Suzuki-Miyaura Cross-Coupling of Benzylic Phosphates with Arylboronic Acids

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Supporting Information

Table of Contents:

General considerations	2
General procedure for the preparation of benzylic phosphates	2
Analytical data for prepared benzylic phosphates	2-5
General procedure for the Suzuki-Miyaura cross-coupling	5
Analytical data for prepared diarylmethanes	5-10
NMR spectra of prepared phosphates	11-18
NMR spectra of diarylmethanes	19-29

General considerations: All reactions were conducted under a nitrogen atmosphere in 8 mL vials equipped with magnetic stir-bars and septa. HPLC grade solvents were used with no additional purification/drying. NMR spectra were recorded using a Bruker DPX-400 spectrometer; ¹H NMR recorded at 400 MHz and ¹³C recorded at 100 MHz. TLC was performed using 2.5 cm \times 7.5 cm EMD glass-backed plates (silica gel 60, F₂₅₄, 250 µm thickness). Flash column chromatography was performed using EMD silica gel 60, 230-400 mesh. HPLC was performed on an Agilent 1100 Series machine using an Agilent Zorbax (Eclipse XDB C8) column (4.6 mm \times 150 mm), 1 mL/min flowrate, 210 nm detection, 30 °C column temperature; mobile phase MeCN/0.1% aq. H₃PO₄ 20/80 to 85/15 over 20 min then 85/15 for a further 2 min.

General procedure for the preparation of benzylic phosphates: To a flask charged with the requisite benzyl alcohol (20.0 mmol), triethylamine (4.18 mL, 30.0 mmol, 150 mol%), DMAP (244 mg, 2.0 mmol, 10 mol%) and THF (5 mL) was added neat diethyl chlorophosphate (2.88 mL, 20.0 mmol, 100 mol%) over a 30 min period at room temperature. An exotherm was observed, generally raising the internal temperature to 30-35 °C. The resultant white, heterogeneous mixture was stirred for 16 h before it was poured into a mixture of 2 M KHSO₄ (20 mL) and water (30 mL). The separated organic phase was then washed with satd. aq. NaHCO₃ (30 mL) and brine (30 mL), before it was dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated to leave a crude oil. The crude oil was purified over a short pad of silica using appropriate mixtures of EtOAc/hexane (determined by TLC analysis) to elute any unreacted benzyl alcohol followed by the desired benzylic phosphate.



Diethyl benzyl phosphate (1)¹: Following the general procedure, 1 was obtained as a pale yellow oil (4.45 g, 91%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.32 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 6H), 4.03-4.14 (m, 4H), 5.07 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.32-7.43 (m, 5H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 16.1 (d, *J*_{CP} = 10.1 Hz), 63.8 (d, *J*_{CP} = 10.0 Hz), 69.0 (d, *J*_{CP} = 10.0 Hz), 127.8, 128.4, 128.5, 136.1 (d, *J*_{CP} = 10.0 Hz).



Diethyl 2-methylbenzyl phosphate (18)²: Following the general procedure, 18 was obtained as a pale yellow oil (4.39 g, 85%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.29 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 6H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 4.01-4.12 (m, 4H), 5.08 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 7.14-7.28 (m, 3H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 16.1 (d, *J*_{CP} = 7.0 Hz), 18.8, 63.8 (d, *J*_{CP} = 6.0 Hz), 67.5 (d, *J*_{CP} = 5.0 Hz), 126.1, 128.8, 128.9, 130.4, 134.1 (d, *J*_{CP} = 7.0 Hz), 136.8.



Diethyl 4-chlorobenzyl phosphate (19)³: Following the general procedure, 19 was obtained as a pale yellow oil (4.97 g, 89%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.31 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 6H), 4.03-4.15 (m, 4H), 5.02 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.30-7.38 (m, 4H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 16.1 (d, *J*_{CP} = 7.0 Hz), 63.9 (d, *J*_{CP} = 6.0 Hz), 68.2 (d, *J*_{CP} = 5.0 Hz), 128.8, 129.2, 134.4, 134.7 (d, *J*_{CP} = 7.0 Hz).

