Supplementary Information for

Copper-catalysed bromoalkynylation of arynes

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General Remarks:

All manipulations of oxygen- and moisture-sensitive materials were conducted with a standard Schlenk technique under a purified argon atmosphere. Nuclear magnetic resonance spectra were taken on a JEOL EX-270 (¹H, 270 MHz; ¹³C, 67.8 MHz) spectrometer or a JEOL Lambda-400 (¹H, 400 MHz; ¹³C, 99.5 MHz) spectrometer using residual chloroform (¹H) or CDCl₃ (¹³C) as an internal standard. High-resolution mass spectra were obtained with a JEOL JMS-SX102A spectrometer. The preparative recycling gel permeation chromatography was performed with GL Science PU 614 equipped with Shodex GPC H-2001L and -2002L columns (chloroform as an eluent). Unless otherwise noted, commercially available reagents were used without purification. 18-Crown-6 was recrystallized from distilled MeCN. KF (spray-dried) was vacuum dried at 100 °C for 12 h. 1,2-Dimethoxyethane (DME) was distilled from sodium/benzophenone ketyl. MeCN was distilled from phosphorus pentoxide.

Preparation of aryne precursors:

2-(Trimethylsilyl)phenyl triflate (1a),^[1] 4,5-dimethyl-2-(trimethylsilyl)phenyl triflate (1b),^[2] 6-(trimethylsilyl)-5-indanyl triflate (1c),^[3] and 3-(trimethylsilyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-2-naphthyl triflate (1d),^[4] were prepared according to literature procedures.

Copper-catalysed reaction of arynes with organic bromides. A General Procedure:

A Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar was charged with KF (0.45 mmol), 18-crown-6 (0.45 mmol) and cupric bromide (0.015 mmol). To this mixture were added DME (5 mL), an organic bromide (bromoalkyne 2, propagyl bromide 7 or allyl bromide 9) (0.075 mmol) and an aryne precursor 1 (0.225 mmol), and the resulting mixture was stirred at 25 °C for the period as specified in Table 1, Scheme 1 or Scheme 3. The

mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate, filtered through a Celite plug and washed three times with brine. The organic layer was dried over $MgSO_4$ before evaporation of the solvent. Gel permeation chromatography (chloroform as an eluent) gave the corresponding product.

TMS + Ph==	E Br CuBr ₂ (20 mol %) KF/18-Crown-6 DME	Ph +	Br
Temperature (°C)	Time (h)	3a Yield (%)	3'a 3a:3'a
25	17	61	85:15
0	71	trace	N/A
21	22	55	82:18
30	22	61	64:36
80	21	60	<1:99

Effect of temperatures on the formation of 3a and 3'a.

2'-Bromo-2-(phenylethynyl)biphenyl (3a)



Isolated in 52% yield as a pale yellow solid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.12–7.21 (m, 2 H), 7.21–7.44 (m, 9 H), 7.61–7.67 (m, 2 H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 88.4, 92.8, 122.9, 123.2, 123.6, 123.8, 126.8, 127.7, 127.9, 128.08, 128.15, 129.0, 129.6, 131.4, 131.5, 131.7, 132.5, 141.7, 143.7; HRMS Calcd for C₂₀H₁₃Br: M⁺, 332.0201. Found: *m/z* 332.0198.

2-Bromodiphenylacetylene (3'a)^[5]



Isolated in 9% yield as a pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.18 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.24–7.39 (m, 4 H), 7.53–7.65 (m, 4 H).

2'-Bromo-2-[(4-methylphenyl)ethynyl]biphenyl (3b)



Isolated in 58% yield as a pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.31 (s, 3 H), 7.01–7.10 (m, 4 H), 7.23–7.29 (m, 1 H), 7.31–7.42 (m, 5 H), 7.59–7.64 (m, 1 H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 21.5, 87.7, 93.0, 120.1, 123.1, 123.6, 126.8, 127.70, 127.72, 128.92, 128.95, 129.5, 131.2, 131.5, 131.6, 132.5, 138.2, 141.7, 143.6; HRMS Calcd for C₂₁H₁₅Br: M⁺, 346.0357. Found: *m/z* 346.0351.

