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# Research Experience in Japan

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麻紅那玲奈 波優惠瑠

Supervisors:

Dr. Steven D. Bull, Dr. Tony D. James and Prof. Kazuo Sakurai

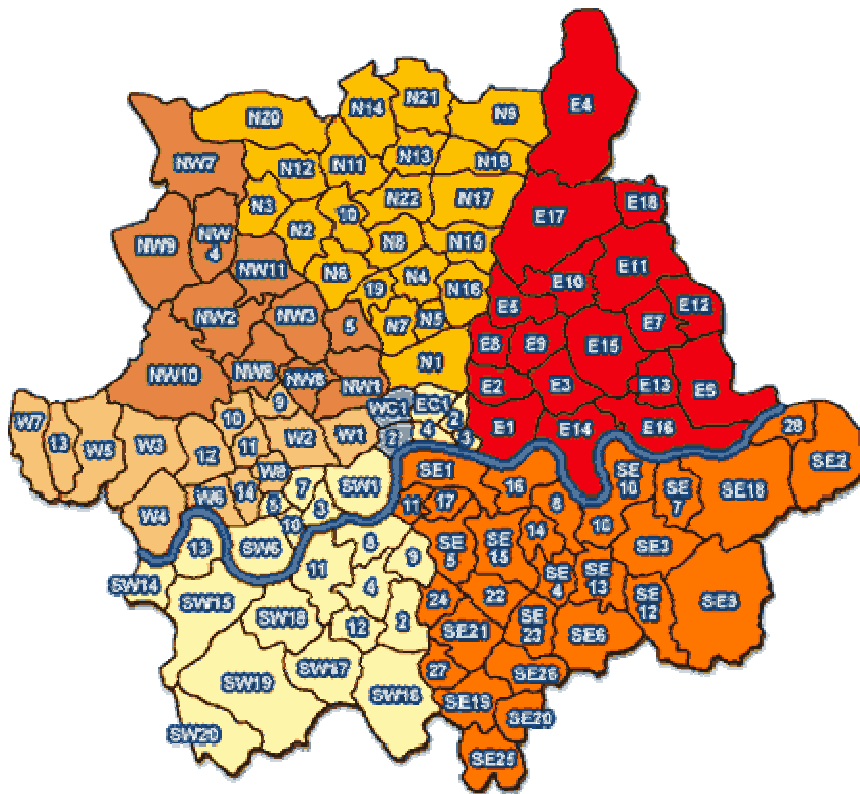


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# My Background

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- Born and Brought up in East London



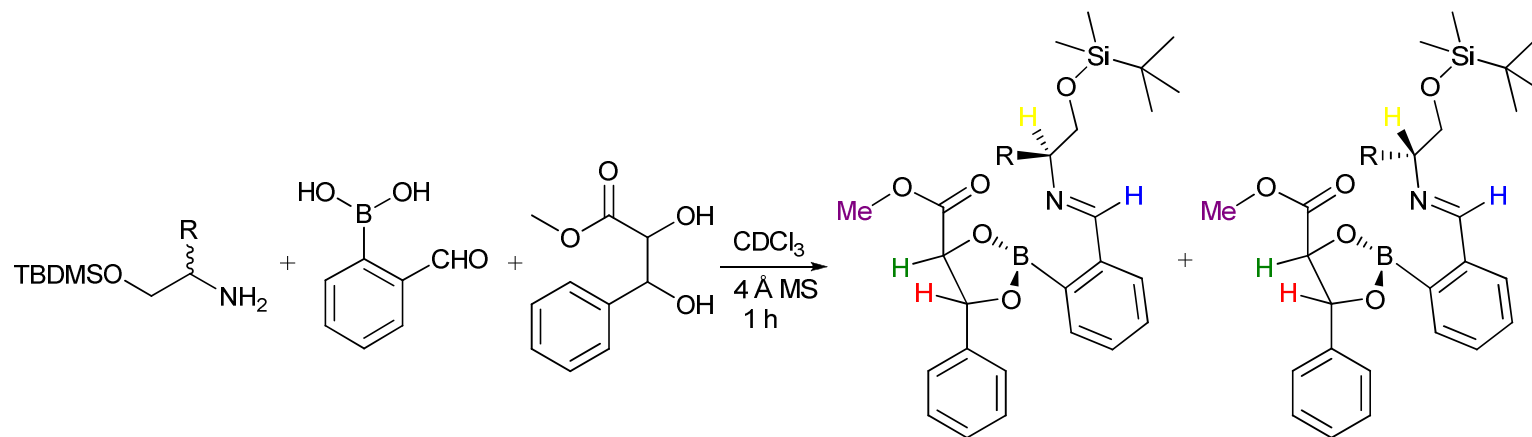
- Then attended the University of Bath where I'm a 3<sup>rd</sup> Year PhD Student