¹ Givens, R. S.; Matuszewski, B.; Athey, P. S.; Stoner, M. S. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1990, 112, 6016-6021.

² Hammerschmidt, F.; Hanniger, A. Chem. Ber. 1995, 128, 823-830.

³ Suh, Y. S.; Lee, J.-S.; Kim, S.-H.; Reike, R. D. J. Organomet. Chem. 2003, 684, 20-36.



Diethyl naphthalen-1-ylmethyl phosphate (**20**)⁴: Following the general procedure, **20** was obtained as a pale yellow oil (4.20 g, 71%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.26 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 6H), 3.99-4.11 (m, 4H), 5.53 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50-7.59 (m, 3H), 7.87 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 7.0 Hz, 2H), 8.11 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 16.1 (d, *J*_{CP} = 7.0 Hz), 63.9 (d, *J*_{CP} = 6.0 Hz), 67.6 (d, *J*_{CP} = 6.0 Hz), 123.6, 125.3, 126.1, 126.7, 127.2, 128.7, 129.6, 131.4, 131.7, 133.8.



Diethyl 4-nitrobenzyl phosphate (21): Following the general procedure, **21** was obtained as a pale yellow oil (5.18 g, 90%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.31 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 6H), 4.04-4.16 (m, 4H), 5.13 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 8.20 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 16.1 (d, *J*_{CP} = 6.0 Hz), 64.2 (d, *J*_{CP} = 6.0 Hz), 67.4 (d, *J*_{CP} = 5.0 Hz), 123.8, 127.9, 143.4 (d, *J*_{CP} = 7.0 Hz), 147.8. HRMS calcd. for C₁₁H₁₆NO₆P [M+H]⁺ 290.07880, found 290.07957.



Diethyl 4-methoxybenzyl phosphate $(22)^1$: Following the general procedure, 22 was obtained as a pale yellow oil (4.83 g, 88%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.28 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 6H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 4.01-4.10 (m, 4H), 4.98 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz,

⁴ Givens, R. S.; Matuszewski, B. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1984, 106, 6860-6861.

2H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 16.1 (d, $J_{CP} = 7.0$ Hz), 55.3, 63.7 (d, $J_{CP} = 5.0$ Hz), 69.0 (d, $J_{CP} = 6.0$ Hz), 114.0, 128.3 (d, $J_{CP} = 6.0$ Hz), 129.9, 159.9.



Diethyl 4-methylbenzyl phosphate (23)¹: Following the general procedure, 23 was obtained as a pale yellow oil (4.66 g, 90%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.30 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 6H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 4.02-4.14 (m, 4H), 5.20 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 16.1 (d, *J*_{CP} = 6.4 Hz), 21.2, 63.8 (d, *J*_{CP} = 5.6 Hz), 69.0 (d, *J*_{CP} = 5.6 Hz), 128.1, 129.3, 133.2 (d, *J*_{CP} = 7.2 Hz), 138.4.



Diethyl phenethylphosphate (27)⁵: Following the general procedure, 22 was obtained as a pale yellow oil (1.56 g, 30%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.18 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.28 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.63 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 3H), 3.87-4.11 (m, 4H), 5.42-5.49 (m, 1H), 7.25-7.38 (m, 5H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 16.0 (d, *J*_{CP} = 8.8 Hz), 16.1 (d, *J*_{CP} = 8.8 Hz), 24.2 (d, *J*_{CP} = 4.8 Hz), 63.5₈ (d, *J*_{CP} = 5.6 Hz), 63.6₀ (d, *J*_{CP} = 6.4 Hz), 76.7 (d, *J*_{CP} = 5.6 Hz), 125.9, 128.1, 128.5, 141.8 (d, *J*_{CP} = 4.8 Hz).

