Supporting Information for

Successive Catalytic Reactions Specific to Pd-Based Rotaxane Complexes as a Result of Wheel Translation along the Axle

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Experimental Section

General Methods. All reactions dealing with air and moisture-sensitive compounds were conducted under an argon atmosphere. Dichloromethane and toluene were dried over freshly activated molecular sieves 4 A (MS 4A). Acetonitrile was dried over freshly activated molecular sieves 3 A (MS 3A).

¹H (400 MHz) and ¹³C (100 MHz) NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL AL-400 spectrometer using CDCl₃ and toluene–d₈ as the solvents, calibrated using residual undeuterated solvent or tetramethylsilane as the internal standard. IR spectra were recorded on a JASCO FT/IR-230 spectrometer. Melting points were measured on a MELTING POINT APPARATUS SMP3 (Stuart Scientific) instrument. FAB HR-MS spectra were recorded on a Nihondensi JMS-700 spectrometer. All measurements for **9** were made on a Rigaku RAXIS-RAPID Imaging Plate diffractometer with graphite monochromated Mo K α radiation. The structure of **9** was solved by direct methods and expanded using Fourier techniques. The non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. The H atoms were placed in idealized positions and allowed to ride with the C atoms to which each was bonded. Methyl alcohol solvent molecule was treated isotropically and the H atom of hydroxyl group of methyl alcohol was not decided due to the data quality.

The compounds **1**, **2**, **3**, **7** and **8** were prepared according to the literature : Y. Furusho, T. Matsuyama, T. Takata, T. Moriuchi, T. Hirao, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2004**, *45*, 9593. The other chemicals from commercial sources were used without further purification as obtained. All compounds given below bear the same foumula numbers as used in the main text. Compounds unlabeled in the main text are labeled with letters [A–G].

Experimental Procedure.

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Synthesis of diester **A**. A mixture of 2,6-pyrdinedicarboxydialdehyde (5.00 g, 36.9 mmol) and (carboethoxymethylene)triphenylphosphorane (33.5 mg, 96.1 mmol) in THF (360 mL) was refluxed for 16 h. The mixture was cooled to room temperature and concentrated in vacuo. The crude material was

purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (CH₂Cl₂) to give diester **A** (7.23 g, 72%) as a white solid. Recrystallization from hexane gave white needles: m.p. 67.7–69.0 °C ; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) : δ 7.73 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, py-H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 2H, CH), 7.37 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 7.04 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 2H, CH), 4.27 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 4H, OCH₂), 1.34 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6 H, CH₃) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.5, 152.8, 142.6, 137.5, 124.5, 123.0, 60.6, 14.1 ppm. IR (KBr) : 3076, 2978,1705, 1644, 1577, 1474, 1452, 1369, 1323, 1303, 1226, 1200, 1169, 1034, 1004, 991, 889, 816, 754, 700, 601 cm⁻¹. FAB HR-MS (matrix : NBA) Calcd for C₁₅H₁₇NO₄ [M + H]⁺, m/z 176.1236, found : 176.1240.

Synthesis of diol **4**. To a solution of diester **A** (4.00 g, 14.5 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (70 mL) was added diisobutylaluminium hydride (DIBAL-H) (1.0 M in hexane, 75.5 mL, 76 mmol) at -78 °C and stirred for 3 h. The reaction was quenched by the addition of sat. aq. Rochelle salt at 0 °C, diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and warmed to room temperature. The organic/aqueous layers were separated, and the aqueous phase was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (x 3). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude material was purified by recrystallization from CHCl₃ to give diol **4** (1.62 g, 58%) as colorless plates : m.p. 67.5–68.3 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) § 7.58 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, py-H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H, py-H), 6.92 (dt, *J* = 16, 4.0 Hz, 2H, CHCH), 6.72 (td, *J* = 16, 1.6 Hz, 2H, CHCH₂), 4.40 (dd, *J* = 4.0, 1.6 Hz, 4H, CH₂) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) 8 154.9, 136.9, 134.0, 129.8, 119.9, 62.9 ppm. IR (KBr) : 3272, 3017, 2880, 1802, 1657, 1584, 1563, 1455, 1366, 1311, 1293, 1275, 1224, 1186, 1160, 1083, 994, 961, 906, 833, 764, 612, 525, 457, 439 cm⁻¹. FAB HR-MS (matrix : NBA) Calcd for C₁₁H₁₃NO₂ [M + H]⁺, m/z 192.1025, found : 192.1024.

