Supporting information for:

# 2-Alkylphosphino-1-Boraadamantanes

Kurt F. Hoffmann<sup>a</sup>, Rayni P. Noriega<sup>a</sup>, Paul D. Boyle<sup>a</sup> and Marcus W. Drover<sup>\*a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Chemistry, Western University, 1151 Richmond Street, London, ON, N8K 3G6, Canada.

marcus.drover@uwo.ca

1. Experimental Section	S2
2. Preparation of Compounds	S3
3. Multinuclear NMR Data	S9
4. Additional Reactions	S29
5. X-Ray Crystallography	S42
6 Computational Chemistry	S44
7 References	S49

#### **Experimental Section:**

**General considerations.** All experiments were carried out employing standard Schlenk techniques under an atmosphere of dry nitrogen employing degassed, dried solvents in a solvent purification system supplied by PPT, LLC. Non-halogenated solvents were tested with a standard purple solution of sodium benzophenone ketyl in tetrahydrofuran in order to confirm effective moisture removal. *d*<sub>6</sub>-benzene was dried over molecular sieves and degassed by three freeze-pump-thaw cycles. All other reagents were purchased from commercial vendors and used without further purification unless otherwise stated. 3-Methoxy-7-(2-bromoethyl)-3-borabicyclo[3.3.1]non-6-ene (5), 2-(3-chloropropyl)-1-boraadamantane (1), 2-(2-chloroethyl)-1-boraadamantane (3), LiPPh<sub>2</sub>, and LiP(*t*-Bu)<sub>2</sub> were prepared according to literature procedures.<sup>[1]</sup>

**Physical methods.** All NMR data were recorded with a Bruker AVIII HD 400 MHz or a Bruker Neo 600 MHz instrument. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra are reported in parts per million (ppm) and are referenced to residual solvent e.g., <sup>1</sup>H(C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.16; <sup>13</sup>C(C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  = 128.06; coupling constants are reported in Hz. <sup>13</sup>C, <sup>31</sup>P, and <sup>11</sup>B NMR spectra were performed as proton-decoupled experiments (unless explicitly stated otherwise) and are reported in ppm. Mass spectrometry was carried out with a Bruker micrOTOF 11 using electrospray ionization.

#### **Preparation of Compounds:**

#### General procedure for 2-alkylphosphine-1-boraadamantanes:

In the glovebox, the corresponding 2-chloroalkyl-1-boraadamantane was weighed into a 20 mL scintillation vial equipped with a stir bar and dissolved in 5 mL of THF and precooled to -35 °C. To this solution, the corresponding lithium phosphide dissolved in 10 mL of THF was added dropwise, which resulted in a rapid decolorization. After stirring the mixture for 1 h, all volatiles were removed *in vacuo*, resulting in a cloudy oil. The mixture was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O, filtered and the filtrate subsequently dried in *vacuo*. The resulting solid was washed with cold *n*-pentane and dried again, yielding a colorless powder.

# 2-(3-diphenylphosphinopropyl)-1-boraadamantane (2<sup>Ph</sup>; C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>30</sub>BP, 360 g/mol): 2-(3-chloropropyl)-1-boraadamantane (232 mg, 0.82 mmol) was reacted with LiPPh<sub>2</sub> (158 mg, 0.82 mmol, 1 equiv.) according to the general procedure

described above. The resulting solid was washed with cold *n*-pentane and dried



again, yielding a colorless powder (200 mg, 67%). Crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were grown by cooling a concentrated solution in Et<sub>2</sub>O to -35 °C overnight. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, d<sub>1</sub>-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  = 7.67 (m, 2H, -PPh<sub>2</sub>), 7.45 (m, 8H, -PPh<sub>2</sub>), 2.31 (m, 1H), 2.16 (m, 4H), 1.93 (m, 2H), 1.84 (m, 2H), 1.74 (m, 2H), 1.55 (m, 4H), 1.15 (m, 2H), 0.98 (m, 1H), 0.90 (m, 1H), 0.30 (m, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, d<sub>1</sub>-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  = 133.7 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz), 131.8 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 130.6 (dd, *J* = 24.7, 2.3 Hz), 128.6 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 2.7 Hz), 41.9, 41.1 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz), 38.2 (d, *J* = 11.7 Hz), 34.3, 32.2 - 31.5 (m), 23.7, 21.0 (d, *J* = 30.4 Hz). <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (243 MHz, d<sub>1</sub>-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  = -6.6. <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (193 MHz, d<sub>1</sub>-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  = -16.3. HRESI(+)-MS: calcd. 360.2173 exptl. 360.2125 for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>30</sub>BP [M]<sup>+</sup>.

2-(2-diphenylphosphinoethyl)-1-boraadamantane (4<sup>Ph</sup>; C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>28</sub>BP, 346 g/mol):
2-(2-chloroethyl)-1-boraadamantane (286 mg, 1.06 mmol) was reacted with LiPPh<sub>2</sub>
(192 mg, 1.06 mmol, 1 equiv.) according to the general procedure described above.
The resulting solid was washed with cold *n*-pentane and dried again, yielding a



colorless powder (333 mg, 91%). Crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were grown by cooling a concentrated solution in Et<sub>2</sub>O to -35 °C overnight. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, d<sub>1</sub>-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  = 7.45 (m, 10H, -PPh<sub>2</sub>), 2.68 (m, 1H), 2.30 (m, 1H), 2.20 (m, 1H), 2.10 (m, 1H), 2.05 (m, 1H), 1.97 (m, 1H), 1.85 (m, 2H), 1.70 (m, 1H), 1.60 (m, 1H), 1.53 (m, 1H), 1.16 (m, 2H), 0.83 (m, 1H), 0.67 (m, 1H), 0.56 (m, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, d<sub>1</sub>-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  = 132.5 (dd, *J* = 24.2, 9.4 Hz, -PPh<sub>2</sub>), 130.4 (d, *J* = 9.8 Hz, -PPh<sub>2</sub>), 128.7 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz, -PPh<sub>2</sub>), 41.1 (d, *J* = 30.0 Hz), 35.1 (d, *J* = 11.9 Hz), 33.8, 32.2 (d, *J* = 13.4 Hz), 27.7 (d, *J* = 10.2 Hz), 26.6 (d, *J* = 42.8 Hz). <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (243 MHz, d<sub>1</sub>-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  = 14.5. <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (193 MHz, d<sub>1</sub>-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  = -11.7. HRESI(+)-MS: calcd. 346.2016 exptl. 346.1966 for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>28</sub>BP [M]<sup>+</sup>.

