Development of Synthetic Pathways for Macrocyclic Acetylenes

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Development of Synthetic Pathways for Macrocyclic Acetylenes

Chi-Yuan Tseng

Thesis submitted to the
Eberly College of Arts and Sciences
at West Virginia University
In partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree of

Master of Science
in
Chemistry

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A synthetic sequence was developed for the preparation of a diindeno-fused 4H-cyclopenta[def]phenanthrene derivative containing two bromo substituents as a potential building block for the construction of macrocyclic acetylenes. The synthetic sequence required the preparation of a benzannulated enediyne, 1-bromo-2-ethynyl-3-(2-phenylethynyl)benzene. The Sonogashira reaction between 1,3-dibromo-2-iodobenzene and (trimethylsilyl)ethyne produced 1,3-dibromo-2-[(trimethylsilyl)ethynyl]benzene. Metal-halogen exchange with n-butyllithium followed by iodination with iodine furnished 1-bromo-3-iodo-2-[(trimethylsilyl)ethynyl]benzene. A second Sonogashira reaction with phenylethyne followed by desilylation then furnished 1-bromo-2-ethynyl-3-(2-phenylethynyl)benzene.

Treatment of an excess of 1-bromo-2-ethynyl-3-(2-phenylethynyl)benzene with lithium diisopropylamide followed by condensation with 2,2-dimethoxy-1,3-indandione furnished the corresponding propargylic diol as the major adduct and the corresponding mono-ol as the minor adduct. On exposure to thionyl chloride, the diol underwent a Schmittel cascade cyclization reaction to produce the diindeno-fused 4H-cyclopenta[def]phenanthrene derivative containing two bromo substituents. The presence of the two bromo substituents provides handles for additional Sonogashira reactions for the construction of macrocyclic acetylenes.
Dedicated To

My parents

and

My wife, Yi Ching Chen
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Part I

Development of Synthetic Pathways for Macrocyclic Acetylenes

1. Introduction

Macrocyclic acetylenes are a type of cyclic molecules that contain one or more acetylenic units as part of the cyclic structures. The presence of the acetylenic units and the linking carbon fragments highlight the features of macrocyclic acetylenes. Over the past few decades, macrocyclic acetylenes have been studied extensively for their physicochemical and supramolecular properties.1-6 Macrocyclic acetylenes contain special structural features, including the π electron resonance of the acetylenic bonds, the molecular shape, the distorted electronic distribution, and the cavity inside the molecule. In addition, the exposed acetylenic chains make the macrocyclic acetylenes highly reactive. Based on these, macrocyclic acetylenes have been considered as potential intermediates for the synthesis of fullerenes.7

Figure 1 Two examples of macrocyclic acetylenes
Several synthetic methods for the preparation of macrocyclic acetylenes have been reported, including bromination-dehydrobromination of the corresponding cycloalkenes (Scheme 1).\textsuperscript{8-10}

This method represents a simple and efficient way to prepare macrocyclic acetylenes especially for strained cases. Most of the small macrocyclic acetylenes are prepared by this method. However, one of the limitations of this synthetic route is the difficulty in synthesizing cyclic alkenes as precursors for the corresponding macrocyclic acetylenes. The larger cycloalkene precursor are harder to prepare (Scheme 2).\textsuperscript{11,12}
On the other hand, coupling reactions have also found success in the preparation of macrocyclic acetylenes. In particular, the Sonogashira intra- or intermolecular coupling reaction\textsuperscript{13} has been adopted for the synthesis of a wide variety of macrocyclic acetylenes. For example, a series of cyclic \([n]\)meta-phenylacetylenes (\(n = 5-7\)) have thus been synthesized (Scheme 3).\textsuperscript{14} However, the preparation of strained cases has been found to be very challenging using the coupling method.
Another interesting feature of macrocyclic acetylenes is the cavity inside the molecule. The synthesis of macrocyclic acetylenes could allow the construction of a large-sized carbon ring. With a large carbon ring, macrocyclic acetylenes could encapsulate one or more small molecules inside the cavity to form multi-inclusion type complexes (Scheme 4). In addition, the ring size and the shape of the linking carbon fragments could allow macrocyclic acetylenes to encapsulate only certain guest molecules selectively.
Macro cyclic acetylenes with a planar $\pi$ electronic conjugate system inside the molecule have also been synthesized. This type of macro cyclic acetylenes has been used for the study of the electron-donating capability of the carbon fragment. A series of macro cyclic acetylenes adopting bicycle[2.2.2]octene (BCO) as the linking carbon fragment has been reported. The reduction potentials of these macro cyclic acetylenes showed that the larger the numbers of the BCO unit present in the molecule the easier it is to oxidize the molecule (Scheme 5).
Because of their interesting structural features and potential applications in a variety of areas, macrocyclic acetylene continue to attract the attention of synthetic organic chemists with new design and synthesis of these molecules containing novel molecular architectures. Our goal in this research project is to provide new types of linking carbon fragments in the synthesis of macrocyclic acetylenes.

