


 Cite this: *RSC Adv.*, 2021, **11**, 37083

Nickel(II)-catalyzed reductive silylation of alkenyl methyl ethers for the synthesis of alkyl silanes†

 Xiaodong Qiu,^{ID}* Li Zhou, Haoran Wang, Lingyi Lu, Yong Ling^{ID} and Yanan Zhang*

A new one pot protocol has been developed for the reductive silylation of alkenyl methyl ethers using Et₃Si-BPin and HSiEt₃ with nickel(II) catalyst. Styrene type methyl ethers, multi-substituted vinyl methyl ethers, heterocycles and unconjugated vinyl ethers are all tolerated to form alkyl silanes. Mechanistic study reveals that it is a cascade of a C–O bond silylation and vinyl double bond hydrogenation process. Internal nucleophilic substitution or oxidative addition pathways were both acceptable for C–O bond cleavage. The acquired intermediate alkenyl silanes then proceeded through an unconventional reduction process thus providing alkyl silanes.

Received 28th September 2021

Accepted 25th October 2021

DOI: 10.1039/d1ra07238b

rsc.li/rsc-advances

Introduction

Organosilanes, prominently with their physical and chemical properties, have significant applications in organic syntheses,¹ drug discovery,² bioactive compound preparations,³ and advanced material developments.⁴ Alkyl silanes, as one of the principal research areas among organosilanes, are used as isosteres of quaternary carbons, which have found significant applications in pharmaceutical research (Fig. 1).⁵ Therefore, it has attracted much attention on their synthesis. Hydrosilylations of olefins using Pt, Rh, Pd, or Ru catalysts are pioneering works.⁶ Recently, instead of noble metal catalysts, several kinds of base metal catalysts such as Fe, Co, Ni, and Mn have been developed for this transformation, generally with elegant catalyst design.⁷ Other means including carbene insertion into silanes,⁸ cross-coupling with organosilicon reagents,⁹ or direct C(sp³)-H silylation¹⁰ all contribute to provide alkyl silanes.

Due to the significant progress made by transition metal catalyzed carbon-heteroatom bond formation *via* unactivated

bond cleavage in synthetic chemistry, especially for C–O bond activation,¹¹ deoxygenative silylation has been applied for acquiring of multiple silicon compounds. Martin *et al.* reported the vital work in 2014 that Ni/Cu catalyzed C–O bond silylation of aryl or benzyl pivalates with electron rich backbones in mild conditions.¹² This methodology was also introduced to aryl esters which underwent decarbonylative silylation *via* acyl C–O bond activation by Rueping's and Shi's group.¹³ Carbamates as appropriate substrates were also discovered using nickel or iron catalysts.¹⁴ Different from esters, cut off the C–O bond of aryl ethers are more difficult because of the high bond energy. Martin *et al.* developed the first nickel catalyzed silylation of aryl methyl ether compounds with silyl borate.¹⁵ Montgomery *et al.* then employed aryl silyl ethers as the source of C–O bond silylation.¹⁶ In addition, pyridine assisted silylation of aryl 2-pyridyl ethers with silyl zinc reagent were realised to generate aryl silanes.¹⁷ Alkyl ethers like benzyl methyl ethers or allyl methyl ethers were succeed as well in nickel catalyzed C–O bond silylation with silyl borate¹⁵ or silyl magnesium reagent¹⁸. However, vinyl C–O bond silylation was rarely reported, only two styrene type methyl ethers were tested affording alkenyl silicon compounds as the supplementary for silylation of conjugated ethers in Martin's work.¹⁵ In 2017, Studer *et al.* reported ring opening silylation of benzofurans which was similar to alkenyl ethers mediated by a silyl lithium reagent (Scheme 1a).¹⁹ Whereafter, Yorimitsu *et al.* reported CuCl catalyzed ring opening silylation of benzofurans with disilane that made the reaction more tolerable with functional groups (Scheme 1b). Also, an addition–elimination mechanism was proposed for C–O bond cleavage.²⁰

Recently, our group has been interested in the valuable conversion of alkenyl ethers employing inexpensive transition metal catalysts.²¹ Combined with the high reactivity of nickel species in C–O bond activation, Ni(acac)₂ catalyzed one pot reaction of demethoxylation and olefin reduction were

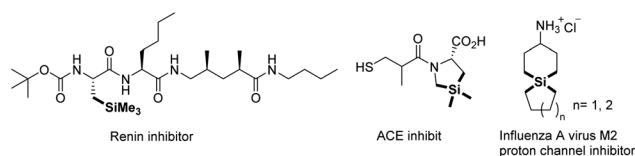
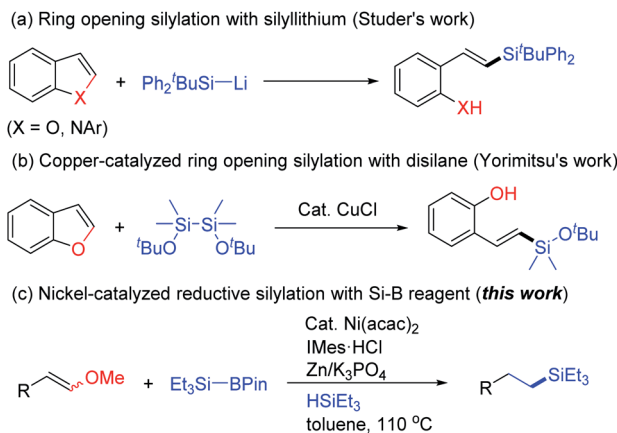


Fig. 1 Pharmaceutical active molecules with tetraalkyl silane skeletons.

