## Kinetic analysis of bioorthogonal reaction mechanisms using Raman microscopy

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## Supplementary Information

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**Figure S1** Reaction monitoring of the CuAAC reaction between EdU (1) and biotin-PEG3-azide (2) using infrared (IR) spectroscopy. **A** IR spectra of reaction mixture comprising EdU (450 mM), biotin-PEG3-azide (450 mM), CuSO<sub>4</sub> (10 mM) and Na ascorbate (10 mM) in DMSO/TBS 3:2 v/v. An aliquot of the reaction mixture was removed at each timepoint and the individual IR spectra presented between 0-40 min. The IR spectra were normalised to the baseline at 2220 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Peak annotation: 2096 cm<sup>-1</sup> (N<sub>3</sub>, azide) **B** Expanded view of the spectra provided in **A** scaled between 2000-4500 cm<sup>-1</sup>. **C** Control CuAAC reaction where [Cu] = 0 mM (using the same concentrations for the other reagents as in **A**, and consistent acquisition & normalisation procedures). **D** Integration analysis of the normalised IR peak at 2096 cm<sup>-1</sup> (N<sub>3</sub>, biotin-PEG3-azide) for the reaction presented in **A** (blue squares, +Cu (10 mM) with exponential fitting applied) and a control reaction (black circles, -Cu, linear fitting) where [Cu] = 0 mM. A<sub>P</sub> = peak area @ 2096 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



**Figure S2** Raman spectroscopy of alkyne- and azide-labelled biomolecular reagents. Raman spectrum of (i) EdU (1) and (ii) biotin-PEG3- azide (2) acquired using  $\lambda_{ex} = 532$  nm for 10 s, using a 20× objective lens and 1% laser power for (i) and 10% laser power for (ii). Raman spectra are scaled between (i) 0 – 38,000 and (ii) 0 – 60,000 counts and offset for clarity. The following peaks have been annotated: 2120 cm<sup>-1</sup> (EdU; C=C); 2095 cm<sup>-1</sup> (biotin-PEG3-azide; N=N=N asymmetric stretch).



**Figure S3** Raman spectrum of propargyl choline (bromide salt). Peak annotation 2131 cm<sup>-1</sup> (propargyl choline bromide; C=C). Raman spectrum was acquired using  $\lambda_{ex} = 785$  nm, 30 s integration time and a 50× objective lens.



**Figure S4** Calibration curves of phenylacetylene (PA) and 1,4-bisphenylbuta-1,3-diyne (5) by spontaneous Raman spectroscopy. Calibration curve of **A** phenylacetylene in DMSO (0 – 100 mM) and **B** 1,4-bisphenylbuta-1,3-diyne analysed by Raman spectroscopy. The spectra were normalised to the intensity peak at 1418 cm<sup>-1</sup> (DMSO CH def.) and the area of the peak at 2102 cm<sup>-1</sup> or 2219 cm<sup>-1</sup> was determined in each case. The data points represent the mean of 6 replicate spectra, with error bars ± S.D. A linear fitting is applied to each data set. Raman spectra were acquired using  $\lambda_{ex} = 532$  nm, 20 s integration time, 20x objective lens. A<sub>p</sub> = peak area @ 2102 cm<sup>-1</sup> / 2219 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



**Figure S5** Reaction monitoring of the Glaser-Hay homocoupling of phenylacetylene using Raman spectroscopy. **A** Glaser-Hay reaction of phenylacetylene (100 mM) using Cul (10 mM, 10 mol%) and TMEDA (10 mM, 10 mol%) in DMSO. Raman spectra of the reaction mixture acquired at the indicated timepoints following addition of the Cul/TMEDA catalyst. An aliquot of the reaction mixture were removed at each timepoint and the individual Raman spectra presented between 0-60 min. Spectra were acquired using  $\lambda_{ex} = 532$  nm for 20 s using a 20x objective lens. The Raman spectra were normalised to the intensity of the peak at 1418 cm<sup>-1</sup> (DMSO CH def.). **B** Raman spectroscopy of (i) DMSO, (ii) phenylacetylene (PA) (100 mM in DMSO) and (iii) 1,4-bisphenylbuta-1,3-diyne (**5**) (100 mM in DMSO). Spectra were acquired using  $\lambda_{ex} = 532$  nm for 20 s using a 20x objective lens. The Raman spectroscopy of in DMSO, the peak at 1418 cm<sup>-1</sup> (DMSO CH def.) and offset for clarity.



Figure S6 Chemical structures of the copper co-ordinating ligands used in this study.



**Figure S7** Second-order plot of initial phenylacetylene concentration in the Glaser-Hay reaction. Phenylacetylene (PA, 50-150 mM) was reacted with Cul (10 mM) and TMEDA (10 mM) by Raman spectroscopy using  $\lambda_{ex} = 532$  nm for 20 s using a 20x objective lens. A linear fitting was applied to each dataset and rate constants are provided for each [PA] with  $k_{obs} \pm 0.5$  RMSE.

