

Electronic Supporting Information for:

**Synthesis, characterisation and chiroptical properties of ‘click’able
polyisocyanopeptides**

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Compounds

Boc-L-alanine prop-2-ynol ester (L-BAPE) 6

Boc-L-alanine-OH (4.40 g, 23.3 mmol) and 2-propynol (1.54 g, 27.5 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) were dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (300 mL). To this solution diisopropylethylamine (DIPEA; 4.3 mL, 26 mmol, 1.1 equiv.), 1-hydroxybenzotriazole (HOBT; 3.97 g, 25.9 mmol, 1.1 equiv.) and finally 1-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride (EDC; 4.9 g, 25.6 mmol, 1.1 equiv.) were added. After stirring for 10 hours the solvent was evaporated *in vacuo* and the product was redissolved in CHCl₃ (200 mL). This solution was subsequently washed with an aqueous 10% (w/w) citric acid solution (2 × 200 mL), H₂O (200 mL), an aqueous 10% (w/w) sodium carbonate solution (2 × 200 mL) and H₂O (200 mL). The organic layer was dried (Na₂SO₄), concentrated and subjected to column chromatography (2% MeOH in CHCl₃), yielding 92% of 6 as a colorless oil. $[\alpha]_D -17$ (*c* 0.8 in CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (δ ppm, CDCl₃): 5.03 (s, 1H, NH), 4.71 (m, 2H, C≡CCH₂), 4.32 (m, 1H, CH Ala), 2.47 (t, 1H, HC≡C, *J* 2.4), 1.41 (s, 9H, C(CH₃)₃), 1.38 (d, 3H, CH₃ Ala, *J* 7.2). ¹³C NMR (δ ppm, CDCl₃): 172.3, 154.8 (C=O), 80.0 (C(CH₃)₃), 77.2 (HC≡CCH₂), 75.4 (HC≡CCH₂), 52.8 (CH Ala), 49.3 (HC≡CCH₂), 28.6 (C(CH₃)₃), 18.6 (CH₃ Ala). FT-IR (cm⁻¹, ATR): 3299 (NH), 2128 (C≡C), 1748 (C=O ester), 1701 (Amide I), 1506 (amide II). MS-CI: *m/z* = 228 [M+H]⁺. HRMS for C₁₁H₁₈NO₄: Calcd 228.1236. Found: 228.1230.

Boc-L-alanyl-L-alanine prop-2-ynol ester (L,L-BAAPE)

L-BAAPE (2.03 g, 8.9 mmol) was dissolved in HCl-saturated ethyl acetate (100 mL). The mixture was stirred for 5 hours after which the reaction mixture was concentrated to a small volume, *t*-BuOH/CH₂Cl₂ was added and evaporated under reduced pressure twice, to remove the excess of HCl. The resulting L-alanine prop-2-ynol ester HCl salt was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (200 mL). To this solution Boc-L-alanine-OH (1.88 g, 9.9 mmol, 1.1 equiv.), DIPEA (3.3 mL, 20 mmol, 2.2 equiv.), HOBT (1.52 g, 9.9 mmol, 1.1 equiv.) and finally EDC (1.92 g, 10.0 mmol, 1.1 equiv.) were added. After stirring for 36h the solvent was evaporated *in vacuo* and the product was redissolved in CHCl₃ (150 mL). This solution was washed with an aqueous 10% (w/w) citric acid solution (2 × 150 mL), H₂O (150 mL), an aqueous 10 % (w/w) sodium carbonate solution (2 × 150 mL) and H₂O (150 mL). The organic layer was dried (Na₂SO₄), concentrated and subjected to column chromatography (2% MeOH in CHCl₃), yielding 1.9 g of **L,L-BAAPE** in 72% yield as a white powder. Mp: 84 °C. [α]_D -41 (*c* 0.9 in CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (δ ppm, CDCl₃): 7.07 (s, 1H, NH), 5.38 (d, 1H, NH, *J* 7.5), 4.67 (m, 2H, HC≡CCH₂), 4.52 (quintet, 1H, CH Ala *J* 7.2), 2.45 (t, 1H, HC≡C, *J* 6.0), 1.36 (s, 9H, C(CH₃)₃), 1.29 (m, 6H, CH₃ Ala). ¹³C NMR (δ ppm, CDCl₃): 172.7, 171.9, 155.5 (C=O), 79.9 (C(CH₃)₃), 77.2 (HC≡CCH₂), 75.5 (HC≡CCH₂), 52.8 (CH Ala), 49.8 (HC≡CCH₂), 47.9 (CH Ala), 28.3 (C(CH₃)₃), 18.5, 17.7 (CH₃ Ala). FT-IR (cm⁻¹, ATR): 3270 (NH), 2135 (C≡C), 1738 (C=O ester), 1679, 1653 (Amide I), 1555, 1518 (amide II). MS-CI: *m/z* = 299 [M+H]⁺. HRMS for C₁₄H₂₃N₂O₅: Calcd 299.1607. Found: 299.1595.

