

## *Electronic Supplementary Information*

# **Upgrading Pillar[n]arenes to Reversible Photocontrolled Self-Folding Hosts for Photoswitchable Guest Uptake/Release and Self-Assembly**

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## Section 1: Materials and General Methods

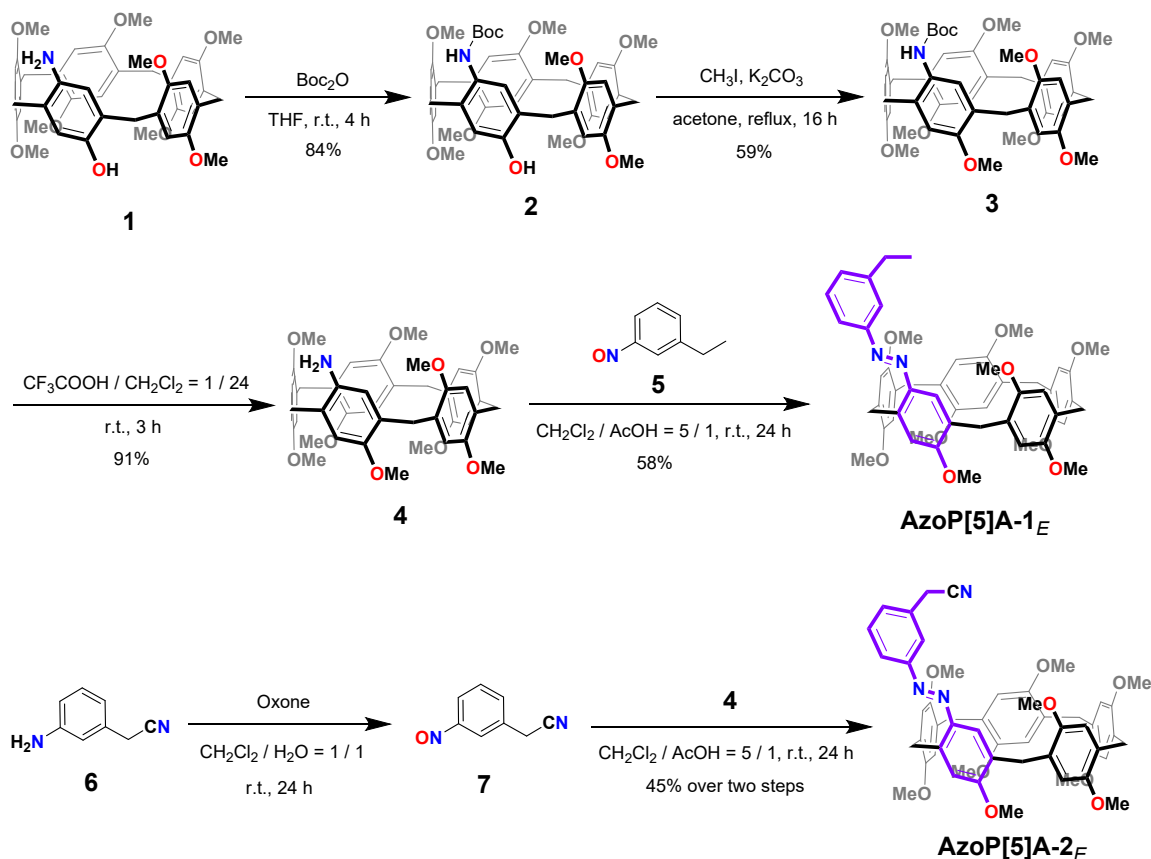
**Materials:** All reagents were used as received from the commercial suppliers without further purification; the solvents have been purified by standard procedures before use. The intermediate compounds **1**<sup>[S1]</sup>, **5**<sup>[S2]</sup>, and **8**<sup>[S3]</sup> were synthesized according to the reported procedures.

**UV-Vis Spectroscopy:** The UV-Vis absorption spectra were recorded on an Agilent Technologies Cary 60 UV-Vis spectrometer.

**Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) Spectroscopy:** The solution <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AVANCE 400 and 600 spectrometers, and the chemical shifts ( $\delta$  in ppm) were determined by using a residual proton of the solvent as standard. The 2D COSY, NOESY and DOSY NMR spectra were collected on a Bruker AVANCE 600 spectrometer.

**Light Source:** The irradiation experiments were performed by using a 50 W LED lamp (390-395 nm) equipped with narrow band pass filter (390 nm) and a 100 W LED lamp (590-595 nm) equipped with narrow band pass filter (590 nm).

## Section 2: Synthesis Procedures and Characterization



**Scheme S1.** Synthetic routes for the photoresponsive pillar[5]arenes **AzoP[5]A-1** and **AzoP[5]A-2**.

**Compound 2:** To a solution of compound **1**<sup>[S1]</sup> (340 mg, 0.471 mmol) in anhydrous THF (18 mL) was added  $\text{Boc}_2\text{O}$  (205 mg, 0.939 mmol), the resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature under nitrogen gas atmosphere for 4 hours. After the thin-layer chromatography (TLC) indicating the reaction was completed, the reaction mixture was concentrated to give light-yellow solid, which was then suspended in n-hexane (5 mL). After ultrasonication treatment for 5 minutes, the suspension was filtrated, and the collected solid was dried under vacuum to afford compound **2** as light-yellow solid (325 mg, 84%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  (ppm): 9.05 (s, 1H), 8.19 (s, 1H), 6.90 (s, 1H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 6.82 (s, 1H), 6.80 (s, 1H), 6.78 (s, 2H), 6.76 (s, 1H), 6.75 (s, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.71 (s, 6H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.68 (s, 2H), 3.66 (br, 5H), 3.64 (br, 7H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 3.49 (s, 2H), 1.44 (s, 9H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  (ppm): 154.39, 152.42, 150.89, 150.59, 150.57, 150.46, 150.42, 150.40, 150.36, 136.29, 129.51, 129.06, 128.39, 128.37, 128.31, 128.14, 127.93, 127.87, 127.84, 127.11, 126.57, 118.04, 114.59, 114.44, 114.24, 114.15, 114.14, 130.90, 113.68, 113.49, 78.35, 56.47, 56.45, 56.15, 56.13, 56.05, 56.02, 55.96, 55.84, 31.92, 30.01, 29.28, 28.94, 28.72, 28.52. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{48}\text{H}_{55}\text{NNaO}_{11}$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ : 844.3371, Found: 844.3660.

**Compound 3:** To the solution of compound **2** (100 mg, 0.122 mmol) and  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  (87.0 mg, 0.630 mmol) in acetone (2 mL) was added  $\text{CH}_3\text{I}$  (10 mL, 0.164 mmol), and the resulting mixture was heated up to

reflux under nitrogen gas atmosphere for 16 hours. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool naturally to room temperature, then the mixture was filtered and the filtrate was collected. The solvent was removed from the filtrate under reduced pressure to give a white solid, which was dissolved in dichloromethane (50 mL), and washed sequentially with water ( $3 \times 50$  mL) and saturated brine ( $3 \times 50$  mL). The collected organic phase was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate ( $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ ). After removing the desiccant by filtration, the filtrate was collected and concentrated by evaporation under reduced pressure. The obtained crude product was further purified by flash chromatography using an eluent mixture of EtOAc/PE = 1/8 (v/v), affording a white solid which was suspended in n-hexane (2 mL) and ultrasonicated for 5 minutes. The solid was collected by filtration and dried under vacuum to yield compound **3** as a white solid (60.0 mg, 59%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  (ppm): 8.25 (s, 1H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.90 (s, 1H), 6.88 (s, 1H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 6.82 (s, 1H), 6.76 (s, 1H), 6.74 (s, 3H), 6.70 (s, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.69-3.68 (m, 13H), 3.66 (br, 5H), 3.64 (s, 2H), 3.62 (s, 6H), 3.60 (s, 2H), 3.59 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  (ppm): 154.32, 154.17, 150.84, 150.41, 150.39, 150.34, 150.33, 150.22, 150.18, 136.25, 129.12, 128.59, 128.32, 128.30, 128.25, 128.09, 127.89, 127.78, 127.65, 126.95, 114.29, 114.27, 114.05, 113.90, 113.60, 113.45, 113.36, 113.30, 78.52, 56.18, 56.04, 56.01, 55.99, 55.88, 55.83, 55.71, 55.31, 32.67, 29.89, 29.39, 28.83, 28.66, 27.71. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{49}\text{H}_{57}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_{11}$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ : 858.3829, Found: 858.3822.

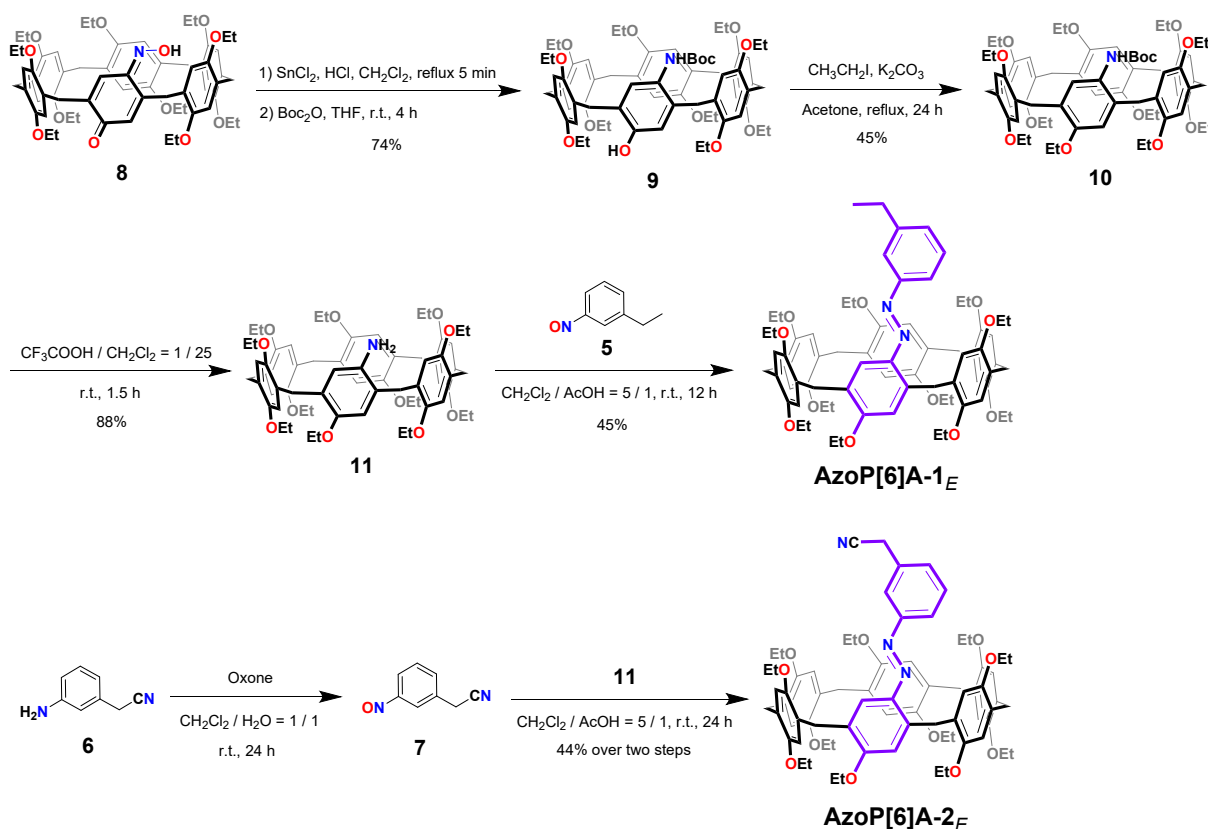
**Compound 4:** Compound **3** (100 mg, 0.120 mmol) was dissolved in a mixture of dichloromethane (12 mL) and trifluoroacetic acid (TFA, 0.50 mL), and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a nitrogen atmosphere for 2 hours. The reaction progress was monitored by TLC, which indicated complete consumption of the starting material. The solvent was removed by evaporation under reduced pressure to give a white solid, which was dissolved in 20 mL dichloromethane and then sequentially washed with saturated sodium bicarbonate ( $\text{NaHCO}_3$ ) aqueous solution ( $3 \times 10$  mL) and saturated brine ( $3 \times 10$  mL). The separated organic phase dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and the desiccant was further removed by filtration. The collected filtrate was concentrated via evaporation under reduced pressure to yield compound **4** as a white solid (80.0 mg, 91%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  (ppm): 6.88 (s, 1 H), 6.79-6.78 (m, 3 H), 6.76-6.75 (m, 3 H), 6.74 (s, 1 H), 6.69 (s, 1 H), 6.39 (s, 1 H), 4.33 (s, 2 H), 3.68-3.64 (m, 18 H), 3.64 (s, 3 H), 3.63 (s, 3 H), 3.62 (s, 3 H), 3.61 (s, 3 H), 3.58 (s, 3 H), 3.56 (br, 4 H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  (ppm): 151.46, 151.03, 151.02, 150.98, 150.96, 150.93, 150.89, 150.33, 150.20, 137.66, 129.45, 129.12, 128.97, 128.45, 128.33, 127.86, 127.06, 125.27, 119.16, 114.79, 114.71, 114.39, 114.35, 114.31, 114.29, 114.10, 113.39, 56.51, 56.25, 56.13, 56.06, 56.02, 55.98, 55.93, 55.88, 55.86, 31.39, 30.59, 30.07, 29.67, 28.84. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{44}\text{H}_{50}\text{NO}_9$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 736.3486, Found: 736.3472.

**Compound AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub>:** Compound **4** (100 mg, 0.136 mmol) and compound **5**<sup>[S2]</sup> (28.0 mg, 0.207 mmol) were dissolved in a mixture solution of glacial acetic acid (1 mL) and dichloromethane (5 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a nitrogen atmosphere for 16 hours, with the reaction progress monitored by TLC. After the complete consumption of the starting material, the reaction was quenched by the addition of saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> aqueous solution, by which the pH value of the mixture was turned to 8.5. Then, the mixture was transferred to a separatory funnel to separate the organic phase, which was washed with saturated brine (3 × 20 mL). The combined organic phase was dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and the desiccant was further removed by filtration. The filtrate was collected and concentrated via evaporation under reduced pressure to give crude product, which was purified by flash chromatography using a mixture of PE/EtOAc = 12/1 (v/v) as the eluent, affording a yellow viscous liquid.

The obtained viscous liquid was then suspended in n-hexane (2 mL) and the suspension was ultrasonicated for 5 minutes, after which the solid precipitate was collected by filtration. The collected solid was dried under vacuum to yield compound **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub>** as an orange-yellow solid (67.0 mg, 58%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 298 K) δ (ppm): 7.86 (s, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (s, 1H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 6.96 (s, 2H), 6.94 (s, 1H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 6.88 (s, 1H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 6.68 (s, 1H), 4.38 (s, 2H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.80-3.79 (m, 5H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 5H), 3.70 (s, 2H), 3.68 (s, 2H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 2.80 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.32 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) δ (ppm): 159.97, 153.51, 151.39, 151.05, 150.83, 150.81, 150.74, 150.65, 150.62, 145.23, 143.64, 142.37, 129.45, 128.87, 128.49, 128.33, 128.16, 128.13, 128.06, 128.00, 127.96, 127.66, 122.06, 119.99, 118.27, 114.44, 114.30, 114.25, 114.13, 114.07, 113.98, 113.80, 112.04, 55.96, 55.88, 55.87, 55.83, 55.75, 55.67, 55.21, 55.13, 33.00, 29.92, 29.97, 29.73, 29.32, 28.81, 15.55. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>52</sub>H<sub>57</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>9</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 853.4064, Found: 853.4046.

**Compound AzoP[5]A-2<sub>E</sub>.** To a solution of compound **6** (27.2 mg, 0.274 mmol) in dichloromethane (6 mL) was added an aqueous solution of potassium peroxymonosulfate (Oxone) (252 mg, 0.411 mmol, in 6 mL H<sub>2</sub>O). The biphasic mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 hours, until TLC monotoration indicated the complete consumption of starting material. The reaction mixture was transferred to a separatory funnel to separate the organic phase, which was washed sequentially with 6 mL hydrochloric acid aqueous solution (HCl<sub>aq</sub>, 1.0 mol/L), saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> aqueous solution (10 mL) and saturated brine (10 mL), respectively. The combined organic phase was dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, which was further removed by filtration. The filtrate was collected and concentrated via evaporation under reduced pressure, affording compound **7** as a brown liquid, which was directly used in the next step without further purification.

To a solution of compound **4** (100 mg, 0.136 mmol) in a mixture of glacial acetic acid and dichloromethane (1/5, v/v, 6 mL total volume) was added the crude compound **7** from above step. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a nitrogen atmosphere for 24 hours, when TLC confirming the complete consumption of the starting material. The reaction was quenched by careful addition of saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> aqueous solution until pH = 8 was reached. The reaction mixture was transferred to a separatory funnel for phase separation, and the organic phase was washed with saturated brine (3 × 20 mL). After that, the combined organic phase was dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, which was further removed by filtration. The collected filtrate was concentrated via evaporation under reduced pressure to give crude product, which was purified by flash chromatography using a mixture eluent of PE/EtOAc = 25/1 (v/v), affording a yellow viscous liquid. The resulting viscous liquid was suspended in n-hexane (5 mL) and ultrasonicated for 5 minutes, then the precipitated solid was collected by filtration. The received solid was dried under vacuum to yield compound **AzoP[5]A-2<sub>E</sub>** as an orange-yellow solid (53.0 mg, 45%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 298 K) δ (ppm): 8.00-7.97 (m, 2 H), 7.82 (s, 1 H), 7.62 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.18 (s, 1 H), 6.97 (s, 1 H), 6.96 (s, 1 H), 6.94 (s, 1 H), 6.93 (s, 1 H), 6.92 (s, 1 H), 6.88 (s, 1 H), 6.80 (s, 1 H), 6.67 (s, 1 H), 4.40 (s, 2 H), 3.99 (s, 2 H), 3.93 (s, 3 H), 3.83 (s, 3 H), 3.80 (br, 5 H), 3.78 (s, 3 H), 3.76 (d, 6 H), 3.73 (d, 5 H), 3.73 (s, 2 H), 3.68 (s, 2 H), 3.64 (s, 3 H), 3.27 (s, 3 H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) δ (ppm): 160.54, 153.99, 150.94, 150.89, 150.86, 150.75, 150.69, 150.64, 143.79, 143.37, 133.17, 130.58, 130.34, 129.74, 129.32, 129.17, 129.10, 129.04, 128.84, 128.61, 128.37, 123.24, 122.14, 119.06, 117.71, 114.17, 113.82, 113.66, 113.60, 113.55, 112.29, 56.28, 55.90, 55.83, 55.77, 55.76, 55.73, 55.69, 55.34, 30.21, 29.44, 29.40, 29.37, 23.39. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>52</sub>H<sub>54</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 864.3855, Found: 864.3853.



**Scheme S2.** Synthetic routes for the photoresponsive pillar[6]arenes **AzoP[6]A-1** and **AzoP[6]A-2**.

**Compound 9:** To the solution of compound **8**<sup>[S3]</sup> (500 mg, 0.487 mmol) in dichloromethane (35 mL) was added a solution of  $\text{SnCl}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (1.10 g, 4.86 mmol) in concentrated hydrochloric acid (1.8 mL). The mixture was heated up to reflux under a nitrogen atmosphere for 5 minutes, with the TLC confirming the consumption of starting material. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and adjusted to pH = 7~8 by the addition of saturated  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  aqueous solution. The organic phase was separated and washed with saturated brine ( $3 \times 20$  mL) and dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . The desiccant was further removed by filtration, and the collected filtrate was concentrated *via* evaporation under reduced pressure to afford a yellow solid. The obtained yellow solid was then dissolved in anhydrous THF (15 mL), to which  $\text{Boc}_2\text{O}$  (120 mg, 0.550 mmol) was added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature under a nitrogen atmosphere for another 4 hours. After TLC confirmed the reaction was completed, the solvent was removed by evaporation under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by flash column chromatography using a mixture of  $\text{EtOAc/PE} = 1/15$  as the eluent to afford compound **9** as a pale-yellow solid (400 mg, 74%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.55 (br, 2 H), 7.48 (s, 1 H), 6.87 (s, 1 H), 6.82 (s, 1H), 6.78 (s, 1 H), 6.76 (s, 1 H), 6.73-6.72 (m, 3 H), 6.69 (s, 1 H), 6.68 (s, 1 H), 6.66 (s, 1 H), 6.65 (s, 1 H), 4.07 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2 H), 3.99-3.93 (m, 6 H), 3.91-3.79 (m, 22 H), 3.71 (s, 2 H), 1.57 (s, 9 H), 1.49 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 3 H), 1.44-1.38 (m, 9 H), 1.35- 1.27 (m, 22 H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  (ppm): 154.20, 151.62, 151.00, 150.57, 150.54, 150.34, 148.94, 147.81, 131.85, 129.11, 128.97, 128.43, 128.31, 128.29, 128.05, 127.91, 127.49, 127.16, 126.78, 126.69, 125.30, 124.48, 117.77,

115.70, 115.56, 115.50, 115.41, 115.18, 115.04, 115.01, 114.74, 114.57, 114.33, 79.43, 65.03, 64.37, 64.35, 64.31, 64.30, 64.22, 64.10, 64.05, 63.80, 31.72, 30.99, 30.95, 30.87, 30.76, 30.71, 28.53, 15.21, 15.19, 15.16, 15.12, 15.04, 14.65. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for  $C_{67}H_{85}NNaO_{13}$   $[M+Na]^+$ : 1134.5914, Found: 1134.5920.

**Compound 10:** To a solution of compound **9** (100 mg, 0.0899 mmol) and iodoethane (14.0 mg, 0.0900 mmol) in 2 mL acetone was added  $K_2CO_3$  (62.0 mg, 0.449 mmol), the mixture was heated up to reflux under a nitrogen atmosphere for 24 hours. After naturally cooling down to room temperature, the reaction mixture was filtrated, and the collected filtrate was concentrated *via* evaporation under reduced pressure to give a white solid. It was dissolved in 50 mL  $CH_2Cl_2$  and sequentially washed by water ( $3 \times 50$  mL) and saturated brine ( $3 \times 50$  mL), respectively. The organic phase was dried over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$ , which was further removed by filtration, and the collected filtrate was concentrated *via* evaporation under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by flash column chromatography using a mixture of EtOAc/PE = 1/15 as the eluent to afford compound **10** as a white solid (46.1 mg, 45%).  $^1H$  NMR (600 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.53, (br, 1 H), 7.06 (br, 1 H), 6.78 (s, 1 H), 6.77 (s, 1 H), 6.74 (s, 1 H), 6.73-6.71 (m, 4 H), 6.69-6.67 (m, 4 H), 3.96-3.76 (m, 34 H), 1.49 (br, 9 H), 1.40-1.36 (m, 9 H), 1.34-1.28 (m, 24 H).  $^{13}C$  NMR (150 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  (ppm): 153.98, 153.54, 150.87, 150.68, 150.58, 1580.53, 150.51, 150.48, 150.31, 149.50, 131.02, 129.05, 128.40, 128.33, 128.13, 128.11, 128.05, 127.85, 127.82, 127.44, 126.69, 115.59, 115.43, 115.35, 115.31, 115.09, 114.93, 114.37, 113.51, 79.27, 64.35, 64.34, 64.30, 64.26, 64.20, 64.18, 64.16, 64.11, 64.03, 64.00, 63.82, 32.71, 30.97, 30.91, 30.78, 30.62, 30.34, 28.39, 15.24, 15.20, 15.15, 15.13, 15.09, 14.99. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for  $C_{69}H_{89}NNaO_{13}$   $[M+Na]^+$ : 1162.6227, Found: 1162.6220.

**Compound 11:** Compound **10** (100 mg, 0.0877 mmol) was dissolved in a mixture of dichloromethane (7.5 mL) and trifluoroacetic acid (0.30 mL), and the mixture was stirred at room temperature under a nitrogen atmosphere for 1.5 hours. After the consumption of starting material was confirmed by TLC, the reaction mixture was concentrated *via* evaporation under reduced pressure to afford a white solid. The obtained solid was dissolved in dichloromethane (20 mL), and sequentially washed with saturated  $NaHCO_3$  aqueous solution ( $3 \times 10$  mL) and saturated brine ( $3 \times 10$  mL). The organic phase was collected and dried over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$ , which was filtered off and the filtrate was concentrated *via* evaporation under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by flash column chromatography using a mixture solvent of EtOAc/PE = 1/10 as the eluent, to afford compound **11** as a white solid (80.2 mg, 88%).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $DMSO-d_6$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  (ppm): 6.77 (s, 1 H), 6.70 (br, 2 H), 6.67 (s, 1 H), 6.65 (s, 1 H), 6.63 (br, 2 H), 6.60 (s, 1 H), 6.57 (s, 1 H), 6.51 (s, 1 H), 6.19 (s, 1 H), 4.00 (br, 2 H), 3.88-3.67 (m, 30 H), 3.61 (s, 2 H), 3.58 (s, 2 H), 1.25-1.12 (m, 33 H).  $^{13}C$  NMR (150 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  (ppm):

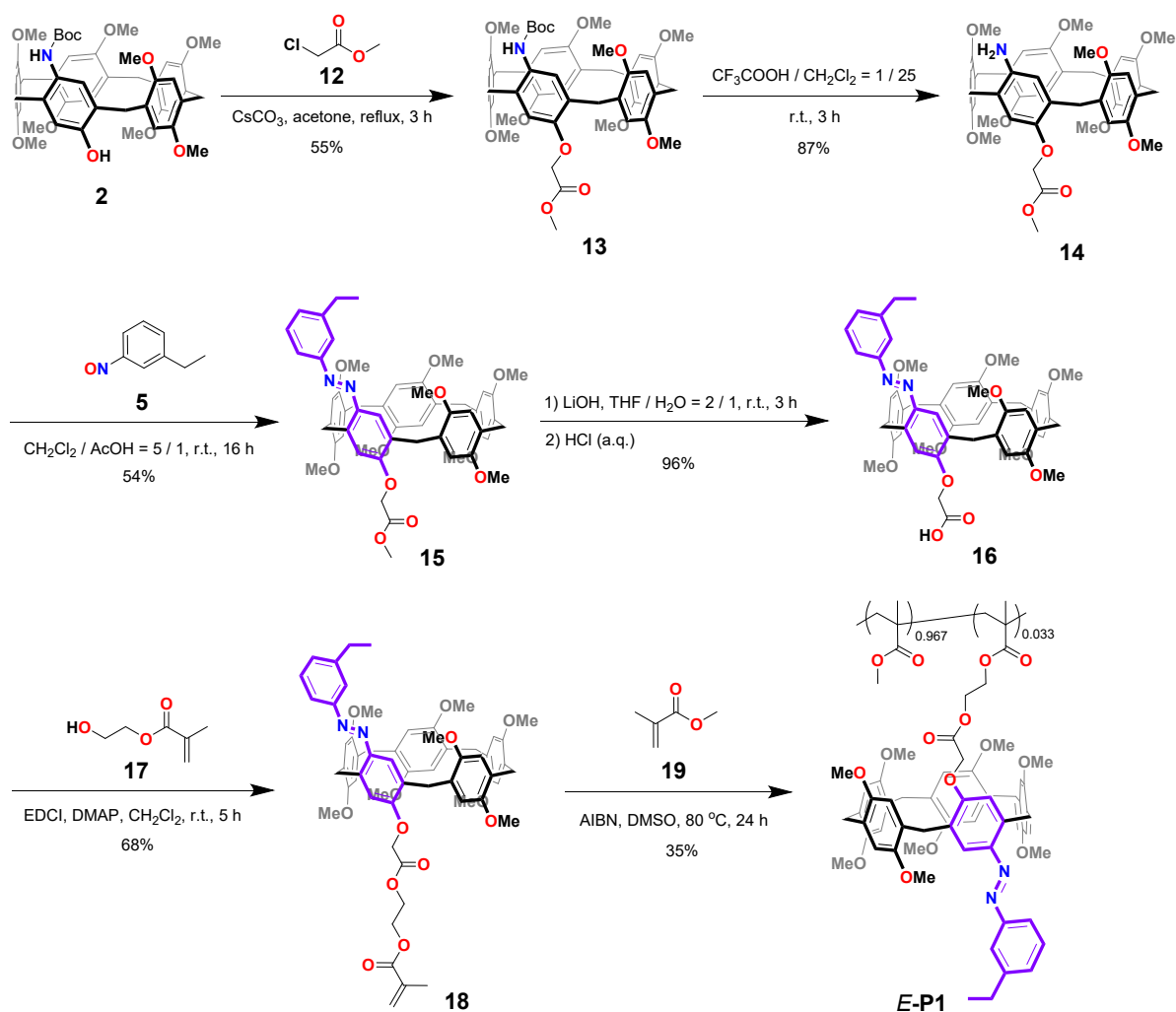
151.00, 150.61, 150.52, 150.51, 150.47, 150.43, 150.39, 150.22, 149.70, 149.57, 138.07, 129.52, 128.55, 128.24, 128.11, 127.85, 127.84, 127.82, 127.75, 127.72, 127.70, 126.35, 124.03, 118.32, 116.06, 116.03, 115.70, 115.47, 115.41, 115.28, 115.16, 114.99, 114.85, 113.24, 64.98, 64.47, 64.31, 64.16, 64.00, 63.99, 63.95, 63.90, 63.79, 32.19, 31.17, 31.14, 30.97, 30.29, 29.57, 15.29, 15.25, 15.21, 15.18, 15.08, 15.06, 15.00. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for  $C_{64}H_{82}NO_{11}$   $[M+H]^+$ : 1040.5883, Found: 1040.5878.

