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Electronic Supplementary Information for New Journal of Chemistry; Beng and Wanjiku

# Supporting Information for:

# Iridium-catalyzed $\alpha$ -alkynylation of cyclic nonaromatic eneformamides: Application to the synthesis of azapolycyclic architectures

Timothy K. Beng\* and Francine Wanjiku

Department of Chemistry, Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA 98926, USA <u>Timothy.beng@cwu.edu</u>

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## **1. Experimental Section**

All experiments involving air- and moisture-sensitive reagents were carried out under an inert atmosphere of nitrogen and using freshly distilled solvents. All alkynes, secondary amines, and electrophiles such as allyltrimethylsilane were newly purchased and used without further purification Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (230-400 mesh). Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using Silicycle SiliaplateTM glass backed plates (250  $\mu$ m thickness, 60 Å porosity, F-254 indicator) and visualized using UV (254 nm) or CAM, *p*-anisaldehyde, or KMnO<sub>4</sub> stain. All reported temperatures were internal to the reaction vessel. Unless otherwise indicated, <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, and DEPT-135, COSY 45, and HMQC (or HSQC) spectra were acquired using C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> or CDCl<sub>3</sub> as solvent at room temperature. Chemical shifts are quoted in parts per million (ppm). HRMS-EI<sup>+</sup> data were obtained using either electron spray ionization (ESI) or electron impact (EI) techniques. High-resolution ESI was obtained on an LTQ-FT (ion trap; analyzed using Excalibur). High resolution EI was obtained on an Autospec (magnetic sector; analyzed using MassLynx).

## General Procedure A: Ir-catalyzed alkynylation

To an oven-dried tube equipped with a stir bar was sequentially added the eneformamide (1 mmol),  $[IrCp*Cl_2]_2$  (2 mol%), AgNTf<sub>2</sub> (10 mol%), NaOAc (20 mol%), Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (50 mol%), and AgOAc (2 mmol, 2 equiv). The terminal alkyne (2 mmol, 2 equiv), dissolved in 2-MeTHF/HFIP (4 mL/1 mL) was then introduced by means of a syringe. The resulting reaction mixture was stirred at 90 °C for the desired length of time (GC-MS and TLC monitoring). Upon completion, the contents were diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and filtered through Celite. The solvents were removed *in vacuo* and the crude product was directly subjected to flash chromatography on silica pretreated with trimethylamine.

#### **General Procedure B: Catalytic hydrogenation**

EtOAc (8 mL) was added to a flask containing 10% Pd/C (200 mg) at room temperature. The flask was degassed and placed under an inert atmosphere of nitrogen. A solution of the alkynyl enamide (0.5 mmol) in EtOAc (2 mL) was added. After complete addition, the nitrogen line was cut off and then replaced with a balloon of hydrogen. After complete consumption of the enamide (based on LC-MS and TLC monitoring), the mixture was filtered through a plug of Celite and concentrated under reduced pressure.

## **General Procedure C:**

Chemoselective reduction to alkenyl eneformamides: To an oven-dried 8 mL reaction vial was added PPh<sub>3</sub> (1.5 equiv), the alkynyl eneformamide (0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv) dissolved in 2-MeTHF (4 mL) and water (1 mL)). The solution was heated to 65 °C and stirred for 22 h. The solvents were removed under reduced pressure, toluene (10 mL) was added, and the solution dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The toluene was removed under reduced pressure, and cold  $Et_2O$  was added and the solution was filtered over silica. The  $Et_2O$  solvent was removed under reduced pressure, and the crude product was advanced to the next step without further purification.

**Hexannulation:** A vial was flame-dried, evacuated and flushed with nitrogen. A solution of tetracyanoethylene (128 mg, 1.0 mmol, 2 equiv) in 2-MeTHF (2 mL) was added to the vial followed by a solution of crude amino diene (0.5 mmol) in toluene (2 mL). The mixture was stirred for 12 h at room temperature. The crude mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and purified by flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N), eluting with hexane/EtOAc.



Prepared from **3a** (1.0 mmol) and phenylacetylene using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (70:30). Yield = 171 mg, 81%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  9.35 (1H), 7.28 to 7.21 (2H), 7.00 to 6.93 (3H), 5.28 to 5.25 (1H), 3.46 to 3.43 (2H), 1.60 to 1.52 (2H), 1.20 to 1.14 (2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  160.5, 132.0, 129.3, 129.0, 122.7, 121.5, 118.0, 93.39, 83.0, 39.3, 23.5, 20.8. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO 211.0997; found 211.0993.



