Supporting Information for:

Nickel-catalysed cross-coupling reaction of aryl(trialkyl)silanes with aryl chlorides and tosylates

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General. All manipulations of oxygen- and moisture-sensitive materials were conducted with a schlenk technique or in a dry box under a nitrogen or argon atmosphere. Flash column chromatography was performed using Kanto Chemical silica gel (spherical, 40–50 μ m). Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on Merck Kieselgel 60 F₂₅₄ (0.25 mm) plates. Visualization was accomplished with UV light (254 nm) and/or an aqueous alkaline KMnO₄ solution followed by heating.

Apparatus. Proton and carbon nuclear magnetic resonance spectra (¹H and ¹³C NMR) were recorded on a Varian Mercury 400 (¹H NMR, 400MHz; ¹³C NMR 101 MHz) spectrometer with solvent resonance as the internal standard (¹H NMR, CHCl₃ at 7.26 ppm; ¹³C NMR, CDCl₃ at 77.0 ppm). ¹H NMR data are reported as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, quint = quintet, sext = sextet, sept = septet, br = broad, m = multiplet), coupling constants (Hz), and integration. Melting points were determined using an OptiMelt MPA100. Infrared spectra (IR) was recorded on a Shimadzu FTIR-8400 spectrometer and is reported in cm⁻¹. Elemental analyses were performed by Elementary Analysis Center of Kyoto University. GC analysis was performed on a Shimadzu GC 2014 equipped with a ENV-1 column (Kanto Chemical, 30 m x 0.25 mm, pressure = 31.7 kPa, detector = FID, 290 °C) with helium gas as a carrier.

Chemicals. Unless otherwise noted, commercially available liquid chemicals were distilled and degassed before use. Anhydrous DME was purchased from Aldrich. Anhydrous DMF and acetone were purchased from Nacalai Tesque. Anhydrous toluene, THF, and Et₂O were purchased from Kanto Chemical and degassed by purging vigorously with argon for 20 min and further purified by passage through activated alumina under positive argon pressure as described by Grubbs et al.¹ NiCl₂•dme and Ni(PPh₃)₂Cl₂ were purchased from Strem and used without further purification. Ni(PPh₂Me)₂Cl₂ was prepared following the literature procedure.² Aryl tosylates were prepared according to the reported protocols.³ All the spectral data of biaryls shown in Tables 1 and 2 and Eq. 1 agreed perfectly with the those reported previously by ourselves⁴ unless otherwise described below. Preparation of **2'** and other organosilanes is described in our previous publications.^{4,5}



Preparation of 5. To 2-cyclohexen-1-ylpropan-2-ol (7.0 g, 50 mmol) was added $HN(SiMe_2H)_2(7.3 \text{ g}, 55 \text{ mmol})$, and the mixture was stirred at 50 °C overnight. After removal of by-products in *vacuo* (9 Torr, 50 °C) over 15 min, the residue was added dropwise a solution prepared from a 10% solution of *t*-Bu₃P in hexane (0.10 g, 50

μmol) and a 0.01 M solution of platinum(0)-1,3-divinyl-1,1,3,3-tetramethyldisiloxane complex in hexane (5 mL, 50 μmol), and THF (10 mL) at rt. The resulting mixture was stirred at 70 °C overnight, filtered through a Florisil pad, and concentrated in *vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to give the title compound as a colorless oil (9.4 g, 95%), R_f 0.31 (hexane–ethyl acetate = 10:1). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.92–1.80 (m, 2H), 1.77–1.70 (m, 2H), 1.42–1.02 (m, 5H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.02 (s, 3H), 0.79 (td, J = 12.5, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 0.19 (s, 3H), 0.07 (s,

3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 80.6, 53.6, 29.9, 29.6, 29.3, 27.6, 26.8, 26.3, 24.2, -0.2, -2.2; Anal. Calcd for C₁₁H₂₂OSi; C, 66.60; H, 11.18. Found: C, 66.45; H, 11.44.



