

## Dielectric and optical anisotropy enhanced by 1,3-dioxolane terminal substitution on tolane-liquid crystals

Ran Chen,<sup>a</sup> Yi Jiang,<sup>b</sup> Jian Li,<sup>c</sup> Zhongwei An,<sup>\*a,c</sup> Xinbing Chen<sup>a</sup> and Pei Chen<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Key Laboratory of Applied Surface and Colloid Chemistry, School of Materials Science and Engineering, Shaanxi Normal University, Xi'an 710119, China. E-mail: [gmecazw@163.com](mailto:gmecazw@163.com) (Z. An).

<sup>b</sup> Shaanxi University of Chinese Medicine, Xianyang, 712046, China.

<sup>c</sup> Xi'an Modern Chemistry Research Institute, Xi'an 710065, China.

### Electronic supplementary information

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### 1. General

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a spectrometer operating at 300 and 75 MHz. Full geometry optimizations have been carried out without imposing any constraints using the Gaussian 09 program package. Spin-restricted DFT calculations were carried out in the framework of the generalized gradient approximation (GGA) using B3LYP exchange-correlation functional and the 6-31G (d, p) basis set.

## 2. Compound structure characterization

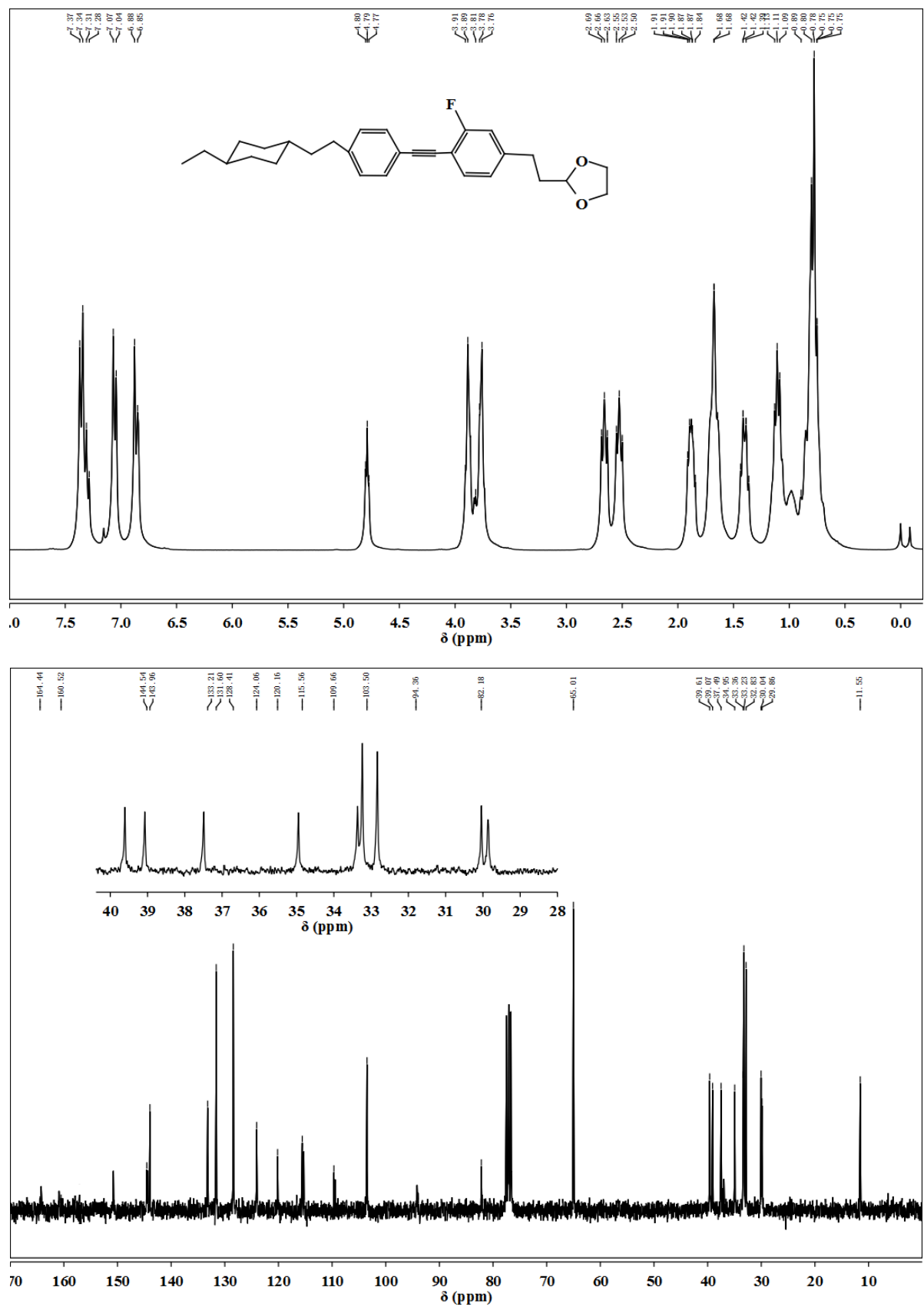
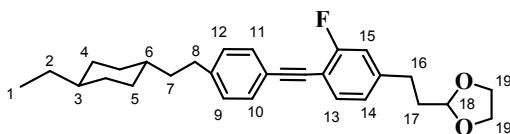
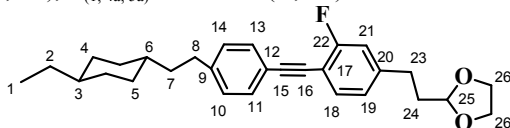


Fig. S1. <sup>1</sup>H (top) and <sup>13</sup>C (bottom) NMR spectra of 2TF2 recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

**2TF2**: The yield was 48% of white crystals.



$^1\text{H NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm):  $\text{H}_{(10, 11, 13)}$  7.33 (dd,  $J = 17.7, 7.8$  Hz, 3H),  $\text{H}_{(9, 12)}$  7.05 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 2H),  $\text{H}_{(14, 15)}$  6.86 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H),  $\text{H}_{18}$  4.86 – 4.71 (m, 1H),  $\text{H}_{19}$  3.99 – 3.62 (m, 4H),  $\text{H}_{(8, 16)}$  2.78 – 2.42 (m, 4H),  $\text{H}_{17}$  1.99 – 1.80 (m, 2H),  $\text{H}_{(4e, 5e)}$  1.77 – 1.53 (m, 4H),  $\text{H}_7$  1.48 – 1.29 (m, 2H),  $\text{H}_{(2, 3, 6)}$  1.21 – 0.95 (m, 4H),  $\text{H}_{(1, 4a, 5a)}$  0.89 – 0.67 (m, 7H).



$^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm):  $\text{C}_{22}$  164.4, 160.5,  $\text{C}_9$  144.5,  $\text{C}_{20}$  144.0,  $\text{C}_{18}$  133.2,  $\text{C}_{(11, 13)}$  131.6,  $\text{C}_{(10, 14)}$  128.4,  $\text{C}_{19}$  124.1,  $\text{C}_{12}$  120.2,  $\text{C}_{21}$  115.6,  $\text{C}_{17}$  109.7,  $\text{C}_{25}$  103.5,  $\text{C}_{16}$  94.4,  $\text{C}_{15}$  82.2,  $\text{C}_{26}$  65.0,  $\text{C}_6$  39.6,  $\text{C}_3$  39.1,  $\text{C}_8$  37.5,  $\text{C}_{24}$  35.0,  $\text{C}_4$  33.3,  $\text{C}_5$  33.3,  $\text{C}_7$  32.8,  $\text{C}_{23}$  30.0,  $\text{C}_2$  30.0,  $\text{C}_1$  11.6.

EI-MS  $m/z$  (rel. int.): 434( $\text{M}^+$ , 26), 372(15), 309(18), 207(100), 100(73), 73(78).

IR (KBr, pellet,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2955, 2912, 2848, 2205, 1907, 1605, 1515, 1438, 1217, 1130, 1038, 886, 812.

Elemental analysis: Calc. for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{35}\text{FO}_2$ : C 80.15, H 8.12; Found: C 79.92, H 8.21.

