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## UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

Development of mutually orthogonal chemistries for multicomponent biomolecule labeling DISSERTATION
submitted in partial satisfaction of the requirements for the degree of DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
in Chemistry
by

David N. Kamber

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# DEDICATION 

To<br>my family, friends, and mentors<br>for their support and inspiration.

Like everything metaphysical the harmony between thought and reality is to be found in the grammar of the language.
-Wittgenstein

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- Developed isomeric cyclopropenes for sequential labeling of biomolecules. First example of tandem [4+2] IED-DA and 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition for dual labeling.

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## PUBLICATIONS

5) Kamber, D.N.; Liang, Y.; Briggs, J.; Houk, K.N.; Prescher, J. A: Scope and reactivity of 1,2,4triazines in inverse electron demand Diels-Alder. In preparation.
6) Kamber, D.N.; Liang, Y.; Blizzard, R. J.; Liu, F.; Mehl, Y.; Houk, K.N.; Prescher, J. A. 1,2,4Triazines are versatile bioorthogonal reagents. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2015, 137, 8388.
7) Shih, H-W.*; Kamber, D.N.*; Prescher, J. A. Building better bioorthogonal reactions. Curr. Opin. Chem. Biol. 2014, 21, 103. [*denotes equal contribution]
8) Kamber, D.N.; Nazarova, L.A.; Liang, Y.; Lopez, S.A.; Patterson, D.M.; Shih, H-W.; Houk, K.N.; Prescher, J.A. Isomeric cyclopropenes exhibit unique bioorthogonal reactivities. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2013, 135, 13680.
9) Patterson, D. M.; Nazarova, L. A.; Xie, B.; Kamber, D. N.; Prescher, J. A. Functionalized cyclopropenes as bioorthogonal chemical reporters. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2012, 134, 18638.

## PRESENTATIONS

4) David N. Kamber, Yong Liang, Robert J. Blizzard, Fang Liu, Ryan A. Mehl, K. N. Houk, and Jennifer A. Prescher, "Development of mutually orthogonal chemistries for multicomponent labeling," oral presentation, Bader Awards Symposium, Milwaukee, WI, August 13, 2015.
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6) David N. Kamber and Kari L. Stone, "Synthesis of First Row Transition Metal Complexes with Redox-active Ligands," oral presentation, 44th Associated Colleges of the Chicago Area student symposium, Chicago, IL, April 9, 2011.
7) Jonathan Pollock, David N. Kamber, and Allison K. Wilson, "Investigation of McCune-Albright syndrome using 2B2 cells with mutation D223E," oral presentation, $44^{\text {th }}$ Associated Colleges of the Chicago Area student symposium, Chicago, IL, April 9, 2011.

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- Kappa Gamma Pi, 2011
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- Benedictine University Scholars Program (campus-wide honors program), 2008-2010


## ABSTRACT OF THE DISSERTATION

Development of mutually orthogonal chemistries for multicomponent biomolecule labeling

## By

David N. Kamber

Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry
University of California, Irvine, 2015
Professor Jennifer A. Prescher, Chair
The bioorthogonal chemical reporter strategy provides a method for selectively labeling biomolecules with detectable probes. This strategy relies on the incorporation of a unique reporter into a biomolecule, followed by a covalent ligation with a secondary reagent. This approach can be used to visualize or retrieve biomolecules in complex environments. Over the past decade, the bioorthogonal chemical reporter strategy has been successfully applied to label and study various biomolecules in complex systems. However, the scope of this method has been hindered by a lack of reactions that are compatible with each other. Most of the popular bioorthogonal reagents to date cross react, precluding multicomponent imaging studies and other applications. To address this issue and expand the scope of the chemical reporter strategy, new reagents and chemistries were developed and their reactivities were analyzed.

In Chapter 1, I highlight the most commonly used bioorthogonal reactions, discuss the reactivity of the different reactions, and emphasize areas of improvements and sources of inspiration for thinking about bioorthogonal reactions. In Chapter 2, I focus on the development of new candidate reactions for biomolecule labeling. More specifically, the reactivity of 1,3disubstituted and 3,3-disubstituted cyclopropenes with tetrazines and nitrile imines is discussed.

3,3-Disubstituted cyclopropenes were shown to exhibit orthogonal reactivity with tetrazines, but still react robustly with nitrile imine probes. In Chapter 3, I discuss the development of 1,2,4triazine as a novel diene for bioorthogonal labeling applications. 1,2,4-Triazines were synthesized via an expedient route, and their reactivity and stability were analyzed. 1,2,4Triazines were shown to exhibit robust stability and selective reactivity with trans-cyclooctene over other commonly used strained dienophiles. Additionally, a non-canonical amino acid comprising the triazine motif was synthesized and successfully used to tag model proteins. In Chapter 4, the reactivity profile of the triazine scaffold is discussed. I analyzed the reactivity of isomeric 1,2,4-triazines with a panel of commonly used bioorthogonal reagents. A combination of steric and electronic perturbations was applied to the development of cycloaddition reactions that could be used simultaneously.

Collectively, this thesis explores novel chemical reagents for bioorthogonal chemistry. New chemical reagents that exhibit mutually orthogonal reactivity are developed and used to label biomolecules. Looking ahead, the chemistries described here will advance the scope of the chemical reporter strategy for multicomponent studies.

# CHAPTER 1: Building better bioorthogonal reactions 

Hui-Wen Shih contributed to the work presented in this chapter.

### 1.1 Introduction

Our understanding of living systems is being continually shaped and refined by unique chemical tools. Included in this group are selective, covalent reactions that can be used to target large biopolymers, small molecule metabolites, and other cellular species with probes for visualization or identification [1]. These reactions are minimally perturbing to biological systems and, thus, have been collectively termed 'bioorthogonal'. Bioorthogonal chemistries were initially employed to examine glycans and other biopolymers in cells, but they have since been applied in numerous other contexts. The early successes of these transformations also inspired nearly two decades of research toward building faster and more exquisitely selective reactions. Impressively, there are now over twenty unique chemistries suitable for tagging isolated biomolecules, with nearly half being reported within the past five years [2].

While the bioorthogonal toolkit continues to expand at a rapid pace, the seamless transition of these chemistries into the most complex settings - live cells and organisms - has not been fully realized. This is due, in part, to a lack of functional groups that operate under the most extreme conditions. These groups must be stable in aqueous environments, yet robustly reactive with complementary probes. The motifs must also be sufficiently bioavailable to reach their targets, yet remain inert to surrounding molecules, cells, and even tissues. Only a handful of bioorthogonal chemistries - out of the dozens
(a)
(b)
chemical reporter

Figure 1-1. Chemical reporters and bioorthogonal chemistries for biomolecule tagging in vivo. (A) Considerations for bioorthogonal reaction development. Chemical reporters (blue circles) must be installed onto target biomolecules and remain stable in cellular environments. The covalent labeling reaction with a complementary functional groups (blue arc) must also provide stable adducts and be minimally perturbing to surrounding biomolecules (shapes). (B) Popular bioorthogonal reagents and reactions for in vivo use.
reported to date - satisfy these stringent criteria [2]. And, among these, no one reaction has emerged as a perfect fit for all applications.

Designing and building better bioorthogonal reactions thus remain important goals in chemical biology. Such efforts require exceptional functional groups that interface well with biological systems and exhibit reliable, biocompatible reactivities. In this chapter, individual functional groups that underlie the most successful bioorthogonal reactions in vivo are highlighted. Recent efforts to tune the reactivities and stabilities of these motifs using physical organic chemistry principles are also discussed. Last, ongoing work to not only identify improved bioorthogonal chemistries, but also combinations of reactions that are orthogonal to one another and can be used in concert for biomolecule tracking are discussed. An arsenal of such reactions will enable more complex biological networks to be examined in real time and paint a more complete picture of living systems.

### 1.2 Paving the way with 'privileged' scaffolds

Applications of bioorthogonal chemistries in vivo typically involve two steps. First, a metabolic substrate, biomolecule (e.g., antibody), or other target is outfitted with a biocompatible functional group (i.e., a 'chemical reporter') and introduced into the cell or organism (Figure 11a). Once the reporter has reached its target, the second step involves a selective (bioorthogonal) reaction with a complementary probe. In most cases, the secondary probe is outfitted with a visual tag or affinity agent to facilitate either the direct detection or isolation of the target biomolecule (Figure 1-1a) [3]. While both the reporter and its partner probe must be compatible with living systems, the criteria placed on the reporter are often more stringent. This group must be minimally perturbing to the target structure to avoid interfering with its normal activity. The
reporter must also tolerate cellular environments for extended periods of time. Few functional groups satisfy these requirements, and most are quite stable and small in size (Figure 1-1b). These 'privileged' scaffolds and their associated bioorthogonal reactions are briefly described below [4].

## 1.2a Azides

The organic azide is arguably the most recognized chemical reporter to date. This functional group is remarkably compatible with cells and nascent biosynthetic pathways owing to its small size and stability [5]. Azides can be readily detected with soft nucleophiles and dipolarophiles - motifs that are similarly bioorthogonal [6,7]. The most popular azide-specific ligation is the Huisgen 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition with terminal alkynes. This reaction requires alkyne activation (often via a Cu (I) catalyst) to proceed under physiological conditions [8]. The copper-catalyzed azide-alkyne cycloaddition (CuAAC) is ubiquitous in chemical biology, but has been historically difficult to apply in vivo due to its tri-component nature and concerns over copper cytotoxicity [9]. However, new metal-chelating reagents obviate the need for large quantities of copper [10,11] and are broadening the scope of CuAAC in vivo [12,13]. Other azide- alkyne cycloadditions eliminate metal catalysts altogether, relying instead on strain energies to promote reactivity (vide infra) [14]. Combinations of these reactions have recently been used to track biomolecules in human pathogens [15], visualize neuronal proteins [16] and examine cell wall biosynthesis [17,18].

## 1.2b Terminal alkynes

In addition to being popular reaction partners for azides, terminal alkynes are also 'privileged' chemical reporters. These functional groups are small and compatible with a variety
of enzymatic pathways and cellular environments [19,20]. Terminal alkynes are also found in various natural products, indicating that these motifs possess some degree of metabolic stability. Unlike their azido counterparts, though, fewer bioorthogonal transformations exist to detect alkynes. CuAAC with azido probes remains the reaction of choice, and this chemistry has been slower to transition into live cells and organisms.

## 1.2c Ketones and aldehydes

Ketones and aldehydes rival azides and alkynes in terms of size, and were among the first reagents pursued for bioorthogonal reaction development. These functional groups, while abundant inside cells in the form of monosaccharides, are virtually absent on cell surfaces and in extracellular spaces. Thus, ketones and aldehydes achieve bioorthogonality by being used in unnatural contexts. Both motifs can be affixed to surface biomolecules using metabolic probes or other reagents, and then subsequently detected via covalent reaction with hydrazides or aminooxy probes. Aldehydes can also be tagged using a recently reported Pictet-Spengler-type reaction [21]. This transformation offers improved kinetics and more stable oxacarboline adducts than traditional aldehyde ligations.

## 1.2d Alkenes

Alkenes are the newest members of the bioorthogonal toolkit. They are attractive chemical reporters owing to their small size, stability, and propensity to react with either 1,3dipoles or dienes. These latter cycloadditions typically require heating or high pressures to proceed at reasonable rates, but can also be driven using electronically modified or strained alkenes [22,23]. Indeed, the reaction between strained trans-cyclooctene (TCO) and tetrazines proceeds readily in biological solutions and live cells. This inverse electron-demand Diels-Alder
(IED-DA) reaction is among the fastest bioorthogonal reactions reported to date, with secondorder rate constants now approaching $10^{5} \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}$ in some cases [24]. IED-DA reactions with TCO and tetrazine have been used to visualize biological processes that occur on rapid time scales in preclinical models, where only minimal amounts of reagent can be used [24,25].

## 1.2e Tetrazines

Like alkenes, some tetrazines are both small and stable enough to be used as chemical reporters in living systems. Most harbor fewer electron-withdrawing substituents than tetrazines typically employed for IED-DA reactions. Electron-rich tetrazines are less susceptible to hydrolysis and attack by biological nucleophiles, and are thus more desirable for use in vivo and intracellular environments, in particular. Stabilized tetrazines have recently been introduced into recombinant proteins via unnatural amino acid mutagenesis. The heterocyclic amino acid derivatives survived prolonged incubation times in cellular media and could be covalently detected with strained alkenes (vide infra).

### 1.3 Tuning reagent reactivities and biocompatibilities

As noted above, bioorthogonal functional groups must often be tuned to achieve suitable reaction rates or biocompatibilities for use in vivo. Rapid transformations are essential for numerous imaging and drug delivery studies, as only small doses of probe can typically be used [25,26,27]. Reagents must also be sufficiently hydrophilic to avoid 'sticking' to surrounding biomolecules. Fortunately, most bioorthogonal functional groups can be readily modified to achieve desired properties (Figure 1-2).
(a) $\sigma^{x^{\prime}} \mathbf{y}$
Functional group


Catalysis
(b)

alkyne

 transition metal




Figure 1-2. Functional group tuning for improved bioorthogonal reactivity. (A) Strategies to "activate" functional groups for efficient bioorthogonal ligation. (B) Examples of strategies used to activate alkynes for covalent reaction with organic azides. Under ambient conditions, no reaction between the functional groups is observed. Alkynes activated via ring strain or metal catalysis, though, are poised to undergo rapid bioorthogonal cycloaddition with azides. Reactive strained alkynes (e.g., DIBO) can also be liberated "on demand" via photolysis.

## 1.3a Modifying intrinsic properties

One of the most common methods to enhance bioorthogonal reactivity exploits ring strain. As noted above, alkenes and terminal alkynes are attractive chemical reporters based on size and stability. However, these motifs do not react with complementary bioorthogonal functional groups under mild conditions. Several groups have shown that alkene-based and
alkyne-based reactions can be driven via ring strain (Figure 1-2b) [28]. For example, the strained alkenes TCO and cyclopropene react with electron-deficient dienes via IED-DA reactions in physiological environments. Similarly, over twelve different strained cycloalkynes have been reported to react with azides under ambient conditions and in live cells [1].

In recent years, efforts to further tune different classes of strained reagents have revealed even more rapid bioorthogonal ligations. For example, Fox demonstrated that when TCO is fused to a cyclopropane ring, the reagent is forced to adopt a highly strained half-chair conformation. This constrained alkene reacts more rapidly in IED-DA reactions than TCO itself [29] and is especially advantageous for detecting the electron-rich (and less reactive) tetrazines used in recombinant protein production [30]. Chin and Lemke also showed that cyclopropanefused cyclooctynes (i.e., bicyclononynes) offer improved reaction speeds for protein tagging applications in live cells [31,32]. Most recently, Lin and colleagues reported a strained spirocyclic alkene that exhibits accelerated cycloaddition rates relative to parental cyclopropenes [33]. Such small, hydrophilic, and fast-reacting bioorthogonal reagents are desirable for cellular and in vivo imaging where excess probe and non-specific binding must be avoided.

In addition to reaction speed, steric and electronic modifications can also dramatically influence bioorthogonal reagent stability and lipophilicity [27,28]. Indeed, optimizing for ligation speed often comes at the expense of probe stability or biocompatibility. In the case of tetrazines, Hilderbrand and coworkers demonstrated that small, electron-withdrawing substituents enhanced IED-DA reactivity (due to favorable FMO interactions in the transition state); however, these same modifications also promoted hydrolytic degradation of the tetrazine scaffold [34]. Similarly, some of the fastest reacting TCO motifs are the least stable in vitro and in vivo $[24,30,34]$, while many of the most stable alkenes exhibit the slowest IED-DA rates
[35,36]. Striking the right balance of stability and reactivity is an ongoing challenge in bioorthogonal reaction development. However, systematic tuning will continue to refine bioorthogonal reagents for applications in cells and organisms, and perhaps reveal entirely new classes of reactions. Indeed, efforts to modulate cycloalkynes uncovered new manifolds of reactivity between cyclooctynes and various 1,3-dipoles [37,38,39].

### 1.4 Engineering reagents for 'on demand' reactivity

Bioorthogonal reagents can also be tuned for desired levels of reactivity and stability using extrinsic controls. Many current strategies involve liberating bioorthogonal groups with mild chemistries or exposure to light. These exogenous triggers enable highly reactive (and perhaps unstable) functional groups to be generated only when needed.

## 1.4a Chemical activation

One straightforward approach to controlling bioorthogonal chemistries involves synthesizing the reactants 'on demand'. For example, nitrones are attractive chemical reporters owing to their small size and rapid reactivity with strained alkynes. However, some nitrones are chemically unstable and not amenable to long-term storage. These 1,3-dipoles can be generated in situ from more stable precursors, including aldehydes and methylhydroxylamine. Boons and van Delft used this strategy to introduce nitrones into model proteins for subsequent reaction with cyclooctynes [40]. Similar chemical activation strategies have been reported for nitrile oxides [41], some diazo compounds [38,39], and oxidation-prone dienes [42]. Catalytic chemical activation strategies are also possible (Figure 1-2b). The most well known example, of course, is alkyne activation via CuAAC , although other metal catalysts have been recently explored [43]. Metal catalysts can also promote alkene reactivity. In a recent example, Davis and co-workers
utilized a $\mathrm{Ru}(\mathrm{II})$ catalyst to drive cross-metathesis reactions with allylselenides and allylsulfides on model proteins [44]. Further developments in catalytic activation are expected following recent reports on biocompatible palladium-mediated reactions [45,46,47]. Ongoing work in organocatalysis will also obviate the need for toxic metals in generating bioorthogonal agents 'on demand' $[48,49]$.

## 1.4b Photoactivation

In addition to exogenous chemicals, light can be used to activate bioorthogonal motifs for reactivity. Popik and Boons reported one of the earliest examples of this approach, using cyclopropenone to conceal a strained alkyne (dibenzocyclooctyne or DIBO, Figure 1-2b). DIBO reacts rapidly with organic azides, but is prone to nucleophilic attack by endogenous thiols. Cyclopropenone protects the alkyne from such non-specific reactivity, and upon exposure to UV light, the mask is released (as CO) and functional DIBO is generated. Photoactivation thus enables exquisite temporal and spatial control over the labeling reaction [50,51,52]. Lin and others exploited a similar strategy to generate reactive nitrile imines (for 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition with unactivated alkenes) from tetrazoles [53,54]. Some recently reported tetrazoles can be photolyzed with near-IR light, improving the in vivo compatibility of this approach [55].


Figure 1-3. Inspiration for new bioorthogonal reagent discovery. Structures of representative natural products and therapeutic drugs harboring "bioorthogonal" functional groups (highlighted in blue).

### 1.5 Unfinished work

The majority of bioorthogonal functional groups are not 'bioorthogonal' in the truest sense of the word. Many are prone to hydrolysis over time, and some react with endogenous thiols or other biomolecules at high concentrations [20]. Additionally, many of the most popular bioorthogonal motifs are incompatible with one another and cannot be used concurrently to probe multiple biomolecules or cellular processes in vivo [2]. These limitations underscore the need for continued optimization of existing bioorthogonal reagents, along with efforts to discover new ones.
1.5a Establishing new platforms of reactivity

The hunt for new bioorthogonal functionality can take important cues from complex natural products. Microbes and other species produce an array of richly functionalized molecules harboring motifs not present in higher eukaryotes (Figure 1-3a). Translating such naturally occurring, 'privileged' groups into unnatural settings (e.g., mammalian cells) can be a fruitful starting point for reaction development. Indeed, popular bioorthogonal motifs, including terminal alkynes, have been identified in microbial metabolites and other natural products [56]. Several newly minted bioorthogonal reagents, including cyclopropenes and cyanobenzothiazoles, also have precedence in nature [57-59]. Careful analysis of natural product structures will likely reveal even more promising bioorthogonal functional groups.

Further inspiration for bioorthogonal motifs can be gleaned from drug discovery efforts [60]. Small molecule drugs are subjected to rigorous assays for toxicity, lipophilicity, and bioavailability-parameters relevant to bioorthogonality. The remarkable biocompatibility of organic azides was suggested over 30 years ago during preclinical work on azidothymidine (AZT). Similar data exist for tetrazoles, syndones, and other pharmacophores now gaining prominence in bioorthogonal reactions (Figure 1-3b) [61]. Efforts to improve reagent stabilities and reactivities will also benefit from drug discovery practices, where optimization of 'lead' scaffolds is routine. Indeed, Taran and colleagues recently employed modern screening techniques to rapidly identify new reaction partners for established bioorthogonal motifs [62].

## 1.5b Designing better reactions in silico

In parallel with new reaction discovery, efforts to improve existing bioorthogonal transformations will be beneficial. Toward this end, computational labs have identified algorithms that can reliably predict activation energy barriers for various bioorthogonal
cycloadditions. Already, these approaches have revealed insights into improved cyclooctyne and cyclopropene structures, reactivities, and stabilities [33,63,64,65]. Equally as important, computational methods can provide information on scaffolds to avoid in designing new bioorthogonal chemistries.

## 1.5c Identifying 'orthogonal' bioorthogonal reactions

In silico analyses are also aiding in the identification of pairs and even groups of bioorthogonal chemistries that are compatible with one another and applicable to multicomponent tracking. A complete understanding of biological networks requires methods to track not just individual biomolecules, but combinations of molecules simultaneously. Unfortunately, many bioorthogonal reagents (especially strained alkenes and alkynes) are ill suited for such studies due to cross-reactivities [31]. Thus, identifying reactions that not only work well in vivo, but that also perform well in concert with established transformations is a major challenge (Figure 1-4a) [66,67,68]. Several efforts to map out pairs - and even groups - of mutually orthogonal reactions are well underway [66,69,70,71]. In 2012, we demonstrated that IED-DA with cyclopropenes and SPAAC with azides are mutually orthogonal and can be used concurrently for biomolecule visualization [36]. Others have since employed these mutually orthogonal reactions for the production of non-natural proteins and other applications [72,73]. Aided by computational work, we further identified a pair of regioisomeric cyclopropenes that exhibit unique cycloaddition preferences (Figure 1-4b) [63]. These and other 'orthogonal' bioorthogonal chemistries will enable more detailed looks into multi-component biological processes.
(a) cell/organism
covalent adducts


1. $\operatorname{Ar}$ INCD
2. $\mathrm{Ar}-\overline{\mathrm{N}}-\stackrel{+}{\mathrm{N}} \equiv \mathrm{C}-\stackrel{3}{3}$

1,3-dipolar cycloaddition
(b)








Figure 1-4. Expanding the bioorthogonal toolkit. (A) Compatible and "orthogonal" bioorthogonal reactions enable the detection of multiple biomolecules in complex environments. (B) Regioisomeric cyclopropenes exhibit unique cycloaddition reactivities and can be used in tandem for multi-component labeling experiments. 1,3-Disubstituted cyclopropenes can be selectively ligated with tetrazines via IEDDA ligation. 3,3-Disubstituted cyclopropenes can be readily reacted with nitrile imines via 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition.

### 1.6 Conclusions

Bioorthogonal reactions have provided unprecedented views of biomolecule structures and functions in complex environments. Despite their success in revealing new facets of biology, limitations remain: (1) many bioorthogonal reagents are too large or unstable for tagging native biomolecules in live cells, and (2) many of the most common reactions are incompatible with one another, limiting their utility for studies of multiple biomolecules in tandem. Thus,
identifying new bioorthogonal reagents and reactions that are not only suitable for use in vivo but that also work well in tandem - remain important goals. A handful of 'privileged' motifs for in vivo use have been identified over the years, and efforts to improve their reactivities and biocompatibilities have benefited from a combi- nation of experimental work and computational chemistry. Continued, systematic optimization of these reagents and newly discovered ones will further expand the bioorthogonal toolkit.

In this thesis, new reagents and chemistries that expand the scope of the chemical reporter strategy are discussed. By tuning the steric properties of cyclopropenes, sequential labeling of biomolecules is accomplished. Additionally, 1,2,4-triazines are developed as alternative dienes for bioorthogonal chemistry. Furthermore, steric tuning of 1,2,4-triazines facilitated the development of compatible [4+2] cycloadditions. Collectively, these chemical transformations expand the bioorthogonal toolbox for multicomponent labeling.

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# CHAPTER 2: Isomeric cyclopropenes exhibit unique 

## reactivities

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### 2.1 Introduction

The bioorthogonal chemical reporter strategy introduced in chapter 1 , has been widely used to interrogate glycans and other biopolymers in living systems [1-5]. This approach relies on the introduction of a uniquely reactive functional group (i.e., a "chemical reporter") into a biomolecule of interest. The chemical reporter can be ligated to probes for visualization or retrieval using highly selective (i.e., "bioorthogonal") chemistries [2,6]. While powerful, this two-step strategy has been largely limited to examining one biological feature at a time in live cells and tissues. This is because many bioorthogonal reactions are incompatible with one another and cannot be used in tandem to monitor multiple species [7-12].


Figure 2-1. Cyclopropene scaffolds undergo bioorthogonal cycloadditions. 1,3-Disubstituted cyclopropenes (top) react with tetrazines. 3,3-Disubstituted scaffolds (bottom) react with 1,3dipoles to afford covalent adducts.