(*t*-Bu)<sub>2</sub>

(*t*-Bu)<sub>2</sub>

**2-(3-di**-*tert*-butylphosphinopropyl)-1-boraadamantane (2<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>; C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>38</sub>BP, 320 g/mol): 2-(3-chloropropyl)-1-boraadamantane (292 mg, 1.03 mmol) was reacted with LiP(*t*-Bu)<sub>2</sub> (157 mg, 1.03 mmol, 1 equiv.) according to the general procedure described above. The product was obtained as colorless crystals



**2-(2-di***-tert***-butylphosphinoethyl)-1-boraadamantane** (4<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>; C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>36</sub>BP, 306 g/mol): 2-(2-chloroethyl)-1-boraadamantane (325 mg, 1.21 mmol) was reacted with LiP(*t*-Bu)<sub>2</sub> (184 mg, 1.21 mmol, 1 equiv.) according to the general procedure described above. The product was obtained as colorless crystals after

recrystallization from Et<sub>2</sub>O (254 mg, 69%). Crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were grown by

cooling a concentrated solution in Et<sub>2</sub>O to -35 °C overnight. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta = 2.64$  (m, 1H), 2.49 (m, 1H), 2.41 (m, 1H), 2.16 (m, 4H), 1.95 (m, 1H), 1.88 (m, 3H), 1.47 (m, 2H), 1.28 (m, 3H), 1.12 (m, 2H), 0.97 (dd, J = 11.7, 1.9 Hz, 18H,  $-P(t-Bu)_2$ ). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta = 41.7$  (d, J = 45.4 Hz), 35.6 (d, J = 10.4 Hz), 34.4, 33.2 (m), 29.9 (d, J = 2.6 Hz), 29.1 (d, J = 9.0 Hz), 28.9, 18.5 (d, J = 32.6 Hz). <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (243 MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta = 41.4$ . <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (193 MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta = -9.6$ . HRESI(+)-MS: calcd. 306.2642 exptl. 306.2637 for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>36</sub>BP [M]<sup>+</sup>.

#### 3-Methoxy-7-(2-diphenylphosphinoethyl)-3-borabicyclo[3.3.1]non-6-ene

(6<sup>Ph</sup>; C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>28</sub>BOP, 362 g/mol): In the glovebox, 3-methoxy-7-(2-bromoethyl)-3-borabicyclo[3.3.1]non-6-ene (507 mg, 1.97 mmol) was weighed into a 20 mL scintillation vial equipped with a stir bar and dissolved in 5 mL of THF



and precooled to -35 °C. To this solution, LiP(*t*-Bu)<sub>2</sub> (379 mg, 1.97 mmol, 1 equiv.) dissolved in 10 mL of THF was added dropwise, which resulted in a rapid decolorization. After stirring the mixture for 2 h, all volatiles were removed *in vacuo*, resulting in a cloudy oil. The mixture was extracted with *n*-hexane, filtered and the filtrate subsequently dried in *vacuo*, yielding again a cloudy oil. The procedure was repeated until a colorless oil (661 mg, 92%) was obtained. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, di-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K): 7.42 (m, 10H, -PPh<sub>2</sub>), 5.48 (m, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H, -OMe), 2.47 (m, 2H), 2.35 (m, 1H), 2.14 (m, 2H), 2.03 (m, 2H), 1.78 (m, 1H), 1.66 (m, 2H), 1.09 (m, 1H), 1.00 (m, 1H), 0.88 (m, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, di-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  = 138.9 (t, *J* = 13.2 Hz), 134.1 (m), 132.8 (dd, *J* = 18.4, 11.1 Hz), 128.4 (m), 53.2, 37.5, 33.9 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz), 32.7, 29.3, 27.5, 26.6 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz), 25.0 (m). <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (243 MHz, d<sub>1</sub>-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  = -15.9. <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (193 MHz, d<sub>1</sub>-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  = 55.2.

2-(1-di-phenylphosphinomethyl)-1-boraadamantane (7<sup>Ph</sup>; C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>37</sub>B<sub>2</sub>OP,

418 g/mol): 3-Methoxy-7-(2-diphenylphosphinoethyl)-3borabicyclo[3.3.1]non-6-ene  $6^{Ph}$  (564 mg, 1.56 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL THF in a Schlenk-flask equipped with a stir bar and a septum. The mixture was cooled to 0 °C and BH<sub>3</sub>·THF (3.12 mL, 3.12 mmol, 2 eq.) was



added dropwise via syringe. The septum is replaced by a reflux condenser and the reaction mixture was boiled under reflux conditions for 3 h. Subsequently, all volatiles were removed *in vacuo* and the residual solid was brought into a glovebox. There, the residue was washed three times with 5 mL of *n*-pentane each and further drying under reduced pressure yielded a colorless powder (530 mg, 81%). Crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were grown by cooling a concentrated solution in THF to -35 °C overnight. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, ds-THF, 298 K):  $\delta$  = 7.80 (m, 4H, -PPh<sub>2</sub>), 7.42 (m, 6H, -PPh<sub>2</sub>), 3.65 (m, 2H, THF), 2.64 (m, 1H), 2.14 (m, 2H), 2.01 (m, 1H), 1.81 (m, 2H, THF), 1.76 (m, 2H), 1.45 (m, 8H), 1.11 (m, 2H), 0.94 (m, 4H), 0.65 (m, 3H, -BH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (151 MHz, ds-THF, 298 K):  $\delta$  = 132.6 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, -PPh<sub>2</sub>), 131.9 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, -PPh<sub>2</sub>), 130.2 (dd, *J* = 45.3, 2.4 Hz, -PPh<sub>2</sub>), 128.2 (d, *J* = 9.3 Hz, -PPh<sub>2</sub>), 128.0 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz), 67.3 (THF), 40.3 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz), 35.5 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz), 33.3 (m), 25.4 (THF), 24.7 (d, *J* = 20.0 Hz), 24.5 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz). <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (243 MHz, ds-THF, 298 K):  $\delta$  = 16.4. <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (193 MHz, ds-THF, 298 K):  $\delta$  = 10.6, -39.4 (-BH<sub>3</sub>). HRESI(+)-MS: calcd. 387.2453 exptl. 387.2446 for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>32</sub>B<sub>2</sub>NP [M+CH<sub>3</sub>CN (without THF)]<sup>+</sup>.

