

Ru(0)-Catalyzed Straightforward Synthesis of Conjugated Tetraenes: An Approach using Two Internal Alkynes with 1,3-Butadiene

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Supporting Information

ABSTRACT: The Ru(0)-catalyzed straightforward synthesis of conjugated tetraenes has been achieved in up to 85% yield by coupling of 2 equiv of internal alkynes with 1,3-butadiene at room temperature. The stoichiometric reaction of $[Ru(\eta^4-cisoid-1,3-butadiene)(\eta^4-1,5-COD)-$ (NCMe)] with 2 equiv of 3-hexyne produces a tetraene complex of ² R Ru(0), $[Ru{3-6-\eta^{4}-(3E,5E,7E,9E)-4,9-diethyldodeca-3,5,7,9-tetraene}]$ - $(\eta^{4}-1,5-\text{COD})(\text{NCMe})]$, in 98% yield, which releases the conjugated tetraene ligand in 92% yield by exposure to 1,3-butadiene.



Conjugated tetraenes are important substructures of many biologically active and natural products.¹ Wittig and Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons reactions² are conventional methods of choice for their preparation. However, these reactions require repetition of the subsequent reduction of the resulting ester to a primary alcohol and partial oxidation to the corresponding aldehyde to expand further C=C bonds. Takahashi and coworkers reported stoichiometric synthesis of conjugated tetraenes from zirconacyclopentadiene.³ The catalytic approaches involve combination of Sonogashira coupling and subsequent reduction of the alkynyl fragment (Scheme 1a).⁴ This method contains the (Z)-C=C substructure resulting from the partial hydrogenation of the $C \equiv C$ bond. The most used catalytic approach is presumably Suzuki-Miyaura coupling (Scheme 1b).⁵ This method employs trienyl halide, which is normally prepared by a stoichiometric Wittig reaction, or dienyl halide, with an alkenyl- or dienylborane. Therefore, the overall step and atom efficiency are limited. Satoh, Miura, and co-worker documented an interesting three-component coupling among dienyl bromide, diphenylacetylene, and an acrylate (Scheme 1c).⁶ Because they showed only one synthetic example, the scope and limitation of this reaction are not clear. In 1977, Pauson and Khand reported the stoichiometric reaction of $[Co_2(\mu-PhC \equiv CPh)(CO)_6]$ with 3-sulfolene to produce 1,2,7,8-tetraphenyloctateteraene in 12% yield (eq 1).⁷ In this paper, we report the catalytic approach to conjugated tetraenes from two internal alkynes with 1,3-butadiene catalyzed by a Ru(0) complex (Scheme 1d).





Scheme 1. Catalytic Approaches to Conjugated Tetraenes (a) Sonogashira Coupling



(b) Suzuki-Miyaura Coupling



(c) 3 Component Coupling



RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

We recently reported the direct coupling of internal alkenes with 1-substituted 1,3-dienes to give conjugated trienes catalyzed by $[\text{Ru}(\eta^6\text{-naphthalene})(\eta^4\text{-}1,5\text{-COD})]$ (1).⁸ When this strategy was extended to 1,3-butadiene, the terminal C1



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and C4 carbons in 1,3-butadiene both reacted with internal alkynes to give conjugated tetraenes with perfect regio- and stereoselectivity (Table 1).⁹

Table 1. Reactions of Internal Alkyes 2 with 1,3-Butadiene (3) Catalyzed by 1^a



^aTypical conditions: **1** (20 mol %), **2** (0.24 mmol), **3** (0.11 mmol), room temperature, time 1 day. Yields were estimated by ¹H NMR using triphenylmethane or dibenzyl as an internal standard. ^bSolvent toluene- d_8 . ^cTemperature 30 °C. ^dSolvent dichloromethane- d_2 . ^eSolvent acetone- d_6 . ^f**1** (5 mol %). ^gTemperature 18 °C. ^hTemperature 50 °C. ⁱTime 5 days. ^jTime 3 days. ^k**1** (10 mol %), time 14 h. ^l**1** (10 mol %), **2** (0.13 mmol), **3** (0.055 mmol). ^m**2** (0.13 mmol), **3** (0.055 mmol), time 3 days. ⁿNMR resonances for **5h** were obscured by overlapping with unidentified resonances. **5h** was tentatively identified by the characteristic terminal dienyl resonances.

Treatment of 2 equiv of 2,9-dimethyldeca-5-yne (2a) with 1,3-butadiene (3) in the presence of a catalytic amount of 1 (20 mol % based on 3) at room temperature in benzene produced (5E,7E,9E,11E)-2,15-dimethyl-6,11-isopentylhexadeca-5,7,9,11tetraene (4a) in 85% yield along with (3E,5E)-9-methyl-5isopentyldeca-1,3,5-triene (5a) in 13% yield (Table 1, entry 1). Compounds 4a and 5a can be separated by recycling HPLC (GPC) using chloroform as the eluent. Conjugated tetraene 4a was fully characterized by ¹H and ¹³C{¹H} NMR and HRMS (APCI), and the stereochemistry was confirmed by a pNOESY experiment. This reaction also proceeded in toluene, dichloromethane, and acetone, but benzene was the most promising solvent among them (entries 2-4). With low catalyst loading (5 mol %), the formation of 5a was promoted and no significant improvement was observed at 50 °C (entries 5 and 6). Although the reason for the catalysis with low catalyst loading to encourage the formation of conjugated triene 5a is not clear, one of the possible explanations is that the conjugated triene ligand is liberated from an intermediate but the low catalyst concentration discourages the subsequent reaction to give a tetraene. Although similar reactions using alkylacetylenes

