# 1-Boraadamantane: Reactivity Towards Di(1-alkynyl)silicon and -tin Compounds: First Access to 7-Metalla-2,5-diboranorbornane Derivatives

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Abstract: 1-Boraadamantane (1) reacts with di(1-alkynyl)silicon and -tin compounds 2 (Me<sub>2</sub>M(C $\equiv$ CR)<sub>2</sub>: M = Si; R = Me (a), tBu (b), SiMe<sub>3</sub> (c); M = Sn, R =  $\text{SiMe}_3$  (e)) in a 1:1 ratio by intermolecular 1,1-alkylboration, followed by intramolecular 1,1-vinylboration, to give siloles  $5a-c$  and the stannole  $5e$ , respectively, in which the tricyclic 1-boraadamantane system is enlarged by two carbon atoms. Owing to the high reactivity of 1, a second fast intermolecular 1,1-alkylboration competes with the intramolecular 1,1-vinylboration as the second major step in the reaction if the

substituent R at the  $C\equiv C$  bond is small (2a) and/or if the M-C $\equiv$  bond is also highly reactive, as in 2d ( $M = Sn$ , R = Me) and 2e ( $M = Sn$ ,  $R = SiMe<sub>3</sub>$ ). This leads finally to the novel octacyclic 7-metalla-2,5-diboranorbornane derivatives  $8a$ ,  $8d$ , and  $8e$ , of which  $8e$  was characterized by X-ray analysis in the solid state. 1,1,2,2-Tetramethyldi(1-propynyl)disilane,

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 $MeC \equiv C - \text{SiMe}_2 \text{SiMe}_2 - \text{C} \equiv \text{CMe}$  (3), reacts with 1 to give mainly a 1,2-dihydro-1,2,5-disilaborepine derivative 9 and the octacyclic compound 11, which is analogous to  $8a$  but with an Me<sub>4</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> bridge. All new products were characterized in solution by  ${}^{1}H$ ,  ${}^{11}B$ ,  ${}^{13}C$ ,  ${}^{29}Si$ , and 119Sn NMR spectroscopy. For 8 and 11, highly resolved <sup>29</sup>Si and <sup>119</sup>Sn NMR spectra revealed the first two-bond isotope-induced chemical shifts,  ${}^{2}\Delta^{10/11}B$ - $(29Si)$  and  $2\Delta^{10/11}B(119Sn)$  respectively, to

## **Introduction**

1-Boraadamantane  $(1)$ ,<sup>[1]</sup> which is isoelectronic with the 1-adamantyl cation, $[2]$  is a peculiar trialkylborane, since the three-coordinate boron atom, which normally prefers a trigonal planar environment, occupies a position fitting much better in tetrahedral surroundings. This explains the markedly increased Lewis acidic character of 1 when compared with other trialkylboranes. Trialkylboranes R' 3B are known to react with many 1-alkynylmetal compounds [Eq. (1)]: after cleavage of the  $M-\mathbb{C}$  bond and formation of a borate-like zwitterionic intermediate (A), in which the fragment M is coordinated sideways-on to the C $\equiv$ C bond, an R' group is then transferred from boron to the neighboring alkynyl carbon



$$
R'_{3}B + M \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} R
$$
\n
$$
R'_{3}B \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} R \longrightarrow \begin{array}{c} R'_{2}B \\ R' \\ R' \\ R \end{array}
$$
\n
$$
R'
$$
\n

atom, leading to an organometallic-substituted alkene (B), in which the boryl group and the fragment M occupy cis positions (with a few exceptions) at the  $C=C$  bond. Since the  $R'_2B$  group and  $R'$  end up at the same carbon atom, this type of reaction has been called 1,1-organoboration.[3]

Recently we have reported on reactions of 1 with mono-1 alkynyltin, -germanium, and -silicon compounds.[4] It was found that 1,1-organoboration occurs readily, even with the fairly unreactive 1-alkynylsilanes, by enlargement of the tricyclic system to give 4-methylene-3-borahomoadamantanes. Apparently there is sufficient strain in these heterocycles for 1,1-deorganoboration also to take place readily, and the thermodynamically controlled products are formed under much milder conditions than in the case of noncyclic trialkylboranes, such as triethylborane  $(Et<sub>3</sub>B)$ . The properties of the highly reactive 1 make it an attractive candidate for 1,1 organoboration reactions of more complex systems. Here we disclose the results of a study of the reactivity of 1 towards some di(1-alkynyl)silicon  $(2a-c)$  and di(1-alkynyl)tin com

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pounds $(2d, 2e)$ , and  $1,1,2,2$ ,-tetramethyldi $(1$ -propynyl)disilane (3), all of which had already been studied extensively in 1,1-organoboration reactions with  $Et_3B$ <sup>[3]</sup>

