

## Supporting Information

### Palladium-Catalyzed Double Coupling Reaction of Terminal Alkynes with Isonitriles: A Direct Approach to Symmetrical *N*-Aryl Dialkynylimines

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### Table of Contents

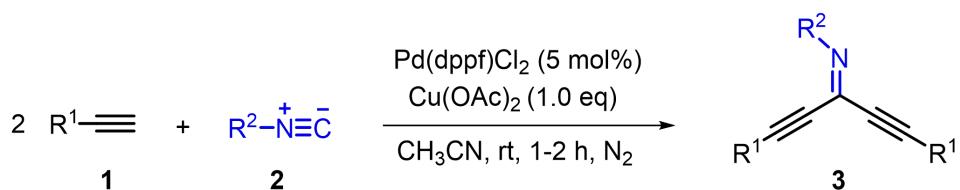
<b>Experimental.....</b>	S2
<b>General methods and materials.....</b>	S2
<b>General procedure for the synthesis of <i>N</i>-aryl dialkynylimines 3.....</b>	S2
<b>X-ray data for compound 3g.....</b>	S3
<b>X-ray data for compound 5.....</b>	S4
<b>X-ray data for compound 6c.....</b>	S5
<b>Spectral data of all compounds.....</b>	S6-S15
<b>Copies of <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of all compounds.....</b>	S16-S42

## Experimental

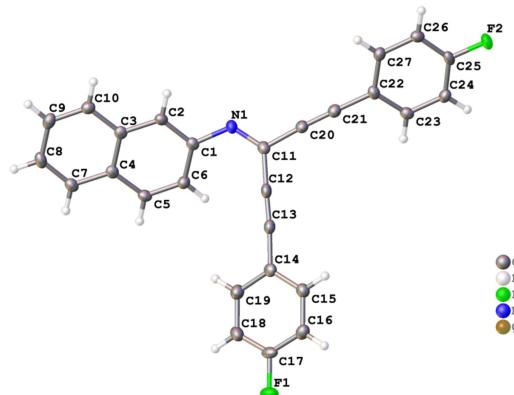
**General methods and materials.** Proton nuclear magnetic resonance spectra (<sup>1</sup>H NMR) and carbon nuclear magnetic resonance spectra (<sup>13</sup>C NMR) were recorded at 400 MHz and 100 MHz or 500 MHz and 125 MHz, respectively, using CDCl<sub>3</sub> as reference standard ( $\delta$  7.26 ppm) for <sup>1</sup>H NMR and ( $\delta$  77.04 ppm) for <sup>13</sup>C NMR. HRMS were recorded using ESI. Melting points were uncorrected. Precoated silica gel plates GF-254 were used for thin-layer analytical chromatography. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (300-400 mesh). Unless otherwise noted, all reactions were carried out under the atmosphere of nitrogen. Solvents if necessary were dried and distilled according to standard methods prior to use. All reagents were purchased from commercial sources (Aladdin, Macklin, Adamas, and Guoyao) and used as received without further purification.

### General procedure for the synthesis of *N*-aryl dialkynylimines **3**.

A mixture of terminal alkynes **1** (0.2 mmol), isonitriles **2** (0.2 mmol), Pd(dppf)Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.01 mmol, 5 mol%), Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.2 mmol, 1.0 eq) and 3.0 mL CH<sub>3</sub>CN was stirred at rt for 1-2 h under the atmosphere of nitrogen. The progress of the reaction was monitored by thin-layer chromatography. Upon completion, the mixture was evaporated under reduced pressure, and the residue was separated by column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:50 to 1:10) to give the pure products **3**.



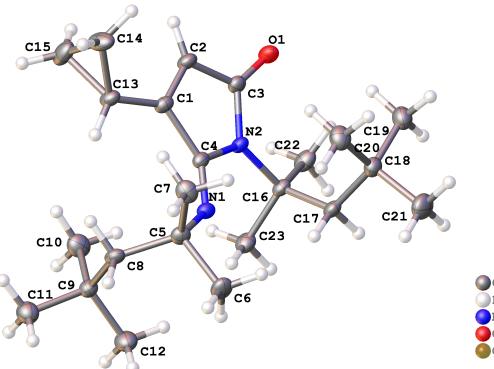
**Figure S1 X-ray data for compound 3g (CCDC 1960026)**



**Table S1.** Crystal data and structure refinement for **3g**

Compound	<b>3g</b>
Empirical formula	C <sub>27</sub> H <sub>15</sub> F <sub>2</sub> N
Formula weight	391.40
Temperature/K	100.00(10)
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub> /n
a/Å	5.8348(3)
b/Å	14.7954(9)
c/Å	21.5626(13)
α/°	90
β/°	92.427(5)
γ/°	90
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	1859.79(19)
Z	4
ρ <sub>calc</sub> g/cm <sup>3</sup>	1.398
μ/mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.095
F(000)	808.0
Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>	0.13 × 0.12 × 0.11
Radiation	MoKα (λ = 0.71073)
2Θ range for data collection/°	4.678 to 50
Index ranges	-6 ≤ h ≤ 6, -13 ≤ k ≤ 17, -25 ≤ l ≤ 19
Reflections collected	7922
Independent reflections	3261 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0239, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0344]
Data/restraints/parameters	3261/0/271
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.050
Final R indexes [I>=2σ (I)]	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0389, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.0847
Final R indexes [all data]	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0498, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.0907
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup>	0.17/-0.20

