# Physicochemical characterization of *B*-hydroxyphenyl phosphine borane derivatives and their evaluation as nuclear estrogen receptor ligands

Yu Miyajima, Tomomi Noguchi-Yachide, Kotaro Ochiai and Shinya Fujii

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#### 1. Synthesis and characterization of compounds

#### 1.1 General procedure of phosphine borane derivatives 7-22.



A dry round-bottomed flask, equipped with a magnetic stirring bar, sealed with a septum and protected with an Ar balloon, was charged with 4- or 3-hydroxyphenylboronic acid (207 mg, 2.0 mmol) in 10 mL of THF. LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (171 mg, 6.0 mmol) was added at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred and then phosphine (2.0 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was added. Stirring was continued at room temperature with monitoring by TLC. After the change of the spots on TLC stopped, the mixture was quenched by the addition of sodium sulfate hydrate and filtered through Celite. The obtained solution was evaporated, and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate) to give the desired phosphine borane derivatives.

# 1.2 Characterization of phosphine borane derivatives 7-22.

#### B-(4-Hydroxyphenyl) trimethylphosphine borane (7)



Yield : 35.7 mg, 9.8%, white solid  $R_f = 0.46$  (hexane/ethyl acetate = 1/1) <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  8.64 (s, 1H), 6.97 (dd, J = 8.0, 2.6 Hz, 2H), 6.54 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.04-1.36 (br, 2H), 1.20 (d, J = 10.6 Hz, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  154.9 (d,  $J_{CP} = 4.3$  Hz), 136.5 (d,  $J_{CP} = 6.9$  Hz), 114.7 (d,  $J_{CP} = 3.6$  Hz), 9.9 (d,  $J_{CP} = 36.8$  Hz) <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  -23.8 (d,  $J_{BP} = 50.6$  Hz) <sup>31</sup>P NMR (161 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  -7.0 (s)

# HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. $C_9H_{16}BNaOP [M+Na]^+$ : 205.0924. Found 205.0930.

#### B-(4-Hydroxyphenyl) dimethylphenyphosphine borane (8)



Yield: 35.4 mg, 16.1%, white solid

 $R_{\rm f} = 0.31$  (hexane/ethyl acetate = 2/1)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  8.69 (s,1H), 7.67 (t, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.52-7.49 (m, 3H), 6.96 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 2.8 Hz, 2H), 6.50 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 0.85 Hz, 2H), 2.29-1.70 (br, 2H), 1.45 (d, *J* = 10.3 Hz, 6H) <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  155.1(d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 4.3 Hz), 136.9 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 7.1 Hz), 131.5 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 8.8 Hz), 131.4 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 1.7 Hz), 130.9 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 51.2 Hz), 129.2 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 9.5 Hz), 114.8 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 3.3 Hz), 9.7 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 37.7 Hz)

<sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ -23.8(s)

<sup>31</sup>P NMR (161 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ -2.5(s)

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd.  $C_{14}H_{18}BNaOP$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 267.1081. Found 267.1090.

#### **B-(4-Hydroxyphenyl) triethylphenylphosphine borane (9)**



Yield: 20.0 mg, 8.9%, white solid

 $R_{\rm f} = 0.40$  (hexane/ethyl acetate = 2/1)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ 8.66 (s,1H), 6.98 (dd, J = 8.1, 2.3 Hz, 2H), 6.52 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H),

2.20-1.40 (br, 2H), 1.56-1.48 (m, 6H), 0.99 (quin, J = 7.5 Hz, 9H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  154.8 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 3.9 Hz), 136.7 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 6.7 Hz), 114.8 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 3.2 Hz),

12.7 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 33.4 Hz), 6.8 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 3.5 Hz)

<sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ -27.4(s)

<sup>31</sup>P NMR (161 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 12.2(s)

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>22</sub>BNaOP [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 247.1394. Found 247.1404.

