# Experimental and theoretical studies of spectroscopic properties of simple symmetrically substituted diphenylbuta-1,3-diyne derivatives 

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A. TEA, Cul, $\mathrm{Pd}\left[\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}\right)_{3} \mathrm{P}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}\right.$, $T=0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (for $4 \mathrm{~b}, 6 \mathrm{~b}$ )

C: DMF, KF, T=20 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (for $4 \mathrm{c}, 5 \mathrm{c}$ )
D: DMF, Cul, $\mathrm{T}=55^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{Ar}$ (DPB, dOMeDPB, dCOOMeDPB,dCHODPB,dCNDPB)
E: Piridine/methanol, $\mathrm{Cu}(\mathrm{OAc})_{2}, \mathrm{~T}=20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ dDMADPB

| $\mathbf{- R}$ | $\mathbf{- Z}$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| $-\mathrm{H}(\mathbf{1})$ | - |
| $-\mathrm{N}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}(\mathbf{2})$ | - |
| $-\mathrm{OCH}_{3}(\mathbf{3})$ | - |
| $-\mathrm{COOCH}_{3}(4)$ | -TMS |
| $-\mathrm{CHO}(5)$ | $-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}(\mathrm{OH})$ |
| $-\mathrm{CN}(6)$ |  |

Scheme 1. Synthesis of diphenylbuta-1,3-diyne derivatives.

## General procedure

Protected acetylene derivatives were synthesized according to SonogashiraHagihara procedure ${ }^{1-4}$.

Synthesis of symmetrically of diphenylbuta-1,3-diyne derivatives were based on Glaser ${ }^{5-6}$ (DPB, $\left.\left.\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OPh}\right)_{2} \mathrm{DA}, \quad\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{CPh}\right)_{2} \mathrm{DA}, \quad(\mathrm{OHCHPh})_{2} \mathrm{DA}, \quad(\mathrm{NCPh})_{2} \mathrm{DA}\right)\right)$ (procedure D) or Eglinton ${ }^{7-8}$ (DMAPh) ${ }_{2}$ DA (procedure E) methods.

Methyl-4-iodobenzoate, 4-iodobenzonitrile, 4-((trimethylsilyl)ethynyl)benzaldehyde, phenylacetylene, 4-ethynylanisole, 4-ethynyl-N,N-dimethylaniline, ethynyltrimethylsilane, bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(II) dichloride (Sigma Aldrich), 2-methyl-3-butyn-2-ol (Fluka) were commercially available and used without further purification.

## Synthesis of protected acetylene derivatives

## Procedure A

Methyl 4-(3-hydroxy-3-methylbut-1-yn-1-yl)benzoate (4b) and 4-(3-hydroxy-3-methylbut-1-yn-1-yl)benzonitrile (6b) were prepared according to SonogashiraHagihara coupling reaction ${ }^{1-4}$ of appropriate acetylene derivatives with the respective halogenoarenes.

Appropriate halogenoarene (1 eq) was dissolved in tiriethylamine (TEA) and the solution was cooled to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Then trace amount of copper iodide and bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(II) dichloride, $\left(\operatorname{Pd}\left[\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}\right)_{3} \mathrm{P}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}\right)\right.$ as catalysts were added. After a few minutes acetylene derivatives: ethynyltrimethylsilane (for 4b) and 2-methyl-3-butyn-2-ol (1 eq) (for 6b) was added. Progress of reaction was monitored by TLC. The reaction mixture was stirred for $8-12 \mathrm{~h}$ and if it was need for 24 h in temperature room. Then reaction mixture was filtered and extracted into ethyl acetate and washed with water. Combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, filtered and the solvent was evaporated. The pure products were isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate; 7:1 (4b), 10:1 (6b).

## Removing the protective groups (procedure B and C)

Procedure B
A mixture of $6 \mathrm{~b}(1 \mathrm{eq})$ and potassium hydroxide (1eq) in toluene was refluxed for 2 h under argon. Progress of reaction was monitored by TLC. The reaction mixture was cooled, filtered, extracted with ethyl acetate and washed with $\mathrm{KHSO}_{4}$ and water. Combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, filtered and the solvent was evaporated ${ }^{9-10}$. The pure product 4 -ethynylbenzonitrile (6c) was isolated by multiple crystallization with mixture petroleum ether and ethyl acetate.

