# Highly efficient synthesis of C<sub>3</sub>-symmetry O-alkyl substituted triphenylene and related Mannich derivatives for supramolecular applications

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#### **S1** Experimental Section

#### S1.1 General Methods

The reactions were followed with TLC Polygram<sup>®</sup> Sil G/UV<sub>254</sub>, 0.25 mm thickness. <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, and 2D spectra were recorded with a Bruker Avance 300 and Ascend 400 spectrometers. working at 300-400 and 75-100 MHz respectively. Resonance frequencies are referred to tetramethylsilane. IR spectra were recorded with a Perkin Elmer Spectrum One spectrophotometer. Mass spectrometric measurements were performed using a Thermo Scientific LTQ Orbitrap XL equipped with HESI source. The compounds studied were dissolved in methanol or acetonitrile with a concentration of 5×10<sup>-3</sup> M. They were injected into the HESI source by direct infusion with the syringe pump integrated in the mass spectrometer at a 5 mL min<sup>-1</sup> flow rate. Mass spectra were acquired in positive-polarity mode with the following tuning conditions: Temperature 40 °C, Sheath gas 8 (arbitrary units, arb), Aux gas and Sweep gas 0 arb, Spray Voltage 4.5 kV, Capillary temperature 275 °C, Capillary Voltage -9 V, Tube lence 150 V. In negative polarity the following tuning parameters were employed: Temperature 40 °C, Sheath gas 19 (arbitrary units, arb), Aux gas and Sweep gas 0 arb, Spray Voltage 3.0 kV, Capillary temperature 275 °C, Capillary Voltage 10 V, Tube lence 120 V. Mass spectra were collected in full scan with a resolution of 100000 at m/z 400. The Orbitrap MS was calibrated just before analysis and during the acquisition in order to improve mass accuracy lock masses were employed. Reagents and solvents with high purity degree purchased by the providers were used as given. Otherwise, they were purified following the procedures reported in literature.<sup>1</sup> Anhydrous solvents were prepared by adding activated 3 Å molecular sieves to the solvent under inert atmosphere. Molecular sieves were activated shortly before the use by continuous heating under vacuum. Flash chromatography were performed with silica gel Merk 60, 230-400 mesh, following procedures reported in literature.<sup>2</sup>

# S1.2 Experimental procedures / Syntheses























**HHTP** was synthetized according to literature procedure.<sup>3</sup>

#### 2,7,12-Triphenyltriphenyleno[2,3-d:6,7-d':10,11-d"]tris([1,3]dioxole) (1)



In a 500 mL round bottomed flask, hexahydroxytriphenylene (4.56 g, 14 mmol) was dispersed in 130 mL of toluene, then benzaldehyde (100 mL) and PTSA monohydrate (0.106 g, 0.6 mmol) were added to the suspension. A pressure-equalizing dropping funnel filled with activated 3 Å molecular sieves was placed over the flask and topped with a reflux condenser. The apparatus was purged with argon and the suspension refluxed for 96 hours. The resulting solution was cooled to room temperature and washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (3 × 100 mL). The organic phase was diluted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (300 mL) and the precipitate was filtered and recovered. Ether was removed from the mother liquors with rotavapor, and benzaldehyde was recovered by vacuum distillation. The residue of the distillation was diluted in Et<sub>2</sub>O (100 mL) and the precipitate as a light brown solid (6.6 g, 11.2 mmol, 80% yield). M.P. 244 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz): (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.83 (6H, s), 7.67-7.62 (6H, set of m), 7.49-7.46 (9H, set of m), 7.12 (3H, s). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz):  $\delta$  147.9, 136.2, 136.2, 130.6, 128.9, 126.5, 125.1, 110.8, 101.5. IR (KBr): v 1638, 1494, 1453, 1396, 1383, 1292, 1240, 1163, 1106, 1033, 1017, 907, 848, 829, 762, 732, 697, 642 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>39</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 588.1567; found: 588.1571.

