Supplementary Information For:

Copolymerisation of Ethylene with Polar Monomers by Palladium Catalysts Bearing an N-Heterocyclic Carbene–Phosphine Oxide Bidentate Ligand

W. Tao,^a S. Akita,^a R. Nakano,^a S. Ito,^a Y. Hoshimoto,^b S. Ogoshi^b and K. Nozaki^{*a}

 ^a Department of Chemistry and Biotechnology, The University of Tokyo, 7-3-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-8656, Japan
 ^b Department of Applied Chemistry, Faculty of Engineering, Osaka University, Suita, Osaka 565-0871, Japan

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1. Materials and Methods

General: All reactions and polymerizations were carried out using a standard glovebox or Schlenk techniques under argon purified by passing through a hot column packed with BASF catalyst R3-11. All polymerization reactions were performed in 50-mL stainless steel autoclaves.

Instrumentation: Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were recorded on JEOL JNM-ECS400 (¹H: 400 MHz, ¹³C: 101 MHz) or BRUKER Ascend 500 (¹H: 500 MHz, ¹³C: 126 MHz) NMR spectrometers at ambient temperature unless otherwise noted. Chemical shift values for protons were referenced to the residual proton resonance of chloroform-d (δ : 7.26) or 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane-d₂ (δ : 6.00). Quantitative ¹³C NMR analyses of polymers were performed in a 5-mm probe on ca. 5~15 weight% solutions of the polymers and 0.05-M Cr(acac)₃ as a relaxation agent in 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane unlocked at 120 °C using a 90° pulse of 9.0 µs, a spectral width of 31 kHz, a relaxation time of 5-10 s, an acquisition time of 2 s, and inverse-gated decoupling (JEOL JNM-ECS400) or using a 30° pulse of 16.8 µs, a spectral width of 30 kHz, a relaxation time of 2 s, an acquisition time of 1.1 s, and inverse-gated decoupling (BRUKER Ascend500).^{1,2,3} Chemical shift values for carbons are referenced to the carbon resonance of chloroform-d (δ : 77.16) or 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 (δ : 73.80). Size exclusion chromatography (SEC) analyses were carried out with a Tosoh instrument (HLC-8121GPC/HT) equipped with two SEC columns (Tosoh TSKgel GMHHR-H(S) HT) and a refractive index (RI) detector by eluting the columns with 1,2-dichlorobenzene at 1.0 mL/min at 145 °C. Molecular weights were determined using narrow polystyrene standards and were corrected by universal calibration using the Mark–Houwink parameters reported by Rudin *et al.*: $K = 1.75 \times 10^{-2} \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$ and $\alpha = 0.67$ for polystyrene, $K = 5.90 \times 10^{-2} \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$ and $\alpha = 0.69$ for LLDPE.⁴ X-ray crystallographic analyses were performed on a Rigaku Varimax with a Saturn diffractometer. Elemental analysis was performed by the Microanalytical Laboratory, Department of Chemistry, Graduate School of Science, The University of Tokyo, or by One-stop Sharing Facility Center for Future Drug Discoveries, Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, The University of Tokyo. High resolution mass spectra were recorded on JEOL JMS-T100LP AccuTOF LC-plus.

Materials: Ethylene (>99.9%) was purchased from Takachiho Chemical Industrial Co., Ltd. (Takachiho), and dried, deoxygenated by passing through a dry column DC-HDF300-A3 made by Nikka Seiko Co., Ltd. Anhydrous dichloromethane, diethyl ether, tetrahydrofuran (THF), and toluene were purchased from Kanto Chemical Co. Inc. (Kanto) and purified by the method of Pangborn *et al.*⁵ Dehydrated pentane was purchased from Kanto and used as received. The other solvents were purchased from Kanto, Tokyo Chemical Industry Co., Ltd. (TCI), Sigma-Aldrich Chemical Co. LLC (Aldrich) or Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Ltd. (Wako) and were used as received unless otherwise noted. The following reagents were purchased from TCI and distilled from calcium hydride before use: methyl acrylate, allyl acetate, allyl chloride, and vinyl acetate. The following reagents were purchased and used as received: 6-bromopicolinaldehyde (Kanto), butyllithium in hexane (Kanto), chloromethyl methyl ether (TCI),

di-*tert*-butylchlorophosphine (TCI), 2,6-diisopropylaniline (TCI), *p*-toluidine (TCI), benzhydrol (TCI), silver hexafluoroantimonate (TCI), silver triflate (TCI), hydrogen peroxide (30-35%, Kanto), sodium sulfate (Kanto), sodium thiosulfate (Kanto), and sodium carbonate (Kanto). The following compounds and complexes were prepared according to literature procedures: 2,6-dibenzhydryl-4-methylaniline, ⁶ PdMeCl(cod),⁷ and NaB[3,5-(CF₃)₂C₆H₄]₄ (NaBAr^F₄).⁸

Synthesis of Ligand Precursor L1



[Synthesis of **11**] A 100-mL Schlenk flask containing a solution of 2-bromo-6-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)pyridine⁹ **10** (0.95 g, 4.15 mmol) in THF (20 mL) was cooled in dry ice/acetone cold bath. To the solution was added BuLi (1.55 M, 3.2 mL, 4.97 mmol) dropwise while the color of the solution became dark red. After stirring for another 1 h with cooling, *t*Bu₂PCl (1.0 mL, 5.4 mmol) was added dropwise. Then the cooling bath was removed, and the mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature. The reaction was quenched by slow addition of water (2.0 mL). After the volatile matters were removed in vacuo, methanol (ca. 15 mL) was added to dissolve the crude product. An aqueous solution of hydrogen peroxide (ca. 10 M, 0.84 mL, ca. 8.4 mmol) was added slowly and the mixture was stirred for another 1 h at room temperature. After quenching the excess hydrogen peroxide by aqueous sodium thiosulfate (1.6 g, ca. 10 mmol), the mixture was extracted by dichloromethane twice. The combined organic phase was dried over sodium sulfate, and evaporated to dryness, to afford the crude solid containing **11**, which was used for next step without further purification. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.14–8.11 (m, 1H), 7.87–7.83 (m, 1H), 7.58–7.56 (m, 1H), 5.85 (s, 1H), 4.20– 4.18 (m, 2H), 4.11–4.08 (m, 2H), 1.29 (d, *J* = 14Hz, 18H); ³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 50.8.

[Synthesis of 12] To the above crude mixture including 11 in THF (ca. 20 mL) was added aqueous hydrochloric acid (1.0 M, ca. 20 mL), and the mixture was stirred overnight at 50 °C. Then, the mixture was added water (ca. 20 mL) and sodium carbonate until bubbling of carbon dioxide ceased, and extracted with dichloromethane. The organic phase was dried over sodium sulfate, and evaporated to dryness, to afford the crude product including 12 (1.00 g), which was used for next step without further purification. ¹H NMR (500

MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.09 (d, J = 0.5 Hz, 1H), 8.40–8.37 (m, 1H), 8.03–7.98 (m, 2H), 1.33 (d, J = 14 Hz, 18H); ³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 51.5.

