# SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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#### General information.

Unless otherwise stated, reactions were performed in oven-dried brand-new Fisherbrand scintillation vials in a nitrogen filled glove box or in flamed-dried Schlenk flasks under argon connected on a Schlenk line using dry, degassed solvents and brand-new stirring bars. Solvents were dried by passage through an activated alumina column under argon.<sup>1</sup> Reaction progress was monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC), UHPLC-LCMS or GC-FID analyses. TLC was performed using E. Merck silica gel 60 F254 precoated glass plates (0.25 mm) and visualized by UV fluorescence quenching, phosphomolybdic acid, or KMnO<sub>4</sub> staining. Silicycle SiliaFlash P60 Academic Silica gel (particle size 40– 63 nm) was used for flash chromatography. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded on Varian Inova 500 MHz and 600 MHz spectrometers in  $CDCl_3$  or  $C_6D_6$  and are reported relative to residual solvent peak at  $\delta$  7.26 ppm or  $\delta$  7.16 ppm respectively. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Inova 500 MHz spectrometer (125 MHz) in CDCl<sub>3</sub> or C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> and are reported relative to residual solvent peak at  $\delta$  77.16 ppm or  $\delta$  128.06 ppm respectively. Data for <sup>1</sup>H NMR are reported as follows: chemical shift ( $\delta$  ppm) (multiplicity, coupling constant (Hz), integration). Multiplicities are reported as follows: s = singlet, d =doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, p = pentet, sept = septet, m = multiplet, br s = broadsinglet, br d = broad doublet, app = apparent. Data for  ${}^{13}C$  NMR are reported in terms of chemical shifts ( $\delta$  ppm). IR spectra were obtained on a Perkin Elmer Spectrum BXII spectrometer using thin films deposited on NaCl plates and reported in frequency of absorption (cm<sup>-1</sup>). UHPLC-LCMS analyses were obtained on an Agilent 1290 ultra high performance liquid chromatography/mass spectrometry equipped with an Agilent EclipsePlus C18 RRHD 1.8 µM column. GC-FID analyses were obtained on an Agilent 6890N gas chromatograph equipped with a HP-5 (5%-phenyl)-methylpolysiloxane capillary column (Agilent). GC-MS analyses were obtained on an Agilent 6850 gas chromatograph equipped with a HP-5 (5%-phenyl)-methylpolysiloxane capillary column (Agilent). High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained on an Agilent 6200 Series TOF with an Agilent G1978A Multimode source in electrospray ionization (ESI+), atmospheric pressure chemical ionization (APCI+), or mixed ionization mode (MM: ESI-

<sup>(1)</sup> Pangborn, A. M.; Giardello, M. A.; Grubbs, R. H.; Rosen, R. K.; Timmers, F. J. Organometallics, **1996**, *15*, 1518.

APCI+), or were acquired from the California Institute of Technology Mass Spectrometry Facility. ICP-MS analysis was conducted at the California Institute of Technology Mass Spectrometry Facility.

Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> was purchased from Aldrich and activated by storing in a 200 °C oven for one week and then heating in a round bottom flask at 200 °C under vacuum (60 millitorr). Silanes were purchased from Aldrich and distilled before use. KO*t*-Bu was purchased from Aldrich (sublimed grade, 99.99% trace metals basis) and used directly. Heteroaromatic substrates were purchased from Aldrich, TCI, or Acros, or synthesized according to literature procedures.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>(2) (</sup>a) Kong, A.; Han, X.; Lu, X. Org. Lett. **2006**, *8*, 1339. (b) Islam, S.; Larrosa, I. Chem. – Eur. J. **2013**, *19*, 15093. (c) Huestis, M. P.; Fagnou, K. Org. Lett. **2009**, 11, 1357. (d) Mahadevan, I.; Rasmussen, M. *Tetrahedron*, **1993**, *49*, 7337.

# Part I. Reaction optimizations, control experiments and trace metal analysis.

#### 1. Reaction optimization.

Procedure for reaction condition optimization: In a nitrogen-filled glovebox, base and indole **1** (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv) were added to a 2 dram scintillation vial equipped with a magnetic stirring bar. Next, Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (97  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 3 equiv, *filtered through a short pad of activated alumina before use*) and solvent (0.2 mL, unless the reaction was run neat) were added. The vial was sealed and the mixture was stirred at the indicated temperature for the indicated time. Then the vial was removed from the glovebox, diluted with diethyl ether (1 mL) and concentrated under reduced pressure. The regioselectivity (C2 silylation product to C3 silylation product: C2:C3) and yield were determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR or GC analysis of the crude mixture using an internal standard.

 Table 1. Condition optimization of direct C–H silylation of indoles.

	$\bigcirc$	base (x Et <sub>3</sub> SiH (3 N Solvent	mol%) equiv) t, 25 °C	SiEt <sub>3</sub>	Ĺ	SiEt <sub>3</sub>	
	1a: R 1b: R	= Me = Bn		C2-silylation 2	C3-	silylation	
entry <sup>a</sup>	R	base	solvent	X	<i>t</i> (h)	<b>C2:C3</b> <sup>b</sup>	<b>C2 (%)</b> <sup>b</sup>
1	Me	LiOt-Bu	THF	100	16	_	0
2	Me	NaOt-Bu	THF	100	16	_	0
3	Me	NaOEt	THF	100	16	_	0
4	Me	NaOAc	THF	100	16	_	0
5	Me	KOMe	THF	100	16	_	<5
6	Me	KOEt	THF	100	16	_	14
7	Me	KOt-Bu	THF	100	16	>20:1	67
8	Me	KHMDS	THF	100	16	>20:1	44
9	Me	KOAc	THF	100	16	_	0
10	Me	KH	THF	100	72	_	0
11	Me	КОН	THF	100	16	_	0
12	Me	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	THF	100	16	_	0
13	Me	DABCO	THF	100	16	_	0

14	Me	TBAF	THF	100	16	_	0
15	Me	CsF	THF	100	16	_	0
16	Me	KF	THF	100	16	_	0
17 <i>°</i>	Me	KOt-Bu	THF	20	60	4:1	98
18 <sup>c</sup>	Me	KOt-Bu	MeOt-Bu	20	60	>20:1	89
19 <i>°</i>	Me	KOt-Bu	DME	20	60	3.4:1	95
<b>20</b> <sup>c</sup>	Me	KOt-Bu	neat	20	<b>48</b>	>20:1	88
$21^{d}$	Me	KHMDS	THF	20	72	17:1	75
22 <sup><i>c</i>,<i>e</i></sup>	Bn	KOt-Bu	THF	20	61	>20:1	90
23 <sup><i>c,e,f</i></sup>	Bn	KOt-Bu	THF	20	96	>20:1	22
24 <sup><i>c</i>,<i>e</i></sup>	Bn	KOTMS	THF	20	72	>20:1	79

<sup>*a*</sup> Reactions performed with 0.2 mmol of **1** and 0.6 mmol of Et<sub>3</sub>SiH in 0.2 mL of solvent. <sup>*b*</sup> Determined by GC analysis of the crude reaction mixture using an internal standard. <sup>*c*</sup> At 45 °C. <sup>*d*</sup> At 35 °C. <sup>*e*</sup> The ratio of C2:C3 and yield were determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture. <sup>*f*</sup> With 50 mol% of 18-crown-6.

The results from Table 1 reveal that good catalysts for the C–H silylation reaction are categorized by the combination of a bulky basic anion and a potassium cation: KO*t*-Bu proved to be ideal catalyst and operated under neat conditions or in THF and MeO*t*-Bu (Entry 18, 20 and 22), but KHMDS (Entry 21) and KOTMS (Entry 24) were also effective. The complete lack of reactivity with LiO*t*-Bu and NaO*t*-Bu (Entries 1 and 2) as well as the precipitous drop in reactivity when 18-crown-6 is added to KO*t*-Bu (Entry 23) lend support to the crucial, albeit unknown, role of the potassium cation. Conversion roughly correlates with basicity in stoichiometric reactions (i.e., O*t*-Bu > OEt > OMe; Entries 5–7). No product was observed in the absence of catalyst, or when KH, KOH, KOAc and Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> were employed (Entries 9–12). The organic base DABCO and common fluoride-based activators for silicon – TBAF, CsF, and KF – were also investigated and failed to convert the starting material (Entries 13–16). Headspace GC-TCD analysis of successful silylation reactions indicated the formation of H<sub>2</sub>.

#### 2. Control experiments and trace metal analysis.

Careful experiments were conducted in order to rule out catalysis by adventitious transition metal impurities in the reaction mixture [see below (1) - (3)].

(1) Control reactions with commercially available KOt-Bu, re-sublimed KOt-Bu, and freshly-prepared KOt-Bu. Three reactions were performed in parallel (THF, 45 °C, 1-methylindole, 20 mol% KOt-Bu, 0.2 mmol scale): a) KOt-Bu (Aldrich, sublimed grade, 99.99%, trace metal basis) was used as received; b) KOt-Bu (Aldrich, sublimed grade, 99.99% trace metal basis) was used after re-sublimation by heating the material under vacuum; and c) KOt-Bu, freshly prepared by reaction of potassium metal with anhydrous *t*-BuOH followed by evaporation of the *t*-BuOH and sublimation of the solid, was used. No appreciable differences in conversion and selectivity in these reactions were observed.

(2) Control reaction with KOt-Bu of different grade purchased from different vendors. Four reactions were performed in parallel (THF, 45 °C, 1-benzylindole, 20 mol% KOt-Bu, 0.2 mmol scale): a) KOt-Bu (Aldrich, sublimed grade, 99.99% trace metal basis), b) KOt-Bu (Strem, 98%), c) KOt-Bu (TCI, >97%), and d) KOt-Bu (Alfa-Aesar, 97%). The reactions were monitored by UHPLC-LCMS and no appreciable differences in conversion and selectivity in these four reactions was observed (Figure 1).



Figure 1. The results of with KOt-Bu purchased from different vendors

(3) ICP-MS trace metal analysis of all the reaction components. To provide further support against involvement of adventitious trace metal species in the C-H activation

catalysis, inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry was performed on samples of KO*t*-Bu from different vendors, 1-benzylindole starting material, THF, Et<sub>3</sub>SiH and a standard reaction mixture that was run under optimal conditions in the glove box ("Rxn Mixture" in Table 2). The results from quantitative analysis revealed that most metal contaminants were present below the instrument's lowest limit of detection (i.e., in ppt range or lower). Microgram per liter (ppb) quantities of metal contaminants are given in Table 2.

# Table 2. ICP-MS trace metal analysis.

500 mg samples each of KO*t*-Bu from four different vendors (Strem, Aldrich, TCI, Alfa-Aesar), 1-benzylindole, Et<sub>3</sub>SiH, THF, and a standard reaction mixture (0.5 mmol scale mixture, prepared following the general procedure with 103.5 mg of 1-Bn-indole, 11.2 mg of KO*t*-Bu from Aldrich, 173.5 mg of Et<sub>3</sub>SiH in 0.5 mL of THF and stirred in the glovebox for 72 h.) were analyzed. Each sample was added to a 50 mL DigiTUBE digestion tube (SCP Science) followed by addition of 3.0 mL of Plasma Pure nitric acid (SCP Science) and heating to 75 °C for 36 hours. After digestion, each sample was diluted using Milli Q water to 50 mL and sample analysis was performed on an Agilent 7900 ICP-MS spectrometer. LOD indicates that the analyte concentration is below the instrument's *Lowest Limit of Detection*. Values in ppb (*microgram per liter*).

ICPMS Trace Metal Analysis – Agilent 7900 (quantities in ppb)										
Element	KOt-Bu Strem (98%)	KOt-Bu TCI (>97%)	KOt-Bu Alpha (97%)	KO <i>t</i> -Bu Aldrich (99.99%)	THF	HSiEt <sub>3</sub>	1-Bn- indole	Rxn Mixture		
Ti	0.360	0.051	0.138	0.464	LOD	2.073	9.408	31.082		
Mn	1.343	1.168	1.338	1.525	LOD	0.177	88.191	LOD		
Fe	12.285	10.171	13.080	14.036	1.691	9.531	86.191	LOD		
Со	0.005	LOD	0.006	0.008	0.001	0.006	0.416	LOD		
Ni	0.064	LOD	0.232	1.418	0.011	LOD	16.540	19.826		
Cu	0.134	0.211	1.126	0.366	LOD	0.520	17.936	3.092		
Zr	0.038	LOD	LOD	0.633	LOD	0.031	LOD	8.889		
Мо	2.005	1.650	1.744	2.243	LOD	LOD	LOD	LOD		
Ru	0.002	0.002	0.001	0.008	LOD	0.004	0.146	LOD		

Rh	LOD	LOD	LOD	0.001	LOD	LOD	LOD	LOD
Pd	0.014	0.006	0.029	0.116	0.002	0.004	0.070	0.593
Ag	0.001	LOD	0.290	0.015	LOD	0.004	0.055	0.013
Os	0.001	LOD	LOD	0.001	LOD	LOD	0.007	0.016
Ir	0.001	0.001	0.002	0.026	LOD	0.001	0.047	0.041
Pt	0.009	0.004	0.002	0.010	LOD	0.001	LOD	LOD
Au	0.017	0.013	0.013	0.023	0.108	0.024	0.738	1.582

#### Part II. Competition experiments and evaluation of functional group compatibility.

#### 1. Competition experiments with thiophene, furan and pyrrole.

To investigate the relative reactivities of nitrogen-, oxygen-, and sulfur-containing aromatic heterocycles by KOt-Bu-catalyzed C–H silylation, two internal competition experiments were conducted using one equivalent of Et<sub>3</sub>SiH and one equivalent of each heteroarene (Scheme 1). Reactions were run to partial consumption of Et<sub>3</sub>SiH and relative quantities of silylated heteroarene were determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis. Results demonstrated that for 5-membered heteroarenes, the relative rate of reactivity trends as: thiophene 3q > furan 3r > 1-methylpyrrole 3x (Scheme 1a). This trend is corroborated in the competition between substituted thiophene 3m and furan 3n, as shown in Scheme 1b.



