## Instrumentation

The <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectra used to follow the titration were recorded on a Varian Mercury Plus 500 (<sup>1</sup>H NMR at 500 MHz, <sup>31</sup>P NMR at 236 MHz). The FT-IR and FT-FIR spectra were recorded on a Perkin Elmer Spectrum 400 FT-IR/FT-FIR Spectrometer. The Raman spectra were recorded on a Perkin Elmer Raman Station 400F Raman Spectrometer.

# Chemicals

PdCl<sub>2</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>CN)<sub>2</sub>, PdI<sub>2</sub>, PdBr<sub>2</sub>, Pd(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, (*R*)- and (*S*)-BINAP, (*S*)-tol-BINAP and (*S*)-xylyl-BINAP were obtained from Strem, DL-Trp was obtained from Merck, Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>, D- and L-Trp, DL-His, DL-Phe, DL-4-NO<sub>2</sub>-Phe and all organic solvents employed were obtained from Acros. DL-Val was obtained from Fluka. DL-4-MeO-Phe, DL-4-Br-Phe, DL-4-Cl-Phe and DL-4-F-Phe were obtained from Peptech. Water was doubly distilled. The acylated  $\alpha$ -amino acids were synthesized according to literature procedures and spectroscopic data correspond with those reported.<sup>1</sup>

All buffers solutions were prepared using NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, obtained from Merck at a concentration of 100 mM and subsequent addition of HCl (aq) or NaOH (aq). The pH was measured using a Hanna Instruments pH 213 Microprocessor pH meter.

### PdCl<sub>2</sub>((S)-xylyl-BINAP)<sub>2</sub>



In a Schlenk tube under nitrogen, 100 mg (0.16 mmol) *(S)*-xylyl-BINAP and 40 mg (0.16 mmol) cis-PdCl<sub>2</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>CN)<sub>2</sub> were dissolved in 10 mL dichloromethane. The solution was stirred overnight and the solvent was evaporated *in vacuo*. The crude product was triturated with ether and dried in a vacuum oven overnight at 40 °C, yielding PdCl<sub>2</sub>(*(S)*-xylyl-BINAP (106 mg, 83 %) as a yellow solid.  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -502.0 \circ (c 1.00, CHCl_3);$  <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.66 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 9.7 Hz, 3H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 6.56 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 6.36 (s, 1H), 2.32 (s, 6H), 1.86 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (50 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  137.5, 137.4, 137.3, 137.2, 134.0, 133.4, 133.1, 133.0, 132.9, 132.9, 132.8, 132.8, 130.5, 129.7, 128.8, 128.6, 128.5, 127.9, 127.6, 127.0, 126.5, 105.0, 21.9, 21.3. <sup>31</sup>P NMR (80 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  30.1. MS (ES) m/z: 876.8 (M<sup>+</sup>-Cl). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>52</sub>H<sub>48</sub>P<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>Pd: C, 68.47; H, 5.30; Found: C, 68.08 H, 5.30.

## Extraction experiments and chemical analysis

All extraction experiments were carried out in 1.5 mL screw capped vials. In a standard experiment, a prepared palladium complex host was employed. For *in situ* experiments, the palladium precursor was stirred overnight with 1.1 eq of the phosphine ligand and the organic solvent was diluted to [host] = 1.0 mM. Part of the solution was evaporated to dryness and the residue was characterized by <sup>31</sup>P-NMR. Full conversion to the palladium-phosphine complex was observed.

In a standard experiment, a 1.0 mM solution of the host in the organic phase was combined with a 2.0 mM solution of the substrate in the aqueous phase in equivolumous amounts (0.40 mL). Reactions were performed *in duplo* and a blank extraction ([host] = 0.0 mM) was performed concurrently to determine the physical partition of the substrate. The two phase systems were stirred overnight at 6 °C and subsequently allowed to settle for at least 30 min. The aqueous phase was analyzed by RP-HPLC, using Shimadzu CC-20AD pumps, a Crownpak CR(+) chiral column (Daicel, Japan) equipped with a guard column or a Chirobiotic T column (Astec, USA) and a SPD-M20A diode array detector. A calibration curve was prepared in the concentration range employed for the determination of the distribution. Error margins were typically 0.5-2.0 %. A flow rate of 0.5 mL/min of perchloric acid solution (pH = 1.0, 1.5 or 2.0) was used as a mobile phase for the Crownpak column. A flow rate of 0.24 mL/min of water (containing 0.0136 v-% TEAA buffer) and MeOH 0.06 mL/min was used as a mobile phase for the Chirobiotic T column. Extensive attempts towards the resolution of Cys on both columns did not result in a successful separation.

#### Titration experiments followed by spectroscopy

Extractions were carried out as indicated above with the aqueous phase at pH = 7.0. The equivolumous amounts of the liquid phases of the extraction were increased to V = 0.6 mL. DCM was used in UV-Vis and CD spectroscopy experiments. In the <sup>31</sup>P-NMR titrations, CDCl<sub>3</sub> was used as solvent. CDCl<sub>3</sub> gave extraction results which compared well with those in CHCl<sub>3</sub>. After extraction of [substrate] = 10.0 mM with dcm as the organic phase, the organic layer was evaporated to dryness. The product obtained was characterized by FTIR and Raman spectroscopy.

#### Reference List

1. M. Calmes, J. Daunis, R. Jacquier, and J. Verducci, Tetrahedron, 1987, 43, 2285.