C(sp³)-H Bond Arylations Catalyzed by Well-Defined [Ru(O₂CMes)₂(*p*-cymene)]

N. Y. Phani Kumar, Rajkumar Jeyachandran, and Lutz Ackermann*

Institut für Organische und Biomolekulare Chemie, Georg-August-Universität, Tammannstrasse 2, 37077 Göttingen, Germany

Supporting Information

ABSTRACT: The well-characterized ruthenium(II) biscarboxylate complex $[Ru(O_2CMes)_2(p\text{-cymene})]$ enabled versatile direct (hetero)arylations of $C(sp^3)$ -H bonds with low (co)catalyst loading and ample substrate scope. Detailed mechanistic studies provided strong support for a facile and reversible $C(sp^3)$ -H bond metalation.

INTRODUCTION

Catalyzed C–H bond functionalizations¹ are increasingly viable tools that avoid the use of prefunctionalized substrates and thereby enable a streamlining of organic synthesis. In recent years, significant progress has particularly been made in stepeconomical ruthenium-catalyzed C(sp²)-H bond functionalization.² Mechanistic insight into the importance of carboxylate assistance proved, hence, instrumental for the development of direct C(sp²)-H bond arylations and alkylations,³ as well as oxidative transformations.^{4,5} On the contrary, ruthenium(II)catalyzed functionalizations of C(sp³)-H bonds⁶ with organic electrophiles⁷ have unfortunately thus far met with limited success. A notable very recent advance was, however, accomplished through direct arylations of benzyl amines with a catalytic system derived from the cocatalyst KOPiv, along with K₂CO₃ as the base.⁸ Since the high loading of the additive KOPiv of 30 mol % represents a considerable practical limitation of this approach, and in order to gain insight into the catalysts working mode, we became interested in exploring the first use of well-defined ruthenium(II) biscarboxylate complexes, which were hitherto solely utilized for $C(sp^2)-H$ bond functionalizations.⁹ As a result, we report herein on a versatile well-defined ruthenium(II) catalysts for direct functionalizations of $C(sp^3)$ -H bonds, and present detailed mechanistic insight into its mode of action.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

At the outset of our studies, we tested the piano stool compounds $[Ru(OPiv)_2(p\text{-cymene})]$ (4)¹⁰ and $[Ru-(O_2CMes)_2(p\text{-cymene})]$ (5)⁹ in the challenging direct arylation of substrate 1a (Table 1). Notably, the catalyst 5 derived from the aryl-substituted carboxylate outperformed the pivalate analogue 4, which thereby allowed for a considerable reduction of the cocatalyst (entries 1, and 2) and the catalyst loading (entry 3). Among various solvents, the desired C–H bond functionalization occurred most efficiently in apolar organic solvent *ortho*-xylene, while H_2O^{11} was not a suitable reaction medium (entries 2–5). As to the nature of the stoichiometric base, Na₂CO₃ proved to be superior as compared to the







entry	catalyst	solvent	base	yield (%)
1	$[Ru(OPiv)_2(p-cymene)]$ (4)	o-xylene	K ₂ CO ₃	51
2	$[Ru(O_2CMes)_2(p-cymene)]$ (5)	o-xylene	K ₂ CO ₃	60
3	5	o-xylene	K ₂ CO ₃	51 ^b
4	5	DMF	K ₂ CO ₃	-
5	5	H_2O	K ₂ CO ₃	-
6	5	o-xylene	NaOAc	13
7	5	o-xylene	KOAc	17
8	5	o-xylene	K ₃ PO ₄	46
9	5	o-xylene	Na ₂ CO ₃	69
10	-	o-xylene	Na_2CO_3	-

^aReaction conditions: **1a** (0.50 mmol), **2a** (0.75 mmol), [Ru] (5.0 mol %), base (1.50 mmol), solvent (2.0 mL), 140 °C, 24 h; isolated yields. ^b**5** (2.5 mol %).

previously employed bases K_2CO_3 ,⁸ KOAc, or K_3PO_4 (entries 2, and 6–9). It is noteworthy that the $C(sp^3)$ –H bond transformation did not occur in the absence of the ruthenium catalyst (entry 10).

With optimized reaction conditions in hand, we next studied the effect exerted by the substitution pattern of the pyridine moiety in substrates 1 on the catalytic performance (Scheme 1). Thus, the pyridine 1b being devoid of an additional substituent led unfortunately to unsatisfactory results. Among various 3-substituted pyridines, the substrate 1a bearing a 3methyl group was found to be optimal.

Received: March 28, 2013 Published: April 2, 2013

Scheme 1. Variation of the Pyridine Substitution Pattern



Subsequently, we evaluated the versatility of the $C(sp^3)$ -H bond arylation, employing a set of representative (hetero)aryl bromides **2b**-**2k** as the electrophiles (Scheme 2). The well-





defined biscarboxylate catalyst 5 proved to be broadly applicable, and its remarkable functional group tolerance allowed, inter alia, for the chemoselective conversion of substrates 2, bearing a synthetically useful chloride for subsequent derivatization (2e) or a free (NH)-indole (2k).

Likewise, a variety of benzyl amines 1f-1k featuring substituents in *para-, meta-,* or *ortho*-position proved to be viable substrates for the $C(sp^3)$ -H bond arylation protocol (Scheme 3).

Mechanistic Studies. Given the remarkably high catalytic activity of complex 5, we became intrigued by studying its mode of action. To this end, we performed intermolecular competition experiments with substrates 1a and 1e, which



 $Me \xrightarrow{I}_{i-Pr} Me \xrightarrow{Me \xrightarrow{I}_{i-Pr}} Me \xrightarrow{Me \xrightarrow{I}_{i-Pr}} Me \xrightarrow{I}_{i-Pr} Me \xrightarrow{I}$



R = 4-OMe (**3fc**): 79% R = 4-*t*-Bu (**3gd**): 71% R = 4-*t*-Bu (**3fd**): 80% R = 3-OMe (**3gg**): 69% R = 3-OMe (**3fg**): 75%

R = 4-OMe (**3hc**): 52% R = 4-*t*-Bu (**3hd**): 51% R = 3-OMe (**3hg**): 67%



clearly highlighted the importance of the electron-donating abilities of the Lewis-basic directing group (Scheme 4).

Scheme 4.	Competition	Experiment	with	Substituted
Pvridines	-	-		

1a + 1e	2a 5 (5.0 mol %) ∽xylene, Na ₂ CO ₃ 140 °C, 24 h	NH + Ph Ph	CF ₃ NH Ph Ph
(1.5 equiv each)	3aa/3ea = 13/1 (GC)	3aa : 36%	3ea∶

Conversely, the electronic nature of the substituents on the aromatic moiety of the benzyl amines 1 was found to be of minor importance for the efficacy of the catalyzed $C(sp^3)$ -H bond functionalization (Scheme 5).

Scheme 5. Intermolecular Competition Experiments between Substituted Amines 1



The Journal of Organic Chemistry

Intermolecular competition experiments with differently substituted organic electrophiles 2 revealed the more electron-deficient¹² aryl bromide 2k to react preferentially (Scheme 6).

Scheme 6. Competition Experiment between Electrophiles 2c and 2l



Finally, we performed studies in the presence of D_2O , which unravelled a significant H/D exchange (Scheme 7), thereby providing strong support for a reversible $C(sp^3)$ -H bond cleavage.



CONCLUSIONS

In summary, we have reported on the unprecedented use of well-defined ruthenium(II) biscarboxylate complexes for C- (sp^3) -H bond functionalizations. Particularly, the highly chemoselective complex $[Ru(O_2CMes)_2(p\text{-cymene})]$ (5) was found to be broadly applicable in direct arylations with aryl and even heteroaryl bromides, which also allowed for the use of low loadings of the carboxylate (co)catalyst. Detailed mechanistic studies provided strong evidence for an initial, reversible $C(sp^3)$ -H bond activation.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

General Remarks. Catalytic reactions were carried out under an inert atmosphere of nitrogen using predried glassware. Compounds $1a-1k^8$ were synthesized according to previously described methods. All other chemicals were used as received without further purification unless otherwise specified. *o*-Xylene was dried over sodium. Yields refer to isolated compounds, estimated to be >95% pure as determined by ¹H NMR. NMR spectra were recorded in the solvent indicated; chemical shifts (δ) are given in ppm. High resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS): FTICR.