# **Scheme 1. Competition experiments**

Procedures for competition experiments as shown in Figure 1: *For reaction (a)*: In a nitrogen-filled glove box, KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), thiophene **3q** (42.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), furan **3r** (34.0 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and 1-methylpyrrole **3x** 

(40.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) were added to a 2 dram scintillation vial equipped with a magnetic stirring bar. THF (0.3 mL) and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (81  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv – *filtered through a short pad of activated alumina before use*) were then added. The vial was sealed and stirred at 23 °C for approximately 8 hours. The vial was removed from the glove box, diluted with diethyl ether (2 mL) and concentrated under reduced pressure. Analysis of the crude reaction mixture by <sup>1</sup>H NMR revealed that the ratio of **SI-4q:SI-4r:4x** was 5:1:0. *For reaction (b):* In a nitrogen-filled glove box, KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 2-pentylthiophene **3m** (77.0 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), and 2-pentylfuran **3n** (69.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) were added to a 2 dram scintillation vial equipped with a magnetic stirring bar. THF (0.3 mL) and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (81  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv – *filtered through a short pad of activated alumina before use*) were then added. The vial was sealed and stirred at 23 °C for approximately 8 hours. The vial context of *sintered through a short pad of activated alumina before use*) were then added. The vial was sealed and stirred at 23 °C for approximately 8 hours. The vial was removed from the glove box, diluted with diethyl ether (2 mL) and concentrated under reduced pressure. Analysis of the crude reaction mixture by <sup>1</sup>H NMR revealed that the ratio of **4m:4n** was 5:1.



## 2. Reactions with electron-deficient heteroarenes.

# Scheme 2. Examples of unreactive pyridine derivatives

Pyridine derivatives would be expected to react readily if a conventional silyl radical addition process was operational. However, the above substrates were unreactive under the KO*t*-Bu–catalyzed C–H silylation conditions. This observation argues against the likelihood of an elementary Minisci-type mechanism and suggests that the reaction is proceeding by an alternative and presently unidentified pathway.

# 3. Investigation into the radical nature of the KOt-Bu-catalyzed C-H silylation.

A number of experiments were conducted to gain insight into the reaction mechanism. As a first investigation, we decided to probe whether the silvlation reaction was polar or radical in nature. We began by performing our reaction in the presence of the radical traps TEMPO and galvinoxyl. Both additives thwarted the C–H silvlation (Scheme 3).



Scheme 3. Control reactions with radical traps

Subsequently, we conducted three control experiments in an attempt to probe the role of TEMPO (Table 3). A trace amount of triethylsilyl protected product **II** was observed at 23 °C with 1 equivalent of TEMPO (entry 5), presumably arising from the radical combination of a silyl radical and TEMPO itself. Product **II** becomes the major component of the mixture when the temperature is raised to 65 °C, lending support to the involvement of silyl radical species in the silylation reaction. In contrast, this protected compound **II** is not observed in the absence of KO*t*-Bu, indicating that the catalyst is critical to generate the silyl radical (entry 2).

la la	N Me	(O <i>t</i> -Bu Et <sub>3</sub> SiH ( THF TEMPO	(0-20 mol%) 1-3 equiv) <del>7, 48 h</del> (x mol%)		N Me 2a	SiEt <sub>3</sub> +	Ţ		• 🔶	, × ∧ √o, ≈ ∥
	entry	1a	TEMPO (mol%)	KO <i>t</i> -Bu (mol%)	HSiEt <sub>3</sub> (equiv)	Temp (°C)	<b>2a</b> (%)	I	11	
	1	-	100	-	1	23	ND <sup>a</sup>	ND <sup>a</sup>	ND <sup>a</sup>	
	2	-	100	-	1	65	ND <sup>a</sup>	ND <sup>a</sup>	ND <sup>a</sup>	
	3	1	20	20	3	23	ND <sup>a</sup>	ND <sup>a</sup>	ND <sup>a</sup>	
	4	1	20	20	3	65	ND <sup>a</sup>	ND <sup>a</sup>	ND <sup>a</sup>	
	5	-	100	20	1	23	ND <sup>a</sup>	trace <sup>b</sup>	trace <sup>b</sup>	
	6	-	100	20	1	65	ND <sup>a</sup>	minor <sup>b</sup>	major <sup>b</sup>	

 Table 3. Control experimental results with TEMPO.

<sup>a</sup> Not detected; <sup>b</sup> Determined by GCMS analysis.

Although we are unsure as to the mechanism of formation of the putative silyl radical, we considered that if such radical species were formed in appreciable amounts, then the

reaction could proceed by an elementary addition of a silyl radical to a heterocycle (i.e., sila-Minisci reaction). To probe this hypothesis, we subjected 1-methylindole **1a** to a mixture of reagents under conditions that are reported by the Curran group<sup>3</sup> to generate discrete silyl radicals (*see Scheme 4a for Curran's conditions, and Scheme 4b for the result of indole 1a under these conditions*). Interestingly, no silylated product of any kind was detected in this reaction (Scheme 4b). Conversely, we confirmed that the Curran's conditions do silylate with electron poor heterocycles (such as 2-methyl quinoline, Scheme 4c), but our method fails in the case of these substrates (*vide supra*, Supplementary Information Part 12).





b. Control reaction of indole substrate under Curran's conditions: an Evidence Against a Sila-Minisci Mechanism



c. Confirming Curran's Sila-Minisci Reaction on a Camptothecin Model Compound





To provide further evidence against a polar mechanism (i.e., formation of silyl anions), our KO*t*-Bu–catalyzed reaction with benzothiophene **3h** as a substrate was conducted in the presence of cyclohexene oxide as an additive (epoxides, including cyclohexene oxide, are known to undergo nucleophilic ring opening by silyl anions, Scheme 5a).<sup>4</sup> However, under our conditions, the epoxide is quantitatively recovered after the reaction, and the desired silylation product **4h** was obtained in moderate yield (Scheme 5b), providing evidence against the formation of discrete silyl anions.

<sup>(3)</sup> Du, W.; Kaskar, B.; Blumbergs, P.; Subramanian, P. K.; Curran, D. P. *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* 2003, 11, 451.

<sup>(4)</sup> Gilman, H.; Aoki, D.; Wittenberg, D. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1959, 81, 1107.

a. Previously Repored Ring Opening of Epoxides by Silyl Anions



Scheme 5. Control experiments with cyclohexene oxide

In summary, based on the results of control reactions with radical traps (Scheme 3) and the observation of TEMPO-SiEt<sub>3</sub> **II** (Table 3), we propose that silyl radical species appear to be involved and may be playing an important role in this catalytic C–H silylation reaction. However, based on the results from Scheme 2 and Scheme 4, an elementary radical generation/addition mechanism (i.e., sila-Minisci reaction) is likely not operative. The survival of the epoxide additive (Scheme 5) is inconsistent with the silyl anion pathway. Taken together, these preliminary studies point to a previously unreported (hetero)aromatic C–H functionalization mechanism. Efforts to elucidate the mechanism by experimental and computational methods are underway.

#### 4. Evaluation of functional group compatibility.

In order to provide a comprehensive treatment of functional group tolerance for the silvlation reaction, a "robustness screen" as per the method of Glorius has been performed (Table 4).<sup>5</sup> Certain generalizations can be made from the results. For example, carbonyl groups shut down the reaction (entries 16, 17). Nevertheless, protection as an acetal, such as benzaldehyde dimethyl acetal is well tolerated (entry 18). Aryl-X groups where X = Br, I, CN, NO<sub>2</sub> likewise thwart the reactivity (entries 7, 8, 19 and 20). Intriguingly, these functional groups remain intact in most cases. However, alkene, alkyne, Ar-F, Ar-Cl, Ar-CF<sub>3</sub>, tertiary amine, pyridine, and phosphine moieties are compatible (entries 2–6, 9, 11, 23–26). No obvious hydrosilylation or reduction of alkene and alkyne occurs. Even free OH and NH groups are tolerated to some extent

<sup>(5)</sup> Collins, K. D.; Glorius, F. Nature Chem. 2013, 5, 597.

presumably due to a fortuitous silvlative protection of the heteroatom *in situ*, which was confirmed by using BnOTES as an additive (entries 12, 13, and 15).

 Table 4. Examining of the functional groups and heterocycles compatibility.<sup>a</sup>

 KOt-Bu (20 mol%)

		́		Et <sub>3</sub> SiH (3 euqi	v)		C;E+		
		, indexed to the second	∽s′ ⁻	THF, 25 °C, 43	h 📕		-∕—3i≥i₃		
			3h	additives		4h			
entry	additive (1.0 equiv)	<i>4h</i> yield (%)	<i>3h</i> remaining (%)	additive ) remaining (%)	entry	additive (1.0 equiv)	4h yield (%)	<i>3h</i> remaining (%)	additive remaining (%)
1 <i><sup>b</sup></i>	-	99	0	-	14	PhOH	0	63	91
2	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>13</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>13</sub>	95	0	95	15	BnOTES	60	37	89
3	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub> C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub>	67	31	97	16	Ph Ph	0	83	91
4	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub> — <del>—</del> —C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub>	83	26	99	17	PhCO₂Me	0	87	84
5	PhF	95	5	N.D.¢	18	OMe Ph — OMe	82	0	50 <sup>f</sup>
6	PhCl	74	25	100	19	PhNO <sub>2</sub>	0	86	98
7	PhBr	0	89	100	20	PhCN	0	85	81
8	PhI	0	91	86	21	o	60	35	100
9	PhCF <sub>3</sub>	90	10	N.D.¢	22	∑nOBn	40	53	100
10	PhNMe <sub>2</sub>	80	20	79	23		71	28	N.D.¢
11	<i>n</i> -Bu₃N	38	55	100	24 🔇		<b>4</b> 7	50	100
12	0 NH	19	73	N.D. <sup><i>c,d</i></sup>	25		0	92	99
13	BnOH	31	60	0 <sup>e</sup>	26	PPh <sub>3</sub>	48	50	97

<sup>*a*</sup> The reaction was performed with 0.5 mmol of **3h** and 0.5 mmol of additive under the general procedure. 0.5 mmol of tridecane was added as an internal standard at the start of the reaction. Yield of product, remaining amounts of **3h** and additive were determined by GC-FID analyses. <sup>*b*</sup> Control reaction without the addition of additive. <sup>*c*</sup> Not determined (overlapped with solvent peak due to the low boiling point). <sup>*d*</sup> Triethyl silyl protected morpholine was formed and confirmed by GCMS analysis. <sup>*e*</sup> BnOTES was formed. <sup>*f*</sup> Acetal partially hydrolyzed to PhCHO.

Moreover, epoxide and aziridine are tolerated as well and nucleophilic ring opening of these additives was not observed (entries 21, 22). In conclusion, these results demonstrate that a wide array of versatile organic functionalities is tolerated in the KO*t*-Bu–catalyzed silylation reaction. This is encouraging for the application of the current method to alkaloid natural product synthesis and pharmaceutical science applications either at an early stage or for advanced intermediate functionalization.

#### Part III. Experimental and analytics.

#### 1. General procedure for KOt-Bu-catalyzed silylation and characterization data.



In a nitrogen-filled glove box, KOt-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%) and indole (0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) were added to a 2 dram scintillation vial equipped with a magnetic stirring bar, [solvent was added if indicated, see the details below], followed by silane (1.5 mmol, 3 equiv, filtered through a short pad of activated alumina before use). Then the vial was sealed and the mixture was stirred at the indicated temperature for the indicated time. The vial was removed from the glove box, the reaction mixture was diluted with diethyl ether (2 mL) and concentrated under reduced pressure. The regioselectivity (C2 silylation product to C3 silylation product: C2:C3) was determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR or GC analysis of the crude mixture. The residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography to give the desired product.



**1-Methyl-2-(triethylsilyl)-1***H***-indole 2a:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), *N*-methylindole **1a** (65.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) at 45 °C for 96 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product **2a** (95.6 mg, 78% yield) was obtained as a colorless

oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (gradient elution,  $2\rightarrow 3\%$  CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.4 (10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.70 (dt, J = 7.9, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (dq, J = 8.3, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (ddd, J = 8.3, 7.0, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (ddd, J = 7.9, 6.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 1.13 – 1.05 (m, 9H), 1.03 – 0.95 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  140.4, 138.3, 128.7, 122.0, 120.7, 119.1, 113.1, 109.1, 33.1, 7.7, 4.2. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2953, 2909, 2874, 1492, 1464, 1415, 1372, 1356, 1299, 1233, 1166, 1101, 1069, 1007, 973, 797 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI+) calc'd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 246.1673, found 246.1674.



**1-Benzyl-2-(triethylsilyl)-1***H***-indole 2b:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), *N*-benzylindole 1b (103.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 45 °C for 40 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product 2b (132.2 mg, 82% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).  $R_f = 0.3$  (10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.81 – 7.77 (m, 1H), 7.38 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 7.26 – 7.19 (m, 3H), 7.02 (ddd, *J* = 6.9, 2.2, 1.0 Hz, 2H), 6.97 (s, 1H), 5.59 (s, 2H), 1.08 – 1.04 (m, 9H), 0.94 – 0.89 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  140.2, 138.5, 138.3, 129.1, 128.7, 127.3, 125.9, 122.3, 120.7, 119.5, 114.1, 110.2, 50.2, 7.5, 4.0. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3060, 3029, 2954, 2909, 2875, 1606, 1495, 1466, 1452, 1416, 1377, 1353, 1333, 1300, 1238, 1196, 1164, 1115, 1096, 1014, 798, 734 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI+) calc'd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>28</sub>NSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 322.1986, found 322.1985.



**1-Ethyl-2-(triethylsilyl)-1***H***-indole 2c:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), *N*-ethylindole 1c (72.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) at 60 °C for 84 h.

