

Selective Kumada Biaryl Cross-Coupling Reaction Enabled by an Iron(III) Alkoxide/*N*-heterocyclic Carbene Catalyst System

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Supporting Information

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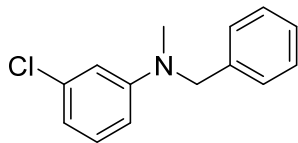
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General information. All reactions were carried out under an argon atmosphere with dry solvents under anhydrous conditions, unless otherwise noted. THF was dried over alumina under N₂ using a Grubbs-type solvent purification system. *p*-tolylmagnesium bromide in THF and phenylmagnesium bromide in THF were purchased from Aldrich and titrated before use. Other arylmagnesium bromides were prepared from the corresponding aryl bromides and magnesium (turnings) using diisobutylaluminum hydride for activation.¹ Fe₂(O^{*t*}Bu)₆,² **1f**,³ **1l**,⁴ **1o**,⁵ **1r**,⁶ **1q**,⁷ and **1t**⁸ were prepared according to the literature procedures. Yields refer to chromatographically and spectroscopically (¹H NMR) homogeneous materials, unless otherwise stated. Reactions were monitored by Agilent GC Series 6890N and GCMS 7890A. Merck silica gel plates (60F-254) using UV light as visualizing agent. E. Merck silica gel (60, particle size 0.040–0.063 mm) was used for flash column chromatography. NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker DRX-400 calibrated using residual deuterated solvent (CDCl₃: δH = 7.26 ppm, δC = 77.10 ppm) as an internal reference. The following abbreviations were used to designate the multiplicities: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, quin = quintet, m = multiplet, br = broad. Infrared (IR) spectra were recorded on a Perkin–Elmer Spectrum 100 FT-IR spectrometer. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on an Agilent 6210 Series 1969A ESI-TOF (time of flight) mass spectrometer using EI (electron ionization) or ESI (electrospray ionization).

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- (1) U. Tilstam, H. Weinmann, *Org. Process Res. Dev.* **2002**, *6*, 906.
 - (2) J. Spandl, M. Kusserow, I. Z. Brüdgam, *Anorg. Allg. Chem.* **2003**, 629, 968.
 - (3) M. Iwao, *J. Org. Chem.* **1990**, *55*, 3622.
 - (4) J. Yang, S. Liu, J.-F. Zheng, J. Zhou, *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2012**, *31*, 6248.
 - (5) J. P. Brand, S. Ganss, G. L. Tolnai, J. Waser, *Org. Lett.* **2013**, *15*, 112.
 - (6) X. Dai, Y. Chen, S. Garrell, H. Liu, L.-K. Zhang, A. Palani, G. Hughes, R. Nargund, *J. Org. Chem.* **2013**, *78*, 7758.
 - (7) O. M. Kuzmina, A. K. Steib, D. Flubacher, P. Knochel, *Org. Lett.* **2012**, *14*, 4818.
 - (8) C. M. Gothard, S. Soh, N. A. Gothard, B. Kowalczyk, Y. Wei, B. Baytekin, B. A. Grzybowski, *Angew. Chem. Int Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 7922.

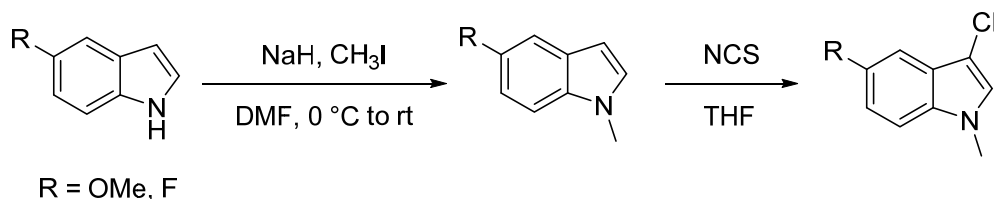
Synthesis and Characterization of Starting Material

N-Benzyl-3-chloro-*N*-methylaniline (**1g**)

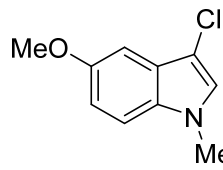


To a 2-necked flask was charged with *N*-methyl-3-chloroaniline (425 mg, 3.0 mmol, 1.0 eq) and heated at 90 °C under Ar atmosphere. Benzyl chloride (380 mg, 3.0 mmol, 1.0 eq) was added dropwise into the flask. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 2 h. White precipitate was observed and the mixture was allowed to stand at room temperature overnight. The reaction mixture was diluted with Et₂O and 0.5 mL of 1.0M aq NaOH was added. The resulting mixture was allowed to stir for another 5 mins before H₂O was added. Organic layer was separated and aqueous layer was washed several times with Et₂O. Combined organic layer was dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated in vacuo. The crude was purified by flash column chromatography eluting 10% Et₂O/petroleum ether to afford *N*-Benzyl-3-chloro-*N*-methylaniline **1g** as a yellow oil (419 mg, 60%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (t, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.70 – 6.66 (m, 1H), 6.61 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 4.53 (s, 2H), 3.02 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 150.8, 138.3, 135.2, 130.2, 128.8, 127.2, 126.8, 116.6, 112.3, 110.7, 56.5, 38.7. IR ν_{max} (neat): 1595, 1496, 1453, 1353, 1101, 908, 828, 730 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI+) *m/z* calc for C₁₄H₁₅ClN⁺ [M+H]⁺ 232.0888, found 232.0884.