Synthesis of Rotaxane **6** (pseudorotaxane **5**). A mixture of diol **4** (109 mg, 0.575 mmol) and Pd complex **7** (400 mg, 0.575 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) was stirred for 2 h at room temperature. The solution was concentrated in vacuo. The crude material was used for the next reaction without further purification. The mixture was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL). After the addition of a solution of endcap **8** (737 mg, 1.39 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) and dibutyltin dilaurate (DBTDL) (50 μ L, 88.0 μ mol), the resulting mixture

was stirred for 19 h at room temperature. The solution was concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude material was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (CHCl₃, MeOH = 30/1) to give rotaxane **6** (901 mg, 83%) as a pale yellow solid. Recrystallization from *i*-PrOH/hexane gave pale yellow plates: m.p. 234.0 °C (decomp.); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, toluene- d_8 , 70 °C) δ 7.95 (s, 2H, -NH), 7.74 (d, J = 16 Hz, 2H, CHCH), 7.57 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 4H, Ar-H), 7.45 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H, py-H), 7.35 (m, 16H, Ar-H, py-H), 7.18 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 12H, Ar-H), 6.91 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H, py-H), 6.63 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, py-H), 6.47 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 4H, Ar-H), 6.38 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 4H, Ar-H), 5.85 (dt, J = 16, 5.6 Hz, 2H, CHCH₂), 4.51 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 4H, CH₂), 4.28 (s, 4H, CH₂), 3.68 (br, 4H, CH₂), 3.44-3.36 (m, 12H, CH₂), 1.24 (s, 54H, CH₃) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ 170.9, 157.5, 157.0, 153.2, 152.6, 148.2, 143.9, 142.0, 140.5, 138.1, 135.7, 133.4, 131.7, 130.9, 130.6, 129.6, 128.4, 124.7, 124.3, 124.0, 119.8, 117.0, 113.1, 70.6, 70.6, 69.7, 66.9, 64.0, 63.2, 49.1, 34.6, 34.5, 34.3, 31.6, 31.5, 31.4, 31.2, 25.3, 25.2, 22.6, 20.7, 14.1 ppm. IR (KBr) 3437, 2961, 1733, 1596, 1509. 1465, 1363, 1320, 1217, 1108, 1057, 1018, 953, 822, 763, 676, 581, 507, 429, 420, 411 cm⁻¹. FAB HR-MS (matrix : NPOE) Calcd for C₁₁₆H₁₃₀N₆O₁₁Pd [M + H]⁺, m/z 1889.8943, found : 1889.8932.

Synthesis of Rotaxane **9**: To a solution of rotaxane **3** (4.0 mg, 2.1 µmol) in MeOH–THF (4/1, 2.5 mL) was added dropwise a solution of Mg(OMe)₂ in MeOH (6.0 wt%, 73 µL, 42 µmol) was refluxed for 10 min. The mixture was cooled to room temperature, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude material was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (CHCl₃–MeOH = 100/1) to give rotaxane **9** (2.72 mg, 68%) as yellow plates: m.p. 265.0 °C (decomp.); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ 7.51 (brd, 1H, py-H), 7.41 (brd, 2H, py-H), 7.29 (brd, 12H, Ar-H), 7.26 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 7.22 (3H, py-H), 7.00 (4H, Ar-H), 6.87 (12H, Ar-H), 6.34 (2H, C=CH), 6.20 (4H, Ar-H), 6.14 (4H, Ar-H), 5.10 (4H, CH₂), 4.06 (brd, 4H, CH₃), 3.93 (4H, CH₂O), 3.78 (12H, CH₂O), 1.30 (s, 54H, CH₃) ppm. Anal, calcd for C₁₁₆H₁₂₆N₆O₁₁Pd·2H₂O: C, 72.46; H, 6.81; N, 4.37%, found. C, 72.60; H, 6.99; N, 4.23%. Crystals of **9** suitable for X-ray analysis were obtained by recrystallization from mixed solvent of CH₂Cl₂ and MeOH. Single crystal data of **9**: C₁₁₆H₁₂₆N₆O₁₁Pd·5(CH₂Cl₂)·4(CH₃OH) *M*_w = 2439.54, yellow plate, size: 0.60 ×