#### B-(4-Hydroxyphenyl) diethylphenylphosphine borane (10)



Yield: 65.5 mg, 24%, white solid

 $R_{\rm f} = 0.38$  (hexane/ethyl acetate = 2/1)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 8.70 (s,1H), 7.70 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.58-7.52 (m, 3H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 6.51 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 2.28-1.67 (br, 2H), 1.95-1.70 (m, 4H), 0.92 (quin, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 6H) <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 155.0 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 4.0 Hz), 136.9 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 6.9 Hz), 132.7 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 7.5 Hz), 131.6 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 2.1 Hz), 129.2 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 9.0 Hz), 127.2 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 47.7 Hz), 114.8 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 2.9 Hz), 14.8 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 35.2 Hz), 7.7 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 2.8 Hz) <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ -27.6(s) <sup>31</sup>P NMR (161 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 12.1(s) HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>44</sub>B<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub> [2M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 567.2895. Found 567.2909.

#### B-(3-Hydroxyphenyl) trimehylphosphine borane (11)



Yield: 98.2 mg, 27%, white solid

 $R_{\rm f} = 0.40$  (hexane/ethyl acetate = 1/1)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 8.65 (s,1H), 6.88 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.63-6.60 (m, 2H), 6.39 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 2.15-1.40 (br, 2H), 1.19 (d, *J* = 10.7 Hz, 9H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 156.5 (s), 128.1 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 3.7 Hz), 126.7 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 7.1 Hz), 122.6 (d,  $J_{CP}$ 

= 7.3 Hz), 111.7 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 4.1 Hz), 10.0 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 37.4 Hz)

<sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  -23.6 (d,  $J_{BP}$  = 52.6 Hz)

<sup>31</sup>P NMR (161 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ -6.7 (s)

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>16</sub>BNaOP [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 205.0924. Found 205.0928.

#### B-(3-Hydroxyphenyl) dimethylphenylphosphine borane (12)



Yield: 77.1 mg, 18%, white solid

 $R_{\rm f}$  = 0.29 (hexane/ethyl acetate = 2/1)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 8.65 (s,1H), 7.70 (t, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.54-7.48 (m, 3H), 6.86 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (s, 1H), 6.60 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 6.39 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 2.31-1.67 (br, 2H), 1.49 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, 6H),

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, aceton- $d_6$ ): δ 157.2 (s), 132.1 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 8.5 Hz), 132.0 (s), 131.5 (s), 129.7 (d,  $J_{CP}$  =

9.6 Hz), 128.7 (s), 128.3 (s), 123.6 (d, J<sub>CP</sub> = 7.4 Hz), 112.4 (s), 10.3 (d, J<sub>CP</sub> = 38.4 Hz)

<sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, aceton- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  -24.0(d,  $J_{BP}$  = 52.8Hz)

<sup>31</sup>P NMR (161 MHz, aceton-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ -2.7(s)

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>BNaOP [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 267.1081. Found 267.1084.

#### B-(3-Hydroxyphenyl) triethylphosphine borane (13)



Yield: 163.1 mg, 36%, colorless oil

 $R_{\rm f} = 0.37$  (hexane/ethyl acetate = 2/1)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ 8.65 (s,1H), 6.69 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.65-6.62 (m, 2H), 6.38 (d, J =

7.9 Hz, 1H), 2.05-1.42 (br, 2H), 1.59-1.51 (m, 6H), 1.01 (quin, J = 7.5 Hz, 9H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  156.5 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 3.7 Hz), 128.1 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 3.1 Hz), 126.9 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 6.9 Hz),

122.8 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 6.8 Hz), 111.6 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 3.7 Hz), 12.8 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 34.1 Hz), 6.8 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 3.5 Hz)

<sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ -27.6(s)

<sup>31</sup>P NMR (161 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 12.8(s)

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd.  $C_{12}H_{22}BNaOP$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 247.1394. Found 247.1397.

