Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) for
Boron-nitrogen substituted perylene through photocyclisation

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Experimental section

General. All experiments were performed in quartz glass ware (transparent for UV light) under anhydrous conditions using nitrogen as protective gas. Dry toluene and THF was collected from a MBraun SPS-800 solvent purification system while dry cyclohexane was purchased from Acros and used as received. Iodine was purchased as spherical perls. All NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker DRX 250 and AMX 600 spectrometers. The NMR spectra were measured at room temperature in CD$_2$Cl$_2$ that was purchased from Deutero GmbH. The spectra were referenced to residual solvent signals ($^1$H, $^{13}$C: SiMe$_4$) and externally ($^{11}$B: BF$_3$·OEt$_2$). Solid state NMR spectra were received from a Bruker DSX250 (primary ref: TMS and BF$_3$·OEt$_2$, secondary ref: $^{13}$C glycine (COOH, 176.03 ppm); $^{11}$B NaBH$_4$ (-42.06 ppm)). Electron impact ionisation mass spectrometry (EI-MS) as well as high resolution mass spectrometry was done on a Finnigan MAT MAT95 (EI-HRMS) whereas LDI-TOF was performed on a Bruker Daltonics autoflex. Infrared spectra were measured on a Bruker Tensor 27, UV-Vis spectra on a Perkin Elmer Lambda 1050, and fluorescence spectra on a Varian CARY Eclipse spectrometer. Melting points (uncorrected) were measured on a Büchi B-540. Irradiations have been carried out with a low pressure mercury vapor (lpmv) lamp (Pen-Ray UVP 3SC-9 series) or a Newport high pressure mercury vapor (hpmv) lamp (500 watts) with suitable housing and collimation setup. Dichroic mirrors (Newport, 1.5 inch, flange size) are used to cut out specific wavelength ranges from the lamp spectrum (product numbers; 66215 (200 nm – 30 μm); 66231 (240 – 255 nm); 66216 (280 – 400 nm); 66219 (420 – 630 nm)).

The precursors $^3_2$ and $^5_3$ are synthesized according to literature procedures. $h_{1/2}$ is the Full Width at Half Maximum which is determined by a Lorentzian fit with TopSpin 2.1 (Bruker) and given in Hertz (Hz). TopSpin 2.1 was also used for the deconvolution of $^{11}$B spectra.
Dibenzo[fg,ij]-1,3,4a,2,4,12b-triazatriboratriphenyleno[1,2,3,4-rst]-13,13b,13a,14-
diazadiborapentaphen, 1

A quartz flask is charged with 32.4 mg (0.06 mmol) 3 and dissolved in 90 ml of dry toluene (0.68 µmol/ml). Then, 297 µl (3.66 mmol) dry THF and 51.5 mg (0.20 mmol) iodine were added and the solution was irradiated with the hpmv lamp for 16 h. The solution turned slightly green and was quenched by the addition of 80 ml of sat. sodium sulfite solution. The colorless organic phase was dried over sodium sulfate and the solvent evaporated. After the addition of 4 ml of acetone to the yellow crude product the resulting suspension was centrifugated three times 5 min at 13.4 krpm each. The collected off-white sediment 1 was dried under a nitrogen stream (14.0 mg, 43 %).

To scale up the reaction 166.3 mg (0.31 mmol) 3, 236.9 mg (0.94 mmol) iodine and 1.52 ml (18.80 mmol) THF were dissolved in 500 ml toluene and irradiated for 63 h with a hpmv lamp equipped with a dichroic mirror (200 nm – 30 µm). Yield: 82.5 mg of 1 (50 %).

Up to now, it is neither possible to recrystallize the sample nor to do column chromatography (with dichloromethane on silica gel; leads to decomposition).