## S-4





Prepared from **1b** (1.0 mmol) and phenylacetylene using **General Procedure A**. Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1%  $Et_3N$ ) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (70:30). Yield = 189.5 mg, 84%. Data as previously reported by us.<sup>1</sup>



Prepared from **3c** (1.0 mmol) and phenylacetylene using **General Procedure A**. Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (90:10). Yield = 244 mg, 79%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, mixture of rotamers)  $\delta$  8.29 & 8.15 (1H, s,s), 7.72 to 7.12 (5H, m), 5.88 to 5.72 (1H, m), 3.76 to 3.65 (2H, t), 2.60 to 2.14 (2H, m), 1.73 to1.04 (16H, m). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.1, 162.5, 136.9, 135.68, 135.6, 135.3, 135.2, 135.2, 134.0, 133.1, 132.5, 132.2, 132.1, 132.0, 131.9, 131.7, 131.6, 131.59, 130.3, 129.6, 129.1, 128.8, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.1, 127.9, 127.7, 122.3, 121.8, 95.3, 88.9, 85.4, 85.2, 42.8, 41.3, 36.5, 34.6, 31.4, 29.7, 29.2, 28.6, 28.5, 28.4, 28.2, 28.1, 28.0, 27.9, 27.6, 26.9, 26.8, 26.7, 26.5, 26.4, 26.2, 26.0, 25.9, 25.8, 25.6, 25.5, 25.5, 25.3, 25.0, 24.9, 24.8, 24.7, 24.5, 23.7, 23.6, 23.6, 23.4. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO 309.2093; found 309.2096.



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Prepared from **3a** (1.0 mmol) and *p*-methoxyphenylacetylene using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (50:50). Yield = 200 mg, 83%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d, mixture of rotamers)  $\delta$  9.06 (1H, s), 7.32 (2H, d), 6.75 (2H, d), 5.59 to 5.57 (1H, t), 3.71 to 3.52 (5H, m), 2.27 to 2.18 (2H, m), 1.88 to 1.73 (2H, m). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  161.3, 160.2, 134.1, 133.1, 128.5, 121.0, 118.0, 114.2, 113.9, 93.0, 80.5, 55.4, 39.1, 23.4, 20.7. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> 241.1103; found 241.1107.







Prepared from **3b** (1.0 mmol) and *p*-methoxyphenylacetylene using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (50:50). Yield = 247 mg, 97%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Benzene-d<sub>6</sub>, rotamers)  $\delta$  8.94 to 8.37 (1H, s), 7.46 to 7.00 (2H, m), 6.67 to 6.58 (2H, m), 6.06 to 5.72 (1H, t), 3.58 to 3.55 (3H, s), 1.87 to 1.83 (2H, m), 1.51 to 1.38 (2H, m), 1.30 to 1.07 (2H, m). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Benzene-d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  161.4, 160.2, 135.4, 128.8, 125.9, 114.4, 89.9, 85.3, 54.6, 43.9, 28.0, 27.4, 24.1. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> 255.1259; found 255.1263.







Prepared from **3c** (1.0 mmol) and *p*-methoxyphenylacetylene using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (50:50). Yield = 285 mg, 84%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, mixture of rotamers)  $\delta$  8.31 & 8.13 (1H, s,s), 7.48 to 7.26 (2H, dd), 6.97 to 6.82 (2H, dd), 5.89 to 5.73 (1H, t), 3.86 to 3.66 (5H, m), 2.30 to 2.14 (2H, m), 1.73 to1.22 (16H, m). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.2, 162.1, 160.9, 160.2, 160.1, 159.9, 139.7, 134.9, 134.8, 134.0, 133.2, 133.1, 133.1, 133.0, 132.9, 123.3, 112.3, 119.6, 114.2, 114.2, 114.1, 114.1, 114.0, 113.9, 113.8, 113.2, 95.3, 88.9, 87.9, 83.9, 81.3, 81.2, 77.5, 77.1, 76.8, 73.0, 60.4, 55.4, 55.3, 47.7, 42.7, 41.2, 29.2, 28.5, 28.5, 28.4, 28.3, 28.2, 28.1, 27.9, 27.6, 26.8, 26.8, 26.7, 26.5, 26.2, 26.0, 25.7, 25.6, 25.5, 25.2, 24.9, 24.8, 24.4, 23.7, 23.6, 23.5, 23.3, 21.1. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> 339.2198; found 339.2193.









