

# Synthesis of New Functionalized Compounds Related to $\pi$ -Extended Tetrathiafulvalenes with Quinonoidal Structures Bearing a Ferrocene Moiety

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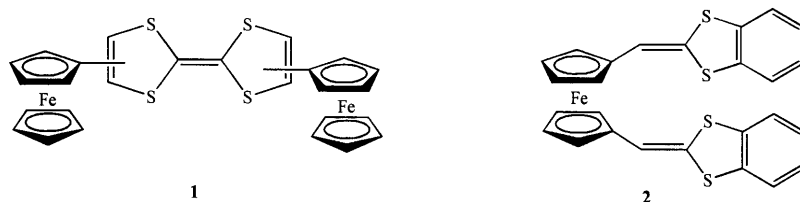
**Summary.** A number of  $\pi$ -extended conjugated tetrathiafulvalene (*TTF*) analogues were synthesized as new  $\pi$ -donors, and their structures and physical properties were determined. UV/Vis spectra and cyclic voltammetry of the  $\pi$ -extended ferrocenyl donors were studied in comparison with ferrocene, ferrocenylquinone, and the parent donor. A three-electron redox behaviour was observed. The absorption spectrum of the new donor **16** showed a slight red-shift and a slight increase in intensity relative to the compared compounds.

**Keywords.** Ferrocenyl quinone; Electrical properties; Cyclic voltammetry; Absorption intensity.

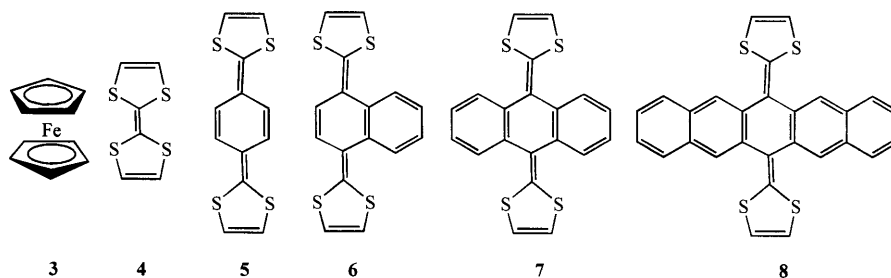
## Introduction

Recently, tetrathiafulvalenes *TTFs* have become an interesting topic of research due to their highly electrical conductivity and superconducting properties [1, 2]. It has also been reported that tetrathiafulvalenes show good  $\pi$ -donor properties [3]. The synthesis of two dithiole rings separated by a conjugated spacer has received great attention as a consequence of the potential of these compounds in the preparation of substances with nonlinear optical properties or as semiconductors. The synthesis of derivatives and analogues of dithiafulvalene (*DTF*) and tetrathiafulvalene (*TTF*) is of considerable interest [4, 5]. Due to the structural and electrochemical properties of ferrocene-containing tetrathiafulvalene derivatives, several ferrocene-tetrathiafulvalenes were constructed as donors for conducting charge transfer complexes. Ueno *et al.* have reported on the first compound belonging to this class of donor conducting materials [6]. A very similar type of donor molecules has recently been introduced by Bryce and co-workers [7]. Several charge transfer complexes of metal *bis*-arene compounds containing, among others, the familiar organic acceptor *TCNQ* have been also reported. Recently, Togni *et al.* have synthesized mono- and 1,1'-disubstituted ferrocene derivatives like **1** and **2** as novel donors for the preparation of charge transfer complexes which, structurally and

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Scheme 1



Scheme 2

electronically related to the *TTF*s, were conjugated with a ferrocene moiety [8] (Scheme 1). *Togni* has also mentioned that none of these materials has been shown to display physical properties superior to those of the metallocene systems [9] (Scheme 1).

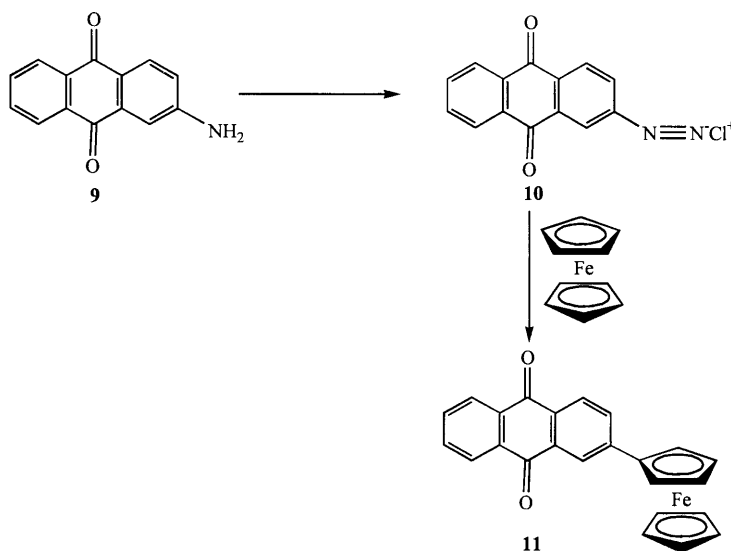
Extended *TTF* (**4**) derivatives like **5–8** having a *p*-quinodimethane structure have been used as strong electron donors. Due to their extended conjugation they exhibit a decrease of the intramolecular on-site *Coulomb* repulsion [10]. The formation of monostoichiometric complexes with acceptor molecules is due to their different sizes [11] (Scheme 2).

