## Enhanced mechanical properties of acrylate and 5-vinyl-2-

norbornene based ethylene terpolymers: rational design and

### synthesis using remotely modulated phosphine-sulfonate

## palladium complexes

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### Supporting Information

## Experimental

#### General

Nitrogen was purified by passage through columns containing activated molecular sieves. Toluene, THF,  $CH_2Cl_2$  and diethyl ether were purified by a MBraun SPS system. Deuterated solvents used for NMR spectroscopy were dried and distilled prior to use. Butyl acrylate (BA) was dried over calcium hydride (CaH2), distilled under reduced pressure, and stored at −25°C. Other chemicals and reagents were obtained from commercial sources and used without further purification.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL JNM-ECZR 500 MHz spectrometer at ambient temperature unless otherwise indicated. The chemical shifts for protons and carbons were referenced to the residual proton and carbon resonance of chloroform-d ( $\delta$ : 7.26 and 77.16, respectively). <sup>1</sup>H NMR analyses of polymers were performed using 5 wt% solutions of the polymers in an NMR tube in  $CDCl<sub>2</sub>CDCl<sub>2</sub>$  at 120℃ using a 30° pulse of 50.0 μs, a spectral width of 10 kHz, a relaxation time of 5.0 s, an acquisition time of 3.2 s. Quantitative  $^{13}$ C NMR analyses of polymers were performed using 10 wt% solutions of the polymers in an NMR tube in1,2,4 trichlorobenzene at 125℃ using a 30° pulse of 16.8 μs, a spectral width of 20 kHz, a relaxation time of 2.0 s, an acquisition time of 0.65 s, and inverse gated decoupling. Samples were preheated for at least 30 min before acquiring data. The molecular weights and molecular weight distributions of the polymers were determined using gel permeation chromatography (GPC) with a PL-220 equipped with two Agilent PLgel Olexis columns at 150 ℃ using 1,2,4-trichlorobenzene as a solvent. The calibration curve was constructed from polystyrene standard and was corrected for linear polyethylene by universal calibration using the Mark–Houwink parameters of Rudin:

 $K = 5.90 \times 10^{-2}$  cm<sup>3</sup>/g and  $\alpha = 0.69$  for polyethylene. Melting points of polymers were measured on a TA Instruments DSC Q100 at heating and cooling rates of 10 °C/min with a temperature range of 30-160°C.

A standard test method, ASTM 638, was followed to measure the tensile properties of the polyethylene samples. Polymers were melt-pressed at 30 to 35℃ above their melting point to obtain the dog-bone-shaped tensile-test specimens. The test specimens showed 25-mm gauge length, 2-mm width, and thickness of 0.4 mm. Stress/strain experiments were performed at 10 m/min using a Universal Test Machine at room temperature.

The water contact angles on polymer films were measured using the dynamic sessile drop method. Samples for water contact angle measurements were prepared via evaporation of 3 to 5 % (w/w) solutions in toluene onto glass slides under ambient conditions. The solvent was evaporated on top of a glass slide for 10 minutes, and a second layer of the polymer solution was then applied to increase thickness.

Preparation of sulfur vulcanized crosslinked polymer. A total amount of 3.0 g polymer sample was dissolved in 100 mL of toluene at 80 ℃ under nitrogen. After 30 min of reaction, add sulfuric acid (ie 150 mg ZnO, 30 mg stearic acid, 15 mg accelerator MBT, accelerator 20 mg TMTD, 30 mg sulfur), the solvent was drained and dried under vacuum at 45 °C for 24 hours. The rubber mixture was thermoformed using a hydraulic press at 10 MPa, 160 °C, and cured for 20 minutes to produce a 1 mm thick sheet for subsequent use.

### Synthesis of Pd and Ni complexes (TMEDA)PdMe<sup>2</sup> [1-3]



PdCl<sub>2</sub> (10 g, 56.39 mmol) was added to CH<sub>3</sub>CN (300 mL) and refluxed for 2 h. After PdCl<sub>2</sub> was dissolved completely, the mixture was cooled to room tempterature. TMEDA (9.9 g, 93.22 mmol) was aded and the mixture was stirred overnight. The yellow slurry was filtrated and washed by  $Et<sub>2</sub>O$  (60 mL), then dried in vacuo to obtain  $(TMEDA)PdCl<sub>2</sub> 15.88 g.$ 

(TMEDA)PdCl<sub>2</sub> (4.62 g, 15.66 mmol) was added to Et<sub>2</sub>O (49.3 mL), stirred for 10 min, then MeLi (19.6 mL, 1.6 M in Et<sub>2</sub>O, 31.36 mmol) was added dropwise at – 10 °C. The mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 0.5 h and at room temperature for 1 h, then cold water (20 mL) was added to the mixture to form a transparent organic layer and a black aqueous layer. The aqueous layer was extracted with  $Et_2O (20 \text{ mL} \times 2)$ . All the organic phase was combined and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. The solvent was removed under vacumm to obtain the white solid (2.3 g, yield 52.8%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  2.51 (s, 4H), 2.45 (s, 12H), -0.16 (s, 6H).

