



Supporting Information

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Supporting Information

Fluorescent Naphthyl- and Anthrylazoles Through Catalytic Coupling of Phenylazoles with Internal Alkynes via Multiple C-H Bond Cleavages

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Abbreviations

Cp* = C_5H_5 -pentamethylcyclopentadienyl

cod = 1,5-cyclooctadiene

Experimental Section

General. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded at 400 and 100 MHz for CDCl_3 solutions. MS data were obtained by EI. GC analysis was carried out using a silicon OV-17 column (i. d. 2.6 mm x 1.5 m). GC-MS analysis was carried out using a CBP-1 capillary column (i. d. 0.25 mm x 25 m). The structures of all products listed below were unambiguously determined by ^1H and ^{13}C NMR with the aid of NOE, COSY, HMQC, and HMBC experiments.

Diarylacetylenes **2b-d**^[13], $\text{C}_5\text{H}_3\text{Ph}_3$ (1,2,4-triphenyl-1,3-cyclopentadiene)^[14], and 1-Methyl-2-phenylbenzimidazole (**4a**)^[15] were prepared according to published procedures. Other reagents were commercially available.

The fluorescence analysis of some products was carried out with the samples recrystallized from hexane-toluene or hexane-dichloromethane and then crashed.^[16] The absolute fluorescence quantum efficiency of the crashed crystal of **8**, encapsulated in a quartz cell (30 x 30 x 0.3 mm) under deoxygenated conditions, was measured by using an integrating sphere unit (the excitation wavelength: 350 nm).

The following experimental procedures may be regarded as typical in methodology and scale.

Rh-Catalyzed Reaction of 1-Phenylpyrazole (1a) with Diphenylacetylene (2a) (entry 1 in Table 1): A mixture of 1-phenylpyrazole (**1a**) (1 mmol, 144 mg), diphenylacetylene (**2a**) (1 mmol, 178 mg), $[\text{Cp}^*\text{RhCl}_2]_2$ (0.01 mmol, 6.2 mg), 1,2,3,4-tetraphenyl-1,3-cyclopentadiene (0.04 mmol, 14.8 mg), $\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2\text{-H}_2\text{O}$ (1 mmol, 200 mg), and dibenzyl (ca. 50 mg) as internal standard was stirred in DMF (5 mL) under nitrogen at 80 °C. After 6 h, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, CH_2Cl_2 (100 mL), water (100 mL) and ethylenediamine (2 mL) were added. Then the organic layer was washed by water (100 mL, three times) and dried over CaCl_2 . GC and GC-MS analyses confirmed the formation of 1-(1,2,3,4-tetraphenylnaphthalen-5-yl)pyrazole (**3a**) (0.47 mmol, 93%). The product **3a** (232 mg, 93%) was also isolated by column chromatography on silica gel using hexane-ethyl acetate (95:5, v/v) as eluant.

Selected results of the reaction of 1-phenylpyrazole (**1a**) with diphenylacetylene (**2a**) for the optimization of reaction conditions are summarized in Table S1.

Table S1. Reaction of 1-phenylpyrazole (**1a**) with Diphenylacetylene (**2a**)^[a]

Entry	Rh-cat.	Ligand	Temp. [°C]	% Yield of 3a ^[b]
1 ^[c]	[Cp*RhCl ₂] ₂	-	80	63
2	[Cp*RhCl ₂] ₂	-	80	87
3	[Cp*RhCl ₂] ₂	-	60	41
4	[Cp*RhCl ₂] ₂	C ₅ H ₂ Ph ₄	80	93 (93)
5	[Cp*RhCl ₂] ₂	C ₅ H ₃ Ph ₃	80	73
6	[Cp*RhCl ₂] ₂	C ₅ HPh ₅	80	78
7	[RhCl(cod)] ₂	C ₅ H ₂ Ph ₄	80	37
8	[Cp*IrCl ₂] ₂	C ₅ H ₂ Ph ₄	80	0

[a] Reaction conditions: **1a** (1 mmol), **2a** (1 mmol), Rh-cat. (0.01 mmol), ligand (0.04 mmol), Cu(OAc)₂·H₂O (1 mmol), DMF (5 mL) under N₂ for 6 h. [b] GC yield based on the amount of **2a** used. Value in parentheses indicates yield after isolation. [c] **1a** (0.5 mmol) was used.

