## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

## Palladium(II) complexes supported by PBP and POCOP pincer ligands: comparison of structure, property and catalytic activity

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Fig. S1  $^{1}$ H NMR spectrum of complex 1a (600 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)









**Fig. S4** <sup>11</sup>B NMR spectrum of complex **1a** (128 MHz, benzene- $d_6$ )



Fig. S5 Natural population analysis (NPA) results for complexes 1a and 2a



**Fig. S6** Cyclic voltammograms of complexes **1a** and **2a**. Left: a mixture of **1a** and ferrocene; right: a mixture of **2a** and ferrocene. The measurements were carried out at 298 K in acetonitrile/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1:1) solutions containing the sample complexes (0.5 mM) and [Bu<sub>4</sub>N][PF<sub>6</sub>] (0.1 M); scan rate: 100 mV s<sup>-1</sup>; the potentials were referenced to the Fc/Fc<sup>+</sup>.



**Fig. S7** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex **1b** (600 MHz, benzene- $d_6$ )



**Fig. S9** <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum of complex **1b** (243 MHz, benzene- $d_6$ )





Fig. S11 FTIR spectrum of complex 1b (KBr disc)



Fig. S12 Natural population analysis (NPA) results for complexes 1b and 2b



Fig. S13  $^{1}$ H NMR spectrum of complex 1c (600 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)









**Fig. S16**<sup>11</sup>B NMR spectrum of complex **1c** (193 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)



Fig. S17 FTIR spectrum of complex 1c (KBr disc)



**Fig. S18** The molecular image of complex **1c** (for clarity, hydrogen atoms except that attached to boron atom are omitted; the phenyl and *tert*-butyl groups are simplified). Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°): Pd1-B2, 1.987(4); Pd1...B1, 2.4689(19); Pd1-P1, 2.3348(7); Pd1-P2, 2.3371(7); Pd1-H1A, 2.04(6); Pd1-H1B, 2.00(6); B1-H1A, 1.27(6); B1-H1B, 1.09(6); B1-H1C, 1.17(6); B1-H1D, 1.14(6); N1-B2-Pd1, 127.4(3); N2-B2-Pd1, 126.8(2); N1-B2-N2, 105.8(3); P1-Pd1-P2, 155.75(3).



**Fig. S19** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex **1d** (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)









**Fig. S22**<sup>11</sup>B NMR spectrum of complex **1d** (128 MHz, benzene- $d_6$ )



Fig. S23 FTIR spectrum of complex 1d (KBr disc)





Fig. S27 FTIR spectrum of complex 2d (KBr disc)



Fig. S29  $^{13}C{^{1}H}$  NMR spectrum of complex 1e (151 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)









**Fig. S33** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex **2e** (600 MHz, benzene- $d_6$ )





Fig. S36 FTIR spectrum of complex 2e (KBr disc)



Fig. S37  $^{1}$ H NMR spectrum of complex 1f (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)





**Fig. S39**  ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$  NMR spectrum of complex **1f** (162 MHz, benzene- $d_6$ )



**Fig. S40** <sup>11</sup>B NMR spectrum of complex **1f** (193 MHz, benzene- $d_6$ )



Fig. S41 FTIR spectrum of complex 1f (KBr disc)









Fig. S45 FTIR spectrum of complex 2f (KBr disc)



