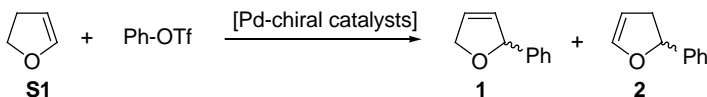


4.2. Screening of a modular sugar-based phosphite-oxazoline ligand library in asymmetric Pd-catalyzed Heck reactions

Abstract. We have also tested the previously described phosphite-oxazoline ligand library **L1-L4a-g** in the palladium-catalyzed Heck reactions. Excellent regio- (up to 99%) and enantioselectivities (ee's up to 99%) and improved activities have been achieved for several substrates in standard thermal conditions. The results indicate that the catalytic performance is highly affected by the oxazoline and biaryl-phosphite substituents and the axial chirality of the biaryl moiety of the ligand. The Heck reactions were also performed under microwave irradiation conditions, allowing a considerably shorter reaction time (full conversion in minutes) maintaining the excellent regio- and enantioselectivities.

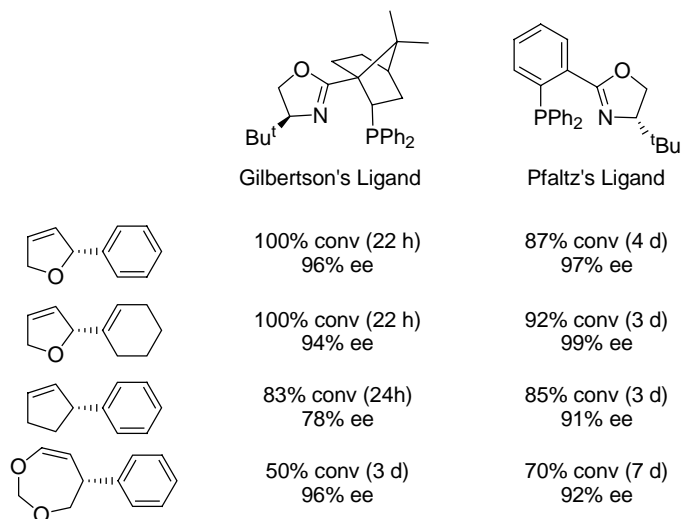
4.2.1. Introduction

Catalytic asymmetric carbon-carbon bond formation is one of the most actively pursued areas of research in the field of asymmetric catalysis. In this respect, the asymmetric Pd-catalyzed Heck reaction coupling of an aryl or alkenyl halide or triflate to an alkene is a powerful and highly versatile procedure because it tolerates several functional groups.¹ Chiral bidentate phosphine ligands have played a key role in the success of this process.¹ However, in the intermolecular Heck reaction, regioselectivity is often a problem. So, for example, in the Heck reaction of 2,3-dihydrofuran **S1** with phenyl triflate, a mixture of two products is obtained - the expected product 2-phenyl-2,5-dihydrofuran (**1**) and 2-phenyl-2,3-dihydrofuran (**2**; Scheme 1). The latter is formed due to an isomerization process.¹



Scheme 1. Model Pd-catalyzed Heck reaction of 2,3-dihydrofuran **S1**.

In the last few years, a class of heterodonor ligands - the phosphine-oxazoline - have emerged as suitable ligands for the intermolecular Heck reaction.² Two of the most representative examples of this type of ligands are the PHOX ligands developed by Pfaltz^{2a,b} and coworkers and the phosphine-oxazoline based on ketopinonic acid developed by Gilbertson and coworkers^{2c}. Despite these successes, ligands that provide good regio- and enantioselectivities usually have two considerable drawbacks: (1) reaction times are usually long and (2) they are prepared from expensive chiral synthons or in tedious synthetic steps (Scheme 2). Therefore, it is very important to develop ligands that induce higher rates and selectivities (regio- and enantioselectivities) based on simple starting materials in this reaction. Carbohydrates are particularly advantageous for this purpose due to their low price and easy modular constructions.



Scheme 2. Summary of the best results using the most representative ligand families developed for the Pd-catalyzed Heck reactions (reactions usually carried out with 3-5 mol% of Pd).

In this context, to further expand the range of ligands and to improve the performance of these asymmetric Pd-catalyzed Heck reactions, we tested the library of chiral phosphite-oxazoline ligands **L1-L4a-g** (Figure 1), previously synthesized in section 3.2. As previously mentioned in Chapter 3, these ligands are derived from natural D-glucosamine and have the advantages of carbohydrate and phosphite ligands, such as availability at a low price from readily available alcohols and facile modular constructions.³ Furthermore, they are less sensitive to air than typical phosphines, which are widely used as ligands in asymmetric catalysis. In addition, the introduction of a phosphite moiety in the ligand design is proved to be highly advantageous in terms of activity because of its greater π -acceptor ability.⁴ All these favourable features enable a series of chiral ligands to be synthesized and screened in the search for high activity and selectivity. Although carbohydrate-based ligands have been successfully used in other enantioselective reactions,³ there are only two reports on the highly enantioselective palladium-catalysed asymmetric Heck reaction using this type of ligand.⁵

Herein, we screen the potential use of the phosphite-oxazoline ligand library **L1-L4a-g** in the Pd-catalyzed asymmetric Heck reaction of several substrates and triflate sources. The screening of the library were performed using a series of parallel reactors each equipped with 12 different positions. With this library we fully investigated the effects of systematically varying the electronic and steric properties of the oxazoline substituents (**L1-L4**) and different substituents/configurations in the biaryl phosphite moiety (**a-g**). By carefully selecting these elements, we achieved high selectivities (regio- and enantioselectivities) and activities in different substrate types and aryl sources.

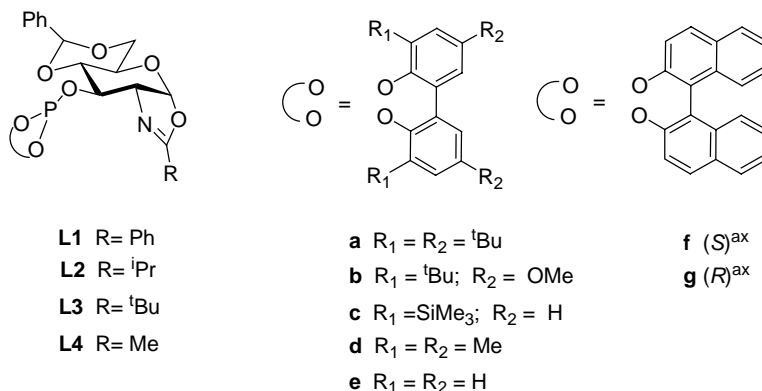


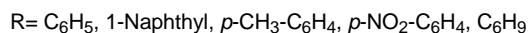
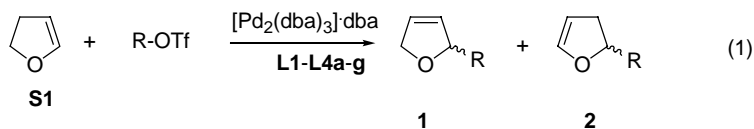
Figure 1. Carbohydrate-based phosphite-oxazoline ligands **L1-L4a-g**

4.2.2. Results and Discussion

4.2.2.1. Asymmetric Heck Reactions under thermal conditions

4.2.2.1.1. Heck reaction of 2,3-dihydrofuran **S1** (equation 1)

In this section, we report the use of the chiral phosphite-oxazoline ligand library **L1-L4a-g** (Figure 1) in the Pd-catalyzed asymmetric Heck reaction of 2,3-dihydrofuran **S1** (equation 1) using several triflates with different electronic and steric properties: phenyl triflate, 1-naphthyl triflate, toluyl triflate, *para*-nitrophenyltriflate and cyclohexenyl triflate. In all cases, the catalysts were generated *in situ* by mixing [Pd₂(dba)₃]·dba with the corresponding chiral ligand.



For an initial evaluation of this new type of ligand in the palladium-catalysed asymmetric Heck reaction, we chose the phenylation of **S1** (eq 1, R= C₆H₅). As this reaction has been carried out with a variety of ligands carrying different donor groups, it is possible to directly compare the efficacy of different ligand systems.

In a first set of experiments, we determined the optimal reaction conditions by conducting a series of experiments in which we varied the solvent, temperature and base. In all cases, the formation of the desired product 2-phenyl-2,5-dihydrofuran **1** was favored over the formation of 2-phenyl-2,3-dihydrofuran **2**.

We first studied the effect of the solvent. Four solvents (tetrahydrofurane (THF), benzene, toluene and dimethylformamide (DMF)) and four ligands (**L1a**, **L2a**, **L3a** and **L4a**) were tested. The results show that the efficiency of the process strongly depended on the nature of the solvent (Figure 1). The best activity and selectivity (regio- and enantioselectivity) was achieved with tetrahydrofurane as the solvent.