In contrast to **4** and its derivatives, the *p*-quinodimethane analogues of **4** form stable dication species which constitute CT complexes with interesting electrical and magnetic properties [11–13]. In spite of the importance of these  $\pi$ -extended *p*-quinodimethane analogues of **4** in the search for new opto-electronic properties, the synthesis of  $\pi$ -extended *p*-quinodimethanes connected directly to a ferrocene moiety (**3**) in addition to highly conjugated *TTF* units has not yet been described.

## Results and Discussion

### Synthesis

In this work we focused on the synthesis of novel donors based on ferrocene-tetrathiafulvalenes separated by conjugated spacers like *p*-benzoquinone or anthraquinone derivatives. We used new derivatives of quinones connected directly to the ferrocene moiety without a conjugated spacer between the quinodimethane and ferrocene moieties. Ferrocene is known to show only a single one-electron redox process at potentials near to the first oxidation step of *TTF* compounds [9]. Comparison of the electrochemical properties of the new  $\pi$ -donors with those of



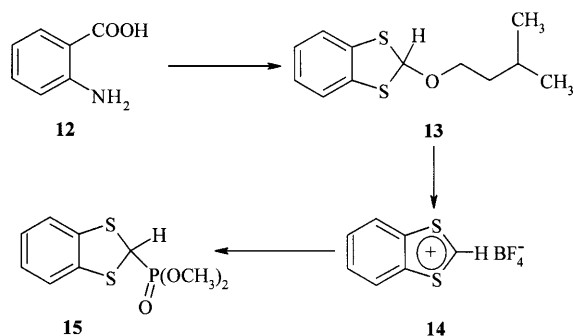
Scheme 3

ferrocene and tetrathiafulvalene homologues previously prepared is important for the molecular design of novel donor systems. We therefore synthesized and investigated the electronic interactions of a new  $\pi$ -extended donor in which the extended *TTF* is directly attached to the strong electron donor ferrocene without spacer. 2-Ferrocenylantraquinone (**11**) was prepared in 21% yield *via* diazotation of 2-aminoanthraquinone (**9**) followed by coupling with ferrocene in acetic acid at 0°C (Scheme 3).

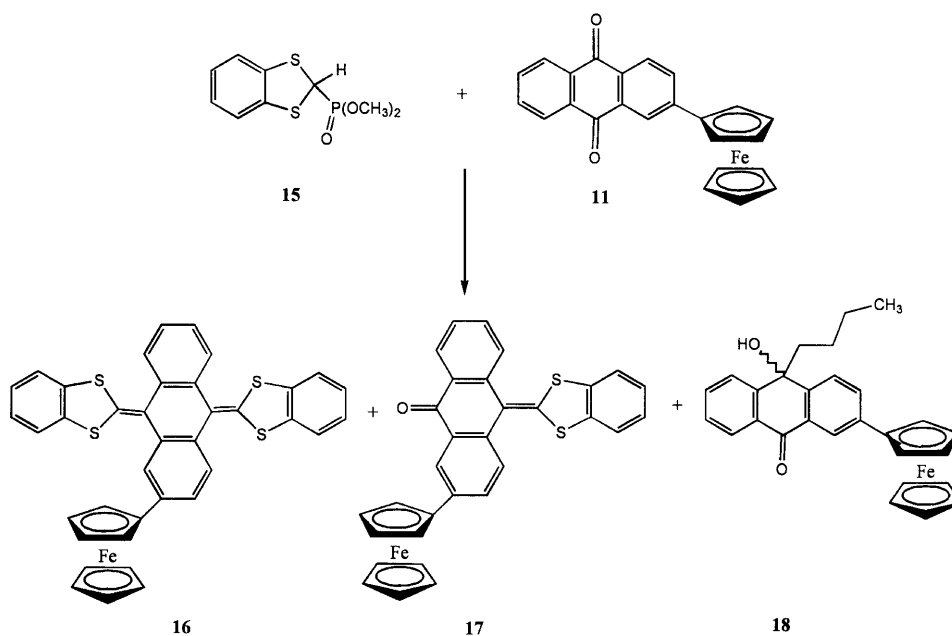
Compound **11** exhibited a deep violet color, and its UV/Vis spectrum in EtOH showed the presence of broad low-energy band at 598 nm which can be accounted as an intramolecular charge transfer band resulting from the strong electron donor ferrocene and the electron acceptor anthraquinone.

