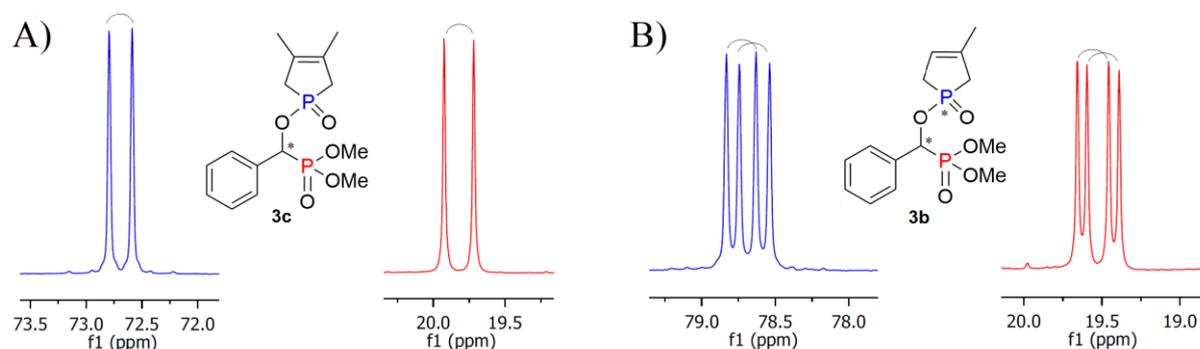


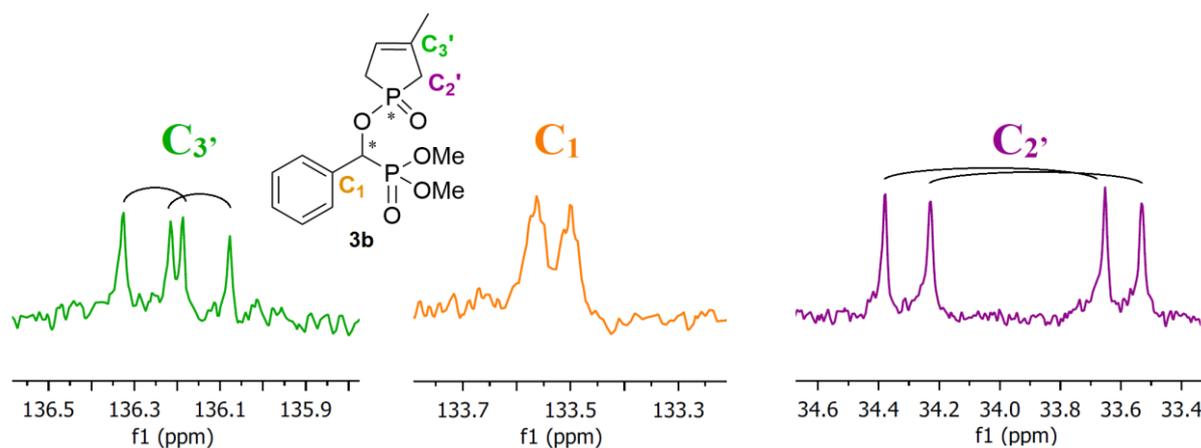
## Phosphorylation of (1-aryl-1-hydroxymethyl)phosphonates

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The  $^{31}\text{P}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  and  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra were taken on a Bruker Avance-300 instrument operating at 121.5, 75.5 and 300 MHz, respectively. Electrospray high-resolution MS measurements (ESI-HRMS) were performed on a Thermo Velos Pro Orbitrap Elite Hybrid Mass spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Bremen, Germany). The ionization method was ESI and operated in positive ion mode. The capillary temperature was set at 275°C. Samples were infused into the ESI source MeOH solutions at a flow rate of  $3\ \mu\text{l}\ \text{min}^{-1}$ . Resolving power of 60,000 (FWHM) at  $m/z$  400. Data acquisition and analysis were accomplished with Xcalibur software version 3.0 (Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.).



**Figure S1** Signals of phosphorus atoms in the  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectra of compounds **3b,c**.



**Figure S2** Segments from the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of compound **3b**.

Dimethyl (1-diphenylphosphoryloxy-1-phenylmethyl)phosphonate (3a)

