

Supporting Information

An efficient approach to homocoupling of terminal alkynes: Solvent-free synthesis of 1,3-diynes using catalytic Cu(II) and base

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1. General Remarks:

Flash column chromatography was performed using silica gel (300–400 mesh).

Analytical thin-layer chromatography was performed using glass plates pre-coated with 200–400 mesh silica gel impregnated with a fluorescent indicator (254 nm). NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl_3 on a Varian Inova-300 or 400 MHz NMR spectrometer with TMS as an internal reference. Copies of ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra of the unsymmetric 1,3-diynes are provided.

2. General procedure for the preparation of unsymmetric 1,3-diynes.

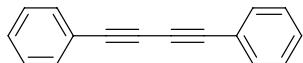
Synthesis of 1-methoxy-4-(phenylbuta-1,3-diynyl)benzene (3a):

A typical reaction procedure: to a mixture of CuCl_2 (5.0 mol%) and Et_3N (5.0 mol%), phenylacetylene (3 mmol) and p-methoxyphenylacetylene (0.5mmol) were added. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C in air for 10 hours. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate and filtered. The filtrate was removed under reduced pressure to get the crude product, which was further purified by silica gel chromatography (petroleum ether as eluent) to yield corresponding unsymmetric 1,3-diynes.

3. General procedure of catalyst reactivation

The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with dichloromethane, and then filtered. The filtration residue was placed in a beaker, where 2mL HCl of 0.01M was added for every 10 mg filtration residue. The mixture was dried in vacuum for 6 h at 100°C to produce the recycled catalyst.

4. Spectral data of the compounds:



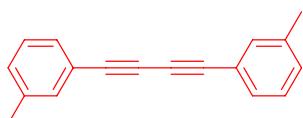
2a

1,4-diphenyl buta-1,3-diyne (2a) ¹: **2a** was purified by flash chromatography (petroleum ether – ethyl acetate, v/v 40/1) as white solid (yield >96%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H 7.52 (d, *J* = 6.87 Hz, 4 H), 7.28-7.40 (m, 6 H). ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C 132.4, 129.2, 128.4, 121.7, 81.5, 73.8.



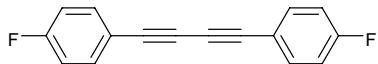
2b

1,4-bis(p-methoxyphenyl)buta-1,3-diyne (2b) ^{2, 3}: **2b** was purified by flash chromatography (petroleum ether – ethyl acetate, v/v 40/1) as white solid (yield 99%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 3.81 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C 160.42, 134.23, 114.32, 114.11, 81.42, 73.14, 55.52.



2c

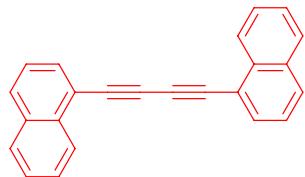
1,4-bis(m-methylphenyl)buta-1,3-diyne (2c) ⁴ : **2c** was purified by flash chromatography (petroleum ether – ethyl acetate, v/v 40/1) as white solid (yield >98%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H 7.33 (m, 4H), 7.24-7.18 (m, 4H), 2.33 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C 138.1, 133.0, 130.1, 129.6, 128.3, 121.6, 81.6, 73.6, 21.2.



2d

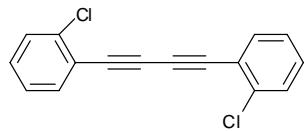
1,4-bis(p-fluorophenyl)buta-1,3-diyne (2d) ⁴ : **2d** was purified by flash chromatography (petroleum ether – ethyl acetate, v/v 40/1) as white solid (yield 80%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H 7.53-7.48 (m, 4H), 7.06-7.00 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C

164.9, 161.2, 134.6, 134.5, 117.84, 117.78, 116.1, 115.7, 80.4, 73.5.



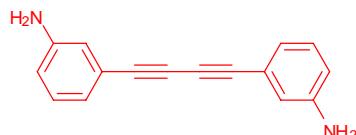
2e

1,4-dinaphthyl buta-1,3-diyne (2e) ⁵ : **2e** was purified by flash chromatography (petroleum ether – ethyl acetate, v/v 40/1) as yellow solid (yield 88%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H 8.44 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.84 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 1.3 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (ddd, *J* = 8.3, 7.0, 1.3 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (ddd, *J* = 8.3, 7.0, 1.3 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 7.2 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C 133.8, 133.1, 132.0, 129.7, 128.4, 127.2, 126.6, 126.1, 125.2, 119.5, 80.9, 78.6.