2-Dimethoxyphosphinyl-1,3-benzodithiole (**15**) was prepared following well-established procedures from anthranilic acid (**12**) [14]. Thus, 2-butoxy-1,3-benzodithiole (**13**) was obtained through four reaction steps. Aprotic diazotation of anthranilic acid (**12**) by alkyl nitrite gave the corresponding benzendiazonium-2-carboxylate. Its thermal decomposition to benzyne and reaction with carbon disulfide led to the 1,3-dithiole-2-carbene and subsequently to **13** by addition of 2-methylbutanol which either resulted from the diazotation of **12** by alkyl nitrite or was added prior to the reaction. **13** was reacted with HBF<sub>4</sub> in acetic anhydride to give 1,3-benzodithiolylum fluoroborate (**14**) in good yield. Refluxing of **14** with P(OMe)<sub>3</sub> in acetonitrile in presence of NaI gave 2-dimethoxyphosphinyl-1,3-benzdithiole (**15**) in high yield [14] (Scheme 4).

Synthesis of the target molecule **16** was carried out by *Wittig-Horner* olefination as shown in Scheme 5. The 2-ferrocenylantraquinone **11** was reacted with **15** in the presence of *n*-BuLi at -78°C in dry *THF*. **16** was obtained after chromatography as orange crystals in 28% yield; in addition, the starting compound **11** was isolated in very low yield. **17** could not be isolated in pure form and good yield; it was characterized by <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectroscopy and by FAB mass spectra



Scheme 4



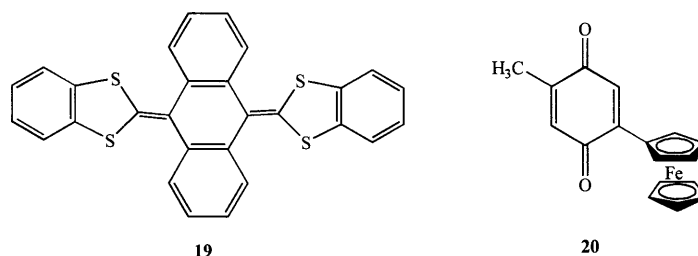
Scheme 5

( $\text{M}^+$ :  $m/z = 528$ ). In addition, the unexpected racemic anthrone derivative **18** was obtained as yellow orange crystals in 24% yield (Scheme 5).

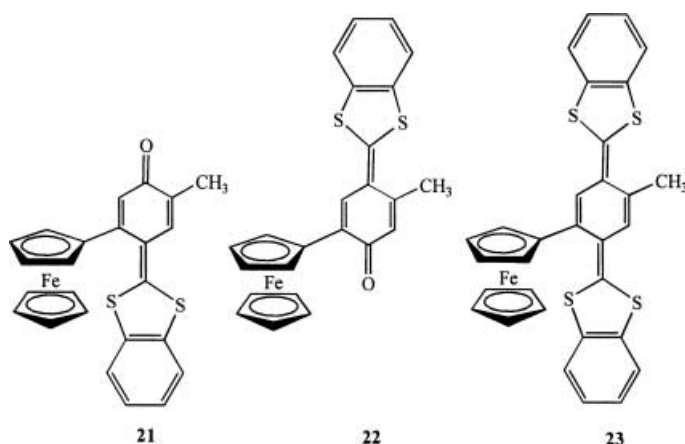
The IR spectra of **16** lacked the carbonyl group of the 2-ferrocenylquinone (**11**) at  $1666\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum also proved the absence of a CO group. Mass spectroscopic analysis gave the expected molecular ion peak at  $m/z = 664$ .

The structure of compound **18** was determined by spectroscopic analysis. The FAB mass spectra gave a molecular mass of 450, which agreed with the suggested structure. The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum revealed 7 aromatic protons (besides ferrocene), butyl protons, and one hydroxy proton. The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum showed only one carbonyl group at  $\delta = 183.27\text{ ppm}$ . The IR spectrum indicated the presence of a OH group ( $\nu = 3467\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and a carbonyl group ( $\nu = 1650\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ).

For comparison with the  $\pi$ -extended donor **16**, **19** was prepared by a Wittig-Horner reaction ( $n\text{-BuLi}/\text{THF}$ ,  $-78^\circ\text{C}$ ) as yellow crystals in 97% yield [**14c**, **17**] (Scheme 6).



Scheme 6



Scheme 7

2-Ferrocenyl-5-methyl-*p*-benzoquinone (**20**) was obtained in 20% overall yield *via* several steps following the method reported by *Izumi et al.* [15]. Reaction of **20** with 2-dimethoxyphosphinyl-1,3-benzodithiole (**15**) using *n*-BuLi in *THF* at  $-78^{\circ}\text{C}$  followed by stirring at room temperature overnight gave a mixture of unidentified products; neither the dithiafulvalenes **21** and **22** nor the tetrathiafulvalene **23** were formed. Several other attempts to synthesize the *TTF* **23** were also unsuccessful (Scheme 7).