2. Research Plan

Our group previously reported an efficient route to produce highly unsaturated polycyclic aromatic compounds 7 and 8 from 2,2-dimethoxy-1,3-indandione (1) (Scheme 6). The 2,2-dimethoxy-1,3-indandione (1) was prepared from commercially available 2,2-dihydroxyindane-1,3-dione in one step. Condensation of diketone 1 with lithium acetylide 2 and 2a produced benzannulated enediynyl alcohols 3 and 4, respectively. When the alcohols 3 and 4 were exposed to thionyl chloride, the cyclized dichlorides 5 and 6 were produced, respectively. Reduction of these dichlorides 5 and 6 with tributyltin...
hydride produced 7 in 46% yield and 8 in 47% yields for the last two steps. Likewise, diketone 9 was obtained by air oxidation of 6 in the presence of a 2 M NaOH solution.

![Scheme 6]

This research project will adopt the same synthetic strategy outlined in Scheme 6 for the preparation of 10 possessing two bromo substituents. The dibromide 10 could be further functionalized by using the Sonogashira reactions with 2 equivalents of (trimethylsilyl)acetylene, leading to diacetylene 11, with the two acetylenic groups in essentially parallel orientation. By repeating the Sonogashira reactions between 10 and 11, the macrocyclic acetylene 12 could thus be produced. The MM2-optimized structure
of 12 shows that the aromatic carbon framework has a slight twist, but is essentially free of severely distorted bond angles. The two acetylenic groups remain essentially linear.

The positions of the two bromo substituents in 10 play an important role in the design of the synthetic route for the macrocyclic acetylene 12. The two bromo substituents, both attached on the C-1 position of the two fluorene subunits in 10, provided handles for the Sonogashira reactions and also insured the parallel orientation of
the two acetylenic groups of diacetylene 11. In the Sonogashira cross-coupling reactions between 10 and 11, following the first Sonogashira reaction, the remaining acetylene and the second aryl bromide could undergo an intramolecular Sonogashira reaction to form macrocyclic acetylene 12. Because of the rigid carbon frameworks in 10 and 11 and the optimal positions of the two bromo substituents in 10 and the two acetylenic groups in 11, it is highly likely that after the first Sonogashira reaction, the remaining acetylenic group and the second aryl bromide would undergo an intramolecular Sonogashira reaction to form macrocyclic acetylene 12. In order to produce dibromide 10, it is necessary to prepare diacetylene 13 bearing a bromo substituent for condensations with diketone 1 to obtain the important precursor propargylic diol 14 (Scheme 7).

Scheme 7
3. Results and Discussion

3.1 Synthesis of 2,2-dimethoxy-1,3-indandione (1)

The preparation of the 2,2-dimethoxy-1,3-indandione (1) was conducted according to a reported procedure. Treatment of ninhydrin (2,2-dihydroxyindane-1,3-dione) with silver(I) oxide, and iodomethane provided diketone 1 in 90% isolated yield (Scheme 8).

![Scheme 8]

3.2 Synthesis of 1-bromo-2-ethynyl-3-(2-phenylethynyl)benzene (13)

The synthetic procedure for 13 was initially developed by Changfeng Huang of our research group (Scheme 9). Treatment of the commercially available 1,3-dibromobenzene (15) with lithium diisopropylamide (LDA) and iodine produced 1,3-dibromo-2-iodobenzene (16) in 72% yield. Then a Pd-catalyzed cross-coupling reaction between 16 and (trimethylsilyl)acetylene furnished 1,3-dibromo-2-[2-(trimethylsilyl)ethynyl]benzene (17) in 80% yield. Reaction of 17 with n-butyllithium and iodine produced 1-bromo-3-iodo-2-[2-(trimethylsilyl)ethynyl]benzene (18) in 94% yield. A subsequent Pd-catalyzed cross-coupling reaction between 18 and
phenylacetylene provided 1-bromo-2-[2-(trimethylsilyl)ethynyl]-3-(2-phenylethynyl)benzene (19) in 78% yield. Desilylation of 19 then produced diacetylene 13 in 96% yield.

