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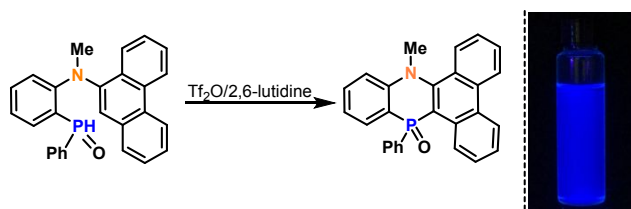
Facile Synthesis of Nitrogen-Containing Six-Membered Benzofused Phenophosphazinine Oxides and Studies of the Photophysical Properties

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Supporting Information Placeholder



ABSTRACT A facile synthesis of nitrogen-containing six-membered benzofused phosphacycles has been described. This cyclization reaction triggered by TiF_2O provides an expedient protocol of phosphacycles with simple operation at mild conditions. The preliminary photophysical studies of these novel materials reveal that the fluorescence intensity enhances with the molecular aggregation in the solid state and introduction of sterically bulky phenanthrene group into the phosphacycles allows significantly increase on the fluorescence quantum yield.

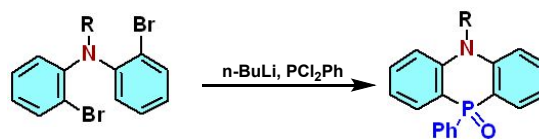
π -Conjugated molecular materials with fused aromatic rings, particularly dibenzophospholes have been the focus of considerable interest in the emerging area of organic electronics. They exhibit unique optical and electronic properties thus, have widespread applications in organic light-emitting diodes (OLEDs) and other devices.¹ Recently, several novel strategies have recently been developed for the synthesis of five-membered dibenzophospholes.²⁻¹⁰ For instance, Kawashima group employed the $\text{Et}_3\text{B}/\text{O}_2$ -mediated intramolecular radical cyclization of phosphine oxide.³ This moiety can also be prepared through Pd-catalyzed P-H/C-X and P-H/C-H coupling strategies developed by Nozaki⁴ and Takai group⁵ independently. Meanwhile, C-P bond cleavage was recently applied to synthesize phosphacycles via palladium-catalysed C-P/C-H,⁶ C-P/C-X⁷ or C-P/C-P⁸ couplings. More recently, Tobisu and co-workers elegantly utilized nickel catalysis to cleave two C-P bonds.⁹ Unfortunately, the efficient synthesis of six-membered benzofused phosphacycles,^{11,12} especially the nitrogen-containing phosphacycles still remains a significant synthetic challenge. The classic reaction of organometallic reagents with P-X to afford six-membered phosphacycles was extremely scarce (Scheme 1b),¹² because the incorporation of two aromatic halides in one molecular sometimes was synthetically difficult. Very recently, a bislithiation strategy of aryl bromide followed by trap with PhPCl_2 was reported by Samsung Display Co., however, the both aromatic rings should be the exactly the same, which prevent the efficient those nitrogen-containing six-membered phosphacycle derivatives synthesis.^{12c} Romero-

Nieto group accessed the six-membered phosphacycles via subsequent monolithiation on the aryl halide with PhPCl_2 and **Scheme 1** Synthesis of nitrogen-containing six-membered phosphacycles

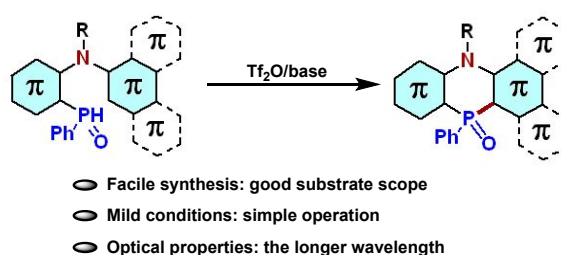
a) Well established: five-membered dibenzophospholes



b) Previous work: synthesis of benzofused phenophosphazinine oxides use bis-metalation