C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product **2c** (92.4 mg, 71% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (5% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).  $R_f = 0.4$  (10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.67 (dt, J = 7.9, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (dt, J = 8.2, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (ddd, J = 8.2, 7.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (ddd, J = 7.9, 7.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 4.31 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.46 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.08 – 1.04 (m, 9H), 0.99 – 0.92 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  139.0, 137.4, 129.1, 121.7, 120.7, 119.0, 113.0, 109.4, 41.5, 15.5, 7.5, 4.0. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2953, 2909, 2874, 1491, 1466, 1416, 1378, 1347, 1335, 1299, 1218, 1165, 1090, 1069, 1012, 956, 900, 820, 787, 773, 750, 733 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 260.1829, found 260.1829.



**1-Phenyl-2-(triethylsilyl)-1***H***-indole 2d:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (7.4 mg, 0.07 mmol, 20 mol%), *N*-phenylindole **1d** (63.2 mg, 0.33 mmol, 1 equiv), and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (160  $\mu$ L, 1.0 mmol, 3 equiv) at 60 °C for 84 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product **2d** (45.6 mg, 45% yield) was obtained as a white solid after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (3% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.5 (10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.74 – 7.67 (m, 1H), 7.58 – 7.47 (m, 3H), 7.44 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.21 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 7.12 – 7.05 (m, 1H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 0.92 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 9H), 0.68 – 0.55 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  141.6, 140.8, 139.1, 129.2, 128.8, 128.7, 128.3, 122.4, 120.5, 119.8, 114.9, 110.5, 7.5, 4.0. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3058, 2952, 2909, 2873, 1597, 1498, 1465, 1428, 1362, 1297, 1237, 1214, 1122, 1071, 1012, 976, 922, 820, 793, 736 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 308.1829, found 308.1824.



**1-(Methoxymethyl)-2-(triethylsilyl)-1***H***-indole 2e:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), *N*-methoxymethylindole **1e** (80.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) at 60 °C for 84 h. C2:C3 = 10:1. The desired product **2e** (75.1 mg, 55% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (3% EtOAc in hexanes).  $R_f = 0.3$  (5% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.67 (dt, *J* = 7.8, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (dq, *J* = 8.3, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (ddd, *J* = 8.3, 7.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (ddd, *J* = 7.9, 7.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 5.55 (s, 2H), 3.30 (s, 3H), 1.10 – 1.01 (m, 9H), 1.01 – 0.92 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  140.7, 138.3, 129.2, 122.6, 120.8, 120.0, 115.6, 109.8, 76.8, 55.6, 7.5, 4.1. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2952, 2908, 2874, 1495, 1466, 1416, 1393, 1344, 1311, 1299, 1224, 1166, 1126, 1104, 1091, 1045, 1004, 961, 913, 797, 762, 735 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NOSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 276.1778, found 276.1769.



2-(Triethylsilyl)-1-((2-(trimethylsilyl)ethoxy)methyl)-1*H*-indole 2f: The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KOt-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), N-(2-trimethylsilyl-ethoxymethyl)-1H-indole 1f (123.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) at 60 °C for 84 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product 2f (121.4 mg, 67% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (15% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).  $R_f = 0.2$  (10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.62 (dt, J = 7.8, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (dg, J = 8.3, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (ddd, J = 8.3, 7.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (ddd, J = 7.9, 7.0, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d, J = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 5.54 (s, 2H), 3.54 – 3.48 (m, 2H), 1.04 – 0.98 (m, 9H), 0.96 – 0.90 (m, 8H), -0.02 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 140.5, 138.1, 129.1, 122.4, 120.7, 119.9, 115.3, 109.8, 75.2, 65.6, 18.1, 7.6, 4.0, -1.3. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2952, 2875, 1495, 1466, 1443, 1417, 1378, 1343, 1312, 1299, 1249, 1167, 1081, 1003, 972, 939, 894, 859, 836, 796, 760, 749, 734 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>36</sub>NOSi<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 362.2330, found 362.2340.



The general procedure was followed. *For condition A*: The reaction was performed with KOt-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 4-methyl-*N*-methylindole **1g** (72.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 25 °C for 120 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired mono-silylation product **2g** (61.8 mg, 48% yield) and bis-silylation **16** (9.7 mg, 5% yield) were obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (gradient elution,  $2\rightarrow 3\%$  CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes). *For condition B*: The reaction was performed with KOt-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 4-methyl-*N*-methylindole **1g** (72.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) at 45 °C for 84 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. Only mono silylation product **2g** (89.7 mg, 69% yield) was formed and obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (3% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).

**1,4-Dimethyl-2-(triethylsilyl)-1***H***-indole 2g:** Colorless oil;  $R_f = 0.4$  (10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.23 – 7.14 (m, 2H), 6.91 (dt, J = 6.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d, J = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.60 (s, 3H), 1.07 – 1.00 (m, 9H), 0.98 – 0.92 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  140.2, 137.6, 130.2, 128.6, 122.2, 119.4, 111.5, 106.8, 33.2, 18.8, 7.7, 4.3. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2953, 2910, 2874, 1586, 1502, 1454, 1415, 1366, 1323, 1280, 1238, 1160, 1140, 1077, 1004, 953, 765, 752, 735 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 260.1829, found 260.1823.

**1-Methyl-2-(triethylsilyl)-4-((triethylsilyl)methyl)-1***H***-indole 16:** Colorless oil;  $R_f = 0.4 (10\% \text{ CH}_2\text{Cl}_2 \text{ in hexanes}); ^1\text{H NMR (500 MHz, C}_6\text{D}_6) \delta 7.28 (dd, <math>J = 8.2, 7.1 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H})$ , 6.98 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.97 – 6.94 (m, 2H), 3.31 (s, 3H), 2.50 (s, 2H), 1.01 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 9H), 0.95 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 9H), 0.83 (q, J = 7.8 Hz, 6H), 0.58 (q, J = 7.9 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, C}6D\_6) \delta 141.1, 136.0, 133.3, 122.8, 118.9, 113.0, 105.8, 32.9, 19.2, 7.7, 4.5, 4.1. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2952, 2909, 2874, 1579, 1498, 1454, 1443, 1414,

1359, 1322, 1285, 1237, 1151, 1070, 1008, 980, 774, 734 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI+) calc'd for  $C_{22}H_{39}NSi_2$  [M<sup>++</sup>]: 373.2621, found 373.2624.



**1,5-Dimethyl-2-(triethylsilyl)-1***H***-indole 2h:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 5-methyl-*N*-methylindole **1h** (72.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 25 °C for 96 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product **2h** (88.7 mg, 68% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).  $R_f = 0.3$  (10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.39 (s, 1H), 7.25 – 7.19 (m, 1H), 7.05 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 1.03 – 0.97 (m, 9H), 0.93 – 0.86 (m, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  138.8, 138.3, 128.9, 128.3, 123.6, 120.2, 112.4, 108.8, 33.1, 21.5, 7.7, 4.1. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2952, 2909, 2873, 1505, 1456, 1358, 1321, 1236, 1181, 1104, 1069, 1003, 833, 788, 736 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI+) calc'd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 260.1826, found 260.1827.



The general procedure was followed. *For condition A*: The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 6-methyl-*N*-methylindole **1i** (72.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 25 °C for 120 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired mono silvlation product **2i** (69.5 mg, 54% yield) and bis-silvlation **SI-2i** (5.2 mg, 3% yield) were obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (gradient elution, 2 $\rightarrow$ 3% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes). *For condition B*: The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 6-methyl-*N*-methylindole **1i** (72.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) at

45 °C for 84 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. Only mono silulation product **2i** (108.1 mg, 83% yield) was formed and obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (3%  $CH_2Cl_2$  in hexanes).

**1,6-Dimethyl-2-(triethylsilyl)-1***H***-indole 2i:** Colorless oil;  $R_f = 0.4$  (10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.55 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 6.98 (ddd, J = 8.0, 1.4, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (d, J = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.57 (s, 3H), 1.08 – 1.03 (m, 9H), 0.98 – 0.92 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  140.9, 137.6, 131.8, 126.7, 121.0, 120.3, 113.0, 109.1, 33.0, 22.0, 7.6, 4.2. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2953, 2910, 2874, 1617, 1480, 1451, 1413, 1376, 1360, 1333, 1296, 1233, 1065, 1003, 941, 808, 781, 736 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI+) calc'd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 260.1826, found 260.1823.

**1-Methyl-2-(triethylsilyl)-6-((triethylsilyl)methyl)-1***H***-indole SI-2i:** Colorless oil;  $R_f = 0.4 (10\% \text{ CH}_2\text{Cl}_2 \text{ in hexanes})$ ; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz,  $C_6D_6$ )  $\delta$  7.64 (dd, J = 7.9, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 6.99 – 6.93 (m, 2H), 6.81 (d, J = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 3.41 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 2H), 1.02 – 0.93 (m, 18H), 0.79 (q, J = 7.7 Hz, 6H), 0.58 (q, J = 7.9 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz,  $C_6D_6$ )  $\delta$  141.9, 136.3, 134.6, 126.7, 121.2, 120.9, 114.0, 108.3, 32.7, 22.4, 7.8, 7.7, 4.5, 3.7. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2952, 2909, 2874, 1615, 1568, 1479, 1463, 1414, 1361, 1336, 1319, 1299, 1234, 1195, 1157, 1090, 1065, 1009, 948, 842, 817, 787, 771, 736 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI+) calc'd for  $C_{22}H_{39}NSi_2$  [M<sup>++</sup>]: 373.2621, found 373.2609.



**1,7-Dimethyl-2-(triethylsilyl)-1***H***-indole 2j:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 7-methyl-*N*-methylindole **1j** (72.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) at 45 °C for 84 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product **2j** (78.9 mg, 61% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (3% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).  $R_f = 0.4$  (10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.43 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.94 – 6.87 (m, 2H), 6.66 (s, 1H), 4.11 (s, 3H), 2.80 (s, 3H), 1.03 – 0.97 (m, 9H), 0.92 – 0.85 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  139.2, 139.1, 129.7, 125.0, 121.0, 119.4, 119.0, 113.6, 36.8, 20.6, 7.7, 4.2. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2953,

2909, 2873, 1503, 1459, 1415, 1396, 1377, 1358, 1340, 1315, 1304, 1238, 1156, 1113, 1086, 1063, 1004, 861, 798, 742 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI+) calc'd for  $C_{16}H_{26}NSi [M+H]^+$ : 260.1826, found 260.1828.



The general procedure was followed. *For condition A*: The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), *N*-methyl-5-methoxyindole **1k** (80.7 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 25 °C for 120 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The C2-silylation product **2k** (58.7 mg, 43% yield), C6-silylation product **15** (12.5 mg, 9% yield), and bis-silylation product **SI-2k** (42.9 mg, 22% yield), were obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (gradient elution,  $5\rightarrow10\rightarrow25\%$  CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes). *For condition B*: The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), *N*-methyl-5-methoxyindole **1k** (80.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 25 °C for 72 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product **2k** (87.6 mg, 64% yield) was obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (gradient elution,  $5\rightarrow10\rightarrow25\%$  CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes) of the product **2k** (87.6 mg, 64% yield) was obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (gradient elution,  $5\rightarrow10\rightarrow25\%$  CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes) of the product **2k** (87.6 mg, 64% yield) was obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (gradient elution,  $5\rightarrow10\rightarrow25\%$  CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes) and a minor amount (<5%) of byproducts were observed.

**5-Methoxy-1-methyl-2-(triethylsilyl)-1***H***-indole 2k:** White solid;  $R_f = 0.2$  (33% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.21 (s, 1H), 7.07 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 1.03 – 0.96 (m, 9H), 0.93 – 0.86 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  154.0, 139.0, 135.9, 128.8, 112.6, 112.3, 109.8, 102.0, 56.1, 33.2, 7.7, 4.1. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2950, 2909, 2872, 1503, 1450, 1413, 1334, 1237, 1208, 1173, 1147, 1102, 1072, 1027, 997, 843, 801, 735, 716 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI+) calc'd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NOSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 276.1778, found 276.1776.

**5-Methoxy-1-methyl-2,6-bis(triethylsilyl)-1***H***-indole SI-2k:** White solid,  $R_f = 0.6$  (33% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.30 (s, 1H), 7.01 (s, 1H), 6.64 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 1.06 - 0.97 (m, 18H), 0.95 - 0.86 (m, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C

NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  159.1, 138.9, 136.1, 130.1, 120.8, 116.3, 112.2, 99.7, 55.5, 33.2, 7.9, 7.7, 4.3, 4.1. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2952, 2874, 2908, 1608, 1556, 1475, 1454, 1407, 1363, 1337, 1236, 1205, 1172, 1144, 1123, 1072, 1004, 971, 837 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI+) calc'd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>40</sub>NOSi<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 390.2643, found 390.2632.

**5-Methoxy-1-methyl-6-(triethylsilyl)-1***H***-indole 15:** Colorless oil;  $R_f = 0.4$  (33% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.27 (s, 1H), 7.01 (s, 1H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 6.38 (dd, *J* = 3.0, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 1.00 – 0.94 (m, 9H), 0.91 – 0.83 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  159.2, 132.5, 130.1, 129.3, 120.2, 116.5, 100.4, 100.3, 55.5, 33.0, 7.9, 4.1. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2950, 2908, 2873, 1612, 1554, 1505, 1471, 1414, 1310, 1268, 1231, 1190, 1148, 1123, 1059, 1017, 984, 831 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI+) calc'd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NOSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 276.1778, found 276.1765.



**5-(Benzyloxy)-1-methyl-2-(triethylsilyl)-1***H***-indole <b>2I:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), *N*-methyl-5-benzyloxyindole **1I** (118.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 45 °C for 64 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product **2I** (119.4 mg, 68% yield) was obtained as a yellow solid after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (25% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).  $R_f = 0.4$  (5% EtOAc in hexanes). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.48 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.41 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.11 (s, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 1.04 – 0.96 (m, 9H), 0.96 – 0.84 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 153.3, 139.1, 138.1, 136.2, 129.0, 128.6, 127.8, 127.6, 113.4, 112.5, 109.8, 104.0, 71.3, 33.2, 7.6, 4.2. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2951, 2908, 2872, 1492, 1452, 1422, 1336, 1288, 1237, 1192, 1150, 1102, 1075, 1018, 840, 812, 751, 735 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>30</sub>NOSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 352.2091, found 352.2093.



