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Supporting Information

Planar Chiral Palladacycle Precatalysts for

Asymmetric Synthesis

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Index

1. Experimental procedures	
General information	S3
Preparation of (S, S_p) - 7	\$3
Preparation of (S, S_p) - 5a	S5
Preparation of (S,S _p)- 5b	S6
Preparation of (S,S _p)- 6b	S7
Preparation of (S, S_p) - 4	S8
Preparation of (<i>S</i> , <i>S</i> , <i>S</i> _p , <i>S</i> _p)- 8b	S9
Preparation of (<i>S,S,S</i> _p ,S _p)- 8a	S10
2. Phosphine insertion ³¹ P NMR studies	S11-17
Phosphine reference compounds	S11
Phosphine insertion studies	S13
3. Methods of Pd(0) Generation and Catalysis	S18-21
Catalysis experiments	S18
Final catalytic experimental procedure	S20
4. ¹ H and ¹³ C spectra of new compounds	S22-48
5. X-ray Crystallography	S49-50
6. HPLC traces	S51-54
7. References	S55

1. Experimental procedures

General information

Tetrahydrofuran were distilled over sodium and benzophenone ketyl and dichloromethane distilled over calcium hydride. All reactions were carried out under an inert atmosphere of either nitrogen or argon. Silica gel (60 Å pore size, 40 - 63 µm technical grade) was used for chromatography. All starting materials not commercially available are specifically referenced. Alkyllithium was not titrated prior to use. TMEDA was dried with 4 Å MS. ShimadzuTM LC-20AB liquid chromatogram with a SPD-M20A detector used for HPLC. All protons and carbons were assigned using 2D NMR techniques including HSQC, HMBC, NOESY and COESY. Carbons and hydrogens denoted with a prime (*e.g.* $C^{2'}$) indicate the most deshielded carbon/hydrogen when there are two carbons/hydrogens with the same number on the structure. Carbons denoted with two superscripts (*e.g.* $C^{2/3}$) indicate where two environments cannot be readily distinguished from one another. For ¹H NMR ap = apparent (e.g. aptd = apparent triple doublet).

Preparation of (S,S_p)-7



(*S*)-**1**¹ (0.059 g, 0.2 mmol) was added to a flame dried Schlenk tube under an atmosphere of argon and dissolved in dry THF (5 mL). The subsequent orange solution was cooled to -78 °C and stirred for 5 mins after which *n*-butyl lithium (2.5 M in hexanes) (0.11 mL, 0.28 mmol) was slowly added. After stirring for 2 hours the mixture was warmed to 0 °C and chlorodiphenylphosphine oxide (0.076 mL, 0.4 mmol) was added and the reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature. After an additional 15 mins, the reaction was diluted with diethyl ether and then quenched with saturated sodium hydrogen carbonate solution. The organics were separated with H₂O, washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄ and the solvent removed *in vacuo* giving a crude product containing a 2:1 mixture of diastereoisomers. The diastereoisomers were separated by column chromatography (SiO₂, 2

% MeOH in Et₂O) yielding the desired product as a yellow brown solid (0.0255 g, 26%): mp 197 - 198 °C; R_f 0.34 (2 % MeOH in Et₂O); $[\alpha]_D^{19.4^\circ C}$ = +114 (c = 0.2, chloroform); HRMS (ES) [M+H]⁺ C₂₈H₂₈FeNO₂P+H⁺, Calc. 498.1280, Obs. 498.1263; v_{max} (film)/cm⁻¹ 3080, 3062, 2963, 2930, 2871, 1648 (C=N), 1120 (P=O); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 - 7.71 (2H, m, Ph-H^{13'}), 7.69 - 7.64 (2H, m, Ph-H¹³), 7.50 - 7.46 (1H, m, Ph-H^{15'}), 7.45 - 7.36 (5H, m, Ph-H^{14',14+15}), 5.06 (1H, dt, J = 2.6 + 1.4 Hz, Cp-H⁵), 4.49 (5H, s, CpH), 4.45 (1H, dd, J = 4.4, 2.4 Hz, Cp-H⁴), 4.22 - 4.18 (1H, m, CHH), 3.93 (1H, dd, J = 3.9, 2.5 Hz, Cp-H³), 3.72 (1H, td, J = 9.3, 6.3 Hz, CH), 3.13 (1H, t, J = 8.8 Hz, CHH), 1.53 - 1.47 (1H, m, ⁱPr-H), 0.81 (3H, d, J = 6.8 Hz, ⁱPr-CH₃), 0.61 (3H, d, J = 6.8 Hz, ⁱPr-CH₃); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.57 (C⁷), 134.86 (d, J = 107 Hz, C^{12'}), 134.82 (d, J = 110.4 Hz, C¹²), 131.63 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, C^{13'}), 131.35 (d, J = 9.7 Hz, C¹³), 131.26 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, C^{15'}), 130.97 (d, J = 2.9 Hz, C¹⁵), 128.23 (d, J = 4.3 Hz, C^{14'}), 128.13 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, C¹⁴), 78.54 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, C³), 75.72 (d, J = 109.9 Hz, C²), 74.49 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, C⁶), 73.47 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, C⁵), 72.41 (C⁹), 71.54 (d, J = 10.9 Hz, C⁴), 71.37 (C¹), 70.08 (C⁸), 32.30 (C¹⁰), 19.16 (C^{11'}), 17.97 (C¹¹); ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 26.4 (P(O)Ph₂).