2f

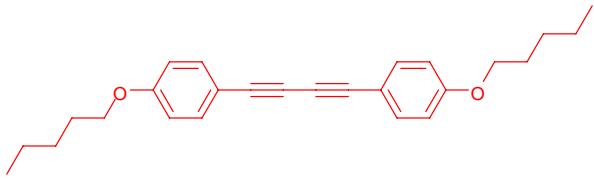
1,4-bis(o-chlorophenyl)buta-1,3-diyne (2f) ⁶ : **2f** was purified by flash chromatography (petroleum ether – ethyl acetate, v/v 40/1) as white solid (yield 85%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H 7.57 (d, *J*=7.6Hz, 2H), 7.42 (d, *J*=7.6Hz, 2H), 7.31 (t, *J*=7.6Hz, 2H), 7.24 (t, *J*=7.6Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C 137.38, 134.79, 130.70, 129.87, 126.98, 122.21, 79.82, 78.78.



2g

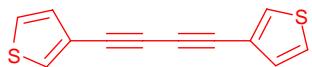
1,4-bis(m-aminophenyl)buta-1,3-diyne (2g) ⁷ : **2g** was purified by flash chromatography (petroleum ether – ethyl acetate, v/v 40/1) as yellow liquid (yield 50%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H 7.23 (t, 2H), 7.11-7.05 (t, 2H), 6.90-6.87 (t, 2H), 6.65-6.62 (t, 2H), 3.59(s, 4H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C 146.1, 129.2, 122.6, 122.3, 118.2, 115.7, 83.8, 76.5.



2h

1,4-bis(p-n-pentyloxyphenyl)buta-1,3-diyne (2h) ⁸ : **2h** was purified by flash chromatography (petroleum ether – ethyl acetate, v/v 40/1) as white solid (yield >98%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H 7.42 (d, *J*=5.9Hz, 2H), 6.81 (d, *J*=5.9Hz, 2H), 3.93 (t, *J*=5.9Hz, 2H), 1.80-1.73 (m, 2H), 1.50-1.33 (m, 4H), 0.91 (t, *J*=5.9Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C 159.9, 134.1, 114.7, 113.7, 81.4, 72.9, 68.2, 29.0, 28.3, 22.6, 14.2.



2i

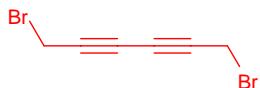
1,4-dithienyl buta-1,3-diyne (2i) ⁹ : **2i** was purified by flash chromatography (petroleum ether – ethyl acetate, v/v 40/1) as white solid (yield 90%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H 7.57 (d, *J*=6.1Hz, 2H), 7.27 (s, 2H), 7.16 (d, *J*=5.4Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C 131.2, 130.1, 128.4, 125.5, 120.8, 73.5.



2j

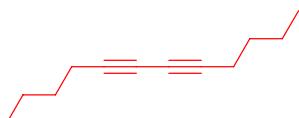
1,4-Bis(2-pyridine)buta-1,3-diyne (2j) ¹⁰ : **2j** was purified by flash chromatography (petroleum ether – ethyl acetate, v/v 40/1) as colorless oil (yield 70%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H 8.63 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 2H), 7.71 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C 150.3, 141.8, 134.3, 128.4,

123.8, 80.8, 73.2.



2k

1,6-dibromo buta-2,4-diyne (2k) ¹¹ : **2k** was purified by flash chromatography (petroleum ether – ethyl acetate, v/v 5/1) as pale yellow oil (yield 60%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H 3.99 (s, 4H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C 75.27, 70.29, 13.96



2l

5,7-dodecadiyne (2l) ¹ : **2l** was purified by flash chromatography (petroleum ether – ethyl acetate, v/v 40/1) as pale yellow oil (yield 75%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): 2.18 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 4 H), 1.43 (m, 4 H), 1.35 (m, 4 H), 0.83 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 6 H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C 76.6, 65.1, 30.3, 21.8, 18.8, 13.5.



2m

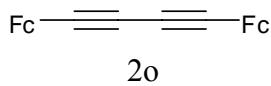
2,7-dimethyl octa-3,5-diyne-2,7-diol (2m) ⁴ : **2m** was purified by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate) as white solid (yield 40%). ¹H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H 1.99(s, 2H), 1.56(s, 12H). ¹³C NMR (67.8 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C 84.0, 66.3, 65.6, 31.0.



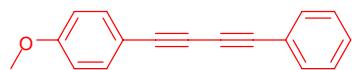
2n

hexa-2,4-diyne-1,6-diol (2n) ⁴ : **2n** was purified by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate)

as white solid (yield 45%). ^1H NMR (270 MHz, DMSO-D₆): δ_{H} 5.16 (s, 2H), 4.17 (s, 4H). ^{13}C NMR (67.8 MHz, DMSO-D₆): δ_{C} 79.5, 67.9, 49.3.

