Supporting Information

Dual Gold/Photoredox-Catalyzed C(sp)-H Arylation of Terminal Alkynes with Diazonium Salts

Adrian Tlahuext Aca, Matthew N. Hopkinson, Basudev Sahoo and Frank Glorius

Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster, NRW Graduate School of Chemistry, Organisch-Chemisches Institut, Corrensstrasse 40, 48149 Münster, Germany

glorius@uni-muenster.de

Contents

- 1. General Information
- 2. Optimization and Control Reactions
 - 2.1 Optimization Table
 - 2.2 Control Reactions
- 3. Scope and Limitations Studies
 - 3.1 General Procedure for the Cross-Coupling Reactions
 - 3.2 Characterization Data of Cross-Coupled Products
- 4. Further Manipulations of Brominated Diarylalkynes
- 5. Kinetic Profile
- 6. Quantum Yield Measurements
- 7. References
- 8. NMR Spectra of Cross-Coupled Products

1. General Information

Unless otherwise noted, all reactions were carried out under an atmosphere of argon in flame-dried glassware. The solvents used were purified by distillation over standard drying agents and were stored over molecular sieves or transferred under argon. Visible light from compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFL) was provided by a standard household desk lamp purchased from Massive fitted with a 23 W fluorescent light bulb, which was situated around 10 cm from the reaction vessel. Blue LEDs (5 W, λ = 465 nm) purchased from Kruse Lighting Solutions (HPB8b-48K5BF/WPCB) were used for blue light irradiation. A custom made "light box" was used with 6 blue LEDs arranged around the reaction vessels at a distance of around 5 cm (see Figure S1 below). A fan attached to the apparatus was used to maintain the temperature inside the "box" at no more than 9 °C above room temperature. The reaction was also performed under sunlight on the roof of the institute (see Figure S2 below).



Figure S1 Photographs of the custom-made "light box" used for reactions conducted under blue LED irradiation.



Figure S2 Photographs of the set up for reactions conducted under sunlight.

Aryldiazonium salts **2a-I** were prepared according the procedure of Hanson.¹ Alkyne substrates were commercially available (**1a-m**) and used as received. $[Ru(bpy)_3]_2(PF_6)_2$ (bpy = 2,2'-bipyridine)² and $[Ir(ppy)_2(dtbbpy)](PF_6)$ (ppy = 2-phenylpyridine, dtbbpy = 4,4'-di-*tert*-butyl-2,2'-bipyridine)³ were prepared according to literature procedures. The gold(I) chloride complexes ((*p*-MeO)C₆H₄)₃PAuCl, (C₆F₅)₃PAuCl, XPhosAuCl (XPhos =2-dicyclohexylphosphino-2',4',6'-triisopropylbiphenyl), (PhO)₃PAuCl and Cy₃PAuCl were prepared by reacting an equimolar ratio of the appropriate phosphine with (tht)AuCl (tht = tetrahydrothiophene) in dry dichloromethane in a method analogous to that of Hashmi and co-workers.⁴ IPrAuCl (IPr = 1,3-bis(2,6-diisopropylphenyl)-imidazol-2-ylidene) was prepared according to the procedure of Nolan.⁵ [Ph₃PAu]NTf₂ was prepared by reacting Ph₃PAuCl with an equimolar amount of AgNTf₂ in dichloromethane in a procedure analogous to that of Gagosz and co-workers.⁶ All other gold catalysts and photoredox catalysts were commercially available and used as received.

Flash chromatography was performed on Merck silica gel (40-63 mesh) using standard techniques.

NMR-spectra were recorded on a Bruker ARX-300, AV-300, AV-400 MHz or on a Varian Associated, Varian 600 unity plus spectrometer. Chemicals shifts (δ) are quoted in ppm downfield of tetramethylsilane. The residual solvent signals were used as references for ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra (CDCl₃: δ_{H} = 7.26 ppm, δ_{C} = 77.13 ppm). ¹⁹F NMR spectra are not calibrated by an internal reference. Coupling constants (*J*) are quoted in Hz.

GC-MS spectra were recorded on an Agilent Technologies 7890A GC-system with an Agilent 5975C VL MSD or an Agilent 5975 inert Mass Selective Detector (EI) and a HP-5MS column (0.25 mm x 30 m, film: 0.25 μ m). The major signals are quoted in *m*/*z* with the relative intensity in parentheses. The method indicated as '50_40' starts with the injection temperature T₀ (50 °C); after holding this temperature for 3 min, the column is heated by 40 °C/min to temperature T₁ (290 °C or 320 °C) and this temperature is held for an additional time t. ESI mass spectra were recorded on a Bruker Daltonics MicroTof spectrometer. Infrared spectra were recorded on a Varian Associates FT-IR 3100 Excalibur or on a Shimadzu FTIR 8400S spectrometer. The wave numbers (v) of recorded IR-signals are quoted in cm⁻¹.

2. Optimization and Control Reactions

2.1 Optimization Table^a



3aa

Entry	Photocatalyst (mol%)	Metal Complex (mol%)	Solvent	Yield ^b of
				3aa
1	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	Ph₃PAuCl (10)	MeOH	46
2	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	Ph₃PAuCl (10)	EtOH	7
3	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	Ph₃PAuCl (10)	[/] PrOH	-
4	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	Ph₃PAuCl (10)	EtOAc	-
5	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	Ph₃PAuCl (10)	Me ₂ CO	35
6	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	Ph₃PAuCl (10)	CH ₂ Cl ₂	-
7	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	Ph₃PAuCl (10)	Toluene	-
8	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	Ph₃PAuCl (10)	1,4-Dioxane	-
9	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	Ph ₃ PAuCl (10)	DMSO	50
10	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	Ph₃PAuCl (10)	DMF	78
11	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	((<i>p</i> -MeO)C ₆ H ₄) ₃ PAuCl (10)	DMF	83
12	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	XPhosAuCI (10)	DMF	-
13	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	Cy ₃ PAuCl (10)	DMF	72
14	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	(C ₆ F ₅) ₃ PAuCl (10)	DMF	77
15	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	(tht)AuCI (10)	DMF	70
16	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	(PhO)₃PAuCl (10)	DMF	-
17	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	[Ph ₃ PAu]NTf ₂ (10)	DMF	77
18	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	IPrAuCI (10)	DMF	-
19	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	AuCI (10)	DMF	68
20	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	AuCl ₃ (10)	DMF	27
21	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	((<i>p</i> -MeO)C ₆ H ₄) ₃ PAuCl (5)	DMF	61
22°	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	((<i>p</i> -MeO)C ₆ H ₄) ₃ PAuCl (10)	DMF	76
23 ^d	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (0.5)	((<i>p</i> -MeO)C ₆ H ₄) ₃ PAuCl (10)	DMF	83 (80)
24 ^e	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (0.5)	((<i>p</i> -MeO)C ₆ H ₄) ₃ PAuCl (10)	DMF	80
25 ^f	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (0.5)	((<i>p</i> -MeO)C ₆ H ₄) ₃ PAuCl (10)	DMF	71
26 ^g	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (0.5)	((<i>p</i> -MeO)C ₆ H ₄) ₃ PAuCl (10)	DMF	60
2 7g	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂ (2.5)	((<i>p</i> -MeO)C ₆ H ₄) ₃ PAuCl (10)	DMF	82
28 ^d	[lr(ppy) ₂ (dtbbpy)](PF ₆) ₂ (0.5)	((<i>p</i> -MeO)C ₆ H ₄) ₃ PAuCl (10)	DMF	trace
29 ^d	Eosin Y (0.5)	((<i>p</i> -MeO)C ₆ H ₄) ₃ PAuCl (10)	DMF	trace
30 ^d	Rose Bengal (0.5)	((<i>p</i> -MeO)C ₆ H ₄) ₃ PAuCl (10)	DMF	-
31 ^d	Rhodamine B (0.5)	((<i>p</i> -MeO)C ₆ H ₄) ₃ PAuCl (10)	DMF	-
32 ^d	Fluorescein (0.5)	((<i>p</i> -MeO)C ₆ H ₄) ₃ PAuCl (10)	DMF	trace
33	[Ru(bpy) ₃]Cl ₂ ·H ₂ O (0.5)	((p-MeO)C ₆ H ₄) ₃ PAuCl (10)	DMF	80

[a] General conditions: Alkyne **1a** (0.1 mmol), diazonium salt **2a** (0.4 mmol), photocatalyst, gold catalyst and the solvent (1 ml) were added to a flame-dried Schlenk flask in the absence of light. The mixture was degassed with three freeze-pump-thaw cycles, flushed with argon, sealed and stirred at room temperature under visible light irradiation (23

W CFL) for 2 h. [b] NMR yields using CH₂Br₂ as internal standard. [c] 2 equivalents of **2a**. [d] 1 h reaction time. [e] Blue LEDs, 1 h. [f] Sunlight, 8 h. [g] Under Air, 1 h. Isolated yield in parentheses. bpy = 2,2'-bipyridine, ppy = 2-phenylpyridine, dtbbpy = 4,4'-di-*tert*-butyl-2,2'-bipyridine, XPhos = 2-dicyclohexylphosphino-2',4',6'-triisopropylbiphenyl, Cy = cyclohexyl, tht = tetrahydrothiophene, IPr = 1,3-bis(2,6-diisopropylphenyl)-imidazol-2-ylidene, DMSO = dimethylsulfoxide, DMF = N,N-dimethylformamide. The structures of Eosin Y, Rose Bengal, Rhodamine B and Fluorescein are shown below.





