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## **Photochemical & Photobiological Sciences**

# Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

# Photolabile acetals as profragrances: the effect of structural modifications on the light-induced release of volatile aldehydes on cotton

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## General

#### Instrumentation for the spectroscopic characterisation of compounds

Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were measured on Bruker Avance III 400, 500 or 600 spectrometers; the chemical displacements  $\delta$  are indicated in ppm with respect to Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (TMS) as the internal standard. Multiplets indicated together with the chemical shifts obtained from decoupled <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were determined by distortionless enhancement of polarization transfer (DEPT) measurements; two sets of spectra (DEPT-90 and DEPT-135, data not shown) were systematically recorded. Ultraviolet/Visible (UV/Vis) absorption spectra were measured on a Perkin Elmer Lambda 14 spectrometer, with  $\lambda$  indicated in nm ( $\varepsilon$  in L mol<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>) and sh = shoulder. Infrared (IR) spectra were measured on a Perkin Elmer 1600 FTIR spectrometer, with  $\tilde{v}_{max}$  given in cm<sup>-1</sup> and the intensities of the IR bands indicated as strong (s), medium (m) or weak (w) and br. = broad band. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on a Waters Acquity I-Class ultra-performance liquid chromatography (UPLC) system composed of a binary solvent manager (UPIBSM), a sample manager with fixed loop (UPISMFL, 10 µL), a column manager (UPCMA) and a PDA detector (UPPDATC). Samples were eluted at 0.5 mL min<sup>-1</sup> from a Waters Acquity UPLC® BEH C18 column (1.7  $\mu$ m, 50 mm × 2.1 mm inner diameter), thermostatted at 30.0°C ± 0.1°C, with a gradient of water/acetonitrile (both containing 0.1% of formic acid) at 98:2 for 1 min, then to 0:100 in 5 min. Electrospray ionisation (ESI) mass spectra were recorded on a Thermo Fisher Scientific Q-Exactive system (0726020) equipped with an H-ESI probe source in the full scan mode (m/z from 100 to 1500) with the H-ESI probe source in the positive or negative mode, depending on the ionization potential of the molecule, and at a spray voltage of 3500 V with a resolution of 70'000. Direct solvent injections were performed at a flow rate of 0.5 mL min<sup>-1</sup> with acetonitrile (containing 0.1% of formic acid) for 5 min, using the same setup of the Q-Exactive system.

### Instrumentation and conditions for dynamic headspace analysis

Tenax<sup>®</sup> cartridges (each filled with 100 mg of Tenax<sup>®</sup> TA [= poly(2,6-diphenyl-*p*-phenylene oxide)] adsorbent resin) were thermally desorbed on a Perkin Elmer TurboMatrix ATD desorber, connected to an Agilent Technologies 7890A gas chromatograph (GC) equipped with a HP-1 capillary column (30 m, 0.32 mm inner diameter, film thickness 0.25  $\mu$ m) and a flame ionisation detector. The volatiles were eluted with a one-step temperature gradient from 60°C to 200°C at 15°C min<sup>-1</sup> using He as the carrier gas. The thermodesorber was operated at a pressure of 70 kPa. Cartridges were heated at 240°C for 5 min. The volatiles were desorbed at 20 mL min<sup>-1</sup> and trapped at -30°C. The trap was then heated to 240°C (at 40°C s<sup>-1</sup>) and held for 2 min. The transfer tube to the GC was heated at 200°C and an outlet split of 30 mL min<sup>-1</sup> was used.

Quantitative headspace concentrations (in ng  $L^{-1}$  of air) were determined by external standard calibration. Ethanol solutions (0.2  $\mu$ L) of the aldehydes to be released at different concentrations were directly injected onto clean Tenax<sup>®</sup> cartridges, which were immediately desorbed and analysed as described above.

**Table S1** Dynamic headspace concentrations (with standard deviations) for the light-induced release of 10-undecenal from profragrances **1–12** and **25** as compared to unmodified 10-undecenal (reference) on dry cotton (indirect deposition) after line drying for 1 day (average values of at least two measurements)

10-Undecenal	Measured headspace concentrations of 10-undecenal with standard deviations (in parentheses) [ng L <sup>-1</sup> of air] on dry cotton after drying for 1 day and sampling for						
released from	25 min	55 min			145 min	175 min	
	23 11111	55 mm	85 min	115 min	143 11111	1/3 11111	
1a	2.5 (±3.2)	4.3 (±0.6)	5.2 (±2.3)	3.2 (±2.8)	4.7 (±0.4)	2.6 (±0.8)	
2a	2.8 (±4.9)	2.5 (±2.6)	2.4 (±2.1)	3.0 (±2.3)	2.9 (±2.5)	2.4 (±1.6)	
3a	4.2 (±2.5)	6.9 (±3.3)	8.9 (±3.1)	10.8 (±4.4)	12.0 (±4.2)	11.2 (±2.8)	
4a	545.3 (±296.4)	837.1 (±340.4)	854.9 (±263.5)	849.6 (±317.7)	750.6 (±359.6)	650.1 (±387.2)	
5a	325.3 (±25.5)	477.0 (±18.4)	515.1 (±9.1)	458.6 (±54.2)	416.6 (±92.4)	344.7 (±64.3)	
6a	250.8 (±72.4)	403.1 (±69.3)	413.2 (±14.7)	399.4 (±3.9)	366.0 (±3.5)	345.9 (±23.4)	
7a	294.0 (±109.3)	520.0 (±100.5)	587.6 (±56.8)	524.2 (±12.1)	466.4 (±44.9)	397.6 (±54.1)	
8a	10.7 (±2.8)	20.9 (±4.5)	19.5 (±13.7)	24.5 (±6.0)	25.8 (±0.1)	21.6 (±1.2)	
9a	27.3 (±41.7)	122.5 (±97.2)	161.9 (±115.2)	181.4 (±131.6)	188.9 (±124.4)	186.7 (±121.5	
10a	74.8 (±54.1)	129.7 (±87.5)	141.6 (±78.3)	133.7 (±63.3)	123.5 (±44.7)	111.4 (±32.0)	
11a	7.5 (±8.2)	10.8 (±5.3)	12.5 (±8.7)	14.9 (±10.0)	16.1 (±11.5)	14.9 (±11.3)	
12a	79.2 (±68.6)	148.8 (±118.0)	191.3 (±138.3)	186.1 (±112.8)	187.9 (±107.2)	205.4 (±128.4	
25	148.1 (±23.9)	235.9 (±43.9)	227.6 (±34.1)	217.2 (±14.5)	252.3 (±22.6)	172.4 (±21.5)	
Reference	2.9 (±2.7)	5.5 (±4.8)	7.6 (±5.6)	9.1 (±7.6)	8.6 (±5.2)	9.4 (±6.2)	

**Table S2** Amount of remaining acetal (**7a–12a**) or 2-oxo-2-phenylacetate (**25**) after photoirradiation in undegassed deuterated acetonitrile with a xenon lamp. Data from quantitative <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis based on the disappearance of the proton at C(2) using DMSO as the internal standard.

Irradiated compound	Amount of remaining profragrance <sup>a</sup> after photoirradiation for							
	30 min	60 min	90 min	120 min	150 min			
7a	55.2%	34.2%	22.3%	12.0%	11.3%			
8a	96.4%	92.4%	89.4%	87.9%	87.6%			
9a	88.8%	80.6%	72.6%	66.3%	61.9%			
10a	98.5%	95.7%	94.0%	88.8%	87.2%			
11a	98.7%	98.1%	96.5%	93.8%	90.3%			
12a	87.6%	79.5%	70.0%	62.7%	56.7%			
25	23.9%	3.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%			

<sup>*a*</sup> the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum recorded before irradiation was taken as corresponding to 100%.

**Table S3** Dynamic headspace concentrations (with standard deviations) for the light-induced release of  $(\pm)$ -6-methoxy-2,6-dimethylheptanal from profragrances **2b**–**4b**, of  $(\pm)$ -3-phenylbutanal from profragrances **3c** and **4c** and of  $(\pm)$ -3,5,5-trimethylhexanal from profragrance **4d** as compared to the corresponding unmodified reference aldehyde on dry cotton (indirect deposition) after line drying for 1 day (average values of at least two measurements)