Representative Procedure for Ruthenium-Catalyzed $C(sp^3)$ – H Bond Arylations: Synthesis of N-Benzhydryl-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (3aa). N-Benzyl-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (1a) (99 mg, 0.50 mmol, 1.0 equiv), bromobenzene (2a) (118 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv), $[Ru(O_2CMes)_2(p-cymene)]$ (5) (14 mg, 0.025 mmol, 5.0 mol %), Na₂CO₃ (159 mg, 1.50 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and *o*-xylene (2.0 mL) were stirred under an atmosphere of nitrogen at 140 °C for 24 h. At ambient temperature, the suspension was filtered through a short pad of Celite, which was then washed with CH₂Cl₂ (50 mL). Evaporation of the solvent in vacuo and purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 99/1 \rightarrow 98/2) yielded **3aa** (95 mg, 69%) as a colorless solid: mp = 91–93 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.98 (dd, *J* = 5.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.39–7.21 (m, 11H), 6.59–6.48 (m, 2H), 4.67 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.15 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.6 (C_q), 145.6 (CH), 143.5 (C_q), 136.9 (CH), 128.4 (CH), 127.5 (CH), 126.1 (CH), 116.3 (C_q), 113.1 (CH), 58.4 (CH), 17.0 (CH₃); IR (neat) 3438, 1595, 1485, 1465, 1057, 695 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 274 ([M⁺], 87), 182 (55), 167 (100), 165 (52), 98 (50), 43 (69); HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₉H₁₈N₂⁺ 274.1470, found 274.1462. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.^{7a}

N-Benzhydryl-3-phenylpyridin-2-amine (3da). The representative procedure was followed using *N*-benzyl-3-phenylpyridin-2-amine (1d) (130 mg, 0.50 mmol) and bromobenzene (2a) (118 mg, 0.75 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 99/1 → 98/2) yielded 3da (34 mg, 20%) as a colorless solid: mp = 90–92 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.08 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.48–7.16 (m, 16H), 6.65 (dd, *J* = 7.3, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 6.52 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.20 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 154.4 (C_q), 147.2 (CH), 143.3 (C_q), 137.9 (C_q), 137.1 (CH), 129.2 (CH), 128.8 (CH), 128.4 (CH), 127.8 (CH), 127.4 (CH), 126.9 (CH), 122.2 (C_q), 113.2 (CH), 58.5 (CH); IR (neat) 3447, 3023, 1596, 1463, 1280, 767, 696 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) *m*/*z* (relative intensity) 336 ([M⁺], 100), 335 (20), 182 (45), 167 (87), 165 (45); HRMS (EI) *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₄H₂₀N₂⁺ 336.1626, found 336.1629. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.^{7a}

N-Benzhydryl-3-(trifluoromethyl)pyridin-2-amine (3ea). The representative procedure was followed using N-benzyl-3-(trifluoromethyl)pyridin-2-amine (1e) (126 mg, 0.50 mmol) and bromobenzene (2a) (118 mg, 0.75 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-pentane/EtOAc $50/1 \rightarrow 40/1 \rightarrow 30/$ 1) yielded 3ea (78 mg, 48%) as a yellow oil: $^1\!\mathrm{H}$ NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$) $\delta = 8.20$ (ddd, J = 5.0, 1.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (ddd, J = 7.6, 1.8, 1.90.8 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.15 (m, 9H), 6.70-6.46 (m, 2H), 5.46 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 153.5 (C_q), 151.8 (CH), 142.6 (C_0), 134.9 (CH, J = 10.3 Hz), 128.6 (CH), 127.4 (CH), 127.2 (CH), 124.5 (C_{q} , J = 273.9 Hz), 111.9 (CH), 108.7 (C_{q} , J = 31.3 Hz), 58.4 (CH); ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = -63.7$ (s); IR (neat) 3476, 1602, 1582, 1493, 1465, 1301, 1102, 1024, 697 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 328 ([M⁺], 90), 251 (25), 182 (45), 167 (100), 152 (35), 128 (30), 104 (20), 77 (15); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{19}H_{15}F_3N_2^+$ 328.1187, found 328.1176. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.

3-Methyl-*N*-[**phenyl**(*p*-tolyl)**methyl**]**pyridin-2-amine** (**3ab**). The representative procedure was followed using *N*-benzyl-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (**1a**) (99 mg, 0.50 mmol) and bromo-4-methylbenzene (**2b**) (128 mg, 0.75 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 99/1 → 98/2) yielded **3ab** (90 mg, 62%) as a colorless solid: mp = 103–105 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.95 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.36–7.09 (m, 10H), 6.55–6.46 (m, 2H), 4.63 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.7 (C_q), 145.6 (CH), 143.6 (Cq), 140.5 (Cq), 136.9 (CH), 136.6 (Cq), 129.2 (CH), 128.4 (CH), 127.5 (CH), 127.4 (CH), 126.9 (CH), 116.3 (Cq), 112.9 (CH), 58.2 (CH), 21.0 (CH₃), 17.1 (CH₃); IR (neat) 3446, 3024, 1597, 1464, 771, 696 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 288 ([M⁺], 75), 196 (33), 181 (100), 210 (35), 166 (38), 165 (40); HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₂₀H₂₀N₂⁺ 288.1626, found 288.1637. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.^{7a}

N-[(4-Methoxyphenyl)(phenyl)methyl]-3-methylpyridin-2amine (3ac). The representative procedure was followed using *N*benzyl-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (1a) (99 mg, 0.50 mmol) and bromo-4-methoxybenzene (2c) (140 mg, 0.75 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 99/1 → 98/2) yielded 3ac (105 mg, 69%) as a colorless solid: mp = 60–62 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.95 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.34–7.16 (m, 8H), 6.83 (dt, *J* = 8.7, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 6.50 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.40(d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.60 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 158.6$ (C_q), 155.7 (C_q), 145.6 (CH), 143.7 (C_q), 136.8 (CH), 135.7 (C_q), 128.7 (CH), 128.4 (CH), 127.4 (CH), 126.9 (CH), 116.2 (C_q), 113.8 (CH), 113.0 (CH), 57.8 (CH), 55.2 (CH₃), 17.1 (CH₃); IR (neat) 3026, 1596, 1508, 1482, 1243, 1172, 1029, 697 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 304 ([M⁺], 43), 198 (18), 197 (100), 153 (22); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd $C_{20}H_{20}N_2O^+$ 304.1576, found 304.1570. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.^{7a}

N-[{4-(tert-Butyl)phenyl}(phenyl)methyl]-3-methylpyridin-2amine (3ad). The representative procedure was followed using Nbenzyl-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (1a) (99 mg, 0.50 mmol) and bromo-4-(tert-butyl)benzene (2d) (162 mg, 0.76 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc $99/1 \rightarrow 98/2$) yielded **3ad** (108 mg, 65%) as a colorless solid: mp = $121-123 \degree C$; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ = 7.96 (dd, J = 5.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.36– 7.19 (m, 10H), 6.50 (dd, J = 7.1, 4.8 Hz, 2H), 4.67 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.13 (s, 3H), 1.29 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.7 (C_q), 149.8 (C_q), 145.6 (CH), 143.6 (C_q), 140.4 (C_q), 136.8 (CH), 128.4 (CH), 127.4 (CH), 127.3 (CH), 126.8 (CH), 125.4 (CH), 116.3 (C_q), 112.9 (CH), 58.0 (CH), 34.4 (C_q), 31.3 (CH₃), 17.1 (CH₃); IR (neat) 3426, 2958, 1596, 1465, 785, 698 cm^{-1} ; MS (EI) m/ z (relative intensity) 330 ($[M^+]$, 100), 238 (32), 223 (93), 193 (20); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd $C_{23}H_{26}N_2^+$ 330.2096, found 330.2100. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.

