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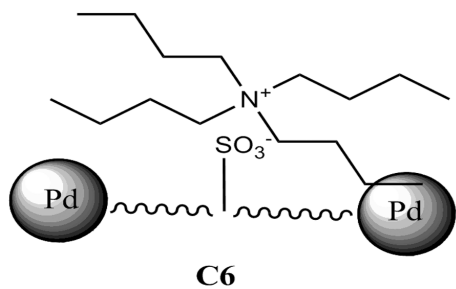
## Effective Binuclear Pd(II) Complexes for Suzuki Reactions in Water

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# Effective Binuclear Pd(II) Complexes for Suzuki Reactions in Water

Murat Emre HANHAN\*, Cemil CETINKAYA Michael P. SHAVER



A series of very effective ionic dinuclear Pd(II) complexes were synthesized and their catalytic activity for Suzuki reaction in aqueous media was investigated. Effect of TBAB on reaction determined. As a result it was found that dinuclear nature of Pd(II) complexes, accelerates the reaction rate.

Peer Review

# Effective Binuclear Pd(II) Complexes for Suzuki Reactions in Water

Murat Emre HANHAN<sup>1\*</sup>, Cemil CETINKAYA<sup>1</sup> and Michael P. SHAVER<sup>2</sup>

## Abstract

A series of new ionic binuclear Pd(II) complexes supported by water soluble bis( $\alpha$ -diimine) ligands were prepared and employed as catalysts for the palladium-catalyzed Suzuki reaction in aqueous media. The binuclear nature of the complexes increased the reaction rate while electronic and steric modification of the ligand frameworks had remarkable influences upon the catalytic activity of the palladium complexes. The catalysts were shown to be homogeneous through mercury poisoning experiments and complexes could be recycled over 10 times without loss of catalytic activity.

## Introduction

The palladium catalyzed Suzuki coupling reaction is the most powerful synthetic method to form biaryls. This cross coupling reactions of aryl halides with organoboron compounds is an essential tool of almost every synthetic chemist, being used in the synthesis of pharmaceuticals, ligands, natural products, polymers and specialty molecules.<sup>[1-7]</sup> Broad tolerance to different functional groups, mild reaction conditions and low inherent toxicity materials makes Suzuki reactions unique for coupling

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2  
3 reactions.<sup>[8]</sup> Recently, Suzuki reactions in aqueous media have sparked research  
4  
5 interest. Water is an inexpensive, readily available, non-toxic and environmentally  
6  
7 friendly alternative solvent in organic synthesis but is especially important in  
8  
9 facilitating catalyst-product separation. Casalnuovo and co-workers developed  
10  
11 Suzuki reaction in aqueous solvents catalyzed by TPPMS/Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (TPPMS =  
12  
13 PPh<sub>2</sub>(*m*-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>K)<sup>[9]</sup> while several water-soluble phosphine analogues have also  
14  
15 been developed.<sup>[10-18]</sup> Buchwald's group synthesized very effective sulfonated  
16  
17 phosphine ligand for Suzuki reaction in aqueous media.<sup>[19]</sup> Najera and co-workers  
18  
19 have used an oxime-carbapalladacycle<sup>[8, 20]</sup> an dinitrogenated ligands with  
20  
21 tetrabutylammonium bromide salts (TBAB) as a catalyst for aqueous phase Suzuki  
22  
23 reactions, with activity for the TBAB system high even for coupling unreactive  
24  
25 arylchlorides.<sup>[21, 22]</sup> Wang and co-workers used microwaves to promote the Suzuki  
26  
27 reaction in water, accessing shortened reaction times and high yields.<sup>[23]</sup>

28  
29  
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31  
32 Little comparative effort has been made in the use of water-soluble diimine  
33  
34 frameworks in cross-coupling reactions. Very good  $\pi$  acceptor and  $\alpha$  donor property  
35  
36 of  $\alpha$ -diimine ligands can stabilize low and high oxidation state transition metals. Thus  
37  
38 transition metals with  $\alpha$ -diimines can adapt to a catalytic cycle containing an oxidative  
39  
40 addition/reduction elimination sequence. Another advantage of these types of ligands  
41  
42 is the facile tunability of their electronic and steric properties.<sup>[24]</sup> There are several  
43  
44 effective palladium catalysts which have  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ -diimine skeleton used in Suzuki  
45  
46 reaction.<sup>[7, 25-27]</sup> On the other hand, binuclear Pd(II) complexes has attracted  
47  
48 considerable interest recently.<sup>[28]</sup> Binuclear organometallic complexes have some  
49  
50 advantages from that of analogous mononuclear complexes.<sup>[29]</sup> Binuclear complexes  
51  
52 may have additional oxidation states these extra oxidation state gives the complex  
53  
54 extra stability<sup>[30]</sup>, interaction between nearby metal centers could potentially cause  
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3 increased reaction yield or yield transformation rates not possible with mononuclear  
4 analogues<sup>[31]</sup> and the distance between two metal centers also plays important role  
5 for the catalytic performance.<sup>[32]</sup> In this paper, we report a series of novel, water-  
6 soluble binuclear palladium(II) diimine complexes as catalysts for Suzuki reaction in  
7 aqueous media. The seven ligands and complexes used in this study are shown in  
8 Figure 1.  
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20 **Figure 1:** Schematic display of ligands and complexes.  
21

## 22 **Experimental**

### 23 **Materials**

24 All solvents were purchased and purified according to standard procedures. Other  
25 reagents were used as received from Sigma-Aldrich Company without further  
26 purification. Gas chromatographic analyses were performed on an Agilent 6890N  
27 instrument equipped with HP-1 fused silica capillary column. FT-IR spectra were  
28 recorded on a Perkin Elmer Spectrum 100 with using ATR between the 400 – 4000  
29 cm<sup>-1</sup> range. NMR spectra were performed on a Bruker 300 MHz Ultrashield TM using  
30 DMSO as solvent and Me<sub>4</sub>Si as internal standard. Elemental analyses were  
31 performed on a LECO CHSN 932.  
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### 46 **Synthesis of diimine ligands**

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48  
49 *2,5-Diaminobenzenesulfonic acid – sodium salt, (1) and 2-Aminobenzenesulfonic acid*  
50 *– sodium salt (2)*  
51

52 The sodium salt of 2,5-diaminobenzenesulfonic acid or 2-aminobenzenesulfonic was  
53 prepared from the reaction of sulfonic acids and 1M sodium hydroxide solution  
54  
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56  
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3 followed by removal of the water under reduced pressure, following a reported  
4  
5 literature procedure.<sup>[33]</sup>  
6  
7

#### 8 9 *General Procedure For the Synthesis of Ligands L1 – L5*

10 2 mmol aldehyde or ketone (2-pyridinecarboxyaldehyde (**L1**), 6-methylpyridine-2-  
11 carboxaldehyde (**L2**), 2-acetylpyridine (**L3**), 2-acetyl-4-methylpyridine (**L4**), 2-  
12 quinolinecarboxaldehyde (**L5**)) and 1 mmol **1** was added to a solution of dry ethanol  
13 (50 mL) and xylene (10 mL). The resulting mixture was heated to reflux overnight  
14 then cooled to ambient temperature and stored at 4°C overnight to initiate product  
15 crystallization. The resulting solid was isolated by filtration and washed with diethyl  
16 ether (3 × 10 mL) and dried under *vacuum*.  
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#### 25 26 27 *L1*

28 Yield: 76 %. Yellow solid. FT-IR (ATR,  $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 1639 (C=N), 1196 (S=O). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR  
29 (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 8.86 (d, 2H,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, C(2)-H; C(2')-H), 8.52 (s, 2H, H-  
30 C(7)=N; H-C(7')=N), 8.11 – 7.92 (m, 3H, H<sub>arom</sub>), 7.84 – 7.32 (m, 3H, H<sub>arom</sub>), 7.21 –  
31 7,09 (m, 3H, H<sub>arom</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 166.8(C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>2'</sub>), 156.2(C<sub>7</sub>, C<sub>7'</sub>),  
32 147.7(C<sub>9</sub>), 147.5(C<sub>4</sub>, C<sub>4'</sub>), 144.3(C<sub>12</sub>), 136.9(C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>5'</sub>), 136.6(C<sub>6</sub>, C<sub>6'</sub>), 132.9(C<sub>13</sub>),  
33 128.6(C<sub>10</sub>), 126.8(C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>1'</sub>), 126.2(C<sub>14</sub>), 124.2(C<sub>11</sub>). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>4</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub>S: C,  
34 55.67; H, 3.37; N, 14.43. Found: C, 55.22; H, 3.42; N, 14.03. LC/MS: (ESI)  $m/z$  389  
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44  
45  
46  
47  
48 [M+1H].

