# **Electronic supporting information**

# What is the Role of Acid-Acid Interactions in Asymmetric Phosphoric Acid Organocatalysis? A Detailed Mechanistic Study using Interlocked and Non-Interlocked Catalysts

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# 1. General information

# 1.1. Analytical methods

NMR spectra were recorded with a Bruker DMX 300 spectrometer [<sup>1</sup>H: 300 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C: 75.5 MHz, <sup>31</sup>P: 121.5 MHz] or with a Bruker DMX 600 spectrometer [<sup>1</sup>H: 600 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C: 151 MHz, <sup>31</sup>P: 243 MHz]. All measurements were performed at room temperature, using [D<sub>1</sub>]-chloroform, [D<sub>6</sub>]-dimethylsulfoxide, [D<sub>6</sub>]-benzene or [D<sub>4</sub>]-methanol as solvents. The chemical shifts are referenced relative to the residual proton signals of the solvents in the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR ([D<sub>1</sub>]-chloroform:  $\delta = 7.24$  ppm, [D<sub>6</sub>]-benzene:  $\delta = 7.16$  ppm, [D<sub>4</sub>]-methanol:  $\delta = 3.31$  ppm, [D<sub>6</sub>]-dimethylsulfoxide:  $\delta = 2.50$  ppm) or relative to the solvent signal in the <sup>13</sup>C-NMR ([D<sub>1</sub>-chloroform:  $\delta = 77.16$  ppm, [D<sub>6</sub>]-benzene:  $\delta = 128.06$  ppm, [D<sub>4</sub>]-methanol:  $\delta = 49.15$  ppm, [D<sub>6</sub>]-dimethylsulfoxide:  $\delta = 39.51$  ppm). The apparent coupling constants are given in Hertz. The description of the fine structure means: s = singlet, bs = broad singlet, d = doublet, ps d = pseudo dublet, dd = doublet of doublets, dt = doublet of triplets, t = triplet, m = multiplet.

NMR structural investigations on binary and ternary 3•4b-d systems were performed on a Bruker Avance DRX 600 MHz spectrometer with TBI (Triple resonance broadband inverse) 5 mm CPPBBO <sup>1</sup>H/<sup>19</sup>F-BB probe head with Z-gradient and BVT unit. Temperature was controlled in the VT-experiments by a BVT 3000 and BVT 3900 unit and liquid nitrogen. Additional NMR experiments were performed on Bruker Avance III HD 400 MHz spectrometer equipped with 5 mm BBO BB-1H/D probe head with Z-Gradients. Spectrometer control and spectra processing was performed with Bruker Software TopSpin (Version 3.2 PL 1). Data procession, data preparation and data presentation was performed with Microsoft Excel (Version 16.0.9126.2259 32 Bit), Corel Draw X7 and ChemBioDraw Ultra 14.0. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C chemical shifts were referenced to TMS. The heteronuclei <sup>15</sup>N,<sup>19</sup>F and <sup>31</sup>P were referenced, employing v(X) = v(TMS). Ereference / 100 % according to Harris et al. (R. K. Harris, E. D. Becker, S. M. Cabral De Menezes, R. Goodfellow, P. Granger, Concepts Magn. Reson. Part A Bridg. Educ. Res. 2002, 14, 326–346). The following frequency ratios and reference compounds were used:  $\Xi(^{15}N) = 10.132912$  (lq. NH<sub>3</sub>),  $\Xi(^{19}F) = 94.094011$  (CCl<sub>3</sub>F) and  $\Xi(^{31}P) = 40.480742$ (H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>).

IR spectra were measured on a Jasco FT/IR-430 spectrometer.

Low resolution ESI mass spectra were recorded on a Bruker Amazon SL spectrometer. High resolution ESI mass spectra were recorded on a Bruker Maxis 4G spectrometer. MS/MS spectra were recorded on Thermo Fisher Scientific Orbitrap LTQ-XL mass spectrometer.

Reversed phase medium performance liquid chromatography (MPLC) was performed with the following setup: Armen Instrument Spot Liquid Chromatography Flash system (detection wavelength: 263 nm), YMC GEL ODS-AQ 12 nm, S-50  $\mu$ m in Kronlab glass columns with 10 mm diameter and 500 mm length .Water for MPLC was purified with a

TKA MicroPure ultrapure water system. Chiral normal phase analytical high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) was performed was performed with the following setup: Erma Degasser ERC-3512, Merck Hitachi Intelligent Pump L-6200A, Chiralcel OD-H column (0.46 x 25 cm), Knauer Smartline UV-Detector 2600 (detection wavelength 225 nm). Reversed phase analytical high performance liquid chromatography (RP-HPLC) was performed with the following setup: Dionex HPLC system: P680 pump, ASI-100 automated sample injector, UVD-340U UV detector (detection wavelength: 263 nm), UltiMate 3000 Column Compartment; YMC-Pack ODS-Acolumn (3.0 x 150 mm, 5  $\mu$ m, 12 nm; type: AA12S05-1503QT)

Elemental analyses were performed on Euro EA – CHNSO Elemental Analyser from HEKAtech GmbH

# **1.2.** Materials and Methods

### Materials

Polygram® SOL G/UV254 TLC plates (silica gel, 0.2 mm x 40 mm x 80 mm) were used for thin layer chromatography (TLC). A UV lamp was used to visualize spots at either 254 nm or 365 nm wavelength. The products were purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel 60M (particle size: 40-63  $\mu$ m) which was purchased from MACHERY-NAGEL GmbH & Co. KG.

### Solvents

Dichloromethane and toluene were distilled over calcium hydride and stored over molecular sieves under argon. Deuterated dichloromethane was freshly distilled over calcium hydride and deuterated toluene over sodium prior to use. Dry tetrahydrofuran was distilled freshly from Na/benzophenone prior to use. Phosphoryl chloride (POCl<sub>3</sub>) was distilled under vacuum and stored under argon. Pyridine was distilled over potassium hydroxide under vacuum and stored over molecular sieves under argon. Dimethoxyethane (DME) and aqueous sodium carbonate solution (2 M) were degassed with argon for 15 minutes and were then stored under argon.

### Chemicals

*p*-Toluenesulfonyl chloride, 2-phenylquinoline, 2-bromoquinoline, 4-fluorophenyl boronic acid, 4-methoxyphenyl boronic acid and diethyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate were purchased from Tokyo Chemical Industry (TCI). Pentaethylene glycol, heptaethylene glycol, and diethyl 1,4-dihydro-2,6-dimethyl-pyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (Hantzsch ester) were purchased from Fluorochem. [D<sub>8</sub>]-toluene and [D<sub>5</sub>]-chlorobenzene were purchased from Deutero. Amberlyst® 15 hydrogen form and

Grubb's 2nd generation catalyst were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. Allyl bromide and potassium *tert*-butoxide were purchased from Acros Organics. All commercially available compounds were used without any further purification.

BINOL-derivative (S)-9 was synthesized according to literature procedure.<sup>[1]</sup> Macrocycle (S)-2b and catenane (S,S)-1b were synthesized according to literature procedures.<sup>[2]</sup> Yields obtained in this work were slightly lower than previously reported and are reported in the main paper.<sup>[2]</sup>

2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)quinoline was synthesized according to literature procedure.<sup>[3]</sup>

The same conditions were used for the preparation of 2-(4-fluorophenyl)quinoline. Analytical data can be found in the literature.<sup>[4]</sup>

# 2. Synthesis of the catenanes 1a/b/c and macrocycles 2a/b/c

# 2.1. Overview



**Figure S1:** Synthesis of catenanes (*S*,*S*)-**1a/b/c** and macrocycles (*S*)-**2-a/b/c**. Reagents and conditions: *i*) 2.5 equiv. of *O*-allyl-pentaethylene glycol tosylate (for (*S*)-**10a**), *O*-allyl-hexaethylene glycol tosylate (for (*S*)-**10b**) or *O*-allyl-heptaethylene glycol tosylate (for (*S*)-**10c**), 5 equiv. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, 80 °C, acetonitrile 64/51/61%; *ii*) Amberlyst 15, reflux, tetrahydrofuran/methanol, 94/99/95%; *iii*) POCl<sub>3</sub>, pyridine, 60 °C, then H<sub>2</sub>O, 51/96/64%; *iv*) 0.5 equiv. Ca(OMe)<sub>2</sub>, toluene 84/81/96%; *v*) Grubbs-II catalyst, dichloromethane, purification on RP-18, then washing with HCl (2M) (5%/7%/10% for **1a/b/c** and 8%/11%/15% for **2a/b/c**).

## **2.2.** Synthesis of macrocycle (*S*)-2a and catenane (*S*,*S*)-1a

### 2.2.1. Synthesis of O-(allyl)pentaethylene glycol 14a<sup>[5]</sup>



Potassium *tert*-butoxide (0.998 g, 8.90 mmol, 0.53 eq.) was dried at high vacuum in a Schlenk flask for three hours. After addition of dry tetrahydrofuran (100 ml), a solution of pentaethylene glycol (4.00 g, 16.8 mmol, 1 eq.) in dry tetrahydrofuran (50 ml) was added to the suspension. The mixture was stirred for 40 minutes before a solution of allylbromide (769  $\mu$ L, 1.08 g, 8.90 mmol, 0.53 eq.) in dry tetrahydrofuran (50 ml) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 20 hours. The resulting suspension was filtered and the solvent was evaporated to give a light yellow oil. After silica gel chromatography (22 x 5 cm, ethyl acetate/methanol 15:1) the product **14a** was obtained as a light yellow oil (1.75 g, 6.29 mmol, 71%).

#### C13H26O6 278.35 g/mol

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K)  $\delta$  [in ppm] = 5.91 (ddt, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-18,19') = 17.2 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-18,19) = 10.4 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-18,17) = 5.7 Hz, 1 H, H-18), 5.27 (ddt, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-19',18) = 17.2 Hz, <sup>2</sup>*J*(H-19',19) = 1.6 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*(H-19',17) = 1.4 Hz, 1 H, H-19'), 5.17 (ddt, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-19,18) = 10.4 Hz, <sup>2</sup>*J*(H-19,19') = 1.6 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*(H-19,17) = 1.4 Hz, 1 H, H-19), 4.02 (dt, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-17,18) = 5.7 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*(H-17,19/19') = 1.4 Hz, 2 H, H-17), 3.77-3.58 (m, 20 H, core glycol-OC*H*<sub>2</sub>).

#### 2.2.2. Synthesis of O-(allyl)pentaethylene glycol tosylate 15a<sup>[5]</sup>



14a (2.62 g, 7.41 mmol, 1 eq.), tosyl chloride (1.77 g, 9.28 mmol, 1.25 eq.), triethylamine (1.25 ml, 11.9 mmol, 1.6 eq.) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (180 mg, 1.48 mmol, 0.2 eq.) were dissolved in dichloromethane (80 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 20 hours. Diethyl ether (100 ml) was added and the organic phase was washed with each hydrochloric acid (2M, 100 ml), sat. sodium bicarbonate (100 ml) and brine (100 ml), respectively. The organic phase was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, filtered and concentrated in the rotary evaporator. The product 15a (3.07 g, 7.10 mmol, 96%) was obtained as a light yellow oil.

#### C20H32O8S 432.53 g/mol

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K)  $\delta$  [in ppm] = 7.79 (ps d, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.3 Hz, 2 H, H-21), 7.34 (ps d, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.9 Hz, 2 H, H-22), 5.90 (ddt, <sup>3</sup>J(H-18,19') = 17.2 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J(H-18,19) = 10.4 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J(H-18,17) = 5.7 Hz, 1 H, H-18), 5.27 (ddt, <sup>3</sup>J(H-19',18) = 17.2 Hz, <sup>2</sup>J(H-19',19) = 1.6 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J(H-19,17) = 1.4 Hz, 1 H, H-19'), 5.17 (ddt, <sup>3</sup>J(H-19,18) = 10.4 Hz, <sup>2</sup>J(H-19,19') = 1.6 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J(H-19,17) = 1.4 Hz, 1 H, H-19), 4.15 (t, <sup>3</sup>J(H-15,16) = 4.8 Hz, 2 H, H-15), 4.01 (dt, <sup>3</sup>J(H-17,18) = 5.7 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J(H-17,19/19') = 1.4 Hz, 2 H, H-17), 3.69-3.56 (m, 18 H, core glycol-OCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.44 (s, 3 H, H-24).

### 2.2.3. Synthesis of MOM-protected precursor (S)-10a



(S)-9 (1.56 g, 2.80 mmol, 1 eq.), 15a (2.90 g, 6.70 mmol, 2.4 eq.) and potassium carbonate (1.85 g, 13.4 mmol, 4.8 eq.) were charged in a flask and acetonitrile (150 ml) was added. The resulting suspension was refluxed for 24 hours. After cooling down to room temperature the reaction mixture was filtered and the organic solvent was evaporated in the rotary evaporator. After silica gel flash column chromatography (17 x 4 cm, ethyl acetate/methanol = 40/1) the product (S)-10a (1.97 g, 1.83 mmol, 64%) was obtained as a light brown oil.

#### C62H78O16 1079.29 g/mol

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 7.88 (s, 2 H, H-4), 7.83 (d,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-6,7) = 8.2 Hz, 2 H, H-6), 7.66 (ps d,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-12,13) = 8.7 Hz, 4 H, H-12), 7.35 (ddd  ${}^{3}J$ (H-7,9) = 8.1 Hz,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-7,8) = 6.4 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$ (H-7,6) = 1.5 Hz, 2 H, H-7), 7.26 – 7.19 (m, 4 H, H-8, H-9 merged with CDCl<sub>3</sub> peak), 6.99 (ps d,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-13,12) = 8.7 Hz, 4 H, H-13), 5.87 (ddt  ${}^{3}J$ (H-18,19') = 17.2 Hz,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-18,19) = 10.4 Hz,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-18,17) = 5.7 Hz, 2 H, H-18), 5.25 (ddt,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-19',18) = 17.2 Hz,  ${}^{2}J$ (H-19',19) = 1.7 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$ (H-19',17) = 1.7 Hz, 2 H, H-19'), 5.15 (ddt,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-19,18) = 10.4 Hz,  ${}^{2}J$ (H-19,19') = 1.4 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$ (H-19,17) = 1.4 Hz, 1 H, H-19), 4.38 (d,  ${}^{2}J$ = 5.8 Hz, 2 H, MOM-OCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.33 (d,  ${}^{2}J$ = 5.8 Hz, 2 H, MOM-OCH<sub>2</sub>'), 4.13 (t,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-15,16) = 4.9 Hz, 4 H, H-15), 3.99 (dt,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-17,18) = 5.8 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$ (H-17,19/19') = 1.4 Hz, 4 H, H-17), 3.86 (t,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-16,15) = 4.9 Hz, 4 H, H-16), 3.67-3.54 (m, 32 H, core glycol-OCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.32 (s, 6 H, MOM-OCH<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 158.2 (C-14), 151.3 (C-2), 134.9 (C-3), 134.8 (C-18), 133.4 (C-10), 131.5 (C-11), 130.9 (C-5), 130.6 (C-12), 130.1 (C-4), 127.7 (C-6), 126.5 (C-1), 126.4 (C-9), 126.0 (C-8), 125.0 (C-7), 117.0 (C-19), 114.4 (C-13), 98.3 (MOM-OCH<sub>2</sub>) 72.2 (C-17), 70.8 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 70.6 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 69.7 (C-16), 69.4 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 67.4 (C-15), 55.8 (MOM-OCH<sub>3</sub>).

**COSY** (600 MHz/600 MHz,[D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K)  $\delta$  [in ppm] = 7.88 (H-4), 7.83/7.35 (H-6/H-7), 7.66/6.99 (H-12/H-13), 7.35/7.83 (H-7/H-6), 6.99/7.66 (H-13/H-12), 5.87/5.25, 5.15, 3.99 (H-18/H-19', H-19, H-17), 5.25/5.87, 3.99 (H-19', H-18, H-17), 5.15/5.87, 3.99 (H-19/H-18, H-17), 4.38/4.33 (MOM-OC*H*<sub>2</sub>), 4.33/4.38 (MOM-OC*H*<sub>2</sub>), 4.13/3.86 (H-15,H-16), 3.99/5.87 (H-17/H-18), 3.86/4.13 (H-16/H-15).

HSQC (600 MHz/151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 7.88/130.1 (H-4/C-4), 7.83/127.7 (H-6/C-6),7.66/130.6 (H-12/C-12), 7.35/125.0 (H-7/C-7), 7.26 - 7.19/126.4, 126.0 (H-9, H-8/C-9, C-8), 6.99/114.4 (H-13/C-13), 5.87/134.8 (H-18/C-18), 5.25, 5.15/117.0 (H-19′, H-19/C-19), 4.38, 4.33/98.3 (MOM-OCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.13/67.4 (H-15/C-15), 3.99/72.2 (H-17/C-17), 3.86/69.7 (H-16/C-16), 3.67 - 3.54/ 70.8, 70.6, 69.4 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.32/55.8 (MOM-OCH<sub>3</sub>).

**HMBC (600 MHz/151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) \delta [in ppm] = 7.88/151.3,133.4, 131.5, 127.7 (H-4/C-2, C-10, C-11, C-6), 7.83/133.4, 130.1, 126.0 (H-6/C-10, C-4, C-8), 7.66/158.2, 134.9, 130.6, 114.4 (H-12/C-14, C-3, C-12, C-13), 7.35/130.9,126.4 (H-7/C-5, C-9), 7.26 – 7.19/133.4, 130.9, 127.7, 126.5, 125.0 (H-9 and H-8/C-10, C-5, C-6, C-1, C-7), 6.99/158.2, 131.5, 114.4 (H-13/C-14, C-11, C-13), 5.87/72.2 (H-18/C-17), 5.25/134.8, 72.2 (H-19'/C-18, C-17), 5.15/134.8, 72.2 (H-19/C-18, C-17), 5.25/134.8, 72.2 (H-19'/C-18, C-17), 5.15/134.8, 72.2 (H-19/C-18, C-17), 4.38/151.3, 55.8 (MOM-OC***H***<sub>2</sub>/C-2, MOM-OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.33/151.3, 55.8 (MOM-OC***H***<sub>2</sub>/C-2, MOM-OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.13/158.2, 69.7 (H-15/C-14, C-16), 3.99/134.8, 117.0, 69.4 (H-17/C-18, C-19, core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.86/70.8, 67.4 (H-16/core glycol-OCH2, C-15), 3.67 – 3.54/ 70.8, 70.6, 69.4, 69.7 (core glycol OC***H***<sub>2</sub>/core glycol OC***H***<sub>2</sub>, C-16), 2.32/98.3 (MOM-OC***H***<sub>3</sub>/MOM-OC***H***<sub>2</sub>).** 

**IR** (ATR)  $\bar{\upsilon}$  = 2868, 1607, 1510, 1452, 1350, 1282, 1245, 1179, 1101, 995, 969, 924, 835, 752 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**MS** (ESI, pos.; methanol): m/z = 1101.7 ([C<sub>62</sub>H<sub>78</sub>O<sub>16</sub>Na]<sup>+</sup>), calcd. 1101.5 for ([C<sub>62</sub>H<sub>78</sub>O<sub>16</sub>Na]<sup>+</sup>).

**HRMS** (ESI, pos.; methanol): m/z = 1101.5179 ([C<sub>62</sub>H<sub>78</sub>O<sub>16</sub>Na]<sup>+</sup>), calcd. 1101.5182 for [C<sub>62</sub>H<sub>78</sub>O<sub>16</sub>Na]<sup>+</sup>).

Elemental analysis calcd. for C<sub>62</sub>H<sub>78</sub>O<sub>16</sub>: C, 69.00; H, 7.28. Found: C, 67.50; H, 7.34.

2.2.4. Synthesis of the diol (S)-11a



(S)-10a (1.73 g, 1.60 mmol, 1 eq.) and Amberlyst 15 (800 mg, 1.00 g/2 mmol) were charged in a flask and methanol (50 ml) was added. The resulting mixture was refluxed for six days. After cooling down to room temperature, the mixture was filtered and the solvent was evaporated in the rotary evaporator to give the product (S)-11a (1.52 g, 1.53 mmol, 94%) as a yellow oil.

### C58H70O14 991.18 g/mol

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 7.96 (s, 2 H, H-4), 7.88 (d,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-6,7) = 8.2 Hz, 2 H, H-6), 7.64 (ps d,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-12,13) = 8.8 Hz, 4 H, H-12), 7.35 (ddd  ${}^{3}J$ (H-7,6) = 8.1 Hz,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-7,8) = 6.8 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$ (H-7,9) = 1.2 Hz, 2 H, H-7), 7.27 (ddd  ${}^{3}J$ (H-8,9) = 8.5 Hz,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-8,7) = 6.8 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$ (H-8,6) = 1.3 Hz, 2 H, H-8), 7.18 (d,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-9,8) = 8.6 Hz, 2 H, H-9), 7.01 (ps d,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-13,12) = 8.7 Hz, 4 H, H-13), 5.89 (ddt  ${}^{3}J$ (H-18,19') = 17.2 Hz,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-18,19) = 10.4 Hz,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-18,17) = 5.7 Hz, 2 H, H-18), 5.40 (br s, 2 H, OH), 5.24 (ddt,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-19',18) = 17.2 Hz,  ${}^{2}J$ (H-19',19) = 1.7 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$ (H-19',17) = 1.7 Hz, 2 H, H-19'), 5.14 (ddt,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-15,16) = 5.0 Hz, 4 H, H-15), 3.98 (dt,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-17,18) = 5.7 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$ (H-17,19/19') = 1.4 Hz, 4 H, H-17), 3.86 (t,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-16,15) = 5.0 Hz, 4 H, H-16), 3.74-3.54 (m, 32 H, core glycol-OCH<sub>2</sub>).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 158.6 (C-14), 150.4 (C-2), 134.9 (C-18), 132.9 (C-10), 131.0 (C-4), 130.9 (C-12), 130.4 (C-3), 130.1 (C-11), 129.6 (C-5), 128.4 (C-6), 127.2 (C-8), 124.4 (C-9), 124.3 (C-7), 117.2 (C-19), 114.8 (C-13), 112.6 (C-1), 72.3 (C-17), 71.0 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 70.8 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 69.9 (C-16), 69.5 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 67.6 (C-15).

**COSY (600 MHz/600 MHz,[D1]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm]** = 7.88/7.35 (H-6/H-7), 7.64/7.01 (H-12/H-13), 7.35/7.88, 7.27 (H-7/H-6,H-8), 7.27/7.35, 7.18 (H-8/H-7, H-9), 7.18/7.27 (H-9/H-8), 7.01/7.64 (H-13/H-12), 5.87/5.24, 5.14, 3.98 (H-18/H-19', H-19, H-17), 5.24/5.87 (H-19', H-18), 5.14/5.87 (H-19/H-18), 4.17/3.86 (H-15,H-16), 3.98/5.87 (H-17/H-18), 3.86/4.17 (H-16/H-15).

**HSQC** (**600 MHz/151 MHz**, **[D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform**, **298 K**) δ **[in ppm]** =7.95/131.0 (H-4/C-4), 7.88/128.4 (H-6/C-6), 7.64/130.9 (H-12/C-12), 7.35/124.3 (H-7/C-7), 7.27/127.2 (H-8/C-8), 7.18/124.4 (H-9/C-9), 7.01/114.8 (H-13/C-13), 5.87/134.9 (H-18/C-18), 5.24,

5.14/117.2 (H-19', H-19/C-19), 4.17/67.6 (H-15/C-15), 3.98/72.3 (H-17,C-17), 3.86/69.9 (H-16/C-16), 3.74 - 3.53/71.0, 70.8, 69.5 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>).

**HMBC** (**600 MHz/151 MHz**, [**D**<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, **298 K**) δ [in ppm] = 7.95/150.4, 132.9, 130.1, 128.4, 112.6 (H-4/C-2, C-10, C-11, C-6, C-1), 7.88/132.9, 131.0, 127.2 (H-6/C-10, C-4, C-8), 7.64/158.7, 130.9, 114.8 (H-12/C14, C-12, C-13), 7.35/129.6, 124.4 (H-7/C-5, C-9), 7.27/132.9, 128.4 (H-8/C-10, C-6), 7.18/132.9, 129.6, 124.3, 112.6 (H-9/C-10, C-5, C-7, C-1), 7.01/158.7, 130.1, 114.8 (H-13/C-14, C-11, C-13), 5.88/72.3 (H-18/C-17), 5.41/150.4, 130.4, 112.6 (OH/C-2, C-3, C-1), 5.24/72.4 (H-19'/C-17), 5.24/134.9, 72.3 (H-19'/C-18, C-17), 5.14/72.3(H-19/C-17), 4.17/158.6, 69.9 (H-15/C-14, C16), 3.98/134.9, 117.2, 69.5 (H-17/C-18, C-19, core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.86/71.0, 67.7 (H-16/core glycol-OCH2, C-15), 3.74 –3.53/71.0, 70.8, 70.7, 69.9, 69.5 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>/core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>, C-16).

**IR** (ATR)  $\bar{v} = 2869$ , 1607, 1512, 1440, 1408, 1359, 1245, 1179, 1124, 928, 832, 751 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**MS** (ESI, pos.; methanol): m/z = 1013.5 ([C<sub>58</sub>H<sub>70</sub>O<sub>14</sub>Na]<sup>+</sup>), calcd. 1013.5 for ([C<sub>58</sub>H<sub>70</sub>O<sub>14</sub>Na]<sup>+</sup>),

**HRMS** (ESI, pos.; methanol): m/z = 1013.4646 ([C<sub>58</sub>H<sub>70</sub>O<sub>14</sub>Na]<sup>+</sup>), calcd. 1013.4658 for [C<sub>58</sub>H<sub>70</sub>O<sub>14</sub>Na]<sup>+</sup>)

Elemental analysis calcd. for C<sub>58</sub>H<sub>70</sub>O<sub>14</sub>: C, 70.28; H, 7.12. Found: C, 69.10; H, 6.97.

#### 2.2.5. Synthesis of the phosphoric acid (S)-12a



(S)-11a (1.52 g, 1.53 mmol, 1 eq.) was charged in a Schlenk flask and dried at high vacuum for three hours. Pyridine (20 ml) and phosphoryl chloride (2.35 g, 1.40 ml, 15.3 mmol, 10 eq.) were added under argon and the resulting mixture was stirred for 16 hours at 60° C. After addition of water (10 ml) the mixture was stirred for another 3 hours at 60° C before dichloromethane (20 ml) was added and the resulting two phases were separated. The organic phase was washed with hydrochloric acid (4 x 25 ml, 2M), dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate, filtered and concentrated in the rotary evaporator. After silica gel flash column chromatography (15 x 4 cm, dichloromethane/methanol: 10/1), redissolving in dichloromethane (50 ml) and washing with hydrochloric acid (2 M, 50 ml) the product (S)-12a was obtained (816 mg, 0.775 mmol, 51%) as a brown oil.

### C58H69O16P 1053.15 g/mol

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K)  $\delta$  [in ppm] = 7.96 (s, 2 H, H-4), 7.92 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-6,7) = 8.2 Hz, 2 H, H-6), 7.59 (ps d, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-12,13) = 8.8 Hz, 4 H, H-12), 7.45 (ddd <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-7,6) = 8.0 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-7,8) = 6.7 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*(H-7,9) = 1.2 Hz, 2 H, H-7), 7.31 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-9,8) = 8.5 Hz, 2 H, H-9), 7.26 - 7.23 (m, 2 H, H-8 merged with CDCl<sub>3</sub> peak), 6.90 (ps d, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-13,12) = 8.8 Hz, 4 H, H-13), 5.83 (ddt <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-18,19') = 17.2 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-18,19) = 10.4 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-18,17) = 5.7 Hz, 2 H, H-18), 5.20 (ddt, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-19',18) = 17.2 Hz, <sup>2</sup>*J*(H-19',19) = 1.7 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*(H-19',17) = 1.7 Hz, 2 H, H-19'), 5.11 (ddt, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-19,18) = 10.4 Hz, <sup>2</sup>*J*(H-19,19') = 1.6 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*(H-19,17) = 1.6 Hz, 1 H, H-19), 4.02 (t, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-15,16) = 4.8 Hz, 4 H, H-15), 3.93 (dt, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-17,18) = 5.7 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*(H-17,19/19') = 1.4 Hz, 4 H, H-17), 3.67 (t, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-16,15) = 4.8 Hz, 4 H, H-16), 3.60-3.49 (m, 32 H, core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 158.5 (C-14), 145.0 (d,  $J_{C-P} = 9.4$  Hz, C-2), 134.7 (C-18), 133.8 (d,  $J_{C-P} = 3.0$  Hz, C-3), 131.9 (C-10), 131.7 (C-5), 131.2 (C-12), 131.0 (C-4), 129.7 (C-11), 128.4 (C-6), 127.2 (C-9), 126.4 (C-8), 125.9 (C-7), 122.7 (d,  $J_{C-P} = 2.1$  Hz, C-1), 117.4 (C-19), 114.6 (C-13), 72.3 (C-17), 70.8 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 70.6 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 69.8 (C-16), 69.4 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 67.5 (C-15).

<sup>31</sup>P-NMR (121.5 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 1.62 (s, P(O)OH).

