## **Supporting Information**

### Air-Stable Secondary Phosphine Oxide or Chloride (Pre)Ligands for Cross-Couplings of

#### **Unactivated Alkyl Chlorides**

Lutz Ackermann,\* Anant R. Kapdi and Carola Schulzke

Institut für Organische und Biomolekulare Chemie

Georg-August-Universitat

Tammannstrasse 2, 37077 Goettingen (Germany)

Fax: (+49)551-39-6777

### E-mail: Lutz.Ackermann@chemie.uni-goettingen.de

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#### General remarks

Catalytic reactions were carried out under a N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere using pre-dried glassware. Aryl bromides and iodides were obtained from commercial sources, and were used without further purification. Grignard reagents unless specified were brought from commercial sources. THF was freshly distilled from sodium/benzophenone under N<sub>2</sub>. NMP was distilled from CaH<sub>2</sub> and stored under N<sub>2</sub>. Starting materials 6-chlorohexanenitrile,<sup>1</sup> 6-chlorohexanoic acid methyl ester,<sup>2</sup> 6-chloro-1-phenyl-1-hexanone,<sup>3</sup> 2-bromo-2',6'-dimethoxybiphenyl,<sup>4</sup> 2-bromo-2',4',6'-trimethoxybiphenyl,<sup>4</sup> *N*-phenylindole,<sup>5</sup> *N*-methyl-2-(2'-bromophenyl)indole<sup>6</sup> and *P-tert*-butyl-*P*-(2',6'-dimethoxy-biphen-2-yl)phosphine oxide<sup>7</sup> (**4e**) were prepared according to literature procedure. Yields refer to isolated compounds, estimated to be >95 % pure as determined by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and GC. Flash chromatography: Macherey-Nagel silica gel 60 (70-230 mesh). NMR: Spectra were recorded on a Varian-NMR 300 instrument in the solvent indicated; chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are given in ppm.

# Synthesis and characterization of air-stable secondary phosphine oxides (4f-4i), chlorides (5a-5c)

#### and tertiary phosphines (6a-6b):



P-tert-Butyl-P-(2',4',6'-trimethoxy-biphen-2-yl)phosphine oxide 4f: To a solution of 2-bromo-2',4',6'trimethoxybiphenyl (1.20 g, 3.70 mmol) in THF (20 mL) was added *n*-BuLi (3.10 mL, 1.60 M solution in hexanes, 5.20 mmol) and the reaction was stirred at -78 °C for 3 h. Then, a solution of t-BuPCl<sub>2</sub> (0.64 g, 4.00 mmol) in THF (5.0 mL) was added dropwise and the mixture was heated to 110 °C for 12 h. After the mixture was cooled to ambient temperature, H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 3 d at ambient temperature, extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 x 20 mL) and dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvents were removed and the remaining residue was subjected to column chromatography (EtOAc/MeOH: 95/5) to yield **4f** (730 mg, 57%) as colourless crystals. m.p: 170–171 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.95–7.85 (m, 1H), 7.56–7.45 (m, 1H), 7.44–7.37 (m, 1H), 7.22–7.13 (m, 1H), 6.64 (d, J = 475.0 Hz, 1H), 6.15 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 0.93 (d, J = 15.0 Hz, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 161.5 (C<sub>a</sub>), 158.3 (C<sub>a</sub>), 157.3 (C<sub>a</sub>), 137.0 (<sup>2</sup>J<sub>C-P</sub> = 18 Hz, C<sub>a</sub>), 132.4 (CH), 131.8 (CH), 131.4 (CH), 131.3 (CH), 129.5 ( ${}^{1}J_{C-P} = 91$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 126.8 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 10$  Hz, CH), 109.4  $({}^{3}J_{C-P} = 5 \text{ Hz}, C_{q}), 90.4 ({}^{2}J_{C-P} = 58 \text{ Hz}, CH), 55.8 (CH_{3}), 55.3 (CH_{3}), 55.2 (CH_{3}), 32.0 ({}^{1}J_{C-P} = 67 \text{ Hz}, C_{q}),$ 23.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (121.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 42.6. IR (KBr): 3016, 2952, 2897, 2181, 1663, 1462, 1284, 1163, 1030, 780 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 348 (10) [M<sup>+</sup>], 317 (100), 291 (10), 276 (20), 261 (30), 243 (10), 217 (5), 101 (20), 59 (30). HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O<sub>4</sub>P+H<sup>+</sup> 349.1563. found 349.1563.



P-Cyclohexyl-P-(2',6'-dimethoxy-biphen-2-yl)phosphine oxide 4g: To a solution of 2-bromo-2',6'dimethoxybiphenyl (0.75 g, 2.50 mmol) in THF (20 mL) was added n-BuLi (1.50 mL, 1.60 M solution in hexanes, 3.50 mmol) and the reaction was stirred at -78 °C for 3 h. Then, a solution of CyPCl<sub>2</sub> (0.52 g, 2.80 mmol) in THF (5.0 mL) was added dropwise and the mixture was heated to 110 °C for 12 h. After the mixture was cooled to ambient temperature, H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 30 min at ambient temperature, extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 x 25 mL) and dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvents were removed and the remaining residue was subjected to column chromatography (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH: 1/1) to yield **4g** (660 mg, 75%) as colourless crystals. m.p: 120–122 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 8.05-7.95$  (m, 1H), 7.60–7.45 (m, 2H), 7.35 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.22–7.15 (m, 1H), 6.82 (d, J = 474.2 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.70 (s, 6H), 1.79–0.90 (m, 11H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75) MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 157.7$  (C<sub>q</sub>), 157.0 (C<sub>q</sub>), 136.6 ( ${}^{1}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 131.6 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz, CH), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.1 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132. = 11 Hz, CH), 131.5 (CH), 131.4 (CH), 130.2 (CH), 129.0 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 4$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 127.3 (CH), 115.8 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 6$ Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 103.5 (<sup>3</sup>J<sub>C-P</sub> = 6 Hz, CH), 55.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 55.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 38.0 (CH), 26.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 26.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 25.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 25.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 23.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (121.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 30.8. IR (KBr): 3056, 2958, 2846, 2179, 1931, 1680, 1174, 1109, 1039, 739 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 344 (10) [M<sup>+</sup>], 313 (100), 273 (10), 246 (20), 231 (10), 212 (5), 168 (5), 139 (5). HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O<sub>3</sub>P+H<sup>+</sup> 345.1614, found 345.1616.