#### 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 *L2*

Yield: 69 %. Pale yellow solid. FT-IR (ATR,  $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 1648 (C=N), 1223 (S=O). <sup>1</sup>H-  
NMR (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 8.36 (s, 2H, C(7)-H=N; C(7')-H=N), 7.89 (m, 4H, H<sub>arom</sub>),  
7.71 – 7.59 (m, 2H, H<sub>arom</sub>), 7.32 - 7.19 (m, 3H, H<sub>arom</sub>), 2.55 (s, 6H, C(2)-CH<sub>3</sub>; C(2')-  
CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 165.3(C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>2'</sub>), 158.2(C<sub>7</sub>, C<sub>7'</sub>), 149.6(C<sub>9</sub>),

1  
2  
3 148.2(C<sub>4</sub>, C<sub>4'</sub>), 146.1(C<sub>12</sub>), 139.5(C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>5'</sub>), 138.7(C<sub>6</sub>, C<sub>6'</sub>), 135.4(C<sub>13</sub>), 130.9(C<sub>10</sub>),  
4  
5 128.4(C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>1'</sub>), 127.4(C<sub>14</sub>), 126.8(C<sub>11</sub>), 24.2(C<sub>16</sub>, C<sub>16'</sub>). Anal. Calcd for  
6  
7 C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>4</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub>S: C, 57.68; H, 4.11; N, 13.45. Found: C, 58.24; H, 3.77; N, 14.22.  
8  
9 LC/MS: (ESI) m/z 417 [M+1H].  
10

### 11 L3

12  
13 Yield: 77%. Yellow solid. FT-IR (ATR,  $\nu$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1657 (C=N), 1219 (S=O). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR  
14 (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 8.66 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.6 Hz, C(2)-H; C(2')-H), 8.06 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.3  
15 Hz, C(5)-H; C(5')-H), 7.84 – 7.73 (m, 4H (H<sub>arom</sub>), 7.63 – 7.59 (m, 3H, H<sub>arom</sub>), 1.96 (s,  
16 6H, C(7)-CH<sub>3</sub>; C(7')-CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 163.8 (C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>2'</sub>), 155.1(C<sub>5</sub>,  
17 C<sub>5'</sub>), 151.7(C<sub>9</sub>), 148.9(C<sub>4</sub>, C<sub>4'</sub>), 147.2(C<sub>12</sub>), 140.7(C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>5'</sub>), 139.1(C<sub>6</sub>, C<sub>6'</sub>), 137.2(C<sub>13</sub>),  
18 132.7(C<sub>10</sub>), 129.2(C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>1'</sub>), 128.6(C<sub>14</sub>), 127.2(C<sub>11</sub>), 18.7(C<sub>15</sub>, C<sub>15'</sub>). Anal. Calcd for  
19 C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>4</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub>S: C, 57.68; H, 4.11; N, 13.45. Found: C, 58.24; H, 3.77; N, 14.22.  
20  
21 LC/MS: (ESI) m/z 417 [M+1H].  
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### 33 L4

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35 Yield: 59 %. Yellow solid. FT-IR (ATR,  $\nu$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1232 (C=N), 1196 (S=O). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR  
36 (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 8.58 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.8 Hz, C(2)-H; C(2')-H), 7.94 (s, 2H, C(5)-H;  
37 C(5')-H), 7.63 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.8 Hz, C(1)-H; C(1')-H), 7.61 - 7.54 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 2.39 (s,  
38 6H, C(6)-CH<sub>3</sub>; C(6')-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.96 (s, 6H, C(7)-CH<sub>3</sub>; C(7')-CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz,  
39 DMSO)  $\delta$ : 179.2(C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>2'</sub>), 167.4(C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>5'</sub>), 150.6(C<sub>9</sub>), 147.4(C<sub>4</sub>, C<sub>4'</sub>), 146.9(C<sub>12</sub>),  
40 142.8(C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>5'</sub>), 141.7 (C<sub>6</sub>, C<sub>6'</sub>) 138.4 (C<sub>13</sub>), 133.6 (C<sub>10</sub>), 130.9 (C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>1'</sub>), 129.1 (C<sub>14</sub>),  
41 129.7 (C<sub>11</sub>), 22.3, (C<sub>17</sub>, C<sub>17'</sub>), 19.1 (C<sub>15</sub>, C<sub>15'</sub>). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>4</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub>S: C,  
42 59.45; H, 4.76; N, 12.60. Found: C, 59.02; H, 4.98; N, 13.14. LC/MS: (ESI) m/z 445  
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53 [M+1H].  
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**L5**

Yield: 36%. Dark yellow solid. FT-IR (ATR,  $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 1633 (C=N), 1229 (S=O).  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 9.03 (s, 2H, C(2)-H; C(2')-H), 8.66 (s, 2H C(7)-H=N; C(7')-H=N), 8.14 (s, 2H, C(5)-H; C(5')-H), 7.92-7.88 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.63 – 7.58 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.49 – 7.42 (m, 5H, Ar-H).  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (75 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 163.4 (C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>2'</sub>), 161.6(C<sub>7</sub>, C<sub>7'</sub>), 152.7(C<sub>9</sub>), 147.9(C<sub>12</sub>), 146.4(C<sub>4</sub>, C<sub>4'</sub>), 137.2(C<sub>13</sub>), 136.3 (C<sub>6</sub>, C<sub>6'</sub>), 132.8(C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>1'</sub>), 130.8(C<sub>17</sub>, C<sub>17'</sub>), 129.9(C<sub>15</sub>, C<sub>15'</sub>), 128.7(C<sub>10</sub>), 127.5(C<sub>16</sub>, C<sub>16'</sub>), 127.2(C<sub>18</sub>, C<sub>18'</sub>), 125.4(C<sub>11</sub>), 125.2(C<sub>14</sub>), 124.7(C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>5'</sub>). Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>4</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub>S: C, 63.93; H, 3.51; N, 11.47. Found: C, 64.11; H, 3.87; N, 10.23

**Synthesis of L6**

**L4** (1 mmol) and tributylammonium chloride (TBAC) (2,5 mmol) were added to 50 mL of isopropanol. The mixture was stirred at 60°C for 24 h resulting in the formation of a white precipitate, NaCl. Removal of this precipitation by filtration, followed by removal of volatiles from the supernatant gave an oily yellow residue. Recrystallization of this residue from *iso*-propanol afforded the desired **L6**.

Yield: 36 %. White-yellow solid. FT-IR (ATR,  $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 1654 (C=N), 1201 (S=O).  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 8.59 (d, 2H,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, C(2)-H; C(2')-H), 8.01 (s, 2H, C(5)-H; C(5')-H), 7.59 (d, 2H,  $J=7.9$  Hz, C(1)-H; C(1')-H), 7.54 – 7.49 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 3.19 (t, 8H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, N<sup>+</sup>-[CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>]<sub>4</sub> "TBA salt"), 2.59 (s, 6H, C(6)-CH<sub>3</sub>; C(6')-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.24 – 2.32 (m, 8H, N<sup>+</sup>-[CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>]<sub>4</sub> ("TBA salt"), 1.99 (s, 6H, C(7)-CH<sub>3</sub>; C(7')-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.39 – 1.42 (m, 8H, N<sup>+</sup>-[CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>]<sub>4</sub> "TBA salt"), 0.86 (t, 12H,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, N<sup>+</sup>-[CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>]<sub>4</sub> "TBA salt").  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (75 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 177.3 (C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>2'</sub>), 165.4(C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>5'</sub>), 149.4 (C<sub>9</sub>), 148.6(C<sub>4</sub>, C<sub>4'</sub>), 145.2(C<sub>12</sub>), 141.9(C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>5'</sub>), 140.7(C<sub>6</sub>, C<sub>6'</sub>), 137.1(C<sub>13</sub>), 132.6(C<sub>10</sub>), 129.8(C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>1'</sub>), 128.6(C<sub>14</sub>), 128.1(C<sub>11</sub>), 58.1

(N<sup>+</sup>-[CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>]<sub>4</sub>), 23.2 (N<sup>+</sup>-[CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>]<sub>4</sub>), 22.6 (C<sub>17</sub>, C<sub>17'</sub>), 20.4 (C<sub>15</sub>, C<sub>15'</sub>), 18.2 (N<sup>+</sup>-[CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>]<sub>4</sub>), 12.9 (N<sup>+</sup>-[CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>]<sub>4</sub>).

### Syntheses of L7

1 mmol 2-acetyl-4-methylpyridine and 1 mmol **2** were added to a solution of dry ethanol (50 mL) and xylene (10 mL). The resulting mixture was heated to reflux overnight then cooled to ambient temperature and stored at 4°C overnight to initiate product crystallization. The resulting solid was isolated by filtration and washed with diethyl ether (3 × 10 mL) and dried under *vacuum*.

