# Mechanochemical Synthesis of (Hetero)Aryl Au(I) Complexes

**Supporting Information** 

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## **General Remarks**

<sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, <sup>19</sup>F and <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectra were recorded on an Agilent MR400-DD2 spectrometer (<sup>1</sup>H: 399.97 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C: 100.58 MHz, <sup>19</sup>F: 376.32 MHz, <sup>31</sup>P: 161.92 MHz) or on a Bruker Avance Neo (TXO) spectrometer (<sup>1</sup>H: 500.16 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C: 125.78 MHz) at room temperature (25 °C). <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C shifts were referenced indirectly to tetramethylsilane using the residual solvent peaks of DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> (<sup>1</sup>H: 2.50 ppm, <sup>13</sup>C: 39.52 ppm), C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> (<sup>1</sup>H: 7.16 ppm, <sup>13</sup>C: 128.06 ppm) and CDCl<sub>3</sub> (<sup>1</sup>H: 7.26 ppm, <sup>13</sup>C: 77.16 ppm). <sup>19</sup>F, and <sup>31</sup>P chemical shifts were referenced based on instrument calibration with an external standard (<sup>19</sup>F: CFCl<sub>3</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P: 85% H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (aq)). Unless otherwise stated, <sup>31</sup>P spectra was recorded with <sup>1</sup>H decoupling. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectra used for quantification was recorded with 30 s relaxation delay and 32 scans (or equivalent to afford S/N > 250:1). Chemical shifts are reported in ppm and coupling constants (J) in Hz. Peak multiplicities are abbreviated as follows: s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), appt (apparent triplet), q (quartet), hept (heptet) and m (multiplet).

Unless otherwise stated, all reagents were obtained commercially and used without further purification. Ethanol (99.5%, analytical grade) was purchased from Solveco. KOH (100%, Honeywell) was ground from pellets with mortar and pestle into a fine powder and used immediately. Deionized water was used for all reactions and purifications.

Phenyl-, 3-tolyl-, 4-methoxyphenyl-, 4-styrenyl-, and 3-thiophenylboronic acid were recrystallized from hot water and stored at -22 °C prior to use. 2-Methoxyphenyl-, 4-chlorophenyl-, 4-iodophenyl-, and 4-(trifluoromethyl)phenylboronic acid were recrystallized from hot water and a minimal amount of DMSO and stored at -22 °C prior to use. 9-Phenyl-9*H*-carbazol-3-yl boronic acid was suspended in a mixture of hot water and DMSO for approximately 1 h. The hot suspension was vacuum-filtered, the filtrate was allowed to cool to ambient temperature, and the precipitated boronic acid was collected by vacuum filtration and stored -22 °C prior to use.

3-Tolyl potassium 2-hydroxymethyl-2-methylpropane-1,3-diol trialkoxyborate was prepared according to a literature procedure.<sup>1</sup>

Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out using aluminium-backed plates coated with Silica gel 60 (0.20 mm, UV 254) and visualized under ultraviolet light ( $\lambda$  = 254 nm) or by thermal decomposition. Purification by column chromatography was performed using Silica gel 60 H (particle size 0.063-0.100 mm).

**High resolution mass spectrometry:** High-resolution electrospray ionisation mass spectrometry was performed on a Thermo Scientific LTQ Orbitrap velos pro instrument, or on a micrOTOF II Focus instrument (Bruker Daltonics, Coventry, UK). High-resolution nanospray ionisation was performed on a Synapt G2S instrument (Waters, Manchester, UK) using a Triversa chip based nanospray source (Advion Biosciences, Norwich, UK).

**X-ray crystallography:** Single crystals of **3d** and **3f** suitable for X-ray diffraction analysis were obtained by recrystallization from layered CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/pentane in a 5 mm diameter NMR tube at ambient temperature in the dark. All the measurements performed using graphite-monochromatized MoKα radiation at 170K using a Bruker D8 APEX-II equipped with a CCD camera. Data reduction was performed with SAINT<sup>2</sup> and CrysAlisPro (Rigaku OD). Absorption corrections for the area detector were performed using SADABS.<sup>3</sup> The structure was solved by direct methods and refined by full-matrix least-squares techniques against F2 using all data (SHELXT and SHELXL)<sup>4</sup> implemented in OLEX2.<sup>5</sup> All non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement parameters if not stated otherwise in the cif files. Hydrogen atoms constrained in geometric positions to their parent atoms.

**Milling details:** All milling reactions were conducted using an InSolido Techologies IST 636 High Energy Mixer Mill in Teflon<sup>™</sup> (PTFE) vessels (14 mL inner volume) from InSolido Techologies and using stainless steel balls (15 mm diameter) weighing 13.6 g (Figure S1).



Figure S1. InSolido Technologies IST 636 High Energy Mixer Mill (top); Teflon™ vessels and stainless steel milling ball (bottom).

# **Transmetalation from boronic acids**

# General procedure for spectroscopic yields in Table 1 and Scheme 1 (Procedure A1)

R<sub>3</sub>PAuCl (0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), boronic acid (0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and additives (KOH powder (0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) and H<sub>2</sub>O (0.10 mL) for entries in Scheme 1) were added to a 14 mL Teflon<sup>™</sup> vessel together with one stainless steel ball (15 mm diameter, 13.6 g). The vessel was sealed and subjected to milling for 1 h at 30 Hz. The reaction mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>\* (2 x 5 mL); the combined extractions were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and the aqueous layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>\* (2 x 10 mL). The organic layers were combined and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Solids were removed by vacuum filtration, and the filtrate was concentrated to dryness *in vacuo*. Product yield were determined by <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectroscopy (d1 = 30 s; S/N > 250:1) based on ratios of signal integration for starting R<sub>3</sub>PAuCl and product peaks.

 $*CH_2Cl_2$  was used only to ensure full recovery of  $R_3PAu(I)$  species for accurate quantification as part of the method development. It was substituted by EtOAc in subsequent experiments for actual product isolation (*vide infra*).

### General procedure for isolated yields in Scheme 1 (Procedure A2)

R<sub>3</sub>PAuCl (0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and boronic acid (0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) were added to a 14 mL Teflon<sup>™</sup> vessel. KOH was added as a stock solution (1.25 M (aq), 0.12 mL, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) together with one stainless steel ball (15 mm diameter, 13.6 g). The vessel was sealed and subjected to milling for 1 h at 30 Hz. The reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc (4 x 5 mL). The stainless steel ball was briefly sonicated in EtOAc (5 mL) to extract adsorbed material. The combined organic fractions were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (2 x 10 mL). The organic layers were combined and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Solids were removed by vacuum filtration and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. The resulting residue was re-dissolved in a minimal amount of EtOAc and filtered through a tightly packed plug of Celite. Unless otherwise stated, the filtrate was concentrated to dryness *in vacuo* to afford analytically pure product.