 $ortho$ -(Bis(2-methoxyphenyl)phosphino)toluenesulfonic acid (L3)<sup>[4]</sup>



A flask was charged with p-toluenesulfonic acid (4.20 g, 24.4 mmol, dehydrated) and THF (50 mL), cooled to 0 °C, stirred for 10 min, and nBuLi (19.6 mL of a 2.5 M solution in hexane, 48.8 mmol) was added dropwise. The mixture was warmed to 25℃ and stirred for 2 h. A second flask was charged with THF  $(25 \text{ mL})$  and PCl<sub>3</sub>  $(3.35 \text{ g})$ , 24.4 mmol), cooled to –30℃, and the solution of dilithiated p-toluenesulfonic acid was added and then stirred at room temperature for 1 h. A third flask was charged with THF (50 mL) and anisole (5.28 g, 48.8 mmol), cooled to  $0^{\circ}$ C, and nBuLi (19.6 mL of a 2.5 M solution in hexane, 48.8 mmol) was added dropwise. The mixture was warmed to 25 °C and stirred for 4h, then transferred to the second flask at  $0^{\circ}$ C. The mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred over night. The volatiles were removed under vacuum and the residue was taken up in water (50 mL). The aqueous mixture was acidified with dilute HCl to pH~2. The mixture was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3 × 25 mL) and the extracts were combined, dried over Na2SO4, and evaporated under vacuum to yield a solid. The solid was recrystallized with 8 mL DCM and 5 mL Et<sub>2</sub>O at –25 °C, filtrated and dried to afford a white powder  $L3.0.5 \text{ CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . Yield 12.6 g, 24.8%.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  8.25 (dd, J = 8.0, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (td, J = 8.2, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (dt, J = 8.0, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.12 – 6.97 (m, 6H), 6.87 (dd, J = 15.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 5.29 (s, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), 3.78 (s, 6H), 2.29 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CHLOROFORM-D) δ 161.20, 149.67, 140.48, 139.87, 137.55, 135.20, 134.51, 134.45, 129.34, 129.26, 123.15, 121.19, 113.01, 112.22, 111.92, 107.64, 105.85, 55.57, 53.55, 18.72. <sup>31</sup>P NMR (202 MHz, CHLOROFORM-D) δ -10.98. HRMS (AP-MALDI): m/z calcd for C21H21O5PS: 417.0920 [M+H]; found: 417.0918.

#### (P(2-OMe-Ph)2(2-SO3-5-Me-Ph))Pd(Me)(Py) (Pd3)



A flask was charged with  $L3.0.5$  CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (458.9 mg, 1.0 mmol), (TMEDA)PdMe2 (252.7 mg, 1.0 mmol) and THF (10 mL). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h, then pyridine (395.5 mg, 5 mmol) was added and stirred for 1 h. Et2O (30 mL) was added to precipitate the solid. The solid was filtrated, washed with Et<sub>2</sub>O and dried under vacuum to afford a white powder. Yield:  $0.35$  g,  $56.8\%$ .

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  8.79 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 8.09 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.85 – 7.77 (m, 1H), 7.62 (s, 2H), 7.53 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.44 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.24 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.08 – 6.98 (m, 3H), 6.92 (dd,  $J = 8.3$ , 4.7 Hz, 2H), 3.64  $(s, 6H)$ , 2.24  $(s, 3H)$ , 0.24  $(d, J = 2.8 \text{ Hz}, 3H)$ . <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CHLOROFORM-D) δ 159.94, 150.58, 150.44, 145.96, 145.40, 139.60, 138.29, 138.21, 137.66, 135.73, 134.82, 133.27, 133.17, 131.43, 130.57, 128.06, 127.55, 127.16, 125.59, 125.04, 124.93, 120.86, 120.76, 120.66, 120.57, 116.72, 116.27, 111.56, 111.39, 55.46, 55.40, 21.37, 0.45.

#### $2'-b$ romo-2,6-dimethoxybiphenyl $[5]$



A flask was charged with 1,3-Dimethoxy benzene (70 g, 0.5 mol) and THF (1000 mL). nBuLi (2.5 M solution in hexane, 200 mL, 0.5 mmol) was added to the mixture at room temperature and stirred for 1 h. Then 1,2-dibromobenzene (100 g, 0.42 mol) was added dropwise at room temperature and stirred for 3 h. The solvent was removed under vacumm and warer (200 mL) was added. The aqueous layer was extracted with  $Et<sub>2</sub>O$  $(3\times200 \text{ mL})$  and the extracts were combined, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtrated and dried under vacuum to afford a white powder. Yield: 108 g, 87.7%。

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  7.66 (dd,  $J = 8.0, 1.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.38 – 7.32 (m, 2H),  $7.25 - 7.18$  (m, 2H), 6.66 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 3.74 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126) MHz, CHLOROFORM-D) δ 157.74, 136.18, 132.42, 132.39, 129.56, 128.67, 127.01, 125.32, 118.89, 104.10, 56.07.