Detection of homocoupling product derived from 1a by GC-MS analysis.⁷

3. Scope and Limitations Studies

3.1 General Procedure for the Cross-Coupling Reactions

[Ru(bpy)₃](PF₆)₂ (1.2 mg, 1.5 μ mol, 0.5 mol%), ((*p*-MeO)C₆H₄)₃PAuCl (17.4 mg, 29.7 μ mol, 10 mol%), the aryldiazonium salt **2** (1.2 mmol, 4.0 equiv) and the alkyne substrate **1** (0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv) were added to a flame-dried Schlenk flask containing a stirring bar. In the absence of light, anhydrous DMF (3.0 mL, 0.10 M) was added and the mixture was degassed using three freeze-pump-thaw cycles. The flask was then flushed with argon, sealed and the mixture was stirred under irradiation from a desk lamp fitted with a 23 W fluorescent light bulb (CFL). After 1 h, the mixture was quenched with a saturated solution of NaHCO₃ (3 mL) and distilled water (2 mL) was added. The crude reaction mixture was then extracted with ethyl acetate (4 × 5 mL) and the combined organic fractions were dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, filtered and concentrated under vacuum. The crude products **3** were purified by column chromatography over silica gel.

3.2 Characterization Data of Cross-Coupled Products

1-Methyl-4-(phenylethynyl)benzene (3aa)8



Prepared from 4-ethynyltoluene (**1a**) and phenyldiazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2a**) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = Pentane). White solid (46 mg, 0.24 mmol, 80%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 2.38 (s, 3H), 7.15-7.18 (m, 2H), 7.32-7.37 (m, 3H), 7.43-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.52-7.55 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 21.8 (CH₃), 89.0 (C_q), 89.8 (C_q), 120.5 (C_q), 123.7 (C_q), 128.4 (CH), 128.6 (CH), 129.4 (CH), 131.83 (CH), 131.88 (CH), 138.72 (C_q). R_f (pentane): 0.45. GC-MS: t_R (50_40): 8.5 min. EI-MS: m/z (%): 193 (15), 192 (100), 191 (47), 190 (11), 189 (22), 165 (14), 115 (6), 94 (6). IR (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 2361, 2340, 1735, 1717, 1699, 1652, 1559, 1541, 1508, 1458, 817, 755, 689, 669, 566, 540, 529.

Ethyl 4-(p-tolylethynyl)benzoate (3ab)8



Prepared from *p*-tolylacetylene (**1a**) and 4-(ethoxycarbonyl)benzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2b**) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane to pentane:EtOAc, 50:1). Isolated as a mixture with ethyl benzoate side-product, which was subsequently removed by drying under high vacuum (< 1 mbar) overnight. White solid (45 mg, 0.17 mmol, 57%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm): 1.40 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 4.38 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (dm, ³J_{H,H} = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (dm, ³J_{H,H} = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (dm, ³J_{H,H} = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 8.01 (dm, ³J_{H,H} = 8.6 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm): 14.4 (CH₃), 21.7 (CH₃), 61.2 (CH₂), 88.2 (C_q), 92.7 (C_q), 119.7 (C_q), 128.2 (C_q), 129.3 (CH), 129.6 (CH), 129.7 (C_q), 131.5 (CH), 131.7 (CH), 139.1 (C_q), 166.2 (C_q). R_f (pentane:EtOAc 20:1): 0.57. GC-MS: t_R (50_40): 10.0 min. EI-MS: *m/z* (%): 265 (19), 264 (100), 236 (25), 220 (16), 219 (81), 191 (15), 190 (15), 189 (40), 176 (13), 165 (8), 163 (7), 96 (5), 95 (8), 82 (6), 43 (6). HR-MS (ESI): m/z calculated for [C₁₈H₁₆O₂Na]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 287.1043, measured: 287.1041. IR (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 3031, 3001, 2957, 2919, 2854, 2218, 1700, 1599, 1557, 1517, 1446, 1405, 1366, 1306, 1269, 1171, 1138, 1102, 1015, 860, 821, 769, 696, 645, 600, 541.

Ethyl 4-(phenylethynyl)benzoate (3bb)9



Prepared from phenylacetylene (**1b**) and 4-(ethoxycarbonyl)benzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2b**) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane to pentane:EtOAc, 50:1). Isolated as a mixture with ethyl benzoate side-product, which was subsequently removed by drying under high vacuum (< 1 mbar) overnight. White solid (55 mg, 0.22 mmol, 73%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 1.41 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.1$ Hz, 3H), 4.39 (q, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.32–7.42 (m, 3H), 7.51–7.64 (m, 4H), 8.03 (dm, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 8.6$ Hz, 2H). 13 C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 14.5 (CH₃), 61.3 (CH₂), 88.8 (C_q), 92.4 (C_q), 122.8 (C_q), 128.0 (C_q), 128.6 (CH), 128.9 (CH), 129.6 (CH), 129.9 (C_q), 131.6 (CH), 131.8 (CH), 166.2 (C_q). **R**_f (pentane:EtOAc 20:1): 0.57. GC-MS: t_R (50_40): 9.6 min. EI-MS: *m/z* (%): 251 (16), 250 (86), 223 (5), 222 (33), 206 (19), 205 (100), 178 (6), 177 (20), 176 (54), 151 (21), 147 (5), 126 (5), 103 (7), 88 (16), 75 (5). HR-MS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for [C₁₇H₁₄O₂Na]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 273.0886, measured: 273.0884. IR (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 3068, 2995, 2941, 2216, 1698, 1633, 1605, 1551, 1484, 1442, 1406, 1368, 1308, 1273, 1174, 1141, 1125, 1102, 1072, 1020, 919, 860, 772, 757, 691, 602, 585.

Ethyl 4-((4-methoxyphenyl)ethynyl)benzoate (3cb)¹⁰



Prepared from 4-ethynylanisole (**1c**) and 4-(ethoxycarbonyl)benzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2b**) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane:EtOAc, 20:1). White solid (43 mg, 0.15 mmol, 51%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm): 1.40 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H,H}$ = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 4.39 (q, ${}^{3}J_{H,H}$ = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (dm, ${}^{3}J_{H,H}$ = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (dm, ${}^{3}J_{H,H}$ = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (dm, ${}^{3}J_{H,H}$ = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 8.02 (dm, ${}^{3}J_{H,H}$ = 8.6 Hz, 2H). 13 C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm): 14.4 (CH₃), 55.5 (CH₃), 61.2 (CH₂), 87.7 (C_q), 92.6 (C_q), 14.2 (CH), 114.9 (C_q), 128.4 (C_q), 129.6 (CH), 131.4 (CH), 133.4 (CH), 160.1 (C_q), 166.3 (C_q); *Note: One quaternary carbon peak is not resolved due to overlapping*. **R**_f (pentane:EtOAc 20:1): 0.37. **GC-MS: t**_R (50_40): 10.5 mi. EI-MS: *m*/*z* (%): 281 (20), 280 (100), 265 (6), 252 (23), 237 (7), 235 (38), 209 (7), 207 (7), 176 (6), 164 (21), 163 (23) 118 (6). HR-MS (ESI): m/z calculated for [C₁₈H₁₆O₃Na]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 303.0992, measured: 303.1007. **IR (ATR):** v (cm⁻¹): 3044, 2846, 2213, 1703, 1598, 1568, 1516, 1502, 1469, 1404, 1365, 1308, 1274, 1246, 1173, 1138, 1124, 1106, 1022, 877, 829, 765, 732, 693, 645, 610, 595, 564, 540.

