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### Selective P–P and P–O–P Bond Formations through Copper-Catalyzed Aerobic Oxidative Dehydrogenative Couplings of H-Phosphonates

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### General.

<sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL LA-500 instrument (500 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H, 125.4 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C, and 201.9 MHz for <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectroscopy) or a JEOL LA-400 instrument (400 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H, 100 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C, and 162 MHz for <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectroscopy). CDCl<sub>3</sub> or benzene- $d_6$  was used as the solvent. Chemical shift values for <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C were referred to internal Me<sub>4</sub>Si (0 ppm), and that for <sup>31</sup>P was referred to H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (85% solution in D<sub>2</sub>O, 0 ppm). Elemental analysis was performed by the Analytical Center at the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology.

### Synthesis and characterization of complex 3b



To a capped tube were added the secondary phosphine oxide  $(Ph(CH_2)_4)_2P(O)H$  (6 mmol), anhydrous  $Cu(OAc)_2$  (4 mmol) and THF (10 mL) under nitrogen atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. Then volatiles were removed under vacuum. The residue was dissolved in THF (5 mL) and Et<sub>2</sub>O (5 mL). Hexane (15 mL) was added. The solution was slowly cooled to -30 °C to give colorless crystals suitable for X-ray analysis. Yield: 1.45 g, 56%.

#### Compound 3b



Colorless solid, m.p.: 77–78 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (benzene- $d_6$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  7.23-7.14 (m, 32H, CH), 7.10-7.06 (m, 8H, CH), 2.54 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 16H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.32 (s, 12H, CH<sub>3</sub>) 1.59-1.51 (m, 40H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.36-1.30 (m, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (benzene- $d_6$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$  177.6 (CO), 142.3 (CH), 128.8 (CH), 128.7 (CH), 126.1 (CH), 36.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 33.1 (dd,  $J_{C-P} = 5.7$  Hz,  $J_{C-P} = 6.7$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 32.6 (dd,  $J_{C-P} = 2.5$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>, overlap), 24.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (benzene- $d_6$ , 162 MHz):  $\delta$  120.77. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>88</sub>H<sub>116</sub>Cu<sub>4</sub>O<sub>10</sub>P<sub>4</sub>: C, 61.74; H, 6.83. Found: C, 61.36; H, 6.66.



Fig. 1 Molecular structure of complex 3b (H atoms omitted for clarity).



Fig. 2 A simplified diagram showing the coordination geometry of complex 3b.

## A general procedure for the stoichiometric reaction of H-phosphonates with $Cu(OAc)_2$ leading to hypophosphates.

To a capped tube were added *H*-phosphonate (5 mmol), anhydrous  $Cu(OAc)_2$  (5 mmol) and THF (10 mL) under nitrogen atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at 70 °C for the time as shown in Table 1. The precipitate was filtered, washed with THF, and then the filtrate was evaporated under vacuum. 25 mL chilled saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution was added. The product was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated under vacuum to give NMR spectroscopically pure coupling products.

*Table 1*. The stoichiometric reaction of *H*-phosphonates with Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub>.

	0 (RO) <sub>2</sub> PH + Cu(O	Ac) <sub>2</sub> THF, 70	$(RO)_2^{P} - P(OR)_2$	
run	H-phosphonate	reaciton time (H	n) product	% yield <sup>a</sup> ( <sup>b</sup> )
1	O  ( <i>i-</i> PrO) <sub>2</sub> PH	4	O       ( <i>i</i> -PrO) <sub>2</sub> P—P(O <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>2</sub>	99 (93)
2	0    ( <i>n</i> -BuO) <sub>2</sub> PH	3	O O          ( <i>n</i> -BuO) <sub>2</sub> P—P(O <i>n</i> -Bu) <sub>2</sub>	99 (92)
3	O (EtO) <sub>2</sub> PH	3	$O O O (EtO)_2 P - P (OEt)_2$	99 (90)
4	( <i>n</i> -C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>25</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> P(O)H	5	$\begin{array}{c} O O \\ H & H \\ (n-C_{12}H_{25}O)_2 P - P(On-C_{12}H_{25})_2 \end{array}$	98 (91)
5	O (PhCH <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> PH	4	$\begin{array}{cc} O & O \\ \overset{\parallel}{} & \overset{\parallel}{} & \overset{\parallel}{} \\ (PhCH_2O)_2P \overset{\parallel}{-} \overset{\parallel}{-} P(OCH_2Ph)_2 \end{array}$	99 (94)
6	→ O PH=O	5		98 (90)
	<u> </u>			

[a] <sup>31</sup>P NMR yields. [b] Isolated yields.