#### $ortho$ -(Bis(2,6-dimethoxybiphenyl)phosphino)toluenesulfonic acid (L4)<sup>[6,7]</sup>



A flask was charged with p-toluenesulfonic acid (4.14 g, 24.0 mmol, dehydrated) and THF (50 mL), cooled to 0 °C, stirred for 10 min, and nBuLi (19.2 mL of a 2.5 M solution in hexane, 48.0 mmol) was added dropwise. The mixture was warmed to 25 °C and stirred for 2 h. A second flask was charged with THF (60 mL) and PCl<sub>3</sub> (3.3 g, 24.0) mmol), cooled to –78℃, and the solution of dilithiated p-toluenesulfonic acid was added and then stirred at  $0^{\circ}$ C for 1.5 h. A third flask was charged with THF (300 mL) and 2'-bromo-2,6-dimethoxybiphenyl (14.0 g, 48.0 mmol), cooled to –78℃, and nBuLi

(20.0 mL of a 2.5 M solution in hexane, 50.0 mmol) was added dropwise. The mixture was kept at –78℃ for 1 h and then transferred to the second flask at –78℃. The mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred over night. The volatiles were removed under vacuum and the residue was taken up in water (200 mL). The aqueous mixture was acidified with dilute HCl to pH $\sim$ 2. The mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3  $\times$  50) mL) and the extracts were combined, dried over Na2SO4, and evaporated under vacuum to yield a solid. The solid was slurried with  $10 \text{ mL}$  DCM and  $20 \text{ mL}$  Et<sub>2</sub>O, filtrated and dried to afford a white powder L4 . Yield 7.45 g, 49.7%.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  8.03 (dd, J = 7.9, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 7.68 – 7.57  $(m, 2H), 7.45 - 7.13$   $(m, 9H), 6.83$   $(d, J = 13.0$  Hz, 1H $), 6.33$   $(d, J = 91.4$  Hz, 4H $), 3.46$  $(q, J = 7.0 \text{ Hz}, 12\text{H})$ , 2.26 (s, 3H). HRMS (AP-MALDI):  $m/z$  calcd for C<sub>35</sub>H<sub>33</sub>O<sub>7</sub>PS: 629.1757 [M+H]; found: 629.1756.

#### (P(2,6-diOMePh-Ph)2(2-SO3-5-Me-Ph))Pd(Me)(Py) (Pd4)



A flask was charged with L4 (628.9 mg, 1.0 mmol), (TMEDA)PdMe<sub>2</sub> (252.7 mg, 1.0 mmol) and THF (10 mL). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h, then pyridine (395.5 mg, 5 mmol) was added and stirred for 1 h. Et<sub>2</sub>O (30 mL) was added to precipitate the solid at –25 °C. The solid was filtrated, washed with Et<sub>2</sub>O and dried under vacuum to afford a white powder. Yield: 0.71 g, 85.7%.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  8.57 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.8 Hz, 2H), 7.85 – 7.67  $(m, 4H)$ , 7.43 (t,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 3H), 7.37 – 7.29 (m, 4H), 7.13 (ddd,  $J = 7.7$ , 4.4, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 6.95 (t,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 3H), 6.41 (d,  $J = 9.2$  Hz, 2H), 6.25 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 3.68 (s, 6H), 3.41 (s, 6H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 0.18 (d,  $J = 2.3$  Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Methylene Chloride-d2) δ 157.93, 157.66, 150.82, 138.19, 136.77, 135.79, 134.38, 134.31, 131.15, 129.91, 129.29, 128.22, 126.25, 124.80, 119.15, 103.72, 103.62, 55.51, 21.54, 3.54. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>41</sub>H<sub>40</sub>NO<sub>7</sub>PPdS: C, 59.46; H, 4.87. Found: C, 58.07; H, 4.95.

#### (P(2,6-diOMePh-Ph)2(2-SO3-Ph))Pd(Me)(Py) (Pd5)



A flask was charged with benzenesulfonic acid (3.8 g, 24.0 mmol, dehydrated) and THF (60 mL), cooled to 0 °C, stirred for 10 min, and nBuLi (19.2 mL of a 2.5 M solution in hexane, 48.0 mmol) was added dropwise. The mixture was warmed to 25℃ and stirred for 2 h. A second flask was charged with THF  $(60 \text{ mL})$  and PPhCl<sub>2</sub>  $(3.25$ mL, 24 mmol), cooled to –78℃, and the solution of dilithiated p-toluenesulfonic acid was added and then stirred at –78℃ for 1.5 h. A third flask was charged with THF (300 mL) and 2'-bromo-2,6-dimethoxybiphenyl (7.0 g, 24.0 mmol), cooled to –78℃, and nBuLi (11.2 mL of a 2.5 M solution in hexane, 28.0 mmol) was added dropwise. The mixture was kept at –78℃ for 1 h and then transferred to the second flask at –78℃. The mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred over night. The volatiles were removed under vacuum and the residue was taken up in water (200 mL). The aqueous mixture was acidified with dilute HCl to  $pH \sim 2$ . The mixture was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  $(3 \times 50 \text{ mL})$  and the extracts were combined, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and evaporated under vacuum to yield a solid. The solid was slurried with  $10 \text{ mL}$  DCM and  $20 \text{ mL}$  Et<sub>2</sub>O, filtrated and dried to afford a white powder 4.9 g.