[Synthesis of **13a**] In a 50-mL round bottom flask equipped with a reflux condenser, the crude mixture including **12** (1.00 g), 2,6-diisopropylaniline (796 mg, 4.49 mmol) and formic acid (1 drop) was refluxed in methanol (20 mL) overnight. After removing the volatile matters in vacuo, the mixture was purified by silica-gel column chromatography (1st elution with ethyl acetate and hexane (1:2) to wash impurities, and then 2^{nd} elution with ethyl acetate, hexane and methanol (2:6:1) to elute **13a**), to afford a crude product including **13a** (1.15 g), which was used for next step without further purification. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.32 (s, 1H), 8.31–8.29 (m, 1H), 8.24 (dd, *J* = 6.8, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (td, *J* = 7.8, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.19–7.12 (m, 3H), 2.95 (sept, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 1.31 (d, *J* = 14 Hz, 18 H), 1.19 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 12 H).

[Synthesis of L1] The crude compound 13a (1.15 g) and chloromethyl methyl ether (4.1 mL, 53.9 mmol) were refluxed overnight in a 10-mL J-young Schlenk tube. After cooling to room temperature, the volatile matters were removed in vacuo. The crude product was dissolved in dichloromethane (ca. 10 mL), filtered through a pad of Celite, and the pad was washed with dichloromethane twice (ca. 5.0 mL × 2). The volatile matters were evaporated in vacuo again, and then the crude solid was stirred overnight in dichloromethane (ca. 0.5 mL) and diethyl ether (ca. 20 mL). The formed precipitate was filtered, washed with diethyl ether (ca. 5 mL), and dried under vacuo at 100 °C for 2.0 h, to afford pure L1 (1.11 g, 2.34 mmol, 54% from 10) as a colorless solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.79 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 9.22 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 9.15 (s, 1H), 7.60–7.50 (m, 3H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.07 (sept, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 1.38 (d, *J* = 15 Hz, 18 H), 1.22 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 6H), 1.09 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 6H); ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 61.9; ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.9, 132.5 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1C), 132.3, 130.8, 127.4 (d, *J* = 3.5 Hz, 2C), 126.8 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1C), 126.0 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1C), 125.2, 124.7 (2C), 123.2 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1C), 119.0, 38.5 (d, *J* = 59 Hz, 2C), 28.9 (2C), 26.5 (6C), 24.7 (2C), 23.9 (2C). HRMS-ESI (*m*/*z*) calcd for C₂₇H₄₀N₂OP ([M+H]⁺) 439.2878, found 439.2900.

Synthesis of Ligand Precursor L2

[Synthesis of **13b**] In a 50-mL round bottom flask equipped with a reflux condenser, a crude compound **12** (0.66 g, synthesized from **10** (0.64 g, 2.76 mmol) as above mentioned), 2,6-dibenzhydryl-4-methylaniline (493 mg, 1.12 mmol), and formic acid (1 drop) was refluxed in methanol (20 mL) overnight. After removing the volatile matters in vacuo, the mixture was purified by silica-gel column chromatography (1st elution with

ethyl acetate and hexane (1:1) to wash impurities, and then 2nd elution with ethyl acetate, hexane and ethanol (30:10:3) to elute **13b**), to afford a crude product including **13b** (1.02 g), which was used for next step without further purification. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.16 (dt, *J* = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (ddd, *J* = 7.6, 4.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (td, *J* = 7.6, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.18–7.08 (m, 12H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 7.01–6.98 (m, 8H), 6.66 (s, 2H), 5.43 (s, 2H), 2.15 (s, 3H), 1.15 (d, *J* = 14 Hz, 18H); ³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 50.5.

[Synthesis of **L2**] The crude compound **13b** (1.02 g) and chloromethyl methyl ether (2.2 mL, 29.6 mmol) were refluxed overnight in a 10-mL J-young Schlenk tube. After cooling to room temperature, the volatile matters were removed in vacuo. The crude product was dissolved in dichloromethane (ca. 10 mL), filtered through a pad of Celite, and the pad was washed with dichloromethane twice (ca. 5.0 mL × 2). The volatile matters were evaporated in vacuo again, and then the crude solid was stirred overnight in dichloromethane (ca. 0.5 mL) and diethyl ether (ca. 20 mL). The formed precipitate was filtered, washed with diethyl ether (ca. 5 mL), and dried under vacuo at 100 °C for 2.0 h, to afford pure **L2** (1.01 g, 1.37 mmol, 60% from **10**) as a colorless solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.13 (s, 1H), 8.43 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 8.26 (s, 1H), 7.56–7.54 (m, 2H), 7.23–7.15 (m, 12H), 6.91–6.86 (m, 8H), 6.79 (s, 2H), 5.12 (s, 2H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 1.22 (d, *J* = 15 Hz, 18H); ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 61.7; ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.8, 141.4, 141.2, 140.4, 131.2 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1C), 130.9, 130.8 (2C), 129.3 (4C), 129.0 (8C), 128.8 (4C), 127.6, 127.4, 127.4 (2C), 127.0–126.9 (2C), 124.8 (d, *J* = 67 Hz, 1C), 124.1, 123.7–123.6 (2C), 118.1, 52.0 (2C), 38.3 (d, *J* = 59 Hz, 2C), 26.5 (6C), 22.0. HRMS-ESI (*m*/*z*) calcd for C₄₄H₃₅N₂OP ([M+H]⁺) 701.3661, found 701.3648.

Synthesis of Palladium Complexes 4a and 4b



[Synthesis of **4a**] In a glove box, **L1** (60 mg, 0.13 mmol) and potassium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide (KHMDS, 27 mg, 0.13 mmol) were dissolved in diethyl ether (ca. 5.0 mL) in a 15-mL scintillation vial, and the mixture was stirred for 15 min at room temperature. Then, the mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite and the pad was washed with diethyl ether (ca. 2.0 mL). To the filtrate were added $AgSbF_6$ (35 mg, 0.14 mmol) and

THF (ca. 3.0 mL), and the mixture was stirred for 1 h at ambient temperature under darkness. Then, PdMeCl(cod) (34 mg, 0.13 mmol) and 2,6-lutidine (14 mg, 0.13 mmol) were added, and the mixture was stirred for 3 h at ambient temperature under darkness. The mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite and the pad was washed with THF (ca. 3.0 mL). After the volatiles matters were removed under vacuum, the crude product was washed with diethyl ether (ca. 5.0 mL) and dried under vacuum for 1 h to afford complex **4a** as pale yellow solid (98 mg, 86%). The single crystal for X-ray crystallographic analysis was obtained by slow volatilization of saturated solution of complex **4a** with dichloromethane and hexane. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.75 (d, *J* = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.49–7.46 (m, 2H), 7.32–7.28 (m, 3H), 7.21 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 3.02 (s, 6H), 2.90 (sept, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.37 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 6H), 1.27 (d, *J* = 15 Hz, 18H), 1.01 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 6H), -0.30 (s, 3H). ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 63.0. ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.6, 158.8, 144.5, 138.3, 136.8, 131.2 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1C), 130.5, 127.2 (d, *J* = 77 Hz, 1C), 126.5 (d, *J* = 12 Hz, 2C), 124.3 (2C), 123.4 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1C), 122.8 (2C), 121.1 (d, *J* = 10 Hz, 2C), 118.5, 38.5 (d, *J* = 59 Hz, 2C), 28.8 (2C), 27.1 (2C), 27.0 (6C), 25.6 (2C), 22.9 (2C), -10.7. HRMS-ESI (*m*/*z*) calcd for C₃₅H₅₁N₃OPPd ([M+H]⁺) 666.2799, found 666.2824.

