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Supplementary Materials for

Gas-phase synthesis of benzene via the propargyl radical self-reaction

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1. Formation of benzene and its isomers via the recombination of two propargyl radicals – Experimental Studies

Thus far, there has been no experiment under high temperature conditions that has monitored the kinetics *and* mechanisms of a RSFR reacting with a second hydrocarbon radical of its kind *in situ* with mass growth processes limited to the very first aromatic ring (Table S1). *First*, previous experiments exploited an *ex-situ* analysis of the products via gas chromatography coupled with mass spectrometry (GC-MS). This approach cannot detect unstable species and reactive intermediates, but can identify in the *ex-situ* mode only closed shell molecules which are thermally stable at room temperature. Therefore, the molecules detected by GC-MS are not necessarily the nascent reaction products of propargyl-propargyl radical reactions. *Second*, *in-situ* identifications of products of the propargyl-radical self-reaction were conducted at propargyl radical concentrations, which were too high to eliminate mass growth processes beyond benzene up to phenanthrene ($C_{14}H_{10}$). These ‘dense’ environments do not allow the extraction of the reaction mechanisms leading to the formation of the initial aromatic product – benzene – since successive reactions can convert benzene and its isomers to higher molecular mass growth products.

In detail, kinetic studies of the propargyl radical self-reaction determined rate constants in the range from 1×10^{-11} cm 3 s $^{-1}$ to 4×10^{-11} cm 3 s $^{-1}$ covering temperatures between 295 K and 1,500 K and pressures from 2 to 800 Torr (67-79) with products characterized *off-line* by gas chromatography coupled with mass spectrometry (GC-MS). These studies revealed the formation of 1,5-hexadiyne (60%), 1,2-hexadiene-5-yne (25%) along with an unidentified C $_6$ H $_6$ isomer (15%) (69) and of 1,5-hexadiyne (27%), fulvene (1%), 3,4-dimethylenecyclobutene (47%), 1,2-hexadiene-5-yne (22%), and benzene (3%) at temperatures reaching 623 K and pressures of 933 mbar (70). GC-MS was also exploited to detect 1,5-hexadiyne and benzene as well as 1,5-hexadiyne (1%), 1,2-hexadiene-5-yne, 3,4-dimethylene-cyclobutene, 2-ethynyl-1,3-butadiene, fulvene, benzene, and *cis-/trans*-1,3-hexadiene-5-yne in high temperature (1,100–2,100 K (71), 720–1,350 K (77)) shock tube experiments from 1,100 to 1,700 Torr (71) and 18,700 to 37,500 Torr (77), respectively. In the latter study, branching ratios of C $_6$ H $_6$ isomers were extracted to be 1,5-hexadiyne (1%), 1,2-hexadiene-5-yne (12%), 3,4-dimethylene-cyclobutene (45%), 2-ethynyl-1,3-butadiene (13%), fulvene (20%), benzene (2%), and *cis*-

/trans-1,3-hexadiene-5-yne (7%) (77). Besides the GC-MS detection of 1,5-hexadiyne (1% at 1,100 K), fulvene (7% at 1,100 K), and benzene (87% at 1,100 K), the identification of higher molecular mass growth products phenylacetylene (C_6H_5CCH) and indene (C_9H_8) was attributed to reactions of the phenyl radical (C_6H_5) transient (73). Considering that GC-MS operated in an *off-line* mode only detects thermally stable species, Fischer et al. explored the high temperature (1,273 K) products of propargyl radical reactions in a molecular beam utilizing infrared/ultraviolet ion dip spectroscopy. The identification of not only benzene (C_6H_6), but also of naphthalene ($C_{10}H_8$), phenanthrene ($C_{14}H_{10}$), indene (C_9H_8), biphenyl ($C_{12}H_{10}$), and aromatics with acetylenic side chains documents unrestrained molecular mass growth processes due to higher-than-desired concentrations of propargyl radicals at levels of up to 7% (79). Whereas the foregoing studies nicely converged on the rates of the propargyl radical self-reaction, no consensus has been reached on the reaction mechanisms and the role of distinct isomers in the formation of the very first aromatic ring – benzene – under experimental conditions demanding an *in situ* analysis of the nascent reaction products and dilute radical concentrations excluding molecular mass growth products beyond benzene.

2. Products with Higher Mass-To-Charge Ratios

In our investigation, some aromatic hydrocarbon products beyond benzene at $m/z = 102, 116$, and 152 were detected only in the experiments with the bubbler temperature at 233 ± 1 K. These species are absent in the experiments when the bubbler was kept at 199 ± 1 K indicating that higher inlet concentrations of the precursor lead to undesired higher order reactions and mass growth processes beyond benzene. The PIE analysis was performed, and the results are visualized in Figs. S9-S11. Products at $m/z = 102$ are identified as phenylacetylene (C_6H_5CCH ; Figure S9) and a second contributor. As benzocyclobutadiene can be produced via the reaction of benzyne and acetylene at elevated temperatures (80), and its adiabatic photoionization energy is 7.5 eV (81), benzocyclobutadiene likely contributes to signal at $m/z = 102$. Phenylacetylene is likely be the product from the reaction of the phenyl radical with acetylene followed by atomic hydrogen loss (82), while the reactant acetylene can be produced from the pyrolysis of benzene (83) or via the reaction of H atoms with methylacetylene (84). Phenyl was not detected in this work, but was predicted as a reactive intermediate. Species at $m/z = 116$ and 152 are indene (C_9H_8 , Fig. S10) and acenaphthylene ($C_{12}H_8$, Fig. S11), respectively. Indene is a higher order reaction product from the combination of phenyl and propargyl, which was also reported in previous propargyl recombination studies (79). Pyrolysis of indene leads via H-loss to indenyl radical, which could further react with propargyl to yield acenaphthylene (83). The indenyl radical was not detected possibly due to the low concentration and the fast reaction with the high-concentration propargyl radical. Apart from these three higher aromatic hydrocarbons, two other species at $m/z = 156, 158, 160$ and 162 were observed (Figs. S12-S15). Considering their photoionization thresholds, molecular weights and relative intensities in mass spectra, these species are identified as bromobenzene ($C_6H_5^{79}Br$, 156 amu; $C_6H_5^{81}Br$, 158 amu) and molecular bromine ($^{79}Br_2$, 158 amu; $^{79}Br^{81}Br$, 160 amu; $^{81}Br_2$, 162 amu) from recombination of phenyl and atomic bromine, and atomic bromine self-recombination, respectively. The onsets of PIE curve at $m/z = 156$ and 158 appear at around 8.95 ± 0.05 eV, which agree well with the literature data of bromobenzene at 9.00 eV (85). The PIE curves at $m/z = 158, 160$ and 162 show a sharp increase around 10.5 eV. According to the photoionization energy of molecular bromine at 10.518 ± 0.003 eV (86), molecular bromine was detected due to high-harmonic VUV light from the light source. If the high-harmonic VUV is completely filtered, molecular bromine would be

undetectable at 10.5 eV. That is the reason why this species is absent in the results of the experiment performed under the condition with the bubbler at 233 K and pressure of 200 Torr).

3. Modeling

The computational model of the microreactor includes equations for the electric current and ohmic heating in the microreactor parts, equations for the moment, heat, and mass transfer for the gas flow inside the reactor, similar to the simulation by Guan et al. (87). The geometry of the microreactor used in the design model was as close as possible to the actual reactor. The microreactor includes copper, stainless steel, carbon electrodes solid parts. The temperature dependences of the physical properties of the materials from which the microreactor was made (SiC, graphite, stainless steel, copper) were taken into account. When modeling the gas flow, the Navier-Stokes equation was used together with the equations of heat and mass transfer with the corresponding boundary conditions. For the Naiver-Stokes equation, the following boundary conditions were used: the gas slip condition on the inner surface of the gas-flow channel of the microreactor was used in the form of Maxwell's model; the mass flow rate was set at the entrance to the microreactor; a pressure at the exit edge of the SiC tube was set such to provide the centerline Mach number 1. The following boundary conditions were used for the heat transfer equations: the gas temperature at the surface was equal to the surface temperature of the gas-flow channel of the microreactor; the gas temperature at the reactor inlet was taken equal to the room gas temperature of 297 K; convective heat removal was assumed at the SiC tube outlet edge. Heat release in chemical reactions was neglected. The electric power was adjusted to provide SiC temperature value measured in experiment. The computational model was solved with the COMSOL Multiphysics software package (88) under steady-state conditions. The calculated axial values of the pressure and temperature of the flow are shown in Fig. S16. Preheating of the gas flow in the gas-flow channel upstream from the SiC tube resulted in temperature near 400 K at the inlet to the SiC tube. Calculations did not show any substantial transverse variations in pressure and temperature, but the difference in the number densities of species at the centerline and near the wall of the SiC tube was about a factor of 2. In the electric heating zone, the centerline gas flow temperature differed from the SiC tube wall temperature by no more than 20

K in the transverse direction. The residence time of the gas in the heating zone of the reactor was about 140 μ s, whereas the residence time of C₃H₃ radicals in the microreactor was about 90 μ s. At gas flow rates of 38-60 ccm under the conditions of experiments 1-4, we have obtained an estimate of the Reynolds numbers Re>6 and Knudsen numbers <1. In the heating zone of the SiC tube the Mach number of the flow does not exceed 0.25. Thus, the “slip flow” approximation (87) used by us is valid for the heating zone of the SiC tube. Outside the electric heating zone, strong cooling of the SiC tube occurs due to heat transfer to the graphite electrodes and radiation cooling. In general, the spatial dependencies of the centerline gas-dynamic parameters (pressure, temperature, velocity) of the flow are qualitatively the same as those obtained in (87) for helium bulk gas. Naturally, some quantitative differences arise due to the design features of the microreactor and lower gas flow rate.

Table S1. Compilation of previous experimental results for C₆H₆ products and their branching ratios in the propargyl radical self-reaction.