Synthesis of *N*-Methyl-3-chloroindole

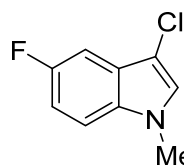


3-Chloro-5-methoxy-1-methyl-1*H*-indole (**1m**)



5-Methoxy-1-methyl-1*H*-indole was prepared according to the reported literature procedure⁹. To a solution of 5-methoxy-1-methyl-1*H*-indole (322 mg, 2.0 mmol, 1.0 eq) in THF (0.2 M) was added *N*-chlorosuccinimide (280 mg, 2.1 mmol, 1.05 eq). The reaction mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for 1 h before the addition of brine. Organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was washed several times with EtOAc. Combined organic layer was washed with H₂O, dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated in vacuo. The resulting crude mixture was purified using flash column chromatography eluting 20% Et₂O/petroleum ether to afford 3-chloro-5-methoxy-1-methyl-1*H*-indole **1m** as a white solid (290 mg, 74%). Mp 81.4 °C – 83.0 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.19 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (s, 1H), 6.92 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 154.7, 131.2, 126.1, 125.7, 113.6, 110.6, 103.9, 99.6, 55.9, 33.2. IR ν_{\max} (neat): 2949, 1626, 1494, 1222, 1034, 909, 733 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI+) *m/z* calc for C₁₀H₁₁ClNO⁺ [M+H]⁺ 196.0524, found 196.0519.

3-Chloro-5-fluoro-1-methyl-1*H*-indole (**1n**)

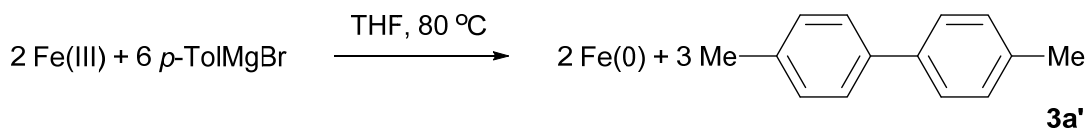


5-Fluoro-1-methyl-1*H*-indole was prepared according to the reported literature procedure⁹. To a solution of 5-fluoro-1-methyl-1*H*-indole (298 mg, 2.0 mmol, 1.0 eq) in THF (0.2 M) was added *N*-chlorosuccinimide (280 mg, 2.1 mmol, 1.05 eq). The reaction mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature overnight before the addition of brine. Organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was washed several times with EtOAc. Combined organic layer was washed with H₂O, dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated in vacuo. The resulting crude mixture was purified using flash column chromatography eluting 20% Et₂O/petroleum ether to afford 3-chloro-5-fluoro-1-methyl-1*H*-indole **1n** as a yellow oil (311 mg, 85%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.28 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.21 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 7.01 (td,

(9) M. Chen, Z.-T. Huang, Q.-Y. Zheng, *Chem. Commun.* **2012**, 48, 11686.

$J = 9.1, 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ 158.3 (d, $J = 236.0$ Hz), 132.6, 126.9, 126.2 (d, $J = 10.5$ Hz), 111.4 (d, $J = 26.7$ Hz), 110.5 (d, $J = 9.7$ Hz), 104.3 (d, $J = 5.0$ Hz), 103.5 (d, $J = 24.6$ Hz), 33.3. IR ν_{max} (neat): 1492, 1426, 1281, 1191, 1161, 909, 876, 734 cm^{-1} . HRMS (ESI+) m/z calc for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_8\text{ClFN}^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 184.0324, found 184.0325.

Effects of *tert*-butoxide on the reduction of Fe(III) to Fe(0):



In a glovebox, a mixture of the iron complex (FeBr_3 or $\text{Fe}_2(\text{O}^t\text{Bu})_6$), SIPr and dodecane in THF was stirred at rt for 1h. *p*-Tolylmagnesium bromide was added and the mixture was heated at 80 $^\circ\text{C}$ for the specified time. The yield of **3a'** was determined by GC analysis.

[Fe]	SIPr	<i>p</i> -TolMgBr	Dodecane	t (min)	3a' (mmol)	3a' (%)
0.03 mmol FeBr_3	0.09 mmol	0.3 mmol	0.03 mmol	15	0.041	91
				60	0.045	100
0.015 mmol $\text{Fe}_2(\text{O}^t\text{Bu})_6$	0.09 mmol	0.3 mmol	0.03 mmol	60	0.006	13
				120	0.006	13

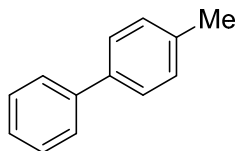
Synthesis and Characterization of Fe-catalyzed Biaryl Cross-coupling Reaction

General Procedure for Iron-catalyzed Biaryl Cross-coupling Reaction:

In a glovebox, $\text{Fe}_2(\text{O}^t\text{Bu})_6$ (8 mg, 0.015 mmol, 1.5 mol%), SIPr \cdot HCl (38 mg, 0.090 mmol, 9 mol%) and NaO^tBu (9 mg, 0.09 mmol, 9 mol%) in THF (0.5 mL) were charge to a reaction tube. The mixture was allowed to stir at rt for 1 h before a solution of chlorobenzene **1a** (113 mg, 1 mmol) and *p*-tolylmagnesium bromide **2a** (1.28mL, 0.94 M in THF, 1.2 mmol) was added. The tube was sealed, taken out of the glovebox and stirred at 80 $^\circ\text{C}$ for 16h. The reaction progress was monitored by GC. Once completed, the mixture was quenched with brine and exacted with CH_2Cl_2 several times. The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous MgSO_4 , concentrated in vacuo and the resulting crude mixture was purified by silica gel column

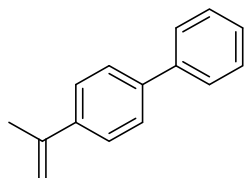
chromatography (petroleum ether) to afford **3a** as a white solid (166 mg, 99%, >97% pure on GC analysis).

4-Methyl-1,1'-biphenyl¹⁰ (**3a**)



3a was prepared from chlorobenzene **1a** and *p*-tolylmagnesium bromide **2a** in 99% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.79-7.77 (m, 2H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (tt, *J* = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.58 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 141.3, 138.5, 137.1, 129.6, 128.8, 127.1 (2C), 127.0, 21.2.

4-(Prop-1-en-2-yl)-1,1'-biphenyl¹¹ (**3b**)



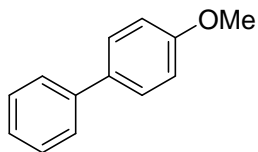
3b was prepared from 1-chloro-4-(prop-1-en-2-yl)benzene (153 mg, 1.0 mmol) **1j**, phenylmagnesium bromide **2b** (1.38 mL, 0.87M in THF, 1.2 mmol), Fe₂(O^tBu)₆ (8 mg, 0.015 mmol, 1.5 mol%), SIPr.HCl (38 mg, 0.090 mmol, 9 mol%), NaO^tBu (9 mg, 0.09 mmol, 9 mol%) and 0.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether) to afford **3b** as a white solid (178mg, 92%, >96% pure on GC analysis). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Acetone-*d*₆) δ 7.71 – 7.57 (m, 6H), 7.48-7.43 (m, 2H), 7.39 – 7.32 (m, 1H), 5.47 (dd, *J* = 1.5, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.13-5.12 (m, 1H), 2.18 (dd, *J* = 1.5, 0.8 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Acetone-*d*₆) δ 143.7, 141.4, 140.9, 129.7, 128.2, 127.6, 126.8, 112.8, 21.9.

4-Methoxy-1,1'-biphenyl¹² (**3c**)

(10) T. Hatakeyama, S. Hashimoto, K. Ishizuka, M. Nakamura, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2009**, *131*, 11949-11963.

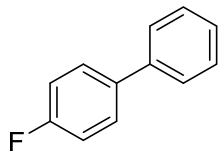
(11) A. L. Hansen, J.-P. Ebran, T. Skrydstrup, *J. Org. Chem.* **2007**, *72*, 6464.

(12) H. Liu, B. Yin, Z. Gao, Y. Li, H. Jiang, *Chem. Comm.* **2012**, *48*, 2033.



3c was prepared from chlorobenzene (113 mg, 1mmol) **1a** and (4-anisylmagnesium bromide **2c** (1.40 mL, 0.86 M in THF, 1.2 mmol), $\text{Fe}_2(\text{O}^t\text{Bu})_6$ (8 mg, 0.015 mmol, 1.5 mol%), $\text{SIPr}\cdot\text{HCl}$ (38 mg, 0.090 mmol, 9 mol%), NaO^tBu (9 mg, 0.09 mmol, 9 mol%) and 0.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (20% CH_2Cl_2 /petroleum ether) to afford **3c** as a white solid (151 mg, 82%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.63 – 7.55 (m, 4H), 7.50 – 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.38 – 7.32 (m, 1H), 7.07 – 7.00 (m, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 159.3, 140.9, 133.9, 128.8, 128.2, 126.8, 126.7, 114.3, 55.4.

4-Fluoro-1,1'-biphenyl¹³ (**3d**)

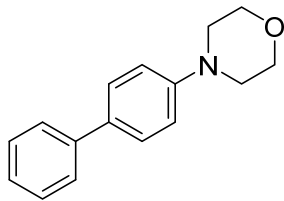


3d was prepared from chlorobenzene **1a** (56 mg, 0.5 mmol), (4-fluorophenyl)magnesium bromide **2d** (0.65 mL, 0.93 M in THF, 0.6 mmol), $\text{Fe}_2(\text{O}^t\text{Bu})_6$ (7 mg, 0.025 mmol, 2.5 mol%), $\text{SIPr}\cdot\text{HCl}$ (32 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%), NaO^tBu (7 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%) and 0.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether) to afford **3d** as a white solid (75mg, 87%, >99% pure on GC analysis). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.57-7.54 (m, 4H), 7.46-7.42 (m, 2H), 7.38 – 7.32 (m, 1H), 7.17 – 7.10 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 162.6 (d, $J = 246.2$ Hz), 140.4, 137.5 (d, $J = 3.2$ Hz), 128.9, 128.8 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz), 127.3, 127.1, 115.7 (d, $J = 21.5$ Hz).