The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 5-(methoxymethyl)-*N*-methylindole **1m** (87.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) at 45 °C for 84 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product **2m** (69.3 mg, 48% yield), byproducts **1h** (2.5 mg, 2% yield) and **2h** (11.3 mg, 9% yield) were obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (gradient elution, 25 $\rightarrow$ 50% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).

**5-(Methoxymethyl)-1-methyl-2-(triethylsilyl)-1***H***-indole 2m: Colorless oil, R\_f = 0.4 (50% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) \delta 7.59 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (s, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.38 (s, 3H), 1.06 – 0.99 (m, 9H), 0.96 – 0.90 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) \delta 140.0, 138.9, 128.8, 128.5, 122.6, 120.5, 113.0, 109.1, 75.6, 57.6, 33.2, 7.6, 4.1. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2952, 2873, 2817, 1504, 1455, 1415, 1357, 1324, 1297, 1236, 1188, 1153, 1137, 1094, 1069, 1004, 971, 878, 840, 798, 783, 726 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI+) calc'd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>28</sub>NOSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 290.1935, found 290.1948.** 



**1-Methyl-5-phenyl-2-(triethylsilyl)-1***H***-indole 2n:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 5-phenyl-*N*-methylindole **1n** (103.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 45 °C for 108 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product **2n** (77.8 mg, 48% yield) was obtained as a white solid after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (gradient elution, 5→10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).  $R_f = 0.3$  (10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.90 (s, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (s, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 1.09 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 9H), 1.03 – 0.95 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  142.9, 140.0, 139.3, 132.8, 129.2, 128.7, 127.5, 126.3, 122.0, 119.2, 113.5, 109.4, 33.2, 7.6, 4.2. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2950, 2908, 2873, 1600, 1485, 1455, 1361, 1325, 1301, 1214, 1162, 1074, 1004, 1086, 887, 820, 807, 787, 759, 733 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>28</sub>NSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 322.1986, found 322.1984.



The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), *N*-methylindole **1a** (65.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub> (194  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 45 °C for 72 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The silylation product **2o** (73.4 mg, 68% yield) and a minor bisindolyl silane byproduct **SI-2o** were obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (gradient elution,  $1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 5\%$  CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).

**2-(Diethylsilyl)-1-methyl-1***H***-indole 20:** Colorless oil;  $R_f = 0.4$  (10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.66 (dt, J = 7.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (dt, J = 8.3, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.28 – 7.25 (m, 1H), 7.16 – 7.09 (m, 1H), 6.79 (d, J = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 4.50 – 4.43 (m, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 1.14 – 1.06 (m, 6H), 1.00 – 0.93 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  140.2, 136.6, 128.6, 122.2, 120.8, 119.3, 112.8, 109.3, 32.8, 8.4, 3.7. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2954, 2908, 2872, 2110, 1492, 1464, 1412, 1371, 1357, 1327, 1301, 1233, 1166, 1101, 1071, 1009, 974, 987, 815, 785 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 218.1360, found 218.1354.

**Diethylbis(1-methyl-1***H***-indol-2-yl)silane SI-20:** Colorless oil;  $R_f = 0.2$  (10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.68 (dt, J = 7.9, 1.0 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (dt, J = 8.3, 1.0 Hz, 2H), 7.25 (ddd, J = 8.2, 6.9, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (ddd, J = 7.9, 6.9, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 6.92 (d, J = 0.9 Hz, 2H), 3.57 (s, 6H), 1.31 (q, J = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 1.07 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  140.7, 136.5, 128.7, 122.5, 120.9, 119.4, 113.8, 109.4, 32.7, 7.5, 4.5. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2955, 2874, 1492, 1463, 1414, 1355, 1327, 1299, 1233, 1166, 1101, 1072, 1008, 799, 751 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>27</sub>N<sub>2</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 347.1938, found 347.1934.



**1-Benzyl-2-(diethylsilyl)-1***H***-indole 2p:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), *N*-benzyl indole **1b** (103.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub> (194 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) at 60 °C for 72 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product **2p** (114.1 mg, 78% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (5% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).  $R_f = 0.5$  (25% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.75 (dt, *J* = 7.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.36 – 7.26 (m, 4H), 7.26 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 7.07 – 7.01 (m, 2H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 5.56 (s, 2H), 4.44 (p, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 1.12 – 1.03 (m, 6H), 0.94 – 0.79 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  140.1, 138.5, 136.7, 129.0, 128.7, 127.4, 126.1, 122.5, 120.8, 119.6, 113.7, 110.1, 49.8, 8.3, 3.6. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2954, 2873, 2114, 1605, 1494, 1466, 1450, 1413, 1353, 1334, 1301, 1233, 1198, 1164, 1116, 1095, 972, 815 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 294.1673, found 294.1668.



**2-(Diethylsilyl)-1-phenyl-1***H***-indole 2q:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), *N*-phenyl indole 1d (96.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub> (194 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of MeO*t*-Bu at 55 °C for 96 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product 2q (76.9 mg, 55% yield) was obtained as a yellow oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).  $R_f = 0.6$  (10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.76 – 7.74 (m, 1H), 7.60 – 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.53 – 7.47 (m, 3H), 7.30 – 7.17 (m, 3H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (p, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 1.02 – 0.98 (m, 6H), 0.79 – 0.63 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  141.1, 140.3, 137.1, 129.4, 128.8, 128.1, 128.0, 122.8, 120.7, 120.1, 115.1, 110.5, 8.2, 3.4. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3058, 2953, 2872, 2117, 1597, 1498, 1466, 1433, 1415, 1363, 1300, 1215, 1202, 1146, 1121, 1072, 1013, 978, 921, 902,

823, 759, 748, 737 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for  $C_{18}H_{22}NSi$  [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 280.1516, found 280.1515.



**2-(Diethylsilyl)-1-(methoxymethyl)-1***H***-indole 2r:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), *N*-methoxymethylindole **1e** (80.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub> (193 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) at 60 °C for 96 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product **2r** (81.0 mg, 66% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (3% EtOAc in hexanes).  $R_f = 0.3$  (5% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.67 (dt, *J* = 7.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (ddd, *J* = 8.3, 2.0, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (ddd, *J* = 8.3, 7.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (ddd, *J* = 7.9, 7.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 5.60 (s, 2H), 4.49 (p, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 3.29 (s, 3H), 1.14 – 1.08 (m, 6H), 1.03 – 0.94 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  140.4, 136.6, 129.2, 122.8, 120.9, 120.2, 115.1, 109.9, 76.6, 55.6, 8.3, 3.8. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2954, 2874, 2819, 2115, 1496, 1467, 1443, 1413, 1393, 1360, 1344, 1314, 1300, 1282, 1226, 1190, 1166, 1127, 1102, 1091, 1047, 1009, 974, 914, 896, 818, 749, 736 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NOSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 248.1465, found 248.1459.



**2-(Diethylsilyl)-1-((2-(trimethylsilyl)ethoxy)methyl)-1***H***-indole <b>2s**: The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), *N*-(2-trimethylsilyl-ethoxymethyl)-1*H*-indole **1f** (123.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub> (194  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) at 60 °C for 84 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product **2s** (106.7 mg, 64% yield) was obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (14% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes) as a colorless oil. R<sub>f</sub> = 0.2 (10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.65 (dt, *J* = 7.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (dt, *J* =

8.3, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (ddd, J = 8.3, 7.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (ddd, J = 7.9, 7.0, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.61 (s, 2H), 4.48 (p, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 3.55 – 3.48 (m, 2H), 1.14 – 1.04 (m, 6H), 1.03 – 0.88 (m, 6H), -0.02 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  140.2, 136.5, 129.1, 122.7, 120.8, 120.1, 114.7, 110.1, 75.0, 65.6, 18.0, 8.4, 3.7, -1.3. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2953, 2874, 2116, 1496, 1466, 1443, 1413, 1379, 1343, 1318, 1300, 1249, 1219, 1165, 1081, 1010, 974, 922, 895, 859, 835, 748, 735 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>32</sub>NOSi<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 334.2017, found 334.2028.



**2-(Diethylsilyl)-1,3-dimethyl-1***H***-indole 2t:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 1,3-dimethyl-1*H*-indole **1t** (72.6 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub> (193 µL , 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 65 °C for 120 h. The desired product **2t** (84.2 mg, 65% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes).  $R_f = 0.6$  (100% hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  7.67 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (dd, J = 8.3, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (p, J = 3.7 Hz, 1H), 3.31 (s, 3H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 0.98 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 6H), 0.77 (qd, J = 7.9, 3.9 Hz, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  140.6, 131.5, 129.8, 122.7, 122.3, 119.4, 119.0, 109.4, 32.4, 10.9, 8.8, 4.7. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2952, 2871, 2125, 1509, 1460, 1351, 1317, 1237, 1167, 1138, 1011, 975, 839, 803, 737 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI+) calc'd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NSi [M<sup>++</sup>]: 231.1443, found 231.1446.



**2-(Ethyldimethylsilyl)-1-methyl-1***H***-indole 2u:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), *N*methylindole **1a** (66.8 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), EtMe<sub>2</sub>SiH (197  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) and 0.5 mL of MeO*t*-Bu at 45 °C for 120 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product **2u** (58.5

mg, 54% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (3% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).  $R_f = 0.4$  (10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.67 (dt, J = 7.8, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (dd, J = 8.3, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (ddd, J = 8.2, 6.9, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (ddd, J = 7.9, 6.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, J = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 1.11 – 1.02 (m, 3H), 0.95 – 0.90 (m, 2H), 0.43 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  140.3, 140.2, 128.5, 122.1, 120.7, 119.2, 112.0, 109.1, 33.1, 7.8, 7.6, -2.6. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2954, 2908, 2873, 1492, 1464, 1418, 1356, 1326, 1300, 1249, 1233, 1166, 1131, 1101, 1071, 1007, 958, 897, 821 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 218.1360, found 218.1353.



**1-Benzyl-2-(ethyldimethylsilyl)-1***H***-indole <b>2v**: The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), *N*-benzylindole **1b** (102.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), EtMe<sub>2</sub>SiH (197 μL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) and 0.5 mL of THF at 45 °C for 96 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product **2v** (87.9 mg, 60% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).  $R_f = 0.3$  (10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.75 – 7.69 (m, 1H), 7.34 – 7.23 (m, 3H), 7.23 – 7.11 (m, 3H), 6.96 (ddd, *J* = 6.8, 2.2, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (s, 1H), 5.54 (s, 2H), 1.00 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 3H), 0.79 (q, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 0.32 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 140.5, 140.1, 138.4, 128.9, 128.7, 127.3, 125.9, 122.4, 120.8, 119.6, 112.9, 110.1, 50.1, 7.8, 7.5, -2.6. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3060, 3028, 2954, 2910, 2873, 1605, 1495, 1466, 1450, 1377, 1353, 1334, 1300, 1249, 1196, 1164, 1115, 1096, 1014, 958, 823, 780, 725 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 294.1673, found 294.1669.



1-Benzyl-2-(dimethyl(phenyl)silyl)-1*H*-indole 2w: The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KOt-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), Nbenzylindole **1b** (103.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH (230 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) and 0.5 mL of THF at 45 °C for 96 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. A mixture of starting material 1b and product 2w (174.5 mg of mixture, contains 133.9 mg of 2w, 78% vield, calculated based on <sup>1</sup>H NMR) was obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (2% EtOAc in hexanes). Analytically pure compound 2w was obtained as a white solid after subsequent purification by Preparative HPLC (3% EtOAc in hexanes).  $R_f = 0.4$ (5% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.71 – 7.66 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.40 - 7.35 (m, 1H), 7.34 - 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.21 - 7.16 (m, 3H), 7.14 - 7.08 (m, 2H), 7.14 - 7.14 (m, 2H), 7.14 - 7.14 (m, 2H), 7.14 - 7.14 (m, 2H), 7.143H), 6.90 (d, J = 0.7 Hz, 1H), 6.78 – 6.75 (m, 2H), 5.25 (s, 2H), 0.50 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 140.4, 139.4, 138.3, 137.5, 134.2, 129.6, 128.9, 128.6, 128.1, 127.2, 125.9, 122.6, 121.0, 119.6, 114.1, 110.2, 50.0, -1.7. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3064, 3027, 2956, 1605, 1587, 1494, 1466, 1450, 1427, 1353, 1335, 1301, 1250, 1197, 1164, 1116, 1106, 1096, 1014, 905, 822 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 342.1673, found 342.1676.



**1-Methyl-2-(tributylsilyl)-1***H***-indole 2x:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), *N*-methylindole **1a** (65.6 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), *n*-Bu<sub>3</sub>SiH (385  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 35 °C for 65 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product **2x** (123.5 mg, 75% yield) was obtained as a white solid after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.5 (100% hexanes). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.61 (dt, *J* = 7.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.30 (m, 1H), 7.22 (ddd, *J* = 8.2, 6.9, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (ddd, *J* = 7.9, 6.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 1.38 – 1.27 (m, 12H), 0.94 – 0.86 (m, 15H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  140.2, 139.0, 128.6, 121.7, 120.5, 118.9, 112.7, 108.9, 32.9, 26.6, 26.1, 13.6, 12.7; IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2955, 2922, 2871, 2855, 1492,

1464, 1411, 1375, 1356, 1325, 1298, 1232, 1196, 1166, 1102, 1070, 897, 885, 799, 788, 749, 732 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI+) calc'd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>35</sub>NSi [M<sup>•+</sup>]: 329.2539, found 329.2523



**1-Methyl-2-(triethylsilyl)-1***H***-pyrrolo[3,2-***b***]pyridine 4a: The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO***t***-Bu (4.5 mg, 0.04 mmol, 20 mol%),** *N***-methyl-4-azaindole <b>3a** (26.4 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (98 μL, 0.6 mmol, 3 equiv) and 0.2 mL of THF at 45 °C for 96 h. C2:C3 = 6:1. *A mixture of C2- and C3-silylation products* (16.2 mg, 33% yield) was obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (50% EtOAc in hexanes). *Analytically pure C2-silylation 4a was obtained as a colorless oil after subsequent purification by Preparative TLC (50% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.44 (dd, <i>J* = 4.6, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (dt, *J* = 8.3, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 1.03 – 0.97 (m, 9H), 0.96 – 0.89 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 147.0, 143.0, 142.7, 133.0, 116.4, 116.1, 113.8, 33.1, 7.6, 4.0. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2953, 2909, 2874, 1596, 1557, 1455, 1434, 1413, 1355, 1317, 1288, 1237, 1134, 1064, 1004, 800 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI+) calc'd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>2</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 247.1625, found 247.1621.