DIBAL-H procedure for the benzilidene reductive ring opening



In a 500 mL two necked flask, equipped with argon inlet and septum, **1** (3.44 g, 5.85 mmol) was suspended in anhydrous DCM (210 mL). The mixture was cooled to -10 °C and DIBAL-H solution (1.5 M in toluene, 23.4 mL, 35.1 mmol) was added dropwise with a syringe during 20-25 minutes. The resulting solution was stirred at -10 °C for 2 hours, and finally at 0 °C for 3 hours. The exceeding DIBAL-H was quenched with methanol (10 mL) at 0 °C, aqueous 1M HCI (135 mL) and the resulting mixture was vigorously stirred at room temperature for 30 minutes. The mixture was decanted and the organic phase collected. The aqueous layer was extracted with DCM (2 × 30 mL) and the combined organic phases were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated in vacuum. The crude mixture of isomers ( $C_3$  and  $C_s$ , 1:1) was purified by flash chromatography, eluting with DCM until complete recovery of the first isomer,  $C_3$ -2, then with AcOEt to recover the  $C_s$ -2.

3,7,11-tris(benzyloxy)triphenylene-2,6,10-triol ( $C_3$ -2): 1.68 g, 2.8 mmol, 48% yield. M.P. 222 °C (lit. 221 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO  $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  9.32 (3H, s), 7.89 (3H, s), 7.88 (3H, s), 7.62 (6H, d, J = 7.0 Hz), 7.43 (6H, t, J = 7.0 Hz), 7.35 (3H, t, J = 7.0 Hz), 5.38 (6H, s). Further spectroscopic data (<sup>13</sup>C, MS, IR) are in accordance with the literature.<sup>4</sup>

3,7,10-tris(benzyloxy)triphenylene-2,6,11-triol ( $C_s$ -2): 1.70 g, 2.8 mmol, 49% yield. M.P. 208 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz): (DMSO  $d_6$ )  $\delta$  9.49 (1H, s), 9.47 (1H, s), 9.29 (1H, s), 7.92 (1H, s), 7.91 (1H, s), 7.88 (1H, s), 7.87 (1H, s), 7.73 (1H, s), 7.72 (1H, s), 7.66-7.58 (6H, set of m), 7.43 (6H t, J = 7 Hz), 7.38-7.35 (3H, set of m), 5.39 (2H, s), 5.39 (2H, s), 5.36 (2H, s). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz):  $\delta$  147.3, 147.2, 147.0, 146.9, 137.9, 137.9, 137.8, 128.9, 128.9, 128.4, 128.4, 128.3, 128.2, 123.7, 123.4, 123.2, 122.4, 122.1, 122.0, 109.0, 108.6, 108.6, 107.6, 107.4, 107.2, 70.6, 70.6, 70.3. IR (KBr): v 1629, 1619, 1596, 1515, 1451, 1434, 1402, 1382, 1312, 1267, 1176, 1151, 1037, 1023, 852, 787, 738, 696 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>39</sub>H<sub>31</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 593.1970; found: 593.1968.

#### **General Procedure 1 (GP1)**

General procedure for the alkylation and debenzylation of  $C_3$ -2.



In a pear-shaped two necked 25 mL flask, equipped with argon inlet ad septum, a solution of  $C_3$ -2 (0.30 g, 0.5 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.63 g, 4.5 mmol) and alkylbromide (2.3 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (6 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 72 hours. The flask content was poured in aqueous 1M HCl (30 mL) and extracted with DCM (3 × 10 mL). The organic solution was washed with water (2 × 10 mL), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated in vacuum. The crude product was crystallized from absolute EtOH, to afford the product as white crystals. A suspended mixture of alkylated compound and Pd/C 5% (0.088 g) in MeOH (20 mL) was stirred under H<sub>2</sub> atmosphere (1 atm, baloon) at room temperature for 18 h. The resulting mixtyre was filtered on a celite plug and washed with DCM. The resulting solution was concentrated in vacuum, to afford the product as a waxy solid.

