# **3D Printed Tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium (0) Impregnated Stirrer Devices for Suzuki-Miyaura Cross-Coupling Reactions**

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### **Supplementary Contents**



### <span id="page-2-0"></span>**S1.0. General experimental and analysis**

All reactions were carried out under an atmosphere of nitrogen and all glassware was pre-dried in an oven (110 °C) and cooled under nitrogen prior to use. Stirring was by internal magnetic follower unless otherwise stated. All reagents and solvents were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, Fluka or VWR and used without further purification. Analytical TLC was carried out on Merck silica gel 60  $F_{254}$  pre-coated plastic plates. Short wave UV (245 nm) or  $KMnO<sub>4</sub>$  were used to visualize components. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR data were recorded on a Bruker AV400, Bruker AV500 and AV600 spectrometers. Spectra were recorded in deuterochloroform and referenced to residual CHCl $_3$  ( $^1$ H, 7.26 ppm;  $^{13}$ C, 77.16 ppm). <sup>1</sup>H, and <sup>13</sup>C spectral data were visualized and processed using MestReNova software. Chemical shifts were expressed in ppm  $(δ)$  relative to the standard and coupling constants (J) in Hz. High resolution mass spectra were recorded by the National Mass Spectrometry Facility at Swansea University on a LTQ Orbitrap XL utilizing nanospray ionization (NSI) or Xevo G2-S Atmospheric Solids Analysis Probe (ASAP). Infrared spectra were recorded on a Bruker Alpha IR spectrophotometer. Melting points were determined using open glass capillaries on a Stuart Scientific SMP3 apparatus and are uncorrected.

### <span id="page-3-0"></span>**S2.0. 3D Printing of Pd(PPh3)<sup>4</sup> Impregnated Stirrers**

#### <span id="page-3-1"></span>**S2.1. Design of 3D Printed Stirrers**

The microwave and batch stirrer devices were designed using the freeware web-based application - Tinkercad (Autodesk) software (Supp. Fig. 1), which were exported as STL (standard tessellation language) files. Designs were based on those previously reported and further optimised for fitting in a Radleys Carousel reactor tube and also for use within a Biotage microwave vial.<sup>1,2</sup>



**Supplementary Figure 1.** Design size and shape of the microwave and Batch Stirrer Devices from Tinkercad.



<span id="page-4-0"></span>**S.2.2. Design and Shape of Batch and Microwave Stirrers**

#### <span id="page-5-0"></span>**S2.3. Solvent Compatibility of 3D Printed Resin**

Most resin formulations that are used for 3D printing display poor stability in organic solvent once printed. 3D printed parts exposed to solvents such as acetonitrile, ethanol and methanol are usually fairly robust and do not display structural damage on short exposure times to organic solvent. However, use of solvents such as acetone, THF and dioxane lead to rapid structural decomposition as shown below (Supplementary table 1). Exposure of a standard 3D printed tablet shape to both THF and dichloromethane leads to very rapid destruction of the 3D printed shape after 12 hours. However, use of the solvent resistant formulation,<sup>2</sup> shows retention of shape even after 48 hours of exposure to solvent.



#### **Supplementary Table 1: Solvent Compatibility**

In order to quantify the solvent compatibility of the 3D printed resin, we printed a number of 3-dimensional cubes (1.5 cm x 1.0 cm x 1.0cm) and challenged their structural integrity by exposure to solvent for differing time periods. The dimensions of the 3D printed shape were measured both before and after using Vernier callipers as well as the mass and the degree of swelling quantified.

#### **Supplementary Table 2: General 3D Printed Resin Solvent Compatibility (24 Hours)**

Following exposure of the cubes to solvent, it was shown that their volume changes were minimal for a 24-hour exposure across an array of solvents indicating good solvent compatibility with good mass retention and lack of solvent uptake.







### **Supplementary Table 3: General 3D Printed Resin Solvent Compatibility (336 hours)**

Further exposure of the 3D printed cubes to solvent for 2 weeks gave good results for their structural integrity except in the case of exposure to DCM and chloroform, where ablation of the top printed layers was observed.





### <span id="page-8-0"></span>**S2.4. Preparation of Pd(PPh3)<sup>4</sup> containing Resin for Printing**

Tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (0.17 g, 0.5% w/w) and photoinitiator (0.5 g) were dissolved in resin (33.3 g) at room temperature according to the published procedure and left to stir for 30 minutes in the absence of light.<sup>2</sup>

#### <span id="page-8-1"></span>**S.2.5. Printing and Preparation of Stirrer Devices**

Once the designs had been exported as .stl files, they were uploaded to FormLabs PreForm Software (version 2.10.3) before printing. Support structures to aid printing were automatically generated using PreForm Software. The resin formulation containing the  $Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>$  catalyst was poured into the tray of a Form1+ 3D Printer. The device designs were then uploaded to the printer and multiple copies printed at 100-micron layer height with a print time of approximately 30 minutes (100 layers).<sup>2</sup>



**Supplementary Figure 2.** Design on the FormLabs software, printed on the build plate and with support and removed support from the batch-based stirrer devices.