dominantly produced tetraenes (entries 7–9), the reaction using 2-butyne (**2e**) gave the coupling products in modest yield and the concomitant [2 + 2 + 2] cyclotrimerization product was observed (entry 10). This fact shows the cyclotrimerization of alkynes to be a potential side reaction in this process. With diphenylacetylene (**2f**), the tetraene product (1*Z*,3*E*,5*E*,7*Z*)-1,2,7,8-tetraphenylocta-1,3,5,7-tetraene (**4f**) exclusively deposited from the reaction mixture (entry 11). Electron-deficient diarylacetylene gave the coupling product in low yield (entries 13 and 14). Note that reactions using 1-substituted butadiene such as 1,3-pentadiene produced conjugated trienes and those using 2-substituted butadiene such as isoprene and 2,3dimethylbutadiene shut down the catalysis.⁸ Reactions using terminal alkynes gave complex mixtures. These are limitations of the present catalysis.

Treatment of 3-hexyne (2d) with 3 in a 1/1 ratio in the presence of a catalytic amount of 1 (10 mol %) produced a mixture of tetraene 4d (17%) and triene 5d (43%). Further addition of 1 equiv of 2d to this mixture increased 4d (50%) with a decrease in 5d (5%). This experiment suggests that the conjugated triene does react with an added alkyne to produce tetraene.

When $[1,1,4,4-{}^{2}H_{4}]-1,3$ -butadiene $(3-d_{4})$ was employed in the reaction with 2a, $[5,7,10,12-{}^{2}H_{4}]$ -4a- d_{4} was observed by ${}^{1}H$



and ²H{¹H} NMR along with the triene (eq 2 and Figure 1). In ¹H NMR spectrum of 4a- d_4 , the AA'BB' pattern assignable to 7- and 10-CH almost completely disappeared, and the 8- and 9-CH resonances appeared as a singlet. Consistently, the 4- and 13-CH₂ protons, which were observed as a doublet of triplets for 4a, changed to a triplet. The deuterium contents were estimated to be up to 98 atom % D for 7- and 10-CH and 87 atom % D for 5- and 12-CH in 4a- d_4 .

This result is regarded as a formal syn addition of the C-H bond in butadiene to internal alkynes.

A stoichiometric reaction of $[\text{Ru}(\eta^4\text{-}cisoid\text{-}1,3\text{-}butadiene)(\eta^4\text{-}1,5\text{-}COD)(NCMe)]$ (6)¹⁰ with 2d in benzene- d_6 quickly gave a transient intermediate at room temperature, which was supposed to be a conjugated triene complex along with the tetraene complex $[\text{Ru}\{3-6\cdot\eta^4\cdot(3E,5E,7E,9E)\cdot4,9\text{-}diethyldode-ca-3,5,7,9\text{-}tetraene\}(\eta^4\text{-}1,5\text{-}COD)(NCMe)]$ (7), and all species were eventually converted into 7 in 98% yield within 5 min (Scheme 2). Complex 7 has a conjugated tetraene ligand, whose stereochemistry was unequivocally determined by a pNOESY experiment. The methine resonances in the tetraene ligand are observed in benzene- d_6 at δ 0.78 (dd, J = 7.4, 4.6 Hz, 3-CH), 1.78 (dd, J = 9.7, 8.0 Hz, 6-CH), 5.06 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 5-



Figure 1. ¹H NMR spectra in the region of alkenyl and methylene protons for 4a (a) and $4a \cdot d_4$ (b) in C_6D_6 .





CH), 5.38 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 10-CH), 5.94 (dd, J = 15.5, 9.7 Hz, 7-CH), and 6.18 (d, J = 15.5 Hz, 8-CH). The methylene protons in the 2-position and in the 4-ethyl group were observed as diastereotopic protons, consistent with the coordination of the tetraene fragment to Ru.

A 3H broad resonance at δ 0.83–0.88 suggests coordination of an acetonitrile ligand. Further treatment of 7 with 2.5 equiv of 1,3-butadiene (3) released conjugated tetraene 4d in 92% yield along with *supine,prone*-bis(η^3 -allylic)ruthenium(II) complex 8. Because 8 is formed by the independent reaction of 6 with 3 (Scheme 3),¹¹ the observation of 8 suggests regeneration of 6 from 7.

On the other hand, the tetraene complex 7 did not release 4d even when 5 equiv of 3-hexyne (2d) was added. 7 gradually decomposed at room temperature; after 10 h it became an unidentified complex mixture, in which conjugated tetraene 4d was not observed.