4-[(2-bromophenyl)ethynyl]toluene (3'b)^[6]



Isolated in 23% yield as a colorless oil; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.38 (s, 3 H), 7.12–7.21 (m, 3 H), 7.28 (ddd, J = 7.6, 7.6, 1.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.47 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2 H), 7.54 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.61 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.3 Hz, 1 H).

2'-Bromo-2-[(4-methoxyphenyl)ethynyl]biphenyl (3c)



Isolated in 47% yield as a pale brown oil; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 3.78 (s, 3 H), 6.77 (dt, *J* = 8.9, 2.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.10 (dt, *J* = 8.9, 2.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.23–7.43 (m, 6 H), 7.58–7.64 (m, 1 H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 55.2, 87.1, 92.9, 113.8, 115.4, 123.2, 123.6, 126.8, 127.5, 127.7, 128.9, 129.5, 131.45, 131.55, 132.5, 132.8, 141.8, 143.4, 159.5; HRMS Calcd for C₂₁H₁₅BrO: M⁺, 362.0306. Found: *m/z* 362.0304.

4-[(2-bromophenyl)ethynyl]anisole (3'c)



Isolated in 16% yield as a pale yellow solid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 3.84 (s, 3 H), 6.89 (d, J = 8.9, Hz, 2 H), 7.15 (dt, J = 7.6, 2.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.23–7.38 (m, 2 H), 7.48–7.57 (m, 1 H), 7.00 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.3 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 55.3, 86.8, 94.0, 114.0, 115.0, 125.4, 125.7, 127.0, 129.0, 132.4, 133.0, 133.2, 159.9; HRMS Calcd for C₁₅H₁₁BrO: M⁺, 285.9993. Found: m/z 258.9993.

2'-Bromo-2-(mesitylethynyl)biphenyl (3d)



Isolated in 51% yield as a pale brown solid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.10 (s, 6 H), 2.23 (s, 3 H), 6.77 (s, 2 H), 7.22 (ddd, J = 8.2, 6.5, 2.7 Hz, 1 H), 7.25–7.29 (m, 1 H), 7.32–7.42 (m, 4 H), 7.63–7.68 (m, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 20.5, 21.3, 90.6, 95.8, 119.9, 123.6, 123.7, 127.1, 127.4, 127.6, 127.7, 128.9, 129.6, 131.2, 132.0, 132.6, 137.7, 140.2, 142.1, 143.1; HRMS Calcd for C₂₃H₁₉Br : M⁺, 374.0670. Found: m/z 374.0672.

2'-Bromo-2-[(1-naphthyl)ethynyl]biphenyl (3e)



Isolated in 59% yield as a pale yellow solid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.27–7.51 (m, 10 H), 7.55 (dd, J = 7.3, 1.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.71–7.82 (m, 4 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 91.0, 93.1, 120.9, 123.1, 123.7, 125.1, 126.2, 126.5, 127.2, 127.8, 128.00, 128.03, 128.6, 129.1, 129.6, 130.2, 131.4, 132.1, 132.7, 133.0, 133.1, 142.1, 143.6; HRMS Calcd for C₂₄H₁₅Br : M⁺, 382.0357. Found: m/z 382.0355.

1-[(2-Bromophenyl)ethynyl]naphthalene (3'e)



Isolated in 17% yield as a pale brown oil; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.22 (td, J = 7.7, 1.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.34 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 7.48 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 7.55 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 7.62 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 1 H), 7.65–7.70 (m, 2 H), 7.82 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 1 H), 7.87 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2 H), 8.59 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 92.1, 92.7, 120.6, 125.2, 125.5, 125.6, 126.4, 126.5, 127.1, 128.2, 129.2, 129.4, 130.7, 132.5, 133.2, 133.3, 133.4, 134.7; HRMS Calcd for C₁₈H₁₁Br : M⁺, 306.0044. Found: m/z 306.0044.

