

# Selective Tetrafunctionalisation of $\alpha$ -Cyclodextrin using the Supertrityl Protecting Group – Synthesis of the First $C_2$ -Symmetric Tetraphosphane Based on a Cavitant ( $\alpha$ -TEPHOS)

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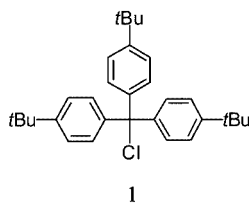
**Keywords:** Cyclodextrins / Phosphanes / Cavitands

Regioselective tetraalkylation of  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin using supertrityl chloride enables the preparation of new  $C_2$ -symmetric cavitands.

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## Introduction

Cyclodextrins (CDs) are still the subject of considerable interest in many areas of molecular chemistry.<sup>[1]</sup> Chemical modification of these natural molecular receptors is often a prerequisite for the preparation of CDs displaying sophisticated properties that make use of the cavity. It is well-known, for example, that appropriate functionalisation allows an unmodified CD to be tailored to a particular guest and hence to meet the specific requirements of an anticipated host-guest complex. In a previous paper we have shown that supertrityl chloride **1** [ $^s\text{TrCl}$  = tris(4-*tert*-butylphenyl)methyl chloride] is a valuable reagent for the regioselective functionalisation of the  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin ( $\alpha$ -CD) primary hydroxyl face.<sup>[2]</sup> Acting as a bulky alkylating agent, it allows the convenient preparation of a variety of A,D- and A,C-disubstituted  $\alpha$ -CDs. We have recently employed phosphane- or amine-modified  $\alpha$ -CD's of this type for the directed construction of metallacyclodextrins bearing transition metal centres located at the cavity entrance.<sup>[3–6]</sup> Extending our investigations on this reagent we now report its use in the effective preparation of tetrol **4**, a potential precursor of chiral,  $C_2$ -symmetrical cavitands. Methodology for the regioselective, multiple functionalisation of  $\alpha$ -CD is already well documented.<sup>[7–11]</sup> However, most procedures reported in the literature are low-yielding preparations and/or require the use of large amounts of expensive reagents.<sup>[7]</sup>

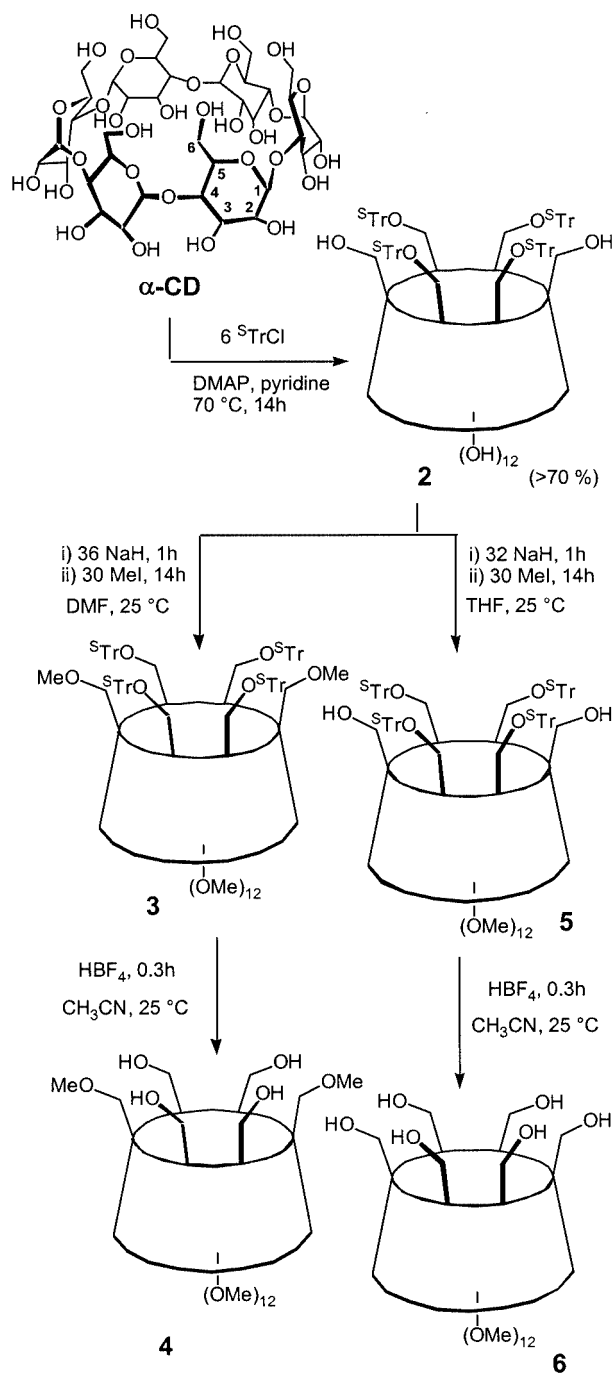


## Results and Discussion

Tetrol **4** was conveniently prepared in three steps starting from  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin (Scheme 1). Treatment of  $\alpha$ -CD with six equivalents of **1** in pyridine/DMAP afforded the A,B,D,E-tetraalkylated CD **2** in about 80% spectroscopic yield, together with small amounts of unidentified side-products, presumably the trialkylated compounds. Purification of **2** by column chromatography with MeOH/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> was only possible in the presence of small amounts of pyridine, which prevents cleavage of the supertrityl groups. The key compound **2** was characterised by <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectroscopy as well as elemental analysis, which revealed the presence of a pyridine solvate. The presence of two *t*Bu signals and three anomeric ones in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum is in agreement with a  $C_2$ -symmetric derivative. The remarkable selectivity of this reaction, which is a direct consequence of the bulkiness of the supertrityl group, contrasts with previously reported tetrafunctionalisations. Thus, for example, tetraalkylation of  $\alpha$ -CD with ClCPh<sub>3</sub> produces three tetraalkylated regioisomers.<sup>[10]</sup> We also found that using a large excess of  $^s\text{TrCl}$  did not allow us to graft more than four  $^s\text{Tr}$  groups onto  $\alpha$ -CD. Finally, it should be emphasised that purification of **2** is not compulsory for the methylation steps outlined below.