Article

Scheme 3. Formation of *supine,prone*-8 by the Oxidative Coupling between *cisoid*- and *transoid*-Butadiene Ligands on Ru(0)



All of these catalytic and stoichiometric reactions and isotopic labeling experiments are consistent with the mechanism shown in Scheme 4, for the reaction of 3-hexyne (2d) with 3 as a typical example.^{8,12}

Scheme 4. Possible Mechanism for Conjugated Tetraene Synthesis Catalyzed by a Ru(0) Complex



First of all, the 6π naphthalene ligand in 1 was readily displaced by 4π butadiene (3) and 2π 3-hexyne (2d), giving A to satisfy the 18e rule. The excellent substrate selectivity in this reaction comes from this identification on the basis of coordination numbers. Then, the oxidative coupling reaction occurs to give B.¹³ The subsequent β -hydride elimination selectively occurs from the H_{endo} methylene protons by rotation of the resulting C–C single bonds. This diastereotopic selectivity determines the stereoselectivity to give the (*E*)-C==C bond. After the reductive elimination giving D, the second 2d comes to the Ru center to produce E probably by the same mechanism noted in the processes from A to D. Because Fukumoto and Mashima have documented facile migration of the RuClCp fragment on the conjugated polyenes,¹⁴ migration of the coordinated Ru(η^4 -1,5-COD) fragment on the conjugated tetraene ligand is probably facile

and it finally settles into the most stable position. Note that we observed 7, which strongly supports E. Finally, reaction of 2d and 3 with E liberates the conjugated tetraene 4d with regeneration of A.

Conjugated triene, a side product in this reaction, is probably liberated from **D**. According to the stoichiometric reaction shown in Scheme 2, there is presumably no need to liberate the conjugated triene ligand from **D**, although a coupling reaction using a bulky alkyne such as 2,9-dimethyldeca-5-yne (2a) may be prone to liberate the conjugated triene ligand. In either event, the present study shows that the conjugated triene can get back in the catalytic cycle again.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

In summary, we have developed a new protocol for conjugated tetraene synthesis by the Ru(0)-catalyzed direct coupling of internal alkynes with 1,3-butadiene. This is the most direct approach to conjugated tetraene ever reported, which can start from commercially available reagents.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

General Procedures. All procedures described in this paper were carried out under a nitrogen or argon atmosphere by use of Schlenk and vacuum line techniques. Benzene was dried and purified using a Glass Contour Ultimate Solvent System. Benzene- d_6 and toluene- d_8 were dried over sodium wire and stored under vacuum, and they were transferred into an NMR tube or a 25 mL Schlenk tube by vacuum distillation prior to use. Chloroform-d was used as received. Dichloromethane- d_2 and acetone- d_6 were derived over Drierite and P2O10, respectively, and were distilled under reduced pressure. 2,9-Dimethyldeca-5-yne (2a), 5-decyne (2b), 4-octyne (2c), 3-hexyne (2d), 2-butyne (2e), and diphenylacetylene (2f) were purchased from the commercial suppliers and stored under a nitrogen atmosphere after three freeze-pump-thaw cycles. 1,3-Butadiene (3) was purchased from commercial suppliers and was used as received. [Ru(η^6 naphthalene)(η^{4} -1,5-COD)] (1) and diarylacetylenes 2g-i were prepared according to literature procedures.^{15–19} ¹H, ²H{¹H}, ¹³C- 1 ¹H}, and 19 F 1 H} NMR spectra were measured on a JEOL ECX-400P spectrometer (400 MHz for ¹H). Some coupling constants for multiplet resonances were estimated by gNMR.²⁰ GC and GC-MS were performed on Shimadzu GC-2014 (FID) and Shimadzu GCMS-2010 (EI) instruments, respectively, equipped with a TC-1 column $(0.25 \text{ mm i.d.} \times 30 \text{ m})$. HRMS(APCI) analysis was performed on a Bruker Daltonics micrOTOF-QII instrument. Preparative scale HPLC was performed with a Japan Analytical Industry LaboACE LC-5060 instrument equipped with JAIGEL-1H and JAIGEL-2HR tandem columns using chloroform as the eluent.

Typical Reaction of 2,9-Dimethyldeca-5-yne (2a) with 1,3-Butadiene (3). Complex 1 (7.43 mg, 0.0220 mmol) was placed in an NMR tube under a nitrogen atmosphere, and 2,9-dimethyldeca-5-yne (2a; 52.0 μ L, 0.242 mmol) and C₆D₆ (600 μ L) were added. To the solution was added 1,3-butadiene (3; 2.44 mL, 0.109 mmol) by a hypodermic syringe at room temperature. The mixture was allowed to react at room temperature for 1 day, during which time the reaction was monitored by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. In order to determine the yield of the product, dibenzyl (6.35 mg, 0.0348 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture as an internal standard. The yield of (SE,7E,9E,11E)-2,15-dimethyl-6,11-isopentylhexadeca-5,7,9,11-tetraene (4a) was estimated as 85% along with (3E,5E)-9-methyl-5isopentyldeca-1,3,5-triene (5a) in 13% yield. The reaction mixture was purified by a recycle HPLC to obtain a pale brown oil of 4a (18.5 mg, 0.0478 mmol) in 44% yield.

Similar treatments using 5 mol % of 1 in benzene- d_6 at 18 and 50 °C and treatments using 20 mol % of 1 in toluene- d_8 , dichloromethane- d_2 , acetone- d_6 at 30 °C produced 4a and 5a, as shown in Table 1.