Our long-term goal is to identify transformations that can be used concurrently to tag biomolecules in complex environments. As a starting point, we were drawn to the cycloaddition reactions of cyclopropenes. Functionalized cyclopropenes are stable in physiological environments, yet readily reactive with dienes and other biocompatible motifs [13-17]. We and others have shown that 1,3-disubstituted cyclopropenes can be metabolically incorporated into cellular glycans and selectively ligated via inverse-electron demand Diels-Alder (IED-DA) reactions with tetrazines (Figure 2-1) [14-16,18]. In related work, Lin and colleagues demonstrated that 3,3-disubstituted cyclopropenes can be introduced into proteins and ultimately detected via 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition with nitrile imines (Figure 2-1) [16]. This reaction, similar to the cyclopropene-tetrazine ligation, proceeds readily in cellular environments.

We were intrigued by cyclopropene IED-DA and dipolar cycloadditions for an additional reason: these reactions had the potential to be orthogonal to one another and, thus, applicable to multi-component biomolecule labeling. In earlier work, we observed that 1,3 -disubstituted cyclopropenes react with tetrazines at the least-hindered face of the three-membered ring (i.e., the side bearing the C-3 H atom) [14]. Additional steric bulk at this position (as in the case of 3,3-disubstituted cyclopropenes) would, in theory, impede IED-DA reactivity but not impact cycloadditions with less sterically encumbered reactants (e.g., 1,3-dipoles).

### 2.2 Computational analysis on the reactivity of isomeric cyclopropenes

To predict whether cyclopropene reactivity could be tuned with steric modifications at C3 , we examined the reactions of 1,3 - and 3,3 -dimethylcyclopropene $(C p(1,3)$ and $C p(3,3))$ with diphenyl-substituted nitrile imine (NI) and tetrazine (Tz), using density functional theory (DFT) calculations [19]. M06-2X [20,21], a density functional that provides relatively accurate
energetics for cycloadditions [22,23], was used to generate the transition-state structures shown in Figure 2-2. We also analyzed activation barriers using the distortion/interaction model [24,25], in which the activation energy $\left(E_{\text {act }}\right)$ is analyzed in terms of the distortion energy ( $E_{\text {dist }}$ ) required for the reactants to achieve their transition-state geometries, and the interaction energy $\left(E_{\text {int }}\right)$ arising from orbital overlap between the two distorted reactants in the transition state. The computed activation free energies in water ( $G_{\text {water }}$ ), relative rate constants $\left(k_{\text {rel }}\right)$, and distortion/interaction energies are provided in Figure 2-2 and Table S2.1.


TS-NI-Cp(1,3)
$G_{\text {water }}=18.7 \quad k_{\text {rel }}=2.8$
$E_{\text {act }}=1.8 \quad E_{\text {dist }}=11.9 \quad E_{\text {int }}=-10.1$


TS-Tz-Cp(1,3)
$G_{\text {water }}=19.4 \quad k_{\text {rel }}=0.85$
$E_{\text {act }}=3.9 \quad E_{\text {dist }}=22.0 \quad E_{\text {int }}=-18.1$


TS-NI-Cp(3,3)
$G_{\text {water }}=19.3 \quad k_{\text {rel }}=1.0$
$E_{\text {act }}=3.0 \quad E_{\text {dist }}=11.7 \quad E_{\text {int }}=-8.7$


TS-Tz-Cp(3,3)
$G_{\text {water }}=25.5 k_{\text {rel }}=2.8 \times 10^{-5}$
$E_{\text {act }}=10.3 \quad E_{\text {dist }}=24.0 \quad E_{\text {int }}=-13.7$

Figure 2-2. M06-2X/6-31G(d)-optimized transition-state structures for the cycloadditions of 1,3and 3,3-dimethylcyclopropene $[\mathrm{Cp}(1,3)$ and $\mathrm{Cp}(3,3)]$ with diphenyl-substituted nitrile imine (NI) and tetrazine $(\mathrm{Tz})$. M06-2X/6-311+G(d,p)//6-31G(d)-computed energies and relative rate constants (distances in $\AA$, energies in $\mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}, k_{\text {rel }}$ based on $G_{\text {water }}$ at 298 K ) are also shown.



Figure 2-3. M06-2X/6-31G(d)-optimized transition-state structures for the cycloadditions of 3-carbamoyloxymethyl-1-methylcyclopropene and 3-carbamoyloxymethyl-3-methylcyclopropene with dipyridyl-substituted tetrazine. M06-2X/6-311+G(d,p)//6-31G(d)-computed activation free energies and relative rate constants (distances in $\AA$, energies in $\mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}, k_{\text {rel }}$ based on $G_{\text {water }}$ at 298 K ) are also shown.

Our calculations indicated that for the sterically less encumbered nitrile imine, 1,3dimethylcyclopropene reacts only 2.8 times faster than 3,3-dimethylcyclopropene. The distortion and interaction energies are very close, suggesting that increased steric bulk at C-3 of the cyclopropene does not dramatically influence reactivity with linear 1,3-dipoles (Figure 2-3). However, for the bulkier tetrazine, placement of a single methyl group at C-3 reduces cyclopropene reactivity by over four orders of magnitude in the IED-DA reaction (Figure 2-3). In the transition state $\mathbf{T S} \mathbf{- T z} \mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{3})$, to avoid steric clashes between the $\mathrm{C}-3$ methyl and tetrazine nitrogens, the dihedral angle between the cyclopropene plane and the C - C bondsforming plane increases to $120^{\circ}$, about $15^{\circ}$ larger than the corresponding value in $\mathbf{T S}-\mathbf{T z}-$ $\mathbf{C p}(1,3)$. In Figure 2-2, note how the cyclopropene C-3 and methyl groups are tilted away from the tetrazine. This results in increased distortion energy ( 24.0 versus $22.0 \mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}$ ) and less favorable interaction energy ( 13.7 versus $18.1 \mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}$ ) due to poorer orbital overlap. Similar
reactivities were predicted for more functionalized cyclopropenes and tetrazines (Figure 2-3). Collectively, these data suggest that isomeric cyclopropenes possess unique bioorthogonal reactivities: 3,3-disubstitued cyclopropenes should react readily with nitrile imines, but not tetrazines, under physiological conditions; 1,3-disubstituted cyclopropenes, by contrast, should react readily with both.

### 2.3 Synthesis and reactivity of isomeric cyclopropenes

To test these predictions, we synthesized a panel of disubstituted cyclopropenes bearing methyl groups at either C-1 or C-3. The scaffolds also comprise amide or carbamate groups as these linkages mimic those found in numerous bioconjugates. The amide-functionalized probes 2.1a-b were synthesized similarly to previous reports (Scheme 2-1) [14-16]. In brief, esters 2.3ab were first subjected to base-catalyzed hydrolysis. The resulting acids (2.4a-b) were subsequently treated with PFP-TFA, followed by isopropylamine to access the desired probes. To prepare the carbamate scaffolds, esters 2.3a-b were first reduced with DIBAL-H. The reaction with 2.3b was prone to cyclopropane formation; over-reduction was avoided at $-78{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Alcohols 2.5a-b were ultimately converted to the desired carbamates (2.2a-b) via CDI coupling with isopropylamine, followed by TMS removal.

Scheme 2-1. Synthesis of disubstituted cyclopropenes.



Figure 2-4. Tetrazines react selectively with 1,3-disubstitued cyclopropenes. Cyclopropenes 2.1a-b ( 5 mM in $15 \% \mathrm{MeCN} / \mathrm{PBS}$ ) were treated with tetrazine $2.7(10 \mathrm{mM})$ and monitored by HPLC. The initial cycloadduct formed between 2.1a and 2.7 can undergo further intramolecular cyclization in aqueous solution [14].

Table 2-1. Second-order rate constants for the cyclopropene-tetrazine ligation. All rate constants were measured in $15 \%$ DMSO/PBS. *No reaction observed after 90 min.
2.2b

With the desired cyclopropenes in hand, we analyzed their reactivity with model tetrazines (Figure 2-4) (Table 2-1). Tetrazines 2.7-2.8 were incubated with excess cyclopropene, and the cycloadditions were monitored by the change in tetrazine absorbance over time (Table 21). Robust IED-DA reactivity was observed with the 1,3-disubstituted scaffolds 2.1a and 2.2a, while no reactivity was detected with their 3,3-disubstituted counterparts in organic or aqueous solvents (2.1b and 2.2b) (Figure 2-5). It should also be noted that the tetrazine-cyclopropene ligations revealed the expected trends, with the more electron-rich carbamates and less sterically hindered tetrazine exhibiting the fastest rates (Table 2-2 and Figure 2-6) [26-27].

Despite their extremely sluggish reaction kinetics with tetrazines, 3,3-disubstituted cyclopropenes react readily with nitrile imines in "photo-click" reactions [16]. Indeed, when micromolar concentrations of 2.1b and $\mathbf{2 . 9}$ were subjected to UV light (generating $\mathbf{2 . 1 0}$ in situ), the fluorescent cycloadduct 2.11 was formed (Scheme 2-2). The corresponding 1,3cyclopropene 2.1a also reacted rapidly with $\mathbf{2 . 1 0}$ to provide the rearranged cycloadduct $\mathbf{2 . 1 2}$. Similar rearrangements have been observed in cycloadditions with cyclopropenes and nitrile oxides [28]. Both ligation products 2.11 and $\mathbf{2 . 1 2}$ were found to be stable in aqueous solution for over three days. Importantly, nitrile imine $\mathbf{2 . 1 0}$ could also be generated in the presence of tetrazine 2.7 with no observable side reactivity, highlighting the compatibility of these reagents (Figure 2-7).


Figure 2-5. Tetrazines react selectively with 1,3-disubstitued cyclopropenes. (A) Reaction of cyclopropenes 2.1-2.2 ( 5 mM in $15 \%$ DMSO/PBS) with tetrazine $2.7(0.2 \mathrm{mM}$ ) monitored by UV-visible spectroscopy

Table 2-2. Selective IED-DA reactivity observed between cyclopropene and tetrazine scaffolds. *No reaction observed after 90 min .


| Entry | Cyclopropene | $\mathrm{R}_{1}$ | $\mathrm{R}_{2}$ | $\mathrm{R}_{3}$ | Tetrazine | $k_{2}\left({\left.\mathrm{x} 10^{-2} \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}\right)}^{5}\right.$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{2 . 2 a}$ | $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | H | carbamate | $\mathbf{2 . 7}$ | $11.5 \pm 2.2$ |  |
| 6 | $\mathbf{2 . 2 a}$ | $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | H | carbamate | $\mathbf{2 . 8}$ | $29.5 \pm 5.0$ |
| 7 | $\mathbf{2 . 2 b}$ | H | $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | carbamate | $\mathbf{2 . 7}$ | $\mathrm{N} / \mathrm{R}^{*}$ |
| 8 | $\mathbf{2 . 2 b}$ | H | $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | carbamate | $\mathbf{2 . 8}$ | $\mathrm{N} / \mathrm{R}^{*}$ |



Figure 2-6. Plots used to calculate second-order rate constants (k2) between: (A) 2.1a and $\mathbf{2 . 7}$ in $15 \% \mathrm{DMSO} / \mathrm{PBS}$, (B) 2.1b and $\mathbf{2 . 7}$ in 1:1 MeCN:PBS, (C) 2.1a and $\mathbf{2 . 8}$ in $1: 1 \mathrm{MeCN}: \mathrm{PBS}$, (D) 2.2a and $\mathbf{2 . 7}$ in $15 \%$ DMSO/PBS, (E) 2.2b and $\mathbf{2 . 7}$ in $15 \%$ DMSO/PBS, (F) 2.2b and $\mathbf{2 . 8}$ in 1:1 $\mathrm{MeCN}:$ PBS,


Figure 2-6. Plots used to calculate second-order rate constants ( $k 2$ ) between: (G) 2.2a and 2.7 in 1:1 MeCN:PBS, (H) 2.2a and $\mathbf{2 . 8}$ in $1: 1 \mathrm{MeCN}: P B S$, (I) 2.2b and $\mathbf{2 . 7}$ in $1: 1 \mathrm{MeCN}: \mathrm{PBS}$, and (J) 2.2b and $\mathbf{2 . 8}$ in 1:1 MeCN:PBS.

Scheme 2-2. Cyclopropenes react with nitrile imines to generate stable cycloadducts.





Figures 2-7. Nitrile imines and tetrazines exhibit no side reactivity. Tetrazole 2.9 (red) (2.2 mM ), tetrazine 2.7 (blue) ( 2.2 mM ), and cyclopropene 2.1b ( 6 mM ) were stirred for 30 min in a quartz test tube at RT prior to photoirradiation with a handheld UV lamp ( $110 \mathrm{~min}, 302 \mathrm{~nm}$, Zilla, 20 watts). Reaction aliquots were analyzed by HPLC. The disappearance of tetrazole 2.9 was concurrent with the appearance of cycloadduct $\mathbf{2 . 1 1}$ (green). No change in peak area was observed for tetrazine 2.7.

### 2.4 Chemical labeling of model proteins using isomeric cyclopropenes

The unique reactivity profiles of 1,3- and 3,3-disubstituted cyclopropenes suggested that the probes could be used in tandem for biomolecule labeling. To test this hypothesis, we functionalized model proteins (BSA and lysozyme) with the isomeric cyclopropenes 2.13a-b using standard coupling conditions (Figure 2-8). Mass spectrometry analysis was used to verify that equivalent numbers of cyclopropenes were appended to the biomolecules (Figure 2-8). When the proteins were treated with a tetrazine-rhodamine conjugate ( $\mathbf{T z - R h o ) , ~ o n l y ~ s a m p l e s ~}$ functionalized with 1,3-disubstituted cyclopropenes ( $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{1 , 3})$ ) showed robust dose- and timedependent labeling, in agreement with our kinetic data (Figures 2-9B, 2-10, 2-12A-B). No labeling above background was observed with proteins outfitted with 3,3-disubstituted cyclopropenes $(\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{3}))$. Both $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{1 , 3})$ and $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{3})$ samples were covalently modified with nitrile imines using "photo-click" conditions (Figures 2-9C, 2-12C). The fluorescent intensities of the $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{1 , 3})$ adducts were somewhat reduced, though, likely due to the decreased absorption efficiency of the products ( $\mathbf{2} .12$ versus $\mathbf{2} .11$, Figure 2-11). When conjugates $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{1 , 3})$ and $\mathbf{C p}$ $\mathbf{( 3 , 3 )}$ were subjected to both cycloaddition reactions (treatment with Tz-Rho, followed by 2.10), tetrazine labeling was again only observed for $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{3})$ samples. The $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{3})$ samples, along with unmodified scaffolds on $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{1 , 3})$, were detected following nitrile imine generation (Figures 2-9D, 2-12D).

A



B


Figure 2-8. Mass spectrometry analysis of lysozyme treated with (A) 3,3-disubstituted cyclopropene 2.13b, (B) 1,3-disubstituted cyclopropene 2.13a, or (C) or no reagent.



2.13b


2.9

B


Figure 2-9. Cyclopropenes can be selectively detected on model proteins. (A) Cyclopropenes were appended to BSA. The modified proteins $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{1 , 3})$ and $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{3})$ were subsequently reacted with either a tetrazine-rhodamine conjugate (Tz-Rho) or nitrile imine (generated via photolysis of tetrazole). (B) Gel analysis of $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{1 , 3})$ or $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{3 , 3})$ incubated with $\mathbf{T z}$-Rho $(100-750 \mu \mathrm{M})$ or no reagent (-) for 1 h . (C) Gel analysis of $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{1 , 3})$ or $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{3 , 3})$ treated with tetrazole (100-1000 $\mu \mathrm{M}$ ) and UV irradiation. (D) Analysis of samples treated with Tz-Rho (100-750 $\mu \mathrm{M}$ ) or no reagent (-), followed by tetrazole ( 5 mM ) and UV irradiation (in gel). The gel was scanned at 532 nm (top) to visualize rhodamine, and also illuminated with UV light (middle) to visualize nitrile imine cycloadducts (green). The red color in the UV-illuminated gel (middle) is due to rhodamine fluorescence. For B-D, protein loading was assessed with Coomassie stain.


Figure 2-10. Proteins can be labeled with Tz-Rho in a time-dependent manner. Gel analysis of $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{1 , 3})$ or $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{3}, 3)$ incubated with Tz-Rho $(500 \mu \mathrm{M})$ for $0-60 \mathrm{~min}$.


Figure 2-11. UV-Vis absorption traces for $100 \mu \mathrm{M}$ solutions of $\mathbf{2 . 1 1}$ (A) and $\mathbf{2 . 1 2}$ (B) in MeCN .


Figure 2-12. Selective cyclopropene reactivity observed with lysozyme conjugates. (A) Gel analysis of the cyclopropene-modified proteins $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{1 , 3})$ or $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{3 , 3})$ incubated with Tz-Rho $(100-750 \mu \mathrm{M})$ or no reagent (-) for 60 min . (B) Gel analysis of $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{1 , 3})$ or $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{3})$ treated with Tz-Rho $(500 \mu \mathrm{M})$ for $0-60 \mathrm{~min}$. (C) Gel analysis of $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{1 , 3})$ or $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{3})$ treated with tetrazole $(100-500 \mu \mathrm{M})$ and irradiated with UV light. (D) Gel analysis of $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{1 , 3})$ or $\mathbf{C p}(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{3})$ treated with Tz-Rho $(100-750 \mu \mathrm{M})$ or no reagent (-), followed by tetrazole ( $500 \mu \mathrm{M}$ ) and UV irradiation. The gel was illuminated with UV light (top panel) to visualize nitrile imine cycloadducts (green) and scanned at 532 nm (middle panel) to visualize rhodamine fluorescence. For B-D, protein loading was assessed with Coomassie stain (lower panels).

### 2.5 Conclusions and future work

In sum, we identified cyclopropenes that exhibit unique modes of bioorthogonal reactivity. Computational analyses predicted that 1,3-disubstituted cyclopropenes would undergo facile IED-DA reactions, while 3,3-disubstituted scaffolds would be minimally reactive with tetrazines. Upon synthesis and in vitro characterization of a panel of modified cyclopropenes, we discovered that scaffolds that differ in the placement of a single methyl group (C-1 vs. C-3) exhibit vastly different IED-DA reaction profiles: 1-methyl cyclopropenes can be selectively ligated with tetrazine probes in the presence of 3-methyl cyclopropenes; the unmodified 3methyl substituted scaffolds can be efficiently ligated via dipolar cycloaddition. The ability to selectively modify isomeric cyclopropenes-and ultimately target them to discrete biomolecules-will facilitate multi-component imaging studies in vitro and in live cells. The cyclopropene scaffold also offers unique opportunities for further biocompatible reaction development, including selective nucleophilic additions and normal-demand Diels-Alder reactions. An arsenal of such orthogonal reactions will continue to provide insight into complex biological systems [29,30].

### 2.6 Materials and Methods

## 2.6a Computational studies

All calculations were performed with Gaussian 09 [19]. The geometry optimization of all minima and transition states involved was carried out at the M06-2X level of theory $[20,21]$ with the $6-31 \mathrm{G}(\mathrm{d})$ basis set [31]. The vibrational frequencies were computed at the same level to check whether each optimized structure is an energy minimum or a transition state and to
evaluate zero-point vibration energy (ZPVE) and thermal corrections at 298 K . A quasiharmonic correction was applied during the entropy calculation by setting all positive frequencies that are less than $100 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$ to $100 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$ [32,33]. Solvent effects in water were computed at the M06$2 \mathrm{X} / 6-311+\mathrm{G}(\mathrm{d}, \mathrm{p})$ level using the gas-phase optimized structures at the M06-2X/6-31G(d) level. Solvation energies were evaluated by a self-consistent reaction field (SCRF) using the CPCM model [33], where UFF radii were used. Fragment distortion and interaction energies were computed at the M06-2X/6-311+G(d,p) level using the M06-2X/6-31G(d) geometries.

## 2.6b Rate studies

The reactions between cyclopropenes 2.1-2 and tetrazines $\mathbf{2 . 7 - 8}$ were conducted in 96well plates and monitored by the change in tetrazine absorbance at 536 nm . All runs were conducted in triplicate under pseudo-first order conditions and repeated at least three times. For each measurement, $150 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of a 0.2 mM tetrazine solution (in $1: 1 \mathrm{MeCN}: \mathrm{PBS}$ or $15 \%$ DMSO/PBS) was added to a well containing $150 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of cyclopropene solution (2-10 mM in $1: 1$ MeCN:PBS or $15 \%$ DMSO/PBS). The cyclopropene concentration at the start of each reaction ranged from $1.0-5.0 \mathrm{mM}$, while the tetrazine concentration was held at 0.1 mM . For reactions with 2.1a and 2.2a in $15 \% \mathrm{DMSO} / \mathrm{PBS}$, the tetrazine concentration was held at 0.4 mM , and cyclopropene concentrations ranged from $2.0-10.0 \mathrm{mM}$. Absorbance values were recorded every 5 min over a 90 min interval or every 4 seconds over a 30 min interval for faster reactions (using a BioTek Epoch plate reader).

## 2.6c Cyclopropene conjugation to protein scaffolds

Bovine serum albumin (BSA) or lysozyme conjugates were prepared by treating the proteins with cyclopropene esters 2.13a-b as previously described [14]. In brief, BSA or
lysozyme ( $400 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of a $20 \mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{mL}$ solution in PBS, pH 7.4) was treated with 2.13a-b ( $100 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of a 25 mM solution in DMSO). The lysozyme solutions were incubated at $37{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (with shaking) for 4 h , while the BSA solutions were allowed to stand at RT for 12 h . The modified proteins were isolated using P-10 BioGel ${ }^{\circledR}$ (BioRad), eluting with nanopure water.

## 2.6d In-gel fluorescence analysis of cyclopropene-tetrazine reactivity

Purified protein conjugates were diluted to $2 \mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{mL}$ with PBS ( pH 7.4 ), treated with $\mathbf{T z}$ Rho (1-7.5 $\mu \mathrm{L}$ of a 5 mM DMSO/PBS solution), and combined with additional PBS to total 50 $\mu \mathrm{L}$. The labeling reactions were run for 1-60 min, and protein isolates (4-9 $\mu \mathrm{g}$ ) were analyzed on SDS-PAGE as previously described [14]. Gels were analyzed by in-gel fluorescence scanning (GE Typhoon TRIO+ Variable Mode Imager, 532 nm excitation/580 nm emission). Gels were also stained with Coomassie Brilliant Blue.

Purified protein conjugates ( $40 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of $2 \mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{mL}$ solutions in PBS) were treated with $\mathbf{T z}$ Rho (1-7.5 $\mu \mathrm{L}$ of a 5 mM stock solution in 1:1 DMSO:PBS), and combined with additional PBS to total volume of $50 \mu \mathrm{~L}$. The labeling reactions were run for 1-60 min, and protein isolates (4-9 $\mu \mathrm{g}$ ) were analyzed on SDS-PAGE as previously described [14]. The gels were rinsed in destain buffer for 10 min , then in water for 10 min

## 2.6e In-gel fluorescence analysis of nitrile imine reactivity

Protein conjugates were labeled with nitrile imines using a procedure reported by Lin and coworkers [9]. Purified proteins ( $40 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of $2 \mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{mL}$ solutions in PBS) were added to a 96- well plate and treated with tetrazole $2.9(1-10 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of a 5 mM solution in DMSO). The samples were irradiated with a UV lamp (302 nm, Zilla UVB 20 watts) for 5 min . For these experiments, the
lamp was placed directly on top of the 96 -well plate. The labeled samples were subsequently analyzed via SDS-PAGE as described previously [14]. Gels were visualized with a UVtransilluminator (MultiDoc-It Digital Imaging System) and stained with Coomassie Brilliant Blue.

## 2.6f Dual protein modification

## 2.6g Solution reactions

Protein conjugates ( $40 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of $2 \mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{mL}$ solutions in PBS) were added to a 96-well plate and treated with $\mathbf{T z}-\mathbf{R h o}(1-7.5 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of a 5 mM stock in 1:1 DMSO/PBS solution ) for 1 h at RT. Tetrazole $2.9(5.6 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of a 5 mM solution in DMSO) or no reagent was added to each well, and the mixtures were irradiated with a UV lamp for $5 \min (302 \mathrm{~nm}$, Zilla UVB 20 watts). For these experiments, the lamp was placed directly on top of the 96- well plate. The samples were then analyzed via SDS-PAGE as described [14]. Gels were visualized using a fluorescence scanner (GE Typhoon TRIO+ Variable Mode Imager, 532 nm excitation/580 nm emission) and a UVtransilluminator (MultiDoc-It Digital Imaging System) prior to staining with Coomassie Brilliant Blue.