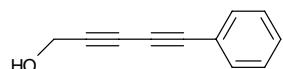


1,4-diferrocenyl buta-1,3-diyne (2o) ¹² : **2o** was purified by flash chromatography (petroleum ether – ethyl acetate, v/v 5/1) as red solid (yield 75%). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_{H} 4.51 (s, 4H), 4.26 (s, 14H). ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_{C} 82.6, 73.5, 71.7, 70.0, 68.7, 63.8.



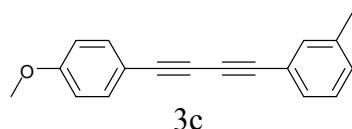
3a

1-methoxy-4-(phenylbuta-1,3-diylyn)benzene(3a) ¹³ : **3a** was purified by flash chromatography (petroleum ether) as white solid (yield 70%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_{H} 7.46-7.52(m, 4H), 7.25-7.35(m, 3H), 6.85(d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.81(s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_{C} 160.36, 134.10, 132.40, 129.00, 128.39, 122.00, 114.15, 113.69, 81.81, 81.01, 74.17, 72.73, 55.31.



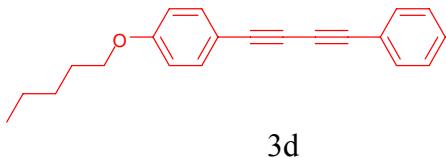
3b

5-phenylpenta-2,4-diyne-1-ol(3b) ¹⁴ : **3b** was purified by flash chromatography (petroleum ether – ethyl acetate, v/v 10/1) as yellow oil (yield 35%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_{H} 7.48(t, *J*=4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.30-7.37(m, 3H), 4.42(s, 2H), 2.09(s, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_{C} 132.58, 129.34, 128.40, 121.35, 80.41, 78.58, 73.14, 70.45, 51.64.

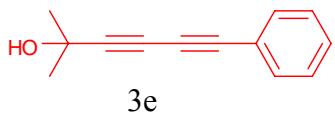


1-((4-methoxyphenyl)buta-1,3-diylyn)-3-methylbenzene(3c): **3c** was purified by flash

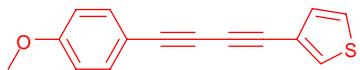
chromatography (petroleum ether) as white solid (yield 55%). **mp** : 59-60°C. IR (cm-1): 2957.09, 2929.93, 2837.43, 2217.48, 2143.21, 1602.42, 1508.33, 1251.67, 1173.54, 1032.20, 830.79. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H 7.45-7.49(m, 2H), 7.32(d, *J*=8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.16-7.26(m, 2H), 6.84-6.87(m, 2H), 3.82(s, 3H), 2.33(s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C 160.33, 138.13, 134.10, 132.91, 129.97, 129.54, 128.29, 121.79, 114.14, 113.78, 81.59, 81.26, 73.80, 72.80, 55.33, 21.19. MS: m/z: 246(M⁺, 100%), 231(45), 203(26), 123(35), 101(27), 88(24), 71(19), 57(39), 43(39). Elemental analysis: found: C, 87.70; H, 5.81. Calc. for C₁₈H₁₄O: C, 87.78; H, 5.73%).



1-(pentyloxy)-4-(phenylbuta-1,3-diynyl)benzene(3d): 3d was purified by flash chromatography (petroleum ether) as white solid (yield 72%). **mp** : 60-61°C. IR (cm-1): 2953.42, 2865.73, 2206.74, 2138.96, 1597.76, 1506.69, 1249.22, 1170.96, 1019.28, 830.05, 749.45. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H 7.50-7.53(m, 2H), 7.45(d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.32-7.36(m, 3H), 6.84(d, *J*=8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.96(t, *J*=6.4 Hz, 2H), 1.75-7.82(m, 2H), 1.34-1.47(m, 4H), 0.93(t, *J*=7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C 160.02, 134.10, 132.43, 128.98, 128.40, 122.10, 114.09, 113.44, 81.91, 80.97, 74.24, 72.65, 68.15, 28.83, 28.15, 22.42, 13.98. MS: m/z: 288(M⁺, 25%), 218(100), 203(26), 189(18), 43(42). Elemental analysis: found: C, 87.30; H, 6.85. Calc. for C₂₁H₂₀O: C, 87.46; H, 6.99%).



