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**Synthesis &
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Supporting Information

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Supporting Information

Impact of Incorporating Substituents onto the *P*-*o*-Anisyl Groups of DiPAMP Ligand on the Rh(I)-Catalyzed Asymmetric Hydrogenation of Olefins

Borut Zupančič,^a Barbara Mohar,^{*,a} and Michel Stephan^{*,a,b}

^a Laboratory of Organic and Medicinal Chemistry, National Institute of Chemistry, Hajdrihova 19, SI-1001 Ljubljana, Slovenia

^b PhosPhoenix SARL, 115, rue de l'Abbé Groult, F-75015 Paris, France
mstephan@phosphoenix.com; michel.stephan@ki.si

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Phosphine and Diene Acronyms

DIOP= 2,3-*O*-isopropylidene-2,3-dihydroxy-1,4-bis(diphenylphosphino)butane; DiPAMP= 1,2-bis[(*o*-anisyl)(phenyl)phosphino]ethane; DPPB= 1,4-bis(diphenylphosphino)butane; DPPE= 1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane; DPPF= 1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene; DPPP= 1,3-bis(diphenylphosphino)propane; Me-BPE= 1,2-bis(2,5-dimethylphospholano)ethane; Me-DuPHOS= 1,2-bis(2,5-dimethyl-phospholano)benzene; MOP= 2-diphenylphosphino-2'-methoxy-1,1'-binaphthalene; PAMP= (*o*-anisyl)(methyl)(phenyl)phosphine; PYRPHOS= 3,4-bis(diphenylphosphino)pyrrolidine; (*S,S,S,S*)-RoPHOS= 1,2-bis[(2*S*,3*S*,4*S*,5*S*)-2,5-dimethyl-3,4-dihydroxyphospholano]benzene; NBD= 2,5-norbornadiene; COD= *cis,cis*-1,5-cyclooctadiene.

Experimental Procedures

General. All operations were conducted under N₂ or Ar atmosphere using anhydrous and degassed solvents. Besides the commercially available arenes and substrates, the following compounds were prepared according to published literature procedures: (–)-(2*S*,4*R*,5*S*)-3,4-dimethyl-2,5-diphenyl-1,3,2-oxazaphospholidine-2-borane ((–)-**1**),^[1] (*R_P*)-(2-anisyl)[(1*S*,2*R*)-*N*-ephedrinol](phenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (**2a**),^[1] (*R_P*,*R_P*)-DiPAMP (**6a**),^[1] 2-bromo-6-trimethylsilylanisole,^[2] 3-bromo-2-

[1] a) S. Jugé, M. Stephan, J. A. Laffitte, J. P. Genêt, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1990**, *31*, 6357–6360; b) S. Jugé, J. P. Genêt (Société Nationale Elf Aquitaine), WO9100286, **1991**.

[2] Synthesis of 2-bromo-6-trimethylsilylanisole: *Method A*: To a cold (0°C) solution of *o*-trimethylsilylanisole (1.00 g, 5.55 mmol; for preparation, see: B. Goldfuss, M. Steigelmann, F. Rominger, *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2000**, 1785–1792) and TMEDA (1.66 mL, 11.1 mmol) in ether is added *n*BuLi (11.1 mmol). The mixture is stirred at RT for 2 h, then cooled (–78°C), and Br₂ (0.56 mL, 11.1 mmol) is slowly added. The resulting mixture is left to warm up to RT overnight. The reaction is hydrolyzed with H₂O (2 mL), concentrated, and H₂O is added (50 mL). Extraction with CH₂Cl₂ (3×10 mL), drying over Na₂SO₄, and concentration afforded an oil which is purified on silica gel eluting with PE/toluene 9:1. Colorless oil (0.46 g, 32%): *R_f*=0.2 (hexane); ¹H NMR: δ=0.31 (s, 9H; SiMe₃), 3.89 (s, 3H; OMe), 6.97 (dd, *J*=7, 8 Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.34 (dd, *J*=2, 7 Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.55 (dd, *J*=2, 8 Hz, 1H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: δ=–0.4, 61.5, 116.5, 125.2, 134.4, 135.2, 135.5, 161.7; MS (EI): *m/z* (%): 258 (100) [*M*⁺]; HRMS (EI): *m/z*: [*M*⁺] calcd for C₁₀H₁₅BrOSi 258.008, found 258.007. *Method B*: To a cold (0°C) solution of 2,6-dibromoanisole (4.10 g, 15.4 mmol; prepared by methylation of 2,6-dibromophenol with MeI/K₂CO₃/acetone; ¹H NMR: δ=3.89 (s, 3H; OMe), 6.87 (t, *J*=8 Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.50 (d, *J*=8 Hz, 2H; Ar-H)) in ether is added *n*BuLi (15.4 mmol). The reaction mixture is stirred for 30 min, then quenched with Me₃SiCl (0.58 mL, 4.59 mmol). The resulting mixture is left to warm up to RT. Following an identical workup as above, 2.25 g (56%) of product are obtained.

methoxybiphenyl,^[3] 2-bromo-4,6-di-*tert*-butylanisole,^[4] 1,2,3,4-tetramethoxybenzene,^[5] 2,3-dihydro-2,2-dimethyl-7-methoxy-benzofuran,^[6] 2-bromo-1-methoxynaphthalene,^[7] (*R_P*)-(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)[(1*S*,2*R*)-*N*-ephedrinol](phenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (**2e**),^[8] (*R_P*,*R_P*)-1,2-bis[(methoxy)(phenyl)phosphino-*P*-borane]ethane,^[9] methyl (*Z*)- β -acetamidocrotonate (*Z*-MAB).^[10] ¹H (300 MHz, internal Me₄Si), ¹³C (75 MHz, internal CDCl₃), and ³¹P NMR (120 MHz, external 85% H₃PO₄) were recorded for solutions in CDCl₃.

General procedure for the synthesis of (aryl)(*N*-ephedrino)(phenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (2b–m).

To a cold (0°C) solution of the corresponding bromomethoxyarene (or methoxyarene) (1.3 molar equiv) in an appropriate solvent (ether, cyclohexane or THF) is added under stirring the appropriate BuLi (*n*, *s* or *t*) (1.3 molar equiv).^[11] The mixture is left at RT until the transmetalation is complete. To this mixture at –30°C, a THF (100 mL) solution of (–)-**1** (1 molar equiv) is slowly added and the resulting mixture left to warm up to RT. After overnight stirring, the reaction is quenched with H₂O (5 mL). The concentrated residue is partitioned between CH₂Cl₂ (30 mL) and H₂O (100 mL), and the organic layer is dried over Na₂SO₄ then concentrated. The crude is purified on silica gel.

(*R_P*)-(2,3-Dimethoxyphenyl)[(1*S*,2*R*)-*N*-ephedrino](phenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (2b).

Prepared from 1,2-dimethoxybenzene. Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene, then with toluene/EtOAc 9:1 (*R_f*=0.3) and recrystallization from hexane/CH₂Cl₂ yielded **2b** as colorless crystals (87% yield): m.p. 123–125°C; [α]_D²⁵ = –33.7 deg cm³ g^{–1} dm^{–1} (*c* = 1.0 g dL^{–1} in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: δ = 0.42–1.71 (br m, 3H; BH₃), 1.24 (d, *J* = 7 Hz, 3H; CHMe), 1.92 (br d, *J* = 4 Hz, 1H; OH), 2.56 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 3H; NMe), 3.55 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.84 (s, 3H; OMe), 4.32 (m, 1H; NCH), 4.85 (m, 1H; CHOH), 7.01–7.07 (m, 3H; Ar-H), 7.22–7.45 (m, 10H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: δ = 12.5 (d, *J*(C,P) = 2 Hz), 31.0 (d, *J*(C,P) = 4 Hz), 55.7, 58.2 (d, *J*(C,P) = 10 Hz), 60.5, 78.9 (d, *J*(C,P) = 5 Hz), 115.9 (d, *J*(C,P) = 2 Hz), 123.5 (d, *J*(C,P) = 12 Hz), 124.3 (d, *J*(C,P) = 59 Hz), 125.3 (d, *J*(C,P) = 9 Hz), 126.5, 127.5, 128.0 (d, *J*(C,P) = 11 Hz), 128.3, 129.9 (d, *J*(C,P) = 2 Hz), 130.9 (d, *J*(C,P) = 10 Hz), 132.8 (d, *J*(C,P) = 70 Hz), 142.5, 151.1 (d, *J*(C,P) = 4 Hz), 152.6 (d, *J*(C,P) = 8 Hz); ³¹P NMR: δ = +68.7 (br m); MS (ESI): *m/z* (%): 424.2 (100) [*M*⁺+H]; HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: [*M*⁺+H] calcd for C₂₄H₃₂BNO₃P 424.221, found 424.220; EA: calcd (C₂₄H₃₁BNO₃P, 423.29) C 68.10, H 7.38, N 3.31, found C 67.84, H 7.45, N 3.33.

(*R_P*)-(2,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)[(1*S*,2*R*)-*N*-ephedrino](phenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (2c).

Prepared from 2,4-dimethoxy-bromobenzene. Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene, then with toluene/EtOAc 9:1 (*R_f*=0.4) and recrystallization from hexane/CH₂Cl₂ yielded **2c** as colorless crystals (92% yield): m.p. 150–152°C; [α]_D²⁵ = –25.2 deg cm³ g^{–1} dm^{–1} (*c* = 1.0 g dL^{–1} in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: δ = 0.40–1.64 (br m, 3H; BH₃), 1.18 (d, *J* = 7 Hz, 3H; CHMe), 2.03 (br s, 1H; OH), 2.51 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 3H; NMe), 3.52 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.81 (s, 3H; OMe), 4.28 (m, 1H; NCH), 4.85 (d, *J* = 6 Hz, 1H; CHOH), 6.42

[3] R. Kadyrov, D. Heller, R. Selke, *Tetrahedron: Asymmetry* **1998**, 9, 329–340.

[4] K. Kamaraj, E. Kim, B. Galliker, L. N. Zakharov, A. L. Rheingold, A. D. Zuberbühler, K. D. Karlin, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2003**, 125, 6028–6029.

[5] M. S. Tremblay, D. Sames, *Org. Lett.* **2005**, 7, 2417–2420.

[6] Prepared by methylation of 2,3-dihydro-2,2-dimethyl-7-benzofuranol with MeI/K₂CO₃/acetone; ¹H NMR: δ = 1.51 (s, 6H; 2 CMe), 3.04 (s, 2H; CH₂), 3.86 (s, 3H; OMe), 6.71–6.82 (m, 3H; Ar-H).

[7] Prepared by methylation of 2-bromo-1-naphthol (for preparation, see: W. G. Huang, *Tetrahedron* **2005**, 61, 1863–1870; note: in V. Kavala, S. Naik, B. K. Patel, *J. Org. Chem.* **2005**, 70, 4267–4271, ¹H NMR of the bromonaphthol mentioned corresponds to 4-bromo-1-naphthol) with MeI/K₂CO₃/acetone; ¹H NMR: δ = 4.02 (s, 3H; OMe), 7.48–7.60 (m, 4H; Ar), 7.83 (m, 1H; Ar-H); 8.13 (m, 1H; Ar-H).

[8] M. M. S. Stephan, D. Šterk, B. Modéc, B. Mohar, *J. Org. Chem.* **2007**, 72, 8010–8018.

[9] a) J. A. Laffitte, S. Jugé, J. P. Genêt, M. Stephan (Société Nationale Elf Aquitaine), FR2672603, **1991**; WO9214739, **1992**; b) M. Stephan, PhD thesis, Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris VI (FR), **1991**.

[10] G. Zhu, Z. Chen, X. Zhang, *J. Org. Chem.* **1999**, 64, 6907–6910.

[11] L. Brandsma, H. D. Verkruisje in *Preparative Polar Organometallic Chemistry, Vol. 1*, Springer-Verlag, Berlin Heidelberg, **1987**.

(dd, $J=2, 3$ Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 6.53 (m, 1H; Ar-H), 7.11–7.36 (m, 8H; Ar-H), 7.44 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.56 (dd, $J=9, 13$ Hz, 1H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: $\delta=12.6$ (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=2$ Hz), 30.6 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=4$ Hz), 54.8, 55.3, 57.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=11$ Hz), 78.5 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=6$ Hz), 98.7 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=5$ Hz), 105.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=12$ Hz), 110.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=60$ Hz), 126.6, 127.4, 127.7 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=11$ Hz), 128.2, 129.6 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=2$ Hz), 130.6 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=11$ Hz), 132.5 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=73$ Hz), 136.6 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=13$ Hz), 142.5, 162.3 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=2$ Hz), 163.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=2$ Hz); ^{31}P NMR: $\delta=+67.1$ (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 424.2 (80) [M^+ +H], 446.2 (91) [M^+ +Na]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [M^+ +H] calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{32}\text{BNO}_3\text{P}$ 424.221, found 424.222; EA: calcd ($\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{31}\text{BNO}_3\text{P}$, 423.29) C 68.10, H 7.38, N 3.31, found C 68.22, H 7.41, N 3.34.

(*R_P*)-(2,5-Dimethoxyphenyl)[(1*S*,2*R*)-*N*-ephedrino](phenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (2d**).** Prepared

from 1,4-dimethoxybenzene. Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene, then with toluene/EtOAc 9:1 ($R_f=0.4$) and recrystallization from hexane/ CH_2Cl_2 yielded **2d** as colorless crystals (81% yield): m.p. 150–152°C; $[\alpha]_D^{25}=-29.3$ $\text{deg cm}^3\text{g}^{-1}\text{dm}^{-1}$ ($c=1.0$ g dcl^{-1} in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: $\delta=0.31$ –1.76 (br m, 3H; BH_3), 1.23 (d, $J=7$ Hz, 3H; CHMe), 1.90 (br d, $J=4$ Hz, 1H; OH), 2.55 (d, $J=8$ Hz, 3H; NMe), 3.51 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.75 (s, 3H; OMe), 4.32 (m, 1H; NCH), 4.90 (m, 1H; CHOH), 6.85 (dd, $J=5, 9$ Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.00 (ddd, $J=1, 3, 6$ Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.13–7.39 (m, 9H; Ar-H), 7.45 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: $\delta=12.6$ (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=2$ Hz), 31.0 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=4$ Hz), 55.6, 55.7, 58.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=10$ Hz), 78.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=6$ Hz), 112.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=6$ Hz), 118.3 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=2$ Hz), 119.6 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=56$ Hz), 119.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=12$ Hz), 126.6, 127.6, 127.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=11$ Hz), 128.4, 130.0 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=3$ Hz), 130.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=10$ Hz), 132.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=72$ Hz), 142.5, 153.5 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=13$ Hz), 155.3 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=2$ Hz); ^{31}P NMR: $\delta=+69.3$ (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 424.2 (37) [M^+ +H], 446.2 (100) [M^+ +Na]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [M^+ +H] calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{32}\text{BNO}_3\text{P}$ 424.221, found 424.221; EA: calcd ($\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{31}\text{BNO}_3\text{P}$, 423.29) C 68.10, H 7.38, N 3.31, found C 68.38, H 7.52, N 3.35.