 (S,S_p) -**7** was also obtained by the oxidation of (S,S_p) -**3**¹ (0.0591 g, 0.123 mmol) with H₂O₂ (2 mL) at room temperature for 1 h after which the reaction was quenched with 10 % sodium thiosulphate solution. The reaction mixture was washed with CH₂Cl₂ and dried with Na₂SO₄. Purification by column chromatography (SiO₂, 1 % MeOH in Et₂O) yielded a yellow brown solid as a single diastereoisomer (0.0248 g, 41 %). Matches data reported above.

Preparation of (S,S_p)-5a



 $(S,S_{\rm P})$ -**2a**² (0.025 g, 0.029 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (0.015 g, 0.057 mmol) were added to a flame dried Schlenk tube and dissolved in dichloromethane (1 mL) and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* yielding a deep orange solid (0.034 g, 83 %): mp 136 - 137 °C (under argon), v_{max} (film)/cm⁻¹ 3052, 2961, 2925, 2871, 1615 (C=N), 1582 (C=O), 1499; $[\alpha]_{\rm P}^{23.5^{\circ}C}$ = -572 (*c* = 0.55, MeCN); MS (EI) [M]⁺ C₃₆H₃₆FeNO₃PPd⁺, Calc. 723.1, Obs. 723.1; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, MeCN-d³) δ 7.78 - 7.72, (6H, m, Ph-H¹³), 7.52 - 7.48 (3H, m, Ph-H¹⁵), 7.46 - 7.41 (6H, m, Ph-H¹⁴), 4.63 (1H, t, *J* = 9.5 Hz, CHH), 4.59 - 4.55 (1H, m, CHH), 4.45 (1H, d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, Cp-H⁵), 4.07 (1H, ddd, *J* 10.0, 7.5, 4.2 Hz, CH), 4.02 (1H, t, *J* = 2.2 Hz, Cp-H⁴), 3.90 (5H, s, CpH), 3.30 (1H, d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, Cp-H³), 2.34 - 2.26 (1H, m, 'Pr(H)), 1.25 (3H, s, OAc), 1.03 (3H, d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 'Pr(Me)), 0.88 (3H, d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 'Pr(Me)); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, MeCN-d³) δ 179.8 (C⁷), 176.3 (C¹⁶), 135.7 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, C¹³), 132.1 (d, *J* = 50.3 Hz, C¹²), 131.5 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, C¹⁵), 129.1 (d, *J* = 10.7 Hz, C¹⁴), 90.2 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, C²), 77.3 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, C³), 73.8 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, C⁶), 73.1 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, C⁸), 70.9 (C¹), 69.7 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, C⁴), 68.3 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, C⁹), 65.6 (C⁵), 29.3 (C¹⁰), 23.9 (C¹⁷), 19.3 (C^{11'}), 15.7 (C¹¹); ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, MeCN-d³) δ 36.48 (PPh₃).

Note: Performing the NMR in CDCl₃ showed a slow conversion into the chloride (see Figure S7). It was not possible to obtain the HRMS due to a mixture of isotopologues and weak monoisotopic peaks.

Preparation of (S,S_p)-5b



(*S*,*S*_P)-**2b**³ (0.025 g, 0.029 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (0.015 g, 0.057 mmol) were added to a flame dried Schlenk tube and dissolved in dichloromethane (1 mL) and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and purification by column chromatography (SiO₂, 20 % EtOAc in hexane) yielded a deep orange solid (0.038 g, 95 %): *R*_f 0.21 (20 % EtOAc in hexane); mp decomposed ~230 °C (under argon), *v*_{max} (film)/cm⁻¹ 3077, 3052, 2958, 2925, 2867, 1618 (C=N), 1503; $[\alpha]_D^{22.8^{\circ}C} = -825$ (*c* = 0.26, MeCN); HRMS (AS) [M-Cl]⁺ C₃₄H₃₃FeNOPPd⁺, Calc. 664.0699, Obs. 664.0711; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, MeCN-d³) δ 7.78 - 7.72 (6H, m, Ph-H¹³), 7.53 - 7.49 (3H, m, Ph-H¹⁵), 7.48 - 7.43 (6H, m, Ph-H¹⁴), 4.67 - 4.57 (2H, m, *CH*H + CH*H*), 4.47 (1H, d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, Cp-H⁵), 4.18 (1H, ddd, *J* = 10.2, 6.3, 4.2 Hz, CH), 4.02 (1H, t, *J* = 2.1 Hz, Cp-H⁴), 3.97 (5H, s, CpH), 3.04 (1H, brs, Cp-H³), 2.87 (1H, brs, ⁱPr(H)), 1.06 (3H, d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, ⁱPr(Me)), 0.92 (3H, d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, ⁱPr(Me)); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, MeCN-d³) δ 179.9 (C⁷), 135.6 (d, *J* = 11.7 Hz, C¹³), 132.9 (d, *J* = 51.3 Hz, C¹²), 131.6 (C¹⁵), 129.1 (d, *J* = 10.8 Hz, C¹⁴), 94.6 (C²), 75.9 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, C³), 74.2 (C⁶), 73.3 (C⁸), 70.9 (C¹), 69.4 (C⁴), 68.0 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, C⁹), 65.6 (C⁵), 29.4 (C¹⁰), 19.2 (C^{11'}), 15.5 (C¹¹); ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, MeCN-d³) δ 37.49 (PPh₃).