Scheme 9

3.3 Schmittel cyclization reaction

Condensation of diketone 1 with the lithium acetylde of 13a, obtained by lithiation of 1-bromo-2-ethynyl-3-[2-phenylethynyl]benzene (13) with LDA, followed by hydrolytic workup produced the trans propargylic diol 20a in 50% yield, monopropargylic alcohol 20b in 47% yield, and a small amount of the cis propargylic diol 20c (Scheme 10).
In the reported synthetic route the lithium acetylide used in the condensation with diketone 1 was prepared by the lithiation of 1-(2-ethynylphenyl)-2-phenylethyne (2) with n-butyllithium (Scheme 6).\(^1\) However, using n-butyllithium for the lithiation of 1-bromo-2-ethynyl-3-(2-phenylethynyl)benzene (13) was not successful because the undesired metal-bromine exchange reaction competes with lithiation. The \(^1\)H NMR spectra of the products after hydrolytic workup indicated the formation of recovered 1-bromo-2-ethynyl-3-(2-phenylethynyl)benzene (13) and debrominated 1-(2-ethynylphenyl)-2-phenylethyne (2) (Scheme 11). In order to prevent the formation of the debrominated adduct, lithium diisopropylamide was used in the condensation reaction and reaction time was carefully monitored and controlled. Using such reaction condition, the formation of the debrominated adduct was avoided.
The characteristic $^1$H NMR signals of the reported trans-propargylic diol 3a was used to identify the corresponding trans propargylic diol 20a possessing two bromo substituents. Both trans propargylic diols 3a and 20a exhibit $^1$H NMR signals at $\delta$ 7.70 as doublet of doublet arising from the aromatic portion of indane moieties. A singlet at $\delta$ 3.84 arising from the two methoxy groups of 20a, and a singlet at $\delta$ 3.83 also arising from the two methoxy groups of 3a were observed. In addition a triplet signal at $\delta$ 7.13 can be attributed to the aromatic hydrogens meta to the bromo substituents in 20a. The HRMS of 20a is also consistent with the assigned structure (Figure 3).
Treatment of propargylic diol 20a with thionyl chloride promoted a sequence of reactions with the initial formation of the chlorosulfite 21 followed with two $S_{N}2$ reactions$^{23}$ to generate in situ the chlorinated benzoenyne-allene 22 (Scheme 12). Then the following Schmittel cyclization reactions produced the Diels-Alder adduct 23. Dichloride 23 is prone to hydrolysis, and produced, after column chromatography over silica gel, a small amount of diol 24 as a mixture of the cis-isomer 24a and trans-isomer 24b.
Due to the orientation of the phenyl substituents in 24a and 24b, the neighboring aromatic hydrogens on the benzene rings bearing a bromo substituent are shielded magnetically. As a result, the proton NMR signals of these hydrogen atoms are shifted upfield to $\delta 6.50$ (doublet, 24a) and $\delta 6.52$ (doublet, 24b), respectively. In addition, the hydrogens on the five-membered rings of the two fluorenyl subunits exhibit $^1H$ NMR signals at $\delta 6.30$ (singlet, 24a) and $\delta 6.32$ (singlet, 24b), respectively. Furthermore, two singlets at $\delta 3.38$ and $\delta 3.36$ arising from the two methoxy groups of 24a, and a singlet at $\delta 3.24$ arising from the two methoxy groups of 24b were observed (Figure 4). The HRMS of the mixture is also consistent with the elemental composition of assigned structures.
4. Conclusions

