

Supporting information for:

Heterolytic carbon–iodine bond cleavage by a palladium(I) metalloradical

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1. General experimental methods

All manipulations were performed under an atmosphere of argon using Schlenk and glove box techniques unless otherwise stated. Glassware was oven dried at 150 °C overnight and flame-dried under vacuum prior to use. Molecular sieves were activated by heating at 300 °C *in vacuo* overnight. 1,2-Difluorobenzene (DFB) was stirred over neutral aluminium oxide, filtered, dried over CaH₂, vacuum distilled, freeze-pump-thaw degassed, and then stored over activated 3 Å molecular sieves.¹ Commercial anhydrous CH₂Cl₂, pentane, and hexane were freeze-pump-thaw degassed and stored over activated 3 Å molecular sieves. Phenyl iodide, 2-methoxyphenyl iodide and *tert*-butyl iodide were freeze-pump-thaw degassed and stored over activated 3 Å molecular sieves. [Pd(PtBu₃)₂][PF₆]**1**² and [Pd(PtBu₃)(μ-I)]₂**2**³ were prepared using literature procedures. All other reagents are commercial products and were used as received. NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker spectrometers under argon at 298 K unless otherwise stated. Chemical shifts are quoted in ppm and coupling constants in Hz. Coupling constants for virtual triplets are reported as the separation between the first and third lines.⁴ NMR spectra in DFB were recorded using an internal capillary of C₆D₆.¹ ³¹P NMR spectra are referenced to a solution of O=P(OMe)₃ in C₆D₆ (0.025 mol·L⁻¹, δ 3.80 relative to 85% H₃PO₄). UV-vis spectra were recorded on an Agilent Cary 3500 UV-vis Spectrometer Compact Peltier System. HR ESI-MS were recorded on a Bruker MaXis mass spectrometer.

2. Reactions of [Pd(PtBu₃)₂][PF₆]**1**

2.1. General procedure

To a solution of **1** (6.6 mg, 10 μmol) in DFB (0.5 mL) within a J. Young valve NMR tube was added the substrate at RT. The resulting solution was monitored using ¹H and ³¹P NMR spectroscopy, with constant mixing when not in the spectrometer. The concentration of **1** can be monitored by a broad paramagnetically shifted ¹H resonance at δ 19 in DFB.

Table S1. ³¹P NMR data in DFB solution (excluding anion).

Compound	δ _{31P}	Comment
[Pd(PtBu ₃) ₂]	84.8	Isolated (commercial)
[Pd(PtBu ₃) ₂][PF ₆] 1	No signal	Isolated (literature)
[Pd(PtBu ₃)(μ-I)] ₂ 2	103.5	Isolated (literature)
[Pd(PtBu ₃) ₂ (Ph)][PF ₆] 4a	61.0	Observed <i>in situ</i> (new)
[Pd(PtBu ₃) ₂ (2-(MeO)C ₆ H ₄)][PF ₆] 4b	62.0	Isolated (new)
[Pd(PtBu ₃) ₂ (2,6-(MeO) ₂ C ₆ H ₃)][PF ₆] 4c	65.3	Isolated (new)
PtBu ₃	62.9	Isolated (commercial)
[PtBu ₃ H][PF ₆]	56.0	Isolated (literature)
[PtBu ₃ I]	114.7	Generated <i>in situ</i> (literature)
[PtBu ₃ Ph][PF ₆] 3a	49.7	Isolated (literature)
[PtBu ₃ (2-(MeO)C ₆ H ₄)][PF ₆] 3b	64.2	Generated <i>in situ</i> (literature)
[PtBu ₃ Ad][PF ₆] 3d	49.9	Generated <i>in situ</i> (literature)

2.2. Phenyl iodide

2.2.1. 1.1 equivalents monitored by NMR spectroscopy

Following the general procedure using PhI (1.2 μ L, 11 μ mol). Complete consumption of **1** was observed by ^1H NMR spectroscopy within 24 h at RT. At this point, formation of $[\text{Pd}(\text{PtBu}_3)(\mu\text{-I})]_2$ **2** and $[\text{PtBu}_3\text{Ph}]^+$ **3a** in a 1:2 mixture (>97% selectivity) was observed by ^{31}P NMR spectroscopy. Phenyl phosphonium **3a** was subsequently isolated as a white solid by successive recrystallisation from DFB/hexane, pyridine/hexane and finally CH_2Cl_2 /hexane at RT. Yield: 1.3 mg (3.1 μ mol, 30%/Pd). Spectroscopic data is consistent with that reported for the corresponding triflate salt and the assignment is supported by determination of the solid-state structure and ESI-MS.⁵

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (162 MHz, DFB/ C_6D_6): δ 49.7 (s, 1P, PtBu_3Ph), -142.5 (sept, $^1J_{\text{PF}} = 710$, 1P, PF_6).

HR ESI-MS (positive ion, 4 kV): 279.2238 ($[\text{M}]^+$, calcd 279.2236) m/z .

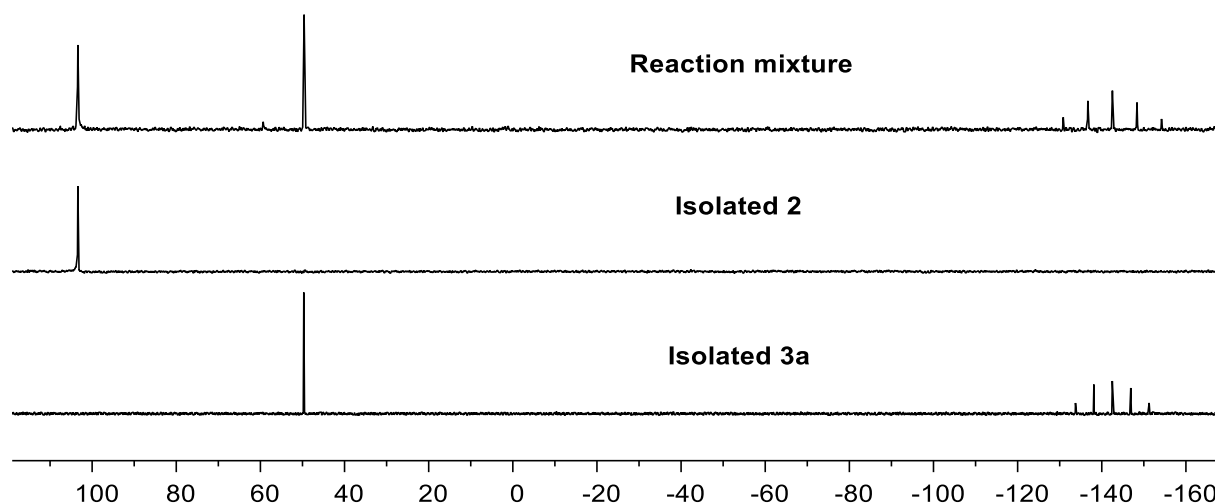


Figure S1. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectra of the products resulting from addition of 1.1 equivalents of PhI to **1** (DFB/ C_6D_6 , 162 MHz).

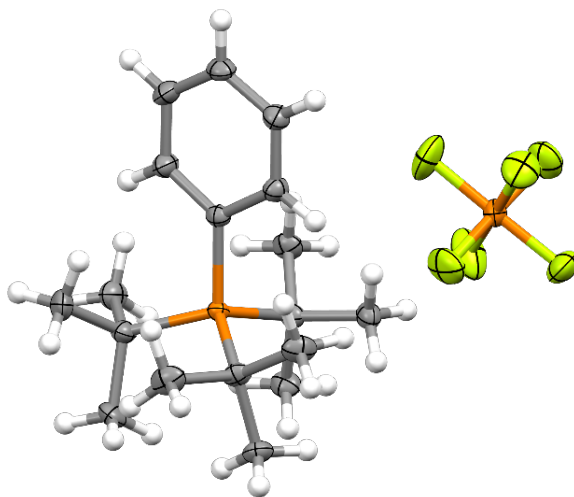


Figure S2. Solid-state structure of **3a**. Thermal ellipsoids at 50% probability.

2.2.2. 1.5 equivalents monitored by NMR spectroscopy

Following the general procedure using PhI (1.7 μ L, 15 μ mol). Complete consumption of **1** was observed by ^1H NMR spectroscopy within 3 h at RT. At this point, a 1:3:1 mixture of $[\text{Pd}(\text{P}t\text{Bu}_3)(\mu\text{-I})]_2$ **2**, $[\text{P}t\text{Bu}_3\text{Ph}]^+$ **3a**, and a species assigned to $[\text{Pd}(\text{P}t\text{Bu}_3)_2(\text{Ph})]^+$ **4a** was observed by ^{31}P NMR spectroscopy, along with a trace amount of $[\text{P}t\text{Bu}_3\text{H}]^+$. After a further 2 h, decomposition of **4a** into **3a** gave a 1:4 mixture of **2** and **3a**, with trace amounts of $[\text{P}t\text{Bu}_3\text{H}]^+$.