2'-Bromo-2-[(9-phenanthrenyl)ethynyl]biphenyl (3f)



Isolated in 59% yield as a pale yellow solid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.35–7.53 (m, 7 H), 7.54–7.67 (m, 4 H), 7.76–7.84 (m, 3 H), 7.87 (s, 1 H), 8.61 (dd, *J* = 7.7, 3.9 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 91.2, 92.8, 119.7, 122.50, 122.55, 123.1, 123.8, 126.81, 126.83, 126.9, 127.2,

127.3, 127.9, 128.1, 128.5, 129.1, 129.6, 129.9, 130.2, 130.9, 131.2, 131.5, 131.7, 132.1, 132.8, 142.1, 143.7; HRMS Calcd for $C_{28}H_{17}Br$: M⁺, 432.0514. Found: *m/z* 432.0507.

9-[(2-Bromophenyl)ethynyl]phenanthrene (3'f)



Isolated in 8% yield as a pale yellow solid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.21–7.28 (m, 1 H), 7.36 (t, J = 7.7, Hz, 1 H), 7.62 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.65–7.75 (m, 5 H), 7.90 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 8.15 (s, 1 H), 8.66–8.75 (m, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 92.33, 92.34, 119.4, 122.66, 122.74, 125.57, 125.59, 127.0, 127.14, 127.16, 127.18, 127.2, 127.6, 128.7, 129.5, 130.1, 130.5, 131.1, 131.2, 132.3, 132.6, 133.5; HRMS Calcd for C₂₂H₁₃Br : M⁺, 356.0200. Found: m/z 356.0202.

2'-Bromo-2-[(4-fluoro-3-methylphenyl)ethynyl]biphenyl (3g)



Isolated in 45% yield as a pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) & 2.19 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 3 H), 6.82–7.02 (m, 3 H), 7.23–7.44 (m, 6 H), 7.59–7.63 (m, 1 H), 7.71 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) & 14.3 ($J_{C-F} = 4.1$ Hz), 87.7 ($J_{C-F} = 1.7$ Hz), 92.1, 115.1 ($J_{C-F} = 22.9$ Hz), 118.9 ($J_{C-F} = 3.9$ Hz), 122.9, 123.6. 124.0 ($J_{C-F} = 18.5$ Hz), 126.8, 127.8, 127.9 129.0, 129.6, 130.5 ($J_{C-F} = 8.4$ Hz), 131.5, 131.6, 132.5, 134.5 ($J_{C-F} = 5.6$ Hz), 141.7, 143.6, 161.1 ($J_{C-F} = 248.1$ Hz); HRMS Calcd for C₂₁H₁₄BrF : M⁺, 364.0263. Found: m/z 364.0259.

5-[(2-bromophenyl)ethynyl]-2-fluorotoluene (3'g)



Isolated in 21% yield as a colorless oil; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.28 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 3 H), 6.99 (t, J = 8.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.17 (td, J = 7.9, 1.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.29 (td, J = 7.6, 1.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.34–7.45 (m, 2 H), 7.53 (dd, J = 7.6, 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.61 (dd, J = 7.6, 2.0 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 14.4 (J_{C-F} = 3.4 Hz), 87.3, 93.1 (J_{C-F} = 1.1 Hz), 115.3 (J_{C-F} = 22.5 Hz), 118.7 (J_{C-F} = 3.6 Hz), 125.32, 125.35 (J_{C-F} = 25.7 Hz), 125.43, 127.0, 129.3, 130.9 (J_{C-F} = 8.4 Hz), 132.4, 133.1, 134.8 (J_{C-F} = 5.6 Hz), 161.4 (J_{C-F} = 248.6 Hz); HRMS Calcd for C₁₅H₁₀BrF : M⁺, 287.9950. Found: m/z 287.9946.

2'-Bromo-2-[(4-cyanophenyl)ethynyl]biphenyl (3h)



Isolated in 43% yield as a white solid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.18–7.56 (m, 10 H), 7.62–7.67 (m, 1 H), 7.71 (dd, J = 7.9, 0.7 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 91.0, 92.8, 111.2, 118.5, 121.9, 123.5, 126.9, 127.9, 128.1, 128.9, 129.2, 129.7, 131.4, 131.8, 131.9, 132.5, 141.4, 144.1; HRMS Calcd for C₂₁H₁₂BrN : M⁺, 357.0153. Found: m/z 357.0150.

