Phosphirenium Borate Betaines from Alkynylphosphanes and the Halogeno-B(C₆F₅)₂ Reagents

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Supporting Information

Table of content

Preparation of compound 8a
Preparation of compound 8b 7
Preparation of compound 8c 10
Preparation of compound 8d
Preparation of compound 8e15
Preparation of compound 8f
Preparation of compound 8g
Heating of compound 8a
Heating of compound 8b
Heating of compound 8d
Heating of compound 8e
Heating of compound 8f
Heating of compound 8g
Preparation of compound 13a
Generation of compound 13e (NMR scale, <i>in situ</i> reaction)
Preparation of compound 13e

General Information: All syntheses involving air- and moisture sensitive compounds were carried out using standard Schlenk-type glassware (or in a glovebox) under an atmosphere of argon. Solvents were dried and stored under an argon atmosphere. NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Inova 500 (¹H 500 MHz, ¹³C 126 MHz, ¹⁹F 470 MHz, ¹¹B 160 MHz, ³¹P 202 MHz) and on a Varian UnityPlus 600 (¹H 600 MHz, ¹³C 151 MHz, ¹⁹F 564 MHz, ¹¹B 192 MHz, ³¹P 243 MHz). ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR: chemical shifts δ are given relative to TMS and referenced to the solvent signal. ¹⁹F NMR: chemical shifts δ are given relative to CFCl₃ (external reference, $\delta = 0$), ¹¹B NMR: chemical shifts δ are given relative to BF₃·Et₂O (external reference, $\delta = 0$). NMR assignments were supported by additional 2D-NMR experiments. Elemental analyses: Foss–Heraeus CHNO-Rapid.

X-Ray diffraction: For compounds 8b und 8f sets were collected with a Nonius Kappa CCD diffractometer. Programs used: data collection, COLLECT (R. W. W. Hooft, Bruker AXS, 2008, Delft, The Netherlands); data reduction Denzo-SMN (Z. Otwinowski, W. Minor, Methods Enzymol. 1997, 276, 307-326); absorption correction, Denzo (Z. Otwinowski, D. Borek, W. Majewski, W. Minor, Acta Crystallogr. 2003, A59, 228-234); structure solution SHELXS-97 (G. M. Sheldrick, Acta Crystallogr. 1990, A46, 467-473); structure refinement SHELXL-97 (G. M. Sheldrick, Acta Crystallogr. 2008, A64, 112-122). Data sets for compounds 8a and 8g were collected with a D8 Venture CMOS diffractometer. For compound 8e data sets were collected with a Bruker APEX II CCD diffractometer. Programs used: data collection: APEX3 V2016.1-0 (Bruker AXS Inc., 2016); cell refinement: SAINT V8.37A (Bruker AXS Inc., 2015); data reduction: SAINT V8.37A (Bruker AXS Inc., 2015); absorption correction, SADABS V2014/7 (Bruker AXS Inc., 2014); structure solution SHELXT-2015 (Sheldrick, 2015); structure refinement SHELXL-2015 (Sheldrick, 2015) and graphics, XP (Bruker AXS Inc., 2015). R-values are given for observed reflections, and wR^2 values are given for all reflections. *Exceptions and* special features: For compound **8b** a half badly disordered dichloromethane molecule was found in the asymmetrical unit and could not be satisfactorily refined. The program SQUEEZE (A. L. Spek (2015) Acta Cryst., C71, 9-18) was therefore used to remove mathematically the effect of the solvent. The quoted formula and derived parameters are not included the squeezed solvent molecule. For compound $\mathbf{8f}$ one C₆F₅ group and for compound $\mathbf{8e}$ one half toluene molecule were found disordered over two positions in the asymmetric unit. Several restraints (SADI, SAME, ISOR and SIMU) were used in order to improve refinement stability. CCDC deposition numbers are 1865543 to 1865547.

Materials: 1) Chloro bis(pentafluorophenyl)borane (7a) and Bromo bis(pentafluorophenyl)borane (7b) [A. Ueno, J. Li, C. G. Daniliuc, G. Kehr, G. Erker, *Chem. Eur. J.* 2018, 24, 10044-10048.], 2) compound 1a [A. Ueno, X. Tao, C. G. Daniliuc, G. Kehr, G. Erker, *Organometallics*, 2018, 37, 2665.], 3) compound 1b [O. Ekkert, R. Fröhlich, G. Kehr, G. Erker, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2011, *133*, 4610-4616.], 4) compound 1c (Mes, tBu) [C. Appelt, H. Westenberg, F. Bertini, A. W.

Ehlers, J. C. Slootweg, K. Lammertsma, W. Uhl, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 3925-3928.], 5) compound **1d** [J. C. Lee, F. E. Hong, *Organometallics* **2005**, *24*, 5686-5695.] were synthesized according to procedures descripted in the literature.

Preparation of compound 8a:



Scheme S1

A mixture of compound **1a** (36.5 mg, 0.10 mmol) and chloro bis(pentafluorophenyl)borane (**7a**, 38.0 mg, 0.10 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (1 mL) was stirred for 1 hour at room temperature. Then, the colorless solution was concentrated *in vacuo* and *n*-pentane (5 mL) was added to the resulting residue. After stirring the obtained suspension for 15 minutes, the white precipitate was collected and dried *in vacuo* to give compound **8a** as a white powder (60.2 mg, 0.08 mmol, 81%).

Melting point: 135 °C

Elemental Analysis calcd for C₃₅H₃₁BClF₁₀PSi (746.94 g/mol): C, 56.28; H, 4.18. Found: C, 56.40; H, 4.43.