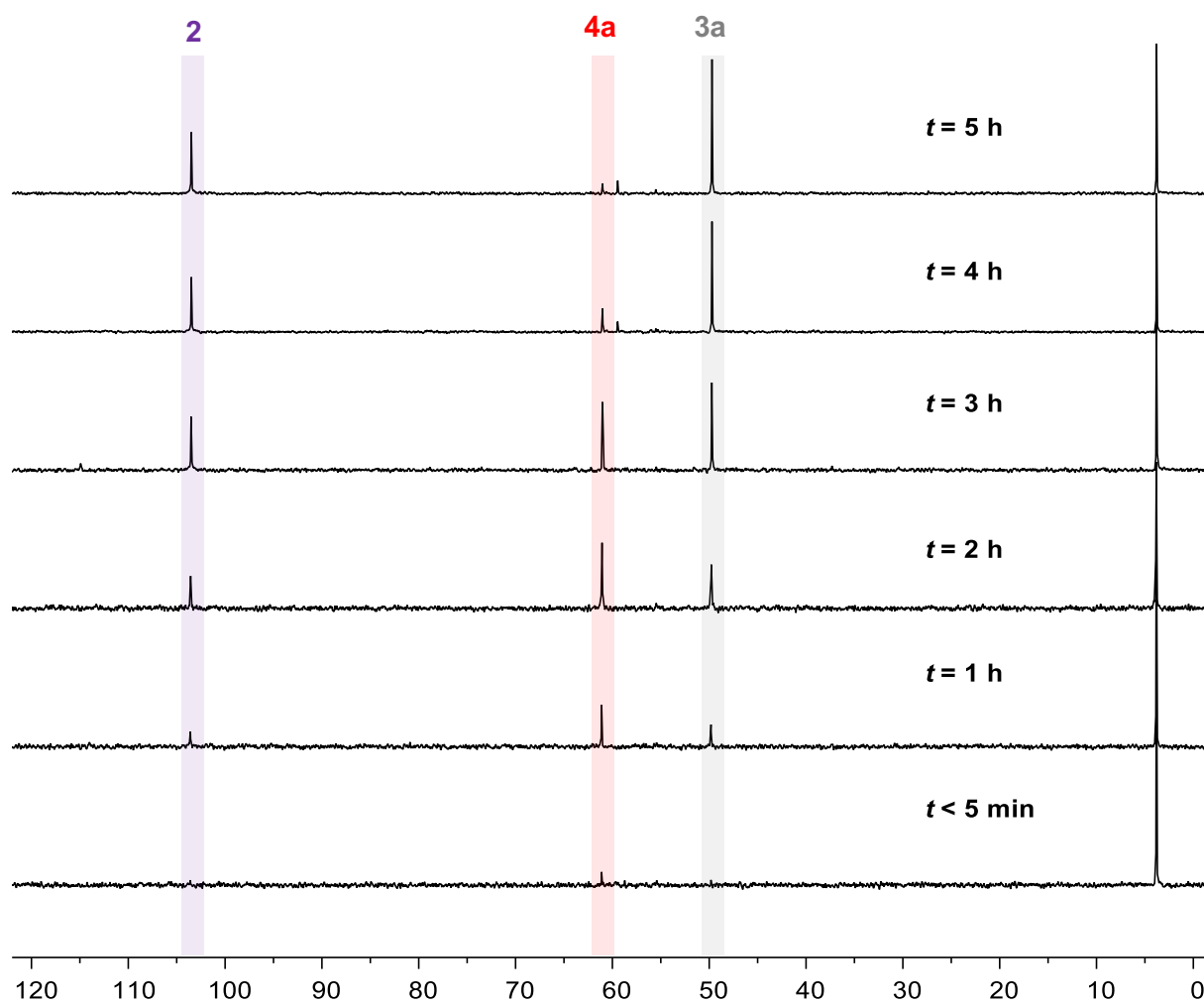


Figure S3. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectra collected following addition of 1.5 equivalents of PhI to **1** (DFB/ C_6D_6 , 162 MHz; $\text{O}=\text{P}(\text{OMe})_3$ internal reference at δ 3.8).

2.2.3. 1.5 equivalents in presence of excess phosphine monitored by NMR spectroscopy

Following the general procedure using PhI (1.7 μ L, 15 μ mol) and PtBu_3 (70 μ L of a 0.72 M solution in hexane, 50 μ mol). Complete consumption of **1** was observed by ^1H NMR spectroscopy within 6 h at RT. At this point, a 1:3:3 mixture of $[\text{Pd}(\text{PtBu}_3)(\mu\text{-I})_2]$ **2**, $[\text{PtBu}_3\text{Ph}]^+$ **3a**, and $[\text{Pd}(\text{PtBu}_3)_2(\text{Ph})]^+$ **4a** was observed by ^{31}P NMR spectroscopy, with the signal for PtBu_3 shifted to higher frequency and broadened. After a further 3 h, decomposition of **4a** into **3a** gave a 1:5 mixture of **2** and **3a**, with trace amounts of $[\text{PtBu}_3\text{H}]^+$.

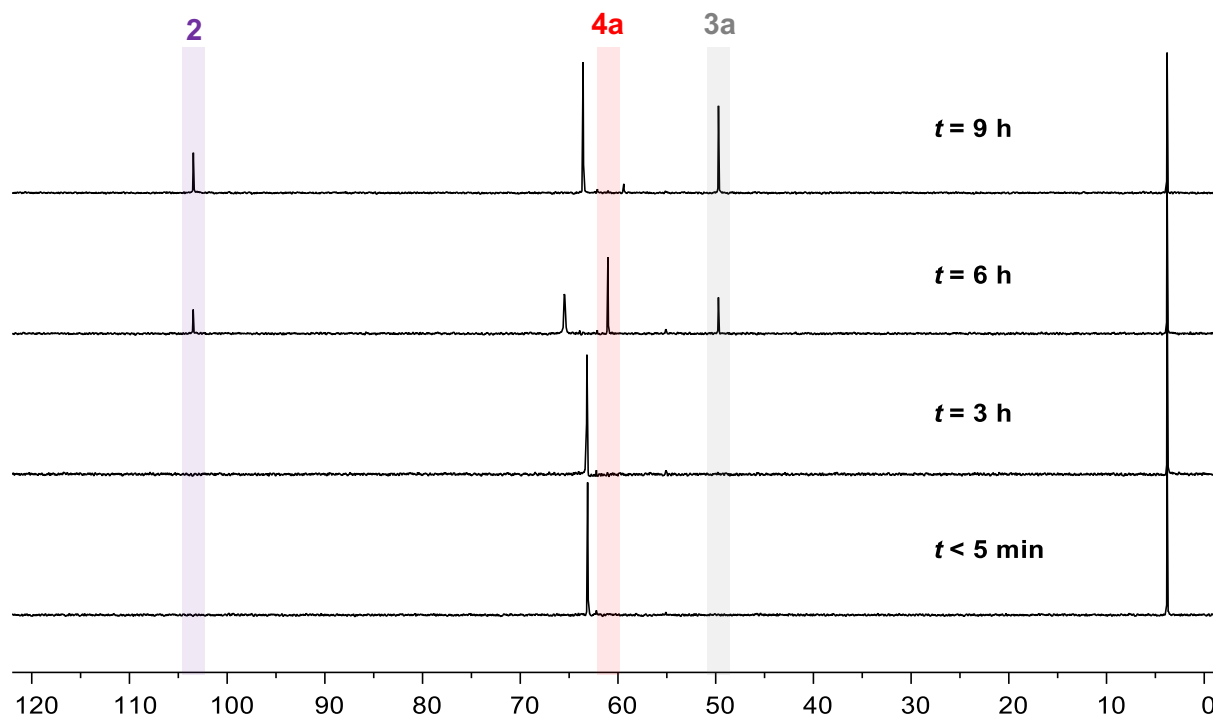


Figure S4. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectra collected following addition of 1.5 equivalents of PhI to **1** in the presence of excess PtBu_3 (DFB/ C_6D_6 , 162 MHz; $\text{O}=\text{P}(\text{OMe})_3$ internal reference at δ 3.8).

2.2.4. 1.5 equivalents monitored by UV/vis spectroscopy

To a 6 mL glass screw top vial charged with **1** (26.2 mg, 40 μmol) and a magnetic stirrer bar in an inert atmosphere glove box was added a solution of PhI (2 mL, 0.03 mol L⁻¹, 60 μmol) in DFB. The vial was sealed and the solution stirred at RT for 6 h. The reaction was monitored every 30 minutes by taking 40 μL aliquots, which were diluted to 3 mL and analysed immediately by UV/vis spectroscopy. Concentrations of **1** and **2** were determined by least squares fitting of spectra recorded of isolated samples between 475 and 800 nm, whilst the concentration of **4a** was estimated using the background corrected absorption at 305 nm (maximum from residue, cf. **4b/4c**) and $\epsilon = 7000 \text{ L}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$. After 6 h, 0.5 mL of the solution was transferred into a J. Young valve NMR tube and analysed by ³¹P NMR spectroscopy, which indicated formation of a 1:3 mixture of **2** and **3a**, with trace amounts of [PtBu₃H]⁺.

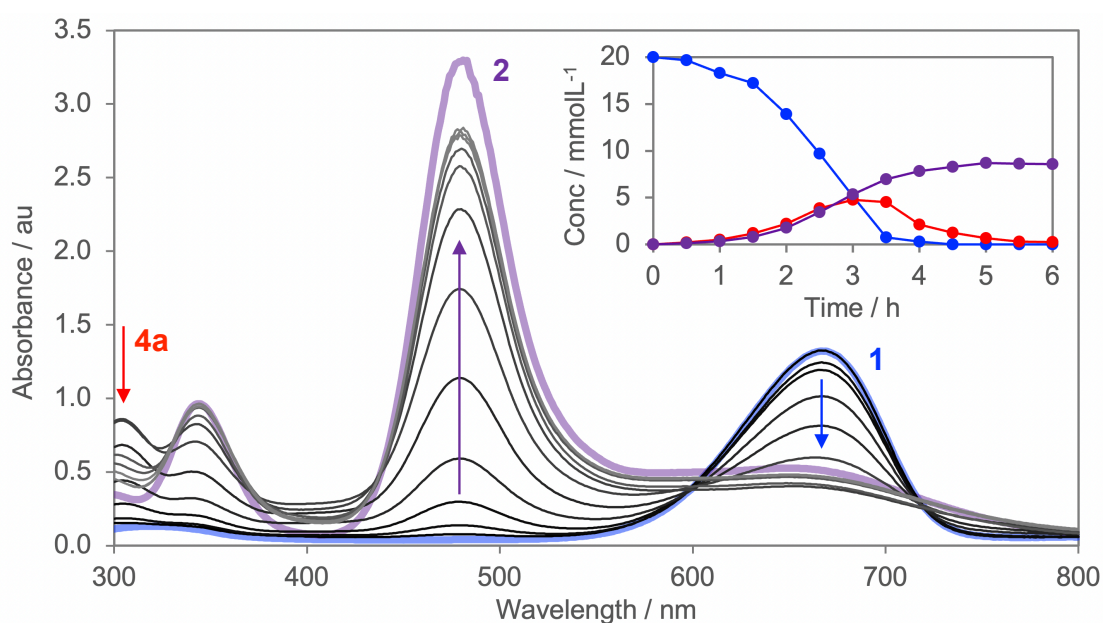


Figure S5. UV/vis spectra collected following addition of 1.5 equivalents of PhI to **1**, reference spectra of **1** (blue) and **2** (purple), and time course data for **1** (blue), **2** (purple) and **4a** (red).

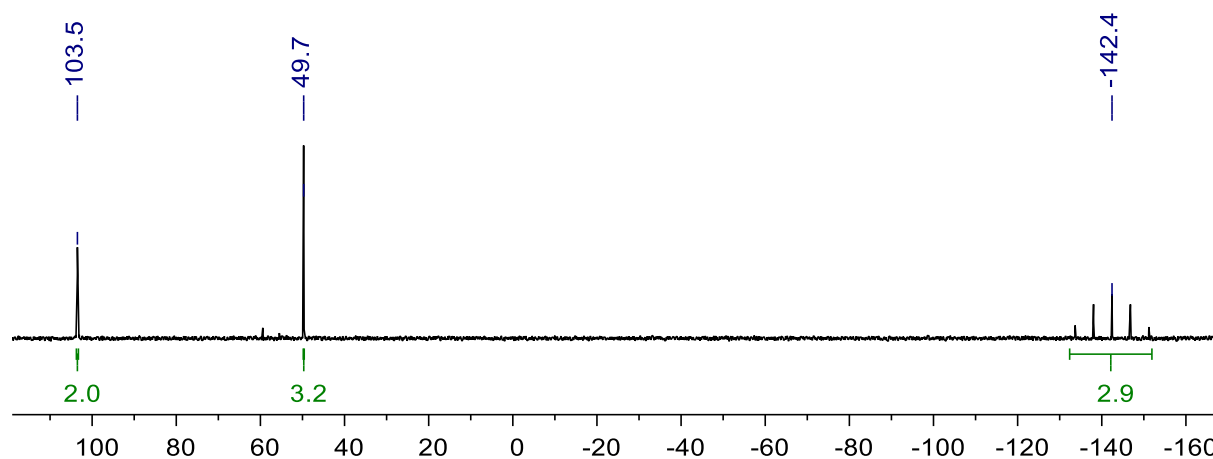


Figure S6. ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectra of the products resulting from addition of 1.5 equivalents of PhI to **1** (DFB/C₆D₆, 162 MHz).