## Procedure C

Compound 4b or 4-(3-hydroxy-3-methylbut-1-yn-1-yl)benzaldehyde (5b) (1eq) was dissolved in dimethylformamid (DMF) and potassium fluoride (3eq) was added ${ }^{11}$. The reaction was stirred under argon atmosphere at room temperature for 1,5 h. Progress of reaction was monitored by TLC. The reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate and washed with water. Combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, filtered and the solvent was evaporated. The pure products methyl 4-ethynylbenzoate (4c) and 4-ethynylbenzaldehyde (5c) were isolated by multiple crystallization with mixture petroleum ether and ethyl acetate.

## Synthesis of symmetrically bisacetylene (procedure D and E)

## Procedure D

Appropriate compound (ethynylbenzene (1c), 1-ethynyl-4-methoxybenzene (3c), 4c, $5 \mathrm{c}, 6 \mathrm{c}$ ) was dissolved in DMF and stirred under argon atmosphere at about $55^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. After few minutes trace amount of copper iodide as the catalyst was added ${ }^{3}$. The reaction mixture was stirred for couple of days. Progress of reaction was monitored by TLC. After the reaction was completed crude product was filtered, extracted into toluene and washed with water. Combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate and filtered. The pure products were isolated: by crystallization with hot petroleum ether (DPB) or mixture ethyl acetate and petroleum ether $\left.\left(\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OPh}\right)_{2} \mathrm{DA},\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{CPh}\right)_{2} \mathrm{DA},(\mathrm{NCPh})_{2} \mathrm{DA}\right)\right)$, by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate; 10:1) ((OHCPh) $\left.{ }_{2} \mathrm{DA}\right)$.

## Procedure E

4-ethynyl-N,N-dimethylaniline (2c) (1eq) was added to a solution of $\mathrm{Cu}(\mathrm{OAc})_{2} \cdot \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ (2eq) in pyridine and methanol ( $\mathrm{v} / \mathrm{v} 1 / 1$ ) at room temperature under nitrogen ${ }^{4}$. Progress of reaction was monitored by TLC. After couple of days crude product was
filtered, extracted into toluene and washed with water. Combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate and filtered. The pure product (DMAPh) ${ }_{2} \mathrm{DA}$ was isolated by means RP-HPLC.
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[3] S. Thorand, N. Krause, J. Org. Chem., 63, 1998, 8551
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[6] Y. Nishihara, K. Ikegashira, K. Hirbayashi, J. Ando, A. Mori, T. Hiyama, J. Org. Chem., 65, 2000, 1780
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[9] G. Rodriguez, J.L. Tejedor, T. La Parra, C. Díaz, Tetrahedron, 62, 2006, 3355
[10] Q. Xiao, R.T. Ranasinghe, A.M.P. Tang, T. Brown, Tetrahedron, 63, 2007, 3483
[11] Meijere, S. Kozhuskov, T. Haumann, R. Boese, C. Puls, M. J. Cooney, L. T. Scott, Chem. Eur. J., 1, 1995, 124

Identification data for all compounds studied.

## 1,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-diyne (DPB) (yield 94\%)

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$ :
$\delta_{\mathrm{H}}(\mathrm{ppm}): 7.34-7.42\left(\mathrm{~m}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{5} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{6} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{7} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{5^{\prime}} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{6^{\prime}} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{7} \mathrm{H}\right) ; 7.56\left(\mathrm{~d}, 4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{4} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{8} \mathrm{H}\right.$, $\mathrm{C}^{4} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{8} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8 \mathrm{~Hz}$ );
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$
$\delta С(p p m): 74.15 \mathrm{C}^{1}, \mathrm{C}^{1} ; 81.8 \mathrm{C}^{2}, \mathrm{C}^{2} ; 122.05 \mathrm{C}^{3}, \mathrm{C}^{3^{3}} ; 128.70 \mathrm{C}^{5}, \mathrm{C}^{7}, \mathrm{C}^{5^{\prime}}, \mathrm{C}^{7} ; 132.76 \mathrm{C}^{4}$, $\mathrm{C}^{8}, \mathrm{C}^{4^{\prime}}, \mathrm{C}^{8} ;$