General procedure for Suzuki-Miyaura cross-coupling: The catalyst precursor (1 μ mol, 1 mol%) and ligand (4 μ mol, 4 mol%) were weighed into a small vial, dissolved in the reaction solvent (3 mL) and transferred into an 8 mL vial containing the benzylic

⁵ Crich, D.; Xiao, X. Y. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1996, 118, 6666-6670.

phosphate (1.0 mmol, 100 mol%), arylboronic acid (1.1 mmol, 110 mol%), inorganic base (1.1 mmol, 110 mol%) and a stir-bar. The reaction vial was closed with a cap fitted with a septum, then purged briefly with nitrogen. The vigorously stirred mixture was heated in an aluminum multi-reaction block to the desired temperature for 16 h. For screening reactions, the assay yield was determined by diluting the entire reaction mixture to a known volume with MeOH, followed by quantitative HPLC analysis of an aliquot against a pure standard. For reactions in which the cross-coupled product was isolated, the mixture was subjected to aqueous work-up using water then brine, with MTBE as the extraction solvent. Crude products were purified by silica flash column chromatography using appropriate mixtures of EtOAc/hexane (determined by TLC analysis) as the eluent.



Diphenylmethane (3)⁶: Following the general procedure, diethyl benzyl phosphate 1 (244 mg, 1.0 mmol) was reacted with phenylboronic acid 2 (134 mg, 1.1 mmol) to afford 3 as a colorless oil (167 mg, 99%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.14 (s, 2H), 7.24–7.30 (m, 6H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 4H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 42.2, 126.3, 128.7, 129.2, 141.3.



2-Benzyltoluene (11)⁶: Following the general procedure, diethyl benzyl phosphate 1 (244 mg, 1.0 mmol) was reacted with *o*-tolylboronic acid **4** (150 mg, 1.1 mmol) to afford 11 as a colorless oil (151 mg, 83%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.33 (s, 3H), 4.07 (s, 2H), 7.14–7.29 (m, 7H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 19.8, 39.6, 126.0, 126.1, 126.6, 128.5, 128.9, 130.0, 130.4, 136.8, 139.1, 140.5.

⁶ Kuwano, R.; Yokogi, M. Org Lett. 2005, 7, 945-947.

Also prepared following the general procedure using diethyl 2-methylbenzyl phosphate **18** (258 mg, 1.0 mmol) and phenylboronic acid **2** (134 mg, 1.1 mmol) to afford **11** as a colorless oil (164 mg, 90%): analytical data as previous.



2-Benzylbiphenyl (12)⁶: Following the general procedure, diethyl benzyl phosphate 1 (244 mg, 1.0 mmol) was reacted with 2-biphenylboronic acid **5** (218 mg, 1.1 mmol) to afford **12** as a colorless oil (239 mg, 98%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.09 (s, 2H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), (m, 12H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 39.2, 126.0, 126.4, 127.1, 127.7, 128.2, 128.4, 129.1, 129.5, 130.3, 130.5, 138.4, 141.4, 141.6, 142.5.



4-Benzylanisole (13)⁶: Following the general procedure, diethyl benzyl phosphate 1 (244 mg, 1.0 mmol) was reacted with 4-methoxyphenylboronic acid **6** (167 mg, 1.1 mmol) to afford **13** as a colorless oil (174 mg, 88%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS) δ 3.84 (s, 3H), 4.01 (s, 2H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.24-7.28 (m, 3H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 41.2, 55.4, 114.0, 126.1, 128.6, 129.0, 130.0, 133.4, 141.7, 158.1.

Also prepared following the general procedure using diethyl 4-methoxybenzyl phosphate **22** (274 mg, 1.0 mmol) and phenylboronic acid **2** (134 mg, 1.1 mmol) to afford **13** as a colorless oil (160 mg, 81%): analytical data as previous.



4-Benzylthioanisole (14): Following the general procedure, diethyl benzyl phosphate **1** (244 mg, 1.0 mmol) was reacted with 4-methylthiophenylboronic acid **7** (150 mg, 1.1 mmol) to afford **14** as a colorless oil (195 mg, 91%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.50 (s, 3H), 3.99 (s, 2H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.20-7.28 (m, 5H), 7.30-7.36 (m, 2H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 16.3, 41.5, 126.2, 127.3, 128.6, 129.0, 129.6, 135.9, 138.3, 141.1. Anal. calcd. for C₁₄H₁₄S: C, 78.46; H, 6.58. Found: C, 78.16; H, 6.64.