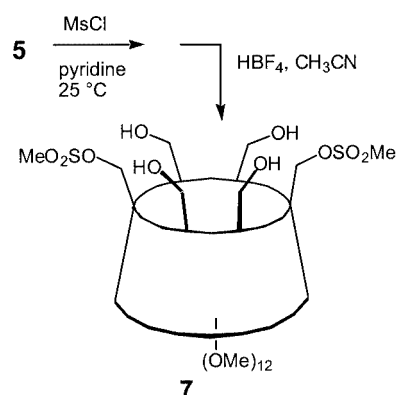
In situ permethylation of **2** was achieved at room temperature using MeI/NaH (30 equiv./36 equiv.) in DMF. This reaction afforded **3** in 46% yield<sup>[12]</sup> after workup (overall yield). As expected for a  $C_2$ -symmetrical compound, the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3** displays seven methyl singlets and three anomeric signals. Deprotection with HBF<sub>4</sub> afforded the tetrol **4** in 97% yield. Interestingly, the extent of methylation of **2** was found to depend strongly on the nature of the solvent. Thus, carrying out the reaction in THF instead of DMF afforded the dodecamethylated compound **5** in ca. 33% yield<sup>[13]</sup> and virtually no **3**. Cyclodextrin **5** has  $C_2$  symmetry. To determine the face bearing the two non-alkylated

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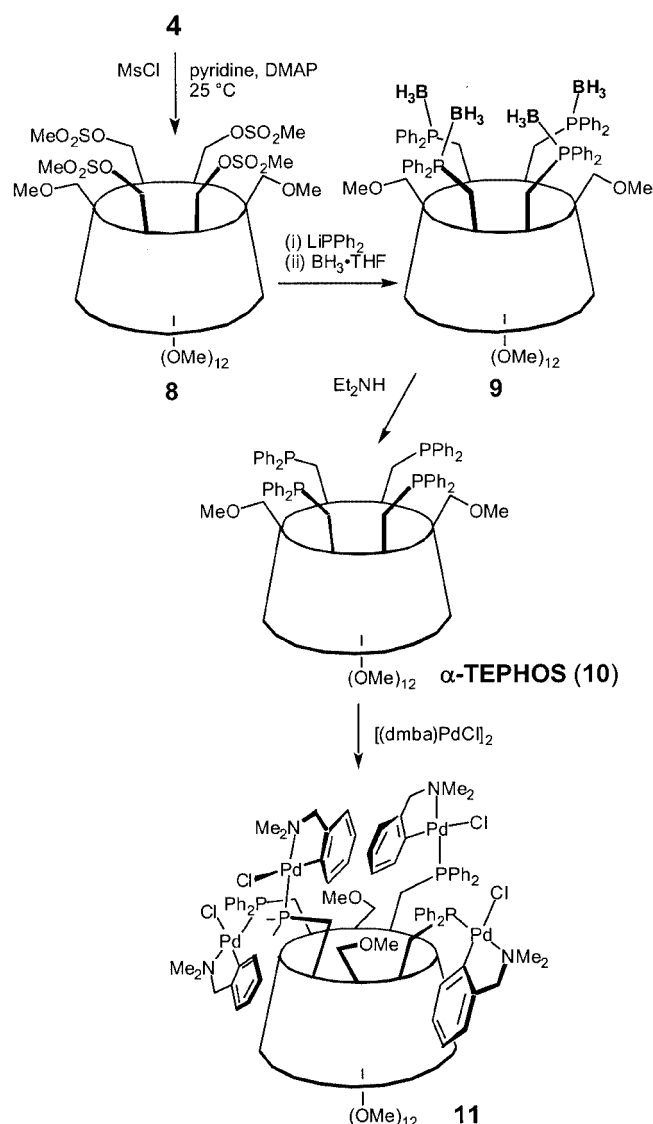

 Scheme 1. Stepwise construction of tetrol **4** and hexol **6**

hydroxy groups, the four supertrityl groups were removed with HBF<sub>4</sub>, giving the known *C*<sub>6</sub>-symmetrical hexol **6** (Scheme 1).<sup>[14]</sup> Mesylation of **5** followed by cleavage of the *s*Tr groups led, after chromatography, to the *C*<sub>2</sub>-symmetrical tetrol **7** (Scheme 2).

