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J. Org. Chem., Just Accepted Manuscript • DOI: 10.1021/acs.joc.5b01520 • Publication Date (Web): 20 Aug 2015

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Note

# Synthesis of Triphenylene based Triptycenes via Suzuki-Miyaura Cross-Coupling and Subsequent Scholl Reaction

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# Abstract:

A two-step method (Suzuki-Miyaura cross coupling followed by second Scholl oxidation) to triphenylene based triptycenes is described, rendering a variety of  $\pi$ -extended triptycenes accessible in high yields and without the necessity of column chromatography purification. The versatility of this reaction has been demonstrated in the synthesis of a supertriptycene in only four steps and high yields.

Triptycenes with extended conjugated  $\pi$ -planes have gained interest due to their high intramolecular free volume (IMFV)<sup>1</sup> as precursors for 1D and 2D porous polymers,<sup>2,3</sup> supramolecular porous materials<sup>4</sup> such as organic molecules with intrinsic microporosities (OMIMs), fluorescent markers for in vivo studies,<sup>5</sup> and for organic electronics.<sup>6</sup> The most frequently used reactions to construct such  $\pi$ -extended triptycenes are condensation reactions, e.g. of diketones with diamine moieties.<sup>7</sup> Examples of  $\pi$ -extended triptycenes with exclusively aromatic hydrocarbon scaffolds are much rarer.<sup>1,8</sup> In 2009 King and coworkers have reported for the first time triphenylene based triptycenes (TBTs), which have been synthesized by the reaction of hexabromotriptycene **1** with biphenylene zirconium reagents to give the corresponding TBTs in 9% yield.<sup>9</sup> Later, the yield could be improved to 28% by using bis-(*tert*-butyl)-biphenylene stannane instead of the corresponding zirconium reagent in a palladium-catalyzed reaction.<sup>10</sup> However, the scope of these reactions is limited to three compounds and the yields are not satisfying. Furthermore one has to take into account that the required organometallic species first have to be synthesized in a multiple step sequence and that the zirconium reagents are chemically labile.<sup>11</sup>

It is well known that substituted triphenylenes can be synthesized from the corresponding *o*-terphenyls either by photo-irradiation in the presence of an oxidant such as  $I_2$ ,<sup>12</sup> or by using organic or metal based oxidative reagents, such as DDQ or FeCl<sub>3</sub>,<sup>13,14</sup> often referred to as the Scholl oxidation.<sup>15</sup> In general, triphenylenes can be synthesized in high yields by the Scholl oxidati on, if some guidelines concerning substitution effects are taken into account.<sup>16</sup>

Since *o*-terphenyls are easily accessible by twofold Suzuki-Miyaura cross-coupling of 1,2dibromoarenes with arylboronic esters or acids,<sup>17</sup> we developed a two-step method from hexabromotriptycene **1** to synthesize TBTs, generally in higher yields than by previously described methods. In addition, in most cases no column chromatographic workup procedures were necessary.

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The first step of the reaction sequence was the sixfold palladium catalyzed transformation of hexabromotriptycene  $1^3$  to the corresponding tris(terphenyls) **3a-3g** (Scheme 1). All compounds could be isolated in yields of 61-95%. With the exception for dodecamethoxyterphenyl 3f, no column chromatographic purification was necessary: after dispersing the crude products in methanol and sonicating the suspension, the white solids were collected by filtration, washed with methanol and *n*-pentane, and precipitated from CHCl<sub>3</sub> and MeOH to give compounds **3a-3g** in pure form. This was prooved by NMR spectroscopy and elemental analyses (see Experimental Section and Supporting Information). Compounds 3a and 3b have been additionally characterized by single crystal X-ray analysis (see Supporting Information). To directly compare this method with the methods by Benjamin King and coworkers,  $^{9,10}$  we first investigated compound **4a** in the Scholl reaction. The oxidation reaction was performed in an analogous manner to a protocol of Rathore et al.<sup>13</sup> where methanesulfonic acid was added dropwise to a cooled solution (0 °C) of 3a in dry DCM, followed by the addition of 4.5 to 5 equiv. DDQ in one portion. After 10-15 min the reaction was guenched and the crude product washed with methanol, *n*-hexane and *n*-pentane to give after drying 62% of 3a as an off-white solid. The combined yield of 43% is significantly higher than by the 'zirconium or stannylene routes' published before.<sup>9,10</sup>





<sup>*a*</sup> 4g was the observed main product but could not be isolated by common methods.

It has previously been shown that the position of the *tert*-butyl group has only a minor effect on the performance of the Scholl reaction and also inhibits vicinal reactions and polymerization processes.<sup>16</sup> Therefore we tested **3b** under the same cyclization conditions as **3a** and obtained the corresponding triphenylene compound **4b** in an even higher yield of 71%. Substrates bearing methoxy groups in *para-* or *ortho*-position to the formed C-C bonds can usually be converted in very high, sometimes quantitative yields in the oxidative C-C coupling.<sup>13</sup> Indeed, the hexamethoxy compound **3c** and the veratrole derivative **3e** were converted to the corresponding triphenylenes **4c** and **4e** in 51% and 48% yield, respectively. For **4e** single crystals of sufficient quality for analysis by X-ray diffraction have been grown from chloroform (see Figure 1, for crystallographic data see Supporting Information). Through  $\pi$ - $\pi$ -stacking (the closest distance of two atoms of adjacent  $\pi$ -planes is d = 3.55 Å) **4e** is packed in a manner that large three-dimensional voids (blue surface in Figure 1) are formed, making the compound interesting as a precursor for porous supramolecular solids, which will be studied and reported in due course.

Figure 1. X-ray structure analysis of triphenylene triptycene 4e. a) and b) packing of two adjacent molecules by  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking; c) voids (blue) of the crystal for a 3 x3 x 3 unit cell described by the Connolly surface area for a probe with radius 1.2 Å. Enclathrated chloroform molecules have been omitted for clarity.



