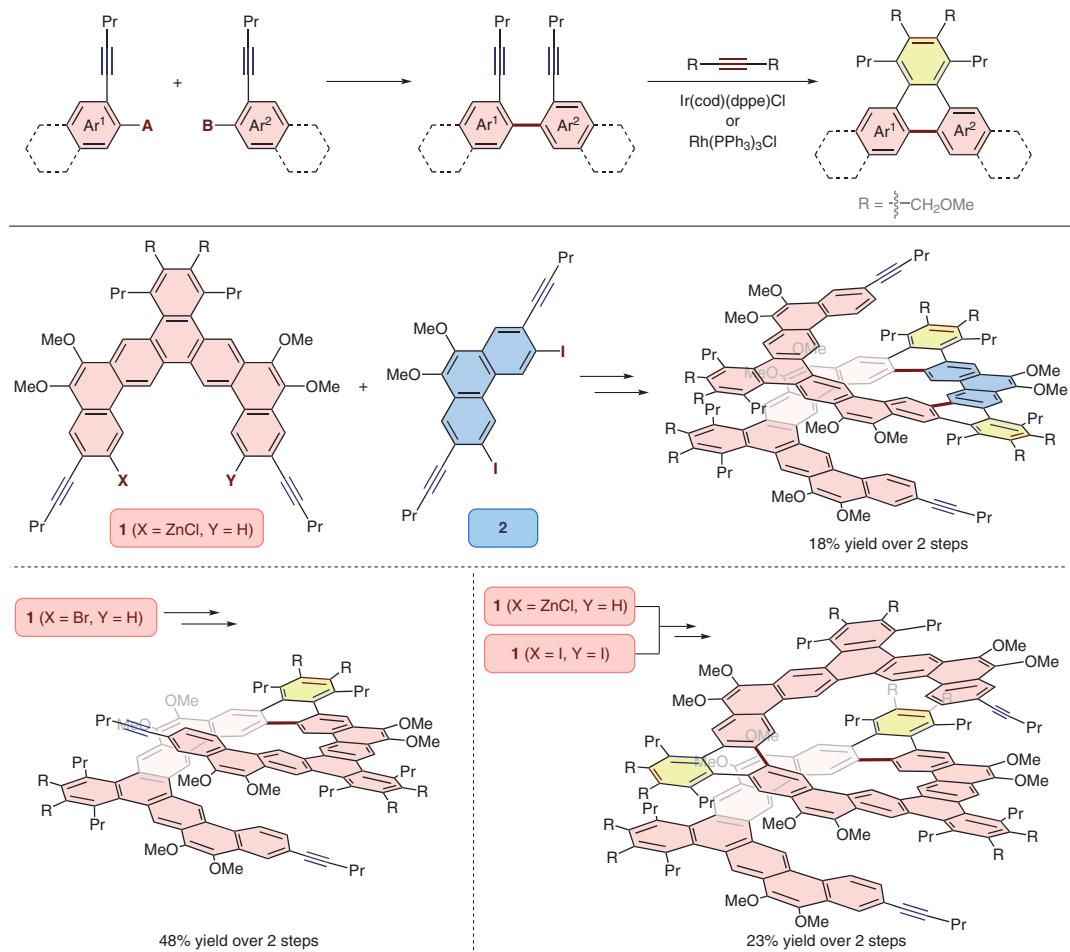


## Expanded [23]-Helicene

### Synfact of the Month



**Significance:** Large helical structures are unique and sometimes irreplaceable molecular scaffolds serving special functions. By combining linear and angular ring-fusion modules, a set of expanded helicenes are designed and synthesized via convenient procedures, demonstrating extraordinary chiroptical properties reaching into the visible range.

**Comment:** The key step to attaining the large helicenes first requires the assembly of polyaryl precursors comprising one or more 2,2'-diethynylbiphenyl moieties. Then, iridium- or rhodium-catalyzed [2+2+2] reactions are performed to accomplish helicenes composed of 15, 19, and 23 rings in the circuit.