# Synthesis and characterization of aryl complexes 2a-i,k,l (Scheme 1)

### 3-Tolyl(triphenylphosphine)gold(I) (2a)<sup>1</sup>



Procedure A1 afforded **2a** in >99% spectroscopic yield.

Procedure A2 afforded isolated **2a** as a colourless solid (50 mg, 93%). Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

### 2-Methoxyphenyl(triphenylphosphine)gold(I) (2b)<sup>6</sup>



Procedure A1 afforded **2b** in >99% spectroscopic yield.

Procedure A2 afforded isolated **2b** as a colourless solid (48 mg, 86%). Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

### 2-Methylphenyl(tricyclohexylphosphine)gold(I) (2c)<sup>7</sup>



A modified version of procedure A1 using 2.0 equiv. KOH powder afforded **2c** in 90% spectroscopic yield.

A modified version of Procedure A2 using 3.0 equiv. KOH (2.5 M (aq), 0.12 mL) with milling at 25 Hz afforded **2c** as a colourless solid (51 mg, 86%). Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

<sup>1</sup>*H* and <sup>31</sup>*P* NMR characterization data for spectroscopic yield determination in CDCl<sub>3</sub>: <sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.46–7.38 (m, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (dd, *J* = 7.4, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (dd, *J* = 7.4, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 2.54 (s, 3H), 2.12–1.95 (m, 8H), 1.92–1.82 (m, 7H), 1.80–1.68 (m, 3H), 1.60–1.49 (m, 5H), 1.39–1.17 (m, 10H); <sup>31</sup>**P** NMR (162 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 57.4.

### 4-Methoxyphenyl(triphenylphosphine)gold(I) (2d)<sup>8</sup>



Procedure A1 afforded **2d** in 92% spectroscopic yield.

A modified version of Procedure A2 using 1.4 equiv. Ar-B(OH)<sub>2</sub> afforded **2d** as a colourless solid (55 mg, 97%). Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

### Phenyl(triphenylphosphine)gold(I) (2e)<sup>9</sup>



Procedure A1 afforded **2e** in >99% spectroscopic yield.

Procedure A2 afforded isolated **2e** as a colourless solid (50 mg, 94%). Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

<sup>1</sup>*H* and <sup>31</sup>*P* NMR characterization data for spectroscopic yield determination in CDCl<sub>3</sub>: <sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.7–7.5 (m, 8H), 7.5–7.4 (m, 9H), 7.3 (appt, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.1 (m, 1H); <sup>31</sup>**P** NMR (162 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  43.5.

### 4-Chlorophenyl(triphenylphosphine)gold(I) (2f)<sup>1</sup>



Procedure A1 afforded **2f** in 86% spectroscopic yield.

Procedure A2 afforded isolated **2f** as a colourless solid (55 mg, 97%). Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

### 4-lodophenyl(triphenylphosphine)gold(l) (2g)<sup>1</sup>



Procedure A1 afforded 2g in 83% spectroscopic yield.

An isolated sample of **2g** was prepared by a modified version of Procedure A2: 2.5 equiv. KOH (2.5 M (aq), 0.10 mL) was used and milling was conducted at 25 Hz for 2 h. After Celite plug filtration, volatiles were removed *in vacuo*, and the resulting solid residue was washed with a minimal amount of EtOAc. Residual solvent was removed *in vacuo* to afford **2g** as a colourless solid (58 mg, 87%). Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

4-Vinylphenyl(triethylphosphine)gold(I) (2h)<sup>10</sup>



A modified version of procedure A1 using 2.0 equiv. KOH powder afforded **2h** in 93% spectroscopic yield.

An isolated sample of **2h** was prepared by a modified version of Procedure A2: 3.0 equiv. KOH (2.5 M (aq), 0.10 mL) were used and milling was conducted at 25 Hz. After Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> drying, filtration and evaporation, the residue was dissolved in a minimal amount of pentane and filtered through a tightly packed Celite plug and solvent removed *in vacuo* to afford **2h** as a brown oil (39 mg, 93%) Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

<sup>1</sup>*H* and <sup>31</sup>*P* NMR characterization data for spectroscopic yield determination in CDCl<sub>3</sub>: <sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.45 (dd, *J*<sub>*H*-*H*</sub> = 7.7, *J*<sub>*P*-*H*</sub> = 4.3 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, *J*<sub>*H*-*H*</sub> = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.67 (dd, *J*<sub>*H*-*H*</sub> = 17.6, 10.9 Hz, 1H), 5.67 (d, *J*<sub>*H*-*H*</sub> = 17.6 Hz, 1H), 5.09 (d, *J*<sub>*H*-*H*</sub> = 10.9 Hz, 1H), 1.82 (dq, *J*<sub>*P*-*H*</sub> = 7.9 Hz, *J*<sub>*H*-*H*</sub> = 7.9 Hz, 6H), 1.23 (dt, *J*<sub>*P*-*H*</sub> = 16.2, *J*<sub>*H*-*H*</sub> = 8.7 Hz, 9H); <sup>31</sup>**P** NMR (162 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  40.7.

### [(4-Trifluoromethyl)phenyl](triphenylphosphine)gold(I) (2i)<sup>9</sup>



Procedure A1 afforded 2i in >99% spectroscopic yield.

An isolated sample of **2i** was prepared by a modified version of Procedure A2: after Celite plug filtration and evaporation, the resulting solid residue was washed with pentane (4 x 1 mL) to afford **2i** as a brown solid (51 mg, 84%). Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

<sup>1</sup>*H* and <sup>31</sup>*P* NMR characterization data for spectroscopic yield determination in CDCl<sub>3</sub>: <sup>1</sup>*H* NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.7–7.6 (m, 2H), 7.6–7.6 (m, 6H), 7.6–7.4 (m, 11H); <sup>31</sup>*P* NMR (162 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  43.2.

3-Nitrophenyl(triphenylphosphine)gold(I) (2j)<sup>11</sup>



Procedure A1 afforded **2j** in 23% spectroscopic yield. Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

### 3-Thiophenyl(triphenylphosphine)gold(I) (2k)<sup>1</sup>



Procedure A1 afforded **2k** in >99% spectroscopic yield.

Procedure A2 afforded isolated **2k** as a colourless solid (52 mg, 96%). Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

### (9-Phenyl-9H-carbazol-3yl)(triphenylphosphine)gold(I) (2I)<sup>1</sup>



A modified version of procedure A1 using 2.0 equiv. KOH powder afforded **2I** in >99% spectroscopic yield.

An isolated sample of **2I** was prepared by a modified version of Procedure A2: 1.4 equiv. Ar-B(OH)<sub>2</sub> and 3.0 equiv. KOH (2.5 M (aq), 0.10 mL) were used and milling was conducted at 36 Hz. After Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> drying, filtration and evaporation, the resulting solid residue was washed 3x with a minimal amount of EtOAc. Residual solvent was removed *in vacuo* to afford **2I** as a colourless solid (44 mg, 63%). Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

### (3-Pyridyl)(triphenylphosphine)gold(I) (2m)



Procedure A1 afforded 2m in trace amounts (spectroscopic).