Following printing, designs were removed from the print bed, washed (isopropanol), and post-cured under UV light *in vacuo* for 30 minutes. Supports were carefully removed from each object and devices stored at room temperature. Stirrer beads were inserted into the central cavity of each device prior to reaction.

#### <span id="page-9-0"></span>**S.2.6. Analysis of Palladium Content per Device**

Following printing and support removal, the stirrer devices were weighed in order to determine the amount of  $Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>$  catalyst present within each device. Weights are reported as averages over 5 devices and following analysis, it was estimated that the microwave-based stirrer devices contained 9 mg of catalyst and that the batch-based device contained 48 mg of catalyst.

<b>Stirrer</b> <b>Type</b>	Loading of Pd(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> [%]	Mass of <b>Stirrer</b> [g]	Mass of catalyst Per device [mg]	<b>Mmol of Catalyst</b> Per device [Mmol]
Microwave	0.5	0.18	9	0.0075
Batch	0.5	0.97	48	0.041

**Supplementary Table 4: Estimation of Pd(PPh3)<sup>4</sup> content per device**

 $n=5$ 

#### <span id="page-9-1"></span>**S.2.7. Estimation of Pd(PPh3)<sup>4</sup> Content at Device Surface Available for Catalysis**

Whilst the devices themselves contain catalyst evenly spread throughout their entire structure, it is likely that not all the catalyst in is available for reaction. Considering recent reports in the literature and the resistance of the 3D printed parts to swelling in organic solvent, it is pertinent



**Supplementary Figure 3: Structures used for Surface Area / Volume calculations**

to assume that only a fraction of the catalyst is available for reaction. From the literature, estimates of penetration of solvent have been reported for 3D printed devices of 70 microns.<sup>3</sup> Hence, calculations for the estimation of catalyst availability were carried out based on the first 100 microns. The amount available for reaction therefore relies heavily on the surface area/ volume (SA/V) ratio, with larger values equating to more catalyst available for reaction. In order to estimate the amount of catalyst available within the first 100 microns of the device, a series of 3-dimensional shapes with a range of surface areas and volumes were analysed for their volumes lost on ablation of the first 100 microns of their surfaces both internally and externally. The shapes used in this study were a cube, a cube with a hollow sphere and a sphere with large internal channels. As can be seen from the table, increasing SA/V values lead to increasing percentages of volume lost from the shapes as a whole.



catalyst being ava of the catalyst is available for reaction, equating to 1.8 mg and 4.6 mg of catalyst available for reaction for each device respectively. Whilst these results are simple estimations, they provide good approximations for the actual amount that is available for reaction as shown below (Supplementary Table 6).

## **Supplementary Table 6: Calculation of Pd(PPh3)<sup>4</sup> Content Relating to Solvent Exposure**



#### <span id="page-12-0"></span>**S.2.8. Carousel Based Stirrer Device**

Carousel based stirrer Beads were designed to fit the Radleys carousel 12 reaction station (20 mL vials) as shown below. The enhanced mixing of the stirrer bead when compared to the same stirrer bead without the 3D printed housing is shown below (Supplementary Figure 4). Both Stirrers (conventional and 3D printed) are run at the same (1300 rpm) speed in the comparison pictures highlighting the rapid mass transfer of compound over the device itself.



**Supplementary Figure 4.** Demonstration of Vortex Formation by the 3D Printed Stirrer: A) Placement in the Radleys Carousel; B) Normal Stirrer Bead Mixing at 1300 RPM; C) 3D Printed Stirrer Bead Mixing at 1300 RPM.

Following reaction, the stirrer bead was removed from the reaction and washed with solvent. The colour change is clear from the picture below, indicative of palladium being maintained in the device and not leached into solution.



**Supplementary Figure 5. 3D Printed Stirrer Bead Colouration Post Reaction.**

#### <span id="page-13-0"></span>**S.2.9. Microwave Based Stirrer Device**

Stirrer Beads were designed to fit the 2-5 mL Biotage vial sizes as shown below. The final bead is shown in a comparative vial and reactions were stirred at 600 rpm in the Biotage microwave reaction cavity. As can be seen below, stirring is enhanced by the stirrer device in an analogous manner to that of the carousel-based device. The post reaction picture (Supplementary Figure 6, Image C), shows that the palladium is retained in the device, obviating the classic palladium coating observed with traditional microwavebased palladium reactions.