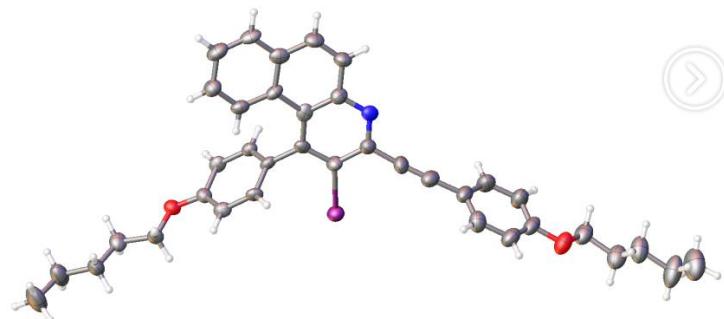
**Figure S2 X-ray data for compound 5 (CCDC 2032367)**



**Table S2.** Crystal data and structure refinement for **5**

Compound	<b>5</b>
Empirical formula	C <sub>23</sub> H <sub>40</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O
Formula weight	360.57
Temperature/K	100.01(10)
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	P-1
a/Å	8.2053(5)
b/Å	9.9516(6)
c/Å	14.8729(13)
α/°	79.118(6)
β/°	88.843(6)
γ/°	68.605(6)
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	1108.87(14)
Z	2
ρ <sub>calc</sub> g/cm <sup>3</sup>	1.080
μ/mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.065
F(000)	400.0
Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>	0.13 × 0.12 × 0.1
Radiation	MoKα ( $\lambda = 0.71073$ )
2Θ range for data collection/°	4.482 to 49.998
Index ranges	-9 ≤ h ≤ 9, -11 ≤ k ≤ 11, -17 ≤ l ≤ 12
Reflections collected	7160
Independent reflections	3897 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0277, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0522]
Data/restraints/parameters	3897/0/245
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.049
Final R indexes [I>=2σ (I)]	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0497, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1070
Final R indexes [all data]	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0654, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1161
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup>	0.23/-0.24

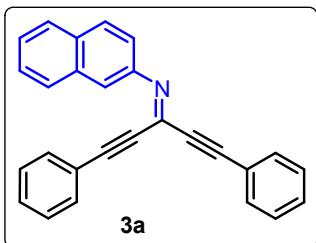
**Figure S3 X-ray data for compound 6c (CCDC 1960024)**



**Table S3.** Crystal data and structure refinement for **6c**

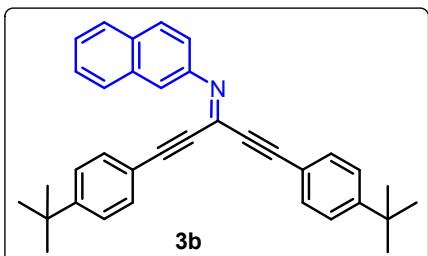
Compound	<b>6c</b>
Empirical formula	C <sub>37</sub> H <sub>34.22</sub> INO <sub>2</sub>
Formula weight	651.77
Temperature/K	150.00(10)
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	P-1
a/Å	5.8087(3)
b/Å	11.2608(7)
c/Å	47.001(2)
α/°	93.058(5)
β/°	90.358(4)
γ/°	92.480(5)
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	3067.0(3)
Z	4
ρ <sub>calcd</sub> /cm <sup>3</sup>	1.412
μ/mm <sup>-1</sup>	8.455
F(000)	1329.0
Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>	0.12 × 0.11 × 0.1
Radiation	Cu Kα ( $\lambda = 1.54184$ )
2Θ range for data collection/°	3.766 to 147.928
Index ranges	-7 ≤ h ≤ 4, -13 ≤ k ≤ 13, -58 ≤ l ≤ 53
Reflections collected	21375
Independent reflections	11868 [ $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0960$ , $R_{\text{sigma}} = 0.1392$ ]
Data/restraints/parameters	11868/26/808
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.087
Final R indexes [I>=2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0948$ , $wR_2 = 0.2186$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.1384$ , $wR_2 = 0.2497$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup>	1.72/-1.80