**COSY (600 MHz/600 MHz,[D1]-Chloroform, 298 K)**  $\delta$  [in ppm] = 7.92/7.45 (H-6/H-7), 7.59/6.90 (H-12/H-13), 7.45/7.92, 7.24 (H-7/H-6, H-8), 7.31/7.24 (H-9/H-8), 7.26 – 7.23/7.45, 7.31 (H-8/H-7, H-9), 6.90/7.59 (H-13/H-12), 5.83/5.20, 5.11, 3.93 (H-18/H-19', H-19, H-17), 5.20/5.83, 3.93 (H-19'/H-18, H-17), 5.11/5.83, 3.93 (H-19/H-18, H-17), 4.02/3.67 (H-15/H-16), 3.93/5.83, 5.20 (H-17/H-18, H19'), 3.67/4.02 (H-16/H-15).

**HSQC (600 MHz/151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm]** =7.96/131.0 (H-4/C-4), 7.92/128.4 (H-6/C-6), 7.59/131.2 (H-12/C-12), 7.45/125.9 (H-7/C-7), 7.31/127.2 (H-9/C-9), 7.26 – 7.23/126.4 (H-8/C-8), 6.90/114.6 (H-13/C-13), 5.83/134.7 (H-18/C-18), 5.20, 5.11/117.4 (H-19', H-19/C-19), 4.02/67.5 (H-15/C-15), 3.93/72.3 (H-17,C-17), 3.67/69.8 (H-16/C-16), 3.60 - 3.49/70.8, 70.6, 69.4 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>).

**HMBC (600 MHz/151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm]** = 7.96/145.0, 131.9, 129.7, 128.4, 122.4 (H-4/C-2, C-10, C-11, C-6, C-1), 7.92/131.9, 131.0, 126.4 (H-6/C-10, C-4, C-8), 7.59/158.5, 131.2, 114.6 (H-12/C-14, C-12, C-13), 7.45/131.7, 127.2 (H-7/C-5, C-9), 7.31/131.9, 131.7, 125.9, 122.7 (H-9/C-10, C-5, C-7, C-1), 7.24/131.9, 128.4 (H-8/C-10, C-6), 6.90/158.5, 129.7, 114.6 (H-13/C-14, C-11, C-13), 5.83/72.3 (H-18/C-17), 5.20/72.3 (H-19'/C-17), 5.11/134.7, 72.3 (H-19/C-18, C-17), 4.02/158.5, 69.8 (H-15/C-14, C16), 3.93/134.7, 117.4, 69.4 (H-17/C-18,C-19, core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.67/70.8, 67.5 (H-16/core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>, C-15), 3.60 –3.49/70.8, 70.6, 69.8, 69.4 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>/core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>, C-16).

**IR** (ATR)  $\bar{v} = 2869, 1608, 1514, 1246, 1180, 1101, 957, 885, 842, 754, 615 cm<sup>-1</sup>.$ 

**MS** (ESI, pos.; methanol): m/z = 1075.5 ([C<sub>58</sub>H<sub>69</sub>NaO<sub>16</sub>P]<sup>+</sup>), calcd. 1075.4 for ([C<sub>58</sub>H<sub>69</sub>NaO<sub>16</sub>P]<sup>+</sup>).

**HRMS** (ESI, neg.; methanol): m/z = 1051.4207 ([C<sub>58</sub>H<sub>68</sub>O<sub>16</sub>P]<sup>-</sup>), calcd. 1051.4250 for [C<sub>58</sub>H<sub>68</sub>O<sub>16</sub>P]<sup>-</sup>).

Elemental analysis calcd. for C<sub>58</sub>H<sub>69</sub>O<sub>16</sub>P: C, 64.48; H, 6.97. Found: C, 64.55; H, 6.39.

### **2.2.6.** Synthesis of the precatenane (S,S)-13a



The phosphoric acid (S)-12a (816 mg, 0.775 mmol, 1 eq.) was charged in a Schlenk flask and dried at high vacuum for three hours. Dry toluene (30 ml) and calcium methoxide (39.5 mg, 0.387 mmol, 0.5 eq.) were added and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 hours. The mixture was filtered and the solvent was removed in the rotary evaporator to give the product (S,S)-13a (699 mg, 0.326 mmol, 84%) as a brown oil.

#### C116H138O32P2Ca 2144.36 g/mol

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, [D<sub>6</sub>]-Benzene, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 7.94 (br s, 12 H, H-4, H-12), 7.78-7.93 (m, 4 H, H-6), 7.41 (d,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-9,8) = 8.7, 4 H, H-9), 7.22 (t,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-7,8,6) = 7.4 Hz, 4 H, H-7), 7.10 – 6.93 (m, 12 H, H-8, H-13), 5.77 (m, 4 H, H-18), 5.17 (d,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-19',18) = 17.5 Hz, 4 H, H-19'), 4.99 (ddt,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-19,18) = 10.5 Hz, 4 H, H-19), 4.04 – 3.84 (m, 8 H, H-15), 3.78 (br s, 8 H, H-17), 3.59-3.11 (m, 72 H, H16, core glycol OC*H*<sub>2</sub>)

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (151 MHz, [D<sub>6</sub>]-Benzene, 298 K)  $\delta$  [in ppm] = 158.9 (C-14), 147.5 (C-2), 135.6 (C-18), 135.1 (C-3), 132.7 (C-10), 132.0 (C-12), 131.6 (C-5), 131.0 (C-pp4), 128.6 (C-11), 128.5 (C-6), 127.5 (C-8), 126.2 (C-9), 125.4 (C-7), 123.7 (C-1), 116.4 (C-19), 115.0 (C-13), 72.1 (C-17), 70.7 – 69.7 (C-16, core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 67.6 (C-15).

<sup>31</sup>P-NMR (242.92 MHz, [D<sub>6</sub>]-Benzene, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 0.94 (s, P(O)OH).

**COSY (600 MHz/600 MHz, [D<sub>6</sub>]-Benzene, 298 K) δ [in ppm]** =7.94/7.04 (H-12/H-13), 7.78/7.22 (H-6/H-7), 7.41/6.98 (H-9/H-8), 7.22/7.78, 6.98 (H-7/H-6, H-8), 7.04/7.94 (H-13/H-12), 6.98/7.41, 7.21 (H-8/H-9, H-7), 5.77/5.17, 4.99, 3.78 (H-18/H-19', H-19, H-17), 5.17/5.77, 3.78 (H-19'/H-18, H-17), 5.17/5.77, 3.78 (H-19/H-18, H-17), 5.17/5.77, 3.78 (H-19/H-18, H-17), 5.17/5.77, 3.78 (H-17/H-18, H19').

**HSQC** (**600** MHz/151 MHz, [D<sub>6</sub>]-Benzene, 298 K) δ [in ppm] =7.94/132.0, 131.0 (H-4, 12/C-12, C-4), 7.78/128.5 (H-6/C-6), 7.41/127.5 (H-8/C-8), 7.22/125.4 (H-7/C-7), 7.04/115.0 (H-13/C-13), 6.98/126.2 (H-9/C-9), 5.77/135.6 (H-18/C-18), 5.17, 4.99/116.4 (H-19', H-19/C-19), 3.91/67.6 (H-15/C-15), 3.78/72.1 (H-17,C-17), 3.60 - 3.20/70.7-69.7 (core glycol O*C*H<sub>2</sub>).

**HMBC (600 MHz/151 MHz, [D<sub>6</sub>]-Benzene, 298 K) δ [in ppm]** = 7.94/147.5, 132.0, 128.6, (H-4, H-12/C-2, C-10, C-11), 7.78/126.2 (H-6/C-9), 7.41/131.6,125.4 (H-8/C5, C-7), 7.22/131.6, 127.5 (H-7/C-5, C-8), 6.98/132.7, 128.5 (H-9/C-10, C-6), 4.99/72.1 (H-19/C-17).

**IR** (ATR)  $\bar{v} = 2871, 2359, 1608, 1514, 1248, 1183, 1101, 971, 832, 753, 667 cm<sup>-1</sup>.$ 

**MS**: Despite repeated measurements, the intact calcium complex (S,S)-**19a** could not be detected by mass spectrometry. Only the BINOL-phosphate (S)-**18a** was detected. This is in line with our earlier report about the synthesis of compounds **1b/2b**, where the corresponding calcium complex was only a minor peak and the free phosphate was detected as the main peak.<sup>[1]</sup>

#### **2.2.7.** Synthesis of macrocycle (S)-2a and catenane (S,S)-1a



(S,S)-13a (200 mg, 0.0933 mmol, 1 eq.) was dried in a Schlenk flask for four hours. Dry dichloromethane (80 ml) and second generation Grubb's 2<sup>nd</sup> generation catalyst (7.64 mg, 0.00933 mmol, 0.1 eq.) were added under argon and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature with the flask wrapped in aluminium foil to protect the catalyst from light. After five and 17 hours, 1 ml was withdrawn from the mixture to control the progress of the reaction by RP-18 HPLC.<sup>1</sup> After 17 hours the reaction was completed and the solvent was removed. The dark brown residue was dissolved in dichloromethane (10 ml) and methanol (40 ml) was added dropwise. The resulting suspension was filtered through a syringe filter (0.22 µm, PTFE) and the solvent was removed to give 119 mg of a brown solid. The crude product was purified by preparative MPLC (RP-18 17g Kronlab column, MeOH with 0.05% TFA : water with 0.05% TFA = 65 : 35 gradient flow firstly up to 85:15 within 48 min, secondly up to 90:10 within 22 minutes, thirdly up to 100:0 within 10 minutes, 15 ml/min). The solvent was evaporated and each of the two compounds was redissolved in dichloromethane (50 ml) and washed with hydrochloric acid (2M, 10 x 2 ml). After removing the solvent in the rotary evaporator, the 5-EG macrocycle (S,S)-2a (9.0 mg, 4.5%) and the 5-EG catenane (S,S)-1a (15 mg, 7.5%) were obtained.

#### Macrocycle (S)-2a:

C<sub>56</sub>H<sub>65</sub>O<sub>16</sub>P 1025.09 g/mol

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR (600 MHz, [D1]-Chloroform, 298 K)**  $\delta$  **[in ppm]** = 7.99 (s, 2 H, H-4), 7.94 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-6,7) = 8.2 Hz, 2 H, H-6), 7.71 (ps d, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-12,13) = 8.3 Hz, 4 H, H-12), 7.45 (dd,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The solvent was evaporated, the residue solved in methanol and filtered through a syringe filter (0.22  $\mu$ m, PTFE). The reaction was stopped when HPLC analysis showed >95% conversion.

 ${}^{3}J(\text{H-7,6}) = 7.4 \text{ Hz}, {}^{3}J(\text{H-7,8}) = 7.4 \text{ Hz}, 2 \text{ H}, \text{H-7}), 7.33 (d, {}^{3}J(\text{H-9,8}) = 8.6 \text{ Hz}, 2 \text{ H}, \text{H-9}), 7.29 - 7.23 (m, 2 \text{ H}, \text{H-8 merged with CDCl}_3 \text{ peak}), 7.00 (ps d, {}^{3}J(\text{H-13,12}) = 8.4 \text{ Hz}, 4 \text{ H}, \text{H-13}), 5.70 (s, 1.85 \text{ H}, \text{H-18 ($ *E* $-isomer))}, 5.63 (s, 0.15 \text{ H}, \text{H-18 ($ *Z* $-isomer))}, 4.25 - 4.15 (m, 4 \text{ H}, \text{H-15}), 3.97 - 3.82 (m, 8 \text{ H}, \text{H-126}, \text{H-17}), 3.72 - 3.44 (m, 32 \text{ H}, \text{ core glycol OC}_{H_2}).$ 

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 158.6 (C-14), 145.2 (d,  $J_{C-P} = 8.6$  Hz, C-2), 133.8 (C-3), 132.0 (C-10), 131.6 (C-5), 131.3 (C-12), 131.0 (C-4), 130.1 (C-11), 129.6 (C-18), 128.4 (C-6), 127.2 (C-9), 126.3 (C-8), 125.9 (C-7), 122.9 (C-1), 114.6 (C-13), 71.2 (C-17), 71.0 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 70.8 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 70.6 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 69.9 (C-15), 69.4 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 67.7 (C-16).

<sup>31</sup>**P-NMR (242.9 MHz, [D**1]-Chloroform, **298 K**) δ [in ppm] = 1.47 (s, P(O)OH).

**COSY (600 MHz/600 MHz,[ D1]-Chloroform, 298 K)**  $\delta$  **[in ppm]** = 7.94/7.45 (H-6/H-7), 7.71/7.00 (H-12/H-13), 7.45/7.94, 7.24 (H-7/H-6, H-8), 7.33/7.24 (H-9/H-8), 7.29 – 7.23/7.45, 7.33 (H-8/H-7, H-9), 7.00/7.71 (H-13/H-12), 5.70, 5.63/3.97 – 3.82 (H-18 /H-17), 4.25 – 4.15/3.97 – 3.82 (H-15/H-16), 3.97 – 3.82/5.70, 5.63, 4.25 – 4.15(H-16, H-17/H-18, H-15).

**HSQC (600 MHz/151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm]** =7.99/131.0 (H-4/C-4), 7.94/128.4 (H-6/C-6), 7.71/131.3 (H-12/C-12), 7.45/125.9 (H-7/C-7), 7.33/127.2 (H-9/C-9), 7.29 – 7.23/126.3 (H-8/C-8), 7.00/114.6 (H-13/C-13), 5.70/129.6 (H-18/C-18), 5.63/129.6 (H-18/C-18), 4.25 – 4.15/67.7 (H-15/C-15), 3.97 – 3.82/71.2, 69.9 (H-17,H-16/C-17,C-16), 3.72 - 3.44/71.0, 70.8, 70.6, 69.4 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>).

**HMBC (600 MHz/151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm]** = 7.99/145.2, 132.0, 130.1, 128.4, 122.9 (H-4/C-2, C-10, C-11, C-6, C-1), 7.94/132.0, 131.0, 126.3 (H-6/C-10, C-4, C-8), 7.71/158.6, 131.3, 114.6 (H-12/C-14, C-12, C-13), 7.33/131.6, 127.2 (H-7/C-5, C-9), 7.27/132.0, 128.4 (H-8/C-10, C-6), 7.18/132.0, 131.6, 125.9, 122.9 (H-9/C-10, C-5, C-7, C-1), 7.00/158.6,130.1, 114.6 (H-13/C-14, C-11, C-13), 5.70, 5.63/71.2 (H-18/C-18), 4.25 – 4.15/69.9, 158.6 (H-15/C-15, C-14), 3.97 – 3.82/129.6, 71.2, 69.4 (H-17, H-16/C-18,C-17, core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.72 –3.44/71.0, 70.8, 70.6, 69.4, 69.9 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>/core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>, C-16).

**IR** (ATR)  $\bar{v} = 2869, 1608, 1514, 1247, 1181, 1103, 969, 924, 840, 752 cm<sup>-1</sup>.$ 

**MS** (ESI, pos.; methanol): m/z = 1047.4 ([C<sub>56</sub>H<sub>65</sub>NaO<sub>16</sub>P]<sup>+</sup>), calcd. 1047.4 for ([C<sub>56</sub>H<sub>65</sub>NaO<sub>16</sub>P]<sup>+</sup>),

**HRMS** (ESI, pos.; methanol): m/z = 1047.3888 ([C<sub>56</sub>H<sub>65</sub>NaO<sub>16</sub>P]<sup>+</sup>), calcd. 1047.3902 for [C<sub>56</sub>H<sub>65</sub>NaO<sub>16</sub>P]<sup>+</sup>)

Catenane (S,S)-1a:

 $C_{112}H_{130}O_{32}P_2\ 2050.18\ g/mol$ 

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K)  $\delta$  [in ppm] = 7.97 (s, 4 H, H-4), 7.93 (d, <sup>3</sup>J(H-6,7) = 8.3 Hz, 4 H, H-6), 7.61 (ps d, <sup>3</sup>J(H-12,13) = 8.2 Hz, 8 H, H-12), 7.46 (dd,

 ${}^{3}J(\text{H-7,6}) = 7.5 \text{ Hz}, {}^{3}J(\text{H-7,8}) = 7.5 \text{ Hz}, 4 \text{ H}, \text{H-7}), 7.31 (d, {}^{3}J(\text{H-9,8}) = 8.5 \text{ Hz}, 4 \text{ H}, \text{H-9}), 7.28 - 7.24 (m, 4 \text{ H}, \text{H-8 merged with CDCl}_3 peak), 6.89 (ps d, {}^{3}J(\text{H-13,12}) = 8.3 \text{ Hz}, 8 \text{ H}, \text{H-13}), 5.69 (s, 3.7 \text{ H}, \text{H-18 ($ *E* $-isomer)}), 5.62 (s, 0.3 \text{ H}, \text{H-18 ($ *Z* $-isomer)}), 4.27 (br s, 2H, OH), 4.00 (t, {}^{3}J(\text{H-15,16}) = 4.7 \text{ Hz}, 8 \text{ H}, \text{H-15}), 3.96 - 3.92 (m, 16 \text{ H}, \text{H-16}, \text{H-17}), 3.74 - 3.44 (m, 64 \text{ H}, \text{ core glycol OC}_2).$ 

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 158.4 (C-14), 145.2 (d,  $J_{C-P} = 8.6$  Hz, C-2), 133.8 (C-3), 132.0 (C-10), 131.6 (C-5), 131.2 (C-12), 131.0 (C-4), 129.8 (C-11), 129.6 (C-18), 128.4 (C-6), 127.2 (C-9), 126.3 (C-8), 125.9 (C-7), 122.9 (C-1), 114.6 (C-13), 71.2 (C-17), 71.0 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 70.8 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 70.6 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 69.9 (C-16), 69.4 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 67.4(C-15).

<sup>31</sup>**P-NMR (242.9 MHz, [D**<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, **298 K**) δ [in ppm] = 1.58 (s, P(O)OH).

**COSY (600 MHz/600 MHz,[ D1]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm]** = 7.93/7.46 (H-6/H-7), 7.61/6.89 (H-12/H-13), 7.46/7.93, 7.24 (H-7/H-6, H-8), 7.31/7.28 – 7.24 (H-9/H-8), 7.28 – 7.24/7.46, 7.31 (H-8/H-7, H-9), 6.89/7.61 (H-13/H-12), 5.69, 5.62/3.92 (H-18 /H-17), 4.00/3.92 (H-15/H-16), 3.96/5.69, 5.62 (H-17/H-18), 3.92/4.00 (H-16/H-15).

**HSQC (600 MHz/151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm]** =7.97/131.0 (H-4/C-4), 7.93/128.4 (H-6/C-6), 7.61/131.3 (H-12/C-12), 7.46/125.9 (H-7/C-7), 7.31/127.2 (H-9/C-9), 7.28 – 7.24/126.3 (H-8/C-8), 6.89/114.6 (H-13/C-13), 5.69/129.6 (H-18/C-18), 5.62/129.6 (H-18/C-18), 4.00/67.4 (H-15/C-15), 3.96 – 3.92/71.2, 69.9 (H-17,H-16/C-17,C-16), 3.74 - 3.44/71.0, 70.8, 70.6, 69.4 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>).

HMBC (600 MHz/151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 7.97/145.2, 132.0, 129.8, 128.4, 122.9 (H-4/C-2, C-10, C-11, C-6, C-1), 7.93/132.0, 131.0, 126.3 (H-6/C-10, C-4, C-8), 7.61/158.4, 131.3, 114.6 (H-12/C14, C-12, C-13), 7.46/131.6, 127.2 (H-7/C-5, C-9), 7.31/132.0, 131.6, 125.9, 122.9 (H-9/C-10, C-5, C-7, C-1), 7.27/132.0, 128.4 (H-8/C-10, C-6), 6.89/158.4, 129.8, 114.6 (H-13/C-14, C-11, C-13), 5.69, 5.62/71.2 (H-18/C-17), 4.00 /69.9, 129.6 (H-15/C-16, C-18), 3.96 – 3.92/129.6, 71.2, 69.4 (H-17, H-16/C-18, C-17, core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.74 –3.44/71.0, 70.8, 70.6, 69.9, 69.4 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>/core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>, C-16).

**IR** (ATR)  $\bar{v} = 2869, 1608, 1514, 1248, 1181, 1106, 971, 925, 840, 753 cm<sup>-1</sup>.$ 

**MS** (ESI, neg.; methanol): m/z = 1023.5 ( $[C_{112}H_{128}O_{32}P_2]^{2-}$ ), calcd. 1023.4 for ( $[C_{112}H_{128}O_{32}P_2]^{2-}$ ),

**HRMS** (neg.; methanol): m/z = 1023.3906 ( $[C_{112}H_{128}O_{32}P_2]^{2-}$ ), calcd. 1023.3937 for  $[C_{112}H_{128}O_{32}P_2]^{2-}$ )

## **2.3.** Synthesis of macrocycle (*S*)-2c and catenane (*S*,*S*)-1c

### **2.3.1.** Synthesis of O-(allyl)heptaethylene glycol 14c<sup>[6]</sup>



Potassium *tert*-butoxide (182 mg, 1.62 mmol, 0.53 eq.) was dried at high vacuum in a Schlenk flask for three hours. After addition of dry tetrahydrofuran (40 ml), a solution of heptaethylene glycol (1.00 g, 3.06 mmol, 1 eq.) in dry tetrahydrofuran (10 ml) was added to the suspension. The mixture was stirred for 40 minutes before a solution of allylbromide (140  $\mu$ L, 196 mg, 1.62 mmol, 0.53 eq.) in dry tetrahydrofuran (10 ml) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 20 hours. The resulting suspension was filtered and the solvent was evaporated to give a light yellow oil. After silica gel chromatography (20 x 3 cm, ethyl acetate/methanol = 10:1) the product **14c** was obtained as a light yellow oil (512 mg, 1.39 mmol, 85%).

#### C17H34O8 366.45 g/mol

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K)  $\delta$  [in ppm] = 5.89 (ddt, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-18,19') = 17.3 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-18,19) = 10.5 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-18,17) = 5.7 Hz, 1 H, H-18), ), 5.25 (ddt, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-19',18) = 17.3 Hz, <sup>2</sup>*J*(H-19',19) = 1.6 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*(H-19',17) = 1.4 Hz, 1 H, H-19'), 5.15 (ddt, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-19,18) = 10.5 Hz, <sup>2</sup>*J*(H-19,19') = 1.6 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*(H-19,17) = 1.4 Hz, 1 H, H-19), 4.00 (dt, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-17,18) = 5.7 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*(H-17,19/19') = 1.4 Hz, 2 H, H-17), 3.75-3.55 (m, 28 H, core glycol-OCH<sub>2</sub>).

## **2.3.2.** Synthesis of O-(allyl)heptaethylene glycol tosylate $15c^{[6]}$



**14c** (776 mg, 2.09 mmol, 1 eq.), tosyl chloride (498 mg, 2.06 mmol, 1.25 eq.), triethylamine (463  $\mu$ l, 3.34 mmol, 1.6 eq.) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (51.1 mg, 0.42 mmol, 0.2 eq.) were dissolved in dichloromethane (30 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 20 hours. Diethyl ether (100 ml) was added and the organic phase was washed with each hydrochloric acid (2M, 100 ml), sat. sodium bicarbonate (100 ml) and brine (100 ml), respectively. The organic phase was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, filtered and concentrated in the rotary evaporator. The product **15c** was obtained as a light brown oil (995 mg, 1.91 mmol, 91%).

### C24H40O10S 520.63 g/mol

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K)  $\delta$  [in ppm] = 7.79 (ps d, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.3 Hz, 2 H, H-21), 7.35 (ps d, <sup>3</sup>J= 7.9 Hz, 2 H, H-22), 5.90 (ddt, <sup>3</sup>J(H-18,19') = 17.2 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J(H-18,19) = 10.4 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J(H-18,17) = 5.7 Hz, 1 H, H-18), 5.26 (ddt, <sup>3</sup>J(H-19',18) = 17.2 Hz, <sup>2</sup>J(H-19',19) = 1.6 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J(H-19',17) = 1.4 Hz, 1 H, H-19'), 5.17 (ddt, <sup>3</sup>J(H-19,18) = 10.4 Hz, <sup>2</sup>J(H-19,19') = 1.6 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J(H-19,17) = 1.4 Hz, 1 H, H-19), 4.01 (dt, <sup>3</sup>J(H-17,18) = 5.7 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J(H-17,19/19) = 1.4 Hz, 2 H, H-17), 3.69-3.56 (m, 28 H, core glycol-OCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.44 (s, 3 H, H-24).

### 2.3.3. Synthesis of MOM-protected precursor (S)-10c



(S)-9 (397 mg, 0.710 mmol, 1 eq.), 15c (890 mg, 1.71 mmol, 2.4 eq) and potassium carbonate (469 mg, 3.41 mmol, 4.8 eq.) were charged in a flask (100 ml) and acetonitrile (50 ml) was added. The resulting suspension was refluxed for 24 hours. After cooling down to room temperature the reaction mixture was filtered and the organic solvent was evaporated in the rotary evaporator. After silica gel flash column chromatography (15 x 3 cm, ethyl acetate/methanol = 40/1) the product (S)-10c was obtained as a brown oil (546 mg, 0.43 mmol, 61%).

#### C70H94O20 1255.50 g/mol

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 7.88 (s, 2 H, H-4), 7.84 (d,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-6,7) = 8.4 Hz, 2 H, H-6), 7.66 (ps d,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-12,13) = 8.7 Hz, 4 H, H-12), 7.37 (ddd  ${}^{3}J$ (H-7,9) = 8.1 Hz,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-7,8) = 5.8 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$ (H-7,6) = 2.1 Hz, 2 H, H-7), 7.28– 7.23 (m, 4 H, H-8, H-9 merged with CDCl<sub>3</sub> peak), 6.99 (ps d,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-13,12) = 8.8 Hz, 4 H, H-13), 5.88 (ddt  ${}^{3}J$ (H-18,19') = 17.2 Hz,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-18,19) = 10.3 Hz,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-18,17) = 5.7 Hz, 2 H, H-18), 5.24 (ddt,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-19',18) = 17.2 Hz,  ${}^{2}J$ (H-19',19) = 1.6 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$ (H-19',17) = 1.7 Hz, 2 H, H-19'), 5.15 (ddt,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-19,18) = 10.4 Hz,  ${}^{2}J$ (H-19,19') = 1.4 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$ (H-19,17) = 1.4 Hz, 1 H, H-19), 4.38 (d,  ${}^{2}J$ = 5.8 Hz, 2 H, MOM-OCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.33 (d,  ${}^{2}J$ = 5.8 Hz, 2 H, MOM-OCH<sub>2</sub>'), 4.16 (t,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-15,16) = 4.9 Hz, 4 H, H-15), 3.99 (dt,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-17,18) = 5.7 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$ (H-17,19/19') = 1.4 Hz, 4 H, H-17 ), 3.87 (t,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-16,15) = 4.9 Hz, 4 H, H-16), 3.77-3.56 (m, 48 H, core glycol-OCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.32(s, 6 H, MOM-OCH<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 158.3 (C-14), 151.4 (C-2), 135.0 (C-3), 134.9 (C-18), 133.5 (C-10), 131.6 (C-11), 131.0 (C-5), 130.7 (C-12), 130.2 (C-4), 127.8 (C-6), 126.6 (C-1), 126.5 (C-9), 126.1 (C-8), 125.1 (C-7), 117.1 (C-19), 114.5 (C-13), 98.4 (MOM-OCH<sub>2</sub>) 72.3 (C-17), 70.9 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 70.7 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 69.8 (C-16), 69.5 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 67.5 (C-15), 56.0 (MOM-OCH<sub>3</sub>).

**COSY (600 MHz/600 MHz,[ D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K)**  $\delta$  **[in ppm]** = 7.83/7.35 (H-6/H-7), 7.66/6.99 (H-12/H-13), 7.35/7.83 (H-7/H-6), 6.99/7.66 (H-13/H-12), 5.87/5.25, 5.15, 3.99 (H-18/H-19', H-19, H-17), 5.25/5.87, 3.99 (H-19'/H-18, H-17), 5.15/5.87, 3.99 (H-19/H-18, H-17), 4.38/4.33 (MOM-OC*H*<sub>2</sub>), 4.33/4.38 (MOM-OC*H*<sub>2</sub>), 4.13/3.86 (H-15,H-16), 3.99/5.87 (H-17/H-18), 3.86/4.13 (H-16/H-15).

HSQC (600 MHz/151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 7.88/130.2 (H-4/C-4), 7.83/127.8 (H-6/C-6), 7.66/130.7 (H-12/C-12), 7.35/125.1 (H-7/C-7), 7.28 - 7.23/126.5, 126.1 (H-9, H-8/C-9, C-8), 6.99/114.5 (H-13/C-13), 5.87/134.9 (H-18/C-18), 5.25, 5.15/117.1 (H-19′, H-19/C-19), 4.38, 4.33/98.4 (MOM-OCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.13/67.5 (H-15/C-15), 3.99/72.3 (H-17/C-17), 3.86/69.8 (H-16/C-16), 3.77 - 3.56/70.9, 70.7, 69.5 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.32/56.0 (MOM-OCH<sub>3</sub>).

HMBC (600 MHz/151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 7.88/151.4, 133.5, 131.6, 127.8 (H-4/C-2, C-10, C-11, C-6), 7.83/133.5, 130.2, 126.1 (H-6/C-10, C-4, C-8), 7.66/158.3, 135.0, 130.7, 114.5 (H-12/C-14, C-3, C-12, C-13), 7.35/131.0, 126.5 (H-7/C-5, C-9), 7.26 – 7.19/133.5, 131.0, 127.8, 126.6, 125.1 (H-9 and H-8/C-10, C-5, C-6, C-1, C-7), 6.99/158.3, 131.6, 114.5 (H-13/C-14, C-11, C-13), 5.87/72.3 (H-18/C-17), 5.25/134.9, 72.3 (H-19'/C-18, C-17), 5.15/134.9, 72.3 (H-19/C-18, C-17), 4.38/151.4, 56.0 (MOM-OC*H*<sub>2</sub>/C-2, MOM-OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.33/151.4, 56.0 (MOM-OC*H*<sub>2</sub>/C-2, MOM-OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.13/158.3, 69.8 (H-15/C-14, C-16), 3.99/134.9, 117.1, 69.5 (H-17/C-18, C-19, core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.86/70.9, 67.5 (H-16/core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>, C-15), 3.77 – 3.56/ 70.9, 70.7, 69.5, 69.8 (core glycol OC*H*<sub>2</sub>/core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>, C-16), 2.32/98.4 (MOM-OCH<sub>3</sub>/MOM-OCH<sub>2</sub>).

