Supporting Information for

An Expedient Synthesis towards Fused Heteroacenes Bearing Pyrrolo[3,2-*b*]pyrrole Core

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Experimental Details

General: All glass wares were thoroughly oven-dried. Chemicals and solvents were either purchased from commercial suppliers or purified by standards techniques. Flash chromatography was carried out utilizing silica gel 100-200 mesh. HRMS were measured on a Bruke Maxis UHR TOF unless otherwise mentioned. ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AV600 with tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal standard. The infrared spectra were acquired on Nicolet 6700 FTIR Spectrometer and The UV-vis and fluorescence spectra were collected with a Hitachi U-4100 UV-vis spectrophotometer. Cyclic voltammetry was performed on an electrochemistry workstation (CHI660D, Chenhua Shanghai) using an anhydrous and argon-saturated solution of 0.1 M Tetrabutylammonium Perchlorate (TBAP) in N,N-dimethylformamide (DMF) as an electrolyte and an Ag/AgCl electrode as a reference electrode. The potential of Ag/AgCl in DMF was determined using ferrocene as internal standard. The OFET devices were made by sublimating the molecules (about 50-nm thickness) to OTS-treated SiO₂/Si substrates under a vacuum of ca. 6×10^{-4} Pa. The device performance was measured in a top-contact bottom-gate configuration (drain and source electrodes deposited above the semiconductor) with Au electrodes. Organic semiconductors were deposited 10 nm at a rate of 1 A/min, then deposited 30 nm at a rate of 10 A/min. Gold source and drain contacts were patterned 50 nm by thermal evaporation using shadow masks. The channel length (L) and width (W) were 80 and 8800 μ m, respectively. The device characteristics of the OFET devices were determined using a Keithley 4200 SCS semiconductor parameter analyzer at room temperature in air.

Synthesis Details:

Dibenzo[b,f][1,5]diazocine-6,12(5H,11H)-dione (13).¹ Methyl anthranilate (4.70g, 31.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added dropwise to the suspension of NaH (2.48 g, 62.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv., 60%) in anhydrous THF (60 mL) at 25° C. the resulting mixture was gradually heated to reflux, and stirred for 3 days. The mixture was cooled down to rt and then poured slowly into 300 mL of 0.1 M HCl and ice. After the ice had melted, the precipitated product was collected by filtration, washed several times with de-ionized water, and air-dried to yield the crude product, which was then recrystallized from aqueous EtOH to yield pure product(2.8 g, 75%) as a light yellow powder. $\delta_{\rm H}$ (600 MHz; DMSO- d_6 ; Me₄Si) 10.20 (2H, s, NHCO), 7.36-7.30 (4H, m, Ar), 7.22 (2H, t, J =7.4Hz, Ar), 7.07 (2H, d, J = 7.9 Hz, Ar). $\delta_{\rm C}$ (150 MHz; DMSO- d_6 ; Me₄Si) 169.7,135.2, 134.0,131.0,128.6, 127.7, 126.2. HRMS(EI) calcd. for C₁₄H₁₀N₂O₂ [M+H]⁺, 239.0815, found 239.0819.

Dinaphtho[2,3-b:2',3'-f][1,5]diazocine-7,15(6H,14H)-dione (15).² Methyl 3-amino-2-naphthoate (3.40 g, 17.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added in portions to the suspension of NaH (2.48 g, 62.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv. , 60%) in anhydrous THF (60mL) at 25° C. the resulting mixture was gradually heated to reflux, and stirred for 3 days. The mixture was cooled down to rt and then poured slowly into 300 mL of 0.1 M HCl and ice, After the ice had melted, the precipitated product was collected by filtration, washed several times with deionized water, and air-dried to yield the crude product, which was then recrystallized from aquous EtOH to yield pure product (2.8 g, 75%) as a yellow powder. $\delta_{\rm H}$ (600 MHz; DMSO- d_6 ; Me₄Si) 10.48 (2H, s, NHCO), 7.96 (2H, s, Ar), 7.90 (2H, d, J = 7.8Hz, Ar), 7.86 (2H, d, J = 8.0Hz, Ar), 7.66 (2H, s, Ar), 7.50-7.46 (4H, m, Ar). $\delta_{\rm C}$ (150 MHz; DMSO- d_6 ; Me₄Si) 170.0, 133.8, 133.6, 133.2, 131.6, 128.4, 128.3, 128.2, 127.8, 127.2, 124.5. HRMS(EI) calcd. for C₂₂H₁₄N₂O₂ [M+Na]⁺: 361.0947, found: 361.1006.

6,12-Dichlorodibenzo[b,f][1,5]diazocine (**11**).³ Finely powdered dibenzob,f][1,5] diazocine-6,12(5H,11H)-dione (0.90g, 3.77mmol, 1 equiv.) and phosphorus pentachloride (1.68 g, 8.12 mmol, 2.15 equiv.) were boiled together in chloroform (15 ml) for 4 hr. After filtration, the solid which separated on concentration of the filtrate was crystallized from light petroleum and afforded the desired product as a white solid (0.66 g , 64%). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3160, 3034, 2900, 1649 (C=N), 1598, 1481, 1439, 1397, 1216, 948, 755(C-Cl). $\delta_{\rm H}$ (600 MHz; CDCl₃; Me₄Si) 7.38-7.34 (4H, m, Ar), 7.15 (2H, t, J=7.6Hz, Ar), 6.99 (2H, d, J= 8.1Hz, Ar). $\delta_{\rm C}$ (150 MHz; CDCl₃; Me₄Si) 156.3, 145.3, 131.6, 127.1, 126.1, 125.4, 122.0.