[Synthesis of 4b] In a 20-mL Schlenk flask, complex 4a (98 mg, 0.11 mmol) and NaBAr^F₄ (77 mg, 0.087 mmol) in dichloromethane (ca. 10 mL) were stirred overnight at ambient temperature. The volatile matters were removed under vacuum and then the Schlenk flask was transferred into the glove box. The mixture was extracted with diethyl ether (ca. 10 mL) twice, and the combined filtrate was evaporated to dryness. Finally the mixture was washed with pentane (ca. 5.0 mL) and dried under vacuum for 1 h at ambient temperature to afford complex **4b** as a pale yellow solid (128 mg, 77%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.71 (s, 8H), 7.58– 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.514 (s, 4H), 7.50–7.48 (m, 1H), 7.45 (s, 1H), 7.30 (d, J = 7.5Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.05–7.01 (m, 1H), 6.89–6.86 (m, 1H), 3.00 (s, 6H), 2.86 (sept, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.37 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H), 1.20 (d, J = 15 Hz, 18H), 0.99 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H), -0.27 (s, 3H). ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 62.6; ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.4; ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.8, 162.4–161.3 (m, 4C), 158.7, 144.3, 138.4, 136.6, 134.9 (8C), 130.8 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1C), 130.8, 129.0 (qq, J = 31, 2.8 Hz, 8C), 128.1 (d, J = 77 Hz, 1C), 124.7 (q, J = 273 Hz, 8C), 125.1 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2C), 124.5 (2C), 123.3 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1C), 122.8 (2C), 119.7 (d, J = 10 Hz, 2C), 118.6, 117.6 (sept, J = 3.8 Hz, 4C), 38.5 (d, J = 58 Hz, 2C), 28.9 (2C), 27.0 (2C), 26.9 (6C), 25.5 (2C), 22.8 (2C), -10.2. Elemental analysis, Calcd for C₆₇H₆₃BF₂₄N₃OPPd C, 52.58; H, 4.15; N, 2.75. found C, 52.03; H, 4.34; N, 2.69. HRMS-ESI (*m/z*) calcd for C₃₅H₅₁N₃OPPd ([M+H]⁺) 666.2799, found 666.2823.

Synthesis of Palladium Complex 4c



[Synthesis of **4c**] In a glove box, **L2** (50 mg, 0.068 mmol) and KHMDS (15 mg, 0.071 mmol) were dissolved in benzene/THF (ca. 3.0 mL each) in a 15-mL scintillation vial, and the mixture was stirred for 15 min at room temperature. Then, the mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite and the pad was washed with THF (ca. 3.0 mL). To this filtrate was added AgSbF₆ (19 mg, 0.074 mmol). The mixture was stirred at ambient temperature under darkness for ca. 0.5 h and PdMeCl(cod) (18 mg, 0.068 mmol) and 2,6-lutidine (7.3 mg, 0.068 mmol) were added and the mixture was stirred for another 3 h at ambient temperature under darkness. The mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite and the pad was washed with THF (ca. 3.0 mL). After the volatiles were removed in vacuo, the crude product was washed with diethyl ether and dried under vacuum for 1 h, to afford the palladium hexafluoroantimonate complex (59 mg, 0.051 mmol), which was used for next step without further purification. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.66 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.30–7.06 (m, 17H), 6.98–6.88 (m, 2H), 6.85 (s, 2H), 6.81–6.79 (m, 2H), 6.72–6.70 (m, 4H), 5.50 (s, 1H), 5.48 (s, 2H), 3.15 (s, 6H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 1.34 (d, *J* = 15 Hz, 18H), 0.05 (s, 3H); ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 63.3.

In a 20-mL Schlenk flask, the above palladium hexafluoroantimonate complex and NaBAr^F₄ (36 mg, 0.041 mmol) in dichloromethane (ca. 10 mL) were stirred overnight at ambient temperature. The volatile matters were removed and then the Schlenk flask was transferred into the glove box. The mixture was extracted with diethyl ether (ca. 10 mL), and passed through a pad of Celite with the aid of additional ether (3.0 mL). The extraction was repeated twice, and the combined filtrate was evaporated to dryness. Finally the mixture was washed with pentane and dried under vacuum for 1 h to afford complex **4c** as a pale yellow solid (74 mg, 61% over two steps). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.72 (s, 8H), 7.61 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (s, 4H), 7.31–7.20 (m, 6H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.14–7.08 (m, 8H), 6.98–6.94 (m, 1H), 6.90–6.87 (m, 1H), 6.85 (s, 2H), 6.79–6.74 (m, 2H), 6.71–6.69 (m, 4H), 6.65–6.62 (m, 1H), 5.52 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 5.46 (s, 2H), 3.13 (s, 6H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 9H), 1.27 (s, 9H), 0.08 (s, 3H); ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 62.7; ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ –62.4; ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.4–161.3 (m, 4C) 158.7, 158.5, 142.4, 141.9, 141.2, 140.7, 140.6, 140.6 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1C), 140.0, 138.5, 136.5, 134.9 (8C), 130.2 (2C), 129.7 (4C), 129.1, 129.0 (qq, *J* = 31, 2.8 Hz, 8C), 129.5 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz, 1C), 128.9 (4C), 128.7 (d, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 8C), 127.7 (d, *J* =

4.0 Hz, 1C), 127.1 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 4C), 124.7 (q, J = 273 Hz, 8C), 124.5 (d, J = 12 Hz, 1C), 123.6 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1C), 123.0, 120.8, 118.5 (d, J = 10 Hz, 1C), 117.6 (sept, J = 3.8 Hz, 4C), 52.3 (2C), 38.8 (d, J = 58 Hz, 2C), 27.3 (2C), 26.9 (6C), 26.3, 22.0, -9.3. Elemental analysis, Calcd for C₈₈H₇₃BF₂₄N₃OPPd C, 58.96; H, 4.10; N, 2.34. found C, 59.10; H, 4.51; N, 2.44. HRMS-ESI (*m*/*z*) calcd for C₅₆H₆₁N₃OPPd ([M+H]⁺) 928.3582, found 928.3626.