School of Pharmacy, Nantong University, 19 Qixiu Road, Nantong 226001, China.
 E-mail: qiuxiaodong@ntu.edu.cn; yznj00@outlook.com

† Electronic supplementary information (ESI) available. See DOI: 10.1039/d1ra07238b





Scheme 1 C–O bonds silylation of benzofurans and alkenyl methyl ethers.

performed with silyl borate and hydrosilane (Scheme 1c), which offers an alternative process for late-stage functionalization of alkenyl ethers.

Results and discussion

Our investigation was started by testing the reaction of styrene methyl ether **1a** with **2**, a silyl borate usually applied for silylation reactions and easily accessible in bulk quantities.²² After careful optimization, we found a cocktail of cheap and air-stable catalyst Ni(acac)₂ (10 mol%), N-heterocyclic carbene ligand IMes·HCl (10 mol%), catalytic amount of zinc powder (20 mol%), HSiEt₃ (3 equiv.) and K₃PO₄ (1.5 equiv.) in toluene at 110 °C gave the best results, affording phenethyl silane **3a** as the main product in 76% isolated yield. The ratio of **3a** and double-bond reserved byproduct **4a** was 97 : 3 (Table 1, entry 1). NiI₂ instead of Ni(acac)₂ gave a low yield of **3a** and increased the amount of **4a** (Table 1, entry 2). When using other nickel catalyst like Ni(OTf)₂, obvious decrease of **3a** took place (Table 1, entry 3). IMes·HCl was crucial for this transformation, other NHC or phosphine ligands showed little or no reaction of **1a** (Table 1, entries 4 and 5). The reaction could not happen without nickel catalyst (Table 1, entry 6), which negated zinc's catalytic activity. While no Zn had little effect to this transformation which could be largely owing to the same reducing property of HSiEt₃ (Table 1, entry 7). No reaction occurred when silyl borate was absent indicated that direct hydrosilylation followed by β-O elimination pathway was not possible (Table 1, entry 8). The additional base K₃PO₄ was essential and irreplaceable for this reaction. As shown in entries 9–12, no reaction was found with other sylvite, phosphate or other base indicating that a subtle balance was required for nucleophilicity and steric bulk of the base. Without HSiEt₃, the yield of **3a** dropped dramatically and **4a** was obtained as the main product (Table 1, entry 13). A possible reason might be concluded from this result that **4a** was an intermediate product and was hydrogenated by HSiEt₃, and **4a** could be partly reduced to **3a** with little amount of H₂O in reaction mixture when HSiEt₃ was absent. To prove this, extra hydrogen sources such as H₂O, MeOH and PhMe₂SiH were added instead

Table 1 Optimization of reaction conditions^a

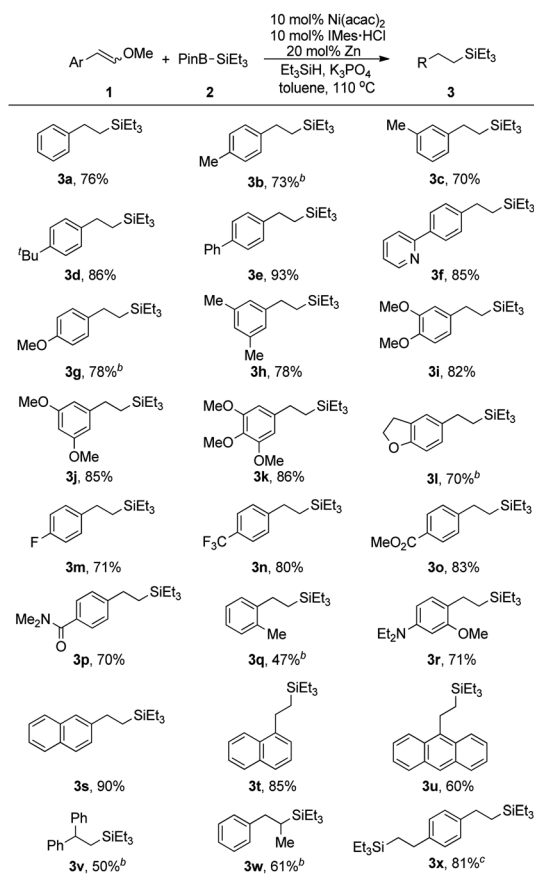
Entry	Variation from standard conditions	Yield of 3a ^b (%)
1	None	76 (97 : 3)
2	NiI ₂ instead of Ni(acac) ₂	47 (54 : 46)
3	Ni(OTf) ₂ instead of Ni(acac) ₂	23 (78 : 22)
4	IPr·HCl instead of IMes·HCl	n.r.
5	PCy ₃ or XantPhos instead of IMes·HCl	Trace
6	No Ni(acac) ₂	n.r.
7	No Zn	62 (97 : 3)
8	No 2	n.r.
9	No K ₃ PO ₄ , 20 mol% NaO ^t Bu added	n.r.
10	K ₂ CO ₃ or KO ^t Bu instead of K ₃ PO ₄	n.r.
11	K ₂ HPO ₄ or Na ₃ PO ₄ instead of K ₃ PO ₄	n.r.
12	CsF, Na ₂ CO ₃ or Cs ₂ CO ₃ instead of K ₃ PO ₄	n.r.
13	No HSiEt ₃	26 (35 : 65)
14	H ₂ O instead of HSiEt ₃	35 (100 : 0)
15	MeOH instead of HSiEt ₃	48 (100 : 0)
16	PhMe ₂ SiH instead of HSiEt ₃	56 (90 : 10)

