

Published in final edited form as:

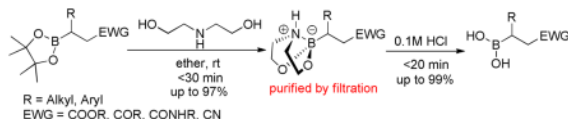
J Org Chem. 2011 May 6; 76(9): 3571–3575. doi:10.1021/jo200250y.

A Method for the Deprotection of Alkylpinacolyl Boronate Esters

Jing Sun, Michael T. Perfetti, and Webster L. Santos*

Department of Chemistry, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia, 24061

Abstract



A two-step procedure for deprotection of alkylpinacolyl boronate esters via transesterification with diethanolamine followed by hydrolysis was successfully developed with the advantages of tolerance to various functional groups, short reaction time and ease of product isolation.

Boronic acids are important in organic synthesis due to their versatility as synthetic intermediates in the preparation of complex molecules. Their utility is exemplified by the powerful carbon-carbon bond forming Suzuki-Miyaura coupling reaction.^{1,2} As inhibitors of serine proteases, boronic acids inhibit therapeutically relevant proteases including chymotrypsin, thrombin, dipeptidyl peptidase, HCV NS3 protease, and the proteasome.³ Indeed, the first boron-containing drug, Bortezomib (Velcade), was approved by the FDA for the treatment of multiple myeloma and mantle cell lymphoma. Thus, methods for synthesizing boronic acids are vital in harnessing their full potential in a variety of applications.

Introduction of the boronyl moiety has been a subject of intense investigation. Traditionally, aryl boronic acids can be obtained from electrophilic borate trapping of arylmetal intermediates from aryl halides,⁴ transmetalation of arylsilanes and stananes,⁵ transition metal-catalyzed coupling between aryl halides/triflates and diboron reagents,⁶ and direct boration by transition metal-catalyzed aromatic C-H activation.^{7,8} Some boronic acids are unstable and incompatible to reaction conditions during functional group transformations; therefore they are converted to air- and chromatography stable boronate esters using diols such as pinanediol,⁹ catechol,^{10,11} neopentyl glycol^{12–16} and pinacol.^{17,18} Although these groups are usually benign to various reaction conditions, their removal has been troublesome and unpredictable.¹⁹ Recently, trifluoroborate,²⁰ N-methyliminodiacetic acid^{21–23} and 1,8-diaminonaphthalene^{24,25} units were introduced as alternative protecting groups for boronic acids. Organotrifluoroborate salts undergo hydrolysis in the presence of silica gel to afford the corresponding boronic acids²⁶ and, more recently, a direct route to arylboronic acids was reported.²⁷

Several deprotection methods for the removal of cyclic boronate esters are available. These include oxidative cleavage with sodium periodate,²⁸ biphasic transesterification with other boronic acids,^{28,29} transborylation with boron trichloride,^{30–32} and acidic hydrolysis.^{33,34} The yield and purity of these deprotection procedures vary greatly, notwithstanding issues

santosw@vt.edu.

 Supporting Information Available: ¹H, ¹³C and ¹¹B NMR spectra of new compounds and CIF file for **2b**. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

that can arise from functional group incompatibilities and purification problems. Alternatively, a solid-phase process that utilizes polystyrene-boronic acid has been developed for arylpinacolyl boronic esters.³⁵ However, this method requires acidic conditions, is time-consuming, and relies on the commercial availability of the resin. Recently, Hutton and co-workers³⁶ reported a two-step deprotection of pinacol group via fluorinated intermediates³⁷ that is followed by trimethylsilyl chloride³⁸ or lithium hydroxide.

In the course of our work on the development of N-terminal peptidic boronic acids as protease inhibitors,³⁹ we were faced with the difficulty of removing the pinacolyl group during the initial phase of our study. The boronyl moiety in all of these cases was directly attached to alkyl groups. For example, when β -boronopinacolyl- β -phenyl benzyl ester **1e** was subjected to various deprotection conditions, either the starting material decomposed or no reaction occurred, and thus β -boronic acid **3e** was not obtained (Scheme 1).