Boc-D-alanyl-L-alanine prop-2-ynol ester (D,L-BAAPE) 7

Starting from **6** and Boc-D-alanine-OH, following the same procedure as for **L,L-BAAPE**, **D,L-BAAPE** was obtained as a viscous colorless oil (yield 46%). [α]_D +24 (*c* 1.3 in CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (δ ppm, CDCl₃): 6.76 (s, 1H, NH), 4.98 (s, 1H, NH), 4.72 (m, 2H, HC≡CCH₂), 4.59 (quintet, 1H, CH Ala *J* 7.2), 2.48 (t, 1H, HC≡C, *J* 2.4), 1.44 (s, 9H, C(CH₃)₃), 1.42 (d, 4H, CH₃ Ala, *J* 7.2), 1.35 (d, 4H, CH₃ Ala, *J* 6.9). ¹³C NMR (δ ppm, CDCl₃): 172.4, 172.2, 155.7 (C=O), 80.5 (C(CH₃)₃), 77.2 (HC≡CCH₂), 75.5 (HC≡CCH₂), 52.9 (CH Ala), 50.1 (HC≡CCH₂), 48.0 (CH Ala), 28.4 (C(CH₃)₃),

18.2, 17.3 (CH₃ Ala). FT-IR (cm⁻¹, ATR): 3297 (NH), 2128 (C≡C), 1747 (C=O ester), 1700, 1660 (Amide I), 1512 (br, amide II). MS-CI: m/z = 299 [M+H]⁺. HRMS for C₁₄H₂₃N₂O₅: Calcd 299.1607. Found: 299.1600.

Boc-L-alanine-(3-trimethylsilyl) prop-2-ynol ester (L-BAPE-TMS)

Following a similar procedure as for L-BAPE, L-BAPE-TMS was obtained in 77% yield as a colorless oil. [α]_D -16 (*c* 0.8 in CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (δ ppm, CDCl₃): 5.03 (s, 1H, NH), 4.71 (d, 2H, HC≡CCH₂, *J* 1.8), 4.31 (m, 1H, CH Ala), 1.42 (s, 9H, C(CH₃)₃), 1.38 (d, 3H, CH₃ Ala *J* =7.2), 0.15 (s, 9H, Si-CH₃). ¹³C NMR (δ ppm, CDCl₃): 172.7, 155.2 (C=O), 98.6 (C≡CCH₂), 92.7 (C≡CCH₂), 80.0 (C(CH₃)₃), 53.6 (C≡CCH₂), 49.3 (CH Ala), 28.4 (C(CH₃)₃), 18.6 (CH₃ Ala), 0.1 (Si-CH₃). FT-IR (cm⁻¹, ATR): 3277 (NH), 2187 (C≡C), 1747 (C=O ester), 1714 (Amide I), 1505 (amide II), 1250 (Si-CH₃). MS-ESI m/z = 322 [M+Na]⁺. HRMS for C₁₄H₂₅NO₄SiNa : Calcd 322.1434. Found: 322.1450.

