Photoinduced, Copper-Catalyzed Alkylation of Amines: A Mechanistic Study of the Cross-Coupling of Carbazole with Alkyl Bromides

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Supporting Information

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I. General information

Chemicals. Unless otherwise noted, all materials were purchased from commercial suppliers and used as received. All manipulations of air-sensitive materials were carried out in oven-dried glassware using standard Schlenk or glovebox techniques under an N_2 atmosphere. Solvents were deoxygenated and dried by thoroughly sparging with argon followed by passage through an activated column in a solvent purification system. Silicycle *Silia*Flash® P60 Silica gel (particle size 40–63 nm) was used for flash chromatography. Analytical thin layer chromatography was conducted with glass TLC plates (silica gel 60 F254) and spots were visualized under UV light or after treatment with standard TLC stains. Carbazole (carbH) was recrystallized from hot ethanol. Mesitylcopper¹ and 2-bromo-4-phenylbutane,² were prepared following a reported procedure. Note: herein carbazolide $=$ carb and they are used interchangeably.

EPR, Infrared, and UV-vis Spectroscopy. X-band EPR measurements were made with a Bruker EMX spectrometer at 77 K. Simulation of EPR data was conducted using the software EasySpin.³ IR measurements were recorded on a Bruker ALPHA Diamond ATR. Absorbance spectra were acquired on a Cary 50 UV-vis spectrophotometer with a Unisoku Scientific Instruments cryostat to maintain temperature.

NMR spectroscopy. ${}^{1}H$, ${}^{2}H$, ${}^{13}C$, ${}^{7}Li$, ${}^{31}P$ NMR, and DOSY spectra were recorded on a Bruker Ascend 400, a Varian 300 MHz, a Varian 400 MHz, a Varian 500 MHz, or a Varian 600 MHz spectrometer, and referencing was done using either the proteo impurity in a deuterated solvent, or to the deuterium lock signal. Multiplicity and qualifier abbreviations are as follows: s = singlet, $d =$ doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, br = broad, app = apparent.

Gas chromatography. Calibrated GC yields were obtained on an Agilent 6890 Series system with an HP-5 column (length 30 m, I.D. 0.25 mm, FID Detector) using dodecane as an internal standard.

X-ray crystallography. XRD studies were carried out at the Beckman Institute Crystallography Facility (http://www.its.caltech.edu/~xray/index.html) on a Bruker D8 Venture kappa duo photon 100 CMOS instrument (Mo Kα radiation). Structures were solved using SHELXT and refined against F^2 by full-matrix least squares with SHELXL and OLEX2. Hydrogen atoms were added at calculated positions and refined using a riding model. The crystals were mounted on a glass fiber or a nylon loop with Paratone N oil.

Photolytic reactions. Photolytic reactions were performed using a 100-W Blak-Ray Long Wave Ultraviolet Lamp (Hg), 100-W Blak-Ray B-100Y High Intensity Inspection Lamp (Hg), or a Luzchem LZC-4V photoreactor equipped with LZC-UVA lamps centered at 350 nm (Figure S1). Temperature control was maintained with an isopropanol bath cooled by an SP Scientific cryostat. For reactions using mercury lamps, the light source was placed approximately 20 cm above the sample and the reaction mixture was stirred vigorously using a magnetic stir bar.

Figure S1: Emission spectrum of 100-W Blak-Ray Long Wave Ultraviolet Lamp

Photophysical methods. Steady-state fluorimetry and time-resolved transient absorption and luminescence measurements were performed in the Beckman Institute Laser Resource Center (BILRC; California Institute of Technology). Samples for room temperature transient absorption and luminescence measurements were prepared in dry (passage through alumina three times), degassed (three freeze-pump-thaw cycles) acetonitrile inside a nitrogen-filled glovebox, and transferred to a 1-cm or 1-mm pathlength fused quartz or glass cuvette (Starna Cells) which was sealed with a high-vacuum Teflon valve (Kontes), or a Harrick demountable liquid flow cell (DLC-S25) with quartz windows and 100 μm path length Teflon spacers. Steady-state emission spectra were collected on a Jobin S4 Yvon Spec Fluorolog-3-11 with a Hamamatsu R928P photomultiplier tube detector with photon counting.

For luminescence and transient absorption at the nanosecond to microsecond time scale, a Qswitched Nd:YAG laser (Spectra-Physics Quanta-Ray PRO-Series; 355 nm; pulse duration 8 ns, operating at 10 Hz) was used as the source of the excitation pulse, with laser power at 0.5 mJ/pulse. Probe light for transient absorption kinetics measurements was provided by a 75-W arc lamp (PTI Model A 1010) which was operated in continuous wave or pulsed modes. The laser light was aligned so as to be collinear with the arclamp beam, and the scattered excitation light was rejected with appropriate long pass and short pass filters. Transmitted light from the sample was detected with a photomultiplier tube (Hamamatsu R928). All instruments and electronics in these systems were controlled by software written in LabVIEW (National Instruments).

Transient absorption difference spectra were collected using the same excitation source ($\lambda_{\rm ex}$ = 355 nm), and a white light flash lamp source with nanosecond durations. All instruments and electronics in these systems were controlled by software written in LabVIEW (National Instruments). Data manipulation was performed with MatlabR2014B.

Fluorescence decay measurements at the picosecond time scale were performed as previously described.⁴ A mode-locked Nd:YAG laser (Vanguard 2000-HM532; Spectra-Physics) provided 10 ps pulses that were regeneratively amplified (Continuum) and frequency tripled (355 nm excitation). Laser power was reduced to 0.5 mJ/pulse. Fluorescence from the sample was focused onto the entrance slit of a spectrograph (Acton Research Corp SpectraPro 275) through a 355 nm dielectric mirror to reject scattered excitation light. Fluorescence decays were obtained at a spectrograph center wavelength of 420 nm. Decays were collected using a streak camera (C5680; Hamamatsu Photonics) in photon counting mode over a 50 ns window. Samples were prepared in the glove box using a flow cell apparatus with quartz windows to allow for UV penetration. A sample path length of 100 μm was used by inserting Teflon spacers in between the two quartz windows. A syringe pump was used to flow sample in between two gas-tight 10 mL syringes (Hamilton) under inert atmosphere.

II. Preparation of substrates

Yields have not been optimized.