2,6,10-tris(benzyloxy)-3,7,11-tris(octyloxy)triphenylene (**4a**): **GP1** was applied to **C**<sub>3</sub>-**2** and octylbromide. 84% yield. M.P.: 125 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz): (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.82 (3H, s), 7.64 (3H, s), 7.59-7.52 (6H, set of m), 7.40 (6H, set of m), 7.36-7.29 (3H, set of m), 5.34 (6H, s), 4.19 (6H, t, *J* = 6.4 Hz), 2.01-1.91 (6H, set of m), 1.64-1.27 (30H, set of m) 0.90 (9H, t, *J* = 6.9 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz):  $\delta$  149.4, 148.3, 137.8, 128.7, 128.0, 127.5, 124.3, 123.2, 109.3, 106.6, 72.3, 69.4, 32.0, 29.6, 29.6, 29.5, 26.4, 22.9, 14.3. IR (KBr): v 1618, 1574, 1519, 1437, 1386, 1261, 1198, 1165, 1038, 858, 822, 798, 749, 701 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>63</sub>H<sub>79</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 931.5871; found: 931.5845.

tri-*tert*-butyl 2,2',2"-((3,7,11-tris(benzyloxy)triphenylene-2,6,10-triyl)tris(oxy))triacetate (**4b**): **GP1** was applied to  $C_3$ -2 and *tert*-butyl bromoacetate. 79% yield. M.P. 104 °C (lit. 104-103 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.81 (3H, s), 7.66 (3H, s), 7.60 (6H, d, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 7.43 (6H, t, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 7.34 (3H, t, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 5.36 (6H, s), 4.74 (6H, s), 1.51 (27H, s). Further spectroscopic data (<sup>13</sup>C, MS, IR) are in accordance with the literature.<sup>4</sup>

3,7,11-tris(octyloxy)triphenylene-2,6,10-triol (**5a**): **GP1** was continued on **4a**. 95% yield. Waxy solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz): (DMSO  $d_6$ )  $\delta$  9.09 (3H, s), 7.88 (3H, s), 7.75 (3H, s), 4.19 (6H, t, J = 5.6 Hz), 1.89-1.78 (6H, set of m), 1.57-1.21 (30H set of m), 0.87 (9H, t, J = 6.7 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz):  $\delta$  146.9, 146.4, 123.2, 121.3, 108.1, 105.6, 68.2, 28.9, 28.9, 28.7, 25.6, 22.10, 13.9. IR (KBr): v 1632, 1596, 1516, 1454, 1390, 1360, 1303, 1270, 1223, 1179, 1164, 1028, 1006, 853, 801, 576 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>42</sub>H<sub>59</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M<sup>-</sup>] 659.4317; found: 659.4305.

tri-*tert*-butyl 2,2',2"-((3,7,11-trihydroxytriphenylene-2,6,10-triyl)tris(oxy))triacetate (**5b**): **GP1** was continued on **4b**. 91% yield. Waxy solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO  $d_6$ )  $\delta$  7.84 (3H, s), 7.72 (3H, s), 4.89 (6H, s), 1.46 (27H, s). Further spectroscopic data (<sup>13</sup>C, MS, IR) are in accordance with the literature.<sup>4</sup>

#### **General Procedure 2 (GP2)**

General procedure for the Mannich reaction of 3,7,11-tris(alkyloxy)triphenylene-2,6,10-triol with butylamine, hexylamine or 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)aniline.



In a 10 mL screw-caped Pyrex test tube, a mixture of 3,7,11-tris(alkyloxy)triphenylene-2,6,10-triol (0.08 mmol), paraformaldehyde (0.087 g, 2.88 mmol), acetic acid (0.021 g, 0.35 mmol), and amine (1.44 mmol) in anhydrous toluene (2 mL) was purged with argon and stirred overnight at 100 °C. The resulting red solution was then cooled to room temperature and dried in vacuum. The product was obtained after precipitation with absolute EtOH (in the case of **3a,b,d**) or after flash chromatography (in the case of **6a,b,d**, **7a-c**).