## Spectral data of all compounds



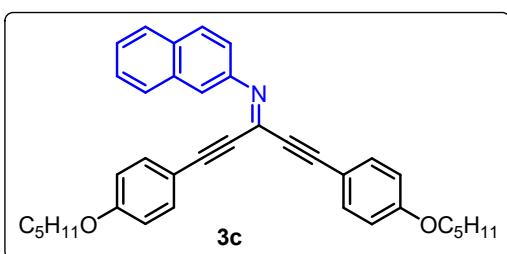
***N*-(naphthalen-2-yl)-1,5-diphenylpenta-1,4-diyn-3-imine**

**e (3a):** brown oil; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.85 (dd, J = 11.1, 8.3 Hz, 3H), 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.67 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.52–7.28 (m, 9H), 7.27–7.20 (m, 2H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 147.6, 133.9, 133.6, 132.7, 132.5, 132.0, 130.2, 130.0, 128.6, 128.6, 128.4, 128.2, 127.8, 126.4, 125.8, 121.9, 121.3, 120.8, 118.9, 95.2, 90.4, 88.7, 84.5 ppm; **HRMS (ESI)** m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N 356.1434; Found 356.1423.



***N*-(1,5-bis(4-tert-butylphenyl)penta-1,4-diyn-3-ylidene)naphthalen-2-amine (3b):** pale brown

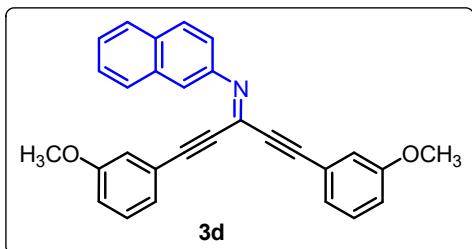
solid, m.p. 99.0–102.2 °C; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.90 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 3H), 7.79 (s, 1H), 7.67 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.55–7.45 (m, 5H), 7.31 (q, J = 9.0 Hz, 4H), 1.38 (s, 9H), 1.31 (s, 9H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 153.8, 153.4, 147.7, 134.3, 133.7, 132.5, 132.3, 131.9, 128.3, 128.2, 127.8, 126.3, 125.6, 125.5, 122.0, 118.8, 118.3, 117.8, 95.6, 90.8, 88.4, 84.3, 35.0, 35.0, 31.2, 31.1 ppm; **HRMS (ESI)** m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>35</sub>H<sub>34</sub>N 468.2686; Found 468.2676.



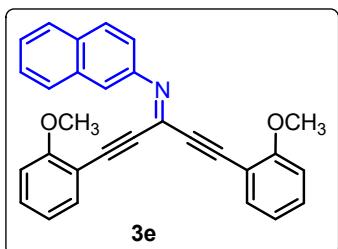
***N*-(1,5-bis(4-(pentyloxy)phenyl)penta-1,4-**

**-diyn-3-ylidene)naphthalen-2-amine (3c):** pale brown oil; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.85 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 3H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.61 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.50–7.41 (m, 3H), 7.28–7.20 (m, 3H), 6.90 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.76 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.98 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 3.91 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 1.78–1.73 (m, 4H), 1.47–1.31 (m, 9H), 0.95–0.87 (m, 6H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 160.7, 160.5, 147.8, 134.4, 134.4, 134.3, 133.7, 131.8, 128.2, 128.1, 127.8, 126.3, 125.4, 122.2, 118.7, 114.7,

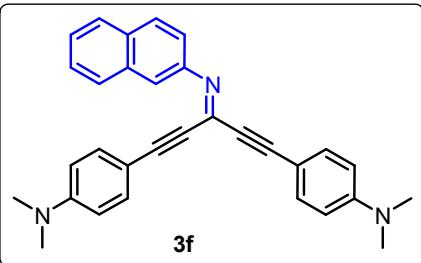
113.0, 112.4, 96.0, 90.9, 88.1, 84.2, 68.2, 68.2, 28.9, 28.8, 28.2, 28.1, 22.5, 22.4, 14.1, 14.0 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>37</sub>H<sub>38</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N 528.2897; Found 528.2883.



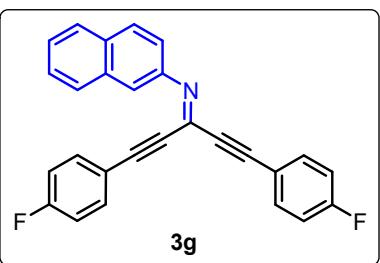
**N-(1,5-bis(3-methoxyphenyl)penta-1,4-diyn-3-ylidene)naphthalen-2-amine (3d):** pale brown oil; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.84–7.74 (m, 3H), 7.65 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44–7.35 (m, 3H), 7.27–7.19 (m, 2H), 7.15–7.07 (m, 2H), 6.95–6.90 (m, 1H), 6.88–6.80 (m, 2H), 6.65 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.56 (s, 3H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 159.4, 159.3, 147.7, 134.0, 133.6, 131.9, 129.6, 129.6, 128.3, 128.1, 127.8, 126.4, 125.7, 125.2, 124.9, 122.2, 121.9, 121.6, 118.6, 117.3, 117.1, 116.9, 116.7, 95.2, 90.3, 88.1, 84.2, 55.4, 55.2 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N 416.1645; Found 416.1636.