					d deviations (in	
25 min	55 min	85 min	115 min	145 min	175 min	
3.1 <sup><i>a</i></sup>	4.5 <sup><i>a</i></sup>	$4.7^{a}$	$4.3^{a}$	$4.2^{a}$	3.9 <sup>a</sup>	
12.2 (±6.7)	19.6 (±11.4)	21.1 (±10.4)	23.0 (±11.3)	23.7 (±11.0)	24.4 (±11.9)	
	· · · · · ·	275.1 (±54.0)	· · · · · ·	196.6 (±30.5)	149.4 (±33.4)	
0.9 (±0.9)	1.7 (±1.7)	2.1 (±2.2)	2.1 (±2.2)	2.0 (±2.1)	1.7 (±1.9)	
Measured headspace concentrations of $(\pm)$ -3-phenylbutanal with standard deviations (in parentheses) [ng L <sup>-1</sup> of air] on dry cotton after drying for 1 day and sampling for						
25 min	55 min	85 min	115 min	145 min	175 min	
$0.9 (\pm 0.0)$ 121 9 (±48 1)	$2.1 (\pm 1.4)$ 159 4 ( $\pm 62 0$ )	$3.0 (\pm 1.4)$ 148 1 (±63 3)	$3.6 (\pm 1.5)$ 128 0 (±47 5)	$4.4 (\pm 2.0)$ 109 3 (+36 5)	4.7 (±1.6) 90.8 (±30.0)	
2.0 (±1.3)	2.9 (±1.5)	3.5 (±1.8)	3.9 (±1.9)	4.0 (±2.2)	3.9 (±2.0)	
Measured headspace concentrations of $(\pm)$ -3,5,5-trimethylhexanal with standard deviations (in parentheses) [ng L <sup>-1</sup> of air] on dry cotton after drying for 1 day and sampling for						
25 min	55 min	85 min	115 min	145 min	175 min	
	579.5 (±37.7)	415.6 (±8.4)	327.9 (±37.9)	279.7 (±25.6)	237.0 (±27.4)	
	parentheses) [ng L 25 min 3.1 <sup>a</sup> 12.2 (±6.7) 311.2 (±123.2) 0.9 (±0.9) Measured headspace on dry cotton after 25 min 0.9 (±0.0) 121.9 (±48.1) 2.0 (±1.3) Measured headspace of air] on dry cotton	parentheses) [ng L <sup>-1</sup> of air] on dry cott           25 min         55 min $3.1^a$ $4.5^a$ $12.2 (\pm 6.7)$ $19.6 (\pm 11.4)$ $311.2 (\pm 123.2)$ $342.9 (\pm 89.6)$ $0.9 (\pm 0.9)$ $1.7 (\pm 1.7)$ Measured headspace concentrations o         on dry cotton after drying for 1 day an $25 \min$ $55 \min$ $0.9 (\pm 0.0)$ $2.1 (\pm 1.4)$ $121.9 (\pm 48.1)$ $159.4 (\pm 62.0)$ $2.0 (\pm 1.3)$ $2.9 (\pm 1.5)$ Measured headspace concentrations o         of air] on dry cotton after drying for 1	parentheses) [ng L <sup>-1</sup> of air] on dry cotton after drying for25 min55 min85 min $3.1^a$ $4.5^a$ $4.7^a$ $12.2 (\pm 6.7)$ $19.6 (\pm 11.4)$ $21.1 (\pm 10.4)$ $311.2 (\pm 123.2)$ $342.9 (\pm 89.6)$ $275.1 (\pm 54.0)$ $0.9 (\pm 0.9)$ $1.7 (\pm 1.7)$ $2.1 (\pm 2.2)$ Measured headspace concentrations of $(\pm)$ -3-phenylbutanon dry cotton after drying for 1 day and sampling for $25 \min$ $55 \min$ $0.9 (\pm 0.0)$ $2.1 (\pm 1.4)$ $3.0 (\pm 1.4)$ $121.9 (\pm 48.1)$ $159.4 (\pm 62.0)$ $148.1 (\pm 63.3)$ $2.0 (\pm 1.3)$ $2.9 (\pm 1.5)$ $3.5 (\pm 1.8)$ Measured headspace concentrations of $(\pm)$ -3,5,5-trimethyof air] on dry cotton after drying for 1 day and sampling for	parentheses) [ng L <sup>-1</sup> of air] on dry cotton after drying for 1 day and sampling25 min55 min85 min115 min $3.1^a$ $4.5^a$ $4.7^a$ $4.3^a$ $12.2 (\pm 6.7)$ 19.6 ( $\pm 11.4$ )21.1 ( $\pm 10.4$ )23.0 ( $\pm 11.3$ ) $311.2 (\pm 123.2)$ $342.9 (\pm 89.6)$ $275.1 (\pm 54.0)$ $232.1 (\pm 41.1)$ $0.9 (\pm 0.9)$ $1.7 (\pm 1.7)$ $2.1 (\pm 2.2)$ $2.1 (\pm 2.2)$ Measured headspace concentrations of ( $\pm$ )-3-phenylbutanal with standard devon dry cotton after drying for 1 day and sampling for $25 \min$ $55 \min$ $85 \min$ $115 \min$ $0.9 (\pm 0.0)$ $2.1 (\pm 1.4)$ $3.0 (\pm 1.4)$ $3.6 (\pm 1.5)$ $121.9 (\pm 48.1)$ $159.4 (\pm 62.0)$ $148.1 (\pm 63.3)$ $128.0 (\pm 47.5)$ $2.9 (\pm 1.5)$ $3.5 (\pm 1.8)$ $3.9 (\pm 1.9)$ Measured headspace concentrations of ( $\pm$ )- $3.5,5$ -trimethylhexanal with standof air] on dry cotton after drying for 1 day and sampling for	parentheses) [ng L <sup>-1</sup> of air] on dry cotton after drying for 1 day and sampling for25 min55 min85 min115 min145 min $3.1^a$ $4.5^a$ $4.7^a$ $4.3^a$ $4.2^a$ $12.2 (\pm 6.7)$ 19.6 ( $\pm 11.4$ )21.1 ( $\pm 10.4$ )23.0 ( $\pm 11.3$ )23.7 ( $\pm 11.0$ ) $311.2 (\pm 123.2)$ $342.9 (\pm 89.6)$ 275.1 ( $\pm 54.0$ )232.1 ( $\pm 41.1$ )196.6 ( $\pm 30.5$ ) $0.9 (\pm 0.9)$ 1.7 ( $\pm 1.7$ )2.1 ( $\pm 2.2$ )2.1 ( $\pm 2.2$ )2.0 ( $\pm 2.1$ )Measured headspace concentrations of ( $\pm$ )-3-phenylbutanal with standard deviations (in parenthe on dry cotton after drying for 1 day and sampling for $0.9 (\pm 0.0)$ 2.1 ( $\pm 1.4$ )3.0 ( $\pm 1.4$ )3.6 ( $\pm 1.5$ )4.4 ( $\pm 2.0$ ) $121.9 (\pm 48.1)$ 159.4 ( $\pm 62.0$ )148.1 ( $\pm 63.3$ )128.0 ( $\pm 47.5$ )109.3 ( $\pm 36.5$ ) $2.0 (\pm 1.3)$ 2.9 ( $\pm 1.5$ )3.5 ( $\pm 1.8$ )3.9 ( $\pm 1.9$ )4.0 ( $\pm 2.2$ )	

<sup>*a*</sup> single measurement.

**Table S4** Dynamic headspace concentrations (with standard deviations) for the light-induced release of 10-undecenal from profragrances **1a–12a** and **25** as compared to unmodified 10-undecenal (reference) on dry cotton (direct deposition) after line drying for 1 day (average values of at least two measurements)

10-Undecenal released from	Measured headspace concentrations of 10-undecenal with standard deviations (in parentheses) [ng L <sup>-1</sup> of air] on dry cotton after drying for 1 day and sampling for						
	25 min	55 min	85 min	115 min	145 min	175 min	
1a	7.5 (±9.0)	4.6 (±3.1)	4.6 (±1.5)	5.7 (±1.1)	6.0 (±1.2)	3.6 (±0.3)	
2a	8.7 (±12.2)	24.4 (±0.7)	28.2 (±1.1)	29.1 (±2.1)	27.1 (±0.5)	25.6 (±0.2)	
3a	13.7 (±10.1)	24.5 (±11.0)	41.3 (±5.8)	43.9 (±11.8)	49.2 (±10.4)	58.1 (±14.3)	
4a	2998.5 (±1461.6)	7561.4 (±3172.4)	9888.8 (±3408.0)	10041.6 (±2728.8)	9447.3 (±1802.8)	8790.0 (±1189.1)	
5a	2250.7 (±146.0)	5441.9 (±540.9)	7230.6 (±90.3)	6123.9 (±980.4)	5268.1 (±1195.2)	4722.4 (±1534.1)	
6a	1410.7 (±468.3)	4286.7 (±437.0)	6363.7 (±469.7)	7364.9 (±202.2)	7491.0 (±150.8)	7483.5 (±487.3)	
7a	3139.5 (±3073.9)	6907.0 (±5089.9)	8599.0 (±4504.5)	9027.5 (±3784.6)	8541.9 (±2977.2)	7349.8 (±2076.4)	
8a	74.6 (±16.1)	149.7 (±23.7)	206.9 (±6.6)	218.1 (±6.1)	226.3 (±17.4)	211.0 (±18.8)	
9a	397.2 (±391.1)	1108.0 (±980.6)	1396.0 (±1077.7)	1696.4 (±1170.3)	1723.3 (±1070.7)	1697.0 (±1000.8)	
10a	495.4 (±225.1)	952.4 (±436.4)	1014.1 (±422.4)	910.4 (±294.1)	798.5 (±218.3)	724.3 (±148.6)	
11a	18.7 (±6.1)	59.2 (±19.7)	92.4 (±38.4)	110.7 (±33.7)	107.3 (±28.9)	103.8 (±27.2)	
12a	888.5 (±585.7)	2153.2 (±1564.4)	2558.2 (±1739.8)	2496.6 (±1555.7)	2006.3 (±1875.0)	1889.1 (±1686.8)	
25	772.8 (±64.8)	1108.7 (±69.4)	1169.0 (±106.4)	1078.9 (±137.4)	971.6 (±122.3)	894.0 (±72.1)	
Reference	89.4 (±127.1)	207.5 (±326.5)	451.3 (±737.2)	623.2 (±960.1)	650.6 (±960.0)	603.9 (±866.7)	

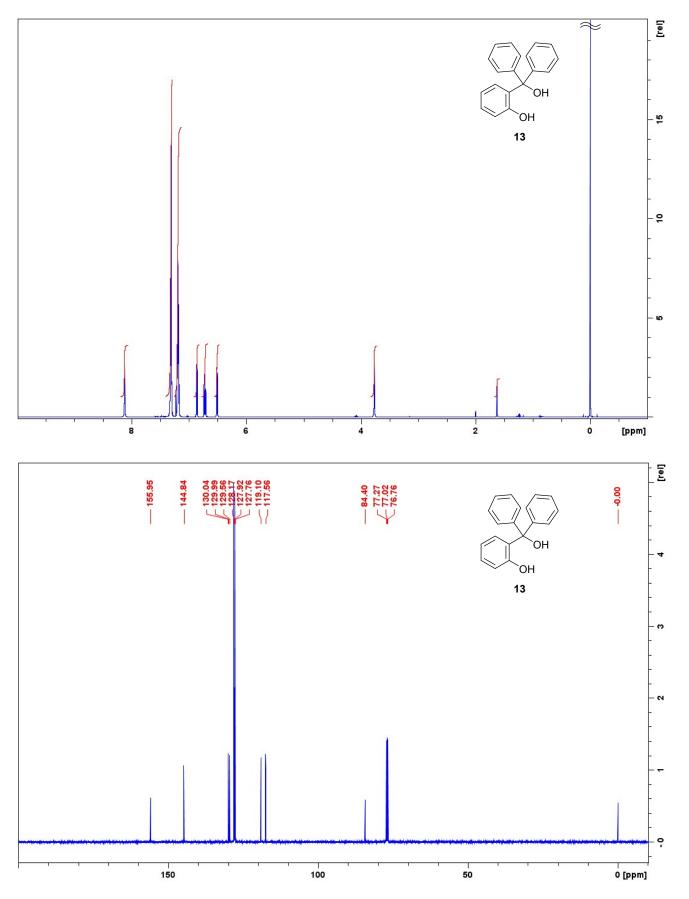


Fig. S1  ${}^{1}$ H (top) and  ${}^{13}$ C (bottom) NMR spectra of 13 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