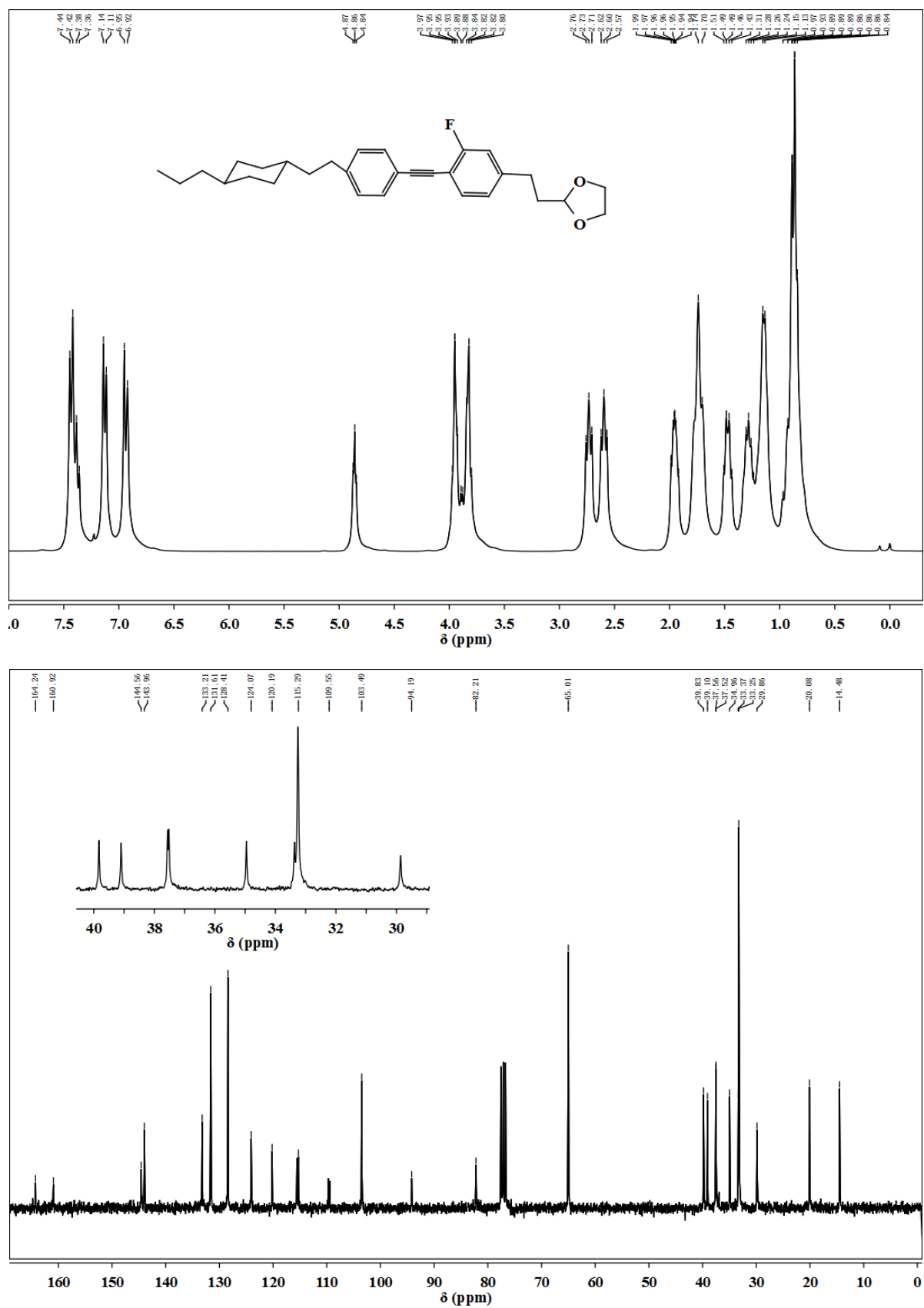
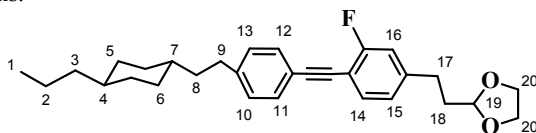
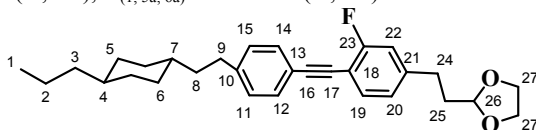


Fig. S2. <sup>1</sup>H (top) and <sup>13</sup>C (bottom) NMR spectra of 3TF2 recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

**3TF2**: The yield was 50% of white crystals.



$^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm):  $\text{H}_{(11, 12, 14)}$  7.40 (dd,  $J = 18.0, 7.8$  Hz, 3H),  $\text{H}_{(10, 13)}$  7.13 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H),  $\text{H}_{(15, 16)}$  6.94 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 2H),  $\text{H}_{19}$  5.04 – 4.59 (m, 1H),  $\text{H}_{20}$  4.04 – 3.72 (m, 4H),  $\text{H}_{(9, 17)}$  2.86 – 2.43 (m, 4H),  $\text{H}_{18}$  2.09 – 1.87 (m, 2H),  $\text{H}_{(5e, 6e)}$  1.84 – 1.60 (m, 4H),  $\text{H}_8$  1.56 – 1.42 (m, 2H),  $\text{H}_{(2, 3, 4, 7)}$  1.36 – 1.08 (m, 6H),  $\text{H}_{(1, 5a, 6a)}$  0.95 – 0.76 (m, 7H).



$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm):  $\text{C}_{23}$  164.2, 160.9,  $\text{C}_{10}$  144.6,  $\text{C}_{21}$  144.0,  $\text{C}_{19}$  133.2,  $\text{C}_{(12, 14)}$  131.6,  $\text{C}_{(11, 15)}$  128.4,  $\text{C}_{20}$  124.1,  $\text{C}_{13}$  120.2,  $\text{C}_{22}$  115.3,  $\text{C}_{18}$  109.6,  $\text{C}_{26}$  103.5,  $\text{C}_{17}$  94.2,  $\text{C}_{16}$  82.2,  $\text{C}_{27}$  65.0,  $\text{C}_7$  39.8,  $\text{C}_4$  39.1,  $\text{C}_9$  37.5,  $\text{C}_3$  37.5,  $\text{C}_{25}$  35.0,  $\text{C}_5$  33.3,  $\text{C}_6$  33.3,  $\text{C}_8$  33.3,  $\text{C}_{24}$  29.9,  $\text{C}_2$  20.1,  $\text{C}_1$  14.5.

EI-MS  $m/z$  (rel. int.): 448( $\text{M}^+$ , 46), 309(28), 222(28), 207(40), 100(100).

IR (KBr, pellet,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2958, 2906, 2848, 2211, 1903, 1613, 1517, 1440, 1221, 1131, 1042, 887, 816.

Elemental analysis: Calc. for  $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{37}\text{FO}_2$ : C 80.32, H 8.31; Found: C 80.26, H 8.52.