(*R_P*)-[(1*S*,2*R*)-*N*-Ephedrino](phenyl)(6-trimethylsilyl-2-anisyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (2f**).** Prepared

from 2-bromo-6-trimethylsilylanisole. Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene ($R_f=0.3$) yielded **2f** as a colorless oil (99% yield): $[\alpha]_D^{25}=+11.1$ $\text{deg cm}^3\text{g}^{-1}\text{dm}^{-1}$ ($c=0.7$ g dcl^{-1} in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: $\delta=0.31$ (s, 9H; SiMe_3), 0.73–1.69 (br m, 3H; BH_3), 1.20 (d, $J=7$ Hz, 3H; CHMe), 1.96 (br s, 1H; OH), 2.49 (d, $J=8$ Hz, 3H; NMe), 3.58 (s, 3H; OMe), 4.32 (m, 1H; NCH), 4.85 (br d, $J=5$ Hz, 1H; CHOH), 7.09 (dt, $J=1, 8$ Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.17–7.48 (m, 11H; Ar-H), 7.59 (ddd, $J=1, 2, 7$ Hz, 1H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: $\delta=-0.01$, 11.8 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=3$ Hz), 30.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=3$ Hz), 58.2 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=10$ Hz), 63.9, 78.8 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=4$ Hz), 123.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=60$ Hz), 123.3 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=9$ Hz), 126.2, 127.3, 127.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=10$ Hz), 128.2, 130.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=2$ Hz), 131.4 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=10$ Hz), 132.6 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=67$ Hz), 133.8 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=3$ Hz), 135.7 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=9$ Hz), 139.7 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=1$ Hz), 142.5, 168.2 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=4$ Hz); ^{31}P NMR: $\delta=+68.8$ (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 466.2 (100) [M^+ +H]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [M^+ +H] calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{38}\text{BNO}_2\text{PSi}$ 466.250, found 466.249.

(*R_P*)-[(1*S*,2*R*)-*N*-Ephedrino](phenyl)(6-phenyl-2-anisyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (2g**).** Prepared from

3-bromo-2-methoxybiphenyl. Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene yielded **2g** as a colorless oil (98% yield): $R_f=0.4$ (toluene/EtOAc 9:1); $[\alpha]_D^{25}=+39.8$ $\text{deg cm}^3\text{g}^{-1}\text{dm}^{-1}$ ($c=1.0$ g dcl^{-1} in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: $\delta=0.61$ –1.84 (br m, 3H; BH_3), 1.29 (d, $J=7$ Hz, 3H; CHMe), 1.96 (br s, 1H; OH), 2.63 (d, $J=8$ Hz, 3H; NMe), 2.98 (s, 3H; OMe), 4.36 (m, 1H; NCH), 4.89 (br d, $J=5$ Hz, 1H; CHOH), 7.13–7.49 (m, 18H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: $\delta=12.5$ (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=3$ Hz), 31.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=3$ Hz), 58.2 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=10$ Hz), 60.6, 78.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=5$ Hz), 123.5 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=10$ Hz), 124.4 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=60$ Hz), 126.4, 127.4, 127.5, 128.0 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=10$ Hz), 128.3, 128.5, 128.6, 130.0 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=3$ Hz), 131.0 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=10$ Hz), 132.8 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=69$ Hz), 133.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=9$ Hz), 134.7 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=5$ Hz), 135.4 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=2$ Hz), 138.3 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=1$ Hz), 142.5, 160.0 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=3$ Hz); ^{31}P NMR: $\delta=+68.9$ (br m); MS (EI): m/z (%): 468 (40) [M^+ -H]; HRMS (EI): m/z : [M^+ -H] calcd for $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{32}\text{BNO}_2\text{P}$ 468.226, found 468.227.

(R_P)-(4,6-Di-*tert*-butyl-2-anisyl)[(1*S*,2*R*)-*N*-ephedrinol](phenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (2h). Prepared from 2-bromo-4,6-di-*tert*-butylanisole. Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene (*R_f*=0.2) yielded **2h** as a colorless oil (96% yield): [α]_D²⁵=−44.1 degcm³g^{−1}dm^{−1} (*c*=1.0 gdcL^{−1} in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: δ =0.57–1.95 (br m, 3H; BH₃), 1.20 (d, *J*=7 Hz, 3H; CHMe), 1.22 (s, 9H; CMe₃), 1.39 (s, 9H; CMe₃), 1.69 (br s, 1H; OH), 2.47 (d, *J*=8 Hz, 3H; NMe), 3.59 (s, 3H; OMe), 4.40 (m, 1H; NCH), 4.87 (br d, *J*=4 Hz, 1H; CHOH), 7.15–7.44 (m, 9H; Ar-H), 7.48 (d, *J*=2 Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.61 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: δ =11.4 (d, *J*(C,P)=4 Hz), 30.7 (d, *J*(C,P)=4 Hz), 31.1, 31.2, 34.5, 35.5, 58.2 (d, *J*(C,P)=10 Hz), 64.2, 78.7 (d, *J*(C,P)=2 Hz), 122.6 (d, *J*(C,P)=63 Hz), 125.9, 127.2, 127.6 (d, *J*(C,P)=10 Hz), 128.0, 128.1, 129.9 (d, *J*(C,P)=8 Hz), 130.3 (d, *J*(C,P)=2 Hz), 131.8 (d, *J*(C,P)=10 Hz), 132.4 (d, *J*(C,P)=63 Hz), 142.5, 143.1 (d, *J*(C,P)=6 Hz), 145.2 (d, *J*(C,P)=10 Hz), 160.3 (d, *J*(C,P)=5 Hz); ³¹P NMR: δ =+69.6 (br m); MS (ESI): *m/z* (%): 506.3 (35) [*M*⁺+H]; HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: [*M*⁺+H] calcd for C₃₁H₄₆BNO₂P 506.336, found 506.337.

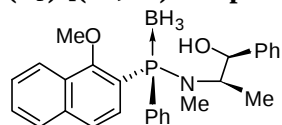
(R_P)-[(1*S*,2*R*)-*N*-Ephedrinol](phenyl)(2,3,4-trimethoxyphenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (2i). Prepared from 1,2,3-trimethoxybenzene. Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene/EtOAc 9:1 (*R_f*=0.2) and recrystallization from hexane/CH₂Cl₂ yielded **2i** as colorless crystals (70% yield): m.p. 149–150°C; [α]_D²⁵=−29.4 degcm³g^{−1}dm^{−1} (*c*=1.0 gdcL^{−1} in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: δ =0.38–1.67 (br m, 3H; BH₃), 1.22 (d, *J*=7 Hz, 3H; CHMe), 1.96 (br d, *J*=4 Hz, 1H; OH), 2.57 (d, *J*=8 Hz, 3H; NMe), 3.52 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.79 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.87 (s, 3H; OMe), 4.29 (m, 1H; NCH), 4.85 (m, 1H; CHOH), 6.68 (dd, *J*=3, 9 Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.18–7.37 (m, 9H; Ar-H), 7.42 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: δ =12.7 (d, *J*(C,P)=2 Hz), 30.8 (d, *J*(C,P)=3 Hz), 56.0, 58.1, 58.2, 60.4, 78.9 (d, *J*(C,P)=6 Hz), 106.7 (d, *J*(C,P)=13 Hz), 115.8 (d, *J*(C,P)=62 Hz), 126.5, 127.5, 127.9 (d, *J*(C,P)=10 Hz), 128.3, 129.5 (d, *J*(C,P)=11 Hz), 129.8 (d, *J*(C,P)=3 Hz), 130.7 (d, *J*(C,P)=10 Hz), 133.1 (d, *J*(C,P)=71 Hz), 141.7, 142.6, 155.6, 156.9 (d, *J*(C,P)=3 Hz); ³¹P NMR: δ =+67.8 (br m); MS (ESI): *m/z* (%): 454.2 (100) [*M*⁺+H]; HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: [*M*⁺+H] calcd for C₂₅H₃₄BNO₄P 454.232, found 454.233; EA: calcd (C₂₅H₃₃BNO₄P, 453.32) C 66.24, H 7.34, N 3.09, found C 66.38, H 7.39, N 3.05.

(R_P)-[(1*S*,2*R*)-*N*-Ephedrinol](phenyl)(2,3,4,5-tetramethoxyphenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (2j). Prepared from 1,2,3,4-tetramethoxybenzene. Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene/EtOAc 9:1 (*R_f*=0.2), then with toluene/EtOAc 8:2 and recrystallization from hexane/CH₂Cl₂ yielded **2j** as colorless crystals (76% yield): m.p. 102–105°C; [α]_D²⁵=−21.8 degcm³g^{−1}dm^{−1} (*c*=1.0 gdcL^{−1} in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: δ =0.51–1.64 (br m, 3H; BH₃), 1.25 (d, *J*=7 Hz, 3H; CHMe), 1.83 (br s, 1H; OH), 2.59 (d, *J*=8 Hz, 3H; NMe), 3.42 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.77 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.84 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.94 (s, 3H; OMe), 4.30 (m, 1H; NCH), 4.87 (br d, *J*=5 Hz, 1H; CHOH), 6.87 (d, *J*=13 Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.20–7.45 (m, 10H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: δ =12.8 (d, *J*(C,P)=2 Hz), 30.9 (d, *J*(C,P)=4 Hz), 56.1, 58.2 (d, *J*(C,P)=10 Hz), 60.5, 60.7, 61.0, 78.7 (d, *J*(C,P)=5 Hz), 111.2 (d, *J*(C,P)=13 Hz), 117.4 (d, *J*(C,P)=60 Hz), 126.5, 127.6, 128.0 (d, *J*(C,P)=10 Hz), 128.3, 129.9 (d, *J*(C,P)=2 Hz), 130.7 (d, *J*(C,P)=10 Hz), 132.8 (d, *J*(C,P)=71 Hz), 142.5, 146.2 (d, *J*(C,P)=2 Hz), 146.8 (d, *J*(C,P)=9 Hz), 148.8 (d, *J*(C,P)=14 Hz), 149.8 (d, *J*(C,P)=3 Hz); ³¹P NMR: δ =+68.8 (br m); MS (ESI): *m/z* (%): 484.2 (100) [*M*⁺+H]; HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: [*M*⁺+H] calcd for C₂₆H₃₆BNO₅P 484.242, found 484.241; EA: calcd (C₂₆H₃₅BNO₅P, 483.34) C 64.61, H 7.30, N 2.90, found C 64.49, H 7.43, N 2.93.

(R_P)-(2,3-Dihydro-2,2-dimethyl-7-methoxy-6-benzofuranyl)[(1*S*,2*R*)-*N*-ephedrinol](phenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (2k). Prepared from 2,3-dihydro-2,2-dimethyl-7-methoxy-benzofuran. Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene yielded **2k** as a colorless oil (90% yield): *R_f*=0.5 (toluen/EtOAc 9:1); [α]_D²⁵=+27.2 degcm³g^{−1}dm^{−1} (*c*=0.5 gdcL^{−1} in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: δ =0.45–1.91 (br m, 3H; BH₃), 1.24 (d, *J*=7 Hz, 3H; CHMe), 1.48 (s, 3H; CMe), 1.50 (s, 3H; CMe), 1.87 (br d, *J*=4 Hz, 1H; OH), 2.58 (d, *J*=8 Hz, 3H; NMe), 3.01 (s, 2H; CH₂), 3.56 (s, 3H; OMe), 4.31 (m, 1H; NCH), 4.86 (m, 1H; CHOH), 6.86 (m, 1H; Ar-H), 6.98 (dd, *J*=8, 12 Hz, 1H;

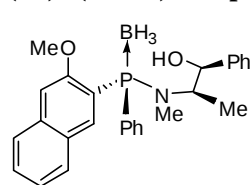
Ar-H), 7.22–7.36 (m, 8H; Ar-H), 7.42 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: δ =12.6 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =2 Hz), 28.2 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =3 Hz), 31.0 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =3 Hz), 42.8, 58.1, 58.3, 59.1, 79.0 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =5 Hz), 87.9, 119.2 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =13 Hz), 121.6 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =59 Hz), 125.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =11 Hz), 126.5, 127.6, 127.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =11 Hz), 128.3, 129.8 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =2 Hz), 130.8 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =10 Hz), 133.2 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =70 Hz), 134.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =2 Hz), 142.6, 145.6 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =4 Hz), 149.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =8 Hz); ^{31}P NMR: δ =+68.9 (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 464.3 (100) [M^+ +H]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [M^+ +H] calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{36}\text{BNO}_3\text{P}$ 464.253, found 464.252.

(*R_P*)-[(1*S*,2*R*)-*N*-Ephedrinol](1-methoxy-2-naphthyl)(phenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (2l). Prepared



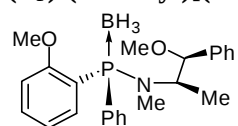
from 2-bromo-1-methoxynaphthalene. Purified on silica gel eluting with toluene yielded **2l** as a colorless oil (92% yield): R_f =0.4 (toluene/EtOAc 9:1); $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ =+1.8 degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ (c =1.0 gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: δ =0.53–1.93 (br m, 3H; BH_3), 1.26 (d, J =7 Hz, 3H; CHMe), 2.02 (br s, 1H; OH), 2.56 (d, J =7.8 Hz, 3H; NMe), 3.72 (s, 3H; OMe), 4.37 (m, 1H; NCH), 4.83 (m, 1H; CHOH), 7.17–7.60 (m, 14H; Ar-H), 7.82 (m, 1H; Ar-H), 8.04 (m, 1H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: δ =12.3 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =3 Hz), 31.0 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =3 Hz), 58.2 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =10 Hz), 63.3, 78.7 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =4 Hz), 118.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =61 Hz), 123.1, 123.8 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =10 Hz), 126.1, 126.3, 127.4, 127.7, 127.8 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =10 Hz), 128.0 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =10 Hz), 128.15, 128.19, 128.6 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =9 Hz), 130.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =2 Hz), 131.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =10 Hz), 132.6 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =68 Hz), 136.8 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =2 Hz), 142.5, 160.2 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =4 Hz); ^{31}P NMR: δ =+68.0 (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 444.2 (20) [M^+ +H]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [M^+ +H] calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{32}\text{BNO}_2\text{P}$ 444.226, found 444.226.

(*R_P*)-[(1*S*,2*R*)-*N*-Ephedrinol](3-methoxy-2-naphthyl)(phenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (2m). Prepared



from 2-methoxynaphthalene.^[12] Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene yielded **2m** as a colorless oil (98% yield): R_f =0.5 (toluene/EtOAc 9:1); $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ =−8.5 degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ (c =1.0 gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: δ =0.52–1.70 (br m, 3H; BH_3), 1.23 (d, J =7 Hz, 3H; CHMe), 1.90 (br d, J =4 Hz, 1H; OH), 2.60 (d, J =8 Hz, 3H; NMe), 3.69 (s, 3H; OMe), 4.37 (m, 1H; NCH), 4.95 (m, 1H; CHOH), 7.14 (d, J =4 Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.24–7.42 (m, 9H; Ar-H), 7.44–7.52 (m, 3H; Ar-H), 7.75 (dd, J =8, 12 Hz, 2H; Ar-H), 8.12 (d, J =14 Hz, 1H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: δ =12.4 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =2 Hz), 31.2 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =4 Hz), 55.0, 58.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =11 Hz), 79.0 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =6 Hz), 106.2 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =4 Hz), 121.0 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =54 Hz), 124.2, 126.2, 126.53, 126.54, 127.6, 128.0 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =10 Hz), 128.2 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =11 Hz), 128.3, 128.4, 128.8, 130.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =2 Hz), 131.0 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =10 Hz), 132.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =72 Hz), 136.2 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =2 Hz), 137.2 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =11 Hz), 142.5, 157.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =3 Hz); ^{31}P NMR: δ =+65.8 (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 444.2 (85) [M^+ +H]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [M^+ +H] calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{32}\text{BNO}_2\text{P}$ 444.226, found 444.226.