(5E,7E,9E,11E)-4a

¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆, room temperature): δ 0.88 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 6.8 Hz, 12H, 1-, 16-, 17- and 28-CH₃), 0.93 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 6.8 Hz, 12H, 21-, 22-, 26- and 27-CH₃), 1.27 (dt, ³J_{H-H} = 8.8, 6.8 Hz, 4H, 3- and 14-CH₂), 1.48 (AA'XX'Y, ²J_{H-H} = -10 Hz, ³J_{H-H} = 8.7, 6.5 Hz, 4H, 19- and 24-CH₂), 1.53 (n, ³J_{H-H} = 6.8 Hz, 2H, 20- and 25-CH) 1.58 (n, ³J_{H-H} = 6.8 Hz, 2H, 2- and 15-CH), 2.16 (dt, ³J_{H-H} = 8.4, 7.2 Hz, 4H, 4- and 13-CH₂), 2.36 (AA'XX', ²J_{H-H} = -10 Hz, ³J_{H-H} = 8.7, 6.5 Hz, 4H, 18- and 23-CH₂), 5.50 (t, ³J_{H-H} = 7.2 Hz, 2H, 5- and 12-CH), 6.37 (AA'BB', ³J_{H-H} = 17.5, ⁴J_{H-H} = 0.5 Hz, ⁵J_{H-H} = 0.1 Hz, 2H, 7- and 10-CH), 6.53 (AA'BB', ³J_{H-H} = 17.5, 10.5 Hz, ⁴J_{H-H} = 0.1 Hz, 2H, 7- and 9-CH). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100.5 MHz, C₆D₆, room temperature): δ 22.67, 22.69, 25.2, 26.6, 28.0, 28.8, 38.8, 39.3, 127.4, 133.1, 136.3, 139.4. HRMS(APCI): C₂₈H₅₀ (386.39) *m*/z 387.3972 (M + 1H)⁺, calcd for C₂₈H₅₁ 387.3951.



(3E,5E)-5a

¹H NMR (400 MHz, C_6D_6 , room temperature): δ 0.85 (12H, 10-, 14-, 15- and 16-CH₃, overlapped with signals for 4a), 1.2–1.3 (m, 4H, 8- and 12-CH₂, overlapped with signals for 4a), 1.5–1.7 (2H, 9- and 13-CH₂, overlapped with signals for 4a), 2.1 (2H, 7-CH₂, overlapped with signals for 4a), 2.25 (m, 2H, 11-CH₂), 5.01 (dd, ³J_{H-H} = 9.8 Hz, ²J_{H-H} = 1.6 Hz, 1H, 1-CH), 5.18 (dd, ³J_{H-H} = 16.0, ²J_{H-H} = 1.6 Hz, 1H, 1-CH), 5.44 (t, ³J_{H-H} = 7.4 Hz, 1H, 6-CH), 6.21 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 15.0 Hz, 1H, 4-CH), 6.3–6.5 (2H, 3- and 2-CH, overlapped with signals for 4a).

Reaction of 5-Decyne (2b) with 1,3-Butadiene (3). (5E,7E,9E,11E)-6,11-Dibutylhexadeca-5,7,9,11-tetraene (4b): pale brown oil, 60% yield.



(5E,7E,9E,11E)-4b

¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆, room temperature): δ 0.88 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.6 Hz, 6H, 1- and 16-CH₃), 0.90 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.2 Hz, 6H, 20- and 24-CH₃), 1.24–1.40 (m, 12H, 2-, 3-, 14-, 15-, 19- and 23-CH₂), 1.52 (pseudo quint, 4H, 18- and 22-CH₂), 2.13 (q, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.4 Hz, 4H, 4- and 13-CH₂), 2.33 (pseudo t, 4H, 17- and 21-CH₂), 5.50 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.4 Hz, 2H, 5- and 12-CH), 6.33 (AA'BB', ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 16.5 Hz, ${}^{4}J_{H-H} =$ 0.1 Hz, 2H, 7- and 10-CH), 6.49 (AA'BB', ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 16.5, 11.0 Hz, ${}^{4}J_{H-H} =$ 0.1 Hz, 2H, 8- and 9-CH). ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ NMR (100.5 MHz, C₆D₆, room temperature): δ 14.21, 14.24, 22.8, 23.3,





(3E,5E)-5b

¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆, room temperature): δ 0.86 (t, ³J_{H-H} = 7.6 Hz, 3H, 10-CH₃), 0.86 (t, ³J_{H-H} = 7.6 Hz, 3H, 14-CH₃), 1.20–1.38 (m, 6H, 8-, 9- and 13-CH₂), 1.44 (quint, ³J_{H-H} = 7.6 Hz, 2H, 12-CH₂), 2.07 (q, ³J_{H-H} = 7.2 Hz, 2H, 7-CH₂), 2.19 (t, ³J_{H-H} = 7.6 Hz, 2H, 11-CH₂), 5.02 (dd, ³J_{H-H} = 10.0 Hz, ²J_{H-H} = 1.6 Hz, 1H, 1-CH), 5.18 (dd, ³J_{H-H} = 16.4, ²J_{H-H} = 1.6 Hz, 1H, 1-CH), 5.45 (t, ³J_{H-H} = 7.2 Hz, 1H, 6-CH), 6.21 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 15.6 Hz, 1H, 4-CH), 6.33 (dd, ³J_{H-H} = 15.6, 10.4 Hz, 1H, 3-CH), 6.43 (dt, ³J_{H-H} = 16.4, 10.4 Hz, 1H, 2-CH).

Reaction of 4-Octyne (2c) with 1,3-Butadiene (3). (4E,6E,8E,10E)-5,10-Dipropyltetradeca-4,6,8,10-tetraene (4c): pale brown oil, 57% yield.