**4-Dimethylaminopyridine adduct of**  $4^{t-Bu}$  ( $8^{t-Bu}$ -DMAP; C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>46</sub>BN<sub>2</sub>P, 428 g/mol): 2-(2-di-*tert*-butylphosphinoethyl)-1boraadamantane  $4^{t-Bu}$  (18 mg, 0.06 mmol) was weighed into a 20 mL scintillation vial equipped with a stir bar and dissolved in 2 mL of toluene. To this solution, 4-dimethylaminopyridine (7 mg, 0.06



mmol, 1 eq.) dissolved in 2 mL of toluene was added. After stirring the mixture for 10 mins, all volatiles were removed *in vacuo* and the oily residue washed with 2 mL of cold pentane. Further drying with reduced pressure resulted in a colorless powder (23 mg, 90%). Crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were grown by slowly evaporating a solution in *n*-pentane overnight. <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (600 MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  = 7.94 (m, 2H, DMAP ), 5.58 (m, 2H, DMAP), 2.89 (m, 2H), 2.68 (m, 1H), 2.43 (m, 1H), 2.33 (m, 2H), 2.27 (m, 1H), 2.21 (m, 2H), 1.99 (m, 2H), 1.94 (s, 6H, -NMe<sub>2</sub>), 1.77 (m, 1H), 1.48 (m, 1H), 1.31 (m, 2H), 1.20 (m, 2H), 1.11 (m, 1H), 1.11 (dd, *J* = 48.1, 10.3 Hz, 18H, -P(*t*-Bu)<sub>2</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  = 153.8 (m, DMAP), 143.4 (DMAP), 105.9 (DMAP), 42.6, 41.6, 37.8 (DMAP), 35.3, 34.6, 33.7, 33.2, 31.3 (d, *J* = 23.4 Hz), 30.9 (dd, *J* = 28.8, 23.8

Hz), 29.7 (t, *J* = 13.6 Hz), 21.5 (d, *J* = 21.8 Hz). <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (243 MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 298 K): δ = 28.8. <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (193 MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 298 K): δ = -4.6. HRESI(+)-MS: calcd. 429.3564 exptl. 429.3565 for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>47</sub>BN<sub>2</sub>P [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

**Reaction of 4**<sup>*t*-Bu</sup> with HNEt<sub>2</sub> (8<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>-HNEt<sub>2</sub>; C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>47</sub>BNP, 379 g/mol): 2-(2-di-*tert*-butylphosphinoethyl)-1-boraadamantane 4<sup>*t*-Bu</sup> (10 mg, 0.032 mmol) was weighed into a 20 mL scintillation vial equipped with a stir bar and dissolved in 500  $\mu$ L of C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>. To this solution,



HNEt<sub>2</sub> (3.31 μL, 0.032 mmol, 1 eq.) was added, giving a pale-yellow solution after 5 mins, that was characterized as a 1:0.37 mixture of **4**<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>:**8**<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>-**HNEt**<sub>2</sub>. Addition of excess HNEt<sub>2</sub> (86 μL, 0.83 mmol, 26 eq.) to **4**<sup>*t*-Bu</sup> (10 mg, 0.032 mmol) provides a 1:5.7 mixture of **4**<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>:**8**<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>-**HNEt**<sub>2</sub>. Upon application of vacuum, exclusive formation of ring-closed **4**<sup>*t*-Bu</sup> is observed, confirming HNEt<sub>2</sub> lability. <sup>1</sup>**H NMR (600 MHz, d**<sub>6</sub>-**C**<sub>6</sub>**D**<sub>6</sub>, **298 K, select signals)**:  $\delta$  = 3.65 (m, 1H, CH(HNEt<sub>2</sub>)), 3.43 (m, 1H, CH(HNEt<sub>2</sub>)), 2.02 (m, 2H, CH(HNEt<sub>2</sub>) by <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY), 1.23 (m, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>(HNEt<sub>2</sub>) by <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY). Free HNEt<sub>2</sub>: ( $\delta$  = 2.47 (4H, q, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 7.3 Hz), 0.99 (6H, t, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 7.3 Hz). <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (243 MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-**C**<sub>6</sub>**D**<sub>6</sub>, **298 K**):  $\delta$  = 41.4 (4<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>), 29.5 (8<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>-HNEt<sub>2</sub>). <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (193 MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>**D**<sub>6</sub>, **298 K**):  $\delta$  = -4.0 (8<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>-HNEt<sub>2</sub>), -9.6 (4<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>). HRESI(+)-MS: calcd. 307.2726 exptl. 307.2720 for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>37</sub>BP [M+H-HNEt<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>.

**Gold complex of 8***t***-Bu-DMAP** (9*t***-Bu**; C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>46</sub>AuBClN<sub>2</sub>P, 660 g/mol):

[AuCl(SMe<sub>2</sub>)] (20 mg, 0.07 mmol) was weighed into a 20 mL scintillation vial equipped with a stir bar and dissolved in 2 mL of *ortho*-difluorobenzene. To this solution, freshly prepared **8**<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>-**DMAP** (29 mg, 0.07 mmol, 1 eq.) dissolved in 2



mL of *ortho*-difluorobenzene was added. After stirring the mixture for 2 h, a dark precipitate has formed and the mixture was filtered through celite, resulting in a clear, colorless solution. All volatiles were removed *in vacuo* and the residue subsequently washed with 2 x 2 mL of cold pentane. Further drying with reduced pressure resulted in a colorless powder (36 mg, 78%).

Crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were grown by cooling down a concentrated solution in Et<sub>2</sub>O to -35 °C overnight. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta = 8.01$  (m, 2H, DMAP), 6.11 (m, 2H, DMAP), 2.85 (m, 2H), 2.43 (m, 1H), 2.37 (m, 1H), 2.28 (s, 6H, DMAP), 2.23 (m, 3H), 2.09 (m, 1H), 1.99 (m, 1H), 1.94 (m, 2H), 1.88 (m, 1H), 1.43 (m, 2H), 1.34 (m, 1H), 1.23 (m, 2H), 1.09 (m, 2H), 0.86 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 9H, -P(*t*-Bu)<sub>2</sub>), 0.76 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 9H, -P(*t*-Bu)<sub>2</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta = 154.4$ , 142.9, 106.9, 42.3, 41.3, 38.3, 34.4 (m), 33.5, 32.9, 31.4 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz), 29.1 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz), 28.7 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz), 20.4 (d, *J* = 26.2 Hz). <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (243 MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta = 75.1$ . <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (193 MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta = -5.4$ . HRESI(+)-MS: calcd. 660.2840 exptl. 660.2828 for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>46</sub>AuBClN<sub>2</sub>P [M]<sup>+</sup>.

**Platinum complex of 8<sup>***t***-Bu</sup>-DMAP** (**10**<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>; C<sub>54</sub>H<sub>98</sub>B<sub>2</sub>N<sub>4</sub>P<sub>2</sub>Pt, 1082 g/mol): [Pt(Me)<sub>2</sub>(COD)] (20 mg, 0.06 mmol) was weighed into a 25 mL Schlenk bomb equipped with a stir bar and dissolved in 2 mL of toluene. To this solution, freshly prepared **8<sup>***t***-Bu</sup>-DMAP** (50 mg, 0.12 mmol, 2 eq.) dissolved in 10 mL of toluene was added. Subsequently, the mixture was