| Groups | 1,5-Hexdiyne | 1,2,4,5-Hexatetraene | 3,4-Dimethylene-cyclobutene | Fulvene | 1,2-Hexadiene-5-yne | 2-Ethynyl-1,3-butadiene | cis-1,3-Hexadiene-5-yne | trans-1,3-Hexadiene-5-yne | Benzene |
|---------------------|--|---|--|--|---------------------|-------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|
| Fahr and Nayak(69) | Y 0.60 | | | | Y 0.25 | | | | |
| Scherer et al. (71) | Y | | | | | | | | Y |
| Shafir et al.(73) | Y 0.31(500K) 0.19(700K) 0.04(900K) 0.04(1000K) 0.01(1100K) | | | Y 0(500K) 0(700K) 0.09(900K) 0.06(1000K) 0.07(1100K) | | | | | Y 0.26(500K) 0.30(700K) 0.82(900K) 0.85(1000K) 0.87(1100K) |
| Howe and Fahr(70) | Y 0.4(27mbar ^a) 0.42(67mbar ^a) 0.4(133mbar ^a) 0.44(332mbar ^a) 0.48(600mbar ^a) 0.507(933mbar ^a) 0.345(27mbar ^b) 0.39(67mbar ^b) 0.43(133mbar ^b) 0.43(332mbar ^b) 0.465(600mbar ^b) 0.47(933mbar ^b) 0.265(27mbar ^c) 0.31(67mbar ^c) 0.368(133mbar ^c) 0.38(332mbar ^c) 0.43(600mbar ^c) 0.455(933mbar ^c) 0.47(27mbar ^d) 0.485(133mbar ^d) 0.46(332mbar ^d) 0.545(933mbar ^d) 0.39(27mbar ^f) 0.405(133mbar ^f) 0.475(933mbar ^f) 0.27(27mbar ^f) 0.375(133mbar ^f) 0.45(933mbar ^f) 0.01(27mbar ^f) 0.04(67mbar ^f) 0.03(133mbar ^f) 0.082(332mbar ^f) | Y 0.13(27mbar ^a) 0.115(67mbar ^a) 0.15(133mbar ^a) 0.125(332mbar ^a) 0.115(600mbar ^a) 0.1(933mbar ^a) 0.15(27mbar ^b) 0.115(67mbar ^b) 0.104(133mbar ^b) 0.114(332mbar ^b) 0.08(600mbar ^b) 0.07(933mbar ^b) 0.27(27mbar ^c) 0.28(67mbar ^c) 0.23(133mbar ^c) 0.215(332mbar ^c) 0.17(600mbar ^c) 0.14(933mbar ^c) 0.10(27mbar ^d) 0.095(133mbar ^d) 0.11(332mbar ^d) 0.06(933mbar ^d) 0.20(27mbar ^f) 0.185(133mbar ^f) 0.105(933mbar ^f) 0.31(27mbar ^f) 0.27(133mbar ^f) 0.165(933mbar ^f) 0.525(27mbar ^f) 0.72(67mbar ^f) 0.86(133mbar ^f) 0.79(332mbar ^f) | Y 0.02(27mbar ^a) 0.01(67mbar ^a) 0.006(133mbar ^a) 0.005(332mbar ^a) 0.004(600mbar ^a) 0.003(933mbar ^a) 0.005(27mbar ^b) 0.005(67mbar ^b) 0.001(133mbar ^b) 0.001(332mbar ^b) 0.0(600mbar ^b) 0(933mbar ^b) 0.005(27mbar ^c) 0.002(67mbar ^c) 0.002(133mbar ^c) 0(332mbar ^c) 0.001(600mbar ^c) 0.001(933mbar ^c) 0.01(27mbar ^d) 0.005(133mbar ^d) 0.005(332mbar ^d) 0.005(933mbar ^d) 0.005(27mbar ^f) 0.005(133mbar ^f) 0.005(933mbar ^f) 0.015(27mbar ^f) 0.01(133mbar ^f) 0.01(933mbar ^f) 0.015(27mbar ^f) 0.015(133mbar ^f) 0.015(933mbar ^f) 0.027(67mbar ^f) 0.03(133mbar ^f) 0.008(332mbar ^f) | Y 0.335(27mbar ^a) 0.365(67mbar ^a) 0.4(133mbar ^a) 0.415(332mbar ^a) 0.4(600mbar ^a) 0.38(933mbar ^a) 0.325(27mbar ^b) 0.37(67mbar ^b) 0.41(133mbar ^b) 0.43(332mbar ^b) 0.425(600mbar ^b) 0.43(933mbar ^b) 0.21(27mbar ^c) 0.3(67mbar ^c) 0.35(133mbar ^c) 0.375(332mbar ^c) 0.38(600mbar ^c) 0.364(933mbar ^c) 0.345(27mbar ^d) 0.40(133mbar ^d) 0.41(332mbar ^d) 0.38(933mbar ^d) 0.32(27mbar ^f) 0.39(133mbar ^f) 0.39(933mbar ^f) 0.215(27mbar ^f) 0.325(133mbar ^f) 0.36(933mbar ^f) 0.02(27mbar ^f) 0.027(67mbar ^f) 0.03(133mbar ^f) 0.06(332mbar ^f) | | | Y 0.12(27mbar ^a) 0.09(67mbar ^a) 0.04(133mbar ^a) 0.015(332mbar ^a) 0.05(600mbar ^a) 0.01(933mbar ^a) 0.175(27mbar ^b) 0.12(67mbar ^b) 0.055(133mbar ^b) 0.025(332mbar ^b) 0.03(600mbar ^b) 0.03(933mbar ^b) 0.25(27mbar ^c) 0.108(67mbar ^c) 0.05(133mbar ^c) 0.03(332mbar ^c) 0.019(600mbar ^c) 0.04(933mbar ^c) 0.075(27mbar ^d) 0.015(133mbar ^d) 0.015(332mbar ^d) 0.01(933mbar ^d) 0.085(27mbar ^f) 0.015(133mbar ^f) 0.025(933mbar ^f) 0.19(27mbar ^f) 0.02(133mbar ^f) 0.015(933mbar ^f) 0.43(27mbar ^f) 0.20(67mbar ^f) 0.07(133mbar ^f) 0.06(332mbar ^f) | | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| | 0.22(600mbar ^{df}) 0.27(933mbar ^{df}) | | 0.555(600mbar ^{df}) 0.475(933mbar ^{df}) | 0.01(600mbar ^{df}) 0.009(933mbar ^{df}) | 0.14(600mbar ^{df}) 0.216(933mbar ^{df}) | | | | 0.075(600mbar ^{df}) 0.03(933mbar ^{df}) |
| Brezinsky et al. ^g (77) | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | | | Y |
| Osborn et al.(78) | Y 0.45(5mbar) 0.55(10mbar) | Y 0.004(5mbar) 0(10mbar) | Y 0.006(5mbar) 0(10mbar) | Y 0.006(5mbar) 0.01(10mbar) | Y 0.24(5mbar) 0.14(10mbar) | Y 0.12(5mbar) 0.04(10mbar) | Y 0.011(5mbar) 0.01(10mbar) | Y 0.007(5mbar) 0.01(10mbar) | Y 0.15(5mbar) 0.24(10mbar) |
| Rijs et al.(79) | | | | | | | | | Y |

Note: ^a295 K; ^b398 K; ^c523 K; ^d 623K;

^e. These branching ratios were determined from the experiment with the 248 nm photolysis of mixtures of C₃H₃Br/He.

^f. These branching ratios were determined from the experiment with the 193 nm photolysis of mixtures of C₃H₃Cl/He.

^g. Branching ratios are temperature- and pressure-dependent.

Table S2. Conditions in the present experiments.

| | Propargyl Bromide Bath temperature (K) | Total Inlet Pressure (Torr) | Partial pressure of C_3H_3Br (Torr) | Reactor temperature (K) | Initial mole fraction of C_3H_3Br |
|---|---|--------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|---|
| 1 | 199 ± 1 | 200 ± 5 | 2.0 ± 0.2 | 1343 ± 10 | 1.0% |
| 2 | 199 ± 1 | 300 ± 5 | 2.0 ± 0.2 | 1273 ± 10 | 0.7% |
| 3 | 233 ± 1 | 200 ± 5 | 9.6 ± 0.5 | 1273 ± 10 | 4.8% |
| 4 | 233 ± 1 | 300 ± 5 | 9.6 ± 0.5 | 1273 ± 10 | 3.2% |

Table S3. Branching ratios of the hydrocarbons derived in the present studies.

| | Allene (89) | Methylacetylene (90) | Benzyne | Benzene (90) | Fulvene (78) | 1,5-Hexadiyne (78) | 2-Ethynyl-1,3-butadiene (78) |
|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 199K/200Torr (1%) | 0.239 (0.191, 0.287) | 0.358 (0.286, 0.430) | 0.035 (0.018, 0.070) | 0.084 (0.067, 0.101) | 0.033 (0.017, 0.066) | 0.050 (0.040, 0.060) | 0.201 (0.101, 0.402) |
| modeled | 0.236 (0.201, 0.271) | 0.357 (0.303, 0.411) | 0.023 (0.020, 0.026) | 0.087 (0.074, 0.100) | 0.035 (0.030, 0.040) | 0.050 (0.043, 0.058) | 0.212 (0.180, 0.244) |
| 199K/300Torr (0.7%) | 0.188 (0.150, 0.226) | 0.377 (0.302, 0.452) | 0.040 (0.020, 0.080) | 0.075 (0.060, 0.090) | 0.038 (0.019, 0.076) | 0.056 (0.045, 0.067) | 0.226 (0.113, 0.452) |
| modeled | 0.202 (0.172, 0.232) | 0.309 (0.263, 0.355) | 0.046 (0.039, 0.053) | 0.085 (0.072, 0.098) | 0.037 (0.031, 0.043) | 0.063 (0.054, 0.072) | 0.258 (0.219, 0.297) |
| 233K/200Torr (4.8%) | 0.076 (0.061, 0.091) | 0.152 (0.122, 0.182) | 0.285 (0.143, 0.570) | 0.076 (0.061, 0.091) | 0.068 (0.034, 0.136) | 0.114 (0.091, 0.137) | 0.228 (0.114, 0.456) |
| 233K/300Torr (3.2%) | 0.075 (0.060, 0.090) | 0.100 (0.080, 0.120) | 0.225 (0.113, 0.450) | 0.090 (0.072, 0.108) | 0.060 (0.030, 0.120) | 0.150 (0.120, 0.180) | 0.300 (0.150, 0.600) |

Note: The temperatures and pressures exhibited in the first column represent the temperatures of the bubbler and the inlet pressures. Detailed experiment conditions are listed in Table S2. The values in the parenthesis determine the lower and upper error limits for the experimental branching ratios. The references labelled after each species present the sources of photoionization cross sections. The photoionization cross section of benzyne was estimated and taken from reference (45). For the measured photoionization cross sections (allene, methylacetylene, benzene and 1,5-hexadiyne), the uncertainty of their branching ratios is $\pm 20\%$ while as the photoionization cross sections of benzyne, fulvene and 2-ethynyl-1,3-butadiene are estimated or theoretically calculated, the uncertainty is proposed to be a factor of 2 (90).

Table S4. List of rate constants and modified rate constants used in the simulations in units of $\text{cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$ and s^{-1} for bimolecular and unimolecular reactions, respectively.