A flask was charged with white powder (520.0 mg), (TMEDA)PdMe2 (252.7 mg, 1.0 mmol) and THF (10 mL). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h, then pyridine (395.5 mg, 5 mmol) was added and stirred for 1 h. Et<sub>2</sub>O (30 mL) was added to precipitate the solid at –25 °C. The solid was filtrated, washed with  $Et_2O$  and dried under vacuum to afford a white powder. Yield: 0.53 g, 78.2%.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  8.36 (s, 3H), 7.74 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.60  $(q, J = 8.1, 7.2 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H}), 7.52 \text{ (t, } J = 7.4 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 7.45 - 7.37 \text{ (m, 4H)}, 7.35 - 7.25 \text{ (m,$ 7H), 7.20 (t,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 1H), 6.50 (dd,  $J = 8.3$ , 4.6 Hz, 2H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 2.73 (s, 3H), 0.32 (d,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CHLOROFORM-D)  $\delta$  158.16, 157.28, 151.08, 149.22, 141.83, 137.63, 136.18, 134.76, 134.26, 133.24, 131.48, 130.22, 129.76, 129.48, 129.05, 128.68, 128.35, 128.12, 126.46, 124.63, 117.05, 104.11, 103.04, 56.39, 54.17, 0.24. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>30</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>PPdS: C, 56.69; H, 4.46. Found: C, 55.46; H, 4.63.

*ortho*-((2,6-dimethoxybiphenyl)(phenyl)phosphino)toluenesulfonic acid (L1) [8] 2-[(2',6'-dimethoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)phenylphosphino]-4-methyl benzenesulfonic acid



A flask was charged with p-toluenesulfonic acid (4.14 g, 24.0 mmol, dehydrated) and THF (60 mL), cooled to 0 °C, stirred for 10 min, and nBuLi (19.2 mL of a 2.5 M solution in hexane, 48.0 mmol) was added dropwise. The mixture was warmed to 25℃ and stirred for 2 h. A second flask was charged with THF  $(60 \text{ mL})$  and PPhCl<sub>2</sub>  $(3.25 \text{ m})$ mL, 24 mmol), cooled to –78℃, and the solution of dilithiated p-toluenesulfonic acid was added and then stirred at –78℃ for 1.5 h. A third flask was charged with THF (300 mL) and 2'-bromo-2,6-dimethoxybiphenyl (7.0 g, 24.0 mmol), cooled to –78℃, and nBuLi (11.2 mL of a 2.5 M solution in hexane, 28.0 mmol) was added dropwise. The mixture was kept at –78℃ for 1 h and then transferred to the second flask at –78℃. The mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred over night. The volatiles were removed under vacuum and the residue was taken up in water (200 mL). The aqueous mixture was acidified with dilute HCl to  $pH \sim 2$ . The mixture was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  $(3 \times 50 \text{ mL})$  and the extracts were combined, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and evaporated under vacuum to yield a solid. The solid was slurried with 10 mL DCM and 20 mL Et<sub>2</sub>O, filtrated and dried to afford a white powder  $L1·0.5$  CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Yield 9.1 g, 77%.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  8.19 (dd,  $J = 7.9$ , 5.2 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (t,  $J =$ 7.7 Hz, 1H),  $7.60 - 7.54$  (m, 1H),  $7.53 - 7.30$  (m, 8H),  $7.23$  (t,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H),  $7.07 -$ 7.01 (m, 1H), 6.47 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 1H), 6.39 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 5.28 (s, 1H), 3.60 (s, 3H), 3.42 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CHLOROFORM-D) δ 156.97, 156.57, 149.89, 149.82, 140.93, 140.85, 139.80, 139.70, 135.05, 134.05, 133.48, 132.66, 131.69, 131.54, 131.39, 129.22, 128.78, 127.96, 120.30, 119.57, 119.47, 118.74, 113.88, 113.83, 113.15, 112.40, 103.82, 103.73, 55.48, 55.41, 55.35, 55.33, 21.29, 21.24. <sup>31</sup>P NMR (202 MHz, CHLOROFORM-D) δ 1.53. HRMS (AP-MALDI): m/z calcd for  $C_{27}H_{25}O_5PS$ : 493.1233 [M+H]; found: 493.1232.