4-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)morpholine¹⁴ (**3e**)

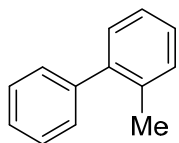
(13) K. Tanimoro, M. Ueno, K. Takeda, M. Kirihata, S. Tanimori, *J. Org. Chem.* **2012**, *77*, 7844.

(14) B. H. Lipshutz, D. M. Nihan, E. Vinogradova, B. R. Taft, *Org. Lett.* **2008**, *10*, 4279.



3e was prepared from chlorobenzene **1a** (57 mg, 0.5 mmol), (4-morpholinophenyl)magnesium bromide **2e** (0.78 mL, 0.77 M in THF, 0.6 mmol), $\text{Fe}_2(\text{O}^t\text{Bu})_6$ (4 mg, 0.0075 mmol, 1.5 mol%), SIPr.HCl (19 mg, 0.045 mmol, 9 mol%), NaO^tBu (4.5 mg, 0.045 mmol, 9 mol%) and 0.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (1-5% CH_2Cl_2 /petroleum ether) to afford **3e** as a white solid (106 mg, 89%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.62-7.55 (m, 4H), 7.49 – 7.41 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.30 (m, 1H), 7.04 – 6.99 (m, 2H), 3.91 (t, $J = 4.8$ Hz, 4H), 3.23 (t, $J = 4.8$ Hz, 4H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 150.6, 140.9, 132.7, 128.7, 127.8, 126.6, 115.8, 66.9, 49.2.

2-Methyl-1,1'-biphenyl¹⁵ (**3f**)

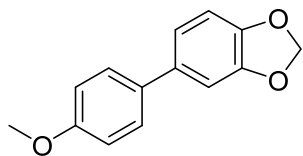


3f was prepared from chlorobenzene **1a** (57 mg, 0.5 mmol), *o*-tolylmagnesium bromide **2f** (0.78 mL, 0.77 M in THF, 0.6 mmol), $\text{Fe}_2(\text{O}^t\text{Bu})_6$ (4 mg, 0.0075 mmol, 1.5 mol%), SIPr.HCl (19 mg, 0.045 mmol, 9 mol%), NaO^tBu (4.5 mg, 0.045 mmol, 9 mol%) and 0.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether) to afford **3e** as a colorless oil (79 mg, 94%, >97% pure on GC analysis). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.33 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.18 (m, 3H), 7.18 – 7.09 (m, 4H), 2.16 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 142.1, 142.0, 135.4, 130.4, 129.9, 129.3, 128.1, 127.3, 126.8, 125.8, 20.5.

5-(4-Methoxyphenyl)benzo[*d*][1,3]dioxole¹⁶ (**3g**)

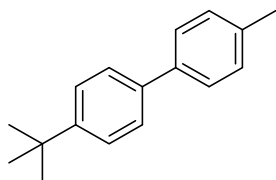
(15) O. Kobayashi, D. Uraguchi, T. Yamakawa, *Org. Lett.* **2009**, *11*, 2679.

(16) V. Colombel, M. Presset, D. Oehlich, F. Rombouts, G. A. Molander, *Org. Lett.* **2012**, *14*, 1680.



3g was prepared from 1-chloro-4-methoxybenzene **1c** (71 mg, 0.5 mmol), benzo[*d*][1,3]dioxol-5-ylmagnesium bromide **2g** (0.78 mL, 0.77 M in THF, 0.6 mmol), $\text{Fe}_2(\text{O}^t\text{Bu})_6$ (4 mg, 0.0075 mmol, 1.5 mol%), SIPr.HCl (19 mg, 0.045 mmol, 9 mol%), NaO^{*t*}Bu (4.5 mg, 0.045 mmol, 9 mol%) and 0.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (20% CH_2Cl_2 /petroleum ether) followed by recrystallization from petroleum ether to afford **3g** as a white solid (87 mg, 76%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, Acetone-*d*₆) δ 7.55 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.12 – 7.03 (m, 2H), 7.02 – 6.94 (m, 2H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.01 (s, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, Acetone-*d*₆) δ 160.0, 149.2, 147.6, 136.0, 134.1, 128.5, 120.7, 115.0, 109.3, 107.8, 102.0, 55.6.

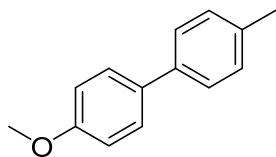
4-(*tert*-Butyl)-4'-methyl-1,1'-biphenyl¹⁷ (**3h**)



3h was prepared from 1-(*tert*-butyl)-4-chlorobenzene **1b** (169 mg, 1 mmol), *p*-tolylmagnesium bromide **2a** (1.28 mL, 0.94 M in THF, 1.2 mmol), $\text{Fe}_2(\text{O}^t\text{Bu})_6$ (14 mg, 0.025 mmol, 2.5 mol%), SIPr.HCl (64 mg, 0.090 mmol, 15 mol%), NaO^{*t*}Bu (15 mg, 0.09 mmol, 15 mol%) and 0.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether) to afford **3h** as a white solid (211 mg, 94%, >97% pure on GC analysis). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.59 – 7.46 (m, 6H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 1.40 (s, 9H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 150.0, 138.4, 138.3, 136.8, 129.5, 126.9, 126.7, 125.7, 34.6, 31.5, 21.2.