## Results and Discussion

General considerations: The reaction of 1-boraadamantane (1) with di-1-alkynylsilicon and -tin compounds is expected to follow the pathways outlined in Equation (2). The reactions



should start analogously to those described for mono-1 alkynyl compounds to give the 4-methylene-3-borahomoadamantanes 4 [Eq. (2), route a], which, however, could not be isolated in the present study. 29Si NMR

signals from reaction mixtures indicated the presence of compounds of the 4 type. The intramolecular reaction  $[Eq. (2),$  route b] first gives zwitterionic intermediates of the  $4'$  type (in analogy to  $\bf{A}$ ), which finally rearrange to the tetracyclic metallole derivatives 5 [Eq. (2), route c]. Compounds analogous to 4' have already been isolated and characterized by X-ray structural analysis.<sup>[5]</sup> So far, the route to siloles analogous to 5 has always been observed for the reactions of di(1-alkynyl)dimethylsilanes with various trialkylboranes,[6] whereas it has been shown that the formation of stannoles depends on both the R group and the trialkylborane. Thus, the 1:1 reaction of  $2d$  with Et<sub>3</sub>B has led mainly to a peralkylated 1,4-stannabora-2,5-cyclohexadiene derivative,<sup>[7]</sup> and in the presence of an excess of  $Et_3B$  a 2,5-diborylated 1-stanna-3-cyclopentene was obtained.[7] On the other hand, the reactions of 2 e or related di(1-trimethylsilylethynyl)tin compounds with  $Et_3B$  selectively and quantitatively afford stannole derivatives analogous to  $5.^{[8, 9]}$ 

Owing to the enormous reactivity of 1, a further intermolecular 1,1-alkylboration may well compete with the intramolecular reaction in Equation (2), route b. The second intermolecular 1,1-alkylboration [Eq. (2), route d] leads to the bis(alkenyl)silicon and -tin compounds of the 6 type. It has been shown previously that such compounds are rather unstable with respect to various rearrangements [Eq. (2), route e];[10] these were therefore of interest, since strain in the 4-methylene-3-borahomoadamantane framework and the thereby increased Lewis acidity of the boron atoms may cause different behavior from that of 1,1-organoboration products of  $Et_3B$ .

Reactions of 1-boraadamantane (1) with the di-1-alkynylsilanes  $2a - c$ : The reactions of 1 with the di-1-alkynylsilane  $2a$ are summarized in Equation (3). There is indeed competition between the 1:1 and the 2:1 reactions, and, depending on the reaction conditions (see Table 1), a considerable amount of the novel octacyclic compound 8 a is formed together with the silole derivative  $5a$ . The intermediate  $7a$  is proposed, considering the highly Lewis acidic character of the boron atoms in 6a. The conversion of 7a into 8a by a 1,2-shift of a  $CH<sub>2</sub>$  group from the boron to the neighboring carbon atom in each half of the molecule, as indicated, should be straightforward. According to semiempirical AM1 calculations,  $[11, 12]$  8a is more stable than 6a by 18.9 kcalmol<sup>-1</sup> and 7a is higher in energy than 6 **a** by 28 kcalmol<sup> $-1$ </sup>. The progress of this reaction

Table 1. Dependence on R of the product ratio 5:8 from the reaction of 1 with  $2a - c$ , and the reaction conditions.

R	Conditions of reaction	5:8 Ratio $\frac{8}{1}$ <sup>[a]</sup>
Me	1 added to 2a, RT, pentane, 1 d	$5a:8a = 90:10$
Me	2a added to 1, RT, pentane, 1 d	$5a:8a = 40:60$
$t$ Bu	1 added to 2b, RT, pentane, 2 h	$5b:8b = 100:0$
$t$ Bu	2b added to 1, RT, pentane, 2h	$5b:8b = 100:0$
SiMe <sub>3</sub>	1 added to $2c$ , $-50^{\circ}$ C to RT or RT, pentane, 10 h	$5c:8c = 100:0$
SiMe <sub>2</sub>	2c added to 1, RT, pentane, 10 h	$5c:8c = 100:0$

[a] Determined from <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>29</sup>Si NMR spectra of the crude mixture.



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Figure 1. Progress of the 1,1-organoboration of 2a with 1, monitored by 49.7 MHz <sup>29</sup>Si NMR spectroscopy (refocused INEPT, <sup>1</sup>H-decoupled). Compounds 1 and 2a were mixed (ratio 1:1.2), and kept at 25 $\degree$ C. <sup>13</sup>C satellites are marked by arrows; the assignment of the <sup>29</sup>Si resonances is based on their change in intensity as a function of time and corresponding changes in the <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra. A) 40 min after mixing; B) as A), but 1 h later; C) 30 min after adding a further 0.2 equiv, of 1 to the reaction mixture of B); D) as C), 36 h later.

can be monitored conveniently by 29Si NMR spectroscopy (Figure 1); the signals at  $\delta = -19.3$  and  $-7.0$  are tentatively assigned to  $4a$  and  $6a$ , respectively, present in the reaction mixture.

As a result of the presence of bulky groups such as tBu or SiMe<sub>3</sub> at the C $\equiv$ C bonds in 2**b** and 2**c**, the second intermolecular 1,1-organoboration becomes slower than the intramolecular reaction. Therefore, the reactions of  $2b$  and  $2c$  with 1 give the siloles 5b or 5c exclusively [Eq.  $(4)$ ], independently of the reaction conditions (Table 1). Again,  $[6]$  1,1-organoboration offers interesting alternatives to other much more cumbersome silole syntheses.[13]

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Reactions of 1-boraadamantane (1) with the di-1-alkynyltin compounds 2d and 2e: It is well known that 1-alkynyltin

compounds are much more reactive towards trialkylboranes than their silicon analogues.[3] Taking into account the highly electrophilic nature of  $1$ ,<sup>[1]</sup> one would expect a second intermolecular 1,1-organoboration to compete efficiently with any intramolecular reaction (see Equations (2) and (3)), even if a bulky substituent (such as  $R = \text{SiMe}_3$  in 2e) is linked to the C=C bond. In the reactions of 2d and 2e with 1 [Eq.  $(5)$  and Table 2], **8d** is formed selectively from 2d, and from 2e there is always a significant amount of 8e formed along with the stannole derivative 5e.