**Table S1** Kinetics of the CuAAC reaction of EdU and biotin-PEG3-azide with respect to varying [Cu]<sub>tot</sub>. Tabulated data accompanying **Figure 5A**.

| [EdU]                | [azide]  | [NaAsc]  | [Cu] <sub>tot</sub> | [THPTA]  | <b>k</b> obs                        |
|----------------------|----------|----------|---------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|
| (10 <sup>-3</sup> M) | (10⁻³ M) | (10⁻³ M) | (10⁻³ M)            | (10⁻³ M) | (10 <sup>-3</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ) |
| 100                  | 100      | 100      | 0                   | 0        | ≤0.2                                |
| 100                  | 100      | 100      | 1                   | 1        | 0.1 ± 0.2                           |
| 100                  | 100      | 100      | 2                   | 2        | $0.4 \pm 0.3$                       |
| 100                  | 100      | 100      | 5                   | 5        | $3.4 \pm 0.4$                       |
| 100                  | 100      | 100      | 10                  | 10       | 8.8 ± 1.2                           |
| 100                  | 100      | 100      | 15                  | 15       | 13 ± 3                              |

| [EdU]<br>(10 <sup>-3</sup> M) | [azide]<br>(10 <sup>-3</sup> M) | [NaAsc]<br>(10 <sup>-3</sup> M) | [Cu] <sub>tot</sub><br>(10 <sup>-3</sup> M) | [THPTA]<br>(10 <sup>-3</sup> M) | [L]/[Cu] <sub>tot</sub> | <i>k</i> <sub>obs</sub><br>(10⁻³ s⁻¹) |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 100                           | 100                             | 100                             | 5   | 0                               | 0                       | 0.3 ± 0.2                             |
| 100                           | 100                             | 100                             | 5   | 2.5                             | 0.5                     | 2.9 ± 0.8                             |
| 100                           | 100                             | 100                             | 5   | 5                               | 1                       | $3.4 \pm 0.4$                         |
| 100                           | 100                             | 100                             | 5   | 7.5                             | 1.5                     | 3.1 ± 0.7                             |
| 100                           | 100                             | 100                             | 5   | 10                              | 2                       | 3.6 ± 0.8                             |
| 100                           | 100                             | 100                             | 5   | 15                              | 3                       | 2.6 ± 0.8                             |

**Table S2** Kinetics of the CuAAC reaction of EdU and biotin-PEG3-azide with respect to varying[THPTA/[Cu]<sub>tot</sub>. Tabulated data accompanying **Figure 5B**.

**Table S3** Experimental conditions for the Glaser-Hay homocoupling of phenyl acetylene.

| Entry | [PA] | [Cu] <sub>tot</sub> | [Ligand]            |  |
|-------|------|---------------------|---------------------|--|
|       | (mM) | (mM)                | (mM)                |  |
| 1     | 100  | 0-20 <sup>[a]</sup> | 0-20                |  |
| 2     | 100  | 10                  | 0-15 <sup>[b]</sup> |  |
| 3     | 100  | 10 <sup>[c]</sup>   | 10                  |  |
| 4     | 100  | 10                  | 10 <sup>[d]</sup>   |  |

<sup>[a]</sup> [Cul] = [TMEDA] for all combinations. <sup>[b]</sup> [TMEDA] varied with fixed [Cul] concentration. <sup>[c]</sup> Cu source varied between Cul and Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub>. <sup>[d]</sup> Ligand varied between none, TMEDA and bipy-diol.

**Table S4** Kinetics of the Glaser-Hay homocoupling of phenyl acetylene with respect to varying [Cu]<sub>tot</sub>. Tabulated data accompanying **Figure 7A**.

| [PA]<br>(10 <sup>-3</sup> M) | [Cu] <sub>tot</sub><br>(10 <sup>-3</sup> M) | [TMEDA]<br>(10 <sup>-3</sup> M) | [Cu] <sup>2</sup> <sub>tot</sub><br>(10 <sup>-6</sup> M <sup>2</sup> ) | <i>k</i> <sub>obs</sub><br>(10 <sup>-3</sup> Μ <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ) |
|------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|--|--|
| 100                          | 0   | 0                               | 0.0  | ≤0.2   |
| 100                          | 2.5   | 2.5                             | 6.2  | 0.5 ± 0.2  |
| 100                          | 5.0   | 5.0                             | 25   | 1.1 ± 0.5  |
| 100                          | 7.5   | 7.5                             | 56   | $2.5 \pm 0.3$  |
| 100                          | 10.0  | 10.0                            | 100  | 4.1 ± 0.8  |
| 100                          | 15.0  | 15.0                            | 225  | 11.2 ± 1.9   |
| 100                          | 20.0  | 20.0                            | 400  | 17.7 ± 2.2   |

**Table S5** Kinetics of the Glaser-Hay homocoupling of phenyl acetylene with respect to varying[TMEDA]/[Cu]<sub>tot</sub>. Tabulated data accompanying **Figure 7B**.

| [PA]<br>(10-3 M) | [Cu] <sub>tot</sub> | [TMEDA]<br>(10-3 M) | [TMEDA]/[Cu] <sub>tot</sub> | $k_{\rm obs}$ (10-3 M-1 s-1)              |
|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| (10° W)          | (10° M)<br>10       |                     | 0                           | $(10^{-1} \text{ M}^{-5} \text{ S}^{-1})$ |
| 100              | 10                  | 0                   | 0                           | 0.07 ± 0.00                               |
| 100              | 10                  | 5                   | 0.5                         | $1.2 \pm 0.4$                             |
| 100              | 10                  | 10                  | 1                           | 4.1 ± 0.8                                 |
| 100              | 10                  | 15                  | 1.5                         | 0.20 ± 0.07                               |