### [(1-Vinyl)phenyl](triphenylphosphine)gold(I) (2n)<sup>1</sup>



Procedure A1 afforded **2n** in 22% spectroscopic yield. Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

# **C–H Auration of (hetero)arenes**

# General procedure for spectroscopic yields in Table 2 (Procedure B1)

R<sub>3</sub>PAuCl (0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), arene and base were added to a 14 mL Teflon<sup>™</sup> vessel together with one stainless steel ball (15 mm diameter, 13.6 g). The vessel was sealed and subjected to milling for 1 h at 30 Hz. The reaction mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>\* (2 x 5 mL); the combined extractions were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and the aqueous layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>\* (2 x 10 mL). The organic layers were combined and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Solids were removed by vacuum filtration, and the filtrate was concentrated to dryness *in vacuo*. Product yield was determined by <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectroscopy (d1 = 30 s; S/N > 250:1) based on ratios of signal integration for starting R<sub>3</sub>PAuCl and product peaks.

 $*CH_2Cl_2$  was used only to ensure full recovery of  $R_3PAu(I)$  species for accurate quantification as part of the method development. It was substituted by EtOAc in subsequent experiments for actual product isolation (*vide infra*).

# General procedure for isolated yields in Schemes 2 and 3 (Procedure B2)

R<sub>3</sub>PAuCl (0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), arene (4.0 equiv.) and base (4.0 equiv.; KO<sup>t</sup>Bu powder for entries in Scheme 2, KOH powder for entries in Scheme 3) were added to a 14 mL Teflon<sup>™</sup> vessel together with one stainless steel ball (15 mm diameter, 13.6 g). The vessel was sealed and subjected to milling for 1 h at 30 Hz. The reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc (4 x 5 mL); the combined extractions were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (2 x 10 mL). The organic layers were combined and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Solids were removed by vacuum filtration and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Additional purification was performed as necessary (see individual entries for details).

# Synthesis and characterization of haloaryl complexes **3a–g** (Scheme 2)

### 2,6-Dichlorophenyl(triethylphosphine)gold(I) (3a)<sup>12</sup>



A modified version of Procedure B2 with milling conducted for 1.5 h afforded **3a** as a colourless oil (42 mg, 92%) after filtration of the dried EtOAc extractions through a short silica gel pad. Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

### 2,6-Dibromophenyl(triethylphosphine)gold(I) (3b)<sup>12</sup>



A modified version of Procedure B2 with milling conducted for 1.5 h afforded **3b** as a colourless oil (50 mg, 91%) after filtration of the dried EtOAc extractions through a short silica gel pad. Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

### (2,3-dibromo-5-chloropyridin-4-yl)(triethylphosphine)gold(I) (3c)



An isolated sample of **3c** was prepared by a modified version of Procedure B2: after Celite plug filtration and evaporation, the resulting residue was washed 3x with a minimal amount of pentane. Residual solvent was removed *in vacuo* to afford **3c** as a yellow solid (41 mg, 70%). <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.19 (d,  $J_{H-P} = 1.9$  Hz, 1H), 1.87 (dq,  $J_{H-P} = 9.5$ ,  $J_{H-H}$  7.6 Hz, 6H), 1.28 (dt,  $J_{H-P} = 18.1$ ,  $J_{H-H} = 7.6$  Hz, 9H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.8 (d,  $J_{C-P} = 4$  Hz), 141.0 (d,  $J_{C-P} = 7$  Hz), 139.6 (d,  $J_{C-P} = 4$  Hz), 133.8 (d,  $J_{C-P} = 4$  Hz), 18.2 (d,  $J_{C-P} = 32$  Hz), 9.3, AuC not observed; <sup>31</sup>**P NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  36.9; **HRMS** (ES+) calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>17</sub>AuBr<sub>2</sub>CINP [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 583.8819 found 583.8837

### 2,6-Dichlorophenyl(tri-tert-butylphosphine)gold(I) (3d)



A modified version of Procedure B2 with milling conducted for 2 h at 36 Hz afforded **3d** as a colourless solid (50 mg, 91%). <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  7.35 (dd,  $J_{H-H}$  = 7.9,  $J_{H-P}$  = 1.5 Hz, 2H), 6.64

(dd,  $J_{H-H}$  = 7.9, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 1.21 (d,  $J_{H-P}$  = 12.9 Hz, 27H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (101 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>) δ 174.6 (d, J = 100 Hz), 144.3 (d, J = 4 Hz), 127.7, 126.3 (d, J = 4 Hz), 39.0 (d, J = 16 Hz), 32.2 (d, J = 5 Hz); <sup>31</sup>**P NMR** (162 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>) δ 90.4; **HRMS** (ES+) calcd. for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>57</sub>Au<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub> [M+AuP<sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>: 943.2644 found 943.2673

### Pentafluorophenyl(tri-tert-butylphosphine)gold(I) (3e)<sup>12</sup>



Procedure B2 afforded isolated **3e** as a colourless microcrystalline solid (50 mg, 89%). Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

A repeat of this procedure on 0.5 mmol scale afforded 230 mg (81%) of product.

### (3-chloro-5-fluoropyridin-4-yl)(tri-tert-butylphosphine)gold(I) (3f)



An isolated sample of **3f** was prepared by a modified version of Procedure B2: after filtration and concentration of the dried EtOAc extractions, silica gel chromatography (pentane/EtOAc 10:1) afforded **3f** as a colourless solid (46 mg, 90%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.33 (dd, *J*<sub>H-F</sub> = 2.6 Hz, J<sub>H-H</sub> = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.23 (dd, *J*<sub>H-F</sub> = 2.6 Hz, *J*<sub>H-H</sub> = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 1.56 (d, *J*<sub>H-P</sub> = 13.2 Hz, 27H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.23 (dd, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 95, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 58 Hz), 163.97 (dd, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 241, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 3 Hz), 142.94 (dd, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 3 Hz), 141.45 (dd, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 4 Hz), 133.31 (dd, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 34, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 3 Hz), 39.37 (d, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 16 Hz), 32.45 (d, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 5 Hz); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -104.08 (ddd, *J*<sub>F-P</sub> = 6.2 Hz, *J*<sub>F-H</sub> = 2.6, 2.6 Hz); <sup>31</sup>P NMR (162 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  91.2 (d, *J*<sub>P-F</sub> = 6.2 Hz); HRMS (ES+) calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>30</sub>AuClFNP [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 530.1448 found 530.1425

### 2,4,6-trifluorophenyl(tri-tert-butylphosphine)gold(I) (3g)<sup>12</sup>



Procedure B2 afforded isolated **3g** as a colourless microcrystalline solid (48 mg, 91%). Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

# Synthesis and characterization of heteroaryl complexes 4a– e (Scheme 3)

### Benzothiazol-2-yl(tri-tert-butylphosphine)gold(I) (4a)<sup>12</sup>



An isolated sample of **4a** was prepared by a modified version of Procedure B2: after filtration and concentration of the dried EtOAc extractions, silica gel chromatography (pentane/EtOAc 4:1) afforded **4a** as a colourless solid (45 mg, 85%). Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

### Benzoxazol-2-yl(tri-tert-butylphosphine)gold(I) (4b)<sup>12</sup>



Procedure B1 using 4.0 equiv. KOH afforded **4b** in 47% spectroscopic yield with milling conducted at 30 Hz and in 93% yield at 36 Hz.