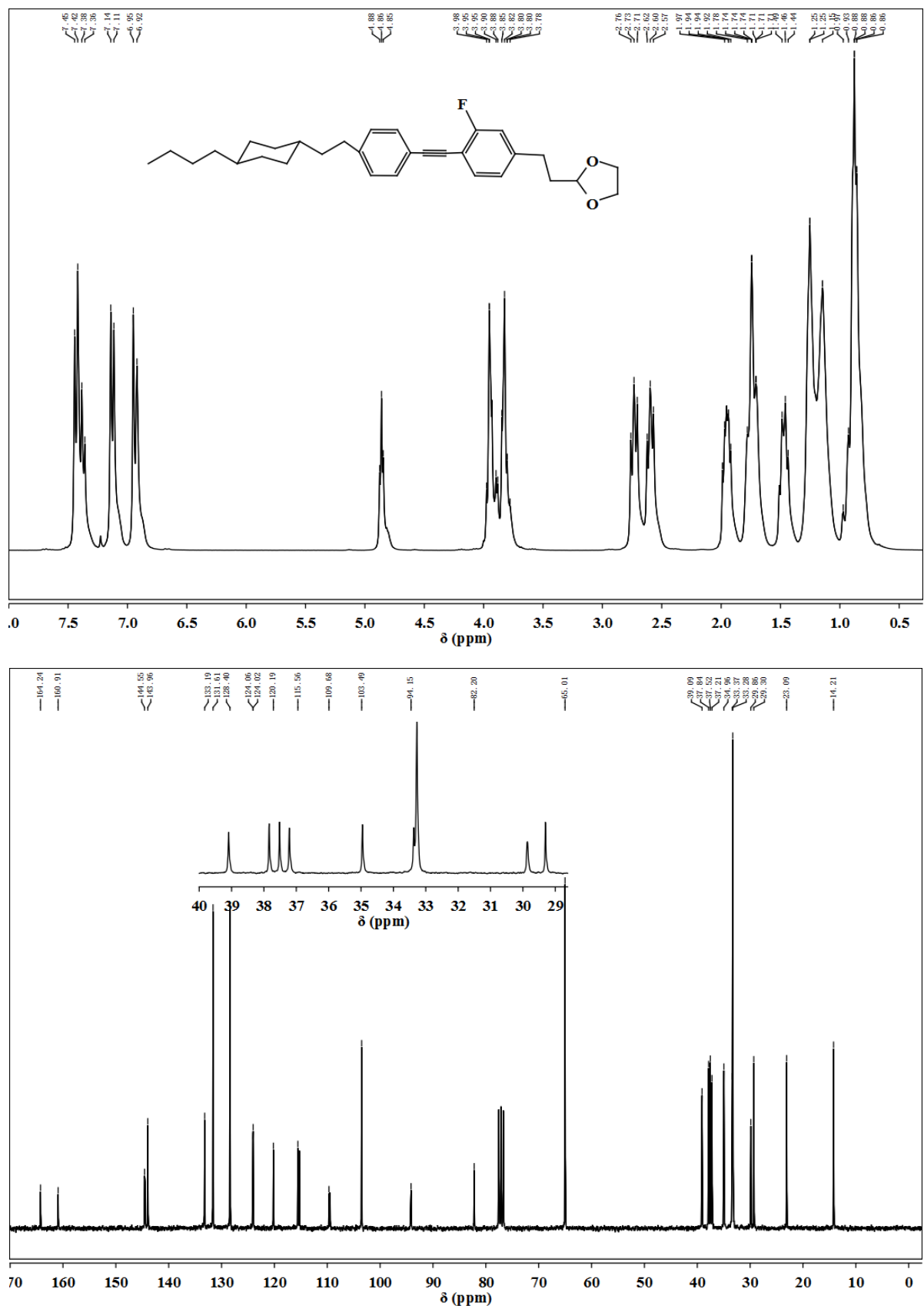
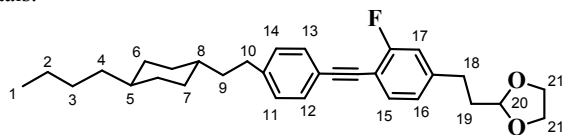
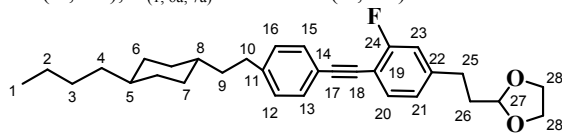


Fig. S3. <sup>1</sup>H (top) and <sup>13</sup>C (bottom) NMR spectra of 4TF2 recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

**4TF2**: The yield was 45% of white crystals.



$^1\text{H NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm):  $\text{H}_{(12, 13, 15)}$  7.40 (dd,  $J = 18.1, 7.8$  Hz, 3H),  $\text{H}_{(11, 14)}$  7.13 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H),  $\text{H}_{(16, 17)}$  6.94 (d,  $J = 9.2$  Hz, 2H),  $\text{H}_{20}$  4.93 – 4.77 (m, 1H),  $\text{H}_{21}$  4.00 – 3.72 (m, 4H),  $\text{H}_{(10, 18)}$  2.78 – 2.49 (m, 4H),  $\text{H}_{19}$  2.03 – 1.86 (m, 2H),  $\text{H}_{(6e, 7e)}$  1.83 – 1.60 (m, 4H),  $\text{H}_9$  1.54 – 1.36 (m, 2H),  $\text{H}_{(2, 3, 4, 5, 8)}$  1.34 – 1.04 (m, 8H),  $\text{H}_{(1, 6a, 7a)}$  0.97 – 0.73 (m, 7H).



$^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm):  $\text{C}_{24}$  164.2, 160.9,  $\text{C}_{11}$  144.6,  $\text{C}_{22}$  144.0,  $\text{C}_{20}$  133.2,  $\text{C}_{(13, 15)}$  131.6,  $\text{C}_{(12, 16)}$  128.4,  $\text{C}_{21}$  124.0,  $\text{C}_{14}$  120.2,  $\text{C}_{23}$  115.6,  $\text{C}_{19}$  109.7,  $\text{C}_{27}$  103.5,  $\text{C}_{18}$  94.2,  $\text{C}_{17}$  82.2,  $\text{C}_{28}$  65.0,  $\text{C}_8$  39.1,  $\text{C}_5$  37.8,  $\text{C}_{10}$  37.5,  $\text{C}_4$  37.2,  $\text{C}_{26}$  35.0,  $\text{C}_6$  33.3,  $\text{C}_7$  33.3,  $\text{C}_9$  33.3,  $\text{C}_{25}$  29.9,  $\text{C}_3$  29.3,  $\text{C}_2$  23.1,  $\text{C}_1$  14.2.

EI-MS  $m/z$  (rel. int.): 462( $\text{M}^+$ , 50), 309(38), 235(30), 100(100), 73(70).

IR (KBr, pellet,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2962, 2916, 2848, 2208, 1913, 1617, 1517, 1436, 1217, 1135, 1048, 880, 812.

Elemental analysis: Calc. for  $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{39}\text{FO}_2$ : C 80.48, H 8.50; Found: C 80.28, H 8.66.

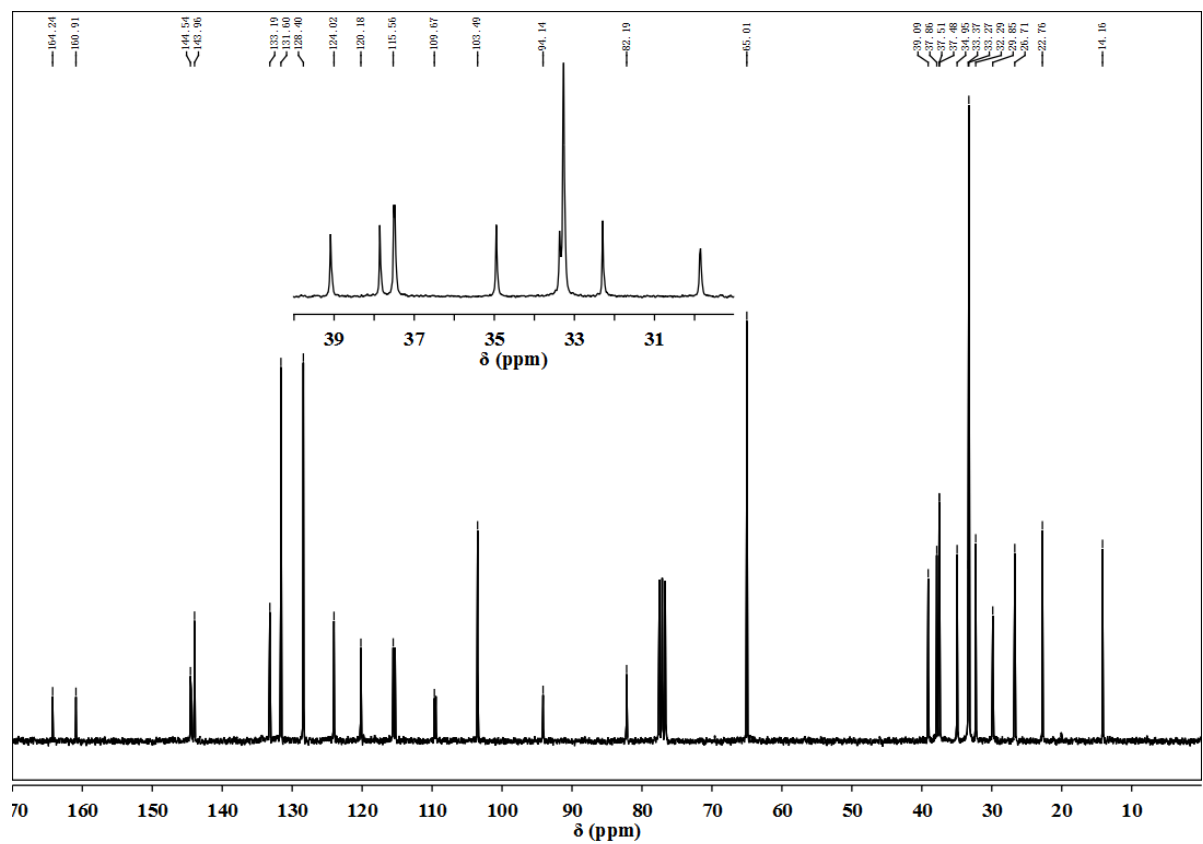
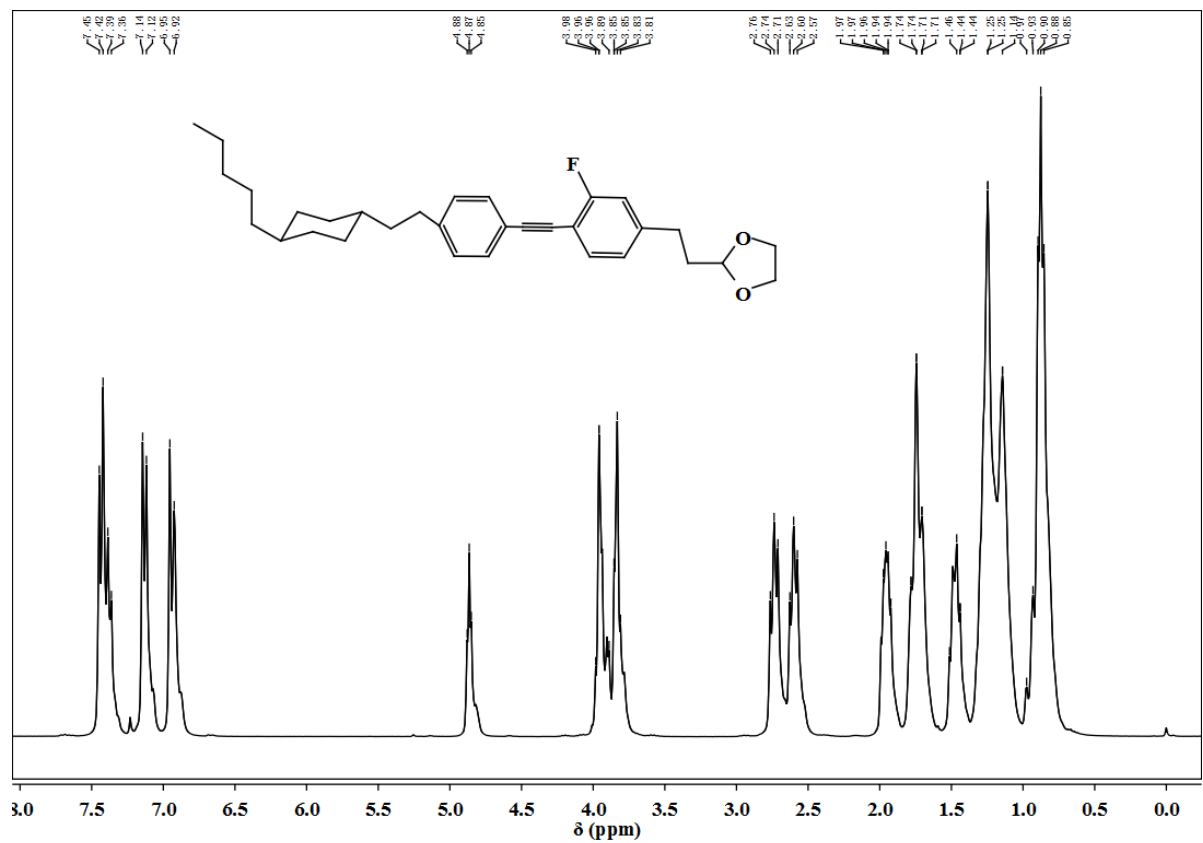
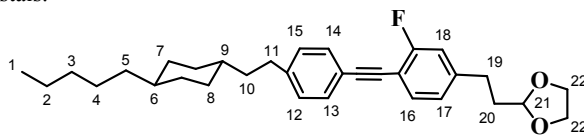