^a Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.3 mmol), **2** (0.6 mmol), HSiEt₃ (0.9 mmol) and base (0.45 mmol) were reacted in toluene (1.5 mL) at 110 °C for 24 h under nitrogen atmosphere. ^b Isolated yield, the ratios of **3a** and **4a** in parentheses were determined by GC-MS. n.r. equals to no reaction.

of HSiEt₃, **4a** was obtained discrepantly with relatively lower yields (Table 1, entries 14–16).

With robust conditions in hand, we turned to exam the feasible scope and limitations for our Ni(acac)₂ catalyzed reductive silylation of alkenyl methyl ethers. Styrene type methyl ethers were first carried out for alkyl silanes preparation (Table 2). Electron-donating group like methyl, tetra-butyl and phenyl at *para*- or *meta*-position were all tolerated providing up to 93% yield of products (**3b–3e**). When 2-pyridyl, a strong *ortho*-directing group, was fixed at *para*-position, 85% yield of **3f** acquired under standard conditions without any C–H activation products detected. We are excited to find that aryl methyl ether which was readily for silylation through nickel catalyst in mild conditions¹⁵ showed no competition against vinyl methyl ether, yet affording 78% yield of **3g**. Substituents with stronger electron donor property seemed to enhance the reactivity in this process. Some disubstituted or trisubstituted styrene methyl ethers all turned out to provide products with higher yields (**3h–3k**). Alkenyl methyl ether bearing benzodihydrofuran skeleton (**1l**) also gave a good result. Fluorine-containing groups such as F (**3m**) or CF₃ (**3n**) were proved having no impact on this reaction. The chemical selectivity of this transformation were also demonstrated by employing substrates installing with ester or amide group (**3o**, **3p**), which were deeply explored in nickel catalyzed C–O bond¹³ or C–N bond²³ activations. Substrates with sterically hindered *o*-Me and *o*-OMe substituents were compatible enough to afford **3q** and **3r** in 47% and 71% yield respectively. Several π-extended alkenyl methyl ethers underwent this process with high reactivity thus providing 90% yield of

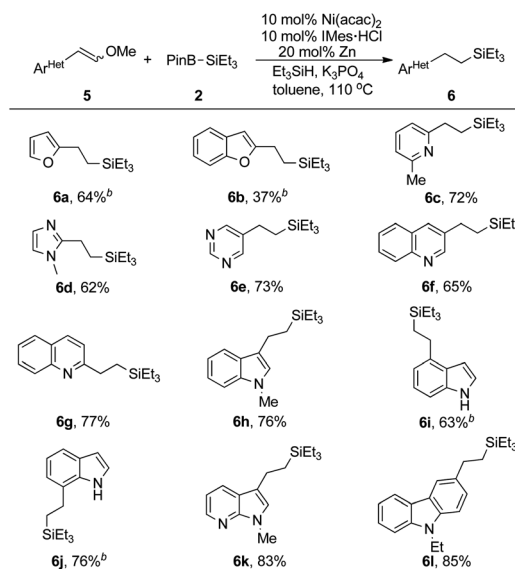


Table 2 Scope of styrene type methyl ethers^a

^a Reaction conditions: **1** (0.3 mmol), **2** (0.6 mmol), HSiEt₃ (0.9 mmol) and K₃PO₄ (0.45 mmol) were reacted in toluene (1.5 mL) at 110 °C for 24 h under nitrogen atmosphere. Yields were obtained after purification through column chromatography on silica gel. ^b React for 48 h. ^c 20 mol% Ni(acac)₂, 20 mol% IMes·HCl, 40 mol% Zn, **1** (0.3 mmol), **2** (1.2 mmol), HSiEt₃ (1.8 mmol) and K₃PO₄ (0.9 mmol) were reacted in toluene (3 mL) at 110 °C for 24 h under nitrogen atmosphere.