(4E,6E,8E,10E)-4c

¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆, room temperature): δ 0.88 (t, ³J_{H-H} = 7.2 Hz, 6H, 1- and 14-CH₃), 0.92 (t, ³J_{H-H} = 7.2 Hz, 6H, 17- and 20-CH₃), 1.35 (sext, ³J_{H-H} = 7.5 Hz, 4H, 2- and 13-CH₂), 1.53 (sext, ³J_{H-H} = 7.5 Hz, 4H, 16- and 19-CH₂), 2.07 (q, ³J_{H-H} = 7.4 Hz, 4H, 3- and 12-CH₂), 2.28 (t, ³J_{H-H} = 7.5 Hz, 4H, 15- and 18-CH₂), 5.50 (t, ³J_{H-H} = 7.4 Hz, 2H, 4- and 11-CH), 6.27 (AA'BB', ³J_{H-H} = 15.8 Hz, ⁴J_{H-H} = 0.5 Hz, ⁵J_{H-H} = 0.1 Hz, 2H, 6- and 9-CH), 6.43 (AA'BB', ³J_{H-H} = 15.8, 10.5 Hz, ⁴J_{H-H} = 0.1 Hz, 2H, 7- and 8- CH). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100.5 MHz, C₆D₆, room temperature): δ 14.1, 14.4, 22.7, 23.3, 29.2, 30.8, 127.5, 133.2, 136.3, 139.1. HRMS(APCI): C₂₀H₃₄ (274.27) m/z 275.2737 (M + H)⁺, calcd for C₂₀H₃₅ 275.2739.

(3E,5E)-5-Propylnona-1,3,5-triene (5c): 11% yield.



(3E,5E)-5c

¹H NMR (400 MHz, $C_6D_{6^{\prime}}$ room temperature): δ 0.85 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.6 Hz, 3H, 9-CH₃), 0.86 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.6 Hz, 3H, 12-CH₃), 1.31 (sext, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.6 Hz, 2H, 8-CH₂), 1.44 (sext, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.6 Hz, 2H, 11-CH₂), 2.00 (q, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.6 Hz, 2H, 7-CH₂), 2.19 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.6 Hz, 2H, 10-CH₂), 5.01 (dd, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 10.0 Hz, ${}^{2}J_{H-H} =$ 1.6 Hz, 1H, 1-CH), 5.17 (dd, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 16.6, ${}^{2}J_{H-H} =$ 1.6 Hz, 1H, 1-CH), 6.29 (dd, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 16.0, 10.0 Hz, 1H, 3-CH), 6.42 (dt, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 16.6, 10.0 Hz, 1H, 2-CH). HRMS(APCI): C₁₂H₂₀ (164.16) *m*/*z* 165.1647 (M + H)⁺, calcd for C₁₂H₂₁ 165.1643.

Reaction of 3-Hexyne (2d) with 1,3-Butadiene (3). (3*E*,5*E*,7*E*,9*E*)-4,9-Diethyldodeca-3,5,7,9-tetraene (4d): pale gray solid, 64% yield.



(3E,5E,7E,9E)-4d

¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆, room temperature): δ 0.92 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.6 Hz, 6H, 1- and 12-CH₃), 1.04 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.6 Hz, 6H, 14- and 16-CH₃), 2.03 (quint, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.6 Hz, 4H, 2- and 11-CH₂), 2.23 (q, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.6 Hz, 4H, 13- and 15-CH₂), 5.43 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.6 Hz, 2H, 3- and 10-CH), 6.25 (AA'BB', ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 16.5 Hz, ${}^{4}J_{H-H} =$ 0.5 Hz, ${}^{5}J_{H-H} =$ 0.1 Hz, 2H, 5- and 8-CH), 6.40 (AA'BB', ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 16.5, 11.0 Hz, ${}^{4}J_{H-H} =$ 0.1 Hz, 2H, 7- and 6-CH). ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ NMR (100.5 MHz, C₆D₆, room temperature): δ 14.1, 14.5, 20.2, 21.7, 127.4, 134.0, 135.8, 140.3. HRMS(APCI): C₁₆H₂₆ (218.20) *m*/*z* 219.2103 (M + H)⁺, calcd for C₁₆H₂₇ 219.2107.

(3E,5E)-5-Ethylocta-1,3,5-triene (5d): 13% yield.



(3*E*,5*E*)-**5d**

¹H NMR (400 MHz, $C_6D_{6^{\prime}}$, room temperature): δ 0.88 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.4 Hz, 3H, 8-CH₃), 0.99 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.4 Hz, 3H, 10-CH₃), 2.03 (quint, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.4 Hz, 2H, 7-CH₂), 2.18 (q, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.4 Hz, 2H, 9-CH₂), 5.01 (dd, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 10.9 Hz, ${}^{2}J_{H-H} =$ 1.4 Hz, 1H, 1-CH), 5.16 (dd, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 16.6, ${}^{2}J_{H-H} =$ 1.4 Hz, 1H, 1-CH), 5.35 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.4 Hz, 1H, 6-CH), 6.14 (d, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 15.5 Hz, 1H, 4-CH), 6.2–6.4 (2H, 2- and 3-CH, overlapped with signals for **4d**).

Reaction of 2-Butyne (2e) with 1,3-Butadiene (3). (2*E*,4*E*,6*E*,8*E*)-3,8-Dimethyldeca-2,4,6,8-tetraene (4e): pale gray sticky solid, 11% yield.