2.3. 2-methoxyphenyl iodide

Following the general procedure using 2-(MeO)C₆H₄I (2.0 μL, 15 μmol). Complete consumption of **1** was observed by ¹H NMR spectroscopy within 24 h at RT. At this point, a 1:2:2 mixture of [Pd(PtBu₃)(μ-I)]₂ **2**, [Pd(PtBu₃)₂(2-(MeO)C₆H₄)]⁺ **4b**, and [PtBu₃]⁺ was observed by ³¹P NMR spectroscopy, along with a trace amount of [PtBu₃(2-(MeO)C₆H₄)]⁺ **3b**. After a further 7 days, decomposition of **4b** into **3b** and [PtBu₃H]⁺ was observed. Spectroscopic data of **3b** is consistent with that reported for the corresponding [B{3,5-(CF₃)₂C₆H₃}₄]⁻ salt in this solvent and the assignment is supported by determination of the solid-state structure.⁶

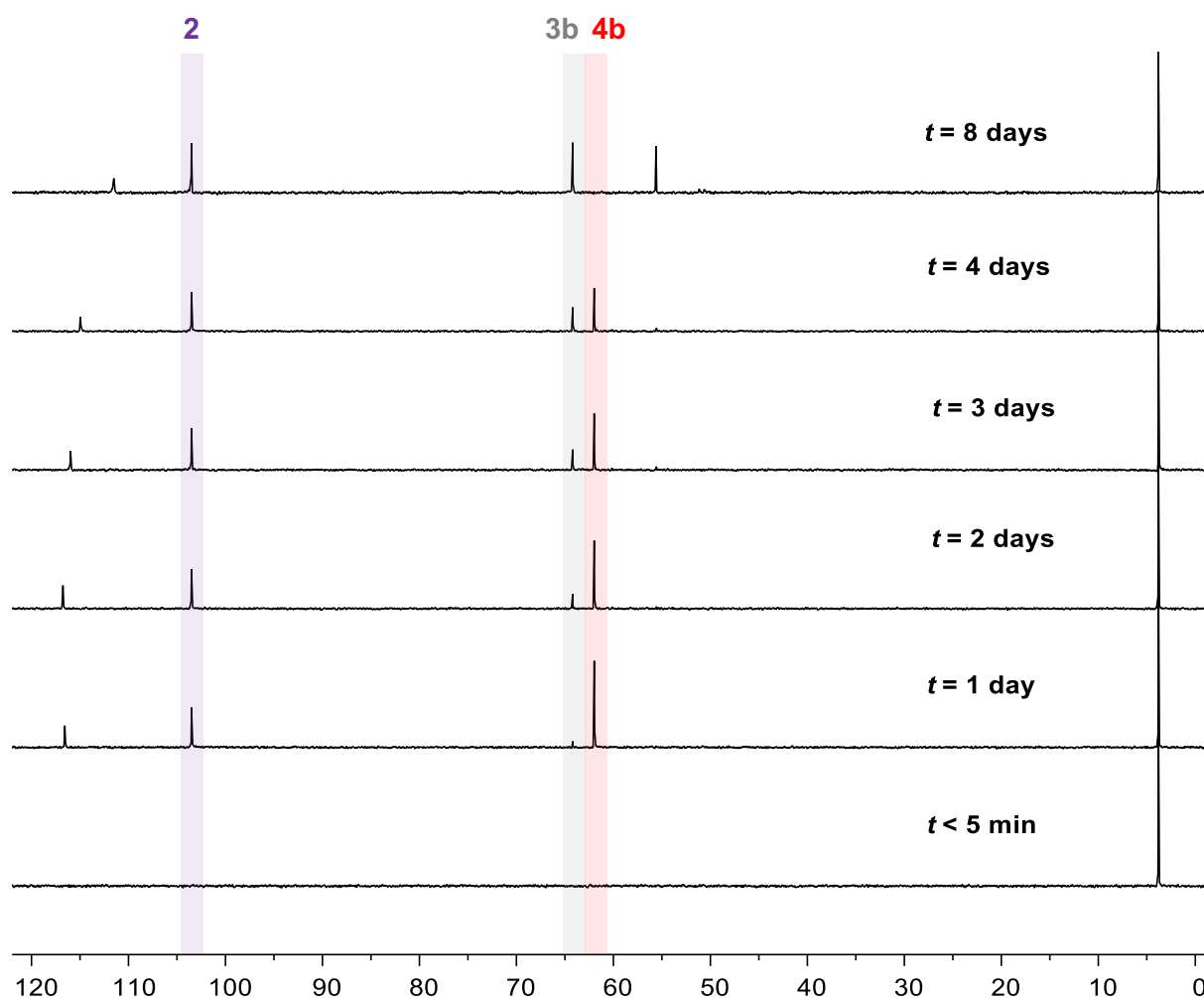


Figure S7. ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectra collected following addition of 1.5 equivalents of 2-(MeO)C₆H₄I to **1** (DFB/C₆D₆, 162 MHz; O=P(OMe)₃ internal reference at δ 3.8).

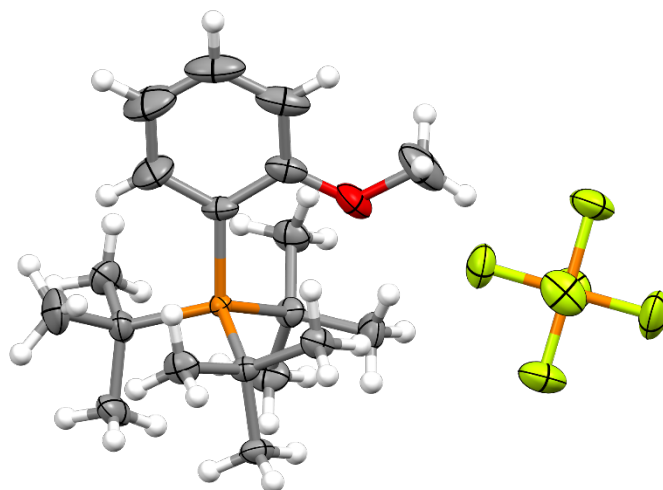


Figure S8. Solid-state structure of **3b**. Thermal ellipsoids at 50% probability.

2.4. 2,6-dimethoxyphenyl iodide

Following the general procedure using 2,6-(MeO) $\text{C}_6\text{H}_3\text{I}$ (4.1 mg, 16 μmol). Complete consumption of **1** was observed by ^1H NMR spectroscopy within 24 h at RT. At this point a 1:3:2 mixture of $[\text{Pd}(\text{PtBu}_3)(\mu\text{-I})]_2$ **2**, $[\text{Pd}(\text{PtBu}_3)_2(2,6\text{-(MeO)}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)]^+$ **4c**, and $[\text{PtBu}_3\text{I}]^+$ was observed by ^{31}P NMR spectroscopy.

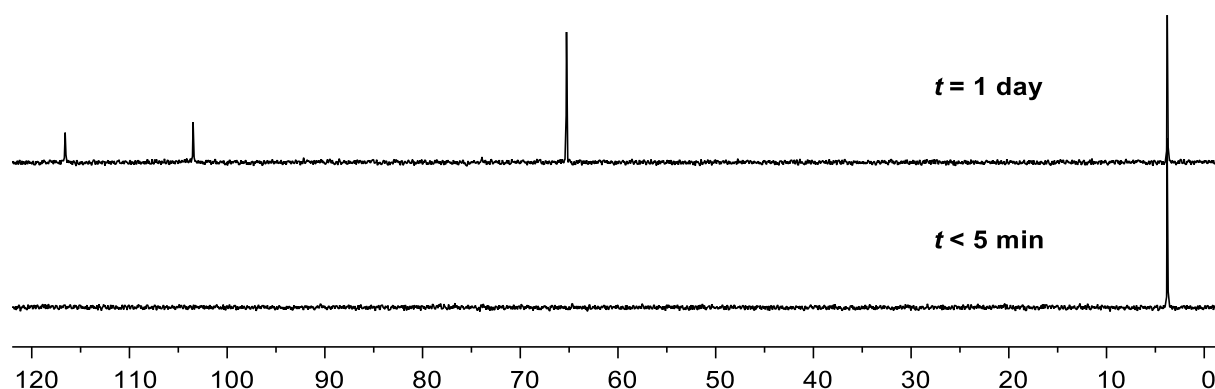


Figure S9. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectra collected following addition of 1.5 equivalents of 2,6-(MeO) $\text{C}_6\text{H}_3\text{I}$ to **1** (DFB/ C_6D_6 , 162 MHz; $\text{O}=\text{P}(\text{OMe})_3$ internal reference at δ 3.8).

2.5. Adamantyl iodide

Following the general procedure using AdI (3.9 mg, 15 μmol). Complete consumption of **1** was observed by ^1H NMR spectroscopy within 8 days at RT. At this point a mixture containing $[\text{Pd}(\text{PtBu}_3)(\mu\text{-I})]_2$ **2** and $[\text{PtBu}_3\text{Ad}]^+$ **3d** in a 1:2 ratio was observed by ^{31}P NMR spectroscopy along with trace amounts of $[\text{PtBu}_3\text{H}]^+$ and an unknown species at δ 77.3. Spectroscopic data of **3d** is consistent with that reported for the corresponding $[\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3\text{F}]^-$ salt and the assignment is supported by ESI-MS (observed, 337.3025; calcd 337.3019 m/z).⁷

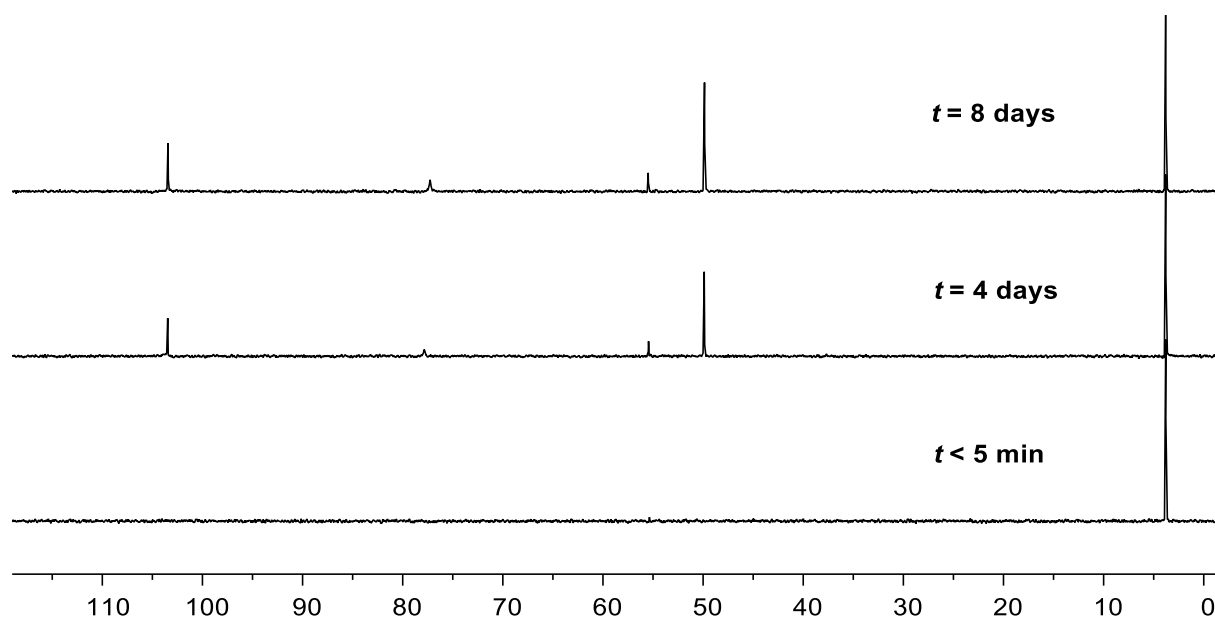


Figure S10. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectra collected following addition of 1.5 equivalents of AdI to **1** (DFB/ C_6D_6 , 162 MHz; $\text{O}=\text{P}(\text{OMe})_3$ internal reference at δ 3.8).