Preparation of 1a. To crude **5** prepared following the above procedure starting with 2-cyclohexen-1-ylpropan-2-ol (2.8 g, 20 mmol) was added a solution of phenylmagnesium bromide in THF (40 mL) prepared from bromobenzene (6.0 g, 38 mmol) and Mg turnings (1.08 g, 45 mmol) at 0 °C, and the resulting mixture was

stirred at rt overnight before being quenched with a saturated NH₄Cl aqueous solution at 0 °C. The aqueous layer was extracted with diethyl ether for three times, and the combined organic layers were washed with water and then brine, and then dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. After concentration in *vacuo*, the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford the title compound (4.1 g, 75%) as a colorless oil, R_f 0.28 (hexane–ethyl acetate = 10:1). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.56–7.49 (m, 2H), 7.37–7.27 (m, 3H), 1.97–1.88 (m, 1H), 1.76–1.57 (m, 3H), 1.48–0.96 (m, 6H), 1.14 (s, 3H), 0.98 (s, 3H), 0.35 (s, 3H), 0.32 (s, 3H): ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.9, 133.5, 128.1, 127.6, 74.3, 49.7, 31.2, 29.7, 28.3, 27.4, 26.1, 25.5, 24.1, –0.9, –1.7; Anal. Calcd for C₁₇H₂₈OSi; C, 73.85; H, 10.21. Found: C, 73.64; H, 10.07.



Preparation of 1b. To a suspension of Mg (0.26 g, 11 mmol) in THF (2 mL) was added dropwise a solution of 4-bromotoluene (1.7 g, 10 mmol) in THF (10 mL) over 15 min at rt, and the resulting mixture was stirred at rt for 0.5 h. To the solution of the aryl Grignard reagent thus obtained was added **5**

(0.99 g, 5.0 mmol) at 0 °C. After being stirred at rt for 36 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with a saturated NH₄Cl aqueous solution at 0 °C. The aqueous layer was extracted with diethyl ether, and the combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous MgSO₄ and concentrated in *vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to give the title compound (1.16 g, 80%) as a colorless oil, R_f 0.29 (hexane–ethyl acetate = 10:1). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.97–1.86 (m, 1H), 1.77–1.54 (m, 3H), 1.43 (td, *J* = 9.1, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 1.40–1.08 (m, 4H), 1.14 (s, 3H), 1.05–0.96 (m, 1H), 0.98 (s, 3H), 0.93 (s, 1H), 0.32 (s, 3H), 0.30 (s, 3H): ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 137.90, 137.87, 133.6, 128.5, 74.3, 49.7, 31.2, 29.7, 28.3, 27.4, 26.1, 25.5, 24.1, 21.5, –0.7, –1.7; Anal. Calcd for C₁₈H₃₀OSi; C, 74.42; H, 10.41. Found: C, 74.24; H, 10.62.



Preparation of 1c. Following the procedure for **1b**, the reaction using a solution of 4-(trifluoromethyl)phenylmagnesium bromide prepared from 1-bromo-4-trifluoromethylbenzene (2.2 g, 10 mmol) with **5** (0.99 g, 5.0 mmol) gave the title compound (1.1 g, 65%) as a colorless oil, R_f 0.29

(hexane–ethyl acetate = 10:1). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 1.90–1.81 (m, 1H), 1.79–1.59 (m, 3H), 1.42 (td, *J* = 9.9, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 1.36–0.94 (m, 5H), 1.17 (s, 3H), 0.98 (s, 3H), 0.76 (s, 1H), 0.36 (s, 3H), 0.32 (s, 3H): ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 148.0, 133.6, 129.7 (q, *J* = 31.9 Hz), 124.2 (q, *J* = 271.2 Hz), 123.8 (q, *J* = 3.6 Hz), 74.2, 50.3, 31.5, 30.0, 28.7, 27.7, 26.4, 25.7, 23.9, –1.2; Anal. Calcd for C₁₈H₂₇F₃OSi; C, 62.76; H, 7.90; Found: C, 62.87; H, 7.81.



Preparation of 1d. Following the procedure for **1b**, the reaction using a solution of *o*-tolylmagnesium bromide prepared from 2-bromotoluene (1.7 g, 10 mmol) with **5** (0.99 g, 5 mmol) gave the title compounds (1.17 g, 81%) as a colorless oil, $R_f 0.30$ (hexane–ethyl acetate = 10:1). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.45 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.18–7.10 (m, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 1.92–1.82

(m, 1H), 1.78–1.62 (m, 3H), 1.48 (td, J = 9.5, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 1.38–1.04 (m, 5H), 1.15 (s, 3H), 0.97 (s, 1H), 0.93 (s, 3H), 0.42 (s, 3H), 0.31 (s, 3H): ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 142.4, 140.2, 134.5,

129.8, 128.4, 124.8, 74.0, 49.5, 31.1, 29.9, 28.3, 27.6, 26.3, 25.3, 24.3, 23.4, -0.3, -1.4; Anal. Calcd for C₁₈H₃₀OSi; C, 74.42; H, 10.41. Found: C, 74.45; H, 10.35.