Yield: 57%,  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  19.6 (d,  $^3J = 25.3$ ,  $\text{P}(\text{O})(\text{OCH}_3)_2$ ), 35.0 (d,  $^3J = 25.3$ ,  $\text{P}(\text{O})\text{Ph}_2$ );  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  53.7 (d,  $^2J = 6.6$ ,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 54.0 (d,  $^2J = 7.2$ ,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 71.4 (dd,  $^1J = 172.7$ ,  $^2J = 6.8$ , PCH), 128.1 (d,  $^3J = 13.1$ ,  $\text{C}_3$ ), 128.2 (d,  $^3J = 6.3$ ,  $\text{C}_2$ ), 128.4 (d,  $^4J = 1.9$ ,  $\text{C}_3$ ), 128.5 (d,  $^3J = 13.5$ ,  $\text{C}_3$ ), 128.9 (d,  $^5J = 2.7$ ,  $\text{C}_4$ ), 130.8 (d,  $^1J = 137.2$ ,  $\text{C}_1$ ), 131.0 (d,  $^1J = 138.9$ ,  $\text{C}_1$ ), 131.66 (d,  $^2J = 10.5$ ,  $\text{C}_2$ ), 131.74 (d,  $^2J = 10.7$ ,  $\text{C}_2$ ), 132.2 (d,  $^4J = 2.8$ ,  $\text{C}_4$ ), 132.4 (d,  $^4J = 2.8$ ,  $\text{C}_4$ ), 133.5 (t,  $^2J = 1.6$ ,  $^3J = 1.6$ ,  $\text{C}_1$ );  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  3.57 (d,  $^3J_{\text{P,H}} = 10.6$ , 3H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 3.69 (d,  $^3J_{\text{P,H}} = 10.7$ , 3H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 5.70 (dd,  $^{2,3}J_{\text{P,H}} = 11.7$ , 13.1, 1H, PCH), 7.20-7.64 (m, 13H, Ar), 7.84-7.95 (m, 2H, Ar);  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  found = 417.10146,  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{23}\text{O}_5\text{P}_2$  requires 417.10152.

Dimethyl [1-diphenylphosphoryloxy-1-(4-methylphenyl)methyl]phosphonate (3b)

Yield: 49%,  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  19.8 (d,  $^3J = 25.8$ ,  $\text{P}(\text{O})(\text{OCH}_3)_2$ ), 34.9 (d,  $^3J = 25.8$ ,  $\text{P}(\text{O})\text{Ph}_2$ );  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  21.2 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 53.7 (d,  $^2J = 6.6$ ,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 54.0 (d,  $^2J = 7.2$ ,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 71.4 (dd,  $^1J = 173.6$ ,  $^2J = 6.8$ , PCH), 128.1 (d,  $^3J = 13.3$ ,  $\text{C}_3$ ), 128.2 (d,  $^3J = 6.5$ ,  $\text{C}_2$ ), 128.5 (d,  $^3J = 13.5$ ,  $\text{C}_3$ ), 129.1 (d,  $^4J = 1.9$ ,  $\text{C}_3$ ), 130.5 (t,  $^2J = 1.7$ ,  $^3J = 1.7$ ,  $\text{C}_1$ ), 131.0 (d,  $^1J = 133.6$ ,  $\text{C}_1$ ), 131.2 (d,  $^1J = 138.0$ ,  $\text{C}_1$ ), 131.7 (d,  $^2J = 10.5$ ,  $\text{C}_2$ ), 131.8 (d,  $^2J = 10.7$ ,  $\text{C}_2$ ), 132.1 (d,  $^4J = 2.8$ ,  $\text{C}_4$ ), 132.4 (d,  $^4J = 2.9$ ,  $\text{C}_4$ ), 138.8 (d,  $^5J = 2.9$ ,  $\text{C}_4$ );  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.29 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.57 (d,  $^3J_{\text{P,H}} = 10.5$ , 3H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 3.69 (d,  $^3J_{\text{P,H}} = 10.7$ , 3H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 5.66 (dd,  $^{2,3}J_{\text{P,H}} = 11.8$ , 12.6, 1H, PCH), 7.04-7.09 (m, 2H, Ar), 7.23-7.63 (m, 10H, Ar), 7.85-7.93 (m, 2H, Ar);  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  found = 431.11669,  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{25}\text{O}_5\text{P}_2$  requires 431.11717.

Dimethyl [1-diphenylphosphoryloxy-1-(4-chlorophenyl)methyl]phosphonate (3c)

