Supporting Information

Nickel-Catalyzed Diversification of Phosphine Ligands by Formal Substitution at Phosphorus

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1. General information

All air-sensitive manipulations were performed under an inert atmosphere in an argon-filled glovebox (LABmaster Pro SP, MBraun) or by standard Schlenk techniques. The substrates and reagents for catalytic reactions were degassed and stored under an inert atmosphere in the glovebox. Bis(cycloocta-1,5-diene)nickel(0) (Ni(COD)₂) was purchased from Strem, and liPr•HBF₄ (liPr•HBF₄ = 1,3-di(*iso*-propyl)imidazolium tetrafluoroborate) was purchased from Sigma Aldrich. They were used as received and stored in an argon-filled glovebox. BH₃•SMe₂ and sodium cyanide were purchased from Sigma Aldrich and used as received. Anhydrous potassium phosphate (K₃PO₄) was purchased from Fluorochem and was dried in an oven (120 °C overnight) before it was stored under argon in a glovebox. Phenylboronic acid was purchased from Sigma Aldrich and directly transferred into an argon-filled glovebox for storage. We noticed that older batches of phenylboronic acid performed worse in the reaction, presumably because of the formation of triphenylboroxin (see optimization data). Freshly purchased phenylboronic acid that was stored under inert gas gave reproducible results for more than half a year. Commercial phosphonium salt starting materials were used without further purification or drying. The air-stable Ni(0) pre-catalysts Ni-1, Ni-2, and Ni-3 were provided by the groups of Cornella and Engle.

Proton nuclear magnetic resonance (¹H NMR) spectra were acquired on commercial 400 MHz instruments at the NMR facility of ETH Zürich. Carbon-13 nuclear magnetic resonance (¹³C NMR) spectra were acquired at 101 MHz. Fluorine-19 nuclear magnetic resonance (¹⁹F NMR) spectra were acquired at 376 MHz. Phosphorus-31 nuclear magnetic resonance (³¹P NMR) spectra were acquired at 162 MHz. ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectra that show integration were acquired with inverse-gated decoupling (O1P = 0 ppm, D1 = 20 s). Boron-11 nuclear magnetic resonance (¹¹B NMR) spectra were acquired at 128 MHz. The proton signal for the residual non-deuterated solvent (δ 7.26 ppm for CDCl₃, 2.08 ppm for tol-*d*₈) was used as an internal reference for ¹H NMR spectra. For ¹³C NMR spectra, chemical shifts are reported relative to the δ 77.16 ppm resonance of CDCl₃ or the δ 20.43 ppm resonance of tol-*d*₈. Coupling constants are reported in Hz. Multiplicities are indicated by s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), pent (quintet), hex (sextet), m (multiplet), and br (broad) or a combination thereof.

GC measurements were conducted on a Shimadzu GC-2025 Series GC system. GC-MS spectra were obtained on an instrument containing a Shimadzu GC-2010 Plus GC system and a Shimadzu GC-MS QP 2020 system.

High-resolution mass spectra were provided by the mass spectrometry service facility in the Laboratories of Organic Chemistry at ETH Zürich. The data was obtained using electron ionisation (EI) on a Thermo scientific Q Exactive GC Orbitrap with direct Probe, electrospray ionisation (ESI) on a Bruker maXis – ESI-Qq-TOF-MS or matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionisation (MALDI) on Bruker solariX – MALDI-FTICR-MS and are reported in m/z.

Analytical thin-layer chromatography was performed on pre-coated, glass-backed silica gel plates (Merck, 0.25 mm silica gel Si 60, F254). Visualization of the developed chromatogram was either performed by UV absorbance at a wavelength of λ = 254 nm or KMnO₄ stain. Flash column chromatography was performed on a Biotage Isolera One system with Sfär columns. Silica gel 60 (particle size 40 – 63 µm, Silicycle) was used to fill the cartridge of the Isolera One system.

Preparative HPLC separations were carried out on an Agilent 1260 Infinity II system (C18 5u, 250x21 mm) with reverse phase conditions using gradients of acetonitrile in H_2O (0.1% formic acid).

Safety Note: Sodium cyanide is highly toxic and should only be handled with caution in a fumehood and under basic reaction conditions to avoid the formation of gaseous HCN.

2. Reaction Optimization

Optimization of the reaction of monophosphonium salts

Inside a glovebox filled with argon, a 4-mL screw-cap vial was charged with Ni(COD)₂ (2.8 mg, 0.01 mmol, 0.1 equiv.), liPr•HBF₄ (4.8 mg, 0.02 mmol, 0.2 equiv.), benzyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (**1a**) (43.3 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 4-methoxyphenylboronic acid (**S1**) (16.7 mg, 0.11 mmol, 1.1 equiv.), potassium phosphate (42.5 mg, 0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv.), and dioxane (0.5 mL). The vial was capped, taken out of the glovebox, and stirred in a pre-heated heating block at 80 °C for 22 hours. After cooling to room temperature, triphenyl phosphate was added as an internal standard, and the mixture was diluted with 2 mL of dioxane. After shaking the vial for 30 seconds, ca. 0.5 mL of the solution were transferred to an NMR tube. Ca. 0.1 mL of THF-*d*₈ were also added to the NMR tube. The NMR tube was shaken to allow for mixing, and a ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum with inverse-gated decoupling was acquired (O1P = 0 ppm, D1 = 20 s).



Entry	Deviation from above	Yield S2 + S3 (%) ^a	Yield 4 + S4 (%) ^a	Selectivity ^b
1	None	90	7	12.9
2	Pd ₂ dba ₃ (5 mol%) instead of Ni(COD) ₂	10	77	0.1
3	Pd(OAc) ₂ instead of Ni(COD) ₂	5	79	0.1
4	NiCl ₂ •glyme instead of Ni(COD) ₂	31	66	0.5
5	SIPr•HCI instead of IiPr•HBF ₄	70	9	7.8
6	Phen (10 mol%) instead of liPr•HBF ₄	66	20	3.3
7	dcype (10 mol%) instead of liPr•HBF ₄	54	48	1.1
8	PhB(OH) ₂ instead of S1	87 (82 ^c)	6	14.5
9	Ph ₃ (BO) ₃ instead of S1	11	8	1.5
10	B ₂ pin ₂	51	21	2.4
11	PhBpin instead of S1	44	17	2.6
12	PhBF ₃ K instead of S1	45	25	1.8
13	4-MeC ₆ H ₄ B(OH) ₂ instead of S1	80	9	8.9
14	4-CF ₃ C ₆ H ₄ B(OH) ₂ instead of S1	65	4	16.3
15	60 °C	81	5	16.2
16	10 mol% liPr•HBF₄	78	5	15.6
17	5 mol% Ni(COD) ₂ ,	74	7	10.6
	10 mol% liPr•HBF ₄			
18	Toluene instead of dioxane	24	46	0.5
19	No Ni(COD) ₂	6	90	0.1
20	No liPr•HBF4	73	5	14.6
21	No S1	28	60	0.5
22	No K ₃ PO ₄	0	6	0
23	PhB(OH) ₂ instead of S1	9	85	0.1
	NiCl ₂ •glyme instead of Ni(COD) ₂ , 0.2 equiv. Mn			
24	PhB(OH) ₂ instead of S1	10	88	0.1
	NiCl ₂ •glyme instead of Ni(COD) ₂ , 0.2 equiv. Zn			
25	PhB(OH) ₂ instead of S1	11	81	0.1
	NiBr ₂ •glyme instead of Ni(COD) ₂ , 0.2 equiv. Mn			
26	PhB(OH) ₂ instead of S1	14	86	0.2
	NUKradymo instead of NU(('())), () 2 aguin 7a			

Table S1. Key optimization results for the reaction of monophosphonium salts.

NiBr₂•glyme instead of Ni(COD)₂, 0.2 equiv. Zn

a: Combined ³¹P{¹H} qNMR yield of the phosphine product and its corresponding oxide using triphenyl phosphate as internal standard. b: selectivity = (S2+S3)/(4+S4). c: isolated yield after derivatization to the borane adduct.

In all reactions, **4** was only observed in trace amounts and the main dealkylation product was triphenylphosphine oxide (**S4**). As **S4** was also formed in 90% in the absence of $Ni(COD)_2$ (Table S1, entry 19), we think that the minor dealkylation side reaction is a non-catalyzed background reaction, potentially as a result of trace moisture in the reaction mixture.

Similarly, we think that the formation of **S4** as the major product in the presence of palladium and nickel(II) catalysts (entries 2-4) might be caused by the same background reaction. The metal(II) precatalysts might be ineffective due to lack of a suitable reductants to access active metal(0) species. Pd₂dba₃ might be inactive at the tested reaction temperature because of inhibition by dba that prevents oxidative addition into the more weakly-binding phosphonium salt starting material.

Isolated phosphine products (typically derivatized to the BH₃ adduct) did not contain measurable amounts of undesired dealkylation products if not indicated.

The fact that the reaction also proceeds in good yield in the absence of the NHC ligand (entry 20) leads us to believe that the phosphine product **S2** can also act as a catalytically active ligand for the Ni-catalyst. The main role of the NHC ligand may therefore simply be to prevent undesired binding of the phosphine product **S2** to nickel, leading to higher yields.

Optimization of the reaction of bisphosphonium salts

Initial decomplexation experiments

Inside a glovebox filled with argon, a 4-mL screw-cap vial was charged with Ni(COD)₂ (1.0 equiv.), liPr•HBF₄ (2.0 equiv.), bisphosphonium salt **15** (1.0 equiv.), phenylboronic acid (2.2 equiv.), potassium phosphate (4.0 equiv.), and dioxane (0.2 M). The vial was capped with a septum cap, taken out of the glovebox, and stirred in a pre-heated heating block at 80 °C for 22 hours. The mixture was allowed to cool down and partitioned into multiple vials. Each resulting sample was further diluted with the indicated solvent and was then subjected to different additives and reaction conditions listed below (Table S2). The reaction mixture was analyzed by GC/MS to probe the formation of DPPP (**5**).



 Table S2. Initial decomplexation studies.

Entry	Additive	Equiv.	Conditions	Product formation
1	2-2'-Bipy	3.0	dioxane, 100 °C, 22 h	Not detected
2	2-2'-Bipy	5.0	dioxane, 120 °C, 22 h	Not detected
3	4,4'-Dimethoxy-2,2'-bipyridine	5.0	dioxane, 120 °C, 22 h	Not detected
4	4,4'-Dimethoxy-2,2'-bipyridine	10.0	dioxane, 120 °C, 22 h	Not detected
5	4,4'-Dimethoxy-2,2'-bipyridine	10.0	dioxane/DMA, 150 °C, 22 h	Not detected
6	Dcype	3.0	dioxane, 100 °C, 22 h	Not detected
7	TMEDA	5.0	dioxane, 100 °C, 22 h	Not detected
8	TMEDA	5.0	dioxane, 120 °C, 22 h	Not detected
9	TMEDA	10.0	dioxane, 120 °C, 22 h	Not detected
10	TMEDA	10.0	dixoxane/DMA, 150 °C, 22 h	Not detected
11	(L)-Cysteine	6.0	dioxane, 120 °C, 22 h	Not detected
12	Na ₂ H ₂ EDTA	5.0	dioxane, 100 °C, 22 h	Not detected
13	Na ₂ H ₂ EDTA	5.0	dioxane, 120 °C, 22 h	Not detected
14	Na ₂ H ₂ EDTA	10.0	dioxane, 120 °C, 22 h	Not detected
15	Na ₂ H ₂ EDTA	10.0	dioxane/DMA, 150 °C, 22 h	Not detected
16	Melamine	6.0	dioxane, 120 °C, 22 h	Not detected
17	NaCN	20.0	dioxane/Toluene/DMA, 150 °C, 22 h	Not detected
18	NaCN	6.0	dioxane/Toluene/Water, 80 °C, 22 h	Observed

Optimization of the decomplexation step

Inside filled а glovebox with argon, а 4-mL screw-cap vial was charged with bis(bis(diphenylphosphino)propane))nickel(0) (Ni(DPPP)₂) (22.1 mg, 0.025 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and dioxane (0.5 mL). The vial was capped with a septum cap and taken out of the glovebox. KCN (9.7 mg, 0.15 mmol, 6.0 equiv.) was added as a solution in water (0.5 mL) through the septum. Then, the co-solvent was added through the septum. The vial was stirred in a pre-heated heating block with 600 rpm at 80 °C for 3 hours. After cooling to room temperature, n-dodecane (7.5 µL) was added, the vial was shaken, and a sample was taken for GC analysis.



Entry	Co-solvent	Other deviation	Yield (%) ^a
1	-	-	< 5%
2	-	100 °C	< 5%
3	tol	-	< 5%
4	C ₆ H ₅ CI	-	< 5%
5	DCM	-	50%
6	DCM	1200 rpm	73%
7	DCM	0.25 mL H ₂ O	86%
8	DCM	1200 rpm, 0.25 mL H ₂ O, 50 °C, 20 h	17%
9	DCE	1200 rpm, 0.25 mL H ₂ O	quant.

Table S3. Optimization of the decomplexation step.

a: Yield determined by GC analysis using *n*-dodecane as internal standard.

Optimization of the combined reaction steps

Procedure for optimization reactions:

Inside a glovebox filled with argon, a 4-mL screw-cap vial was charged with Ni(COD)₂ (6.9 mg, 0.025 mmol, 0.5 equiv.) bisphosphonium salt **15** (36.3 mg, 0.05 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), phenylboronic acid (13.4 mg, 0.11 mmol, 2.2 equiv.), potassium phosphate (42.5 mg, 0.2 mmol, 4.0 equiv.), and dioxane (0.5 mL). The vial was capped with a septum cap, taken out of the glovebox, and stirred in a pre-heated heating block with 1200 rpm at 80 °C for 22 hours. After cooling to room temperature, a solution of sodium cyanide (7.4 mg, 0.15 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in water (0.25 mL) was added through the septum. The vial was stirred in a pre-heated heating block with 1200 rpm at 80 °C for 3 hours. After cooling to room temperature, *n*-dodecane (7.5 µL) was added, the vial was shaken, and a sample was taken for GC analysis.



Entry	Х	Y	Z	T (°C)	Other deviation	Yield (%) ^a
1	2.2	0.1	3.0	80	KCN instead of NaCN	23
2	2.2	0.1	3.0	80	-	29
3	2.2	0.1	3.0	80	0.6 equiv Ni(COD)2	28
4	2.2	0.1	3.0	80	1.0 equiv Ni(COD)2	25
5	2.2	0.1	3.0	80	2.2 equiv. K ₃ PO ₄	26
6	3.0	0.1	3.0	80	-	52
7	2.2	0.05	3.0	80	-	31
8	2.2	0.1	4.0	80	-	36
9	2.2	0.1	6.0	80	-	34
10	2.2	0.1	3.0	60	-	40
11	2.2	0.1	3.0	80	1.0 mL DCE	31
12	3.0	0.05	4.0	60	1.0 mL DCE	29
13	4.0	0.05	4.0	60	1.0 mL DCE	57

Table S4. Key optimization results for the reaction of bisphosphonium salts.

a: Yield determined by GC analysis using *n*-dodecane as internal standard.