Tetrol **4** is suitable for further functionalisation. Thus, mesylation with MsCl/pyridine afforded **8** in greater than 80% yield (Scheme 3). Reaction of **8** with excess LiPPh<sub>2</sub> (10 equiv.) and in situ treatment with BH<sub>3</sub>·THF gave the protected tetraphosphane **9**. Deprotection of **9** with NEt<sub>2</sub>H afforded **10** ( $\alpha$ -TEPHOS in the following). As expected, the


 Scheme 2. New entry to *C*<sub>2</sub>-symmetric derivatives of  $\alpha$ -CD

<sup>31</sup>P NMR spectrum of  $\alpha$ -TEPHOS shows two singlets of equal intensity. To the best of our knowledge  $\alpha$ -TEPHOS is the first optically active tetraphosphane built on a macro-


 Scheme 3. Preparation of the chiral, *C*<sub>2</sub>-symmetric tetraphosphane **10** ( $\alpha$ -TEPHOS)

cyclic backbone.<sup>[15,16]</sup> Reaction of  $\alpha$ -TEPHOS with the cyclometallated dimer  $[\text{PdCl}(\text{dmba})]_2$  ( $\text{dmbaH} = o\text{-C}_6\text{H}_5\text{CH}_2\text{NMe}_2$ ) led to the tetranuclear complex **11**. Again, all NMR spectroscopic data are consistent with a  $C_2$ -symmetric species. Interestingly, three pairs of exo-oriented CD protons undergo a strong deshielding (ca. 1 ppm for two symmetrical H-1 protons; >2 ppm for two pairs of symmetrical H-4 protons), suggesting the presence of at least two aromatic dmba rings near the outer CD walls.

In conclusion, supertrityl chloride can be used as an effective reagent for the regioselective A,B,D,E-tetrafunctionalisation of  $\alpha$ -CD. As exemplified by the synthesis of the tetrapalladium complex **11**, the methodology outlined in this work opens a new entry to  $C_2$ -symmetrical metallacyclodextrins. Further work aimed at exploiting the coordinative and catalytic properties of the chiral tetraphosphane **10** will be reported in due course.

## Experimental Section

**6<sup>A</sup>,6<sup>B</sup>,6<sup>D</sup>,6<sup>E</sup>-Tetra-[O-tris(*p*-tert-butylphenyl)methyl]- $\alpha$ -CD (2):** Tris-(*p*-tert-butyl-phenyl)methyl chloride (22.060 g, 49.34 mmol) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP; 0.610 g, 5.00 mmol) were added to a solution of  $\alpha$ -CD (8.000 g, 8.22 mmol) in pyridine (240 mL). The solution was stirred for 24 h at 70 °C, concentrated to one-third of the original volume, then poured into water (800 mL) and the precipitate collected by filtration. The white-yellow solid (31.200 g) was dried overnight under vacuum at 50 °C. The crude product (2.000 g), which still contained small amounts of pyridine (!), was subjected to column chromatography [ $\text{SiO}_2$ , MeOH/ $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 10:90 (v/v)] to afford **2** [ $\text{SiO}_2$ , butanone/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ / $i$ PrOH 13:1:1 (v/v/v);  $R_f = 0.58$ ]. Yield: 1.050 g, 70%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500.1 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C; assignments by HMQC):  $\delta = 1.28$  (s, 54 H, *tert*-butyl), 1.32 (s, 54 H, *tert*-butyl), 2.70–4.30 (36 H, H-2, H-3, H-4, H-5, H-6), 4.00 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-1,H-2}} = 2.9$  Hz, 2 H, H-1), 4.94 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-1,H-2}} = 3.2$  Hz, 2 H, H-1), 4.99 (br. s, OH), 5.04 (br. s, OH), 5.21 (br. s, OH), 5.38 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-1,H-2}} = 2.8$  Hz, 2 H, H-1), 5.79 (br. s, OH), 6.26 (br. s, OH), 6.29 (br. s, OH), 7.00–7.50 (48 H, AA'BB' system of trityl) ppm. Two OH protons could not be detected.  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (125.8 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C):  $\delta = 31.0$ , 31.4 [ $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ], 34.1, 34.3 [ $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ], 60.8, 62.3, 63.1 (C-6), 70.3, 71.4, 71.7, 71.9, 72.8, 73.2, 74.5, 74.7, 74.8, 80.6, 81.0, 81.7 (C-2, C-3, C-4, C-5), 85.7, 87.5 [ $\text{OC}(\text{Ph})_3$ ], 100.7, 101.1, 101.6 (C-1), 123.7, 124.6, 128.3, 128.6 (aromatic CH), 141.7, 142.0, 148.9, 149.3 (aromatic quat. C) ppm.  $\text{C}_{160}\text{H}_{212}\text{O}_{30} \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{C}_5\text{H}_5\text{N}$  (2615.46 + 115.06): calcd. C 72.58, H 8.16, N 0.51; found C 72.33, H 8.32, N 0.73.

**6<sup>A</sup>,6<sup>B</sup>,6<sup>D</sup>,6<sup>E</sup>-Tetra-[O-tris(*p*-tert-butylphenyl)methyl]-2<sup>A</sup>,2<sup>B</sup>,2<sup>C</sup>,2<sup>D</sup>,2<sup>F</sup>,3<sup>A</sup>,3<sup>B</sup>,3<sup>C</sup>,3<sup>D</sup>,3<sup>E</sup>,3<sup>F</sup>,6<sup>F</sup>-tetradeca-*O*-methyl- $\alpha$ -CD (3):** NaH (7.104 g, 296.00 mmol) was added to a solution of crude **2** (29.200 g) in DMF (400 mL). The mixture was stirred for 1 h, then iodomethane (35.000 g, 246.60 mmol, ca. 15.4 mL) was added dropwise to the suspension (the temperature must be kept below 35 °C). After stirring for 14 h, excess NaH was destroyed by careful addition of methanol, then of water. The products were extracted with diethyl ether (3 $\times$ ). The ethereal solution was washed with water, then dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$ . Solvent evaporation gave a pale yellow solid which was subjected to column chromatography [ $\text{SiO}_2$ , EtOAc/hexane, step gradient: 20:80 to 50:50 (v/v)] to give **3** which eluted first [ $\text{SiO}_2$ , EtOAc/hexane, 40:60 (v/v);  $R_f = 0.62$ ]; further elution gave tritrylated (ca. 35%) and ditrylated species (<5%),

