Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

Palladium dichloride adduct of *N*,*N*-bis-(diphenylphosphanylmethyl)-2aminopyridine: synthesis, structure and catalytic performance in the decarboxylative cross-coupling of 4-picolinic acid with aryl bromide

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Figure S2 Positive-ion ESI-MS of the mixture of PdCl₂ and bdppmapy in DMA.



Figure S3. Observed (a and b) and calculated (c and d) isotopic patterns for the $[(bdppmapy)PdCl]^+$ cation and the $\{[(bdppmapy)PdCl] \cdot DMA\}^+$ cation in the mixture of PdCl₂ and bdppmapy in DMA.

Computational details

Density functional theory calculations were performed using Gaussian 09^1 with spin-restricted method. All structure optimizations were performed using the B3LYP functional² with the standard Pople all-electron basis set 6-31G(d) for all the atoms except for Pd and Br (which were described by LANL2DZ basis set and effective core potential implemented³). Frequency analysis was conducted at the same level of theory to verify the stationary points to be real minima and to get the zero-point energy (ZPE) corrections. Single-point calculations were performed with a large basis set, *i.e.* SDD for Pd, Br atoms and 6-311+G(2d,p) for the rest atoms. Basis set superposition errors were corrected for the [Cu]-[Pd] intermediates at the larger basis set level.



Figure S4 Structures and energies calculated by DFT (B3LYP/DZVP/TZVP). Gibbs free energy (G) in kcal·mol⁻¹.

Coordinates and energies of computed structures



TS for the Palladium(II)-Copper(I) complex (minimum)

E = -4252.15516689 a.u. ZPE correction = 0.683472 a.u. BSSE correction = 0.045704154 a.u.

Pd	-1.74898677	0.42778128	-0.57492605
Cu	3.85926514	-0.93702709	0.52641392
Br	-3.00200116	2.33125424	-1.79111236
Р	0.16741494	1.90651300	-0.29441828
Р	-0.85682280	-1.33279364	0.62216206
Ν	4.63776782	-2.59468544	-3.84916852
Ν	3.52373461	-0.34311675	2.28397727
Ν	1.29210977	0.18161653	1.60804962
С	-2.78392427	-0.52842940	4.16554334
С	-2.60423453	-1.69357130	4.91254616
С	-2.28678968	-0.44827792	2.86274625
С	-1.92057184	-2.77764844	4.35593493
С	-1.59959572	-1.53114374	2.29541546
С	-1.41687064	-2.69679517	3.05750391
С	-5.58196049	-2.40392746	-1.57593230
С	-5.52155348	-1.74788263	-0.34604662
С	4.84730487	-1.31001623	-3.53146203
С	4.63857617	-0.77653032	-2.25824650
С	-4.53775831	-2.24466738	-2.49015714
С	-4.42110599	-0.94096206	-0.02917816
С	4.20704866	-3.37955961	-2.85302779
С	4.17898513	-1.58029217	-1.19256206
С	3.97219730	-2.93041090	-1.55198712
С	-3.43833432	-1.44117775	-2.17371338
С	-3.37029027	-0.78254825	-0.93935975
С	-2.01968651	-5.08487948	-0.63140866
С	-1.97481905	-3.85293010	0.02062934
С	-1.55598586	4.72056139	2.16978056
С	-1.34835992	3.62223746	1.33116121
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С	-0.50995796	5.60147078	2.44428635
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С	2.29450473	0.12679215	2.62132828
С	2.20991986	2.11879629	-3.86676615
С	2.00077962	0.55107160	3.91446053
С	1.93186590	3.40966070	-4.32009928
С	1.70109141	1.68060216	-2.64423824
С	1.66494908	1.11658511	0.52419305
С	1.13665688	4.25740932	-3.54758959
С	0.95706781	4.29323647	1.03571410
С	0.95533642	-1.16129995	1.09860252
С	0.91642480	2.53523801	-1.85123228
С	0.74749451	5.38931743	1.87127535
С	0.62769996	3.82483689	-2.32227897
С	0.16158620	-3.38938412	-1.01743103
С	0.11031487	-4.62277874	-1.66837259
Н	-3.31912861	0.31646230	4.59024585
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Н	-1.78144950	-3.68876272	4.93167797
Н	-0.89359650	-3.54882482	2.63277947
Н	-6.43721607	-3.02806201	-1.82343547
Н	-6.33272833	-1.85568986	0.37132713
Н	5.20614547	-0.67315390	-4.34146283
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Н	3.62727690	-3.65748864	-0.81754797
Н	-2.88036362	-5.73252348	-0.48987534
Н	-2.80760469	-3.55052889	0.64681168
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Н	-1.01537139	-6.43528563	-1.98149246
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Н	2.78382936	0.82408644	5.90611531
Н	2.32511093	3.74896810	-5.27455086
Н	2.28517884	0.59705298	-0.22252487
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Н	1.01062391	-2.74167635	-1.21048590
Н	0.99997660	0.91015158	4.12376188
Н	0.92189493	-4.90663567	-2.33239146
Н	0.90197810	5.25786663	-3.90062276



TS for the palladium(II)-copper(I) complex (minimum)

E = -4252.135951 a.u. ZPE correction = 0.683225 a.u. BSSE correction = 0.061643586 a.u.

