

Synthesis of Substituted 2,2'-Bipyridines from 2-Bromo- or 2-Chloropyridines Using Tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) as a Catalyst in a Modified Negishi Cross-Coupling Reaction

U. Kiehne, J. Bunzen, H. Staats, A. Lützen*

University of Bonn, Kekulé-Institute of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry, Gerhard-Domagk-Str. 1, 53121 Bonn, Germany

Fax +49(228)739608; E-mail: ame.luetzen@uni-bonn.de

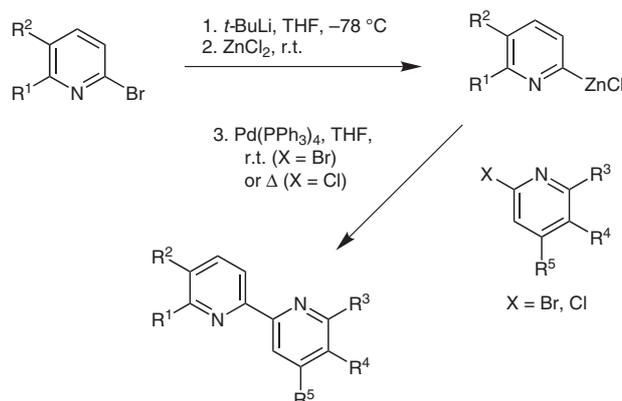
Received 4 January 2007

Abstract: A protocol for an efficient, modified Negishi cross-coupling strategy for substituted 2,2'-bipyridines employing tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) as a simple, commercially available, and relatively inexpensive catalyst for both 2-bromo- and 2-chloropyridines has been developed. Further transformations were carried out yielding some new valuable functionalized 2,2'-bipyridines.

Key words: Negishi reaction, 2,2'-bipyridines, cross-coupling reactions, organozinc compounds, palladium

The 2,2'-bipyridine moiety is among the most widely used ligand structure motifs in metal coordination chemistry and its complexes with various transition metal ions have been extensively studied.¹ Ligands containing two or more 2,2'-bipyridine units can serve as precursors for supramolecular self-assembled helicates,² macromolecular devices³ or can be used in asymmetric homogenous catalysis.⁴ Several methods have been applied to the synthesis of mono- and disubstituted bipyridines. Among them are the homocoupling of halogenated pyridine precursors, which gives access to symmetrically substituted bipyridines,⁵ the Kröhnke reaction,⁶ or the modification of an existing bipyridine core, which often involves multistep procedures and/or requires harsh reaction conditions.⁷ With the advance of cross-coupling reactions over the last thirty years, an increasing number of methods has been established for the formation of aryl–aryl, and also heteroaryl–heteroaryl, bonds.⁸ The coupling of two different pyridine components using palladium-catalyzed cross-coupling procedures such as the Stille, Suzuki, or Negishi reactions has proved to be very efficient and it has been applied to the synthesis of a variety of mono- and disubstituted 2,2'-bipyridines. However, the use of organozinc compounds provides better transmetalation activity than that obtained by the use of organotin and organoboron reagents and with good chemoselectivity, as most common functional groups are not attacked by organozinc species.⁹ One example of a very powerful catalyst in Negishi cross-coupling reactions is bis(tri-*tert*-butylphosphine)palladium(0), established by Fu and co-workers.¹⁰ During the course of our studies toward the formation of self-as-

sembled supramolecular aggregates,¹¹ the synthesis of substituted 2,2'-bipyridines as ligand units was essential. Therefore, we developed a general method for the synthesis of 5-monosubstituted, as well as variously disubstituted 2,2'-bipyridines, in a one-pot procedure from an organozinc pyridyl reagent and chloropyridines by a palladium-catalyzed, modified Negishi cross-coupling strategy using bis(tri-*tert*-butylphosphine)palladium(0) as a catalyst.¹² This catalyst is commercially available, but relatively expensive, and can also be synthesized,¹³ or prepared in situ, from tris(dibenzylideneacetone)dipalladium(0)–chloroform adduct; this synthesis involves the use of tri-*tert*-butylphosphine (*t*-Bu₃P), which is also expensive and not easily handled. Since we often perform the Negishi reaction on a large-scale basis, due to our increased demand for starting materials for the design of 2,2'-bipyridine-based ligands, we were looking for an inexpensive and simple, but equally efficient, catalytic system. In 2003, Hanan reported the synthesis of some, mostly methyl-substituted, 2,2'-bipyridines from 1.5 equivalents of 2-pyridylzinc bromide using tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) as the catalyst.¹⁴ We now wish to report a general procedure for the synthesis of various mono- and disubstituted 2,2'-bipyridines using a modified Negishi cross-coupling strategy starting from both 2-bromo- and 2-chloropyridines that is catalyzed by the relatively inexpensive, commercially available catalyst tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (Scheme 1).



Scheme 1 Synthesis of various mono- and disubstituted 2,2'-bipyridines.

SYNTHESIS 2007, No. 7, pp 1061–1069

Advanced online publication: 28.02.2007

DOI: 10.1055/s-2007-965952; Art ID: Z00207SS

© Georg Thieme Verlag Stuttgart · New York

Table 1 Mono- and Disubstituted 2,2'-Bipyridines Synthesized from Variously Substituted 2-Bromopyridines^a

Entry	Product	R ¹	R ²	R ³	R ⁴	R ⁵	Yield (%)
1	1	H	H	H	Me	H	quant.
2	2	H	H	H	OMe	H	98
3	3	H	H	H	2,5-dimethylpyrrol-1-yl	H	73
4	4	H	Me	H	C≡CTMS	H	84
5	5	H	<i>n</i> -heptyl	H	Br	H	85
6	6	2,5-dimethylpyrrol-1-yl	H	CO ₂ Me	H	H	50
7	7	2,5-dimethylpyrrol-1-yl	H	H	H	CO ₂ Me	55

^a Pd(PPh₃)₄ (1.5–3 mol%) was used.

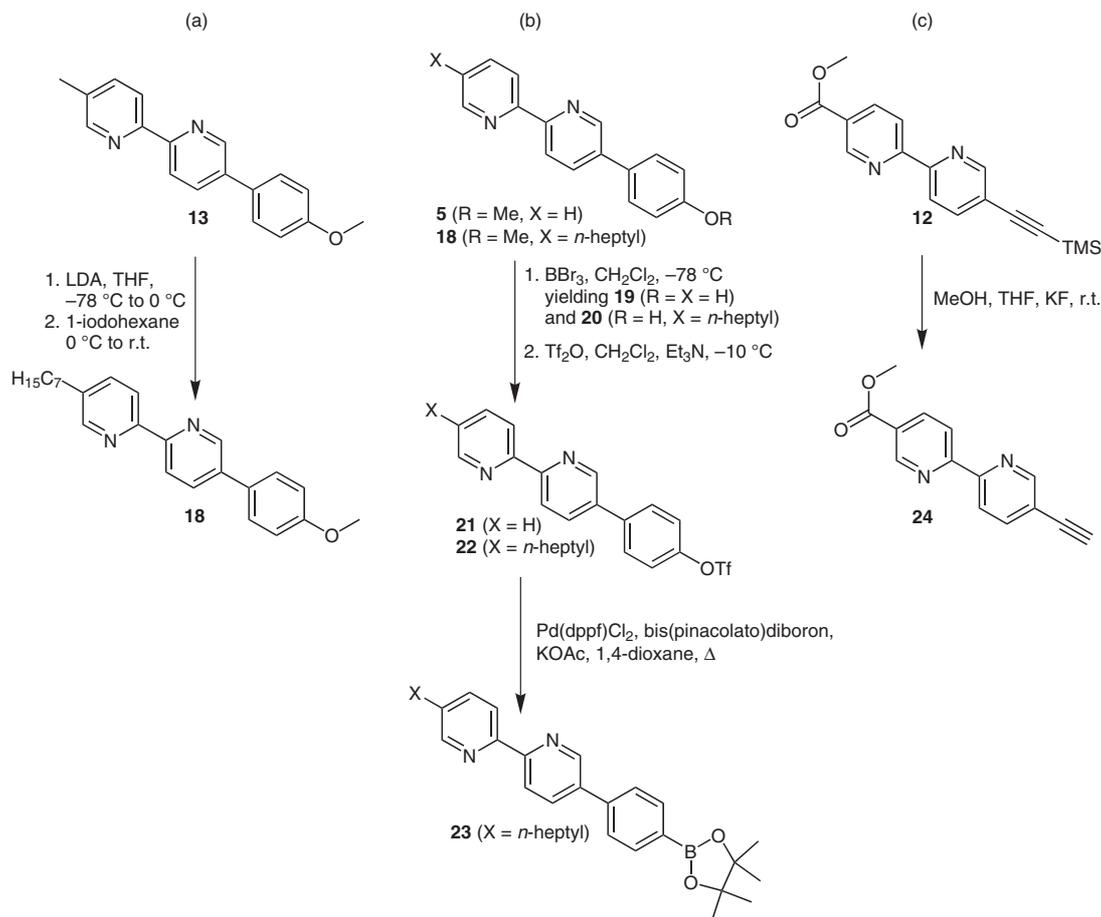
The bromine–lithium exchange of 2-bromopyridine or substituted 2-bromopyridines was achieved with *tert*-butyllithium at –78 °C in tetrahydrofuran according to our previously published procedure.¹² The preparation of the organozinc species in situ proved to be more efficient than using commercially available 2-pyridylzinc bromide solution in our hands and it is necessary for the synthesis of disubstituted bipyridines. Various ratios of 2-pyridylzinc bromide/halo-substituted pyridine (from 1.5 to 1.1 equiv) were used and it could be shown that this variation appears to have no effect on the yield of the corresponding 2,2'-bipyridines. Bromo-substituted pyridines are by far more reactive in cross-coupling reactions than chloro-substituted pyridines¹⁵ and for this reason they were initially used as substrates. A variety of 2,2'-bipyridines were synthesized in this manner and the reaction occurred smoothly at room temperature (Table 1).