| | Nominal Rate Constants | Correction factors for modified rate constants |
|---------------------|---|---|
| | Reaction R1 $\text{HCCCH}_2\text{Br} \rightleftharpoons \text{C}_3\text{H}_3 + \text{Br}^{\text{a}}$ | |
| k1f | $6.618e8 * \exp(-19285.23/T) * p / (1 + p * (-0.0136 + 0.00665 * \exp(2221.19/T)))$ | $\times 1.3 * \exp(3000/T)$ |
| k1r | $(-6.26 + 0.3949 * \exp(4542.1/T)) * 1e-14 * p / (1 + 0.01 * p * (-1.453 + 0.697 * \exp(2188.62/T))) * 6e23$ | $\times 1$ |
| | Reaction R2a $\text{C}_3\text{H}_3 + \text{H} \rightleftharpoons \text{C}_3\text{H}_4(\text{propyne})$ | |
| k2afp1 ^b | $10^{36.56} * T^{(-7.36)} * \exp(-6039/1.987/T)$ | $\times 2$ |
| k2afp2 ^b | $10^{29.90} * T^{(-5.06)} * \exp(-4861/1.987/T)$ | $\times 2$ |
| k2ar ^c | $7.8e-6 * \exp(-335000/8.314472/T) * 6.022e23$ | $\times 1$ |
| | Reaction R2b $\text{C}_3\text{H}_3 + \text{H} \rightleftharpoons \text{C}_3\text{H}_4(\text{allene})$ | |
| k2bfp1 ^b | $10^{36.53} * T^{(-7.41)} * \exp(-6337/1.987/T)$ | $\times 2$ |
| k2bfp2 ^b | $10^{29.50} * T^{(-5.00)} * \exp(-4711/1.987/T)$ | $\times 2$ |
| k2br ^c | $3.32e-6 * \exp(-335000/8.314472/T) * 6.022e23$ | $\times 1$ |
| | Reaction R3 $\text{C}_3\text{H}_3 + \text{C}_3\text{H}_3 \rightleftharpoons \text{C}_6\text{H}_5 + \text{H}^{\text{d}}$ | |
| k3fp1 | $4.31E+64 * T^{(-15.107)} * \exp(-31700/1.987/T) + 2.87E+35 * T^{(-6.8136)} * \exp(-13327/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k3fp2 | $2.47E+66 * T^{(-15.446)} * \exp(-36606/1.987/T) + 1.74E+35 * T^{(-6.7033)} * \exp(-15756/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k3fp3 | $1.64E+64 * T^{(-14.71)} * \exp(-38110/1.987/T) + 8.00E+32 * T^{(-6.0398)} * \exp(-16226/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k3rp1 | $2.73E+64 * T^{(-13.363)} * \exp(-61451/1.987/T) + 7.91E+127 * T^{(-29.259)} * \exp(-1.73E+05/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k3rp2 | $6.69E+63 * T^{(-13.074)} * \exp(-64307/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k3rp3 | $9.98E+79 * T^{(-17.577)} * \exp(-78756/1.987/T) + 2.07E+43 * T^{(-7.4005)} * \exp(-52240/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| | Reaction R4a $\text{C}_3\text{H}_3 + \text{C}_3\text{H}_3 \rightarrow \text{C}_6\text{H}_6(\text{benzene})^{\text{d}}$ | |
| k4afp1 | $1.19E+137 * T^{(-35.905)} * \exp(-81665/1.987/T) + 6.87E+66 * T^{(-16.626)} * \exp(-21855/1.987/T)$ | $\times 0.1$ |
| k4afp2 | $1.97E+103 * T^{(26.285)} * \exp(-56243/1.987/T) + 1.84E+66 * T^{(-16.364)} * \exp(-23047/1.987/T)$ | $\times 0.1$ |
| k4afp3 | $-4.85E+98 * T^{(-25.281)} * \exp(-43301/1.987/T) + 5.24E+82 * T^{(-20.606)} * \exp(-34270/1.987/T)$ | $\times 0.1$ |
| | Reaction R4b $\text{C}_3\text{H}_3 + \text{C}_3\text{H}_3 \rightarrow \text{C}_6\text{H}_6(\text{fulvene})^{\text{d}}$ | |
| k4bfp1 | $1.92E+87 * T^{(-22.384)} * \exp(-37245/1.987/T) + 1.13E+56 * T^{(-13.82)} * \exp(-13512/1.987/T)$ | $\times 0.067$ |
| k4bfp2 | $3.86E+83 * T^{(-21.017)} * \exp(-37704/1.987/T) + 5.28E+58 * T^{(-14.451)} * \exp(-15599/1.987/T)$ | $\times 0.067$ |
| k4bfp3 | $2.09E+82 * T^{(-20.496)} * \exp(-38166/1.987/T) + 3.61E+58 * T^{(-14.342)} * \exp(-15974/1.987/T)$ | $\times 0.067$ |
| | Reaction R4c $\text{C}_3\text{H}_3 + \text{C}_3\text{H}_3 \rightarrow \text{C}_6\text{H}_6(\text{1,5-hexadiyne})^{\text{d}}$ | |
| k4cfp1 | $1.76E+78 * T^{(-20.37)} * \exp(-32169/1.987/T) + 5.51E+54 * T^{(-14.137)} * \exp(-12026/1.987/T)$ | $\times 6$ |

| | | |
|--------|---|----------------|
| k4cfp2 | $2.64E+61*T^{(-15.268)}*exp(-22502/1.987/T) + 2.79E+47*T^{(-11.604)}*exp(-9628.5/1.987/T)$ | $\times 6$ |
| k4cfp3 | $8.78E+85*T^{(-22.118)}*exp(-38540/1.987/T) + 2.00E+55*T^{(-13.801)}*exp(-13257/1.987/T)$ | $\times 6$ |
| | Reaction R4d $C_3H_3 + C_3H_3 \rightleftharpoons C_6H_6(2\text{-ethynyl-1,3-butadiene})^d$ | |
| k4dfp1 | $4.00E+84*T^{(-21.527)}*exp(-35767/1.987/T) + 1.89E+60*T^{(-15.09)}*exp(-15352/1.987/T)$ | $\times 0.625$ |
| k4dfp2 | $5.36E+82*T^{(-20.74)}*exp(-37229/1.987/T) + 2.88E+55*T^{(-13.495)}*exp(-14159/1.987/T)$ | $\times 0.625$ |
| k4dfp3 | $7.41E+79*T^{(-19.783)}*exp(-37027/1.987/T) + 4.92E+51*T^{(-12.286)}*exp(-13002/1.987/T)$ | $\times 0.625$ |
| k4drp1 | $8.77E+33*T^{(-6.0712)}*exp(-71073/1.987/T)$ | $\times 2$ |
| k4drp2 | $6.12E+29*T^{(-4.8273)}*exp(-67162/1.987/T)$ | $\times 2$ |
| k4drp3 | $4.30E+39*T^{(-7.6343)}*exp(-71997/1.987/T)$ | $\times 2$ |
| | Reaction R5a $C_6H_6(1,5\text{-hexadiyne}) \rightarrow C_6H_6(\text{fulvene})^d$ | |
| k5afp1 | $1.40E+75*T^{(-19.544)}*exp(-52706/1.987/T)$ | $\times 0$ |
| k5afp2 | $23.40E+61*T^{(-15.232)}*exp(-48101/1.987/T)$ | $\times 0$ |
| k5afp3 | $1.48E+63*T^{(-15.611)}*exp(-49730/1.987/T)$ | $\times 0$ |
| | Reaction R5b $C_6H_6(1,5\text{-hexadiyne}) \rightarrow C_6H_6(\text{benzene})^d$ | |
| k5bfp1 | $9.48E-55*T^{(17.136)}*exp(18644/1.987/T) + 6.68E+76*T^{(-19.007)}*exp(-79650/1.987/T)$ | $\times 0$ |
| k5bfp2 | $2.86E+41*T^{(-8.7)}*exp(-59368/1.987/T)$ | $\times 0$ |
| k5bfp3 | $1.48E+50*T^{(-10.994)}*exp(-68465/1.987/T)$ | $\times 0$ |
| | Reaction R6a $C_6H_6(\text{fulvene}) \rightarrow C_6H_6(\text{benzene})^d$ | |
| k6afp1 | $1.56E+87*T^{(-21.086)}*exp(-1.22E+05/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k6afp2 | $1.13E+77*T^{(-18.082)}*exp(-1.17E+05/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k6afp3 | $7.56E+87*T^{(-21.796)}*exp(-1.15E+05/1.987/T) + 1.17E+99*T^{(-23.891)}*exp(-1.41E+05/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k6arp1 | $5.36E+87*T^{(-20.781)}*exp(-1.53E+05/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k6arp2 | $6.72E+78*T^{(-18.115)}*exp(-1.49E+05/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k6arp3 | $1.48E+90*T^{(-21.905)}*exp(-1.49E+05/1.987/T) + 5.55E+104*T^{(-24.972)}*exp(-1.77E+05/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| | Reaction R6b $C_6H_6(\text{fulvene}) \rightleftharpoons C_6H_5 + H^d$ | |
| k6bfp1 | $1.34E+91*T^{(-21.678)}*exp(-1.42E+05/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k6bfp2 | $1.13E+89*T^{(-20.863)}*exp(-1.45E+05/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k6bfp3 | $1.19E+87*T^{(-20.178)}*exp(-1.47E+05/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k6brp1 | $2.64E+45*T^{(-9.6881)}*exp(-23255/1.987/T) + 2.96E+87*T^{(-20.902)}*exp(-57167/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k6brp2 | $3.08E+35*T^{(-6.6861)}*exp(-20378/1.987/T) + 3.91E+83*T^{(-19.584)}*exp(-59105/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k6brp3 | $2.75E+32*T^{(-5.8045)}*exp(-19675/1.987/T) + 5.24E+83*T^{(-19.488)}*exp(-62324/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| | Reaction R7 $C_6H_5 + H \rightleftharpoons C_6H_6(\text{benzene})^d$ | |
| k7fp1 | $4.63E+85*T^{(-20.439)}*exp(-48256/1.987/T) + 5.51E+43*T^{(-9.1968)}*exp(-11284/1.987/T)$ | $\times 0.1$ |

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|--------|--|--------------|
| k7fp2 | $2.90E+85*T^{(-20.207)}*\exp(-50909/1.987/T) + 5.09E+41*T^{(-8.5303)}*\exp(-10766/1.987/T)$ | $\times 0.1$ |
| k7fp3 | $4.63E+85*T^{(-20.138)}*\exp(-53321/1.987/T) + 2.08E+39*T^{(-7.7679)}*\exp(-10025/1.987/T)$ | $\times 0.1$ |
| k7rp1 | $-3.03E+71*T^{(-15.07)}*\exp(-1.69E+05/1.987/T) + 2.10E+43*T^{(-7.7577)}*\exp(-1.31E+05/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k7rp2 | $2.00E+75*T^{(-16.775)}*\exp(-1.54E+05/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k7rp3 | $9.93E+77*T^{(-17.918)}*\exp(-1.50E+05/1.987/T) + 2.65E+101*T^{(-23.651)}*\exp(-1.84E+05/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| | Reaction R17a $C_6H_6(2\text{-ethynyl-1,3-butadiene}) \rightarrow C_6H_6(\text{fulvene})^d$ | |
| k17ap1 | $1.60E+93*T^{(-23.531)}*\exp(-1.04E+05/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k17ap2 | $4.99E+79*T^{(-19.546)}*\exp(-96150/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k17ap3 | $3.80E+75*T^{(-18.255)}*\exp(-94952/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| | Reaction R17b $C_6H_6(2\text{-ethynyl-1,3-butadiene}) \rightarrow C_6H_6(\text{benzene})^d$ | |
| k17bp1 | $2.15E+111*T^{(-28.284)}*\exp(-1.25E+05/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k17bp2 | $3.80E+114*T^{(-28.906)}*\exp(-1.33E+05/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k17bp3 | $2.40E+100*T^{(-24.769)}*\exp(-1.26E+05/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| | Reaction R17c $C_6H_6(2\text{-ethynyl-1,3-butadiene}) \rightarrow C_6H_5 + H^d$ | |
| k17cp1 | $5.61E+88*T^{(-21.621)}*\exp(-1.16E+05/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k17cp2 | $8.01E+87*T^{(-21.162)}*\exp(-1.21E+05/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k17cp3 | $6.84E+90*T^{(-21.836)}*\exp(-1.28E+05/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| | Reaction R8 $C_6H_6 + H \rightleftharpoons C_6H_5 + H_2^e$ | |
| k8f | $4.57e8*T^{1.88}*\exp(-14839/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k8r | $1.69e4*T^{2.64}*\exp(-4559/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| | Reaction R9 $C_6H_6(\text{fulvene}) + H \rightleftharpoons C_6H_6(\text{benzene}) + H^f$ | |
| k9f | $6.54e25*T^{(-2.8332)}*\exp(-43768/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k9r | $1.09e25*T^{(-3.0678)}*\exp(-11761/1.987/T)$ | $\times 0.2$ |
| | Reaction R10 $C_6H_5 \rightleftharpoons o\text{-}C_6H_4 \text{ (or } l\text{-}C_6H_4) + H^g$ | |
| k10f | $7.99*1e41*T^{(-7.72)}*\exp(-40000/T)+3.32*1e73*T^{(-16.02)}*\exp(-60000/T))$ | $\times 1$ |
| k10r | $6.59E+80*T^{(-19.24)}*\exp(-41380.0/1.987/T)+1.34E+48*T^{(-10.56)}*\exp(-12820.0/1.987/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| | Reaction R11 $C_6H_5Br \rightleftharpoons C_6H_5 + Br^h$ | |
| k11fp1 | $0.20182E+112*T^{(-26.899)}*\exp(-77372/T)+0.79938E+70*T^{(-16.473)}*\exp(-51627/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k11fp3 | $0.41271E+102*T^{(-24.083)}*\exp(-74861/T)+0.91502E+61*T^{(-13.762)}*\exp(-49757/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k11rp1 | $0.20355E+47*6.02E+23*T^{(-16.224)}*\exp(-19076/T)+0.24889E+07*6.02E+23*T^{(-5.2016)}*\exp(-2835.3/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| k11rp3 | $0.52087E+12*6.02E+23*T^{(-6.3557)}*\exp(-7644.6/T)+2.9856*6.02E+23*T^{(-3.4051)}*\exp(-1596.9/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| | Reaction R12 $C_6H_5 + Br \rightarrow C_6H_4 + HBr^i$ | |
| k12 | $2.74*1e-13*T^{0.490}*\exp(-10630/1.987/T)*6E23$ | $\times 1$ |
| | Reaction R13 $C_6H_5 + H \rightarrow C_6H_4 + H_2^i$ | |

| | | |
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| k13 | $2.74 \times 10^{-13} \times T^{0.490} \times \exp(-10630/1.987/T) \times 6E23$ | $\times 1$ |
| | Reaction R14 $C_6H_5 + C_6H_5 \rightarrow C_{12}H_{10}^j$ | |
| k14 | $10^{22.508} \times T^{-2.81} \times \exp(-2410/T)$ | $\times 1$ |
| | Reaction R15 $C_6H_5 + C_6H_5 \rightarrow C_6H_6 + C_6H_4(\text{all isomers})^j$ | |
| k15 | $3e12$ | $\times 1$ |
| | Reaction R16 $C_3H_3 + C_6H_5 \rightarrow C_9H_8^k$ | |
| k16 | $6e13$ | $\times 1$ |