0.10 × 0.10 mm, triclinic, space group *P*-*I*, *Z* = 2, *a* : 14.624 (5) Å, *b* : 19.851 (16) Å, *c* : 23.822 (4) Å, α : 85.30 (3)°, β : 79.42 (3)°, γ : 69.09 (4)°, *V* : 6349 (6) Å³, *D* = 1.276 Mg m⁻³, μ = 0.418 mm⁻¹, *T* = 223(1) K, *F*(000) = 2560.0; 57449 reflections measured, of which 28260 were unique (R_{int} = 0.068). 1424 refined parameters, final R_1 = 0.0924 for reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$, *wR* = 0.2820 (all data), GOF = 1.012. Final largest diffraction peak and hole: 1.57 and -0.98 e Å³. Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the structures reported in this paper have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication no. CCDC 756922 for **9**. Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge on application to the CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB21EZ, UK. Fax: (+44)-1223-336-033 e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/deposit

Synthesis of Rotaxane 10 (anti) and 11 (syn). To a solution of rotaxane 6 (150 mg, 79 µmol) in MeOH-THF (4/1, 0.7 mL) was added dropwise a solution of Mg(OMe)₂ in MeOH (6.0 wt%, 2.63 mL, 1.6 mmol) was refluxed for 10 min. The mixture was cooled to room temperature, and concentrated in *vacuo* to give a mixture of **10** and **11** in a quantitative yield. The compounds were purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (CHCl₃–MeOH = 100/1) to give rotaxane 10 (36.0 mg, 25%) and rotaxane 11 (63.8 mg, 43%) as pale yellow solids, respectively. Recrystallization from toluene gave pale yellow needles: **10** : m.p. 256.0 °C (decomp.); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ 7.60 (brd, 3H, py-H), 7.34 (brd, 1H, py-H), 7.28-7.21 (m, 16H, Ar-H), 7.10-7.03 (m, 16H, Ar-H), 6.81 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, py-H), 6.28 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 6.14 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 5.89 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 5.78 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 4.42 (brd, 4H, CH, CH₂), 4.00 (brd, 6H, CH₂O), 3.91 (brd, 4H, CH₂), 3.75 -3.68 (m, 12H, CH₂), 3.07 (brd, 2H, CH₂), 1.27 (s, 54H, CH₃) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ 171.1, 170.9, 159.1, 157.4, 156.9, 155.8, 152.2, 151.9, 148.2, 146.8, 143.5, 140.7, 139.1, 133.0, 132.9, 132.3, 131.8, 130.5, 128.5, 128.2, 125.2, 124.8, 124.4, 123.3, 123.0, 114.6, 114.5, 70.8, 70.6, 70.5, 70.0, 69.8, 69.7, 67.6, 67.2, 66.0, 63.5, 54.6, 50.1, 49.5, 42.0, 34.3, 31.4 ppm. IR (neat): 2961 (C-H), 1761 (C=O), 1606, 1509, 1459, 1401, 1241, 1110, 1019, 823, 759, 676, 580, 420, 410 cm⁻¹. FAB HR-MS (matrix : NPOE) Calcd for $C_{116}H_{130}N_6O_{11}Pd [M + H]^+$, m/z 1889.894, found : 1889.8864.