Preparation of (*S*,*S*_p)-6b



 (S, S_p) -**2b**³ (0.025 g, 0.029 mmol) and diphenylphosphine (9.92 µl, 0.057 mmol) were added to a flame dried Schlenk tube and dissolved in dichloromethane (1 mL) and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. The solvent was removed in vacuo yielding a deep orange solid (0.025 g, 73 %): mp 110 - 112 °C (under argon), v_{max} (film)/cm⁻¹ 3077, 3055, 2961, 2929, 2871, 1615 (C=N), 1503; $[\alpha]_D^{22.8^{\circ}C} = -882$ (c = 0.20, MeCN); MS (EI) $[M]^+ C_{28}H_{29}CIFeNOPPd^+$, Calc. 623.0, Obs. 623.0; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, MeCN-d³) δ 8.05 (2H, dd, J = 12.0, 7.4 Hz, Ph-H^{13'}), 7.88 (2H, dd, J = 12.7, 7.3 Hz, Ph-H¹³), 7.58 - 7.49 (4H, m, Ph-H^{14',15',15}), 7.47 (2H, td, J = 7.3, 2.0 Hz, Ph-H¹⁴), 6.56 (1H, d, J = 388.9 Hz, PH), 4.64 (1H, dd, J = 9.0, 6.2 Hz, CHH), 4.57 (1H, t, J = 9.7 Hz, CHH), 4.54 (1H, d, J = 2.2 Hz, Cp-H⁵), 4.45 (1H, brs, Cp-H³), 4.37 (1H, t, J = 2.4 Hz, Cp-H⁴), 4.17 - 4.12 (1H, m, CH), 4.07 (5H, s, CpH), 2.90 (1H, brs, ⁱPr(H)), 1.04 (3H, d, J = 5.9 Hz, ^{*i*}Pr(Me)), 0.90 (3H, d, J = 7.0 Hz, ^{*i*}Pr(Me)); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, MeCN-d³) δ 179.9 (C⁷), 135.2 (d, J = 11.1 Hz, C^{13'}), 134.8 (d, J = 11.4 Hz, C¹³), 132.2 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, C^{15'}), 132.0 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, C^{15}), 129.9 (d, J = 10.8 Hz, $C^{14'}$), 129.7 (d, J = 11.0 Hz, C^{14}), 129.5 (d, J = 51.2 Hz, $C^{12'}$), 129.5 (d, J = 52.8 Hz, C¹²), 91.6 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, C²), 74.8 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, C⁶), 73.8 (d, J = 15.7 Hz, C³), 73.2 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, C⁸), 70.7 (C¹), 70.2 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, C⁴), 68.0 (d, J = 3.4 Hz, C⁹), 66.8 (C⁵), 29.2 (C¹⁰), 19.1 (C¹¹), 15.1 (C¹¹); ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, MeCN-d³) δ 8.44 (HPPh₂).

Note: It was not possible to obtain the HRMS due to a mixture of isotopologues and weak monoisotopic peaks.

Preparation of (S,S_p)-4



 (S, S_p) -**3**¹ (0.087 g, 0.18 mmol), tris(dibenzylideneacetone)dipalladium(0) (0.076 g, 0.08 mmol) and maleic anhydride (0.024 g, 0.24 mmol) were added to a flame dried Schlenk tube and dissolved in toluene (15 mL). The resulting deep purple solution was stirred vigorously overnight resulting in the formation of a dark suspension. The reaction was filtered through Celite[™] using toluene as the eluent and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. Purification by column chromatography (SiO₂, 40 % EtOAc in hexane) yielded an orange solid (0.07 g, 61 %): mp decomposed ~200 °C (under argon), v_{max} (film)/cm⁻¹ 3056, 3016, 2960, 2923, 2873, 1790 (C=O), 1723 (C=O), 1626 (C=N); $[\alpha]_D^{20.5^{\circ}C} = -538$ (c = 0.46, CHCl₃); HRMS (AS) [M+H]⁺ C₃₂H₃₀FeNO₄PPd+H⁺, Calc. 686.0389, Obs. 686.0389; Major isomer ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.80 (2H, ddd, J = 11.6, 7.8, 1.5 Hz, Ph-H^{15'}), 7.56 - 7.46 (3H, m, Ph-H^{16',17'}), 7.33 - 7.27 (3H, m, Ph-H^{16,17}), 7.08 (2H, ddd, J = 11.0, 6.6, 3.2 Hz, Ph-H¹⁵), 5.04 (1H, brs, Cp-H⁵), 4.70 (1H, t, J= 2.6 Hz, Cp-H⁴), 4.41 - 4.38 (1H, m, Cp-H³), 4.35 (1H, t, J = 3.7 Hz, C-H^{12'}), 4.33 - 4.21 (3H, m, CHH, CHH, C-H⁹), 4.07 (1H, dd, J = 10.5, 3.8 Hz, C-H¹²), 3.96 (5H, s, CpH), 2.80 (1H, dtd, J = 13.8, 6.9, 3.3 Hz, ⁱPr(H)), 1.07 (3H, d, J = 7.1 Hz, ⁱPr(Me)), 0.99 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz, ⁱPr(Me)); Minor isomer ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 - 7.68 (2H, m, Ph-H^{15'}), 7.56 - 7.46 (3H, m, Ph-H^{16',17}), 7.33 - 7.27 (3H, m, Ph-H^{16,17}), 7.21 - 7.14 (2H, m, Ph-H¹⁵), 5.04 (1H, brs, Cp-H⁵), 4.72 (1H, t, J = 2.6 Hz, Cp-H⁴), 4.50 - 4.46 (1H, m, Cp-H³), 4.33 - 4.21 (3H, m, CHH, CHH, C-H⁹), 3.86 (5H, s, CpH), 3.87 - 3.79 (2H, m, C-H^{12',12}), 2.67 (1H, dtd, J = 13.7, 6.9, 3.4 Hz, ⁱPr(H)), 1.04 (3H, d, J = 7.0 Hz, ⁱPr(Me)), 0.95 (3H, d, J = 6.8 Hz, ⁱPr(Me)); Major isomer ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.6 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, C^{13'}), 171.5 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, C¹³), 169.1 (C⁷), 135.5 (d, J = 36.7 Hz, $C^{14'}$), 134.9 (d, J = 16.7 Hz, $C^{15'}$), 134.7 (d, J = 40.1 Hz, C^{14}), 131.6 (d, J = 13.3 Hz, C^{15}), 131.2 (d, $J = 2.0 \text{ Hz}, C^{17'}$, 129.4 (d, $J = 1.6 \text{ Hz}, C^{17}$), 128.6 (d, $J = 10.8 \text{ Hz}, C^{16'}$), 128.5 (d, $J = 9.7 \text{ Hz}, C^{16}$), 75.5 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, C³), 74.0 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, C⁴), 73.5 (d, J = 46.2 Hz, C²), 73.4 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, C⁵), 73.1 (C⁶), 71.8 (d, J = 0.5 Hz, C⁹), 71.4 (C¹), 67.7 (C⁸), 47.4 (d, J = 31.7 Hz, C^{12'}), 46.4 (d, J = 1.8Hz, C¹²), 29.2 (C¹⁰), 19.2 (C¹¹), 14.7 (C¹¹); Minor isomer ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.9 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, $C^{13'}$), 171.2 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, C^{13}), 169.1 (C^7), 137.3 (d, J = 37.8 Hz, $C^{14'}$), 135.1 (d, J = 16.6 Hz, $C^{15'}$), 133.7 (d, J = 40.2 Hz, C^{14}), 131.4 (d, J = 13.1 Hz, C^{15}), 131.4 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, $C^{17'}$), 129.1 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, C^{17}), 128.8 (d, J = 11.2 Hz, $C^{16'}$), 128.5 (d, J = 9.7 Hz, C^{16}), 75.9 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, C^3), 75.1 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, C^9), 74.0 (d, J = 33.0 Hz, C^2), 74.0 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, C^4), 73.4 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, C^5), 73.1 (C^6), 71.6 (C^1), 67.7 (C^8), 47.8 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, $C^{12'}$), 46.7 (d, J = 32.7 Hz, C^{12}), 29.2 (C^{10}), 19.2 ($C^{11'}$), 14.9 (C^{11}); Major isomer ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.44 (PPh₂); Minor isomer ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 15.83 (PPh₂).