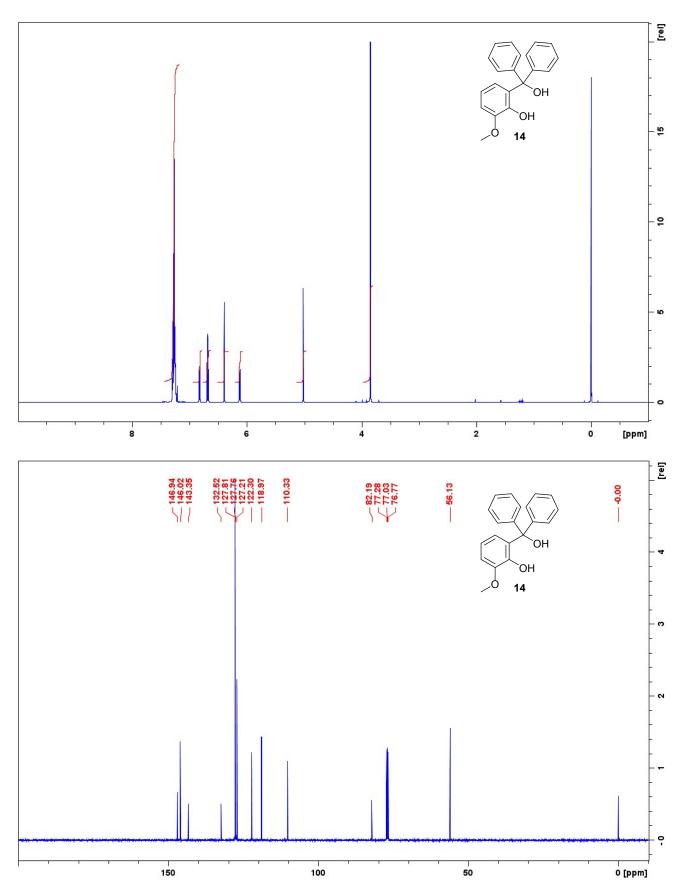


Fig. S2  ${}^{1}$ H (top) and  ${}^{13}$ C (bottom) NMR spectra of 14 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

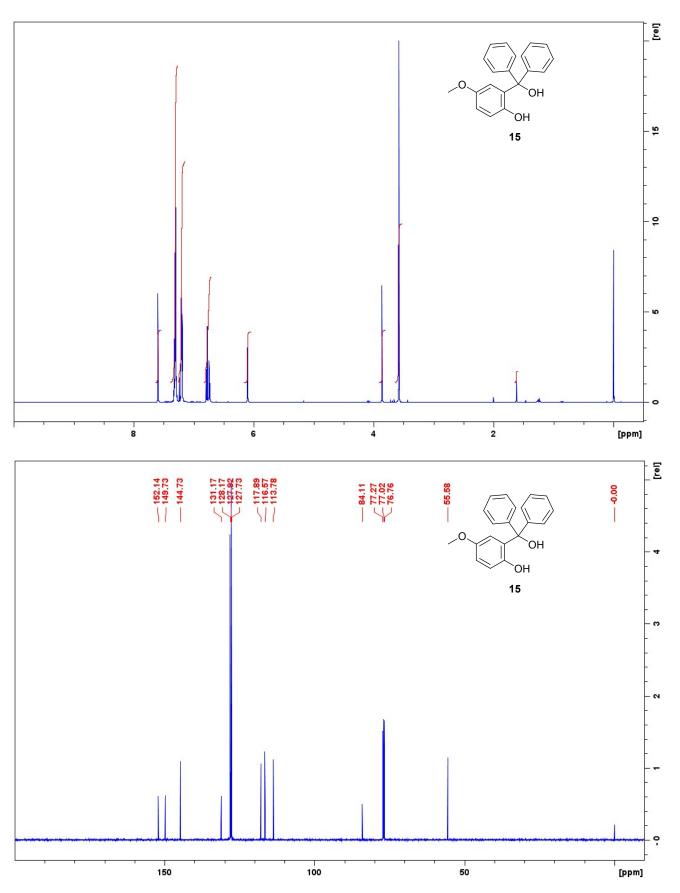


Fig. S3  ${}^{1}$ H (top) and  ${}^{13}$ C (bottom) NMR spectra of 15 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

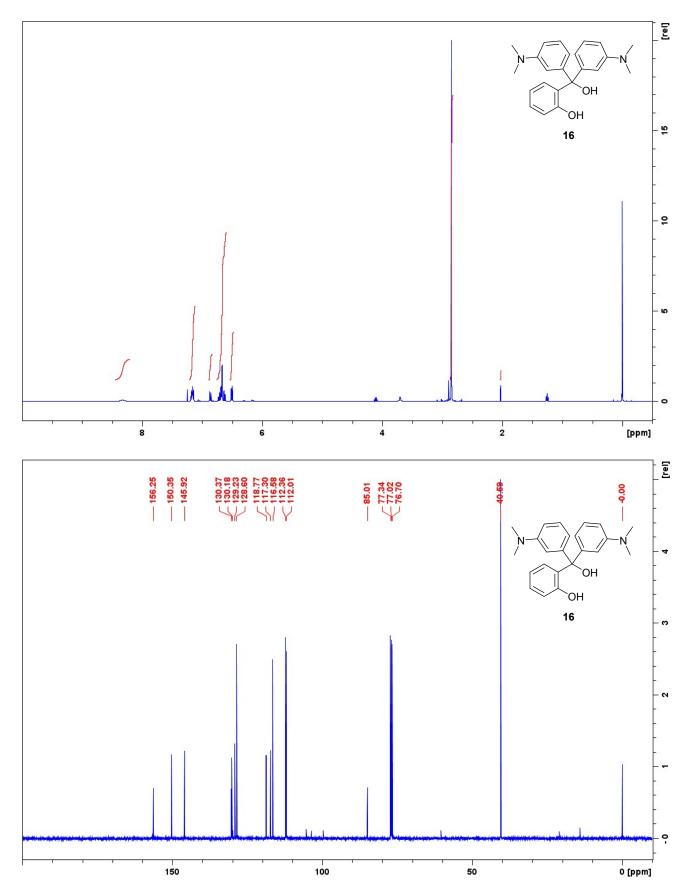


Fig. S4 <sup>1</sup>H (top) and <sup>13</sup>C (bottom) NMR spectra of 16 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

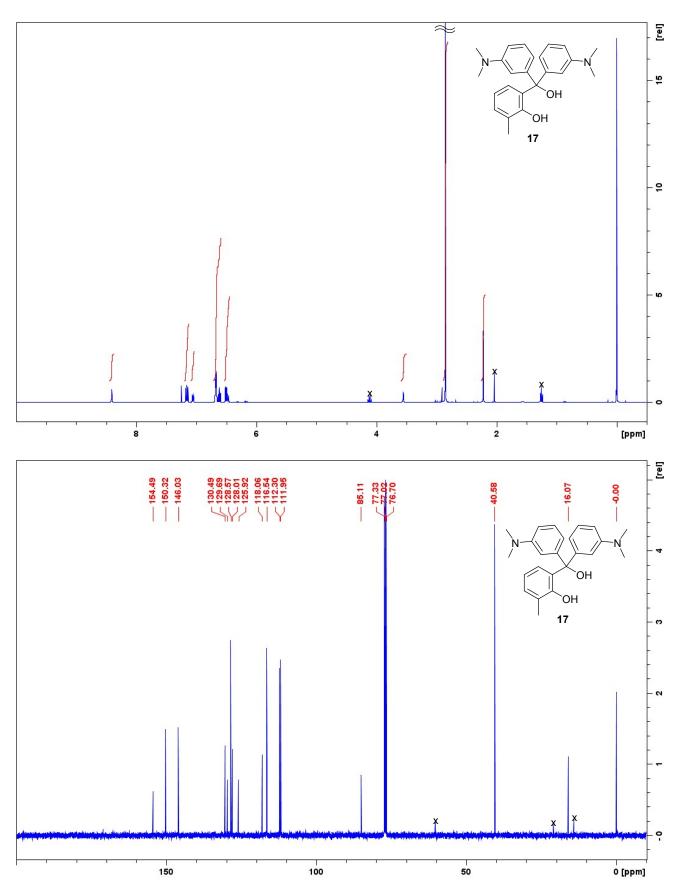
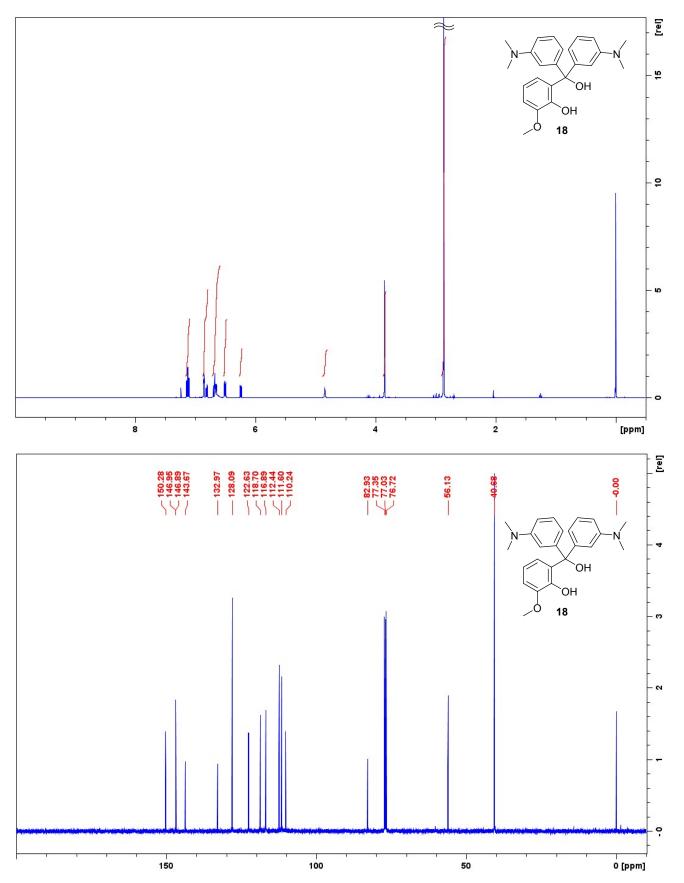
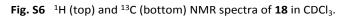


Fig. S5  $^{1}$ H (top) and  $^{13}$ C (bottom) NMR spectra of 17 in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (x = AcOEt).