Yield: 97 %. Yellow solid. FT-IR (ATR,  $\nu$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1623 (C=N), 1188 (S=O). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 8.77 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, C(2)-H), 8.03 – 7.82 (m, 3H, H<sub>arom</sub>), 7.58 – 7.51 (m, 2H, H<sub>arom</sub>), 2.17 (s, 3H, C(6)-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.-6 (s, 6H, C(7)-CH<sub>3</sub>). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub>S: C, 53.84; H, 4.20; N, 8.97. Found: C, 54.07; H, 3.96; N, 9.17. LC/MS: (ESI)  $m/z$  313 [M+1H].

### Synthesis of Complex C1 – C6

All complexes were prepared via a modified literature procedure.<sup>[25]</sup> 1 mmol ligand (**L1 – L6**) and 2 mmol Pd(CH<sub>3</sub>CN)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> was refluxed 12 h in acetonitrile under nitrogen (Figure 1). C7 was prepared using same procedure with using 1 mmol **L7** and 1 mmol Pd(CH<sub>3</sub>CN)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Removal of solvent in vacuo afforded a crude solvent which was washed with diethyl ether (3 x 10 mL) and dried under vacuum.

### C1

Yield: 54 %, pale yellow. FT-IR (ATR,  $\nu$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1582 (C=N), 1189 (S=O). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 9.24 (d, 2H,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, C(2)-H; C(2')-H), 9.11 (s, 2H, H-

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3 C(7)=N;  $\underline{\text{H}}\text{-C}(7')=\text{N}$ ), 8.46 (m, 2H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 8.32 – 8.17 (m, 2H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 8.05 – 7.96 (m,  
4 3H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 7.34 (m, 2H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (75 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 173.1( $\text{C}_2$ ,  $\text{C}_2'$ ),  
5 167.5( $\text{C}_7$ ,  $\text{C}_7'$ ), 153.5( $\text{C}_9$ ), 152.6( $\text{C}_4$ ,  $\text{C}_4'$ ), 149.2( $\text{C}_{12}$ ), 139.0( $\text{C}_5$ ,  $\text{C}_5'$ ), 137.9( $\text{C}_6$ ,  $\text{C}_6'$ ),  
6 134.1( $\text{C}_{13}$ ), 130.4( $\text{C}_{10}$ ), 129.7( $\text{C}_1$ ,  $\text{C}_1'$ ), 128.6( $\text{C}_{14}$ ), 123.9( $\text{C}_{11}$ ). Anal. Calcd. for  
7  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{13}\text{Cl}_4\text{N}_4\text{NaO}_3\text{Pd}_2\text{S}$ : C, 29.10; H, 1.76; N, 7.54. Found C, 29.77; H, 1.22; N, 7.53.  
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### 14 C2

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16 Yield: 69 %, pale yellow - white. FT-IR (ATR,  $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 1592 (C=N), 1213 (S=O).  $^1\text{H}$ -  
17 NMR (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 9.12 (s, 2H, C(7)- $\underline{\text{H}}=\text{N}$ ; C(7')- $\underline{\text{H}}=\text{N}$ ), 8.06 – 7.91 (m, 4H,  
18  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 7.82 - 7.79 (m, 3H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 7.72 – 7.63 (m, 2H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 2.73 (s, 6H, C(2)- $\underline{\text{C}}\underline{\text{H}}_3$ ;  
19 C(2') $\underline{\text{C}}\underline{\text{H}}_3$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (75 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 173.4 ( $\text{C}_2$ ,  $\text{C}_2'$ ), 166.4( $\text{C}_7$ ,  $\text{C}_7'$ ), 152.7( $\text{C}_9$ ),  
20 151.2( $\text{C}_4$ ,  $\text{C}_4'$ ), 149.7( $\text{C}_{12}$ ), 146.4( $\text{C}_5$ ,  $\text{C}_5'$ ), 145.9( $\text{C}_6$ ,  $\text{C}_6'$ ), 140.4( $\text{C}_{13}$ ), 135.2( $\text{C}_{10}$ ),  
21 134.4( $\text{C}_1$ ,  $\text{C}_1'$ ), 129.9( $\text{C}_{14}$ ), 128.5( $\text{C}_{11}$ ), 27.4 ( $\text{C}_{16}$ ,  $\text{C}_{16}'$ ) Anal. Calcd. for  
22  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{17}\text{Cl}_4\text{N}_4\text{NaO}_3\text{Pd}_2\text{S}$ : C, 31.15; H, 2.22; N, 7.27. Found C, 31.97; H, 2.21; N, 7.14.  
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### 33 C3

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35 Yield: 54 %, pale yellow. FT-IR (ATR,  $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 1583 (C=N), 1223 (S=O).  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR  
36 (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 8.96 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, C(2)- $\underline{\text{H}}$ ; C(2')- $\underline{\text{H}}$ ), 8.32 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.1$   
37 Hz, C(5)- $\underline{\text{H}}$ ; C(5')- $\underline{\text{H}}$ ), 7.91 – 7.84 (m, 3H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 7.69 – 7.61 (m, 4H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 2.39 (s,  
38 6H, C(7)- $\underline{\text{C}}\underline{\text{H}}_3$ ; C(7')- $\underline{\text{C}}\underline{\text{H}}_3$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (75 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 170.4 ( $\text{C}_2$ ,  $\text{C}_2'$ ), 159.7 ( $\text{C}_5$ ,  
39  $\text{C}_5'$ ), 158.1 ( $\text{C}_9$ ), 153.4( $\text{C}_4$ ,  $\text{C}_4'$ ), 152.4 ( $\text{C}_{12}$ ), 142.4 ( $\text{C}_5$ ,  $\text{C}_5'$ ), 139.7 ( $\text{C}_6$ ,  $\text{C}_6'$ ), 139.2  
40 ( $\text{C}_{13}$ ), 134.6 ( $\text{C}_{10}$ ), 132.9 ( $\text{C}_1$ ,  $\text{C}_1'$ ), 129.5 ( $\text{C}_{14}$ ), 128.9 ( $\text{C}_{11}$ ), 20.3 ( $\text{C}_{15}$ ,  $\text{C}_{15}'$ ). Anal.  
41 Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{17}\text{Cl}_4\text{N}_4\text{NaO}_3\text{Pd}_2\text{S}$ : C, 31.15; H, 2.22; N, 7.27. Found C, 31.23; H,  
42 2.29; N, 7.79.  
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## C4

Yield: 63 %, pale yellow. FT-IR (ATR,  $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 1589 (C=N), 1227 (S=O).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 8.89 (d, 2H,  $J = 7.9$ , C(2)-H; C(2')-H), 8.02 (s, 2H, C(5)-H; C(5')-H), 7.79 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, C(1)-H; C(1')-H), 7.82 – 7.76 (m, 3H,  $H_{\text{arom}}$ ), 2.45 (s, 6H, C(6)-CH<sub>3</sub>; C(6')-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.13 (s, 6H, C(7)-CH<sub>3</sub>; C(7')-CH<sub>3</sub>).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (75 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 179.5 (C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>2'</sub>), 172.6 (C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>5'</sub>), 158.1 (C<sub>9</sub>), 152.4 (C<sub>4</sub>, C<sub>4'</sub>), 151.8 (C<sub>12</sub>), 148.6 (C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>5'</sub>), 147.9 (C<sub>6</sub>, C<sub>6'</sub>), 145.2 (C<sub>13</sub>), 143.4 (C<sub>10</sub>), 136.5 (C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>1'</sub>), 135.2 (C<sub>14</sub>), 134.8 (C<sub>11</sub>), 25.2 (C<sub>17</sub>, C<sub>17'</sub>), 21.4 (C<sub>15</sub>, C<sub>15'</sub>). Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>21</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub>N<sub>4</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub>Pd<sub>2</sub>S: C, 33.07; H, 2.65; N, 7.01. Found C, 32.76; H, 2.34; N, 7.61.

## C5

Yield: 59 %, yellow. FT-IR (ATR,  $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 1592 (C=N), 1215 (S=O).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 9.25 (s, 2H, C(2)-H; C(2')-H), 8.79 (s, 2H, C(7)-H=N; C(7')-H=N), 8.33 (s, 2H, C(5)-H; C(5')-H), 7.83 – 7.78 (m, 3H,  $H_{\text{arom}}$ ), 7.66 – 7.61 (m, 3H,  $H_{\text{arom}}$ ), 7.44 – 7.40 (m, 5H,  $H_{\text{arom}}$ ).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (75 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 173.7 (C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>2'</sub>), 171.2 (C<sub>7</sub>, C<sub>7'</sub>), 166.5 (C<sub>9</sub>), 153.4 (C<sub>12</sub>), 151.7 (C<sub>4</sub>, C<sub>4'</sub>), 142.9 (C<sub>13</sub>), 141.3 (C<sub>6</sub>, C<sub>6'</sub>), 140.8 (C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>1'</sub>), 136.3 (C<sub>17</sub>, C<sub>17'</sub>), 135.4 (C<sub>15</sub>, C<sub>15'</sub>), 133.6 (C<sub>10</sub>), 132.2 (C<sub>16</sub>, C<sub>16'</sub>), 132.0 (C<sub>18</sub>, C<sub>18'</sub>), 130.4 (C<sub>11</sub>), 129.2 (C<sub>14</sub>), 125.3 (C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>5'</sub>). Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>4</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub>S: C, 63.93; H, 3.51; N, 11.47. Found C, 64.59; H, 3.28; N, 11.51.