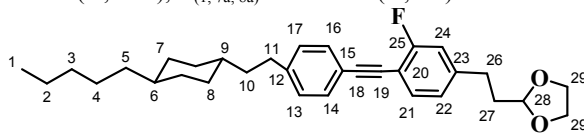
Fig. S4. <sup>1</sup>H (top) and <sup>13</sup>C (bottom) NMR spectra of 5TF2 recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



**5TF2**: The yield was 52% of white crystals.



$^1\text{H NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm):  $\text{H}_{(13, 14, 16)}$  7.40 (dd,  $J = 17.7, 7.7$  Hz, 3H),  $\text{H}_{(12, 15)}$  7.13 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 2H),  $\text{H}_{(17, 18)}$  6.94 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 2H),  $\text{H}_{21}$  4.92 – 4.76 (m, 1H),  $\text{H}_{22}$  4.01 – 3.71 (m, 4H),  $\text{H}_{(11, 19)}$  2.81 – 2.49 (m, 4H),  $\text{H}_{20}$  2.03 – 1.85 (m, 2H),  $\text{H}_{(7e, 8e)}$  1.82 – 1.59 (m, 4H),  $\text{H}_{10}$  1.55 – 1.37 (m, 2H),  $\text{H}_{(2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9)}$  1.35 – 1.02 (m, 10H),  $\text{H}_{(1, 7a, 8a)}$  1.00 – 0.70 (m, 7H).



$^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm):  $\text{C}_{25}$  164.2, 160.9,  $\text{C}_{12}$  144.5,  $\text{C}_{23}$  144.0,  $\text{C}_{21}$  133.2,  $\text{C}_{(14, 16)}$  131.6,  $\text{C}_{(13, 17)}$  128.4,  $\text{C}_{22}$  124.0,  $\text{C}_{15}$  120.2,  $\text{C}_{24}$  115.6,  $\text{C}_{20}$  109.7,  $\text{C}_{28}$  103.5,  $\text{C}_{19}$  94.1,  $\text{C}_{18}$  82.2,  $\text{C}_{29}$  65.0,  $\text{C}_9$  39.1,  $\text{C}_6$  37.9,  $\text{C}_{11}$  37.5,  $\text{C}_5$  37.5,  $\text{C}_{27}$  35.0,  $\text{C}_7$  33.3,  $\text{C}_8$  33.3,  $\text{C}_{10}$  33.3,  $\text{C}_3$  32.3,  $\text{C}_{26}$  29.9,  $\text{C}_4$  26.7,  $\text{C}_2$  22.8,  $\text{C}_1$  14.2.

EI-MS  $m/z$  (rel. int.): 476( $\text{M}^+$ , 55), 309(40), 235(28), 100(100), 73(62).

IR (KBr, pellet,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2960, 2909, 2848, 2207, 1903, 1613, 1513, 1440, 1217, 1128, 1049, 886, 816.

Elemental analysis: Calc. for  $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{41}\text{FO}_2$ : C 80.63, H 8.67; Found: C 80.33, H 8.71.