In order to circumvent this issue, we investigated a transesterification procedure with diethanolamine (DEA) to form an sp^3 -hybridized boron-DEA adduct, which is then hydrolyzed to yield a boronic acid derivative. Indeed, a few examples of pinacol deprotection with DEA have been reported, but most of these are arylboronic esters.^{40–42} To date, only two examples of successful alky-pinacolyl boronate ester deprotection involving transesterification and hydrolysis to produce boron-containing amino acid analogs have been disclosed.^{43,44} In some cases, an acidic resin, long reaction time or distillation was necessary to effectively provide the boronic acid moiety. Because there has not been a comprehensive investigation of the boronyl pinacolyl deprotection with DEA, we explored the generality of a two-step protocol in the deprotection of alky-pinacolyl boronate esters. Herein, we report a simple and efficient deprotection method of pinacolyl boronate esters.

We initially employed an arylboronic ester as our test case (Scheme 2). Treatment of pinacolylphenylboronic ester with DEA in ether afforded the DEA boronate product, which was filtered and subsequently treated with 0.1M HCl for 20 minutes to provide phenylboronic acid in 99% yield. Having established the deprotection procedure, we investigated whether a one-pot deprotection method was possible with pinacolyl boronate ester substrates.⁴⁵ However, none of these studies (changing solvents, biphasic solutions, sequential addition of reagents, etc.) was successful. Thus, we elected to pursue the two-step transesterification/hydrolysis using a variety of pinacolyl- β -alkylboronic esters. As shown in Table 1, transesterification of the pinacol group with DEA efficiently proceeded in up to 97% isolated yield. It should be noted that this reaction not only occurred in a short amount of time (<30 min) but the purification was a simple filtration as the DEA boronate product precipitated in the ethereal solution. For example, unhindered substrates containing benzyl or methyl esters provided compounds **2a-b** in good yields (entries 1–2). Introduction of substituents on the β -position with a phenyl or methyl group was also effective (entries 3–7). In addition, cyclic and acyclic ketones as well as nitriles underwent the transesterification smoothly (entries 8–11). All the isolated compounds **2a-l** were white solids, stable to atmospheric condition, and had long shelf lives. These compounds were characterized by ¹H, ¹³C, ¹¹B NMR and high resolution mass spectroscopy. Introduction of DEA produced desirable effects: the formation of a “boron-ate” species that is stable to oxidation and an adduct that is insoluble in ether. sp^3 -Hybridized boron complexes are reported to be stable and resistant to air oxidation.^{20,22} To further confirm the tetracoordination on boron, the single-crystal X-ray diffraction data for **2b** was solved. As shown in Figure 1, boron adopts a tetrahedral geometry similar to what is observed in aryl-DEA boronates.

With the diethanolamine derivatives in hand, hydrolysis to the corresponding boronic acids was performed using a biphasic solution of 0.1M HCl and ether. As expected, the boronic

acid products were readily formed within minutes. For example, esters **3a-3b**, amides **3f-3g**, ketone **3i** and nitrile **3j** were isolated as white solids in moderate to excellent yields (Table 1). However, in some cases, we experienced difficulty in isolating the desired alkylboronic acids. This was not surprising as some boronic acids are known to be unstable, undergoing facile decomposition in polar protic media via protodeboronation, oxidation, and/or polymerization.⁴⁶⁻⁴⁹ To test whether boronic acids were formed but decomposed during the reaction and/or work-up, the DEA boronates were subjected to a biphasic solution of 0.1M HCl and hexanes in the presence of 2 equiv. of pinacol. We hypothesized that DEA boronates **2** undergo rapid hydrolysis under acidic aqueous conditions as previously observed, and the unstable alkylboronic acids **3** subsequently trapped as the boron pinacolyl esters **1** (Scheme 3). Indeed, when the *in situ* hydrolysis-trapping protocol was performed, the pinacol boronate esters were achieved in excellent yields (Table 1).

In conclusion, a two-step deprotection protocol for alkyl pinacolyl boronic esters via DEA-protected boronates was successfully developed with the advantages of tolerance to various functional groups, short reaction time and ease of product isolation. Moderate to excellent yield was achieved for stable boronic acid products.

