Flexible and Practical Synthesis of Anthracenes through Gold-Catalyzed Cyclization of $o$-Alkynyldiarylmethanes


Gold-Catalyzed Synthesis of Anthracenes

Significance: The gold-catalyzed synthesis of anthracene derivatives from their corresponding $o$-alkynyldiarylmethanes is reported. Compared to previously reported syntheses, the presented method is a mild and atom-economic approach that enables access to functionalized anthracenes from a wide substrate scope in good yields.

Comment: In addition to anthracenes, the authors report the synthesis of a tetracene derivative (see above) from a naphthalene-containing substrate, thus demonstrating the potential of this synthetic strategy in the synthesis of functionalized extended acenes.