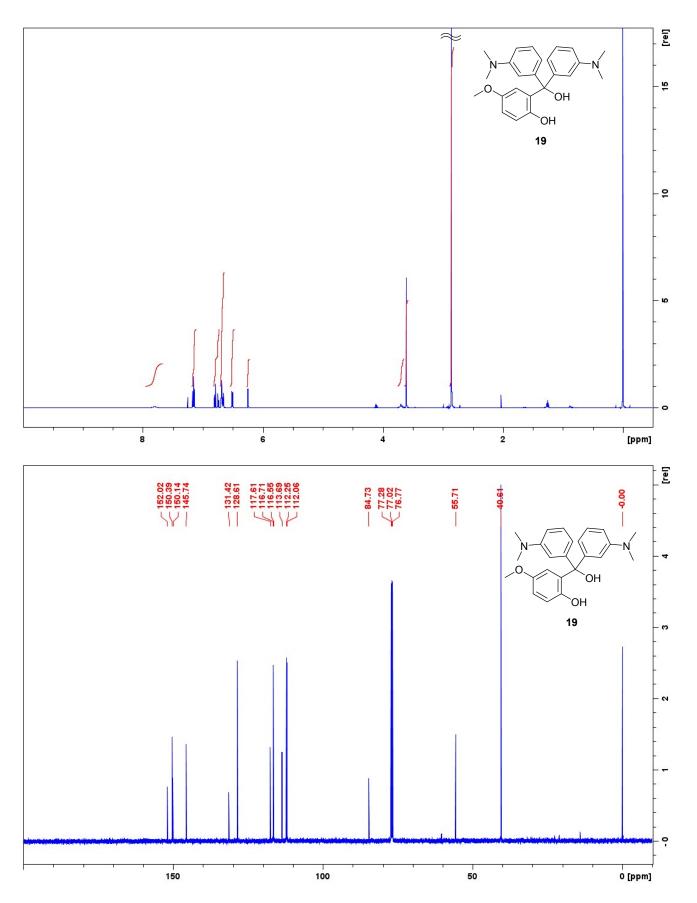


Fig. S7  ${}^{1}$ H (top) and  ${}^{13}$ C (bottom) NMR spectra of 19 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

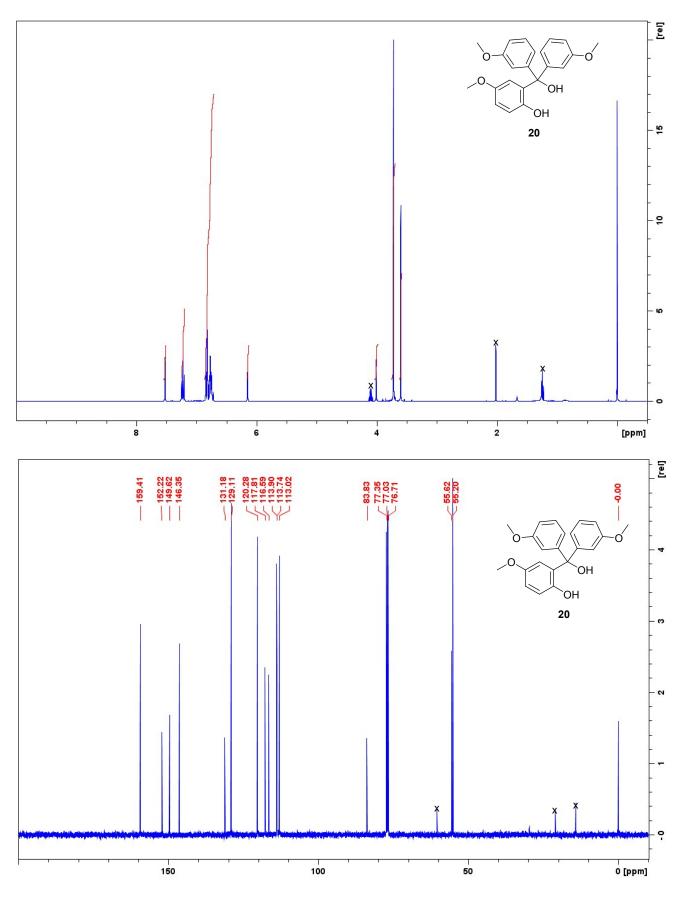
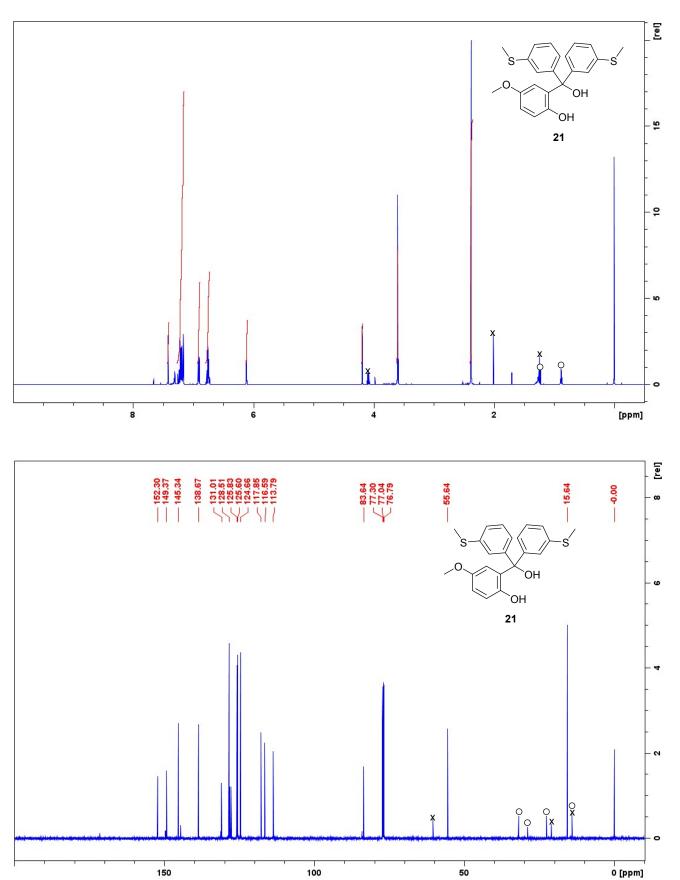
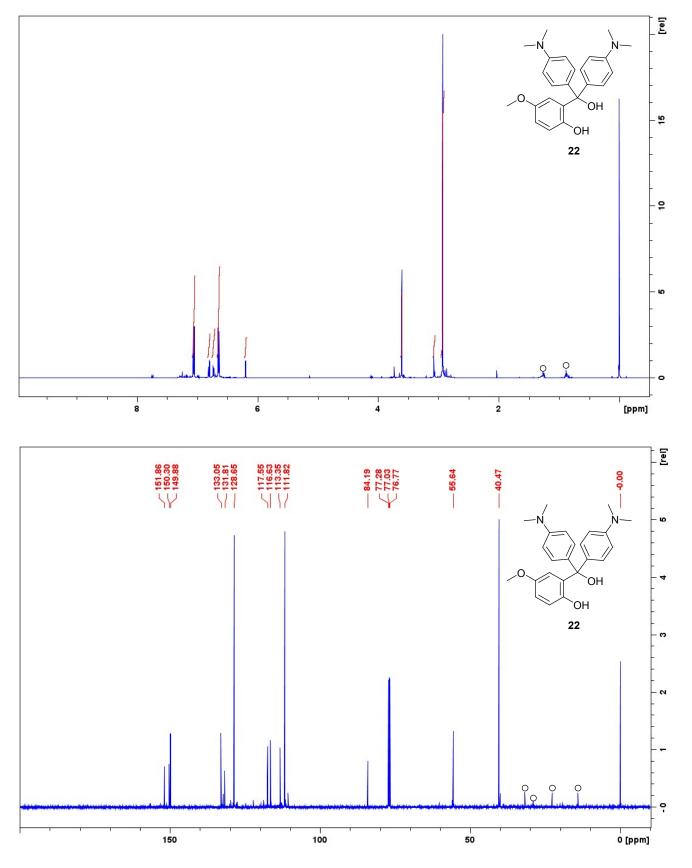


Fig. S8  $^{1}$ H (top) and  $^{13}$ C (bottom) NMR spectra of 20 in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (x = AcOEt).



**Fig. S9** <sup>1</sup>H (top) and <sup>13</sup>C (bottom) NMR spectra of **21** in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (x = AcOEt, o = n-heptane).



**Fig. S10** <sup>1</sup>H (top) and <sup>13</sup>C (bottom) NMR spectra of **22** in  $CDCl_3$  (O = n-heptane).

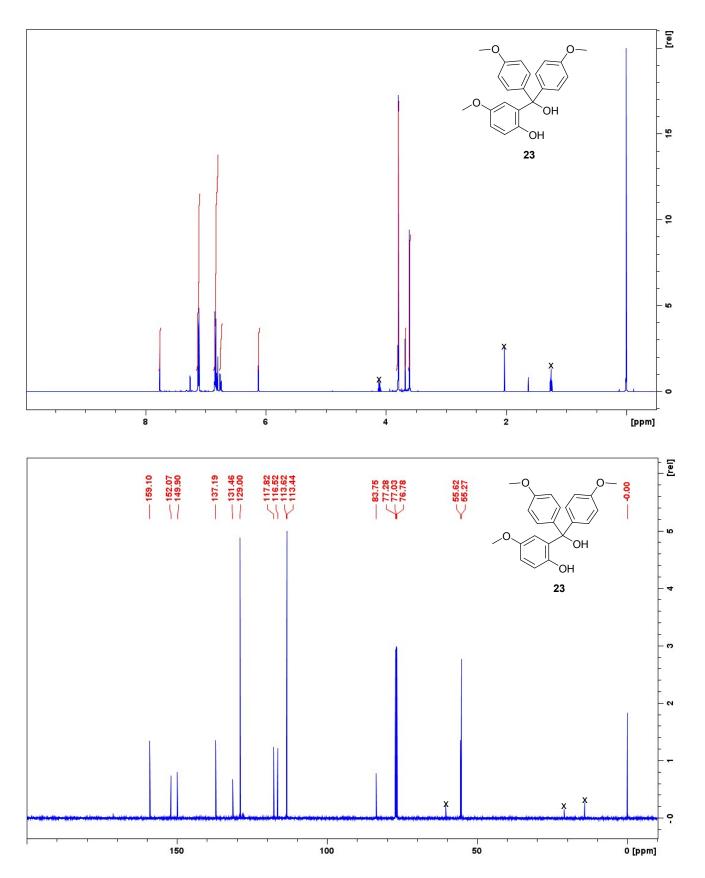


Fig. S11  $^{1}$ H (top) and  $^{13}$ C (bottom) NMR spectra of 23 in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (x = AcOEt).