P-tert-Butyl-P-(N-phenylpyrrol-2-yl)phosphine oxide 4h: In a three-necked 100 mL round-bottomed flask equipped with a reflux condenser, N-phenylpyrrole (0.50 g, 3.50 mmol) was dissolved in hexane (10 mL). TMEDA (0.60 g, 0.80 mL, 5.20 mmol) was added followed by n-BuLi (1.50 mL, 1.60 M in hexane, 3.50 mmol) at ambient temperature. The reaction mixture was refluxed for 3 h. A solution of the t-BuPCl<sub>2</sub> (0.56 g, 3.50 mmol) in PhMe (5.0 mL) was slowly added through a syringe to the yellow solution. The mixture was heated at 110 °C for 1 h. At ambient temperature, H<sub>2</sub>O (15 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 10 min. The aqueous layer was extracted with PhMe (2 x 25 mL), and the combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. Purification by column chromatography (Et<sub>2</sub>O/MeOH: 20/1) yielded **4h** (640 mg, 74%) as a colourless solid. Crystals suitable for X-ray analysis were obtained in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as solvent by vapour diffusion method. m.p: 70-72 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 7.55 - 7.47$  (m, 2H), 7.46–7.40 (m, 2H), 7.39–7.32 (m, 1H), 7.09–7.04 (m, 1H), 6.94–6.88 (m, 1H), 6.89 (d, J = 463.0 Hz, 1H), 6.39–6.34 (m, 1H), 0.91 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 140.0$  (C<sub>a</sub>), 129.4 (<sup>3</sup>J<sub>C-P</sub> = 6 Hz, CH), 129.3 (CH), 128.1 (CH), 126.2 (CH), 122.3 (<sup>2</sup>J<sub>C-P</sub> = 15) Hz, CH), 121.8 ( ${}^{1}J_{C-P} = 104$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 110.0 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 11$  Hz, CH), 32.6 ( ${}^{1}J_{C-P} = 75$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 23.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>).  ${}^{31}P$ NMR (121.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 33.1. IR (KBr): 3058, 2961, 2897, 1549, 1467, 1172, 1101, 1087, 1029, 765 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 247 (25) [M<sup>+</sup>], 191 (20), 172 (20), 144 (100), 115 (10), 77 (10), 41 (30). HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>ONP+H<sup>+</sup> 248.1198, found 248.1200.



*P-tert*-Butyl-*P*-(*N*-phenylindol-2-yl)phosphine oxide 4i: In a three-necked 100 mL round-bottomed flask equipped with a reflux condenser, N-phenylindole (0.92 g, 4.70 mmol) was dissolved in PhMe (10 mL). TMEDA (0.81 g, 1.05 mL, 7.00 mmol) was added, followed by n-BuLi (2.00 mL, 1.60 M in hexane, 4.70 mmol) at ambient temperature. The reaction mixture was heated at 110 °C for 3 h. A solution of the t-BuPCl<sub>2</sub> (0.75 g, 4.70 mmol) in PhMe (5.0 mL) was slowly added through a syringe to the red solution. The mixture was heated at 110 °C for 2 h. At ambient temperature, H<sub>2</sub>O (15 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 10 min to give a clear solution. The aqueous layer was extracted with PhMe (2 x 25 mL), and the combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated under vacuum to give a yellow viscous liquid. Purification by column chromatography (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) yielded 4i (850 mg, 60%) as colourless solid. m.p. 94–96 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 7.70$  (dt, J = 7.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55–7.40 (m, 5H), 7.28 (dd, J = 5.2, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.26–7.13 (m, 3H), 6.93 (d, J = 467.1 Hz, 1H), 0.96 (d, J = 17.5 Hz, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 140.8$  (<sup>3</sup> $J_{C-P} = 6$  Hz, C<sub>0</sub>), 137.6 (C<sub>0</sub>), 129.5 (2CH), 129.3 ( ${}^{1}J_{C-P} = 100 \text{ Hz}, C_{q}$ ), 128.6 (CH), 128.4 (CH), 126.9 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 11 \text{ Hz}, C_{q}$ ), 125.0 (CH), 121.9 (CH), 121.2 (CH), 115.2 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 14$  Hz, CH), 111.1 (CH), 32.5 ( ${}^{1}J_{C-P} = 78$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 23.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>).  ${}^{31}P$  NMR  $(121.5 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3)$ :  $\delta = 32.5$ . IR (KBr): 3054, 2966, 2894, 1654, 1497, 1201, 1172, 1025, 935 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 297 (90) [M<sup>+</sup>], 240 (20), 222 (40), 194 (100), 165 (20), 140 (2), HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>20</sub>ONP+H<sup>+</sup> 298.1355, found 298.1355.



**2-(2-[1-(***tert***-Butyl)-1-chlorophosphino]phenyl)-1-methyl-1***H***-indole <b>5a:** *N*-methyl-2-(2'-bromophenyl)indole (700 mg, 2.40 mmol) was dissolved in THF (10 mL) at ambient temperature. The solution was cooled to -78 °C and *n*-BuLi (172 mg, 1.60 M solution in hexanes, 2.60 mmol) was added slowly via syringe. After the reaction was stirred for 30 min at -78 °C, *t*-BuPCl<sub>2</sub> (413 mg, 2.60 mmol) in THF (5.0 mL) was slowly added over a period of 20 min. The reaction was allowed to warm to ambient

temperature and then stirred overnight. Evaporation of the solvents and diluting the crude material with EtOAc (20 mL) gave **5a** (330 mg, 41%) as a white solid. m.p: 139–140 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 7.87$  (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.29–7.21 (m, 3H), 7.16 (dt, J = 7.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 4.14 (s, 3H), 1.09 (d, J = 14.0 Hz, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 147.9$  (C<sub>q</sub>), 146.6 (<sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 13 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 142.4 (C<sub>q</sub>), 136.7 (CH), 131.3 (<sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 19 Hz, CH), 127.9 (CH), 127.8 (<sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 14 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 125.2 (<sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 8 Hz, CH), 122.0 (CH), 121.1 (CH), 120.2 (CH), 120.0 (CH), 113.7 (<sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 5 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 109.7 (CH), 32.2 (<sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 31 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 31.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 27.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (121.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -4.20$ . IR (KBr): 3056, 2989, 2895, 1541, 1463, 1169, 1072, 1032, 791 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 329 (100) [M<sup>+</sup>], 315 (10), 281 (10). HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>21</sub>ClNP+H<sup>+</sup> 330.1178, found 330.1174.