¹**H NMR** (600 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): $\delta = 6.92$ (m, 4H, *m*-Mes), 2.33 (s, 12H, *o*-Me^{Mes}), 2.30 (s, 6H, *p*-Me^{Mes}), 0.30 (s, ²J_{SiH} = 6.8 Hz, 9H, SiMe₃).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (151 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): $\delta = 165.3$ (br, BC=), 148.0 (dm, ¹*J*_{FC} ~ 240 Hz, C₆F₅), 144.1 (d, ⁴*J*_{PC} = 3.0 Hz, *p*-Mes), 143.1 (d, ²*J*_{PC} = 11.7 Hz, *o*-Mes), 141.5 (d, ¹*J*_{PC} = 29.7 Hz, SiC=), 139.9 (dm, ¹*J*_{FC} ~ 249 Hz, C₆F₅), 137.3 (dm, ¹*J*_{FC} ~ 252 Hz, C₆F₅), 130.7 (d, ³*J*_{PC} = 12.8 Hz, *m*-Mes), 120.9 (d, ¹*J*_{PC} = 96.9 Hz, *i*-Mes), 120.8 (i-C₆F₅), 22.4 (d, ³*J*_{PC} = 8.3 Hz, *o*-Me^{Mes}), 21.3 (*p*-Me^{Mes}), -0.5 (¹*J*_{SiC} = 55.5 Hz, SiMe₃).

¹¹**B** NMR (192 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): δ = -7.8 (v_{1/2} ~ 150 Hz).

³¹**P NMR** (202 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): $\delta = -151.5$ (v_{1/2} ~ 17 Hz).

¹⁹**F NMR** (564 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): δ = -130.5 (m, 2F, *o*-C₆F₅), -159.7 (t, ³*J*_{FF} = 19.2 Hz, 1F, *p*-C₆F₅), -165.4 (m, 2F, *m*-C₆F₅), [Δ¹⁹F_{m,p} = 5.7].

²⁹Si{¹H} DEPT (119 MHz, C₆D₆, 299 K): $\delta = -1.4$ (d, ²*J*_{PSi} = 4.8 Hz).



S4



00 95 90 85 80 75 70 65 60 55 50 45 40 35 30 25 20 15 10 5 0 -5 -10 -15 -20 -25 -30 -35 -40

Figure S3 (1) ¹¹B{¹H} and (2) ¹¹B NMR (192 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K) spectra of compound 8a.



-137 -139 -141 -143 -145 -147 -149 -151 -153 -155 -157 -159 -161 -163 -165 -167 -169

Figure S4 (1) ³¹P{¹H} and (2) ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299K) spectra of compound 8a.



Figure S5 ²⁹Si{¹H} DEPT (119 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K)) spectra of compound 8a.

Crystals suitable for the X-ray crystal structure analysis were obtained by slow diffusion of *n*-pentane into a saturated solution of compound **8a** in CH₂Cl₂ at -35 °C.

X-ray crystal structure analysis of compound 8a (erk8890): A colorless prism-like specimen of C₃₅H₃₁BClF₁₀PSi, approximate dimensions 0.129 mm x 0.153 mm x 0.187 mm, was used for the X-ray crystallographic analysis. The X-ray intensity data were measured. A total of 1325 frames were collected. The total exposure time was 14.72 hours. The frames were integrated with the Bruker SAINT software package using a narrow-frame algorithm. The integration of the data using a monoclinic unit cell yielded a total of 78562 reflections to a maximum θ angle of 26.73° (0.79 Å resolution), of which 7216 were independent (average redundancy 10.887, completeness = 99.9%, R_{int} = 6.57%, $R_{sig} = 3.00\%$) and 5820 (80.65%) were greater than $2\sigma(F^2)$. The final cell constants of <u>a</u> = 10.9107(4) Å, <u>b</u> = 17.0092(6) Å, <u>c</u> = 18.4957(6) Å, β = 97.9540(10)°, volume = 3399.5(2) $Å^3$, are based upon the refinement of the XYZ-centroids of 9969 reflections above 20 σ (I) with 4.750° < 2 θ < 54.94°. Data were corrected for absorption effects using the multi-scan method (SADABS). The ratio of minimum to maximum apparent transmission was 0.933. The calculated minimum and maximum transmission coefficients (based on crystal size) are 0.9500 and 0.9650. The structure was solved and refined using the Bruker SHELXTL Software Package, using the space group $P2_1/n$, with Z = 4 for the formula unit, $C_{35}H_{31}BClF_{10}PSi$. The final anisotropic full-matrix leastsquares refinement on F^2 with 451 variables converged at R1 = 3.55%, for the observed data and wR2 = 8.32% for all data. The goodness-of-fit was 1.026. The largest peak in the final difference electron density synthesis was $0.306 \text{ e}^{-}/\text{Å}^{3}$ and the largest hole was -0.318 e⁻/Å³ with an RMS deviation of 0.056 e⁻/Å³. On the basis of the final model, the calculated density was 1.459 g/cm³ and F(000), 1528 e⁻.



Figure S6: Crystal structure of compound 8a (thermal ellipsoids: 30% probability).

Preparation of compound 8b:



Scheme S2

A mixture of **1a** (73 mg, 0.20 mmol) and bromo bis(pentafluorophenyl)borane (**7b**, 84 mg, 0.20 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) was stirred for 1 hour at room temperature. Then, the colorless solution was concentrated *in vacuo* and *n*-pentane (5 mL) was added to the resulting residue. After stirring the obtained suspension for 15 minutes, the white precipitate was collected and dried *in vacuo* to give compound **8b** as a white powder (115 mg, 0.145 mmol, 73%).

Melting point: 145 °C

Elemental Analysis calcd for C₃₅H₃₁BBrF₁₀PSi (791.39 g/mol): C, 53.12; H, 3.95. Found: C, 53.02; H, 4.00.

¹**H** NMR (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): $\delta = 6.93$ (m, 4H, *m*-Mes), 2.31 (s, 18H, *p*,*o*-Me^{Mes}), 0.37 (s, ²J_{SiH} = 6.9 Hz, 9H, SiMe₃).