which were not separated. Yield: 9.830 g, 46% overall yield. M.p. > 230 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (200.1 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C):  $\delta = 1.20$  (s, 54 H, *tert*-butyl), 1.22 (s, 54 H, *tert*-butyl), 2.52 (s, 6 H, 6-OMe), 3.29 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.50 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.51 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.58 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.61 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.79 (s, 6 H, OMe), 2.40–4.20 (36 H, H-2, H-3, H-4, H-5, H-6), 4.24 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-1,H-2}} = 2.7$  Hz, 2 H, H-1), 4.64 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-1,H-2}} = 2.5$  Hz, 2 H, H-1), 5.33 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-1,H-2}} = 2.9$  Hz, 2 H, H-1), 7.00–7.50 (48 H, AA'BB' system of trityl) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (50.3 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C):  $\delta = 31.4$  [ $\times 2$ ] [ $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ], 34.3 [ $\times 2$ ] [ $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ], 57.2, 57.9, 58.4, 59.7, 60.2, 61.7, 61.9 (2-OCH<sub>3</sub>, 3-OCH<sub>3</sub>, 6-OCH<sub>3</sub>), 61.2, 61.5 (C-6<sup>A,B,D,E</sup>), 71.0 (C-6<sup>C,F</sup>), 69.7, 72.2, 72.6 (C-5), 80.1, 80.7, 81.0 [ $\times 2$ ], 81.5, 81.7, 82.1, 83.1 [ $\times 2$ ] (C-2, C-3, C-4), 85.1, 85.7 [ $\text{OC}(\text{Ph})_3$ ], 96.3, 96.5, 97.3 (C-1), 124.2, 124.4, 128.4 [ $\times 2$ ] (aromatic CH), 141.0, 141.7, 149.0, 149.1 (aromatic quat. C) ppm.  $\text{C}_{174}\text{H}_{240}\text{O}_{30}$  (2811.84): calcd. C 74.33, H 8.6; found C 74.45, H 8.54.

**2<sup>A</sup>,2<sup>B</sup>,2<sup>C</sup>,2<sup>D</sup>,2<sup>E</sup>,2<sup>F</sup>,3<sup>A</sup>,3<sup>B</sup>,3<sup>C</sup>,3<sup>D</sup>,3<sup>E</sup>,3<sup>F</sup>,6<sup>A</sup>,6<sup>D</sup>-Tetradeca-*O*-methyl- $\alpha$ -CD (4):** An aqueous solution of tetrafluoroboric acid (1.1 mL, 34%) was added to a solution of **3** (0.690 g, 0.25 mmol) in acetonitrile (20 mL) and the resulting mixture was stirred for 20 min at room temperature. Excess acid was then neutralised with triethylamine (4 mL). Tris(*p*-tert-butylphenyl)methanol was precipitated by adding water to the reaction mixture and eliminated by filtration. The product was extracted with dichloromethane (4  $\times$  40 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with a saturated solution of  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$  before being evaporated to dryness to afford **4** after column chromatography [ $\text{SiO}_2$ , MeOH/ $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 12:88 (v/v)] as a white product [ $\text{SiO}_2$ , MeOH/ $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 10:90 (v/v);  $R_f = 0.25$ ]. Yield: 0.280 g, 97%. M.p. 159–160 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (200.1 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C):  $\delta = 1.40$  (t,  $^3J_{\text{OH,H-6}} = 7.3$  Hz, 2 H, OH), 3.13 (t,  $^3J_{\text{OH,H-6}} = 7.6$  Hz, 2 H, OH), 3.38 (s, 6 H, 6-OMe), 3.48 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.50 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.51 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.63 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.66 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.68 (s, 6 H, OMe), 2.90–4.10 (36 H, H-2, H-3, H-4, H-5, H-6), 5.01 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-1,H-2}} = 3.2$  Hz, 2 H, H-1), 5.10 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-1,H-2}} = 3.5$  Hz, 2 H, H-1), 5.12 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-1,H-2}} = 3.2$  Hz, 2 H, H-1) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (50.3 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C):  $\delta = 57.7$ , 57.9, 58.2, 58.9, 61.3, 61.5, 61.6 (2-OCH<sub>3</sub>, 3-OCH<sub>3</sub>, 6-OCH<sub>3</sub>), 62.1, 62.3, 71.7 (C-6), 71.3, 72.7 [ $\times 2$ ] (C-5), 81.4 [ $\times 3$ ], 81.6 [ $\times 3$ ], 81.8, 81.9 [ $\times 2$ ] (C-2, C-3, C-4), 98.7, 98.9, 99.1 (C-1) ppm. FAB-MS:  $m/z$  (%) = 1169.4 [ $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ]<sup>+</sup> and 1191.3 [ $\text{M} + \text{Na}$ ]<sup>+</sup>.  $\text{C}_{50}\text{H}_{88}\text{O}_{30}$  (1169.24): calcd. C 51.36, H 7.59; found C 51.44, H 7.75.