3. Synthesis of starting materials

General procedure for the formation of phosphonium salts (GP1)

Inside a glovebox filled with argon, a 16-mL screw-cap vial was charged with phosphine (1.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and toluene (0.5 mL). The vial was capped with a septum cap and taken out of the glovebox. 1-Bromobutane (3) (480 μ L, 4.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) was added through the septum, and the reaction mixture was stirred overnight at 120 °C.

Different protocols were followed to isolate the products:

Workup procedure A:

After cooling to room temperature, volatile materials were evaporated under reduced pressure. The resulting foam was crushed, suspended in Et_2O , and stirred vigorously for 15 minutes. After cooling to 0 °C, the mixture was filtered and washed with cold Et_2O (0 °C) to yield the phosphonium salt. *Workup procedure B:*

After cooling to room temperature, volatile materials were evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in a small amount of DCM. Addition of an excess of Et_2O led to the formation of a precipitate. After cooling to 0 °C, the mixture was filtered and washed with cold Et_2O (0 °C) to yield the phosphonium salt.

Workup procedure C:

After cooling to room temperature, an excess of toluene was added to the reaction mixture. After stirring for 5 minutes, the reaction mixture was filtered, and the residue was washed with toluene and diethyl ether to yield the phosphonium salt.

A different workup procedure was followed in some cases.

Commercially available starting materials:



The phosphonium salts 1a, 1a', 1b, 1c, 1e, and 1f are commercially available and were used as received.

Benzyltriphenylphosphonium iodide (1a'')



Inside a glovebox filled with argon, a 16-mL screw-cap vial was charged with sodium iodide (540 mg, 3.6 mmol, 2.4 equiv.). The vial was capped with a septum cap and taken out of the glovebox. Benzyl bromide (11) (210 μ L, 1.8 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) and dry acetone (3.6 mL) were added by syringe through the septum. The reaction mixture was stirred in the dark at room temperature overnight. Afterwards, the reaction mixture was filtered, and the residue was washed with acetone. Volatile materials of the combined filtrate were evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in Et₂O and washed twice with water. The organic layer was dried with magnesium sulfate, and volatile materials were evaporated under reduced pressure stirred at room temperature for two hours. Then, an excess of Et₂O was added. After cooling to 0 °C, the mixture was filtered, and the residue was hit esolid (523 mg, 73%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.83 – 7.74 (m, 3H), 7.75 – 7.68 (m, 6H), 7.67 – 7.60 (m, 6H), 7.25 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 7.16 – 7.11 (m, 2H), 7.10 – 7.07 (m, 2H), 5.26 (d, *J* = 14.2 Hz, 2H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 135.3 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 134.6 (d, *J* = 9.8 Hz), 131.6 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz), 130.4 (d, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 129.1 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz), 128.7 (d, *J* = 3.8 Hz), 126.9 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 117.8 (d, *J* = 85.8 Hz), 31.4 (d, *J* = 47.2 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 22.9 ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₅H₂₂P [M-I]⁺ calcd.: 353.1454, found: 353.1452.

Triphenyl(3-phenylpropyl)phosphonium bromide (1d)



A 16-mL screw-cap vial was charged with triphenylphosphine (4) (2.62 g, 10.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), alkyl bromide **S6** (1.52 mL, 12.0 mmol, 1.2 equiv.), and toluene (3.3 mL). The vial was capped, and the reaction mixture was stirred at 120 °C for overnight. After cooling to room temperature, an excess of Et₂O was added to the reaction mixture. After cooling to 0 °C, the reaction mixture was filtered, and the residue washed with cold Et₂O (0 °C) to yield the title compound as a white solid (3.38 g, 73%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.78 – 7.67 (m, 9H), 7.67 – 7.58 (m, 6H), 7.24 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 7.18 – 7.11 (m, 3H), 3.89 – 3.71 (m, 2H), 2.98 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.92 (hex, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 140.2, 135.1 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 133.7 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz), 130.5 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz), 128.8 (d, *J* = 34.7 Hz), 126.4, 118.2 (d, *J* = 86.0 Hz), 35.7 (d, *J* = 16.6 Hz), 24.6 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz), 21.7 (d, *J* = 50.7 Hz) ppm (1 less signal than expected due to overlapping signals or assignment as doublet instead of singlet).

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 24.4 ppm.

The spectroscopic data matched those reported in the literature.¹

(2-Norbornyl)triphenylphosphonium bromide (1g)



A 16-mL screw-cap vial was charged with triphenylphosphine (790 mg, 3.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), *exo*-2bromonorbornane (**S7**) (460 μ L, 3.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv.), and benzonitrile (0.6 mL). The vial was capped, and the reaction mixture was stirred at 190 °C for 4 days. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction mixture was triturated with diethyl ether until the solution was colorless (5 times). The residue was dissolved in DCM and filtered through a silica plug, first eluting with DCM and then with 15% MeOH in DCM. The latter fraction was collected and dried to yield the title compound as a 9:1 mixture of diastereomers (766 mg, 58%).

The characterization data for the major isomer are reported here:

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.94 – 7.86 (m, 6H), 7.74 – 7.68 (m, 3H), 7.68 – 7.62 (m, 6H), 4.84 (q, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 2.59 – 2.50 (m, 1H), 2.37 – 2.27 (m, 2H), 2.20 (br, 1H), 1.78 – 1.69 (m, 1H), 1.68 – 1.50 (m, 3H), 0.86 (d, *J* = 10.3 Hz, 1H), -0.02 (d, *J* = 10.4 Hz, 1H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 134.8 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 134.0 (d, *J* = 9.5 Hz), 130.5 (d, *J* = 12.1 Hz), 118.9 (d, *J* = 84.1 Hz), 39.5, 37.4, 36.4 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz), 33.1 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz), 31.4 (d, *J* = 3.8 Hz), 31.3 (d, *J* = 57.0 Hz), 27.8 ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 27.0 ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₅H₂₆P [M-Br]⁺ calcd.: 357.1767, found: 357.1766.

The minor isomer has a ³¹P{¹H} NMR shift of 25.3 ppm. Its ¹H NMR signals largely overlap with the major isomer. Distinct peaks are visible at 7.85–7.79 ppm (m), 3.01 ppm (br), 1.44–1.19 ppm (m), and 0.61–0.53 ppm (m).

The diastereomeric ratio was determined by ³¹P{¹H} qNMR spectroscopy. Comparison of the spectroscopic data with literature values indicated that the major isomer is the *exo*-isomer.²

(1-Methylcyclohexyl)triphenylphosphonium iodide (1h)



Inside glovebox filled with 16-mL а argon, а screw-cap vial was charged with cyclohexyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (1e) (640 mg, 1.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). The vial was capped with a septum cap and taken out of the glovebox. THF (6 mL) was added through the septum, and the vial was cooled to 0 °C. n-Butyllithium (1.6 M in hexanes, 1.05 mL, 1.65 mmol, 1.1 equiv.) was slowly added dropwise. After the addition was complete, the reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 15 min. Then, iodomethane (110 µL, 1.8 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) was slowly added dropwise, and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to ambient temperature overnight. Next, a saturated aqueous ammonium chloride solution was added, and the mixture was stirred for another 30 minutes. The phases were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with DCM three times. The combined organic layers were washed with water twice and subsequently dried with magnesium sulfate. Volatile materials were removed under reduced pressure to yield the title compound as a pale yellow solid (650 mg, 89%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.86 – 7.80 (m, 3H), 7.79 – 7.71 (m, 6H), 7.69 – 7.62 (m, 6H), 1.99 – 1.81 (m, 4H), 1.74 – 1.54 (m, 8H), 1.28 – 1.11 (m, 1H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 135.3 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 134.7 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 130.9 (d, *J* = 11.7 Hz), 116.9 (d, *J* = 79.2 Hz), 39.7 (d, *J* = 41.5 Hz), 33.1 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz), 24.5 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz), 20.6 (d, *J* = 11.5 Hz), 19.9 ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 35.2 ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₅H₂₈P [M-I]⁺ calcd.: 359.1923, found: 359.1921.

Adamant-1-yltriphenylphosphonium bromide (1i)



Under an atmosphere of nitrogen, a 50-mL round-bottom flask equipped with a reflux condenser was charged with 1-bromoadamantane (**S8**) (1.5 g, 7.0 mmol, 1.4 equiv.) and triphenylphosphine (**4**) (1.3 g, 5.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Glacial acetic acid (10 mL) was added, and the mixture was heated under reflux (heating block set to 135 °C) for 4 days. After cooling to room temperature, volatile materials were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in a minimal amount of ethanol and crashed out with ether. Filtration yielded the product³ as a white solid (2.3 g, 96%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.82 – 7.74 (m, 3H), 7.69 (td, *J* = 7.8, 3.5 Hz, 6H), 7.61 – 7.51 (m, 6H), 2.06 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 9H), 1.71 (*pseudo*-q, *J* = 11.9 Hz, 6H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 135.2 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 134.4 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 130.7 (d, *J* = 11.7 Hz), 116.2 (d, *J* = 79.7 Hz), 39.1 (d, *J* = 40.2 Hz), 37.6 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 35.3 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz), 27.7 (d, *J* = 10.3 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 28.8 ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₈H₃₀P [M-Br]⁺ calcd.: 397.2080, found: 397.2072.

Triphenyl(2-(pyridin-2-yl)ethyl)phosphonium chloride (1j)



A 16-mL screw-cap vial was charged with triphenylphosphine (4) (260 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 2-(2-chloroethyl)pyridine (S9) (420 mg, 3.0 mmol, 3.0 equiv.), and toluene (0.3 mL). The vial was flushed with nitrogen and capped. The reaction mixture was stirred at 120 °C for two days. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction mixture was loaded on silica and purified by flash column chromatography (3% to 15% methanol in DCM) to yield the title compound as a white solid (315 mg, 78%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.22 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.84 – 7.74 (m, 6H), 7.74 – 7.67 (m, 3H), 7.65 – 7.58 (m, 6H), 7.54 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.03 – 6.95 (m, 1H), 4.20 (dt, J = 12.7 Hz, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 3.27 (*pseudopent*, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 157.0 (d, *J* = 11.9 Hz), 148.6, 137.1, 135.0 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 133.7 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz), 130.4 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz), 124.1, 122.1, 118.3 (d, *J* = 86.1 Hz), 30.3 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz), 21.8 (d, *J* = 51.4 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 24.4 ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₅H₂₃NP [M-CI]⁺ calcd.: 368.1563, found: 368.1559.

(3-Hydroxypropyl)triphenylphosphonium bromide (1k)



A 16-mL screw-cap vial was charged with triphenylphosphine (4) (2.9 g, 11 mmol, 1.1 equiv.), 3-bromopropan-1-ol (**S10**) (900 μ L, 10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), and toluene (4 mL). The vial was capped and the reaction mixture was stirred at 120 °C overnight. After cooling to room temperature, an excess of Et₂O was added. The mixture was filtered, and the residue was washed three times with Et₂O to yield the title compound as a white solid (2.2 g, 55% (containing a small amount of an unidentified impurity)).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.77 – 7.61 (m, 15H), 4.89 (br, 1H), 3.83 – 3.72 (m, 2H), 3.72 – 3.62 (m, 2H), 1.88 – 1.75 (m, 2H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 135.1 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 133.5 (d, *J* = 9.9 Hz), 130.6 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz), 118.3 (d, *J* = 86.2 Hz), 60.3 (d, *J* = 16.6 Hz), 25.9 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz), 20.2 (d, *J* = 52.6 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 24.3 ppm.

The spectroscopic data matched those reported in the literature.⁴

(3-Methoxypropyl)triphenylphosphonium bromide (11)



A 16-mL screw-cap vial was charged with triphenylphosphine (4) (1.03 g, 4.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 1-bromo-3methoxypropane (S11) (680 μ L, 6.0 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), and toluene (1.3 mL). The vial was capped and the reaction mixture was stirred at 120 °C overnight. After cooling to room temperature, an excess of Et₂O was added. The mixture was stirred for 5 minutes and cooled to 0 °C. It was then filtered, and the residue was washed three times with cold Et₂O (0 °C) to yield the title compound as a white solid (1.55 g, 93%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.82 – 7.71 (m, 9H), 7.69 – 7.62 (m, 6H), 3.87 – 3.76 (m, 2H), 3.62 (td, *J* = 5.7, 1.3 Hz, 2H), 3.23 (s, 3H), 1.96 – 1.82 (m, 2H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 135.1 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 133.7 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz), 130.5 (d, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 118.3 (d, *J* = 86.3 Hz), 70.9 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz), 58.7, 23.3 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz), 19.9 (d, *J* = 52.6 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 24.8 ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₂H₂₄OP [M-Br]⁺ calcd.: 355.1559, found: 355.1557.

(2-Methoxyethyl)triphenylphosphonium bromide (S13)



A 100-mL round-bottom flask was charged with triphenylphosphine (4) (2.62 g, 10.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), toluene (10 mL), and 1-bromo-2-methoxyethane (S12) (1.2 mL, 13 mmol, 1.3 equiv.). The reaction mixture was stirred at 120 °C overnight. After cooling to room temperature, an excess of Et₂O was added. The mixture was cooled to 0 °C and subsequently filtered. The residue was washed with cold Et₂O (0 °C) to yield the title compound as a white solid (2.65 g, 66%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.75 – 7.67 (m, 9H), 7.62 – 7.56 (m, 6H), 4.04 (dt, *J* = 11.6, 5.7 Hz, 2H), 3.75 (dt, *J* = 22.6, 5.7 Hz, 2H), 2.94 (s, 3H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 134.7 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 133.8 (d, *J* = 10.3 Hz), 130.1 (d, *J* = 12.8 Hz), 118.7 (d, *J* = 86.9 Hz), 65.3 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 58.5, 25.3 (d, *J* = 52.8 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 25.4 ppm.

The spectroscopic data matched those reported in the literature.⁵

Triphenyl(2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)ethyl)phosphonium bromide (1m)



A 16-mL screw-cap vial was charged with phosphonium salt **S13** (800 mg, 2.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), water (360 μ L), and pyrrolidine (**S14**) (180 μ L, 2.2 mmol, 1.1 equiv.). The reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C overnight. After cooling to room temperature, an excess of acetone was added, and the reaction mixture was stirred vigorously for one hour. The mixture was cooled to 0 °C, subsequently filtered, and washed with cold acetone (0 °C) to yield the title compound as a white solid (530 mg, 60%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.83 – 7.74 (m, 6H), 7.75 – 7.68 (m, 3H), 7.66 – 7.58 (m, 6H), 3.90 (dt, *J* = 12.1, 6.3 Hz, 2H), 2.88 (dt, *J* = 21.7, 6.3 Hz, 2H), 2.35 – 2.24 (br, 4H), 1.51 – 1.39 (m, 4H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 134.7 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 133.9 (d, *J* = 10.2 Hz), 130.1 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz), 118.8 (d, *J* = 86.4 Hz), 53.6, 48.7 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz), 24.7 (d, *J* = 51.3 Hz), 23.3 ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 25.8 ppm.