**IR** (ATR)  $\bar{v} = 2866$ , 1607, 1511, 1452, 1408, 1350, 1244, 1179, 1098, 994, 924, 832, 752, 668, 617 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**MS** (ESI, pos.; methanol): m/z = 1277.7 ([C<sub>70</sub>H<sub>94</sub>NaO<sub>20</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), calcd. 1277.6 for ([C<sub>70</sub>H<sub>94</sub>NaO<sub>20</sub>]<sup>+</sup>).

**HRMS** (ESI, pos.; methanol): m/z = 1277.6218 ([C<sub>70</sub>H<sub>94</sub>NaO<sub>20</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), calcd. 1277.6231 for [C<sub>70</sub>H<sub>94</sub>NaO<sub>20</sub>]<sup>+</sup>)

2.3.4. Synthesis of the diol (S)-11c



(S)-10c (546 mg, 0.434 mmol, 1 eq.) and Amberlyst 15 (217 mg, 1.00 g/2 mmol) were charged in a flask and methanol (30 ml) was added. The resulting mixture was refluxed for six days. After cooling down to room temperature, the mixture was filtered and the solvent was evaporated in the rotary evaporator to give the product (S)-11c (481 g, 0.412 mmol, 95%) as a brown oil.

### C66H86O18 1167.40 g/mol

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 7.95 (s, 2 H, H-4), 7.88 (d,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-6,7) = 8.1 Hz, 2 H, H-6), 7.64 (ps d,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-12,13) = 8.8 Hz, 4 H, H-12), 7.35 (ddd  ${}^{3}J$ (H-7,6) = 8.2 Hz,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-7,8) = 6.8 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$ (H-7,9) = 1.2 Hz, 2 H, H-7), 7.27 (ddd  ${}^{3}J$ (H-8,9) = 8.5 Hz,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-8,7) = 6.7 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$ (H-8,6) = 1.3 Hz, 2 H, H-8), 7.18 (dd,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-9,8) = 8.6 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$ (H-9,7) = 1.1 Hz 2 H, H-9), 7.01 (ps d,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-13,12) = 8.7 Hz, 4 H, H-13), 5.87 (ddt  ${}^{3}J$ (H-18,19') = 17.3 Hz,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-18,19) = 10.4 Hz,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-18,17) = 5.7 Hz, 2 H, H-18), 5.41 (br s, 2 H, OH), 5.24 (ddt,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-19',18) = 17.2 Hz,  ${}^{2}J$ (H-19',19) = 1.7 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$ (H-19',17) = 1.7 Hz, 2 H, H-19'), 5.14 (ddt,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-19,18) = 10.3 Hz,  ${}^{2}J$ (H-19,19') = 1.4 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$ (H-19,17) = 1.4 Hz, 1 H, H-19), 4.17 (t,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-15,16) = 5.0 Hz, 4 H, H-15), 3.98 (dt,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-17,18) = 5.7 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$ (H-17,19/19') = 1.4 Hz, 4 H, H-17), 3.86 (t,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-16,15) = 5.0 Hz, 4 H, H-16), 3.74-3.53 (m, 48 H, core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 158.6 (C-14), 150.4 (C-2), 134.9 (C-18), 132.9 (C-10), 131.0 (C-4), 130.9 (C-12), 130.4 (C-3), 130.1 (C-11), 129.6 (C-5), 128.4 (C-6), 127.2 (C-8), 124.4 (C-9), 124.3 (C-7), 117.2 (C-19), 114.8 (C-13), 112.6 (C-1), 72.3 (C-17), 71.0 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 70.8 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 69.9 (C-16), 69.5 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 67.6 (C-15).

**COSY (600 MHz/600 MHz,[ D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm]** = 7.88/7.35 (H-6/H-7), 7.64/7.01 (H-12/H-13), 7.35/7.27, 7.88 (H-7/H-8, H-6), 7.27/7.18, 7.35 (H-8/H-9, H-7), 7.18/7.27 (H-9/H-8), 7.01/7.64 (H-13/H-12), 5.87/5.24, 5.14, 3.98 (H-18/H-19', H-19, H-17), 5.24/5.87 (H-19', H-18), 5.14/5.87 (H-19/H-18), 4.17/3.86 (H-15,H-16), 3.98/5.87 (H-17/H-18), 3.86/4.17 (H-16/H-15).

**HSQC** (**600** MHz/151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] =7.95/131.0 (H-4/C-4), 7.88/128.4 (H-6/C-6), 7.64/130.9 (H-12/C-12), 7.35/124.3 (H-7/C-7), 7.27/127.2 (H-8/C-8), 7.18/124.4 (H-9/C-9), 7.01/114.8 (H-13/C-13), 5.87/134.9 (H-18/C-18), 5.24, 5.14/117.2 (H-19', H-19/C-19), 4.17/67.6 (H-15/C-15), 3.98/72.3 (H-17,C-17), 3.86/69.9 (H-16/C-16), 3.74 - 3.53/71.0, 70.8, 69.5 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>).

**HMBC (600 MHz/151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm]** = 7.95/150.4, 132.9, 130.1, 128.4, 112.6 (H-4/C-2, C-10, C-11, C-6, C-1), 7.88/132.9, 131.0, 127.2 (H-6/C-10, C-4, C-8), 7.64/158.7, 130.9, 114.8 (H-12/C14, C-12, C-13), 7.35/129.6, 124.4 (H-7/C-5, C-9), 7.27/132.9, 128.4 (H-8/C-10, C-6), 7.18/132.9, 129.6, 124.3, 112.6 (H-9/C-10, C-5, C-7, C-1), 7.01/158.7, 130.1, 114.8 (H-13/C-14, C-11, C-13), 5.88/72.3 (H-18/C-17), 5.24/72.3, 134.9 (H-19'/C-17, C-18), 5.14/72.3(H-19/C-17), 4.17/158.6, 69.9 (H-15/C-14, C16), 3.98/134.9, 117.2, 69.5 (H-17/C-18, C-19, core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.86/71.0, 67.7 (H-16/core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>, C-15), 3.74 –3.53/71.0, 70.8, 69.9, 69.5 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>/core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>, C-16).

**IR** (ATR)  $\bar{\upsilon}$  = 2867, 1607, 1511, 1441, 1408, 1358, 1244, 1179, 1101, 929, 832, 751, 695, 617 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**MS** (ESI, pos.; methanol): m/z = 1189.6 ( $[C_{66}H_{86}NaO_{18}]^+$ ), calcd. 1189.6 for ( $[C_{66}H_{86}NaO_{18}]^+$ ).

**HRMS** (ESI, pos.; methanol): m/z = 1189.5679 ([C<sub>66</sub>H<sub>86</sub>NaO<sub>18</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), calcd. 1189.5706 for [C<sub>66</sub>H<sub>86</sub>NaO<sub>18</sub>]<sup>+</sup>).

Elemental analysis calcd. for C<sub>66</sub>H<sub>86</sub>O<sub>18</sub>: C, 67.91; H, 7.43. Found: C, 67.50; H, 7.52.

#### **2.3.5.** Synthesis of the phosphoric acid (S)-12c



(S)-11c (481 mg, 0.412 mmol, 1 eq.) was charged in a Schlenk flask and dried at high vacuum for three hours. Pyridine (10 ml) and phosphoryl chloride (629 mg, 375  $\mu$ l, 4.12 mmol, 10 eq.) were added under argon and the resulting mixture was stirred for 16 hours at 60° C. After addition of water (5 ml) the mixture was stirred for another 3 hours at 60° C before dichloromethane (20 ml) was added and the resulting two phases were separated. The organic phase was washed with hydrochloric acid (2M, 4 x 20 ml), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, filtered and concentrated in the rotary evaporator. After silica gel flash column chromatography (18 x 3 cm, dichloromethane/methanol = 10/1) the product (S)-12c was obtained as a brown oil (324 mg, 0.264 mmol, 64%).

C66H85O20P 1229.36 g/mol

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 7.95 (s, 2 H, H-4), 7.91 (d,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-6,7) = 8.3 Hz, 2 H, H-6), 7.60 (ps d,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-12,13) = 8.7 Hz, 4 H, H-12), 7.44 (ddd  ${}^{3}J$ (H-7,6) = 8.1 Hz,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-7,8) = 6.7 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$ (H-7,9) = 1.3 Hz, 2 H, H-7), 7.30 (d,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-9,8) = 8.6 Hz, 2 H, H-9), 7.27 – 7.23 (m, 2 H, H-8 merged with CDCl<sub>3</sub> peak), 6.88 (ps d,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-13,12) = 8.7 Hz, 4 H, H-13), 5.85 (ddt  ${}^{3}J$ (H-18,19') = 17.3 Hz,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-18,19) = 10.3 Hz,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-18,17) = 5.7 Hz, 2 H, H-18), 5.21 (ddt,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-19',18) = 17.3 Hz,  ${}^{2}J$ (H-19',19) = 1.7 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$ (H-19',17) = 1.7 Hz, 2 H, H-19'), 5.12 (ddt,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-19,18) = 10.4 Hz,  ${}^{2}J$ (H-19,19') = 1.4 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$ (H-19,17) = 1.4 Hz, 1 H, H-19), 4.01 (t,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-15,16) = 4.8 Hz, 4 H, H-15), 3.94 (dt,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-17,18) = 5.7 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$ (H-17,19/19') = 1.4 Hz, 4 H, H-17), 3.70 (t,  ${}^{3}J$ (H-16,15) = 4.8 Hz, 4 H, H-16), 3.61-3.50 (m, 48 H, core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K)  $\delta$  [in ppm] = 158.2 (C-14), 145.0 (d,  $J_{C-P} = 9.4$  Hz, C-2), 134.6 (C-18), 133.6 (d,  $J_{C-P} = 2.9$  Hz, C-3), 131.7 (C-10), 131.4 (C-5), 131.0 (C-12), 130.7 (C-4), 129.6 (C-11), 128.2 (C-6), 127.0 (C-9), 126.1 (C-8), 125.6 (C-7), 122.6 (d,  $J_{C-P} = 2.1$  Hz, C-1), 117.1 (C-19), 114.3 (C-13), 72.1 (C-17), 70.6 (core glycol-OCH<sub>2</sub>), 70.4 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 69.6 (C-16), 69.2 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 67.2 (C-15).

**COSY (600 MHz/600 MHz,[ D1]-Chloroform, 298 K)**  $\delta$  **[in ppm]** = 7.91/7.44 (H-6/H-7), 7.60/6.88 (H-12/H-13), 7.44/7.91, 7.24 (H-7/H-6, H-8), 7.30/7.24 (H-9/H-8), 7.27 – 7.23/7.44, 7.30 (H-8/H-7, H-9), 6.88/7.60 (H-13/H-12), 5.85/5.21, 5.12, 3.94 (H-18/H-19', H-19, H-17), 5.21/5.87, 3.94 (H-19'/H-18, H-17), 5.14/5.87, 3.94 (H-19/H-18, H-17), 4.01/3.70 (H-15/H-16), 3.94/5.87, 5.24 (H-17/H-18, H19'), 3.70/4.01 (H-16/H-15).

<sup>31</sup>P-NMR (242.9 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 1.62 (s, P(O)OH).

HSQC (600 MHz/151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] =7.95/130.7 (H-4/C-4), 7.91/128.2 (H-6/C-6), 7.60/131.0 (H-12/C-12), 7.44/125.6 (H-7/C-7), 7.30/127.0 (H-9/C-9), 7.25/126.1 (H-8/C-8), 6.88/114.3 (H-13/C-13), 5.85/134.6 (H-18/C-18), 5.21, 5.12/117.1 (H-19', H-19/C-19), 4.01/67.2 (H-15/C-15), 3.94/72.1 (H-17,C-17), 3.70/69.6 (H-16/C-16), 3.61 - 3.50/70.6, 70.4, 69.2 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>).

**HMBC (600 MHz/151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm]** = 7.95/145.0, 131.7, 129.6, 128.2, 122.6 (H-4/C-2, C-10, C-11, C-6, C-1), 7.91/131.7, 130.7, 126.1 (H-6/C-10, C-4, C-8), 7.60/158.2,131.0, 114.3 (H-12/C-14, C-12, C-13), 7.44/131.4, 127.0 (H-7/C-5, C-9), 7.30/131.7 128.2 (H-9/C-10, C-6), 7.25/131.7, 131.4, 125.6, 122.6 (H-8/C-10, C-5, C-7, C-1), 6.88/158.2, 129.6, 114.3 (H-13/C-14, C-11, C-13), 5.85/72.1 (H-18/C-17), 5.21, 5.12/72.1 (H-19', H-19/C-17), 4.01/158.2, 69.6 (H-15/C-14, C16), 3.94/134.6, 117.1, 69.2 (H-17/C-18, C-19, core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.70/70.6, 67.2 (H-16/core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>, C-15), 3.74 –3.53/70.6, 70.4, 69.6, 69.2 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>/core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>, C-16).

**IR** (ATR)  $\bar{v} = 2868, 2359, 1608, 1514, 1455, 1247, 1181, 1102, 956, 884, 842, 754, 667 cm<sup>-1</sup>.$ 

**MS** (ESI, pos.; methanol): m/z = 1251.7 ([C<sub>66</sub>H<sub>85</sub>NaO<sub>20</sub>P]<sup>+</sup>), calcd. 1251.5 for ([C<sub>66</sub>H<sub>85</sub>NaO<sub>20</sub>P]<sup>+</sup>).

**HRMS** (ESI, pos.; methanol): m/z = 1251.5250 ([C<sub>66</sub>H<sub>85</sub>NaO<sub>20</sub>P]<sup>+</sup>), calcd. 1251.5264 for [C<sub>66</sub>H<sub>85</sub>NaO<sub>20</sub>P]<sup>+</sup>).

#### **2.3.6.** Synthesis of the precatenane (S,S)-13c



The phosphoric acid (S)-12c (324 mg, 0.264 mmol, 1 eq.) was charged in a Schlenk flask and dried at high vacuum for three hours. Dry toluene (10 ml) and calcium methoxide (13.5 mg, 0.132 mmol, 0.5 eq.) were added and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 hours. The mixture was filtered and the solvent was removed in the rotary evaporator to give the product (S,S)-13c (316 mg, 0.127 mmol, 96%) as a brown oil.

### C132H168O40P2Ca 2496.78 g/mol

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, [D<sub>6</sub>]-Benzene, 298 K)  $\delta$  [in ppm] = 8.05 (m, 8 H, H-12), 7.93 (br s, 4 H, H-4), 7.76 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-6,7) = 8.1, 4 H, H-6), 7.40 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-9,8) = 8.6 Hz, 4 H, H-9), 7.21 (t, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-7,6/8) = 7.5 Hz, 4 H, H-7), 7.08 - 6.87 (m, 12 H, H-8, H-12), 5.78 (m, 4 H, H-18), 5.17 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-19',18) = 17.5 Hz, 4 H, H-19'), 5.01 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-19,18) = 10.5 Hz, 4 H, H-19), 3.93 (m, 8 H, H-15), 3.79 (br s, 8 H, H-17), 3.68-3.13 (m, 104 H, H-16, core glycol OC*H*<sub>2</sub>).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (151 MHz, [D<sub>6</sub>]-Benzene, 298 K)  $\delta$  [in ppm] = 158.9 (C-14), 148.2 (C-2), 135.5 (C-18), 135.3 (C-3), 132.9 (C-10), 132.2 (C-12), 131.3 (C-5), 130.6 (C-4), 128.5 (C-11), 128.4 (C-6), 127.5 (C-9), 126.1 (C-8), 125.2 (C-7), 123.9 (C-1), 116.4 (C-19), 114.7 (C-13), 72.1 (C-17), 70.7 – 69.6 (C-16, core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 67.8 (C-15).

<sup>31</sup>P-NMR (121.52 MHz, [D<sub>6</sub>]-Benzene, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 0.11 (s, P(O)OH).

**COSY (600 MHz/600 MHz, [D<sub>6</sub>]-Benzene, 298 K) δ [in ppm]** = 8.05/6.98 (H-12/H-13), 7.76/7.21 (H-6/H-7), 7.41/6.98 (H-9/H-8), 7.21/6.98, 7.76 (H-7/H-8, 6), 7.08 - 6.87 /8.05, 7.41, 7.21 (H-13, H-8/H-12, H-9, H-7), 5.78/5.17, 5.01, 3.79 (H-18/H-19', H-19, H-17), 5.17/5.78, 3.79 (H-19'/H-18, H-17), 5.17/5.78, 3.79 (H-19/H-18, H-17), 3.79/5.78, 5.17 (H-17/H-18, H19').

HSQC (600 MHz/151 MHz, [D<sub>6</sub>]-Benzene, 298 K)  $\delta$  [in ppm] =8.05/132.1 (H-12/C-12), 7.93/130.6 (H-4/C-4), 7.76/128.4 (H-6/C-6), 7.41/127.5 (H-9/C-9), 7.21/125.2 (H-7/C-7), 7.08 – 6.87/114.7, 126.1 (H-13, H-8/C-13, C-8), 5.78/135.5 (H-18/C-18),

5.17, 5.01/116.4 (H-19', H-19/C-19), 3.93/67.8 (H-15/C-15), 3.79/72.1 (H-17,C-17), 3.68 - 3.13/70.7-69.6 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>).

HMBC (600 MHz/151 MHz, [D<sub>6</sub>]-Benzene, 298 K)  $\delta$  [in ppm] = 7.93/148.2, 132.2 (H-4/C-2, C-12), 7.76/126.1 (H-6/C-9), 7.41/125.2, 131.3 (H-8/C-7, C-5), 7.21/127.5, 131.3 (H-7/C-8, C-5), 7.08 – 6.87/132.8, 128.4 (H-13, H-9/C-10, C-6), 5.01/72.1 (H-19/C-17). IR (ATR)  $\bar{\nu}$  = 2869, 1608, 1514, 1406, 1248, 1183, 1100, 971, 830, 753 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**MS**: Despite repeated measurements, the intact calcium complex (S,S)-19c could not be detected by mass spectrometry. Only the BINOL-phosphate (S)-18c was detected. This is in line with our earlier report about the synthesis of compounds 1b/2b, where the corresponding calcium complex was only a minor peak and the free phosphate was detected as the main peak.<sup>[1]</sup>

### **2.3.7.** Synthesis of macrocycle (S)-2c and catenane (S)-1c



(S,S)-13c (150 mg, 0.0601 mmol, 1 eq.) was dried in a Schlenk flask for four hours. Dry dichloromethane (50 ml) and second generation Grubb's catalyst (5.1 mg, 0.00601 mmol, 0.1 eq.) were added under argon and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature with the flask wrapped in aluminium foil to protect the catalyst from light.

After five and 17 hours, 1 ml was withdrawn from the mixture to control the progress of the reaction by RP-18 HPLC.<sup>2</sup> After 20 hours further second generation Grubb's catalyst (5.1 mg, 0.006 mmol, 0.1 eq.) was added. Additional five hours of reaction lead to full

 $<sup>^2</sup>$  The solvent was evaporated, the residue solved in methanol and filtered through a syringe filter (0.22  $\mu$ m, PTFE). The reaction was stopped when HPLC analysis showed >95% conversion.

conversion and the solvent was removed. The dark brown residue was dissolved in dichloromethane (10 ml) and methanol (40 ml) was added dropwise. The resulting suspension was filtered through a syringe filter (0.22  $\mu$ m, PTFE) and the solvent was removed to give 128 mg of a brown solid. The crude product was purified by preparative MPLC (RP-18 17g Kronlab column, MeOH with 0.05% TFA : water with 0.05% TFA = 65 : 35 gradient flow firstly up to 85:15 within 48 min, secondly up to 90:10 within 22 minutes, thirdly up to 100:0 within 10 minutes, 15 ml/min). The solvent was evaporated and each of the two compounds was redissolved in dichloromethane (50 ml) and washed with hydrochloric acid (2M, 10 x 2 ml). After removing the solvent in the rotary evaporator, the 7-EG macrocycle (*S*)-**2c** (7.0 mg, 10%) and the 7-EG catenane (*S*)-**1c** (23 mg, 15%) were obtained.

## Macrocycle (S)-2c:

C64H81O20P 1201.31 g/mol

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K)  $\delta$  [in ppm] = 7.99 (s, 2 H, H-4), 7.93 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-6,7) = 8.2 Hz, 2 H, H-6), 7.71 (ps d, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-12,13) = 8.3 Hz, 4 H, H-12), 7.45 (dd, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-7,6) = 7.4 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-7,8) = 7.4 Hz, 2 H, H-7), 7.33 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-9,8) = 8.6 Hz, 2 H, H-9), 7.29 - 7.23 (m, 2 H, H-8 merged with CDCl<sub>3</sub> peak), 7.02 (ps d, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-13,12) = 8.4 Hz, 4 H, H-13), 5.70 (s, 1.85 H, H-18 (*E*-isomer)), 5.63 (s, 0.15 H, H-18 (*Z*-isomer)), 4.25 - 4.15 (m, 4 H, H-15), 3.97 - 3.82 (m, 8 H, H-16, H-17), 3.76-3.44 (m, 48 H, core glycol OC*H*<sub>2</sub>).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K)  $\delta$  [in ppm] = 158.6 (C-14), 145.2 (d, J<sub>C-P</sub> = 8.6 Hz, C-2), 133.8 (C-3), 132.0 (C-10), 131.6 (C-5), 131.3 (C-12), 131.0 (C-4), 130.1 (C-11), 129.6 (C-18), 128.4 (C-6), 127.2 (C-9), 126.3 (C-8), 125.9 (C-7), 122.9 (C-1), 114.6 (C-13), 71.2 (C-17), 71.0 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 70.8 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 70.6 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 69.9 (C-16), 69.4 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 67.7 (C-15).

<sup>31</sup>P-NMR (242.9 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = -3.46 (s, P(O)OH).

**COSY (600 MHz/600 MHz,[ D1]-Chloroform, 298 K)**  $\delta$  **[in ppm]** = 7.93/7.45 (H-6/H-7), 7.71/7.02 (H-12/H-13), 7.45/7.93, 7.29 – 7.23 (H-7/H-6, H-8), 7.33/7.29 – 7.23 (H-9/H-8), 7.29 – 7.23/7.45, 7.33 (H-8/H-7, H-9), 7.02/7.71 (H-13/H-12), 5.70, 5.63/3.91 (H-18/H-17), 4.20/3.91 (H-15/H-16), 3.91/4.20 (H-16/H-15).

**HSQC (600 MHz/151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] =** 7.99/131.0 (H-4/C-4), 7.93/128.4 (H-6/C-6), 7.71/131.3 (H-12/C-12), 7.45/125.9 (H-7/C-7), 7.33/127.2 (H-9/C-9), 7.29 – 7.23/126.3 (H-8/C-8), 7.02/114.6 (H-13/C-13), 5.70, 5.63/129.6 (H-18/C-18), 4.25 – 4.15/67.7 (H-15/C-15), 3.97 – 3.82/71.2, 69.9 (H-17,H-16/C-17,C-16), 3.76 – 3.44/71.0, 70.8, 70.6, 69.4 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>).

 C-7, C-1), 7.02/158.6, 130.1, 114.6 (H-13/C-14, C-11, C-13), 5.70/71.2 (H-18/C-17), 3.97 - 3.82/129.6, 71.2, 69.4 (H-17, H-16/C-18,C-17, core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.76 - 3.44/71.0, 70.8, 70.6, 69.4, 69.9 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>/core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>, C-16).

**IR** (ATR)  $\bar{v} = 3648, 2869, 2159, 1976, 1683, 1514, 1246, 1095, 954, 834, 752, 648, 616 cm<sup>-1</sup>.$ 

**MS** (ESI, pos.; methanol): m/z = 1223.5 ([C<sub>64</sub>H<sub>81</sub>NaO<sub>20</sub>P]<sup>+</sup>), calcd. 1223.5 for ([C<sub>64</sub>H<sub>81</sub>NaO<sub>20</sub>P]<sup>+</sup>)

**HRMS** (ESI, pos.; methanol): m/z = 1223.4928 ([C<sub>64</sub>H<sub>81</sub>NaO<sub>20</sub>P]<sup>+</sup>), calcd. 1223.4951 for [C<sub>64</sub>H<sub>81</sub>NaO<sub>20</sub>P]<sup>+</sup>)

### **Catenane** (*S*,*S*)-1**c**:

C128H162O40P2 2402.62 g/mol

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K)  $\delta$  [in ppm] = 7.97 (s, 4 H, H-4), 7.93 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-6,7) = 8.3 Hz, 4 H, H-6), 7.61 (ps d, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-12,13) = 8.2 Hz, 8 H, H-12), 7.46 (dd, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-7,6) = 7.5 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-7,8) = 7.5 Hz, 4 H, H-7), 7.31 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-9,8) = 8.5 Hz, 4 H, H-9), 7.28 - 7.24 (m, 4 H, H-8 merged with CDCl<sub>3</sub> peak), 6.89 (ps d, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-13,12) = 8.3 Hz, 8 H, H-13), 5.73 (s, 3.7 H, H-18 (*E*-isomer)), 5.65 (s, 0.3 H, H-18 (*Z*-isomer), 4.00 (t, <sup>3</sup>*J*(H-15,16) = 4.7 Hz, 8 H, H-15), 3.96 - 3.92 (m, 16 H, H-16, H-17), 3.74 - 3.44 (m, 96 H, core glycol OC*H*<sub>2</sub>).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 158.4 (C-14), 145.2 (d, JC-P = 8.6 Hz, C-2), 133.8 (C-3), 132.0 (C-10), 131.6 (C-5), 131.2 (C-12), 131.0 (C-4), 129.8 (C-11), 129.6 (C-18), 128.4 (C-6), 127.2 (C-9), 126.3 (C-8), 125.9 (C-7), 122.9 (C-1), 114.6 (C-13), 71.2 (C-17), 71.0 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 70.8 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 70.6 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 69.9 (C-16), 69.4 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 67.4 (C-15).

<sup>31</sup>P-NMR (242.9 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm] = 1.35 (s, P(O)OH).

**COSY (600 MHz/600 MHz,[ D1]-Chloroform, 298 K) \delta [in ppm]** = 7.93/7.46 (H-6/H-7), 7.61/6.89 (H-12/H-13), 7.46/7.93, 7.24 (H-7/H-6, H-8), 7.31/7.24 (H-9/H-8), 7.28 – 7.24/7.46, 7.31 (H-8/H-7, H-9), 6.89/7.61 (H-13/H-12), 5.73, 5.65/3.92 (H-18/H-17), 4.00/3.92 (H-15/H-16), 3.96/5.76, 5.65 (H-17/H-18), 3.92/4.00 (H-16/H-15).

**HSQC (600 MHz/151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm]** =7.97/131.0 (H-4/C-4), 7.93/128.4 (H-6/C-6), 7.61/131.3 (H-12/C-12), 7.46/125.9 (H-7/C-7), 7.31/127.2 (H-9/C-9), 7.28 – 7.24/126.3 (H-8/C-8), 6.89/114.6 (H-13/C-13), 5.73, 5.65/129.6 (H-18/C-18), 4.00/67.4 (H-15/C-15), 3.96 – 3.92/71.2, 69.9 (H-17, H-16/C-17, C-16), 3.74 – 3.44/71.0, 70.8, 70.6, 69.4 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>).

**HMBC (600 MHz/151 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-Chloroform, 298 K) δ [in ppm]** = 7.97/145.2, 132.0, 129.8, 128.4, 122.9 (H-4/C-2, C-10, C-11, C-6, C-1), 7.93/132.0, 131.0, 126.3 (H-6/C-10, C-4, C-8), 7.61/158.4, 131.3, 114.6 (H-12/C14, C-12, C-13), 7.46/131.6, 127.2 (H-7/C-5, C-9), 7.31/132.0, 131.6, 125.9, 122.9 (H-9/C-10, C-5, C-7, C-1), 7.27/132.0, 128.4 (H-8/C-10, C-6), 6.89/158.4, 129.8, 114.6 (H-13/C-14, C-11, C-13), 5.73/71.2 (H-18/C-17),

4.00 /69.9, 129.6 (H-15/C-16, C-18), 3.96 – 3.92/129.6, 71.2, 69.4 (H-17, H-16/C-18,C-17, core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.74 –3.44/71.0, 70.8, 70.6, 69.4, 69.9 (core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>/core glycol OCH<sub>2</sub>, C-16).

**IR** (ATR)  $\bar{v} = 2868, 1684, 1608, 1514, 1456, 1248, 1181, 1107, 834, 648 cm<sup>-1</sup>.$ 

**MS** (ESI, pos.; methanol): m/z = 1199.7 ( $[C_{128}H_{160}O_{40}P_2]^2$ ), calcd. 1199.5 for ( $[C_{128}H_{163}NaO_{40}P_2]^+$ ).

**HRMS** (ESI, neg.; methanol): m/z = 1199.4935 ( $[C_{128}H_{160}O_{40}P_2]^{2-}$ ), calcd. 1199.4986 for  $[C_{128}H_{160}O_{40}P_2]^{2-}$ ).