## 2.6h In-gel labeling

Following reaction with Tz-Rho, some protein samples were analyzed via SDS-PAGE and visualized by in-gel fluorescence scanning (GE Typhoon TRIO+ Variable Mode Imager, 532 nm excitation/580 nm emission). The gels were then soaked in a solution of 2.9 ( 5 mM in DMSO) for 1 h at RT, rinsed in destain buffer ( $10 \% \mathrm{AcOH}, 40 \% \mathrm{MeOH}$ ), and photoirradiated (302 nm, Zilla UVB 20 watts). Gels were visualized using a UV- transilluminator (MultiDoc-It

Digital Imaging System) and stained with Coomassie Brilliant Blue.

## 2.6i General synthetic procedures

Compounds 2.1a [14], 2.3a [34], 2.3b [16], 2.4a [14, 34], 2.4b [16], 2.5a [15], 2.8 [27], 2.9 [35], 2.13a [14], 2.13b [16], and Tz-Rho [14] were synthesized as previously reported, and spectroscopic data were consistent with literature values. All other reagents were obtained from commercial sources and used without further purification. Reactions were run under an inert atmosphere of nitrogen, unless otherwise indicated. Tetrahydrofuran (THF), diethyl ether ( $\mathrm{Et}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ), triethylamine $\left(\mathrm{Net}_{3}\right)$, dichloromethane $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}\right)$, $\mathrm{N}, \mathrm{N}$-dimethylformamide (DMF), and methanol $(\mathrm{CH} 3 \mathrm{OH})$ were degassed with argon and run through two $4 \times 36$ inch columns of anhydrous neutral A-2 (8 x 14 mesh; LaRoche Chemicals; activated under a flow of argon at $350{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 12 h). Thin-layer chromatography was performed using Silica Gel 60 F254-coated glass plates ( 0.25 mm thickness), and visualization was realized with KMnO 4 stain, CAM stain, and/or UV irradiation. Chromatography was accomplished with $60 \AA(240-400 \mathrm{mesh})$ silica gel, commercially available from Sorbent Technologies. HPLC purifications were performed on a Varian ProStar equipped with 325 Dual Wavelength UV-Vis Detector. Analytical runs were performed using an Agilent C18 Scalar column (4.6 x $150 \mathrm{~mm}, 5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ ) with a $1 \mathrm{~mL} / \mathrm{min}$ flow rate. Semi-preparative runs were performed using an Agilent Prep-C18 Scalar column (9.4 x 150 $\mathrm{mm}, 5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ ) with a $5 \mathrm{~mL} / \mathrm{min}$ flow rate. NMR spectra were collected on a Bruker DRX-400 (400 $\mathrm{MHz}{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}, 100 \mathrm{MHz}{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}, 376.5 \mathrm{MHz}{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ ) or CRYO-500 (500 MHz ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}, 125.7 \mathrm{MHz}{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ ) instrument. All spectra were collected at 298 K . Chemical shifts are reported in ppm values relative to tetramethylsilane or residual non-deuterated NMR solvent, and coupling constants $(J)$ are reported in Hertz (Hz). High-resolution mass spectrometry was performed by the University
of California, Irvine Mass Spectrometry Center.

## 2.6j Synthetic procedures

$N$-Isopropyl-1-methylcycloprop-2-enecarboxamide (2.1b): To an oven-dried round- bottom flask was added 2.4b ( $58 \mathrm{mg}, 0.59 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}(5.0 \mathrm{~mL}) . N, N$-Diisopropylethylamine ( $0.25 \mathrm{~mL}, 1.4 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was added to the solution, followed by pentafluorophenyl trifluoroacetate $(0.20 \mathrm{~mL}, 1.2 \mathrm{mmol})$. The reaction was stirred for 1 h , then concentrated in vacuo. The resulting crude residue was dissolved in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}(5.0 \mathrm{~mL})$, and isopropylamine ( 0.50 mL , 5.8 mmol ) was slowly added. The solution was stirred for 1 h , then filtered, concentrated, and purified by flash chromatography (eluting with $5 \% \mathrm{MeOH}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ) to provide 2.1b ( $65 \mathrm{mg}, 79 \%$ yield) as a light yellow solid. 1H NMR (400 MHz, $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 7.10(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 5.15(\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 4.05-3.99(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H})$, $1.40(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 1.09(\mathrm{~d}, J=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}) .13 \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 176.4,112.2,41.5,23.0$, 22.5, 21.2 $\mathrm{HRMS}(\mathrm{ESI}) \mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{8} \mathrm{H}_{13} \mathrm{NONa}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+} 162.0895$, found 162.0894.
(2-Methylcycloprop-2-en-1-yl)methyl isopropylcarbamate (2.2a): To an oven-dried roundbottom flask was added $\mathbf{2 . 6 a}(0.10 \mathrm{~g}, 0.41 \mathrm{mmol})$ in THF $(7.0 \mathrm{~mL})$, followed by TBAF $(0.50 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 1.0 M solution in hexanes, 0.50 mmol ). The reaction was stirred overnight, then diluted with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and extracted with $\mathrm{Et}_{2} \mathrm{O}(2 \times 15 \mathrm{~mL})$. The organic layers were combined and dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The crude organic residue was purified by flash chromatography (eluting with $20 \% \mathrm{Et}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ in hexanes) to provide $\mathbf{2 . 2 a}$ ( $61 \mathrm{mg}, 87 \%$ yield) as a yellow oil. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 6.57(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 4.50(\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.91-3.90(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.81-$ $3.80(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 2.14(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 1.64(\mathrm{t}, J=4.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.16(\mathrm{~d}, J=6.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $(125$ $\mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 156.1,120.8,102.2,72.0,43.0,23.2,17.3,11.7$. HRMS (ESI) $\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}$ calcd for
$\mathrm{C}_{9} \mathrm{H}_{15} \mathrm{NO}_{2} \mathrm{Na}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+}$192.1001, found 192.0997.
(1-Methylcycloprop-2-en-1-yl)methyl isopropylcarbamate (2.2b): To an oven-dried roundbottom flask was added $\mathbf{2 . 6 b}(0.14 \mathrm{~g}, 0.58 \mathrm{mmol})$ in THF $(8.6 \mathrm{~mL})$, followed by TBAF $(1.8 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 1.0 M solution in hexanes, 1.8 mmol$)$. The reaction was stirred overnight, then diluted with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and extracted with $\mathrm{Et}_{2} \mathrm{O}(2 \times 15 \mathrm{~mL})$. The organic layers were combined and dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The resulting crude residue was purified by flash chromatography (eluting with $20 \% \mathrm{Et}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ in hexanes) to provide $\mathbf{2 . 2 b}$ ( $42 \mathrm{mg}, 43 \%$ yield) as a yellow oil. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\left.400 \mathrm{MHz},\left(\mathrm{CD}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{CO}\right)$ : $\delta 7.43(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 5.90(\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.86(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.72-3.70$ (m, 1H), $1.13(\mathrm{~m}, 9 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (125 MHz, (CD3)2CO) $\delta$ 155.7, 119.0, 72.4, 43.0, 23.1, 22.1, 18.9. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{9} \mathrm{H}_{16} \mathrm{NO}_{2}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+} 170.1181$, found 170.1178 .
(1-Methyl-2-(trimethylsilyl)cycloprop-2-en-1-yl)methanol (2.5b): To an oven-dried roundbottom flask was added $\mathbf{2 . 3 b}(0.13 \mathrm{~g}, 0.67 \mathrm{mmol})$ in $\mathrm{Et}_{2} \mathrm{O}(3 \mathrm{~mL})$. The solution was chilled to $78{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and 0.70 mL DIBAL-H in hexanes $(1.0 \mathrm{M}, 0.70 \mathrm{mmol})$ was slowly added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h at $-78^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, then quenched with Rochelle's salt solution. The mixture was diluted with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, extracted with $\mathrm{Et}_{2} \mathrm{O}(2 \mathrm{x} 25 \mathrm{~mL})$, dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, filtered, and concentrated slightly in vacuo. The crude organic residue was carried on without further purification due to volatility issues.

2-Methyl-3-(trimethylsilyl)cycloprop-2-en-1-yl)methyl isopropylcarbamate (2.6a): To an oven-dried round-bottom flask was added carbonyldiimidazole (CDI, $0.18 \mathrm{~g}, 1.1 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and THF ( 6.0 mL ). Compound $\mathbf{2 . 5 a}(0.14 \mathrm{~g}, 0.90 \mathrm{mmol})$ was then added, and the resulting solution was stirred for 3 h . Isopropylamine $(0.15 \mathrm{~mL}, 1.7 \mathrm{mmol})$ was added to the reaction mixture, and the solution was stirred overnight. The reaction was then diluted with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, extracted with $\mathrm{Et}_{2} \mathrm{O}(2 \mathrm{x}$

10 mL ), dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The crude organic residue was purified by flash chromatography (eluting with $30 \% \mathrm{Et}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ in hexanes) to provide $\mathbf{2 . 6 a}$ ( 0.17 g , $79 \%$ yield over two steps) as a clear oil. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 4.47(\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.95-3.92$ $(\mathrm{m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.82-3.76(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 2.19(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 1.53(\mathrm{t}, J=4.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.15(\mathrm{~d}, J=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 0.15$ (s, 9H). ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta$ 156.3, 134.7, 111.0, 73.1, 42.9, 23.2, 18.7, 13.3, -1.2. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{12} \mathrm{H}_{23} \mathrm{NO}_{2} \mathrm{SiNa}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+}$264.1396, found 264.1406.
(1-Methyl-2-(trimethylsilyl)cycloprop-2-en-1-yl)methyl isopropylcarbamate (2.6b): To an oven-dried round-bottom flask was added CDI ( $0.11 \mathrm{~g}, 0.68 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and THF ( 5.0 mL ). Crude cyclopropene $\mathbf{2 . 5 b}$ (isolated from the reduction of $0.67 \mathrm{mmol} \mathbf{2 . 3 b}$ ) was then added, and the resulting solution was stirred for 2 h . Isopropylamine ( $0.10 \mathrm{~mL}, 1.1 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was subsequently added, and the solution was stirred overnight. The reaction was then diluted with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, extracted with $\mathrm{Et}_{2} \mathrm{O}(3 \times 20 \mathrm{~mL})$, dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The crude organic residue was purified by flash chromatography (eluting with $30 \% \mathrm{Et}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ in hexanes) to provide 2.6b ( $77 \mathrm{mg}, 47 \%$ yield over three steps) as a yellow oil. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 7.89(\mathrm{~s}$, $1 \mathrm{H}), 4.50(\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 4.02-3.94(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.94-3.75(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 1.16(\mathrm{~m}, 9 \mathrm{H}), 0.17(\mathrm{~s}, 9 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (125 MHz, $\left.\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 156.8,131.9,129.6,75.1,42.9,23.9,23.1,20.2,-1.1$. HRMS (ESI) $\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{12} \mathrm{H}_{23} \mathrm{NO}_{2} \mathrm{SiNa}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+} 264.1396$, found 264.1405.

## $N$-Isopropyl-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-methyl-4-phenyl-2,3-diazabicyclo[3.1.0]hex-3- ene-6-

 carboxamide (2.11): A solution of 2.1b ( $22 \mathrm{mg}, 0.16 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and tetrazole $2.9(20 \mathrm{mg}, 0.079$ $\mathrm{mmol})$ in $\mathrm{MeCN}(15 \mathrm{~mL})$ was added to a quartz test tube. The reaction was photoirradiated with a UV lamp (302 nm, Zilla UVB 20 watts) for 2 h . The reaction was then concentrated in vacuo, and purified by preparative HPLC, eluting with $0-95 \% \mathrm{MeCN}$ in water over 30 min . The desiredfractions were collected and concentrated in vacuo to provide 2.11 ( $18 \mathrm{mg}, 63 \%$ yield) as a yellow solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 7.80(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.42-7.30(\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 7.25$ (d, $J=9.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 6.90(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 5.75(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 4.66(\mathrm{~d}, J=6.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H})$, $4.21-4.16(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.81(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 3.72(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.24(\mathrm{dd}, J=6.4,2.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 0.77(\mathrm{~s}$, $3 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (125 MHz, $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta$ 172.7, 154.5, 146.8, 137.4, 133.0, 128.6, 128.4, 125.8, $114.8,114.7,55.8,55.0,42.1,40.0,23.1,23.0,15.8,7.7$. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{22} \mathrm{H}_{25} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{Na}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+}$386.1844, found 386.1844

## $N$-Isopropyl-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-methyl-6-phenyl-2,5-dihydropyridazine-4-

carboxamide (2.12): A solution of 2.1a ( $23 \mathrm{mg}, 0.17 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and tetrazole $2.9(21 \mathrm{mg}, 0.083$ $\mathrm{mmol})$ in $\mathrm{MeCN}(26 \mathrm{~mL})$ was added to a quartz test tube. The reaction was photoirradiated with a UV lamp (302 nm, Zilla UVB 20 watts) for 3 h . The reaction was then concentrated in vacuo and purified by preparative HPLC, eluting with $0-95 \% \mathrm{MeCN}$ in water over 30 min . The desired fractions were collected and concentrated in vacuo to provide $\mathbf{2 . 1 2}$ ( $12 \mathrm{mg}, 38 \%$ yield) as a yellow solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 7.78(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.39(\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 7.29(\mathrm{~d}, J=$ $7.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 6.94(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 5.29(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 4.24-4.16(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.84(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H})$, $3.41(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 2.07(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 1.22(\mathrm{~d}, J=6.8,6 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta$ 168.1, 158.2, $141.8,141.7,137.8,136.3,129.3,128.5,127.7,126.2,114.2,97.9,55.7,41.7,25.4,23.2,17.0$. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{22} \mathrm{H}_{25} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{Na}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+} 386.1844$, found 386.1840 .

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# Chapter 3: 1,2,4-Triazines are versatile bioorthogonal 

## reagents

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### 3.1 Introduction

As introduced in Chapter 1, numerous chemical reporters and bioorthogonal reactions have been reported in recent years, but significant limitations remain [1-3]. Many of the reagents are too bulky for general use or prone to hydrolysis in cellular environments [4]. Moreover, several popular bioorthogonal reagents cross-react with one another and cannot be used concurrently to visualize collections of biomolecules [4]. To address these issues and expand the scope of the chemical reporter strategy, new bioorthogonal reactions and combinations of reactions are being pursued. In recent years, we and others have developed compatible chemistries based on cyclopropenes and other strained alkenes [5-8]. In Chapter 2, our efforts tuning the reactivity of the cyclopropene scaffold were discussed. By strategically tuning the reactivity at C3 of the cyclopropene ring, we developed a strategy for sequential labeling of distinct biomolecules.

The cyclopropene motifs are stable in physiological environments and have been used to target numerous biomolecules in live cells [9-12]. In nearly all cases, the strained alkenes were detected via inverse electron demand Diels-Alder (IED-DA) reactions with 1,2,4,5-tetrazines. A handful of tetrazine ligations can also be used simultaneously with azide-alkyne cycloadditions [5,11], setting the stage for multicomponent bioorthogonal imaging in vivo [8,11,13]. While much attention has been paid to strained alkenes for bioorthogonal reaction development, less attention has been given to the other half of the IED-DA reaction: the electron-deficient dienes.

To date, tetrazines have dominated the IED- DA landscape [14]. These moieties react robustly with trans-cyclooctene (TCO) and other strained dienophiles in a variety of settings [15]. Unfortunately, the most rapid-reacting tetrazines also tend to be the least stable in cells and in vivo [16]. Tetrazines are prone to hydrolysis and side reactions with endogenous thiols, limiting their applications in the most stringent environments (e.g., inside cells) [17-19]. More stable tetrazines are being pursued, but these reagents are generally large in size [20].

### 3.2 Computational analysis on reactivity profile of tetrazines and triazines

To develop improved bioorthogonal IED-DA reactions, we were drawn to triazine scaffolds. 1,2,4-Triazines have been identified in microbial natural products and pigments, suggesting that they are stable in physiological environments [21-23]. These motifs also react efficiently with electron-rich alkenes in IED-DA reactions [24-29]. Boger further showed that 1,2,3-triazines react with electron-rich dienophiles [30]. To compare the intrinsic DA reactivities of 1,2,3- and 1,2,4- triazines with that of 1,2,4,5-tetrazine, we evaluated the activation free energies for their reactions with ethylene by density functional theory (DFT) calculations (Figure 3-1A, Table 3-2) [31-33]. The computational analysis suggested that 1,2,4- triazine is much more reactive than 1,2,3-triazine (activation free energy: 29.3 versus $41.0 \mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}$ ), but less reactive than 1,2,4,5-tetrazine ( 29.3 versus $21.9 \mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}$ ). This is consistent with the inverse electron demand nature of the cycloaddition: the LUMO+1 (the $\pi^{*}$ orbital that interacts with the dienophile HOMO in the DA reaction) of 1,2,4-triazine is increased by 0.49 eV as compared to 1,2,4,5-tetrazine ( 2.18 versus 1.69 eV , Figures 3-1A and 3-2). While highly reactive, tetrazines are prone to decomposition by biological nucleophiles [18-20]. Seitz and co-workers found that thiols rapidly decompose tetrazines via 1,4-addition and subsequent release of nitrogen [34]. DFT calculations revealed that formation of the 1,4-adduct of 3-phenyl- 1,2,4,5-tetrazine and
methanethiol is endergonic by $23.4 \mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}$ in water and that the overall barrier for $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ release is $28.6 \mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}$ (Figure 3-1B). However, the corresponding adduct and transition state of 6-phenyl-1,2,4-triazine are significantly higher in energy. This implies that 6-aryl-1,2,4-triazine is inert to thiols relative to monoaryl tetrazine, although both are very similar in size. Thus, while 1,2,4-triazine is less reactive in the IED-DA reaction, considering the extremely fast rates of the tetrazine-TCO cycloaddition $\left(k_{2}=10^{2}-10^{4} \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}\right)$ [17,18], we hypothesized that triazines would be good candidates for bioorthogonal reaction development based on their size and stability.

C


20.2
(1.0)
26.7
$\left(1.8 \times 10^{-5}\right)$
$\left(2.7 \times 10^{-7}\right)$


Figure 3-1. (A) Diels-Alder reactions of 1,2,4,5-tetrazine, 1,2,4-triazine, and 1,2,3-triazine with ethylene. LUMO+1 energies were computed with $\mathrm{HF} / 6-311+\mathrm{G}(\mathrm{d}, \mathrm{p}) / / \mathrm{M} 06-2 \mathrm{X} / 6-31 \mathrm{G}(\mathrm{d})$, and activation free energies (in $\mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}$ ) in water were computed with CPCM(water)-M06-2X/6$311+\mathrm{G}(\mathrm{d}, \mathrm{p}) / / \mathrm{M} 06-2 \mathrm{X} / 6-31 \mathrm{G}(\mathrm{d})$. (B) Energetics of 1,4 -adduct formation and subsequent $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ release transition state for methanethiol and 3-phenyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine or 6-phenyl-1,2,4-triazine. (C) DFT-computed activation free energies and predicted relative rate constants for tetrazine or triazine cycloaddition with 3-carbamoyloxymethyl-1-methylcyclopropene, norbornene, or transcyclooctene, in water at $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.


Figure 3-2. Frontier $\pi$ orbitals of ethylene, 1,2,4,5-tetrazine, 1,2,4-triazine, and 1,2,3-triazine. The orbital energies were computed with HF/6-311+G(d,p)//M06-2X/6-31G(d).

We also predicted relative rate constants for the DA reactions of 3-phenyl-1,2,4,5tetrazine or 6-phenyl-1,2,4-triazine with 3-carbamoyloxymethyl-1-methylcyclopropene, norbornene, and trans-cyclooctene (Figures 3-1C and 3-3). These data suggest that 6-aryl-1,2,4triazines react efficiently with TCO, yet remain inert to other bioorthogonal scaffolds, including cyclopropene and norbornene. This unique reactivity profile could potentially be exploited for "orthogonal" bioorthogonal cycloaddition development [35-37].

$\Delta G_{\text {water }}=20.2$
$k_{\text {rel }}=1.0$


TS3


TS5
$\Delta G_{\text {water }}=15.2$
$k_{\text {rel }}=4.9 \times 10^{3}$


$$
\begin{gathered}
\Delta G_{\text {water }}=26.7 \\
k_{\text {rel }}=1.8 \times 10^{-5}
\end{gathered}
$$



$$
\begin{gathered}
\Delta G_{\text {water }}=21.7 \\
k_{\text {rel }}=8.3 \times 10^{-2}
\end{gathered}
$$

Figure 3-3. DFT-computed transition states TS1-6 for tetrazine or triazine cycloaddition with 3-carbamoyloxymethyl-1-methylcyclopropene, norbornene, or trans-cyclooctene.

### 3.3 Synthesis and reactivity of 6-substituted-1,2,4-triazines

To test these hypotheses, we synthesized a panel of substituted $1,2,4$-triazines using the reaction sequence pictured in Scheme 1. In brief, glyoxal was condensed with amino-guanidine to afford 3-amino-1,2,4-triazine (3.1). Bromination of this scaffold provided a convenient handle for diversification, and triazine 3.2 ultimately underwent Suzuki couplings with a variety of commercially available boronic acids (Schemes 3-1, top). Subsequent deamination of the products afforded triazines $\mathbf{3 . 4} \mathbf{- 3 . 9}$, 3.13-3.19. To access triazines containing nucleophilic substituents (3.10-3.12 and 3.19), the reverse sequence, deamination/Suzuki coupling, was employed (Schemes 3-1, bottom). This short reaction scheme can be used to access 6 -substituted triazines with a broad array of functionality. By contrast, traditional syntheses of tetrazines are typically not compatible with free amino groups owing to the harsh oxidants employed, although milder conditions have recently been reported [38,39].

With the panel of triazines in hand, we analyzed their reactivities with TCO $\mathbf{3 . 2 0}$ (Table 3-1). The reactions were monitored by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$, and air oxidized cycloadducts were observed (Figures 3-5, 3-6, and 3-8). As expected, the most electron-poor triazine 3.4 exhibited the fastest rate (Table 1, entry 8), consistent with the inverse-electron-demand nature of the reaction. No reactivity was observed when electron-rich scaffolds $\mathbf{3 . 1}$ and $\mathbf{3 . 2}$ were incubated with TCO $\mathbf{3 . 2 0}$ (Figures 3-9 and 3-10). The triazine-TCO reaction is significantly slower than many of the tetrazine-TCO ligations [18], but on par with several copper- free click chemistries [40,41], and some IED-DA reactions with stabilized tetrazines [20,39]. Hammett analysis of the triazineTCO rate constants gave a slope of $\rho=0.49$ (Figure 3-4). This value is consistent with concerted IED-DA reactions and suggests that only partial charge separation occurs during the reaction.

Scheme 3-1. Synthesis of functionalized 1,2,4-triazines.


Table 3-1. Second-order rate constants for the triazine-TCO Ligation.

Entry $\quad R=\quad k_{2}\left(\times 10^{-2} \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}\right) \quad$ Entry $\quad R=\quad k_{2}\left(\times 10^{-2} \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}\right)$
1

5

$3.4 \pm 0.5$
2

$1.3 \pm 0.2$
6

$4.7 \pm 0.2$
3


$$
2.3 \pm 0.1
$$

7

8



Figure 3-4. Hammet plot for the reactions between TCO 3.20 and a panel of 1,2,4-triazines. Sigma ( $\sigma$ ) values derive from ref 42.

As predicted by our DFT calculations, no ligation was observed between the more reactive triazines (3.4 and 3.9) and other strained alkenes, including norbornene (3.23) and cyclopropene 3.22 (Scheme 3-2, Figures 3-11, 3-11, S3-1, S3-2). These alkenes do react robustly with the common tetrazine reagent 3.21 (Figure 3-7), suggesting that triazines and combinations of other bioorthogonal reagents can be used in tandem.

Scheme 3-2. Comparison of Tetrazine and Triazine Cycloadditions with Norbornene or 1,3Disubstituted Cyclopropene ${ }^{a}$


${ }^{a}$ The rate constant for $3.21+3.22$ is from ref [8]

The triazine scaffold also excels in a key aspect of bioorthogonality: stability. When monosubstituted triazines were dissolved in a mixture of d-PBS and $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$, they remained stable for over 1 week at $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (Figures 3-13, 3-14, S3-3, and S3-4). Triazine scaffolds were also inert to cysteine over a similar time period (Figures 3-15 to 3-17, S3-4 to S3-6). These results are in sharp contrast to monosubstituted tetrazines that have been observed to hydrolyze and/or react with cysteine under similar conditions (Figure 3-18) [17-20,39].