Prepared from **3a** (1.0 mmol) and *p*-methylphenylacetylene using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (50:50). Yield = 203 mg, 80%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  9.06 (1H, s), 7.32 (2H, d), 7.26 (2H, d), 5.59 to 5.57 (1H, t), 3.71 to 3.52 (2H, t), 2.34 to 2.18 (5H, m), 1.81 to 1.76 (2H, m). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  161.2, 139.6, 133.1, 132.2, 128.6, 120.9, 118.8, 93.1, 81.1, 39.1, 23.4, 21.6, 20.7. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO 225.1154; found 225.1159.







Prepared from **3b** (1.0 mmol) and *p*-methylphenylacetylene using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (50:50). Yield = 220 mg, 82%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Benzene-d6)  $\delta$  8.98 (1H, s), 7.89 to 7.21 (2H, d) 6.86 to 6.04 (2H, d), 5.73 to 5.70 (1H, s), 3.58 to 3.55 (2H, t), 2.03 to 1.99 (3H, s), 1.81 to 1.62 (2H, m), 1.49 to 1.37 (2H, t), 1.26 to 1.03 (2H, t). 13C NMR (101 MHz, Benzene-d6)  $\delta$  161.4, 138.8, 133.9, 129.3, 126.9, 119.5, 90.0, 86.0, 43.8, 27.9, 27.4, 24.1, 21.1. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO 239.1310; found 239.1314.









Prepared from **3c** (1.0 mmol) and *p*-methylphenylacetylene using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (50:50). Yield = 294 mg, 81%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, mixture of rotamers) δ 8.29 & 8.05, 7.74 to 7.26 (4H, m), 5.84 to 5.76 (1H, m), 3.84 to 3.66 (2H, m), 2.47 to 2.15 (5H, m), 1.73 to 1.17 (16H, m). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, mixture of rotamers) δ 163.2, 162.6, 162.1, 160.9, 140.0, 139.5, 139.3, 139.0, 138.7, 135.3, 135.2, 135.2, 134.9, 134.9, 132.4, 132.2, 132.1, 131.9, 131.8, 131.5, 131.5, 131.5, 130.5, 130.3, 129.6, 129.3, 129.3, 129.2, 129.1, 128.9, 128.6, 128.5, 128.2, 128.2, 128.0, 127.7, 127.7, 127.6, 123.2, 119.1, 119.1, 118.8, 114.2, 95.4, 89.1, 88.2, 84.7, 84.6, 81.9, 81.6, 77.5, 77.2, 76.8, 73.5, 55.3, 47.8, 43.3, 42.8, 41.2, 29.8, 29.2, 28.6, 28.5,

28.5, 28.4, 28.3, 28.1, 27.9, 27.7, 26.9, 26.8, 26.7, 26.5, 26.2, 26.0, 25.8, 25.6, 25.5, 25.2, 24.9, 24.8, 24.6, 24.4, 23.7, 23.6, 23.5, 23.3, 21.7, 21.6, 21.6, 21.6. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO 323.2249; found 323.2252.







Prepared from **3a** (1.00 mmol) and triisopropylsilylacetylene using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (90:10). Yield = 239 mg, 82%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.99 (s, 1H), 5.54 (t, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.66 – 3.58 (m, 2H), 2.17 (td, *J* = 6.3, 4.1 Hz, 2H), 1.78 (m, 4H), 1.05 (m, 21H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.0, 120.8, 119.2, 98.8, 95.6, 38.9, 23.2, 20.5, 18.6, 11.4, 11.1, 10.8. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NOSi 291.2018; found 291.2022.







Prepared from **3b** (1.00 mmol) and triisopropylsilylacetylene using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (90:10). Yield = 262 mg, 86%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.59 (s, 1H), 5.84 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 3.62 (t, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 2.19 (q, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 1.72 (p, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 1.58 (q, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 0.99 (s, 21H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  162.25, 129.90, 125.42, 102.79, 91.85, 44.10, 27.67, 27.50, 24.08, 18.59, 10.87. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NOSi 305.5370; found 305.5373.







