### **Supplementary Information for**

### Novel Spiroketal-Based Diphosphites Ligands for Hydroformylation of Terminal and Internal Olefins

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#### 1. General methods

Unless otherwise noted, all manipulations involving air- or moisture-sensitive compounds were performed in a nitrogen-filled glovebox or using standard Schlenk techniques. Solvents were dried according to standard procedures. Melting points were measured on a RY-I apparatus and uncorrected. <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, <sup>31</sup>P, <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Mercury 300 MHz or 400 MHz spectrometer. Chemical shifts (δ values) were reported in ppm with internal TMS (<sup>1</sup>H NMR), CDCl<sub>3</sub> (<sup>13</sup>C NMR), external 85% H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (<sup>31</sup>P NMR), or external CF3CO2H (19F NMR) references, respectively. EI (70 eV) and ESI mass spectra were obtained on HP5989 A and Mariner LC-TOF spectrometers, respectively. HRMS (EI) and HRMS (ESI) were determined on Waters Micromass GCT Premier and APEX III 7.0 TESLA FTMS spectrometers, respectively. The IR spectra were measured on a NICOLET AVATAR 330 or a Bruker Tensor 27 spectrometer. GC analyses were measured on an Agilent 7820A system.



#### 2. Ligand synthesis and characterization

#### 2.1. Synthesis of the diphenols 2.

Diphenols 2a, were synthesized by following a literature procedure.<sup>1</sup>

#### 7,7'-Dichloro-2,2'-spirobi[chroman]-8,8'-diol (2b)



White solid, 32% yield, M.P. 189 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz):  $\delta$  6.90 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 5.16 (*br* s, 2H), 3.05-2.97 (m, 4H), 2.42-2.35 (m, 2H), 2.12-2.01 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz):  $\delta$  143.4, 139.4, 124.2, 121.9, 120.2, 113.7, 96.8, 30.4, 19.3 ppm. FTIR (neat): 3455, 2924, 2853, 1586, 1470, 1452, 1186, 1143, 943, 798 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI) m/z: Calcd. For C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>13</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>: 351.0196, Found: 351.0183 (M - H)<sup>-</sup>.

#### 6,6'-Di-tert-butyl-2,2'-spirobi[chroman]-8,8'-diol (2c)



White solid, 50% yield, M.P. 182 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  6.81 (s, 2H), 6.67 (s, 2H), 5.16 (s, 2H), 3.18-3.11 (m, 2H), 2.81-2.76 (m, 2H), 2.31-2.28 (m, 2H), 2.06-2.00 (m, 2H), 1.27 (s, 18H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  144.5, 143.9, 136.8, 1120.6, 116.7, 110.6, 97.3, 34.2, 31.4, 31.3, 20.9 ppm. FTIR (neat): 3027, 2950, 1676, 1597, 1495, 1448, 1432, 1327, 1221, 1181, 908 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI) m/z: Calcd. For C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>33</sub>O<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>: 397.2373, Found: 397.2366 (M + H<sup>+</sup>).

#### 2.2 Preparation and characterization of Ligand 3a-3h, general procedure.

 $PCl_3$  (4.0 mmol) was added dropwise to a solution of (1,1'-biphenyl)-2,2'-diol (2.0 mmol) in toluene (3 mL) at room temperature. The resulting mixture was then heated to reflux for 12 h. The solvent and the excessive  $PCl_3$  was removed under vacuum. A solution of diol **2** (0.3 mmol) in THF was then added dropwise to a solution of phosphorochloridites and triethylamine (4.0 mmol) in THF (1 mL) at 0 °C. After

stirring at room temperature for 12 h, the precipitated  $Et_3N$ ·HCl salt were filtered off, and the solvent of the filtrate was removed under vacuum. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 10/1) to afford the product ligand **3**.

#### 8,8'-Bis(dibenzo[d,f][1,3,2]dioxaphosphepin-6-yloxy)-2,2'-spirobi[chroman] (3a)



White solid, 50% yield, m.p. 90 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  7.43-7.39 (m, 4H), 7.35-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.26-7.14 (m, 9H), 6.91-6.85 (m, 5H), 6.79-6.76 (m, 2H), 3.67-3.58 (m, 2H), 2.82-2.77 (m, 2H), 2.36-2.32 (m, 2H), 2.09-2.01 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>31</sup>P NMR (161 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 146.6 ppm. FTIR (neat): 2958, 2866, 1593, 1473, 1438, 1180, 1013, 930, 902, 755 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI) m/z: Calcd. For C<sub>41</sub>H<sub>31</sub>O<sub>8</sub>P<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>: 713.1489, Found: 713.1480 (M + H<sup>+</sup>).

