

Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

Understanding the role played by a PIL and the substituent effect for enhancing the generation of *Z*-Cinnamic Acid derivatives

Rocío B. Rodríguez,^{a,c} Ramiro L. Zapata,^a María L. Salum^{a,b*} and Rosa Erra-Balsells^{a,b*}

- a Universidad de Buenos Aires. Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales. Departamento de Química Orgánica. Pabellón II, 3er P., Ciudad Universitaria, C1428EHA, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- b CONICET, Universidad de Buenos Aires. Centro de Investigación en Hidratos de Carbono (CIHIDECAR). Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales Pabellón II, 3er P. Ciudad Universitaria, C1428EHA, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- c Design and Chemistry of Macromolecules Group, Institute of Technology in Polymers and Nanotechnology (ITPN), UBA-CONICET, FADU, University of Buenos Aires, Intendente Güiraldes 2160, Pabellón III, subsuelo, Ciudad Universitaria, C1428EGA, Buenos Aires, Argentina

* To whom correspondence should be addressed:

MLS: mlsalum@qo.fcen.uba.ar

REB: erra@qo.fcen.uba.ar

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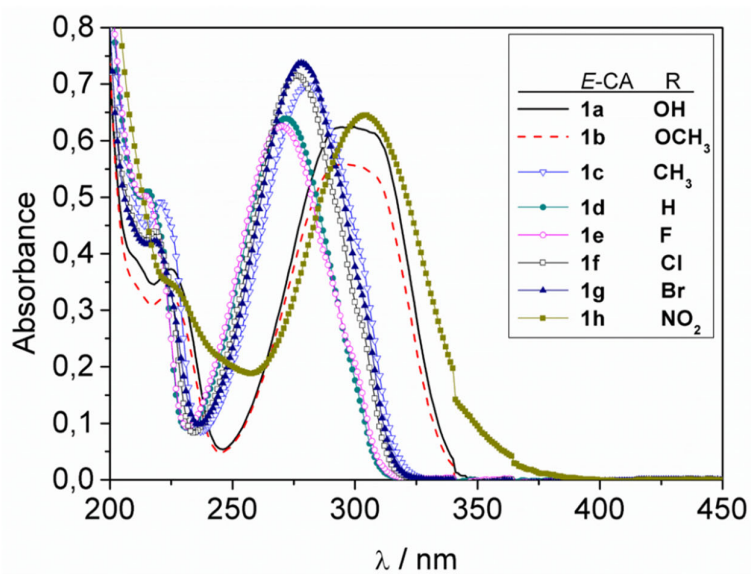


Figure S1. UV-visible absorption spectra of *E*-4-substituted cinnamic acids as PILs recorded in acetonitrile at 25 °C. All *E*-cinnamic acids solutions were at the same concentration of $3.3 \cdot 10^{-5}$ M. Concentration of *n*-butylamine $3.3 \cdot 10^{-5}$ M.