(2E,4E,6E,8E)-4e

¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆, room temperature): δ 1.59 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 6.8 Hz, 6H, 1- and 10-CH₃), 1.69 (s, 6H, 11- and 12-CH₃), 5.52 (qq, ³J_{H-H} = 6.8 Hz, ⁴J_{H-H} = 0.8 Hz, 2H, 2- and 9-CH), 6.33 (AA'BB', ³J_{H-H} = 15.5, 10.0 Hz, ⁴J_{H-H} = -1.0 Hz, ⁵J_{H-H} = 3 Hz, 2H, 4- and 7-CH), 6.36 (AA'BB', ³J_{H-H} = 15.5, 10.0 Hz, ⁴J_{H-H} = -1.0 Hz, ⁵J_{H-H} = 3 Hz, 2H, 5- and 6-CH). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100.5 MHz, C₆D₆, room temperature): δ 12.1, 14.0, 126.7, 127.4, 135.4, 137.1.

(3E,5E)-5-Methylhepta-1,3,5-triene (5e): 13% yield.



(3*E*,5*E*)-**5e**

¹H NMR (400 MHz, $C_6D_{6^{\prime}}$ room temperature): δ 1.59 (d, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.4 Hz, 3H, 7-CH₃), 1.68 (s, 3H, 8-CH₃, overlapped with signals for **4e**), 5.01 (d, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 9.7 Hz, 1H, 1-CH), 5.16 (d, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 16.6, 1H, 1-CH), 5.45 (q, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.4 Hz, 1H, 6-CH), 6.18 (d, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 16.6 Hz, 1H, 4-CH), 6.2–6.3 (1H, 3-CH, overlapped with signals for **4e**), 6.39 (dt, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 16.6, 9.7 Hz, 1H, 2-CH).

Reaction of Diphenylacetylene (2f) with 1,3-Butadiene (3). (1Z,3E,5E,7Z)-1,2,7,8-Tetraphenylocta-1,3,5,7-tetraene (4f): yellow powder, 41% yield.



(1Z,3E,5E,7Z)-4f

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, room temperature): δ 5.93 (AA'XX', ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 15.0, 6.0 \text{ Hz}, {}^{4}J_{H-H} = -1.0 \text{ Hz}, {}^{5}J_{H-H} = 0.0 \text{ Hz}, 2H, 3- and 6-CH), 6.48 (AA'XX', {}^{3}J_{H-H} = 15.0, 6.0 \text{ Hz}, {}^{4}J_{H-H} = -1.0 \text{ Hz}, {}^{5}J_{H-H} = 0.0 \text{ Hz}, 2H, 4- and 5-CH), 6.50 (s, 2H, 1- and 8-CH), 6.81 (dd, {}^{3}J_{H-H} = 7.2 \text{ Hz}, {}^{4}J_{H-H} = 2.0 \text{ Hz}, 4H, o-C_{6}H_{5}), 7.01-7.06 (m, 6H, m- and p-C_{6}H_{5}), 7.14 (dd, {}^{3}J_{H-H} = 7.2 \text{ Hz}, {}^{4}J_{H-H} = 7.2 \text{ Hz}, {}^{4}J_{H-H} = 7.2 \text{ Hz}, {}^{4}J_{H-H} = 1.6 \text{ Hz}, 4H, o-C_{6}H_{5}), 7.36-7.43 (m, 6H, m- and p-C_{6}H_{5}). {}^{13}C{}^{1}H} NMR (100 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_{3}, room temperature): δ 126.8, 127.4, 127.9, 128.9, 129.3, 129.4, 131.5, 131.9, 136.8, 138.3, 138.7, 142.0 \text{ HRMS}(APCI): C_{32}H_{36} (410.20) m/z 411.2113 (M + H)⁺, calcd for C_{32}H_{27} 411.2113. (1$ *Z*,3*E*,5*E*,7*Z*)-4f was reported in the literature, but it was characterized only by melting point and elemental analysis.⁷

(1Z,3E)-1,2-Diphenylhexa-1,3,5-triene (5f): 8% yield.



(1Z,3E)-5f

¹H NMR (400 MHz, $C_6D_{6^{\prime}}$ room temperature): δ 5.05 (d, ${}^{3}J_{H-H}$ = 10.0 Hz, 1H, 1-CH), 5.08 (d, ${}^{3}J_{H-H}$ = 17.0, 1H, 1-CH), 5.83 (dd, ${}^{3}J_{H-H}$ = 15.2, 10.8 Hz, 1H, 4-CH), 6.4–6.5 (3H, 1-, 3- and 5-CH, overlapped with signals for 4f), 6.8–6.9 (m, 2H, o- C_6H_5), 7.0–7.1 (m, 3H, *m*- and *p*- C_6H_5), 7.1–7.2 (m, 2H, o- C_6H_5), 7.3–7.5 (m, 3H, *m*- and *p*- C_6H_5).

Reaction of 1,2-Bis(4-methylphenyl)acetylene (2g) with 1,3-Butadiene (3). (1*Z*,3*E*,5*E*,7*Z*)-1,2,7,8-Tetrakis(4-methylphenyl)octa-1,3,5,7-tetraene (4g): yellow powder, 41% yield.