#### (P(2,6-diOMePh-Ph)2(2-SO3-5-Me-Ph))Pd(Me)(Py) (Pd1)



A flask was charged with  $L1.0.5$  CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (535.0 mg, 1.0 mmol), (TMEDA)PdMe2 (252.7 mg, 1.0 mmol) and THF (10 mL). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h, then pyridine (395.5 mg, 5 mmol) was added and stirred for 1 h. Et<sub>2</sub>O (30 mL) was added to precipitate the solid at  $-25^{\circ}$ C. The solid was filtrated, washed with Et<sub>2</sub>O and dried under vacuum to afford a white powder. Yield: 0.41 g, 59.2%.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  8.38 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.9 Hz, 2H), 8.25 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.77 – 7.71 (m, 1H), 7.69 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 7.48 – 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.34 – 7.27 (m, 8H),  $7.23 - 7.19$  (m, 2H),  $6.52$  (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H),  $3.67$  (s, 3H),  $2.77$  (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 0.30 (d,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CHLOROFORM-D)  $\delta$ 

158.16, 157.23, 150.38, 150.29, 150.18, 146.81, 146.27, 142.70, 141.73, 140.64, 140.21, 137.91, 136.22, 134.75, 134.09, 133.98, 133.76, 133.35, 133.22, 130.94, 130.17, 129.67, 129.51, 129.08, 128.45, 128.37, 128.11, 126.27, 124.62, 124.52, 118.25, 118.20, 103.64, 103.60, 103.02, 102.97, 55.45, 55.40, 54.35, 54.27, 21.59, 0.34. Anal. Calcd. for C33H32NO5PPdS: C, 57.27; H, 4.66. Found: C, 57.05; H, 4.91.

#### 4-phenylbenzenesulfonic Acid



A flask was charged with biphenyl (10 g, 0.067 mol) and CHCl3 (50 mL). Sulfurochloridic acid (9.6 g, 0.083 mol) in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (10 mL) was added dropwise for 1 h. The mixture was stirred for 0.5 h, filtrated, and washed by CHCl3. The solid was dried under vacuum to afford a white powder. Yied: 10.7 g, 68.2%.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, THF-d<sub>8</sub>)  $\delta$  8.85 (d, J = 9.6 Hz, 2H), 8.28 – 7.59 (m, 5H), 7.41  $(\text{ddd}, J = 35.6, 7.4, 3.5 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H}).$ 

2-((2,6-dimethoxybiphenyl)(phenyl)phosphino)-4-phenylbenzenesulfonic acid (L2)



A flask was charged with 4-phenylbenzenesulfonic acid (5.62 g, 24.0 mmol, dehydrated) and THF (60 mL), cooled to 0 °C, stirred for 10 min, and nBuLi (19.2 mL of a 2.5 M solution in hexane, 48.0 mmol) was added dropwise. The mixture was warmed to 25℃ and stirred for 2 h. A second flask was charged with THF (60 mL) and PPhCl<sub>2</sub> (3.25 mL, 24 mmol), cooled to  $-78^{\circ}$ C, and the solution of dilithiated ptoluenesulfonic acid was added and then stirred at –78℃ for 1.5 h. A third flask was charged with THF (300 mL) and 2'-bromo-2,6-dimethoxybiphenyl (7.0 g, 24.0 mmol), cooled to –78℃, and nBuLi (11.2 mL of a 2.5 M solution in hexane, 28.0 mmol) was added dropwise. The mixture was kept at –78℃ for 1 h and then transferred to the second flask at –78℃. The mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred over night. The volatiles were removed under vacuum and the residue was taken up in water (200 mL). The aqueous mixture was acidified with dilute HCl to pH~2. The mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> ( $3 \times 50$  mL) and the extracts were combined, dried over Na2SO4, and evaporated under vacuum to yield a solid. The solid was slurried with 10 mL DCM and 20 mL Et<sub>2</sub>O, filtrated and dried to afford a white powder  $L2.0$ .5 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Yield 7.2 g, 54.2%.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  8.45 – 8.29 (m, 1H), 7.94 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (s, 1H), 7.61 (s, 1H), 7.43 (d,  $J = 41.5$  Hz, 14H), 6.47 (t,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2H), 5.30 (s, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 3.33 (s, 3H).

HRMS (AP-MALDI): m/z calcd for C32H27O5PS: 555.1390 [M+H]; found: 555.1386.