^aFrom VRC-TST calculations in the present study. ^bFrom Ref. (91). ^cFrom Ref. (92). ^dThe rate constants were computed using the C_6H_6 potential energy surface, energies, and molecular parameters from Ref. (31) using the same RRKM-ME approach and collisional parameters. The changes made in the high-pressure limit $C_3H_3 + C_3H_3$ and $C_6H_5 + H$ rate constants and the modifications used in the lumped mechanism are described in the text. ^eFrom Ref. (93). ^fFrom Ref. (94). ^gFrom Ref. (95). ^hAdopted from the $C_{10}H_7Br \rightleftharpoons C_{10}H_7 + Br$ rate constants from Ref. (48). ⁱAdopted from the rate constant of the disproportionation reaction of styrenyl radical with H producing phenylacetylene + H₂ in Ref. (96). ^jFrom Ref. (97). ^kFrom Ref. (98).

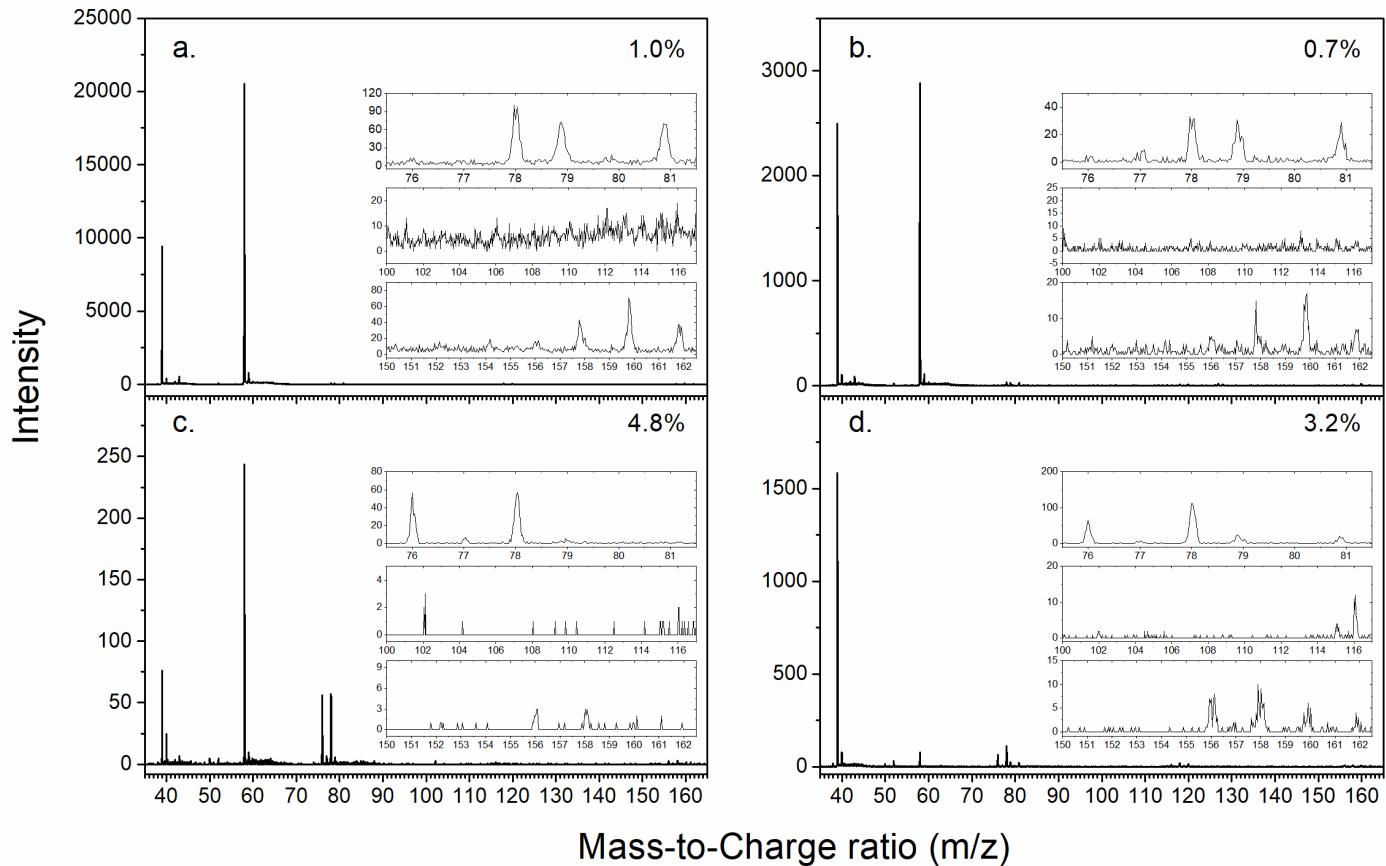


Figure S1. Comparison of the mass spectra for the propargyl recombination systems recorded at 10.5 eV at different experiment conditions. The percentages exhibited in the figures represent the initial mole fractions of propargyl bromide ($\text{C}_3\text{H}_3\text{Br}$). Detailed experiment conditions are listed in Table S2. The signal at $m/z = 58$ defines acetone along with its fragment at $m/z = 43$. Acetone is the residue from the previous cleaning of the main chamber. Thus, no acetone was in the reactor and it is not involved in the reaction.

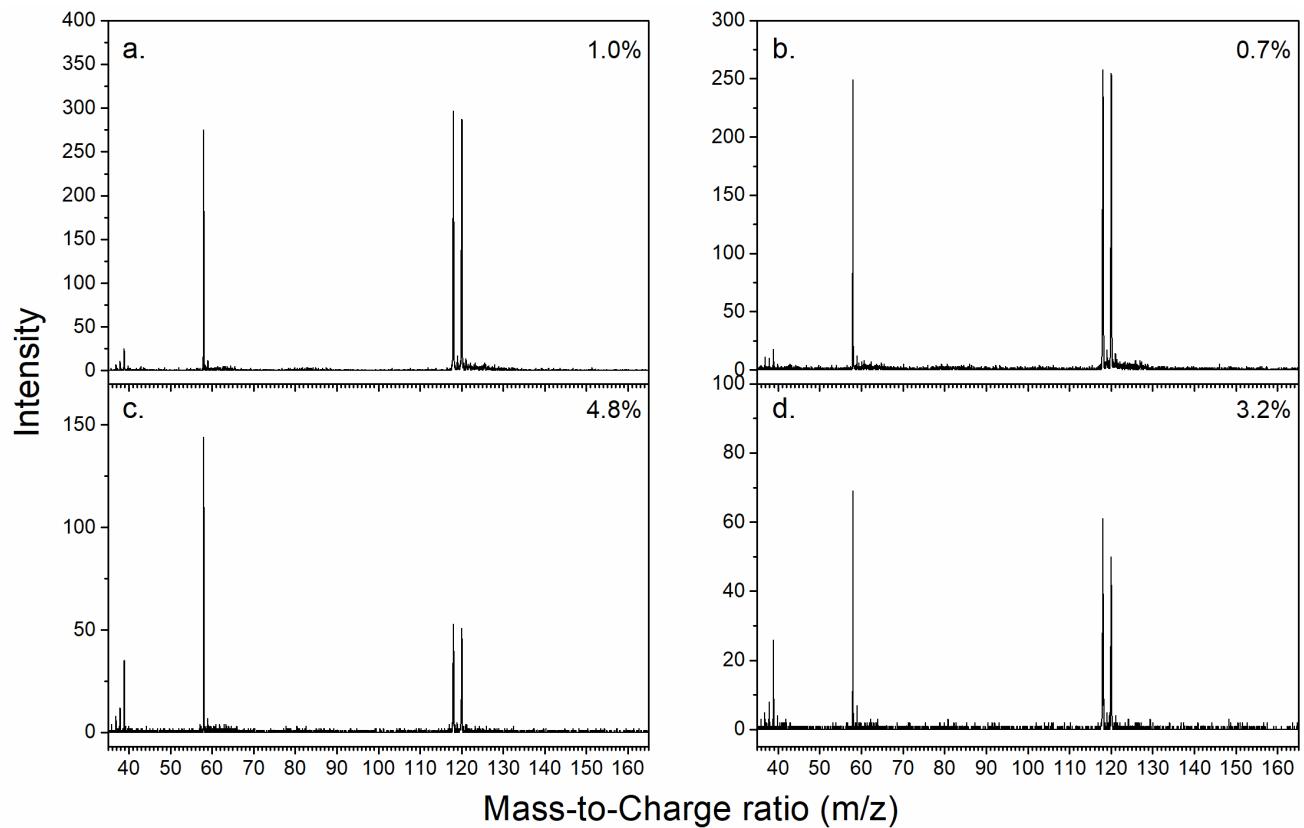


Figure S2. Comparison of the mass spectra for propargylbromide-helium recorded at different experiment conditions with the reactor at room temperature. The percentages exhibited in the figures represent the initial mole fractions of propargyl bromide ($\text{C}_3\text{H}_3\text{Br}$). Detailed experiment conditions are listed in Table S2. The signal at $m/z = 58$ defines acetone along with its fragment at $m/z = 43$. Acetone is the residue from the previous cleaning of the main chamber. Thus, no acetone was in the reactor and it is not involved in the reaction. Comparative peaks at $m/z = 118$ and 120 represent the precursor $\text{C}_3\text{H}_3^{79}\text{Br}$ and $\text{C}_3\text{H}_3^{81}\text{Br}$. The fragmentation of the precursor leads to the signal visible at $m/z = 37$ to 39.

