Catalytic Asymmetric Deprotonation of Phosphine Boranes and Sulfides as a Route to

P-Stereogenic Compounds

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Full Experimental Procedures and Characterisation Data/NMR spectra:

General

Water is distilled water. Et₂O, THF and toluene were freshly distilled from benzophenone ketyl. (-)-Sparteine and diamine 3 were distilled from CaH₂ before use. Petrol refers to the fraction of petroleum ether with a boiling range of 40-60 °C. Brine refers to a saturated aqueous solution. All reactions were carried out under O2 free Ar using oven-dried and/or flame-dried glassware. Flash column chromatography was carried out using Fluka Silica gel 60 (0.035-0.070 mm particle size). Thin layer chromatography was carried out using Merck F₂₅₄ alumina-backed silica plates. Proton (400 MHz), carbon (100.6 MHz) and phosphorus (109 MHz) NMR spectra were recorded on a Jeol ECX-400 or a Jeol EX 270 instrument with internal deuterium lock. Chemical shifts are quoted as parts per million and referenced to CHCl₃ (7.27). Carbon and phosphorus NMR spectra were recorded with broadband proton decoupling. Carbon NMR spectra were assigned using DEPT experiments. Infra-red spectra were recorded on an ATI Matteson Genesis FT-IR spectrometer. Optical rotations were recorded at room temperature (20 °C) on a Jasco DIP-370 polarimeter (using the sodium D line; 259 nm) and $[\alpha]_D$ measurements are given in units of $10^{-1} \text{ deg cm}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$. Melting points were measured on a Gallenkamp melting point apparatus. Chiral stationary phase HPLC was performed on an Agilent 1200 series instrument and a multiple wavelength, UV/Vis diode array detector. *tert*-Butyldimethyl phosphine borane 1 was prepared according to a literature procedure.¹

General Procedure A: Lithiation-substitution of *tert*-butyldimethylphosphine borane 1 using a stoichiometric amount of (–)-sparteine (1.2 eq.).

Alkyllithium (1.1 eq.) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of (–)-sparteine (1.2 eq.) in Et₂O (3 mL) at -78 °C under Ar. After stirring for 15 min at -78 °C, a solution of phosphine borane **1** (120 mg, 0.94 mmol) in Et₂O (2 mL) was added dropwise over 10 min *via* a syringe. The resulting solution was stirred at -78 °C for 3 h. Then, Me₂PhSiCl (1.1 eq.) was added *via* a syringe and the resulting solution allowed to warm to rt over 16 h. 1 M HCl_(aq) (10 mL) and EtOAc (10 mL) were added and the layers separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 × 10 mL) and the combined organic layers were washed with 1 M HCl_(aq) (10 mL), water (10 mL) and brine (10 mL), dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated under reduced pressure to give the crude product as a yellow oil.

General Procedure B: Lithiation-substitution of *tert*-butyldimethylphosphine borane 1 using a substoichiometric amount of (–)-sparteine (0.2 eq.).

Alkyllithium (1.1 eq.) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of (–)-sparteine (0.2 eq.) in Et₂O (10 mL) at -78 °C under Ar. After stirring for 15 min at -78 °C, a solution of phosphine borane **1** (120 mg, 0.94 mmol) in Et₂O (5 mL) was added dropwise over 10 min *via* a syringe. The resulting solution was stirred at -78 °C for 3 h. Then, Me₂PhSiCl (1.1 eq.) was added *via* a syringe and the resulting solution allowed to warm to rt over 16 h. 1 M HCl_(aq) (10 mL) and EtOAc (10 mL) were added and the layers separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 × 10 mL) and the combined organic layers were washed with 1 M HCl_(aq) (10 mL), water (10 mL) and brine (10 mL), dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated under reduced pressure to give the crude product as a yellow oil.

General Procedure C: Lithiation-substitution of *tert*-butyldimethylphosphine borane 1 using alkyllithium (1.1 eq.).

A solution of phosphine borane 1 (120 mg, 0.94 mmol) in Et₂O (2 mL) was added dropwise over 10 min *via* a syringe to a stirred solution of alkyllithium (1.1 eq.) in Et₂O (3 mL) at -78 °C under Ar. The resulting solution was stirred at -78 °C for 3 h. Then, Me₂PhSiCl (1.1 eq.) was added *via* a syringe and the resulting solution allowed to warm to rt over 16 h. 1 M

 $HCl_{(aq)}$ (10 mL) and EtOAc (10 mL) were added and the layers separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 × 10 mL) and the combined organic layers were washed with 1 M $HCl_{(aq)}$ (10 mL), water (10 mL) and brine (10 mL), dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated under reduced pressure to give the crude product as a yellow oil.

General Procedure D: Lithiation-substitution of *tert*-butyldimethylphosphine sulfide 4 using a stoichiometric amount of (–)-sparteine (1.2 eq.).

Alklyllithium (1.1 eq.) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of (–)-sparteine (1.2 eq.) in Et₂O (3 mL) at -78 °C under Ar. After stirring for 15 min at -78 °C, a solution of phosphine sulfide **4** (100 mg, 0.67 mmol) in Et₂O (10 mL) was added dropwise over 10 min *via* a syringe. The resulting solution was stirred at -78 °C for 3 h. Then, Me₂PhSiCl (1.1 eq.) was added dropwise *via* a syringe and the resulting solution was allowed to warm to rt over 16 h. 1 M HCl_(aq) (6 mL) was added and the mixture stirred for 15 min to give a homogeneous biphasic solution. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 × 5 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with 1 M HCl_(aq) (5 mL), water (5 mL) and brine (5 mL), dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated under reduced pressure to give the crude product as a colourless oil.