Recrystallization of **11** from toluene gave pale yellow needles: m.p. 280.0 °C (decomp.); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ 7.77 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, py-H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 4H, Ar-H), 7.31 – 7.20 (m, 15H, Ar-H, py-H), 7.10 – 7.00 (m, 14H, Ar-H, py-H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 4H, Ar-H), 6.22 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H, Ar-H), 6.07 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H, Ar-H), 4.36 (brd, 2H, CH), 4.17 – 4.11 (m, 6H, CH₂), 4.01 – 3.91 (m, 8H, CH₂), 3.73 – 3.65 (m, 12H, CH₂), 2.63 (brd, 2H, CH₂), 1.29 (s, 54H, CH₃) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ 171.2, 159.1, 157.6, 155.5, 151.6, 148.3, 145.6, 143.5, 140.7, 139.3, 137.8, 133.0, 131.4, 130.5, 129.0, 128.5, 128.2, 125.2, 124.9, 124.4, 124.3, 121.6, 114.9, 77.2, 70.4, 70.1, 69.7, 67.5, 65.8, 63.3, 54.4, 49.7, 41.5, 34.3, 31.4, 21.5 ppm. IR (neat): 2960 (C-H), 1761 (C=O), 1606, 1508, 1463, 1400, 1243, 1110, 1053, 1019, 823, 759, 705, 675, 580 cm⁻¹. FAB HR-MS (matrix : NPOE) Calcd for C₁₁₆H₁₃₀N₆O₁₁Pd [M + Na]⁺, m/z 1911.8762, found : 1911.8765.



Synthesis of Alcohol **B**. To a solution of 2,6-bis(3-hydroxy-1-propynyl)pyridine **1** (4.10 g, 21.9 mmol) in THF (70 mL) was added DBTDL (327 μ L, 0.547 mmol) and dropwise a solution of isocyanate **8** (2.90 g, 5.47 mmol) in THF (60 mL) over 30 min under Ar. The mixture was stirred for 15 h at room temperature. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with CH₂Cl₂: MeOH (20 : 1) and then by recrystalization from CHCl₃/hexane to give **B** (83%) as a white solid: m.p. 204 °C (decomp); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ 7.63 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.41–7.37 (m, 2H), 7.24–7.07 (m, 16H), 6.67 (s, 1H), 5.00 (s, 2H), 4.50 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 1.78 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 1.30 (s, 27 H) ppm; FAB-MS (matrix : *m*-nitrobenzyl alcohol) Calcd for C₄₉H₅₂N₂O₃ [M + H]⁺, m/z 717.3, found : 717.4.

Synthesis of [2]Rotaxanate **12** and [3]Rotaxanate **C**. A mixture of alcohol **B** (211 mg, 0.294 mmol) and macrocyclic palladium complex **7** (200 mg, 0.294 mmol) in CH₃Cl₂ (5.0 mL) was stirred for 1 h at room temperature. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to give the pseudorotaxanate, to which were successively added 4,4'-phenylenediisocyanate (47.0 mg, 0.294 mmol), THF (10mL) and DBTDL (8.80 μ L, 14.7 μ mol). The mixture was stirred for 0.5 h at room temperature. To it were added a solution of pseudorotaxane (211 mg, 0.294 mmol) in THF (5.0 mL) and DBTDL, and the resulting mixture was stirred for 3 h at room temperature. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with CH₃Cl₂: MeOH (50 : 1) and then by preparative HPLC with CHCl₃ to give **12** (44%) and **C** (38%). **12**: m.p. 176.0 °C (decomp); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ 8.50–8.25 (m, 4H), 7.91 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.82 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H) 7.39–7.00 (m, 41H), 6.49 (s, 8H), 4.98 (s, 2H), 4.96 (s, 2H), 4.82 (s, 2H), 4.71 (s, 4H), 4.42–3.45 (m, 16H), 1.29 (s, 27H), 1.28 (s, 27H) ppm; Anal. calcd for C₁₃₅H₁₃₉N₅O₁₅Pd·2H₂O: C, 71.43; H, 6.35; N, 5.55%. found: C, 71.33; H, 6.65; N, 5.56%.



C: m.p. 172 °C (decomp.); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ 8.55 (s, 2H), 8.48 (s, 2H), 7.96 (br, 2H), 7.85 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.78 (d, J = 7.6 Hz), 7.50 (s, 4H), 7.37–7.09 (m, 36H), 6.51–6.49 (m, 16H), 4.82 (s, 4H), 4.77 (s, 4H), 4.25–3.51 (m, 40H) 1.23 (s, 54H) ppm; Anal. calcd for
C₁₆₄H₁₇₀N₁₂O₂₂Pd₂·H₂O·CHCl₃: C, 65.83; H, 5.76; N, 5.58. found: C, 65.80; H, 5.79; N, 5.53.