(*R_P*)-(2-Anisyl)[(1*S*,2*R*)-*O*-methyl-*N*-ephedrinol](phenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (2aa). To a cold



(0°C) solution of **2a** (1.00 g, 2.54 mmol) and MeI (0.32 mL, 5.08 mmol) in THF (5 mL) is added NaH (122 mg, 5.08 mmol) and the resulting mixture is left to warm up to RT overnight. The reaction is hydrolyzed with H_2O (2 mL). To the concentrated residue H_2O (50 mL) is added and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (3×10 mL). The organic layer is dried over Na_2SO_4 and concentrated. Crystallization from hexane afforded **2aa** as a white powder (1.01 g, 98%): m.p. 95–97°C; R_f =0.5 (toluene); $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ =−6.5 degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ (c =1.0 gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: δ =0.43–1.70 (br m, 3H; BH_3), 1.16 (d, J =7 Hz, 3H; CHMe), 2.57 (d, J =8 Hz, 3H; NMe), 3.20 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.55 (s, 3H; OMe), 4.23 (m, 1H; NCH), 4.36 (br d, J =5 Hz, 1H; CHOMe), 6.89 (dd, J =1, 4 Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.00 (ddd, J =1, 2, 7 Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.22–7.41 (m, 10H; Ar-H), 7.45 (m, 1H; Ar-H), 7.56 (dd, J =2, 7 Hz, 1H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: δ =12.4 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =3 Hz), 31.0 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =4 Hz), 55.0, 56.9, 57.8 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =11 Hz), 88.7 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =5 Hz), 111.5 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =5 Hz), 118.7 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =59 Hz), 120.8 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =10 Hz), 127.2, 127.4, 127.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =11 Hz), 128.2, 129.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =2 Hz), 130.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =10 Hz), 132.4 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =70 Hz), 133.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =2 Hz), 134.8 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =10 Hz), 139.9, 161.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})$ =3 Hz); ^{31}P NMR: δ =+69.0 (br m); MS (ESI): m/z

[12] R. S. Laufer, G. I. Dmitrienko, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2002**, *124*, 1854–1855.

(%): 406.2 (70) $[M^+-H]$; HRMS (ESI): m/z : $[M^+-H]$ calcd for $C_{24}H_{30}BNO_2P$ 406.211, found 406.210; EA: calcd ($C_{24}H_{31}BNO_2P$, 407.29) C 70.77, H 7.67, N 3.44, found C 70.85, H 7.74, N 3.47.

(*R_p*)-[(1*S*,2*R*)-O-Methyl-*N*-ephedrino](phenyl)(6-trimethylsilyl-2-anisyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (2fa).

Method A: To a cold (-78°C) solution of **2aa** (420 mg, 1.03 mmol) in THF (2 mL) is added *s*BuLi (1.34 mmol) and the resulting mixture is stirred at -20°C for 2–3 h affording a red solution. Then Me_3SiCl (0.20 mL, 1.55 mmol) is slowly added and the resulting mixture is left to warm up to RT overnight. To the concentrated residue H_2O (20 mL) is added and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (3×5 mL). The organic layer is dried over Na_2SO_4 , and concentrated. Purification on silica gel eluting with hexane/EtOAc 9:1 ($R_f=0.6$) afforded **2fa** as a colorless oil (300 mg, 70%): $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -31.7 \text{ deg cm}^3 \text{ g}^{-1} \text{ dm}^{-1}$ ($c=1.0 \text{ g dL}^{-1}$ in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: $\delta=0.31$ (s, 9H; SiMe_3), 0.63–1.78 (br m, 3H; BH_3), 1.16 (d, $J=7$ Hz, 3H; CHMe), 2.56 (d, $J=8$ Hz, 3H; NMe), 3.09 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.60 (s, 3H; OMe), 4.22 (m, 1H; NCH), 4.35 (br d, $J=4$ Hz, 1H; CHOMe), 7.11 (m, 1H; Ar-H), 7.19–7.45 (m, 9H; Ar-H), 7.50–7.61 (m, 3H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: $\delta=0.01$, 11.7 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=3$ Hz), 31.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=3$ Hz), 56.8, 58.0 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=10$ Hz), 64.0, 88.7 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=3$ Hz), 123.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=61$ Hz), 123.4 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=8$ Hz), 126.9, 127.3, 127.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=10$ Hz), 128.2, 130.3 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=2$ Hz), 131.6 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=9$ Hz), 132.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=65$ Hz), 134.0 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=3$ Hz), 135.8 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=8$ Hz), 139.6 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=2$ Hz), 139.9, 168.3 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=4$ Hz); ^{31}P NMR: $\delta=+68.7$ (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 478.3 (100) $[M^+-H]$; HRMS (ESI): m/z : $[M^+-H]$ calcd for $C_{27}H_{38}BNO_2\text{PSi}$ 478.250, found 478.250.

Method B: Compound **2fa** was prepared from **2f** following an identical procedure as applied for the preparation of **2aa** (98% yield).

General procedure for the synthesis of methyl (aryl)(phenyl)phosphinite-*P*-borane (3b–m). To the (aryl)(*N*-ephedrino)(phenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (**2b–m**) in MeOH (or MeOH/ CH_2Cl_2) is added under stirring H_2SO_4 (96%, ≤ 1 equiv) at RT and left overnight. The reaction mixture is filtered through a short bed of silica gel and concentrated. To the residue H_2O (100 mL) is added and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (3×30 mL). The organic layer is dried over Na_2SO_4 and concentrated. Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene (**3j**: toluene/EtOAc 95:5) and/or by recrystallization afforded **3**.

Methyl (*S_p*)-(2,3-dimethoxyphenyl)(phenyl)phosphinite-*P*-borane (3b). Colorless oil (95% yield): $R_f=0.6$ (toluene/EtOAc 9:1); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +11.2 \text{ deg cm}^3 \text{ g}^{-1} \text{ dm}^{-1}$ ($c=1.0 \text{ g dL}^{-1}$ in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: $\delta=0.45$ –1.61 (br m, 3H; BH_3), 3.55 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.73 (d, $J=12$ Hz, 3H; POMe), 3.81 (s, 3H; OMe), 7.05–7.18 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.32–7.51 (m, 4H; Ar-H), 7.74 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: $\delta=53.9$ (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=2$ Hz), 55.7, 60.4, 116.7 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=2$ Hz), 123.8 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=12$ Hz), 124.0 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=9$ Hz), 125.3 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=64$ Hz), 128.2 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=11$ Hz), 131.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=12$ Hz), 131.4 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=2$ Hz), 132.3 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=65$ Hz), 150.5 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=5$ Hz), 152.5 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=8$ Hz); ^{31}P NMR: $\delta=+106.4$ (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 289.1 (69) $[M^+-H]$, 313.1 (100) $[M^++\text{Na}]$; HRMS (ESI): m/z : $[M^++\text{Na}]$ calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{20}\text{BO}_3\text{PNa}$ 313.114, found 313.115.

Methyl (*S_p*)-(2,4-dimethoxyphenyl)(phenyl)phosphinite-*P*-borane (3c). Colorless oil (98% yield): $R_f=0.7$ (toluene/EtOAc 9:1); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -19.5 \text{ deg cm}^3 \text{ g}^{-1} \text{ dm}^{-1}$ ($c=1.1 \text{ g dL}^{-1}$ in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: $\delta=0.37$ –1.69 (br m, 3H; BH_3), 3.60 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.71 (d, $J=12$ Hz, 3H; POMe), 3.84 (s, 3H; OMe), 6.39 (dd, $J=2, 3$ Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 6.60 (td, $J=2, 9$ Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.35–7.48 (m, 3H; Ar-H), 7.70 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.79 (dd, $J=9, 13$ Hz, 1H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: $\delta=53.6$ (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=3$ Hz), 55.27, 55.34, 98.8 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=5$ Hz), 105.0 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=12$ Hz), 110.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=65$ Hz), 127.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=11$ Hz), 130.6 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=12$ Hz), 130.8 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=2$ Hz), 132.3 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=70$ Hz), 136.2 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=15$ Hz), 162.5 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=2$ Hz), 164.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=2$ Hz); ^{31}P NMR: $\delta=+105.6$ (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 289.1 (63) $[M^+-H]$, 313.1 (100) $[M^++\text{Na}]$; HRMS (ESI): m/z : $[M^++\text{Na}]$ calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{20}\text{BO}_3\text{PNa}$ 313.114, found 313.114.

Methyl (*S_P*)-(2,5-dimethoxyphenyl)(phenyl)phosphinite-*P*-borane (3d). Colorless oil (96% yield): $R_f=0.4$ (toluene); $[\alpha]_D^{25}=+47.0$ degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ ($c=0.5$ gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: $\delta=0.38$ – 1.65 (br m, 3H; BH₃), 3.55 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.73 (d, $J=12$ Hz, 3H; POMe), 3.80 (s, 3H; OMe), 6.82 (dd, $J=5, 9$ Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.02 (dd, $J=3, 9$ Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.33–7.51 (m, 4H; Ar-H), 7.74 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: $\delta=53.9$ (d, $J(C,P)=2$ Hz), 55.8, 56.2, 113.3 (d, $J(C,P)=6$ Hz), 118.5 (d, $J(C,P)=12$ Hz), 119.3 (d, $J(C,P)=2$ Hz), 120.3 (d, $J(C,P)=63$ Hz), 128.1 (d, $J(C,P)=11$ Hz), 131.1 (d, $J(C,P)=12$ Hz), 131.3 (d, $J(C,P)=2$ Hz), 131.9 (d, $J(C,P)=66$ Hz), 153.6 (d, $J(C,P)=13$ Hz), 155.2 (d, $J(C,P)=3$ Hz); ³¹P NMR: $\delta=+107.0$ (br m); MS (EI): m/z (%): 290 (65) [M^+]; HRMS (EI): m/z : [M^+] calcd for C₁₅H₂₀BO₃P 290.124, found 290.125.

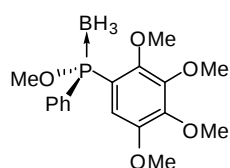
Methyl (*S_P*)-(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)(phenyl)phosphinite-*P*-borane (3e). Colorless oil (90% yield): $R_f=0.6$ (toluene/EtOAc 9:1); $[\alpha]_D^{25}=+9.6$ degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ ($c=1.0$ gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: $\delta=0.43$ – 1.68 (br m, 3H; BH₃), 3.61 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 3.74 (d, $J=12$ Hz, 3H; POMe), 6.53 (dd, $J=4, 8$ Hz, 2H; Ar-H), 7.35–7.47 (m, 4H; Ar-H), 7.77 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: $\delta=54.5$ (d, $J(C,P)=3$ Hz), 55.8, 104.8 (d, $J(C,P)=5$ Hz), 107.6 (d, $J(C,P)=57$ Hz), 127.9 (d, $J(C,P)=11$ Hz), 130.3 (d, $J(C,P)=12$ Hz), 130.7 (d, $J(C,P)=3$ Hz), 134.1, 135.0 (d, $J(C,P)=72$ Hz), 162.6 (d, $J(C,P)=3$ Hz); ³¹P NMR: $\delta=+108.3$ (br m); MS (EI): m/z (%): 289 (55) [M^+-H]; HRMS (EI): m/z : [M^+-H] calcd for C₁₅H₁₉BO₃P 289.117, found 289.117.

Methyl (*S_P*)-(phenyl)(6-trimethylsilyl-2-anisyl)phosphinite-*P*-borane (3f). Prepared either from **2f** or **2fa**. Colorless oil (84% yield): $R_f=0.7$ (toluene); $[\alpha]_D^{25}=+21.6$ degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ ($c=1.0$ gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: $\delta=0.29$ (s, 9H; SiMe₃), 0.52–1.70 (br m, 3H; BH₃), 3.48 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.73 (d, $J=12$ Hz, 3H; POMe), 7.22 (dt, $J=2, 8$ Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.38–7.50 (m, 3H; Ar-H), 7.65 (ddd, $J=1, 2, 7$ Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.73 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.83 (ddd, $J=2, 8, 12$ Hz, 1H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: $\delta=-0.04$, 53.9 (d, $J(C,P)=3$ Hz), 63.6, 123.6 (d, $J(C,P)=10$ Hz), 124.3 (d, $J(C,P)=60$ Hz), 128.2 (d, $J(C,P)=11$ Hz), 131.1 (d, $J(C,P)=12$ Hz), 131.4 (d, $J(C,P)=2$ Hz), 132.3 (d, $J(C,P)=65$ Hz), 133.9 (d, $J(C,P)=3$ Hz), 135.3 (d, $J(C,P)=12$ Hz), 140.7 (d, $J(C,P)=2$ Hz), 167.6 (d, $J(C,P)=3$ Hz); ³¹P NMR: $\delta=+107.2$ (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 331.1 (100) [M^+-H]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [M^+-H] calcd for C₁₇H₂₅BO₂PSi 331.146, found 331.146.

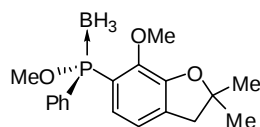
Methyl (*S_P*)-(phenyl)(6-phenyl-2-anisyl)phosphinite-*P*-borane (3g). Colorless oil (96% yield): $R_f=0.6$ (toluene); $[\alpha]_D^{25}=+15.8$ degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ ($c=1.0$ gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: $\delta=0.47$ – 1.69 (br m, 3H; BH₃), 2.91 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.77 (d, $J=12$ Hz, 3H; POMe), 7.22–7.51 (m, 10H; Ar-H), 7.78 (m, 3H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: $\delta=54.0$ (d, $J(C,P)=2$ Hz), 60.4, 123.8 (d, $J(C,P)=11$ Hz), 125.6 (d, $J(C,P)=65$ Hz), 127.6, 128.3 (d, $J(C,P)=11$ Hz), 128.5, 128.6, 131.2 (d, $J(C,P)=12$ Hz), 131.5 (d, $J(C,P)=2$ Hz), 132.3 (d, $J(C,P)=10$ Hz), 132.6 (d, $J(C,P)=65$ Hz), 134.7 (d, $J(C,P)=6$ Hz), 136.0 (d, $J(C,P)=2$ Hz), 137.7 (d, $J(C,P)=1$ Hz), 159.5 (d, $J(C,P)=5$ Hz); ³¹P NMR: $\delta=+106.6$ (br m); MS (EI): m/z (%): 335 (80) [M^+-H], 336 (15) [M^+]; HRMS (EI): m/z : [M^+] calcd for C₂₀H₂₂BO₂P 336.145, found 336.146.

Methyl (*S_P*)-(4,6-di-*tert*-butyl-2-anisyl)(phenyl)phosphinite-*P*-borane (3h). White powder (85% yield): m.p. 78–81°C; $R_f=0.7$ (toluene); $[\alpha]_D^{25}=-2.0$ degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ ($c=1.0$ gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: $\delta=0.47$ – 1.80 (br m, 3H; BH₃), 1.32 (s, 9H; CMe₃), 1.36 (s, 9H; CMe₃), 3.55 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.72 (d, $J=12$ Hz, 3H; POMe), 7.38–7.52 (m, 3H; Ar-H), 7.58 (d, $J=2$ Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.67–7.75 (m, 3H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: $\delta=31.2$, 31.4, 34.7, 35.6, 53.9 (d, $J(C,P)=3$ Hz), 64.3, 123.9 (d, $J(C,P)=57$ Hz), 128.2 (d, $J(C,P)=10$ Hz), 129.7 (d, $J(C,P)=2$ Hz), 130.0 (d, $J(C,P)=13$ Hz), 131.2 (d, $J(C,P)=12$ Hz), 131.5 (d, $J(C,P)=2$ Hz), 132.4 (d, $J(C,P)=66$ Hz), 143.1 (d, $J(C,P)=5$ Hz), 145.8 (d, $J(C,P)=11$ Hz), 159.9 (d, $J(C,P)=4$ Hz); ³¹P NMR: $\delta=+109.1$ (br m); MS (EI): m/z (%): 372 (80) [M^+]; HRMS (EI): m/z : [M^+] calcd for C₂₂H₃₄BO₂P 372.239, found 372.240; EA: calcd (C₂₂H₃₄BO₂P, 372.29) C 70.98, H 9.21, found C 71.15, H 9.31.