Reactions of 1-boraadamantane (1) with 1,1,2,2-tetramethyl-di(1-propynyl)disilane (3): The disilane derivative 3 behaves differently from di(1-alkynyl)silanes towards triorganoboranes. Its 1,1-organoboration leads selectively to 1,2-dihydro-1,2,5-disilaborepine derivatives,[14, 15] of which the molecular structure was recently determined by X-ray analysis of the product obtained from the reaction of 3 with triphenylborane.[15] In agreement with the

Table 2. Dependence on R of the product ratio 5:8 from the reaction of 1 with 2d and 2e, and the reaction conditions.

R	Conditions of reaction	5:8 Ratio $\frac{8}{16}$
Мe	1 added to 2d $(1:1)$ , $-50^{\circ}$ C to RT, pentane, 1 h	5d:8d $0:100$
Мe	<b>2d</b> added to $1(1:2)$ , RT, pentane, 1 h	5d:8d:0:100
SiMe <sub>3</sub>	1 added to 2e $(1:1)$ , $-50^{\circ}$ C to RT, pentane, 2 h	5e:8e 80:20
SiMe <sub>3</sub>	<b>2e</b> added to 1 (1:2), RT, pentane or CDCl <sub>3</sub>	5e:8e 60:40

[a] Determined from <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>119</sup>Sn NMR spectra of the crude mixture.

previous results,[14, 15] the 1,2-dihydro-1,2,5-disilaborepine derivative 9 is the main product of the reaction of 1 with 3, regardless of the reaction conditions [Eq. (6) and Table 3]. However, the second intermolecular 1,1-organoboration cannot be suppressed completely, leading first to 10 and finally to 11, which is analogous to 8. Again,  $^{29}Si$  NMR serves as an extremely valuable tool to monitor the reaction of 1 with 3 (Figure 2).

The silole and stannole derivatives 5 are colorless, airsensitive, waxy solids. In contrast, the compounds 8 and 11 are



Table 3. Dependence of the product ratio 9:10:11 of the reaction of 1 with 3 on the reaction conditions.



[a] Determined from <sup>29</sup>Si and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of the crude mixture.

colorless, air-sensitive, crystalline solids which are rather insoluble in pentane and can therefore be readily separated and purified by recrystallization. The best single crystals were obtained for 8e and these were studied by X-ray analysis.



NMR spectra: The proposed structures in solution are supported by extensive NMR data (Tables 4 and 5, and Experimental Section). In cases of ambiguity, the assignment of <sup>1</sup> H and 13C NMR signals was always confirmed by twodimensional <sup>1</sup>H/<sup>1</sup>H COSY, <sup>1</sup>H/<sup>1</sup>H NOE difference spectroscopy, and two-dimensional <sup>1</sup>H/<sup>13</sup>C HETCOR experiments based on <sup>1</sup>J(<sup>13</sup>C,<sup>1</sup>H) or on <sup>*n*</sup>J(<sup>13</sup>C,<sup>1</sup>H) (*n* = 2, 3). The refocused INEPT pulse sequence<sup>[16]</sup> with <sup>1</sup>H decoupling was used to record 29Si and 119Sn NMR spectra. In most cases it was possible to detect 13C satellites in the 29Si or 119Sn NMR spectra in order to obtain information complementing that from 29Si or 117/119Sn satellites in the 13C NMR spectra.

The silole and stannole derivatives 5 are readily identified by their typical pattern in the 13C NMR spectra in the range of the olefinic carbon atoms. There are three sharp signals (two of which have satellites indicating one-bond scalar  $^{29}Si - ^{13}C$  or  $117/119$ Sn  $-$  13C coupling) and one broad signal<sup>[17]</sup> for the boronbonded 13C nuclei. The seven-membered ring in 9 also shows a typical pattern in the range for the olefinic carbon atoms (one sharp and one broad signal) and there are two  $^{13}C(SiMe<sub>2</sub>)$ signals, since the ring is nonplanar.<sup>[15]</sup> The puzzling feature of the <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of 8 or 11 was the presence of nine (eight) sharp and one broad) readily detected 13C NMR signals for the carbon atoms which previously belonged to the 1-boraadamantane molecule. These signals indicate a completely asymmetric structure, although the R groups and the  $\text{SiMe}_2$  or  $SnMe<sub>2</sub>$  units are represented only by single signals. The absence of any signals in the range for olefinic or alkynyl carbon atoms prompted us to take a closer look within the range of quaternary aliphatic carbon atoms in order to detect weak, broad signals of boron-bonded 13C nuclei. The presence of such signals finally enabled us to propose the molecular structure of 8 and 11, which was then confirmed by X-ray

> structural analysis for the solid state of 8e. The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of  $8e$  (Figure 3) is typical of  $8a-d$  and also of 11.