MS (m/z): $202(\mathrm{M}), 203(\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H})^{+}$
Ramman $\mathrm{v}_{\max }\left(\mathrm{cm}^{-1}\right):$ 2215.6 C $=\mathrm{C}$
crystal structure in accordance with literature data ${ }^{12-15}$ :

[12] J.K.D.Surette, M.-A.MacDonald, M.J.Zaworotko, R.D.Singer, J.Chem.Cryst. ,24, 1994, 715
[13] R.Thomas, S.S.Mallajyosula, S.Lakshmi, S.K.Pati, G.U.Kulkarni, J.Mol.Struct., 922, 2009, 46
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## 4,4'-(buta-1,3-diyne-1,4-diyl)bis(N,N-dimethylaniline) ((DMAPh)2DA) (yield 36\%)

 ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$ :$\delta_{H}(p p m): 2.99\left(\mathrm{~s}, 12 \mathrm{H},\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{4}\right) ; 6.62\left(\mathrm{~d}, 4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{4} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{8} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{4} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{8} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8,8 \mathrm{~Hz}\right) ; 7.39(\mathrm{~d}$, $4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{5} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{7} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{5^{\prime}} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{7^{\prime}} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.8 \mathrm{~Hz}$;
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right): 40.15\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{4}, 72.67 \mathrm{C}^{1}, \mathrm{C}^{1} ; 82.42 \mathrm{C}^{2}, \mathrm{C}^{2} ; 108.76 \mathrm{C}^{3}, \mathrm{C}^{3,}$, $111.77 \mathrm{C}^{5}, \mathrm{C}^{7}, \mathrm{C}^{5^{\prime}}, \mathrm{C}^{7} ; 133.70 \mathrm{C}^{4}, \mathrm{C}^{8}, \mathrm{C}^{4}, \mathrm{C}^{8^{\prime}}, 150.36 \mathrm{C}^{6}, \mathrm{C}^{6^{\prime}}$ MS (m/z): $289(\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H})^{+}$

Ramman $\mathrm{v}_{\max }\left(\mathrm{cm}^{-1}\right): 2305 \mathrm{C} \equiv \mathrm{C}$
crystal structure in accordance with literature data ${ }^{16}$ :


[16] J.G.Rodriguez, S.Ramos, R.Martin-Villamil, I.Fonseca, A.Albert, J.Chem.Soc., Perkin Trans. 1 ,1996, 541

## 1,4-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)buta-1,3-diyne (( $\left.\left.\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OPh}\right)_{2} \mathrm{DA}\right)$ (yield 72\%)

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$ :

$\mathrm{J}=8.79 \mathrm{~Hz}) ; 7.45\left(\mathrm{~d}, 4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{4} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{8} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{4} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{8} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.30 \mathrm{~Hz}\right)$;
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right): 55.35\left(\mathrm{OCH}_{3}\right)_{2}, 72.96 \mathrm{C}^{1}, \mathrm{C}^{1} ; 81.18 \mathrm{C}^{2}, \mathrm{C}^{2} ; 113.92$
$C^{5}, C^{7}, C^{5}, C^{7} ; 114.15 C^{3}, C^{3} ; 134.05 C^{4}, C^{8}, C^{4}, C^{8}, 160.20 C^{6}, C^{6^{\prime}}$
MS (m/z): $262(\mathrm{M}), 263(\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H})^{+}$
Ramman $\mathrm{v}_{\max }\left(\mathrm{cm}^{-1}\right): 2136.8 \mathrm{C} \equiv \mathrm{C}$
anal. calc. for $\mathrm{C}_{18} \mathrm{H}_{14} \mathrm{O}_{2}$ (\%): C, 82.45; $\mathrm{H}, 5.38$; found: $\mathrm{C}, 82.92 ; \mathrm{H}, 5.51$
crystal structure in accordance with literature data ${ }^{17}$ :