Figure 3-5. Kinetic data used to calculate second-order rate constants ( $k_{2}$ ) for: (A) $\mathbf{3 . 6}$ and $\mathbf{3 . 2 0}$ in $1: 1 \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ : $d$-PBS, (B) 3.7 and $\mathbf{3 . 2 0}$ in $1: 1 \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ : $d$-PBS, (C) $\mathbf{3 . 8}$ and $\mathbf{3 . 2 0}$ in $1: 1 \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ : $d$-PBS, (D) 3.10 and 3.20 in $1: 1 \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ : $d$-PBS, (E) 3.11 and 3.20 in $1: 1 \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ : $d$-PBS. The reactions between triazines $\mathbf{3 . 6 - 3 . 8}, \mathbf{3 . 1 0 - 3 . 1 1}$ and TCO $\mathbf{3 . 2 0}$ were run in $1: 1$ ratios and monitored by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure 3-6. Kinetic data used to calculate second-order rate constants ( $k_{2}$ ) for: (A) 3.4 and $\mathbf{3 . 2 0}$ in $1: 1 \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ : $d$-PBS, (B) $\mathbf{3 . 9}$ and $\mathbf{3 . 2 0}$ in $1: 1 \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ : $d$-PBS, (C) $\mathbf{3 . 5}$ and $\mathbf{3 . 2 0}$ in $1: 1 \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ : $d$-PBS. The reactions between triazines 3.4-3.5, 3.9 and TCO $\mathbf{3 . 2 0}$ were run in roughly 1:2 (triazine:TCO) ratios and monitored by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure 3-7. Kinetic data used to calculate second-order rate constants ( $k_{2}$ ) for: $\mathbf{3 . 2 1}$ and $\mathbf{3 . 2 3}$ in $15 \%$ DMSO (PBS). The reactions between tetrazine $\mathbf{3 . 2 1}$ and norbornene $\mathbf{3 . 2 3}$ were run in 96well plates and monitored by the change in tetrazine absorbance at 536 nm .


Figure 3-8. Formation of the initial dihydropyridine adduct and subsequent aromatization. Triazine 3.4 ( 0.3 mL of a 14 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) was added to a solution containing TCO 3.24 ( 0.24 mL of a 25 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) and diluted to 0.6 mL with $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$. The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure 3-9. Triazine 3.2 does not react with TCO 3.20. To a solution of triazine $3.2(0.3 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 20 mM solution in $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}\right)$ was added TCO $\mathbf{3 . 2 0}(0.3 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 20 mM solution in $d-\mathrm{PBS})$. The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure 3-10. Triazine 3.1 does not react with TCO 3.20. To a solution of triazine $3.1(0.3 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 20 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) was added TCO $\mathbf{3 . 2 0}(0.3 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 17 mM solution in $d$-PBS). The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure 3-11. Triazine 3.4 does not react with cyclopropene 3.22. To a solution of triazine 3.4 $\left(0.3 \mathrm{~mL}\right.$ of a 20 mM solution in $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}\right)$ was added cyclopropene $3.22(0.3 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 20 mM in $\left.1: 1 \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}: \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)$. The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure 3-12. Triazine 3.4 does not react with norbornene 3.23. To a solution of triazine $\mathbf{3 . 4}$ $\left(0.24 \mathrm{~mL}\right.$ of a 25 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) was added norbornene $3.23(0.12 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 40 mM solution in $1: 1 \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ : $d$-PBS) and diluted with $0.12 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ and $0.12 \mathrm{~mL} d$-PBS to a final volume of 0.6 mL . The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.

3.5
0 min


$37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 143 \mathrm{~h}$


Figure 3-13. Triazine 3.5 is stable in aqueous buffer. A solution of triazine $\mathbf{3 . 5}$ ( 0.2 mL of a 50 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) was diluted with $0.4 \mathrm{~mL} d$-PBS. The reaction was incubated at $37{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for $0-143 \mathrm{~h}$. The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.

3.4
0 min

$37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 70 \mathrm{~h}$

$37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 143 \mathrm{~h}$


Figure 3-14. Triazine 3.4 is stable in aqueous buffer. A solution of triazine $\mathbf{3 . 4}(0.2 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 25 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) was diluted with $0.4 \mathrm{~mL} d$-PBS. The reaction was incubated at $37{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for $0-143 \mathrm{~h}$. The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.

A

3.7


B



Figure 3-15. Stability profiles of model triazine and tetrazine probes. (A) Triazine 3.7 ( 0.1 mL of a 35 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) and cysteine ( 0.1 mL of a 50 mM solution in $\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ) were incubated at $37{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 8 d . Additionally, no cysteine reactivity was observed with a related triazine in solutions containing PBS (see Figure 3-22). (B) Tetrazine 3.26 ( 0.2 mL of a 25 mM solution in $d$-PBS) and cysteine ( 0.1 mL of a 50 mM solution in $\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ) were incubated at r.t. for 1 h.


Figure 3-16. Triazine 3.7 is stable in the presence of cysteine. To a solution of triazine 3.7 ( 0.1 mL of a 35 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) was added L-cys ( 0.1 mL of a 50 mM solution in $\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ). The reaction was further diluted with $1: 1 \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}: \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ to a final volume of 0.6 mL . The reaction was incubated at $37{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure 3-17. Triazine $\mathbf{3 . 1 2}$ is stable in the presence of cysteine. To a solution of triazine $\mathbf{3 . 1 2}$ ( 0.3 mL of a 4.2 mM solution in $\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ) was added L-cysteine ( $96 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of a 50 mM solution in $d$ PBS). The reaction was further diluted with $1: 1 \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}: d$-PBS to a final volume of 0.6 mL . The reaction was incubated at $37{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure 3-18. Monosubstituted tetrazine 3.26 reacts with cysteine. To a solution of tetrazine $\mathbf{3 . 2 6}$ ( 0.2 mL of a 25 mM solution in $d-\mathrm{PBS}$ ) was added L-cysteine ( 0.1 mL of a 50 mM solution in $\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ), along with additional $\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}(0.1 \mathrm{~mL})$ and $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}(0.2 \mathrm{~mL})$ to a final volume of 0.6 mL . The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.

### 3.4 Incorporation of a triazine non-canonical amino acid into recombinant protein

The remarkable stability of the triazine scaffold suggested immediate application in environs that have been difficult to access with bioorthogonal reagents, including recombinant protein production in intracellular environments. Disubstituted tetrazines and cyclopropenes have been previously incorporated into recombinant proteins and tagged with TCO or tetrazine probes, respectively [9,43]. However, monosubstituted tetrazines have been more difficult to incorporate directly into proteins, due to the length of time required for protein production and the instability of the scaffolds [19,43]. Monosubstituted triazines offer unique advantages in terms of their size and stability.


Figure 3-19. ncAA-GFP Expression. Fluorescence measurements of seven synthetases with GFP ncAA reporter. Blue bars represents colonies induced in media containing 1 mM triazine $\mathbf{3 . 1 2}$, red bars represent 1 mM tetrazine $\mathbf{3 . 2 7}$, while black represents colonies induced in the absence of ncAA.


Figure 3-20. ESI-MS of amber codon interrupted GFP. (A) ESI-MS of WT GFP conforms to the expected mass, showing a single major peak at $27826.0 \pm 1 \mathrm{Da}$ (expected mass 27827.3). (B) ESIMS of GFP-3.12 shows a single major peak at $27939.1 \pm 1$ Da (expected mass 27939.4 Da). (C) ESI-MS of GFP-3.12+3.24 demonstrates a mass of $28120.1 \pm 1 \mathrm{Da}$ (expected mass 28120.7 Da). The mass difference ( 181.0 Da ) between GFP-3.12 and GFP-3.12+3.24 is consistent with the expected mass increase ( 181.3 Da ) through addition of TCO 3.24. (D) ESI-MS of GFP-3.27 shows a mass of $27952.7 \pm 1 \mathrm{Da}$ and conforms to the expected mass of 27954.5 Da . Each sample showed a small secondary peak at -131 Da indicating cleavage of N -terminal methionines.

To demonstrate that monosubstituted triazines are compatible with protein labeling and sufficiently stable for genetic code expansion, we synthesized triazine amino acid $\mathbf{3 . 1 2}$ (Scheme 3-1). We screened a panel of seven Methanocaldococcus jannaschii tyrosyl tRNA synthetase $(\mathrm{RS}) / \mathrm{RNA}_{\mathrm{CUA}}$ pairs for permissivity toward 3.12, while maintaining fidelity against canonical AAs (Figure 3-25) [43,44]. The M. jannaschii (RS)/tRNA CUA $^{\text {pairs were previously evolved to }}$ incorporate noncanonical amino acids (ncAAs) of similar structure (3.27, Figure 3-26) in response to an amber codon [45]. One of the seven RS/tRNA CUA pairs efficiently incorporated 3.12 in response to an amber codon- disrupted GFP gene, resulting in expression of $18.8 \mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{L}$ of GFP-3.12 in the presence of $\mathbf{3 . 1 2}$ (Figure 3-27, lane 3).

To verify that $\mathbf{3 . 1 2}$ is stable in complex media and can be incorporated into recombinant proteins, we compared the masses of GFP-3.12 to GFP-wt using ESI-Q mass analysis. Native GFP-wt has a mass of $27826.0 \pm 1 \mathrm{Da}$ and GFP-3.12 exhibited the expected increase to 27939.1 $\pm 1 \mathrm{Da}$, verifying that $\mathbf{3 . 1 2}$ is incorporated at a single site (Figures 3-26 and 3-27). To determine whether the triazine/TCO ligation is also quantitative on proteins, pure GFP-3.12 $(10 \mu \mathrm{M})$ was incubated with TCO 3.24 ( 1 mM ) in PBS ( pH 7.0 ). ESI-Q mass analysis confirmed quantitative conversion of GFP-3.12 to GFP-3.12+3.24 (expected 28120.7 Da ; observed $28120.1 \pm 1 \mathrm{Da}$, Figure 3C). These results demonstrate that triazines are stable in cells and can be incorporated into proteins efficiently and with high fidelity using genetic code expansion. Furthermore, the triazine/TCO ligation is suitable for site-specific protein labeling applications.



Figure 3-21. Triazines are suitable for recombinant protein production. (A) Genetic incorporation of $\mathbf{3 . 1 2}$ into proteins and reaction with TCO (B) SDS-PAGE analysis of sitespecific incorporation in response to amber codon 150 in GFP. (C) MS analysis of GFP-3.12 shows a single major peak at $27939.1 \pm 1$ Da. Reaction of GFP-3.12 with TCO $\mathbf{3 . 2 4}$ shows a single major peak at $28120.1 \pm 1 \mathrm{Da}$, consistent with the expected mass increase from selective reaction with TCO.

### 3.5 Conclusions and future work

In summary, we identified 1,2,4-triazines as a new class of bioorthogonal reagents. These scaffolds are remarkably stable in aqueous buffers, in the presence of biological nucleophiles, and in cells. Triazines can be easily assembled and decorated with diverse functional groups to tune reactivities. Triazines also react efficiently and selectively with TCO. These features render triazines suitable for a variety of intracellular applications, and we showed that a triazine amino
acid can be efficiently incorporated into recombinant proteins and labeled site-specifically with TCO. Triazines are also compatible with other strained alkenes and will enable different types of IED-DA reactions to be performed in tandem in cellular environments.

### 3.6 Materials and methods

## 3.6a Computational studies

Calculations were performed with Gaussian 09 [31]. The geometry optimization of all the minima and transition states involved was carried out at the M06-2X level of theory $[32,33]$ with the $6-31 \mathrm{G}(\mathrm{d})$ basis set [46]. The vibrational frequencies were computed at the same level to check whether each optimized structure was an energy minimum or a transition state and to evaluate its zero-point vibration energy (ZPVE) and thermal corrections at 298 K . A quasiharmonic correction was applied during the entropy calculation by setting all positive frequencies that were less than $100 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$ to $100 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$ [47]. The single-point energies and solvent effects in water were computed at the $\mathrm{M} 06-2 \mathrm{X} / 6-311+\mathrm{G}(\mathrm{d}, \mathrm{p})$ level using the gas-phase optimized structures at the M06-2X/6-31G(d) level. Solvation energies were evaluated by a selfconsistent reaction field (SCRF) using the CPCM model [48], where UFF radii were used. The frontier molecular orbitals (FMOs) and their energies were computed at the $\mathrm{HF} / 6-311+\mathrm{G}(\mathrm{d}, \mathrm{p})$ level using the M06-2X/6-31G(d) geometries.

## 3.6b Rate studies

The reactions between triazines and strained alkenes were monitored by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$. All runs were conducted at least three times. For trans-cyclooctene (TCO)-triazine reactions, 0.3 mL
of a 20 mM solution of TCO in $d$-PBS was added to a solution of the appropriate triazine in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}(0.12-0.24 \mathrm{~mL})$, then diluted to a final volume of 0.6 mL . The final concentrations of all reactants were $5-10 \mathrm{mM}$. For cyclopropene-triazine reactions, 0.3 mL of a 20 mM solution of cyclopropene in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ : $\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}(1: 1)$ was added to a solution of triazine in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}(0.12 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 50 mM solution or 0.24 mL of a 25 mM solution), and diluted with $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ to a final volume of 0.6 mL . For norbornene-triazine reactions, 0.12 mL of a 40 mM of norbornene solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ : $d$-PBS (1:1) was added to a solution of triazine in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}(0.12 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 50 mM solution or 0.24 mL of a 25 mM solution), and diluted with $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}: d-\mathrm{PBS}(1: 1)$ to a final volume of $0.6-$ 7.2 mL . Representative spectra for each reaction are shown in the accompanying figures.

## 3.6c Stability studies

The stability studies for triazines in PBS or in the presence of cysteine were monitored by
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$-NMR. For stability studies in PBS, each triazine stock solution $(0.2 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a $25-50 \mathrm{mM}$ solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) was diluted with $d$-PBS to a final volume of 0.6 mL . For stability studies with cysteine, each triazine stock solution ( $0.12-0.24 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a $25-50 \mathrm{mM}$ solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) was added to a solution of cysteine ( 0.1 mL of a 50 mM solution in $d-\mathrm{PBS}$ or $\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ) and diluted to a volume of 0.6 mL . The samples were incubated at r.t. or $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for $0-150 \mathrm{~h}$. Representative spectra for each reaction are shown in the accompanying figures.

## 3.6d Permissivity screening of selected synthetases for triazine-ncAA

A pALS plasmid containing TAG 150 -interrupted superfolder GFP (sfGFP) under an AraBAD promoter and an orthogonalized copy of the Methanocaldococcus jannaschii tyrosine $\mathrm{tRNA}_{\text {CUA }}$ under an lpp promoter, was transformed into DH10b cells with a $p B K$ plasmid
containing one of seven $M$. jannaschii aminoacyl tyrosyl-tRNA synthetases selected to incorporate tetrazine 3.27. Colonies of the transformed cells were picked and grown in 2XYT media containing kanamycin ( $50 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{mL}$ ) and tetracycline ( $25 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{mL}$ ) for 24 h before adding glycerol ( $18 \% \mathrm{v} / \mathrm{v}$ ) and storing at $-80^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Cell stocks were used to inoculate 5 mL Non-Inducing Media (NIM) containing kanamycin ( $50 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{mL}$ ) and tetracycline ( $25 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{mL}$ ). After 24 h of growth, $50 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ NIM was used to inoculate 5 mL Auto-Inducing Media (AIM) containing 3.12 (1 $\mathrm{mM})$, kanamycin ( $50 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{mL}$ ), and tetracycline $(25 \mu \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{mL})$ for efficiency measurements and the same AIM without $\mathbf{3 . 1 2}$ for fidelity measurements. Fluorescence readings of the cultures were obtained at 36 h using a Turner Biosystems PicoFluor fluorimeter. Fluorescence of the media indicated that of the seven synthetases screened, only the C11 synthetase effectively incorporated 3.12.

## 3.6e Characterization of GFP-3.12

Pure proteins were diluted to $10 \mu \mathrm{M}$ and reacted for 16 h with TCO $3.24(1 \mathrm{mM}$ in 300 $\mathrm{mM} \mathrm{NaCl}, 50 \mathrm{mM} \mathrm{NaH}{ }_{2} \mathrm{PO}_{4}, \mathrm{pH} 7.0$ ). GFP-wt, GFP-3.12, and GFP-3.12+3.24 were desalted using Vivaspin spin concentrators ( $500 \mu \mathrm{~L}, 10 \mathrm{kDa}$ Molecular weight cut off) into ammonium acetate buffer ( $25 \mathrm{mM}, \mathrm{pH} 7.0$ ). The concentrations of the resulting solutions were measured using a Bradford assay. The proteins were diluted to $10 \mu \mathrm{M}$ and were analyzed using an FT LTQ mass spectrometer and Millipore $\mathrm{C}_{4}$ zip tips at the Oregon State University mass spectrometry facility.

## 3.6f SDS-PAGE of GFP-3.12 incorporation

Purified GFP-3.12, GFP-3.27, WT GFP, and TAG-interrupted GFP (GFP- ${ }^{150} \mathrm{TAG}$ )
expressed in the presence of the C11 synthetase, but without $\mathbf{3 . 1 2}$ present, were diluted to equal volumes. Samples were mixed with 2 X Laemmli Buffer and heated at $95{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 15 min . The samples were then analyzed by SDS-PAGE ( $15 \%$ gel, $200 \mathrm{~V}, 60$ minutes).

## 3.6g General synthetic procedures

Compounds $\mathbf{3 . 2 2}$ [8], $\mathbf{3 . 2 6}$ [18], and $\mathbf{3 . 2 7}$ [45] were synthesized as previously reported. All other reagents were obtained from commercial sources and used without further purification. Reactions were run under an inert atmosphere of nitrogen, unless otherwise indicated. Tetrahydrofuran (THF), diethyl ether $\left(\mathrm{Et}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)$, dichloromethane $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}\right)$, and methanol $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OH}\right)$ were degassed with argon and run through two $4 \times 36$ inch columns of anhydrous neutral A-2 (8 x 14 mesh; LaRoche Chemicals; activated under a flow of argon at $350^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 12 h ). Thin-layer chromatography was performed using Silica Gel $60 \mathrm{~F}_{254}$-coated glass plates ( 0.25 mm thickness), and visualization was performed with $\mathrm{KMnO}_{4}$ stain and/or UV irradiation. Chromatography was accomplished with $60 \AA$ (240-400 mesh) silica gel, commercially available from Sorbent Technologies. HPLC purifications were performed on a Varian ProStar equipped with 325 Dual Wavelength UV-Vis Detector. Analytical runs were performed using an Agilent C18 Scalar column ( $4.6 \times 150 \mathrm{~mm}, 5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ ) with a $1 \mathrm{~mL} / \mathrm{min}$ flow rate. Semi-preparative runs were performed using an Agilent Prep-C18 Scalar column ( $9.4 \times 150 \mathrm{~mm}, 5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ ) with a $5 \mathrm{~mL} / \mathrm{min}$ flow rate. NMR spectra were collected on a Bruker DRX-400 ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}, 100 \mathrm{MHz}{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}, 376.5 \mathrm{MHz}$ ${ }^{19}$ F) or CRYO-500 ( $500 \mathrm{MHz}{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}, 125.7 \mathrm{MHz}{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ ) instrument. All spectra were collected at 298 K. High-resolution mass spectrometry was performed by the University of California, Irvine Mass Spectrometry Center.

## 3.6h Synthetic procedures

3-Amino-1,2,4-triazine (3.1): To a solution of aminoguanidine ( $0.500 \mathrm{~g}, 4.52 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ $(20.0 \mathrm{~mL})$ was added $\mathrm{NaHCO}_{3}(0.417 \mathrm{~g}, 4.97 \mathrm{mmol})$ at $0{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, followed by a solution of 8.8 M glyoxal in $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(0.570 \mathrm{~mL}, 5.01 \mathrm{mmol})$. The reaction was stirred overnight, then extracted with EtOAc ( $3 \times 100 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). The organic layers were combined and dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, then filtered and concentrated in vacuo to provide $3.1(0.25 \mathrm{~g}, 59 \%)$ as a light-yellow solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 400 MHz , $\left.\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right): \delta 8.70(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.22(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 5.41(\mathrm{bs}, 2 \mathrm{H})$. Spectral data were consistent with literature values [49].

3-Amino-6-bromo-1,2,4-triazine (3.2): To a solution of 3.1 ( $53.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.552 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ (6 $\mathrm{mL})$ was added bromine $(70.0 \mu \mathrm{~L}, 1.38 \mathrm{mmol})$ at $0{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. The mixture was stirred for 6 h , then the pH was adjusted to $\sim 10$ by addition of sat. $\mathrm{NaHCO}_{3}$. The crude solution was then extracted with EtOAc (3 x 40 mL ). The organic layers were combined and dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, then filtered and concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $10-30 \%$ EtOAc in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ) to provide 3.2 ( $66 \mathrm{mg}, 68 \%$ ) as a yellow solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 500 $\left.\mathrm{MHz},\left(\mathrm{CD}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{SO}\right): \delta 8.40(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.48(\mathrm{bs}, 2 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (125 MHz, $\left.\left(\mathrm{CD}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{SO}\right) \delta 162.8,153.0$, 135.9. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{3} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{BrN}_{4}[\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{H}]^{-}$172.9463, found 172.9467. Spectral data were consistent with literature values [50].

6-Bromo-1,2,4-triazine (3.3): To a pressure tube was added a solution of triazine 3.2 ( 120 mg , 0.685 ) in THF ( 5 mL ) and isopentyl nitrite ( $0.280 \mathrm{~mL}, 2.08 \mathrm{mmol}$ ). The tube was flushed with nitrogen, sealed, and heated at $65^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 5 h . The crude product was gently concentrated in vacuo and purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $10 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ) to provide
3.3 as a volatile yellow oil. This material was immediately carried on to the next step.
( $\boldsymbol{E}$ )-Cyclooct-4-en-1-yl isopropylcarbamate (3.24): To a round-bottom flask containing a solution of commercially available TCO-NHS ester ( $12.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0449 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in $2.0 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{CH} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ was added excess isopropylamine $(0.10 \mathrm{~mL}, 1.2 \mathrm{mmol})$. The solution was gently stirred for 5 h . The crude product was concentrated in vacuo and purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $0-10 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ) to provide $3.24(9.0 \mathrm{mg}, 95 \%)$ as a white solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 5.53(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 4.35(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.78(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 2.35(\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 1.67-2.04(\mathrm{~m}$, $6 \mathrm{H}), 1.51(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.13(\mathrm{~d}, J=6.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 155.5,134.9,133.1$, 80.3, 42.9, 41.2, 38.7, 34.4, 32.6, 31.0, 23.2. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{12} \mathrm{H}_{21} \mathrm{NO}_{2} \mathrm{Na}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+}$ 234.1470, found 234.1463.

## 4-(4-Nitrophenyl)-5,6,7,8,9,10-hexahydrocycloocta[c]pyridin-8-yl

(3.25): To a vial containing TCO $3.24(8.00 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0379 \mathrm{mmol})$ was added a solution of triazine $3.4(8.00 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0396 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 2 mL MeCN. The vial was placed in a $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ incubator for 2 d . The solution color changed from light yellow to red, then back to yellow over the course of the reaction. The crude product was concentrated in vacuo and purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $10-20 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ) to provide aromatized cycloadduct 3.25 as a mixture of two-regioisomers ( $12.0 \mathrm{mg}, 83 \%$ ) as a light-yellow oil. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 500 MHz , $\left.\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right): \delta 8.45(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.40(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.25-8.32(\mathrm{~m}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 7.51(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.45(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4$ $\mathrm{Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 4.30-4.52(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 3.74(\mathrm{bs}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 2.64-2.95(\mathrm{~m}, 8 \mathrm{H}), 1.53-2.11(\mathrm{~m}, 12 \mathrm{H}), 1.12(\mathrm{~m}$, 12H). ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 155.2,155.0,150.6,150.4,148.1,147.9,147.5,146.2$, $145.8,145.3,145.3,136.4,136.3,135.5,130.6,130.5,123.6,74.4,74.1,43.1,37.1,35.6,34.0$, 33.1, 30.1, 29.7, 27.9, 27.7, 26.4, 26.3, 24.4, 23.1. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{21} \mathrm{H}_{25} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{4} \mathrm{Na}$
$[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+} 406.1743$, found 406.1742 .

## General procedure to access mono-substituted triazines (Scheme 1, top):



6-(4-Nitrophenyl)-1,2,4-triazine (3.4): To a pressure tube was added (4-nitrophenyl)boronic acid $(55.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.329 \mathrm{mmol}), \mathrm{Pd}\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}\right)_{4}(38.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0329 \mathrm{mmol})$, a solution of $3.2(116 \mathrm{mg}$, $0.663 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 6.5 mL of $4: 2.5 \mathrm{tol}: \mathrm{EtOH}$, and $\mathrm{Cs}_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}(91.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.279 \mathrm{mmol})$ in $1 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The tube was flushed with nitrogen, sealed, and heated at $100{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 7 h . The reaction was then diluted with $40 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and extracted with EtOAc ( $2 \times 50 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). The organic layers were combined and dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, then filtered and concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $0-30 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ). The isolated material ( $81.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.373 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was dissolved in THF ( 9 mL ), then isopentyl nitrite ( 0.150 mL , 1.11 mmol ) was added. The reaction was heated at $65^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 3 h , using a reflux condenser. The crude product was concentrated in vacuo, then purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $10-20 \%$ EtOAc in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ) to provide 3.4 ( $24 \mathrm{mg}, 36 \%$ over two steps) as a yellow solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR (400 MHz, CD ${ }_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ): $\delta 9.70(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.23(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.41(\mathrm{~d}, J=9.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.35(\mathrm{~d}, J=9.0$ $\mathrm{Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (125 MHz, $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 156.9,156.1,149.6,146.9,138.9,128.0,124.7$. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{9} \mathrm{H}_{7} \mathrm{~N}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{2}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$203.0569, found 203.0575.