Experimental Section

General Procedure for the Synthesis of DEA Protected Boronic Esters 2a-l

To a solution of pinacolyl boronic ester **1** (1.7 mmol) in ether was added diethanolamine (0.199 g, 1.9 mmol). After a few minutes, a white precipitate formed and the reaction was allowed to continue until the starting material was completely consumed as monitored by TLC (~30 minutes). The precipitate was then filtered, washed with ether, and dried to afford the desired product **2**.

8-(3-(Benzyloxy)-3-oxopropyl)hexahydro-[1,3,2]oxazaborolo[2,3-b][1,3,2]oxazaborol-4-ium-8-uide (2a)

White solid (0.305 g, 85 % yield). mp 159.7–161.6 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.43 – 7.27 (m, 5H), 6.16 (s, 1H), 5.08 (s, 2H), 3.95 (m, 2H), 3.81 (m, 2H), 3.15 – 3.00 (m, 2H), 2.76 – 2.65 (m, 2H), 2.60 – 2.48 (m, 2H), 0.81 – 0.56 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 179.3, 136.1, 128.7, 128.3, 128.0, 66.3, 63.3, 51.3, 29.8. The signal for the carbon directly attached to boron was not observed due to quadrupolar relaxation. ¹¹B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 11.26. HRMS (ESI+) calculated for C₁₄H₂₁BO₄ [M+H]⁺: 278.1558, found: 278.1532.

8-(3-Methoxy-3-oxopropyl)hexahydro-[1,3,2]oxazaborolo[2,3-b][1,3,2]oxazaborol-4-ium-8-uide (2b)

White solid, 72% yield; mp 147.3–148.4 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₃Cl) δ 6.39 (s, 1H), 4.00 (td, *J* = 5.3, 9.6, 2H), 3.92 – 3.81 (m, 2H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 3.26 – 3.14 (m, 2H), 2.86 – 2.73 (m, 2H), 2.53 – 2.45 (m, 2H), 0.77 – 0.60 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CD₃Cl) δ 180.1, 63.3, 51.71, 51.3, 29.4. ¹¹B NMR (160 MHz, CD₃Cl) δ 11.25. HRMS (ESI+) Calculated for C₈H₁₇BNO₄ [M+H]⁺: 202.1245, found: 202.1243.

8-(3-Methoxy-3-oxo-1-phenylpropyl)hexahydro-[1,3,2]oxazaborolo[2,3-b][1,3,2]oxazaborol-4-ium-8-uide (2c)

White solid, 88% yield; mp 188.7–189.9 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₃Cl) δ 7.29 – 6.98 (m, 5H), 5.65 (s, 1H), 4.01 – 3.88 (m, 2H), 3.87 – 3.78 (m, 2H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 3.12 – 3.01 (m, 1H), 3.00 – 2.89 (m, 2H), 2.76 – 2.64 (m, 3H), 2.32 (dd, *J* = 5.5, 8.1 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CD₃Cl) δ 177.9, 147.34, 128.2, 127.8, 124.5, 63.4, 63.2, 51.7, 51.5, 51.4,

37.0. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CD_3Cl) δ 11.25. HRMS (ESI+) Calculated for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{21}\text{BNO}_4$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$: 278.1558, found: 278.1543.

8-(3-(tert-Butoxy)-3-oxo-1-phenylpropyl)hexahydro-[1,3,2]oxazaborolo[2,3-b][1,3,2]oxazaborol-4-ium-8-uide (2d)

White solid, 75% yield; mp 186.5–187.7 °C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CD_3Cl) δ 6.01 (s, 1H), 4.03 – 3.91 (m, 2H), 3.89 – 3.81 (m, 2H), 3.22 – 3.11 (m, 1H), 3.02 – 2.94 (m, 1H), 2.94 – 2.84 (m, 1H), 2.79 – 2.68 (m, 2H), 2.61 (dd, J = 4.8, 17.2 Hz, 1H), 2.27 (dd, J = 4.6, 8.9 Hz, 1H), 1.39 (s, 9H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CD_3Cl) δ 155.7, 131.8, 128.0, 127.8, 124.2, 80.3, 77.3, 77.0, 76.7, 63.4, 63.2, 51.3, 51.20, 38.5, 28.0. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CD_3Cl) δ 10.38. HRMS (ESI+) Calculated for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{27}\text{BNO}_4$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$: 320.2028, found: 320.2006.