The spectroscopic data matched those reported in the literature.⁵

(3-Phthaloylpropyl)triphenylphosphonium bromide (1n)



A 16-mL screw-cap vial was charged with triphenylphosphine (4) (1.05 g, 4.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), alkyl bromide **S15** (1.07 g, 4.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), and toluene (0.5 mL). The vial was capped, and the reaction mixture was stirred at 110 °C for 16 hours. After cooling to room temperature, an excess of Et₂O was added to the reaction mixture. After cooling to 0 °C, the reaction mixture was filtered and washed with cold Et₂O (0 °C) to yield the title compound as a white solid (1.45 g, 69%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.87 – 7.76 (m, 6H), 7.76 – 7.58 (m, 13H), 4.07 – 3.96 (m, 2H), 3.92 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.16 – 2.01 (m, 2H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 168.1, 135.2 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 134.3, 133.7 (d, *J* = 10.1 Hz), 131.9, 130.6 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz), 123.4, 118.0 (d, *J* = 86.3 Hz), 38.1 (d, *J* = 17.0 Hz), 22.0 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz), 20.8 (d, *J* = 52.1 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 24.7 ppm.

The spectroscopic data matched those reported in the literature.⁶

Benzylbutyldiphenylphosphonium bromide (10)



The title compound was prepared following general procedure GP1, using benzyldiphenylphosphine (410 mg, 1.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.).

Reaction workup following workup procedure A yielded the title compound as a white solid (539 mg, 87%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.86 – 7.76 (m, 4H), 7.76 – 7.67 (m, 2H), 7.64 – 7.55 (m, 4H), 7.16 – 7.11 (m, 1H), 7.10 – 7.00 (m, 4H), 4.91 (d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 2H), 3.19 – 3.07 (m, 2H), 1.48 – 1.28 (m, 4H), 0.79 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 134.8 (d, J = 3.0 Hz), 133.8 (d, J = 9.1 Hz), 130.8 (d, J = 5.5 Hz), 130.1 (d, J = 12.1 Hz), 128.8 (d, J = 3.4 Hz), 128.2 (d, J = 4.0 Hz), 127.6 (d, J = 8.6 Hz), 117.2 (d, J = 82.2 Hz), 30.6 (d, J = 45.8 Hz), 24.0 (d, J = 4.6 Hz), 23.7 (d, J = 16.2 Hz), 20.2 (d, J = 49.5 Hz), 13.6 (d, J = 1.0 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 22.8 ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₃H₂₆P [M-Br]⁺ calcd.: 333.1767, found: 333.1765.

Butylmethyldiphenylphosphonium bromide (1p)



The title compound was prepared following general procedure GP1, using methyldiphenylphosphine (300 mg, 1.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.).

Reaction workup following workup procedure A yielded the title compound as a tan solid (424 mg, 84%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.94 – 7.82 (m, 4H), 7.77 – 7.70 (m, 2H), 7.65 (td, *J* = 7.5, 3.3, 4H), 3.35 – 3.24 (m, 2H), 2.86 (d, *J* = 13.6 Hz, 3H), 1.60 – 14.5 (m, 4H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 134.8 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 132.7 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz), 130.4 (d, *J* = 12.4 Hz), 119.6 (d, *J* = 84.7 Hz), 24.3 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz), 23.7 (d, *J* = 16.9 Hz), 23.1 (d, *J* = 50.8 Hz), 13.7 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz), 8.7 (d, *J* = 55.1 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 24.5 ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₁₇H₂₂P [M-Br]⁺ calcd.: 257.1454, found: 257.1450.

Butylcyclohexyldiphenylphosphonium bromide (1q)



The title compound was prepared following general procedure GP1, using cyclohexyldiphenylphosphine (400 mg, 1.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.).

Reaction workup following workup procedure B yielded the title compound as a white solid (380 mg, 62%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.83 (m, 4H), 7.75 (m, 2H), 7.67 (m, 4H), 4.11 (qt, *J* = 12.2, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 3.19 - 3.04 (m, 2H), 2.01 (br, 2H), 1.76 - 1.59 (m, 5H), 1.42 (hex, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.32 - 1.17 (m, 2H), 1.03 - 0.87 (m, 3H), 0.77 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 134.7 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 133.9 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 130.3 (d, *J* = 11.7 Hz), 115.5 (d, *J* = 79.7 Hz), 31.3 (d, *J* = 45.7 Hz), 25.6 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz), 25.3 (d, *J* = 13.9 Hz), 25.3 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz), 24.0 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz), 23.6 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz), 19.7 (d, *J* = 48.1 Hz), 13.5 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 31.6 ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₂H₃₀P [M-Br]⁺ calcd.: 325.2080, found: 325.2081.

tert-Butyl(butyl)diphenylphosphonium bromide (1r)



The title compound was prepared following general procedure GP1, using *tert*-butyldiphenylphosphine (360 mg, 1.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.).

An excess of Et₂O was added to the reaction mixture. After cooling to 0 °C, the reaction mixture was filtered and washed with cold Et₂O (0 °C) to yield the title compound as a white solid (497 mg, 87%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.92 – 7.84 (m, 4H), 7.80 – 7.73 (m, 2H), 7.72 – 7.66 (m, 4H), 3.36 – 3.25 (m, 2H), 1.56 (hex, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.46 (d, *J* = 16.7 Hz, 9H), 1.28 (hex, *J* = 7.8, 7.4 Hz, 2H), 0.76 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 134.7 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 134.2 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 130.3 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz), 116.2 (d, *J* = 77.3 Hz), 33.5 (d, *J* = 43.0 Hz), 26.5 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz), 24.9 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz), 23.7 (d, *J* = 15.1 Hz), 18.7 (d, *J* = 44.8 Hz), 13.8 ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 38.3 ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₀H₂₈P [M-Br]⁺ calcd.: 299.1923, found: 299.1928.

Dimethyl(phenyl)(3-phenylpropyl)phosphonium bromide (1s)



A 8-mL screw-cap vial was charged with 3-phenylpropyl bromide (S6) (360 μ L, 1.8 mmol, 1.2 equiv.), toluene (0.5 mL), and dimethylphenylphosphine (S16) (210 μ L, 1.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). The vial was immediately flushed with nitrogen and capped. The reaction mixture was stirred at 120 °C for 1 hour. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction mixture was loaded on silica and purified by column chromatography (0% to 10% methanol in DCM) to yield the title compound as a white solid (440 mg, 87%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.87 – 7.78 (m, 2H), 7.70 – 7.63 (m, 1H), 7.62 – 7.54 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 7.18 – 7.11 (m, 1H), 7.11 – 7.05 (m, 2H), 3.09 – 2.94 (m, 2H), 2.74 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.53 (d, *J* = 14.1 Hz, 6H), 1.83 – 1.68 (m, 2H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 140.0 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz), 134.4 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 131.4 (d, *J* = 9.8 Hz), 130.2 (d, *J* = 12.2 Hz), 128.7, 128.6, 126.5, 120.2 (d, *J* = 83.0 Hz), 36.1 (d, *J* = 16.9 Hz), 23.8 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz), 23.0 (d, *J* = 51.7 Hz), 8.7 (d, *J* = 54.9 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 25.3 ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C17H22P [M-Br]+ calcd.: 257.1454, found: 257.1461.

Phosphonium bromide 1t

The title compound was prepared following general procedure GP1, using 1,3,5,7-Tetramethyl-6-phenyl-2,4,8-trioxa-6-phosphaadamantane (^{me}CgPPh) (290 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Reaction workup following workup procedure A yielded the title compound as a tan solid (270 mg, 63%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.50 – 8.29 (m, 2H), 7.85 – 7.64 (m, 3H), 4.15 (dtd, *J* = 16.1, 11.7, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 2.99 (tdd, *J* = 16.0, 9.9, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.81 (dd, *J* = 14.8, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 2.21 (dd, *J* = 25.4, 14.7 Hz, 1H), 2.03 – 1.87 (m, 2H), 1.82 – 1.68 (m, 5H), 1.64 – 1.39 (m, 11H), 0.87 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 135.4 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz), 134.7 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 131.0 (d, *J* = 11.6 Hz), 12.0 (d, *J* = 66.3 Hz), 97.3 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz), 97.1 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz), 73.4 (d, *J* = 41.6 Hz), 72.3 (d, *J* = 45.3 Hz), 41.3 (d, *J* = 4.1 Hz), 39.0 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz), 27.1 (d, *J* = 37.6 Hz), 25.0, 25.0, 24.2 (d, *J* = 14.9 Hz), 23.1, 14.2 (d, *J* = 35.7 Hz), 14.0 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz) (1 less signal than expected due to overlapping signals or assignment as doublet instead of singlet) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.5 ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₀H₃₀O₃P [M-Br]⁺ calcd.: 349.1927, found: 349.1927.

Butyltris(4-fluorophenyl)phosphonium bromide (1u)



The title compound was prepared following general procedure GP1, using tris(4-fluorophenyl)phosphine (6.3 g, 20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.).

After cooling to room temperature, the reaction mixture was diluted with 10 mL of toluene and filtered. The residue was washed with toluene and Et₂O to yield the title compound as a white solid (6.2 g, 68%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.01 – 7.83 (m, 6H), 7.38 (td, *J* = 8.5, 2.5 Hz, 6H), 4.24 – 3.50 (m, 2H), 1.64 (hex, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.58 – 1.46 (m, 2H), 0.86 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 166.8 (dd, *J* = 260.7, 3.4 Hz), 136.8 (dd, *J* = 11.8, 9.5 Hz), 118.5 (dd, *J* = 22.1, 14.0 Hz), 114.0 (dd, *J* = 90.5, 3.6 Hz), 24.7 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz), 23.7 (d, *J* = 16.9 Hz), 23.2 (d, *J* = 50.0 Hz), 13.8 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz) ppm.

¹⁹**F**{¹**H**} **NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -99.4 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 23.8 ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₂H₂₁F₃P [M-Br]⁺ calcd.: 373.1327, found: 373.1324.

Butyltris(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphonium bromide (1v)



The title compound was prepared following a slightly modified general procedure GP1 (stirred at 60 °C for 2 days in 0.3 mL toluene), using tris(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphine (300 mg, 0.57 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Reaction workup following workup procedure B yielded the title compound as a tan solid (259 mg, 93%).

Note: Higher reaction temperatures lead to partial demethylation. The reaction was therefore conducted at lower temperature and for a longer duration.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.59 (dd, *J* = 11.9, 8.8 Hz, 6H), 7.11 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 2.5 Hz, 6H), 3.84 (s, 9H), 3.35 - 3.23 (m, 2H), 1.61 - 1.42 (m, 4H), 0.83 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 164.5 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz), 135.3 (d, *J* = 11.5 Hz), 116.2 (d, *J* = 13.6 Hz), 108.9 (d, *J* = 93.9 Hz), 56.0, 24.5 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz), 23.7 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz), 23.6 (d, *J* = 53.4 Hz), 13.7 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 21.5 ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₅H₃₀O₃P [M-Br]⁺ calcd.: 409.1927, found: 409.1923.

Tribenzylbutylphosphonium bromide (1w)



The title compound was prepared following general procedure GP1 (on 2.0 mmol scale), using tribenzylphosphine (610 mg, 2.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.).

Reaction workup following workup procedure B yielded the title compound as a white solid (740 mg, 84%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.29 (s, 15H), 4.16 (d, *J* = 14.9 Hz, 6H), 2.06 – 1.95 (m, 2H), 1.32 – 1.15 (m, 4H), 0.74 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 130.4 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz), 129.6 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 128.6 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz), 128.0 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 26.9 (d, *J* = 43.6 Hz), 24.0 (d, *J* = 15.0 Hz), 23.6 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz), 18.9 (d, *J* = 45.6 Hz), 13.2 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 27.2 ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₅H₃₀P [M-Br]⁺ calcd.: 361.2080, found: 361.2075.

Butyl(4-fluorophenyl)bis(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphonium bromide (1x)



Under an atmosphere of nitrogen, a 50-mL round-bottom flask was charged with *P*-chlorobis(4methoxyphenyl)phosphine (**S18**) (1.1 g, 4.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), and THF (4.0 mL). 4fluorophenylmagnesium bromide (**S17**) (2.0 M in Et₂O, 3.0 mL, 6.0 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) was added dropwise, and the reaction mixture was stirred at 40 °C for 4 hours. After cooling to room temperature, water (ca. 2 mL) was added to the reaction mixture. The phases were separated, and the aqueous phase was extracted three times with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were washed with brine and then dried with magnesium sulfate. Volatile materials were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in DCM and filtered through a silica plug, eluting with 5% methanol in DCM. The filtrate was transferred into a 25-mL round-bottom flask, and volatile materials were removed under reduced pressure. Toluene (1.3 mL) and 1-bromobutane (1.3 mL, 12.0 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) were added. The flask was flushed with nitrogen and stoppered. The reaction mixture was stirred at 100 °C for 16 hours. Reaction workup following workup procedure C yielded the title compound as a tan solid (1.25 g, 65%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.89 – 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.66 (ddd, *J* = 12.0, 9.0, 0.9 Hz, 4H), 7.33 (td, *J* = 8.6, 2.3 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 2.6 Hz, 4H), 3.87 (s, 6H), 3.59 – 3.46 (m, 2H), 1.67 – 1.44 (m, 4H), 0.85 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 166.4 (dd, *J* = 259.5, 3.4 Hz), 164.8 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz), 136.4 (dd, *J* = 11.7, 9.4 Hz), 135.6 (d, *J* = 11.6 Hz), 118.1 (dd, *J* = 22.0, 13.7 Hz), 116.4 (d, *J* = 13.6 Hz), 115.7 (dd, *J* = 90.4, 3.5 Hz), 108.1 (d, *J* = 94.0 Hz), 56.1, 24.6 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz), 23.8 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz), 23.5 (d, *J* = 52.3 Hz)13.8 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz) ppm.

¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -101.0 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 22.4 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₄H₂₇FO₂P [M-Br]⁺ calcd.: 397.1727, found: 397.1725.

Butyl(2-methoxyphenyl)diphenylphosphonium bromide (1y)



The title compound was prepared following a slightly modified general procedure GP1 (stirred at 60 °C for 2 days), using (2-methoxyphenyl)diphenylphosphine (440 mg, 1.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Reaction workup following workup procedure C yielded the title compound as a white solid (530 mg, 82%).

Note: Higher reaction temperatures lead to partial demethylation. The reaction was therefore conducted at lower temperature and for a longer duration.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.77 (ddt, *J* = 8.6, 7.4, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.74 – 7.68 (m, 2H), 7.67 – 7.58 (m, 8H), 7.33 (ddd, *J* = 14.1, 7.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.25 – 7.13 (m, 2H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.47 – 3.22 (m, 2H), 1.61 – 1.37 (m, 4H), 0.84 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 161.9 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz), 138.2 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz), 135.5 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 134.7 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 133.0 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz), 130.3 (d, *J* = 12.7 Hz), 122.7 (d, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 118.7 (d, *J* = 87.8 Hz), 113.0 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz), 105.1 (d, *J* = 88.8 Hz), 56.6, 25.2 (d, *J* = 4.7 Hz), 23.8 (d, *J* = 16.7 Hz), 23.3 (d, *J* = 51.9 Hz), 13.6 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 23.6 ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₃H₂₆OP [M-Br]⁺ calcd.: 349.1716, found: 349.1714.