These results encouraged us to also use the inexpensive and more easily available chloropyridines in the same way. Due to the fact, that chloropyridines are relatively inactive compared to the corresponding bromopyridines, no reaction occurred after addition of the solution of the chloropyridine to the 2-pyridylzinc species and stirring the resulting mixture at room temperature. However, refluxing this mixture yielded the desired 2,2'-bipyridines in good to excellent yields. It should be noted that this method is also successful for the notoriously difficult-to-synthesize bipyridines bearing ester functions. This is also the case when the organozinc species is generated from a pyridine moiety bearing a labile (trimethylsilyl)ethynyl function, which is robust enough to overcome lithiation (Table 2, entry 5).

Table 2 Mono- and Disubstituted 2,2'-Bipyridines Synthesized from Variously Substituted 2-Chloropyridines^a

Entry	Product	R ¹	R ²	R ³	R ⁴	R ⁵	Yield (%)
1	8	H	H	H	CO ₂ Me	H	80
2	9	H	H	H	4-MeOC ₆ H ₄	H	76
3	10	H	H	H	C≡CTMS	H	90
4	11	H	<i>n</i> -heptyl	H	CO ₂ Me	H	51
5	12	H	C≡CTMS	H	CO ₂ Me	H	70
6	13	H	Me	H	4-MeOC ₆ H ₄	H	66
7	14	Me	H	H	H	Me	84
8	15	OMe	H	H	H	OMe	71
9	16	OMe	H	H	H	2,5-dimethylpyrrol-1-yl	88
10	17	2,5-dimethylpyrrol-1-yl	H	H	H	OMe	74

^a Pd(PPh₃)₄ (1.5–3 mol%) was used.



Scheme 2 Further transformations: (a) elongation of the alkyl chain of **13**; (b) demethylation of **9** and **18**, triflation of **21** and **22**, and borylation of **22**; (c) deprotection of **12**.

Some of the 2,2'-bipyridines were further functionalized, for example an *n*-heptyl chain was generated from the methyl-substituted derivative **13** to yield **18** (Scheme 2). Bipyridines **9** and **18** were transformed via two steps into valuable triflates **21** and **22**, which are precursors for further cross-coupling reactions as well as the boronic acid ester derivative **23**, which was synthesized from **22** via palladium-catalyzed borylation. Finally, the (trimethylsilyl)ethynyl group of **12** could be deprotected to yield **24**, which is a building block for Sonogashira reactions. We are currently using all these substituted 2,2'-bipyridines to construct larger ligand structures.

In conclusion, we have demonstrated that simple tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) is a powerful catalyst in the Negishi cross coupling of different mono-substituted and unsymmetrically disubstituted 2,2'-bipyridines **1–17** starting from both 2-bromo- and 2-chloropyridines. Furthermore we showed that some of the cross-coupling products could be used for further transformations involving, for example, the formation of valuable triflates **21** and **22**.

All reactions except the synthesis of **24** were performed under an argon atmosphere using standard Schlenk techniques and oven-dried glassware prior to use. TLC was performed on aluminum TLC plates silica gel 60 F₂₅₄ from Merck; detection: UV light (254 and 366 nm). Products were purified by column chromatography (silica gel 60, 70–230 mesh, Merck). ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DRX 500 spectrometer at 300 K at 500.1 and 125.8 MHz, a Bruker AM 400 at 298 K at 400.1 MHz and 100.6 MHz, or a Bruker DPX 300 at 298 K at 300.1 MHz and 75.5 MHz, respectively. ¹⁹F NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DPX 300 spectrometer at 300 K at 282.4 MHz. NMR chemical shifts are reported relative to the following standards: ¹H NMR, residual non-deuterated solvent, internal standard; ¹³C NMR, deuterated solvent, internal standard; ¹⁹F NMR: CFCl₃, external standard. Signals were assigned on the basis of ¹H, ¹³C, H,H-COSY, HMQC, and HMBC NMR experiments. Numbering of the ¹H and ¹³C nuclei is according to Figure 1.

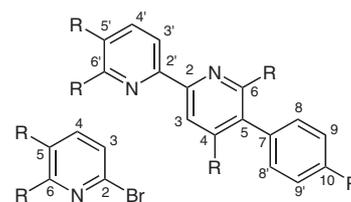


Figure 1 Numbering of the pyridine and bipyridine core for NMR peak assignments.

MS spectra were taken on a Finnigan MAT 212 with data system MMS-ICIS (EI, CI, isobutane, NH₃), a Finnigan MAT 95 with data system DEC-Station 5000 (CI, isobutane or NH₃; HiRes-CI, isobutane or NH₃; FD), or an A.E.I. MS-50 (EI; HiRes-EI). Melting points were measured with a hot-stage microscope SM-Lux from Leitz or a SMP-20 from Büchi and are not corrected. Elemental analyses were carried out with a Fisons Instrument EA1108 or a Heraeus Vario EL.

Most solvents were dried, distilled, and stored under argon according to standard procedures. *t*-BuLi solutions were purchased from Aldrich and were titrated prior to use against *N*-pivaloyl-*o*-toluidine.¹⁶ All chemicals were used as received from commercial sources. Pd(PPh₃)₄ was purchased from ABCR.

2-Bromo-5-methoxypyridine,¹⁷ 2-bromo-5-[(trimethylsilyl)ethyl]pyridine,¹⁸ 2-chloro-4-(2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)pyridine,^{12b} 2-chloro-5-(2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)pyridine,^{12a} 2-chloro-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)pyridine,^{12b} 2-chloro-5-[(trimethylsilyl)ethyl]pyridine¹⁹ were prepared according to published procedures.

3-Heptylpyridine

A soln of *i*-Pr₂NH (1.66 mL, 11.8 mmol, 1.05 equiv) and THF (60 mL) was cooled to -78 °C. 1.6 M *n*-BuLi in hexanes (7.36 mL, 11.8 mmol, 1.05 equiv) and 3-methylpyridine (1.09 mL, 11.2 mmol, 1 equiv) were subsequently added via syringe. The acetone-N₂ cooling bath was replaced by an ice-water bath. After 5 min, 1-iodohexane (1.75 mL, 11.8 mmol, 1.05 equiv) was added via syringe. The soln was stirred at this temperature for 5 min, then it was allowed to warm to r.t., stirred for a further 36 h, and concentrated. The crude product was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ and washed with H₂O. The aqueous layer was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (4 × 25 mL) and the combined organic layers were dried (Na₂SO₄). Purification by flash column chromatography (silica gel, *n*-hexane-EtOAc, 1:1 + 0.5% Et₃N, *R*_f = 0.65) gave the product a yellow oil; yield: 1.516 g (76%).

¹H NMR (500.1 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 0.88 (t, ³*J* = 6.9 Hz, 3 H, CH₃), 1.22–1.36 (m, 8 H, 4 × CH₂), 1.57–1.65 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 2.59 (t, ³*J* = 7.7 Hz, 2 H, CH₂), 7.17 (m, 1 H, H5), 7.69 (ddd, ³*J* = 7.69 Hz, 2 × ⁴*J* not resolved, 1 H, H4), 8.40–8.45 (m, 2 H, H2, H6).

¹³C NMR (125.8 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 14.0 (CH₃), 22.6, 29.04, 29.09, 31.1, 31.7, 33.0 (6 × CH₂), 123.2 (C5), 135.7 (C4), 137.9 (C3), 147.2 (C6), 150.0 (C2).

MS (EI): *m/z* = 177.1 ([C₁₂H₁₉N]⁺ = [M]⁺, 14), 93.0 ([M - C₆H₁₂]⁺, 100).

HRMS (EI): *m/z* (M - H)⁺ calcd for C₁₂H₁₈N: 176.1445; found: 176.1442.

Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₉N: C, 81.30; H, 10.80; N, 7.90. Found: C, 79.54; H, 10.33; N, 7.60.

2-Bromo-5-heptylpyridine

A soln of 2-(dimethylamino)ethanol (0.63 mL, 6 mmol, 3 equiv) in *n*-hexane (2.6 mL) was cooled to 0 °C. At this temperature 1.6 M *n*-BuLi in *n*-hexane (7.5 mL, 12 mmol, 6 equiv) was added. The soln was stirred at 0 °C for 30 min. 3-Heptylpyridine (363 mg, 2.04 mmol, 1 equiv) dissolved in *n*-hexane (2.61 mL) was added via syringe and the soln was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h and then quenched by the addition of CBr₄ (2.436 g, 7.344 mmol, 3.6 equiv) in THF (10 mL). The soln was stirred at r.t. for 72 h, hydrolyzed and then CH₂Cl₂ (25 mL) was added and the layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (5 × 25 mL) and the combined organic layers were dried (Na₂SO₄). Purification of the crude product by flash column chromatography (silica gel, *n*-hexane-EtOAc, 20:1, *R*_f = 0.48) gave the product as a yellow oil. The regioisomer 2-bromo-3-heptylpyridine could also be isolated as a yellow oil (*n*-hexane-EtOAc 20:1, *R*_f = 0.35).

2-Bromo-5-heptylpyridine

Yield: 200 mg (38%).

¹H NMR (500.1 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 0.88 (t, ³*J* = 6.8 Hz, 3 H, CH₃), 1.20–1.37 (m, 8 H, 4 × CH₂), 1.54–1.66 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 2.65 (t, ³*J* = 7.7 Hz, 2 H, CH₂), 7.33–7.39 (m, 2H, H3, H4), 7.91 (s, 1 H, H6).

¹³C NMR (125.8 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 14.2 (CH₃), 22.7, 29.1, 31.1, 31.8, 32.4 (6 × CH₂), 127.7 (C3), 137.5 (C5), 138.7 (C4), 139.4 (C2), 150.3 (C6).

