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Supporting Information

Efficient Phosphine ligands for the One-Pot Palladium-Catalyzed

Borylation/Suzuki–Miyaura Cross-coupling Reaction

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Experimental Section

General information

Unless otherwise noted, all reagents were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without purification. 9-(1H-inden-2-yl) anthracene **4** was prepared according to the reported procedure.¹ All reactions were performed in a resealable screw cap Schlenk flask (approx. 10 mL volume) in the presence of a Teflon coated magnetic stirrer bar (3 mm \times 50 mm). Dimethyl acetamide was distilled from anhydrous magnesium sulfate under nitrogen. Silica gel (70–230 and 230–400 mesh) was used for column chromatography. ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a MercuryPlus (400 MHz) spectrometer. HRMS were obtained on an IonSpec FT-ICR mass spectrometer with ESI resource. Compounds described in the literature were characterized by comparison of their ¹H NMR spectra to the previously reported data.

Preparation of 2-(anthracen-9-yl)-1H-inden-3-yl dicyclohexylphosphine 1



In a 100ml flask 9-(1H-inden-2-yl) anthracene 4 (1.46 g, 5.0 mmol) was dissolved in THF (50 mL) under nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was cooled to -78 °C, and nBuLi (3.75 mL, 1.6 M solution in hexane, 6.0 mmol) was added. The solution was stirred for 30 min at -78 °C and then for 6 h at ambient temperature. Then the mixture was cooled to -78 °C and Cy₂PCl (1.1 mL, 5.0 mmol) was added. The mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for additional 16 h. The reaction was quenched with water (20 mL). The organic layer was separated from the aqueous layer. The aqueous layer was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (25 mL×2). The combined organic phase was dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, concentrated, and purified by column chromatography (eluents: CH₂Cl₂) to provide the desired product as a yellow solid (1.66 g, 68%).¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.46 (s, 1H), 8.02 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.82 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (dd, J = 13.9 Hz, 5.6 Hz, 3H), 7.37 - 7.28 (m, 3H), 3.91 (s, 2H), 2.30 (br, 2H), 1.77(br, 2H), 1.60-1.63 (m, 8H), 1.02-1.21 (m, 10H) ppm.¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 159.21, 158.88, 147.08, 143.73, 140.53, 140.27, 133.55, 131.31, 129.94, 128.70, 127.03, 126.64, 125.08, 124.95, 124.83, 123.95, 122.46, 46.13, 34.57, 34.47, 32.60, 32.39, 31.20, 31.12, 27.50, 27.43, 27.27, 27.14, 26.32 ppm. ³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -16.21 ppm. HRMS (ESI/ [M+H]⁺) Cacld. for: C₃₅H₃₇P 488.2711, found 488.2712.

Crystallographic Studies

Single crystal of **1** for X-ray diffraction analysis was obtained by slow diffusion of hexane into its CH₂Cl₂ solutions at room temperature. Crystallographic data was collected on a Bruker SMART CCD area-detector diffractometer with graphite-monochromated Mo K α radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å). Diffraction measurements were made at room temperature. An absorption correction by SADABS was applied to the intensity data. The structures were solved by Patterson method. The remaining non-hydrogen atoms were determined from the successive difference Fourier syntheses. All non-hydrogen atoms were generated geometrically and refined with isotropic thermal parameters. The structures were refined on F^2 by full-matrix least-squares methods using the SHELXTL-97 program package.

General procedures for reaction condition screenings

A Pd source (0.02 mmol), a phosphine ligand (0.04 mmol), base (3.0 mmol) and bis(pinacolato)diboron (254 mg, 1.0 mmol) was loaded into a Schlenk tube equipped with a Teflon-coated magnetic stir bar. 4-Chlorotoluene (0.29 mL, 2.4 mmol) and dimethyl acetamide (2.0 mL) were added. The tube was evacuated and flushed with nitrogen three times, and then placed in a preheated oil bath with the temperature indicated in the table and stirred for 20 h. After completion of the reaction, the reaction tube was allowed to cool to room temperature. Water (10 mL) and EtOAc (10 mL) were added. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3×10 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and concentrated. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford the desired product.

General Procedure for the Preparation of Symmetrical Biaryls

Pd(dba)₂ (12 mg, 0.02 mmol), ligand **1** (20 mg, 0.04 mmol), K₃PO₄·3H₂O (0.8 g, 3.0 mmol) and bis(pinacolato)diboron (254 mg, 1.0 mmol) was loaded into a Schlenk tube equipped with a Teflon-coated magnetic stir bar. Aryl chlorides or heteroaryl chloride (2.4 mmol) and dimethyl acetamide (2.0 mL) were added. The tube was evacuated and flushed with nitrogen three times, and then placed in a preheated oil bath (100 °C) and stirred for 20 h. After completion of the reaction, the reaction tube was allowed to cool to room temperature. Water (10 mL) and EtOAc (10 mL) were added. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 × 10 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and concentrated. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford the desired product.