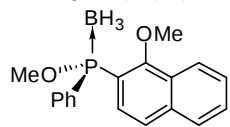
Methyl (S_P)-(phenyl)(2,3,4-trimethoxyphenyl)phosphinite-P-borane (3i). White powder (96% yield): m.p. 73–75°C; *R*_f=0.4 (toluene/EtOAc 9:1); [α]_D²⁵=−23.4 degcm³g^{−1}dm^{−1} (*c*=1.0 gdcL^{−1} in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: δ =0.36–1.65 (br m, 3H; BH₃), 3.49 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.74 (d, *J*=12 Hz, 3H; POMe), 3.78 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.89 (s, 3H; OMe), 6.75 (dd, *J*=3, 9 Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.39–7.48 (m, 3H; Ar-H), 7.55 (dd, *J*=9, 12 Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.71 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: δ =53.9 (d, *J*(C,P)=2 Hz), 56.0, 60.3, 60.5, 106.8 (d, *J*(C,P)=14 Hz), 116.4 (d, *J*(C,P)=66 Hz), 128.1 (d, *J*(C,P)=11 Hz), 129.2 (d, *J*(C,P)=13 Hz), 130.7 (d, *J*(C,P)=12 Hz), 131.1 (d, *J*(C,P)=3 Hz), 132.7 (d, *J*(C,P)=68 Hz), 141.8 (d, *J*(C,P)=8 Hz), 155.4 (d, *J*(C,P)=3 Hz), 157.8 (d, *J*(C,P)=2 Hz); ³¹P NMR: δ =+105.9 (br m); MS (ESI): *m/z* (%): 319.1 (40) [*M*⁺−H], 343.1 (100) [*M*⁺+Na]; HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: [*M*⁺−H] calcd for C₁₆H₂₁BO₄P 319.127, found 319.127; EA: calcd (C₁₆H₂₂BO₄P, 320.13) C 60.03, H 6.93, found C 60.12, H 6.98.



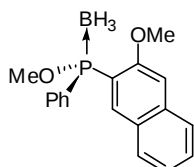
Methyl (S_P)-(phenyl)(2,3,4,5-tetramethoxyphenyl)phosphinite-P-borane (3j). Colorless oil (79% yield): *R*_f=0.5 (toluene/EtOAc 9:1); [α]_D²⁵=−1.1 degcm³g^{−1}dm^{−1} (*c*=2.5 gdcL^{−1} in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: δ =0.36–1.75 (br m, 3H; BH₃), 3.43 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.75 (d, *J*=12 Hz, 3H; POMe), 3.83 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.88 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.94 (s, 3H; OMe), 7.12 (d, *J*=12 Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.40–7.52 (m, 3H; Ar-H), 7.74 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: δ =53.8 (d, *J*(C,P)=2 Hz), 56.1, 60.4, 60.7, 60.9, 110.3 (d, *J*(C,P)=13 Hz), 118.1 (d, *J*(C,P)=65 Hz), 128.1 (d, *J*(C,P)=10 Hz), 130.8 (d, *J*(C,P)=12 Hz), 131.2 (d, *J*(C,P)=2 Hz), 132.3 (d, *J*(C,P)=67 Hz), 146.7 (d, *J*(C,P)=9 Hz), 146.9 (d, *J*(C,P)=2 Hz), 149.0 (d, *J*(C,P)=15 Hz), 149.5 (d, *J*(C,P)=4 Hz); ³¹P NMR: δ =+106.3 (br m); MS (ESI): *m/z* (%): 359.1 (100) [*M*⁺−BH₃+Na], 373.1 (43) [*M*⁺+Na]; HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: [*M*⁺−BH₃+Na] calcd for C₁₇H₂₁O₅PNa 359.102, found 359.103.



Methyl (S_P)-(2,3-dihydro-2,2-dimethyl-7-methoxy-6-benzofuranyl)(phenyl)phosphinite-P-borane (3k). Colorless oil (86% yield): *R*_f=0.5 (toluene); [α]_D²⁵=+6.0 degcm³g^{−1}dm^{−1} (*c*=1.0 gdcL^{−1} in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: δ =0.39–1.77 (br m, 3H; BH₃), 1.44 (s, 3H; CMe), 1.45 (s, 3H; CMe), 2.99 (s, 2H; CH₂), 3.55 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.73 (d, *J*=12 Hz, 3H; POMe), 6.93 (m, 1H; Ar-H), 7.25 (dd, *J*=8, 12 Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.36–7.48 (m, 3H; Ar-H), 7.74 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: δ =28.0, 42.6, 53.7 (d, *J*(C,P)=3 Hz), 59.0, 87.9, 119.3 (d, *J*(C,P)=13 Hz), 122.3 (d, *J*(C,P)=64 Hz), 124.7 (d, *J*(C,P)=12 Hz), 128.0 (d, *J*(C,P)=10 Hz), 130.8 (d, *J*(C,P)=12 Hz), 131.1 (d, *J*(C,P)=3 Hz), 132.5 (d, *J*(C,P)=66 Hz), 135.1 (d, *J*(C,P)=2 Hz), 145.0 (d, *J*(C,P)=4 Hz), 149.6 (d, *J*(C,P)=9 Hz); ³¹P NMR: δ =+106.8 (br m); MS (ESI): *m/z* (%): 329.1 (100) [*M*⁺−H]; HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: [*M*⁺−H] calcd for C₁₈H₂₃BO₃P 329.148, found 329.148.



Methyl (S_P)-(1-methoxy-2-naphthyl)(phenyl)phosphinite-P-borane (3l). White powder (92% yield): m.p. 98–99°C; *R*_f=0.6 (toluene); [α]_D²⁵=+5.6 degcm³g^{−1}dm^{−1} (*c*=1.0 gdcL^{−1} in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: δ =0.47–1.79 (br m, 3H; BH₃), 3.74 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.78 (d, *J*=12 Hz, 3H; POMe), 7.39–7.59 (m, 5H; Ar-H), 7.70 (dd, *J*=2, 9 Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.75–7.89 (m, 4H; Ar-H), 8.03 (d, *J*=8 Hz, 1H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: δ =53.9 (d, *J*(C,P)=3 Hz), 63.4, 120.2 (d, *J*(C,P)=64 Hz), 123.0, 124.2 (d, *J*(C,P)=10 Hz), 126.3, 127.4 (d, *J*(C,P)=10 Hz), 128.1, 128.28, 128.31, 128.4, 131.2 (d, *J*(C,P)=12 Hz), 131.6 (d, *J*(C,P)=3 Hz), 132.4 (d, *J*(C,P)=64 Hz), 137.3 (d, *J*(C,P)=2 Hz), 160.1 (d, *J*(C,P)=4 Hz); ³¹P NMR: δ =+106.7 (br m); MS (ESI): *m/z* (%): 309.1 (63) [*M*⁺−H], 333.1 (100) [*M*⁺+Na]; HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: [*M*⁺+Na] calcd for C₁₈H₂₀BO₂PNa 333.119, found 333.120; EA: calcd (C₁₈H₂₀BO₂P, 310.14) C 69.71, H 6.50, found C 69.81, H 6.56.



Methyl (S_P)-(3-methoxy-2-naphthyl)(phenyl)phosphinite-P-borane (3m). White powder (92% yield): m.p. 127–129°C; *R*_f=0.5 (hexane/EtOAc 8:2); [α]_D²⁵=+11.2 degcm³g^{−1}dm^{−1} (*c*=1.0 gdcL^{−1} in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: δ =0.50–1.71 (br m, 3H; BH₃), 3.69 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.78 (d, *J*=12 Hz, 3H; POMe), 7.08 (d, *J*=4 Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.35–7.53 (m, 5H; Ar-H), 7.68–7.82 (m, 3H; Ar-H), 7.86 (m, 1H; Ar-H), 8.39 (d, *J*=14 Hz, 1H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: δ =53.9 (d, *J*(C,P)=3 Hz), 55.4, 106.3 (d, *J*(C,P)=4 Hz), 121.2 (d, *J*(C,P)=60

Hz), 124.4 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=1$ Hz), 126.4, 128.0 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=12$ Hz), 128.1 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=11$ Hz), 128.5, 128.8, 131.0 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=12$ Hz), 131.3 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=2$ Hz), 131.9 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=67$ Hz), 136.3 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=12$ Hz), 136.6 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=1$ Hz), 157.4 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=3$ Hz); ^{31}P NMR: $\delta=+102.9$ (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 309.1 (100) [$M^+-\text{H}$], 333.1 (80) [$M^++\text{Na}$]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [$M^+-\text{H}$] calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{BO}_2\text{P}$ 309.122, found 309.122, [$M^++\text{Na}$] calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{BO}_2\text{PNa}$ 333.119, found 333.120; EA: calcd ($\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{BO}_2\text{P}$, 310.14) C 69.71, H 6.50, found C 69.80, H 6.54.

General procedure for the synthesis of (aryl)(methyl)(phenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (4b,d-m): To a cold (-20°C) solution of methyl (aryl)(phenyl)phosphinite-*P*-borane (3b,d-m) in THF is added MeLi (1.2–2.0 molar equiv). The resulting mixture is left to warm up to RT. After stirring overnight, the reaction is hydrolyzed with H_2O (5 mL) and concentrated. To the residue H_2O (100 mL) is added and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (3×30 mL). The organic layer is dried over Na_2SO_4 and concentrated. Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene (toluene/EtOAc 95:5 used for 4j) and/or by recrystallization afforded 4.

(*R*_P)-(2,3-Dimethoxyphenyl)(methyl)(phenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (4b). Colorless oil (91% yield):

$R_f=0.4$ (hexane/EtOAc 8:2); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}=+3.2$ deg $\text{cm}^3\text{g}^{-1}\text{dm}^{-1}$ ($c=1.0$ g dcl^{-1} in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: $\delta=0.41$ – 1.61 (br m, 3H; BH_3), 1.93 (d, $J=10$ Hz, 3H; PMe), 3.43 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.82 (s, 3H; OMe), 7.05–7.15 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.31–7.46 (m, 4H; Ar-H), 7.64 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: $\delta=10.6$ (d, $J(\text{C,P})=42$ Hz), 55.7, 60.1, 116.4 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=2$ Hz), 123.5 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=54$ Hz), 123.8 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=13$ Hz), 125.6 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=13$ Hz), 128.4 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=10$ Hz), 130.4 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=2$ Hz), 131.0 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=9$ Hz), 131.6 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=59$ Hz), 151.1, 152.3 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=7$ Hz); ^{31}P NMR: $\delta=+9.6$ (br m); MS (EI): m/z (%): 273 (55) [$M^+-\text{H}$]; HRMS (EI): m/z : [$M^+-\text{H}$] calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{19}\text{BO}_2\text{P}$ 273.122, found 273.122.

(*R*_P)-(2,5-Dimethoxyphenyl)(methyl)(phenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (4d). White powder (99% yield):

m.p. 77 – 79°C ; $R_f=0.4$ (toluene); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}=+33.2$ deg $\text{cm}^3\text{g}^{-1}\text{dm}^{-1}$ ($c=1.0$ g dcl^{-1} in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: $\delta=0.30$ – 1.62 (br m, 3H; BH_3), 1.94 (d, $J=11$ Hz, 3H; PMe), 3.62 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.80 (s, 3H; OMe), 6.82 (dd, $J=4$, 9 Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.02 (dd, $J=3$, 9 Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.34–7.50 (m, 4H; Ar-H), 7.63 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: $\delta=10.4$ (d, $J(\text{C,P})=42$ Hz), 55.82, 55.85, 112.6 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=5$ Hz), 118.1 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=54$ Hz), 119.0 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=2$ Hz), 120.3 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=16$ Hz), 128.3 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=10$ Hz), 130.4 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=2$ Hz), 131.0 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=59$ Hz), 131.1 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=10$ Hz), 153.5 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=15$ Hz), 155.6 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=1$ Hz); ^{31}P NMR: $\delta=+10.0$ (br m); MS (EI): m/z (%): 273 (80) [$M^+-\text{H}$]; HRMS (EI): m/z : [$M^+-\text{H}$] calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{19}\text{BO}_2\text{P}$ 273.122, found 273.122; EA: calcd ($\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{20}\text{BO}_2\text{P}$, 274.10) C 65.73, H 7.35, found C 65.83, H 7.37.

(*R*_P)-(2,6-Dimethoxyphenyl)(methyl)(phenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (4e). White powder (92% yield):

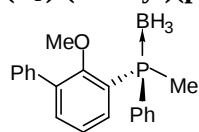
m.p. 95 – 98°C ; $R_f=0.6$ (toluene/EtOAc 9:1); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}=-77.1$ deg $\text{cm}^3\text{g}^{-1}\text{dm}^{-1}$ ($c=1.0$ g dcl^{-1} in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: $\delta=0.40$ – 1.66 (br m, 3H; BH_3), 1.90 (d, $J=10$ Hz, 3H; PMe), 3.60 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 6.51 (dd, $J=4$, 8 Hz, 2H; Ar-H), 7.32–7.40 (m, 4H; Ar-H), 7.68 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: $\delta=15.8$ (d, $J(\text{C,P})=42$ Hz), 55.5, 104.7 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=4$ Hz), 105.6 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=54$ Hz), 128.0 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=10$ Hz), 129.8 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=2$ Hz), 130.7 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=10$ Hz), 133.3 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=1$ Hz), 134.5 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=59$ Hz), 162.5 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=1$ Hz); ^{31}P NMR: $\delta=+4.1$ (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 273.1 (100) [$M^+-\text{H}$]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [$M^+-\text{H}$] calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{19}\text{BO}_2\text{P}$ 273.122, found 273.122; EA: calcd ($\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{20}\text{BO}_2\text{P}$, 274.10) C 65.73, H 7.35, found C 65.82, H 7.43.

(*R*_P)-(Methyl)(phenyl)(6-trimethylsilyl-2-anisyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (4f). Colorless oil (80% yield):

$R_f=0.7$ (toluene); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}=-15.3$ deg $\text{cm}^3\text{g}^{-1}\text{dm}^{-1}$ ($c=1.0$ g dcl^{-1} in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: $\delta=0.31$ (s, 9H; SiMe_3), 0.50– 1.73 (br m, 3H; BH_3), 1.96 (d, $J=11$ Hz, 3H; PMe), 3.29 (s, 3H; OMe), 7.17 (dt, $J=2$, 8 Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.38–7.45 (m, 3H; Ar-H), 7.60–7.70 (m, 3H; Ar-H), 7.75 (ddd, $J=2$, 8, 13 Hz, 1H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: $\delta=0.1$, 11.1 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=42$ Hz), 63.3, 123.3 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=52$ Hz), 123.7 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=11$ Hz), 128.5 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=10$ Hz), 130.5 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=3$ Hz), 131.3 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=10$ Hz), 132.0 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=59$ Hz), 133.4 (d,

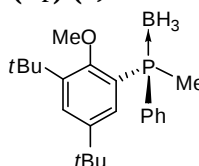
$J(\text{C,P})=3$ Hz), 136.2 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=13$ Hz), 140.3 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=2$ Hz), 168.0; ^{31}P NMR: $\delta=+10.1$ (br m); MS (EI): m/z (%): 316 (45) [M^+]; HRMS (EI): m/z : [M^+] calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{26}\text{BOPSi}$ 316.158, found 316.159.

(*R*_P)-(Methyl)(phenyl)(6-phenyl-2-anisyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (4g). Colorless oil (90% yield):



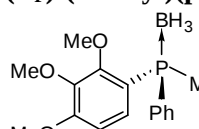
$R_f=0.6$ (toluene); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}=-53.4$ degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ ($c=0.2$ gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: $\delta=0.43$ – 1.62 (br m, 3H; BH_3), 2.01 (d, $J=11$ Hz, 3H; PMe), 2.81 (s, 3H; OMe), 7.23 (m, 1H; Ar-H), 7.30–7.50 (m, 9H; Ar-H), 7.62–7.70 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.76 (dd, $J=2$, 8 Hz, 1H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: $\delta=11.0$ (d, $J(\text{C,P})=42$ Hz), 60.2, 123.8 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=12$ Hz), 124.1 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=54$ Hz), 127.6, 128.4, 128.59, 128.61, 130.5 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=2$ Hz), 131.2 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=9$ Hz), 131.9 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=59$ Hz), 133.8 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=14$ Hz), 134.5 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=4$ Hz), 135.8 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=2$ Hz), 137.9, 160.1; ^{31}P NMR: $\delta=+10.0$ (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 319.1 (100) [$M^+-\text{H}$]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [$M^+-\text{H}$] calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{21}\text{BOP}$ 319.142, found 319.141.