N-[(4-Chlorophenyl)(phenyl)methyl]-3-methylpyridin-2amine (3ae). The representative procedure was followed using Nbenzyl-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (1a) (99 mg, 0.50 mmol) and bromo-4-chlorobenzene (2e) (143 mg, 0.75 mmol) at 150 °C. Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc $99/1 \rightarrow 98/2$) yielded 3ae (82 mg, 53%) as a colorless solid: mp = 116-118 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.94 (dd, J = 5.2, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.36– 7.21 (m, 10H), 6.53 (dd, J = 7.1, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 4.58 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.12 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.5 (C_q), 145.6 (CH), 143.0 (C_q), 141.1 (C_q), 136.1 (CH), 132.6 (C_a), 128.8 (CH), 128.7 (CH), 128.5 (CH), 127.6 (CH), 127.3 (CH), 116.4 (C_a), 113.4 (CH), 58.0 (CH), 17.0 (CH₃); IR (neat) 3445, 2925, 1596, 1483, 1464, 1087, 755, 695 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 308 ([M⁺], 100), 216 (40), 201 (65), 166 (43), 165 (77); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{19}H_{17}ClN_2^+$ 308.1080, found 308.1076. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.7ª

3-Methyl-N-[phenyl(3-tolyl)methyl]pyridin-2-amine (3af). The representative procedure was followed using N-benzyl-3methylpyridin-2-amine (1a) (99 mg, 0.50 mmol) and bromo-3methylbenzene (2f) (135 mg, 0.78 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc $99/1 \rightarrow 98/2$) yielded 3af (91 mg, 63%) as a colorless oil: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.97 (dd, J = 5.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.39-7.02 (m, 10H), 6.56-6.48 (m, 2H), 4.65 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.7 (C_q), 145.6 (CH), 143.5 (C_q), 143.4 (C_a), 138.1 (C_a), 136.8 (CH), 128.4 (CH), 128.3 (CH), 127.8 (CH), 127.5 (CH), 127.5 (CH), 126.9 (CH), 124.5 (CH), 116.2 (C_g), 112.9 (CH), 58.4 (CH), 21.5 (CH₃), 17.1 (CH₃); IR (neat) 3025, 1596, 1482, 1463, 1406, 773, 696 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 288 ([M⁺], 100), 287 (18), 196 (55), 181 (100), 165 (58); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for C₂₀H₂₀N₂⁺ 288.1626, found 288.1619. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.

N-[(3-Methoxyphenyl)(phenyl)methyl]-3-methylpyridin-2amine (3ag). The representative procedure was followed using *N*benzyl-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (1a) (99 mg, 0.50 mmol) and bromo-3-methoxybenzene (2g) (143 mg, 0.76 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 99/1 → 98/2) yielded 3ag (88 mg, 58%) as a colorless oil: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.96 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.36–7.18 (m, 7H), 6.94–6.86 (m, 2H), 6.77 (ddd, *J* = 8.2, 2.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.60–6.45 (m, 2H), 4.64 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.13 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 159.7 (C_q), 155.6 (C_q), 145.6 (CH), 145.1 (C_q), 143.3 (C_q), 136.9 (CH), 129.5 (CH), 128.5 (CH), 127.5 (CH), 127.0 (CH), 119.9 (CH), 116.3 (C_q), 113.5 (CH), 113.1 (CH), 112.0 (CH), 58.4 (CH), 55.1 (CH₃), 17.0 (CH₃); IR (neat) 2934, 1595, 1482, 1463, 1252, 1043, 773, 696 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 304 ([M⁺], 100), 303 (16), 212 (68), 197 (84); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{20}H_{20}N_2O^+$ 304.1576, found 304.1588. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.^{7c}

N-[(3,5-Dimethylphenyl)(phenyl)methyl]-3-methylpyridin-2amine (3ah). The representative procedure was followed using Nbenzyl-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (1a) (99 mg, 0.50 mmol) and bromo-3,5-dimethylbenzene (2h) (142 mg, 0.76 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc $99/1 \rightarrow 98/2$) yielded **3ah** (96 mg, 63%) as a colorless solid: mp = 117-119 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.96 (dd, J = 5.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.34– 7.18 (m, 6H), 6.92 (s, 2H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 6.50 (dd, J = 7.1, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.44 (d, J = 7.1, 1H), 4.63 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.26 (s, 6H), 2.13 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.7 (C_q), 145.7 (CH), 143.6 (C_a), 143.4 (C_a), 137.9 (C_q), 136.8 (CH), 128.8 (CH), 128.4 (CH), 127.4 (CH), 126.8 (CH), 125.4 (CH), 116.2 (C_a), 112.9 (CH), 108.7 (C_a), 58.4 (CH), 21.4 (CH₃), 17.1 (CH₃); IR (neat) 3446, 2918, 1596, 1465, 1404, 755, 698 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 302 ([M⁺] 100), 301 (14), 210 (35), 195 (75), 165 (35); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{21}H_{22}N_2^+$ 302.1783, found 302.1772

N-[(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)(phenyl)methyl]-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (3ai). The representative procedure was followed using Nbenzyl-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (1a) (99 mg, 0.50 mmol) and 4bromo-1,2-dimethoxybenzene (2i) (173 mg, 0.79 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (n-hexane/EtOAc 99/1 \rightarrow 98/2) yielded **3ai** (91 mg, 55%) as a light brown solid: mp = 134-136 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.95 (dd, J = 5.2, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.37–7.15 (m, 6H), 6.87–6.74 (m, 3H), 6.50 (dd, J = 7.0, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 6.44 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.11 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.7 (C_q) , 148.9 (C_q) , 148.0 (C_q) , 145.6 (CH), 143.5 (C_q) , 136.9 (CH), 136.1 (C_q) , 128.4 (CH), 127.4 (CH), 126.9 (CH), 119.5 (CH), 116.2 (C_a), 113.1 (CH), 111.2 (CH), 111.0 (CH), 58.1 (CH), 55.8 (CH₃), 55.8 (CH₃), 17.1 (CH₃); IR (neat) 3398, 3005, 2934, 1595, 1512, 1269, 1137, 1021, 701 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 334 ([M⁺], 52), 228(16), 227 (100); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for C21H22N2O2+ 334.1681, found 334.1673.

3-Methyl-N-[(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)(phenyl)methyl]pyridin-2-amine (3aj). The representative procedure was followed using N-benzyl-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (1a) (99 mg, 0.50 mmol) and 5-bromo-1,2,3-trimethoxybenzene (2j) (185 mg, 0.75 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc $99/1 \rightarrow 95/5 \rightarrow 90/10$) yielded **3aj** (97 mg, 54%) as a violet solid: mp = 174–176 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.96 (dd, J = 5.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.34–7.19 (m, 6H), 6.55–6.49 (m, 3H), 6.44 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 4.60 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 6H), 2.13 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.6 (C_q), 153.1 (C_q), 145.5 (CH), 143.2 (C_a), 139.0 (C_a), 136.9 (CH), 136.8 (C_a), 128.4 (CH), 127.3 (CH), 126.9 (CH), 116.2 (C_q), 113.1 (CH), 104.7 (CH), 60.7 (CH₃), 58.5 (CH), 55.9 (CH₃), 16.9 (CH₃); IR (neat) 3399, 2970, 1589, 1487, 1460, 1157, 1008 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 364 ([M⁺], 58), 349 (15), 258 (15), 257 (100); HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₂₂H₂₄N₂O₃⁺ 364.1787, found 364.1783.