An isolated sample of **4a** was prepared by a modified version of Procedure B2: milling was conducted at 36 Hz. After filtration and concentration of the dried EtOAc extractions, silica gel chromatography (pentane/EtOAc 1:1 + 1% NEt<sub>3</sub>) afforded **4b** as a brown solid (44 mg, 85%). Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

### Thiophen-2-yl(tri-tert-butylphosphine)gold(I) (4c)



A modified version of Procedure B2 using 4.0 equiv. KO<sup>t</sup>Bu and with milling conducted at 36 Hz afforded **4c** as a colourless solid (42 mg, 88%). <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.60 (dd, *J*<sub>*H*-*H*</sub> = 4.7, *J*<sub>*H*-*P*</sub> = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (ddd, *J*<sub>*H*-*H*</sub> = 4.8, 3.2 Hz, *J*<sub>*H*-*P*</sub> = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (dd, *J*<sub>*H*-*H*</sub> = *J*<sub>*H*-*P*</sub> = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 1.55 (d, *J*<sub>*H*-*P*</sub> = 13.0 Hz, 27H); <sup>1</sup>**H**{<sup>31</sup>**P**} **NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.60 (d, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (dd, *J* = 4.7, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 1.55 (s, 27H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  132.4 (d, *J* = 10 Hz), 127.1, 126.5 (d, *J* = 14 Hz), 38.9 (d, *J* = 16 Hz), 32.4, Au*C* not observed; <sup>31</sup>**P NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  92.1; **HRMS** (ES+) calcd. for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>31</sub>AuOPS [M+O+H]<sup>+</sup>: 499.1493 found 499.1467

### 5-Bromothiophen-2-yl(tri-tert-butylphosphine)gold(I) (4d)<sup>12</sup>



An isolated sample of **4d** was prepared by a modified version of Procedure B2: after filtration and concentration of the dried EtOAc extractions, the resulting residue was extracted with pentane (3 x 5 mL). Volatiles were removed *in vacuo* to afford **4d** as a colourless oil (46 mg, 82%). Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

#### 2-Bromothiazol-4-yl(tri-tert-butylphosphine)gold(I) (4e)<sup>12</sup>



An isolated sample of **4e** was prepared by a modified version of Procedure B2: milling was conducted at 36 Hz. After filtration and concentration of the dried EtOAc extractions, silica gel chromatography (30% EtOAc + 1% NEt<sub>3</sub> in pentane) afforded **4e** as a yellow solid (25 mg, 44%). Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

# Synthesis and characterization of NHC complexes 5a–e (Scheme 4)

[N,N-Bis(2,6-diisopropylphenyl)imidazol-2-yl](2,4,6-trifluorophenyl)gold(I) (5a)<sup>13</sup>



Procedure B2 using IPrAuCl (0.1 mmol) and 4.0 equiv. KO<sup>t</sup>Bu afforded **5a** as a colourless solid (59 mg, 82%). Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

### [1,3-Bis(2,6-diisopropylphenyl)imidazol-2-yl](4-methoxyphenyl)gold(I) (5b)<sup>14</sup>



A modified version of Procedure A2 using IPrAuCl (0.1 mmol) and 1.4 equiv. Ar-B(OH)<sub>2</sub> afforded **2b** as a colourless solid (64 mg, 93%). Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

### [1,3-Bis(2,6-diisopropylphenyl)imidazol-2-yl](3-thiophenyl)gold(l) (5c)<sup>1</sup>



Procedure A2 using IPrAuCl (0.1 mmol) afforded isolated **5c** as a beige solid (65 mg, 98%). Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

[1,3-Bis(2,6-diisopropylphenyl)imidazol-2-yl](4-iodophenyl)gold(l) (5d)<sup>14</sup>



Procedure A2 using IPrAuCl (0.1 mmol) afforded isolated **5d** as a colourless solid (67 mg, 96%). Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

### [1,3-Bis(2,6-diisopropylphenyl)imidazol-2-yl](1-pyrenyl)gold(I) (5e)<sup>15</sup>



An isolated sample of **2j** was prepared by a modified version of Procedure A2: IPrAuCl (0.1 mmol), KOH powder (0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) and 0.1 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O were used. After Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> drying, filtration and evaporation, silica gel chromatography (pentane/EtOAc 10:1) afforded **5e** as a colourless solid (24 mg, 31%). Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

# Synthesis and Characterization of complexes in Figure 2

1,3,7-trimethyl-2,6-dioxo-2,3,6,7-tetrahydropurin-8-yl(tri-tert-butylphosphine)gold(I) (S1)<sup>12</sup>



An isolated sample of **S1** was prepared by a modified version of Procedure B2 using 4.0 equiv. KOH: after EtOAc extraction, the combined organic layers were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL) and brine (20 mL). The aqueous layers were extracted with EtOAc (2 x 10 mL) and the combined extractions were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Solids were removed by vacuum filtration, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. The resulting residue was washed 3x with a minimal amount of ice cold EtOAc. Residual solvent was removed *in vacuo* to afford **S1** as a colourless solid (39 mg, 67%). Spectral data accord with previously reported values.

### (2,6-difluoro-3-(2-(3-(trifluoromethyl)phenoxy)nicotinamido)phenyl)(triethylphosphine)gold(I) (S2)



An isolated sample of **S2** was prepared by a modified version of Procedure B2: 1.5 equiv. arene and 4.0 equiv. KO<sup>r</sup>Bu were used. After filtering and concentrating the dried EtOAc extractions, silica gel chromatography (pentane/EtOAc 10:1) afforded **S2** as a colourless solid (47 mg, 66%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.90 (br s, 1H), 8.65 (dd, *J*<sub>H-H</sub> = 7.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.22–8.14 (m, 2H), 7.55–7.45 (m, 3H), 7.43–7.37 (m, 1H), 7.20–7.15 (m, 1H), 6.86–6.79 (m, 1H), 1.80 (dq, *J*<sub>H-P</sub> = 9.4 Hz, *J*<sub>H-H</sub> = 7.7 Hz, 6H), 1.18 (dt, *J*<sub>H-P</sub> = 17.9 Hz, *J*<sub>H-H</sub> = 7.7 Hz, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.52 (ddd, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 230, 24 Hz, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 4 Hz), 160.5, 159.2, 152.6, 149.9, 142.7, 132.2 (d, *J* = 33 Hz), 130.1, 125.4, 122.3 (q, *J* = 4 Hz), 120.2, 120.0 (d, *J* = 8 Hz), 119.2 (q, *J* = 4 Hz), 117.8, 109.9 (dt, *J* = 32, 3 Hz), 18.0 (d, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 32 Hz), 9.0, (AuC not observed); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -62.6 (s, 2F), –92.4 to –92.6 (m, 1F), –104.6 to – 104.8 (m, 1F); <sup>31</sup>P NMR (162 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  40.2 (dd, *J*<sub>P-F</sub> = 8.3 Hz); HRMS (Nanospray) calcd. for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>26</sub>AuF<sub>5</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>P [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 709.1318, found 709.1326.