MS (CI, isobutane): *m/z* = 255.9 ([C₁₂H₁₈⁷⁹BrN]⁺ = [M]⁺, 100), 257.9 ([C₁₂H₁₈⁸¹BrN]⁺ = [M]⁺, 95).

HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M - H]⁺ calcd for C₁₂H₁₇BrN: 254.0550; found: 254.0545.

Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₈BrN: C, 56.26; H, 7.08; N, 5.47. Found: C, 56.98; H, 7.06; N, 5.54.

2-Bromo-3-heptylpyridine

Yield: 40 mg (8%).

¹H NMR (500.1 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 0.88 (t, ³*J* = 6.8 Hz, 3 H, CH₃), 1.21–1.41 (m, 8 H, 4 × CH₂), 1.57–1.66 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 2.69 (t, ³*J* = 7.9 Hz, 2 H, CH₂), 7.16 (dd, ³*J* = 7.4 Hz, ³*J* = 7.5 Hz, 1 H, H5), 7.47 (dd, ³*J* = 7.4 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.6 Hz, 1 H, H4), 8.18 (dd, ³*J* = 7.5 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.6 Hz, 1 H, H6).

¹³C NMR (125.8 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 14.2 (CH₃), 22.8, 29.2, 29.4, 29.5, 31.9, 35.4 (6 × CH₂), 122.9 (C5), 138.2 (C4), 139.4 (C3), 144.5 (C2), 147.6 (C6).

MS (EI): *m/z* = 255.0 ([C₁₂H₁₈⁷⁹BrN]⁺ = [M]⁺, 28), 257.0 ([C₁₂H₁₈⁸¹BrN]⁺ = [M]⁺, 26), 171.0 ([M(⁷⁹Br) - C₆H₁₂]⁺, 100), 173.0 ([M(⁸¹Br) - C₆H₁₂]⁺, 95).

HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M]⁺ calcd for C₁₂H₁₈BrN: 255.0623; found: 255.0622.

Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₈BrN: C, 56.26; H, 7.08; N, 5.47. Found: C, 56.41; H, 7.02; N, 5.34.

2-Bromo-6-(2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)pyridine

2-Amino-6-bromopyridine (5 g, 28.90 mmol, 1 equiv), hexane-2,5-dione (4.1 mL, 34.68 mmol, 1.2 equiv), and PTSA (50 mg, 0.28 mmol, 1 mol%) were dissolved in toluene (30 mL) and heated in a Dean-Stark apparatus for 2 h. After cooling to r.t., the mixture was washed with sat. aq NaHCO₃, H₂O (5 × 25 mL), and brine (25 mL). The organic layer was dried (MgSO₄). Purification of the crude product by column chromatography (*n*-hexane-EtOAc, 5:1 + 0.5% Et₃N, *R*_f = 0.5) gave the product as a pale yellow solid; yield: 6.83 g (94%); mp 104 °C.

¹H NMR (500.1 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 2.15 (s, 6 H, CH₃), 5.88 (s, 2 H, CH-pyrrole), 7.16 (d, ³*J* = 8.2 Hz, 1 H, H5), 7.47 (d, ³*J* = 8.2 Hz, 1 H, H3), 7.60 (dd, ³*J* = 8.2 Hz, ³*J* = 8.2 Hz, 1 H, H4).

¹³C NMR (125.8 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 13.3 (CH₃), 107.7 (2 C, CH-pyrrole), 120.2 (C5), 126.4 (C3), 128.7 (2 C, CMe-pyrrole), 139.8 (C4), 140.6 (C2), 151.8 (C6).

MS (EI): *m/z* = 251.1 ([C₁₁H₁₂N₂Br⁷⁹]⁺ = [M]⁺, 100), 253.1 ([C₁₁H₁₂N₂Br⁸¹]⁺ = [M]⁺, 96), 173.1 ([C₁₁H₁₂N₂]⁺, 15).

HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M - H]⁺ calcd for C₁₁H₁₀BrN₂: 249.0022; found: 249.0023.

Anal. Calcd for C₁₁H₁₁BrN₂: C, 52.61; H, 4.42; N, 11.16. Found: C, 52.65; H, 4.45; N, 11.05.

2,2'-Bipyridines from Substituted 2-Bromopyridines: General Procedure 1

A two-necked, 250-mL round-bottomed flask equipped with a stirring bar, an argon inlet, and a rubber septum was charged with THF (50 mL) and cooled to -78 °C. 1.6 M *t*-BuLi in *n*-pentane (8.01 mL, 12.82 mmol) was added via syringe resulting in a pale-yellow soln.

To this mixture the first 2-bromopyridine (8.25 mmol, 1.5 equiv) was slowly added via syringe [solid pyridines were dissolved in THF (6 mL)] and stirred at the same temperature for 30 min. After that time a soln of ZnCl₂ (2.68 g, 19.68 mmol, 3.6 equiv) in THF (40 mL) was added. The resulting soln was allowed to warm to r.t. and stirred for 2.5 h (soln 1).

A two-necked, 25-mL round-bottomed flask equipped with an argon inlet, and a rubber septum was charged with the second 2-bromopyridine (5.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (127 mg, 0.11 mmol, 2 mol%). The mixture was evacuated and flushed with argon (2 ×) and dissolved in THF (10 mL) (soln 2).

Soln 2 was slowly added to soln 1 and the resulting mixture was stirred at r.t. for 18 h. When TLC monitoring revealed complete consumption of the starting material the mixture was quenched with sat. aq EDTA soln (60 mL) and stirred at r.t. for 15 min. After that time sat. aq Na₂CO₃ soln was added until pH 8. The product was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 × 25 mL) and the combined organic layers were dried (Na₂SO₄), concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash chromatography (silica gel).

5-Methyl-2,2'-bipyridine (1)²⁰

2-Bromopyridine (648 mg, 4.1 mmol, 1.5 equiv), 1.6 M *t*-BuLi in *n*-pentane (4.13 mL, 6.6 mmol, 2.4 equiv), ZnCl₂ (1.35 g, 9.9 mmol, 3.6 equiv), 2-bromo-5-methylpyridine (473 mg, 2.75 mmol, 1 equiv), and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (95 mg, 82.5 μmol, 3 mol%) were reacted according to general procedure 1 to give **1** as a pale yellow oil after flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 5:1 + 0.5% Et₃N, *R_f* = 0.20); yield: 467 mg (quant.).

Analytical data were in accordance with those previously published.²⁰

5-Methoxy-2,2'-bipyridine (2)^{12a}

Treatment of 2-bromopyridine (1.66 g, 10.56 mmol, 1.5 equiv), 1.6 M *t*-BuLi in *n*-pentane (10.56 mL, 16.9 mmol, 2.4 equiv), ZnCl₂ (3.45 g, 25.34 mmol, 3.6 equiv), 2-bromo-5-methoxypyridine (1.32 g, 7.04 mmol, 1 equiv), and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (244 mg, 211.2 μmol, 3 mol%) according to general procedure 1 gave **2** as an amorphous solid after flash column chromatography (EtOAc + 5% Et₃N, *R_f* = 0.20); yield: 1.28 g (98%).

Analytical data were in accordance with those previously published.^{12a}

5-(2,5-Dimethyl-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)-2,2'-bipyridine (3)^{12b}

Treatment of 2-bromopyridine (1.6 g, 10.16 mmol, 1.5 equiv), 1.6 M *t*-BuLi in *n*-pentane (10.16 mL, 16.25 mmol, 2.4 equiv), ZnCl₂ (3.32 g, 24.37 mmol, 3.6 equiv), 2-bromo-5-(2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)pyridine (1.7 g, 6.77 mmol, 1 equiv), and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (157 mg, 135.4 μmol, 2 mol%) according to general procedure 1 gave **3** as a brown solid after flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 1:1 + 0.5% Et₃N, *R_f* = 0.67); yield: 1.23 g (73%).

Analytical data were in accordance with those previously published.^{12a}

5-Methyl-5'-[(trimethylsilyl)ethynyl]-2,2'-bipyridine (4)^{12b}

Treatment of 2-bromo-5-methylpyridine (1.13 g, 6.56 mmol, 1.12 equiv), 1.65 M *t*-BuLi in *n*-pentane (8.35 mL, 13.78 mmol, 2.36 equiv), ZnCl₂ (2.24 g, 16.44 mmol, 2.8 equiv), 2-bromo-5-[(trimethylsilyl)ethynyl]pyridine (1.485 g, 5.84 mmol, 1 equiv), and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (135 mg, 117 μmol, 2 mol%) according to general procedure 1 gave **4** as a yellow solid after flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 5:1 + 5% Et₃N, *R_f* = 0.62); yield: 1.304 g (84%).

Analytical data were in accordance with those previously published.^{12b}

5-Bromo-5'-heptyl-2,2'-bipyridine (5)

Treatment of 2-bromo-5-heptylpyridine (336 mg, 1.31 mmol, 1.2 equiv), 1.6 M *t*-BuLi in *n*-pentane (1.65 mL, 2.64 mmol, 2.4 equiv), ZnCl₂ (540 mg, 3.96 mmol, 3.6 equiv), 2,5-dibromopyridine (258 mg, 1.1 mmol, 1 equiv), and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (38 mg, 33 μmol, 3 mol%) according to general procedure 1 gave **5** as a yellow solid after flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 10:1 + 0.5% Et₃N, *R_f* = 0.5); yield: 310 mg (85%); mp 42–46 °C.

¹H NMR (400.1 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 0.88 (t, ³*J* = 6.9 Hz, 3 H, CH₃), 1.20–1.38 (m, 8 H, 4 × CH₂), 1.60–1.69 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 2.65 (t, ³*J* = 7.6 Hz, 2 H, CH₂), 7.62 (dd, ³*J* = 8.1 Hz, ⁴*J* = 2.3 Hz, 1 H, H4'), 7.91 (dd, ³*J* = 8.5 Hz, ⁴*J* = 2.4 Hz, 1 H, H4), 8.27 (m, 2 H, H3, H3'), 8.48 (d, ⁴*J* = 2.3 Hz, 1 H, H6'), 8.69 (d, ⁴*J* = 2.4 Hz, 1 H, H6).