## C6

Yield: 34 %, white-yellow. FT-IR (ATR,  $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 1581 (C=N), 1192 (S=O).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 8.91 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, C(2)-H; C(2')-H), 8.26 (s, 2H, C(5)-H; C(5')-H), 7.92 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, C(1)-H; C(1')-H), 7.83 – 7.79 (m, 3H,  $H_{\text{arom}}$ ), 3.25 (t, 8H,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, N<sup>+</sup>-[CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>]<sub>4</sub> "TBA Salt"), 2.43 (s, 6H, C(6)-CH<sub>3</sub>; C(6')-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.36 – 2.32 (m, 8H, N<sup>+</sup>-[CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>]<sub>4</sub> "TBA Salt"), 2.18 (s, 6H, C(7)-CH<sub>3</sub>; C(7')-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.59 – 1.51 (m, 8H, N<sup>+</sup>-[CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>]<sub>4</sub> "TBA Salt"), 0.92 (t, 12H,  $J =$

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3 7.7 Hz, N<sup>+</sup>-[CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>]<sub>4</sub> "TBA Salt"). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO) δ: 184.5(C<sub>2</sub>,  
4 C<sub>2</sub>'), 172.3(C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>'), 157.1(C<sub>9</sub>), 155.9(C<sub>12</sub>), 152.4(C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>'), 148.2(C<sub>6</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>'), 146.3(C<sub>13</sub>),  
6 142.9 (C<sub>10</sub>), 126.9 (C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>1</sub>'), 125.1 (C<sub>14</sub>), 59.7 (N<sup>+</sup>-[CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>]<sub>4</sub>), 25.4 (C<sub>17</sub>,  
8 C<sub>17</sub>'), 23.2 (N<sup>+</sup>-[CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>]<sub>4</sub>), 22.8 (C<sub>15</sub>, C<sub>15</sub>'), 18.9 (N<sup>+</sup>-[CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>]<sub>4</sub>),  
9 13.6 (N<sup>+</sup>-[CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>]<sub>4</sub>) .

#### 14 C7

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16 Yield: 83 %, orange. FT-IR (ATR, v, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1588 (C=N), 1229 (S=O). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300  
17 MHz, DMSO) δ: 8.93 (d, 1H, J = 7.7, C(2)), 8.22 – 8.06 (m, 3H, H<sub>arom</sub>), 7.91 – 7.78  
18 (m, 2H, H<sub>arom</sub>), 2.19 (s, 3H, C(6)-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.02 (s, 6H, C(7)-CH<sub>3</sub>). Anal. Calcd. for  
19 C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>13</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub>PdS: C, 34.34; H, 2.68; N, 5.72. Found C, 34.96; H, 2.41; N, 5.16.  
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### 29 General Procedure of Suzuki Coupling Reactions

30 A 50 mL Schlenk tube was equipped with a magnetic stir bar. Complex **C1** - **C6** and 5  
31 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O were added into the flask. Then 1 mmol of aryl bromide, 1.3 mmol of  
32 arylboronic acid and 2 mmol powdered K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> were added into the flask. The  
33 reaction mixture was stirred at the pre-arranged temperature for appropriate reaction  
34 time. It was then cooled to room temperature, diluted with water, and extracted with  
35 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> for three times. The organic phase was dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated  
36 to yield a solid.  
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### 47 Mercury Poisoning Experiments

48 Mercury is an established poison for heterogeneous Pd-coupling reactions. For the  
49 test, the coupling reaction of 4-methylphenylboronic acid and 4-bromoanisole using  
50 **C6** as a catalyst under the conditions listed in Table 3 were used. The reaction was  
51 allowed to proceed for 25 min (63% yield, determined by GC) and then 300 molar  
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3 equivalents of mercury, relative to the Pd catalyst, were added. The reaction was  
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5 allowed to continue for another 25 min, giving 96% product as a final yield.  
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### 8 9 **Catalyst Recycling for the Suzuki Reaction**

10 Catalyst recycling experiments were performed via a modified literature procedure.<sup>[34]</sup>

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12 When the reaction of Table 4 entry 9 with the catalysts **C4** and **C6** were completed,  
13  
14 the reaction mixtures were cooled to room temperature and extracted with 5 mL ethyl  
15  
16 ether. Aqueous phase was separated and used for next cycle. Time difference  
17  
18 between cycles did not pass more than 5 min. To separated aqueous phase, 4-  
19  
20 bromoanisole (1 mmol), 4-methylphenylboronic acid (1.3 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (2 mmol)  
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22 were reacted again at 70°C for 2h. This procedure repeated for 15 times.  
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## 26 27 **Results and Discussion**

### 28 29 **Synthesis and Characterization of ligands and Pd(II) complexes**

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32 Ligands were prepared via condensation reactions of the sodium salt of 2,5-  
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34 diaminobenzene sulfonic acid. The diamine precursor was first dissolved in 1M  
35  
36 NaOH and converted to 2,5-diaminobenzene sulfonic acid's sodium salt. Sodium  
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38 salts of  $\alpha$ -diimine ligands were prepared by condensing the corresponding aldehyde  
39  
40 or ketone with sulfonated aniline in toluene using a Dean-Stark apparatus. **L6** was  
41  
42 prepared with using **L5** and excess tetrabutylammonium chloride in *iso*-propanol in  
43  
44 a modified literature procedure.<sup>[35]</sup> Palladium complexes **C1** – **C6** were prepared with  
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46 using ligands **L1** – **L6** and two fold Pd(CH<sub>3</sub>CN)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> precursor in anhydrous THF  
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48 (Figure 1). Characterization of ligands and complexes were accomplished by a  
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50 combination of elemental analysis, FT-IR, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectroscopy.  
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53 Ligands and complexes elemental analysis and mass results are compatible with  
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55 experimental results. After complexation, decreasing  $\nu(\text{C}=\text{N})$  values between 41 – 74  
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3 cm<sup>-1</sup> is an important clue which point out that nitrogen atoms of ligands coordinate to  
4 Pd(II) center [36]. Other important information about ligands coordination to metal was  
5 collected by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra. The characteristic imine proton resonance of **L1**, **L2**  
6 and **L5** shows between δ 8.36 – 8.52 ppm as a sharp singlet. Similar resonance  
7 shifts have been observed in related divalent compounds before [37-39]. Compared to  
8 those of the free ligands **L1**, **L2** and **L5**, the imine proton resonances for **C1**, **C2** and  
9 **C5** are shifted downfield about 0.6 – 0.8 ppm. Similar trends were observed with our  
10 and Buffin's studies before [25, 33, 40, 41]. Protons in the 6-position of the pyridine ring  
11 (**L1** and **L5**) are observed as doublets slightly downfield from the imine signal (δ 8.86  
12 ppm for **L1** and δ 8.48 ppm for **L5**). **L3** is a derivative of **L1** which imine proton in **L1**  
13 exchange with CH<sub>3</sub> group. Disappearing of imine proton resonance and sharp  
14 singlets at δ 1.96 ppm are characteristic for **L3**. In **L6**, sharp singlets at δ 1.99 and δ  
15 2.59 ppm are CH<sub>3</sub> resonances. Other resonances different form **L4** derivative are  
16 NBu<sub>4</sub> resonances and these resonances fetermined between δ 3.19 – 0.86 ppm as  
17 multiplets and triplets. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR can be very useful to prove the generation of  
18 diimines. Singlet resonances between 163.4 – 168.8 ppm attributed to the imine  
19 carbons **L1**, **L2** and **L5** [42]. All complexes are stable in air and readily soluble in polar  
20 organic compounds such as methanol, DMSO and DMF.  
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#### 44 **Influence of the Diimine Ligands on Suzuki Reaction**

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46 To examine the effect of ligands on Suzuki reaction, coupling reaction of  
47 bromobenzene and phenylboronic acid was as a model reaction. DMA (dimethyl  
48 acetamide) was used as a solvent, and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> as the base. Reactivity of ligands are  
49 increased with alkyl groups because stronger donating ability of alkyl substituents,  
50 making the donor atoms more electron-rich (Table 1). Using [TBA]<sup>+</sup> instead of [Na]<sup>+</sup>  
51 increased the yields (Table 1, entry 4 and 6). According to our previous report, this  
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3 improvement on yields was investigated by using  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectroscopy and stability  
4 of complexes in water was compared. Decomposition process was tracked with  
5 occurring of aldehyde proton. As a result, catalyst **C4** was started to decompose after  
6 4h. On the other hand, catalyst **C6** was started to decompose very slowly after a  
7 day<sup>[43]</sup>. Imine ligands which had two binding sites found more active than analogues  
8 which had one binding sites (Table 1, Entry 4 and 7).  
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### 17 **Suzuki Reaction in Aqueous Phase**