**6<sup>A</sup>,6<sup>B</sup>,6<sup>D</sup>,6<sup>E</sup>-Tetra-[O-tris(*p*-tert-butylphenyl)methyl]-2<sup>A</sup>,2<sup>B</sup>,2<sup>C</sup>,2<sup>D</sup>,2<sup>E</sup>,2<sup>F</sup>,3<sup>A</sup>,3<sup>B</sup>,3<sup>C</sup>,3<sup>D</sup>,3<sup>E</sup>,3<sup>F</sup>-dodeca-*O*-methyl- $\alpha$ -CD (5):** NaH (2.760 g, 115.05 mmol) was added to a solution of crude **2** (13.710 g) in THF (270 mL). The mixture was stirred for 1 h, then iodomethane (15.320 g, 107.95 mmol, ca. 34.9 mL) was added dropwise while maintaining the temperature below 35 °C. After 14 h, excess NaH was destroyed by slow addition of methanol, then water. The products were extracted with diethyl ether (3 $\times$ ). The organic fractions were washed with water and dried. Solvent evaporation gave a pale yellow solid that was subjected to column chromatography [ $\text{SiO}_2$ , EtOAc/hexane, step gradient: 20:80 to 50:50 (v/v)] to afford **5** [ $\text{SiO}_2$ , EtOAc/hexane, 40:60 (v/v);  $R_f = 0.59$ ]. Yield: 3.340 g, ca. 33%, overall yield. M.p. 223 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (200.1 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C):  $\delta = 0.98$  (s, 54 H, *tert*-butyl), 1.28 (s, 54 H, *tert*-butyl), 3.32 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.45 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.50 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.59 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.63 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.64 (s, 6 H, OMe), 2.50–4.50 (36 H, H-2, H-3, H-4, H-5, H-6), 4.02 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-1,H-2}} = 3.2$  Hz, 2 H, H-1), 5.04 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-1,H-2}} = 3.0$  Hz, 2 H, H-1), 5.44 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-1,H-2}} = 2.2$  Hz, 2 H, H-1), 7.00–7.50 (48 H, AA'BB' system of trityl) ppm. The two OH protons were not detected.  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (50.3 MHz,

$\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C):  $\delta$  = 31.0, 31.5 [ $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ], 34.1, 34.3 [ $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ], 57.2, 57.6, 57.8, 61.4, 61.9, 62.0 (2- $\text{OCH}_3$ , 3- $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 60.3, 62.8, 63.9 (C-6), 71.5, 71.6, 72.7 (C-5), 80.8, 81.0, 81.3 [ $\times 3$ ], 81.6, 81.9, 82.1, 82.3 (C-2, C-3, C-4), 85.5, 87.3 [ $\text{OC}(\text{Ph})_3$ ], 98.5, 99.8, 100.0 (C-1), 124.0, 124.5, 128.4, 128.6 (aromatic CH), 142.0, 142.3, 148.8, 149.2 (aromatic quat. C) ppm.  $\text{C}_{172}\text{H}_{236}\text{O}_{30}$  (2783.78): calcd. C 74.21, H 8.55; found C 74.29, H 8.51.

**6<sup>A</sup>,6<sup>D</sup>-Di-*O*-methylsulfonyl-2<sup>A</sup>,2<sup>B</sup>,2<sup>C</sup>,2<sup>D</sup>,2<sup>E</sup>,2<sup>F</sup>,3<sup>A</sup>,3<sup>B</sup>,3<sup>C</sup>,3<sup>D</sup>,3<sup>E</sup>,3<sup>F</sup>-do-deca-*O*-methyl- $\alpha$ -CD (7):** DMAP (0.147 g, 1.20 mmol) and methanesulfonyl chloride (0.280 g, 2.62 mmol) were added successively to a solution of diol **5** (1.830 g, 0.66 mmol) in pyridine (11 mL). The mixture was stirred for 48 h at room temperature whereupon water (100 mL) was added. The precipitate was collected on a bed of Celite before being dissolved in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (100 mL). The organic solution was then washed with water (100 mL), dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$  and finally evaporated to dryness. The residue was dissolved in acetonitrile (40 mL). Aqueous tetrafluoroboric acid (2.18 mL, 34%) was added to this solution which immediately turned yellow. Excess acid was neutralised with triethylamine (10 mL). Tris(*p*-tert-butylphenyl)methanol was precipitated by adding water to the reaction mixture and eliminated by filtration. The product was extracted from the filtrate with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (4  $\times$  50 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with a saturated solution of  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$  before being evaporated to dryness. Column chromatography [ $\text{SiO}_2$ ,  $\text{MeOH}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 10:90 (v/v)] of the residue afforded **7** as a colourless solid [ $\text{SiO}_2$ ,  $\text{MeOH}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 12:88 (v/v);  $R_f$  = 0.26]. Yield: 0.440 g, 52%. M.p. 198 °C dec.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300.1 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C):  $\delta$  = 1.32 (t,  $^3J_{\text{H-6,OH}}$  = 7.3 Hz, 2 H, OH), 3.08 (s, 6 H,  $\text{OSO}_2\text{Me}$ ), 3.46 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.47 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.48 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.62 (s, 12 H, OMe), 3.63 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.07–4.12 (32 H, H-2, H-3, H-4, H-5, H-6<sup>B,C,E,F</sup>), 4.53 (dd,  $^3J_{\text{H-6b,H-5}}$  = 5.2,  $^3J_{\text{H-6b,H-6a}}$  = 11.2 Hz, 2 H, H-6<sup>A,D</sup>), 4.60 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-6a,H-6b}}$  = 11.2 Hz, 2 H, H-6<sup>A,D</sup>), 5.00 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-1,H-2}}$  = 3.5 Hz, 4 H, H-1), 5.04 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-1,H-2}}$  = 3.7 Hz, 2 H, H-1) ppm. Two OH protons were not detected.  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C):  $\delta$  = 37.4 ( $\text{SO}_2\text{CH}_3$ ), 57.9, 58.0, 58.1, 61.7 [ $\times 2$ ], 61.8 (2- $\text{OCH}_3$ , 3- $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 61.9, 62.4 (C-6<sup>B,C,E,F</sup>), 69.6, 72.1, 72.9 (C-5), 70.1 (C-6<sup>A,D</sup>), 81.1, 81.2, 81.4, 81.9 [ $\times 3$ ], 82.1 [ $\times 2$ ], 82.8 (C-2, C-3, C-4), 99.1, 99.3, 99.8 (C-1) ppm.  $\text{C}_{50}\text{H}_{88}\text{O}_{34}\text{S}_2\cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (1297.35 + 38.04): calcd. C 44.57, H 6.73; found C 44.43, H 7.02.