8-(3-Oxo-3-phenoxy-1-phenylpropyl)hexahydro-[1,3,2]oxazaborolo[2,3-b][1,3,2]oxazaborol-4-ium-8-uide (2e)

White solid, 84% yield; mp 173.9–174.8 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3CN) δ 7.41 – 6.99 (m, 9H), 4.96 (s, 3H), 3.82 – 3.70 (m, 2H), 3.67 – 3.49 (m, 2H), 3.01 – 2.85 (m, 1H), 2.82 – 2.60 (m, 6H), 2.34 (dd, J = 5.8, 9.8 Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3CN) δ 174.7, 128.3, 128.0, 127.7, 127.6, 124.0, 117.3, 105.0, 65.2, 62.5, 62.4, 51.2, 51.0, 36.7. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CD_3Cl) δ 10.86. HRMS (ESI+) Calculated for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{25}\text{BNO}_4$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$: 354.1871, found: 354.1878.

8-(4-(Benzylamino)-4-oxobutan-2-yl)hexahydro-[1,3,2]oxazaborolo[2,3-b][1,3,2]oxazaborol-4-ium-8-uide (2f)

White solid, 65% yield; mp 127.5–128.6 °C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CD_3Cl) δ 7.77 (s, 1H), 7.41 – 7.10 (m, 5H), 6.00 (s, 1H), 4.39 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 4.04 – 3.77 (m, 4H), 3.35 – 3.01 (m, 2H), 2.82 – 2.68 (m, 2H), 2.49 – 2.10 (m, 2H), 0.99 (d, J = 6.1 Hz, 3H), 0.94 (dd, J = 9.1, 17.7 Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CD_3Cl) δ 177.3, 138.0, 128.8, 127.6, 127.6, 63.5, 63.4, 51.5, 51.3, 43.7, 40.8, 17.3. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CD_3Cl) δ 11.37. HRMS (ESI+) Calculated for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{24}\text{BN}_2\text{O}_3$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$: 291.1874, found: 291.1890.

8-(3-(Benzylamino)-3-oxo-1-phenylpropyl)hexahydro-[1,3,2]oxazaborolo[2,3-b][1,3,2]oxazaborol-4-ium-8-uide (2g)

White solid, 68% yield; mp 197.3–198.2 °C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CD_3Cl) δ 7.34 – 7.19 (m, 10H), 7.08 – 7.01 (m, 1H), 6.04 (s, 1H), 4.39 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 4.02 – 3.76 (m, 4H), 3.33 – 3.19 (m, 1H), 3.10 – 2.62 (m, 2H), 2.53 – 2.19 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CD_3Cl) δ 176.7, 148.1, 137.9, 128.8, 128.2, 127.9, 127.6, 124.4, 63.6, 63.5, 51.4, 43.8, 40.2. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CD_3Cl) δ 11.03. HRMS (ESI+) Calculated for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{26}\text{BN}_2\text{O}_3$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$: 353.2031, found: 353.2034.

8-(3-Oxocyclopentyl)hexahydro-[1,3,2]oxazaborolo[2,3-b][1,3,2]oxazaborol-4-ium-8-uide (2h)

White solid, 79% yield; mp 201.4–202.1 °C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CD_3CN) δ 5.13 (s, 1H), 3.88 – 3.77 (m, 3H), 3.73 – 3.63 (m, 3H), 3.16 – 3.03 (m, 3H), 2.82 – 2.73 (m, 3H), 2.13 – 2.07 (m, 1H), 2.06 – 1.97 (m, 2H), 1.92 – 1.77 (m, 3H), 1.67 – 1.55 (m, 1H), 1.24 – 1.11 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CD_3Cl) δ 171.2, 63.4, 63.3, 52.3, 42.2, 39.9, 31.1, 26.2. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CD_3Cl) δ 11.56. HRMS (ESI+) Calculated for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{17}\text{BNO}_3$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$: 198.1296, found: 198.1308.