General Procedure E: Lithiation-substitution of *tert*-butyldimethylphosphine sulfide 4 using a substoichiometric amount of (–)-sparteine (0.05-0.2 eq.).

Alklyllithium (1.1 eq.) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of (–)-sparteine (0.05-0.2 eq.) in Et₂O (10 mL) at -78 °C under Ar. After stirring for 15 min at -78 °C, a solution of phosphine sulfide **4** (300 mg, 2.00 mmol) in Et₂O (20 mL) was added dropwise over 10 min *via* a syringe. The resulting solution was stirred at -78 °C for 3 h. Then, Me₂PhSiCl (1.1 eq.) was added dropwise *via* a syringe and the resulting solution was allowed to warm to rt over 16 h. 1 M HCl_(aq) (18 mL) was added and the mixture stirred for 15 min to give a homogeneous biphasic solution. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 × 15 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with 1 M HCl_(aq) (15 mL), water (15 mL) and brine (15 mL), dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated under reduced pressure to give the crude product as a colourless oil.

General Procedure F: Lithiation-substitution of *tert*-butyldimethylphosphine sulfide 4 using alkyllithium (1.1 eq.).

Alklyllithium (1.1 eq.) was added dropwise over 10 min *via* a syringe to a stirred solution of phosphine sulfide **4** (100 mg, 0.67 mmol) in Et₂O (15 mL) at -78 °C under Ar. The resulting solution was stirred at -78 °C for 3 h. Then, Me₂PhSiCl (1.1 eq.) was added dropwise *via* a syringe and the resulting solution was allowed to warm to rt over 16 h. 1 M HCl_(aq) (6 mL) was added and the mixture stirred for 15 min to give a homogeneous biphasic solution. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 × 5 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with 1 M HCl_(aq) (5 mL), water (5 mL) and brine (5 mL), dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated under reduced pressure to give the crude product as a colourless oil.



tert-Butyldimethylphosphine sulfide 4

A solution of methylmagnesium bromide (55 mL of a 3 M solution in Et₂O, 164.0 mmol, 2.6 eq.) in THF (55 mL) was added to a stirred solution of tert-butyldichlorophosphine (10.0 g, 63.0 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in THF (100 mL) at -10 °C under Ar. The resulting heterogeneous mixture was stirred at rt for 5 h. Sulfur (2.6 g, 82.0 mmol, 1.3 eq.) was added and the mixture was heated at 80 °C for 5 min. After cooling to rt, the mixture was poured onto ice/water (120 mL) and conc. $HCl_{(aq)}$ (30 mL). The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3×30 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with 1 M HCl_(aq) (30 mL), water (30 mL) and brine (30 mL), dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated under reduced pressure to give the crude product as a yellow solid. Purification by recrystallisation from hexane (50 mL) gave phosphine sulfide 4 (5.88 g, 62%) as a white solid, mp 206-207 °C (lit.,² 203 °C); R_F(4:1 petrol-EtOAc) 0.1; IR (NaCl) 3020, 2975, 1215, 940, 910, 755 (P=S), 670, 630 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 1.64 (d, J = 12.5 Hz, 6H, PMe), 1.22 (d, J = 16.5 Hz, 9H, PCMe₃); ¹³C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 32.5 (d, J = 52.5 Hz, PCMe₃), 24.3 $(PCMe_3)$, 16.3 (d, J = 51.5 Hz, PMe); ³¹P{1H} NMR (109 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 54.2; (EI) m/z 150 $(M^+, 45)$, 94 (100), 79 (25), 57 (35), 41 (40); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for C₆H₁₅PS M⁺ 150.0632, found 150.0629. Spectroscopic data consistent with that reported in the literature.²



(R)-tert-Butylmethylphosphineborane(methyl)dimethylphenylsilane (R)-5

(1.2 eq. (-)-sparteine, Table 1, entry 1)

Using general procedure **A**, (–)-sparteine (213 mg, 0.91 mmol) and *s*-BuLi (0.63 mL of a 1.32 M solution in cyclohexane, 0.83 mmol) in Et₂O (2 mL), phosphine borane **1** (100 mg, 0.76 mmol) in Et₂O (3 mL) and Me₂PhSiCl (0.14 mL, 0.83 mmol) gave the crude product as a yellow oil. Purification by flash chromatography with 98:2 petrol-Et₂O as eluent gave adduct (*R*)-**5** (149 mg, 74%, 92:8 er) as a colourless oil which slowly crystallised to a white solid, mp 40-42 °C; $[\alpha]_D$ +8.1 (*c* 1.00 in CHCl₃); *R*_F(4:1 petrol-EtOAc) 0.3; IR (NaCl) 2960, 2375, 1426, 1265, 1114, 1060, 904, 887, 822, 738, 704 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.59-7.54 (m, 2H, Ph), 7.40-7.38 (m, 3H, Ph), 1.12 (d, *J* = 13.5 Hz, 9H, CMe₃), 1.06-0.97 (m, 2H, PCH₂), 1.00 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 3H, PMe), 0.56 (s, 3H, SiMe), 0.52 (q, *J* = 93.0 Hz, 3H, BH₃), 0.50 (s, 3H, SiMe); ¹³C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 138.4 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, *ipso*-Ph), 133.5 (Ph), 129.4 (Ph), 128.0 (Ph), 28.3 (d, *J* = 33.0 Hz, CMe₃), 24.5 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, CMe₃), 7.6 (d, *J* = 21.5 Hz, PCH₂), 7.2 (d, *J* = 35.5 Hz, PMe), -0.4 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, SiMe), -1.5 (SiMe); MS (ESI, NH₃) *m/z* 265 [(M – H)⁺]; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₂₈BPSi (M – H)⁺ 265.1713, found 265.1706; HPLC: Daicel Chiracel OD, 1:99 v/v *i*PrOH-hexane, 0.1 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm, 52.7 min [(*R*)-**5**], 56.3 min [(*S*)-**5**].