[17] Neng-Fang She, Hui-Zhen Guo, Li-Ping Cao, Meng Gao, Acta Crystallogr. Sect. E: Struct. Rep. Online , 62, 2006, 4958
dimethyl 4,4'-(buta-1,3-diyne-1,4-diyl)dibenzoate (( $\left.\left.\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{CPh}\right)_{2} \mathrm{DA}\right)$ (yield 42\%) ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right):$
$\delta_{\mathrm{H}}(\mathrm{ppm}): 3.93\left(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H},\left(\mathrm{OCH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right) ; 7.59\left(\mathrm{~d}, 4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{3} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{7} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{3} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{7} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=10 \mathrm{~Hz}\right) ; 8.11$ (d, $4 \mathrm{H}, 4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{4} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{6} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{4} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{6^{\prime}} \mathrm{J}=10 \mathrm{~Hz}$ )
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right.$
$\delta_{\mathrm{C}}(\mathrm{ppm}): 52.5\left(\mathrm{OCH}_{3}\right)_{2} ; 77.01 \mathrm{C}^{1}, \mathrm{C}^{1}, 82.00 \mathrm{C}^{2}, \mathrm{C}^{2^{\prime}} ; 126.74 \mathrm{C}^{3}, \mathrm{C}^{3} ; 130.0 \mathrm{C}^{4}, \mathrm{C}^{8}, \mathrm{C}^{4}$, $C^{8^{\prime}}, 131.71 C^{5}, C^{7}, C^{5^{\prime}}, C^{7^{\prime}} ; 133.9 C^{6}, C^{6^{\prime}} ; 167.0 C^{9}, C^{9}$;

MS (m/z): $319(\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H})^{+}$
Ramman $v_{\max }\left(\mathrm{cm}^{-1}\right): 2219 \mathrm{C} \equiv \mathrm{C}$

## 4,4'-(buta-1,3-diyne-1,4-diyl)dibenzaldehyde ((OHCPh)2DA) (yield 29 \%)

 ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$ :$\delta_{H}(p p m): 7.72\left(d, 4 H, C^{4} H, C^{8} H, C^{4} H, C^{8} H, J=10 H z\right) ; 7.90\left(d, 4 H, C^{5} H, C^{7} H, C^{5} H\right.$, $\left.C^{7^{\prime}} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{J}=10 \mathrm{~Hz}\right) ; 10.05\left(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H},\left(\mathrm{C}^{9} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}^{9} \mathrm{H}\right)\right.$
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$
$\delta_{C}(p p m): 75.40 C^{1}, C^{1^{\prime}} ; 83.01 C^{2}, C^{2} ; 128.12 C^{3}, C^{3} ; 130.00 C^{4}, C^{8}, C^{4}, C^{8^{\prime}} ; 133.28$ $C^{5}, C^{7}, C^{5}, C^{7} ; 136.07 C^{6}, C^{6^{\prime}} ; 191.98 C^{9}, C^{9}$

MS (m/z) : $259(\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H})^{+}$
Ramman $v_{\max }\left(\mathrm{Cm}^{-1}\right): 2214 \mathrm{C} \equiv \mathrm{C}$

## 4,4'-(buta-1,3-diyne-1,4-diyl)dibenzonitrile ((NCPh) ${ }_{2}$ DA) (yield 36 \%)

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$ :
$\delta_{H}(p p m): 7.59-7.67\left(q, 8 H, C^{4} H, C^{8} H, C^{4} H, C^{8} H, C^{5} H, C^{7} H, C^{5} H, C^{7} H, J=10 H z, J=\right.$ 10 Hz );
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right):$
$\delta_{C}(p p m): 78.02 C^{1}, C^{1} ; 81.63 C^{2}, C^{2} ; 113.20 C^{6}, C^{6^{\prime}} ; 118.24 C^{9}, C^{9} ; 126.35 C^{3}, C^{3} ;$ $132.28 C^{5}, C^{7}, C^{5}, C^{7} ; 133.24 C^{4}, C^{8}, C^{4}, C^{8}$;

MS (m/z) : 252 (M)
Ramman $\mathrm{v}_{\max }\left(\mathrm{cm}^{-1}\right): 2233 \mathrm{C} \equiv \mathrm{C}$


Fig. 1 ESI Absorption spectra of DPB derivatives measured in 2methyltetrahydrofuran.


Fig. 2 ESI Absorption spectra of DPB derivatives measured in acetonitrile.