All  $\delta^{11}B$  values are in the range  $83 - 90$ , which is typical of <sup>11</sup>B nuclei linked to three carbon atoms in the absence of  $BC(pp)\pi$  interactions.<sup>[18]</sup> This is in agreement with molecular models, based on AM1 calculations,[11, 12a] of the siloles or stannoles 5, indicating that the most stable structure has the formally empty boron p<sub>z</sub> orbital oriented perpendicular to the  $\pi$ orbitals of the diene system. The possibility that the boron atoms in 8 or 11 gain electron density by hyperconjugation is reflected to some extent by  $\delta^{11}B$ values if one considers the increase in 11B nuclear shielding by approximately 7 ppm in 8 d and 8e when compared with 8a. Any hyperconjugative interac-



Table 4. <sup>13</sup>C, <sup>119</sup>Sn, <sup>29</sup>Si, and <sup>11</sup>B NMR data<sup>[a]</sup> of the tetracyclic compounds  $5^{[b]}$ , 9<sup>[b]</sup> and the bistricyclic compound 10.<sup>[b]</sup>



[a] In CDCl<sub>3</sub>; coupling constants (±0.5 Hz) "J(<sup>119</sup>Sn,<sup>13</sup>C) are given in square brackets, "J(<sup>29</sup>Si,<sup>13</sup>C) in round brackets, "J(<sup>29</sup>Si,<sup>29</sup>Si) in brace brackets, and "J(<sup>119</sup>Sn,<sup>29</sup>Si) are given in angle brackets; (br for better comparison of data for 5, 9 and 10. [c] Other  $\delta^{13}C$  data: 12.6 (8.1), 16.4 (8.0) (CH<sub>3</sub>-C=). [d] Other  $\delta^{13}C$  data: 31.9, 32.5 ((CH<sub>3)3</sub>C); 34.4, 35.3 (Me<sub>3</sub>C). [e] Other  $\delta^{13}$ C data: 0.9 (51.5) (Me<sub>3</sub>Si), 1.0 (50.5) (Me<sub>3</sub>Si). [f] Other  $\delta^{13}$ C data: 1.4 (50.9) [9.6] (Me<sub>3</sub>Si), 1.5 (51.4) [9.4] (Me<sub>3</sub>Si). [g] Other  $\delta^{13}$ C data: 15.3  $(CH_3-C=)$ . [h] Other  $\delta^{13}C$  data: 16.2  $(CH_3-C=)$ . [i] At 243 K:  $\delta^{29}Si = 24.1$  (50.6) (47.0) (Me<sub>2</sub>Si); -9.2 {11.3} (62.3) (51.0) (Me<sub>3</sub>Si); -10.8 {11.2} (61.6) (51.0) (Me<sub>3</sub>Si). [j] At 243 K:  $\delta^{29}$ Si = -25.6 (61.8) (43.2). [k] At 243 K:  $\delta^{29}$ Si = -21. 4.

Table 5. <sup>13</sup>C, <sup>119</sup>Sn, <sup>29</sup>Si, and <sup>11</sup>B NMR data<sup>[a]</sup> of the octacyclic compounds  $8^{[b]}$  and 11.<sup>[b]</sup>





[a] In CDCl<sub>3</sub>; coupling constants ( $\pm 0.5$  Hz) "J(<sup>119</sup>Sn,<sup>13</sup>C) are given in square brackets, "J(<sup>29</sup>Si,<sup>13</sup>C) in round brackets, "J(<sup>119</sup>Sn,<sup>29</sup>Si) in angle brackets; (br) denotes broad <sup>13</sup>C resonances of boron-bonded carbon atoms. A positive sign of isotope induced chemical shifts  ${}^{2}\Delta^{10/11}B(^{29}Si$  or  ${}^{119}Sn)$  indicates that the resonance of the heavy isotopomer lies at higher frequency. [b] The numbering of the cycles has been changed for better comparison of 8 with 11. [c]  $\delta^{13}C$ (125.8 MHz, 300 K). [d]  $\delta^{13}C$  (62.89 MHz, 298 K). [e]  $^1J(CH)$  = 129.5 Hz;  $^5J(CH)$  = 1.9 Hz. [f]  $^1J(CH)$  = 120.0 Hz;  $^3J(CH)$  = 44.9 Hz. [g]  $^1J(CH)$  = 121.5 Hz. [h]  ${}^{1}J$ (CH) = 118.3 Hz;  ${}^{5}J$ (CH) = 2.6 Hz. [i]  ${}^{2}\Delta^{10/11}B(^{29}Si)$  = 6.5 ± 0.5 ppb; measured at  $B_0$  = 11.5 T and 5.75 T. [j] At 243 K:  $\delta^{29}Si$  = 24.5. [k]  ${}^{2}\Delta^{10/11}B(^{29}Si)$  = 5.0 ± 0.5 ppb; measured at  $B_0$  = 11.5 T and 5.75 T. [1] <sup>2</sup> $\Delta^{10/11}B^{(119}Sn)$  = 21.9 ± 0.5 ppb; measured at  $B_0$  = 11.5 T and 5.75 T.





tion within a  $B - C - Si$  fragment should become stronger if silicon is replaced by tin.[19] The 119Sn and 29Si NMR spectra of all the compounds studied showed the expected simple patterns in agreement with the proposed structures, and  $\delta^{29}$ Si<sup>[20]</sup> and  $\delta^{119}$ Sn values<sup>[21]</sup> were found in the expected ranges. Typically, the nuclei in the 7 position in 8 are deshielded, since they belong to strained five-membered rings. Hyperconjugative effects may contribute to this deshielding. Such effects are not reflected by  $\delta^{29}$ Si values of 11, in which the two silicon atoms are part of six-membered rings. The shielding of these  $29$ Si nuclei appears to be unaffected, since it is even larger than in 10, the precursor of 11. The geometry of a  $1,2,4,5,7,7$ hexamethyl-7-sila-2,5-diboranorbornane has been optimized by ab initio MO calculations  $(RHF/6-311G^{[12a]})$  (Figure 4), and the chemical shifts have been calculated<sup>[12a]</sup> (GIAO NMR shielding tensors by RHF/6-311 + +  $G^{[12b]}$ ). The calculated  $\delta^{11}$ B value (+86.1) agrees reasonably well with the experimental data for  $\mathbf{8a}$  (+90.8). The difference between the calculated (+44.2) and the experimental  $\delta^{29}$ Si value (+15.4)

may be due to lack of a reliable reference: the  $SiH<sub>4</sub>$ , with experimental  $\delta^{29}$ Si = -93.1, which was used gave calculated  $\delta^{29}$ Si values which differed by up to 30, depending on the basis sets.