(naphthalen-2-yl)ethyl silane (**3s**) and 85% yield of (naphthalen-1-yl)ethyl silane (**3t**). Even bulky 9-anthryl ethyl silane (**3u**) was obtained with 60% yield. To our delight, this reaction was not limited to simple disubstituted alkenyl methyl ethers, trisubstituted alkenyl methyl ethers could result in structurally diverse alkyl silanes in moderate yields (**3v**, **3w**). Besides, aryl dienyl methyl ether (**1x**) reacted as well providing **3x** through dual reductive silylation process with high reactivity.

In addition of the styrene type methyl ethers, we are interested in the transformation containing heteromatic skeletons. Because of the striking impact exhibited by heteroatoms in hydrosilylation process, alkyl silicon compounds containing heteroatoms were really hard to obtain. In our conditions, several type of heteroaryl vinyl methyl ethers were tested. As shown in Table 3, furan was tolerated leading to the preparation of **6a** in 64% yield. While **6b** was obtained in a low yield probably because the competitive side reaction took place on the C–O bond of the benzofuran ring. N-heterocycles were more reactive and corresponding silanes containing heterocyclic ring

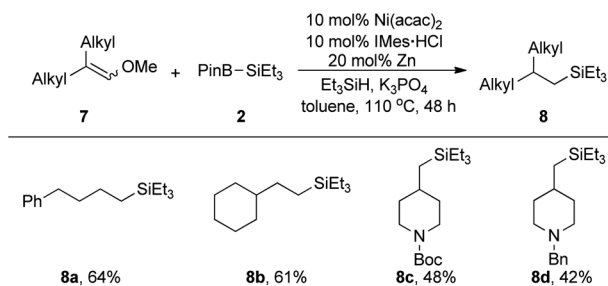
Table 3 Scope of heterocycle conjugated vinyl methyl ethers^a

^a Reaction conditions: **5** (0.3 mmol), **2** (0.6 mmol), HSiEt₃ (0.9 mmol) and K₃PO₄ (0.45 mmol) were reacted in toluene (1.5 mL) at 110 °C for 24 h under nitrogen atmosphere. Yields were obtained after purification through column chromatography on silica gel. ^b React for 48 h.

such as pyridine, imidazole, pyrimidine, quinoline, indole, pyrrole, and carbazole were all acquired with good results (**6c–6h**, **6k**, **6l**). It was worth noting that unprotected indole products **6i** and **6j** were obtained without observably decline in yields implying the efficiency of this C–Si bond forming strategy.

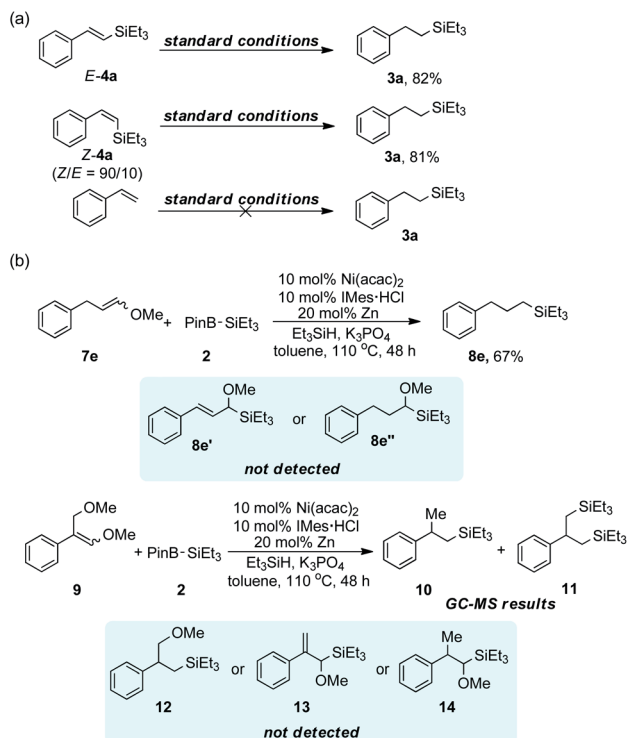
In order to excavate the applicability of this transformation, some unconjugated alkenyl methyl ethers were put into reaction (Scheme 2). Disubstituted alkenyl ethers were suitable for this reaction affording **8a** and **8b** with good results. Yet **8c** and **8d** was obtained in a lower yield presumably due to the steric effect caused by trisubstituted alkenyl methyl ethers.

Subsequently, some mechanistic studies were carried out to give a closer understanding of this process. Compounds **E-4a** and **Z-4a**, acquired from known report,²⁴ were investigated under standard conditions and **3a** was obtained in our



Scheme 2 Reductive silylation with alkyl substituted vinyl methyl ethers. Conditions: **7** (0.3 mmol), **2** (0.6 mmol), HSiEt₃ (0.9 mmol) and K₃PO₄ (0.45 mmol) were reacted in toluene (1.5 mL) at 110 °C for 48 h under nitrogen atmosphere.





Scheme 3 Mechanistic studies.