## A general procedure for copper-catalyzed aerobic oxidative coupling of *H*-phosphonates leading to hypophosphates.

#### a)

To a tube were added  $Cu(OAc)_2$  (3.7 mg, 0.02 mmol) and  $Et_3N$  (200 uL). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5 min, then *H*-phosphonates (1 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred under dry air atmosphere at room temperature for the time as shown in Table 2. 10 mL chilled saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl water solution was added, and the mixture was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under vacuum to give NMR spectroscopically pure coupling products.

#### b)

To a tube were added CuCl (9.9 mg, 0.1 mmol), TEEDA (52.0 mg, 0.30 mmol) and acetone, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5 min. *H*-phosphonates (1 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred under dry air atmosphere at room temperature for the time as shown in Table 2. Evaporated the solvent and TEEDA, 10 mL chilled saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl water solution was added, and the mixture was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under vacuum to give NMR spectroscopically pure coupling products.

	R <sup>1</sup> 0 0 PH — R <sup>2</sup> 0	2-10 mol% Et <sub>3</sub> N or TEEDA	$[Cu] \xrightarrow{R^1O \ H} OR^1 \\ A, air, rt, \xrightarrow{R^2O} P \xrightarrow{P} OR^2 \\ 1$	
run	[Cu] (mol%)	reaciton	time (h) product 2	% yield <sup>a</sup> ( <sup>b</sup> )
1 <sup>c</sup>	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (2)	4	O ( <i>i</i> -PrO) <sub>2</sub> P—P(O <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>2</sub>	98 (93)
2 <sup>d</sup>	CuCl (10)	1.5	( <i>n</i> -BuO)₂P−P(O <i>n</i> -Bu)₂	94 (80)
3 <sup>d</sup>	CuCl (10)	1.5	O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	98 (85)
4 <sup>c</sup>	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (2)	4	$(n-C_{12}H_{25}O)_2P-P(On-C_{12}H_{25})_2$	95 (84)
5 <sup>d</sup>	CuCl (10)	3	$(PhCH_2O)_2P - P(OCH_2Ph)_2$	96 (83)
6 <sup>d</sup>	CuCl (10)	6		96 (84)
7 <sup>d</sup>	CuCl (10)	6		95 (78)

*Table 2*. Copper-catalyzed aerobic oxidative coupling of *H*-phosphonates leading to hypophosphates.

 $\label{eq:alpha} \begin{array}{l} [a] \ ^{31}P \ NMR \ yields. \ [b] \ Isolated \ yields. \ [c] \ Cu(OAc)_2 \ (2 \ mol\%), \ Et_3N \ (0.2 \ mL), \ (RO)_2P(O)H \ (1 \ mmol). \\ \ [d] \ CuCl \ (10 \ mol\%), \ TEEDA \ (30 \ mol\%), \ acetone \ (0.5 \ mL), \ and \ (RO)_2P(O)H \ (1 \ mmol). \\ \end{array}$ 

# Typical procedure for copper-catalyzed aerobic oxidative coupling of *H*-phosphonates leading to pyrophosphates

To a suspension of  $\text{CuBr}_2$  (2.2 mg, 0.01 mmol) in 1 mL of acetone, TMEDA (11.6 mg 0.1 mmol) were added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5 min, and then *H*-phosphonates (1 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred under dry air for the time as shown in Table 3. Chilled saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl water solution was added, and the mixture was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under vacuum to give NMR spectroscopically pure coupling products.