Rathore et al. have also reported that terphenyls with methoxy groups *meta* to the formed C-C bond can be converted under typical Scholl conditions in 60% yield.<sup>13</sup> However, when we tried to apply these conditions for **3d**, the starting material was fully consumed, but no threefold oxidized product **4d** was detected at all. Neither changing the acid from MeSO<sub>3</sub>H to  $BF_3 \cdot Et_2O$  in the DDQ oxidation reaction, nor using anhydrous FeCl<sub>3</sub> in nitromethane as oxidative reagent led to isolable amounts of **4d**. These observations are in accordance to the guidelines provided before for Scholl oxidation.<sup>16</sup> A similar result has been found when applying the DDQ methods for compound **3f**, where each cross-coupled aromatic ring bears methoxy groups in the 3- and 5-position. No formation of **4f** was detected following the above described procedure. While with MeSO<sub>3</sub>H the reaction gave an unidentifiable product mixture, with  $BF_3 \cdot Et_2O$  only starting material was isolated. The conversion of non-substituted

terphenyl **3g** to **4g** is hampered, probably because of a low solubility of intermediates and the product. Although by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy of the crude product the formation of **4g** as main product has been observed (Supporting Information), the compound could not be purified by common methods. This once more confirms the results for unsubstituted terphenyls in Scholl oxidation reactions made before by King et al. It should also be mentioned that for **4g**, the zirconium method of King is the method of choice because no intermolecular oxidative coupling can occur.<sup>9</sup>

To demonstrate the applicability of the new route, we envisioned to use it for the synthesis of supertriptycene congener **8** in only four steps (Scheme 2).<sup>8</sup> Triptycenyl pinacolboronate **6** was accessible in 70% yield from 2-bromotriptycene **5**, which was synthesized according to an early described procedure of Friedman and Logullo, in 16% yield by a Diels-Alder reaction of anthracene and 5-bromo anthranilic acid.<sup>18</sup> Suzuki-Miyaura cross-coupling of **6** with hexabromide **1** gave hexatriptycenyl triptycene **7** in 84% yield. The subsequent oxidative cyclodehydrogenation of **7** gave **8** in 74% yield. As described above, no column chromatography was necessary for the purification of both compounds. It is worth mentioning, that no formation of other regioisomers of **8** has been observed, which most probably can be explained by the fused-*ortho*-effect,<sup>19</sup> which suppresses the oxidative bond formation *ortho* to the bridgeheads.



55 56

57 58

59 60

#### Scheme 2. Synthesis of supertriptycene 8



# Conclusions

To conclude, we have presented a two-step method, which allows access to triphenylene triptycenes in high yields. In almost all cases even without applying column chromatographic purifications. In accordance to observations made before for the Scholl reaction, only terphenyls with a certain substitution pattern of electron-donating groups allow a good conversion to the final products. Larger structures, such as supertriptycene **8** can be synthesized by this method in high yields.

# **Experimental Section**

General remarks: All reagents including the arylboronic acids 2a-g and solvents were commercially available and used without further purification. Hexabromotriptycene 1 was synthesized analog to the literature known procedure from King et al.<sup>3</sup> For thin layer

chromatography Silica gel 60 F<sub>254</sub> plates were used and examined under UV-light irradiation (254 nm and 365 nm). Flash column chromatography was performed on flash silica gel (particle size: 0.04-0.063 mm) using light petroleum ether, toluene, ethyl acetate and DCM. Melting points are not corrected. NMR spectra were recorded on 600 MHz- (<sup>1</sup>H NMR: 600 MHz; <sup>13</sup>C NMR: 151 MHz), 500 MHz- (<sup>1</sup>H NMR: 500 MHz; <sup>13</sup>C NMR: 126 MHz), 400 MHz- (<sup>1</sup>H NMR: 400 MHz; <sup>13</sup>C NMR: 101 MHz), and 300 MHz-spectrometers (<sup>1</sup>H NMR: 300 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C NMR: 75 MHz) at 298 K, unless otherwise mentioned. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are reported in parts per million (ppm) relative to traces of CHCl<sub>3</sub> ( $\delta_{\rm H}$  = 7.26 ppm,  $\delta_{\rm C}$  = 77.16 ppm) or C<sub>2</sub>D<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub> ( $\delta_{\rm H}$  = 5.963 ppm,  $\delta_{\rm C}$  = 73.78 ppm) in the corresponding deuterated solvent. IRspectra were recorded on a Fourier Transform spectrophotometer equipped with a Ge ATR crystal. UV-vis spectra were recorded on double-beam UV-vis spectrophotometers utilizing either double or single monochromators and photomultiplier tube detectors. MS and HRMS (MALDI and DART) experiments were carried out in positive mode on a Fourier Transform Ion Cyclotron Resonance (FT-ICR) mass spectrometer equipped with a 9.4 T superconducting magnet and interfaced to a dual ESI/MALDI source. Crystal structure analysis was accomplished on a diffractometer with a molybdenum source ( $\lambda$ (MoK<sub>a</sub>) = 0.71073 Å). Data processing and absorption correction (SADABS)<sup>20</sup> were accomplished by standard methods. The structures were solved by direct methods and refined by full matrix least squares using SHELXL software.<sup>21</sup> All non-hydrogen atoms were refined using anisotropic thermal parameters, hydrogen atoms were treated using appropriate riding models. All crystallographic information files (CCDC 1409998 (3a), CCDC 1409999 (3b) and CCDC 1410000 (4e)) have been deposited in the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre and can be downloaded free of charge via www.ccdc.camac.uk/data request/cif.