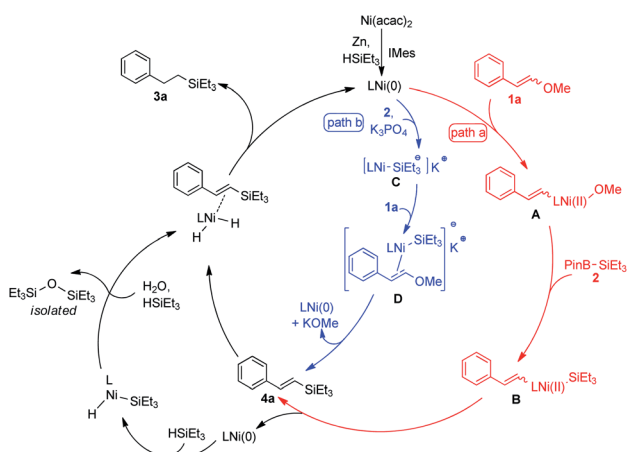


Fig. 2 Probable reaction pathways.

prospection with favourable results despite the original configuration of **4a**. Nevertheless, styrene failed to generate **3a** when employed under the same conditions (Scheme 3a). These all suggested that compound **4a** was probably an intermediate product and a cascade of C–O bond silylation followed with olefin reduction was the possible reaction pathways rather than the way of hydrosilylation to the potential alkenes. All the time it has been difficult to distinguish the oxidative addition mechanism from addition–elimination mechanism in transition metal catalyzed inert bond activation. We tried two substrates **7e** and **9**, derived from which intramolecular competition might exist if Ni–X elimination process would happen when reacting

with **2** under standard conditions, to test the feasibility of addition–elimination pathway for C–O bond silylation (Scheme 3b). Actually, after the reaction of **7e**, no structurally dominant addition–(Ni–H elimination) product **8e'** nor further reductive product **8e''** were detected. Specifically, when **9** was conducted under the same reaction conditions as **7e**, only few amount of compounds **10** and **11** were detected by GC–MS while anticipated product **12** was undiscovered, which suggested that allylic C–O bond scission along with vinyl C–O bond scission occurred in this reaction. No addition–(Ni–OMe elimination) product **13** nor **14** were detected further illuminating the improbability of the Ni–O elimination pathway.

According to Martin's report,¹⁵ an internal nucleophilic substitution mechanism, supported by DFT calculations,²⁵ was possible for C–O bond silylation. As in our process, K_3PO_4 was supposed to play an important role in the convention of **2** to either Et_3SiK or $[(\text{Et}_3\text{Si}\text{-Bpin})_n(\text{PO}_4)]\text{K}_3$ complex that might be regarded as a silyl anion surrogate. A tendency of a discrete $[\text{Ni}(\text{IMes})\text{-SiEt}_3]\text{K}$ complex might be acquired when *in situ* generated Ni(0) species exposed to $\text{IMes}\cdot\text{HCl}$, **2**, and K_3PO_4 . Unfortunately, isolation of the nickel complex or spectroscopic evidence for this supportive intermediate was unavailable. Therefore, two feasible pathways were proposed in the C–O bond silylation procedure (Fig. 2). Classic oxidative addition mechanism was shown in path a, in which Ni(0) inserted into C–O bond followed by transmetalation with **2**, reductive elimination then occurred forming the key intermediate **4a**. Path b exhibited a constant Ni(0) mediated nucleophilic substitution mechanism, where Ni–Si complex **C** acted as a nucleophile, and methoxy from **1a** was substituted by SiEt_3 to provide intermediate **4a**. Unconventional hydrogenation of **4a** with HSiEt_3 proceeded to generate **3a** in this strategy, which was commonly seen as a side reaction appeared in transition metal catalyzed hydrosilylation of alkenes.²⁶ The byproduct siloxane instead of disilane was isolated (see ESI† for details) which not only excluded the continues oxidative addition path of forming $\text{SiEt}_3\text{-Ni-SiEt}_3$ complex but also suggested trace amount of moisture in the reaction mixture maybe have some effect for this transformation.²⁷

Conclusions

In summary, we have provided a Ni(II) catalyzed one pot reaction of alkenyl methyl ethers with silyl borate through C–O bond silylation and olefin reduction process. This strategy is successfully implemented not only for electron-rich styrene methyl ethers and π -extended alkenyl methyl ethers, but also succeeded in generating alkyl silanes containing electron-deficient aryls, heterocycles, and unconjugated alkyl groups, that provides alternative approaches for carbon–hetero bond formation and extends the scope of unreactive C–O bond activations. Besides, a possible reaction mechanism including oxidative addition or internal nucleophilic substitution for C–O bond scission and nickel mediated double bond reduction by HSiEt_3 is fully presented. Further mechanistic studies as well as functionalization of alkenyl or alkyl C–O bond are in progress in our lab.



Author contributions

X. Q. conceived the project and analysed the data. L. Z. and H. W. performed the experiments and analysed the data. L. L. helped with the substrates synthesis and analysed experimental data. Y. L. and Y. Z. participated in the mechanism discussion. The manuscript was written by X. Q. and Y. Z. contributed to the editing.

Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts to declare.

Acknowledgements

This work was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (22002063), Natural Science Foundation of Jiangsu Province (BK20200961), Natural Science Foundation of the Jiangsu Higher Education Institutions of China (19KJB150036), and the Science and Technology Program of Nantong (JC2019099).