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## My Chemistry- Determining the Enantiopurity of Chiral Amino Alcohols

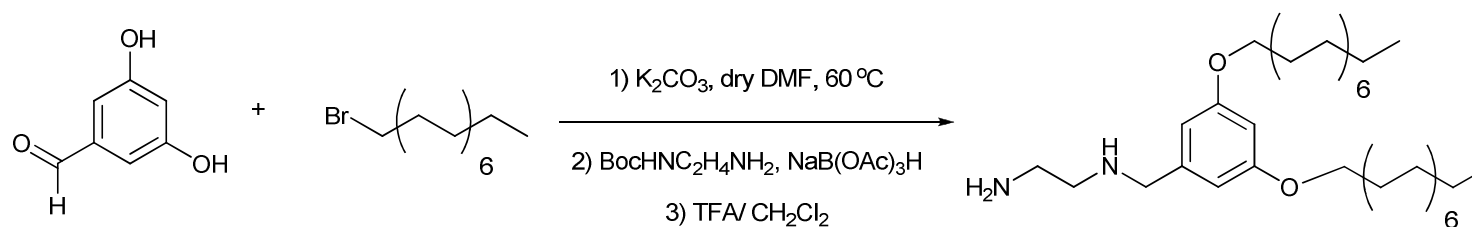
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- Silyl protected amino alcohol combined with an a boronic acid and an enantiopure diol
- Reaction results in a pair of iminoboronate esters
- These show inequivalence for a number of resonances in <sup>1</sup>H NMR and consequently the starting enantiopurity can be accurately determined

## Research in Japan

- I went to Kyūshū (nine provinces 九州)
- University of Kitakyūshū (northern Kyūshū 北九州市)
- Research was conducted into the synthesis of a novel cationic lipids
- These find a use in DNA transfection



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## Before you go

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- Make sure you are ready to start your research when you arrive; post any chemicals, make sure everything is in place for a successful collaboration.
- <http://www.realkana.com/> (if you are a Japanese language beginner)
- Get some good books
- Get a JR pass and start planning your travels
- Host Family- Do get them a present.
- Make sure you get some Yen. You only receive your allowance upon arriving at the university.

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## First Week

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- Jet Lag.
- Do separate your luggage into two bits (unless you are v. good at travelling light)
- Get to know one another on the JSPS scheme (hopefully you will start doing this a little today!) I was really glad to be able to meet up with people when I travelled to Tokyo
- Listen out for the top mnemonics during language class

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## Building relationships-JSPS Friends

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- Climbed Mt Fuji with Ben (Fellow JSPS Researcher) and Andy (post doc from my group in England)
- Visited Gonpachi restaurant with Tristan (from JSPS summer programme) and Stuart (Worked in Tristan's group).