**2-bromotriptycene 5**:<sup>18</sup> To a refluxing solution of anthracene (4.13 g, 23.1 mmol, 1.00 eq.) in MeCN (90 mL), solutions of isoamylnitrite (3.43 mL, 25.5 mmol, 1.10 eq.) in MeCN (1.5 mL)

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and 5-bromoanthranilic acid (5.50 g, 25.5 mmol, 1.10 eq.) in 120 mL of 5:1 (v/v) MeCN/diglyme were added concurrently over a period of 2 hours. The mixture was then refluxed another 2 hours until MeCN was distilled off. After cooling to r.t. 50 mL of 4:1 (v/v) MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Crystallized anthracene was then removed by filtration. The mother liquor was left over night and the precipitate filtered off. The off-white crude product was further purified by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>; light petroleum ether/DCM 20:1) to give **5** as a white powder (1.22 g, 3.65 mmol, 16%): m.p. 159-160 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.52 (d, *J* = 1.8, 1H), 7.38 (dd, *J* = 5.3, 3.2, 4H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 7.9, 1H), 7.11 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.9, 1H), 7.01 (dd, *J* = 5.3, 3.2, 4H), 5.39 (s, 1H), 5.37 (s, 1H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  147.8, 144.9, 144.7, 144.6, 128.1, 127.0, 125.6, 125.5, 125.2, 123.9, 123.8, 118.7, 53.9, 53.7 ppm; HRMS (DART) *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>13</sub>Br 332.01951; Found 332.01915. The analytical data are in accordance to those published before.<sup>18,22</sup>

**2-triptycenylboronic acid pinacol ester 6**: In an oven-dried and argon-purged Schlenk flask, 2-bromotriptycene **5** (1.00 g, 3.00 mmol, 1.00 eq.) was dissolved in dry THF (10 mL) and *n*-BuLi (1.6M in hexanes, 2.06 mL, 1.10 eq.) was added dropwise at -78 °C. After stirring for 2 hours at the same temperature, isopropoxyboronic acid pinacol ester (0.80 mL, 3.90 mmol, 1.3 eq.) was added and the mixture was warmed to r.t. over night. The reaction was quenched by addition of sat. aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution (15 mL). After phase separation and extraction with DCM (3 x 15 mL), the organic layer was washed twice with H<sub>2</sub>O and brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and removed from the solvent in vacuum to give the crude product as a colorless residue. Purification via flash column chromatography on silica gel (light petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 40:1) yielded **6** as a white powder (799 mg, 2.10 mmol, 70%): m.p. 266-268 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.83 (s, 1H, *H*-1), 7.48 (dd, *J* = 7.3, 1.0, 1H, *H*-3), 7.40 (d, *J* = 7.3, 1H, *H*-4), 7.38 – 7.32 (m, 4H, *H*-5,8,11,14), 6.97 (m, 4H, *H*-6,7,12,13), 5.43 (s, 1H, *H*-10), 5.42 (s, 1H, *H*-9) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  148.7 (*C*-4a), 145.3 (*C*-8a,10a,10b,14a), 145.0, 144.8 (*C*-9a), 132.5 (*C*-3), 129.6 (*C*-1), 125.4 (*C*-6,7,12,13), 125.3

(*C*-6,7,12,13), 123.8 (*C*-5,8,11,14), 123.8 (*C*-5,8,11,14), 123.3 (*C*-4), 83.8 (O*C*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 54.5 (*C*-10), 54.2 (*C*-10), 25.0 (-*C*H3) ppm; FT IR (ATR):  $\tilde{\nu}$  3073 (w), 2991 (w), 2981 (w), 2953 (w), 1615 (w), 1603 (w), 1572 (w), 1493 (w), 1458 (m), 1417 (m), 1385 (m), 1372 (m), 1352 (s), 1327 (m), 1311 (m), 1291 (m), 1270 (m), 1215 (w), 1195 (w), 1166 (m), 1146 (s), 1121 (m), 1109 (w), 1097 (w), 1070 (m), 1022 (w), 1005 (w), 983 (w), 962 (w), 944 (w), 926 (w), 913 (w), 889 (w), 877 (w), 858 (m), 830 (w), 797 (w), 771(w), 750 (s), 738 (s), 701 (w), 683 (m), 650 (m), 634 (m), 624 (m), 612 (w) cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (DART) *m/z*: [M+NH<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>29</sub>BNO<sub>2</sub> 398.22904; Found 398.22794. Anal. calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>25</sub>BO<sub>2</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 78.40, H, 6.83. Found: C, 78.76, H, 6.57.

#### General procedure for Suzuki-Miyaura type cross coupling reactions (GP1):

In a screw capped vessel hexabromotriptycene **1** (250 mg, 344  $\mu$ mol, 1.00 equiv.) and arylboronic acid **2a-g** (6.60-9.00 equiv.) were given to 10 mL of a degased 1:1-mixture (v/v) of THF and 1M aq. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>-solution. After addition of Pd<sub>2</sub>dba<sub>3</sub> (37.8 mg, 41  $\mu$ mol, 12 mol%) and HP(*t*Bu)<sub>3</sub>BF<sub>4</sub> (29.9 mg, 103  $\mu$ mol, 30 mol%), the vessel was purged with Argon and the mixture stirred for 16 h at 80 °C. After cooling to r.t. EtOAc (10 mL) was added and the phases were separated. The organic layer was washed with saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl-solution, H<sub>2</sub>O and brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and solvents were evaporated in vacuum to give the crude product as a yellow residue. After dispersing in methanol, sonication and filtration, the product was washed with MeOH (3 x 10 mL) and pentane (3 x 20 mL) to give **3a-g** as a white powder.

**2,3,6,7,12,13-Hexa-((3'-***tert*-**butyl)phenyl)triptycene 3a**: According to **GP1** hexabromotriptycene **1** and 3-(*tert*-butyl)phenylboronic acid **2a** (500 mg, 2.84 mmol, 7.8 eq.) gave after workup **3a** as a colorless solid (266 mg, 0.25 mmol, 70%): m.p. 351 °C (under dec.); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.59 (s, 6H, tript-*H*), 7.19-7.14 (m, 12H, Ar-*H*-4',5'), 7.04 (m, 6H, Ar-*H*-6'), 6.95 (m, 6H, Ar-*H*-2'), 5.69 (s, 2H, bridgehead-*H*), 1.06 (s,

54H, -C(*CH*<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  150.4 (ArC-C(CH<sub>3</sub>)), 144.3 (tript*C*), 141.3 (tript*C*-Ar), 138.6 (Ar*C*-1'), 128.3 (Ar*C*-2'), 127.8 (Ar*C*-5'), 126.7 (ArC-6'), 125.9 (tript*C*-H), 123.1 (Ar*C*-4'), 53.4 (bridgehead-*C*), 34.5 (Ar-*C*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 31.3 (Ar-C(*C*H<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) ppm; FT IR (ATR):  $\tilde{\nu}$  2961 (m), 2904 (w), 2867 (w), 1737 (w), 1603 (w), 1580 (w), 1460 (m), 1415 (w), 1362 (m), 1268 (w), 1217 (w), 1203 (w), 1093 (w), 893 (w), 865 (w), 795 (s), 708 (s) cm<sup>-1</sup>; UV-vis  $\lambda_{max}$ /nm 251 (5.18) sh 292 (4.59); HRMS (MALDI) *m*/*z*: [M]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>80</sub>H<sub>86</sub> 1046.67240; Found 1046.67117. Anal. calcd for C<sub>80</sub>H<sub>86</sub>·1/3H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 91.21, H, 8.29. Found: C, 91.22, H, 8.14.