Table 3. Copper-catalyzed aerobic oxidative coupling of H-phosphonates leading to pyrophosphates

[a] <sup>31</sup>P NMR yields. [b] Isolated yields. [c] CuBr<sub>2</sub> (1 mol%), TMEDA (10 mol%), acetone (1 mL), (RO)<sub>2</sub>P(O)H (1 mmol). [d] CuBr<sub>2</sub> (2 mol%), TMEDA (15 mol%), THF (1 mL), (RO)<sub>2</sub>P(O)H (1 mmol).

### Screening on the catalysts

Table 4-1. Copper-catalyzed aerobic oxidative coupling of H-phosphonates with Et<sub>3</sub>N.

	<i>(i</i> -PrO)₂P(O)H – 1 mmol	cat. [Cu]/Et <sub>3</sub> N air, 25 ℃	0 0 ⊣	(O <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>2</sub> +	0 ( <i>i</i> -PrO) <sub>2</sub> P-O- <b>2a</b>	O P(O <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>2</sub>
Entry	Cat. [Cu] (mol%)	Et <sub>3</sub> N (mL)	Solvent (mL)	Time (h)	% yield <b>1a<sup>a</sup></b> ( <sup>b</sup> )	% yield 2a <sup>a</sup> ( <sup>b</sup> )
1	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (10)	0.2	/	4	98.4 (99.2)	0 (0)
2	$Cu(OAc)_2(5)$	0.2	/	4	98.2 (99.1)	0 (0)
3	$Cu(OAc)_2(2)$	/	acetone (0.5)	4	0.05	0
				20	0.3	0
4		0.1	/	4	45.4	0.1
				20	76.6	0.3
5		0.2	/	4	<b>98.0</b> ( <b>98.7</b> )	0.03 (0)
				20	98.1	0.03
6		0.5	/	4	96.8	0.01
				20	97.0	0.01

7	$Cu(OAc)_2(1)$	0.2	/	4	29.7	0.4
				20	72.7	0.5
8	CuCl(2)	0.2	/	2	5.8	0.6
				8	67.1	3.6
				20	92.6	4.1
9	$CuCl_2(2)$	0.2	/	2	11.1	1.7
	2 ( )			8	41.6	5.7
				20	87.0	9.4
10	CuBr(2)	0.2	/	2	37.5	2.2
			,	8	88.5	4.5
				20	92.7	4.6
11	$CuBr_{2}(2)$	0.2	1	2	11.5	3.2
11	$CuDi_2(2)$	0.2	/	8	58 7	10.8
				20	787	12.0
12	CuL(2)	0.2	/	$\frac{20}{2}$	33.7	26.2
12	Cul (2)	0.2	/	2	56.5	41.3
				20	50.5	20.0
12	$C_{12}OAa(2)$	0.2	1	20	J9.1 29.5	50.0 0.05
15	CuOAC(2)	0.2	/	2	36.5 06.5	0.05
				0	90.5	0.00
1.4		0.0	1	20	96.5	0.1
14	$Cu(NO_3)_2 \cdot 3H_2O(2)$	0.2	/	2	27.5	0.5
				8	90.1	1.5
				20	94.3	1.5
15	$CuSO_4 \cdot 5H_2O(2)$	0.2	/	2	26.4	0
				8	91.2	0.4
				20	96.1	0.4
16	$CuSO_4(2)$	0.2	/	2	34.0	0
				8	95.9	0.2
				20	98.0	0.3
17	$Cu(OOCCF_3)_2(2)$	0.2	/	2	54.5	0.3
				8	97.3	0.5
				20	97.4	0.5
18	$Cu(OH)_2$ (2)	0.2	/	2	0.5	0
	_			8	2.1	0.1
				20	3.0	0.3
19	$CuF_2(2)$	0.2	/	2	0.9	0
	2,			8	8.1	0.2
				20	28.1	0.8
20	$Cu(acac)_{2}(2)$	0.2	/	2	0.3	0
-				8	0.9	0
				20	18.6	0.1
21	$Cu(acacF_6)_2$ (2)	0.2	/	2	76.9	0.3
	0,2 ( )			8	77.8	0.3
				20	79.9	0.3
22	$Cu(OTf)_2(2)$	0.2	/	2	78.0	0.3
			,	8	79.1	0.3
				20	79.3	0.4
23	$Cu(OAc)_{2}(2)$	0.2	/	2	83.2	0.02
	( / 2 ( - /			8	98.1	0.03
				20	98.1	0.03
24		0.2	DMF (0.5)	2	10.2	0
- ·			(0.0)	8	31.4	0.1
				20	89.4	0.2
25		0.2	DMSO(0.5)	2	57	0
23		0.2	DMISO (0.3)	8	85	0
				20	35.3	02
26		0.2	THE (0.5)	20	35.5	0.2
20		0.2	1111 (0.5)	8	90.0 00.1	0.1
				20	07.5	0.2
27		0.2	CUCN(0.5)	20	97.5	0.5
21		0.2	$CH_{3}CIN (0.5)$	2	19.2	0.5
				20	94.4	0.0
20		0.2	$\mathbf{E}_{4}$	20	94.9	0.7
28		0.2	Ethanol (0.5)	2	/.0	0
				8	51.3	1.5
00		0.0		20	65.3	2.0
29		0.2	$CH_2CI_2$ (0.5)	2	20.9	0.3
				8	83.0	0.5
1				20	93.7	0.7
30		0.2	Toluene (0.5)	2	49.2	0
				8	84.9	0.3
		1	1	1		