Note: compound exists as a 1 : 1.6 ratio of isomers.

Preparation of (*S*,*S*,*S*_p,*S*_p)-8b



In a flame dried Schlenk tube (tube-1), sodium tert-butoxide solution (2M in THF) (0.05 mL, 0.10 mmol) was added to a solution of dimethyl malonate (22.6 µl, 0.20 mmol) in THF (1 mL) at 0 °C and allowed to stir for 30 mins and then the solvent was removed under high vacuum to give a beige residue. In a separate flame dried Schlenk tube (tube-2), (S,Sp)-6b (0.0125 g, 0.020 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (1.7 mL) and then the contents of Schlenk tube (2) were transferred to Schlenk tube (1) and stirred at room temperature for 10 mins. The solvent was then removed *in vacuo* and the residue purified by column chromatography (SiO₂, 10 % EtOAc in hexane) to give an orange solid (0.007 g, 70 %): R_f 0.26 (20 % Et₂O in Hexane); mp >230 °C (under argon), v_{max} (film)/cm⁻¹ 3096, 2958, 2923, 2967, 1617 (C=N), 1495; $[\alpha]_D^{20.1^{\circ}C} = -2000$ (*c* = 0.23, CHCl₃); HRMS (AS) [M-Cl]⁺ C₄₄H₄₆Fe₂N₂O₂PPd₂⁺, Calc. 991.0103, Obs. 991.0093; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.12 - 8.05 (4H, m, Ph-H¹³), 7.38 - 7.34 (6H, m, Ph-H¹⁴⁺¹⁵), 4.49 - 4.47 (4H, m, CHH + CHH), 4.36 (2H, d, J = 1.8 Hz, Cp-H⁵), 4.08 (2H, td, J = 8.0, 4.6 Hz, CH), 4.04 (10H, s, CpH), 4.02 (2H, t, J = 2.3 Hz, Cp-H⁴), 3.22 (2H, d, J = 1.6 Hz, Cp-H³), 2.51 - 2.43 (2H, m, i Pr(H)), 1.06 (6H, d, J = 6.8 Hz, i Pr(Me)), 0.97 (6H, d, J = 7.0 Hz, ^{*i*}Pr(Me)); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 177.9 (C⁷), 137.2 (d, J = 32.8 Hz, C¹²), 135.4 (d, J = 12.7 Hz, C^{13}), 128.8 (C^{15}), 127.8 (d, J = 10.5 Hz, C^{14}), 91.4 (d, J = 2.9 Hz, C^2), 75.1 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, C^3),

73.3 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, C⁶), 72.2 (C⁸), 70.0 (C¹), 69.0 (C⁴), 66.9 (C⁹), 64.5 (C⁵), 29.3 (C¹⁰), 19.6 (C¹¹), 16.0 (C¹¹); ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 23.40 (PPh₂).
See Figure S28 for the X-ray structure.