Yield: 61%,  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  19.2 (d,  $^3J = 25.8$ ,  $\text{P}(\text{O})(\text{OCH}_3)_2$ ), 35.3 (d,  $^3J = 25.8$ ,  $\text{P}(\text{O})\text{Ph}_2$ );  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  53.7 (d,  $^2J = 6.6$ ,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 54.1 (d,  $^2J = 7.2$ ,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 70.7 (dd,  $^1J = 173.3$ ,  $^2J = 6.8$ , PCH), 128.3 (d,  $^3J = 13.4$ ,  $\text{C}_3$ ), 128.55 (d,  $^3J = 13.5$ ,  $\text{C}_3$ ), 128.59 (d,  $^4J = 2.1$ ,  $\text{C}_3$ ), 129.5 (d,  $^3J = 6.1$ ,  $\text{C}_2$ ), 130.7 (d,  $^1J = 138.6$ ,  $\text{C}_1$ ), 131.7 (d,  $^2J = 10.6$ ,  $\text{C}_2$ ), 132.2 (t,  $^2J = 1.6$ ,  $^3J = 1.6$ ,  $\text{C}_1$ ), 132.3 (d,  $^4J = 2.9$ ,  $\text{C}_4$ ), 132.6 (d,  $^4J = 2.9$ ,  $\text{C}_4$ ), 134.9 (d,  $^5J = 3.4$ ,  $\text{C}_4$ );  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  3.60 (d,  $^3J_{\text{P,H}} = 10.6$ , 3H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 3.70 (d,  $^3J_{\text{P,H}} = 10.7$ , 3H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 5.67 (dd,  $^{2,3}J_{\text{P,H}} = 11.6$ , 12.9, 1H, PCH), 7.20-7.63 (m, 12H, Ar), 7.84-7.92 (m, 2H, Ar);  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  found = 451.06232,  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_5\text{ClP}_2$  requires 451.06255.

Dimethyl [1-diphenylphosphoryloxy-1-(4-nitrophenyl)methyl]phosphonate (3d)

Yield: 70%,  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  18.3 (d,  $^3J = 25.2$ ,  $\text{P}(\text{O})(\text{OCH}_3)_2$ ), 36.1 (d,  $^3J = 25.2$ ,  $\text{P}(\text{O})\text{Ph}_2$ );  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  53.9 (d,  $^2J = 6.7$ ,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 54.3 (d,  $^2J = 7.2$ ,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 70.5 (dd,  $^1J = 170.7$ ,  $^2J = 6.6$ , PCH), 123.5 (d,  $^4J = 2.2$ ,  $\text{C}_3$ ), 128.5 (d,  $^3J = 13.5$ ,  $\text{C}_3$ ), 128.7 (d,  $^3J = 13.5$ ,  $\text{C}_3$ ), 128.8 (d,  $^3J = 5.5$ ,  $\text{C}_2$ ), 130.2 (d,  $^1J = 137.8$ ,  $\text{C}_1$ ), 130.5 (d,  $^1J = 134.5$ ,  $\text{C}_1$ ), 131.6 (d,  $^2J = 10.7$ ,  $\text{C}_2$ ), 131.8 (d,  $^2J = 10.6$ ,  $\text{C}_2$ ), 132.7 (d,  $^4J = 2.8$ ,  $\text{C}_4$ ), 132.8 (d,  $^4J = 2.9$ ,  $\text{C}_4$ ), 141.0 (t,  $^2J = 1.6$ ,  $^3J = 1.6$ ,  $\text{C}_1$ ), 150.0 (d,  $^5J = 3.2$ ,  $\text{C}_4$ );  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  3.66 (d,  $^3J_{\text{P,H}} = 10.7$ , 3H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 3.72 (d,  $^3J_{\text{P,H}} = 10.8$ , 3H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 5.81 (dd,  $^{2,3}J_{\text{P,H}}$

= 11.2, 14.8, 1H, PCH), 7.25-7.68 (m, 10H, Ar), 7.84-7.96 (m, 2H, Ar), 8.08-8.16 (m, 2H, Ar);  $[M+H]^+$  found = 462.08590,  $C_{21}H_{22}O_7NP_2$  requires 462.08660.

Dimethyl [1-(3-methyl-1-oxido-2,5-dihydro-1H-phosphol-1-yloxy)-1-phenylmethyl]phosphonate (3e)

Yield: 59%,  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  1.68 (s, 3H,  $C_3'$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.81 (s, 3H,  $C_3'$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.90-2.78 (m, 8H, 4xPCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.64 (d,  $^3J_{P,H}$  = 10.6, 6H, 2xOCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.77 (d,  $^3J_{P,H}$  = 10.6, 6H, 2xOCH<sub>3</sub>), 5.44 (d,  $^3J_{P,H}$  = 35.2, 1H, CH=), 5.55 (d,  $^3J_{P,H}$  = 35.4, 1H, CH=), 5.73 (dd,  $^{2,3}J_{P,H}$  = 12.3, 12.7, 2H, PCH), 7.27-7.57 (m, 10H, Ar);  $[M+H]^+$  found = 331.08555,  $C_{14}H_{21}O_5P_2$  requires 331.08587.

Isomer 1:  $^{31}P$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  19.5 (d,  $^3J$  = 25.0, P(O)(OCH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 78.6 (d,  $^3J$  = 25.0, P<sub>1</sub>);  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  20.7 (d,  $^3J$  = 12.8,  $C_3'$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 31.4 (d,  $^1J$  = 87.9, C<sub>5'</sub>), 33.9 (d,  $^1J$  = 87.8, C<sub>2'</sub>), 53.90 (d,  $^2J$  = 6.7, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 54.0 (d,  $^2J$  = 7.0, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 70.8 (dd,  $^1J$  = 172.4,  $^2J$  = 7.1, PCH), 120.2 (d,  $^2J$  = 11.3, C<sub>4'</sub>), 127.86 (d,  $^3J$  = 5.9, C<sub>2</sub>), 128.7-128.8 (m, C<sub>3</sub>), 129.1-129.2 (m, C<sub>4</sub>), 133.5 (t,  $^2J$  = 1.5,  $^3J$  = 1.5, C<sub>1</sub>), 136.2 (d,  $^2J$  = 17.3, C<sub>3'</sub>).