¹³C{¹H} **NMR** (126 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): $\delta = 164.0$ (br, BC=), 148.0 (dm, ¹*J*_{FC} ~ 242 Hz, C₆F₅), 144.2 (d, ⁴*J*_{PC} = 3.1 Hz, *p*-Mes) 143.1 (d, ²*J*_{PC} = 12.0 Hz, *o*-Mes), 142.8 (d, ¹*J*_{PC} = 30.1 Hz, SiC=), 140.0 (dm, ¹*J*_{FC} ~ 259 Hz, C₆F₅), 137.3 (dm, ¹*J*_{FC} ~ 250 Hz, C₆F₅), 130.6 (d, ³*J*_{PC} = 13.3 Hz, *m*-Mes), 120.8 (d, ¹*J*_{PC} = 95.9 Hz, *i*-Mes), 120.2 (i-C₆F₅), 22.5 (d, ³*J*_{PC} = 9.0 Hz, *o*-Me^{Mes}), 21.3 (*p*-Me^{Mes}), -0.2 (d, ³*J*_{PC} = 1.6 Hz, ¹*J*_{SiC} = 55.6 Hz, SiMe₃).

¹¹**B** NMR (192 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): δ = -11.4 (v_{1/2} ~ 250 Hz).

³¹**P NMR** (243 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): δ = -149.3 (v_{1/2} ~ 20 Hz).

¹⁹**F NMR** (564 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): δ = -129.1 (br, 2F, *o*-C₆F₅), -159.4 (t, ${}^{3}J_{FF}$ = 20.3 Hz, 1F, *p*-C₆F₅), -165.3 (m, 2F, *m*-C₆F₅), [Δ¹⁹F_{m,p} = 5.9].

²⁹Si{¹H} **DEPT** (99 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): $\delta = -1.3$ (d, ²*J*_{PSi} = 5.1 Hz).



Figure S7 ²⁹Si{¹H} DEPT (99 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K)) spectrum of compound 8b.







-143.5 -144.5 -145.5 -146.5 -147.5 -148.5 -149.5 -150.5 -151.5 -152.5 -153.5 -154.5 -155.5 -156.5

Figure S11 (1) ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$ and (2) ${}^{31}P NMR$ (243 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299K) spectra of compound **8b**.



124 -126 -128 -130 -132 -134 -136 -138 -140 -142 -144 -146 -148 -150 -152 -154 -156 -158 -160 -162 -164 -166 -168 -1

Figure S12¹⁹F NMR (564 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K) spectrum of compound 8b.

Crystals suitable for the X-ray crystal structure analysis were obtained by slow diffusion of *n*-pentane into a saturated solution of compound **8b** in CH_2Cl_2 at -35 °C.

X-ray crystal structure analysis of compound 8b (erk9214): formula C₃₅H₃₁BBrF₁₀PSi, M = 791.38, colourless crystal, 0.08 x 0.07 x 0.07 mm, a = 9.6668(2) Å, b = 20.0637(4) Å, c = 19.4399(3) Å, $\beta = 95.326(2)^{\circ}$, V = 3754.12(12) Å³, $\rho_{calc} = 1.400$ gcm⁻³, $\mu = 1.243$ mm⁻¹, empirical absorption correction (0.907 $\leq T \leq 0.918$), Z = 4, monoclinic, space group $P2_1/c$ (No. 14), $\lambda =$ 0.71073 Å, T = 173(2) K, ω and φ scans, 26502 reflections collected ($\pm h$, $\pm k$, $\pm l$), 6527 independent ($R_{int} = 0.066$) and 5034 observed reflections [$I > 2\sigma I$)], 451 refined parameters, R = 0.051, $wR^2 = 0.113$, max. (min.) residual electron density 0.48 (-0.39) e.Å⁻³, hydrogen atoms were calculated and refined as riding atoms.



Figure S13: Crystal structure of compound 8b (thermal ellipsoids: 30% probability).

Preparation of compound 8c



Scheme S3

A mixture of compound **1b** (37 mg, 0.10 mmol) and chlorobis(pentafluorophenyl)borane (**7a**, 38.0 mg, 0.10 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (1 mL) was stirred for 1 hour at room temperature. After the colorless solution was concentrated *in vacuo*, *n*-pentane (5 mL) was added to the obtained residue. After stirring the resulting suspension for 15 minutes, the white precipitate was collected and dried *in vacuo* to give compound **8c** as a white powder (65.2 mg, 0.087 mmol, 87%).

Melting point: 125 °C

Elemental Analysis calcd for C₃₈H₂₇BClF₁₀P (750.85 g/mol): C, 60.79; H, 3.62. Found: C, 60.49; H, 3.43.

¹**H** NMR (600 MHz, toluene- d_8 , 299 K): δ = 7.69 (m, 2H, *o*-Ph), 6.95 (m, 2H, *m*-Ph), 6.91 (m, 1H, *p*-Ph), 6.41 (m, 4H, *m*-Mes), 2.11 (s, 12H, *o*-Me^{Mes}), 1.88 (s, 6H, *p*-Me^{Mes}).

¹³C{¹H} **NMR** (151 MHz, toluene- d_8 , 299 K): $\delta = 148.5$ (dm, ${}^{1}J_{FC} \sim 240$ Hz, C₆F₅), 146.1 (br, BC=), 144.0 (d, ${}^{4}J_{PC} = 1.8$ Hz, *p*-Mes), 142.8 (d, ${}^{2}J_{PC} = 11.7$ Hz, *o*-Mes), 140.1 (dm, ${}^{1}J_{FC} \sim 245$ Hz, C₆F₅), 137.5 (dm, ${}^{1}J_{FC} \sim 250$ Hz, C₆F₅), 136.5 (PhC=), 131.6 (*p*-Ph), 131.0 (*o*-Ph), 130.9 (m-Mes), 129.4 (*m*-Ph), 126.8 (d, ${}^{2}J_{PC} = 3.7$ Hz, *i*-Ph), 121.3 (*i*-C₆F₅), 120.8 (d, ${}^{1}J_{PC} = 92.5$ Hz, *i*-Mes), 22.4 (*o*-Me^{Mes}), 20.9 (*p*-Me^{Mes}).