Notes and references

- (a) H. F. Sore, W. R. J. D. Galloway and D. R. Spring, Palladium-Catalysed Cross-Coupling of Organosilicon Reagents, *Chem. Soc. Rev.*, 2012, **41**, 1845; (b) L. Li, Y. Zhang, L. Gao and Z. Song, Recent Advances in C–Si Bond Activation via a Direct Transition Metal Insertion, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 2015, **56**, 1466; (c) T. Komiyama, Y. Minami and T. Hiyama, Recent Advances in Transition-Metal-Catalyzed Synthetic Transformations of Organosilicon Reagents, *ACS Catal.*, 2017, **7**, 631.
- A. K. Franz and S. O. Wilson, Organosilicon Molecules with Medicinal Applications, *J. Med. Chem.*, 2013, **56**, 388.
- (a) L. Gai, J. Mack, H. Lu, T. Nyokong, Z. Li, N. Kobayashi and Z. Shen, Organosilicon Compounds as Fluorescent Chemosensors for Fluoride Anion Recognition, *Coord. Chem. Rev.*, 2015, **285**, 24; (b) E. Rémond, C. Martin, J. Martinez and F. Cavelier, Silicon-Containing Amino Acids: Synthetic Aspects, Conformational Studies, and Applications to Bioactive Peptides, *Chem. Rev.*, 2016, **116**, 11654.
- (a) C. Sanchez, P. Belleville, M. Popall and L. Nicole, Applications of Advanced Hybrid Organic–Inorganic Nanomaterials: from Laboratory to Market, *Chem. Soc. Rev.*, 2011, **40**, 696; (b) G. K. Min, D. Hernández and T. Skrydstrup, Efficient Routes to Carbon–Silicon Bond Formation for the Synthesis of Silicon-Containing Peptides and Azasilaheterocycles, *Acc. Chem. Res.*, 2013, **46**, 457.
- (a) B. Weidmann, (Trimethylsilyl)alanine: A Metabolically Stable “Bio-isostere” for Phenylalanine, *Chimia*, 1992, **46**, 312; (b) G. A. Dalkas, D. Marchand, F. Cavelier, J.-C. Galleyrand, J. Martinez, G. A. Spyroulias and P. Cordopatis, Study of a Lipophilic Captopril Analogue Binding to Angiotensin I Converting Enzyme, *J. Pept. Sci.*, 2010, **16**, 91; (c) J. Wang, C. Ma, Y. Wu, R. A. Lamb, L. H. Pinto and W. F. DeGrado, Exploring Organosilane Amines as Potent Inhibitors and Structural Probes of Influenza A Virus M2 Proton Channel, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2011, **133**, 13844.
- (a) D. Troegel and J. Stohrer, Recent Advances and Actual Challenges in Late Transition Metal Catalyzed Hydrosilylation of Olefins from an Industrial Point of View, *Coord. Chem. Rev.*, 2011, **255**, 1440; (b) Y. Nakajima and S. Shimada, Hydrosilylation Reaction of Olefins: Recent Advances and Perspectives, *RSC Adv.*, 2015, **5**, 20603.
- (a) J. Y. Wu, B. N. Stanzl and T. Ritter, A Strategy for the Synthesis of Well-Defined Iron Catalysts and Application to Regioselective Diene Hydrosilylation, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2010, **132**, 13214; (b) Z. Mo, Y. Liu and L. Deng, Anchoring of Silyl Donors on a N-Heterocyclic Carbene through the Cobalt-Mediated Silylation of Benzylic C–H Bonds, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.*, 2013, **52**, 10845; (c) C. Chen, M. B. Hecht, A. Kavara, W. W. Brennessel, B. Q. Mercado, D. J. Weix and P. L. Holland, Rapid, Regioconvergent, Solvent-Free Alkene Hydrosilylation with a Cobalt Catalyst, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2015, **137**, 13244; (d) V. Srinivas, Y. Nakajima, W. Ando, K. Sato and S. Shimada, (Salicylaldiminato)Ni(ii)-Catalysts for Hydrosilylation of Olefins, *Catal. Sci. Technol.*, 2015, **5**, 2081; (e) X. Jia and Z. Huang, Conversion of Alkanes to Linear Alkylsilanes Using an Iridium–Iron-Catalysed Tandem Dehydrogenation–Isomerization–Hydrosilylation, *Nat. Chem.*, 2016, **8**, 157; (f) C. H. Schuster, T. Diao, I. Pappas and P. J. Chirik, Bench-Stable, Substrate-Activated Cobalt Carboxylate Pre-Catalysts for Alkene Hydrosilylation with Tertiary Silanes, *ACS Catal.*, 2016, **6**, 2632; (g) J. H. Docherty, J. Peng, A. P. Dominey and S. P. Thomas, Activation and Discovery of Earth-Abundant Metal Catalysts Using Sodium *tert*-Butoxide, *Nat. Chem.*, 2017, **9**, 595; (h) B. Cheng, P. Lu, H. Zhang, X. Cheng and Z. Lu, Highly Enantioselective Cobalt-Catalyzed Hydrosilylation of Alkenes, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2017, **139**, 9439; (i) Z. Yang, D. Peng, X. Du, Z. Huang and S. Ma, Identifying a Cobalt Catalyst for Highly Selective Hydrosilylation of Allenes, *Org. Chem. Front.*, 2017, **4**, 1829; (j) M.-Y. Hu, Q. He, S.-J. Fan, Z.-C. Wang, L.-Y. Liu, Y.-J. Mu, Q. Peng and S.-F. Zhu, Ligands with 1,10-Phenanthroline Scaffold for Highly Regioselective Iron-Catalyzed Alkene Hydrosilylation, *Nat. Commun.*, 2018, **9**, 221; (k) R. Agahi, A. J. Challinor, J. Dunne, J. H. Docherty, N. B. Carterb and S. P. Thomas, Regiodivergent Hydrosilylation, Hydrogenation, $[2\pi + 2\pi]$ -Cycloaddition and C–H Borylation Using Counterion Activated Earth-Abundant Metal Catalysis, *Chem. Sci.*, 2019, **10**, 5079; (l) J. Dong, X.-A. Yuan, Z. Yan, L. Mu, J. Ma, C. Zhu and J. Xie, Manganese-Catalysed Divergent Silylation of Alkenes, *Nat. Chem.*, 2021, **13**, 182.
- (a) Z. Liu, J. Huo, T. Fu, H. Tan, F. Ye, M. L. Hossaina and J. Wang, Palladium(0)-Catalyzed C(sp³)-Si Bond Formation via Formal Carbene Insertion into a Si–H bond, *Chem. Commun.*, 2018, **54**, 11419; (b) J. R. Jagannathan, J. C. Fettinger, J. T. Shaw and A. K. Franz, Enantioselective Si–H Insertion Reactions of Diarylcarbenes for the