c) This work: TiF_2O -triggered electrophilic phosphination



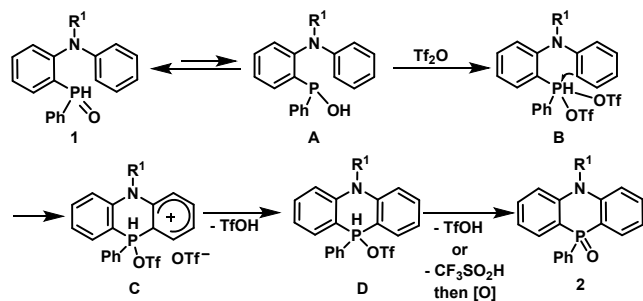
intramolecular Friedel-Crafts reaction, but none of heteroatom containing phosphacycles was synthesized.^{11e} Chatani group achieved the Pd-catalyzed dibenzofused six-membered phosphacycle synthesis via C-P cleavage, however, only one

lutidine (4.0 equiv). ^cstandard condition followed by reduction with NaBH₄, reported herein is two-step isolated yield.

With the optimized conditions in hand, we then investigated the substrate scope for these six-membered nitrogen-containing benzofused phosphacycles synthesis (Table 2). The N-Methyl substituted phosphacycle **1b** could be isolated at 73% yield, which was previously synthesized⁷. The substrates bearing substitutions at the para-position of aromatic rings (4-MeC₆H₄, 4-OMeC₆H₄, 4-PhC₆H₄) worked well, delivering the corresponding products **1e**, **1f**, **1g** in moderate to good isolated yield. When the methyl group was introduced to the phenyl ring which is adjacent to the P atom, the desired product **1h** could also be obtained at 41% yield. To our delight, the sterically hindered phenanthrene tethered phosphine oxide **1d** was suitable for this protocol as the desired product **1d** was isolated in 75% yield, which paves the way for potential material studies and demonstrates the generality of this approach. Additionally, **1a** was converted to corresponding phosphine boranes **1aa** in 2 steps via the NaBH₄ reduction of phosphine oxide in 54% yield. The structure of phosphine oxide **1a** and phosphine borane **1aa** was confirmed by single-crystal X-ray diffraction.

The tentative reaction pathway is similar to reported literature as depicted in Scheme 2.^{14d} First, the nitrogen-containing biarylphosphine oxide **1** undergoes tautomerization to the corresponding phosphinic acid intermediate **A**. Then, Tf₂O activates the OH moiety of **A** to generate the highly active electrophilic phosphonium cation equivalent **B**, which was readily trapped by the proximal aromatic ring to form intermediate **C**, followed by subsequent re-aromatization to deliver the desired dibenzophosphole **D**, which is finally oxidized by H₂O₂ to provide the desired product **2**.

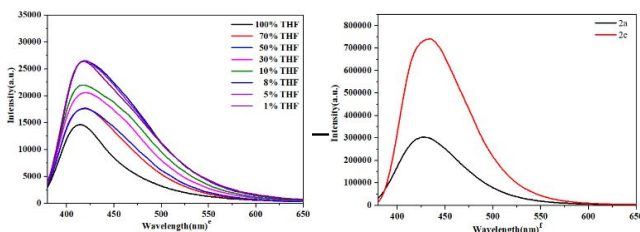
Scheme 2 Plausible path 1a to 2



The photophysical properties of compound **1a** and **1d** were examined through UV-vis absorption and fluorescence spectroscopy as shown in table 3. Although both compounds possess comparative emission wavelength, the introducing of phenanthrene group in phosphacycles significantly increase the absolute quantum yield either in CH₂Cl₂ solution or solid state. Relative fluorescence quantum yield of compound **1d** is 51.5%, while compound **1a** is 0.5%, which indicates that increasing the π -conjugated system would greatly impact on the quantum yields. The absolute fluorescence quantum yield of **1d** (15.1%) in neat film is also higher than **1a** (2.8%). In addition, we also test the fluorescence intensity in different solvent and realize that the fluorescence intensity increased gradually with the increase of water content (a poor solvent for **1a**), which may attribute to the aggregates in the solid state.¹⁶

