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Electronic Supplementary Information

Synthesis of Perinaphthenones through Rhodium-Catalyzed Dehydrative Annulation of 1-Naphthoic Acids with Alkynes

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General information

¹H NMR spectra were recorded with a JEOL ECS-400 (400 MHz) spectrometers in CDCl₃, and are referenced at 0.00 ppm for TMS. ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded with a JEOL ECS-400 (100 MHz) spectrometers in CDCl₃, and are referenced at 77.16 ppm for CDCl₃. Chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (δ). Infrared spectra were obtained on a JASCO FT/IR-4100 spectrometer; absorptions were reported in reciprocal centimeters. Both conventional and high-resolution mass spectra were recorded with a JEOL MS-700 spectrometer. Melting point was measured by BÜCHI Melting Point B-540. GC analysis was performed on a Shimadzu GC-2014 instrument equipped with an FID detector using a J&W Scientific DB-1 column under the following conditions: initial oven temp. 60 °C, hold at this temperature for 5 min, first ramp 20 °C/min to 250 °C, hold at this temperature for 5 min. The products were purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (Kanto Chem. Co. Silica Gel 60N (spherical, neutral, 40-50 mm). [RhCl(cod)]₂ was prepared according to the literature procedure.¹ Structures of the regioisomers, **1c**, **1c'**, **3d**, **3d'**, **3e**, **3e'**, **3i**, **3i'**, **3k**, **3k'**, **3l'**, and **3m'** were determined by HMBC analysis. Structure of **3f** was determined by NOESY analysis.

Typical Procedure for the Rhodium-Catalyzed Dehydrative Annulation of 1-Naphthoic Acids with Alkynes

To a 5 mL screw capped test tube were added 1-naphthoic acid (**1a**, 86.1 mg, 0.50 mmol), $[RhCl(cod)]_2$ (6.2 mg, 0.0125 mmol), bis(diphenylphosphino)methane (DPPM, 9.6 mg, 0.025 mmol), KI (41.5 mg, 0.25 mmol), Piv₂O (279.4 mg, 1.50 mmol), 4-octyne (**2a**, 154.3 mg, 1.5 mmol), 1,4-dioxane (1 mL), and a magnetic stirring bar. The test tube was purged with argon and sealed. The mixture was heated with oil bath at 160 °C for 30 h. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction mixture was diluted with CHCl₃, passed through a pad of Celite, and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/EtOAc = 10/1) to give phenalenone as a yellow solid (**2a**, 115.9 mg, 88%).

2,3-Dipropyl-1H-phenalen-1-one (3a)



Yellow solid; mp 96-97 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.06 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.14 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.53-1.62 (m, 2H), 1.69-1.78 (m, 2H), 2.69-2.73 (m, 2H), 2.91-2.95 (m, 2H), 7.60 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.94-7.97 (m, 2H), 8.14 (dd, J = 1.4, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 8.63 (dd, J = 1.4, 7.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 14.65, 14.74, 23.96, 24.37, 28.76, 31.42, 126.42, 126.6, 127.38, 127.61,

128.49, 128.95, 130.16, 130.59, 132.12, 134.39, 138.21, 148.07, 184.81; IR (KBr) 2959, 1631, 1612, 1569, 1366, 788 cm⁻¹; EIMS m/z (relative intensity) 264 (M⁺, 51), 221 (100), 165 (15); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{19}H_{20}O$: 264.1514, found: 264.1518.

2,3-Diethyl-1H-phenalen-1-one(3b)



Yello solid; mp 55-56 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.19 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.36 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 2.76 (q, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 3.00 (q, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.97
3b (t, J = 6.9, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 8.15 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.63 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 14.09, 15.26, 19.72, 22.20,

126.43, 126.58, 127.48, 128.11, 128.94, 130.12, 130.61, 132.14, 134.41, 139.12, 149.14, 184.64; IR (KBr) 2961, 1631, 1615, 1577, 1571, 1407, 786 cm⁻¹; EIMS m/z (relative intensity) 236 (M⁺, 44), 235 (54), 212 (95), 156 (34), 129 (74), 115 (100); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{17}H_{16}O$: 236.1201, found: 236.1202.