**6<sup>A</sup>,6<sup>B</sup>,6<sup>D</sup>,6<sup>E</sup>-Tetra-*O*-methylsulfonyl-2<sup>A</sup>,2<sup>B</sup>,2<sup>C</sup>,2<sup>D</sup>,2<sup>E</sup>,2<sup>F</sup>,3<sup>A</sup>,3<sup>B</sup>,3<sup>C</sup>,3<sup>D</sup>,3<sup>E</sup>,3<sup>F</sup>,6<sup>C</sup>,6<sup>F</sup>-tetradeca-*O*-methyl- $\alpha$ -CD (8):** Methanesulfonyl chloride (0.804 g, 7.02 mmol) was added to a solution of tetrol **4** (1.820 g, 1.56 mmol) and DMAP (0.620 g, 5.07 mmol) in pyridine (20 mL). The mixture was stirred for 24 h at room temperature. Water was then added and tetramesylate **8** was extracted with  $\text{EtOAc}$  (4  $\times$  150 mL). The organic phase was washed successively with HCl (2 M), a solution of NaCl (2 M) and water, before being dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$  and the solvents evaporated. Entrapped water molecules were removed by azeotropic distillation with benzene and the resulting product was dried under vacuum to give tetramesylate **8** [ $\text{SiO}_2$ ,  $\text{MeOH}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 8:92 (v/v);  $R_f$  = 0.47]. Yield: 2.01 g, 87%. M.p. 198 °C dec.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300.1 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C):  $\delta$  = 3.06 (s, 6 H,  $\text{OSO}_2\text{Me}$ ), 3.07 (s, 6 H,  $\text{OSO}_2\text{Me}$ ), 3.39 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.49 (s, 12 H, OMe), 3.50 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.62 (s, 12 H, OMe), 3.67 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.10–4.70 (36 H, H-2, H-3, H-4, H-5, H-6), 5.01 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-1,H-2}}$  = 3.3 Hz, 2 H, H-1), 5.04 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-1,H-2}}$  = 2.8 Hz, 4 H, H-1) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C):  $\delta$  = 37.3, 37.6 ( $\text{SO}_2\text{CH}_3$ ), 57.6, 57.9, 58.3, 59.0, 61.5, 61.7 [ $\times 2$ ] (2- $\text{OCH}_3$ , 3- $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 69.4, 69.8, 71.2 (C-5), 69.5, 69.9, 70.9 (C-6), 80.9 [ $\times 2$ ], 81.0, 81.6 [ $\times 2$ ], 82.0 [ $\times 3$ ], 82.1 (C-2, C-3, C-4), 99.0, 99.4, 100.4 (C-1) ppm.  $\text{C}_{54}\text{H}_{96}\text{O}_{38}\text{S}_4$  (1481.58): calcd. C 43.78, H 6.53, S 8.66; found C 43.79, H 6.48, S 8.21.