**Compound AzoP[6]A-1<sub>E</sub>**: Compound **11** (80.0 mg, 0.0769 mmol) and compound **5**<sup>[S2]</sup> (20.0 mg, 0.148 mmol) were dissolved in a mixed solvent of acetic acid (1 mL) and dichloromethane (5 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a nitrogen atmosphere for 12 hours, when TLC confirmed the consumption of starting material. Saturated  $NaHCO_3$  aqueous solution was added to adjust the reaction mixture to pH = 8, then, the organic phase was separated and washed with saturated brine ( $3 \times 20$  mL) and dried over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$ . The desiccant was filtered off and the collected filtrate was concentrated *via* evaporation under reduced pressure to afford a yellow solid. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography using a mixture solvent of EtOAc/PE = 1/25 as the eluent to afford a yellow viscous liquid, which was further suspended in methanol (5 mL) and sonicated for 5 minutes. After filtration, the solid was collected and dried under vacuum to yield compound **AzoP[6]A-1<sub>E</sub>** as an orange-yellow solid (40.3 mg, 45%).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CD_3CN$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.70 (s, 1 H), 7.67-7.64 (m, 2 H), 7.45 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.36 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 6.99 (s, 1 H), 6.86 (s, 1 H), 6.71 (s, 1 H), 6.68-6.66 (m, 2 H), 6.65 (s, 1 H), 6.62-6.59 (m, 4 H), 6.58 (s, 1 H), 4.38 (s, 2 H), 4.05 (q,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 2 H), 3.94 (q,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 2 H), 3.84-3.68 (m, 26 H), 3.40 (q,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 2 H), 2.77 (q,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2 H), 1.39 (t,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 1.34-1.11 (m, 30 H), 1.01 (t,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 3 H).  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  (ppm): 159.75, 153.71, 150.89, 150.51, 150.46, 150.45, 150.38, 150.34, 150.09, 145.10, 143.73, 141.85, 129.27, 128.79, 128.09, 128.07, 127.97, 127.93, 127.89, 127.81, 127.65, 127.62, 126.88, 122.11, 119.94, 118.81, 115.66, 115.42, 115.34, 115.30, 115.09, 115.05, 114.99, 114.49, 112.67, 64.22, 64.11, 64.07, 64.01, 63.89, 63.77, 63.70, 63.22, 31.90, 31.36, 30.96, 30.91, 30.70, 30.68, 28.85, 15.57, 15.30, 15.24, 15.17, 15.15, 14.97, 14.92. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for  $C_{72}H_{89}N_2O_{11}$   $[M+H]^+$ : 1157.6461, Found: 1157.6453.

**Compound AzoP[6]A-2<sub>E</sub>**. To a solution of compound **6** (27.2 mg, 0.274 mmol) in 6 mL dichloromethane was added an aqueous solution of Oxone (252 mg, 0.411 mmol, in 6 mL  $H_2O$ ), the biphasic mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 hours. After TLC indicated the complete consumption of starting material, the reaction mixture was transferred to a separatory funnel to separate the organic phase, which was washed sequentially with 4 mL hydrochloric acid aqueous solution ( $HCl_{aq}$ , 1.0 mol/L), saturated  $NaHCO_3$  aqueous solution (10 mL) and saturated brine (10 mL), respectively. The combined organic phase was dried over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$ , which was further removed by filtration. The filtrate was

collected and concentrated *via* evaporation under reduced pressure, affording compound **7** as a brown liquid and directly used in the next step without further purification.

The received crude compound **7** was added into a solution of compound **11** (80.0 mg, 0.0769 mmol) in a mixture of glacial acetic acid and dichloromethane (1/5, v/v, 6 mL total volume), the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a nitrogen atmosphere for 12 hours. When TLC confirmed the complete consumption of the starting material, the reaction was quenched by careful addition of saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> aqueous solution to turn the mixture to pH = 8. Then, the reaction mixture was transferred to a separatory funnel for phase separation, and the organic phase was washed with saturated brine (3 × 20 mL). The combined organic phase was dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, which was further removed by filtration, and the collected filtrate was concentrated *via* evaporation under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using a mixture eluent of PE/EtOAc = 25/1 (v/v), affording a yellow viscous liquid, which was further suspended in methanol (5 mL) and ultrasonicated for 5 minutes. The precipitated solid was collected by filtration, and dried under vacuum to yield compound **AzoP[6]A-2<sub>E</sub>** as an orange-yellow solid (39.5 mg, 44%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) δ (ppm): 7.83-7.82 (m, 2 H), 7.78 (s, 1 H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 6.77 (s, 1 H), 6.76 (s, 1 H), 6.72 (s, 1 H), 6.70 (s, 1 H), 6.66-6.65 (m, 3 H), 6.64 (br, 2 H), 6.63 (s, 1 H), 6.60 (s, 1 H), 4.40 (s, 2 H), 3.93-3.75 (m, 32 H), 3.49 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 1.39-1.33 (m, 9 H), 1.30-1.22 (m, 21 H), 1.10 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3 H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) δ (ppm): 160.27, 153.95, 150.85, 150.50, 150.47, 150.42, 150.40, 150.37, 150.10, 143.58, 142.46, 130.85, 129.73, 128.68, 128.22, 128.14, 128.11, 127.94, 127.85, 127.78, 127.65, 127.54, 126.72, 122.30, 122.09, 118.82, 117.57, 115.57, 115.44, 115.40, 115.30, 115.23, 115.16, 115.12, 115.07, 114.57, 112.57, 64.17, 64.13, 64.10, 64.06, 64.02, 64.00, 63.99, 63.95, 63.93, 63.67, 63.25, 31.95, 31.40, 30.97, 30.95, 30.72, 30.63, 23.60, 15.27, 15.17, 15.15, 15.14, 15.13, 15.11, 15.01, 14.84. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>72</sub>H<sub>86</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>11</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 1168.6257, Found: 1168.6249.



**Scheme S3.** Synthetic rout for the polymer **P1**.

**Compound 13:** To a mixture of compound **2** (100 mg, 0.117 mmol) and  $K_2CO_3$  (50.0 mg, 0.153 mmol) in 2 mL acetone was added compound **12** (50.0 mg, 0.463 mmol), the reaction mixture was heated up to reflux for 3 hours. After naturally cooling down to room temperature, the mixture was filtrated, and the collected filtrate was concentrated *via* evaporation under reduced pressure to give a white solid. It was dissolved in 50 mL dichloromethane and sequentially washed by water (10 mL) and saturated brine (10 mL), respectively, and dried over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$ . The desiccant was further removed by filtration, and the collected filtrate was concentrated *via* evaporation under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using a mixture eluent of PE/EtOAc = 1/1 (v/v), affording a yellow viscous liquid, which was further suspended in n-hexane (5 mL) and ultrasonicated for 5 minutes. The precipitated solid was collected by filtration, and dried under vacuum to yield compound **13** as a white solid (58.0 mg, 55%).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $DMSO-d_6$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  (ppm): 8.28 (s, 1H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 6.82 (d, 2H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 6.76 (s, 2H), 6.74 (d, 2H), 4.78 (s, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 2H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.68-3.66 (m, 11H), 3.65-3.63 (m, 10H), 3.61 (s, 3H), 3.58 (s, 2H), 3.38 (s, 3H), 1.45 (s, 9H).  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  (ppm): 169.71, 153.94, 152.02, 151.36, 151.10,

150.94, 150.83, 150.70, 150.67, 150.59, 149.16, 131.14, 129.22, 129.10, 128.88, 128.63, 128.37, 128.35, 128.26, 128.11, 127.94, 127.14, 125.95, 114.70, 114.52, 114.26, 114.20, 114.12, 113.90, 113.85, 112.93, 112.67, 79.41, 65.80, 56.23, 56.10, 55.96, 55.91, 55.83, 55.82, 55.81, 55.77, 51.07, 31.51, 30.10, 29.59, 28.50. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for  $C_{51}H_{59}NNaO_{13}$   $[M+Na]^+$ : 916.3884, Found: 916.3879.

**Compound 14:** To a solution of compound **13** (40.0 mg, 0.0447 mmol) in dichloromethane (5 mL) was added TFA (0.3 mL), the mixture was stirred at room temperature under a nitrogen atmosphere for 3 hours. After TLC confirmed the consumption of starting material, the reaction mixture was concentrated *via* evaporation under reduced pressure to give a white solid, which was further dissolved in dichloromethane (20 mL) and sequentially washed by saturated  $NaHCO_3$  aqueous solution ( $3 \times 10$  mL) and saturated brine ( $3 \times 10$  mL), respectively. The combined organic phase was dried over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$  and the desiccant was further removed by filtration. The collected filtrate was concentrated *via* evaporation under reduced pressure to afford compound **14** a white solid (31.0 mg, 87%).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $DMSO-d_6$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  (ppm): 6.94 (s, 1H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 6.82 (s, 1H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 6.77-6.76 (m, 3H), 6.58 (s, 1H), 6.46 (s, 1H), 4.61 (s, 2H), 4.47 (br, 2H), 3.68 (br, 7H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.66-3.64 (m, 14H), 3.62-3.60 (m, 8H), 3.54 (s, 2H), 3.37 (s, 3H).  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  (ppm): 170.12, 151.28, 150.92, 150.90, 150.86, 150.74, 150.72, 150.71, 150.00, 148.67, 138.12, 129.44, 128.89, 128.50, 128.45, 128.33, 128.26, 127.92, 127.44, 125.33, 119.49, 114.56, 114.53, 114.43, 114.24, 114.21, 114.07, 113.81, 113.19, 66.50, 56.24, 56.07, 55.97, 55.95, 55.86, 55.83, 55.80, 51.31, 30.91, 30.05, 29.81, 29.74, 29.61. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for  $C_{46}H_{52}NO_{11}$   $[M+H]^+$ : 794.3540, Found: 794.3534.

**Compound 15:** Compound **14** (100 mg, 0.126 mmol) and compound **5** (35.0 mg, 0.259 mmol) were dissolved in a mixture solvent of glacial acetic acid (1 mL) and dichloromethane (5 mL), the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a nitrogen atmosphere for 16 hours. When TLC indicated the complete consumption of the starting material, saturated  $NaHCO_3$  aqueous solution was carefully added to quench the reaction and turn the mixture to pH = 8. Then, the reaction mixture was transferred to a separatory funnel for phase separation, and the organic phase was washed with saturated brine ( $3 \times 20$  mL). The combined organic phase was dried over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$ , which was further removed by filtration, and the collected filtrate was concentrated *via* evaporation under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using a mixture eluent of PE/EtOAc = 9/1 (v/v), affording a yellow viscous liquid, which was further suspended in n-hexane (2 mL) and ultrasonicated for 5 minutes. The precipitated solid was collected by filtration, and dried under vacuum to yield compound **15** as an orange-yellow solid (62.0 mg, 54%).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.82 (s, 1H), 7.81 (s, 1H), 7.79 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (s, 1H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 6.80 (s, 1H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 6.74 (s, 1H), 6.72 (s,

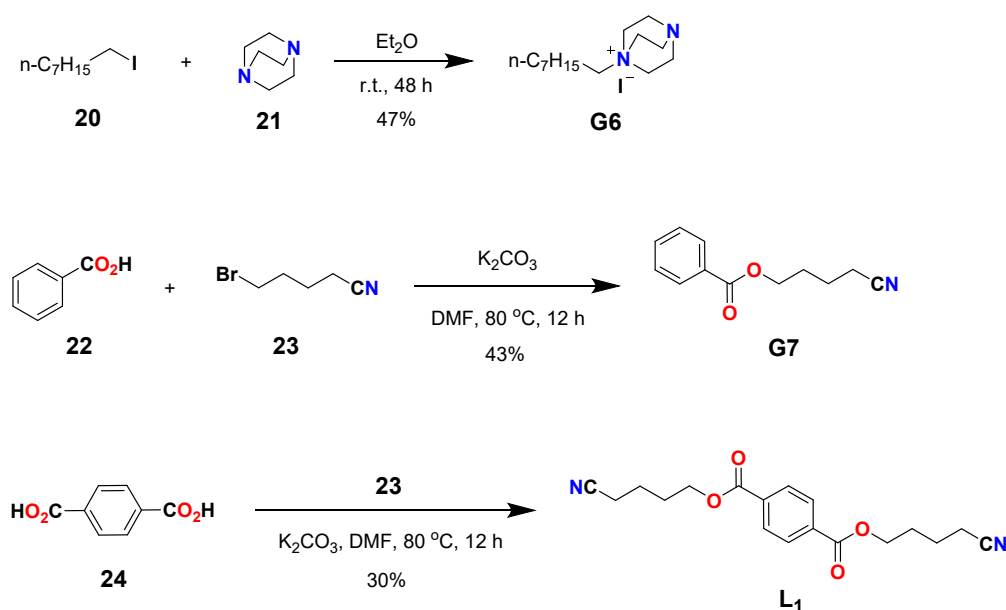
1H), 6.63 (s, 1H), 4.58 (s, 2H), 4.41 (s, 2H), 3.85 (s, 2H), 3.80 (s, 2H), 3.77 (s, 2H), 3.76-3.75 (m, 5H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.70 (s, 6H), 3.68 (s, 6H), 3.61 (s, 3H), 3.46 (s, 3H), 2.79 (q,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.50 (s, 3H), 1.33 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  (ppm): 169.00, 158.19, 153.51, 151.46, 150.83, 150.59, 150.52, 150.51, 150.48, 150.35, 150.33, 145.28, 143.73, 142.73, 129.66, 128.94, 128.71, 128.67, 128.29, 128.26, 128.13, 128.10, 127.88, 127.10, 122.14, 120.00, 118.60, 114.78, 114.28, 114.20, 114.05, 113.79, 113.77, 113.50, 113.36, 111.83, 64.75, 56.07, 55.89, 55.83, 55.75, 55.66, 55.58, 55.53, 51.05, 31.10, 29.74, 29.50, 29.02, 28.94, 28.84, 15.56. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{54}\text{H}_{59}\text{N}_2\text{O}_{11}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 911.4119, Found: 911.4113.

**Compound 16:** To a solution of compound **15** (40.0 mg, 0.0439 mmol) in THF (1.4 mL) was dropwise added a solution of  $\text{LiOH}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (81.0 mg, 1.93 mmol) in water (0.7 mL), the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a nitrogen atmosphere for 3 hours. After TLC confirmed the reaction was completed, aqueous solution of hydrochloric acid (1 M) was added to adjust the reaction mixture to  $\text{pH} = 3\sim 4$ . Then, the reaction mixture was transferred to a separatory funnel for phase separation, and the organic phase was washed with saturated brine ( $3 \times 20$  mL), and the combined organic phase was dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . The desiccant was filtered off, and the collected filtrate was concentrated *via* evaporation under reduced pressure to afford compound **16** as a yellow solid (38.0 mg, crude yield 96%). Note: the obtained compound **16** was used directly in the next step without further purification.

**Compound 18:** To a solution of compound **16** (55.0 mg, 0.0613 mmol) in dichloromethane (3.0 mL) was dropwise added another solution of DMAP (8.0 mg, 0.065 mmol), EDCI (16.0 mg, 0.0845 mmol) and compound **17** (8.5 mg, 0.0653 mmol) in dichloromethane (1.0 mL) while kept cooling in an ice-bath, the reaction mixture was then stirred at room temperature for 5 hours. After TLC indicated the consumption of starting material, the reaction was quenched by adding dichloromethane (20 mL). The separated organic phase was sequentially washed with aqueous hydrochloric acid (1M, 20 mL), saturated  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  aqueous solution (20 mL), and saturated brine (20 mL), respectively. The combined organic phase was dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and the desiccant was further filtrate off. The collected filtrate was concentrated *via* evaporation under reduced pressure to afford crude product, which was purified by flash column chromatography using a binary solvent of  $\text{PE}/\text{EtOAc} = 10/1$  (v/v) as eluent to yield compound **18** as an orange-yellow solid (42.0 mg, 68% yield).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.79 (s, 1H), 7.77-7.74 (m, 2H), 7.44 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.90 (s, 2H), 6.89 (s, 1H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 6.75 (s, 2H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 6.65 (s, 1H), 6.53 (s, 1H), 5.68 (s, 1H), 5.36 (s, 1H), 4.57 (s, 2H), 4.39 (s, 2H), 3.83 (s, 2H), 3.78 (s, 2H), 3.77-3.76 (m, 8H), 3.74 (s, 2H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 3.35 (s, 3H), 3.19 (br, 2H), 3.12 (br, 2H), 2.77 (q,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 1.32 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  (ppm): 168.29, 166.53, 158.33, 153.51, 151.66,

150.88, 150.62, 150.58, 150.53, 150.33, 150.23, 145.30, 143.81, 142.61, 135.46, 129.66, 128.95, 128.92, 128.46, 128.35, 128.26, 128.07, 127.83, 127.73, 127.66, 126.83, 126.17, 122.25, 119.83, 118.56, 115.59, 114.37, 114.26, 113.74, 113.55, 113.52, 113.48, 113.32, 112.27, 64.65, 62.88, 61.48, 56.22, 55.86, 55.69, 55.65, 55.59, 55.49, 55.31, 55.22, 31.33, 29.71, 29.70, 28.91, 28.82, 28.67, 18.32, 15.51. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for  $C_{59}H_{65}N_2O_{13}$   $[M+H]^+$ : 1009.4487, Found: 1009.4480.

**Polymer E-P1:** A glass tube was charged with compound **18** (50.0 mg, 0.0496 mmol), methyl methacrylate (**19**) (150 mg, 1.53 mmol), AIBN (0.4 mg, 0.0024 mmol) and anhydrous DMSO (1.5 mL). The reaction system was subjected to three freeze-pump-thaw cycles under liquid nitrogen, after which the tube was allowed to warm up to room temperature and then sealed. The reaction mixture was heated up to 80 °C and stirred for 24 hours. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction solution was added dropwise to chilled diethyl ether (50 mL), precipitating an orange-yellow solid. The resulting solid was dissolved in chloroform (15 mL) and washed with water ( $3 \times 5$  mL). The combined organic phase was dried over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$ , which was further filtrate off, and the collected filtrate was concentrated *via* evaporation under reduced pressure. The residue was dried under vacuum to afford the orange-yellow polymeric solid **E-P1** (70.0 mg, 35% yield based on monomer **18**,  $M_n$ , GPC = 39.2 kDa).



**Scheme S4.** Synthetic routs for the guests of **G6** and **G7**, as well as the crosslinker **L1**.

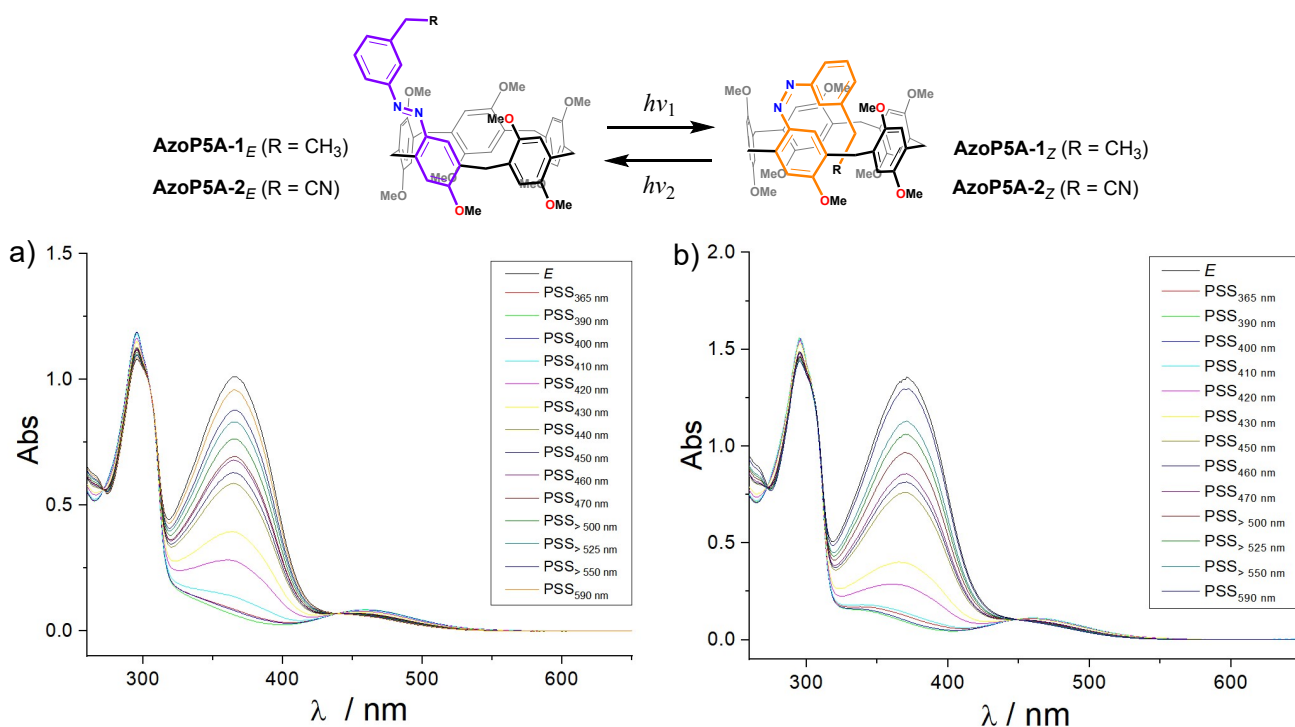
**Compound G6:** Compounds **20** (720 mg, 3.00 mmol) and **21** (336 mg, 3.00 mmol) were dissolved in anhydrous diethyl ether (30 mL), the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 48 hours. The reaction mixture was concentrated *via* evaporation under reduced pressure to remove the solvent, and the resulting residue was dissolved in an appropriate amount of chloroform. Anhydrous diethyl ether was then added dropwise to this solution until turbidity was observed. The dense phase (lower layer) was collected and

dried in a vacuum oven at 45 °C for 2 hours, affording compound **6** as a colorless transparent liquid (501 mg, 47%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) δ (ppm): 3.61 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6 H), 3.44-3.41 (m, 2 H), 3.25 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6 H), 1.79-1.74 (m, 2 H), 1.37-1.30 (m, 4 H), 1.27-1.19 (m, 6 H), 0.85 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3 H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) δ (ppm): 64.75, 52.54, 45.34, 31.59, 29.09, 29.02, 26.34, 22.54, 22.20, 14.06. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N [M-I]<sup>+</sup>: 225.2326, Found: 225.2315.

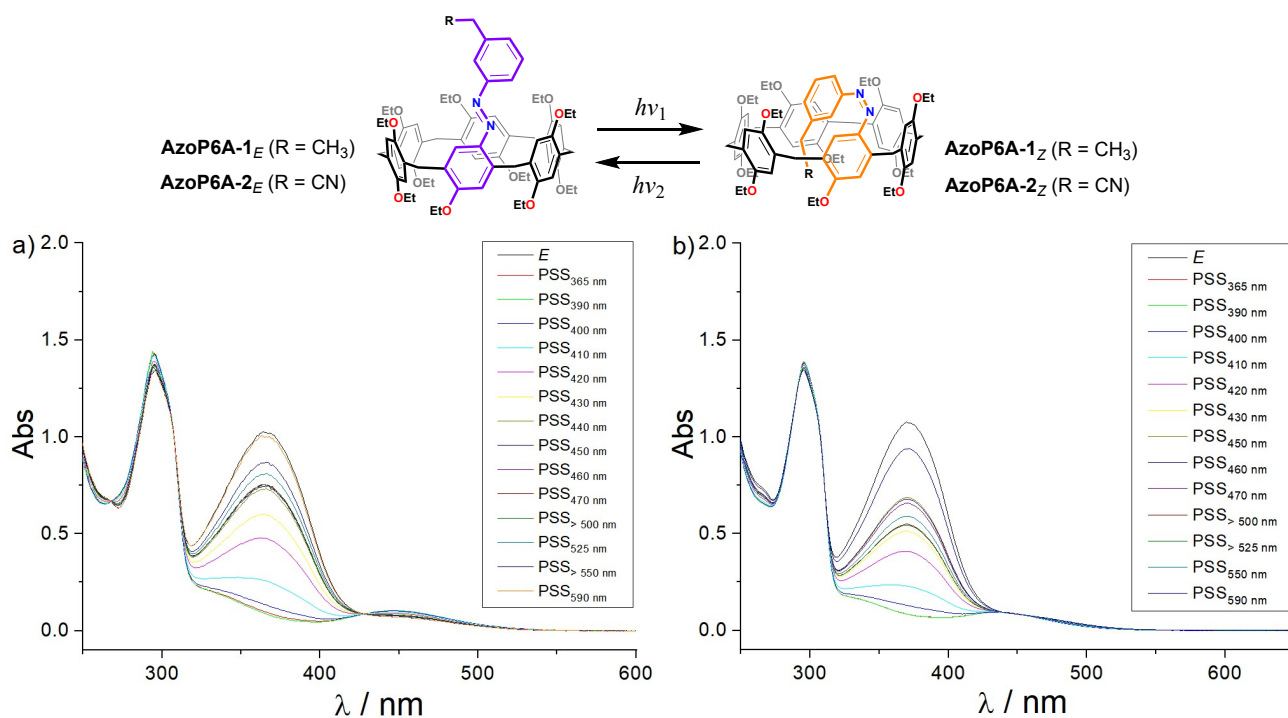
**Compound G7:** To the solution of compound **22** (500 mg, 4.09 mmol) and anhydrous K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (566 mg, 4.10 mmol) in 5 mL DMF was added compound **23** (531 mg, 3.28 mmol), the reaction mixture was heated up at 80 °C and stirred for 12 hours. After naturally cooling down to room temperature, the reaction mixture was filtered, and the collected filtrate was concentrated *via* evaporation under reduced pressure to give a white solid. The obtained crude solid was dissolved in ethyl acetate (50 mL) and sequentially washed with water (3 × 50 mL) and saturated brine (3 × 50 mL). The combined organic phase was dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, which was further filtrate off, and the collected filtrate was concentrated *via* evaporation under reduced pressure. The received crude product was purified by flash column chromatography using dichloromethane as the eluent to afford compound **G7** as a white solid (357 mg, 43%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) δ (ppm): 8.06 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 4.40 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.48 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.02-1.95 (m, 2H), 1.91-1.84 (m, 2H).