(S)-tert-Butylmethylphosphinothioyl(methyl)dimethylphenylsilane (S)-6

(1.2 eq. (-)-sparteine, Table 1, entry 2)

Using general procedure **D**, (–)-sparteine (204 mg, 0.87 mmol) and *s*-BuLi (0.60 mL of a 1.32 M solution in cyclohexane, 0.80 mmol) in Et₂O (2 mL), phosphine sulfide **4** (109 mg, 0.73 mmol) in Et₂O (7 mL) and Me₂PhSiCl (135 mg, 0.80 mmol) gave the crude product as a

colourless oil. Purification by flash chromatography with 19:1 petrol-EtOAc as eluent gave adduct (*S*)-**6** (153 mg, 74%, 84:16 er) as a colourless oil, $R_F(4:1 \text{ petrol-EtOAc})$ 0.4; $[\alpha]_D$ +30.1 (*c* 1.15 in CHCl₃); IR (NaCl) 3070, 2960, 1460, 1425, 1365, 1295, 1250, 1110, 885, 820, 735, 710, 640 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.59-7.56 (m, 2H, Ph), 7.38-7.36 (m, 3H, Ph), 1.49-1.38 (m, 1H, PCH₄H_B), 1.37 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 3H, PMe), 1.26-1.18 (m, 1H, PCH₄H_B), 1.18 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 9H, PCMe₃), 0.63 (s, 3H, SiMe), 0.53 (s, 3H, SiMe); ¹³C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 138.7 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, *ipso*-Ph), 134.0 (Ph), 129.8 (Ph), 128.3 (Ph), 34.6 (d, *J* = 50.5 Hz, CMe₃), 24.5 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, CMe₃), 16.6 (d, *J* = 51.5 Hz, PMe), 15.7 (d, *J* = 39.0 Hz, PCH₂), -0.2 (d, *J* = 3.5 Hz, SiMe), -1.3 (SiMe); ³¹P {1H} NMR (109 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 56.8; MS (EI) *m/z* 284 (M⁺, 20), 269 [(M – Me)⁺, 15], 227 [(M – CMe₃)⁺, 30], 207 [(M – Ph)⁺, 10], 150 [(M – SiMe₂Ph)⁺, 100], 135 [(M – CH₂SiMe₂Ph)⁺, 60]; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₂₅PSSi M⁺ 284.1184, found 284.1186; HPLC: Daicel Chiracel OD, 99:1 v/v hexane-*i*PrOH, 0.4 mL min⁻¹, 230 nm, 16.8 min [(*S*)-**6**], 19.5 min [(*R*)-**6**].

(R)-tert-Butylmethylphosphineborane(methyl)dimethylphenylsilane (R)-5

(0.2 eq. (-)-sparteine, Table 1, entry 3)

Using general procedure **B**, (–)-sparteine (70 mg, 0.30 mmol) and *s*-BuLi (1.24 mL of a 1.32 M solution in cyclohexane, 1.64 mmol) in Et₂O (10 mL), phosphine borane **1** (197 mg, 1.49 mmol) in Et₂O (5 mL) and Me₂PhSiCl (0.28 mL, 1.64 mmol) gave the crude product as a yellow oil. Purification by flash chromatography with 98:2 petrol-Et₂O as eluent gave adduct (*R*)-**5** (302 mg, 76%, 74:26 er) as a colourless oil which slowly crystallised to a white solid, $[\alpha]_D$ +4.6 (*c* 1.05 in CHCl₃).

(S)-tert-Butylmethylphosphinothioyl(methyl)dimethylphenylsilane (S)-6

(0.2 eq. (-)-sparteine, Table 1, entry 4)

Using general procedure E, (–)-sparteine (95 mg, 0.41 mmol, 0.2 eq.) and *s*-BuLi (1.72 mL of a 1.32 M solution in cyclohexane, 2.28 mmol) in Et₂O (2 mL), phosphine sulfide 4 (310 mg, 2.07 mmol) in Et₂O (14 mL) and Me₂PhSiCl (388 mg, 2.28 mmol) gave the crude product as a colourless oil. Purification by flash chromatography with 19:1 petrol-EtOAc as

eluent gave adduct (S)-6 (439 mg, 75%, 60:40 er) as a colourless oil, $[\alpha]_D$ +9.4 (c 1.10 in CHCl₃).

rac-tert-Butylmethylphosphineborane(methyl)dimethylphenylsilane rac-5

(no ligand, Table 1, entry 5)