Synthesis of axle **D**. To a mixture of diol **4** (700 mg, 3.66 mmol) and DBTDL (50 μ L, 88.0 μ mol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) was added dropwise a solution of endcap **8** (485 mg, 0.915 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) and stirred for 18 h. The solution was concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude material was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (CHCl₃–MeOH = 30/1) to give an axle **D** (392 mg, 15 %) as a white solid. Recrystallization from MeOH gave white plates: m.p. 202.0–203.5 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ 7.58 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, py-H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 8H, Ar-H), 7.13 (brd, 4H, py-H, Ar-H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 6H, Ar-H), 6.95 – 6.84 (m, 2H, CHCH), 6.75 – 6.64 (m, 3H, CHCH, -NH), 4.87 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 4.39 (s, 2H, CHCH₂), 1.29 (s, 27H, CH₃) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ 154.9, 154.1, 148.2, 143.8, 142.3, 137.0, 135.4, 134.2, 131.9, 131.7, 130.6, 129.3, 128.5, 124.0, 120.2, 119.9, 117.3, 63.2, 62.6, 50.4, 34.2, 31.3 ppm. IR (KBr) : 3433, 2962, 1735, 1609, 1508, 1457, 1215, 1018, 823, 583, 417 cm⁻¹. FAB HR-MS (matrix : NBA) Calcd for C₄₈H₅₃N₂O₃ [M + H]⁺, m/z 721.4369, found : 721.4358.

Synthesis of 2st[2]Rotaxane **13** (2st[3]Rotaxane **E**). A mixture of axle **D** (100 mg, 0.138 mmol) and Pd complex **7** (96.5 mg, 0.138 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (5.0 mL) was stirred for 1 h at room temperature. The solution was concentrated in vacuo. The crude material was used for the next reaction without further purification. The mixture was dissolved in THF (5.0 mL). After the addition of 4,4'-diphenylisocyanate (22.1 mg, 0.138 mmol) in THF (5.0 mL) and DBTDL (50 μ L, 88.0 μ mol), the resulting mixture was stirred for 0.5 h at room temperature. A solution of axle **D** (100 mg, 0.138 mmol) was added to the mixture, and the reaction mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature. The solution was concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude material was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (CHCl₃–MeOH = 35/1) to give 2st[2]Rotaxane **13** (61.9 mg, 20 %) and 2st[3]Rotaxane **E** (76.9 mg, 19 %) as pale yellow plates, respectively. **13** : m.p. 217.0 °C (decomp.) ; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 67 °C) 8 7.91 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, py-H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H, py-H), 7.68 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, py-H), 7.66–7.55 (m, 3H, olefin, -NH), 7.53 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H, py-H), 7.30–7.21 (m, 24H, Ar-H), 7.12–7.06 (m, 20H, Ar-H), 6.86–6.83 (m, 2H, CHCH), 6.75–6.69 (m, *J* = 5.2, 2H, CHCH), 6.39 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz,

4H, Ar-H), 6.33 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 4H, Ar-H), 6.15-5.98 (m, 2H, CHCH₂), 4.85 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H, CH₂), 4.57 (brd, 4H, CH₂), 3.95 (brd, 6H, CH₂), 3.76 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 4H, CH₂), 3.65-3.57 (m, 8H, CH₂), 1.29 (s, 27 H, CH₃), 1.28 (s, 27 H, CH₃) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ 177.8, 170.9, 157.5, 154.1, 153.28, 152.5, 148.2, 143.9, 143.8, 138.2, 137.1, 133.2, 132.5, 131.7, 130.6, 128.4, 124.9, 124.0, 120.8, 119.8, 117.5, 113.1, 77.2, 70.6, 70.5, 69.7, 66.9, 64.9, 6.40, 63.2, 63.2, 49.2, 34.3, 34.2, 34.0, 31.9, 31.3, 29.6, 29.6, 29.6, 29.4, 29.3, 29.3, 29.2, 29.1, 24.8, 22.7, 14.1 ppm. IR (KBr) 3399, 3030, 2960, 2867, 1732, 1594, 1509, 1458, 1407, 1362, 1312, 1214, 1099, 1056, 1017, 822, 761, 705, 676, 581, 525, 421 cm⁻¹. FAB HR-MS (matrix : NBA + NaI) Calcd for C₁₃₅H₁₄₇N₉O₁₅Pd [M + Na]⁺, m/z 2262.9984, found : 2262.9970.