Isomer 2:  $^{31}P$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  19.6 (d,  $^3J$  = 24.4, P(O)(OCH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 78.7 (d,  $^3J$  = 24.4, P<sub>1</sub>);  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  20.8 (d,  $^3J$  = 13.2,  $C_3'$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 31.5 (d,  $^1J$  = 84.4, C<sub>5'</sub>), 34.1 (d,  $^1J$  = 91.4, C<sub>2'</sub>), 53.93 (d,  $^2J$  = 6.6, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 54.1 (d,  $^2J$  = 6.9, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 70.9 (dd,  $^1J$  = 172.4,  $^2J$  = 6.9, PCH), 120.3 (d,  $^2J$  = 11.2, C<sub>4'</sub>), 127.89 (d,  $^3J$  = 5.8, C<sub>2</sub>), 128.7-128.8 (m, C<sub>3</sub>), 129.1-129.2 (m, C<sub>4</sub>), 133.6 (t,  $^2J$  = 1.5,  $^3J$  = 1.5, C<sub>1</sub>), 136.3 (d,  $^2J$  = 17.4, C<sub>3'</sub>).

Dimethyl [1-(3-methyl-1-oxido-2,5-dihydro-1H-phosphol-1-yloxy)-1-(4-methylphenyl)methyl]phosphonate (3f)

Yield: 46%,  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  1.68 (s, 3H,  $C_3'$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.80 (s, 3H,  $C_3'$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.90-2.76 (m, 8H, 4xPCH<sub>2</sub>) overlapped by 2.36 (s, 6H, 2xCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.64 (d,  $^3J_{P,H}$  = 10.5, 6H, 2xOCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.78 (d,  $^3J_{P,H}$  = 10.6, 6H, 2xOCH<sub>3</sub>), 5.43 (d,  $^3J_{P,H}$  = 34.6, 1H, CH=), 5.54 (d,  $^3J_{P,H}$  = 36.3, 1H, CH=), 5.72 (dd,  $^{2,3}J_{P,H}$  = 11.7, 13.0, 2H, PCH), 7.15-7.46 (m, 8H, Ar);  $[M+H]^+$  found = 345.10145,  $C_{15}H_{23}O_5P_2$  requires 345.10152.

Isomer 1:  $^{31}P$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  19.9 (d,  $^3J$  = 25.9, P(O)(OCH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 78.7 (d,  $^3J$  = 25.9, P<sub>1</sub>);  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  20.68 (d,  $^3J$  = 12.9,  $C_3'$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 31.47 (d,  $^1J$  = 88.0, C<sub>5'</sub>), 34.0 (d,  $^1J$  = 87.9, C<sub>2'</sub>), 53.90 (d,  $^2J$  = 6.7, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 54.0 (d,  $^2J$  = 7.2, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 70.89 (dd,  $^1J$  = 173.5,  $^2J$  = 7.0, PCH), 120.21 (d,  $^2J$  = 11.2, C<sub>4'</sub>), 127.9 (d,  $^3J$  = 6.0, C<sub>2</sub>), 129.5 (d,  $^4J$  = 2.0, C<sub>3</sub>), 130.3-130.4 (m, C<sub>1</sub>), 136.2 (d,  $^2J$  = 17.3, C<sub>3'</sub>), 139.2 (d,  $^5J$  = 2.9, C<sub>4</sub>).

Isomer 2:  $^{31}P$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  20.1 (d,  $^3J$  = 25.5, P(O)(OCH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 78.8 (d,  $^3J$  = 25.5, P<sub>1</sub>);  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  20.74 (d,  $^3J$  = 13.4,  $C_3'$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 31.52 (d,  $^1J$  = 84.3, C<sub>5'</sub>), 34.1 (d,  $^1J$  = 91.5, C<sub>2'</sub>), 53.93 (d,  $^2J$  = 6.9, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 54.1 (d,  $^2J$  = 7.0, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 70.92 (dd,  $^1J$  = 173.6,  $^2J$  = 7.4, PCH), 120.24 (d,  $^2J$  = 11.3, C<sub>4'</sub>), 128.0 (d,  $^3J$  = 6.1, C<sub>2</sub>), 129.5 (d,  $^4J$  = 2.0, C<sub>3</sub>), 130.3-130.4 (m, C<sub>1</sub>), 136.3 (d,  $^2J$  = 17.6, C<sub>3'</sub>), 139.2 (d,  $^5J$  = 2.9, C<sub>4</sub>).