Using general procedure C, *s*-BuLi (0.63 mL of a 1.32 M solution in cyclohexane, 0.83 mmol) in Et₂O (2 mL), phosphine borane 1 (100 mg, 0.76 mmol) in Et₂O (3 mL) and Me₂PhSiCl (0.14 mL, 0.83 mmol) gave the crude product as a yellow oil. Purification by flash chromatography with 98:2 petrol-Et₂O as eluent gave adduct *rac*-5 (141 mg, 70%) as a colourless oil which slowly crystallised to a white solid.

rac-tert-Butylmethylphosphinothioyl(methyl)dimethylphenylsilane rac-6

(no ligand, Table 1, entry 6)

Using general procedure **F**, *s*-BuLi (0.56 mL of a 1.32 M solution in cyclohexane, 0.73 mmol), phosphine sulfide **4** (100 mg, 0.67 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in Et₂O (7 mL) and Me₂PhSiCl (125 mg, 0.73 mmol) gave the crude product as a colourless oil. Purification by flash chromatography with 19:1 petrol-EtOAc as eluent gave adduct *rac*-**6** (156 mg, 83%) as a colourless oil.

(R)-tert-Butylmethylphosphineborane(methyl)dimethylphenylsilane (R)-5

(1.2 eq. (-)-sparteine, Table 1, entry 7)

Using general procedure A, (–)-sparteine (265 mg, 1.13 mmol) and *n*-BuLi (0.46 mL of a 2.25 M solution in hexanes, 1.04 mmol) in Et₂O (2 mL), phosphine borane **1** (124 mg, 0.94 mmol) in Et₂O (3 mL) and Me₂PhSiCl (0.17 mL, 1.04 mmol) gave the crude product as a yellow oil. Purification by flash chromatography with 98:2 petrol-Et₂O as eluent gave adduct (*R*)-**5** (191 mg, 76%, 89:11 er) as a colourless oil which slowly crystallised to a white solid.

(1.2 eq. (-)-sparteine, Table 1, entry 8) and

Using general procedure **D**, (–)-sparteine (187 mg, 0.80 mmol, 1.2 eq.) and *n*-BuLi (0.33 mL of a 2.25 M solution in hexanes, 0.73 mmol, 1.1 eq.) in Et₂O (2 mL), phosphine sulfide **4** (100 mg, 0.67 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in Et₂O (7 mL) and Me₂PhSiCl (125 mg, 0.73 mmol) gave the crude product as a colourless oil. Purification by flash chromatography with 19:1 petrol-EtOAc as eluent gave adduct (*S*)-**6** (167 mg, 88%, 88:12 er) as a colourless oil.

(R)-tert-Butylmethylphosphineborane(methyl)dimethylphenylsilane (R)-5

(0.2 eq. (-)-sparteine, Table 1, entry 9)

Using general procedure **B**, (–)-sparteine (117 mg, 0.50 mmol) and *n*-BuLi (1.14 mL of a 2.40 M solution in hexanes, 2.75 mmol) in Et₂O (10 mL), phosphine borane **1** (329 mg, 2.50 mmol) in Et₂O (5 mL) and Me₂PhSiCl (0.46 mL, 2.75 mmol) gave the crude product as a yellow oil. Purification by flash chromatography with 98:2 petrol-Et₂O as eluent gave adduct (*R*)-**5** (138 mg, 21%, 84:16 er) as a colourless oil which slowly crystallised to a white solid.

(S)-tert-Butylmethylphosphinothioyl(methyl)dimethylphenylsilane (S)-6

(0.2 eq. (-)-sparteine, Table 1, entry 10) and (0.2 eq. (-)-sparteine, Table 2, entry 2)

Using general procedure E, (–)-sparteine (87 mg, 0.37 mmol, 0.2 eq.) and *n*-BuLi (0.91 mL of a 2.25 M solution in hexanes, 2.04 mmol, 1.1 eq.) in Et₂O (2 mL), phosphine sulfide 4 (278 mg, 1.86 mmol) in Et₂O (14 mL) and Me₂PhSiCl (349 mg, 2.04 mmol) gave the crude product as colourless oil. Purification by flash chromatography with 19:1 petrol-EtOAc as eluent gave adduct (*S*)-6 (432 mg, 82%, 83:17 er) as a colourless oil, $[\alpha]_D$ +26.4 (*c* 0.95 in CHCl₃).

(no ligand, Table 1, entry 12) and (Table 2, entry 5)

Using general procedure **F**, *n*-BuLi (0.32 mL of a 2.25 M solution in hexanes, 0.73 mmol, 1.1 eq.), phosphine sulfide **4** (100 mg, 0.67 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in Et₂O (7 mL) and Me₂PhSiCl (125 mg, 0.73 mmol) gave the crude product as a colourless oil. Purification by flash chromatography with 19:1 petrol-EtOAc as eluent gave adduct *rac*-**6** (85 mg, 45%) as a colourless oil.

(S)-tert-Butylmethylphosphinothioyl(methyl)dimethylphenylsilane (S)-6

(1.2 eq. (-)-sparteine, Table 1, entry 14)

Using general procedure **D**, (–)-sparteine (180 mg, 0.77 mmol) and Me₃SiCH₂Li (0.70 mL of a 1 M solution in pentane, 0.70 mmol) in Et₂O (2 mL), phosphine sulfide **4** (96 mg, 0.64 mmol) in Et₂O (7 mL) and Me₂PhSiCl (120 mg, 0.70 mmol) gave the crude product as a colourless oil. Purification by flash chromatography with 19:1 petrol-EtOAc as eluent gave adduct (*S*)-**6** (167 mg, 92%, 88:12 er) as a colourless oil, $[\alpha]_D$ +32.1 (*c* 1.05 in CHCl₃).