Table 3 Photophysical data for the compound 1a and 1d

	$\lambda_{\text{max}}(\text{nm})^a$	$\log_{10}(\epsilon)^a$	$\lambda_{\text{em}}(\text{nm})^a$	$\Phi(\%)^b$	$\lambda_{\text{em}}(\text{nm})^c$	$\Phi(\%)^d$
2a	344	4.18	427	0.5	445	2.8
2d	372	3.78	433	51.5	457	15.1



^aMeasured in DCM. ^bRelative fluorescence quantum yield in DCM, relative to quinine sulfate (H₂SO₄, 0.1 M solution). ^cIn neat film. ^dAbsolute fluorescence quantum yield in neat film. ^eFluorescent intensity of **1a** in water-tetrahydrofuran mixtures with different fractions of tetrahydrofuran. ^fFluorescent intensity of **1a** and **1d** in same concentration.

Theoretical calculations on phospholes **1a** and **1d** were carried out to further investigate the photophysical properties with Gaussian 09 program (Figure 1). The HOMOs show obvious π bonding orbital in six-membered phosphacycles indicating the existence of the π -conjugated system. The HOMOs and LUMOs of molecule **1a** illustrate components of charge-transfer (CT) from nitrogen atom and N-phenyl to the phosphacycles π -conjugate system. The N-phenyl ring almost perpendicular to π -conjugate system to give a dihedral angle of 85°. The twisted intramolecular CT may increase nonradiative relaxation and results to low fluorescence quantum yield.¹⁷ While in molecule **1d**, the CT of molecule **1d** is from nitrogen atom and benzene rings on one side to phenanthrene rings on the other because of the nonsymmetry and absence of phenyl ring, which may contribute the higher quantum yield. Meanwhile, the fluorescence oscillator strength of **1d** is higher than **1a**.

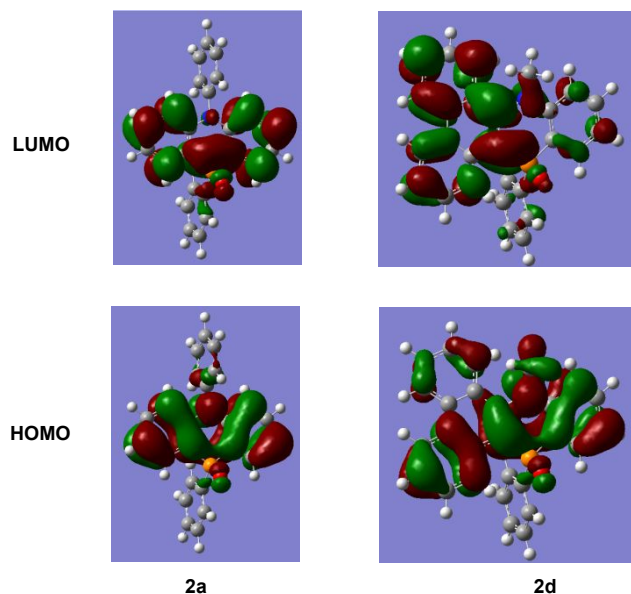


Figure 1 Frontier orbitals of **2a** and **2d** (B3LYP/6-31G(d) level of theory).

In conclusion, we report the facile synthesis of nitrogen-containing six-membered benzofused phosphacycles. This Ti_2O -promoted electrophilic phosphinative cyclization reaction proceeds with broad substrate scope and overcomes implementation of organometallic reagents. This novel P-containing molecule possesses high quantum yields with introducing the phenanthrene group. Investigations aimed at realising further applications of this benzofused phosphacycles is still ongoing and will be reported in due course.