18 Palladium catalyzed Suzuki coupling reaction depends on several variables like  
19 reaction temperature, base system, catalyst type and amount. To regulate the  
20 reaction, coupling reaction between 4-bromoanisole and 4-methylphenylboronic acid  
21 was chosen as a model reaction. But before optimization reactions the best catalyst  
22 was determined with using model reaction and results were compared with literature  
23 results (Table 2). The primary objection was determining the most active catalyst  
24 according to side groups of diimine ligands. In the series of complexes (**C1 – C5**),  
25 complex **C4** gave the highest yield while the quinoline derivative of **C5** gave low  
26 yields (Table 2, Entry 7). It was clear from Table 2 that increasing the alkyl group on  
27 ligand structure increased the activity of catalyst. Nolan and co-workers explained  
28 that activity increasing because of the stronger donating ability of alkyl substituents  
29 <sup>[44]</sup>. To make a clear comparison between dinuclear and mononuclear complexes **C7**,  
30 which is mononuclear analogue of **C4**, was synthesized, characterized and applied  
31 as a catalyst in Suzuki reaction (Figure 2). According to Table 2, when **C7** was used  
32 catalytic reaction ended in 4h. Otherwise when **C4** was used as a catalyst reaction  
33 ended in 2h. These results proved that, in dinuclear complex both Pd centre works as  
34 an independent catalyst so substrates turns to products faster than mononuclear  
35 analogue. Also we compared our catalysts with Zhou's complexes which is one cored  
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3 but very similar complexes to our complexes at the same conditions and complex **C4**  
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5 was found more active than Zhou's complexes <sup>[35]</sup> (Figure 2).  
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8 **Figure 2** Schematic displays of **C4** and **C7**  
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10 To improve the activity of **C4**, sodium group was exchanged with  $[\text{NBu}_4]^+$  group.  
11  $[\text{NBu}_4]^+$  derivative of **C4** is entitled as **C6**. The addition of 0.5 equiv. of TBAB to the  
12 reaction mixture accelerated the reaction (Table 2, Entry 6 and 8). The role of the  
13 ammonium salt is thought to be twofold. Firstly, it facilitates solvation of the aryl  
14 halide in neat water. Secondly, it accelerates the coupling reaction by formation of a  
15 boronate complex  $[\text{ArB}(\text{OH})_3][\text{R}_4\text{N}]^+$  <sup>[45, 46]</sup>. A comparison between the additives  
16 which binds to metal center (**C6**) and free in the reaction medium (**C4 + TBAB**) was  
17 made. As a result, there were no significant differences between (**C4 + TBAB**) and  
18 **C6** observed on catalytic reaction at the same conditions (Table 2, Entry 8 and 9).  
19 Also it was found that the position of the R groups effects the reaction and R groups  
20 which bind to imine carbon, increases the reaction yield (Table 2, Entry 4-5). To  
21 understand the effects between mononuclear and binuclear catalyst structures, C7  
22 was synthesized and model reaction with C7 was tried with different catalyst loadings  
23 (Table 2, Entry 10-11). According to the results, we prove that difference in reaction  
24 rates between mononuclear and binuclear structures directly related to the Pd  
25 concentration.  
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50 **Table 2** Effect of Complexes on Suzuki Coupling Reaction<sup>a</sup>  
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55 As a result **C4** with TBAB and **C6** was chosen as the active catalysts and focused on  
56 them for further studies. In order to determine the reaction temperature, series of  
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3 reactions were performed with using **C4** and **C6**. Reaction results are summarized in  
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5 Figure 3. Figure 3 is a complete temperature screening of reaction and according to  
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7 the figure maximum yield was obtained at 70 °C for both catalysts. As a result the  
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9 reaction temperature was identified as 70°C.  
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15 **Figure 3:** The effect of temperature on the Suzuki reaction. Reaction conditions: 1  
16 mmol of 4-bromoanisole, 1.3 mmol of 4-methylphenylboronic acid, 2 mmol of K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>,  
17 0.01 mol % catalyst, 4h, 5 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O, 0.5 mmol TBAB used for the reactions with **C4**.  
18  
19 To determine the reaction time and base system, model reaction was screened and  
20 results were summarized in Table 3. According to Table 3, reaction almost completes  
21 after 2h and no significant difference was observed between selected bases so  
22 K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> which gave highest yield and cheaper (Table 3, entry 1), was chosen as the  
23 suitable base. NEt<sub>3</sub> as an organic base was not efficient for the reaction (Table 3  
24 entry 5).<sup>[47]</sup>  
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**Table 3** Time dependent optimization of base for Suzuki reaction using C4<sup>a</sup>

#### *Mercury Poisoning*

According to Whitesides and Finke's studies, mercury forms amalgam with the catalytically active NP's and if the catalytic reaction stops after mercury was added this means the reaction mechanism follows heterogeneous pathway or follows homogeneous pathway if mercury does not suppress the pathway<sup>[48-50]</sup>. The coupling of 4-bromoanisole and 4-methylphenylboronic acid under optimized conditions with using **C6** as a catalyst in the presence or absence of mercury was investigated. The

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3 reaction was allowed to proceed for 60 min (54% yield) before the mercury was  
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5 added in a molar ratio of 300 equivalents to the palladium complex. Then the reaction  
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7 was continued to proceed another 60 min, a 92% product yield was obtained. The  
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9 result verifies that the palladium complex is the real catalyst in the reaction.  
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#### 16 *Effect of Catalyst on Suzuki coupling reactions*

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18 As illustrated in Table 3, various aryl bromides containing an electron-withdrawing  
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20 groups (Table 4, entries 1-6) and electron-donating groups (Table 4, entries 7-12)  
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22 were tried for the cross-coupling reaction with using catalysts **C4** and **C6**. The  
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24 electron deficient aryl bromides and electron-rich aryl bromides showed an excellent  
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26 reactivity and gave nearly quantitative yields. Interestingly sterically hindered aryl  
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28 bromide didn't prevent the reaction and reaction completed with very high yields  
29  
30 almost quantitatively with **C6**. (Table 4, entry 12). Coupling of aryl chlorides with  
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32 phenylboronic acid were tried and all reactions were completed with moderate yields  
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34 (Table 4, entries 14 - 16).  
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**Table 4** Suzuki Coupling of various aryl halides with arylboronic acids. <sup>a</sup>

#### 47 *Catalyst Recycling*

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49 We knew that Pd-diimine complexes are very sensitive to aqueous media and most  
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51 of Pd-diimine complexes can stay stable in water only couple of hours. On the other  
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53 hand, there are some examples which can stay stable in water more than a week <sup>[33,</sup>  
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55 <sup>41]</sup>. To investigate the relation between recyclability potential of complexes and their  
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3 stability in water, complexes was screened with using  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectroscopy. All  
4 prepared samples stayed in solution during the test. As a result, it was observed that  
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7 **C1** decomposed in 4 hours and **C5** decomposed in 6 hours. Other catalysts except  
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10 **C6** decomposed between 4 and 6 hours. However **C6** stayed stable in water more  
11 than a day. After 28 h **C6** decomposed to untraceable products. This additional  
12 stability of **C6** can be explained by the effect of bulky  $[\text{NBu}_4]^+$  group<sup>[43]</sup>. To test the  
13 reusability of **C4** and **C6** model reaction was used at optimized conditions. Table 5  
14 summarizes the reusability properties of **C4** and **C6**. According to the Table 5,  
15 catalyst **C4** can be reused for three times and the yield and conversion decreases  
16 sharply after second cycle. On the other hand, **C6** was used for 10 cycles without any  
17 decrease on the yield or conversion. After 10<sup>th</sup> cycle, yield and conversion begins to  
18 decrease and both was reached zero after 14<sup>th</sup> cycle. According to the results,  
19 reusability properties of complexes are directly related with the stability complexes in  
20 water. To further ascertain whether the recovered catalyst is a palladium complex or  
21 palladium particles, a mercury poisoning test was designed for the reuse of the  
22 catalysts in the second runs of the coupling of model reaction under the optimized  
23 conditions. Reactions were allowed to proceed for 1h before the mercury was added  
24 in a molar ration of 300 equivalents to the palladium. Both coupling reaction was  
25 quantitatively completed after another hour. These results indicate that the recovered  
26 catalysts for both run are palladium complexes.  
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51 **Table 5** Reusability of the catalysts<sup>a</sup>  
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## Conclusion

In summary a series of new binuclear ionic sulfonated  $\alpha$ -diimine ligands were prepared and employed as ligands for the palladium catalyzed Suzuki reactions. According to our results and recent work<sup>[24]</sup>, both active sites in binuclear structure behaves as an individual catalyst (like mono-nuclear) and completed the reaction more quickly than mono-nuclear analogue. So, to increase the rate of the Suzuki reaction, increasing the active sites may be a useful alternative. On the other hand, it was proved that the activities of complexes are directly related to the decomposition time of diimine ligands. Also it was found that alkyl groups which bind to the imine carbon, increases the reaction yield. Mercury poisoning experiments demonstrate that coupling reactions were catalyzed by synthesized complexes. Using TBA salt instead of Na salt gained stability to the complex **C6** so **C6** was reused in the coupling reaction more than 10 times without any decrease on the yield or conversion.

