Electron-Acceptor Pentacene Derivative

**Significance:** This paper reports the synthesis of an extended tetracyanoquinodimethane (TCNQ) analogue, 1. Although this is not the first report of a TCNQ-like acene, the method reported by the authors consists of only six steps, including a double Diels–Alder reaction and a Knoevenagel condensation as key steps. The presence of the diimide substituents not only increases the solubility of the final molecule, but also has implications on its electronic properties.

**Comment:** Electron-acceptor molecules are essential in organic electronic materials, and an important property of such molecules is the LUMO energy level. The authors report a LUMO level of –4.03 eV for 1, which makes this molecule and derivatives of it, good candidates for a variety of applications.