

Supporting Information

Synthesis of cyclohexylidenehydrazines-fused polycyclics via photocatalytic radical cascade reaction of 2-ethynylaldehyde hydrazones

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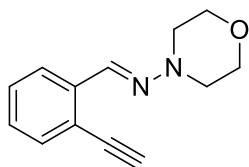
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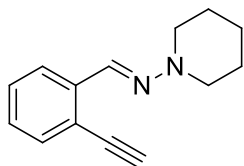
General Information: All reactions were carried out under Ar atmosphere unless otherwise noted. All catalysts and solvents were obtained from commercial suppliers. Reactions were monitored by TLC on silica gel plates (GF254), and the analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on precoated, glass-backed silica gel plates. ^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR spectra and ^{19}F NMR spectra were recorded on 400 MHz spectrometer at room temperature. Chemical shifts (δ) are reported in ppm downfield from tetramethylsilane. High resolution mass spectra were obtained on a high-resolution mass spectrometer in the ESI mode.

General procedures for the synthesis of starting 2-ethynylhydrazones.^{1,2}

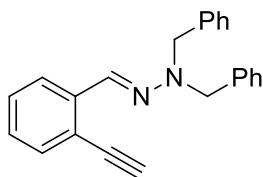
- 1) To a solution of the corresponding 2-bromobenzaldehyde (2 mmol, 1 equiv), $\text{PdCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_2$ (2 mol%), and CuI (2 mol%) in NEt_3 (0.25 M) was added the trimethylsilylacetylene (1.2 equiv). The resulting mixture was heated under Ar atmosphere at 50 °C for 6-18 hours. After the reaction was finished, the crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc = 10/1).
- 2) 2-alkynylbenzaldehyde derivatives in methanol (10 mL) was reacted with K_2CO_3 (0.1 equiv), the crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc = 10/1).
- 3) A mixture of hydrazine (1.2 equiv), 2-alkynylbenzaldehyde derivatives (1 equiv) and anhydrous MgSO_4 (5 equiv) in CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL) was stirred overnight at room temperature. After filtration of MgSO_4 , CH_2Cl_2 was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was subjected to column chromatography to give the desired product.



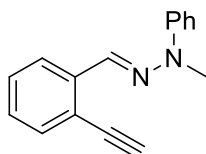
(E)-*N*-(2-ethynylbenzylidene)morpholin-4-amine (**1a**). Yellow solid; (0.36g, 85%); mp: 78-80 °C; R_f = 0.35 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.95 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.47 (m, 1H), 7.35-7.31 (m, 1H), 7.24-7.20 (m, 1H), 3.90 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H), 3.33 (s, 1H), 3.22 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 137.5, 134.0, 133.0, 129.0, 127.7, 124.2, 120.5, 82.1, 81.4, 66.4, 51.7 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O}+\text{H}^+$:215.1179, found 215.1176.



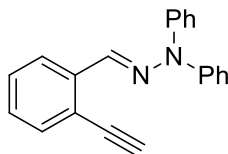
(E)-*N*-(2-ethynylbenzylidene)piperidin-1-amine (**1b**). Yellow oil; (0.356 g, 84%); R_f = 0.45 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 20:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.94 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.44 (m, 1H), 7.32-7.29 (m, 1H), 7.19-7.15 (m, 1H), 3.32 (s, 1H), 3.20 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 4H), 1.79-1.73 (m, 4H), 1.58-1.52 (m, 2H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 138.4, 132.9, 132.2, 129.0, 127.1, 124.0, 120.0, 81.8, 81.6, 51.9, 25.1, 24.1 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2+\text{H}^+$:213.1386, found 213.1389.



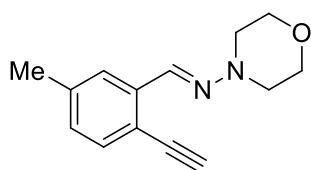
(*E*)-1,1-dibenzyl-2-(2-ethynylbenzylidene)hydrazine (**1c**). Yellow solid; (0.52 g, 81%); mp: 135-137 °C; R_f = 0.35 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.95 (dd, J = 7.6 Hz, J = 0.4 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (s, 1H), 7.37-7.35 (m, 1H), 7.31-7.28 (m, 9H), 7.26-7.23 (m, 2H), 7.13-7.09 (m, 1H), 3.89 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H), 4.55 (s, 3H), 3.00 (s, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 138.8, 137.5, 132.6, 130.3, 128.8, 127.7, 127.2, 126.5, 123.5, 119.6, 81.6, 81.3, 58.2 ppm; ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2+\text{H}^+$:325.1699, found 325.1697.



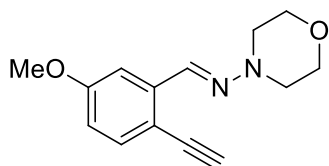
(*E*)-2-(2-ethynylbenzylidene)-1-methyl-1-phenylhydrazine (**1d**). Yellow solid; (0.346 g, 74%); mp: 136-138 °C; R_f = 0.47 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 20:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 8.10-8.08 (m, 1H), 7.95 (s, 1H), 7.50-7.48 (m, 1H), 7.41-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.35-7.30 (m, 3H), 7.24-7.17 (m, 1H), 6.97-6.93 (m, 1H), 3.45 (s, 3H), 3.37 (s, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 147.1, 138.4, 130.01, 129.99, 129.0, 127.1, 124.3, 120.9, 120.1, 115.5, 82.0, 81.7, 33.2 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2+\text{H}^+$:235.1230, found 235.1233.



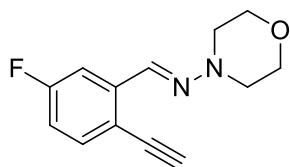
(*E*)-2-(2-ethynylbenzylidene)-1,1-diphenylhydrazine (**1e**). Yellow solid; (0.45 g, 76%); mp: 148-150 °C; R_f = 0.48 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 20:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 8.13 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (s, 1H), 7.44-7.34 (m, 6H), 7.24-7.16 (m, 7H), 3.02 (s, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 143.5, 137.8, 133.9, 132.8, 129.8, 128.9, 127.5, 124.6, 124.5, 122.4, 120.5, 81.7, 81.0 ppm; ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2+\text{H}^+$:297.1386, found 297.1385.