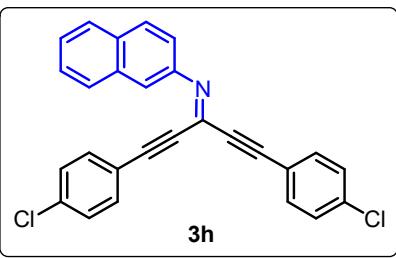
**N-(1,5-bis(2-methoxyphenyl)penta-1,4-diyn-3-ylidene)naphthalen-2-amine (3e):** reddish brown oil; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.89–7.80 (m, 4H), 7.65 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (dd, J = 8.7, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.52–7.38 (m, 3H), 7.37–7.29 (m, 2H), 7.05–6.91 (m, 2H), 6.86 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 3.98 (s, 3H), 3.55 (s, 3H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 161.2, 161.1, 147.7, 134.5, 134.4, 134.2, 133.7, 131.9, 131.8, 131.4, 128.3, 128.1, 127.7, 126.0, 125.4, 122.3, 120.5, 120.4, 118.7, 110.9, 110.8, 110.7, 110.2, 92.7, 92.3, 88.6, 87.1, 55.9, 55.5 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N 416.1645; Found 416.1635.



***N*-(1,5-bis(4-(dimethylamino)phenyl)penta-1,4-diyn-3-ylidene)naphthalen-2-amine (3f):** black solid, m.p. 85.7–88.4 °C; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.85 (dd, J = 8.5, 3.6 Hz, 3H), 7.56 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.52–7.40 (m, 4H), 7.20–7.14 (m, 2H), 6.67 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.52 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 3.02 (s, 6H), 2.96 (s, 6H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 151.1, 151.0, 148.2, 134.9, 134.1, 134.1, 133.7, 131.6, 128.0, 128.0, 127.7, 126.0, 125.1, 122.6, 118.7, 111.6, 111.5, 107.7, 107.0, 98.0, 92.6, 88.5, 84.8, 40.1, 40.0 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>3</sub> 442.2278; Found 442.2267.

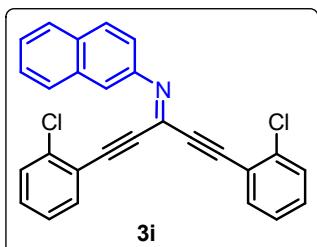


***N*-(1,5-bis(4-fluorophenyl)penta-1,4-diyn-3-ylidene)naphthalen-2-amine (3g):** pale brown solid, m.p. 129.1–132.1 °C; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.86–7.71 (m, 3H), 7.69–7.53 (m, 3H), 7.45–7.33 (m, 3H), 7.26–7.17 (m, 2H), 7.02 (t, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (t, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 163.6 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 252 Hz), 163.5 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 251 Hz), 147.5, 134.7 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 8.0 Hz), 134.6 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 8.0 Hz), 133.6, 133.57, 132.0, 128.4, 128.1, 127.8, 126.5, 125.8, 121.7, 118.7, 117.3 (d, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 3.0 Hz), 116.8 (d, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 3.0 Hz), 116.0 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 22.0 Hz), 115.9 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 22.0 Hz), 94.1, 89.3, 88.2, 84.2 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NF<sub>2</sub> 392.1245; Found 392.1238.

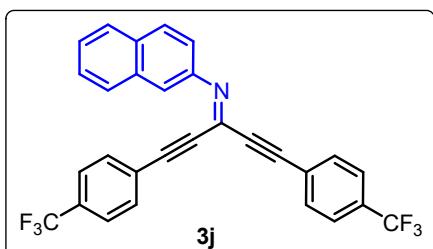


***N*-(1,5-bis(4-chlorophenyl)penta-1,4-diyn-3-ylidene)naphthalen-2-amine (3h):** pale brown solid, m.p. 129.8–131.4 °C; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.91–7.81 (m, 3H), 7.71 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.64–7.57 (m, 2H), 7.52–7.43 (m, 3H), 7.41–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.27–7.22 (m, 4H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 147.3, 136.6, 136.2, 133.8, 133.7, 133.5, 133.3, 132.0, 129.0, 128.9, 128.4, 128.1, 127.8, 126.5, 125.9,

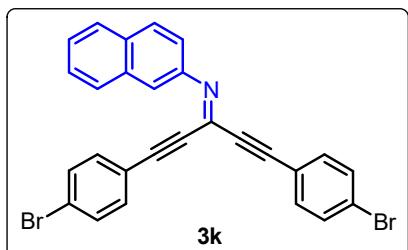
121.7, 119.7, 119.1, 118.8, 93.9, 89.2, 89.1, 85.0 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NCl<sub>2</sub> 424.0654; Found 424.0644.