Table 1 ESI Absorption wavelength ( $\lambda_{\text {abs }}$ ) and molar absorption coefficient $(\varepsilon)$ of diphenylbuta-1,3-diyne derivatives in selected solvents.

| Compound | Solvent | $\lambda_{\text {abs }}(\mathrm{nm})$ | $\varepsilon\left(\mathrm{dm}^{3} \mathrm{mo}^{-1} \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}\right)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| DPB | MeCN | 287 | 16695 |
|  |  | 305 | 25147 |
|  |  | 326 | 23184 |
|  | cyclohexane | 288 | 17636 |
|  |  | 307 | 27794 |
|  |  | 328 | 25491 |
|  | $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{14}$ | 290 | 19939 |
|  |  | 308 | 28307 |
|  |  | 329 | 25919 |
|  | $\mathrm{C}_{16} \mathrm{H}_{34}$ | 289 | 14307 |
|  |  | 307 | 20024 |
|  |  | 328 | 18408 |
|  | MeTHF | 289 | 10376 |
|  |  | 307 | 14473 |
|  |  | 328 | 13370 |
|  | MCH | 288 | 12004 |
|  |  | 307 | 17802 |
|  |  | 328 | 16267 |
| (DMAPh)2 ${ }_{2} \mathrm{DA}$ | MeCN | 329 | 16497 |
|  |  | 354 | 20029 |
|  |  | 379 | 17804 |
|  | cyclohexane | 327 | 19759 |
|  |  | 347 | 21340 |
|  |  | 373 | 19649 |
|  | $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{14}$ | 323 | 19649 |
|  |  | 345 | 21173 |
|  |  | 370 | 19874 |
|  | $\mathrm{C}_{16} \mathrm{H}_{34}$ | 326 | 20196 |
|  |  | 348 | 21340 |
|  |  | 374 | 19759 |
|  | MTHF | 341 | 22208 |
|  |  | 354 | 25089 |
|  |  | 377 | 24819 |
|  | MCH | 324 | 19810 |
|  |  | 346 | 23186 |
|  |  | 372 | 20794 |
| $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OPh}\right)_{2} \mathrm{DA}$ | MeCN | 298 | 15327 |
|  |  | 318 | 18864 |
|  |  | 340 | 15425 |
|  | cyclohexane | 300 | 16074 |
|  |  | 318 | 21305 |
|  |  | 340 | 18220 |
|  | $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{14}$ | 296 | 10493 |
|  |  | 316 | 13629 |
|  |  | 338 | 11185 |
|  | $\mathrm{C}_{16} \mathrm{H}_{34}$ | 298 | 10540 |
|  |  | 318 | 13185 |
|  |  | 340 | 10745 |
|  | MeTHF | 300 | 17669 |
|  |  | 318 | 15673 |
|  |  | 340 | 12183 |
|  | MCH | 297 | 13983 |
|  |  | 317 | 17170 |
|  |  | 339 | 13779 |


|  |  | 284 | 26175 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | 302 |


|  |  | 302 | 16539 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | MeTHF | 323 | 23031 |
|  |  | 346 | 20624 |
|  | MCH | 302 | 4151 |
|  |  | 322 | 5380 |
|  | 346 | 4597 |  |

Table 2 ESI The solvatochromic shift of absorption spectra of 4,4` substituted diphenylbuta-1,3-diyne derivatives.

|  | MCH <br> $\lambda / n m$ | MeTHF <br> $\lambda / n m$ | MeCN <br> $\lambda / n m$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| -H | 328 | 328 | 326 |
| - OMe | 339.5 | 341 | 339.5 |
| - CN | 346.5 | 346.5 | 344 |
| - COOMe | 348 | 348 | 345 |
| - CHO | 357 | 357 | 354.5 |
| -DMA | 372 | 382 | 379 |



Fig. 3 ESI Fluorescence spectra of (NCPh) ${ }_{2} \mathrm{DA}$ in 2-methyltetrahydrofuran (black dashed line), methylcyclohexane (blue solid line) and acetonitrile (red dash-dot line).


Fig. 4 ESI Absorption (black solid line) and fluorescence excitation spectrum (red dashed line) of $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{CPh}\right)_{2} \mathrm{DA}$ in methylcyclohexane.


Fig. 5 ESI Absorption (black solid line) and fluorescence excitation spectrum (red dashed line) of $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{CPh}\right)_{2} \mathrm{DA}$ in 2-methyltetrhydrofuran.