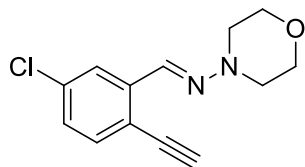
(*E*)-*N*-(2-ethynyl-5-methylbenzylidene)morpholin-4-amine (**1f**). Yellow solid; (0.374 g, 82%); mp: 85-87 °C; R_f = 0.33 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 8.04 (s, 1H), 7.61 (s, 1H), 7.37 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.05-7.03 (m, 1H), 3.90 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H), 3.39 (s, 1H), 3.22 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 139.1, 137.2, 134.3, 132.9, 128.9, 124.6, 117.8, 81.6, 81.4, 66.4, 51.7, 21.5 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}+\text{H}^+$:229.1335, found 229.1337.



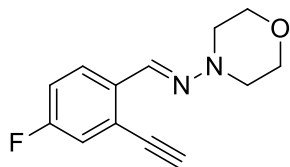
(*E*)-*N*-(2-ethynyl-5-methoxybenzylidene)morpholin-4-amine (**1g**). Yellow solid; (0.356 g, 73%); mp: 89-91 °C; R_f = 0.31 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 8.02 (s, 1H), 7.46 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.80-6.78 (m, 1H), 3.90 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H), 3.84 (s, 1H), 3.26 (s, 1H), 3.22 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 160.1, 139.1, 134.3, 133.8, 111.5, 113.1, 107.6, 81.5, 80.8, 66.4, 55.3, 51.7 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{H}^+$: 245.1285, found 245.1287.



(*E*)-*N*-(2-ethynyl-5-fluorobenzylidene)morpholin-4-amine (**1h**). Yellow solid; (0.362 g, 78%); mp: 83-85 °C; R_f = 0.35 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.95 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.65-7.62 (m, 1H), 7.46-7.43 (m, 1H), 6.94-6.89 (m, 1H), 3.89 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H), 3.30 (s, 3H), 3.23 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 162.9 (d, J = 248.7 Hz), 140.2 (d, J = 8.7 Hz), 134.8 (d, J = 8.7 Hz), 133.2, 116.3, 115.1 (d, J = 23.1 Hz), 110.7 (d, J = 23.1 Hz), 81.7, 80.5, 66.3, 51.5 ppm; ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3): -109.66 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{FN}_2\text{O} + \text{H}^+$: 233.1085, found 233.1083.

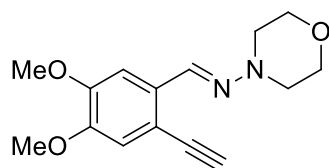


(*E*)-*N*-(5-chloro-2-ethynylbenzylidene)morpholin-4-amine (**1i**). Yellow solid; (0.4 g, 81%); mp: 91-93 °C; R_f = 0.31 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.94 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.18-7.16 (m, 1H), 3.89 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H), 3.36 (s, 3H), 3.23 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 139.2, 135.3, 134.1, 131.9, 127.7, 124.2, 118.6, 82.9, 80.5, 66.3, 51.5 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{ClN}_2\text{O} + \text{H}^+$: 249.0789, found 249.0791.

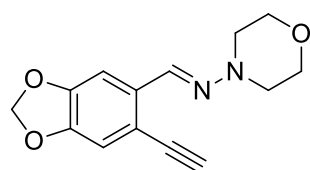


(*E*)-*N*-(2-ethynyl-4-fluorobenzylidene)morpholin-4-amine (**1j**). Yellow solid; (0.357 g, 77%); mp: 88-90 °C; R_f = 0.34 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.95-7.92 (m, 1H), 7.17-7.14 (m, 1H), 7.07-7.02 (m, 1H), 3.89 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H), 3.37 (s, 3H), 3.20 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 161.8 (d, J = 246.7 Hz), 134.1, 132.9, 126.3 (d, J = 8.7 Hz), 121.8 (d, J = 9.1 Hz), 119.1 (d, J = 23.1 Hz), 116.9 ((d, J = 22.5 Hz),

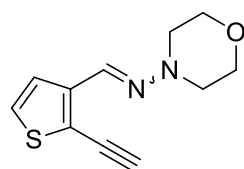
83.0, 80.2, 66.4, 51.7 ppm; δ ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3): -113.64 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{FN}_2\text{O}+\text{H}^+$:233.1085, found 233.1087.



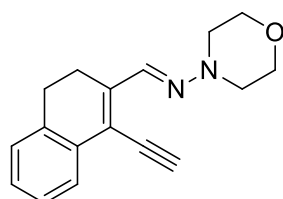
(*E*)-*N*-(2-ethynyl-4,5-dimethoxybenzylidene)morpholin-4-amine (**1k**). Yellow solid; (0.462 g, 84 %); mp: 103-105 °C; R_f = 0.30 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 8.02 (s, 1H), 7.46 (s, 1H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 3.90 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.28 (s, 1H), 3.22 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 150.1, 148.9, 134.5, 131.6, 114.4, 113.1, 106.2, 81.4, 80.9, 66.5, 55.93, 55.89, 51.89 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3+\text{H}^+$:275.1390, found 275.1393.



(*E*)-*N*-((6-ethynylbenzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)methylene)morpholin-4-amine (**1l**). Yellow solid; (0.408 g, 79%); mp: 122-123 °C; R_f = 0.31 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 8.00 (s, 1H), 7.41 (s, 1H), 6.88 (s, 1H), 5.97 (s, 2H), 3.89 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H), 3.26 (s, 3H), 3.18 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 148.9, 147.3, 133.6, 114.4, 111.7, 104.0, 101.5, 81.4, 80.9, 66.4, 51.8 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3+\text{H}^+$:259.1077, found 259.1010.