**Supplementary Figure 6. Illustration of the Microwave 3D Printed Stirrer Bead: A) In the 2-5 mL Microwave Vial; B) Mixing Produced at 600 RPM; C) Suzuki-Miyaura Reaction after Heating.**

#### <span id="page-14-0"></span>**S.2.10. Purity of Reaction**

Illustration of the reaction purity obtained when using the  $Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>$  impregnated stirrer (A) versus a conventional batch based reaction (B). The product peak is at 4.2 mins and as can clearly be seen, by-products are greatly diminished.



**Supplementary Figure 7. HPLC trace of crude reactions catalysed by: A) 3D printed Pd(PPh3)<sup>4</sup> impregnated stirrer and B) Solution based Pd(PPh3)4.**



**Supplementary Figure 8. Image of crude microwave based reactions catalysed by: A) 3D printed Pd(PPh3)<sup>4</sup> impregnated stirrer and B) Solution based Pd(PPh3)4.**

#### **Analysis of repeated uses**

Carousel reactions were carried out as described below. A 10  $\mu$ L aliquot was taken at various time intervals and diluted with methanol  $(490 \mu L)$  and the sample analysed by HPLC. When the reaction was complete, the stirrer was removed, washed with a small amount of MeOH, dried and stored under  $N_2$ . After the  $3<sup>rd</sup>$  use, the stirrer was washed with a small amount of  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$ .

Where applicable, the 3D printed stirrer was removed at a particular time and replaced with a magnetic stir bar.

The 'washed' stirrer was subjected to heating at 65 °C in EtOH (8 mL) and DI water (2 mL) for 7 h and then removed, dried and stored under  $N_2$ .



**Supplementary Figure 9: Reaction profiles for repeated uses**

#### <span id="page-17-0"></span>**S.3.0. General Procedures**

#### <span id="page-17-1"></span>**S.3.1. General Procedure A:**

#### **1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)ethanone (3)<sup>4</sup>**



Phenylboronic acid (**1**) (0.071 g, 0.59 mmol) and 1-(4-iodophenyl)ethanone (**2**) (0.13 g, 0.53 mmol) were added to a solution of sodium carbonate (0.11 g, 1.07 mmol) in ethanol (8 mL) and water (2 mL) and a 0.5%Pd impregnated stirrer bead and the resulting mixture heated at 65  $\degree$ C for 18 hours in a Radleys carousel reactor at 800 rpm. The stirrer was washed with DCM and the combined mixture concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was partitioned between water (15 mL) and DCM (15 mL) and the aqueous phase extracted with DCM (3 x 15 mL) and the combined organic extracts dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and solvent removed under reduced pressure to give 1-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4 yl)ethanone (**3**) as a colorless solid (0.101 g, 99%); mp 119.4-120.1 °C (lit. 115-117 °C<sup>4</sup> ); νmax (neat) 3069, 2921 (C–H), 1676 (C=O); *ν*max (neat) 3069 (CH), 2921 (CH), 1676 (C=O); δH (400 MHz, CDCl3) 8.04 (2H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.69 (2H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.65 – 7.62 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.48 (2H, t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.41 (1H, t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, Ar**H**), 2.64 (3H, s, COCH<sub>3</sub>); δ<sub>C</sub> (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 197.8, 145.9, 139.9, 135.9, 129.1, 129.0, 128.3, 127.4, 127.3, 26.7; HRMS m/z (NSI) 197.0961 ( $[M+H]+ C_{14}H_{13}O$  requires 197.0960).

#### **1-(4'-Chloro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)ethanone (4)<sup>5</sup>**



Chemical Formula: C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ClO Molecular Weight: 230.69

According to general procedure **A** compound **4** was obtained O as a colorless solid (0.088 g, 85%); mp 94.0-95.3 °C (lit. 102- 103 °C<sup>5</sup>); *v*<sub>max</sub> (neat) 2922 (CH), 1669 (C=O), 850 (CH); δ<sub>H</sub> (400 MHz, CDCl3) 8.01 (1H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.63 (2H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.53 (2H, d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.42 (2H, d, *J*  $= 8.5$  Hz, ArH), 2.62 (3H, s, COCH<sub>3</sub>); δ<sub>C</sub> (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

197.6, 144.5, 138.3, 136.2, 134.5, 129.2, 129.1, 128.6, 127.1, 26.7; HRMS m/z (NSI) 231.0571 ([M+H]+ C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>12</sub>CIO requires 231.0572).