E : m.p. 228.0 °C (decomp.) ; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ 7.86 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H, py-H), 7.73 -7.71 (m, 6H, py-H), 7.32 - 7.07 (m, 36H, Ar-H), 6.40 - 6.29 (m, 16H, Ar-H), 4.81 (s, 2H), 4.61 (s, 4H, CH₂), 4.56 (s, 4H, CH₂), 3.96 (brd, 12H, CH₂), 3.77 (s, 8H, CH₂), 3.65 - 3.59 (m, 16H, CH₂), 1.29 (s, 54H, CH₃) ppm. IR (KBr) 3422, 2959, 2363, 1727, 1593, 1509, 1465, 1407, 1362, 1299, 1215, 1099, 1057, 1017, 952, 823, 760, 676, 582, 417 cm⁻¹. FAB HR-MS (matrix : NBA) Calcd for $C_{164}H_{178}N_{12}O_{22}Pd_2 [M + H]^+$, m/z 2882.1393, found : 2282.1458.

Synthesis of Axle **16**. To a mixture of diol **4** (300 mg, 1.57 mmol) and phenylisocyanate (748 mg, 6.28 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (5.0 mL) was added DBTDL (50 μ L, 88.0 μ mol) and the mixture was stirred for 18 h

at room temperature. The solution was concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude material was purified by recrystallization from *i*-PrOH to give Axle **16** (530 mg, 79 %) as white plates: m.p. 146.6-147.2 °C ; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ 7.60 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, py-H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4 H, Ar-H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H, Ar-H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H, Py-H), 7.07 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 6.94–6.87 (m, 2H, CHCH), 6.75 (d, *J* = 16 Hz, 2H, CHCH), 6.69 (s, 2H, -NH), 4.89 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 4H, CH₂) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ 154.1, 153.2, 137.7, 137.0, 132.3, 128.9, 128.3, 123.4, 120.7, 118.6, 64.9 ppm. IR (KBr) : 3320, 1703, 1598, 1534, 1446, 1314, 1233, 1092, 1064, 1026, 966, 842, 766, 691, 509, 417 cm⁻¹. FAB-MS (matrix : NBA) Calcd for C₂₅H₂₃N₃O₄ [M + H]⁺, m/z 430.1767, found : 430.1773.

Synthesis of dumbbell **18**. To a mixture of diol **4** (200 mg, 1.05 mmol) and endcap **8** (1.72 g, 3.14 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) was added DBTDL (50 μ L, 88.0 μ mol) and the mixture was stirred for 18 h at room temperature. The solution was concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude material was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (CHCl₃–hexane = 5/1) to give dumbbell **18** (1.04 g, 79 %) as a gray solid. Recrystallization from MeOH gave gray plates: m.p. 189.0–191.0 °C; ¹HNMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ 7.66 (brd, 1H, py-H), 7.27–7.20 (m, 18 H, Ar-H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 4H, Ar-H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H, Ar-H), 6.90 (brd, 4H, CHCH), 6.76 (brd, 2H, -NH), 4.89 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 4H, CH₂), 1.29 (s, 54H, CH₃) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ 153.4, 153.1, 148.2, 143.8, 142.5, 138.2, 135.3, 131.7, 130.6, 130.3, 124.0, 120.6, 117.4, 64.6, 63.2, 34.2, 31.3 ppm. IR (KBr) 3855, 3434, 2693, 1741, 1609, 1509, 1458, 1406, 1204, 1098, 822, 580 cm⁻¹. FAB HR-MS (matrix : NBA) Calcd for C₈₇H₁₀₀N₃O₄ [M + H]⁺, m/z 1250.7714, found : 1250.7764.