**N-(1,5-bis(2-chlorophenyl)penta-1,4-diyn-3-ylidene)naphthalen-2-amine (3i):** pale brown solid, m.p. 89.2–91.6 °C; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.88–7.79 (m, 4H), 7.69 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.56–7.41 (m, 4H), 7.39–7.23 (m, 5H), 7.16 (td, J = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 147.3, 137.2, 134.5, 134.3, 133.6, 133.1, 132.2, 131.1, 130.9, 129.6, 129.5, 128.5, 128.3, 127.8, 126.7, 126.6, 126.4, 125.8, 121.9, 121.5, 121.1, 118.8, 92.9, 91.7, 88.5, 87.2 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NCl<sub>2</sub> 424.0654; Found 424.0646.

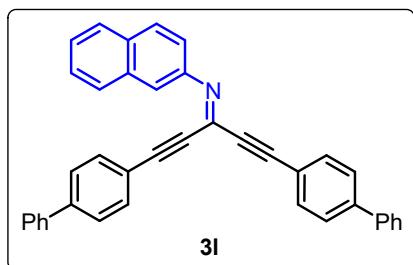


**N-(1,5-bis(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)penta-1,4-diyn-3-ylidene)naphthalen-2-amine (3j):** pale brown oil; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.87 (ddd, J = 8.6, 7.3, 6.2 Hz, 3H), 7.79 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.74 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.57–7.40 (m, 7H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 147.2, 133.5, 132.8, 132.7, 132.2, 131.9, 131.8, 131.6, 131.4, 128.5, 128.2, 127.8, 126.6, 126.1, 125.50 (q), 124.9 (q), 124.4, 122.4, 122.2, 121.5, 118.9, 93.1, 89.8, 88.6, 85.6 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NF<sub>6</sub> 492.1181; Found 492.1169.

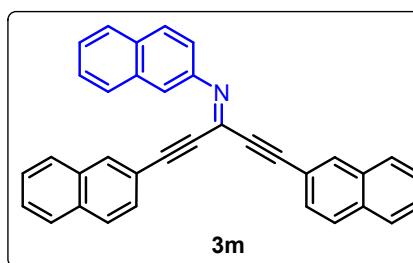


**N-(1,5-bis(4-bromophenyl)penta-1,4-diyn-3-ylidene)naphthalen-2-amine (3k):** pale brown solid, m.p. 95.8–98.5 °C; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.86–7.72 (m, 3H), 7.64 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.53–7.44 (m, 4H), 7.43–7.38 (m, 2H), 7.37–7.32 (m, 2H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 7.16–7.03 (m, 2H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 147.3, 133.9, 133.8, 133.5, 133.3, 132.1, 131.9, 131.9, 128.4, 128.1, 127.8, 126.5, 125.9,

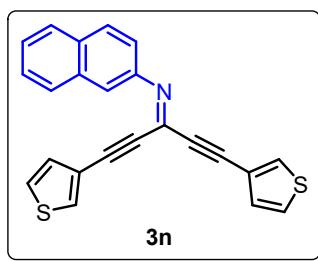
125.0, 124.6, 121.6, 120.1, 119.6, 118.8, 94.0, 89.2, 85.1, 77.2 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NBr<sub>2</sub> 513.9629; Found 513.9613.



**1,5-Di([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-N-(naphthalen-2-yl)penta-1,4-diyn-3-imine (3l):** pale brown oil; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.85–7.77 (m, 3H), 7.69 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 3H), 7.60–7.53 (m, 4H), 7.49–7.30 (m, 14H), 7.18 (s, 1H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 147.6, 142.9, 142.7, 140.1, 139.9, 133.9, 133.6, 133.1, 133.0, 132.0, 129.0, 129.0, 128.3, 128.2, 128.1, 128.0, 127.8, 127.2, 127.2, 127.2, 127.1, 126.4, 125.7, 121.9, 120.1, 119.5, 118.9, 95.2, 90.4, 89.3, 85.2 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>39</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N 508.2060; Found 508.2047.

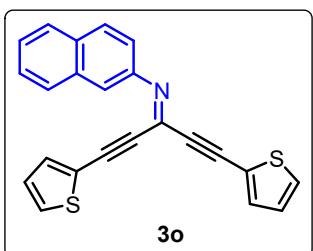


**N-(1,5-di(naphthalen-2-yl)penta-1,4-diyn-3-ylidene)naphthalen-2-amine (3m):** pale brown solid, m.p. 129.6–131.6 °C; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.27 (s, 1H), 7.97–7.66 (m, 12H), 7.60–7.45 (m, 7H), 7.35 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 147.7, 133.9, 133.7, 133.6, 133.6, 133.5, 132.9, 132.7, 132.1, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.2, 128.2, 128.1, 128.1, 127.9, 127.8, 127.7, 127.6, 126.9, 126.9, 126.4, 125.7, 122.0, 118.9, 118.6, 117.9, 95.8, 90.9, 88.9, 84.9 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>35</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N 456.1747; Found 456.1738.