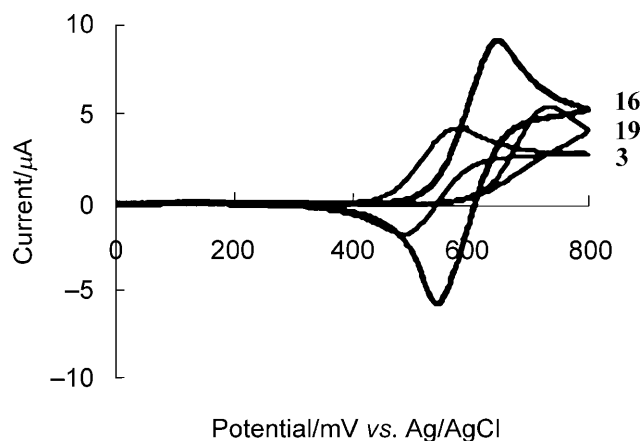
Presently, attempts are made to synthesize 2-ferrocenyl-1,4-benzoquinone, 2-ferrocenyl-1,4-naphthoquinone, and 6-ferrocenyl-1,4-naphthoquinone and to react them with **15** to obtain different  $\pi$ -extended donors for electrochemical studies.

### Electrochemical properties

The electrochemical properties of **16**, **19**, and **11** in comparison to ferrocene (**3**) were investigated by cyclic voltammetry in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  in the presence of 0.1 *M* tetra-*n*-butylammonium perchlorate (*TBAP*) as the supporting electrolyte using a Pt working electrode and a  $\text{Ag}^+/\text{AgCl}$  reference electrode at ambient temperature. The donors **16** and **19** displayed one pair of redox waves corresponding to a one-electron transfer process; the redox potentials are summarized in Table 1.

**Table 1.** Formal electrode potentials for the redox changes in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ; scan rate:  $20 \text{ mV} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ ; supporting electrolyte: *TBAP* ( $0.1 \text{ M}$ )

	Oxidation ( $E^{1/2}/\text{V}$ )	Reduction ( $E^{1/2}/\text{V}$ )
<b>3</b>	+0.51	+0.54
<b>16</b>	+0.58	+0.60
<b>19</b>	+0.67	–

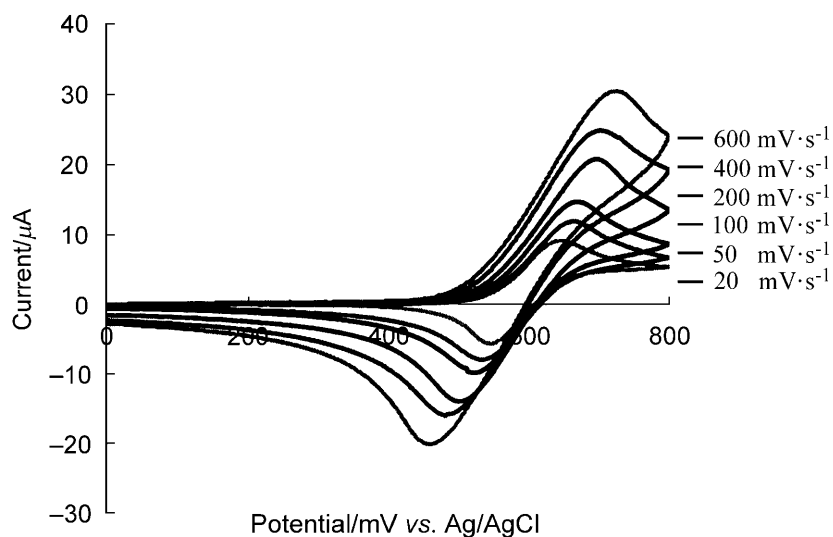
**Fig. 1.** Cyclic voltammograms of **3**, **16** and **19** in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  on a platinum electrode;  $c = 1.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$ , scan rate:  $20 \text{ mV} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ , base electrolyte: *TBAP*,  $0.1 \text{ M}$ 

Comparison of the redox potentials reveals that the oxidation potential of **16** is different from the oxidation potential of **19**:  $E^{1/2}(\mathbf{19}) - E^{1/2}(\mathbf{16}) = 0.09 \text{ V}$ .  $E^{1/2}(\mathbf{19}) - E^{1/2}(\mathbf{16})$  is a measure of the on-site *Coulomb* repulsion and suggests the direct connection of the ferrocene to the  $\pi$ -extended donor **16**, thereby changing the electron donating ability of the donor. Considering all variables, **16** exhibited a single electrochemically reversible three-electron oxidation process at ambient temperature, whereas **19** showed a single electrochemically irreversible two-electron oxidation process under the same conditions (Fig. 1).

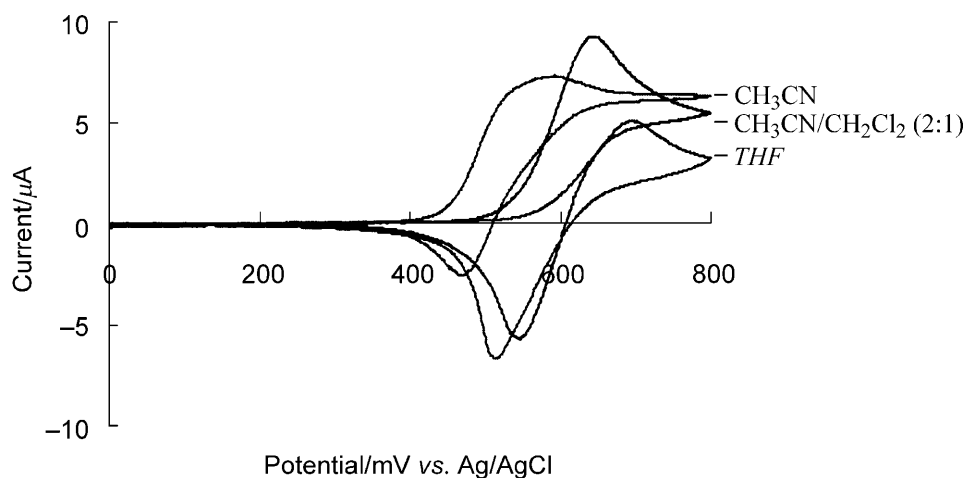
Increasing the scan rates gave the same peak pattern, but resulted in a significant increase of  $E_{pa}$  and a decrease of  $E_{pc}$ , indicative of a slow heterogeneous electron transfer process as shown in Fig. 2.