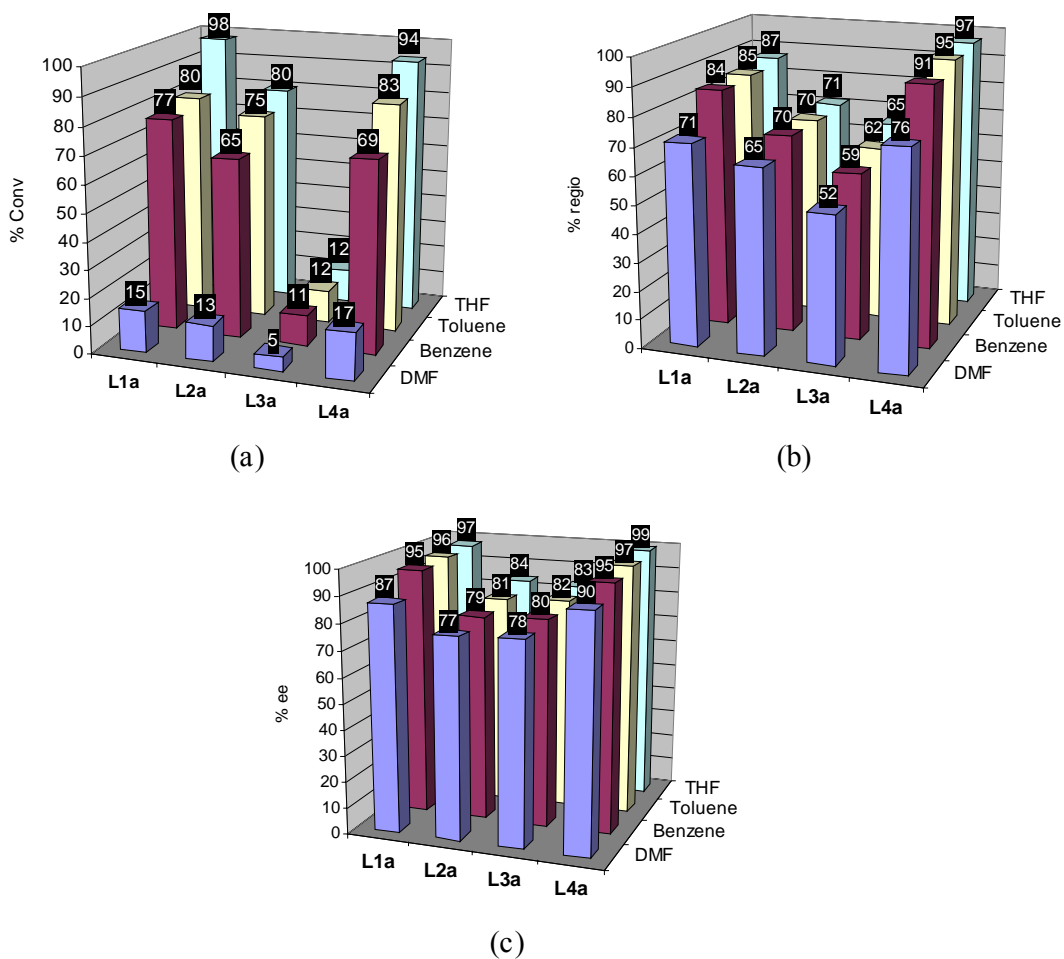


Figure 1. Catalytic results of the phenylation of **S1** using ligands **L1a**, **L2a**, **L3a** and **L4a** in four solvents at 50 °C and using Pr_2NEt as base. (a) Conversions after 24h. (b) Regioselectivities in product **1**. (c) Enantioselectivities of product **1**. Positive numbers refer to the formation of the *R*-isomer in excess.

We next studied the effect of varying the temperature. The conversion and selectivity when THF was used as a solvent and ligands **L1a** and **L4a** are shown in Table 1 (similar tendencies were observed with other solvents and ligands). We observed that this parameter affected both activity and selectivity. Increasing the temperature from 50 °C to 75 °C had a negative effect on regio- and enantioselectivity (Table 1, entries 1 and 4 vs 2 and 5). Lowering the temperature to 25 °C hardly affected regio- and

enantioselectivity, but activities dropped considerably (Table 1, entry 1 and 3 vs 4 and 6). The best trade-off between activity and selectivity was therefore achieved at 50 °C.

Table 1. Selected results for the Pd-catalysed enantioselective phenylation of **S1** using ligands **L1a** and **L4a**. Effect of temperature.^a

Entry	Ligand	T (°C)	% conv (1:2) ^b	% ee 1 ^c	% ee 2 ^c
1	L1a	50	98 (87:13)	97 (<i>R</i>)	88 (<i>R</i>)
2	L1a	75	100 (80:20)	93 (<i>R</i>)	87 (<i>R</i>)
3	L1a	25	28 (88:12)	98 (<i>R</i>)	88 (<i>R</i>)
4	L4a	50	94 (97:3)	99 (<i>R</i>)	nd ^d
5	L4a	75	100 (91:9)	94 (<i>R</i>)	91 (<i>R</i>)
6	L4a	25	29 (97:3)	99 (<i>R</i>)	nd ^d

^a [Pd₂(dba)₃]-dba (1.25 × 10⁻² mmol), **S1** (2.0 mmol), phenyl triflate (0.5 mmol), Ligand (2.8 × 10⁻² mmol), THF (3 mL), ⁱPr₂NEt (1 mmol), t = 24 h. ^b Conversion percentages determined by GC. ^c Enantiomeric excesses measured by GC. ^d not determined.

We then studied the effect of several bases. The conversion and selectivity when THF was used as a solvent with ligands **L1a** and **L4a** are shown in Table 2 (similar trends were observed for the other solvents and ligands). Although the activities and regioselectivities obtained with proton sponge (PS) and diisopropylethylamine are comparable, the use of the latter base provides slightly better enantioselectivities (Table 2, entries 1 and 9 vs 2 and 10). On the other hand, sodium acetate yielded the highest regioselectivity, but its activities and enantioselectivities are lower than those of diisopropylethylamine (Table 2, entries 1 and 9 vs 3 and 11). The remainder of the bases tested provided lower activities and selectivities than those obtained with diisopropylamine (Table 2, entries 1 and 9 vs 4-8, 12 and 13). In conclusion we chose diisopropylethylamine as our base.

Table 2. Selected results for the Pd-catalysed enantioselective phenylation of 2,3-dihydrofuran **S1** using ligands **L1a** and **L4a**. Effect of the base.^a

Entry	Ligand	Base	% conv (1:2) ^b	% ee 1 ^c	% ee 2 ^c
1	L1a	ⁱ Pr ₂ NEt	98 (87:13)	97 (R)	88 (R)
2	L1a	PS	99 (87:13)	95 (R)	87 (R)
3	L1a	NaOAc	91 (91:9)	91 (R)	56 (R)
4	L1a	NEt ₃	97 (82:18)	87 (R)	84 (R)
5	L1a	KOAc	53 (82:18)	43 (R)	47 (R)
6	L1a	K ₂ CO ₃	89 (86:14)	88 (R)	27 (R)
7	L1a	Li ₂ CO ₃	92 (68:32)	95 (R)	92 (R)
8	L1a	DBU	6 (72:28)	65 (R)	43 (R)
9	L4a	ⁱ Pr ₂ NEt	94 (97:3)	99 (R)	nd ^d
10	L4a	PS	94 (96:4)	98 (R)	nd ^d
11	L4a	NaOAc	89 (98:2)	92 (R)	nd ^d
12	L4a	NEt ₃	93 (88:12)	95 (R)	89 (R)
13	L4a	KOAc	62 (84:16)	57 (R)	38 (R)

^a [Pd₂(dba)₃]-dba (1.25 x 10⁻² mmol), **S1** (2.0 mmol), phenyl triflate (0.5 mmol), Ligand (2.8 x 10⁻² mmol), THF (3 mL), base (1 mmol), T = 50 °C, t = 24 h. ^b Conversion percentages determined by GC. ^c Enantiomeric excesses measured by GC. ^d not determined.

In the end we found that, the optimum trade-off between selectivities and reaction rates was achieved with tetrahydrofurane, a temperature of 50 °C and diisopropylethylamine as a base. These optimal conditions were then used to test the catalytic performance of the complete series of ligands. The results, which are summarized in Table 3, indicate that the catalytic performance (activity and selectivity) is highly affected by the substituents at both oxazoline and phosphite moiety and by the axial chirality of the biaryl phosphite moiety. In general, high activities, regio- (up to 98%) and enantioselectivities (ee's up to 99%) were obtained in the phenylation of **S1**.