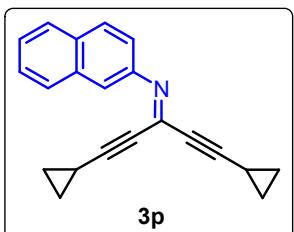


**N-(1,5-di(thiophen-3-yl)penta-1,4-diyn-3-ylidene)naphthalen-2-amine (3n):** brown solid, m.p. 131.8–133.6 °C; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.88–7.84 (m, 3H), 7.77 (dd, J = 2.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.52–7.43 (m, 4H), 7.36–7.32 (m, 2H), 7.23 (dd, J = 5.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (dd, J = 5.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 147.5, 133.8, 133.6, 132.4, 132.1, 131.9, 130.2, 129.8, 128.3, 128.1, 127.8, 126.4,

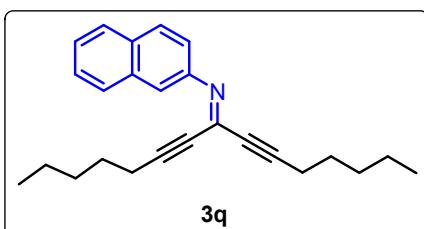
125.9, 125.8, 125.7, 121.9, 120.5, 119.9, 118.7, 90.6, 88.3, 85.7, 84.4 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NS<sub>2</sub> 368.0562; Found 368.0562.



**N-(1,5-di(thiophen-2-yl)penta-1,4-diyn-3-ylidene)napthalen-2-amine (3o):** brown solid, m.p. 66.1–68.9 °C; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.87–7.73 (m, 3H), 7.67 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.46–7.36 (m, 4H), 7.31 (dd, J = 5.1, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 7.14 (dd, J = 3.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (dd, J = 5.1, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (dd, J = 5.1, 3.7 Hz, 1H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 147.3, 135.1, 135.1, 133.6, 132.9, 132.1, 130.7, 130.0, 128.4, 128.2, 127.8, 127.5, 127.5, 126.4, 125.8, 122.0, 121.2, 120.6, 118.9, 92.2, 89.2, 88.6, 84.3 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NS<sub>2</sub> 368.0562; Found 368.0555.

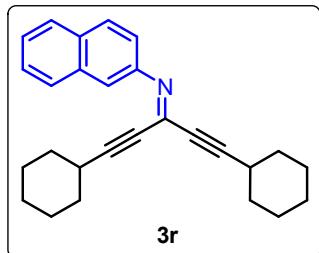


**N-(1,5-dicyclopropylpenta-1,4-diyn-3-ylidene)napthalen-2-amine (3p):** pale brown solid, m.p. 86.4–89.1 °C; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.81 (dt, J = 7.8, 5.6 Hz, 3H), 7.56–7.39 (m, 3H), 7.30 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 1.61–1.42 (m, 1H), 1.25 (ddd, J = 9.8, 6.6, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 1.01–0.88 (m, 4H), 0.83–0.73 (m, 2H), 0.65–0.54 (m, 2H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 147.6, 134.4, 133.4, 131.4, 127.9, 127.7, 127.6, 126.1, 125.1, 121.6, 117.9, 101.3, 95.6, 76.1, 72.0, 9.2, 9.1, 0.1, 0.0 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N 284.1434; Found 284.1424.



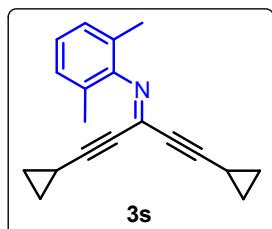
**N-(pentadeca-6,9-diyn-8-ylidene)napthalen-2-amine (3q):** yellow oil; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.79 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H), 7.51 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (pd, J = 6.9, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (dd, J = 8.7, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.20 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.71 – 1.61 (m, 2H), 1.50–1.30 (m, 6H), 1.07 (td, J = 7.6, 5.0 Hz, 4H), 0.93 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.71 (dd, J = 9.2, 4.7 Hz, 3H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100

MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 147.8, 134.9, 133.6, 131.6, 128.2, 127.9, 127.7, 126.1, 125.2, 121.6, 117.8, 97.9, 92.4, 80.8, 77.4, 31.2, 30.7, 27.8, 27.3, 22.2, 22.0, 19.4, 19.3, 13.9, 13.7 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N 344.2373; Found 344.2367.