**Compound L1:** To the solution of compound **24** (300 mg, 1.81 mmol) and anhydrous K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (497 mg, 3.60 mmol) in 5 mL DMF was added compound **23** (525 mg, 3.24 mmol), the reaction mixture was heated at 80 °C and stirred for 12 hours. After naturally cooling down to room temperature, the reaction mixture was filtered, and the collected filtrate was concentrated *via* evaporation under reduced pressure to give a white solid. The obtained crude solid was dissolved in ethyl acetate (50 mL) and sequentially washed with water (3 × 50 mL) and saturated brine (3 × 50 mL). The combined organic phase was dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, which was further filtrate off, and the collected filtrate was concentrated *via* evaporation under reduced pressure. The received crude product was purified by flash column chromatography using dichloromethane as the eluent to afford compound **L<sub>1</sub>** as a white solid (177 mg, 30%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) δ (ppm): 8.13 (s, 4H), 4.43 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 4H), 2.49 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 2.03-1.98 (m, 4H), 1.91-1.86 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) δ: 165.60, 133.91, 129.90, 119.19, 64.14, 27.72, 22.31, 16.99. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 329.1495, Found: 329.1501.

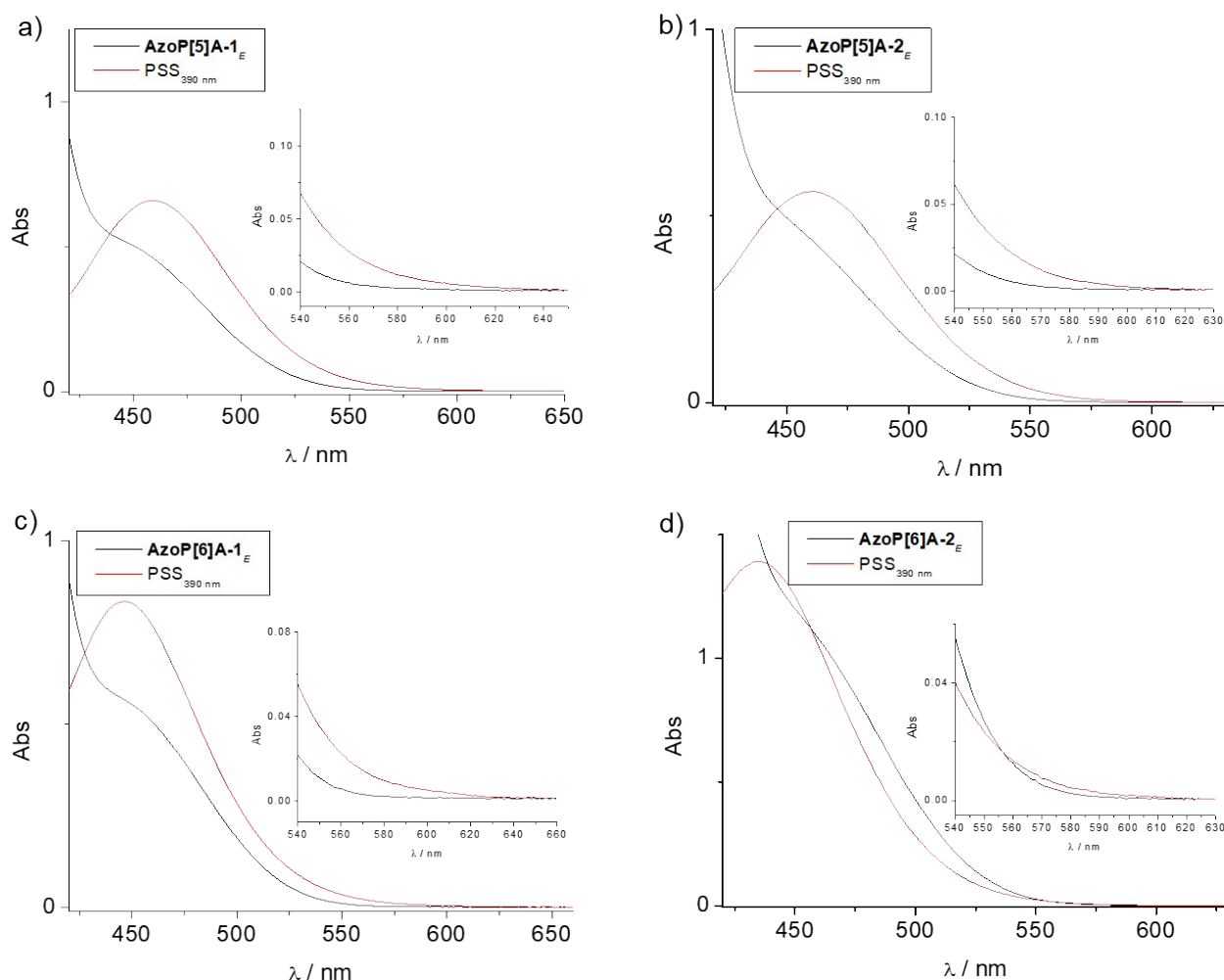
### Section 3: Photoswitching Properties of AzoP[5]A-1,2 and AzoP[6]A-1,2



**Fig. S1** Schematic representation for the *Z/E* photoisomerization of AzoP[5]A-1 and AzoP[5]A-2, as well as the UV-Vis absorption spectra of a) AzoP[5]A-1 (0.06 mM), and b) AzoP[5]A-2 (0.08 mM) in the pristine state and at the PSS after irradiation with various light sources recorded in CHCl<sub>3</sub> at 25 °C.



**Fig. S2** Schematic representation for the *Z/E* photoisomerization of AzoP[6]A-1 and AzoP[6]A-2, as well as the UV-Vis absorption spectra of a) AzoP[6]A-1 (0.05 mM), and b) AzoP[6]A-2 (0.05 mM) in the pristine state and at the PSS after irradiation with various light sources recorded in CHCl<sub>3</sub> at 25 °C.



**Fig. S3** The UV/Vis absorption spectra of a) **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub>** (0.4 mM) before (black line) and after (red line) irradiation, b) **AzoP[5]A-2<sub>E</sub>** (0.4 mM) before (black line) and after (red line), c) **AzoP[6]A-1<sub>E</sub>** (0.4 mM) before (black line) and after (red line), and d) **AzoP[6]A-2<sub>E</sub>** (0.8 mM) before (black line) and after (red line) irradiation by using 390 nm UV light in  $\text{CHCl}_3$ . Insets show the UV/Vis absorption spectra at  $\lambda \geq 540$  nm of the solution before and after UV irradiation. The absorption spectra were recorded at 25 °C.

**Determination of photochromic quantum yields.** Photochromic quantum yields were determined according to the standard procedure described in previous literatures.<sup>S4,S5</sup> Potassium ferrioxalate ( $\text{K}_3[\text{Fe}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)_3]$ ) was used as actinometer<sup>S6</sup> for the photocyclization quantum yields. Firstly, the light intensity was determined by following steps: i) Prepare 3 mL of a solution of 0.003 M  $\text{K}_3[\text{Fe}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)_3]$  and 0.025 M  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ ; ii) 0.5 mL of phenanthroline solution (0.05 wt% in 0.25 M  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ /0.8 M NaOAc) was added; iii) measuring the absorbance before and after irradiated for 4 seconds. The light intensity  $I_0$  was calculated *via* equation 1.

$$I_0 = \frac{\Delta A_{510 \text{ nm}}}{\Delta t \times \varepsilon_{510 \text{ nm}} \times \Phi_{irr} \times 1000} \times \frac{3.5 \text{ mL}}{3.0 \text{ mL}} \quad \text{Eq. 1}$$

Where  $\Delta A_{510 \text{ nm}}$  is the difference value of the absorption at 510 nm before and after irradiation with 390 nm,  $\Delta t$  is the irradiation time,  $\varepsilon_{510 \text{ nm}}$  is 11100 M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup> and  $\Phi_{irr}$  is the quantum yield at 390 nm (1.13).

For the determination of the quantum yield equation 2 was used:

$$\Phi = \frac{\Delta A / \Delta t}{(1 - 10^{-A'}) \times \varepsilon \times I_0 \times 1000} \quad \text{Eq. 2}$$

Where  $\Delta A / \Delta t$  is the change rate of absorbance upon irradiation at excitation wavelength;  $\varepsilon$  is the extinction coefficient at observed wavelength;  $1 - 10^{-A'}$  is the percentage of the absorbed photons by the solution at irradiation wavelength,  $A'$  is the absorbance of *trans* at excitation wavelength;  $I_0$  is the light intensity calculated in Eq. 1.

For the *cis* to *trans* quantum yields, aberchrome 670 was used as an actinometer.<sup>S7</sup> The light intensity was measured as following: i) 3 mL of aberchrome 670 solution ( $1 \times 10^{-4}$  M) in toluene was irradiated with 365 nm light for 50 s; ii) irradiate it back with 590 nm light for 40 s; iii) measuring the absorbance at 519 nm before and after the 590 nm light irradiation. The light intensity  $I_0$  was calculated via equation 3.

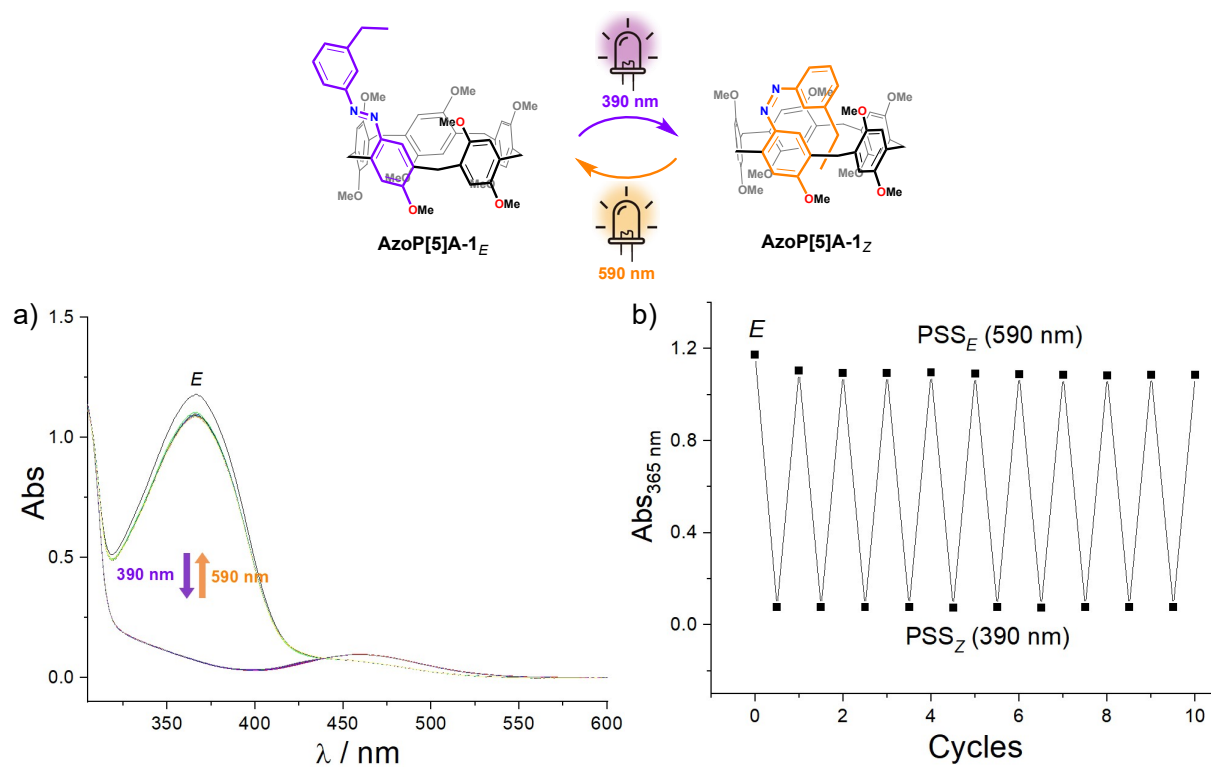
$$I_0 = \frac{\Delta A_{519 \text{ nm}}}{\Delta t \times \varepsilon_{519 \text{ nm}} \times \Phi_{irr} \times 1000 \times (1 - 10^{-A'})} \quad \text{Eq. 3}$$

Where  $\Delta A_{519 \text{ nm}}$  is the difference value of the absorption at 519 nm before and after irradiation with 590 nm;  $\Delta t$  is the irradiation time;  $\varepsilon_{519 \text{ nm}}$  is 7760 M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>;  $\Phi_{irr}$  is the quantum yield at 590 nm (0.27), and  $A'$  is the absorbance of *cis* at excitation wavelength. The *cis* to *trans* quantum yields were also calculated via equation 2.

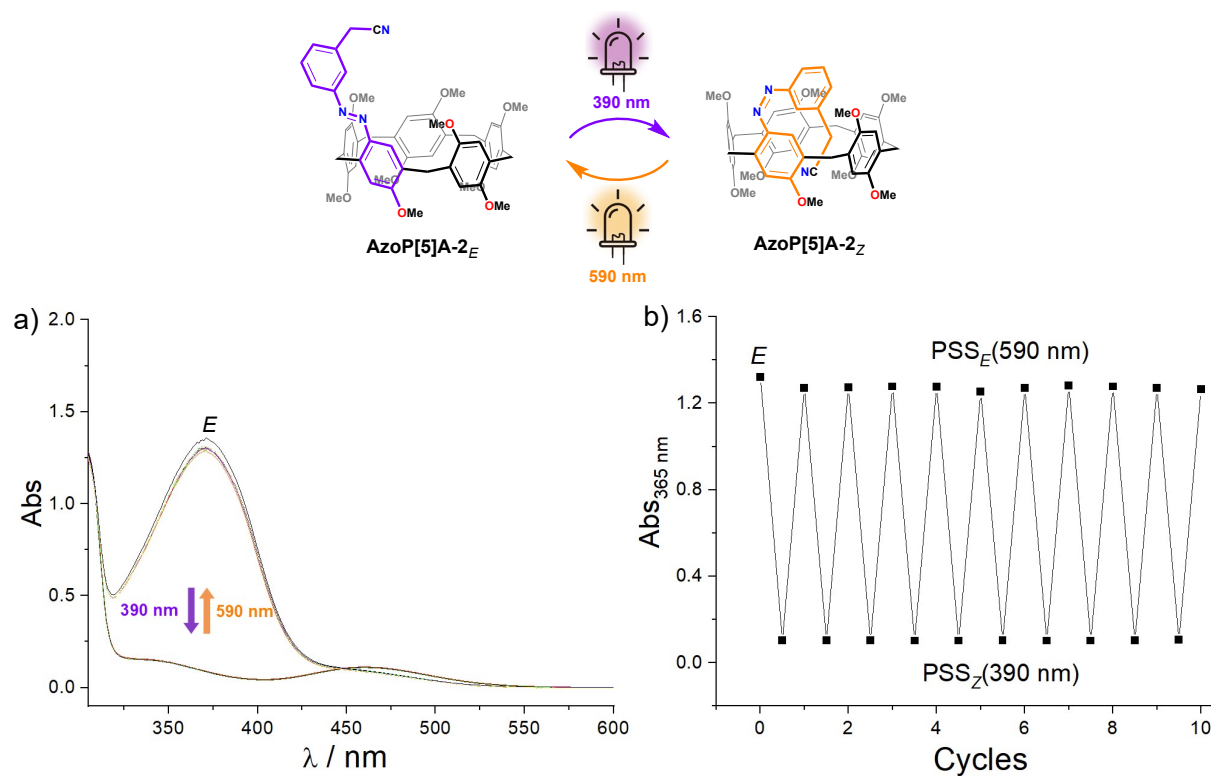
**Table S1.** Photoisomerization quantum yields of different hosts in CHCl<sub>3</sub>.

Hosts	$\varepsilon_{E(390 \text{ nm})}$	$\varepsilon_{Z(590 \text{ nm})}$	$\Phi_{E \text{ to } Z}(\%)^a$	$\Phi_{Z \text{ to } E}(\%)^b$
<b>AzoP[5]A-1</b>	11371	20.1	47	21
<b>AzoP[5]A-2</b>	13437	10.8	64	34
<b>AzoP[6]A-1</b>	13658	17.8	39	21
<b>AzoP[6]A-2</b>	16302	3.8	58	37

[a] 390 nm was used as excitation wavelength for *E* to *Z* photoisomerization. [b] 590 nm was used as excitation wavelength for *Z* to *E* photoisomerization.

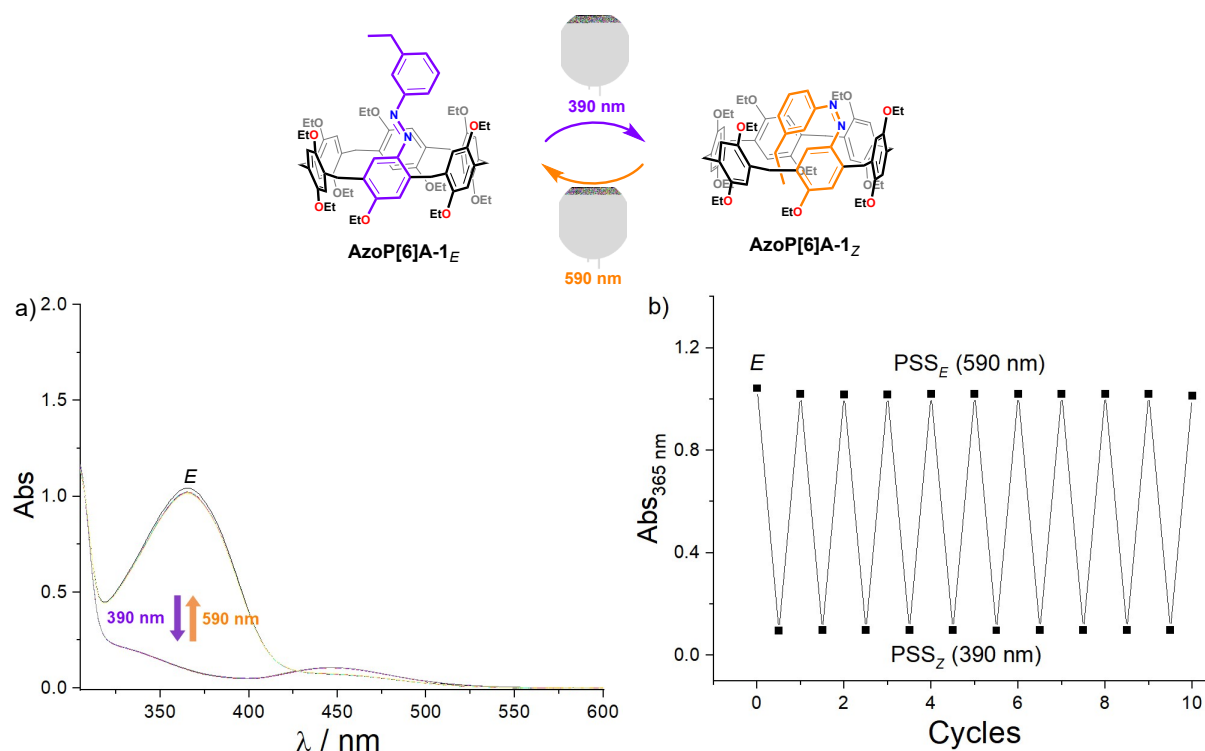


**Fig. S4** a) The UV-Vis absorption spectra of **AzoP[5]A-1** (0.07 mM), and b) plot of corresponding absorption  $\lambda$  at 365 nm after 390 nm UV light irradiation, and UV light-irradiated **AzoP[5]A-1** solution after 590 nm yellow light irradiation before next UV irradiation in  $\text{CHCl}_3$ . The absorption spectra were recorded at 25 °C.

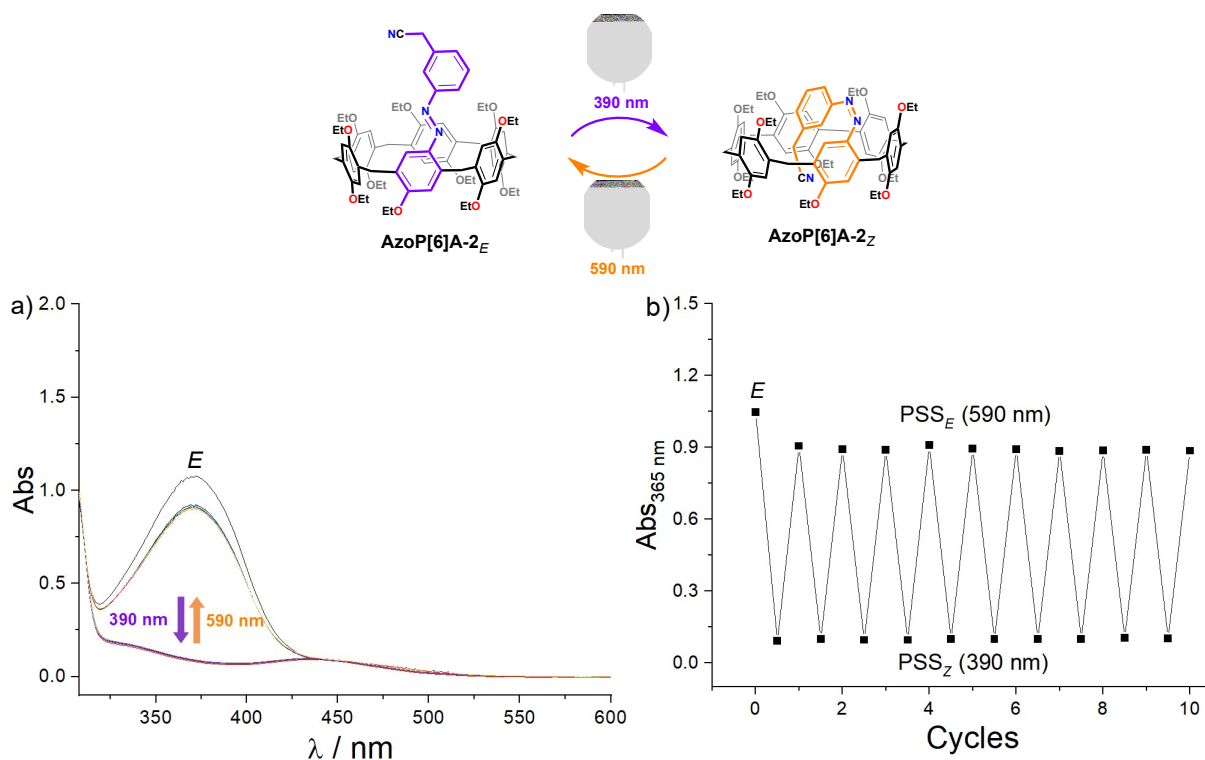


**Fig. S5** a) The UV-Vis absorption spectra of **AzoP[5]A-2** (0.08 mM), and b) plot of corresponding absorption  $\lambda$  at

365 nm after 390 nm UV light irradiation, and UV light-irradiated **AzoP[5]A-2** solution after 590 nm yellow light irradiation before next UV irradiation in CHCl<sub>3</sub>. The absorption spectra were recorded at 25 °C.

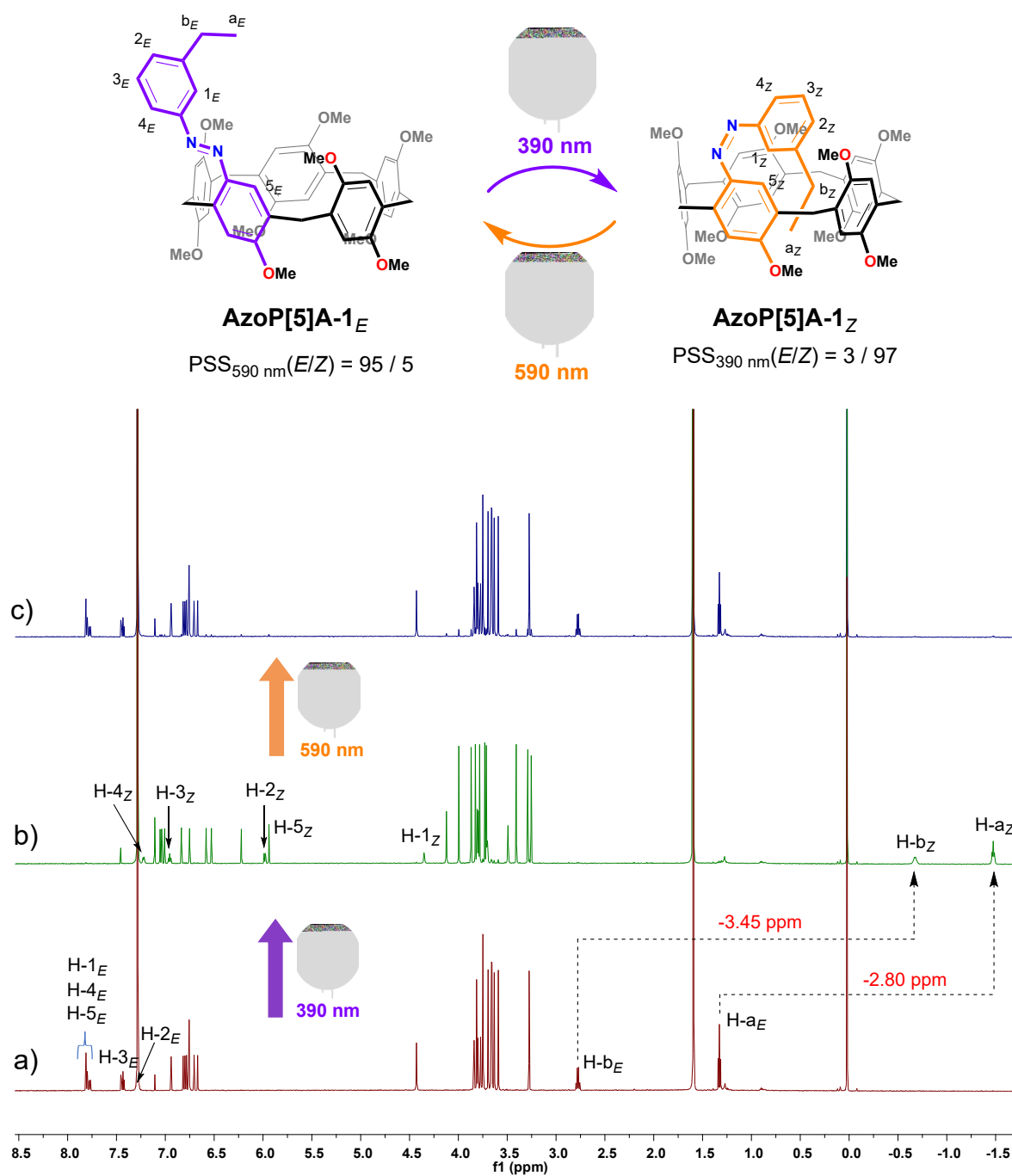


**Fig. S6** a) The UV-Vis absorption spectra of **AzoP[6]A-1** (0.05 mM), and b) plot of corresponding absorption  $\lambda$  at 365 nm after 390 nm UV light irradiation, and UV light-irradiated **AzoP[6]A-1** solution after 590 nm yellow light irradiation before next UV irradiation in CHCl<sub>3</sub>. The absorption spectra were recorded at 25 °C.