Preparation of 1e. To a solution of thiophene (1.26 g, 15 mmol) in Et_2O (10 mL) was added dropwise a 1.6 M solution of *n*-BuLi in hexane (9.3 mL, 15 mmol) over 10 min at -78 °C. The resulting mixture was warmed slowly to rt and stirred for 4 h. Magnesium bromide etherate (4.0 g, 15 mmol) was added at -30 °C, and the

resulting mixture was stirred at -30 °C for 30 min before treatment with **5** (0.99 g, 5.0 mmol) at the same temperature. The whole was stirred at rt overnight, and then quenched with a saturated NH₄Cl aqueous solution at 0 °C. The aqueous layer was extracted with diethyl ether for three times, and the combined organic layers were washed with water and then brine, and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. After concentration in *vacuo*, the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford the title compound (0.96 g, 68%) as a colorless oil, R_f 0.23 (hexane–ethyl acetate = 10:1). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 7.30 (dd, 4.7, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (dd, *J* = 3.3, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (dd, *J* = 4.7, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 1.96–1.87 (m, 1H), 1.69–1.47 (m, 3H), 1.35 (td, *J* = 10.2, 3.3Hz, 1H), 1.30–1.02 (m, 3H), 0.93 (s, 3H), 0.88–0.78 (m, 4H), 0.87 (s, 3H), 0.66 (s, 1H), 0.55 (s, 3H), 0.53 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 142.4. 134.3, 130.0. 128.1, 73.7, 51.2, 31.6, 30.6, 29.4, 28.2, 27.4, 27.0, 23.8, 2.0, 0.0; Anal. Calcd for C₁₅H₂₆OSSi; C, 63.77; H, 9.28; Found: C, 63.61; H, 9.53.



Preparation of 1f. To a solution of 3-bromothiophene (1.61 g, 10 mmol) in Et_2O (10 mL) was added dropwise a 1.6 M solution of *n*-BuLi in hexane (6.3 mL, 10 mmol) in over 10 min at -78 °C. The resulting mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 2 h before addition of magnesium bromide etherate (2.6 g, 10 mmol) at -30 °C. The

resulting mixture was stirred at -30 °C for additional 30 min, and then treated with **5** (0.99 g, 5.0 mmol) at the same temperature. The resulting mixture was stirred at rt overnight before being quenched with a saturated NH₄Cl aqueous solution at 0 °C, and the aqueous layer was extracted with diethyl ether for three times. The combined organic layers were washed with water and then brine, and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. After concentration in *vacuo*, the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford the title compound (1.27 g, 87%) as a colorless oil, R_f 0.25 (hexane–ethyl acetate = 10:1). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.18 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 1.92–1.83 (m, 1H), 1.77–1.58 (m, 3H), 1.41 (td, *J* = 9.3, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 1.36–1.07 (m, 4H), 1.16 (s, 3H), 1.04–0.92 (m, 2H), 1.00 (s, 3H), 0.34 (s, 3H), 0.33 (s, 3H): ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 142.3 131.8, 130.9, 125.3, 74.2, 50.0, 31.3, 29.7, 28.3, 27.4, 26.1, 24.0, –0.5, –0.7; Anal. Calcd for C₁₅H₂₆OSSi; C, 63.77; H, 9.28; Found: C, 63.98; H, 9.06.



Preparation of 1g. To a solution of 3-bromopyridine (1.6 g, 10 mmol) in Et₂O (10 mL) was added dropwise a 1.6 M solution of *n*-BuLi in hexane (6.3 mL, 10 mmol) over 10 min at -78 °C. The resulting mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 2 h before addition of magnesium bromide etherate (2.6 g, 10 mmol) at -30 °C. The resulting

mixture was stirred at -30 °C for additional 30 min, and then treated with **5** (0.99 g, 5.0 mmol) at the same temperature. The resulting mixture was stirred at rt overnight before being quenched with a saturated NH₄Cl aqueous solution at 0 °C. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate for three times. The combined organic layers were washed with water and then brine, and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. After concentration in *vacuo*, the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford the title compound (0.87 g, 63%) as a white solid (mp 104.6–105.5 °C), R_f 0.23 (hexane–ethyl acetate = 5:1). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.66 (s, 1H), 8.51 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (dt, *J* = 7.5, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 1.88–1.59 (m, 4H), 1.40 (td, *J* = 9.9, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 1.34–0.91 (m, 5H), 1.16 (s, 3H), 0.97 (s, 3H), 0.89 (s, 1H), 0.35 (s, 3H), 0.32 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.9, 148.5, 141.1, 137.6, 122.8, 73.9, 50.3, 31.5, 29.9, 28.7, 27.7, 26.4, 25.9, 23.9, –1.0, –1.4; Anal. Calcd for C₁₆H₂₇NOSi; C, 69.26; H, 9.81; Found: C, 68.98;

H, 9.59.