N-((2-ethynylthiophen-3-yl)methylene)morpholin-4-amine (**1m**). Yellow solid; (0.317 g, 72%); R_f = 0.35 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10:1); (Z/E mixture; 0.36:1); Major: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 8.46 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.42 (m, 1H), 7.11 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H), 3.42 (s, 1H), 2.82 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H) ppm; Minor: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.08 (d, J = 0.4 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H), 3.29 (s, 1H), 3.19 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 151.5, 134.2, 131.4, 130.1, 129.5, 129.4, 126.4, 124.4, 83.1, 81.3, 66.4, 66.3, 54.9, 51.5 ppm; ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{OS}+\text{H}^+$:221.0743, found 221.0746.

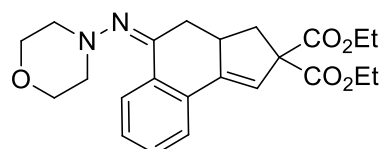


(*E*)-*N*-((1-ethynyl-3,4-dihydronaphthalen-2-yl)methylene)morpholin-4-amine (**1n**). Yellow solid; (0.426 g, 80%); mp: 132-135 °C; R_f = 0.31 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10:1); ^1H NMR (400

MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.04 (s, 1H), 7.67 (dd, J = 8.0 Hz, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.22 (m, 1H), 7.20-7.12 (m, 2H), 3.87 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H), 3.53 (s, 1H), 3.18 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H), 2.83-2.73 (m, 4H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 148.9, 143.1, 135.9, 135.7, 133.3, 127.6, 127.2, 126.6, 125.4, 118.5, 81.4, 79.6, 66.4, 51.5, 27.1, 22.3 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for C₁₇H₁₈N₂O+H⁺:267.1492, found 267.1495.

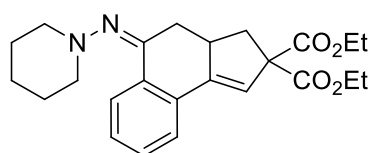
General Procedure for the visible-light photoredox-Catalyzed Cascade Annulation of Unsaturated α -Bromocarbonyls with hydrazones

An oven-dried Schlenk tube (10 mL) was equipped with a magnetic stir bar, **1** (0.1 mmol), *fac*-Ir(ppy)₃ (0.02 equiv, 0.002 mmol), **2** (2 equiv, 0.2 mmol), Na₂HPO₄ (2 equiv, 0.2 mmol). The flask was evacuated and backfilled with Ar for 3 times. 1 mL CH₂Cl₂ was added with syringe under Ar. The tube was placed at a distance (app.5 cm) from 33w fluorescent light bulb, and the resulting solution was stirred at ambient temperature under visible-light irradiation. After the reaction was finished, the solvent was concentrated in vacuo and the residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel to afford the corresponding products **3**.



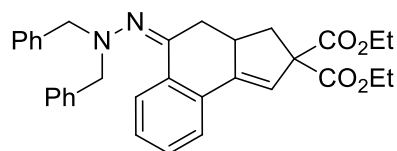
(Z)-diethyl

5-(morpholinoimino)-3,3a,4,5-tetrahydro-2H-cyclopenta[a]naphthalene-2,2-dicarboxylate (**3aa**). Yellow solid; (36.7 mg, 89%); mp: 145-146 °C; R_f = 0.32 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.11-8.09 (m, 1H), 7.63-7.61 (m, 1H), 7.38-7.34 (m, 1H), 7.32-7.27 (m, 1H), 6.22 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.27-4.14 (m, 4H), 3.90-3.83 (m, 4H), 3.82-3.77 (m, 1H), 3.25-3.22 (m, 1H), 3.04-2.99 (m, 1H), 2.93-2.88 (m, 2H), 2.83-2.78 (m, 2H), 2.07 (dd, J = 12.8 Hz, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 1.95 (t, J = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 1.31-1.24 (m, 6H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 171.3, 170.3, 161.4, 145.1, 132.6, 131.7, 130.0, 128.8, 125.7, 125.2, 120.1, 62.23, 62.16, 61.67, 61.65, 55.3, 42.0, 39.3, 33.7, 14.08, 14.05 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for C₂₃H₂₈N₂O₅+H⁺:413.2071, found 413.2074.



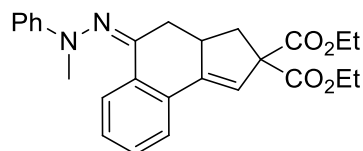
(Z)-diethyl

5-(piperidin-1-ylimino)-3,3a,4,5-tetrahydro-2H-cyclopenta[a]naphthalene-2,2-dicarboxylate (**3ba**). Yellow oil; (34.0 mg, 83%); R_f = 0.35 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.09 (dd, J = 8.0 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.59-7.26 (m, 2H), 6.02 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.27-4.14 (m, 4H), 3.79-3.75 (m, 1H), 3.28-3.19 (m, 1H), 3.03-2.98 (m, 1H), 2.84-2.79 (m, 2H), 2.76-2.70 (m, 2H), 2.07 (dd, J = 13.2 Hz, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 1.95 (t, J = 14.0 Hz, 1H), 1.78-1.65 (m, 4H), 1.52-1.46 (m, 2H), 1.31-1.24 (m, 6H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 171.4, 170.4, 160.2, 145.3, 133.0, 131.5, 129.6, 128.7, 125.7, 125.1, 119.8, 66.1, 61.62, 61.60, 56.4, 42.1, 39.4, 33.7, 25.3, 23.9, 14.07, 14.04 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for C₂₄H₃₀N₂O₄+H⁺:411.2278, found 411.2275.



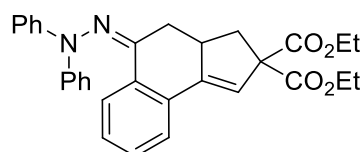
(Z)-diethyl

5-(2,2-dibenzylhydrazono)-3,3a,4,5-tetrahydro-2H-cyclopenta[a]naphthalene-2,2-dicarboxylate (**3ca**). Yellow solid; (45.4 mg, 87%); mp: 123-125 °C; R_f = 0.35 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 8.06 (dd, J = 7.6 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (dd, J = 7.6 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.34-7.32 (m, 4H), 7.30-7.22 (m, 5H), 7.21-7.18 (m, 2H), 6.11 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.24-4.12 (m, 4H), 4.00-3.92 (m, 4H), 3.84 (dd, J = 14.0 Hz, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 2.82 (dd, J = 12.8 Hz, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.54-2.45 (m, 1H), 1.86 (dd, J = 13.2 Hz, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.49 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 1.31-1.23 (m, 6H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 171.4, 170.3, 165.7, 145.2, 138.6, 132.5, 131.8, 130.0, 129.4, 128.6, 128.1, 127.0, 126.0, 125.1, 119.8, 66.0, 62.1, 61.6, 41.7, 39.3, 34.2, 14.09 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{34}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4 + \text{H}^+$: 523.2591, found 523.5294.