heated to 80 °C for 16 h which led to the precipitation of a colorless solid. The supernatant was decanted and the remaining solid washed with 2 x 2 mL of *n*-pentane. Further drying with reduced pressure resulted in a colorless powder (23 mg, 35%). Crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were grown by vapor diffusion of *n*-hexane onto a concentrated solution in THF over 3 days. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, ds-THF, 298 K):  $\delta$  = 8.02 (m, 4H, DMAP), 6.70 (m, 4H, DMAP), 3.11 (s, 12H, DMAP), 2.19 (m, 4H), 2.07 (m, 3H), 1.81 (m, 4H), 1.62 (m, 6H), 1.41 (d, *J* = 12.4 Hz, 4H), 1.36 – 1.13 (br, 43H, -P(*t*-Bu)<sub>2</sub>), 0.93 (m, 2H), 0.77 (s, 4H), 0.58 (m, 3H), -0.18 (br, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, ds-THF, 298 K):  $\delta$  = 155.0, 143.4, 106.5, 66.3, 42.1, 41.0, 38.3, 34.7, 33.2, 32.8, 31.5, 30.7, 30.2, 24.3, 22.5, 13.4. <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (243 MHz, ds-THF, 298 K):  $\delta$  = 33.8 (<sup>1</sup>*J*(<sup>195</sup>Pt, <sup>31</sup>P) = 3012 Hz). <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (193 MHz, ds-THF, 298 K):  $\delta$  = -4.7. HRESI(+)-MS: calcd. 1066,6865 exptl. 1066.6876 for Cs<sub>3</sub>H<sub>9</sub>sB<sub>2</sub>N<sub>4</sub>P<sub>2</sub>Pt [M-CH<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>.

#### Multinuclear NMR Data:

Figure S1: 2<sup>Ph</sup>, <sup>1</sup>H NMR, d<sub>1</sub>-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 600 MHz, 298 K.

7,68 7,746 7,746 7,747 7,747 7,747 7,747 7,747 7,747 7,447 7,447 7,447 7,447 7,447 7,447 7,447 7,447 7,447 1,425 2,522 2,522 7,222 7,247 7,447 1,425 2,522 2,522 1,425 2,522 2



**Figure S2: 2**<sup>Ph</sup>, <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>1</sub>-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 243 MHz, 298 K.







**Figure S5: 4**<sup>Ph</sup>, <sup>1</sup>H NMR, d<sub>1</sub>-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 600 MHz, 298 K.





Figure S6: 4<sup>Ph</sup>, <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>1</sub>-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 243 MHz, 298 K.



**Figure S7: 4**<sup>Ph</sup>, <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>1</sub>-CDCl<sub>3</sub>. 193 MHz, 298 K.





Figure S9: 2<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>, <sup>1</sup>H NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 600 MHz, 298 K. \* denotes traces of THF.

**Figure S10: 2***t***-B***u*, <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 243 MHz, 298 K.



**Figure S11: 2<sup>***t***-Bu</sup>**, <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>. 193 MHz, 298 K. \* denotes unknown impurity.



Figure S12: 2<sup>t-Bu</sup>, <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 101 MHz, 298 K. \* denotes traces of THF.





Figure S13: 4<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>, <sup>1</sup>H NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 600 MHz, 298 K. \* denotes traces of THF.

**Figure S14:** 4<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>, <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 243 MHz, 298 K.



-41.40

**Figure S15: 4**<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>, <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>. 193 MHz, 298 K. \* denotes unknown impurity.



**Figure S16:** 4<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>, <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 101 MHz, 298 K. \* denotes traces of THF.





Figure S17: 6<sup>Ph</sup>, <sup>1</sup>H NMR, d<sub>1</sub>-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 600 MHz, 298 K. \* denotes residual *n*-pentane.

Figure S18: 6<sup>Ph</sup>, <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>1</sub>-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 243 MHz, 298 K. \* denotes trace HPPh<sub>2</sub>.







**Figure S20:** 6<sup>Ph</sup>, <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>1</sub>-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz, 298 K. \* denotes residual *n*-pentane.

 138.99

 138.89

 138.88

 138.88

 138.88

 138.88

 138.88

 138.88

 138.88

 138.88

 138.88

 138.88

 138.88

 138.88

 133.91

 132.85

 132.85

 132.85

 132.85

 132.85

 132.85

 132.85

 122.85

 122.85

 1228.46

 128.85

 128.85

 128.85

 128.85

 128.85

 128.85

 128.85

 128.85

 128.85

 128.85

 128.85

 128.85

 128.85

 128.85

 128.85

 128.85

 128.85

 128.85

 128.85

 128.85

 128.85

 128.85

 1



Figure S21: 7<sup>Ph</sup>, <sup>1</sup>H NMR, d<sub>8</sub>-THF, 600 MHz, 298 K. \* denotes traces of silicon grease.







Figure S23: 7<sup>Ph</sup>, <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, ds-THF. 193 MHz, 298 K.



**Figure S24: 7**<sup>Ph</sup>, <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>8</sub>-THF, 101 MHz, 298 K.





230 220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 δ[ppm]



# Figure S25: 8<sup>t-Bu</sup>-DMAP, <sup>1</sup>H NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 600 MHz, 298 K.





Figure S28: 8<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>-DMAP, <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 101 MHz, 298 K.







**Figure S30: 8**<sup>*t*-**Bu**</sup>**-HNEt**<sub>2</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 243 MHz, 298 K. Top: equimolar amounts **4**<sup>*t*-**Bu**</sup> **:** HNEt<sub>2</sub>; Middle: 26 eq. HNEt<sub>2</sub>; Bottom: remaining material after all volatiles have been removed.



Figure S31: 8<sup>t-Bu</sup>-HNEt<sub>2</sub>, <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>. 193 MHz, 298 K.



Figure S32: 9<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>, <sup>1</sup>H NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 600 MHz, 298 K.





**Figure S33:** 9<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>, <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 243 MHz, 298 K. <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>. 193 MHz, 298 K. \* denotes unknown impurity.









 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H
 H</

**Figure S37: 10**<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>, <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>8</sub>-THF. 193 MHz, 298 K.



**Figure S39: 10**<sup>*t*-Bu</sup>, <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>8</sub>-THF, 101 MHz, 298 K.



# **Additional reactions:**

# i. Reaction of 4<sup>*t*-Bu</sup> with CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>.

In a typical experiment, 4<sup>*t*-Bu</sup> (30 mg, 0.098 mmol) was dissolved in 20 mL *n*-pentane and placed in a Schlenk bomb. The solution was degassed with three freeze-pump-thaw cycles and subsequently an atmosphere of CO<sub>2</sub> or H<sub>2</sub> was added. After stirring overnight, an aliquot was analyzed by <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectroscopy indicating no reaction (**Figures S40** and **S41**).



Figure S40: Reaction of 4<sup>t-Bu</sup> with CO<sub>2</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 243 MHz, 298 K.



**Figure S41: Reaction of 4<sup>***t***-Bu</sup> with H<sub>2</sub>, <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 243 MHz, 298 K.** 

## ii. Reaction of 4<sup>*t*-Bu</sup> with Lewis Bases.

Additional Lewis bases of different donor strength were added to 4<sup>*t*-Bu</sup> to investigate potential for P-B ring-opening.