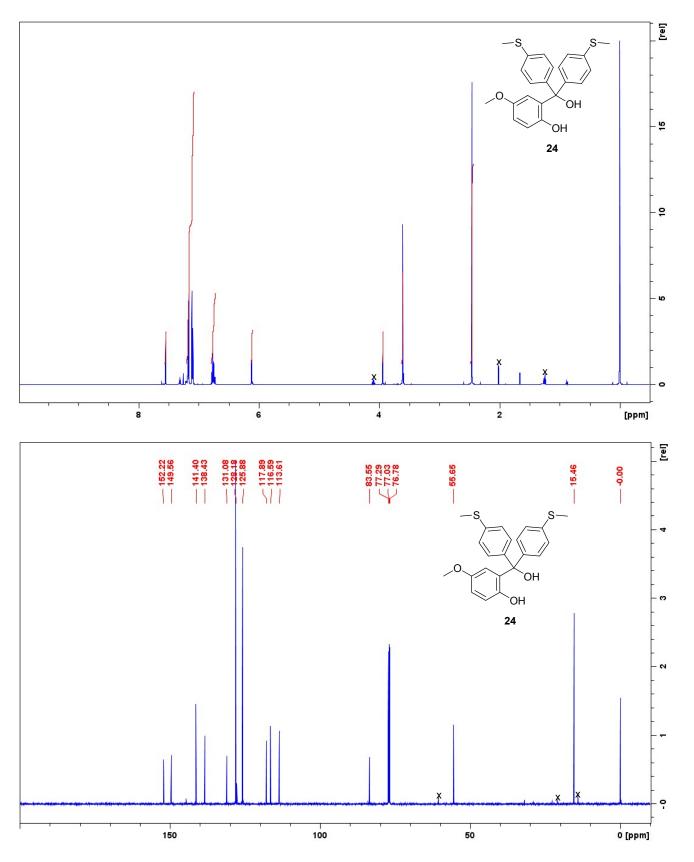


Fig. S12  $^{1}$ H (top) and  $^{13}$ C (bottom) NMR spectra of 24 in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (x = AcOEt).

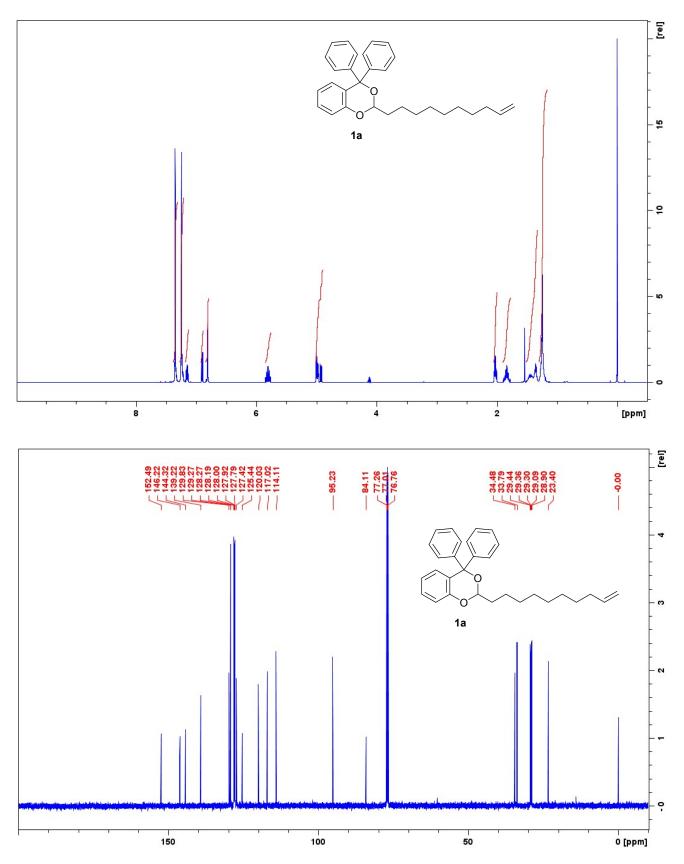


Fig. S13  $^{1}$ H (top) and  $^{13}$ C (bottom) NMR spectra of 1a in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

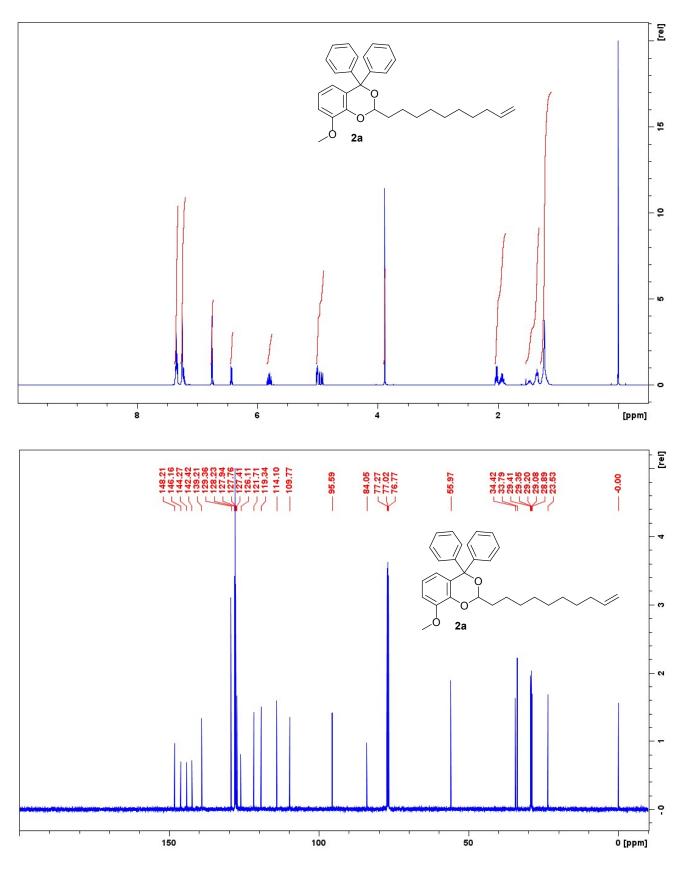


Fig. S14  ${}^{1}$ H (top) and  ${}^{13}$ C (bottom) NMR spectra of **2a** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

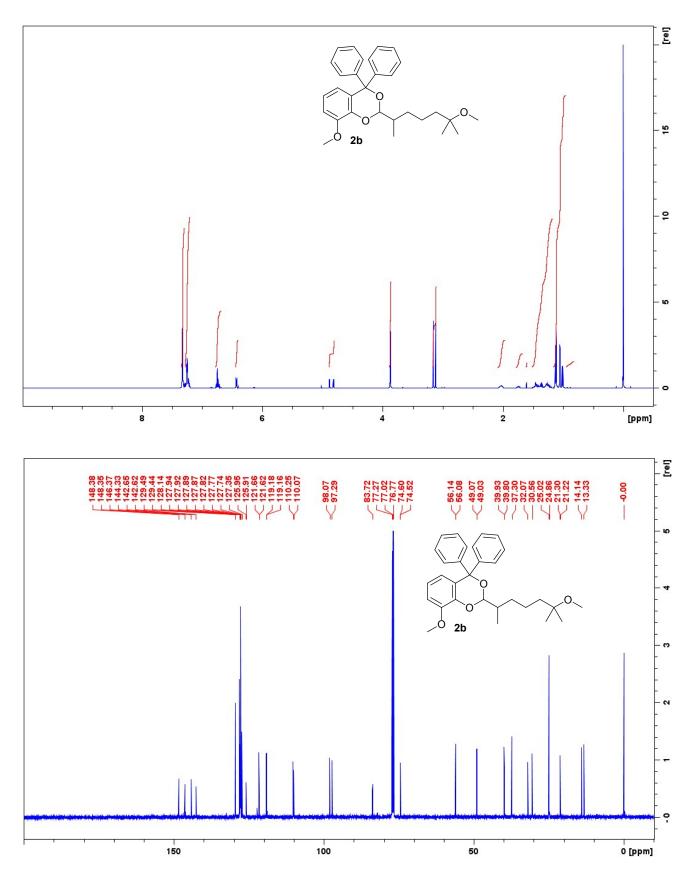


Fig. S15 <sup>1</sup>H (top) and <sup>13</sup>C (bottom) NMR spectra of **2b** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

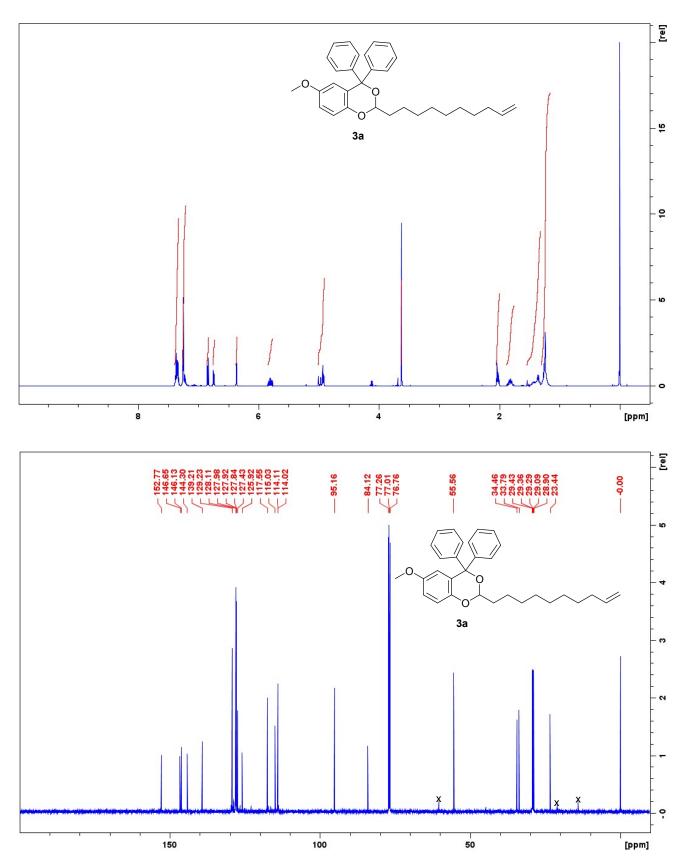


Fig. S16  $^{1}$ H (top) and  $^{13}$ C (bottom) NMR spectra of **3a** in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (x = AcOEt).