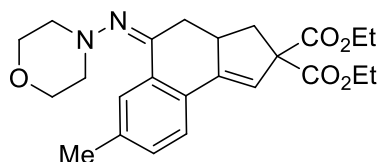
(Z)-diethyl

5-(2-methyl-2-phenylhydrazono)-3,3a,4,5-tetrahydro-2H-cyclopenta[a]naphthalene-2,2-dicarboxylate (**3da**). Yellow solid; (36.7 mg, 85%); mp: 133-135 °C; R_f = 0.33 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 8.29 (dd, J = 8.0 Hz, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (dd, J = 8.0 Hz, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.42-7.38 (m, 1H), 7.36-7.32 (m, 1H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 2H), 6.97 (dd, J = 8.8 Hz, J = 0.8 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (t, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 6.24 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.26-4.14 (m, 4H), 3.59 (dd, J = 15.2 Hz, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.28-3.21 (m, 1H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 2.96 (dd, J = 13.2 Hz, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.06-1.98 (m, 2H), 1.30-1.24 (m, 6H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 171.3, 170.3, 163.1, 151.2, 145.0, 132.4, 131.9, 130.2, 128.9, 128.8, 126.0, 125.3, 120.29, 120.26, 115.5, 66.2, 61.7, 43.3, 41.9, 39.2, 34.8, 14.06 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4 + \text{H}^+$: 433.2122, found 433.2125.



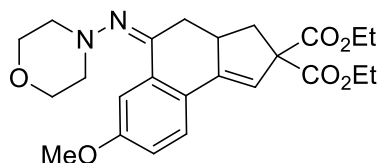
(Z)-diethyl

5-(2,2-diphenylhydrazono)-3,3a,4,5-tetrahydro-2H-cyclopenta[a]naphthalene-2,2-dicarboxylate (**3ea**). Yellow solid; (42.0 mg, 85%); mp: 113-115 °C; R_f = 0.33 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 8.38 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.40-7.25 (m, 6H), 7.11-7.04 (m, 5H), 6.19 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.24-4.10 (m, 4H), 3.40 (dd, J = 7.6 Hz, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.23-3.16 (m, 1H), 2.88 (dd, J = 13.2 Hz, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.82 (dd, J = 13.2 Hz, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 1.56-1.49 (m, 1H), 1.26-1.24 (m, 6H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 171.2, 170.2, 161.8, 148.4, 144.7, 132.5, 131.7, 130.0, 129.1, 128.8, 126.2, 125.3, 123.3, 121.3, 120.1, 66.1, 61.64, 61.58, 41.5, 39.3, 34.7, 14.02 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4 + \text{H}^+$: 495.2278, found 495.2275.



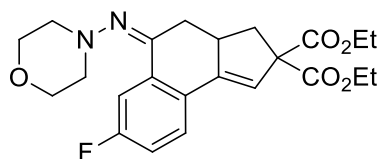
(Z)-diethyl

7-methyl-5-(morpholinoimino)-3,3a,4,5-tetrahydro-2H-cyclopenta[a]naphthalene-2,2-dicarboxylate (**3fa**). Yellow solid; (40.2 mg, 91%); mp: 133-135 °C; R_f = 0.33 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.89 (s, 1H), 7.52 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.19-7.17 (m, 1H), 6.16 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.26-4.14 (m, 4H), 3.91-3.82 (m, 4H), 3.81-3.77 (m, 1H), 3.26-3.17 (m, 1H), 3.03-2.98 (m, 1H), 2.93-2.88 (m, 2H), 2.83-2.78 (m, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.04 (dd, J = 13.2 Hz, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 1.93 (t, J = 14.0 Hz, 1H), 1.31-1.24 (m, 6H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 171.4, 170.4, 161.8, 145.0, 138.8, 132.3, 131.1, 129.1, 125.7, 125.2, 119.1, 66.2, 66.1, 61.6, 55.3, 42.1, 39.3, 33.6, 21.4, 14.04, 14.01 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{31}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5 + \text{H}^+$: 427.2227, found 427.2229.



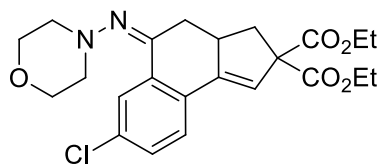
(Z)-diethyl

7-methoxy-5-(morpholinoimino)-3,3a,4,5-tetrahydro-2H-cyclopenta[a]naphthalene-2,2-dicarboxylate (**3ga**). Yellow solid; (40.7 mg, 92%); mp: 123-124 °C; R_f = 0.31 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.59 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.95-6.92 (m, 1H), 6.08 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.26-4.13 (m, 4H), 3.91-3.82 (m, 4H), 3.79-3.74 (m, 1H), 3.25-3.16 (m, 1H), 3.02-2.97 (m, 1H), 2.94-2.88 (m, 2H), 2.83-2.78 (m, 2H), 2.04 (dd, J = 13.2 Hz, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 1.92 (t, J = 14.0 Hz, 1H), 1.31-1.24 (m, 6H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 171.5, 170.5, 161.3, 159.8, 144.6, 133.9, 126.8, 125.0, 118.0, 117.9, 108.3, 66.2, 66.0, 61.6, 55.4, 55.3, 42.1, 39.2, 33.6, 14.05, 14.02 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6 + \text{H}^+$: 443.2177, found 443.2179.