**1-(4'-Methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)ethanone (5)<sup>6</sup>**

According to general procedure **A** compound **5** was obtained O as a colorless solid (0.099 g, 98%); mp 152.0-153.1 °C (lit. 158-159 °C<sup>6</sup>); *ν*<sub>max</sub> (neat) 2957 (CH), 1672 (C=O), 813 (CH); δH (400 MHz, CDCl3) 8.00 (2H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.63

(2H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.59 – 7.55 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.01 –

Chemical Formula:  $C_{15}H_{14}O_2$ Molecular Weight: 226.27

6.97 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 3.85 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.62 (3H, s, COCH<sub>3</sub>); δ<sub>C</sub> (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 197.7, 160.0, 145.4, 135.4, 132.3, 129.0, 128.4, 126.7, 114.5, 55.4, 26.6; HRMS m/z (NSI) 227.1067 ( $[M+H]^+$  C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>2</sub> requires 227.1068).

**1-(3'-Methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)ethanone (6)<sup>7</sup>**



According to general procedure **A** compound **6** was obtained O as a colorless solid (0.094 g, 93%); mp 52.6-53.0 °C (lit. 35.2-36.2 °C<sup>7</sup> ); *ν*max (neat) 2996 (CH), 1673 (C=O), 864 (CH); δH (400 MHz, CDCl3) 8.03 – 8.00 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.68 – 7.65 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.38 (1H, t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.21 (1H, d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.17 – 7.14 (1H, m, Ar**H**), 6.97 – 6.92

Chemical Formula:  $C_{15}H_{14}O_2$ Molecular Weight: 226.27

(1H, m, Ar**H**), 3.87 (3H, s, OC**H**3), 2.63 (3H, s, COC**H**3); δH (125 MHz, CDCl3) 197.8, 160.2, 145.7, 141.4, 136.1, 130.1, 128.9, 127.3, 119.8, 113.6, 113.2, 55.4, 26.7; HRMS m/z (NSI) 227.1067 ([M+H]+  $C_{15}H_{15}O_2$  requires 227.106).



Chemical Formula:  $C_{15}H_{11}F_{3}O$ Molecular Weight: 264.25

### **1-(4'-(Trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)ethanone (7)<sup>8</sup>** O

According to general procedure **A** compound **7** was obtained as a colorless solid (0.113 g, 96%); mp 118.9- 120.1 °C (lit. 120.6-121.4°C<sup>8</sup>); *ν*<sub>max</sub> (neat) 2924 (CH), 1683 (C=O), 820 (CH); δH (400 MHz, CDCl3) 8.06 (2H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.72 (4H, s, Ar**H**), 7.69 (2H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, Ar**H**),

2.65 (3H, s, COCH<sub>3</sub>); δ<sub>C</sub> (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 197.7, 163.1, 144.8, 136.1, 135.9, 129.1,

128.9, 127.1, 115.9, 26.7; HRMS m/z (NSI) 265.0840 ([M+H]+ C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>12</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O requires 265.0845);



**1-(2'-Methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)ethanone (8)<sup>4</sup>**

According to general procedure **A** compound **8** was obtained O as a colorless solid (0.061 g, 60%); mp 106.8-107.3 °C (lit. 102-103 °C<sup>4</sup> ); *ν*max (neat) 3000 (CH), 1669 (C=O), 750 (CH); δH (400 MHz, CDCl3) 8.01 (2H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.65

(2H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.40 – 7.32 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.06 (1H,

Chemical Formula:  $C_{15}H_{14}O_2$ Molecular Weight: 226.27

t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.02 (1H, d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, Ar**H**), 3.83 (3H, s, OC**H**3), 2.64 (3H, s, COC**H**3); δH (101 MHz, CDCl3) 197.9, 156.6, 143.7, 135.6, 130.8, 129.8, 129.6, 128.2, 121.1, 111.5, 55.6, 26.7; HRMS m/z (NSI) 227.1067 ( $[M+H]+ C_{15}H_{15}O_2$  requires 227.1067).

#### **1-(4'-Fluoro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)ethanone (9)<sup>6</sup>**



Chemical Formula:  $C_{14}H_{11}FO$ Molecular Weight: 214.24

According to general procedure **A** compound **9** was O obtained as a colorless solid (0.09 g, 99%); mp 100.1-101.8 °C (lit. 105-106 °C<sup>6</sup>); *ν<sub>max</sub>* (neat) 2921 (CH), 1679 (C=O), 815 (CH); δH (400 MHz, CDCl3) 8.02 (2H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.62 (2H, d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.60 – 7.56 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.18 – 7.12 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 2.63 (3H, s, COC**H**3); δc (101 MHz,

CDCl3) 197.67, 163.0, 144.7, 135.9, 135.9, 128.9, 128.9, 127.1, 115.9, 26.6; HRMS *m/z* (NSI) Found 215.0872 ([M+H]<sup>+</sup> C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>12</sub>FO requires 215.0800).