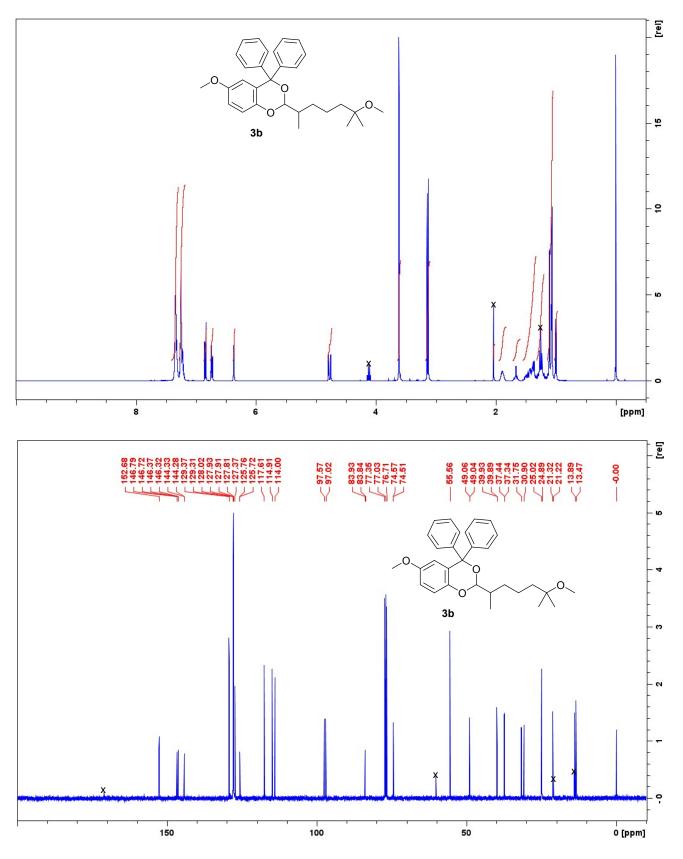


Fig. S17 <sup>1</sup>H (top) and <sup>13</sup>C (bottom) NMR spectra of **3b** in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (x = AcOEt).

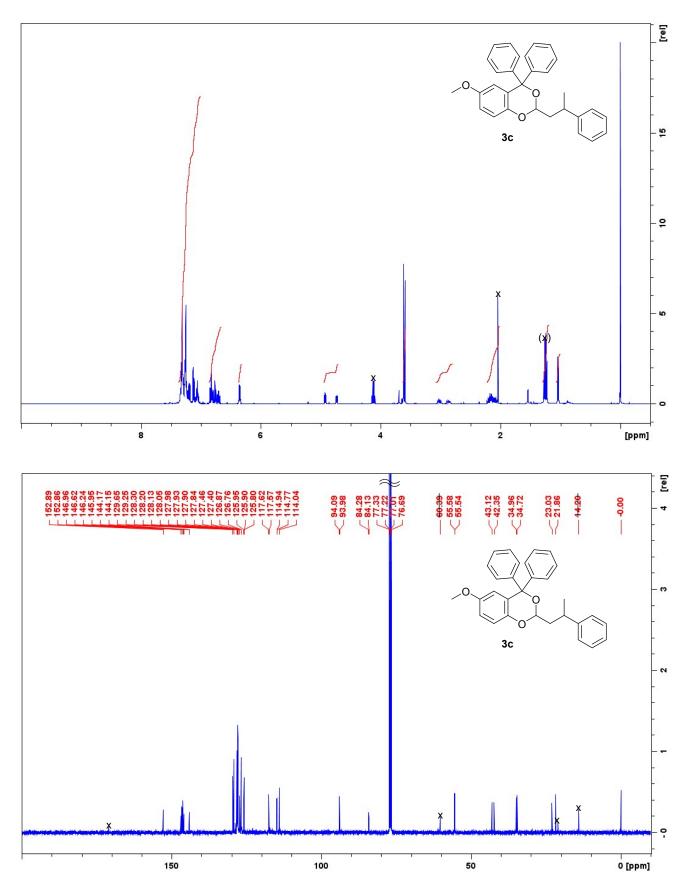


Fig. S18  $^{1}$ H (top) and  $^{13}$ C (bottom) NMR spectra of **3c** in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (x = AcOEt).

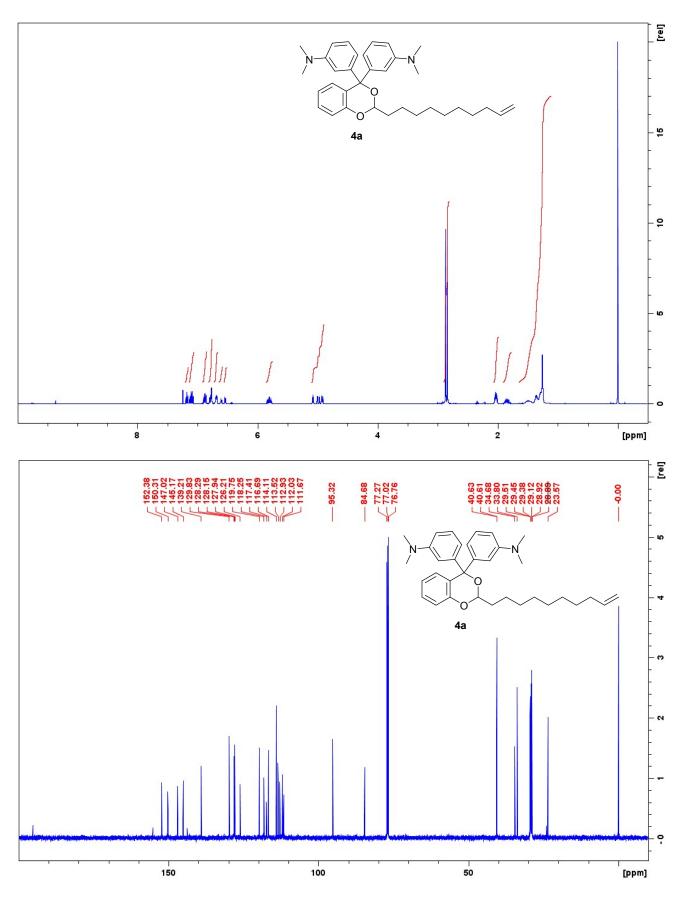


Fig. S19 <sup>1</sup>H (top) and <sup>13</sup>C (bottom) NMR spectra of 4a in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

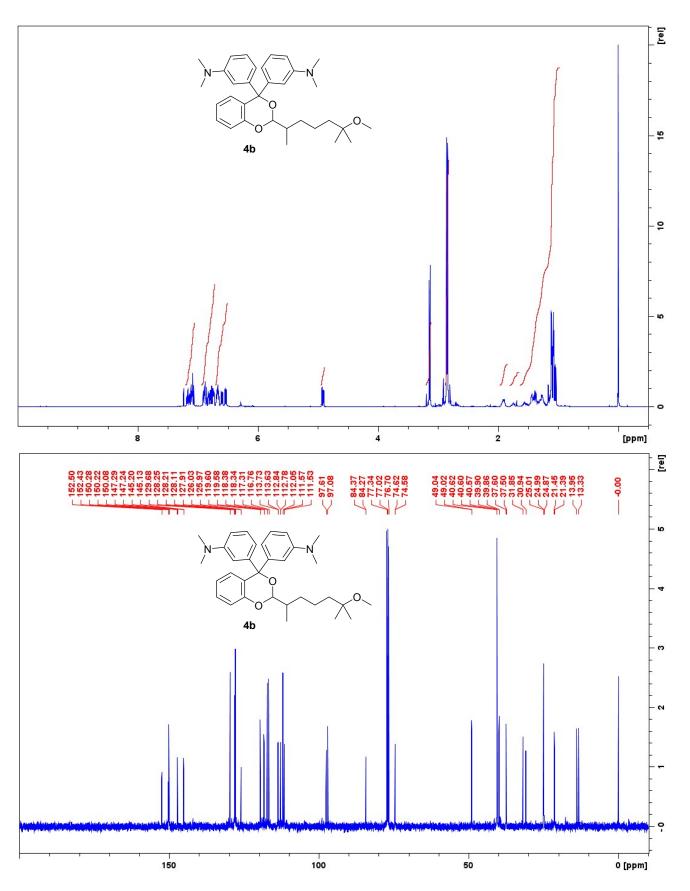


Fig. S20 <sup>1</sup>H (top) and <sup>13</sup>C (bottom) NMR spectra of 4b in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