2-Propyl-3-methyl-1H-phenalen-1-one (3c)



Yellow solid; mp 74-75 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.03 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.53-1.59 (m, 2H), 2.56 (s, 3H), 2.75 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.56-7.60 (m, 1H), 7.69-7.73 (m, 1H), 7.93-7.97 (m, 2H), 8.12-8.13 (m, 1H), 8.60-8.62 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 12.22, 14.55, 23.32, 31.57, 126.41, 126.59, 127.22, 127.41, 128.36, 128.73, 130.21, 130.64, 132.11, 133.72, 134.46, 148.25, 185.06; IR (KBr) 2959, 1632, 1615, 1571, 1409, 1377, 784 cm⁻¹; EIMS m/z (relative intensity) 236

 $(M^+, 28)$, 221 (100), 208 (31), 179 (34), 152 (14); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{17}H_{16}O$: 236.1201, found: 236.1199.

3-Propyl-2-methyl-1H-phenalen-1-one (3c')



Yellow oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.10 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.69-1.75 (m, 2H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 2.93-2.97 (m, 2H), 7.58-7.62 (m, 1H), 7.70-7.73 (m, 1H), 7.93-7.97 (m, 2H), 8.12-8.13 (m, 1H), 8.60-8.62 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 14.41, 15.73, 22.55, 28.60, 126.38, 126.61, 127.10, 127.41, 128.85, 129.61, 130.19, 130.60, 131.90, 134.31, 138.55, 143.81, 184.53; IR (KBr) 2961, 1631, 1612, 1571, 1457, 1330, 779 cm⁻¹; EIMS m/z (relative intensity) 236 (M⁺, 61), 235 (77), 221 (100),

178 (33), 165 (23); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for C₁₇H₁₆O: 236.1201, found: 236.1198.

2-Butyl-3-ethyl-1H-phenalen-1-one (3d) and 3-Butyl-2-ethyl-1H-phenalen-1-one (3d')



These compounds were obtained as an inseparable mixture. Pale yellow oil, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.96-1.05 (m), 1.17-1.20 (m), 1.33-1.37 (m), 1.45-1.74 (m), 2.71-2.79 (m), 2.92-3.02 (m), 7.58-7.62 (m, 1H), 7.70-7.74 (m, 1H), 7.94-7.97 (m, 2H), 8.13-8.15 (m, 1H), 8.61-8.64 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃): δ 13.91, 14.00, 15.17,

19.82, 22.25, 23.27, 23.35, 26.29, 28.93, 31.89, 33.15, 126.35, 126.37, 126.49, 127.27, 127.34, 127.43, 127.49, 128.02, 128.39, 128.84, 128.88, 130.03, 130.50, 130.55, 132.04, 132.07, 134.32, 137.90, 139.28, 147.91, 149.26, 184.52, 184.76; IR (KBr) 2958, 1631, 1614, 1572, 1376, 786 cm⁻¹; EIMS m/z (relative intensity) 264 (M⁺, 24), 235 (100), 221 (19), 181 (22), 131 (21); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{19}H_{20}O$: 264.1514, found: 264.1509.

3-Phenyl-2-propyl-1H-phenalen-1-one (3e)



Orange solid; mp 109-110 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.83 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.50-1.42 (m, 2H), 2.43-2.37 (m, 2H), 7.21-7.17 (m, 1H), 7.33-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.55-7.41 (m, 4H), 7.80 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.71 (dd, *J* = 7.4, 0.9 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 14.51, 22.81, 30.08, 126.40, 126.85, 127.73, 128.25, 129.03, 129.14, 129.86, 130.35, 130.66, 131.15, 131.96, 134.64, 137.43, 138.65, 149.28, 184.93; IR (KBr) 2959, 1630, 1616,

1570, 1334, 788 cm⁻¹; EIMS m/z (relative intensity) 298 (M⁺, 48), 297 (46), 269 (40), 239 (30), 69 (100); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{22}H_{18}O$: 298.1358, found: 298.1360.

2-Phenyl-3-propyl-1H-phenalen-1-one (3e')



Orange solid; mp = 200-201 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.91 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.62-1.73 (m, 2H), 2.71-2.76 (m, 2H), 7.24-7.27 (m, 2H), 7.38-7.49 (m, 3H), 7.62-7.67 (m, 1H), 7.73-7.78 (m, 1H), 8.02-8.05 (m, 2H), 8.18-8.21 (m, 1H), 8.62-8.65 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 14.54, 24.73, 32.56, 126.44, 126.81, 127.29, 127.82, 128.11, 128.12, 128.62, 129.14, 129.68, 130.43, 131.38, 132.24, 134.64, 136.81, 139.39,

149.62, 184.31; IR (KBr) 2955, 1629, 1610, 1570, 1560, 1407, 706 cm⁻¹; EIMS m/z (relative intensity) 298 (M⁺, 88), 297 (100), 269 (36), 255 (38), 149 (12); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{22}H_{18}O$: 298.1358, found: 298.1350.