¹¹**B** NMR (192 MHz, toluene- d_8 , 299 K): $\delta = -8.0 (v_{1/2} \sim 350 \text{ Hz}).$

³¹**P NMR** (243 MHz, toluene- d_8 , 299 K): δ = -140.3 ($v_{1/2} \sim 20$ Hz).

¹⁹**F NMR** (564 MHz, toluene-*d*₈, 299 K): δ = -130.8 (m, 2F, *o*-C₆F₅), -159.0 (t, ³*J*_{FF} = 20.5 Hz, 1F, *p*-C₆F₅), -164.6 (m, 2F, *m*-C₆F₅), [Δ¹⁹F_{m,p} = 5.6].









90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60

Figure S16 (1) ${}^{11}B{}^{1}H$ and (2) ${}^{11}B$ NMR (192 MHz, toluene- d_8 , 299 K) spectra of compound 8c.



Figure S17 (1) ³¹P{¹H} and (2) ³¹P NMR (243 MHz, toluene- d_8 , 299 K) spectra of compound **8c**.



24 -126 -128 -130 -132 -134 -136 -138 -140 -142 -144 -146 -148 -150 -152 -154 -156 -158 -160 -162 -164 -166 -168 -1

Figure S18¹⁹**F** NMR (564 MHz, toluene- d_8 , 299 K) spectrum of compound 8c.

Preparation of compound 8d:



Scheme S4

A solution of phosphane **1c** (70.1 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in CH_2Cl_2 (1 mL) was added to a solution of chlorobis(pentafluorophenyl)borane **7a** (76.1 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in CH_2Cl_2 (1 mL). The colorless reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight, then all volatiles were removed *in vacuo*. The residue was suspensed with *n*-pentane (5 mL) and the mixture was filtrated. Subsequently the filtrate was stored at -36 °C whereby compound **8d** was obtained as an offwhite solid (113 mg, 0.15 mmol, 77%).

Melting point: 110 °C.

Elemental Analysis calcd for C₃₆H₃₁BClF₁₀P (730.86 g/mol): C, 59.16; H, 4.28. Found: C, 58.74; H, 4.75.

¹**H** NMR (600 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): $\delta = 6.94$ (d, ⁴*J*_{PH} = 5.3 Hz, 4H, *m*-Mes), 2.33 (s, 12H, *o*-Me^{Mes}), 2.31 (s, 6H, *p*-Me^{Mes}), 1.33 (s, 9H, *t*-Bu).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (151 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): δ = n.o. (br, BC=), 149.0 (d, ¹*J*_{PC} = 10.3 Hz, *t*-BuC=), 147.9 (dm, ¹*J*_{FC} ~ 240 Hz, C₆F₅), 143.9 (d, ⁴*J*_{PC} = 3.4 Hz, *p*-Mes), 142.6 (d, ²*J*_{PC} = 11.9 Hz, *o*-Mes), 139.9 (dm, ¹*J*_{FC} ~ 260 Hz, C₆F₅), 137.3 (dm, ¹*J*_{FC} ~ 260 Hz, C₆F₅), 130.8 (d, ³*J*_{PC} = 13.8 Hz, *m*-Mes), 121.7 (d, ¹*J*_{PC} = 91.9 Hz, *i*-Mes), n.o. (i-C₆F₅), 37.3 (d, ²*J*_{PC} = 3.6 Hz, C^{*t*-Bu}), 29.9 (d, ³*J*_{PC} = 4.9 Hz, CH₃^{*t*-Bu}), 22.3 (m, *o*-Me^{Mes}), 20.9 (*p*-Me^{Mes}).

¹¹**B** NMR (192 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): δ = -8.2 (v_{1/2} ~ 200 Hz).

³¹**P NMR** (243 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): δ = -138.7 (v_{1/2} ~ 25 Hz).

³¹P{¹H} NMR (243 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): δ = -138.7 (v_{1/2} ~ 5 Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (564 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): δ = -130.3 (m, 2F, *o*-C₆F₅), -159.8 (t, ³J_{FF} = 20.0 Hz, 1F, *p*-C₆F₅), -165.4 (m, 2F, *m*-C₆F₅), [Δ ¹⁹F_{m,p} = 5.6].



Figure S21 (1) ¹¹B{¹H} and (2) ¹¹B NMR (192 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K) spectra of compound 8d.



-90 -95 -100 -105 -110 -115 -120 -125 -130 -135 -140 -145 -150 -155 -160 -165 -170 -175 -180 -185

Figure S22 (1) ³¹P{¹H} and (2) ³¹P NMR (243 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299K) spectra of compound 8d.



Figure S23 ¹⁹F NMR (564 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K) spectrum of compound 8d.

Preparation of compound 8e:



Scheme S5

A solution of phosphane **1c** (70.1 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in CH_2Cl_2 (1 mL) was added to a solution of bromobis(pentafluorophenyl)borane (**7b**) (85.0 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in CH_2Cl_2 (1 mL). After the colorless reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight, all volatiles were removed *in vacuo*. The residue was washed with *n*-pentane (5 mL) and dried *in*

vacuo. Compound 8e was obtained as white solid (116 mg, 0.15 mmol, 75%).

Melting point: 126 °C.

Elemental Analysis calcd for C₃₆H₃₁BBrF₁₀P (775.32 g/mol): C, 55.77; H, 4.03. Found: C, 56.21; H, 4.61.