**1-Methyl-2-(triethylsilyl)-1***H***-pyrrolo[3,2-***c***]<b>pyridine 4b:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), *N*-methyl-5-azaindole **3b** (66.0 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 45 °C for 120 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product **4b** (37.9 mg, 31% yield) was obtained as a yellow oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% EtOAc).  $R_f = 0.2$  (100% EtOAc); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.87 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 7.24 – 7.18 (m, 1H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 0.9

Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 1.02 - 0.96 (m, 9H), 0.94 - 0.87 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  143.7, 143.6, 140.8, 140.4, 125.7, 112.9, 104.5, 32.9, 7.6, 4.0. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2953, 2909, 2874, 1597, 1563, 1485, 1463, 1435, 1415, 1368, 1334, 1310, 1291, 1219, 1184, 1123, 1069, 1004, 900, 809 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI+) calc'd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>2</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 247.1625, found 247.1626.



**1-Methyl-2-(triethylsilyl)-1***H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*c*]pyridine 4c: The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (5.8 mg, 0.52 mmol, 20 mol%), *N*-methyl-6-azaindole 3c (35.0 mg, 0.26 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (126 µL, 0.78 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.3 mL of THF at 45 °C for 94 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product 4c (32.9 mg, 50% yield) was obtained as a yellow oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (gradient elution, 2.5→5% MeOH in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>).  $R_f = 0.3$  (5% MeOH in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.76 (s, 1H), 8.20 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (dd, *J* = 5.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 1.03 – 0.97 (m, 9H), 0.95 – 0.89 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  143.5, 138.1, 137.2, 133.0, 132.6, 114.7, 112.0, 33.3, 7.5, 3.9. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2952, 2909, 2874, 1594, 1559, 1496, 1475, 1457, 1415, 1358, 1333, 1315, 1286, 1241, 1167, 1120, 1070, 1004, 817, 808 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI+) calc'd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>2</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 247.1625, found 247.1620.





NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.33 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (dd, J = 7.8, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (s, 1H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 1.04 – 0.97 (m, 9H), 0.96 – 0.88 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  151.0, 143.2, 139.2, 128.3, 120.7, 115.3, 111.0, 31.4, 7.6, 3.9. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3052, 2953, 2910, 2874, 1590, 1570, 1489, 1444, 1403, 1302, 1286, 1226, 1162, 1134, 1107, 1066, 1004, 906, 804, 772, 739 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (FAB+) calc'd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>2</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 247.1631, found 247.1637.



**1-Methyl-2-(triethylsilyl)-1***H***-pyrrolo[2,3-***b***]pyridine 4e: The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO***t***-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%),** *N***-benzyl-7-azaindole <b>3e** (104.0 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 45 °C for 144 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product **4e** (89.4 mg, 56% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil purification by silica gel flash chromatography (gradient elution, 2.5→5% EtOAc in hexanes). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.3 (5% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.34 (dd, *J* = 4.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.25 – 7.16 (m, 3H), 7.07 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 6.87 – 6.85 (m, 2H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 5.69 (s, 2H), 0.91 – 0.83 (m, 9H), 0.74 – 0.69 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 151.2, 143.7, 139.04, 138.96, 128.6, 128.4, 127.0, 125.9, 120.5, 115.7, 112.2, 47.8, 7.4, 3.7. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2954, 2874, 1589, 1570, 1495, 1452, 1439, 1422, 1378, 1357, 1309, 1239, 1157, 1103, 1004, 909, 803, 777 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>27</sub>N<sub>2</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 323.1938, found 323.1947.



**1-Benzyl-2-(diethylsilyl)-1***H***-pyrrolo[2,3-***b***]<b>pyridine 4f:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), *N*-benzyl-7-azaindole **3e** (104.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub> (194  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) at 60 °C for 84 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product **4f** (96.2 mg, 65% yield)

was obtained as a yellow oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (3% EtOAc in hexanes).  $R_f = 0.4$  (10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.37 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.16 (m, 3H), 7.09 (dd, J = 7.8, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 7.01 – 6.99 (m, 2H), 6.80 (s, 1H), 5.71 (s, 2H), 4.32 (p, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 0.95 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 6H), 0.78 – 0.63 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  150.9, 143.8, 138.9, 137.4, 128.6, 128.5, 127.2, 126.6, 120.5, 115.8, 111.7, 47.6, 8.1, 3.4. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2955, 2873, 2120, 1590, 1568, 1495, 1453, 1439, 1422, 1358, 1300, 1235, 1156, 1100, 1009, 973, 910, 808 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>2</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 295.1625, found 295.1636.



1-Benzyl-2-(dimethyl(phenyl)silyl)-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine The 4g: general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KOt-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), N-benzyl-7-azaindole 3e (103.9 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH (230  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) at 60 °C for 96 h. C2:C3 > 20:1. The desired product 4g (118.0 mg, 69% yield) was obtained as a yellow oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (3% EtOAc in hexanes).  $R_f = 0.4$  (10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $(500 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3) \delta 8.35 \text{ (dd}, J = 4.7, 1.6 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 7.97 \text{ (dd}, J = 7.8, 1.6 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 7.49 - 100 \text{ Hz}, 100$ 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.41 – 7.38 (m, 1H), 7.37 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.20 – 7.13 (m, 3H), 7.08 (dd, J = 7.8, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 6.77 – 6.68 (m, 2H), 5.46 (s, 2H), 0.42 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 151.3, 144.0, 140.0, 138.8, 136.9, 134.2, 129.7, 128.8, 128.5, 128.1, 127.0, 126.1, 120.4, 115.9, 112.2, 47.6, -2.0. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3050, 3027, 2956, 1589, 1569, 1495, 1439, 1427, 1359, 1309, 1250, 1156, 1107, 1029, 987, 910, 822 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for  $C_{22}H_{23}N_2Si [M+H]^+$ : 343.1625, found 343.1635.



**Benzo**[*b*]**thiophen-2-yltriethylsilane 4h:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), benzo[*b*]thiophene

**3h** (67.0 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 25 °C for 60 h. The desired product **4h** (120.3, 97% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.6 (100% hexanes); this compound is known.<sup>6 1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.91 (m, 1H), 7.87 – 7.81 (m, 1H), 7.49 (m, 1H), 7.41 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 1.07 – 1.03 (m, 9H), 0.96 – 0.85 (m, 6H).



**Benzo**[*b*]thiophen-2-yldimethyl(phenyl)silane 4i: The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), benzo[*b*]thiophene **3h** (67.0 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH (230 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 25 °C for 60 h. The desired product **4i** (116.6 mg, 87% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes).  $R_f = 0.5$  (100% hexanes); this compound is known.<sup>3</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.94 – 7.87 (m, 1H), 7.87 – 7.79 (m, 1H), 7.68 – 7.59 (m, 2H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.46 – 7.39 (m, 3H), 7.38 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 0.69 (s, 6H).



**2-(5-(Triethylsilyl)thiophen-2-yl)pyridine 4j:** The general procedure was followed. *Condition A*: The reaction was performed with KOt-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 2-(thiophen-2-yl)pyridine **3j** (80.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 25 °C for 35 h. The desired product **4j** (129.3 mg, 94% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (5% EtOAc in hexanes). *Condition B*: The reaction was performed with KOt-Bu (19.6 mg, 0.18 mmol, 3.5 mol%), 2-(thiophen-2-yl)pyridine **3j** (0.81 g, 5 mmol, 1 equiv),

<sup>(6)</sup> Lu, B.; Falck, J. R. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2008, 47, 7508

Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (2.43 mL, 15 mmol, 3 equiv), and 3.0 mL of THF at 25 °C for 96 h. The desired product **4j** (1.13 g, 82% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (5% EtOAc in hexanes).  $R_f = 0.3$  (5% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.56 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (dt, J = 3.9, 1.7 Hz, 3H), 7.23 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (q, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 1.01 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 9H), 0.82 (q, J = 7.9 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  152.8, 149.8, 149.6, 139.7, 136.6, 135.6, 125.7, 121.8, 119.0, 7.4, 4.5; IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3054, 3001, 2953, 2909, 2874, 1585, 1563, 1528, 1517, 1464, 1436, 1422, 1377, 1315, 1290, 1238, 1207, 1151, 1077, 1066, 1047, 1007, 990, 962, 807, 774, 737 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (FAB+) calc'd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NSSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 276.1242, found 276.1239.



**2-(5-(Ethyldimethylsilyl)thiophen-2-yl)pyridine 4k:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 2-(thiophen-2-yl)pyridine **3j** (80.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), EtMe<sub>2</sub>SiH (198 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 35 °C for 48 h. The desired product **4k** (107.4 mg, 87% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).  $R_f = 0.4$  (10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.58 (ddd, J = 4.9, 1.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.72 – 7.63 (m, 2H), 7.62 (d, J = 3.5 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (ddd, J = 6.7, 4.9, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 1.05 – 0.96 (m, 3H), 0.78 (qd, J = 7.8, 0.8 Hz, 2H), 0.32 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  152.7, 149.7, 149.6, 141.9, 136.6, 135.0, 125.6, 121.7, 118.9, 8.3, 7.2, -2.5; IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3054, 3001, 2953, 2909, 2874, 1585, 1563, 1528, 1517, 1464, 1436, 1422, 1315, 1290, 1248, 1207, 1151, 1077, 1066, 1047, 1007, 990, 964, 836, 812, 774, 752, 737, 712 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (FAB+) calc'd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NSSi [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>-H<sub>2</sub>]: 248.0929, found 248.0935.



**2-(5-(Dimethyl(phenyl)silyl)thiophen-2-yl)pyridine 41:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 2-(thiophen-2-yl)pyridine **3j** (80.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH (230 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 1.0 mL of THF at 35 °C for 48 h. The desired product **4l** (118.1 mg, 80% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).  $R_f = 0.3$  (10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.60 – 8.54 (m, 1H), 7.72 – 7.56 (m, 5H), 7.43 – 7.33 (m, 3H), 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.14 (m, 1H), 0.63 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  152.4, 150.3, 149.5, 140.6, 137.3, 136.6, 136.0, 133.8, 129.3, 127.8, 125.6, 121.8, 118.9, –1.6; IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3067, 2955, 1586, 1563, 1527, 1463, 1423, 1316, 1290, 1249, 1207, 1151, 1112, 1077, 1005, 989, 963, 807, 773, 731 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (FAB+) calc'd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NSSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 296.0929, found 296.0938.



**Triethyl(5-pentylthiophen-2-yl)silane 4m:** The general procedure was followed. *Condition A*: The reaction was performed with KOt-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 2-pentylthiophene **3m** (77.0 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 25 °C for 48 h. The desired product **4m** (130.0 mg, 96% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes). *Condition B:* The reaction was performed with KOt-Bu (5.6 mg, 0.05 mmol, 1 mol%), 2-pentylthiophene **3m** (770.4 mg, 5.0 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (2.43 mL, 15 mmol, 3 equiv), and 3.0 mL of THF at 25 °C for 96 h. The desired product **4m** (1.23g, 92% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes).  $R_f = 0.6$  (100% hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.12 (dd, J =
3.3, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (dt, J = 3.3, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 2.90 (td, J = 7.7, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 1.81 – 1.71 (m, 2H), 1.48 – 1.36 (m, 4H), 1.06 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 9H), 0.99 – 0.94 (m, 3H), 0.84 (qd, J = 7.8, 1.0 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  151.6, 134.7, 134.1, 125.5, 31.7, 31.6, 30.2, 22.6, 14.1, 7.5, 4.7; IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3054, 2955, 2934, 2874, 1750, 1528, 1456, 1438, 1413, 1378, 1339, 1235, 1213, 1058, 1011, 988, 799, 736 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (FAB+) calc'd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>27</sub>SSi [(M+H)–H<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>: 267.1603, found 267.1609.



**Triethyl(5-pentylfuran-2-yl)silane 4n:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (8.4 mg, 0.075 mmol, 1.5 mol%), 2-pentylfuran **3n** (691 mg, 5.0 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (2.43 mL, 15 mmol, 3 equiv), and 3 mL of THF at 25 °C for 96 h. The desired product **4n** (1.15 g, 91% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes).  $R_f = 0.6$  (100% hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.53 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 5.96 (dt, J = 3.0, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 2.67 – 2.60 (m, 2H), 1.64 (dq, J = 9.4, 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.36 – 1.28 (m, 4H), 1.05 – 0.95 (m, 9H), 0.92 – 0.85 (m, 3H), 0.74 (qd, J = 7.8, 0.8 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.2, 156.2, 121.5, 104.6, 31.6, 28.3, 27.9, 22.6, 14.1, 7.5, 3.6; IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3108, 2954, 2933, 2874, 1807, 1721, 1588, 1493, 1459, 1414, 1378, 1340, 1237, 1186, 1173, 1118, 1084, 1011, 962, 923, 782, 736, 724 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (FAB+) calc'd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>27</sub>OSi [(M+H)–H<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>: 251.1831, found 251.1821.



The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 2-pentylfuran **3n** (69.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv),  $Et_2SiH_2$  (195 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 25 °C for 76 h. The desired product **4o** (87.4 mg, 78% yield) and silicon-tethered product **SI-4o** (12.4 mg, 8% yield) were obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes).