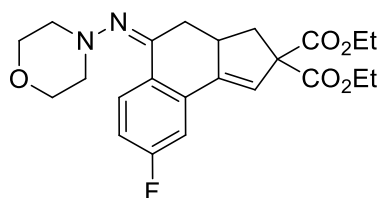
(Z)-diethyl

7-fluoro-5-(morpholinoimino)-3,3a,4,5-tetrahydro-2H-cyclopenta[a]naphthalene-2,2-dicarboxylate (**3ha**). Yellow solid; (37.4 mg, 87%); mp: 146-148 °C; R_f = 0.38 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.78 (dd, J = 10.0 Hz, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (dd, J = 8.4 Hz, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.08-7.03 (m, 1H), 6.15 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.27-4.14 (m, 4H), 3.91-3.81 (m, 4H), 3.75 (dd, J = 14.4 Hz, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.26-3.17 (m, 1H), 3.11 (dd, J = 13.2 Hz, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.94-2.89 (m, 2H), 2.82-2.77 (m, 2H), 2.07 (dd, J = 13.2 Hz, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 1.94 (t, J = 14.0 Hz, 1H), 1.31-1.24 (m, 6H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 171.2, 170.2, 162.8 (d, J = 246.7 Hz), 160.1, 144.0, 134.8 (d, J = 7.5 Hz), 128.0, 127.3 (d, J = 8.3 Hz), 119.7, 117.4 (d, J = 23.5 Hz), 111.8 (d, J = 17.8 Hz), 66.1, 61.7, 55.2, 41.9, 39.1, 33.5, 14.04, 14.01 ppm; ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3): -111.44 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{27}\text{FN}_2\text{O}_5 + \text{H}^+$: 431.1977, found 431.1979.



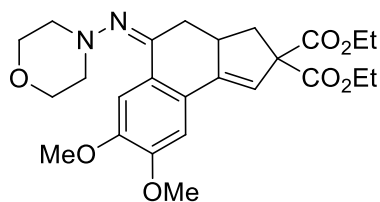
(Z)-diethyl

7-chloro-5-(morpholinoimino)-3,3a,4,5-tetrahydro-2H-cyclopenta[a]naphthalene-2,2-dicarboxylate (**3ia**). Yellow solid; (36.1 mg, 81%); mp: 167-169 °C; R_f = 0.38 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 8.08 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.32-7.29 (m, 1H), 6.21 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.27-4.14 (m, 4H), 3.91-3.81 (m, 4H), 3.77-3.73 (m, 1H), 3.26-3.17 (m, 1H), 3.04-2.99 (m, 1H), 2.94-2.89 (m, 2H), 2.83-2.78 (m, 2H), 2.06 (dd, J = 13.2 Hz, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 1.92 (t, J = 14.0 Hz, 1H), 1.31-1.24 (m, 6H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 171.2, 170.1, 159.9, 144.0, 134.8, 134.0, 130.03, 129.96, 126.7, 125.5, 120.7, 66.2, 61.7, 55.3, 41.8, 39.2, 33.5, 14.03 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{27}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_5 + \text{H}^+$: 447.1681, found 447.1683.



(Z)-diethyl

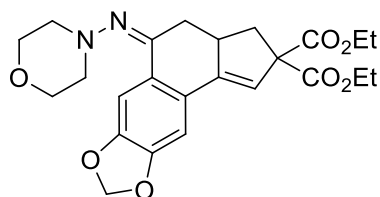
8-fluoro-5-(morpholinoimino)-3,3a,4,5-tetrahydro-2H-cyclopenta[a]naphthalene-2,2-dicarboxylate (**3ja**). Yellow solid; (37.0 mg, 86%); mp: 142-144 °C; R_f = 0.39 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 8.11 (dd, J = 8.8 Hz, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (dd, J = 9.2 Hz, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.01-6.96 (m, 1H), 6.22 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.27-4.15 (m, 4H), 3.90-3.84 (m, 4H), 3.82-3.77 (m, 1H), 3.27-3.22 (m, 1H), 3.02 (dd, J = 13.2 Hz, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.91-2.86 (m, 2H), 2.81-2.76 (m, 2H), 2.07 (dd, J = 13.2 Hz, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 1.93 (t, J = 14.0 Hz, 1H), 1.31-1.25 (m, 6H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 171.2, 170.2, 162.8 (d, J = 246.7 Hz), 160.1, 144.0, 134.8 (d, J = 7.5 Hz), 128.0, 127.3 (d, J = 8.3 Hz), 119.7, 117.4 (d, J = 23.5 Hz), 111.8 (d, J = 17.8 Hz), 66.1, 61.7, 55.2, 41.9, 39.1, 33.5, 14.04, 14.01 ppm; ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3): -110.86 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{27}\text{FN}_2\text{O}_5 + \text{H}^+$: 431.1977, found 431.1975.



(Z)-diethyl

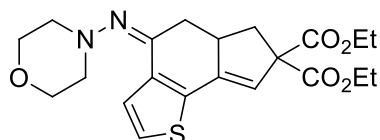
7,8-dimethoxy-5-(morpholinoimino)-3,3a,4,5-tetrahydro-2H-cyclopenta[a]naphthalene-2,2-dicarboxylate (**3ka**). Yellow solid; (39.2 mg, 83%); mp: 178-181 °C; R_f = 0.31 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.02 (s, 1H), 6.16 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.28-4.13 (m, 4H), 3.96 (s, 3H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 3.88-3.84 (m, 4H), 3.82-3.77 (m, 1H), 3.26-3.17 (m, 1H), 3.02-2.96 (m, 1H), 2.91-2.86 (m, 2H), 2.81-2.76 (m, 2H), 2.04 (dd, J = 13.2 Hz, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 1.92 (t, J = 14.0 Hz, 1H), 1.32-1.25 (m, 6H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 171.4, 170.4, 161.3, 150.9, 149.7, 145.1, 126.1, 125.4, 118.1, 107.1, 106.6, 66.3, 66.0, 61.6, 55.9, 55.3, 42.1, 39.3, 33.5, 14.06, 14.03 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{32}\text{N}_2\text{O}_7 + \text{H}^+$: 473.2282, found

473.2285.