N-[(1H-Indol-5-yl)(phenyl)methyl]-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (3ak). The representative procedure was followed using N-benzyl-3methylpyridin-2-amine (1a) (99 mg, 0.50 mmol) and 5-bromo-1Hindole (2k) (147 mg, 0.75 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-pentane/EtOAc $5/1 \rightarrow 2/1$) yielded **3ak** (102 mg, 65%) as a colorless solid: mp = 148-149 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ = 8.57 (s_{br}, 1H), 7.98 (dd, J = 5.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.60-7.54 (m, 1H), 7.42-7.35 (m, 2H), 7.32-7.20 (m, 5H), 7.16-7.04 (m, 2H), 6.63 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 6.52 (dd, J = 7.1, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.56-6.45 (m, 1H), 4.78 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.15 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.8 (C_a), 145.5 (CH), 144.0 (C_a), 136.8 (CH), 135.0 (C_q), 134.9 (C_q), 128.2 (CH), 127.8 (C_q), 127.4 (CH), 126.6 (CH), 124.8 (CH), 122.1 (CH), 119.4 (CH), 116.3 (C₀), 112.8 (CH), 111.3 (CH), 102.4 (CH), 58.9 (CH), 17.1 (CH₃); IR (neat) 3641, 3024, 1599, 1467, 1427, 1277, 1107, 896, 799, 772, 723, 696 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) *m*/*z* (relative intensity) 313 ([M⁺], 85), 221 (45), 207

(45), 206 (100), 204 (55), 179 (40), 178 (30), 92 (25), 65 (10); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{21}H_{19}N_3^+$ 313.1579, found 313.1574.

N-[(3-Fluorophenyl)(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (3fc). The representative procedure was followed using N-(3-fluorobenzyl)-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (108 mg, 0.50 mmol) (1f) and 4-bromoanisole (2c) (140 mg, 0.75 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (n-pentane/ EtOAc 10/1) yielded 3fc (127 mg, 79%) as a colorless oil: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.94 (dd, J = 5.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.25–7.17 (m, 4H), 7.08 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (dt, J = 10.2, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.93–6.81 (m, 3H), 6.52 (dd, J = 7.1, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.42 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 4.54 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 163.0 (C_q, J = 245.5 Hz), 158.8 (C_q), 155.5 (C_q) , 146.4 $(C_q, J = 6.4 \text{ Hz})$, 145.6 (CH), 137.0 (CH), 135.2 (C_q) , 129.8 (CH, J = 8.2 Hz), 128.8 (CH), 123.0 (CH, J = 2.8 Hz), 116.4 (C_{a}) , 114.2 (CH, J = 22.0 Hz), 114.0 (CH), 113.6 (CH, J = 21.3 Hz), 113.3 (CH), 57.6 (CH), 55.3 (CH₃), 17.0 (CH₃); ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = -113.3$ (ddd, J = 10.1, 8.7, 5.9 Hz); IR (neat) 3450, 2932, 1597, 1509, 1482, 1463, 1245, 1175, 1031, 775 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 322 ([M⁺], 65), 230 (25), 215 (100), 183 (20), 171 (25), 92 (20), 65 (12); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for C₂₀H₁₉FN₂O⁺ 322.1481, found 322.1471.

N-[(4-(tert-Butyl)phenyl)(3-fluorophenyl)methyl]-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (3fd). The representative procedure was followed using N-(3-fluorobenzyl)-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (108 mg, 0.50 mmol) (1f) and bromo-4-(tert-butyl)benzene (2d) (160 mg, 0.75 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (npentane/EtOAc $30/1 \rightarrow 20/1$) yielded 3fd (140 mg, 80%) as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.93 (dd, J = 5.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.25-7.15 (m, 4H), 7.10 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.06-6.98 (m, 1H), 6.93-6.80 (dt, J = 8.5, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.50 (dd, J = 7.1, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.44 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 4.60 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.11 (s, 3H), 1.28 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 163.0 (C_q , J = 245.5 Hz), 155.5 (C_q), 150.2 (C_q), 146.4 (C_q , J = 6.6Hz), 145.6 (CH), 139.9 (C_q), 136.9 (CH), 129.7 (CH, J = 8.2 Hz), 127.4 (CH), 125.6 (CH), 123.0 (CH, J = 2.7 Hz), 116.3 (C_q), 114.2 (CH, J = 21.9 Hz), 113.6 (CH, J = 21.3 Hz), 113.3 (CH), 57.8 (CH, J = 1.6 Hz), 34.5 (C_q), 31.3 (CH₃), 17.1 (CH₃); ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, $CDCl_3$) $\delta = -113.3$ (ddd, J = 10.2, 8.7, 5.9 Hz); IR (neat) 2962, 1596, 1481, 1463, 1242, 776 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 348 $([M^+], 100), 256 (50), 241 (95), 226 (28), 211 (25), 183 (18), 92$ (20); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{23}H_{25}FN_2^+$ 348.2002, found 348.1999.

N-[(3-Fluorophenyl)(3-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (3fg). The representative procedure was followed using N-(3-fluorobenzyl)-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (108 mg, 0.50 mmol) (1f) and 3-bromoanisole (2g) (140 mg, 0.75 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (n-pentane/ EtOAc $30/1 \rightarrow 20/1$) yielded 3fg (121 mg, 75%) as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.94 (dd, J = 5.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.29– 7.19 (m, 3H), 7.09 (ddt, J = 7.7, 1.8, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.05-6.98 (m, 1H), 6.91-6.84 (m, 3H), 6.79 (ddd, J = 8.2, 2.6, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.52 (dd, J = 7.1, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 6.44 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.13 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 163.0 $(C_q, J = 245.7 \text{ Hz}), 159.8 (C_q), 155.4 (C_q), 146.1 (C_q, J = 6.6 \text{ Hz}),$ 145.6 (CH), 144.6 (C_q), 137.0 (CH), 129.9 (CH, J = 8.2 Hz), 129.7 (CH), 123.1 (CH, J = 2.8 Hz), 120.0 (CH), 116.4 (C_a), 114.3 (CH, J = 22.0 Hz), 113.8 (CH, J = 21.3 Hz), 113.7 (CH), 113.4 (CH), 112.4 (CH), 58.1 (CH, J = 1.9 Hz), 55.2 (CH₃), 17.0 (CH₃); ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, $CDCl_3$) $\delta = -113.2$ (ddd, J = 10.3, 8.8, 5.9 Hz); IR (neat) 3450, 2937, 1595, 1481, 1463, 1244, 1043, 776 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 322 ([M⁺], 100), 230 (70), 215 (58), 183 (27), 171 (17), 107 (18), 92 (20); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for C₂₀H₁₉FN₂O⁺ 322.1481, found 322.1482.

N-[{4-(*tert*-Butyl)phenyl}(3-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (3gd). The representative procedure was followed using *N*-(3-methoxybenzyl)-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (1g) (114 mg, 0.50 mmol) and bromo-4-(*tert*-butyl)benzene (2d) (160 mg, 0.75 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*pentane/EtOAc $20/1 \rightarrow 10/1$) yielded 3gd (128 mg, 71%) as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.97 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (dt, *J* = 8.6, 2.1 Hz, 2H), 7.25–7.20 (m, 4H), 6.95–6.89 (m, 2H), 6.77 (ddd, *J* = 8.1, 2.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.53–6.45 (m, 2H), 4.66 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 159.6 (C_q), 155.7 (C_q), 149.8 (C_q), 145.6 (CH), 145.3 (C_q), 140.3 (C_q), 136.8 (CH), 129.3 (CH), 127.2 (CH), 125.4 (CH), 119.8 (CH), 116.2 (C_q), 113.5 (CH), 113.0 (CH), 111.8 (CH), 58.0 (CH), 55.1 (CH₃), 34.4 (C_q), 31.3 (CH₃), 17.1 (CH₃); IR (neat) 3448, 2960, 1596, 1482, 1463, 1523, 1045, 775, 730 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) *m*/*z* (relative intensity) 360 ([M⁺], 93), 268 (60), 253 (100), 238 (25), 223 (25), 197 (20), 165 (17), 92 (20); HRMS (EI) *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₄H₂₈N₂O⁺ 360.2202, found 360.2193.