[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl(butyl)diphenylphosphonium bromide (1z)



The title compound was prepared following general procedure GP1, using 2-(diphenylphosphino)biphenyl (Ph-JohnPhos) (510 mg, 1.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.).

Reaction workup following workup procedure C yielded the title compound as an off-white solid (570 mg, 80%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.86 – 7.81 (m, 1H), 7.80 – 7.74 (m, 2H), 7.73 – 7.63 (m, 6H), 7.61 – 7.54 (m, 4H), 7.49 – 7.44 (m, 1H), 7.34 (tt, *J* = 7.5, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (tt, *J* = 7.7, 1.5 Hz, 2H) 6.81 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 1.3 Hz, 2H), 2.68 – 2.54 (m, 2H), 1.33 – 1.24 (m, 4H), 0.75 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 148.1 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz), 138.6 (d, *J* = 3.8 Hz), 135.8 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz), 135.1 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz), 134.9 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 133.5 (d, *J* = 10.6 Hz), 133.4 (d, *J* = 9.8 Hz), 130.5 (d, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 129.3, 129.2, 129.0 (d, *J* = 12.2 Hz), 128.6, 119.6 (d, *J* = 85.4 Hz), 117.3 (d, *J* = 84.9 Hz), 24.9 (d, *J* = 4.7 Hz), 23.7 (d, *J* = 17.6 Hz), 23.4 (d, *J* = 49.8 Hz), 13.6 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 25.4 ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₈H₂₈P [M-Br]⁺ calcd.: 395.1923, found: 395.1923.

Bisphosphonium salt 6



Inside a glovebox filled with argon, a 16-mL screw-cap vial was charged with DPPP (**5**) (620 mg, 1.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and dioxane (6.0 mL). The vial was capped with a septum cap and taken out of the glovebox. 1-Bromobutane (**3**) (960 μ L, 9.0 mmol, 6.0 equiv.) was added through the septum, and the reaction mixture was stirred at 120 °C for 20 hours. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction mixture was diluted with Et₂O, filtered, and the residue was washed with Et₂O and cyclohexane to yield the title compound as a white solid (920 mg, 89%) after drying at 100 °C under vacuum.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.95 – 7.87 (m, 8H), 7.68 – 7.62 (m, 4H), 7.61 – 7.54 (m, 8H), 3.80 – 3.69 (m, 4H), 3.32 – 3.19 (m, 4H), 1.98 (dtd, *J* = 16.3, 8.1, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 1.58 – 1.43 (m, 4H), 1.42 – 1.30 (m, 4H), 0.80 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 134.6 (br), 133.3 (*pseudo*-p, *J* = 4.8 Hz), 130.2 (m), 117.8 (d, *J* = 83.8 Hz), 24.3 (*pseudo*-t, *J* = 2.2 Hz), 23.7 (m), 22.1 (dd, *J* = 52.3 Hz, *J* = 17.0 Hz), 21.3 (d, *J* = 49.6 Hz) 16.9, 13.6 ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 27.2 ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₃₅H₄₄P₂ (di-cation) ([M-2Br]²⁺)/2 calcd.: 263.1454, found: 263.1447.



In a glovebox filled with argon, a 4-mL screw-cap vial was charged with DPPP (5) (870 mg, 2.1 mmol, 1.2 equiv.), 1-bromobutane (3) (180 μ L, 1.7 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), and toluene (0.7 mL). The vial was capped, and the mixture was stirred at 120 °C for 24 hours. After cooling to room temperature, volatile materials were removed under reduced pressure, and the resulting foam was crushed and suspended in diethyl ether. After cooling to 0 °C, the mixture was filtered, and the residue washed with diethyl ether to yield the title compound as a white powder (740 mg, 65%, contains a small impurity).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.83 – 7.76 (m, 4H), 7.75 – 7.69 (m, 2H), 7.65 – 7.58 (m, 4H), 7.34 – 7.24 (m, 10H), 3.63 – 3.54 (m, 2H), 3.27 – 3.18 (m, 2H), 2.29 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.67 – 1.54 (m, 2H), 1.53 – 1.43 (m, 2H), 1.43 – 1.33 (m, 2H), 0.84 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 137.4 (d, *J* = 11.6 Hz), 134.8 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 133.2 (d, *J* = 9.3 Hz), 132.8 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz), 130.4 (d, *J* = 12.1 Hz), 129.0, 128.7 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz), 117.9 (d, *J* = 82.1 Hz), 28.5 (dd, *J* = 15.5, 12.4 Hz), 24.3 (d, *J* = 4.7 Hz), 23.8 (d, *J* = 16.3 Hz), 22.8 (dd, *J* = 48.2, 14.1 Hz), 21.9 (d, *J* = 48.8 Hz), 19.2 (dd, *J* = 18.7, 3.8 Hz), 13.7 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 27.7 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz), -18.8 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₃₁H₃₅P₂ [M-Br]⁺ calcd.: 469.2209, found: 469.2202.



A 16-mL screw-cap vial was charged with DPPF (**10**) (550 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), flushed with nitrogen, and capped with a septum cap. THF (9 mL) and benzyl bromide (**11**) (130 μ L, 1.1 mmol, 1.1 equiv.) were added through the septum. After stirring for 24 hours at 80 °C, the reaction mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature, and volatile materials were evaporated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by column chromatography (5% MeOH in DCM) yielding the title compound as an orange solid (690 mg, 95%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.81 – 7.69 (m, 6H), 7.66 – 7.54 (m, 4H), 7.35 – 7.16 (m, 11H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 4H), 5.18 (d, *J* = 14.3 Hz, 2H), 4.88 (s, 2H), 4.56 (s, 2H), 4.24 (s, 2H), 4.09 (s, 2H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CD₃OD) δ = 140.0 (d, *J* = 9.7 Hz), 137.1 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 135.8 (d, *J* = 9.9 Hz), 135.4 (d, *J* = 20.0 Hz), 132.8 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz), 131.9 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz), 131.0, 130.9 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz), 130.5 (d, *J* = 3.8 Hz), 130.4 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 130.0 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 121.6 (d, *J* = 88.7 Hz), 82.7 (d, *J* = 11.6 Hz), 78.0 (d, *J* = 10.5, 1.7 Hz), 77.2 (d, *J* = 13.9 Hz), 76.2 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz), 75.5 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz), 32.1 (d, *J* = 51.3 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CD₃OD) δ = 26.3, -19.3 ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₄₁H₃₅FeP₂ [M-Br]⁺ calcd.: 645.1558, found: 645.1552.

Bisphosphonium salt 15



A 16-mL screw-cap vial was charged with triphenylphosphine (4) (1.3 g, 5.0 mmol, 2.5 equiv.), alkyl halide 14 (200 μ L, 2.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), and DMF (6 mL). The vial was flushed with nitrogen and capped. The mixture was stirred at 150 °C for 19 hours. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction mixture was diluted with Et₂O and filtered. The residue was washed with Et₂O and cyclohexane to yield the title compound as a white solid (1.29 g, 89%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.96 – 7.86 (m, 12H), 7.74 – 7.65 (m, 6H), 7.64 – 7.55 (m, 12H), 4.69 – 4.58 (m, 4H), 1.94 – 1.85 (m, 2H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 134.8 (br), 134.6 – 133.8 (m), 131.9 – 127.5 (m), 118.0 (dd, *J* = 87.5, 1.1 Hz), 23.3 – 21.8 (m), 18.0 ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 24.4 ppm.

The spectroscopic data matched those reported in the literature.⁷

4. Product characterization

General procedure for the dearylation of monophosphonium salts (GP2)

Inside a glovebox filled with argon, a 4-mL screw-cap vial was charged with Ni(COD)₂ (8.3 mg, 0.03 mmol, 0.1 equiv.), liPr•HBF₄ (14.4 mg, 0.06 mmol, 0.2 equiv.), phosphonium salt (0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), phenylboronic acid (40.2 mg, 0.33 mmol, 1.1 equiv.), potassium phosphate (127.6 mg, 0.6 mmol, 2.0 equiv.), and dioxane (1.5 mL). The vial was capped with a septum cap, taken out of the glovebox, and stirred in a pre-heated heating block at 80 °C for 22 hours. After cooling to room temperature, BH₃•SMe₂ (60 μ L, 0.6 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) was added through the septum, and the mixture was stirred for an additional 2 hours at ambient temperature. The reaction mixture was loaded on silica and purified by column chromatography.

Note on purification

Phosphine borane adducts containing an aryl group are typically weakly visible under 254 nm UV light. Still, the phosphine borane adducts are preferably visualized with a KMnO₄ stain. For convenience, the products were typically purified on a Biotage Isolera One system. The phosphine borane adducts typically absorb strongly at 220 nm. Thus, 220 nm and 254 nm were used as detection wavelengths. Biphenyl (**S19**) (or the respective substituted biphenyl from the coupling of the cleaved aryl group with phenylboronic acid) elutes first on the column and was flushed out with pure hexane or cyclohexane. The phosphine borane adducts were then eluted with ca. 5% ethyl acetate in hexane or cyclohexane. The separation is typically very good and the compounds can also be readily separated in a manual flash column chromatography purification. A representative TLC plate for the reaction of butyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (**1b**) is shown here (Figure S2).





Purification of the depicted reaction mixture by manual column chromatography (3% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) yielded the corresponding phosphine borane adduct **2b** in 86% yield (vs. 92% when purified on the Biotage system).

Note on boronic acid quality

Different boronic acids give good yield in the reaction and can be used instead of phenylboronic acid (see optimization data in table S1). Phenylboronic acid was used because isolation of the products was easier in this case. The quality of the boronic acid is however important as boronic acids that have been stored over a longer time can form boroxines that are nearly inactive in the dearylation reaction (see table S1, entry 9).

Benzyldiphenylphosphine borane adduct (2a)

$$Ph P^{Ph}_{BH_3}$$

The title compound was prepared following general procedure GP2, using benzyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (**1a**) (130.0 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 6% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) yielded the title compound as a white solid (71.1 mg, 82%).

Similarly, the title compound was also prepared from benzyltriphenylphosphonium chloride (**1a**') (116.7 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and benzyltriphenylphosphonium iodide (**1a**'') (144.1 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) following general procedure GP2 to yield the product in 63% and 56%, respectively.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.68 – 7.61 (m, 4H), 7.54 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.46 – 7.40 (m, 4H), 7.20 – 7.13 (m, 3H), 6.99 – 6.95 (m, 2H), 3.62 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 2H), 0.99 (br-q, 90 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -38.5 (*pseudo*-dt, *J* = 149.1, 92.7 Hz) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 132.8 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 132.0 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz), 131.4 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 130.4 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz), 128.8 (d, *J* = 54.0 Hz), 128.8 (d, *J* = 9.8 Hz), 128.1 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz), 127.0 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz), 34.2 (d, *J* = 32.2 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 18.0 (br-d, *J* = 75.7 Hz) ppm.

The spectroscopic data matched those reported in the literature.⁸

Butyldiphenylphosphine borane adduct (2b)

The title compound was prepared following general procedure GP2, using butyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (**1b**) (119.8 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 3% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) yielded the title compound as a colorless oil (70.4 mg, 92%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.74 – 7.63 (m, 4H), 7.51 – 7.40 (m, 6H), 2.30 – 2.12 (m, 2H), 1.58 – 1.44 (m, 2H), 1.41 (hex, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.34 – 0.51 (m (overlapping signals), 6H, including t, *J* = 7.2 Hz at 0.89 ppm) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -39.3 (*pseudo*-dt, *J* = 157.6, 78.3 Hz) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 132.2 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz), 131.2 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 129.8 (d, *J* = 54.8 Hz), 128.9 (d, *J* = 9.8 Hz), 25.5 (d, *J* = 37.2 Hz), 25.1, 24.3 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz), 13.6 ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 15.9 (br-d, *J* = 71.0 Hz) ppm.

The spectroscopic data matched those reported in the literature.9

The title compound was also prepared following general procedure GP2, using butyl(2-methoxyphenyl)diphenylphosphonium bromide (**1y**) (85.9 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 4% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) and subsequently by HPLC (20 min gradient of 50% to 100% MeCN in H₂O (0.1% formic acid)) yielded the title compound as a light yellow oil (31.6 mg, 62%, 8:1 mixture with 2-methoxybiphenyl).

Methyldiphenylphosphine borane adduct (2c)

 $\stackrel{Me_{P_{1}}P_{1}}{\overset{P}{P_{H}}BH_{3}}$

The title compound was prepared following general procedure GP2, using methyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (**1c**) (107.2 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 6% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) yielded the title compound as a colorless oil (44.7 mg, 70%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.72 – 7.62 (m, 4H), 7.52 – 7.41 (m, 6H), 1.87 (d, *J* = 10.1 Hz, 3H), 1.04 (br-q, *J* = 93 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -37.4 (*pseudo*-dt, J = 155.8, 96.3 Hz) ppm

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 131.8 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz), 131.2 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 130.6 (d, *J* = 56.3 Hz), 128.9 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz), 12.0 (d, *J* = 40.2 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 10.1 (q, *J* = 55.5 Hz) ppm.

The spectroscopic data matched those reported in the literature.⁸

Diphenyl(3-phenylpropyl)phosphine borane adduct (2d)

The title compound was prepared following general procedure GP2, using triphenyl(3-phenylpropyl)phosphonium bromide (**1d**) (92.2 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 6% ethyl acetate in *n*-hexane) yielded the title compound as a colorless oil (46.0 mg, 72%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.69 – 7.64 (m, 4H), 7.54 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.49 – 7.43 (m, 4H), 7.34 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.18 – 7.15 (m, 2), 2.75 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.29 – 2.22 (m, 2H), 1.96 – 1.91 (m, 2H), 1.34 – 0.76 (br-m, 3H) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -34.9 – -43.4 (m) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 140.9, 132.2 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz), 131.2 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 129.5 (d, *J* = 54.9 Hz), 128.9 (d, *J* = 9.8 Hz), 128.5 (d, *J* = 4.7 Hz), 126.2, 36.9 (d, *J* = 14.0 Hz), 24.9 (d, *J* = 37.2 Hz), 24.6 (1 less signal than expected due to overlapping signals or assignment as doublet instead of singlet) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 16.0 (br-d, *J* = 67.4 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₁H₂₄BNaP [M+Na]⁺ calcd.: 341.1601, found: 341.1595.

Cyclohexyldiphenylphosphine borane adduct (2e)

`P<^{Ph} ⊣BH₃ Ph

The title compound was prepared following a slightly modified general procedure GP2 (stirred with $BH_3 \cdot SMe_2$ for 24 h instead of 2 h), using cyclohexyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (**1e**) (127.6 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 2% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) yielded the title compound as a white solid (61.6 mg, 73%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.79 – 7.70 (m, 4H), 7.50 – 7.40 (m, 6H), 2.49 – 2.34 (m, 1H), 1.87 – 1.75 (m, 2H), 1.75 – 1.61 (m, 3H), 1.56 – 1.38 (m, 2H), 1.38 – 0.52 (m, 6H (overlapping signals)) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -41.5 (*pseudo*-dt, *J* = 152.2, 90.5 Hz) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 132.8 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 131.1 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 128.8 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz), 128.3, 33.8 (d, *J* = 36.0 Hz), 26.8 (d, *J* = 12.3 Hz), 26.6, 25.9 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 21.1 (br-d, *J* = 76.3 Hz) ppm.