# 3. Catalytic reactions

General procedure for catalysis for determination of enantiomeric excess



2-Phenylquinoline (4.98 µmol or 25 µmol, 1 equiv.) and diethyl 1,4-dihydro-2,6dimethyl-3,5-pyridinedicarboxylate (11.95 µmol or 60 µmol, 2.4 equiv.) were taken in a Schlenk flask which was evacuated three times and back filled with argon. To that mixture, toluene (3 or 5 ml), followed by the catalyst (S,S)-1/(S)-2/(S)-3 (stock solution in toluene, 15 mg/ml for (S,S)-1a/b/c and (S)-2a/b/c, 0.69 mg/ml or 1.75 mg/ml for (S)-3) were added and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature. The reaction was monitored by TLC with cyclohexane/ethyl acetate (10/1) mixtures. After full conversion the solvent was evaporated in the rotatory evaporator and the mixture was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography with cyclohexane/ethyl acetate (99/1) mixtures. The purified sample was used for the chiral HPLC analysis (Chiralcel OD-H column) to determine the enantiomeric excess (*ee*).

Entry	Catalyst	Cat. loading [mol%] <sup>(a)</sup>	Quinoline conc [mM]	Enantiomeric excess <sup>(b)</sup> [%]
0	( <i>S</i> , <i>S</i> )-1a	2.5	5	80.9
1	( <i>S</i> , <i>S</i> )-1b	2.5	5	79.3
2	( <i>S</i> , <i>S</i> )-1c	2.5	5	81.7
3	(S)- <b>2a</b>	2.5	5	-16.9
4	(S)- <b>2b</b>	2.5	5	-12.2
5	( <i>S</i> )-2c	2.5	5	-16.6
6	(S)- <b>3</b>	0.1	1.66	-29.5
7	(S)- <b>3</b>	0.25	1.66	-20.9
8	(S)- <b>3</b>	0.5	1.66	-10.1
9	(S)- <b>3</b>	1	1.66	12.8
10	(S)- <b>3</b>	1.5	1.66	20.4
11	(S)- <b>3</b>	2.5	1.66	36.5
12	(S)- <b>3</b>	5	1.66	54.7
13	(S)- <b>3</b>	10	1.66	61.2
14	(S)- <b>3</b>	20	1.66	67.5
15	(S)- <b>3</b>	35	1.66	70.6
16	(S)- <b>3</b>	50	1.66	71.6
17	(S)- <b>3</b>	0.5	5	-22.8
18	(S)- <b>3</b>	1.5	5	14.3
19	(S)- <b>3</b>	2.5	5	24.5
20	(S)- <b>3</b>	5	5	45.0
21	(S)- <b>3</b>	20	5	66.1
22	(S)- <b>3</b>	50	5	71.1
23 <sup>(c)</sup>	(S)- <b>3</b>	1	1.66	9.6

Table S1: Reaction conditions for the transfer hydrogenation of 2-phenylquinoline catalysed by catenated phosphoric acids (S,S)-1a/b/c, macrocyclic phosphoric acids (S)-2a/b/c or acyclic phosphoric acid (S)-3.

(a) Catalyst loading relative to quinoline. (b) Determined by chiral HPLC (Chiralcel OD-H column). (c) 49 mol% benzoic acid added. All values are given for the excess of (R)-enantiomer.

# 4. NMR investigations

# 4.1. General procedure for sample preparation and NMR-measurements

# 4.1.1. Sample preparation

Stock solutions of 2-phenylquinoline (16.6 mM), Hantzsch Ester (4.98 mM) and catalyst were freshly prepared and stirred in a vial with a cap until everything was dissolved. The Hantzsch Ester stock solutions were allowed to stir for 1 hour due to poor solubility in toluene. From the stock solutions the appropriate amounts ( $Q = 60 \mu L$ , HE = 480  $\mu L$ , Cat = 60  $\mu L$ ; total amount: 600  $\mu L$ ) were transferred into a NMR tube using an Eppendorf pipette.

# 4.1.2. Variation of the catalyst loading

For each sample, all solutions were freshly prepared on the day of measurement.

Spectra were recorded on a Bruker DRX500 spectrometer. Before addition of catalyst solution the sample was shimmed and an initial spectrum was recorded which was used as starting point ( $t_0$ ). After addition of the catalyst, spectra were recorded in defined intervals.

# 4.1.3. Determination of substrate orders and analysis of product inhibition

Stock solutions were freshly prepared on the day of measurement. Identical stock solutions were used for up to four measurements to enhance reproducibility between the measurements.

Spectra were recorded on a Bruker DRX600 spectrometer. Before addition of catalyst solution, each sample was shimmed and an initial spectrum was recorded which was used as starting point ( $t_0$ ). After addition of the catalyst, all samples (up to 4) were recorded in an alternating fashion in defined time intervals.

# 4.2. Data Analysis

# 4.2.1. Software

All data were processed using TopSpin version 4.0.6. The obtained FIDs were fourier transformed, baseline corrected and phase corrected using the commands –efp, -absn and –apk respectively.

# 4.2.2. Integral regions

Ten different signals were followed during the reaction. The integration regions and assignments are listed in Table S2 and Table S3.



**Table S2:** Integration regions and assignments for macrocyclic phosphoric acid (S,S)-2c and catenated phosphoric acid (S,S)-1c

No. of Signal	Integral region	Compound	Number of protons
0	8.80 - 8.74	8	1H
1	8.30 - 8.14	4	3Н
2	7.96 - 7.78	1c/2c	12H/6H
3	7.75 – 7.61	4	1H
4	3.61 - 3.56	7	2H
5	2.93 - 2.86	8	6Н
6	2.66 - 2.55	6	1H
7	2.50 - 2.41	6	1H
8	2.11 - 2.04	toluene	9Н
9	1.89 – 1.84	7	6Н

Table S3: Integration regions and assignments for acyclic phosphoric acid (S)-3

No. of Signal	Integral region	Compound	Number of protons
0	8.80 - 8.74	8	1H
1	8.30 - 8.14	4	3Н
2	7.75 - 7.61	4	1H
3	3.61 - 3.56	7	2H
4	3.42 - 3.30	3	6Н
5	2.93 - 2.86	8	6Н
6	2.66 - 2.55	6	1H
7	2.50 - 2.41	6	1H
8	2.11 - 2.04	toluene	9Н
9	1.89 - 1.84	7	6Н

The curve of conversion was created by following the decrease of signal 1. Quinoline was used as a solid and its concentration was determined directly based on weight and amount of solvent. All other concentrations were determined indirectly based on their integrals in comparison to integral 1.



**Figure S2:** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of the catalytic reaction. **Top:** Overview of all signals that were followed during the reaction (with 34.65 mol % **1-c** as catalyst at 49 % conversion) **Bottom:** Aromatic region with highlighted proton signals of **4** that were used to track conversion of the reaction (with 34.65 mol % of **1-c** as catalyst: a) Before catalyst addition, b) 49 % conversion, c) 94 % conversion.



**Figure S3:** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of the catalytic reaction. Aromatic region with highlighted proton signals of **4** that were used to track conversion of the reaction (with 3.98 mol % of **1-c** as catalyst: a) Before catalyst addition, b) 50 % conversion, c) 80 % conversion.

# **4.3.** Determination of $k_{obs}$ and $v_0$

### 4.3.1. Linear fitting

The linearization of the data was performed based on the rate law of the reaction, assuming first order in both substrates. In all cases, this mathematical treatment gave linear plots (see Figure S71-Figure S116). Comparative analysis of the data based on different substrate orders did not give linear plots (see Figure S4), suggesting that indeed first order in both substrates can be expected.



-d[ <b>4</b> ]/dt =	k <sub>Obs</sub> * [4] <sup>m</sup> * [7] <sup>n</sup> = k * [Cat] <sup>p</sup> * [4] <sup>m</sup> * [7] <sup>n</sup>
with	<b>[6]</b> = <b>[4]</b> <sub>0</sub> - <b>[4]</b>
with	$[7] = [7]_0 - 2^*[6] = [7]_0 - 2^*[4]_0 + 2^*[4]$
and	m = n = 1
-d[ <b>4</b> ]/dt =	$k_{\text{Obs}} * [4] * ([7]_0 - 2^*[4]_0 + 2^*[4])$
$d[4]/([4] * ([7]_0 - 2*[4]_0 + 2*[4])) =$	-k <sub>obs</sub> * dt
with	c = [ <b>7</b> ] <sub>0</sub> -2*[ <b>4</b> ] <sub>0</sub>
and	x = [4]
Partial fraction dec	composition gives:
$\int dx/(x^*(2x+c)) =$	$1/c^{(1/x - 2/(2x+c))} dx = 1/c^{(1/x) - 1/(2x+c)}$
Integration from [ <b>4</b> ] <sub>0</sub> to	[ <b>4</b> ] and $t_0 = 0$ to t gives:
1/c*(ln[ <b>4</b> ]-ln[ <b>4</b> ] <sub>0</sub> -ln(2*[ <b>4</b> ]+c)+ln(2*[ <b>4</b> ] <sub>0</sub> +c)) =	<i>-k</i> <sub>obs</sub> * t
1/c*ln(([ <b>4</b> ]*(2*[ <b>4</b> ] <sub>0</sub> +c))/([ <b>4</b> ] <sub>0</sub> *(2*[ <b>4</b> ]+c))) =	<i>-k</i> <sub>obs</sub> * t
1/c*ln(([ <b>4</b> ]*[ <b>7</b> ] <sub>0</sub> ))/([ <b>4</b> ] <sub>0</sub> *(2*[ <b>4</b> ]+c))) =	- <i>k</i> <sub>Obs</sub> * t

Thus,  $-k_{Obs}$  was determined as the slope in the plot of  $1/c^{1}(([4]^{2}[7]_{0}))/([4]_{0}(2^{2}[4]+c)))$  vs. t



Figure S4: Comparative analysis of the concentrations vs. time data. a) for m = n = 1, b) for m = 0 and n = 1, c) for m = 1 and n = 0.
# 4.3.2. Nonlinear fitting

The nonlinear fitting data was performed based on the rate law of the reaction, assuming first order in both substrates.

1/c*ln(([ <b>4</b> ]*[ <b>7</b> ] <sub>0</sub> ))/([ <b>4</b> ] <sub>0</sub> *(2*[ <b>4</b> ]+c))) =	- <i>k</i> <sub>Obs</sub> * t
[ <b>4</b> ]*[ <b>7</b> ] <sub>0</sub> /([ <b>4</b> ] <sub>0</sub> *(2*[ <b>4</b> ]+c)) =	$exp(-c^*k_{Obs}^*t)$
[ <b>4</b> ]/(2*[ <b>4</b> ]+c) =	$([4]_0*exp(-c*k_{Obs}*t))/[7]_0$
1/(2+c/[ <b>4</b> ]) =	$([4]_0*exp(-c*k_{Obs}*t))/[7]_0$
2+c/[ <b>4</b> ] =	$[7]_0/([4]_0*exp(-c*k_{Obs}*t))$
c/[ <b>4</b> ] =	[ <b>7</b> ] <sub>0</sub> /([ <b>4</b> ] <sub>0</sub> *exp(-c*k <sub>Obs</sub> *t)) - 2
c/[ <b>4</b> ] =	$[7]_{0}-2*([4]_{0}*exp(-c*k_{Obs}*t))/([4]_{0}*exp(-c*k_{Obs}*t))$
c/[ <b>4</b> ] =	$(([7]_0*exp(c*k_{Obs}*t))-2[4]_0)/[4]_0$
[ <b>4</b> ]/c =	[ <b>4</b> ] <sub>0</sub> /(([ <b>7</b> ] <sub>0</sub> *exp(c*k <sub>Obs</sub> *t))-2[ <b>4</b> ] <sub>0</sub> )
[4] =	c*[ <b>4</b> ] <sub>0</sub> /(([ <b>7</b> ] <sub>0</sub> *exp(c*k <sub>Obs</sub> *t))-2[ <b>4</b> ] <sub>0</sub> )

Fitting of  $k_{Obs}$  was performed in Microsoft Excel using the SOLVER plugin. The sum of square residues for the calculated [4] was minimized by changing  $k_{Obs}$ .

Due to the autooxidation of the Hantzsch-ester 7 after prolonged reaction times, the fitting was only performed for data from t = 0 until  $t = t_{max}$ , with  $t_{max}$  defined as follows:

# For catenane 1c:

 $t_{max}$  is defined as 10 hours for catalyst concentrations of <0.1 mM.

 $t_{max}$  is defined as the time when the reaction reaches 70% conversion (based on 4) for catalyst concentrations of > 0.1 mM.

# For macrocycle 2c:

 $t_{max}$  is defined as the time when the reaction reaches 70% conversion (based on 4). Due to the faster rate of **2c** in comparison to **1c**, this is always reached in a time <10 hours.

# For acyclic catalyst 3:

 $t_{max}$  is defined as the time when the reaction reaches 70% conversion (based on 4) for catalyst concentrations of <0.2 mM.

 $t_{max}$  is defined as the time when the reaction reaches 90% conversion (based on 4) for catalyst concentrations of between 0.2 mM and 0.8 mM.

 $t_{max}$  is defined as the time when the reaction reaches 95% conversion (based on 4) for catalyst concentrations of >0.8 mM.

Due to the faster rate of 3 in comparison to 1c, this is always reached in a time <10 hours.

The initial rate  $v_0$  was determined as the slope of the first three data points of the fitted data in the [4] vs. t plot. The fitted data was used instead of the original data because the fitted value for  $k_{Obs}$  (and thus all fitted data points) is obtained from the whole data range. In addition, determination of  $v_0$  from the original data gives large variations of  $v_0$  from small variations of [4] (e.g. due to noise), which is not the case in the fitted data.

# 4.4. Variable time normalization analysis

Variable time normalization analysis (VTNA) was performed according to the protocols described by Burés.<sup>[7]</sup> Based on the stoichiometry of the reaction, the excess was calculated as follows:

|--|

### 4.4.1. Determination of substrate order for quinoline 4

For determination of the substrate orders of quinoline **4**, the normalized substrate concentration was plotted vs. the normalized time axis as follows:

### Normalized quinoline concentrations "[4] (norm)":

In a series of experiments with different starting quinoline concentrations, the largest employed quinoline concentration was used as a reference point. For all other experiments with lower quinoline concentrations, the corrected concentrations were calculated by addition of the difference between the starting concentrations to all concentration values.

#### Normalized time axis "t (norm)":

The normalized time axis was calculated as follows:

t <sub>x</sub> (norm) :	Normalized time at time point x
t <sub>x+1</sub> (norm) :	Normalized time at time point x+1
<b>[4]</b> <sub>x</sub> :	Concentration of <b>4</b> at time point x
<b>[4]</b> <sub>x+1</sub> :	Concentration of <b>4</b> at time point x+1
m:	Substrate order for quinoline
t <sub>x+1</sub> (norm) =	$t_x (norm) + ((0.5^*([4]_x + [4]_{x+1}))^m)^*(t_{x+1} t_x)$

# Determination of substrate order:

The substrate order m was varied to achieve the best overlap between all x vs. y plots of t (norm) vs. [4] (norm) (see Figure S7, Figure S11, Figure S15).

# 4.4.2. Determination of substrate order for Hantzsch-ester 7

For determination of the substrate orders of Hantzsch-ester **7**, the normalized substrate concentration was plotted vs. the normalized time axis as follows:

# Normalized Hantzsch-ester concentrations "[7] (norm)":

In a series of experiments with different starting Hantzsch-ester concentrations, the lowest employed Hantzsch-ester concentration was used as a reference point. For all other experiments with higher Hantzsch-ester concentrations, the corrected concentrations were calculated by subtraction of the difference between the starting concentrations from all concentration values.

# Normalized time axis "t (norm)":

The normalized time axis was calculated as follows:

t <sub>x</sub> (norm) :	Normalized time at time point x
t <sub>x+1</sub> (norm) :	Normalized time at time point x+1
[ <b>7</b> ] <sub>x</sub> :	Concentration of <b>7</b> at time point x
[ <b>7</b> ] <sub>x+1</sub> :	Concentration of <b>7</b> at time point x+1
m:	Substrate order for quinoline
t <sub>x+1</sub> (norm) =	t <sub>x</sub> (norm) + ((0.5*([ <b>7</b> ] <sub>x</sub> + [ <b>7</b> ] <sub>x+1</sub> ))^n)*(t <sub>x+1</sub> - t <sub>x</sub> )

# Determination of substrate order:

The substrate order n was varied to achieve the best overlap between all x vs. y plots of t (norm) vs. [7] (norm) (see Figure S7, Figure S11, Figure S15).

# 4.4.3. Determination of catalyst orders

For determination of the order in catalysts 1c/2c/3, the experimentally determined concentration of [4] was plotted vs. the normalized time axis as follows:

# Normalized time axis "t (norm)":

The normalized time axis was calculated as follows:

t <sub>x</sub> (norm) :	Normalized time at time point x
t <sub>x</sub> :	Time at time point x
[Cat]	Catalyst concentration (time invariable)
p:	Order in catalyst
t <sub>x</sub> (norm) =	t <sub>x</sub> / [Cat]^p

# Determination of substrate order:

The catalyst order p was varied to achieve the best overlap between all x vs. y plots of t (norm) vs. [4] (see Figure S9, Figure S13, Figure S17, Figure S18).

# 4.4.4. Determination of product inhibition/catalyst deactivation

For determination of product inhibition/catalyst deactivation, the experimentally determined concentration of [4] was plotted vs. the normalized time axis as follows:

# Normalized quinoline concentrations "[4] (norm)":

In a series of experiments with different starting quinoline concentrations, the largest employed quinoline concentration was used as a reference point. For all other experiments with lower quinoline concentrations, the corrected concentrations were calculated by addition of the difference between the starting concentrations to all concentration values.

### Normalized time axis "t (norm)":

The normalized time axis was calculated as follows:

t <sub>x</sub> (norm) :	Normalized time at time point x
t <sub>x</sub> :	Time at time point x
Δt :	Elapsed time for reaction with higher $[4]_0$ to reach concentration of 4 that is equal to $[4]_0$ of reaction with lower $[4]_0$
t <sub>x</sub> (norm) =	$t_x + \Delta t$

# Determination of product inhibition/catalyst deactivation:

Same-excess experiments were conducted with different starting concentrations  $[4]_0$ . If both curves overlap in the x vs. y plots of t (norm) vs. [4], there is no product inhibition or catalyst deactivation. If the reaction with higher  $[4]_0$  shows slower conversion (indicating product inhibition or catalyst deactivation), the reaction with lower  $[4]_0$  is repeated with added pyridine 8. Overlapping curves then indicate product inhibition.

# 4.5. Overview of kinetic results

Table S4: Experimental data and results for kinetic experiments with catenated catalysts 1a/b/c (for stereoselectivity data for catalysts 1a/b/c and catalysts 2a/b/c see table S1).

	Experimental setup												$k_{Obs}$ and $v_0^{l}$	c]
			Concentrations										Nonlinear fi	t
Exp	Catabust	[ <b>4</b> ] <sup>[a]</sup>	[ <b>4</b> ] <sup>[a]</sup>	[ <b>7</b> ] <sup>[b]</sup>	[ <b>7</b> ] <sup>[b]</sup>	[ <b>8</b> ] <sup>[c]</sup>	[ <b>8</b> ] <sup>[c]</sup>	[Cat] <sup>[b]</sup>	[ <b>Cat</b> ] <sup>[b]</sup>	$[Cat]^{[b]}$	k <sub>Obs</sub>	k <sub>Obs</sub>	V <sub>0</sub>	$v_0 / [Cat]$
No.	Catalyst	(mM)	(M)	(mM)	(M)	(mM)	(M)	(mM)	(M)	(mol%)	(s <sup>-1</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> )	(s <sup>-1</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> )	(M s <sup>-1</sup> )	(s <sup>-1</sup> )
1	1a	1.66	1.66E-03	3.87	3.87E-03	-	-	0.161	1.61E-04	9.68	5.67E-02	6.66E-02	3.66E-07	2.27E-03
2	1b	1.66	1.66E-03	4.32	4.32E-03	-	-	0.196	1.96E-04	11.79	3.94E-02	4.59E-02	3.12E-07	1.59E-03
3	1c	1.66	1.66E-03	4.08	4.08E-03	-	-	0.158	1.58E-04	9.53	2.68E-02	3.03E-02	1.98E-07	1.25E-03

a) Determined by weight of 4 and the volume of solvent. b) Determined by the relative integrals of 4 and 7/8/Cat. c) Determined by linear or nonlinear fitting of the respective concentration over time data (see the SI for details).

Table S5: Experimental data and results for kinetic experiments with catenated catalyst 1c.

	Experimental setup											I	Analysis for	$k_{Obs}$ and $v_0^{[0]}$	:]	
			Concentrations									Linear fit Nonlinear fit			Double In plot	
Exp	Exp	[ <b>4</b> ] <sup>[a]</sup>	[ <b>4</b> ] <sup>[a]</sup>	[ <b>7</b> ] <sup>[b]</sup>	[ <b>7</b> ] <sup>[b]</sup>	[ <b>8</b> ] <sup>[c]</sup>	[ <b>8</b> ] <sup>[c]</sup>	[Cat] <sup>[b]</sup>	[Cat] <sup>[b]</sup>	[Cat] <sup>[b]</sup>	k <sub>Obs</sub>	k <sub>Obs</sub>	V <sub>0</sub>	$v_0 / [\text{Cat}]$	ln [ <b>4</b> ]	ln v <sub>o</sub>
No.	Туре	(mM)	(M)	(mM)	(M)	(mM)	(M)	(mM)	(M)	(mol%)	(s <sup>-1</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> )	(s <sup>-1</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> )	(M s <sup>-1</sup> )	(s <sup>-1</sup> )		
1	Difforont	1.66	1.66E-03	3.93	3.93E-03	-	-	0.068	6.84E-05	4.12	1.84E-02	1.88E-02	8.92E-08	1.30E-03	-6.40	-16.2
2	excess for	1.26	1.26E-03	3.93	3.93E-03	-	-	0.075	7.47E-05	5.93	1.92E-02	1.98E-02	7.35E-08	9.84E-04	-6.68	-16.4
3	[4]	0.84	8.40E-04	3.93	3.93E-03	-	-	0.080	7.98E-05	9.50	2.02E-02	1.94E-02	5.09E-08	6.38E-04	-7.08	-16.8
4	["]	0.63	6.30E-04	3.93	3.93E-03	-	-	0.075	7.51E-05	11.93	1.95E-02	2.21E-02	4.09E-08	5.45E-04	-7.37	-17.0
5	Different	0.83	8.30E-04	3.93	3.93E-03	-	-	0.036	3.59E-05	4.33	1.44E-02	1.50E-02	4.23E-08	1.18E-03	-5.54	-17.0
6	ovcoss for	0.83	8.30E-04	3.32	3.32E-03	-	-	0.036	3.58E-05	4.32	1.50E-02	1.54E-02	3.79E-08	1.06E-03	-5.70	-17.1
7	[ <b>7</b> ]	0.83	8.30E-04	2.66	2.66E-03	-	-	0.036	3.62E-05	4.37	1.59E-02	1.62E-02	3.21E-08	8.87E-04	-5.94	-17.3
8	[7]	0.83	8.30E-04	1.99	1.99E-03	-	-	0.035	3.53E-05	4.26	1.79E-02	1.86E-02	2.63E-08	7.43E-04	-6.23	-17.5
1	Samo	1.66	1.66E-03	3.93	3.93E-03	-	-	0.068	6.84E-05	4.12	1.84E-02	1.88E-02	8.92E-08	1.30E-03	-6.40	-16.23
15	Sallie	1.26	1.26E-03	3.26	3.26E-03	-	-	0.113	1.13E-04	8.94	2.70E-05	2.68E-05	9.81E-05	8.68E-04	-6.68	-9.2
16	EXCESS	1.26	1.26E-03	3.12	3.12E-03	0.90	9.01E-04	0.118	1.18E-04	9.33	2.65E-05	2.69E-05	9.44E-05	8.00E-04	-6.68	-9.3
9		1.66	1.66E-03	4.05	4.05E-03	-	-	0.066	6.60E-05	3.98	1.33E-02	1.17E-02	8.79E-08	1.33E-03	-9.63	-16.2
10	Different	1.66	1.66E-03	4.08	4.08E-03	-	-	0.158	1.58E-04	9.53	3.03E-02	2.68E-02	1.98E-07	1.25E-03	-8.75	-15.4
11	ovcoss for	1.66	1.66E-03	4.21	4.21E-03	-	-	0.251	2.51E-04	15.13	3.40E-02	3.27E-02	2.28E-07	9.06E-04	-8.29	-15.3
12		1.66	1.66E-03	3.62	3.62E-03	-	-	0.352	3.52E-04	21.19	5.70E-02	4.40E-02	3.20E-07	9.10E-04	-7.95	-15.0
13	[Cdl]	1.66	1.66E-03	4.13	4.13E-03	-	-	0.575	5.75E-04	34.65	8.32E-02	7.58E-02	5.15E-07	8.95E-04	-7.46	-14.5
14		1.66	1.66E-03	4.29	4.29E-03	-	-	0.748	7.48E-04	45.06	1.12E-01	1.01E-01	6.95E-07	9.29E-04	-7.20	-14.2

a) Determined by weight of 4 and the volume of solvent. b) Determined by the relative integrals of 4 and 7/8/Cat. c) Determined by linear or nonlinear fitting of the respective concentration over time data (see SI

for details).

	Experimental setup												Analysis for $k_{Obs}$ and $v_0^{[c]}$						
					Со	ncentratio	Linear fit	fit Nonlinear fit			Double In plot								
Exp	Exp	[ <b>4</b> ] <sup>[a]</sup>	[ <b>4</b> ] <sup>[a]</sup>	[ <b>7</b> ] <sup>[b]</sup>	[ <b>7</b> ] <sup>[b]</sup>	[ <b>8</b> ] <sup>[c]</sup>	[ <b>8</b> ] <sup>[c]</sup>	[Cat] <sup>[b]</sup>	[ <b>Cat</b> ] <sup>[b]</sup>	[ <b>Cat</b> ] <sup>[b]</sup>	k Obs	k Obs	<b>V</b> 0	v <sub>0</sub> / [ <b>Cat</b> ]	In [ <b>Cat</b> ]	In v <sub>0</sub>			
No.	Туре	(mM)	(M)	(mM)	(M)	(mM)	(M)	(mM)	(M)	(mol%)	(s <sup>-1</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> )	(s <sup>-1</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> )	(M s <sup>-1</sup> )	(s <sup>-1</sup> )					
<b>2c</b> -1	Different	1.66	1.66E-03	4.00	4.00E-03	-	-	0.077	7.67E-05	4.62	3.32E-05	3.48E-05	2.23E-07	2.90E-03	-	-			
<b>2c</b> -3	excess for [4]	1.26	1.26E-03	4.02	4.02E-03	-	-	0.078	7.82E-05	6.21	3.06E-05	3.19E-05	1.57E-07	2.00E-03	-	-			
<b>2c</b> -2	Different	1.26	1.26E-03	3.24	3.24E-03	-	-	0.078	7.85E-05	6.23	3.26E-05	3.42E-05	1.35E-07	1.73E-03	-	-			
<b>2c</b> -3	excess for [7]	1.26	1.26E-03	4.02	4.02E-03	-	-	0.078	7.82E-05	6.21	3.06E-05	3.19E-05	1.57E-07	2.00E-03	-	-			
<b>2c</b> -1		1.66	1.66E-03	4.00	4.00E-03	-	-	0.077	7.67E-05	4.62	3.32E-05	3.48E-05	2.23E-07	2.90E-03	-	-			
<b>2c</b> -2	Same excess	1.26	1.26E-03	3.24	3.24E-03	-	-	0.078	7.85E-05	6.23	3.26E-05	3.42E-05	1.35E-07	1.73E-03	-	-			
<b>2c</b> -4		1.26	1.26E-03	3.07	3.07E-03	0.71	7.10E-04	0.081	8.10E-05	6.43	3.23E-05	3.50E-05	1.32E-07	1.62E-03	-	-			
<b>2c</b> -5		1.66	1.66E-03	4.02	4.02E-03	-	-	0.070	7.00E-05	4.22	2.39E-02	1.17E-02	1.50E-07	2.15E-03	-9.57	-15.7			
<b>2c</b> -6		1.66	1.66E-03	4.03	4.03E-03	-	-	0.135	1.35E-04	8.12	4.88E-02	2.68E-02	3.34E-07	2.48E-03	-8.91	-14.9			
<b>2c</b> -7		1.66	1.66E-03	3.83	3.83E-03	-	-	0.268	2.68E-04	16.16	9.54E-02	3.27E-02	5.77E-07	2.15E-03	-8.22	-14.4			
<b>2c</b> -8	Different	1.66	1.66E-03	4.11	4.11E-03	-	-	0.445	4.45E-04	26.80	1.94E-01	4.40E-02	1.06E-06	2.38E-03	-7.72	-13.8			
<b>2c</b> -9	Different excess for	1.66	1.66E-03	4.05	4.05E-03	-	-	0.532	5.32E-04	32.02	1.63E-01	7.58E-02	1.12E-06	2.11E-03	-7.54	-13.7			
<b>2c</b> -10	[Cat]	1.66	1.66E-03	4.13	4.13E-03	-	-	0.609	6.09E-04	36.68	2.05E-01	1.01E-01	1.16E-06	1.91E-03	-7.40	-13.7			
<b>2c</b> -11	[cut]	1.66	1.66E-03	4.27	4.27E-03	-	-	0.657	6.57E-04	39.57	2.24E-01	0.00E+00	1.29E-06	1.96E-03	-7.33	-13.6			
<b>2c</b> -12		1.66	1.66E-03	3.97	3.97E-03	-	-	0.712	7.12E-04	42.91	2.32E-01	0.00E+00	1.42E-06	1.99E-03	-7.25	-13.5			
<b>2c</b> -13		1.66	1.66E-03	4.00	4.00E-03	-	-	0.821	8.21E-04	49.47	2.27E-01	0.00E+00	1.44E-06	1.76E-03	-7.10	-13.4			
<b>2c</b> -14		1.66	1.66E-03	3.93	3.93E-03	-	-	0.852	8.52E-04	51.31	2.81E-01	0.00E+00	1.46E-06	1.71E-03	-7.07	-13.4			

Table S6: Experimental data and results for kinetic experiments with macrocyclic catalyst 2c.

a) Determined by weight of 4 and the volume of solvent. b) Determined by the relative integrals of 4 and 7/8/Cat. c) Determined by linear or nonlinear fitting of the respective concentration over time data (see the SI for details).