The effect of the oxazoline substituent was studied with ligands **L1a**, **L2a**, **L3a**, **L4a** (Table 3, entries 1, 8-10). We found that these substituents affected both activities

and selectivities. Therefore, we observed that when the size of the group on the oxazoline decreased, the regio- and enantioselectivity of the catalyst increased (i.e. Me > Ph > ⁱPr > ^tBu). This contrasts with the oxazoline-substituent effect observed for phosphine-oxazoline PHOX ligands, whose enantioselectivities are higher when bulky *tert*-butyl groups are present.^{2a,b} In terms of activity, this is mainly affected by the bulkiness of the oxazoline group. Therefore, activity decreases when bulky substituents are present (Table 3, entries 1 and 9 vs 8 and 9). However, the electronic properties of the oxazoline substituent have a slight but important effect on activity. Activities are therefore highest when a phenyl oxazoline moiety is present (Table 3, entries 1 vs 10).

The effects of phosphite moieties were studied using ligands **L1a-g** (Table 3, entries 1-7, 10, 11). We found that this moiety affected both activity and selectivity. Bulky substituents in the *ortho* positions of the biphenyl moiety are needed for high activities, regio- and enantioselectivities. Thus, ligands **L1a**, **L1b** and **L1c** with bulky substituents at the *ortho* positions of the biphenyl moiety provided higher activities and selectivities than ligands **L1d** and **L1e** with small substituents in these positions (Table 3, entries 1, 2, 3 vs 4, 5). However, substituents in the *para* positions also play a small but crucial role. Therefore, the best activities and selectivities were obtained using ligands **L1c**, which contain bulky trimethylsilyl groups at the *ortho* positions and a small hydrogen at the *para* positions of the biphenyl moiety. To further investigate how enantioselectivity was influenced by the groups attached to the biaryl moiety, ligands **L1f** and **L1g** containing different enantiomerically pure binaphthyl moieties were also tested (Table 3, entries 6 and 7). The results indicate that there is a cooperative effect between the configuration of the biaryl moiety and the configurations of the ligand backbone on enantioselectivity that results in a matched combination for ligand **L1g**, which contains an *R*-binaphthyl moiety.

To sum up, the best result was obtained with ligand **L4c**, which contains the optimal combination of substituents in the oxazoline and in the biaryl phosphite moieties (Table 3, entry 11). These results clearly show the efficiency of using highly modular scaffolds in the ligand design. In addition, the introduction of a phosphite moiety in the

ligand design have been very advantageous in terms of activity (total conversion in 15 hours). These results are among the best reported so far.^{2a,b,e}

Table 3. Selected results for the Pd-catalysed enantioselective phenylation of 2,3-dihydrofuran **S1** using phosphite-oxazoline ligand library **L1-L4a-g**.^a

Entry	Ligand	% Conv (1:2) ^b	% ee 1 ^c	% ee 2 ^c
1	L1a	98 (87:13)	97 (<i>R</i>)	88 (<i>R</i>)
2	L1b	86 (85:15)	97 (<i>R</i>)	89 (<i>R</i>)
3 ^d	L1c	100 (97:3)	99 (<i>R</i>)	nd ^c
4	L1d	42 (72:28)	25 (<i>R</i>)	16 (<i>R</i>)
5	L1e	45 (60:40)	80 (<i>R</i>)	69 (<i>R</i>)
6	L1f	32 (58:42)	6 (<i>R</i>)	19 (<i>R</i>)
7	L1g	28 (55:45)	73 (<i>R</i>)	48 (<i>R</i>)
8	L2a	80 (71:29)	84 (<i>R</i>)	90 (<i>R</i>)
9	L3a	12 (65:35)	83 (<i>R</i>)	23 (<i>R</i>)
10	L4a	94 (97:3)	99 (<i>R</i>)	nd ^c
11	L4c	100 (98:2)	99 (<i>R</i>)	nd ^c

^a [Pd₂(dba)₃]·dba (1.25 x 10⁻² mmol), **S1** (2.0 mmol), phenyl triflate (0.5 mmol), Ligand (2.8 x 10⁻² mmol), THF (3 mL), ⁱPr₂NEt (1 mmol), T = 50 °C, t = 24 h. ^d t = 15 h. ^e not determined.

To further study the effects of electronic and steric properties of the aryl triflate source on the product outcome, we tested these new ligands in the Pd-catalyzed Heck reaction of **S1** with several aryl triflates, in which these properties were systematically varied (eq 1, R= 1-naphthyl, *p*-CH₃-C₆H₄, *p*-NO₂-C₆H₄). The most noteworthy results are shown in Table 4. They followed the same trend in terms of the effect of the oxazoline and phosphite moieties as the phenylation of **S1** (see section 4.2.7. Supporting information, Table 9). In general, high activities, regio- (up to 99%) and enantioselectivities (ee's up to 99%) were also obtained in the arylation of **S1**. The results indicates that both steric and electronic parameters on the triflate affected

catalytic performance. Thus, enantioselectivities are best for 1-naphthyl- and phenyltriflate (Table 4, entries 1, 2, 5, 6, 9 and 10). On the other hand regioselectivities are better when electron-withdrawing aryl triflates are used (Table 4, entries 4, 8, 12).

Table 4. Selected results for Pd-catalysed enantioselective arylation of 2,3-dihydrofuran **S1** using ligands **L1a**, **L1c** and **L4a**.^a

Entry	Ligand	R	% Conv (1:2) ^b	% ee 1 ^c	% ee 2 ^c
1	L1a	C ₆ H ₅	98 (87:13)	97 (R)	88 (R)
2	L1a	1-Naphthyl	88 (86:14)	97 (R)	89 (R)
3	L1a	<i>p</i> -CH ₃ -C ₆ H ₄	99 (82:18)	94 (R)	91 (R)
4	L1a	<i>p</i> -NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄	94 (95:5)	88 (R)	nd ^f
5 ^e	L1c	C ₆ H ₅	100 (97:3)	99 (R)	nd ^f
6 ^e	L1c	1-Naphthyl	89 (95:5)	99 (R) ^d	93 (R)
7 ^e	L1c	<i>p</i> -CH ₃ -C ₆ H ₄	94 (85:15)	96 (R)	93 (R)
8 ^e	L1c	<i>p</i> -NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄	89 (>99:1)	90 (R)	nd ^f
9	L4a	C ₆ H ₅	94 (97:3)	99 (R)	nd ^f
10	L4a	1-Naphthyl	85 (95:5)	99 (R)	nd ^f
11	L4a	<i>p</i> -CH ₃ -C ₆ H ₄	95 (87:13)	96 (R)	89 (R)
12	L4a	<i>p</i> -NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄	87 (>99:1)	91 (R)	nd ^f

^a [Pd₂(dba)₃]:dba (1.25 x 10⁻² mmol), **S1** (2.0 mmol), aryl triflate (0.5 mmol), Ligand (2.8 x 10⁻² mmol), THF (3 mL), ⁱPr₂NEt (1 mmol), T = 50 °C, t = 24 h. ^b Conversion percentages determined by GC. ^c Enantiomeric excesses measured by GC. ^d Enantiomeric excesses measured by HPLC. ^e t = 15 h. ^f not determined.

We also evaluated the ligand library in the Heck reaction of **S1** using cyclohexenyl triflate. The preliminary investigations performed into the solvent and base effect revealed a different trend regarding the base effect than those with the previously tested aryl triflates. Therefore, the best selectivities (regio- and enantioselectivities) and reaction rates were obtained when THF and proton sponge are used as a solvent and base, respectively (see section 4.2.7. Supporting information, Tables 10-12).

The results of using ligands **L1-L4a-g** under the optimised conditions are shown in Table 5. In general, high activities, regio- (up to 98%) and enantioselectivities (ee's up to

98%) were also obtained in this case. Again enantioselectivity was affected by the substituents at both oxazoline and phosphite moiety and the cooperative effect between stereocenters. However, the effect of these parameters was different from those observed in the arylation of **S1**. Thus, regio- and enantioselectivities were best with ligand **L1a** (regio's up to 98%, ee's up to 98%). These results clearly show the importance of using modular scaffolds in the ligand design.

Regarding the effect of the oxazoline substituents, again the presence of bulky substituents in this position considerably decreased activities and selectivities (Table 5, entries 1, 8-10). However, in contrast to the arylation of **S1**, the electronic effect was more important. Therefore, selectivities are higher when a phenyl substituent is present (Table 5, entry 1 vs 10).