#### B-(3-Hydroxyphenyl) diethylphenylphosphine borane (14)



Yield: 65.2 mg, 12%, white solid

$$\begin{split} R_{\rm f} &= 0.38 \text{ (hexane/ethyl acetate = 2/1)} \\ ^{1}{\rm H} \ {\rm NMR} \ (400 {\rm MHz}, \ {\rm DMSO-}d_6): \ \delta \ 8.67 \ ({\rm s},{\rm 1H}), \ 7.72 \ ({\rm t}, \ J = 8.3 \ {\rm Hz}, \ 2{\rm H}), \ 7.59-7.51 \ ({\rm m}, \ 3{\rm H}), \ 6.86 \ ({\rm t}, \ J = 7.6, \ 1{\rm H}), \ 6.68 \ ({\rm s}, \ 1{\rm H}), \ 6.64 \ ({\rm d}, \ J = 6.9 \ {\rm Hz}, \ 1{\rm H}), \ 6.39 \ ({\rm d}, \ J = 7.9 \ {\rm Hz}, \ 1{\rm H}), \ 2.27-1.70 \ ({\rm br}, \ 2{\rm H}), \ 1.98-1.87 \ ({\rm m}, \ 2{\rm H}), \ 1.85-1.71 \ ({\rm m}, \ 2{\rm H}), \ 0.92 \ ({\rm quin}, \ J = 7.8 \ {\rm Hz}, \ 6{\rm H}) \\ ^{13}{\rm C} \ {\rm NMR} \ (125 \ {\rm MHz}, \ {\rm DMSO-}d_6): \ \delta \ 156.6 \ ({\rm d}, \ J_{\rm CP} = 2.8 \ {\rm Hz}), \ 132.8 \ ({\rm d}, \ J_{\rm CP} = 7.8 \ {\rm Hz}), \ 131.7 \ ({\rm d}, \ J_{\rm CP} = 1.7 \ {\rm Hz}), \ 129.3 \ ({\rm d}, \ J_{\rm CP} = 9.1 \ {\rm Hz}), \ 128.2 \ ({\rm d}, \ J_{\rm CP} = 2.9 \ {\rm Hz}), \ 127.0 \ ({\rm d}, \ J_{\rm CP} = 48.8 \ {\rm Hz}), \ 127.0 \ ({\rm d}, \ J_{\rm CP} = 7.0 \ {\rm Hz}), \ 122.9 \ ({\rm d}, \ J_{\rm C$$

 $J_{CP}$  = 7.2 Hz), 111.9 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 3.9 Hz), 15.0 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 35.6 Hz), 7.1 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 2.8 Hz)

<sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ -27.7(s)

<sup>31</sup>P NMR (161 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 12.6(s)

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C16H23BOP [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 273.1574. Found 273.1580.

#### B-(4-Hydroxyphenyl) triisopropylphosphine borane (15)



Yield: 72.0 mg, 9.1% (2 steps), white solid

 $R_{\rm f} = 0.47$  (hexane/ethyl acetate = 2/1)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  8.66 (s,1H), 7.05 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.50 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.30-

1.50 (br, 2H), 2.21-2.12 (m, 3H), 1.15-1.10 (m, 18H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  154.8 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 3.6 Hz), 137.2 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 6.3 Hz), 114.7 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 2.4 Hz),

20.5 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 28.3 Hz), 18.2 (s)

<sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ -28.6(s)

<sup>31</sup>P NMR (161 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 23.4(s)

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd.  $C_{30}H_{56}B_2NaO_2P_2$  [2M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 555.3834. Found 555.3820.

#### B-(4-Hydroxyphenyl) diisopropylphenylphosphine borane (16)



Yield: 86.7 mg, 9.6% (2 steps), white solid

 $R_{\rm f} = 0.42$  (hexane/ethyl acetate = 2/1)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CD2Cl2): δ 7.78 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.54-7.45 (m, 3H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 6.61

(d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.58-1.90 (br, 2H), 2.47-2.38 (m, 2H), 1.07-0.95 (m, 12H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ 155.0 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 3.6 Hz), 137.3 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 6.8 Hz), 134.0 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 6.5 Hz),

131.7 (s), 129.0 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 8.4 Hz), 114.8 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 2.5 Hz), 100.0 (s), 20.6 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 31.3 Hz), 16.8-16.7

(m)

<sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ -28.5(s)

<sup>31</sup>P NMR (161 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 20.0(s)

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $C_{36}H_{52}B_2NaO_2P_2$  [2M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 623.3521. Found 623.3519.