(*R*_P)-(4,6-Di-*tert*-butyl-2-anisyl)(methyl)(phenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (4h). White powder (76% yield):



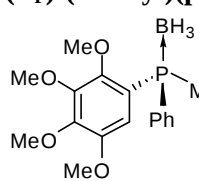
yield): m.p. 106–109°C; $R_f=0.7$ (toluene); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}=+20.6$ degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ ($c=1.0$ gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: $\delta=0.39$ – 1.78 (br m, 3H; BH_3), 1.28 (s, 9H; CMe_3), 1.38 (s, 9H; CMe_3), 1.95 (d, $J=10$ Hz, 3H; PMe), 3.40 (s, 3H; OMe), 7.37–7.55 (m, 5H; Ar-H), 7.67 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: $\delta=12.3$ (d, $J(\text{C,P})=42$ Hz), 31.3, 31.5, 34.7, 35.7, 64.0, 123.6 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=52$ Hz), 128.5 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=10$ Hz), 129.1 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=2$ Hz), 130.4 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=13$ Hz), 130.6 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=2$ Hz), 131.4 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=9$ Hz), 132.5 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=57$ Hz), 142.9 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=5$ Hz), 146.0 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=11$ Hz), 159.9; ^{31}P NMR: $\delta=+11.7$ (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 379.2 (41) [$M^++\text{Na}$]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [$M^++\text{Na}$] calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{34}\text{BOPNa}$ 379.234, found 379.235; EA: calc ($\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{34}\text{BOP}$, 356.29) C 74.16, H 9.62, found C 74.18, H 9.67.

(*R*_P)-(Methyl)(phenyl)(2,3,4-trimethoxyphenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (4i). Colorless oil (99% yield):



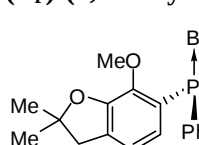
$R_f=0.4$ (toluene/EtOAc 9:1); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}=+29.5$ degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ ($c=1.0$ gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: $\delta=0.32$ – 1.52 (br m, 3H; BH_3), 1.92 (d, $J=11$ Hz, 3H; PMe), 3.45 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.80 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.90 (s, 3H; OMe), 6.73 (dd, $J=2$, 9 Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.38–7.44 (m, 3H; Ar-H), 7.53–7.64 (m, 3H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: $\delta=10.5$ (d, $J(\text{C,P})=43$ Hz), 55.9, 60.1, 60.3, 106.8 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=14$ Hz), 114.4 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=58$ Hz), 128.2 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=10$ Hz), 129.8 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=15$ Hz), 130.1 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=2$ Hz), 130.6 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=10$ Hz), 132.0 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=60$ Hz), 141.5 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=6$ Hz), 155.6, 157.3 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=2$ Hz); ^{31}P NMR: $\delta=+8.8$ (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 303.1 (100) [$M^+-\text{H}$]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [$M^+-\text{H}$] calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{21}\text{BO}_3\text{P}$ 303.132, found 303.132.

(*R*_P)-(Methyl)(phenyl)(2,3,4,5-tetramethoxyphenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (4j). Colorless oil (79% yield):



$R_f=0.5$ (toluene/EtOAc 9:1); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}=+43.5$ degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ ($c=1.0$ gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: $\delta=0.36$ – 1.55 (br m, 3H; BH_3), 1.95 (d, $J=10$ Hz, 3H; PMe), 3.35 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.85 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.87 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.93 (s, 3H; OMe), 7.18 (d, $J=11$ Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.38–7.45 (m, 3H; Ar-H), 7.58–7.68 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: $\delta=10.3$ (d, $J(\text{C,P})=43$ Hz), 56.0, 60.0, 60.6, 60.8, 111.7 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=17$ Hz), 116.2 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=56$ Hz), 128.2 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=10$ Hz), 130.2 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=3$ Hz), 130.7 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=10$ Hz), 131.6 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=60$ Hz), 146.5, 148.7, 148.9, 149.8; ^{31}P NMR: $\delta=+10.2$ (br m); MS (EI): m/z (%): 334 (85) [M^+]; HRMS (EI): m/z : [M^+] calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{24}\text{BO}_4\text{P}$ 334.151, found 334.151.

(*R*_P)-(2,3-Dihydro-2,2-dimethyl-7-methoxy-6-benzofuranyl)(methyl)(phenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane



(4k). Colorless oil (21% yield): $R_f=0.6$ (toluene); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}=-18.1$ degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ ($c=0.7$ gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: $\delta=0.37$ – 1.68 (br m, 3H; BH_3), 1.46 (s, 3H; CMe_2), 1.47 (s, 3H; CMe_2), 1.92 (d, $J=11$ Hz, 3H; PMe), 3.01 (s, 2H; CH_2), 3.52 (s, 3H; OMe), 6.91 (m, 1H; Ar-H), 7.29 (dd, $J=8$, 13 Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.37–7.43 (m, 3H; Ar-H), 7.59–7.68 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: $\delta=10.7$ (d, $J(\text{C,P})=42$ Hz), 28.1, 42.7, 59.0, 88.0, 119.4 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=14$ Hz), 120.5 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=55$ Hz), 126.2 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=14$ Hz), 128.3 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=10$ Hz), 130.2 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=3$ Hz), 131.0 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=10$ Hz), 131.9 (d, $J(\text{C,P})=59$ Hz),

134.7 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=2$ Hz), 145.7, 149.5 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=7$ Hz); ^{31}P NMR: $\delta=+9.6$ (br m); MS (EI): m/z (%): 313 (50) [$M^+-\text{H}$], 314 (20) [M^+]; HRMS (EI): m/z : [$M^+-\text{H}$] calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{23}\text{BO}_2\text{P}$ 313.153, found 313.154.

(*R_P*)-(1-Methoxy-2-naphthyl)(methyl)(phenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (4l). White powder (97% yield): m.p. 97–98°C; $R_f=0.4$ (hexane/EtOAc 8:2); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}=+68.5$ degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ ($c=1.0$ gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: $\delta=0.43$ –1.71 (br m, 3H; BH_3), 2.04 (d, $J=10$ Hz, 3H; PMe), 3.59 (s, 3H; OMe), 7.38–7.59 (m, 5H; Ar-H), 7.63–7.75 (m, 4H; Ar-H), 7.87 (m, 1H; Ar-H), 8.02 (m, 1H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: $\delta=11.4$ (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=42$ Hz), 63.1, 118.7 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=54$ Hz), 122.7, 124.2 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=11$ Hz), 126.4, 127.3 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=6$ Hz), 127.9, 128.4, 128.6 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=10$ Hz), 128.7 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=13$ Hz), 130.8 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=2$ Hz), 131.5 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=10$ Hz), 131.8 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=58$ Hz), 137.0 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=2$ Hz), 160.4; ^{31}P NMR: $\delta=+9.9$ (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 317.1 (100) [$M^++\text{Na}$]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [$M^++\text{Na}$] calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{BOPNa}$ 317.124, found 317.124; EA: calcd ($\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{BOP}$, 294.14) C 73.50, H 6.85, found C 73.38, H 6.79.

(*R_P*)-(3-Methoxy-2-naphthyl)(methyl)(phenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (4m). White powder (96% yield): m.p. 161–163°C; $R_f=0.5$ (hexane/EtOAc 8:2); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}=+129.0$ degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ ($c=1.0$ gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: $\delta=0.48$ –1.71 (br m, 3H; BH_3), 2.01 (d, $J=11$ Hz, 3H; PMe), 3.75 (s, 3H; OMe), 7.10 (d, $J=3$ Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.33–7.43 (m, 4H; Ar-H), 7.49 (m, 1H; Ar-H), 7.62 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.71 (d, $J=8$ Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 7.86 (d, $J=8$ Hz, 1H; Ar-H), 8.47 (d, $J=15$ Hz, 1H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: $\delta=10.5$ (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=42$ Hz), 55.3, 106.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=4$ Hz), 119.3 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=53$ Hz), 124.5 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=1$ Hz), 126.3, 128.2 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=13$ Hz), 128.3 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=10$ Hz), 128.4, 128.7, 130.3 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=3$ Hz), 131.0 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=10$ Hz), 131.2 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=60$ Hz), 136.3 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=2$ Hz), 137.9 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=15$ Hz), 157.8 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P})=1$ Hz); ^{31}P NMR: $\delta=+9.9$ (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 293.1 (45) [$M^+-\text{H}$], 317.1 (53) [$M^++\text{Na}$]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [$M^++\text{Na}$] calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{BOPNa}$ 317.124, found 317.125; EA: calcd ($\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{BOP}$, 294.14) C 73.50, H 6.85, found C 73.53, H 6.89.

General procedure according to Route A for the synthesis of (*R_P*,*R_P*)-1,2-bis[(aryl)(phenyl)phosphino-*P*-borane]ethane (5b,d–m): To a cold (–30°C) solution of (aryl)(methyl)(phenyl)phosphine-*P*-borane (4b,d–m) in THF is added *s*BuLi (1.0 molar equiv). After stirring at –30°C for 1 h, anhydrous CuCl_2 (1.05 equiv) is added. The reaction is left at –30°C for an additional hour then quenched with H_2O (20 mL). The mixture is extracted with EtOAc (3×10 mL), dried over Na_2SO_4 , and concentrated. Purification on silica gel and/or by recrystallization afforded 5.

(*R_P*,*R_P*)-1,2-Bis[(2,3-dimethoxyphenyl)(phenyl)phosphino-*P*-borane]ethane (5b). Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene then recrystallization from hexane/ CH_2Cl_2 furnished colorless crystals (63% yield): m.p. 122–124°C; $R_f=0.3$ (toluene); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}=+67.6$ degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ ($c=1.0$ gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: $\delta=0.44$ –1.58 (br m, 6H; 2 BH_3), 2.58 (m, 4H; $(\text{PCH}_2)_2$), 3.53 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 3.79 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 7.01–7.10 (m, 4H; Ar-H), 7.28 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.34–7.46 (m, 6H; Ar-H), 7.64 (m, 4H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: $\delta=18.3$ (m), 55.7, 60.4, 116.7, 121.6 (m), 123.8 (m), 126.0 (m), 128.5 (m), 129.3 (m), 130.8, 131.8 (m), 151.2, 152.2 (m); ^{31}P NMR: $\delta=+18.8$ (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 569.2 (42) [$M^++\text{Na}$]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [$M^++\text{Na}$] calcd for $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{38}\text{B}_2\text{O}_4\text{P}_2\text{Na}$ 569.233, found 569.232; EA: calcd ($\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{38}\text{B}_2\text{O}_4\text{P}_2$, 546.19) C 65.97, H 7.01, found C 66.11, H 7.12.

(*R_P*,*R_P*)-1,2-Bis[(2,5-dimethoxyphenyl)(phenyl)phosphino-*P*-borane]ethane (5d). Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene then recrystallization from hexane/ CH_2Cl_2 furnished colorless crystals (56% yield): m.p. 181–184°C; $R_f=0.1$ (toluene); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}=+72.8$ degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ ($c=1.0$ gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: $\delta=0.35$ –1.65 (br m, 6H; 2 BH_3), 2.60 (m, 4H; $(\text{PCH}_2)_2$), 3.58 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 3.77 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 6.76 (td, $J=2, 9$ Hz, 2H; Ar-H), 6.99 (dd, $J=3, 9$ Hz, 2H; Ar-H), 7.34–7.49 (m, 8H; Ar-H), 7.67 (m, 4H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: $\delta=17.9$ (m), 55.7, 55.8, 112.1 (m), 116.0 (m), 119.2 (m), 121.0 (m), 128.4 (m), 128.7 (m), 130.8, 131.9 (m), 153.5 (m), 155.6; ^{31}P NMR: $\delta=+19.9$ (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 569.2

(28) [M^+ +Na]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [M^+ +Na] calcd for $C_{30}H_{38}B_2O_4P_2Na$ 569.233, found 569.232; EA: calcd ($C_{30}H_{38}B_2O_4P_2$, 546.19) C 65.97, H 7.01, found C 66.06, H 7.02.

(R_P, R_P)-1,2-Bis[(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)(phenyl)phosphino-*P*-borane]ethane (5e). Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene/EtOAc 9:1 then recrystallization from hexane/ CH_2Cl_2 furnished colorless crystals (77% yield): m.p. 177–179°C; R_f =0.2 (hexane/EtOAc 7:3); $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ =−95.5 degcm³g^{−1}dm^{−1} (c =1.0 gdcL^{−1} in $CHCl_3$); ¹H NMR: δ =0.41–1.61 (br m, 6H; 2 BH₃), 2.15 (m, 2H; (PCH_aH_b)₂), 2.83 (m, 2H; (PCH_aH_b)₂), 3.56 (s, 12H; 4 OMe), 6.48 (m, 4H; Ar-H), 7.26–7.39 (m, 8H; Ar-H), 7.54 (m, 4H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: δ =22.1 (m), 55.6, 104.7 (m), 104.8 (m), 128.0 (m), 129.9, 131.4 (m), 132.1 (m), 133.5, 162.7; ³¹P NMR: δ =+18.2 (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 569.2 (52) [M^+ +Na]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [M^+ +Na] calcd for $C_{30}H_{38}B_2O_4P_2Na$ 569.233, found 569.234; EA: calcd ($C_{30}H_{38}B_2O_4P_2$, 546.19) C 65.97, H 7.01, found C 66.09, H 7.03.

(R_P, R_P)-1,2-Bis[(phenyl)(6-trimethylsilyl-2-anisyl)phosphino-*P*-borane]ethane (5f). Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene/PE 4:6 then recrystallization from hexane/ CH_2Cl_2 furnished colorless crystals (90% yield): m.p. 123–125°C; R_f =0.4 (hexane/EtOAc 9:1); $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ =+38.2 degcm³g^{−1}dm^{−1} (c =1.0 gdcL^{−1} in $CHCl_3$); ¹H NMR: δ =0.28 (s, 18H; 2 SiMe₃), 0.50–1.61 (br m, 6H; 2 BH₃), 2.43 (m, 2H; (PCH_aH_b)₂), 2.57 (m, 2H; (PCH_aH_b)₂), 3.32 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 7.14 (m, 2H; Ar), 7.37–7.49 (m, 6H; Ar-H), 7.56–7.67 (m, 8H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: δ =0.1, 19.0 (m), 63.6, 121.6 (m), 123.8 (m), 128.7 (m), 129.8 (m), 130.9 (m), 132.1 (m), 133.6 (m), 136.4 (m), 140.4, 168.1; ³¹P NMR: δ =+19.6 (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 653.3 (71) [M^+ +Na]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [M^+ +Na] calcd for $C_{34}H_{50}B_2O_2P_2Si_2Na$ 653.291, found 653.293; EA: calcd ($C_{34}H_{50}B_2O_2P_2Si_2$, 630.50) C 64.77, H 7.99, found C 64.81, H 8.14.