 $(P(2,6-diOMePh-Ph)<sub>2</sub>(2-SO<sub>3</sub>-5-Ph-Ph))Pd(Me)(Py) (Pd2)$ 



A flask was charged with L2 (554.6.0 mg, 1.0 mmol),  $\textbf{(TMEDA)}$ PdMe<sub>2</sub> (252.7) mg, 1.0 mmol) and THF (10 mL). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h, then pyridine (395.5 mg, 5 mmol) was added and stirred for 1 h. Et<sub>2</sub>O (30 mL) was added to precipitate the solid at  $-25^{\circ}$ C. The solid was filtrated, washed with Et<sub>2</sub>O and dried under vacuum to afford a white powder. Yield: 0.59 g, 78.4%.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Methylene Chloride-d<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  8.38 (s, 2H), 8.27 (dd, J = 8.1, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 7.87 – 7.75 (m, 2H), 7.63 (s, 3H), 7.46 – 7.30 (m, 14H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 6.58 – 6.44 (m, 2H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 2.76 (s, 3H), 0.39 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Methylene Chloride- $d_2$ )  $\delta$  158.46, 157.69, 150.93, 148.42, 148.31, 142.73, 142.26, 142.13, 139.55, 138.51, 136.31, 135.04, 133.76, 133.44, 133.11, 131.33, 130.27, 130.16, 129.78, 129.36, 128.84, 128.50, 127.23, 126.71, 125.12, 118.35, 104.59, 102.74, 56.32, 54.41, -1.59.

Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>38</sub>H<sub>33</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>PPdS: C, 60.6; H, 4.42 Found: C, 58.82; H, 4.60.

#### General procedure for homopolymerization

A 1000 mL stainless steel reactor was charged with toluene (400 mL) and desired amount of Pd complex in 2 mL  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$ . The pressure vessel was connected to a high pressure line and the solution was degassed. The reactor was warmed to the desired temperature using an water bath. The reactor was pressurized and maintained at the desired pressure of ethylene. After desired amount of time, the reactor was vented and the polymer was precipitated in ethanol (400 mL), filtrated and dried at 80 °C for 24 h under vacuum.

#### General procedure for copolymerization and terpolymerization

A 1000 mL stainless steel reactor was charged with toluene (200 mL), polar monomer, BHT (2 mg) in toluene (2 mL) and desired amount of Pd complex in 2 mL  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$ . The pressure vessel was connected to a high pressure line and the solution was degassed. The reactor was warmed to the desired temperature using an water bath. The reactor was pressurized and maintained at the desired pressure of ethylene. After desired amount of time, the reactor was vented and the polymer was precipitated in ethanol (400 mL), filtrated and dried at 80 °C for 24 h under vacuum.

#### Computational Methods

Density functional theory (DFT) calculations were performed using the Gaussian 09 Program, revision  $E.01$ <sup>[9]</sup> DFT calculations for structure optimizations were performed with the B3LYP functional<sup>[10]</sup> with empirical disperision correction, DFT-D3<sup>[11]</sup>, the Lanl2dz basis set<sup>[12]</sup> for palladium, and the 6-31G(d) basis set<sup>[13]</sup> for the light atoms (C, H, O, N, P and S). Single point calculations were performed with the B3LYP functional with empirical dispersion correction, DFT-D3, the SDD basis set<sup>[14]</sup> for palladium, and the 6-311G(d,p) basis sets<sup>[15]</sup> for the light atoms. The solvation effect of toluene ( $\epsilon$  = 2.37) was considered through the SMD model<sup>[16]</sup> in single-point calculations. Electrostatic potential (ESP) maps were performed by Multiwfn<sup>[17]</sup> and VMD<sup>[18]</sup>. Steric maps were drawn by Sambvca  $2.1^{[19]}$  based on the DFT optimized structures or molecuar structures from X-ray diffraction analysis of single crystals.

# Equations to calculate comonomer incorporation ratio,  $U_{int}$ , and number of branches

For PE[20-25]:



$$
B = \frac{\frac{I_{\rm b} + I_{\rm c}}{3} - \frac{I_{\rm d} + I_{\rm f}}{2}}{\frac{I_{\rm b} + I_{\rm c}}{3} + \frac{I_{\rm a}}{2}} \times 1000
$$

number of branches<sup>[26]</sup>

internal

unsaturation<sup>[27]</sup> 
$$
U_{\text{int}} = \frac{I_{\text{f}}}{I_{\text{d}} + I_{\text{f}}} \times 100\%
$$

For copolymers and terpolymers:



EBA: Incorporation ratio of BA  $x$  $I_{\rm m}$ aliphatic  $-\frac{I_{\text{m}}}{2}\times 10$   $I_{\text{m}}$  $- \times 100\%$ 10 2  $\frac{4}{4}$   $\frac{1}{2}$  $I_{\text{aliphatic}} - \frac{I_{\text{m}}}{2} \times 10$   $I$  $=\frac{2}{I} \times 10^{-10}$  $-\frac{I_{\rm m}}{2} \times 10$  $\ddot{}$ 

E-EGMA: Information ratio of EGMA 
$$
x_{\text{EGMA}} = \frac{\frac{I_l}{2}}{\frac{I_{\text{diphatic}} - \frac{I_l}{2} \times 3}{4} + \frac{I_l}{2}} \times 100\%
$$

E-ENB: Incorporation ratio of ENB  $x_{\text{ENB}} = \frac{P_{\text{e+d}}}{I_{\text{aliphatic}} - I_{\text{e+d}}}$ e+d  $\frac{11}{11}$  × 100% 4  $x_{\text{ENB}} = \frac{I_{\text{e}+\text{d}}}{I_{\text{aliphatic}} - I_{\text{e}+\text{d}}}$ I  $=\frac{I_{\text{e+d}}}{I_{\text{aliphatic}}-I_{\text{e+d}}\times11} \times 10^{-10}$  $^{+}$ 