Ethyl 4-((4-fluorophenyl)ethynyl)benzoate (3db)



Prepared from 1-ethynyl-4-fluorobenzene (1d) and 4-(ethoxycarbonyl)benzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (2b) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane to pentane:EtOAc, 100:1). Isolated as a mixture with ethyl benzoate side-product, which was subsequently removed by drying under high vacuum (< 1 mbar) overnight. White solid (58 mg, 0.22 mmol, 72%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 1.40 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.1$ Hz, 3H), 4.39 (q, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.06 (ddm, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 8.6$ Hz, ${}^{3}J_{H,F} = 8.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.48 – 7.59 (m, 4H), 8.03 (dm, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 8.6$ Hz, 2H). 13 C NMR (101 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 14.5 (CH₃), 61.3 (CH₂), 88.5 (Cq), 91.3 (Cq), 115.9 (d, ${}^{2}J_{C,F} = 22$ Hz, CH), 119.0 (d, ${}^{4}J_{C,F} = 4$ Hz, Cq), 127.8 (Cq), 129.6 (CH), 130.0 (Cq), 131.5 (CH), 133.8 (d, ${}^{3}J_{C,F} = 8$ Hz, CH), 163.9 (d, ${}^{1}J_{C,F} = 250$ Hz, Cq), 166.2 (Cq). 19 F NMR (282 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): -110.1 (tt, ${}^{3}J_{H,F} = 8.6$ Hz, ${}^{4}J_{H,F} = 5.4$ Hz). R_f (pentane:EtOAc 20:1): 0.55. GC-MS: t_R (50_40): 9.5 min. EI-MS: *m*/*z* (%): 269 (16), 268 (88), 240 (26), 224 (18), 223 (100), 195 (17), 194 (37), 175 (11), 169 (8), 168 (5), 112 (6), 97 (7). HR-MS (ESI): m/z calculated for [C₁₇H₁₃FO₂Na]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 291.0792, measured: 291.0793. IR (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 3064, 2995, 2933, 2221, 1900, 1705, 1597, 1563, 1515, 1502, 1478, 1452, 1406, 1368, 1208, 1273, 1233, 1174, 1141, 1121, 1097, 1016, 856, 833, 795, 766, 690, 581.

Ethyl 4-((4-bromophenyl)ethynyl)benzoate (3eb)¹¹

Prepared from 1-bromo-4-ethynylbenzene (**1e**) and 4-(ethoxycarbonyl)benzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2b**) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane to pentane:EtOAc, 50:1). Isolated as a mixture with ethyl benzoate side-product, which was subsequently removed by drying under high vacuum (< 1 mbar) overnight. White solid (65 mg, 0.20 mmol, 66%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 1.40 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 4.39 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (dm, ³J_{H,H} = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (dm, ³J_{H,H} = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (dm, ³J_{H,H} = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 8.02 (dm, ³J_{H,H} = 8.5 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 14.5 (CH₃), 61.3 (CH₂), 89.9 (C_q), 91.2 (C_q), 121.8 (C_q), 123.2 (C_q), 127.6 (C_q), 129.6 (CH), 130.2 (C_q), 131.6 (CH), 131.8 (CH), 133.2 (CH), 166.1 (C_q). R_f (pentane:EtOAc 20:1): 0.61. GC-MS: t_R (50_40): 10.5 min. EI-MS: *m/z* (%): 331 (17), 330 (96), 329 (23), 328 (100), 303 (5), 302 (30), 301 (6), 300 (32), 286 (17), 285 (87), 284 (18), 283 (89), 257 (9), 255 (9), 207 (5), 205 (6), 204 (6), 177 (19), 176 (100), 175 (17), 174 (12), 151 (7), 150 (25), 149 (9), 143 (7), 141 (7), 128 (5), 127 (7), 126 (8), 125 (5), 99 (8), 98 (5), 88 (17), 87 (8), 75 (11), 74 (9), 51 (6). HR-MS (ESI): m/z calculated for [C₁₇H₁₃⁷⁹BrO₂Na]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 350.9991, measured: 350.9993; m/z calculated for [C₁₇H₁₃⁸¹BrO₂Na]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 352.9971,

measured: 352.9973. **IR (ATR):** v (cm⁻¹): 3002, 2851, 2216, 1907, 1712, 1653, 1604, 1582, 1561, 1509, 1480, 1404, 1389, 1368, 1307, 1268, 1162, 1138, 1097, 1068, 1005, 859, 821, 783, 766, 728, 694, 637, 620, 591, 567, 544.

Ethyl 4-((4-cyanophenyl)ethynyl)benzoate (3fb)8

Prepared from 1-cyano-4-ethynylbenzene (**1f**) and 4-(ethoxycarbonyl)benzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2b**) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane:EtOAc, 20:1). Orange solid (57 mg, 0.21 mmol, 69%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm): 1.40 (t, ³*J*_{H,H} = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 4.39 (q, ³*J*_{H,H} = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.55 – 7.68 (m, 6H), 8.05 (dm, ³*J*_{H,H} = 8.5 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm): 14.4 (CH₃), 61.4 (CH₂), 90.3 (C_q), 92.9 (C_q), 112.1 (C_q), 118.5 (C_q), 126.8 (C_q), 127.7 (C_q), 129.7 (CH), 130.7 (C_q), 131.8 (CH), 132.2 (CH), 132.3 (CH), 166.0 (C_q). **R**_f (pentane:EtOAc 20:1): 0.27. GC-MS: t_R (50_40): 10.6 min. EI-MS: *m*/*z* (%): 276 (13), 275 (69), 248 (7), 247 (41), 231 (24), 230 (100), 230 (5), 203 (5), 202 (19), 201 (36), 176 (16), 175 (22), 174 (5), 151 (6), 149 (6), 101 (7), 87 (5). HR-MS (ESI): m/z calculated for [C₁₈H₁₃NO₂Na]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 298.0838, measured: 298.0841. IR (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 3046, 2991, 2908, 2226, 1936, 1705, 1605, 1561, 1515, 1496, 1477, 1405, 1365, 1307, 1273, 1173, 1139, 1122, 1097, 1020, 875, 859, 839, 767, 693, 641, 606, 596, 556, 528.

Ethyl 4-((4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)ethynyl)benzoate (3gb)¹²

Prepared from 1-ethynyl-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzene (**1g**) and 4-(ethoxycarbonyl)benzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2b**) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane to pentane:EtOAc, 50:1). Isolated as a mixture with ethyl benzoate side-product, which was subsequently removed by drying under high vacuum (< 1 mbar) overnight. White solid (75 mg, 0.24 mmol, 79%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 1.40 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 4.39 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.57 – 7.68 (m, 6H), 8.05 (dm, ³J_{H,H} = 8.5 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 14.4 (CH₃), 61.3 (CH₂), 90.7 (C_q), 91.0 (C_q), 124.0 (q, ¹J_{C,F} = 272 Hz, C_q), 125.5 (q, ³J_{C,F} = 4 Hz, CH), 126.7 (q, ⁵J_{C,F} = 1 Hz, C_q), 127.2

(C_q), 129.8 (CH), 130.5 (q, ${}^{2}J_{C,F}$ = 33 Hz, C_q), 130.5 (C_q), 131.7 (CH), 132.1 (CH), 166.1 (C_q). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm): -62.9 (s). R_f (pentane:EtOAc 20:1): 0.57. GC-MS: t_R (50_40): 9.4 min. EI-MS: *m*/*z* (%): 319 (13), 318 (61), 299 (5), 290 (28), 274 (18), 273 (100), 245 (11), 225 (17), 176 (23), 175 (5), 136 (5). HR-MS (ESI): m/z calculated for [C₁₈H₁₃F₃O₂Na]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 341.0760, measured: 341.0755. IR (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 2999, 2936, 2288, 1934, 1715, 1611, 1562, 1465, 1404, 1369, 1319, 1271, 1165, 1121, 1102, 1063, 1013, 857, 840, 767, 711, 695, 641, 616, 597, 514.