Pd	-0.07245200	0.59270400	-0.75022500
Cu	0.28799900	-1.92093100	0.23698100
Br	1.33257300	0.84205000	-2.92080700
Р	2.03991200	0.73175700	0.50794800
Р	-1.51973900	0.83713600	1.06404000
Ν	-0.91009800	-4.92783200	-3.26151700
Ν	0.79492800	-2.15545200	2.10119500
Ν	0.58632000	0.07083100	2.90291800
С	-3.88538600	4.07610600	2.11810400
С	-3.41833200	2.77103500	1.95267600
С	-3.20338300	5.14621700	1.53566500
С	-2.26395000	2.52057100	1.19356000
С	-2.05095700	4.90752800	0.78445600
С	-1.58502900	3.60317000	0.61203700
С	-1.42353600	-4.97665200	-2.02588100
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С	-5.13743500	-2.06816300	1.38550300
С	-4.08867400	-0.10358100	0.43255100
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С	-2.92578200	-1.40442700	2.10614700
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С	1.80942800	0.67328100	2.39389600
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С	0.47425200	-3.15941600	4.69541600
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Н	-0.46110500	1.85294000	3.01126500
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Н	-3.97137200	-3.12690500	2.86019300
Н	-3.65765700	3.01938400	-3.58039200
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Н	1.85020000	1.70270700	2.76751100
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Н	-1.37705200	0.43290500	3.51207700
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Н	6.56998700	-1.17947200	1.34651900
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Н	5.29421800	3.94260700	-1.47700600
Н	4.76171300	0.46216900	1.68174900
Н	4.33543800	1.70587400	-1.09707300
Н	4.33225100	5.93362600	-0.33571200
Н	4.19669900	-3.19192100	-1.63097900
Н	2.65765700	0.14012700	2.83215600
Н	2.37958200	-1.55261700	-1.28893200
Н	2.37678300	5.65523800	1.18046100
Н	1.40048100	3.43548900	1.54676100
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Н	0.34111100	-3.54389400	5.70245400
Н	0.20906400	-1.07978700	5.24117000

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4-(2,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-pyridine (4a):

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 8.61 (s, 2H), 7.61 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (s, 1H), 3.87 (d, J = 11.2 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 162.1, 158.0, 148.4, 147.1, 131.3, 124.5, 119.5, 105.4, 99.1, 55.6. MS (m/z) calcd. for C₁₃H₁₃NO₂: 215.25, found 215.26.

2-(2,4-dimethoxyphenyl)pyridine (4b):

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 8.57 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (t, *J* = 9.7 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (td, *J* = 2.0, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (ddd, *J* = 1.4, 4.8, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (m, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.85 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 163.1, 156.0, 148.7, 147.5, 131.3, 128.5, 119.5, 115.4, 99.1, 55.6. MS (*m*/*z*) calcd. for C₁₃H₁₃NO₂: 215.25, found 215.26.

4-(4-Methoxylphenyl)-pyridine (6a):

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 8.60 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.00 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 160.8, 150.2, 148.1, 130.5, 128.4, 121.3, 114.8, 55.6. MS (*m/z*) calcd. for C₁₂H₁₁ON: 185.08, found: 185.08.

4-(3-Methoxylphenyl)-pyridine (6b):

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 8.66 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (s, 1H), 6.99 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 160.2, 150.0, 148.5, 139.5, 130.2 121.8, 119.4, 114.4, 112.8, 55.4. MS (*m*/*z*) calcd. for C₁₂H₁₁ON: 185.08, found: 185.08.

4-(2-Methoxylphenyl)-pyridine (6c):

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 8.62 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (d, J = 4.4 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 156.6, 149.3, 146.6, 130.5, 130.2, 127.6, 124.4, 121.1, 111.5, 55.6. MS (*m/z*) calcd. for C₁₂H₁₁ON: 185.08, found: 185.08.

4-(2-Methylphenyl)-pyridine (6d):

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 8.64 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (m, 5H), 7.19 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 149.9, 149.5, 139.0, 135.0, 130.7, 129.3, 128.4, 126.1, 124.3, 20.3. MS (*m*/*z*) calcd. for C₁₂H₁₀N: 168.08, found: 168.08.

4-(3-Methylphenyl)-pyridine (6e):

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 8.61 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.39 (s, 1H), 7.37 (s, 1H), 7.32 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 150.0, 138.7, 137.9 129.7, 128.9, 127.6, 124.0, 121.5, 21.4. MS (m/z) calcd. for C₁₂H₁₁N: 169.09, found: 169.09.