GP1 2,3,6,7,12,13-Hexa-((4'-tert-butyl)phenyl)triptycene **3b**: According to hexabromotriptycene 1 and 4-(tert-butyl)phenylboronic acid 2b (544 mg, 2.84 mmol, 9.0 eq.) gave after workup **3b** as a colorless solid (302 mg, 0.29 mmol, 84%): m.p. 297 °C (under dec.); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.51 (s, 6H, tript-*H*), 7.17 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 12H, Ar-*H*-3'), 7.00 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 12H, Ar-H-2'), 5.57 (s, 2H, bridgehead-H), 1.27 (s, 54H, -C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  149.1 (ArC-C(CH<sub>3</sub>)), 144.1 (triptC), 138.7 (ArC-1'), 137.7 (triptC-Ar), 129.7 (ArC-2'), 126.1 (triptC-H), 124.7 (ArC-3'), 53.4 (bridgehead-C), 34.5  $(Ar-C(CH_3)_3)$ , 31.5 ppm  $(Ar-C(CH_3)_3)$ ; FT IR  $(ATR) \tilde{v}$  3028 (w), 2961 (m), 2904 (w), 2867 (w), 1515 (w), 1462 (s), 1417 (w), 1393 (w), 1362 (m), 1268 (m), 1201 (w), 1113 (m), 1013 (w), 944 (w), 901 (w), 854 (w), 834 (s), 826 (s), 801 (w), 759 (w), 750 (w), 712 (w), 667 (w) cm<sup>-1</sup>; UV-vis  $\lambda_{max}/nm$  254 (5.15) sh 292 (4.47); HRMS (MALDI) m/z: [M]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>80</sub>H<sub>86</sub> 1046.67240; Found 1046.67203. Anal. calcd for C<sub>80</sub>H<sub>86</sub>·1/3H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 91.21, H, 8.29. Found: C, 91.27, H, 8.28.

**2,3,6,7,12,13-Hexa-(3'-methoxyphenyl)triptycene 3c**: According to **GP1** hexabromotriptycene **1** and 3-methoxyphenylboronic acid **2c** (340 mg, 2.27 mmol, 6.6 eq.) gave after workup **3c** as an off-white solid (193 mg, 0.22 mmol, 63%): m.p. 248 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.56 (s, 6H, tript-*H*), 7.11 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 6H, Ar-*H*-5'), 6.72 (m, 12H,

Ar-*H*-4',6'), 6.62 (m, 6H, Ar-*H*-2') 5.65 (s, 2H, bridgehead-*H*), 3.59 (s, 18H, OC*H*<sub>3</sub>) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  159.2 (ArC-OMe), 144.3 (tript-C), 142.9 (Ar-C-1'), 137.8 (triptC-Ar), 129.0 (ArC-5), 125.1 (triptC-H), 122.5 (ArC-4'/6'), 115.1 (ArC-2'), 112.9 (ArC-4'/6'), 55.2 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 53.3 (bridgehead-C) ppm; FT IR (ATR):  $\tilde{\nu}$  2955 (w), 2936 (w), 2832 (w), 1601 (s), 1578 (s), 1488 (w), 1466 (s), 1429 (m), 1389 (w), 1319 (w), 1287 (s), 1262 (m), 1242 (m), 1209 (s), 1177 (m), 1034 (s), 995 (w), 860 (m), 785 (s), 703 (s), 634 (w) cm<sup>-1</sup>; UVvis  $\lambda_{max}$ /nm 248 (5.04), 283 (4.55); HRMS (MALDI) *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>62</sub>H<sub>50</sub>O<sub>6</sub> 890.36019; Found 890.35953. Anal. calcd for C<sub>62</sub>H<sub>50</sub>O<sub>6</sub>: C, 83.57, H, 5.66. Found: C, 83.34, H, 5.65.

2,3,6,7,12,13-Hexa-(4'-methoxyphenyl)triptycene **3d**: According to GP1 hexabromotriptycene 1 and 4-methoxyphenylboronic acid 2d (361 mg, 2.40 mmol, 7.0 eq.) gave after workup and precipitation from  $CHCl_3$  with MeOH **3d** as an off-white solid (270 mg, 0.30 mmol, 88%): m.p. 241 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.48 (s, 6H, tript-H), 7.01 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 12H, Ar-H-3'), 6.74 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 12H, Ar-H-2'), 5.59 (s, 2H, bridgehead-H), 3.77 (s, 18H, OCH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  158.3 ppm (ArC-OMe), 144.1 (tript-C), 137.3 (triptC-Ar), 134.3 (ArC-1'), 131.1 (ArC-3'), 126.1 (triptC-H), 113.5 (ArC-2'), 55.3 (O-CH<sub>3</sub>), 53.3 (bridgehead-C) ppm; FT IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  3012 (w), 2952 (w), 2932 (w), 2832 (w), 1607 (m), 1576 (w), 1513 (s), 1462 (s), 1440 (m), 1421 (w), 1391 (w), 1289 (m), 1244 (s), 1176 (s), 1107 (w), 1044 (m), 1026 (m), 905 (w), 850 (w), 828 (s), 812 (m), 789 (m), 779 (m), 763 (w), 734 (w), 685 (w) cm<sup>-1</sup>; UV-vis  $\lambda_{max}/nm 260$  (5.04) sh 290 (4.57); HRMS (MALDI) m/z:  $[M]^+$  Calcd for C<sub>62</sub>H<sub>50</sub>O<sub>6</sub> 890.36019; Found 890.35946. Anal. calcd for C<sub>62</sub>H<sub>50</sub>O<sub>6</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 81.92, H, 5.77. Found: C, 81.54, H, 5.72.