(2,6-dichloro-3-(1-((4-chlorobenzyl)oxy)-2-(1*H*-imidazol-1-yl)ethyl)phenyl)(triethylphosphine)-gold(I) (S3)



An isolated sample of **S3** was prepared by a modified version of Procedure B1: 0.1 mmol arene, 1.5 equiv. (Et<sub>3</sub>P)AuCl and 4.0 equiv. KO<sup>t</sup>Bu were used. The reaction mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 x 5 mL); the combined extractions were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and the aqueous layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 x 10 mL). The organic layers were combined and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After filtering and concentrating the dried CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> extractions, silica gel chromatography (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 20:1) afforded **S3** as a colourless semi-solid (40 mg, 57%). <sup>1</sup>H **NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.54 (s, 1H), 7.31 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.28–7.26 (m, 2H), 7.11–7.04 (m, 4H), 6.96 (s, 1H), 4.96 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 4.45 (d, *J* = 11.9 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (dd, *J* = 14.5, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 4.17 (d, *J* = 11.9 Hz, 1H), 3.98 (dd, *J* = 14.5, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 1.90 (dq, *J*<sub>P-H</sub> = 9.2, *J*<sub>H-H</sub> = 7.7 Hz, 6H), 1.32 (dt, *J*<sub>P-H</sub> = 18.0, *J*<sub>H-H</sub> = 7.7 Hz, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C **NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  174.5 (d, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 4 Hz), 129.0, 129.0, 128.6, 127.0 (d, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 4 Hz), 125.4, 119.8, 78.5, 70.4, 51.8, 18.2 (d, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 31 Hz), 9.1; <sup>31</sup>P **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  38.8; **HRMS** (ES+) calcd. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>30</sub>AuCl<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OP [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 695.0821, found 695.0848

# C–H auration mechanistic studies (Schemes 5–7)

### Experimental procedure for Scheme 5

Haloarene/heteroarene competition experiments were conducted according to a modified version of Procedure B1 using 0.1 mmol (<sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>3</sub>P)AuCl, 2.0 equiv. haloarene, 2.0 equiv. heteroarene, and 4.0 equiv. KO<sup>t</sup>Bu. Product ratios were determined from <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) signal relative integrations.

# Experimental procedure for Scheme 6

Mechanochemical aryl exchange experiments were conducted according to a modified version of Procedure B1 using 0.1 mmol (<sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>3</sub>P)AuAr<sup>1</sup>, 1.0 equiv. Ar<sup>1</sup>H, 2.0 equiv. Ar<sup>2</sup>H, and 4.0 equiv. KO<sup>t</sup>Bu.

Determination of the final ratios between complexes **3e** and **4a** by <sup>31</sup>P NMR was complicated in these cases by the formation of a side-product whose signal overlapped with that of **3e**. Complementary <sup>19</sup>F NMR analysis revealed the presence of additional fluoroaryl-containing species besides **3e**; these were subsequently identified as the known<sup>16</sup> compound 3-(*tert*-butyloxy)-1,2,4,5tetrafluorobenzene and the novel C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>4</sub>(O<sup>t</sup>Bu) complex **S4** (Figure S2; see below for preparation and characterization of an authentic sample). The integration area of the overlapping <sup>31</sup>P signals for **3e** and **S4** was thus deconvoluted by applying the ratio of the corresponding <sup>19</sup>F NMR signals, and the <sup>31</sup>P peak area for **3e** so resolved was compared to that of **4a** to give the true **3e**:**4a** ratio.



-108 -110 -112 -114 -116 -118 -120 -122 -124 -126 -128 -130 -132 -134 -136 -138 -140 -142 -144 -146 -148 -150 -152 -154 -156 -158 -160 -162 -164 f1 (cpm)

Figure S2: Comparison of the <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum for the aryl exchange experiment starting with **3e** with those for isolated **S4** and **3e**. Peaks in the top spectrum marked by an asterisk (\*) were assigned to the additional side-product 3-(*tert*-butyloxy)-1,2,4,5-tetrafluorobenzene by comparison with previously reported chemical shifts.

### Preparation and characterization of S4



(4-(tert-butoxy)-2,3,5,6-tetrafluorophenyl)(tri-tert-butylphosphine)gold(I) (S4)

Complex **3e** (57 mg, 0.1 mmol) and KO<sup>t</sup>Bu (112 mg, 1.0 mmol, 10 equiv.) were added to a 14 mL Teflon<sup>TM</sup> vessel together with one stainless steel ball. The vessel was sealed and subjected to milling for 2 h at 30 Hz. The reaction mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 x 5 mL); the combined extractions were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and the aqueous layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 x 10 mL). The organic layers were combined and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Solids were removed by vacuum filtration, and the filtrate was concentrated to dryness *in vacuo*. The product **S4** was purified via preparative TLC (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/pentane 1:100) and isolated as a colourless solid (11 mg, 16%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 1.57 (d, J<sub>H-P</sub> = 13.2 Hz, 27H), 1.37 (dd, J<sub>H-F</sub> = 1.1 Hz, 1.1 Hz, 9H); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –118.5 to –118.7 (m), –151.9 to –152.1 (m); <sup>31</sup>P NMR (162 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  92.2 (p, J = 6.9 Hz).

### Procedure for solution-phase aryl exchange experiments (Scheme S1)

A 1-dram vial was charged with ( ${}^{t}Bu_{3}P$ )AuAr<sup>1</sup>,(0.1 mmol), Ar<sup>2</sup>H (4.0 equiv.), KO<sup>t</sup>Bu (4.0 equiv.), and DMF (0.3 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 15 h, diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5.0 mL) and filtered through a Celite plug. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure, and product ratios were determined from <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) signal relative integrations.



Scheme S1. Solution-phase aryl exchange experiments.