6,12,18-tris(benzyloxy)-3,9,15-tributyl-3,4,9,10,15,16-hexahydro-2H,8H,14H-triphenyleno[1,2e:5,6-e':9,10-e']tris([1,3]oxazine) (**3a**): **GP2** was applied on  $C_3$ -2 and butylamine. 83% yield. M.P. 112 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz): δ (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.53-7.43 (6H, set of m), 7.37 (6H, t, J = 7.4 Hz), 7.33-7.28 (3H, set of m), 7.25 (3H, s), 5.31 (6H, s), 5.10(6H, s), 4.30(6H, s), 2.43 (6H, t, J = 7.2 Hz), 1.44-1.30 (6H, set of m), 1.30-1.15 (6H, set of m), 0.84 (6H, t, J = 6.8 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz): δ 144.2, 143.7, 137.2, 128.8, 128.1, 127.0, 126.3, 123.2, 115.9, 111.1, 81.9, 71.4, 53.5, 50.2, 30.4, 20.4, 14.1. IR (KBr): v 1668, 1592, 1484, 1420, 1374, 1313, 1274, 1240, 1148, 1088, 1028, 955, 912, 857, 785, 732, 696 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>57</sub>H<sub>64</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 886.4790; found: 886.4791.

6,12,18-tris(benzyloxy)-3,9,15-trihexyl-3,4,9,10,15,16-hexahydro-2H,8H,14H-triphenyleno[1,2*e*:5,6-*e*':9,10-*e*']tris([1,3]oxazine) (**3b**): **GP2** was applied on *C*<sub>3</sub>-2 and hexylamine. 69% yield. M.P. 98 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz): (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.50-7.45 (6H, m), 7.37 (6H, t, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 7.32-7.28 (3H, m), 7.24 (3H, s), 5.31 (6H, s), 5.10 (6H, s), 4.31 (6H, s), 2.42 (6H, t, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 1.45-1.11 (24H, m), 0.84 (9H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz):  $\delta$  144.3, 143.7, 137.2, 128.8, 128.1, 127.0, 126.2, 123.2, 115.9, 111.1, 81.9, 71.4, 53.5, 50.5, 31.8, 28.3, 26.9, 22.7, 14.2. IR (KBr): v 1592, 1483, 1420, 1374, 1313, 1274, 1242, 1163, 1147, 1089, 1028, 1012, 953, 919, 857, 785, 731, 696 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>63</sub>H<sub>76</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 970.5729; found: 970.5734.

6,12,18-tris(benzyloxy)-3,9,15-tris(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-3,4,9,10,15,16-hexahydro-

2H,8H,14H-triphenyleno[1,2-*e*:5,6-*e*':9,10-*e*']tris([1,3]oxazine) (**3d**): **GP2** was applied on  $C_3$ -2 and 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)aniline. 52% yield. M.P. 202 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz): (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.47-7.43 (6H, set of m), 7.37 (6H, t, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 7.27 (3H, s), 7.25-7.20 (3H, set of m), 7.12 (6H, s), 7.02 (3H, s), 5.59 (6H, s), 5.35 (6H, s), 4.50 (6H, s). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz):  $\delta$  148.4, 144.5, 143.3, 136.9, 132.5 (q, *J* = 34.0 Hz), 129.1, 128.3, 126.4, 125.3, 123.2 (q, *J* = 272.9 Hz) 123.2, 118.2, 116.1, 115.1, 111.1, 78.0, 70.9, 53.4; IR (KBr): v 1539, 1476, 1423, 1404, 1346, 1278, 1186, 1131, 1073, 1001, 963, 872, 735, 698, 682 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>69</sub>H<sub>45</sub>F<sub>18</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 1353.3015; found: 1353.3064.

3,9,15-tributyl-6,12,18-tris(octyloxy)-3,4,9,10,15,16-hexahydro-2H,8H,14H-triphenyleno[1,2-*e*:5,6*e*':9,10-*e*'']tris([1,3]oxazine) (**6a**): **GP2** was applied on **4b** and butylamine. Eluent cyclohexane/AcOEt, 9:1, 98% yield. Oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz): (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.27 (3H, s), 5.08 (6H, s), 4.59 (6H, s), 4.08 (6H, t, *J* = 6.9 Hz), 2.44 (6H, t, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 1.90-1.77 (6H, set of m), 1.46-1.10 (42H, set of m), 0.83 (9H, t, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 0.75 (9H, t, *J* = 7.4 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz):  $\delta$  144.7, 143.4, 125.7, 123.4, 115.4, 109.7, 81.7, 69.4, 53.7, 50.1, 48.7, 31.8, 30.3, 29.4, 29.2, 26.1, 22.7, 20.2, 14.1, 13.9. IR (KBr): v 1724, 1593, 1488, 1469, 1423, 1376, 1314, 1274, 1242, 1192, 1148, 1101, 1089, 951, 924, 785, 723 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>60</sub>H<sub>94</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 952.7137; found: 952.7154.