2-methyl-6-phenylhexa-3,5-diyn-2-ol(3e) ¹⁵: 3e was purified by flash chromatography (petroleum ether – ethyl acetate, v/v 10/1) as white solid (yield 32%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H 7.47(t, *J*=4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.26-7.38(m, 3H), 2.09(s, 1H), 1.58(s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C 132.50, 129.23, 128.40, 121.53, 86.65, 78.79, 73.11, 67.05, 65.75, 31.10.



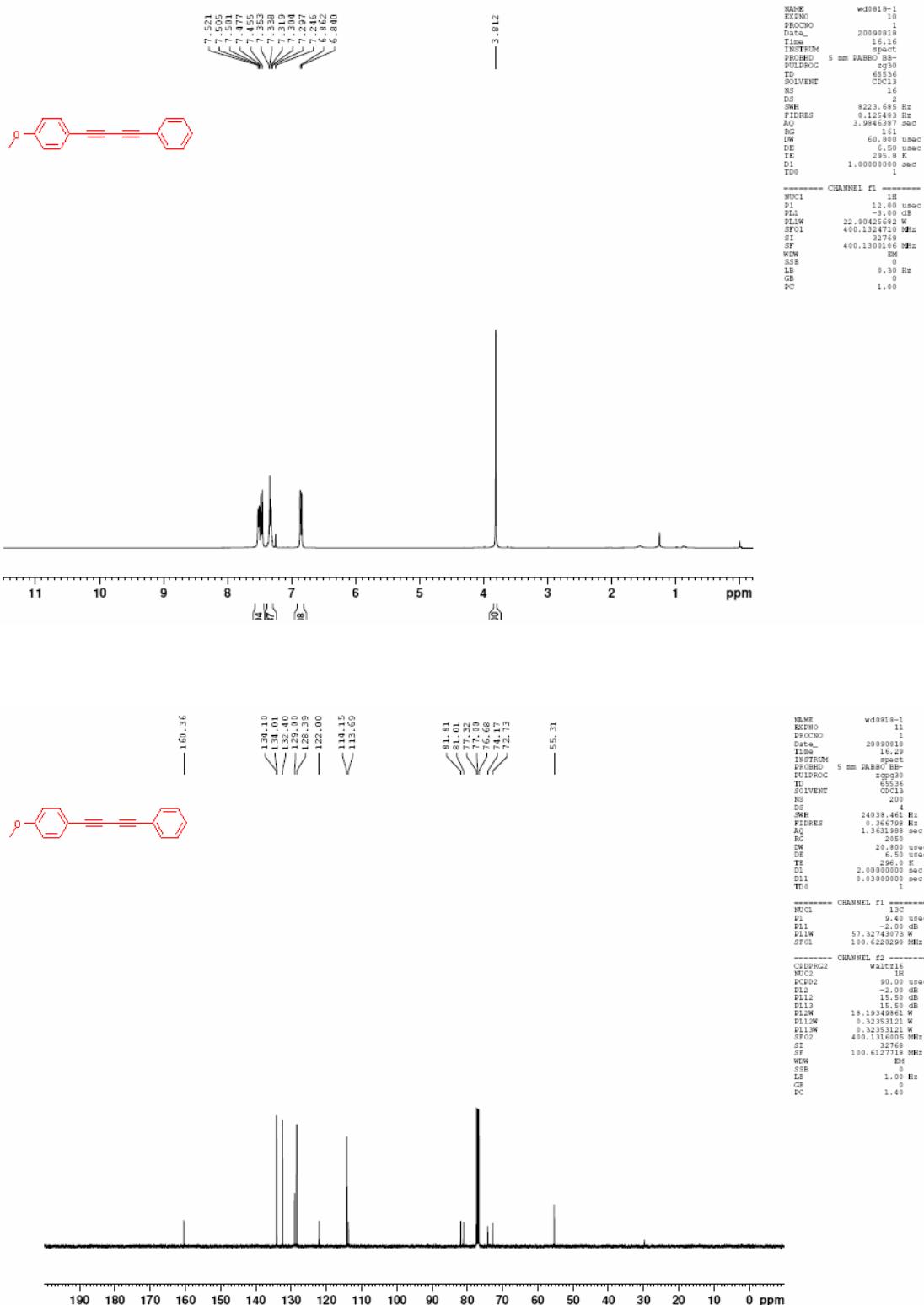
3f

3-((4-methoxyphenyl)buta-1,3-diynyl)thiophene (3f): 3f was purified by flash chromatography (petroleum ether) as pale yellow solid (yield 56%). mp : 87-88°C. IR (cm⁻¹): 3385.71, 3108.54, 2921.31, 2141.38, 1599.18, 1503.40, 1249.39, 1029.90, 830.88, 786.12. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_H 7.56-7.57(m, 1H), 7.46(d, J=8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.26-7.28(m, 1H), 7.16-7.17(m, 1H), 6.85(d, J=9.2 Hz, 2H), 3.82(s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ_C 160.38, 134.10, 130.92, 130.17, 125.51, 121.13, 114.17, 113.74, 81.61, 76.18, 73.80, 72.69, 55.34. MS: m/z: 238(M⁺, 100%), 223(55), 195(29). Elemental analysis: found: C, 75.61; H, 4.30. Calc. for C₁₅H₁₀OS: C, 75.60; H, 4.23%).