¹³C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 14.1 (CH₃), 22.7, 29.11, 29.13, 31.1, 31.8, 32.9 (6 × CH₂), 120.65 (C3'), 120.73 (C5), 122.1 (C3), 136.9 (C4'), 138.8 (C5'), 139.5 (C4), 149.4 (C6'), 150.1 (C6), 152.9 (C2'), 154.8 (C2).

MS (EI): *m/z* = 332.1 ([C₁₇H₂₁⁷⁹BrN₂]⁺ = [M]⁺, 8), 334.1 ([C₁₇H₂₁⁸¹BrN₂]⁺ = [M]⁺, 7), 170.9 ([M(⁷⁹Br) – C₁₁H₁₅N]⁺, 98), 172.9 ([M(⁸¹Br) – C₁₁H₁₅N]⁺, 100).

HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M]⁺ calcd for C₁₇H₂₁BrN₂: 332.0888; found: 332.0891.

Anal. Calcd for C₁₇H₂₁BrN₂·0.25 EtOAc: C, 60.85; H, 6.52; N, 7.88. Found: C, 62.06; H, 6.67; N, 7.88.

Methyl 6'-(2,5-Dimethyl-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)-2,2'-bipyridine-6-carboxylate (6)

2-Bromo-6-(2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)pyridine (767 mg, 3.05 mmol, 1.2 equiv), 1.5 M *t*-BuLi in *n*-pentane (3.65 mL, 5.47 mmol, 2.15 equiv), ZnCl₂ (954 mg, 7.00 mmol, 2.75 equiv), methyl 8-bromopyridine-2-carboxylate (550 mg, 2.55 mmol, 1 equiv), and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (88 mg, 76.5 μmol, 3 mol%) were used. Purification by flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 5:1 + 5% Et₃N, *R_f* = 0.6) gave **6** as a yellow solid; yield: 394 mg (50%); mp 102 °C.

¹H NMR (400.1 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 2.19 (s, 6 H, CH₃), 4.04 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 5.94 (s, 2 H, CH-pyrrole), 7.26 (dd, ³*J* = 7.8 Hz, ⁴*J* = 0.9 Hz, 1 H, H5'), 7.94 (dd, ³*J* = 7.9 Hz, ³*J* = 7.8 Hz, 1 H, H4), 7.97 (dd, ³*J* = 7.8 Hz, ³*J* = 7.8 Hz, 1 H, H4'), 8.13 (dd, ³*J* = 7.7 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.0 Hz, 1 H, H5), 8.56 (dd, ³*J* = 7.8 Hz, ⁴*J* = 0.9 Hz, 1 H, H3'), 8.59 (dd, ³*J* = 7.9 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.0 Hz, 1 H, H3).

¹³C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 13.4 (2 C, CH₃), 52.9 (OCH₃), 107.1 (2 C, CH-pyrrole), 119.1 (C3'), 122.1 (C5'), 124.6 (C3), 125.3 (C5), 128.7 (2 C, CMe-pyrrole), 138.0 (C4), 139.1 (C4'), 147.6 (C6), 151.4 (C6'), 155.1 (C2), 155.8 (C2'), 165.8 (COO).

MS (EI): *m/z* = 307.1 ([C₁₈H₁₇N₃O₂]⁺ = [M]⁺, 100).

HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M – H]⁺ calcd for C₁₈H₁₆N₃O₂: 306.1237; found: 306.1244.

Anal. Calcd for C₁₈H₁₇N₃O₂·0.2 EtOAc·0.2 CH₂Cl₂: C, 66.74; H, 5.60; N, 12.29. Found: C, 66.67; H, 5.77; N, 11.82.

Methyl 6'-(2,5-Dimethyl-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)-2,2'-bipyridine-4-carboxylate (7)

2-Bromo-6-(2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)pyridine (1.00 g, 4.00 mmol, 1.2 equiv), 1.55 M *t*-BuLi in *n*-pentane (4.62 mL, 7.17 mmol, 2.15 equiv), ZnCl₂ (1.25 g, 9.16 mmol, 2.75 equiv), methyl 2-bromopyridine-6-carboxylate (720 mg, 3.33 mmol, 1 equiv), and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (116 mg, 100 μmol, 3 mol%) were used. Purification by flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 5:1 + 5% Et₃N, *R_f* = 0.5) gave **7** as a yellow solid; yield: 564 mg (55%); mp 113 °C.

¹H NMR (400.1 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 2.22 (s, 6 H, CH₃), 3.97 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 5.96 (s, 2 H, CH-pyrrole), 7.26 (dd, ³*J* = 7.8 Hz, ⁴*J* = 0.9 Hz, 1 H, H5'), 7.88 (dd, ³*J* = 5.0 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.6 Hz, 1 H, H5), 7.96 (dd, ³*J* = 7.8, ³*J* = 7.8 Hz, 1 H, H4'), 8.46 (dd, ³*J* = 7.8 Hz, ⁴*J* = 0.9 Hz, 1

H, H3'), 8.82 (dd, $^3J = 5.0$ Hz, $^5J = 0.9$ Hz, 1 H, H6), 8.94 (dd, $^4J = 1.6$ Hz, $^5J = 0.9$ Hz, 1 H, H3).

^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 13.5$ (2 C, CH_3), 52.8 (OCH_3), 107.1 (2 C, CH-pyrrole), 119.4 ($\text{C}3'$), 120.7 ($\text{C}3$), 122.1 ($\text{C}5'$), 123.2 ($\text{C}5$), 128.8 (2 C, CMe-pyrrole), 138.6 ($\text{C}4$), 139.0 ($\text{C}4'$), 150.0 ($\text{C}6$), 151.5 ($\text{C}6'$), 155.1 ($\text{C}2$), 156.6 ($\text{C}2'$), 165.7 (COO).

MS (EI): $m/z = 307.1$ ($[\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2]^+ = [\text{M}]^+$, 100).

HRMS (EI): m/z $[\text{M} - \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2$: 307.1321; found: 307.1317.

Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2 \cdot 0.33$ EtOAc: C, 68.96; H, 5.89; N, 12.48. Found: C, 68.71; H, 5.47; N, 12.74.

2,2'-Bipyridines from Substituted 2-Chloropyridines; General Procedure 2

The same procedure was used as applied for the substituted 2-bromopyridines except for the fact that a 2-chloropyridine was used to prepare soln 2 and that the resulting mixture obtained upon adding soln 2 to soln 1 was refluxed instead of stirred at r.t.

Methyl 2,2'-Bipyridine-5-carboxylate (8)²¹

Treatment of 2-bromopyridine (1.81 g, 11.45 mmol, 1.2 equiv), 1.5 M *t*-BuLi in *n*-pentane (13.67 mL, 20.51 mmol, 2.15 equiv), ZnCl_2 (3.58 g, 26.24 mmol, 2.75 equiv), methyl 6-chloronicotinate (1.64 g, 9.54 mmol, 1 equiv), and $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ (331 mg, 287 μmol , 3 mol%) according to general procedure 2 gave **8** as a white solid after flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 3:1 + 5% Et_3N , $R_f = 0.48$); yield: 1.626 g (80%).

Analytical data were in accordance with those previously published.²¹

5-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2,2'-bipyridine (9)²²

Treatment of 2-bromopyridine (216 mg, 1.37 mmol, 1.5 equiv), 1.6 M *t*-BuLi in *n*-pentane (1.37 mL, 2.18 mmol, 2.4 equiv), ZnCl_2 (447 mg, 3.28 mmol, 3.6 equiv), 2-chloro-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)pyridine (200 mg, 0.91 mmol, 1 equiv), and $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ (21 mg, 18.2 μmol , 2 mol%) according to general procedure 2 gave **9** as a yellow solid after flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 1:1 + 0.5% Et_3N , $R_f = 0.38$); yield: 181 mg (76%); mp 131–133 °C.

^1H NMR (500.1 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 3.87$ (s, 3 H, OCH_3), 7.03 (d, $^3J = 8.7$ Hz, 2 H, H9, H9'), 7.33 (ddd, $^3J = 4.5$ Hz, $^4J = 1.6$ Hz, 1 H, H5', $^3J = 6.6$ Hz), 7.60 (d, $^3J = 8.7$ Hz, 2 H, H8, H8'), 7.85 (ddd, $^3J = 7.7$ Hz, $^3J = 6.6$ Hz, $^4J = 1.6$ Hz, 1 H, H4'), 8.00 (dd, $^3J = 8.5$ Hz, $^4J = 2.2$ Hz, 1 H, H4), 8.48 (dd, $^3J = 8.5$ Hz, $^3J = 7.7$ Hz, 2 H, H3, H3'), 8.70 (d, $^3J = 4.5$ Hz, 1 H, H6'), 8.90 (d, $^4J = 2.2$ Hz, 1 H, H6).

^{13}C NMR (125.8 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 55.4$ ($\text{C}11$), 114.6 (2 C, C9, C9'), 121.3 (2 C, C3, C3'), 123.7 ($\text{C}5'$), 128.2 (2 C, C8, C8'), 129.7 ($\text{C}7$), 135.0 ($\text{C}4$), 136.4 ($\text{C}5$), 137.3 ($\text{C}4'$), 146.9 ($\text{C}6$), 148.9 ($\text{C}6'$), 153.6 ($\text{C}2$), 155.4 ($\text{C}2'$), 160.0 ($\text{C}10$).

MS (EI): $m/z = 262.1$ ($[\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O}]^+ = [\text{M}]^+$, 100).

HRMS (EI): m/z $[\text{M}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O}$: 262.1106; found: 262.1105.

Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O} \cdot 0.2$ THF: C, 77.26; H, 5.68; N, 10.12. Found: C, 77.07; H, 5.52; N, 9.92.