## **Reaction:**

1)  $4^{t-Bu}$  + pyridine  $\rightarrow$  ring opening

10 mg of  $4^{t-Bu}$  was weighed into a 20 mL scintillation vial and dissolved in 500  $\mu$ L C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>. 1 equivalent of pyridine was added. Ring-opening was concluded by <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectroscopy (**Figure S42**).

2)  $4^{t-Bu} + DMSO \rightarrow no reaction$ 

10 mg of  $4^{t-Bu}$  was weighed into a 20 mL scintillation vial and dissolved in 500  $\mu$ L C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>. 1 equivalent of DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> was added. No reaction was observed by <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectroscopy (**Figure S43**).

3)  $4^{t-Bu} + DMF \rightarrow no reaction$ 

10 mg of **4**<sup>*t*-Bu</sup> was weighed into a 20 mL scintillation vial and dissolved in 500 μL C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>. 1 equivalent of DMF was added. No reaction was observed by <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectroscopy (**Figure S44**).

4)  $4^{t-Bu} + NEt_3 \rightarrow no reaction$ 

10 mg of **4**<sup>*t*-Bu</sup> was weighed into a 20 mL scintillation vial and dissolved in 500 μL C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>. 1 equivalent of NEt<sub>3</sub>was added. No reaction was observed by <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectroscopy (**Figure S45**).



**Figure S42: Reaction of 4<sup>t-Bu</sup> with pyridine**, left: <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 243 MHz, 298 K; right: <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 193 MHz, 298 K.



**Figure S43: Reaction of 4<sup>***t***-Bu</sup> with DMSO**, left: <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 243 MHz, 298 K; right: <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 193 MHz, 298 K.



**Figure S44: Reaction of 4<sup>***t***-Bu</sup> with DMF**, left: <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 243 MHz, 298 K; right: <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 193 MHz, 298 K.



NMR, d6-C6D6, 193 MHz, 298 K.

#### iii. Reaction of 4<sup>*t*-Bu</sup> with Lewis Acids or a Hydride Source.

Ring-opening reactions were attempted by treating  $4^{t-Bu}$  with acids:  $[H(Et_2O)_2]B(C_6F_5)_4$ , [AuCl(SMe<sub>2</sub>)], or a hydride source, Li[HBEt<sub>3</sub>].

#### **Reaction:**

1)  $4^{t-Bu} + [H(Et_2O)_2]B(C_6F_5)_4 \rightarrow ring-opening$ 

10 mg of  $4^{t-Bu}$  was weighed into a 20 mL scintillation vial and dissolved in 500 µL fluorobenzene. 1 equivalent of  $[H(Et_2O)_2]B(C_6F_5)_4$  was added. Volatiles were removed *in vacuo* and the sample was redissolved in THF-d<sub>8</sub>. A main phosphonium species along with several side products was observed (**Figures S46** and **S47**).

2)  $4^{t-Bu} + [AuCl(SMe_2)] \rightarrow multiple products$ 

21 mg of **4**<sup>*t*-Bu</sup> was weighed into a 20 mL scintillation vial and dissolved in 2 mL of *ortho*difluorobenzene (*o*-DFB). 1 equivalent of [AuCl(SMe<sub>2</sub>)] dissolved in 2 mL of *o*-DFB was added. The mixture was stirred for 2 h and filtered through celite. All volatiles were removed *in-vacuo* and the residual solid dissolved in C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> (**Figure S48**).

3)  $4^{t-Bu} + \text{LiHBEt}_3 \rightarrow \text{no reaction}$ 

**4**<sup>*t*-Bu</sup> (10 mg, X mmol) was weighed into a 20 mL scintillation vial and dissolved in 500 μL THF. 1 equivalent of LiBHEt<sub>3</sub> was added. No reaction was observed by <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectroscopy (**Figure S49**).



**Figure S46: Reaction of 4**<sup>*t*-Bu</sup> **with [H(Et<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>][B(C**<sub>6</sub>**F**<sub>5</sub>)<sub>4</sub>], left: <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>8</sub>-THF, 243 MHz, 298 K; middle: <sup>31</sup>P NMR, d<sub>8</sub>-THF, 162 MHz, 298 K δ = 53 (d, J = 451 Hz, P-H); right: <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>8</sub>-THF, 193 MHz, 298 K.



**Figure S47: Reaction of 4**<sup>*t*-Bu</sup> **with [H(Et<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>][B(C**<sub>6</sub>**F**<sub>5</sub>)<sub>4</sub>], top: <sup>1</sup>H{<sup>31</sup>P} NMR, d<sub>8</sub>-THF, 243 MHz, 298 K; bottom: <sup>1</sup>H NMR, d<sub>8</sub>-THF, 193 MHz, 298 K. *δ* = 5.54 (d, J = 451 Hz, P-H)



Figure S48: Reaction of 4<sup>t-Bu</sup> with [AuCl(SMe<sub>2</sub>)], <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 243 MHz, 298 K.



**Figure S49: Reaction of** 4<sup>*t*-Bu</sup> **with Li[HBEt**<sub>3</sub>], left: <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, THF, 243 MHz, 298 K; right: <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, THF, 193 MHz, 298 K.

#### iv. Attempts to deprotect 7<sup>Ph</sup>

Reactions carried out to deprotect  $7^{Ph}$  (either at phosphorus or boron) included treatment with DABCO, B(C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub> (BCF), [H(Et<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>][B(C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>4</sub>], NaOtBu, and Verkade Base. These reactions were not clean and in the case of base addition, often yielded base-coordinated boraadamantanes.

## **Reaction:**

 $7^{Ph}$  + DABCO  $\rightarrow$ 

20 mg of  $7^{Ph}$  was weighed into a 20 mL scintillation vial and dissolved in 2 mL of toluene. 1 equivalent of DABCO was added. After stirring for 2 h, all volatiles were removed *in-vacuo*. Afterwards, the residual material was dissolved in C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> (**Figure S50**).

 $7^{Ph} + BCF \rightarrow$ 

10 mg of  $7^{Ph}$  was weighed into a 20 mL scintillation vial and dissolved in 500  $\mu$ L of CDCl<sub>3</sub>. 1 equivalent of BCF was added (**Figure S51**).

 $7^{\text{Ph}} + [H(\text{Et}_2\text{O})_2][B(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_4] \rightarrow$ 

20 mg of 7<sup>Ph</sup> was weighed into a 20 mL scintillation vial and dissolved in 4 mL of Et<sub>2</sub>O. 1 equivalent of [H(Et<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>][B(C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]was added. The mixture was stirred for 2 h, filtered, and evaporated. The remaining material was dissolved in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (**Figure S52**).

 $7^{Ph}$  + NaOtBu  $\rightarrow$ 

20 mg of 7<sup>Ph</sup> was weighed into a 20 mL scintillation vial and dissolved in 500 μL THF. 1 equivalent of NaO*t*Bu was added (**Figure S53**).