Synthesis of Palladium Complexes 5a and 5b



[Synthesis of 5a] In a glove box, L3¹⁰ (30 mg, 0.056 mmol) and KHMDS (12 mg, 0.056 mmol)) were dissolved in ether (ca. 5.0 mL) in a 15-mL scintillation vial, and the mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature under darkness. The mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite and the pad was washed with diethyl ether (ca. 3.0 mL). To the filtrate were added AgOTf (14 mg, 0.056 mmol) and THF (ca. 3.0 mL), and the mixture was stirred for 2 h at ambient temperature under darkness. To the resulting mixture were added PdMeCl(cod) (15 mg, 0.056 mmol) and 2,6-lutidine (6.0 mg, 0.056 mmol), and the mixture was stirred under darkness overnight at ambient temperature. The mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite and the pad was washed with THF (ca. 3.0 mL). After the volatile matters of the filtrate were removed in vacuo, benzene (ca. 5.0 mL) was added into the mixture. The mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite and washed with benzene (ca. 3.0 mL). The remaining white solid on the pad of Celite was extracted by THF. The volatile matters of the filtrate were removed under vacuum and the remaining solid was washed with diethyl ether and dried under vacuum for ca. 1 h at ambient temperature to afford complex 5a as a colorless solid (27 mg, 63%). The single crystal for X-ray crystallographic analysis was obtained by slow volatilization of saturated solution of complex 5a with dichloromethane and hexane. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.25 (s, 1H), 7.61 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 7.5 (d, J =8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.95 (s, 6H), 2.54 (sept, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 1.47 (d, J = 16 Hz, 18H), 1.32 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 6H), 1.17 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 6H), -0.25 (s, 3H); ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 85.4; ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -78.2; ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.2 (d, J = 11 Hz, 1C), 158.9, 144.8, 138.6, 134.8, 130.9, 128.3 (d, J = 4.2) Hz, 2C), 124.2 (2C), 122.9 (2C), 122.9 (2C), 121.0 (q, J = 321 Hz, 1C), 37.9 (d, J = 62 Hz, 2C), 28.8 (2C), 26.6 (2C), 26.2 (6C), 24.5 (2C), 23.2 (2C), -9.7. Elemental analysis, Calcd for C₃₂H₄₉F₃N₃O₄PPdS C, 50.16;

[Synthesis of **5b**] In the glove box, complex **5a** (30 mg, 0.039 mmol) and NaBAr^F₄ (31 mg, 0.035 mmol) were added into a 20 mL Schlenk flask and the flask was trasfeered outside of glove box. After dichloromethane (ca. 10 mL) was added under the argon atmosphere, the mixture was stirred for 3 h at ambient temperature. The volatile matters were removed under vacuum at ambient temperature and the Schlenk was then transferred into glove box. After diethyl ether (ca. 10 mL) was added, the mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite and the pad was washed with diethyl ether (ca. 3.0 mL). The extraction was repeated twice, and the combined filtrate was evaporated to dryness. The white solid product is washed with pentane (ca. 10 mL) and dried under vacuum for 1 h at ambient temperature, to afford **5b** as a colorless solid (50 mg, 96%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.71 (s, 8H), 7.58 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (s, 4H), 7.49 (t, $J = 7.8 \text{ Hz}, 1^{-1}$) 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (s, 2H), 7.11–7.10 (m, 3H), 2.92 (s, 6H), 2.49 (sept, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.36 (d, J = 16 Hz, 18H), 1.33 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H), 1.14 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H), -0.19 (s, 3H); ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 84.3; ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.4; ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 177.8 (d, J = 11 Hz, 1C), 162.4–161.3 (m, 4C), 158.7, 144.6, 138.8, 134.9 (8C), 134.3, 131.4, 129.0 (qq, J = 31, 2.8 Hz, 8C), 127.6 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 2C), 124.5 (2C), 123.0 (2C), 119.9 (d, J = 4.3 Hz, 2C), 117.6 (sep, J = 3.8 Hz, 4C), 37.9 (d, J = 62 Hz, 2C), 29.0 (2C), 26.5 (2C), 25.8 (6C), 24.4 (2C), 23.0 (2C), -8.9. HRMS-ESI (m/z) calcd for $C_{31}H_{49}N_3OPPd$ ([M+H]⁺) 616.2643, found 616.2614.

Procedure of Ethylene Homopolymerization (Table 1, Entries 1–7)

A 50-mL stainless steel autoclave was dried in an oven for 3 h at 120 °C, sealed, and evacuated under vacuum for 2 h at 140 °C. After cooling to room temperature, a freshly prepared solution of catalyst (2.5 µmol, 5.0 mL of 0.50 mmol/L solution in toluene) and dehydrated toluene (5.0 mL) were added under argon atmosphere. Then, the autoclave was pressurized with ethylene (3.0 MPa), sealed, and stirred in an isothermal heating block under given conditions. After cooling to room temperature and venting redundant ethylene, the reaction was quenched by addition of ethanol (ca. 20 mL). The formed precipitates were collected by filtration, washed with ethanol, and dried under high vacuum for at least 2 h at 100 °C to afford polyethylene. The molecular weight and molecular weight distribution were determined by size exclusion chromatography. The extent of branching in the polymer backbone was determined by quantitative ¹³C NMR analysis.

Procedure of Ethylene Oligomerization (Table 1, Entry 8)

A 50-mL stainless steel autoclave was dried in an oven for 3 h at 120 °C, sealed, and evacuated under vacuum for 2 h at 140 °C. After cooling to room temperature, a freshly prepared solution of catalyst (2.5 μ mol, 5.0 mL of 0.50 mmol/L solution in toluene) and dehydrated toluene (5.0 mL) were added under argon atmosphere. Then, the autoclave was pressurized with ethylene (3.0 MPa), sealed, and stirred in an isothermal heating block under given conditions. After cooling with ice-water bath and venting redundant ethylene, tridecane (32 mg) was added and the mixture was stirred for 2 min and the product was analyzed by gas chromatography.

Procedure of Ethylene/Polar Monomer Copolymerization (Table 2)

A 50-mL stainless steel autoclave was dried in an oven for 3 h at 120 °C, sealed, and evacuated under vacuum for 2 h at 140 °C. After cooling to room temperature, a solution of catalyst **4b** (5.0 μ mol, 5.0 mL of 1.0 mmol/L solution in toluene) was added under argon atmosphere. To the mixture were added 2.0 mL of a polar monomer and 3.0 mL of toluene (entries 1, 3, and 5) or 5.0 mL of a polar monomer (entries 2, 4, 6, and 7). Then the autoclave was charged with ethylene (3.0 MPa), sealed, and stirred in an isothermal heating block for 3.0 h at 30 °C.

After cooling to room temperature and venting redundant ethylene, the reaction was quenched by addition of ethanol (ca. 20 mL), and the volatile matters were removed in vacuo. After THF (ca. 30 mL) was added, the formed precipitates were collected by filtration, washed with THF (ca. 10 mL), and dried under high vacuum for at least 3.0 h at 100 °C to afford ethylene/polar monomer copolymers. The molecular weight and molecular weight distribution were determined by size exclusion chromatography. The incorporation ratio of polar monomers was calculated based on ¹H NMR analysis.

2. Full Data of Polymerization

entry	catalyst	T (°C)	time	polymer	activity	$M_n^{[b]}$	$M_{\rm w}/M_{\rm n}^{\rm [b]}$	branch ^[c]	$T_{\rm m}$
		(\mathbf{C})	(1)	(g)	(kg/morm)	(kg/1101)			$(\mathbf{C})^{c_1}$
1	4b (2.5 µmol)	30	1.0	0.11	44	12	2.1	0	133.4
2	4b (2.5 μmol)	30	2.0	0.25	50	11	2.3	0	133.3
3	4b (2.5 μmol)	30	5.0	0.42	44	13	2.0	0	132.7
4	4b (2.5 μmol)	30	10	0.84	34	11	2.3	0	132.3
5	4b (2.5 μmol)	50	1.0	0.38	152	7.2	2.3	0	131.6
6	4b (2.5 μmol)	50	2.0	0.41	83	6.5	2.3	0	131.6
7	4c (2.5 μmol)	30	2.0	0.15	29	19	2.2	0	133.6
8	5b (2.5 μmol)	30	2.0	trace		olig	omer		
S 1	3a (5.0 µmol)	30	2.0	0.011	1.1	2.9	1.6		
$S2^{[e]}$	3a (1.0 µmol)	80	1.0	0.033	33	26	2.1	4.5	
S3 ^{[e]11}	3a (1.0 µmol)	100	1.0	0.69	690	76	2.4	11.6	
S4	2a (2.5 µmol)	30	2.0	0.017	3.4	17	1.5		
$S5^{[f]}$	2a (0.75 µmol)	100	1.0	2.0	2700	31	3.1	5	
S 6	1a (2.5 µmol)	30	2.0	2.1	427	15	4.8		