5-[(Trimethylsilyl)ethynyl]-2,2'-bipyridine (10)²³

Treatment of 2-bromopyridine (567 mg, 3.59 mmol, 1.5 equiv), 1.6 M *t*-BuLi in *n*-pentane (4.63 mL, 7.41 mmol, 3.1 equiv), ZnCl_2 (1.08 g, 7.89 mmol, 3.3 equiv), 2-chloro-5-[(trimethylsilyl)ethynyl]pyridine (500 mg, 2.39 mmol, 1 equiv), and $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ (55 mg, 48 μmol , 2 mol%) according to general procedure 2 gave **10** as a yellow solid after flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane–EtOAc 5:1, + 5% Et_3N , $R_f = 0.75$); yield: 540 mg (90%).

Analytical data were in accordance with those previously published.²³

Methyl 5'-Heptyl-2,2'-bipyridine-5-carboxylate (11)

Treatment of 2-bromo-5-heptylpyridine (200 mg, 0.78 mmol, 1.2 equiv), 1.5 M *t*-BuLi in *n*-pentane (0.929 mL, 1.4 mmol, 2.15 equiv), ZnCl_2 (244 mg, 1.79 mmol, 2.75 equiv), methyl 6-chloronicotinate (112 mg, 0.65 mmol, 1 equiv), and $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ (15 mg, 13.1 μmol , 2 mol%) according to general procedure 2 gave **11** as a yellow solid after flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 5:1 + 5% Et_3N , $R_f = 0.58$); yield: 103 mg (51%); mp 76–80 °C.

^1H NMR (400.1 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 0.87$ (t, $^3J = 6.9$ Hz, 3 H, CH_3), 1.20–1.38 (m, 8 H, $4 \times \text{CH}_2$), 1.59–1.68 (m, 2 H, CH_2), 2.66 (t, $^3J = 7.7$ Hz, 2 H, CH_2), 3.96 (s, 3 H, CO_2CH_3), 7.64 (dd, $^3J = 8.1$ Hz, $^4J = 2.2$ Hz, 1 H, H4'), 8.37 (m, 2 H, H3', H4), 8.46 (dd, $^3J = 8.3$ Hz, $^5J = 0.8$ Hz, 1 H, H3), 8.51 (d, $^4J = 2.2$ Hz, 1 H, H6'), 9.23 (dd, $^4J = 2.1$ Hz, $^5J = 0.8$ Hz, 1 H, H6).

^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 14.1$ (CH_3), 22.7, 29.10, 29.12, 31.1, 31.8, 32.9 ($6 \times \text{CH}_2$), 52.4 (OCH_3), 120.2 ($\text{C}3$), 121.6 ($\text{C}3'$), 125.3 ($\text{C}5$), 136.9 ($\text{C}4'$), 138.0 ($\text{C}4$), 139.3 ($\text{C}5'$), 149.6 ($\text{C}6'$), 150.5 ($\text{C}6$), 152.8 ($\text{C}2'$), 159.7 ($\text{C}2$), 165.9 (CO_2Me).

MS (EI): m/z (%) = 312.8 ($[\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ (M)]⁺, 56), 227.1 ($[\text{M} - \text{C}_6\text{H}_{13}]^+$, 100).

HRMS (EI): m/z $[\text{M}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$: 312.1838; found: 312.1836.

Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2 \cdot 0.5$ EtOAc: C, 71.05; H, 8.04; N, 7.71. Found: C, 70.39; H, 8.04; N, 7.76.

Methyl 5'-[(Trimethylsilyl)ethynyl]-2,2'-bipyridine-5-carboxylate (12)

Treatment of 2-bromo-5-[(trimethylsilyl)ethynyl]pyridine (400 mg, 1.57 mmol, 1.2 equiv), 1.6 M *t*-BuLi in *n*-pentane (1.97 mL, 3.14 mmol, 2.4 equiv, lithiation time reduced to 5 min), ZnCl_2 (500 mg, 3.67 mmol, 2.8 equiv), methyl 6-chloronicotinate (225 mg, 1.31 mmol, 1 equiv), and $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ (46 mg, 40 μmol , 3 mol%) according to general procedure 2 gave **12** as a yellow solid after flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 5:1 + 5% Et_3N , $R_f = 0.58$); yield: 284 mg (70%); mp 152–154 °C.

^1H NMR (400.1 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 0.27$ [s, 9 H, $\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_3$], 3.95 (s, 3 H, OCH_3), 7.86 (dd, $^3J = 8.2$ Hz, $^4J = 2.1$ Hz, 1 H, H4'), 8.36 (dd, $^3J = 8.3$ Hz, $^4J = 2.2$ Hz, 1 H, H4), 8.40 (dd, $^3J = 8.2$ Hz, $^5J = 0.8$ Hz, 1 H, H3'), 8.46 (dd, $^3J = 8.3$ Hz, $^5J = 0.8$ Hz, 1 H, H3), 8.72 (dd, $^4J = 2.1$ Hz, $^5J = 0.8$ Hz, 1 H, H6'), 9.22 (dd, $^4J = 2.1$ Hz, $^5J = 0.8$ Hz, 1 H, H6).

^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = -0.3$ [$\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_3$], 52.6 (OCH_3), 100.1 ($\text{C}\equiv\text{CTMS}$), 101.8 ($\text{C}\equiv\text{CTMS}$), 121.0 ($\text{C}3$), 121.1 ($\text{C}3'$), 125.9 ($\text{C}5$), 138.2 ($\text{C}4$), 140.0 ($\text{C}4'$), 150.7 ($\text{C}6$), 152.3 ($\text{C}6'$), 153.9 ($\text{C}2'$), 158.9 ($\text{C}2$), 165.9 (CO_2Me); ($\text{C}5'$) not found.

MS (EI): m/z (%) = 310.1 ($[\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{Si}]^+ = [\text{M}]^+$, 44), 295.1 ($[\text{M} - \text{CH}_3]^+$, 100).

HRMS (EI): m/z $[\text{M}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{Si}$: 310.1138; found: 310.1138.

Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{Si} \cdot 0.2$ EtOAc: 0.2 C_6H_{14} : C, 66.09; H, 6.54; N, 8.11. Found: C, 65.35; H, 6.65; N, 8.08.

5-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-5'-methyl-2,2'-bipyridine (13)^{12b}

Treatment of 2-bromo-5-methylpyridine (1.40 g, 8.16 mmol, 1.5 equiv), 1.6 M *t*-BuLi in *n*-pentane (10.54 mL, 16.86 mmol, 3.1 equiv), ZnCl_2 (2.7 g, 19.58 mmol, 3.6 equiv), 2-chloro-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)pyridine (1.2 g, 5.44 mmol, 1 equiv), and $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ (189 mg, 163.2 μmol , 3 mol%) according to general procedure 2 gave **13** as a yellow solid after flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 3:1 + 5% Et_3N , $R_f = 0.45$); yield: 990 mg (66%).

Analytical data were in accordance with those previously published.^{12b}

4,6'-Dimethyl-2,2'-bipyridine (14)²⁴

2-Bromo-6-methylpyridine (2.5 g, 14.53 mmol, 1.2 equiv), 1.5 M *t*-BuLi in *n*-pentane (17.36 mL, 26.04 mmol, 2.15 equiv), ZnCl₂ (4.54 g, 33.31 mmol, 2.75 equiv), 2-chloro-4-methylpyridine (1.55 g, 12.11 mmol, 1 equiv), and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (420 mg, 363 μmol, 3 mol%) were used. Purification by flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 5:1 + 5% Et₃N, *R*_f = 0.6) gave **14** as a colorless oil; yield: 1.88 g (84%).

¹H NMR (500.1 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 2.42 (s, 3 H, 4-CH₃), 2.63 (s, 3 H, 6'-CH₃), 7.10 (d, ³*J* = 4.9 Hz, 1 H, H5), 7.14 (d, ³*J* = 7.7 Hz, 1 H, H5'), 7.67 (dd, ³*J* = 7.7 Hz, ³*J* = 7.7 Hz, 1 H, H4'), 8.15 (d, ³*J* = 7.7 Hz, 1 H, H3'), 8.22 (s, 1 H, H3), 8.51 (d, ³*J* = 4.9 Hz, 1 H, H6).

¹³C NMR (125.8 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 21.2 (4-CH₃), 24.6 (6'-CH₃), 118.2 (C3'), 121.9 (C3), 123.1 (C5'), 124.5 (C5), 137.0 (C4'), 148.0 (C4), 148.9 (C6), 155.7 (C2), 156.2 (C2'), 157.8 (C6').

MS (EI): *m/z* (%) = 184.1 ([C₁₂H₁₂N₂]⁺ = [M]⁺, 100).

HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M – H]⁺ calcd for C₁₂H₁₁N₂: 183.0917; found: 183.0923.

Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₂N₂: C, 78.23; H, 6.57; N, 15.21. Found: C, 77.13; H, 7.13; N, 14.64.

4,6'-Dimethoxy-2,2'-bipyridine (15)

2-Bromo-6-methoxypyridine (1.09 g, 5.8 mmol, 1.2 equiv), 1.5 M *t*-BuLi in *n*-pentane (7.57 mL, 11.36 mmol, 2.15 equiv), ZnCl₂ (1.98 g, 14.53 mmol, 2.75 equiv), 2-chloro-4-methoxypyridine (759 mg, 5.28 mmol, 1 equiv), and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (184 mg, 159 μmol, 3 mol%) were used. Purification by flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 2:1 + 5% Et₃N, *R*_f = 0.58) gave **15** as a colorless oil; yield: 811 mg (71%).