6-bromohept-1-ene [38334-98-4]:

A 500 mL round-bottomed flask was charged with triphenylphosphine (14.5 g, 55 mmol), imidazole (3.7 g, 55 mmol), and a magnetic stir bar. CH_2Cl_2 (300 mL) was added under a nitrogen atmosphere and the mixture was cooled to 0 $^{\circ}$ C. Br₂ (2.6 mL, 51 mmol) was added dropwise. The resulting mixture was stirred for 30 minutes at 0 °C before a solution of hept-6 en-2-ol⁵ (5 g, 44 mmol) in 10 mL CH₂Cl₂ was added dropwise at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 2 hours and allowed to warm to ambient temperature overnight. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure on a rotary evaporator to an approximate volume of 25 mL, and diluted with hexanes. The resulting solid was filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated and purified by column chromatography (hexanes) to yield 6.1 g (78 % yield) of colorless liquid. Spectroscopic data match those reported in the literature.⁶

(E)-6-bromohept-1-ene-1-*d:*

In the glovebox under nitrogen atmosphere, Cp_2ZrHCl (12 g, 47 mmol) was suspended in THF (200 mL) in a 500 mL round-bottomed flask. *tert*-butyl(hex-5-yn-1-yloxy)dimethylsilane (8.7 g, 41 mmol) in THF was then added dropwise to the stirring suspension at ambient temperature. After overnight stirring, excess D_2O (9 mL) was added to the brown solution in one portion at ambient temperature via syringe. The resulting yellow solution was allowed to stir at ambient temperature for 6 h and diluted with Et_2O (\sim 250 mL). The suspension was filtered through a pad of silica over MgSO4, and concentrated under reduced pressure on a rotary evaporator. The oily residue was dissolved in anhydrous THF. This solution was added to a solution of tetrabutylammonium fluoride (30 mL, 1 M in THF) at ambient temperature over 5 min. After stirring for 2 h, the mixture was extracted with diethyl ether and washed with water (50 mL). The organic layer was dried over $Na₂SO₄$, filtered and concentrated on a rotary evaporator. The oily residue was passed through a plug of silica gel eluting with diethyl ether, and the material with the same rf value on the TLC plate as the commercially available hex-5-en-1-ol was collected. The 1 H NMR spectrum of the oil matched that of hex-5-en-1-ol except for the resonances corresponding to the deuterated vinylic proton. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced

pressure on a rotary evaporator. The residue was dissolved in dichloromethane (10 mL). In a separate flask, DMSO (5.7 mL) in dichloromethane (5 mL) was added dropwise to a cold solution of oxalyl chloride (4.1 mL) in dichloromethane (150 mL) at –78 °C. After stirring for 15 min, the dichloromethane solution of the oily residue was added dropwise. Excess trimethylamine (28 mL) was added after 1 h at 78 °C, and the mixture was allowed to warm to ambient temperature. 1 M $\text{HCl}_{(aq)}$ (100 mL) was added to the mixture, and the aqueous layer was extracted with dichloromethane (2 x 50 mL). The organic layer was dried over $Na₂SO₄$, filtered, and concentrated on a rotary evaporator. The oily residue was dissolved in anhydrous $Et₂O$ and added slowly to a cold solution of methylmagnesium bromide (20 mL, 3 M in Et₂O at –10 °C). The solution was allowed to warm to room temperature overnight and quenched with $NH_4Cl_{(aq)}$. The aqueous layer was extracted with Et₂O (2 x 50 mL), and the organic layer was dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure on a rotary evaporator. The crude material was purified by column chromatography (70% Et₂O/hexanes), affording 2 g of colorless oil that had the same rf value on the TLC plate as hept-6-en-2-ol. The ¹H NMR spectrum of the oil matched that of hept-6-en-2-ol except for the resonances corresponding to the deuterated vinylic proton. This oil was subjected to the standard bromination conditions using triphenylphosphine (5.8 g), imidazole (1.5 g), and bromine (1 mL) to yield 1.2 g of (E) -6bromohept-1-ene-1-d as colorless oil (16% yield over 5 steps). The ²H NMR spectrum of this material shows approximately 9.5:1 selectivity of hydrozirconation versus over-reduction of the alkyne. The hydrozirconation proceeded in 13:1 selectivity to afford the desired *E*-isotopomer.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, Chloroform-*d*): δ 5.96–5.71 (m, 1H), 5.03–4.96 (m, 1H), 3.86–3.73 (m, 1H), 2.11–1.97 (m, 2H), 1.40–1.49 (m, 4H), 1.19 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, Chloroform- *d*): δ 138.08, 114.64 (t), 51.58, 40.47, 32.96, 26.96, 26.46.

²H NMR (61 MHz, Chloroform): δ 5.01.

MS (EI) m/z (M-Br⁺) calc for $C_7H_{12}DBr$: 98, found: 98.

III. Procedures for photoinduced cross-couplings

General procedure for the coupling of alkyl bromides

 $[Li(MeCN)_n][Cu(carbazolide)₂]$ (0.0067 mmol), lithium carbazolide (0.2 mmol), and alkyl bromide (0.13 mmol) were added to a 4 mL borosilicate vial in the glovebox under a nitrogen atmosphere. A magnetic stir bar and 4 mL acetonitrile were added to the vial. The mixture was capped and stirred for 5 minutes and the reaction vessel was fully submerged in an isopropanol bath kept at 0° C with a cryostat. The mixture was irradiated with a 100-watt Hg lamp while stirring for 8 hours, after which time it was diluted with a solution of dodecane in diethyl ether or ethyl acetate. An aliquot was filtered through a short pad of silica gel (ethyl acetate eluent) and the sample was injected for GC analysis. Products were isolated after removing the solvent *in vacuo* and loading the crude on silica gel and eluting with hexanes.

Procedure for the photolytic reaction in the absence of copper

Lithium carbazolide (0.2 mmol) and alkyl bromide (0.13 mmol) were added to a 4 mL borosilicate vial in the glovebox under nitrogen atmosphere. A magnetic stir bar and 4 mL acetonitrile were added to the vial. The mixture was capped and stirred for 5 minutes and the

reaction vessel was fully submerged in an isopropanol bath kept at 0 °C with a cryostat. The mixture was irradiated with 100-watt Hg lamp while stirring for 8 hours, after which time it was diluted with a solution of dodecane in diethyl ether or ethyl acetate. An aliquot was filtered through a short pad of silica gel (ethyl acetate eluent) and the sample was analyzed by GC. Typical calibrated GC yields of products are shown in the scheme above. 9,9'-bicarbazyl (1.2 mg, 3% yield) was quantified by preparative TLC with hexanes.