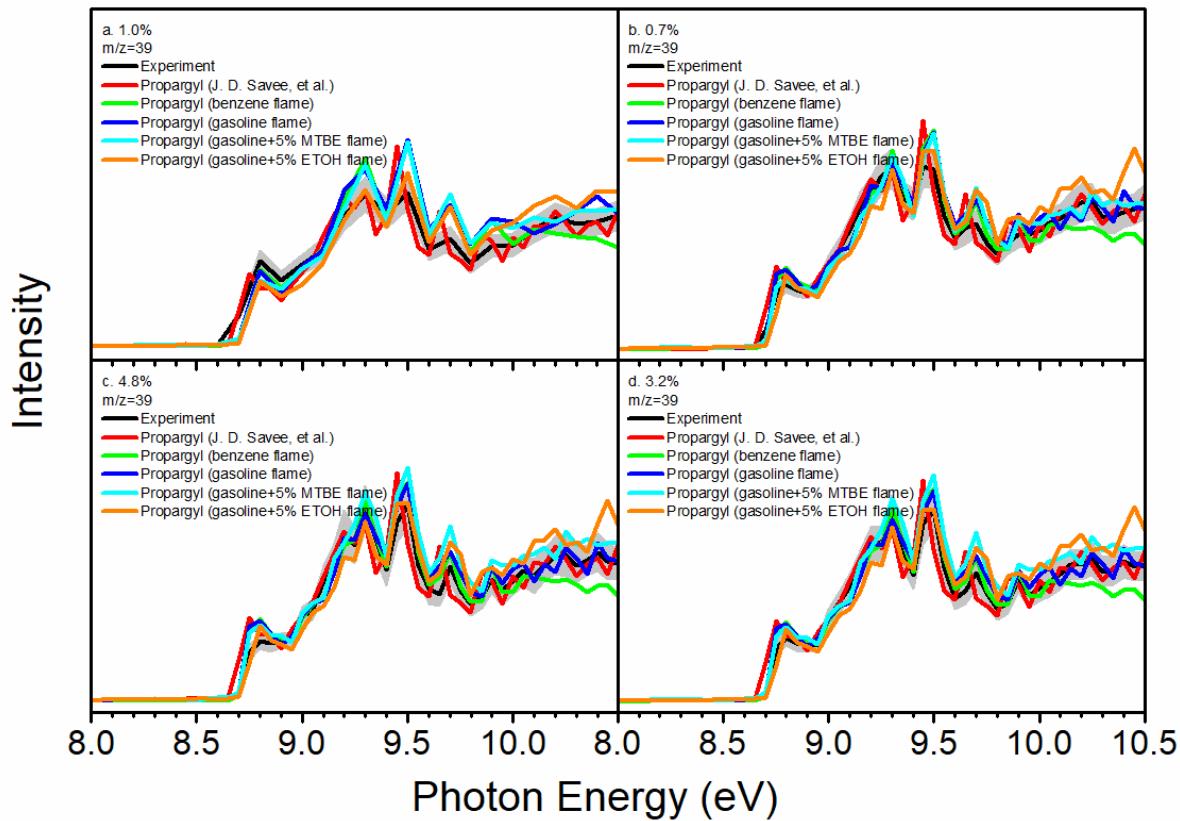


Figure S3. Photoionization efficiency (PIE) curves for signal at $m/z = 39$ in the propargyl recombination system. Black: experimentally derived PIE curves; Colored lines: reference PIE curves (47,99). The percentages exhibited in the figures represent the initial mole fractions of propargyl bromide (C_3H_3Br). Detailed experiment conditions are listed in Table S2.

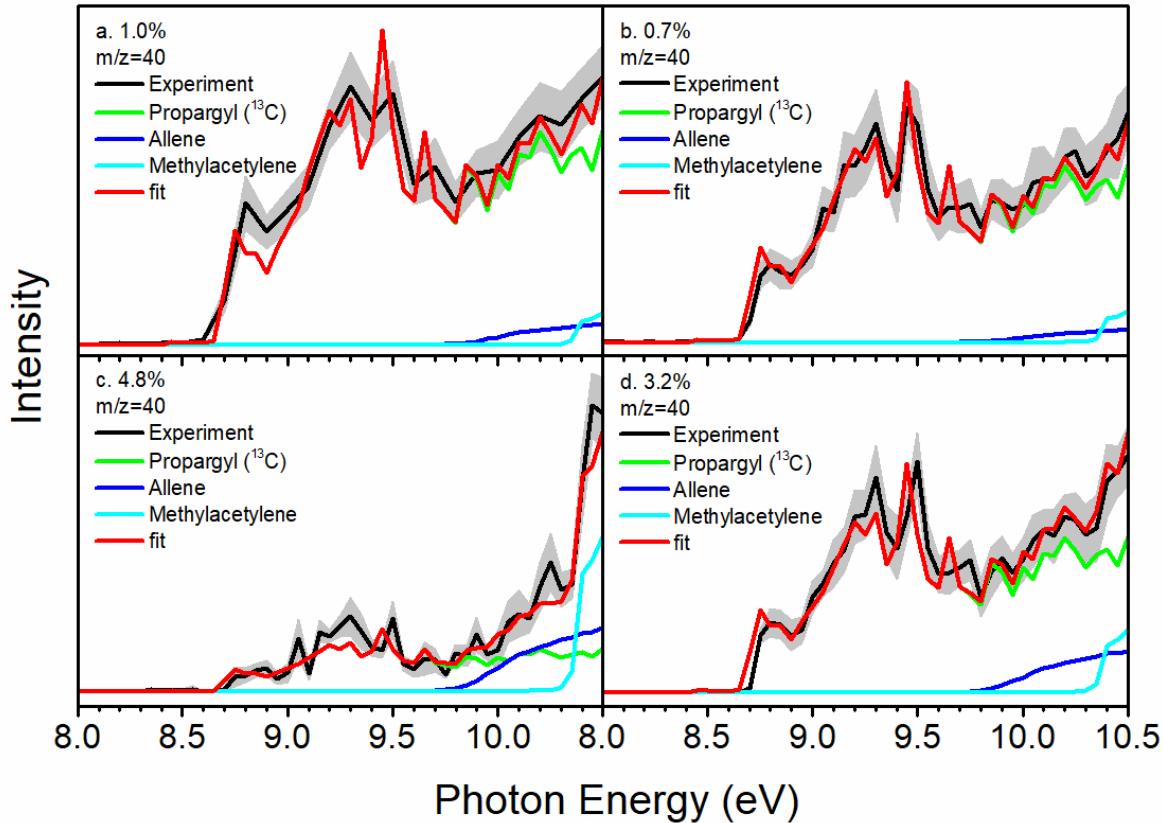


Figure S4. Photoionization efficiency (PIE) curves for signal at $m/z = 40$ in the propargyl recombination system. Black: experimentally derived PIE curves; colored lines (green, blue and cyan): reference PIE curves; red lines: overall fit. The percentages exhibited in the figures represent the initial mole fractions of propargyl bromide (C_3H_3Br). Detailed experiment conditions are listed in Table S2.

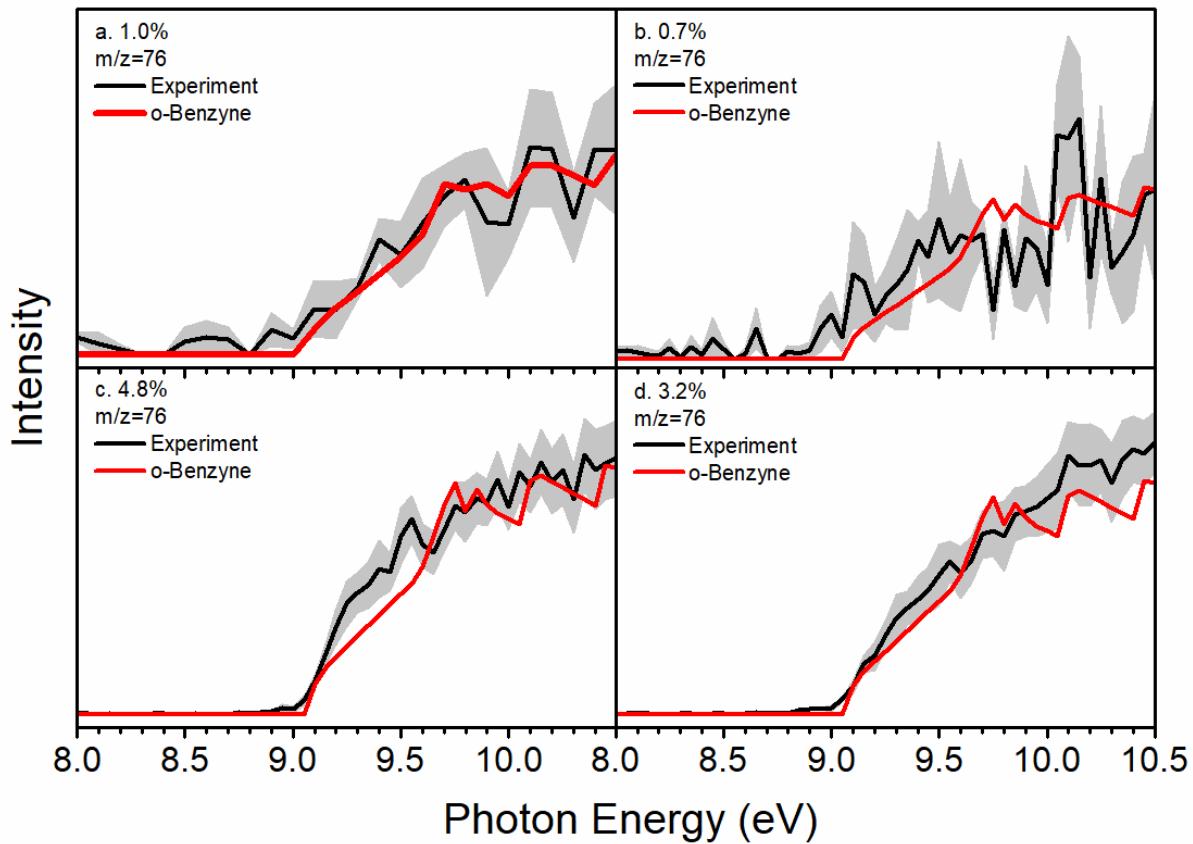


Figure S5. Photoionization efficiency (PIE) curves for signal at $m/z = 76$ in the propargyl recombination system. Black: experimentally derived PIE curves; red lines: reference PIE curves. The percentages exhibited in the figures represent the initial mole fractions of propargyl bromide (C_3H_3Br). Detailed experiment conditions are listed in Table S2.

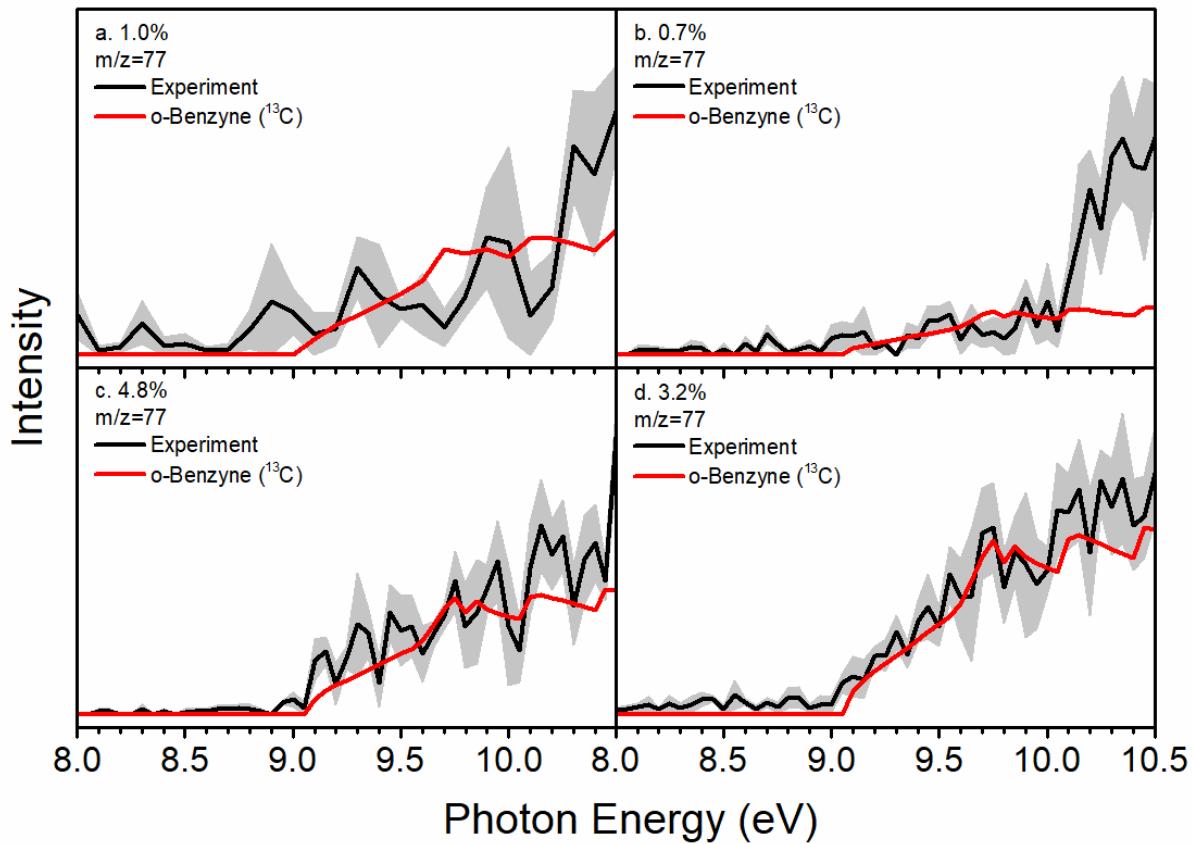


Figure S6. Photoionization efficiency (PIE) curves for signal at $m/z = 77$ in the propargyl recombination system. Black: experimentally derived PIE curves; red lines: reference PIE curves. The percentages exhibited in the figures represent the initial mole fractions of propargyl bromide ($\text{C}_3\text{H}_3\text{Br}$). Detailed experiment conditions are listed in Table S2.