N-[Bis(3-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (3gg). The representative procedure was followed using N-(3methoxybenzyl)-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (1g) (114 mg, 0.50 mmol) and 3-bromoanisole (2g) (140 mg, 0.75 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-pentane/EtOAc $20/1 \rightarrow 10/1$ \rightarrow 5/1) yielded 3gg (115 mg, 69%) as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.97 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.27–7.19 (m, 3H), 6.94-6.90 (m, 4H), 6.77 (ddd, J = 8.2, 2.5, 1.0 Hz, 2H), 6.51 (dd, J = 7.2, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.64 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 6H), 2.13 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 159.6 (C_a), 155.6 (C_a), 145.6 (CH), 145.0 (C_a), 136.9 (CH), 129.4 (CH), 119.8 (CH), 116.3 (C_q), 113.5 (CH), 113.1 (CH), 112.0 (CH), 58.3 (CH), 55.1 (CH₃), 17.0 (CH₃); IR (neat) 3411, 2998, 1593, 1463, 1431, 1248, 1162, 1033, 777, 694 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 334 ([M⁺], 100), 242 (70), 227 (80), 212 (25), 196 (25), 92 (20); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{21}H_{22}N_2O_2^+$ 334.1681, found 334.1685.

N-[(4-Methoxyphenyl){3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl}methyl]-3methylpyridin-2-amine (3hc). The representative procedure was followed using 3-methyl-N-[3-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl]pyridin-2amine (133 mg, 0.50 mmol) (1h) and 4-bromoanisole (2c) (140 mg, 0.75 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-pentane/EtOAc $10/1 \rightarrow 5/1$) yielded 3hc (97 mg, 52%) as a colorless oil: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.96 (dd, J = 5.2, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (s, 1H), 7.56-7.36 (m, 3H), 7.28-7.18 (m, 3H), 6.91-6.84 (m, 2H), 6.55 (dd, J = 7.2, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 6.51 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 4.60 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ = 158.9 (C_a), 155.4 (C_a), 145.5 (CH), 144.7 (C_a), 137.0 (CH), 135.0 (C_q), 130.7 (CH), 130.5 (C_q, J = 31.1 Hz), 128.9 (CH), 128.7 (CH), 124.2 (C_q, J = 273.9 Hz), 124.0 (CH, J = 3.8 Hz), 123.6 (CH, J = 3.8 Hz), 116.4 (C_q), 114.1 (CH), 113.4 (CH), 57.8 (CH), 55.2 (CH₃), 17.0 (CH₃); ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta =$ -62.4 (s); IR (neat) 3449, 2935, 1597, 1464, 1325, 1247, 1117, 1070, 701 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 372 ([M⁺], 67), 266 (35), 265 (100), 153 (15), 92 (25); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for C₂₁H₁₉F₃N₂O⁺ 372.1449, found 372.1447.

N-[{4-(tert-Butyl)phenyl}{3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl}methyl]-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (3hd). The representative procedure was followed using 3-methyl-N-[3-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl]pyridin-2amine (1h) (133 mg, 0.50 mmol) and bromo-4-(tert-butyl)benzene (2d) (160 mg, 0.75 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-pentane/EtOAc $20/1 \rightarrow 10/1$) yielded **3hd** (102 mg, 51%) as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.94 (dd, J = 5.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (s, 1H), 7.54–7.45 (m, 2H), 7.41 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.37–7.31 (m, 2H), 7.26–7.16 (m, 3H), 6.53 (dd, J = 7.2, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.51 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.63 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 155.5$ (C_q), 150.4 (C_q), 145.6 (CH), 144.6 (C_q), 139.7 (C_q), 137.0 (CH), 130.7 (CH), 130.6 (C_q) J = 29.7 Hz), 128.7 (CH), 127.4 (CH), 125.7 (CH), 124.2 ($C_{qr} J = 272.3 \text{ Hz}$), 124.0 (CH, J = 3.9 Hz), 123.6 (CH, J = 3.8Hz), 116.4 (C_q), 113.4 (CH), 58.0 (CH), 34.5 (C_q), 31.3 (CH₃), 17.0 (CH_3) ; ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = -62.4$ (s); IR (neat) 3452, 2963, 1597, 1464, 1326, 1160, 1119, 989, 704 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z(relative intensity) 398 ([M⁺], 100), 306 (50), 291 (90), 276 (25), 261 (20), 107 (20), 92 (20); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{24}H_{25}F_3N_2$ 398.1970, found 398.1975.

N-[(3-Methoxyphenyl){3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl}methyl]-3methylpyridin-2-amine (3hg). The representative procedure was

The Journal of Organic Chemistry

followed using 3-methyl-N-[3-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl]pyridin-2amine (1h) (133 mg, 0.50 mmol) and 3-bromoanisole (2g) (140 mg, 0.75 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-pentane/EtOAc $30/1 \rightarrow 20/1 \rightarrow 10/1$) yielded 3hg (125 mg, 67%) as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.94 (dd, J = 5.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.49 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.43–7.36 (m, 1H), 7.28-7.20 (m, 2H), 6.89-6.78 (m, 3H), 6.54 (dd, J = 7.2, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 6.51 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.61 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) $\delta = 159.9$ (C_a), 155.4 (C_q), 145.6 (CH), 144.3 (C_q), 137.1 (CH), 131.1 (C_q, J = 33.1Hz), 130.8 (C_q), 130.7 (CH, J = 1.1 Hz), 129.8 (CH), 128.8 (CH), 124.2 (C_o, J = 273.2 Hz), 124.1 (CH, J = 3.8 Hz), 123.8 (CH, J = 3.8 Hz), 120.0 (CH), 116.5 (C_q), 113.8 (CH), 113.5 (CH), 112.5 (CH), 58.3 (CH), 55.2 (CH₃), 17.0 (CH₃); ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -62.4 (s); IR (neat) 3450, 2938, 1596, 1464, 1326, 1160, 1117, 1072, 699 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 372 ([M⁺], 100), 280 (80), 265 (55), 152 (15), 107 (35), 92 (30); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for C₂₁H₁₉F₃N₂O⁺ 372.1449, found 372.1447.

N-[{4-(tert-Butyl)phenyl}(4-fluorophenyl)methyl]-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (3id). The representative procedure was followed using N-(4-fluorobenzyl)-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (1i) (108 mg, 0.5 mmol) and 1-bromo-4-(tert-butyl)benzene (2d) (160 mg, 0.75 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (n-pentane/ EtOAc 10/1) yielded 3id (112 mg, 64%) as a colorless solid: mp = 66–67 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.98 (dd, J = 5.1, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.27 (m, 4H), 7.26-7.20 (m, 3H), 7.04-6.94 (m, 2H), 6.53 (dd, J = 7.2, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.64 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 1.32 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 161.7 (C_q , J = 244.3 Hz), 155.6 (C_q), 150.0 (C_q), 145.6 (CH), 140.3 (C_q) , 139.3 $(C_q, J = 2.9 \text{ Hz})$, 136.9 (CH), 128.9 (CH, J = 8.1 Hz), 127.3 (CH), 125.5 (CH), 116.3 (C_q), 115.1 (CH, J = 21.2 Hz), 113.1 (CH), 57.5 (CH), 34.4 (C_q), 31.3 (CH₃), 17.0 (CH₃); ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = -116.3$ (tt, J = 8.5, 5.2 Hz); IR (neat) 3429, 2962, 1597, 1488, 1467, 1224, 838, 785 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 348 ([M⁺], 75), 256 (25), 241 (100), 226 (20), 211 (20), 92 (10); HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[C_{23}H_{25}FN_2 + H]^+$ 349.2075, found 349.2071

N-[(4-Fluorophenyl)(3-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (3ig). The representative procedure was followed using N-(4-fluorobenzyl)-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (1i) (108 mg, 0.5 mmol) and 3-bromoanisole (2g) (140 mg, 0.75 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (n-pentane/EtOAc 10/1) yielded 3ig (108 mg, 67%) as a colorless solid: mp = 96-97 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ = 7.95 (dd, J = 5.0, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.17 (m, 4H), 7.02–6.92 (m, 2H), 6.92–6.84 (m, 2H) 6.79 (ddd, J = 8.2, 2.6, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.52 (dd, J = 7.1, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.45 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.13 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 161.8 (C_q, J = 245.0 Hz), 159.8 (C_q), 155.5 (C_q), 145.6 (CH), 145.0 (C_q), 139.1 (C_q, J = 3.1 Hz), 137.0 (CH), 129.6 (CH), 129.0 (CH, J = 8.0 Hz), 119.9 (CH), 116.3 (C_a), 115.2 (CH, J = 21.3 Hz), 113.6 (CH), 113.3 (CH), 112.2 (CH), 57.8 (CH), 55.1 (CH₃), 17.0 (CH₃); ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -(115.9-116.1) (m); IR (neat) 3443, 1598, 1479, 1464, 1279, 1213, 1046, 780 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) *m*/*z* (relative intensity) 322 ([M⁺], 95), 230 (55), 215 (100), 183 (30), 171 (20), 92 (20), 43 (45); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for C₂₀H₁₀FN₂O⁺ 322.1481, found 322.1477.