4-[(2-bromophenyl)ethynyl]benzonitrile (3'h)



Isolated in 20% yield as a white solid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.23 (td, J = 7.6, 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.32 (td, J = 7.6, 1.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.57 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.62–7.68 (m, 5 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 77.9, 91.9, 111.8, 118.5, 124.4, 125.8, 126.6, 127.2, 127.8, 130.3, 132.07, 132.15, 132.6, 133.4; HRMS Calcd for C₁₅H₈BrN : M⁺, 280.9840. Found: m/z 280.9845.

2'-Bromo-2-[(2-thienyl)ethynyl]biphenyl (3i)



Isolated in 33% yield as a yellow solid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 6.91 (dd, J = 5.8, 3.9 Hz, 1 H), 6.97 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.16–7.48 (m, 7 H), 7.57–7.64 (m, 1 H), 7.70 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 86.1, 92.2, 122.6, 123.2, 123.5, 126.88, 126.93, 127.2, 127.7, 128.0, 129.1, 129.7, 131.3, 131.5, 131.6, 132.6, 141.4, 143.4; HRMS Calcd for C₁₈H₁₁BrS : M⁺, 337.9765. Found: m/z 337.9762.

2'-Bromo-2-(oct-1-ynyl)biphenyl (3j)



Isolated in 46% yield as a pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 0.87 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 1.27–1.34 (m, 8 H), 2.19 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2 H), 7.17–7.27 (m, 2 H), 7.27–7.37 (m, 4 H), 7.46–7.52 (m, 1 H), 7.64 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 14.1, 19.3, 22.5, 28.2, 28.3, 31.4, 79.3, 94.1, 123.5, 123.6, 126.7, 127.1, 127.6, 128.7, 129.4, 131.3, 131.8, 132.4, 142.0, 143.5; HRMS Calcd for C₂₀H₂₁Br : M⁺, 340.0827. Found: m/z 340.0820.

2'-Bromo-2-(cyclopentylethynyl)biphenyl (3k)



Isolated in 49% yield as a colorless oil; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.20–1.61 (m, 6 H), 1.63–1.80 (m, 2 H), 2.63 (quint, J = 6.8 Hz, 1 H), 7.18–7.37 (m, 6 H), 7.44–7.50 (m, 1 H), 7.65 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 24.7, 30.6, 33.4, 78.8, 98.5, 123.6, 123.8, 126.7, 127.1, 127.6, 128.7, 129.2, 131.3, 131.5, 132.3, 142.1, 143.7; HRMS Calcd for C₁₉H₁₇Br : M⁺, 324.0513. Found: m/z 324.0509.

1-Bromo-2-(cyclopentylethynyl)benzene (3'k)



Isolated in 11% yield as a pale yellow solid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.52–1.70 (m, 2 H), 1.71–1.89 (m, 4 H), 1.92–2.06 (m, 2 H), 2.89 (quint, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 7.10 (td, *J* = 7.7, 1.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.21 (td, *J* = 7.7, 1.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.41 (dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 25.0, 30.9, 33.8, 78.9, 99.9, 125.6, 126.8, 128.5, 132.2, 133.1; HRMS Calcd for C₁₃H₁₃Br : M⁺, 248.0201. Found: *m/z* 248.0207.

2'-Bromo-2-(tert-butylethynyl)biphenyl (3l)



Isolated in 41% yield as a pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.04 (s, 9 H), 7.16–7.38 (m, 6 H), 7.44–7.50 (m, 1 H), 7.64 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.2 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 27.8, 30.5, 77.8, 102.3, 123.6, 123.7, 126.7, 127.1, 127.5, 128.6, 129.1, 131.2, 131.3, 132.3, 142.2, 143.9; HRMS Calcd for C₁₈H₁₇Br: M⁺, 312.0514. Found: m/z 312.0519.