Prepared from **3c** (1.00 mmol) and triisopropylsilylacetylene using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (90:10). Yield = 316 mg, 81%.<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d, mixture of rotamers*)  $\delta$  7.99 (s, 1H), 5.72 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.62 (dt, *J* = 20.1, 5.6 Hz, 2H), 2.20 (q, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 1.49-1.26 (m, 16H), 1.03 (s, 21H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rotamers)  $\delta$  163.00, 161.91, 160.70, 140.10, 135.70, 135.30, 130.83, 128.77, 123.38, 123.19, 118.27, 102.45, 102.30, 99.47, 98.14, 90.93, 89.72, 77.50, 77.18, 76.87, 68.05, 47.59, 42.46, 40.99, 38.75, 30.38, 29.16, 28.94, 28.56, 28.53, 28.43, 28.33, 28.26, 27.84, 27.79, 27.72, 27.66, 27.52, 26.82, 26.79, 26.62, 26.53, 26.13, 26.02, 25.76, 25.46, 25.44, 25.32, 24.99, 24.74, 24.41, 23.76, 23.67, 23.57, 23.45, 23.00, 18.60, 18.59, 14.06, 11.49, 11.21, 11.19, 10.93. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>43</sub>NOSi 389.3114; found 389.3110.







Prepared from **3a** (1.00 mmol) and trimethylsilylacetylene (2 mmol, 2 equiv) using **General Procedure B.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (90:10). Yield = 178 mg, 86%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  9.32 (s, 1H), 5.24 to 5.22 (t, 1H), 3.39 to 3.36 (t, 2H), 1.54 to 1.47 (m, 2H), 1.15 to 1.09 (m, 2H), 0.09 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  160.4, 121.6, 118.6, 98.9, 98.4, 39.2, 23.4, 20.8, 0.1. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NOSi 207.1079; found 207.1083.







Prepared from **3a** and 1-ethynylcyclohexene (0.24 mL, 2 mmol, 2 equiv) using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (80:20). Yield = 172 mg, 80%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  9.39 (1H, s), 6.01 to 5.96 (1H, t), 5.22 to 5.20 (1H, t), 3.46 to 3.43 (2H, t), 1.99 to 1.94 (2H, m), 1.78 to 1.73 (2H, m), 1.57 to 1.46 (2H, q), 1.35 to 1.22 (4H, m), 1.17 to 1.11 (2H, m). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ 160.6, 136.6, 121.9, 120.6, 116.8, 95.3, 80.6, 39.3, 29.3, 26.2, 23.5, 22.7, 21.9, 20.9. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO 215.1310; found 215.1313.







Prepared from **3b** and 1-ethynylcyclohexene (0.24 mL, 2 mmol, 2 equiv) using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (80:20). Yield = 208 mg, 84%. Data as previously reported by us.<sup>1</sup>



Prepared from **3c** (1 mmol) and 1-ethynylcyclohexene (0.24 mL, 2 mmol, 2 equiv) using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (80:20). Yield = 241 mg, 77%. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (m/z): calc'd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NO 313.2406; found 313.2410.



Prepared from **3a** (1.0 mmol) and 1-ethynylcyclopropane (2 mmol, 2 equiv) using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (80:20). Yield = 156 mg, 79%. 1H NMR (400 MHz, Benzene-d6)  $\delta$  9.45 to 9.12 (1H, s), 5.42 to 5.03 (1H, t), 3.64 to 3. 43 (2H, t), 1. 77 to 1.52 (2H, m), 1. 48 to 0.22 (7H, m). 13C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  161.6, 121.2, 117.6, 97.8, 68.7, 39.4, 23.5, 21.1, 9.1, 0.3. **HRMS-EI<sup>+</sup>** (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO 175.0997; found 175.0993.