2.6. *tert*-Butyl iodide

Following the general procedure using *t*Bul (1.7 μL , 14 μmol). Complete consumption of **1** was observed by ^1H NMR spectroscopy within 24 h at RT. At this point a 1:2 mixture of $[\text{Pd}(\text{P}t\text{Bu}_3)(\mu\text{-I})]_2$ **2** and $[\text{P}t\text{Bu}_3\text{H}]^+$ was observed by ^{31}P NMR spectroscopy. Generation of 2-methylpropene was apparent from the ^1H NMR spectrum, with resonances at δ 4.56 (2H) and 1.54 (6H).⁸

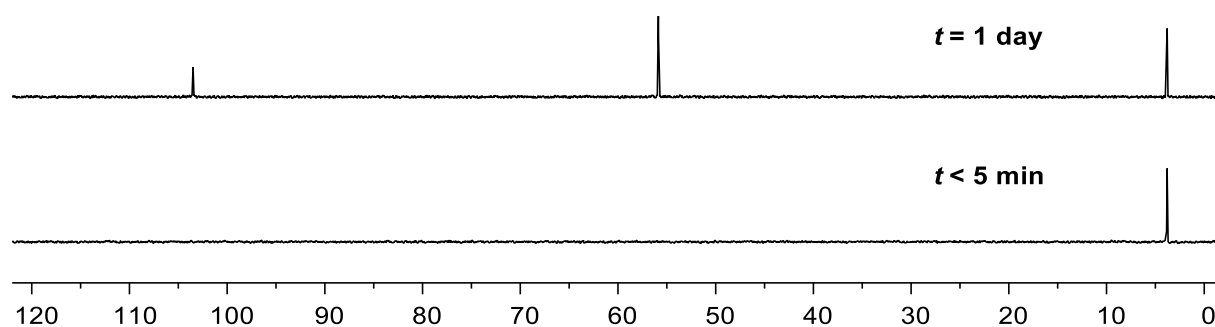


Figure S11. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectra collected following addition of 1.4 equivalents of *t*Bul to **1** (DFB/ C_6D_6 , 162 MHz; $\text{O}=\text{P}(\text{OMe})_3$ internal reference at δ 3.8).

2.7. Potassium iodide / 18-crown-6

Following the general procedure using KI (16.8 mg, 101 μmol) and 18-crown-6 (26.3 mg, 99.5 μmol). Complete consumption of **1** and conversion to $[\text{Pd}(\text{P}t\text{Bu}_3)(\mu\text{-I})]_2$ **2** and $\text{P}t\text{Bu}_3$ was observed within 5 min at RT.

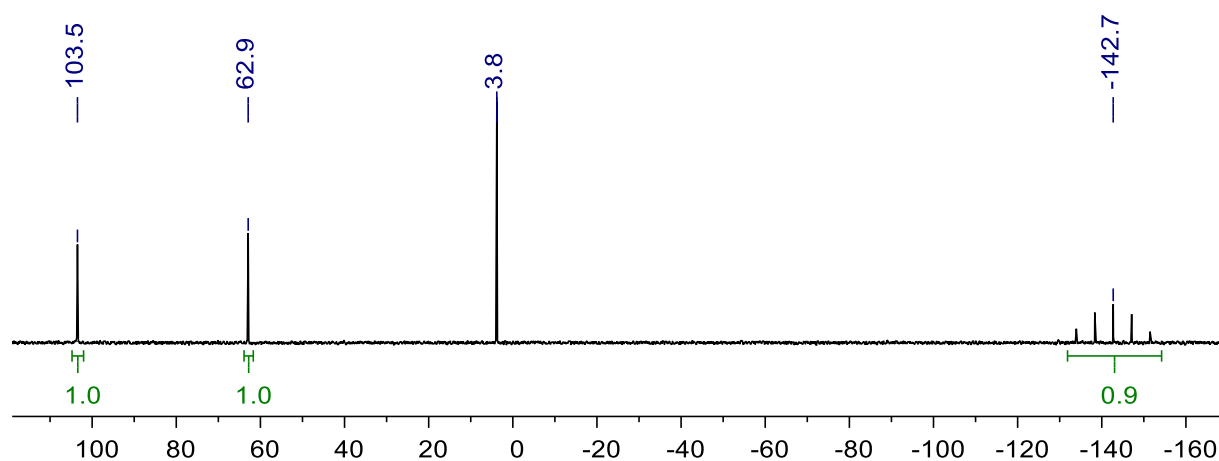


Figure S12. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectra of the products resulting from addition of 10 equivalents of KI and 18-crown-6 to **1** (DFB/ C_6D_6 , 162 MHz, $\text{O}=\text{P}(\text{OMe})_3$ internal reference at δ 3.8).

3. Control reactions with tri-*tert*-butylphosphine

3.1. General procedure

To a solution of PtBu_3 (10 μmol) in DFB (0.5 mL) within a J. Young valve NMR tube was added 10 equivalents of substrate at RT. The resulting solution was monitored using ^1H and ^{31}P NMR spectroscopy, with constant mixing when not in the spectrometer.

3.2. Phenyl iodide

Following the general procedure using PhI (11.2 μL , 100 μmol). No reaction was apparent after 24 h at RT, nor after subsequent heating at 50 $^\circ\text{C}$ for 24 h.

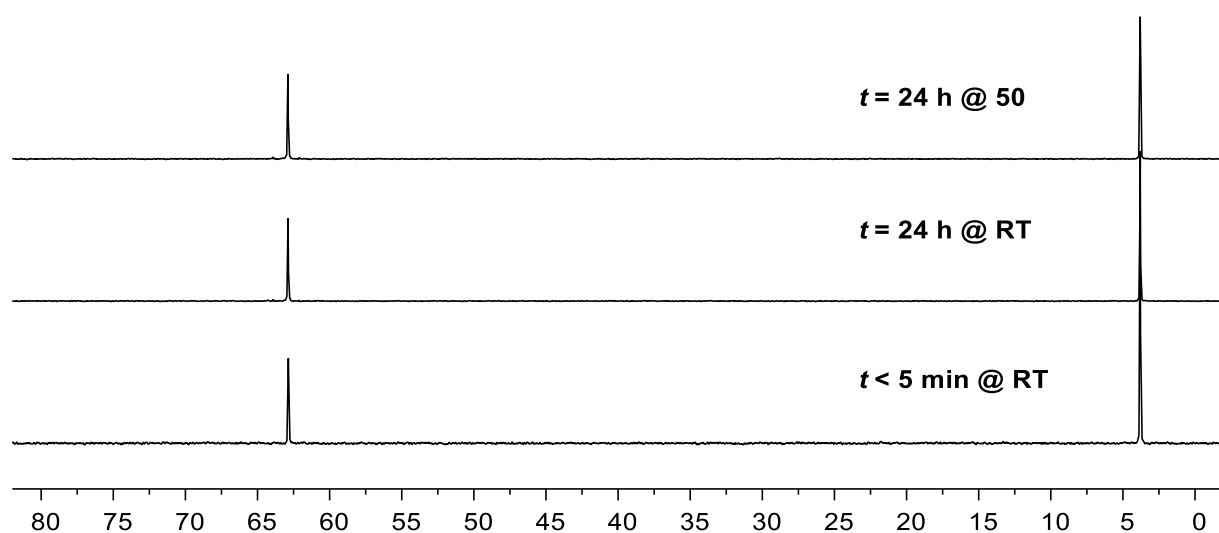


Figure S13. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectra collected following addition of PhI to PtBu_3 (DFB/ C_6D_6 , 162 MHz; $\text{O}=\text{P}(\text{OMe})_3$ internal reference at δ 3.8).

3.3. Adamantyl iodide

Following the general procedure using AdI (26.2 mg, 100 μ mol). No reaction was apparent after 24 h at RT, nor after subsequent heating at 50 $^{\circ}$ C for 24 h.

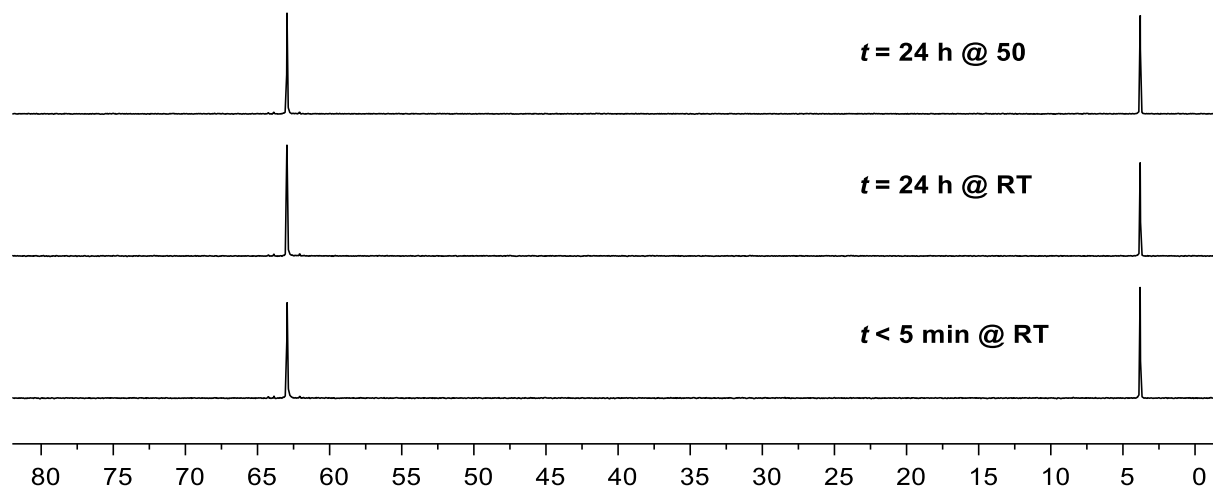


Figure S14. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectra collected following addition of AdI to PtBu_3 (DFB/ C_6D_6 , 162 MHz; $\text{O}=\text{P}(\text{OMe})_3$ internal reference at δ 3.8).

