# **Supporting Information**

# for

# Cyclization of Bisphosphines to Phosphacycles via the Cleavage of Two Carbon–Phosphorus Bonds by Nickel Catalysis

Hayato Fujimoto, Momoka Kusano, Takuya Kodama, and Mamoru Tobisu\*

Department of Applied Chemistry, Graduate School of Engineering, Osaka University, Suita, Osaka 565-0871, Japan tobisu@chem.eng.osaka-u.ac.jp

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#### I. General Information

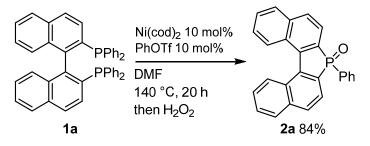
<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL ECS-400 spectrometer in CDCl<sub>3</sub>. The data is reported as follows: chemical shift ( $\delta$ ) in ppm, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, h = heptet, and m = multiplet), coupling constant (Hz), and integration. Infrared spectra (IR) were obtained using a JASCO FT/IR-4200 spectrometer. Absorption is reported in reciprocal centimeters (cm<sup>-1</sup>) with the following relative intensities: s (strong), m (medium), or w (weak). High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained using a JEOL JMS-700 spectrometer. Melting points were determined using a Yamato melting point apparatus. Column chromatography was performed with SiO<sub>2</sub> (Silicycle SilicaFlash F60 (230-400 mesh)). Gel permeation chromatography (GPC) was performed using a LC-9210NEXT HPLC or LC9225NEXT HPLC system. Data collection for X-ray crystal analysis were performed on a Rigaku/XtaLAB Pro P200 Hybrid Photon Counting diffractometer (Cu-K $\alpha$ ,  $\lambda$  = 1.54184 Å for **3** and Mo-K $\alpha$ ,  $\lambda$  = 0.71075 Å for **4**). The structures were solved with direct methods and refined with full-matrix least squares.

#### **II. Materials**

All reagents were obtained from commercial suppliers and were used as received. Ni(cod)<sub>2</sub> was purchased from Strem Chemicals. Phenyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (CAS: 17763-67-6), 2,2'-bis(diphenylphosphino)-1,1'-binaphthyl (**1a**, CAS: 98327-87-8), (*S*)-Tol-BINAP (**1b**, CAS: 100165-88-6), (*S*)-Xyl-BINAP (**1c**, CAS: 135139-00-3), 2,2'-bis(diphenylphosphino)-1,1'-biphenyl (**1d**, CAS: 84783-64-2), (*R*)-SEGPHOS (**1f**, CAS: 244261-66-3), DPEPHOS (**1j**, CAS: 166330-10-5), (*R*)-DTBM-SEGPHOS (**1k**, CAS: 566940-03-2) and DPPB (**1l**, 7688-25-7) were purchased from Tokyo Chemical Industry Co., Ltd. (*R*)-H<sub>8</sub>-BINAP (**1e**, CAS: 139139-86-9), (*R*)-C<sub>3</sub>-TUNEPHOS (**1g**, CAS: 301847-89-2), (*R*)-Ph-GARPHOS (**1h**, CAS: 1365531-75-4) and (*R*)-P-PHOS (**1i**, CAS: 221012-82-4) were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich Co. NiCl(2-Np)(PCy<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> was prepared according to literature procedure.<sup>[1]</sup>

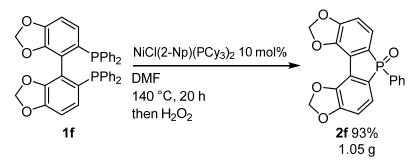
# III. A Typical Procedure for Nickel-Catalyzed Cyclization via the Cleavage of Two Carbon–Phosphorus Bonds

Run on a 0.20 mmol scale.



In a glovebox filled with nitrogen, Ni(cod)<sub>2</sub> (5.5 mg, 0.02 mmol), PhOTf (4.5 mg, 0.020 mmol), 1a (125 mg, 0.20 mmol) and DMF (1 mL) were added to a 5 mL vial with a Teflon-sealed screwcap. The vessel was heated at 140 °C for 20 h followed by cooling. An aqueous solution of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (ca. 30%, a few drops) was added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. The mixture was filtered through a short pad of silica gel, and the pad was washed with EtOAc. The filtrate was evaporated, and the residue was purified by GPC to give 2a (63 mg, 84%) as a pale yellow solid.