Characterization Data of Products

1-(1,2,3,4-Tetraphenylnaphthalen-5-yl)pyrazole (3a) (entry 1 in Table 1): mp 173-174 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.72 (dd, *J* = 1.8, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.63-6.81 (m, 15H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.26 (m, 6H), 7.41-7.42 (m, 2H), 7.74-7.77 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 105.97, 124.79, 125.04, 125.09, 125.37, 126.22 (overlapped), 126.52, 126.61, 127.52, 127.60 (overlapped), 128.91, 130.95 (overlapped), 131.11, 131.23, 132.28, 134.27, 136.15, 137.93, 138.69, 139.42, 139.56, 139.74, 139.89, 140.17, 140.28, 142.16; HRMS *m/z* calcd for C₃₇H₂₆N₂ (M⁺) 498.2096, found 498.2091. Anal. Calcd for C₃₇H₂₆N₂: C, 89.13; H, 5.26; N, 5.62. Found: C, 88.91; H, 5.52; N, 5.43.

1-[1,2,3,4-Tetrakis(4-methylphenyl)naphthalen-5-yl]pyrazole (3b) (entry 2 in Table 1): mp 130-132 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.06 (s, 3H), 2.08 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 5.71 (t, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.48-6.65 (m, 12H), 7.05-7.08 (m, 5H), 7.21-7.22 (m, 1H), 7.35-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.69-7.73 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 20.96, 21.00, 21.04, 21.22, 105.55, 124.38, 126.69, 126.89, 127.19, 127.32, 127.67, 128.25, 128.84, 130.77 (overlapped), 130.95, 131.11, 132.34, 134.06, 134.10, 134.35, 134.48, 135.82, 136.05, 136.67, 136.82, 137.31, 137.53, 137.91, 138.54, 139.63, 139.94, 142.32; HRMS *m/z* calcd for C₄₁H₃₄N₂ (M⁺) 554.2722, found 554.2719.

1-[1,2,3,4-Tetrakis(4-methoxyphenyl)naphthalen-5-yl]pyrazole (3c) (entry 3 in Table 1): mp 107-110 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.58 (s, 3H), 3.61 (s, 3H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 5.77 (dd, *J* = 1.8, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.32 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.34 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.40 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.50 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.63-6.67 (m, 2H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.79 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.08-7.10 (m, 2H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.37-7.39 (m, 2H), 7.73-7.76 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 54.84, 54.85, 55.09, 55.12, 105.83, 111.85, 111.91, 112.12 (overlapped), 113.07, 124.45, 127.28, 127.59, 128.78, 131.91, 132.06, 132.14, 132.26, 132.30, 132.41, 132.87, 133.12, 134.66, 135.82, 137.83, 138.47, 139.83, 139.99, 142.33, 156.75, 156.87 (overlapped), 158.00; HRMS *m/z* calcd for C₄₁H₃₄N₂O₄ (M⁺) 618.2519, found 618.2516.

1-[1,2,3,4-Tetrakis(4-chlorophenyl)naphthalen-5-yl]pyrazole (3d) (entry 4 in Table 1): mp 282-283 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.86 (dd, *J* = 1.8, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.49-6.56 (m, 2H), 6.65-6.71 (m, 4H), 6.76-6.83 (m, 4H), 6.88-6.90 (m, 2H), 7.09-7.11 (m, 2H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.28 (m, 3H), 7.41-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.67-7.69 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 106.31, 125.53, 126.20, 126.64, 127.03, 127.33, 127.77, 128.11, 128.20, 128.67, 131.30, 131.40, 131.74, 131.90 (overlapped), 131.99, 132.05, 132.18, 133.09, 134.16, 135.55, 137.35, 137.79, 137.88, 138.00, 138.03, 138.31, 140.30, 140.55; HRMS *m/z* calcd for C₃₇H₂₂Cl₄N₂ (M⁺) 634.0537, found 634.0544. Anal. Calcd for C₃₇H₂₂Cl₄N₂: C, 69.83; H, 3.48; N, 4.40. Found: C, 69.87; H, 3.57; N, 4.39.