3-Propyl-2-trimethlsilyl-1H-phenalen-1-one (3f)



Yellow solid; mp = 95-96 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.35 (s, 9H), 1.14 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 1.59-1.66 (m, 2H), 2.89-2.93 (m, 2H), 7.61-7.65 (m, 1H), 7.68-7.72 (m, 1H), 7.81-7.84 (m, 2H), 7.96-7.94 (m, 1H), 8.05-8.07 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.23, 14.76, 22.36, 35.98, 121.06, 121.62, 125.11, 127.81, 128.53, 130.84, 131.20, 132.89, 135.01, 140.17, 141.44; IR (KBr) 2960, 1774, 1750, 1736, 1719,

1458, 777 cm⁻¹; EIMS m/z (relative intensity) 279 (M⁺, 75), 235 (37), 205 (35), 189 (100), 164 (70), 163 (79); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{18}H_{17}O$ (M⁺-CH₃), 279.1205, found: 279.1203.

2,3-Diphenyl-1H-phenalen-1-one (3g)



Orange solid; mp 193-194 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.08-7.29 (m, 10H), 7.48-7.51 (m, 2H), 7.83 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (dd, J = 7.4, 1.8, 1H), 8.25 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 8.74 (dd, J= 7.3, 0.9 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 126.45, 126.76, 127.07, 127.38, 127.47, 127.73, 129.33, 129.37, 130.11, 130.66,

130.74, 131.51, 132.12, 134.90, 135.75, 136.95, 138.83, 150.12, 184.09; IR (KBr) 3055, 1631, 1615, 1570, 1271,801, 699, 788 cm⁻¹; EIMS m/z (relative intensity) 332 (M⁺, 47), 331 (58), 255 (17), 213 (34), 149 (63); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{25}H_{16}O$: 332.1201, found: 332.1195.

2,3-Di-*p*-tolyl-1H-phenalen-1-one (3h)



Orange solid; mp 231.2-232.0 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.27 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 6.99 (s, 4H), 7.06-7.11 (m, 4H), 7.46-7.51 (m, 2H), 7.79-7.83 (m, 1H), 8.00-8.02 (m, 1H), 8.23-8.25 (m, 1H), 8.72-7.74 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 21.44, 126.57, 127.14, 127.51, 128.33, 128.61, 129.56, 129.80, 130.17,

130.69, 130.80, 131.43, 132.18, 132.26, 132.95, 134.24, 134.91, 136.34, 137.17, 138.88, 150.13, 184.45; IR (KBr) 1632, 1610, 1569, 1361, 799 cm⁻¹; EIMS m/z (relative intensity) 360 (M⁺, 55), 345 (100), 295 (18), 269 (12), 257 (11); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{27}H_{20}O$: 360.1514, found: 360.1509.

7-Methyl-2,3-dipropyl-1H-phenalen-1-one phenalen-1-one (3i')



(3i) and 6-Methyl-2,3-dipropyl-1H-

These compounds were obtained as an inseparable mixture. Yellow solid, mp = 91-93 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): for **3i**; δ 1.04 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.14 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.52-1.62 (m, 2H), 1.69-1.75 (m, 2H), 2.67-2.72 (m, 2H), 2.83 (s, 3H), 2.88-2.94 (m, 2H), 7.52-7.63 (m, 2H), 7.95

(d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 8.14 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 8.52 (d, J = 7.3, Hz, 1H); for **3i**'; δ 1.05 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.15 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.52-1.62 (m, 2H), 1.69-1.75 (m, 2H), 2.67-2.72 (m, 2H), 2.79 (s, 3H), 2.88-2.94 (m, 2H), 7.41 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 8.33 (dd, J = 1.4, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.64 (d, J = 7.3, Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 14.62, 14.68, 19.49, 20.07, 22.94, 24.29, 24.39, 28.67, 28.71, 31.27, 31.41, 125.97, 126.20, 126.71, 127.13, 127.26, 127.47, 127.53, 127.58, 127.74, 128.77, 129.31, 129.73, 130.12, 130.42, 131.19, 131.59, 137.01, 137.91, 138.17, 142.47, 147.86, 148.28, 184.64, 184.84; IR (KBr) 2959, 1626, 1610, 1570, 1362, 781 cm⁻¹; EIMS m/z (relative intensity) 278 (M⁺, 54), 263 (100), 235 (71), 189 (12), 149 (12); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for C₂₀H₂₂O: 278.1671, found: 278.1670.