Ethyl 4-((3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)ethynyl)benzoate (3hb)

Prepared from 1-ethynyl-3-(trifluoromethyl)benzene (**1h**) and 4-(ethoxycarbonyl)benzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2b**) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane to pentane:EtOAc, 50:1). Isolated as a mixture with ethyl benzoate side-product, which was subsequently removed by drying under high vacuum (< 1 mbar) overnight. White solid (68 mg, 0.21 mmol, 71%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 1.41 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.1$ Hz, 3H), 4.39 (q, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.49 (tm, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.57 – 7.63 (m, 3H), 7.71 (dm, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.81 (s, 1H), 8.04 (dm, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 8.5$ Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 14.5 (CH₃), 61.4 (CH₂), 90.2 (C_q), 90.6 (C_q), 123.8 (q, ${}^{1}J_{C,F} = 272$ Hz, C_q), 123.9 (C_q), 125.4 (q, ${}^{3}J_{C,F} = 4$ Hz, CH), 127.2 (C_q), 128.7 (q, ${}^{3}J_{C,F} = 4$ Hz, CH), 129.1 (CH), 129.7 (CH), 130.5 (C_q), 131.2 (q, ${}^{2}J_{C,F} = 33$ Hz, C_q), 131.7 (CH), 134.9 (q, ${}^{5}J_{C,F} = 1$ Hz, CH), 166.1 (C_q). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): -63.0 (s). R_f (pentane:EtOAc 20:1): 0.59. GC-MS: t_R (50_40): 9.4 min. EI-MS: *m*/z (%): 319 (12), 318 (61), 290 (31), 274 (21), 273 (100), 245 (13), 225 (19), 176 (14), 136 (5). HR-MS (ESI): m/z calculated for [C₁₈H₁₃F₃O₂Na]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 341.0760, measured: 341.0773. IR (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 3069, 2990, 2945, 2135, 1711, 1604, 1561, 1508, 1477, 1428, 1404, 1369, 1336, 1271, 1164, 1130, 1102, 1070, 1021, 912, 891, 873, 856, 805, 768, 735, 716, 693, 660, 630, 591, 574, 560, 536.

Ethyl 4-((2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)ethynyl)benzoate (3ib)¹³

Prepared from 1-ethynyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)benzene (**1i**) and 4-(ethoxycarbonyl)benzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2b**) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane to pentane:EtOAc, 20:1). White solid (69 mg, 0.22 mmol, 72%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 1.41 (t, ³*J*_{H,H} = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 4.39 (q, ³*J*_{H,H} = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (tm, ³*J*_{H,H} = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (tm, ³*J*_{H,H} = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (dm, ³*J*_{H,H} = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.66–7.72 (m, 2H), 8.04 (dm, ³*J*_{H,H} = 8.6 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 14.4 (CH₃), 61.3 (CH₂), 88.1 (C_q), 94.1 (C_q), 121.1 (q, ³*J*_{C,F} = 2 Hz, C_q), 123.7 (q, ¹*J*_{C,F} = 273 Hz, C_q), 126.1 (q, ³*J*_{C,F} = 5 Hz, CH), 127.3 (C_q), 128.6 (CH), 129.6 (CH), 130.5 (C_q), 131.6 (CH), 131.7 (CH), 131.8 (q, ²*J*_{C,F} = 31 Hz, C_q), 134.0 (CH), 166.1 (C_q). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): –62.3 (s). **R**_f (pentane:EtOAc 20:1): 0.43. GC-MS: t_R (50_40): 9.4 min. EI-MS: *m*/z (%): 319 (13), 318 (64), 299 (5), 291 (5), 290 (32), 274 (20), 273 (100), 246 (5), 245 (27), 243 (7), 226 (5), 225 (26), 219 (5), 214 (6), 199 (5), 175 (6), 122 (5). HR-MS (ESI): m/z calculated for [C₁₈H₁₃F₃O₂Na]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 341.0760, measured: 341.0765. IR (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 2984, 2935, 2911, 1716, 1607, 1574, 1513, 1482, 1451, 1405, 1369, 1307, 1291, 1268, 1174, 1122, 1103, 1052, 1028, 961, 922, 858, 840, 765, 719, 691, 652, 614, 594.

Ethyl 4-(oct-1-yn-1-yl)benzoate (3jb)14

Prepared from 1-octyne (**1j**) and 4-(ethoxycarbonyl)benzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2b**) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane to pentane:EtOAc, 100:1). Isolated as a mixture with ethyl benzoate side-product, which was subsequently removed by drying under high vacuum (< 1 mbar) overnight. Colorless oil (42 mg, 0.16 mmol, 54%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 0.90 (tm, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 6.9$ Hz, 3H), 1.23 – 1.52 (m, 9H), 1.55 – 1.68 (m, 2H), 2.42 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.36 (q, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.44 (dm, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.95 (dm, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 8.5$ Hz, 2H). 13 C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 14.2 (CH₃), 14.4 (CH₃), 19.7 (CH₂), 22.7 (CH₂), 28.7 (CH₂), 28.8 (CH₂), 31.5 (CH₂), 61.2 (CH₂), 80.3 (C_q), 94.1 (C_q), 128.9 (C_q), 129.3 (C_q), 129.5 (CH), 131.5 (CH), 166.3 (C_q). R_f (pentane:EtOAc 20:1): 0.76. GC-MS: t_R (50_40): 9.2 min. EI-MS: *m*/*z* (%): 259 (6), 258 (30), 229 (16), 216 (21), 215 (31), 214 (8), 213 (43), 189 (5), 187 (26), 185 (9), 173 (5), 169 (7), 163 (11), 161 (6), 160 (7), 159 (27), 157 (12), 156 (9), 155 (17), 146 (9), 145 (11), 144 (9), 143 (57), 142 (28), 141 (22), 131 (21), 130 (15), 129 (100), 128 (51), 127 (19), 126 (5), 119 (5), 118 (6), 117 (52), 116 (11), 115 (48), 114 (34), 113 (14), 102 (7), 101 (8), 95 (9), 91 (15), 89 (7), 88 (11), 79 (5), 77 (13), 75 (6), 67 (6), 63 (10), 55 (7), 51 (5), 43 (21), 41 (22), 39 (9). HR-MS (ESI): m/z calculated for [C1₇H₂₂O₂Na]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 281.1512, measured: 281.1516. IR (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 2931, 2858, 2227, 1717, 1607, 1505, 1464, 1405, 1367, 1306, 1269, 1174, 1104, 1021, 857, 769, 726, 697, 630, 555, 535, 525.

Ethyl 4-(5-phenylpent-1-yn-1-yl)benzoate (3kb)

Prepared from pent-4-yn-1-ylbenzene (**1k**) and 4-(ethoxycarbonyl)benzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2b**) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane to pentane:EtOAc, 50:1). Isolated as a mixture with ethyl benzoate side-product, which was subsequently removed by drying under high vacuum (< 1 mbar) overnight. Colorless oil (54 mg, 0.18 mmol, 62%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 1.40 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.1$ Hz, 3H), 1.89 – 2.01 (m, 2H), 2.46 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.80 (dd, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.7$, 7.3 Hz, 2H), 4.38 (q, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.17 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 7.27 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.47 (dm, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.98 (dm, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 8.5$ Hz, 2H). 13 C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 14.5 (CH₃), 19.0 (CH₂), 30.2 (CH₂), 35.0 (CH₂), 61.2 (CH₂), 80.8 (C_q), 93.4 (C_q), 126.1 (CH), 128.5 (CH), 128.7 (CH), 128.8 (C_q), 129.4 (C_q), 129.5 (CH), 131.6 (CH), 141.6 (C_q), 166.3 (C_q). R_f (pentane:EtOAc 20:1): 0.63. GC-MS: t_R (50_40): 10.5 min. EI-MS: *m*/*z* (%): 293 (7), 292 (47), 291 (7), 263 (11), 247 (35), 220 (11), 219 (68), 218 (7), 214 (13), 204 (19), 203 (14), 191 (28), 178 (7), 155 (7), 143 (21), 142 (13), 141 (12), 129 (67), 128 (32), 127 (16), 117 (6), 115 (27), 114 (13), 105 (10), 105 (8), 104 (8), 104 (27), 103 (21), 92 (24), 91 (100), 89 (7), 88 (5), 79 (13), 78 (18), 77 (29), 65 (12), 63 (9), 51 (12), 43 (5). HR-MS (ESI): *m*/*z* calculated for [C₂₀H₂₀O₂Na]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 315.1356, measured: 315.1345. IR (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 3028, 2929, 2833, 2247, 1714, 1650, 1606, 1496, 1456, 1428, 1344, 1268, 1173, 1102, 1026, 989, 912, 854, 746, 698, 631, 586, 567, 550, 515.

Ethyl 4-(5-cyanopent-1-yn-1-yl)benzoate (3lb)

Prepared from hex-5-ynenitrile (1I) and 4-(ethoxycarbonyl)benzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (2b) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane:EtOAc, 10:1 to 5:1). Orange oil (50 mg, 0.21 mmol, 69%).