	Experimental setup												nalysis for l	$k_{Obs}$ and $v_0^{[i]}$	c]	
					Со	ncentratio	ons				Linear fit	1	Nonlinear fi	t	Double	In plot
Exp	Exp	[ <b>4</b> ] <sup>[a]</sup>	[ <b>4</b> ] <sup>[a]</sup>	[ <b>7</b> ] <sup>[b]</sup>	[ <b>7</b> ] <sup>[b]</sup>	[ <b>8</b> ] <sup>[c]</sup>	[ <b>8</b> ] <sup>[c]</sup>	[ <b>Cat</b> ] <sup>[b]</sup>	[ <b>Cat</b> ] <sup>[b]</sup>	$[Cat]^{[b]}$	k <sub>Obs</sub>	k <sub>Obs</sub>	<b>v</b> <sub>0</sub>	v <sub>0</sub> / [ <b>Cat</b> ]	In [ <b>Cat</b> ]	In v <sub>0</sub>
No.	Туре	(mM)	(M)	(mM)	(M)	(mM)	(M)	(mM)	(M)	(mol%)	(s <sup>-1</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> )	(s <sup>-1</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> )	(M s <sup>-1</sup> )	(s <sup>-1</sup> )		
1	Different	1.66	1.66E-03	4.1203071	4.12E-03	-	-	0.025	2.54E-05	1.53	5.51E-05	5.58E-05	2.86E-04	1.13E-02	-10.58	-8.2
	excess for															
2	[4]	1.26	1.26E-03	4.2359206	4.24E-03	-	-	0.021	2.14E-05	1.70	4.36E-05	4.38E-05	1.89E-04	8.81E-03	-10.75	-8.6
2	Different	1.26	1.26E-03	3.3746167	3.37E-03	-	-	0.016	1.64E-05	1.30	6.94E-05	6.94E-05	2.22E-04	1.36E-02	-11.02	-8.4
	excess for															
3	[7]	1.26	1.26E-03	4.2359206	4.24E-03	-	-	0.021	2.14E-05	1.70	4.36E-05	4.38E-05	1.89E-04	8.81E-03	-10.75	-8.6
1		1.66	1.66E-03	4.1203071	4.12E-03	-	-	0.025	2.54E-05	1.53	5.51E-05	5.58E-05	2.86E-04	1.13E-02	-10.58	-8.2
2	Same	1.26	1.26E-03	3.3746167	3.37E-03	-	-	0.016	1.64E-05	1.30	6.94E-05	6.94E-05	2.22E-04	1.36E-02	-11.02	-8.4
	excess															
4		1.26	1.26E-03	4.2359206	4.24E-03	0.90	9.00E-04	0.017	1.71E-05	1.36	5.31E-05	5.42E-05	1.82E-04	1.07E-02	-10.98	-8.6
5		1.66	1.66E-03	4.44	4.44E-03	-	-	0.041	4.12E-05	2.48	0.10	0.11	7.21E-07	1.75E-02	-10.10	-14.1
6		1.66	1.66E-03	4.03	4.03E-03	-	-	0.074	7.38E-05	4.44	0.38	0.42	1.80E-06	2.44E-02	-9.51	-13.2
7		1.66	1.66E-03	3.83	3.83E-03	-	-	0.115	1.15E-04	6.91	0.61	0.57	2.29E-06	2.00E-02	-9.07	-13.0
8	Difforent	1.66	1.66E-03	4.11	4.11E-03	-	-	0.227	2.27E-04	13.65	1.28	1.08	3.95E-06	1.74E-02	-8.39	-12.4
9	Different	1.66	1.66E-03	4.05	4.05E-03	-	-	0.402	4.02E-04	24.23	1.52	1.41	4.17E-06	1.04E-02	-7.82	-12.4
10		1.66	1.66E-03	4.13	4.13E-03	-	-	0.406	4.06E-04	24.45	1.43	1.21	3.92E-06	9.66E-03	-7.81	-12.4
11	[Cat]	1.66	1.66E-03	4.27	4.27E-03	-	-	0.625	6.25E-04	37.66	1.55	1.57	5.39E-06	8.62E-03	-7.38	-12.1
12		1.66	1.66E-03	3.97	3.97E-03	-	-	0.649	6.49E-04	39.10	1.50	1.65	5.43E-06	8.36E-03	-7.34	-12.1
13		1.66	1.66E-03	4.00	4.00E-03	-	-	0.783	7.83E-04	47.17	1.98	1.58	4.69E-06	5.99E-03	-7.15	-12.3
14		1.66	1.66E-03	3.93	3.93E-03	-	-	0.863	8.63E-04	51.97	2.22	2.29	5.68E-06	6.58E-03	-7.06	-12.1

**Table S7:** Experimental data and results for kinetic experiments with acyclic catalyst 3.

a) Determined by weight of 4 and the volume of solvent. b) Determined by the relative integrals of 4 and 7/8/Cat. c) Determined by linear or nonlinear fitting of the respective concentration over time data (see the SI for details).

# 4.6. Results for catenanes 1a/b/c



**Figure S5:** a) Structures of catenated catalysts 1a/b/c, b) Dependence of  $k_{Obs}$  on ring size, c) Dependence of  $v_0$  on ring size.

# 4.7. Results for catenane 1c

#### 4.7.1. Substrate orders based on initial rate



**Figure S6:** Different excess experiments for substrate order determination for catenane **1c** as determined in the  $\ln v_0 / \ln [\text{Substrate}]$  plots ( $v_0$  in M<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>, substrate concentrations in M). a)  $\ln v_0 / \ln [\text{Substrate}]$  plot for quinoline **4**, b)  $\ln v_0 / \ln [\text{Substrate}]$  plot for Hantzsch-Ester **7**.



4.7.2. Substrate orders based on VTNA

Figure S7: Different excess experiments for substrate order determination for catenane 1c as determined by VTNA. a)-e) VTNA plots for quinoline 4 for different values of m, f-j) VTNA plots for for Hantzsch-Ester 7 for different values of n.

#### 4.7.3. Catalyst orders based on initial rate



**Figure S8:** Influence of catalyst loading on reaction rates for catalyst **1c**. a) Initial rates at different catalyst loadings (all at 1.66 mM quinoline **4** and 3.93 mM Hantzsch-ester **7**), b) Determination of the order in catalyst order in the ln  $v_0 / \ln [\text{catalyst}]$  plot ( $v_0$  in M<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>, catalyst concentrations in M).



#### 4.7.4. Catalyst orders based on VTNA

Figure S9: Determination of the order in catalyst 1c by VTNA. a)-e) VTNA plots for different values of p (all at 1.66 mM quinoline 4 and 3.93 mM Hantzsch-ester 7).

### 4.7.5. Product inhibition based on VTNA



Figure S10: Investigation of product inhibition for catalyst 1c by VTNA.

# 4.8. Results for macrocycle 2c



4.8.1. Substrate orders based on VTNA

Figure S11: Different excess experiments for substrate order determination for macrocycle 2c as determined by VTNA. a)-f) VTNA plots for quinoline 4 for different values of m, g-k) VTNA plots for for Hantzsch-Ester 7 for different values of n.

#### 4.8.2. Catalyst orders based on initial rate



**Figure S12:** Influence of catalyst loading on reaction rates for catalyst **2c**. a) Initial rates at different catalyst loadings (all at 1.66 mM quinoline **4** and 3.93 mM Hantzsch-ester **7**), b) Determination of the order in catalyst order in the ln  $v_0 / \ln$  [catalyst] plot ( $v_0$  in M<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>, catalyst concentrations in M).



#### 4.8.3. Catalyst orders based on VTNA

Figure S13: Determination of the order in catalyst 2c by VTNA. a)-e) VTNA plots for different values of p (all at 1.66 mM quinoline 4 and 3.93 mM Hantzsch-ester 7).

#### 4.8.4. Product inhibition based on VTNA



Figure S14: Investigation of product inhibition for the macrocyclic catalyst 2c by VTNA.

# 4.9. Results for acyclic catalyst 3

#### a) b) c) [**4**]<sub>0</sub> = 1.66 mM [**4**]<sub>0</sub> = 1.66 mM [**4**]<sub>0</sub> = 1.66 mM 2.0 2.0 2.0 [**4**]<sub>0</sub> = 1.26 mM [**4**]<sub>0</sub> = 1.26 mM [**4**]<sub>0</sub> = 1.26 mM [4] / mM (norm.) [4] / mM (norm.) [4] / mM (norm.) 1.5 1.5 1.5 1.0 1.0 1.0 0.5 0.5 0.5 for m = 0.75 for m = 1 for m = 1.25 0.0 0.0 0.0 0 1 2 0 1 2 0 1 2 3 3 3 t / h (norm.) t / h (norm.) t / h (norm.) d) f) e) [**4**]<sub>0</sub> = 1.66 mM [**4**]<sub>0</sub> = 1.66 mM [**4**]<sub>0</sub> = 1.66 mM 2.0 2.0 2.0 [**4**]<sub>0</sub> = 1.26 mM [**4**]<sub>0</sub> = 1.26 mM [**4**]<sub>0</sub> = 1.26 mM [4] / mM (norm.) [4] / mM (norm.) [4] / mM (norm.) 1.5 1.5 1.5 1.0 1.0 1.0 0.5 0.5 0.5 for m = 1.5 for m = 1.6 for m = 1.7 0.0 0.0 0.0 0 1 2 3 0 1 2 3 0 1 2 3 t / h (norm.) t / h (norm.) t / h (norm.) i) g) h) [**7**]<sub>0</sub> = 3.37 mM [**7**]<sub>0</sub> = 3.37 mM [**7**]<sub>0</sub> = 3.37 mM 4.0 4.0 4.0 [**7**]<sub>0</sub> = 4.24 mM [**7**]<sub>0</sub> = 4.24 mM [**7**]<sub>0</sub> = 4.24 mM [7] / mM (norm.) [7] / mM (norm.) [7] / mM (norm.) 3.0 3.0 3.0 2.0 2.0 2.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 for n = 0.5 for n = 0.75 for n = 1 0.0 0.0 0.0 0 5 10 15 20 0 5 10 15 20 0 5 10 15 20 t / h (norm.) t / h (norm.) t / h (norm.) j) k) [**7**]<sub>0</sub> = 3.37 mM [**7**]<sub>0</sub> = 3.37 mM 4.0 4.0 [**7**]<sub>0</sub> = 4.24 mM [**7**]<sub>0</sub> = 4.24 mM [7] / mM (norm.) [7] / mM (norm.) 3.0 3.0 2.0 2.0 1.0 1.0 for n = 1.25 for n = 1.5 0.0 0.0 0 15 20 0 5 15 5 10 10 20 t / h (norm.) t / h (norm.)

#### 4.9.1. Substrate orders based on VTNA

Figure S15: Different excess experiments for substrate order determination for 3 as determined by VTNA. a)e) VTNA plots for quinoline 4 for different values of m, f-j) VTNA plots for for Hantzsch-Ester 7 for different values of n.

#### 4.9.2. Initial rate measurements



**Figure S16:** Influence of catalyst loading on reaction rates for catalyst **3**, depicted as initial rates at different catalyst loadings (all at 1.66 mM quinoline **4** and 3.93 mM Hantzsch-ester **7**).

Due to the nonlinear  $v_0$  vs. [3] plot, the catalyst order could not be determined from the  $\ln v_0$  vs.  $\ln [3]$  plot. Instead, the catalyst order was determined by VTNA (see below).

#### 4.9.3. Catalyst orders based on VTNA

Due to the nonlinear dependence of reaction rates on the concentration of the acyclic catalyst **3**, the VTNA plots were generated independently for low catalyst loadings (<0.25 mM or 15 mol%) and high catalyst loadings (>0.6 mM or 35 mol%).



**Figure S17:** Determination of the order in catalyst **3** by VTNA for low catalyst loadings (<0.25 mM or 15 mol%). a)-e) VTNA plots for different values of *p* (all at 1.66 mM quinoline **4** and 3.93 mM Hantzsch-ester **7**).





**Figure S18:** Determination of the order in catalyst **3** by VTNA for high catalyst loadings (>0.6 mM or 35 mol%). a)-f) VTNA plots for different values of p (all at 1.66 mM quinoline **4** and 3.93 mM Hantzsch-ester **7**).

#### 4.9.4. Product inhibition based on VTNA



Figure S19: Investigation of product inhibition for the macrocyclic catalyst 3 by VTNA.

# 4.10. Normalized initial rates for catalysts 1c/2c/3

The normalized rates  $v_{Norm} = v_0/[Cat]$  (also see Table S5 - Table S7) are shown in Figure **S20**.



Figure S20: Reaction rates per catalyst (v<sub>0</sub>/[Cat]) for catalysts 1c/2c/3.

For catalysts 1c and 2c, the value for  $v_{Norm}$  is almost independent of the catalyst concentration. For catalyst 3, the upper limit for  $v_{Norm}$  [i.e.  $v_{norm}(3_{Mono})$ ] was estimated by linear regression of the data points for [3] < 0.25 mM in the  $v_{Norm}$  vs. [Cat] plot (see Figure S20). The lower limit for  $v_{Norm}$  [i.e.  $v_{norm}(3_{Di})$ ] was estimated as the mean value for the two data points at highest concentration ([3] > 0.75 mM).

Table S8: Normalized initial rate constants for catalysts 1c/2c/3.

Catalyst	$v_{Norm} = v_0 / [Cat]$ (10 <sup>-3</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )
1c	1.04 <sup>[a]</sup>
2c	2.06 <sup>[a]</sup>
<b>З</b> <sub>Di</sub> (>0.6 mМ)	<6.29 <sup>[b]</sup>
<b>З<sub>Мопо</sub> (&lt;0.25 mM)</b>	22.7 <sup>[c]</sup>

[a] Mean value for all catalyst concentrations, [b] Mean value for catalyst concentrations >0.6 mM, [c] Determined as y-intercept in the  $k_{Obs}$  / [Cat] plot for concentrations <0.25 mM

# 5. Detailed analysis for the acyclic phosphoric acid 3

# 5.1. Dependence of stereoselectivity on catalyst concentration

According to the general protocol for catalytic reaction (see section 3), the reduction of quinoline **4** was performed with varying concentration of catalyst 3. In addition, the overall concentration was varied (initial quinoline concentration of 1.66 mM and 5 mM, respectively). The resulting stereoselectivities were determined by chiral HPLC (see Table S10).



Figure S21: Influence of catalysts loading on enantioselectivities for catalyst 3 (given as enantiomeric excess for (*R*)-6). a) For 1.66 mM quinoline concentration. b)/c) Comparison of enantiomeric excesses for 1.66 mM and 5.0 mM quinoline concentration, plotted vs. concentration of 3 or loading of 3, respectively.

# 5.2. Fitting of rate

Based on the initial rates (see Table S8) for the monomeric and the dimeric catalyst, the total rate data for different concentrations of 3 (see Figure S16) was fitted as follows:

v <sub>max</sub> ( <b>3</b> <sub>Mono</sub> )	= v <sub>Norm</sub> (3 <sub>Mono</sub> ) * [3 <sub>Mono</sub> ]
with	$v_{Norm}$ ( <b>3</b> <sub>Mono</sub> )= 26.3* 10 <sup>-3</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>
v <sub>max</sub> ( <b>3</b> <sub>Di</sub> )	= v <sub>Norm</sub> ( <b>3</b> <sub>Di</sub> ) * [ <b>3</b> <sub>Di</sub> ]
with	$v_{Norm}$ ( <b>3</b> <sub>Di</sub> )= 6.29* 10 <sup>-3</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>
V <sub>0</sub>	$= v_0 (3_{Mono}) + v_0 (3_{Di})$
with	$v_0 (3_{Mono}) = v_{max} (3_{Mono})^* x_{Mono}$
with	$v_0 (3_{Di}) = v_{max} (3_{Di})^* x_{Di}$
V <sub>0</sub>	$= v_{max} (3_{Mono})^* x_{Mono} + v_{max} (3_{Di})^* x_{Di}$
v <sub>0</sub> / v <sub>max</sub> ( <b>3</b> <sub>Mono</sub> )	$= x_{Mono} + (v_{max}(3_{Di})/v_{max}(3_{Mono}))^* x_{Di}$
with	$v_{max}(3_{Di})/v_{max}(3_{Mono}) =$
	$v_{Norm} (3_{Di}) / v_{Norm} (3_{Mono}) = 6.29/26.3 = 0.239$
with	$x_{Di} = 1 - x_{Mono}$

v <sub>0</sub> / v <sub>max</sub> ( <b>3</b> <sub>Mono</sub> )	$= x_{Mono} + 0.239^{*}(1 - x_{Mono})$
v <sub>0</sub> / v <sub>max</sub> ( <b>3</b> <sub>Mono</sub> )	= x <sub>Mono</sub> + 0.239 - 0.239*x <sub>Mono</sub>
v <sub>0</sub> / v <sub>max</sub> ( <b>3</b> <sub>Mono</sub> )	= 0.761*x <sub>Mono</sub> + 0.239
XMono	= ((v <sub>0</sub> / v <sub>max</sub> ( <b>3</b> <sub>Mono</sub> ))-0.239)/0.761

 Table S 9: Experimental data and results for rate fitting using different concentrations of acyclic catalyst 3.

 Experimental cature

	Experimental setup					Kesults					
	Concentrations			Calcul	Calculated			Fitted			
Exp	[ <b>4</b> ] <sup>[a]</sup>	[ <b>7</b> ] <sup>[b]</sup>	[Cat] <sup>[b]</sup>	[ <b>Cat</b> ] <sup>[b]</sup>	v <sub>max</sub> ( <b>3</b> <sub>Mono</sub> )	v <sub>max</sub> ( <b>3</b> <sub>Di</sub> )	X <sub>Mono</sub>	X <sub>Di</sub>	vo ( <b>3</b> <sub>Mono</sub> )	v <sub>0</sub> ( <b>3</b> <sub>Di</sub> )	
No.	(mM)	(mM)	(mM)	(mol%)	(M s <sup>-1</sup> )	(M s <sup>-1</sup> )			(M s <sup>-1</sup> )	(M s <sup>-1</sup> )	
1	1.66	4.03	0.074	4.44	1.94E-06	4.64E-07	0.91	0.09	1.76E-06	4.32E-08	
2	1.66	3.83	0.115	6.91	3.02E-06	7.21E-07	0.69	0.31	2.07E-06	2.27E-07	
3	1.66	4.11	0.227	13.65	5.96E-06	1.42E-06	0.56	0.44	3.32E-06	6.32E-07	
4	1.66	4.05	0.402	24.23	1.06E-05	2.53E-06	0.20	0.80	2.16E-06	2.01E-06	
5	1.66	4.27	0.625	37.66	1.64E-05	3.93E-06	0.12	0.88	1.91E-06	3.47E-06	
6	1.66	3.97	0.649	39.10	1.71E-05	4.08E-06	0.10	0.90	1.77E-06	3.66E-06	
7	1.66	3.93	0.863	51.97	2.27E-05	5.42E-06	0.01	0.99	3.32E-07	5.34E-06	

a) Determined by weight of 4 and the volume of solvent. b) Determined by the relative integrals of 4 and 7/8/Cat.



Figure S22: Mole fractions (a) and  $v_0$  contributions (b) for the monomeric and dimeric pathway for different concentrations of catalyst 3 for the first reduction step  $[x(3_{Mono}):$  mole fraction of monomeric catalyst,  $x(3_{Di}):$  mole fraction of phosphoric acid 3 bound in dimeric catalyst].

# 5.3. Fitting of stereoselectivity data

For the fitting of the stereoselectivity data for different concentrations of **3**, the following input values were used:

- The relative rates of dimeric and monomeric pathway were calculated based on the DFT-results.<sup>[2]</sup> Based on an energy difference of 1.7 kcal, the rate difference was calculated as  $f = k_{Di} / k_{Mono} = 17.7$ .
- The enantiomeric excesses for the purely monomeric and purely dimeric pathways were estimated based on the measured *ee*-curve (see Figure S21a). Thus, we estimated the stereoselectivity of the dimeric pathway as  $ee_{Di} = 75\%$  and the stereoselectivity of the monomeric pathway as  $ee_{Mono} = -35\%$ .

Based on these input values, the mole fractions and relative *ee*-contributions were calculated as follows:

ee <sub>Tot</sub> =	$(ee\_contr. (3_{Mono}) + ee\_contr. (3_{Di}))/(x_{Mono} * k_{Mono} + x_{Di} * k_{Di})$			
with <i>ee</i> _contr. ( <b>3</b> <sub>Mono</sub> ) =	X <sub>Mono</sub> * k <sub>Mono</sub> * ee <sub>Mono</sub>			
with <i>ee</i> _contr. ( <b>3</b> <sub>Di</sub> ) =	$\mathbf{x}_{\mathrm{Di}} * \mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{Di}} * \mathbf{e}_{\mathrm{Di}}$			
with x <sub>Di</sub> =	1 - x <sub>Mono</sub>			
with k <sub>Di</sub> =	f*k <sub>Mono</sub>			
with $ee_{Rel_{mono}} =$	ee <sub>Mono</sub> / ee <sub>tot</sub>			
with <i>ee</i> <sub>Rel_Di</sub> =	ee <sub>Di</sub> / ee <sub>tot</sub>			
with f =	$k_{Di} / k_{Mono} = 17.7$ (based on DFT)			
ee <sub>Tot</sub> =	$(\mathbf{x}_{Mono} * k_{Mono} * ee_{Mono} + \mathbf{x}_{Di} * k_{Di} * ee_{Di}) / (\mathbf{x}_{Mono} * k_{Mono} + \mathbf{x}_{Di} * k_{Di})$			
1 =	$(\mathbf{x}_{\text{Mono}} * k_{\text{Mono}} * ee_{\text{rel}_{\text{mono}}} + \mathbf{X}_{\text{Di}} * k_{\text{Di}} * ee_{\text{rel}_{\text{Di}}})/(\mathbf{x}_{\text{Mono}} * k_{\text{Mono}} + \mathbf{x}_{\text{Di}} * k_{\text{Di}})$			
1 =	$(x_{Mono} * k_{Mono} * ee_{rel_mono} + (1 - x_{Mono}) * f * k_{Mono} * ee_{rel_Di})/$			
	$(\mathbf{x}_{Mono} * k_{Mono} + (1 - \mathbf{x}_{Mono} * f * k_{Mono})$			
1 =	$(x_{Mono} * ee_{rel_{mono}} + (1 - x_{Mono}) * f * ee_{rel_{Di}})/(x_{Mono} + (1 - x_{Mono}) * f)$			
x <sub>Mono</sub> + (1 - x <sub>Mono</sub> ) * f =	x <sub>Mono</sub> * <i>ee</i> <sub>rel_mono</sub> + (1 - x <sub>Mono</sub> ) * f * <i>ee</i> <sub>rel_Di</sub>			
x <sub>Mono</sub> * (1 - f) + f =	$(x_{Mono} * (ee_{Rel_Mono} - f * ee_{Rel_Di}) + f * ee_{Rel_Di}$			
x <sub>Mono</sub> * (1 - f) - x <sub>Mono</sub> *				
$(ee_{\text{Rel}_{mono}} - f * ee_{\text{Rel}_{Di}}) =$	f * ee <sub>Rel_Di</sub> - f			
$x_{Mono}$ (1 - f - $ee_{Rel_mono}$ + f * $ee_{Rel_Dit}$ ) =	f * ee <sub>Rel_Di</sub> - f			
x <sub>Mono</sub> =	$(f * ee_{Rel_{Di}} - f) / (1 - f - ee_{Rel_{Mono}} + f * ee_{Rel_{Di}})$			

		Experime	ntal setup						Results			
			Concentra	tions		ee	Calcul	ated			Fitted	
Exp No.	ЕхрТуре	[ <b>4</b> ] <sup>[a]</sup>	[ <b>7</b> ] <sup>[a]</sup>	[ <b>3</b> ] <sup>[a]</sup>	[ <b>3</b> ] <sup>[a]</sup>	ee <sup>[b]</sup>	ee / ee ( <b>3</b> <sub>Mono</sub> )	ee / ee ( <b>3</b> <sub>Di</sub> )	X <sub>Mono</sub>	x <sub>Di</sub>	ee_contr. ( <b>3</b> <sub>Mono</sub> )	ee_contr. ( <b>3</b> <sub>Di</sub> )
		(mM)	(mM)	(mM)	(mol%)	(%)	(%)	(%)			(%)	(%)
1		1.66	3.93	0.0002	0.01	- <sup>[c]</sup>	_ [c]	- <sup>[c]</sup>	- <sup>[c]</sup>	- <sup>[c]</sup>	_ [c]	_ [c]
2		1.66	3.93	0.0017	0.10	-29.5	1.19	-2.55	1.00	0.00	-33.2	3.8
3		1.66	3.93	0.0042	0.25	-20.9	1.67	-3.58	0.99	0.01	-30.5	9.6
4		1.66	3.93	0.0083	0.50	-10.1	3.47	-7.43	0.98	0.02	-27.1	17.0
5	Different	1.66	3.93	0.0166	1.00	12.8	-2.72	5.84	0.96	0.04	-19.8	32.6
6	excess for [3]	1.66	3.93	0.0249	1.50	20.4	-1.71	3.67	0.95	0.05	-17.4	37.8
7	at 1.66 mM	1.66	3.93	0.0415	2.50	36.5	-0.96	2.05	0.90	0.10	-12.2	48.8
8	quinoline	1.66	3.93	0.0830	5.00	54.7	-0.64	1.37	0.80	0.20	-6.5	61.2
9		1.66	3.93	0.1660	10.00	61.2	-0.57	1.23	0.72	0.28	-4.4	65.6
10		1.66	3.93	0.3320	20.00	67.5	-0.52	1.11	0.57	0.43	-2.4	69.9
12		1.66	3.93	0.5810	35.00	70.6	-0.50	1.06	0.43	0.57	-1.4	72.0
13		1.66	3.93	0.8300	50.00	71.6	-0.49	1.05	0.36	0.64	-1.1	72.7
12		1.66	3.93	0.0250	0.50	-22.7	1.54	-3.30	0.99	0.01	-31.1	8.4
13	Different	1.66	3.93	0.0750	1.50	14.3	-2.45	5.24	0.96	0.04	-19.3	33.6
14	excess for [3]	1.66	3.93	0.1250	2.50	24.5	-1.43	3.06	0.94	0.06	-16.1	40.6
15	at 5.0 mM	1.66	3.93	0.2500	5.00	45.0	-0.78	1.67	0.87	0.13	-9.6	54.5
16	quinoline	1.66	3.93	1.0000	20.00	66.1	-0.53	1.14	0.61	0.39	-2.8	68.9
17		1.66	3.93	2.5000	50.00	71.1	-0.49	1.05	0.39	0.61	-1.2	72.3

**Table S10:** Experimental data and results for fitting of stereoselectivity data using different concentrations of acyclic catalyst **3** (for the stereoselectivity data also see table S1).

a) Determined by weight of 4/7/3 and the volume of solvent. b) Determined by chiral HPLC. Enantiomeric excesses given for the (R)-product isomer. [c] No conversion observed.



Figure S23: Mole fractions and *ee* contributions for the monomeric and dimeric pathway for different concentrations of catalyst 3 for the second reduction step  $[x(3_{Mono}):$  mole fraction of monomeric catalyst,  $x(3_{Di}):$  mole fraction of phosphoric acid 3 bound in dimeric catalyst].



Figure S24: Mole fractions and *ee* contributions for the monomeric and dimeric pathway for different concentrations of catalyst 3 for the second reduction step, using different total concentrations. a)/b) For 1.66 mM quinoline 4, c/d) for 5.0 mM quinoline 4 [ $x(3_{Mono})$ : mole fraction of monomeric catalyst,  $x(3_{Di})$ : mole fraction of phosphoric acid 3 bound in dimeric catalyst].

# 5.4. Evolution of enantiomeric excess over the course of the reaction

Table S11:	Conversion	vs.	time	and	enantiomeric	excess	vs.	time	data	for	the	catalytic	reaction	using	1	mol%	3
(1.6 mM 4 ii	n toluene).																

Entry	Time	Conversion	Enantiomeric
	[h]	[%]	excess <sup>(b)</sup> [%]
1	0.5	15.5	9.3
2	1	23.7	8.6
3	2	41.9	8.8
4	3	50.6	9.0
5	4	57.3	9.0
6	5	64.1	8.3
7	6	69.1	8.2
8	7	73.8	8.8
9	24	94.9	8.1

(a) Determined by chiral HPLC, approximated by using identical extinction coefficients for starting materials 4 and product 6. (b) Determined by chiral HPLC (Chiralcel OD-H column). All values are given for the excess of (*R*)-enantiomer.