**P,P',P'',P'''-(6<sup>A</sup>,6<sup>B</sup>,6<sup>D</sup>,6<sup>E</sup>-Tetradecoxy-6<sup>A</sup>,6<sup>B</sup>,6<sup>D</sup>,6<sup>E</sup>-tetra{diphenylphosphinyl}-2<sup>A</sup>,2<sup>B</sup>,2<sup>C</sup>,2<sup>D</sup>,2<sup>E</sup>,2<sup>F</sup>,3<sup>A</sup>,3<sup>B</sup>,3<sup>C</sup>,3<sup>D</sup>,3<sup>E</sup>,3<sup>F</sup>,6<sup>C</sup>,6<sup>F</sup>-tetradeca-*O*-methyl- $\alpha$ -CD)tetraborane (9):** *n*-Butyllithium (7.7 mL of a 1.6 M solution in hexane, 12.27 mmol) was added dropwise at  $-78$  °C to a stirred solution of diphenylphosphane (2.514 g, 13.5 mmol, ca. 2.35 mL) in THF (10 mL). After 30 min, the thus-obtained phosphide solution was added slowly (within 1 h) with a cannula to a stirred solution, maintained at  $-5$  °C, of tetramesylate **8** (2.000 g, 1.35 mmol) in THF (75 mL). The solution was then allowed to reach room temperature and stirred for a further 14 h before being cooled to  $-5$  °C. A  $\text{BH}_3/\text{THF}$  solution (1 M, 18.9 mL) was added subsequently and the mixture was stirred for one hour. The reaction mixture was poured onto ice and extracted with dichloromethane (4  $\times$  120 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$  and the solvents evaporated. The product precipitated upon addition of diethyl ether and pure **9** was recovered by filtration [ $\text{SiO}_2$ ,  $\text{MeOH}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 8:92 (v/v);  $R_f$  = 0.40]. Yield: 2.55 g, 100%. M.p. 172–174 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300.1 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C):  $\delta$  = 0.70–1.50 (12 H, P- $\text{BH}_3$ ), 2.81 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.41 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.45 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.49 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.52 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.64 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.65 (s, 6 H, OMe), 2.50–4.50 (36 H, H-2, H-3, H-4, H-5, H-6), 4.53 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-1,H-2}}$  = 3.0 Hz, 2 H, H-1), 4.75 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-1,H-2}}$  = 2.7 Hz, 2 H, H-1), 5.50 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-1,H-2}}$  = 3.0 Hz, 2 H, H-1), 6.80–8.00 (40 H, aromatic H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C):  $\delta$  = 26.9 (d,  $^1J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 31.0 Hz, C-6<sup>A,D</sup> or C-6<sup>B,E</sup>), 27.3 (d,  $^1J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 34.1 Hz, C-6<sup>B,E</sup> or C-6<sup>A,D</sup>), 57.2, 57.8, 58.7, 59.0, 61.0, 61.3, 61.7 (2- $\text{OCH}_3$ , 3- $\text{OCH}_3$ , 6- $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 68.8, 70.1, 71.2 (C-5), 70.2 (C-6<sup>C,F</sup>), 79.6, 80.4, 80.6, 81.0, 81.1, 81.6, 82.4, 83.4, 85.0 (C-2, C-3, C-4), 97.6, 98.6, 99.6 (C-1), 128.0 (d,  $^2J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 11.2 Hz, *o*-C), 128.2 (d,  $^2J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 9.9 Hz, *o*-C), 128.5 (d,  $^2J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 9.9 Hz, *o*-C), 128.6 (d,  $^2J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 57.7 Hz, *ipso*-C), 128.6 (d,  $^3J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 9.9 Hz, *o*-C), 130.2 (*p*-C), 130.6 (*p*-C), 130.7 (*p*-C), 130.8 (d,  $^1J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 56.5 Hz, *ipso*-C), 131.1 (*p*-C), 131.6 (d,  $^2J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 8.7 Hz, *m*-C), 131.9 (d,  $^3J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 9.3 Hz, *m*-C), 132.0 (d,  $^3J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 8.7 Hz, *m*-C), 132.4 (d,  $^1J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 58.9 Hz, *ipso*-C), 132.8 (d,  $^3J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 9.9 Hz, *m*-C), 132.8 (d,  $^1J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 55.9 Hz, *ipso*-C) ppm.  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (121.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C):  $\delta$  = 11.6 (s), 13.9 (s) ppm.  $\text{C}_{98}\text{H}_{136}\text{B}_4\text{O}_{26}\text{P}_4\cdot\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (1897.30 + 84.93): calcd. C 59.99, H 7.02; found C 60.27, H 7.08.

**6<sup>A</sup>,6<sup>B</sup>,6<sup>D</sup>,6<sup>E</sup>-Tetradecoxy-6<sup>A</sup>,6<sup>B</sup>,6<sup>D</sup>,6<sup>E</sup>-tetra{diphenylphosphinyl}-2<sup>A</sup>,2<sup>B</sup>,2<sup>C</sup>,2<sup>D</sup>,2<sup>E</sup>,2<sup>F</sup>,3<sup>A</sup>,3<sup>B</sup>,3<sup>C</sup>,3<sup>D</sup>,3<sup>E</sup>,3<sup>F</sup>,6<sup>C</sup>,6<sup>F</sup>-tetradeca-*O*-methyl- $\alpha$ -CD (10;  $\alpha$ -TEPHOS):** Compound **9** (1.00 g, 0.53 mmol) was added to diethylamine (100 mL) and the resulting solution was heated at 55–60 °C for 10 h. The precipitate was filtered off over Celite. The amine was then removed under vacuum to afford analytically pure **10** [ $\text{SiO}_2$ ,  $\text{MeOH}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 8:92 (v/v);  $R_f$  = 0.31]. Yield: 0.930 g, 96%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300.1 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C):  $\delta$  = 2.84 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.34 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.51 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.54 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.63 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.65 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.71 (s, 6 H, OMe), 2.30–4.30 (36 H, H-2, H-3, H-4, H-5, H-6), 4.45 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-1,H-2}}$  = 2.7 Hz, 2 H, H-1), 5.03 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-1,H-2}}$  = 2.6 Hz, 2 H, H-1), 5.12 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H-1,H-2}}$  = 3.1 Hz, 2 H, H-1), 6.80–7.60 (40 H, aromatic H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C):  $\delta$  = 29.7 (d,  $^1J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 16.1 Hz, C-6<sup>A,D</sup> or C-6<sup>B,E</sup>), 32.4 (d,  $^1J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 13.7 Hz, C-6<sup>B,E</sup> or C-6<sup>A,D</sup>), 57.5, 57.6, 57.7, 58.0, 61.4, 61.5, 61.8 (2- $\text{OCH}_3$ , 3- $\text{OCH}_3$ , 6- $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 70.1 (C-6<sup>C,F</sup>), 70.3 (d,  $^2J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 9.2 Hz, C-5<sup>A,B</sup> or C-5<sup>D,E</sup>), 70.4 (C-5<sup>C,F</sup>), 71.3 (d,  $^2J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 14.9 Hz, C-5<sup>D,E</sup> or C-5<sup>A,B</sup>), 80.6, 80.9, 81.0 [ $\times 2$ ], 81.7, 82.2, 82.3 (C-2, C-3, C-4<sup>C,F</sup>), 85.9 (d,  $^3J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 12.6 Hz, C-4<sup>A,B</sup> or C-4<sup>D,E</sup>), 87.1 (d,  $^3J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 9.3 Hz, C-4<sup>D,E</sup> or C-4<sup>A,B</sup>), 98.9 [ $\times 2$ ], 99.9 (C-1), 126.5–134.0 (aromatic CH), 138.7 (d,  $^1J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 11.8 Hz, *ipso*-C), 139.2 (d,  $^1J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 12.4 Hz, *ipso*-C), 139.5 (d,  $^1J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 11.2 Hz, *ipso*-C), 141.0 (d,  $^1J_{\text{C,P}}$  = 11.2 Hz, *ipso*-C) ppm.  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (121.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C):  $\delta$  =  $-24.8$  (s),