**2,3,6,7,12,13-Hexakis-((3',4'-dimethoxyphenyl)triptycene 3e**: According to **GP1** hexabromotriptycene **1** and (3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)boronic acid **2e** (433 mg, 2.40 mmol, 7.0 eq.) gave after workup procedure **3e** as a white powder (309 mg, 0.29 mmol, 84%): m.p.

197 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.55 (s, 6H, tript-*H*), 6.74 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 6H, Ar-*H*-5'), 6.71 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.6 Hz, 6H, Ar-*H*-6'), 6.56 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 6H, Ar-*H*-2'), 5.65 (s, 2H, bridgehead-*H*), 3.84 (s, 18H, Ar-OC*H*<sub>3</sub>-4'), 3.57 (s, 18H, Ar-OC*H*<sub>3</sub>-3') ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  148.3 (ArC-OMe), 147.8 (ArC-OMe), 144.1 (tript*C*), 137.5 (tript*C*-Ar), 134.4 (ArC-1'), 125.9 (tript*C*-H), 122.0 (Ar*C*-6'), 113.6 (Ar*C*-2'), 110.9 (Ar*C*-5'), 56.0 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 55.8 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 53.3 (bridgehead-*C*) ppm; FT IR (ATR):  $\tilde{\nu}$  2991 (w), 2934 (w), 2832 (w), 1605 (w), 1578 (w), 1558 (w), 1541 (w), 1513 (s), 1464 (s), 1407 (m), 1329 (w), 1242 (s), 1170 (s), 1138 (s), 1058 (w), 1026 (s), 975 (w), 883 (m), 856 (m), 809 (m), 791 (w), 765 (m), 734 (w), 665 (w), 610 (w) cm<sup>-1</sup>; UV-vis  $\lambda_{max}/nm$  265 (4.89) sh 286 (4.78); HRMS (MALDI) *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>68</sub>H<sub>62</sub>O<sub>12</sub> 1070.42358; Found 1070.42624. Anal. calcd for C<sub>68</sub>H<sub>62</sub>O<sub>12</sub>: C, 76.24, H, 5.83. Found: C, 75.94, H, 5.65.

2,3,6,7,12,13-Hexakis-((3',5'-dimethoxyphenyl)triptycene **3f**: According GP1 to hexabromotriptycene 1 and (3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)boronic acid 2f (556 mg, 3.09 mmol, 9.0 eq.) gave after workup procedure, column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA 2:1) and precipitation from CHCl<sub>3</sub> with MeOH **3f** as a white powder (327 mg, 0.31 mmol, 89%): m.p. 345 °C (under dec.); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.55 (s, 6H, triptC-H), 6.30 (s, 18H, Ar- $H-2^{\circ},4^{\circ}$ ), 5.63 (s, 2H, bridgehead-H), 3.60 (s, 36H, Ar-OCH<sub>3</sub>-3<sup>\circ</sup>,5<sup>\circ</sup>) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  160.3 (ArC-OMe), 144.3 (ArC-1'), 143.5 (tript-C), 137.8 (triptC-Ar), 125.8 (triptC-H), 108.0 (ArC-2'), 99.4 (ArC-4'), 55.4 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 53.3 (bridgehead-C) ppm; FT IR (ATR): ν 2997 (w), 2936 (w), 2834 (w), 1588 (s), 1454 (m), 1423 (m), 1391 (m), 1350 (w), 1319 (w), 1287 (w), 1250 (w), 1203 (s), 1150 (s), 1085 (w), 1060 (s), 1038 (m), 991 (w), 930 (w), 907 (w), 891 (w), 869 (w), 834 (m), 695 (m) cm<sup>-1</sup>; UV-vis  $\lambda_{max}/nm$  240 (5.06) sh 292 (4.43); HRMS (MALDI) m/z: [M]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>68</sub>H<sub>62</sub>O<sub>12</sub> 1070.42358; Found 1070.42113. Anal. calcd for C<sub>68</sub>H<sub>62</sub>O<sub>12</sub>: C, 76.24, H, 5.83. Found: C, 76.32, H, 5.98.

**2,3,6,7,12,13-Hexaphenyltriptycene 3g**: According to **GP1** hexabromotriptycene **1** and phenylboronic acid **2g** (371 mg, 3.09 mmol, 9.0 eq.) gave after workup procedure **3g** as a white powder (227 mg, 0.32 mmol, 93%): m.p. >400 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.55 (s, 6H, tript-*H*), 7.18-7.16 (m, 18H, 3',4',5'-*H*), 7.10-7.09 (m, 12H, 2',6'-*H*), 5.65 (s, 2H, bridgehead-*H*) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  144.3 (tript-*C*), 141.6 (Ar*C*-1'), 137.9 (tript*C*-Ar), 130.1 (Ar*C*-2'), 128.0 (Ar*C*-3'), 126.5 (tript-*C*H), 126.2 (Ar*C*-4'), 53.3 (bridgehead-*C*) ppm; FT IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  3081 (w), 3059 (w), 3024 (w), 2946 (w), 1601 (w), 1495 (w), 1466 (m), 1444 (w), 1395 (w), 1262 (w), 1195 (w), 1075 (w), 1020 (w), 903 (w), 805 (w), 761 (m), 695 (s), 634 (w) cm<sup>-1</sup>; UV-vis  $\lambda_{max}/nm$  250 (4.99) sh 289 (4.35); HRMS (MALDI) m/z: [M]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>56</sub>H<sub>38</sub> 710.29680; Found 710.29800. Anal. calcd for C<sub>56</sub>H<sub>38</sub>·1/2H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 93.43, H, 5.46. Found: C, 93.50, H, 5.52.