- Synthesis of Silicon-Stereogenic Silanes, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2020, **142**, 11674.
- 9 (a) C. K. Chu, Y. Liang and G. C. Fu, Silicon–Carbon Bond Formation via Nickel-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling of Silicon Nucleophiles with Unactivated Secondary and Tertiary Alkyl Electrophiles, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2016, **138**, 6404; (b) Y. Takeda, K. Shibuta, S. Aoki, N. Tohnai and S. Minakata, Catalyst-Controlled Regiodivergent Ring-Opening C(sp³)–Si Bond-Forming Reactions of 2-Arylaziridines with Silylborane Enabled by Synergistic Palladium/Copper Dual Catalysis, *Chem. Sci.*, 2019, **10**, 8642; (c) S. Mallick, E.-U. Würthwein and A. Studer, Synthesis of Alkyl Silanes via Reaction of Unactivated Alkyl Chlorides and Triflates with Silyl Lithium Reagents, *Org. Lett.*, 2020, **22**, 6568.
- 10 (a) C. Cheng and J. F. Hartwig, Catalytic Silylation of Unactivated C–H Bonds, *Chem. Rev.*, 2015, **115**, 8946; (b) B. Li and P. H. Dixneuf, Metal-Catalyzed Silylation of sp³C–H Bonds, *Chem. Soc. Rev.*, 2021, **50**, 5062.
- 11 (a) J. Cornella, C. Zarate and R. Martin, Metal-Catalyzed Activation of Ethers via C–O Bond Cleavage: A New Strategy for Molecular Diversity, *Chem. Soc. Rev.*, 2014, **43**, 8081; (b) Z. Qiu and C.-J. Li, Transformations of Less-Activated Phenols and Phenol Derivatives via C–O Cleavage, *Chem. Rev.*, 2020, **120**, 10454; (c) T. B. Boit, A. S. Bulger, J. E. Dander and N. K. Garg, Activation of C–O and C–N Bonds Using Non-Precious-Metal Catalysis, *ACS Catal.*, 2020, **10**, 12109.
- 12 C. Zarate and R. Martin, A Mild Ni/Cu-Catalyzed Silylation via C–O Cleavage, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2014, **136**, 2236.
- 13 (a) L. Guo, A. Chatupheeraphat and M. Rueping, Decarbonylative Silylation of Esters by Combined Nickel and Copper Catalysis for the Synthesis of Arylsilanes and Heteroarylsilanes, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.*, 2016, **55**, 11810; (b) X. Pu, J. Hu, Y. Zhao and Z. Shi, Nickel-Catalyzed Decarbonylative Borylation and Silylation of Esters, *ACS Catal.*, 2016, **6**, 6692.
- 14 (a) V. Murugesan, V. Balakrishnan and R. Rasappan, Nickel-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling Reaction of Carbamates with Silylmagnesium Reagents, *J. Catal.*, 2019, **377**, 293; (b) J. Zhang, Y. Zhang, S. Geng, S. Chen, Z. Liu, X. Zeng, Y. He and Z. Feng, C–O Bond Silylation Catalyzed by Iron: A General Method for the Construction of Csp²–Si Bonds, *Org. Lett.*, 2020, **22**, 2669.
- 15 C. Zarate, M. Nakajima and R. Martin, A Mild and Ligand-Free Ni-Catalyzed Silylation via C–OMe Cleavage, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2017, **139**, 1191.
- 16 E. M. Wiensch, D. P. Todd and J. Montgomery, Silyloxyarenes as Versatile Coupling Substrates Enabled by Nickel-Catalyzed C–O Bond Cleavage, *ACS Catal.*, 2017, **7**, 5568.
- 17 Y.-Y. Konga and Z.-X. Wang, Nickel-Catalyzed Reaction of Aryl 2-Pyridyl Ethers with Silylzinc Chlorides: Silylation of Aryl 2-Pyridyl Ethers via Cleavage of the Carbon–Oxygen Bond, *Adv. Synth. Catal.*, 2019, **361**, 5440.