Experimental section

General information

All reactions were carried out under nitrogen atmosphere and anhydrous conditions unless otherwise indicated. All manipulations of air-sensitive or moisture-sensitive compounds were performed in a glovebox under an atmosphere of nitrogen. Unless otherwise noted, all catalytic reactions were run in dried glassware. THF were distilled from sodium/benzophenone. DCM was distilled over CaH_2 . Reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) carried out on 0.20 mm Huanghai silica gel plates (HSGF 254) using UV light as the visualizing agent. All new compounds were characterized by means of ^1H -NMR, ^{13}C -NMR, ^{31}P -NMR and HR-MS. NMR spectra were recorded using a Bruker AVANCE III 400 MHz NMR spectrometer. The UV/Vis spectra were recorded on a Nicolet CARY 100 spectrophotometer. The fluorescence spectra were recorded on Horiba Fluoromax 4 and quantum yields were calculated relative to quinine sulfate ($F = 0.577$ in 0.2 N H_2SO_4). Absolute quantum yields were calculated by HAMAMATUS Quantaurus-QY C11347-11. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on Agilent Technologies 6224 TOF LC/MS using ESI. Single crystal X-ray diffraction data was collected at 193(2) K for **2a** and **2aa** on a Bruker D8 Venture diffractometer. The geometry optimizations were performed using DFT calculations at B3LYP/6-31+G*

using Gaussian 09. All ^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR, ^{31}P NMR data are reported in δ units, parts per million (ppm), and using chloroform- d (CDCl_3) and $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ as the internal standards. ^{31}P NMR spectra were acquired without ^1H decoupling.

General procedure for biarylphosphine oxide

To a -78°C aryl bromide solution in THF (0.3 M) was slowly added $n\text{-BuLi}$ (1.1 equiv), and the resulting mixture was stirred at -78°C for 1 h. PCl_2Ph (1.5 equiv) was then added dropwise by a syringe at -78°C . The reaction mixture was allowed to slowly warm to 25°C and then stirred for 12 h. The reaction was quenched with water and extracted three times with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layer was dried over Na_2SO_4 and concentrated in vacuo. The desired product was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel.

General procedure B for biarylphosphine oxide

To a 25°C aryl bromide solution in THF (0.3 M) was slowly added $^i\text{PrMgCl}\cdot\text{LiCl}$ (1.1 equiv, 1.3M in THF), and the resulting mixture was stirred at 90°C for 3 h. The mixture was then cool to 25°C , PCl_2Ph (2.0 equiv) was then added dropwise by a syringe at 25°C . The reaction mixture was heated to 90°C and then stirred for 12 h. The reaction was quenched with water and extracted three times with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layer was dried over Na_2SO_4 and concentrated in vacuo. The desired product was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel.

(2-(diphenylamino)phenyl)(phenyl)phosphine oxide (**2a**)

General procedure A was followed on 2 mmol scale and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc = 1/1) afforded **2a** as a white solid (499.1 mg, 68%). mp = 258°C ; $n_D^{20} = 0.44$ (PE/EtOAc = 1/1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.11 (ddd, $J = 13.2, 7.6, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, $J_{\text{P-H}} = 523.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.55–7.45 (m, 4H), 7.42–7.35 (m, 3H), 7.15–7.11 (m, 4H), 7.06 (dd, $J = 7.2, 5.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.95 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 6.72 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 149.2 (d, $J = 5.5$ Hz), 147.7, 134.2 (d, $J = 2.3$ Hz), 134.2 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz), 132.3 (d, $J = 2.7$ Hz), 132.2 (d, $J = 102.9$ Hz), 130.6 (d, $J = 11.8$ Hz), 129.8 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz), 129.5 (d, $J = 98.0$ Hz), 129.3, 128.8 (d, $J = 13.0$ Hz), 126.1 (d, $J = 11.0$ Hz), 123.0, 122.7; ^{31}P NMR (162 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 15.9 (d, $J_{\text{P-H}} = 508.1$ Hz); ^1H MS $^1\text{S}^+$ (m/z) [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] calcd. for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{21}\text{NOP}$ 370.1355; found: 370.1355.