Procedure for standard photolytic reactions at varying reaction concentrations

Stock solutions of $[Li(MeCN)_n][Cu(carbazolide)_2]$, lithium carbazolide, and 6-bromohept-1-ene were prepared in acetonitrile. Desired amounts of each were transferred to a 4 mL borosilicate vial, and the mixture was diluted to a total volume of 4 mL with acetonitrile. The vial was subjected to the standard photolytic conditions, and the products were analyzed by GC. Five reaction concentrations were tested: 0.011 M, 0.022 M, 0.033 M, 0.044 M, and 0.055 M in a total of 4 mL of acetonitrile using 6-bromohept-1-ene as the limiting reagent. The data are summarized in the table below. **H**/**I** values were calculated prior to rounding of yields of products **H** and **I**.

Alkyl bromide [mM]	Product H (dr)	Product I	H/I
	70% (4:1)	6.7%	11
22	68% (4:1)	9.1%	7.6
33	62% $(4:1)$	10%	6.1
44	55% (4:1)	10%	5.5
55	51% (4:1)	10%	5.1

Table S1: Variation of yields of H and I as a function of alkyl bromide concentration.

Procedure for stoichiometric coupling of [Cu^I (carb)2]Li* with 2-bromo-4-phenylbutane (Eq 4 in the main text of the published article)

Stock solutions (0.0067 mmol/mL) of $[Li(MeCN)_n][Cu(carbazolide)_2]$ and 2-bromo-4phenybutane were prepared in acetonitrile. Then, 0.0067 mmol of each reactant was added to a 4 mL vial containing a magnetic stir bar. The mixture was diluted to a total of 4 mL with acetonitrile. The mixture was capped and stirred for 5 minutes and the reaction vessel was fully submerged in an isopropanol bath kept at 0° C with a cryostat. The mixture was irradiated with 100-watt Hg lamp while stirring for 8 hours, after which time it was diluted with a solution of dodecane in diethyl ether or ethyl acetate. An aliquot was filtered through a short pad of silica

gel (ethyl acetate eluent) and the sample was analyzed by GC. Run 1: 95% yield. Run 2: 96% yield.

Procedure for the time-course analysis of reactions with and without [Li(MeCN)n][Cu(carbazolide)2]

Stock solutions of $[Li(MeCN)_n][Cu(carbazolide)₂]$, lithium carbazolide, and 2-bromo-4phenylbutane were prepared in acetonitrile. Desired amounts of each were transferred to a 4 mL borosilicate vial as outlined in the general procedure, and the vial was diluted to a total of 4 mL with acetonitrile. The vial was subjected to the standard photolytic conditions for the specified amount of time, and the products were analyzed by GC.

Figure S2: Time-course analysis of the standard reaction mixture in the absence of Cu.

Figure S3: Time-course analysis of the standard catalysis reaction mixture.

IV. Preparation of metal carbazolides

Preparation of [Li(MeCN)n][Cu(carbazolide)2]

Mesitylcopper (183 mg, 1 mmol), carbazole (167 mg, 1 mmol), and lithium carbazolide (1 mmol) were added to a 20 mL scintillation vial in a nitrogen atmosphere glovebox. 10 mL of acetonitrile was added to the vial, and the mixture was stirred overnight at ambient temperature. The solution was filtered through a pad of Celite and the volatiles were removed *in vacuo*. Benzene (1 mL) was added to dissolve the oil and the residue was triturated with pentane (5 mL). The supernatant was decanted and benzene was added again. Benzene (1 mL) was added to the solid residue followed by pentane (5 mL) to precipitate the product. This process was repeated until a free-flowing, off-white powder was obtained. This powder was isolated atop a sintered glass frit and washed with benzene $(3 \times 5 \text{ mL})$ and pentane $(3 \times 5 \text{ mL})$. The title compound can be further dried under vacuum overnight to yield the title compound (400 mg) as an acetonitrile adduct as determined by 1 H NMR analysis. Spectroscopic data match the literature report.⁷

Preparation of Li(carbazolide) (13390-92-6)

Carbazole (3.6 g, 22 mmol) was suspended in 150 mL of diethyl ether in a 250 mL flask in a nitrogen-atmosphere glovebox. After cooling to -78 °C, butyllithium (1.6 M in hexanes, 15 mL) was added dropwise. The mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 3 h and allowed to warm to room temperature overnight. The white solid was collected atop a sintered glass frit, washed with cold diethyl ether and pentane and then recrystallized in cold THF. The crystals were then dissolved in minimal acetonitrile and the solution was dried *in vacuo* to afford the title compound (2.9 g, 76% yield). Spectroscopic data match those reported in the literature.⁸

Preparation of $[K(benzo-15-crown-5)_2][Cu^{II}(carbazolide)_3]$

A –70 °C suspension of Cu(OTf)₂ (36 mg, 0.05 mmol) in 2 mL THF was added dropwise to a pre-chilled stirring solution of potassium carbazolide (3 equiv, 64 mg, 0.15 mmol) in 2 mL at – 70 °C. The blue solution was allowed to stir for 5 h. The EPR spectrum of the crude mixture showed complete conversion of CuBr₂ to the Cu^{II}(carbazolide)₃⁻ anion (Figure S4). The solution was then filtered through a PTFE syringe filter, and a THF solution of benzo-15-crown-5 (2 equiv, 26 mg, 0.1 mmol) in 1 mL THF was added at -70 °C. The mixture was allowed to stand overnight at -70 °C to give a deep blue suspension containing a deep blue precipitate. The precipitate was collected while cold atop a sintered glass frit and washed with cold $Et₂O$ to yield $[K(benzo-15-crown-5)_2][Cu^{II}(carbazolide)_3]$ (30 mg, 26% yield). Crystals were grown by layering Et₂O onto the solution in THF at –70 °C. The blue solid was stored at -30 °C.

Figure S4: X-Band EPR spectra of $K(benzo-15-crown-5)_2$] $Cu^{II}(carbazolide)_3$ in butyronitrile glass (black trace, 77 K) and in the solid-state (blue trace, 77 K).