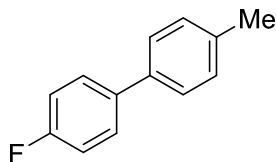
4-Methoxy-4'-methyl-1,1'-biphenyl¹⁰ (**3i**)

(17) F. Zhou, M.-O. Simon, C.-J. Li, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2013**, *19*, 7151.



3i was prepared from 4-methoxyphenyl chloride **1c** (143 mg, 1 mmol), *p*-tolylmagnesium bromide **2a** (1.28 mL, 0.94 M in THF, 1.2 mmol), Fe₂(O^{*t*}Bu)₆ (14 mg, 0.025 mmol, 2.5 mol%), SIPr.HCl (64 mg, 0.090 mmol, 15 mol%), NaO^{*t*}Bu (15 mg, 0.09 mmol, 15 mol%) and 0.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (5% Et₂O/petroleum ether) to afford **3i** as a white solid (162 mg, 82%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.40 (td, *J* = 8.8, 2.8 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (td, *J* = 8.8, 2.8 Hz, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 2.27 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 159.0, 138.0, 136.4, 133.8, 129.5, 128.0, 126.6, 114.3, 55.4, 21.1.

4-Fluoro-4'-methyl-1,1'-biphenyl¹⁸ (**3j**)

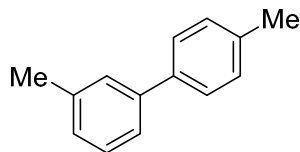


3j was prepared from 1-chloro-4-fluorobenzene **1d** (65 mg, 0.5 mmol) *p*-tolylmagnesium bromide **2a** (0.64 mL, 0.94 M in THF, 0.6 mmol), Fe₂(O^{*t*}Bu)₆ (7 mg, 0.025 mmol, 2.5 mol%), SIPr.HCl (32 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%), NaO^{*t*}Bu (7 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%) and 2.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether) to afford **3j** as a white solid in (86 mg, 92%, >97% pure on GC analysis). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.56 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.46 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.15 – 7.07 (m, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 162.4 (d, *J* = 245.7 Hz), 137.5, 137.4 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz), 137.1, 129.6, 128.6 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 127.0, 115.6 (d, *J* = 21.3 Hz), 21.1.

3,4'-dimethyl-1,1'-biphenyl¹⁹ (**3k**)

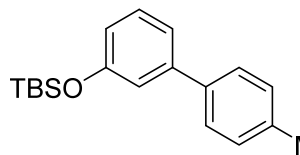
(18) Z.-Y. Wang, G.-Q. Chen, L.-X. Shao, *J. Org. Chem.* **2012**, *77*, 6608.

(19) M. a. J. Iglesias, A. Prieto, M. C. Nicasio, *Org. Lett.* **2012**, *14*, 4318.



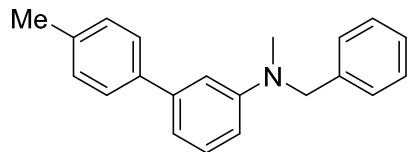
3k was prepared from 1-chloro-3-methylbenzene **1e** (63 mg, 0.5 mmol) and *p*-tolylmagnesium bromide **2a** (0.64 mL, 0.94 M in THF, 0.6 mmol), $\text{Fe}_2(\text{O}^t\text{Bu})_6$ (7 mg, 0.025 mmol, 2.5 mol%), SiPr.HCl (32 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%), NaO^tBu (7 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%) and 0.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether) to afford **3k** as a colorless oil (89 mg, 98%, >95% pure on GC analysis). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.40 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.29 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 7.20 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.15 – 7.11 (m, 2H), 7.03 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 141.3, 138.3, 137.0, 129.5, 128.7, 127.9, 127.8, 127.1, 126.9, 124.2, 21.6, 21.2.

***Tert*-Butyldimethyl((4'-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)oxy)silane (3l)**



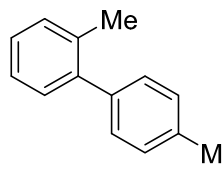
3l was prepared from *tert*-butyl(3-chlorophenoxy)dimethylsilane **1f** (121 mg, 0.5 mmol), *p*-tolylmagnesium bromide **2a** (0.64 mL, 0.94 M in THF, 0.6 mmol), $\text{Fe}_2(\text{O}^t\text{Bu})_6$ (7 mg, 0.025 mmol, 2.5 mol%), SiPr.HCl (32 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%), NaO^tBu (7 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%) and 0.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether) to afford **3l** as a colourless oil (127 mg, 85%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.51 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.31 – 7.23 (m, 3H), 7.18 (dt, $J = 7.7, 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.09 – 7.06 (m, 1H), 6.82 (ddd, $J = 8.0, 2.4, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 1.03 (s, 9H), 0.25 (s, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 156.1, 142.7, 138.3, 137.2, 129.7, 129.5, 127.0, 120.1, 118.8, 118.7, 25.8, 21.2, 18.3, -4.2. IR ν_{max} (neat): 2957, 2930, 2859, 1601, 1479, 1309, 1259, 1206, 937, 835, 784 cm^{-1} . HRMS (ESI+) m/z calc for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{27}\text{OSi}^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 299.1826, found 299.1825.