Chemical Formula:  $C_{14}H_{11}NO_3$ Molecular Weight: 241.25

According to general procedure **A** compound **10** was O

**1-(4'-Nitro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)ethanone (10)<sup>8</sup>**

obtained as a colorless solid (0.104 g, 94%); mp 151.6- 152.2 °C (lit. 150.2-152.1 °C<sup>8</sup>); *ν*<sub>max</sub> (neat) 3012 (CH), 1679 (C=O), 1595 (NO2); δH (400 MHz, CDCl3) 8.31 (2H, d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, Ar**H**), 8.07 (2H, d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.77 (2H, d, *J*

= 8.6 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.71 (2H, d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, Ar**H**), 2.65 (3H, s,

COCH<sub>3</sub>); δ<sub>C</sub> (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 197.5, 147.7, 146.3, 143.2, 137.2, 129.2, 128.2, 127.7, 124.3, 26.8; HRMS m/z (NSI) 242.0817 ([M+H]+ C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>12</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> requires 242.0817).

#### **4-Methoxy-1,1'-biphenyl (11)<sup>4</sup>**



According to general procedure **A** compound **11** was obtained as a colorless solid (0.078 g, 99%); mp 86.5-87.2 °C (lit. 85-86 °C<sup>4</sup> ); *ν*max (neat) 3064 (CH), 1246 (OCH3), 832 (CH); δ<sub>H</sub> (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.62 – 7.55 (4H, m, Ar**H**), 7.46 O

(2H, dd, *J* = 10.5, 4.8 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.37 – 7.31 (1H, m, Ar**H**), 7.05

Chemical Formula:  $C_{13}H_{12}O$ Molecular Weight: 184.24

– 6.98 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 3.88 (3H, s, OC**H**3); δC (101 MHz, CDCl3) 159.3, 140.9, 133.9, 128.9, 128.3, 126.9, 126.8, 114.3, 55.5; HRMS m/z (NSI) 185.0966 ([M+H]<sup>+</sup> C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>13</sub>O requires 185.0958).

#### **4-Chloro-1,1'-biphenyl (12)<sup>5</sup>**



According to general procedure **A** compound **12** was O obtained as a colorless solid (0.088 g, 94%); mp 108.3- 110.8 °C (lit. 112-113 °C<sup>5</sup> ); *ν*max (neat) 3010 (CH), 1287 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 809 (CH); δ<sub>H</sub> (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.53 – 7.46 (4H,

Chemical Formula:  $C_{13}H_{11}$ ClO Molecular Weight: 218.68

m, Ar**H**), 7.42 – 7.37 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.01 – 6.96 (2H, m, Ar**H**),

3.86 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>); δ<sub>C</sub> (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 159.5, 139.4, 132.8, 132.6, 128.9, 128.1, 128.0, 114.5, 55.5; HRMS  $m/z$  (ASAP) Found 218.0498 ([M]<sup>+</sup> C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>OCl requires 218.0497).

#### **3,4'-Dimethoxy-1,1'-biphenyl (13)<sup>9</sup>**



Chemical Formula:  $C_{14}H_{14}O_2$ Molecular Weight: 214.26

According to general procedure **A** compound **13** was obtained as O a colorless solid (0.080 g, 87%); mp 55.9-57.7 °C (lit. 57-58 °Cº); *ν*<sub>max</sub> (neat) 3010 (CH), 1217 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 826 (CH); δ<sub>H</sub> (400 MHz, CDCl3) 7.60 – 7.54 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.37 (1H, t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.19 (1H, dt, *J* = 7.7, 1.3 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.14 (1H, t, *J* = 2.1 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.04 – 6.98 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 6.90 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.1, 2.5 Hz, Ar**H**), 3.89 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.87 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>); δ<sub>C</sub> (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 160.1,

159.4, 142.5, 133.7, 129.8, 128.3, 119.4, 114.3, 112.7, 112.1, 55.4, 55.4; HRMS m/z (NSI) 215.1072 ( $[M+H]^+$  C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>2</sub> requires 215.1070).

#### **4-Methoxy-4'-nitro-1,1'-biphenyl (14)<sup>10</sup>**



Molecular Weight: 229.24

According to general procedure **A** compound **14** was obtained  $^{\circ}$  as a yellow solid (0.030 g, 30%); mp 108.3-109.6 °C (lit. 104-105 °C<sup>10</sup>); *ν*<sub>max</sub> (neat) 3062 (CH), 1595 (NO<sub>2</sub>), 858 (CH); δ<sub>H</sub> (400 MHz, CDCl3) 8.29 – 8.24 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.72 – 7.66 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.61 – 7.55 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.04 – 6.99 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 3.88 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>); δ<sub>C</sub> (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 160.6, 147.4, 146.7,

131.2, 128.7, 127.2, 124.3, 114.8, 55.6; HRMS m/z (NSI) 230.0812 ( $[M+H]^+$  C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> requires 230.0805).