The spectroscopic data matched those reported in the literature.¹⁰

Cyclopropyldiphenylphosphine borane adduct (2f)

The title compound was prepared following general procedure GP2, using cyclopropyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (**1f**) (115.0 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 3% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) yielded the title compound as a colorless oil (60.5 mg, 84%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.75 – 7.68 (m, 4H), 7.52 – 7.40 (m, 6H), 1.45 – 1.25 (m, 1H), 1.16 – 0.31 (m, 7H (overlapping signals)) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -41.9 (*pseudo*-dt, *J* = 157.2, 96.3 Hz) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 132.3 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz), 131.1 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 130.9 (d, *J* = 58.5 Hz), 128.8 (d, *J* = 9.9 Hz), 4.5 (d, *J* = 61.0 Hz), 4.0 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 24.3 (br-q, *J* = 54.4 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₁₅H₁₈BNaP [M+Na]⁺ calcd.: 263.1131, found: 263.1131.

(2-Norbornyl)diphenylphosphine borane adduct (2g)

BH₃ Ph

The title compound was prepared following general procedure GP2, using (2-norbornyl)triphenylphosphonium bromide (**1g**) (87.5 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv., 9:1 *dr*). Purification by column chromatography (6% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) yielded the title compound as a colorless oil (28.8 mg, 52%, 12:1 mixture of diastereomers).

The characterization data for the major isomer are reported here:

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.81 – 7.64 (m, 4H), 7.53 – 7.37 (m, 6H), 2.53 – 2.44 (m, 1H), 2.44 – 2.39 (m, 1H), 2.34 (br, 1H), 1.82 – 1.72 (m, 2H), 1.66 – 1.60 (m, 2H), 1.53 – 1.44 (m, 1H), 1.39 – 1.32 (m, 1H), 1.32 – 1.27 (m, 1H), 1.17 (br-d, *J* = 9.9, 1H), 1.20 – 0.76 (br-m, 3H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 132.6 (*pseudo*-dd, *J* = 16.0, 8.4 Hz), 131.0 (*pseudo*-dd, *J* = 3.5, 2.4 Hz), 130.3 (*pseudo*-dd, *J* = 105.5, 53.9 Hz), 128.8 (*pseudo*-dd, *J* = 13.1, 9.5 Hz), 39.0 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 37.2, 36.9, 36.7 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz), 33.6, 32.6 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz), 28.7 ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 21.0 (br-d, *J* = 75.2 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₁₉H₂₄BNaP [M+Na]⁺ calcd.: 317.1601, found: 317.1603.

The ¹H and ³¹P{¹H} NMR signals of the minor isomer are identical or largely overlap with the signals of the major isomer. Distinct ¹H NMR signals of the minor isomer are visible at 7.64–7.60 ppm (m), 2.86–2.78 ppm (m), and 2.16–2.10 ppm (m).

The diastereomeric ratio was estimated by ¹H NMR using the signals at 2.34 ppm (major isomer) and 2.17–2.10 ppm (minor isomer). The slight increase in *dr* from the starting material **1g** to the title compound **2g** indicates a preference for the catalyst to react with the less sterically hindered *exo*-isomer of **1g** compared with the *endo*-isomer of **1g**.

(1-Methylcyclohexyl)diphenylphosphine borane adduct (2h)

Me `P<^{Ph} ⊣ Ph^{BH}3

The title compound was prepared following a slightly modified general procedure GP2 (stirred with BH₃•SMe₂ for 24 h instead of 2 h), using (1-methylcyclohexyl)triphenylphosphonium iodide (**1h**) (97.3 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 6% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) yielded the title compound as a white solid (31.8 mg, 54%; 14:1 mixture with Ph₃P•BH₃).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.92 – 7.84 (m, 4H), 7.52 – 7.40 (m, 6H), 1.90 – 1.75 (m, 2H), 1.74 – 1.60 (m, 3H), 1.60 – 1.39 (m, 4H), 1.22 – 0.53 (m (overlapping signals), 8H including d, *J* = 15.3 Hz at 1.31 ppm) ppm (1 proton signal too many; presumably because of overlapping with H₂O signal).

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -39.8 (*pseudo*-dt, *J* = 159.5, 78.5 Hz) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 134.5 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 131.0 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 128.4 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz), 127.8 (d, *J* = 50.6 Hz), 34.7 (d, *J* = 31.4 Hz), 32.4 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz), 25.5 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz), 21.0 (d, *J* = 10.3 Hz), 18.3 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 35.5 (d, *J* = 69.4 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₁₉H₂₆BNaP [M+Na]⁺ calcd.: 319.1757, found: 319.1760.

Adamant-1-yldiphenylphosphine borane adduct (2i)

The title compound was prepared following a slightly modified general procedure GP2 (stirred with $BH_3 \cdot SMe_2$ for 24 h instead of 2 h), using (adamant-1-yltriphenylphosphonium bromide (1i) (143.2 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 8% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) yielded the title compound as a white solid (44.9 mg, 45%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 – 7.84 (m, 4H), 7.54 – 7.40 (m, 6H), 2.02 – 1.91 (m, 9H), 1.79 – 1.59 (m, 6H), 0.97 (br-q, *J* = 87.3 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -39.46 (*pseudo*-p, *J* = 92.4 Hz) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 134.4 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 131.0 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 128.4 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz), 127.1 (d, *J* = 51.2 Hz), 37.3, 36.4 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz), 34.4 (d, *J* = 31.1 Hz), 28.2 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 29.4 (d, *J* = 76.3 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₂H₂₈BNaP [M+Na]⁺ calcd.: 357.1914, found: 357.1910.

2-(2-(Diphenylphosphino)ethyl)pyridine di-borane adduct (2j)

[′]₁ ∖ BH₃ Ph BH₃

The title compound was prepared following a slightly modified general procedure GP2 (4 equiv. of $BH_3 \cdot SMe_2$ added), using triphenyl(2-(pyridin-2-yl)ethyl)phosphonium chloride (**1j**) (80.8 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 20% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) yielded the title compound as a white solid (43.3 mg, 68%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.68 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 7.78 – 7.70 (m, 5H), 7.48 – 7.38 (m, 7H), 7.25 (ddd, *J* = 7.5, 5.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 3.55 – 3.30 (m, 2H), 2.96 – 2.20 (m, 5H), 1.60 – 0.65 (m, 3H) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -14.4 (br), -37.1 – -42.6 (br-m) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 159.7 (d, *J* = 13.8 Hz), 149.5, 140.1, 132.3 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz), 131.5 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 129.0 (d, *J* = 10.1 Hz), 128.6 (d, *J* = 55.5 Hz), 127.2, 123.3, 29.4 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz), 24.2 (d, *J* = 36.8 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 16.4 (br-d, *J* = 83.6 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₁₉H₂₄B₂NNaP [M+Na]⁺ calcd.: 342.1725, found: 342.1730.

3-(Diphenylphosphino)propan-1-ol borane adduct (2k)

The title compound was prepared following a slightly modified general procedure GP2 (4 equiv. of BH₃•SMe₂ added), using (3-hydroxypropyl)triphenylphosphonium bromide (**1k**) (120.4 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). After cooling to room temperature, the reaction solution was stirred with aqueous HCI (1 M) for 5 min. The phases were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted three times with DCM. The combined organic layer was dried with magnesium sulfate, and volatile materials were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography (10% to 50% ethyl acetate in hexane) to yield the title compound as a colorless oil (42.5 mg, 55%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.68 (ddt, *J* = 9.7, 6.7, 1.6 Hz, 4H), 7.51 – 7.40 (m, 6H), 3.66 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 2.43 – 2.21 (m, 2H), 1.86 – 1.70 (m, 2H), 1.67 (br, 1H), 0.89 (br-q, *J* = 88.3 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -39.4 (*pseudo*-dt, *J* = 162.3, 80.9 Hz) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 132.2 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz), 131.3 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 129.5 (d, *J* = 55.1 Hz), 129.0 (d, *J* = 9.9 Hz), 62.9 (d, *J* = 14.7 Hz), 26.3, 22.2 (d, *J* = 38.4 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 16.0 (br-d, *J* = 80.2 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₁₅H₂₀BNaOP [M+Na]⁺ calcd.: 281.1237, found: 281.1235.

(3-Methoxypropyl)diphenylphosphine borane adduct (2I)

MeO P^{Ph}BH₃

The title compound was prepared following general procedure GP2, using (3-methoxypropyl)triphenylphosphonium bromide (**1**I) (124.6 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 7% ethyl acetate in *n*-hexane) yielded the title compound as a colorless oil (64.0 mg, 78%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.72 – 7.65 (m, 4H), 7.50 – 7.39 (m, 6H), 3.39 (t, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 3.27 (s, 3H), 2.39 – 2.25 (m, 2H), 1.86 – 1.73 (m, 2H), 1.47 – 0.53 (br-q, *J* = 89.9 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -38.7 (*pseudo*-dt, *J* = 151.9, 91.0 Hz) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 132.2 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz), 131.2 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 129.5 (d, *J* = 55.0 Hz), 128.9 (d, *J* = 9.8 Hz), 72.5 (d, *J* = 14.2 Hz), 58.5, 23.4, 22.5 (d, *J* = 38.4 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 16.1 (br-d, *J* = 69.6 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₁₆H₂₂BNaOP [M+Na]⁺ calcd.: 295.1394, found: 295.1397.

1-(2-(Diphenylphosphino)ethyl)pyrrolidine di-borane adduct (2m)

The title compound was prepared following a slightly modified general procedure GP2 (4 equiv. of $BH_3 \cdot SMe_2$ added), using triphenyl(2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)ethyl)phosphonium bromide (**1m**) (88.7 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 10% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) yielded the title compound as a colorless oil solid (15.2 mg, 24%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.77 – 7.69 (m, 4H), 7.54 – 7.43 (m, 6H), 3.28 – 3.15 (m, 2H), 2.98 – 2.90 (m, 2H), 2.90 – 2.77 (m, 2H), 2.74 – 2.63 (m, 2H), 2.25 – 2.11 (m, 2H), 2.01 – 0.53 (m, 8H) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -10.5 - -14.1 (m), -37.6 - -41.3 (m) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 132.2 (d, *J* = 9.5 Hz), 131.8 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 129.2 (d, *J* = 10.1 Hz), 128.3 (d, *J* = 56.1 Hz), 61.8, 58.2 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 22.8, 22.5 (d, *J* = 37.8 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 13.50 (br-d, *J* = 77.7 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₁₈H₂₈B₂NNaP [M+Na]⁺ calcd.: 334.2038, found: 334.2045.

(3-Phthaloylpropyl)diphenylphosphine borane adduct (2n)

The title compound was prepared following general procedure GP2, using (3-Phthaloylpropyl)triphenylphosphonium bromide (**1n**) (160.2 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (10% to 30% ethyl acetate in hexane) yielded the title compound as a white solid (74.1 mg, 64%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.86 – 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.74 – 7.68 (m, 2H), 7.67 – 7.60 (m, 4H), 7.50 – 7.37 (m, 6H), 3.74 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.33 – 2.19 (m, 2H), 1.96 – 1.85 (m, 2H), 1.40 – 0.49 (br-m, 3H) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -35.9 – -42.9 (m) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 168.4, 134.2, 132.3 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz), 132.1, 131.4 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 129.1 (d, *J* = 55.1 Hz), 129.0 (d, *J* = 9.9 Hz), 123.5, 38.8 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz), 23.4 (d, *J* = 37.7 Hz), 22.8 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 16.3 (br-d, *J* = 77.9 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₃H₂₃BNNaO₂P [M+Na]⁺ calcd.: 410.1452, found: 410.1449.

Butylbenzylphenylphosphine borane adduct (20)

P ∫BH₃

The title compound was prepared following a slightly modified general procedure GP2 (stirred with $BH_3 \cdot SMe_2$ for 24 h instead of 2 h), using butylbenzyldiphenylphosphonium bromide (**1o**) (82.7 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 2% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) yielded the title compound as a colorless oil (36.1 mg, 67%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.58 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.51 – 7.46 (m, 1H), 7.43 – 7.38 (m, 2H), 7.23 – 7.18 (m, 3H), 6.95 – 6.88 (m, 2H), 3.28 – 3.13 (m, 2H), 1.95 – 1.74 (m, 2H), 1.64 – 1.30 (m, 4H), 1.18 – 0.27 (m (overlapping signals), 6H, including: t, *J* = 7.1 Hz at 0.87 ppm) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -39.8 (*pseudo*-dt, *J* = 154.0, 93.8 Hz) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 132.5, 132.4 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 131.5 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 129.9 (d, *J* = 4.1 Hz), 128.7 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz), 128.3 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 127.8 (d, *J* = 50.9 Hz), 127.0 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz), 34.9 (d, *J* = 30.9 Hz), 24.9, 24.4 (d, *J* = 13.8 Hz), 23.2 (d, *J* = 35.8 Hz), 13.7 ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 16.2 (br-d, *J* = 75.8 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₁₇H₂₄BNaP [M+Na]⁺ calcd.: 293.1601, found: 293.1610.

Butylmethylphenylphosphine borane adduct (2p)

The title compound was prepared following general procedure GP2, using butylmethyldiphenylphosphonium bromide (**1p**) (101.2 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 7% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) yielded the title compound as a colorless oil (35.6 mg, 61%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.77 – 7.66 (m, 2H), 7.59 – 7.40 (m, 3H), 1.90 – 1.75 (m, 2H), 1.54 (d, *J* = 10.2 Hz, 3H), 1.51 – 1.28 (m, 4H), 1.19 – 0.32 (m (overlapping signals), 6H including: t, *J* = 7.1 Hz at 0.86 ppm) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -39.0 (qd, *J* = 95.4, 60.1 Hz) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 131.5 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz), 131.3 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 130.0 (d, *J* = 53.4 Hz), 128.9 (d, *J* = 9.7 Hz), 27.3 (d, *J* = 36.5 Hz), 25.1 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz), 24.2 (d, *J* = 13.6 Hz), 13.6, 10.9 (d, *J* = 38.8 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.8 (br-q, *J* = 59.6 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₁₁H₂₀BNaP [M+Na]⁺ calcd.: 217.1288, found: 217.1289.