V. Procedures for freeze-quench EPR studies

Stoichiometric reaction between [Li(MeCN)][Cu(carb)2] and 2-bromo-4-phenylbutane under irradiation

 $[Li(MeCN)][Cu(carbazolide)₂]$ (4.4 mg, 0.01 mmol) and 2-bromo-4-phenylbutane (10 mg, 0.05 mmol) were added to a 4 mL vial. The mixture was dissolved in 0.3 mL butyronitrile, and the resulting solution was transferred to an EPR tube. The EPR tube was sealed and cooled to – 78 °C. The EPR tube was irradiated in the Luzchem photoreactor (350 nm) while being introduced to a quartz Dewar filled with liquid nitrogen. Irradiation of the freezing solution proceeded for approximately 15 seconds.

Detection of EPR active $[Li(CH_3CN)_n][Cu^{II}(carb)_3]$ **in a catalytic reaction mixture**

A 4 mL solution of the standard reaction mixture containing $[Li(MeCN)_n][Cu(carbazolide)_2]$ (0.0067 mmol), lithium carbazolide (0.2 mmol), and alkyl bromide (0.13 mmol) was prepared in a 4 mL borosilicate glass vial according to the standard procedure using butyronitrile as the solvent. A portion of the resulting solution (300 μ L) was transferred to an EPR tube. The tube was sealed and cooled to 0 $^{\circ}$ C, and irradiated with a 100-watt Hg lamp at 0 $^{\circ}$ C. Alternatively, an aliquot (0.1 mL) of the standard reaction mixture in acetonitrile in a 4 mL borosilicate vial that was irradiated for 1 h was transferred to a pre-cooled EPR tube containing butyronitrile (0.2 mL) under N_2 . The EPR tube was briefly shaken and cooled to 77 K. Simulation parameters are as follows: $g = [2.318, 2.058, 2.050]$; H_{Strain} (MHz) = [120, 5, 5]; A_{Cu} (MHz) = [350 25 21] A_{3N} $(MHz) = [50, 35, 35].$

Generation and detection of EPR active [Li(CH3CN)n][CuII(carb)3] via metallation

A pre-chilled solution of CuBr² (2.2 mg, 0.01 mmol) in 1 mL acetonitrile was added dropwise to a pre-chilled slurry of lithium carbazolide (5.3 mg, 0.03 mmol) in the glovebox. The deep blue solution was allowed to stir for 5 min before transferring an aliquot to a solution of butyronitrile in acetone/dry ice bath. The solution was then transferred to an EPR tube.

Detection of EPR active $[Li(CH_3CN)_n][Cu^{II}(carb)_3]$ **via oxidation of** $[Li(MeCN)][Cu(carb)_2]$

 $[Li(MeCN)][Cu(carbazolide)₂]$ (10.0 mg, 0.023 mmol) and lithium carbazolide (8 mg, 0.046 mmol) were mixed in 200 μL of butyronitrile, added to an EPR tube, and frozen at 77 K. To this frozen layer was added a 200 μL solution of tris(4-bromophenyl)ammoniumyl hexachloroantimonate ("Magic Blue", 3.4 mg, 0.0042 mmol) in butyronitrile. The solutions were allowed to mix briefly $(-5 s)$ in thawing butyronitrile and frozen again.

Figure S5: EPR spectra (9.4 GHz, 77 K). Black trace: mixture of $\text{[Cu}^{\text{I}}(\text{carb})_2\text{]}$ Li and 2-bromo-4-phenylbutane (5 equiv) in freezing butyronitrile upon irradiation at 350 nm; red trace: mixture of $\left[\text{Cu}^1(\text{carb})_2\right]$ Li and Magic Blue (0.2 equiv) in butyronitrile at –80 °C; blue trace: simulation of red trace. Simulation parameters: $g = [2.445, 2.060, 1.994]$; isotropic linewidth (Gaussian lineshape, FWHM = 10 mT). Coupling to one Cu nucleus was included with $A = [75, 1, 1]$.

VI. Procedures for UV-vis studies

Molar absorptivity of $[Li(CH_3CN)_n][Cu^{II}(carb)_3]$ **at 580 nm**

A 20 mL vial was charged with lithium carbazolide (5.5 mg, 0.030 mmol) and a magnetic stir bar. Acetonitrile (9.0 mL) was added to the vial, and the solution was cooled to thawing acetonitrile temperature. A separate vial was charged with CuBr_2 (6.6 mg, 0.030 mmol) and acetonitrile (3.0 mL). 1 mL of the resulting green solution of $CuBr₂$ (0.010 mmol) was added dropwise to the thawing acetonitrile solution of lithium carbazolide. After completed addition, the deep blue solution was allowed to stir vigorously at thawing acetonitrile temperature for approximately 30 minutes. The solution was transferred into a prechilled 1 cm pathlength quartz cuvette. The cuvette was capped and quickly inserted into the -40 °C UV-vis sample holder. The average molar absorptivity at 580 nm was found to be $1100 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}$.

Table S4: Measured molar absorptivity (580 nm) of $[Li(CH_3CN)_n][Cu^{II}(carb)_3]$ at various concentrations.

Figure S6: Absorbance at 580 nm as a function of concentration of $Cu(II)$; path length = 1 cm. **Detection of [Li(CH3CN)n][CuII (carb)3] during catalysis**

A 4 mL acetonitrile solution of the standard reaction mixture containing $[Li(MeCN)_n][Cu(carbazolide)₂]$ (2.9 mg, 0.0067 mmol), lithium carbazolide (34 mg, 0.19 mmol), and 2-bromo-4-phenylbutane (28 mg, 0.13 mmol) was prepared in a quartz cuvette with a stirbar. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool for 10 minutes in the dark at 0° C in an ice bath. Then

the mixture was irradiated with a 100-watt Hg lamp while stirring, and UV-vis spectra were collected at 0° C at various times after irradiation until the Cu(II) absorption at 580 nm was maximized.

Figure S7: Appearance of Cu(II) absorption band at short irradiation times of reaction mixture.

Figure S8: Absorbance at 580 nm at short irradiation times of reaction mixture.