Figure S 25: Influence of conversion on enantioselectivities for catalyst 3 for reaction in toluene (gives nas enantiomeric excess for (R)-6).

# 6. NMR-investigation of catalyst-substrate complexes

# 6.1. General information

# 6.1.1. Sample preparation

**Samples in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>**: The acyclic chiral phosphoric acid catalyst **3** was weighed into a 5 mm NMR tube and dried at 150 °C for at least 30 min under reduced pressure. After the tube came to room temperature, quinolines **4b-d** were weighed directly into the NMR tube. The tube was evacuated and flushed with Argon three times. Freshly distilled  $CD_2Cl_2$  (0.6 mL) was added under Argon flow and TMS atmosphere (0.5 mL) was added. The tube was closed and sealed with parafilm. The samples were stored in the fridge at -80°C.

**Samples in freonic mixtures:** Acyclic chiral phosphoric acid catalyst **3** was weighed into a 5 mm heavy wall J-Young valve NMR tube and dried under reduced pressure at 150 °C and 30 min. After the tube came to room temperature, quinoline **4b** was weighed directly into the NMR tube. The tube was evacuated and flushed with Argon three times. The sample was connected to a vaccuumline and the NMR tube was frozen in a Dewar filled with liquid nitrogen and a freonic mixture was condensed through a column filled with P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and KOH into the NMR tube. The overall concentration was judged by the filling level freonic solution at r.t. (14 cm ~ 512 µL). The samples in the freonic mixtures were stored at ~ 4°C between the measurements.

# 6.1.2. NMR pulse program parameters

Standard pulse sequences from the Bruker pulse sequence catalogue (zg, zg30, etc.) with the following parameters have been used.

<u><sup>1</sup>H-NMR</u>: Pulse program zg30, Relaxation delay = 2.00 s, Acquisition time = 2.54 s, SW = 22 ppm, TD = 66 K, ns = 1 – 256; <u><sup>13</sup>C NMR</u>: Pulse program: zgpg30, Relaxation delay = 2.00 s, Acquisition time = 0.80 s, TD = 66 K; SW = 270.0 ppm, TD = 64k, NS = 1k – 2k; <u><sup>19</sup>F-NMR</u>: Pulse program: zg30; Relaxation delay = 2.00 s, Acquisition time = 5.79 s, SW = 20.0 ppm, TD = 131k, NS = 64; <u><sup>31</sup>P-NMR</u>: Pulse program: zgpg30; Relaxation delay = 1.00 s, Acquisition time = 2.25 s, SW = 40-60.0 ppm, TD = 65k, NS = 64 - 512; <u>2D-<sup>1</sup>H, <sup>1</sup>H NOESY</u>: Pulse program: noesygpph; Relaxation delay = 5.00 s, NS = 8-16, mixing time (D8) = 300.00 ms; TD = 4096; increments = 256 - 1k; <u>2D-<sup>1</sup>H, <sup>1</sup>H COSY</u>: Pulse program: cosygpqf; Relaxation delay = 5.00 s, NS = 4-16, TD = 4096; increments = 512; <u>2D-<sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C HSQC</u>: Pulse program: hsqcedetgpsisp2.3; Relaxation delay = 6 s, NS = 8-16, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>XH</sub> = 145 Hz; TD = 4096; increments = 512; <u>2D-<sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C HMBC</u>: Pulse program: hmbcgplpndqf; Relaxation delay = 4.00 s, NS = 8-16, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>XH</sub> = 145 Hz, J<sub>XH</sub>(long range) = 10 Hz; TD = 4096; increments = 512 - 1k; <u>2D-<sup>1</sup>H, <sup>31</sup>P HMBC</u>: Pulse program: inv4gplrndqf; Relaxation delay = 6.00 s, NS = 4-16, TD = 4096; increments = 256 - 512; <u><sup>1</sup>H DOSY</u>: Pulse program: see at respective chapter, Relaxation delay = 2.00 s - 6.00 s,

NS = 64-512, TD = 58 K, increments = 20, Diffusion time delay = 45.0 ms, gradient strength 5-95% linear, gradient pulse: 0.6 - 2.0 ms.

# 6.2 Temperature screening

By lowering the temperature, exchange process within the system and the hydrogen bonds could be slowed and sharper line widths and a better signal dispersion was obtained. For samples with a 1:1 stoichiometry of CPA and quinoline, 180 K proved to be the optimum temperature for measurements, as it provided best line widths and signal dispersion. For samples with a 2:1 stoichiometry of CPA and quinoline (see Figure S26 for **3/4b**) 180 - 200 K was found as the optimum temperature range. For **4b**, measurements (especially determination of the integrals) were done at 200 K due to the optimum line separation of the two signals at 16.75 and 16.51 ppm. For quinolines **4c** and **4d**, 180 K was selected as measurement temperature.



Figure S26: Excerpts of the hydrogen bond region at 600 MHz in  $CD_2Cl_2$  at variable temperatures of a sample containing 3 and 9a at a 2:1 stoichiometry at a catalyst concentration of 50 mM. Different scaling factors were applied to better visualize the line broadening for increased temperatures, but the spectra were recorded with identical parameters, e.g. identical number of scans (64).

# 6.3 Solvent screening

Deuterated toluene, chlorobenzene, dichloromethane and freonic mixture of CDCl<sub>2</sub>F and CDClF<sub>2</sub> were tested as solvents to investigate binary CPA•quinoline complexes. Toluene provided poor solubility of the catalyst at low temperatures (see Figure S27B). Chlorobenzene was not applicable due to its higher freezing point ( $\approx$  -45 °C), because at that temperature the exchange processes were not sufficiently slowed down to detect hydrogen bond signals with adequate line widths (see Figure S27C). In freonic mixture, the catalyst **3** was insoluble. Hence, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> was selected as solvent as it provided good solubility, gave narrow line widths and a good signal dispersion at 180 K.



**Figure S27:** Excerpt of the spectra of **3:9a** at a 1:1 stoichiometry and a concentration of 10 mM in A)  $CD_2Cl_2$  at 180 K, B) in deuterated toluene at 180 K and C) in C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>5</sub>Cl at 235 K. Only the hydrogen bond region (12-20 ppm) is showed. Different scaling factors were applied, but the spectra were measured with identical parameters, e.g. identical number of scans (64).

In the previous work, the transfer hydrogenation of **4a** with catalyst **3** in  $CH_2Cl_2$  gave a significantly different *ee* value than in toluene<sup>[2]</sup>, which can indicate a limited comparability of the NMR-structure investigations in  $CD_2Cl_2$  compared to the reaction analysis in toluene. However, theoretical calculations showed, that in dichloromethane analogous species should be populated as in toluene (see chapter 7).

In order to obtain experimental proof that catalyst aggregation also influences the catalytic behaviour in dichloromethane-solution, we have performed the catalytic reaction in dichloromethane with catalyst loadings ranging from 1 mol% to 50 mol%. Indeed, we found that the stereoselectivity continually changes from -33% to -6% (expressed for (R)6, see Table S12 and Figure S 28).

Entry	Catalyst	Cat. loading [mol%] <sup>(a)</sup>	Quinoline conc [mM]	Enantiomeric excess <sup>(b)</sup> [%]
1	( <i>S</i> )- <b>3</b>	1	1.66	-33.3
2	(S)- <b>3</b>	2.5	1.66	-30.3
3	(S)- <b>3</b>	5	1.66	-29.1
4	( <i>S</i> )- <b>3</b>	10	1.66	-23.6
5	( <i>S</i> )- <b>3</b>	20	1.66	-17.7
6	( <i>S</i> )- <b>3</b>	35	1.66	-5.3
7	(S)- <b>3</b>	50	1.66	-6.0

**Table S12:** Reaction conditions for the transfer hydrogenation of 2-phenylquinoline catalysed by acyclic phosphoric acid (S)-3 in dichloromethane.

(a) Catalyst loading relative to quinoline. (b) Determined by chiral HPLC(Chiralcel OD-H column). All values are given for the excess of(*R*)-enantiomer.



Figure S 28: Influence of catalysts loading on enantioselectivities for catalyst 3 for reaction in dichloromethane (given as enantiomeric excess for (R)-6).

# 6.4 Chemical shift assignments

<sup>1</sup>H (black), <sup>13</sup>C (blue) and <sup>31</sup>P (green) chemical shifts of the **3**•**4b** complex at a 1:1 stoichiometry were assigned with standard 2D NMR experiments (<sup>1</sup>H,<sup>1</sup>H COSY, <sup>1</sup>H,<sup>1</sup>H NOESY, <sup>1</sup>H,<sup>13</sup>C HSQC, <sup>1</sup>H,<sup>13</sup>C HMBC and <sup>1</sup>H,<sup>31</sup>P HMBC) at 180 K. Some <sup>13</sup>C chemical shifts could not be assigned.



Figure S29: Chemical shift assignment of the binary 3•9a complex at a 1:1 stoichiometry in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.

# 6.5 Hydrogen bond investigation

The presence of the hydrogen bond was shown by the detection of magnetization transfer between the proton in the hydrogen bond and the phosphorus atom of **3** (see Figure S30, red, <sup>1</sup>H,<sup>31</sup>P HMBC) and one proton of **4b** (see Figure S30, blue, <sup>1</sup>H,<sup>1</sup>H COSY). The detection of magnetization transfer between the hydrogen bonded proton and both CPA and substrate was also shown in the previous investigations in CPA•imine systems.<sup>[9a,9b]</sup>



**Figure S30:** Excerpts of the <sup>1</sup>H,<sup>1</sup>H COSY and <sup>1</sup>H,<sup>31</sup>P HMBC spectra of **3:4a** at a 1:1 stoichiometry and a concentration of 50 mM in  $CD_2Cl_2$  at 600 MHz. The detection of magnetization transfer between the hydrogen bonded proton and the quinoline (left, blue) and the phosphorus atom of **3** (right, red) proves the presence of a hydrogen bond.

In agreement with the previous NMR investigations on CPA•imine complexes,<sup>[9]</sup> more basic quinolines (pK<sub>b</sub>: **4b** > **4c** > **4d**) feature weaker hydrogen bond protons (lower chemical shift of the H-bond proton) due to a stronger proton transfer onto the quinoline (stronger ion pair character). This trend is observed for the proton in the PO<sup>-</sup>…H·N<sup>+</sup> hydrogen bond in the binary **3**•Qu complex at a 1:1 and 2:1 stoichiometry (Figure S31, green proton), as well as for the PO<sup>-</sup>…H·N<sup>+</sup> hydrogen bond in the **3**•**3**•Qu complex (Figure S31, blue proton). For the PO<sup>-</sup>…H·OP hydrogen bond in the **3**•**3**•Qu complex (Figure S31, red proton), this trend is not observed because that hydrogen bond is not directly affected by the quinoline substituent.



**Figure S31:** Excerpts of the <sup>1</sup>H spectra of **3** and **4b-d** at a 1:1 (left) or 2:1 (right) stoichiometry at 600 MHz and 180 K in  $CD_2Cl_2$ . Modulation of the basicity of the quinoline gives stronger hydrogen bonds (higher chemical shifts) for less basic quinolines, demonstrating a hydrogen bond assisted ion pair nature of the complexes.

### 6.6 Structural investigations of 3•4b

Based on the chemical shift assignment, a NOESY analysis was performed to reveal the structure of binary **3**•**4b** complex. NOE contacts of the MeO group of the catalyst (Figure S32, highlighted in orange) were detected to both sides of the quinoline (blue and red arrows). It should be noted, that in the previously computed structures<sup>[2]</sup> only one MeO group of the catalyst is in close contact to the quinoline. Hence, the detection of NOE contacts A and B, as well as C and D (Figure S32) reveals the presence of two different conformations of the binary **3**•**4b** complex which are in a fast exchange with each other and thus give only one set of signals. This observation is analogous to the previous studies on binary CPA•imine complexes, where also two fast exchanging conformers (Type I and Type II) were identified.<sup>[10]</sup>



**Figure S32:** Identified structures and their respective characteristic NOE cross signals at 600 MHz and 180 K for a **3:4b** sample at a 1:1 stoichiometry and a concentration of 50 mM in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.

Both structures are on a fast exchange on the NMR time scale and thus give one averaged set of signals. In analogy with previous investigations in binary CPA•imine complexes,<sup>[10]</sup> only one set of signals for both naphthyl-fragments of the CPA BINOL-backbone was observed. This shows in combination with the strong binding of catalyst and substrate, that the exchange pathway between the two fast exchanging binary CPA•Qu structures features switching of the hydrogen bond donor oxygen atom, as well as a rotation of the quinoline (see Figure S32 for a more detailed explanation). The possible rotation of the substrate while bound to the catalyst reveals a bigger binding pocket of **3** compared to other catalysts typically used in synthesis.<sup>[11]</sup>

In summary, the NMR structural investigations for binary monomeric **3**•Qu complexes showed, that these systems are analogous in terms of structures, their dynamics and hydrogen bonding to binary monomeric CPA•imine complexes. Thus, at least in case of monomeric complexes the investigated system is a typical representative of catalyst•substrate complexes in CPA catalyzed transformations.

### 6.7 Diffusion Ordered Spectroscopy

The DOSY measurements were performed with the convection suppressing DSTE (double stimulated echo) pulse sequence developed by Jerschow and Müller in a pseudo 2D mode.<sup>[12]</sup> TMS was used to reference the viscosity of the solvent. The diffusion time delay was set to 45 ms. The gradient pulse lengths (p16, SMSQ10.100 smoothed square shape; 90% of rectangular gradient strength) were optimized for each species to give a sigmoidal signal decay for varying gradient strengths and range between 700 to 1500  $\mu$ s at 300 K. For each species, twenty spectra with linear varying gradient strength of 5% - 95% of the maximum gradient strength (5.3400094 G/mm for rectangular gradient) have been measured. The used probe signals for the analysis are listed in the respective tables. The signal intensities of the respective groups were analyzed as a function of the gradient strength by Bruker TopSpin 3.2 software T1/T2 relaxation package by employing the Stejskal-Tanner equation.<sup>[13]</sup> No line broadening occurred for increasing gradient strength. The sigmoidal fit provided the translational self-diffusion coefficients D<sub>i</sub> listed in the respective tables. The molecular radii were derived by the Stokes-Einstein equation<sup>[14]</sup> using Chens correction.<sup>[15]</sup>

$$D_i = \frac{k_B T}{6\pi\eta r_H} * \left(1 + 0.695 * \left(\frac{r_{solv}}{r_H}\right)^{2.234}\right)$$

 $D_i$  is the self-diffusion coefficient derived by the measurement,  $\eta$  is the viscosity of the solvent,  $r_H$  is the hydrodynamic radius of the observed molecule and  $r_{solv}$  the radius of the solvent. No form factor correction was applied. The viscosity was determined by measuring the diffusion coefficient of the reference tetramethylsilane (TMS) and solving the equation for  $\eta$  with the literature value<sup>[16]</sup> of the radius of 2.96 Å. The solvent radius of CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.46 Å) was taken from the reference.<sup>[17]</sup>

For the error estimation, the separate diffusion coefficients for different probes belonging to the same species (e.g. all probes of the quinoline for the CPA•quinoline complex) were averaged and the standard deviation was determined. The molecular radii were determined based on the averaged diffusion coefficient, the averaged diffusion coefficient plus the standard deviation and the averaged diffusion coefficient minus the standard deviation. The resulting radii are given as the radius derived from the averaged diffusion coefficient and the error range is given by:

$$Error range = \frac{1}{2} * \left[ \left( r_i^{aver} - r_i^{aver+StDev} \right) + \left( r_i^{aver-StDev} - r_i^{aver} \right) \right]$$

Where  $r_i^{aver}$  is the radius derived from the averaged diffusion coefficient,  $r_i^{aver+StDev}$  is the minimum radius derived from the averaged diffusion coefficient plus the standard deviation and  $r_i^{aver-StDev}$  is the maximum radius derived from the averaged diffusion coefficient minus the standard deviation.

Temper.	Sample	Species	D <sub>i</sub> (averaged)	D <sub>i</sub> (StaDev)	D <sub>i</sub> (min)	D <sub>i</sub> (max)	r <sub>i</sub> (averaged)	r <sub>i</sub> (min)	r <sub>i</sub> (max)	Result	+/-	D <sub>i</sub> TMS
[K]			[m <sup>2</sup> /s] e-10	[m <sup>2</sup> /s] e-10	[m <sup>2</sup> /s] e-10	[m <sup>2</sup> /s] e-10	[Å]	[Å]	[Å]	[Å]	[Å]	[m <sup>2</sup> /s] e-10
300	3/4b 1:1	4b	1.137	0.1105	1.027	1.248	6.365	5.886	6.954	6.37	0.77	3.296
300	3/4b 1:1	3	0.872	0.0118	0.860	0.883	8.046	7.949	8.146	8.05	0.15	3.296
300	3/4b 2:1	4b	0.678	0.0223	0.656	0.701	8.531	8.283	8.796	8.53	0.38	2.736
300	3/4b 2:1	3	0.644	0.0024	0.642	0.647	8.947	8.916	8.978	8.95	0.05	2.736
300	3	3	0.786	0.0012	0.785	0.787	7.899	7.889	7.911	7.90	0.02	2.913
300	4b	4b	1.979	0.1623	1.817	2.142	3.779	3.585	4.009	3.78	0.31	2.913
180	3/4b 1:1	4b	0.0600	0.01045	0.0495	0.0704	7.206	6.268	8.561	7.21	1.62	0.200
180	3/4b 1:1	3	0.0463	0.00063	0.0456	0.0469	9.113	9.000	9.230	9.11	0.17	0.200
300	3/4c 1:1	4c	1.282	0.1762	1.106	1.458	5.098	4.615	5.744	5.10	0.81	2.836
300	3/4c 1:1	3	0.850	0.0123	0.838	0.863	7.193	7.102	7.286	7.19	0.14	2.836
300	3/4c 2:1	4c	0.679	0.0365	0.642	0.715	8.272	7.889	8.702	8.27	0.60	2.647
300	3/4c 2:1	3	0.653	0.0004	0.652	0.653	8.572	8.567	8.578	8.57	0.01	2.647
300	3/4d 1:1	4d	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.677
300	3/4d 1:1	3	0.641	0.0145	0.626	0.655	8.815	8.635	9.004	8.82	0.27	2.677
300	3/4d 2:1	4d	0.611	0.0180	0.593	0.629	9.823	9.561	10.102	9.82	0.40	2.871
300	3/4d 2:1	3	0.624	0.0272	0.597	0.651	9.639	9.263	10.049	9.64	0.58	2.871

**Table S13:** Summary of the determined diffusion coefficients and derived molecular radii for samples of **3** and **4b-d** with a 1:1 or 2:1 stoichiometry at 300 K or 180 K and for **3** or **4b** alone.

In general, an increase of the determined radii of approx. 2-3 Å was determined for samples with a 2:1 stoichiometry compared to the respective 1:1 samples, demonstrating the population of higher aggregates of the CPA•quinoline complexes.

**Table S14:** Probe signal and their respective diffusion coefficients for all measured samples. The chemical shifts in the DOSY experiments were not referenced and hence the given values can deviate from the chemical shifts in the given assignments.

	A) 3:4b; 1:1; 300 K; p16 = 1200 us						
Species	D <sub>i</sub> [m <sup>2</sup> /s] e-9						
4b	8.52	1.2880					
4b	8.18	1.0260					
3	7.72	0.8599					
4b	7.55	1.0980					
3	6.7	0.8834					

	C) CPA 3; 300 K; p16 = 1400 us						
Species $\delta(^{1}H)$ [ppm] $D_{i}$ [m <sup>2</sup> /s] e-9							
3	8.10	0.7872					
3	8.05	0.7845					
3	7.38	0.7855					
3	6.92	0.7860					
3	3.56	0.7878					

	E) 3:4b 1:1; 180 K, p16 = 5500 us						
Species	δ( <sup>1</sup> H) [ppm]	D <sub>i</sub> [m <sup>2</sup> /s] e-9					
3	7.46	0.045646					
3	7.28	0.046673					
3	7.86	0.047088					
4b	6.31	0.070417					
3	3.74	0.045661					
4b	3.40	0.049517					
TMS	0.00	0.2005					

	G) 3:4c; 2:1, 300 K; p16 = 1500 us						
Species	δ( <sup>1</sup> H) [ppm]	D <sub>i</sub> [m <sup>2</sup> /s] e-9					
4c	8.45	0.71530					
4c	7.85	0.64221					
3	7.81	0.65340					
3	7.52	0.65257					
3	6.60	0.65237					

l) 3:4d; 2:1, 300 K; p16 = 1500 us			
Species	δ( <sup>1</sup> H) [ppm]	D <sub>i</sub> [m <sup>2</sup> /s] e-9	
4d	8.67	0.63310	
4d	8.28	0.58908	
4d	8.18	0.61177	
-	7.92	0.67035	
-	7.62	0.62084	
-	7.55	0.59940	
3	6.74	0.59502	
3	3.74	0.63368	

B) 3:4b; 2:1; 300 K; p16 = 1500 us		
Species	δ( <sup>1</sup> H) [ppm]	D <sub>i</sub> [m <sup>2</sup> /s] e-9
4b	8.36	0.7092
3	7.82	0.6444
3	7.53	0.6479
3	6.58	0.6412
4b	6.35	0.6691
3	3.47	0.6433
4b	3.34	0.6571

D) Quinoline 4b; 300 K; p16 = 900 us		
Species	δ( <sup>1</sup> H) [ppm]	D <sub>i</sub> [m²/s] e-9
4b	8.08	1.934
4b	7.88	2.194
4b	7.83	1.709
4b	7.71	1.917
4b	7.51	1.963
4b	7.05	2.160

F) 3:4c; 1:1, 300 K; p16 = 1300 us		
Species	δ( <sup>1</sup> H) [ppm]	D <sub>i</sub> [m <sup>2</sup> /s] e-10
4c	8.66	1.5526
4c	8.23	1.1219
3	7.73	0.8631
4c	7.65	1.1288
3	7.50	0.8600
4c	6.78	1.3254
3	6.79	0.8452
3	3.81	0.8323

H) 3:4d; 1:1, 300 K; p16 = 1500 us		
Species	δ( <sup>1</sup> H) [ppm]	D <sub>i</sub> [m <sup>2</sup> /s] e-9
3	7.61	0.6483
3	7.51	0.6339
3	7.12	0.6652
3	6.73	0.6256
3	3.62	0.6296

Note: No signals of **4d** could be analysed due to signal overlap and too low signal intensities

# 6.8 Structural investigation in 2:1 complexes

The exchange between  $3 \cdot 4b$  and  $3 \cdot 3 \cdot 4b$  can be observed in the NOESY spectrum (see S29). Exchange peaks (marked in red) between the signal at 16.75 ppm ( $3 \cdot 4b$ ) and 15.27 ppm ( $3 \cdot 3 \cdot 4b$ ) show, that the PO<sup>-</sup>...H·N<sup>+</sup> hydrogen bond of the  $3 \cdot 3 \cdot 4b$  complex is the signal at 15.27 ppm, as the PO··H··OP hydrogen bond signal at 16.51 ppm does not show exchange signals.



**Figure S33:** Excerpt of the NOESY spectrum of a 2:1 sample of **3:4b** at 200 K and 600 MHz in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The exchange peaks between the different signals are marked in red.

# 6.9 Speciation in the <sup>31</sup>P spectrum

At a 2:1 stoichiometry of **3** and quinoline **4b**, the <sup>31</sup>P spectra shows 3 dominant signals, two of them with severe line broadening (see figure below). We assume, that the signal marked in red corresponds to the phosphorus nucleus in the monomeric complex, while the two signals marked in green correspond to the two chemically different phosphorus nuclei in the dimeric complex. We assume, that the more highfield shifted signal at 0.1 ppm corresponds to the phosphorus nucleus which forms the H-bond to the quinoline which would be in in line with studies from photoredox catalysis. In the CPA/CPA/Qu complex, the proton is stronger transferred onto Qu compared to the respective CPA/Qu complex. Therefore, the respective <sup>31</sup>P signal should be also highfield shifted.



**Figure S 34:** <sup>31</sup>P spectra of samples with **3** and **4b** at a 1:1 (bottom) or 2:1 (top) stoichiometry at 180 K and 600 MHz in  $CD_2Cl_2$ . At a 1:1 stoichiometry, only one signal is observed, corresponding to the monomeric CPA/Qu complex. At a 2:1 stoichiometry, additionally 2 broad signals (marked in green) are observed, which are assumed to correspond to the CPA/CPA/Qu complex.
## 7. DFT-investigations

### 7.1. Computational details

The GFN-xTB method<sup>[18]</sup> as implemented in the xtb program<sup>[19]</sup> is used for initial structure optimization and conformational searching in toluene employing the GBSA solvation model<sup>[20]</sup>. The TURBOMOLE V7.0 suite of programs<sup>[21]</sup> was used for all DFT calculations. All structures are fully optimized at the TPSS-D3/def2-SVP + DCOSMO-RS (toluene) level of theory, which combines the TPSS meta-GGA density functional<sup>[22]</sup> with the BJ-damped D3 dispersion correction<sup>[23,24]</sup> and the def2-SVP basis set<sup>[25,26]</sup>, together with the DCOSMO-RS (for toluene solvent  $\varepsilon_r$ =2.38, R<sub>sol</sub>= 3.48 Å) solvation model<sup>[27,28]</sup>. The density-fitting RI-J approach<sup>[29,30]</sup> is used to accelerate the geometry optimization and harmonic frequency calculations. Vibrational frequency analysis is used to identify the nature of located stationary points and to provide thermal and free-energy corrections according to the modified ideal gas-rigid rotor-harmonic oscillator model.<sup>[31]</sup> The structures are characterized as true minima (with no imaginary frequency) or transition states (with only one imaginary frequency). Improved free energies in toluene and in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution are obtained from the sum of TPSS-D3/def2-QZVP single-point energies,<sup>[32]</sup> COSMO-RS<sup>[33-35]</sup> solvation free energies (for toluene using the BP\_TZVP\_C30\_1301.ctd parameter and for CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> using the BP\_TZVP\_C30\_1601.ctd parameter with the Gsolv=molar option) and TPSS-D3/def2-SVP thermal corrections at 298.15 K related to ideal gas under 1 atm (i.e., 0.04 mol/L). In our discussion, the final TPSS-D3/def2-QZVP + COSMO-RS free energies (in kcal/mol) are used unless specified otherwise.

### 7.2 Computational results

# Energetic profiles for the formation of catalyst-substrate aggregates in toluene vs. dichloromethane

In toluene solution, the double O<sup>...</sup>HO H-bonded dimer ssh2 is 4.8 kcal/mol more stable than two separated sh monomers. When a base Q is also present in solution, one H-bond of ssh2 may break to form the transient singly H-bonded ssh2\*, which is 14.2 kcal/mol less stable but more reactive toward base Q to rapidly form the contact ion pair ssh<sup>-</sup>Qh<sup>+</sup> in a -20.3 kcal/mol exergonic step. ssh<sup>-</sup>Qh<sup>+</sup> is 1.9 kcal/mol more stable than separated Sh + S<sup>-</sup>Qh<sup>+</sup>.

The present experimental NMR investigations are done in  $CD_2Cl_2$  rather than in toluene. Test DFT calculations show that there is no big effect on the reaction mechanism analysis. In  $CD_2Cl_2$  the double O...HO H-bonded dimer **ssh2** is 5.2 and 13.2 kcal/mol more stable than two separated **sh** monomers and the singly H-bonded structure **ssh2\***, respectively. **ssh2\*** may react with **Q** in a -22.4 kcal/mol exergonic step to form the contact ion pair  $ssh^-Qh^+$ , which is 2.9 kcal/mol more stable than  $Sh + S^-Qh^+$ . The reaction sequences remain qualitatively the same.

#### Expected stereoselectivities in toluene vs. dichloromethane

With regard to the activation barriers of the competing monomeric and dimeric pathways, we found that in toluene, the rate-limiting barriers for the monomeric ( $s^Qh^+$  to  $shQh2_ts$ ) and dimeric ( $ssh^Qh^+$  to  $ssh2^*$ ) pathways are 19.8 and 22.2 kcal/mol, respectively, with the monomeric pathway being kinetically 2.4 kcal/mol more favorable. The stereoselectivity of the monomeric pathway is very low (1.0 kcal/mol stereoselectivity for the (*R*)-product), so that the absolute stereoselectivity of the monomeric pathway is difficult to predict based on the DFT work. Indeed, we find a slight preference for the (*S*)-product experimentally. In contrast, the dimeric pathway shows a high (*R*)-selectivity of the reaction. Indeed, we find a strong (*R*)-selectivity at high catalyst concentrations.

In dichloromethane, the rate-limiting barriers for the monomeric (s-Qh+ to shQh2\_ts) and dimeric (ssh-Qh+ to ssh2\*) pathways are 20.2 and 24.5 kcal/mol, respectively, with the monomeric pathway being kinetically 4.3 kcal/mol more favorable. Once again, the stereoselectivity of the monomeric pathway is very low (0.8 kcal/mol (R)-selectivity predicted). In dichloromethane, the dimeric pathway is also significantly more stereoselective, but its stereoselectivity (3.3 kcal/mol (R)-selectivity) is lower than in toluene (3.9 kcal/mol (R)-selectivity, vide supra). Thus, the dimeric pathway is kinetically even more disfavoured than in toluene and is less stereoselective, so that significantly lower stereoselectivities are expected in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution, consistent with experiment.

