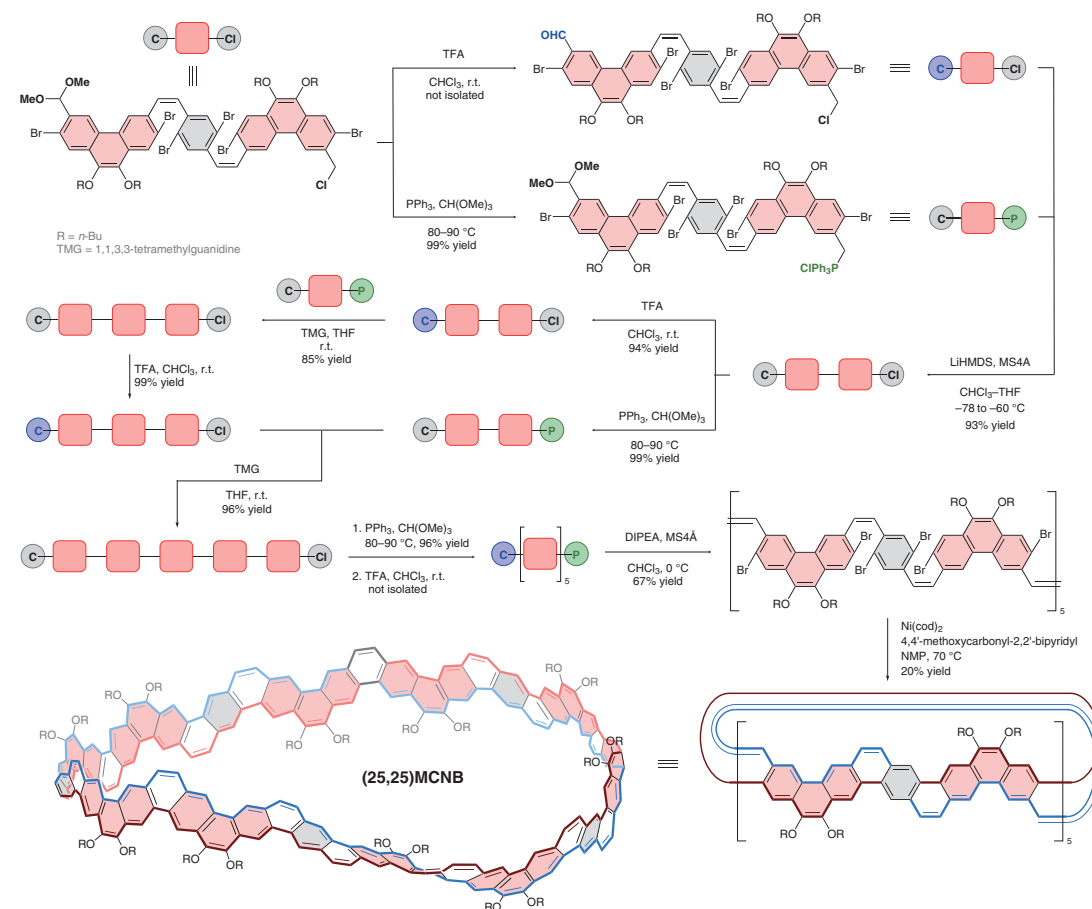


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Synthesis of a Möbius Carbon Nanobelt

Nat. Synth. 2022, 1, 535–541, DOI: 10.1038/s44160-022-00075-8.

## A Möbius Carbon Nanobelt Accomplished



**Significance:** Molecular structures with novel topological features are appealing targets to both synthetic and materials chemistry researchers. For the first time, a fully conjugated, all- $sp^2$ -carbon nanobelt with the topology of a Möbius band is accomplished. The achievement relies on a smart design of incorporating and stitching an odd number of all *Z*-configured stilbene moieties into continually fused phenanthrene groups. The topological chirality manifested by the Möbius nanobelt is proven by circular dichroism spectroscopy after resolving the enantiomers with chiral HPLC.

**Comment:** Using a stepwise chain-extension strategy, a large macrocycle comprising five repeated units of hexabromo-substituted bis(phenanthrenylvinyl)benzene is synthesized. By virtue of the *Z*-selective Wittig protocol facilitated stereochemistry control, the Möbius topology is realized in the ring-closure step. Upon subsequent nickel-catalyzed intramolecular aryl coupling to avail ring fusion, (25,25)MCNB (Möbius carbon nanobelt) is successfully obtained.

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Synfacts 2022, 18(10), 1079 Published online: 20.09.2022  
DOI: 10.1055/s-0041-1738599; Reg-No.: S08522SF

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Category

Synthesis of  
Materials and  
Unnatural Products

Key words

Möbius ring

carbon nanobelts

*Z*-selective Wittig  
reaction

molecular topology

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