A striking feature of **16** is that this molecule undergoes a three-electron redox process observed as a single wave. The oxidation peaks could not be resolved by reducing the scan rate from  $600$  to  $20 \text{ mV} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$  (Fig. 2) or by using different solvents (Fig. 3). The redox wave of **16** is chemically reversible but electrochemically irreversible; the peak-to-peak potential varies from  $190$  to  $100 \text{ mV}$  depending on scan rate and solvent. The oxidation peak potential in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  was lower than that in either  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  or *THF* ( $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2 < \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2 < \text{THF}$ ) on the same electrodes at a scan rate of  $20 \text{ mV} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$  (Fig. 3).

The oxidation wave of ferrocene is reversible and occurs at the potential of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II/III}}$  redox couple. The coalescence of the two different oxidation processes into one reveals the influence of the ferrocene moiety and the quinonoid structure



**Fig. 2.** Cyclic voltammograms of **16** in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  on a Pt electrode;  $c = 1.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$ , scan rate: 20–600  $\text{mV} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ , base electrolyte: *TBAP*, 0.1 *M*



**Fig. 3.** Cyclic voltammograms of **16** in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , *THF* and  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  on a Pt electrode;  $c = 1.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$ , scan rate: 20  $\text{mV} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ , base electrolyte: *TBAP*, 0.1 *M*

between the two 1,3-dithiole rings. Three one-electron processes lead directly to the formation of a tricationic state  $\text{Fc}^+ \text{-exTTF}^{2+}$  as described in the literature [9b]. The electrochemical data of **16** recorded in different solvents are shown in Fig. 3 and Table 2.

*Bryce et al.* [11] have reported that the X-ray analysis of the analogue of **19** was found to show a highly distorted geometry in the neutral state, whereas *Liu et al.* [10b] have suggested that this geometric distortion could be hold responsible for the coalescence of the oxidation wave of the anthracene moiety with that of the two 1,3-dithiole rings.

**Table 2.** Formal electrode potentials for the redox changes of the  $\pi$ -extended donor **16** on a Pt electrode; scan rate:  $20 \text{ mV} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ , base electrolyte: *TBAP* ( $0.1 \text{ M}$ )

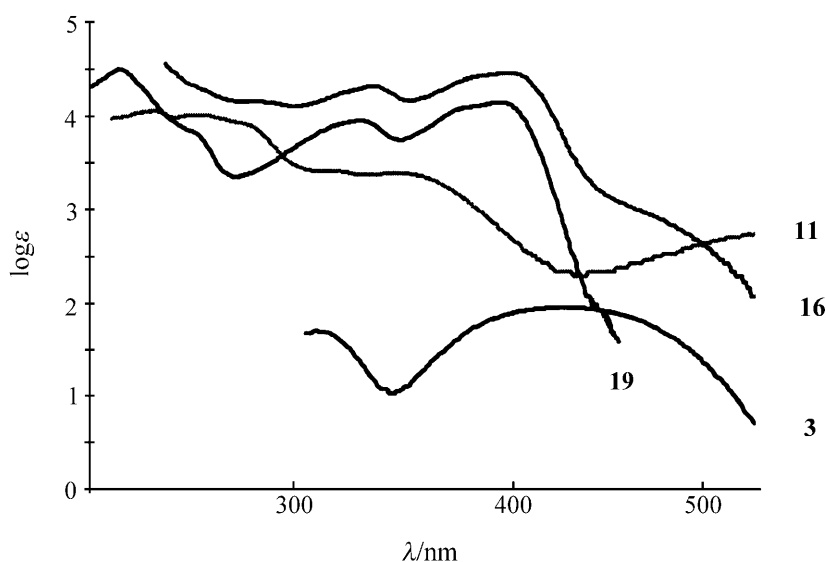
Solvent	Oxidation ( $E^{1/2}/\text{V}$ )	Reduction ( $E^{1/2}/\text{V}$ )
$\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$	+ 0.50	+ 0.53
<i>THF</i>	+ 0.63	+ 0.57
$\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$	+ 0.58	+ 0.60

The coalescence behaviour of **16** indicated a planar aromatic hydrocarbon skeleton in the extended *TTF* moiety. It is known that these unstable radical cations easily form stable dication upon further oxidation in which the *Coulomb* repulsion is remarkably decreased [1, 10b, 12b].