3.4. *tert*-Butyl iodide

Following the general procedure using *t*Bul (11.9 μ L, 100 μ mol). No reaction was apparent after 24 hours at RT, nor after subsequent heating at 50 $^{\circ}$ C for 24 h.

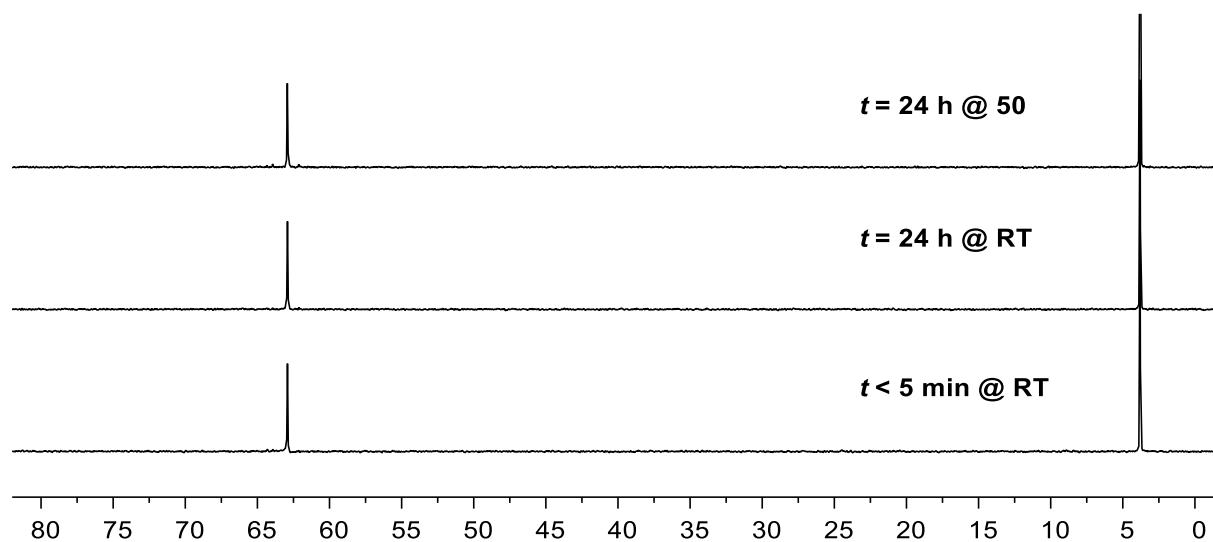


Figure S15. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectra collected following addition of *t*Bul to PtBu_3 (DFB/ C_6D_6 , 162 MHz; $\text{O}=\text{P}(\text{OMe})_3$ internal reference at δ 3.8).

3.5. Iodine

To a solution of I_2 (13.0 mg, 51 μ mol) in DFB (0.5 mL) within a J. Young valve NMR tube was added a solution of $PtBu_3$ in hexane (15 μ L, 0.69 M, 10 μ mol) at RT. Analysis within 5 min using 1H and ^{31}P NMR spectroscopy indicated complete conversion to $[PtBu_3]I$. Spectroscopic data of **3d** is consistent with that reported for the corresponding $[B(C_6F_5)_3F]^-$ salt.⁹

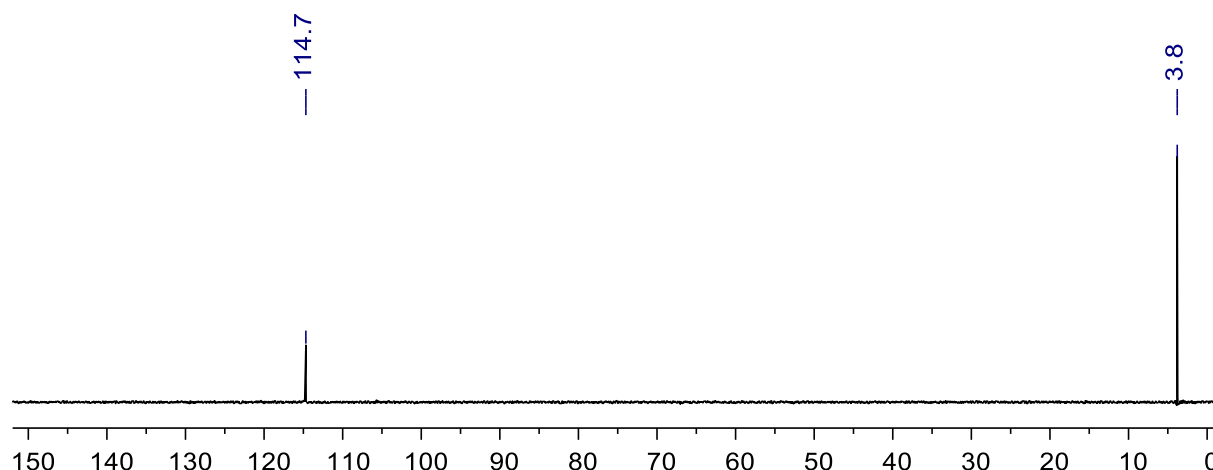


Figure S16. $^{31}P\{^1H\}$ NMR spectra collected following addition of I_2 to $PtBu_3$ (DFB/ C_6D_6 , 162 MHz; $O=P(OMe)_3$ internal reference at δ 3.8).

3.6. Preparation of $[PtBu_3H][PF_6]$

To a solution of $PtBu_3$ in pentane (1.25 mL, 0.87 M, 1.1 mmol) was added a solution of HCl in diethyl ether (1.44 mL, 1 M, 1.4 mmol) dropwise at RT. The resulting solution was stirred at RT for 30 min and volatiles removed *in vacuo*. The white residue was extracted with degassed acetone (10 mL) and a solution of $Na[PF_6]$ (241.0 mg, 1.4 mmol) in degassed acetone (10 mL) was added to the filtrate. The resulting solution was stirred for 30 min and volatiles removed *in vacuo*. The product was thereafter extracted from the residual salts using CH_2Cl_2 (3 \times 5 mL) and dried *in vacuo*. Yield: 280.1 mg (804 μ mol, 73%). Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the literature and the assignment is supported by determination of the solid-state structure.⁶

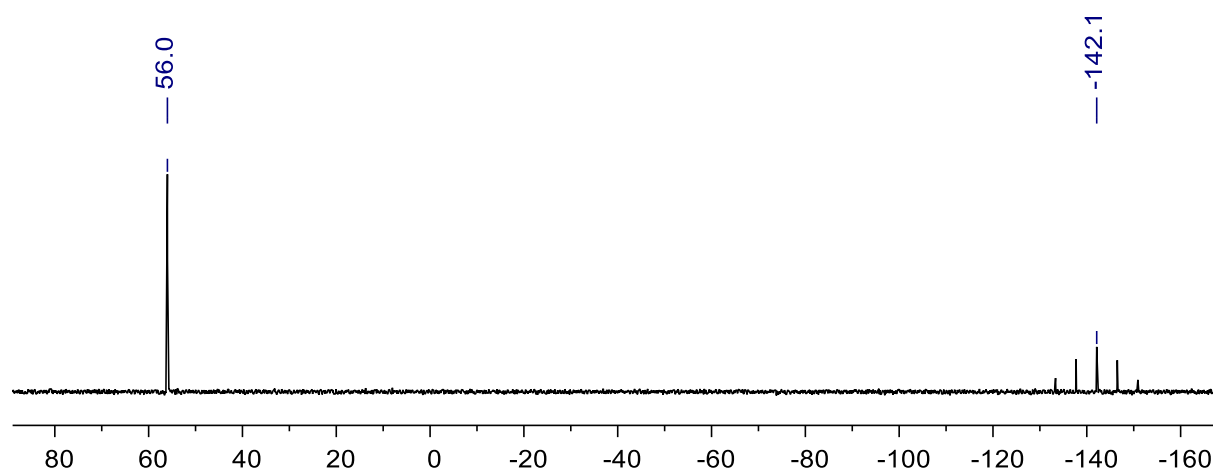


Figure S17. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of $[\text{PtBu}_3\text{H}][\text{PF}_6]$ (DFB/ C_6D_6 , 162 MHz).

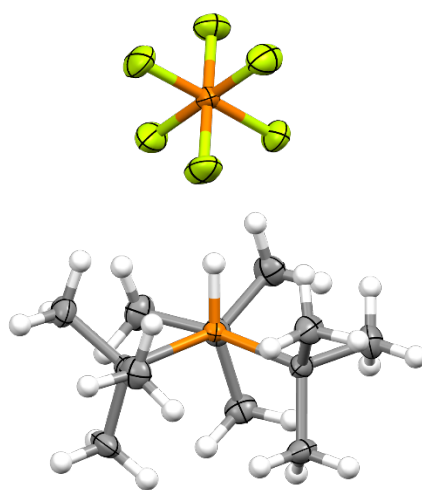


Figure S18. Solid-state structure of $[\text{PtBu}_3\text{H}][\text{PF}_6]$. Thermal ellipsoids at 50% probability.

4. Isolation, characterisation, and stability of [Pd(PtBu₃)₂(2-(MeO)C₆H₄)] [PF₆] **4b**

4.1. Preparation of **4b**

To a solution of [Pd(PtBu₃)₂][PF₆] **1** (75.1 mg, 114 μmol) in DFB (5 mL) was added 2-methoxyphenyl iodide (14.9 μL, 115 μmol) and the resulting solution stirred for 18 h at RT. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the residue purified by column chromatography (silica, CH₂Cl₂) to afford the product, which was subsequently recrystallised from DFB/hexane at −40 °C and obtained as red blocks. Yield: 28.0 mg (36.7 μmol, 32%).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DFB/C₆D₆, selected data): δ 6.64 (t, ³J_{HH} = 7.9, 5-Ar), 6.17 (d, ³J_{HH} = 6.2, 3-Ar), 3.63 (s, 3H, OMe), 1.19 (vt, J_{PH} = 12.7, 54H, tBu).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (126 MHz, DFB/C₆D₆): δ 159.0 (vt, J_{PC} = 11, 1-Ar), 157.5 (s, 2-Ar), 135.9 (s, 6-Ar), 127.0 (s, 4-Ar), 120.6 (s, 5-Ar), 110.5 (s, 3-Ar), 53.6 (s, OMe), 40.2 (vt, J_{PC} = 7, tBu{C}), 31.9 (vt, J_{PC} = 4, tBu{CH₃}).

³¹P{¹H} NMR (162 MHz, DFB/C₆D₆): δ 62.0 (s, 2P, PtBu₃), -142.3 (sept, ¹J_{PF} = 710, 1P, PF₆).

HR ESI-MS (positive ion, 4 kV): 617.3233 ([M]⁺, calcd 617.3239) *m/z*.

UV/Vis (DFB): λ_{max}/nm = 310 (ε = 8300 L^{−1} mol^{−1} cm^{−1}), 435 (ε = 1900 L^{−1} mol^{−1} cm^{−1}).