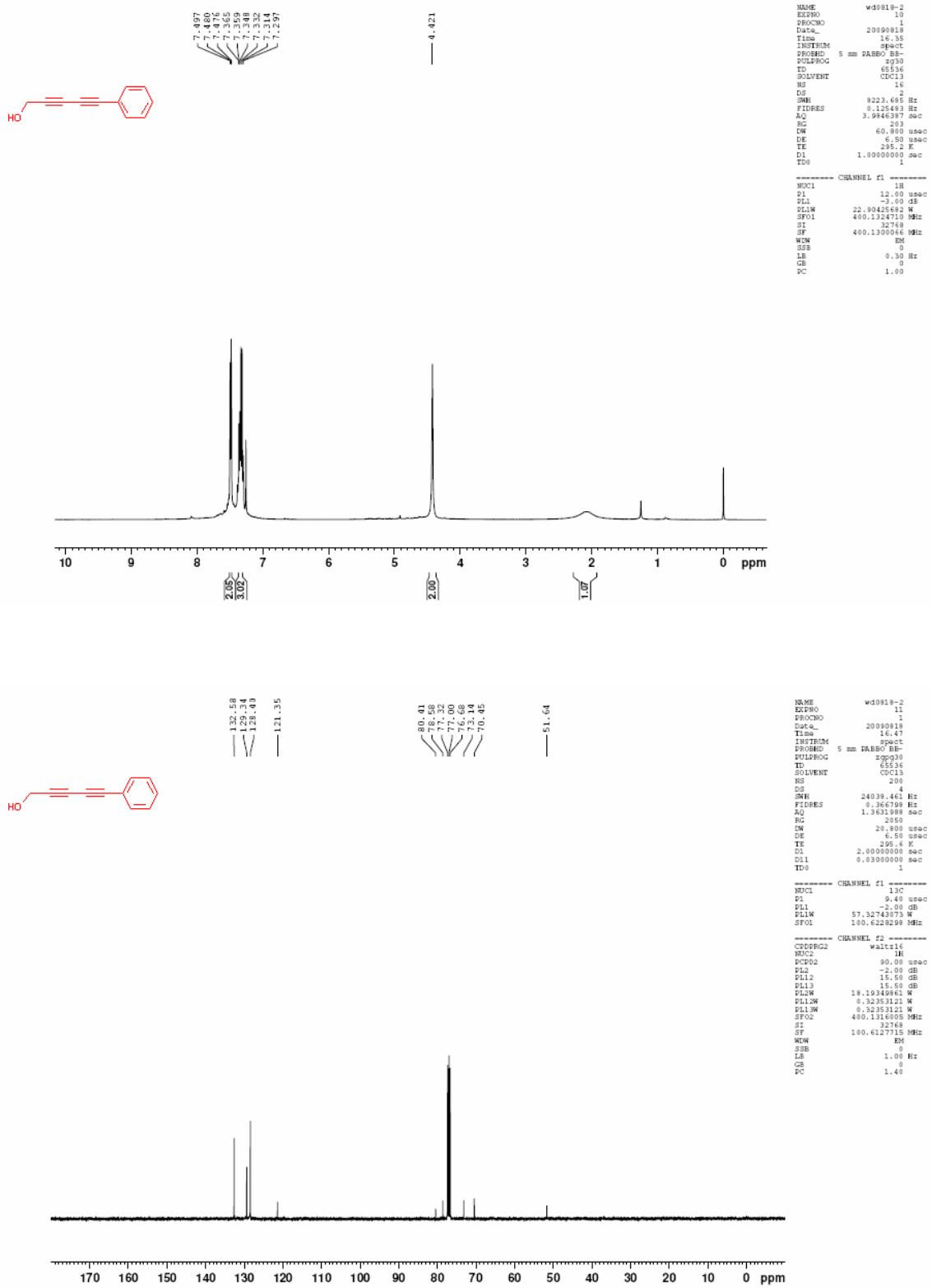
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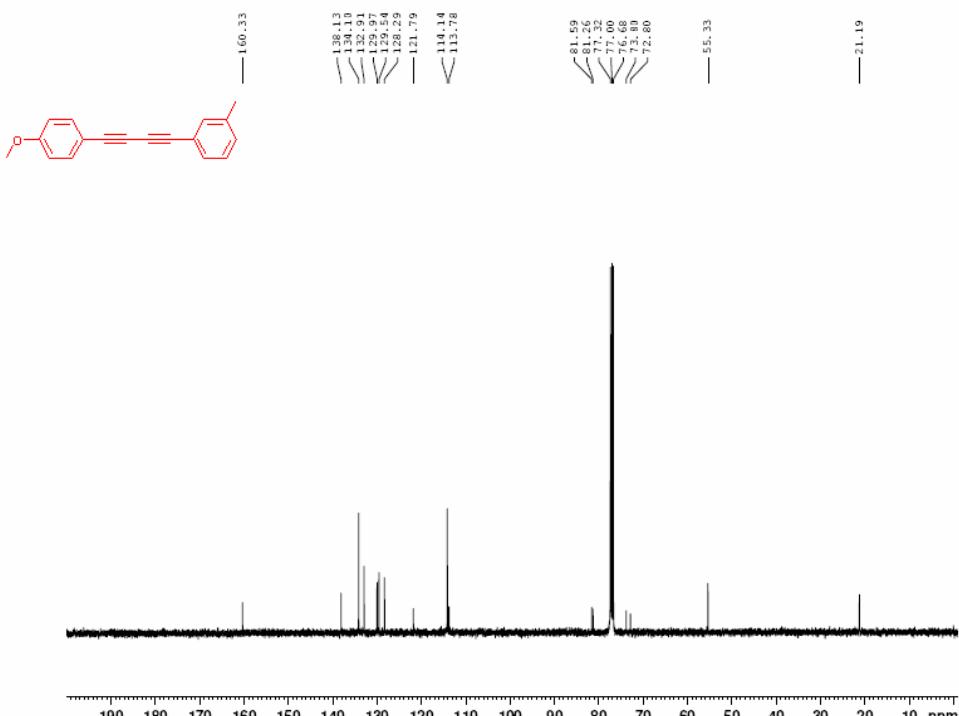