## Acknowledgements

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For Peer Review

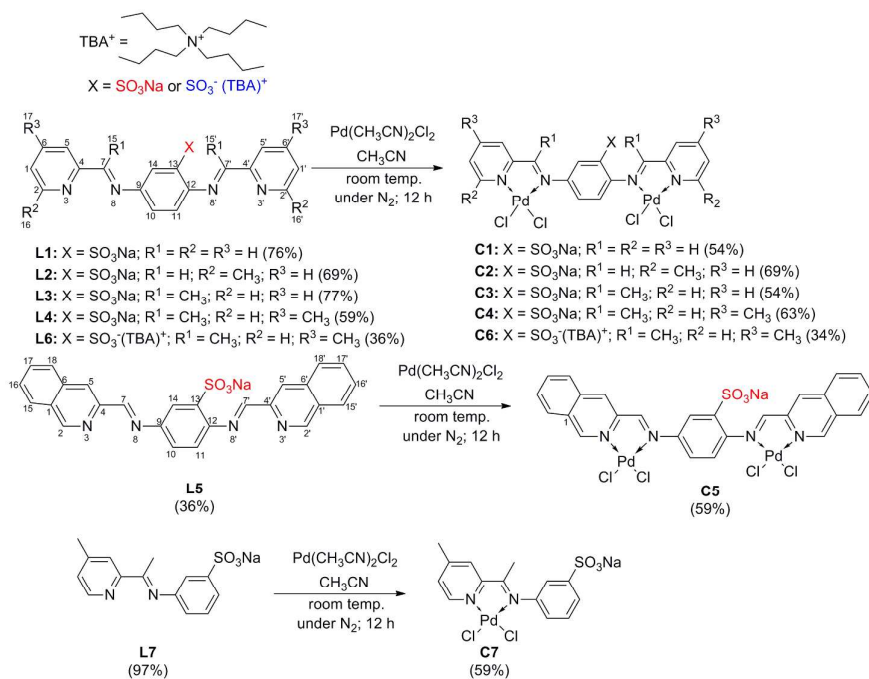
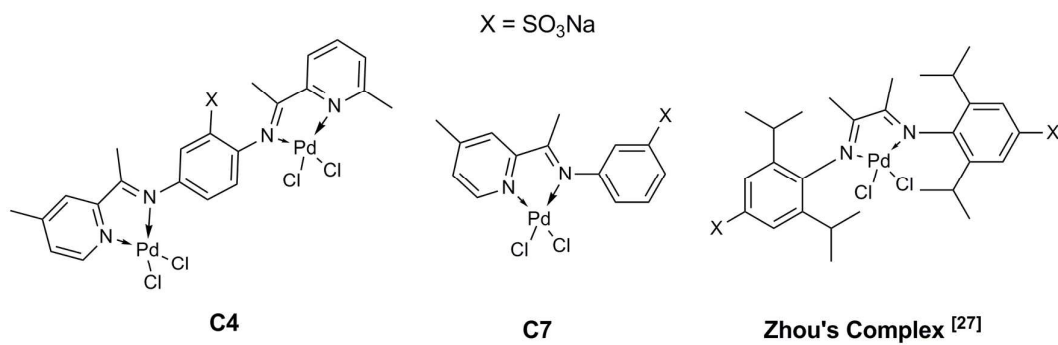
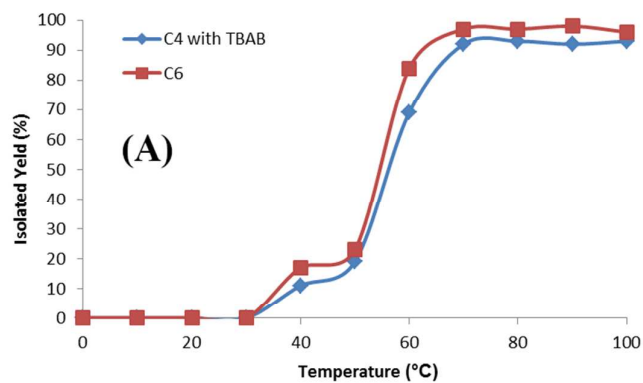


Figure 1: Schematic display of ligands and complexes.

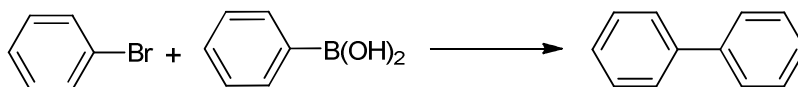




**Figure 2** Schematic displays of **C4**, **C7** and Complex 1



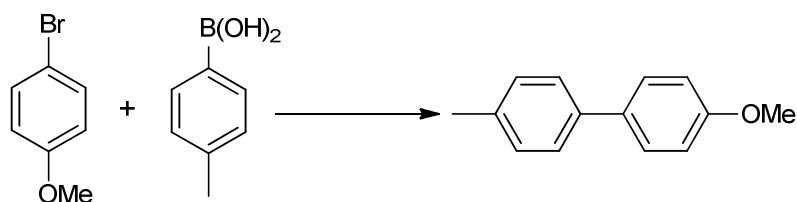
**Figure 3:** The effect of temperature on the Suzuki reaction. Reaction conditions: 1 mmol of 4-bromoanisole, 1.3 mmol of 4-methylphenylboronic acid, 2 mmol of  $K_2CO_3$ , 0.01 mol % catalyst, 4h, 5 mL of  $H_2O$ , 0.5 mmol TBAB used for the reactions with **C4**.

**Table 1:** Effect of Ligands on Suzuki Coupling Reaction<sup>a</sup>

Entry	Catalyst	Yield <sup>b</sup>
1	L1	23
2	L2	36
3	L3	42
4	L4	54
5	L5	13
6	L6	71
7	L7	63

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: 1 mmol of bromobenzene, 1.3 mmol of phenylboronic acid, 2 mmol of K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, 3 mol % Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>, 3.3 mol% ligand, 2 mL DMA, 80 °C, 1h.

<sup>b</sup> All reactions were monitored by GC, yields are average of two runs.

**Table 2** Effect of Complexes on Suzuki Coupling Reaction<sup>a</sup>

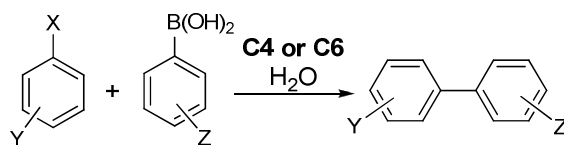
Entry	Catalyst	Yield
1	PdCl <sub>2</sub>	24
2	Li <sub>2</sub> PdCl <sub>4</sub>	19
3	C1	52
4	C2	61
5	C3	74
6	C4	82
7	C5	24
8	C4 <sup>b</sup>	92
9	C6	97
10	C7	57
11	C7 <sup>c</sup>	89

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: 1 mmol of 4-bromoanisole, 1.3 mmol of 4-methylphenylboronic acid, 2 mmol of K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, 0.01 mol % catalyst, 75 °C, 5 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O, reaction time = 4h. <sup>b</sup> 0.5 mmol TBAB. <sup>c</sup> Catalyst loading: 0.02 mol%. <sup>d</sup> Reaction Time: 8h, catalyst loading.

**Table 3** Time dependent optimization of base for Suzuki reaction using C4 and C7<sup>a</sup>

Entry	Base	Yield <sup>b</sup> %						
		30 min	45 min	60 min	90 min	2h	3h	4h
1	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	7(-)	39(14)	54(28)	77(36)	91(42)	92(63)	92(89)
2	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	11(-)	41(19)	59(23)	73(33)	90(44)	92(60)	92(81)
3	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	8(-)	36(12)	49(20)	58(28)	77(34)	84(53)	88(69)
4	NaOH	-(-)	-(-)	23(12)	32(11)	45(24)	56(31)	63(54)
5	NEt <sub>3</sub>	-(-)	-(-)	-(-)	-(-)	-(-)	-(-)	5(-)

<sup>a</sup>Reaction Conditions: 1 mmol of 4-bromoanisole, 1.3 mmol of 4-methylphenylboronic acid, 2 mmol of base, 0.01 mol % C4, 70 °C, 5 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O, N<sub>2</sub>, 0.5 mmol TBAB, C7 yields represented in parantheses.<sup>b</sup> Isolated yield.