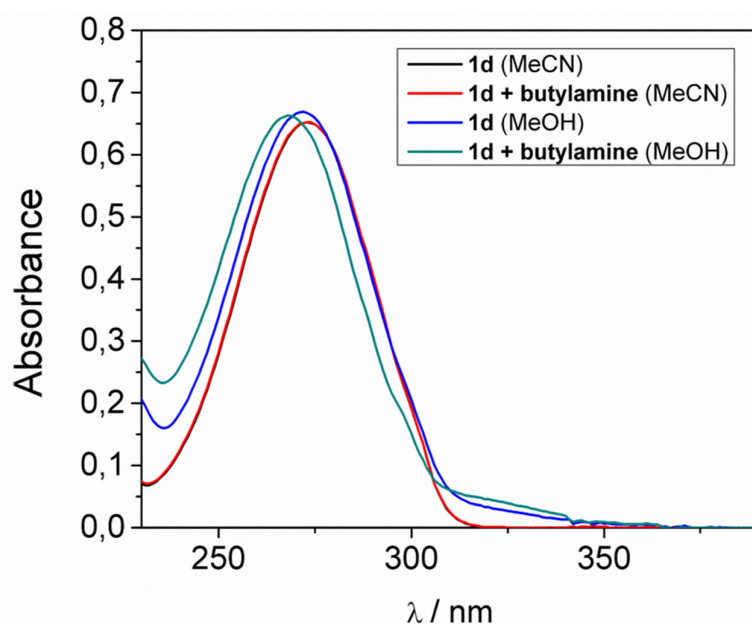


Figure S2. Effect of solvent on the UV absorption spectra of *E*-cinnamic acid in their acid forms and as PILs recorded in acetonitrile and methanol at 25 °C. Concentration of *E*-cinnamic acids (**1d**) $3.3 \cdot 10^{-5}$ M. Concentration of *n*-butylamine $3.3 \cdot 10^{-5}$ M.

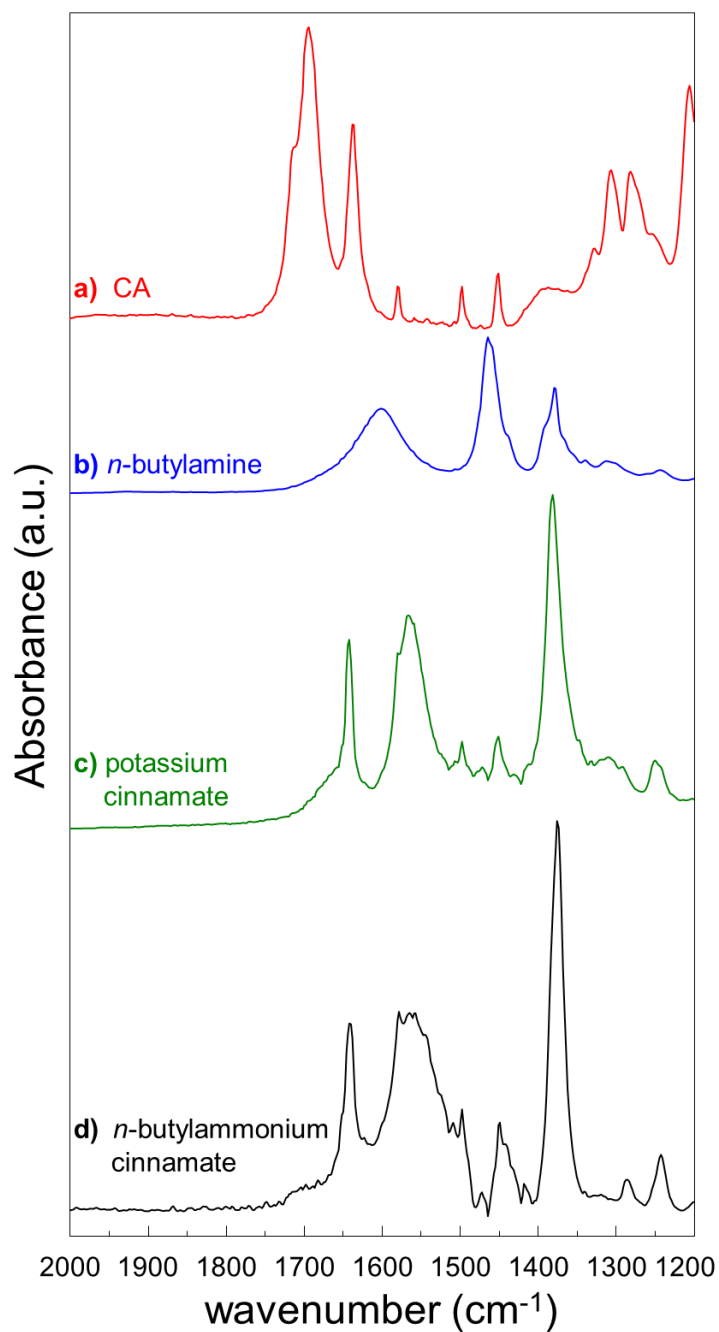


Figure S3. FT-IR spectra in the region between 2000 and 1200 cm⁻¹ of pure cinnamic acid (a), *n*-butylamine (b), potassium cinnamate (c), and *n*-butylammonium *E*-cinnamate as PIL (d). Samples were measured in solution at the concentration of 0.075 M in MeCN:MeOH (95:5 v/v).