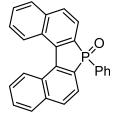
Run on a 3.0 mmol scale.



NiCl(2-Np)(PCy<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (234 mg, 0.30 mmol), 1f (1.86 g, 3.0 mmol) and DMF (30 mL) were added to a 100 mL two-necked flask. The solution was heated at 140 °C for 20 h followed by cooling. An aqueous solution of  $H_2O_2$  (ca. 30%, 3 mL) was added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. The mixture was filtered through a short pad of silica gel, and the pad was washed with EtOAc. The filtrate was evaporated, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography using EtOAc as eluent to give 2a (1.05 g, 93%) as a white solid.

#### **IV. Spectroscopic Data of Products**

# 7-Phenylbenzo[e]naphtho[2,1-b]phosphindole 7-oxide (2a) [CAS:159211-70-8]

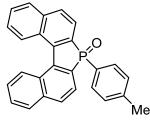


Pale yellow solid (60.9 mg, 84%). Rf 0.34 (SiO<sub>2</sub>, EtOAc).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$ : 7.35 (td, J = 7.6, 3.2 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (td, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.66 (m, 6H), 7.83 (dd, J = 9.2, 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.98 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 4H), 8.21 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz) δ: 124.4 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz), 125.8, 127.6, 128.1, 128.7, 128.8, 128.9, 130.2 (d, J = 102.6 Hz), 130.5 (br), 131.0, 131.1, 132.3 (d, J = 2.9 Hz), 137.3, 141.5 (br). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 161.83 MHz) δ: 35.1.

HRMS (EI+, M<sup>+</sup>) Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>17</sub>OP: 376.1017. Found: 376.1015.

7-(4-Methylphenyl)benzo[e]naphtho[2,1-b]phosphindole 7-oxide (2b)



Pale yellow solid (74.3 mg, 95%). Rf 0.50 (SiO<sub>2</sub>, EtOAc).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$ : 2.33 (s, 3H), 7.16 (dd, J = 2.3, 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.49–7.65 (m, 6H),

7.81 (t, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 4H), 8.20 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz) δ: 21.6, 124.4 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz), 125.8, 126.6 (d, *J* = 105.4 Hz), 127.6, 128.1, 128.8, 129.5, 129.7, 130.5 (br), 131.1, 131.2, 137.3, 142.89, 142.92.

<sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 161.83 MHz) δ: 35.5.

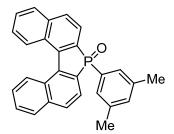
HRMS (EI+, M<sup>+</sup>) Calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>19</sub>OP: 390.1174. Found: 390.1169.

IR (KBr): 3443 w, 3050 w, 2953 w, 2925 w, 2870 w, 2359 w, 2343 w, 1734 w, 1700 w, 1676 w, 1600 w, 1578 w, 1559 w, 1542 w, 1507 w, 1499 w, 1444 w, 1396 w, 1377 w, 1359 w, 1337 m, 1308 w, 1284 w, 1254 w, 1202 s, 1189 s, 1151 m, 1108 s, 1025 w, 984 w, 961 w, 952 w, 878 w, 839 w, 815 m, 773 w, 749 s, 709 w, 677 m, 667 s, 657 m, 643 m, 634 w, 623 w, 604 w, 592 w, 584 w, 561 m, 526 s, 508 w.

MS, *m/z* (relative intensity, %): 391 (27), 390 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 389 (54), 327 (12), 326 (18), 298 (14), 297 (39), 281 (15), 252 (24), 250 (14).

m.p. 160 °C

# 7-(3,5-Dimethylphenyl)benzo[e]naphtho[2,1-b]phosphindole 7-oxide (2c)



Pale yellow solid (77.0 mg, 96%).  $R_f 0.59$  (SiO<sub>2</sub>, EtOAc).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz) δ: 2.22 (s, 6H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 7.22–7.29 (m, 2H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 7.82 (t, *J* = 7.83 Hz, 2H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 4H), 8.22 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz) δ: 21.2, 124.4 (d, J = 9.6 Hz), 125.7, 127.5, 128.1, 128.5, 128.6, 128.8, 129.58 (d, J = 102.6 Hz), 129.60 (d, J = 9.6 Hz), 130.1 (br), 134.3 (d, J = 2.9 Hz), 137.3,

138.6, 138.7.

<sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 161.83 MHz) δ: 35.9.