			20	94.2	0.4
31	0.2	$CH_2COOC_2H_5(0.5)$	2	80.0	0.3
01	0.2		8	93.8	0.4
			20	96.4	0.4
32	0.2	Acetone (0.2)	2	81.7	0.2
			8	92.1	0.2
			20	97.9	0.2
33	0.2	Acetone(0.5)	2	26.5	0
			8	90.9	0.2
			20	96.6	0.3
34	0.2	Acetone (1.0)	2	19.5	0
			8	58.3	0.2
			20	96.4	0.4
35	0.2	$H_20(0.01)$	2	31.2	0.1
			8	58.3	0.7
			20	59.8	0.8
36	0.2	$H_{2}0(0.02)$	2	26.2	0.6
			8	55.1	0.9
			20	58.5	0.9
37	0.2	H <sub>2</sub> 0 (0.05)	2	27.0	1.0
			8	28.1	1.1
			20	31.8	1.2

[a] Determined by GC, [b] <sup>31</sup>P NMR yields.

*Table -4-2.* CuCl-catalyzed aerobic oxidative coupling of *H*-phosphonates.

( <i>i</i> -PrO) <sub>2</sub> P(O)H - 1 mmol	5 mol% CuCl/amin acetone 1 mL, air, 2	0 ≝ 5 ℃ ( <i>i</i> -PrO) <sub>2</sub> P- 5 ℃ 1	0 ⊣−P(O <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>2</sub> + ( <i>i</i> -F <b>a</b>	O O II II PrO) <sub>2</sub> P-O-P(O <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>2</sub> <b>2a</b>
Entry	Amine <sup>a</sup> (20 mol%)	Time (h)	% yield 1a <sup>b</sup>	% yield <b>2a<sup>b</sup></b>
1	H <sub>2</sub> N NH <sub>2</sub>	5 20	0.1	0.4
2	Et-NH HN-Et	5	0.2 7.4	34.7
3		5	8.5 64.3	77.8 12.0
4		20 5	<b>71.5</b> 13.3	<b>27.4</b> 24.2
5		20 5	16.2 5.4	41.6 2.6
6		20 5	9.0 4.7	15.2 3.1
7		20 5	6.3	14.4
		20	9.4	13.7
8	→ NH	5 20	2.8 4.5	1.6 9.0
9		5 20	2.2 6.9	0 0.1
10	MeNH <sub>2</sub>	5 20	27.7 32.9	3.5 8.4
11	H <sub>2</sub> N	5 20	14.3 23.9	2.7 13.7
12	$\rightarrow NH_2$	5 20	24.4 30.6	2.7 7.9

13	Et <sub>3</sub> N	5 20	12.7 16.5	0.7 5.7
14	N-Me	5 20	3.0 4.7	0.16 1.3
15		5 20	1.5 2.3	9.5 <b>43.8</b>
16	_N_N	5 20	3.7 <b>10.7</b>	28.9 <b>48.5</b>

[a] Based on N atom. [b] Determined by GC.

*Table 4-3.* Copper-catalyzed aerobic oxidative coupling of *H*-phosphonates with TEEDA.