#### B-(4-Hydroxyphenyl) tricyclopropylphosphine borane (17)



Yield: 92.6 mg, 24% (2 steps), white solid

 $R_{\rm f}$  = 0.37 (hexane/ethyl acetate = 2/1)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  8.66 (s,1H), 7.01 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.3 Hz, 2H), 6.49 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H),

1.82-1.13 (br, 2H), 0.752-0.643 (m, 15H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  154.9 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 3.8 Hz), 137.1 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 6.7 Hz), 114.6 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 2.8 Hz),

32.2 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 31.2 Hz), 2.32 (s), 2.10 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 61.9 Hz)

<sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ -29.1 (s)

<sup>31</sup>P NMR (161 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 15.5 (s)

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>44</sub>B<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub> [2M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 543.2895. Found 543.2892.

#### B-(4-Hydroxyphenyl) tributylphosphine borane (18)



Yield:152.0 mg, 25%, white solid

 $R_{\rm f}$  = 0.56 (hexane/ethyl acetate = 2/1)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ 8.67 (s,1H), 6.97 (dd, J = 8.1, 2.4 Hz, 2H), 6.52 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H),

2.08-1.12 (br, 2H), 1.48-1.45 (m, 6H), 1.38-1.28 (m, 12H), 0.99 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 9H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ 154.9 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 3.9 Hz), 136.7 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 6.7 Hz), 114.7 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 3.0 Hz),

24.5 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 2.6 Hz), 24.3 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 12.1 Hz), 20.1 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 32.4 Hz), 13.9 (s)

<sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ -26.9 (s)

<sup>31</sup>P NMR (161 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  6.7 (s)

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. C36H68B2NaO2P2 [2M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 639.4773. Found 639.4770.

#### B-(4-Hydroxyphenyl) tricyclopentylphosphine borane (19)



Yield : 175.0 mg, 25%, white solid  $R_f = 0.53$  (hexane/ethyl acetate = 2/1) <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  8.63 (s,1H), 7.03 (dd, J = 8.1, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 6.49 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 2.23-1.30 (br, 2H), 2.14-2.05 (m, 3H), 1.77-1.49 (m, 24H) <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  154.7 (d,  $J_{CP} = 3.7$  Hz), 137.3 (d,  $J_{CP} = 6.2$  Hz), 114.6 (d,  $J_{CP} = 3.1$  Hz), 32.2 (d,  $J_{CP} = 31.2$  Hz), 28.3 (s), 26.2 (d,  $J_{CP} = 8.5$  Hz) <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  -28.8 (s) <sup>31</sup>P NMR (161 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  18.0 (s) HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $C_{42}H_{68}B_2NaO_2P_2$  [2M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 711.4773. Found 711.4799.

#### B-(4-Hydroxyphenyl) tricyclohexylphosphine borane (20)



Yield: 34.8 mg, 4.5%, white solid

 $R_{\rm f}$  = 0.61 (hexane/ethyl acetate = 2/1)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ 8.67 (s,1H), 7.02 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 6.52 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 1.93-

1.11 (br, 2H), 1.88-1.65 (m, 19H), 1.32-1.16 (m, 16H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 154.8 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 3.3 Hz), 137.2 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 6.7 Hz), 114.8 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 2.8 Hz), 30.3 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 27.3 Hz), 27.8 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 1.9 Hz), 27.3 (d, *J*<sub>CP</sub> = 9.2 Hz) <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ -28.5 (s) <sup>31</sup>P NMR (161 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 14.7 (s) HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>48</sub>H<sub>80</sub>B<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub> [2M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 795.5712. Found 795.5747.

#### **B-(3-Hydroxyphenyl) diisopropylphenylphosphine borane (21)**



Yield: 317.8 mg, 35% (2 steps), white solid

 $R_{\rm f} = 0.47$  (hexane/ethyl acetate = 2/1)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ 7.80-7.75 (m, 2H), 7.57-7.48 (m, 3H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 2H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 6.51-6.48 (m, 1H), 4.50 (s, 1H), 2.60-1.80 (br, 2H), 2.60-1.80 (br, 2H), 2.49-2.39 (m, 2H), 1.07-0.97 (m, 12H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  156.5 (d, *J*<sub>*CP*</sub> = 2.8 Hz), 134.0 (d, *J*<sub>*CP*</sub> = 6.2 Hz), 131.8 (d, *J*<sub>*CP*</sub> = 2.5 Hz), 129.0 (d, *J*<sub>*CP*</sub> = 8.8 Hz), 128.1 (d, *J*<sub>*CP*</sub> = 2.9 Hz), 127.5 (d, *J*<sub>*CP*</sub> = 6.5 Hz), 124.3 (d, *J*<sub>*CP*</sub> = 45.8 Hz),