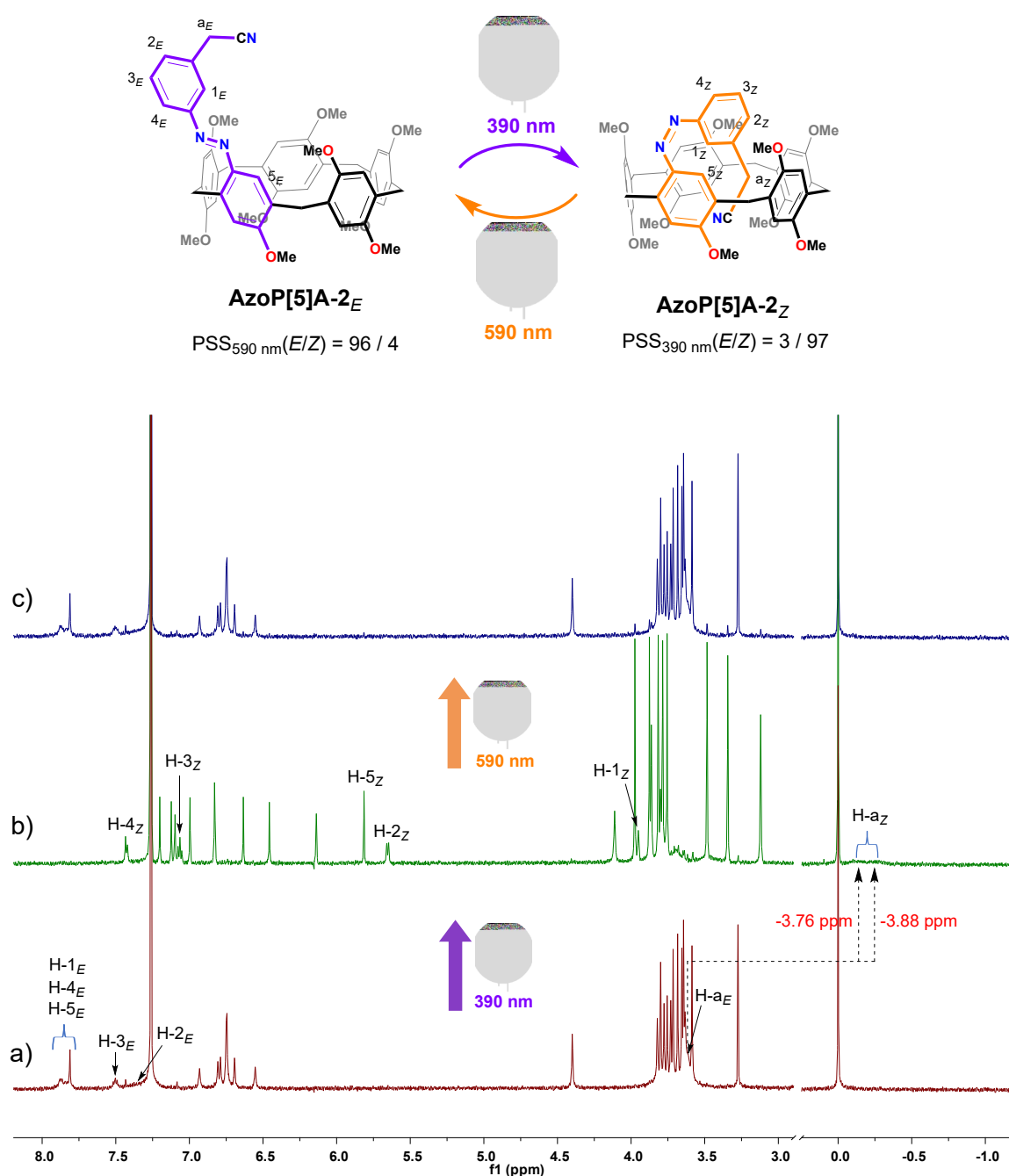


**Fig. S7** a) The UV-Vis absorption spectra of **AzoP[6]A-2** (0.05 mM), and b) plot of corresponding absorption  $\lambda$  at 365 nm after 390 nm UV light irradiation, and UV light-irradiated **AzoP[6]A-2** solution after 590 nm yellow light

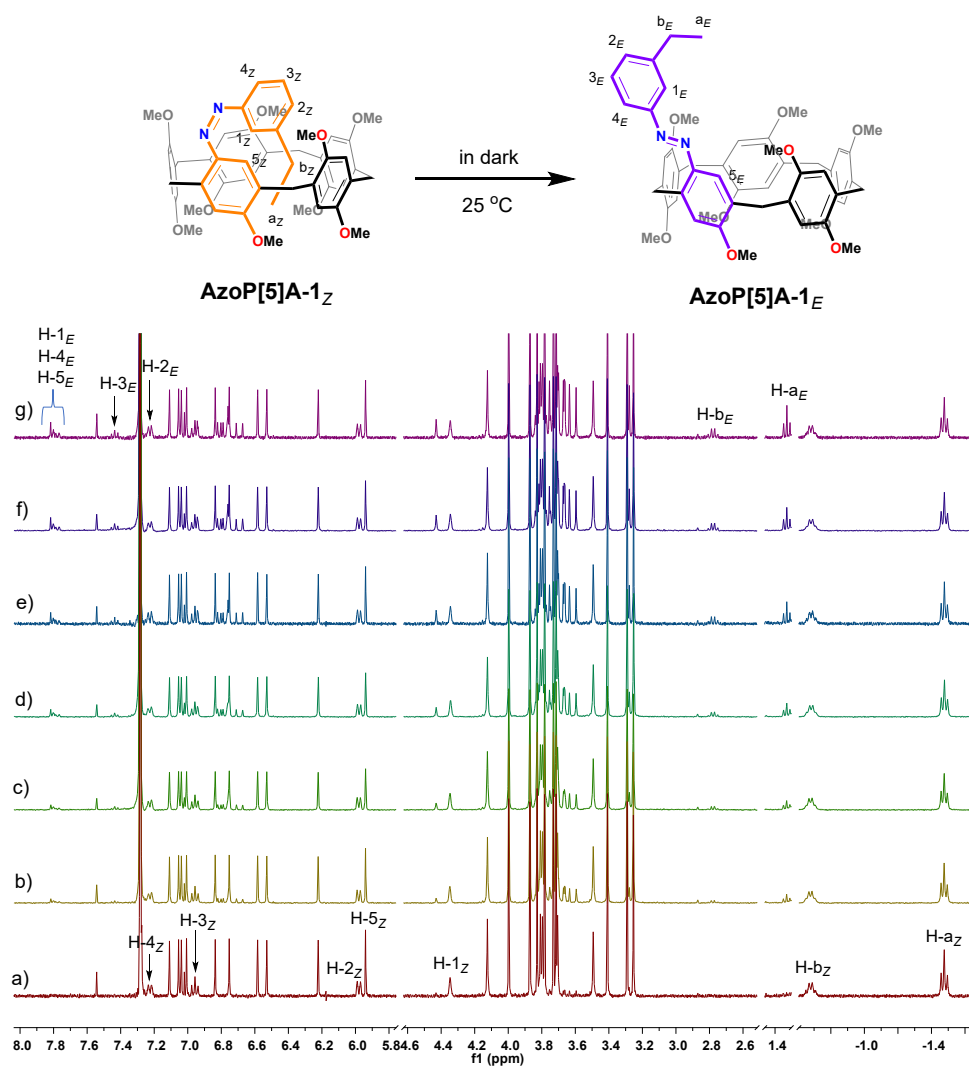
irradiation before next UV irradiation in  $\text{CHCl}_3$ . The absorption spectra were recorded at 25 °C.



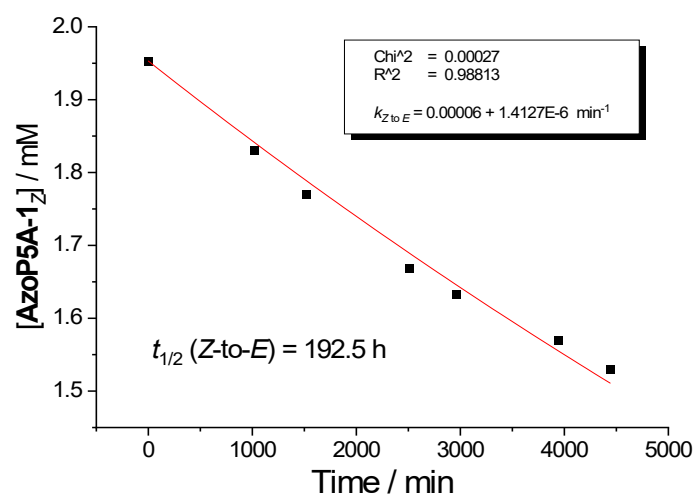
**Fig. S8** Schematic illustration of reversible photoinduced self-folding behavior of **AzoP[5]A-1** upon irradiation by 390 nm / 590 nm light irradiation, as well as the partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298K) for the solution of a) **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub>** (2.0 mM), b) the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of **AzoP[5]A-1** (2.0 mM), and c) the PSS<sub>E</sub> (590 nm) mixtures of **AzoP[5]A-1** (2.0 mM).



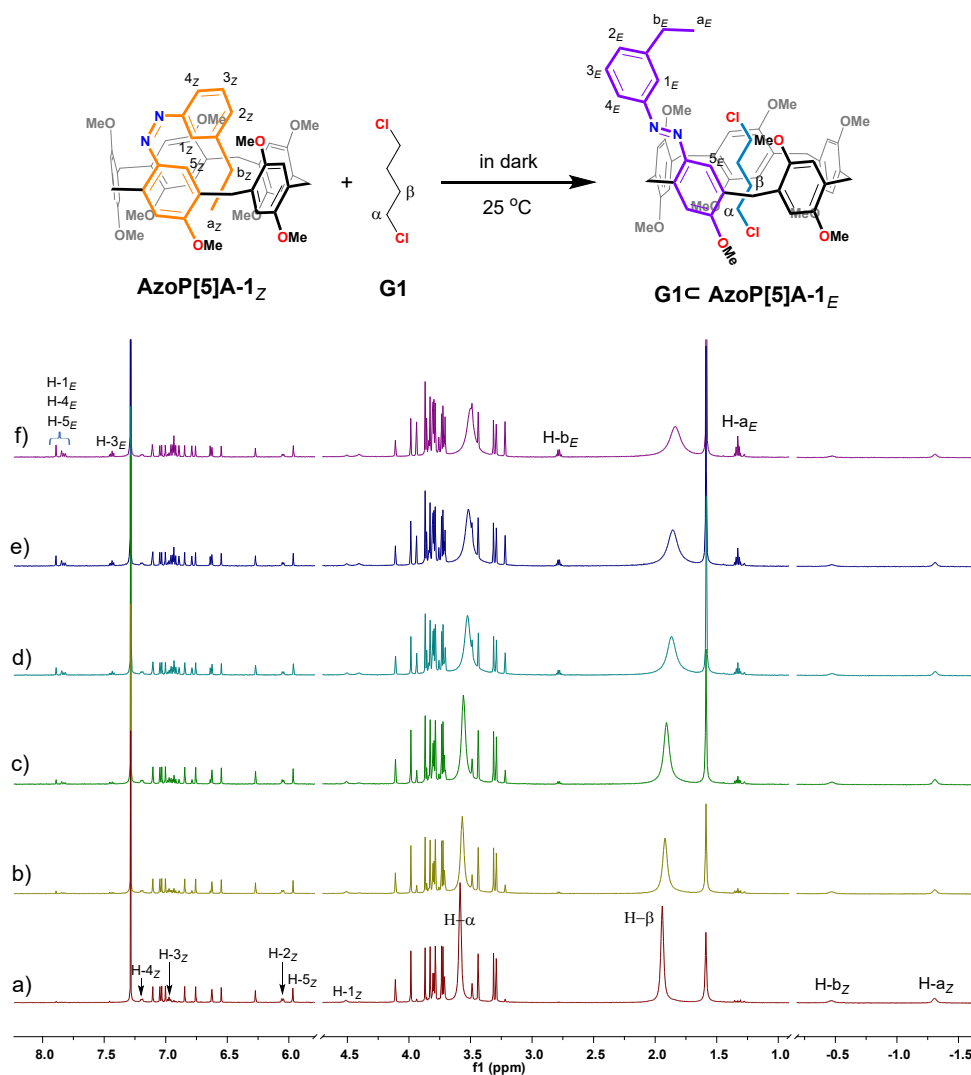
**Fig. S9** Schematic illustration of reversible photoinduced self-folding behavior of **AzoP[5]A-2** upon irradiation by 390 nm / 590 nm light irradiation, as well as the partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298K) for the solution of a) **AzoP[5]A-2<sub>E</sub>** (2.0 mM), b) the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of **AzoP[5]A-2** (2.0 mM), and c) the PSS<sub>E</sub> (590 nm) mixtures of **AzoP[5]A-2** (2.0 mM).



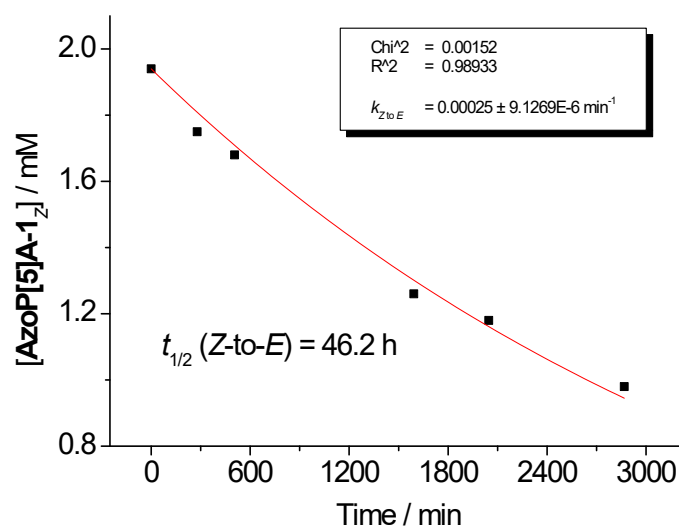
**Fig. S10** Schematic representation of the *Z*-to-*E* thermal relaxation behavior of **AzoP[5]A-1**, and partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (400 MHz, 2.0 mM, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) for the solution of the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of **AzoP[5]A-1** under conditions of a) as prepared, and after the rest of b) 16 h 58 min, c) 25 h 22 min, d) 41 h 53 min, e) 49 h 22 min, f) 65 h 43 min, and g) 74 h at 25 °C in dark.



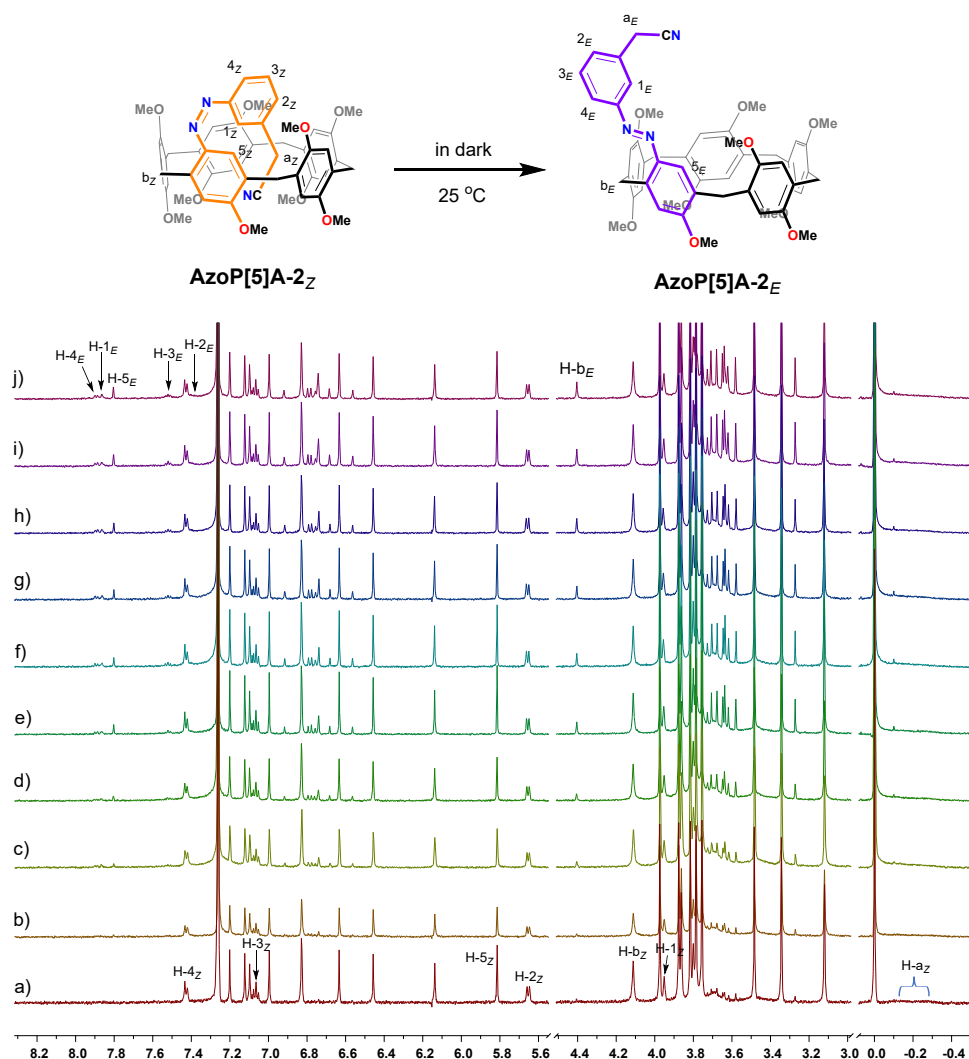
**Fig. S11** Time dependent concentration changing plots and the fitting curve of **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>Z</sub>** at 25 °C in dark based on the data of Fig. S10.



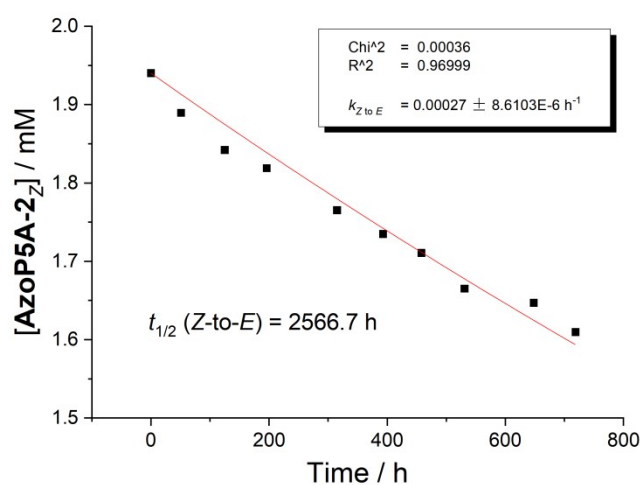
**Fig. S12** Schematic representation of the *Z*-to-*E* thermal relaxation behavior of AzoP[5]A-1 in the presence of 10 equiv. of G1, and partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) for the solution of the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of AzoP[5]A-1 (2.0 mM) after addition of 10 equiv. of G1 and rest for a) 0 min, b) 4 h 39 min, c) 8 h 26 min, d) 26 h 32 min, e) 34 h 7 min, and f) 47 h 48 min at 25 °C in dark.



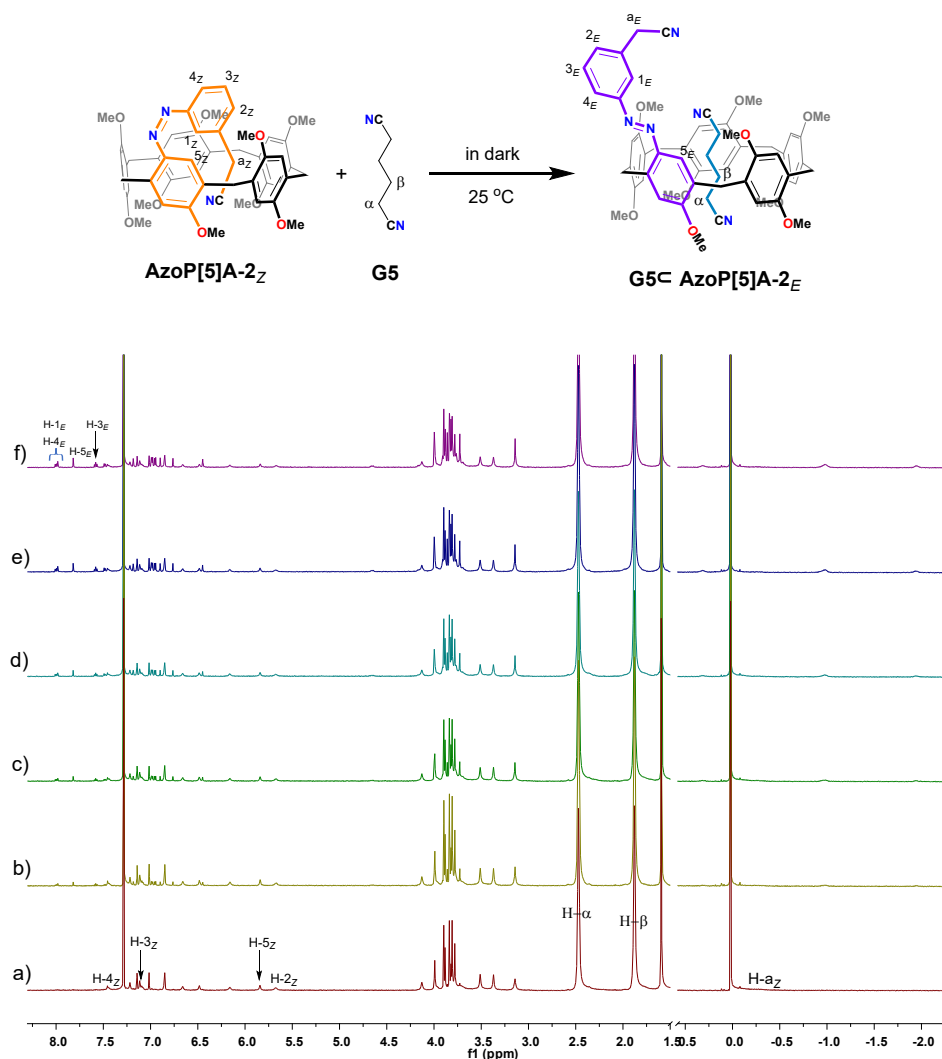
**Fig. S13** Time dependent concentration changing plots and the fitting curve of AzoP[5]A-1<sub>Z</sub> in the presence of G1 at 25 °C in dark based on the data of Fig. S12.



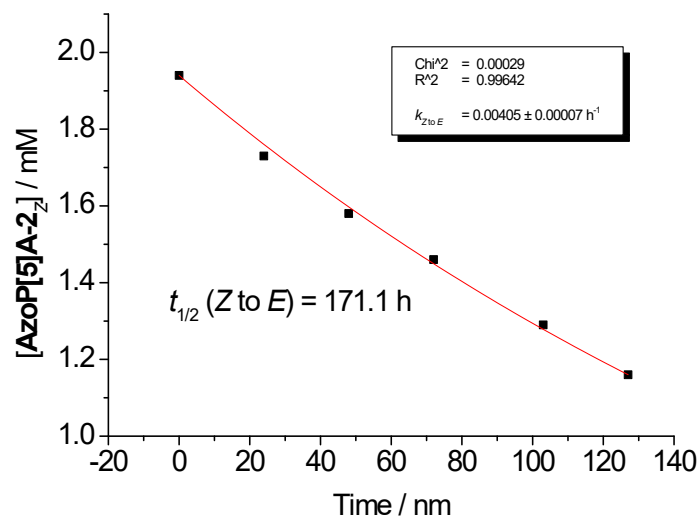
**Fig. S14** Schematic representation of the Z-to-E thermal relaxation behavior of **AzoP[5]A-2**, and partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (400 MHz, 2.0 mM, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) for the solution of the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of **AzoP[5]A-2** under conditions of a) as prepared, and after the rest of b) 2 days and 3 hours, c) 5 days and 5 hours, d) 8 days and 4 hours, e) 13 days and 3 hours, f) 16 days and 9 hours, g) 19 days and 2 hours, h) 22 days and 3 hours, i) 27 days and 3 hours and j) 29 days and 23 hours at 25 °C in dark.



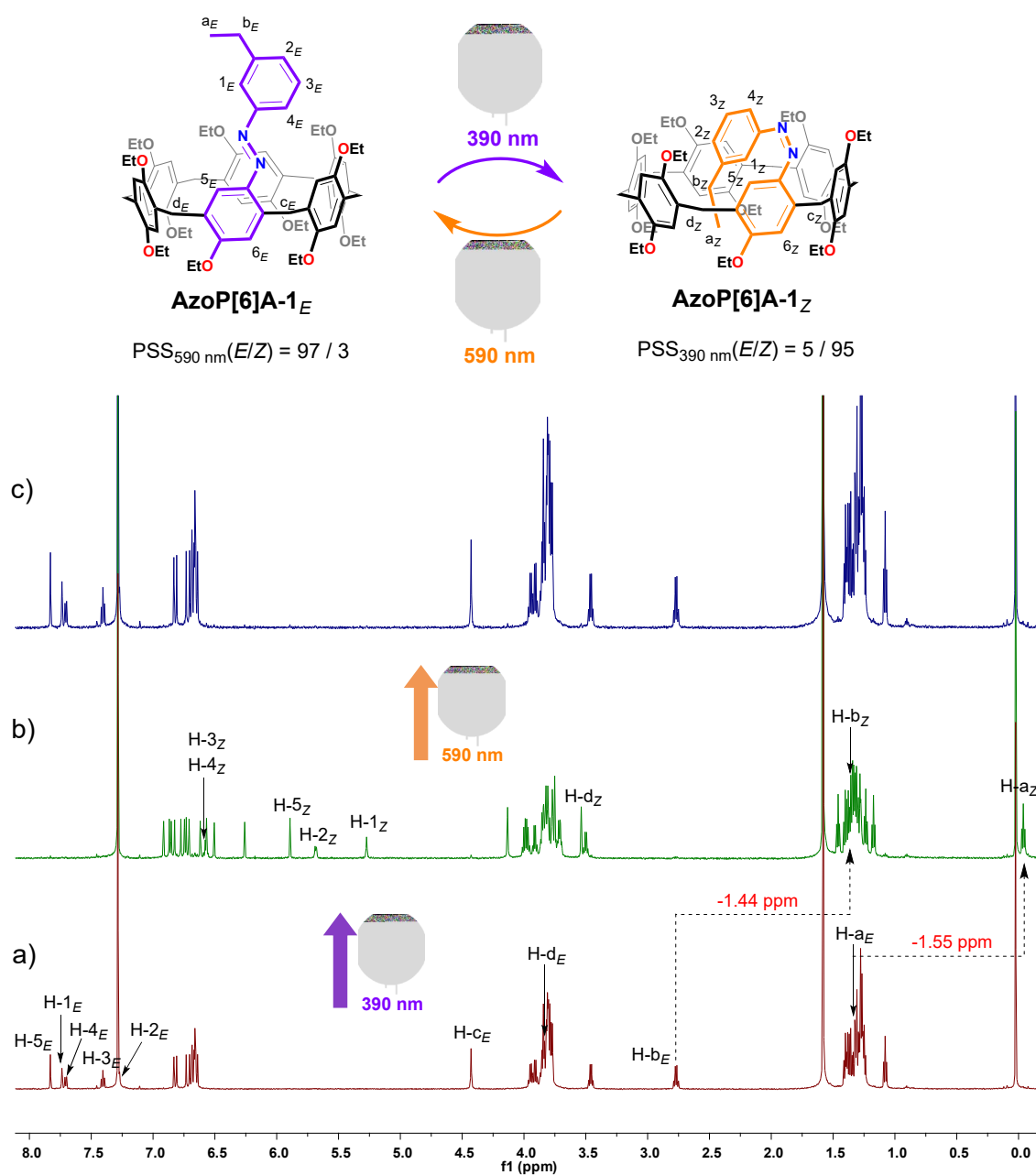
**Fig. S15** Time dependent concentration changing plots and the fitting curve of **AzoP[5]A-2<sub>Z</sub>** at 25 °C in dark based on the data of Fig. S14.