*P-tert*-Butyl-*P*-(2',6'-dimethoxy-biphen-2-yl)phosphine chloride 5b: To a solution of 2-bromo-2',6'dimethoxybiphenyl (1.00 g, 3.40 mmol) in THF (20 mL) was added *n*-BuLi (2.80 mL, 1.60 M solution in hexanes, 4.70 mmol) and the reaction was stirred at -78 °C for 3 h. Then, a solution of *t*-BuPCl<sub>2</sub> (0.59 g, 3.70 mmol) in THF (5.0 mL) was added dropwise and the mixture was heated at 110 °C for 12 h. At ambient temperature, the solvents were removed and the residue was subjected to column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 5/1) to yield **5b** (0.92 g, 86%) as colourless crystals. Crystals suitable for X-ray analysis were obtained in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as solvent by vapour diffusion method. m.p: 129–130 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  =7.92–7.89 (m, 1H), 7.45–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.18–7.14 (m, 1H), 6.58 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 5.7 Hz, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 0.92 (d, *J* = 13.0 Hz, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 157.9 (C<sub>q</sub>), 157.1 (C<sub>q</sub>), 139.7 (<sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 38 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 136.3 (<sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 42 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 132.2 (CH), 131.0 (<sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 6 Hz, CH), 129.8 (CH), 129.7 (CH), 129.4 (CH), 126.6 (CH), 117.9 (<sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 8 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 103.6 (<sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 19 Hz, CH), 55.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 55.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 34.7 (<sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 33 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 25.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (121.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 107.7$ . IR (KBr): 2956, 2933, 1609, 1409, 1205, 1158, 1135, 1078, 1014, 787 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 336 (10) [M<sup>+</sup>], 305 (40), 249 (30), 214 (100), 184 (20), 155 (10). HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>22</sub>ClO<sub>2</sub>P+H<sup>+</sup> 337.1124, found 337.1129.



*P-tert*-Butyl-*P*-(2',4',6'-trimethoxy-biphen-2-yl)phosphine chloride 5c: To a solution of 2-bromo-2',4',6'-trimethoxybiphenyl (1.20 g, 3.70 mmol) in THF (20 mL) was added *n*-BuLi (3.10 mL, 1.60 M solution in hexanes, 5.20 mmol) and the reaction was stirred at -78 °C for 3 h. Then, a solution of *t*-BuPCl<sub>2</sub> (0.64 g, 4.00 mmol) in THF (5.0 mL) was added dropwise and the mixture was heated at 110 °C for 12 h. At ambient temperature, the solvents were removed and the residue was subjected to column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 5/1) to yield **5c** (1.28 g, 95%) as colourless crystals. Crystals suitable for X-ray analysis were obtained in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as solvent by vapour diffusion method. m.p: 120–122 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.90–7.84 (m, 1H), 7.45–7.32 (m, 2H), 7.17–7.10 (m, 1H), 6.18–6.12 (m, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 0.91 (d, *J* = 15 Hz, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 162.2 (C<sub>q</sub>), 158.5 (C<sub>q</sub>), 157.0 (C<sub>q</sub>), 138.2 (<sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 14 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 133.3 (CH), 133.1 (CH), 133.0 (CH), 132.2 (<sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 8 Hz, CH), 127.2 (<sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 13 Hz, CH), 109.2 (<sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 5 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 100.5 (<sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 18 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 90.5 (<sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 84 Hz, CH), 56.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 55.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 55.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 32.0 (<sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 38 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 22.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (121.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 109.8. IR (KBr): 3009, 2950, 2898, 2159, 1618, 1416, 1178, 1070, 1047, 777 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m*/*z* (relative intensity) 389 (100) [M+Na<sup>+</sup>], 367 (30) [M+H<sup>+</sup>], 331 (10), 275 (20). HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>3</sub>PCl+H<sup>+</sup> 367.1124, found 367.1121.



P-tert-Butyl-P-(2',6'-dimethoxy-biphen-2-yl)-P-(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphine 6a: To a solution of P-tert-butyl-P-(2',6'-dimethoxy-biphen-2-yl) phosphine chloride (5b) (1.14 g, 3.40 mmol) in THF (20 mL) was added Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (30 mg, 4.0 mol %, 0.13 mmol). Then, a solution of 4methoxyphenylmagnesium bromide (5.10 mL, 5.10 mmol 1.00 M in THF) was added dropwise, and the mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 12 h. At ambient temperature, the solvents were removed and the residue was subjected to column chromatography (n-hexane/EtOAc: 3/1) to yield 6a (0.72 g, 52%) as colourless crystals. m.p. 148–150 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 7.74-7.59$  (m, 1H), 7.46–7.13 (m, 6H), 6.80  $(d, J = 8.0 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H}), 6.64 (d, J = 7.9 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 6.47 (d, J = 7.9 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 3.75 (d, 6\text{H}), 3.33 (s, 3\text{H}), 1.05 (s, 3\text{$ J = 12.0 Hz, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 158.9$  (C<sub>a</sub>), 157.6 (C<sub>a</sub>), 157.4 (C<sub>a</sub>), 142.5 (<sup>1</sup>J<sub>C-P</sub> = 34) Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 138.1 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 19$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 134.8 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 19$  Hz, CH), 134.3 ( ${}^{4}J_{C-P} = 3$  Hz, CH), 131.2 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 6$ Hz, CH), 130.3 ( ${}^{1}J_{C-P} = 20$  Hz, C<sub>a</sub>), 128.6 (CH), 128.3 (CH), 126.3 (CH), 120.0 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 8$  Hz, C<sub>a</sub>), 113.1  $({}^{3}J_{C-P} = 7 \text{ Hz}, \text{CH}), 103.4 ({}^{2}J_{C-P} = 53 \text{ Hz}, \text{CH}), 55.6 (\text{CH}_{3}), 55.1 (\text{CH}_{3}), 55.0 (\text{CH}_{3}), 30.5 ({}^{1}J_{C-P} = 17 \text{ Hz}, \text{CH})$  $C_{0}$ , 28.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (121.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.15. IR (KBr): 3051, 2948, 2895, 2048, 1587, 1442, 1178, 1082, 1034, 910 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 431 (40) [M+Na<sup>+</sup>], 409 (100) [M+H<sup>+</sup>], 377 (10). HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd  $C_{25}H_{29}O_3P+H^+$  409.1933, found 409.1928.