4-(1,2,4-Triazin-6-yl)benzonitrile (3.5): To a pressure tube was added (4-cyanophenyl)boronic acid $(78.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.531 \mathrm{mmol}), \mathrm{Pd}\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}\right)_{4}(61.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0528 \mathrm{mmol})$, a solution of $3.2(93.0 \mathrm{mg}$,
$0.531 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 5.5 mL of $4.5: 1 \mathrm{tol}: \mathrm{EtOH}$, and $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}(146 \mathrm{mg}, 1.06 \mathrm{mmol})$ in $1.4 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The tube was flushed with nitrogen, sealed, and heated at $110{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 5 h . The reaction was then diluted with $40 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and extracted with EtOAc ( 2 x 60 mL ). The organic layers were combined and dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, then filtered and concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $20-40 \%$ EtOAc in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ). The isolated material ( $62.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.314 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was dissolved in THF ( 4 mL ), then isopentyl nitrite $(80.0 \mu \mathrm{~L}, 0.595 \mathrm{mmol})$ was added and the reaction was heated at $65^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 3 h , using a reflux condenser. The crude product was concentrated in vacuo, then purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $20 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ) to provide $3.5(25 \mathrm{mg}, 26 \%$ over two steps) as a yellow solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 9.74(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.08(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.26(\mathrm{~d}, J=$ $8.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.89(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 156.8,156.4,146.8,137.2$, 133.2, 127.6, 118.1, 115.0 HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{10} \mathrm{H}_{10} \mathrm{~N}_{5}\left[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{NH}_{4}\right]^{+}$200.0936, found 200.0938.

6-(3-Chlorophenyl)-1,2,4-triazine (3.6): To a pressure tube was added (3-chlorophenyl)boronic acid (113 mg, 0.723 mmol$), \mathrm{Pd}\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}\right)_{4}(84.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0727 \mathrm{mmol})$, a solution of $3.2(127 \mathrm{mg}, 0.726$ $\mathrm{mmol})$ in 7 mL of $4: 3 \mathrm{tol}: \mathrm{EtOH}$, and $\mathrm{Cs}_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}(200 \mathrm{mg}, 0.613 \mathrm{mmol})$ in $1 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The tube was flushed with nitrogen, sealed, and heated at $100^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 3 h . The reaction was then diluted with 50 $\mathrm{mL} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and extracted with EtOAc ( 2 x 60 mL ). The organic layers were combined and dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, then filtered and concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $20-40 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ). The isolated material (127 $\mathrm{mg}, 0.615 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was dissolved in THF ( 7 mL ), then isopentyl nitrite $(0.250 \mathrm{~mL}, 1.86 \mathrm{mmol})$ was added and the reaction was heated at $65^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 4 h , using a reflux condenser. The crude
product was concentrated in vacuo, then purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $20 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ) to provide 3.6 ( $62 \mathrm{mg}, 45 \%$ over two steps) as a yellow solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ): $\delta 9.63(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.14(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.17(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.07(\mathrm{dt}, J=6.8,1.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H})$, 7.53-7.62 (m, 2H) . ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) $\delta 156.7,156.5,147.6,135.6,134.8,130.9$, 130.8, 126.9, 125.5. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{9} \mathrm{H}_{6} \mathrm{ClN}_{3} \mathrm{Na}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+}$214.0148, found 214.0157.

6-Phenyl-1,2,4-triazine (3.7): To a pressure tube was added phenylboronic acid ( $89.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.730$ $\mathrm{mmol}), \mathrm{Pd}\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}\right)_{4}(84.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0727 \mathrm{mmol})$, a solution of $3.2(128 \mathrm{mg}, 0.731 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 7 mL of $4: 3 \mathrm{tol}: \mathrm{EtOH}$, and a solution of $\mathrm{Cs}_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}(202 \mathrm{mg}, 0.620 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 1 mL of $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The tube was flushed with nitrogen, sealed, and heated at $100^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 4 h . The reaction was then diluted with 40 $\mathrm{mL} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and extracted with EtOAc ( $2 \times 60 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). The organic layers were combined and dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, then filtered and concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $10-30 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ). The isolated material (122 $\mathrm{mg}, 0.708 \mathrm{mmol})$ was dissolved in THF $(7 \mathrm{~mL})$, then isopentyl nitrite $(0.280 \mathrm{~mL}, 2.08 \mathrm{mmol})$ was added. The reaction was heated at $65^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 3 h , using a reflux condenser. The crude product was concentrated in vacuo, then purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $20 \%$ EtOAc in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ) to provide 3.7 ( $57 \mathrm{mg}, 50 \%$ over two steps) as a yellow solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 400 $\left.\mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right): \delta 9.66(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.03(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.11(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.58(\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( 125 MHz , $\left.\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 157.9,156.2,146.7,133.1,131.3,129.5,127.0$. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{9} \mathrm{H}_{7} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{Na}$ $[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+} 180.0538$, found 180.0537 .

6-(p-Tolyl)-1,2,4-triazine (3.8): To a pressure tube was added $p$-tolylboronic acid ( 97.0 mg ,
$0.713 \mathrm{mmol}), \mathrm{Pd}\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}\right)_{4}(82.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0710 \mathrm{mmol})$, a solution of $3.2(125 \mathrm{mg}, 0.714 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 7 mL of $4: 3 \mathrm{tol}: \mathrm{EtOH}$, and $\mathrm{Cs}_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}(197 \mathrm{mg}, 0.605 \mathrm{mmol})$ in $1 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The tube was flushed with nitrogen, sealed, and heated at $100{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 3 h . The reaction was then diluted with $40 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and extracted with EtOAc ( 2 x 60 mL ). The organic layers were combined and dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, then filtered and concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $20-40 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ). The isolated material ( $130 \mathrm{mg}, 0.698$ $\mathrm{mmol})$ was dissolved in THF $(10 \mathrm{~mL})$, then isopentyl nitrite $(0.280 \mathrm{~mL}, 2.08 \mathrm{mmol})$ was added. The reaction was heated at $65{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 3 h , using a reflux condenser. The crude product was concentrated in vacuo, then purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with 20\% EtOAc in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ) to provide $3.8\left(49 \mathrm{mg}, 40 \%\right.$ over two steps) as a yellow solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 400 MHz , $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}\right): \delta 9.59(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.24(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.05(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.40(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 2.43(\mathrm{~s}$, $3 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (125 MHz, $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}\right) \delta$ 157.8, 155.6, 147.6, 141.7, 130.3, 129.7, 126.7, 20.1. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{10} \mathrm{H}_{10} \mathrm{~N}_{3}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$172.0875, found 172.0868.
( $\boldsymbol{E}$ )-6-Styryl-1,2,4-triazine (3.9): To a pressure tube was added (E)-styrylboronic acid (176 mg, $1.19 \mathrm{mmol}), \mathrm{Pd}\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}\right)_{4}(92 \mathrm{mg}, 0.080 \mathrm{mmol})$, a solution of $\mathbf{3 . 2}(139 \mathrm{mg}, 0.794 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 5 mL of $4: 3$ tol: EtOH , and $\mathrm{Cs}_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}(388 \mathrm{mg}, 1.19 \mathrm{mmol})$ in $1 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The tube was flushed with nitrogen, sealed, and heated at $100^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 6 h . The reaction was then quenched with $40 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and extracted with EtOAc ( $2 \times 50 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). The organic layers were combined and dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, then filtered and concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $20-40 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ). The isolated material ( $114 \mathrm{mg}, 0.575$ mmol) was dissolved in THF ( 6 mL ), then isopentyl nitrite $(0.150 \mathrm{~mL}, 1.12 \mathrm{mmol})$ was added and the reaction was heated at $65{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 2 h , using a reflux condenser. The crude product was
concentrated in vacuo, then purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $10 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ) to provide 3.9 ( $24 \mathrm{mg}, 16 \%$ over two steps) as a yellow solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 400 MHz , $\left.\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right): \delta 9.54(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.76(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.86(\mathrm{~d}, J=16.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.63(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.36-7.47(\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H})$, $7.26(\mathrm{~d}, J=3.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) $\delta$ 157.1, 155.6, 147.9, 136.6, 135.7, 129.6, 129.0, 127.6, 121.9. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{11} \mathrm{H}_{9} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{Na}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+}$206.0694, found 206.0693.

6-(Thiophen-2-yl)-1,2,4-triazine (3.13): To a pressure tube was added thiophen-2-ylboronic acid ( $116 \mathrm{mg}, 0.907 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), $\mathrm{Pd}\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}\right)_{4}(52.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.045 \mathrm{mmol})$, a solution of $\mathbf{3 . 2}(79.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.451$ $\mathrm{mmol})$ in 5 mL of 3:2 tol: EtOH , and $\mathrm{Cs}_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}(294 \mathrm{mg}, 0.903 \mathrm{mmol})$ in $0.5 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The tube was flushed with nitrogen, sealed, and heated at $100^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 4 h . The reaction was then diluted with $50 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and extracted with EtOAc $(2 \mathrm{x} 60 \mathrm{~mL})$. The organic layers were combined and dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, then filtered and concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $0-20 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ). The isolated material ( $85.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.477 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was dissolved in THF ( 6 mL ), then isopentyl nitrite ( $0.200 \mathrm{~mL}, 1.49$ mmol ) was added and the reaction was heated at $65^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 4 h , using a reflux condenser. The crude produt was concentrated in vacuo, then purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $0-10 \%$ EtOAc in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ) to provide 3.13 ( $33 \mathrm{mg}, 45 \%$ over two steps) as a light orange solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 9.54(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.95(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.80(\mathrm{~d}, J=3.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.62(\mathrm{~d}$, $J=5.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.23(\mathrm{t}, J=4.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 155.8,154.1,145.3$, 137.0, 130.9, 128.7, 127.6. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{6} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{~S}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$164.0282, found 164.0282.

6-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-1,2,4-triazine (3.14): To a pressure tube was added (4methoxyphenyl)boronic acid ( $78.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.513 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), $\mathrm{Pd}\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}\right)_{4}(59.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.051 \mathrm{mmol})$, a solution of $3.2(90.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.514 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 7 mL of $4: 3 \mathrm{tol}: \mathrm{EtOH}$, and $\mathrm{Cs}_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}(142 \mathrm{mg}, 0.436$ mmol ) in $1.0 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The tube was flushed with nitrogen, sealed, and heated at $100^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 4 h . The reaction was then diluted with $50 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and extracted with EtOAc $(2 \times 60 \mathrm{~mL})$. The organic layers were combined and dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, then filtered and concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $40 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ). The isolated material ( $102 \mathrm{mg}, 0.504 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was dissolved in THF ( 6 mL ), then isopentyl nitrite ( $0.200 \mathrm{~mL}, 1.49 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was added and the reaction was heated at $65^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 3 h , using a reflux condenser. The crude product was concentrated in vacuo, then purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $0-20 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ) to provide $3.14(37 \mathrm{mg}, 38 \%$ over two steps) as a yellow solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right): \delta 9.57(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.98(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.08$ $(\mathrm{d}, J=8.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.08(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.90(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 162.3$, 157.4, 155.6, 146.1, 128.5, 125.4, 114.9, 55.6. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{10} \mathrm{H}_{10} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{O}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$ 188.0824, found 188.0827.

6-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-1,2,4-triazine (3.15): To a pressure tube was added naphthalen-2ylboronic acid $2(149 \mathrm{mg}, 0.866 \mathrm{mmol}), \mathrm{Pd}\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}\right)_{4}(50.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0433 \mathrm{mmol})$, a solution of $\mathbf{3 . 2}$ ( $76.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.434 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in 5 mL of $3: 2 \mathrm{tol}: \mathrm{EtOH}$, and $\mathrm{Cs}_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}(283 \mathrm{mg}, 0.869 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 0.5 mL $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The tube was flushed with nitrogen, sealed, and heated at $100^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 4 h . The reaction was then diluted with $40 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and extracted with EtOAc ( 2 x 50 mL ). The organic layers were combined and dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, then filtered and concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $0-30 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ). The isolated
material $(88.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.398 \mathrm{mmol})$ was dissolved in THF ( 5 mL ), then isopentyl nitrite ( 0.160 mL , 1.19 mmol ) was added and the reaction was heated with a reflux condenser at $65^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 4 h . The crude product was concentrated in vacuo, then purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $0-10 \%$ EtOAc in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ) to provide $\mathbf{3 . 1 5}$ ( $29 \mathrm{mg}, 32 \%$ over two steps) as a yellow solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR (400 MHz, CD ${ }_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ): $\delta 9.63(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.29(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.69(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.69(\mathrm{dd}, J=9.0,1.7 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $1 \mathrm{H}), 7.59-8.11(\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 7.60-7.65(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) $\delta 157.8,156.1,147.7$, 134.4, 133.2, 130.9, 129.1, 128.9, 128.9, 127.8, 127.3, 127.1, 123.6. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{13} \mathrm{H}_{10} \mathrm{~N}_{3}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$208.0875, found 208.0868.
(3,5-Dimethylisoxazol-4-yl)boronic acid (3.16): To a pressure tube was added (3,5-dimethylisoxazol-4-yl)boronic acid (101 mg, 0.717 mmol$), \mathrm{Pd}\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}\right)_{4}(55.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0480 \mathrm{mmol})$, a solution of $3.2(84.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.480 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 5 mL of $3: 2 \mathrm{tol}: \mathrm{EtOH}$, and $\mathrm{Cs}_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}(172 \mathrm{mg}, 0.528$ mmol ) in $0.5 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The tube was flushed with nitrogen, sealed, and heated at $100{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 4 h . The reaction was then diluted with $40 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and extracted with EtOAc ( 2 x 50 mL ). The organic layers were combined and dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, then filtered and concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $40 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ). The isolated material ( $103 \mathrm{mg}, 0.538 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was dissolved in THF ( 7 mL ), then isopentyl nitrite $(0.220 \mathrm{~mL}, 1.64 \mathrm{mmol})$ was added and the reaction was heated at $65^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 4 h , using a reflux condenser. The crude product was concentrated in vacuo, then purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $0-30 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ) to provide 3.16 ( $27 \mathrm{mg}, 32 \%$ over two steps) as a yellow solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 9.63(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.72(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 2.70$ (s, 3H), $2.52(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 169.9,158.4,155.5,153.3,147.3,110.6$, 13.1, 11.9. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{8} \mathrm{H}_{9} \mathrm{~N}_{4} \mathrm{O}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$177.0776, found 177.0770.

Methyl-4-(1,2,4-triazin-6-yl)benzoate (3.17): To a pressure tube was added (4(methoxycarbonyl)phenyl)boronic acid $(98.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.545 \mathrm{mmol}), \mathrm{Pd}\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}\right)_{4}(63.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0545$ $\mathrm{mmol})$, a solution of $3.2(96.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.549 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 7 mL of $5: 2 \mathrm{tol}: \mathrm{EtOH}$, and $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}(151 \mathrm{mg}$, 1.09 mmol ) in $1 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The tube was flushed with nitrogen, sealed, and heated at $110^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 4 h. The reaction was then diluted with $40 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and extracted with EtOAc ( $2 \times 60 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). The organic layers were combined and dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, then filtered and concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $30-40 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ). The isolated material ( $88.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.382 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was dissolved in THF ( 7 mL ), then isopentyl nitrite $(0.150 \mathrm{~mL}, 1.12 \mathrm{mmol})$ was added and the reaction was heated at $65^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 3 h , using a reflux condenser. The crude product was concentrated in vacuo, then purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $20 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ) to provide $3.17(29 \mathrm{mg}, 25 \%$ over two steps) as a yellow solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 9.71(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.09(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.25(\mathrm{~d}, J$ $=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.20(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.99(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 166.4$, 157.1, 156.6, 146.9, 137.1, 132.6, 130.6, 127.0, 126.9, 52.5. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{11} \mathrm{H}_{13} \mathrm{~N}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{2}\left[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{NH}_{4}\right]^{+}$233.1039, found 233.1038.

6-(3-Nitrophenyl)-1,2,4-triazine (3.18): To a pressure tube was added (3-nitrophenyl)boronic acid $(100 \mathrm{mg}, 0.599 \mathrm{mmol}), \mathrm{Pd}\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}\right)_{4}(63.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0545 \mathrm{mmol})$, a solution of $\mathbf{3 . 2}(95.0 \mathrm{mg}$, $0.543 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 7 mL of $4: 3 \mathrm{tol}: \mathrm{EtOH}$, and $\mathrm{Cs}_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}(150 \mathrm{mg}, 0.460 \mathrm{mmol})$ in $1 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The tube was flushed with nitrogen, sealed, and heated at $100{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 5 h . The reaction was then diluted with $50 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and extracted with EtOAc ( $2 \times 60 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). The organic layers were combined and dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, then filtered and concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was
purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $10-40 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ). The isolated material $(92.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.423 \mathrm{mmol})$ was dissolved in THF $(8 \mathrm{~mL})$, then isopentyl nitrite $(0.170 \mathrm{~mL}$, 1.27 mmol ) was added and the reaction was heated at $65^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 4 h , using a reflux condenser. The crude product was concentrated in vacuo, then purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $20 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ) to provide $\mathbf{3 . 1 8}$ ( $38 \mathrm{mg}, 34 \%$ over two steps) as a yellow solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ): $\delta 9.69(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.25(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.95(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.52(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.40$ $(\mathrm{m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.86(\mathrm{t}, J=7.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (125 MHz, $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}\right) \delta 156.8,156.2,149.1,147.8$, 135.3, 133.0, 130.7, 125.4, 121.8. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{9} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{~N}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{2}[\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{H}]^{-}$201.0412, found 201.0419.

## General procedure to access mono-substituted triazines (Scheme 1, bottom):



4-(1,2,4-Triazin-6-yl)aniline (3.10): To a pressure tube was added 4-aminophenylboronic acid pinacol ester ( $42.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.192 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), $\mathrm{Pd}\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}\right)_{4}(22.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0190 \mathrm{mmol})$, a solution of 3.3 (91.0 $\mathrm{mg}, 0.569 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 5 mL of $3: 2 \mathrm{tol}: \mathrm{EtOH}$, and $\mathrm{Cs}_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}(185 \mathrm{mg}, 0.568 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 1 mL H H . The tube was flushed with nitrogen, sealed, and heated at $100^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 3 h . The reaction was then diluted with $40 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and extracted with EtOAc ( $2 \times 60 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). The organic layers were combined and dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, then filtered and concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with $20-40 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ) to provide
$3.10(24 \mathrm{mg}, 73 \%)$ as yellow solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ): $\delta 9.42(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.99(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H})$, $7.93(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 6.78(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 4.64(\mathrm{bs}, 2 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}\right) \delta$ 158.4, 155.8, 152.0, 147.1, 129.0, 122.4, 115.3. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{9} \mathrm{H}_{8} \mathrm{~N}_{4} \mathrm{Na}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+}$ 195.0647, found 195.0643.
$N, N$-Dimethyl-4-(1,2,4-triazin-6-yl)aniline (3.11): To a pressure tube was added (4(dimethylamino)phenyl)boronic acid $(48.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.291 \mathrm{mmol}), \operatorname{Pd}\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}\right)_{4}(34.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0294$ mmol ), a solution of triazine $3.3(92.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.575 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 5 mL of $3: 2 \mathrm{tol}: \mathrm{EtOH}$, and $\mathrm{Cs}_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}$ $(120 \mathrm{mg}, 0.368 \mathrm{mmol})$ in $1.0 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The tube was flushed with nitrogen, sealed, and heated at $100{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 3 h . The reaction was then diluted with $40 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, extracted with EtOAc ( 2 x 60 mL ). The organic layers were combined and dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, then filtered and concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with 0-10 \% EtOAc in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ) to provide $3.11(38.0 \mathrm{mg}, 65 \%)$ as yellow solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{NMR}\left(400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$ : $\delta 9.47(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.93(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.04(\mathrm{~d}, J=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 6.83(\mathrm{~d}, J=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.09(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{Cl}$ ) $\delta 157.6,154.8,152.3,145.7$, 127.9, 119.9, 112.3, 40.2. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{11} \mathrm{H}_{12} \mathrm{~N}_{4} \mathrm{Na}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+}$223.0960, found 223.0965.

3-(1,2,4-Triazin-6-yl)phenol (3.19): To a pressure tube was added (3-hydroxyphenyl)boronic acid $(46.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.334 \mathrm{mmol}), \mathrm{Pd}\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}\right)_{4}(38.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0329 \mathrm{mmol})$, a solution of $3.3(159 \mathrm{mg}$, $0.994)$ in 7 mL of $4: 3$ tol: EtOH , and $\mathrm{Cs}_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}(216 \mathrm{mg}, 0.663 \mathrm{mmol})$ in $1 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The tube was flushed with nitrogen, sealed, and heated at $100^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 3 h . The reaction was then diluted with 40 $\mathrm{mL} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and extracted with EtOAc ( $2 \times 60 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). The organic layers were combined and dried over $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, then filtered and concentrated in vacuo The crude product was purified by flash
column chromatography (eluting with $10-40 \% \mathrm{EtOAc}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ) to provide 3.19 ( 42.0 mg , $73 \%$ ) as a light-yellow solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}$ ): $\delta 9.60(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.20(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.58(\mathrm{~m}$, $2 \mathrm{H}), 7.36(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8,1 \mathrm{H}), 6.99$ (apparent dd, $J=7.0,2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}\right)$ $\delta 158.2,157.9,155.9,147.8,134.3,130.2,117.9,117.8,113.2$. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{9} \mathrm{H}_{8} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{O}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$174.0667, found 174.0667.
(S)-3-(4-(1,2,4-Triazin-6-yl)phenyl)-2-aminopropanoic acid (3.12): To a pressure tube was added (S)-2-amino-3-(4 boronophenyl)propanoic acid (30.0 mg, 0.144 mmol$), \mathrm{Pd}\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}\right)_{4}(16.0$ $\mathrm{mg}, 0.0138 \mathrm{mmol})$, a solution of $3.3(70.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.438)$ in 5 mL of $3: 2 \mathrm{tol}: \mathrm{EtOH}$, and $\mathrm{Cs}_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}(143$ $\mathrm{mg}, 0.437 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in $1 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The tube was flushed with nitrogen, sealed, and heated at $100^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 3 h . The reaction was then quenched with $40 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, extracted with EtOAc ( 2 x 40 mL ). The aqueous layer was concentrated in vacuo and purified by preparative HPLC, eluting with 0 $95 \% \mathrm{MeCN}$ in water over 30 min . The desired fractions were collected and concentrated in vacuo to provide 3.12 ( $15 \mathrm{mg}, 42 \%$ ) as light-orange solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ): $\delta 9.59(\mathrm{~s}$, $1 \mathrm{H}), 9.25(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.98(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.49(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.69(\mathrm{t}, J=6.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H})$, $3.14(\mathrm{dd}, J=13.4,5.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.02(\mathrm{dd}, J=13.7,7.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right) \delta$ $175.4,158.2,155.4,149.5,139.5,131.6,130.5,127.9,56.2,37.2$. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{12} \mathrm{H}_{11} \mathrm{~N}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{2}[\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{H}]^{-}$243.0882, found 243.0889.

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# Chapter 4: Isomeric 1,2,4-triazines exhibit distinct profiles of bioorthogonal reactivity 

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### 4.1 Introduction

In the previous chapter, I discussed the reactivity of 6 -substituted $1,2,4$-triazines. These motifs react robustly with trans-cyclooctene (TCO), but are orthogonal to other bioorthogonal alkenes and are stable in cells (in contrast to structurally related tetrazine scaffolds). In this chapter, I will discuss our efforts to tune 1,2,4-triazines to exhibit unique reaction profiles with strained alkenes and alkynes.
A


B


6-sub-triazine


5-sub-triazine


6-sub-tetrazine


3,6-sub-tetrazine

Figure 4-1. Inverse electron-demand Diels-Alder (IED-DA) reactivity of substituted tetrazine and triazine scaffolds. (A) Model IED-DA reactivity of strained alkynes with tetrazine or 1,2,4traizine motifs. (B) Isomeric triazines and tetrazines examined in this work.

The success of bioorthogonal transformations is critically dependent on the reagents being exquisitely stable in cells and tissues, yet robustly reactive with complementary probes [1, 2]. This chemical paradox has often frustrated efforts to develop reagents that exhibit selective reactivity, let alone multiple reactions that can function in concert. In fact, there are only a handful of bioorthogonal reaction pairs that can be used simultaneously [3], and of these, none involve concurrent [4+2] cycloadditions [4-10].

To address this void, we are developing "privileged" scaffolds that not only meet the requirements for bioorthogonality, but also are compatible with each other for simultaneous reactivity [11]. Such mutually orthogonal reagents will enable selective and concurrent chemical tagging of multiple biomolecules [12]. One such "privileged" scaffold is 1,2,4-triazine. As I highlighted in Chapter 3, triazines offer robust reactivity and exquisite stability for biomolecule labeling.