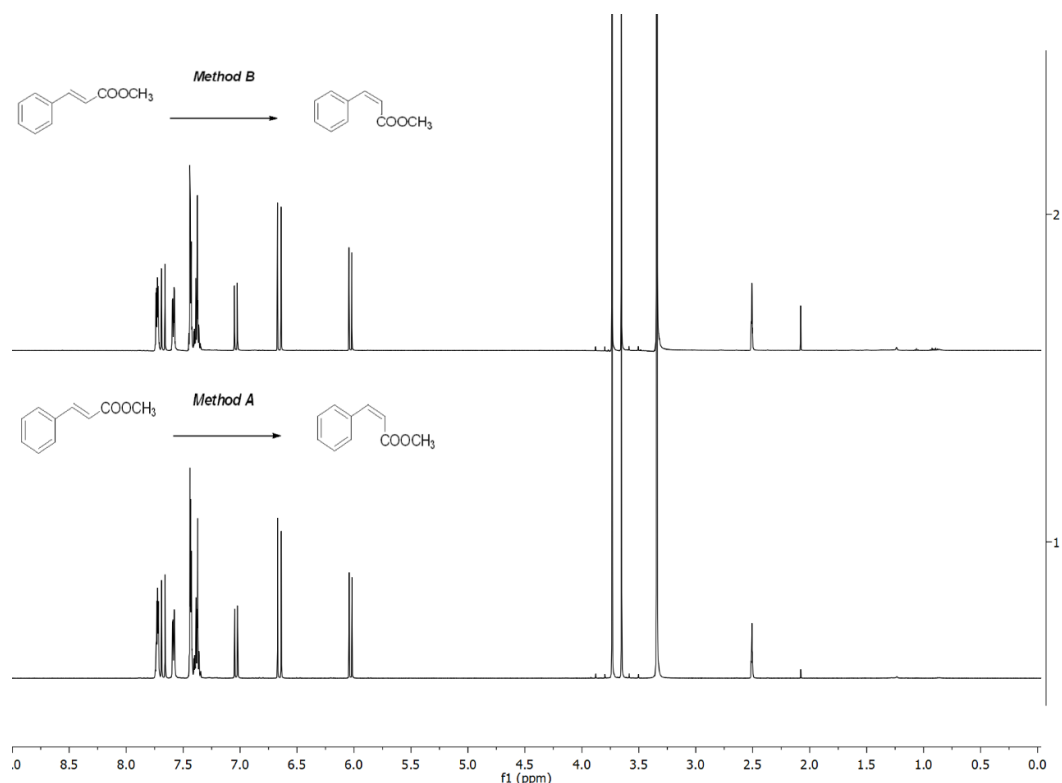


Figure S4. ^1H -NMR spectra in $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ of *E*-methyl cinnamate after irradiation by method A (bottom) and method B (top).

Table S1. Logarithm of molecular extinction coefficients at 300 nm of 4-substituted-CA isomers in their acid forms and as PILs in MeCN:MeOH (98:2 v/v).

	R	Log ϵ <i>E</i> -CA	Log ϵ <i>Z</i> -CA	Log ϵ <i>E</i> -CA+butylamine ^a	Log ϵ <i>Z</i> -CA+butylamine ^a
1	OH	4.32	4.10	4.28	4.04
2	OCH ₃	4.30	4.11	4.27	4.05
3	CH ₃	4.15	3.83	4.12	3.71
4	H	3.78	3.39	3.73	3.30
5	F	3.84	3.48	3.80	3.39
6	Cl	4.02	3.70	3.99	3.61
7	Br	4.11	3.80	4.06	3.71
8	NO ₂	4.31	4.10	4.26	4.02

^aEquimolar amount of cinnamic acid and *n*-butylamine

Figure S5. ^1H RMN spectra in $\text{DMSO-}d_6$.