2'-Bromo-2-[(cyclohex-1-enyl)ethynyl]biphenyl (3m)



Isolated in 39% yield as a brown oil; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.48–1.60 (m, 4 H), 1.83–1.95 (m, 2 H), 1.99–2.07 (m, 2 H), 5.85–5.91 (m, 1 H), 7.19–7.38 (m, 6 H), 7.48–7.54 (m, 1 H), 7.66 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 21.4, 22.2, 25.7, 28.6, 85.8, 94.8, 120.7, 123.4, 123.5, 126.7, 127.3, 127.6, 128.8, 129.4, 131.4, 131.5, 132.4, 134.9, 141.8, 143.4; HRMS

Calcd for $C_{20}H_{17}Br: M^+$, 336.0513. Found: m/z .336.0514

1-Bromo-2-[(cyclohex-1-enyl)ethynyl]benzene (3'm)



Isolated in 16% yield as a pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.55–1.75 (m, 4 H), 2.12–2.21 (m, 2 H), 2.23–2.31 (m, 2 H), 6.29 (sept, J = 2.0, 1 H), 7.11 (td, J = 7.9, 1.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.23 (td, J = 7.6, 1.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.44 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.56 (dd, J = 8.2, 1.3 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 21.5, 22.2, 25.8, 29.0, 95.9, 100.5, 120.6, 125.4, 125.8, 126.9, 128.8, 132.3, 133.0, 136.0; HRMS Calcd for C₁₄H₁₃Br : M⁺, 260.0200. Found: *m/z* 260.0203.

2'-Bromo-4,5,4',5'-tetramethyl-2-[(1-naphthyl)ethynyl]biphenyl (3n)



Isolated in 70% yield as a white solid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.24 (s, 3 H), 2.34 (s, 3 H), 2.35 (s, 3 H), 2.37 (s, 3 H), 7.10 (s, 1 H), 7.23 (d, J = 10.1 Hz, 2 H), 7.37 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.44 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 7.47–7.54 (m, 3 H), 7.56 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.74 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.76 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 19.3, 19.41, 19.43, 19.9, 89.7, 93.8, 120.4, 121.4, 125.2, 126.08, 126.12, 126.4, 127.9, 128.2, 129.9, 131.0, 132.6, 133.0, 133.06, 133.15, 133.3, 135.6, 136.1, 137.0, 137.6, 139.3, 141.3; HRMS Calcd for C₂₆H₂₃Br : M⁺, 438.0983. Found: m/z 438.0976.

2-Bromo-4,5-dimethyl-1-[(1-naphthyl)ethynyl]benzene (3'n)



Isolated in 16% yield as a white solid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.25 (s, 3 H), 2.28 (s, 3 H), 7.42–7.66 (m, 5 H), 7.80 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.83–7.91 (m, 2 H), 8.60 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1 H);

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 19.1, 19.6, 91.0, 93.0, 120.8, 122.2, 122.6, 125.2, 126.4, 126.5, 126.8, 128.2, 128.9, 130.5, 133.17, 133.22, 133.3, 134.2, 135.8, 139.1; HRMS Calcd for $C_{20}H_{15}Br: M^+$, 334.0357. Found: *m/z* 334.0364.

2'-Bromo-4,5,4',5'-bistrimethylene-2-[(1-naphthyl)ethynyl]biphenyl (30)



Isolated in 36% yield as a white solid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.05–2.27 (m, 4 H), 2.89 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2 H), 2.92–3.11 (m, 6 H), 7.18 (s, 1 H), 7.20–7.31 (m, 2 H), 7.37 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 7.44 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 7.49 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1 H), 7.55 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 1 H), 7.60 (s, 2 H), 7.73 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1 H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 25.3, 25.7, 32.4, 32.5, 32.7, 33.0, 89.6, 94.3, 120.8, 121.1, 121.5, 125.2, 125.8, 126.06, 126.10, 126.4, 127.3, 127.7, 127.9, 128.2, 128.3, 129.95, 130.05, 133.1, 139.9, 142.4, 143.5, 143.7, 144.8, 145.5; HRMS Calcd for C₃₀H₂₃Br : M⁺, 462.0983. Found: m/z 462.0980.