¹**H** NMR (600 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): $\delta = 6.94$ (d, ⁴*J*_{PH} = 5.3 Hz, 4H, *m*-Mes), 2.33 (s, 12H, *o*-Me^{Mes}), 2.31 (s, 6H, *p*-Me^{Mes}), 1.36 (s, 9H, *t*-Bu).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (151 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): $\delta = 149.8$ (d, ¹*J*_{PC} = 10.5 Hz, *t*-BuC=), 147.7 (dm, ¹*J*_{FC} ~ 250 Hz, C₆F₅), 144.3 (br, BC=), 144.0 (d, ⁴*J*_{PC} = 3.0 Hz, *p*-Mes), 142.7 (d, ²*J*_{PC} = 11.6 Hz, *o*-Mes), 140.1 (dm, ¹*J*_{FC} ~ 250 Hz, C₆F₅), 137.3 (dm, ¹*J*_{FC} ~ 250 Hz, C₆F₅), 130.8 (d, ³*J*_{PC} = 13.8 Hz, *m*-Mes), 121.5 (d, ¹*J*_{PC} = 90.9 Hz, *i*-Mes), 120.7 (br, *i*-C₆F₅), 37.4 (d, ²*J*_{PC} = 3.1 Hz, C^{*t*-Bu}), 30.0 (d, ⁴*J*_{PC} = 4.1 Hz, CH₃^{*t*-Bu}), 22.9 (d, ⁴*J*_{PC} = 7.9 Hz, *o*-Me^{Mes}), 20.3 (*p*-Me^{Mes}).

¹¹**B** NMR (192 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): $\delta = -11.9 (v_{1/2} \sim 200 \text{ Hz}).$

³¹**P NMR** (243 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): δ = -136.9 (v_{1/2} ~ 30 Hz).

³¹P{¹H} NMR (243 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): δ = -136.9 (v_{1/2} ~ 20 Hz).

¹⁹**F NMR** (564 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): δ = -128.7 (m, 2F, *o*-C₆F₅), -159.5 (t, ³*J*_{FF} = 20.0 Hz, 1F, *p*-C₆F₅), -165.3 (m, 2F, *m*-C₆F₅), [Δ¹⁹F_{m,p} = 5.8].





Figure S27 (1) ³¹P{¹H} and (2) ³¹P NMR (243 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299K) spectra of compound 8e.

-100 -105 -110 -115 -120 -125 -130 -135 -140 -145 -150 -155 -160 -165 -170 -175



Figure S28 ¹⁹F NMR (564 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K) spectrum of compound 8e.

Crystals suitable for the X-ray crystal structure analysis were obtained from a saturated solution of compound **8e** in toluene at -36 °C.

X-ray crystal structure analysis of compound 8e (erk9236): A colorless plate-like specimen of $C_{36}H_{31}BBrF_{10}P \cdot 0.5 \times C_7H_8$, approximate dimensions 0.030 mm x 0.100 mm x 0.180 mm, was used for the X-ray crystallographic analysis. The X-ray intensity data were measured. A total of 1586 frames were collected. The total exposure time was 21.94 hours. The frames were integrated with the Bruker SAINT software package using a wide-frame algorithm. The integration of the data using a triclinic unit cell yielded a total of 24093 reflections to a maximum θ angle of 66.69° (0.84 Å resolution), of which 6361 were independent (average redundancy 3.788, completeness = 97.7%, R_{int} = 4.14%, R_{sig} = 3.69%) and 5558 (87.38%) were greater than $2\sigma(F^2)$. The final cell constants of <u>a</u> = 9.5895(3) Å, <u>b</u> = 10.8563(3) Å, <u>c</u> = 18.7360(5) Å, α = 82.3630(10)°, β = $76.1530(10)^{\circ}$, $\gamma = 76.8730(10)^{\circ}$, volume = 1837.99(9) Å³, are based upon the refinement of the XYZ-centroids of 9893 reflections above 20 σ (I) with 9.351° < 2 θ < 133.3°. Data were corrected for absorption effects using the multi-scan method (SADABS). The ratio of minimum to maximum apparent transmission was 0.782. The calculated minimum and maximum transmission coefficients (based on crystal size) are 0.6480 and 0.9250. The structure was solved and refined using the Bruker SHELXTL Software Package, using the space group P_1 , with Z = 2 for the formula unit, $C_{36}H_{31}BBrF_{10}P \cdot 0.5 \times C_7H_8$. The final anisotropic full-matrix least-squares refinement on F^2 with 515 variables converged at R1 = 3.22%, for the observed data and wR2 = 8.33% for all data. The goodness-of-fit was 1.039. The largest peak in the final difference electron density synthesis was $0.360 \text{ e}^{-}/\text{Å}^{3}$ and the largest hole was $-0.324 \text{ e}^{-}/\text{Å}^{3}$ with an RMS deviation of 0.058 e⁻/Å³. On the basis of the final model, the calculated density was 1.484 g/cm³ and F(000), 834 e⁻.



Figure S29: Crystal structure of compound 8e (thermal ellipsoids: 30% probability).

Preparation of compound 8f:



Scheme S6

A solution of phosphane **1d** (49.3 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in CH_2Cl_2 (1 mL) was added to a solution of chlorobis(pentafluorophenyl)borane **7a** (76.1 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in CH_2Cl_2 (1 mL). The yellow reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight then all volatiles were removed *in vacuo*. The obtained residue was washed with *n*-pentane (5 mL) and dried *in vacuo*. Compound **8f** was obtained as a yellow solid (77.5 mg, 0.12 mmol, 62%).

Melting point: 178 °C

Elemental Analysis calcd for C₂₈H₂₃BClF₁₀P (626.71 g/mol): C, 53.66; H, 3.70. Found: C, 53.33; H, 3.70.