According to general procedure **A** using 1-iodo-4-nitrobenzene and (4 methoxyphenyl)boronic acid, compound **14** was obtained as a colorless solid (0.089 g, 97%); Spectral data obtained is in good agreement with that reported above.

#### **4-Nitro-1,1'-biphenyl (15)<sup>11</sup>**



Chemical Formula:  $C_{12}H_9NO_2$ Molecular Weight: 199.21

According to general procedure **A** compound **15** was obtained as a NO<sup>2</sup> colorless solid (0.058 g, 73%); mp 110.2-112.3 °C (lit. 112-113 °C<sup>11</sup>); *v*<sub>max</sub> (neat) 3074 (CH), 1592 (NO<sub>2</sub>), 850 (CH); δ<sub>H</sub> (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 8.32 – 8.26 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.77 – 7.70 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.66 – 7.60 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.54 – 7.42 (3H, m, OC**H**<sub>3</sub>); δ<sub>c</sub> (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 147.7, 147.2, 138.9, 129.3, 129.0, 127.9, 127.5, 124.2; HRMS m/z (NSI)

200.0712 ( $[M+H]^+C_{12}H_{10}NO_2$  requires 200.0715);

#### **4-Fluoro-4'-nitro-1,1'-biphenyl (16)<sup>12</sup>**



Chemical Formula:  $C_{12}H_8$ FNO<sub>2</sub> Molecular Weight: 217.20

<code>NO $_{2}$  According</code> to general procedure **A** compound **16** was obtained as a colorless solid (0.070 g, 81%); mp 125.5-126.1 °C (lit. 122-124 <sup>°</sup>C<sup>12</sup>; *ν*<sub>max</sub> (neat) 3073 (CH), 1595 (NO<sub>2</sub>), 830 (CH); δ<sub>H</sub> (400 MHz, CDCl3) 8.32 – 8.26 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.72 – 7.66 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.63 – 7.56 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.22 – 7.15 (2H, m, Ar**H**); δ<sub>C</sub> (101 MHz, CDCl3) 163.5, 147.2, 146.7, 135.1, 129.3, 127.8, 124.3, 116.3;

HRMS m/z (NSI) 218.0617 ([M+H]<sup>+</sup> C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>9</sub>FNO<sub>2</sub> requires 218.0623).

#### <span id="page-22-0"></span>**General Procedure B:**

#### **3-Phenylpyridine (17)<sup>4</sup>**



Chemical Formula:  $C_6H_7BO_2$ Molecular Weight: 121.93

Chemical Formula:  $\mathsf{C}_5\mathsf{H}_4\mathsf{IN}$ Molecular Weight: 205.00

Chemical Formula: C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>9N</sub> Molecular Weight: 155.20

Phenylboronic acid (0.065 g, 0.54 mmol) and 3-iodopyridine (0.10 g, 0.49 mmol) were combined in a reaction vial containing a 0.5% *w/w* Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> microwave stirrer bead. Ethanol (2 mL) was added, followed by a solution of sodium carbonate (0.10 g, 0.98 mmol) in water (1 mL). The resulting mixture was heated at 130 °C for 20 minutes in the microwave. The stirrer was washed with DCM and the residue was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was partitioned between water (15 mL) and DCM (15 mL) and the aqueous phase extracted with DCM (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic extracts dried ( $MdSO<sub>4</sub>$ ), filtered and solvent removed under reduced pressure to give the crude material. The residue was purified *via* Biotage (9:1 Hex/EtOAc; Zip 10 g column) to give 3-phenylpyridine **17** (0.052 g, 69%) as a colorless oil; *ν*<sub>max</sub> (neat) 3030 (C–H), 1336 (C–N); δ<sub>H</sub> (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 8.85 (1H, d, J = 2.3 Hz, NCH), 8.59 (1H, dd, J = 4.8, 1.6 Hz, NC**H**), 7.87 (1H, dt, *J* = 7.9, 2.0 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.60 - 7.55 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.48 (2H, dd, *J* = 8.4, 6.9 Hz, ArH), 7.43 - 7.38 (1H, m, ArH), 7.36 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.9, 4.8 Hz, ArH); δ<sub>C</sub> (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 148.6, 148.4, 137.9, 136.7, 134.4, 129.2, 128.2, 127.2, 123.6; HRMS *m/z* (NSI) Found 156.0808 ([M+H]<sup>+</sup> C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N requires 156.0811).