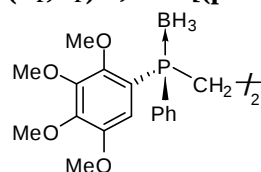
(R_P, R_P)-1,2-Bis[(phenyl)(6-phenyl-2-anisyl)phosphino-*P*-borane]ethane (5g). Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene/PE 1:1, then with toluene/PE 7:3 and recrystallization from hexane/ CH_2Cl_2 furnished colorless crystals (64% yield): m.p. 90–92°C; R_f =0.4 (hexane/EtOAc 8:2); $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ =+59.4 degcm³g^{−1}dm^{−1} (c =0.5 gdcL^{−1} in $CHCl_3$); ¹H NMR: δ =0.54–1.60 (br m, 6H; 2 BH₃), 2.55–2.81 (m, 4H; (CH₂)₂), 2.86 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 7.21 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.28–7.48 (m, 18H; Ar-H), 7.69 (m, 6H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: δ =18.5 (m), 60.4, 122.2 (m), 123.8 (m), 127.6, 128.59, 128.66, 128.72, 129.6 (m), 130.9 (m), 131.9 (m), 134.1 (m), 134.5 (m), 136.0, 137.8, 160.2; ³¹P NMR: δ =+19.1 (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 661.3 (30) [M^+ +Na]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [M^+ +Na] calcd for $C_{40}H_{42}B_2O_2P_2Na$ 661.274, found 661.276; EA: calcd ($C_{40}H_{42}B_2O_2P_2$, 638.33) C 75.26, H 6.63, found C 75.40, H 6.72.

(R_P, R_P)-1,2-Bis[(4,6-di-*tert*-butyl-2-anisyl)(phenyl)phosphino-*P*-borane]ethane (5h). Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene/PE 3:7 furnished a colorless oil (65% yield): R_f =0.5 (hexane/EtOAc 9:1); $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ =+59.7 degcm³g^{−1}dm^{−1} (c =2.5 gdcL^{−1} in $CHCl_3$); ¹H NMR: δ =0.59–1.71 (br m, 6H; 2 BH₃), 1.24 (s, 18H; 2 CMe₃), 1.34 (s, 18H; 2 CMe₃), 2.28 (m, 2H; (PCH_aH_b)₂), 2.51 (m, 2H; (PCH_aH_b)₂), 3.32 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 7.32–7.45 (m, 8H; Ar-H), 7.50 (d, J =2 Hz, 2H; Ar-H), 7.61 (m, 4H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: δ =20.1 (m), 31.3, 31.4, 34.7, 35.7, 64.2, 121.8 (m), 128.5 (m), 129.1, 130.2 (m), 130.4 (m), 130.9, 132.2 (m), 143.1 (m), 146.2 (m), 159.9; ³¹P NMR: δ =+21.4 (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 709.5 (100) [M^+ −H]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [M^+ −H] calcd for $C_{44}H_{65}B_2O_2P_2$ 709.465, found 709.463.

(R_P, R_P)-1,2-Bis[(phenyl)(2,3,4-trimethoxyphenyl)phosphino-*P*-borane]ethane (5i). Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene/EtOAc 9:1 furnished a colorless oil (61% yield): R_f =0.2 (hexane/EtOAc 7:3); $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ =+94.8 degcm³g^{−1}dm^{−1} (c =1.0 gdcL^{−1} in $CHCl_3$); ¹H NMR: δ =0.37–1.61 (br m, 6H; 2 BH₃), 2.55 (m, 4H; (CH₂)₂), 3.54 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 3.77 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 3.86 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 6.70 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.35–7.44 (m, 6H; Ar-H), 7.51 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.63 (m, 4H; Ar-H); ¹³C

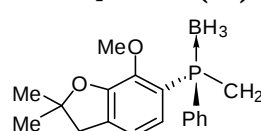
NMR: δ =18.2 (m), 55.9, 60.3, 60.5, 106.7 (m), 112.4 (m), 128.4 (m), 129.8 (m), 130.4 (m), 130.6, 131.5 (m), 141.4 (m), 155.7, 157.5 (m); ^{31}P NMR: δ =+18.1 (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 591.3 (23) [$M^+-\text{BH}_3-\text{H}$].

(R_P, R_P)-1,2-Bis[(phenyl)(2,3,4,5-tetramethoxyphenyl)phosphino-*P*-borane]ethane (5j).



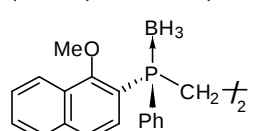
Purification on silica gel eluting with PE/EtOAc 8:2, then with PE/EtOAc 7:3 and recrystallization from hexane/ CH_2Cl_2 furnished colorless crystals (80% yield): m.p. 158–159°C; R_f =0.3 (hexane/EtOAc 7:3); $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ =+90.78 $\text{deg cm}^3 \text{g}^{-1} \text{dm}^{-1}$ (c =1.0 g dcl^{-1} in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: δ =0.46–1.51 (br m, 6H; 2 BH_3), 2.57 (m, 4H; $(\text{CH}_2)_2$), 3.47 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 3.83 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 3.84 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 3.92 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 7.09 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.38–7.49 (m, 6H; Ar-H), 7.63–7.71 (m, 4H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: δ =18.4 (m), 56.3, 60.6, 60.9, 61.0, 112.2 (m), 114.4 (m), 128.6 (m), 129.5 (m), 130.9, 131.8 (m), 146.7 (m), 146.9, 149.0 (m), 150.3; ^{31}P NMR: δ =+20.0 (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 689.3 (40) [$M^++\text{Na}$]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [$M^++\text{Na}$] calcd for $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{46}\text{B}_2\text{O}_8\text{P}_2\text{Na}$ 689.275, found 689.278; EA: calcd ($\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{46}\text{B}_2\text{O}_8\text{P}_2$, 666.29) C 61.29, H 6.96, found C 61.40, H 7.04.

(R_P, R_P)-1,2-Bis[(2,3-dihydro-2,2-dimethyl-7-methoxy-6-benzofuranyl)(phenyl)phosphino-*P*-borane]ethane (5k).



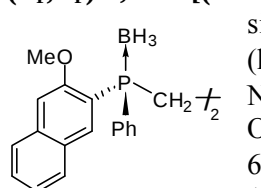
Purification on silica gel eluting with PE/EtOAc 9:1, then with PE/EtOAc 8:2 furnished a colorless oil (78% yield): R_f =0.3 (hexane/EtOAc 8:2); $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ =+67.8 $\text{deg cm}^3 \text{g}^{-1} \text{dm}^{-1}$ (c =0.5 g dcl^{-1} in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: δ =0.55–1.67 (br m, 6H; 2 BH_3), 1.44 (s, 6H; 2 CMe), 1.46 (s, 6H; 2 CMe), 2.59 (m, 4H; $(\text{CH}_2)_2$), 2.98 (s, 4H; 2 CH_2), 3.64 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 6.87 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.24 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.34–7.43 (m, 6H; Ar-H), 7.67 (m, 4H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: δ =18.3 (m), 28.10, 28.12, 42.7, 59.2, 87.9, 118.4 (m), 119.2 (m), 126.9 (m), 128.4 (m), 129.7 (m), 130.6, 131.9 (m), 135.0 (m), 145.9, 149.2 (m); ^{31}P NMR: δ =+19.0 (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 611.4 (80) [$M^+-\text{BH}_3-\text{H}$], 649.3 (13) [$M^++\text{Na}$].

(R_P, R_P)-1,2-Bis[(1-methoxy-2-naphthyl)(phenyl)phosphino-*P*-borane]ethane (5l).



Purification on silica gel eluting with PE/EtOAc 9:1 furnished a colorless oil (76% yield): R_f =0.3 (hexane/EtOAc 8:2); $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ =+122.2 $\text{deg cm}^3 \text{g}^{-1} \text{dm}^{-1}$ (c =1.0 g dcl^{-1} in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: δ =0.30–1.80 (br m, 6H; 2 BH_3), 2.51–2.86 (m, 4H; $(\text{CH}_2)_2$), 3.52 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 7.35–7.73 (m, 18H; Ar-H), 7.84 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.94 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: δ =18.9 (m), 63.1, 116.7 (m), 122.9, 124.3 (m), 126.3, 127.2 (m), 128.0, 128.3, 128.7 (m), 128.9 (m), 129.7 (m), 131.0, 132.0, 137.0, 160.7; ^{31}P NMR: δ =+19.2 (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 571.2 (100) [$M^+-\text{BH}_3-\text{H}$]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [$M^+-\text{BH}_3-\text{H}$] calcd for $\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{34}\text{BO}_2\text{P}_2$ 571.213, found 571.212.

(R_P, R_P)-1,2-Bis[(3-methoxy-2-naphthyl)(phenyl)phosphino-*P*-borane]ethane (5m).



Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene/PE 6:4 furnished a colorless oil (76% yield): R_f =0.2 (hexane/EtOAc 8:2); $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ =+129.1 $\text{deg cm}^3 \text{g}^{-1} \text{dm}^{-1}$ (c =1.0 g dcl^{-1} in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: δ =0.65–1.66 (br m, 6H; 2 BH_3), 2.71 (m, 4H; $(\text{CH}_2)_2$), 3.48 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 6.91 (s, 2H; Ar-H), 7.31–7.42 (m, 8H; Ar-H), 7.47 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.66 (m, 6H; Ar-H), 7.84 (d, J =8 Hz, 2H; Ar-H), 8.48 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: δ =17.8 (m), 55.0, 105.8 (m), 117.1 (m), 124.4, 126.2, 128.1 (m), 128.3 (m), 128.5, 128.7, 129.5, 130.6 (m), 131.6 (m), 136.3 (m), 139.0 (m), 157.6 (m); ^{31}P NMR: δ =+19.7 (br m); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 609.2 (55) [$M^++\text{Na}$]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [$M^++\text{Na}$] calcd for $\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{38}\text{B}_2\text{O}_2\text{P}_2\text{Na}$ 609.243, found 609.245.

Synthesis of (*S_P*,*S_P*)-1,2-bis[(aryl)(phenyl)phosphino-*P*-borane]ethane (**5**) according to *Route B*:

(*S_P*,*S_P*)-1,2-Bis[(2-anisyl)(phenyl)phosphino-*P*-borane]ethane (5a**).** To a cold (0°C) ether (10 mL) solution of 2-bromoanisole (1.72 g, 9.20 mmol) is added *s*BuLi (9.20 mmol) and the mixture is left to stir for 1 h. To this mixture a THF (10 mL) solution of (*R_P*,*R_P*)-1,2-bis[(methoxy)(phenyl)phosphino-*P*-borane]ethane (0.61 g, 1.84 mmol) is added at -78°C. After stirring at RT for 16 h, the reaction is quenched with H₂O (2 mL). To the concentrated residue H₂O (10 mL) is added and extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3×10 mL). The organic layer is dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated. Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene (*R_f*=0.2) yielded **5a** as colorless crystals (295 mg, 33%): [α]_D²⁵=-66.2 degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ (*c*=1.3 gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: δ =0.25–1.70 (br m, 6H; 2 BH₃), 2.59 (m, 4H; (CH₂)₂), 3.61 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 6.80 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.03 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.32–7.50 (m, 8H; Ar-H), 7.66 (m, 4H; Ar-H), 7.86 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ³¹P NMR: δ =+19.2 (br m).^[1]

(*S_P*,*S_P*)-1,2-Bis[(2,4-dimethoxyphenyl)(phenyl)phosphino-*P*-borane]ethane (5c**).** Prepared from 1-bromo-2,4-dimethoxybenzene following an identical procedure as described for **5a** according to *Route B*. Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene (*R_f*=0.2) yielded **5c** as a colorless oil (422 mg, 42%): [α]_D²⁵=-66.0 degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ (*c*=0.5 gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: δ =0.45–1.56 (br m, 6H; 2 BH₃), 2.55 (m, 4H; (CH₂)₂), 3.59 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 3.80 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 6.34 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 6.54 (dd, *J*=2, 9 Hz, 2H; Ar-H), 7.30–7.40 (m, 6H; Ar-H), 7.62 (m, 4H; Ar-H), 7.83 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: δ =17.9 (m), 55.2, 55.5, 98.6 (m), 105.1 (m), 106.5 (m), 128.3 (m), 129.7 (m), 130.5, 131.7 (m), 137.9 (m), 162.8, 164.6 (m); ³¹P NMR: δ =+17.2 (br m); MS (ESI): *m/z* (%): 545.2 (100) [*M*⁺-H]; HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: [*M*⁺-H] calcd for C₃₀H₃₇B₂O₄P₂ 545.235, found 545.235.

General procedure for the synthesis of 1,2-bis[(aryl)(phenyl)phosphino]ethane (6b–m**):** The 1,2-bis[(aryl)(phenyl)phosphino-*P*-borane]ethane (**5b–m**) in Et₂NH is refluxed for 2 h under inert atmosphere. After concentration, purification on silica gel and/or by recrystallization under inert atmosphere afforded **6**.

(*R_P*,*R_P*)-1,2-Bis[(2,3-dimethoxyphenyl)(phenyl)phosphino]ethane (6b**).** Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene/EtOAc 9:1 (*R_f*=0.5) afforded a colorless oil (94% yield): [α]_D²⁵=-28.8 degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ (*c*=0.8 gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: δ =1.98 (m, 2H; (PCH_aH_b)₂), 2.24 (m, 2H; (PCH_aH_b)₂), 3.66 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 3.80 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 6.63 (ddd, *J*=2, 4, 8 Hz, 2H; Ar-H), 6.85 (dd, *J*=2, 8 Hz, 2H; Ar-H), 6.96 (t, *J*=8 Hz, 2H; Ar-H), 7.23–7.31 (m, 6H; Ar-H), 7.33–7.40 (m, 4H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: δ =22.6 (m), 55.6, 60.2, 113.1, 123.0, 124.1, 128.3 (m), 128.7, 132.7 (m), 133.3 (m), 137.4 (m), 150.9 (m), 152.3 (m); ³¹P NMR: δ =-23.3 (s); MS (EI): *m/z* (%): 518 (100) [*M*⁺]; HRMS (EI): *m/z*: [*M*⁺] calcd for C₃₀H₃₂O₄P₂ 518.178, found 518.176.

(*S_P*,*S_P*)-1,2-Bis[(2,4-dimethoxyphenyl)(phenyl)phosphino]ethane (6c**).** Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene/EtOAc 9:1 (*R_f*=0.7) afforded a colorless oil (98% yield): [α]_D²⁵=+7.8 degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ (*c*=1.2 gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: δ =1.98 (m, 2H; (PCH_aH_b)₂), 2.21 (m, 2H; (PCH_aH_b)₂), 3.69 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 3.77 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 6.38–6.44 (m, 4H; Ar-H), 6.95 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.25–7.37 (m, 10H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: δ =22.4 (m), 55.2, 55.4, 98.3, 104.8, 117.2 (m), 128.2 (m), 128.3, 132.8 (m), 133.5 (m), 137.8 (m), 161.8, 162.4 (m); ³¹P NMR: δ =-22.4 (s); MS (EI): *m/z* (%): 518 (100) [*M*⁺]; HRMS (EI): *m/z*: [*M*⁺] calcd for C₃₀H₃₂O₄P₂ 518.178, found 518.179.

(*R_P*,*R_P*)-1,2-Bis[(2,5-dimethoxyphenyl)(phenyl)phosphino]ethane (6d**).** Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene/EtOAc 9:1 (*R_f*=0.6) afforded a colorless oil (96% yield): [α]_D²⁵=-73.7 degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ (*c*=1.0 gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: δ =1.95 (m, 2H; (PCH_aH_b)₂), 2.29 (m, 2H; (PCH_aH_b)₂), 3.64 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 3.68 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 6.52 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 6.75 (m, 4H; Ar-H), 7.26–7.42 (m, 10H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR:

δ =22.1 (m), 55.6, 56.0, 111.1, 113.8, 118.2 (m), 128.3 (m), 128.4 (m), 128.9, 133.5 (m), 136.5 (m), 153.5 (m), 155.3 (m); ^{31}P NMR: δ =-21.0 (s); MS (EI): m/z (%): 518 (65) [M^+]; HRMS (EI): m/z : [M^+] calcd for $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{32}\text{O}_4\text{P}_2$ 518.178, found 518.179.