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): δ = 7.60 (m, 2H, *o*-Ph), 7.53 (m, 1H, *p*-Ph), 7.51 (m, 2H, *m*-Ph), 1.42 (d, ${}^{3}J_{PH}$ = 20.0 Hz, 18H, *t*-Bu).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (126 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): δ = n.o. (BC=), 148.1 (dm, ¹*J*_{FC} ~ 240 Hz, C₆F₅), 139.9 (dm, ¹*J*_{FC} ~ 250 Hz, C₆F₅), 137.5 (dm, ¹*J*_{FC} ~ 251 Hz, C₆F₅), 132.02 (*p*-Ph), 131.98 (d, ³*J*_{PC} = 7.2 Hz, *o*-Ph), 131.7 (br d, ¹*J*_{PC} = 7.2 Hz, PhC=), 129.7 (*m*-Ph), 125.9 (d, ²*J*_{PC} = 6.4 Hz, *i*-Ph), n.o. (*i*-C₆F₅), 39.5 (d, ¹*J*_{PC} = 25.1 Hz, C^{*t*-Bu}), 29.9 (CH₃^{*t*-Bu}).

¹¹**B** NMR (192 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): $\delta = -8.0 (v_{1/2} \sim 120 \text{ Hz}).$

³¹**P NMR** (202 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): δ = -86.3 (m).

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (202 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): $\delta = -86.3 (v_{1/2} \sim 5 \text{ Hz}).$

¹⁹**F NMR** (564 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): δ = -132.5 (m, 2F, *o*-C₆F₅), -159.3 (t, ${}^{3}J_{FF}$ = 20.6 Hz, 1F, *p*-C₆F₅), -164.8 (m, 2F, *m*-C₆F₅), [Δ¹⁹F_{m,p} = 5.5].



Figure S30¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299K) spectrum of compound 8f.





Figure S33 (1) ³¹P{¹H} and (2) ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K) spectra of compound **8f**.



-128 -130 -132 -134 -136 -138 -140 -142 -144 -146 -148 -150 -152 -154 -156 -158 -160 -162 -164 -166 -168

Figure S34 ¹⁹F NMR (564 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K) spectrum of compound 8f.

Crystals suitable for the X-ray crystal structure analysis were obtained from a saturated solution of compound **8f** in *n*-pentane at -36 °C.

X-ray crystal structure analysis of compound 8f (erk9235): formula C₂₈H₂₃BClF₁₀P, M = 626.69, colourless crystal, 0.18 x 0.06 x 0.03 mm, a = 9.2115(2) Å, b = 22.0031(5) Å, c = 14.1968(4) Å, $\beta = 97.690(1)^{\circ}$, V = 2851.55(12) Å³, $\rho_{calc} = 1.460$ gcm⁻³, $\mu = 0.273$ mm⁻¹, empirical absorption correction (0.953 $\leq T \leq 0.992$), Z = 4, monoclinic, space group $P2_1/n$ (No. 14), $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å, T = 173(2) K, ω and φ scans, 13796 reflections collected ($\pm h$, $\pm k$, $\pm l$), 4909 independent ($R_{int} = 0.057$) and 3453 observed reflections [$I > 2\sigma I$], 476 refined parameters, R = 0.079, $wR^2 = 0.160$, max. (min.) residual electron density 0.34 (-0.28) e.Å⁻³, hydrogen atoms were calculated and refined as riding atoms.



Figure S35: Crystal structure of compound 8f (thermal ellipsoids: 15% probability).

Preparation of compound 8g:



Scheme S7

A solution of phosphane **1d** (49.3 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in CH_2Cl_2 (1 mL) was added to a solution of bromobis(pentafluorophenyl)borane **7b** (85.0 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in CH_2Cl_2 (1 mL). The colorless reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight then all volatiles were removed *in vacuo*. The resulting residue was washed with *n*-pentane (5 mL) and dried *in vacuo*. Compound **8g** was obtained as white solid (101 mg, 0.15 mmol, 75%).

Melting point: 168 °C

Elemental Analysis calcd for C₂₈H₂₃BBrF₁₀P (671.16 g/mol): C, 50.11; H, 3.45. Found: C, 49.83; H, 3.51.

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): δ = 7.62 (m, 2H, *o*-Ph), 7.54 (m, 1H, *p*-Ph), 7.51 (m, 2H, *m*-Ph), 1.44 (d, ³*J*_{PH} = 20.0 Hz, 18H, *t*-Bu).

¹³C{¹H} **NMR** (126 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): δ = n.o. (BC=), 148.0 (dm, ¹*J*_{FC} ~ 240 Hz, C₆F₅), 140.1 (dm, ¹*J*_{FC} ~ 250 Hz, C₆F₅), 137.6 (dm, ¹*J*_{FC} ~ 250 Hz, C₆F₅), 132.21 (br d, ¹*J*_{PC} = 6.5 Hz, PhC=), 132.11 (d, ³*J*_{PC} = 7.5 Hz, *o*-Ph), 132.08 (*p*-Ph), 129.7 (*m*-Ph), 125.9 (d, ²*J*_{PC} = 6.7 Hz, *i*-Ph), 120.1 (br, *i*-C₆F₅), 39.7 (d, ¹*J*_{PC} = 24.3 Hz, C^{*t*-Bu}), 29.9 (CH₃^{*t*-Bu}).

¹¹**B** NMR (192 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): δ = -11.6 (v_{1/2} ~ 200 Hz).

³¹**P NMR** (202 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): δ = -85.4 (m).

³¹P{¹H} NMR (202 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): $\delta = -85.4$ (v_{1/2} ~ 5 Hz).

¹⁹**F NMR** (564 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K): δ = -131.5 (m, 2F, *o*-C₆F₅), -159.1 (t, ${}^{3}J_{FF}$ = 20.1 Hz, 1F, *p*-C₆F₅), -164.6 (m, 2F, *m*-C₆F₅), [Δ¹⁹F_{m,p} = 5.5].







20 10 0 -10

40 30

-30 -40 -50

-20

00

90 80 70

Figure S39 (1) ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$ and (2) ${}^{31}P NMR$ (202 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K) spectra of compound 8g.



-124 -126 -128 -130 -132 -134 -136 -138 -140 -142 -144 -146 -148 -150 -152 -154 -156 -158 -160 -162 -164 -166 -168 -170

Figure S40¹⁹F NMR (564 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 299 K) spectrum of compound 8g.