4-(4-Methylphenyl)-pyridine (6f):

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 8.64 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 150.2, 148.7, 139.6, 135.3, 130.1, 127.1, 121.7, 21.5. MS (*m/z*) calcd. for C₁₂H₁₁N: 169.09, found: 169.09.

4-(2,4,6-Trimethyl-phenyl)-pyridine (6g):

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 8.68 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (t, J = 4.4 Hz, 2H), 6.96 (s, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.99 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 150.6, 149.0, 137.8, 135.0, 128.4, 125.1, 21.1, 20.6, 14.2. MS (*m/z*) calcd. for C₁₄H₁₅N: 197.21, found: 197.20.

4-(3,5-Dimethylphenyl)-pyridine (6h):

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 8.65 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (s, 2H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 2.41 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 150.0, 148.8, 138.8, 138.1, 130.8, 124.9, 121.8, 21.4. MS (*m*/*z*) calcd. for C₁₃H₁₃N: 183.24, found: 183.24.

4-(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-pyridine (6i):

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 8.66 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (dd, J = 5.6 Hz, 3.2 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (t, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 164.7, 162.3, 150.1, 147.5, 134.2, 128.9, 128.8, 121.5, 116.3, 116.1. MS (m/z) calcd. for C₁₁H₈NF: 173.06, found: 173.06.

4-(Pyridin-4-yl)-benzonitrile (6j):

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 8.72 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 2H), 7.78 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, H), 7.50 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 150.5, 146.5, 142.6, 132.9, 127.8, 121.7, 118.4, 112.9. MS (*m/z*) calcd. for C₁₂H₈N₂: 180.07, found: 180.07.

4-(4-Trifluoromethylphenyl)-pyridine (6k):

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 8.69 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (s, 4H), 7.49 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 150.5, 147.0, 141.8, 131.3, 130.0, 127.5, 126.2, 126.1, 122.7, 121.8. MS (*m*/*z*) calcd. for C₁₂H₈NF₃: 223.06, found: 223.05.

4-Biphenyl-4-yl-pyridine (6l):

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 8.69 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (s, 4H), 7.64 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ = 149.4, 148.7, 142.3, 140.1, 136.5, 129.0, 127.9, 127.9, 127.5, 127.1, 121.7. MS (*m*/*z*) Calcd. for C₁₇H₁₃N₁: 231.11, found: 231.11.

4-(Naphthalen-1-yl)-pyridine (6m):

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 8.73 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 7.92 (m, 2H), 7.84 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 149.7, 148.8, 137.3, 133.8, 130.7, 128.9, 128.6, 126.9, 126.7, 126.2, 125.4, 125.2, 125.1. MS (*m/z*) calcd. for C₁₅H₁₁N: 205.09, found: 205.08.

4-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-pyridine (6n):

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 8.75 (d, J = 6.4 Hz), 8.10 (m, 1H), 7.63 (m, 2H), 7.56 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (m, 5H). ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 149.7, 148.8, 137.3, 133.8, 130.7, 128.9, 128.6, 126.9, 126.7, 126.2, 125.4, 125.2, 125.1. MS (*m*/*z*) calcd. for C₁₅H₁₁N: 205.09, found: 205.09.

Figure S5. ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR spectra of 4-(2,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-pyridine (**4a**).





Figure S6. ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR spectra of 4-(4-methoxylphenyl)-pyridine (6a)









Figure S7. ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR spectra of 4-(3-methoxylphenyl)-pyridine (6b)







Figure S8. ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR spectra of 4-(2-methoxylphenyl)-pyridine (6c)











Figure S9. ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR spectra of 4-(2-methylphenyl)-pyridine (6d)



(139.0 135.0 130.7 129.3 128.4 126.1 126.1 -149.9 -20.377.5 77.2 76.8 100 90 ppm -1



Figure S10. ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR spectra of 4-(3-methylphenyl)-pyridine (6e)







Figure S11. ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR spectra of 4-(4-methylphenyl)-pyridine (6f)





Figure S12. ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR spectra of 4-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-pyridine (6g)









Figure S13. ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR spectra of 4-(3,5-dimethyl-phenyl)-pyridine (6h)









Figure S14. ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR spectra of 4-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-pyridine (6i)









Figure S15. ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR spectra of 4-(pyridin-4-yl)-benzonitrile (6j)









Figure S16. ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR spectra of 4-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-pyridine (6k)











Figure S17. ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR spectra of 4-biphenyl-4-yl-pyridine (6l)





Figure S18. ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR spectra of 4-(naphthalen-1-yl)-pyridine (**6m**)









Figure S19. ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR spectra of 4-(naphthalen-2-yl)-pyridine (6n)