Generation and detection of $[Li(CH_3CN)_n][Cu^{II}(carb)_3]$ via oxidation of **[Li(MeCN)][Cu(carb)2]**

In a glovebox atmosphere, a 4 mL butyronitrile solution containing $[Li(MeCN)_n][Cu(carbazolide)₂]$ (0.037 mmol) and lithium carbazolide (0.074 mmol) was prepared in a quartz cuvette with a stirbar and sealed with a septum. Another solution containing tris(4-bromophenyl)ammoniumyl hexachloroantimonate ("Magic Blue", 0.012 mmol) was dissolved in 0.2 mL butyronitrile and taken up into a 1 mL Hamilton sample locked syringe, and the needle was pierced through a septum to prevent the introduction of air. The cuvette was

cooled to -80 °C in the UV-vis sample holder, and the syringe with Magic Blue was pierced through the cuvette septum. The sample lock was opened and the solution of Magic Blue was introduced into the mixture with vigorous stirring. The stirring was stopped and the sample was allowed to stabilize before a spectrum was acquired.

Molar absorptivity of [Li(MeCN)][Cu(carbazolide)2] at 365 nm

A 1.9 mM solution of $[Li(MeCN)][Cu(carbazolide)_2]$ was made by dissolving 4.2 mg (0.0095) mmol) in 5 mL acetonitrile, and this solution was used as a stock to generate lower concentration solutions of the complex. Each solution was pipetted into a 1 mm path length cuvette and absorption spectra were acquired at room temperature for each concentration. The molar absorptivity for [Li(MeCN)][Cu(carbazolide)₂] at 365 nm was found to be 4300 M^{-1} cm⁻¹.

Figure S9: UV-vis spectra of [Li(MeCN)][Cu(carbazolide)₂] at various concentrations in CH3CN at room temperature in 1 mm cuvette.

Figure S10: Absorbance at 365 nm as a function of $[Li(MeCN)][Cu(carbazolide)_2]$ concentration; path length $= 1$ mm.

Molar absorptivity of lithium carbazolide at 365 nm

A 10 mM solution of lithium carbazolide was made, and this solution was used as a stock to generate lower concentration solutions of the complex. Each solution was pipetted into a 1 mm path length cuvette and absorption spectra were acquired at room temperature for each concentration. The molar absorptivity at 365 nm for concentrations of lithium carbazolide greater than 0.4 mM was found to be $2200 \,\mathrm{M}^{-1} \,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$.

Figure S11: UV-vis spectra of lithium carbazolide at various concentrations in CH₃CN at room temperature in 1 mm cuvette.

Figure S12: Absorbance at 365 nm as a function of lithium carbazolide concentration; path $length = 1$ mm.

VII. Procedures for DOSY analysis

Equimolar quantities of lithium carbazolide and 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene (as an internal standard) were dissolved in 500 μ L CD₃CN at concentrations ranging from 0.8 mM to 150 mM lithium carbazolide/1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene. A DOSY spectrum was acquired on a Varian 500 MHz spectrometer with a probe temperature of 25.0 °C, and the diffusion constants were calculated by an exponential fit for each of the four lithium carbazolide resonances in the ${}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum. Average hydrodynamic radii were calculated from each of the four diffusion constants using the Stokes-Einstein equation. The hydrodynamic radius for 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene was similarly calculated as an average for both of its $¹H NMR$ resonances.</sup>

Figure S13: The hydrodynamic volume of lithium carbazolide increases as a function of increasing lithium carbazolide concentration.

VIII. Actinometric studies

Determination of light intensity

The Hatchard-Parker method was used to make a 0.006 M potassium ferrioxalate solution in 0.1 N H₂SO₄.⁹ A 4 mL ferrioxalate solution in a quartz cuvette was then irradiated at 0 °C for 40 s in three separate runs using a 365 nm LED (Thorlabs, M365L2) and a focusing lens.

Sample photon flux calculation for 40 s photolysis:

$$
I = \frac{AV_2V_3}{\varepsilon d\phi_{\lambda} tV_1}
$$

Where *I* is the intensity in einsteins/min, *A* is the absorbance (at 510 nm) of irradiated actinometer solution, V_2 is the volume (in L) of actinometer irradiated, V_3 is the volume (10 mL) of the volumetric flask used for the dilution of the irradiated aliquot, ε is the extinction coefficient of the ferrous 1,10-phenanthroline complex at 510 nm (1.11 x 10^4 L mol⁻¹ cm⁻¹), *d* is the path length (in cm) of the cuvette used to measure the absorbance, Φ_{λ} is the quantum yield of ferrous production at 365 nm (1.21), *t* is the time of irradiation (in min), and V_I is the volume (in mL) of irradiated actinometer solution withdrawn.

$$
I = \frac{(0.19)(0.004 \, L)(10 \, mL)}{(1.11 \, \text{x} \, 10^4 \, M^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1})(1 \, \text{cm})(1.21) \left(\frac{40 \, \text{s}}{60 \, \text{s/min}}\right)(0.5 \, \text{mL})}
$$

$I = 1.7 \times 10^{-6}$ Einsteins/minute

A photon flux of 1.7(5) x 10^{-6} Einsteins/minute was calculated by averaging all runs.

Determination of quantum yield for stoichiometric model reaction

A 4 mL acetonitrile solution of the standard reaction mixture containing $[Li(MeCN)][Cu(carbazolide)₂]$ (0.0067 mmol), lithium carbazolide (0.2 mmol), and alkyl bromide (0.13 mmol) was prepared in a 1 cm path length quartz cuvette with a stirbar. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool to 0 °C with an internal cooling loop in a cuvette holder. Then, the mixture was irradiated with the 365 nm LED while stirring. After irradiation, the reaction mixture was diluted with diethyl ether and dodecane as an internal standard. An aliquot was filtered through a short pad of silica gel (ethyl acetate eluent) and the sample was injected for GC analysis. The quantum yield (Φ) was then determined by the following equation:

$$
\Phi = \frac{moles\ of\ electrophile\ consumed}{Light\ intensity * time\ irradiated\ (min)}
$$

The quantum yield was determined to be 0.099.