8-(3-Oxo-1,3-diphenylpropyl)hexahydro-[1,3,2]oxazaborolo[2,3-b][1,3,2]oxazaborol-4-ium-8-uide (2i)

White solid, 72% yield; mp 170.0–171.4 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3CN) δ 7.98 – 6.96 (m, 8H), 3.87 – 3.71 (m, 2H), 3.67 – 3.52 (m, 2H), 3.46 – 3.28 (m, 2H), 3.03 – 2.89 (m, 1H), 2.88 – 2.74 (m, 1H), 2.75 – 2.64 (m, 2H), 2.56 – 2.45 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CD_3Cl) δ 199.4, 148.0, 137.2, 133.3, 128.6, 128.3, 128.3, 128.1, 124.5, 63.5, 63.3, 51.5, 51.3, 43.3, 24.8. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CD_3Cl) δ 11.32. HRMS (ESI+) Calculated for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{23}\text{BNO}_3$ [M+H] $^+$: 324.1766, found: 324.1777.

8-(2-Cyanoethyl)hexahydro-[1,3,2]oxazaborolo[2,3-b][1,3,2]oxazaborol-4-ium-8-uide (2j)

White solid, 76% yield; mp 218.6–220.4 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3CN) δ 3.81 (td, J = 9.3, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.74 – 3.63 (m, 1H), 3.23 – 3.04 (m, 1H), 2.84 – 2.69 (m, 1H), 2.20 (dd, J = 16.1, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 0.75 – 0.61 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3CN) δ 117.3, 62.5, 51.2, 12.5. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CD_3Cl) δ 11.28. HRMS (ESI+) Calculated for $\text{C}_7\text{H}_{14}\text{BN}_2\text{O}_2$ [M+H] $^+$: 169.1148, found: 169.1165.

8-(2-Cyano-1-phenylethyl)hexahydro-[1,3,2]oxazaborolo[2,3-b][1,3,2]oxazaborol-4-ium-8-uide (2k)

White solid, 97% yield; mp 147.5–148.9 °C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CD_3CN) δ 7.34 – 7.07 (m, 6H), 4.86 (s, 1H), 3.82 – 3.71 (m, 3H), 3.67 – 3.61 (m, 1H), 3.56 (dt, J = 4.8, 9.9 Hz, 1H), 3.04 – 2.94 (m, 1H), 2.74 – 2.61 (m, 7H), 2.18 (t, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 2.14 (s, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CD_3CN) δ 145.3, 128.1, 128.0, 124.9, 117.4, 62.6, 62.5, 51.3, 51.2, 19.6. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CD_3CN) δ 10.47. HRMS (ESI+) Calculated for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{16}\text{BN}_2\text{O}_2$ [M+H] $^+$: 243.1310, found: 243.1335.

8-Phenylhexahydro-[1,3,2]oxazaborolo[2,3-b][1,3,2]oxazaborol-4-ium-8-uide (2l)

White solid, 88% yield; mp 215.1–217.5 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3CN) δ 7.55 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 3.97 (td, J = 9.3, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.93 – 3.81 (m, 1H), 3.28 – 3.14 (m, 1H), 2.90 – 2.78 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3CN) δ 132.5, 126.9, 126.7, 63.1, 51.1. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CD_3CN) δ 10.55. HRMS (ESI+) Calculated for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{15}\text{BNO}_2$ [M+H] $^+$: 192.1196, found: 192.1204.

General Procedure for the Deprotection of DEA-Boronate Compound 2

To a solution of DEA-boronate **2** (1.1 mmol) in ether was added 0.1 M HCl. After about 20 minutes as judged by TLC, the reaction was extracted with ether (3x), washed with brine (1x), dried with sodium sulfate and the organic solvent was removed under reduced pressure. Evaporation of residual solvent provided the analytically pure product as white solid. Due to their facile dehydration, boronic acids tend to provide inconsistent melting points.⁵⁰ Therefore the melting points for boronic acids were not taken.

(3-(Benzyloxy)-3-oxopropyl)boronic acid (3a)

White solid, 95% yield; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CD_3Cl) δ 7.45 – 7.22 (m, 5H), 5.13 (s, 2H), 2.53 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.12 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CD_3Cl) δ 175.15, 136.02, 128.68, 128.35, 66.58, 28.69, 24.84. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CD_3Cl) δ 31.59. HRMS (ESI+) Calculated for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{13}\text{BO}_4\text{Cl}$ [M+Cl] $^+$: 243.0601, found: 243.0619.