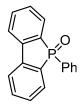
HRMS (EI+, M<sup>+</sup>) Calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>21</sub>OP: 404.1330. Found: 404.1329.

IR (KBr): 3443 m, 2323 w, 2138 w, 1992 w, 1847 w, 1733 w, 1688 w, 1631 w, 1599 w, 1508 w, 1449 m, 1417 m, 1397 w, 1337 w, 1312 w, 1286 w, 1234 m, 1204 s, 1151 m, 1124 s, 1101 m, 1024 m, 993 m, 887 w, 870 m, 850 m, 815 m, 750 m, 727 w, 704 m, 689 s, 650 m, 626 w, 594 w, 583 m, 569 m, 553 m, 541 m, 530 m, 524 m.

MS, *m/z* (relative intensity, %): 405 (31), 404 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 403 (51), 341 (10), 340 (12), 298 (17), 297 (43), 281 (17), 252 (25), 250 (14).

m.p. 155 °C

### 5-Phenylbenzo[b]phosphindole 5-oxide (2d) [CAS:1031-13-6]



White solid (67.1 mg, 99%). Rf 0.34 (SiO<sub>2</sub>, EtOAc).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz) δ: 7.39 (td, *J* = 7.8, 3.7 Hz, 4H), 7.50 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.4 Hz, 1H),

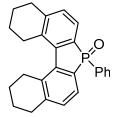
7.57–7.74 (m, 6H), 7.83 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 3.2 Hz, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz) δ: 121.2 (d, J = 9.6 Hz), 128.7 (d, J = 12.5 Hz), 129.5 (d, J = 11.5 Hz), 129.9 (d, J = 9.6 Hz), 130.1 (d, J = 103.5 Hz), 131.0 (d, J = 10.5 Hz), 132.2 (d, J = 2.9Hz), 132.2, 133.3 (d, J = 1.9 Hz), 141.8 (d, J = 22.0 Hz).

<sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 161.83 MHz) δ: 34.3.

HRMS (EI+, M<sup>+</sup>) Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>13</sub>PO: 276.0704. Found: 276.0706.

7-Phenyl-2,3,4,7,10,11,12,13-octahydro-1H-benzo[*e*]naphtho[2,1-*b*]phosphindole 7-oxide (2e) [CAS:2148300-95-0]

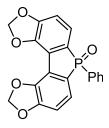


White solid (35.1 mg, 93%). Rf 0.31 (SiO<sub>2</sub>, EtOAc).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz) δ: 1.63 (quint, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 4H), 1.87 (quint, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 4H), 2.77 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 4H), 2.86 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 4H), 7.16 (dd, *J* = 7.3, 3.7 Hz, 2H), 7.33–7.58 (m, 7H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$ : 21.4, 22.1, 28.8, 30.3, 127.3 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz), 128.5 (d, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 129.4 (d, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 131.0 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz), 131.6 (d, *J* = 97.8 Hz), 131.7 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz), 132.7 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz), 137.3 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz), 142.2 (d, *J* = 22.0 Hz), 145.0 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 161.83 MHz)  $\delta$ : 33.5. HRMS (EI+, M<sup>+</sup>) Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>25</sub>OP: 384.1643. Found: 384.1640.

6-Phenyl-9,10-dihydro-[1,3]dioxolo[4",5":3',4']benzo[1',2':2,3]phosphindolo[4,5-*b*][1,4]dioxole 6-oxide (2f) [CAS:2127850-05-7]



White solid (66.9 mg, 90%). R<sub>f</sub> 0.29 (SiO<sub>2</sub>, EtOAc).

Isolated by flash column chromatography using EtOAc as eluent.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz) δ: 6.13 (s, 4H), 6.82 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 2.8 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (dd, *J* = 10.8, 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.36–7.40 (m, 2H), 7.45–7.49 (m, 1H), 7.63 (ddd, *J* = 12.9, 7.8, 1.4 Hz, 2H).

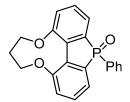
<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$ : 101.7, 109.2 (d, J = 14.4 Hz), 119.5 (d, J = 25.0 Hz), 125.1 (d, J = 10.5 Hz), 126.9 (d, J = 110.2 Hz), 128.6 (d, J = 12.5 Hz), 130.9 (d, J = 10.5 Hz), 131.8 (d, J = 107.4 Hz), 131.9, 142.8 (d, J = 15.3 Hz), 152.6.

<sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 161.83 MHz) δ: 32.2.

HRMS (EI+,  $M^+$ ) Calcd for  $C_{20}H_{13}O_5P$ : 364.0501. Found: 364.0506.

Anal. Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>13</sub>O<sub>5</sub>P: C, 65.94; H, 3.60, Found: C, 66.21; H, 3.93.

# 4-Phenyl-10,11-dihydro-9H-8,12-dioxa-4-phosphacyclonona[*def*]fluorene 4-oxide (2g) [CAS:2127850-04-6]



White solid (59.2 mg, 91%). R<sub>f</sub> 0.20 (SiO<sub>2</sub>, EtOAc).

Isolated by flash column chromatography using EtOAc as eluent.

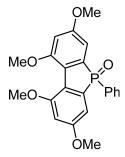
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$ : 1.73 (s, 1H), 2.01 (s, 1H), 4.32 (d, J = 11.5 Hz, 2H), 4.60 (t, J =

9.6 Hz, 2H), 7.33–7.43 (m, 6H), 7.47–7.55 (m, 3H), 7.63 (dd, *J* = 12.8, 6.9 Hz, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz) δ: 25.9, 76.9, 126.3 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz), 128.7 (d, 12.5 Hz), 130.6 (d, *J* 

= 104.5 Hz), 130.9 (d, J = 1.9 Hz), 131.1 (d, J = 10.5 Hz), 131.4 (d, J = 13.4 Hz), 132.2 (d, J = 2.9 Hz), 134.8 (d, J = 2.9 Hz), 135.2 (d, J = 127.5 Hz), 155.4 (d, J = 13.4 Hz). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 161.83 MHz)  $\delta$ : 33.1. HRMS (EI+, M<sup>+</sup>) Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>17</sub>O<sub>3</sub>P: 348.0915. Found: 348.0908.

### 1,3,7,9-Tetramethoxy-5-phenylbenzo[b]phosphindole 5-oxide (2h)



Pale yellow solid (74.2 mg, 99%). Rf 0.41 (SiO<sub>2</sub>, EtOAc).

Isolated by flash column chromatography using EtOAc as eluent.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz) δ: 3.78 (s, 6H), 3.92 (s, 6H), 6.66 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (dd, *J* = 11.9, 2.3 Hz, 2H), 7.36–7.40 (m, 2H), 7.48 (td, *J* = 7.3, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (ddd, *J* = 12.8, 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$ : 55.7, 56.8, 106.0, 106.1, 123.1 (d, *J* = 23.0 Hz), 128.7 (d, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 131.0 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz), 131.1 (d, *J* = 103.5 Hz), 132.0 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz), 135.9 (d, *J* = 104.5 Hz), 156.4 (d, *J* = 17.3 Hz), 161.0 (d, *J* = 16.3 Hz).

<sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 161.83 MHz) δ: 34.8.

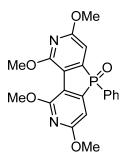
HRMS (EI+, M<sup>+</sup>) Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>5</sub>P: 396.1127. Found: 396.1120.

IR (KBr): 3054 w, 3007 w, 2992 m, 2964 m, 2937 m, 2837 m, 1599 s, 1565 s, 1456 s, 1431 s, 1407 m, 1341 s, 1303 s, 1231 s, 1219 m, 1200 s, 1178 s, 1160 s, 1137 s, 1115 m, 1065 s, 1047 s, 998 w, 988 m, 957 w, 945 w, 934 w, 862 s, 849 s, 836 m, 822 s, 760 m, 752 m, 722 s, 707 m, 697 s, 661 m, 629 w, 613 w, 590 m, 569 m, 541 m, 501 m, 491 m, 447 w, 426 w, 419 w.

MS, *m/z* (relative intensity, %): 397 (22), 396 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 381 (21).

m.p. 200 °C

1,3,7,9-Tetramethoxy-5-phenylphospholo[3,2-*c*:4,5-*c'*]dipyridine 5-oxide (2i) [CAS:2127850-07-9]



Yellow solid (74.8 mg, 95%). Rf 0.76 (SiO<sub>2</sub>, EtOAc).

Isolated by flash column chromatography using EtOAc as eluent.