	<i>(i</i> -PrO)₂P(O)H —	cat. [Cu]/TEEDA	O C □ □ → ( <i>i</i> -PrO) <sub>2</sub> P−F	) ?(O <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>2</sub> +	0 ( <i>i</i> -PrO) <sub>2</sub> P-O	0 ⊓ −P(O <i>i</i> -Pr)₂
	1 mmol	air, 25 ℃	1a	( )2	2a	1
Entry	Cat. [Cu] (%)	TEEDA	Solvent (mL)	Time (h)	% yield 1a <sup>a</sup> ( <sup>b</sup> )	% yield <b>2a<sup>a</sup></b> ( <sup>b</sup> )
1	CuCl (5)	(mol%) 10	acetone (1)	5	64.3	12.0
		10		20	71.4	27.5
2		10	Acetone $(1)$ and $U \cap (0, 02)$	5	40.8	6.3
3		20	$H_2O(0.02)$	20	54.0	28.2
3		20	acetolie (1)	20	76.4	8.2
4		20	(1)	20	85.5	11.5
4		30	acetone (1)	5	80.6	7.2
				20	89.0	9.3
5		100	/	1	87.4	11.0
				3	87.5	11.1
6	$\operatorname{CuCl}_{2}(5)$	10	acetone (1)	5	46.3	34.2
_				20	47.2	51.3
7	CuBr (5)	10	acetone (1)	5	51.8	10.2
0		20		20	70.1	29.1
8		20	acetone (1)	5	24.8	1.0
0		20	agatona (1)	20	85.2	8.5
9		50	acetone (1)	20	30.9 89.2	2.9
10	$CuBr_{2}(5)$	10	acetone (1)	5	57.4	38.1
10	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (5)	10	accione (1)	20	58.4	41.1
11	CuI (5)	10	acetone (1)	5	34.1	33.7
				20	39.0	60.1
12	$Cu(OAc)_2(5)$	10	acetone (1)	5	0.9	0.1
				20	2.5	0.3
13		100	/	5	41.2	0.2
				20	63.1	1.1
14	CuBr (2.5)	20	/	5	23.3	1.0
1.5	G D (10)	20		20	76.2	22.3
15	CuBr (10)	20	acetone (1)	5	/3.3	2.6
16	CuBr(10)	20	/	20	94.1	4.8
10	Cubi (10)	20	/	5	50.5	0.0
17	CuBr (10)	30	/	2	72.5	1.1
10	$C_{\rm P}C_{\rm I}(10)$	20	agatona (1)	4	93.5 (94.7)	5.5 (5.5) 0.5
10	CuCI (10)	20	acetone (1)	20	95 4	3.8
19		30	acetone (1)	20	66.6	0.2
17		50		4	957(971)	2.9(2.9)
20		20	/	1.5 h	96.1	2.3
21		30		1.5 h	96.8 (97.5)	2.1 (2.0)
22		100		1 5 1	07.0	2.0
22		100	/	1.5 n	97.0	2.0
23	$Cu(OOCCF_3)_2$ (1	0) 20	/	4	55.3	0.5

24	$Cu(NO_3)_2 \cdot 3H_2O$ (10)	20	/	4	45.3	0.1	
[a] Determined by GC, [b] 31P NMR yields.							

Table 4-4.	Copper-catalyzed aerobic oxidative coupling of H-phosphonates with TMEDA