¹**H NMR (300 MHz, CDCI₃):** δ (ppm): 1.38 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.97 (pent, ³J_{H,H} = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.56 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.62 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 4.36 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (dm, ³J_{H,H} = 8.5 Hz, 2H),

7.96 (dm, ${}^{3}J_{H,H}$ = 8.5 Hz, 2H). ${}^{13}C$ NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm): 14.4 (CH₃), 16.4 (CH₂), 18.7 (CH₂), 24.6 (CH₂), 61.2 (CH₂), 81.9 (C_q), 90.2 (C_q), 119.2 (C_q), 127.9 (C_q), 129.5 (CH), 129.8 (C_q), 131.6 (CH), 166.1 (C_q). **R**_f (pentane:EtOAc 5:1): 0.24. GC-MS: t_R (50_40): 9.5 min. EI-MS: *m*/*z* (%): 242 (6), 241 (34), 197 (15), 196 (100), 187 (5), 168 (21), 167 (23), 159 (6), 155 (6), 141 (5), 128 (10), 127 (6), 115 (10), 114 (8), 113 (5), 77 (5), 63 (5). HR-MS (ESI): m/z calculated for [C₁₅H₁₅NO₂Na]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 264.0995, measured: 264.1001. IR (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 2982, 2934, 2910, 2250, 2230, 1946, 1704, 1606, 1563, 1509, 1477, 1449, 1429, 1408, 1366, 1341, 1313, 1275, 1178, 1126, 1104, 1023, 982, 944, 857, 769, 719, 697, 642, 603, 580, 542, 527.

Ethyl 4-(cyclopentylethynyl)benzoate (3mb)

Prepared from cyclopentylacetylene (**1m**) and 4-(ethoxycarbonyl)benzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2b**) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane to pentane:EtOAc, 100:1). Isolated as a mixture with ethyl benzoate side-product, which was subsequently removed by drying under high vacuum (< 1 mbar) overnight. Colorless oil (46 mg, 0.19 mmol, 63%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 1.38 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.1$ Hz, 3H), 1.54 – 1.84 (m, 6H), 1.94 – 2.07 (m, 2H), 2.84 (pent, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 4.36 (q, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.43 (dm, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.95 (dm, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 8.5$ Hz, 2H). 1³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 14.5 (CH₃), 25.2 (CH₂), 31.0 (CH), 33.9 (CH₂), 61.2 (CH₂), 79.8 (Cq), 98.2 (Cq), 129.0 (Cq), 129.1 (Cq), 129.4 (CH), 131.5 (CH), 166.4 (Cq). **R**_f (pentane:EtOAc **20:1)**: 0.67. **GC-MS:** t_R (50_40): 9.1 min. **EI-MS:** *m/z* (%): 243 (10), 242 (57), 214(14), 213 (16), 198 (6), 197 (37), 186 (9), 185 (10), 172 (7), 170 (14), 169 (95), 168 (10), 167 (14), 165 (7), 156 (6), 155 (38), 154 (16), 153 (17), 152 (10), 146 (5), 142 (19), 141 (100), 140 (9), 139 (18), 129 (22), 128 (21), 127 (23), 126 (11), 115 (33), 114 (6), 113 (6), 102 (5), 101 (10), 91 (11), 89 (5), 77 (13), 76 (5), 75 (8), 67 (5), 63 (9), 51 (6), 42 (5), 41 (9), 39 (7). **HR-MS (ESI):** m/z calculated for [C1₆H₁₈O₂Na]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 265.1199, measured: 265.1200. **IR (ATR):** v (cm⁻¹): 2958, 2873, 2225, 1716, 1700, 1606, 1561, 1507, 1469, 1447, 1405, 1368, 1328, 1307, 1269, 1175, 1105, 1019, 972, 900, 859, 769, 733, 697, 629, 560, 536, 522.

4-(phenylethynyl)benzonitrile (3fa)¹⁵

Prepared from 4-ethynylbenzonitrile (**1f**) and benzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2a**) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane:EtOAc, 20:1 to 10:1) and drying under high vacuum (< 1 mbar) overnight. Yellow solid (46 mg, 0.226 mmol, 75 %).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 7.38-7.39 (m, 3H), 7.54-7.65 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 88.1 (C_q), 94.1 (C_q), 111.8 (C_q), 118.9 (C_q), 122.5 (C_q), 128.6 (C_q), 128.8 (CH), 129.5 (CH), 132.1 (CH), 132.4 (CH), 132.4 (CH). R_f (pentane:EtOAc 10:1): 0.47. GC-MS: t_R (50_40): 9.0 min. EI-MS: *m/z* (%): 204 (17), 203 (100), 202 (10), 201 (9), 177 (6), 176 (7), 175 (7). HR-MS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for [C₁₅H₉NNa]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 226.0633, measured: 226.0632. IR (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 691, 759, 840, 1072, 1178, 1274, 1407, 1444, 1503, 1603, 2216, 2225, 3089.

4-(p-tolylethynyl)benzonitrile (3fc)¹⁶

Prepared from 4-ethynylbenzonitrile (**1f**) and 4-methylbenzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2c**) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane:EtOAc, 20:1 to 10:1). The resulting solid was washed three times with 3 ml of pentane and dried under high vacuum (< 1 mbar) for 2h. Yellow solid (40 mg, 0.184 mmol, 61 %).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 2.30 (s, 3H), 7.18-7.20 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.57-7.64 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 21.9 (CH₃), 87.5 (C_q), 94.4 (C_q), 111.5 (C_q), 118.9 (C_q), 119.4 (C_q), 128.8 (C_q), 129.6 (CH), 132.0 (CH), 132.3 (CH), 132.4 (CH), 139.7 (C_q). **R**_f (pentane:EtOAc 10:1): 0.49. **GC-MS:** t_R (50_40): 9.3 min. **EI-MS:** m/z (%): 218 (18), 217 (100), 216 (42), 215 (6), 214 (12), 190 (14), 189 (10), 94 (6). **HR-MS (ESI):** m/z calculated for [C₁₆H₁₁NNa]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 240.0789, measured: 240.0790; **IR** (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 756, 819, 839,1018, 1044, 1108, 1132, 1177, 1230, 1377, 1497, 1509, 1596, 1742, 2211, 2226, 2924, 2959.

4,4'-(ethyne-1,2-diyl)dibenzonitrile (3fd)¹⁷

Prepared from 4-ethynylbenzonitrile (**1f**) and 4-cyanobenzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2d**) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane:EtOAc, 5:1 to 2:1). The resulting solid was washed three times with 3 ml of pentane and dried under high vacuum (< 1 mbar) for 2h. Yellow solid (50 mg, 0.219 mmol, 73 %).

Prepared on 0.30 mmol scale using 2.5 mol % of [Ru(bpy)₃](PF₆)₂ under air. (45 mg, 0.197 mmol, 66 %).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 7.62-7.68 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 8.4 Hz, 8H). ¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 91.8 (C_q), 112.7 (C_q), 118.5 (C_q), 127.3 (C_q), 132.5 (CH), 132.6 (CH). R_f (pentane:EtOAc 2:1): 0.58. GC-MS: t_R (50_40): 10.0 min. EI-MS: *m*/*z* (%): 229 (18), 228 (100), 227 (7), 201 (7), 200 (6). HR-MS (ESI): *m*/*z* calculated for [C₁₆H₈N₂Na]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 251.0585, measured: 251.0570; IR (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 830, 1099, 1172, 1277, 1405, 1504, 1604, 1920, 2226.

4-((3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)ethynyl)benzonitrile (3fe)18

Prepared from 4-ethynylbenzonitrile (**1f**) and 3-(trifluoromethyl)benzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2e**) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane:EtOAc, 20:1 to 10:1). The resulting solid was washed three times with 3 ml of pentane and dried under high vacuum (< 1 mbar) for 2h. White solid (48 mg, 0.180 mmol, 59 %).

¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 7.51 (t, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.61 – 7.67 (m, 5H), 7.81 (s, 1H), 7.71 (d, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.7$ Hz, 1H). 13 C NMR (150 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 89.2 (C_q), 92.0 (C_q), 112.2 (C_q), 118.5 (C_q), 123.4 (C_q), 123.7 (q, ${}^{1}J_{C,F} = 272.5$ Hz, CF₃), 125.8 (q, ${}^{3}J_{C,F} = 3.7$ Hz, CH), 127.6 (C_q), 128.74 (q, ${}^{3}J_{C,F} = 3.9$ Hz, CH), 129.2 (CH), 131.4 (q, ${}^{2}J_{C,F} = 32.7$ Hz, C_q), 132.3 (CH), 132.3 (CH), 135.0 (q, ${}^{4}J_{C,F} = 1.1$ Hz, CH). ¹⁹F NMR (600 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): -63.03 (s). R_f (pentane:ethylacetate 9:1): 0.38. GC-MS: t_R (50_40): 8.9 min. EI-MS: m/z (%): 272 (18), 271 (100). HR-MS (ESI): m/z calculated for [C₁₆H₈F₃NNa]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 294.0501, measured: 294.0511; IR (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 2225, 1604, 1503, 1482, 1430, 1409, 1338, 1296, 1270, 1171, 1155, 1114, 1093, 1070, 1021, 891, 837, 804, 743, 694, 666, 653, 603.