**2,3,6,7,12,13-Hexakis-(triptycen-2'-yl)triptycene 7**: Analogue to **GP1** hexabromotriptycene **1** (110 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and 2-triptycenylboronic acid pinacol ester **6** (379 mg, 1.00 mmol, 6.60 eq.) were mixed in 5 mL 1:1 (v/v) THF/K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (1M, aq.). Pd<sub>2</sub>dba<sub>3</sub> (21 mg, 0.02 mmol, 0.15 eq.) and HP(*t*Bu)<sub>3</sub>BF<sub>4</sub> (16 mg, 0.05 mmol, 0.36 eq.) were added and heated for the given time. After standard workup procedure followed by precipitation from hot CHCl<sub>3</sub> with MeOH, **7** was obtained as a white powder (224 mg, 0.13 mmol, 84%): m.p. >400°C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.35 (m, 12H, *H*-5',11'), 7.32 (s, 6H, tript-*H*), 7.17 (m, 12H, *H*-8',14'), 7.01 (m, 30H, *H*-1', *H*-6',7',12',13'), 6.92 (d, 6H, *H*-4'), 6.44 (d, 6H, *H*-3'), 5.40 (s, 2H, bridgehead-*H*-9,10), 5.29 (s, 6H, bridgehead-*H*-9'), 5.03 (s, 6H, bridgehead-*H*-10') ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  145.5 (*C*-8'a,10'a,10'b,14'a), 145.4 (*C*-8'a,10'a,10'b,14'a), 144.9 (*C*-9'a), 144.0 (tript*C*-4a,8a,9a,10a,10b,14a), 143.4 (*C*-4'a), 138.3 (*C*-2'), 137.6 (tript*C*-tript'), 126.9 (*C*-3'), 125.9 (tript*C*-H), 125.3 (*C*-1'), 125.1 (*C*-6',7',12',13'), 123.7 (*C*-8',14'), 123.5 (*C*-5',11'), 123.0 (*C*-4'), 54.1 (bridgehead-*C*-10'), 53.8 (bridgehead-*C*-9'), 53.2 (bridgehead-*C*-9,10) ppm; FT IR (ATR):  $\tilde{\nu}$  3065 (w), 3038 (w), 3018 (w), 2955 (w), 1711 (w), 1456 (s), 1417 (w), 1387 (w), 1360 (w), 1313 (w), 1295 (w), 1283 (w), 1217 (w), 1187 (w), 1158 (w), 1119 (w), 1087 (w), 1022 (w), 934 (w), 922 (w), 901 (w), 881 (w), 860 (w), 828 (w), 795 (w), 783 (w), 738 (s), 708 (w), 669 (w), 661 (w), 630 (s), 624 (s) cm<sup>-1</sup>; UV-vis  $\lambda_{\text{max}}/\text{nm}$  267 (5.28) sh 292 (4.50); MS (MALDI) *m/z* 1767.69 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. calcd for C<sub>140</sub>H<sub>86</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 94.14, H, 4.97. Found: C, 93.77, H, 5.10.

#### General procedure for Scholl oxidative cyclodehydration reactions (GP2):

In a flame dried and argon purged Schlenk flask, 1 mL MeSO<sub>3</sub>H was added dropwise to a solution of **3a-c** in 9 mL dry DCM and DDQ (3.3-5.0 equiv.) was added in one portion under ice-bath cooling. After stirring for 5-20 minutes at 0 °C or r.t. the reaction was stopped by pouring the dark green to blue mixture into 25-50 mL of a saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, which was stirred vigorously for another 20 minutes. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous phase extracted with DCM (2 x 15 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed twice with water (20 mL) and brine (20 mL), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to give the crude product **4a-f** as an off-white to brownish residue.

#### 10,21-((6',11'-Di-tert-butyl)triphenylen-2',3'-yl)-10,21-dihydro-(2,7,13,18-tetra-tert-

**butyl)tetrabenzo[a,c,l,n]pentacene 4a**: According to **GP2** DDQ (26.2 mg, 115 μmol, 3.5 eq.) was added to a solution of **3a** (35 mg, 33 μmol, 1.0 eq.) in DCM/MeSO<sub>3</sub>H and stirred 10 min at 0 °C. After workup the crude product was washed with *n*-hexane and *n*-pentane, to obtain **4a** as a colourless solid (21.5 mg, 21 μmol, 62%); m.p. > 400 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.93 (s, 6H, *H*-1',4',9,11,20,22), 8.70 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 6H, *H*-5',12',1, 8,12,19), 8.50 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 6H, *H*-8',9',4,5,15,16), 7.66 (dd, J = 8.6, 1.5 Hz, 6H, *H*-7',10',3,6,14,17), 6.55 (s, 2H, bridgehead-*H*), 1.54 (s, 54H, -C(C*H*<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 149.3 (*C*-6',10',2,7,13,18), 143.1 (*C*-2',3',9a,10a,20a,21a), 129.2 (*C*-4'b,12'a,8a,11b,19a,22b), 128.4 (*C*-4'a,12'b,8b,11a,19b,22a), 127.6 (*C*-8'a,8'b,4a,4b,15a,15b), 124.9 (*C*-

7',10',3,6,14,17), 123.0 (*C*-8',9',4,5,15,16), 119.3 (*C*-5',12',1,8,12,19), 118.5 (*C*-1',4',9,11,20,22), 54.3 (bridgehead-*C*), 35.2 (*C*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 31.7 (*C*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) ppm; FT IR (ATR):  $\tilde{\nu}$  2953 (s), 2902 (m), 2867 (w), 1615 (w), 1493 (m), 1484 (m), 1460 (m), 1405 (m), 1362 (m), 1262 (s), 1203 (w), 1128 (w), 969 (w), 879 (m), 814 (s), 779 (w), 728 (m), 665 (w), 646 (w), 632 (m) cm<sup>-1</sup>; UV-vis  $\lambda_{max}$ /nm 266 (5.31), 277 (5.22), 318 (4.65) ; MS (MALDI) *m/z* 1041.63 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. calcd for C<sub>80</sub>H<sub>80</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 90.69, H, 7.80. Found: C, 90.55, H, 7.79.