Boc-D-alanyl-L-alanine-(3-trimethylsilyl) prop-2-ynol ester (D,L-BAPE-TMS)

Following a similar procedure as for D,L-BAAPE, D,L-BAAPE-TMS was obtained as a colorless oil in 75% yield. [α]_D +28 (*c* 1.2 in CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (δ ppm, CDCl₃): 7.05 (s, 1H, NH), 5.40 (s, 1H, NH), 4.63 (d, 2H, HC≡CCH₂, *J* 2.0), 4.52 (quintet, 1H, CH Ala, *J* 7.3), 1.35 (m, 12H, C(CH₃)₃, CH₃ Ala), 1.26 (d, 3H, CH₃ Ala, *J* =7.1), 0.07 (s, 9H, Si-CH₃). ¹³C NMR (δ ppm, CDCl₃): 172.6, 172.1, 155.5 (C=O), 98.4 (C≡CCH₂), 92.5 (C≡CCH₂), 79.9 (C(CH₃)₃), 53.5 (C≡CCH₂), 49.9, 47.9 (CH Ala), 28.3 (C(CH₃)₃), 18.3, 17.9 (CH₃ Ala), -0.4 (Si-CH₃). MS-ESI m/z = 393 [M+Na]⁺. HRMS for C₁₇H₃₀N₂O₅SiNa : Calcd 393.1826. Found: 393.1822. FT-IR (cm⁻¹, ATR): 3313 (br,NH), 2186 (C≡C), 1747 (C=O ester), 1661 (Amide I), 1514 (amide II), 1250 (Si-CH₃).

Boc-L-alanine hept-6-ynol ester (L-BAHE)

Starting from Boc-L-alanine-OH and hept-6-ynol, **L-BAHE** was prepared following a similar procedure as for **L-BAPE**, with the exception that the product was purified by column chromatography (Heptane-EtOAc 7:3 v/v, followed by 2% MeOH in CHCl₃). **L-BAHE** was obtained as a colorless oil (yield 78%). [α]_D -4 (*c* 2.1 in CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (δ ppm, CDCl₃): 5.03 (d, 1H, NH, *J* 7.8), 4.28 (m, 1H, CH Ala), 4.13 (m, 3H, OCH₂, CH Ala), 2.19 (m, 2H, HC≡CCH₂), 1.93 (t, 1H, HC≡CCH₂, *J* 2.7), 1.65 (quintet, 2H, CH₂, *J* 7.2), 1.52 (m, 4H, CH₂), 1.42 (s, 9H, C(CH₃)₃), 1.36 (d, 3H, CH₃ Ala, *J* 7.2). ¹³C NMR (δ ppm, CDCl₃): 173.5, 155.2 (C=O), 84.2 (C≡CCH₂), 80.0 (C(CH₃)₃), 68.6 (C≡CCH₂), 65.2 (OCH₂), 49.4 (CH Ala), 28.4 (C(CH₃)₃), 28.2, 28.1, 25.0, 18.9 (CH₂), 18.4 (CH₃ Ala). FT-IR (cm⁻¹, ATR): 3377, 3303 (NH), 2111 (C≡C), 1710 (br, C=O ester, amide I), 1510 (amide II). MS-ESI *m/z* = 306 [M+Na]⁺. HRMS for C₁₅H₂₅N₁O₄Na : Calcd 306.1681. Found: 301.1701.

Boc-L-alanyl-L-alanine hept-6-ynol ester (L,L-BAAHE)

Following a similar procedure as for **L-BAPE**, **L,L-BAAHE** was obtained in 60% yield as a colorless oil.

