**Encircling the Square: Synthesis of Quadrannulene**

**Significance:** The authors report the first synthesis of a [4]circulene. Quadrannulene 1 is comprised of a central four-membered ring fused together with four benzenoid units. Unlike previously reported bowl-shaped annulenes, such as corannulene, this structural motif is not observed in classical graphitic structures.

**Comment:** Despite the highly strained central core of 1 the compound is remarkably stable suggesting that new families of arenes and fullerenes could be accessed using this methodology.

**Equation:**

1) TsOH, PhMe, reflux
2) KOH, MeOH, 25 °C
30% yield (over 2 steps)

1) TMS—BuLi, CeCl₃
THF, −78 to 25 °C
50% yield

1) TMS—CpCo(CH₂CH₂)₂
DME, 25 °C
2) Cp₂FePF₆
2% yield (over 2 steps)

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