Dimethyl [1-(3-methyl-1-oxido-2,5-dihydro-1H-phosphol-1-yloxy)-1-(4-chlorophenyl)methyl]-phosphonate (3g)

Yield: 54%, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.72 (s, 3H, C<sub>3</sub>'-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.82 (s, 3H, C<sub>3</sub>'-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.91-2.75 (m, 8H, 4xPCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.68 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>P,H</sub> = 10.6, 6H, 2xOCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.78 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>P,H</sub> = 10.7, 6H, 2xOCH<sub>3</sub>), 5.46 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>P,H</sub> = 36.9, 1H, CH=), 5.56 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>P,H</sub> = 37.4, 1H, CH=), 5.73 (dd, <sup>2,3</sup>J<sub>P,H</sub> = 12.0, 13.1, 2H, PCH), 7.35-7.51 (m, 8H, Ar); [M+H]<sup>+</sup><sub>found</sub> = 365.04651, C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>5</sub>ClP<sub>2</sub> requires 365.04690.

Isomer 1: <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 16.8 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 23.8, P(O)(OCH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 76.9 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 23.8, P<sub>1</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 20.55 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 12.9, C<sub>3</sub>'-CH<sub>3</sub>), 31.3 (d, <sup>1</sup>J = 87.3, C<sub>5</sub>'), 33.86 (d, <sup>1</sup>J = 91.0, C<sub>2</sub>'), 53.79 (d, <sup>2</sup>J = 6.8, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 53.95 (d, <sup>2</sup>J = 7.1, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 70.02 (dd, <sup>1</sup>J = 172.6, <sup>2</sup>J = 7.1, PCH), 119.9 (d, <sup>2</sup>J = 11.2, C<sub>4</sub>'), 128.8 (d, <sup>4</sup>J = 2.1, C<sub>3</sub>), 129.01 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 5.9, C<sub>2</sub>), 132.1-132.2 (m, C<sub>1</sub>), 135.0 (d, <sup>5</sup>J = 2.7, C<sub>4</sub>), 136.0 (d, <sup>2</sup>J = 17.3, C<sub>3</sub>).

Isomer 2: <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 16.9 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 23.4, P(O)(OCH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 77.0 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 23.4, P<sub>1</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 20.60 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 13.2, C<sub>3</sub>'-CH<sub>3</sub>), 31.4 (d, <sup>1</sup>J = 84.6, C<sub>5</sub>'), 33.91 (d, <sup>1</sup>J = 88.3, C<sub>2</sub>'), 53.82 (d, <sup>2</sup>J = 6.8, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 54.00 (d, <sup>2</sup>J = 7.1, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 70.04 (dd, <sup>1</sup>J = 173.0, <sup>2</sup>J = 7.0, PCH), 120.1 (d, <sup>2</sup>J = 11.2, C<sub>4</sub>'), 128.8 (d, <sup>4</sup>J = 2.1, C<sub>3</sub>), 129.03 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 5.9, C<sub>2</sub>), 132.1-132.2 (m, C<sub>1</sub>), 135.0 (d, <sup>5</sup>J = 2.7, C<sub>4</sub>), 136.2 (d, <sup>2</sup>J = 17.4, C<sub>3</sub>).

Dimethyl [1-(3-methyl-1-oxido-2,5-dihydro-1H-phosphol-1-yloxy)-1-(4-nitrophenyl)methyl]-phosphonate (3h)

Yield: 72%, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.76 (s, 3H, C<sub>3</sub>'-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.85 (s, 3H, C<sub>3</sub>'-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.09-2.80 (m, 8H, 4xPCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.72-3.82 (m, 12H, 4xOCH<sub>3</sub>), 5.52 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>P,H</sub> = 36.9, 1H, CH=), 5.60 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>P,H</sub> = 37.5, 1H, CH=), 5.88 (dd, <sup>2,3</sup>J<sub>P,H</sub> = 14.2, 11.9, 1H, PCH), 5.89 (dd, <sup>2,3</sup>J<sub>P,H</sub> = 14.2, 12.1, 1H, PCH), 7.66-7.72 (m, 4H, H<sub>2</sub>'), 8.24-8.29 (m, 4H, H<sub>3</sub>'); [M+H]<sup>+</sup><sub>found</sub> = 376.07061, C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>7</sub>NP<sub>2</sub> requires 376.07095.