3,9,15-trihexyl-6,12,18-tris(octyloxy)-3,4,9,10,15,16-hexahydro-2H,8H,14H-triphenyleno[1,2-*e*:5,6*e*':9,10-*e*'']tris([1,3]oxazine) (**6b**): **GP2** was applied on **4b** and hexylamine. Eluent cyclohexane/AcOEt, 9:1, 98% yield. Waxy solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz): (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.34 (3H, s), 5.14 (6H, s), 4.65 (6H, s), 4.15 (6H, t, *J* = Hz), 2.50 (6H, t, *J* = Hz), 1.96-1.86 (6H, set of m) 1.62-1.10 (54H, set of m), 0.88 (9H, t, *J* = Hz), 0.81 (9H, t, *J* = Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz): 144.9, 143.5, 125.9, 123.5, 115.6, 109.9, 81.8, 77.5, 77.4, 77.2, 76.8, 69.5, 53.9, 50.6, 32.0, 31.8, 29.6, 29.4, 28.3, 26.9, 26.2, 22.8, 22.7, 14.2, 14.1, 14.1. IR (KBr): v 1720, 1593, 1488, 1468, 1422, 1377, 1314, 1273, 1237, 1148, 1091, 950, 728 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>66</sub>H<sub>106</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 1036.8092; found: 1036.8092.

3,9,15-tris(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-6,12,18-tris(octyloxy)-3,4,9,10,15,16-hexahydro-2H,8H,14H-triphenyleno[1,2-*e*:5,6-*e*':9,10-*e*']tris([1,3]oxazine) (**6d**): **GP2** was applied on **4b** and 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)aniline. Eluent cyclohexane/AcOEt, 9:1, 52% yield. M.P. 162 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz): (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.32 (3H, s), 7.30 (6H, s), 7.29 (3H, s), 5.68 (6H, s), 5.26 (6H, s), 4.16 (6H, t, J = 6.7 Hz), 1.98-1.87 (6H, set of m), 1.62-1.23 (30H, set of m), 0.87 (9H, t, J = 7.3 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz):  $\delta$  148.6, 145.8, 143.6, 132.7 (q, J = 33.1 Hz), 125.3, 123.8, 123.2 (q, J = 273.0 Hz), 118.1, 115.9, 115.2, 110.3, 78.4, 69.9, 53.8, 31.9, 29.5, 29.4, 29.3, 26.2, 22.8, 14.2. IR (KBr): v 1618, 1591, 1475, 1423, 1404, 1347, 1275, 1183, 1133, 1080, 1001, 965, 875, 682 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>72</sub>H<sub>75</sub>F<sub>18</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>]1419.5363; found: 1419.5430.

tri-*tert*-butyl 2,2',2"-((3,9,15-tributyl-3,4,9,10,15,16-hexahydro-2*H*,8*H*,14*H*-triphenyleno[1,2-*e*:5,6*e*':9,10-*e*']tris([1,3]oxazine)-6,12,18-triyl)tris(oxy))triacetate (**7a**): **GP2** was applied on **5b** and butylamine. Eluent cyclohexane/AcOEt, 7:3, 35% yield. Waxy solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz):  $\delta$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.28 (3H, s), 5.14 (6H, s), 4.68 (6H, s), 4.60 (6H, s), 2.49 (6H, t, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 1.50 (27H, s), 1.45-1.32 (6H, set of m), 1.29-1.17 (6H, set of m), 0.82 (9H, t, *J* = 7.3 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz):  $\delta$  168.0, 143.8, 143.6, 127.0, 123.2, 116.1, 110.5, 82.7, 81.8, 66.8, 53.8, 50.2, 30.4, 28.3, 20.3, 14.0. IR (KBr): v 1753, 1728, 1594, 1487, 1451, 1419, 1368, 1316, 1278, 1245, 1225, 1151, 1111, 1017, 959, 916, 848, 785, 719 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>54</sub>H<sub>76</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>12</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 958.5424; found: 958.5420.