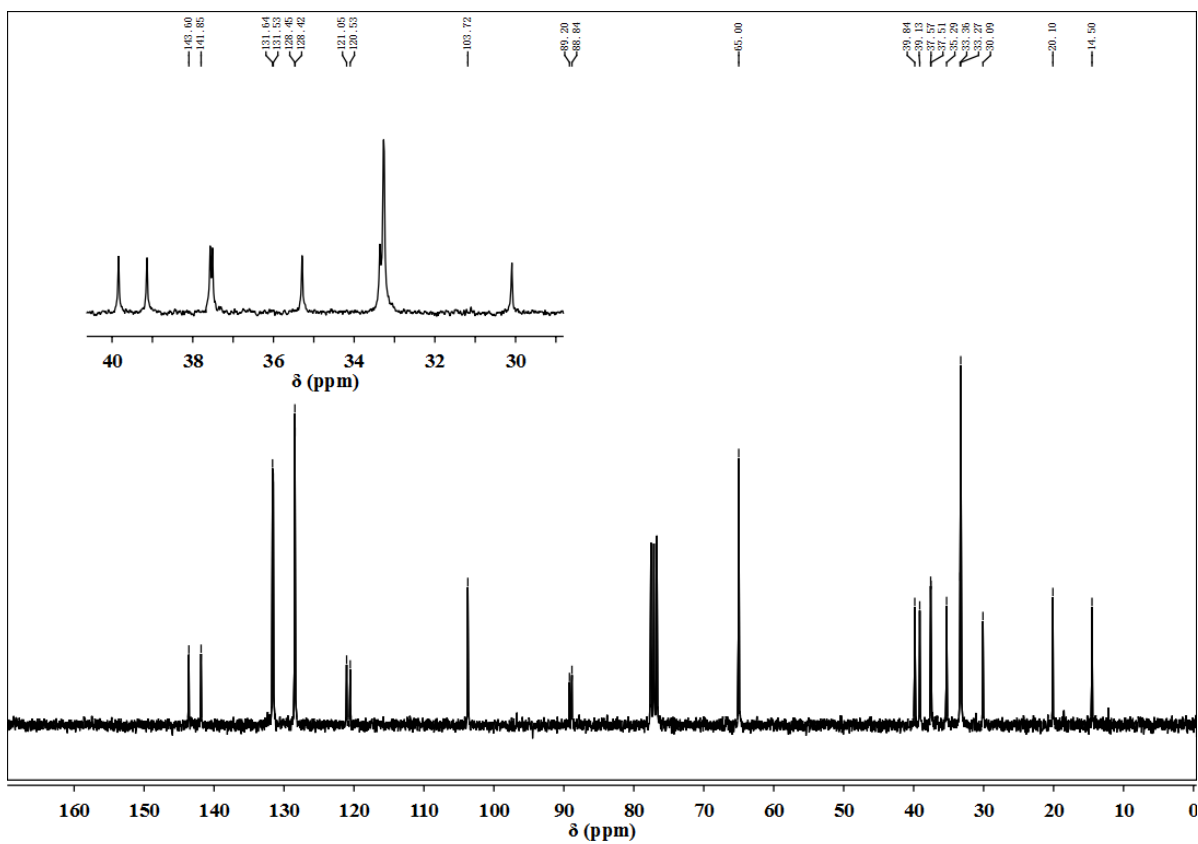
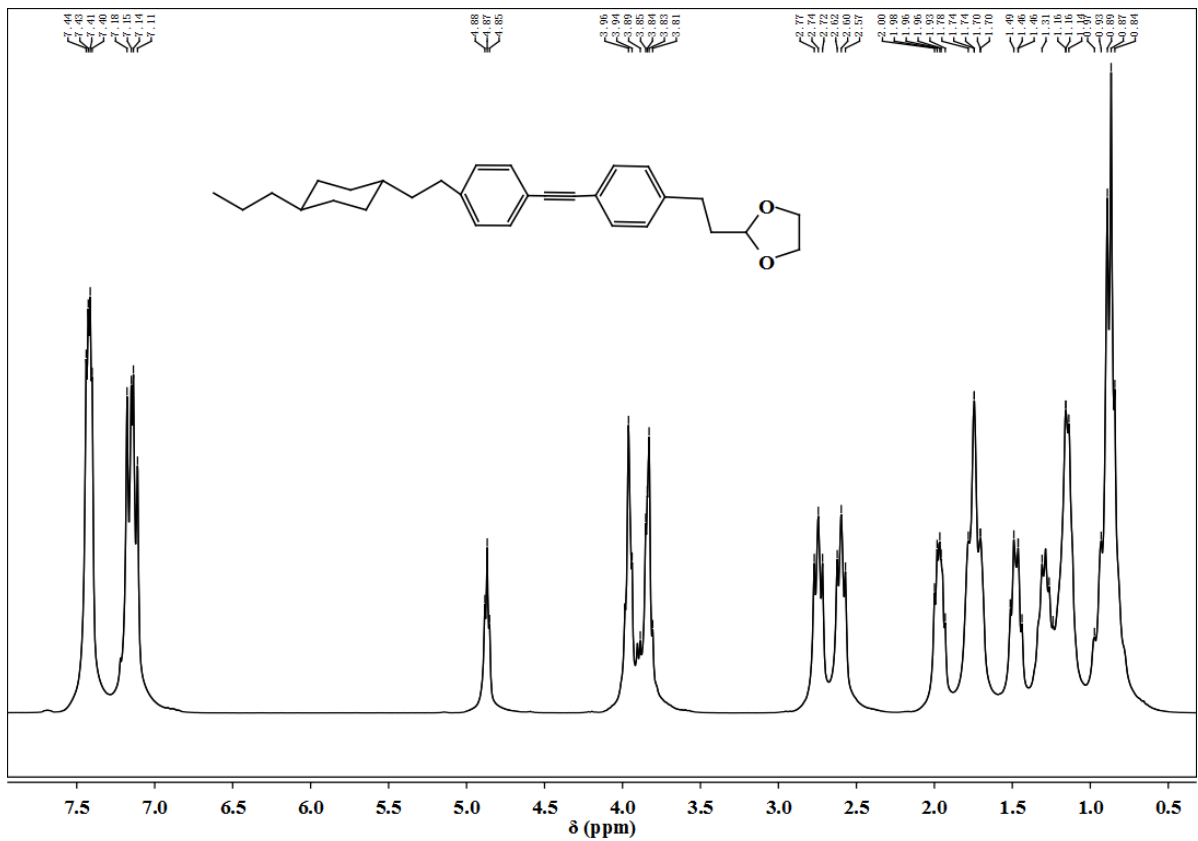
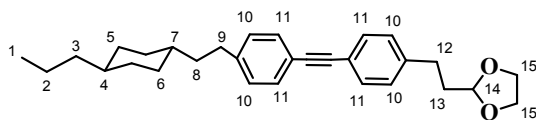
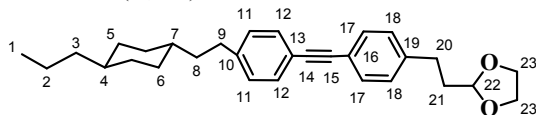


Fig. S5. <sup>1</sup>H (top) and <sup>13</sup>C (bottom) NMR spectra of 3T recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

**3T**: The yield was 55% of white crystals.



$^1\text{H NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm):  $\text{H}_{11}$  7.42 (dd,  $J = 7.7, 3.9$  Hz, 4H),  $\text{H}_{10}$  7.14 (dd,  $J = 12.1, 8.1$  Hz, 4H),  $\text{H}_{14}$  5.01 – 4.79 (m, 1H),  $\text{H}_{15}$  4.09 – 3.75 (m, 4H),  $\text{H}_{12}$  2.87 – 2.67 (m, 2H),  $\text{H}_9$  2.67 – 2.47 (m, 2H),  $\text{H}_{13}$  2.08 – 1.89 (m, 2H),  $\text{H}_{(5e, 6e)}$  1.84 – 1.62 (m, 4H),  $\text{H}_8$  1.55 – 1.38 (m, 2H),  $\text{H}_{(2, 3, 4, 7)}$  1.36 – 1.08 (m, 6H),  $\text{H}_{(1, 5a, 6a)}$  0.99 – 0.79 (m, 7H).



$^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm):  $\text{C}_{10}$  143.6,  $\text{C}_{19}$  141.9,  $\text{C}_{17}$  131.6,  $\text{C}_{12}$  131.5,  $\text{C}_{11}$  128.4,  $\text{C}_{18}$  128.4,  $\text{C}_{16}$  121.1,  $\text{C}_{13}$  120.5,  $\text{C}_{22}$  103.7,  $\text{C}_{15}$  89.2,  $\text{C}_{14}$  88.8,  $\text{C}_{23}$  65.0,  $\text{C}_7$  39.8,  $\text{C}_4$  39.1,  $\text{C}_9$  37.5,  $\text{C}_3$  37.5,  $\text{C}_{21}$  35.3,  $\text{C}_5$  33.3,  $\text{C}_6$  33.3,  $\text{C}_8$  33.3,  $\text{C}_{20}$  30.1,  $\text{C}_2$  20.1,  $\text{C}_1$  14.5.

EI-MS  $m/z$  (rel. int.): 430( $\text{M}^+$ , 57), 217(28), 204(30), 100(100), 73(47).

IR (KBr, pellet,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2951, 2912, 2848, 2115, 1903, 1607, 1510, 1446, 1408, 1131, 1028, 881, 811.

Elemental analysis: Calc. for  $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{38}\text{O}_2$ : C 83.67, H 8.89; Found: C 83.89, H 9.12.

The characterized data of compounds **nBF1** and **nBF2** are listed below:

**2BF1**: The yield was 60% of white crystals.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.46 (d,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.29 (m, 3H), 7.00 - 6.89 (m, 2H), 4.94 - 4.91 (m, 1H), 4.07 - 3.92 (m, 2H), 3.90 - 3.74 (m, 2H), 2.87 - 2.72 (m, 2H), 2.68 - 2.50 (m, 2H), 2.09 - 1.90 (m, 2H), 1.85 - 1.65 (m, 4H), 1.60 - 1.40 (m, 2H), 1.32 - 1.03 (m, 4H), 0.99 - 0.71 (m, 7H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 161.4, 158.1, 144.7, 144.7, 140.8, 133.6, 130.3, 130.3, 129.0, 128.9, 128.5, 126.0, 125.9, 124.3, 124.3, 115.8, 115.5, 103.9, 65.0, 39.6, 39.0, 37.5, 35.5, 33.3, 33.3, 32.8, 30.0, 29.9, 11.6. EI-MS  $m/z$  (rel. int.): 410( $\text{M}^+$ , 12), 348(19), 198(19), 100(100), 73(60). IR (KBr, pellet,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2964, 2919, 2848, 1916, 1568, 1498, 1446, 1409, 1125, 1035, 861, 816.

