

Supporting Information

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**Stille-Type Aryl-Aryl Cross-Coupling Catalysis using Triarylphosphine Ligands with
Electron-Rich Fe(II)-alkynyl Substituents**

Including:

- 1. Synthesis and characterization of the Pd(II) precatalysts 8-10** p. S2
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Synthesis and characterization of the Pd(II) precatalysts 8-10

General Procedure. The precatalysts **8-10** were obtained following a similar synthetic protocol; the complex **6** (1 eq) and the desired ligand among **1-4** (2.2 eq) were stirred 12 h at room temperature in THF. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the residue dissolved in dichloromethane. Addition of *n*-pentane and filtration afforded the corresponding palladium precatalyst **7-10** as an orange-brown powder.

Trans-[[*(dppf)*(C₅Me₅)Fe-C≡C-1,4-(C₆H₄)]PPh₂]₂PdCl₂ (7**):** Yield: 93%. ESI-MS(*M/Z*): 1924.38 [M⁺]. ν_{\max} (KBr)/cm⁻¹: 2036 (s, C≡C). δ_{P} (81 MHz; C₆D₆; H₃PO₄)/ppm: 100.8 (4P, s, *dppf*), 23.9 (2P, s, PPh₂). δ_{H} (200 MHz; C₆D₆; Me₄Si)/ppm: 7.86 (16H, m, H_{ar}), 7.43-7.30 (52H, m, H_{ar}), 2.62 (4H, m, CH₂ *dppf*), 2.01 (4H, m, CH₂ *dppf*), 1.45 (30H, s, C₅Me₅).

Trans-[[*(dppf)*(C₅Me₅)Fe-C≡C-1,4-(C₆H₄)]₃P]₂PdCl₂ (8**):** Yield: 96%. ESI-MS(*M/Z*): 4373.1 [M⁺], 2186.55 [M²⁺], 1457.70 [M³⁺]. ν_{\max} (KBr)/cm⁻¹: 2044 (s, C≡C). δ_{P} (81 MHz; C₆D₆; H₃PO₄)/ppm: 101.5 (12P, s, *dppf*), 23.4 (2P, s, PAr₃). δ_{H} (200 MHz; C₆D₆; Me₄Si)/ppm: 7.97 (24H, m, H_{ar}), 7.38-7.09 (120H, m, H_{ar}), 2.62 (12H, m, CH₂ *dppf*), 1.80 (12H, m, CH₂ *dppf*), 1.56 (90H, s, C₅Me₅).

Trans-[[*(dppf)*(C₅Me₅)Fe-C≡C-1,3-(C₆H₄)]PPh₂]₂PdCl₂ (9**):** Yield: 91%. ESI-MS(*M/Z*): 1924.38 [M⁺]. ν_{\max} (KBr)/cm⁻¹: 2041 (s, C≡C). δ_{P} (81 MHz; C₆D₆; H₃PO₄)/ppm: 101.1 (4P, s, *dppf*), 25.2 (2P, s, PPh₂). δ_{H} (200 MHz; C₆D₆; Me₄Si)/ppm: 8.00 (16H, m, H_{ar}), 7.29-7.05 (52H, m, H_{ar}), 2.56 (4H, m, CH₂ *dppf*), 1.78 (4H, m, CH₂ *dppf*), 1.48 (30H, s, C₅Me₅).

Trans-[[*(dppf)*(C₅Me₅)Fe-C≡C-1,3-(C₆H₄)]₃P]₂PdCl₂ (10**):** Yield: 89%. ESI-MS(*M/Z*): 4373.10 [M⁺], 2186.55 [M²⁺], 1457.70 [M³⁺]. ν_{\max} (KBr)/cm⁻¹: 2038 (s, C≡C). δ_{P} (81 MHz; C₆D₆; H₃PO₄)/ppm: 101.5 (12P, s, *dppf*), 25.9 (2P, s, PAr₃). δ_{H} (200 MHz; C₆D₆; Me₄Si)/ppm: 7.98 (24H, m, H_{ar}), 7.35-7.07 (120H, m, H_{ar}), 2.64 (12H, m, CH₂ *dppf*), 1.81 (12H, m, CH₂ *dppf*), 1.54 (90H, s, C₅Me₅).

Catalytic Trials

General Procedure. In a dry Schlenk tube under argon, 1-bromo-4-methoxybenzene (0.117g, 1mmol), tributyl(*p*-tolyl)stannane (0.21g, 1.1mmol), CuI (0.019g, 0.1mmol), CsF (0.258g, 2mmol) and the appropriate palladium catalyst (0.025mmol) were suspended in DMF (2.5mL). The resulting suspension was heated at 50 °C in an oil bath for 18 h. After cooling to room temperature, solvents were cryogenically trapped and the residue was extracted with diethyl ether (50 mL) and filtered through paper to remove the black precipitate. The diethyl ether extract was washed with water (3×25 mL) and the aqueous layer was back extracted with diethyl ether (3×25 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄ and the solvent removed under reduced pressure to give a brownish solid. This solid was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, 2.5×15 cm, hexanes/dichloromethane 4/1). The first fraction gave 4,4'-dimethylbiphenyl along with tin by-products (R_f : 0.65, hexanes/dichloromethane 4/1) and the second fraction afforded the desired 4-methoxy,4'-methylbiphenyl compound as a white solid after evaporation of the solvents.

4-methoxy-4'-methylbiphenyl:¹ R_f (hexanes/dichloromethane 4/1): 0.34. $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 2956 (m, CH₃), 2854 (m, CH₃), 1112 (m, OCH₃). δ_{H} (200 MHz; CDCl₃; Me₄Si)/ppm: 7.59 (2H, d, $J_{1,3}$ 9), 7.54 (2H, d, $J_{1,3}$ 8), 7.31 (2H, d, $J_{1,3}$ 8), 7.05 (2H, d, $J_{1,3}$ 9), 3.92 (3H, s), 2.47 (3H, s) δ_{C} (50 MHz; CDCl₃; Me₄Si)/ppm: 159.4 (s), 138.4 (s), 136.8 (s), 134.2 (s), 129.9 (s), 128.4 (s), 127.1 (s), 114.6 (s), 55.78 (s), 21.5 (s).

¹ M. Veda, A. Saitoh, S. Oh-Tani, and N. Miyaura, *Tetrahedron*, 1998, **54**, 13079