Concerning the effect of the phosphite moiety on catalytic performance, again the presence of bulky substituents in the *ortho* positions of the biphenyl moiety were necessary for high selectivities. However, the effect of the type of substituents at the *para* positions in selectivity is more pronounced than for the arylation of **S1**. Thus, whereas good selectivities are obtained with ligands **L1a** and **L1c**, regioselectivity dropped considerably for ligand **L1b**, which contains methoxy groups at the *para* positions (Table 5, entries 1 and 3 vs 2).

Finally, the effect of the configuration of the biaryl phosphite moiety follows a similar trend as those with the previous arylation of **S1** (Table 5, entries 6 and 7).

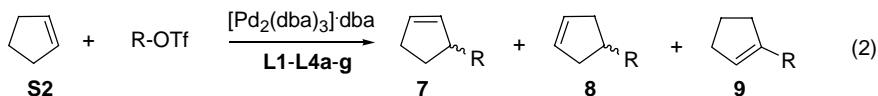
Table 5. Selected results for the Pd-catalysed enantioselective cyclohexenylation of 2,3-dihydrofuran **S1** using ligands **L1-L4a-g**.^a

Entry	Ligand	% Conv (1:2) ^b	% ee 1 ^c	% ee 2 ^c
1	L1a	100 (98:2)	98 (<i>R</i>)	nd ^d
2	L1b	88 (80:20)	96 (<i>R</i>)	36 (<i>R</i>)
3	L1c	100 (92:8)	97 (<i>R</i>)	52 (<i>R</i>)
4	L1d	99 (74:26)	82 (<i>R</i>)	76 (<i>R</i>)
5	L1e	57 (58:42)	45 (<i>R</i>)	32 (<i>R</i>)
6	L1f	42 (55:45)	12 (<i>R</i>)	9 (<i>R</i>)
7	L1g	38 (53:47)	38 (<i>R</i>)	9 (<i>R</i>)
8	L2a	94 (84:16)	98 (<i>R</i>)	45 (<i>R</i>)
9	L3a	44 (51:49)	77 (<i>R</i>)	5 (<i>R</i>)
10	L4a	100 (88:12)	95 (<i>R</i>)	56 (<i>R</i>)

^a [Pd₂(dba)₃]-dba (1.25 x 10⁻² mmol), **S1** (2.0 mmol), cyclohexyl triflate (0.5 mmol), Ligand (2.8 x 10⁻² mmol), THF (3 mL), proton sponge (1 mmol), T = 50 °C, t = 24 h. ^b Conversion percentages determined by GC. ^c Enantiomeric excesses measured by GC. ^d not measured.

4.2.2.1.2. Heck reaction of cyclopentene **S2** (equation 2)

We also screened the phosphite-oxazoline ligand library in the phenylation and alkenylation of cyclopentene **S2** (equation 2). Selectivity for **S2** is more difficult to control than for functionalized alkenes such as **S1** due to extensive double bond migration.¹ Moreover, in addition to the desired product **7**, regioisomer **8** and the achiral product **9** can also be obtained. Therefore, to date only high regio- (regio's up to 96% in product **7**) and enantioselectivities (ee's up to 91%) have been obtained with the phosphine-oxazoline PHOX ligands developed by Pfaltz and coworkers.^{2a,b}



R = C₆H₅, C₆H₉

In this section, we report that the chiral phosphite-oxazoline ligands **L1-L4a-g** applied in the previous section to the Pd-catalyzed arylation and alkenylation of substrate **S1**, can also be used for unfunctionalised alkene substrate **S2**. In this case, two triflate sources were used (eq 2): phenyl triflate and cyclohexenyl triflate. In general, high activities and selectivities (regio's up to 94% and ee's up to 96%) were obtained in the phenylation and cyclohexenylation of **S2**. Interestingly, the formation of achiral product **9** did not take place. These results compete favourably with the best reported in the literature.^{2a,b}

Preliminary investigations into the solvent and base effects revealed the same trends as those with the previously tested substrate **S1** with aryltriflate. The trade-off between selectivities and reaction rates was optimum with THF as solvent and diisopropylethylamine as base (see section 4.2.7. Supporting information, Tables 13-15).

The results of using the phosphite-oxazoline ligand library under the optimized conditions are shown in Table 6. In general, they follow the same trends as for the alkenylation of **S1**. Although, as expected, the activities were lower than in the alkenylation of **S1**, they were much higher than those obtained with the most successful ligand system.^{2a,b} Again, the presence of a phosphite moiety in the ligand design has been highly advantageous in terms of activity and enantioselectivity.

Table 6. Selected results for Pd-catalyzed enantioselective phenylation and cycloalkenylation of cyclopentene **S2** using ligands **L1-L4a-g**.^a

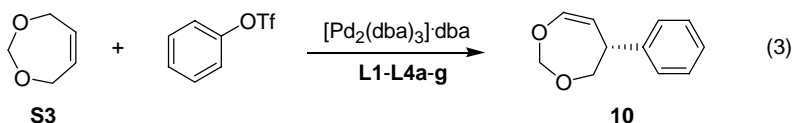
Entry	Ligand	R	% Conv (7:8) ^b	% ee 7 ^c	% ee 8 ^c
1	L1a	C ₆ H ₅	100 (94:6)	95 (R)	nd ^d
2	L1b	C ₆ H ₅	98 (85:15)	94 (R)	66 (R)
3	L1c	C ₆ H ₅	100 (92:8)	95 (R)	82 (R)
4	L1d	C ₆ H ₅	93 (79:21)	75 (R)	57 (R)
5	L1e	C ₆ H ₅	47 (51:49)	44 (R)	34 (R)
6	L1f	C ₆ H ₅	42 (45:55)	12 (R)	9 (R)
7	L1g	C ₆ H ₅	44 (52:48)	45 (R)	42 (R)
8	L2a	C ₆ H ₅	94 (86:14)	87 (R)	68 (R)
9	L3a	C ₆ H ₅	34 (49:51)	59 (R)	11 (R)
10	L4a	C ₆ H ₅	100 (93:7)	94 (R)	86 (R)
11	L1a	C ₆ H ₉	100 (95:5)	96 (R)	nd ^d
12	L1b	C ₆ H ₉	94 (83:17)	95 (R)	67 (R)
13	L1c	C ₆ H ₉	100 (93:7)	96 (R)	78 (R)
14	L1d	C ₆ H ₉	100 (78:22)	82 (R)	79 (R)
15	L1e	C ₆ H ₉	45 (54:46)	51 (R)	60 (R)
16	L1f	C ₆ H ₉	41 (52:48)	11 (R)	5 (R)
17	L1g	C ₆ H ₉	47 (53:47)	49 (R)	16 (R)
18	L2a	C ₆ H ₉	98 (85:15)	93 (R)	89 (R)
19	L3a	C ₆ H ₉	56 (63:37)	61 (R)	18 (R)
20	L4a	C ₆ H ₉	100 (92:8)	94 (R)	89 (R)

^a [Pd₂(dba)₃]-dba (1.25 x 10⁻² mmol), **S2** (2.0 mmol), triflate (0.5 mmol), Ligand (2.8 x 10⁻² mmol), THF (3 mL), ⁱPr₂NEt (1 mmol), T = 70 °C, t = 48 h. ^b Conversion percentages determined by GC. ^c Enantiomeric excesses measured by GC. ^d not determined.

4.2.2.1.3. Heck reaction of 4,7-dihydro-1,3-dioxepin **S3** (equation 3)

Encouraged by the excellent results obtained for the arylation and alkenylation of 2,3-dihydrofuran **S1** and cyclopentene **S2**, we also examined the phenylation of 4,7-dihydro-1,3-dioxepin **S3** (eq. 3). This substrate is of great importance since the resulting

enolethers **10** are easily converted to chiral β -aryl- γ -butyrolactones, which are useful synthetic intermediates.⁶ Despite this interesting characteristic, there are only few reports that study this substrate.^{2a,b,e,h} An important drawback for this substrate is that the catalysts developed to date proceed at low reaction rates (i.e. the reaction takes typically 5 to 7 days for full conversion).^{2a,b,e,h}



Interestingly, under non optimized conditions, our new ligands also proved to be highly efficient in terms of activity and enantioselectivity in the phenylation of **S3** (Table 7). The results indicated that enantioselectivities and activities are mainly affected by the steric properties of the oxazoline substituents. We found that when the size of the group on the oxazoline increased, activity and enantioselectivity of the catalyst decreased (entries 1 vs 4 and 5). The highest enantioselectivities (ee's up to 92%) and activities were obtained using ligands **L1a** and **L1c**. In addition, comparing these excellent results with the activities obtained with Pfaltz's and Gilbertson's ligand Pd-systems (Scheme 2) in the phenylation of **S3** we can conclude that the presence of a phosphite moiety has been highly advantageous. These results are among the best reported so far.^{2a,b,e}