**3BF1**: The yield was 62% of white crystals.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.46 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H), 7.30 (m, 3H), 7.00 - 6.87 (m, 2H), 4.94 - 4.91 (m, 1H), 4.02-3.99 (m, 2H), 3.91-3.86 (m, 2H), 2.80-2.77 (m, 2H), 2.64-2.61 (m, 2H), 2.04-2.00 (m, 2H), 1.76-1.73 (m, 4H), 1.57-1.51 (m, 2H), 1.30-1.28 (m, 2H), 1.17-1.13 (m, 4H), 0.92-0.85 (m, 7H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 161.3, 158.0, 144.7, 144.7, 140.8, 133.5, 130.3, 130.3, 129.0, 128.9, 128.5, 126.0, 125.9, 124.3, 124.3, 115.9, 115.6, 103.8, 65.0, 39.8, 39.0, 37.5, 37.5, 35.4, 33.2, 33.2, 32.8, 29.9, 20.1, 14.6. EI-MS  $m/z$  (rel. int.): 424( $\text{M}^+$ , 8), 362(16), 198(20), 100(100), 73(61). IR (KBr, pellet,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2962, 2912, 2848, 1912, 1564, 1496, 1440, 1412, 1122, 1031, 866, 818.

**4BF1**: The yield was 58% of white crystals.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.38 (d,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 2H), 7.20 (m, 3H), 6.98 - 6.82 (m, 2H), 4.89 - 4.81 (m, 1H), 3.98 - 3.87 (m, 2H), 3.85 - 3.75 (m, 2H), 2.78 - 2.64 (m, 2H), 2.61 - 2.51 (m, 2H), 2.04 - 1.87 (m, 2H), 1.81 - 1.61 (m, 4H), 1.52 - 1.36 (m, 2H), 1.24 - 1.06 (m, 8H), 0.91 - 0.74 (m, 7H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 161.3, 158.1, 144.7, 144.7, 140.8, 133.6, 130.3, 130.3, 128.9, 128.9, 128.5, 126.0, 125.8, 124.3, 124.3, 115.9, 115.6, 103.8, 65.0, 39.0, 37.8, 37.5, 37.5, 37.2, 35.4, 33.3, 33.3, 32.9, 29.9, 29.3, 23.1, 14.2. EI-MS  $m/z$  (rel. int.): 438( $\text{M}^+$ , 7), 376(22), 198(23), 100(100), 73(66). IR (KBr, pellet,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2958, 2914, 2846, 1910, 1562, 1494, 1436, 1406, 1117, 1028, 858, 807.

**5BF1**: The yield was 63% of white crystals.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.45 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.28 (m, 3H), 6.98 - 6.92 (m, 2H), 4.95 - 4.84 (m, 1H), 4.02 - 3.93 (m, 2H), 3.87 - 3.77 (m, 2H), 2.88 - 2.72 (m, 2H), 2.68 - 2.54 (m, 2H), 2.09 - 1.93 (m, 2H), 1.88 - 1.66 (m, 4H), 1.59 - 1.40 (m, 2H), 1.43 - 1.06 (m, 10H), 1.03 - 0.77 (m, 7H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 161.4, 158.1, 144.7, 144.7, 140.9, 133.6, 130.3, 130.3, 129.0, 129.0, 128.5, 126.0, 125.9, 124.3, 124.3, 116.0, 115.7, 103.9, 65.0, 39.1, 37.9, 37.5, 37.5, 35.5, 33.3, 33.3, 32.9, 32.3, 29.9, 26.8, 22.8, 14.2. EI-MS  $m/z$  (rel. int.): 452( $\text{M}^+$ , 8), 390(29), 185(19), 100(100), 73(58). IR (KBr, pellet,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2951, 2910, 2848, 1912, 1558, 1488, 1442, 1409, 1115, 1025, 858, 809.

**2BF2**: The yield was 58% of white crystals.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.33 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.21 (t,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.11 (m, 2H), 6.92 - 6.86 (m, 2H), 4.85 - 4.71 (m, 1H), 3.91 - 3.78 (m, 2H), 3.75 - 3.63 (m, 2H), 2.72 - 2.60 (m, 2H), 2.57 - 2.44 (m, 2H), 1.95 - 1.81 (m, 2H), 1.78 - 1.56 (m, 4H), 1.50 - 1.35 (m, 2H), 1.20 - 0.95 (m, 4H), 0.87 - 0.67 (m, 7H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 161.4, 158.2, 143.0, 142.6, 133.1, 130.5, 130.5, 128.8, 128.8, 128.5, 126.6, 126.5, 124.4, 116.1, 115.8, 103.7, 65.0, 39.7, 39.4, 37.7, 35.2, 33.3, 33.2, 32.9, 30.1, 29.6, 11.6. EI-MS  $m/z$  (rel. int.): 410( $\text{M}^+$ , 33), 324(30), 211(34), 198(31), 100(100), 73(81). IR (KBr, pellet,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2964, 2919, 2848, 1916, 1626, 1492, 1440, 1395, 1273, 1131, 1022, 887, 810.

**3BF2**: The yield was 62% of white crystals.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.36 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H), 7.26 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.16 (m, 2H), 6.96 - 6.91 (m, 2H), 4.92 - 4.79 (m, 1H), 3.97 - 3.86 (m, 2H), 3.85 - 3.74 (m, 2H), 2.74 - 2.63 (m, 2H), 2.62 - 2.50 (m, 2H), 1.99 - 1.87 (m, 2H), 1.76 - 1.63 (m, 4H), 1.49 - 1.42 (m, 2H), 1.26 - 1.20 (m, 2H), 1.17 - 1.04 (m, 4H), 0.89 - 0.77 (m, 7H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 160.6, 158.9, 142.9, 142.6, 133.0, 130.5, 130.5, 128.8, 128.8, 128.4, 126.8, 126.6, 124.3, 116.0, 115.9, 103.7, 65.0, 39.8, 39.4, 37.5, 37.5, 35.2, 33.3, 33.3, 33.1, 29.6, 20.1, 14.5. EI-MS  $m/z$  (rel. int.): 424( $\text{M}^+$ , 23), 338(25), 211(35), 198(31), 100(100), 73(84). IR (KBr, pellet,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2964, 2919, 2848, 1907, 1616, 1489, 1444, 1387, 1270, 1135, 1028, 891, 815.

**4BF2**: The yield was 60% of white crystals.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.37 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.27 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.17 (m, 2H), 6.97 - 6.91 (m, 2H), 4.91 - 4.80 (m, 1H), 3.98 - 3.89 (m, 2H), 3.86 - 3.78 (m, 2H), 2.75 - 2.67 (m, 2H), 2.63 - 2.54 (m, 2H), 1.97 - 1.90 (m, 2H), 1.79 - 1.63 (m, 4H), 1.51 - 1.42 (m, 2H), 1.22 - 1.07 (m, 8H), 0.90 - 0.73 (m, 7H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 160.6, 159.0, 143.0, 142.6, 133.0, 130.5, 130.5, 128.8, 128.8, 128.4, 126.6, 126.5, 124.3, 116.0, 115.8, 103.7, 65.0, 39.4, 37.9, 37.5, 37.5, 37.2, 35.2, 33.3, 33.3, 33.1, 29.6, 29.3, 23.1, 14.2. EI-MS  $m/z$  (rel. int.): 438( $\text{M}^+$ , 18), 376(19), 211(34), 198(30), 100(100), 73(82). IR (KBr, pellet,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2962, 2910, 2845, 1910, 1616, 1487, 1438, 1392, 1268, 1128, 1022, 887, 813.