Table S1. Ethylene Polymerization by Various Palladium Complexes^[a]

[a] A mixture of catalyst (2.5 μmol) and ethylene (3.0 MPa) in toluene (10 mL) was stirred under the indicated. [b] Number-average molecular weight determined by size-exclusion chromatography using polystyrene as an internal standard and corrected by universal calibration. [c] Methyl branches per 1000C determined by quantitative ¹³C NMR analyses. [d] Melting temperature determined by DSC analysis. [e] Data from reference 11; Ethylene (4.0 MPa), toluene 20 mL. [f] Data from reference 12; toluene 15 mL.



Table S2. Copolymerization of Ethylene with Polar Monomers by Complex 4b^[a]

entr y	cat.	comonomer (mL)	polymer (mg)	activity (kg/mol·h)	$M_{\rm n}^{[b]}$ (kg/mol)	$M_{ m w}/M_{ m n}^{[b]}$	i.r. ^[c] (mol%)	yield based on comonomer ^[d] (%)	branch ^[e]	$T_{\rm m}$ (°C) ^[f]
1	4b	AAc (2.0)	198	13	9.4	2.3	0.15	0.057	nd	131.2
2	4b	AAc (5.0)	67	4.5	7.4	2.2	0.58	0.030	nd	126.3
3	4b	MA (2.0)	72	4.8	7.0	2.3	0.27	0.031	nd	131.2
4	4b	MA (5.0)	26	1.7	4.8	2.1	0.61	0.010	nd	128.6
5 ^[g]	4b	MA (5.0)	127	2.1	4.1	2.7	0.50	0.041	0	129.2
6 ^[h]	4b	MA (5.0)	0							
7	4b	AC (2.0)	71	4.7	8.1	2.1	0.19	0.020	nd	130.1
8	4b	AC (5.0)	38	2.5	6.8	2.1	0.47	0.010	nd	128.1
9 ^[i]	4b	VA (5.0)	25	2.5	6.9	2.3	0		nd	131.4
S1 ^[j]	3a	AAc (1.0)	134	4.5	7.4	2.5	1.4		6.3	
$S2^{[j]}$	3a	MA (0.2)	319	11	17	2.0	0.8		8.1	
S3 ^[j]	3a	AC (0.4)	38	1.3	3.9	2.1	0.5		4.3	
S4 ^[j]	3a	VA (1.0)	188	6.3	11	2.5	< 0.1		7.4	

[a] A mixture of catalyst (5.0 μ mol), polar monomer, and ethylene (3.0 MPa) in toluene (10 mL including polar monomer) was stirred at 30 °C for 3.0 h under the conditions mentioned in Table S2. Abbreviations, AAc: allyl acetate, MA: methyl acrylate, AC: allyl chloride, VA: vinyl acetate, nd: not determined. [b] Number-average molecular weight measured by size-exclusion chromatography using polystyrene as an internal standard and corrected by universal calibration. [c] Molar ratio of polar monomers incorporated in copolymers to ethylene polymerized, calculated based on ¹H NMR spectra of copolymers. [d] Molar ratio of the amount of polar monomers incorporated into copolymers to that used in the feed. [e] Methyl branches per 1000 C determined by quantitative ¹³C NMR analyses. [f] Melting temperature determined by DSC analysis. [g] Catalyst (20 μ mol). [h] Homopolymerization of methyl acrylate in the absence of ethylene. [i] Polymerization time: 2.0 h. [j] A mixture of catalyst **3a** (10 μ mol), polar monomer, and ethylene (4.0 MPa) in toluene (20 mL including polar monomer) was stirred at 100 °C for 3.0 h under the conditions mentioned in Table S2.



3. NMR Spectra of Ligands and Catalysts

-10.793 2.094 2.080 2.067 2.053 2.053 2.053 1.398 1.398 1.368 1.255 1.255 1.211 1.097 1.083 9.232 9.214 9.147 7.595 7.497 7.329 7.313 9.10 6.00 1.99 1.94 0.90 118 1 7.0 6.5 6.0 5.5 5.0 4.5 4.0 3.5 3.0 f1 (ppm) 7.5 9.0 8.5 8.0 2.5 2.0 1.5 11.0 10.5 10.0 9.5 1.0 0.5 0.0

3.1 Ligand Precursors L1 and L2





Figure S2: ³¹P NMR (202 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum of ligand precursor L1.







Figure S4: ¹³C NMR (126 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum (118–146 ppm) of ligand precursor L1.



Figure S5: ¹H NMR (500 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum of ligand precursor L2.



Figure S6: ³¹P NMR (202 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum of ligand precursor L2.



Figure S7: ¹³C NMR (126 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum of ligand precursor L2.



Figure S8: ¹³C NMR (126 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum (120–145 ppm) of ligand precursor L2.

3.2 Complexes 4a, 4b, 4c and 5a, 5b



Figure S9: ¹H NMR (500 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum of complex 4a.



Figure S10: ¹H NMR (500 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum (7.10–7.80 ppm) of complex 4a.



Figure S11: ³¹P NMR (202 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum of complex 4a.



Figure S12: ¹³C NMR (126 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum of complex 4a.





Figure S14: ¹H NMR (500 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum of complex 4b.







Figure S16: ³¹P NMR (202 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum of complex 4b.



Figure S17: ¹⁹F NMR (470 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum of complex 4b.



Figure S18: ¹³C NMR (126 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum of complex 4b.



Figure S19: ¹³C NMR (126 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum (116–131 ppm) of complex 4b.



Figure S20: ¹H NMR (500 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum of complex 4c.







Figure S22: ³¹P NMR (202 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum of complex 4c.



Figure S23: 19 F NMR (470 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum of complex 4c.



Figure S24: ¹³C NMR (126 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum of complex 4c.



Figure S25: 13 C NMR (126 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum (δ 133–163 ppm) of complex 4c.



Figure S26: ¹³C NMR (126 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum (δ 117–131 ppm) of complex 4c.





Figure S28: ³¹P NMR (202 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum of complex 5a.



Figure S29: ¹⁹F NMR (470 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum of complex 5a.



Figure S30: ¹³C NMR (126 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum of complex 5a.



Figure S31: ¹³C NMR (126 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum (117–146 ppm) of complex 5a.



Figure S32: ¹H NMR (500 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum of complex 5b.







Figure S34: ³¹P NMR (202 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum of complex 5b.



Figure S35: $^{19}\mathrm{F}$ NMR (470 Hz, CDCl_3) spectrum of complex 5b.



Figure S36: ¹³C NMR (500 Hz, CDCl₃) spectrum of complex 5b.





4. X-ray Crystallographic Data of Complexes 4a and 5a



Figure S38. X-ray structure of **4a** with thermal ellipsoids of 50% probability. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.