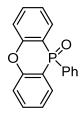
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz) δ: 3.94 (s, 6H), 4.08 (s, 6H), 6.60 (s, 1H), 6.63 (s, 1H), 7.38–7.43 (m, 2H), 7.50–7.54 (m, 1H), 7.58–7.63 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$ : 53.9, 54.1, 101.9 (d, J = 10.5 Hz), 113.0 (d, J = 22.0 Hz), 128.9 (d, J = 12.5 Hz), 129.1 (d, J = 104.5 Hz), 130.8 (d, J = 10.5 Hz), 132.7 (d, J = 1.9 Hz), 146.5 (d, J = 100.6 Hz), 157.2 (d, J = 15.3 Hz), 162.5 (d, J = 17.3 Hz).

<sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 161.83 MHz) δ: 31.1.

HRMS (EI+,  $M^+$ ) Calcd for  $C_{20}H_{19}N_2O_5P$ : 398.1032. Found: 398.1024.

### 10-Phenyl-10H-phenoxaphosphinine 10-oxide (2j) [CAS:1091-27-6]



White solid.  $R_f 0.34$  (SiO<sub>2</sub>, EtOAc).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz) δ: 7.23–7.25 (m, 2H), 7.34–7.49 (m, 5H), 7.57–7.67 (m, 4H), 7.74 (ddd, *J* = 13.1, 7.8, 1.6 Hz, 2H).

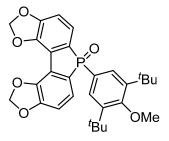
<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$ : 115.3 (d, J = 103.5 Hz), 118.3 (d, J = 5.6 Hz), 124.1 (d, J = 10.5 Hz), 128.5 (d, J = 3.4 Hz), 131.3 (d, J = 5.6 Hz), 131.6 (d, J = 10.5 Hz), 131.8 (d, J = 2.9 Hz), 133.8, 134.0 (d, J = 118.9 Hz), 155.6 (d, J = 2.9 Hz).

<sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 161.83 MHz) δ: -0.1.

HRMS (EI+, M<sup>+</sup>) Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>13</sub>O<sub>2</sub>P: 292.0653. Found: 292.0655.

Anal. Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>13</sub>O<sub>2</sub>P: C, 73.97; H, 4.48, Found: C, 74.10; H, 4.54.

6-(3,5-Di-*tert*-butyl-4-methoxyphenyl)-9,10-dihydro-[1,3]dioxolo[4",5":3',4']benzo[1',2':2,3]ph osphindolo[4,5-b][1,4]dioxole 6-oxide (2k)



White solid (34.0mg, 76%). Rf 0.74 (SiO<sub>2</sub>, EtOAc).

Isolated by flash column chromatography using EtOAc as eluent.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz) δ: 1.34 (s, 18H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 6.15 (dd, *J* = 6.9, 1.4 Hz, 4H), 6.85 (dd, *J* = 7.7, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (dd, *J* = 10.5, 7,7 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 13.7 Hz, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz) δ: 31.8, 35.9, 64.3, 101.6, 109.1 (d, *J* = 13.4 Hz), 119.5 (d, *J* = 24.0 Hz), 125.1 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz), 125.1 (d, *J* = 112.1 Hz), 127.3 (d, *J* = 110.2 Hz), 129.5 (d, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 142.8 (d, *J* = 15.3 Hz), 144.4 (d, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 152.4 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz), 163.0 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz).

<sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 161.83 MHz) δ: 33.8.

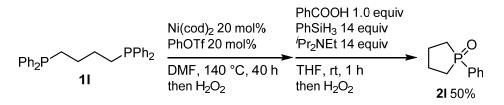
HRMS (EI+, M<sup>+</sup>) Calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>31</sub>O<sub>6</sub>P: 506.1858. Found: 506.1864.

IR (KBr): 3648 w, 3423 w, 2962 m, 1621 w, 1506 w, 1477 s, 1428 m, 1410 w, 1394 w, 1362 w, 1340 w, 1265 s, 1190 s, 1161 m, 1145 w, 1007 m, 927 w, 905 w, 886 w, 845 w, 818 w, 750 w, 706 w, 618 m, 553 w, 541 w, 494 w, 479 w, 464 w, 449 w, 439 w, 426 w, 404 w.