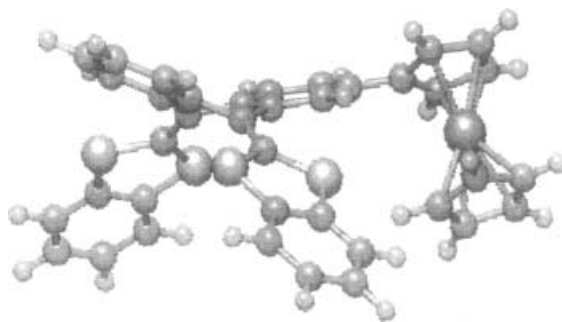
### Electronic spectroscopy

As shown in Fig. 4, the UV/Vis spectra of **16** and comparable compounds in ethanol are mainly dominated by the absorption of the ex*TTF* moiety in the region of 220–250 nm. Because of the weak intensity of the ferrocene spectrum, the  $\log \epsilon$  scale is used for comparison. The absorptions of **16** were observed at 241 ( $\log \epsilon = 4.78$ ), 352 ( $\log \epsilon = 4.32$ ), and 416 ( $\log \epsilon = 4.47$ ) nm. Upon comparison of the  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  values of donors **16** and **19**, a slight red-shift and an increase of the absorption intensities were observed. This means that ground-state intramolecular electronic interactions are observed in the case of **16** (Table 3).

To account for the electrochemical observations, the molecular geometry of **16** was optimized using Win-MOPAC at the AM1 level. The minimum energy conformation of **16** is shown in Figure 5. The donor molecule adopts a butterfly shape with the central ring in a boat conformation, which is in good agreement with data

**Fig. 4.** UV/Vis spectra of **3**, **11**, **16**, and **19** in EtOH ( $c = 4.05 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}$ )





**Fig. 5.** AM1 optimized geometry of **16**

**Table 3.** Absorption maxima in the electronic spectra of quinones **11** and **20** and donors **16** and **19** in EtOH

	$\lambda_{\text{max}}/\text{nm}$ ( $\log \epsilon$ )
<b>3</b>	440 (2.01), 326 (1.77)
<b>20</b>	396 (2.82), 276 (4.01)
<b>11</b>	562 (2.77), 363 (3.4), 272 (4.01), 250 (4.06)
<b>16</b>	416 (4.47), 352 (4.32), 241 (4.78)
<b>19</b>	410 (4.15), 345 (3.95), 234 (4.32)

reported for analogues published recently [1, 8, 9a]. The conjugation between the donor and the ferrocene moiety ( $\theta = 130.1^\circ$ ) is rather pronounced.

### Conclusions

The novel compound **16** was synthesized as a new  $\pi$ -donor, and its structure was confirmed by spectroscopic analyses. The electrochemical properties of **16** were studied using cyclic voltammetry at ambient temperatures on a Pt working electrode with *TBAP* as the supporting electrolyte. A three-electron redox behavior was observed as a single wave. The advantage of introducing ferrocene into the donor is that ferrocene has only a single one-electron redox process. Considering the fact that the  $\pi$ -extended donor **16** contains two different types of donor moieties, it was important to determine which is easier to oxidize by changing the solvent or using different scan rates. A single quasireversible three-electron oxidation process was observed in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , *THF*, or a mixture of  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  and  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ , whereas **19** exhibited a single electrochemically irreversible two-electron oxidation process under the same conditions. It is important to recognize that both ferrocene (**3**) and **16** showed typical electrochemically reversible redox processes with redox potentials. A comparison of the absorption bands of **16** and **19** showed a slight red-shift and a slight increase in the absorption intensities for **19**.

### Experimental

Solvents were distilled before use. 2-Aminoanthraquinone is commercially available; ferrocene was prepared according to Ref. [19]. 2-Ferrocenyl-5-methyl-1,4-benzoquinone (**20**) was obtained according to a method previously described [15]. Melting points were recorded on a Gallencamp

melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. IR spectra were measured on a Hitachi 260-10 spectrometer,  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra on a Varian Inova 500 MHz spectrometer at room temperature. Chemical shifts are given in  $\delta$  units (ppm) relative to internal *TMS*; *J* values are given in Hz.  $\text{CDCl}_3$  was used as solvent unless otherwise stated. Mass spectra were obtained using a Jeol JMS-AX505HA instrument. UV/Vis Spectra were detected using a Hitachi U-2010 spectrophotometer. Cyclic voltammetry was performed on a Lawrence Model CS-1090/Model CS-1087 system. Column chromatography was conducted on silica gel 60 (230–400 mesh ASTM).