		cat. [Cu]/amine				
(1	1 mmol	air, 25 ℃	( <i>I</i> -PrO) <sub>2</sub> P-P	(O-Pf) <sub>2</sub> +	( <i>I</i> -PIO) <sub>2</sub> P=0 <sup>-</sup> <b>2a</b>	-P(0 <i>i</i> -Pi) <sub>2</sub>
Entry	cat.[Cu] (mol%)	amine (mol%)	solvent (mL)	time (h)	% yield <b>1a</b> <sup>a</sup> ( <sup>b</sup> )	% yield <b>2a</b> <sup>a</sup> ( <sup>b</sup> )
1	$CuBr_2(5)$	TMEDA (5)	acetone (1)	2	0.5	62.8
2		TMEDA (10)		2	0.4 (0.4)	99.0 (99.3)
3		TMEDA (15)		2	0.3 (0.3)	98.0 (99.4)
4		TMEDA (15)	acetone (1) and $H_2O(0.04)$	2	2.0 (1.9)	97.3 (97.8)
5		TMEDA (20)	acetone (1)	2	0.3 (0.3)	98.9 (99.3)
6	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (2.5)	TMEDA (2.5)		4	0	0.4
7		TMEDA (5)		4	0.3	87.1
8		TMEDA (7.5)		4	0 (0)	99.1 (100)
9		TMEDA (10)		4	0 (0)	99.1 (100)
10	$\operatorname{CuBr}_{2}(1)$	TMEDA (5)		6 20	1.3 2.4 (2.7)	42.5 72.4 (75.2)
11		TMEDA (7.5)		6 20	0.01	96.4 98.4 (99.9)
12		TMEDA (10)		6 20	0 (0)	99.2 (100) 98.9
13		TMEDA (10)	THF (1)	6	0.01 (0)	99.1 (100)
14	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (0.5)	TMEDA (5)	acetone (1)	20 20	0.6	26.9
15	$\operatorname{CuBr}_2(1)$	$N_{N} \sim (5)$		6	0.02	0.05
16	$\operatorname{CuBr}_{2}(1)$	Et-NH HN-Et (5)		6	0.1	27.6
17	$CuCl_2(5)$	TMEDA (15)		2	0.2	25.8
				6 20	1.1	62.3 98.4
18	CuCl (10)	TMEDA (100)	neat	3	12.9	86.2
19	CuCl (10)	TMEDA (200)	/	3	9.2	90.3
20	CuCl (5)	TMEDA (100)	/	3	6.4	92.5
21		TMEDA (100)	acetone (1)	3	4.1	95.0
				6	4.3	95.2
22		TMEDA (200)		3	3.1 3.2	96.1 96.4
23	CuCl (2)	TMEDA (20)		3	2.1	16.9
				6	2.3	17.5
24		TMEDA (50)		3	3.5	67.6 88.3
25		TMEDA (50)	acetone (0.5)	3	4.6	55.0
26		TMED A (100)	agatana (1)	6	5.9	62.0
20		1 MEDA (100)	acetone (1)	6	3.5	90.0
27		TMEDA (200)		3	2.3	97.1
28		TMEDA (200)	Acetone (2)	3 6	1.4 1.6	85.8 97.5

29	CuCl(1)	TMEDA (100)	acetone (1)	3	0.6	16.5
				6	0.7	25.3
30		TMEDA (200)		3	0.3	10.2
				6	0.4	15.3
31	CuBr (2)	TMEDA (100)		3	1.8	65.3
				6	2.5	77.8
32		TMEDA (200)		3	1.8	96.6
				6	2.2	96.9
33	CuBr (1)	TMEDA (200)		3	0.01	2.9
				6	0.01	3.6

[a] Determined by GC, [b] 31P NMR yields.

### <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR and <sup>31</sup>P NMR Spectra

1a<sup>1,2</sup>



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  4.94-4.85 (m, 4H, C*H*), 1.39 (d, 24H, *J* = 6.4 Hz, C*H*<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): 72.9 (dd, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 2.8 Hz, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 3.8 Hz, CH), 24.3 (dd, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 2.9 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>, overlap), 23.8 (dd, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 2.9 Hz, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 1.9 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 162 MHz):  $\delta$  5.01.

 $1b^1$ 



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 4.25-4.17 (m, 8H, C*H*<sub>2</sub>), 1.73-1.65 (m, 8H, C*H*<sub>2</sub>), 1.46-1.38 (m, 8H, C*H*<sub>2</sub>), 0.94 (t, 12H, J = 7.3 Hz, C*H*<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz): δ 67.5 (dd,  $J_{C-P} = 2.0$  Hz,  $J_{C-P} = 3.1$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 32.4 (dd,  $J_{C-P} = 3.1$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>, overlap), 18.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 13.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 202 MHz): δ 6.86.