MS, *m/z* (relative intensity, %): 507 (28), 506 (88, M<sup>+</sup>), 492 (31), 491 (100), 461 (34), 449 (14), 435 (11), 288 (13), 287 (72), 271 (13).

m.p. 305 °C

#### V. Synthesis of 1-Phenylphospholane Oxide (2l).



In a glovebox filled with nitrogen, Ni(cod)<sub>2</sub> (5.5 mg, 0.020 mmol), PhOTf (4.5 mg, 0.020 mmol), **11** (43 mg, 0.10 mmol) and DMF (5 mL) were added to a 10 mL vial with a Teflon-sealed screwcap. The vessel was heated at 140 °C for 40 h followed by cooling. An aqueous solution of  $H_2O_2$  (ca. 30%, a few drops) was added, and the mixture was then stirred at room temperature for 1 h. The reaction mixture was dried in vacuo and then subjected to column chromatography but **21**, triphenylphosphine oxide and oxidized **11** could not be separated by flash column chromatography. O'Brien and co-workers reported on a method for the selective reduction of **21** in the presence of non-cyclic tertiary phosphine oxides.<sup>2</sup> We used this method for selective reduction of **21** in the

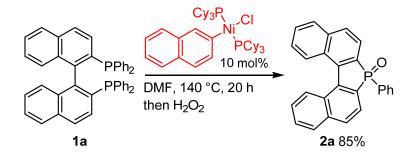
presence of triphenylphosphine oxide and oxidized **11**, which would allow us to isolate **21** from the reaction mixture. Thus, the reaction mixture containing **21**, PhCO<sub>2</sub>H (12 mg, 0.10 mmol), <sup>*i*</sup>Pr<sub>2</sub>NEt (180 mg, 1.4 mmol) and THF (3 mL) were added to a 10 mL vial and the solution was stirred for 1 min. PhSiH<sub>3</sub> (152 mg, 1.4 mmol) was then added and the solution was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. An aqueous solution of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (ca. 30%, a few drops) was added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. The mixture was filtered through a short pad of silica gel, and the pad was further washed with THF. The filtrate was evaporated to give **21** as a mixture with triphenylphosphine oxide (20 mg, **21**:Ph<sub>3</sub>P(=O) = 1.0:1.4 by <sup>31</sup>P NMR). The yield of **21** was estimated to be 50%.

#### 1-Phenylphospholane 1-oxide (2l) [CAS:4963-91-1]

White solid. Rf 0.20 (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 3% NEt<sub>3</sub>, EtOAc).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz) δ: 1.91–2.24 (m, 8H), 7.47–7.56 (m, 3H), 7.71–7.77 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz) δ: 25.3 (d, J = 8.6 Hz), 29.7 (d, J = 67.1 Hz), 128.6 (d, J = 11.5 Hz), 129.9 (d, J = 10.5 Hz), 131.6 (d, J = 2.9 Hz), 134.3 (d, J = 90.1 Hz). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 161.83 MHz) δ: 61.0. HRMS (EI+, M<sup>+</sup>) Calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>13</sub>OP: 180.0704. Found: 180.0701.

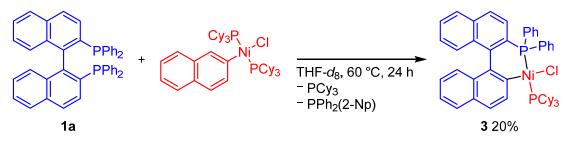
### VI. Catalytic Experiment Using NiCl(2-Np)(PCy<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>



In a glovebox filled with nitrogen, NiCl(2-Np)(PCy<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (15.6 mg, 0.02 mmol),<sup>[1]</sup> **1a** (125 mg, 0.20 mmol) and DMF (1 mL) were added to a 5 mL vial with a Teflon-sealed screwcap. The vessel was heated at 140 °C for 20 h followed by cooling. An aqueous solution of  $H_2O_2$  (ca. 30%, a few drops) was added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. The yield of **2a** was determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR using 1,1,2,2,-tetrachloroethane as an internal standard.