tri-*tert*-butyl 2,2',2"-((3,9,15-trihexyl-3,4,9,10,15,16-hexahydro-2*H*,8*H*,14*H*-triphenyleno[1,2-*e*:5,6*e*':9,10-*e*'']tris([1,3]oxazine)-6,12,18-triyl)tris(oxy))triacetate (**7b**): **GP2** was applied on **5b** and hexylamine. Eluent cyclohexane/AcOEt, 7:3, 50% yield. Oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz): (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.28 (3H, s), 5.14 (6H, s), 4.68 (6H, s), 4.60 (6H, s), 2.39 (6H, t, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 1.50 (27H, s), 1.47-1.38 (6H, set of m), 1.36- 1.24 (18H, set of m), 0.88 (9H, t, *J* = 6.9 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz):  $\delta$  168.0, 143.8, 143.6, 127.0, 123.2, 116.1, 110.5, 81.8, 74.9, 66.8, 53.8, 53.1, 31.9, 28.3, 28.2, 27.4, 22.8, 14.2. IR (KBr): v 1753, 1728, 1626, 1593, 1574, 1486, 1465, 1415, 1371, 1314, 1229, 1151, 1108, 957, 924, 875, 716 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>60</sub>H<sub>88</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>12</sub>[M<sup>+</sup>] 1042.6363; found: 1042.6389.

tri-*tert*-butyl 2,2',2"-((3,9,15-tris(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-3,4,9,10,15,16-hexahydro-2H,8H,14H-triphenyleno[1,2-*e*:5,6-*e*':9,10-*e*']tris([1,3]oxazine)-6,12,18-triyl)tris(oxy))triacetate (**7c**): **GP2** was applied on **5b** and 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)aniline. Eluent cyclohexane/AcOEt, gradient from 85:15 to 80:20, 52% yield. M.P. 213 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz): (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.36 (3H, s), 7.33 (6H, s), 7.28 (3H, s), 5.69 (6H, s), 5.23 (6H, s), 4.68 (6H, s), 1.45 (27H, s); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz): 168.2, 148.5, 144.7, 143.8, 132.7 (q, *J* = 33 Hz), 126.5, 123.3, 123.1 (q, *J* = 273 Hz), 118.1, 116.6, 115.2, 112.1, 82.9, 78.3, 67.5, 53.6, 28.1. IR (KBr): v 1747, 1621, 1577, 1541, 1477, 1415, 1347, 1275, 1231, 1176, 1130, 1091, 1001, 954, 875, 842, 682 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>66</sub>H<sub>57</sub>F<sub>18</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>12</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 1425.3649; found: 1425.3636.

#### **General Procedure 3 (GP3)**

General procedure for the Mannich reaction of 3,7,11-tris(alkyloxy)triphenylene-2,6,10-triol with 4aminopyridine.



In a pear-shaped 25 mL round bottomed flask, a mixture of 4-aminopyridine (0.112 g, 1.2 mmol), paraformaldehyde (0.04 g, 1.33 mmol), and acetic acid (0.08 g, 1.2 mmol) in *n*-butanol (2 mL) was stirred at 90 °C overnight under argon atmosphere. The resulting solution was cooled to room temperature and concentrated in vacuum. The residue was transferred in a 10 mL screw-capped Pyrex test tube and 3,7,11-tris(alkyloxy)triphenylene-2,6,10-triol (0.08 mmol), paraformaldehyde (0.04 g, 1.33 mmol), and anhydrous toluene (2 mL) were added. The mixture was purged with argon and stirred overnight at 100 °C. The resulting mixture was cooled to room temperature and concentrated in vacuum. The resulting mixture was cooled to room temperature and concentrated in vacuum. The resulting precipitate was filtered, washed with EtOH or Et<sub>2</sub>O and dried in vacuum, to afford the product as a pale yellow solid.