[α]_D -18 (*c* 0.9 in CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (δ ppm, CDCl₃): 6.79 (s, 1H, NH), 5.18 (d, 1H, NH, *J* 7.8), 4.51 (quintet, 1H, CH Ala, *J* 7.2), 4.10 (m, 3H, OCH₂, CH Ala), 2.16 (m, 2H, HC≡CCH₂), 1.92 (t, 1H, HC≡CCH₂, *J* 2.7), 1.63 (quintet, 2H, CH₂, *J* 7.0), 1.49 (m, 4H, CH₂), 1.40 (s, 9H, C(CH₃)₃), 1.36 (d, 3H, CH₃ Ala, *J* 7.2), 1.32 (d, 3H, CH₃ Ala, *J* 7.0). ¹³C NMR (δ ppm, CDCl₃, 50 M): 172.8, 172.4, 155.5 (C=O), 84.1 (C≡CCH₂), 80.0 (C(CH₃)₃), 68.6 (C≡CCH₂), 65.3 (OCH₂), 50.0, 48.1 (CH Ala), 28.4 (C(CH₃)₃), 28.1, 28.0, 24.9 (CH₂), 18.5 (CH₃ Ala), 18.4 (CH₂), 18.3 (CH₃ Ala). FT-IR (cm⁻¹, ATR): 3299 (NH), 2116 (C≡C), 1736 (C=O ester), 1661 (Amide I), 1519 (amide II). MS-ESI *m/z* = 377 [M+Na]⁺. HRMS for C₁₈H₃₀N₂O₅Na: Calcd 377.2052 Found: 377.2040.

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Boc-D-alanyl-L-alanine hept-6-ynol ester (D,L-BAAHE)

Following a similar procedure as for L-BAPE, D,L-BAAHE was obtained in 75 % yield as a colorless oil. $[\alpha]_D^{25} +28$ (c 0.8 in CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (δ ppm, CDCl₃): 6.82 (s, 1H, NH), 5.14 (d, 1H, NH, J 7.5), 4.51 (quintet, 2H, CH Ala, J 7.2), 4.12 (m, 3H, OCH₂, CH Ala), 2.16 (m, 2H, HC≡CCH₂), 1.91 (t, 1H, HC≡CCH₂, J 2.7), 1.63 (quintet, 2H, CH₂, J 6.9), 1.48 (m, 4H, CH₂), 1.41 (s, 9H, C(CH₃)₃), 1.36 (d, 3H, CH₃ Ala, J 7.2), 1.32 (d, 3H, CH₃ Ala, J 7.2). ¹³C NMR (δ ppm, CDCl₃): 172.9, 172.3, 155.5 (C=O), 84.2 (C≡CCH₂), 80.1 (C(CH₃)₃), 68.6 (C≡CCH₂), 65.3 (OCH₂), 50.3, 48.1 (CH Ala), 28.4 (C(CH₃)₃), 28.1, 28.0, 24.9 (CH₂), 18.4 (CH₃ Ala), 18.3 (CH₂, CH₃ Ala). FT-IR (cm⁻¹, ATR): 3299 (NH), 2116 (C≡C), 1711 (C=O ester), 1663 (Amide I), 1513 (amide II). MS-ESI m/z = 377 [M+Na]⁺. HRMS for C₁₈H₃₀N₂O₅Na : Calcd 377.2052 Found: 377.2050.

Table 1. Selected IR (ν in cm^{-1}) and ^1H NMR (measured in CDCl_3 , δ in ppm) spectral data

	ν_{NH} (CH_2Cl_2)	$\nu_{\text{amide I}}$ (CH_2Cl_2)	ν_{NH} (solid)	$\nu_{\text{amide I}}$ (solid)	δ_{NH} (CHCl_3)
D,L-IAAPE (9)	3434	1710, 1692	3277	1665	
D,L-PIAAPE(10)	3264	1657	3271	1653	
D,L-IAAPETMS (11)	3427	1711, 1692	3318	1668	
D,L-PIAAPETMS (12)	3268, 3320	1657	3284	1655	8.5
L,L-IAAPE	3430	1710, 1694	3281	1665	
L,L-PIAAPE (13)	3261	1656	3280, 3262	1655	9.3
D,L-IAAHE	3431	1689	3299	1673	
D,L-PIAAHE (14)	3266	1656	3264	1655	8.9
L,L-IAAHE	3429	1689	3291	1672	
L,L-PIAAHE (15)	3288	^a	3356, 3284	1685, 1644	8.7