## VII. Stoichiometric Experiments Using NiCl(2-Np)(PCy<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>

• Synthesis of Phospha-Nickelacycle 3 via the Cleavage of Carbon-Phosphorus Bond

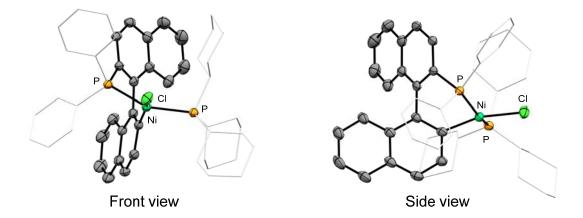


In a glovebox filled with nitrogen, NiCl(2-Np)(PCy<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (7.8 mg, 0.01 mmol), **1a** (6.3 mg, 0.01 mmol) and THF- $d_8$  (0.6 mL) were added to a J-Young NMR tube and heated at 60 °C for 24 h. The yield of **3** was determined by <sup>31</sup>P NMR using hexamethylphosphoric triamide as an internal standard. The resulting solution was filtered through Celite, and dried in vacuo. Pentane (1.0 mL) was added with vigorous stirring and the resulting red suspension (this precipitate contains complex **4**) was filtrated. The filtrate was dried in vacuo and purified by recrystallization from THF and pentane to afford a red-colored single crystal of **3**. Some of these crystals were suitable for X-ray analysis.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$ : 0.83–1.94 (m, 33H), 6.73 (br, 1H), 6.87–6.90 (m, 2H), 6.96–7.00 (m, 1H), 7.03–7.06 (m, 1H), 7.09–7.12 (m, 2H), 7.31–7.56 (m, 11H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.33 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H).

<sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 161.83 MHz)  $\delta$ : 16.6 (d, J = 318 Hz), 22.8 (d, J = 318 Hz).

HRMS (FAB+, [M-Cl]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd forC<sub>50</sub>H<sub>55</sub>NiP<sub>2</sub>: 775.3132. Found: 775.3146.



**Figure S1.** ORTEP drawing of **3** with thermal ellipsoids set at the 50% probability (except for the phenyl and cyclohexyl groups) and all the hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. CCDC 1907794.

## NMR Experiments

In a glovebox filled with nitrogen, NiCl(2-Np)(PCy<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (7.8 mg, 0.01 mmol), **1a** (6.3 mg, 0.01 mmol) and THF- $d_8$  (0.6 mL) were added to a J-Young NMR tube and heated. Reaction was monitored by <sup>31</sup>P NMR.

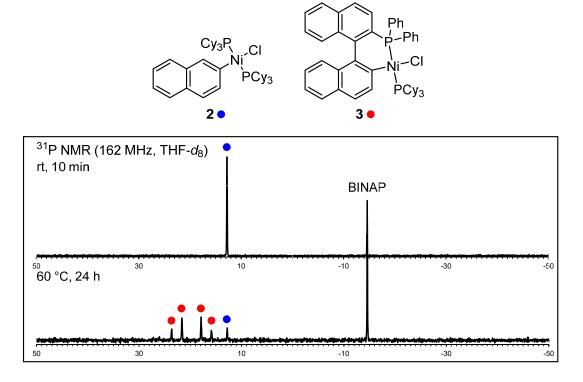
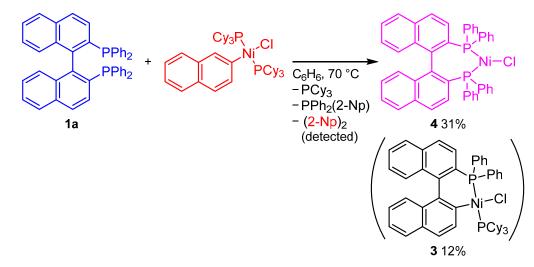


Figure S2. <sup>31</sup>P NMR results on the reaction of NiCl(2-Np)(PCy<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> with 1a at 60 °C.

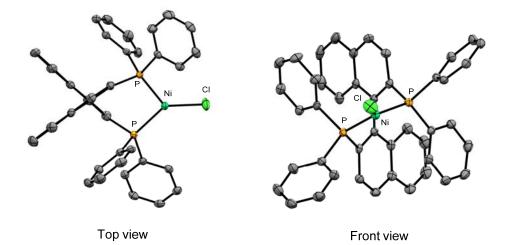


• Synthesis of Nickel(I) Complex 4

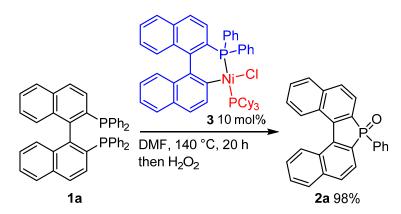
In a glovebox filled with nitrogen, NiCl(2-Np)(PCy<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (72.9 mg, 0.09 mmol), **1a** (60.8 mg, 0.10 mmol) and benzene (2.5 mL) were added to a 5 mL vial with a Teflon-sealed screwcap. The vessel was heated at 70 °C for 40 h without stirring to afford a red precipitate. Complex **4** was isolated as a red solid by filtration. Some of these crystals were suitable for X-ray analysis. During the course of the formation of **4**, 2,2'-binaphthalene [(2-Np)<sub>2</sub>], which is formed by bimolecular reductive