The magnitude of vicinal coupling constants  $|{}^3J({}^{119}Sn, {}^{13}C)|$  in 8d and 8e shows the typical dihedral dependence:[22] the larger values are found for a dihedral angle of  $161.7^\circ$  and the values that are small or close to zero correspond to a dihedral angle of  $80.3^{\circ}$  (dihedral angles are taken from the solid-state molecular structure of 8e (vide infra)).

The attempts to produce highly resolved 29Si or 119Sn NMR spectra for 8 and 11 were rewarded, since isotope-induced chemical shifts  ${}^{2}\Delta^{10/11}B(^{29}Si)$ and  ${}^{2}\Delta^{10/11}B({}^{119}Sn)$  could be observed for the first time for organic frameworks $^{[23]}$  (Figure 5). This effect was not observed for the <sup>29</sup>Si resonance of **8e** ( $R = \text{SiMe}_3$ ). The prediction of sign and magnitude of twobond isotope effects in  $A - X -$ Y fragments (in which A is the resonant nucleus) is far from straightforward.[24] However, it is agreed that mass-induced changes in the  $X - Y$  bond (in 8 or 11 the respective  $C - B$ bond) are mainly responsible. The first observation of these



Figure 4. Optimized (RHF/6-311G) geometry of 1,2,4,5,7,7-hexamethyl-7 sila-2,5-diboranorbornane. Selected bond lengths [pm] and angles [°]:  $C(1) - B(2)$  157.3,  $C(3) - B(2)$  159.7,  $C(3) - C(4)$  157.7,  $B - C(Me)$  157.6,  $C(1)$ -S-i(7) 194.3, Si(7) – C(Me) 190.6; C(Me)-Si-C(Me) 108.2, C(1)-Si-C(4) 87.0.



Figure 5. The isotope-induced chemical shift  ${}^2\Delta^{10/11}B({}^{119}Sn)$  observed for  $8d$ , and  ${}^2\Delta^{10/11}B({}^{29}Si)$  for  $11$  and  $8a$ . The line width of the signals for the  $^{10}B - ^{29}Si$  or  $^{10}B - ^{119}Sn$  isotopomers is always somewhat smaller than for the corresponding  ${}^{11}B - {}^{29}Si$  or  ${}^{11}B - {}^{119}Sn$  isotopomers. In A) and C) there are weak signals as shoulders (8d) or partly resolved (8a) which can be ascribed to isotopomers containing two  $^{10}B$  nuclei. A) 186.5 MHz  $^{119}Sn(^{1}H)$  NMR spectrum of 8d (refocused INEPT). B) 99.4 MHz  $^{29}Si(^{1}H)$  NMR spectrum of 11 (refocused INEPT spectrum); note that the intensity of the signal for the <sup>29</sup>Si(<sup>10</sup>B) isotopomer is only half of that in **8 a** (see spectrum C), since there is only one boron atom in the neighborhood (two bonds) of a particular silicon atom. C) 99.4 MHz <sup>29</sup>Si $[$ <sup>1</sup>H] NMR spectrum of 8a (refocused INEPT).

effects in the present work should stimulate a search for such effects in related molecules containing boron and silicon and/ or tin.

**X-ray structural analysis of 8e:**<sup>[25]</sup> The molecules of the octacyclic compound 8 e (Figure 6) are found in layers which are separated by  $CH_2Cl_2$  molecules (disordered). There are no evident intermolecular interactions. The endocyclic  $Sn - C$ bonds are slightly longer than the exocyclic  $Sn - C$  bonds, as



Figure 6. Molecular structure of the octacyclic compound 8e. Selected bond lengths [pm] and angles [°]:  $Sn - C(12)$  216.5(6),  $Sn - C(12')$  217.1(7),  $Sn - C(11)$  220.6(5),  $Sn - C(11')$  221.6(5),  $Si - C(11)$  188.7(5),  $B - C(1)$ 160.4(8), B - C(8) 157.2(7), B - C(11) 157.4(7), C(1) - C(2) 156.0(6), C(1) - $C(9)$  156.2(7),  $C(2) - C(3)$  153.9(7),  $C(3) - C(4)$  151.8(10),  $C(3) - C(10)$  $152.5(10)$ ,  $C(5) - C(9)$   $155.2(8)$ ,  $C(7) - C(8)$   $153.1(8)$ ;  $C(12)$ -Sn-C(12') 104.7(3), C(11)-Sn-C(11') 79.55(19), C(8)-B-C(11) 122.0(5), C(8)-B-C(1) 121.3, C(11)-B-C(1) 116.6(4), Si-C(11)-Sn 110.7(2); dihedral angles: C(2)- C(1)-C(11')-Sn 161.7, C(8')-B'-C(11')-Sn 140.4, C(9')-C(1)'-C(11)-Sn 80.3, B-C(1)-C(11')-B' 58.4.