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  4.30-4.25 (m, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.38 (t, 12H, J = 7.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz):  $\delta$  63.9 (dd,  $J_{C-P} = 3.1$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>, overlap), 16.4 (dd,  $J_{C-P} = 3.1$  Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>, overlap). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 202 MHz):  $\delta$  6.53.

1d



Wax solid. m.p.: 49–50 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  4.22-4.17 (m, 8H, C*H*<sub>2</sub>), 1.75-1.68 (m, 8H, C*H*<sub>2</sub>), 1.41-1.26 (m, 80H, C*H*<sub>2</sub>), 0.88 (t, 12H, *J* = 6.8 Hz, C*H*<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  67.8 (dd, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 3.8 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>, overlap), 31.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 30.5 (dd, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 2.9 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>, overlap), 29.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 25.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 162 MHz):  $\delta$  6.86. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>48</sub>H<sub>100</sub>O<sub>6</sub>P<sub>2</sub>: C, 69.02; H, 12.07. Found: C, 68.72; H, 12.36.

**1e**<sup>5</sup>



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): δ 7.33-7.29 (m, 20H, CH), 5.18-5.08 (m, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): δ 135.3 (dd,  $J_{C-P} = 2.8$  Hz,  $J_{C-P} = 3.8$  Hz, CH), 128.7(CH), 128.6(CH), 128.2(CH), 69.2 (dd,  $J_{C-P} = 2.9$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>, overlap). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 162 MHz): δ 6.56.



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): δ 4.67 (d, 4H, J = 10.4 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.00 -3.92 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.35 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.89 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): δ 78.8 (dd,  $J_{C-P} = 3.8$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>, overlap), 32.7 (dd,  $J_{C-P} = 3.8$  Hz,  $J_{C-P} = 4.8$  Hz, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 22.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 20.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 162 MHz): δ -1.32.

1g

**1f<sup>6</sup>** 



White solid. m.p.: 99–111 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): δ 9.30, 9.25 and 9.23 (3s, 2H, N*H*), 7.28, 7.25 and 7.22 (3d, 2H, J = 1.2 Hz, *H*6-thymine), 7.01 (s, broad, 2H, *H*1'), 6.34-6.29 (m, 2H, *H3*'), 5.92-5.90 (m, 2H, *H2*'), 5.00 (s, broad, 2H, *H4*'), 4.94-4.91 (m, 2H, C*H*-isopropyl), 4.38-4.32 (m, 4H, *H5*'), 1.92, 1.92 and 1.91 (3s, broad, 6H, C*H*<sub>3</sub>-thymine), 1.40-1.36 (m, 12H, C*H*<sub>3</sub>-isopropyl). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): δ 163.9 and 163.8 (2s, broad, C4-thymine), 150.9 and 150.8 (2s, broad, C2-thymine), 135.7 (d, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 2.9 Hz, C6-thymine), 135.6 and 135.5 (2s, broad, C6-thymine), 132.8 and 132.8 (2s, broad, C3'), 132.7 (d, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 2.8 Hz, C3', ), 127.9 (dd, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 3.8 Hz, C2', overlap), 127.7 (s, broad, C2'). 111.5 and 111.4 (2s, broad, C5-thymine), 89.7 and 89.6 (2s, broad, C1'), 84.5, 84.4 and 84.3 (3d, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 3.8 Hz, C4'), 74.5, 74.5 and 74.3 (3s, broad, CH-isopropyl), 68.0, 67.8 and 67.7 (3s, broad, C5'), 24.3 and 23.8 (2s, broad), CH-isopropyl), 12.4 (s, broad, CH<sub>3</sub>-thymine). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 162 MHz): δ 6.33 and 5.91 (broad). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>36</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>12</sub>P<sub>2</sub>: C, 47.42; H, 5.51; N, 8.51. Found: C, 47.71; H, 5.35; N, 8.28.



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  4.84-4.70 (m, 4H, C*H*), 1.38 (d, 24H, *J* = 6.0 Hz C*H*<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz):  $\delta$  74.1 (dd, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 3.1 Hz, *C*H, overlap), 23.6 (dd, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 3.1 Hz, *C*H<sub>3</sub>, overlap), 23.5 (dd, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 3.1 Hz, *C*H<sub>3</sub>, overlap). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 202 MHz):  $\delta$  -15.09.