(S)-tert-Butylmethylphosphinothioyl(methyl)dimethylphenylsilane (S)-6

(0.2 eq. (-)-sparteine, Table 1, entry 15)

Using general procedure **E**, (–)-sparteine (91 mg, 0.39 mmol) and Me₃SiCH₂Li (2.14 mL of a 1 M solution in pentane, 2.14 mmol) in Et₂O (2 mL), phosphine sulfide **4** (291 mg, 1.94 mmol) in Et₂O (14 mL) and Me₂PhSiCl (364 mg, 2.14 mmol) gave the crude product as a colourless oil. Purification by flash chromatography with 19:1 petrol-EtOAc as eluent gave adduct (*S*)-**6** (435 mg, 79%, 82:18 er) as a colourless oil, $[\alpha]_D$ +27.1 (*c* 1.00 in CHCl₃).

(no ligand, Table 1, entry 16)

Using general procedure **F**, Me₃SiCH₂Li (0.73 mL of a 1 M solution in pentane, 0.73 mmol, 1.1 eq.) and phosphine sulfide **4** (100 mg, 0.67 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in Et₂O (7 mL) and Me₂PhSiCl (125 mg, 0.73 mmol) gave the crude product as a clear oil. Purification by flash chromatography with 19:1 petrol-EtOAc as eluent gave adduct *rac*-**6** (33 mg, 18%) as a colourless oil.

(S)-tert-Butylmethylphosphinothioyl(methyl)dimethylphenylsilane (S)-6

(0.1 eq. (-)-sparteine, Table 2, entry 3)

Using general procedure **E**, (–)-sparteine (80 mg, 0.34 mmol) and *n*-BuLi (1.56 mL of a 2.4 M solution in hexanes, 3.74 mmol) in Et₂O (2 mL), phosphine sulfide **4** (512 mg, 3.40 mmol) in Et₂O (25 mL) and Me₂PhSiCl (640 mg, 3.74 mmol, 1.1 eq.) gave the crude product as a colourless oil. Purification by flash chromatography with 19:1 petrol-EtOAc as eluent gave adduct (*S*)-**6** (714 mg, 74%, 84:16 er) as a colourless oil, $[\alpha]_D$ +28.1 (*c* 1.10 in CHCl₃).

(S)-tert-Butylmethylphosphinothioyl(methyl)dimethylphenylsilane (S)-6

(0.05 eq. (-)-sparteine, Table 2, entry 4)

Using general procedure **E**, (–)-sparteine (48 mg, 0.20 mmol) and *n*-BuLi (1.8 mL of a 2.5 M solution in hexanes, 4.51 mmol) in Et₂O (2 mL), phosphine sulfide **4** (615 mg, 4.10 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in Et₂O (25 mL) and Me₂PhSiCl (771 mg, 4.51 mmol, 1.1 eq.) gave the crude product as a clear oil. Purification by flash chromatography with 19:1 petrol-EtOAc as eluent gave adduct (*S*)-**6** (1.021 g, 88%, 74:26 er) as a colourless oil, $[\alpha]_D$ +22.6 (*c* 0.90 in CHCl₃).

(1.2 eq. (-)-sparteine, toluene, Table 2, entry 6)

Using general procedure **D**, (–)-sparteine (197 mg, 0.84 mmol) and *n*-BuLi (0.32 mL of a 2.4 M solution in hexanes, 0.77 mmol) in toluene (2 mL) phosphine sulfide **4** (105 mg, 0.70 mmol) in toluene (7 mL) and Me₂PhSiCl (132 mg, 0.77 mmol) gave the crude product as a colourless oil. Purification by flash chromatography with 19:1 petrol-EtOAc as eluent gave adduct (*S*)-**6** (180 mg, 90%, 89:11 er) as a colourless oil, $[\alpha]_D$ +28.5 (*c* 1.00 in CHCl₃).

(S)-tert-Butylmethylphosphinothioyl(methyl)dimethylphenylsilane (S)-6

(0.2 eq. (-)-sparteine, toluene, Table 2, entry 7)

Using general procedure **E**, (–)-sparteine (90 mg, 0.38 mmol, 0.2 eq.) and *n*-BuLi (0.88 mL of a 2.4 M solution in hexanes, 2.10 mmol) in toluene (2 mL), phosphine sulfide **4** (288 mg, 1.90 mmol) in toluene (14 mL) and Me₂PhSiCl (359 mg, 2.1 mmol) gave the crude product as a colourless oil. Purification by flash chromatography with 19:1 petrol-EtOAc as eluent gave adduct (*S*)-**6** (479 mg, 89%, 83:17 er) as a colourless oil, $[\alpha]_D$ +28.8 (*c* 1.10 in CHCl₃).