#### 2-Ferrocenylanthraquinone (**11**; $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_2\text{Fe}$ )

A solution of 2.8 g (40 mmol)  $\text{NaNO}_2$  in  $40\text{ cm}^3$   $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  was added to a suspension of 8.0 g (36.0 mmol) 2-aminoanthraquinone (**9**) in  $200\text{ cm}^3$  conc.  $\text{HCl}$  at  $0^\circ\text{C}$ . The formed diazonium salt was added to a solution of 6.6 g (35.0 mmol) ferrocene in  $200\text{ cm}^3$  acetic acid under a stream of  $\text{N}_2$  at  $0^\circ\text{C}$ . The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 h and then left overnight. The precipitate was collected by filtration, washed with EtOH, and dried to give 10.5 g of a dark brown product. Chromatography on silica gel (benzene) afforded yellow crystals of anthraquinone in the early fractions, followed by deep-violet crystals of **11** (3.0 g (21%), m.p.:  $141\text{--}143^\circ\text{C}$ ). The final fraction consisted of 0.4 g deep-gray crystals of 1,1'-dianthraquinonylferrocene ( $\text{M}^+$ :  $m/z = 598$ ).

IR (KBr):  $\nu = 3072\text{w}$ ,  $2362\text{m}$ ,  $1666\text{s}$ ,  $1589\text{s}$ ,  $1448\text{s}$ ,  $1409\text{m}$ ,  $1328\text{s}$ ,  $1166\text{m}$ ,  $1105\text{s}$ ,  $711\text{s}$ ,  $669\text{s cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz,  $\delta$ ): 8.3 (m, 3 aromatic H), 8.2 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 1 aromatic H), 7.85 (m, 3 aromatic H), 4.86 (s, 2 ferrocene H), 4.50 (s, 2 ferrocene H), 4.08 (s, 5H, ferrocene H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 125 MHz,  $\delta$ ): 183.64, 182.79 (2 CO), 147.60 (aromatic C), 134.15–123.71 (aromatic C), 82.13, 70.59, 70.04, 67.24 (ferrocene C) ppm; MS:  $m/z$  (%) = 392 (100).

#### 2-(3-Methylbutoxy)-1,3-benzdithiol (**13**; $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{OS}_2$ )

The method previously reported by *J. Nakayama* [14a] was modified as described. A sample of 21 g anthranilic acid (**1**; 0.15 mol) was added portionwise over a period of 40 min to a stirred and gently refluxing solution of 21 g (0.18 mol) isoamyl nitrite, 26.5 g (0.3 mol) 3-methylbutanol, and  $75\text{ cm}^3$   $\text{CS}_2$  in  $300\text{ cm}^3$  1,2-dichloroethane:chloroform = 1:1. After the addition was completed, the mixture was refluxed for one further hour. The resulting red reaction mixture was evaporated under vacuum, and the residue was washed successively with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (5x) and dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . Solvent and excess reagents were removed under reduced pressure, and the red viscous oily residue was purified by column chromatography using hexane as eluent to give pale yellow oils of **13** in the first fractions (28.6 g, 77%). Increasing the polarity of the eluent by adding 30%  $\text{CHCl}_3$  led to the isolation of unidentifiable polymeric material.

#### 1,3-Benzodithiolium fluoroborate (**14**; $\text{C}_7\text{H}_5\text{S}_2\text{BF}_4$ )

To a stirred and ice-cooled solution of 3.93 g (16.0 mmol) **13** in  $50\text{ cm}^3$   $\text{Ac}_2\text{O}$ , 7.0 g  $\text{HBF}_4$  (79.7 mmol) was added dropwise over 20 min. After stirring at room temperature for 20 min, anhydrous diethyl ether ( $100\text{ cm}^3$ ) was added to the mixture, and the resulting precipitate was collected by filtration and washed with  $100\text{ cm}^3$  anhydrous diethyl ether to give 2.0 g (51%) of **14** as colorless crystals. M.p.:  $148\text{--}150^\circ\text{C}$  (Ref. [14b]:  $149\text{--}150^\circ\text{C}$  (dec.)).

#### 2-Dimethoxyphosphoryl-2-H-1,3-benzdithin (**15**; $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{11}\text{PO}_3\text{S}_2$ )

A mixture of  $0.935\text{ cm}^3$  (8.0 mmol)  $\text{P}(\text{OCH}_3)_3$  and 1.2 g (8.0 mmol)  $\text{NaI}$  were added successively to a stirred solution of 1.8 g (7.5 mmol) **14** in  $60\text{ cm}^3$  dry  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  at room temperature under a stream of  $\text{N}_2$ . The mixture was stirred for further 2.5 h at room temperature, the solvent was removed under vacuum, and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  was added. The colorless crystals formed were filtered off and washed with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (3x) to give 1.6 g (81.6%) of **15** as colorless crystals.

M.p.: 121–123°C (Ref. [14c]: 122–123°C); IR (KBr):  $\nu$  = 3008m, 2954s, 2898s, 2850s, 1625w, 1565w, 1442s, 1255s, 1207s, 1180s, 116s, 1027s, 759s, 740s  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz,  $\delta$ ): 7.20 (m, 2H, aromatic H), 7.03 (m, 2H, aromatic H), 4.88 (d,  $J$  = 5 Hz,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 3.8 (s,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.77 (s,  $\text{CH}_3$ );  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 125 MHz,  $\delta$ ): 136.52 (aromatic C), 126.1 (aromatic CH), 122.22 (aromatic CH), 54.80 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 44.58 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 43.31 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ); FAB-MS:  $m/z$  (%) = 262 (87).