Prepared from **3b** (1.0 mmol) and 1-ethynylcyclopropane (2 mmol, 2 equiv) using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (80:20). Yield = 153 mg, 81%. 1H NMR (400 MHz, Benzene-d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  8.90 to 8.85 (1H, s), 5.60 to 5.37 (1H, t), 3.54 to 3.29 (2H, t), 2.13 to 1.92 (2H, m), 1.77 to 1.41 (2H, m), 1.24 to 1.18 (2H, m), 1.08 to 1.01 (2H, m), 0.85 to 0.26 (4H, m). 13C NMR (101 MHz, Benzene-d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ 161.69, 93.78, 73.06, 43.73, 27.87, 27.13, 23.50, 8.43. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO 189.1154; found 189.1151.




Prepared from **3c** (1 mmol) and 1-ethynylcyclopropane (2 mmol, 2 equiv) using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (80:20). Yield = 208 mg, 76%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, mixture of rotamers)  $\delta$ 8.16 & 7.96 (1H, s,s), 5.80 to 5.57 (1H, t), 3.66 to 3.41 (2H, t), 2.36 to 2.02 (2H, m), 1.73 to 0.98 (17H, m), 0.93 to 0.68 (4H, m). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.1, 162.0, 138.8, 134.0, 123.2, 123.1, 99.9, 93.0, 77.4, 77.1, 76.8, 71.7, 68.9, 47.5, 43.1, 42.5, 40.9, 28.8, 28.5, 28.4, 28.4, 28.2, 28.0, 28.0, 27.9, 27.7, 27.6, 27.5, 26.8, 26.6, 26.6, 26.4, 26.1, 26.0, 25.9, 25.8, 25.7, 25.6, 25.4, 25.1, 24.9, 24.8, 24.6, 24.4, 23.7, 23.6, 23.5, 23.3, 9.8, 9.6, 9.3, 9.0, 8.7, 8.6, 8.5. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO 273.2093; found 273.2090.







Prepared from **3a** (1.0 mmol) and 5-chloro-1-pentyne (0.21 mL, 2.0 mmol, 2 equiv) using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (70:30). Yield = 200 mg, 95%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  9.25 (1H, s), 5.14 to 5.11 (1H, t), 3.45 to 3.42 (2H, t), 3.08 to 3.05 (2H, t), 2.02 to 1.98 (2H, t), 1.57 to 1.33 (4H, m), 1.18 to 1.12 (2H, m). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  160.5, 121.5, 116.9, 92.5, 75.2, 44.0, 39.3, 31.4, 23.4, 21.0, 16.9. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>14</sub>ClNO 211.0764; found 211.0769.







Prepared from **3b** (1.0 mmol) and 5-chloro-1-pentyne (0.21 mL, 2.0 mmol) using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (90:10). Yield = 203 mg, 90%. Data as previously reported by us.<sup>1</sup>



Prepared from **3c** (1.0 mmol) and 5-chloro-1-pentyne (0.21 mL, 2.0 mmol) using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (90:10). Yield = 281 mg, 91%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, mixture of rotamers)  $\delta$ 8.18 & 7.96 (1H, s,s), 5.85 to 5.77 (1H, t), 3.77 to 3.55 (4H, m), 2.68 to 1.18 (22H, m). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, mixture of rotamers)  $\delta$  163.1, 162.0, 160.8, 139.2, 135.2, 122.9, 122.6, 94.4, 87.8, 86.8, 77.5, 77.5, 77.4, 77.1, 76.8, 75.0, 47.6, 43.6, 43.6, 43.4, 42.5, 41.0, 31.2, 31.1, 31.0, 28.9, 28.5, 28.4, 28.4, 28.2, 28.1, 28.0, 27.8, 27.6, 27.5, 26.8, 26.7, 26.6, 26.4, 26.3, 26.0, 25.9, 25.7, 25.5, 25.4, 25.2, 24.8, 24.8, 24.6, 24.4, 23.7, 23.6, 23.5, 23.3, 16.8, 16.6, 16.6. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>28</sub>CINO 309.1859; found 309.1862.









Prepared from **3a** (1.0 mmol) and 6-chloro-1-hexyne (2.0 mmol, 2 equiv) using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (90:10). Yield = 196 mg, 87%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Benzene-d6)  $\delta$  9.30 to 8.91 (1H, s), 5.22 to 4.71 (1H, t), 3.50 to 3.37 (2H, t), 3.09 to 3.06 (2H, t), 2.01 to 1.88 (2H, m), 1.70 to 1.61 (2H, m), 1.51 to 1.42 (2H, m), 1.32 to 1.20 (2H, m), 1.12 to 0.94 (4H, m). 13C NMR (101 MHz, Benzene-d6)  $\delta$  160.1, 121.1, 116.0, 108.3, 93.1, 74.4, 44.0, 38.8, 31.5, 25.4, 23.4, 20.8, 18.2. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>16</sub>CINO 225.0920; found 225.0923.







