Use of Acetylene Gas as Dienophile in a Diels–Alder Reaction

**Significance:** The use of acetylene gas as the dienophile in a cycloaddition Diels–Alder reaction to the bay region of a polyaromatic hydrocarbon is reported for the first time.

**Comment:** The sequence of cycloaddition followed by hydrogen elimination–rearomatization utilizing acetylene might prove to be a useful tool in the preparation of larger polyaromatic hydrocarbons, such as uniform carbon nanotubes, from small hydrocarbon templates.


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