Note: Addition of excess AgOAc to an NMR tube containing (S,S,S_p,S_p) -**8b** showed the formation of acetate bridged palladacycle (S,S,S_p,S_p) -**8a** (see Figures S20-22 for the NMR spectra).



 v_{max} (film)/cm⁻¹ 3096, 2958, 2919, 2849, 1621 (C=N), 1556 (C=O), 1495; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.12 - 7.97 (4H, m, Ph-H), 7.33 - 7.27 (6H, m, Ph-H), 4.51 - 4.46 (4H, m, CHH + CHH), 4.34 (2H, brs, Cp-H), 4.09 - 4.03 (2H, m, CH), 4.00 (10H, s, CpH), 3.97 (2H, brs, Cp-H), 3.00 (2H, brs, Cp-H³), 2.70 - 2.60 (2H, m, ^{*i*}Pr(H)), 2.01 (3H, brs, OAc), 1.04 (6H, d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, ^{*i*}Pr(Me)), 0.95 (6H, d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, ^{*i*}Pr(Me)); ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 55.63 (PPh₂).

Note: after filtering off the excess AgOAc and precipitated AgCl a ¹H NMR was obtained in CDCl₃ and this showed the conversion back to **8b** as a result of ligand exchange (see Figure S23)

2. Phosphine insertion ³¹P NMR studies

Phosphine reference compounds

- a) PPh₃ & P(O)Ph₃ (red spectrum), HPPh₂ & HP(O)Ph₂ (green spectrum) and CIP(O)Ph₂ & CIPPh₂ (blue spectrum).
- **b)** (*S*,*S*_p)-**3** (red spectrum), (*S*,*S*_p)-**7** (green spectrum) and (*S*,*S*_p)-**4** (blue spectrum).
- c) (S, S_p) -**5a** (red spectrum), (S, S_p) -**5b** (green spectrum) and (S, S_p) -**6b** (blue spectrum).
- a) Phosphine reference compounds ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃)



b) Phosferrox reference compounds - ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃)



c) Palladacycle reference compounds - ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, MeCN-d³)



Phosphine insertion studies (A-D)

All peaks are labelled starting from the lowest spectra (red). Only new peaks that appear on the spectra above are labelled. For all, the top spectrum is the (S,S_p) -**4**. A short description is shown below the spectral comparison. Experiments performed with 0.01 mmol of either acetate bridged palladacycle (S,S_p) -**2a** or chloride bridged palladacycle (S,S_p) -**2b** dissolved in 0.7 mL CD₂Cl₂ in an NMR tube with a J. Young valve under an inert atmosphere. After addition of reagents approximately 10 minutes elapsed before NMR experiments were ran. A glove box was used for the preparation of samples.

MA = maleic anhydride, DMM = dimethyl malonate & NaDMM = sodium dimethyl malonate.

A. Addition of HPPh₂ to (S, S_p) -**2a** followed by addition of MA - ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CH₂Cl₂).



Orange solution of (S, S_p) -**2a** went very dark (almost black) upon addition of 2 eq. HPPh₂ (red spectrum), no colour change upon addition of 2 eq. MA (green spectrum).

See Figure S24 for integration of {³¹P} NMR spectrum (after the addition of MA).

B. Addition of HPPh₂ to (S,S_p)-2b, followed by addition of NEt₃ then MA - ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CH₂Cl₂).



Addition of 2 eq. HPPh₂ to an orange solution of (S, S_p) -**2b** showed the formation of the previously characterised complex (S, S_p) -**6b** (HPPh₂ used contained a small amount of oxidised phosphine - red spectrum). 2 eq. triethylamine was added, causing the deep orange solution to darken considerably (green spectrum) followed by 4 eq. MA (blue spectrum).

See Figure S25 for integration of {³¹P} NMR spectrum (after the addition of MA).

C. Addition of BSA to a mixture of (S,S_p)-2b and HPPh₂ followed by addition of MA - ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CH₂Cl₂).



2 eq. HPPh₂ was added to (S,S_p) -**2b** (red spectrum). BSA (10 eq.) was added in one go causing the solution to go very dark red (lime green spectrum). Addition of 2 eq. MA showed no apparent colour change (green spectrum). Leaving the sample overnight showed complete loss of the signal at 18.1 ppm (blue spectrum).

See Figure S26 for integration of ${}^{31}P$ NMR spectrum (after the addition of MA – blue spectrum).

D. Addition of a mixture of (S,S_p)-2b and HPPh₂ to NaDMM salt followed by addition of MA - ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CH₂Cl₂).



2 eq. HPPh₂ was added to (S,S_p) -**2b** (red spectrum). This solution was then added to pre prepared NaDMM salt (10 eq.) which went very dark within 1 min (lime green spectrum). Addition of 2 eq. MA showed no apparent colour change and formation of (S,S_p) -**3** (18.1 ppm) and (S,S,S_p,S_p) -**8b** (23.8 ppm) (green spectrum). Addition of a further 2 eq. of MA resulted in the loss of the signal at 18.1 ppm (blue spectrum) to leave (S,S_p) -**4** and (S,S,S_p,S_p) -**8b** in solution.

See Figure S27 for integration of ${}^{31}P$ NMR spectrum (after the addition of MA - blue spectrum).