**Fig. S47** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the cross-coupling product (600 MHz,  $C_6D_6$ )



**Fig. S49** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the cross-coupling product (600 MHz,  $C_6D_6$ )

Complex	$1 \mathbf{a} \cdot 0.5 (C_6 H_{14}) \cdot (C H_2 C l_2)$	$1b \cdot 2(C_6H_6)$
Empirical formula	$C_{24}H_{44}BClN_2P_2Pd\cdot 0.5(C_6H_{14})\cdot (CH_2Cl_2)$	$C_{24}H_{45}BN_2P_2PdS \cdot 2(C_6H_6)$
Formula weight	703.22	729.04
Temp, K	289	170
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Monoclinic
Space group	$P2_1/n$	$P2_1/c$
<i>a</i> , Å	8.1561(2)	15.2903(3)
b, Å	30.3997(7)	17.5028(3)
<i>c</i> , Å	14.3424(3)	15.0487(3)
α( )	90	90
$\beta$ ( )	93.997(2)	107.062(2)
γ()	90	90
Volume, Å <sup>3</sup>	3547.45(14)	3850.13(13)
Z	4	4
$d_{\rm calc}$ , g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.317	1.258
λ, Å	0.71073	1.54184
$\mu$ , mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.859	5.360
No. of data collected	35003	17318
No. of unique data	8576	7351
R <sub>int</sub>	0.0428	0.0284
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	1.128	1.024
$R_1$ , w $R_2$ ( $I > 2\sigma(I)$ )	0.0605, 0.1235	0.0460, 0.1216
$R_1$ , w $R_2$ (all data)	0.0824, 0.1326	0.0544, 0.1278

Table S1. Summary of crystal data and structure refinement for complexes 1a and 1b

Complex	1d	1e	1f
Empirical formula	$C_{24}H_{44}BN_3P_2PdS$	$C_{25}H_{44}BN_3P_2PdSe$	$C_{24}H_{44}BN_5P_2Pd$
Formula weight	597.84	644.74	581.79
Temp, K	150	150	295
Crystal system	Triclinic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic
Space group	P-1	Cc	$P2_1/n$
<i>a</i> , Å	7.9460(2)	16.8528(2)	12.2561(3)
b, Å	16.5470(4)	16.7026(2)	16.6838(3)
<i>c</i> , Å	23.1657(6)	21.5950(2)	14.5569(3)
α()	71.489(2)	90	90
β()	86.395(2)	100.309(1)	105.454(2)
γ(9	86.289(2)	90	90
Volume, Å <sup>3</sup>	2879.36(13)	5980.55(12)	2868.95(11)
Z	4	8	4
$d_{\rm calc}$ , g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.379	1.432	1.347
λ, Å	1.54184	1.54184	1.54184
$\mu,\mathrm{mm}^{-1}$	7.053	7.531	6.421
No. of data collected	26389	13545	12824
No. of unique data	11158	8551	5445
$R_{\rm int}$	0.0412	0.0218	0.0215
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	1.135	1.062	1.063
$R_1$ , w $R_2$ ( $I > 2\sigma(I)$ )	0.0353, 0.0889	0.0349, 0.0971	0.0318, 0.0813
$R_1$ , w $R_2$ (all data)	0.0489, 0.0952	0.0355, 0.0979	0.0350, 0.0841

Table S2. Summary of crystal data and structure refinement for complexes 1d, 1e and 1f

Complex	2d	2e	2f
Empirical formula	$C_{23}H_{39}NO_2P_2PdS$	$C_{23}H_{39}NO_2P_2PdSe$	$C_{22}H_{39}N_3O_2P_2Pd$
Formula weight	561.95	608.85	545.90
Temp, K	150	170	170
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Triclinic
Space group	I2/a	I2/a	P-1
<i>a</i> , Å	25.0749(3)	25.1910(3)	8.4289(2)
b, Å	8.1279(1)	8.1720(1)	11.8643(3)
<i>c</i> , Å	26.3766(4)	26.5788(4)	13.2820(4)
α()	90	90	99.726(2)
$\beta$ ( )	103.032(1)	103.098(2)	95.763(2)
γ()	90	90	102.906(2)
Volume, Å <sup>3</sup>	5237.26(12)	5329.19(13)	1262.82(6)
Z	8	8	2
$d_{\rm calc}, {\rm g \ cm}^{-3}$	1.425	1.518	1.436
λ, Å	1.54184	1.54184	1.54184
$\mu,\mathrm{mm}^{-1}$	7.760	8.457	7.300
No. of data collected	13254	11096	14092
No. of unique data	5045	5077	4863
R <sub>int</sub>	0.0284	0.0244	0.0299
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	1.146	1.070	1.067
$R_1$ , w $R_2$ ( $I > 2\sigma(I)$ )	0.0305, 0.0747	0.0285, 0.0734	0.0253, 0.0612
$R_1$ , w $R_2$ (all data)	0.0361, 0.0774	0.0308, 0.0747	0.0271, 0.0620

Table S3. Summary of crystal data and structure refinement for complexes 2d, 2e and 2f