To capitalize on the unique features of triazines and further explore reactivity, we aimed to synthesize and analyse isomeric scaffolds (Figure 4-1). 1,2,4-Triazines react with alkene and alkyne dienophiles via inverse electron-demand Diels-Alder (IED-DA) cycloaddition across C3-C6 (Figure 4-1) [25]. The regioselectivity of this addition could potentially be exploited for orthogonal reaction development: bulky dienophiles would be more likely to react with 5 -substituted triazines than their 6 -substituted counterparts (Figure 4-1). Similar steric "tuning" tactics have been used to develop mutually compatible reactions with strained alkynes and alkenes [10, 14, 26]. For example, C3- and C6-substituted tetrazines exhibit differential reactivities with sterically modified cyclooctynes [26]. Cyclooctynes with substitutents near the reactive alkyne center react
exclusively with mono-substituted (versus di-substitued tetrazines) due to steric clashes in the transition state.

### 4.2 Computational analysis of 1,2,4-triazine reactivity

We hypothesized that 1,2,4-triazine reactivity could be similarly modulated to generate mutually orthogonal reactions. To examine this possibility, we first used densityfunctional theory (DFT) calculations to evaluate the reactivity of model 1,2,4- triazines with a series of strained dienophiles and known bioorthogonal motifs (Table 4-1) [20-24].

Table 4-1. DFT-computed activation free energies ( $\mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}$ ) and predicted relative rate constants $\left(\mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}\right)$ for tetrazine and triazines cycloadditions with strained dienophiles, in water at $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

| $\begin{aligned} & \Delta G^{\ddagger} \\ & \left(k_{\mathrm{rel}}\right) \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Cp | NB | TCO | DIFO | DIBAC | TMTH |
|  | $\begin{gathered} 26.7 \\ \left(1.8 \times 10^{-5}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 29.2 \\ \left(2.7 \times 10^{-7}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 21.7 \\ \left(8.3 \times 10^{-2}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 26.1 \\ \left(5.4 \times 10^{-5}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 33.2 \\ \left(3.0 \times 10^{-10}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 25.6 \\ \left(1.1 \times 10^{-4}\right) \end{gathered}$ |
|  | $\begin{gathered} 26.5 \\ \left(2.4 \times 10^{-5}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 29.9 \\ \left(7.7 \times 10^{-8}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 22.7 \\ \left(1.6 \times 10^{-2}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 26.7 \\ \left(1.8 \times 10^{-5}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 32.3 \\ \left(1.5 \times 10^{-9}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 21.1 \\ \left(2.4 \times 10^{-1}\right) \end{gathered}$ |
|  | $\begin{gathered} 26.5 \\ \left(2.4 \times 10^{-5}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 30.0 \\ \left(6.8 \times 10^{-8}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 23.1 \\ \left(7.6 \times 10^{-3}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 27.0 \\ \left(1.1 \times 10^{-5}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 35.1 \\ \left(1.2 \times 10^{-11}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 26.8 \\ \left(1.4 \times 10^{-5}\right) \end{gathered}$ |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & 20.2 \\ & (1.0) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 22.2 \\ \left(3.7 \times 10^{-2}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 15.2 \\ \left(4.9 \times 10^{3}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 20.6 \\ \left(5.5 \times 10^{-1}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 26.7 \\ \left(1.8 \times 10^{-5}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 19.6 \\ & (3.2) \end{aligned}$ |
| 6-sub-tetrazine |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | $\begin{gathered} 21.4 \\ \left(1.5 \times 10^{-1}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 22.0 \\ \left(4.8 \times 10^{-2}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 15.9 \\ \left(1.5 \times 10^{3}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 25.6 \\ \left(1.1 \times 10^{-4}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 30.8 \\ \left(1.7 \times 10^{-8}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 30.8 \\ \left(1.7 \times 10^{-8}\right) \end{gathered}$ |
| 3,6-disub-tetrazine |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Isomeric 1,2,4-triazines differed in the placement of subsitutents, either at the sites of new bond formation ( C 3 or C 6 ) or removed from these sites (C5). Similar calculations were
performed with substituted tetrazines. In agreement with our previous work, 6-substituted-triazines were predicted to react robustly with TCO, although slower than their tetrazine counterparts. Minimal or no triazine reactivity was predicted with strained alkenes, including cyclopropene and norbornene. These results are in stark contrast to tetrazines, which harbor lower LUMO+1 energies and thus react robustly with a variety of strained alkenes [14].

A surprising result emerged in the predicted reactivity profiles of triazines with strained alkynes. The 5-substituted-triazine and monosubstituted tetrazine were predicted to be robustly reactive with tetramethylthiacycloheptyne (TMTH), one of the most sterically encumbered strained alkynes. TMTH was previously developed by the Bertozzi group for strain-promoted azide-alkyne cycloaddition [32]. TMTH can also react with dienes, though, including minimally substituted tetrazines [32,33]. As expected, the 3and 6-subsituted triazine isomers were predicted to react slowly with TMTH due to steric clashes at the reactive centers. Calculations further suggested that 5-substituted-triazines would not react efficiently other bioorthogonal strained alkynes, including DIBAC and DIFO (molecules with lower HOMO energies). Monosubstituted tetrazines are also predicted to react with TMTH. However, due to their instability, monosubstituted tetrazines are not utilized as the primary labelling reagent [17].

### 4.3 Reactivity profile of isomeric 1,2,4-triazines

The predicted rate data were verified experimentally. We synthesized the panel of reagents shown in Table 4-2, and monitored the relevant reactions by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$. The measured bimolecular rate constants closely matched the DFT predictions (Table 4-2).

As expected, the 6 -substituted triazine 4.1 reacted exclusively with TCO 4.8. The 5phenyl triazine isomer 4.2 was similarly reactive with TCO 4.8 (Figure 4-2), but also underwent cycloaddition (albeit minimally) with carbamate-cyclopropenes 4.4-4.5 (Figure 4-3) and DIFO 4.9 (Figure S4-2). Minimal reactivity was also observed between tetrazine 4.3 and DIFO 4.9 (Figure S4-3). Triazine 4.2 was also stable in the presence of L-cysteine at $37{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (Figure S4-4). Importantly, the most tantalizing prediction-robust reactivity between TMTH 4.11 and 5-phenyl triazine 4.2 -was also validated experimentally (Table 4-2 and Figure S4-5). Disubstituted tetrazine 4.3 did not react with TMTH 4.11 for up to 2 d- likely due to steric clashes between the methyl groups on TMTH 4.11 and dipyridyl groups on tetrazine 4.3 (Figure S4-6). 6-Phenyl-triazine also did not react with TMTH for 2 d (Figure S4-7), and only minimal reactivity was observed with para-nitrophenyl-triazine over 2 d (Figure $\mathrm{S} 4-8$ ). Our experimental data correlate with the computational values (Table 4-1 and Figures S4-5 to S4-8).

Table 4-2. Second order rate constants $\left(\mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}\right)$ for tetrazine and triazine cycloadditions with strained dienophiles. All rates were monitored by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$ at $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. N/R indicates no reaction after 24 h and a rate constant $<k_{2}=10^{-4} \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}$. Calculated rate constants: $* k_{2}=2.29 \pm 0.16 \mathrm{x}$ $10^{-4} \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}$, ** $k_{2}=3.35 \pm 0.80 \times 10^{-4} \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}$.





Figure 4-2. Reaction between triazine 4.2 and TCO 4.8. Triazine $4.2(0.30 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 20 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) was added a solution of TCO 4.8 ( 0.30 mL of a 20 mM solution in dPBS). The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure 4-3. Triazine 4.1 is orthogonal to cyclopropene 4.4. Triazine $4.1(0.24 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 25 mM solution in $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}\right)$ was added a solution of cyclopropene $4.4(0.24 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 25 mM solution in $25 \% \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) and diluted with $0.12 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$. The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure 4-4. Minimum reactivity is observed between triazine 4.2 and cyclopropene 4.4. Triazine $4.2\left(0.30 \mathrm{~mL}\right.$ of a 20 mM solution in $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}\right)$ was added a solution of cyclopropene 4.4 ( 0.24 mL of a 25 mM solution in $25 \% \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) and diluted with $60 \mu \mathrm{LCD} \mathrm{C}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$. The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure 4-5. Kinetic data used to calculate second-order rate constants ( $k_{2}$ ) for 4.2 and 4.8 in 1:1 $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ : $d$-PBS. The reactions between triazine 4.2 and TCO 4.8 were run in $1: 1$ ratios and monitored by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure 4-6. Kinetic data used to calculate second-order rate constants $\left(k_{2}\right)$ for 4.2 and 4.11 $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$. The reactions between triazine 4.2 and TMTH 4.11 were run in roughly $1: 2$ (triazine:TMTH) ratios and monitored by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure 4-7. Kinetic data used to calculate second-order rate constants ( $k_{2}$ ) for 4.3 and 4.9 in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$. The reactions between tetrazine 4.3 and DIFO 4.9 were run in roughly $1: 2$ (tetrazine:DIFO) ratios and monitored by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure 4-8. Kinetic data used to calculate second-order rate constants ( $k_{2}$ ) for 4.2 and 4.9 in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$. The reactions between triazine 4.2 and DIFO 4.9 were run in roughly $1: 2$ (triazine:DIFO) ratios and monitored by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.
A
4.11
C




Figure 4-9. 5-Phenyl-1,2,4-triazine 4.2 reacts quantitatively with TMTH 4.11. (A) HPLC trace of starting TMTH 4.11 reagent. (B) HPLC trace of starting triazine 4.2 trace. (C) Triazine 4.2 ( 5 mM in MeCN ) was reacted with TMTH 4.11 ( 5 mM in MeCN ) for 1 h , and monitored by HPLC. HPLC traces are monitored at 210 nm wavelength.

The unique reactivity profile of 5-phenyl triazine suggested further opportunities for mutually orthogonal reaction development. The reaction between TMTH 4.11 and 5-phenyl-1,2,4-triazine 4.2 proceeded with a rate constant of $k_{2}=0.22 \pm 0.01 \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}$ (Figure 4-6). This rate is on par with many commonly used strain promoted azide-alkyne cycloadditions [2,34,35]. The reactivity of 5-substituted triazine with TMTH in the presence of 6 -substituted triazine was further analysed by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$ (Figure 4-10).

Isomeric triazines were mixed at equal concentrations with excess TMTH. Over the course of the reaction, the concentration of TMTH and 5-phenyl-triazine decreased concurrently (Figure 4-10). By contrast, 6-phenyl-triazine was not consumed.

### 4.4 Dual [4+2] IED-DA reactions

The 5-substituted isomer (4.2) is also non-reactive with cyclopropene 4.6 (a scaffold known to react robustly with tetrazines), setting the stage for dual [4+2] IED-DA reactions. To examine this possibility, cyclopropene 4.6 was mixed with tetrazine 4.2 . Over the course of the reaction, the concentration of 5-phenyl-triazine remained constant, while cyclopropene 4.6 and tetrazine 4.3 were consumed (Figure 4-10). Collectively, these data suggested that the 5-substituted-triazine/TMTH reaction could be used concurrently with cyclopropene/disubstituted-tetrazine cycloadditon.






Figure 4-10. Isomeric triazines exhibit unique bioorthogonal reactivities. (A) Triazine 4.2 reacts exclusively with TMTH 4.11. The reaction was monitored by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR (top), with the reaction progress is plotted below. (B) 5-Phenyl-triazine 4.2 can be used in combination with disubstituted tetrazine 4.3 and cyclopropene. The reaction was monitored by 1H NMR (top), with the reaction progress plotted below.

To investigate this possibility, we combined all four reagents ( 2.5 mM ) and monitored the reactions by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$ and HPLC (Figures 4-11 and S4-9 to S4-11). The reactions proceeded quantitatively to the expected two distinct cycloadducts. To our knowledge, this is the first example of a pair of [4+2] IED-DA cycloadditions that can be used simultaneously for bioorthogonal reactivity.[3]



Figure 4-11. Compatible cycloadditions between triazine 4.2, cyclopropene 4.5, 4.11, and 4.3. All four reagents were combined together $(2.5 \mathrm{mM})$, and the reactions were monitored by HPLC (210 nm) for 3 h .

### 4.5 Conclusions and future work

In conclusion, computational analyses were used to identify candidate orthogonal reactions, and the predictions were verified experimentally. Notably, 5 -substituted triazines were shown to undergo rapid $[4+2]$ cycloadditions with sterically encumbered strained alkynes. This unique, sterically controlled reactivity was exploited for dual bioorthogonal labeling. Mutually orthogonal traizines and cycloaddition chemistries will enable multi-component imaging applications. This reaction could be used in combination with another popular IED-DA reaction, the tetrazine ligation of cyclopropene units. These mutually compatbile chemistries will bolster further multi-component imaging applications and bioorthognoal reaction development.

Collectively, this thesis introduced the development of new bioorthogonal reactions for multicomponent biomolecule labeling. Using a combination of steric and electronic perturbations, new reagents were developed that exhibit selective reactivity and offer the potential to be used together to label multiple targets of interest.

### 4.6 Materials and methods

## 4.6a Computational studies

Calculations were performed with Gaussian version 09 [30]. The geometry optimization of the transition states involved was carried at M06-2X level of theory [28-29] with the 6-31G(d) basis set [37]. Vibrational frequencies were computed at the same level to check whether each optimized structure was an energy minimum or a transition state and to evaluate its zero-point vibration energy (ZPVE) and thermal corrections at 298 K . A quasiharmonic correction was applied during the entropy calculation by setting all positive frequencies that were less than 100 $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ to $100 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$ [38]. The single-point energies and solvent effects in water were computed at
level of M06-2X/6-311+G(d,p)using the gas-phase optimized structures at the level of M06$2 \mathrm{X} / 6-31 \mathrm{G}(\mathrm{d})$. CPCM model was used to evaluate solvation energies by a self-consistent reaction field (SCRF) [39], where UFF radii were used. The frontier molecular orbitals (FMOs) and their energies were computed using M06-2X/6-31G(d) geometries at the $\mathrm{HF} / 6-311+\mathrm{G}(\mathrm{d}, \mathrm{p})$ level.

## 4.6b Rate studies

The reactions between tetrazines 4.3 and 1,2,4-triazine 4.1-4.2 with strained dienophiles 4.4-4.11 were monitored by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$. For reactions between tetrazine or $1,2,4$-triazine with strained dienophiles, $0.12-0.3 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a $20-50 \mathrm{mM}$ solution of the appropriate strained dienophile was added to a solution of the appropriate 1,2,4-triazine or tetrazine in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}(0.12-0.24 \mathrm{~mL}$, $20-50 \mathrm{mM}$ ), and then diluted to a final volume of 0.6 mL . The final concentrations of all reactants were $5-10 \mathrm{mM}$ and reactions were monitored for at least 24 h . No reaction indicates a rate constant of not faster than $k_{2} \sim 10^{-5} \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}$. All reactions were carried out at $25{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Representative spectra and experimental conditions for each reaction are shown in the accompanying figures.

## 4.6c General synthetic procedures

Compounds S4.1 [12], S4.3 [12], 4.1 [12], 4.2 [40], 4.4 [15], 4.6 [10], 4.9 [41], 4.11 [32] were synthesized as previously reported. All other reagents were obtained from commercial sources and used without further purification. Reactions were run under ambient conditions, unless otherwise indicated. Tetrahydrofuran (THF), diethyl ether ( $\mathrm{Et}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ), dichloromethane $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}\right)$, and acetonitrile $(\mathrm{MeCN})$ were degassed with argon and run through two $4 \times 36$ inch columns of anhydrous neutral A-2 (8 x 14 mesh; LaRoche Chemicals; activated under a flow of argon at $350{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 12 h ). Thin-layer chromatography was performed using Silica Gel $60 \mathrm{~F}_{254}{ }^{-}$
coated glass plates ( 0.25 mm thickness), and visualization was performed with $\mathrm{KMnO}_{4}$ stain and/or UV irradiation. Chromatography was accomplished with $60 \AA$ (240-400 mesh) silica gel, commercially available from Sorbent Technologies. HPLC purifications were performed on a Varian ProStar equipped with 325 Dual Wavelength UV-Vis Detector. Analytical runs were performed using an Agilent C18 Scalar column ( $4.6 \times 150 \mathrm{~mm}, 5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ ) with a $1 \mathrm{~mL} / \mathrm{min}$ flow rate, and visualized with 210 nm wavelength. NMR spectra were collected on a Bruker DRX-400 (400 MHz ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}, 100 \mathrm{MHz}{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}, 376.5 \mathrm{MHz}{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ ) or CRYO-500 (500 MHz ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}, 125.7 \mathrm{MHz}{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ ) instrument. All spectra were collected at 298 K. High-resolution mass spectrometry was performed by the University of California, Irvine Mass Spectrometry Center.

## 4.6d Synthetic procedures

5,5,9,9-Tetramethyl-3-phenyl-5,6,8,9-tetrahydrothiepino[4,5-c]pyridine (4.12): To three separate NMR tubes containing triazine $4.2(0.3 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 20 mM solution) was added TMTH 4.11 ( 0.3 mL of a 20 mM solution) in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$. After the reaction was complete, the solutions were concentrated in vacuo to provide the cycloadduct. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}\right): \delta 8.73$ (s, $1 \mathrm{H}), 8.03(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.83(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.39-7.49(\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 2.87(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 2.86(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 1.58(\mathrm{~s}$, $6 \mathrm{H}), 1.57(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) $\delta 157.2,153.6,151.0,141.5,139.1,128.7$, 126.6, 119.7, 42.9, 41.8, 41.4, 41.1, 32.0, 31.7. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{19} \mathrm{H}_{24} \mathrm{NS}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$ 298.1629, found 298.1639.
$N$-Isopropyl-2-(3-phenyl-5,6,7,8,9,10-hexahydrocycloocta[c]pyridin-8-yl)acetamide S4.2: To a vial containing TCO-isopropylamine $\mathbf{S 4 . 1}(16.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0757 \mathrm{mmol})$ was added a solution of triazine $4.2(12.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0763 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 1 mL MeCN . The vial was placed in a $37{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ incubator for 3 d to facilitate air-oxidation to the pyridine adduct. After 3 d , the crude product was
concentrated in vacuo and purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with 10-20\% EtOAc in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ) to provide aromatized cycloadduct $\mathbf{S 4 . 2}$ as a mixture of two-regioisomers $(11.0 \mathrm{mg}, 43 \%)$ as a light-yellow oil. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 8.44(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.40(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H})$, 7.98 (apparent d, $J=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}$ ), 7.38-7.51 (m, 8H), 4.39-4.58 (m, 3H), 3.77 (m, 2H), 2.76$2.94(\mathrm{~m}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 1.48-2.20(\mathrm{~m}, 17 \mathrm{H}), 1.14(\mathrm{~m}, 13 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta$ 156.2, 156.0, $150.1,150.0,149.8,139.5,139.4,134.5,134.4,128.7,128.7,128.6,126.8,120.8,74.7,74.5$, 43.0, 37.3, 36.6, 33.0, 31.8, 29.8, 29.1, 28.9, 27.9, 27.2, 25.9, 23.1. HRMS (ESI) $m / z$ calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{21} \mathrm{H}_{26} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{Na}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+} 361.1892$, found 361.1882 .

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Appendix A: Computational data for Chapter 2

Table S2.1. Coordinates and Energies of Stationary Points

$G_{\text {water }}=-195.125864$ Hartree; $E=-195.209797$ Hartree

| C | 1.262218 | 0.000000 | -0.647393 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| C | 1.262251 | 0.000000 | 0.647586 |
| C | -0.094543 | 0.000000 | -0.000408 |
| H | 1.808131 | 0.000000 | 1.579301 |
| C | -0.937031 | -1.267285 | 0.000024 |
| H | -1.586720 | -1.305168 | 0.882845 |
| H | -1.585151 | -1.306582 | -0.883882 |
| H | -0.304718 | -2.159209 | 0.001161 |
| C | -0.937031 | 1.267285 | 0.000024 |
| H | -1.585151 | 1.306582 | -0.883882 |
| H | -1.586720 | 1.305169 | 0.882845 |
| H | -0.304717 | 2.159209 | 0.001161 |
| H | 1.809858 | 0.000000 | -1.578546 |


$G_{\text {water }}=-610.561731$ Hartree; $E=-610.711307$ Hartree

| C | -0.929904 | -0.625562 | -0.000063 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C | -2.291680 | -0.210331 | -0.000015 |
| C | -3.315537 | -1.171208 | 0.000353 |
| C | -2.611625 | 1.156569 | -0.000337 |
| C | -4.641117 | -0.759662 | 0.000387 |


| H | -3.061517 | -2.225638 | 0.000609 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C | -3.942993 | 1.549243 | -0.000283 |
| H | -1.815938 | 1.894105 | -0.000631 |
| C | -4.960686 | 0.597031 | 0.000073 |
| H | -5.429973 | -1.504860 | 0.000667 |
| H | -4.186537 | 2.606753 | -0.000531 |
| H | -5.999156 | 0.911115 | 0.000106 |
| N | 0.176906 | -0.991934 | -0.000090 |
| N | 1.332102 | -1.493421 | -0.000138 |
| C | 2.389061 | -0.569760 | -0.000059 |
| C | 2.235545 | 0.823145 | 0.000151 |
| C | 3.681500 | -1.113310 | -0.000194 |
| C | 3.356425 | 1.647282 | 0.000221 |
| H | 1.241562 | 1.261702 | 0.000269 |
| C | 4.790834 | -0.281467 | -0.000124 |
| H | 3.783272 | -2.193627 | -0.000356 |
| C | 4.638473 | 1.105853 | 0.000084 |
| H | 3.222289 | 2.725176 | 0.000389 |
| H | 5.784936 | -0.718636 | -0.000231 |
| H | 5.508223 | 1.754449 | 0.000140 |
| ----------------------------- |  |  |  |



Tz
$G_{\text {water }}=-758.159878$ Hartree; $E=-758.329060$ Hartree

| C | -0.000124 | -1.287597 | -0.000573 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C | 0.000124 | 1.287597 | -0.000573 |
| N | 1.183187 | 0.651657 | -0.001373 |
| N | 1.183061 | -0.652015 | -0.001280 |
| N | -1.183061 | 0.652015 | -0.001280 |
| N | -1.183187 | -0.651657 | -0.001373 |
| C | 0.000214 | 2.764533 | 0.000244 |
| C | 1.210798 | 3.465467 | 0.001564 |
| C | -1.210325 | 3.465451 | -0.000733 |
| C | 1.206617 | 4.855025 | 0.001864 |
| H | 2.143368 | 2.912363 | 0.002220 |
| C | -1.206155 | 4.855025 | -0.000518 |
| H | -2.142875 | 2.912278 | -0.002082 |
| C | 0.000214 | 5.552030 | 0.000788 |
| H | 2.147731 | 5.395799 | 0.002879 |
| H | -2.147320 | 5.395715 | -0.001343 |
| H | 0.000236 | 6.637766 | 0.001079 |
| C | -0.000214 | -2.764533 | 0.000244 |
| C | -1.210798 | -3.465467 | 0.001564 |
| C | 1.210325 | -3.465451 | -0.000733 |
| C | -1.206617 | -4.855025 | 0.001864 |
| H | -2.143368 | -2.912363 | 0.002220 |
| C | 1.206155 | -4.855025 | -0.000518 |
| H | 2.142875 | -2.912278 | -0.002082 |


| C | -0.000214 | -5.552030 | 0.000788 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: |
| H | -2.147731 | -5.395799 | 0.002879 |
| H | 2.147320 | -5.395715 | -0.001343 |
| H | -0.000236 | -6.637766 | 0.001079 |

## TS-NI-Cp(1,3)

$G_{\text {water }}=-805.663047$ Hartree; $E=-805.923388$ Hartree

| C | -1.173412 | -0.139874 | -0.328353 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| N | -0.145854 | -0.631460 | -0.691817 |
| N | 1.010317 | -0.484744 | -1.181569 |
| C | 2.075049 | -0.965123 | -0.401779 |
| C | 3.348352 | -0.902504 | -0.983126 |
| C | 1.939800 | -1.451238 | 0.906149 |
| C | 4.465803 | -1.302231 | -0.262875 |
| H | 3.430960 | -0.546306 | -2.005323 |
| C | 3.065449 | -1.855517 | 1.614975 |
| H | 0.952720 | -1.514932 | 1.355387 |
| C | 4.332338 | -1.780592 | 1.040300 |
| H | 5.447333 | -1.248232 | -0.724170 |
| H | 2.950178 | -2.232655 | 2.626913 |
| H | 5.206304 | -2.098206 | 1.599535 |
| C | -0.440489 | 2.075250 | -0.336111 |
| C | 0.603104 | 2.033092 | 0.747529 |
| C | 0.821282 | 2.031780 | -0.727709 |
| C | -2.579963 | -0.403870 | -0.127719 |
| C | -3.217669 | -1.462469 | -0.789927 |
| C | -3.307490 | 0.424468 | 0.733730 |
| C | -4.572573 | -1.686128 | -0.583552 |
| H | -2.642175 | -2.096172 | -1.456984 |
| C | -4.662196 | 0.190347 | 0.938107 |
| H | -2.795328 | 1.239307 | 1.236319 |
| C | -5.294548 | -0.861999 | 0.279477 |
| H | -5.067598 | -2.505001 | -1.095570 |
| H | -5.225525 | 0.829661 | 1.609953 |
| H | -6.353422 | -1.041094 | 0.437645 |
| H | 0.725292 | 1.084579 | 1.288118 |
| C | 1.851316 | 2.367802 | -1.739244 |
| H | 2.750391 | 1.761724 | -1.597919 |
| H | 1.472953 | 2.208299 | -2.751733 |
| H | 2.140212 | 3.421561 | -1.638370 |
| H | -1.415967 | 2.478544 | -0.571165 |
| C | 0.952917 | 3.250770 | 1.585822 |
| H | 0.310411 | 3.324153 | 2.470716 |
| H | 1.990785 | 3.206788 | 1.933727 |
| H | 0.828814 | 4.169623 | 1.002448 |
| ---------------------------- |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