**Diethyl(5-pentylfuran-2-yl)silane 40**: Colorless oil,  $R_f = 0.6$  (100% hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.63 (d, J = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 6.00 (dt, J = 3.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (p, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 2.75 – 2.64 (m, 2H), 1.73 – 1.62 (m, 2H), 1.38 – 1.32 (m, 4H), 1.11 – 1.04 (m, 6H), 0.95 – 0.90 (m, 3H), 0.88 – 0.81 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.8, 153.7, 122.7, 105.0, 31.6, 28.4, 27.9, 22.6, 14.1, 8.1, 3.2; IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2955, 2931, 2873, 2120, 1588, 1493, 1461, 1233, 1082, 1010, 974, 925, 798, 715 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (FAB+) calc'd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>23</sub>OSi [(M+H)–H<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>: 223.1518, found 223.1519.

**Diethylbis(5-pentylfuran-2-yl)silane SI-4o**: Colorless oil,  $R_f = 0.7$  (100% hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.62 (d, J = 3.1 Hz, 2H), 5.98 (dt, J = 3.1, 0.9 Hz, 2H), 2.69 – 2.61 (m, 4H), 1.70 – 1.59 (m, 4H), 1.36 – 1.30 (m, 8H), 1.08 – 1.01 (m, 6H), 1.01 – 0.93 (m, 4H), 0.93 – 0.81 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.5, 153.7, 122.8, 104.8, 31.4, 28.2, 27.7, 22.4, 13.9, 7.2, 4.2; IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2955, 2928, 2873, 2859, 1587, 1493, 1461, 1378, 1233, 1187, 1122, 1010, 961, 925, 783, 726 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI+) calc'd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>36</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si [M<sup>++</sup>]: 360.2485, found 360.2468.



**Tributyl(5-pentylfuran-2-yl)silane 4p:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 2-pentylfuran **3n** (69.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), *n*-Bu<sub>3</sub>SiH (386 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 25 °C for 108 h. The desired product **4p** (137.8 mg, 82% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes).  $R_f = 0.71$  (100% hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.50 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 5.95 (d, J = 3.0, 1H), 2.67 – 2.60 (m, 2H), 1.69 – 1.59 (m, 2H), 1.39 – 1.24 (m, 16H), 0.94 – 0.83 (m, 12H), 0.79 – 0.69 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.0, 156.8, 121.3, 104.7, 31.6, 28.3, 28.0, 26.7, 26.2, 22.6, 14.1, 13.9, 12.3; IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3107, 2956, 2923, 2871, 2857, 2099, 1677, 1588, 1493, 1464, 1410, 1376, 1341, 1296, 1271, 1217, 1187, 1175, 1082, 1050, 1010, 961, 925, 885, 781, 759, 732 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI+) calc'd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>40</sub>OSi [M<sup>++</sup>]: 336.2848, found 336.2859.



**2,5-Bis(triethylsilyl)thiophene 4q:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), thiophene **3q** (42.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 25 °C for 72 h. The desired product **4q** (134.2 mg, 86% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.6 (100% hexanes); this compound is known.<sup>3</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.40 (s, 2H), 1.02 – 0.99 (m, 18H), 0.83 – 0.79 (m, 12H).



**2,5-Bis(triethylsilyl)furan 4r:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), furan **3r** (34.0 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 25 °C for 48 h. The desired product **4r** (106.6 mg, 72% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.7 (100% hexanes); this compound is known.<sup>3</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.66 (s, 2H), 1.09 – 0.95 (m, 18H), 0.86 – 0.70 (m, 12H).



The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 1-benzyl-1*H*-pyrrole **3s** (78.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 25 °C for 108 h. The desired product **4s** (100.3 mg, 74% yield) and bis-silylation product **SI-4s** (9.6 mg, 5%) were obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes).

**1-Benzyl-2-(triethylsilyl)-1***H***-pyrrole 4s:** Colorless oil,  $R_f = 0.3$  (100% hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.40 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.32 – 7.25 (m, 1H), 7.04 – 6.98 (m, 2H), 6.86 (dd, J = 2.4, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.51 (dd, J = 3.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.30 (dd, J = 3.4, 2.4 Hz,

1H), 5.22 (s, 2H), 0.95 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 9H), 0.73 (q, J = 7.8 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  139.2, 129.9, 128.7, 127.5, 126.62, 126.56, 120.9, 108.9, 53.5, 7.6, 4.2; IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3088, 3064, 3029, 2952, 2908, 2873, 1516, 1506, 1495, 1454, 1418, 1353, 1329, 1288, 1237, 1175, 1112, 1080, 1008, 969, 760 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI+) calc'd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NSi [M<sup>\*+</sup>]: 271.1756, found 271.1755.

**1-Benzyl-2,5-bis(triethylsilyl)-1***H***-pyrrole SI-4s:** Colorless oil,  $R_f = 0.4$  (100% hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.29 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.21 – 7.15 (m, 1H), 6.72 (dq, J = 7.1, 1.0 Hz, 2H), 6.52 (s, 2H), 5.28 (s, 2H), 0.85 – 0.82 (m, 18H), 0.63 – 0.52 (m, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  140.4, 135.6, 128.2, 126.9, 125.5, 121.2, 53.3, 7.4, 3.9; IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3027, 2952, 2909, 2874, 1605, 1498, 1485, 1454, 1416, 1377, 1343, 1277, 1237, 1161, 1075, 1002, 912, 775, 764, 731 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI+) calc'd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>39</sub>NSi<sub>2</sub> [M<sup>++</sup>]: 385.2621, found 385.2638.



**1-Methyl-5-(triethylsilyl)-1***H***-pyrazole 4t:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 1-methyl-1*H*-pyrazole **3t** (41.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 25 °C for 120 h. The desired product **4t** (72.6 mg, 74% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (1:1 Et<sub>2</sub>O:hexanes). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.3 (1:1 Et<sub>2</sub>O:hexanes); this compound is known.<sup>7 1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.47 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.37 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 0.96 (m, 9H), 0.83 (m, 6H).



**Dibenzo**[*b,d*]**thiophen-4-yltriethylsilane 4u:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), dibenzothiophene

<sup>(7)</sup> Despotopoulou, C.; Klier, L.; Knochel, P Org. Lett. 2009, 11, 3326

**3u** (92 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and 3 mL of dioxane at 85 °C for 72 h. The desired product **4u** (55.4 mg, 38% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes).  $R_f = 0.7$  (100% hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.17 (m, 2H), 7.86 (m, 1H), 7.58 (m, 1H), 7.45 (m, 3H), 1.10 – 0.93 (m, 15H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  145.6, 139.3, 135.4, 134.7, 133.7, 131.5, 126.5, 124.2, 123.7, 122.4, 122.2, 121.4, 7.4, 3.2. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3060, 2953, 2908, 2873, 1450, 1440, 1415, 1366, 1283, 1250, 1238, 1098, 1080, 1042, 1019, 1003, 972, 812, 749, 733 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI+) calc'd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>22</sub>SSi [M<sup>\*+</sup>]: 298.1212, found 298.1214.



The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), dibenzo[*b*,*d*]furan **3v** (84.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 65 °C for 65 h. Desired product **4v** (100.2 mg, 71% yield) and bis-silylated product **SI-4v** (6.9 mg, 4% yield) were obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes).

**Dibenzo**[*b,d*]**furan-4-yltriethylsilane 4v:** Colourless oil,  $R_f = 0.6$  (100% hexanes); This compound is known.<sup>8</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.01 – 7.94 (m, 2H), 7.61 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.46 (td, *J* = 7.7, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (td, *J* = 7.6, 4.4 Hz, 2H), 1.02 (m, 15H).

**4,6-Bis(triethylsilyl)dibenzo[b,d]furan SI-4v:** White solid,  $R_f = 0.7$  (100% hexanes); This compound is known.<sup>5</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.99 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (dd, J = 7.1, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.12 – 0.96 (m, 30H).



Triethyl(6-methoxydibenzo[*b,d*]furan-4-yl)silane 4w: The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 4-

<sup>(8)</sup> Fedorov, A.; Toutov, A. A.; Swisher, N. A.; Grubbs, R. H. Chem. Sci. 2013, 4, 1640.

methoxydibenzo[*b*,*d*]furan **3w** (99.0 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 65 °C for 65 h. The desired product **4w** (99.9 mg, 64% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes).  $R_f = 0.3$  (100% hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.94 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (ddd, *J* = 15.4, 7.4, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.37 – 7.30 (m, 1H), 7.24 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (s, 3H), 1.08 – 0.95 (m, 15H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.1, 145.7, 145.3, 133.4, 126.1, 123.0, 122.8, 122.3, 121.5, 120.4, 112.9, 111.0, 56.9, 7.4, 3.5; IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3052, 2952, 2925, 2873, 2852, 2361, 1627, 1596, 1576, 1497, 1483, 1456, 1432, 1387, 1322, 1308, 1270, 1220, 1180, 1168, 1147, 1125, 1038, 1006, 854, 836, 767, 752, 729 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI+) calc'd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si [M<sup>++</sup>]: 312.1546, found 312.1555.

#### 2. Multi-gram scale syntheses of 2a, 4h and 4n.

#### 2.1. Procedure for the multi-gram scale synthesis of 2a.



A 500 mL oven-dried Schlenk flask equipped with a stir bar and stoppered with a rubber septum was evacuated and refilled once with argon. KO*t*-Bu (18.8 grams, 167.9 mmols, 20 mol%) was weighed out on the bench and added to the flask under a strong flow of argon. The charged flask was then evacuated and refilled with argon. 1-Methylindole (95% purity, AKSci, undistilled, yellow oil; 95.1 mL, 762.4 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (182.6 mL, 1142 mmol, 1.5 equiv), which were previously degassed, were added through the septum by syringe. The mixture was then cooled to -78 °C (dry ice/acetone) and evacuated/backfilled with argon for three cycles. The cooling bath was removed and the flask was then transferred to a heating mantle set at 45 °C and stirred for 72 hours. The flask with the resultant deep red-purple solution was removed from heating and allowed to cool to room temperature, diluted with anhydrous Et<sub>2</sub>O (50 mL) and filtered to remove solid residue. After the solvent was removed *in vacuo*, a stirbar was added and the transparent deep amber solution was stirred under high vacuum (100 millitorr) for several

hours to remove remaining volatiles. The mixture was then subjected to distillation under vacuum. A thermometer installed at the distillation head measured the temperature of the vapor being distilled.

- a) Heating bath to 120 °C, vacuum stabilizes at 300 millitorr as the solution boils. Forerun comes off as pale yellow oil. Thermometer reads 65–80 °C.
- b) Vacuum stabilizes at 180 millirtorr. Boiling continues vigorously.
- c) As dripping rate in the forerun decreases (ca. one drop every three seconds), increase temperature. Remaining 1-methylindole comes over at 140 °C bath temp and 100 millitorr as a pale yellow oil. Thermometer reads 80–85 °C.
- d) Increase temperature to 160 °C, vacuum at 100 millitorr to distil over the desired
  2-triethylsilyl-1-methylindole (pale yellow oil). Thermometer reads 110–120 °C.

The desired product 2a is obtained as a pale yellow oil (141.88 g, 76% yield).

#### 2.2. Procedure for the multi-gram scale synthesis of 4h.



In a nitrogen-filled glove box, KO*t*-Bu (1.7 g, 15 mmol, 20 mol%), benzo[*b*]thiophene **3h** (10.1 g, 75 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (23.3 mL, 146 mmol, 2 equiv), and 75 mL of THF were added to a 250 mL media jar equipped with a magnetic stir bar and sealed with a polypropylene cap. The reaction mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 60 h. The jar was then removed from the glovebox, opened carefully (*caution: gas released!*), and diluted with anhydrous Et<sub>2</sub>O (30 mL). The reaction was filtered, the solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the residual volatiles were removed under high vacuum (30 millitorr, 23 °C). The desired product **4h** (17.3 g, 93% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes).

#### 2.3. Procedure for the multi-gram scale synthesis of 4n.



Followed the same procedure as for the multi-gram scale synthesis of **4h**: The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (1.6 g, 14.6 mmol, 20 mol%), 2-pentylfuran **3n** (10.1 g, 73 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (23.3 mL, 146 mmol, 2 equiv), and 73 mL of THF at 25 °C for 72 h. The desired product **4n** (17.4 g, 95% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after filtration, removal of volatiles under high vacuum (30 millitorr, 23 °C) and purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes).

#### 3. One-pot Si-directed ipso-substitution/Suzuki-Miyaura cross-coupling.



Followed a modified known procedure: <sup>9</sup> A solution of BCl<sub>3</sub> (1.0 M, 0.48 mL, 0.48 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> was added by syringe under N<sub>2</sub> to a stirred solution of indolesilane **2a** (98.2 mg, 0.4 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (4 mL) at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3 h, after which time the solvent was removed *in vacuo*. After the residue was dried under high vacuum for 20 min, 4-iodoanisole (94.0 mg, 0.4 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (23.2 mg, 5 mol%), DME (4 mL, degassed) and 2M Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> aqueous solution (1 mL, degassed) were added and the mixture was stirred under reflux for 5 h. Then the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and water (20 mL) was added. The mixture was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 x 30 mL), the combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The desired 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-methyl-1*H*-indole **5** (71.9 mg, 76% yield) was obtained as a white solid after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (gradient elution,  $10 \rightarrow 33\%$  CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes). This compound is known.<sup>10</sup> R<sub>J</sub> = 0.4 (10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.63 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.49 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (dt, *J* = 8.2,

<sup>(9)</sup> Zhao, Z.; Snieckus, V. Org. Lett. 2005, 7, 2523.

<sup>(10)</sup> Denmark, S. E.; Baird, J. D. Org. Lett. 2004, 6, 3649.

1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (dt, *J* = 7.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.05 – 6.96 (m, 2H), 6.51 (br s, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H).