IX. Stern-Volmer quenching and determining quenching efficiency

Quenching of [Li(MeCN)][Cu(carbazolide)2] with electrophile

 $[Li(MeCN)][Cu(carbazolide)₂]$ was diluted in acetonitrile to make a 0.00335 M solution. (3bromobutyl)benzene was also diluted in acetonitrile to make 100, 200, 400, 600, 700, and 800 mM solutions. In 4 mL vials, a 250 μL aliquot of the solution containing [Li(MeCN)][Cu(carbazolide)₂] was mixed with a 250 μ L aliquot of either acetonitrile or one of the solutions containing electrophile, such that the concentration of the copper catalyst in each solution was equal to the standard reaction concentration, 0.0017 M. The solutions were pipetted into cuvettes with a path length of 1 mm. The lifetime of a non-emissive excited state of $[Li(MeCN)][Cu(carbazolide)₂]$ as a function of electrophile concentration was measured by transient absorbance spectroscopy (λ_{pump} = 355 nm, λ_{probe} = 580 nm) (Figure S13). The lifetime of the short-lived, emissive excited state of $[Li(MeCN)][Cu(carbazolide)_2]$ was measured at the picosecond time scale using luminescence spectroscopy, and was found to be 590 ps (Figure S14). Data were analyzed using Matlab R2014A with the default curve fitting function. The rate of electron transfer was calculated to be 4.8×10^6 M⁻¹ cm⁻¹.

Figure S14: Transient absorbance decays for [Li(MeCN)][Cu(carbazolide)₂] with varying electrophile concentrations.

$[(3\textrm{-}\mathrm{bromobutyl})\mathrm{benzene}]$ (mM)	Lifetime (ns)	
	910	
50	760	
100	660	
200	481	
300	410	
350	370	
	320	

Table S6: Excited state lifetime of [Li(MeCN)][Cu(carbazolide)₂] as a function of electrophile concentration.

Figure S15: Luminescence decay of the emissive excited state of **1**.

Quenching of lithium carbazolide with electrophile

Lithium carbazolide (86.6 mg, 0.5 mmol) was diluted in a 10 mL volumetric flask with acetonitrile to make 10 mL of a 0.05 M solution (the concentration in the catalytic reactions). In four other volumetric flasks, the same amount of lithium carbazolide was weighed out, but only $~5$ mL of acetonitrile was added. Then, (3-bromobutyl)benzene was added to the lithium carbazolide solutions *via* syringe to make 50, 100, 200, or 400 mM solutions of electrophile in 10 mL acetonitrile, and acetonitrile was added to the mark. For each run, one of these solutions was syringed into the Harrick flow cell described above (100 μm path length) until there were no gas bubbles, and flowed through with a syringe pump while fluorescence measurements were being collected. After each run, the flow cell was cleaned and dried under vacuum, and the next solution was syringed into the cell. The rate of electron transfer was calculated to be 4.9 x 10^8 M 1 s⁻¹.

Figure S16: Luminescence decays for lithium carbazolide with varying electrophile concentrations.

Self-quenching of [Li(MeCN)][Cu(carbazolide)2]

 $[Li(MeCN)][Cu(carbazolide)₂]$ (4.2 mg, 0.0094 mmol) was diluted in 5 mL acetonitrile to make a 1.9 mM stock solution. This solution was serially diluted to make 0.94, 0.47, and 0.12 mM solutions. The solutions were pipetted into cuvettes with a path length of 1 mm. The excited state lifetime of $[Li(MeCN)][Cu(carbazolide)₂]$ as a function of electrophile concentration was measured by transient absorbance spectroscopy (λ_{pump} = 355 nm, λ_{probe} = 580 nm). Logarithmically compressed data were analyzed using Matlab R2014A with the default curve fitting function. The rate of self-quenching was found to be 2.9 x $10^8 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$.

Figure S17: Transient absorbance decays for $[Li(MeCN)][Cu(carbazolide)_2]$ at varying concentrations.

Table S8: Excited state lifetime of $[Li(MeCN)][Cu(carbazolide)_2]$ as a function of concentration.

$[[Li(MeCN)][Cu (carbazolide)2]$ (mM)	Lifetime (μs)
0.12	7.5
0.47	3.6
0.94	2.6
19	1.51

Self-quenching of lithium carbazolide

Lithium carbazolide (43.3 mg, 0.25 mmol) was diluted in 5 mL of acetonitrile to make a 0.05 M solution (the concentration in the catalytic reactions). This solution was serially diluted to make 4.3, 2.2, 1.1, and 0.50 mM solutions. The solutions were pipetted into cuvettes with a path length of 1 mm. The excited state lifetime of lithium carbazolide as a function of electrophile concentration was measured by transient absorbance spectroscopy ($\lambda_{\text{pump}} = 355$ nm, $\lambda_{\text{probe}} = 580$ nm). Data were analyzed using Matlab R2014A with the default curve fitting function. The rate of self-quenching was found to be 2.0 x 10^7 M⁻¹ s⁻¹. It is important to note that in the presence of electrophile quencher, this long-lived, non-emissive excited state was not observed, and S.E.T. seemed to proceed from the fluorescent state at a rate faster than that of intersystem crossing.

Figure S18: Transient absorbance decays for lithium carbazolide at varying concentrations.

Quenching efficiency of lithium carbazolide

The quenching fraction (Q) can be defined as the ratio of the rate at which the excited state photocatalyst (lithium carbazolide) is quenched productively (by electrophile) to the sum of the rates of all the other relaxation processes which are available to the excited state. In the case of lithium carbazolide, in addition to being quenched, the excited state can luminesce and also selfquench (after intersystem crossing to a lower-energy state; there is no evidence of self-quenching from the shorter-lived, emissive state). However, since the rate of self-quenching is only measured in the absence of electrophile, it is unclear what role self-quenching plays is in the presence of electrophile. Thus, we can only estimate an upper limit for the quenching fraction.

$$
Q \le \frac{k_q * [electrophile]}{\frac{1}{\tau_{0,Li}} + k_q * [electrophile]}\n\le \frac{(4.9 \times 10^8 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{s}^{-1})(0.0325 \, \text{M})}{\frac{1}{3.1 \times 10^{-8} \, \text{s}} + (4.9 \times 10^8 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{s}^{-1})(0.0325 \, \text{M})} \le 0.33
$$

This value for the quenching fraction implies that 33% of all lithium carbazolide excited states generated are quenched by electrophile. The remainder may be self-quenched or quenched by other species in solution.