7-Fluoro-2,3-dipropyl-1H-phenalen-1-one phenalen-1-one (3j')



(3j) and 6-Fluoro-2,3-dipropyl-1H-

These compounds were obtained as an inseparable mixture. Yellow solid, mp = 108-109 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): for **3j**; δ 1.04-1.07 (m, 3H), 1.57 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.54-1.59 (m, 2H), 1.69-1.75 (m, 2H), 2.66-2.71 (m, 2H), 2.88-2.94 (m, 2H), 7.36 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 10.1 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (t, *J* =

7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.59 (dd, J = 5.5, 8.3 Hz, 1H); for **3j**'; δ 1.04-1.07 (m, 3H), 1.56 (dt, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.54-1.59 (m, 2H), 1.69-1.75 (m, 2H), 2.66-2.71 (m, 2H), 2.88-2.94 (m, 2H), 7.22 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (dd, J = 5.5, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.41 (d, J = 6.9, 1H), 8.66 (d, J = 7.4, Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 14.57, 14.62, 22.87, 24.14, 24.21, 28.61, 28.68, 31.29, 31.39, 110.07 (d, $J_{CF} = 20.2$ Hz), 111.21 (d, $J_{CF} = 20.2$ Hz), 120.80 (d, $J_{CF} = 16.3$ Hz), 122.47 (d, $J_{CF} = 16.3$ Hz), 122.93 (d, $J_{CF} = 4.9$ Hz), 124.86 (d, $J_{CF} = 4.8$ Hz), 125.39 (d, $J_{CF} = 3.8$ Hz), 126.53, 126.65, 126.76 (d, $J_{CF} = 3.9$ Hz), 127.90 (d, $J_{CF} = 8.7$ Hz), 128.05, 128.32, 128.36, 128.65, 128.70, 130.73, 131.57 (d, $J_{CF} = 10.6$ Hz), 137.02 (d, $J_{CF} = 2.9$ Hz), 138.37, 147.51, 147.73, 160.22 (d, $J_{CF} = 261.1$ Hz), 162.72 (d, $J_{CF} = 262.9$ Hz), 183.51, 184.51; ¹⁹F NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃): for **3j**; δ -111.13; for **3j**'; d -117.90 ; IR (KBr) 2962, 1637, 1616, 1592, 1571, 1479, 1376, 781 cm⁻¹; EIMS m/z (relative intensity) 282 (M⁺, 62), 239 (100), 173 (32); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for C₁₉H₁₉FO: 282.1420, found: 282.1425.

6-Methoxy-2,3-dipropyl-1H-phenalen-1-one (3k)



Yellow solid; mp = 153-154 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.05 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.14 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.52-1.62 (m, 2H), 1.67-1.77 (m, 2H), 2.68-2.72 (m, 2H), 2.89-2.93 (m, 2H), 4.10 (s, 3H), 7.05 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.58 (m, 1H), 7.95 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 8.36 (d, J = 8.3, Hz, 1H), 8.62 (d, J = 8.2, Hz, 1H) ; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 14.80, 14.84, 23.12, 24.40, 28.91, 31.58, 56.11, 105.70, 122.60, 123.69, 124.81, 125.46, 127.94, 128.16, 128.56,

132.91, 138.29, 147.67, 161.27, 183.90; IR (KBr) 2956, 1628, 1605, 1577, 1362, 1263, 1067, 1366, 1067, 777 cm⁻¹; EIMS m/z (relative intensity) 294 (M⁺, 76), 293 (91), 279 (52), 251 (100), 221 (32), 165 (23); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{20}H_{22}O_2$: 294.1620, found: 294.1611.

6-Methoxy-2,3-dipropyl-1H-phenalen-1-one (3k')



Orange solid; mp = 142-143 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.05 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.13 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.54-1.60 (m, 2H), 1.68-1.74 (m, 2H), 2.66-2.70 (m, 2H), 2.87-2.91 (m, 2H), 6.88-6.90 (m, 1H), 7.69-7.73 (m, 1H), 7.86-7.88 (m, 1H), 8.56-8.59 (m, 1H), 8.65-8.67 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 14.81, 14.90, 23.14, 24.70, 28.82, 31.56, 55.97,

104.40, 121.53, 124.84, 126.00, 128.48, 128.55, 129.11, 129.38, 130.68, 135.84, 148.42, 158.47, 185.01; IR (KBr) 2963, 1629, 1608, 1578, 1571, 1258, 1088, 781 cm⁻¹; EIMS m/z (relative intensity) 294 (M⁺, 30), 279 (41), 263 (100), 251 (63), 221 (26), 165 (18), 149 (41); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{20}H_{22}O_2$: 294.1620, found: 294.1616.