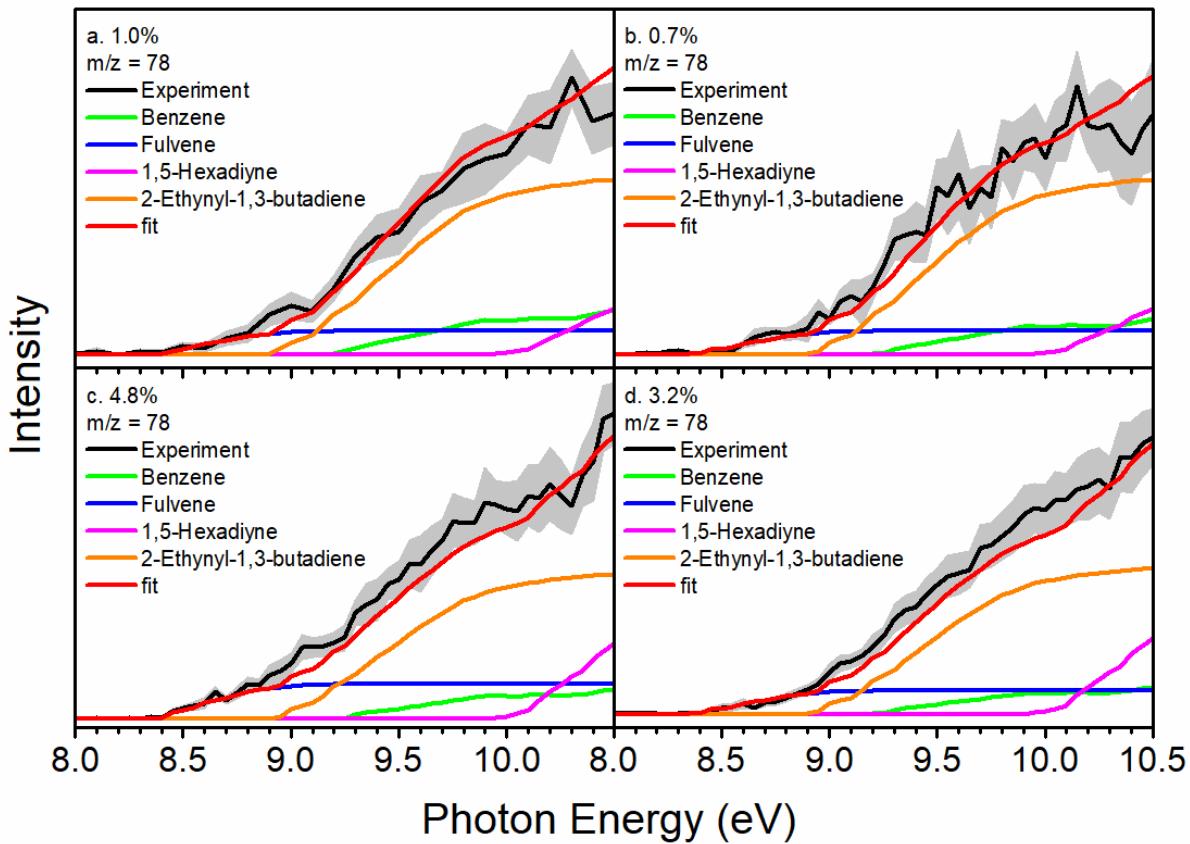


Figure S7. Photoionization efficiency (PIE) curves for signal at $m/z = 78$ in the propargyl recombination system. Black: experimentally derived PIE curves; colored lines (green, blue, purple and orange): reference PIE curves; red lines: overall fit. The percentages exhibited in the figures represent the initial mole fractions of propargyl bromide (C_3H_3Br). Detailed experiment conditions are listed in Table S2.

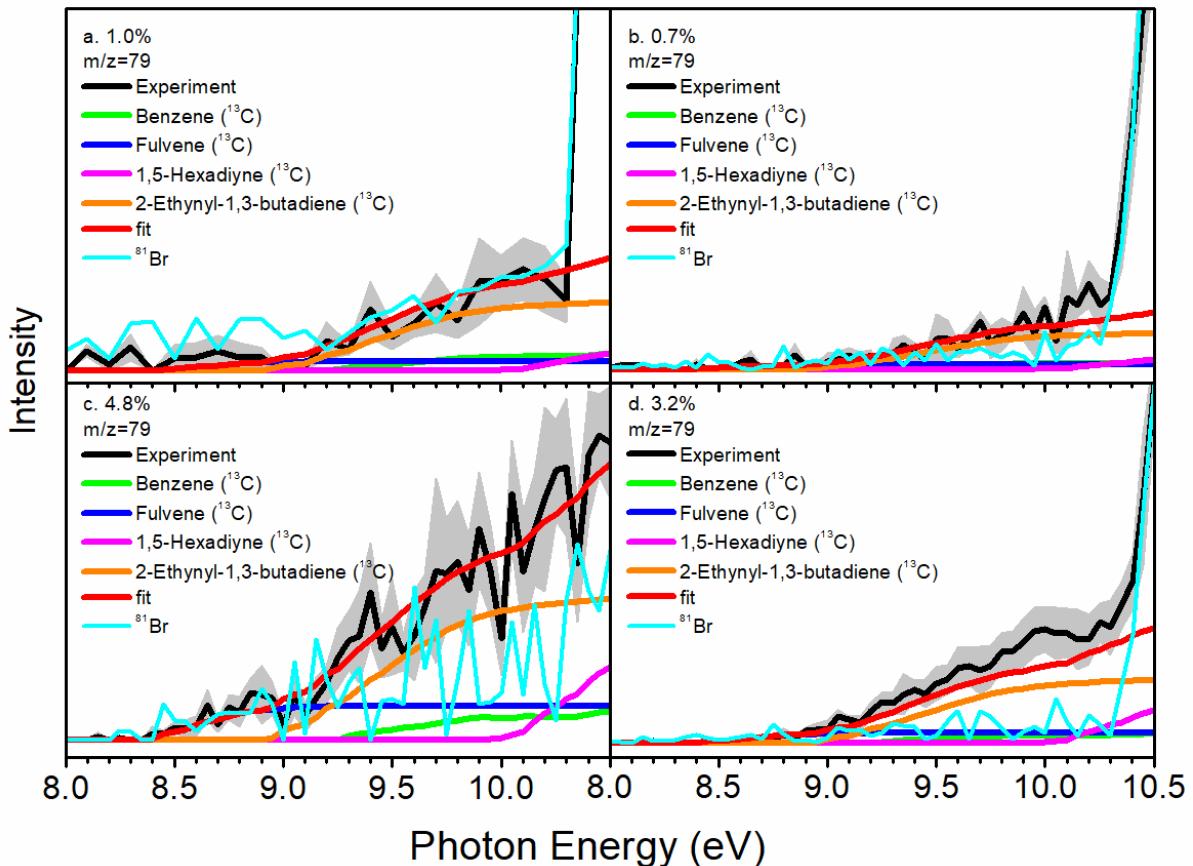


Figure S8. Photoionization efficiency (PIE) curves for signal at $m/z = 79$ in the propargyl recombination system. Black: experimentally derived PIE curves; colored lines (green, blue, purple and orange): reference PIE curves; red lines: overall fit. The percentages exhibited in the figures represent the initial mole fractions of propargyl bromide (C_3H_3Br). Detailed experiment conditions are listed in Table S2. For the onsets at 10.30 eV, the signal might be contributed from the photoionization of atomic bromine induced by high-harmonic VUV light. The dark yellow dashed line presents the PIE curve for $m/z = 81$ observed in this work.

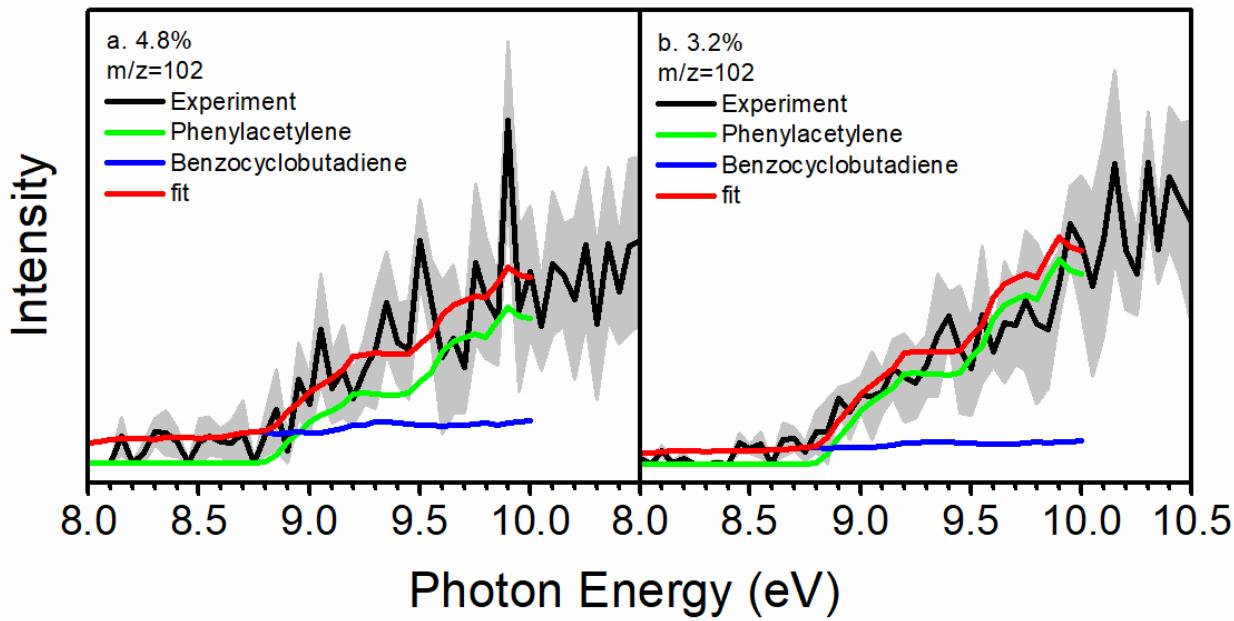


Figure S9. Photoionization efficiency (PIE) curves for signal at $m/z = 102$ in the propargyl recombination system. This signal is only significant at the conditions with the initial mole fractions of propargyl bromide of 4.8% and 3.2%. Black: experimentally derived PIE curves; colored lines (green and blue): reference PIE curves; red lines: overall fit. The percentages exhibited in the figures represent the initial mole fractions of propargyl bromide (C_3H_3Br). As the onset of curve is lower than our experimental measurement range (8.0–10.5 eV), it is unlikely to identify the accurate isomer(s). As benzocyclobutadiene can be produced via the reaction of benzyne and acetylene (80), and its adiabatic photoionization energy is 7.5 eV (81), it is possible that benzocyclobutadiene contributes to the signal at $m/z = 102$.