E-VNB: Incorporation ratio of VNB f+g+h+i  $V_{\text{NBB}}$   $I_{f+g+h+i}$ aliphatic  $\begin{array}{c} 3 \end{array}$   $\begin{array}{c} 7 \end{array}$   $I_{f+g+h+i}$  $\frac{3}{2}$   $\times 100\%$ 9 3  $\frac{4}{3}$  +  $\frac{3}{3}$ I  $x_{\text{VNB}} = \frac{1}{I}$  $I_{\text{aliphatic}} - \frac{1}{3} \times 9$   $I$  $=\frac{3}{1}$   $\times 10$  $-\frac{I_{f+g+h+i}}{2}\times 9$  $\ddot{}$ 

E-DCPD: Incorporation ratio of DCPD  $x_{\text{DCPD}} = \frac{r_a}{I_{\text{aliphatic}} - I_a}$ a  $\frac{1}{9}$  × 100% 4  $x_{\text{DCPD}} = \frac{I_{\text{a}}}{I_{\text{aliphatic}} - I_{\text{a}}}$ I  $=\frac{I_{\rm a}}{I_{\rm aliphatic}-I_{\rm a}\times 9} \times 10^{-10}$  $+$ 

E-BA-EGMA: Information ratio of BA  
\n
$$
x_{BA} = \frac{\frac{I_m}{2}}{\frac{I_{\text{diphatic}} - \frac{I_m}{2} \times 10 - \frac{I_1}{2} \times 3}{4} + \frac{I_m}{2} + \frac{I_1}{2}}
$$

Incorporation ratio of EGMA 
$$
x_{\text{EGMA}} = \frac{\frac{I_1}{2}}{\frac{I_{\text{diphalic}} - \frac{I_m}{2} \times 10 - \frac{I_1}{2} \times 3}{4} + \frac{I_m}{2} + \frac{I_1}{2}}
$$

E-BA-VNB: Information ratio of BA 
$$
x_{BA} = \frac{\frac{I_m}{2}}{\frac{I_{\text{aliphatic}} - \frac{I_m}{2} \times 10 - \frac{I_{\text{f+g+hi}}}{3} \times 9}{4} + \frac{I_m}{2} + \frac{I_{\text{f+g+hi}}}{3}}
$$

Incorporation ratio of VNB\n
$$
x_{\text{VNB}} = \frac{\frac{I_{\text{f+g+hi}}}{3}}{\frac{I_{\text{diphalic}} - \frac{I_{\text{m}}}{2} \times 10 - \frac{I_{\text{f+g+h+i}}}{3} \times 9}{4} + \frac{I_{\text{m}}}{2} + \frac{I_{\text{f+g+h+i}}}{3}}
$$

E-BA-ENB: Incorporation ratio of BA 
$$
x_{BA} = \frac{\frac{I_m}{2}}{\frac{I_{\text{aliphatic}} - \frac{I_m}{2} \times 10 - I_{\text{erd}} \times 11}{4} + \frac{I_m}{2} + I_{\text{erd}}} \times 100\%
$$

Incorporation ratio of ENB 
$$
x_{ENB} = \frac{I_{\text{e+d}}}{\frac{I_{\text{aliphatic}} - \frac{I_{\text{m}}}{2} \times 10 - I_{\text{e+d}} \times 11}{4} + \frac{I_{\text{m}}}{2} + I_{\text{e+d}}}
$$

E-BA-DCPD: incorporation ratio of BA 
$$
x_{BA} = \frac{\frac{I_m}{2}}{\frac{I_{\text{aliphatic}} - \frac{I_m}{2} \times 10 - I_a \times 9}{4} + \frac{I_m}{2} + I_a} \times 100\%
$$

Incorporation ratio of DCPD  
\n
$$
x_{\text{DCPD}} = \frac{I_{\text{a}}}{\frac{I_{\text{aliphatic}} - \frac{I_{\text{m}}}{2} \times 10 - I_{\text{a}} \times 9}{4} + \frac{I_{\text{m}}}{2} + I_{\text{a}}}
$$

## NMR spectra of prepared compounds



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of  $L3.0.5CH_2Cl_2$  (in CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



 $13C$  NMR spectrum of L3 $\cdot$ 0.5CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (in CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



 $31P$  NMR spectrum of  $L3.0.5CH_2Cl_2$  (in CDCl<sub>3</sub>)







C NMR spectrum of Pd3 (in CDCl3)



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of L2 (in THF- $ds$ )



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of Pd2 (in  $CD_2Cl_2$ )



 $13C$  NMR spectrum of Pd2 (in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)



H NMR spectrum of 2'-bromo-2,6-dimethoxybiphenyl (in CDCl3)



C NMR spectrum of 2'-bromo-2,6-dimethoxybiphenyl (in CDCl3)







<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of Pd4 (in CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



 $13C$  NMR spectrum of Pd4 (in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of Pd5 (in CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



C NMR spectrum of Pd5 (in CDCl3)



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of L1 (in CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



C NMR spectrum of L1 (in CDCl3)



P NMR spectrum of L1 (in CDCl3)







C NMR spectrum of Pd1 (in CDCl3)



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of (TMEDA)PdMe<sub>2</sub> (in CDCl<sub>3</sub>)





 $1H-IH$  COSY NMR spectrum of **Pd2** in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution

## Topographic steric maps



Topographic steric maps of Pd1, Pd2, Pd3, and Pd4.

## NMR spectra of polymers



H NMR spectrum of highly linear PE in Table 1, Entry 11



C NMR spectrum of highly linear PE in Table 1, Entry 11



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polymer in Entry 2, Table2



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polymer in Entry 4, Table2



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polymer in Entry 6, Table2



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polymer in Entry 8, Table2



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polymer in Entry 11, Table2



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polymer in Entry 13, Table2





<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polymer in Entry 17, Table2



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polymer in Entry 19, Table2



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polymer in Entry 1, Table3


<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polymer in Entry 3, Table3



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polymer in Entry 5, Table3



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polymer in Entry 7, Table3



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polymer in Entry 9, Table3



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polymer in Entry 11, Table3



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polymer in Entry 13, Table3



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polymer in Entry 15, Table3







<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polymer in Entry 20, Table3



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polymer in Entry 22, Table3



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polymer in Entry 24, Table3



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polymer in Entry 26, Table3





<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polymer in Entry 29, Table3

## GPC spectra of polymers



GPC spectrum of PE in Entry 2, Table 1



GPC spectrum of PE in Entry 3, Table 1



GPC spectrum of PE in Entry 4, Table 1



GPC spectrum of PE in Entry 5, Table 1



GPC spectrum of PE in Entry 6, Table 1



GPC spectrum of PE in Entry 7, Table 1



GPC spectrum of PE in Entry 8, Table 1



GPC spectrum of PE in Entry 9, Table 1



GPC spectrum of PE in Entry 10, Table 1



GPC spectrum of PE in Entry 11, Table 1



GPC spectrum of PE in Entry 12, Table 1











GPC spectrum of PE in Entry 14, Table 1



GPC spectrum of PE in Entry 15, Table 1







GPC spectrum of PE in Entry 17, Table 1



GPC spectrum of PE in Entry 18, Table 1







GPC spectrum of PE in Entry 20, Table 1



GPC spectrum of PE in Entry 21, Table 1



GPC spectrum of PE in Entry 23, Table 1



GPC spectrum of PE in Entry 24, Table 1



GPC spectrum of PE in Entry 25, Table 1



GPC spectrum of PE in Entry 26, Table 1



GPC spectrum of PE in Entry 27, Table 1



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 1, Table 2



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 2, Table 2



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 3, Table 2



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 4, Table 2



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 5, Table 2



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 6, Table 2



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 7, Table 2



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 8, Table 2



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 10, Table 2



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 11, Table 2



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 12, Table 2



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 13, Table 2



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 14, Table 2



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 15, Table 2



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 16, Table 2



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 17, Table 2



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 18, Table 2



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 19, Table 2



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 20, Table 2



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 1, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 2, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 3, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 4, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 5, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 6, Table 3







GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 8, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 9, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 10, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 10, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 12, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 13, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 14, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 15, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 16, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 17, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 18, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 19, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 20, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 21, Table 3


GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 22, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 23, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 24, Table 3







GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 26, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 27, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 28, Table 3



GPC spectrum of polymer in Entry 29, Table 3

## DSC spectra of polymers



DSC spectrum of PE in Entry 1, Table 1



































DSC spectrum of PE in Entry 15, Table 1







DSC spectrum of PE in Entry 17, Table 1



DSC spectrum of PE in Entry 18, Table 1



DSC spectrum of PE in Entry 19, Table 1



















DSC spectrum of PE in Entry 24, Table 1







DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 2, Table 2



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 3, Table 2



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 4, Table 2



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 5, Table 2



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 6, Table 2















DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 12, Table 2







DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 14, Table 2



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 15, Table 2



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 16, Table 2



















DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 1, Table 3



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 2, Table 3



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 3, Table 3



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 4, Table 3



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 5, Table 3



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 6, Table 3



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 7, Table 3



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 8, Table 3



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 9, Table 3



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 10, Table 3



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 11, Table 3



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 12, Table 3



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 13, Table 3



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 14, Table 3



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 15, Table 3



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 16, Table 3



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 17, Table 3



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 18, Table 3



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 19, Table 3



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 20, Table 3



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 21, Table 3



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 22, Table 3



DSC spectrum of polymer in Entry 23, Table 3





























## X-ray Crystallography



## Crystal data and structure refinement for Pd1





Crystal data and structure refinement for Pd2



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