*P-tert*-Butyl-*P*-(2',6'-dimethoxy-biphen-2-yl)-P-(*n*-hexyl)phosphine 6b: To a solution of *P-tert*-butyl-*P*-(2',6'-dimethoxy-biphen-2-yl) phosphine chloride (5b) (0.20 g, 0.58 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added *n*-BuLi (0.75 mL, 1.60 M solution in hexanes, 0.70 mmol) and the reaction was stirred at -78 °C for 2 h. Then, a solution of 1-chlorohexane (0.084 g, 0.70 mmol) in THF (5.0 mL) was added dropwise and the mixture was heated at 110 °C for 12 h. At ambient temperature, H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL) was added and the resulting mixture was stirred for 30 min at ambient temperature, extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 x 25 mL), and dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvents were removed and purification by column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 9/1) yielded **6b** (182 mg, 81%) as colourless crystals. m.p: 168-170 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 7.55-7.50$  (m, 1H), 7.44–7.33 (m, 2H), 7.29 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.19–7.14 (m, 1H), 6.56 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 1.95–1.81 (m, 1H), 1.57–1.43 (m, 1H), 1.39–1.18 (m, 8H), 0.88–0.78 (m, 12H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 157.6 (C<sub>q</sub>), 157.2 (C<sub>q</sub>), 143.0 (<sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 33 Hz,  $C_{q}$ , 136.4 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 25 \text{ Hz}, C_{q}$ ), 131.6 ( ${}^{4}J_{C-P} = 4 \text{ Hz}, CH$ ), 131.0 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 6 \text{ Hz}, CH$ ), 128.6 (CH), 128.3 (CH), 126.1 (CH), 120 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 6 \text{ Hz}, C_{a}$ ), 103.2 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 13 \text{ Hz}, \text{CH}$ ), 55.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 55.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 31.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.2 ( ${}^{1}J_{C-P} = 14$  Hz, C<sub>0</sub>), 27.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.4 ( ${}^{2}J_{C-P} = 19$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.2 ( ${}^{3}J_{C-P} = 17$ Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (121.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = -8.50. IR (KBr): 3051, 2948, 2895, 2048, 1468, 1177, 1071, 1045, 773 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 386 (10) [M<sup>+</sup>], 313 (100), 273 (10), 246 (10), 231 (20), 212 (10), 168 (10), 139 (10). HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>35</sub>O<sub>2</sub>P+H<sup>+</sup> 387.2453, found 387.2451.

# Representative procedure A: Kumada-Corriu cross-coupling of alkyl chlorides (Table 1, entry 12) and characterization data for 3a-3l:

A solution of Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (18 mg, 4.0 mol %, 0.08 mmol) and **5b** (26 mg, 4.0 mol %, 0.08 mmol) in NMP (5.0 mL) was stirred for 10 min at ambient temperature under N<sub>2</sub>. Then, 1-chloro-*n*-hexane (240 mg, 0.27 mL, 2.00 mmol) was added *via* syringe and the solution was stirred for 5 min at ambient temperature. Thereafter, 4-tolylmagnesium bromide (3.00 mL, 3.00 mmol, 1.00 M in THF) was added dropwise over 3 min to the stirred reaction mixture. The resulting solution was stirred for 20 h at ambient temperature, after which MeOH (1.00 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (1.00 mL) were added and the resultant solution was concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification of the residue by column chromatography (*n*-hexane) yielded **3a** (281 mg, 80%) as a colourless liquid.



*n*-Hexyl-4-methylbenzene (3a): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 7.09$  (vs, 4H), 2.57 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.65–1.51 (m, 2H), 1.40–1.21 (m, 6H), 0.89 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 139.8$  (C<sub>q</sub>), 134.9 (C<sub>q</sub>), 128.8 (CH), 128.2 (CH), 35.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 20.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 14.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>). IR (NaCl): 3089, 2951, 2870, 1799, 1356, 1182, 1103, 1066, 1030, 783 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 176 (10) [M<sup>+</sup>], 165 (5), 119 (5), 105 (100), 91 (10), 79 (5). HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>20</sub> 176.1565, found 176.1570. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.<sup>8</sup>



*n*-Butylbenzene (3b): Representative procedure A was followed, using phenylmagnesium chloride (3.00 mL, 3.00 mmol, 1.00 M in THF) and 1-chloro-*n*-butane (184 mg, 0.21 mL, 2.00 mmol). After 20 h, purification by chromatography (*n*-hexane) yielded **3b** (160 mg, 60%) as a colourless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 7.27$  (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 7.21–7.18 (m, 3H), 2.59 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.66–1.50

(m, 2H), 1.38–1.21 (m, 2H), 0.86 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 142.7$  (C<sub>q</sub>), 128.2 (CH), 127.9 (CH), 125.8 (CH), 35.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>). IR (NaCl): 2958, 1938, 1786, 1494, 1344, 1032, 785, 726 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 134 (20) [M<sup>+</sup>], 119 (5), 105 (10), 91 (60), 78 (10), 65 (11), 43 (100). HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>14</sub> 134.1095, found 134.1095. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.<sup>9</sup>



*n*-Butyl-4-methylbenzene (3c): Representative procedure followed, using А was 4methylphenylmagnesium bromide (3.00 mL, 3.00 mmol, 1.00 M in THF) and 1-chloro-n-butane (184 mg, 0.21 mL, 2.00 mmol). After 20 h, purification by chromatography (*n*-hexane) yielded **3c** (183 mg, 62%) as a colourless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 7.10$  (vs, 4H), 2.60 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 1.65–1.53 (m, 2H), 1.44–1.25 (m, 2H), 0.94 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta =$ 139.7 (C<sub>a</sub>), 134.8 (C<sub>a</sub>), 128.8 (CH), 128.2 (CH), 35.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 33.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 20.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 13.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>). IR (NaCl): 3088, 2961, 1943, 1492, 1345, 1031, 783, 726, 676, 570 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 148 (20) [M<sup>+</sup>], 133 (20), 105 (100), 91 (20), 67 (30), 55 (15), 43 (35). HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>16</sub> 148.1252, found 148.1252. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.<sup>10</sup>



*n*-Pentylbenzene (3d): Representative procedure A was followed, using phenylmagnesium chloride (1.36 mL, 3.00 mmol, 2.20 M in THF) and 1-chloro-*n*-pentane (212 mg, 0.24 mL, 2.00 mmol). After 20 h, purification by chromatography (*n*-hexane) yielded 3d (192 mg, 65%) as a colourless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.27 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 7.20–7.17 (m, 3H), 2.60 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.65–1.50 (m, 2H), 1.40–1.19 (m, 4H), 0.89 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 142.6 (C<sub>q</sub>), 128.4