**Table 4** Suzuki Coupling of various aryl halides with arylboronic acid. <sup>a</sup>

Entry	X	Y	Z	C4 <sup>b</sup>	C6
				Yield (Conversion)% <sup>c</sup>	Yield (Conversion)%
1	Br	H	H	99 (99)	99 (99)
2	Br	4-COMe	H	92 (96)	97 (99)
3	Br	2-CHO	H	91 (93)	94 (97)
4	Br	4-NO <sub>2</sub>	H	96 (99)	96 (99)
5	Br	4-Cl	H	93 (97)	98 (99)
6	Br	4-NH <sub>2</sub>	H	96 (99)	99 (99)
7	Br	4-OMe	H	96 (99)	99 (99)
8	Br	4-Me	H	91 (97)	99 (99)
9	Br	4-OMe	Me	94 (96)	97 (99)
10	Br	2-Me	H	95 (99)	99 (99)
11	Br	4-Me	4-Me	84 (92)	94 (99)
12	Br	2-Me	4-Me	84 (91)	97 (99)
13	Br	2,6-diMe	H	89 (93)	96 (99)
14	Cl	H	H	69 (72)	77 (82)
15	Cl	4-Me	H	71 (68)	79 (72)
15	Cl	4-NO <sub>2</sub>	H	79 (83)	82 (89)
16	Cl	4-OMe	H	73 (75)	78 (81)

<sup>a</sup> Reaction Conditions: 1 mmol of aryl halide, 1.3 mmol of boronic acid, 2 mmol of K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, 0.01 mol % catalyst, 75 °C, 2 h, 5 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O.

<sup>b</sup> 0.5 mmol TBAB

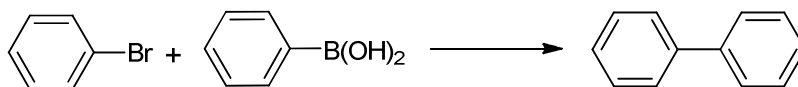
<sup>c</sup> Isolated Yield

<sup>d</sup> All reactions were monitored by GC and results are average of 2 run.

**Table 5** Reusability of the catalysts<sup>a</sup>

Cycle	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	14th	15th
Yield (%) <sup>b</sup>	79	63	11	-								
Conversion (%) <sup>b</sup>	84	72	19	4								
Yield (%) <sup>c</sup>	98	98	97	96	95	93	94	94	92	90	43	-
Conversion (%) <sup>c</sup>	99	99	99	99	99	98	98	95	94	92	43	7

<sup>a</sup>Reaction Conditions: 1 mmol of 4-bromoanisole, 1.3 mmol of 4-methylphenylboronic acid, 2 mmol of base, 0.01 mol % catalyst, 2h for each run, 70 °C, 5 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O, N<sub>2</sub>. <sup>b</sup> Values for **C4**. <sup>c</sup> Values for **C6**.

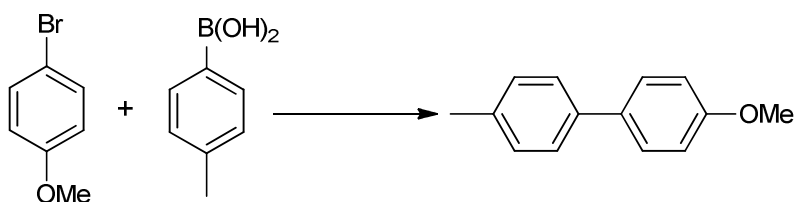
**Table 1:** Effect of Ligands on Suzuki Coupling Reaction<sup>a</sup>

Entry	Catalyst	Yield <sup>b</sup>
1	L1	23
2	L2	36
3	L3	42
4	L4	54
5	L5	13
6	L6	71
7	L7	63

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: 1 mmol of bromobenzene, 1.3 mmol of phenylboronic acid, 2 mmol of K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, 3 mol % Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>, 3.3 mol% ligand, 2 mL DMA, 80 °C, 1h.

<sup>b</sup> All reactions were monitored by GC, yields are average of two runs.



**Table 2** Effect of Complexes on Suzuki Coupling Reaction<sup>a</sup>

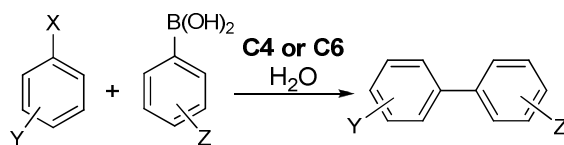
Entry	Catalyst	Yield
1	PdCl <sub>2</sub>	24
2	Li <sub>2</sub> PdCl <sub>4</sub>	19
3	C1	52
4	C2	61
5	C3	74
6	C4	82
7	C5	24
8	C4 <sup>b</sup>	92
9	C6	97
10	C7	57
11	C7 <sup>c</sup>	89

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: 1 mmol of 4-bromoanisole, 1.3 mmol of 4-methylphenylboronic acid, 2 mmol of K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, 0.01 mol % catalyst, 75 °C, 5 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O, reaction time = 4h. <sup>b</sup> 0.5 mmol TBAB. <sup>c</sup> Catalyst loading: 0.02 mol%. <sup>d</sup> Reaction Time: 8h, catalyst loading.

**Table 3** Time dependent optimization of base for Suzuki reaction using C4 and C7<sup>a</sup>

Entry	Base	Yield <sup>b</sup> %						
		30 min	45 min	60 min	90 min	2h	3h	4h
1	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	7(-)	39(14)	54(28)	77(36)	91(42)	92(63)	92(89)
2	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	11(-)	41(19)	59(23)	73(33)	90(44)	92(60)	92(81)
3	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	8(-)	36(12)	49(20)	58(28)	77(34)	84(53)	88(69)
4	NaOH	-(-)	-(-)	23(12)	32(11)	45(24)	56(31)	63(54)
5	NEt <sub>3</sub>	-(-)	-(-)	-(-)	-(-)	-(-)	-(-)	5(-)

<sup>a</sup>Reaction Conditions: 1 mmol of 4-bromoanisole, 1.3 mmol of 4-methylphenylboronic acid, 2 mmol of base, 0.01 mol % C4, 70 °C, 5 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O, N<sub>2</sub>, 0.5 mmol TBAB, C7 yields represented in parantheses.<sup>b</sup> Isolated yield.

**Table 4** Suzuki Coupling of various aryl halides with arylboronic acid. <sup>a</sup>

Entry	X	Y	Z	C4 <sup>b</sup>	C6
				Yield (Conversion)% <sup>c</sup>	Yield (Conversion)%
1	Br	H	H	99 (99)	99 (99)
2	Br	4-COMe	H	92 (96)	97 (99)
3	Br	2-CHO	H	91 (93)	94 (97)
4	Br	4-NO <sub>2</sub>	H	96 (99)	96 (99)
5	Br	4-Cl	H	93 (97)	98 (99)
6	Br	4-NH <sub>2</sub>	H	96 (99)	99 (99)
7	Br	4-OMe	H	96 (99)	99 (99)
8	Br	4-Me	H	91 (97)	99 (99)
9	Br	4-OMe	Me	94 (96)	97 (99)
10	Br	2-Me	H	95 (99)	99 (99)
11	Br	4-Me	4-Me	84 (92)	94 (99)
12	Br	2-Me	4-Me	84 (91)	97 (99)
13	Br	2,6-diMe	H	89 (93)	96 (99)
14	Cl	H	H	69 (72)	77 (82)
15	Cl	4-Me	H	71 (68)	79 (72)
15	Cl	4-NO <sub>2</sub>	H	79 (83)	82 (89)
16	Cl	4-OMe	H	73 (75)	78 (81)

<sup>a</sup> Reaction Conditions: 1 mmol of aryl halide, 1.3 mmol of boronic acid, 2 mmol of K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, 0.01 mol % catalyst, 75 °C, 2 h, 5 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O.

<sup>b</sup> 0.5 mmol TBAB

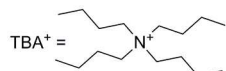
<sup>c</sup> Isolated Yield

<sup>d</sup> All reactions were monitored by GC and results are average of 2 run.