## TS-NI-Cp(3,3)

$G_{\text {water }}=-805.656784$ Hartree; $E=-805.916333$ Hartree

| C | -1.078797 | -0.204813 | -0.303942 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| N | -0.012448 | -0.624510 | -0.648565 |
| N | 1.114077 | -0.400554 | -1.168768 |
| C | 2.238094 | -0.882929 | -0.470185 |
| C | 3.486651 | -0.568000 | -1.017951 |
| C | 2.174718 | -1.633154 | 0.710887 |
| C | 4.650804 | -0.985631 | -0.388608 |
| H | 3.516437 | 0.010484 | -1.936004 |
| C | 3.347410 | -2.050393 | 1.330467 |
| H | 1.207006 | -1.888389 | 1.133535 |
| C | 4.589828 | -1.729378 | 0.789603 |
| H | 5.613702 | -0.731205 | -0.821614 |
| H | 3.287934 | -2.632911 | 2.245263 |
| H | 5.501282 | -2.057901 | 1.278444 |
| C | -0.617697 | 2.081795 | -0.791772 |
| C | 0.417250 | 2.644638 | 0.148462 |
| C | 0.631905 | 2.066158 | -1.215820 |
| H | 1.296174 | 2.073859 | -2.064482 |
| C | -2.462187 | -0.569477 | -0.102815 |
| C | -2.980298 | -1.763066 | -0.625560 |
| C | -3.289434 | 0.295034 | 0.622280 |
| C | -4.314963 | -2.083995 | -0.415857 |
| H | -2.329784 | -2.423007 | -1.190742 |
| C | -4.624245 | -0.033266 | 0.826494 |
| H | -2.868546 | 1.214490 | 1.018294 |
| C | -5.136788 | -1.220668 | 0.308217 |
| H | -4.716592 | -3.008124 | -0.819081 |
| H | -5.264920 | 0.635775 | 1.391805 |
| H | -6.180018 | -1.474716 | 0.468441 |
| C | 0.845448 | 1.895736 | 1.401443 |
| H | 1.886629 | 2.132814 | 1.651378 |
| H | 0.225616 | 2.186386 | 2.259528 |
| H | 0.772102 | 0.814177 | 1.277744 |
| C | 0.515306 | 4.155352 | 0.327294 |
| H | -0.125164 | 4.493065 | 1.151652 |
| H | 1.542453 | 4.453843 | 0.569651 |
| H | 0.210663 | 4.682799 | -0.581313 |
| H | -1.644418 | 2.210352 | -1.107005 |

## TS-Tz-Cp(1,3)

$G_{\text {water }}=-953.260183$ Hartree; $E=-953.537839$ Hartree

| C | -1.168019 | -0.701568 | -0.339577 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| N | -0.528455 | -0.339192 | -1.489289 |
| N | 0.755193 | -0.324681 | -1.462519 |
| C | 1.345888 | -0.649437 | -0.270979 |
| N | 0.720682 | -1.553830 | 0.559350 |
| N | -0.556099 | -1.569982 | 0.528386 |
| C | -0.583430 | 1.175429 | 0.927905 |


|  | 69 | 1.097658 | 8 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| C | 0.097072 | 2.146293 | 0.015992 |
| H | 1.604120 | 1.012673 | 1.525837 |
| H | 0.052734 | 1.946539 | -1.057971 |
| C | 2.824936 | -0.558255 | -0.197087 |
| C | 3.525112 | -1.240993 | 0.800824 |
| C | 3.516046 | 0.244723 | -1.107601 |
| C | 4.909152 | -1.126883 | 0.877957 |
| H | 2.977451 | -1.863620 | 1.500240 |
| C | 4.899449 | 0.354492 | -1.024562 |
| H | 2.960885 | 0.769425 | -1.878265 |
| C | 5.599041 | -0.330707 | -0.033157 |
| H | 5.450108 | -1.663751 | 1.651080 |
| H | 5.433906 | 0.975943 | -1.736442 |
| H | 6.679495 | -0.24331 | 0.029442 |
| C | -2.643922 | -0.631675 | -0.326730 |
| C | -3.382484 | -1.399324 | 0.577977 |
| C | -3.302071 | 0.245473 | -1.193458 |
| C | -4.768400 | -1.288899 | 0.611855 |
| H | -2.861431 | -2.079305 | 1.243622 |
| C | -4.687503 | 0.353161 | -1.152705 |
| H | -2.717204 | 0.835837 | -1.891850 |
| C | -5.423588 | -0.412428 | -0.249747 |
| H | -5.338971 | -1.890228 | 1.312913 |
| H | -5.194522 | 1.036733 | -1.826759 |
| H | -6.505394 | -0.325555 | -0.21873 |
| C | 0.182079 | 3.617554 | 0.374496 |
| H | 1.060819 | 4.077632 | -0.088078 |
| H | -0.703254 | 4.157758 | 0.024022 |
| H | 0.258471 | 3.756619 | 1.457828 |
| C | -1.693074 | 1.177910 | 1.920205 |
| H | -2.669955 | 1.292368 | 1.445308 |
| H | -1.688499 | 0.258257 | 2.511725 |
| H | -1.541334 | 2.024637 | 2.600320 |

## TS-Tz-Cp(3,3)

$G_{\text {water }}=-953.245086$ Hartree; $E=-953.522432$ Hartree

| C | 1.257223 | -0.750901 | -0.261619 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C | -1.257232 | -0.750883 | -0.261616 |
| N | -0.638409 | -1.687065 | 0.536993 |
| N | 0.638393 | -1.687069 | 0.536996 |
| N | -0.641253 | -0.381130 | -1.422918 |
| N | 0.641232 | -0.381162 | -1.422918 |
| C | 0.670780 | 0.911906 | 1.080881 |
| C | -0.670795 | 0.911890 | 1.080694 |
| C | 0.000048 | 2.170409 | 0.597593 |
| H | -1.489933 | 0.654327 | 1.739073 |
| H | 1.489765 | 0.654227 | 1.739409 |
| C | -2.734369 | -0.650963 | -0.202746 |


| C | -3.405757 | 0.196202 | -1.088101 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| C | -3.453225 | -1.368257 | 0.756689 |
| C | -4.788837 | 0.314957 | -1.019240 |
| H | -2.834456 | 0.749711 | -1.826417 |
| C | -4.837391 | -1.243873 | 0.820474 |
| H | -2.921527 | -2.026008 | 1.436102 |
| C | -5.507639 | -0.404223 | -0.065894 |
| H | -5.307663 | 0.971329 | -1.710816 |
| H | -5.393904 | -1.807434 | 1.562798 |
| H | -6.587795 | -0.309019 | -0.013673 |
| C | 2.734354 | -0.650971 | -0.202738 |
| C | 3.405745 | 0.196259 | -1.088029 |
| C | 3.453210 | -1.368332 | 0.756648 |
| C | 4.788824 | 0.315014 | -1.019154 |
| H | 2.834454 | 0.749828 | -1.826306 |
| C | 4.837376 | -1.243949 | 0.820447 |
| H | 2.921513 | -2.026134 | 1.436012 |
| C | 5.507624 | -0.404232 | -0.065858 |
| H | 5.307649 | 0.971439 | -1.710681 |
| H | 5.393887 | -1.807562 | 1.562732 |
| H | 6.587781 | -0.309029 | -0.013628 |
| C | 0.000284 | 2.658925 | -0.843496 |
| H | -0.884054 | 3.284122 | -1.011281 |
| H | 0.882895 | 3.286936 | -1.009887 |
| H | 0.002216 | 1.866494 | -1.586020 |
| C | -0.000191 | 3.344502 | 1.571490 |
| H | -0.884261 | 3.971982 | 1.411824 |
| H | -0.001083 | 3.007541 | 2.611964 |
| H | 0.884578 | 3.971357 | 1.413170 |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | -10 |  |  |

Appendix B: NMR spectra for Chapter 2















Appendix C: Additional computational data for Chapter 3

Table S3.1 Coordinates and energies of stationary points

| $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{N}=\mathrm{N} \\ \left\langle\begin{array}{l} \lambda \\ \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{N} \end{array}\right\rangle \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $G($ water $)=$-296.264818 Hartree |  |  |  |
| C | 1.260460 | 0.000000 | 0.000001 |
| C | -1.260460 | 0.000000 | -0.000001 |
| H | 2.345050 | 0.000000 | -0.000003 |
| H | -2.345050 | 0.000000 | 0.000003 |
| N | -0.656986 | -1.190085 | 0.000000 |
| N | 0.656986 | -1.190086 | 0.000000 |
| N | -0.656986 | 1.190086 | 0.000000 |
| N | 0.656986 | 1.190085 | 0.000000 |


$G($ water $)=-280.251744$ Hartree

| ---------------------------- |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| C | 0.865860 | 0.992684 | 0.000004 |
| C | -1.251104 | 0.275588 | -0.000012 |
| C | 1.257122 | -0.348729 | 0.000001 |
| H | 1.595773 | 1.799211 | 0.000000 |
| H | -2.316274 | 0.488177 | 0.000018 |
| H | 2.300916 | -0.646420 | -0.000003 |
| N | 0.365019 | -1.331397 | 0.000001 |
| N | -0.922299 | -1.012485 | 0.000001 |
| N | -0.415817 | 1.321278 | 0.000000 |
| ----------------------------- |  |  |  |


$G($ water $)=-280.227078$ Hartree

| ----------------------------- |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| N | 0.000000 | 0.000000 | 1.376240 |
| C | 0.000000 | 0.000000 | -1.351893 |
| N | 0.000000 | 1.148053 | 0.732876 |
| N | 0.000000 | -1.148053 | 0.732876 |
| C | 0.000000 | -1.163704 | -0.602986 |
| C | 0.000000 | 1.163704 | -0.602986 |
| H | 0.000000 | -2.151344 | -1.055436 |
| H | 0.000000 | 2.151344 | -1.055436 |
| H | 0.000000 | 0.000000 | -2.435883 |
| ------------------------------ |  |  |  |

## Ethylene

$G($ water $)=-78.534176$ Hartree

| C | 0.000000 | 0.000000 | 0.663557 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| H | 0.000000 | 0.923717 | 1.234715 |
| H | 0.000000 | -0.923717 | 1.234715 |
| C | 0.000000 | 0.000000 | -0.663557 |
| H | 0.000000 | -0.923717 | -1.234715 |
| H | 0.000000 | 0.923717 | -1.234715 |
| -------------------------------------- |  |  |  |


$G($ water $)=-374.764048$ Hartree

| C | -0.438261 | 1.227407 | 0.000016 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C | -0.438222 | -1.227418 | -0.000005 |
| C | 1.690521 | -0.685849 | -0.000037 |
| H | 1.854314 | -1.233138 | -0.922941 |
| H | 1.854347 | -1.233154 | 0.922854 |
| C | 1.690488 | 0.685893 | -0.000028 |
| H | 1.854282 | 1.233195 | 0.922869 |
| H | 1.854255 | 1.233204 | -0.922926 |
| N | -0.776559 | -0.642457 | -1.186379 |
| N | -0.776576 | 0.642460 | -1.186370 |
| N | -0.776482 | -0.642481 | 1.186402 |
| N | -0.776501 | 0.642435 | 1.186413 |
| H | -0.350803 | 2.307704 | 0.000024 |
| H | -0.350729 | -2.307711 | -0.000020 |
| .------ |  |  |  |


$G($ water $)=-358.739167$ Hartree

| ------------------------------- |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C | 0.521832 | 1.226127 | 0.146486 |
| C | 0.312709 | -1.265939 | -0.013119 |
| H | 0.535183 | 2.306020 | 0.249316 |
| C | -1.704193 | -0.557113 | -0.216848 |
| H | -2.049022 | -1.102806 | 0.654955 |
| H | -1.818801 | -1.059070 | -1.172211 |
| C | -1.602373 | 0.817884 | -0.170998 |
| H | -1.640919 | 1.399118 | -1.086396 |
| H | -1.859738 | 1.351496 | 0.738041 |
| N | 0.505397 | -0.746853 | 1.246935 |
| N | 0.618950 | 0.527748 | 1.325252 |
| N | 0.885417 | -0.712235 | -1.118812 |
| C | 1.003627 | 0.582696 | -1.023977 |
| H | 1.449026 | 1.137517 | -1.847256 |

```
H 0.126308 -2.334819 -0.039342
```


$G($ water $)=-358.695934$ Hartree

| N | -0.382891 | -1.311636 | 0.097615 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C | 1.585294 | 0.677893 | -0.396304 |
| C | -0.329470 | 1.258773 | 0.134590 |
| C | 1.578341 | -0.711931 | -0.409931 |
| H | 1.592679 | 1.217764 | -1.337605 |
| H | -0.196283 | 2.331676 | 0.226339 |
| H | 1.975968 | -1.269965 | 0.429953 |
| H | 2.058387 | 1.188667 | 0.436643 |
| H | 1.524770 | -1.254611 | -1.346509 |
| N | -0.341475 | -0.671919 | 1.319425 |
| C | -1.135150 | 0.696550 | -0.885991 |
| H | -1.633121 | 1.289676 | -1.643459 |
| N | -0.330511 | 0.591103 | 1.358281 |
| C | -1.100485 | -0.663864 | -0.868354 |
| H | -1.529443 | -1.300550 | -1.636670 |
| --------------------------- |  |  |  |


$G($ water $)=-527.213293$ Hartree

| C | 0.795954 | -0.000001 | -0.000312 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C | 3.344786 | 0.000000 | 0.000332 |
| N | 2.735472 | -1.186514 | 0.000292 |
| N | 1.426931 | -1.186701 | -0.000008 |
| N | 2.735472 | 1.186514 | -0.000108 |
| N | 1.426931 | 1.186700 | -0.000451 |
| C | -0.681194 | -0.000001 | -0.000145 |
| C | -1.381274 | 1.210967 | 0.000099 |
| C | -1.381274 | -1.210966 | -0.000212 |
| C | -2.770752 | 1.206739 | 0.000257 |
| H | -0.828010 | 2.143429 | 0.000139 |
| C | -2.770754 | -1.206738 | -0.000063 |
| H | -0.828012 | -2.143429 | -0.000401 |
| C | -3.467186 | 0.000000 | 0.000177 |
| H | -3.311732 | 2.147647 | 0.000449 |
| H | -3.311730 | -2.147649 | -0.000139 |
| H | -4.552928 | 0.000003 | 0.000302 |
| H | 4.428939 | 0.000000 | 0.000779 |
|  |  |  |  |


$G($ water $)=-511.197341$ Hartree

| ------------------------------- |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C | 0.779183 | 0.013130 | 0.000499 |
| C | 3.386889 | -0.068209 | -0.033570 |
| N | 2.863080 | 1.127688 | 0.260984 |
| N | 2.714818 | -1.189031 | -0.270907 |
| N | 1.393616 | -1.143256 | -0.258470 |
| C | -0.700656 | 0.013439 | -0.003058 |
| C | -1.392570 | -1.183361 | 0.211540 |
| C | -1.421563 | 1.190864 | -0.224579 |
| C | -2.781702 | -1.195642 | 0.217865 |
| H | -0.826008 | -2.094434 | 0.371487 |
| C | -2.812337 | 1.174522 | -0.219253 |
| H | -0.901160 | 2.121930 | -0.429722 |
| C | -3.495167 | -0.017550 | 0.005618 |
| H | -3.309776 | -2.128116 | 0.390764 |
| H | -3.361531 | 2.093117 | -0.400063 |
| H | -4.580655 | -0.029630 | 0.010384 |
| H | 4.469062 | -0.146334 | -0.073090 |
| C | 1.544020 | 1.158636 | 0.286596 |
| H | 1.072887 | 2.100691 | 0.559044 |
| ----------------------------- |  |  |  |

MeSH
$G($ water $)=-438.656253$ Hartree

| -------------------------------- |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| S | -0.662844 | -0.086584 | 0.000048 |
| C | 1.154810 | 0.019179 | 0.000083 |
| H | 1.522202 | -1.008042 | -0.001406 |
| H | 1.525074 | 0.522090 | -0.893925 |
| H | 1.526001 | 0.520821 | 0.894490 |
| H | -0.896636 | 1.235410 | -0.000422 |
| --------------------------------- |  |  |  |


$G($ water $)=-965.832220$ Hartree

| N | 0.295361 | 1.055955 | -0.319223 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| C | -0.406242 | -0.067415 | 0.343872 |
| C | 2.110527 | -0.246654 | 0.221673 |
| N | 1.522469 | 0.970480 | -0.380635 |
| N | 1.361785 | -1.446596 | -0.191933 |
| N | 0.134549 | -1.357621 | -0.133431 |
| C | -1.899490 | 0.017551 | 0.158156 |
| C | -2.674544 | -1.142340 | 0.183866 |
| C | -2.516225 | 1.260146 | 0.009234 |
| C | -4.058050 | -1.057451 | 0.059546 |


| H | -2.190446 | -2.107698 | 0.285751 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C | -3.900112 | 1.339699 | -0.114851 |
| H | -1.909368 | 2.158678 | -0.024214 |
| C | -4.673679 | 0.182377 | -0.089842 |
| H | -4.655093 | -1.963848 | 0.075713 |
| H | -4.373562 | 2.309070 | -0.235153 |
| H | -5.752851 | 0.246310 | -0.188635 |
| H | -0.133144 | -0.002578 | 1.411152 |
| S | 3.832287 | -0.471981 | -0.256754 |
| C | 4.463002 | 1.095191 | 0.405116 |
| H | 5.520585 | 1.144391 | 0.141199 |
| H | 3.938187 | 1.936981 | -0.048551 |
| H | 4.369361 | 1.131611 | 1.493507 |
| H | 1.999466 | -0.143376 | 1.313223 |
| ------------------------------ |  |  |  |


$G($ water $)=-965.824023$ Hartree

| N | -0.288085 | 0.910404 | -0.640143 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C | 0.441783 | -0.232048 | -0.409749 |
| C | -2.148220 | -0.401074 | -0.450015 |
| N | -1.567975 | 0.827084 | -0.667786 |
| N | -1.423215 | -0.934892 | 1.060935 |
| N | -0.258375 | -0.870132 | 1.082408 |
| C | 1.903005 | -0.059037 | -0.220501 |
| C | 2.735347 | -1.177408 | -0.285256 |
| C | 2.449223 | 1.195822 | 0.057253 |
| C | 4.104846 | -1.046402 | -0.081080 |
| H | 2.307177 | -2.155147 | -0.494512 |
| C | 3.819239 | 1.325219 | 0.255801 |
| H | 1.792018 | 2.057449 | 0.102568 |
| C | 4.648558 | 0.207018 | 0.188599 |
| H | 4.746262 | -1.920326 | -0.134220 |
| H | 4.242241 | 2.302633 | 0.465705 |
| H | 5.717389 | 0.312611 | 0.346440 |
| H | 0.175883 | -1.130288 | -0.980579 |
| S | -3.916392 | -0.435442 | -0.325637 |
| C | -4.145196 | 1.056348 | 0.682681 |
| H | -3.815891 | 1.938759 | 0.136349 |
| H | -5.211672 | 1.123481 | 0.902580 |
| H | -3.588035 | 0.961476 | 1.617491 |
| H | -1.791040 | -1.261442 | -1.025929 |
| ----------------------- |  |  |  |


$G($ water $)=$ - 949.812627 Hartree

| C | 0.453808 | 0.238583 | -0.425344 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| C | -2.141584 | 0.019126 | -0.343048 |
| N | -1.575505 | 0.685411 | 0.801767 |
| N | -1.364701 | -1.197005 | -0.755538 |
| N | -0.143380 | -1.105876 | -0.774722 |
| C | 1.934568 | 0.124120 | -0.204539 |
| C | 2.439400 | -0.931446 | 0.556637 |
| C | 2.806578 | 1.089703 | -0.704541 |
| C | 3.804276 | -1.020139 | 0.809908 |
| H | 1.758452 | -1.690625 | 0.932217 |
| C | 4.172328 | 1.003458 | -0.448145 |
| H | 2.416117 | 1.911502 | -1.300084 |
| C | 4.672457 | -0.051986 | 0.309517 |
| H | 4.191253 | -1.846819 | 1.397334 |
| H | 4.844943 | 1.757827 | -0.844009 |
| H | 5.737421 | -0.122263 | 0.507350 |
| H | 0.235319 | 0.871355 | -1.300339 |
| S | -3.829956 | -0.570619 | -0.042404 |
| C | -4.549450 | 1.023064 | 0.435889 |
| H | -5.578309 | 0.827857 | 0.742741 |
| H | -3.992559 | 1.446306 | 1.272895 |
| H | -4.557676 | 1.723544 | -0.403300 |
| H | -2.121549 | 0.694558 | -1.213184 |
| C | -0.309950 | 0.783169 | 0.746875 |
| H | 0.236390 | 1.213036 | 1.587062 |


$G($ water $)=-949.803454$ Hartree

| C | 0.494698 | -0.490756 | -0.255194 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C | -2.199810 | -0.590460 | -0.226819 |
| N | -1.619757 | 0.314280 | -1.066969 |
| N | -1.452844 | -0.303093 | 1.352799 |
| N | -0.288188 | -0.239285 | 1.362252 |
| C | 1.940332 | -0.204317 | -0.130418 |
| C | 2.885259 | -1.228668 | -0.226803 |
| C | 2.376380 | 1.104329 | 0.099727 |
| C | 4.243119 | -0.947861 | -0.119549 |
| H | 2.552459 | -2.249834 | -0.395304 |
| C | 3.733724 | 1.385450 | 0.208929 |
| H | 1.642952 | 1.899193 | 0.212068 |
| C | 4.670144 | 0.360309 | 0.095681 |
| H | 4.968851 | -1.750816 | -0.203430 |
| H | 4.061017 | 2.404434 | 0.390865 |


| H | 5.729848 | 0.579050 | 0.182858 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| H | 0.247764 | -1.555062 | -0.266841 |
| S | -3.969596 | -0.516555 | -0.034751 |
| C | -4.139867 | 1.284149 | 0.086102 |
| H | -3.768149 | 1.755506 | -0.823265 |
| H | -5.202543 | 1.495651 | 0.213731 |
| H | -3.589406 | 1.653840 | 0.954506 |
| H | -1.883214 | -1.638753 | -0.284985 |
| C | -0.316315 | 0.345547 | -1.085918 |
| H | 0.153489 | 1.162027 | -1.635184 |
| ------------------------------ |  |  |  |


$G($ water $)=-439.038604$ Hartree

| C | -2.166718 | 0.175532 | 0.058874 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C | -2.006027 | -0.469760 | 1.170833 |
| C | -1.431480 | -1.126459 | -0.044027 |
| H | -2.131475 | -0.535413 | 2.240679 |
| C | 0.062086 | -1.177135 | -0.308638 |
| H | 0.539951 | -2.010779 | 0.217916 |
| H | 0.269937 | -1.302805 | -1.377421 |
| O | 0.637711 | 0.050638 | 0.139259 |
| C | 1.974764 | 0.141012 | -0.018915 |
| O | 2.668768 | -0.713420 | -0.519492 |
| N | 2.429227 | 1.320799 | 0.498171 |
| H | 3.369185 | 1.583352 | 0.247576 |
| H | 1.764153 | 2.052257 | 0.695037 |
| H | -1.937570 | -1.997520 | -0.475794 |
| C | -2.622171 | 1.345280 | -0.722413 |
| H | -3.287944 | 1.031457 | -1.532692 |
| H | -3.146818 | 2.067822 | -0.092923 |
| H | -1.758564 | 1.837471 | -1.181998 |
| ---------------------------- |  |  |  |