 $7^{Ph}$  + Verkade's Base  $\rightarrow$ 

20 mg of 7<sup>Ph</sup> was weighed into a 20 mL scintillation vial and dissolved in 500 µL C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>. 1 equivalent of Verkade's Base was added (**Figure S54**).







**Figure S51: Reaction of 7**<sup>Ph</sup> **with BCF**, left: <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>1</sub>-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 243 MHz, 298 K; right: <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>1</sub>-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 193 MHz, 298 K.



**Figure S52: Reaction of 7**<sup>Ph</sup> **with [H(Et<sub>2</sub>O)**<sub>2</sub>]**B(C**<sub>6</sub>**F**<sub>5</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, left: <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>1</sub>-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 243 MHz, 298 K; right: <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>1</sub>-CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 193 MHz, 298 K.



**Figure S53: Reaction of 7<sup>Ph</sup> with NaOtBu**, left: <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, THF, 243 MHz, 298 K; right: <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, THF, 193 MHz, 298 K.



**Figure S54: Reaction of 7<sup>Ph</sup> with Verkade's base**, left: <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 243 MHz, 298 K; right: <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, d<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 193 MHz, 298 K.



**Figure S55** Proposed hydroboration-isomerization mechanism for 1-boraadamantane formation.<sup>[2]</sup>

#### X-Ray Crystallography:

Crystal data were collected with Mo*K*α radiation on a Bruker Kappa Axis Apex2 diffractometer at Western University and on a Bruker VENTURE Dual Source diffractometer at McMaster University. All crystals were mounted on a MiTeGen loop with a small amount of Paratone N oil. Frame integration, scaling and absorption correction were performed using SAINT and SADABS integrated in Apex4.<sup>[3]</sup> The structures were solved with the ShelXT<sup>[4]</sup> structure solution program using intrinsic phasing and refined with the ShelXL<sup>[5]</sup> refinement package using least squares on weighted F2 values for all reflections using OLEX2.<sup>[6]</sup> CCDC **2355758**, **2355760**, **2355761**, **2355762**, **2355763**, **2355764**, and **2355765** contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data are provided free of charge by The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre.

	2 <sup>Ph</sup>	4 <sup>Ph</sup>	2 <sup>t-Bu</sup>	4 <sup><i>t</i>-Bu</sup>	7 <sup>Ph</sup>
CCDC number	2355758	2355760	2355759	2355761	2355762
empirical formula	C24H30BP	C23H28BP	C20H38BP	C19H36BP	C26H37B2OP
formula weight	360.26	346.23	320.28	306.26	418.14
temperature [K]	100.0	100.00	110.15	100.00	100.00
crystal system	triclinic	orthorhombic	monoclinic	orthorhombic	triclinic
space group	<i>P</i> -1	P212121	P21/c	Pbca	<i>P</i> -1
a [Å]	9.6433(4)	7.1446(8)	13.620(8)	15.2898(7)	9.1755(6)
b [Å]	10.8253(5)	12.0021(13)	10.375(6)	12.3183(5)	11.3395(7)
c [Å]	10.9474(5)	21.825(2)	13.264(7)	19.1817(8)	12.5538(8)
α [°]	75.970(2)	90	90	90	78.769(2)
β [°]	65.639(2)	90	93.932(13)	90	77.719(3)
γ [°]	70.947(2)	90	90	90	67.258(2)
volume [Å <sup>3</sup> ]	976.29(8)	1871.5(4)	1869.9(19)	3612.8(3)	1167.84(13)
Ζ	2	4	4	8	2
$ ho_{ m calcd} \left[  { m g} \cdot { m cm}^{-3}  ight]$	1.225	1.229	1.138	1.126	1.189
$\mu$ [mm <sup>-1</sup> ]	0.146	0.149	0.143	0.146	0.133
F(000)	388.0	744.0	712.0	1360.0	452.0
dimension [mm]	0.323 × 0.209 × 0.172	0.475 × 0.122 × 0.093	0.34 × 0.322 × 0.075	0.394 × 0.305 × 0.22	0.404 × 0.24 × 0.148
radiation	ΜοΚα (λ = 0.71073)	ΜοΚα (λ = 0.71073)			
2O range for data collection/°	5.06 to 56.684	3.872 to 52.818	6.662 to 72.786	4.748 to 52.776	3.926 to 56.654
index ranges	-12 ≤ h ≤ 12, -14 ≤ k ≤ 14, -14 ≤ l ≤ 14	-5 ≤ h ≤ 8, -13 ≤ k ≤ 15, - 27 ≤ l ≤ 27	-22 ≤ h ≤ 22, -17 ≤ k ≤ 17, -22 ≤ l ≤ 22	-19 ≤ h ≤ 18, -11 ≤ k ≤ 15, - 23 ≤ l ≤ 23	-12 ≤ h ≤ 12, -15 ≤ k ≤ 15, -16 ≤ l ≤ 16
reflections collected	39925	13486	117764	37409	44609
independent reflections	4846 [ <i>R</i> int = 0.0351, <i>R</i> sigma = 0.0198]	3708 [ <i>R</i> int = 0.0512, <i>R</i> sigma = 0.0608]	9085 [ <i>R</i> int = 0.0689, <i>R</i> sigma = 0.0332]	3683 [ <i>R</i> int = 0.0436, <i>R</i> sigma = 0.0223]	5809 [ <i>R</i> int = 0.0389, <i>R</i> sigma = 0.0232]
data/restraints/parameters	4846/0/235	3708/156/308	9085/0/351	3683/0/196	5809/0/283
goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.046	1.053	1.039	1.034	1.041
final R indexes $[l > 2\sigma(l)]$	$R_1 = 0.0324, wR_2 = 0.0857$	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0440, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.0855	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0364, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.0877	<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.0462, w <i>R</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.1178	<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.0376, w <i>R</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.0975
final R indexes [all data]	R1 = 0.0345, wR2 = 0.0875	R1 = 0.0637, wR2 = 0.0932	R1 = 0.0558, wR2 = 0.0973	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0485, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1203	<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.0428, w <i>R</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.1013
largest diff. peak/hole [e Å <sup>-3</sup> ]	0.35/-0.25	0.21/-0.33	0.42/-0.24	0.56/-0.39	0.41/-0.20