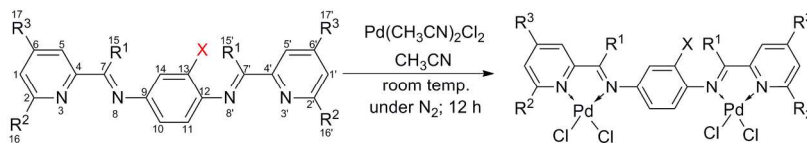
**Table 5** Reusability of the catalysts<sup>a</sup>

Cycle	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	14th	15th
Yield (%) <sup>b</sup>	79	63	11	-								
Conversion (%) <sup>b</sup>	84	72	19	4								
Yield (%) <sup>c</sup>	98	98	97	96	95	93	94	94	92	90	43	-
Conversion (%) <sup>c</sup>	99	99	99	99	99	98	98	95	94	92	43	7

<sup>a</sup>Reaction Conditions: 1 mmol of 4-bromoanisole, 1.3 mmol of 4-methylphenylboronic acid, 2 mmol of base, 0.01 mol % catalyst, 2h for each run, 70 °C, 5 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O, N<sub>2</sub>. <sup>b</sup> Values for **C4**. <sup>c</sup> Values for **C6**.



X = SO<sub>3</sub>Na or SO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> (TBA)<sup>+</sup>



**L1:** X = SO<sub>3</sub>Na; R<sup>1</sup> = R<sup>2</sup> = R<sup>3</sup> = H (76%)

**L2:** X = SO<sub>3</sub>Na; R<sup>1</sup> = H; R<sup>2</sup> = CH<sub>3</sub>; R<sup>3</sup> = H (69%)

**L3:** X = SO<sub>3</sub>Na; R<sup>1</sup> = CH<sub>3</sub>; R<sup>2</sup> = H; R<sup>3</sup> = H (77%)

**L4:** X = SO<sub>3</sub>Na; R<sup>1</sup> = CH<sub>3</sub>; R<sup>2</sup> = H; R<sup>3</sup> = CH<sub>3</sub> (59%)

**L6:** X = SO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>(TBA)<sup>+</sup>; R<sup>1</sup> = CH<sub>3</sub>; R<sup>2</sup> = H; R<sup>3</sup> = CH<sub>3</sub> (36%)

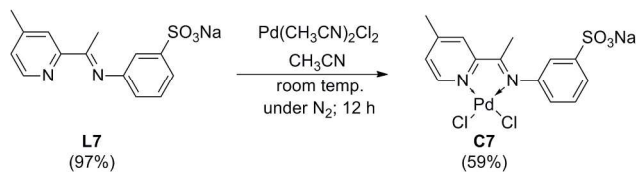
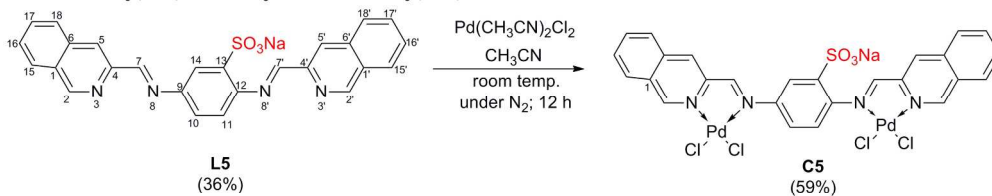
**C1:** X = SO<sub>3</sub>Na; R<sup>1</sup> = R<sup>2</sup> = R<sup>3</sup> = H (54%)

**C2:** X = SO<sub>3</sub>Na; R<sup>1</sup> = H; R<sup>2</sup> = CH<sub>3</sub>; R<sup>3</sup> = H (69%)

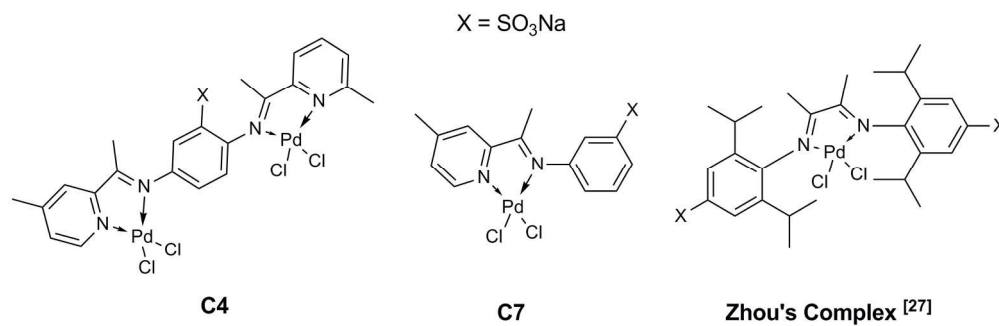
**C3:** X = SO<sub>3</sub>Na; R<sup>1</sup> = CH<sub>3</sub>; R<sup>2</sup> = H; R<sup>3</sup> = H (54%)

**C4:** X = SO<sub>3</sub>Na; R<sup>1</sup> = CH<sub>3</sub>; R<sup>2</sup> = H; R<sup>3</sup> = CH<sub>3</sub> (63%)

**C6:** X = SO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>(TBA)<sup>+</sup>; R<sup>1</sup> = CH<sub>3</sub>; R<sup>2</sup> = H; R<sup>3</sup> = CH<sub>3</sub> (34%)

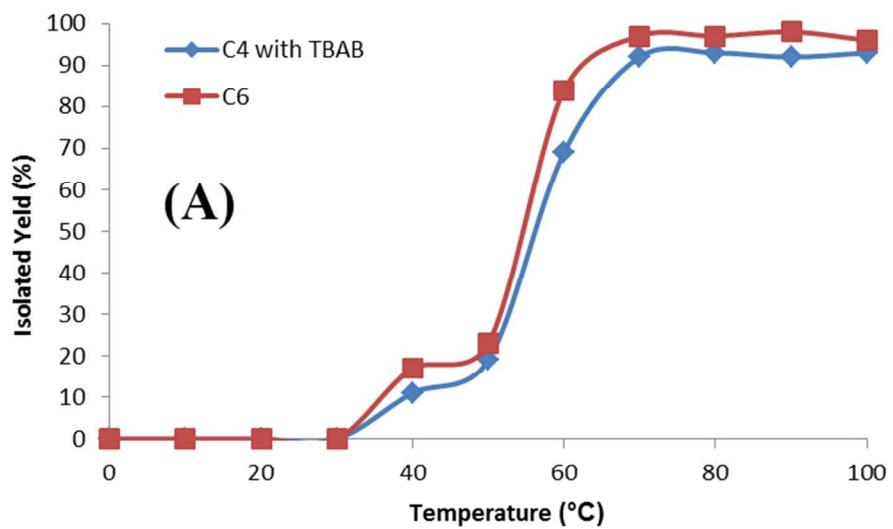


Schematic display of ligands and complexes.  
203x156mm (300 x 300 DPI)

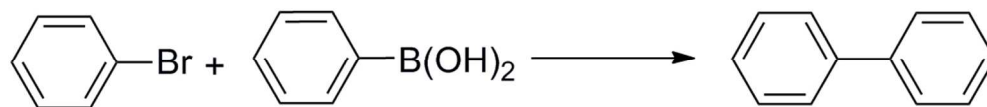


Schematic displays of C4, C7 and Complex 1  
191x61mm (300 x 300 DPI)

Or Peer Review



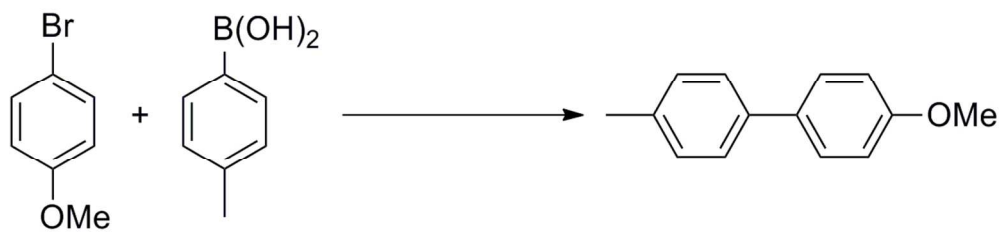
The effect of temperature on the Suzuki reaction.  
67x38mm (300 x 300 DPI)



96x10mm (300 x 300 DPI)

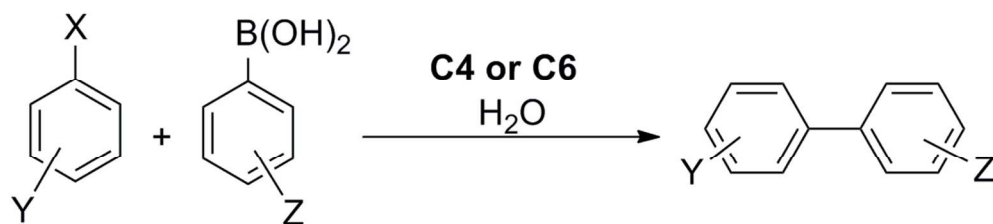
For Peer Review





106x24mm (300 x 300 DPI)

For Peer Review



98x22mm (300 x 300 DPI)

For Peer Review