m.p. 348-350 °C; $\delta_H$(600 MHz; CD$_2$Cl$_2$) 7.09 (1 H, m), 7.15 (1 H, m), 7.21 (1 H, m), 7.28 (1 H, m), 7.32 (1 H, m), 7.38 (1 H, m), 7.56-7.61 (4 H, m), 7.71 (1 H, m), 7.86 (1 H, m), 7.93 (1 H, m), 8.01 (1 H, m), 8.29 (1 H, m), 8.30 (1 H, m), 8.35 (1 H, m), 8.39-8.41 (3 H, m), 8.57 (2 H, m); $\delta_C$(151 MHz; CD$_2$Cl$_2$) 120.3, 121.2, 122.5, 123.6, 123.7, 124.1, 124.1, 124.7, 125.0, 125.4, 125.6, 125.9, 126.0, 126.4, 126.6, 126.6, 127.1, 127.2, 127.3, 128.2, 131.8, 132.2, 132.9, 134.2, 135.8, 139.7, 139.9, 140.6, 140.7, 140.9, 141.5, 143.0, 145.9 (solubility too low to resolve all peaks, see spectrum); $\delta_C$(solid-state, 50 MHz, Rf =10000 Hz) 121.0, 125.0, 133.3, 136.0, 141.1; $\delta_B$(80 MHz; CD$_2$Cl$_2$) 31.2 (h$_{1/2}$ 694); LDI-MS (TOF) m/z: 619 (M$^+$ C$_4$H$_{10}$O$_2^+$, 9 %), 529 (100, M$^+$); $\delta_B$(solid-state, 64 MHz, Rf =10000 Hz) due to 3 boron nuclei pattern is too complex to assign $\delta_{iso}$, C$_Q$ and $\eta$; EI-MS (70 eV, sector field) m/z: 529 (M$^+$, 100 %), 512 (20), 525 (M – 4H), 262 (45, [M – 6 H]$^{2+}$), 256 (20); EI-HRMS (M$^+$, 70 eV,
sector field) found: 529.20350, calc. for C_{36}H_{22}B_{3}N_{3}: 529.20929; IR (KBr) cm^{-1}: 654w, 679w, 756m, 800w, 824w, 867w, 1047w, 1169w, 1262w, 1317m, 1375vs, 1446m, 1481m, 1495m, 1561w, 1575w, 1601m, 3061w; UV-Vis (DCM) nm: 257, 292, 330, 350, 369; (toluene) 297, 331, 351, 370; (cyclohexan) 215, 229, 262, 292, 329, 349, 367; fluorescence (DCM, 5 mm slit): 375, 393, 411, 435 nm, ex. 247, 261, 292, 330, 350, 369 nm; (cyclohexan) 371, 389, 409, 431, 460 nm, ex. 231, 260, 290, 328, 349, 367 nm.

16-Hydroxy-dibenzo[b,n]-1,12a,12b-diazadiboraperylen, 2

A solution of 68.8 mg (0.13 mmol) 1 in 50 ml of dichloromethane is charged with 50 ml of methanol. The colorless suspension is stirred at room temperature for 70 h while a slightly brownish solution is formed. The solvent is removed completely, the residue suspended in 6 ml of acetone and centrifuged twice 5 min at 13.4 krpm each run. A minor amount of solid material is discarded (sediment, ca. 1-2 mg) and the centrifugate is liberated from the solvent by evaporation. A column chromatography on an automated system (15 µm silica gel, dichloromethane) is performed afterwards yielding 39.5 mg 2 (82 %).

On crystallization scale, the hydrolysis reaction of 1 can also be run in wet CH_{2}Cl_{2}, yielding crystals showing NMR spectra and X-ray structures in full accordance with 2.

m.p. 267-269 °C; δ_{H}(600 MHz; CD_{2}Cl_{2}) 5.96 (1 H, s), 7.20 (1 H, m), 7.32 (1 H, m), 7.42-7.45 (2 H, m), 7.59 (1 H, m), 7.80 (1 H, m), 7.90 (1 H, m), 8.01 (1 H, m), 8.30 (1 H, m), 8.33-8.36 (2 H, m), 8.46 (1 H, m), 8.48 (1 H, m), 8.51 (1 H, m), 9.55 (1 H, br s); δ_{B}(80 MHz; CD_{2}Cl_{2}) 30.8 (h_{1/2} 272, 48 %), 34.2 (h_{1/2} 292, 52 %); EI-HRMS (M^+, 70 eV, sector field) found: 370.14291, calc. for C_{24}H_{16}B_{2}N_{2}O: 370.14488; IR (KBr) cm^{-1}: 722w, 754s, 1202m, 1300m, 1368s, 1424s, 1474m, 1493m, 1513m, 1573m,1604m, 3395m, 3627m; UV-vis (DCM) nm: 259, 271, 283, 296, 324, 337, 352, 369; fluorescence (DCM, 5 mm slit): 345, 386, 399, 424, 485 nm, ex. 243, 250, 259, 269, 283, 295, 325, 337, 352, 369 nm.
X-Ray Crystallography