(S)-tert-Butylmethylphosphinothioyl(methyl)dimethylphenylsilane (S)-6

(0.05 eq. (-)-sparteine, toluene, Table 2, entry 8)

Using general procedure **E**, (–)-sparteine (27 mg, 0.125 mmol) and *n*-BuLi (1.00 mL of a 2.5 M solution in hexanes, 2.50 mmol) in toluene (2 mL), phosphine sulfide **4** (346 mg, 2.31 mmol) in toluene (8 mL) and Me₂PhSiCl (430 mg, 2.51 mmol) gave the crude product as a colourless oil. Purification by flash chromatography with 19:1 petrol-EtOAc as eluent gave adduct (*S*)-**6** (576 mg, 88%, 85:15 er) as a colourless oil.

(no ligand, toluene, Table 2, entry 9)

Using general procedure **F**, *n*-BuLi (0.30 mL of a 2.4 M solution in hexanes, 0.73 mmol) and phosphine sulfide **4** (100 mg, 0.67 mmol) in toluene (7 mL) and Me₂PhSiCl (124 mg, 0.73 mmol) gave the crude product as a colourless oil. Purification by flash chromatography with 19:1 petrol-EtOAc as eluent gave adduct *rac*-**6** (102 mg, 54%) as a colourless oil and recovered phosphine sulfide **4** (40 mg, 40%) as a white solid.



(S)-tert-Butylmethylphosphinesulfide-diphenylphosphinomethaneborane (S)-9

n-BuLi (0.88 mL of a 2.4 M solution in hexanes, 2.1 mmol) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of (-)-sparteine (25 mg, 0.11 mmol) in toluene (5 mL) at -78 °C under Ar. After stirring for 15 min at -78 °C, a solution of phosphine sulfide 4 (316 mg, 2.1 mmol) in toluene (21 mL) was added dropwise over 20 min via a syringe. The resulting mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 3 h. Then, chlorodiphenylphosphine (463 mg, 2.1 mmol) was added dropwise via a syringe and the resulting solution was allowed to warm to rt over 16 h. The solution was cooled to 0 °C and BH₃.Me₂S (1.6 mL of a 2.0 M solution in THF, 3.15 mmol) was added dropwise via a syringe. After stirring at rt for 3 h, 1 M HCl_(aq) (15 mL) was added slowly over 10 min (CAUTION - vigorous effervescence) and the resulting mixture was stirred for 15 min at rt to give a homogeneous biphasic solution. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3×20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with 1 M HCl_(aq) (20 mL), water (20 mL) and brine (20 mL), dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated under reduced pressure to give the crude product. Purification by flash chromatography with toluene then 90:10 toluene-EtOAc as eluent gave adduct (S)-9 (566 mg, 77%, 85:15 er) as a white crystalline solid, mp 176-177 °C; $[\alpha]_D$ –26.3 (c 0.93 in CHCl₃); $R_F(90:10$ toluene-EtOAc) 0.5; IR (NaCl) 2960, 2380, 1464, 1437, 1365, 1159, 1104, 1057, 892, 793, 740, 694 cm^{-1} ; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.86 (ddd, J = 11.5, 8.5, 1.0 Hz, 2H, Ph), 7.56 (ddd, J =11.0, 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 2H, Ph), 7.48-7.29 (m, 6H, Ph), 2.92 (q, J = 14.5 Hz, 1H, PCH₄H_B), 2.64 $(ddd, J = 14.5, 10.5, 9.0 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}, \text{PCH}_{A}H_{B}), 1.56 (d, J = 12.5 \text{ Hz}, 3\text{H}, \text{PMe}), 1.14 (d, J = 17.0 \text{ Hz})$

Hz, 9H, CMe₃); ¹³C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 133.5 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, Ph), 132.0 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, Ph), 131.5 (d, *J* = 9.5 Hz, Ph), 131.3 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, Ph), 131.1 (d, *J* = 56.5 Hz, *ipso*-Ph), 131.2, (d, *J* = 56.5 Hz, *ipso*-Ph), 128.9 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, Ph), 128.7 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, Ph), 54.2 (dd, *J* = 51.0, 3.0 Hz, PCMe₃), 25.9 (dd, *J* = 36.0, 24.5 Hz, PCH₂), 24.1 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, PCMe₃), 15.6 (d, *J* = 55.0 Hz, PMe); ³¹P{1H} NMR (161 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 56.0 (PCMe₃), 15.3 (PPh₂); MS (ESI) *m/z* 349 [(M + H)⁺, 95], 347 [(M – H)⁺, 100]; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₈H₂₈BP₂S (M + H)⁺ 349.1475, found 349.1467; HPLC: Daicel Chiracel AD, 99:1 v/v hexane-*i*PrOH, 1.0 mL min⁻¹, 28.0 min [(*S*)-**9**], 34.3 min [(*R*)-**9**].