4-((4-fluorophenyl)ethynyl)benzonitrile (3ff)¹⁹

Prepared from 4-ethynylbenzonitrile (**1f**) and 3-(trifluoromethyl)benzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2f**) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane:EtOAc, 20:1 to 10:1). The resulting solid was washed three times with 3 ml of pentane and dried under high vacuum (< 1 mbar) for 2h. White solid (37 mg, 0.17 mmol, 56%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 7.03 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 7.48–7.56 (m, 2H), 7.57 – 7.67 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 87.6 (C_q), 92.8 (C_q), 111.8 (C_q), 115.9 (CH), 116.2 (CH), 118.5 (d, ⁴J_{C,F} = 3.5 Hz, C_q), 118.6 (C_q), 128.2 (C_q), 132.2 (d, ³J_{C,F} = 3.6 Hz, CH), 133.9 (d, ³J_{C,F} = 8.5 Hz, CH), 163.1 (d, ¹J_{C,F} = 251.1 Hz, C_q). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): – 109.30 (tt, ³J_{F,H} = 8.5 Hz, ⁴J_{F,H} = 5.3 Hz). R_f (pentane:ethylacetate 9:1): 0.32. GC-MS: t_R (50_40): 9.0 min. EI-MS: *m*/*z* (%): 222 (16), 221 (100). HR-MS (ESI): *m*/*z* calculated for [C₁₅H₈FNNa]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 244.0533, measured: 244.0540. IR (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 2231, 2212, 1594, 1508, 1411, 1275, 1227, 1184, 1158, 1132, 1111, 1099, 1013, 912, 837, 811, 732, 654.

4-((4-bromophenyl)ethynyl)benzonitrile (3fg)¹⁸

Prepared from 4-ethynylbenzonitrile (**1f**) and 4-bromobenzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2g**) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane:EtOAc, 20:1 to 10:1). The resulting solid was washed three times with 3 ml of pentane and dried under high vacuum (< 1 mbar) for 2h. Yellow solid (73 mg, 0.258 mmol, 86 %).

Prepared on 0.30 mmol scale using 2.5 mol % of [Ru(bpy)₃](PF₆)₂ under air. (57 mg, 0.201 mmol, 67 %).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 7.38 – 7.41 (m, 2H), 7.50 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.58 – 7.66 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 89.0 (Cq), 92.9 (Cq), 112.0 (Cq), 118.7 (Cq), 121.4 (Cq), 123.8 (Cq), 128.1 (Cq), 132.15 (CH), 132.38 (CH), 132.42 (CH), 133.4 (CH). R_f (pentane:EtOAc 10:1): 0.58. GC-MS: t_R (50_40): 9.9 min. EI-MS: *m/z* (%): 283.9 (17), 289.0 (99), 282 (18), 280 (100), 202 (6), 201 (34), 176 (13), 175 (22), 174 (8), 151 (6). HR-MS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for [C₁₅H₈BrNNa]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 303.9738, measured: 303.9728. IR (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 602, 659, 824, 1010, 1065, 1102, 1176, 1274, 1307, 1394, 1475, 1502, 1582, 1600, 2217.

4-((4-chlorophenyl)ethynyl)benzonitrile (3fh)²⁰

Prepared from 4-ethynylbenzonitrile (**1f**) and 4-chlorobenzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2h**) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane:EtOAc, 20:1 to 10:1). The resulting solid was washed three times with 3 ml of pentane and dried under high vacuum (< 1 mbar) for 2h. Yellow solid (46 mg, 0.193 mmol, 64 %).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 7.34 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.46 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.58 – 7.65 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 88.9 (C_q), 92.8 (C_q), 112.0 (C_q), 118.7 (C_q), 121.0 (C_q), 128.2 (C_q), 129.2 (CH), 132.3 (CH), 132.4 (CH), 133.3 (CH), 135.6 (C_q). **R**_f (pentane:EtOAc 10:1): 0.43. GC-MS: t_R (50_40): 9.6 min. EI-MS: *m*/*z* (%): 239 (34), 238 (17), 237 (100), 201 (18), 175 (6), 175 (11). HR-MS (ESI): *m*/*z* calculated for [C₁₅H₈CINNa]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 260.0243, measured: 260.0230. IR (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 558, 674, 828, 1011, 1090, 1175, 1273, 1397, 1477, 1497, 1589, 1600, 1920, 2216, 2340, 2359.

4-((4-acetylphenyl)ethynyl)benzonitrile (3fi)²¹

Prepared from 4-ethynylbenzonitrile (**1f**) and 4-acetylbenzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2i**) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane:EtOAc, 5:1 to 2:1). White solid (55 mg, 0.224 mmol, 74 %).

Prepared on 0.30 mmol scale using 2.5 mol % of [Ru(bpy)₃](PF₆)₂ under air. (48 mg, 0.195 mmol, 65 %).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm): 2.62 (s, 3H), 7.61-7.68 (m, 6H), 7.95-7.98 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm): 27.0 (CH₃), 90.9 (C_q), 92.6 (C_q), 112.3 (C_q), 118.6 (C_q), 127.2 (C_q), 127.8 (C_q), 128.6 (CH), 132.2 (CH), 132.4 (CH), 132.5 (CH), 137.1 (C_q), 197.5 (C_q). **R**_f (pentane:EtOAc 2:1): 0.48. GC-MS: **t**_R (50_40): 10.3 min. EI-MS: *m*/*z* (%): 246 (9), 245 (49), 231 (19), 230 (100), 202 (13), 201 (28), 176 (10), 175 (18), 115 (6), 101 (7), 43 (7). HR-MS (ESI): *m*/*z* calculated for [C₁₇H₁₁NNaO]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 268.0738, measured: 268.0736; IR (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 592, 696, 827, 839, 864, 961, 1014, 1111, 1174, 1262, 1356, 1404, 1493, 1555, 1602, 1683, 1934, 2225.

methyl 2-((4-cyanophenyl)ethynyl)benzoate (3fj)14

Prepared from 4-ethynylbenzonitrile (**1f**) 2-(methoxycarbonyl)benzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2j**) on a 0.30 mmol scale. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane:EtOAc, 5:1 to 2:1). White solid (32 mg, 0.122 mmol, 40 %).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 3.96 (s, 3H), 7.44 (td, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.6$ Hz, ${}^{4}J_{H,H} = 1.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.53 (td, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.6$ Hz, ${}^{4}J_{H,H} = 1.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.50 (td, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.6$ Hz, ${}^{4}J_{H,H} = 1.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.60-7.67 (m, 5H), 8.02 (dd, ${}^{3}J_{H,H} = 7.9$ Hz, ${}^{4}J_{H,H} = 1.4$ Hz, 1H). 13 C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (ppm): 52.6 (CH₃), 92.7 (C_q), 92.8 (C_q), 118.8 (C_q), 120.0 (C_q), 123.1 (C_q), 128.6 (C_q), 129.0 (CH), 130.9 (CH), 132.2 (CH), 132.3 (CH), 132.5 (CH), 133.3 (C_q), 134.4 (CH), 166.5 (C_q). R_f (pentane:EtOAc 2:1): 0.53. GC-MS: t_R (50_40): 10.1 min. EI-MS: *m*/*z* (%): 262 (18), 261 (100), 247 (10), 246 (64), 230 (25), 218 (17), 202 (13), 201 (33), 191 (9), 190 (40), 176 (13), 175 (21), 115 (6), 101 (8), 87 (7), 74 (6). HR-MS (ESI): *m*/*z* calculated for [C₁₇H₁₁NO₂Na]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 284.0887, measured: 284.0682. IR (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 668, 697, 756, 765, 835, 966, 1044, 1087, 1125, 1250, 1293, 1448, 1457, 1605, 1694, 1710, 2240, 2360.