¹H NMR (500.1 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 3.92 (s, 3 H, 4-OCH₃), 4.03 (s, 3 H, 6'-OCH₃), 6.76 (d, ³*J* = 7.7 Hz, 1 H, H5'), 6.81 (dd, ³*J* = 5.5 Hz, ⁴*J* = 2.2 Hz, 1 H, H5), 7.68 (dd, ³*J* = 7.7 Hz, ³*J* = 7.7 Hz, 1 H, H4'), 7.95 (d, ³*J* = 2.2 Hz, 1 H, H3), 8.00 (d, ³*J* = 7.7 Hz, 1 H, H3'), 8.48 (d, ³*J* = 5.5 Hz, 1 H, H6).

¹³C NMR (125.8 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 53.2 (4-OCH₃), 55.2 (6'-OCH₃), 106.9 (C3), 109.6 (C5), 111.2 (C5'), 114.0 (C3'), 139.4 (C4'), 150.2 (C6), 153.0 (C2'), 157.7 (C2), 163.5 (C6'), 166.7 (C4).

MS (EI): *m/z* (%) = 215.1 ([C₁₂H₁₁N₂O₂]⁺, 100), 216.1 ([C₁₂H₁₂N₂O₂]⁺ = [M]⁺, 96), 186.1 ([C₁₁H₁₀N₂O]⁺, 52).

HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M – H]⁺ calcd for C₁₂H₁₁N₂O₂: 215.0815; found: 215.0820.

Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₂N₂O₂: C, 66.65; H, 5.59; N, 12.96. Found: C, 65.65; H, 5.73; N, 12.32.

4-(2,5-Dimethyl-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)-6'-methoxy-2,2'-bipyridine (16)

2-Bromo-6-methoxypyridine (1.00 g, 5.32 mmol, 1.2 equiv), 1.5 M *t*-BuLi in *n*-pentane (6.37 mL, 9.56 mmol, 2.15 equiv), ZnCl₂ (1.67 g, 12.22 mmol, 2.75 equiv), 2-chloro-4-(2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)pyridine (916 mg, 4.45 mmol, 1 equiv), and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (154 mg, 133 μmol, 3 mol%) were used. Purification by flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 5:1 + 5% Et₃N, *R*_f = 0.6) gave **16** as a colorless solid; yield: 1.094 g (88%); mp 84 °C.

¹H NMR (400.1 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 2.15 (s, 6 H, CH₃), 3.99 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 5.98 (s, 2 H, H7, H7'), 6.81 (d, ³*J* = 8.2 Hz, 1 H, H5), 7.16 (dd, ³*J* = 5.5 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.7 Hz, 1 H, H5'), 7.73 (dd, ³*J* = 7.7 Hz, ³*J* = 8.2 Hz, 1 H, H4), 8.10 (d, ³*J* = 7.7 Hz, 1 H, H3), 8.31 (d, ³*J* = 1.7 Hz, 1 H, H3'), 8.75 (d, ³*J* = 5.5 Hz, 1 H, H6').

¹³C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 13.2 (2 C, CH₃), 53.3 (OCH₃), 107.4 (2 C, C7, C7'), 112.0 (C5), 114.1 (C3), 120.0 (C3'), 122.2

(C5'), 128.5 (2 C, C8, C8'), 139.5 (C4), 147.5 (C4'), 149.8 (C6), 152.2 (C2), 157.5 (C2'), 163.6 (C6').

MS (EI): *m/z* (%) = 279.2 ([C₁₇H₁₇N₃O]⁺ = [M]⁺, 100), 186.1 ([C₁₁H₁₀N₂O]⁺, 42).

HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M – H]⁺ calcd for C₁₈H₁₆N₃O: 278.1288; found: 278.1298.

Anal. Calcd for C₁₇H₁₇N₃O: C, 73.10; H, 6.13; N, 15.04. Found: C, 72.52; H, 6.32; N, 14.64.

6'-(2,5-Dimethyl-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)-4-methoxy-2,2'-bipyridine (17)

2-Bromo-6-(2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)pyridine (1.09 g, 4.34 mmol, 1.2 equiv), 1.5 M *t*-BuLi in *n*-pentane (5.02 mL, 7.78 mmol, 2.15 equiv), ZnCl₂ (1.36 g, 9.96 mmol, 2.75 equiv), 2-chloro-4-methoxypyridine (520 mg, 3.62 mmol, 1 equiv), and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (126 mg, 108.6 μmol, 3 mol%) were used. Purification by flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 5:1 + 5% Et₃N, *R*_f = 0.43) gave **17** as a yellow oil; yield: 684 mg (68%).

¹H NMR (400.1 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 2.21 (s, 6 H, CH₃), 3.91 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 5.95 (s, 2 H, CH-pyrrole), 6.85 (dd, ³*J* = 5.7 Hz, ⁴*J* = 2.7 Hz, 1 H, H5), 7.22 (dd, ³*J* = 7.8 Hz, ⁴*J* = 0.9 Hz, 1 H, H5'), 7.93 (dd, ³*J* = 7.8, ³*J* = 7.8 Hz, 1 H, H4'), 7.99 (d, ⁴*J* = 2.7 Hz, 1 H, H5), 8.43 (dd, ³*J* = 7.8 Hz, ⁴*J* = 0.9 Hz, 1 H, H3'), 8.49 (d, ³*J* = 5.7 Hz, 1 H, H6).

¹³C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 13.5 (2 C, CH₃), 55.4 (OCH₃), 106.5 (C3), 107.0 (2 C, CH-pyrrole), 111.1 (C5), 119.4 (C3'), 121.7 (C5'), 128.8 (2 C, CMe-pyrrole), 138.8 (C4'), 150.3 (C6), 151.2 (C6'), 155.7 (C2'), 157.3 (C2), 166.8 (C4).

MS (EI): *m/z* (%) = 279.1 ([C₁₇H₁₇N₃O]⁺ = [M]⁺, 100).

HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M – H]⁺ calcd for C₁₇H₁₆N₃O: 278.1288; found: 278.1295.

Anal. Calcd for C₁₇H₁₆N₃O·0.166 CH₂Cl₂: C, 70.25; H, 5.95; N, 14.32. Found: C, 70.87; H, 6.07; N, 14.42.

5-Heptyl-5'-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2,2'-bipyridine (18)

i-Pr₂NH (0.610 mL, 4.31 mmol, 1.05 equiv) and anhyd THF (38 mL) were cooled to –78 °C and 1.6 M *n*-BuLi in *n*-hexane (2.70 mL, 4.31 mmol, 1.05 equiv) was added. A soln of **13** (1.125 g, 4.08 mmol, 1 equiv) in anhyd THF (10 mL) was added via syringe. The soln became dark red immediately. The acetone–nitrogen cooling bath was replaced by an ice–water bath. After 5 min, 1-iodohexane (0.633 mL, 4.31 mmol, 1.05 equiv) was added via syringe. The soln was allowed to warm to r.t., stirred for 3 h, concentrated, and the crude product was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (25 mL) and washed with H₂O (25 mL). After extraction of the aqueous layer with CH₂Cl₂ (3 × 25 mL) the combined organic layers were dried (Na₂SO₄) and the solvent was removed. Purification by flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 2:1 + 5% Et₃N, *R*_f = 0.3–0.65) gave **18** as a yellow solid; yield: 1.059 g (72%); mp 75–76 °C.

¹H NMR (500.1 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 0.81 (t, ³*J* = 6.9 Hz, 3 H, CH₃), 1.20–1.28 (m, 8 H, 4 × CH₂), 1.59 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 2.58 (t, ³*J* = 7.7 Hz, 2 H, CH₂), 3.79 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 6.95 (m, 2 H, H9), 7.52 (m, 2 H, H8), 7.57 (dd, ³*J* = 8.1 Hz, ⁴*J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H, H4'), 7.89 (dd, ³*J* = 8.3 Hz, ⁴*J* = 2.2 Hz, 1 H, H4), 8.27 (d, ³*J* = 8.1 Hz, 1 H, H3'), 8.35 (d, ³*J* = 8.3 Hz, 1 H, H3), 8.44 (d, ⁴*J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H, H6'), 8.80 (d, ⁴*J* = 2.2 Hz, 1 H, H6).

¹³C NMR (125.8 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 14.0 (CH₃), 22.6, 29.0, 29.1, 31.1, 31.7, 32.9 (6 × CH₂), 55.4 (OCH₃), 114.6 (C9), 120.6 (C3'), 120.7 (C3), 128.1 (C8), 130.0 (C7), 134.7 (C4), 135.8 (C5), 136.9 (C4'), 138.2 (C5'), 147.1 (C6), 149.2 (C6'), 153.5 (C2'), 154.3 (C2), 159.8 (C10).

MS (CI, isobutane): *m/z* (%) = 361.3 ([C₂₄H₂₉N₂O]⁺ = [M]⁺, 100).

HRMS (CI, isobutane): m/z $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{24}H_{29}N_2O$: 361.2279; found: 361.2274.

Anal. Calcd for $C_{24}H_{28}N_2O$: C, 79.96; H, 7.83; N, 7.77. Found: C, 80.75; H, 8.00; N, 7.64.

5-(4-Hydroxyphenyl)-2,2'-bipyridine (19)

5-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2,2'-bipyridine (**9**), 600 mg, 2.29 mmol, 1 equiv) was dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 (15 mL) and cooled to $-78^\circ C$. 1 M BBr_3 in CH_2Cl_2 (6.78 mL, 6.78 mmol) was slowly added. The mixture was allowed to warm up to r.t. and stirred for 7 h. After a short time an orange-brown precipitate formed. H_2O (50 mL) was carefully added in order to hydrolyze excessive BBr_3 . $EtOAc$ (50 mL) was added and the soln was neutralized with 6 M aq $NaOH$. The orange precipitate was filtered off and dried in vacuo. The neutralized soln was extracted with $EtOAc$ (5×25 mL) and dried (Na_2SO_4). The solvents were removed and then, the product fractions were combined and **19** was obtained as an orange-brown solid; yield: 506 mg (89%); mp 146–148 $^\circ C$.