(CH), 128.2 (CH), 125.8 (CH), 35.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>). IR (NaCl): 3081, 2952, 1936, 1795, 1492, 1353, 1033, 787, 726, 698 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 148 (10)  $[M^+]$ , 121 (100), 91 (15), 77 (10), 65 (10), 41 (35). HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>16</sub> 148.1252, found 148.1247. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.<sup>9</sup>



(3e): 4-Methyl-*n*-pentylbenzene Representative procedure followed. using А was 4methylphenylmagnesium bromide (3.00 mL, 3.00 mmol, 1.00 M in THF) and 1-chloro-n-pentane (212 mg, 0.24 mL, 2.00 mmol). After 20 h, purification by chromatography (*n*-hexane) yielded **3e** (217 mg, 67%) as a colourless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.09 (vs, 4H), 2.57 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.67–1.51 (m, 2H), 1.40–1.22 (m, 4H), 0.91 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta =$ 139.8 (C<sub>a</sub>), 134.9 (C<sub>a</sub>), 128.8 (CH), 128.2 (CH), 35.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 20.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>). IR (NaCl): 3086, 2958, 2872, 1799, 1495, 1353, 1031, 783, 726, 696 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 162 (10) [M<sup>+</sup>], 148 (15), 121 (100), 91 (15), 77 (10), 65 (10), 41 (35). HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>18</sub> 162.1409, found 162.1414. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.<sup>11</sup>



*n*-Hexylbenzene (**3f**): Representative procedure A was followed, using phenylmagnesium chloride (1.36 mL, 3.00 mmol, 2.20 M in THF) and 1-chloro-*n*-hexane (240 mg, 0.27 mL, 2.00 mmol). After 20 h, purification by chromatography (*n*-hexane) yielded **3f** (226 mg, 70%) as a colourless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 7.26$  (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 7.17–7.14 (m, 3H), 2.59 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.67–1.52 (m, 2H), 1.40–1.19 (m, 6H), 0.87 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 142.9$  (C<sub>q</sub>), 128.3 (CH), 128.1 (CH), 125.5 (CH), 35.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>).

IR (NaCl): 3080, 2961, 2859, 1793, 1602, 1490, 1353, 1028, 778, 731, 698 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 162 (10) [M<sup>+</sup>], 133 (5), 119 (5), 105 (10), 91 (100), 71 (10), 65 (15), 57 (15), 43 (50). HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>18</sub> 162.1408, found 162.1415. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.<sup>12</sup>



*n*-Octylbenzene (3g): Representative procedure A was followed, using phenylmagnesium chloride (1.36 mL, 3.00 mmol, 2.20 M in THF) and 1-chloro-*n*-octane (296 mg, 0.34 mL, 2.00 mmol). After 20 h, purification by chromatography (*n*-hexane) yielded **3g** (220 mg, 58%) as a colourless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.23 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 7.16–7.13 (m, 3H), 2.56 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.64–1.46 (m, 2H), 1.39–1.19 (m, 10H), 0.86 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 142.8 (Cq), 128.8 (CH), 128.2 (CH), 125.6 (CH), 35.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>). IR (NaCl): 3086, 2958, 1939, 1799, 1606, 1495, 1031, 783, 698, 570 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 190 (20) [M<sup>+</sup>], 165 (10), 119 (5), 105 (100), 91 (10), 79 (10), 57 (10), 43 (20). HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>22</sub> 190.1722, found 190.1728. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.<sup>10</sup>



6-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-hexanoic acid methyl ester (3h): Representative procedure A was followed, using 4-methoxyphenylmagnesium bromide (3.00 mL, 3.00 mmol, 1.00 M in THF) and 6-chloro-1-hexanoic acid methyl ester (328 mg, 2.00 mmol). After 20 h, purification by chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 10/1) yielded **3h** (240 mg, 51%) as a colourless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.05 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.82 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 2.53 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.28 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 1.74–1.49 (m, 4H), 1.45–1.30 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 174.1 (C<sub>q</sub>),

157.6 (C<sub>q</sub>), 134.5 (C<sub>q</sub>), 129.2 (CH), 113.6 (CH), 55.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 51.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 34.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 28.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 24.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>). IR (NaCl): 3015, 2939, 2872, 2365, 1742, 1702, 1610, 1459, 1353, 1179, 1106, 1066, 1025 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 236 (100) [M<sup>+</sup>], 205 (20), 147 (40), 130 (50), 106 (10), 76 (20). HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>3</sub>+H<sup>+</sup> 237.1491, found 237.1490. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.<sup>13</sup>



**1,6-Diphenyl-1-hexanone (3i):** Representative procedure A was followed, using phenylmagnesium chloride (1.36 mL, 3.00 mmol, 2.20 M in THF) and 6-chloro-1-phenyl-1-hexanone (420 mg, 2.00 mmol). After 20 h, purification by chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 50/1) yielded **3i** (282 mg, 56%) as a colourless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.93 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.20–7.12 (m, 3H), 2.95 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.62 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.84–1.60 (m, 4H), 1.49–1.35 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 200.4 (C<sub>q</sub>), 142.5 (C<sub>q</sub>), 137.0 (C<sub>q</sub>), 132.9 (CH), 128.5 (CH), 128.4 (CH), 128.2 (CH), 128.0 (CH), 125.6 (CH), 38.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 35.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 24.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>). IR (NaCl): 3062, 3023, 2959, 1741, 1452, 1291, 1074, 757, 726 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 252 (100) [M<sup>+</sup>], 205 (20), 177 (10), 163 (25), 91 (20), 77 (10). HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O 252.1514, found 252.1512.



**1-Phenyl-6-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-hexanone (3j):** Representative procedure A was followed, using 4methoxyphenylmagnesium bromide (3.00 mL, 3.00 mmol, 1.00 M in THF) and 6-chloro-1-phenyl-1hexanone (420 mg, 2.00 mmol). After 20 h at 60 °C, purification by chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 50/1) yielded **3j** (401 mg, 71%) as colourless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.93 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.95 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 2.56 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.84–1.68 (m, 2H), 1.65–1.55 (m, 2H), 1.51–1.32 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 200.4$  (C<sub>q</sub>), 157.6 (C<sub>q</sub>), 137.0 (C<sub>q</sub>), 134.6 (C<sub>q</sub>), 132.8 (CH), 129.2 (CH), 128.5 (CH), 128.0 (CH), 113.6 (CH), 55.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 38.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 28.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 24.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>). IR (NaCl): 3059, 3009, 2959, 1740, 1588, 1155, 1092, 1074, 757, 726 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 282 (100) [M<sup>+</sup>], 205 (20), 177 (10), 163 (25), 121 (10), 107 (20), 76 (5). HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 282.1620, found 282.1619.