Butylcyclohexylphenylphosphine borane adduct (2q)



The title compound was prepared following a slightly modified general procedure GP2 (stirred with $BH_3 \cdot SMe_2$ for 24 h instead of 2 h), using butylcyclohexyldiphenylphosphonium bromide (**1q**) (121.6 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 6% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) yielded the title compound as a colorless oil (60.3 mg, 77%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.69 (ddd, *J* = 9.7, 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.52 - 7.41 (m, 3H), 1.97 - 1.76 (m, 5H), 1.75 - 1.62 (m, 2H), 1.60 - 1.46 (m, 2H), 1.40 - 1.10 (m, 8H), 1.04 - 0.20 (m (overlapping signals), 6H including t, *J* = 7.3 Hz at 0.85 ppm) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -42.4 (*pseudo*-dt, *J* = 156.4, 92.8 Hz) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 132.7 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 131.1 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 128.7 (d, *J* = 9.3 Hz), 127.5 (d, *J* = 50.2 Hz), 35.2 (d, *J* = 35.2 Hz), 26.8 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz), 26.7 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 26.6, 26.4 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz), 25.9 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz), 24.9 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz), 24.5 (d, *J* = 13.3 Hz), 22.2 (d, *J* = 35.6 Hz), 13.7 ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 21.1 (br-d, *J* = 79.1 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₁₆H₂₈BNaP [M+Na]⁺ calcd.: 285.1914, found: 285.1917.
tert-Butylbutylphenylphosphine borane adduct (2r)



The title compound was prepared following a slightly modified general procedure GP2 (stirred with $BH_3 \cdot SMe_2$ for 24 h instead of 2 h), using *tert*-butyl(butyl)diphenylphosphonium bromide (**1r**) (113.8 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 6% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) yielded the title compound as a colorless oil (36.9 mg, 52%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.72 - 7.65 (m, 2H), 7.52 - 7.41 (m, 3H), 2.11 (qd, *J* = 14.6, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 1.88 - 1.73 (m, 1H), 1.71 - 1.55 (m, 1H), 1.48 - 1.32 (m, 2H), 1.31 - 0.24 (m (overlapping signals), 16H, including: d, *J* = 13.5 Hz and t, *J* = 7.3 Hz) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -41.9 (*pseudo*-dt, *J* = 157.2, 79.5 Hz) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 133.5 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 131.1 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 128.4 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz), 126.3 (d, *J* = 48.1 Hz), 29.1 (d, *J* = 32.8 Hz), 25.6 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz), 25.2 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz), 24.7 (d, *J* = 13.3 Hz), 18.5 (d, *J* = 34.0 Hz), 13.7 ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 31.2 (br-q, *J* = 78.7 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₁₄H₂₆BNaP [M+Na]⁺ calcd.: 259.1757, found: 259.1762.

Dimethyl(3-phenylpropyl)phosphine borane adduct (2s)

The title compound was prepared following general procedure GP2, using Dimethyl(phenyl)(3-phenylpropyl)phosphonium bromide (**1s**) (101.1 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 8% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) yielded the title compound as a colorless oil (17.6 mg, 30%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.33 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.24 – 7.16 (m, 3H), 2.72 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.94 – 1.76 (m, 2H), 1.70 – 1.57 (m, 2H), 1.27 (d, *J* = 10.3 Hz, 6H), 0.47 (br-dq, *J* = 94.3, 14.8 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -37.9 (qd, *J* = 94.3, 61.2 Hz) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 141.0, 128.7, 128.6, 126.4, 37.1 (d, *J* = 13.1 Hz), 26.4 (d, *J* = 36.4 Hz), 24.7 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz), 11.1 (d, *J* = 37.4 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 4.0 (br-q, *J* = 61.5 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₁₁H₁₆P [M-BH₄]⁺ calcd.: 179.0984, found: 179.0981.

Phosphine borane adduct 2t



The title compound was prepared following a slightly modified general procedure GP2 (stirred with BH₃•SMe₂ for 24 h instead of 2 h), using phosphonium salt **1t** (85.9 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 9% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) yielded the title compound as a white solid (47.8 mg, 84%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 2.36 (dd, *J* = 13.4, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 1.88 – 1.69 (m, 4H), 1.63 – 1.32 (m, 17H), 0.93 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 0.45 (br-q, *J* = 69 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -42.3 – -46.9 (m) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 96.7 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz), 96.2 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz), 71.0 (d, *J* = 26.8 Hz), 69.8 (d, *J* = 33.7 Hz), 40.4 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz), 39.3, 27.7 (d, *J* = 29.2 Hz), 26.3, 24.9 (d, *J* = 13.1 Hz), 24.1 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz), 23.6 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz), 17.9 (d, *J* = 24.1 Hz), 13.7 ppm (1 less signal than expected due to overlapping signals or assignment as doublet instead of singlet).

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 11.4 (d, *J* = 66.0 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₁₄H₂₈BNaO₃P [M+Na]⁺ calcd.: 309.1761, found: 309.1763.

Butylbis(4-fluorophenyl)phosphine borane adduct (2u)



The title compound was prepared following general procedure GP2, using butyltris(4-fluorophenyl)phosphonium bromide (1u) (136.0 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 8% ethyl acetate in *n*-hexane) yielded the title compound as a colorless oil (76.7 mg, 87%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.76 – 7.55 (m, 4H), 7.21 – 7.05 (m, 4H), 2.27 – 2.05 (m, 2H), 1.59 – 1.33 (m, 4H), 1.30 – 0.52 (m (overlapping signals), 6H including: t, *J* = 7.2 Hz) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -39.4 (*pseudo*-dt, *J* = 151.1, 93.2 Hz) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 164.7 (dd, *J* = 252.9, 2.7 Hz), 134.5 (dd, *J* = 10.3, 8.6 Hz), 125.4 (dd, *J* = 56.6, 3.5 Hz), 116.4 (dd, *J* = 21.3, 10.8 Hz), 25.8 (d, *J* = 37.4 Hz), 25.1, 24.3 (d, *J* = 14.5 Hz), 13.6 ppm.

¹⁹**F**{¹**H**} **NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -107.8 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 15.0 (br-d, *J* = 79.2 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₁₆H₂₀BF₂NaP [M+Na]⁺ calcd.: 315.1261, found: 315.1258.

Butylbis(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphine borane adduct (2v)



The title compound was prepared following a slightly modified general procedure GP2 (SIMes•HCI (13.7 mg, 0.04 mmol, 0.2 equiv.) was used instead of liPr•HBF₄), using butyltris(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphonium bromide (**1v**) (97.9 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 5% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) yielded the title compound as a colorless oil (44.4 mg, 70%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.64 – 7.53 (m, 4H), 6.99 – 6.90 (m, 4H), 3.82 (s, 6H), 2.18 – 2.07 (m, 2H), 1.47 (hex, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.43 – 1.32 (m, 2H), (m (overlapping signals), 6H including: t, *J* = 7.2 Hz) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -36.0 – -41.5 (m) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 161.9 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 133.8 (d, *J* = 10.2 Hz), 120.9 (d, *J* = 59.8 Hz), 114.5 (d, *J* = 10.7 Hz), 55.4, 26.1 (d, *J* = 38.2 Hz), 25.2, 24.4 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz), 13.7 ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 12.7 (br-d, *J* = 83.1 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₁₈H₂₆BNaO₂P [M+Na]⁺ calcd.: 339.1656, found: 339.1660.

The title compound was also prepared following general procedure GP2, using butyl(4-fluorophenyl)bis(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphonium bromide (1x) (143.2 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (1% to 3% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) yielded the title compound as a colorless oil (36.9 mg, 39%).

Dibenzylbutylphosphine borane adduct (2w)



The title compound was prepared following a slightly modified general procedure GP2 (stirred with $BH_3 \cdot SMe_2$ for 24 h instead of 2 h), using tribenzylbutylphosphonium bromide (**1w**) (88.3 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 5% ethyl acetate in *n*-hexane) yielded the title compound as a white solid (16.3 mg, 19%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.35 – 7.24 (m, 6H), 7.20 – 7.16 (m, 4H), 3.06 – 2.91 (m, 4H), 1.48 – 1.25 (m, 6H), 0.89 – 0.10 (m (overlapping signals), 6H including: t, *J* = 7.3 Hz) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -39.9 (*pseudo*-dt, *J* = 153.6, 93.8, 94.6 Hz) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 132.5 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz), 130.0 (d, *J* = 4.1 Hz), 128.7 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz), 127.2 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz), 31.4 (d, *J* = 29.4 Hz), 24.8 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz), 24.4 (d, *J* = 13.3 Hz), 21.7 (d, *J* = 32.5 Hz), 13.7 ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 17.9 (br-d, *J* = 78.3 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₁₈H₂₆BNaP [M+Na]⁺ calcd.: 307.1757, found: 307.1758.

Butyl(4-fluorophenyl)(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphine borane adduct (2x)



The title compound was prepared following general procedure GP2, using butyl(4-fluorophenyl)bis(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphonium bromide (1x) (143.2 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (1% to 3% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) yielded the title compound as a colorless oil (32.6 mg, 36%).

Butylbis(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphine borane adduct (2v) was also isolated as a colorless oil (36.9 mg, 39%). Its analytical data matched the one observed for the reaction of tris(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphonium bromide (1v) under the conditions of general procedure GP2 (see above).

Characterization data for the title compound:

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.69 – 7.54 (m, 4H), 7.12 (tq, *J* = 8.7, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 6.99 – 6.95 (m, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.24 – 2.06 (m, 2H), 1.56 – 1.34 (m, 4H), 1.32 – 0.46 (m (overlapping signals), 6H, including t, *J* = 7.2 Hz) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -36.9 – -41.4 (m) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 164.6 (dd, *J* = 252.2, 2.7 Hz), 162.2 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 134.4 (dd, *J* = 10.3, 8.4 Hz), 134.0 (d, *J* = 10.3 Hz), 126.4 (dd, *J* = 56.5, 3.5 Hz), 119.9 (d, *J* = 59.9 Hz), 116.2 (dd, *J* = 21.3, 10.7 Hz), 114.7 (d, *J* = 10.8 Hz), 55.5, 26.0 (d, *J* = 37.8 Hz), 25.2, 24.4 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz), 13.7 ppm.

¹⁹**F**{¹**H**} **NMR** (376 MHz, CDCI₃) δ = -108.6 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 13.9 (br-d, *J* = 81.8 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C17H23BFNaOP [M+Na]+ calcd.: 327.1456, found: 327.1456.

[1,1'-Biphenyl]-2-yl(butyl)(phenyl)phosphine (2z)



The title compound was prepared following a modified general procedure GP2 (no treatment with $BH_3 \cdot SMe_2$), using [1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl(butyl)diphenylphosphonium bromide (**1z**) (95.1 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 8% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) yielded the title compound as a yellow oil (39.0 mg, 61%).

³¹P{¹H} qNMR spectroscopy of the crude reaction mixture indicated that butyldiphenylphosphine (**S20**) was also formed in ca. 42% NMR yield.

Characterization data for the title compound:

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.50 (dt, *J* = 6.0, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (ddd, *J* = 6.7, 4.1, 1.9 Hz, 2H), 7.39 – 7.32 (m, 4H), 7.32 – 7.25 (m, 7H), 1.96 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.43 – 1.27 (m, 4H), 0.87 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 148.4 (d, *J* = 25.2 Hz), 142.1 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz), 139.9 (d, *J* = 14.2 Hz), 137.3 (d, *J* = 16.3 Hz), 132.9 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz), 131.6, 130.2 (d, *J* = 4.3 Hz), 129.9 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz), 128.4, 128.3, 128.2, 128.2, 127.7, 127.4, 127.1, 28.2 (d, *J* = 16.9 Hz), 27.9 (d, *J* = 12.4 Hz), 24.4 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz), 13.8 (1 more signal than expected, presumably because of assignment as 2 singlets instead of a doublet) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -24.2 ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₂H₂₂P [M-H]⁺ calcd.: 317.1454, found: 317.1450.

DPPP (5)

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathsf{Ph} & \mathsf{P} & \mathsf{Ph} \\ \mathsf{Ph} & \mathsf{Ph} & \mathsf{Ph} \end{array}$$

Inside a glovebox filled with argon, a 16-mL screw-cap vial was charged with Ni(COD)₂ (27.5 mg, 0.1 mmol, 0.5 equiv.) bisphosphonium salt **15** (145.3 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), phenylboronic acid (97.5 mg, 0.8 mmol, 4.0 equiv.), potassium phosphate (169.8 mg, 0.8 mmol, 4.0 equiv.), and dioxane (4.0 mL). The vial was capped with a septum cap, taken out of the glovebox, and stirred in a pre-heated heating block with 1200 rpm at 60 °C for 22 hours. After cooling to room temperature, a degassed aqueous solution of sodium cyanide (1 mL, 0.8 M, 0.8 mmol, 4.0 equiv.) and degassed DCE (4 mL) were added through the septum. The vial was stirred in a pre-heated heating block with 1200 rpm at 80 °C for 3 hours. The reaction mixture was loaded on silica and purified by column chromatography (2% to 6% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) to yield the title compound as a white solid (37.8 mg, 46%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.40 – 7.33 (m, 8H), 7.33 – 7.27 (m, 12H), 2.20 (*pseudo*-t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 4H), 1.68 – 1.54 (m, 2H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 138.7 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz), 132.8 (d, *J* = 18.4 Hz), 128.9 – 128.1 (m), 29.8 (t, *J* = 12.3 Hz), 22.6 (t, *J* = 17.1 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -17.5 ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₇H₂₇P₂ [M+H]⁺ calcd.: 413.1583, found: 413.1588.

The spectroscopic data matched those reported in the literature.¹¹

1,3-Bis(butyl(phenyl)phosphino)propane di-borane adduct (7)

P BH₃ H_3B^{\prime}

Inside a glovebox filled with argon, a 16-mL screw-cap vial was charged with Ni(COD)₂ (27.5 mg, 0.1 mmol, 0.5 equiv.) bisphosphonium salt **6** (137.3 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), phenylboronic acid (97.5 mg, 0.8 mmol, 4.0 equiv.), potassium phosphate (169.8 mg, 0.8 mmol, 4.0 equiv.), and dioxane (4.0 mL). The vial was capped with a septum cap, taken out of the glovebox, and stirred in a pre-heated heating block with 1200 rpm at 60 °C for 22 hours. After cooling to room temperature, a degassed aqueous solution of sodium cyanide (1 mL, 0.8 M, 0.8 mmol, 4.0 equiv.) and degassed DCE (4 mL) were added through the septum. The vial was stirred in a pre-heated heating block with 1200 rpm at 80 °C for 3 hours. The vial was cooled to 0 °C, and BH₃•SMe₂ (80 µL, 0.8 mmol, 4.0 equiv.) was added through the septum. After stirring at 0 °C for 5 minutes, the vial was allowed to warm to ambient temperature and stirred an additional 2 hours. The reaction mixture was loaded on silica and purified by column chromatography (2% to 6% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) to yield the title compound as a colorless oil (45.9 mg, 57%, ca. 92% purity by ³¹P{¹H} qNMR). Further purification by reverse-phase HPLC (20 min gradient of 70% to 100% MeCN in H₂O (0.1% formic acid)) yielded the title compound as a colorless oil that solidified to a white solid upon standing (35.2 mg, 44%, *dr* = 2:1, inseparable mixture).

The characterization data for the major isomer are reported here:

Full assignment of the ¹H NMR spectrum was not possible because of overlapping signals of the isomers. The spectrum shows the expected overall ratio between the aromatic and alipathatic signals, the characteristic broad BH₃ peak of phosphine borane adducts (1.12 - 0.21 ppm), and the triplet peak of the CH₃ group of the butyl substituents 0.84 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz).