Figure S39. X-ray structure of **5a** with thermal ellipsoids of 50% probability. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

Complex		4a	5a	
CCDC number		1525118	1525117	
Empirical formula		$C_{35}H_{51}F_6N_3OPPdSb$	$C_{32}H_{49}F_3N_3O_4PPdS$	
Formula weight		902.90	766.17	
Temperature (K)		93	93	
Wavelength (Å)		0.71075	0.71075	
Crystal system		monoclinic	monoclinic	
Space group		$P2_{1}/c$	$P2_1/n$	
Unit cell dimensions	a (Å)	10.179(3)	10.844(3)	
	b (Å)	22.751(8)	20.403(6)	
	c (Å)	16.348(6)	17.005(5)	
	α(°)	90	90	
	β(°)	93.349(6)	94.838(5)	
	γ(°)	90	90	
Volume (Å ³)		3786(2)	3749.0(19)	
Z		4	4	
Density (calculated)	(g/cm^3)	1.584	1.357	
Absorption coefficien	nt (mm ^{-1})	1.292	0.645	
F(000)		1824	1592	
Crystal size (mm ³)		$0.25 \times 0.25 \times 0.10$	$0.20\times0.10\times0.03$	
Theta (max)		25.999	25.999	
Index ranges		-12<=h<=12	-12<=h<=13	
		-27<=k<=28	-25<=k<=24	
		-20<=l<=18	-20<=1<=19	
Reflections collected		26298	26195	
Independent reflection	ons [R(int)]	7435 [R(int) = 0.0730]	7350 [R(int) = 0.0801]	
Data completeness		99.9%	99.9%	
Absorption correction		Multi-scan	Multi-scan	
Max. and min. transmission		1.000 and 0.788	1.000 and 0.617	
Refinement method		Full-matrix least-squares on F ²	Full-matrix least-squares on F ²	
Data / restraints / parameters		7435 / 0 / 446	7350 / 36 / 442	
Goodness-of-fit on F ²		1.067	1.124	
Final R indices [I>2σιναλ		$R_1 = 0.0447, wR_2 = 0.0819$	$R_1 = 0.0651, wR_2 = 0.1425$	
R indices (all data)		$R_1 = 0.0573, wR_2 = 0.0869$	$R_1 = 0.0743, wR_2 = 0.1478$	
Max/min diff. peaks (e.Å ⁻³)		0.735 / -0.588	1.823 / -1.428	

Table S3. Crystal Data and Structure Refinement for Complexes 4a and 5a.

5. NMR Spectra, SEC Charts, and DSC Charts of Polymers

General Notes for the Characterization

In ¹³C NMR analyses, artifact pairs derived from the solvent signal of 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane (typically at δ = 78.3 and 70.7 ppm, 82.5 and 65.9 ppm, 90.8 and 57.6 ppm, 99.1 and 49.3 ppm, 107.4 and 41.1 ppm, marked with *) and impurities in the solvent (CHCl₂CCl₃: δ = 79.8 and 99.7 ppm, CCl₂CCl₂: δ = 120.2 ppm, CHClCCl₂: δ = 116.6 and 121.6 ppm, marked with **) were excluded from the calculation of the extent of branches and the incorporation ratio of polar monomers.

Observed ¹³C NMR signals of polyethylenes were assigned according to the following literatures; polyethylene and ethylene/allyl monomer copolymers¹³, ethylene/acrylate copolymers.¹⁴

5.1 Data of polyethylene (Table 1)



Figure S40. Quantitative ¹³C NMR spectrum (126 MHz, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 , 120 °C, inverse gated) of polyethylene obtained by **4b** at 30 °C (Table 1, entry 1).



Figure S41. SEC chart of polyethylene obtained by **4b** (Table 1, entry 1). M_n (PS) = 29 kg/mol was corrected to M_n (PE) = 12 kg/mol by universal calibration.



Figure S42. DSC traces of polyethylene obtained by 4b (Table 1, entry 1).



Figure S43. Quantitative ¹³C NMR spectrum (126 MHz, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane-*d*₂, 120 °C, inverse gated) of polyethylene obtained by **4b** at 30 °C (Table 1, entry 2).


Figure S44. SEC chart of polyethylene obtained by **4b** (Table 1, entry 2). M_n (PS) = 24 kg/mol was corrected to M_n (PE) = 11 kg/mol by universal calibration.



Figure S45. DSC traces of polyethylene obtained by 4b (Table 1, entry 2).



Figure S46. Quantitative ¹³C NMR spectrum (126 MHz, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 , 120 °C, inverse gated) of polyethylene obtained by **4b** at 30 °C (Table 1, entry 3).



Figure S47. SEC chart of polyethylene obtained by **4b** (Table 1, entry 3). M_n (PS) = 31 kg/mol was corrected to M_n (PE) = 13 kg/mol by universal calibration.



Figure S48. DSC traces of polyethylene obtained by 4b (Table 1, entry 3).



Figure S49. Quantitative ¹³C NMR spectrum (126 MHz, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane-*d*₂, 120 °C, inverse gated) of polyethylene obtained by **4b** at 30 °C (Table 1, entry 4).



Figure S50. SEC chart of polyethylene obtained by **4b** (Table 1, entry 4). M_n (PS) = 25 kg/mol was corrected to M_n (PE) = 11 kg/mol by universal calibration.



Figure S51. DSC traces of polyethylene obtained by 4b (Table 1, entry 4).



Figure S52. Quantitative ¹³C NMR spectrum (126 MHz, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 , 120 °C, inverse gated) of polyethylene obtained by **4b** at 50 °C (Table 1, entry 5). Note: No signal assigned as methyl branch (around 19.5 ppm) or other branches were observed.



Figure S53. SEC chart of polyethylene obtained by **4b** (Table 1, entry 5). M_n (PS) = 16 kg/mol was corrected to M_n (PE) = 7.2 kg/mol by universal calibration.



Figure S54. DSC traces of polyethylene obtained by 4b (Table 1, entry 5).



Figure S55. Quantitative ¹³C NMR spectrum (126 MHz, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane-*d*₂, 120 °C, inverse gated) of polyethylene obtained by **4b** at 50 °C (Table 1, entry 6).



Figure S56. SEC chart of polyethylene obtained by **4b** (Table 1, entry 6). M_n (PS) = 15 kg/mol was corrected to M_n (PE) = 6.5 kg/mol by universal calibration.



Figure S57. DSC traces of polyethylene obtained by 4b (Table 1, entry 6).



Figure S58. Quantitative ¹³C NMR spectrum (126 MHz, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 , 120 °C, inverse gated) of polyethylene obtained by **4c** at 30 °C (Table 1, entry 7).



Figure S59. SEC chart of polyethylene obtained by **4c** (Table 1, entry 7). M_n (PS) = 44 kg/mol was corrected to M_n (PE) = 19 kg/mol by universal calibration.



Figure S60. DSC traces of polyethylene obtained by 4c (Table 1, entry 7).

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Figure S61. GC spectrum of ethylene oligomer obtained by **5b** at 30 °C with tridecane as internal standard (Table 1, entry 8).

5.2 Data of copolymers (Table 2)

5.2.1 Data of ethylene/allyl acetate copolymers



Figure S62. ¹H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 , 120 °C, relaxation delay 10 s) of copolymer with allyl acetate obtained by **4b** at 30 °C (Table 2, entry 1).