1-(1,4-Dibutyl-2,3-diphenylnaphthalen-5-yl)pyrazole (3e) (entry 5 in Table 1): oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.48 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 0.69-0.79 (m, 5H), 1.02-1.10 (m, 2H), 1.20-1.29 (m, 2H), 1.54-1.59 (m, 3H), 1.90 (s, br, 1H), 2.84 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.44 (t, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.92-7.12 (m, 10H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.73

(d, $J = 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.48, 13.60, 22.63, 23.05, 30.22, 30.42, 33.33, 35.38, 106.37, 124.20, 125.73, 125.85, 126.86, 127.10 (overlapped), 127.21, 128.15, 130.04 (overlapped), 131.94, 133.82, 134.57, 134.73, 137.91, 140.05, 140.20, 141.26, 141.47, 142.29; HRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{34}\text{N}_2$ (M^+) 458.2722, found 458.2718.

1-(1,4-Dimethyl-2,3-diphenylnaphthalen-5-yl)pyrazole (3f) (entry 6 in Table 1): oil; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.60 (s, 3H), 2.49 (s, 3H), 6.45 (dd, $J = 1.8, 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.91-7.15 (m, 10H), 7.51 (d, $J = 7.4$, 1H), 7.58 (dd, $J = 7.4, 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, $J = 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, $J = 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.29 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 16.71, 17.44, 106.54, 124.50, 125.89, 125.97, 126.92, 127.28 (overlapped), 129.09, 129.63, 130.26 (overlapped), 132.52, 134.11, 138.04, 140.05, 140.22, 141.41, 141.65, 142.57; HRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2$ (M^+) 374.1783, found 374.1775.

3-Methyl-1-(1,2,3,4-tetraphenylnaphthalen-5-yl)pyrazole (3g) (entry 7 in Table 1): mp 169-170 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 2.05 (s, 3H), 5.46 (d, $J = 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.56-6.81 (m, 15H), 7.09 (d, $J = 2.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.18-7.24 (m, 5H), 7.38-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.70-7.73 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.32, 105.64, 124.72, 124.97, 124.99, 125.32, 125.47, 126.18, 126.50, 126.56, 127.07, 127.55 (overlapped), 127.79, 128.68, 130.95 (overlapped), 131.23, 132.46, 134.38, 136.30, 137.99, 138.57, 139.49, 139.61, 139.67, 140.24, 140.35, 141.97, 148.85; HRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{38}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_2$ (M^+) 512.2252, found 512.2244. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{38}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_2$: C, 89.03; H, 5.51; N, 5.46. Found: C, 89.07; H, 5.65; N, 5.37.

3,5-Dimethyl-1-(1,2,3,4-tetraphenylnaphthalen-5-yl)pyrazole (3h) (entry 8 in Table 1): mp 201 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 2.01 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 3H), 5.18 (s, 1H), 6.50-6.52 (m, 1H), 6.70-6.86 (m, 14H), 7.20-7.29 (m, 6H), 7.39-7.43 (m, 1H), 7.72-7.74 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 12.1, 13.3, 105.24, 124.71, 124.95, 125.07, 125.10, 125.28, 125.30, 126.06, 126.19, 126.40, 126.54, 126.55, 127.53, 127.55, 128.02, 128.83, 129.53, 130.82, 130.91, 130.98, 131.00, 131.25, 131.38, 131.50, 134.41, 136.39, 138.60, 139.11, 139.60, 139.64, 139.98, 140.25, 140.36, 142.08, 148.14; HRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{39}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_2$ (M^+) 526.2409, found 526.2406. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{39}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_2$: C, 88.94; H, 5.74; N, 5.32. Found: C, 88.87; H, 5.98; N, 4.93.

1-Methyl-2-(1,2,3,4-tetraphenylnaphthalen-5-yl)benzimidazole (5) (eq 2): mp 198-199 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 3.40 (s, 3H), 6.24-6.28 (m, 1H), 6.30-6.34 (m, 1H), 6.59-6.63 (m, 2H), 6.68-6.94 (m, 12H), 7.10-7.13 (m, 2H), 7.18-7.22 (m, 2H), 7.24-7.27 (m, 3H), 7.44-7.53 (m, 3H), 7.80-7.83 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 30.87, 108.57, 119.18, 121.47, 121.82, 124.46, 124.66, 124.76, 125.08, 125.35, 125.73, 126.12, 126.35, 126.42, 126.57, 126.61, 127.49, 127.67, 128.37, 128.97, 129.75, 130.82, 130.95, 131.08, 131.11, 131.15, 131.25, 131.33, 131.52, 132.46, 133.44, 134.89, 137.67, 138.74, 138.89, 139.55, 139.59, 140.28, 140.35, 141.71, 142.84, 154.22; HRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{42}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_2$ (M^+) 562.2409, found 562.2407.