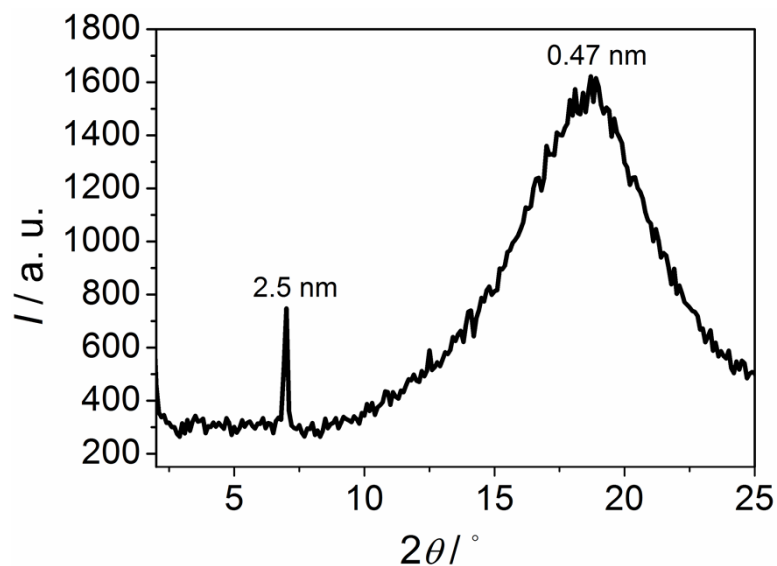
**5BF2**: The yield was 61% of white crystals.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.48 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.31 (t,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.22 (m, 2H), 6.97 - 6.92 (m, 2H), 4.96 - 4.85 (m, 1H), 4.05 - 3.92 (m, 2H), 3.92 - 3.81 (m, 2H), 2.82 - 2.75 (m, 2H), 2.70 - 2.51 (m, 2H), 2.05 - 1.97 (m, 2H), 1.83 - 1.70 (m, 4H), 1.58 - 1.43 (m, 2H), 1.36 - 1.08 (m, 10H), 1.00 - 0.79 (m, 7H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 163.6, 162.0, 145.8, 142.0, 138.5, 129.6, 129.5, 128.9, 128.7, 128.4, 126.8, 126.8, 124.0, 115.2, 115.0, 103.8, 65.0, 39.4, 37.9, 37.6, 37.5, 35.4, 33.3, 33.3, 33.0, 32.3, 29.8, 26.7, 22.7, 14.1. EI-MS  $m/z$  (rel. int.): 452( $\text{M}^+$ , 20), 390(28), 211(33), 207(83), 100(100), 73(97). IR (KBr, pellet,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2958, 2919, 2848, 1912, 1622, 1489, 1444, 1387, 1273, 1135, 1017, 890, 810.

### 3. Table S1 and Fig. S6

**Table S1.** Types of phase transition, temperatures and corresponding enthalpies obtained by POM and DSC for compounds **nTF2**, **3T**, **nBF1** and **nBF2**.<sup>a</sup>

Compounds	Transition temperature, °C (enthalpy change, kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )	
	Heating process	Cooling process
<b>2TF2</b>	Cr <sub>1</sub> 73.2 (17.8) Cr <sub>2</sub> 101.7 (20.1) N 124.9 (1.3) I	I 122.1 (-1.4) N 88.6 (-19.8) Cr
<b>3TF2</b>	Cr <sub>1</sub> 83.3 (4.4) Cr <sub>2</sub> 117.3 (20.0) N 150.6 (1.5) I	I 146.9 (-1.7) N 94.4 (-19.6) Cr
<b>4TF2</b>	Cr 101.7 (21.9) N 142.8 (1.4) I	I 139.7 (-1.6) N 83.5 (-20.4) Cr
<b>5TF2</b>	Cr <sub>1</sub> 83.7 (3.3) Cr <sub>2</sub> 115.7 (23.4) N 147.3 (1.5) I	I 143.8 (-1.6) N 99.0 (-15.0) Cr
<b>3T</b>	Cr 130.8 (15.8) N 160.7 (1.1) I	I 155.5 (-0.9) N 108.0 (-9.4) Cr
<b>2BF1</b>	Cr 79.0 (0.5) I	I 76.0 (-0.6) Cr
<b>3BF1</b>	Cr 70.2 (14.1) N 111.8 (1.0) I	I 108.3 (-1.3) N 56.4 (-11.7) Cr
<b>4BF1</b>	Cr 104.3 (0.8) I	I 100.8 (-0.7) Cr
<b>5BF1</b>	Cr 68.1 (32.4) N 112.8 (1.1) I	I 110.3 (-1.4) N 46.0 (-14.6) Cr
<b>2BF2</b>	Cr 71.0 (46.0) I	I 71.4 (-1.3) Cr
<b>3BF2</b>	Cr 82.5 (18.5) N 113.9 (1.5) I	I 110.5 (-1.7) N 58.3 (-17.1) Cr
<b>4BF2</b>	Cr 66.7 (12.9) N 97.4 (0.5) I	I 94.9 (-0.7) N 40.0 (-6.6) Cr
<b>5BF2</b>	Cr 78.1 (21.2) N 110.1 (1.2) I	I 107.1 (-1.3) N 51.5 (-15.2) Cr

<sup>a</sup> Cr<sub>1</sub>: crystal 1; Cr<sub>2</sub>: crystal 2; N: nematic mesophase phase; I: isotropic liquid.



**Fig. S6.** X-ray scattering diagram ( $\theta$  - scans over the complete XRD pattern) of **2TF2** obtained at 100 °C on the sample gradually cooled from the isotropic state.

All the nematic phases of target compounds under investigation are evident from the XRD method that was performed for representative compound **2TF2**. As shown in Fig. S6, in the XRD pattern of the nematic phase diffuse wide-angle maxima is observed at  $d = 0.47$  nm, which corresponds to the mean lateral distance between the molecules and indicates fluid liquid crystal phase.<sup>[S1]</sup>

[S1] G. Shanker, M. Prehm, M. Nagaraj, J. K. Vij, M. Weyland, A. Eremin and C. Tschierske, *ChemPhysChem*, 2014, **15**, 1323–1335.

## 4. Geometric data

Optimized geometry for molecular **2BF2**

C	4.22429400	-0.17494900	-1.34893100
C	2.83676400	-0.18634700	-1.45790900
C	2.01681500	-0.82079400	-0.50744200
C	2.69089900	-1.44297300	0.55179800
C	4.07280200	-1.44278300	0.68137500
C	4.86853000	-0.80248300	-0.27427100
H	4.81718900	0.31637400	-2.11569800
H	2.36524500	0.28427100	-2.31507300
C	0.53772600	-0.80915900	-0.63105400
C	-0.24724100	-1.92949100	-0.30858400
C	-0.12179800	0.33458600	-1.11026800
C	-1.62968200	-1.90211500	-0.46902400
H	0.23034500	-2.82980100	0.05971200
C	-1.50551200	0.35489400	-1.26707600
H	0.45476000	1.22427900	-1.34582200
C	-2.28786700	-0.76228500	-0.94997900
H	-2.21011800	-2.78805100	-0.22193500
H	-1.98714700	1.25680400	-1.63757600
F	1.97733600	-2.07423200	1.51568800
C	6.86712300	0.49411300	0.60700500
H	6.44083600	0.53192600	1.61611400
H	6.54352400	1.39831400	0.08076000
C	-3.79521300	-0.72515100	-1.07703900
H	-4.07219500	-0.03357900	-1.88044200
H	-4.16268700	-1.71555500	-1.37590700
C	-4.49136600	-0.30908400	0.23591100
H	-4.15290600	-0.98370300	1.03338700
H	-4.14416600	0.69342300	0.52273600
C	-6.02975000	-0.32315500	0.19234700
C	-6.61768900	-0.10634900	1.59907800
C	-6.61734400	0.71561700	-0.78066800
H	-6.34916300	-1.32103100	-0.15110000
C	-8.15248800	-0.09908400	1.60125300
H	-6.25012600	0.85314700	1.99256000
H	-6.24487200	-0.88115300	2.28090900
C	-8.15423000	0.72376700	-0.77628100
H	-6.24842100	1.71265700	-0.49611200
H	-6.25917300	0.53344100	-1.80045000
C	-8.73885300	0.94222100	0.63099000
H	-8.52411800	0.08764100	2.61685300
H	-8.52070500	-1.09614700	1.31664400
H	-8.51535600	1.49488400	-1.46620400
H	-8.52292500	-0.23728800	-1.16606400
H	-8.41408700	1.93788000	0.97641100
C	-10.27787600	0.91798200	0.65445500
H	-10.60866800	0.96700600	1.70063300
H	-10.62504200	-0.05337500	0.27418800
C	-10.95501100	2.04612500	-0.13195600
H	-10.73273700	1.99192700	-1.20239500
H	-10.62645000	3.02916500	0.22492400
H	4.51178700	-1.94653400	1.53715200

C	6.37396900	-0.76306100	-0.13404400
H	6.84126700	-0.78756300	-1.12380600
H	6.71773300	-1.65719200	0.40082300
C	8.38025500	0.54050100	0.72629400
O	8.99865800	0.57704000	-0.56407700
H	8.76371100	-0.34826900	1.26191500
C	9.97991300	1.61568400	-0.55970400
C	10.08269800	2.00297300	0.91939700
H	10.92114300	1.23657400	-0.97200900
H	9.63628900	2.45770500	-1.17472700
H	10.83617400	1.39302200	1.44101600
H	10.29367600	3.06039900	1.09277800
O	8.77454800	1.71665700	1.40191700
H	-12.04348100	2.00171400	-0.02213100