- 18 V. Balakrishnan, V. Murugesan, B. Chindan and R. Rasappan, Nickel-Mediated Enantiospecific Silylation via Benzylic C–OMe Bond Cleavage, *Org. Lett.*, 2021, **23**, 1333.
- 19 P. Xu, E.-U. Würthwein, C. G. Daniliuc and A. Studer, Transition-Metal-Free Ring-Opening Silylation of Indoles and Benzofurans with (Diphenyl-tert-butylsilyl)lithium, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.*, 2017, **56**, 13872.
- 20 H. Saito, K. Nogi and H. Yorimitsu, Copper-Catalyzed Ring-Opening Silylation of Benzofurans with Disilane, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.*, 2018, **57**, 11030.
- 21 X. Qiu, Y. Li, L. Zhou, P. Chen, F. Li, Y. Zhang and Y. Ling, Nickel(II)-Catalyzed Borylation of Alkenyl Methyl Ethers via C–O Bond Cleavage, *Org. Lett.*, 2020, **22**, 6424.
- 22 (a) T. A. Boebel and J. F. Hartwig, Iridium-Catalyzed Preparation of Silylboranes by Silane Borylation and Their Use in the Catalytic Borylation of Arenes, *Organometallics*, 2008, **27**, 6013; (b) J.-J. Feng, W. Mao, L. Zhang and M. Oestreich, Activation of the Si–B Interelement Bond Related to Catalysis, *Chem. Soc. Rev.*, 2021, **50**, 2010.
- 23 S.-C. Lee, L. Guo, H. Yue, H.-H. Liao and M. Rueping, Nickel-Catalyzed Decarbonylative Silylation, Borylation, and Amination of Arylamides via a Deamidative Reaction Pathway, *Synlett*, 2017, **28**, 2594.
- 24 (a) R. Xu and C. Cai, FeCl₂/DTBP: An Efficient and Highly E-Selective Cross-Coupling of Silanes with Styrene and Its Derivatives, *Catal. Commun.*, 2018, **107**, 5; (b) V. S. Sridevi, W. Y. Fan and W. K. Leong, Stereoselective Hydrosilylation of Terminal Alkynes Catalyzed by [Cp*IrCl₂]₂: A Computational and Experimental Study, *Organometallics*, 2007, **26**, 1157.
- 25 (a) H. Ogawa, H. Minami, T. Ozaki, S. Komagawa, C. Wang and M. Uchiyama, How and Why Does Ni⁰ Promote Smooth Etheric C–O Bond Cleavage and C–C Bond Formation? A Theoretical Study, *Chem.–Eur. J.*, 2015, **21**, 13904; (b) B. Wang, Q. Zhang, J. Jiang, H. Yu and Y. Fu, Mechanistic Study on Nickel-Catalyzed Silylation of Aryl Methyl Ethers, *Chem.–Eur. J.*, 2017, **23**, 17249; (c) P. Jain, S. Pal and V. Avasare, Ni(COD)₂-Catalyzed *ipso*-Silylation of 2-Methoxynaphthalene: A Density Functional Theory Study, *Organometallics*, 2018, **37**, 1141.
- 26 (a) F. Burgos, I. Chávez, J. M. Manriquez and M. Valderrama, A New Heterobimetallic Ru, Rh Complex with a Dianionic Pentalene as Bridging Ligand. Synthesis, Crystal Structure, and Catalytic Activity of [Cp*Ru(μ-η⁵, η³-C₈H₆)Rh(η⁴-COD)], *Organometallics*, 2001, **20**, 1287; (b) J. Li, C. Yang, Y. Bai, X. Yang, Y. Liu and J. Peng, The Effect of an Acylphosphine Ligand on the Rhodium-Catalyzed Hydrosilylation of Alkenes, *J. Organomet. Chem.*, 2018, **855**, 7; (c) W. Lu, C. Li, X. Wu, X. Xie and Z. Zhang, [Rh(COD)Cl]₂/PPh₃-Catalyzed Dehydrogenative Silylation of Styrene Derivatives with NBE as a Hydrogen Acceptor, *Organometallics*, 2020, **39**, 3780.
- 27 S. Pattanaik and C. Gunanathan, Cobalt-Catalyzed Selective Synthesis of Disiloxanes and Hydrodisiloxanes, *ACS Catal.*, 2019, **9**, 5552.