(1Z,3E,5E,7Z)-4g

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, room temperature): δ 2.20 (s, 6H, CH₃), 2.41 (s, 6H, CH₃), 5.92 (AA'BB', ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 15.0$, 6.0 Hz, ${}^{4}J_{H-H} = -1.0$ Hz, ${}^{5}J_{H-H} = 0.0$ Hz, 2H, 3- and 6-CH), 6.43 (s, 2H, 1- and 8-CH), 6.45 (AA'XX', ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 15.0$, 6.0 Hz, ${}^{4}J_{H-H} = -1.0$ Hz, ${}^{5}J_{H-H} = 0.0$ Hz, 2H, 4- and 5-CH), 6.73 (d, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 8.2$ Hz, 4H, o-C₆H₄), 6.86 (d, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 8.2$ Hz, 4H, m-C₆H₄), 7.01 (d, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 8.2$ Hz, 4H, o-C₆H₄), 7.20 (d, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 8.2$ Hz, 4H, m-C₆H₄). 1³C{¹H} NMR (100.5 MHz, CDCl₃, room temperature): δ 21.1, 21.4, 128.7, 129.2, 129.3, 129.6, 131.2, 131.5, 134.2, 135.4, 136.6, 136.8, 138.7, 141.2. HRMS(APCI): C₃₆H₃₄ (466.27) m/z 467.2718 (M + H)⁺, calcd for C₃₆H₃₅ 467.2739.

Reaction of 1,2-Bis(4-chlorophenyl)acetylene (2h) with 1,3-Butadiene (3). (1*Z*,3*E*,5*E*,7*Z*)-1,2,7,8-Tetrakis(4-chlorophenyl)octa-1,3,5,7-tetraene (4h): yellow powder, 23% yield.



(1Z,3E,5E,7Z)-4h

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, room temperature): δ 5.89 (AA'BB', ³J_{H-H} = 15.0, 6.0 Hz, ⁴J_{H-H} = -1.0 Hz, ⁵J_{H-H} = 0.0 Hz, 2H, 3- and 6-CH), 6.45 (AA'XX', ³J_{H-H} = 15.0, 6.0 Hz, ⁴J_{H-H} = -1.0 Hz, ⁵J_{H-H} = 0.0 Hz, 2H, 4- and 5-CH), 6.46 (s, 2H, 1- and 8-CH), 6.74 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 8.6 Hz, 4H, *o*-C₆H₄), 7.04 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 8.6 Hz, 4H, *m*-C₆H₄), 7.06 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 8.6 Hz, 4H, *o*-C₆H₄), 7.39 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 8.6 Hz, 4H, *m*-C₆H₄), 7.06 (d, ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100.5 MHz, CDCl₃, room temperature): δ 128.3, 129.4, 130.4, 130.8, 130.8, 132.1, 133.0, 133.6, 134.9, 136.2, 138.3, 141.0. HRMS(APCI): C₃₂H₂₂Cl₄ (546.05) *m*/*z* 547.0527 (M + H)⁺, calcd for C₃₂H₂₃Cl₄ 547.0554.

(1Z,3E)-1,2-Bis(4-chlorophenyl)hexa-1,3,5-triene (5h): 8% yield.



(1*Z*,3*E*)-**5h**

¹H NMR (400 MHz, acetone- d_{67} , room temperature): δ 5.08 (d, ${}^{3}J_{\text{H}-\text{H}} = 10.4$ Hz, 1H, 1-CH), 5.14 (d, ${}^{3}J_{\text{H}-\text{H}} = 16.0$, 1H, 1-CH), 6.51(s, 1H, 1-CH), 6.9–7.6 (8H, C₆H₄, overlapped with signals for **4h**).

Reaction of 1,2-Bis(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)acetylene (2i). (1*Z*,3*E*,5*E*,7*Z*)-1,2,7,8-Tetrakis(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)octa-1,3,5,7-tetraene (4i): 2% yield.



(1*Z*,3*E*,5*E*,7*Z*)-**4i**

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, room temperature): δ 5.80 (m, 2H, 3and 6-CH), 6.46 (m, 2H, 4- and 5-CH), 6.53 (s, 2H, 1- and 8-CH), 6.80 (d, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 8.8$ Hz, 4H, o-C₆H₄), 7.20 (d, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 8.8$ Hz, 4H, m-C₆H₄), 7.22 (d, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 8.8$ Hz, 4H, o-C₆H₄), 7.61 (d, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 8.8$ Hz, 4H, m-C₆H₄). ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (376 MHz, C₆D₆, room temperature): δ -62.6 (s, 3F, CF₃), -62.4 (s, 3F, CF₃).

Reaction of 2a with $[1,1,4,4^{-2}H_4]$ -1,3-Butadiene (3-*d*₄). [1,1,4,4⁻²H₄]-1,3-Butadiene (3-*d*₄, >98 atom % D) was prepared by pyrolysis of 3-sulfolene-*d*₄ according to the literature method.²¹ Into a frozen mixture of 2a (57.0 µL, 0.265 mmol) and 1 (2.19 mg, 0.00649 mmol) in C₆D₆ (600 µL) was introduced 3-*d*₄ (2.9 mL, 0.13 mmol) by vacuum line/mercury manometer techniques. The mixture was reacted at room temperature for 4 days to give $[5,7,10,12-^{2}H_{4}]$ -4a- d_{4} in 11% yield and $[1,1,4,6-^{2}H_{4}]$ -5a- d_{4} in 26% yield (96 atom % D for 4-CD, 81 atom % D for 6-CD, 94 atom % D for 1-CD). This compound was purified by recycle HPLC.