Fig. 6 ESI Absorption (black solid line) and fluorescence excitation spectrum (red dashed line) of $(\mathrm{NCPh})_{2} \mathrm{DA}$ in methylcyclohexane.


Fig. 7 ESI Absorption (black solid line) and fluorescence excitation spectrum (red dashed line) of $(\mathrm{NCPh})_{2} \mathrm{DA}$ in 2-methyltetrahydrofuran.


Fig. 8 ESI Absorption (black solid line) and fluorescence excitation spectrum (red dashed line) of (NCPh $)_{2} \mathrm{DA}$ in acetonitrile.


Fig. 9 ESI Fluorescence spectra of $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{CPh}\right)_{2} \mathrm{DA}$ in methylcyclohexane recorded at different excitation wavelength. Fluorescence quantum yield for excitation wavelength $\lambda_{\text {exc }}=280 \mathrm{~nm}$ is equal to 0.0142 , for $\lambda_{\text {exc }}=3150.0137$ and for $\lambda_{\text {exc }}=335$ 0.0140 .


Fig. 10 ESI Fluorescence excitation spectra of $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{CPh}\right)_{2} \mathrm{DA}$ in ethylcyclohexane at different observation wavelength.


Fig. 11 ESI Luminescence and phosphorescence excitation spectra of DPB in methylcyclohexane at 77K.


Fig. 12 ESI Luminescence and phosphorescence excitation spectra of DPB in 2methyltetrahydrofuran at 77 K .


Fig. 13 ESI Luminescence and fluorescence excitation spectra of (DMAPh) ${ }_{2}$ DA in methylcyclohexane at 77K.


Fig. 14 ESI Luminescence and phosphorescence excitation spectra of $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OPh}\right)_{2} \mathrm{DA}$ in methylcyclohexane at 77 K .


Fig. 15 ESI Luminescence and phosphorescence excitation spectra of $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OPh}\right)_{2} \mathrm{DA}$ in 2-methyltetrahydrofuran at 77K.


Fig. 16 ESI Luminescence and fluorescence excitation measured at 77 K and room temperature fluorescence spectra of $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{CPh}\right)_{2} \mathrm{DA}$ in 2-methyltetrahydrofuran.


Fig. 17 ESI Luminescence and fluorescence excitation spectra measured at 77 K and room temperature fluorescence spectra of $(\mathrm{NCPh})_{2} \mathrm{DA}$ in methylcyclohexane.


Fig. 18 ESI Luminescence (red line) and fluorescence (blue line) and phosphorescence (olive line) excitation and room temperature fluorescence spectra (dashed line) of (NCPh) ${ }_{2} \mathrm{DA}$ in 2-methyltetrahydorofuran.


Fig. 19 ESI Torsional potentials of the $S_{0}$ (black solid line) and $S_{1}$ (red dashed line) states calculated for DPB. Red dotted line is represents best fit to the trigonometric
function given by eq. 2. Each energy was calculated at the optimized geometry of the respective electronic ( $\mathrm{S}_{0}$ or $\mathrm{S}_{1}$ ) state for a given phenyl-phenyl torsional angle.


Fig. 20 ESI Torsional potentials of the $S_{0}$ (black solid line) and $S_{1}$ (red dashed line) states calculated for (OHCPh) ${ }_{2}$ DA. Each energy was calculated the optimized geometry of the respective electronic $\left(\mathrm{S}_{0}\right.$ or $\left.\mathrm{S}_{1}\right)$ state for a given phenyl-phenyl torsional angle.


Fig. 21 ESI Torsional potentials of the $S_{0}$ (black solid line) and $S_{1}$ (red dashed line) states calculated for $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OPh}\right)_{2} \mathrm{DA}$. Each energy was calculated at the optimized
geometry of the respective electronic ( $\mathrm{S}_{0}$ or $\mathrm{S}_{1}$ ) state for a given phenyl-phenyl torsional angle.