Note: Calculation of incorporation ratio of allyl acetate: Assume (1-x) mol% ethylene and x mol% allyl acetate in the copolymer,

$$\frac{2x}{8x+4(1-x)} = \frac{p}{p+e+f+g+h+j+k+l+i+n+q+r+s}$$
$$x = \frac{2p}{e+f+g+h+j+k+l+i+n+q+r+s-p}$$

In entry 1 of Table 2, the incorporation ratio of allyl acetate is calculated as follows: $(2 \times 1.26) / (1704.04 + 5.82 + 5.36 + 3.00 + 0.58 - 1.26) = 0.15 \text{ mol}\%$



Figure S63. SEC chart of ethylene/allyl acetate copolymer obtained by 4b (Table 2, entry 1). M_n (PS) = 22 kg/mol was corrected to M_n (PE) = 9.4 kg/mol by universal calibration.



Figure S64. DSC traces of ethylene/allyl acetate copolymer obtained by 4b (Table 2, entry 1).



Figure S65. ¹H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 , 120 °C, relaxation delay 10 s) of copolymer with allyl acetate obtained by **4b** at 30 °C (Table 2, entry 2).

Note: In entry 2 of Table 2, the incorporation ratio of allyl acetate is calculated as follows: $(2 \times 4.11) / (4.73 + 1406.96 + 3.00 + 0.33 + 2.61 + 6.76 - 4.11) = 0.58 \text{ mol}\%$



Figure S66. SEC chart of ethylene/allyl acetate copolymer obtained by 4b (Table 2, entry 2). M_n (PS) = 17 kg/mol was corrected to M_n (PE) = 7.4 kg/mol by universal calibration.



Figure S67. DSC traces of ethylene/allyl acetate copolymer obtained by 4b (Table 2, entry 2).



5.2.2. Data of ethylene/methyl acrylate copolymers

Figure S68. ¹H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 , 120 °C, relaxation delay 10 s) of copolymer with methyl acrylate obtained by **4b** at 30 °C (Table 2, entry 3).

Note: Calculation of incorporation ratio of methyl acrylate:

Assume (1-x) mol% ethylene and x mol% methyl acrylate in the copolymer,

3 <i>x</i>	p+a+f+k							
$\frac{3x+4(1-x)}{3x+4(1-x)}$	$\frac{1}{n+i+i'+m+y+v+w+r+c+j+o+x+z+d+e+s+t+u+bb+cc+aa}$							
Х								
_	4(p + a + f + k)							
$=$ $\frac{1}{3(n+i+i'+i')}$	m + y + v + w + r + c + j + o + x + z + d + e + s + t + u + bb + cc + aa) + p + a + f + k							

In entry 3 of Table 2, the incorporation ratio of allyl acetate is calculated as follows: $(4 \times (1.84 + 2.73)) / (3 \times (8.62 + 2239.35 + 7.36 + 3.02 + 0.79) + 1.84 + 2.73) = 0.27 \text{ mol}\%.$



Figure S69. SEC chart of ethylene/methyl acrylate copolymer obtained by 4b (Table 2, entry 3). M_n (PS) = 16 kg/mol was corrected to M_n (PE) = 7.0 kg/mol by universal calibration.



Figure S70. DSC traces of ethylene/methyl acrylate copolymer obtained by 4b (Table 2, entry 3).



Figure S71. ¹H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane-*d*₂, 120 °C, relaxation delay 10 s) of copolymer with methyl acrylate obtained by **4b** at 30 °C (Table 2, entry 4).

Note: In entry 3 of Table 2, the incorporation ratio of allyl acetate is calculated as follows: $(4 \times (4.23 + 4.64)) / (3 \times (1918.60 + 7.55 + 3.00 + 0.45 + 0.45) + 4.23 + 4.64) = 0.61 \text{ mol}\%$



Figure S72. SEC chart of ethylene/methyl acrylate copolymer obtained by 4b (Table 2, entry 4). M_n (PS) = 11 kg/mol was corrected to M_n (PE) = 4.8 kg/mol by universal calibration.



Figure S73. DSC traces of ethylene/methyl acrylate copolymer obtained by 4b (Table 2, entry 4).

0.36 1.51 8.35 8.99 0-1-6

b

-

7.11

aa

0.52

7.5 7.0 6.5

8.0

* = decomposed catalyst residue

9.0 8.5

9.5

.1.0 10.5 10.0

Supplementary Information for the Assignment of Ethylene/Methyl Acrylate Copolymer

Figure S74. ¹H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 , 120 °C, relaxation delay 10 s) of ethylene/methyl acrylate copolymer obtained by **4b** at 30 °C (Table S2, entry 5).

5.0 4.5 4.0 3.5 3.0 2.5 2.0 1.5 1.0 0.5 0.

6.0 5.5 f1 (ppm)



Figure S75. ¹H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 , 120 °C, relaxation delay 10 s, $\delta = 0.5-7.1$ ppm) of ethylene/methyl acrylate copolymer obtained by **4b** at 30 °C (Table S2, entry 5).



Figure S76. ¹H–¹H COSY spectrum (1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 , 120 °C, δ 4.5-6.3 ppm) of ethylene/methyl acrylate copolymer obtained by **4b** at 30 °C (Table S2, entry 5).



Figure S77. ¹H–¹H COSY spectrum (1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 , 120 °C, δ 0.5–3.0 ppm) of ethylene/methyl acrylate copolymer obtained by **4b** at 30 °C (Table S2, entry 5).



Figure S78. ¹H–¹H COSY spectrum (1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 , 120 °C, δ 0.5-3.0 ppm) of ethylene/methyl acrylate copolymer obtained by **4b** at 30 °C (Table S2, entry 5).



Figure S79. ¹³C NMR spectrum (1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 , 120 °C) of ethylene/methyl acrylate copolymer obtained by **4b** at 30 °C (Table S2, entry 5).



Figure S80. ¹³C NMR spectrum (1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 , 120 °C) of ethylene/methyl acrylate copolymer obtained by **4b** at 30 °C (Table S2, entry 5).



Figure S81. HSQC spectrum (1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 , 120 °C, δ 0.5–3.0 ppm) of ethylene/methyl acrylate copolymer obtained by **4b** at 30 °C (Table S2, entry 5).



Figure S82. HSQC spectrum (1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 , 120 °C, δ 5.0–6.3 ppm) of ethylene/methyl acrylate copolymer obtained by **4b** at 30 °C (Table S2, entry 5).



Figure S83. HSQC spectrum (1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 , 120 °C, δ 3.70–3.90 ppm) of ethylene/methyl acrylate copolymer obtained by **4b** at 30 °C (Table S2, entry 5).



Figure S84. HMBC spectrum (1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 , 120 °C, δ 160–185 ppm) of ethylene/methyl acrylate copolymer obtained by **4b** at 30 °C (Table S2, entry 5).



Figure S85. HMBC spectrum (1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 , 120 °C, δ 100–180 ppm) of ethylene/methyl acrylate copolymer obtained by **4b** at 30 °C (Table S2, entry 5).