2-Bromo-4,5-trimethylene-1-[(1-naphthyl)ethynyl]benzene (3'o)



Isolated in 19% yield as a white solid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.12 (quint, J = 7.6 Hz, 2 H), 2.92 (td, J = 11.5, 7.6 Hz, 4 H), 7.42–7.65 (m, 5 H), 7.80 (dd, J = 7.2, 1.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.82–7.91 (m, 2 H), 8.60 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 25.5, 32.5, 32.8, 90.9, 93.4, 116.7, 119.2, 122.7, 124.7, 125.2, 126.4, 126.6, 126.8, 128.2, 128.4, 128.8, 129.0, 130.5, 133.2, 143.6, 146.9; HRMS Calcd for C₂₁H₁₅Br : M⁺, 346.0357. Found: m/z 346.0355.

2'-Bromo-4,5,4',5'-bistetramethylene-2-[(1-naphthyl)ethynyl]biphenyl (3p)



Isolated in 41% yield as a pale yellow solid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.73–1.96 (m, 8 H), 2.64–2.98 (m, 8 H), 7.03 (s, 1 H), 7.14 (s, 1 H), 7.27–7.50 (m, 5 H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2 H), 7.63 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 22.90, 22.97, 22.99, 23.03, 28.78, 28.97, 29.00, 29.4, 89.5, 94.0, 120.0, 120.2, 121.4, 125.2, 126.1, 126.2, 126.4, 127.9, 128.2, 129.9, 130.4, 132.1, 132.5, 132.7, 133.0, 133.1, 136.2, 136.6, 137.6, 138.2, 139.0, 140.8; HRMS Calcd for C₃₂H₂₇Br : M⁺, 490.1296. Found: *m/z* 490.1299.

2-Bromo-4,5-tetramethylene-1-[(1-naphthyl)ethynyl]benzene (3'p)



Isolated in 13% yield as a pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.74–1.88 (m, 4 H), 2.69–2.84 (m, 4 H), 7.36 (s, 1 H), 7.39 (s, 1 H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 7.50–7.63 (m, 2 H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1 H), 7.81–7.88 (m, 2 H), 8.59 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 22.7, 22.8, 28.7, 29.2, 90.7, 93.1, 120.9, 121.8, 122.2, 125.2, 126.4, 126.5, 126.8, 128.2, 128.8, 130.5, 132.69, 132.71, 133.2, 133.3, 133.8, 139.7; HRMS Calcd for C₂₂H₁₇Br : M⁺, 360.0514. Found: *m/z* 360.0510.

2'-Bromo-2-(1-phenylpropa-1,2-dienyl)biphenyl (8a)



Isolated in 41% yield as a brown oil; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 4.75 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.82 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.02–7.08 (m, 1 H), 7.10–7.24 (m, 7 H), 7.29–7.34 (m, 1 H), 7.36–7.45 (m, 3 H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 107.1, 123.7, 126.6, 127.2, 127.4, 127.9, 128.0, 128.3, 130.3, 131.0, 131.6, 132.4, 135.2, 136.9, 140.9, 141.9; HRMS Calcd for

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 $C_{21}H_{15}Br: M^+$, 346.0357. Found: m/z 346.0353

2'-Bromo-2-(3-phenylprop-2-ynyl)biphenyl (8b)



Isolated in 13% yield as a pale brown oil; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 3.50 (d, *J* = 18.4 Hz, 1 H), 3.66 (d, *J* = 19.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 7.21–7.47 (m, 10 H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1 H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 23.9, 82.8, 87.4, 123.7, 126.6, 127.3, 127.7, 128.2, 128.36, 128.43, 129.1, 129.5, 131.1, 132.6, 134.6, 140.4, 141.6; HRMS Calcd for C₂₁H₁₅Br: M⁺-H, 345.0279. Found: *m*/*z* 345.0269

2'-Bromo-2-(1-phenyl-2-propen-1-yl)biphenyl (10a)

(A mixture of two diastereomers, ratio = 53.5:46.5)