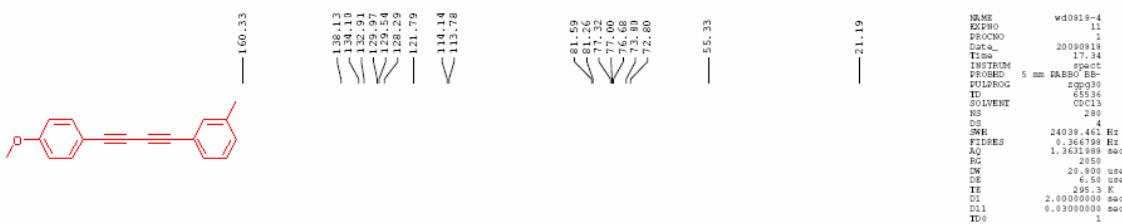
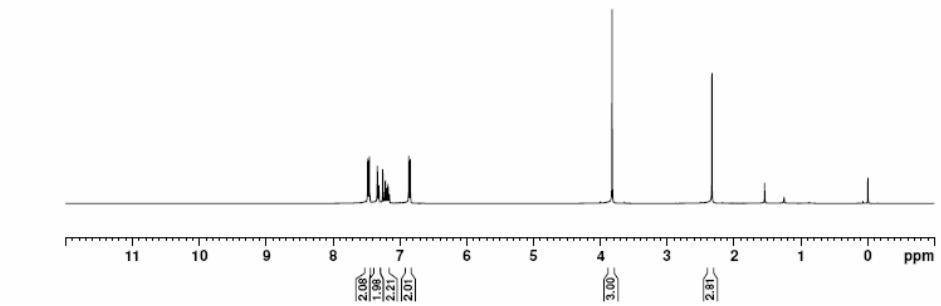
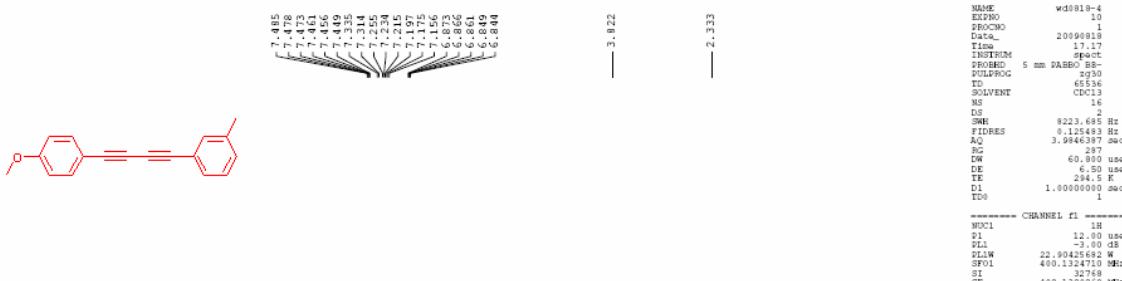