**5-Phenylpentyl cyanide** (**3k**): Representative procedure A was followed, using phenylmagnesium chloride (1.36 mL, 3.00 mmol, 2.20 M in THF) and 5-chloropentyl cyanide (242 mg, 2.00 mmol). After 20 h at 60 °C, purification by chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 50/1) yielded **3k** (238 mg, 69%) as a colourless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.27 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.19–7.15 (m, 3H), 2.62 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.31 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.76–1.58 (m, 4H), 1.54–1.39 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 142.0 (C<sub>q</sub>), 128.3 (CH), 128.3 (CH), 125.8 (CH), 119.7 (C<sub>q</sub>), 35.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 30.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 28.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 25.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 17.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>). IR (NaCl): 3062, 2957, 2359, 1701, 1581, 1457, 1259, 1110, 1066, 794 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 173 (100) [M<sup>+</sup>], 147 (10), 119 (5), 105 (10), 91 (40), 79 (10), 57 (10), 43 (20). HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N 173.1204, found 173.1208. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.<sup>14</sup>



**5-(4-Methoxyphenyl)pentyl cyanide (3l):** The representative procedure was followed, using 4methoxyphenylmagnesium bromide (3.00 mL, 3.00 mmol, 1.00 M in THF) and 5-chloropentyl cyanide (242 mg, 2.00 mmol). After 20 h at 60 °C, purification by chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 25/1) yielded **3I** (259 mg, 64%) as a colourless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.06 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.82 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.55 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.31 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.76–1.52 (m, 4H), 1.50–1.39 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 157.7 (C<sub>q</sub>), 134.0 (C<sub>q</sub>), 129.2 (CH), 119.7 (C<sub>q</sub>), 113.7 (CH), 55.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 34.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 30.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 28.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 25.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 17.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>). IR (NaCl): 3059, 2957, 2860, 2359, 1710, 1581, 1254, 1093, 1071, 901 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 203 (100) [M<sup>+</sup>], 177 (10), 163 (25), 121 (5), 107 (15). HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>17</sub>ON 203.1310, found 203.1312. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.<sup>14</sup>

**Preparation and characterization data for palladium complex 7a:** A suspension of  $[PdCl_2(C_6H_5CN)_2]$  (304 mg, 0.79 mmol) and **5b** (268 mg, 0.79 mmol) in PhMe (10 mL) was stirred under N<sub>2</sub> at 90 °C for 3 h and then for 12 h at ambient temperature. The resulting suspension was filtered and washed thoroughly with Et<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL). Drying in vacuo yielded **7a** (288 mg, 72%) as an orange-red solid.



m.p. > 210 °C decomposition. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 8.12–7.94 (m, 2H), 7.61–7.52 (m, 2H), 7.49–7.36 (m, 4H), 7.32–7.24 (m, 2H), 6.76–6.63 (m, 4H), 3.79 (s, 6H), 3.68 (s, 6H), 1.66-1.45 (m, 18H). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (121.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 121.2. IR (KBr): 2992, 2861, 2827, 2360, 1601, 1463, 1410, 1336, 1219, 1166, 1125, 1048, 945, 805, 767 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (ESI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 1029 (10) [M+H<sup>+</sup>], 961 (20), 549 (100), 513 (70). HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>44</sub>O<sub>6</sub>P<sub>2</sub>Pd<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>+H<sup>+</sup> 1024.8994, found 1024.8988. **Preparation and characterization data for palladium complex 7b:** A suspension of [PdCl<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>CN)<sub>2</sub>] (260 mg, 0.68 mmol) and **5c** (250 mg, 0.68 mmol) in PhMe (10 mL) was stirred under N<sub>2</sub> at 90 °C for 3 h and then for 12 h at ambient temperature. The resulting suspension was filtered and washed thoroughly with Et<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL). Drying in vacuo yielded **7b** (299 mg, 81%) as an orange solid. Crystals suitable for X-ray analysis were obtained in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5.0 mL) as solvent by vapour diffusion method.



m.p. > 200 °C decomposition. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 7.82–7.70 (m, 2H), 7.58–7.34 (m, 4H), 6.74 (m, 2H), 6.11–5.93 (m, 4H), 4.05 (s, 6H), 3.74 (s, 12H), 1.44 (d, *J* = 20 Hz, 18H). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (121.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 125.9. IR (KBr): 2989, 2854, 2827, 1648, 1602, 1463, 1409, 1336, 1219, 1166, 1125, 1048, 945, 805, 767 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (ESI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 1111 (10) [M+Na<sup>+</sup>], 1089 (30) [M+H<sup>+</sup>], 1055 (10), 993 (10), 549 (20), 505 (100). HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>38</sub>H<sub>48</sub>O<sub>6</sub>P<sub>2</sub>Pd<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>+H<sup>+</sup> 1084.9205, found 1084.9201.

# Representative procedure B: Kumada-Corriu cross-coupling of aryl bromide with alkyl-substituted Grignard reagents (Table 3, entry 1) and characterization data for 3m-3r:

A solution of **7a** (20 mg, 2.0 mol %, 0.02 mmol) in THF (1.00 mL) was stirred for 10 min at ambient temperature under N<sub>2</sub>. 4-Bromoanisole (187 mg, 0.125 mL, 1.00 mmol) was then added *via* syringe and the solution stirred for 5 min. Then, *n*-butylmagnesium chloride (0.75 mL, 1.50 mmol, 2.00 M in THF) was added dropwise over 3 min to the mixture. The resulting solution was stirred for 24 h at 60 °C, after which H<sub>2</sub>O (5.0 mL) was added at ambient temperature. The aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (2 x 10 mL). The combined organic phases were concentrated in vacuo and purification by column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 200/1) yielded **3m** (150 mg, 92%) as a colourless liquid.