Table 3 ESI The energy of rotation barrier of diphenylbuta-1,3-diyne derivatives in the ground and excited state.

| Substituent | $\Delta E\left(\mathrm{~S}_{0}\right)$ <br> $\mathrm{kJ} / \mathrm{mol}$ | $\Delta \mathrm{E}\left(\mathrm{S}_{1}\right) \mathrm{kJ} / \mathrm{mol}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| -H | 1.2 | 2.7 |
| -OMe | 1.0 | 6.2 |
| $-\mathrm{N}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}$ | 0.9 | 6.5 |
| $-\mathrm{COOCH}_{3}$ | 1.5 | 6.0 |
| -CN | 1.5 | 5.5 |
| -CHO | 1.6 | 7.1 |

Table 4 ESI Bond length of buta-1,3-diyne unit** obtained from crystal structure and theoretical calculation for the ground $\left(\mathrm{S}_{0}\right)$ and excited $\left(\mathrm{S}_{1}\right)$ states.

| compound | Bond of buta-1,3-diyne unit |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\mathrm{C}_{3}-\mathrm{C}_{2}$ | $\mathrm{C}_{2}{ }^{-} \mathrm{C}_{1}{ }^{\prime}$ | $\mathrm{C}_{1}{ }^{-} \mathrm{C}_{1}$ | $\mathrm{C}_{1}-\mathrm{C}_{2}$ | $\mathrm{C}_{2}-\mathrm{C}_{3}$ | state |
| DPB | 1.432 | 1.194 | 1.372 | 1.195 | 1.433 | cryst. |
|  | 1.418 | 1.214 | 1.356 | 1.214 | 1.418 | $\mathrm{S}_{0}$ |
|  | 1.382 | 1.254 | 1.310 | 1.254 | 1.382 | $\mathrm{S}_{1}$ |
| dDMADPB | 1.425 | 1.208 | 1.368 | 1.208 | 1.425 | cryst. |
|  | 1.416 | 1.216 | 1.356 | 1.216 | 1.416 | $\mathrm{S}_{0}$ |
|  | 1.380 | 1.248 | 1.318 | 1.248 | 1.380 | $\mathrm{S}_{1}$ |
| dOMeDPB | 1.371 | 1.184 | 1.372 | 1.184 | 1.420 | cryst. |
|  | 1.417 | 1.215 | 1.356 | 1.215 | 1.417 | $\mathrm{S}_{0}$ |
|  | 1.380 | 1.252 | 1.313 | 1.252 | 1.380 | $\mathrm{S}_{1}$ |
| dCOOMeDPB | 1.432 | 1.205 | 1.371 | 1.204 | 1.433 | cryst. ${ }^{1}$ |
|  | 1.417 | 1.214 | 1.355 | 1.214 | 1.417 | $\mathrm{S}_{0}$ |
|  | 1.381 | 1.247 | 1.315 | 1.247 | 1.382 | $\mathrm{S}_{1}$ |
| dCHODPB | 1.416 | 1.214 | 1.354 | 1.214 | 1.416 | $\mathrm{S}_{0}$ |
|  | 1.383 | 1.245 | 1.317 | 1.245 | 1.384 | $\mathrm{S}_{1}$ |
| dCNDPB | 1.416 | 1.214 | 1.354 | 1.241 | 1.416 | $\mathrm{S}_{0}$ |
|  | 1.381 | 1.247 | 1.315 | 1.247 | 1.381 | $\mathrm{S}_{1}$ |

1. T.M.Fasina, J.C.Collings, J.M.Burke, A.S.Batsanov, R.M.Ward, D.AlbesaJove, L.Porres, A.Beeby, J.A.K.Howard, A.J.Scott, W.Clegg, S.W.Watt, C.Viney, T.B.Marder, J.Mater.Chem., 2005 ,15, 690

bond numbering of buta-1,3-diyne unit


Fig 22 ESI The equilibrium optimized structure of $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OPh}\right)_{2} \mathrm{DA}$ in the $\sigma \pi^{*}$ state and LUMO orbital.


Fig 23 ESI The difference in electron density between ground and excited state of $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OPh}\right)_{2} \mathrm{DA}$ in the $\sigma \pi^{*}$ state.


Fig. 24 ESI The optimized "scorpion like" structure of $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{CPh}\right)_{2} \mathrm{DA}$ in the $\pi \pi^{*}$ state and LUMO orbital.


Fig 25 ESI The difference in electron density between ground and excited state of $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{CPh}\right)_{2} \mathrm{DA}$ for "scorpion like" structure in $\pi \pi^{*}$ state.