## Procedure for Scheme 7

The possible intermediacy of (<sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>3</sub>P)AuO<sup>t</sup>Bu (**6**) in the formation of C–H aurated complexes was examined by a modified version of Procedure B1: (<sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>3</sub>P)AuCl (43 mg, 0.10 mmol) and KO<sup>t</sup>Bu (13 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) were subjected to milling for 1 h at 30 Hz. Arene (4.0 equiv.) was subsequently added, and milling was continued for another 1 h. After workup, product yields were determined by <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectroscopy.

In a separate experiment, the reaction mixture resulting from milling (<sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>3</sub>P)AuCl (43 mg, 0.10 mmol) with KO<sup>t</sup>Bu (22 mg, 0.20 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) was suspended in C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> and filtered through a Celite plug. The components of the filtrate solution were subsequently analysed by NMR spectroscopy, with the major observed signals consistent with those expected for **6** (Figure S3): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  1.78 (s, 9H), 1.08 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 27H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  71.7 (d, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 2 Hz), 38.0 (d, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 21 Hz), 36.9 (d, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 2 Hz), 31.5 (d, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 4 Hz); <sup>31</sup>P NMR (162 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  81.43; **1D DOSY** (400 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>) D = 7.6 x 10<sup>-6</sup> cm<sup>2</sup>/sec (25 °C, array size = 15, diffusion delay = 100 ms, diffusion gradient length = 2 ms), estimated using MestreNova software to correspond to a molecular weight of 461 g/mol (cf. expected MW = 472 g/mol). HRMS (Nanospray) calcd. for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>37</sub>AuOP [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 473.2248, found 473.2251.



Figure S3: Comparison of the <sup>1</sup>H NMR (top) and <sup>31</sup>P NMR (bottom) spectra of **6** (blue) and (<sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>3</sub>P)AuC (red). The peak in the <sup>1</sup>H spectrum marked by an asterisk (\*) was assigned to residual KO<sup>t</sup>Bu.



Figure S4: DOSY spectrum (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>) of reaction mixture from milling (<sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>3</sub>P)AuCl with KO<sup>t</sup>Bu.

# **Computational details**

All calculations were performed using Gaussian09. Geometries were optimized at the DFT level of theory with the hybrid PBE0<sup>17</sup> exchange-correlation functional and the TZVP<sup>18</sup> basis set applied to all non-metal atoms and the SDD<sup>19</sup> basis set applied to Au. Solvent-phase (benzene) enthalpy and free energy values were calculated using the CPCM<sup>20,21</sup> solvation model. Geometry optimizations were performed using an ultrafine integration grid without imposed symmetry or other constraints. Vibrational frequencies were calculated to show that the optimized structures were minima on the potential energy surface.



**Scheme S2.** Calculated (DFT) solvent-phase (benzene) free energy ( $\Delta G$ , 298K) values for exchange between haloaryl and heteroaryl groups of Me<sub>3</sub>PAu(I) complexes.

	PBE0/TZVP/SDD		
Molecule	$\Delta H_{298K}$ (Hartree)	$\Delta G_{298K}$ (Hartree)	
pentafluorobenzene	-727.876320	-727.919975	
S5	-1323.825866	-1323.894296	
benzothiazole	-722.180483	-722.218725	
S6	-1318.124365	-1318.188373	
benzoxazole	-399.281864	-399.318691	
S7	-995.227449	-995.290226	
1,3,5-trifluorobenzene	-529.517694	-529.556910	
<b>S8</b>	-1125.461400	-1125.525603	

### Table S1. Total energies of calculated species

Optimized PBE0/TZVP/SDD Cartesian coordinates (Å)



### pentafluorobenzene

01			
С	-1.18766	-0.96288	0.00000
С	-1.20269	0.42276	0.00000
С	0.0000	-1.66708	0.00000
С	0.0000	1.11273	0.0000
С	1.20269	0.42276	0.00000
С	1.18766	-0.96288	0.0000
F	-2.34866	-1.61224	0.00000
F	-2.34843	1.09143	0.00000
F	0.0000	2.43683	0.0000
F	2.34843	1.09143	0.0000
F	2.34866	-1.61224	0.0000
Н	0.00000	-2.74931	0.0000



1.86532	-1.17050	0.00092
3.25067	-1.19569	-0.00058
1.12683	-0.00085	0.00167
3.94673	0.00129	-0.00140
3.24889	1.19725	-0.00059
1.86363	1.16990	0.00085
1.24370	-2.36319	0.00145
3.92304	-2.34759	-0.00137
5.27692	0.00228	-0.00290
3.91950	2.35018	-0.00135
1.24010	2.36160	0.00140
-0.93561	-0.00131	0.00192
-3.25391	0.00055	-0.00152
-4.00300	1.64061	-0.30910
-3.66982	2.01497	-1.27777
-3.67464	2.33901	0.46155
-5.09308	1.57358	-0.29963
-4.01520	-0.55275	1.56706
-3.69018	-1.56998	1.78862
-5.10471	-0.52588	1.49522
-3.68792	0.09848	2.37833
-4.00658	-1.08188	-1.26951
-3.68003	-0.76105	-2.25939
-5.09647	-1.03902	-1.21366
-3.67440	-2.10878	-1.11285
	1.86532 $3.25067$ $1.12683$ $3.94673$ $3.24889$ $1.86363$ $1.24370$ $3.92304$ $5.27692$ $3.91950$ $1.24010$ $-0.93561$ $-3.25391$ $-4.00300$ $-3.66982$ $-3.67464$ $-5.09308$ $-4.01520$ $-3.69018$ $-5.10471$ $-3.68792$ $-4.00658$ $-3.68003$ $-5.09647$ $-3.67440$	1.86532 $-1.17050$ $3.25067$ $-1.19569$ $1.12683$ $-0.00085$ $3.94673$ $0.00129$ $3.24889$ $1.19725$ $1.86363$ $1.16990$ $1.24370$ $-2.36319$ $3.92304$ $-2.34759$ $5.27692$ $0.00228$ $3.91950$ $2.35018$ $1.24010$ $2.36160$ $-0.93561$ $-0.00131$ $-3.25391$ $0.00055$ $-4.00300$ $1.64061$ $-3.66982$ $2.01497$ $-3.67464$ $2.33901$ $-5.09308$ $1.57358$ $-4.01520$ $-0.55275$ $-3.69018$ $-1.56998$ $-5.10471$ $-0.52588$ $-3.68792$ $0.09848$ $-4.00658$ $-1.08188$ $-3.68003$ $-0.76105$ $-5.09647$ $-1.03902$ $-3.67440$ $-2.10878$



benzothiazole

01			
С	2.36714	-0.83833	0.0000
С	2.37636	0.56134	0.0000
С	1.19662	1.28364	0.0000
С	0.00000	0.57532	0.0000
С	-0.02405	-0.83245	0.0000
С	1.17824	-1.54052	0.0000
Ν	-1.28210	-1.40205	0.0000
С	-2.18730	-0.49130	0.0000
S	-1.63831	1.17190	0.0000
Н	1.15661	-2.62395	0.0000
H	3.30818	-1.37620	0.0000
H	3.32287	1.08977	0.0000
H	1.20818	2.36711	0.0000
Н	-3.25028	-0.69890	0.0000