*2-Ferrocenyl-9,10-bis-(1,3-benzdithiol-2-ylidene)-9,10-dihydroanthracene*  
(**16**;  $\text{C}_{38}\text{H}_{24}\text{S}_4\text{Fe}$ )

A sample of 286 mg (1.1 mmol) **15** was stirred in 40  $\text{cm}^3$  dry *THF* under a stream of  $\text{N}_2$  at  $-78^\circ\text{C}$ . 1.2  $\text{cm}^3$  *n*-BuLi solution (1.6 *M* in hexane) were added, and the mixture was stirred for 15 min. A solution of 203 mg (0.55 mmol) 2-ferrocenylanthraquinone (**11**) in 50  $\text{cm}^3$  dry *THF* was added portionwise. The temperature of the mixture was raised to room temperature, and it was kept overnight with stirring. The *THF* was removed under vacuum, and the residue was washed with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and extracted with  $\text{CHCl}_3$  and dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . The crude oily product was chromatographed on silica gel using  $\text{CHCl}_3$ :hexane = 1:2 to give 40 mg of yellow crystals of an unknown compound in the early fractions, followed by 100 mg of yellow orange crystals of **16** (28%). With  $\text{CHCl}_3$ :hexane = 1:1, 108 mg of orange crystals of the racemic anthrone **18** were obtained (24%).

M.p.: 139–143°C; IR (KBr):  $\nu$  = 3050w, 2960m, 2923s, 1656m, 1567m, 1523s, 1446s, 1430s, 1261s, 1103s, 1027s, 806s, 736s  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz,  $\delta$ ): 7.87 (d,  $J$  = 1.5 Hz, 1 aromatic H), 7.77–7.75 (m, 2 aromatic H), 7.65 (d,  $J$  = 8 Hz, 1 aromatic H), 7.44 (dd,  $J$  = 8 Hz,  $J$  = 1.5 Hz, 1H, aromatic H), 7.38 (m, 2 aromatic H), 7.23–7.19 (m, 4 aromatic H), 7.08–7.06 (m, 4 aromatic H), 4.776–4.74 (dd,  $J$  = 6 Hz,  $J$  = 1 Hz, 2 ferrocene H), 4.38–4.36 (m, 2 ferrocene H), 4.15 (s, 5 ferrocene H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 125 MHz,  $\delta$ ): 138.62–121.89 (aromatic C and CH), 85.90 (ferrocene C), 70.61, 70.10, 70.00, 67.92, 67.09 (ferrocene C) ppm; FAB-MS:  $m/z$  (%) = 664 (13).

**18**: M.p.: 151–152°C; IR (KBr):  $\nu$  = 3467s, 3093w, 3066w, 2954s, 2861s, 1650s, 1600s, 1455s, 1380s, 1326s, 1037s, 765s, 696s  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz,  $\delta$ ): 8.25 (d,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 1 aromatic H), 8.15 (dd,  $J$  = 8 Hz,  $J$  = 1 Hz, 1H, aromatic H), 7.97 (d,  $J$  = 1.5 Hz, 1 aromatic H), 7.92 (d,  $J$  = 8 Hz, 1 aromatic H), 7.68 (dt,  $J$  = 1.5 Hz,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 1 aromatic H), 7.55 (dd,  $J$  = 2 Hz,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 1 aromatic H), 7.50 (dt,  $J$  = 1.5 Hz,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 1 aromatic H), 4.83–4.79 (m, 2 ferrocene H), 4.45 (m, 2 ferrocene H), 4.04 (s, 5 ferrocene H), 2.45 (s, 1 OH), 2.06–2.03 (m,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.05–1.02 (m,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 0.72 (m,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 0.65–0.63 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz,  $\text{CH}_3$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 125 MHz,  $\delta$ ): 183.27 (CO), 147.57, 147.31, 146.34, 133.48, 131.13 (aromatic C), 128.53, 128.03, 127.15, 126.74, 125.88, 125.48, 122.73 (aromatic CH), 83.15 (ferrocene C), 73.01, 70.20, 70.10, 69.94 (ferrocene CH), 48.44 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 26.14 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 22.47 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 13.74 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ) ppm; FAB-MS:  $m/z$  (%) = 450 (100).

*9,10-Bis-(1,3-benzdithiol-2-ylidene)-9,10-dihydroanthracene* (**19**;  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{16}\text{S}_4$ )

According to the method described for synthesis of **16**, **19** was obtained in 98% yield.

IR (KBr):  $\nu$  = 3052w, 2919w, 1600w, 1567s, 1521s, 1446s, 1430s, 1282s, 1157m, 1122m, 754s, 674s  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 200 MHz,  $\delta$ ): 7.74 (m, 4 aromatic H), 7.37 (m, 4 aromatic H), 7.27–7.16 (m, 4 aromatic H), 7.07 (m, 4 aromatic H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 50 MHz,  $\delta$ ): 136.71, 135.61, 132.51 (aromatic C, anthracene ring), 126.80, 126.20, 126.14 (aromatic C, benzdithiole C), 124.23, 121.42 ( $\text{C}=\text{C}$ ) ppm; FAB-MS:  $m/z$  (%) = 480 (23).

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