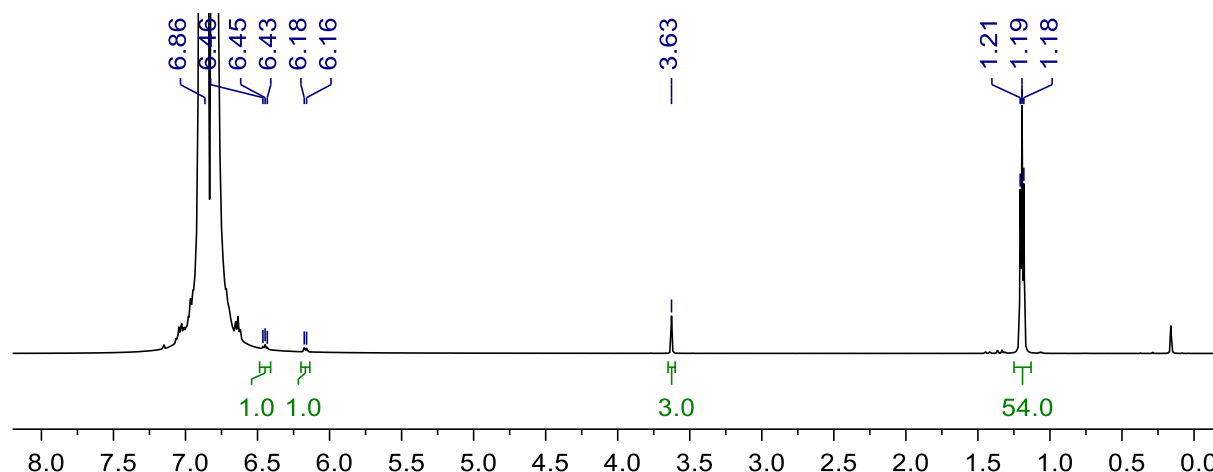


Figure S19. ¹H NMR spectrum of **4b** (DFB/C₆D₆, 500 MHz).

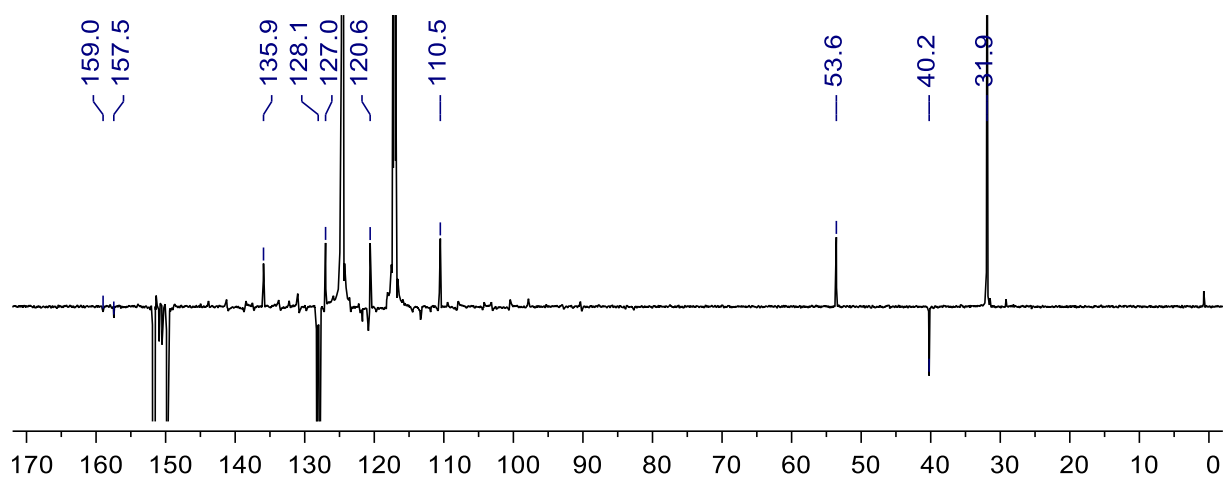


Figure S20. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ APT NMR spectrum of **4b** (DFB/ C_6D_6 , 126 MHz).

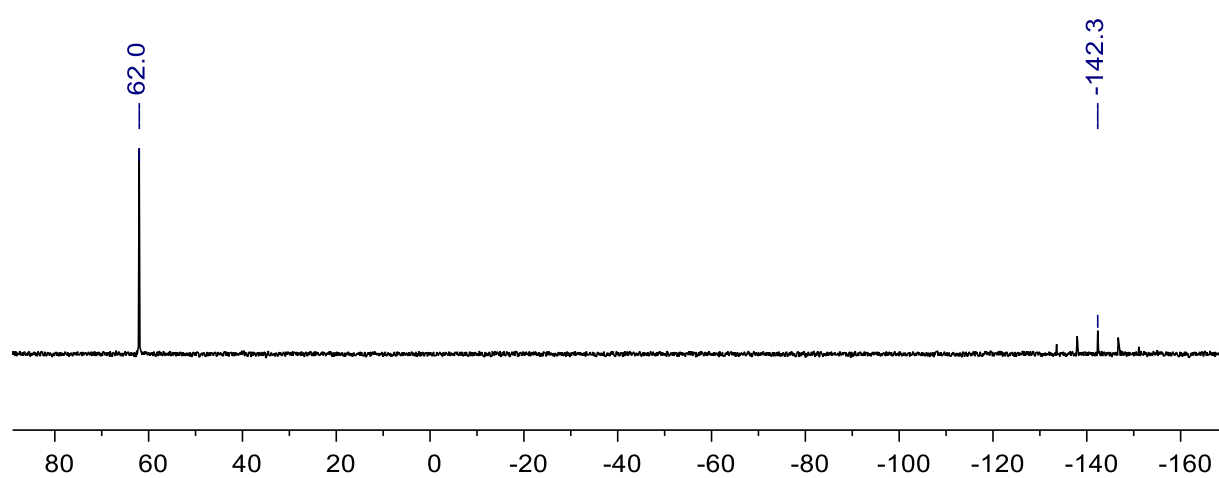


Figure S21. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of **4b** (DFB/ C_6D_6 , 162 MHz).

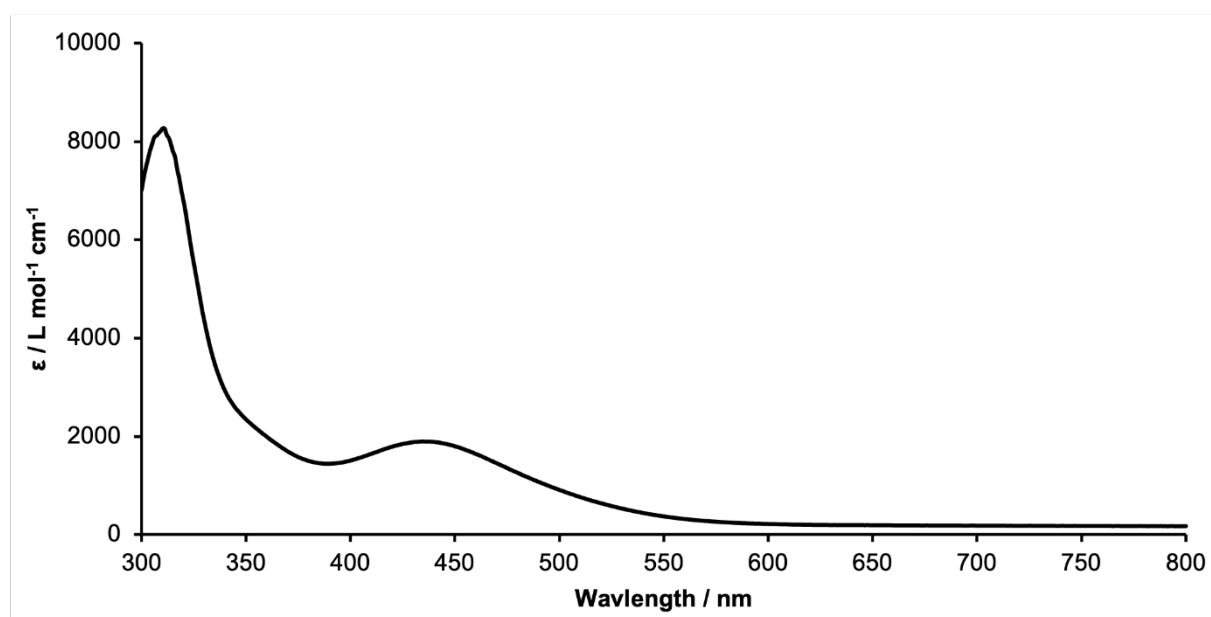


Figure S22. UV/vis spectrum of **4b** (DFB).

4.2. Stability of **4b**

A solution of **4b** (7.4 mg, 9.7 μmol) in DFB (0.5 mL) within a J. Young valve NMR tube was monitored over 14 days at RT using ^1H and ^{31}P NMR spectroscopy, with constant mixing when not in the spectrometer. Onward reactivity of **4b** was observed with an approximate $t_{1/2}$ of 3 days, concomitant with formation of $[\text{PtBu}_3(2-(\text{MeO})\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)]^+$ **3b**, $[\text{PtBu}_3\text{H}]^+$, and precipitation of palladium black.