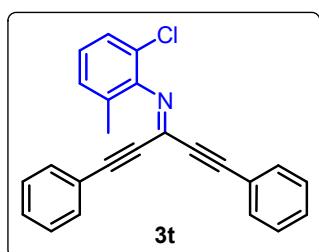


***N*-(1,5-dicyclohexylpenta-1,4-diyn-3-ylidene)naphthalene**

**n-2-amine (3r):** yellow oil; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.79 (dd, J = 10.3, 7.8 Hz, 3H), 7.53 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.46–7.39 (m, 2H), 7.30 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 2.75–2.54 (m, 1H), 2.44 (tt, J = 7.7, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 1.92 (dd, J = 9.6, 3.6 Hz, 2H), 1.77 (dt, J = 9.7, 4.8 Hz, 2H), 1.65–1.54 (m, 5H), 1.47–1.28 (m, 8H), 1.21–1.08 (m, 3H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 147.9, 135.2, 133.6, 131.6, 128.1, 127.9, 127.7, 126.1, 125.1, 121.7, 117.9, 101.3, 96.0, 80.9, 77.4, 32.0, 31.4, 29.7, 29.2, 25.8, 25.6, 24.9, 24.1 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N 368.2373; Found 368.2363.

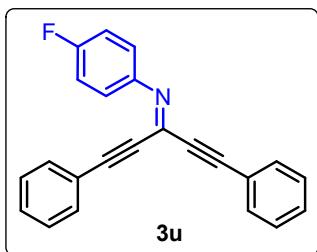


***N*-(1,5-dicyclopropylpenta-1,4-diyn-3-ylidene)-2,6-dimethylbenzenamine (3s):** yellow solid, m.p. 68.3–71.3 °C; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 6.97 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 6.91–6.85 (m, 1H), 2.02 (s, 6H), 1.52–1.40 (m, 1H), 1.15–1.05 (m, 1H), 0.97–0.88 (m, 4H), 0.70 (tt, J = 4.0, 2.7 Hz, 2H), 0.42–0.29 (m, 2H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 149.2, 136.5, 127.4, 126.1, 123.5, 101.3, 94.8, 75.0, 71.4, 17.7, 9.4, 8.9, -0.0, -0.3 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N 262.1590; Found 262.1584.

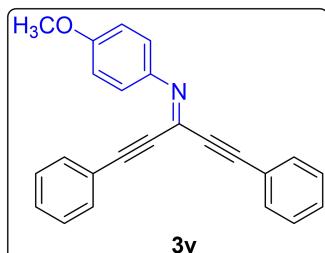


**2-Chloro-*N*-(1,5-diphenylpenta-1,4-diyn-3-ylidene)-6-methylbenzenamine (3t):** yellow oil; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.75–7.63 (m, 2H), 7.45–7.23 (m, 7H), 7.19–7.11 (m, 3H), 7.01 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.19 (s, 3H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 147.4, 138.4, 132.8, 132.6, 130.3, 130.1, 129.4, 128.6, 128.6, 128.5, 127.1, 125.0, 123.6, 121.0, 120.5,

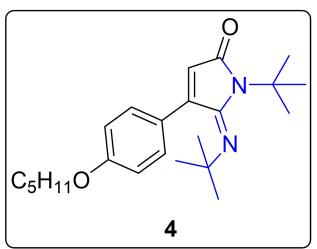
96.0, 91.1, 87.2, 83.8, 18.3 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NCl 354.1044; Found 354.1036.



**N-(1,5-diphenylpenta-1,4-diyn-3-ylidene)-4-fluorobenz enamine (3u):** yellow oil; **1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.66 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 7.44–7.25 (m, 10H), 7.16–7.06 (m, 2H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 161.1 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 244 Hz), 145.9 (d, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 3.0 Hz), 133.9, 133.9, 132.6, 132.5, 130.3, 129.9, 128.6 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 8.0 Hz), 123.3 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 8.0 Hz), 121.2, 120.7, 115.4 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 23.0 Hz), 95.3, 90.4, 88.3, 84.1 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NF 324.1183; Found 324.1175.

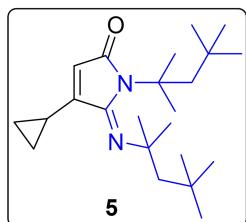


**N-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,5-diphenylpenta-1,4-diyn-3-imine (3v):** yellow solid, m.p. 176.9–179.2 °C; **1H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.65 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 7.47–7.34 (m, 10H), 6.95 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 158.5, 142.8, 132.5, 132.4, 131.3, 130.0, 129.7, 128.6, 128.5, 124.0, 121.5, 121.1, 113.8, 94.6, 89.6, 88.9, 84.8, 55.5 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO 336.1383; Found 336.1385.