would be expected by considering the small endocyclic  $C(11)$ -Sn-C(11') bond angle (79.55(19) $^{\circ}$ ). The surroundings of the boron atoms are trigonal planar, within experimental error. The B – C(8) (157.2(7) pm) and B – C(11) (157.4(7) pm) bond lengths are within the normal range, when compared with Et<sub>3</sub>B ( $d_{B-C}$  = 157.2 – 157.5 pm<sup>[26]</sup>) or *B*-hexamethylhexaboraadamantane  $(d_{B-C} = 157 \text{ pm}^{[27]})$ , whereas the bonds B – C(1)  $(160.4(8) \text{ pm})$  and  $B' - C(1')$   $(161.2(8) \text{ pm})$  are somewhat extended. All  $C-C$  bonds next to the boron atoms are elongated (for example,  $C(1) - C(11') = 160.7(6)$  pm) relative to other C-C bonds in 8e, and also in comparison with  $Et_3B$  $(d_{C-C} = 152.5 - 153.3$  pm<sup>[26]</sup>). One of the arguments for hyperconjugation in Et<sub>3</sub>B is the wide B-C-C bond angle  $(118.9^{\circ})^{[26]}$ . This argument cannot be used here, since the strain of the octacyclic structure enforces a wide range of B-C-C bond angles (B-C(11)-C(1') = 102.7° to C(7)-C(8)-B = 120.5°).

## Experimental Section

Starting materials and general techniques: The synthesis and handling of all compounds were carried out in an atmosphere of dry argon, and carefully dried solvents were used throughout. Starting materials  $1$ , [1]  $2$ , [28] and  $3$ [15] were prepared as described.

Electron impact mass spectra (EI-MS (70 eV)) were recorded on a Finnigan MAT 8500 instrument with a direct inlet, and NMR measure-

ments on a Bruker ARX 250 or DRX 500 spectrometer; <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>11</sup>B, <sup>13</sup>C, <sup>29</sup>Si, and 119Sn NMR spectra were obtained by direct measurement or refocused INEPT<sup>[16]</sup> based on <sup>2</sup> $J(^{29}Si$ <sup>1</sup>H $) \approx 7$  Hz and <sup>2</sup> $J(^{119}Sn$ <sup>1</sup>H $) \approx 50$  Hz). Chemical shifts are given with respect to Me<sub>4</sub>Si ( $\delta^1$ H (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/CDCl<sub>3</sub>) = 7.24;  $\delta^{13}$ C  $(CDCl_3) = 77.0$ ;  $\delta^{29}Si = 0$  for  $\mathcal{Z}^{(29}Si) = 19.867184 \text{ MHz}$ ; external Me<sub>4</sub>Sn  $(\delta^{119}Sn = 0$  for  $\mathbb{E}^{(119}Sn) = 37.290665 \text{ MHz}$ ; external BF<sub>3</sub> OEt<sub>2</sub> ( $\delta^{11}B = 0$ ) for  $\mathcal{Z}^{(11)}$ B) = 32.083971 MHz). Assignments are based on two-dimensional H<sup>/1</sup>H COSY, <sup>1</sup>H/<sup>1</sup>H NOE difference, and two-dimensional <sup>1</sup>H/<sup>13</sup>C HET-COR experiments.

General procedure for synthesis of the tetracyclic compounds 5a, 5b, 5c, 5e, and 9: A solution of 1 (about  $1-2$  mmol) in pentane  $(2-4$  mL) was added to an equimolar amount of  $2a-c$ ,  $2e$  or  $3$  in pentane or  $CH_2Cl_2$ solution (5 mL) at room temperature, or at  $-50^{\circ}$ C (for 2e). After the solution had been stirred for 2 h (for  $2b$ ,  $2e$ ,  $3$ ), 10 h (for  $2c$ ), or one day (for  $2a$ ) at room temperature, the solvent was removed in vacuo (8 -9 Torr). Mixtures containing 5a/8a, 5e/8e, and 9/10 were obtained, and all the NMR spectra indicated that there were no further impurities. According to the NMR data, the siloles  $5b$  and  $5c$  were formed selectively in a state of high purity and could be used for further transformations without further purification.

3,4,4,5-Tetramethyl-4-sila-1-boratetracyclo[8.3.1.18,12.02,6]pentadeca-2,5-diene (5a): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (250.1 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta = 0.11$  (s,  $\mathrm{H}J(^{29}Si$ , H) = 6.8 Hz, 6 H; Me<sub>2</sub>Si), 1.45 - 1.65 (m), 1.71 (s, 6 H; Me–C=), 1.85 - 2.05 (m),  $2.25 - 2.45$  (m, 1H; H(8)), 2.53 (m, 2H), 2.59 (d, 2H; H(7)).

3,5-Bis(tert-butyl)-4,4-dimethyl-4-sila-1-boratetracyclo[8.3.1.18,12.02,6]pentadeca-2,5-diene (5b): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (250.1 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta = 0.31$  (s, **tadeca-2,5-diene (5b)**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (250.1 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  = 0.31 (s,  $J(\sqrt[2]{2}Si, {}^{1}H)$  = 6.4 Hz, 6H; Me<sub>2</sub>Si), 0.97 (s, 9H; CMe<sub>3</sub>), 1.15 (s, 9H; CMe<sub>3</sub>),  $1.45 - 1.6$  (m, 7H),  $1.7 - 1.9$  (m, 3H),  $2.3$  (m,  $1H$ ;  $H(8)$ ),  $2.4$  (m,  $2H$ ),  $2.74$  (d,  $2H·H(7)$ 

4,4-Dimethyl-3,5-bis(trimethylsilyl)-4-sila-1-boratetracyclo[8.3.1.18,12.02,6] pentadeca-2,5-diene (5 c): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (250.1 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta = 0.03$  ()  $(s, "J(^{29}\text{Si}, ^{1}\text{H}) = 6.4, 9\text{H}; \text{Me}_3\text{Si}), 0.15 (s, "J(^{29}\text{Si}, ^{1}\text{H}) = 6.4, 9\text{H}; \text{Me}_3\text{Si}), 0.22$  $(s, "J(^{29}\text{Si}, ^{1}\text{H}) = 6.4, 6 \text{H}; \text{Me}_2\text{Si}), 1.45 - 1.65 \text{ (m, 7H)}, 1.85 - 2.0 \text{ (m, 3H)}, 2.37$  $(m, 1H; H(8))$ , 2.5  $(m, 2H)$ , 2.93  $(d, 2H; H(7))$ .