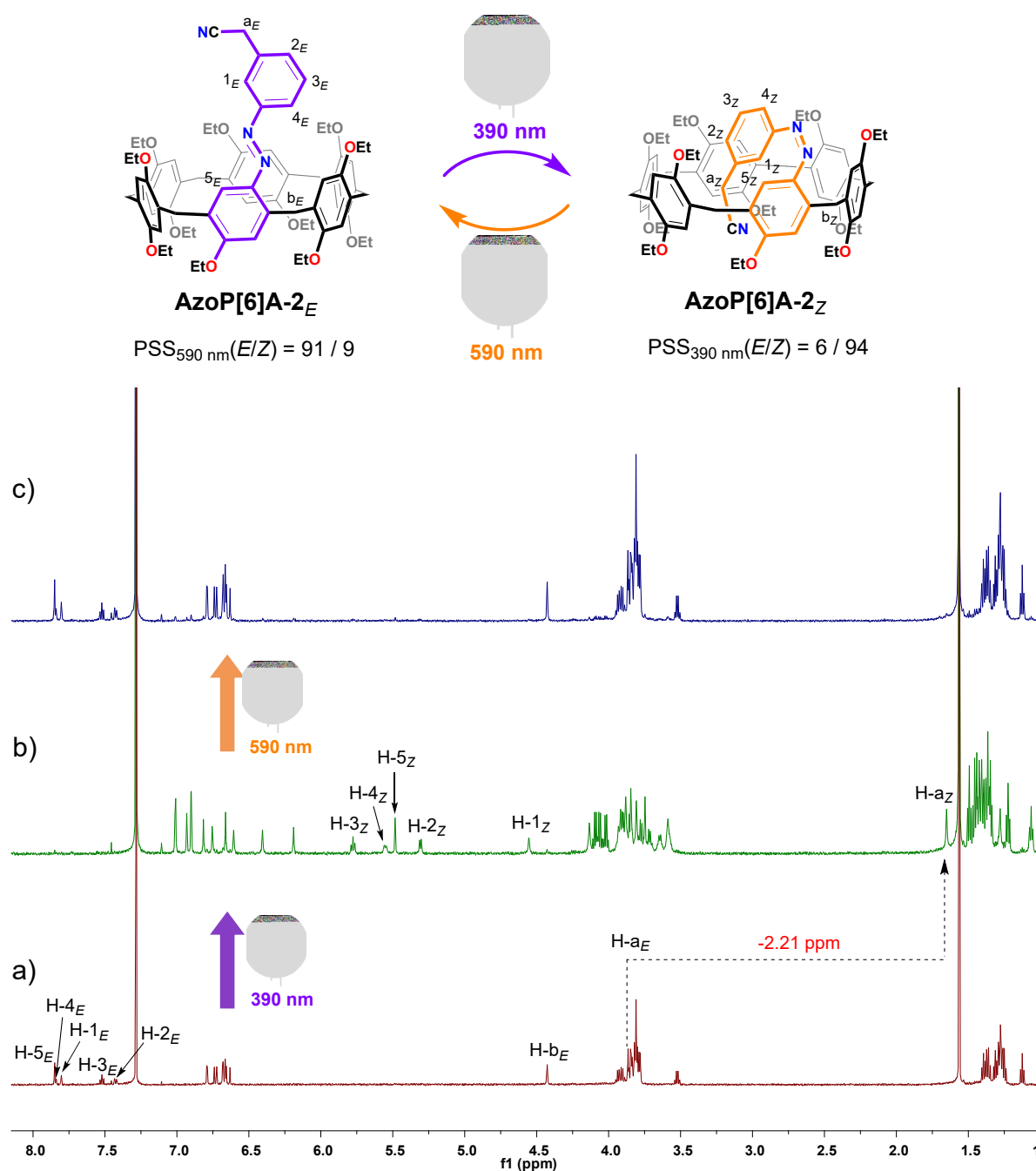
**Fig. S16** Schematic representation of the *Z*-to-*E* thermal relaxation behavior of **AzoP[6]A-2** in the presence of 10 equiv. of **G5**, and partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) for the solution of the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of **AzoP[6]A-2** (2.0 mM) after addition of 10 equiv. of **G5** for a) 0 min, b) 24 h, c) 48 h, d) 72 h, e) 103 h, and f) 127 h at 25 °C in dark.



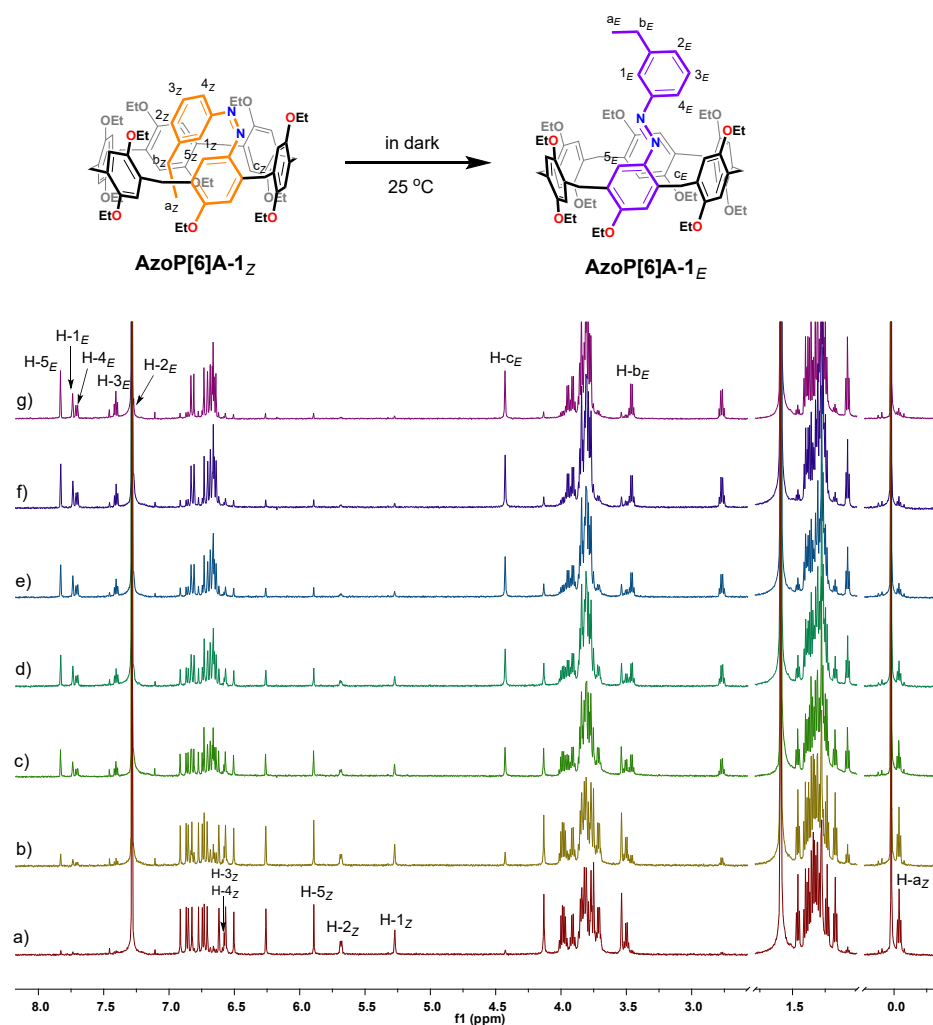
**Fig. S17** Time dependent concentration changing plots and the fitting curve of **AzoP[5]A-2** in the presence of **G5** at 25 °C in dark based on the data of Fig. S16.



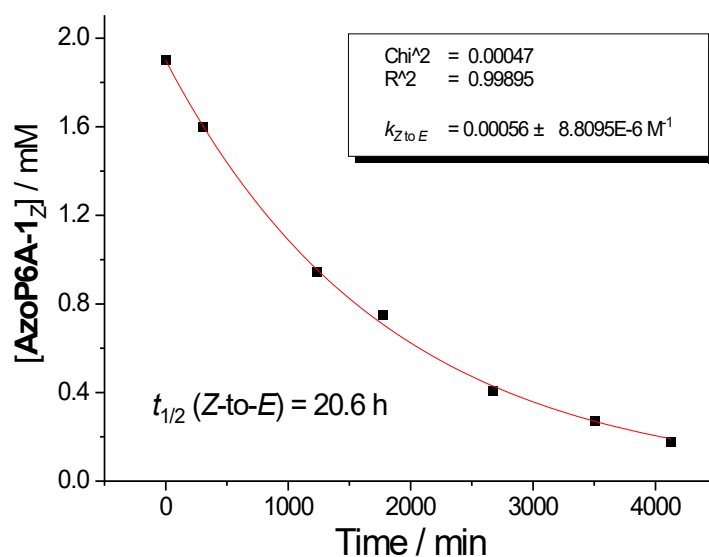
**Fig. S18** Schematic illustration of reversible photoinduced self-folding behavior of AzoP[6]A-1 upon irradiation by 390 nm / 590 nm light irradiation, as well as the partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298K) of the solution of (a) AzoP[6]A-1<sub>E</sub> (2.0 mM), (b) the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of AzoP[6]A-1 (2.0 mM), and (c) the PSS<sub>E</sub> (590 nm) mixtures of AzoP[6]A-1 (2.0 mM).



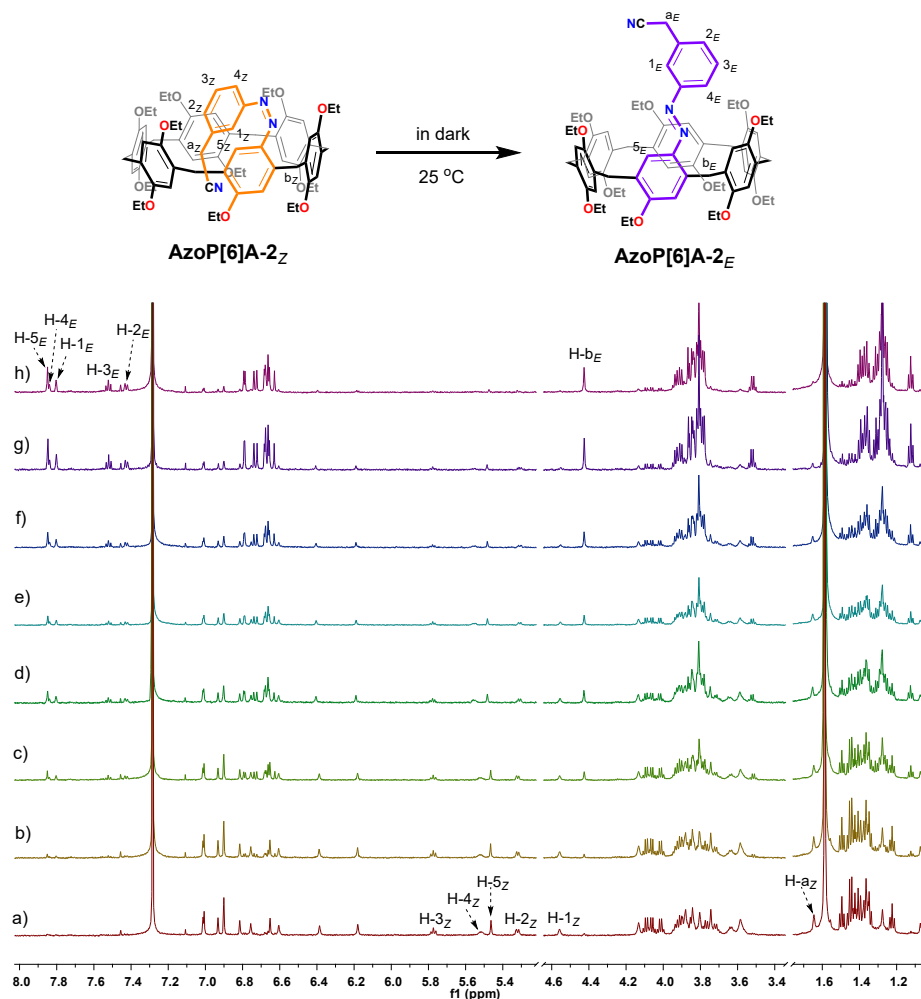
**Fig. S19** Schematic illustration of reversible photoinduced self-folding behavior of AzoP[6]A-2 upon irradiation by 390 nm / 590 nm light irradiation, as well as the partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298K) of the solution of (a) AzoP[6]A-2<sub>E</sub> (2.0 mM), (b) the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of AzoP[6]A-2 (2.0 mM), and (c) the PSS<sub>E</sub> (590 nm) mixtures of AzoP[6]A-2 (2.0 mM).



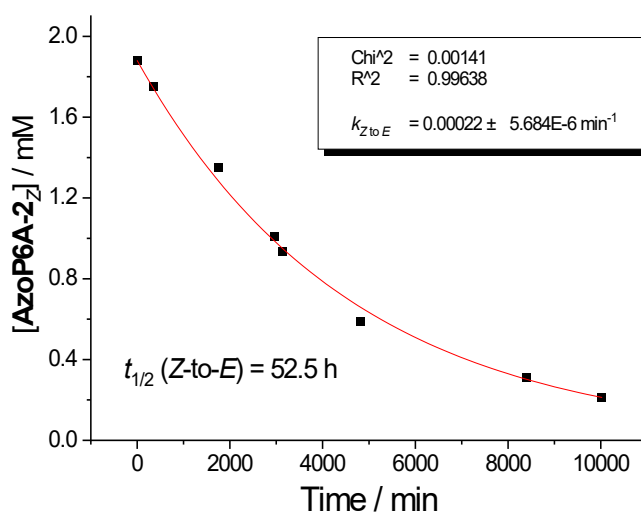
**Fig. S20** Schematic representation of the Z-to-E thermal relaxation behavior of **AzoP[6]A-1**, and partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (600 MHz, 2.0 mM, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) for the solution of the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of **AzoP[6]A-1** under conditions of a) as prepared, and after the rest of b) 5 hours and 3 min, c) 20 hours and 36 min, d) 29 hours and 32 min, e) 44 hours and 37 min, f) 58 hours and 27 min, and g) 68 hours and 44 min at 25 °C in dark.



**Fig. S21** Time dependent concentration changing plots and the fitting curve of **AzoP[6]A-1<sub>Z</sub>** at 25 °C in dark based on the data of Fig. S20.

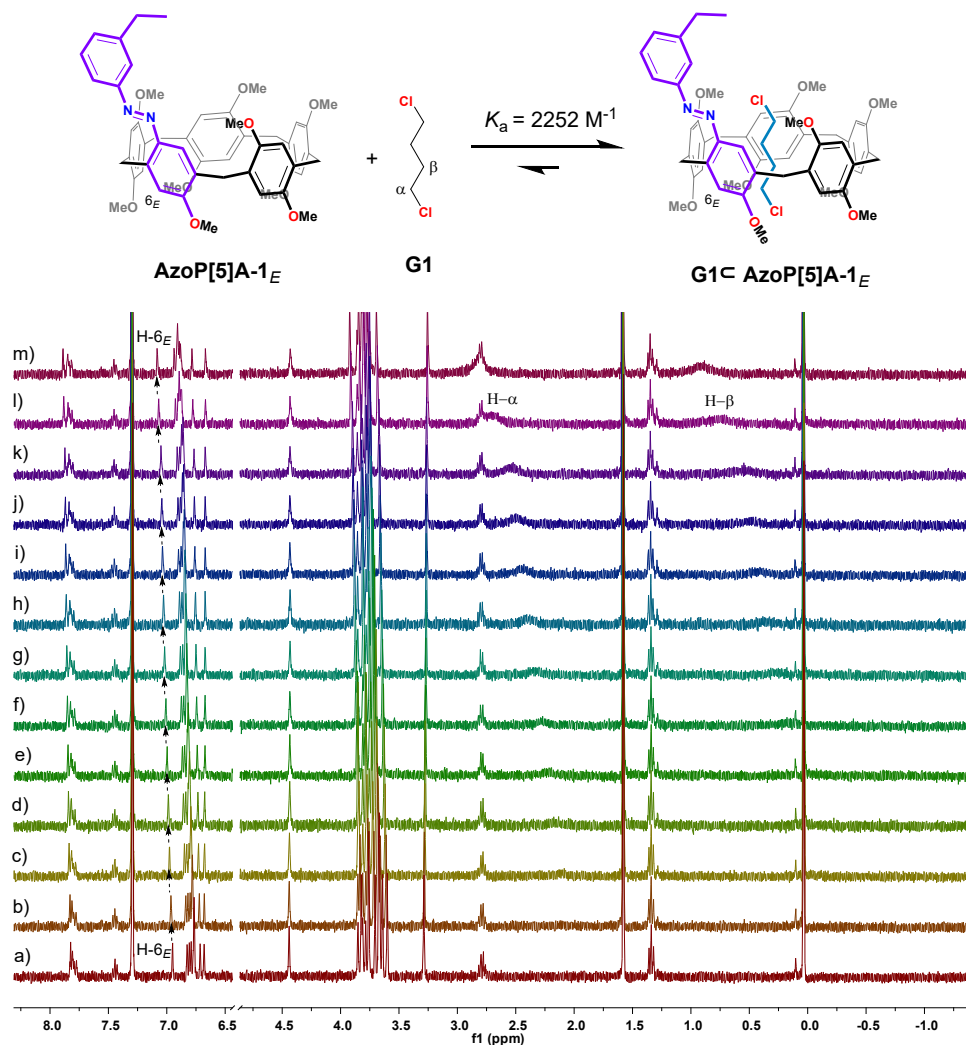


**Fig. S22** Schematic representation of the Z-to-E thermal relaxation behavior of AzoP[6]A-2, and partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (600 MHz, 2.0 mM, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) for the solution of the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of AzoP[6]A-2 under conditions of a) as prepared, and after the rest of b) 5 hours and 57 min, c) 29 hours and 13 min, d) 49 hours and 26 min, e) 52 hours and 25 min, f) 80 hours and 22 min, g) 140 hours and 7 min, and h) 167 hours and 3 min at 25 °C in dark.

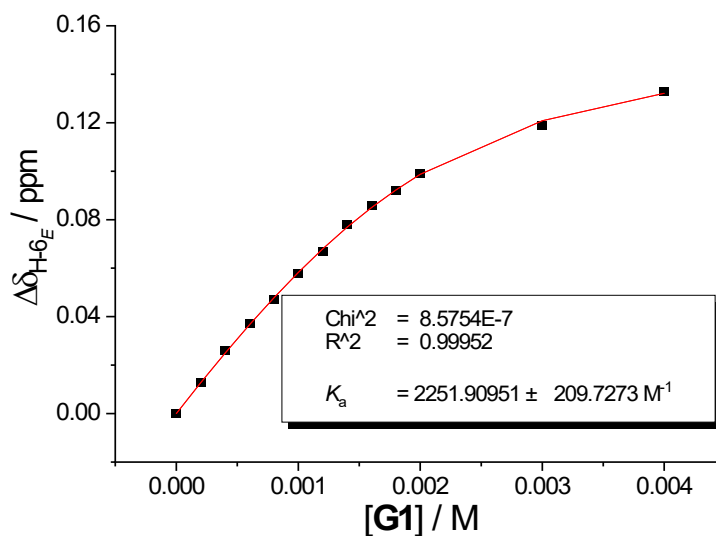


**Fig. S23** Time dependent concentration changing plots and the fitting curve of AzoP[6]A-2<sub>Z</sub> at 25 °C in dark based on the data of Fig. S22.

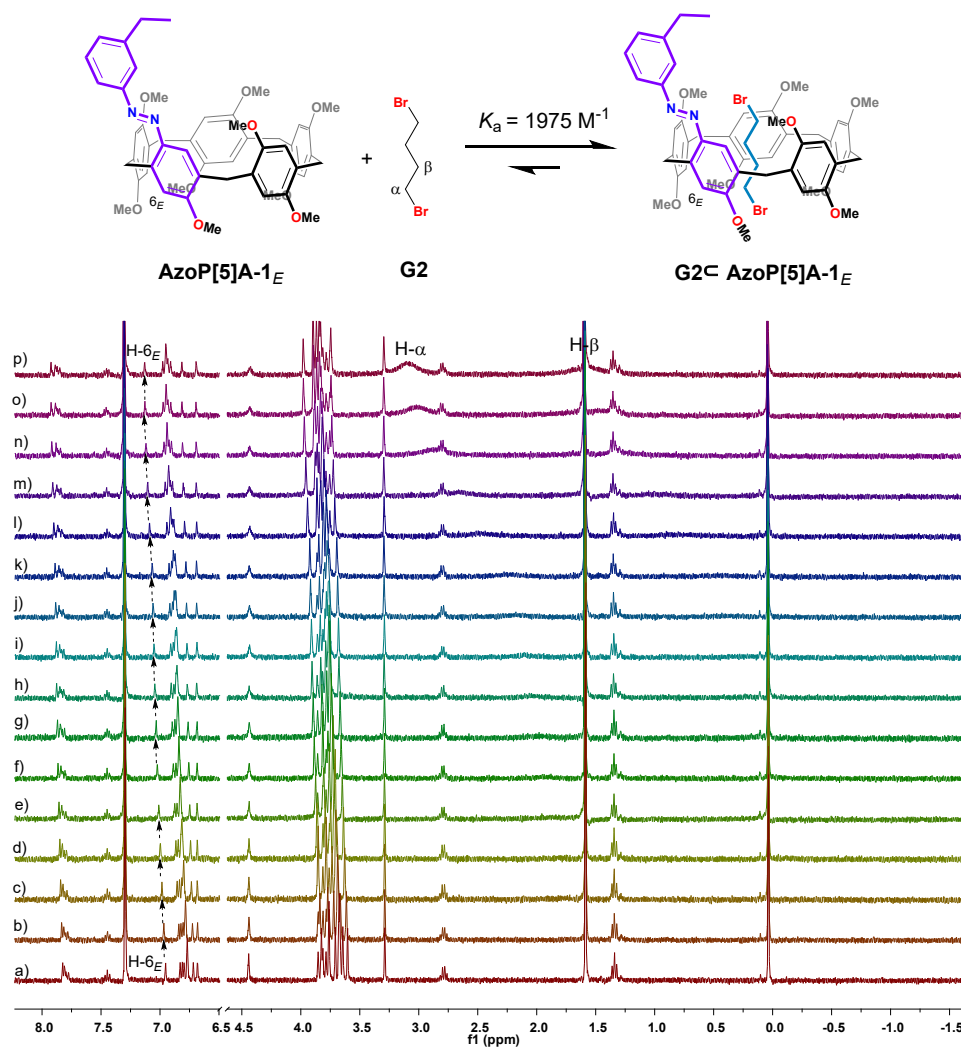
## Section 4: Guest Binding Properties of the *E*-isomeric AzoP[5/6]A macrocycles



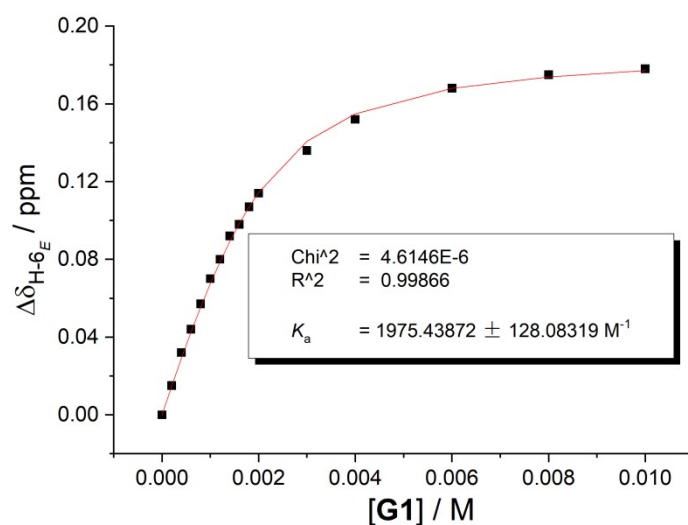
**Fig. S24** Schematic representation for the complexation behavior of AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub> and G1, and partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) for the solution of AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub> (2.0 mM) in the presence of a) 0, b) 0.1, c) 0.2, d) 0.3, e) 0.4, f) 0.5, g) 0.6, h) 0.7, i) 0.8, j) 0.9, k) 1.0, l) 1.5, and m) 2.0 equiv. of G1.



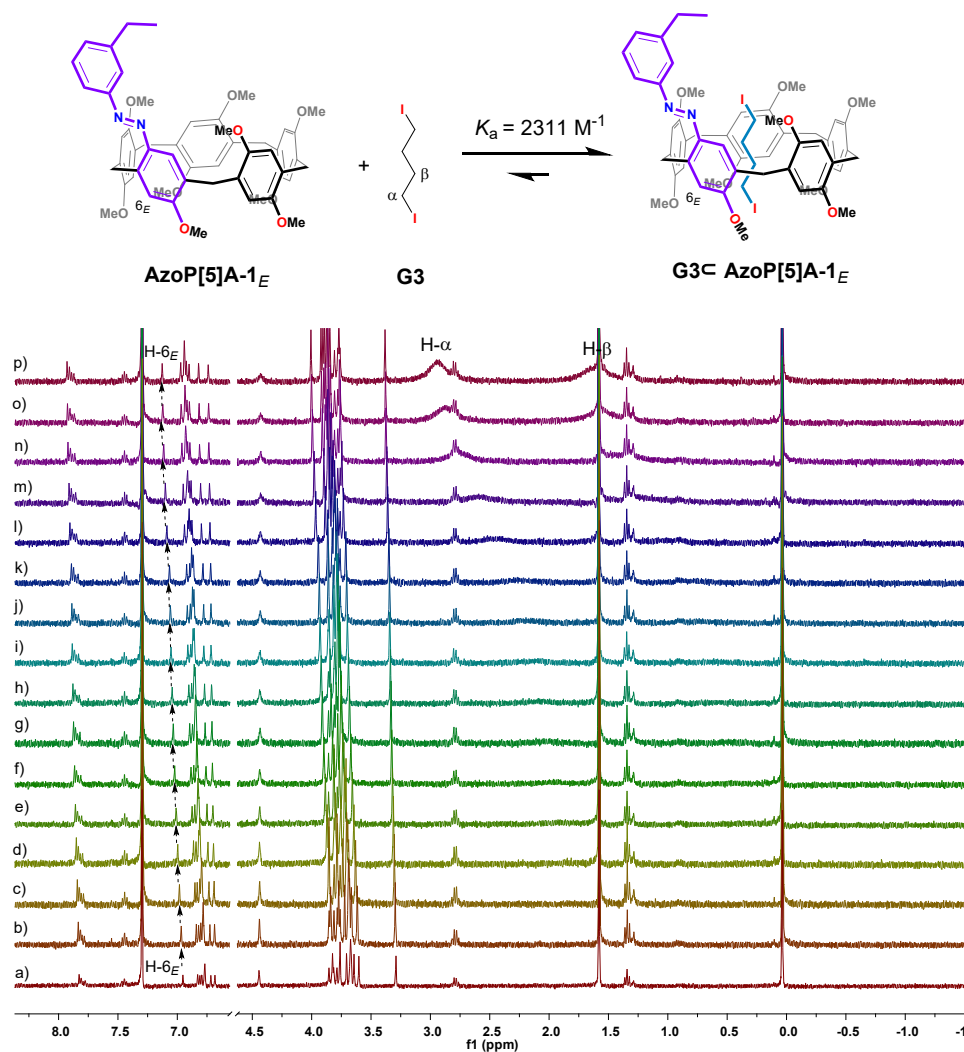
**Fig. S25** Plot of the chemical shift changes of proton H-6<sub>E</sub> of AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub> versus the concentration of G1. The fit of the data for H-6<sub>E</sub> ( $\delta$  ppm) from Fig. S24 to a 1:1 binding model.