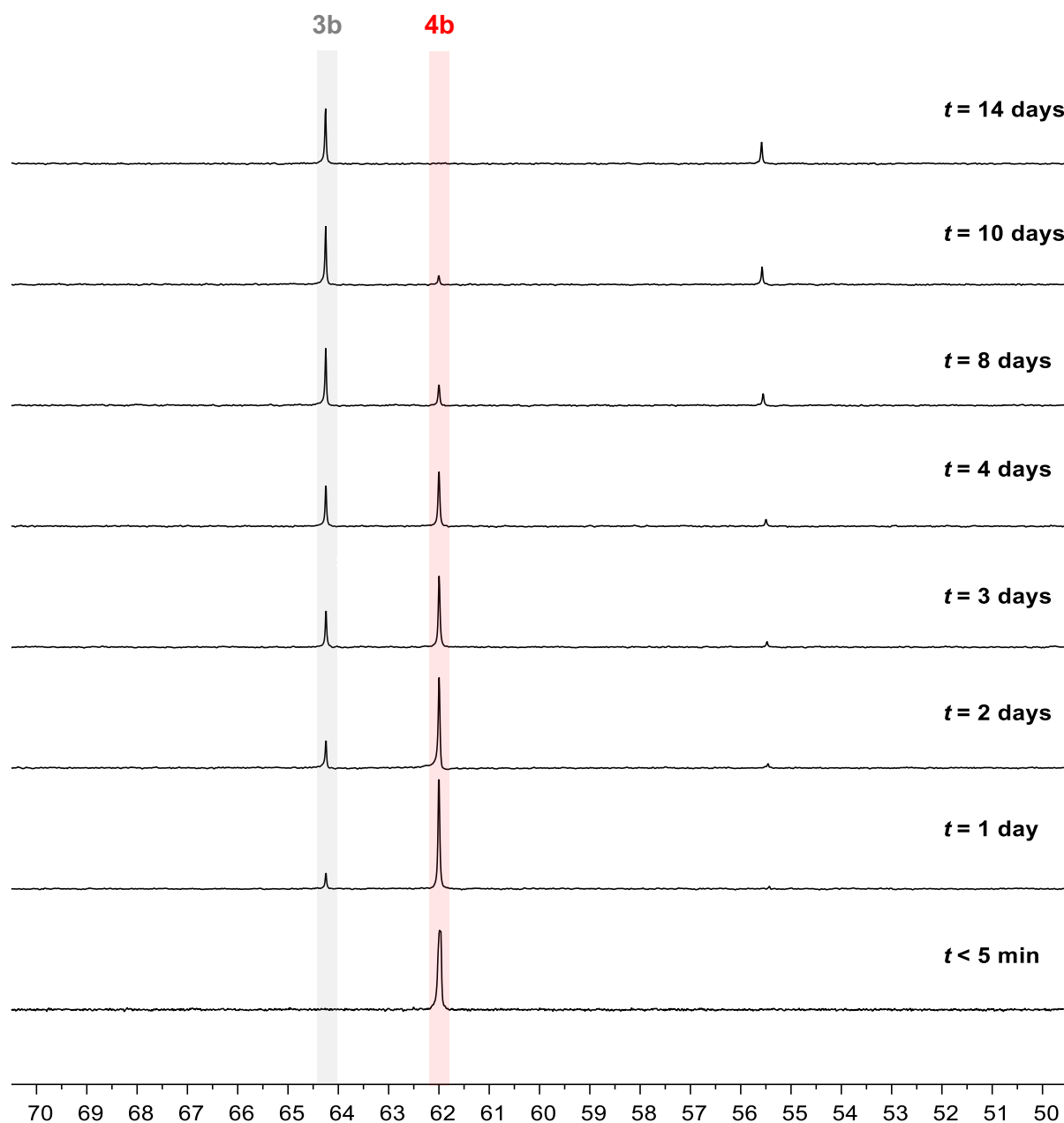


Figure S23. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectra collected following thermolysis of **4b** at RT (DFB/ C_6D_6 , 162 MHz).

4.3. Stability of **4b** in the presence of excess PtBu_3

A solution of **4b** (7.6 mg, 10 μmol) and PtBu_3 (64 μL of a 0.72 M solution in hexane, 46 μmol) in DFB (0.5 mL) within a J. Young valve NMR tube was monitored over 15 days at RT using ^1H and ^{31}P NMR spectroscopy, with constant mixing when not in the spectrometer. Onward reactivity of **4b** was observed with an approximate $t_{1/2}$ of 3 days, concomitant with formation of $[\text{Pd}(\text{PtBu}_3)_2]$ and $[\text{PtBu}_3(2\text{-(MeO)C}_6\text{H}_4)]^+$ **3b**.

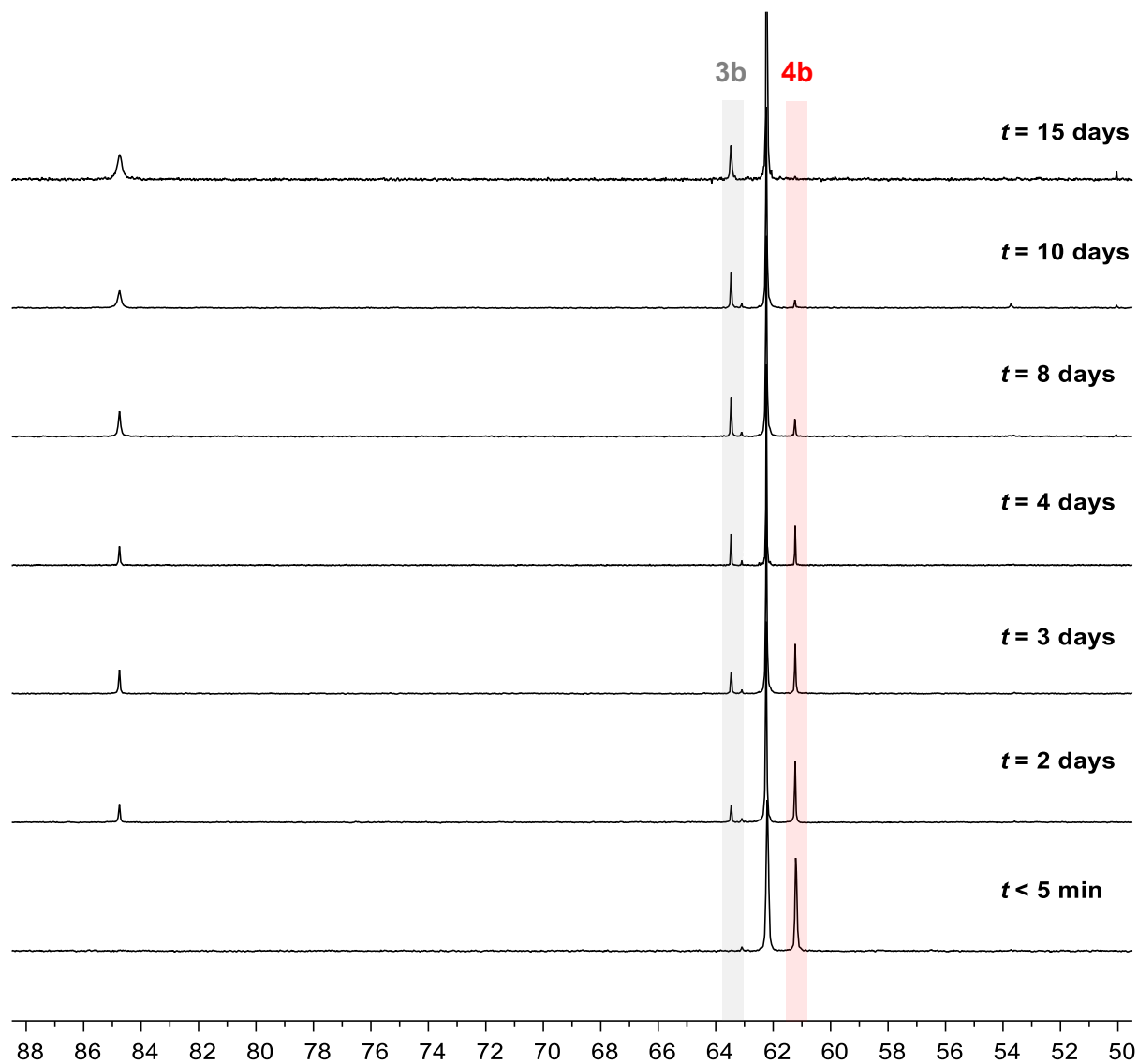


Figure S24. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectra collected following thermolysis of **4b** at RT in the presence of excess PtBu_3 (DFB/ C_6D_6 , 162 MHz).

5. Isolation, characterisation, and stability of $[\text{Pd}(\text{P}t\text{Bu}_3)_2(2,6\text{-(MeO)}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3)][\text{PF}_6]$ **4c**

5.1. Preparation of **4c**

A solution of $[\text{Pd}(\text{P}t\text{Bu}_3)_2][\text{PF}_6]$ (100 mg, 152 μmol) and 2,6-bis(methoxy)phenyl iodide (40.3 mg, 153 μmol) in DFB (5 mL) was stirred at RT for 1 day. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the residue purified by column chromatography (silica, CH_2Cl_2) to afford the product, which was subsequently recrystallised from DFB/hexane at -40°C and obtained as red blocks. Yield: 45.4 mg (57.2 μmol , 38%).

^1H NMR (500 MHz, DFB/ C_6D_6 , selected data): δ 5.93 (d, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 6.4$, 2H, Ar), 3.61 (s, 6H, OMe), 1.20 (vt, $J_{\text{PH}} = 12.8$, 54H, $\text{P}t\text{Bu}_3$).

$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (126 MHz, DFB/ C_6D_6): δ 158.8 (vt, $J_{\text{PC}} = 3$, 2-Ar), 128.0 (s, 4-Ar), 107.3 (s, 1-Ar), 103.7 (s, 3-Ar), 53.6 (s, OMe), 39.9 (vt, $J_{\text{PC}} = 7$, $t\text{Bu}\{\text{C}\}$), 31.9 (vt, $J_{\text{PC}} = 5$, $t\text{Bu}\{\text{CH}_3\}$).

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (162 MHz, DFB/ C_6D_6): δ 65.3 (s, 2P, $\text{P}t\text{Bu}_3$), -142.4 (sept, $^1J_{\text{PF}} = 710$, 1P, PF_6).

HR ESI-MS (positive ion, 4 kV): 647.3441 ($[\text{M}]^+$, calcd 647.3345) m/z .

UV/Vis (DFB): $\lambda_{\text{max}}/\text{nm} = 321$ ($\epsilon = 9900 \text{ L}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$), 463 ($\epsilon = 1700 \text{ L}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$).

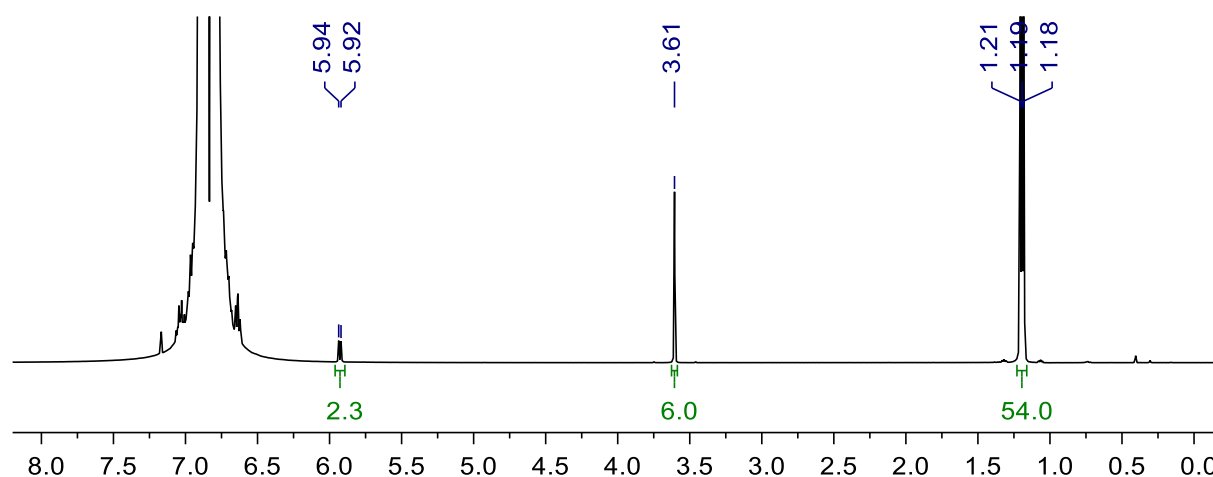


Figure S25. ^1H NMR spectrum of **4c** (DFB/ C_6D_6 , 500 MHz).