3. Methods of Pd(0) Generation and Catalysis

Catalysis experiments

Conditions A

- In a flame dried Schlenk tube, (S,S_p)-3 (0.0120 g, 0.025 mmol) and [Pd(C₃H₅)Cl]₂ (0.0037 g, 0.010 mmol) dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (1.7 mL) and stirred for 30 mins. 1,3-Diphenylallyl acetate (0.252 g, 1.0 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (1.7 mL) and added to the reaction vessel. This was followed sequentially by dimethyl malonate (0.34 mL, 3.0 mmol), *N*,*O*-bis(trimethylsilyl)acetamide (0.74 mL, 3.0 mmol) and potassium acetate (0.002 g, 0.02 mmol) and the reaction allowed to stir at room temperature.
- (II) In a flame dried Schlenk tube, (S,S_p)-4 (0.0069 g, 0.010 mmol) dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (1.7 mL). 1,3-Diphenylallyl acetate (0.252 g, 1.0 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (1.7 mL) and added to the reaction vessel. This was followed sequentially by dimethyl malonate (0.34 mL, 3.0 mmol), N,O-bis(trimethylsilyl)acetamide (0.74 mL, 3.0 mmol) and potassium acetate (0.002 g, 0.02 mmol) and the reaction allowed to stir at room temperature.
- (III) In a flame dried Schlenk tube, (S,S_p)-2a (0.0092 g, 0.010 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (1.7 mL) and HPPh₂ (3.48 μl, 0.020 mmol) was added and stirred for 10 mins. 1,3-Diphenylallyl acetate (0.252 g, 1.0 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (1.7 mL) and added to the reaction vessel. This was followed sequentially by dimethyl malonate (0.34 mL, 3.0 mmol), *N*,*O*-bis(trimethylsilyl)acetamide (0.74 mL, 3.0 mmol) and potassium acetate (0.002 g, 0.02 mmol) and the reaction allowed to stir at room temperature.
- (IV) In a flame dried Schlenk tube, (S,S_p)-2b (0.0088 g, 0.010 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (1.7 mL) and HPPh₂ (3.48 μl, 0.020 mmol) was added and stirred for 10 mins. 1,3-Diphenylallyl acetate (0.252 g, 1.0 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (1.7 mL) and added to the reaction vessel. This was followed sequentially by dimethyl malonate (0.34 mL, 3.0 mmol), *N*,*O*-bis(trimethylsilyl)acetamide (0.74 mL, 3.0 mmol) and potassium acetate (0.002 g, 0.02 mmol) and the reaction allowed to stir at room temperature.

Conditions B

(V) In a flame dried Schlenk tube, (S,S_p) -**3** (0.0120 g, 0.025 mmol) and $[Pd(C_3H_5)Cl]_2$ (0.0037 g, 0.010 mmol) was dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 (1.7 mL) and stirred for 30 mins. 1,3Diphenylallyl acetate (0.252 g, 1.0 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (1.7 mL) and added to the reaction vessel followed by sodium dimethyl malonate (3 mmol) and allowed to stir at room temperature. Sodium dimethyl malonate was prepared by addition of sodium *tert*-butoxide solution (2M in THF) (1.50 mL, 3.0 mmol) to a solution of dimethyl malonate (0.34 mL, 3.0 mmol) in THF (2.5 mL) at 0 °C and allowed to stir for 30 mins and then the solvent was removed under high vacuum to give a beige powder.

(VI) In a flame dried Schlenk tube, (S,S_p)-2b (0.0088 g, 0.010 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (1.7 mL) and HPPh₂ (3.48 μl, 0.020 mmol) was added and stirred for 10 mins. 1,3-Diphenylallyl acetate (0.252 g, 1.0 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (1.7 mL) and added to the reaction vessel followed by sodium dimethyl malonate (3 mmol) and allowed to stir at room temperature. Sodium dimethyl malonate was prepared by addition of sodium *tert*-butoxide solution (2M in THF) (1.50 mL, 3.0 mmol) to a solution of dimethyl malonate (0.34 mL, 3.0 mmol) in THF (2.5 mL) at 0 °C and allowed to stir for 30 mins and then the solvent was removed under high vacuum to give a beige powder.

Entry	Method	Reaction time	Conversion (%)	ee % ^a
1	(1)	< 1 h	100 %	95%
2	(11)	4 days	6 %	86%
3	(111)	4 days	51 %	85%
4	(IV)	4 days	77 %	85%
5	(IV) ^b	4 days	20 %	94%
6	(IV) ^c	4 days	0 %	-
7	(IV) ^d	4 days	0 %	-
8	(V)	3.5 h	100 %	88%
9	(VI)	2.5 h	100 %	77%

Table S1. Catalysis optimisation.

a = Major enantiomer has the S configuration, b = at 3^{rd} of the scale with no KOAc added, c = THF used as the solvent, d = toluene used as the solvent.

Final catalytic experimental procedure (Conditions C)



In a flame dried Schlenk tube (tube-1), sodium *tert*-butoxide solution (2M in THF) (0.05 mL, 0.10 mmol) was added to a solution of dimethyl malonate (22.6 μ l, 0.20 mmol) in THF (1 mL) at 0 °C and allowed to stir for 30 mins and then the solvent was removed under high vacuum to give a beige residue. In a separate flame dried Schlenk tube (tube-2), (*S*,*S*_p)-**2b** (0.0088 g, 0.010 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (1.7 mL) and phosphine (0.020 mmol) was added and stirred for 10 mins. 1,3-Diphenylallyl acetate (0.252 g, 1.0 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (1.7 mL) and then added to Schlenk tube (2) followed by dimethyl malonate (0.34 mL, 3.0 mmol). The contents of Schlenk tube (2) were transferred to Schlenk tube (1) and stirred for 5 mins after which *N*,*O*-bis(trimethylsilyl)acetamide (0.74 mL, 3.0 mmol) was added and the reaction allowed to stir at room temperature. After completion or 24 hours (whichever came first), the reaction was quenched with saturated ammonium chloride, separated with

diethyl ether, dried with magnesium sulphate and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. A ¹H NMR was performed at this point to determine the conversion. Purification by column chromatography (SiO₂, 5 % EtOAc in hexane) gave the product as a colourless oil which was subjected to chiral HPLC analysis. See Table S2 for results.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 - 7.27 (8H, m, Ph-H), 7.26 - 7.18 (2H, m, Ph-H), 6.48 (1H, d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, C=C-H), 6.33 (1H, dd, *J* = 15.7, 8.6 Hz, C=C-H), 4.27 (1H, dd, *J* = 10.8, 8.7 Hz, CH), 3.96 (1H, d, *J* = 10.9 Hz, CH), 3.71 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.52 (3H, s, OCH₃); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.4, 167.9, 140.3, 137.0, 132.0, 129.3, 128.9, 128.6, 128.0, 127.7, 127.3, 126.5, 57.8, 52.8, 52.6, 49.3. Matches previously reported data.^{5, 6}

Enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral HPLC analysis using a CHIRALCEL OD-H; Eluent = 98:2 (Hexane:IPA); Flow rate = 0.5 mL min⁻¹; Concentration = 0.0015 gmL⁻¹, Injection volume = 5 μ l, wavelength = 254 nm. (*S*)-enantiomer RT = 20.5 min, (*R*)-enantiomer RT = 18.9 min.

Note: when the phosphine used is a solid, a stock solution was prepared in a glove box with CH_2Cl_2 and the volume used subtracted from the volume of CH_2Cl_2 used to dissolve (S,S_p) -**2b**.

Entry	HPAr ₂	Reaction time	Conversion (%)	ee %ª
1	1	1 h	98.6 %	86%
2	2	24 h	100 %	83%
3	3	24 h	100 %	84%
4	4	24 h	18.0 %	85%

Table	S2.	Allvlic	alkylation	results.
		<i></i>	anyiacion	

a = Major enantiomer has the S configuration.

See Figures S29-32 for HPLC traces of the product.

4. ¹H, ¹³C and ³¹P spectra for new compounds

Figure S1. 7 - ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃).



Figure S2. **7** - ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃).



Figure S3. 7 - ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃).



11 22000 10 -21000 -20000 4.0841 4.0775 4.0725 4.0691 4.0643 4.0643 4.0643 4.0492 4.0492 4.0243 4.0199 3.9012 4.0925 -19000 -18000 -17000 15 -16000 -15000 -14000 1.9400 Acetonitrile-d3 -13000 12000 -11000 // | /| -10000 - 9000 - 8000 1.0233 0.8860 0.8716 - 7000 -6000 7,5174 7,5139 7,5131 7,5030 7,4989 7,4989 7,4947 7,4916 7,4879 7,4879 7,4879 7,4879 7,4879 7,4879 7,4879 7,4830 7,4251 7,4251 7,4251 7,4251 7,4251 7,4251 7,4251 7,4251 7,4251 7324 7296 7698 465 - 5000 ~ -4000 .6346 .6149 .5887 4.5735 4.5556 4.4560 4.4522 3.3037 6528 - 3000 2.3280 2.3181 2.3097 2.3041 2.3041 2.2957 2.2901 2.2816 2.2762 2.2676 -2000 -1000 -0 1.11 1.04 5.13 [∡] 1.19-I2.98 [∡] 3.15 _≚ 3.09 _≚ 1.04-≖ --1000 1.103 -2000 8.5 8.0 7.5 7.0 6.5 6.0 5.5 4.5 4.0 f1 (ppm) 3.5 3.0 2.5 1.5 1.0 0.0 5.0 2.0 0.5

Figure S4. **5a** - ¹H NMR (500 MHz, MeCN-d³).

-2E+05 11 10 -2E+05 (S), -2E+05 118.2600 Acetonitrile-d3 -2E+05 -2E+05 -2E+05 15 -2E+05 -2E+05 -1E+05 -1E+05 -1E+05 -1E+05 -1E+05 -90000 -80000 - 70000 -60000 -50000 -40000 131.4694 129.1139 129.0286 77.3389 77.2671 73.8057 73.1445 73.1445 73.1205 73.1205 70.8714 69.6879 69.6679 68.2808 68.2808 68.2548 .3326 9329 4888 7906 - 30000 179.7994 176.2844 29.3352 23.8677 19.2530 15.6859 35. 35. E E - 90.2657 - 90.1972 20000 -10000 -0 --10000 -20000 90 f1 (ppm) 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0

Figure S5. **5a** - ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, MeCN-d³).

Figure S6. **5a** - ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, MeCN-d³).





Figure S7. Conversion of 5a (green spectrum - major component) into 5b (red and purple spectra) - ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃).



Figure S8. 5b - ¹H NMR (500 MHz, MeCN-d³).

Figure S9. **5b** - ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, MeCN-d³).



Figure S10. **5b** - ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, MeCN-d³).



Figure S11. 6b - 1 H NMR (500 MHz, MeCN-d³).



S32

Figure S12. **6b** - 13 C NMR (125 MHz, MeCN-d³).



Figure S13. **6b** - ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, MeCN-d³).



Figure S14. 4 - ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃).



Figure S15. **4** - ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃).



Figure S16. **4** - ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃).



Figure S17. 8b - ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃).



Figure S18. **8b** - ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃).



Figure S19. **8b** - ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃).



Figure S20. Addition of AgOAc to 8b (red) to give 8a (purple) - ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃).



Figure S21. **8a** - ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃).



Figure S22. **8a** - ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃).



Figure S23. After filtering 8a (red) signals indicated by arrows (green) show the formation of 8b (blue) - ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃).







S45



Figure S25. Phosphine insertion study **B** - 31 P NMR (202 MHz, CD₂Cl₂).