*n*-Butyl-4-methoxybenzene (3m): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 7.07$  (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.53 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.56–1.41 (m, 2H), 1.32–1.15 (m, 2H), 0.89 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 156.9$  (C<sub>q</sub>), 135.1 (C<sub>q</sub>), 129.6 (CH), 113.2 (CH), 55.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 35.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>). IR (NaCl): 3097, 2956, 1486, 1363, 1110, 1082, 1052, 783, 726, 698 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 164 (20) [M<sup>+</sup>], 149 (30), 134 (10), 119 (10), 105 (100), 91 (10), 65 (15), 43 (100). HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O 164.1201, found 164.1198. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.<sup>15</sup>



**1-Benzyl-4-methoxybenzene** (**3n**): Representative procedure B was followed, using benzylmagnesium chloride (0.75 mL, 1.50 mmol, 2.00 M in ether) and 4-bromoanisole (187 mg, 1.00 mmol). After 24 h at 60 °C, purification by chromatography (*n*-hexane:EtOAc 100:1) yielded **3n** (172 mg, 87%) as a colourless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.27 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.21–7.14 (m, 3H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.92 (s, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 157.9 (C<sub>q</sub>),

141.6 (C<sub>q</sub>), 133.3 (C<sub>q</sub>), 129.8 (CH), 128.8 (CH), 128.4 (CH), 126.0 (CH), 113.9 (CH), 55.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 41.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>). IR (NaCl): 2962, 2905, 1948, 1610, 1508, 1447, 1408, 1258, 1093, 1076, 796, 695 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (ESI) m/z (relative intensity) 221 (100) [M+Na<sup>+</sup>]. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O+Na<sup>+</sup> 221.0940, found 221.0937. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.<sup>15</sup>



**1-Allyl-4-methoxybenzene (30):** Representative procedure B was followed, using allylmagnesium chloride (1.50 mL, 1.50 mmol, 1.00 M in ether) and 4-bromoanisole (187 mg, 1.00 mmol). After 24 h at 60 °C, purification by chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **30** (121 mg, 82%) as a colourless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.08 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 5.94 (ddt, *J* = 16.5, 10.2, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 5.05 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 5.03 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.31 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 157.9 (C<sub>q</sub>), 137.9 (CH), 132.1 (C<sub>q</sub>), 129.5 (CH), 115.4 (CH), 113.8 (CH), 55.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 39.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>). IR (NaCl): 2999, 2899, 2828, 1646, 1503, 1245, 1177, 1042, 987, 911 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 148 (100) [M<sup>+</sup>], 133 (10), 121 (30), 105 (20), 91 (10), 77 (15). HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O 148.0888, found 148.0887. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.<sup>16</sup>



*n*-Hexyl-4-methoxybenzene (**3p**): Representative procedure B was followed, using *n*-hexylmagnesium bromide<sup>17</sup> (1.50 mL, 1.50 mmol, 1.00 M in THF) and 4-bromoanisole (187 mg, 1.00 mmol). After 24 h at 60 °C, purification by chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **3p** (163 mg, 85%) as a colourless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.08 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.54 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.61–1.48 (m, 2H), 1.35–1.16 (m, 6H), 0.86 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C

NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 157.5$  (C<sub>q</sub>), 135.0 (C<sub>q</sub>), 129.2 (CH), 113.6 (CH), 55.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 35.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 28.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>). IR (NaCl): 3094, 2956, 1799, 1495, 1108, 1070, 1050, 1031, 783 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 192 (5) [M<sup>+</sup>], 178 (15), 147 (5), 121 (100), 91 (10), 77 (5), 65 (5), 41 (10). HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O 192.1514, found 192.1514. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.<sup>18</sup>



*n*-Decyl-4-methylbenzene (3q): Representative procedure B was followed, using *n*-decylmagnesium bromide<sup>17</sup> (1.50 mL, 1.50 mmol, 1.00 M in THF) and 4-bromotoluene (171 mg, 1.00 mmol). After 24 h at 60 °C, purification by chromatography (*n*-hexane) yielded **3q** (183 mg, 79%) as a colourless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.04 (vs, 4H), 2.56 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.67–1.51 (m, 2H), 1.40–1.18 (m, 14H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 139.9 (C<sub>q</sub>), 134.9 (C<sub>q</sub>), 128.9 (CH), 128.2 (CH), 35.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 21.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 14.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>). IR (NaCl): 3011, 2958, 2872, 1643, 1512, 1457, 1373, 1114, 1034, 805, 723 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 232 (100) [M<sup>+</sup>], 217 (20), 147 (10), 133 (10), 105 (20), 92 (40), 43 (40). HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>28</sub> 232.2191, found 232.2188.



**Cyclopropyl-4-methoxybenzene** (**3r**): Representative procedure B was followed, using cyclopropylmagnesium bromide (1.50 mL, 1.50 mmol, 1.00 M in THF) and 4-bromoanisole (187 mg, 1.00 mmol). After 24 h at 60 °C, purification by chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **3r** (124 mg, 84%) as a colourless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.00 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.82 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 1.93–1.79 (m, 1H), 0.95–0.84 (m, 2H), 0.66–0.57 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 157.6 (Cq), 135.8 (Cq), 126.8 (CH), 113.7 (CH), 55.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 14.6 (CH), 8.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>). IR

(NaCl): 3003, 1701, 1644, 1619, 1513, 1461, 1297, 1247, 1176, 1033, 819 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 148 (100) [M<sup>+</sup>], 133 (85), 117 (90), 105 (70), 91 (80), 77 (65), 65 (50), 51 (70). HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O 148.0888, found 148.0888.

# Representative procedure C: Negishi cross-coupling of aryl iodides with alkyl zinc reagents (Table 3, entry 9) and characterization data for 3s-3x:

To a solution of ZnCl<sub>2</sub> (1.60 mL, 1.60 mmol, 1.00 M in THF) was added dropwise *n*-butylmagnesium chloride (0.75 mL, 1.50 mmol, 2.00 M in THF) over 3 min at 0 °C. The solution was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h. In a second dry N<sub>2</sub>-flushed Schlenk flask, a solution of **7a** (20 mg, 2.00 mol %, 0.02 mmol) and 3-iodobenzonitrile (229 mg, 1.00 mmol) in THF (2.00 mL) was stirred for 5 min at ambient temperature and the organozinc reagent was added. The reaction mixture was then stirred at 60 °C for 24 h. At ambient temperature, H<sub>2</sub>O (5.0 mL) was added. The aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (2 x 10 mL). The combined organic phases were concentrated in vacuo. Purification by column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **3s** (111 mg, 70%) as a colourless liquid.