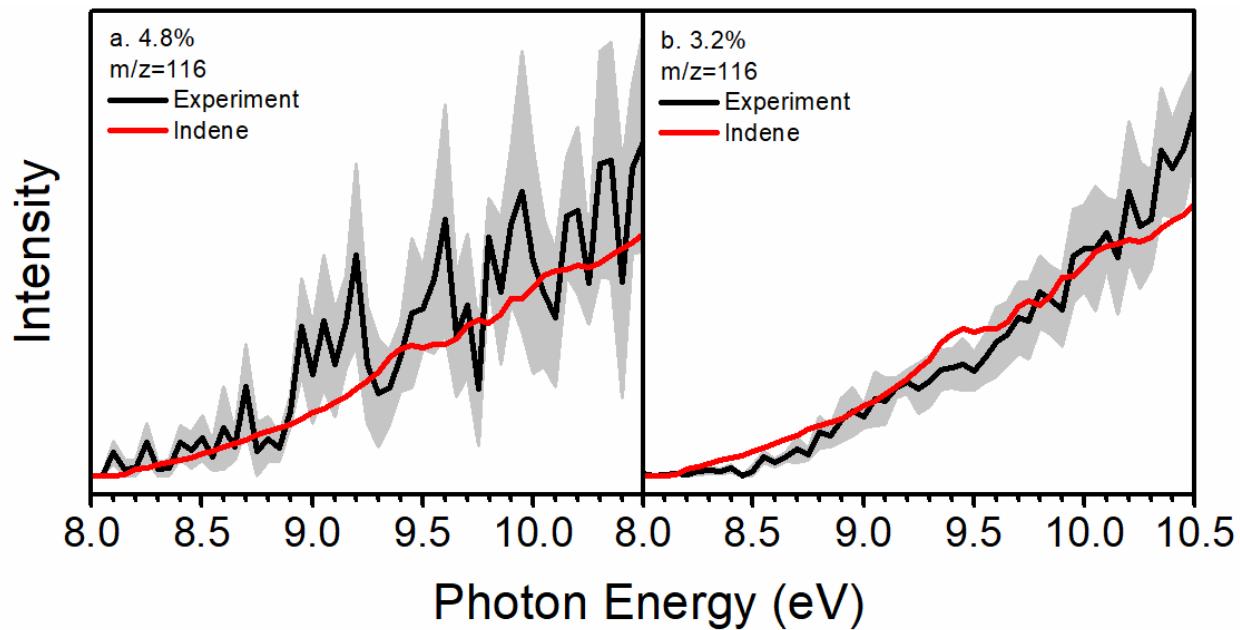


Figure S10. Photoionization efficiency (PIE) curves for signal at $m/z = 116$ in the propargyl recombination system. Black: experimentally derived PIE curves; red lines: reference PIE curve of indene. This signal is only significant at the conditions with the initial mole fractions of propargyl bromide of 4.8% and 3.2%. The percentages exhibited in the figures represent the initial mole fractions of propargyl bromide (C_3H_3Br).

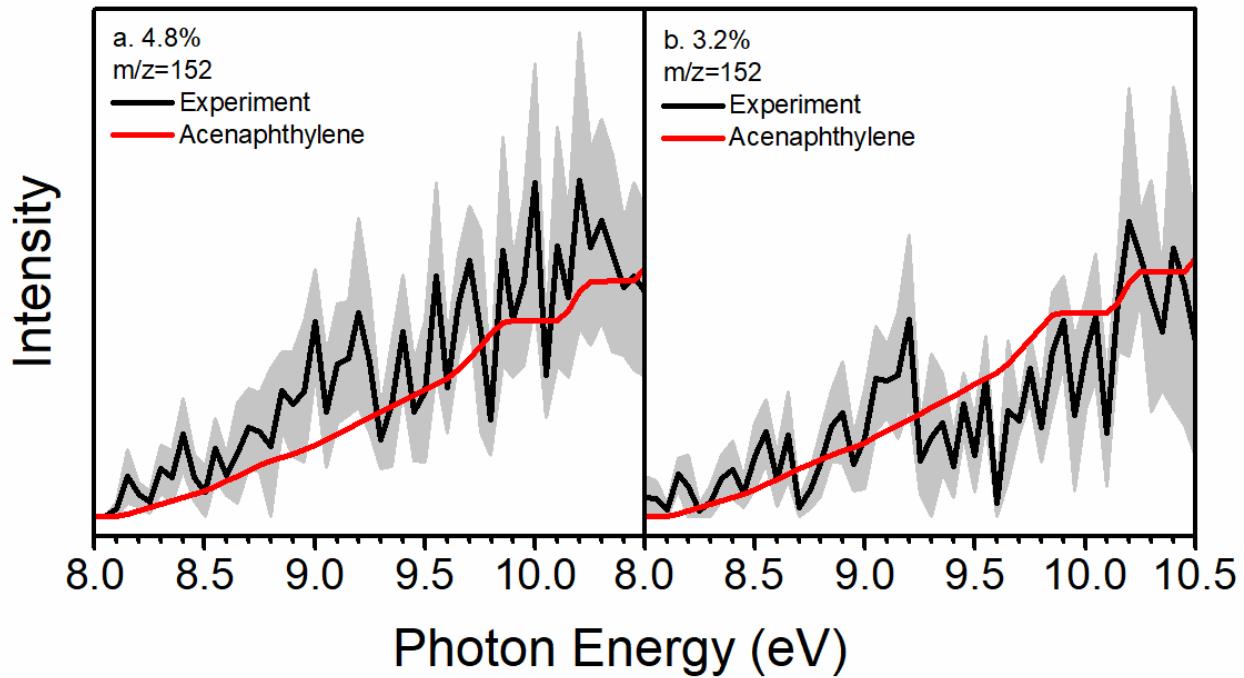


Figure S11. Photoionization efficiency (PIE) curves for signal at $m/z = 152$ in the propargyl recombination system. Black: experimentally derived PIE curves; red lines: reference PIE curve of acenaphthylene. This signal is only significant at the conditions with the initial mole fractions of propargyl bromide of 4.8% and 3.2%. The percentages exhibited in the figures represent the initial mole fractions of propargyl bromide (C_3H_3Br).

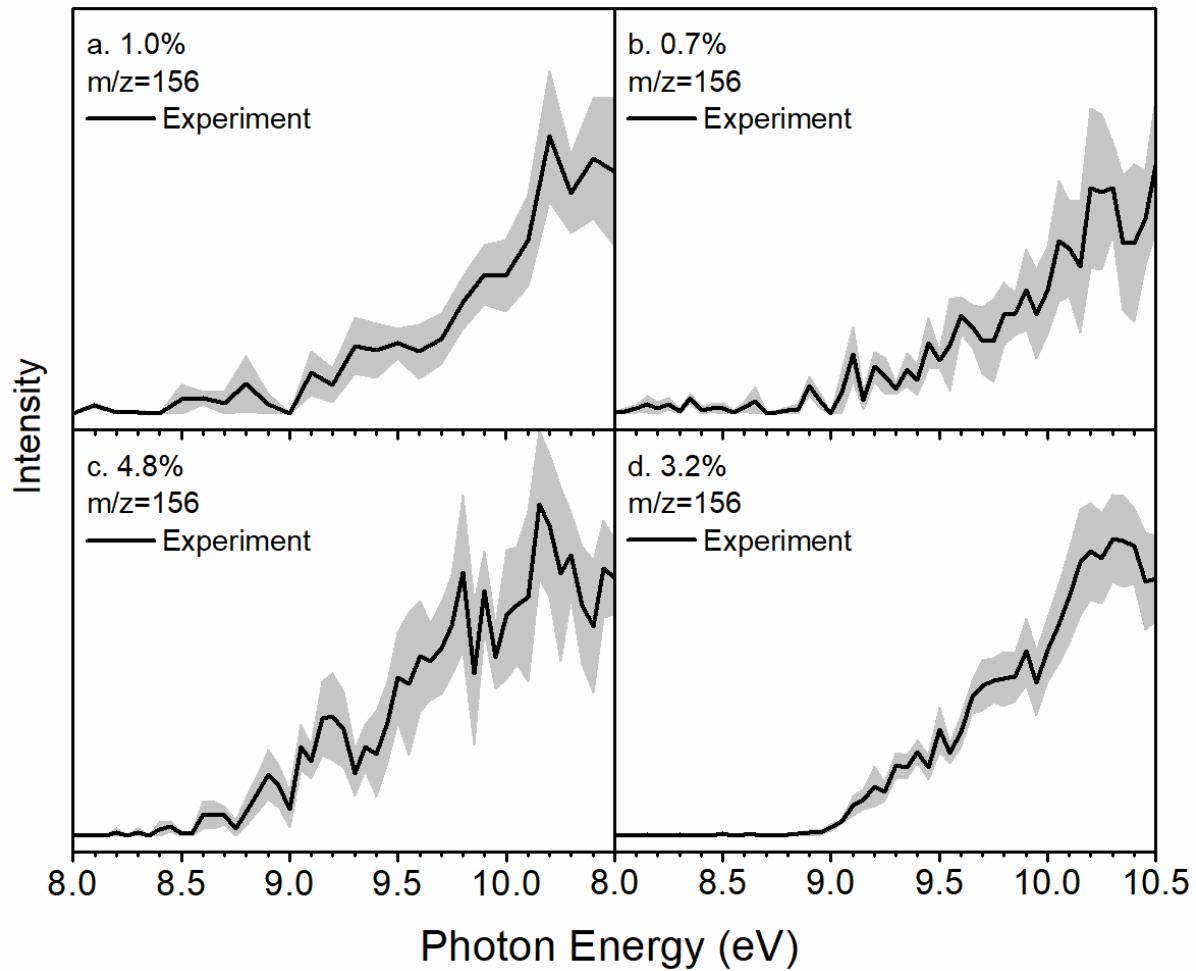


Figure S12. Experimentally derived photoionization efficiency (PIE) curves for signal at $m/z = 156$ in the propargyl recombination system. The percentages exhibited in the figures represent the initial mole fractions of propargyl bromide (C_3H_3Br).