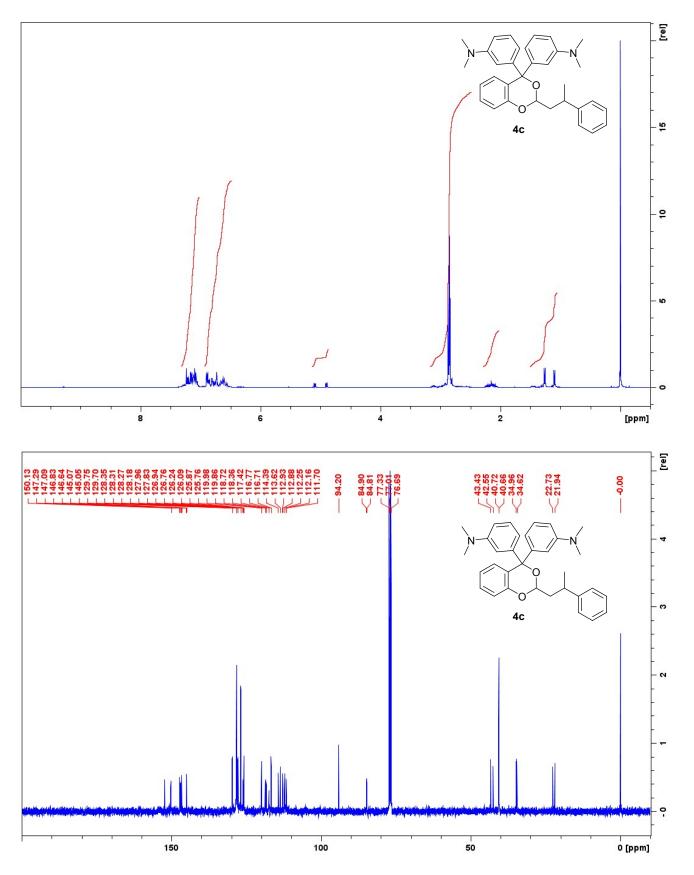


Fig. S21 <sup>1</sup>H (top) and <sup>13</sup>C (bottom) NMR spectra of 4c in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

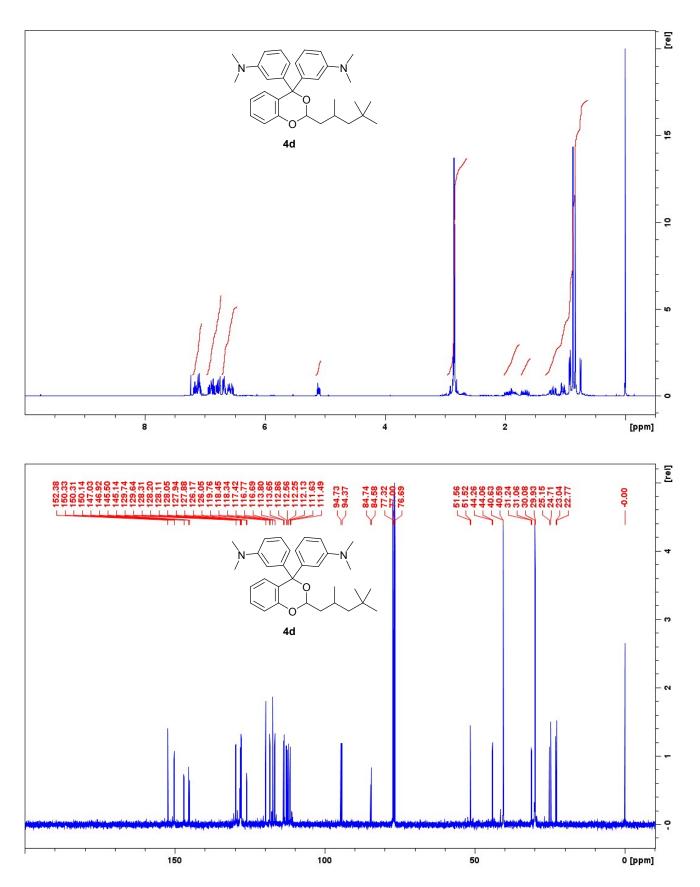


Fig. S22  ${}^{1}$ H (top) and  ${}^{13}$ C (bottom) NMR spectra of 4d in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

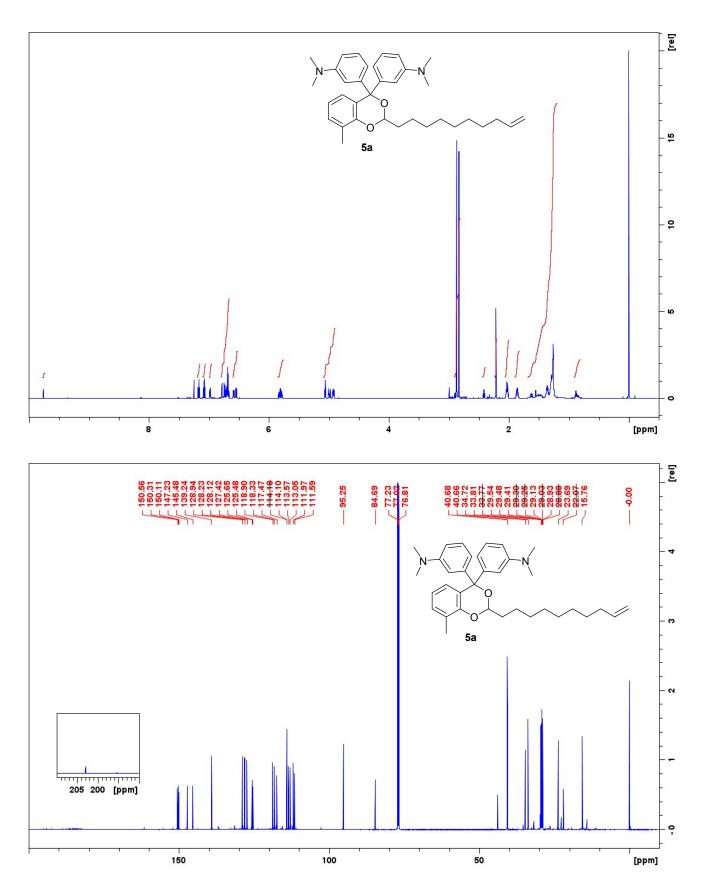


Fig. S23 <sup>1</sup>H (top) and <sup>13</sup>C (bottom) NMR spectra of 5a in CDCl<sub>3</sub>. The sample contains *ca*. 25 mol-% of unreacted 10-undecenal.

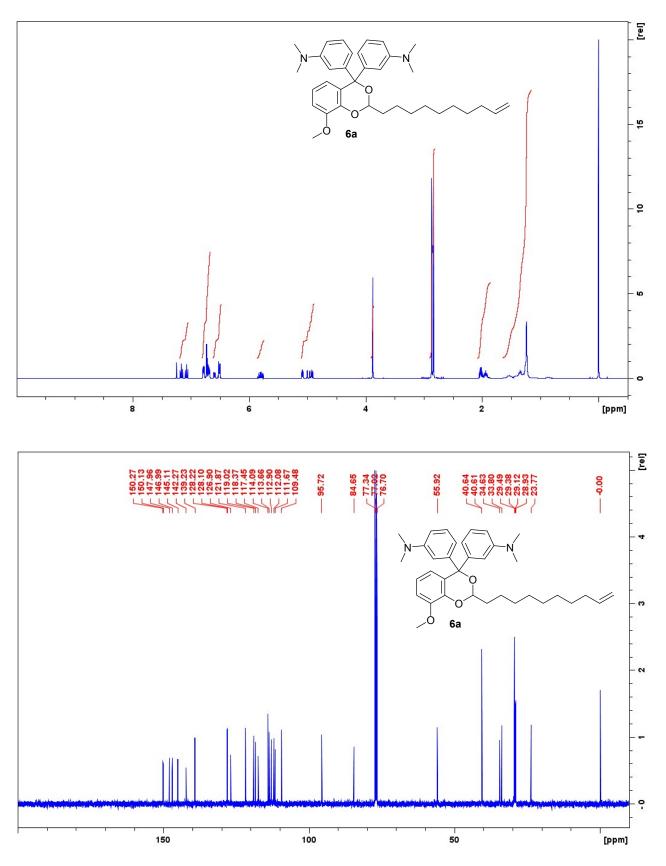


Fig. S24  ${}^{1}$ H (top) and  ${}^{13}$ C (bottom) NMR spectra of **6a** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

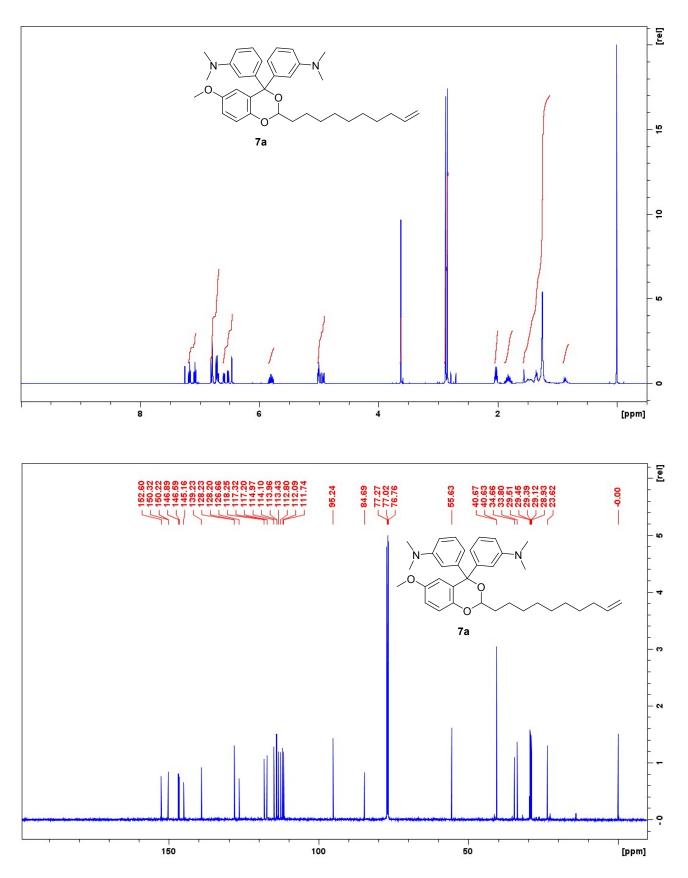


Fig. S25 <sup>1</sup>H (top) and <sup>13</sup>C (bottom) NMR spectra of **7a** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