Two diindeno-fused 4H-cyclopenta[def]phenanthrene derivatives containing two bromo substituents (24a and 24b) were synthesized. The synthetic route used an excess of 1-bromo-2-ethynyl-3-(2-phenylethynyl)benzene (13) for condensation with 2,2-dimethoxy-1,3-indandione (1) to prepare the corresponding diols for the Schmittel cyclization reaction, leading to a novel molecular carbon framework of diindeno-fused 4H-cyclopenta[def]phenanthrene bearing two bromo substituents as handles for further Sonogashira coupling reactions. Such a synthetic sequence could provide a new synthetic pathway for the construction of macrocyclic acetylenes.
Glassware used for all reactions were dried in an oven (110 °C) for at least 8 hours. All reactions were carried under a nitrogen atmosphere. Dichloromethane, diethyl ether, ethyl acetate, hexanes, and methanol were reagent grade and used as received. All other liquid reagent and solid chemicals were purchased from chemical suppliers and were used as received. Anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (≥ 99.9%), anhydrous diethyl ether (≥ 99.7%), N,N-dimethylformamide (DMF) (anhydrous, 99.8%), Copper(I) iodide, iodomethane, lithium diisopropylamide solution (2.0 M) in THF/n-heptane/ethylbenzene, n-butyllithium (1.6 M) in hexanes, pyridine (anhydrous), and thionyl chloride were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. Ninhydrin, triethylamine (99.7%), triphenylphosphine, phenylacetylene, and iodine were purchased from Acros Organics. Silver (I) oxide was purchased from Strem Chemicals, Inc. Bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(II) dichloride, and trimethylsilylacetylene were purchased from Oakwood Products, Inc. Silica gel for flash column chromatography was purchased from Dynamic Adsorbents. $^1$H NMR (600 MHz) and $^{13}$C NMR (150 MHz) spectra were recorded in CDCl$_3$ using CHCl$_3$ ($^1$H δ 7.26) and CDCl$_3$ ($^{13}$C δ 77.0) as internal standards.
1,3-dibromo-2-iodobenzene (16)

A solution of 2.0 mL of 1,3-dibromobenzene (15) (3.9 g, 16.5 mmol) in 50 mL of anhydrous THF under a nitrogen atmosphere was cooled to -78 °C. After 15 min of stirring, 25 mL of a 2.0 M solution of LDA (50 mmol) was added dropwise at -78 °C. After 2 hours of stirring at -78 °C, a solution of 6.3 g of iodine (24.8 mmol) in 20 mL of anhydrous THF was introduced dropwise via cannula, and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature. After overnight, 30 mL of water was introduced, and the reaction mixture was then extracted with 50 mL of diethyl ether. The organic layer was washed with brine and water, dried with sodium sulfate, and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel/ hexanes) to produce 4.16 g of 16 (11.5 mmol, 72%) as a white solid: $^1$H NMR (CDCl$_3$, 600 MHz) δ 7.55 (2 H, d, $J$ = 7.8 Hz), 7.07 (1 H, t, $J$ = 8.4 Hz); $^{13}$C NMR (CDCl$_3$, 150 MHz) δ 131.3, 131.1, 130.3, 109.3.

1,3-dibromo-2-[2-(trimethylsilyl)ethynyl]benzene (17)

A mixture of 1,3-dibromo-2-iodobenzene (16) (3.39 g, 9.36 mmol), bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(II) dichloride (0.329 g, 0.468 mmol), copper(I) iodide (0.178 g, 0.936 mmol), and triphenylphosphine (49 mg, 0.187 mmol) was dissolved in 30 mL of triethylamine and flushed with nitrogen. After 15 min of stirring, 2.45 mL of (trimethylsilyl)acetylene (1.84 g, 18.7 mmol) was introduced dropwise. Then the reaction mixture was heated to reflux at 69 °C. After 3 hours of reflux, an additional 2.45 mL of (trimethylsilyl)acetylene (1.84 g, 18.7 mmol) was added dropwise. After an additional 3 hours
of reflux at 69 °C, 50 mL of water was added, and the reaction mixture was extracted with 50 mL of diethyl ether. The organic layer was filtered to remove precipitates, and the filtrate was dried with sodium sulfate and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel/30% ethyl acetate in hexanes) to produce 2.49 g of 17 (7.5 mmol, 80 %) as a light yellow oil: $^1$H NMR (CDCl$_3$, 600 MHz) $\delta$ 7.52 (2 H, d, $J = 7.8$ Hz), 6.99 (1 H, t, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 0.30 (9 H, s); $^{13}$C NMR (CDCl$_3$, 150 MHz) $\delta$ 131.2, 129.7, 127.0, 126.6, 105.4, 101.7, -0.27.