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -36.7 – -44.5 (m) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 132.0 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz), 131.4 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 128.9 (d, *J* = 9.5 Hz), 128.0 (d, *J* = 51.5 Hz), 26.8 (dd, *J* = 35.2, 10.9 Hz), 25.6 (d, *J* = 36.3 Hz), 24.9 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz), 24.3 (d, *J* = 13.5 Hz), 17.2, 13.6 ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 14.9 (br-d, *J* = 72.6 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₃H₄₄B₂NP₂ [M+NH₄]⁺ calcd.: 418.3130, found: 418.3143.

The ¹H, ¹¹B, and ³¹P{¹H} NMR signals of the minor isomer are identical or largely overlap with the signals of the major isomer. The ¹³C{¹H} NMR signals of the minor isomer are reported here:

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 132.1 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz), 131.5 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 129.0 (d, *J* = 9.5 Hz), 128.2 (d, *J* = 51.5 Hz), 26.8 (dd, *J* = 35.2, 10.8 Hz), 25.4 (d, *J* = 36.3 Hz), 24.9 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz), 24.2 (d, *J* = 13.6 Hz), 17.2, 13.6 ppm.

Bisphosphine di-borane adduct 9



Inside a glovebox filled with argon, a 16-mL screw-cap vial was charged with Ni(COD)₂ (27.5 mg, 0.1 mmol, 0.5 equiv.) monophosphonium salt **8** (109.9 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), phenylboronic acid (48.8 mg, 0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv.), potassium phosphate (85.0 mg, 0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv.), and dioxane (4.0 mL). The vial was capped with a septum cap, taken out of the glovebox, and stirred in a pre-heated heating block with 1200 rpm at 60 °C for 22 hours. After cooling to room temperature, a degassed aqueous solution of sodium cyanide (1 mL, 0.8 M, 0.8 mmol, 4.0 equiv.) and degassed DCE (4 mL) were added through the septum. The vial was stirred in a pre-heated heating block with 1200 rpm at 80 °C for 3 hours. The vial was cooled to 0 °C, and BH₃•SMe₂ (80 µL, 0.8 mmol, 4.0 equiv.) was added through the septum. After stirring at 0 °C for 5 minutes, the vial was allowed to warm to ambient temperature and stirred an additional 2 hours. The reaction mixture was loaded on silica and purified by column chromatography (2% to 8% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) to yield the title compound as a colorless oil (59.2 mg, 70%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.67 – 7.60 (m, 4H), 7.59 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.51 – 7.35 (m, 9H), 2.37 – 2.15 (m, 2H), 2.07 – 1.64 (m, 7H), 1.63 – 1.19 (m, 5H), 1.18 – 0.27 (m (overlapping signals), 7H, including t, *J* = 7.1 Hz) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -36.6 - -42.5 (m) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 132.2, 132.2, 132.1, 132.1, 132.0, 132.0, 131.4, 131.4, 131.4, 131.4, 131.3, 131.3, 129.4 (d, *J* = 12.8 Hz), 129.0, 128.9, 128.9, 128.9, 128.8, 128.8, 128.8, 127.8, 27.0, 26.9,

26.9, 26.8, 26.7, 26.6, 26.5, 26.4, 25.4 (d, J = 36.3 Hz), 24.9 (d, J = 1.2 Hz), 24.2 (d, J = 13.6 Hz), 17.3 (d, J = 1.1 Hz), 13.6 ppm (Signals for which multiplet assignment is ambiguous are reported as singlets).

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 17.0 – 13.6 (m) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₅H₄₀B₂NP₂ [M+NH₄]⁺ calcd.: 438.2817, found: 438.2834.

Bisphosphine di-borane adduct 13



Inside a glovebox filled with argon, a 8-mL screw-cap vial was charged with Ni(COD)₂ (27.5 mg, 0.1 mmol, 0.5 equiv.) bisphosphonium salt **12** (145.1 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), phenylboronic acid (26.8 mg, 0.22 mmol, 1.1 equiv.), potassium phosphate (85.0 mg, 0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv.), and dioxane (1.0 mL). The vial was capped with a septum cap, taken out of the glovebox, and stirred in a pre-heated heating block with 1200 rpm at 80 °C for 22 hours. After cooling to room temperature, a degassed aqueous solution of sodium cyanide (1 mL, 0.8 M, 0.8 mmol, 4.0 equiv.) and degassed DCE (4 mL) were added through the septum. The vial was stirred in a pre-heated heating block with 1200 rpm at 80 °C for 3 hours. The vial was cooled to 0 °C, and BH₃•SMe₂ (80 µL, 0.8 mmol, 4.0 equiv.) was added through the septum. After stirring at 0 °C for 5 minutes, the vial was allowed to warm to ambient temperature and stirred an additional 2 hours. The reaction mixture was loaded on silica and purified by column chromatography (0% to 8% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) to yield the title compound as a yellow solid (90.2 mg, 76%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.61 – 7.54 (m, 2H), 7.54 – 7.47 (m, 4H), 7.47 – 7.32 (m, 9H), 7.20 – 7.11 (m, 3H), 6.84 (dt, *J* = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 4.67 – 4.65 (m, 1H), 4.52 – 4.49 (m, 1H), 4.48 – 4.45 (m, 2H), 4.46 – 4.39 (m, 2H), 4.26 – 4.19 (m, 2H), 3.29 – 3.14 (m, 2H), 1.53 – 0.43 (m, 6H) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -38.5 (br) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 132.9, 132.8, 132.6, 132.6, 132.5, 132.5, 132.2 (d, *J* = 4.7 Hz), 131.4, 131.4, 131.3, 131.2, 131.2, 130.9 (d, *J* = 20.4 Hz), 130.4 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz), 129.2 (d, *J* = 54.6 Hz), 128.8, 128.7, 128.7, 128.6, 128.6, 128.5, 128.1, 128.1, 127.0 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz), 74.7, 74.6, 74.6, 74.6, 74.5, 74.5, 74.3, 74.2, 74.0, 73.9, 73.9, 73.8, 73.7, 73.6, 73.3, 73.2, 71.1 (d, *J* = 47.5 Hz), 70.4 (d, *J* = 52.1 Hz), 35.8 (d, *J* = 33.8 Hz) ppm (Signals for which multiplet assignment is ambiguous are reported as singlets).

³¹P{¹H} NMR (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 15.5 (br-d, J = 50.8 Hz), 13.4 (br-d, J = 53.0 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₃₅H₄₀B₂FeNP₂ [M+NH₄]⁺ calcd.: 614.2166, found: 614.2171.

5. Product derivatization

Butylbis(4-fluorophenyl)phosphine (16)



Inside a glovebox filled with argon, a 4-mL screw-cap vial was charged with phosphine borane adduct **2u** (58.4 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane (DABCO) (26.9 mg, 0.24 mmol, 1.2 equiv.), and toluene (0.6 mL). The vial was capped, taken out of the glovebox, and stirred in a pre-heated heating block at 60 °C overnight (ca. 18 h). After cooling to room temperature, the reaction mixture was filtered through a silica plug under inert atmosphere, eluting with toluene. Volatile materials were evaporated to yield the title compound as a colorless oil (53.0 mg, 95%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, tol- d_8) δ = 7.15 – 7.07 (m, 4H), 6.76 – 6.69 (m, 4H), 1.77 – 1.69 (m, 2H), 1.36 – 1.23 (m, 4H), 0.80 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, tol- d_8) δ = 163.6 (d, J = 248.2 Hz), 135.1 (dd, J = 15.3, 3.6 Hz), 134.8 (dd, J = 20.3, 7.8 Hz), 115.8 (dd, J = 20.8, 7.1 Hz), 28.6 (d, J = 12.4 Hz), 28.4 (d, J = 16.5 Hz), 24.6 (d, J = 13.3 Hz), 14.0 ppm.

¹⁹**F**{¹**H**} **NMR** (376 MHz, tol- d_8) δ = -112.6 (d, J = 4.3 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, tol- d_8) δ = -18.8 (t, J = 4.2 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₁₆H₁₈F₂P [M+H]⁺ calcd.: 279.1109, found: 279.1110.

Butylbis(4-fluorophenyl)phosphonium tetrafluoroborate (17)



Under an atmosphere of nitrogen, a 100-mL round-bottom flask was charged with phosphine borane adduct **2u** (292 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), and dichloromethane (20 mL). The flask was cooled to 0 °C, and HBF₄•OEt₂ (1.8 mL, 15.0 mmol, 15.0 equiv.) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 30 minutes. It was then warmed to room temperature and stirred for an additional 30 minutes. Aqueous HBF₄ (48%, 24 mL) was added, and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight (ca. 16 h). Then, an excess of DCM was added, the phases were separated, and the aqueous phase was extracted twice with DCM. The combined organic phases were dried with magnesium sulfate, and volatile materials were removed under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by trituration with diethyl ether (4x) to yield the title compound as a light-yellow oil (250 mg, 68%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.55 (br, 0.5H, P-*H* – other half-signal presumably overlapping with signal at 7.31 ppm), 7.98 (ddd, *J* = 13.6, 8.8, 5.0 Hz, 4H), 7.31 (td, *J* = 8.6, 2.3 Hz, 4H), 3.02 – 2.73 (m, 2H), 1.65 – 1.55 (m, 2H), 1.48 (dt, *J* = 14.1, 7.0 Hz, 2H), 0.87 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -0.2 ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 167.0 (dd, *J* = 259.6, 3.4 Hz), 136.3 (dd, *J* = 12.8, 9.7 Hz), 118.4 (dd, *J* = 22.2, 14.6 Hz), 111.9 (d, *J* = 88.6 Hz), 24.9 (d, *J* = 3.8 Hz), 23.4 (d, *J* = 16.7 Hz), 20.0 (d, *J* = 48.3 Hz), 13.3 ppm.

¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -100.0, -149.0 (¹⁰BF₄-), -149.1 (¹¹BF₄-) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.5 ppm.

³¹**P**{/} **NMR** (203 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.4 (br-d, *J* = 512.3 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₁₆H₁₈F₂P [M-BF₄]⁺ calcd.: 279.1109, found: 279.1107.

Dibutylbis(4-fluorophenyl)phosphonium bromide (18)



Inside a glovebox filled with argon, a 4-mL screw-cap vial was charged with phosphine borane adduct **2u** (58.4 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 1-octene (126 μ L, 0.8 mmol, 4.0 equiv.), 1-bromobutane (**3**) (43 μ L, 0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv.), and dioxane (0.6 mL). The vial was capped, taken out of the glovebox, and stirred in a pre-heated heating block at 120 °C for 20 h. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction mixture was loaded on silica and purified by column chromatography (2% to 10% MeOH in DCM) to yield the title compound as a white solid (68.7 mg, 83%).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.02 (tdd, *J* = 8.8, 5.0, 2.1 Hz, 4H), 7.37 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 3.32 – 3.18 (m, 4H), 1.54 – 1.43 (m, 4H), 1.44 – 1.29 (m, 4H), 0.82 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 166.4 (dd, *J* = 259.4, 3.4 Hz), 136.2 (dd, *J* = 11.2, 9.4 Hz), 118.1 (dd, *J* = 22.0, 13.4 Hz), 113.7 (dd, *J* = 86.3, 3.5 Hz), 24.0 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz), 23.6 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz), 21.4 (d, *J* = 49.4 Hz), 13.6 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz) ppm.

¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -100.7 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 27.5 ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₀H₂₆F₂P [M-Br]⁺ calcd.: 335.1735, found: 335.1728.

1,2-Bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane di-borane adduct (19)



Under an atmosphere of nitrogen, a 10-mL Schlenk flask was charged with phosphine borane adduct **2c** (64.5 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and diethyl ether (1.2 mL). The mixture was cooled to -78 °C and *s*-BuLi (1.3 M in hexanes, 280 μ L, 0.36 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 2 hours. Then, Cu(OTf)₂ (163 mg, 0.45 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) was added in one portion and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature overnight. An excess of aqueous ammonia (25%) was added to the reaction mixture. The phases were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted three times with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were washed with aqueous ammonia (5%), aqueous HCI (2 M), and brine before they were dried with magnesium sulfate. Volatile materials were

removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by column chromatography (4% to 7% ethyl acetate in *n*-hexane) to yield the title compound as a white solid (33.4 mg, 52%). Starting material **2c** was also recovered as a colorless oil (9.1 mg, 14%).

Characterization data for title compound 19:

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.76 – 7.58 (m, 8H), 7.58 – 7.36 (m, 12H), 2.39 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 4H), 1.51 – 0.57 (m, 6H) ppm.

¹¹**B NMR** (128 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -39.8 (br) ppm.

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 132.9 – 131.9 (m), 131.7 (*pseudo*-t, *J* = 1.3 Hz), 129.5 – 128.8 (m), 128.3 (d, *J* = 55.5 Hz), 19.6 (d, *J* = 37.7 Hz) ppm.

³¹**P**{¹**H**} **NMR** (162 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 18.1 (br-d, *J* = 41.7 Hz) ppm.

HRMS (ESI+): m/z for C₂₆H₃₀B₂NaP [M+Na]⁺ calcd.: 449.1901, found: 449.1902.

6. Further experiments

Large scale experiments

Methyldiphenylphosphine borane adduct (2c)

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{Me}_{P_{-}^{\prime}}\text{Ph} \\ {}^{I}_{Ph} \text{BH}_{3} \end{array}$

The title compound was prepared following a slightly modified general procedure GP2 (reaction conducted in a 16-mL screw cap vial), using methyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (**1c**) (357.2 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 8% ethyl acetate in *n*-hexane) yielded the title compound as a colorless oil (148.0 mg, 69%).

The characterization data matched the one reported for the reaction that was set up according to general procedure GP2 (*vide supra*).

Butylbis(4-fluorophenyl)phosphine borane adduct (2u)



Inside a glovebox filled with argon, a 250-mL Schlenk flask was charged with Ni(COD)₂ (275 mg, 1.0 mmol, 0.1 equiv.), liPr•HBF₄ (480 mg, 2.0 mmol, 0.2 equiv.), butyltris(4-fluorophenyl)phosphonium bromide (**1u**) (4.53 g, 10.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), phenylboronic acid (1.34 g, 11.0 mmol, 1.1 equiv.), potassium phosphate (4.25 g, 20.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv.), and dioxane (50 mL). The flask was taken out of the glovebox and stirred in a pre-heated oil bath at 80 °C for 22 hours. After cooling to 0 °C, BH₃•SMe₂ (1.9 mL, 20.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) was added dropwise, and the mixture was stirred for an additional 2 hours at ambient temperature. The reaction mixture was loaded on silica and purified by column chromatography (0% to 8% ethyl acetate in hexane) to yield the title compound as a colorless oil (2.01 g, 69%).

The characterization data matched the one reported for the reaction that was set up according to general procedure GP2 (*vide supra*).