# Table S1. Crystallographic data

	8 <sup>t-Bu</sup> -DMAP	9 <sup>t-Bu</sup>	10 <sup>t-Bu</sup>
CCDC number	2355763	2355764	2355765
empirical formula	C26H46BN2P	C29H53.5AuBCIN2O0.75P	C56H102B2N4O0.5P2Pt
formula weight	428.43	716.43	1118.06
temperature [K]	110.00	110	110
crystal system	triclinic	triclinic	triclinic
space group	<i>P</i> -1	<i>P</i> -1	<i>P</i> -1
a [Å]	11.1805(5)	7.1927(4)	10.6781(5)
b [Å]	11.2066(5)	11.9175(6)	10.9251(5)
c [Å]	11.5832(5)	19.1310(10)	12.9656(6)
α [°]	69.782(2)	78.6195(18)	101.270(3)
β [°]	80.362(2)	86.0612(18)	98.789(3)
γ [°]	74.668(2)	86.5573(18)	90.250(3)
volume [Å <sup>3</sup> ]	1308.78(10)	1602.04(15)	1465.06(12)
Ζ	2	2	1
$ ho_{calcd} [g \cdot cm^{-3}]$	1.087	1.485	1.267
μ[mm <sup>-1</sup> ]	0.120	4.747	2.487
F(000)	472.0	727.0	588.0
dimension [mm]	0.24 × 0.13 × 0.102	0.387 × 0.122 × 0.072	0.187 × 0.117 × 0.117
radiation	ΜοΚα (λ = 0.71073)	ΜοΚα (λ = 0.71073)	ΜοΚα (λ = 0.71073)
2O range for data collection/°	3.76 to 52.812	2.176 to 61.286	6.158 to 51.658
index ranges	-13 ≤ h ≤ 13, -14 ≤ k ≤ 14, -14 ≤ l ≤ 14	-10 ≤ h ≤ 10, -17 ≤ k ≤ 17, -27 ≤ l ≤ 27	-13 ≤ h ≤ 13, -13 ≤ k ≤ 13, -15 ≤ l ≤ 15
reflections collected	88793	100956	91063
independent reflections	5354 [ <i>R</i> int = 0.0608, <i>R</i> sigma = 0.0212]	9843 [ <i>R</i> int = 0.0685, <i>R</i> sigma = 0.0344]	5569 [ $R_{int} = 0.0900$ , $R_{sigma} = 0.0338$ ]
data/restraints/parameters	5354/0/279	9843/67/391	5569/40/340
goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.047	1.040	1.053
final R indexes $[l > 2\sigma(l)]$	R1 = 0.0389, wR2 = 0.0985	R1 = 0.0314, wR2 = 0.0630	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0371, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.0924
final R indexes [all data]	R1 = 0.0483, wR2 = 0.1065	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0406, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.0660	R1 = 0.0375, wR2 = 0.0927
largest diff. peak/hole [e Å-3]	0.35/-0.30	2.31/-2.12	1.35/-2.29

 $R1 = \Sigma ||F_o| - |F_c|| / \Sigma |F_o|; wR2 = [\Sigma(w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2) / \Sigma w(F_o^2)^2]^{1/2}$ 

## **Computational Details:**

All calculations were performed using version 5.0.3 of the ORCA computational package<sup>[7]</sup> and were run on the Graham cluster maintained by Compute Canada. All geometry optimizations and frequency calculations were performed at the B3LYP-D3(BJ)/def2-TZVPP level of theory.<sup>[8]</sup> The RIJCOSX approximation was used to enhance computational efficiency, along with the auxiliary basis *def2/J*.<sup>[9]</sup> Convergence criteria were met using the *defgrid2* integral grid size. Frequency calculations (*Freq*) were performed to confirm that each optimized geometry was a true minimum indicated by the absence of imaginary frequencies. Single-point calculations were performed at the B3LYP-D3(BJ)/def2-TZVPP level of theory on optimized geometries. For selected compounds, the implicit solvation model CPCM (as integrated in ORCA) was applied with a dielectric constant of  $\varepsilon = 4.9$  (corresponds to CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>).<sup>[10]</sup>

Compound	Total thermal energy	Total Enthalpy	Gibbs Free Energy at
	in <i>E</i> <sub>h</sub>	in <i>E</i> <sub>h</sub>	298.15 K in <i>E</i> <sub>h</sub>
2 <sup>Ph</sup> open	-1298.132375	-1298.131431	-1298.20445
4 <sup>Ph</sup> open	-1258.858898	-1258.857954	-1258.927612
7 <sup>Ph</sup> open	-1219.591419	-1219.590475	-1219.656709
2 <sup>Ph</sup> closed	-1298.163381	-1298.162437	-1298.231912
4 <sup>Ph</sup> closed	-1258.887342	-1258.886398	-1258.953857
7 <sup>Ph</sup> closed	-1219.583492	-1219.582548	-1219.648487
2 <sup>t-Bu</sup> open	-1150.474777	-1150.473832	-1150.548461
4 <sup>t-Bu</sup> open	-1111.200382	-1111.199438	-1111.270964
7 <sup>t-Bu</sup> open	-1071.926218	-1071.925274	-1071.993516
2 <sup>t-Bu</sup> closed	-1150.510798	-1150.509854	-1150.579224
4 <sup>t-Bu</sup> closed	-1111.230386	-1111.229442	-1111.297579
7 <sup>t-Bu</sup> closed	-1071.922716	-1071.921772	-1071.988395
BH₃-THF	-258.8931223	-258.8921781	-258.9302425
7 <sup>Ph</sup> + BH <sub>3</sub> -THF	-1478.536015	-1478.535071	-1478.616828
7 <sup>t-Bu</sup> + BH <sub>3</sub> -THF	-1330.8777	-1330.876756	-1330.958927
CO <sub>2</sub>	-188.57469	-188.5737459	-188.5979947
4 <sup>Ph</sup> + CO <sub>2</sub>	-1447.438927	-1447.437982	-1447.511893
7 <sup>Ph</sup> + CO <sub>2</sub>	-1408.175597	-1408.174653	-1408.245796
4 <sup><i>t</i>-Bu</sup> + CO <sub>2</sub>	-1299.788251	-1299.787306	-1299.862082
7 <sup><i>t</i>-Bu</sup> + CO <sub>2</sub>	-1260.528063	-1260.527119	-1260.598778
H <sub>2</sub>	-1.1611087	-1.16016449	-1.17495694
4 <sup>Ph</sup> + H <sub>2</sub>	-1260.004628	-1260.003684	-1260.072158
7 <sup>Ph</sup> + H <sub>2</sub>	-1220.734008	-1220.733064	-1220.799286
4 <sup><i>t</i>-Bu</sup> + H <sub>2</sub>	-1112.355965	-1112.35502	-1112.424591
7 <sup><i>t</i>-Bu</sup> + H <sub>2</sub>	-1073.080941	-1073.079997	-1073.147424

Table S2. Energetic data calculated at B3LYP-D3(BJ)/def2-TZVPP level of theory

BAd	-376.5394094	-376.5384651	-376.577854	
PPh <sub>2</sub> Me	-844.2242627	-844.2233185	-844.2754205	
PPh <sub>2</sub> Et	-883.4975519	-883.4966076	-883.5521933	
PPh <sub>2</sub> Pr	-922.7725947	-922.7716505	-922.8296257	
Pt-Bu <sub>2</sub> Me	-696.5688826	-696.5679384	-696.6206629	
P <i>t</i> -Bu₂Et	-735.8384761	-735.8375319	-735.8930923	
P <i>t</i> -Bu₂Pr	-775.1130585	-775.1121143	-775.1704333	
BAd + PPh <sub>2</sub> Me	-1220.802699	-1220.801755	-1220.87029	
BAd + PPh <sub>2</sub> Et	-1260.076332	-1260.075388	-1260.146689	
BAd + PPh <sub>2</sub> Pr	-1299.350284	-1299.349339	-1299.42256	
BAd + Pt-Bu <sub>2</sub> Me	-1073.144962	-1073.144017	-1073.21247	
BAd + Pt-Bu <sub>2</sub> Et	-1112.413016	-1112.412072	-1112.483126	
BAd + Pt-Bu <sub>2</sub> Pr	-1151.68855	-1151.687606	-1151.761541	

**Table S3.** Energetic data for solvated molecules calculated at B3LYP-D3(BJ)/def2-TZVPP level of theory with implicit solvation model (CPCM,  $\varepsilon$  = 4.9).