***N*-Benzyl-*N*,4'-dimethyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-amine (3m)**



3m was prepared from *N*-benzyl-3-chloro-*N*-methylaniline **1g** (116 mg, 0.5 mmol), *p*-tolylmagnesium bromide **2a** (0.64 mL, 0.94 M in THF, 0.6 mmol), Fe₂(O^tBu)₆ (7 mg, 0.025 mmol, 2.5 mol%), SIPr.HCl (32 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%), NaO^tBu (7 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%) and 0.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (10% Et₂O/petroleum ether) to afford **3m** as a yellow oil (117 mg, 81%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.50-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.20 (m, 8H), 6.99 – 6.93 (m, 2H), 6.75 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (s, 2H), 3.07 (s, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 150.2, 142.4, 139.4, 139.1, 136.9, 129.5, 129.5, 129.4, 128.7, 127.2, 127.0, 126.9, 115.8, 111.4, 56.9, 38.7, 21.2. IR ν_{max} (neat): 3025, 1601, 1494, 1452, 1354, 1206, 1114, 909, 817, 773, 731 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI+) *m/z* calc for C₂₁H₂₂N⁺ [M+H]⁺ 288.1747, found 288.1753.

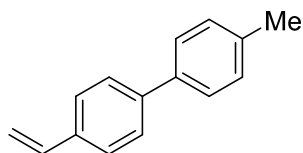
2,4'-Dimethyl-1,1'-biphenyl²⁰ (**3n**)



3n was prepared from 1-chloro-2-methylbenzene **1h** (63 mg, 0.5 mmol), *p*-tolylmagnesium bromide **2a** (0.64 mL, 0.94 M in THF, 0.6 mmol), Fe₂(O^tBu)₆ (7 mg, 0.025 mmol, 2.5 mol%), SIPr.HCl (32 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%), NaO^tBu (7 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%) and 0.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether) to afford **3n** as a colourless oil (80 mg, 88%, >94% pure on GC analysis). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.43 – 7.15 (m, 8H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 142.0, 139.2, 136.4, 135.5, 130.4, 129.9, 129.2, 128.9, 127.1, 125.8, 21.2, 20.6.

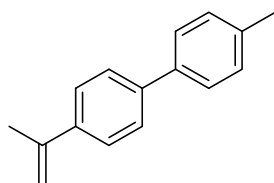
4-Methyl-4'-vinyl-1,1'-biphenyl²¹ (**3o**)

- (20) T. Hoshi, I. Saitoh, T. Nakazawa, T. Suzuki, J.-i. Sakai, H. Hagiwara, *J. Org. Chem.* **2009**, *74*, 4013.
 (21) Y. Liu, J. Wang, *Syn. Commun.* **2009**, *40*, 196.



3o was prepared from 1-chloro-4-vinylbenzene **1i** (70 mg, 0.5 mmol), *p*-tolylmagnesium bromide **2a** (0.64 mL, 0.94 M in THF, 0.6 mmol), Fe₂(O^tBu)₆ (7 mg, 0.025 mmol, 2.5 mol%), SIPr.HCl (32 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%), NaO^tBu (7 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%) and 2.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether) to afford **3o** as a white solid (77 mg, 79%, >95% pure on GC analysis). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.58 – 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.52 – 7.43 (m, 4H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 6.76 (dd, *J* = 17.6, 10.9 Hz, 1H), 5.78 (dd, *J* = 17.6, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 5.26 (dd, *J* = 10.9, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 140.7, 138.0, 137.2, 136.6, 136.5, 129.6, 127.1, 126.9, 126.7, 113.8, 21.2.

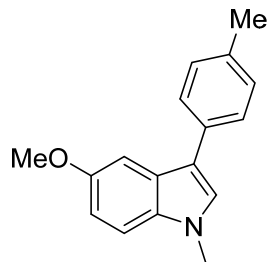
4-Methyl-4'-(prop-1-en-2-yl)-1,1'-biphenyl²² (**3p**)



3p was prepared from 1-chloro-4-(prop-1-en-2-yl)benzene **1j** (153 mg, 1 mmol), *p*-tolylmagnesium bromide **2a** (1.28 mL, 0.94 M in THF, 1.2 mmol), Fe₂(O^tBu)₆ (8 mg, 0.015 mmol, 1.5 mol%), SIPr.HCl (38 mg, 0.09 mmol, 9 mol%), NaO^tBu (9 mg, 0.09 mmol, 9 mol%) and 0.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether) to afford **3p** as a white solid (188 mg, 90%, >96% pure on GC analysis). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.48-7.38 (m, 6H), 7.16-7.13 (m, 2H), 5.33 (dd, *J* = 1.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.02-5.01 (p, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 2.10 (dd, *J* = 1.4, 0.8 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 142.9, 140.2, 140.0, 138.0, 137.1, 129.6, 126.9, 126.8, 126.0, 112.4, 21.87, 21.2.