#### Optimized geometry for molecular **2TF2**

C	5.34133500	-1.08044000	-1.44831000
C	3.95412400	-1.07965200	-1.35549800
C	3.30501300	-0.83085900	-0.12938400
C	4.12990200	-0.58404100	0.98153600
C	5.51292800	-0.58381500	0.90071300
C	6.14407900	-0.83431600	-0.32471300
H	5.81156200	-1.28221900	-2.40682000
H	3.34492400	-1.27785500	-2.23101400
C	1.88998200	-0.83980900	-0.00748700
C	0.67726100	-0.85938600	0.08203200
C	-0.74102700	-0.88981600	0.20418100
C	-1.36202700	-0.62477100	1.44080400
C	-1.55628300	-1.19843900	-0.90256500
C	-2.74666600	-0.67288200	1.55854700
H	-0.74503600	-0.38999000	2.30200700
C	-2.93942100	-1.24339100	-0.76854700
H	-1.09137000	-1.40884500	-1.86034800
C	-3.56225300	-0.98416800	0.46100400
H	-3.20583400	-0.47257800	2.52356600
H	-3.55022300	-1.49164100	-1.63320900
F	3.55188700	-0.34514000	2.17453600
C	8.20791900	0.60567400	-0.68498800
H	7.90838500	1.28607800	0.11908100
H	7.80617300	1.00824500	-1.62198300
C	-5.06895600	-1.01107900	0.59024800
H	-5.47300100	-1.77258800	-0.08586000
H	-5.34366100	-1.31892800	1.60726100
C	-5.72411000	0.35337500	0.28785300
H	-5.26992300	1.10841600	0.94293600
H	-5.47248400	0.65403100	-0.73878200
C	-7.25190500	0.38811800	0.47089100
C	-7.78712500	1.82810800	0.35883800
C	-8.00077100	-0.52014300	-0.52199600
H	-7.47723700	0.02884100	1.48861800
C	-9.31057600	1.90257700	0.52978100
H	-7.51214700	2.23278100	-0.62651700
H	-7.29402100	2.46710300	1.10236600
C	-9.52637800	-0.44375400	-0.35367600



H	-7.73266300	-0.21857500	-1.54584100
H	-7.67683000	-1.56165700	-0.41248400
C	-10.06139300	0.99615600	-0.46247200
H	-9.64941800	2.94021500	0.41584200
H	-9.57542000	1.60276600	1.55476100
H	-10.00674900	-1.08923800	-1.09782700
H	-9.80286500	-0.84840100	0.63174500
H	-9.83787000	1.35949000	-1.47921800
C	-11.58372800	1.08957300	-0.25530000
H	-11.86464600	2.15100100	-0.22745200
H	-11.83333300	0.68587700	0.73634900
C	-12.42853900	0.38366800	-1.32181700
H	-12.26299100	-0.69815700	-1.32867700
H	-13.49673600	0.54845000	-1.14696100
H	-12.19557700	0.76089400	-2.32434300
H	6.08765200	-0.39354700	1.80175900
C	7.65237900	-0.80816700	-0.42879400
H	7.97307700	-1.47474400	-1.23894300
H	8.09811200	-1.19402100	0.49373500
C	11.48142500	1.99264600	-0.42991500
O	10.17843300	1.94015000	-1.00107400
C	9.72440200	0.62266300	-0.76970200
C	11.32281300	1.13345000	0.82817900
H	12.22851200	1.56406400	-1.11543500
H	11.73223900	3.03690900	-0.23174900
H	10.08401500	-0.04693000	-1.57350300
H	10.98232600	1.73046500	1.68433300
H	12.23962700	0.60352500	1.10737000
O	10.31556900	0.18916800	0.45954300

## 5. Vuks equation

$$\frac{n_e^2 - 1}{n^2 + 2} = \frac{N}{3\epsilon_0} \left[ \alpha + \frac{2\Delta\alpha S}{3} \right]$$

$$\frac{n_0^2 - 1}{n^2 + 2} = \frac{N}{3\epsilon_0} \left[ \alpha - \frac{2\Delta\alpha S}{3} \right]$$

$$n^2 = \frac{n_e^2 + 2n_0^2}{3}$$

$$\Delta n = n_e - n_0$$

$$\alpha = (\alpha_{//} + 2\alpha_{\perp})/3 = \frac{\alpha_{XX} + \alpha_{YY} + \alpha_{ZZ}}{3}$$

$$\Delta\alpha = \alpha_{//} - \alpha_{\perp} = \alpha_{XX} - \left( \frac{\alpha_{YY} + \alpha_{ZZ}}{2} \right)$$

## 6. The simulated molecular structure of 2BF2V

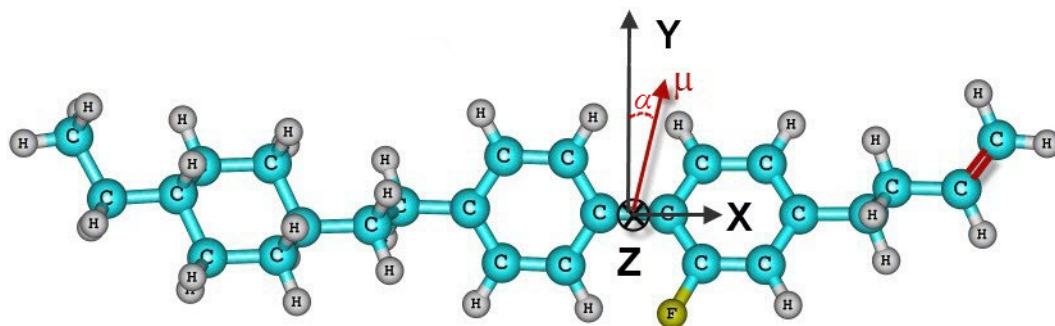


Fig. S7. The simulated molecular structure of 2BF2V.

$$\mu_x=0.1072, \mu_y=0.7320, \mu_z=0.3851$$

$$\mu = \sqrt{\mu_x^2 + \mu_y^2 + \mu_z^2}$$

$$\cos \alpha = \frac{\mu_y}{\mu} = 0.88$$

## 7. Compositions of mixtures SNULC-P01 and SNULC-P02

Table S2. Chemical structures and compositions of mixture SNULC-P01

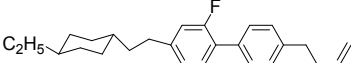
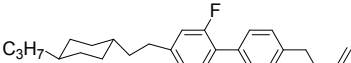
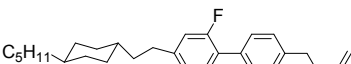
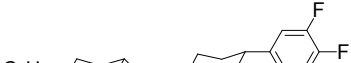



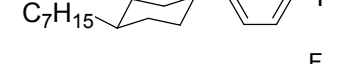
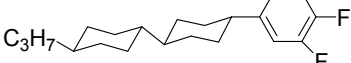
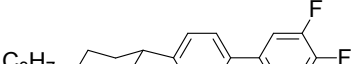

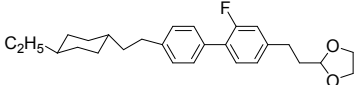
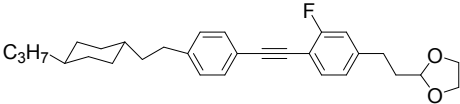
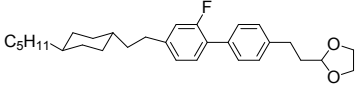
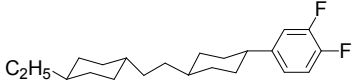
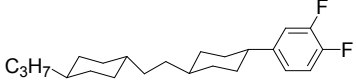
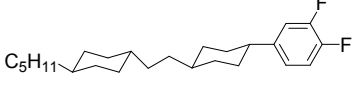


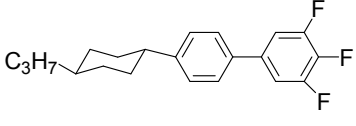
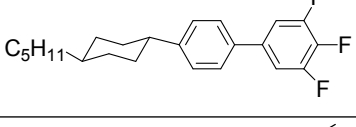
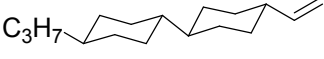
Code	Compound Structures	wt%
2H2BFB2V		8.27
3H2BFB2V		3.51
5H2BFB2V		3.53
2H2HBF2		49.34
3H2HBF2		
5H2HBF2		
7HBF2		
3HHBF3		
3HBBF3		
5HBBF3		
3HHV		35.35

Table S3. Chemical structures and compositions of mixture SNULC-P02

Code	Compound Structures	wt%
2BF2		5.02
3TF2		4.03
5BF1		6.10
2H2HBF2		49.65
3H2HBF2		
5H2HBF2		
7HBF2		
3HHBF3		
3HBBF3		
5HBBF3		
3HHV		35.20