01			
С	5.54928	1.17464	0.00114
С	5.82073	-0.19786	0.00101
С	4.79261	-1.12499	0.00040
С	3.48204	-0.65788	-0.00002
С	3.19562	0.72109	0.00010
С	4.24771	1.63907	0.00073
N	1.85573	1.05358	-0.00022
С	1.07854	0.01608	-0.00068
S	1.97792	-1.53121	-0.00066
Н	4.02542	2.70010	0.00084
Н	6.37202	1.88103	0.00161
Н	6.84917	-0.54178	0.00137
Н	5.00666	-2.18763	0.00034
Au	-0.96207	0.02756	-0.00077
P	-3.29087	0.07579	0.00117
С	-4.08193	-1.40177	-0.73293
С	-4.04132	0.20417	1.66502
Н	-5.13138	0.22244	1.59916
Н	-3.69083	1.11649	2.14918
Н	-3.72794	-0.64805	2.26928
Н	-5.16999	-1.31344	-0.69836
Н	-3.77162	-2.29048	-0.18205
Н	-3.75832	-1.50777	-1.76905
С	-4.01364	1.47615	-0.92815
Н	-3.66718	2.41544	-0.49529
Н	-5.10477	1.44021	-0.89609
Н	-3.67907	1.43114	-1.96531



### benzoxazole

01			
С	2.09560	0.69244	0.00000
С	2.08102	-0.70794	0.0000
С	0.89268	-1.42607	0.00000
С	-0.25935	-0.66703	0.00000
С	-0.27283	0.72633	0.0000
С	0.92389	1.43265	0.00000
N	-1.59757	1.15525	0.0000
С	-2.27349	0.06573	0.00000
0	-1.55871	-1.08843	0.00000
Н	0.93212	2.51590	0.00000
H	3.04978	1.20668	0.00000
H	3.02209	-1.24566	0.00000
Н	0.87111	-2.50861	0.0000
Н	-3.34761	-0.04433	0.0000



01			
С	5.65057	0.62302	-0.00050
С	5.59659	-0.77541	-0.00012
С	4.38419	-1.45523	0.00027
С	3.24909	-0.66866	0.00029
С	3.27746	0.72413	-0.00001
С	4.49622	1.39308	-0.00044
Ν	1.97004	1.18962	0.00026
С	1.21396	0.13427	0.00050
0	1.94663	-1.05072	0.00059
Н	4.53573	2.47620	-0.00070
Н	6.61828	1.11236	-0.00084
Н	6.52122	-1.34177	-0.00014
Н	4.33314	-2.53741	0.00057
Au	-0.82032	0.03287	0.0001
Ρ	-3.14590	-0.03601	0.00016
С	-3.86298	-1.43259	-0.93907
С	-3.89714	-0.17924	1.66228
Н	-4.98696	-0.20216	1.59412
Н	-3.58868	0.67080	2.27207
Н	-3.54357	-1.09299	2.14140
Н	-4.95415	-1.40151	-0.90394
Н	-3.51197	-2.37364	-0.51396
Н	-3.53140	-1.37804	-1.97667
С	-3.93934	1.44455	-0.72402
Н	-3.61195	1.56091	-1.75782
Н	-3.63332	2.32925	-0.16442
Н	-5.02722	1.35256	-0.69441



1,3,5-fluorobenzene

01			
С	-0.16107	1.35034	0.0000
С	-1.29029	0.55293	0.0000
С	1.12404	0.84097	0.0000
С	-1.08892	-0.81470	0.0000
С	0.16629	-1.39390	0.0000
С	1.25001	-0.53566	0.0000
F	-0.31943	2.67813	0.0000
Н	-2.28447	0.97899	0.0000
F	-2.15969	-1.61566	0.0000
Н	0.29454	-2.46789	0.0000
F	2.47906	-1.06246	0.0000
Н	1.99007	1.48897	0.0000



01			
С	2.22118	-1.15891	0.00034
С	3.60562	-1.20888	-0.00076
С	1.45993	-0.00060	0.00096
С	4.26955	0.00122	-0.00137
С	3.60409	1.21051	-0.00073
С	2.21974	1.15870	0.00029
F	1.58298	-2.35069	0.00087
Н	4.14129	-2.14911	-0.00131
F	5.61353	0.00208	-0.00251
Н	4.13853	2.15136	-0.00112
F	1.57992	2.34963	0.00075
Au	-0.59764	-0.00103	0.00149
Р	-2.91731	0.00047	-0.00103
С	-3.67219	1.63902	-0.30741
H	-3.34051	2.01463	-1.27613
Н	-3.34425	2.33795	0.46297
Н	-4.76221	1.57020	-0.29697
С	-3.68278	-0.55298	1.56648
Н	-3.35786	-1.57018	1.78851
Н	-4.77230	-0.52626	1.49388
H	-3.35601	0.09779	2.37837
С	-3.67551	-1.08071	-1.26802
Н	-3.34965	-0.76019	-2.25827
Н	-4.76535	-1.03703	-1.21092
Н	-3.34387	-2.10799	-1.11244

# **Crystallographic data**

Table 1. Crystal data and structure refinement for 3d.		
CCDC No.	2007939	
Empirical formula	$C_{18}H_{30}AuCl_2P$	
Formula weight	545.25	
Temperature/K	170	
Crystal system	triclinic	
Space group	P-1	
a/Å	8.63460(10)	
b/Å	11.49630(10)	
c/Å	11.8740(2)	
α/°	65.9950(10)	
β/°	87.9480(10)	
$\gamma/^{\circ}$	71.8100(10)	
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	1017.27(2)	
Z	2	
$\rho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.780	
$\mu/\text{mm}^{-1}$	7.568	
F(000)	532.0	
Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>	$0.1 \times 0.06 \times 0.03$	
Radiation	MoKa ( $\lambda = 0.71073$ )	
$2\Theta$ range for data collection/°	4.102 to 69.31	
Index ranges	$-13 \le h \le 13, -18 \le k \le 18, -18 \le l \le 18$	
Reflections collected	14472	
Independent reflections	14472 [ $R_{int} = ?, R_{sigma} = 0.0100$ ]	
Data/restraints/parameters	14472/0/209	
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.127	
Final R indexes $[I \ge 2\sigma(I)]$	$R_1 = 0.0538, wR_2 = 0.1384$	
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0552, wR_2 = 0.1395$	
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup>	2.54/-2.47	

NOTE: The data collected for this crystal were integrated as a twin (0 0 1 reciprocal lattice) with two components 0.7458(7) : 0.2542(7) using CrysAlisPro 1.171.39.46 (Rigaku OD, 2018).