- 1100 - 1000 23.8210 -900 — 16.7686 — 15.7784 - 800 - 700 600 - 500 -400 - 300 - 200 - 100 - 0 -100 1.00H 0.37-≖ 0.28-≖ 0.09 ≖ 0.15-≖ -200 40 38 32 24 22 20 18 f1 (ppm) 12 36 34 30 28 26 16 14 10 0 8 6 2 4

Figure S26. Phosphine insertion study $C - {}^{31}P$ NMR (202 MHz, CD_2Cl_2).





5. X-ray Crystallography

Crystal structure analysis - (*S*,*S*,*S*_p,*S*_p)-**8b**

Crystal data: C₄₄H₄₆ClFe₂N₂O₂PPd₂, M = 1025.75. Orthorhombic, space group P2₁2₁2₁ (no. 19), a = 12.18010(12), b = 12.77485(10), c = 25.8213(2) Å, V = 4017.77(5) Å³. Z = 4, Dc = 1.696 g cm⁻³, F(000) = 2064, T = 100.01(10) K, μ (Mo-K α) = 17.35 cm⁻¹, λ (Mo-K α) = 0.71073 Å. The crystals were red plates. One, *ca* 0.11 x 0.125 x 0.135 mm, was mounted on a small loop and fixed in the cold nitrogen stream on a Rigaku Oxford Diffraction XtaLAB Synergy diffractometer, equipped with Mo-K α radiation, HyPix detector and mirror monochromator. Intensity data were measured by thin-slice ω-scans. Total no. of reflections recorded, to $\theta_{max} = 27.5^{\circ}$, was 138243 of which 9215 were unique (Rint = 0.055); 9126 were 'observed' with I > 2σ₁.

Data were processed using the CrysAlisPro-CCD and -RED programs⁷. The structure was determined by the intrinsic phasing routines in the SHELXT program⁸ and refined by full-matrix least-squares methods, on F²'s, in SHELXL⁹. The non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic thermal parameters. The hydrogen atoms were included in idealised positions and their Uiso values were set to ride on the Ueq values of the parent carbon atoms. At the conclusion of the refinement, wR₂ = 0.038 and R₁ = 0.015 (2B) for all 9215 reflections weighted w = $[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0199 P)^2 + 1.350 P]^{-1}$ with P = $(F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$. The absolute structure parameter, x = -0.002(5) with the structure as shown in the Figures.

In the final difference map, the highest peak ($ca 0.5 \text{ e}^{A^{-3}}$) was near Pd(2).

Scattering factors for neutral atoms were taken from reference 10. Computer programs used in this analysis have been noted above, and were run through WinGX¹¹ on a Dell Optiplex 780 PC at the University of East Anglia.



Identification code Empirical formula Formula weight Crystal system, Space Group Unit cell dimensions

Volume Z, Density (calculated) *F*(000) Absorption coefficient Temperature Wavelength Crystal colour, shape Crystal size Crystal mounting θ range for data collection Limiting indices: h, k, l Completeness of data: θ , % Absorption correction Max. and min. transmission Reflections collected No. of unique reflections, R(int) No. of 'obsd' reflections $(I > 2\sigma I)$ Structure determined by: Refinement Data / restraints / parameters Goodness-of-fit on F^2 Final R indices ('obsd' data) Final *R* indices (all data) Reflections weighted: w = where $P=(Fo^2+2Fc^2)/3$ Absolute structure parameter Largest diff. peak and hole, location

rossa26 / RAA18.1360e / (S,S,Sp,Sp)-8b C44H46ClFe2N2O2PPd2 1025.75 Orthorhombic, P212121 (no. 19) a = 12.18010(12) Å $\alpha = 90^{\circ}$ b = 12.77485(10) Å $\beta = 90^{\circ}$ c = 25.8213(2) Å $\gamma = 90^{\circ}$ 4017.77(5) Å³ 4, 1.696 Mg / m³ 2064 1.735 mm⁻¹ 100.01(10) K 0.71073 Å Red, Plate $0.11\times0.125\times0.135~mm$ on a small loop, in oil, fixed in cold N₂ stream 1.849 - 27.498° $-15 \le h \le 15, -16 \le k \le 16, -33 \le l \le 33$ 25.242°, 100.0% Semi-empirical from equivalents 1.00000 and 0.91293 138243 9215, 0.055 9126 dual methods, in SHELXT Full-matrix least-squares on F^2 , in SHELXL 9215 / 0 / 487 1.068 R1 = 0.015, wR2 = 0.038R1 = 0.015, wR2 = 0.038 $[\sigma^{2}(Fo^{2})+(0.0199P)^{2}+1.3500P]^{-1}$ -0.002(5)

0.49 and -0.31 e Å⁻³, near Pd(2) centre

6. HPLC Traces

Figure S29. Results from Table S2 Entry 1.

31/01/2020 14:56:21 1 / 1

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==== Shimadzu LCsolution Analysis Report ====

<Chromatogram>



1 PDA Multi 1/254nm 4nm

Quantitative Results



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20/11/2019 13:38:26 1 / 1

==== Shimadzu LCsolution Analysis Report ====

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Tray#	:1
Vail #	: 38
Injection Volume	: 5 uL
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1 PDA Multi 1/254nm 4nm





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20/11/2019 13:39:34 1 / 1

==== Shimadzu LCsolution Analysis Report ====

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1 PDA Multi 1/254nm 4nm





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12/12/2019 10:34:22 1 / 1

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Injection Volume	: 3 uL
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<Chromatogram>



1 PDA Multi 1/254nm 4nm



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