–20.0 (s) ppm. C<sub>98</sub>H<sub>124</sub>O<sub>26</sub>P<sub>4</sub> (1841.96): calcd. C 63.90, H 6.79; found C 63.73, H 6.75.

**P,P',P'',P'''-(6<sup>A</sup>,6<sup>B</sup>,6<sup>D</sup>,6<sup>E</sup>-Tetradecoxy-6<sup>A</sup>,6<sup>B</sup>,6<sup>D</sup>,6<sup>E</sup>-tetra{diphenylphosphinyl}-2<sup>A</sup>,2<sup>B</sup>,2<sup>C</sup>,2<sup>D</sup>,2<sup>E</sup>,2<sup>F</sup>,3<sup>A</sup>,3<sup>B</sup>,3<sup>C</sup>,3<sup>D</sup>,3<sup>E</sup>,3<sup>F</sup>,6<sup>C</sup>,6<sup>F</sup>-tetradeca-O-methyl-α-CD)-tetrakis[chloro(o-dimethylbenzylaminomethylphenyl-C<sub>5</sub>N)]palladium(II) (11):** To a solution of **10** (0.100 g, 0.05 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL) was added a solution of [Pd(o-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>)Cl]<sub>2</sub> (0.060 g, 0.11 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 mL). After 1 h the solution was concentrated to ca 2 mL. Addition of pentane afforded **11** as a brown powder [SiO<sub>2</sub>, MeOH/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 8:92 (v/v); R<sub>f</sub> = 0.68]. Yield: 0.140 g, 71%. M.p. 161 °C dec. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300.1 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C): δ (assignments by HMQC) = 2.73 (br. d, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>P,H</sub> = 2 Hz, 6 H, NMe), 2.75 (br. d, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>P,H</sub> = 2 Hz, 6 H, NMe), 2.95 (s, 12 H, OMe), 2.96 (br. d, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>P,H</sub> = 2 Hz, 6 H, NMe), 3.01 (br. d, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>P,H</sub> = 2 Hz, 6 H, NMe), 3.43 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.49 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.58 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.71 (s, 6 H, OMe), 3.97 (s, 6 H, OMe), 2.50–4.80 (32 H, H-2, H-3, H-4, H-5, H-6), 5.37 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H-1,H-2</sub> = 3.7 Hz, 2 H, H-1), 5.51 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H-1,H-2</sub> = 2.4 Hz, 2 H, H-1), 5.72 (t, aver. <sup>3</sup>J = 8.5 Hz, 2 H, H-4), 5.84 (t, aver. <sup>3</sup>J = 7.6 Hz, 2 H, arom. H of dmbs), 5.99 (t, aver. <sup>3</sup>J = 7.5 Hz, 2 H, H-4), 6.18 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2 H, arom. H of dmbs), 6.50 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2 H, arom. H of dmbs), 6.62 (m, 4 H, arom. H of dmbs), 6.65 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H-1,H-2</sub> = 3.1 Hz, 2 H, H-1), 6.80 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2 H, arom. H of dmbs), 6.85–8.20 (44 H, aromatic H) ppm (NCH<sub>2</sub> protons not assigned). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C): δ = 24.6 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>C,P</sub> = 28.5 Hz, C-6<sup>A,D</sup> or C-6<sup>B,E</sup>), 29.0 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>C,P</sub> = 32.9 Hz, C-6<sup>B,E</sup> or C-6<sup>A,D</sup>), 50.1, 50.3, 52.1 [×2] (NCH<sub>3</sub>), 58.0, 58.9, 59.3, 60.7, 61.9, 62.1 (2-OCH<sub>3</sub>, 3-OCH<sub>3</sub>, 6-OCH<sub>3</sub>), 69.9, 71.1, 71.9, 72.3, 78.6, 80.4, 80.7 [×2], 80.9, 81.4, 82.6, 83.0 (C-2, C-3, C-4, C-5), 71.3 (C-6<sup>C,F</sup>), 72.8 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>C,P</sub> = 2.4 Hz, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 73.2 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>C,P</sub> = 2.9 Hz, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 94.0, 96.5, 97.1 (C-1), 121.7–150.6 (aromatic C) ppm. <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (121.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C): δ = 22.3 (s), 24.1 (s) ppm. C<sub>134</sub>H<sub>172</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>26</sub>P<sub>4</sub>Pd<sub>4</sub>·2CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2946.18 + 169.87): calcd. C 52.42, H 5.69, N 1.80; found C 52.40, H 5.69, N 1.64.

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