6,6'-(7,7'-Dichloro-2,2'-spirobi[chroman]-8,8'-diyl)bis(oxy)didibenzo[*d*,*f*][1,3,2]di oxaphosphepine (3b)



White solid, 86% yield, m.p. 105 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  7.43-7.21 (m, 14H), 6.96-6.84 (m, 6H), 3.42-3.34 (m, 2H), 3.06-3.00 (m, 2H), 2.42-2.37 (m, 2H), 2.07-2.00 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>31</sup>P NMR (161 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 145.9 ppm. FTIR (neat): 3064, 2976, 2898, 1589, 1497, 1471, 1435, 1244, 1182, 903, 766 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI) m/z: Calcd. For C<sub>41</sub>H<sub>29</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub>P<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>: 781.0709, Found: 781.0705 (M + H<sup>+</sup>).

6,6'-(6,6'-di-*tert*-butyl-2,2'-spirobi[chroman]-8,8'-diyl)bis(oxy)didibenzo[ $d_x f$ ][1,3,2]dioxaphosphepine (3c)



White solid, 81% yield, m.p. 95 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  7.46-7.26 (m, 8H), 7.22-7.17 (m, 6H), 6.89-6.86 (m, 4H), 6.79-6.77 (m, 2H), 3.71-3.62 (m, 2H), 2.83-2.77 (m, 2H), 2.39-2.34 (m, 2H), 2.15-2.05 (m, 2H), 1.16 (s, 18H) ppm. <sup>31</sup>P NMR (161 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 147.0 ppm. FTIR (neat): 2958, 2864, 1593, 1487, 1435, 1202, 1181, 904, 730 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI) m/z: Calcd. For C<sub>49</sub>H<sub>47</sub>O<sub>8</sub>P<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>: 825.2741, Found: 825.2749 (M + H<sup>+</sup>).

8,8'-Bis(2,10-difluorodibenzo[*d*,*f*][1,3,2]dioxaphosphepin-6-yloxy)-2,2'-spirobi[ch roman] (3d)



White solid, 89% yield, m.p. 109 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz):  $\delta$  7.12-7.00 (m, 8H), 6.90-6.74 (m, 8H), 6.60-6.55 (m, 2H), 3.55-3.49 (m, 2H), 2.82-2.75 (m, 2H), 2.36-2.30 (m, 2H), 2.09-2.01 (m, 2H), ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz): <sup>31</sup>P NMR (121 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 147.3 ppm. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -117.5, -117.9 ppm; FTIR (neat): 2983, 2891, 1588, 1473, 1431, 1182, 861, 769 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI) m/z: Calcd. For C<sub>41</sub>H<sub>27</sub>F<sub>4</sub>O<sub>8</sub>P<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>: 785.1112, Found: 785.1102 (M + H<sup>+</sup>).

8,8'-Bis(2,10-dimethoxydibenzo[*d*,*f*][1,3,2]dioxaphosphepin-6-yloxy)-2,2'-spirobi[ chroman] (3e)



White solid, 76% yield, M.P. 120 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz):  $\delta$  7.08 (d, J = 8.7

Hz, 2H), 6.95-6.85 (m, 10H), 6.82-6.74 (m, 6H), 3.81 (s, 6H), 3.78 (s, 6H), 3.69-3.58 (m, 2H), 2.84-2.77 (m, 2H), 2.38-2.32 (m, 2H), 2.12-2.01 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>31</sup>P NMR (121 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 146.7 ppm. FTIR (neat): 3057, 2952, 2836, 1595, 1480, 1436, 1201, 1034, 934, 904, 735 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI) m/z: Calcd. For  $C_{45}H_{39}O_{12}P_2^+$ : 833.1911, Found: 833.1910 (M + H<sup>+</sup>).

(5aR,7aR)-1,12-Bis(dibenzo[d,f][1,3,2]dioxaphosphepin-6-yloxy)-5,5a,6,7,7a,8-he xahydrocyclopenta[1,2-*b*:1,5-*b'*]dichromene (3f)



White solid, 95% yield, M.P. 92 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  7.39-7.35 (m, 4H), 7.22-7.14 (m, 8H), 7.02-6.78 (m, 10H), 3.17-3.12 (m, 2H), 2.73-2.63 (m, 4H), 2.03-1.98 (m, 2H), 1.56-1.48 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): <sup>31</sup>P NMR (121 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 148.5 ppm. FTIR (neat): 3059, 2950, 2836, 1590, 1497, 1472, 1435, 1244, 1204, 1182, 903, 766, 738 cm<sup>-1</sup>. EI-MS (70 eV) m/z: 408 (M<sup>+</sup>); HRMS (ESI) m/z: Calcd. For C<sub>43</sub>H<sub>33</sub>O<sub>8</sub>P<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>: 739.1645, Found: 739.1637 (M + H<sup>+</sup>).