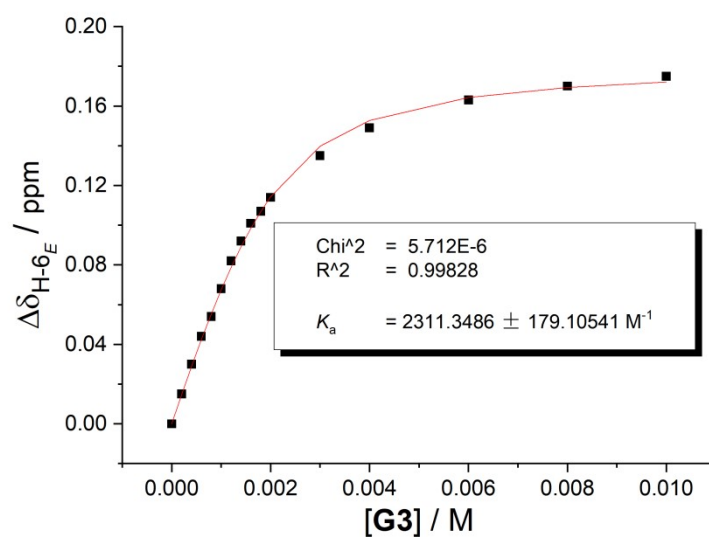
**Fig. S26** Schematic representation for the complexation of AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub> and G2, and partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K) for the solution of AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub> (2.0 mM) in the presence of a) 0, b) 0.1, c) 0.2, d) 0.3, e) 0.4, f) 0.5, g) 0.6, h) 0.7, i) 0.8, j) 0.9, k) 1.0, l) 1.5, m) 2.0, n) 3.0, o) 4.0, and p) 5.0 equiv. of G2.



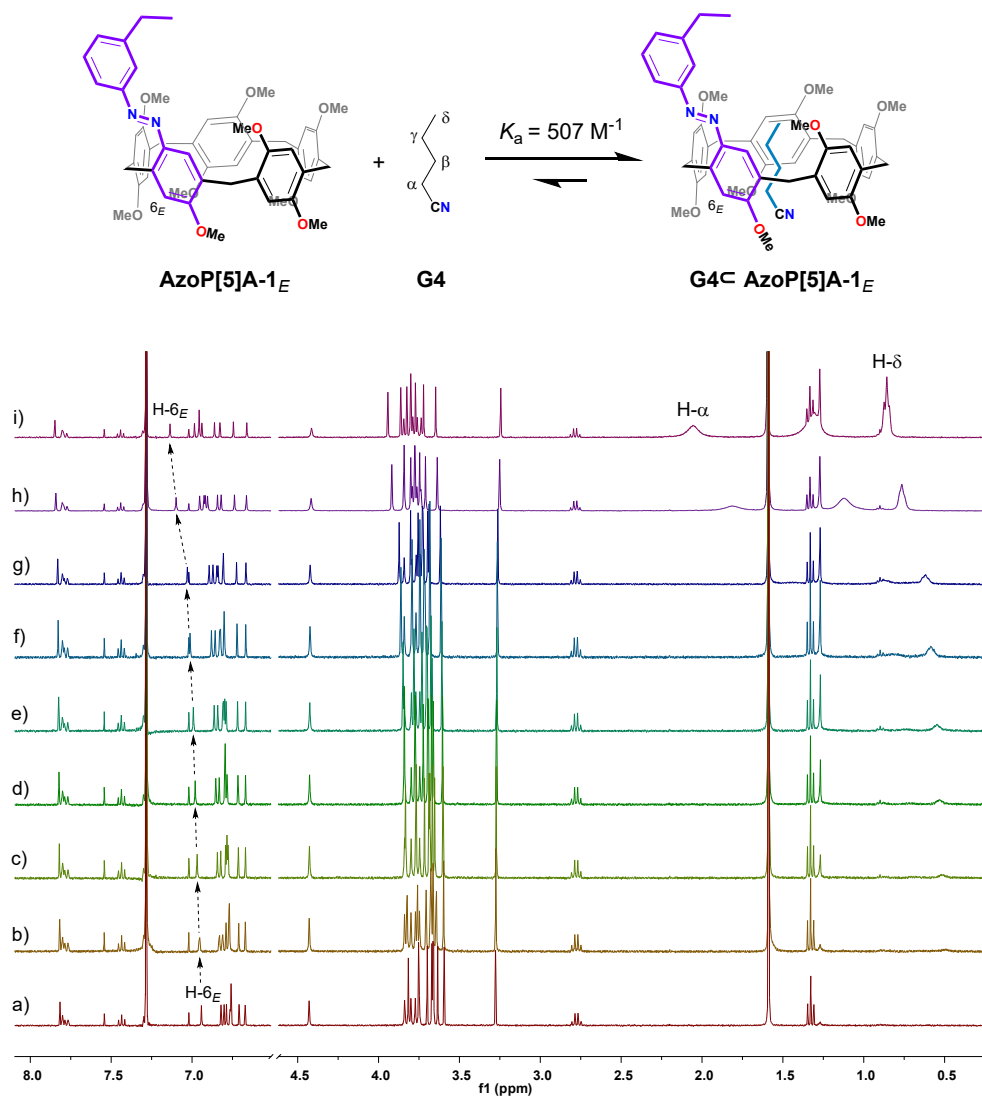
**Fig. S27** Plot of the chemical shift changes of proton H-6<sub>E</sub> of AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub> versus the concentration of G2. The fit of the data for H-6<sub>E</sub> ( $\delta$  ppm) from Fig. S26 to a 1:1 binding model.



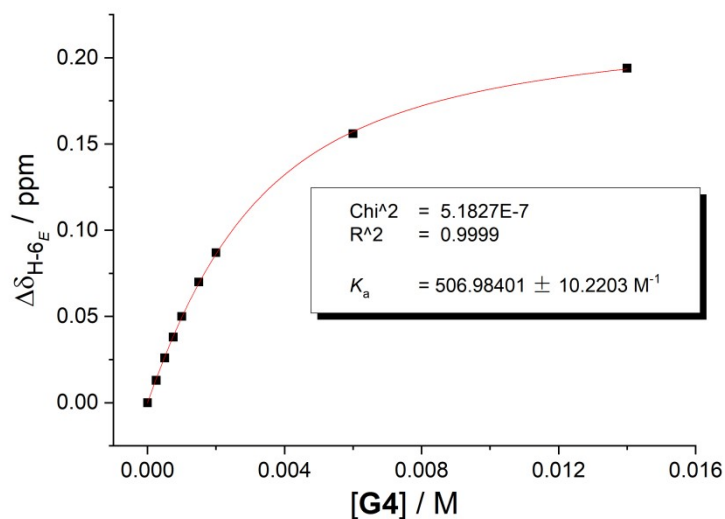
**Fig. S28** Schematic representation for the complexation of AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub> and G3, and partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K) for the solution of AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub> (2.0 mM) in the presence of a) 0, b) 0.1, c) 0.2, d) 0.3, e) 0.4, f) 0.5, g) 0.6, h) 0.7, i) 0.8, j) 0.9, k) 1.0, l) 1.5, m) 2.0, n) 3.0, o) 4.0, and p) 5.0 equiv. of G3.



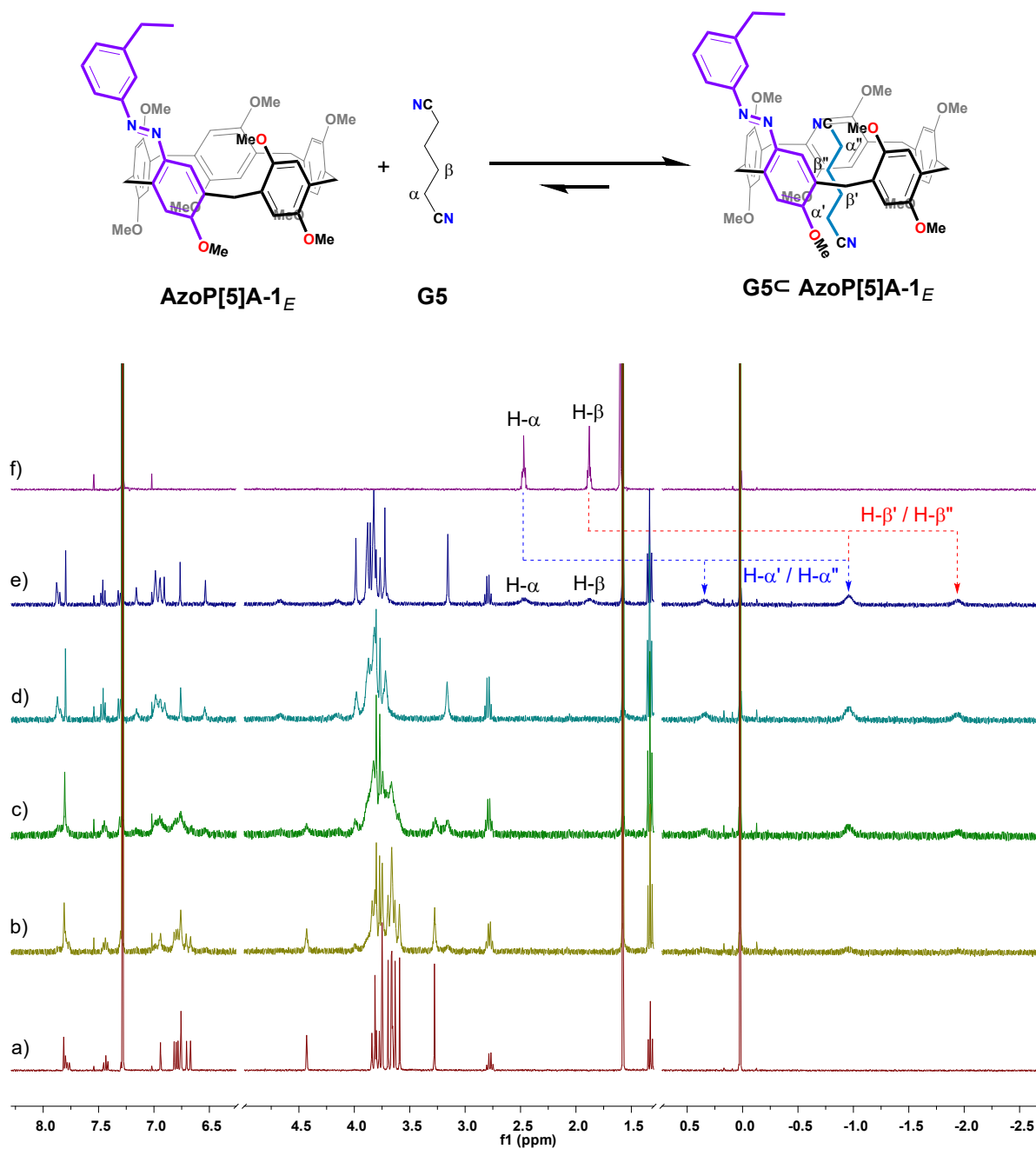
**Fig. S29** Plot of the chemical shift changes of proton H-6<sub>E</sub> of AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub> versus the concentration of G3. The fit of the data for H-6<sub>E</sub> ( $\delta$  ppm) from Fig. S28 to a 1:1 binding model.



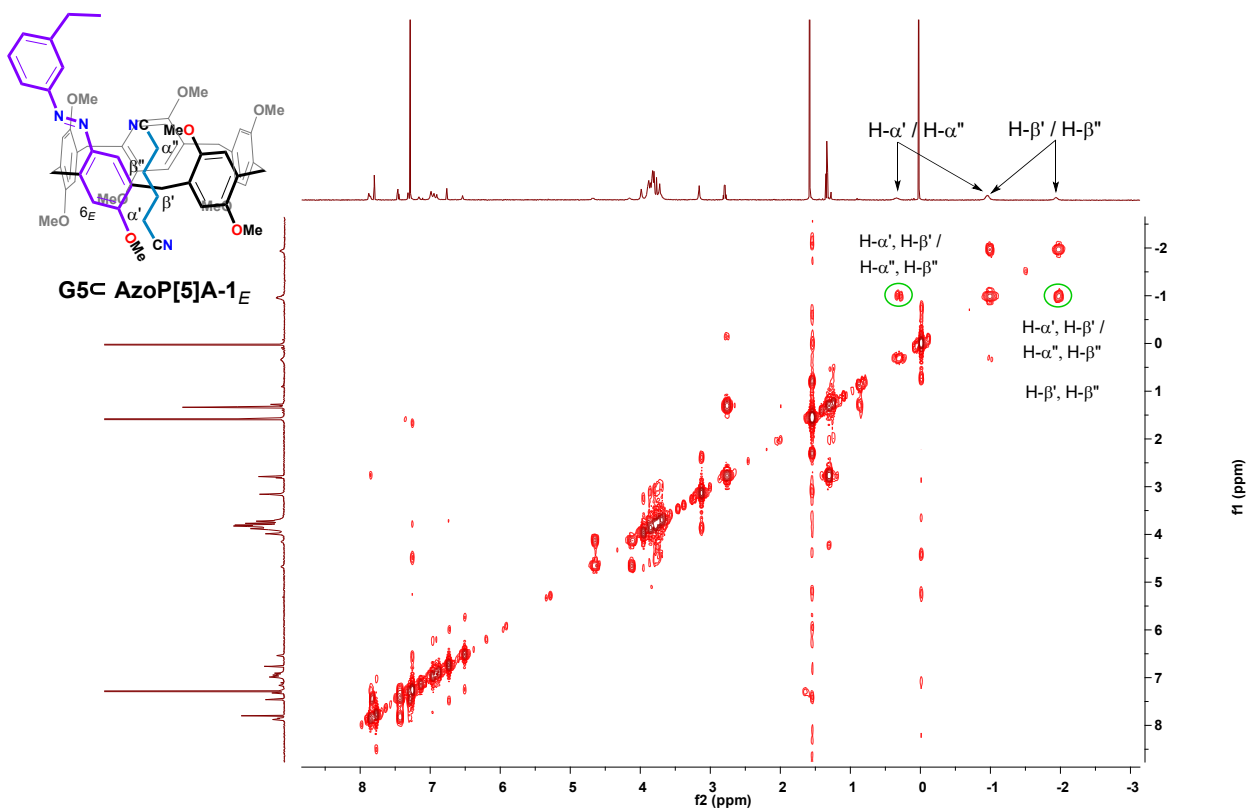
**Fig. S30** Schematic representation for the complexation behavior of AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub> and G4, and partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K) for the solution of AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub> (2.0 mM) in the presence of a) 0, b) 0.125, c) 0.25, d) 0.375, e) 0.5, f) 0.75, g) 1.0, h) 3.0, and i) 7.0 equiv. of G4.



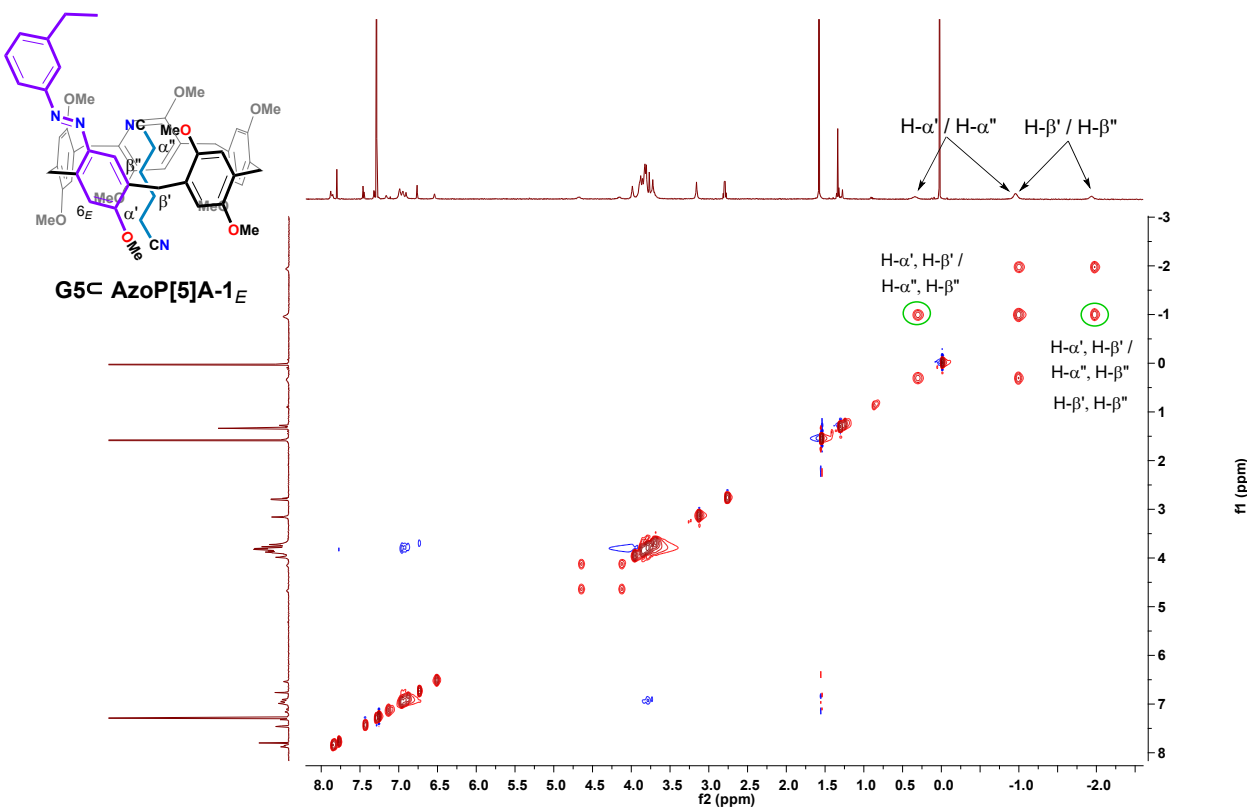
**Fig. S31** Plot of the chemical shift changes of proton H-6<sub>E</sub> of AzoP5A-1<sub>E</sub> versus the concentration of G4. The fit of the data for H-6<sub>E</sub> ( $\delta$  ppm) from Fig. S30 to a 1:1 binding model.



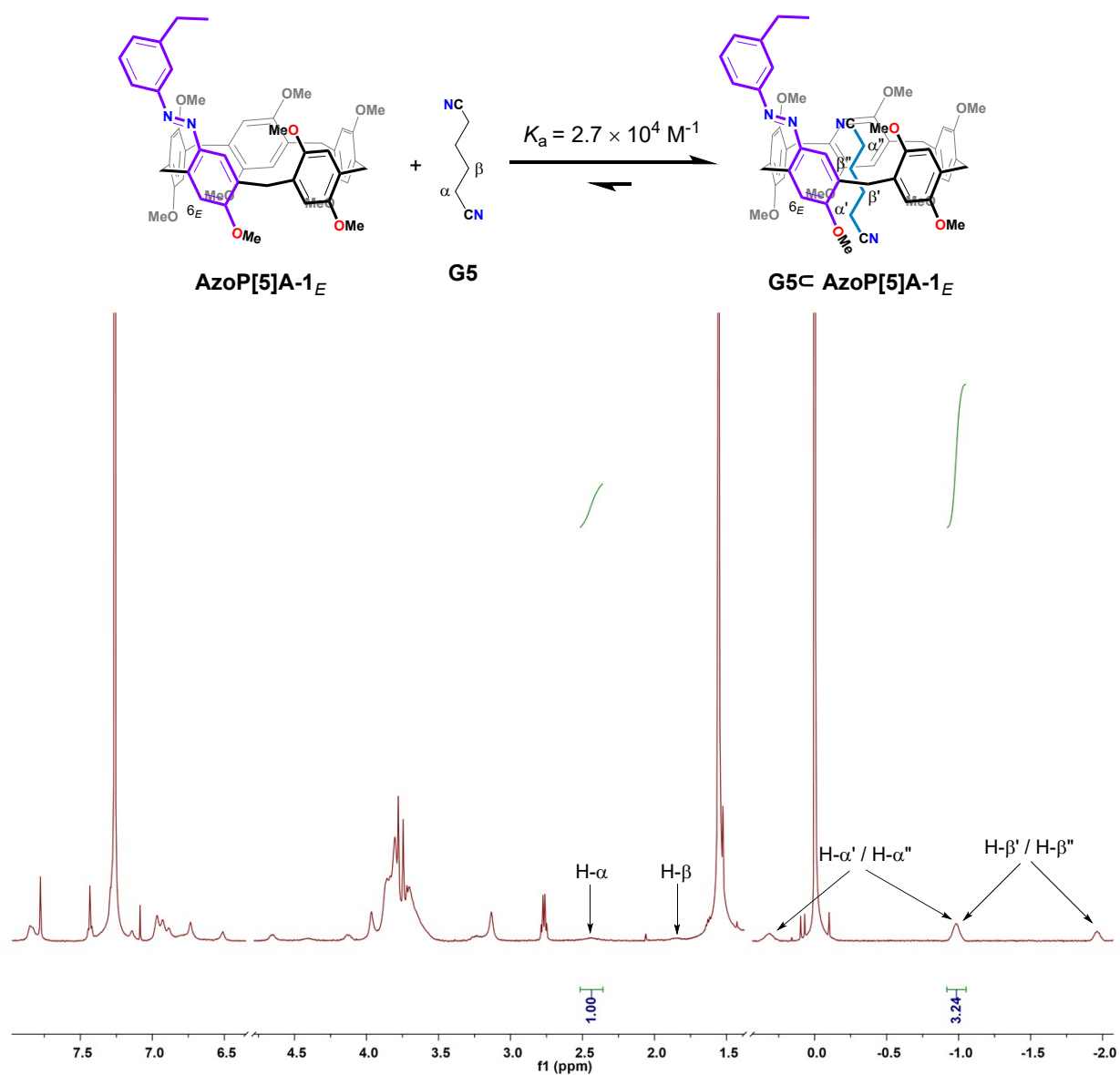
**Fig. S32** Schematic representation for the complexation behavior of AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub> and G5, as well as the partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) for the solution of f) G5 (3.0 mM), and AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub> (2.0 mM) in the presence of a) 0, b) 0.25, c) 0.50, d) 1.0, and e) 1.5 equiv. of G5.



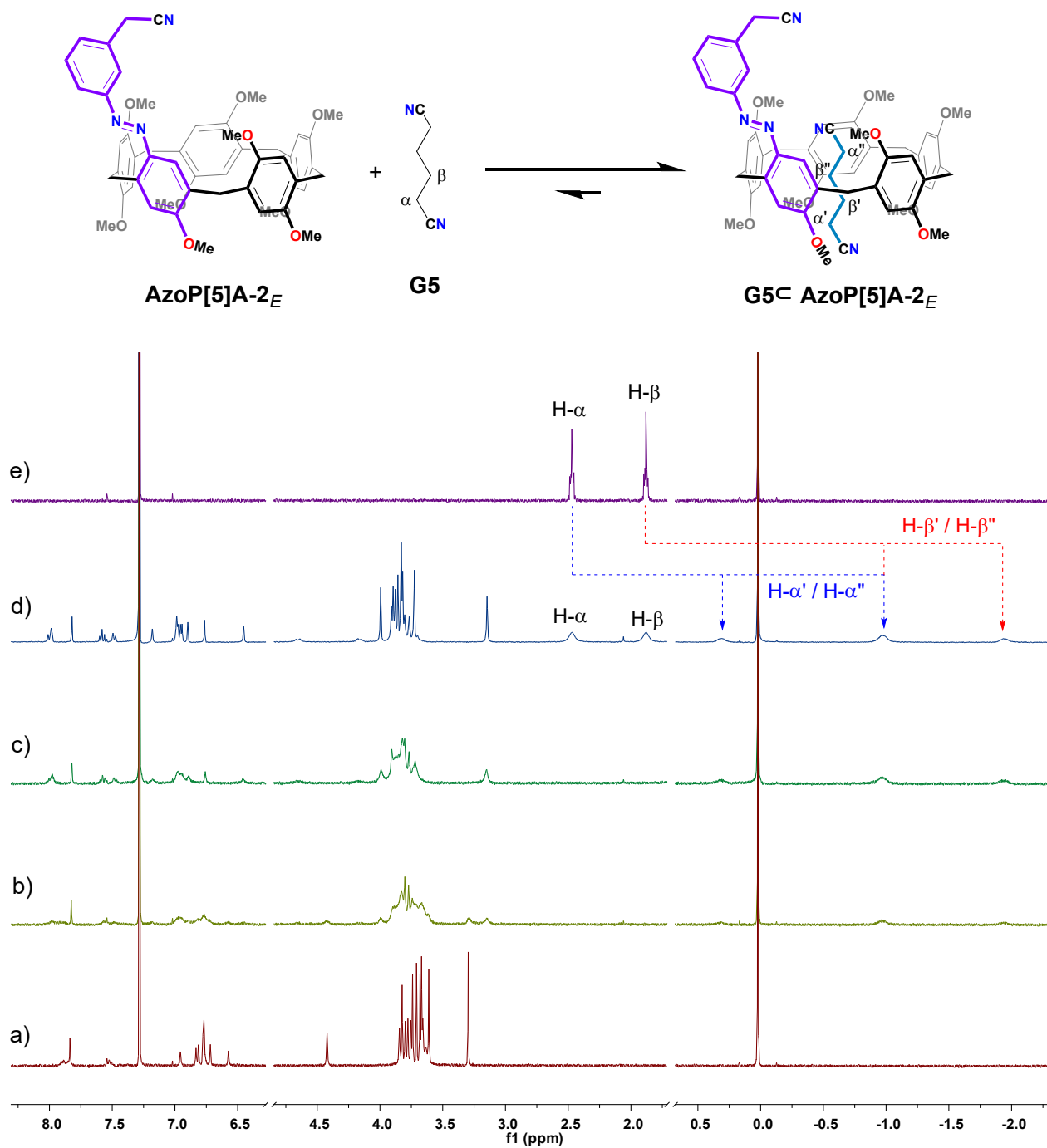
**Fig. S33** 2D COSY-NMR spectrum (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) of the solution of **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub>** (4.0 mM) and **G5** (4.0 mM).



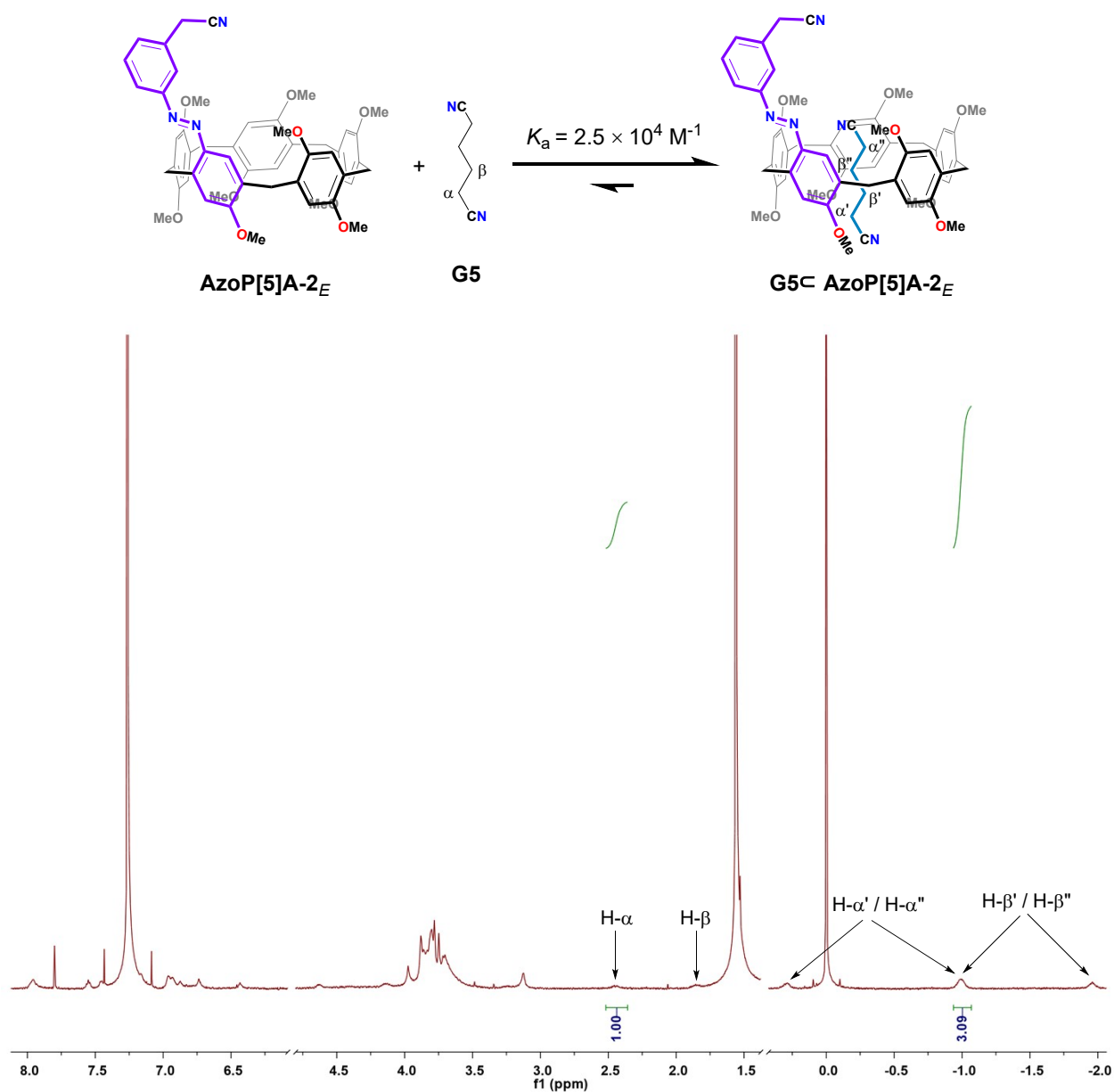
**Fig. S34** 2D NOESY-NMR spectrum (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) of the solution of **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub>** (4.0 mM) and **G5** (4.0 mM).