(2-(methyl(phenyl)amino)phenyl)(phenyl)phosphine oxide (**2b**)

General procedure A was followed on 0.33 mmol scale and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc = 1/2) afforded **2b** as a colourless oil (18.6 mg, 20%). $n_D^{20} = 0.43$ (PE/EtOAc = 1/2); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.04 (dd, $J = 12.4, 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, $J_{\text{P-H}} = 501.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.63 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.53 (dd, $J = 14.8, 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.46 (dd, $J = 13.2, 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.37 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.15 (dd, $J = 7.6, 4.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.10 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 6.76 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.40 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.86 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 151.3 (d, $J = 5.6$ Hz), 149.2, 135.0 (d, $J = 1.1$ Hz), 133.9 (d, $J = 10.3$ Hz), 132.1 (d, $J = 94.5$ Hz), 132.2 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz), 130.4 (d, $J = 11.9$ Hz), 129.1, 128.8, 128.7 (d, $J = 5.6$ Hz), 127.4 (d, $J = 11.8$ Hz), 127.3 (d, $J = 107.6$ Hz), 118.9, 114.2, 40.3; ^{31}P NMR (162 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 18.1 (d, $J_{\text{P-H}} = 508.2$ Hz); ^1H MS $^1\text{S}^+$ (m/z) [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] calcd. for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{19}\text{NOP}$ 308.1199; found: 308.1202.

(2-(methyl(p-tolyl)amino)phenyl)(phenyl)phosphine oxide **1c**:

General procedure A was followed on 1.75 mmol scale and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc = 1/3) afforded **1c** as a green oil (78.9 mg, 14%). $\delta_{\text{r}} = 0.44$ (PE/EtOAc = 1/2); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 7.88 (dd, $J = 12.8, 7.6$, 1H), 7.83 (d, $J_{\text{P-H}} = 498.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.70 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.60–7.39 (m, 6H), 7.18 (m, 1H), 6.89 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 6.30 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.79 (s, 3H), 2.16 (s, 3H); $^{31}\text{P NMR}$ (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 151.5 (d, $J = 5.3$ Hz), 147.1, 134.9 (d, $J = 1.5$ Hz), 133.6 (d, $J = 100.2$ Hz), 133.0 (d, $J = 4.9$ Hz), 132.0 (d, $J = 4.7$ Hz), 130.0 (d, $J = 11.9$ Hz), 129.2, 128.7 (d, $J = 12.7$ Hz), 128.4 (d, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 127.6 (d, $J = 118.0$ Hz), 127.1, 127.0 (d, $J = 11.5$ Hz), 114.6, 40.3, 20.0; $^1\text{P NMR}$ (162 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 15.3 (d, $J_{\text{P-H}} = 498.7$ Hz); $^1\text{H MS S}^+$ (m/z) [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₂₀H₂₁NOP 322.1355; found: 322.1359.

(2-(methyl(phenanthren-9-yl)amino)phenyl)(phenyl)phosphine oxide **1d**:

General procedure B was followed on 0.58 mmol scale and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc) afforded **1d** as a green oil (94.6 mg, 40%). $\delta_{\text{r}} = 0.56$ (EtOAc); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 8.89 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.80 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.42 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.88–7.84 (m, 1H), 7.82–7.65 (m, 5H), 7.63–7.49 (m, 5H), 7.57 (d, $J_{\text{P-H}} = 567.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.47–7.35 (m, 2H), 7.25 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H); $^{31}\text{P NMR}$ (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 148.8, 147.7, 133.1 (d, $J = 2.7$ Hz), 132.7, 131.9 (d, $J = 94.6$ Hz), 131.3 (d, $J = 1.9$ Hz), 131.0, 130.6, 130.4, 130.2 (d, $J = 11.4$ Hz), 129.7, 129.2, 129.0, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5 (d, $J = 4.3$ Hz), 127.9, 127.6 (d, $J = 11.7$ Hz), 127.2 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz), 126.3 (d, $J = 9.6$ Hz), 126.3 (d, $J = 99.6$ Hz), 123.8, 123.1, 119.3 (d, $J = 4.7$ Hz), 44.9; $^1\text{P NMR}$ (162 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 25.0 (d, $J_{\text{P-H}} = 567.1$ Hz).