Prepared from **3b** (160 mg, 1.0 mmol) and 6-chloro-1-hexyne (2.0 mmol, 2 equiv) using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (90:10). Yield = 220 mg, 92%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  8.56 to 8.07 (1H, s), 5.80 to 5.77 (1H, t), 3.80 to 3.41 (2H, t), 2.68 to 2.19 (4H, m), 1.93 to 1.50 (10H, m). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  162.5, 128.8, 125.4, 89.9, 8.1, 44.5, 31.6, 28.7, 27.8, 25.6, 23.6, 18.6. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>18</sub>CINO 239.1077; found 239.1074.







Prepared from **3c** (243 mg, 1.0 mmol) and 6-chloro-1-hexyne (2.0 mmol, 2 equiv) using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (90:10). Yield = 300 mg, 93%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Benzene-d<sub>6</sub>, mixture of rotamers)  $\delta$  8.30 to 7.87 (1H, s), 5.53 to 5.15 (1H, t), 3.88 to 3.74 (2H, t), 3.24 to 3.06 (2H, m), 2.29 to 0.97 (24H, m). 13C NMR (101 MHz, Benzene-d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  162.2, 161.1, 138.6, 138.2, 133.4, 123.5, 123.3, 95.3, 88.7, 77.7, 75.2, 44.1, 44.0, 42.3, 31.6, 28.5, 27.7, 26.7, 25.8, 25.6, 24.8, 24.5, 23.7, 23.6, 23.4, 18.4. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>30</sub>ClNO 323.2016; found 323.2020.





Prepared from **3b** (1.0 mmol) and 4-pentyn-1-ol (2.0 mmol, 2 equiv) using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (20:80). Yield = 178 mg, 86%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d, rotamers*)  $\delta$ 8.33 (s, 1H), 5.76 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 3.58 – 3.49 (m, 4H), 3.15 (s, 1H), 2.30 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.09 (p, *J* = 6.8, 6.4 Hz, 2H), 1.58 – 1.49 (m, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.61, 134.11, 128.65, 125.42, 90.46, 77.52, 61.08, 48.49, 44.22, 32.18, 31.17, 31.14, 30.96, 27.74, 27.32, 24.15, 23.52, 15.90, 15.76, 15.73. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> 207.1259; found 207.1263.





Prepared from **3b** (1.0 mmol) and 5-hexyn-1-ol (2.0 mmol, 2 equiv) using **General Procedure A.** Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (20:80). Yield = 197 mg, 89%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d, mixture of rotamers*)  $\delta$  8.22 (s, 1H), 5.56 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 3.58 (s, 1H), 3.44 – 3.33 (m, 4H), 2.15 – 1.95 (m, 4H), 1.42 – 1.26 (m, 8H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  162.63, 161.50, 128.64, 128.51, 128.45, 125.33, 119.61, 90.80, 77.42, 65.56, 62.12, 61.76, 61.72, 61.57, 61.55, 44.14, 31.74, 31.62, 27.63, 27.22, 24.75, 24.69, 24.07, 18.90. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> 221.1416; found 221.1419.





Prepared using **General Procedure B.** Yield = 119 mg, 97%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*, *mixture of rotamers*)  $\delta$  8.20 & 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.17 – 7.01 (m, 4H), 4.36 – 3.98 (m, 1H), 3.47 – 3.34 (m, 1H), 2.72 – 2.43 (m, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.15 (dt, *J* = 14.7, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 1.85 – 1.66 (m, 6H), 1.30 – 1.11 (m, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.3, 163.6, 138.8, 137.7, 135.7, 135.3, 129.3, 129.1, 128.2, 57.6, 52.3, 44.0, 39.6, 36.7, 36.6, 34.8, 33.3, 32.3, 32.1, 31.8, 30.2, 29.5, 27.6, 24.9, 24.6, 21.0. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO 245.1780; found 245.1782.