Table 7. Selected results for the Pd-catalysed enantioselective phenylation of **S3** using ligands **L1-L4a-g**.^a

Entry	Ligand	% Conv ^b	% ee 10 ^c
1	L1a	100	92 (<i>R</i>)
2	L1b	98	88 (<i>R</i>)
3 ^d	L1c	100	92 (<i>R</i>)
4	L2a	95	75 (<i>R</i>)
5	L3a	54	61 (<i>R</i>)
6	L4a	100	90 (<i>R</i>)

^a [Pd₂(dba)₃]-dba (1.25 x 10⁻² mmol), **S3** (2.0 mmol), phenyl triflate (0.5 mmol), Ligand (2.8 x 10⁻² mmol), THF (3 mL), ^tPr₂NEt (1 mmol), T = 70 °C, t = 2.5 days. ^b Conversion percentages determined by GC. ^c Enantiomeric excesses measured by GC. ^d t = 2 days

4.2.2.2. Microwave-assisted asymmetric Heck Reactions

The benefits of microwave irradiation, including reduction of reaction rates and electricity costs, have already been reported in several C-C coupling reactions.⁷ Therefore, we decided to use the advantages of microwave irradiation in the asymmetric Pd-catalyzed Heck reactions using the ligand library **L1-L4a-g**. To the best of our knowledge there is only one report on the use of microwave irradiation for the enantioselective Heck reactions using PHOX Pfaltz's and BINAP ligands. Under optimal reaction conditions they considerably shortened reaction times (from 4 days to 1 hour) but enantioselectivities were lower compared to those obtained under thermal conditions.⁸

As an initial evaluation we studied the Pd-catalyzed asymmetric Heck reaction of substrate **S1** using two different triflate sources (phenyl triflate and cyclohexenyl triflate) with ligands **L1a** and **L1c** (Table 8). After studying three different temperatures, we found that the optimal temperature was 70 °C. At lower temperatures, activities and selectivities decreased (Table 8, entries 3 and 6 vs 1, 2, 4 and 5).

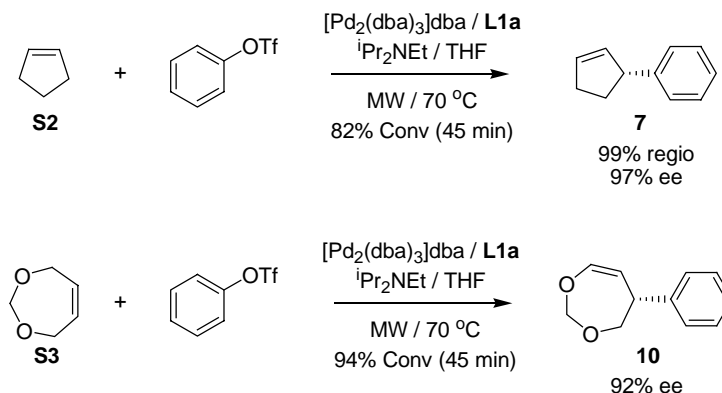
It is interesting to note that under microwave irradiation, reaction times have been dramatically improved (from 15 hours to 10 minutes) while maintaining the excellent regio- (up to 98%) and enantioselectivities (ee's up to 99%) obtained under thermal conditions.

Table 8. Microwave-assisted Pd-catalysed enantioselective arylation and alkenylation of 2,3-dihydrofuran **S1** using ligands **L1a** and **L1c**.^a

Entry	Ligand	R	T (°C)	t (min)	% Conv (1.2) ^b	% ee 1 ^c
1	L1a	C ₆ H ₅	50	15	81 (96:4)	93 (<i>R</i>)
2	L1a	C ₆ H ₅	40	15	12 (94:6)	91 (<i>R</i>)
3	L1a	C ₆ H ₅	70	10	99 (96:4)	96 (<i>R</i>)
4	L1c	C ₆ H ₅	70	10	100 (98:2)	99 (<i>R</i>)
5	L1a	C ₆ H ₉	50	15	82 (93:7)	89 (<i>R</i>)
6	L1a	C ₆ H ₉	70	10	100 (95:5)	93 (<i>R</i>)
7	L1c	C ₆ H ₉	70	10	100 (93:7)	97 (<i>R</i>)

^a [Pd₂(dba)₃]:dba (1.25 x 10⁻² mmol), **S1** (2.0 mmol), triflate (0.5 mmol), Ligand (2.8 x 10⁻² mmol), THF (3 mL), ⁱPr₂NEt (1 mmol). ^b Conversion percentages determined by GC. ^c Enantiomeric excesses measured by GC.

Encouraged by these excellent results, we also studied the phenylation of cyclopentene **S2** and 4,7-dihydro-1,3-dioxepin **S3** which required longer reaction times under thermal conditions than substrate **S1** (Scheme 4). Again, the use of microwaves was highly advantageous, providing excellent regio- and enantioselectivities with much lower reaction times (from 2 days to 45 minutes). It should be noted that for substrate **S2**, the use of microwave irradiation also improved regio- and enantioselectivity. Therefore, the reaction of cyclopentene **S2** and phenyltriflate at 70 °C gave the coupling product **7** with 97 % ee in 99% regioselectivity.



Scheme 4. Pd-catalyzed Heck reactions of **S2** and **S3** using ligand **L1a** under microwave irradiation.

4.2.3. Conclusions

A library of readily available phosphite-oxazoline ligands has been applied in Pd-catalyzed asymmetric Heck reactions of several substrates and triflates under thermal and microwave conditions. These ligands have the advantage that they are easily prepared in a few steps from commercial D-glucosamine as an inexpensive natural chiral source. In addition, they can be easily tuned in the oxazoline and biaryl phosphite moieties, so that their effect on catalytic performance can be explored. We found that the degree of isomerization and the effectiveness in transferring the chiral information in the product and the activity can be tuned by correctly choosing ligand components (phosphite and oxazoline substituents). Excellent activities (up to 100% conversion in 10 minutes), regio- (up to >99%) and enantioselectivities (ee's up to 99%) were obtained in a wide range of substrates and triflate sources. These results compete favourably with the most successful ligands developed for this reaction.¹Note also that these ligands provided higher activities than those for other successful ligands. The use of microwave irradiation conditions allowed a considerably shorter reaction times (full conversion in few minutes) maintaining excellent regio- and enantioselectivities. These results open up a new class of ligands for the highly active and enantioselective Pd-catalysed Heck reaction, which will be of great practical interest.

4.2.4. Experimental Section

4.2.4.1. General Considerations

All syntheses were performed by using standard Schlenk techniques under argon atmosphere. Solvents were purified by standard procedures. The synthesis of ligands **L1-L4a-f** have been previously described in Chapter 3.2. All other reagents were used as commercially available. ^1H , $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ and $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Gemini 400 MHz spectrometer. The chemical shifts are referenced to tetramethylsilane (^1H and ^{13}C) as internal standard or H_3PO_4 (^{31}P) as external standard. The ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectral assignments were determined by ^1H - ^1H and ^1H - ^{13}C correlation spectra. Microwave experiments were carried out using a CEM Explorer, in which the temperature is controlled by a non-contact infrared sensor that is located beneath the cavity floor and "looks" up at the bottom of the vessel.

4.2.4.2. General procedure for the Pd-catalyzed enantioselective Heck reactions

A mixture of $[\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3]\text{dba}$ (12 mg, 1.25×10^{-2} mmol) and the corresponding chiral ligand (2.8×10^{-2} mmol) in dry degassed solvent (3.0 mL) was stirred under argon at room temperature for 15 min. The corresponding olefin (2.0 mmol), triflate (0.50 mmol) and base (1.0 mmol) were added to the catalyst solution. The solution was stirred at the desired temperature under argon. After the desired reaction time, the mixture was diluted with additional diethyl ether and washed with water, dried over MgSO_4 and evaporated. For compounds 2-(1-naphthyl)-2,5-dihydrofuran and 2-(4-nitrophenyl)-2,5-dihydrofuran conversion was measured by ^1H -NMR and selectivity was measured by HPLC.^{2b} For the rest of compounds, conversion and selectivity were determined by GC.^{2e}

4.2.5. Acknowledgements

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4.2.6. References

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4.2.7. Supporting information

- 1.- Table 9. Pd-catalyzed arylation of **S1**.
- 2.- Table 10. Pd-catalyzed cyclohexenylation of **S1**. Effect of the solvent.
- 3.- Table 11. Pd-catalyzed cyclohexenylation of **S1**. Effect of the temperature.
- 4.- Table 12. Pd-catalyzed cyclohexenylation of **S1**. Effect of the base.
- 5.- Table 13. Pd-catalyzed phenylation of **S2**. Effect of the solvent.
- 6.- Table 14. Pd-catalyzed phenylation of **S2**. Effect of the temperature.
- 7.- Table 15. Pd-catalyzed phenylation of **S2**. Effect of the base.
- 8.- Temperature, power and pressure vs time profiles for the microwaves experiments.