(5aR,7aS,13ar)-1,12-Bis(dibenzo[d,f][1,3,2]dioxaphosphepin-6-yloxy)-5,5a,6,7,7a, 8-hexahydrocyclopenta[1,2-b:1,5-b']dichromene (3g)



White solid, 75% yield, M.P. 100 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  7.41-7.05 (m, 14H), 6.96-6.67 (m, 8H), 3.46-3.40 (m, 2H), 2.89-2.83 (m, 1H), 2.72-2.68 (m, 2H), 2.39-2.29 (m, 1H), 2.00-1.94 (m, 2H), 1.66-1.42 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>31</sup>P NMR (161 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 147.6 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 147.2 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz) ppm. FTIR (neat): 2982, 2893, 2836, 1590, 1473, 1434, 1244, 1203, 1182, 902, 766 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI) m/z: Calcd.

For  $C_{43}H_{33}O_8P_2^+$ : 739.1645, Found: 739.1639 (M + H<sup>+</sup>).

(5aR,8aS,14ar)-1,13-Bis(dibenzo[*d*,*f*][1,3,2]dioxaphosphepin-6-yloxy)-5a,6,7,8,8a, 9-hexahydro-5*H*-chromeno[3,2-d]xanthene (3h)



White solid, 77% yield, M.P. 110 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  7.40-7.35 (m, 4H), 7.31-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.22-7.11 (m, 8H), 6.86-6.83 (m, 6H), 6.77-6.74 (m, 2H), 3. 88 (dd, *J* = 16.4, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 13.6 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (dd, *J* = 16.0, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (d, *J* = 16.4, 1H), 2.24-2.20 (m, 1H), 2.03-1.97 (m, 1H), 1.81-1.57 (m, 4H), 1.44-1.40 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>31</sup>P NMR (161 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 147.8 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz), 147.1 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz) ppm. FTIR (neat): 3066, 2979, 2946, 1589, 1498, 1471, 1435, 1243, 1182, 901, 766 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI) m/z: Calcd. For C<sub>44</sub>H<sub>35</sub>O<sub>8</sub>P<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>: 753.1802, Found: 753.1795 (M + H<sup>+</sup>).

# 3. Hydroformylation of terminal and internal olefins using [Rh(acac)(CO)<sub>2</sub>]/3 as the catalyst

#### 3.1. Hydroformylation of 1-hexene with ligand 3a, typical procedure:

In a glove box, a glass vial with a magnetic stirring bar was charged with ligand **3a** (2.12 mg, 0.003 mmol) and Rh(acac)(CO)<sub>2</sub> (0.26 mg, 0.001mmol) in toluene (1.0 mL). The mixture was stirred for 5 min. 1-Hexene (1.24 mL, 10 mmol) was then added, followed by decane (97  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol) as the internal standard. The resulting mixture was transferred to an autoclave, which was purged with nitrogen three times and subsequently charged with H<sub>2</sub> (10 bar) and CO (5 bar). The autoclave was then heated to 90 °C (oil bath) and stirred thereby for 3 h. The autoclave was cooled in ice water, and the gas was carefully released in a well-ventilated hood. The reaction mixture was

immediately analyzed by GC to determine the turnover number (TON), percentage of isomerization, and regioselectivity (l/b ratio).

## **3.2.** Typical procedure for the regioselective isomerizing hydroformylation of (*Z*)-2-butene with ligand 3a.

In a glove box, an autoclave with a magnetic stirring bar was charged with ligand **3a** (2.12 mg, 0.003 mmol), Rh(acac)(CO)<sub>2</sub> (0.26 mg, 0.001mmol) and decane (97  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol) as internal standard in toluene (1.0 mL). The mixture was stirred for 5 min. The autoclave was cooled to 0 °C, purged with nitrogen for three times, and then charged with (*Z*)-2-butene (2.8 g, 50 mmol). The autoclave was charged with CO (5 bar) and H<sub>2</sub> (10 bar), and then heated to 110 °C (oil bath) for 15 h. The autoclave was cooled in ice water, and the gas was carefully released in a well-ventilated hood. The reaction mixture was immediately analyzed by GC to determine the turnover number (TON) and regioselectivity (*l/b* ratio).

#### References

1. Jia, X.; Wang, Z.; Xia, C.; Ding, K. Chem. Eur. J. 2012, 18, 15288.

4. NMR spectra of ligands 3a-3h

















