General Procedure for the Preparation of Unsymmetrical Biaryls

Pd(dba)₂ (12 mg, 0.02 mmol), ligand (20 mg, 0.04 mmol), KOAc(0.3g, 3.0 mmol) and bis(pinacolato)diboron (305 mg, 1.2 mmol) was loaded into a Schlenk tube equipped

with a Teflon-coated magnetic stir bar. The first aryl halide (1.2 mmol) and dimethyl acetamide (2.0 mL) were added. The tube was evacuated and flushed with nitrogen three times, and then placed in a preheated oil bath (100 \C) and stirred for 3 h. After completion of the reaction, the reaction tube was allowed to cool to room temperature. The second aryl or heteroaryl chlorides and K₃PO₄·3H₂O were loaded into the tube under nitrogen. Dimethyl acetamide (0.5 mL) was added. The tube was then placed into a preheated oil bath (100 \C) and stirred for 16 h. After completion of the reaction, the reaction tube was allowed to cool to room temperature (10 mL) and EtOAc (10 mL) were added. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 × 10 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and concentrated. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford the desired product.



Figure S1. Molecular structure of **1**. Thermal ellipsoids are set at 30% probability. H atoms have been omitted for clarity.

	1
formula	$C_{70}H_{74}P_2$
fw	977.23
<i>Т</i> , К	100(2)
Wavelength, Å	0.71073
crystal system	Monoclinic
space group	C2/c
<i>a</i> , Å	23.590(3)
b, Å	12.9016(15)
<i>c</i> , Å	18.644(2)
α, deg	90
β , deg	98.267(2)
γ, deg	90
V, Å ³	5615.3(11)
Z	4
$D_{\rm cal},{\rm g/cm^{-3}}$	1.156
Absorption coefficient, mm ⁻¹	0.119
F(000)	2096
cryst size, mm	0.20×0.20×0.10
θ range, deg	1.74-30.00
no. of reflns collected	26267
no. of indep reflns/ $R_{\rm int}$	8157/0.0288
no. of params	326
GOF on F^2	1.042
$R_1, wR_2 [I > 2\sigma(I)]$	0.0470, 0.1279
R_1 , w R_2 (all data)	0.0681, 0.1494
largest diff peak and hole (e $Å^{-3}$)	0.286, -0.220

Table S1. Crystal Data and Summary of X-ray Data Collection of ${\bf 1}$

¹H NMR, ³¹P NMR, ¹³C NMR and HRMS spectra of compound 4 and 1



9-(1H-inden-2-yl) anthracene (4)

Green solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.45 (s, 1H), 8.03 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.95 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.60 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.49 – 7.32 (m, 5H), 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 3.89 (s, 2H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.¹



2-(anthracen-9-yl)-1H-inden-3-yl dicyclohexylphosphine (1)

Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.46 (s, 1H), 8.02 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.82 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (dd, J = 13.9 Hz, 5.6 Hz, 3H), 7.37 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 3.91 (s, 2H), 2.30 (br, 2H), 1.77 (br, 2H), 1.60-1.63 (m, 8H), 1.02-1.21 (m, 10H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 159.21, 158.88, 147.08, 143.73, 140.53, 140.27, 133.55, 131.31, 129.94, 128.70, 127.03, 126.64, 125.08, 124.95, 124.83, 123.95, 122.46, 46.13, 34.57, 34.47, 32.60, 32.39, 31.20, 31.12, 27.50, 27.43, 27.27, 27.14, 26.32 ppm. ³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -16.21 ppm. HRMS (ESI/ [M+H]⁺) Cacld. for: C₃₅H₃₇P 488.2711, found 488.2712.











---16.21

¹H NMR spectra of coupling products

4, 4'-dimethyl-1, 1'-biphenyl White solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.47 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 4H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 2.38 (s, 6H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.²





3, 3'-dimethyl-1, 1'-biphenyl Colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.37 (d, *J* = 9.3 Hz, 4H), 7.29 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (s, 6H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.³





3, 3'-dimethoxy-1, 1'-biphenyl

Colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.19-7.15 (m, 2H), 7.14-7.07 (m, 2H), 6.94-6.83 (m, 2H), 3.82 (s, 6H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.⁴





1, 1'-biphenyl-4, 4'-diol White solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.19 (dd, *J* = 6.7, 2.1 Hz, 4H), 6.76 (dd, *J* = 6.7, 2.1 Hz, 4H), 4.52 (br, 2H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.⁵





2, 2'-dimethyl-1, 1'-biphenyl Colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.25-7.18 (m, 6H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.05 (s, 6H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.⁶



-F F

4, 4'-difluoro-1, 1'-biphenyl White solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.54-7.44 (m, 4H), 7.09-7.14 (m, 4H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.⁷