Crystals suitable for the X-ray crystal structure analysis were obtained by slow diffusion of *n*-pentane into a saturated solution of compound **8g** in CH₂Cl₂ at -36 °C.

X-ray crystal structure analysis of compound 8g (erk9221): A colorless needle-like specimen of $C_{28}H_{23}BBrF_{10}P$, approximate dimensions 0.046 mm x 0.055 mm x 0.168 mm, was used for the X-ray crystallographic analysis. The X-ray intensity data were measured. A total of 1908 frames were collected. The total exposure time was 28.37 hours. The frames were integrated with the Bruker SAINT software package using a wide-frame algorithm. The integration of the data using a monoclinic unit cell yielded a total of 46108 reflections to a maximum θ angle of 72.39° (0.81) Å resolution), of which 5453 were independent (average redundancy 8.456, completeness = 99.5%, $R_{int} = 5.81\%$, $R_{sig} = 3.10\%$) and 4799 (88.01%) were greater than $2\sigma(F^2)$. The final cell constants of <u>a</u> = 8.9577(2) Å, <u>b</u> = 18.6647(5) Å, <u>c</u> = 16.5940(4) Å, β = 91.4580(10)°, volume = 2773.50(12) Å³, are based upon the refinement of the XYZ-centroids of 9794 reflections above 20 σ (I) with 7.129° < 2 θ < 144.2°. Data were corrected for absorption effects using the multi-scan method (SADABS). The ratio of minimum to maximum apparent transmission was 0.855. The calculated minimum and maximum transmission coefficients (based on crystal size) are 0.6030 and 0.8610. The structure was solved and refined using the Bruker SHELXTL Software Package, using the space group $P2_1/n$, with Z = 4 for the formula unit, $C_{28}H_{23}BBrF_{10}P$. The final anisotropic full-matrix least-squares refinement on F^2 with 376 variables converged at R1 = 3.48%, for the observed data and wR2 = 7.92% for all data. The goodness-of-fit was 1.105. The largest peak in the final difference electron density synthesis was 0.378 e^{-}/A^{3} and the largest hole was -0.419 e^{-} $/Å^3$ with an RMS deviation of 0.062 e⁻/Å³. On the basis of the final model, the calculated density was 1.607 g/cm³ and F(000), 1344 e⁻.



Figure S41: Crystal structure of compound 8g (thermal ellipsoids: 30% probability).

Heating of compound 8a:



Scheme S8

A solution of the phosphirenium **8a** (ca. 25.0 mg) in toluene (0.5 mL) was sealed in a NMR tube. Subsequently, it was heated to 70 $^{\circ}$ C (4 h) and 100 $^{\circ}$ C (2 h). Each temperature step was monitored by NMR experiments.



Heating of compound 8b





A solution of the phosphirenium **8b** (ca. 25.0 mg) in toluene (0.5 mL) was sealed in a NMR tube. Subsequently, it was heated to 70 $^{\circ}$ C (4 h) and 100 $^{\circ}$ C (2 h). Each temperature step was monitored by NMR experiments.



Heating of compound 8d:



Scheme S10

A solution of the phosphirenium 8d (ca. 25.0 mg) in CD₂Cl₂ (1 mL) was sealed in a NMR tube. Subsequently, it was heated in an autoclave to 70 °C (1 h), 100 °C (1 h), 120 °C (24 h). Each temperature step was monitored by NMR experiments.



Heating of compound 8e:



Scheme S11

A solution of the phosphirenium **8e** (ca. 25.0 mg) in CD_2Cl_2 (1 mL) was sealed in a NMR tube. Subsequently, it was heated in an autoclave to 70 °C (1 h), 100 °C (1 h), 120 °C (24 h). Each temperature step was monitored by NMR experiments.



(2) at 100 $^{\circ}$ C for 1 h, (3) at 70 $^{\circ}$ C for 1 h, and (5) at room temperature.

Heating of compound 8f:



Scheme S12

A solution of the phosphirenium **8f** (ca. 25.0 mg) in CD_2Cl_2 (1 mL) was sealed in a NMR tube. Subsequently, it was heated in an autoclave to 70 °C (1 h), 100 °C (1 h, 12 h), 120 °C (12 h) and 170 °C (24 h). Each temperature step was monitored by NMR experiments.



Figure S46 ¹**H NMR** (600 MHz, CD_2Cl_2) spectra of compound **8f** (1) at 170 °C for 24 h, (2) at 120 °C for 12 h, (3) at 100 °C for 12 h, (4) at 100 °C for 1 h, (5) at 70 °C for 1 h, and (6) at room temperature.

Heating of compound 8g:



Scheme S13

A solution of the phosphirenium **8g** (ca. 25.0 mg) in CD_2Cl_2 (1 mL) was sealed in a NMR tube. Subsequently, it was heated in an autoclave to 70 °C (1 h), 100 °C (1 h, 12 h), 120 °C (12 h) and 170 °C (24 h). Each temperature step was monitored by NMR experiments.



Figure S47 ¹**H NMR** (600 MHz, CD_2Cl_2) spectra of compound **8g** (1) at 170 °C for 24 h, (2) at 120 °C for 12 h, (3) at 100 °C for 12 h, (4) at 100 °C for 1 h, (5) at 70 °C for 1 h, and (6) at room temperature.

Preparation of compound 13a



Scheme S14

 I^{st} Step: A mixture of compound **8a** (74.6 mg, 0.10 mmol) and triethylsilane (32 µL, 0.20 mmol) in C₆D₆ (1 mL) was stirred for 15 hours at room temperature. Then the obtained reaction mixtion was characterized by NMR experiments. [Comment: the obtained NMR data are in good agreement with the reported data of compound **13a** [A. Ueno, X. Tao, C. G. Daniliuc, G. Kehr, G. Erker, *Organometallics*, 2018, **37**, 2665.].