One-pot reaction



Inside a glovebox filled with argon, a 4-mL screw-cap vial was charged with triphenylphosphine (4) (78.6 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 1-bromobutane (3) (33.8 μ L, 0.315 mmol, 1.05 equiv.), and dioxane

(0.3 mL). The vial was capped, taken out of the glovebox, and stirred in a pre-heated heating block at 120 °C for 16 hours. After cooling to room temperature, the vial was taken into the glovebox again. Ni(COD)₂ (8.3 mg, 0.03 mmol, 0.1 equiv.), liPr•HBF₄ (14.4 mg, 0.06 mmol, 0.2 equiv.), phenylboronic acid (40.2 mg, 0.33 mmol, 1.1 equiv.), potassium phosphate (127.6 mg, 0.6 mmol, 2.0 equiv.), and dioxane (1.2 mL) were added. The vial was capped with a septum cap, taken out of the glovebox, and stirred in a pre-heated heating block at 80 °C for 22 h. After cooling to room temperature, BH₃•SMe₂ (60 µL, 0.6 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) was added through the septum, and the mixture was stirred for an additional 2 hours at ambient temperature. The reaction mixture was loaded on silica and purified by column chromatography (0% to 8% ethyl acetate in *n*-hexane) to yield a 6.4:1 mixture of the title compound and triphenylphosphine borane adduct as a white solid (67.6 mg, 87%). The mixture was purified by reverse-phase HPLC (20 min gradient of 70% to 100% MeCN in H₂O (0.1% formic acid)) to yield butyldiphenylphosphine borane adduct (**2b**) as a colorless oil (51.4 mg, 67%).

The characterization data matched the one reported for the reaction that was set up according to general procedure GP2 (*vide supra*).

Benchtop setup



On a benchtop under air, a 4-mL screw-cap vial was charged with Ni(COD)₂ (8.3 mg, 0.03 mmol, 0.1 equiv.), liPr•HBF₄ (14.4 mg, 0.06 mmol, 0.2 equiv.), phosphonium salt **1b** (119.8 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), phenylboronic acid (40.2 mg, 0.33 mmol, 1.1 equiv.), and potassium phosphate (127.6 mg, 0.6 mmol, 2.0 equiv.). The vial was capped with a septum cap and connected to a Schlenk line via needle. The vial was evacuated and refilled with nitrogen over three cycles. Then, dioxane (1.5 mL) was added. The vial was placed in a pre-heated heating block at 80 °C and stirred there for 22 hours. After cooling to room temperature, BH₃•SMe₂ (60 μ L, 0.6 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) was added through the septum, and the mixture was stirred for an additional 2 hours at ambient temperature. The reaction mixture was loaded on silica and purified by column chromatography (0% to 8% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) to yield butyldiphenylphosphine borane adduct (**2b**) as a colorless oil (57.6 mg, 75%).

The characterization data matched the one reported for the reaction that was set up according to general procedure GP2 (*vide supra*).

Note: The reagents were stored under argon prior to use and only exposed to air for the setup of the reaction.

Set-up with air-stable Ni(0) pre-catalysts

On a benchtop under air, a 4-mL screw-cap vial was charged with a nickel pre-catalyst (0.01 mmol, 0.1 equiv.), liPr•HBF₄ (4.8 mg, 0.02 mmol, 0.2 equiv.), phosphonium salt **1b** (39.9 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), phenylboronic acid (13.4 mg, 0.11 mmol, 1.1 equiv.), and potassium phosphate (42.5 mg, 0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv.). The vial was capped with a septum cap and connected to a Schlenk line via needle. The vial was evacuated and refilled with nitrogen over three cycles. Then, dioxane (0.5 mL) was added. The vial was placed in a pre-heated heating block at 80 °C and stirred there for 22 hours. After cooling to room temperature, triphenyl phosphate was added as an internal standard, and the mixture was diluted with 2 mL of dioxane. After shaking the vial for 30 seconds, ca. 0.5 mL of the solution were transferred to an NMR tube. Ca. 0.1 mL of THF-*d*₈ were also added to the NMR tube. The NMR tube was shaken to allow for mixing, and a ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum with inverse-gated decoupling was acquired (O1P = 0 ppm, D1 = 20 s).

Note: The reagents were stored under argon prior to use and only exposed to air for the setup of the reactions.









Halide effect on the dearylation reaction



Benzyldiphenylphosphine borane adduct (2a) was prepared following general procedure GP2, using phosphonium salts 1a (130.0 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 1a' (116.7 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), or 1a'' (144.1 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography yielded 2a as a colorless oil in the indicated yields.

Reactions of further substrates



Figure S3. Further substrates tested under the conditions of GP2.



Figure S4. Further modifications of bidentate phosphines.

Borane protection with BH₃•THF



(quench with BH₃·SMe₂: 92%)

Butyldiphenylphosphine borane adduct (**2b**) was prepared following a slightly modified general procedure GP2 (BH₃•THF (1 M in THF, 0.6 mL, 0.6 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) used instead of BH₃•SMe₂), using butyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (**1b**) (119.8 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). Purification by column chromatography (0% to 8% ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) yielded the desired product as a colorless oil (67.3 mg, 88%).

The characterization data matched the one reported for the reaction that was set up according to general procedure GP2 (*vide supra*).

Attempted direct alkylative dearylation

Inside an argon-filled glovebox, a 4-mL screw-cap vial was charged with Ni(COD)₂ (2.8 mg, 0.01 mmol, 0.1 equiv.), liPr•HBF₄ (4.8 mg, 0.02 mmol, 0.2 equiv.), triphenylphosphine (**4**) (26.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), *n*-butyl halide (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv. or 0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv.), phenylboronic acid (13.4 mg, 0.11 mmol, 1.1 equiv.), potassium phosphate (42.6 mg, 0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv.), and dioxane (0.5 mL). The vial was capped, placed in a pre-heated heating block at 80 °C, and stirred there for 22 hours. After cooling to room temperature, triphenyl phosphate was added as an internal standard, and the mixture was diluted with 2 mL of dioxane. After shaking the vial for 30 seconds, ca. 0.5 mL of the solution were transferred to an NMR tube. Ca. 0.1 mL of THF-*d*₈ were also added to the NMR tube. The NMR tube was shaken to allow for mixing of the solutions, and a ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum with inverse-gated decoupling was acquired (O1P = 0 ppm, D1 = 20 s).

$$10 \text{ mol\% Ni(COD)}_{2}, 20 \text{ mol\% liPr·HBF}_{4}$$

$$2.0 \text{ equiv. } K_{3}PO_{4}$$

$$1.1 \text{ equiv. PhB(OH)}_{2}$$

$$4 \text{ Alk} = n\text{-Bu, X} = \text{Cl: } \text{S22}$$

$$Alk = n\text{-Bu, X} = \text{Br: } 3$$

$$Alk = n\text{-Bu, X} = \text{I: } \text{S23}$$

$$Alk = n\text{-Bu, X} = \text{I: } \text{S23}$$

$$Alk = t\text{-Bu, X} = \text{Br: } \text{S24}$$

$$Alk = t\text{-Bu, X} = \text{Br: } \text{S25}$$

$$Alk = t\text{-Bu, X} = \text{Br: } \text{S28}$$

$$Alk = t\text{-Bu, X} = \text{Br: } \text{S28}$$

$$Alk = t\text{-Bu, X} = \text{Br: } \text{S29}$$

$$Alk = t\text{-Bu, X} = \text{Br: } \text{S27}$$

$$Alk = t\text{-Bu, X} = \text{Br: } \text{S28}$$

$$Alk = t\text{-Bu, X} = \text{Br: } \text{S28}$$

$$Alk = t\text{-Bu, X} = \text{Br: } \text{S28}$$

$$Alk = t\text{-Bu, X} = \text{Br: } \text{S29}$$

Table S6. Attempted direct reaction between an alkyl halide and triphenylphosphine (4).

Entry	AlkX (equiv.)	Desired products	Yield of desired products (%) ^a
1	3 (1.0)	S20 + S21	< 5%
2	3 (1.5)	S20 + S21	5%
3	3 (2.0)	S20 + S21	11%
4	S22 (2.0)	S20 + S21	< 5%
5	S23 (2.0)	S20 + S21	< 5%
6	S24 (2.0)	S26 + S27	not observed
7	S25 (2.0)	S28 + S29	not observed

a: Combined ³¹P{¹H} qNMR yield of the phosphine product and its corresponding oxide using triphenyl phosphate as internal standard.

Attempted single step dearylation and decomplexation

Inside an argon-filled glovebox, a 4-mL screw-cap vial was charged with Ni(COD)₂ (6.9 mg, 0.025 mmol, 0.5 equiv.), bisphosphonium salt **15** (36.3 mg, 0.05 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), phenylboronic acid (24.4 mg, 0.2 mmol, 4.0 equiv.), potassium phosphate (42.6 mg, 0.2 mmol, 4.0 equiv.), and dioxane (1.0 mL). The vial was capped with a septum cap and taken out of the glovebox. A solution of sodium cyanide (9.8 mg, 0.2 mmol, 4.0 equiv.) in water (0.25 mL) was added by syringe. Then, DCE (1.0 mL) was added by syringe. The vial was placed in a pre-heated heating block at 80 °C and stirred there for 22 hours. After cooling to room temperature, *n*-dodecane (7.5 μ l) was added as an internal standard, and the mixture was diluted with 2 mL of acetone. After shaking the vial for 30 seconds, a sample was taken for GC analysis.



Control reactions for a direct reaction of phosphonium salt and borane

Inside a glovebox filled with argon, a 4-mL screw-cap vial was charged with butyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (**1b**) (39.9 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), additives (see Table S6), and dioxane (0.5 mL). The vial was capped with a septum cap and taken out of the glovebox. BH₃•SMe₂ (20 μ L, 0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) was added through the septum, and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours. The reaction mixture was analyzed by ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectroscopy and GC/MS to probe the formation of butyldiphenylphosphine (**S20**) and its corresponding oxide (**S21**) and borane adduct (**2b**).



not observed not observed





These experiments show that BH₃•SMe₂ is not able to reduce the phosphonium salt to the corresponding phosphine under the reaction conditions of general procedure GP2.

Analysis of nickel complexes formed during the reaction of bisphosphonium salts

A - Reaction NMR spectrum of the stoichiometric dearylation reaction

Inside a glovebox filled with argon, a 4-mL screw-cap vial was charged with Ni(COD)₂ (27.5 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), bisphosphonium salt **15** (72.6 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), phenylboronic acid (26.8 mg, 0.22 mmol, 2.2 equiv.), potassium phosphate (84.8 mg, 0.4 mmol, 4.0 equiv.), and dioxane (0.5 mL). The vial was capped, taken out of the glovebox, and stirred in a pre-heated heating block at 80 °C for 22 hours. The mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and taken into the glovebox. A few drops of THF-*d*₈ were added. The sample was transferred into an NMR tube for analysis. ³¹P{¹H} NMR (162 MHz, THF-*d*₈) δ = 11.8 ppm.

1.0 equiv. Ni(COD)₂ 2.0 equiv. liPr·HBF₄ 2.2 equiv. PhB(OH)₂ Br^{\ominus} $\operatorname{Br}^{\ominus}$ 4.0 equiv.K₃PO₄ Ni(DPPP)₂ (+)PPh₃ dioxane, 80 °C, 22 h Ph₃F 15 presumed product

Figure S5. ³¹P{¹H} reaction NMR spectrum (dioxane spiked with THF-*d*₈) of the stoichiometric dearylation reaction of salt **15**.

B - Independent synthesis of Ni(DPPP)2 according to literature¹⁵

Inside a glovebox filled with argon, a 4-mL screw-cap vial was charged with Ni(COD)₂ (27.5 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), DPPP (**5**) (82.5 mg, 0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv.), and dioxane (0.5 mL). The vial was capped, taken out of the glovebox, and stirred in a pre-heated heating block at 80 °C for 18 hours. The mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and taken into the glovebox. A few drops of THF- d_8 were added. The sample was transferred into an NMR tube for analysis.

³¹P{¹H} NMR (162 MHz, THF- d_8) δ = 11.8 ppm.





C - Mixture of A and B

Inside a glovebox filled with argon, a 1:1 mixture of the solutions generated in A and B was prepared. For that purpose, 0.2 mL of each sample was mixed with THF- d_8 (0.2 mL). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (162 MHz, THF- d_8) δ = 11.8 ppm.



 $\frac{1}{20 \ 210 \ 200 \ 190 \ 180 \ 170 \ 160 \ 150 \ 140 \ 130 \ 120 \ 110 \ 100 \ 90 \ 80 \ 70 \ 60 \ 50 \ 40 \ 30 \ 20 \ 10 \ 0 \ -10 \ -20 \ -30 \ -40 \ -50 \ -60 \ -70 \ -80 \ -90 \ -100 \ -110 \ -12}$ Figure S7. ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum (dioxane spiked with THF-*d*₈) of the combined solutions generated in part A and B.

The singlet NMR peaks of the reaction NMR spectrum (A) (Figure S5) and the independent formation of $Ni(DPPP)_2$ (B) (Figure S6) have the same chemical shift. Furthermore, a mixture of both samples shows the same peak (Figure S7). The experiments strongly suggest that $Ni(DPPP)_2$ is generated in the dearylation reaction of bisphosphonium salt **15**, indicating that the desired dearylation of **15** had occurred and that the dearylation product is bound to the nickel center.

7. NMR spectra



Benzyltriphenylphosphonium iodide (1a") - ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum (CDCl₃)











(2-Norbornyl)triphenylphosphonium bromide (1g) – HSQC NMR spectrum (CDCl₃)

f2 (ppm)









220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -12 fl (ppm)



Triphenyl(2-(pyridin-2-yl)ethyl)phosphonium chloride (1j) – ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum (CDCl₃)














220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -1; f1 (ppm)







Benzylbutyldiphenylphosphonium bromide (**1o**) – ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃)





220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -12 f1 (ppm)

















220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -12 f1 (ppm)







50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -200 -210 -220 -230 -240 -2! f1 (ppm)

















50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -200 -210 -220 -230 -240 -2! f1 (ppm)

Butyl(4-fluorophenyl)bis(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphonium bromide $(1x) - {}^{31}P{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum (CDCl₃)



220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -12 f1 (ppm)



















Benzyldiphenylphosphine borane adduct (2a) – ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum (CDCl₃)























Cyclopropyldiphenylphosphine borane adduct (2f) – ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$ } NMR spectrum (CDCl₃)




(2-Norbornyl)diphenylphosphine borane adduct (2g) - COSY NMR spectrum (CDCl₃)

3.5

3.0

2.5

2.0

1.5

1.0

0.5

0.0

4.5 4.0 f2 (ppm)

8.0

7.5

7.0

6.5

6.0

5.5

5.0



(2-Norbornyl)diphenylphosphine borane adduct (2g) – HMBC NMR spectrum (CDCl₃)















2-(2-(Diphenylphosphino)ethyl)pyridine di-borane adduct (**2j**) – ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum (CDCl₃)

























Butylbenzylphenylphosphine borane adduct (**2o**) $- {}^{31}P{}^{1}H{}$ NMR spectrum (CDCl₃)

















tert-Butylbutylphenylphosphine borane adduct (2r) – ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum (CDCl₃)



























50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -200 -210 -220 -230 -240 -2! f1 (ppm)
























220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -12 fl (ppm)











Bisphosphine di-borane adduct 13 – ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCI₃)



























220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -12 f1 (ppm)





















8. References

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