Isolated in 15% yield as a pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 4.48 (d, J = 6.8 Hz), 4.52 (d, J = 6.8 Hz), 4.65 (d, J = 16.4 Hz), 4.77 (d, J = 16.4 Hz), 5.13 (d, J = 9.6 Hz), 6.08 (ddd, J = 16.4, 9.7, 6.8 Hz, *major*), 6.22 (ddd, J = 17.4, 10.6, 6.8 Hz, *minor*), 6.73 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.9 Hz), 6.81 (d, J = 6.8 Hz), 6.95–7.43 (m), 7.60 (d, J = 7.7 Hz), 7.62 (d, J = 6.8 Hz); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 50.9, 51.3, 116.58, 116.65, 123.7, 123.9, 125.9, 126.0, 126.18, 126.25, 126.67, 126.75, 128.00, 128.06, 128.11, 128.4, 128.6, 128.77, 128.83, 128.96, 128.98, 129.8, 130.0, 131.56, 131.65, 132.3, 132.58, 132.62, 140.4, 140.5, 140.92, 140.99, 141.03, 141.1, 141.7, 141.8, 142.8; HRMS Calcd for C₂₁H₁₇Br: M⁺, 348.0514. Found: *m/z* 348.0515

2'-Bromo-2-(3-phenyl-(*E*)-2-propen-1-yl)biphenyl (10b)



Isolated in 34% yield as a pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 3.23 (dd, J = 16.4, 6.8 Hz, 1 H), 3.35 (dd, J = 15.5, 5.8 Hz, 1 H), 6.02–6.21 (m, 2 H), 6.95–7.40 (m, 12 H), 7.62 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 36.9, 123.9, 126.0, 126.9, 127.0, 128.1, 128.4, 128.7, 128.5, 129.3, 129.7, 131.0, 131.2, 132.5, 137.5, 137.9, 140.9, 142.0; HRMS Calcd for C₂₁H₁₇Br: M⁺, 348.0514. Found: m/z 348.0513

Synthesis of dibenzofulvene derivatives. A General Procedure:

A Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar was charged with ethanol (0.5 mL), aryl boronic acid **11** (0.075 mmol) and Cs_2CO_3 (0.095 mol). To this mixture was added an ethanol solution (1.0 ml) of Pd(PPh_3)₄ (0.0075 mmol) and **3** (0.05 mmol), and the resulting mixture was stirred at 70 °C for the period as specified in Scheme 4. The mixture was diluted with ether at 0 °C, filtered through a Celite plug and washed three times with brine. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄ before evaporation of the solvent. Gel permeation chromatography (chloroform as an eluent) gave the corresponding product.

Diphenyldibenzofulvene (12a)



Isolated in 81% yield as a white solid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 6.64 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2 H), 6.94 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.25 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2 H), 7.34–7.51 (m, 10 H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 119.2, 124.8, 126.4, 127.6, 128.2, 128.8, 129.6, 134.1, 138.6, 140.4, 142.9, 145.5; HRMS Calcd for C₂₆H₁₈: M⁺, 330.1408. Found: *m/z* 330.1409.

(1-Naphthyl)phenyldibenzofulvene (12b)



Isolated in 89% yield as a yellow solid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 6.02 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 6.69 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 6.83 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 7.00 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 7.15 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 1 H), 7.31 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 7.33–7.43 (m, 4 H), 7.44–7.61 (m, 5 H), 7.67 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 7.72 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 7.91 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 7.92 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 8.11 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 119.1, 119.3, 124.9, 125.1, 125.7, 126.0, 126.1, 126.46, 126.57, 126.61, 126.7, 127.6, 127.9, 128.1, 128.3, 128.4, 128.7, 128.8, 128.9, 129.2, 131.0, 134.0, 135.8, 138.1, 138.3, 140.3, 140.6, 140.8, 142.6, 142.7; HRMS Calcd for C₃₀H₂₀: M⁺, 380.1565. Found: m/z 380.1558.

(4-Cyanophenyl)phenyldibenzofulvene (12c)



Isolated in 52% yield as a pale brown solid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 6.57 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 6.58 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1 H), 7.23–7.31 (m, 2 H), 7.32–7.37 (m, 2 H), 7.42–7.47 (m, 3 H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2 H), 7.66–7.74 (m, 4 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 111.8, 118.7, 119.4, 119.6, 124.7, 125.0, 126.6, 126.7, 128.3, 128.4, 128.7, 129.1, 129.7, 130.7, 132.6, 135.5, 137.8, 138.2, 140.6, 140.9, 141.8, 142.4, 147.6; HRMS Calcd for C₂₇H₁₇N: M⁺, 355.1361. Found: *m/z* 355.1359.

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