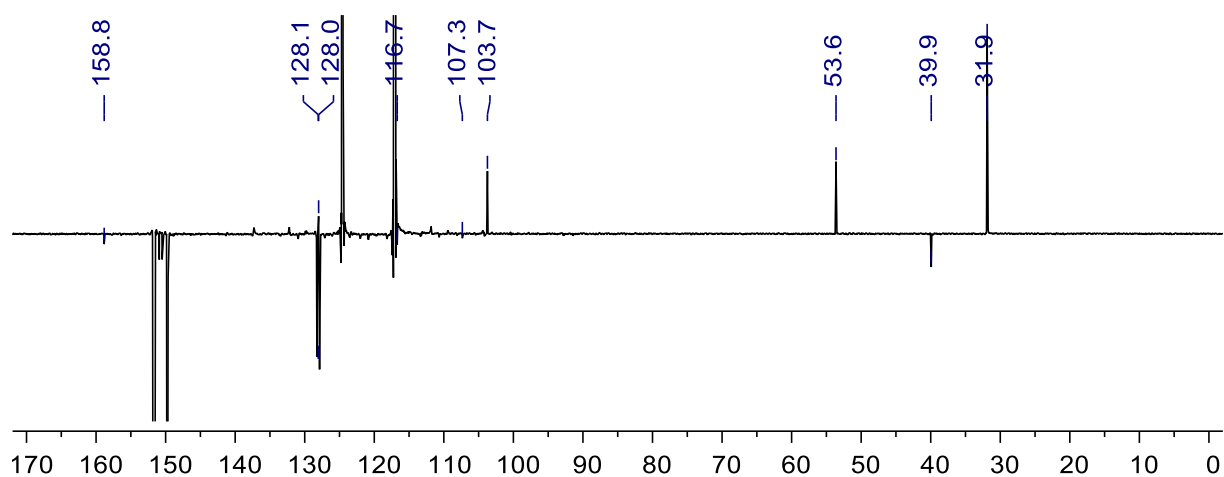


Figure S26. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ APT NMR spectrum of **4c** (DFB/ C_6D_6 , 126 MHz).

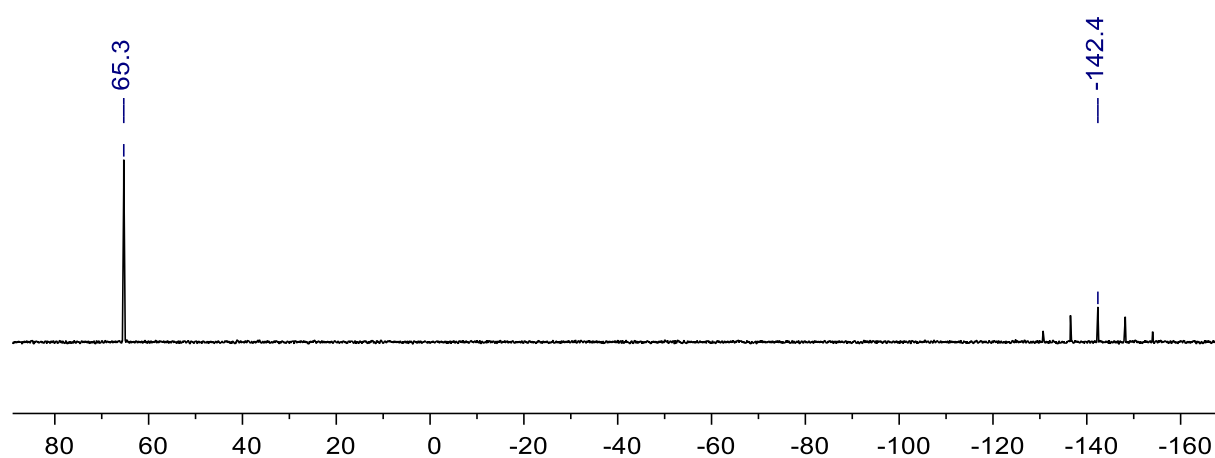


Figure S27. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of **4c** (DFB/ C_6D_6 , 162 MHz).

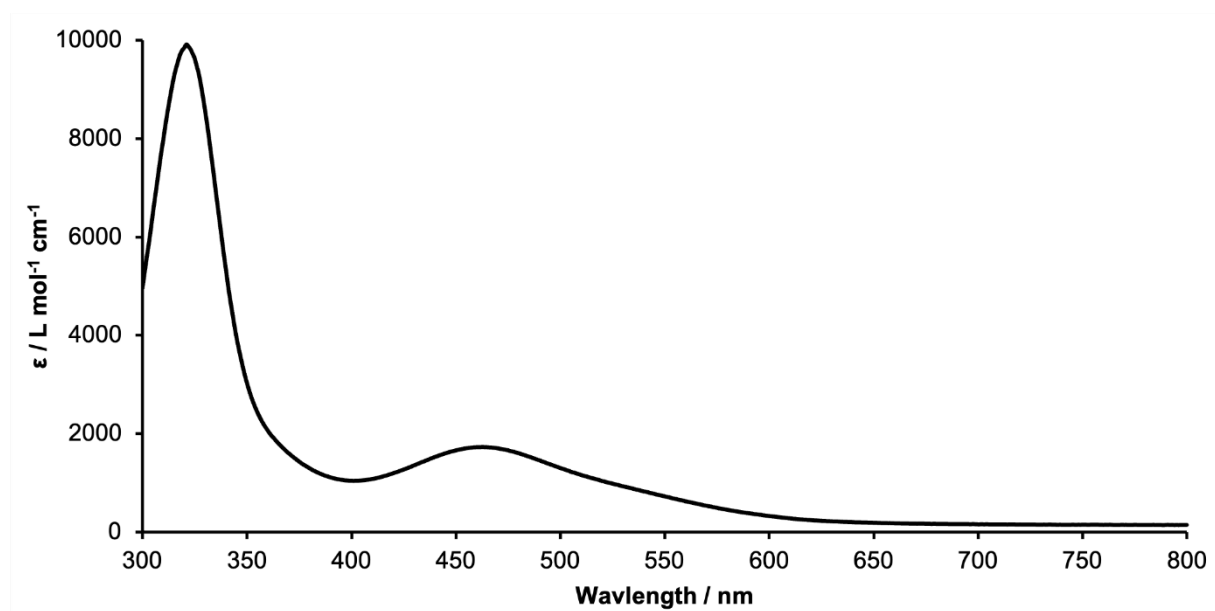


Figure S28. UV/vis spectrum of **4c** (DFB).

5.2. Stability of 4c

A solution of **4c** (7.8 mg, 9.8 μmol) in DFB (0.5 mL) within a J. Young valve NMR tube was monitored over 14 days at RT using ^1H and ^{31}P NMR spectroscopy, with constant mixing when not in the spectrometer. No onward reactivity was apparent.

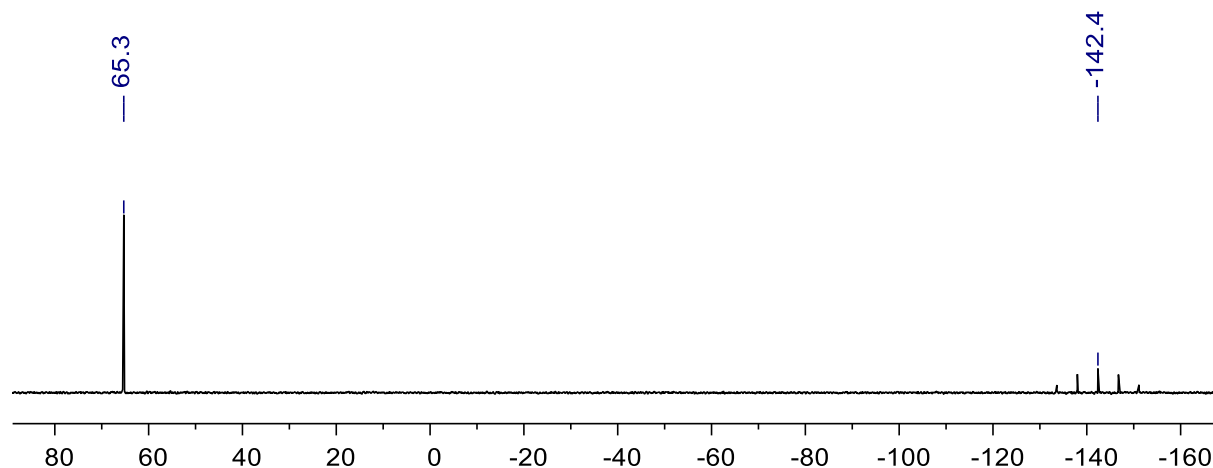


Figure S29. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum collected after thermolysis of **4b** at RT for 14 days (DFB/ C_6D_6 , 162 MHz).

6. Mechanistic sketch

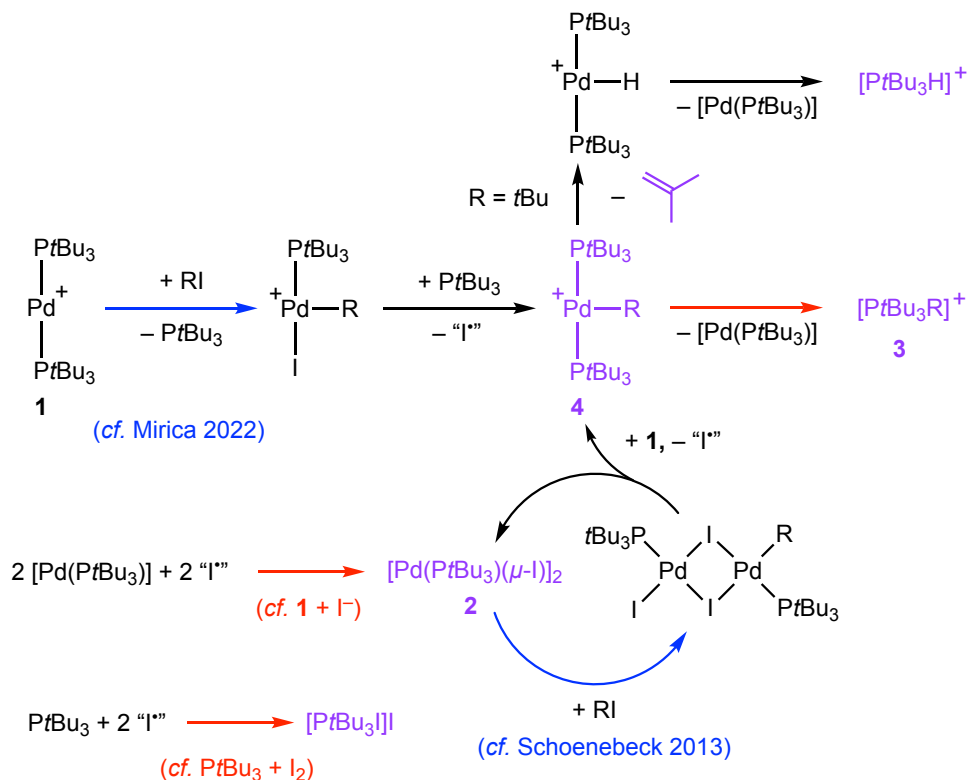


Figure S30. Overview of proposed mechanism: observed products in purple, reactions with experimental evidence in red, reactions with literature precedents in blue.

7. References

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