearing conjugated alkene or alkyne functional group or heteroaryl bromides (\(2j\), \(2x\), \(2c\), \(2d\)) also underwent the reaction to afford the corresponding dimesityl borylation products in moderate to good yields and with good to high B/Si ratios.

A possible reaction mechanism for the dimesitylboronyl substitution is presented in Scheme 11. At the outset of the reaction, Ph₂MeSi-BMes\(_2\) and Na(0-t-Bu) form the corresponding ate complex. Following halogenophilic attack of nucleophilic Ph₂MeSi group on the bromine atom in the aryl bromide substrate provides the aryl anion intermediate.

In Figure 2, the key TS structures for the boryl substitution reaction were calculated at the M06-L/6-311+G(2d,p) level for the attack of silyl nucleophile on phenyl bromide: Gibbs free energy values (303.15 K, 1.0 atm) based on M06-L/6-311+G(2d,p) calculations are shown.

In Scheme 10, various functional group or heteroaryl bromides underwent the reaction to afford the corresponding dimesitylboronates, showing high B/Si selectivity in the substrates.
Subsequent nucleophilic attack of the aryl anion species to Mes₂B(O-t-Bu) affords arylsilylborane 10. This follows the mechanism for boryl substitution with PhMe₂Si–B(pin) and an alkoxyl base\(^{11c}\), while the optimized conditions for dimethyl borylation are slightly different from those for B(pin) substitution [PhMe₂Si–B(pin) (1.5 equiv) and KOMe (1.2 equiv) in DME at 30 °C]. An important difference is that the dimethyl borylation needs the bulky sodium tert-butoxide base to assure high B/Si ratio while the use of a small methoxide base is crucial for high B/Si ratio for the pinacol boryl substitution. The strong Lewis acidity of dimethylboryl group would be attributable to its distinct reactivity and B/Si selectivity, which are different from those in the borylation with PhMe₂Si–B(pin) and KOMe base.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Scheme 10} & \quad \text{Dimethyl boryl substitution of aryl halides with PhMe₂Si=BMes₂ and Na(O-t-Bu); a) Isolated yield, b) \text{^1H NMR yield.}} \\
\end{align*}
\]

**Acknowledgment**

Click here to insert acknowledgment text.

**References**

1. Department of Chemistry, Graduate School of Science, Kyushu University, Motooaku 744, Nishi-ku, Fukuoka 819-0395, Japan.
7. Base metal-catalyzed borylation reactions have emerged as environmentally benign alternatives to conventional transition-metal-catalyzed borylation because base metals are less toxic and


For related halogenophilic reactions with boryl nucleophiles, a few examples have been reported. See, ref 6c and following references: (a) Segawa, Y.; Suzuki, Y.; Yamashita, M.; Nozaki, K. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2008, 130, 16069. (b) Cheung M. S.; Marder, T. B.; Lin, Z. Organometallics 2011, 30, 3018.


**Biosketches**

**Dr. Eiji Yamamoto** was born in Tokushima, Japan, in 1982. He obtained his B.Sc. degree in agriculture from Hokkaido University in 2005. He then received M.Sc. degree in chemistry under the direction of Professor Makoto Tokunaga and Professor Yasushi Tsuji from the same university in 2007. After almost two-year working for Kuraray Co., LTD. as a chemical engineer, he started his Ph.D. study under the supervision of Professor Makoto Tokunaga at Kyushu University in 2009, working on asymmetric base-hydrolysis of esters using chiral phase-transfer catalysts. After completing his Ph.D. in 2012, he spent postdoctoral years at Hokkaido University – Professor Tetsuya Taketsugu group in 2012-2015, working on copper-catalyzed selective borylation and boryl substitution using silylborane and base. During his postdoctoral time, he had spent one year in Professor Matthew S. Sigman group at The University of Utah, Salt Lake City since 2014. He is currently an Assistant Professor at Kyushu University. His current research interest includes development of new reactions with supported transition metal catalysts and asymmetric ion-pairing catalysis.

**Satoshi Maeda** received his Ph.D. from Tohoku University in 2007, under the guidance of Prof. Koichi Ohno. In 2007–2010, he did postdoctoral work as a JSPS research fellow at Tohoku University and Toyota Physical and Chemical Research Institute. In 2008–2010, he visited Emory University and Kyoto University and collaborated with Prof. Keiji Morokuma. In 2010–2011, he was an assistant professor of the Hakubi project at Kyoto University. Since 2012, he has worked with Prof. Tetsuya Taketsugu at Hokkaido University – as an assistant professor until 2013, and currently as an associate professor. He has worked on the development of automated methods for the systematic exploration of quantum chemical potential energy surfaces, and on applications of these methods to the analysis and prediction of molecular structures and reaction mechanisms.

**Professor Tetsuya Taketsugu** was born in Hyogo, Japan, in 1964. He received his Ph.D. degree in theoretical chemistry from the University of Tokyo in 1994, under the guidance of Professor Tsuneo Hirano. He worked as a postdoctoral researcher with Professor Mark Gordon at Iowa State University for one year, and then he became an Assistant Professor at the University of Tokyo in Professor Kimihiko Hirano’s laboratory. In 1999, he moved to Ochanomizu University as an Associate Professor, and in 2005, he was promoted to a full Professor of the Quantum Chemistry laboratory at Hokkaido University. His research interests focus on the development of new methodologies to explore potential energy surfaces and reaction dynamics on the basis of quantum chemical calculations.

**Professor Hajime Ito** was born in Osaka, Japan, in 1968. He completed the Ph.D. degree in 1996 under the direction of late Professor Yoshihiko Ito at Kyoto University. He then worked as an Assistant Professor at Tsukuba University in corroborating with Professor Akira Hosomi, and moved to Institute for Molecular Science. He also joined Professor Kim D. Janda’s research group at the Scripps Research Institute as a research associate in 2001. In 2002 he was appointed as an Associate Professor at Hokkaido University, working with Professor Masaya Sawamura. He was promoted to a full Professor at the same university in 2010. His research interests include development of new synthetic reactions for organic synthesis as well as new organometallic functional materials.
For **Accounts**, include photos and short biographical text for all authors. If the photo is of a group of people, specify who is shown where.

For **Synpacts**, restrict the photo and biographical text to the main (starred) author(s). If the photo displays co-workers, however, they can be mentioned briefly within the main author’s short biography.

**Photographs** (.jpg or .tif format) must be a minimum of 300 dpi in order to reproduce well in print.

Click here to select, then delete this placeholder graphic and insert a **graphical abstract** that summarizes the article’s key point(s).

*Note that this is the MOST IMPORTANT graphic in the manuscript and will appear in the table of contents. Effective use of color is encouraged.*

*Maximum dimensions are 5.0 cm high, 11.0 cm wide. Keep in mind that too many structures, or structures that are too large or too small, may not fit legibly.*

**Checklist (have these on hand for manuscript submission in ScholarOne):**
- cover letter, including a statement of the work’s significance
- full mailing address, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address of the corresponding author
- email address for each author
- original Word file
- original graphics files zipped into one zip file
- eye-catching graphical abstract as an individual file
- 5–8 key words

**Useful links:**
- SYNLETT homepage
- SYNLETT information and tools for authors
- Graphical abstract samples (PDF file download)
- What is “Primary Data”?
- ScholarOne (manuscript submission)