(R_P, R_P)-1,2-Bis[(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)(phenyl)phosphino]ethane (6e). Purification on silica gel eluting with CH_2Cl_2 , then with toluene/EtOAc 9:1 afforded a colorless oil (98% yield): R_f =0.6 (CH_2Cl_2), 0.6 (toluene/EtOAc 9:1); $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ =+115.7 $\text{degcm}^3\text{g}^{-1}\text{dm}^{-1}$ (c =1.1 gdl^{-1} in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: δ =2.40 (m, 4H; $(\text{CH}_2)_2$), 3.56 (s, 12H; 4 OMe), 6.45 (td, J =1, 8 Hz, 4H; Ar-H), 7.10–7.36 (m, 12H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: δ =22.1 (m), 55.5, 104.1, 111.8 (m), 126.6, 127.5 (m), 130.9 (m), 131.5, 140.5 (m), 163.7 (m); ^{31}P NMR: δ =-27.9 (s); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 519.2 (80) [M^+ +H]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [M^+ +H] calcd for $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{33}\text{O}_4\text{P}_2$ 519.185, found 519.185.

(R_P, R_P)-1,2-Bis[(phenyl)(6-trimethylsilyl-2-anisyl)phosphino]ethane (6f). Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene (R_f =0.8) afforded a white powder (97% yield): m.p. 72–73°C; $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ =-37.2 $\text{degcm}^3\text{g}^{-1}\text{dm}^{-1}$ (c =1.0 gdl^{-1} in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR δ =0.28 (s, 18H; 2 SiMe_3), 2.09 (m, 4H; $(\text{CH}_2)_2$), 3.82 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 6.98–7.06 (m, 4H; Ar-H), 7.26–7.37 (m, 10H; Ar-H), 7.39 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR δ =-0.1, 23.6 (m), 62.9 (m), 124.1, 128.4 (m), 128.5, 130.3 (m), 132.8 (m), 132.9 (m), 134.2, 136.6, 137.9 (m), 168.7 (m); ^{31}P NMR δ =-24.1 (s); MS (EI): m/z (%): 602 (67) [M^+]; HRMS (EI): m/z : [M^+] calcd for $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{44}\text{O}_2\text{P}_2\text{Si}_2$ 602.236, found 602.237; EA: calcd ($\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{44}\text{O}_2\text{P}_2\text{Si}_2$, 602.83) C 67.74, H 7.36, found C 67.65, H 7.28.

(R_P, R_P)-1,2-Bis[(phenyl)(6-phenyl-2-anisyl)phosphino]ethane (6g). Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene (R_f =0.6) afforded a white powder (98% yield): m.p. 137–140°C; $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ =-8.0 $\text{degcm}^3\text{g}^{-1}\text{dm}^{-1}$ (c =0.3 gdl^{-1} in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: δ =2.06 (m, 2H; $(\text{PCH}_a\text{H}_b)_2$), 2.33 (m, 2H; $(\text{PCH}_a\text{H}_b)_2$), 3.18 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 7.01–7.12 (m, 4H; Ar-H), 7.27–7.46 (m, 18H; Ar-H), 7.53 (m, 4H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: δ =23.1 (m), 60.2 (m), 124.2, 127.2, 128.3, 128.4 (m), 128.8, 128.9, 130.8 (m), 131.9, 133.0 (m), 133.4 (m), 134.3 (m), 137.6 (m), 138.4 (m), 159.7 (m); ^{31}P NMR: δ =-22.4 (s); MS (EI): m/z (%): 610 (90%) [M^+]; HRMS (EI): m/z : [M^+] calcd for $\text{C}_{40}\text{H}_{36}\text{O}_2\text{P}_2$ 610.219, found 610.221; EA: calcd ($\text{C}_{40}\text{H}_{36}\text{O}_2\text{P}_2$, 610.66) C 78.67, H 5.94, found C 78.70, H 5.98.

(R_P, R_P)-1,2-Bis[(4,6-di-*tert*-butyl-2-anisyl)(phenyl)phosphino]ethane (6h). Purification on silica gel eluting with hexane/EtOAc 9:1 (R_f =0.7) afforded a white powder (99% yield): m.p. 153–155°C; $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ =-32.0 $\text{degcm}^3\text{g}^{-1}\text{dm}^{-1}$ (c =1.5 gdl^{-1} in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: δ =1.16 (s, 18H; 2 CMe_3), 1.36 (s, 18H; 2 CMe_3), 1.95–2.23 (m, 4H; $(\text{CH}_2)_2$), 3.88 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 6.91 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.26–7.39 (m, 12H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: δ =24.0 (m), 31.1, 31.4, 34.6, 35.3, 62.7 (m), 125.3, 128.0, 128.3 (m), 128.4, 130.9 (m), 132.9 (m), 138.2 (m), 141.7 (m), 145.5, 160.5 (m); ^{31}P NMR: δ =-19.9 (s); MS (EI): m/z (%): 682 (47) [M^+]; HRMS (EI): m/z : [M^+] calcd for $\text{C}_{44}\text{H}_{60}\text{O}_2\text{P}_2$ 682.407, found 682.408; EA: calcd ($\text{C}_{44}\text{H}_{60}\text{O}_2\text{P}_2$, 682.89) C 77.39, H 8.86, found C 77.46, H 8.98.

(R_P, R_P)-1,2-Bis[(phenyl)(2,3,4-trimethoxyphenyl)phosphino]ethane (6i). Purification on silica gel eluting with CH_2Cl_2 (R_f =0.3) afforded a colorless oil (98% yield): $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ =-20.1 $\text{degcm}^3\text{g}^{-1}\text{dm}^{-1}$ (c =0.5 gdl^{-1} in CHCl_3); ^1H NMR: δ =1.98 (m, 2H; $(\text{PCH}_a\text{H}_b)_2$), 2.17 (m, 2H; $(\text{PCH}_a\text{H}_b)_2$), 3.65 (s, 6H; 2 OCH_3), 3.82 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 3.83 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 6.60 (d, J =9 Hz, 2H; Ar-H), 6.77 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.24–7.39 (m, 10H; Ar-H); ^{13}C NMR: δ =22.9 (m), 55.9, 60.5, 60.6, 107.3 (m), 123.8 (m), 126.4 (m), 128.2 (m), 128.5, 132.9 (m), 138.2 (m), 141.9 (m), 154.5, 155.7 (m); ^{31}P NMR: δ =-24.0 (s); MS (ESI): m/z (%): 579.2 (18) [M^+ +H]; HRMS (ESI): m/z : [M^+ +H] calcd for $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{37}\text{O}_6\text{P}_2$ 579.207, found 579.207.

(*R_P*,*R_P*)-1,2-Bis[(phenyl)(2,3,4,5-tetramethoxyphenyl)phosphino]ethane (6j). Purification on silica gel eluting with CH₂Cl₂, then with toluene/EtOAc 8:2 (*R_f*=0.6) afforded a white powder (99% yield): m.p. 78–81°C; [α]_D²⁵=−44.8 degcm³g^{−1}dm^{−1} (*c*=1.0 gdcL^{−1} in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: δ =2.01 (m, 2H; (PCH_aH_b)₂), 2.20 (m, 2H; (PCH_aH_b)₂), 3.63 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 3.67 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 3.87 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 3.88 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 6.32 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.28–7.34 (m, 6H; Ar-H), 7.36–7.43 (m, 4H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: δ =22.9 (m), 56.1, 60.5, 60.8, 61.0, 109.1 (m), 125.9 (m), 128.3 (m), 128.7, 133.1 (m), 137.5 (m), 143.7, 146.6 (m), 149.3 (m), 149.6 (m); ³¹P NMR: δ =−21.5 (s); MS (EI): *m/z* (%): 638 (20) [*M*⁺]; HRMS (EI): *m/z*: [*M*⁺] calcd for C₃₄H₄₀O₈P₂ 638.220, found 638.221; EA: calcd (C₃₄H₄₀O₈P₂, 638.62) C 63.94, H 6.31, found C 64.03, H 6.40.

(*R_P*,*R_P*)-1,2-Bis[(2,3-dihydro-2,2-dimethyl-7-methoxy-6-benzofuranyl)(phenyl)phosphino]ethane (6k). Purification on silica gel eluting with hexane/EtOAc 9:1 (*R_f*=0.3) afforded a colorless oil (98% yield): [α]_D²⁵=−18.0 degcm³g^{−1}dm^{−1} (*c*=0.5 gdcL^{−1} in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: δ =1.45 (s, 6H; 2 CMe), 1.46 (s, 6H; 2 CMe), 1.98 (m, 2H; (PCH_aH_b)₂), 2.24 (m, 2H; (PCH_aH_b)₂), 2.95 (s, 4H; 2 CH₂), 3.67 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 6.51 (td, *J*=2, 8 Hz, 2H; Ar-H), 6.75 (td, *J*=1, 8 Hz, 2H; Ar-H), 7.25–7.30 (m, 6H; Ar-H), 7.35–7.42 (m, 4H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: δ =22.7 (m), 28.15, 28.16, 42.8, 59.4, 87.4, 119.5 (m), 123.1 (m), 128.2 (m), 128.4, 129.9 (m), 130.7, 133.2 (m), 137.9 (m), 145.6 (m), 149.7 (m); ³¹P NMR: δ =−21.0 (s); MS (EI): *m/z* (%): 598 (40) [*M*⁺]; HRMS (EI): *m/z*: [*M*⁺] calcd for C₃₆H₄₀O₄P₂ 598.240, found 598.242.

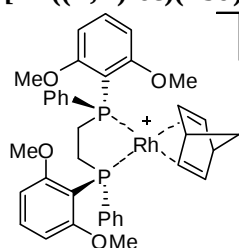
(*R_P*,*R_P*)-1,2-Bis[(1-methoxy-2-naphthyl)(phenyl)phosphino]ethane (6l). Purification on silica gel eluting with hexane/EtOAc 9:1 (*R_f*=0.4) afforded a white powder (96% yield): m.p. 114–116°C; [α]_D²⁵=+33.5 degcm³g^{−1}dm^{−1} (*c*=1.0 gdcL^{−1} in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: δ =2.24 (m, 4H; (CH₂)₂), 3.95 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 7.13 (td, *J*=2, 9 Hz, 2H; Ar-H), 7.27 (m, 6H; Ar-H), 7.35 (m, 4H; Ar-H), 7.49 (m, 6H; Ar-H), 7.79 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 8.08 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: δ =23.2 (m), 62.5 (m), 122.4 (m), 124.3, 125.9 (m), 126.1, 126.8, 127.7 (m), 127.9, 128.0, 128.40 (m), 128.43, 132.7 (m), 135.4, 138.2 (m), 160.1 (m); ³¹P NMR: δ =−26.2 (s); MS (EI): *m/z* (%): 558 (57) [*M*⁺]; HRMS (EI): *m/z*: [*M*⁺] calcd for C₃₆H₃₂O₂P₂ 558.188, found 558.189; EA: calcd (C₃₆H₃₂O₂P₂, 558.59) C 77.41, H 5.77, found C 77.50, H 5.81.

(*R_P*,*R_P*)-1,2-Bis[(3-methoxy-2-naphthyl)(phenyl)phosphino]ethane (6m). Purification on silica gel eluting with toluene afforded a colorless oil (97% yield): *R_f*=0.4 (hexane/EtOAc 9:1); [α]_D²⁵=−82.4 degcm³g^{−1}dm^{−1} (*c*=0.8 gdcL^{−1} in CHCl₃); ¹H NMR: δ =2.08 (m, 2H; (PCH_aH_b)₂), 2.45 (m, 2H; (PCH_aH_b)₂), 3.78 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 7.04 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.22–7.46 (m, 16H; Ar-H), 7.58 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.67 (m, 2H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR: δ =22.4 (m), 55.5, 104.8, 123.2, 126.3, 126.6, 127.7, 128.4 (m), 128.7 (m), 128.9, 129.3 (m), 132.3 (m), 133.5 (m), 134.7, 136.6 (m), 158.6 (m); ³¹P NMR: δ =−19.6 (s); MS (EI): *m/z* (%): 558 (67) [*M*⁺]; HRMS (EI): *m/z*: [*M*⁺] calcd for C₃₆H₃₂O₂P₂ 558.188, found 558.189.

General procedure for the preparation of a single-crystal of [Rh(6)(nbd)]BF₄ complexes. To a solution of **6e** (200 mg, 0.31 mmol) or **6j** (160 mg, 0.31 mmol) in MeOH (1 mL) is added in one portion [RhCl(nbd)]₂ (73 mg, 0.16 mmol). The resulting mixture is left to stir for 15 min affording a deep-red solution. Subsequently, a solution of NaBF₄ (52 mg, 0.47 mmol) in H₂O (1 mL) is slowly added. The corresponding [Rh(6)(nbd)]BF₄ complex precipitates as a fine orange powder, which is filtered off and rinsed with H₂O (5 mL). The complex is recrystallized from the appropriate solvent.

Determination of X-ray structures. Data were collected on a Nonius Kappa CCD diffractometer using a graphite monochromated Mo-K α radiation ($\lambda=0.71073$ Å). Data reduction and integration were performed with DENZO-SMN software.^[13] Specific absorption corrections were not applied since the crystals were nearly equidimensional and averaging of the symmetry-equivalent reflections largely compensated for any absorption effects. The coordinates of some or all of the non-hydrogen atoms were found *via* direct methods using the structure solution SHELXS-97 program.^[14] Positions of the remaining non-hydrogen atoms were located by using a combination of least-squares refinement and difference Fourier maps in the SHELXL-97 program. Except hydrogen atoms, all atoms were refined anisotropically. The hydrogen atoms were included in the structure factor calculations at idealized positions. The absolute configurations were determined by refinement of the completed models together with the Flack *x* parameters, which refined to value of $-0.03(4)$ for both [Rh((*R,R*)-**6e**)(nbd)]BF₄ and [Rh((*R,R*)-**6j**)(nbd)]BF₄, and thereby confirmed that the refined coordinates for each structure represent the true enantiomorph.^[15] Figures depicting the structures were prepared by Ortep3.^[16] The displacement ellipsoids of all ORTEP figures were drawn at the 30% probability level.

[Rh((*R,R*)-6e**)(nbd)]BF₄ complex.** Crystallization from THF yielded orange crystals: m.p. 140–142°C; ¹H NMR: δ =1.60 (m, 2H; CHCH₂), 2.24 (m, 2H; (PCH_aH_b)₂), 2.92 (m, 2H; (PCH_aH_b)₂), 3.75 (s, 12H; 4 OMe), 3.93 (m, 2H; 2 CHCH₂), 4.59 (m, 4H; 4 CH), 6.61 (m, 4H; Ar-H), 7.32–7.41 (m, 10H; Ar-H), 7.44 (t, *J*=8.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H); ³¹P NMR: δ =+45.1 (d, *J*=154 Hz).



Crystal data for [Rh((*R,R*)-**6e**)(nbd)]BF₄: C₃₇H₄₀BF₄O₄P₂Rh, *FW* 640.28, orthorhombic, space group *P* 2₁2₁2₁, *a*=13.6732(2), *b*=16.8953(2), *c*=17.6216(2) Å, $\alpha=90$, $\beta=90$, $\gamma=90$ deg, *V*=4070.82(9) Å³, *Z*=4, *T*=293(2) K, *d*_{calcd}=1.306 g cm⁻³, μ =0.551 mm⁻¹, 54851 measured reflections, 9317 unique reflections (*R*_{int}=0.060), 422 refined parameters, *R*₁[*I*>2 σ (*I*)]=0.0653, *wR*2[all data]=0.1999.