Isomer 1: <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 18.39 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 20.6, P(O)(OCH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 80.3 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 20.6, P<sub>1</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 19.7 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 13.0, C<sub>3</sub>'-CH<sub>3</sub>), 30.4 (d, <sup>1</sup>J = 86.7, C<sub>5</sub>'), 32.9 (d, <sup>1</sup>J = 90.4, C<sub>2</sub>'), 53.10 (d, <sup>2</sup>J = 6.5, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 53.2 (d, <sup>2</sup>J = 6.3, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 68.97 (d, <sup>1</sup>J = 169.8, PCH), 118.9 (d, <sup>2</sup>J = 11.3, C<sub>4</sub>'), 122.8 (d, <sup>4</sup>J = 2.3, C<sub>3</sub>), 127.3 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 5.3, C<sub>2</sub>), 135.1 (d, <sup>2</sup>J = 17.5, C<sub>3</sub>'), 140.1-140.3 (m, C<sub>1</sub>), 147.2 (bs, C<sub>4</sub>).

Isomer 2: <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 18.43 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 20.1, P(O)(OCH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 80.4 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 20.1, P<sub>1</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 19.8 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 13.4, C<sub>3</sub>'-CH<sub>3</sub>), 30.7 (d, <sup>1</sup>J = 85.0, C<sub>5</sub>'), 33.2 (d, <sup>1</sup>J = 88.7, C<sub>2</sub>'), 53.13 (d, <sup>2</sup>J = 6.7, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 53.3 (d, <sup>2</sup>J = 6.7, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 69.03 (d, <sup>1</sup>J = 169.5, PCH), 119.4 (d, <sup>2</sup>J = 11.4, C<sub>4</sub>'), 122.8 (d, <sup>4</sup>J = 2.3, C<sub>3</sub>), 127.3 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 5.3, C<sub>2</sub>), 135.5 (d, <sup>2</sup>J = 17.5, C<sub>3</sub>'), 140.1-140.3 (m, C<sub>1</sub>), 147.2 (bs, C<sub>4</sub>).

Dimethyl [1-(3,4-dimethyl-1-oxido-2,5-dihydro-1H-phosphol-1-yloxy)-1-phenylmethyl]phosphonate (3i)

Yield: 59%, <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 19.9 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 25.1, P(O)(OCH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 72.7 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 25.0, P<sub>1</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 16.4 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 15.9, C<sub>3</sub>'-CH<sub>3</sub>), 16.5 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 16.3, C<sub>3</sub>'-CH<sub>3</sub>), 36.15 (d, <sup>1</sup>J = 86.5, C<sub>2</sub>'), 36.23 (d, <sup>1</sup>J = 90.2, C<sub>2</sub>'), 53.8 (d, <sup>2</sup>J = 6.7, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 54.0 (d, <sup>2</sup>J = 7.1, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 70.8 (dd, <sup>1</sup>J = 172.3, <sup>2</sup>J = 7.0, PCH),

127.4 (d,  $^2J = 13.2$ , C<sub>3'</sub>), 127.5 (d,  $^2J = 13.3$ , C<sub>3'</sub>), 127.8 (d,  $^3J = 5.9$ , C<sub>2</sub>), 128.7 (d,  $^5J = 2.2$ , C<sub>4</sub>), 129.1 (d,  $^4J = 2.8$ , C<sub>3</sub>), 133.6 (t,  $^2J = 1.6$ ,  $^3J = 1.6$ , C<sub>1</sub>);  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.60 (s, 3H, C<sub>3'</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.73 (s, 3H, C<sub>3'</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.77-2.73 (m, 4H, 2xPCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.64 (d,  $^3J_{\text{P,H}} = 10.6$ , 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.78 (d,  $^3J_{\text{P,H}} = 10.6$ , 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 5.73 (dd,  $^{2,3}J_{\text{P,H}} = 11.4$ , 13.7, 1H, PCH), 7.24-7.58 (m, 5H, Ar);  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  found = 345.10125, C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>23</sub>O<sub>5</sub>P<sub>2</sub> requires 345.10152.

Dimethyl [1-(3,4-dimethyl-1-oxido-2,5-dihydro-1H-phosphol-1-yloxy)-1-(4-methylphenyl)methyl]-phosphonate (3j)