(2-(di-p-tolylamino)phenyl)(phenyl)phosphine oxide **1e**:

General procedure A was followed on 0.5 mmol scale and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc = 1/2) afforded **1e** as a yellow solid (136.8 mg, 69%). mp = 165 °C; $\delta_{\text{r}} = 0.46$ (PE/EtOAc = 1/2); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.11 (dd, $J = 12.0, 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, $J_{\text{P-H}} = 557.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.78 (dd, $J = 13.6, 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.56–7.42 (m, 4H), 7.42–7.31 (m, 2H), 7.02 (dd, $J = 7.6, 4.8$ Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 4H), 6.58 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 4H), 2.24 (s, 6H); $^{31}\text{P NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 149.7 (d, $J = 6.3$ Hz), 145.6, 134.1 (d, $J = 3.8$ Hz), 132.4, 132.2 (d, $J = 1.5$ Hz), 130.6 (d, $J = 11.7$ Hz), 129.9, 129.2 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz), 128.9 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz), 128.7 (d, $J = 13.0$ Hz), 127.6 (d, $J = 115.1$ Hz), 126.0 (d, $J = 101.7$ Hz), 125.5 (d, $J = 10.6$ Hz), 122.8, 20.7; $^1\text{P NMR}$ (162 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 16.4 (d, $J_{\text{P-H}} = 511.7$ Hz); $^1\text{H MS S}^+$ (m/z) [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₂₆H₂₅NOP 398.1668; found: 398.1680.

(2-(bis(4-methoxyphenyl)amino)phenyl)(phenyl)phosphine oxide **1f**:

General procedure A was followed on 0.32 mmol scale and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc = 1/3) afforded **1f** as a green oil (69 mg, 54%). $\delta_{\text{r}} = 0.32$ (PE/EtOAc = 1/1); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.40–7.98 (m, 1H), 7.89–7.15 (m, 8H), 6.97–6.91 (m, 2H), 6.82–6.35 (m, 7H), 3.72 (s, 6H); $^{31}\text{P NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 155.5, 150.2 (d, $J = 5.3$ Hz), 141.7, 134.2 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz), 132.4 (d, $J = 2.9$ Hz), 132.3 (d, $J = 3.4$ Hz), 130.9 (d, $J = 97.4$ Hz), 130.6 (d, $J = 12.0$ Hz), 128.7 (d, $J = 12.6$ Hz), 128.4 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz), 125.9 (d, $J = 108.6$ Hz), 125.0 (d, $J = 10.2$ Hz), 124.2, 114.6, 55.4; $^1\text{P NMR}$ (162 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 16.4 (d, $J_{\text{P-H}} = 508.0$ Hz); $^1\text{H MS S}^+$ (m/z) [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₂₆H₂₅NO₃P 430.1567; found: 430.1573.

(2-(di([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)amino)phenyl)(phenyl)phosphine oxide **1g**:

General procedure A was followed on 2.7 mmol scale and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc = 1/3) afforded **1g** as a yellow oil (422 mg, 30%). $\delta_{\text{r}} = 0.52$ (PE/EtOAc = 1/2); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.17 (dd, $J = 12.4, 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.75–7.74 (m, 3H), 7.73 (d, $J_{\text{P-H}} = 509.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.60 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.54–7.51 (m, 5H), 7.44–7.38 (m, 10H), 7.35–7.29 (m, 2H), 7.18 (dd, $J = 8.0, 5.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 4H); $^{31}\text{P NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 146.7, 140.3, 135.8, 135.4 (d, $J = 3.8$ Hz), 134.9 (d, $J = 4.7$ Hz), 134.4 (d, $J = 12.3$ Hz), 132.4 (d, $J = 2.8$ Hz), 131.6 (d, $J = 103.6$ Hz), 130.6 (d, $J = 12.0$ Hz), 130.0 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz), 128.9, 128.5 (d, $J = 3.0$ Hz), 128.3 (d, $J = 86.0$ Hz), 128.0, 127.1, 126.8, 126.5 (d, $J = 11.0$ Hz), 122.9; $^1\text{P NMR}$ (162 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 16.0 (d, $J_{\text{P-H}} = 505.1$ Hz); $^1\text{H MS S}^+$ (m/z) [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₃₆H₂₉NOP 522.1981; found: 522.1990.

(2-(diphenylamino)-5-methylphenyl)(phenyl)phosphine oxide **1h**:

General procedure A was followed on 2 mmol scale and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc = 1/3) afforded **1h** as a white solid (256.8 mg, 33%). mp = 174 °C; $\delta_{\text{r}} = 0.48$ (PE/EtOAc = 1/2); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.03 (d, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.60 (dd, $J = 13.2, 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.58 (d, $J_{\text{P-H}} = 619.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.42–7.40 (m, 3H), 7.19 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 4H), 7.12–6.93 (m, 4H), 6.80 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 4H), 2.49 (s, 3H); $^{31}\text{P NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 147.4, 146.3 (d, $J = 10.7$ Hz), 136.1 (d, $J = 10.6$ Hz), 134.9 (d, $J = 1.1$ Hz), 134.0 (d, $J = 5.9$ Hz), 132.1 (d, $J = 1.5$ Hz), 131.7 (d, $J = 103.3$ Hz), 130.3 (d, $J = 11.9$ Hz), 129.6 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz), 129.0, 128.5 (d, $J = 12.9$ Hz), 122.5, 122.1, 121.8 (d, $J = 109.3$ Hz), 20.8; $^1\text{P NMR}$ (162 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 16.3 (d, $J_{\text{P-H}} = 509.0$ Hz); $^1\text{H MS S}^+$ (m/z) [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₂₅H₂₃NOP 384.1512; found: 384.1513.

General procedure for six-membered benzofused phosphacycles

To a solution of the biarylphosphine oxide in DCM (0.1 M) was added 2,6-lutidine (2.0 equiv) and Tf₂O (2.0 equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 2 h. The reaction was quenched with H₂O₂ (2.0 equiv) and washed with water. The resulting mixture was extracted three times with DCM. The combined organic layer was dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated in vacuo. The desired product was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel.

General procedure B for six-membered benzofused phosphacycles

To a solution of the biarylphosphine oxide in DCM (0.1 M) was added 2,6-lutidine (4.0 equiv) and Tf₂O (4.0 equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 4 h. The reaction was quenched with H₂O₂ (2.0 equiv) and washed with water. The resulting mixture was extracted three times with DCM. The combined organic layer was dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated in vacuo. The desired product was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel.

5,10-diphenyl-5H-phenophosphazinine 10-oxide **1a**:

General procedure A was followed on 0.2 mmol scale and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc = 1/1) afforded **1a** as a white solid (58.1 mg, 79%). $R_{\text{f}} = 0.37$ (PE/EtOAc = 1/1); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.84–7.75 (m, 4H), 7.72 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.63 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.51–7.43 (m, 3H), 7.37 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.30 (dt, $J = 8.0, 1.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.05 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 6.52 (dd, $J = 8.8, 6.0$ Hz, 2H);