5,6-Diphenylbenzimidazo[2,1-*a*]isoquinoline (6) (eq 3): mp 281-283 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 6.01 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.93 (dd, $J = 7.3, 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.21-7.30 (m, 5H), 7.33-7.42 (m, 7H), 7.57 (dd, $J = 7.0, 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.68 (dd, $J = 7.0, 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 8.99 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 116.04, 121.49, 123.14, 124.85, 125.44, 126.02, 126.97, 128.29, 129.17, 129.67, 129.93, 130.65, 131.13, 131.79, 132.55, 133.12, 133.42, 134.56, 135.65, 137.04, 137.58, 146.19, 149.68; HRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2$ (M^+) 370.1470, found 370.1467. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2$: C, 87.54; H, 4.90; N, 7.56. Found: C, 87.39; H, 4.95; N, 7.57.

5,6-Diphenylimidazo[2,1-*a*]isoquinoline (7) (eq 4):^[17] mp 236-237 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.18-7.21 (m, 3H), 7.25-7.33 (m, 8H), 7.39 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.47 (dd, $J = 7.3, 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.54 (s, 1H), 7.64 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.76 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 123.15, 123.25, 124.42, 126.42, 127.27, 127.81, 127.99, 128.03, 128.06, 128.55, 128.63, 128.82, 130.20, 130.60, 130.89, 131.41, 133.39, 133.50, 135.93; HRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2$ (M^+) 320.1313, found 320.1307. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2$: C, 86.22; H, 5.03; N, 8.74. Found: C, 86.07; H, 5.16; N, 8.49.

2-(1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8-Octaphenylanthracen-9-yl)benzoxazazole (8) (eq 5): mp >290 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 6.11 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 2H), 6.28 (dd, $J = 7.7, 8.0$ Hz, 4H), 6.54-6.56 (m, 4H), 6.63 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 4H), 6.67-6.68 (m, 6H), 6.73-6.82 (m, 11H), 6.89-6.94 (m, 2H), 6.97-7.06 (m, 11H), 8.11 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 110.59, 119.71, 121.80, 122.89, 123.69, 124.13, 124.95, 125.11, 125.40, 126.18, 126.30, 126.55, 127.26, 130.60, 130.95, 131.05, 131.20, 131.25, 131.74, 131.76, 136.89, 138.51, 138.53, 138.58, 139.01, 140.39, 140.58, 141.38, 142.87, 149.79, 161.34; HRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{69}\text{H}_{45}\text{NO}$ (M^+) 903.3501, found 903.3499.

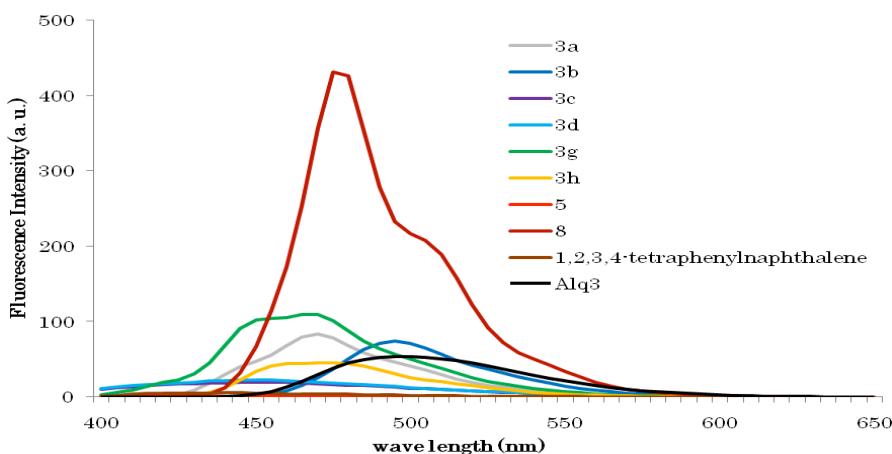


Figure S1. Fluorescence Spectra of **3a-d**, **3g-h**, **5**, **8**, 1,2,3,4-tetraphenylnaphthalene, and Alq₃ in the solid-state^[16]

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