123.4 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 7.5 Hz), 111.9 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 3.3 Hz), 20.7 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 31.2 Hz), 16.8-16.7 (m)

<sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ -28.3(s)

<sup>31</sup>P NMR (161 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 21.2(s)

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>52</sub>B<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub> [2M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 623.3521. Found 623.3561.

#### B-(3-Hydroxyphenyl) tributylphosphine borane (22)



Yield: 47.7 mg, 7.7%, colorless oil

 $R_{\rm f} = 0.64$  (hexane/ethyl acetate = 2/1)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  8.65 (s,1H), 6.86 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.64-6.60 (m, 2H), 6.38 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H),1.98-1.22 (br, 2H), 1.39-1.29 (m, 18H), 0.86 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 9H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  156.6 (s), 128.1 (s), 126.8 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 6.6 Hz), 122.8 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 6.5 Hz), 111.6 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 2.9 Hz), 24.5 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 2.6 Hz), 24.3 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 12.2 Hz), 20.2 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 33.2 Hz), 14.0 (s)

<sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ -26.8(s)

<sup>31</sup>P NMR (161 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 7.57(s)

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $C_{36}H_{68}B_2NaO_2P_2$  [2M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 639.4773. Found 639.4761.

#### 1.3 Preparation of alkane analogue 26



A dry round bottom flask, equipped with a magnetic stirring bar, sealed with a septum and protected with an Ar balloon, was charged with magnesium (52.3 mg, 2.2 mmol) in 0.5 mL of Et<sub>2</sub>O. 1-Chloro-2-methyl-2-phenylpropane (0.32 mL, 2.0 mmol) was added to the mixture and then stirred under reflux for 1 h. Then, compound **24** (262 mg, 0.84 mmol) and PdCl<sub>2</sub>(dppf) (19.1 mg, 0.23 mmol) in 5.5 mL of Et<sub>2</sub>O were further added and the mixture was stirred for 4.5 h. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature, washed with 1 % aqueous HCl at three times, water at two times and saturated brine at two times. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered off, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica-gel column chromatography (eluent: diethyl ether) and used for the next step.

To a solution of compound **25** (131 mg, 0.30 mmol) in 1.0 mL of THF was added 1 M tetrabutylammonium fluoride in THF (0.40 mmol) at room temperature. After stirring for 15 min, the reaction was quenched by H<sub>2</sub>O and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was combined, washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica-gel column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, 8:1) to give the compound **26** (48.5 mg, 26%, 2steps).

Yield : 26% (2steps), white solid  $R_f = 0.48$  (hexane/ethyl acetate = 5/1) <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  9.06 (s, 1H), 7.32-7.27 (m, 4H), 7.16 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.50 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 2.72 (s, 2H), 1.22 (s, 6H) <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  155.9 (s), 149.4 (s), 131.5 (s), 129.1 (s), 128.3 (s), 126.5 (s), 125.9 (s), 114.7 (s), 49.7 (s), 38.9 (s), 28.4 (s)

#### 1.4. Preparation of silane analogues 30 and 31



A dry round bottom flask, equipped with a magnetic stirring bar, sealed with a septum and protected with an Ar balloon, was charged with magnesium (12.2 mg, 0.6 mmol) trimethylsilyl chloride (76  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol) and THF (0.6 mL). Compound **27** (138.6 mg, 0.5 mmol) in THF (0.3 mL) was added dropwise over 20 minutes. After stirring at room temperature, the reaction was quenched with a saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution and extracted with ethyl acetate for three times. The organic layer was combined, washed with brine and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by silica-gel column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, 20:1) to give the compound **28** as a mixture. The mixture was used for next reaction without further purification. Then the mixture was hydrogenated with 7.5 % Pd/C in MeOH at room temperature. Insoluble materials were removed through Celite, and the filtrate was concentrated. The residue was purified by preparative thin-layer chromatography (eluent: dichloromethane) to give the compound **30** (11.4 mg, 13% for 2 steps).