# 8. Appendix A: Synthesis

# 8.1. NMR-spectra











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Figure S39: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of (S)-12a (298 K, 600 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-chloroform).





140 120 100 80 60 40 20 0 -20 -40 -60 -80 -100 -120 -140 Figure S41: <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectrum of (S)-12a (298 K, 243 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-chloroform).



Figure S42: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of (*S*,*S*)-13a (298 K, 600 MHz, [D<sub>6</sub>]-benzene).







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Figure S47: <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectrum of (S)-2a (298 K, 243 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-chloroform).



**Figure S48:** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of (*S*,*S*)-1a (298 K, 600 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-chloroform).



160 150 Figure S49: <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of (S,S)-1a (298 K, 150 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-chloroform).



Figure S50: <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectrum of (S)-2a (298 K, 243 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-chloroform).







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4.0 2.5 8.5 . 7.0 6.0 5.0 4.5 3.5 . 3.0 2.0 1.5 0.5 8.0 7.5 6.5 5.5 1.0 0.0 Figure S53: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of (S)-11c (298 K, 600 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-chloroform).





Figure S56: <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of (S)-12c (298 K, 150 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-chloroform).



Figure S57: <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectrum of (S)-12c (298 K, 243 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-chloroform).



5.5 4.0 3.5 0.5 .0 8.5 8.0 7.5 7.0 6.5 6.0 5.0 4.5 3.0 2.5 2.0 1.5 1.0 0.0 -0 Figure S58: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of (*S*,*S*)-13c (298 K, 600 MHz, [D<sub>6</sub>]-benzene).



140 130 120 Figure S59: <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of (S,S)-13c (298 K, 150 MHz, [D<sub>6</sub>]-benzene).







**Figure S64:** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of (*S*,*S*)-1c (298 K, 600 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-chloroform).



Figure S65: <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of (*S*,*S*)-1c (298 K, 150 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-chloroform).



Figure S66: <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectrum of (*S*,*S*)-1c (298 K, 243 MHz, [D<sub>1</sub>]-chloroform).

#### 8.2. MS/MS-spectra



Figure S67: ESI-positive HCD-MS/MS spectrum of catenane 1a (m/z = 2072.7952 @ 50 eV; range: m/z = 500-2500



**Figure S68:** ESI-positive HCD-MS/MS spectrum of catenane 1-a ( $m/z = 2072.7952 \otimes 50 \text{ eV}$ ). Zoom into region containing the intact macrocycle (m/z = 1047.3908) and the fragmented macrocycle (m/z = 995.3595)



Figure S69: ESI-positive HCD-MS/MS spectrum of catenane 1-c (m/z = 2425.0049 @ 50 eV; range: m/z = 500-2500).



**Figure S70:** ESI-positive HCD-MS/MS spectrum of catenane **1-a** ( $m/z = 2072.7952 \otimes 50 \text{ eV}$ ). Zoom into region containing the intact macrocycle (m/z = 1223.4957) and the fragmented macrocycle (m/z = 1171.4644).

# 9. Appendix B: Kinetic investigations

### 9.1. Concentration vs. time data for catenanes 1a/b/c



**Figure S71:** a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Positive slope because of too less [7]<sub>0</sub>. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}$ ,  $[7]_0 = 3.87 \text{ mM}$ , 1c = 9.68 mol%.

Table S15: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 1c (9.68 mol%) as catalyst.

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]_0))/([4]_0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.167	1.232	1.436	-0.048
0.209	1.285	1.387	-0.041
0.251	1.255	1.342	-0.045
0.294	1.218	1.299	-0.050
0.336	1.202	1.259	-0.053
0.378	1.190	1.221	-0.055
0.421	1.118	1.185	-0.067
0.463	1.133	1.150	-0.064
0.506	1.096	1.118	-0.071
0.548	1.092	1.087	-0.072
0.590	1.085	1.058	-0.073
0.749	0.993	0.959	-0.091
0.908	0.925	0.876	-0.107
1.067	0.837	0.805	-0.131
1.226	0.786	0.743	-0.147
1.385	0.717	0.689	-0.172
1.544	0.655	0.641	-0.198
1.703	0.648	0.599	-0.201
1.863	0.615	0.561	-0.217
2.022	0.563	0.527	-0.245
2.514	0.482	0.441	-0.299



**Figure S72: a)** Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. **b)** Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Positive slope because of too less  $[7]_0$ . Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66$  mM,  $[7]_0 = 4.32$  mM, 1c = 11.79 mol%.

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]_0))/([4]_0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.042	1.585	1.612	-0.011
0.090	1.545	1.559	-0.017
0.138	1.465	1.510	-0.030
0.185	1.433	1.463	-0.036
0.233	1.396	1.419	-0.043
0.281	1.355	1.377	-0.051
0.329	1.329	1.337	-0.056
0.377	1.295	1.299	-0.063
0.425	1.266	1.263	-0.070
0.473	1.227	1.228	-0.079
0.521	1.199	1.195	-0.085
0.569	1.080	1.164	-0.117
0.733	1.003	1.066	-0.141
0.898	0.932	0.981	-0.166
1.063	0.891	0.907	-0.182
1.227	0.846	0.842	-0.201
1.392	0.780	0.784	-0.232
1.556	0.750	0.732	-0.248
1.721	0.707	0.685	-0.272
1.885	0.687	0.643	-0.284
2.383	0.579	0.538	-0.359
2.881	0.519	0.456	-0.412
3.379	0.464	0.392	-0.468

Table S16: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 1c (11.79 mol%) as catalyst.



**Figure S73: a)** Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. **b)** Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Positive slope because of too less  $[7]_0$ . Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66$  mM,  $[7]_0 = 4.08$  mM, 1c = 9.53 mol%.

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.050	1.614	1.624	-0.005
0.098	1.578	1.590	-0.010
0.146	1.538	1.558	-0.015
0.194	1.504	1.527	-0.019
0.242	1.475	1.497	-0.023
0.290	1.438	1.468	-0.028
0.338	1.420	1.440	-0.031
0.385	1.385	1.413	-0.036
0.433	1.352	1.387	-0.042
0.481	1.313	1.362	-0.048
0.529	1.308	1.338	-0.049
0.694	1.230	1.259	-0.063
0.858	1.166	1.189	-0.076
1.023	1.112	1.125	-0.088
1.188	1.040	1.067	-0.105
1.352	1.001	1.014	-0.115
1.517	0.958	0.965	-0.128
1.681	0.918	0.920	-0.140
1.846	0.886	0.879	-0.150
2.010	0.839	0.841	-0.167
2.508	0.758	0.740	-0.200
3.006	0.678	0.658	-0.238
3.504	0.621	0.590	-0.271
4.002	0.563	0.533	-0.309
4.500	0.540	0.484	-0.326
4.998	0.505	0.442	-0.355

Table S17: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 1c (9.53 mol%) as catalyst.

## 9.2. Concentration vs. time data for catenane 1c

### 9.2.1. Substrate orders



**Figure S74: a)** Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. **b)** Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Positive slope because of too less [7]<sub>0</sub>. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66$  mM,  $[7]_0 = 3.18$  mM, 1c = 4.12 mol%.

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.144	1.582	1.610	0.002
0.470	1.513	1.508	0.004
0.802	1.426	1.417	0.007
1.135	1.314	1.336	0.012
1.473	1.277	1.264	0.014
1.802	1.222	1.200	0.016
2.136	1.112	1.142	0.022
2.470	1.089	1.090	0.024
2.802	1.046	1.042	0.027
3.136	0.987	0.998	0.031
3.468	0.956	0.959	0.034
3.805	0.908	0.922	0.038
4.137	0.886	0.888	0.040
4.466	0.840	0.857	0.045
4.800	0.818	0.827	0.047
5.134	0.798	0.800	0.050
5.469	0.791	0.775	0.051
5.804	0.745	0.751	0.057
6.136	0.734	0.729	0.058
6.468	0.704	0.708	0.063
6.801	0.681	0.688	0.067

7.134	0.685	0.670	0.066
7.468	0.642	0.652	0.074
7.801	0.655	0.636	0.071
8.134	0.622	0.620	0.078
8.469	0.630	0.605	0.076
8.801	0.604	0.591	0.082
9.134	0.551	0.577	0.095
9.470	0.574	0.564	0.089
9.803	0.572	0.552	0.089
10.134	0.537	0.540	0.099

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Figure S75: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.26 \text{ mM}$ ,  $[7]_0 = 3.22 \text{ mM}$ , 1c = 5.93 mol%.

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.260	1.260	0.000
0.094	1.227	1.233	-0.006
0.427	1.121	1.146	-0.027
0.760	1.047	1.070	-0.043
1.094	0.997	1.002	-0.056
1.427	0.922	0.941	-0.077
1.760	0.890	0.886	-0.087
2.094	0.846	0.836	-0.101
2.427	0.804	0.791	-0.117
2.760	0.741	0.750	-0.142
3.094	0.708	0.713	-0.157
3.427	0.679	0.678	-0.171
3.760	0.638	0.646	-0.193
4.094	0.617	0.617	-0.204
4.427	0.599	0.590	-0.215
4.760	0.547	0.564	-0.250
5.094	0.526	0.540	-0.266
5.427	0.491	0.518	-0.294
5.760	0.501	0.498	-0.285
6.094	0.484	0.478	-0.299
6.427	0.476	0.460	-0.307
6.760	0.463	0.443	-0.319
7.094	0.405	0.427	-0.378
7.427	0.406	0.411	-0.377
7.760	0.406	0.397	-0.377
8.094	0.383	0.383	-0.405
0.000	1.260	1.260	0.000
0.094	1.227	1.233	-0.006

Table S19: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 1c (5.93 mol%) as catalyst.

0.427	1.121	1.146	-0.027
0.760	1.047	1.070	-0.043
1.094	0.997	1.002	-0.056
1.427	0.922	0.941	-0.077



Figure S76: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 0.84 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 3.40 \text{ mM}, 1c = 9.50 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]^*[7]0))/([4]0^*(2^*[4]+c)))$
(s)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	0.840	0.840	0.000
0.127	0.799	0.815	-0.025
0.461	0.798	0.755	-0.026
0.794	0.725	0.702	-0.077
1.127	0.655	0.653	-0.133
1.461	0.632	0.609	-0.154
1.794	0.581	0.570	-0.203
2.127	0.540	0.534	-0.247
2.461	0.509	0.501	-0.284
2.794	0.477	0.470	-0.325
3.127	0.457	0.442	-0.353
3.461	0.428	0.417	-0.397
3.794	0.384	0.393	-0.470
4.127	0.378	0.371	-0.482
4.461	0.359	0.350	-0.516
4.794	0.340	0.331	-0.556
5.127	0.276	0.314	-0.709
5.461	0.297	0.297	-0.655
5.794	0.279	0.282	-0.700
6.127	0.282	0.267	-0.693
6.461	0.232	0.254	-0.842

Table S20: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 1c (9.50 mol%) as catalyst.



**Figure S77: a)** Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. **b)** Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 0.63 \text{ mM}$ ,  $[7]_0 = 3.17 \text{ mM}$ , 1c = 11.93 mol%.

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]^*[7]0))/([4]0^*(2^*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	0.630	0.630	0.000
0.091	0.579	0.616	-0.052
0.424	0.536	0.567	-0.100
0.758	0.494	0.524	-0.154
1.091	0.473	0.485	-0.182
1.424	0.429	0.450	-0.249
1.758	0.405	0.418	-0.289
2.091	0.404	0.389	-0.290
2.424	0.362	0.362	-0.369
2.758	0.320	0.338	-0.459
3.091	0.301	0.316	-0.506
3.424	0.297	0.295	-0.516
3.758	0.253	0.276	-0.641
4.091	0.251	0.259	-0.648
4.424	0.243	0.243	-0.671
4.758	0.239	0.228	-0.686
5.091	0.174	0.214	-0.949

Table S21:Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 1c (11.93 mol%) as catalyst.



**Figure S78: a)** Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. **b)** Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 0.83 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 3.94 \text{ mM}, 1c = 4.33 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	0.830	0.830	0.000
0.456	0.816	0.758	-0.010
0.789	0.760	0.710	-0.052
1.122	0.698	0.667	-0.104
1.456	0.653	0.627	-0.146
1.789	0.611	0.590	-0.189
2.122	0.569	0.556	-0.235
2.456	0.540	0.525	-0.271
2.789	0.496	0.496	-0.329
3.122	0.474	0.469	-0.361
3.456	0.433	0.443	-0.426
3.789	0.420	0.420	-0.449
4.122	0.395	0.398	-0.493
4.456	0.373	0.378	-0.535
4.789	0.356	0.358	-0.570
5.122	0.332	0.340	-0.624
5.456	0.316	0.324	-0.664
5.789	0.302	0.308	-0.698
6.122	0.292	0.293	-0.725
6.456	0.270	0.279	-0.787
6.789	0.257	0.265	-0.829
7.122	0.253	0.253	-0.843

Table S22: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 1c (4.33 mol%) as catalyst.



Figure S79: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 0.83 \text{ mM}$ ,  $[7]_0 = 3.34 \text{ mM}$ , 1c = 4.32 mol%.

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	0.830	0.830	0.000
0.389	0.835	0.775	0.003
0.722	0.760	0.732	-0.045
1.056	0.717	0.692	-0.076
1.389	0.673	0.655	-0.111
1.722	0.635	0.621	-0.144
2.056	0.601	0.590	-0.175
2.389	0.572	0.561	-0.205
2.722	0.529	0.533	-0.252
3.056	0.508	0.508	-0.277
3.389	0.486	0.484	-0.305
3.722	0.454	0.462	-0.348
4.056	0.434	0.441	-0.378
4.389	0.417	0.421	-0.404
4.722	0.397	0.402	-0.437
5.056	0.381	0.385	-0.465
5.389	0.361	0.369	-0.503
5.722	0.349	0.353	-0.527
6.056	0.335	0.338	-0.555
6.389	0.322	0.324	-0.583
6.722	0.308	0.311	-0.616
7.056	0.293	0.298	-0.653
7.389	0.282	0.287	-0.682
7.722	0.269	0.275	-0.717
8.056	0.261	0.264	-0.741
8.389	0.261	0.254	-0.742
8.722	0.237	0.244	-0.815

 Table S23: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 1c (4.32 mol%) as catalyst.



**Figure S80: a)** Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. **b)** Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 0.83 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 2.63 \text{ mM}, 1c = 4.37 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Time	[4]	Nonlinear Fit	ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	0.830	0.830	0.000
0.333	0.790	0.822	-0.004
0.667	0.753	0.778	-0.024
1.000	0.719	0.739	-0.045
1.333	0.687	0.700	-0.066
1.667	0.657	0.665	-0.087
2.000	0.629	0.639	-0.104
2.333	0.603	0.606	-0.127
2.667	0.579	0.579	-0.148
3.000	0.556	0.557	-0.166
3.333	0.535	0.531	-0.189
3.667	0.514	0.517	-0.202
4.000	0.495	0.495	-0.222
4.333	0.477	0.475	-0.243
4.667	0.460	0.456	-0.264
5.000	0.444	0.442	-0.280
5.333	0.429	0.420	-0.307
5.667	0.414	0.402	-0.331
6.000	0.400	0.403	-0.330
6.333	0.387	0.387	-0.352
6.667	0.374	0.370	-0.377
7.000	0.362	0.361	-0.391
7.333	0.351	0.345	-0.418
7.667	0.340	0.340	-0.426
8.000	0.329	0.328	-0.447
8.333	0.319	0.318	-0.465
8.667	0.310	0.307	-0.488

Table S24: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 1c (4.37 mol%) as catalyst.

9.3330.2920.297-0.5089.6670.2830.284-0.53610.0000.2750.276-0.554	9.000	0.301	0.302	-0.497
9.6670.2830.284-0.53610.0000.2750.276-0.554	9.333	0.292	0.297	-0.508
10.000 0.275 0.276 -0.554	9.667	0.283	0.284	-0.536
	10.000	0.275	0.276	-0.554



Figure S81: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 0.83 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 1.98 \text{ mM}, 1c = 4.26 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	0.830	0.830	0.000
0.767	0.786	0.755	-0.009
1.100	0.748	0.727	-0.018
1.433	0.733	0.700	-0.021
1.767	0.683	0.675	-0.034
2.100	0.659	0.651	-0.041
2.433	0.644	0.629	-0.046
2.767	0.606	0.608	-0.058
3.100	0.588	0.589	-0.064
3.433	0.567	0.570	-0.072
3.767	0.555	0.553	-0.077
4.100	0.534	0.536	-0.086
4.433	0.520	0.521	-0.092
4.767	0.504	0.506	-0.099
5.100	0.483	0.492	-0.110
5.433	0.476	0.478	-0.113
5.767	0.463	0.465	-0.120
6.100	0.452	0.453	-0.126
6.433	0.440	0.442	-0.134
6.767	0.425	0.430	-0.143
7.100	0.418	0.420	-0.148
7.433	0.405	0.409	-0.156
7.767	0.393	0.400	-0.165
8.100	0.390	0.390	-0.167
8.433	0.382	0.381	-0.173

 Table S25: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 1c (4.26 mol%) as catalyst.

8.767	0.366	0.372	-0.186
9.100	0.369	0.364	-0.184
9.433	0.352	0.356	-0.198
9.767	0.341	0.348	-0.208
10.100	0.343	0.341	-0.206



Figure S82: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 4.05 \text{ mM}, 1c = 3.98 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Time	[4]	Nonlinear Fft	ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.050	1.667	1.644	0.001
0.098	1.626	1.629	-0.004
0.146	1.608	1.614	-0.006
0.194	1.606	1.600	-0.006
0.242	1.574	1.585	-0.010
0.290	1.568	1.571	-0.010
0.338	1.545	1.557	-0.013
0.385	1.540	1.544	-0.014
0.433	1.511	1.530	-0.018
0.481	1.498	1.517	-0.019
0.529	1.486	1.504	-0.021
0.694	1.430	1.461	-0.028
0.858	1.379	1.420	-0.036
1.023	1.331	1.381	-0.043
1.188	1.289	1.344	-0.050
1.352	1.265	1.309	-0.055
1.517	1.236	1.275	-0.060
1.681	1.207	1.243	-0.065
1.846	1.157	1.212	-0.075
2.010	1.136	1.182	-0.080
2.508	1.059	1.100	-0.097
3.006	0.998	1.028	-0.112
3.504	0.933	0.963	-0.131
4.002	0.890	0.906	-0.145
4.500	0.838	0.853	-0.162

 Table S26: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 1c (3.98 mol%) as catalyst.
4.998	0.825	0.806	-0.167
5.496	0.778	0.763	-0.185
5.994	0.721	0.724	-0.210
6.492	0.720	0.688	-0.211
6.990	0.687	0.655	-0.227
7.488	0.655	0.624	-0.244
7.985	0.630	0.596	-0.257
8.483	0.630	0.570	-0.257
8.981	0.612	0.545	-0.268
9.479	0.582	0.522	-0.287
9.977	0.580	0.501	-0.289



**Figure S83: a)** Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. **b)** Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 4.08 \text{ mM}, 1c = 9.53 \text{ mol}\%$ .

-	Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
	(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
	0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
	0.050	1.614	1.624	-0.005
	0.098	1.578	1.590	-0.010
	0.146	1.538	1.558	-0.015
	0.194	1.504	1.527	-0.019
	0.242	1.475	1.497	-0.023
	0.290	1.438	1.468	-0.028
	0.338	1.420	1.440	-0.031
	0.385	1.385	1.413	-0.036
	0.433	1.352	1.387	-0.042
	0.481	1.313	1.362	-0.048
	0.529	1.308	1.338	-0.049
	0.694	1.230	1.259	-0.063
	0.858	1.166	1.189	-0.076
	1.023	1.112	1.125	-0.088
	1.188	1.040	1.067	-0.105
	1.352	1.001	1.014	-0.115
	1.517	0.958	0.965	-0.128
	1.681	0.918	0.920	-0.140
	1.846	0.886	0.879	-0.150
	2.010	0.839	0.841	-0.167
	2.508	0.758	0.740	-0.200
	3.006	0.678	0.658	-0.238
	3.504	0.621	0.590	-0.271
	4.002	0.563	0.533	-0.309
	4.500	0.540	0.484	-0.326
	4.998	0.505	0.442	-0.355

Table S27: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 1c (9.53 mol%) as catalyst.



Figure S84: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 4.21 \text{ mM}, 1c = 15.13 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.050	1.603	1.618	-0.007
0.098	1.558	1.580	-0.014
0.146	1.527	1.543	-0.018
0.194	1.457	1.508	-0.029
0.242	1.435	1.474	-0.033
0.290	1.389	1.441	-0.040
0.338	1.350	1.410	-0.047
0.385	1.312	1.380	-0.055
0.433	1.280	1.351	-0.061
0.481	1.280	1.323	-0.061
0.529	1.205	1.296	-0.077
0.694	1.116	1.210	-0.098
0.858	1.058	1.134	-0.114
1.023	1.011	1.065	-0.127
1.188	0.926	1.004	-0.155
1.352	0.903	0.948	-0.163
1.517	0.849	0.897	-0.184
1.681	0.801	0.851	-0.204
1.846	0.746	0.808	-0.230
2.010	0.753	0.769	-0.227
2.508	0.658	0.667	-0.279
3.006	0.582	0.586	-0.330
3.504	0.534	0.519	-0.369
4.002	0.486	0.463	-0.412

 Table S28: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 1c (15.13 mol%) as catalyst.



**Figure S85: a)** Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. **b)** Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 3.62 \text{ mM}, 1c = 21.19 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.050	1.597	1.601	-0.003
0.098	1.525	1.547	-0.007
0.146	1.457	1.497	-0.011
0.194	1.422	1.450	-0.014
0.242	1.378	1.406	-0.017
0.290	1.332	1.364	-0.020
0.338	1.281	1.325	-0.024
0.385	1.244	1.287	-0.027
0.433	1.213	1.252	-0.030
0.481	1.163	1.218	-0.035
0.529	1.158	1.186	-0.035
0.694	1.029	1.088	-0.049
0.858	0.972	1.004	-0.057
1.023	0.915	0.931	-0.065
1.188	0.827	0.867	-0.080
1.352	0.800	0.811	-0.085
1.517	0.766	0.762	-0.092
1.681	0.769	0.717	-0.091
1.846	0.683	0.677	-0.112
2.344	0.662	0.578	-0.117
2.842	0.580	0.502	-0.143
3.340	0.533	0.443	-0.161
3.838	0.495	0.394	-0.177
	Time (h) 0.000 0.050 0.098 0.146 0.194 0.242 0.290 0.338 0.433 1.188 1.352 1.517 1.681 1.846 2.344 2.842 3.340 3.838	Time[4](h)(mM)0.0001.6600.0501.5970.0981.5250.1461.4570.1941.4220.2421.3780.2901.3320.3381.2810.3851.2440.4331.2130.4811.1630.5291.1580.6941.0290.8580.9721.0230.9151.1880.8271.3520.8001.5170.7661.6810.7691.8460.6832.3440.6622.8420.5803.3400.5333.8380.495	Time[4]Nonlinear fit(h) $(mM)$ $(mM)$ 0.0001.6601.6600.0501.5971.6010.0981.5251.5470.1461.4571.4970.1941.4221.4500.2421.3781.4060.2901.3321.3640.3381.2811.3250.3851.2441.2870.4331.2131.2520.4811.1631.2180.5291.1581.1860.6941.0291.0880.8580.9721.0041.0230.9150.9311.1880.8270.8671.3520.8000.8111.5170.7660.7621.6810.7690.7171.8460.6830.6772.3440.6620.5782.8420.5800.5023.3400.5330.4433.8380.4950.394

Table S29: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 1c (21.19 mol%) as catalyst.



**Figure S86: a)** Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. **b)** Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 4.13 \text{ mM}, 1c = 34.65 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.050	1.554	1.563	-0.013
0.098	1.463	1.479	-0.026
0.146	1.395	1.402	-0.037
0.194	1.327	1.333	-0.048
0.242	1.248	1.269	-0.063
0.290	1.201	1.210	-0.073
0.338	1.153	1.156	-0.083
0.385	1.079	1.106	-0.101
0.433	1.038	1.060	-0.112
0.481	0.988	1.017	-0.126
0.529	0.943	0.977	-0.139
0.694	0.841	0.857	-0.175
0.858	0.743	0.761	-0.217
1.023	0.680	0.681	-0.250
1.188	0.618	0.614	-0.287
1.352	0.567	0.556	-0.321
1.517	0.575	0.507	-0.316
1.681	0.506	0.465	-0.371

Table S30: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 1c (34.65 mol%) as catalyst.



**Figure S87: a)** Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. **b)** Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}$ ,  $[7]_0 = 4.29 \text{ mM}$ , 1c = 45.06 mol%.

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]^*[7]0))/([4]0^*(2^*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.050	1.501	1.526	-0.024
0.098	1.377	1.415	-0.045
0.146	1.287	1.317	-0.063
0.194	1.195	1.231	-0.084
0.242	1.131	1.153	-0.100
0.290	1.063	1.084	-0.119
0.338	1.013	1.021	-0.135
0.385	0.960	0.964	-0.152
0.433	0.913	0.913	-0.169
0.481	0.866	0.865	-0.188
0.529	0.833	0.822	-0.202
0.694	0.696	0.697	-0.272
0.858	0.634	0.600	-0.311
1.023	0.555	0.522	-0.371
1.188	0.504	0.459	-0.417

Table S31: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 1c (45.06 mol%) as catalyst.



**Figure S88: a)** Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. **b)** Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.26 \text{ mM}$ ,  $[7]_0 = 3.12 \text{ mM}$ ,  $[8]_0 = 0.90 \text{ mM}$ , 1c = 9.33 mol%.

Table S32: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 1c (9.33 mol%) as catalyst.

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.333	1.601	1.504	-0.006
0.667	1.394	1.374	-0.032
1.000	1.237	1.262	-0.056
1.333	1.121	1.165	-0.078
1.667	1.025	1.081	-0.100
2.000	0.958	1.007	-0.117
2.333	0.927	0.942	-0.126
2.667	0.836	0.883	-0.155
3.000	0.801	0.831	-0.167
3.333	0.765	0.783	-0.181
3.667	0.740	0.740	-0.192
4.000	0.691	0.701	-0.213
4.333	0.658	0.665	-0.230
4.667	0.629	0.632	-0.246
5.000	0.631	0.602	-0.245
5.333	0.597	0.574	-0.264
5.667	0.588	0.548	-0.270
6.000	0.554	0.524	-0.292
6.333	0.543	0.502	-0.300
6.667	0.530	0.481	-0.309
7.000	0.505	0.461	-0.328

## 9.3. Concentration vs. time data for macrocycle 2c

## **9.3.1.** Substrate orders



**Figure S89: a)** Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. **b)** Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 4.00 \text{ mM}, 2c = 4.62 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Table S33: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 2c (4.62 mol%) as catalyst.

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.083	1.583	1.593	-0.008
0.417	1.347	1.369	-0.039
0.750	1.175	1.196	-0.068
1.083	1.046	1.058	-0.095
1.417	0.933	0.946	-0.125
1.750	0.850	0.853	-0.150
2.083	0.764	0.775	-0.182
2.417	0.698	0.708	-0.211
2.750	0.647	0.650	-0.236
3.083	0.608	0.600	-0.258
3.417	0.571	0.556	-0.281
3.750	0.534	0.516	-0.307
4.083	0.501	0.481	-0.333



Figure S90: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.26 \text{ mM}$ ,  $[7]_0 = 3.24 \text{ mM}$ , 2c = 6.23 mol%.

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.260	1.260	0.000
0.083	1.213	1.219	-0.009
0.417	1.059	1.078	-0.041
0.750	0.943	0.963	-0.072
1.083	0.852	0.867	-0.101
1.417	0.773	0.787	-0.131
1.750	0.699	0.718	-0.163
2.083	0.629	0.659	-0.201
2.417	0.614	0.608	-0.209
2.750	0.567	0.563	-0.240
3.083	0.526	0.522	-0.269
3.417	0.493	0.487	-0.296
3.750	0.466	0.455	-0.320
4.083	0.444	0.426	-0.341
4.417	0.406	0.400	-0.382
4.750	0.393	0.376	-0.397
5.083	0.381	0.354	-0.412

Table S34: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 2c (6.23 mol%) as catalyst.



Figure S91: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.26 \text{ mM}$ ,  $[7]_0 = 4.02 \text{ mM}$ , 2c = 6.21 mol%.

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.260	1.260	0.000
0.083	1.209	1.213	-0.016
0.417	1.033	1.051	-0.079
0.750	0.906	0.920	-0.136
1.083	0.801	0.813	-0.194
1.417	0.721	0.724	-0.246
1.750	0.648	0.649	-0.302
2.083	0.579	0.584	-0.364
2.417	0.529	0.529	-0.416
2.750	0.483	0.480	-0.470
3.083	0.446	0.438	-0.520
3.417	0.413	0.400	-0.568
3.750	0.384	0.367	-0.616

Table S35: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 2c (6.21 mol%) as catalyst.



Figure S92: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 4.02 \text{ mM}, 2c = 4.22 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Table S36: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 2c (4.22 mol%) as catalyst.