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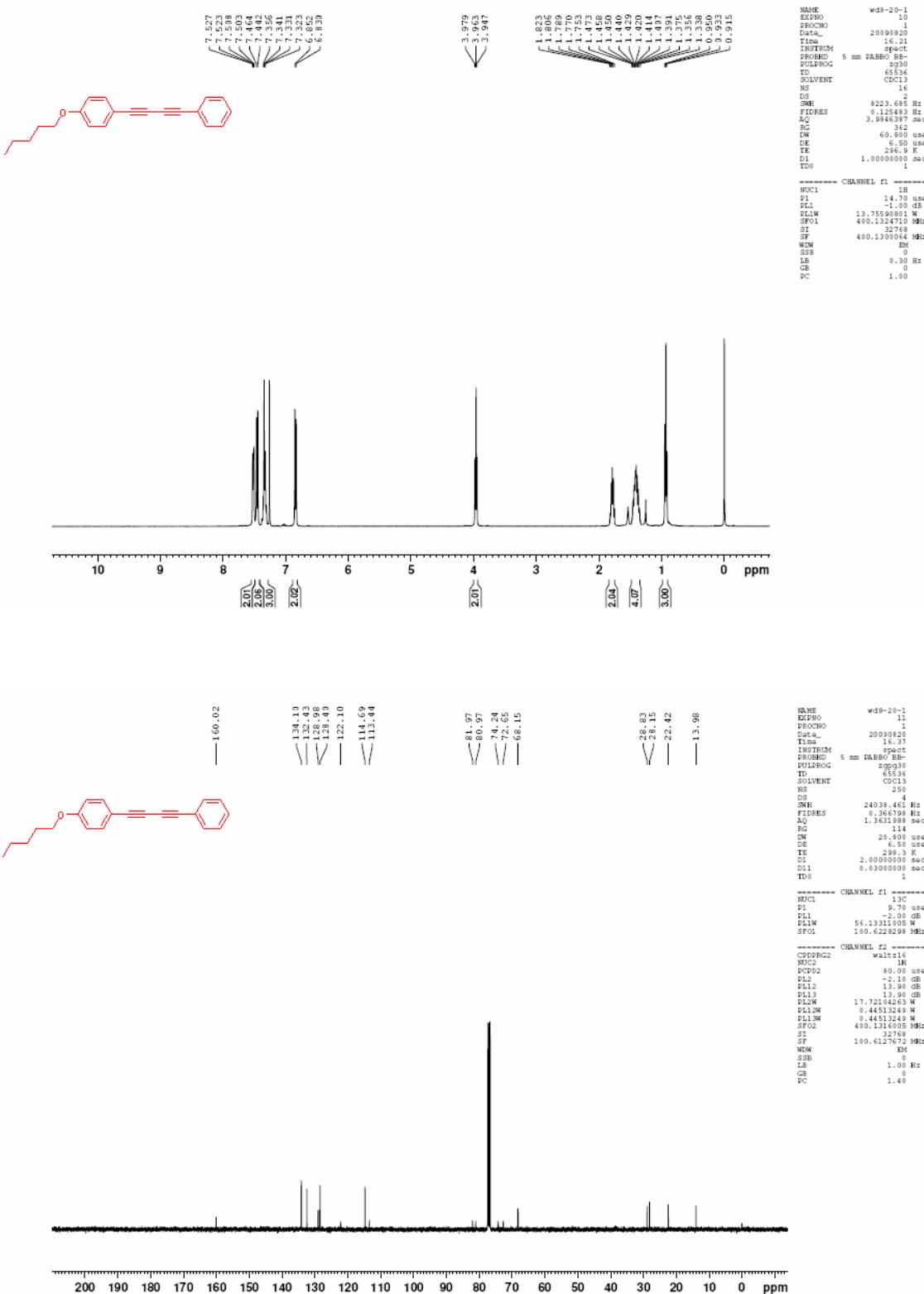
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