#### 10,21-((7',10'-Di-tert-butyl)triphenylen-2',3'-yl)-10,21-dihydro-(3,6,14,17-tetra-tert-

butyl)tetrabenzo[a,c,l,n]pentacene 4b: According to GP2 DDQ (26.2 mg, 115 µmol, 3.5 eq.) was added to a solution of **3b** (35 mg, 33 µmol, 1.0 eq.) in DCM/MeSO<sub>3</sub>H and stirred 12 min at 0 °C. After workup the crude product was washed with *n*-hexane and *n*-pentane giving a colourless solid. After precipitation from hot CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH 4b was obtained as a white powder (23 mg, 21 µmol, 67%); m.p. > 400 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.80 (s, 6H, H-1',4',9,11,20,22), 8.62 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 6H, H-5',12',1,8,12,19), 8.60 (s, 6H, H-8',9',4,5,15,16), 7.70 (dd, J = 8.7, 2.0 Hz, 6H, H-6',10',2,7,13,18), 6.15 (s, 2H, bridgehead-H), 1.49 (s, 54H,  $-C(CH_3)_3$ ) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  149.4 (C-7',10',3,6,14,17), 143.0 (C-2',3',9a,10a,20a,21a), 129.6 (C-8'a,8'b,4a,4b,15a,15b), 127.8 (C-4'b,12'a,8a,11b,19a,22b/4'a,12'b,8b,11a,19b,22a), 127.7 (*C*-4'b,12'a,8a,11b, 19a,22b/4'a,12'b,8b,11a,19b,22a), 125.0 (C-6',10',2,7,13,18), 123.2 (C-5',12',1,8,12,19),119.0 (C-8',9',4,5,15,16), 118.4 (C-1',4',9,11,20,22), 54.5 (bridgehead-C), 35.1 (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 31.6 (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) ppm; FT IR (ATR):  $\tilde{\nu}$  2961 (s), 2904 (w), 2867 (w), 1741 (w), 1717 (w), 1615 (w), 1582 (w), 1542 (w), 1513 (w), 1470 (s), 1417 (m), 1401 (m), 1362 (m), 1305 (w), 1264 (s), 1217 (w), 1203 (w), 1174 (w), 1144 (w), 1111 (w), 1042 (w), 1022 (w), 946 (w), 934 (w), 922 (w), 909 (w), 879 (s), 852 (w), 840 (w), 812 (s), 787 (w), 742 (w), 720 (w), 699 (w), 683 (w), 669 (w), 646 (w), 634 (w), 606 (s) cm<sup>-1</sup>; UV-vis  $\lambda_{max}/nm$  268 (5.25), 279 (5.25), 339

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#### 10,21-(6',11'-Dimethoxytriphenylen-2',3'-yl)-10,21-dihydro-(2,7,13,18-tetramethoxy)-

tetrabenzo[a,c,l,n]pentacene 4c: To a solution of 3c (29 mg, 33 µmol, 1.0 eq.) in dry DCM (9 mL) and methanesulfonic acid (1 mL), DDQ (37 mg, 165 µmol, 5.0 eq.) was added and stirred 10 min at 0 °C. After quenching and standard workup the crude product was washed with *n*-hexane and *n*-pentane. Purification via column chromatography on silica gel (toluene/ethyl acetate) gave 4c as an off-white solid (15 mg, 17  $\mu$ mol, 51%); m.p. > 400 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz,  $C_2D_2Cl_4$ ):  $\delta$  8.71 (s, 6H, H-1<sup>'</sup>, 4<sup>'</sup>, 9, 11, 20, 22), 8.38 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 6H, H-8',9',4,5,15,16, 8.02 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 6H, H-5',12',1,8,12,19), 7.19 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.5 Hz, 6H, H-7',10',3,6,14,17), 6.18 (s, 2H, bridgehead-H), 4.02 (s, 18H, OCH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, C<sub>2</sub>D<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub>): δ 158.2 (C-6',10',2,7,13,18), 143.2 (C-2',3',9a,10a,20a,21a), 130.0 (C-4'b,12'a,8a,11b,19a,22b), 128.0 (C-4'a,12'b,8b,11a,19b,22a), 124.6 (C-8',9',4,5,15,16), 124.0 (C-8'a,8'b,4a,4b,15a,15b), 118.7 (C-1',4',9,11,20,22), 115.8 (C-7',10',3,6,14,17), 106.0 (C-5',12',1,8,12,19), 55.8 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 54.1 (bridgehead-C) ppm; FT IR (ATR):  $\tilde{\nu}$  2959 (w), 2930 (w), 2832 (w), 1711 (w), 1613 (s), 1582 (w), 1495 (s), 1462 (m), 1452 (m), 1429 (m), 1413 (s), 1299 (w), 1270 (m), 1234 (s), 1205 (m), 1174 (m), 1148 (w), 1111 (m), 1101 (m), 1046 (s), 999 (w), 973 (w), 881 (m), 850 (m), 836 (m), 801 (s), 781 (m), 716 (w), 683 (w),  $622 \text{ (w) cm}^{-1}$ ; UV-vis  $\lambda_{\text{max}}/\text{nm}$  272 (4.63), 321 (4.04), 348 (3.37), 367 (3.34); HRMS (MALDI) m/z: [M]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>62</sub>H<sub>44</sub>O<sub>6</sub> 884.31379; Found 884.31526. Anal. calcd for C<sub>62</sub>H<sub>44</sub>O<sub>6</sub>·2.5 H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 80.07, H, 5.31. Found: C, 79.80, H, 5.18.