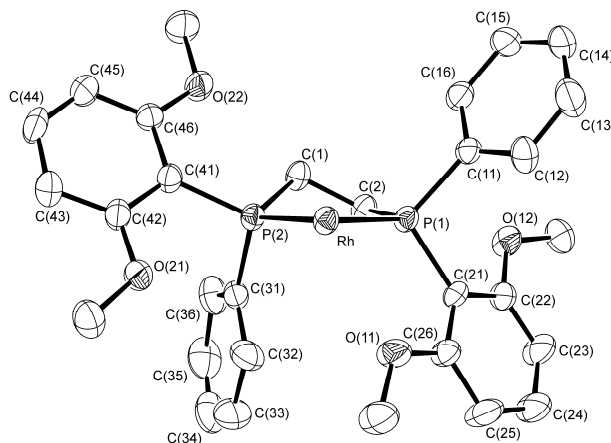


Figure 1a. ORTEP diagram of [Rh((*R,R*)-**6e**)(nbd)]BF₄ complex. Coordinated NBD and counter-anion (BF₄⁻) are omitted for clarity. Selected bond lengths or interatomic distances [Å] and angles [°]: Rh–P(1) 2.292(2), Rh–P(2) 2.297(2), Rh...O(11) 2.850(5), Rh...O(21) 3.742(5), P(1)–C(2) 1.850(7), P(1)–C(11) 1.828(7), P(1)–C(21) 1.816(6), P(2)–C(1) 1.829(6), P(2)–C(31) 1.823(7), P(2)–C(41) 1.822(6), C(1)–C(2) 1.544(8); P(1)–Rh–P(2) 83.69(5), Rh–P(1)–C(2) 109.8(1), Rh–P(1)–C(11) 114.6(2), Rh–P(1)–C(21) 115.1(2), Rh–P(2)–C(1) 106.0(2), Rh–P(2)–C(31) 116.0(2), Rh–P(2)–C(41) 119.3(2), P(1)–C(2)–C(1) 109.6(4), P(2)–C(1)–C(2) 107.6(4), Rh–C_{M1} 2.097, Rh–C_{M2} 2.115.

[13] Z. Otwinowski, W. Minor, *Methods Enzymol.* **1997**, 276, 307–326.

[14] G. Sheldrick, M. SHELXS-97 and SHELXL-97. Programs for Crystal Structure Solution and Refinement; University of Göttingen, **1997**.

[15] H. D. Flack, *Acta Crystallogr.* **1983**, 39A, 876–881.

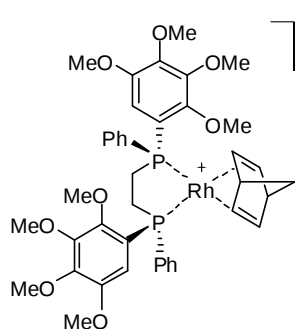
[16] L. J. Farrugia, *J. Appl. Crystallogr.* **1997**, 30, 565.

C(3), C(8), and C(5), C(6), indicate corresponding olefinic carbons of NBD, and C_{M1} and C_{M2} stand for centroids of C(3)=C(8) and C(5)=C(6), respectively.

Angles [°]	Torsion Angles [°]			
C _{M1} –Rh–P(2) 102.9	P(1)–Rh–P(2)–C(1)	–28.2(2)	P(2)–Rh–P(1)–C(2)	4.9(3)
C _{M2} –Rh–P(1) 102.8	P(1)–Rh–P(2)–C(41)	–151.5(3)	P(2)–Rh–P(1)–C(11)	124.5(3)
C _{M1} –Rh–C _{M2} 69.0	Rh–P(2)–C(41)–C(42)	–72.2(6)	Rh–P(1)–C(11)–C(12)	74.6(6)
	Rh–P(2)–C(41)–C(46)	106.7(6)	Rh–P(1)–C(11)–C(16)	–99.2(6)
Dihedral Angle	γ ₁	–72.8	γ ₄	77.7
[P(1)–Rh–P(2)]/[C _{M1} –Rh–C _{M2}]				
15.4	P(1)–Rh–P(2)–C(31)	83.0(3)	P(2)–Rh–P(1)–C(21)	–113.7(3)
(anticlockwise)	Rh–P(2)–C(31)–C(32)	19.1(7)	Rh–P(1)–C(21)–C(22)	–178.4(5)
	Rh–P(2)–C(31)–C(36)	–161.8(6)	Rh–P(1)–C(21)–C(26)	3.7(7)
	γ ₂	18.7	γ ₃	2.7

Averaged values γ_{1–4} were calculated following the equation: γ_n = [(γ' / |γ'|)(180° – |γ''|) + γ'] / 2 wherein γ' and γ'' correspond to the torsion angles Rh–P–C_{ipso}–C_{ortho} (|γ'| ≤ 90°).^[17]

[Rh((R,R)-6j)(nbd)]BF₄ complex. Crystallization from EtOH yielded red crystals: m.p. 111–113°C;



¹H NMR: δ=1.83 (s, 2H; CHCH₂), 2.30 (m, 2H; (PCH_aH_b)₂), 2.53 (m, 2H; (PCH_aH_b)₂), 3.17 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 3.85 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 3.88 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 3.96 (s, 6H; 2 OMe), 4.17 (m, 2H; 2 CHCH₂), 5.28 (m, 2H; 2 CH), 5.41 (m, 2H; 2 CH), 6.83 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.47–7.68 (m, 10H; Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ=25.5 (m), 55.0 (m), 56.7, 60.1, 61.0, 61.2, 71.2 (m), 88.8 (m), 90.6 (m), 110.6 (m), 116.4 (m), 129.4 (m), 131.4, 131.7 (m), 132.1 (m), 146.7, 147.0 (m), 149.0, 149.6 (m); ³¹P NMR: δ=+52.1 (d, J=159 Hz).

Crystal data for **[Rh((R,R)-6j)(nbd)]BF₄**: C₄₁H₄₈BF₄O₈P₂Rh, *FW* 920.45, monoclinic, space group *P* 2₁, *a*=9.3738(1), *b*=19.1395(2), *c*=12.9049(2) Å, α=90, β=102.9076(5), γ=90°, *V*=2256.76(5) Å³, *Z*=2, *T*=293(2) K, *d*_{calcd}=1.355 g cm^{–3}, μ=0.513 mm^{–1}, 34000 measured reflections, 9463 unique reflections (*R*_{int}=0.036), 489 refined parameters, *R*₁[*I*>2σ(*I*)]=0.0568, *wR*2[all data]=0.1681.

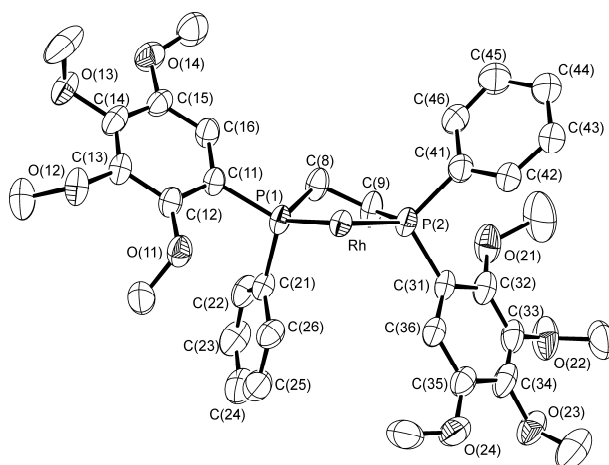


Figure 1b. ORTEP diagram of **[Rh((R,R)-6j)(nbd)]BF₄** complex. Coordinated NBD and counter-anion (BF₄[–]) are omitted for clarity. Selected bond lengths or interatomic distances [Å] and angles [°]: Rh–P(1) 2.288(1), Rh–P(2) 2.295(1), Rh...O(11) 3.795(4), P(1)–C(8) 1.836(7), P(1)–C(11) 1.825(5), P(1)–C(21) 1.819(6), P(2)–C(9) 1.841(6), P(2)–C(31) 1.805(6), P(2)–C(41) 1.822(7), C(8)–C(9) 1.495(8); P(1)–Rh–P(2) 83.20(5), Rh–P(1)–C(8)

[17] H. Brunner, A. Winter, J. Breu, *J. Organomet. Chem.* **1998**, 553, 285–306.

106.1(2), Rh–P(1)–C(11) 120.4(2), Rh–P(1)–C(21) 114.1(2), Rh–P(2)–C(9) 110.0(2), Rh–P(2)–C(31) 114.9(2), Rh–P(2)–C(41) 115.3(3), P(1)–C(8)–C(9) 109.2(5), P(2)–C(9)–C(8) 111.1(5), Rh–C_{M1} 2.087, Rh–C_{M2} 2.125. C(3), C(4), and C(1), C(6), indicate corresponding olefinic carbons of NBD, and C_{M1} and C_{M2} stand for centroids of C(3)=C(4) and C(1)=C(6), respectively.

Angles [°]	Torsion Angles [°]			
C _{M1} –Rh–P(1) 104.5	P(2)–Rh–P(1)–C(8)	–28.3(3)	P(1)–Rh–P(2)–C(9)	8.0(3)
C _{M2} –Rh–P(2) 103.3	P(2)–Rh–P(1)–C(11)	–145.7(2)	P(1)–Rh–P(2)–C(41)	128.0(3)
C _{M1} –Rh–C _{M2} 69.0	Rh–P(1)–C(11)–C(12)	–68.2(5)	Rh–P(2)–C(41)–C(42)	81.6(7)
	Rh–P(1)–C(11)–C(16)	108.9(4)	Rh–P(2)–C(41)–C(46)	–98.7(8)
Dihedral Angle	γ ₁	–69.7	γ ₄	81.5
[P(1)–Rh–P(2)]/[C _{M1} –Rh–C _{M2}]				
3.9	P(2)–Rh–P(1)–C(21)	86.7(2)	P(1)–Rh–P(2)–C(31)	–111.7(2)
(anticlockwise)	Rh–P(1)–C(21)–C(26)	19.8(6)	Rh–P(2)–C(31)–C(32)	–178.7(4)
	Rh–P(1)–C(21)–C(22)	–159.9(5)	Rh–P(2)–C(31)–C(36)	2.6(6)
	γ ₂	20.0	γ ₃	2.0

Averaged values γ_{1–4} were calculated following the equation: γ_n = [(γ' / |γ'|)(180° – |γ''|) + γ'] / 2 wherein γ' and γ'' correspond to the torsion angles Rh–P–C_{ipso}–C_{ortho} (|γ'| ≤ 90°).^[17]

Preparation of the solvate [Rh(6)(MeOH)₂]BF₄ catalysts. To a solution of [Rh(nbd)₂]BF₄ (2.8 mg) in MeOH (0.5 mL), a solution of the ligand **6a–m** (0.8 equiv to Rh-atom) in MeOH (0.5 mL) or CH₂Cl₂ (0.5 mL) is added dropwise at RT. The resulting solution is hydrogenated under 1 bar of H₂ for *ca.* 15 min. Elimination of metallic rhodium by filtration through a No. 3 sintered-glass filter afforded a clear brown solution of [Rh(6)(MeOH)₂]BF₄.

Procedure for hydrogenation of substrates in Table 1. To a solution of the substrate (0.5 mmol) in MeOH (7 mL), three freeze-pump-thaw cycles are applied and the system is filled with Ar. Then to the substrate solution is added under Ar a solution of the preformed [Rh(6)(MeOH)₂]BF₄ catalyst (substrate/catalyst molar ratio of 100 for MAC, Z-MAB, DMI, AA, and 200 for MAA) in MeOH (prepared as above). A vacuum is applied to this system then it is backfilled with H₂. The mixture is stirred at RT under 1 bar of H₂ (10 bar for AA). Evolution of the hydrogenation is monitored by the diminution of the volume of the closed reaction system at 1 bar (until H₂ uptake ceased). In case of Z-MAB, the reaction mixture is analyzed after 16 h, and with AA analysis is carried out after 3 h. The reaction mixture is analyzed by chiral GC (H₂ as carrier gas). Absolute configurations were assigned by comparison of optical rotation of isolated products with the literature data.

The following hydrogenation products with the mentioned absolute configuration were obtained using (*R,R*)-**6** ligands:

(S)-N-Acetyl-alanine methyl ester. ¹H NMR: δ=1.41 (d, *J*=7 Hz, 3H; CHMe), 2.02 (s, 3H; Ac), 3.76 (s, 3H; CO₂Me), 4.60 (m, 1H; CH), 6.26 (br s, 1H; NH); [α]_D²⁵=–91.4 degcm³g^{–1}dm^{–1} (*c*=1.0 gdcL^{–1} in H₂O), >99% *ee* (*R*-enantiomer: [α]_D²⁵=+91.2 degcm³g^{–1}dm^{–1} (*c*=1.0 gdcL^{–1} in H₂O)^[18]); GC (Lipodex-E), 130°C: 2.3 min (*S*), 2.6 min (*R*).

(S)-N-Acetyl-phenylalanine methyl ester. ¹H NMR: δ=1.99 (s, 3H; Ac), 3.13 (m, 2H; CH₂), 3.73 (s, 3H; OMe), 4.90 (dt, *J*=6, 8 Hz, 1H; CH), 5.90 (br d, *J*=6 Hz, 1H; NH), 7.09 (m, 2H; Ar-H), 7.28 (m, 3H; Ar-H); [α]_D²⁵=+15.7 degcm³g^{–1}dm^{–1} (*c*=1.0 gdcL^{–1} in MeOH), >99% *ee* after recrystallization from hexane/CH₂Cl₂ (*R*-enantiomer: [α]_D²⁵=–15.8 degcm³g^{–1}dm^{–1} (*c*=1.0 gdcL^{–1} in MeOH)^[18]); GC (Chiralsil-L-Val), 190°C: 3.2 min (*R*), 3.4 min (*S*).

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Methyl (S)-3-acetamidobutanoate. ¹H NMR: δ =1.22 (d, J =7 Hz, 1H; CHMe), 1.96 (s, 3H; Ac), 2.52 (dd, J =5, 16 Hz, 1H; CH_aH_b), 2.55 (dd, J =5, 16 Hz, 1H; CH_aH_b), 3.70 (s, 3H; OMe), 4.35 (m, 1H; CH), 6.09 (br s, 1H; NH); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}=-17.1$ degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ (c =1.4 gdcL⁻¹ in MeOH), 80% *ee* (*R*-enantiomer: $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}=+21.4$ degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ (c =1.4 gdcL⁻¹ in MeOH)^[19]); GC (CP-Chiralsil DEX CB), 135°C: 4.5 min (*S*), 4.7 min (*R*).

(R)-2-Methyl-succinic acid dimethyl ester. ¹H NMR: δ =1.23 (d, J =7 Hz, 3H; CHMe), 2.42 (dd, J =6, 16 Hz, 1H; CH_a), 2.75 (dd, J =8, 16 Hz, 1H; CH_b), 2.93 (m, 1H; CH), 3.68 (s, 3H; OMe), 3.70 (s, 3H; OMe); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}=+4.4$ degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ (c =3.0 gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl₃), 91% *ee* (*R*-enantiomer: $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}=+4.8$ degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ (c =2.9 gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl₃)^[20]); GC (Lipodex-E), 80°C: 8.2 min (*S*), 8.5 min (*R*).

(S)-2-Phenylpropanoic acid. ¹H NMR: δ =1.52 (d, J =7 Hz, 3H; Me), 3.74 (q, J =7 Hz, 1H; CH), 7.31 (m, 5H; Ph); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}=+63.2$ degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ (c =1.6 gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl₃), 88% *ee* (*R*-enantiomer: $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}=-71.8$ degcm³g⁻¹dm⁻¹ (c =1.57 gdcL⁻¹ in CHCl₃)^[21]); GC (CP-Chiralsil DEX CB; prior esterification of the acid with TMSCHN₂ in hexanes), 90°C: 16.1 min (*S*), 16.6 min (*R*).

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