(3-Methoxy-3-oxopropyl)boronic acid (3b)

White solid, 90% yield; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CD_3Cl) δ 3.66 (s, 3H), 2.48 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.11 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CD_3Cl) δ 175.9, 51.9, 28.4, 10.4. ^{11}B NMR

(160 MHz, CD₃Cl) δ 31.49. HRMS (ESI+) Calculated for C₄H₁₀BO₄[M+H]⁺: 133.0672, found: 133.0665.

(4-(Benzylamino)-4-oxobutan-2-yl)boronic acid (3f)

White solid, 98% yield; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.39 – 7.16 (m, 5H), 4.37 (q, *J* = 14.9 Hz, 2H), 2.32 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 1.51 – 1.34 (m, 1H), 0.92 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 176.3, 138.4, 128.2, 127.3, 127.0, 43.2, 39.6, 14.3. ¹¹B NMR (160 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 26.96. HRMS (ESI+) Calculated for C₁₁H₂₀BN₂O₃[M+NH₄]: 239.1561, found: 239.1568.

(3-(Benzylamino)-3-oxo-1-phenylpropyl)boronic acid (3g)

White solid, 69% yield; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.29 – 6.97 (m, 10H), 4.50 – 4.22 (m, 2H), 2.80 – 2.74 (m, 1H), 2.72 – 2.43 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 176.7, 148.1, 137.9, 128.8, 128.2, 127.9, 127.7, 127.6, 124.4, 43.8, 40.2. ¹¹B NMR (160 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 25.39. HRMS (ESI+) Calculated for C₁₆H₁₉BNO₃[M+H]⁺: 284.1453, found: 284.1478.

(2-Cyanoethyl)boronic acid (3j)

White solid, 31% yield; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, (CD₃)₂CO) δ 2.42 (t, *J* = 5 Hz, 2H), 1.08 (t, *J* = 5 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CD₃Cl) δ 120.8, 11.3. ¹¹B NMR (160 MHz, (CD₃)₂CO) δ 18.89. HRMS (ESI+) Calculated for C₃H₆BNO₂Cl[M+Cl]⁺: 134.0186, found: 134.0180.

Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

Acknowledgments

We thank Dr. Carla Slebodnick for assistance with X-ray crystallography, and the Department of Chemistry at Virginia Tech and the National Institutes of Health (RO1 GM093834) for financial support.

References

1. Miyaura N, Suzuki A. *Chem Rev.* 1995; 95:2457.
2. Martin R, Buchwald SL. *Acc Chem Res.* 2008; 41:1461. [PubMed: 18620434]
3. Hall, D. *Boronic acids: Preparation, applications in organic synthesis and medicine.* Wiley-VCH GmbH & Co; Weinheim: 2005.
4. Brown HC, Cole TE. *Organometallics.* 2002; 2:1316.
5. Sharp MJ, Cheng W, Snieckus V. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 1987; 28:5093.
6. Ishiyama T, Murata M, Miyaura N. *J Org Chem.* 1995; 60:7508.
7. Chen H, Hartwig JF. *Angew Chem Int Ed Engl.* 1999; 38:3391. [PubMed: 10602206]
8. Chen H, Schlecht S, Semple TC, Hartwig JF. *Science.* 2000; 287:1995. [PubMed: 10720320]
9. Matteson DS. *Tetrahedron.* 1998; 54:10555.
10. Kuivila HG, Keough AH, Soboczenski EJ. *J Org Chem.* 1954; 19:780.
11. Pizer R, Babcock L. *Inorg Chem.* 1977; 16:1677.
12. Nguyen P, Lesley G, Taylor NJ, Marder TB, Pickett NL, Clegg W, Elsegood MRJ, Norman NC. *Inorg Chem.* 1994; 33:4623.
13. Lawlor FJ, Norman NC, Pickett NL, Robins EG, Nguyen P, Lesley G, Marder TB, Ashmore JA, Green JC. *Inorg Chem.* 1998; 37:5282.
14. Clegg W, Elsegood MRJ, Lawlor FJ, Norman NC, Pickett NL, Robins EG, Scott AJ, Nguyen P, Taylor NJ, Marder TB. *Inorg Chem.* 1998; 37:5289.
15. Fang H, Kaur G, Yan J, Wang B. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 2005; 46:1671.