Proposed methyl acrylate incorporated structures						Model compounds				
e b d c c Main-ct	a b t tain		∧_o_r n II			r -> p H_ i	i i i		≻k ∕	s r o iii
Reported label structure ¹¹		Model compound <i>i</i> ¹⁵		Model compound <i>ii</i> ¹⁶		Model compound <i>iii</i> ¹⁷		observed		
	$^{1}\mathrm{H}$	¹³ C	$^{1}\mathrm{H}$	¹³ C	$^{1}\mathrm{H}$	¹³ C	$^{1}\mathrm{H}$	¹³ C	$^{1}\mathrm{H}$	¹³ C
а		50.6							3.72	50.7
b		176.0								176.3
с		45.3							2.38	45.5
d		32.0								32.1
e		27.1								27.2
f			3.75	51.8					3.81	51.2
g				167.9						167.9
h				136.5						140.7
i'			5.55	125 4					5.55	102.5
i			6.10	123.4					6.15	123.3
k					3.67	51.3			3.78	50.8
1						167.0				166.9
m					5.76	122.6			5.87	121.0
n					6.90	144.7			7.02	149.0
р							3.67	51.3	3.72	50.9
q								177.2		176.6
r							2.46	39.4	2.69	39.3
S							1.14	17.1	1.13	16.6
t							1.39	36.7	1.53	32.6
ť							1.64	50.2	1.77	55.0

Table S4. ¹H and ¹³C NMR chemical shifts of the proposed structures and related model compounds *i*, *ii*, and *iii*.

Main-chain incorporation structure:

All the typical signals of methoxycarbonyl group in the main chain are consistent with those in literature.^{$\pi \neq 1$} $-! \neq \pi = 0.62$. The integral ratio of signal **c** at 2.38 ppm should be (1.34 - 0.36 × 2 = 0.62). The integral of corresponding signal **a** at 3.72 ppm should be ca. (0.62 × 3 = 1.86).

Structure I:

The existence of structure I with one remaining terminal 1,1-substituted double bond (signals i, i', f, g, h and j, see Table S4 for the assignment) was confirmed by the correlations observed in ${}^{1}\text{H}{-}^{1}\text{H}$ COSY and HMBC spectra (Figures S76–78, 84–85) and their chemical shifts. The integral ratio (0.36) of signal i at 6.151 ppm matches with that of signal f at 3.807 ppm (integral ratio: 1.07) and that of signal i' at 5.552 ppm (integral ratio: 0.36) (Figure S75).

Structure II:

The existence of structure **II** with one remaining trans internal double bond (signals **m**, **n**, **k**, **l** and **o**, see Table S4 for the assignment) was confirmed by the correlations observed in ${}^{1}\text{H}{-}^{1}\text{H}$ COSY and HMBC spectra (Figures S76–78, 84–85) and their chemical shifts. The integral ratio of signal **m** at 5.89 ppm (0.51) matches with that of signal **n** at 7.015 ppm (integral ratio: 0.52) and that of the signal **k** at 3.78 ppm (integral ratio: 1.54) (Figure S75).

Structure III:

The existence of structure **III** (peaks s, r, t, p and q, see Table S4 for the assignment) was confirmed by the correlations observed in ${}^{1}\text{H}{-}{}^{1}\text{H}$ COSY and HMBC spectra (Figures S76–78, 84–85) and their chemical shifts. The integral ratio of signal r at 2.49 ppm (0.82) matches with that of signal p at 3.72 ppm (integral ratio: 4.56 - 1.86 = 2.70) (Figure S75).

The ratio of chain end/in-chain methyl acrylate

Table S5. Ratio of chain end methyl acrylate structures I, II, III and in-chain methyl acrylate structure in Table S2.

MA in-chain structure			MA chain end structures				
	a l b c d c d Main-chain	, р ^н ,	j h H H I				
	MA chain end	MA chain end	MA chain end	MA in-chain	MA chain ends / MA		
	structure I	structure II	structure III	structure	in-chain		
Entry 3	0.21	0.43	0.49	0.38	(0.21+0.43+0.49)/0.38=3.0		
Entry 4	0.47	0.53	0.49	0.60	(0.47+0.53+0.49)/0.60=2.5		
Entry 5	0.36	0.51	0.82	0.62	(0.36+0.51+0.82)/0.62=2.7		



5.2.3. Data of ethylene/allyl chloride copolymers

Figure S86. ¹H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 , 120 °C, relaxation delay 10 s) of ethylene/allyl chloride copolymer obtained by **4b** at 30 °C (Table 2, entry 5).

Note: Calculation of Incorporation ratio of allyl chloride:

Assume (1-x) mol% ethylene and x mol% allyl chloride in the copolymer,

$$\frac{2x}{3x+4(1-x)} = \frac{m}{e+f+g+h+i+j+k+n+o+p}$$
$$x = \frac{2m}{e+f+g+h+j+k+n+o+p+0.5m}$$

In entry 5 of Table 2, the incorporation ratio of allyl acetate is calculated as follows: $(2 \times 1.13) / (1190.34 + 4.63 + 2.15 + 3.00 + 0.5 \times 1.13) = 0.19 \text{ mol}\%$



Figure S87. SEC chart of ethylene/allyl chloride copolymer obtained by 4b (Table 2, entry 5). M_n (PS) = 19 kg/mol was corrected to M_n (PE) = 8.1 kg/mol by universal calibration.



Figure S88: DSC traces of ethylene/allyl chloride copolymer obtained by 4b. (Table 2, entry 5)



Figure S89. ¹H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 , 120 °C, relaxation delay 10 s) of ethylene/allyl chloride copolymer obtained by **4b** at 30 °C (Table 2, entry 6).

Note: In entry 6, table 2, the incorporation ratio of allyl acetate is calculated as follows: $(2 \times 2.59) / (1089.43+3.93+2.32+3.00+0.5\times2.59) = 0.47 \text{ mol}\%$



Figure S90. SEC chart of ethylene/allyl chloride copolymer obtained by 4b (Table 2, entry 6). M_n (PS) = 16 kg/mol was corrected to M_n (PE) = 6.8 kg/mol by universal calibration.



Figure S91: DSC traces of ethylene/allyl chloride copolymer obtained by 4b (Table 2, entry 6).

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5.2.4. Data of polyethylene obtained in attempted ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymerization

Figure S92. ¹H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2 , 120 °C, relaxation delay 10 s) of polyethylene obtained by **4b** in the presence of vinyl acetate at 30 °C (Table 2, entry 7).



Figure S93. SEC chart of polyethylene obtained by 4b (Table 2, entry 7). M_n (PS) = 16 kg/mol was corrected to M_n (PE) = 6.9 kg/mol by universal calibration.



Figure S94. DSC traces of polyethylene obtained by 4b (Table 2, entry 7).

6. Determination of The Mean Dihedral Angles

The mean dihedral angle was defined by the dihedral angle between the plane of NHC and the plane of metal's coordination square.¹¹ The plane of NHC was determined by principal component analysis (PCA) of the four atoms of the carbene atom, the two conjugating nitrogen atoms, and the metal center. The plane of metal's coordination square was determined by PCA of the five atoms of the metal center and the coordinating four atoms. The obtained 3rd eigenvectors were used as the normal vector of each plane. R (version 3.2.3) was used for the calculation.¹⁸



Plane of NHCPlane of metal's coordination squareFigure S95. Selected atoms for the definition of *plane of NHC* and *plane of metal's coordination square*.



*average of the two molecules

Figure S96. Calculated mean dihedral angles between the NHC plane and the plane of metal's coordination square of various NHC-ligated metal complexes.
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