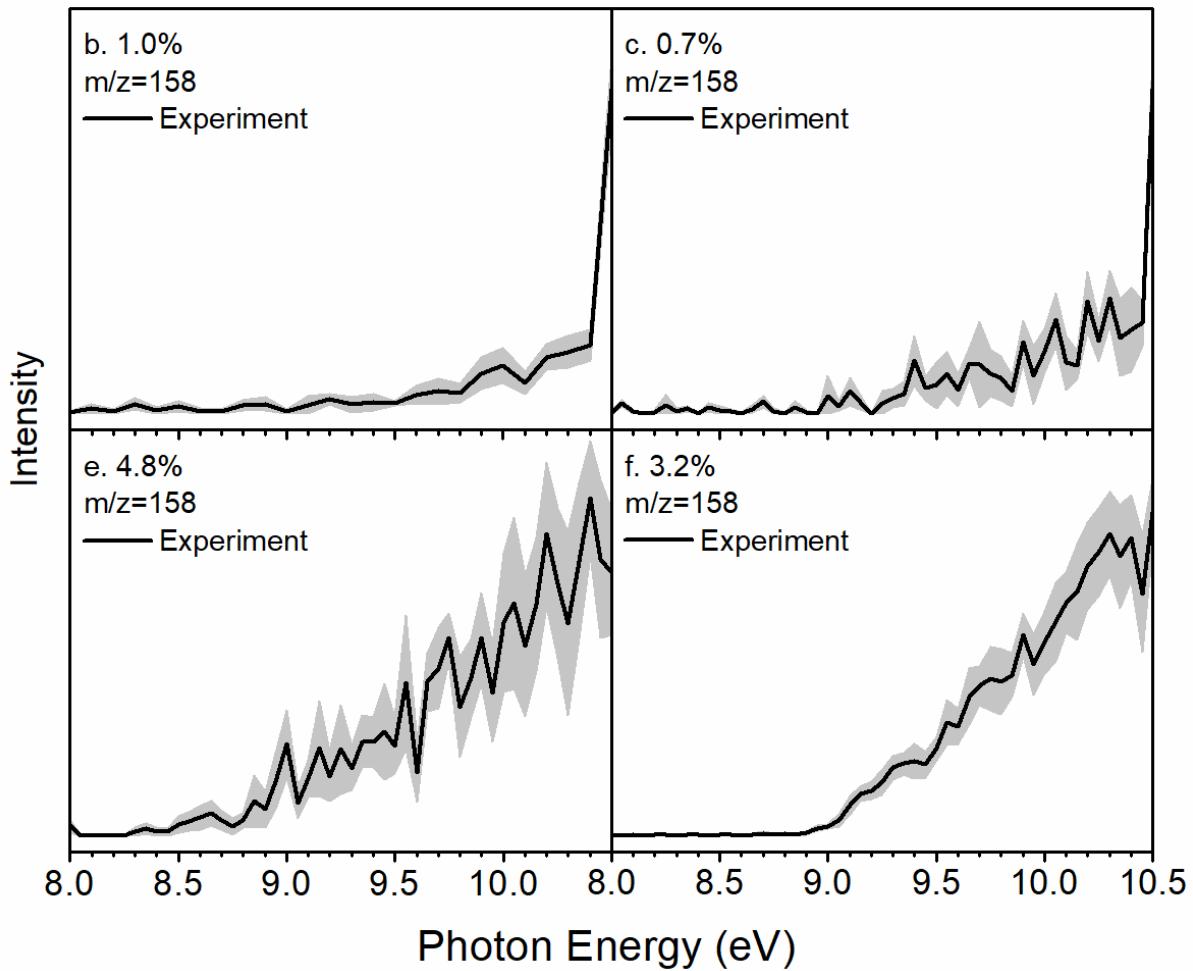


Figure S13. Experimentally derived photoionization efficiency (PIE) curves for signal at $m/z = 158$ in the propargyl recombination system. The percentages exhibited in the figures represent the initial mole fractions of propargyl bromide ($\text{C}_3\text{H}_3\text{Br}$).

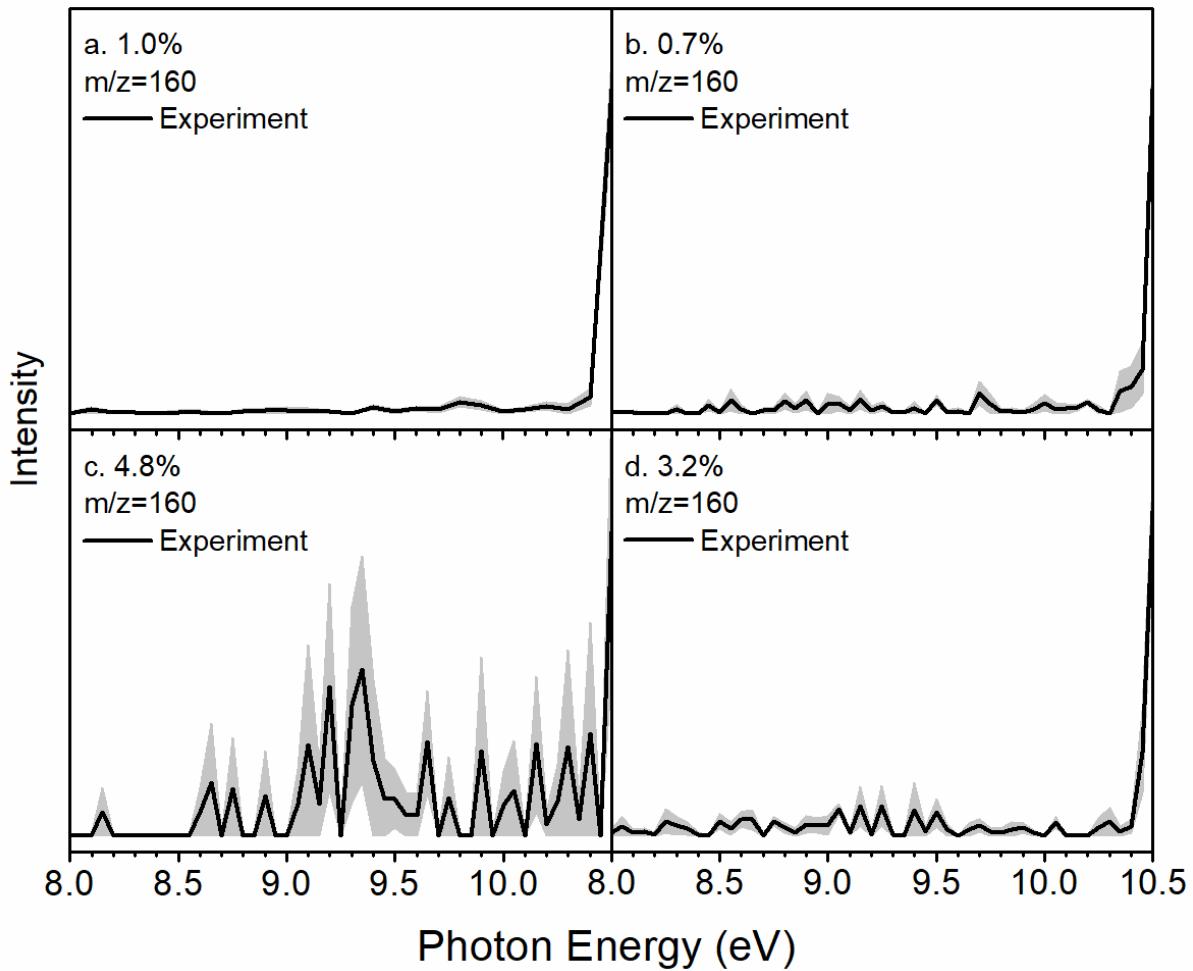


Figure S14. Experimentally derived photoionization efficiency (PIE) curves for signal at $m/z = 160$ in the propargyl recombination system. The percentages exhibited in the figures represent the initial mole fractions of propargyl bromide (C_3H_3Br).

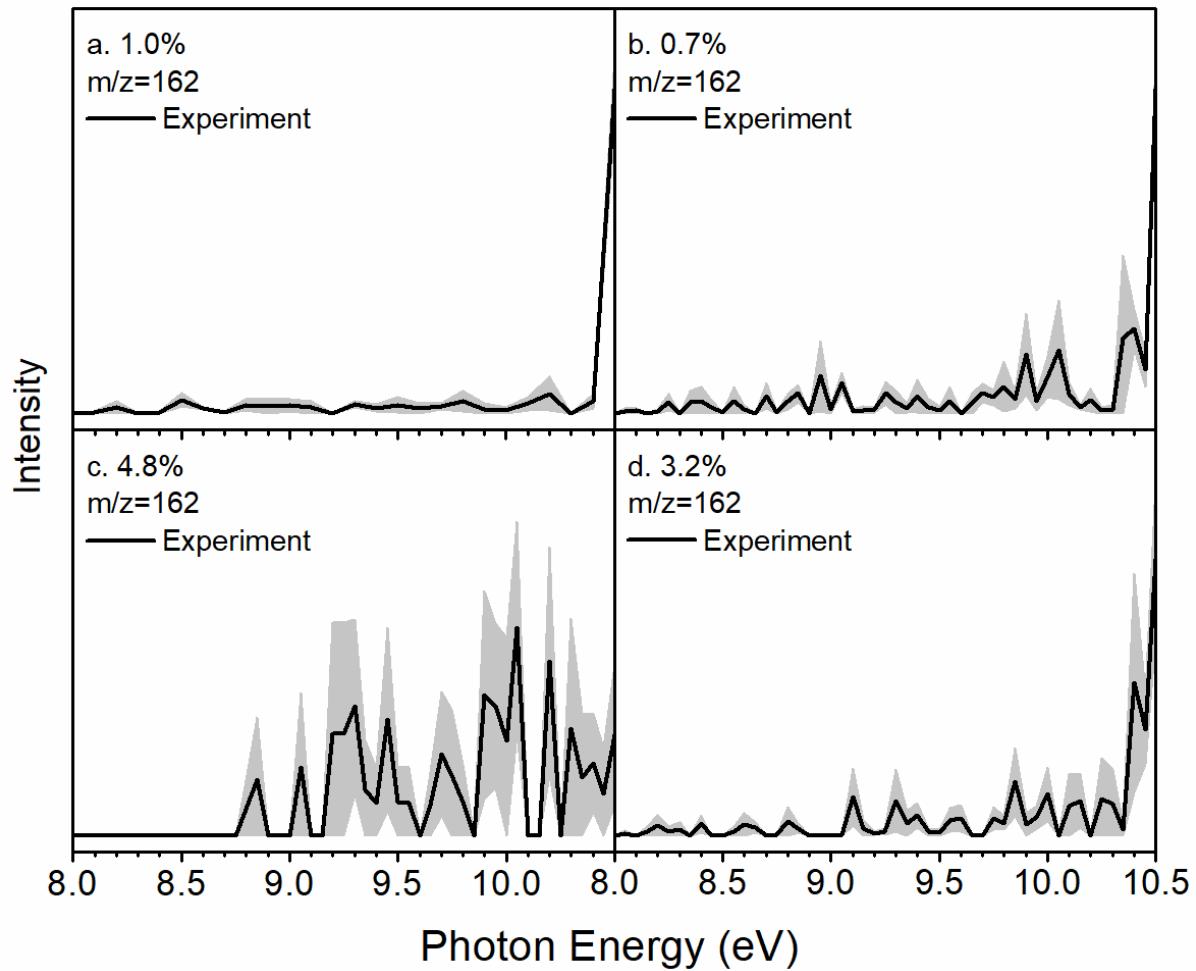


Figure S15. Experimentally derived photoionization efficiency (PIE) curves for signal at $m/z = 162$ in the propargyl recombination system. The percentages exhibited in the figures represent the initial mole fractions of propargyl bromide (C_3H_3Br).

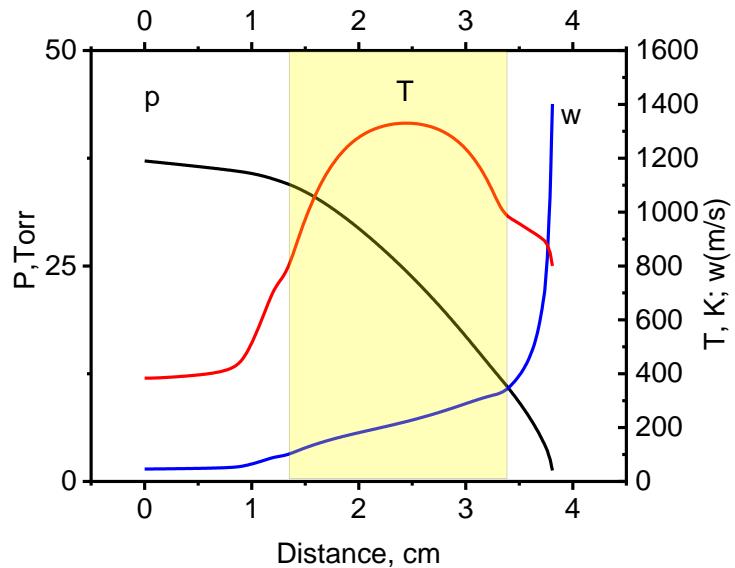


Figure S16. Centerline pressure (left y-axis), temperature and velocity (right y-axis) along the reactor axis. The simulation was performed for the experimental condition with initial mole fraction of propargyl bromide of 1.0%, inlet pressure of 200 torr, reactor temperature at 1343 K. The yellow shaded area defines the electrically heated section of the SiC tube. T: temperature, P: pressure, w: velocity.

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