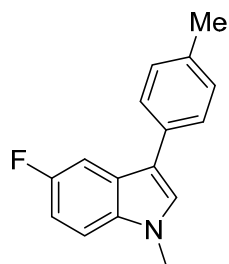
5-Methoxy-1-methyl-3-(*p*-tolyl)-1*H*-indole (**3s**)

(22) M. Jiang, Y. Wei, M. Shi, *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2010**, 3307.



3s was prepared from 3-chloro-5-methoxy-1-methyl-1*H*-indole **1m** (98 mg, 0.5 mmol), *p*-tolylmagnesium bromide (0.64 mL, 0.94 M in THF, 0.6 mmol), Fe₂(O^tBu)₆ (7 mg, 0.025 mmol, 2.5 mol%), SIPr.HCl (32 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%), NaO^tBu (7 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%) and 0.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (20% DCM/petroleum ether) to afford **3s** as a yellow solid (107 mg, 85%). Mp 91.6 °C – 92.8 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (t, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 3H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 6.97 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 154.6, 135.3, 133.0, 132.9, 129.6, 127.2, 127.0, 126.6, 116.4, 112.3, 110.3, 102.0, 56.2, 33.1, 21.2. IR ν_{max} (neat): 2945, 2918, 2832, 1619, 1489, 1423, 1217, 1208, 1088, 1035, 864, 791 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI+) *m/z* calc for C₁₇H₁₈NO⁺ [M+H]⁺ 252.1383, found 252.1378.

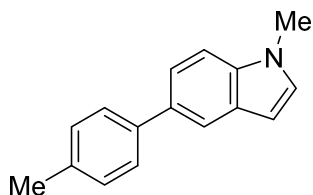
5-Fluoro-1-methyl-3-(*p*-tolyl)-1*H*-indole (**3t**)



3t was prepared from 3-chloro-5-fluoro-1-methyl-1*H*-indole **1n** (92 mg, 0.5 mmol), *p*-tolylmagnesium bromide **2a** (0.64 mL, 0.94 M in THF, 0.6 mmol), Fe₂(O^tBu)₆ (7 mg, 0.025 mmol, 2.5 mol%), SIPr.HCl (32 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%), NaO^tBu (7 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%) and 0.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (10% Et₂O/petroleum ether) to afford **3t** as a brown oil (110 mg, 92%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.56 (dd, *J* = 10.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.28 – 7.21 (m, 4H), 7.01 (td, *J* = 9.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 158.43 (d, *J* = 234.3 Hz), 135.6, 134.2, 132.3, 129.6, 127.9, 127.1, 126.6 (d, *J* = 9.8 Hz), 116.8 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz), 110.4 (d, *J* = 26.3 Hz), 110.1, 105.0 (d, *J* = 24.1 Hz), 33.2, 21.2.

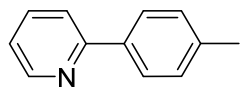
IR ν_{\max} (neat): 2920, 1622, 1555, 1488, 1191, 1129, 871, 792 cm^{-1} . HRMS (ESI+) m/z calc for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{FN}^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 240.1183, found 240.1192.

1-Methyl-5-(*p*-tolyl)-1*H*-indole (3u)



3u was prepared from 5-chloro-1-methyl-1*H*-indole **1o** (83 mg, 0.5 mmol), *p*-tolylmagnesium bromide **2a** (0.64 mL, 0.94 M in THF, 0.6 mmol), $\text{Fe}_2(\text{O}^t\text{Bu})_6$ (7 mg, 0.0125 mmol, 2.5 mol%), SIPr.HCl (32 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%), NaO^tBu (7 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%) and 0.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (0-5% Et_2O /petroleum ether) to afford **3u** as a white solid (89 mg, 80%). Mp 164.7 °C – 166.4 °C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, Methylene Chloride- d_2) δ 7.83 (dd, $J = 1.7, 0.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.61 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.48 (dd, $J = 8.5, 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.11 (d, $J = 3.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.53 (dd, $J = 3.1, 0.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.41 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, Methylene Chloride- d_2) δ 140.0, 136.7, 136.4, 132.9, 130.0, 129.8, 129.5, 127.4, 121.4, 119.2, 109.9, 101.5, 33.2, 21.2. IR ν_{\max} (neat): 2924, 1510, 1485, 1424, 1336, 1246, 1112, 889, 830, 799, 728 cm^{-1} . HRMS (ESI+) m/z calc for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 222.1277, found 222.1270.

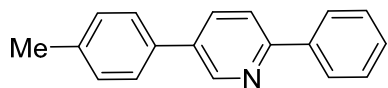
2-(*p*-Tolyl)pyridine¹⁹ (3v)



3v was prepared from 2-chloropyridine **1p** (113 mg, 1 mmol), *p*-tolylmagnesium bromide **2a** (1.28 mL, 0.94 M in THF, 1.2 mmol), $\text{Fe}_2(\text{O}^t\text{Bu})_6$ (8 mg, 0.015 mmol, 1.5 mol%), SIPr.HCl (38 mg, 0.09 mmol, 9 mol%), NaO^tBu (9 mg, 0.09 mmol, 9 mol%) and 0.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (0-5% ethyl acetate/petroleum ether) to afford **3v** as a colorless oil (104 mg, 62%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ 8.68 (td, $J = 4.8, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.93-7.90 (m, 2H), 7.69-7.68 (m, 2H), 7.29 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz,

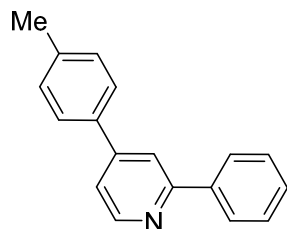
2H), 7.20-7.14 (m, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 157.4, 149.5, 138.9, 136.6, 129.4, 126.7, 121.7, 120.2, 21.2.