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# First Week

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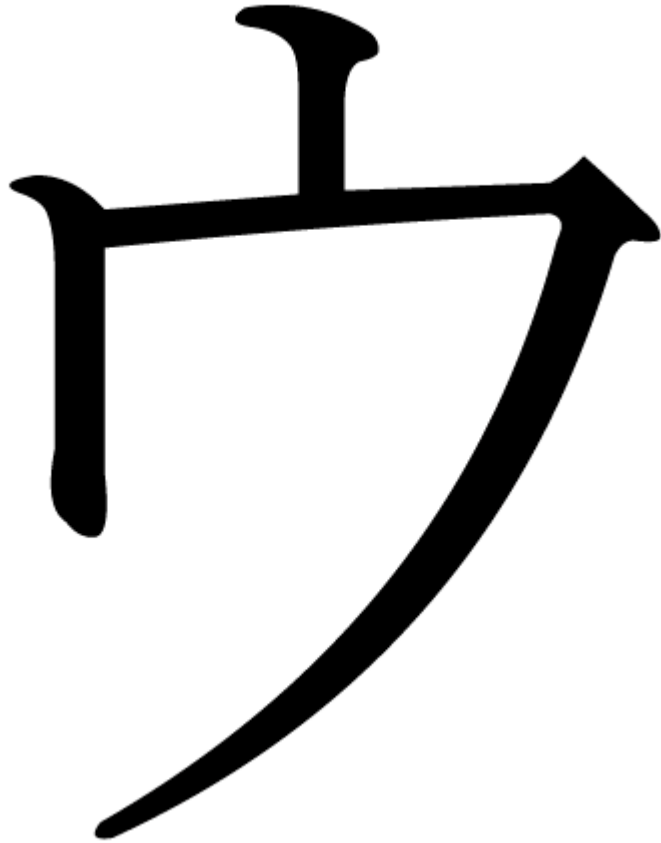
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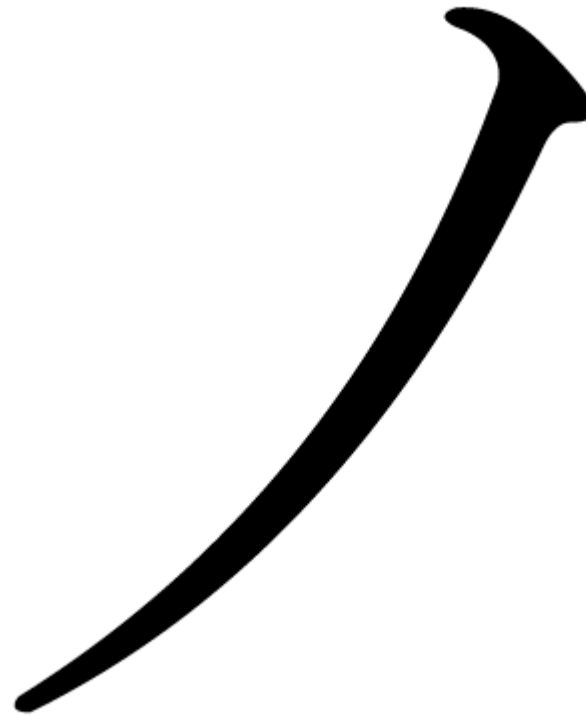
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## Katakana-mnemonics

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U-An old Lady with back- ache



No- No button

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## In the Lab/Office

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- Work hard- time flies!
- Be prepared to ask for help
- Good Communication is important- Double-check
- Maybe take a presentation of your work- your group might be interested!
- Do write down names, they are difficult to remember at first!

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## In the Lab/Office

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### Names

- Kenzo- 健三 healthy, three
- Kenichi- 健一 healthy, one
- Kenji- 健二 healthy, two
- Yumi- 由美 reason/cause, beauty
- Magdalena- Woman from Tower!
- Do be interested in your lab mates!

### Top Five Japanese words

- Majide- Really?
- Sumimasen- Excuse me/sorry
- Warugaki- Cheeky
- Wagamama- Selfish
- Mata ne- see ya

And a very useful sentence...

Watashi wa nihon ga suki desu- I love Japan!!



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## In the Lab/Office- Clear Communication

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- Clear Communication is important
- Try to speak at a good speed and volume



- Clear Communication is important
- Try to choose the right vocabulary

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## In the Lab/Office- Socials

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- Prepare for arm wrestling!



- Be ready for different food!

- Combat boredom and stay in touch with friends/family- write a blog!  
(<http://girl-in-japan.blogspot.com/>)





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# Travelling

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- Some experiences might be a little surreal (but do do things with your lab mates or JSPS folk)



- Take photos- practise your peace sign!



- Do make time to consider things of particular cultural interest to you. Torii.



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## Leaving/Back Home

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- You will be bringing back presents!  
Leave space in the suitcase.
- You might cry when you leave
  
- Be willing to return the favours!



- Keep in contact
- Treasure your mementos



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## In Conclusion

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- Embrace the culture
- Get to know the people
- Try to make sure you achieve your research goals along the way!
- Have a good time 😊





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# Acknowledgements

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Many thanks to:

My Father in Heaven for my creation, preservation and all the blessings of this life, including my research trip to Japan!

JSPS

Dr. Steven D. Bull, Dr. Tony D. James and Prof. Kazuo Sakurai



And to you for your time- I hope this was a little bit helpful!