1-bromo-3-iodio-2-[2-(trimethylsilyl)ethynyl]benzene (18)

A solution of 1.44 g of 1,3-dibromo-2-[2-(trimethylsilyl)ethynyl]benzene (17) (4.3 mmol) in 30 mL of anhydrous diethyl ether under a nitrogen atmosphere was cooled to $-78$ °C. After 15 min of stirring, 4.1 mL of a 1.6 M solution of n-butyllithium (6.5 mmol) was introduced dropwise at $-78$ °C. After 2 hours of stirring at $-78$ °C, a solution of 1.65 g of iodine (6.5 mmol) in 20 mL of anhydrous diethyl ether was introduced dropwise via cannula, and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature. After overnight, 50 mL of water was introduced, and the reaction mixture was extracted with 50 mL of diethyl ether. The organic layer was washed with brine and water, dried with sodium sulfate, and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel/30% ethyl acetate in hexanes) to produce 1.54 g of 18 (4.0 mmol, 94 %) as a light-yellow oil: $^1$H NMR (CDCl$_3$, 600 MHz) $\delta$ 7.76 (1 H, dd, $J = 7.8$, 1.2 Hz), 7.54 (1 H, dd, $J = 7.8$, 1.2 Hz), 6.81 (1 H, t, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 0.31 (9 H, s); $^{13}$C NMR (CDCl$_3$, 150 MHz) $\delta$ 137.6, 132.0, 130.9, 130.0, 125.1, 105.3, 104.3, 101.6, -0.29.
1-bromo-2-[2-(trimethylsilyl)ethynyl]-3-(2-phenylethynyl)benzene (19)

A mixture of 1-bromo-3-iodio-2-[2-(trimethylsilyl)ethynyl]benzene (18) (1.35 g, 3.6 mmol), bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(II) dichloride (0.075 g, 0.10 mmol), and copper(I) iodide (0.034 g, 0.18 mmol) was dissolved in 30 mL of triethylamine and flushed with nitrogen. After 15 min of stirring, 0.46 mL of phenylacetylene was added at room temperature. After overnight, 50 mL of water was introduced, and the reaction mixture was extracted with 50 mL of diethyl ether. The organic layer was filtered to remove precipitates, and the filtrate was dried over sodium sulfate and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel/30% ethyl acetate in hexanes) to produce 0.99 g of 19 (2.8 mmol, 78 %) as a yellow oil: $^1$H NMR (CDCl$_3$, 600 MHz) δ 7.58–7.56 (2 H, m), 7.53 (1 H, dd, $J$ = 7.8, 1.2 Hz), 7.46 (1 H, dd, $J$ = 7.8, 1.2 Hz), 7.38–7.34 (3 H, m), 7.12 (1 H, t, $J$ = 8.4 Hz), 0.29 (9 H, s); $^{13}$C NMR (CDCl$_3$, 150 MHz) δ 132.0, 131.7, 130.4, 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 127.9, 127.4, 125.9, 122.9, 104.3, 101.7, 94.2, 87.7, -0.11.

1-bromo-2-ethynyl-3-(2-phenylethynyl)benzene (13)

To a solution of 0.41 g of 1-bromo-2-[2-(trimethylsilyl)ethynyl]-3-(2-phenylethynyl)benzene (19) (1.15 mmol) dissolved in 30 mL of diethyl ether and 30 mL of methanol was added 20 mL of a 10% sodium hydroxide solution. The reaction mixture was stirred for 3 hours at room temperature, and then extracted with 50 mL of diethyl ether. The organic layer was washed with 25 mL of a 2.0 M solution of hydrochloric acid and 50 mL of water, dried over sodium
sulfate, and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel/pure hexanes) to produce 0.31 g of 13 (1.10 mmol, 96%) as a dark-yellow oil: $^1$H NMR (CDCl$_3$, 600 MHz) $\delta$ 7.58–7.55 (3 H, m), $\delta$ 7.49 (1 H, dd, $J = 7.8$, 1.2 Hz), 7.37–3.36 (3H, m), 7.17 (1 H, t, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 3.68 (1 H, s); $^{13}$C NMR (CDCl$_3$, 150 MHz) $\delta$ 132.0, 131.8, 130.5, 129.1, 128.8, 128.5, 128.4, 126.3, 125.9, 122.7, 94.4, 87.3, 86.0, 80.8.