1H NMR (500.1 MHz, $DMSO-d_6$): δ = 6.91 (d, H9', 3J = 8.8 Hz, 2 H, H9), 7.44 (ddd, 3J = 6.9 Hz, 3J = 4.9 Hz, 4J = 1.1 Hz, 1 H, H5'), 7.64 (d, 3J = 8.8 Hz, 2 H, H8, H8'), 7.95 (ddd, 3J = 7.7 Hz, 3J = 6.9 Hz, 4J = 1.6 Hz, 1 H, H4'), 8.14 (dd, 3J = 8.2 Hz, 4J = 2.2 Hz, 1 H, H4), 8.40 (dd, 3J = 7.7 Hz, 3J = 8.2 Hz, 2 H, H3, H3'), 8.68 (dd, 3J = 4.9 Hz, 4J = 1.6 Hz, 1 H, H6'), 8.93 (d, 4J = 2.2 Hz, 1 H, H6), 9.79 (s, 1 H, OH).

^{13}C NMR (125.8 MHz, $DMSO-d_6$): δ = 116.1 (2 C, C9, C9'), 120.4, 120.6 (C3, C3'), 124.1 (C5'), 127.3 (C7), 128.1 (2 C, C8, C8'), 134.3 (C4), 135.8 (C5), 137.5 (C4'), 146.6 (C6), 149.3 (C6'), 153.1 (C2), 155.0 (C2'), 158.0 (C10).

MS (EI): m/z (%) = 248.0 ($[C_{16}H_{12}N_2O]^+$ = $[M]^+$, 100).

HRMS (EI): m/z $[M]^+$ calcd for $C_{16}H_{12}N_2O$: 248.0950; found: 248.0950.

Anal. Calcd for $C_{16}H_{12}N_2O \cdot 0.166 EtOAc$: C, 76.12; H, 5.11; N, 10.65. Found: C, 76.71; H, 5.18; N, 10.42.

5-Heptyl-5'-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2,2'-bipyridine (20)

Bipyridine **18** (180 mg, 0.49 mmol, 1 equiv) was dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL) and the soln was cooled to $-78^\circ C$. 1 M BBr_3 in CH_2Cl_2 (2.2 mL, 2.2 mmol, 4.4 equiv) was slowly added. The mixture was allowed to warm up to r.t. and stirred for 10 h. Aq 2 M $NaOH$ was carefully added in order to hydrolyze excessive BBr_3 . $EtOAc$ (25 mL) was added and the soln was neutralized with aq 6 M HCl . The orange precipitate was filtered off and dried in vacuo. The neutralized soln was extracted with $EtOAc$ (5×25 mL) and dried (Na_2SO_4). Solvent was removed and the product fractions were combined to give **20** as an orange-brown solid; yield: 171 mg (quant); mp 90–92 $^\circ C$.

R_f = 0.05 (*n*-hexane– $EtOAc$, 2:1 + 5% Et_3N).

1H NMR (500.1 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ = 0.86 (t, 3J = 6.9 Hz, 3 H, CH_3), 1.23–1.34 (m, 8 H, $4 \times CH_2$), 1.64 (m, 2 H, CH_2), 2.65 (t, 3J = 7.3 Hz, 2 H, CH_2), 6.93 (m, 2 H, H9), 7.44 (m, 2 H, H8), 7.66 (d, 3J = 7.6 Hz, 1 H, H4'), 7.91 (d, 3J = 7.9 Hz, 1 H, H4), 8.29 (d, 3J = 7.6 Hz, 1 H, H3'), 8.34 (d, 3J = 7.9 Hz, 1 H, H3), 8.51 (s, 1 H, H6'), 8.81 (s, 1 H, H6); OH not found.

^{13}C NMR (125.8 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ = 14.0 (CH_3), 22.6, 29.0, 29.1, 31.0, 31.7, 32.8 ($6 \times CH_2$), 116.3 (C9), 121.1 (C3/C3'), 128.2 (C8), 129.2 (C7), 134.9 (C4), 136.2 (C5), 137.4 (C4'), 138.6 (C5'), 146.9 (C6), 149.0 (C6'), 153.2 (C2'), 153.7 (C2), 157.0 (C10).

MS (CI, isobutane): m/z (%) = 347.3 ($[C_{23}H_{27}N_2O]^+$ = $[M + H]^+$, 100).

HRMS (CI, isobutane): m/z $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{23}H_{27}N_2O$: 347.2123; found: 347.2122.

Anal. Calcd for $C_{23}H_{26}N_2O \cdot 0.33 CH_2Cl_2$: C, 74.78; H, 7.17; N, 7.47. Found: C, 74.78; H, 7.49; N, 7.40.

5-[4-(Trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]-2,2'-bipyridine (21)

Bipyridine **19** (300 mg, 1.21 mmol, 1 equiv) was dissolved in Et_3N (2 mL) and CH_2Cl_2 (30 mL) and the soln was cooled to $-30^\circ C$. At this temperature, Tf_2O (0.41 mL, 682 mg, 2.42 mmol, 2 equiv) in CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL) was slowly added to the mixture. The cooling bath was removed and the soln was stirred at r.t. for 13 h. The mixture was then poured into cold H_2O (50 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (5×25 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with sat. aq $NaHCO_3$ (50 mL) and with brine (50 mL). The organic layer was dried (Na_2SO_4) and the solvents were removed. Purification by flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane– $EtOAc$, 1:1 + 0.5% Et_3N , R_f = 0.66) gave **21** as a yellow solid; yield: 184 mg (40%); mp 109–111 $^\circ C$.

1H NMR (500.1 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ = 7.36 (ddd, 3J = 6.3 Hz, 3J = 3.9 Hz, 4J = 1.1 Hz, 1 H, H5'), 7.41 (d, 3J = 8.6 Hz, 2 H, H9, H9'), 7.72 (d, 3J = 8.6 Hz, 2 H, H8, H8'), 7.87 (ddd, 3J = 7.7 Hz, 3J = 6.3 Hz, 4J = 1.6 Hz, 1 H, H4'), 8.01 (dd, 3J = 8.2 Hz, 4J = 2.2 Hz, 1 H, H4), 8.47 (d, 3J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H, H3'), 8.54 (d, 3J = 8.2 Hz, 1 H, H3), 8.72 (d, 3J = 3.9 Hz, 1 H, H6'), 8.90 (d, 4J = 2.2 Hz, 1 H, H6).

^{13}C NMR (125.8 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ = 118.8 (CF_3 , $^1J_{C-F}$ = 321 Hz), 121.2 (C3), 121.3 (C3'), 122.1 (2 C, C9, C9'), 124.0 (C5'), 128.9 (2 C, C8, C8'), 134.7 (C5), 135.4 (C4), 137.3 (C4'), 138.1 (C7), 147.5 (C6), 149.1 (C6'), 149.5 (C10), 155.3, 155.4 (C2, C2').

^{19}F NMR (282.4 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ = -72.7 (CF_3).

MS (EI): m/z (%) = 380.0 ($[C_{17}H_{11}F_3N_2O_3S]^+$ = $[M]^+$, 100).

HRMS (EI): m/z calcd for $C_{17}H_{11}F_3N_2O_3S$: 380.0442; found: 380.0447.

Anal. Calcd for $C_{17}H_{11}F_3N_2O_3S \cdot 0.33 C_6H_5CH_3$: C, 56.49; H, 3.35; N, 6.82. Found: C, 56.92; H, 2.92; N, 6.52.

5-Heptyl-5'-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]-2,2'-bipyridine (22)

Bipyridine **20** (150 mg, 0.43 mmol, 1 equiv) was dissolved in Et_3N (0.2 mL) and CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL) and the soln was cooled to $-30^\circ C$. At this temperature Tf_2O (110 μL , 182 mg, 0.65 mmol, 1.5 equiv) was slowly added to the mixture. The cooling bath was removed and the mixture was stirred at r.t. for 15 h. TLC monitoring still revealed some starting material, hence additional Tf_2O (20 μL) was added at r.t. and the mixture was stirred for an additional 3 h. The mixture was then poured into cold H_2O (25 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (5×15 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with sat. aq $NaHCO_3$ (25 mL) and with brine (25 mL). The organic layer was dried (Na_2SO_4) and the solvents were removed. Purification by flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane– $EtOAc$, 5:1 + 5% Et_3N , R_f = 0.6) gave **22** as a yellow solid; yield: 152 mg (74%); mp 112–114 $^\circ C$.

1H NMR (500.1 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ = 0.88 (t, 3J = 6.9 Hz, 3 H, CH_3), 1.25–1.39 (m, 8 H, $4 \times CH_2$), 1.67 (m, 2 H, CH_2), 2.69 (t, 3J = 7.7 Hz, 2 H, CH_2), 7.40 (m, 2 H, H9), 7.70 (m, 3 H, H4', H8), 7.99 (dd, 3J = 8.3 Hz, 4J = 2.2 Hz, 1 H, H4), 8.38 (d, 3J = 7.9 Hz, 1 H, H3'), 8.52 (m, 2 H, H3, H6'), 8.87 (s, 1 H, H6).

^{13}C NMR (125.8 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ = 14.0 (CH_3), 22.6, 29.0, 29.1, 31.0, 31.7, 32.9 ($6 \times CH_2$), 118.8 (CF_3 , $^1J_{C-F}$ = 321 Hz), 121.1 (C3, C3'), 122.1 (C9), 128.9 (C8), 134.5 (C5), 135.4 (C4), 137.4 (C4'), 138.1 (C7), 139.0 (C5'), 147.5 (C6), 148.8 (C6'), 149.5 (C10), 152.6 (C2'), 155.3 (C2).

^{19}F NMR (282.4 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ = -72.73 (CF_3).

MS (CI, NH_3): m/z (%) = 479.2 ($[C_{24}H_{26}F_3N_2O_3S]^+$ = $[M + H]^+$, 100).

HRMS (CI, NH₃): *m/z* [M + H]⁺ calcd for C₂₄H₂₆F₃N₂O₃S: 479.1616; found: 479.1622.