Crystals of 2 were grown from a solution of 1 in DCM and methanol. One of those crystals was measured on an APEX II DUO with Cu radiation. The system crystallizes in an orthorhombic metric with spacegroup P2₁2₁2₁ and cell constants a = 5.28903(3), b = 15.6927(8), c = 20.2461(1) Å. The structure was solved by direct methods and successively refined against F². This resulted in a wR₂ = 0.0902 and R₁ = 0.0335 for reflections I>2σ. The CCDC 987402 contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.
# Reaction conditions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Reaction conditions</th>
<th>isolated yields</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>3, lpmv, toluene, iodine (3.3 eq.), THF (60 eq.), 0.58 µmol/ml</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3, lpmv, toluene, cyclohexene (6 eq.), 0.61 µmol/ml</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3, hpmv, toluene, cyclohexene (6 eq.), 0.62 µmol/ml, no mirror</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>3, hpmv, toluene, iodine (3.4 eq.), THF (60 eq.), 0.68 µmol/ml, no mirror</td>
<td>43 wt% 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>3, hpmv, toluene, iodine (1.1 eq.), THF (60 eq.), 0.67 µmol/ml, no mirror</td>
<td>27 wt% 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>3, hpmv, toluene, iodine (3.0 eq.), propylene oxide (60 eq.), 0.79 µmol/ml, full arc</td>
<td>44 wt% mixt. 1 + 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>3, hpmv, toluene, iodine (30 eq.), THF (60 eq.), 0.68 µmol/ml, full arc</td>
<td>49 Gew.% mixt. 1 + 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>5, hpmv, toluene, iodine (3 eq.), THF (60 eq.), 0.70 µmol/ml, full arc</td>
<td>14 wt% 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>3, hpmv, cyclohexane, iodine (3.0 eq.), THF (60 eq.), 0.24 µmol/ml, full arc, 66 h</td>
<td>61 wt% 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>3, hpmv, toluene, iodine (3.0 eq.), THF (60 eq.), 0.68 µmol/ml, 280-400 nm</td>
<td>42 wt% mixt. 1 (66 %) + 3 (34 %)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>3, hpmv, toluene, iodine (3.1 eq.), THF (60 eq.), 0.69 µmol/ml, 420-630 nm</td>
<td>68 wt% mixt. 1 (15 %) + 3 (85 %)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>3, hpmv, toluene, iodine (3.0 eq.), THF (60 eq.), 0.66 µmol/ml, 240-255 nm</td>
<td>79 wt% 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>3, hpmv, toluene, iodine (3.0 eq.), THF (60 eq.), 0.94 µmol/ml, full arc</td>
<td>44 wt% mixt. 1 (45 %) + 3 (55 %)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>1, hpmv, cyclohexane, iodine (3.0 eq.), THF (60 eq.), 0.26 µmol/ml, full arc, 62 h</td>
<td>72 wt% 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>3, hpmv, toluene, DDQ (4.0 eq.), 0.71 µmol/ml</td>
<td>46 wt% 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>3, hpmv, cyclohexane, benzophenone (4.0 eq.), 0.35 µmol/ml, full arc</td>
<td>30 wt% 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>3, hpmv, toluene, iodine (3.0 eq.), THF (60 eq.), 0.67 µmol/ml, full arc, 160 h</td>
<td>47 wt% 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>3, hpmv, 500 ml toluene, iodine (3.0 eq.), THF (60 eq.), 0.63 µmol/ml, full arc, 63 h</td>
<td>50 wt% 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lpmv: low pressure mercury vapor lamp

Hpmv: high pressure mercury vapor lamp

Full arc: dichroic mirror (200 nm – 30 µm)

Irradiation time: 15-20 h, if not stated otherwise

Condition 11): Formation of (1) may be due to the low but non neglectable transmittance of the dichroic mirror (420 – 630 nm) in the region of 280 to 400 nm.
$^1$H NMR (600 MHz, CD$_2$Cl$_2$) spectrum of 1

$^1$H NMR (600 MHz, CD$_2$Cl$_2$) spectrum of 1 (enlarged)
$^{13}$C$^1$H} NMR (151 MHz, CD$_2$Cl$_2$) spectrum of 1, 73 k scans, no better resolution (on the available setup) possible

$^{13}$C$^1$H} (50 MHz, Rf = 10000 Hz) solid stated NMR spectrum of 1
$^{11}\text{B}[^1\text{H}]$ NMR (80 MHz, CD$_2$Cl$_2$) spectrum of 1 (5 k scans)

$^{11}\text{B}[^1\text{H}]$ solid state NMR (64 MHz, Rf = 10000 Hz) spectrum of 1
LDI-TOF (reflectron, ACN as solvent) of 1

LDI-TOF (enlarged) of 1
EI-MS (70 eV) of 1

Exact mass determination (EIMS, 70 eV) of 1
IR (KBr in cm\(^{-1}\)) spectrum of 1

UV-Vis spectrum of 1

UV-Vis spectrum of 1 (267 nm/min, 2 nm slit, in nm) in different solvents
Fluorescence spectra of 1, different solvents (in nm)
$^1$H NMR (600 MHz, CD$_2$Cl$_2$) spectrum of 2

$^{13}$C($^1$H) NMR (151 MHz, CD$_2$Cl$_2$) spectrum, 78 k scans of 2
$^{11}\text{B}^1\text{H}$ NMR (80 MHz, CD$_2$Cl$_2$) spectrum, 154 k scans of 2

EI MS (70 eV) of 2
Exact mass determination (HRMS-EI, 70 eV) of 2

IR (KBr in cm\(^{-1}\)) of 2
UV-Vis spectrum of 2 in DCM, 267 nm/min, 2 nm slit (in nm)

fluorescence spectrum of 2 in DCM (in nm)
References