## 4,4-Dimethyl-3,5-bis(trimethylsilyl)-4-stanna-1-boratetracyclo-

 $[8.3.1.1^{8,12}.0^{2.6}]$ pentadeca-2,5-diene (5e): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (250.1 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta = 0.03$  (s,  ${}^nJ(^{29}Si, {}^1H) = 6.4$  Hz, 9H; Me<sub>3</sub>Si), 0.14 (s,  ${}^nJ(^{29}Si, {}^1H) =$ 6.4 Hz, 9H; Me<sub>3</sub>Si), 0.35 (s,  ${}^{n}J(1{}^{19}Sn, {}^{1}H) = 51.2$  Hz, 6H; Me<sub>2</sub>Sn), 1.4 – 1.7  $(m)$ , 1.8 – 2.1  $(m)$ , 2.4  $(m, 1H)$ , 2.47  $(m, 2H)$ , 2.94  $(d, 2H; H(7))$ .

2,3,3,4,4,5-Hexamethyl-3,4-disila-14-boratetracyclo[8.4.1.18,12.06,14]hexadeca-1,5-diene (9): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (250.1 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta = 0.04$  (s, **ca-1,5-diene** (9): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (250.1 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta = 0.04$  (s,  $\pi J(^{29}Si$ ,<sup>1</sup>H) = 6.6 Hz, 6H; MeSi), 1.47 (m, 2H; H(11a), H(16a)), 1.52 (m, 2H; H(11b), H(16b)), 1.55 (d, 2H; B–CH<sub>2</sub>, 5.5), 1.66 (s, 6H; CH<sub>3</sub>–C=), 2.0–2.55 (m, 9H).

General procedure for diboraoctacyclic compounds 8a, 8d, 8e, and bis(boratricyclo)undecane (10): A solution of  $2d$  or  $2e$  (1 mmol), or  $2a$ or 3 (1.5 mmol) in pentane or  $CH_2Cl_2$  (5 mL), was added dropwise to a solution of 1 (2 mmol) in pentane (2 mL) at room temperature. After the solution had been stirred for  $1-2$  h, or one day (for 2a), at room temperature, the solvent was removed in vacuo  $(8-9 \text{ Torr})$ . The mixtures contained  $5a/8a$ ,  $5d/8d$ ,  $5e/8e$ , or  $9/10$ , and all the NMR spectra indicated that there were no further impurities.

#### 1,11,21,21-Tetramethyl-21-sila-2,12-diboraoctacyclo-[9.9.1.14,8.16,10,114,18.

 $1^{16,20}.0^{2,10}.0^{12,20}$ ]pentacosane (8a). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (250.1 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta = -0.05$  (s,  $\binom{n}{2}$ °Si,<sup>1</sup>H) = 6.1 Hz, 6H; Me<sub>2</sub>Si), 0.85 - 1.1 (m), 1.1 (s, 6H;  $CH<sub>3</sub>-CSi$ ), 1.15 – 1.4 (m), 1.7 – 1.9 (m), 2.0 – 2.25 (m).

1,11,21,21-Tetramethyl-21-stanna-2,12-diboraoctacyclo-[9.9.1.14,8.16,10.114,18.  $1^{16,20}.0^{2,10}.0^{12,20}$ ]pentacosane (8d): Compound 8d was purified by recrystallization from pentane/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. M.p. 134 – 136 °C; EI-MS:  $m/z$  (%): 496 (27)  $[M]^+$ , 346 (100)  $[M-Me_2SnH]^+$ ; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (250.1 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta = 0.24$  (s, "J(<sup>119</sup>Sn,<sup>1</sup>H) = 47.9 Hz, 6H; Me<sub>2</sub>Sn), 0.95 – 1.05 (m), 1.2 – 1.3 (m), 1.34 (s,  ${}^{n}J(119Sn,{}^{1}H) = 67.6 Hz$ , 6H; CH<sub>3</sub>-C), 1.4-1.5 (m), 1.7-1.8 (m),  $1.85 - 1.9$  (m),  $2.0$  (m),  $2.11$  (m).