**2b**<sup>9,10</sup>



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 4.19-4.15 (m, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.72-1.66 (m, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.45-38 (m, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.94 (t, 12H, J = 7.3 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 202 MHz): δ -12.79.

**2**c<sup>8, 11</sup>



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): δ 4.25-4.17 (m, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.34 (t, 12H, J = 7.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): δ 65.1 (dd,  $J_{C-P} = 2.8$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>, overlap), 15.9 (dd,  $J_{C-P} = 2.8$  Hz CH<sub>3</sub>,  $J_{C-P} = 3.8$  Hz). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 162 MHz): δ -13.12.

**2d** 



Wax solid. m.p.: 51–52 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  4.20-4.13 (m, 8H, C*H*<sub>2</sub>), 1.74-1.67 (m, 8H, C*H*<sub>2</sub>), 1.40-1.26 (m, 80H, C*H*<sub>2</sub>), 0.89 (t, 12H, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 6.8 Hz, C*H*<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  69.2 (dd, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 2.9 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>, overlap), 32.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 30.2 (dd, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 2.8 Hz, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 3.8 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 25.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 162 MHz):  $\delta$  -12.77. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>48</sub>H<sub>100</sub>O<sub>7</sub>P<sub>2</sub>: C, 67.73; H, 11.84. Found: C, 68.01; H, 12.02.



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): δ 7.34-7.29 (m, 20H, C*H*), 5.10-5.08 (m, 8H, C*H*<sub>2</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): δ 134.9 (dd,  $J_{C-P} = 3.8$  Hz, CH, overlap), 128.7 (CH), 128.5 (CH), 128.0 (CH), 70.4 (dd,  $J_{C-P} = 2.9$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>, overlap). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 162 MHz): δ -12.97. 2**f**<sup>12,13</sup>



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): δ 4.48 (d, 4H, J = 10.8 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.06 -3.90 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.32 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.90 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): δ 79.0 (dd,  $J_{C-P} = 3.8$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>, overlap), 32.2 (dd,  $J_{C-P} = 2.9$  Hz,  $J_{C-P} = 3.8$  Hz, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 21.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 19.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 162 MHz): δ -21.02.

2g



White solid. m.p.: 102–112 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  9.50, 9.47 and 9.44 (3s, 2H, N*H*), 7.29, 7.28 and 7.22 (3s, broad, *H*6-thymine), 7.02, 7.01 and 7.00 (3s, broad, 2H, *H*1'), 6.35-6.29 (m, 2H, *H*3'), 5.90 (s, broad, 2H, *H*2'), 4.99 (s, broad, 2H, *H*4'), 4.82-4.78 (m, 2H, C*H*-isopropyl), 4.39-4.29 (m, 4H, *H*5'), 1.91, and 1.91 (2s, broad, 6H, C*H*<sub>3</sub>-thymine), 1.38-1.34 (m, 12H, C*H*<sub>3</sub>-isopropyl). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  164.0 and 163.9 (2s, broad, C4-thymine), 150.9 and 150.9 (2s, broad, C2-thymine), 135.8 and 135.7 (2s, broad, C6-thymine), 132.8 and 132.7 (2s, broad, C3'), 132.6 (d, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 4.8 Hz, C3'), 127.8, 12.7 and 127.6 (3s, broad, C2'), 111.4, 11.4 and 111.3 (3s, broad, C5-thymine), 89.6 and 89.5 (2s, broad, C1'), 84.3, 84.2 and 84.1 (3s, broad, C4'), 75.7 (s, broad, CH-isopropyl), 75.6 (d, *J*<sub>C-P</sub> = 4.8 Hz, CH-isopropyl), 75.5 (s, broad, CH-isopropyl), 68.6, 67.5 and 68.5 (3s, broad, C5'), 23.6 and 23.4 (2s, broad, CH-isopropyl), 12.4 and 12.3 (2s, broad, CH<sub>3</sub>-thymine). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 162

MHz): δ -13.26 (broad) and -13.65. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>36</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>13</sub>P<sub>2</sub>: C, 46.30; H, 5.38; N, 8.31. Found: C, 46.01; H, 5.15; N, 8.54.

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S-18





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