elimination from BINAP-ligated Ni(II) complex phosphorus residue, was observed by FAB-MS. Hartwig group reported a related binuclear BINAP-ligated Ni(I) complex, which is formed by bimolecular reductive elimination from BINAP-ligated Ni(II) complex.<sup>[3]</sup> Interestingly, however, we have obtained here a mononuclear BINAP-ligated Ni(I) complex.

HRMS (FAB+, M<sup>+</sup>) Calcd for C<sub>44</sub>H<sub>32</sub>ClNiP<sub>2</sub>: 715.1021. Found: 715.1028.



**Figure S3.** ORTEP drawing of **4** with thermal ellipsoids set at the 50% probability and all the hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. CCDC 1907915.



#### VIII. Catalytic Experiment Using Phospha-Nickelacycle 3

In a glovebox filled with nitrogen, **3** (16.1 mg, 0.02 mmol), **1a** (126 mg, 0.20 mmol) and DMF (1 mL) were added to a 5 mL vial with a Teflon-sealed screwcap. The vessel was heated at 140 °C for 20 h followed by cooling. An aqueous solution of  $H_2O_2$  (ca. 30%, a few drops) was added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. The yield of **2a** was determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR using 1,1,2,2,-tetrachloroethane as an internal standard.

### IX. Stoichiometric Experiment Using Phospha-Nickelacycle 3

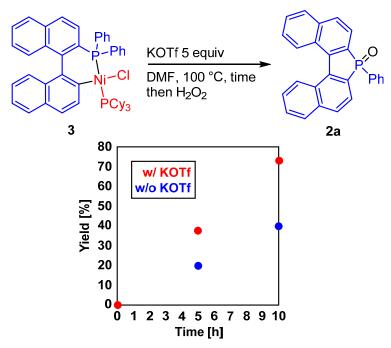
• Reductive Elimination of 2a from Phospha-Nickelacycle 3



In a glovebox filled with nitrogen, **3** (16.2 mg, 0.02 mmol), KOTf (18.8 mg, 0.10 mmol) and DMF (1 mL) were added to a 5 mL vial with a Teflon-sealed screwcap and heated at 100 °C for 10 h. An aqueous solution of  $H_2O_2$  (ca. 30%, a few drops) was added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. The yield of **2a** was determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR using 1,1,2,2,-tetrachloroethane as an internal standard.

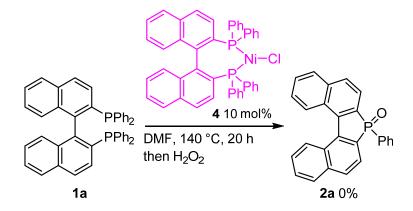
#### Effect of KOTf

In a glovebox filled with nitrogen, **3** (16.2 mg, 0.02 mmol), KOTf (18.8 mg, 0.10 mmol) and DMF (1 mL) were added to a 5 mL vial with a Teflon-sealed screwcap and heated at 100 °C for 1–10 h. An aqueous solution of  $H_2O_2$  (ca. 30%, a few drops) was added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. The yield of **2a** was determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR using 1,1,2,2,-tetrachloroethane as an internal standard. Similar experiments were conducted under the condition without addition of KOTf.



**Figure S4.** Time course of the reductive elimination of **2a** from **3** in the absence (red)/presence (blue) of KOTf.

#### X. Catalytic Experiment Using BINAP-ligated Ni(I) Complex 4



In a glovebox filled with nitrogen, **4** (7.2 mg, 0.01 mmol), **1a** (62.3 mg, 0.10 mmol) and DMF (1 mL) were added to a 5 mL vial with a Teflon-sealed screwcap. The vessel was heated at 140 °C for 20 h followed by cooling. An aqueous solution of  $H_2O_2$  (ca. 30%, a few drops) was added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. The yield of **2a** was determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR using 1,1,2,2,-tetrachloroethane as an internal standard.

#### **XI. Reference**

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Percec, Org. Lett. 2014, 16, 6326.

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XII. Copies of <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>31</sup>P NMR Spectra