(R)-tert-Butylmethylphosphinesulfide-diphenylphosphinomethaneborane (R)-9

n-BuLi (0.88 mL of a 2.4 M solution in hexanes, 2.1 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of diamine 3 (25 mg, 0.11 mmol, 0.05 eq.) in toluene (5 mL) at -78 °C under Ar. After stirring at -78 °C for 15 min, a solution of phosphine sulfide 4 (316 mg, 2.1 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in toluene (21 mL) was added dropwise over 20 min via a syringe. The resulting mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 3 h. Then, chlorodiphenylphosphine (463mg, 2.1 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was added dropwise via a syringe and the mixture was allowed to slowly warm to rt over 16 h. The solution was cooled to 0 °C and BH₃.Me₂S (1.7 mL of a 2.0 M solution in THF, 3.3 mmol) was added dropwise via a syringe. After stirring at rt for 3 h, 1 M HCl_(aq) (15 mL) was added slowly over 10 min (CAUTION - vigorous effervescence) and the resulting mixture was stirred for 15 min at rt to give a homogeneous biphasic solution. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 \times 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with 1 M HCl_(aq) (20 mL), water (20 mL) and brine (20 mL), dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated under reduced pressure to give the crude product. Purification by flash chromatography with toluene then 90:10 toluene-EtOAc as eluent gave adduct (R)-9 (658 mg, 86%, 78:22 er) as a white crystalline solid, $[\alpha]_D$ +19.1 (c 1.05 in CHCl₃). A sample of the product (353 mg) was recrystallised from chloroform-petrol to give adduct rac-9 (184 mg, 52%, 50:50 er) as white needles. The filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure to give adduct (*R*)-9 (169 mg, 48%, 99:1 er) as a white crystalline solid, mp 156-157 °C.



(S)-tert-Butylmethylphosphineborane-diphenylphosphinomethaneborane (S)-10

Si₂Cl₆ (1.73 mL of a 1.86 M solution in toluene, 3.22 mmol) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of phosphine sulfide (R)-9 (150 mg, 0.43 mmol, 78:22 er) in toluene (15 mL) at rt under Ar. The resulting solution was stirred and heated at 80 °C for 2 h. After cooling to rt, the solution was added dropwise via cannula to degassed 30% w/w NaOH(aq) (15 mL) under Ar at 0 °C. The resulting solution was stirred and heated at 50 °C until the aqueous layer became clear. The organic top layer was transferred via cannula to a flame-dried flask. The remaining aqueous layer was extracted with degassed toluene (10 mL) and the organic top layer was transferred via cannula to the same flame-dried flask. This process was repeated twice $(2 \times 10 \text{ mL of degassed toluene})$. The combined organic extracts were washed with degassed 30% w/w NaOH_(aq) (10 mL) under Ar and the organic top layer was transferred via cannula to a flame-dried flask containing MgSO₄. The solution was then transferred via cannula to a flame-dried flask and BH₃.Me₂S (0.65 mL of a 2.0 M solution in THF, 1.3 mmol) was added dropwise via a syringe. The resulting solution was stirred at rt for 2 h. Then, 1 M HCl_(aq) (15 mL) was added slowly over 10 min and the resulting mixture was stirred for 15 min at rt to give a homogeneous biphasic solution. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3×20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with 1 M HCl_(aq) (20 mL), water (20 mL) and brine (20 mL), dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated under reduced pressure to give the crude product. Purification by flash chromatography with 95:5 petrol-EtOAc then 85:15 petrol-EtOAc as eluent gave adduct (S)-**10** (125 mg, 88%, 79:21 er) as a white crystalline solid, mp 167-169 °C; $[\alpha]_D$ +13.5 (c 1.15 in CHCl₃); R_F(80:20 petrol-EtOAc) 0.4; IR (NaCl) 2959, 2383, 2343, 1464, 1437, 1368, 1165, 1105, 1062, 895, 809, 740, 694 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.91-7.85 (m, 2H, Ph), 7.65-7.41 (m, 8H, Ph), 2.74 (td, J = 15.0, 6.5 Hz, 1H, PCH₄H_B), 2.35 (ddd, J = 15.0, 13.10.0 Hz, 1H, PCH_AH_B), 1.31 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 3H, PMe), 1.19 (d, J = 14.0 Hz, 9H, CMe₃), 1.07- -0.26 (m, 6H, PBH₃); ¹³C NMR (67.9 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 133.2 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, Ph), 132.2 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, Ph), 131.3 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, Ph), 131.2 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, Ph), 129.0 (d, J =4.5 Hz, Ph), 128.8 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, Ph), 126.7 (d, J = 56.0 Hz, ipso-Ph), 28.9 (dd, J = 32.0, 3.5 Hz, PCMe₃), 24.8 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, PCMe₃), 18.2 (t, J = 25.5 Hz, PCH₂), 6.0 (d, J = 33.5 Hz,

PMe); ³¹P NMR (109.3 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 29.5 (d, J = 65.5 Hz, Ph₂PBH₃), 14.9 (d, J = 65.5 Hz, ^tBuPBH₃); MS (ESI) m/z 353 [(M + Na)⁺, 100]; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₁₈H₃₀B₂P₂ (M + Na)⁺ 353.1907, found 353.1901; HPLC: Daicel Chiracel OD, 98:2 v/v hexane-*i*PrOH, 1.0 mL min⁻¹, 9.1 min [(*S*)-10], 10.3 min [(*R*)-10].



rac-tert-Butylmethylphosphineborane-diphenylphosphinomethaneborane rac-10

s-BuLi (0.77 mL of a 1.3 M solution in cyclohexane, 1.0 mmol) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of phosphine borane **1** (132 mg, 1.0 mmol) in THF (14 mL) at 0 °C under Ar. The resulting mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h. Then, chlorodiphenylphosphine (220 mg, 1.0 mmol) was added and the solution was stirred at 0 °C for 2 h. Then, BH₃.Me₂S (0.55 mL of a 2.0 M solution in THF, 1.1 mmol) was added dropwise. After stirring at rt for 3 h, 1 M HCl_(aq) (15 mL) was added slowly over 10 min and the resulting mixture was stirred for 15 min at rt to give a homogeneous biphasic solution. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with 1 M HCl_(aq) (20 mL), water (20 mL) and brine (20 mL), dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated under reduced pressure to give the crude product as a white solid. Purification by flash chromatography with 95:5 petrol-EtOAc then 85:15 petrol-EtOAc as eluent gave adduct *rac*-**10** (251 mg, 76%) as a white crystalline solid, mp 174-177 °C.