Yield: 50%,  $^{31}\text{P NMR}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  20.1 (d,  $^3J = 25.8$ , P(O)(OCH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 72.5 (d,  $^3J = 25.9$ , P<sub>1'</sub>);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  16.6 (d,  $^3J = 16.0$ , C<sub>3'</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 16.7 (d,  $^3J = 16.2$ , C<sub>3'</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 36.4 (d,  $^1J = 86.5$ , C<sub>2'</sub>), 36.5 (d,  $^1J = 90.4$ , C<sub>2'</sub>), 54.0 (d,  $^2J = 6.9$ , OCH<sub>3</sub>), 54.2 (d,  $^2J = 7.0$ , OCH<sub>3</sub>), 70.9 (dd,  $^1J = 173.3$ ,  $^2J = 6.8$ , PCH), 127.6 (d,  $^2J = 13.1$ , C<sub>3'</sub>), 128.1 (d,  $^3J = 6.0$ , C<sub>2</sub>), 129.6 (C<sub>3</sub>), 130.7 (C<sub>1</sub>), 139.3 (C<sub>4</sub>);  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.61 (s, 3H, C<sub>3'</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.72 (s, 3H, C<sub>3'</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.01-2.67 (m, 4H, 2xPCH<sub>2</sub>) overlapped by 2.36 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.63 (d,  $^3J_{\text{P,H}} = 10.5$ , 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.78 (d,  $^3J_{\text{P,H}} = 10.6$ , 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 5.69 (dd,  $^{2,3}J_{\text{P,H}} = 11.3$ , 13.4, 1H, PCH), 7.17-7.22 (m, 2H, H<sub>3</sub>), 7.38-7.43 (m, 2H, H<sub>2</sub>);  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  found = 359.11697, C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O<sub>5</sub>P<sub>2</sub> requires 359.11717.

Dimethyl [1-(3,4-dimethyl-1-oxido-2,5-dihydro-1H-phosphol-1-yloxy)-1-(4-chlorophenyl)methyl]-phosphonate (3k)

Yield: 51%,  $^{31}\text{P NMR}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  21.5 (d,  $^3J = 24.1$ , P(O)(OCH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 75.3 (d,  $^3J = 25.5$ , P<sub>1'</sub>);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  16.4 (d,  $^3J = 15.9$ , C<sub>3'</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 16.5 (d,  $^3J = 16.2$ , C<sub>3'</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 36.2 (d,  $^1J = 89.7$ , C<sub>2'</sub>), 36.3 (d,  $^1J = 86.8$ , C<sub>2'</sub>), 53.9 (d,  $^2J = 6.7$ , OCH<sub>3</sub>), 54.1 (d,  $^2J = 7.1$ , OCH<sub>3</sub>), 70.1 (dd,  $^1J = 172.6$ ,  $^2J = 7.0$ , PCH), 127.3 (d,  $^2J = 13.2$ , C<sub>3'</sub>), 127.5 (d,  $^2J = 13.3$ , C<sub>3'</sub>), 128.9 (d,  $^4J = 2.3$ , C<sub>3</sub>), 129.2 (d,  $^3J = 5.9$ , C<sub>2</sub>), 133.6 (m, C<sub>1</sub>), 135.1 (d,  $^5J = 3.5$ , C<sub>4</sub>);  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.64 (s, 3H, C<sub>3'</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.74 (s, 3H, C<sub>3'</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.05-2.68 (m, 4H, 2xPCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.67 (d,  $^3J_{\text{P,H}} = 10.6$ , 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.78 (d,  $^3J_{\text{P,H}} = 10.6$ , 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 5.71 (dd,  $^{2,3}J_{\text{P,H}} = 11.5$ , 13.7, 1H, PCH), 7.34-7.40 (m, 2H, H<sub>3</sub>), 7.43-7.48 (m, 2H, H<sub>2</sub>);  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  found = 379.06235, C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>5</sub>ClP<sub>2</sub> requires 379.06255.

Dimethyl [1-(3,4-dimethyl-1-oxido-2,5-dihydro-1H-phosphol-1-yloxy)-1-(4-nitrophenyl)methyl]-phosphonate (3l)

Yield: 80%,  $^{31}\text{P NMR}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  16.1 (d,  $^3J = 24.1$ , P(O)(OCH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 72.1 (d,  $^3J = 25.5$ , P<sub>1'</sub>);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  16.66 (d,  $^3J = 16.0$ , C<sub>3'</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 16.73 (d,  $^3J = 16.4$ , C<sub>3'</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 36.3 (d,  $^1J = 88.9$ , C<sub>2'</sub>), 36.6 (d,  $^1J = 87.4$ , C<sub>2'</sub>), 54.3 (d,  $^2J = 6.7$ , OCH<sub>3</sub>), 54.4 (d,  $^2J = 7.2$ , OCH<sub>3</sub>), 70.1 (dd,  $^1J = 169.6$ ,  $^2J = 6.8$ , PCH), 123.9 (d,  $^4J = 2.3$ , C<sub>3</sub>), 127.5 (d,  $^2J = 13.3$ , C<sub>3'</sub>), 127.9 (d,  $^4J = 13.4$ , C<sub>3'</sub>), 128.5 (d,  $^3J = 5.3$ , C<sub>2</sub>), 141.4 (m, C<sub>1</sub>), 148.3 (d,  $^5J = 3.5$ , C<sub>4</sub>);  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.68 (s, 3H, C<sub>3'</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.77 (s, 3H, C<sub>3'</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.37-2.74 (m, 4H, 2xPCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.75 (d,  $^3J_{\text{P,H}} = 10.7$ , 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.78 (d,  $^3J_{\text{P,H}} = 10.8$ , 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 5.87

(dd,  ${}^2,3J_{\text{P,H}} = 11.7, 14.7$ , 1H, PCH), 7.66-7.71 (m, 2H, H<sub>2</sub>), 8.23-8.28 (m, 2H, H<sub>3</sub>);  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  found = 390.08662, C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>7</sub>NP<sub>2</sub> requires 390.08660.