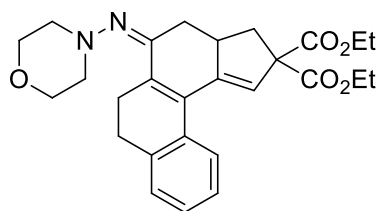


(Z)-diethyl

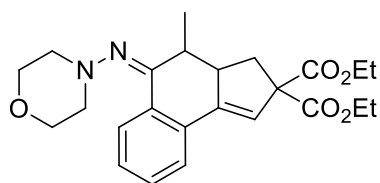
5-(morpholinoimino)-3,3a,4,5-tetrahydro-2H-cyclopenta[5,6]naphtho[2,3-d][1,3]dioxole-2,2-dicarboxylate (**3la**). Yellow solid; (37.4 mg, 82%); mp: 166-168 °C; R_f = 0.35 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.57 (s, 1H), 7.01 (s, 1H), 7.32-7.29 (m, 1H), 6.05 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 5.97 (dd, J = 5.2 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 2H), 4.27-4.14 (m, 4H), 3.89-3.80 (m, 4H), 3.78-3.74 (m, 1H), 3.23-3.14 (m, 1H), 3.01-2.96 (m, 1H), 2.89-2.84 (m, 2H), 2.79-2.74 (m, 2H), 2.04 (dd, J = 13.2 Hz, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 1.90 (t, J = 14.0 Hz, 1H), 1.31-1.24 (m, 6H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 171.4, 170.4, 161.2, 149.5, 148.6, 145.0, 127.9, 127.1, 118.8, 105.0, 104.2, 101.4, 66.2, 65.9, 61.6, 55.3, 41.9, 39.2, 33.4, 14.05, 14.03 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_2\text{O}_7 + \text{H}^+$: 457.1969, found 457.1971.



(Z)-diethyl 4-(morpholinoimino)-5a,6-dihydro-4H-indeno[4,5-b]thiophene-7,7(5H)-dicarboxylate (**3ma**). Yellow solid; (31.3 mg, 75%); mp: 131-133 °C; R_f = 0.37 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.27 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 5.98 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.27-4.14 (m, 4H), 3.88-3.79 (m, 4H), 3.70 (dd, J = 15.2 Hz, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 2.97 (dd, J = 13.2 Hz, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.91-2.86 (m, 1H), 2.83-2.76 (m, 2H), 2.79-2.74 (m, 2H), 2.01 (dd, J = 13.2 Hz, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 1.99 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 1.30-1.24 (m, 6H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 171.1, 170.2, 160.1, 142.2, 139.1, 132.8, 128.1, 123.4, 120.4, 66.6, 61.7, 55.0, 42.7, 39.6, 38.8, 14.04 ppm; ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5\text{S} + \text{H}^+$: 419.1635, found 419.1638.

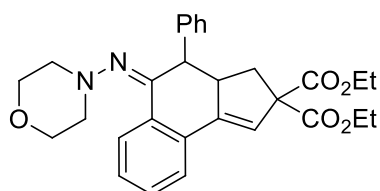


(Z)-diethyl 5-(morpholinoimino)-3,3a,4,5,6,7-hexahydro-2H-cyclopenta[c]phenanthrene-2,2-dicarboxylate (**3na**). Yellow solid; (35.3 mg, 76%); mp: 111-113 °C; R_f = 0.37 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.65 (dd, J = 6.4 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.24-7.22 (m, 3H), 6.07 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.29-4.16 (m, 4H), 3.88-3.81 (m, 4H), 3.67 (dd, J = 15.2 Hz, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.20-3.16 (m, 1H), 3.15-3.09 (m, 1H), 2.90-2.85 (m, 3H), 2.76-2.67 (m, 4H), 2.35-2.26 (m, 1H), 2.17 (dd, J = 13.6 Hz, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.04-1.96 (m, 1H), 1.33-1.24 (m, 6H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 171.2, 171.1, 162.9, 143.0, 138.7, 136.0, 133.4, 133.2, 127.8, 127.5, 126.5, 126.1, 123.5, 66.8, 66.3, 61.72, 61.68, 55.2, 42.9, 37.8, 34.6, 28.0, 22.9, 14.12, 14.06 ppm; ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{32}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5 + \text{H}^+$: 465.2384, found 465.2387.



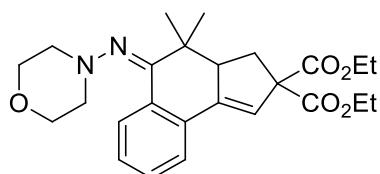
(Z)-diethyl

4-methyl-5-(morpholinoimino)-3,3a,4,5-tetrahydro-2H-cyclopenta[a]naphthalene-2,2-dicarboxylate (**3ab**). Yellow solid; (31.1 mg, 73%); dr= 5:1; mp: 134-136 °C; R_f = 0.35 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) data of the major isomer: δ = 8.00 (dd, J = 8.0 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.29 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.33-4.08 (m, 4H), 3.89-3.81 (m, 4H), 3.79 (dd, J = 8.0 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 3.44-3.35 (m, 1H), 2.85-2.82 (m, 4H), 2.78-2.76 (m, 1H), 2.77 (dd, J = 13.6 Hz, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 1.34-1.22 (m, 6H), 0.88 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 171.4, 170.5, 169.2, 142.8, 131.4, 130.0, 129.0, 126.8, 124.8, 121.5, 66.2, 61.7, 61.6, 56.0, 55.3, 46.3, 33.7, 32.03, 14.05, 11.5 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5 + \text{H}^+$: 427.2227, found 427.2225.