16. Moldoveanu C, Wilson DA, Wilson CJ, Leowanawat P, Resmerita AM, Liu C, Rosen BM, Percec V. *J Org Chem.* 2010; 75:5438. [PubMed: 20704421]
17. Männig D, Nöth H. *J Chem Soc, Dalton Trans.* 1985:1689.
18. Ishiyama T, Murata M, Ahiko TA, Miyaura N. *Org Synth.* 1999; 77:176.
19. Brown HC, Rangaishenvi MV. *J Organomet Chem.* 1988; 358:15.
20. Molander GA, Ellis N. *Acc Chem Res.* 2007; 40:275. [PubMed: 17256882]
21. Mancilla T, Contreras R, Wrackmeyer B. *J Organomet Chem.* 1986; 307:1.
22. Gillis EP, Burke MD. *J Am Chem Soc.* 2007; 129:6716. [PubMed: 17488084]
23. Gillis EP, Burke MD. *J Am Chem Soc.* 2008; 130:14084. [PubMed: 18837550]
24. Noguchi H, Shioda T, Chou CM, Suginome M. *Org Lett.* 2008; 10:377. [PubMed: 18183990]
25. Noguchi H, Hojo K, Suginome M. *J Am Chem Soc.* 2007; 129:758. [PubMed: 17243801]
26. Molander GA, Cavalcanti LN, Canturk B, Pan PS, Kennedy LE. *J Org Chem.* 2009; 74:7364. [PubMed: 19743828]
27. Molander GA, Trice SLJ, Dreher SD. *J Am Chem Soc.* 2010; 132:17701. [PubMed: 21105666]
28. Coutts SJ, Adams J, Krolikowski D, Snow RJ. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 1994; 35:5109.
29. Snow RJ, Bachovchin WW, Barton RW, Campbell SJ, Coutts SJ, Freeman DM, Gutheil WG, Kelly TA, Kennedy CA. *J Am Chem Soc.* 1994; 116:10860.
30. Kinder DH, Katzenellenbogen JA. *J Med Chem.* 1985; 28:1917. [PubMed: 3851848]
31. Matteson DS, Jesthi PK, Sadhu KM. *Organometallics.* 1984; 3:1284.
32. Martichonok V, Jones JB. *J Am Chem Soc.* 1996; 118:950.
33. Martin R, Jones JB. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 1995; 36:8399.
34. Coutts SJ, Kelly TA, Snow RJ, Kennedy CA, Barton RW, Adams J, Krolikowski DA, Freeman DM, Campbell SJ, Ksiazek JF, Bachovchin WW. *J Med Chem.* 1996; 39:2087. [PubMed: 8642568]
35. Pennington TE, Kardiman C, Hutton CA. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 2004; 45:6657.
36. Yuen AKL, Hutton CA. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 2005; 46:7899.
37. Inglis SR, Woon ECY, Thompson AL, Schofield CJ. *J Org Chem.* 2009; 75:468. [PubMed: 20014787]
38. Vedejs E, Chapman RW, Fields SC, Lin S, Schrimpf MR. *J Org Chem.* 1995; 60:3020.
39. Knott K, Fishovitz J, Thorpe SB, Lee I, Santos WL. *Org Biomol Chem.* 2010; 8:3451. [PubMed: 20523950]
40. Jung ME, Lazarova TI. *J Org Chem.* 1999; 64:2976. [PubMed: 11674381]
41. Song YL, Morin C. *Synlett.* 2001:266.
42. Perttu EK, Arnold M, Iovine PM. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 2005; 46:8753.
43. Kinder DH, Ames MM. *J Org Chem.* 1987; 52:2452.
44. Arnold K, Batsanov AS, Davies B, Grosjean C, Schutz T, Whiting A, Zawatzky K. *Chem Commun.* 2008:3879.
45. Gao M, Thorpe SB, Santos WL. *Org Lett.* 2009; 11:3478. [PubMed: 19594167]
46. Knapp DM, Gillis EP, Burke MD. *J Am Chem Soc.* 2009; 131:6961. [PubMed: 19405470]
47. Todd RCJ, KVB, Gorr K, Priebe K, Gao P. *Abstr Paps Am Chem Soc.* 2007; 233:ORGN780.
48. Johnson JR, Campen MG, Grummitt O. *J Am Chem Soc.* 1938; 60:111.
49. Lightfoot AP, Twiddle SJR, Whiting A. *Org Biomol Chem.* 2005; 3:3167. [PubMed: 16106297]
50. Duggan P, Offerman D. *Aust J Chem.* 2007; 60:829.