### 21,21-Dimethyl-1,11-bis(trimethylsilyl)-21-stanna-2,12-diboraoctacyclo-  $[9.9.1.1^{4.8}.1^{6.10}.1^{14.18}.1^{16.20}.0^{2.10}.0^{20}]$ -pentacosane (8e): Compound 8e was purified by recrystallization from pentane/ $CH_2Cl_2$ . Single crystals<sup>[25]</sup> of 8e (m.p.  $233 - 237$  °C) were obtained by crystallization from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. EI-MS: m/z (%): 612 (17) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 597 (36) [M – CH<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 539 (5) [M – SiMe<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 462 (100)  $[M-Me_2SnH]^+$ ; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500.1 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta = 0.19$  (s,

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 $1J(CH) = 118.1 \text{ Hz}, \, \text{HJ}(\text{C}^2\text{Si}, ^1\text{H}) = 6.2 \text{ Hz}, \, 18\text{ H}; \, 2\text{SiMe}_3$ , 0.40 (s,  $1J(CH) =$ 129.2 Hz,  ${}^{n}J(^{119}Sn,{}^{1}H) = 46.6$  Hz, 6H; SnMe<sub>2</sub>), 1.3 – 1.4 (m, 6H; H(22a), H(24a), H(9a), H(19a), H(5a), H(15a)), 1.49 (m, 2H; H(7a), H(17a)),  $1.55 - 1.65$  (m, 4H; H(3a), H(13a), H(7b), H(17b)), 1.68 (dm, 2H; H(23a),  $H(25a)$ , 1.77 – 1.9 (m, 6H; H(22b), H(24b), H(5b), H(15b), H(8), H(18)), 1.92 - 2.1 (m, 10H; H(3b), H(13b), H(6), H(16), H(9b), H(19b), H(23b), H(25b), H(4), H(14).

1,2-{Bis[(E)-1-(3-boratricyclo[4.3.1.13,8]undeca-4-yliden)]ethyl}-1,1,2,2-tet**ramethyldisilane (10):** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (250.1 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta = 0.02$  (s,  $12H$ ; Me<sub>2</sub>Si),  $1.25 - 1.7$  (m),  $1.6$  (s,  $6H$ ; Me–C=),  $1.7 - 1.9$  (m),  $2.0 - 2.4$  (m).

1,11,21,21,22,22-Hexamethyl-21,22-disila-2,12-diboraoctacyclo-[9.9.2.14,8.  $1^{6,10}$ ,  $1^{14,18}$ ,  $1^{16,20}$ ,  $0^{2,10}$ ,  $0^{12,20}$ ]hexacosane (11): A solution of 3 (3 mmol) in pentane (5 mL) was added dropwise to a solution of 1 (6 mmol) in pentane (5 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for five days at room temperature. After removal of all volatile material in vacuo (9 Torr) and by distillation  $(70-90^{\circ}C/0.01$  Torr), the residue containing  $9/11$  was purified by crystallization from pentane/CHCl<sub>3</sub> to give the pure product 11 (0.155 g; 11%). M.p. 220 – 223 °C; EI-MS:  $m/z$  (%): 462 (100)  $[M]^+$ , 447 (5)  $[M - CH_3]^+$ , 389 (24)  $[M - Sime_3]^+$ ; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500.1 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 K):  $\delta = 0.03$  (s, 6H; <sup>1</sup>J(CH) = 119.8 Hz, 2Me<sub>2</sub>Si), 0.06 (s, 6H;<br><sup>1</sup>J(CH) – 121.2 Hz, 2Me<sub>2</sub>Si), 0.94 (dm, 2H; H(24a), H(26a)), 1.17 (s, 6H;  $J(CH) = 121.2$  Hz, 2Me<sub>2</sub>Si), 0.94 (dm, 2H; H(24a), H(26a)), 1.17 (s, 6H; CH<sub>3</sub>–C), 1.29 (dm, 2H; H(9a), H(19a)), 1.40 – 1.52 (m, 12H; H(5a), H(15a), H(23a), H(25a), 2H(7), 2H(17), 2H(3), 2H(13)), 1.72-1.83 (m, 6H; H(5b), H(15b), H(9b), H-(9b), H(23b), H(25b)), 1.85 (m, 2H; H(4), H(14)), 1.89 (dm, 2H; H(24b), H(26b), 14.2), 1.97 (m, 2H; H(6), H(16)), 2.06 (m, 2H; H(8), H(18)).

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- [25] X-ray crystallographic investigation of 8e. The reflection intensities were collected on a Siemens P4 diffractometer (Mo<sub>Ka</sub> radiation,  $\lambda =$ 71.073 pm, graphite monochromated). Structure solution and refinement were carried out with the program package SHELXTL-PLUS V. 5.1. Measuring temperature for the structure determination was 296 K. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic temperature factors. The positions of the hydrogen atoms were calculated. All hydrogen atoms were refined applying the riding model with fixed isotropic temperature factors.  $C_{30}H_{50}B_2Si_2Sn \cdot 0.8 CH_2Cl_2$  crystallized as a light yellow plate,  $0.45 \times 0.19 \times 0.15$  mm, in the monoclinic space group  $P2<sub>1</sub>/c$  with the lattice parameters  $a = 999.06(13)$ ,  $b = 3318.2(5)$ ,  $c = 1114.3(3)$  pm,  $\beta = 108.980(11)$ °,  $V = 3493.2(10) \times 10^6$  pm<sup>3</sup>,  $Z = 4$ ,  $\mu$  = 1.049 mm<sup>-1</sup>; 7369 reflections were collected in the range 3°  $\leq$  2 $\theta$   $\leq$ 50 $^{\circ}$ , 6074 independent reflections, 4912 assigned to be observed [ $I$  >  $2\sigma(I)$ ], full-matrix least-squares refinement against  $F^2$  with 361 parameters converged at R1/wR2 values of 0.071/0.174. Empirical absorption correction ( $\psi$ -scans) resulted in min./max. transmission factors of 0.0663/0.2536; the max./min. residual electron density was  $2.44/- 1.60 \times 10^{-6}$  e pm<sup>-3</sup>. Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the structure reported in this paper have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication no. CCDC-148281 (8e). Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge on application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK (fax:  $(+44)$  1223-336-033; e-mail: deposit@ ccdc.cam.ac.uk).
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