4. Synthesis of a heteroarylsilanol and application in Denmark–Hiyama crosscoupling.



**Diethyl(1-methyl-1***H***-indol-2-yl)silanol 6:** Followed a modified known procedure.<sup>11</sup> Compound **20** (44.5 mg, 0.2 mmol) and  $[RuCl_2(p-cymene)]_2$  (6.3 mg, 0.01 mmol) were added to a 5 mL flask equipped with a stirring bar. The flask was sealed with a septum and placed under high vacuum for 5 min before being connected with an O<sub>2</sub> balloon and back-filled with  $O_2$ , then acetonitrile (1 mL) and  $H_2O$  (7.4  $\mu$ L, 0.4 mmol) were added by syringe through the septum. The reaction mixture was stirred for 12 h at room temperature. The solvent was evaporated and the product 6 (36.0 mg, 77% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (gradient elution,  $10 \rightarrow 20\%$  EtOAc in hexanes).  $R_f = 0.2$  (10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.66 (dt, J = 7.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (dd, J = 8.3, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (ddd, J = 8.3, 6.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (ddd, J = 7.9, 6.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d, J = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 2.12 (br s, 1H), 1.12 - 1.05 (m, 6H), 1.02 - 0.95 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) § 140.4, 138.1, 128.4, 122.6, 121.1, 119.4, 112.7, 109.4, 33.1, 7.1, 6.7. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3315, 2956, 2876, 1493, 1463, 1413, 1357, 1328, 1300, 1234, 1166, 1102, 1075, 1007, 960, 897, 839, 798, 751, 732 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NOSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 234.1309, found 234.1305.



**2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-1-methyl-1***H***-indole 5:** Followed a modified known procedure.<sup>10</sup> In a nitrogen-filled glovebox, a 2 dram vial equipped with a stir bar was charged with

<sup>(8)</sup> Lee, M.; Ko, S.; Chang, S. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2000, 122, 12011.

NaOt-Bu (26.8 mg, 0.28 mmol) and CuI (26.6 mg, 0.14 mmol), 4-iodoanisole (33.0 mg, 0.14 mmol), Pd(dba)<sub>2</sub> (8.2 mg, 0.014 mmol, 10 mol%) and 0.2 mL of toluene. The mixture was sealed with a cap and stirred for 10 min. Then this mixture was transferred by syringe to another 2 dram vial containing silanol **6** (33.1 mg, 0.14 mmol). The vial was washed with toluene (2 x 0.4 mL) and that rinse was added to the reaction mixture. After the reaction was stirred at 30 °C for 4 h, the starting material was completely converted (monitored by TLC). The desired product **5** (28.1 mg, 84% yield) was obtained as a white solid after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (gradient elution,  $10 \rightarrow 50\%$  CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).

### 5. Direct C7 lithiation-borylation by a Si-blocking group strategy.



**Triethyl(7-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)benzo[b]thiophen-2-yl)silane 7:** Followed a modified known procedure.<sup>12</sup> To a flame-dried, round bottom flask charged with a stir bar, capped with a septum and under a steady stream of argon was added benzo[*b*]thiophen-2-yltriethylsilane **4h** (992 mg, 4.0 mmol, 1 equiv), pentane (5.0 mL) and TMEDA (0.703g, 0.907 mL, 1.5 equiv) at 23 °C. *n*-Butyllithium (1.6 M in hexanes, 3.78 mL, 1.5 equiv) was added dropwise such that the internal temperature remained between 22 and 25 °C (*a thermocouple was inserted through the septum directly into the solution for internal monitoring of the temperature*). The resultant dark brown solution was allowed to stir at 22 °C for 20 h. The solution was then cooled to -78 °C (dry ice/acetone) and *i*-PrOBPin (1.52 g, 1.64 mL, 8.06 mmol, 2.0 equiv) was added as a 1 M solution in THF (8.06 mL) dropwise such that the temperature was kept below – 75 °C (*careful temperature control is crucial for reproducibility*). The resulting solution was allowed to stir for 1 h at -78 °C after which time the cooling bath was removed. The solution was allowed to naturally warm to 23 °C and stirred at that temperature for an additional hour. The resulting turbid yellow reaction mixture was carefully quenched

<sup>(9)</sup> Hansen, M.; Clayton, M.; Godfrey, A.; Grutsch, Jr. J.; Keast, S.; Kohlman, D.; McSpadden, A.; Pedersen, S.; Ward, J.; Xu, Y.-C. *Synlett*, **2004**, *8*, 1351

with NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (5 mL). The mixture was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 x 10 mL), the combined organic fractions were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and the solvent was evaporated to give a viscous brown liquid. The desired product 7 (926 mg, 64% yield) was obtained as a colorless solid after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (gradient elution  $0\rightarrow$ 3% EtOAc in hexanes). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.2 (100% hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.91 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (dd, J = 7.0, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 7.35 (dd, J = 7.9, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 1.42 (s, 12H), 1.10 – 1.00 (m, 9H), 0.89 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  149.7, 140.8, 139.8, 132.0, 131.4, 126.4, 123.4, 84.3, 25.1, 7.6, 4.4. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2955, 2937, 1375, 1367, 1359, 1134, 1059, 854, 735 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI+) calc'd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>31</sub>BSSiO<sub>2</sub> [M<sup>++</sup>]: 374.1907, found 374.1907.



**2-(Benzo[***b***]thiophen-7-yl)-4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane 8:** Followed a modified known procedure.<sup>9</sup> To a vial charged with a magnetic stirbar and triethyl(7-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)benzo[b]thiophen-2-yl)silane 7 (300 mg, 0.80 mmol) was added CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.3 mL) and trifluoroacetic acid (306  $\mu$ L, 4.0 mmol, 5.0 equiv) at room temperature. The reaction was allowed to stir for 3 hours, after which time the mixture was quenched with water (0.5 mL), extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 x 5 mL) and the combined organic fractions were washed with brine (5 mL). The solvents were removed to give **8** (203.8 mg, 98%) as a white solid without further purification. R<sub>f</sub> = 0.4 (3% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.92 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (dd, *J* = 7.1, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 1.41 (s, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  145.8, 139.4, 132.0, 127.5, 126.7, 123.7, 123.4, 84.4, 25.1. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2977, 1564, 1504, 1461, 1372, 1330, 1300, 1267, 1199, 1165, 1135, 1097, 1038, 969, 851, 829, 801, 714, 672 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI+) cale'd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>17</sub>BSO<sub>2</sub> [M<sup>++</sup>]: 260.1042, found 260.1039.

## 6. Synthesis of a sila-heterocycle by inter-/intramolecular double C-H silylation.



**9,9-Diethyl-9***H***-benzo[d]pyrrolo[1,2-***a***][1,3]azasilole <b>9**: The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 1-phenyl-1*H*-pyrrole (72.0 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub> (97 µL, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 35 °C for 72 h and then at 65 °C for 72 h. The desired product **9** (48.8 mg, 43% yield) was obtained as colorless needles after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes).  $R_f = 0.6$  (100% hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.51 (ddd, J = 7.1, 1.4, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.46 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.31 (dt, J = 7.9, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (td, J = 7.2, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.52 (dd, J = 3.3, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.41 (dd, J = 3.3, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 1.05 – 0.96 (m, 6H), 0.96 – 0.79 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  148.0, 134.1, 130.8, 129.4, 128.5, 123.9, 117.5, 117.1, 113.3, 111.6, 7.5, 4.4; IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2958, 2921, 2873, 2849, 1658, 1598, 1462, 1471, 1451, 1377, 1332, 1260, 1086, 1017, 799, 755, 717 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (FAB+) calc'd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 228.1208, found 228.1206.

#### 7. C-H silylation of terthiophene and EDOT.



The general procedure was followed. *For condition A*: The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 2,2':5',2"-terthiophene (124 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 25 °C for 40 h. Products **10** (204.7 mg, 86% yield) and **SI-10** (23.5 mg, 13% yield) were obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes). *For condition B:* The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 2,2':5',2"-terthiophene (124 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5

mL of THF at 45 °C for 65 h. Product **10** (228.6 mg, 96% yield) was obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes); **SI-10** was observed as a trace product by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and GC-MS, but was not isolated.

**5,5''-Bis(triethylsilyl)-2,2':5',2''-terthiophene 10:** Yellow oil,  $R_f = 0.5$  (100% hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.25 (d, J = 3.5 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d, J = 3.5 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (s, 2H), 1.03 (m, 18H), 0.82 (m, 12H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  142.4, 136.7, 136.5, 135.7, 124.9, 124.5, 7.2, 4.4; IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3057, 2953, 2934, 2908, 2874, 1750, 1455, 1428, 1417, 1377, 1303, 1236, 1212, 1198, 1068, 988, 1009, 911, 892, 792, 736, 723 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI+) calc'd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>36</sub>S<sub>3</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> [M<sup>\*+</sup>]: 476.1518, found 476.1534

[2,2':5',2''-Terthiophen]-5-yltriethylsilane SI-10: Yellow oil,  $R_f = 0.4$  (100% hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.24 (d, J = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (dd, J = 5.1, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (dd, J = 3.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (dd, J = 3.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (q, J = 3.7 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (dd, J = 5.1, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 1.07 – 0.98 (m, 9H), 0.82 (qd, J = 7.8, 0.9 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  142.3, 137.5, 136.8, 136.6, 136.4, 135.6, 128.0, 125.0, 124.6, 124.5, 124.5, 123.8, 7.5, 4.6; IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3068, 2953, 2873, 1458, 1425, 1377, 1235, 1195, 1069, 1011, 989, 913, 865, 836, 793, 737 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (FAB+) calc'd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>23</sub>S<sub>3</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 363.0731, found 363.0742.



(2,3-Dihydrothieno[3,4-b][1,4]dioxin-5-yl)triethylsilane 11: The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), EDOT (2,3-dihydrothieno[3,4-b][1,4]dioxine, 71.1 mg, 0.5 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (240 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 45 °C for 72 h. The desired product 11 (79.3 mg, 62% yield) was obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (gradient elution,  $0 \rightarrow 5\%$  EtOAc in hexanes) as a cloudy yellow oil.  $R_f = 0.3$  (100% hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.56 (s, 2H), 4.17 (s, 4H), 0.98 (td, J = 7.8, 0.8 Hz, 9H), 0.84 – 0.74 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  147.5, 142.5, 108.7, 105.0, 64.5, 64.5, 7.4, 3.9; IR (Neat Film NaCl) 2952, 2873, 1468, 1440, 1422, 1361, 1244, 1181, 1151, 1072,

1042, 1009, 899, 721 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI+) calc'd for  $C_{12}H_{21}O_2SSi [M+H]^+$ : 257.1032, found 257.1064.

### 8. Late stage silylation of active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs).



**1-Methyl-***N*-**phenyl-***N*-**((5-(triethylsilyl)thiophen-2-yl)methyl)piperidin-4-amine 12**: The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (2.2 mg, 0.02 mmol, 20 mol%), thenalidine (28.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (48 μL, 0.3 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.1 mL of THF at 45 °C for 72 h. The desired product **12** (24.9 mg, 62% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (hexanes:EtOAc:Et<sub>3</sub>N = 100:100:1). R<sub>*f*</sub> = 0.2 (hexanes:EtOAc:Et<sub>3</sub>N = 20:20:1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.24 – 7.17 (m, 2H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (dt, *J* = 7.8, 1.0 Hz, 2H), 6.72 (tt, *J* = 7.2, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 4.62 (s, 2H), 3.70 (tt, *J* = 11.6, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 2.96 – 2.92 (m, 2H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 2.07 (td, *J* = 11.9, 2.5 Hz, 2H), 1.93 – 1.85 (m, 2H), 1.85 – 1.73 (m, 2H), 0.97 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 9H), 0.76 (q, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 151.0, 149.0, 135.2, 134.7, 129.3, 125.3, 117.3, 113.8, 55.8, 55.6, 46.4, 46.0, 29.6, 7.5, 4.6. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2951, 2873, 2780, 2734, 1597, 1574, 1503, 1459, 1377, 1352, 1278, 1237, 1207, 1131, 1068, 1008, 987, 850, 802, 745 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>37</sub>N<sub>2</sub>SSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 401.2441, found 401.2460.



**5-(2-Chlorobenzyl)-2-(triethylsilyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrothieno[3,2-***c*]**pyridine 13a:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), ticlopidine (132.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 45 °C for 48 h. The desired product **13a** (107.7 mg, 57% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography

(gradient elution,  $5 \rightarrow 10\%$  Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.4 (10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.56 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (td, J = 7.4, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (td, J = 7.6, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 3.84 (s, 2H), 3.67 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 2H), 2.94 (t, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 2.87 (t, J = 5.4 Hz, 2H), 1.02 – 0.98 (m, 9H), 0.80 – 0.74 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  139.2, 136.5, 135.6, 134.4, 134.0, 133.2, 130.8, 129.6, 128.3, 126.8, 58.7, 53.3, 51.0, 26.1, 7.5, 4.6. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2952, 2908, 2873, 2805, 2763, 1462, 1443, 1413, 1375, 1360, 1347, 1303, 1289, 1234, 1169, 1125, 1106, 1047, 1032, 1018, 991, 907, 835, 752 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>29</sub>CINSSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 378.1473, found 378.1480.



The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KOt-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), ticlopidine (134.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv),  $Et_2SiH_2$  (194 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 45 °C for 108 h. Products **13b** (97.9 mg, 56% yield) and **SI-13b** (27.3 mg, 18% yield) were obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (gradient elution, 5 $\rightarrow$ 50% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

**5-(2-Chlorobenzyl)-2-(diethylsilyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrothieno**[**3**,2-*c*]**pyridine 13b:** Colorless oil,  $R_f = 0.4$  (10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.56 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (td, *J* = 7.4, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 4.30 (p, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 2H), 3.67 (t, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 2H), 2.96 – 2.94 (m, 2H), 2.88 – 2.85 (m, 2H), 1.05 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 6H), 0.83 (qd, , *J* = 7.5, 3.3 Hz, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  140.0, 136.4, 135.9, 134.4, 134.2, 131.3, 130.8, 129.6, 128.3, 126.8, 58.6, 53.2, 50.9, 26.1, 8.1, 4.5. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2953, 2909, 2872, 2805, 2112, 1456, 1447, 1361, 1348, 1303, 1290, 1231, 1169, 1125, 1106, 1048, 1033, 1009, 992, 907, 810, 752 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>25</sub>CINSSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 350.1160, found 350.1155.