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.050	1.685	1.633	0.003
0.098	1.639	1.607	-0.002
0.146	1.605	1.582	-0.006
0.194	1.579	1.558	-0.009
0.242	1.533	1.535	-0.014
0.290	1.542	1.512	-0.013
0.338	1.485	1.490	-0.020
0.385	1.499	1.468	-0.018
0.433	1.464	1.447	-0.023
0.481	1.470	1.426	-0.022
0.529	1.445	1.406	-0.025
0.694	1.356	1.341	-0.038
0.858	1.281	1.281	-0.050
1.023	1.217	1.226	-0.061
1.188	1.160	1.175	-0.072
1.352	1.159	1.128	-0.072
1.517	1.073	1.083	-0.091
1.681	1.027	1.042	-0.102
1.846	0.990	1.004	-0.111
2.010	0.972	0.967	-0.116
2.508	0.834	0.871	-0.159
3.006	0.790	0.789	-0.175
3.504	0.711	0.720	-0.208
4.002	0.649	0.661	-0.239

4.500	0.618	0.609	-0.257
4.998	0.555	0.563	-0.297
5.496	0.511	0.523	-0.329



**Figure S93: a)** Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. **b)** Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 4.03 \text{ mM}, 2c = 8.12 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Table S37: Conc	centration vs	. time data f	for the catalytic rea	ction using catenane <b>2c</b> (8.12 mol%) as catal	yst.
	Times	E <b>4</b> 1	Noulin con fit	$1_{m}/([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+a)))$	

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.050	1.562	1.599	-0.011
0.066	1.599	1.581	-0.007
0.082	1.536	1.563	-0.014
0.098	1.526	1.545	-0.015
0.114	1.527	1.528	-0.015
0.130	1.517	1.511	-0.016
0.146	1.510	1.494	-0.017
0.162	1.469	1.477	-0.023
0.178	1.440	1.461	-0.027
0.194	1.460	1.446	-0.024
0.210	1.451	1.430	-0.025
0.226	1.421	1.415	-0.029
0.242	1.387	1.400	-0.034
0.258	1.379	1.386	-0.035
0.274	1.366	1.371	-0.037
0.290	1.361	1.357	-0.038
0.306	1.338	1.344	-0.042
0.322	1.319	1.330	-0.045
0.338	1.282	1.317	-0.051
0.353	1.281	1.304	-0.051
0.369	1.258	1.291	-0.055
0.385	1.278	1.278	-0.051
0.401	1.265	1.266	-0.054
0.417	1.231	1.254	-0.060
0.433	1.228	1.242	-0.060

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0.449	1.211	1.230	-0.063
0.465	1.208	1.218	-0.064
0.481	1.191	1.207	-0.067
0.497	1.193	1.196	-0.067
0.513	1.172	1.185	-0.071
0.529	1.147	1.174	-0.076
0.545	1.138	1.163	-0.078
0.561	1.141	1.153	-0.077
0.577	1.139	1.142	-0.078
0.593	1.098	1.132	-0.087
0.676	1.080	1.082	-0.091
0.758	1.017	1.036	-0.106
0.841	0.976	0.993	-0.117
0.924	0.928	0.953	-0.130
1.006	0.906	0.915	-0.137
1.089	0.859	0.881	-0.153
1.172	0.860	0.848	-0.152
1.254	0.809	0.817	-0.171
1.337	0.780	0.789	-0.182
1.419	0.765	0.761	-0.188
1.502	0.748	0.736	-0.195
1.585	0.747	0.712	-0.196
1.667	0.709	0.689	-0.212
1.750	0.678	0.667	-0.228
1.833	0.658	0.646	-0.238
1.915	0.656	0.627	-0.239
1.998	0.629	0.608	-0.254
2.081	0.598	0.591	-0.273
2.163	0.585	0.574	-0.281
2.246	0.578	0.558	-0.286
2.328	0.575	0.542	-0.287
2.411	0.536	0.527	-0.315
2.494	0.528	0.513	-0.321
2.576	0.543	0.500	-0.310
2.659	0.530	0.487	-0.320
2.742	0.491	0.474	-0.351



Figure S94: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}$ ,  $[7]_0 = 3.83 \text{ mM}$ , 2c = 16.16 mol%.

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.050	1.555	1.555	-0.009
0.066	1.501	1.524	-0.014
0.082	1.495	1.494	-0.015
0.098	1.449	1.465	-0.019
0.114	1.420	1.437	-0.022
0.130	1.376	1.410	-0.027
0.146	1.368	1.384	-0.028
0.162	1.371	1.359	-0.028
0.178	1.319	1.335	-0.034
0.194	1.338	1.311	-0.032
0.210	1.252	1.288	-0.043
0.226	1.247	1.266	-0.043
0.242	1.237	1.245	-0.045
0.258	1.201	1.224	-0.050
0.274	1.185	1.204	-0.052
0.290	1.193	1.185	-0.051
0.306	1.198	1.166	-0.050
0.322	1.159	1.147	-0.056
0.338	1.135	1.129	-0.060
0.353	1.125	1.112	-0.062
0.369	1.126	1.095	-0.061
0.385	1.103	1.079	-0.065
0.401	1.090	1.063	-0.068
0.417	1.066	1.047	-0.072
0.433	1.040	1.032	-0.077

Table S38: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 2c (16.16 mol%) as catalyst.

0.449	1.013	1.017	-0.082
0.465	0.991	1.003	-0.086
0.481	0.997	0.989	-0.085
0.497	0.944	0.975	-0.097
0.513	0.974	0.962	-0.090
0.529	0.917	0.949	-0.103
0.545	0.918	0.936	-0.103
0.561	0.933	0.924	-0.099
0.577	0.933	0.912	-0.099
0.593	0.861	0.900	-0.117
0.676	0.827	0.843	-0.126
0.758	0.823	0.792	-0.127
0.841	0.737	0.746	-0.155
0.924	0.665	0.704	-0.183
1.006	0.642	0.667	-0.192
1.089	0.669	0.633	-0.181
1.172	0.599	0.601	-0.213
1.254	0.593	0.572	-0.216
1.337	0.555	0.546	-0.236
1.419	0.513	0.521	-0.262
1.502	0.507	0.499	-0.266
1.585	0.509	0.477	-0.264



Figure S95: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 4.11 \text{ mM}, 2c = 26.80 \text{ mol}\%$ .

•	Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
	(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
	0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
	0.050	1.460	1.450	-0.026
	0.066	1.410	1.393	-0.033
	0.082	1.360	1.340	-0.041
	0.098	1.301	1.290	-0.052
	0.114	1.265	1.243	-0.058
	0.130	1.183	1.200	-0.075
	0.146	1.154	1.159	-0.081
	0.162	1.106	1.120	-0.092
	0.178	1.078	1.083	-0.099
	0.194	1.058	1.049	-0.104
	0.210	1.027	1.016	-0.112
	0.226	1.009	0.985	-0.117
	0.242	0.921	0.956	-0.144
	0.258	0.944	0.928	-0.136
	0.274	0.903	0.901	-0.149
	0.290	0.877	0.876	-0.158
	0.306	0.859	0.852	-0.165
	0.322	0.814	0.829	-0.182
	0.338	0.796	0.807	-0.189
	0.353	0.806	0.786	-0.185
	0.369	0.776	0.766	-0.198
	0.385	0.752	0.747	-0.209
	0.401	0.713	0.728	-0.227
	0.417	0.701	0.710	-0.233
	0.433	0.688	0.693	-0.240
	0.449	0.665	0.677	-0.252

Table S39: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 2c (26.80 mol%) as catalyst.

0.465	0.650	0.661	-0.261
0.481	0.657	0.646	-0.257
0.497	0.625	0.631	-0.276
0.513	0.622	0.617	-0.278
0.529	0.605	0.604	-0.289
0.545	0.576	0.591	-0.309
0.561	0.584	0.578	-0.303
0.577	0.556	0.566	-0.323
0.593	0.555	0.554	-0.324
0.676	0.502	0.498	-0.367

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Figure S96: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 4.05 \text{ mM}, 2c = 32.02 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.016	1.535	1.593	-0.015
0.032	1.470	1.531	-0.023
0.048	1.420	1.473	-0.030
0.064	1.363	1.419	-0.039
0.080	1.361	1.369	-0.039
0.096	1.295	1.321	-0.050
0.112	1.272	1.277	-0.054
0.128	1.233	1.235	-0.061
0.144	1.195	1.195	-0.068
0.160	1.158	1.158	-0.075
0.176	1.126	1.122	-0.082
0.308	0.875	0.888	-0.150
0.441	0.746	0.727	-0.200
0.574	0.636	0.609	-0.256
0.706	0.548	0.520	-0.313
0.839	0.486	0.449	-0.362

Table S40: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 2c (32.02 mol%) as catalyst.



Figure S97: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}$ ,  $[7]_0 = 4.13 \text{ mM}$ , 2c = 36.68 mol%.

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.050	1.484	1.445	-0.023
0.066	1.436	1.386	-0.030
0.082	1.390	1.332	-0.037
0.098	1.299	1.281	-0.053
0.114	1.221	1.233	-0.068
0.130	1.333	1.189	-0.047
0.146	1.115	1.147	-0.092
0.162	1.043	1.108	-0.110
0.178	1.018	1.071	-0.117
0.194	1.019	1.036	-0.117
0.210	0.974	1.003	-0.130
0.226	1.034	0.971	-0.112
0.242	0.983	0.942	-0.127
0.258	0.938	0.914	-0.141
0.274	0.895	0.887	-0.155
0.290	0.872	0.862	-0.163
0.306	0.892	0.837	-0.156
0.322	0.864	0.814	-0.166
0.338	0.828	0.792	-0.180
0.353	0.715	0.771	-0.231
0.369	0.686	0.751	-0.246
0.385	0.649	0.732	-0.267
0.401	0.641	0.713	-0.272
0.417	0.730	0.695	-0.223
0.433	0.770	0.678	-0.205
0.449	0.630	0.662	-0.278
0.465	0.665	0.646	-0.258

Table S41: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 2c (36.68 mol%) as catalyst.

0.481	0.608	0.631	-0.292
0.497	0.583	0.616	-0.309
0.513	0.600	0.602	-0.298
0.529	0.568	0.589	-0.320
0.545	0.529	0.576	-0.351
0.561	0.604	0.563	-0.295
0.577	0.471	0.551	-0.403
0.593	0.495	0.539	-0.380
0.676	0.562	0.484	-0.325
0.758	0.430	0.437	-0.446



**Figure S98: a)** Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. **b)** Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 4.27 \text{ mM}, 2c = 39.57 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.050	1.493	1.421	-0.024
0.066	1.414	1.357	-0.038
0.082	1.346	1.298	-0.050
0.098	1.275	1.243	-0.065
0.114	1.206	1.192	-0.080
0.130	1.177	1.145	-0.087
0.146	1.114	1.100	-0.103
0.162	1.084	1.059	-0.111
0.178	1.041	1.020	-0.124
0.194	0.976	0.983	-0.145
0.210	0.922	0.949	-0.163
0.226	0.910	0.917	-0.168
0.242	0.874	0.886	-0.182
0.258	0.857	0.857	-0.189
0.274	0.831	0.830	-0.200
0.290	0.807	0.803	-0.211
0.306	0.797	0.779	-0.215
0.322	0.764	0.755	-0.231
0.338	0.734	0.733	-0.246
0.353	0.681	0.711	-0.277
0.369	0.649	0.691	-0.297
0.385	0.639	0.672	-0.303
0.401	0.643	0.653	-0.300
0.417	0.625	0.635	-0.313
0.433	0.589	0.618	-0.339
0.449	0.586	0.602	-0.341
0.465	0.572	0.586	-0.352

Table S42: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 2c (39.57 mol%) as catalyst.

0.481	0.574	0.571	-0.351
0.497	0.563	0.557	-0.359
0.513	0.534	0.543	-0.384
0.529	0.519	0.529	-0.397
0.545	0.507	0.516	-0.408
0.561	0.517	0.504	-0.399



Figure S99: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 4.08 \text{ mM}, 2c = 42.91 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.034	1.422	1.478	-0.027
0.050	1.353	1.405	-0.036
0.066	1.290	1.338	-0.046
0.082	1.209	1.278	-0.059
0.098	1.199	1.221	-0.061
0.114	1.121	1.170	-0.075
0.130	1.095	1.121	-0.081
0.146	1.046	1.077	-0.091
0.162	0.999	1.035	-0.102
0.178	0.986	0.996	-0.106
0.194	0.965	0.960	-0.111
0.210	0.941	0.926	-0.117
0.226	0.908	0.894	-0.127
0.242	0.880	0.864	-0.135
0.258	0.834	0.835	-0.150
0.274	0.790	0.808	-0.165
0.290	0.794	0.783	-0.164
0.306	0.745	0.759	-0.182
0.322	0.754	0.736	-0.179
0.338	0.723	0.714	-0.192
0.354	0.694	0.693	-0.205
0.370	0.673	0.674	-0.214
0.386	0.668	0.655	-0.217
0.402	0.676	0.637	-0.213
0.418	0.638	0.620	-0.232
0.434	0.621	0.604	-0.241
0.450	0.581	0.588	-0.265

Table S43: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 2c (42.91 mol%) as catalyst.

0.466	0.594	0.573	-0.256
0.482	0.589	0.559	-0.260
0.498	0.541	0.545	-0.291
0.514	0.546	0.532	-0.287
0.530	0.532	0.519	-0.297
0.546	0.510	0.507	-0.313
0.562	0.511	0.495	-0.312
0.578	0.515	0.483	-0.309
0.660	0.453	0.431	-0.360



Figure S100: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 4.00 \text{ mM}, 2c = 49.47 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.045	1.402	1.426	-0.031
0.061	1.361	1.357	-0.037
0.077	1.281	1.294	-0.049
0.093	1.214	1.235	-0.060
0.109	1.170	1.182	-0.068
0.125	1.105	1.132	-0.082
0.141	1.063	1.086	-0.091
0.157	1.000	1.043	-0.106
0.173	0.971	1.003	-0.114
0.189	0.947	0.966	-0.120
0.205	0.909	0.931	-0.131
0.221	0.870	0.898	-0.143
0.237	0.831	0.867	-0.156
0.253	0.826	0.838	-0.158
0.269	0.781	0.810	-0.174
0.285	0.794	0.784	-0.169
0.301	0.752	0.760	-0.186
0.317	0.712	0.736	-0.203
0.333	0.706	0.714	-0.206
0.348	0.708	0.693	-0.205
0.364	0.678	0.673	-0.219
0.380	0.672	0.654	-0.222
0.396	0.649	0.636	-0.234
0.412	0.604	0.618	-0.259
0.428	0.619	0.602	-0.251
0.444	0.639	0.586	-0.239

Table S44: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 2c (49.47 mol%) as catalyst.

0.460	0.587	0.571	-0.270
0.476	0.604	0.556	-0.259
0.492	0.543	0.542	-0.299
0.508	0.540	0.529	-0.301
0.524	0.524	0.516	-0.313
0.540	0.539	0.503	-0.301
0.556	0.524	0.491	-0.313
0.572	0.549	0.480	-0.294
0.588	0.484	0.469	-0.345



Figure S101: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 3.93 \text{ mM}, 2c = 51.31 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.069	1.291	1.298	-0.044
0.085	1.224	1.234	-0.054
0.101	1.192	1.175	-0.059
0.117	1.104	1.122	-0.076
0.133	1.050	1.072	-0.087
0.149	1.042	1.026	-0.089
0.165	1.006	0.984	-0.097
0.181	0.944	0.944	-0.112
0.197	0.909	0.908	-0.121
0.213	0.870	0.873	-0.133
0.229	0.842	0.841	-0.141
0.353	0.659	0.648	-0.213
0.477	0.507	0.519	-0.303
0.602	0.427	0.427	-0.372

Table S45: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 2c (51.31 mol%) as catalyst.



**Figure S102: a)** Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. **b)** Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.26$  mM,  $[7]_0 = 3.07$  mM, 2c = 6.43 mol%.

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.260	1.260	0.000
0.083	1.201	1.201	-0.009
0.417	1.042	1.042	-0.037
0.750	0.925	0.925	-0.063
1.083	0.879	0.879	-0.075
1.417	0.778	0.778	-0.105
1.750	0.710	0.710	-0.130
2.083	0.653	0.653	-0.154
2.417	0.606	0.606	-0.177
2.750	0.575	0.575	-0.194
3.083	0.534	0.534	-0.219
3.417	0.506	0.506	-0.237
3.750	0.481	0.481	-0.256
4.083	0.462	0.462	-0.270
4.417	0.425	0.425	-0.302
4.750	0.410	0.410	-0.317
5.083	0.399	0.399	-0.328
5.417	0.382	0.382	-0.346

Table S46: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 2c (6.43 mol%) as catalyst.

## 9.4. Concentration vs. time data for acyclic catalyst 3

## 9.4.1. Substrate orders



**Figure S103: a)** Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. **b)** Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 4.12 \text{ mM}, 3 = 1.53 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.083	1.585	1.552	-0.009
0.417	1.197	1.223	-0.072
0.750	0.966	1.000	-0.131
1.083	0.811	0.838	-0.185
1.417	0.700	0.716	-0.236
1.750	0.613	0.621	-0.286
2.083	0.545	0.544	-0.335
2.417	0.494	0.482	-0.377

Table S47: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 3 (1.53 mol%) as catalyst.



**Figure S104:** a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.26 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 3.37 \text{ mM}, 3 = 1.30 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.083	1.260	1.260	0.000
0.417	1.173	1.177	-0.019
0.750	0.897	0.921	-0.098
1.083	0.714	0.747	-0.177
1.417	0.600	0.621	-0.245
1.750	0.517	0.526	-0.311
2.083	0.446	0.452	-0.380
0.083	0.393	0.392	-0.443

Table S48: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 3 (1.30 mol%) as catalyst.



**Figure S105:** a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.26 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 4.24 \text{ mM}, 3 = 1.70 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.260	1.260	0.000
0.083	1.214	1.193	-0.015
0.417	0.935	0.973	-0.132
0.750	0.761	0.810	-0.236
1.083	0.637	0.685	-0.334
1.417	0.551	0.585	-0.419
1.750	0.491	0.505	-0.492
2.083	0.435	0.439	-0.570
2.417	0.393	0.385	-0.639

Table S49: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 3 (1.70 mol%) as catalyst.



**Figure S106:** a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 4.44 \text{ mM}, 3 = 2.48 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Table S50: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 3 (2.48 mol%) as catalyst.

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.050	1.486	1.528	-0.029
0.069	1.446	1.483	-0.037
0.088	1.398	1.440	-0.046
0.106	1.373	1.399	-0.051
0.125	1.319	1.360	-0.063
0.144	1.297	1.323	-0.068
0.163	1.240	1.288	-0.082
0.181	1.232	1.254	-0.084
0.200	1.191	1.222	-0.095
0.219	1.164	1.191	-0.102
0.238	1.124	1.162	-0.113
0.256	1.102	1.133	-0.120
0.275	1.077	1.106	-0.128
0.294	1.058	1.080	-0.134
0.313	1.042	1.055	-0.139
0.331	1.031	1.031	-0.143
0.350	0.996	1.007	-0.155
0.369	0.970	0.985	-0.165
0.388	0.955	0.963	-0.170
0.406	0.943	0.942	-0.175
0.425	0.909	0.922	-0.189
0.444	0.910	0.903	-0.188
0.463	0.872	0.884	-0.205
0.481	0.861	0.866	-0.210

0.500	0.851	0.848	-0.215
0.519	0.827	0.831	-0.226
0.538	0.830	0.815	-0.225
0.556	0.819	0.799	-0.230
0.575	0.791	0.783	-0.244
0.594	0.777	0.768	-0.252
0.613	0.759	0.754	-0.261
0.631	0.749	0.740	-0.267
0.650	0.752	0.726	-0.265
0.669	0.727	0.713	-0.280
0.688	0.714	0.700	-0.288
0.773	0.686	0.645	-0.306
0.858	0.625	0.597	-0.348
0.944	0.588	0.554	-0.378
1.029	0.552	0.515	-0.409
1.115	0.522	0.481	-0.437
1.200	0.504	0.449	-0.456



**Figure S107: a)** Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. **b)** Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 3.64 \text{ mM}, 3 = 4.44 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]^*[7]0))/([4]0^*(2^*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.077	1.068	1.159	-0.047
0.104	0.999	1.045	-0.056
0.132	0.936	0.950	-0.065
0.159	0.856	0.870	-0.078
0.186	0.819	0.802	-0.085
0.213	0.747	0.743	-0.101
0.241	0.680	0.691	-0.118
0.268	0.678	0.646	-0.118
0.295	0.626	0.605	-0.134
0.322	0.592	0.569	-0.145
0.349	0.560	0.537	-0.157
0.377	0.539	0.508	-0.166
0.404	0.496	0.481	-0.185

 Table S51: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 3 (4.44 mol%) as catalyst.



Figure S108: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 3.58 \text{ mM}, 3 = 6.91 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Table S	552:	Concentration	vs. time	data foi	r the	catalytic	reaction	using	catenane 3	6.9 (6.9	91 mol%)	as	cataly	yst
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Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]^*[7]0))/([4]0^*(2^*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.066	1.175	1.115	-0.029
0.082	1.059	1.031	-0.040
0.098	0.979	0.959	-0.049
0.114	0.893	0.895	-0.060
0.130	0.802	0.839	-0.074
0.146	0.766	0.789	-0.081
0.162	0.753	0.745	-0.083
0.178	0.728	0.704	-0.088
0.194	0.685	0.668	-0.097
0.210	0.644	0.635	-0.107
0.226	0.563	0.605	-0.131
0.242	0.546	0.577	-0.137
0.258	0.551	0.552	-0.135
0.274	0.504	0.528	-0.153


Figure S109: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 4.21 \text{ mM}, 3 = 13.65 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.050	0.908	0.878	-0.161
0.066	0.820	0.752	-0.196
0.082	0.655	0.653	-0.281
0.098	0.627	0.573	-0.299
0.114	0.491	0.507	-0.407
0.130	0.437	0.452	-0.464
0.146	0.404	0.406	-0.504
0.162	0.349	0.366	-0.584
0.178	0.318	0.332	-0.637
0.194	0.309	0.302	-0.654
0.210	0.269	0.276	-0.737
0.226	0.236	0.253	-0.822
0.242	0.185	0.232	-0.988
0.258	0.144	0.214	-1.171
0.274	0.176	0.197	-1.021

Table S53: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 3 (13.65 mol%) as catalyst.



Figure S110: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 3.77 \text{ mM}, 3 = 24.23 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.050	0.892	0.825	-0.098
0.066	0.722	0.704	-0.144
0.082	0.610	0.610	-0.186
0.098	0.537	0.536	-0.222
0.114	0.510	0.477	-0.237
0.130	0.426	0.427	-0.296
0.146	0.384	0.386	-0.333
0.162	0.330	0.351	-0.392
0.178	0.316	0.320	-0.409
0.194	0.304	0.294	-0.426
0.210	0.247	0.271	-0.519
0.226	0.207	0.250	-0.606
0.242	0.195	0.232	-0.639
0.258	0.209	0.216	-0.603
0.274	0.164	0.201	-0.735
0.290	0.169	0.188	-0.717
0.306	0.169	0.176	-0.719
0.322	0.160	0.165	-0.748
0.338	0.161	0.155	-0.744

Table S54: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 3 (24.23 mol%) as catalyst.



Figure S111: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 3.84 \text{ mM}, 3 = 24.45 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.050	0.972	0.882	-0.091
0.066	0.800	0.759	-0.135
0.082	0.682	0.664	-0.176
0.098	0.619	0.587	-0.204
0.114	0.534	0.524	-0.249
0.130	0.454	0.472	-0.305
0.146	0.401	0.428	-0.352
0.162	0.451	0.390	-0.307
0.178	0.342	0.357	-0.417
0.194	0.311	0.329	-0.459
0.210	0.254	0.304	-0.555
0.226	0.246	0.281	-0.572
0.242	0.255	0.261	-0.554
0.258	0.182	0.243	-0.737
0.274	0.188	0.227	-0.718
0.290	0.197	0.213	-0.692
0.306	0.179	0.199	-0.746
0.322	0.145	0.187	-0.876
0.338	0.162	0.176	-0.806

Table S55: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 3 (24.45 mol%) as catalyst.



Figure S112: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 4.02 \text{ mM}, 3 = 37.66 \text{ mol}\%$ .

-	Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
	(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
	0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
	0.032	0.874	0.932	-0.145
	0.048	0.731	0.752	-0.199
	0.064	0.622	0.624	-0.254
	0.080	0.524	0.528	-0.319
	0.096	0.404	0.454	-0.431
	0.112	0.408	0.395	-0.426
	0.128	0.375	0.347	-0.466
	0.144	0.341	0.307	-0.512
	0.160	0.341	0.273	-0.513
	0.176	0.242	0.245	-0.701
	0.192	0.260	0.220	-0.659
	0.208	0.236	0.199	-0.716
	0.224	0.162	0.181	-0.957
	0.240	0.142	0.165	-1.047

Table S56: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 3 (37.66 mol%) as catalyst.



Figure S113: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 3.99 \text{ mM}, 3 = 39.10 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.033	0.831	0.900	-0.155
0.049	0.691	0.725	-0.211
0.065	0.574	0.601	-0.276
0.081	0.537	0.508	-0.301
0.097	0.461	0.436	-0.362
0.113	0.375	0.379	-0.455
0.129	0.380	0.332	-0.448
0.145	0.300	0.294	-0.565
0.161	0.245	0.262	-0.678
0.177	0.231	0.235	-0.712
0.193	0.224	0.211	-0.729
0.209	0.241	0.191	-0.687
0.225	0.188	0.173	-0.840
0.241	0.182	0.157	-0.861
0.257	0.150	0.143	-0.988

Table S57: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 3 (39.10 mol%) as catalyst.



Figure S114: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 4.15 \text{ mM}, 3 = 47.17 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
0.050	0.793	0.713	-0.198
0.066	0.647	0.588	-0.272
0.082	0.523	0.495	-0.361
0.098	0.400	0.422	-0.489
0.114	0.343	0.365	-0.570
0.130	0.291	0.318	-0.663
0.146	0.237	0.280	-0.789
0.162	0.215	0.247	-0.850
0.178	0.186	0.220	-0.949
0.194	0.139	0.196	-1.159

Table S58: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 3 (47.17 mol%) as catalyst.



Figure S115: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.66 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 4.40 \text{ mM}, 3 = 51.97 \text{ mol}\%$ .

-	Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
	(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0	0.000	1.660	1.660	0.000
C	).050	0.490	0.506	-0.460
C	).065	0.383	0.399	-0.598
C	).079	0.328	0.322	-0.691
C	).094	0.272	0.264	-0.811
C	).108	0.207	0.219	-1.000
C	).123	0.196	0.183	-1.041
C	).138	0.167	0.155	-1.161
C	).152	0.150	0.131	-1.242
C	).167	0.095	0.112	-1.619
C	).181	0.131	0.096	-1.350

-1.915

-1.769

0.083

0.071

0.196

0.210

0.067

0.080

Table S59: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 3 (51.97 mol%) as catalyst.



Figure S116: a) Curve of conversion and nonlinear fit. b) Linearization and linear fit of concentration vs. time data. Both:  $[4]_0 = 1.26 \text{ mM}, [7]_0 = 3.34 \text{ mM}, 3 = 1.36 \text{ mol}\%$ .

Table S60: Concentration vs. time data for the catalytic reaction using catenane 3 (1.36 mol%) as ca	italyst.
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Time	[4]	Nonlinear fit	$\ln(([4]*[7]0))/([4]0*(2*[4]+c)))$
(h)	(mM)	(mM)	
0.000	1.260	1.260	0.000
0.083	1.216	1.195	-0.009
0.417	0.973	0.983	-0.070
0.750	0.807	0.829	-0.130
1.083	0.692	0.711	-0.184
1.417	0.607	0.618	-0.235
1.750	0.536	0.543	-0.287
2.083	0.488	0.481	-0.329
2.417	0.422	0.430	-0.398
2.750	0.404	0.387	-0.420

## **10.** Appendix C: Catalytic reactions









Figure S118: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S,S)-1b as catalyst (Entry 1,Table S1)



Figure S119: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (*S*,*S*)-1c as catalyst (Entry 2,Table S1)



Figure S120: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-2a as catalyst (Entry 3, Table S1)



Figure S121: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-2b as catalyst (Entry 4, Table S1)



Figure S122: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-2c as catalyst (Entry 5, Table S1)









Figure S125: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 8, Table S1)



Figure S126: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 9, Table S1)



Figure S127: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 10, Table S1)



Figure S128: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 11, Table S1)



Figure S129: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 12, Table S1)



Figure S130: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 13, Table S1)



Figure S131: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 14, Table S1)



**Figure S132:** Chiral HPLC of **6** using (*S*)-**3** as catalyst (Entry 15, Table S1)



**Figure S133:** Chiral HPLC of **6** using (*S*)-**3** as catalyst (Entry 16, Table S1)



Figure S134: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 17, Table S1)





Figure S136: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 19, Table S1)



Figure S137: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 20, Table S1)



Figure S138: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 21, Table S1)



Figure S139: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 22, Table S1)



Figure S140: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 23, Table S1)



Figure S141: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 1, Table S11)



Figure S142: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 2, Table S11)



Figure S143: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 3, Table S11)



Figure S144: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 4, Table S11)



Figure S145: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 5, Table S11)



Figure S146: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 6, Table S11)



Figure S147: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 7, Table S11)



Figure S148: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 8, Table S11)



Figure S149: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 9, Table S11)







Figure S151: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 2, Table S12)



Figure S152: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 3, Table S12)



Figure S153: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 4, Table S12)



**Figure S154:** Chiral HPLC of **6** using (*S*)-**3** as catalyst (Entry 5, Table S12)



Figure S155: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 6, Table S12)



Figure S156: Chiral HPLC of 6 using (S)-3 as catalyst (Entry 7, Table S12)

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