## 10,21-(6',7',10',11'-Tetramethoxytriphenylen-2',3'-yl)-10,21-dihydro-

(2,3,6,7,13,14,17,18-octamethoxy)tetrabenzo[a,c,l,n]pentacene 4e: To a solution of 3e (106 mg, 99 μmol, 1.0 eq.) in dry DCM (30 mL) and methanesulfonic acid (3 mL), DDQ (74 mg, 327 μmol, 3.3 eq.) was added and stirred 10 min at 0 °C. After quenching and standard

workup the crude product was washed with MeOH and *n*-pentane. The crude product was further purified by recrystallization from hot CHCl<sub>3</sub> and 4c was obtained as colorless crystalline solid (51 mg, 48  $\mu$ mol, 48%); m.p. > 400 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, C<sub>2</sub>D<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub>, 373 K): δ 8.66 (s, 6H, H-1',4',9,11,20,22), 8.09 (s, 6H, H-8',9',4,5,15,16), 7.82 (s, 6H, H-5',12',1,8,12,19), 6.17 (s, 2H, bridgehead-H), 4.17 (s, 18H, OCH<sub>3</sub>-7',10',3,6,14,17), 4.08 (s, 18H, OCH<sub>3</sub>-6',11',2,7,13,18) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, C<sub>2</sub>D<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub>, 373 K):  $\delta$  150.0  $(C-7^{,},10^{,},3,6,14,17), 149.6$   $(C-6^{,},11^{,},2,7,13,18), 142.4$   $(C-2^{,},3^{,},9a,10a,20a,21a), 126.9$ (*C*-4'a,12'b,8b,11a,19b,22a), 124.4 (*C*-8'a,8'b,4a,4b,15a,15b), 123.9 (C-4'b,12'a,8a,11b,19a,22b), 117.7 (C-1',4',9,11,20,22), 106.7 (C-8',9',4,5,15,16) , 106.1 (C-5',12',1,8,12,19), 56.7 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 56.5 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 54.3 (bridgehead-C) ppm; FT IR (ATR):  $\tilde{\nu}$ 2993 (w), 2932 (w), 2826 (w), 1739 (w), 1713 (w), 1617 (m), 1509 (s), 1493 (m), 1462 (m), 1448 (m), 1415 (s), 1382 (w), 1333 (w), 1258 (s), 1211 (s), 1197 (s), 1170 (m), 1148 (s), 1036 (s), 975 (w), 956 (w), 899 (w), 875 (w), 838 (s), 816 (m), 789 (w), 765 (m), 722 (w), 683 (w), 618 (s) cm<sup>-1</sup>; UV-vis  $\lambda_{max}/nm$  283 (5.30), 314 (4.95), 327 (4.94) sh 347 (4.22); HRMS (MALDI) m/z: [M]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>68</sub>H<sub>56</sub>O<sub>12</sub> 1064.37663; Found 1064.37334. Anal. calcd for C<sub>68</sub>H<sub>56</sub>O<sub>12</sub>·1.5 H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 74.78, H, 5.45. Found: C, 74.85, H, 5.51.

# 10,21-[6',7',10',11'-Di(9'',10''-dihydroanthracen-9'',10''-yl)triphenylen-2',3'-yl]-10,21dihydro-(2,3,6,7,13,14,17,18-tetra(9'',10''-dihydroanthracen-9'',10''-

yl)tetrabenzo[a,c,l,n]pentacene 8: To a solution of 7 (30 mg, 17 μmol, 1.0 eq.) in dry DCM (9 mL) and methanesulfonic acid (1 mL), DDQ (13.5 mg, 59 μmol, 3.5 eq.) was added and stirred 15 min at 0 °C. After quenching and standard workup the crude product was washed with *n*-hexane and *n*-pentane giving a colourless solid (22 mg, 13 μmol, 74%); m.p. > 400 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.69 (s, 6H, *H*-1',4',9,11,20,22), 8.58 (s, 6H, *H*-5',12',1,8,12,19), 8.50 (s, 6H, *H*-8',9',4,5,15,16), 7.47 – 7.42 (m, 24H, *H*-1'',4'',5'',8''), 7.03 – 6.98 (m, 24H, *H*-2'',3'',6'',7''H), 6.04 (s, 2H, core bridgehead-*H*-10,21), 5.62 (s, 6H,

 bridgehead-H-9"), 5.59 (s. 6H. bridgehead-H-10") ppm: <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  145.1 (C-4''a,8''a,9''a,10''a), 143.2 (C-6',11',2,7,13,18/7',10',3,6,14,17), 143.2 (C-6',11',2,7,13,18/7',10',3,6,14,17), 142.6  $(C-2^{\prime}, 3^{\prime}, 9a, 10a, 20a, 21a),$ 127.8 (C-4'a,12'b,8b,11a,19b,22a), 127.5 (C-4'b,12'a,8a,11b,19a,22b/8'a,8'b,4a,4b,15a,15b), 127.4 (C-4'b,12'a,8a,11b,19a,22b/8'a,8'b,4a,4b,15a,15b), 125.5 (C-2'',3'',6'',7''), 123.9 (C- $1^{,,4^{,,5^{,}},8^{,,0}}$ , 118.2 (C-1<sup>,4^{,}</sup>,9,11,20,22), 118.0 (C-5<sup>,12^{,}</sup>,18,12,19), 118.0 (C-8',9',4,5,15,16), 54.4 (core bridgehead C-10,21), 54.4 (bridgehead C-9''), 54.3 (bridgehead *C*-10'') ppm; FT IR (ATR):  $\tilde{\nu}$  3067 (w), 3040 (w), 3020 (w), 2953 (w), 2924 (w), 1737 (w), 1711 (w), 1680 (w), 1588 (w), 1472 (w), 1458 (m), 1423 (m), 1376 (w), 1338 (w), 1295 (w), 1260 (w), 1203 (w), 1189 (w), 1164 (w), 1156 (w), 1093 (w), 1024 (w), 1001 (w), 973 (w), 934 (w), 920 (w), 881 (m), 797 (w), 740 (s), 689 (w), 669 (w), 634 (m), 626 (s) cm<sup>-1</sup>: UV-vis  $\lambda_{\text{max}}/\text{nm}$  282 (5.29), 312 (4.99), 323 (4.96) sh 345 (4.40); MS (MALDI) m/z 1761.64 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>; Anal. calcd for C<sub>140</sub>H<sub>80</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 93.51, H, 4.71. Found: C, 93.48, H, 4.70.

# Acknowledgement

The authors would like to thank 'Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft' and 'Fonds der Chemischen Industrie' for financial support. We would like to thank Michael Ganschow for preliminary experiments.

# **Supporting Information**

The Supporting Information contains <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C and 2D NMR-spectra of all new compounds (**3a-3g**, **4a-4c**, **4e**, **5-8**). Furthermore single crystal X-ray diffraction data (and cif-files) of **3a**, **3b** and **4e** have been provided. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <u>http://pubs.acs.org/</u>.

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