ORTEP plot (50% probability ellipsoids) of **3d**. Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [°]: Au1-P1 2.2948(15), Au1-C1 2.039(6), C1-Au1-P1 178.73(19).

ructure refinement for 31.
2007940
C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>29</sub> AuClFNP
529.80
170
monoclinic
$P2_1/n$
8.6986(10)
18.586(2)
12.1084(13)
90
90.975(2)
90
1957.3(4)
4
1.798
7.740
1032.0
0.12  imes 0.1  imes 0.1
MoKα ( $\lambda$ = 0.71073)
24.016 to 61.41
$-12 \le h \le 11, -26 \le k \le 26, -17 \le l \le 17$
28991
$6049 [R_{int} = 0.0621, R_{sigma} = 0.0583]$
6049/3/208
1.067
$R_1 = 0.0322, wR_2 = 0.0719$
$R_1 = 0.0441,  wR_2 = 0.0745$
1.60/-1.60

#### Table 2 C teh let d structure refinement for 3f



ORTEP plot (50% probability ellipsoids) of 3f. Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [°]:Au1-P1 2.3007(10), Au1-C1 2.045(4), C1-Au1-P1 178.49(12).

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## NMR Spectra

Transmetalation from boronic acids (Scheme 1)

















ppm 







0 -2 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -90 ppm

Title Acquisition Date Solvent Nucleus Spectrometer Frequenct PPh3 CF3 2i	2XG-20-4-filter_PHOSPH 2020-03-31T18:20:23 c6d6 f4 50 1.0000 31P y 161.92	Kanalikinin	al ta kalende ander		<b>Mange</b> y Janga Yang Jang	i jere cejonijanej	- 42.96	1.4.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1	(historial)		er dage skiendelin	10 Mart Providencia	stante girlege verdet	ujan guljan - ku	*****
00 95 90 Title Acquisition Date Solvent Number of Scans Relaxation Delay Nucleus Spectrometer Frequence <b>PPh</b> <sub>3</sub> <b>Au</b> <b>CF</b> <sub>3</sub> <b>2i</b>	85 80 ZXG-20-4-filter2_PROTO 2020-04-03T11:37:07 cdcl3 32 48 1.0000 1H y 399.97	75 - 2'76 CDCC3		60	55	50 ppm	45	40	35	30	25	20		10	5

).0 9.5 9.0 8.5 8.0 7.5 7.0 6.5 6.0 5.5 5.0 4.5 4.0 3.5 3.0 2.5 2.0 1.5 1.0 0.5 0 ppm

			17		
Title	ZXG-20-4-filter-CDCI3_PHOSPHORUS_01		4	-	
Acquisition Date	2020-04-01T16:55:59		I		
Solvent	cdcl3				
Number of Scans	64				
Receiver Gain	50				
Relevation Delay	1 0000				
Nucleus	31P				
Sportromotor Fraguon	51F				
PPh <sub>3</sub> Au CF <sub>3</sub> 2i					
n (p) (n) fran ywang din pri / syn (nin ywy mig neg mig neg fran y	ŧġŗċŧġŗĸĸĸŧĸĨŧĸŗġĸĸĬdię fraŭti frydjing frydant frydant filo vij bal jelant fijanting filo die filo die filo d	nalalmakalahati ana mananga panangana sa	المحمدية والمتقدين والمحمد والمحمد والمحمد والمحمد والمحمد	langan di filipinsi nini inanakili oligi kaomansi peja	, nin provinski politika na svetske veda svetske veda svetske stare stare stare stare stare stare stare stare s

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00	95	90	85	80	75	70	65	60	55	50	45	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	
										ppm										





## C-H Auration of haloarenes (Scheme 2)





f1 (ppm) 



Title Acquisition Date Solvent Number of Scans Receiver Gain Relaxation Delay Nucleus Spectrometer Frequet	ZXG-26-2-filter-2_PHOSPHORUS_01 2020-04-20T12:34:44 cdcl3 64 50 1.0000 31P icy 161.92		- 36.87	
Br Br	Au Cl 3c			

									1				1						
100	95	90	85	80	75	70	65	60	55	50	45	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5
100	55	50	00	00	, 5	, 0	05	00	55	50	.0	10	55	50	25	20	15	10	9
										maa									
										P.P									









 $\bigwedge^{92.09}_{92.05}$ 



0 -100 f1 (ppm) -10 -20 -30 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -120 -130 -140 -150 -170 -180 -190 -2 -40 -110 -160

Title Solvent Number of Scans Receiver Gain Relaxation Delay	LP-Au-J-halopyr-CDCI3_PHOSPHORUS_01	
Spectrometer Frequence Nucleus	cy 161.92 31P	
t-Bu P Au Cl	Bu F	
3f		
ĸĸĸĔĸĸĔĸĬĔġĔĸĸĔĬĔŔĸĸĸĸĔġĔŢĔġĹġŗĸĸĔĬġĔŢĬ		₫₩₩₩₩₽₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩

f1 (ppm) . . . . 

(Jpg)





f1 (ppm) 

## C-H Auration of heteroarenes (Scheme 3)







Title Solvent Number of Scans Receiver Gain Relaxation Delay Acquisition Date Spectrometer Frequent Nucleus	FI-326-03-carbon-CDCl3_CARBON_0 cdcl3 512 30 1.0000 2019-10-18T14:30:15 cy 100.57 13C	(122.62) (122.62) (122.25) (122.25) (128.61)		77.48 77.16 78.85		<ul> <li>38.15</li> <li>38.99</li> <li></li></ul>	
'Bu ₽ Au 4	Bu /Bu S _/ c						
00 190 180 Title Solvent Number of Scans Receiver Gain Relaxation Delay Acquisition Date Spectrometer Frequent Nucleus	FI-326-03-longd1-CDCI3_PHOSPHOR cdcI3 64 50 1.0000 2019-10-17711:23:13 cy 161.92 31P Bu Bu Bu	140 130 120 us_01	110 100 90 f1 (ppm) ☆ ↓	80 70	60 50	40 30	20 10

## f1 (ppm)




Au NHC complexes (Scheme 4)



0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -2 f1 (ppm)









## Au(I) complexes of bioactive scaffolds (Figure 2)





f1 (ppm)



f1 (ppm) 





190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 f1 (ppm)

## Mechanistic investigation (Scheme 7 and SI)





190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 f1 (ppm)



## $\bigwedge_{\substack{92.24\\92.16\\92.12\\92.07\\92.07}$

Title	FI-393-02-F2prepp-long-CDCl3_PHOSPHORUS_01
Solvent	cdcl3
Number of Scans	4096
Receiver Gain	50
Relaxation Delay	1.0000
Acquisition Date	2020-05-06T03:46:47
Spectrometer Frequency	161.92
Nucleus	31P



110 100 f1 (ppm) 

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