**3-***n***-Butyl benzonitrile (3s):** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 7.47-7.42$  (m, 2H), 7.41–7.31 (m, 2H), 2.62 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.65–1.51 (m, 2H), 1.41–1.18 (m, 2H), 0.91 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 144.2$  (C<sub>q</sub>), 133.1 (CH), 131.9 (CH), 129.4 (CH), 129.0 (CH), 119.1 (C<sub>q</sub>), 112.2 (C<sub>q</sub>), 35.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 33.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 13.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>). IR (NaCl): 3059, 2956, 2359, 2229, 1590, 1468, 1105, 1073, 794 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (ESI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 182 (100) [M+Na<sup>+</sup>]. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N+Na<sup>+</sup> 182.0940, found 182.0946. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.<sup>19</sup>

**4-***n***-Butylbenzoic acid ethyl ester (3t):** Representative procedure C was followed, using *n*-butylzinc chloride (1.50 mmol, 1.00 M in THF) and 4-iodobenzoic acid ethyl ester (276 mg, 1.00 mmol). After 24 h, purification by chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **3t** (161 mg, 84%) as a colourless

liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.91 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.34 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.64 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.67–1.49 (m, 2H), 1.44–1.12 (m, 5H), 0.91 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 166.7 (C<sub>q</sub>), 148.3 (C<sub>q</sub>), 129.5 (CH), 128.4 (CH), 127.9 (C<sub>q</sub>), 60.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 35.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 33.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 13.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>). IR (NaCl): 2958, 2866, 2360, 1718, 1419, 1176, 1109, 1023, 761, 701 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 192 (30) [M<sup>+</sup>], 178 (25), 161 (100), 149 (10), 136 (20), 118 (10), 107 (20), 91 (60), 77 (10), 65 (5), 51 (5). HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 192.1150, found 192.1147. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.<sup>20</sup>



**2-Hexylbenzophenone (3u):** Representative procedure C was followed, using *n*-hexylzinc chloride (1.50 mmol, 1.00 M in THF) and 2-iodobenzophenone (308 mg, 1.00 mmol). After 24 h, purification by chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **3u** (231 mg, 87%) as a colourless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 7.79$  (dd, J = 7.8, 1.9 Hz, 2H), 7.60–7.53 (m, 1H), 7.49–7.42 (m, 2H), 7.42–7.36 (m, 1H), 7.30 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.27–7.17 (m, 2H), 2.62 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.58–1.44 (m, 2H), 1.32–1.10 (m, 6H), 0.80 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 198.7$  (C<sub>q</sub>), 141.7 (C<sub>q</sub>), 138.5 (C<sub>q</sub>), 137.9 (C<sub>q</sub>), 133.1 (CH), 130.1 (CH), 130.0 (CH), 129.9 (CH), 128.3 (CH), 128.2 (CH), 125.0 (CH), 33.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>). IR (NaCl): 3062, 3023, 2959, 2858, 1741, 1452, 1161, 1074, 757 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 266 (35) [M<sup>+</sup>], 237 (75), 223 (90), 194 (100), 178 (30), 165 (50), 145 (20), 131 (60), 115 (30), 91 (85). HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O+H<sup>+</sup> 267.1743, found 267.1745.



**2-Benzylbenzophenone (3v):** Representative procedure C was followed, using benzylzinc chloride (1.50 mmol, 1.00 M in THF) and 2-iodobenzophenone (308 mg, 1.00 mmol). After 24 h, purification by chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **3v** (252 mg, 93%) as a colourless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.72 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.9 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.45–7.37 (m, 3H), 7.35–7.24 (m, 3H), 7.22–7.13 (m, 2H), 7.11–7.07 (m, 3H), 4.07 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 198.5 (C<sub>q</sub>), 140.4 (C<sub>q</sub>), 140.0 (C<sub>q</sub>), 138.6 (C<sub>q</sub>), 137.6 (C<sub>q</sub>), 133.0 (CH), 130.8 (CH), 130.2 (CH), 130.1 (CH), 129.1 (CH), 128.6 (CH), 128.3 (CH), 128.2 (CH), 126.0 (CH), 125.5 (CH), 38.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>). IR (NaCl): 3061, 3027, 2915, 1731, 1489, 1154, 1076, 1031, 736, 701 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 272 (30) [M<sup>+</sup>], 194 (90), 165 (30), 105 (100), 77 (60), 65 (10), 51 (20). HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O+H<sup>+</sup> 273.1273, found 273.1275.



**2-Cyclopropylbenzophenone** (**3***w*): Representative procedure C was followed, using cyclopropylzinc chloride (1.50 mmol, 1.00 M in THF) and 2-iodobenzophenone (308 mg, 1.00 mmol). After 24 h, purification by chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **3w** (159 mg, 72%) as a colourless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.84 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.8 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.40–7.33 (m, 1H), 7.27 (dt, *J* = 7.8, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.24–7.17 (m, 1H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 1.98–1.84 (m, 1H), 0.85–0.73 (m, 2H), 0.67–0.58 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 198.9 (C<sub>q</sub>), 141.9 (C<sub>q</sub>), 139.8 (C<sub>q</sub>), 137.8 (C<sub>q</sub>), 133.1 (CH), 130.2 (CH), 130.1 (CH), 128.4 (CH), 127.8 (CH), 125.1 (CH), 125.0 (CH), 13.6 (CH), 9.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>). IR (NaCl): 3069, 3011, 1740, 1589, 1489, 1152, 1061, 1029, 895, 757 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 222 (10) [M<sup>+</sup>], 207 (10), 194 (100), 178 (10), 165 (30), 115 (20), 105 (10), 91 (5), 77 (10). HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O+H<sup>+</sup> 223.1174, found 223.1118.



**4-***n***-Butylacetophenone (3x):** Representative procedure C was followed, using *n*-butylzinc chloride (1.50 mmol, 1.00 M in THF) and 4-iodoacetophenone (246 mg, 1.00 mmol). After 24 h, purification by chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **3x** (159 mg, 88%) as a colourless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.88 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 2.67 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 1.68–1.55 (m, 2H), 1.43–1.28 (m, 2H), 0.89 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 197.9 (C<sub>q</sub>), 148.8 (C<sub>q</sub>), 137.9 (C<sub>q</sub>), 128.6 (CH), 128.4 (CH), 35.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 33.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 26.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 13.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>). IR (NaCl): 3002, 2962, 1710, 1606, 1498, 1178, 1070, 1021, 961, 839 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 176 (20) [M<sup>+</sup>], 161 (100), 133 (10), 118 (10), 105 (10), 91 77 (10), (25), 65 (15). HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O+Na<sup>+</sup> 199.1093, found 199.1094. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>H-, <sup>13</sup>C-NMR, spectras for 3a-3x, 4f-4i, 5a-5c, 6a-6b, complexes 7a and 7b.











S32



### $\angle 140.84$ $\angle 140.76$ - 137.64 $\int_{-115,00}^{129,54} \frac{129,54}{128,58}$













S39











145 135 125 115 105 95 90 85 80 75 70 65 60 55 50 45 40 35 30 25 20 15 10 5 f1 (ppm)





S46



S47

























S58



