□□h□: General procedure A was followed on 0.24 mmol scale and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc = 1/3) afforded □h as a yellow solid (36.4 mg, 41%). mp = 182 °C; R_f = 0.38 (PE/EtOAc = 1/3); □□NM□ (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.75 (dd, *J* = 13.2, 7.6, 3H), 7.69 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.62–7.58 (m, 1H), 7.55 (dd, *J* = 13.6, 1H), 7.49–7.39 (m, 3H), 7.36–7.30 (m, 2H), 7.29–7.22 (m, 1H), 7.09 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 6.39 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 2.24 (s, 3H); □□□□NM□ (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 145.0 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz), 143.0 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz),

141.1, 135.6 (d, $J = 112.6$ Hz), 133.8 (d, $J = 1.3$ Hz), 132.4 (d, $J = 1.0$ Hz), 132.2 (d, $J = 5.8$ Hz), 132.0 (d, $J = 10.3$ Hz), 131.6 (d, $J = 5.6$ Hz), 131.4, 131.4 (d, $J = 2.9$ Hz), 130.9 (d, $J = 11.3$ Hz), 130.8, 129.2, 128.4 (d, $J = 12.6$ Hz), 121.0 (d, $J = 10.7$ Hz), 117.2 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz), 116.9 (d, $J = 6.5$ Hz), 113.4 (d, $J = 100.4$ Hz), 112.3 (d, $J = 96.3$ Hz), 20.3. ^1P NMR (162 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 5.5; ^1S NMR (m/z) [M+H] $^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{21}\text{NOP}$: 382.1355; found: 382.1354.

Synthesis of six-membered benzofused phosphacycles-boranes To a solution of the **1a** (36.7 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in toluene (0.2 mL, 0.5 M) was added Oxalyl chloride (12.7 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in toluene (0.2 mL, 0.5 M) and TiF_4 (4.0 equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 0.5 h. Sodium borohydride (8.0 mg, 0.21 mmol, 2.1 equiv) in diglyme (0.3 mL, 0.7 M) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 1 h. The reaction mixture was washed with water, dried over Na_2SO_4 and concentrated in vacuo. The desired product was isolated by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10/1) on silica gel afforded **1aa** as a yellow solid (19.9 mg, 54%). $R_f = 0.58$ (PE/EtOAc = 10/1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.01 (dd, $J = 7.6, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.98 (dd, $J = 7.6, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.65 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.61–7.52 (m, 1H), 7.44–7.39 (m, 2H), 7.36–7.30 (m, 3H), 7.30–7.20 (m, 4H), 7.11 (tdd, $J = 7.6, 1.6, 0.8$ Hz, 2H), 6.49 (dd, $J = 8.4, 3.6$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 145.3 (d, $J = 1.1$ Hz), 140.9, 134.3 (d, $J = 51.7$ Hz), 133.3 (d, $J = 13.5$ Hz), 132.1 (d, $J = 1.6$ Hz), 131.3, 131.2 (d, $J = 10.1$ Hz), 131.0, 130.6 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz), 129.2, 128.8 (d, $J = 10.0$ Hz), 122.1 (d, $J = 11.7$ Hz), 116.9 (d, $J = 4.0$ Hz), 108.7 (d, $J = 60.8$ Hz); ^1P NMR (162 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -11.3; ^1S NMR (m/z) [M-BH] $^+$: Calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{18}\text{NP}$: 351.1177; found: 351.1179.

Synthesis of 1,1'-diphenyl-1,1'-phenophosphazinine 1-oxide 1aa in 1 mmol scale To a solution of the **1a** (369.0 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in DCM (10.0 mL, 0.1 M) was added 2,6-lutidine (241.3 mg, 2.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv) under N_2 , then dropwise TiF_4 (564.3 mg, 2.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv) with syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 3 h. The reaction was quenched with H_2O_2 (227.0 mg, 2.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv) and washed with water. The resulting mixture was extracted three times with DCM. The combined organic layer was dried over Na_2SO_4 and concentrated in vacuo. The desired product was isolated by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 1/3) on silica gel afforded **1a** as a white solid (290.1 mg, 79%).

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge on the ACS Publications website.
Copies of NMR spectra (PDF)

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interests.

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