Typical procedure for catalytic reaction. To a mixture of Pd complex 7 (9.73 mg, 13.9 μ mol) and axle 16 (30.0 mg, 69.9 μ mol) in THF (0.14 mL) was added dropwise a solution of Mg(OMe)₂ in MeOH (121 mg, 1.40 mmol, 0.56 mL) was stirred at 50 °C for 19 h. The mixture was cooled to room temperature, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude material was purified by flash column

chromatography on silica gel (CHCl₃–MeOH = 15/1) to give axle **17** (22.0 mg, 73 %) as a white solid; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ 7.56 – 7.53 (m, 4H, Ph-H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1 H, py-H), 7.43 – 7.38 (m, 4H, Ph-H), 7.20 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H, Ph-H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H, py-H), 4.96 (brd, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 2H, CHCH₂), 4.54 (m, 2H, CH₂O), 4.36 (m, 2H, CH₂O), 3.22 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.02 (m, 2H, CH₂) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ 156.0, 137.1, 129.2, 125.1, 125.0, 122.3, 121.3, 121.2, 66.7, 55.6, 55.5, 39.4, 39.3 ppm. IR (KBr) : 3434, 2923, 1751, 1637, 1405, 1125, 471 cm⁻¹; FAB HR-MS (matrix : NBA + NaI) Calcd for C₂₅H₂₃N₃O₄ [M + Na]⁺, m/z 452.1586, found : 452.1589.



Synthesis of **G**. To a mixture of Pd complex **F** (7.2 mg, 14 µmol) and axle **18** (87.4 mg, 70.0 µmol) in THF (0.14 mL) was added dropwise a solution of Mg(OMe)₂ in MeOH (120.7 mg, 1.40 mmol, 0.56 mL). The mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 19 h, cooled to room temperature, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude material was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (Hexane–EtOAc = 2/1) to give axle **G** (52.0 mg, 60 %) as a white foam: ¹HNMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ 7.43-7.35 (m, 5H, Ar-H), 7.26-7.20 (m, 16H, Ar-H), 7.09-7.06 (m, 12H, Ar-H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 4.92 (brd, 2H, CHCH₂), 4.52-4.45 (m, 2H, CH₂O), 4.35-4.32 (m, 2H, CH₂O), 3.26 (brd, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 3.05-2.98 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.30 (s, 54H, CH₃) ppm. IR (neat) 3031, 2961, 2867, 1758, 1593, 1575, 1505, 1456, 1395, 1362, 1268, 1209, 1113, 1018, 969, 823, 756, 737, 704, 579 cm⁻¹. MALDI-TOF MS (matrix : CHC\alpha) Calcd for C₈₇H₁₀₀N₃O₄ [M + H]⁺, m/z 1250.7708, found : 1250.7735.

Figure (¹H NMR, IR)











¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, toluene-d₈, 343 K) of Rotaxane 6



IR spectrum (KBr) of Rotaxane 6











¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K) of rotaxane 12



IR spectrum (KBr) of rotaxane 12



¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 340 K) of Rotaxane 13





¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, $CDCI_3$, 298 K) of rotaxane 14







¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K) of diphenyl 16







¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCI₃, 293 K) of 17



IR spectrum (KBr) of 17



¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, $CDCI_3$, 298 K) of dumbbell 18



IR spectrum (KBr) of dumbbell 18









Supplementary Material (ESI) for Chemical Communications This journal is (c) The Royal Society of Chemistry 2010 0 0 N 0 N С С R.NH N^R H Pd ٢d Ν N H С O R = С ppm 6 8 7 5 3 2 0 ¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K) of rotaxane C





¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K) of alcohol D



IR spectrum (KBr) of alcohol D



IR spectrum (KBr) of Rotaxane E





[¹³C NMR]







 $^{13}\mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum (100 MHz, CDCl_3, 298 K) of Rotaxane 6



 ^{13}C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, CDCl_3, 298 K) of Rotaxane 11









¹³C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, CDCI₃, 293 K) of 17





 ^{13}C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, CDCl_3, 298 K) of alcohol D

Energy Minimized Structures (DFT, B3LYP, 6–31**)

Structures of 10





Front view

Top view

Structures of 11



Front view

Top view