Anal. Calcd for C₂₄H₂₅F₃N₂O₃S: C, 60.24; H, 5.27; N, 5.85; S 6.70. Found: C, 60.96; H, 5.57; N, 5.81; S 6.23.

5-Heptyl-5'-[4-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)phenyl]-2,2'-bipyridine (23)

KOAc (246 mg, 2.508 mmol, 3 equiv), **22** (400 mg, 0.84 mmol, 1 equiv), bis(pinacolato)diboron (255 mg, 1.003 mmol, 1.2 equiv), [PdCl₂(dppf)] (61 mg, 84 μmol, 10 mol% Pd), and 1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene (dppf) (47 mg, 84 μmol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in 1,4-dioxane (12 mL) and the resulting soln was heated to 120 °C and stirred at this temperature for 18 h. When TLC monitoring revealed complete consumption of the starting material H₂O (25 mL) and CH₂Cl₂ (25 mL) were added. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 × 15 mL). The combined organic layers were dried (Na₂SO₄) and the solvents were removed. Purification by flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 5:1, *R_f* = 0.6) gave **23** as a brown solid; yield: 343 mg (90%); mp 158–162 °C.

¹H NMR (400.1 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 0.88 (t, ³*J* = 6.9 Hz, 3 H, CH₃), 1.22–1.41 (m, 8 H, 4 × CH₂), 1.37 (s, 12 H, 4 × CH₃), 1.61–1.71 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 2.67 (t, ³*J* = 7.7 Hz, 2 H, CH₂), 7.62–7.68 (m, 3 H, H_{4'}, H₈), 7.93 (d, ³*J* = 8.3 Hz, 2 H, H₉), 8.03 (dd, ³*J* = 8.3 Hz, ⁴*J* = 2.4 Hz, 1 H, H₄), 8.34 (dd, ³*J* = 8.1 Hz, ⁵*J* = 0.7 Hz, 1 H, H_{3'}), 8.44 (dd, ³*J* = 8.3 Hz, ⁵*J* = 0.8 Hz, 1 H, H₃), 8.51 (dd, ⁴*J* = 2.2 Hz, ⁵*J* = 0.7 Hz, 1 H, H_{6'}), 8.92 (dd, ⁴*J* = 2.4 Hz, ⁵*J* = 0.8 Hz, 1 H, H₆).

¹³C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 14.1 (CH₃), 22.7 (CH₂), 24.9 (4 × CH₃), 29.13, 29.15, 31.1, 31.8, 32.9 (5 × CH₂), 84.0 (2 C, CMe₂), 120.71 (C₃)*, 120.76 (C_{3'})*, 126.3 (2 C, C₈), 135.3 (C₄), 135.6 (2 C, C₉), 136.0 (C₅), 136.8 (C_{4'}), 138.4 (C_{5'}), 140.4 (C₇), 147.7 (C₆), 149.4 (C_{6'}), 153.6 (C_{2'}), 155.4 (C₂), C₁₀ not found; * interchangeable assignments.

MS (EI): *m/z* (%) = 456.3 ([C₂₉H₃₇BN₂O₂]⁺ = [M]⁺, 100).

HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M]⁺ calcd for C₂₉H₃₇¹⁰BN₂O₂: 455.2984; found: 455.2977.

Anal. Calcd for C₂₉H₃₇BN₂O₂·0.2 EtOAc: C, 75.50; H, 8.21; N, 5.91. Found: C, 76.31; H, 8.06; N, 5.89.

Methyl 5'-Ethynyl-2,2'-bipyridine-5-carboxylate (24)

Bipyridine **12** (284 mg, 0.91 mmol, 1 equiv) was dissolved in THF (25 mL) and MeOH (25 mL). KF (64 mg, 1.10 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added and the resulting mixture stirred for 24 h. The solvents were removed and the resulting crude product subjected to flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 5:1 + 5% Et₃N, *R_f* = 0.69) to give **24** as a yellow solid; yield: 155 mg (71%); mp 180–182 °C.

¹H NMR (400.1 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 3.32 (s, 1 H, C≡CH), 3.97 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 7.91 (dd, ³*J* = 8.3 Hz, ⁴*J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H, H_{4'}), 8.38 (dd, ³*J* = 8.4 Hz, ⁴*J* = 2.1 Hz, 1 H, H₄), 8.40 (m, ³*J* = 8.2 Hz, 1 H, H_{3'}), 8.46 (m, ³*J* = 8.4 Hz, 1 H, H₃), 8.72 (dd, ⁴*J* = 2.0 Hz, ⁵*J* = 0.9 Hz, 1 H, H_{6'}), 9.22 (dd, ⁴*J* = 2.1 Hz, ⁵*J* = 0.9 Hz, 1 H, H₆).

¹³C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 52.5 (OCH₃), 80.5 (C≡CH), 82.0 (C≡CH), 120.0 (C_{5'}), 120.9 (C₃), 121.1 (C_{3'}), 125.9 (C₅), 138.1 (C₄), 140.1 (C_{4'}), 150.6 (C₆), 152.4 (C_{6'}), 154.3 (C_{2'}), 158.6 (C₂), 165.7 (C₇).

MS (EI): *m/z* (%) = 238.0 ([C₁₄H₁₀N₂O₂]⁺ = [M]⁺, 100).

HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₁₀N₂O₂: 238.0742; found: 238.0746.

Anal. Calcd for C₁₄H₁₀N₂O₂·0.25 EtOAc·0.25 C₆H₁₄: C, 70.32; H, 5.54; N, 9.94. Found: C, 69.71; H, 5.55; N, 9.78.

Acknowledgment

Financial support from the DFG (SFB 624 and SPP 1118) is gratefully acknowledged.

References

- (1) (a) Kaes, C.; Katz, A.; Hosseini, M. W. *Chem. Rev.* **2000**, *100*, 3553. (b) Newkome, G. R.; Patri, A. K.; Holder, E.; Schubert, U. S. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2002**, 235.
- (2) Piguat, C.; Bernadinelli, G.; Hopfgartner, G. *Chem. Rev.* **1997**, *97*, 2005.
- (3) Juris, A.; Balzani, V.; Barigelletti, F.; Campagna, S.; Belser, P.; von Zelewsky, A. *Coord. Chem. Rev.* **1998**, *84*, 85.
- (4) (a) Chelucci, G.; Thummel, R. P. *Chem. Rev.* **2002**, *102*, 3129. (b) Fletcher, N. C. *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1* **2002**, 1831.
- (5) Hassan, J.; Sévignon, M.; Gozzi, C.; Schulz, E.; Lemaire, M. *Chem. Rev.* **2002**, *102*, 1359.
- (6) Kröhnke, F. *Synthesis* **1976**, 1.
- (7) Some examples, see: (a) Romero, F.; Ziesel, R. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1995**, *36*, 6471. (b) Newkome, G. R.; Gross, J.; Patri, A. K. *J. Org. Chem.* **1997**, *62*, 3013.
- (8) (a) Miyaura, N.; Suzuki, A. *Chem. Rev.* **1995**, *95*, 2457. (b) *Metal-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling Reactions*, 2nd ed.; de Meijere, A.; Diederich, F., Eds.; Wiley-VCH: Weinheim, **2004**. (c) *Cross-Coupling Reactions*; Miyaura, N., Ed.; Springer: Berlin, **2002**. Recent special issue on cross-coupling reactions, see: (d) *J. Organomet. Chem.* **2002**, *653*, 1–303.
- (9) Tsuji, J. *Palladium Reagents and Catalysts*; John Wiley & Sons: Chichester, **1995**.
- (10) (a) Dai, C.; Fu, G. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2001**, *123*, 2719. (b) Littke, A. F.; Fu, G. C. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2002**, *41*, 4176; *Angew. Chem.*, **2002**, *114*, 4350.
- (11) (a) Lützen, A.; Hapke, M.; Griep-Raming, J.; Haase, D.; Saak, W. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2002**, *41*, 2086; *Angew. Chem.*, **2002**, *114*, 2190. (b) Schalley, C. A.; Lützen, A.; Albrecht, M. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2004**, *10*, 1072.
- (12) (a) Lützen, A.; Hapke, M. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2002**, 2292. (b) Lützen, A.; Hapke, M.; Staats, H.; Bunzen, J. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2003**, 3948.
- (13) Littke, A. F.; Dai, C.; Fu, G. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2000**, *122*, 4020.
- (14) Fang, Y.-Q.; Hanan, G. S. *Synlett* **2003**, 852.
- (15) Grushin, V.; Alper, H. *Chem. Rev.* **1994**, *94*, 1047.
- (16) Suffert, J. *J. Org. Chem.* **1989**, *54*, 509.
- (17) Leeson, P. D.; Emmett, J. C. *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1* **1988**, 3085.
- (18) Grave, C.; Lentz, D.; Schaefer, A.; Samori, P.; Rabe, J. P.; Franke, P.; Schlueter, A. D. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2003**, *125*, 6907.
- (19) Baxter, P. N. W. *J. Org. Chem.* **2000**, *65*, 1257.
- (20) Potts, K. T. *J. Org. Chem.* **1985**, *50*, 5405.
- (21) Fletcher, N. C.; Nieuwenhuyzen, M.; Rainey, S. *J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans.* **2001**, 2641.
- (22) This compound has been described before using a different synthetic approach; however, no NMR or MS data were provided: Kozhevnikov, V. N.; Kozhevnikov, D. N.; Shabunina, O. V.; Rusinov, V. L.; Chupakhin, O. N. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2005**, *46*, 1791.
- (23) Grosshenny, V.; Romero, F. M.; Ziesel, R. *J. Org. Chem.* **1997**, *62*, 1491.
- (24) This compound has been described before using a different synthetic approach; however, no NMR or MS data were provided: Schubert, U. S.; Eschbaumer, C.; Heller, M. *Org. Lett.* **2000**, *2*, 3373.