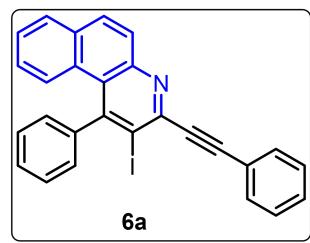


**(E)-1-(tert-butyl)-5-(tert-butylimino)-4-(4-(pentyloxy)ph enyl)-1,5-dihydro-2H-pyrrol-2-one (4):** yellow oil; **1H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.12 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.18 (s, 1H), 3.97 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 1.83–1.78 (m, 2H), 1.66 (s, 9H), 1.46–1.37 (m, 4H), 1.07 (s, 9H), 0.94 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 169.9, 159.4, 147.7, 142.8, 133.3, 129.9, 127.3, 114.0, 68.1, 57.3, 56.0, 32.1, 29.8, 28.9, 28.2, 22.5, 14.1 ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 169.9, 159.4, 147.7, 142.8, 133.3, 129.9,

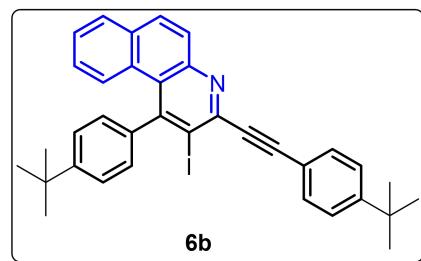
127.3, 114.0, 68.1, 57.3, 56.0, 32.1, 29.8, 28.9, 28.2, 22.5, 14.1 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>35</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 371.2693; Found 371.2699.



**(Z)-4-cyclopropyl-1-(2,4,4-trimethylpentan-2-yl)-5-((2,4,4-trimethylpentan-2-yl)imino)-1,5-dihydro-2H-pyrrol-2-one (5):** yellow oil; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 5.78 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 1.99 (s, 2H), 1.94 (s, 2H), 1.92–1.84 (m, 1H), 1.70 (s, 6H), 1.58 (s, 6H), 1.10–1.04 (m, 2H), 1.01 (s, 9H), 0.92 (s, 9H), 0.77–0.70 (m, 2H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 171.3, 149.3, 146.1, 126.0, 60.9, 59.2, 55.1, 50.4, 33.1, 32.1, 31.9, 31.7, 31.6, 31.2, 12.1, 12.0 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>41</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O 361.3213; Found 361.3219.

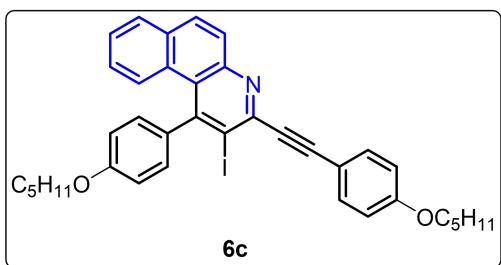


**2-Iodo-1-phenyl-3-(2-phenylethynyl)benzo[f]quinoline (6a):** yellow solid, m.p. 84.5–85.3 °C; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.08 (m, 2H), 7.89 (t, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 7.71–7.56 (m, 4H), 7.56–7.37 (m, 5H), 7.34–7.29 (m, 2H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 162.3, 154.2, 153.2, 148.7, 146.0, 133.1, 132.3, 129.9, 129.5, 129.0, 128.9, 128.7, 128.5, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 127.4, 126.5, 124.5, 122.0, 105.7, 101.0, 91.9 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>17</sub>IN 482.0400; Found 482.0402.



**1-(4-Tert-butylphenyl)-3-(2-(4-tert-butylphenyl)ethynyl)-2-iodobenzo[f]quinoline (6b):** yellow oil; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.15–7.98 (m, 2H), 7.90–7.83 (m, 1H), 7.79–7.59 (m, 3H), 7.52 (dd, *J* = 33.4, 10.2 Hz, 4H), 7.29–7.05 (m, 4H), 1.50 (s, 9H), 1.38 (s, 9H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 162.5, 148.9, 143.1, 142.8, 142.5, 133.5, 132.6, 132.1, 129.2, 128.9, 128.6, 128.5, 128.3, 128.2, 127.1, 126.6,

126.2, 125.5, 125.3, 119.1, 105.9, 101.4, 91.7, 34.9, 34.8, 31.5, 31.3 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>35</sub>H<sub>33</sub>IN 594.1652; Found 594.1655.



**2-Iodo-1-(4-(pentyloxy)phenyl)-3-(2-(4-(pentyloxy)phenyl)ethynyl)benzo[f]quinoline (6c):** yellow solid, m.p. 88.2–90.3 °C; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.96 (dt, J = 14.8, 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.78 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.55–7.30 (m, 3H), 7.21–7.03 (m, 5H), 6.92–6.74 (m, 2H), 4.03 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.92 (m, 2H), 1.87–1.78 (m, 2H), 1.72 (m, 2H), 1.50–1.30 (m, 8H), 0.88 (m, 6H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 160.4, 159.6, 153.7, 138.0, 134.0, 133.2, 132.6, 130.7, 130.1, 129.8, 129.0, 128.5, 128.2, 127.3, 126.6, 124.7, 115.8, 114.7, 114.2, 113.6, 106.9, 102.2, 91.3, 68.3, 68.2, 29.0, 28.9, 28.3, 28.2, 22.6, 22.5, 14.1, 14.0 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>37</sub>H<sub>37</sub>INO<sub>2</sub> 654.1863; Found 654.1858.

## Copies of $^1\text{H}$ and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra of all compounds