Table 9. Selected results for the Pd-catalysed enantioselective arylation of 2,3-dihydrofuran **S1**.^a

Entry	Ligand	R	% conv (1:2) ^b	% ee 1 ^c	% ee 2 ^c
1	L1b	C ₆ H ₅	86 (85:15)	97 (<i>R</i>)	89 (<i>R</i>)
2	L1b	1-Naphthyl	81(86:14)	97 (<i>R</i>) ^d	90 (<i>R</i>) ^d
3	L1b	<i>p</i> -CH ₃ -C ₆ H ₄	93 (81:19)	94 (<i>R</i>)	89 (<i>R</i>)
4	L1b	<i>p</i> -NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄	95 (92:8)	91 (<i>R</i>) ^d	nd ^e
5	L1d	C ₆ H ₅	42 (72:28)	25 (<i>R</i>)	16 (<i>R</i>)
6	L1d	1-Naphthyl	42 (73:27)	26 (<i>R</i>) ^d	21 (<i>R</i>) ^d
7	L1d	<i>p</i> -CH ₃ -C ₆ H ₄	43 (75:25)	27 (<i>R</i>)	22 (<i>R</i>)
8	L1d	<i>p</i> -NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄	40 (76:24)	27 (<i>R</i>) ^d	nd ^e
9	L1e	C ₆ H ₅	45 (60:40)	80 (<i>R</i>)	69 (<i>R</i>)
10	L1e	1-Naphthyl	38 (63:37)	82 (<i>R</i>) ^d	76 (<i>R</i>) ^d
11	L1e	<i>p</i> -CH ₃ -C ₆ H ₄	45 (65:35)	78 (<i>R</i>)	67 (<i>R</i>)
12	L1e	<i>p</i> -NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄	55 (70:30)	77 (<i>R</i>) ^d	nd ^e
13	L1f	C ₆ H ₅	32 (58:42)	6 (<i>R</i>)	19 (<i>R</i>)
14	L1f	1-Naphthyl	22 (57:43)	9 (<i>R</i>) ^d	21 (<i>R</i>) ^d
15	L1f	<i>p</i> -CH ₃ -C ₆ H ₄	34 (55:45)	11 (<i>R</i>)	19 (<i>R</i>)
16	L1f	<i>p</i> -NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄	44 (65:35)	7 (<i>R</i>) ^d	nd ^e
17	L1g	C ₆ H ₅	28 (55:45)	73 (<i>R</i>)	48 (<i>R</i>)
18	L1g	1-Naphthyl	21 (52:48)	67 (<i>R</i>) ^d	43 (<i>R</i>) ^d
19	L1g	<i>p</i> -CH ₃ -C ₆ H ₄	34 (53:47)	63 (<i>R</i>)	39 (<i>R</i>)
20	L1g	<i>p</i> -NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄	34 (56:44)	75 (<i>R</i>) ^d	nd ^e
21	L2a	C ₆ H ₅	80 (71:29)	84 (<i>R</i>)	90 (<i>R</i>)
22	L2a	1-Naphthyl	75 (72:38)	84 (<i>R</i>) ^d	81 (<i>R</i>) ^d
23	L2a	<i>p</i> -CH ₃ -C ₆ H ₄	82 (72:38)	85 (<i>R</i>)	86 (<i>R</i>)
24	L2a	<i>p</i> -NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄	89 (81:19)	81 (<i>R</i>) ^d	nd ^e
25	L3a	C ₆ H ₅	12 (65:35)	83 (<i>R</i>)	23 (<i>R</i>)
26	L3a	1-Naphthyl	9 (63:37)	81 (<i>R</i>) ^d	45 (<i>R</i>) ^d
27	L3a	<i>p</i> -CH ₃ -C ₆ H ₄	18 (65:35)	79 (<i>R</i>)	25 (<i>R</i>)
28	L3a	<i>p</i> -NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄	24 (71:29)	75 (<i>R</i>)	nd ^e

^a [Pd₂(dba)₃]:dba (1.25 x 10⁻² mmol), **S1** (2.0 mmol), aryl triflate (0.5 mmol), Ligand (2.8 x 10⁻² mmol), THF (3 mL), ¹Pr₂NEt (1 mmol), T = 50 °C, t = 24 h. ^b Conversion percentages determined by GC. ^c Enantiomeric excesses measured by GC. ^d Enantiomeric excesses measured by HPLC. ^e not determined.

Table 10. Selected results for the Pd-catalysed enantioselective cyclohexenylation of **S1** using ligands **L1a** - **L4a**. Effect of the solvent.^a

Entry	Ligand	Solvent	% conv (1:2) ^b	% ee 1 ^c	% ee 2 ^c
1	L1a	DMF	21 (71:29)	89 (<i>R</i>)	67 (<i>R</i>)
2	L1a	THF	100 (98:2)	98 (<i>R</i>)	nd ^d
3	L1a	Benzene	83 (96:4)	96 (<i>R</i>)	nd ^d
4	L1a	Toluene	85 (95:5)	96 (<i>R</i>)	nd ^d
5	L2a	DMF	24 (69:31)	91 (<i>R</i>)	75 (<i>R</i>)
6	L2a	THF	94 (84:16)	98 (<i>R</i>)	45 (<i>R</i>)
7	L2a	Benzene	92 (83:17)	97 (<i>R</i>)	56 (<i>R</i>)
8	L2a	Toluene	93 (81:19)	97 (<i>R</i>)	54 (<i>R</i>)
9	L3a	DMF	9 (52:48)	43 (<i>R</i>)	8 (<i>R</i>)
10	L3a	THF	44 (51:49)	77 (<i>R</i>)	5 (<i>R</i>)
11	L3a	Benzene	39 (52:48)	69 (<i>R</i>)	6 (<i>R</i>)
12	L3a	Toluene	38 (48:52)	73 (<i>R</i>)	9 (<i>R</i>)
13	L4a	DMF	38 (71:294)	83 (<i>R</i>)	42 (<i>R</i>)
14	L4a	THF	100 (88:12)	95 (<i>R</i>)	56 (<i>R</i>)
15	L4a	Benzene	92 (86:14)	94 (<i>R</i>)	63 (<i>R</i>)
16	L4a	Toluene	91 (85:15)	95 (<i>R</i>)	61 (<i>R</i>)

^a [Pd₂(dba)₃]-dba (1.25 x 10⁻² mmol), **S1** (2.0 mmol), cyclohexenyl triflate (0.5 mmol), Ligand (2.8 x 10⁻² mmol), solvent (3 mL), proton sponge (1 mmol), T = 50 °C, t = 24 h. ^b Conversion percentages determined by GC. ^c Enantiomeric excesses measured by GC. ^d not determined.

Table 11. Selected results for the Pd-catalysed enantioselective cyclohexenylation of **S1** using ligands **L1a - L4a**. Effect of the temperature.^a

Entry	Ligand	T (°C)	% conv (1:2) ^b	% ee 1 ^c	% ee 2 ^c
1	L1a	50	100 (98:2)	98 (<i>R</i>)	nd ^d
2	L1a	75	100 (94:6)	94 (<i>R</i>)	nd ^d
3	L1a	25	21 (98:2)	98 (<i>R</i>)	nd ^d
4	L2a	50	94 (84:16)	91 (<i>R</i>)	75 (<i>R</i>)
5	L2a	75	100 (82:18)	88 (<i>R</i>)	69 (<i>R</i>)
6	L2a	25	19 (86:14)	92 (<i>R</i>)	81 (<i>R</i>)
4	L3a	50	44 (51:49)	77 (<i>R</i>)	5 (<i>R</i>)
5	L3a	75	69 (49:51)	72 (<i>R</i>)	4 (<i>R</i>)
6	L3a	25	8 (52:48)	79 (<i>R</i>)	7 (<i>R</i>)
4	L4a	50	100 (88:12)	95 (<i>R</i>)	56 (<i>R</i>)
5	L4a	75	100 (81:19)	92 (<i>R</i>)	51 (<i>R</i>)
6	L4a	25	28 (89:11)	96 (<i>R</i>)	64 (<i>R</i>)

^a [Pd₂(dba)₃]·dba (1.25 x 10⁻² mmol), **S1** (2.0 mmol), cyclohexenyl triflate (0.5 mmol), Ligand (2.8 x 10⁻² mmol), THF (3 mL), ⁱPr₂NEt (1 mmol), t = 24 h. ^b Conversion percentages determined by GC. ^c Enantiomeric excesses measured by GC. ^d not determined.

Table 12. Selected results for the Pd-catalysed enantioselective cyclohexenylation of **S1** using ligands **L1a - L4a**. Effect of the base.^a

Entry	Ligand	Base	% conv (1:2) ^b	% ee 1 ^c	% ee 2 ^c
1	L1a	ⁱ Pr ₂ NEt	98 (97:3)	97 (<i>R</i>)	nd ^d
2	L1a	PS	100 (98:2)	98 (<i>R</i>)	nd ^d
3	L1a	NaOAc	97 (95:5)	96 (<i>R</i>)	nd ^d
4	L1a	NEt ₃	95 (92:8)	93 (<i>R</i>)	89 (<i>R</i>)
5	L1a	KOAc	67 (90:10)	78 (<i>R</i>)	65 (<i>R</i>)
6	L1a	K ₂ CO ₃	88 (96:4)	92 (<i>R</i>)	90 (<i>R</i>)
7	L1a	Li ₂ CO ₃	91 (79:21)	93 (<i>R</i>)	90 (<i>R</i>)
8	L2a	ⁱ Pr ₂ NEt	92 (85:15)	90 (<i>R</i>)	71 (<i>R</i>)
9	L2a	PS	94 (84:16)	91 (<i>R</i>)	75 (<i>R</i>)
10	L2a	NaOAc	93 (80:20)	88 (<i>R</i>)	65 (<i>R</i>)
11	L3a	ⁱ Pr ₂ NEt	42 (51:49)	77 (<i>R</i>)	8 (<i>R</i>)
12	L3a	PS	44 (51:49)	77 (<i>R</i>)	5 (<i>R</i>)
13	L3a	NaOAc	39 (50:50)	75 (<i>R</i>)	9 (<i>R</i>)
14	L4a	ⁱ Pr ₂ NEt	97 (87:13)	95 (<i>R</i>)	62 (<i>R</i>)
15	L4a	PS	100 (88:12)	95 (<i>R</i>)	56 (<i>R</i>)
16	L4a	NaOAc	93 (78:22)	93 (<i>R</i>)	78 (<i>R</i>)
17	L4a	NEt ₃	92 (85:15)	92 (<i>R</i>)	81 (<i>R</i>)
18	L4a	KOAc	57 (76:24)	68 (<i>R</i>)	45 (<i>R</i>)

^a [Pd₂(dba)₃]-dba (1.25 x 10⁻² mmol), **S1** (2.0 mmol), cyclohexenyl triflate (0.5 mmol), Ligand (2.8 x 10⁻² mmol), THF (3 mL), base (1 mmol), T = 50 °C, t = 24 h. ^b Conversion percentages determined by GC. ^c Enantiomeric excesses measured by GC. ^d not determined.

Table 13. Selected results for the Pd-catalysed enantioselective phenylation of **S2** using ligands **L1a - L4a**. Effect of the solvent.^a

Entry	Ligand	Solvent	% conv (1:2) ^b	% ee 1 ^c	% ee 2 ^c
1	L1a	DMF	31 (81:19)	89 (<i>R</i>)	61 (<i>R</i>)
2	L1a	THF	100 (94:6)	95 (<i>R</i>)	nd
3	L1a	Benzene	88 (92:8)	94 (<i>R</i>)	81 (<i>R</i>)
4	L1a	Toluene	92 (93:7)	94 (<i>R</i>)	89 (<i>R</i>)
5	L2a	DMF	24 (77:23)	78 (<i>R</i>)	44 (<i>R</i>)
6	L2a	THF	94 (86:14)	87 (<i>R</i>)	68 (<i>R</i>)
7	L2a	Benzene	89 (84:16)	85 (<i>R</i>)	71 (<i>R</i>)
8	L2a	Toluene	90 (83:17)	84 (<i>R</i>)	72 (<i>R</i>)
9	L3a	DMF	8 (44:1856)	39 (<i>R</i>)	8 (<i>R</i>)
10	L3a	THF	34 (49:51)	59 (<i>R</i>)	11 (<i>R</i>)
11	L3a	Benzene	29 (45:55)	53 (<i>R</i>)	13 (<i>R</i>)
12	L3a	Toluene	30 (48:52)	58 (<i>R</i>)	14 (<i>R</i>)
13	L4a	DMF	42 (85:15)	86 (<i>R</i>)	59 (<i>R</i>)
14	L4a	THF	100 (93:7)	94 (<i>R</i>)	86 (<i>R</i>)
15	L4a	Benzene	94 (95:5)	91 (<i>R</i>)	nd
16	L4a	Toluene	98 (94:6)	92 (<i>R</i>)	88 (<i>R</i>)

^a [Pd₂(dba)₃]-dba (1.25 x 10⁻² mmol), **S2** (2.0 mmol), phenyl triflate (0.5 mmol), Ligand (2.8 x 10⁻² mmol), solvent (3 mL), ⁱPr₂NEt (1 mmol), T = 50 °C, t = 48 h. ^b Conversion percentages determined by GC. ^c Enantiomeric excesses measured by GC. ^d not determined.

Table 14. Selected results for the Pd-catalysed enantioselective phenylation of **S2** using ligands **L1a - L4a**. Effect of the temperature.^a

Entry	Ligand	T (°C)	% conv (1:2) ^b	% ee 1 ^c	% ee 2 ^c
1	L1a	50	100 (94:6)	95 (<i>R</i>)	nd ^d
2	L1a	70	100 (89:11)	92 (<i>R</i>)	87 (<i>R</i>)
3	L1a	25	21 (95:5)	96 (<i>R</i>)	nd ^d
4	L2a	50	94 (86:14)	87 (<i>R</i>)	68 (<i>R</i>)
5	L2a	70	100 (80:20)	72 (<i>R</i>)	59 (<i>R</i>)
6	L2a	25	19 (88:12)	88 (<i>R</i>)	66 (<i>R</i>)
4	L3a	50	34 (49:51)	59 (<i>R</i>)	11 (<i>R</i>)
5	L3a	70	62 (50:50)	56 (<i>R</i>)	3 (<i>R</i>)
6	L3a	25	12 (48:52)	60 (<i>R</i>)	13 (<i>R</i>)
4	L4a	50	100 (93:7)	94 (<i>R</i>)	86 (<i>R</i>)
5	L4a	70	100 (90:10)	88 (<i>R</i>)	71 (<i>R</i>)
6	L4a	25	21 (94:6)	95 (<i>R</i>)	nd ^d

^a [Pd₂(dba)₃]:dba (1.25 × 10⁻² mmol), **S2** (2.0 mmol), phenyl triflate (0.5 mmol), Ligand (2.8 × 10⁻² mmol), THF (3 mL), ⁱPr₂NEt (1 mmol), t = 48 h. ^b Conversion percentages determined by GC.

^c Enantiomeric excesses measured by GC. ^d not determined.

Table 15. Selected results for the Pd-catalysed enantioselective phenylation of **S2** using ligands **L1a - L4a**. Effect of the base.^a

Entry	Ligand	Base	% conv (1:2) ^b	% ee 1 ^c	% ee 2 ^c
1	L1a	ⁱ Pr ₂ NEt	100 (94:6)	95 (<i>R</i>)	nd
2	L1a	PS	100 (93:7)	95 (<i>R</i>)	92 (<i>R</i>)
3	L1a	NaOAc	98 (95:5)	92 (<i>R</i>)	nd
4	L1a	NEt ₃	95 (89:11)	91 (<i>R</i>)	89 (<i>R</i>)
5	L1a	KOAc	78 (92:8)	81 (<i>R</i>)	79 (<i>R</i>)
6	L1a	K ₂ CO ₃	89 (95:5)	90 (<i>R</i>)	79 (<i>R</i>)
7	L1a	Li ₂ CO ₃	98 (86:14)	92 (<i>R</i>)	65 (<i>R</i>)
8	L2a	ⁱ Pr ₂ NEt	94 (86:14)	87 (<i>R</i>)	68 (<i>R</i>)
9	L2a	PS	95 (85:15)	85 (<i>R</i>)	71 (<i>R</i>)
10	L2a	NaOAc	100 (80:20)	83 (<i>R</i>)	59 (<i>R</i>)
11	L3a	ⁱ Pr ₂ NEt	34 (49:51)	59 (<i>R</i>)	11 (<i>R</i>)
12	L3a	PS	38 (50:50)	57 (<i>R</i>)	8 (<i>R</i>)
13	L3a	NaOAc	35 (48:52)	51 (<i>R</i>)	6 (<i>R</i>)
14	L4a	ⁱ Pr ₂ NEt	100 (93:7)	94 (<i>R</i>)	86 (<i>R</i>)
15	L4a	PS	100 (91:9)	92 (<i>R</i>)	83 (<i>R</i>)
16	L4a	NaOAc	99 (89:11)	93 (<i>R</i>)	81 (<i>R</i>)
17	L4a	NEt ₃	95 (90:10)	92 (<i>R</i>)	84 (<i>R</i>)
18	L4a	KOAc	73 (89:11)	65 (<i>R</i>)	78 (<i>R</i>)

^a [Pd₂(dba)₃]·dba (1.25 x 10⁻² mmol), **S2** (2.0 mmol), phenyl triflate (0.5 mmol), Ligand (2.8 x 10⁻² mmol), THF (3 mL), base (1 mmol), T = 50 °C, t = 48 h. ^b Conversion percentages determined by GC. ^c Enantiomeric excesses measured by GC. ^d not determined.

8. Temperature, power and pressure vs time profiles for the microwaves experiments

Table 8, entry 1.

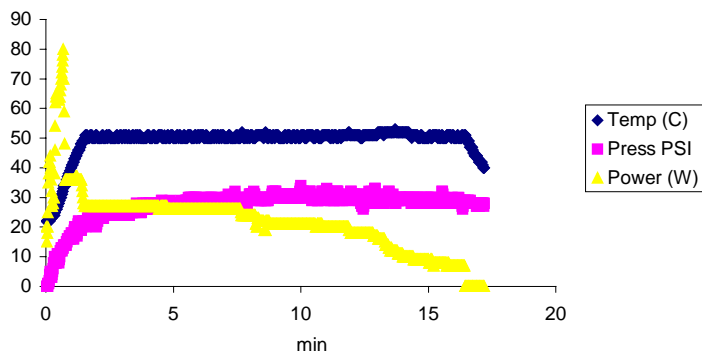
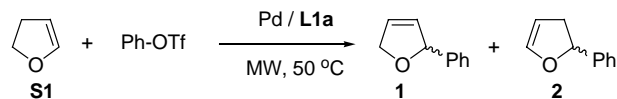


Table 8, entry 2.

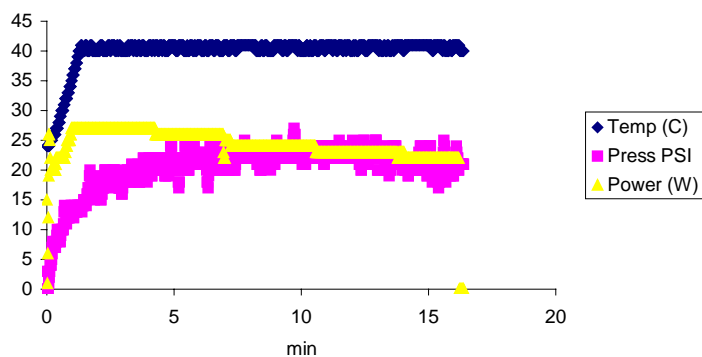
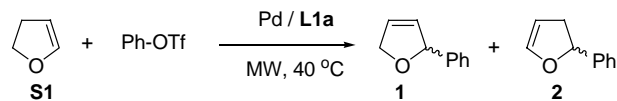


Table 8, entry 3.

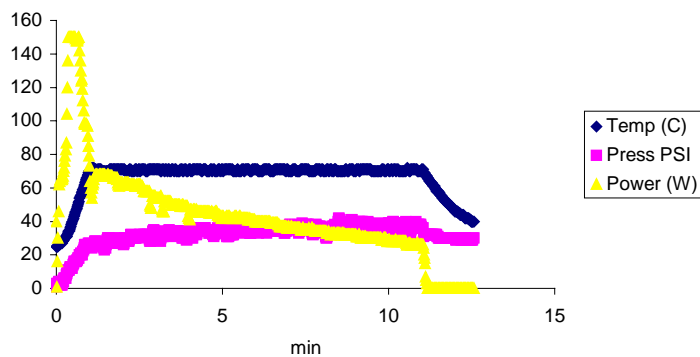
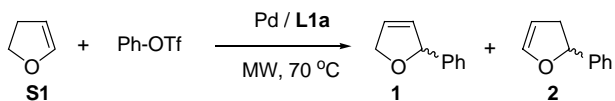


Table 8, entry 4.

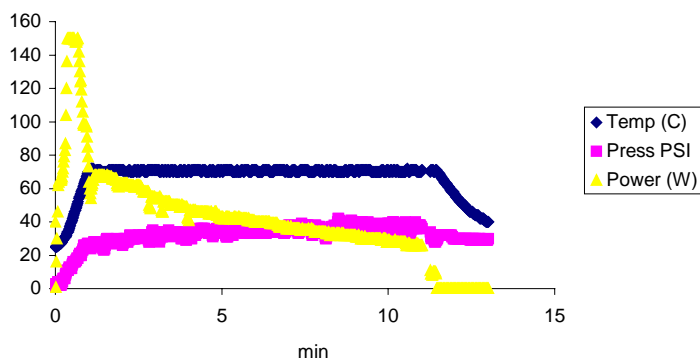
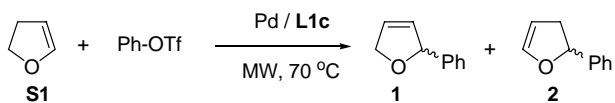


Table 8, entry 5.

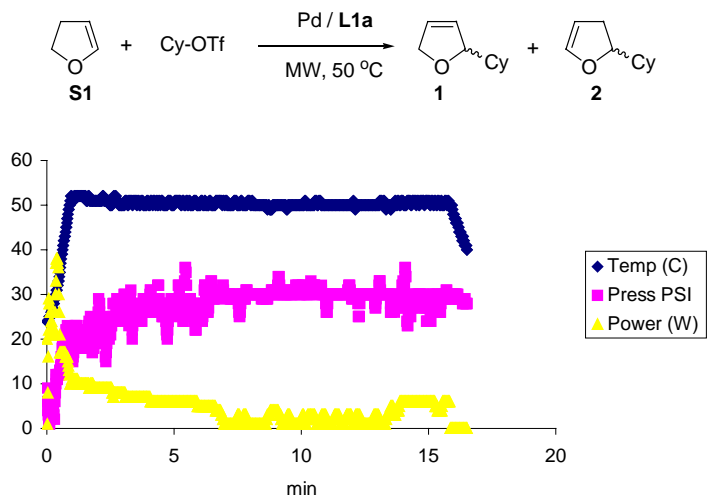


Table 8, entry 6.

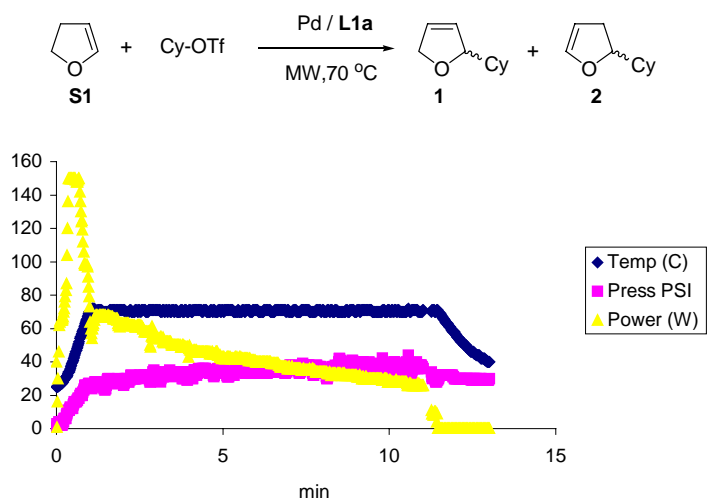
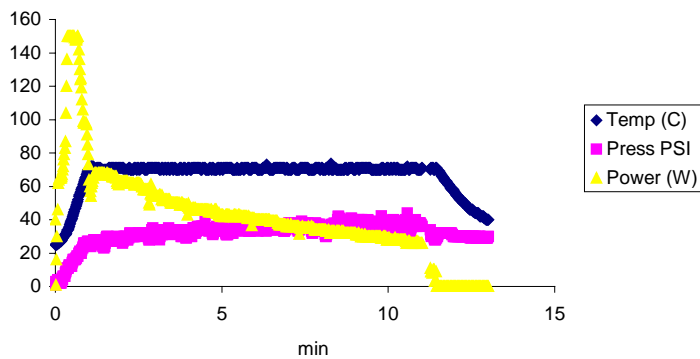
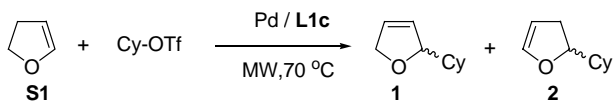


Table 8, entry 7.



Scheme 4.