Yield : 13% (2steps), white solid  $R_{\rm f}$  = 0.32 (hexane/ethyl acetate = 5/1) <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 6.86 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.70 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 4.47 (s, 1H), 1.99 (s, 2H), 0.02 (s, 9H) <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 152.2 (s), 132.5 (s), 128.9 (s), 115.0 (s), 25.7 (s), -2.0 (s)

#### 4-[(Dimethylphenylsilyl)methyl]phenol (31)



A dry round bottom flask, equipped with a magnetic stirring bar, sealed with a septum and protected with an Ar balloon, was charged with magnesium (332 mg, 13.6 mmol) dimethylphenylsilyl chloride (1.1 mL, 13.6 mmol) and THF (0.5 mL). Compound **27** (1.90 g, 6.8 mmol) in THF (8 mL) was added dropwise over 30 minutes. After stirring at room temperature, the reaction was quenched with a saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution and extracted with ethyl acetate for three times. The organic layer was combined, washed with brine and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by silica-gel column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, **11**:1) to give the compound **29** as a mixture. The mixture was used for next reaction without further purification.

Then the mixture was hydrogenated with 7.5 % Pd/C in MeOH at room temperature. Insoluble materials were removed through Celite, and the filtrate was concentrated. The residue was purified by silica-gel column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, 10:1) to give the compound **31** 

(175 mg, 54 % for 2 steps).

Yield: 54% (2steps), white solid

 $R_{\rm f}$  = 0.29 (hexane/ethyl acetate = 5/1)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.46-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.37-7.32 (m, 3H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.67 (d, *J* 

= 8.5 Hz, 2H), 4.44 (s, 1H), 2.22 (s, 2H), 0.24 (s, 6H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ=152.3 (s), 138.5 (s), 133.7 (s), 131.6 (s), 129.2 (s), 129.0 (s), 127.7 (s), 115.0 (s), 24.9 (s), -3.5 (s)

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C15H17OSi [M-H]<sup>-</sup>: 241.1054. Found 241.1053.

#### 2. <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, <sup>11</sup>B and <sup>31</sup>P NMR Spectra

#### B-(4-Hydroxyphenyl) trimethylphosphine borane (7)





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#### B-(4-Hydroxyphenyl) dimethylphenyphosphine borane (8)







#### B-(4-Hydroxyphenyl) triethylphenylphosphine borane (9)



#### S17



#### B-(4-Hydroxyphenyl) diethylphenylphosphine borane (10)



#### B-(3-Hydroxyphenyl) trimehylphosphine borane (11)





S21

#### B-(3-Hydroxyphenyl) dimethylphenylphosphine borane (12)





S23







S25



3-HOPhBH2PEt2Ph redried





S27



#### B-(4-Hydroxyphenyl) triisopropylphosphine borane (15)



S29



#### **B**-(4-Hydroxyphenyl) diisopropylphenylphosphine borane (16)



S31



#### B-(4-Hydroxyphenyl) tricyclopropylphosphine borane (17)



#### B-(4-Hydroxyphenyl) tributylphosphine borane (18)





# S35

#### **B-(4-Hydroxyphenyl) tricyclopentylphosphine borane (19)**





S37

#### B-(4-Hydroxyphenyl) tricyclohexylphosphine borane (20)





#### S39



#### **B-(3-Hydroxyphenyl) diisopropylphenylphosphine borane (21)**



#### B-(3-Hydroxyphenyl) tributylphosphine borane (22)





#### 4-(2-Methyl-2-phenylpropyl)phenol (26)



### 4-[(trimethylsilyl)methyl]phenol (30)



#### 4-[(dimethylphenylsilyl)methyl]phenol (31)



## 3. Calculation of LogP

Table S1.	Experimental	and	calculated	LogP	values	of	phosphine	boranes.	Differences	between
experime	ntal values and	calcı	ulated value	es are	noted i	n p	arentheses.			