Prepared using **General Procedure B.** Yield = 138 mg, 93%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*, *mixture of rotamers*)  $\delta$  7.82 & 7.80 (s, 1H), 4.11 & 3.94 (dt, *J* = 13.7, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 3.18 – 3.09 (m, 1H), 2.86 – 2.13 (m, 1H), 1.49 – 1.38 (m, 8H), 0.87 – 0.72 (m, 21H), 0.38 – 0.08 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.4, 161.3, 58.0, 50.4, 42.6, 36.1, 29.7, 27.4, 26.7, 25.2, 24.9, 23.9, 20.1, 19.7, 18.9, 18.8, 18.7, 18.6, 11.0, 10.9, 10.8, 10.7, 5.9, 5.5. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>35</sub>NOSi 297.2488; found 297.2491.





*N*-formyl reduction of 2j: To 2j (291 mg, 1.0 mmol) dissolved in freshly distilled  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 mL) was added NaBH<sub>3</sub>CN (315 mg, 5 mmol, 5 equiv) slowly under nitrogen at 0 °C. TFA (1.14 g, 10 mmol, 10 equiv) was added slowly and the mixture was stirred for 10 min at 0 °C, then for ~12 h at room temperature (monitoring by LCMS and TLC; the reduced compound is significantly more polar). Upon completion, the reaction was quenched with *sat*. NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and evaporated to obtain the crude product, which were purified by flash chromatography on silica eluting with hexane/EtOAc.

**Desilylation:** To all of reduced **2j** in THF (10.0 mL) were added CF<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H (310 mg, 2.7 mmol) and a 1.0 M solution of TBAF (4.0 mL, 4.0 mmol) in THF successively at 0 °C. The resulting reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 3 h. The reaction was quenched with water, and the aqueous layer was extracted with diethyl ether. The combined organic layers were washed with water and

brine, dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to give corresponding desilylated products. **Hydroboration-oxidation**<sup>2</sup>: To a solution of the crude alkynyl piperidine (1.0 equiv) in freshly distilled CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (4 mL) at -78 °C was added dropwise a 2 M solution of BH<sub>3</sub>·SMe<sub>2</sub> in THF (500  $\mu$ L, 1 equiv). After a few minutes, the mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirring was continued for 6 h. It was then cooled to 0 °C and a few drops of 10% NaOH (aq) were added slowly followed by 0.5 mL of 30% H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. The mixture was returned to room temperature and stirred for 3 h. Water was added and the mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford crude aldehyde as an oil.

**Deformylation:** 6% HCl (1.5 mL) was added to the solution of *N*-formylated aldehyde (50 mg, 0.18 mmol) in MeOH (10 mL) and the resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 18 h. After completion of reaction (monitored by TLC), H2O was added and the whole mixture was neutralized with aqueous NaHCO3 and extracted with CH2Cl2. The combined organic phase was washed with brine, dried over Na2SO4 and evaporated under reduce pressure to give the free piperidinal as an oil.

Acylation: The piperidinal was dissolved in dichloromethane (5 mL) and triethylamine (1.0 mL, 7.10 mmol) was added drop-wise at 0 °C, followed by the drop-wise addition of cyanoacetylchloride (727 mg, 7.10 mmol) as a solution in dichloromethane (2 mL). The resulting red solution was stirred at the same temperature for 2 h and then warmed to room temperature for 3 h, at which time saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (10 mL) was added and volatiles removed *in vacuo*. The resulting aqueous solution was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 10 mL) and the combined organic extracts were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The resulting acylated piperidinal was obtained as a red oil.

**Knoevenagel condensation:** To the acylated piperidinal was added a 20 mM solution of  $HCl/CH_2Cl_2$  (prepared from AcCl/MeOH) and stirring was continued for 12 h at room temperature (TLC monitoring). The solution was diluted with DCM and transferred to a separatory funnel. Sat. aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl was added and the layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with DCM and the combined layers were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated in vacuo to obtain the bicycle as an oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  6.57 to 6.54 (t, 1H), 4.42 to 4.38 (m, 1H), 2.76 to 2.67 (m, 1H), 2.28 to 2.18 (m, 2H), 1.88, to 1.80 (m, 2H), 1.55

to 0.78 (m, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D6)  $\delta$  159.15, 152.19, 115.27, 112.15, 53.31, 43.11, 32.60, 30.68, 24.22, 23.22. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O 176.0950; found 176.0955.