#### 6,12,18-tris(benzyloxy)-3,9,15-tri(pyridin-4-yl)-3,4,9,10,15,16-hexahydro-2H,8H,14H-

triphenyleno[1,2-*e*:5,6-*e*':9,10-*e*']tris([1,3]oxazine) (**3c**): **GP3** was applied on *C*<sub>3</sub>-**2**. 75% yield. M.P. 170-171 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz):  $\delta$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 8.21 (6H, dd, *J* = 5.0, 1.6 Hz), 7.46-7.41 (6H, set of m), 7.34 (6H, t, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 7.24-7.19 (3H, set of m), 7.12 (3H, s), 6.56 (6H, dd, *J* = 5.0, 1.6 Hz), 5.64 (6H, s), 5.31 (6H, s), 4.61 (6H, s). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz):  $\delta$  152.8, 149.7, 144.8, 143.5, 136.8, 128.9, 128.2, 126.5, 125.4, 123.1, 116.5, 111.2, 111.0, 76.6, 71.2, 50.3. IR (KBr): v 1643, 1593, 1552, 1511, 1483, 1459, 1421, 1383, 1319, 1278, 1245, 1159, 1111, 1072, 1034, 997, 960, 874, 799, 782, 740, 697 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>60</sub>H<sub>49</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M<sup>+</sup>] 949.3708; found: 949.3744.

#### 6,12,18-tris(octyloxy)-3,9,15-tri(pyridin-4-yl)-3,4,9,10,15,16-hexahydro-2H,8H,14H-

triphenyleno[1,2-*e*:5,6-*e*':9,10-*e*']tris([1,3]oxazine) (**6c**): **GP3** was applied on **4b**. 83% yield. M.P. 191-192 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz): (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.22 (6H, d, *J* = 5.2 Hz), 7.34 (3H, s), 6.70 (6H, d, *J* = 5.2 Hz), 5.73 (6H, s), 5.26 (6H, s), 4.14 (6H, t, *J* = 6.5 Hz), 1.99 - 1.85 (6H, set of m), 1.61 - 1.18 (36H, set of m), 0.87 (9H, t, *J* = 6.6 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz):  $\delta$  152.9, 150.7, 145.9, 143.7, 125.4, 123.7, 116.4, 111.3, 110.1, 69.7, 51.1, 31.9, 29.5, 29.4, 26.2, 22.8, 14.2. IR (KBr): v 1594, 1553, 1484, 1422, 1380, 1318, 1246, 1163, 1112, 1080, 995, 965, 818, 725 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for  $C_{63}H_{79}N_6O_6$  [M<sup>+</sup>] 1015.6056; found: 1015.6050.

### S2. NMR and MS Spectroscopy









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150 145 140 135 130 125 120 115 110 105 100 95 90 85 80 75 70 65 60 55 50 45 40 35 30 25 20 15 10 5 20 f1 (ppm)













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150 145 140 135 130 125 120 115 110 105 100 95 90 85 80 75 70 65 60 55 50 45 40 35 30 25 20 15 10 5 0 f1 (ppm) 42



## 7GB023 pos 800\_1100\_170413112229

4/13/2017 2:50:36 PM













Campione 7GB030 B\_170705152746

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74







## Campione 7GB049 pos\_170705152746



78

## S3. Chiral HPLC

The attempts to separate the enantiomers of **3b** and **6a** were carried out by HPLC analyses on a Hewlett Packard Series 1100 G1311A Quat-Pump with a 20  $\mu$ L injection loop using 1 ml/min flow of eluent with a composition hexane/iPrOH from 97:3 to 90:10 on a Amylose-2 chiral 25 cm column.





Operator Laura Method STYLBENE.M Analysis Time 22.966 min

Sampling Rate 0.0049 min (0.294 sec), 4733 datapoints





Low temperature NMR spectra for **3c** in the range 250-185 K in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> showing only broadening and not splitting of the methylene units of the benzoxazine rings.



UV-VIS spectrum of **3b**  $(2.5 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ M})$  in dichloromethane.



UV-VIS spectrum of **6b** ( $2.9 \cdot 10^{-5}$  M) in dichloromethane.



UV-VIS spectrum of **6c** ( $2.4 \cdot 10^{-5}$  M) in dichloromethane.

## S5. Literature

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