2-Phenyl-5-(*p*-tolyl)pyridine²³ (**3w**)



3w was prepared from 5-chloro-2-phenylpyridine **1q** (95 mg, 0.5 mmol), *p*-tolylmagnesium bromide **2a** (0.64 mL, 0.94 M in THF, 0.6 mmol), Fe₂(O^{*t*}Bu)₆ (7 mg, 0.025 mmol, 2.5 mol%), SIPr.HCl (32 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%), NaO^{*t*}Bu (7 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%) and 0.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (10% Et₂O/petroleum ether) to afford **3w** as a white solid (98 mg, 80%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.94 – 8.91 (m, 1H), 8.08 – 8.02 (m, 2H), 7.94 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.57 – 7.46 (m, 4H), 7.46 – 7.39 (m, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 156.0, 148.0, 139.1, 138.1, 135.0, 129.9, 129.0, 128.9, 126.9, 120.4, 21.3.

2-Phenyl-4-(*p*-tolyl)pyridine²⁴ (**3x**)



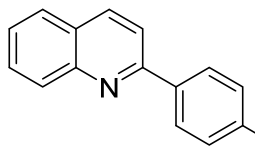
3x was prepared from 4-chloro-2-phenylpyridine **1r** (95 mg, 0.5 mmol), *p*-tolylmagnesium bromide **2a** (0.64 mL, 0.94 M in THF, 0.6 mmol), Fe₂(O^{*t*}Bu)₆ (7 mg, 0.025 mmol, 2.5 mol%), SIPr.HCl (32 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%), NaO^{*t*}Bu (7 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%) and 0.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (10% Et₂O/petroleum ether) to afford **3x** as a white solid (79 mg, 65%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.72 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 8.07 – 8.02 (m, 2H), 7.94 – 7.90 (m, 1H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.53 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.45-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H). ¹³C

(23) A. Gheorghe, B. a. Quiclet-Sire, X. Vila, S. Z. Zard, *Org. Lett.* **2005**, 7, 1653.

(24) X.-F. Duan, X.-H. Li, F.-Y. Li, X.-H. Huang, *Synthesis* **2004**, 2614.

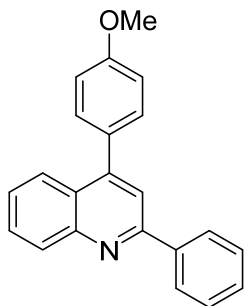
NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 158.2, 150.1, 149.3, 139.7, 139.3, 135.7, 129.9, 129.1, 128.8, 127.2, 127.0, 120.1, 118.6, 21.3.

2-(*p*-Tolyl)quinoline¹⁹ (**3y**)



3y was prepared from 2-chloroquinoline **1s** (82 mg, 0.5 mmol), *p*-tolylmagnesium bromide **2a** (0.64 mL, 0.94 M in THF, 0.6 mmol), Fe₂(O^{*t*}Bu)₆ (7 mg, 0.025 mmol, 2.5 mol%), SIPr.HCl (32 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%), NaO^{*t*}Bu (7 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%) and 0.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (10% Et₂O/petroleum ether) to afford **3y** as a white solid (69 mg, 63%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.19 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 8.10 – 8.06 (m, 2H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.74-7.70 (m, 1H), 7.54-7.50 (m, 1H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 157.4, 148.2, 139.6, 136.9, 136.8, 129.8, 129.7, 129.6, 127.6, 127.5, 127.2, 126.2, 119.0, 21.4.

4-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2-phenylquinoline²⁵ (**3z**)



3z was prepared from 4-chloro-2-phenylquinoline **1t** (120 mg, 0.5 mmol), (4-methoxyphenyl)magnesium bromide **2c** (1.5 mL, 0.4 M in THF, 0.6 mmol), Fe₂(O^{*t*}Bu)₆ (7 mg, 0.025 mmol, 2.5 mol%), SIPr.HCl (32 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%), NaO^{*t*}Bu (7 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%) and 0.5 mL THF. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (10% Et₂O/petroleum ether) to afford **3z** as a white solid (83 mg, 53%, >96% pure on NMR analysis). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.25 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.22 –

(25) K. Cao, F.-M. Zhang, Y.-Q. Tu, X.-T. Zhuo, C.-A. Fan, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2009**, *15*, 6332.

8.18 (m, 2H), 7.97 – 7.93 (m, 1H), 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.75-7.71 (m, 1H), 7.56 – 7.43 (m, 6H), 7.12 – 7.06 (m, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 160.0, 157.0, 149.0 (2C), 139.8, 130.9, 130.8, 130.2, 129.5, 129.4, 128.9, 127.7, 126.3, 126.1, 125.8, 119.4, 114.2, 55.5.

NMR Spectra