#### **3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)pyridine (18)<sup>7</sup>**



Chemical Formula:  $C_{12}H_{11}NO$ Molecular Weight: 185.23

According to general procedure **B** compound **18** was obtained as a <sup>N</sup> colorless semi-solid (0.062 g, 69%);  $v_{\text{max}}$  (neat) 3008 (CH), 1281  $(C=N)$ , 836 (CH); δ<sub>H</sub> (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 8.81 (1H, d, J = 2.5 Hz, NC**H**), 8.54 (1H, dd, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1.7, NC**H**), 7.81 (1H, dt, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2.0, Ar**H**), 7.56 - 7.45 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.32 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.9, 4.8 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.04 - 6.95 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 3.85 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>); δ<sub>C</sub> (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

159.8, 148.1, 147.9, 136.3, 133.9, 130.3, 128.3, 123.6, 114.6, 55.5; HRMS m/z (NSI) 186.0913 ([M+H]+ C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>12</sub>NO requires 186.0910).

#### **3-(4-Fluorophenyl)pyridine (19)<sup>13</sup>**



Weight: 173.19

According to general procedure **B** compound **19** was obtained as a <sup>N</sup> colorless oil (0.062 g, 73%); *v*<sub>max</sub> (neat) 3043 (CH), 1336 (C=N), 840 (CH); δ<sub>H</sub> (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 8.80 (1H, d, J = 2.3 Hz, NCH), 8.58 (1H, dd, *J* = 4.8, 1.6 Hz, NC**H**), 7.82 (1H, dt, *J* = 7.9, 2.0 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.57 - 7.49 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.35 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.0, 4.9 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.16 (2H, t, *J* = 8.6 Hz, Ar**H**); δc (126 MHz, CDCl3) 163.0, 148.4, 135.8, 134.3, 134.0, 128.9, 123.7, 116.3, 116.1; HRMS m/z (NSI) 174.0714 ([M+H]+

 $C_{11}H_9$ FN requires 174.0710).

#### **3-(3-Methoxyphenyl)pyridine (20)<sup>7</sup>**



According to general procedure **B** compound **20** was obtained <sup>N</sup> as a colorless oil (0.070 g, 77%); *ν*<sub>max</sub> (neat) 3031 (CH), 1299 (C=N), 809 (CH);  $\delta_H$  (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 8.84 (1H, d, J = 2.3) Hz, NC**H**), 8.59 (1H, dd, *J* = 4.9, 1.6 Hz, NC**H**), 7.88 - 7.78 (1H, m, Ar**H**), 7.39 (1H, t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.35 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.9, 4.8 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.16 (1H, dt, *J* = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.10 (1H,

Chemical Formula:  $C_{12}H_{11}NO$ Molecular Weight: 185.23

t,  $J = 2.1$  Hz, ArH), 6.94 (1H, dd,  $J = 8.2$ , 2.5 Hz, ArH), 3.86 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>); δ<sub>C</sub> (126 MHz, CDCl3) 160.2, 148.7, 148.4, 139.4, 136.6, 134.5, 130.2, 123.6, 119.7, 113.5, 113.0, 55.4; HRMS m/z (NSI) 186.0913 ( $[M+H]+ C_{12}H_{12}$ NO requires 186.0909).

**1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)ethanone (3)**

**3-Phenylpyridine (17)**



According to general procedure **B** compound **17** was also obtained using 3-bromopyridine in 120 minutes (0.032 g, 33%). Spectral data obtained is in good agreement with that reported above.

Chemical Formula: C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>9</sub>N Molecular Weight: 155.20



According to general procedure **B** compound **3** was also obtained using 1-(4-bromophenyl)ethanone by heating in a microwave at 120

Chemical Formula:  $C_{14}H_{12}O$ Molecular Weight: 196.24

°C for 40 minutes (0.080 g, 99%). Spectral data obtained is in good agreement with that reported above.

**1-(4'-Chloro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)ethanone (4)**

in good agreement with that reported above.

According to general procedure **B** compound **4** was also obtained using 1-(4-bromophenyl)ethanone by heating in a microwave at 120 °C for 60 minutes (0.112 g, 97%). Spectral data obtained is



Chemical Formula:  $C_{14}H_{11}$ ClO Molecular Weight: 230.69

#### **4-yl)ethanone (9)**

with that reported above.



Chemical Formula:  $C_{14}H_{11}FO$ Molecular Weight: 214.23

**1-(4'-Fluoro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-**

**According** to general  $\sim$   $\downarrow$   $\downarrow$  procedure **B** compound **9** was also obtained using 1-(4-  $\downarrow$  bromophenyl)ethanone by heating in a microwave at 120 °C for 60 minutes (0.100 g, 93%). Spectral data Chemical Formula:  $G_{14}H_{11}H_{12}$  obtained is in good agreement

#### **4-Methoxy-4'-nitro-1,1'-biphenyl (14)**



Chemical Formula:  $C_{13}H_{11}NO_3$ Molecular Weight: 229.23

According to general procedure **B** compound **14** was also obtained using 1-iodo-4-methoxybenzene by heating in the microwave at 120 °C for 40 minutes (0.081 g, 83%) as a yellow solid. Spectral data obtained is in good agreement with that reported above.