6-((4-methoxyphenyl)ethynyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzo[b][1,4]dioxine (3ck)

Prepared from 4-ethynylanisol (**1c**) and 2,3-dihydrobenzo[b][1,4]dioxine-6-diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2k**) on a 0.30 mmol scale using 2.5 mol% of $[Ru(bpy)_3](PF_6)_2$ and 5W Blue Leds for 5h. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane:EtOAc, 10:1 to 5:1). White solid (39 mg, 0.146 mmol, 49 %).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm): 3.82 (s, 3H), 4.26 (s, 4H), 6.80-6.88 (m, 3H), 6.99-7.03 (m, 2H) 7.42-7.47 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm): 55.6 (CH₃), 64.5 (CH₂), 64.8 (CH₂), 88.0 (C_q), 114.2 (CH), 115.8 (C_q), 116.7 (C_q), 117.6 (C_q), 120.5 (CH), 125.4 (CH), 133.2 (CH), 143.5 (C_q), 144.2 (C_q), 159.7 (C_q). **R**_f (pentane:EtOAc 5:1): 0.58. **GC-MS:** t_R (50_40): 10.8 min. EI-MS: *m/z* (%): 267 (10), 266 (100), 251 (23), 210 (34), 182 (10), 167 (7), 156 (8), 139 (15), 125 (7), 112 (7). HR-MS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for [C₁₇H₁₄O₃Na]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 289.0841, measured: 289.0835. IR (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 525, 560, 651, 729, 906, 1068, 1247, 1281, 1323, 1513, 1577, 1607, 2254.

1-ethoxy-4-((4-methoxyphenyl)ethynyl)benzene (3cl)22

Prepared from 4-ethynylanisol (**1c**) and 4-ethoxybenzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2I**) on a 0.30 mmol scale using 2.5 mol% of $[Ru(bpy)_3](PF_6)_2$ and 5W Blue Leds for 5h. Purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane:EtOAc, 10:1 to 5:1). White solid (38 mg, 0.150 mmol, 50 %).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm): 1.42 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 4.0 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 6.83-6.89 (m, 4H), 7.42-7.47 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm): 15.0 (CH₃), 55.5 (CH₃), 67.7 (CH₂), 88.0 (Cq), 88.2 (Cq), 114.1 (CH), 114.6 (CH), 115.7 (Cq), 115.9 (Cq), 133.0 (CH), 159.0 (Cq), 159.5 (Cq). R_f (pentane:EtOAc 5:1): 0.66. GC-MS: t_R (50_40): 9.90 min. EI-MS: *m*/*z* (%): 253 (17), 252 (100), 225 (6), 224 (35), 223 (49), 210 (7), 209 (41), 195 (10), 181 (11), 180 (7), 163 (9), 152 (25), 151 (9), 126 (6). IR (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 534, 574, 630, 730, 813, 836, 907, 1029, 1047, 1114, 1176, 1245, 1286, 1307, 1399, 1443, 1475, 1517, 1570, 1607, 2985.

4. Further Manipulations of Brominated Diarylalkynes

Ethyl 4-((4-(phenylethynyl)phenyl)ethynyl)benzoate (4)²³

Following a modified procedure from Fischmeister et al,^[22] in a dry Schlenk tube, ethyl 4-((4bromophenyl)ethynyl)benzoate (**3eb**, 50 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), phenylacetylene (**1b**, 19 μ L, 0.17 mmol, 1.1 equiv), Pd(PPh₃)₂Cl₂ (2.2 mg, 3.0 μ mol, 2.0 mol%) and PPh₃ (1.6 mg, 6.1 μ mol, 4.0 mol%) were dissolved in dry triethylamine (0.70 mL). The mixture was stirred under argon for 5 min at rt before Cul (1.2 mg, 6.1 μ mol, 4.0 mol%) was added. The tube was re-sealed under argon and stirred at 60 °C overnight. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction was filtered and the solids were washed with Et₂O (2 mL). The filtrate was then washed with NH₄Cl (sat. aq., 3 mL), HCl (1 M aq., 3 mL), NaOH (1 M aq., 3 mL) and brine (3 mL). After drying over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, the organic fraction was filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. Column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane:EtOAc, 20:1) afforded **4** as a white solid (26 mg, 74 µmol, 49%).

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃):** δ (ppm): 1.41 (t, ³*J*_{H,H} = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 4.39 (q, ³*J*_{H,H} = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.33 - 7.40 (m, 3H), 7.49 - 7.57 (m, 6H), 7.59 (dm, ³*J*_{H,H} = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 8.04 (dm, ³*J*_{H,H} = 8.5 Hz, 2H); ¹³**C NMR (101**)

MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm): 14.5 (CH₃), 61.3 (CH₂), 89.1 (C_q), 90.6 (C_q), 91.7 (C_q), 92.1 (C_q), 112.6 (C_q), 123.1 (C_q), 123.8 (C_q), 127.8 (C_q), 128.6 (CH), 128.7 (CH), 129.7 (CH), 130.2 (C_q), 131.6 (CH), 131.7 (CH), 131.8 (CH), 131.8 (CH), 166.2 (C_q); **R**_f (pentane:EtOAc 20:1): 0.49; **GC-MS: t**_R (50_40): 17.6 min; EI-MS: *m/z* (%): 351 (28), 350 (100), 323 (7), 322 (29), 306 (6), 305 (22), 277 (13), 276 (35), 275 (6), 274 (13), 152 (6), 138 (13); **HR-MS (ESI):** *m/z* calculated for [C₂₅H₁₈O₂Na]⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 373.1199, measured: 373.1198; **IR** (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 2933, 2211, 1708, 1601, 1559, 1515, 1499, 1444, 1407, 1366, 1308, 1268, 1173, 1101, 1018, 860, 837, 767, 756, 692, 654, 600, 588, 576, 552.

4-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-ylethynyl)benzonitrile (5)24

Following a modified procedure from Pascal Jr. et al,^[21] in a dry Schlenk tube, 4-((4-bromophenyl)ethynyl) benzonitrile (**3fg**, 150 mg, 0.532 mmol, 1.00 equiv.) and phenylboronic acid (81.0 mg, 0.665 mmol, 1.25 equiv) were dissolved in toluene (10.7 mL). An aqueous solution of K₂CO₃ (2 M, 3.60 mL) and ethanol (1.40 mL) were added followed by Pd(PPh₃)₄ (31 mg, 27 µmol, 5.0 mol%). The tube was sealed under argon and stirred at 50 °C for 20 h. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction was quenched with NH₄Cl (sat. aq., 10 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic fractions were washed with brine (30 mL), dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. Column chromatography on silica gel (eluent = pentane:EtOAc, 20:1) afforded **5** as a white solid (146 mg, 0.523 mmol, 98%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ (ppm): 7.39 (m, 1H), 7.44 – 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.59 – 7.70 (m, 10H); ¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ (ppm): 88.9 (C_q), 94.0 (C_q), 112.0 (C_q), 119.0 (C_q), 121.6 (C_q), 127.5 (CH), 127.6 (CH), 128.4 (CH), 128.6 (C_q), 129.5 (CH), 132.5 (CH), 132.7 (CH), 132.8 (CH), 140.5 (C_q), 142.3 (C_q); **R**_f (pentane:EtOAc 20:1): 0.41; **GC-MS:** t_R (50_40): 12.4 min; **EI-MS:** *m*/*z* (%): 280 (24), 279 (100), 278 (7), 277 (21), 140 (10); **HR-MS (APCI):** m/z calculated for [C₂₁H₁₃N]⁺ ([M]⁺): 279.1043, measured: 279.1041; **IR** (ATR): v (cm⁻¹): 2931, 2168, 1928, 1797, 1681, 1597, 1550, 1525, 1500, 1482, 1448, 1405, 1308, 1275, 1212, 1178, 1137, 1018, 1004, 974, 916, 839, 763, 716, 690, 653, 621, 593, 555.

5. Kinetic Studies

A reaction between phenylacetylene (0.10 mmol), benzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2a**, 0.40 mmol), $[Ru(bpy)_3](PF_6)_2$ (0.5 mol%) and ((*p*-MeO)C₆H₄)₃PAuCl (10 mol%) in degassed DMF (1.0 mL) under 23 W CFL irradiation was performed to determine the kinetic profile of the reaction. The yields of diphenylacetylene (**S1**) after different time intervals were determined by GC-FID using mesitylene as internal standard. A fast reaction (completed within 40 min) was observed without any induction periods (see Figure S3 below).

Figure S3. Kinetic profile of the reaction: Average yields of diphenylacetylene (S1) after 3 runs are plotted.