HO Ph

Preparation of 1'a. To cyclohexen-1-ylmethanol (1.1 g, 10 mmol) was added HN(SiMe₂H)₂ (1.46 g, 11.0 mmol), and the resulting mixture was stirred at rt Me₂ overnight. After removal of by-products in vacuo (9.0 Torr, 50 °C) over 15min, the residue was added dropwise a solution prepared from a 10% solution of t-Bu₃P in 0.01 hexane (20)mg, 20 umol). а Μ solution of platinum(0)-1,3-divinyl-1,1,3,3-tetramethyldisiloxane complex in hexane (2 mL, 20 µmol), and THF (5 mL) at rt. The resulting mixture was stirred at 50 °C overnight before being concentrated in vacuo. The residue was treated with a solution of phenylmagnesium bromide in THF (5 mL) prepared from bromobenzene (3.2 g, 20 mmol) and Mg turnings (0.50 g, 20 mmol) at 0°C, and the resulting mixture was stirred at rt overnight before being quenched with a saturated NH₄Cl aqueous solution at 0 °C. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate for three times, and the combined organic layers were washed with water and then brine, and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. After concentration in vacuo, the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford the title compound (1.32, 53%) as a colorless oil, $R_f 0.27$ (hexane–ethyl acetate = 10:1). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) & 7.57–7.50 (m, 2H), 7.40–7.33 (m, 3H), 3.45 (dd, *J* = 11.0, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 3.31 (dd, J = 11.0, 6.3 Hz, 1H), 1.86-1.66 (m, 4H), 1.50-1.37 (m, 1H), 1.36-1.10 (m, 4H), 0.95 (br, 1.10 Hz), 0.95 (br, 1.101H), 0.91–0.81 (m, 1H), 0.34 (s, 3H), 0.27 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 139.7, 133.3, 128.7, 127.8, 67.4, 41.9, 31.2, 28.0, 27.7, 26.7, 26.2, -2.4, -4.2; Anal. Calcd for C₁₅H₂₄OSi; C, 72.52; H, 9.74; Found: C, 72.33; H, 9.89.



Preparation of 3,5-dinitrobenzoate of 1'a. To a mixture of 1'a (0.25 g, 1 mmol) and 3,5-dinitrobenzoyl chloride (0.30 g, 1.3 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL) were added DMAP (12 mg, 0.10 mmol) and Et_3N (0.20 g, 2.0 mmol) at 0 °C sequentially. The resulting mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 3 h before concentration in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford the title compound (0.42 g, 95%)

of

as a colorless solid (mp 101.6–102.0 °C), R_f 0.23 (hexane–ethyl acetate = 10:1). Single colorless crystals suitable for X-ray crystallographic analysis were obtained by recrystallization from hexane. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.20 (t, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 9.00 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 2H), 7.51–7.48 (m, 2H), 7.23–7.20 (m, 3H), 4.35 (dd, J = 11.1, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 4.00 (dd, J = 11.2, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 1.92–1.70 (m, 5H), 1.39–1.19 (m, 4H), 1.05–0.94 (m, 1H), 0.39 (s, 3H), 0.29 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.2, 148.5, 139.3, 134.0, 133.5, 129.2, 128.8, 127.8, 122.1, 71.2, 38.6, 31.6, 27.7, 27.3, 27.0, 25.8, -2.6, -4.8; Anal. Calcd for C₂₂H₂₆N₂O₆Si; C, 59.71; H, 5.92; Found: C, 59.96; H, 5.86.

Preparation of 2. A 1.0 M solution of phenylmagnesium bromide in Et₂O (5.5 mL, added over 5.5 mmol) was 15 min to а solution HC Ph 1,1,3,3-tetramethyl-2-oxa-1-silaindan⁵ (0.96 g, 5.0 mmol) in Et₂O (10 mL) at 0 °C. The mixture was stired at 0 °C for 2 h and then at rt overnight before being quenched with a saturated NH₄Cl aqueous solution at 0 °C. The aqueous layer was extracted with diethyl ether for three times, and the combined organic layers were washed with water and then with brine and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. After concentration in vacuo, the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford the title compound (0.72 g, 53%) as a colorless oil, $R_f 0.30$ (hexane-ethyl acetate = 10:1). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.78 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.49–7.43 (m, 2H), 7.41–7.36 (m, 1H), 7.35–7.23 (m, 5H), 1.46 (s, 6H), 1.39 (s, 1H), 0.61 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.4, 143.3, 137.0, 132.8, 132.6, 129.1, 128.1, 127.8, 125.6, 125.5,

75.2, 33.0, 2.1; Anal. Calcd for C₁₇H₂₂OSi; C, 75.50; H, 8.45; Found: C, 75.25; H, 8.45.