The chain length is the ratio of the quantum yield to the quenching fraction, and a lower limit can be calculated:

Chain length
$$
\ge \frac{\Phi}{Q} \ge \frac{0.099}{0.33} \ge 0.30
$$

This low value for chain length may be due to unproductive back electron transfer. In principle, the true chain length could be higher than 0.30 if, for example, Q is less than 0.33 due to selfquenching effects that we are unable to measure. Auto-quenching was observed for the excited state of $\text{[Cu}^{\text{II}}(\text{carb})_3]$ Li with a rate constant of $5 \times 10^7 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ from the long-lived, non-emissive state. However, this state is not accessible in the presence of electrophile, possibly because the rate of quenching is greater than the rate of intersystem crossing. Thus, the auto-quenching rate does not apply to a solution in which the electrophile is present. On the basis of our flash-quench analysis, we have calculated the upper limit for the quenching fraction to be 0.33.

X. Reactivity of $[Li(CH_3CN)_n][Cu^{II}(carb)_3]$

Decomposition of $[Li(CH_3CN)_n][Cu^{II}(carb)_3]$

A freshly prepared acetonitrile solution of $Li[Cu^{II}(carb)₃]$ in dry-ice/acetone bath was allowed to warm to room temperature overnight. The mixture was then concentrated in vacuo and the residue was loaded on a 20 cm x 20 cm Merck TLC plate. Two of many UV-active bands after developing the TLC in hexanes were identified as the commercially available 9,9-bicarbazyl and 3,3'-bicarbazole.

Decomposition of [Li(CH3CN)n][CuII(carb)3] in the presence of TEMPO–H

A freshly prepared solution of $Li[Cu^{II}(carb)₃]$ was prepared in thawing MeCN. A cold solution of 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-1-ol¹⁰ (TEMPO–H, 1 equiv) in MeCN was added to the cold solution of $Li[Cu^{II}(carb)₃]$, and the mixture was allowed to stir in thawing MeCN temperature for 30 min. A portion of the reaction mixture was transferred to an EPR tube and diluted with butyronitrile for X-band EPR measurement at 77 K. The only EPR active signal was that of 2,2,6,6-Tetramethylpiperidine 1-oxyl, and signals corresponding to a Cu^H species were absent. The analogous reaction conducted in CD₃CN at -45 °C shows the appearance of $\text{[Cu}^{\text{I}}(\text{carb})_2\text{]}$ signal by ${}^{1}H$ NMR spectroscopy, consistent with the delivery of an H atom.

Figure S19: EPR spectra (9.4 GHz, 77 K, butyronitrile) of freshly made Li $\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}(\text{carb})_3$ (blue trace), reaction of $Li[Cu^{II}(carb)₃]$ with TEMPO–H (red trace), and TEMPO (black).

Figure S20: ¹H NMR spectra (500 MHz, -40 °C, CD₃CN) of a mixture of carbH and [Li(CH₃CN)][Cu^I(carb)₂] (top) and of a mixture of [Li(CH₃CN)_n][Cu^{II}(carb)₃] and TEMPOH (bottom).

XI. Computational methods

General considerations. The Orca 3.0.1 program was used for all calculations. ¹¹ All optimizations and energy calculations were conducted with tight convergence criteria using the M06-1 functional¹² and def2-TZVP basis set.¹³ Open- and closed-shell species were modeled within the unrestricted and restricted Kohn-Sham formalisms, respectively. All geometry optimizations were conducted without symmetry constraints using gradient methods. Ground state geometries were verified as true minima by the absence of imaginary frequencies. All energies reported are Gibbs free energies at 298.15 K and include translational, rotational, vibrational, and solvation energy contributions. Solvation was treated with the conductor-like screening model, using default parameters for acetonitrile in all cases.¹⁴ For $\text{[Cu}^{\text{II}}(\text{carb})_3]^-$, the Loewdin spin density shown in Figure 11 was derived from a constrained optimization where the N-Cu-N angles and the C(1)-C(9a)-N-Cu dihedrals along each carbazole were constrained to match that of the experimentally determined solid-state crystal structure. The energy was derived from an unconstrained optimization. Time-dependent DFT calculations were performed using the M06l functional within the Tamm–Dancoff approximation employing the def2-TZVP basis set. The 50 lowest-lying excited states were calculated, based on the same constrained optimized geometry used for the spin density calculation. Solvation was treated with the conductor-like screening model, using values of $\varepsilon = 20$ and $\eta = 1.38$ for butyronitrile.

Figure S21: Relaxed surface scan for the reaction between $\text{[Cu}^{\text{I}}(\text{carb})_2\text{]}$ and carb radical. Due to the shallow nature of the potential energy surface, a precise transition state could not be located.

Figure 22: Absorbance spectrum of $\text{[Cu}^{\text{II}}(\text{carb})_3]$ ⁻ calculated by TD-DFT.

Figure 23: Difference density plot for the most intense calculated absorption band of $[\widetilde{\mathrm{Cu}}^{\mathrm{II}}(\mathrm{carb})_3]^-$ at 623 nm. The donor orbital is shown in red, and the acceptor orbital is shown in blue.

Table S10: Free Energies of computed molecules

XII. Characterization data for new coupling products

9-(hept-6-en-2-yl)-9*H***-carbazole:**

Following the general coupling procedure for 6-bromohept-1-ene, the title compound can be obtained after column chromatography (hexanes \rightarrow 1% ethyl acetate/hexanes) as a colorless oil. A typical run produces 10% of the coupling product according to calibrated GC analysis.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, Chloroform-*d*): δ 8.11 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.65–7.34 (m, 4H), 7.20 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 5.86–5.56 (m, 1H), 5.02–4.85 (m, 2H), 4.83–4.71 (m, 1H), 2.38–2.25 (m, 1H), 2.03–1.92 (m, 3H), 1.68 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.49–1.29 (m, 1H), 1.25–1.13 (m, 1H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Benzene-d₆): δ 139.87, 138.14, 125.38, 123.55, 120.48, 118.76, 114.51, 110.00, 50.88, 34.00, 33.29, 25.97, 18.83.

MS (EI) m/z (M^+) calc for C₁₉H₂₁N: 263, found: 263.