4-Benzyl-1-chlorobenzene (15)⁶: Following the general procedure, diethyl benzyl phosphate **1** (244 mg, 1.0 mmol) was reacted with 4-chlorophenylboronic acid **8** (172 mg, 1.1 mmol) to afford **15** as a colorless oil (177 mg, 87%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.94 (s, 2H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.25-7.39 (m, 5H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 41.4, 126.4, 127.3, 128.7, 129.0, 130.4, 132.0, 139.7, 140.7.

Also prepared following the general procedure using diethyl 4-chlorobenzyl phosphate **19** (279 mg, 1.0 mmol) and phenylboronic acid **2** (134 mg, 1.1 mmol) to afford **15** as a colorless oil (162 mg, 80%): analytical data as previous.



3-Benzyl-1-nitrobenzene (16)⁶: Following the general procedure, diethyl benzyl phosphate 1 (244 mg, 1.0 mmol) was reacted with 3-nitrophenylboronic acid 9 (184 mg, 1.1 mmol) to afford 16 as a colorless oil (144 mg, 67%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.10 (s, 2H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.41–7.47 (m, 1H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.04–8.08 (m, 2H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100

MHz, CDCl₃) δ 41.6, 121.4, 123.8, 126.8, 128.9, 129.0, 129.4, 135.1, 139.4, 143.3, 148.5.



4-Benzyl-1-(trifluoromethyl)benzene (17)⁶: Following the general procedure, diethyl benzyl phosphate **1** (244 mg, 1.0 mmol) was reacted with 4-trifluoromethylphenylboronic acid **10** (209 mg, 1.1 mmol) to afford **17** as a colorless oil (222 mg, 94%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.09 (s, 2H), 7.16-7.42 (m, 7H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 41.7, 124.4 (q, *J* = 272 Hz), 125.4 (q, *J* = 4 Hz), 126.5, 128.5 (q, *J* = 33 Hz), 128.6, 128.9, 129.2, 140.0, 145.3.



1-Benzylnaphthalene (24)⁶: Following the general procedure, diethyl naphthylmethyl phosphate 20 (294 mg, 1.0 mmol) was reacted with phenylboronic acid 2 (134 mg, 1.1 mmol) to afford 24 as a colorless oil (196 mg, 90%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.53 (s, 2H), 7.24-7.31 (m, 3H), 7.32-7.40 (m, 3H), 7.47-7.56 (m, 3H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.91-7.97 (m, 1H), 8.05-8.12 (m, 1H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 39.2, 124.4, 125.7, 126.1, 126.2, 127.5, 127.5, 128.6, 128.8, 128.9, 132.3, 134.1, 136.8, 140.8.



4-Benzyl-1-nitrobenzene (25): Following the general procedure, diethyl 4-nitrobenzyl phosphate **21** (289 mg, 1.0 mmol) was reacted with phenylboronic acid **2** (134 mg, 1.1 mmol) to afford **25** as a colorless oil (177 mg, 83%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.10 (s, 2H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 4H), 8.15

(d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 41.8, 123.8, 126.8, 128.9, 129.1, 129.7, 139.3, 146.6, 149.9. Anal. calcd. for C₁₃H₁₁NO₂: C, 73.23; H, 5.20; N, 6.57. Found: C, 72.95; H, 5.18; N, 6.53.



4-Benzyltoluene (26)⁷: Following the general procedure, diethyl 4-methylbenzyl phosphate 23 (258 mg, 1.0 mmol) was reacted with phenylboronic acid 2 (134 mg, 1.1 mmol) to afford 26 as a colorless oil (178 mg, 98%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.43 (s, 3H), 4.06 (s, 2H), 7.18-7.24 (m, 4H), 7.28-7.33 (m, 3H), 7.37-7.43 (m, 2H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 21.2, 41.7, 126.2, 128.6, 129.0, 129.1, 129.3, 135.7, 138.3, 141.6.

⁷ Gordon, P. E.; Fry, A. J. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2001**, *42*, 831-834.























