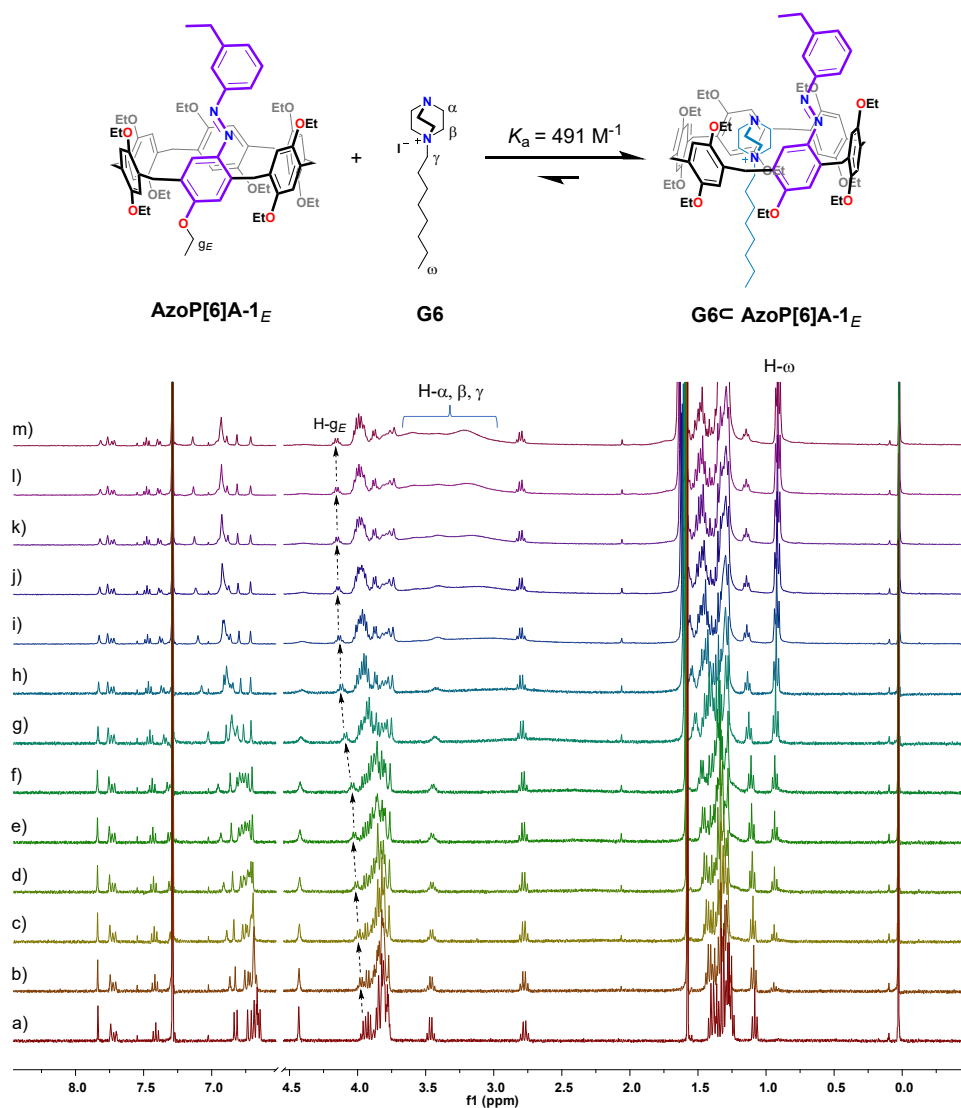
**Fig. S35** Schematic representation for the complexation behavior of AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub> and G5, as well as the partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) for the solution of AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub> (0.5 mM) and G5 (0.5 mM).



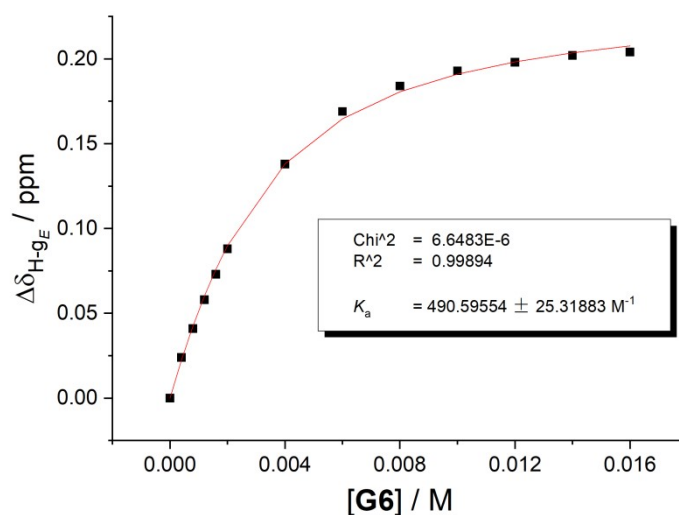
**Fig. S36** Schematic representation for the complexation behavior of AzoP[5]A-2<sub>E</sub> and G5, as well as the partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) for the solution of e) G5 (2.0 mM), and AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub> (2.0 mM) in the presence of a) 0, b) 0.50, c) 1.0, and d) 1.5 equiv. of G5.



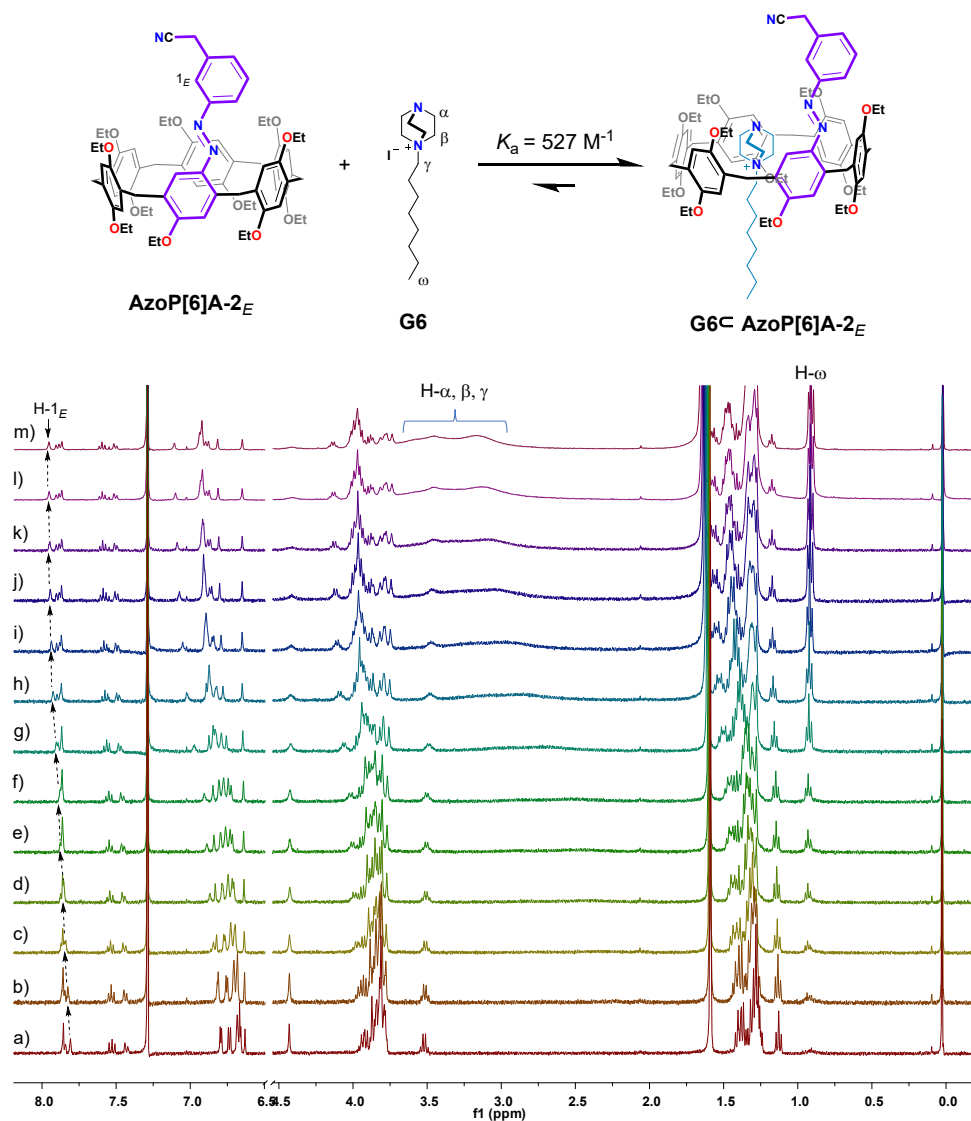
**Fig. S37** Schematic representation for the complexation behavior of **AzoP[5]A-2<sub>E</sub>** and **G5**, as well as the partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) for the solution of **AzoP[5]A-2<sub>E</sub>** (0.5 mM) and **G5** (0.5 mM).



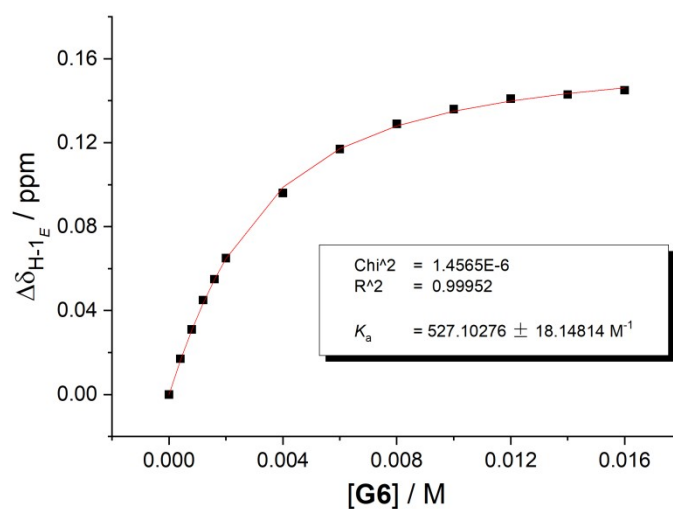
**Fig. S38** Schematic representation of the complexation behavior of AzoP[6]A-1<sub>E</sub> and G6, as well as the partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K) for the solution of AzoP[6]A-1<sub>E</sub> (2.0 mM) in the presence of a) 0, b) 0.2, c) 0.4, d) 0.6, e) 0.8, f) 1.0, g) 2.0, h) 3.0, i) 4.0, j) 5.0, k) 6.0, l) 7.0, and m) 8.0 equiv. of G6.



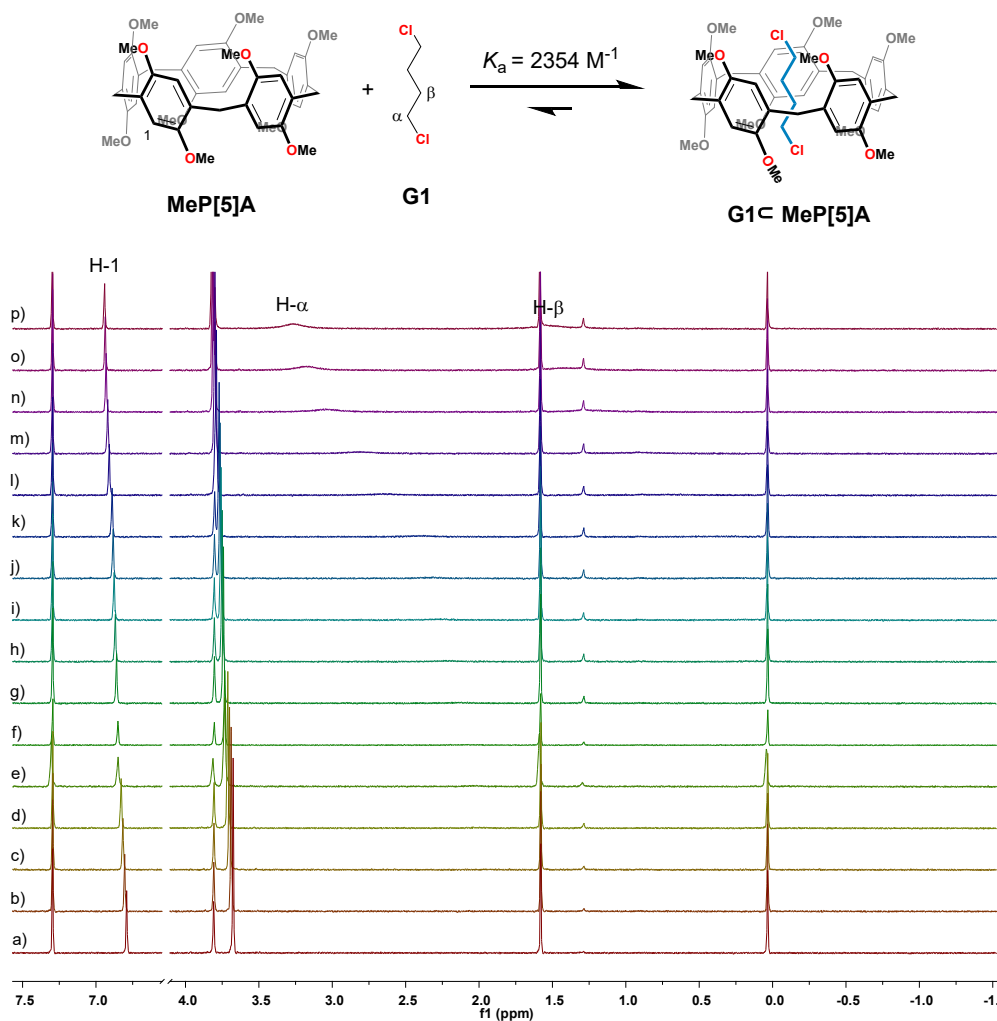
**Fig. S39** Plot of the chemical shift changes of proton H-g<sub>E</sub> of AzoP[6]A-1<sub>E</sub> versus the concentration of G6. The fit of the data for H-g<sub>E</sub> ( $\delta$  ppm) from Fig. S38 to a 1:1 binding model.



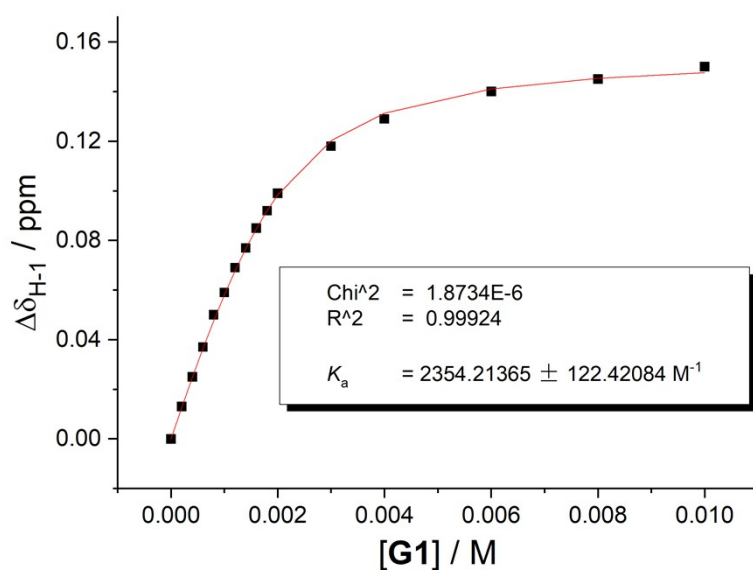
**Fig. S40** Schematic representation of the complexation behavior of **AzoP[6]A-2<sub>E</sub>** and **G6**, as well as the partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K) for the solution of **AzoP[6]A-2<sub>E</sub>** (2.0 mM) in the presence of a) 0, b) 0.2, c) 0.4, d) 0.6, e) 0.8, f) 1.0, g) 2.0, h) 3.0, i) 4.0, j) 5.0, k) 6.0, l) 7.0, and m) 8.0 equiv. of **G6**.



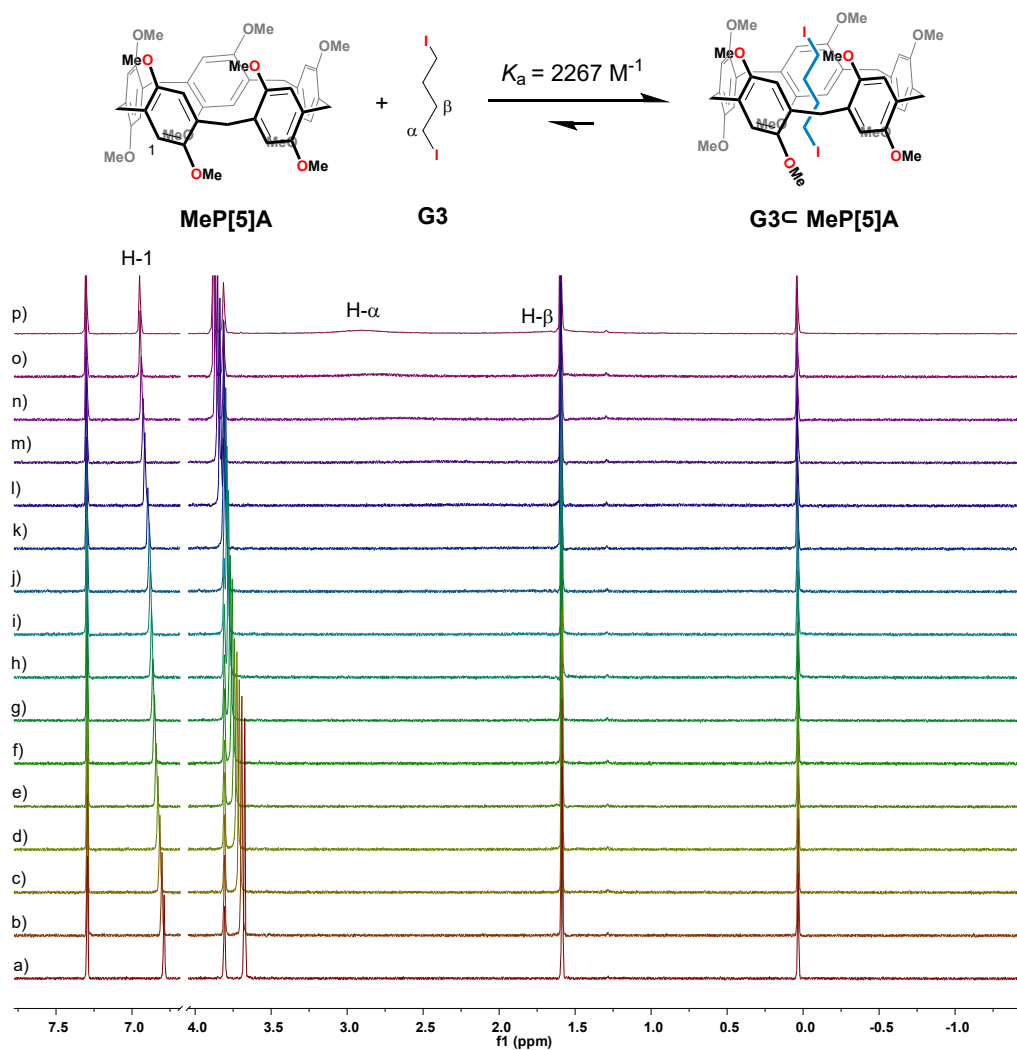
**Fig. S41** Plot of the chemical shift changes of proton H-1<sub>E</sub> of **AzoP[6]A-1<sub>E</sub>** versus the concentration of **G6**. The fit of the data for H-1<sub>E</sub> ( $\delta$  ppm) from Fig. S40 to a 1:1 binding model.



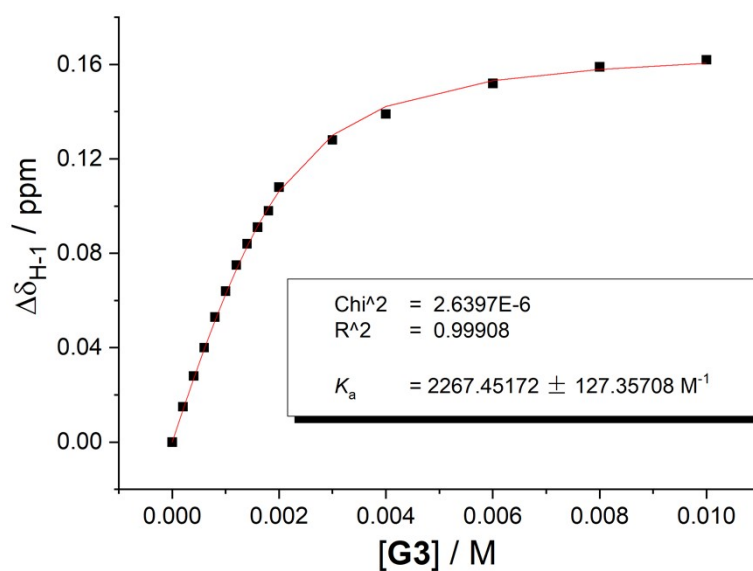
**Fig. S42** Schematic representation for the complexation of **MeP[5]A** and **G1**, as well as the partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K) for the solution of **MeP[5]A** (2.0 mM) in the presence of a) 0, b) 0.1, c) 0.2, d) 0.3, e) 0.4, f) 0.5, g) 0.6, h) 0.7, i) 0.8, j) 0.9, k) 1.0, l) 1.5, m) 2.0, n) 3.0, o) 4.0, and p) 5.0 equiv. of **G1**.



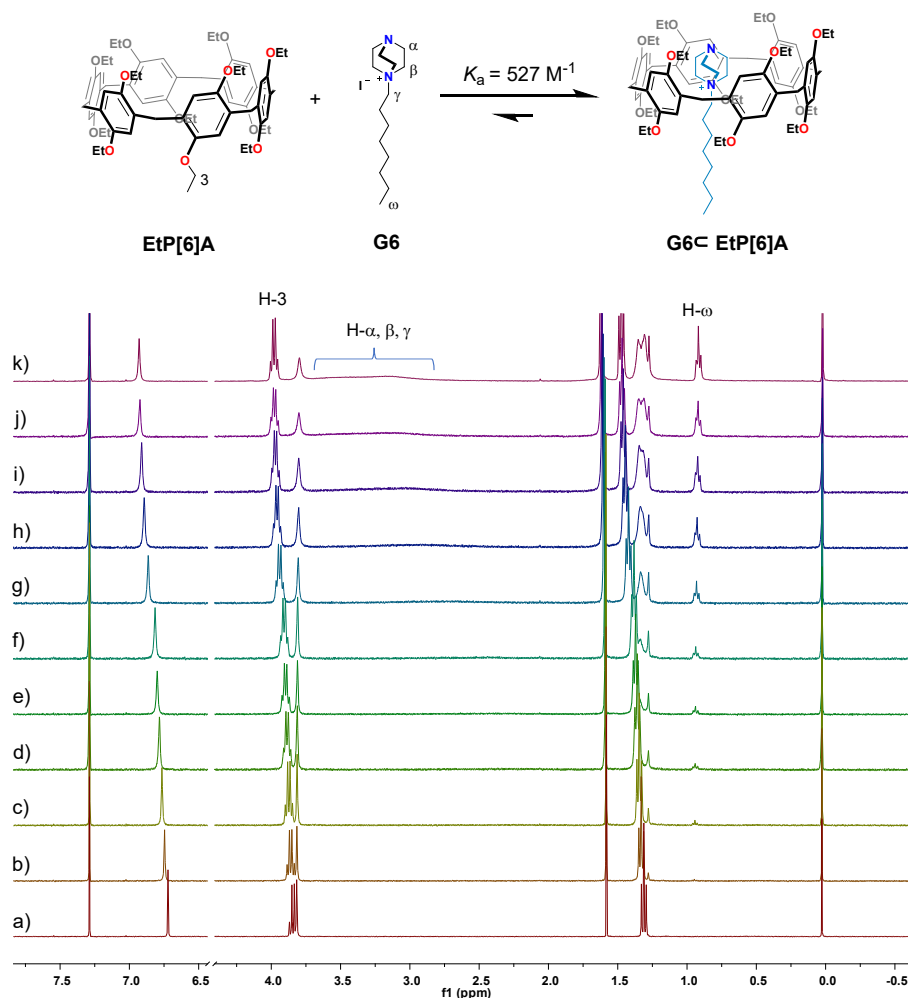
**Fig. S43** Plot of the chemical shift changes of proton H-1 of **MeP[5]A** versus the concentration of **G1**. The fit of the data for H-1 ( $\delta$  ppm) from Fig. S42 to a 1:1 binding model.



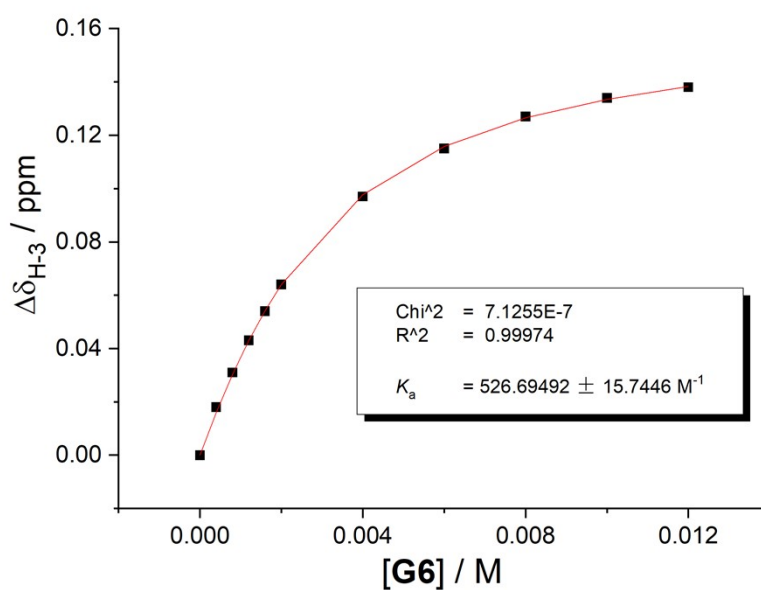
**Fig. S44.** Schematic representation for the complexation of **MeP[5]A** and **G3**, as well as the partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K) for the solution of **MeP[5]A** (2.0 mM) in the presence of a) 0, b) 0.1, c) 0.2, d) 0.3, e) 0.4, f) 0.5, g) 0.6, h) 0.7, i) 0.8, j) 0.9, k) 1.0, l) 1.5, m) 2.0, n) 3.0, o) 4.0, and p) 5.0 equiv. of **G3**.