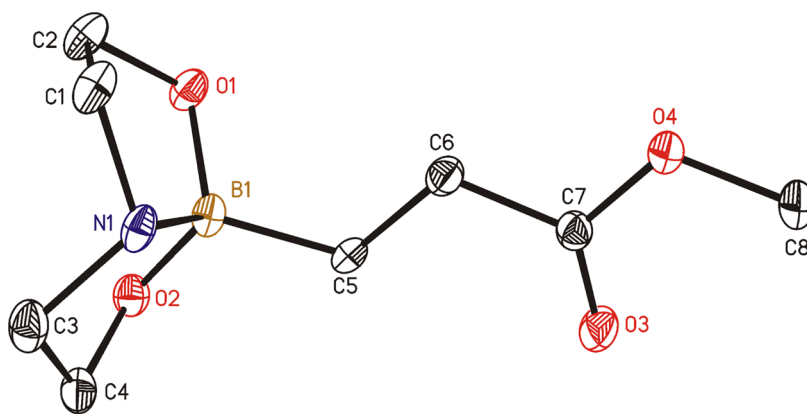
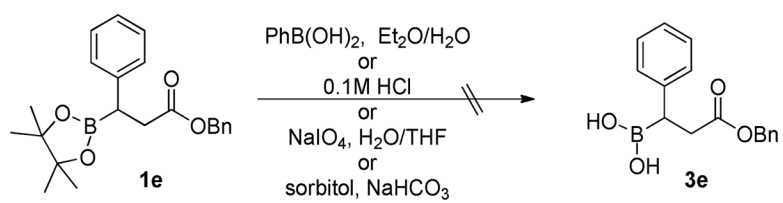
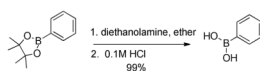


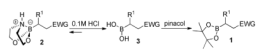
FIGURE 1.
X-ray crystal structure of 2b.



SCHEME 1.
Attempted deprotection of **1e**.



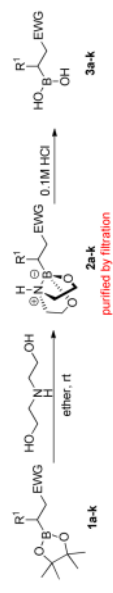
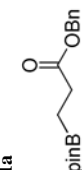
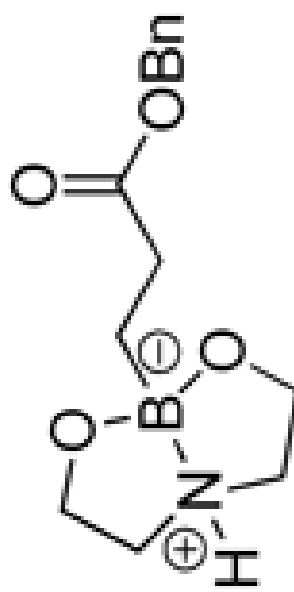
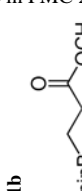
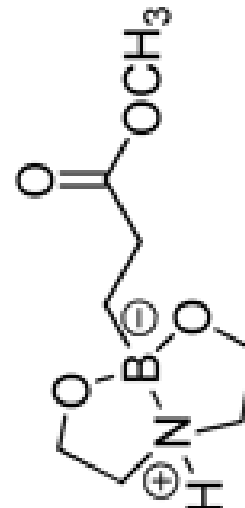
SCHEME 2.
Two-step protocol for the boronic ester deprotection.



SCHEME 3.
Rapid hydrolysis and subsequent trapping of 2.

TABLE 1

scope of the two-step transesterification/hydrolysis of pinacolyl boronate esters.^a

substrate		% yield of 2b	% yield of 3b
1a 	2 	85	95
1b 		72	90