**General Procedure C**

#### **3-Phenylpyridine (17)<sup>4</sup>**



Molecular Weight: 205.00

Chemical Formula:  $\rm{C_6H_7BO_2}$   $\,$  Chemical Formula:  $\rm{C_5H_4IN}$ 

Molecular Weight: 121.93

Chemical Formula:  $C_{11}H_{9N}$ Molecular Weight: 155.20

N

Phenylboronic acid (0.054 g, 0.44 mmol) and 3-iodopyridine (0.082 g, 0.4 mmol) were combined in a reaction vial containing a  $0.85\%$  *w/w* Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> microwave stirrer bead. Ethanol (2 mL) was added, followed by a solution of sodium carbonate (0.10 g, 0.98 mmol) in water (1 mL). The resulting mixture was heated at 130 °C for 20 minutes in the microwave. The stirrer was washed with DCM and the residue was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was partitioned between water (15 mL) and DCM (15 mL) and the aqueous phase extracted with DCM (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic extracts dried (MgSO4), filtered and solvent removed under reduced pressure to give the crude material. The residue was purified *via* Biotage (9:1 Hex/EtOAc; Zip 10 g column) to give 3-phenylpyridine **17** (0.051 g, 82%) as a colorless oil. Spectral data obtained is in good agreement with that reported above.

According to general procedure **C** compound **17** was also obtained using 3 bromopyridine (0.027 g, 44%). Spectral data obtained is in good agreement with that reported above.

### **1-(4-(Pyrimidin-5-yl)phenyl)ethanone (21)<sup>14</sup>**



Chemical Formula:  $C_{12}H_{10}N_2O$ Molecular Weight: 198.23

N Superfield According to general procedure C after heating for 60 N minutes compound 21 was obtained as a colorless solid (0.011 mg, 14%); mp: 135-136 °C (lit. 121-123 °C<sup>14</sup>) ; *ν*max (neat) 2952, 2922, 2848, 1679, 1605, 1395, 1350, 1265; δ<sub>H</sub> (400 MHz, CDCl3) 9.26 (1H, s, Ar**H**), 8.99 (2H, s, Ar**H**), 8.11 (2H, d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.70 (2H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, Ar**H**), 2.66

(3H, s, COCH<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta_c$  (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 197.3, 158.2, 155.0, 138.7, 137.3, 133.29, 129.4, 127.2; Spectral data obtained is in good agreement with reported data.<sup>14</sup>

### **2-Methylbiphenyl (22)<sup>15</sup>**



Chemical Formula:  $C_{13}H_{12}$ Molecular Weight: 168.24

According to general procedure C compound **22** was obtained from 2-iodotoluene and phenylboronic acid as a colorless oil (0.050 g, 74%); *ν*<sub>max</sub> (neat) 3059, 3020, 1478, 1439, 1010; δ<sub>H</sub> (400 MHz, CDCl3) 7.47-7.43 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.39-7.35 (3H, m, Ar**H**), 7.32-7.38 (4H, m, Ar**H**), 2.32 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>); δ<sub>C</sub> (101 MHz,

CDCl3) 142.0, 141.9, 135.4, 130.3, 129.8, 129.2, 128.1, 127.3, 126.8, 125.8, 20.5; Spectral data obtained is in good agreement with reported data.<sup>15</sup>

According to general procedure C compound **22** was also obtained using 2-bromotoluene (0.026 g, 39%). Spectral data obtained is in good agreement with that reported above.

#### **2-Methoxy-2'-methylbiphenyl (23)<sup>16</sup>**



Chemical Formula:  $C_{14}H_{14}O$ Molecular Weight: 198.26

According to general procedure C compound **22** was obtained from 2-bromotoluene and 2-methoxybenzenboronic acid as a colorless solid (0.050 g, 74%); mp: 38-40 °C *ν*max (neat) 3061, 3018, 2955, 1482, 1261, 1233;  $\delta_H$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.35 (1H, t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, Ar**H**), 7.28-7.15 (5H, m, Ar**H**), 7.02 (1H, t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, Ar**H**), 6.97 (1H, d, J = 8.2 Hz, Ar**H**), 3.77 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.15 (3H, s, ArC**H**<sub>3</sub>); δ<sub>C</sub> (101

MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 156.7, 138.7, 136.8, 131.0, 130.9, 130.0, 129.6, 128.6, 127.3, 125.5, 120.5, 110.7, 55.4, 19.9; Spectral data obtained is in good agreement with reported data <sup>16</sup>

### <span id="page-27-0"></span>**S.4.0. NMR Spectra**

































S43









S47



S48

### <span id="page-48-0"></span>**S.5.0. References**

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