			R1	R <sup>2</sup>	LogP				
Cmpd	X-Y				experimental	Calculated by	Calculated by		
						ChemDraw <sup>a</sup>	ALOGPS <sup>b</sup>		
Phenol	-	-	-	-	1.46	1.48 (+0.02)	1.39 (-0.07)		
7		4-OH	Me	Me	2.44	2.13 (-0.31)	3.05 (+0.61)		
8			Ph	Me	3.18	4.03 (+0.31)	4.41 (+1.23)		
9			Et	Et	3.28	3.72 (+0.31)	4.85 (+1.57)		
10			Ph	Et	4.11	5.09 (+0.98)	5.42 (+1.31)		
11	-вп2-Р	3-OH	Me	Me	2.55	2.13 (-0.42)	2.98 (+0.43)		
12			Ph	Me	3.27	4.03 (+0.76)	4.39 (+1.12)		
13			Et	Et	3.47	3.72 (+0.25)	4.81 (+1.34)		
14			Ph	Et	4.19	5.09 (+0.90)	5.39 (+1.20)		
23	-CH <sub>2</sub> -C	4 01	Me	Me	4.36	3.83 (-0.53)	3.79 (-0.57)		
26			Ph	Me	5.26	4.72 (-0.54)	4.64 (-0.62)		
30	cu ci	4-UN	Me	Me	4.91	3.47 (-1.44)	3.31 (-1.60)		
31	-672-31		Ph	Me	5.74	5.62 (-0.12)	5.41 (-0.33)		

<sup>a</sup>ChemDraw 22.2.0

<sup>b</sup>ALOGPS 2.1 program<sup>1,2</sup>

#### 4. Calculation of pK<sub>a</sub> values

	Х-Ү		R1	R <sup>2</sup>	рKa				
Cmpd					experimental	Calculated by	DFT-based		
						ChemDraw <sup>a</sup>	calibration method <sup>b</sup>		
Phenol	-	-	-	-	10.44	9.97 (-0.47)	9.85 (-0.59)		
7		4-OH	Me	Me	11.28	11.40 (+0.12)	10.46 (-0.82)		
8			Ph	Ph Me 11.2		11.29 (+0.07)	10.38 (-0.84)		
9			Et	Et	11.02	11.32 (+0.30)	10.13 (-0.89)		
10			Ph	Et	11.05	11.24 (+0.19)	10.04 (-1.01)		
11	-BH2-P	3-ОН	Me	Me	11.26	12.60 (+1.34)	10.55 (-0.71)		
12			Ph	Me	11.33	12.45 (+1.12)	10.51 (-0.82)		
13			Et	Et	11.33	12.53 (+1.20)	10.57 (-0.76)		
14			Ph	Et	11.29	12.41 (+1.12)	10.53 (-0.80)		
23	-CH <sub>2</sub> -C	4-OH	Me	Me	10.77	9.76 (-1.01)	10.12 (-0.65)		
26			Ph	Me	10.69	9.65 (-1.04)	10.10 (-0.59)		
30			Me	Me	10.74	9.66 (-1.08)	10.26 (-0.48)		
31	-CH2-SI		Ph	Me	10.89	9.54 (-1.35)	10.27 (-0.62)		

**Table S2.** Experimental and calculated Log*P* values of phosphine boranes. Differences between experimental values and calculated values are noted in parentheses.

<sup>a</sup>Calculated by ChemDraw 22.2.0

<sup>b</sup>The detailed method is noted below.

**Calculation of p** $K_a$  **by DFT-based calibration:** All density functional theory (DFT) calculations were performed with the Spartan' 18 programs, Wavefunction, Inc., Irvine, CA. The geometry optimization of compounds were carried out at the B3LYP/6-311++G\* level of theory. The Gibss energy of the protonated and the deprotonated forms of each compound was approximated by essentially a combination of the gas phase and solution phase DFT energies.<sup>3,4</sup> For the reference compounds (phenol, 4-mrthylphenol, 4-methoxyphenol, 4-chlorophenol, 4-phenylphenol, 2-nitrophenol), the differences of calculated Gibbs energy between the protonated and the deprotonated forms were plotted against the actual pKa values to prepare a calibration curve. The p $K_a$  values of test compounds were obtained by interpolation of the calculated Gibbs energy of the calibration curve.

#### **References for Supplementary Information**

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