Bis(5-(2-chlorobenzyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrothieno[3,2-*c*]pyridin-2-yl)diethylsilane SI-13b: Colorless oil,  $R_f = 0.3$  (50% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.55 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.8 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 7.25 (td, J = 7.4, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (td, J = 7.6, 1.9 Hz, 2H), 6.92 (s, 2H), 3.83 (s, 4H), 3.65 (t, J = 3.3 Hz, 4H), 2.94 (t, J = 5.4 Hz, 4H), 2.86 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 4H), 1.09 – 0.95 (m, 10H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  140.2, 136.4, 135.8, 134.53, 134.45, 132.4, 130.9, 129.6, 128.3, 126.8, 58.7, 53.2, 50.9, 26.1, 7.5, 6.5. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3059, 2953, 2913, 2868, 2806, 1471, 1453, 1446, 1361, 1289, 1125, 1105, 1033, 989, 907, 839, 805, 753 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>37</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 611.1539, found 611.1523.



**5-(2-Chlorobenzyl)-2-(dimethyl(phenyl)silyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrothieno[3,2-c]pyridine 13c:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), ticlopidine (134.5 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), PhMe<sub>2</sub>SiH (230 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 45 °C for 108 h. Product **13c** (135.4 mg, 68% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (3% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).  $R_f = 0.3$  (10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.58 – 7.52 (m, 3H), 7.39 – 7.34 (m, 4H), 7.25 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 3.82 (s, 2H), 3.64 (t, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 2H), 2.95 – 2.92 (m, 2H), 2.88 – 2.84 (m, 2H), 0.56 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  140.1, 138.2, 136.4, 135.9, 135.2, 134.4, 134.1, 133.9, 130.8, 129.6, 129.4, 128.3, 128.0, 126.8, 58.6, 53.2, 50.9, 26.1, -1.1. IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3067, 2953, 2918, 2806, 2764, 1652, 1471, 1446, 1427, 1361, 1248, 1169, 1109, 1033, 990, 907, 832, 810, 777, 753 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (MM: ESI-APCI+) calc'd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>25</sub>CINSSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 398.1160, found 398.1152.



**5-(Pyridin-2-ylmethyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrothieno[3,2-c]pyridine SM-14:** Followed a modified known procedure.<sup>13</sup> To a flame-dried 50 mL Schlenk flask was added 4,5,6,7-

<sup>(13)</sup> Pan, X.; Huang, R.; Zhang, J.; Ding, L.; Li, W.; Zhang, Q.; Liu, F. Tetrahedron Lett 2012, 53, 5364.

tetrahydrothieno[3,2-c]pyridine HCl salt (1.0 g, 5.7 mmol), 2-(bromomethyl)pyridine HBr salt (2.18 g, 8.6 mmol, 1.5 equiv), Bu<sub>4</sub>NHSO<sub>4</sub> (0.20 g, 0.6 mmol, 10 mol%), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (3.94 g, 28.5 mmol, 5 equiv), and 10 mL of acetonitrile. The flask was purged with argon and the reaction was stirred at 70 °C for 18 h. The desired product **SM-14** (346.5 mg, 26% yield) was obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (gradient elution, 50 $\rightarrow$ 100% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) as a yellow oil. R<sub>f</sub> = 0.1 (50% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.58 (ddd, J = 4.9, 1.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (td, J = 7.6, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (dt, J = 7.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (ddd, J = 7.5, 4.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (dt, J = 5.1, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 2H), 3.64 (t, J = 1.7 Hz, 2H), 2.96 – 2.83 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  158.79, 149.20, 136.52, 133.78, 133.36, 125.22, 123.13, 122.63, 122.13, 63.82, 53.22, 50.89, 25.50; IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3403, 3062, 2918, 2813, 1648, 1588, 1569, 1473, 1431, 1356, 1320, 1236, 1167, 1109, 1053, 1015, 993, 905, 840, 809, 761 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI+) calc'd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>13</sub>SN<sub>2</sub> [(M+H)-H<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>: 229.0799, found 229.0806.



**5-(Pyridin-2-ylmethyl)-2-(triethylsilyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrothieno[3,2-c]pyridine** 14: The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (4.5 mg, 0.04 mmol, 20 mol%), 5-(pyridin-2-ylmethyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrothieno[3,2-c]pyridine **SM-14** (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (96 μL, 0.6 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.2 mL of THF at 45 °C for 72 h. The desired product **14** (49.1 mg, 71% yield) was obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (gradient elution, 75→100% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) as a colourless oil. R<sub>*f*</sub> = 0.5 (75% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.56 (ddd, *J* = 4.9, 1.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (td, *J* = 7.7, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (dt, *J* = 7.8, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (ddd, *J* = 7.5, 4.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (s, 1H), 3.87 (s, 2H), 3.64 (t, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 2H), 2.94 (tt, *J* = 5.3, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 2.86 (dd, *J* = 5.9, 5.0 Hz, 2H), 0.97 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 9H), 0.74 (qd, *J* = 7.7, 0.8 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 158.9, 149.1, 138.9, 136.5, 135.3, 133.8, 133.0, 123.1, 122.1, 63.9, 53.2, 50.9, 25.8, 7.4, 4.4; IR (Neat

Film, NaCl) 3048, 2951, 2873, 2806, 1588, 1569, 1448, 1430, 1361, 1289, 1235, 1169, 1114, 1031, 1005, 992, 908, 835, 757, 735, 718 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI+) calc'd for  $C_{19}H_{29}N_2SSi [M+H]^+$ : 345.1821, found 345.1835.

### 9. Oxygen-directed C(sp<sup>2</sup>)–H silylation of anisole derivatives.



**Triethyl(2-methoxyphenyl)silane 17a**: The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KOt-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), anisole (54.0 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) without any added solvent at 85 °C for 72 h. *ortho:*(*meta* + *para*) > 20:1. The GC yield of desired product **17a** is 65%. The analytically pure product (47.7 mg, 43% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after evaporation of starting material and volatiles under vacuum (60 millitorr, 23 °C). *Note: compound* **17a** *is volatile and can be removed under vacuum*. This compound is known.<sup>14</sup>  $R_f = 0.3 (10\% Et_2O in hexanes)$ . <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.41 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 6.97 (m, 1H), 6.87 – 6.81 (m, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 1.05 – 0.90 (m, 9H), 0.91 – 0.77 (m, 6H).



**Triethyl(2-phenoxyphenyl)silane 17b:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), oxydibenzene (85.0 mg, 0.5 mmol), and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (240  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) without solvent at 85 °C for 120 h. The desired product **17b** (84.5 mg, 55% yield) was obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes) as a colorless oil. R<sub>f</sub> = 0.4 (100% hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.52 – 7.46 (m, 1H), 7.38 – 7.25 (m, 3H), 7.10 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.81 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 0.97 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 9H), 0.85 (q, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 6H). This compound is known.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>(14)</sup> Yamanoi, Y.; Nishihara, H. J. Org. Chem. 2008, 73, 6671.



The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 1,4-dimethoxybenzene (69.1 mg, 0.5 mmol), and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (240  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), in 0.5 mL of THF at 65 °C for 72 h. The desired product **17c** (53.1 mg, 42% yield) and bis-silylated byproduct **SI-17c** (16.1 mg, 8% yield) were obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes).

(2,5-Dimethoxyphenyl)triethylsilane 17c: Colorless oil,  $R_f = 0.5$  (100% hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.93 (d, J = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (dd, J = 8.8, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 0.99 – 0.91 (m, 9H), 0.85 – 0.74 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  158.8, 153.3, 126.7, 122.2, 122.3, 114.1, 55.7, 55.5, 7.6, 3.7; IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2952, 2873, 1580, 1478, 1463, 1398, 1272, 1220, 1177, 1050, 1026, 872, 800, 769, 732 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI+) calc'd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si [M<sup>++</sup>]: 252.1546, found 252.1540.

(2,5-Dimethoxy-1,4-phenylene)bis(triethylsilane) SI-17c: White solid,  $R_f = 0.8$  (100% hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.81 (s, 2H), 3.75 (s, 6H), 0.95 (td, J = 7.9, 0.9 Hz, 9H), 0.85 – 0.77 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  158.5, 127.1, 116.9, 55.6, 7.7, 3.8; IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2948, 2870, 1459, 1418, 1345, 1262, 1203, 1107, 1045, 999, 868, 727, 700 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI+) calc'd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>38</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M<sup>++</sup>]: 366.2410, found 366.2415.



**Triethyl(2-methoxy-5-methylphenyl)silane 20:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 1-methoxy-4-methylbenzene **19** (61.0 mg, 0.5 mmol), and Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (240  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) at 85 °C for 120 h. The desired product **20** (38.5 mg, 32% yield) was obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes) as a colorless oil. R<sub>f</sub> = 0.4 (100% hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.17 – 7.08 (m, 2H), 6.74 (dt, *J* = 8.7, 1.3 Hz,

1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 0.97 – 0.92 (m, 9H), 0.85 – 0.79 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  162.7, 136.7, 130.9, 129.2, 125.0, 109.5, 55.2, 20.8, 7.8, 3.7; IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 2951, 2873, 1595, 1480, 1464, 1385, 1238, 1175, 1147, 1081, 1034, 1004, 876, 806, 708 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI+) calc'd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>24</sub>OSi [M<sup>+•</sup>]: 236.1596, found 236.1598.

**10.** Direct C(sp<sup>3</sup>)–H silylation reactions.



**Benzyltriethylsilane 18a**: The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), toluene (46 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (243 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) and DME (0.5 mL) at 65 °C for 108 h.  $C(sp^3):C(sp^2) = 18:1$ . The GC yield of desired product **18a** is 53%. The analytically pure product (25.0 mg, 24% yield) was obtained as a colorless oil after evaporation of starting material and volatiles under vacuum (60 millitorr, 23 °C). *Note: compound 18a is volatile and readily removed under vacuum*. This compound is known.<sup>15</sup> R<sub>f</sub> = 0.8 (100% hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.22 (m, 2H), 7.09 – 7.05 (m, 1H), 7.05 – 7.02 (m, 2H), 2.12 (s, 2H), 0.96 – 0.91 (t, 9H), 0.53 (q, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 6H).



**Triethyl((4'-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl)silane 18b:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 23 mol%), 4,4'-dimethyl-1,1'-biphenyl (80.0 mg, 0.44 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (240  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 3.4 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 85 °C for 96 h. The ratio of mono-silylation product to bis-silylation product is 16:1. A mixture of desired product **18b** and starting material 4,4'-dimethyl-1,1'-biphenyl (*69.7 mg of mixture, contains 56.6 mg of 18b, 43% yield, calculated based* 

<sup>(15)</sup> Huckins, J. R.; Rychnovsky, S. D. J. Org. Chem. 2003, 68, 10135.

on <sup>1</sup>*H NMR*) was obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes). A small fraction of analytically pure compound **18b** was obtained as a colorless oil after subsequent purification by silica gel flash chromatography.  $R_f = 0.5$  (100% hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.50 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.46 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.11 – 7.04 (m, 2H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 2H), 0.95 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 9H), 0.54 (q, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  139.7, 138.5, 136.7, 136.5, 129.6, 128.6, 126.8, 126.7, 21.4, 21.2, 7.5, 3.1; IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3022, 2951, 2909, 2873, 1610, 1497, 1455, 1416, 1238, 1209, 1153, 1005, 845, 806, 773, 729 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI+) calc'd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>28</sub>Si [M<sup>++</sup>]: 296.1960, found 296.1954.



**2-Methyl-6-((triethylsilyl)methyl)pyridine 18c:** The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 2,6-lutidine (53.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (240 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.5 mL of THF at 65 °C for 120 h. The desired product **18c** (58.6 mg, 53% yield) was obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (gradient elution, 5% $\rightarrow$ 10% EtOAc in hexanes) as a colorless oil. *Note: compound* **18c** *is volatile and is readily removed under vacuum*. R<sub>f</sub> = 0.3 (5% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.36 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.90 – 6.73 (m, 2H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 2H), 0.98 – 0.83 (m, 9H), 0.58 – 0.48 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  160.8, 157.4, 135.9, 119.0, 118.4, 25.4, 24.5, 7.2, 3.3; IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3060, 2951, 2874, 1587, 1575, 1450, 1414, 1372, 1269, 1238, 1145, 1078, 1016, 919, 796, 748, 726 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI+) calc'd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 222.1678, found 222.1666.



Triethyl(phenoxy(phenyl)methyl)silane 22: The general procedure was followed. The reaction was performed with KO*t*-Bu (11.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%),

(benzyloxy)benzene **21** (92.0 mg, 0.5 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (240 µL, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), and 0.25 mL of THF at 65 °C for 120 h. The desired product **22** (68.4 mg, 46% yield) was obtained after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes) as a colorless oil.  $R_f = 0.3$  (100% hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.46 – 7.37 (m, 4H), 7.38 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 7.30 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 5.80 (s, 1H), 0.92 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 9H), 0.66 – 0.55 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  145.3, 128.1, 128.1, 126.9, 126.9, 126.4, 126.3, 6.7, 4.9; IR (Neat Film, NaCl) 3063, 3026, 2954, 2875, 1598, 1492, 1454, 1413, 1302, 1239, 1188, 1090, 1065, 1006, 974, 833, 740, 700 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI+) calc'd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>25</sub>OSi [(M+H)-H<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>: 297.1675, found 297.1668.



#### Part IV.GC-FID spectra of the robustness screen.

























# 3 <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectra of New Compounds





SI-72

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound **2a**.










































































































BnO
































































 $^1\mathrm{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $C_6\mathrm{D}_6)$  of compound 2t.











 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound **2u**.

















































 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4c.





 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4d.













<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4f.






















<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4k.





<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4l.

















 $^{13}$  C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4n.





































<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound SI-4s.











 $^{1}\mathrm{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4w.





<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4w.









 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 6.











<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 8.

, ∕\_\_\_\_\_(⊥













 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 10.



Et<sub>3</sub>si /





<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound SI-10.



<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound SI-10.




































<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound SI-13b.







91



Z





Z





<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 14.



<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 14.



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound **17c**.



 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 17c.







<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound SI-17c.



<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound **SI-17c**.











<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound **18c**.





 $^1\mathrm{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound **20**.









<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound **22**.