Experimental for the reactions referred to in the references.



rac-P-(2,2-Diphenyl-2-hydroxyethyl)-P-methyl-tert-butyl-phosphine borane

(Reference 12, 1.1 eq. n-BuLi, -50 °C)

Using general procedure C, *n*-BuLi (0.39 mL of a 2.14 M solution in hexanes, 0.83 mmol) in Et₂O (2 mL), phosphine borane **1** (100 mg, 0.76 mmol) in Et₂O (3 mL) and benzophenone (152 mg, 0.83 mmol) in Et₂O (3 mL) at -50 °C gave the crude product as a white solid.

Purification by flash chromatography with 19:1 petrol-EtOAc as eluent gave the title compound (27 mg, 11%) as a white solid, $R_F(4:1 \text{ petrol-EtOAc}) 0.3$; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.51-7.46 (m, 4H, Ph), 7.35-7.29 (m, 4H, Ph), 7.26-7.20 (m, 2H, Ph), 4.58 (s, 1H, OH), 2.88 (t, J = 14.5 Hz, 1H, PCH_AH_B), 2.67 (dd, J = 14.5 Hz, 6.5 Hz, 1H, PCH_AH_B), 1.17 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 9H, CMe₃), 0.74 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 3H, PMe), 0.88-0.23 (m, 3H, BH₃); ¹³C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 147.7 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, *ipso*-Ph), 145.3 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, *ipso*-Ph), 128.3 (Ph), 128.2 (Ph), 127.2 (Ph), 125.3 (Ph), 34.2 (d, J = 28.5 Hz, PCH₂), 28.0 (d, J = 36.0 Hz, CMe₃), 24.7 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, CMe₃), 6.5 (d, J = 34.5 Hz, PMe) (some aromatic signals not resolved and one carbon overlaps with CDCl₃). Spectroscopic data consistent with that reported in the literature.³

rac-P-(2,2-Diphenyl-2-hydroxyethyl)-P-methyl-tert-butyl-phosphine borane

(Reference 12, 1.1 eq. n-BuLi, -42 °C)

Using general procedure C, *n*-BuLi (0.35 mL of a 2.14 M solution in hexanes, 0.74 mmol) in Et_2O (2 mL) phosphine borane 1 (89 mg, 0.68 mmol) in Et_2O (3 mL) and benzophenone (135 mg, 0.74 mmol) in Et_2O (3 mL) at -42 °C gave the crude product as a white solid. Purification by flash chromatography with 19:1 petrol-EtOAc as eluent gave the title compound (61 mg, 29%) as a white solid.

rac-P-(2,2-Diphenyl-2-hydroxyethyl)-P-methyl-tert-butyl-phosphine borane

(Reference 12, 1.1 eq. *n*-BuLi, 0 °C)

Using general procedure **C**, *n*-BuLi (0.27 mL of a 2.45 M solution in hexanes, 0.67 mmol) in Et_2O (2 mL) phosphine borane **1** (80 mg, 0.61 mmol) in Et_2O (3 mL) and benzophenone (121 mg, 0.67 mmol) in Et_2O (3 mL) at 0 °C gave the crude product as a white solid. Purification by flash chromatography with 19:1 petrol-EtOAc as eluent gave the title compound (97 mg, 51%) as a white solid.

(R)-tert-Butylmethylphosphineborane(methyl)dimethylphenylsilane (R)-5

(Reference 14, 0.2 eq. (-)-sparteine, -50 °C)

Using general procedure **B**, (–)-sparteine (94 mg, 0.41 mmol) and *n*-BuLi (0.92 mL of a 2.40 M solution in hexanes, 2.21 mmol) in Et₂O (10 mL), phosphine borane **1** (264 mg, 2.01 mmol) in Et₂O (5 mL) and Me₂PhSiCl (0.37 mL, 2.21 mmol) gave the crude product as a yellow oil. Purification by flash chromatography with 98:2 petrol-Et₂O as eluent gave adduct (*R*)-**5** (262 mg, 49%, 80:20 er) as a colourless oil which slowly crystallised to a white solid.

(R)-tert-Butylmethylphosphineborane(methyl)dimethylphenylsilane (R)-5

(Reference 15, 1.2 eq. (-)-sparteine)

Using general procedure **A**, (–)-sparteine (213 mg, 0.91 mmol) and Me₃SiCH₂Li (0.83 mL of a 1.00 M solution in pentane, 0.83 mmol) in Et₂O (10 mL), phosphine borane **1** (100 mg, 0.76 mmol) in Et₂O (5 mL) and Me₂PhSiCl (0.14 mL, 0.83 mmol) at -20 °C gave the crude product as a yellow oil. Purification by flash chromatography with 98:2 petrol-Et₂O as eluent gave adduct (*R*)-**5** (151 mg, 75%, 75:25 er) as colourless oil which slowly crystallised to a white solid, [α]_D +0.6 (*c* 1.10 in CHCl₃).

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150 ppm (t1)