6. Quantum Yield Measurement

Following a modified procedure reported by Melchiorre and co-workers,²⁵ an aq. ferrioxalate actinometer solution was prepared and stored in the dark. The actinometer solution measures the photodecomposition of ferric oxalate anions to ferrous oxalate anions, which are then reacted with 1,10-phenanthroline to form $Fe(Phen)_{3}^{2+}$. Its concentration is then estimated by UV/Vis absorbance at 510 nm. The number of moles of $Fe(Phen)_{3}^{2+}$ complex formed is related to the numbers of photons absorbed by the actinometer solution. Preparation of the solutions used for the studies:

- 1. Potassium ferrioxalate solution: Potassium ferrioxalate trihydrate (295 mg) and 95-98% H₂SO₄ (140 μL) were added to a 50 mL volumetric flask and filled to the mark with distilled water.
- 2. Buffer solution: Sodium acetate (4.94 g) and 95-98% H₂SO₄ (1.0 mL) were added to a 100 mL volumetric flask and filled to the mark with distilled water.
- The reaction solution: [Ru(bpy)₃](PF₆)₂ (0.4 mg, 0.46 µmol, 0.5 mol%), ((*p*-MeO)C₆H₄)₃PAuCl (5.8 mg, 9.92 µmol, 10 mol%), the aryldiazonium salt **2a** (0.4 mmol, 4.0 equiv) and phenylacetylene (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) were added to a quartz cuvette (I = 1 cm) containing a stirring bar. In the absence of light, anhydrous DMF (1.0 mL, 0.10 M) was added under argon.

The actinometry measurements:

- a) 1 mL of the actinometer solution was taken in a quartz cuvette (I = 1 cm). Both the cuvettes of actinometer solution and reaction solution were placed next to each other at a distance of 5 cm away from a 5 W blue LED (λ_{max} = 465 nm) featured with a bandpass filter (450 ± 2 nm) (Thorlabs FB450-10) and irradiated for 150 s. The same process was repeated for different time intervals: 300, 450 and 600 s.
- b) After irradiation, the actinometer solution was transferred to a 10 mL volumetric flask containing 1.0 mg of 1,10-phenanthroline in 2 ml of buffer solution. The flask was filled to the mark with distilled water. In a similar manner, a blank solution (10 mL) was also prepared using the actinometer solution stored in dark.
- c) Absorbance of the actinometer solution after complexation with 1,10-phenanthroline at λ = 510 nm was measured by UV/Vis spectrophotometry.
- d) According to Beer's law, the number of moles of Fe²⁺ formed (x) for each sample was determined by:

$$Fe^{2+} = \frac{v_1 v_3 \Delta A(510 nm)}{10^3 v_2 l\varepsilon(510 nm)}$$

Where:

v1 = Irradiated volume (1 mL).

 v^2 = The aliquot of the irradiated solution taken for the estimation of Fe+ ions (1 mL).

v3 = Final volume of the solution after complexation with 1,10-phenanthroline (10 mL).

 ϵ (510 nm) = Molar extinction coefficient of [Fe(Phen)₃]²⁺ complex (11100 L mol⁻¹cm⁻¹).

I = Optical path-length of the cuvette (1 cm)

 $\Delta A(510 \text{ nm})$ = Difference in absorbance between the irradiated solution and the solution stored in dark (blank)

- e) The number of moles of Fe²⁺ formed (x) was plotted as a function of time (t) (Figure S4). The slope (dx/dt) of the line is equal to the number of moles of Fe²⁺ formed per unit time.
- f) This slope (dx/dt) was correlated to the number of moles of incident photons per unit time (F = photon flux) by using following equation:

$$\Phi(\lambda) = \frac{\frac{dx}{dt}}{F(1 - 10^{-A(\lambda)})}$$

 $\Phi(\lambda)$ = The quantum yield for Fe²⁺ formation at 450 nm is 0.9.²⁶

- g) $A(\lambda)$ = Absorbance of the ferrioxalate actinometer solution at a wavelength of 450 nm, which was measured placing 1 mL of the solution in a cuvette of pathlength 1 cm by UV/Vis spectrophotometry. We obtained an absorbance value of 0.3022.
- h) The determined incident photons per unit time (F) is 5.558x10⁻⁹ einsteins/s.

Figure S4. Moles of [Fe(Phen)₃]²⁺ per unit of time formed due to decomposition of the actinometer solution at 450 nm blue Led irradiation.

i) The number of moles of the product **diphenylacetylene** formed was determined by GC (FID) analysis using mesitylene as internal standard. The measured absorbance of the reaction solution at 450 nm by UV/Vis spectrophotometer is greater than 3. Thus the number of moles of photons absorbed by the reaction mixture is roughly equal to the number of moles of incident photon per unit time (F). The number of moles of product formed was plotted against the number of moles of photon absorbed by the reaction. The calculated apparent **quantum yield** (Φ) of the reaction is **3.6**.

Figure S5. Moles of product formed per photon absorbed.

7. References

¹ P. Hanson, J. R. Jones, A. B. Taylor, P. H. Walton, A. W. Timms, *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans.* 2 **2002**, 1135-1150

² M. A. Ishay, Z. Lu, T. P. Yoon, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2010, 132, 8572-8574.

³ a) S. Sprouse, K. A. King, P. J. Spellane, R. J. Watts, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1984**, *106*, 6647-6653; b) J. D. Slinker, A. A. Gorodetsky, M. S. Lowry, J. Wang, S. Parker, R. Rohl, S. Bernhard, G. G. Malliaras, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2004**, *126*, 2763-2767.

- ⁴ A. S. K. Hashmi, I. Braun, M. Rudolph, F. Rominger, *Organometallics* **2012**, *31*, 644-661.
- ⁵ A. Collado, A. Gomez-Suarez, A. R. Martin, A. M. Z. Slawin, S. P. Nolan, *Chem. Commun.* **2013**, *49*, 5541—5543.
- ⁶ N. Mézailles, L. Ricard, F. Gagosz, Org. Lett. 2005, 7, 4133-4136.
- ⁷ The homocoupling product was prepared following the procedure of *Jia* and coworkers. See: X. Jia, K. Yin, C. Li, J. Lia, H. Bian, *Green Chem.* **2011**, 13, 2175–2178.
- ⁸ A. Gogoi, A. Dewan, G. Boraha, U. Bora, New J. Chem. 2015, 39, 3341-3344.
- ⁹ C. He, J. Ke, H. Xu, A. Lei, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2013, 52, 1527-1530.
- ¹⁰ E. Fager-Jokela, M. Muuronen, M. Patzschke, J. Helaja, *J. Org. Chem.* **2012**, 77, 9134-9147.

¹¹ D. Polyansky, E. Danilov, S. Voskresensky, M. Rodgers, D. Neckers, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2005**, 127, 13452-13453.

¹² L. Melzig, A. Metzger, P. Knochel, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2011**, *17*, 2948-2956.

¹³ T. Shibata, G. Nishizawa, K. Endo, *Synlett* **2008**, *5*, 765-768.

¹⁴ M. Uemura, H. Yorimitsu, K. Oshima, *Tetrahedron* **2008**, *64*, 1829-1833.

¹⁵ Y. Wagh, N. Asao, J. Org. Chem. 2015, 80, 847–851.

- ¹⁶ S. Jadhav, A. Kumbhar, S. Mali, C. Hong, R. Salunkhe, *New J. Chem.* **2015**, 39, 2333--2341
- ¹⁷ S. Takahashi, Y. Kuroyama, K. Sonogashira, N. Hagihara, *Synthesis* **1980**, 627-629.

¹⁸ Y. Nishihara, E. Inoue, S. Noyori, D. Ogawa, Y. Okada, M. Iwasaki, K. Takagi, *Tetrahedron* **2012**, 4869-4881.

- ¹⁹ K. Kondo, T. Fujitanib, N. Ohnishi, *J. Mater. Chem.* **1997**, 429–433.
- ²⁰ M. Corpet, X. Bai, C. Gosmini, Adv. Synth. Catal 2014, 356, 2937 2942
- ²¹ J. Kim, D. Lee, B. Jun, Y. Lee, *Tetrahedron Letters* **2007**, 7079-7084.
- ²² W. Tadros, A. B. Badie, M. S. Ishak, *J. Chem. Soc.* **1958**, 4110-4112.
- ²³ Y. Miao, A. Dupé, C. Bruneau, C. Fischmeister, Eur. J. Org. Chem. 2014, 5071-5077.
- ²⁴ X. Shen, D. M. Ho, R. A. Pascal Jr., *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2004**, *126*, 5798-5805.
- ²⁵ Ł. Wozniak, J. J. Murphy, P. Melchiorre, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2015**, 137, 5678-5681.
- ²⁶ S. R. Kandukuri, A. Bahamonde, I. Chatterjee, I. D. Jurberg, E. C. Escudero-Adán, P.

Melchiorre Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2015, 54, 1485-1489.

8. NMR Spectra of the Cross-Coupled Products































_ · · ·













































---- -63.03











0 -5 -10 -15 -20 -25 -30 -35 -40 -45 -50 -55 -60 -65 -70 -75 -80 -85 -90 -95 -100 -105 -110 -115 -120 -125 -130 -135 -140 -145 -150 f1 (ppm)






