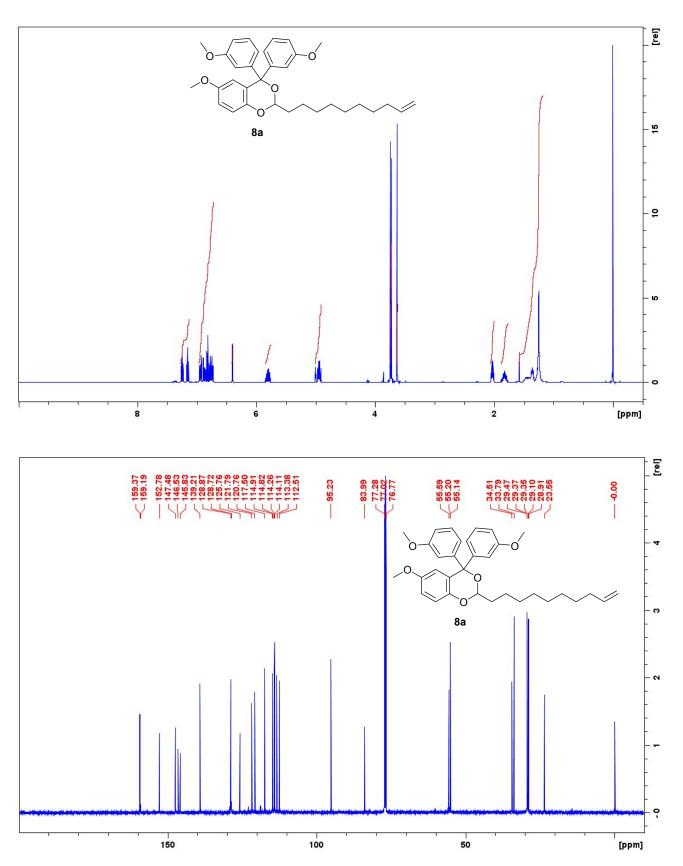


Fig. S26 <sup>1</sup>H (top) and <sup>13</sup>C (bottom) NMR spectra of 8a in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

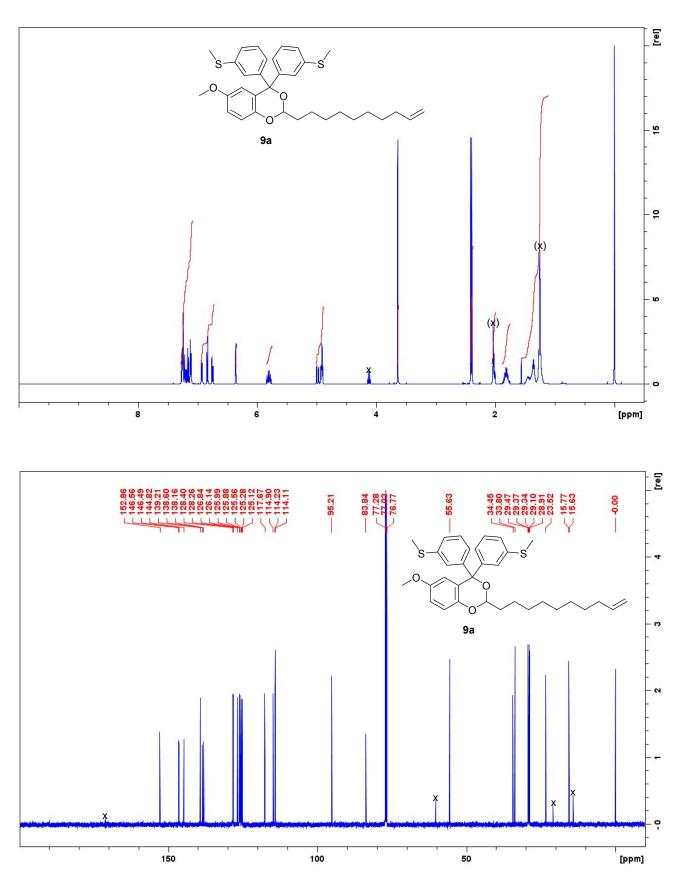


Fig. S27 <sup>1</sup>H (top) and <sup>13</sup>C (bottom) NMR spectra of 9a in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (x = AcOEt).

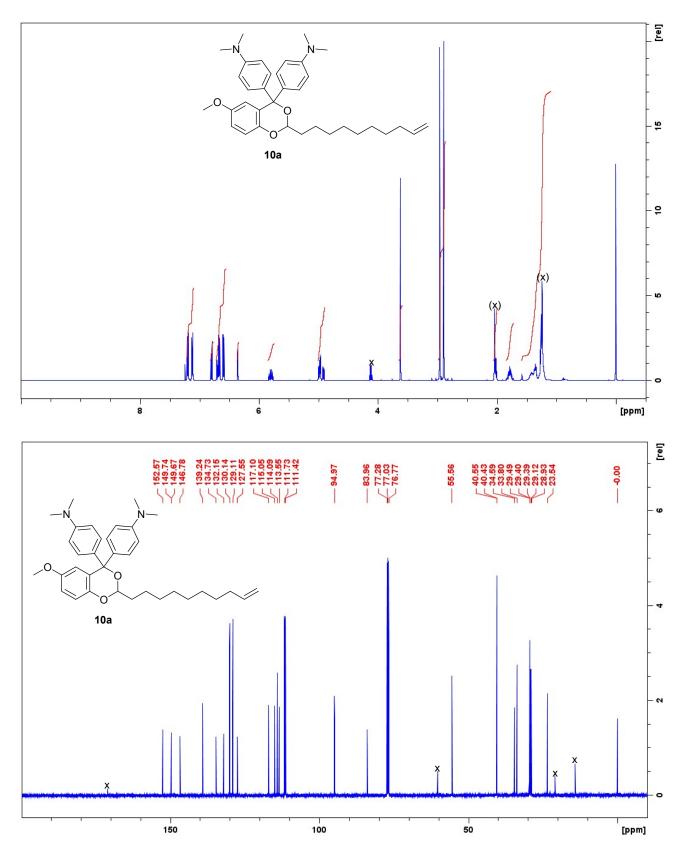
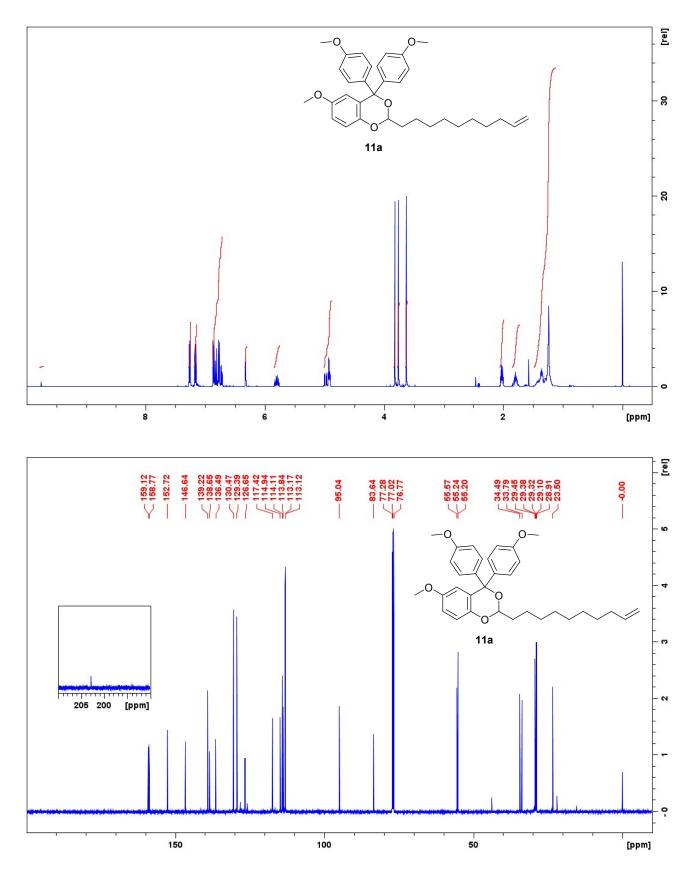


Fig. S28  $^{1}$ H (top) and  $^{13}$ C (bottom) NMR spectra of 10a in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (x = AcOEt).



**Fig. S29** <sup>1</sup>H (top) and <sup>13</sup>C (bottom) NMR spectra of **11a** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>. The sample contains *ca*. 5 mol-% of unreacted 10-undecenal.

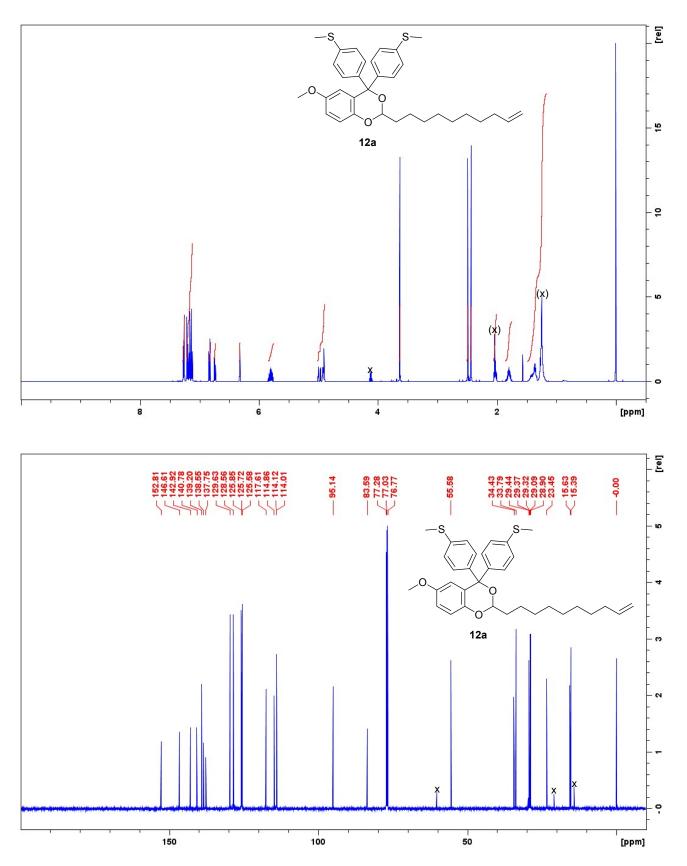


Fig. S30  $^{1}$ H (top) and  $^{13}$ C (bottom) NMR spectra of 12a in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (x = AcOEt).