Dimethyl (1-diphenoxyphosphoryloxy-1-phenylmethyl)phosphonate (5a)

Yield: 15%,  ${}^{31}\text{P}$  NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -9.6 (d,  ${}^3J = 35.3$ , P(O)(OPh)<sub>2</sub>), 20.3 (d,  ${}^3J = 35.3$ , P(O)(OCH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>);  ${}^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  53.9 (d,  ${}^2J = 6.6$ , OCH<sub>3</sub>), 54.1 (d,  ${}^2J = 7.2$ , OCH<sub>3</sub>), 75.7 (dd,  ${}^1J = 172.7$ ,  ${}^2J = 7.3$ , PCH), 119.9 (d,  ${}^3J = 4.9$ , C<sub>2'</sub>), 120.2 (d,  ${}^3J = 4.9$ , C<sub>2'</sub>), 125.3 (d,  ${}^5J = 1.3$ , C<sub>4'</sub>), 125.5 (d,  ${}^5J = 1.3$ , C<sub>4'</sub>), 128.1 (d,  ${}^3J = 6.0$ , C<sub>2</sub>), 128.6 (d,  ${}^4J = 1.8$ , C<sub>3</sub>), 129.3 (d,  ${}^5J = 2.8$ , C<sub>4</sub>), 129.6 (C<sub>3'</sub>), 129.7 (C<sub>3'</sub>), 132.4 (t,  ${}^2J = 1.8$ ,  ${}^3J = 1.8$ , C<sub>1</sub>), 150.1 (d,  ${}^2J = 7.4$ , C<sub>1'</sub>), 150.4 (d,  ${}^2J = 7.2$ , C<sub>1'</sub>);  ${}^1\text{H}$  NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  3.57 (d,  ${}^3J_{\text{P,H}} = 10.6$ , 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.65 (d,  ${}^3J_{\text{P,H}} = 10.7$ , 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 5.77 (dd,  ${}^2,3J_{\text{P,H}} = 13.1, 10.5$ , 1H, PCH), 6.91-6.95 (m, 2H, Ar), 7.07-7.48 (m, 13H, Ar);  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  found = 449.09087, C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>23</sub>O<sub>7</sub>P<sub>2</sub> requires 449.09135.

Dimethyl [1-diphenoxyphosphoryloxy-1-(4-chlorophenyl)methyl]phosphonate (5b)

Yield: 17%,  ${}^{31}\text{P}$  NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -11.5 (d,  ${}^3J = 34.8$ , P(O)(OPh)<sub>2</sub>), 17.9 (d,  ${}^3J = 34.8$ , P(O)(OCH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>);  ${}^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  52.9 (d,  ${}^2J = 6.7$ , OCH<sub>3</sub>), 53.1 (d,  ${}^2J = 7.3$ , OCH<sub>3</sub>), 73.9 (dd,  ${}^1J = 173.1$ ,  ${}^2J = 7.2$ , PCH), 118.9 (d,  ${}^3J = 4.9$ , C<sub>2'</sub>), 119.1 (d,  ${}^3J = 4.9$ , C<sub>2'</sub>), 124.4 (d,  ${}^5J = 1.3$ , C<sub>4'</sub>), 124.6 (d,  ${}^5J = 1.2$ , C<sub>4'</sub>), 127.8 (d,  ${}^4J = 1.8$ , C<sub>3</sub>), 128.4 (d,  ${}^3J = 5.9$ , C<sub>2</sub>), 134.3 (d,  ${}^5J = 3.2$ , C<sub>4</sub>), 128.6 (C<sub>3'</sub>), 128.8 (C<sub>3'</sub>), 130.1 (t,  ${}^2J = 1.9$ ,  ${}^3J = 1.9$ , C<sub>1</sub>), 149.0 (d,  ${}^2J = 7.4$ , C<sub>1'</sub>), 149.3 (d,  ${}^2J = 7.4$ , C<sub>1'</sub>);  ${}^1\text{H}$  NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  3.60 (d,  ${}^3J_{\text{P,H}} = 10.7$ , 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.67 (d,  ${}^3J_{\text{P,H}} = 10.7$ , 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 5.73 (dd,  ${}^2,3J_{\text{P,H}} = 13.2, 10.6$ , 1H, PCH), 6.93-6.98 (m, 2H, Ar), 7.10-7.39 (m, 12H, Ar);  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  found = 483.05173, C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>7</sub>ClP<sub>2</sub> requires 483.05238.