^a No shift observed for the Amide I vibration

Circular Dichroism

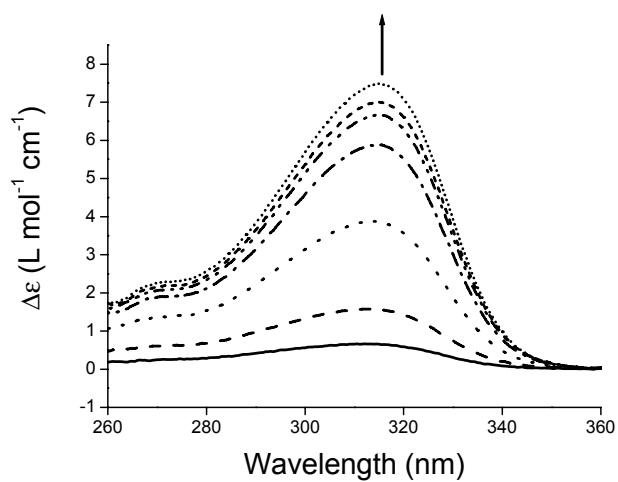


Figure 1 CD monitored polymerisation of **13** with 1/30 equiv. of Ni(II).

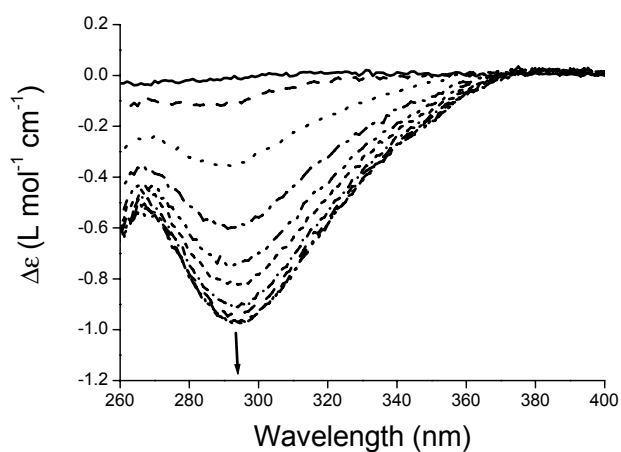


Figure 2 CD monitored polymerisation of **15** with 1/30 equiv. of Ni(II).

X-ray data

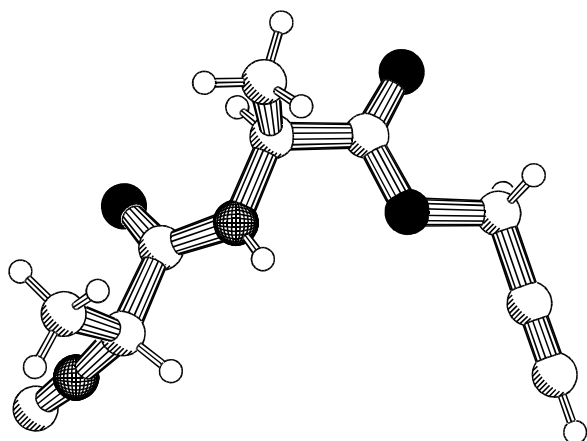


Figure 3 Single crystal X-ray structure of monomer **9**

Table 2 Crystal data and structure refinement for **9**.

Identification code	ERIK07
Crystal colour	translucent colourless
Crystal shape	rough fragment
Crystal size	0.23 x 0.18 x 0.03 mm
Empirical formula	C ₁₀ H ₁₂ N ₂ O ₃
Formula weight	208.22
Temperature	298(2) K
Radiation / Wavelength	MoKalpha (graphite mon.) / 0.71073 Å

Crystal system, space group Triclinic, P1

Unit cell dimensions a, α = 4.7566(12) Å, 72.97(6) deg.

23 reflections b, β = 6.225(2) Å, 85.49(8) deg.

2.110 < θ < 25.000) c, γ = 10.116(17) Å, 80.83(3) deg.

Volume 282.6(5) Å³

Z, Calculated density 1, 1.224 Mg/m³

Absorption coefficient 0.092 mm⁻¹

Diffractometer / scan Nonius KappaCCD with area detector / phi and
omega scan

F(000) 110

Theta range for data collection 2.11 to 25.00 deg.