N-[{**4**-(*tert*-Butyl)phenyl}{**4**-(*trifluoromethyl*)phenyl}methyl]-**3**-methylpyridin-2-amine (**3**jd). The representative procedure was followed using 3-methyl-*N*-[4-(*trifluoromethyl*)benzyl]pyridin-2amine (**1**j) (133 mg, 0.5 mmol) and bromo-4-(*tert*-butyl)benzene (**2d**) (160 mg, 0.75 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-pentane/EtOAc 20/1 → 10/1) yielded **3**jd (122 mg, 61%) as a colorless oil: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.94 (dd, *J* = 5.2, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.0, 2H), 7.35 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.23−7.17 (m, 3H), 6.54 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 4.64 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.5 (C_q), 150.5 (C_q), 147.7 (C_q), 145.6 (CH), 139.7 (C_q), 137.0 (CH), 128.9 (C_q, *J* = 32.2 Hz), 127.5 (CH), 127.5 (CH), 125.7 (CH), 125.3 (CH, *J* = 3.7 Hz), 124.3 (C_q, *J* = 278.2 Hz), 116.4 (C_q), 113.4 (CH), 58.1 (CH), 34.5 (C_q), 31.3 (CH₃), 17.0 (CH₃); ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -62.3 (s); IR (neat) 2923, 1596, 1464, 1406, 1321, 1159, 1106, 1064, 1016 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 398 ([M⁺], 100), 306 (60), 291 (85), 276 (40), 261 (35), 107 (30), 92 (30), 57 (20); HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₂₄H₂₅F₃N₂⁺ 398.1970, found 398.1978.

3-Methyl-N-[3-tolyl{4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl}methyl]pyridin-2-amine (3jf). The representative procedure was followed using 3-methyl-N-[4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl]pyridin-2-amine (1j) (133 mg, 0.5 mmol) and 3-bromotoluene (2f) (128 mg, 0.75 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (npentane/EtOAc $20/1 \rightarrow 10/1$) yielded 3jf (106 mg, 59%) as a colorless oil: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.95 (dd, J = 5.2, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.31-7.18 (m, 2H), 7.14–7.05 (m, 3H), 6.55 (dd, J = 7.1, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.62 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.4 (C_q), 147.6 (C_q), 145.6 (CH), 142.7 (C_a), 135.5 (C_a), 137.0 (CH), 128.9 (C_a, J = 32.5 Hz), 128.7 (CH), 128.5 (CH), 128.3 (CH), 127.6 (CH), 125.3 (CH, J = 3.7 Hz), 124.8 (CH), 124.3 (C_q , J = 278.3 Hz), 116.4 (C_q), 113.5 (CH), 58.5 (CH), 21.5 (CH₃), 17.0 (CH₃); ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta =$ -62.3 (s); IR (neat) 3025, 1597, 1405, 1321, 1101, 1016, 777, 702 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 356 ([M⁺], 100), 264 (75), 249 (60), 165 (30), 107 (25), 92 (20), 65 (15); HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₂₁H₁₉F₃N₂⁺ 356.1500, found 356.1498.

N-[(3-Fluorophenyl)(1H-indol-5-yl)methyl]-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (3fk). The representative procedure was followed using N-(3-fluorobenzyl)-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (108 mg, 0.50 mmol) (1f) and 5-bromo-1H-indole (2k) (147 mg, 0.75 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-pentane/EtOAc $10/1 \rightarrow 5/1$) yielded 3fk (119 mg, 72%) as a colorless solid: mp = 69-70 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.39 (s, 1H), 7.96 (dd, J = 5.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.56-7.48 (m, 1H), 7.32-7.18 (m, 3H), 7.17-7.04 (m, 4H), 6.88 (dt, J = 8.3, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.60-6.44 (m, 3H), 4.69 (d, J = 6.4 Hz)1H), 2.13 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 163.0 (C_o, J = 245.0 Hz), 155.6 (C_q), 147.0 (C_q, J = 6.4 Hz), 145.6 (CH), 136.9 (CH), 135.1 (C_q), 134.6 (C_q), 129.6 (CH, J = 8.1 Hz), 127.9 (C_q), 124.9 (CH), 123.0 (CH, J = 2.7 Hz), 122.2 (CH), 119.8 (CH), 116.4 (C_a), 114.1 (CH, J = 21.9 Hz), 113.4 (CH, J = 21.2 Hz), 113.1 (CH), 111.4 (CH), 102.7 (CH), 58.7 (CH, J = 1.5 Hz), 17.1 (CH₃); ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = -113.6$ (ddd, J = 10.1, 8.6, 5.7 Hz); IR (neat) 3413, 1598, 1466, 1339, 1241, 1135, 749 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z(relative intensity) 331 ([M⁺], 55), 239 (25), 224 (100), 222 (25), 197 (10), 92 (10), 43 (15); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{21}H_{18}FN_3$ 331.1485, found 331.1479.

N-[(1H-Indol-5-yl)(3-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (3gk). The representative procedure was followed using N-(3-methoxybenzyl)-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (1g) (114 mg, 0.50 mmol) and 5-bromo-1H-indole (2k) (147 mg, 0.75 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (n-pentane/ EtOAc $5/1 \rightarrow 2/1$) yielded 3gk (103 mg, 60%) as a colorless solid: mp = 70–71 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.49 (s_{br}, 1H), 7.96 (dd, J = 5.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.27–7.19 (m, 3H), 7.14–7.08 (m, 2H), 6.99–6.92 (m, 2H), 6.75 (ddd, J = 8.2, 2.6, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.57 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 6.54–6.43 (m, 2H), 4.73 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 2.13 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 159.5 (C_a), 155.8 (C_q), 145.8 (C_q), 145.5 (CH), 136.8 (CH), 135.1 (C_q), 134.7 (C_a), 129.2 (CH), 127.8 (C_a), 124.7 (CH), 122.1 (CH), 119.8 (CH), 119.5 (CH), 116.3 (C_a), 113.3 (CH), 112.8 (CH), 111.8 (CH), 111.3 (CH), 102.5 (CH), 58.9 (CH), 55.1 (CH₃), 17.1 (CH₃); IR (neat) 3411, 1596, 1464, 1249, 1038, 747 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 343 ([M⁺], 65), 251 (25), 236 (100), 220 (15), 204 (15), 92 (15); HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₂₂H₂₁N₃O⁺ 343.1685, found 343.1690.

N-[(1*H*-Indol-5-yl){3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl}methyl]-3methylpyridin-2-amine (3hk). The representative procedure was followed using 3-methyl-*N*-[3-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl]pyridin-2amine (1h) (133 mg, 0.50 mmol) and 5-bromo-1*H*-indole (2k) (147 mg, 0.75 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-pentane/EtOAc 5/1 \rightarrow 2/1) yielded 3hk (116 mg, 61%) as a colorless solid: mp = 148–149 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.37 (s_{br} 1H), 7.95 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (s, 1H), 7.58– 7.42 (m, 3H), 7.40–7.22 (m, 3H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 6.51–6.48 (m, 1H), 4.69 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 2.13 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.6 (C_q), 145.5 (CH), 145.2 (C_q), 137.0 (CH), 135.2 (C_q), 134.5 (C_q), 130.7 (CH), 130.4 (C_q, *J* = 29.6 Hz), 128.6 (CH), 128.0 (C_q), 124.9 (CH), 124.3 (C_q, *J* = 275.5 Hz), 124.0 (CH, *J* = 3.8 Hz), 123.5 (CH, *J* = 3.9 Hz), 122.2 (CH), 119.9 (CH), 116.5 (C_q), 113.3 (CH), 111.5 (CH), 102.7 (CH), 58.9 (CH), 17.1 (CH₃); ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -62.3 (s); IR (neat) 3416, 1598, 1466, 1326, 1160, 1116, 1070, 951 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) *m/z* (relative intensity) 381 ([M⁺], 55), 274 (100), 204 (25), 92 (10); HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₂₂H₁₈F₃N₃⁺ 381.1453, found 381.1464.

N-[(2-Fluorophenyl)(1H-indol-5-yl)methyl]-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (3kk). The representative procedure was followed using N-(2-fluorobenzyl)-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (1k) (108 mg, 0.50 mmol) and 5-bromo-1H-indole (2k) (147 mg, 0.75 mmol). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-pentane/EtOAc $5/1 \rightarrow 2/1$) yielded 3kk (85 mg, 51%) as a yellow solid: mp = 176-177 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ = 11.0 (s_{br}, 1H), 7.86 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.05 (m, 8H), 6.88 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.52 (dd, J = 7.1, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 6.40 (s, 1H), 6.09 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 2.22 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ = 160.9 (C_{or} J = 244.2 Hz), 156.5 (C_q), 145.6 (CH), 137.6 (CH), 135.9 (C_q), 133.7 (C_q) , 132.5 $(C_q, J = 14.2 \text{ Hz})$, 129.5 (CH, J = 4.2 Hz), 129.1 (CH, J = 8.0 Hz), 128.3 (C_q) , 126.5 (CH), 125.0 (CH, J = 3.3 Hz), 122.1 (CH), 119.5 (CH), 117.8 (C_a), 115.8 (CH, J = 21.7 Hz), 113.3 (CH), 112.1 (CH), 101.9 (CH), 52.7 (CH, I = 3.3 Hz), 17.8 (CH₂); ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, DMSO- d_6) $\delta = -(101.2 - 127.2)$ (m); IR (neat) 3461, 3195, 1602, 1498, 1473, 1403, 1222, 1184, 757 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z(relative intensity) 331 ([M⁺], 50), 239 (15), 224 (100), 222 (20), 92 (10); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{21}H_{18}FN_3^+$ 331.1485, found 331.1482

Intermolecular Competition Experiment between Substituted Pyridines 1a and 1e (Scheme 4). According to the representative procedure, *N*-benzyl-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (1a) (149 mg, 0.75 mmol), *N*-benzyl-3-(trifluoromethyl)pyridin-2-amine (1e) (189 mg, 0.75 mmol), bromobenzene (2a) (79 mg, 0.50 mmol), [Ru(O₂CMes)₂(*p*-cymene)] (5) (14 mg, 0.025 mmol, 5.0 mol %), and Na₂CO₃ (159 mg, 1.50 mmol) were reacted in *o*-xylene (2.0 mL) at 140 °C for 24 h. Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-pentane/EtOAc $20/1 \rightarrow 10/1$) yielded **3aa** (50 mg, 36%). The ratio between **3aa** and **3ea** was found to be 13:1 as determined by GC analysis.

Intermolecular Competition Experiment between Substituted Arenes 1f and 1g (Scheme 5). According to the representative procedure, *N*-(3-fluorobenzyl)-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (1f) (162 mg, 0.75 mmol), *N*-(3-methoxybenzyl)-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (1g) (171 mg, 0.75 mmol), bromobenzene (2a) (79 mg, 0.50 mmol), [Ru(O₂CMes)₂(*p*-cymene)] (5) (14 mg, 0.025 mmol, 5.0 mol %), and Na₂CO₃ (159 mg, 1.50 mmol) were reacted in *o*-xylene (2.0 mL) at 140 °C for 24 h. Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-pentane/EtOAc $30/1 \rightarrow 20/1 \rightarrow 10/1 \rightarrow 5/1$) yielded 3fa (36 mg, 25%) and 3ga (41 mg, 27%).

Intermolecular Competition Experiment between Electrophiles 2l and 2c (Scheme 6). According to the representative procedure, N-benzyl-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (1a) (99 mg, 0.50 mmol), bromo-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzene (2l) (169 mg, 0.75 mmol), 4-bromoanisole (2c) (140 mg, 0.75 mmol), [Ru-(O₂CMes)₂(p-cymene)] (5) (14 mg, 0.025 mmol, 5.0 mol %), and Na₂CO₃ (159 mg, 1.50 mmol) were reacted in o-xylene (2.0 mL) at 140 °C for 24 h. Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-pentane/EtOAc $20/1 \rightarrow 10/1$) yielded **3al** (65 mg, 38%) as a yellow oil. The ratio between 3al and 3ac was found to be 2.3:1.0 as determined by GC analysis. 3al: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.96 (dd, J = 5.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.44–7.25 (m, 6H), 6.70–6.49 (m, 2H), 4.64 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 2.16 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.4 (C_g), 145.7 (C_q , J = 1.6 Hz), 145.5 (CH), 142.7 (C_q), 137.1 (CH), 129.1 $(C_{\alpha} J = 32.2 \text{ Hz}), 128.8 \text{ (CH)}, 127.7 \text{ (CH)}, 127.6 \text{ (CH)}, 127.5 \text{ (CH)},$

125.3 (CH, *J* = 3.7 Hz), 124.2 (C_a, *J* = 273.7 Hz), 116.4 (C_a), 113.5 (CH), 58.4 (CH), 17.0 (CH₃); ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -62.3 (s); IR (neat) 3451, 1597, 1465, 1321, 1161, 1106, 1065, 1016, 699 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) *m*/*z* (relative intensity) 342 ([M⁺], 100), 250 (90), 235 (75), 215 (25), 165 (75), 107 (20), 92 (15); HRMS (EI) *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₀H₁₇F₃N₂⁺ 342.1344, found 342.1341. The spectral data were in accordance with those reported in the literature.^{7a}

H/D Exchange in Substrate 1a in the Presence of D₂O (Scheme 7). N-Benzyl-3-methylpyridin-2-amine (1a) (99 mg, 0.50 mmol, 1.0 equiv), $[Ru(O_2CMes)_2(p-cymene)]$ (5) (14 mg, 0.025 mmol, 5.0 mol %), and $\mathrm{Na_2CO_3}$ (159 mg, 1.50 mmol, 3.0 equiv) were placed in a 25 mL sealed tube with a septum screw cap under an atmosphere of nitrogen. After adding o-xylene (1.8 mL) and D₂O (0.2 mL), the septum screw cap was removed, and a Teflon lined cap was fixed. The reaction mixture was stirred at 140 °C for 24 h. At ambient temperature, the suspension was filtered through a short pad of Celite, which was then washed with CH2Cl2 (50 mL). Evaporation of the solvents in vacuo and purification by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc 99/1 \rightarrow 98/2) yielded [D_n]-1a as a colorless oil (85 mg, 86%, 65%-D), as determined by ¹H NMR: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.04 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.43–7.19 (m, 6H), 6.55 (dd, J = 7.1, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 4.68 (d, J = 5.4 Hz, 2H), 4.35 (s_{br}, 1H), 2.07 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 156.6 (C_q), 145.4 (CH), 140.0 (C_a), 136.8 (CH), 128.5 (CH), 127.8 (CH), 127.1 (CH), 116.4 (C_0), 112.9 (CH), 45.8 (CH₂), 45.5 (CHD, J = 21.0 Hz), 17.0 (CH₃); IR (neat) 3447, 3027, 1597, 1490, 1466, 1381, 696 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) *m*/*z* (relative intensity) 200 (23), 199 (77), 198 (100), 197 (33), 108 (27), 107 (80), 106 (77), 93 (47), 92 (65), 91 (38), 65 (38); HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[C_{13}H_{12}D_2N_2 + H]^+$ 201.1355, found 201.1355, m/z calcd for $[C_{13}H_{13}DN_2 + H]^+$ 200.1293, found 200.1292, m/z calcd for $[C_{13}H_{14}N_2 + H]^+$ 199.1230, found 199.1230.

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

Copies of ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra for all products. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http:// pubs.acs.org.

AUTHOR INFORMATION

Corresponding Author

*E-mail: Lutz.Ackermann@chemie.uni-goettingen.de.

Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Support by the CaSuS Ph.D. program, the DAAD (fellowship to N.Y.P.K.), and the European Research Council under the European Community's Seventh Framework Program (FP7 2007–2013)/ERC Grant Agreement No. 307535 is gratefully acknowledged.

REFERENCES

(1) Illustrative recent reviews: (a) Kozhushkov, S. I.; Potukuchi, H. K.; Ackermann, L. Catal. Sci. Technol. 2013, 3, 562–571. (b) Neufeldt, S. R.; Sanford, M. S. Acc. Chem. Res. 2012, 45, 936–946. (c) Engle, K. M.; Mei, T.-S.; Wasa, M.; Yu, J.-Q. Acc. Chem. Res. 2012, 45, 788–802. (d) Wencel-Delord, J.; Droege, T.; Liu, F.; Glorius, F. Chem. Soc. Rev. 2011, 40, 4740–4761. (e) Daugulis, O. Top. Curr. Chem. 2010, 292, 57–84. (f) Satoh, T.; Miura, M. Chem.—Eur. J. 2010, 16, 11212–11222. (g) Thansandote, P.; Lautens, M. Chem.—Eur. J. 2009, 15, 5874–5883 and references cited therein.

(2) Recent reviews: (a) Arockiam, P. B.; Bruneau, C.; Dixneuf, P. H. *Chem. Rev.* **2012**, *112*, 5879–5918. (b) Ackermann, L.; Vicente, R. *Top. Curr. Chem.* **2010**, *292*, 211–229.

(3) Examples of carboxylate-assisted ruthenium-catalyzed $C(sp^2)$ -H bond arylations, alkynylations, and alkylations: (a) Diers, E.; Kumar, N. Y. P.; Mejuch, T.; Marek, I.; Ackermann, L. *Tetrahedron* **2013**,

DOI: 10.1016/j.tet.2013.01.006. (b) Ano, Y.; Tobisu, M.; Chatani, N. Synlett 2012, 2763–2767. (c) Li, B.; Devaraj, K.; Darcel, C.; Dixneuf, P. H. Tetrahedron 2012, 68, 5179–5184. (d) Stefane, B.; Fabris, J.; Pozgan, F. Eur. J. Org. Chem. 2011, 3474–3481. (e) Ackermann, L.; Lygin, A. Org. Lett. 2011, 13, 3332–3335. (f) Ouellet, S. G.; Roy, A.; Molinaro, C.; Angelaud, R.; Marcoux, J.-F.; O'Shea, P. D.; Davies, I. W. J. Org. Chem. 2011, 76, 1436–1439. (g) Ackermann, L.; Hofmann, N.; Vicente, R. Org. Lett. 2011, 13, 1875–1877. (h) Pozgan, F.; Dixneuf, P. H. Adv. Synth. Catal. 2009, 351, 1737–1743. (i) Arockiam, P.; Poirier, V.; Fischmeister, C.; Bruneau, C.; Dixneuf, P. H. Green Chem. 2009, 11, 1871–1875. (j) Ackermann, L.; Vicente, R. Org. Lett. 2009, 11, 4922–4925 and references cited therein.

(4) Ackermann, L. Chem. Rev. 2011, 111, 1315-1345.

(5) Selected recent examples of carboxylate assistance in oxidative ruthenium-catalyzed C-H bond functionalizations: (a) Wang, L.; Ackermann, L. Org. Lett. **2013**, *15*, 176–179. (b) Singh, K. S.; Dixneuf, P. H. Organometallics **2012**, *31*, 7320–7323. (c) Zhao, P.; Wang, F.; Han, K.; Li, X. Org. Lett. **2012**, *14*, 5506–5509. (d) Parthasarathy, K.; Senthilkumar, N.; Jayakumar, J.; Cheng, C.-H. Org. Lett. **2012**, *14*, 3478–3481. (e) Ueyama, T.; Mochida, S.; Fukutani, T.; Hirano, K.; Satoh, T.; Miura, M. Org. Lett. **2011**, *13*, 706–708. (f) Ackermann, L.; Lygin, A. V.; Hofmann, N. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. **2011**, *50*, 6379–6382. Recent reviews: (g) Kozhushkov, S. I.; Ackermann, L. Chem. Sci. **2013**, *4*, 886–896. (h) Ackermann, L. Acc. Chem. Res. **2013**, DOI: 10.1021/ar3002798.

(6) For reviews on challenging C(sp³)-H bond transformations, see:
(a) Li, H.; Li, B.-J.; Shi, Z.-J. *Catal. Sci. Technol.* 2011, 1, 191-206.
(b) Baudoin, O. *Chem. Soc. Rev.* 2011, 40, 4902-4911.
(c) Wasa, M.; Engle, K. M.; Yu, J.-Q. *Isr. J. Chem.* 2010, 50, 605-616.
(d) Jazzar, R.; Hitce, J.; Renaudat, A.; Sofack-Kreutzer, J.; Baudoin, O. *Chem.-Eur. J.* 2010, 16, 2654-2672.

(7) For notable progress in ruthenium(0)-catalyzed transformations with aryl boronates as the arylating reagents, see: (a) Dastbaravardeh, N.; Kirchner, K.; Schnürch, M.; Mihovilovic, M. D. J. Org. Chem. 2013, 78, 658–672. (b) Bergman, S. D.; Storr, T. E.; Prokopcova, H.; Aelvoet, K.; Diels, G.; Meerpoel, L.; Maes, B. U. W. Chem.—Eur. J. 2012, 18, 10393–10398. (c) Dastbaravardeh, N.; Schnürch, M.; Mihovilovic, M. D. Org. Lett. 2012, 14, 3792–3795. (d) Prokopcova, H.; Bergman, S. D.; Aelvoet, K.; Smout, V.; Herrebout, W.; Van der Veken, B.; Meerpoel, L.; Maes, B. U. W. Chem.—Eur. J. 2010, 16, 13063–13067. (e) Pastine, S. J.; Gribkov, D. V.; Sames, D. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2006, 128, 14220–14221. See also: (f) Kakiuchi, F.; Matsuura, Y.; Kan, S.; Chatani, N. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2005, 127, 5936–5945. (g) Jun, C.-H.; Hwang, D.-C.; Na, S.-J. Chem. Commun. 1998, 1405–1406.

(8) Dastbaravardeh, N.; Schnürch, M.; Mihovilovic, M. D. Org. Lett. 2012, 14, 3792–3795.

(9) For the use of $[Ru(O_2CMes)_2(p\text{-cymene})]$ (5) in the catalyzed functionalization of $C(sp^2)$ -H bonds, see: Ackermann, L.; Pospech, J.; Potukuchi, H. K. *Org. Lett.* **2012**, *14*, 2146–2149 and references cited therein.

(10) Flegeau, E. F.; Bruneau, C.; Dixneuf, P. H.; Jutand, A. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2011, 133, 10161–10170.

(11) Selected examples of ruthenium-catalyzed $C(sp^2)$ -H bond functionalizations with water as the reaction medium: (a) Arockiam, P. B.; Fischmeister, C.; Bruneau, C.; Dixneuf, P. H. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2010**, 49, 6629–6632. (b) Ackermann, L. *Org. Lett.* **2005**, 7, 3123–3125. (c) A recent review: Li, B.; Dixneuf, P. H. *Chem. Soc. Rev.* **2013**, DOI: 10.1039/C3CS60020C.

(12) For examples of competition experiments between aryl halides in ruthenium(II)-catalyzed $C(sp^2)$ -H bond arylations, see: (a) Aihara, Y.; Chatani, N. *Chem. Sci.* **2013**, *4*, 664–670. (b) Ackermann, L.; Vicente, R.; Potukuchi, H. K.; Pirovano, V. Org. Lett. **2010**, *12*, 5032–5035.