7,15-Dichlorodinaphtho[**2,3-b:2',3'-f]**[**1,5**]**diazocine** (**16**). Finely powdered dinaphtho-[2,3-b:2',3'-f][1,5]diazocine-7,15(6H,14H)-dione (1.9g, 5.6 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and phosphorus pentachloride (2.5g, 12mmol, 2.15equiv.) were boiled together in chloroform (15 ml) for 4 hr. After filtration, the solid which separated on concentration of the filtrate was crystallized from light petroleum and afforded the desired product as a light yellow solid(1.2 g , 60%). m.p. : not determined (hydrolysis in air). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3054, 2928, 1654(C=N), 1594, 1495, 1389, 1174, 1114, 929, 772(C-Cl). $\delta_{\rm H}$ (600 MHz; CDCl₃; Me₄Si) 7.88 (1H, s, Ar); 7.77 (1H, d, J=8.4Hz, Ar), 7.71 (1H, d, J=8.4Hz, Ar), 7.49-7.47 (1H, m, Ar), 7.43-7.41 (2H, m, Ar). $\delta_{\rm C}$ (150 MHz; CDCl₃; Me₄Si) 156.6, 141.5, 134.3, 130.2, 128.4, 128.3, 127.5(overlapped), 126.7, 126.4, 118.9. HRMS(EI) calcd. for C₂₂H₁₂ Cl₂N₂ [M+Na]⁺: 397.0269, found: 397.0325

5,10-Dihydroindolo[**3,2-b**]**indole, DBPP** (**10**). To the solution of 6,12-dichlorodibenzo[b,f][1,5]diazocine (0.66g, 2.4 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) in anhydrous THF (60 mL) was added activated zinc(1.92g, 29mmol, 12.0 equiv.) in one portion, then TFA(4.4ml, 58mmol, 24.0 equiv.) was added dropwise at rt. The resulting suspension was stirred for 8h at that temperature, then saturated aqueous NH₄Cl was added to quench the reaction. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. Removal of the solvent under under reduced pressure afforded the crude product, which was then purified by recrystallization from MeOH to give the desired product as a white solid (0.34 g, 1.7 mmol, 70% yield). m.p. > 300°C. IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3400 (NH) , 1459, 1404, 1322, 737. $\delta_{\rm H}$ (600 MHz; CDCl₃; Me₄Si) 11.09 (2H, s, NH), 7.75(2H, d, J=7.8Hz, Ar), 7.49(2H, d, J=8.0Hz, Ar), 7.18-7.16 (2H, m, Ar), 7.09-7.07 (2H, m, Ar). $\delta_{\rm C}$ (150 MHz; CDCl₃; Me₄Si) 140.8, 125.7, 121.8, 118.4, 117.9, 115.1, 112.6. HRMS(ESI) calcd. for C₁₄H₁₀N₂[M+Na]⁺: 229.0736, found: 229.0734

Dinaphtho [2,3-b:2',3'-f]pyrrolo [3,2-b]pyrrole, DNPP, (17). To the solution of 7,15-dichlorodinaphtho[2,3-b:2',3'-f][1,5] diazocine(0.17g, 0.45 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) in anhydrous THF (10mL) was added activated zinc(0.44g, 6.8 mmol, 15.0 equiv.) in

one portion, then TFA(0.8ml, 10.6mmol, 24 equiv.) was added dropwise at rt. The resulting suspension was stirred for 8h at that temperature, then saturated aqueous NH₄Cl was added to quench the reaction. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc to give a suspension in organic layer, which was separated and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. Removal of the solvent under reduced pressure afforded the crude product, which was then purified by recrystallization from MeOH to give the desired product as a white solid (70.0 mg, 0.23 mmol, 50% yield). m.p. > 300°C. IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3392 (NH), 1629, 1485, 1446, 861, 739. $\delta_{\rm H}$ (600 MHz; DMSO-d₆; Me₄Si) 11.25 (2H, s, NH), 8.31(2H, s, Ar); 8.06(2H, d, J = 8.3Hz, Ar), 8.00-7.99 (4H, m, Ar), 7.40-7.33 (4H, m, Ar). ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆, DEPTQ) δ : 141.5 (s), 130.0 (s), 128.0 (d), 127.8 (s), 127.4 (s), 127.2 (d), 123.6 (d), 122.2 (d), 117.3 (s), 114.9 (d), 107.2 (d). FTMS(ESI, Bruker Apex IV FTMS) calcd. for C₂₂H₁₂C₂N₂: [M]⁺: 306.1152, found: 306.1153.

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Fig. S1. Normalized UV-vis absorption (left) and fluorescence emission (right) of DBPP and DNPP in DMF.



Figure S2. Cyclic Voltammetry of DBPP and DNPP in DMF (electrolyte: NBu_4ClO_4 , 0.1 M, scan rate: 0.1 V/s). Five scans were recorded for DBPP to rule out the formation of polymer on the electrode.



Figure S3. Cyclic voltammetry of ferrocene in DMF (electrolyte: NBu₄ClO₄, 0.1 M, scan rate: 0.1 V/s).



Figure S4. Thin-film XRD data of (A) DNPP and (B) DBPP.



Figure S5. Thin- film AFM images of DBPP and DBPP.



Fig. S6. FET characteristic and output curves of DBPP at various gate voltages.



