A 10 mL microwave vial was flame-dried, evacuated and flushed with nitrogen. A solution of dienophile **4** (176 mg, 1.0 mmol) in toluene (2 mL) was added to the vial under a nitrogen atmosphere followed by a solution of diene  $12^3$  (456 mg, 2 mmol) in toluene (2 mL). The mixture was heated to 150 °C under microwave irradiation for 2 h. It was then cooled to room temperature and the toluene was azeotroped off. Purification by flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et<sub>3</sub>N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (80:20) afforded tricycle **13** in 79% yield and >95:5 dr. **Note**: It is critical to have absolutely pure starting materials as any minor impurities simply lead

to decomposition of the diene. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Benzene- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  5.66 (ddd, J = 10.4, 4.3, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 5.37 (ddt, J = 10.4, 2.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 4.89 (dp, J = 13.1, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 4.12 (ddt, J = 4.1, 1.9, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (dd, J = 9.9, 6.3 Hz, 1H), 3.31 (t, J = 9.8 Hz, 1H), 3.09 – 2.84 (m, 5H), 2.78 – 2.62 (m, 1H), 2.29 – 2.04 (m, 3H), 1.45 – 0.87 (m, 24H), 0.02 (s,s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  161.9, 127.4, 123.7, 118.9, 76.7, 62.9, 59.1, 55.3, 49.1, 43.9, 38.0, 33.05, 31.0, 25.6, 25.3, 24.9, 23.3, 17.9, -5.7. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m*/*z*): calc'd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>36</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Si 404.2495; found 404.2491.







Prepared using **General Procedure C.** Yield = 176 mg, 95%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroformd)  $\delta$  8.49 (s, 1H), 7.35 – 7.25 (m, 4H), 5.69 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 4.49 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (dd, J = 15.1, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 3.30 (d, J = 10.5 Hz, 1H), 3.03 (t, J = 12.5 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (dd, J = 13.9, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.21 (q, J = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 1.98 (d, J = 33.5 Hz, 2H), 1.66 (q, J = 11.5, 11.1 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  160.7, 140.9, 137.6, 130.1, 129.9, 129.3, 113.2, 113.1, 111.5, 111.3, 109.7, 109.4, 46.9, 44.7, 43.9, 31.1, 28.6, 26.7, 21.3. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O 369.1590; found 369.1593.





Prepared using **General Procedure C.** Yield = 139 mg, 87%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroformd)  $\delta$  8.18 (s, 1H), 5.35 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (dd, J = 14.6, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 3.14 – 3.04 (m, 1H), 2.62 – 2.55 (m, 1H), 2.25 (ddd, J = 10.1, 3.6, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 2.24 – 2.02 (m, 2H), 1.71 – 1.45 (m, 4H), 0.98 (dddd, J = 10.3, 7.7, 4.9, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 0.92 – 0.80 (m, 1H), 0.80 – 0.65 (m, 2H), 0.41 – 0.20 (m, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  160.6, 136.3, 114.8, 111.2, 111.1, 109.3, 108.8, 46.4, 45.9, 44.6, 44.2, 30.4, 29.7, 28.9, 26.9, 13.3, 5.6, 3.5. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m*/*z*): calc'd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O 319.1433; found 319.1437.





Prepared using **General Procedure C.** Yield = 164 mg, 92%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroformd)  $\delta$  8.11 (s, 1H), 7.42 – 7.25 (m, 4H), 5.58 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.46 – 4.36 (m, 1H), 4.32 – 4.24 (m, 1H), 3.00 (ddt, J = 12.8, 4.7, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 2.83 – 2.64 (m, 1H), 2.38 (dt, J = 12.4, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 2.31 – 2.07 (m, 4H), 1.99 (dp, J = 13.6, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 1.68 (ddt, J = 17.1, 12.8, 6.5 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  159.7, 141.0, 136.3, 130.2, 130.1, 130.0, 129.2, 114.4, 111.3, 110.9, 109.8, 108.9, 46.0, 43.7, 43.5, 41.5, 41.4, 41.3, 40.7, 29.4, 24.1, 21.4. **HRMS-EI**<sup>+</sup> (*m/z*): calc'd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O 355.1433; found 355.1430.






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