9.0 8.5 8.0 7.5 7.0 6.5 6.0 5.5 5.0 4.5 4.0 3.5 3.0 2.5 2.0 1.5 1.0 0.5 0.0 -0.5 Figure S48 ¹H NMR (600 MHz, C₆D₆, 299 K) spectrum of the obtained reaction mixture [δ^{1} H: 3.87 (m, ¹J_{SiH} = 177.5 Hz, HSi)]



95 90 85 80 75 70 65 60 55 50 45 40 35 30 25 20 15 10 5 0 -5 -10 -15 -20 -25 -30 -35 -40 Figure S49 11 B NMR (192 MHz, C₆D₆, 299 K) spectrum of the obtained reaction mixture.



 2^{nd} Step: Then, all volatiles were removed *in vacuo*. The remaining pale yellow solid was collected and washed with *n*-pentane (2×2 mL) to finally give compound **13a** as a white powder (65.3 mg, 0.091 mmol, 91%).

The obtained NMR data are consistent with those published in the literature: A. Ueno, X. Tao, C. G. Daniliuc, G. Kehr, G. Erker, *Organometallics*, 2018, **37**, 2665.

Generation of compound 13e (NMR scale, *in situ* reaction)



Scheme S15

The mixture of **8e** (38.0 mg, 0.05 mmol) and triethylsilane (24 μ L, 0.15 mmol) in C₆D₆ (0.5 mL) was stirred for 15 hours at room temperature. The reaction was monitored by NMR analysis.



Figure S51 ¹**H NMR** (600 MHz, C_6D_6 , 299 K) spectra of (1) compound **8e** and (2) after treatment with HSiEt₃.



Figure S52 ¹**H NMR** (600 MHz, C_6D_6 , 299 K) spectra of (1) compound **8e** and (2) after treatment with HSiEt₃ (0.4 to 2.3 ppm).



Figure S53 ¹¹**B** NMR (192 MHz, C_6D_6 , 299 K) spectra of (1) compound **8e** and (2) after treatment with HSiEt₃.



Figure S54 ³¹P{¹H} NMR (243 MHz, C_6D_6 , 299 K) spectra of (1) compound **8e** and (2) after treatment with HSiEt₃.

Figure S55²⁹Si{¹H} DEPT (119 MHz, C₆D₆, 299 K) spectrum of the reaction mixture.

Preparation of compound 13e

Scheme S16

The mixture of **8e** (119 mg, 0.15 mmol) and triethylsilane (49 μ L, 0.30 mmol) in C₆D₆ (1 mL) was stirred for 15 hours at room temperature. Then, all volatiles were removed *in vacuo* and the oily orange material was collected and washed with *n*-pentane (2×2 mL). The white precipitate was dried *in vacuo* to give compound **13e** as a white powder (61 mg, 0.089 mmol, 58%).

¹**H NMR** (600 MHz, 299 K, C₆D₆): $\delta = 8.06$ (d, ³*J*_{PH} = 106.6 Hz, 1H, BCH=), 6.44 (d, ³*J*_{PH} = 2.0 Hz, 4H, *m*-Mes), 2.13 (s, 12H, *o*-CH₃^{Mes}), 1.92 (s, 6H, *p*-CH₃^{Mes}), 0.97 (m, *t*-Bu).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (151 MHz, 299 K, C₆D₆): $\delta = 166.1$ (br, BCH=), 152.8 (d, ¹*J*_{PC} = 35.1 Hz, *t*BuC=), 147.8 (dm, ¹*J*_{FC} ~ 243 Hz, C₆F₅), 141.1 (d, ²*J*_{PC} = 8.4 Hz, *o*-Mes), 140.7 (d, ⁴*J*_{PC} = 2.7 Hz, *p*-Mes), 140.3 (dm, ¹*J*_{FC} ~ 250 Hz, C₆F₅), 137.2 (dm, ¹*J*_{FC} ~ 248 Hz, C₆F₅), 131.0 (d, ³*J*_{PC} = 8.2 Hz, *m*-Mes), 125.8 (d, ¹*J*_{PC} = 27.9 Hz, *i*-Mes), 36.3 (d, ²*J*_{PC} = 3.3 Hz, C^{*i*Bu}), 30.8 (d, ³*J*_{PC} = 3.2 Hz, CH₃^{*t*Bu}), 23.5 (d, ³*J*_{PC} = 5.8, *o*-CH₃^{Mes}), 20.5 (*p*-CH₃^{Mes}).

¹¹B{¹H} NMR (192 MHz, 299 K, C₆D₆): $\delta = 0.7 (v_{1/2} \sim 330 \text{ Hz}).$

¹¹**B** NMR (192 MHz, 299 K, C₆D₆): $\delta = 0.7 (v_{1/2} \sim 340 \text{ Hz}).$

³¹**P NMR** (243 MHz, 299 K, C₆D₆): $\delta = 20.2$ (d, ³*J*_{PH} ~ 106 Hz).

³¹P{¹H} NMR (243 MHz, 299 K, C₆D₆): $\delta = 20.2 (v_{1/2} \sim 30 \text{ Hz}).$

¹⁹**F NMR** (564 MHz, 299 K, C₆D₆): δ = [-124.8, -133.4](each br, each 1F, *o*-C₆F₅), -158.2 (t, ³J_{FF} = 20.4 Hz, 1F, *p*-C₆F₅), -164.1 (m, 2F, *m*-C₆F₅), [Δδ¹⁹F_{m,p} = 5.9].

Figure S58 (1) ${}^{11}B{}^{1}H{}$ and (2) ${}^{11}B$ NMR (192 MHz, C₆D₆, 299 K) spectra of compound 13e.

Figure S59 (1) ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$ and (2) ${}^{31}P NMR$ (243 MHz, C₆D₆, 299K) spectra of compound 13e.

Figure S60 ¹⁹F NMR (564 MHz, C₆D₆, 299 K) spectrum of compound **13e**.