(5*E*,7*E*,9*E*,11*E*)-[5,7,10,12-²H₄]-**4a**-*d*₄

¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆, room temperature): δ 0.88 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 6.4 Hz, 12H, 1-, 16-, 17- and 28-CH₃), 0.93 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 6.4 Hz, 12H, 21-, 22-, 26- and 27-CH₃), 1.27 (q, ³J_{H-H} = 6.8 Hz, 4H, 3- and 14-CH₂), 1.48 (m, 4H, 19- and 24-CH₂), 1.53 (n, ³J_{H-H} = 6.8 Hz, 2H, 20- and 25-CH) 1.58 (n, ³J_{H-H} = 6.8 Hz, 2H, 2- and 15-CH), 2.15 (t, ³J_{H-H} = 7.6 Hz, 4H, 4- and 13-CH₂), 2.36 (AA'XX', ³J_{H-H} = 8.7, 6.5, ²J_{H-H} = -10 Hz, 4H, 18- and 23-CH₂), 6.52 (s, 2H, 8- and 9-CH). ²H NMR (61.4 MHz, C₆H₆, room temperature): δ 5.5 (br s, 5- and 12-CD), 6.3 (br s, 7- and 10-CD).



(3E,5E)-[1,1,4,6-²H₄]-**5a**-d₄

¹H NMR (400 MHz, $C_6D_{6'}$ room temperature): δ 0.91 (d, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 6.3$ Hz, 6H, 10- and 16- CH_3), 0.93 (d, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 6.8$ Hz, 6H, 14- and 15- CH_3), 1.27 (q, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 7.7$ Hz, 2H, 8- CH_2), 1.36–1.46 (m, 2H, 12- CH_2), 1.46–1.64 (m, 2H, 9- and 13-CH), 2.14 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 7.7$ Hz, 2H, 7- CH_2), 2.31 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 8.0$ Hz, 2H, 11- CH_2), 6.39 (d, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 10.6$ Hz, 1H, 3-CH), 6.48 (d, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 10.6$ Hz, 1H, 2-CH).

Reaction of Ru(η^4 -butadiene)(η^4 -1,5-COD)(NCMe) (6) with 3-Hexyne (2d) To Give 7. [Ru(η^4 -butadiene)(η^4 -1,5-COD)(NCMe)] (6; 13.0 mg, 0.0428 mmol) was treated with 2d (9.8 μ L, 0.086 mmol) in C₆D₆ at room temperature for 5 min. On the basis of *p*-xylene (3.0 μ L, 0.024 mmol) as an internal standard, [Ru{3-6- η^4 -(3E,5E,7E,9E)-4,9-diethyldodeca-3,5,7,9-tetraene}(η^4 -1,5-COD)(NCMe)] (7) was obtained in 98% yield. After 2 h, to the reaction mixture was added 3 (2.44 mL, 0.109 mmol) to give (3E,5E,7E,9E)-4d in 92% yield and the bis(η^3 -allylic)ruthenium(II) complex *supine,prone*-[Ru(1-3- η^3 :6-8- η^3 -C₈H₁₂)(η^4 -1,5-COD)] (8)¹¹ in 92% yield.



¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆, room temperature): δ 0.78 (dd, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.4, 4.6 Hz, 1H, 3-CH), 0.83–0.88 (br, 3H, CH₃CN), 0.94 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.4 Hz, 3H, 12-CH₃), 1.05 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.4 Hz, 3H, 12-CH₃), 1.01 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 7.4 Hz, 3H, 12-CH₃), 1.27 (dquint, ${}^{2}J_{H-H} =$ 14.4 Hz, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$

7.4 Hz, 1H, 2-CH₂), 1.41 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 7.4$ Hz, 3H, 14-CH₃), 1.70 (dqd, ${}^{2}J_{H-H} = 14.4$ Hz, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 7.4$, 4.6 Hz, 1H, 2-CH₂), 1.78 (dd, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 9.7$, 8.0 Hz, 1H, 6-CH), 2.03 (quint, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 7.4$ Hz, 2H, 11-CH₂), 2.1–2.2 (m, 5H, 1H for 13-CH₂ and 4H for COD), 2.29 (q, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 7.4$ Hz, 2H, 15-CH₂), 2.3–2.4 (m, 3H, 1H for 13-CH₂ and 2H for COD), 2.56–2.69 (m, 2H, COD), 2.8–2.85 (m, 1H, COD), 3.10–3.14 (m, 1H, COD), 3.18–3.22 (m, 1H, COD), 3.82–3.97 (m, 1H, COD), 5.06 (d, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 8.0$ Hz, 1H, 5-CH), 5.38 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 7.4$ Hz, 1H, 10-CH), 5.94 (dd, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 15.5$, 9.7 Hz, 1H, 7-CH), 6.18 (d, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} = 15.5$ Hz, 1H, 8-CH). This compound was characterized by spectroscopic methods.

Reaction of Complex 7 with 3-Hexyne (3d). Treatment of 6 (6.37 mg, 0.0221 mmol) with 2 equiv of 3d (5.0 μ L, 0.044 mmol) in the presence of *p*-xylene (2.0 μ L, 0.016 mmol) as an internal standard in C₆D₆ (0.6 mL) at 18 °C generated 7 in 99% yield. Further addition of 5 equiv of 3d (12.5 μ L, 0.110 mmol) to the reaction mixture gave no additional reaction. However, 7 gradually decomposed at room temperature and a complex mixture was obtained after 10 h. Compound (3*E*,5*E*,7*E*,9*E*)-4d was not observed in the complex mixture.

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge on the ACS Publications website at DOI: 10.1021/acs.organo-met.7b00801.

Spectroscopic and physical data (PDF)

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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ABBREVIATIONS

COD, cyclooctadiene (C_8H_{12})

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