$G($ water $)=-272.545754$ Hartree

| C | -1.275344 | -0.668267 | -0.500391 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C | -0.084771 | -1.124602 | 0.325215 |
| C | 1.179937 | -0.777633 | -0.521120 |
| C | 1.179960 | 0.777613 | -0.521143 |
| C | -1.275321 | 0.668278 | -0.500390 |
| C | -0.084742 | 1.124606 | 0.325239 |
| C | -0.030779 | 0.000005 | 1.376394 |
| H | -1.915633 | -1.325220 | -1.079425 |
| H | -0.114261 | -2.151779 | 0.692510 |
| H | 2.080314 | -1.172541 | -0.039936 |


| H | 1.123410 | -1.201886 | -1.526509 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| H | 1.123255 | 1.201826 | -1.526539 |
| H | 2.080396 | 1.172565 | -0.040118 |
| H | -1.915564 | 1.325267 | -1.079429 |
| H | -0.114276 | 2.151779 | 0.692547 |
| H | -0.897291 | 0.000013 | 2.042551 |
| H | 0.896013 | -0.000019 | 1.961528 |
| ---------------------------------- |  |  |  |


$G($ water $)=-312.998444$ Hartree

| C | -0.413966 | -0.522065 | -1.358397 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| H | -1.490184 | -0.336794 | -1.334889 |
| C | 0.413966 | 0.522065 | -1.358397 |
| H | 1.490184 | 0.336794 | -1.334889 |
| C | 0.034981 | -1.871510 | -0.901221 |
| H | -0.510280 | -2.704358 | -1.358222 |
| H | 1.102540 | -2.008137 | -1.112700 |
| C | -0.034981 | 1.871510 | -0.901221 |
| H | -1.102540 | 2.008137 | -1.112700 |
| H | 0.510280 | 2.704358 | -1.358222 |
| C | 0.183001 | 1.877834 | 0.635533 |
| H | 1.260794 | 1.924503 | 0.841500 |
| H | -0.248046 | 2.798155 | 1.048278 |
| C | -0.413966 | 0.660993 | 1.376189 |
| H | -0.560669 | 0.965017 | 2.418884 |
| H | -1.420918 | 0.465721 | 0.984525 |
| C | -0.183001 | -1.877834 | 0.635533 |
| H | 0.248046 | -2.798155 | 1.048278 |
| H | -1.260794 | -1.924503 | 0.841500 |
| C | 0.413966 | -0.660993 | 1.376189 |
| H | 0.560669 | -0.965017 | 2.418884 |
| H | 1.420918 | -0.465721 | 0.984525 |

For structures of TS1-6, see Figure S1. TS1
$G($ water $)=-966.219637$ Hartree

| ------------------------------- |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C | -1.785023 | 1.002564 | 0.065584 |
| N | -1.499250 | 1.599124 | 1.253867 |
| N | -0.755036 | 2.653157 | 1.217687 |
| C | -0.317368 | 3.018589 | -0.016008 |
| N | -1.075656 | 2.783947 | -1.131608 |
| N | -1.818109 | 1.739234 | -1.087522 |
| C | 0.488480 | 0.264690 | -0.381988 |
| C | 1.117914 | 1.446633 | -0.379553 |
| C | 1.295785 | 0.581859 | 0.830007 |
| H | 1.723713 | 2.047359 | -1.043074 |
| H | 0.778461 | 0.886927 | 1.744089 |


| C | -2.516616 | -0.279705 | 0.094626 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C | -2.515449 | -1.054113 | 1.259192 |
| C | -3.825457 | -1.971959 | -1.023342 |
| C | -3.167220 | -2.281677 | 1.276707 |
| H | -2.003938 | -0.682638 | 2.141414 |
| C | -3.822644 | -2.743702 | 0.136696 |
| H | -4.338732 | -2.326589 | -1.911781 |
| H | -3.164317 | -2.879842 | 2.182545 |
| H | -4.330863 | -3.703017 | 0.153526 |
| C | 2.598546 | -0.135144 | 1.108721 |
| H | 3.266996 | 0.482748 | 1.716903 |
| H | 2.429443 | -1.072951 | 1.648662 |
| C | 0.175577 | -0.897472 | -1.253360 |
| H | -0.415957 | -1.654083 | -0.733022 |
| H | -0.361488 | -0.579017 | -2.151016 |
| H | 1.128538 | -1.348610 | -1.552765 |
| O | 3.223891 | -0.414042 | -0.145919 |
| C | 4.426542 | -1.030211 | -0.049049 |
| O | 4.944131 | -1.351051 | 0.994274 |
| N | 4.967337 | -1.200207 | -1.287750 |
| H | 5.772273 | -1.802837 | -1.350644 |
| H | 4.390050 | -1.076008 | -2.104252 |
| C | -3.173886 | -0.743971 | -1.048182 |
| H | -3.170978 | -0.133000 | -1.944473 |
| H | 0.342527 | 3.877216 | -0.055999 |
| ---------------------------- |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

## TS2

$G($ water $)=-950.193369$ Hartree

| C | 0.394356 | 2.963677 | 0.259283 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| N | 0.830392 | 2.536526 | 1.467336 |
| C | 1.790983 | 0.845760 | 0.129312 |
| N | 1.815633 | 1.690598 | -0.955670 |
| N | 1.103297 | 2.755731 | -0.898063 |
| C | -1.096567 | 1.401715 | -0.280304 |
| C | -0.357867 | 0.280304 | -0.235414 |
| C | -1.273432 | 0.522197 | 0.916120 |
| H | -0.056368 | -0.544091 | -0.865070 |
| H | -0.835136 | 0.861498 | 1.860706 |
| C | 2.515768 | -0.440316 | 0.007305 |
| C | 2.292948 | -1.451136 | 0.947341 |
| C | 4.100378 | -1.867707 | -1.124248 |
| C | 2.978074 | -2.657927 | 0.857740 |
| H | 1.561526 | -1.297401 | 1.737747 |
| C | 3.886371 | -2.867184 | -0.177226 |
| H | 4.806442 | -2.028750 | -1.933079 |
| H | 2.797761 | -3.437212 | 1.591582 |
| H | 4.421776 | -3.808903 | -0.248732 |
| C | -2.521641 | -0.307094 | 1.121565 |
| H | -2.313588 | -1.192030 | 1.732552 |
| H | -3.305079 | 0.267341 | 1.627446 |
| C | -1.956116 | 2.177822 | -1.221824 |


| H | -2.358601 | 3.081355 | -0.756188 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| H | -1.388527 | 2.460290 | -2.111672 |
| H | -2.799574 | 1.546105 | -1.519784 |
| O | -2.990940 | -0.723386 | -0.162749 |
| C | -4.102885 | -1.494986 | -0.132282 |
| O | -4.688640 | -1.806126 | 0.877941 |
| N | -4.436817 | -1.885409 | -1.393969 |
| H | -5.342865 | -2.309923 | -1.511721 |
| H | -4.006260 | -1.432864 | -2.184786 |
| C | 3.418244 | -0.658957 | -1.037211 |
| H | 3.577099 | 0.127807 | -1.766636 |
| H | -0.264348 | 3.826455 | 0.245086 |
| C | 1.559781 | 1.452984 | 1.392819 |
| H | 1.984466 | 1.039377 | 2.305727 |
|  |  |  |  |

## TS3

$G($ water $)=-799.723669$ Hartree

| N | 1.142263 | 1.919608 | 1.357410 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| N | -0.013107 | 1.355546 | 1.351933 |
| C | -0.587018 | 1.148580 | 0.129651 |
| N | -0.356460 | 2.073407 | -0.864681 |
| N | 0.792986 | 2.632801 | -0.865547 |
| C | 1.648111 | 2.225818 | 0.130772 |
| C | 0.857358 | -0.350557 | -0.764744 |
| C | 2.088527 | 0.283851 | -0.700373 |
| C | 0.948097 | -1.582284 | 0.115451 |
| C | 1.882713 | -2.540851 | -0.686880 |
| C | 2.953581 | -0.553547 | 0.232113 |
| C | 3.266560 | -1.833467 | -0.601713 |
| C | 1.916913 | -1.122017 | 1.217360 |
| H | 0.211892 | -0.321464 | -1.636914 |
| H | 2.520957 | 0.806585 | -1.548608 |
| H | -0.003390 | -2.021019 | 0.421405 |
| H | 1.540540 | -2.684426 | -1.715336 |
| H | 1.908690 | -3.522249 | -0.203607 |
| H | 3.828409 | -0.056739 | 0.655118 |
| H | 3.683602 | -1.594818 | -1.584100 |
| H | 3.996111 | -2.452780 | -0.071271 |
| H | 2.319585 | -1.968255 | 1.783499 |
| H | 1.503226 | -0.392867 | 1.910797 |
| C | -1.839324 | 0.361439 | 0.076105 |
| C | -2.622079 | 0.357630 | -1.081906 |
| C | -2.219558 | -0.416318 | 1.173834 |
| C | -3.776806 | -0.415336 | -1.136746 |
| H | -2.323094 | 0.971543 | -1.925532 |
| C | -3.374506 | -1.188224 | 1.111804 |
| H | -1.607202 | -0.399895 | 2.069855 |
| C | -4.155122 | -1.190320 | -0.042418 |
| H | -4.384434 | -0.410838 | -2.036354 |
| H | -3.667253 | -1.787974 | 1.968023 |
| H | -5.056503 | -1.793755 | -0.088086 |
|  |  |  |  |

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H
```

TS4
$G($ water $)=-783.696583$ Hartree

| -------------------------------- |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| N | 1.166999 | 1.877319 | 1.317935 |
| N | 0.003900 | 1.337572 | 1.290625 |
| C | -0.584994 | 1.136918 | 0.066953 |
| N | 0.922380 | 2.663078 | -0.917169 |
| C | 1.712704 | 2.204533 | 0.102306 |
| C | 0.885437 | -0.359166 | -0.749060 |
| C | 2.129252 | 0.259500 | -0.652840 |
| C | 0.928227 | -1.580548 | 0.150686 |
| C | 1.860181 | -2.569071 | -0.615770 |
| C | 2.951613 | -0.594370 | 0.305762 |
| C | 3.257236 | -1.889056 | -0.505675 |
| C | 1.880831 | -1.130861 | 1.271359 |
| H | 0.292385 | -0.367295 | -1.657900 |
| H | 2.598902 | 0.739804 | -1.506495 |
| H | -0.040730 | -1.992263 | 0.440707 |
| H | 1.540863 | -2.719633 | -1.650920 |
| H | 1.854534 | -3.544824 | -0.120105 |
| H | 3.826418 | -0.113358 | 0.747226 |
| H | 3.701188 | -1.670650 | -1.481148 |
| H | 3.960621 | -2.519353 | 0.047180 |
| H | 2.251052 | -1.982998 | 1.851231 |
| H | 1.468423 | -0.388140 | 1.949654 |
| C | -1.849145 | 0.365479 | 0.042528 |
| C | -2.489021 | 0.099210 | -1.172500 |
| C | -2.399414 | -0.138866 | 1.226072 |
| C | -3.667774 | -0.638651 | -1.204302 |
| H | -2.060119 | 0.461830 | -2.103774 |
| C | -3.575055 | -0.880342 | 1.190158 |
| H | -1.897013 | 0.067145 | 2.164909 |
| C | -4.215043 | -1.130245 | -0.022178 |
| H | -4.154695 | -0.834382 | -2.154696 |
| H | -3.995188 | -1.263743 | 2.115010 |
| H | -5.132561 | -1.709881 | -0.045867 |
| H | 2.726592 | 2.589544 | 0.149394 |
| C | -0.259571 | 2.121802 | -0.920215 |
| H | -0.986426 | 2.444823 | -1.663839 |
|  | -103 |  |  |

## TS5

$G($ water $)=-840.187486$ Hartree

| ---------------------------------- |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C | -1.012127 | 1.217003 | -0.071701 |
| C | 1.047417 | 2.567439 | -0.371057 |
| C | 1.880567 | 0.575300 | -0.219291 |
| H | 2.301894 | 0.644720 | -1.224137 |
| C | 0.787513 | -0.247208 | -0.067038 |
| H | 0.499175 | -0.515263 | 0.950951 |


| N | 0.469568 | 2.641470 | 0.863788 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| N | -0.589427 | 1.933004 | 1.017422 |
| N | 0.277100 | 2.409408 | -1.487025 |
| N | -0.784494 | 1.704997 | -1.329095 |
| C | 0.441437 | -1.242532 | -1.131181 |
| H | -0.624575 | -1.491756 | -1.144768 |
| H | 0.707005 | -0.834113 | -2.114236 |
| C | 2.864215 | 0.727700 | 0.908849 |
| H | 3.406566 | 1.679197 | 0.869204 |
| H | 2.327453 | 0.698150 | 1.864578 |
| C | 1.260192 | -2.525979 | -0.858926 |
| H | 1.094223 | -3.215599 | -1.694761 |
| H | 0.853951 | -3.021074 | 0.032823 |
| C | 3.870637 | -0.440944 | 0.833545 |
| H | 4.513833 | -0.391042 | 1.719825 |
| H | 4.529660 | -0.289653 | -0.031835 |
| C | 3.242632 | -1.844236 | 0.740987 |
| H | 3.993536 | -2.555743 | 1.100807 |
| H | 2.411428 | -1.915586 | 1.455529 |
| C | 2.773122 | -2.313278 | -0.667130 |
| H | 3.263218 | -3.268048 | -0.885587 |
| H | 3.139397 | -1.617001 | -1.433589 |
| C | -2.143947 | 0.285067 | 0.121294 |
| C | -2.909736 | -0.135884 | -0.970243 |
| C | -2.436058 | -0.196976 | 1.400312 |
| C | -3.958825 | -1.028911 | -0.779003 |
| H | -2.677083 | 0.249475 | -1.957508 |
| C | -3.484752 | -1.090684 | 1.584596 |
| H | -1.843294 | 0.144976 | 2.243113 |
| C | -4.248079 | -1.508801 | 0.496289 |
| H | -4.553973 | -1.347923 | -1.629055 |
| H | -3.708217 | -1.460641 | 2.580480 |
| H | -5.066011 | -2.207653 | 0.642263 |
| H | 1.977325 | 3.109964 | -0.501540 |
| -------------------------- |  |  |  |
| - |  |  |  |

## TS6

$G($ water $)=-824.161176$ Hartree

| C | -1.004112 | 1.196477 | -0.033370 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| C | 1.108634 | 2.548884 | -0.356698 |
| C | 1.888700 | 0.584231 | -0.230986 |
| H | 2.293339 | 0.623240 | -1.243544 |
| C | 0.787732 | -0.233873 | -0.046927 |
| H | 0.545899 | -0.521130 | 0.977526 |
| N | 0.563978 | 2.702192 | 0.883637 |
| N | 0.323478 | 2.353856 | -1.470875 |
| N | -0.743954 | 1.667165 | -1.298483 |
| C | 0.409228 | -1.227876 | -1.103421 |
| H | -0.659754 | -1.467032 | -1.093211 |
| H | 0.649956 | -0.814913 | -2.090764 |


| C | 2.907268 | 0.704102 | 0.872285 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| H | 3.463545 | 1.647422 | 0.826444 |
| H | 2.393532 | 0.680037 | 1.841313 |
| C | 1.219561 | -2.521329 | -0.863175 |
| H | 1.024334 | -3.202316 | -1.699960 |
| H | 0.830786 | -3.020081 | 0.034723 |
| C | 3.893797 | -0.477455 | 0.771737 |
| H | 4.559485 | -0.439243 | 1.642191 |
| H | 4.534117 | -0.333229 | -0.108875 |
| C | 3.247995 | -1.873052 | 0.690115 |
| H | 3.999815 | -2.594422 | 1.028406 |
| H | 2.433752 | -1.939215 | 1.424619 |
| C | 2.739443 | -2.330900 | -0.707563 |
| H | 3.210456 | -3.292118 | -0.939937 |
| H | 3.097700 | -1.637250 | -1.479952 |
| C | -2.156963 | 0.285410 | 0.131843 |
| C | -3.037336 | 0.039003 | -0.927564 |
| C | -2.358996 | -0.367312 | 1.352473 |
| C | -4.104952 | -0.835384 | -0.758304 |
| H | -2.870492 | 0.542631 | -1.873575 |
| C | -3.429135 | -1.239671 | 1.518979 |
| H | -1.664743 | -0.202934 | 2.173331 |
| C | -4.305921 | -1.475529 | 0.463185 |
| H | -4.785767 | -1.017209 | -1.584332 |
| H | -3.573823 | -1.740124 | 2.471415 |
| H | -5.139458 | -2.159387 | 0.589974 |
| H | 2.043233 | 3.067925 | -0.548709 |
| C | -0.525669 | 2.005163 | 1.039186 |
| H | -1.066059 | 2.071536 | 1.982197 |
|  |  |  |  |

Appendix D: NMR spectra for Chapter 3


Figure S3-1. Triazine $\mathbf{3 . 9}$ does not react with cyclopropene 3.22. To a solution of triazine $\mathbf{3 . 9}(0.24 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 25 mM solution $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) was added cyclopropene $3.22(0.3 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 20 mM solution in $1: 1$ $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}: \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ) and added $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ to a final volume of 0.6 mL . The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$-NMR.


Figure S3-2. Triazine $\mathbf{3 . 9}$ does not react with norbornene 3.23. To a solution of triazine $\mathbf{3 . 9}$ ( 0.12 mL of a 50 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) was added norbornene $3.23\left(0.12 \mathrm{~mL}\right.$ of a 40 mM solution in 1:1 $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ : $d-$ PBS) and diluted with $0.24 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{CD}{ }_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ and $0.24 \mathrm{~mL} d$-PBS to a final volume of 0.72 mL . The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure S3-3. Triazine $\mathbf{3 . 1 4}$ is stable in aqueous buffer. A solution of triazine $\mathbf{3 . 1 4}(0.2 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 25 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) was diluted with $0.4 \mathrm{~mL} d$-PBS. The reaction was incubated at $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for $0-143 \mathrm{~h}$. The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.

3.9
0 min




Figure S3-4. Triazine 3.9 is stable in aqueous buffer. A solution of triazine $\mathbf{3 . 9}(0.2 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 50 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) was diluted with $0.4 \mathrm{~mL} d$-PBS. The reaction was incubated at $37{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for $0-143 \mathrm{~h}$. The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure S3-5. Triazine $\mathbf{3 . 6}$ is stable in the presence of cysteine. To a solution of triazine $\mathbf{3 . 6}$ ( 0.24 mL of a 25 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) was added L-cysteine ( 0.12 mL of a 50 mM solution in $\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ). The reaction was further diluted with $1: 1 \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}: \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ to a final volume of 0.6 mL . The reaction was incubated at 37 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure S3-6. Triazine $\mathbf{3 . 4}$ is stable in the presence of cysteine. To a solution of triazine $\mathbf{3 . 4}(0.3 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 20 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) was added L-cysteine ( 0.24 mL of a 25 mM solution in $\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ). The reaction was further diluted with $60 \mu \mathrm{~L} \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ to a final volume of 0.6 mL . The reaction was incubated at $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$-NMR.







































Appendix E: NMR spectra and additional data for Chapter 4


Figure S4.1. 5-Substituted triazine 4.2 is orthogonal to cyclopropene 4.6. Triazine $4.2(0.24 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 25 mM solution in $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}\right)$ was added a solution of cyclopropene $4.6(0.17 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 35 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) and diluted with 0.19 mL of $\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure S4.2. Minimum reactivity is observed between triazine 4.2 and DIFO 4.9. Triazine $4.2(0.20 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 25 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) was added a solution of DIFO $4.3(0.20 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 25 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) and diluted with $0.15 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$. The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure S4.3. Minimum reactivity is observed between tetrazine 4.3 and DIFO 4.9. Tetrazine 4.2 ( 0.30 mL of a 20 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) was added a solution of DIFO $4.3(0.30 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 20 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}$ ). The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure S4.4. Tetrazine 4.2 is stable to L-cys. Triazine $4.2\left(0.30 \mathrm{~mL}\right.$ of a 20 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) was added a solution of L-cys ( 0.24 mL of a 50 mM solution in dPBS) and diluted with $60 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ dPBS. The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$ at $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.


Figure S4.5. Reaction between triazine 4.2 and TMTH 4.11. Triazine $4.2(0.12 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 50 mM solution in $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}\right)$ was added a solution of TMTH $4.11\left(0.12 \mathrm{~mL}\right.$ of a 50 mM solution in $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}\right)$ and diluted with 0.36 mL of $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$. The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure S4-6. Tetrazine 4.2 is orthogonal to TMTH 4.11. Triazine $4.2(0.30 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 20 mM solution in $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}\right)$ was added a solution of TMTH $4.11\left(0.12 \mathrm{~mL}\right.$ of a 50 mM solution in $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}\right)$ and diluted with $0.18 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$. The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.




Figure S4.7. Triazine 4.1 is orthogonal to TMTH 4.11. Triazine $4.1(0.24 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 25 mM solution in $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}\right)$ was added a solution of TMTH $4.11\left(0.12 \mathrm{~mL}\right.$ of a 50 mM solution in $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}\right)$ and diluted with $0.24 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$. The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


S4.3

$\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$

~20\% conv.



Figure S4.8. Minimum reactivity is observed between triazine $\mathbf{S 4 . 3}$ and TMTH 4.11. Triazine $\mathbf{S 4 . 3}$ (0.30 mL of a 20 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) was added a solution of TMTH 4.11 ( 0.12 mL of a 50 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) and diluted with $0.18 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{CD}{ }_{3} \mathrm{CN}$. The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure S4.9. Tetrazine 4.3 reacts quantitatively with cyclopropene 4.5. (A) HPLC trace of starting tetrazine 4.3 reagent. (B) HPLC trace of starting cyclopropene 4.5 trace. (C) Tetrazine 4.3 ( 5 mM in $\mathrm{MeCN})$ was reacted with 1,3-disubstituted cyclopropene $4.5(5 \mathrm{mM}$ in MeCN$)$ for 4 h , and monitored by HPLC. The initial cycloadduct formed between 4.3 and $\mathbf{4 . 5}$ can undergo further rearrangement [4]. HPLC traces are monitored at 210 nm wavelength.


Figure S4.10. Tetrazine 4.3 reacts quantitatively with cyclopropenen 4.6. (A) HPLC trace of starting cyclopropene $\mathbf{x x}$ trace. (B) Tetrazine $4.3(5 \mathrm{mM}$ in MeCN ) was reacted with cyclopropene 4.6 ( 5 mM in MeCN ) for 4 h , and monitored by HPLC. The initial cycloadduct formed between 4.3 and 4.6 can undergo further rearrangement [4]. HPLC traces are monitored at 210 nm wavelength.



Figure S4.11. Compatible cycloadditions between triazine 4.2, cyclopropene 4.6, 4.11, and 4.3. All four reagents were combined $(2.5 \mathrm{mM})$, and the reaction monitored by HPLC ( 210 nm ) for 1 d .

4.2

$\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD} / \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$

4.13

4.12


Figure S4.12. One-pot reaction. Triazine $4.2\left(0.30 \mathrm{~mL}\right.$ of a 25 mM solution in $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}\right)$, cyclopropene $4.6\left(0.30 \mathrm{~mL}\right.$ of a 35 mM solution in $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}\right)$, tetrazine $4.3\left(0.30 \mathrm{~mL}\right.$ of a 20 mM solution in $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}\right)$, and TMTH $4.11\left(0.30 \mathrm{~mL}\right.$ of a 50 mM solution in $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}\right)$ were mixed together. The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$-NMR.


Figure S4.13. 5-Substituted triazine 4.2 is orthogonal to norbornene 4.7. Triazine 4.2 ( 0.24 mL of a 25 mM solution in $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}\right)$ was added a solution of $4.7\left(0.24 \mathrm{~mL}\right.$ of a 9.4 mM solution in $\left.\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}: \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}\right)$ and diluted with 0.12 mL of $\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure S4-14. Tetrazine 4.3 is orthogonal to DIBAC 4.10. tetrazine $\mathbf{4 . 3}$ ( 0.30 mL of a 20 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) was added a solution of $\mathbf{4 . 1 0}\left(0.30 \mathrm{~mL}\right.$ of a 20 mM solution in $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}\right)$. The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$-NMR.


Figure S4-15. Tetrazine 4.2 is orthogonal to DIBAC. Triazine $4.2(0.30 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 20 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) was added a solution of DIBAC ( 0.30 mL of a 20 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}$ ). The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$-NMR.


Figure S4-16. Tetrazine 4.1 is orthogonal to DIBAC 4.10. Triazine $4.1(0.24 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 25 mM solution in $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}\right)$ was added a solution of DIBAC $4.10\left(0.24 \mathrm{~mL}\right.$ of a 25 mM solution in $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}\right)$, and diluted to 0.6 mL with $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$. The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.


Figure S4-17. Tetrazine 4.1 is orthogonal to DIFO 4.9. Triazine $4.2(0.24 \mathrm{~mL}$ of a 25 mM solution in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ) was added a solution of DIFO $4.9\left(0.24 \mathrm{~mL}\right.$ of a 25 mM solution in $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}\right)$ and diluted to 0.6 mL with $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$. The reaction was monitored over time by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$.





$$
\begin{aligned}
& \underset{=}{\substack{090 \\
566}}
\end{aligned}
$$