**Propargylic diols 20a, 20c, and propargylic mono-ol 20b**

A solution of 0.67 g of 1-bromo-2-ethynyl-3-(2-phenylethynyl)benzene (13) (2.4 mmol) in 20 mL of anhydrous THF under a nitrogen atmosphere was cooled to 0 °C. After 15 min of stirring, 1.14 mL of a 2.0 M solution of lithium diisopropylamide (LDA) (2.28 mmol) was added dropwise at 0 °C. After 30 min of stirring at 0 °C, a solution of 0.67 g of diketone 1 (0.57 mmol) in 20 mL of anhydrous THF was introduced dropwise via cannula, and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature. After 1 hour of stirring, 20 mL of water was added and the reaction mixture was extracted with 40 mL of diethyl ether. The organic layer was separated, dried over sodium sulfate, and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel/20% ethyl acetate in hexanes) to produce 0.92 g of 20a (1.2 mmol, 50%) as a yellow solid and 0.55 g of 20b (1.13 mmol, 47%) as yellow solid. 20a: $^1$H NMR (CDCl$_3$, 600 MHz) $\delta$ 7.70 (2 H, dd, $J = 5.4$, 3.0 Hz), 7.53 (2 H, dd, $J = 7.8$, 1.2 Hz), 7.50–7.46 (6 H, m), 7.35–7.29 (6 H, m), 7.21(2H, dd, $J = 6.0$, 3.0 Hz), 7.13 (2 H, t, $J = 7.8$ Hz), 3.84 (6H, s); $^{13}$C NMR (CDCl$_3$, 150 MHz) $\delta$ 142.0, 132.0, 131.9, 130.7, 129.8, 129.0, 128.6, 128.3, 128.2, 126.5, 126.0, 124.5, 122.7, 109.8, 96.4, 94.2, 87.4, 85.4, 77.3, 53.4; HRMS calcd for C$_{43}$H$_{28}$Br$_2$O$_4$Na (MNa$^+$) 791.0226, found 791.0236;
20b: \(^1\text{H NMR}\) (CDCl\(_3\), 600 MHz) \(\delta\) 7.89 (1 H, d, \(J = 8.4\) Hz), 7.73 (1 H, d, \(J = 7.2\) Hz), 7.57-7.34 (9 H, m), 7.14 (1H, t, \(J = 8.4\) Hz), 3.62 (3H, s), 3.59 (3H, s); \(^{13}\text{C NMR}\) (CDCl\(_3\), 150 MHz) \(\delta\) 152.6, 136.2, 131.9, 131.8, 131.7, 131.6, 131.4, 130.6, 129.9, 129.1, 128.6, 128.2, 128.2, 128.2, 128.1, 127.9, 126.0, 125.1, 124.0, 122.5, 102.0, 94.0, 87.1, 86.9, 74.2, 51.9, 51.7; HRMS calcd for \(\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{19}\text{BrO}_4\text{Na}\) (MNa\(^+\)) 509.0359, found 509.0367.

diols 24a and 24b

A solution of 0.568 g of propargylic diol (20a) (0.074 mmol) in 50 mL of anhydrous THF under a nitrogen atmosphere was cooled to 0 °C. After 15 min of stirring, a mixture of 0.03 mL of thionyl chloride (0.44 mmol) and 0.08 mL of anhydrous pyridine (1.0 mmol) in 20 mL of anhydrous THF was added via cannula. Then the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature. After 1 hour, 20 mL of water and 30 mL methylene chloride were added. The organic layer was separated, dried over sodium sulfate, and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel/20% ethyl acetate in hexanes) to produce little amounts of 24a and 24b as dark red solid. Nonaromatic protons were assigned to 24a and 24b as indicated earlier in the section of Results and Discussion. 24a: \(^1\text{H NMR}\) (CDCl\(_3\), 600 MHz) \(\delta\) 6.50 (2H, d), 6.30 (2H, s), 3.38 (3H, s), 3.36 (3H, s); 24b: \(^1\text{H NMR}\) (CDCl\(_3\), 600 MHz) \(\delta\) 6.52 (2H, d), 6.32 (2H, s), 3.34 (6H, s); HRMS calcd for \(\text{C}_{43}\text{H}_{29}\text{Br}_2\text{O}_4\) (MH\(^+\)) 767.0427, found 767.0440.
REFERENCES


APPENDIX
Development of Synthetic Pathways for Macro cyclic Acetylenes

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