4-Ethoxy-2,3-dipropyl-1H-phenalen-1-one (3l')



Orange solid; mp = 100.4-101.7 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.02-1.11 (m, 6H), 1.51-1.72 (m, 7H), 2.72-2.77 (m, 2H), 3.13-3.18 (m, 2H), 4.35 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (t, J= 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 8.71 (dd, J = 7.4, 1.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 14.68, 14.76, 14.95, 23.05, 23.71, 28.48, 34.91, 65.11, 114.02,

115.16, 124.31, 126.54, 127.75, 128.35, 128.50, 128.98, 131.33, 133.40, 134.19, 138.26, 149.79, 158.97, 183.56; IR (KBr) 2960, 1626, 1603, 1588, 1559, 1389, 1051, 813 cm⁻¹; EIMS m/z (relative intensity) 308 (M⁺, 21), 279 (100), 265 (44), 235(18), 149(27); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{21}H_{24}O_2$ (M⁺- C_2H_5): 279.1385, found: 279.1393.

5,6-Dipropyl-4H-benzo[*de*]quinolin-4-one (3m)



Yellow solid; mp = 105-107 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.05 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.15 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.51-1.60 (m, 2H), 1.68-1.78 (m, 2H), 2.65-2.69 (m, 2H), 2.89-2.93 (m, 2H), 7.77-7.81 (m, 1H), 7.91-7.93 (m, 1H), 8.16-8.18 (m, 1H), 8.23 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 9.21 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 14.55, 14.68, 22.86, 24.18, 28.52, 31.42, 120.42, 122.41, 127.60, 129.04, 129.93, 131.64, 134.00, 138.00, 148.41, 148.80, 151.20, 184.64; IR (KBr) 2962, 1631, 1580, 1561, 1255, 790 cm⁻¹;

EIMS m/z (relative intensity) 265 (M^+ , 51), 222 (32), 174 (64), 148 (100) 122 (44); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for C₁₈H₁₉NO: 265.1467, found: 265.1469.

4,5-Dipropyl-6H-benzo[de]quinolin-6-one (3m')



Yellow solid; mp = 101-103 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.04-1.08 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.15 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.52-1.62 (m, 2H), 1.66-1.74 (m, 2H), 2.68-2.72 (m, 2H), 2.86-2.90 (m, 2H), 7.65 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 7.86-7.90 (m, 1H), 8.35-8.37 (m, 1H), 8.53-8.55 (m, 1H), 9.04 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 14.59, 14.62, 22.92, 23.89, 28.85,

30.85, 119.48, 123.06, 128.74, 129.49, 129.81, 135.70, 142.36, 145.81, 146.74, 183.54; IR (KBr) 2959, 1636, 1610, 1585, 1349, 789 cm⁻¹; EIMS m/z (relative intensity) 265 (M⁺, 100), 250 (48), 222 (64), 207 (29) 166 (15); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{18}H_{19}NO$: 265.1467, found: 265.1468.

1H-Phenalen-1-one (3n)²



3n

Yellow solid; mp = 148-149 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.61 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.78-7.71 (m, 3H), 7.57 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): d 185.6, 141.7, 134.9, 132.1, 131.9, 131.3, 130.3, 129.3, 129.2, 127.8, 127.5, 127.1, 126.6

Procedure for the reaction of 1b and 2a under ¹³CO

4-methyl-1-naphthoic acid (**1b**, 94.6 mg, 0.50 mmol), 4-octyne (**2a**, 163.5 mg, 1.5 mmol), [RhCl(cod)]₂ (6.1 mg, 0.01 mmol), DPPM (9.9 mg, 0.025 mmol), KI (41.9 mg, 0.25 mmol), Piv₂O (278.8 mg, 1.50 mmol), dioxane (1 mL), and a magnetic stirring bar were added in a screw-capped test tube (A). Sulfuric acid (168 mg, 1.7 mmol) was added in a screw-capped test tube (B). The two test tubes were connected with cannula and tightly closed. The test tube B was stirred at room temperature then ¹³C-formic acid (120 mg, 1.2 mmol) was added in the B, and generated ¹³CO was introduced to test tube A. After finishing the generation of ¹³CO, the cannula was removed and test tube A was shealed. The reactor A was allowed to stir at 160 °C for 18 h. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/EtOAc = 10/1) to give non-labeled phenalenones **3i** and **3i**' as a mixture. No ¹³CO incorporation was determined by ¹³C-NMR analysis.

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