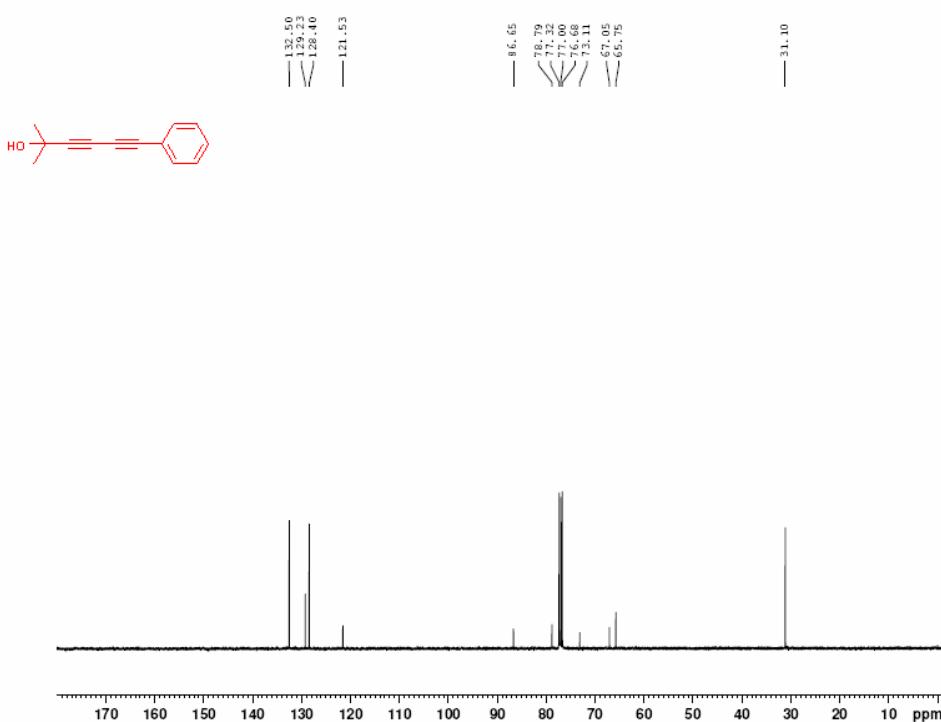
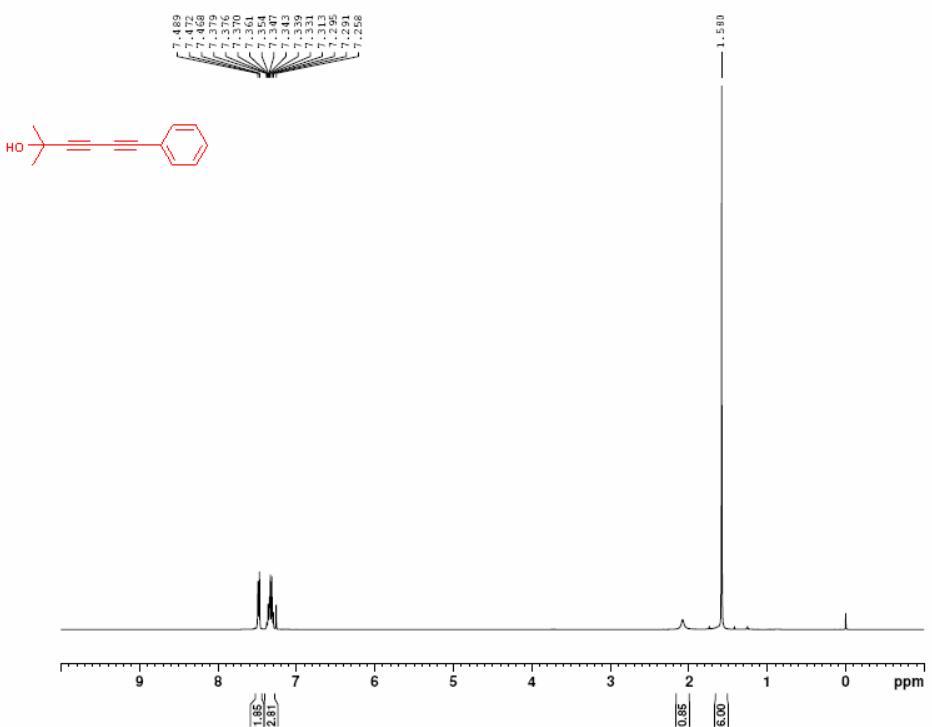
3c:



3d:



3e:



3f:

