# Mechanistic Investigations and Substrate Scope Evaluation of Ruthenium-Catalyzed Direct sp<sup>3</sup> Arylation of Benzylic Positions Directed by 3-Substituted Pyridines

Navid Dastbaravardeh,<sup>†</sup> Karl Kirchner,<sup>†</sup> Michael Schnürch,<sup>\*,†</sup> and Marko D. Mihovilovic<sup>†</sup>

Vienna University of Technology, Institute of Applied Synthetic Chemistry, Getreidemarkt 9/163-OC, 1060 Vienna (Austria)

E-mail: michael.schnuerch@tuwien.ac.at

## **Supporting Information**

1. Catalyst Screening	<b>S1</b>
2. DFT Calculations	S2
3. NMR Spectra	<b>S</b> 3
4. References	S131

### 1. Catalyst Screening

	×H +		Catalyst (5 mol %) Pinacolone (8 eq.) 140 °C, 24h	N NH
4;	a	17a		5a
entry	catalyst			conv. <sup>b</sup>
1	Ru/C			0
2	$Ru_3(CO)_{12}$	2		86
3	Ru(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	$H_2(CO)$		2
4	[Ru(p-cyn	nene)Cl <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>2</sub>	1	0
5	Ru(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	$Cl_2$		0
6	$Ru(PPh_3)_2$	$Cl_2(CO)_2$		0

7	$[RuCl_2(cod)]_n$	0
8	$[RuCl_2(CO)_3]_2$	0
9	RuCl <sub>3</sub>	0
10	$Ru(acac)_3$	0
11	[Rh(cod)Cl] <sub>2</sub>	0
12	Rh <sub>4</sub> (CO) <sub>12</sub>	0
13	$Pd(OAc)_2$	0
14	PdCl <sub>2</sub>	0
15	Pd(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>	0
16	Fe(CO) <sub>5</sub>	0
17	$Fe_{3}(CO)_{12}$	0
18	$Fe(CO)_3(PPh_3)_2$	0

<sup>*a*</sup> Reaction conditions: **4a** (0.5 mmol), **17a** (0.75 mmol), catalyst (5 mol %) and pinacolone (0.5 mL). <sup>*b*</sup> Conversion based on GC analysis with respect to **4a** (dodecane as internal standard). <sup>*c*</sup> Yield determined by GC analysis with respect to **4a** (dodecane as internal standard).

#### **2. DFT Calculations**

**Computational Details.** All calculations were performed using the Gaussian 03 software package,<sup>1</sup> and the PBE1PBE functional, without symmetry constraints. That functional uses a hybrid generalized gradient approximation (GGA), including 25 % mixture of Hartree-Fock<sup>2</sup> exchange with DFT exchange-correlation, given by Perdew, Burke and Ernzerhof functional (PBE).<sup>3</sup> The optimized geometries were obtained with the 6-31G(d,p) basis sets. Frequency calculations were performed to confirm the nature of the stationary points, yielding one imaginary frequency for the transition states and none for the minima. Each transition state was further confirmed by following its vibrational mode downhill on both sides and obtaining the minima presented on the energy profiles.

## 3. NMR Spectra

Intermolecular KIE Experiment -





<u>Intramolecular KIE Experiment -</u>






























































































































































































































































## **4. References**

P.; Dannenberg, J. J.; Zakrzewski, V. G.; Dapprich, S.; Daniels, A. D.; Strain, M. C.; Farkas, O.; Malick, D. K.;

J.; Stefanov, B. B.; Liu, G.; Liashenko, A.; Piskorz, P.; Komaromi, I.; Martin, R. L.; Fox, D. J.; Keith, T.; Al-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Gaussian 03, R. C., Frisch, M. J.; Trucks, G. W.; Schlegel, H. B.; Scuseria, G. E.; Robb, M. A.; Cheeseman, J. R.; Montgomery, Jr., J. A.; Vreven, T.; Kudin, K. N.; Burant, J. C.; Millam, J. M.; Iyengar, S.; S.; Tomasi, J. B.,

V.; Mennucci, B.; Cossi, M.; Scalmani, G.; Rega, N.; Petersson, G. A.; Nakatsuji, H.; Hada, M.; Ehara, M.;

Toyota, K.; Fukuda, R.; Hasegawa, J.; Ishida, M.; Nakajima, T.; Honda, Y.; Kitao, O.; Nakai, H.; Klene, M.; Li,

X.; Knox, J. E.; Hratchian, H. P.; Cross, J. B.; Adamo, C.; Jaramillo, J.; Gomperts, R.; Stratmann, R. E.; Yazyev, O.; Austin, A. J.; Cammi, R.; Pomelli, C.; Ochterski, J. W.; Ayala, P. Y.; Morokuma, K.; Voth, G. A.; Salvador,

Rabuck, A. D.; Raghavachari, K.; Foresman, J. B.; Ortiz, J. V.; Cui, Q.; Baboul, A. G.; Clifford, S.; Cioslowski,

Laham, M. A.; Peng, C. Y.; Nanayakkara, A.; Challacombe, M.; Gill, P. M. W.; Johnson, B.; Chen, W.; Wong, M. W.; Gonzalez, C.; Pople, J. A. Gaussian, Inc.; Wallingford CT: 2004. <sup>2</sup> Hehre, W. J. R., L.; Schleyer, P. v.R.; Pople, J. A. *Ab Initio Molecular Orbital Theory*; John Wiley & Sons:

NY, 1986. <sup>3</sup> Perdew, J. P.; Burke, K.; Ernzerhof, M. *Physical Review Letters* 1997, 78, 1396.