FT-IR (film): 2931, 1640, 1625, 1594, 1482, 1451, 1331, 1316, 1223, 1157, 746, 721 cm–1

9-((2-methylcyclopentyl)methyl)-9H-carbazole:

Following the general coupling procedure for 6-bromohept-1-ene, the title compound can be obtained as the mixture of diastereomers after column chromatography (hexanes \rightarrow 1% ethyl acetate/hexanes) as a colorless solid. A typical run produces 60% of the coupling product according to calibrated GC analysis. NMR resonances of the major diastereomer are as follows.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*): δ 8.13 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.54–7.38 (m, 4H), 7.27–7.21 (m, 2H), 4.40 (dd, J = 14.6, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 4.20 (dd, J = 14.6, 10.9 Hz, 1H), 2.74–2.45 (m, 1H), 2.28– 2.22 (m, 1H), $1.96-1.72$ (m, 2H), $1.53-1.38$ (m, 4H), 1.15 (d, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*): δ 140.64, 125.48, 122.85, 120.31, 118.64, 108.88, 43.91, 42.94, 36.06, 33.19, 28.85, 22.53, 15.48. FT-IR (film): 2954, 2870, 1597, 1484, 1461, 1452, 1326, 1218, 1153, 748, 722 cm–1 MS (EI) m/z (M^+) calc for C₁₉H₂₁N: 263, found: 263.

¹H NMR resonances were assigned for major and minor diastereomers based on COSY data. Stereochemistry of the major diastereomer was assigned based on NOESY analysis.

9-((2-methylcyclopentyl)methyl-*d***)-9H-carbazole:**

Following general coupling procedure with (E)-6-bromohept-1-ene-1-*d*, the title compound can be obtained as the mixture of diastereomers after column chromatography (hexanes \rightarrow 1% ethyl acetate/hexanes) as colorless solid. A typical run produces 60% of the coupling product according to calibrated GC analysis. NMR resonances of the major diastereomer are as follows.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Benzene- d_6): δ 8.10-8.06 (m, 2H), 7.41-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.23 (m, 4H), 3.92-3.86 (m, 0.5H) 3.77-3.67 (m, 0.5H) 2.29-2.21 (m, 1H) 1.88-1.78 (m, 1H) 1.58-1.49 (m, 2H) 1.28-1.11 (m, 4H) 0.81 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Benzene-d₆): δ 141.11, 125.83, 123.57, 120.82, 119.19, 109.27, 43.56 (t, *J* $= 20.4$ Hz), 42.99, 36.18, 33.31, 28.94, 22.74, 15.38. ²H NMR (61 MHz, Benzene): δ 3.86, 3.70. MS (EI) m/z (M^+) calc for C₁₉H₂₀DN: 264, found: 264.

XIII. ¹H, ²H, and ¹³C NMR spectra of new compounds

Figure S24: ¹H NMR spectrum of (E)-6-bromohept-1-ene-1-d (CDCl₃, 300 MHz, rt).

Figure S25: ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of (E)-6-bromohept-1-ene-1-d (CDCl₃, 75 MHz, rt).

Figure S26: ²H NMR spectrum of (E)-6-bromohept-1-ene-1-d (CHCl₃, 61 MHz, rt).

Figure S27: ¹H NMR spectrum of 9-(hept-6-en-2-yl)-9H-carbazole (CDCl₃, 300 MHz, rt).

Figure S28: ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of 9-((2-methylcyclopentyl)methyl-d)-9H-carbazole (C_6D_6 , 126 MHz, rt).

Figure S29: ¹H NMR spectrum of 9-((2-methylcyclopentyl)methyl)-9H-carbazole (CDCl₃, 400 MHz, rt).

Figure S30: ¹H NMR spectrum of 9-((2-methylcyclopentyl)methyl-d)-9H-carbazole (C_6H_6 , 400 MHz, rt).

Figure S31: ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of 9-((2-methylcyclopentyl)methyl-d)-9H-carbazole (C_6D_6 , 126 MHz, rt).

Figure S32: ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of 9-((2-methylcyclopentyl)methyl-d)-9H-carbazole (C₆D₆, 126 MHz, rt).

Figure S33: ²H NMR spectrum of 9-((2-methylcyclopentyl)methyl-d)-9H-carbazole (C_6H_6 , 61 MHz, rt).

Figure S34: ¹H NMR spectrum lithium carbazolide (CD₃CN, 300 MHz, rt).

Figure S35: ¹H NMR spectrum Li(MeCN)[Cu(carbazolide)₂] (CD₃CN, 300 MHz, rt).

Figure S36: ⁷Li NMR of lithium carbazolide at various concentrations (CD₃CN, rt, 194 MHz).

Figure S37: ¹H NMR of lithium carbazolide at various concentrations (CD₃CN, rt, 500 MHz).

Figure S38: ²H NMR spectrum of a crude reaction mixture of the reaction between (E)-6bromohept-1-ene-1-d and Li(carb) as depicted in eq 7 of the main text (CHCl₃, rt, 61 MHz).

Figure S39: ¹H-¹H COSY trace of the major diastereomer (CDCl₃, rt, 600 MHz) referencing eq 6 of the main text.

Figure S40: ¹H⁻¹H NOESY trace of the major (cis) diastereomer referencing eq 6 of the main text. (CDCl₃, rt, 600 MHz). Couplings of the methyl resonances to the methane resonances are highlighted in yellow. The difference in the magnitude of correlation is consistent with the *cis* configuration in a 5-membered ring.

Figure S41: ¹H-¹H COSY trace of the minor diastereomer (CDCl₃, rt, 600 MHz) referencing eq 6 of the main text.

Figure S42: ¹H-¹H NOESY trace of the minor (*trans*) diastereomer (CDCl₃, rt, 600 MHz) referencing eq 6 of the main text. Couplings of the methyl resonances to the methane resonances are highlighted in yellow. Approximately equal magnitude of correlation is consistent with the *trans* configuration in a 5-membered ring.

XIV. X-Ray crystallography data

Table S11: Crystal data and structure refinement for [K(THF)6][Cu(carbazolide)3]

[K(THF)6][Cu(carbazolide)3]. The anisotropic displacement factor exponent takes the form: -2π² [h² a*²U11+2hka*b*U12+…].

Table S14: Hydrogen atom coordinates (Å×10⁴) and isotropic displacement parameters (Å² ×10³) for [K(THF)6][Cu(carbazolide)3].

Table S15: Bond angles for [K(THF)6][Cu(carbazolide)3].

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