Compound	Total thermal energy	Total Enthalpy	Gibbs Free Energy at
	in <i>E</i> <sub>h</sub>	in <i>E</i> <sub>h</sub>	298.15 K in <i>E</i> <sub>h</sub>
7 <sup>Ph</sup> open	-1219.599689	-1219.598745	-1219.665123
4 <sup>Ph</sup> closed	-1258.896981	-1258.896037	-1258.963582
7 <sup>t-Bu</sup> open	-1071.932428	-1071.931484	-1071.999741
4 <sup>t-Bu</sup> closed	-1111.23753	-1111.236586	-1111.304907
CO <sub>2</sub>	-188.57746	-188.5765138	-188.6007714
4 <sup>Ph</sup> + CO <sub>2</sub>	-1447.462472	-1447.461527	-1447.534717
7 <sup>Ph</sup> + CO <sub>2</sub>	-1408.196604	-1408.19566	-1408.266961
4 <sup><i>t</i>-Bu</sup> + CO <sub>2</sub>	-1299.808968	-1299.808024	-1299.882916
7 <sup><i>t</i>-Bu</sup> + CO <sub>2</sub>	-1260.54783	-1260.546886	-1260.61858
H <sub>2</sub>	-1.16143601	-1.1604918	-1.17528635
4 <sup>Ph</sup> + H <sub>2</sub>	-1260.017714	-1260.01677	-1260.087252
7 <sup>Ph</sup> + H <sub>2</sub>	-1220.747824	-1220.746879	-1220.814944
4 <sup><i>t</i>-Bu</sup> + H <sub>2</sub>	-1112.370605	-1112.369661	-1112.441758
7 <sup><i>t</i>-Bu</sup> + H <sub>2</sub>	-1073.099418	-1073.098474	-1073.16693



**Figure S56** Comparison of Gibbs free energies  $\Delta G^{\circ}$  in the gas-phase for ring closure reactions of C1, C2 and C3 linked 2-alkylphosphino-1-boraadamantanes. Energies are given in kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>.



**Figure S57** Comparison of Gibbs free energies in the gas-phase  $\Delta G^{\circ}$  and with implicit solvent model (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\Delta_{solv}G^{\circ}$  for reactions of 7<sup>Ph</sup> and 7<sup>t-Bu</sup> with BH<sub>3</sub>-THF, CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>. Energies are given in kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>.



**Figure S58** Comparison of Gibbs free energies in the gas-phase  $\Delta G^{\circ}$  and with implicit solvent model (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\Delta_{solv}G^{\circ}$  for reactions of  $4^{Ph}$  and  $4^{t-Bu}$  with CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>. Energies are given in kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>.



**Figure S59** Comparison of Gibbs free energies  $\Delta G^{\circ}$  in the gas-phase for adduct formation of 1-boraadamantane and different-alkylphosphines. Energies are given in kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>.

## Determination of the percent buried volume of 8<sup>t-Bu</sup>

The values were calculated from the molecular structures of gold complex **9**<sup>*t*-Bu</sup> by using *SambVca* **2.1**.<sup>[11]</sup> Hereby, the Au-P distances was set to 2.28 Å, Bondi radii scaled by 1.17, sphere radius set to 3.5, hydrogen atoms were omitted.

Phosphine% $V_{bur}$ PPh3 $30.0^{[12]}$ PCy3 $33.2^{[12]}$ P(t-Bu)3 $38.0^{[12]}$  $8^{t-Bu}$ -DMAP38.7P(o-tol)3 $39.4^{[13]}$ PMes3 $45.0^{[13]}$ 

 Table S4. Calculated percent buried volumes %Vbur for selected phosphines.

 Phosphine

 9/12



Figure S60 Steric map for the depiction of %V<sub>bur</sub> for ligand 8<sup>t-Bu</sup>.

#### **References:**

- [1] a) Y.N. Bubnov, T. V. Potapova, M. E. Gursky, J. Organomet. Chem. 1991, 412, 311; b) Y. Huang, Le Zhang, W. Wei, F. Alam, T. Jiang, *Phosphorus Sulfur* 2018, 193, 363; c) J. Meiners, A. Friedrich, E. Herdtweck, S. Schneider, *Organometallics* 2009, 28, 6331.
- [2] M. E. Gurskii, S. Y. Erdyakov, T. V. Potapova, Y. N. Bubnov, Russ Chem Bull 2008, 57, 802.
- [3] Bruker, Apex4, SAINT, and SADABS., Bruker AXS Inc, Madison, Wisconsin, USA., 2021.
- [4] G. M. Sheldrick, Acta Crystallogr. A 2015, 71, 3.
- [5] G. M. Sheldrick, Acta Crystallogr. C 2015, 71, 3.
- [6] O. V. Dolomanov, L. J. Bourhis, R. J. Gildea, J. A. K. Howard, H. Puschmann, J. Appl. Crystallogr. 2009, 42, 339.
- [7] F. Neese, WIREs Comput Mol Sci 2022, 12, 12753.
- [8] a) S. Grimme, J. Antony, S. Ehrlich, H. Krieg, J. Chem. Phys. 2010, 132, 154104; b) S. Grimme,
   S. Ehrlich, L. Goerigk, J. Comput. Chem. 2011, 32, 1456; c) F. Weigend, R. Ahlrichs, Phys.
   Chem. Chem. Phys. 2005, 7, 3297.
- [9] F. Weigend, Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. 2006, 8, 1057.
- [10] V. Barone, M. Cossi, J. Phys. Chem. A 1998, 102, 1995.
- [11] L. Falivene, Z. Cao, A. Petta, L. Serra, A. Poater, R. Oliva, V. Scarano, L. Cavallo, *Nat. Chem.* 2019, 11, 872.
- [12] J. A. Werra, K. Wurst, L. B. Wilm, P. Löwe, M. B. Röthel, F. Dielmann, Organometallics 2023, 42, 597.
- [13] H. Clavier, S. P. Nolan, Chem. Commun. 2010, 46, 841.