(Z)-diethyl

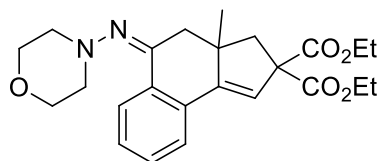
5-(morpholinoimino)-4-phenyl-3,3a,4,5-tetrahydro-2H-cyclopenta[a]naphthalene-2,2-dicarboxylate (**3ac**). Yellow solid; (17.1 mg, 35%); dr= 4:1; mp: 188-189 °C; R_f = 0.32 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) data of the major isomer: δ = 8.17 (dd, J = 8.0 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (dd, J = 8.0 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.34 (m, 3H), 7.27-7.24 (m, 2H), 7.18-7.13 (m, 3H), 6.14 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.32-4.08 (m, 4H), 3.85-3.74 (m, 1H), 3.45-3.40 (m, 2H), 3.35-3.30 (m, 2H), 3.29-3.24 (m, 1H), 2.76 (dd, J = 13.6 Hz, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.54-2.49 (m, 2H), 2.31 (dd, J = 14.0 Hz, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.20-2.18 (m, 2H), 1.31-1.21 (m, 6H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 171.4, 170.5, 169.2, 142.8, 131.4, 130.0, 129.0, 126.8, 124.8, 121.5, 66.2, 61.7, 61.6, 56.0, 55.3, 46.3, 33.7, 32.03, 14.05, 11.5 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{32}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5 + \text{H}^+$: 489.2384, found 489.2387.



(Z)-diethyl

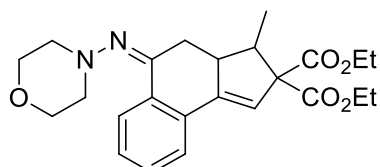
4,4-dimethyl-5-(morpholinoimino)-3,3a,4,5-tetrahydro-2H-cyclopenta[a]naphthalene-2,2-dicarboxylate (**3ad**). Yellow solid; (40.0 mg, 91%); mp: 133-135 °C; R_f = 0.34 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 8.65-8.62 (m, 1H), 7.69-7.67 (m, 1H), 7.31-7.24 (m, 2H), 6.29 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.31-4.11 (m, 4H), 3.71-3.69 (m, 4H), 3.10-3.05 (m, 1H), 2.84-2.79 (m, 2H), 2.76-2.73 (m, 1H), 2.73-2.68 (m, 2H), 2.13 (dd, J = 13.2 Hz, J = 9.6 Hz, 2H), 1.31-1.25 (m, 6H), 1.19 (s, 3H), 0.79 (s, 3H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 171.4, 170.4, 161.5, 144.2, 130.9, 129.5, 129.2, 128.1, 124.8, 121.3, 66.3, 65.4, 61.64, 61.57, 55.1, 53.3, 41.3, 33.0,

24.1, 18.5, 14.04 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for C₂₅H₃₂N₂O₅+H⁺:441.2384, found 441.2387.



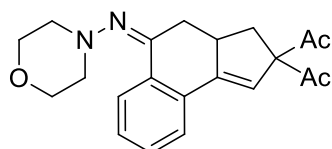
(Z)-diethyl

3a-methyl-5-(morpholinoimino)-3,3a,4,5-tetrahydro-2H-cyclopenta[a]naphthalene-2,2-dicarboxylate (3ae). Yellow solid; (35.4 mg, 83%); mp: 114-115 °C; *R*_f = 0.35 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.14 (dd, *J* = 8.0 Hz, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (dd, *J* = 7.6 Hz, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.39-7.34 (m, 1H), 7.32-7.28 (m, 1H), 6.07 (s, 1H), 4.29-4.19 (m, 4H), 3.90-3.81 (m, 4H), 3.78 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 2.91-2.86 (m, 2H), 2.81-2.76 (m, 2H), 2.73 (d, *J* = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (d, *J* = 13.6 Hz, 2H), 2.17 (d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 1.31-1.26 (m, 6H), 1.11 (s, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 171.4, 170.9, 161.2, 149.3, 131.7, 131.7, 131.0, 130.1, 128.6, 125.8, 125.5, 119.0, 62.2, 61.8, 61.7, 46.3, 46.2, 40.9, 25.2, 14.03 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for C₂₄H₃₀N₂O₅+H⁺:427.2227, found 427.2229.

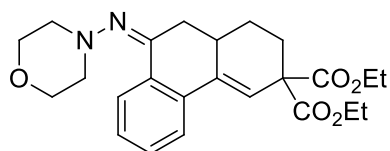


(Z)-diethyl

3-methyl-5-(morpholinoimino)-3,3a,4,5-tetrahydro-2H-cyclopenta[a]naphthalene-2,2-dicarboxylate (3af). Yellow solid; (30.7 mg, 72%); dr = 3:1; mp: 128-129 °C; *R*_f = 0.35 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.01 (dd, *J* = 8.0 Hz, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (dd, *J* = 7.6 Hz, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (dd, *J* = 7.6 Hz, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 6.29 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.28-4.12 (m, 4H), 3.89-3.84 (m, 4H), 3.82-3.78 (m, 1H), 3.68 (t, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.41-3.35 (m, 1H), 2.87-2.82 (m, 4H), 2.80-2.76 (m, 1H), 2.27 (dd, *J* = 13.6 Hz, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 1.31-1.25 (m, 6H), 0.88 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 171.4, 170.5, 169.2, 142.8, 131.4, 130.0, 129.0, 126.8, 124.8, 121.5, 66.2, 61.7, 61.6, 56.0, 46.3, 33.7, 32.0, 14.08, 14.05, 11.5 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for C₂₄H₃₀N₂O₅+H⁺:427.2227, found 427.2224.

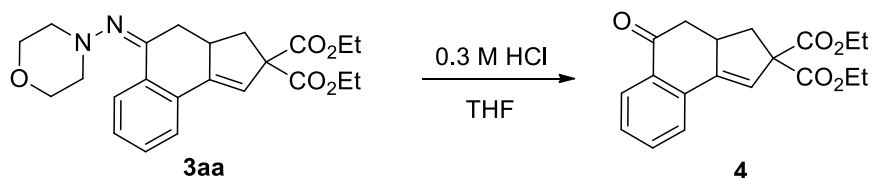


(Z)-1,1'-(5-(morpholinoimino)-3,3a,4,5-tetrahydro-2H-cyclopenta[a]naphthalene-2,2-diyl)diethanone (3ag). Yellow solid; (30.3 mg, 86%); mp: 134-135 °C; *R*_f = 0.39 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.11 (dd, *J* = 7.6 Hz, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, *J* = 7.6 Hz, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.40-7.35 (m, 1H), 7.33-7.29 (m, 1H), 6.39 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.91-3.83 (m, 4H), 3.82-3.80 (m, 1H), 3.17-3.11 (m, 1H), 3.10-3.04 (m, 1H), 2.93-2.88 (m, 2H), 2.83-2.78 (m, 1H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 1.95-1.87 (m, 2H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 205.8, 203.4, 161.1, 145.9, 132.6, 131.3, 130.0, 129.0, 125.9, 125.0, 119.6, 126.0, 80.5, 66.2, 55.3, 41.8, 37.1, 33.7, 27.1, 27.0 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for C₂₁H₂₄N₂O₃+H⁺:353.1860, found 353.1863.

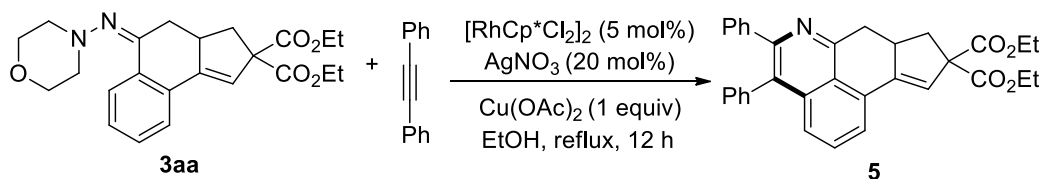


(*Z*)-diethyl 9-(morpholinoimino)-1,9,10,10a-tetrahydrophenanthrene-3,3(2*H*)-dicarboxylate (**3ai**). Yellow solid; (32.0 mg, 75%); mp:167-169 °C; R_f = 0.40 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 8.17 (dd, J = 8.0 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (dd, J = 8.0 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.34 (m, 1H), 7.30-7.28 (m, 1H), 6.53 (s, 1H), 4.30-4.12 (m, 4H), 3.91-3.81 (m, 4H), 3.56 (dd, J = 15.2 Hz, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.19 (t, J = 4.8, 1H), 2.94-2.89 (m, 2H), 2.81-2.76 (m, 2H), 2.59-2.47 (m, 1H), 2.13-2.04 (m, 1H), 1.98-1.83 (m, 2H), 1.64-1.55 (m, 2H), 1.32-1.24 (m, 6H), ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 171.0, 170.3, 160.9, 139.0, 136.0, 132.0, 130.1, 128.2, 125.1, 124.6, 119.3, 66.2, 61.7, 61.6, 55.2, 34.3, 34.0, 27.39, 27.35, 14.03 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5 + \text{H}^+$: 427.2227, found 427.2225.

Synthetic Utility of Methodology.³



3aa (41.2 mg, 0.10 mmol) was added to a 1/1 mixture of HCl 0.3N/THF. The resulting solution was stirred at room temperature and monitored by TLC. After **3aa** was used up, extracted with DCM and washed with aq NaHCO_3 . The organic layer was dried over MgSO_4 and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, petroleum ether /ethyl acetate 20/1) to afford **4** (27.9 mg, 85%) as colourless oil. diethyl 5-oxo-3,3a,4,5-tetrahydro-2*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]naphthalene-2,2-dicarboxylate (**4**). Yellow oil; (26.6 mg, 81%); R_f = 0.47 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 8.01 (dd, J = 8.0 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.58-7.54 (m, 1H), 7.44-7.40 (m, 1H), 6.37 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.29-4.15 (m, 4H), 3.58-3.48 (m, 1H), 3.09-2.98 (m, 1H), 2.54-2.47 (m, 1H), 2.11 (dd, J = 13.2 Hz, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 1.32-1.26 (m, 6H), ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 197.0, 171.0, 170.0, 143.7, 135.1, 133.7, 131.1, 129.1, 127.3, 125.5, 122.4, 66.3, 42.3, 39.2, 14.03 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_5 + \text{H}^+$: 329.1384, found 329.1397.



To a Schlenk tube were added diphenylacetylene (0.1 mmol), **3aa** (0.15 mmol), $[(\text{RhCp}^*\text{Cl}_2)_2]$ (5 mol %), AgNO_3 (20 mol %), $\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2$ (0.1 mmol), and anhydrous EtOH (1 mL). Then the tube was charged with argon, and the reaction mixture was stirred under reflux for the indicated time until complete consumption of the starting material was achieved as monitored by TLC. After the reaction was finished, the reaction mixture was diluted with diethyl ether, and washed with brine. The aqueous phase was re-extracted with diethyl ether. The combined organic extracts were dried over MgSO_4 and concentrated in vacuum, and the resulting residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (silica gel, petroleum ether /ethyl acetate 20/1) to afford **5** (38.2 mg, 76%)

as yellow solid. *diethyl 4,5-diphenyl-7a,8-dihydrobenzo[de]cyclopenta[g]quinoline-9,9(7H)-dicarboxylate* (5). Yellow solid; (38.2 mg, 76%); mp:127-129 °C; R_f = 0.45 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.84 (dd, J = 7.6 Hz, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.62-7.56 (m, 2H), 7.37-7.33 (m, 5H), 7.25-7.17 (m, 5H), 6.46 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.31-4.17 (m, 4H), 3.75 (dd, J = 15.6 Hz, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.64-3.56 (m, 1H), 3.21 (dd, J = 13.6 Hz, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.08 (dd, J = 13.6 Hz, J = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 2.25 (dd, J = 13.6 Hz, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 1.34-1.30 (m, 6H), ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 171.3, 170.5, 157.1, 149.9, 145.2, 140.8, 137.4, 136.1, 133.7, 131.3, 130.2, 130.0, 129.0, 128.24, 128.2, 127.6, 127.3, 127.2, 127.0, 126.3, 125.5, 122.7, 122.4, 121.5, 66.3, 61.74, 61.71, 45.7, 42.3, 41.5, 39.5, 39.2, 14.1 ppm. ESI-HRMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{29}\text{NO}_4 + \text{H}^+$: 504.2169, found 504.2167.

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Determination of the geometry of the CN double bond

NOESY