-CF₃ F₃C-

4, 4'-bis(trifluoromethyl)-1, 1'-biphenyl White solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.69-7.75 (m, 8H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.⁷

O₂N--NO₂

4, 4'-dinitro-1, 1'-biphenyl Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.37 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.⁸

-COCH₃ H₃COC

1, 1'-([1, 1'-biphenyl]-4, 4'-diyl) diethanone Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.06 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 2.65 (s, 6H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.⁹

[1, 1'-biphenyl]-4, 4'-dicarbonitrile

Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.79 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 4H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.¹⁰

2, 2'-binaphthalene

Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.17 (s, 2H), 7.92 (dt, *J* = 8.5, 7.8 Hz, 8H), 7.56-7.47 (m, 4H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.⁴

1, 1'-binaphthalene

White solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.94 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 3.6 Hz, 4H), 7.65-7.55 (m, 2H), 7.54-7.41 (m, 4H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.31-7.18 (m, 2H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.¹¹

3, 3'-bipyridine

White solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.85 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 8.67 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 7.94-7.87 (m, 2H), 7.42 (dd, *J* = 7.7, 4.9 Hz, 2H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.¹²

3-methoxy-1, 1'-biphenyl Yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.58 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.¹³

4'-fluoro-3-methoxy-1, 1'-biphenyl Yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.56 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (dd, *J* = 12.0, 5.3 Hz, 3H), 7.08 – 7.06 (m, 1H), 6.89 (ddd, *J* = 8.2, 2.5, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.¹⁴

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3'-methoxy-[1, 1'-biphenyl]-4-ol White solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.45 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.92-6.78 (m, 3H), 5.85 (br, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.⁵

3-methoxy-3'-nitro-1, 1'-biphenyl Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.45 (s, 1H), 8.21 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.16-7.12 (m, 1H), 6.98 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.¹⁵

H₃COC

1-(3'-methoxy-[1, 1'-biphenyl]-4-yl) ethanone Light red solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.03 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (s, 1H), 6.95 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.64 (s, 3H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.¹⁶

3'-methoxy-[1, 1'-biphenyl]-3-carbonitrile Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.86 (s, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (s, 1H), 6.96 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.¹⁷

4'-methyl-[1, 1'-biphenyl]-3-carbonitrile White solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.85 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.81-7.74 (m, 1H), 7.63-7.56 (m, 1H), 7.52 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.¹⁸

4'-fluoro-[1, 1'-biphenyl]-3-carbonitrile Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.82 (t, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.79-7.75 (m, 1H), 7.65-7.61 (m, 1H), 7.57-7.51 (m, 3H), 7.17 (t, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.¹⁹

NC NO₂

4'-nitro-[1, 1'-biphenyl]-3-carbonitrile Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.36 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (s, 1H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 3H), 7.63 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H) ppm.

4'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1, 1'-biphenyl]-3-carbonitrile White solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.69 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 3H), 7.60 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.²⁰

3-(4-methoxyphenyl) pyridine

Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.82 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.54 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.87 – 7.78 (m, 1H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.²¹

3-(pyridin-3-yl) benzonitrile

Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.85 (s, 1H), 8.68 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz, 1H), 7.92-7.86 (m, 2H), 7.85-7.80 (m, 1H), 7.71 (dt, *J* = 7.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 4.9 Hz, 1H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.²²

NC N-

3-(pyridin-2-yl) benzonitrile Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.73 (s, 1H), 8.33 (s, 1H), 8.24 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (dd, *J* = 17.0, 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (s, 1H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.²³

3-(thiophen-2-yl) benzonitrile

Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.88 (t, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.84-7.79 (m, 1H), 7.55 (dt, *J* = 7.7, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (dt, *J* = 3.5, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 3.8 Hz, 1H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.²⁴

4-(pyridin-2-yl) benzonitrile Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.74 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.84-7.69 (m, 4H), 7.32 (ddd, *J* = 7.2, 4.8, 1.3 Hz, 1H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.²⁴

4-(pyridin-3-yl) benzonitrile

Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.86 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 8.68 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.93-7.84 (m, 1H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 4.8 Hz, 1H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.²⁴

4-(pyrazin-2-yl) benzonitrile Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.08 (s, 1H), 8.70 (dt, *J* = 2.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 8.61 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.²⁵

NC

4-(quinoxalin-2-yl) benzonitrile Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.36 (s, 1H), 8.35 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 8.17 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 7.94-7.74 (m, 4H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.²⁶

2-(pyridin-3-yl) quinoxaline

Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.43 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 9.36 (s, 1H), 8.78 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.57 - 8.50 (m, 1H), 8.21 - 8.14 (m, 2H), 7.87 - 7.79 (m, 2H), 7.53 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 4.9 Hz, 1H) ppm. Data is consistent with that reported in the literature.²⁷

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