Cross-coupling reactions of 1 with aryl chlorides. A general procedure. An oven dried 3 mL-glass vial equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with NiCl₂•dme (11 mg, 50 µmol), dppf (28 mg, 50 µmol), PCy₃ (14 mg, 50 µmol), Zn powder (6.5 mg, 0.10 mmol), and Cs₂CO₃ (0.65 g, 2.0 mmol), and then sealed tightly with a screw-cap containing a PTFE septum. The vial was evacuated and back filled with argon through a needle. This process was repeated for three times. To the vial was added a solution of **1** (1.3 mmol) and aryl chloride (1.0 mmol) in DMF (0.5 mL) and DME (1.0 mL) via a syringe under a positive flow of argon. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for a few seconds to create a homogeneous slurry, and then at 60–80 °C until a GC analysis showed complete consumption of the starting materials. After the time specified in Table 1, the mixture was filtered through a Florisil pad, diluted with Et₂O, and washed with water and then brine. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous MgSO₄ and concentrated in *vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to give the corresponding biaryl in a yield listed in Table 1.

Gram-scale cross-coupling of 1a with ethyl 4-chlorobenzoate (3f). An oven dried 25 mL-Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with NiCl₂•dme (0.11g, 0.50 mmol), dppf (0.28 g, 0.50 mmol), PCy₃ (0.14 g, 0.50 mmol), Zn powder (65 mg, 1.0 mmol), and Cs₂CO₃ (6.5 g, 2.0 mmol), and then sealed tightly with a rubber septum. The tube was evacuated and back filled with argon for three times. To this was added a solution of **1a** (3.6 g, 13 mmol) and ethyl 4-chlorobenzoate **3f** (1.84 g, 10 mmol) in DMF (5 mL) and DME (10 mL) via a syringe under a positive flow of argon. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for a few seconds to create a homogeneous slurry, and then at 75 °C for 30 h. The resulting mixture was filtered through a Florisil pad, diluted with Et₂O, and washed with water and brine. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous MgSO₄ and then concentrated in *vacuo*. The crude mixture thus obtained was distilled (5.0 Torr, 120 °C) to give **5** (2.4 g, 93%), and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to give **4af** (1.85 g, 82%) as a colorless solid.

Cross-coupling reaction of 1a with aryl tosylates. A general procedure. An oven dried 3 mL-glass vial equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with Ni(PPh₃)₂Cl₂ (33 mg, 50 µmol), PPh₃ (13 mg, 50 µmol), PCy₃ (42 mg, 0.15 mmol), Zn powder (6.5 mg, 0.10 mmol), and Cs₂CO₃ (0.65 g, 2.0 mmol), and then sealed tightly with a screw-cap containing a PTFE septum. The vial was evacuated and back filled with argon through a needle. This process was repeated for three times. To this was added a solution of **1a** (0.36 g, 1.3 mmol) and aryl tosylates (1.0 mmol) in DMF (0.5 mL) and acetone or DME (1 mL) via a syringe under a positive flow of argon. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for a few seconds to create a homogeneous slurry, and then at 80 °C until a GC analysis showed complete consumption of the starting materials. After the time specified in Table 2, the mixture was filtered through a Florisil pad, diluted with Et₂O, and washed with water and then brine. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous MgSO₄ and concentrated in *vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to give the corresponding biaryl in a yield listed in Table 2.







2-(*p***-Tolyl)thiophene (4lb).**⁸ ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.49 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.26–7.22 (m, 2H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (dd, J = 5.0, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.4, 137.1, 134.5, 129.4, 127.8, 125.7, 124.1, 122.4, 21.3.



3-(*p***-Tolyl)thiophene (4fb).**⁹ ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.44–7.37 (m, 3H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 142.1, 136.7, 132.9, 129.3, 126.7, 126.2, 125.9, 119.5, 21.3.



3-(*p*-Tolyl)pyridine (4qb).⁸ ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.84 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.57 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.88–7.83 (m, 1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.38–7.32 (m, 1H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 148.0, 137.9, 136.4, 134.8, 134.0, 129.6, 126.8, 123.4, 21.3.



Methyl 4-phenylbenzoate (4ar).¹⁰ ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.11 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.69–7.60 (m, 4H), 7.50–7.36 (m, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.7, 145.4, 139.8, 129.9, 128.7, 128.75, 128.70, 127.1, 126.9, 52.1.

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