**Fig. S45** Plot of the chemical shift changes of proton H-1 of **MeP[5]A** versus the concentration of **G3**. The fit of the data for H-1 ( $\delta$  ppm) from Fig. S44 to a 1:1 binding model.



**Fig. S46** Schematic representation of the complexation behavior of **EtP[6]A** and **G6**, as well as the partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K) for the solution of **EtP[6]A** (2.0 mM) in the presence of a) 0, b) 0.2, c) 0.4, d) 0.6, e) 0.8, f) 1.0, g) 2.0, h) 3.0, i) 4.0, j) 5.0 and k) 6.0 equiv. of **G6**.



**Fig. S47** Plot of the chemical shift changes of proton H-3 of **EtP[6]A** versus the concentration of **G6**. The fit of the data for H-3 ( $\delta$  ppm) from Fig. S46 to a 1:1 binding model.

**Table S2.** Association constants for the 1:1 host-guest complexations between guests **G1** ~ **G6** with the *E*-isomeric **AzoP[5]A** and **AzoP[6]A**, as well as **MeP[5]A** and **EtP[6]A**, respectively, in the solution at 298 K.

Guests	Hosts	$K_a$ / M <sup>-1</sup>	Solvent
<b>G1</b>	<b>MeP[5]A</b>	2354 ± 122 <sup>[a]</sup>	CDCl <sub>3</sub>
	<b>AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub></b>	2252 ± 210 <sup>[a]</sup>	CDCl <sub>3</sub>
<b>G2</b>	<b>MeP[5]A</b>	(1.6 ± 0.1) × 10 <sup>3</sup> <sup>[b]</sup>	CDCl <sub>3</sub>
	<b>AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub></b>	1975 ± 128 <sup>[a]</sup>	CDCl <sub>3</sub>
<b>G3</b>	<b>MeP[5]A</b>	2267 ± 127 <sup>[a]</sup>	CDCl <sub>3</sub>
	<b>AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub></b>	2311 ± 179 <sup>[a]</sup>	CDCl <sub>3</sub>
<b>G4</b>	<b>MeP[5]A</b>	570 ± 40 <sup>[c]</sup>	CDCl <sub>3</sub>
	<b>AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub></b>	507 ± 10 <sup>[a]</sup>	CDCl <sub>3</sub>
<b>G5</b>	<b>MeP[5]A</b>	(2.4 ± 0.4) × 10 <sup>4</sup> <sup>[d]</sup>	CDCl <sub>3</sub> / DMSO (v/v, 9/1)
	<b>AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub></b>	2.7 × 10 <sup>4</sup> <sup>[e]</sup>	CDCl <sub>3</sub>
	<b>AzoP[5]A-2<sub>E</sub></b>	2.5 × 10 <sup>4</sup> <sup>[e]</sup>	CDCl <sub>3</sub>
<b>G6</b>	<b>EtP[6]A</b>	527 ± 16 <sup>[a]</sup>	CDCl <sub>3</sub>
	<b>AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub></b>	491 ± 25 <sup>[a]</sup>	CDCl <sub>3</sub>
	<b>AzoP[5]A-2<sub>E</sub></b>	527 ± 18 <sup>[a]</sup>	CDCl <sub>3</sub>

<sup>[a]</sup> The  $K_a$  values were determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR titration method.

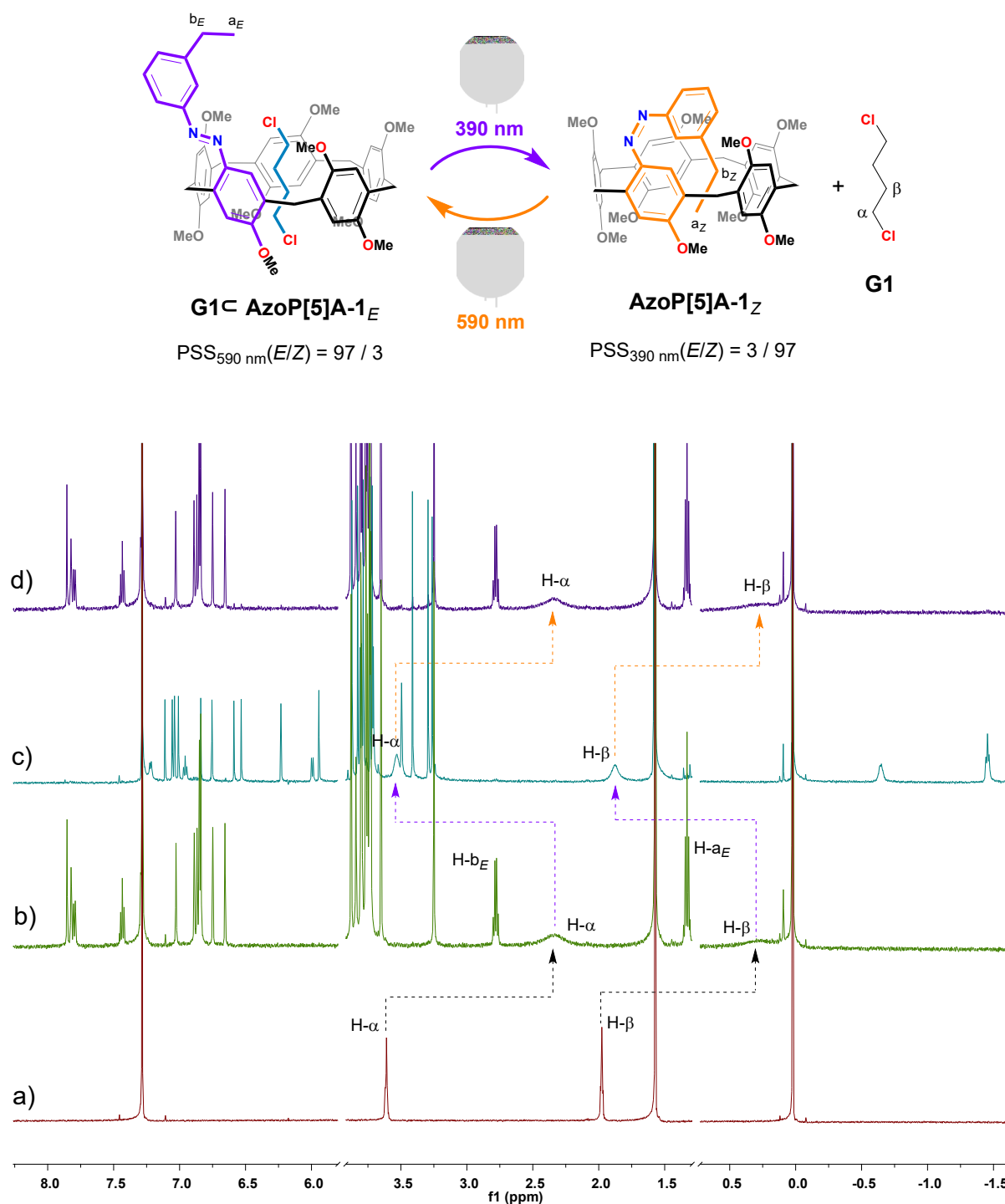
<sup>[b]</sup> The  $K_a$  value was reported in Ref. S8.

<sup>[c]</sup> The  $K_a$  value was reported in Ref. S9.

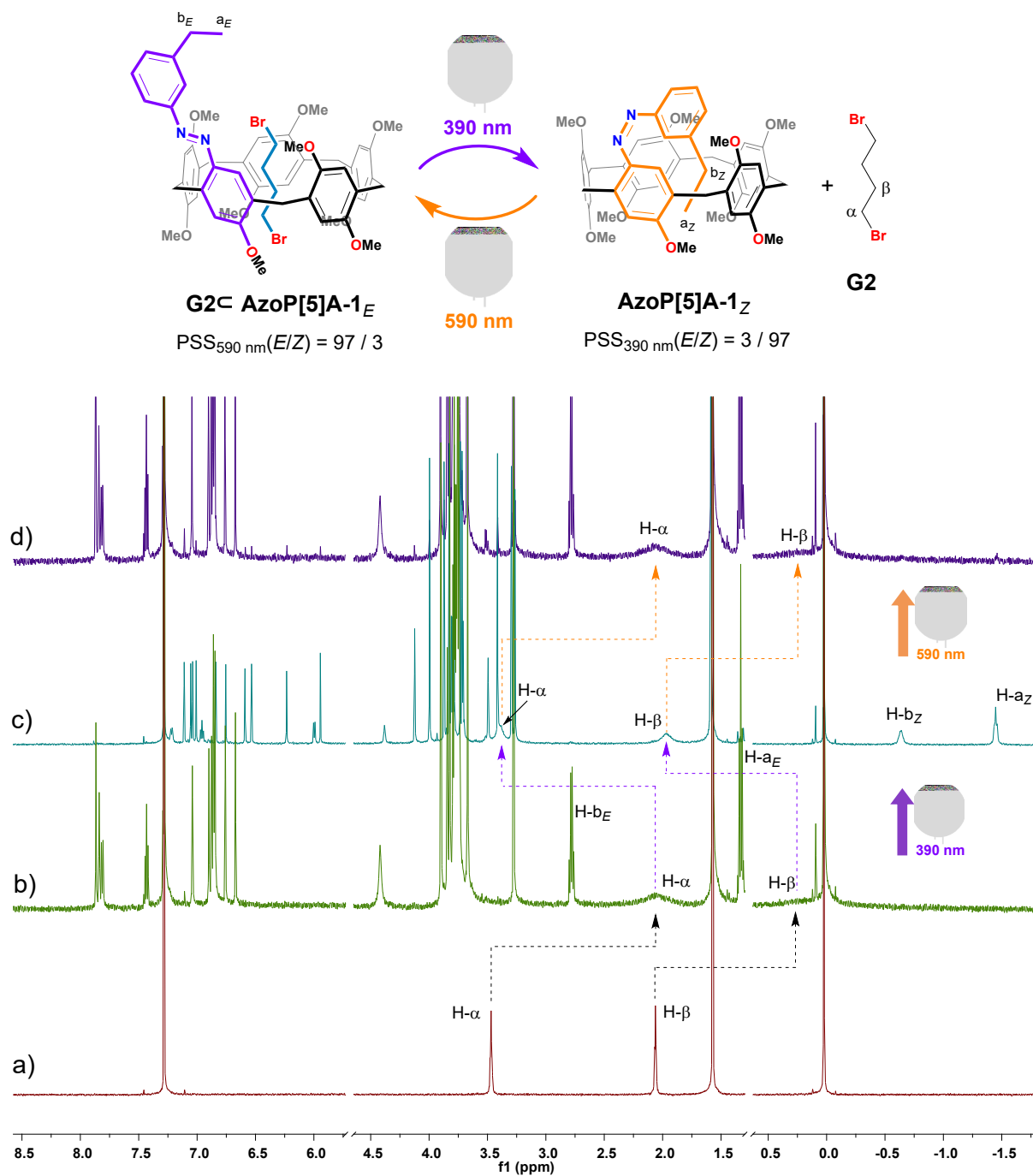
<sup>[d]</sup> The  $K_a$  value was reported in Ref. S10.

<sup>[e]</sup> The  $K_a$  value was determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR single-point method.

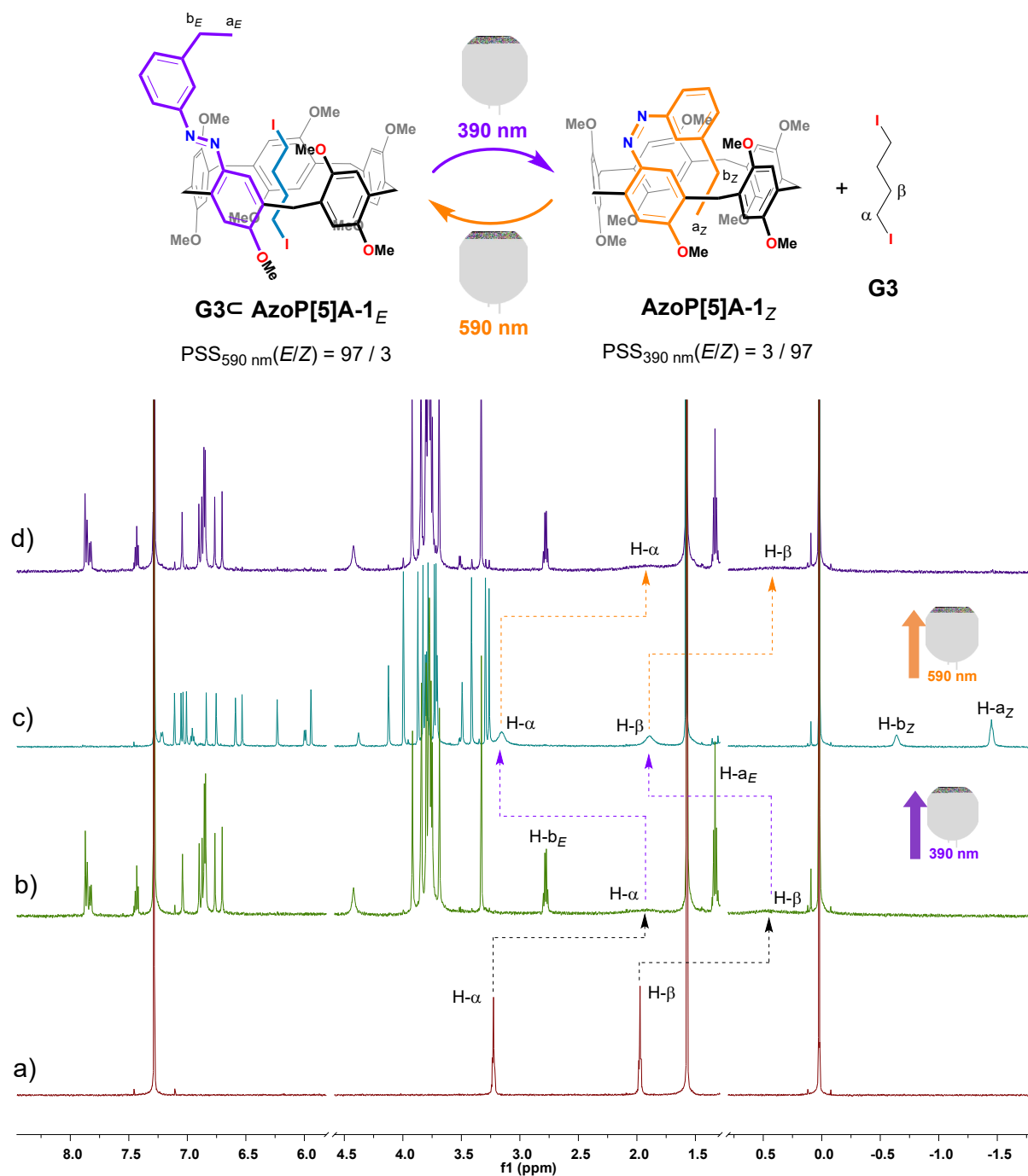
## Section 5: Photoswitchable Host-Guest Complexation of AzoP[5/6]A and G1 ~ G6.



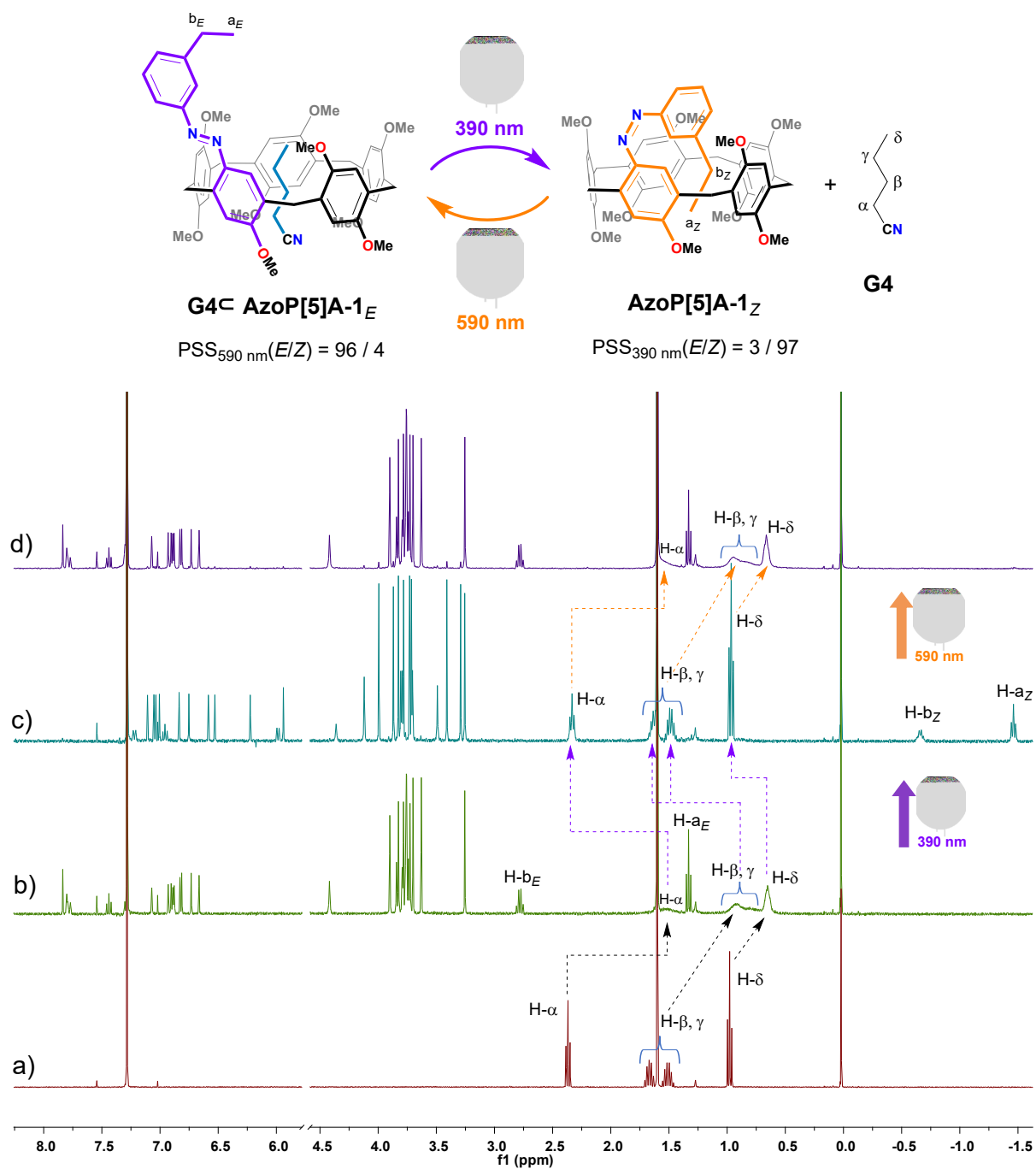
**Fig. S48** Schematic representation for the *E/Z* photoisomerization of AzoP[5]A-1 in the presence of G1, and partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) spectra for the solution of a) G1 (2.0 mM), b) AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub> (2.0 mM) and G1 (2.0 mM), c) the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of AzoP[5]A-1 (2.0 mM) and G1 (2.0 mM), and d) the PSS<sub>E</sub> (590 nm) mixtures of AzoP[5]A-1 (2.0 mM) and G1 (2.0 mM).



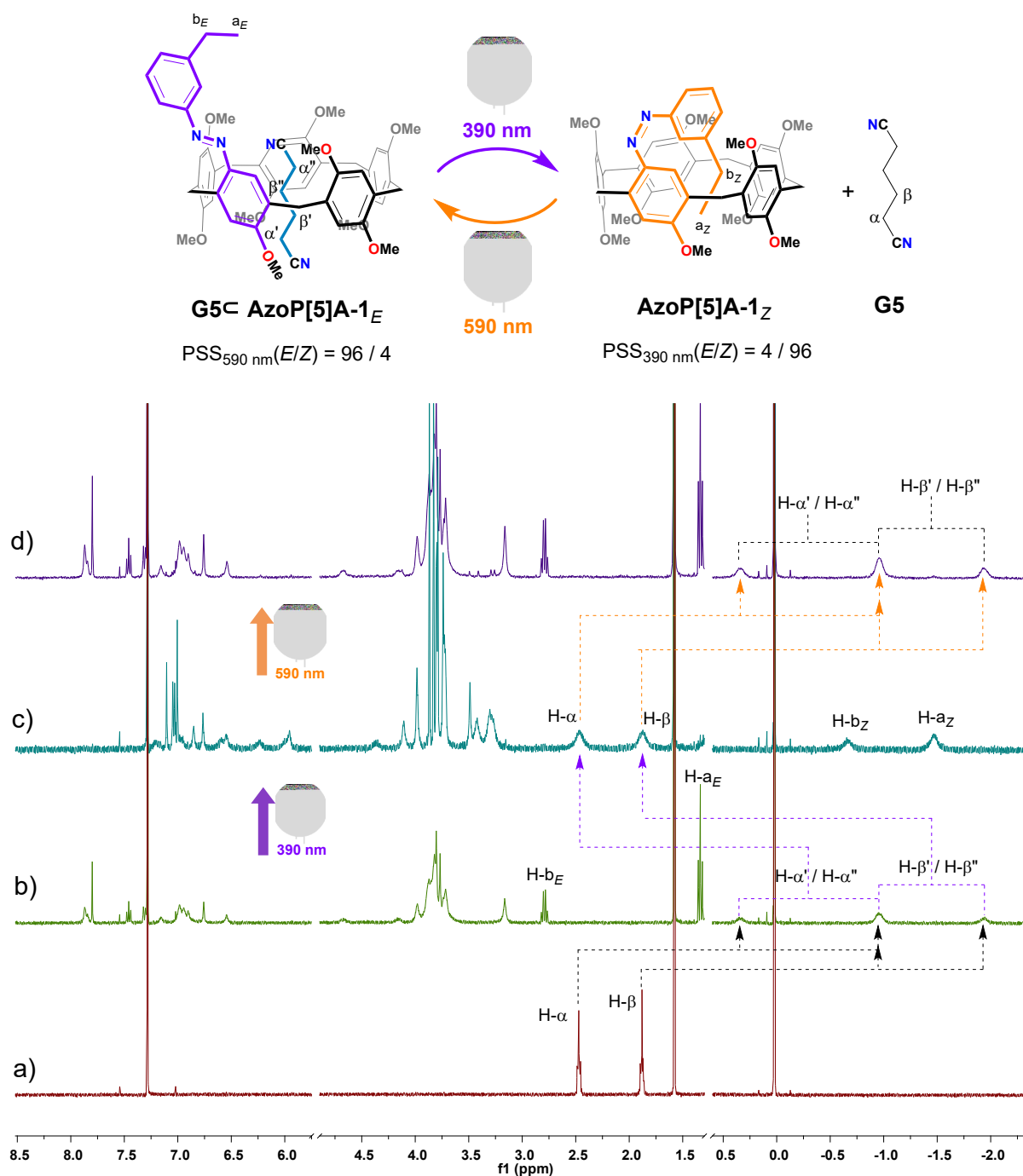
**Fig. S49** Schematic representation for the *E/Z* photoisomerization of AzoP[5]A-1 in the presence of G2, and partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) spectra for the solution of a) G2 (2.0 mM), b) AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub> (2.0 mM) and G2 (2.0 mM), c) the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of AzoP[5]A-1 (2.0 mM) and G2 (2.0 mM), and d) the PSS<sub>E</sub> (590 nm) mixtures of AzoP[5]A-1 (2.0 mM) and G2 (2.0 mM).



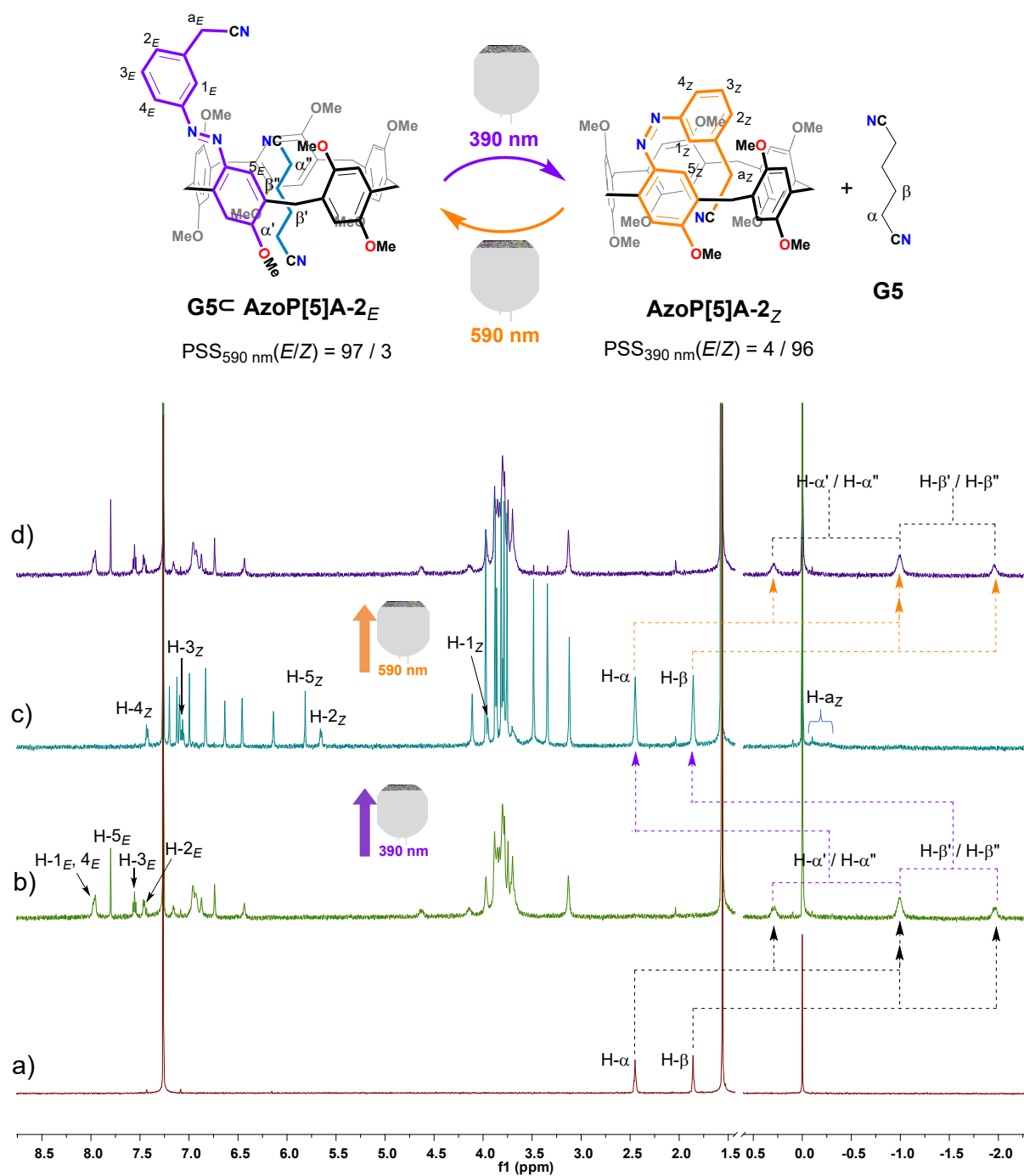
**Fig. S50** Schematic representation for the *E/Z* photoisomerization of AzoP[5]A-1 in the presence of G3, and partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) spectra for the solution of a) G3 (2.0 mM), b) AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub> (2.0 mM) and G3 (2.0 mM), c) the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of AzoP[5]A-1 (2.0 mM) and G3 (2.0 mM), and d) the PSS<sub>E</sub> (590 nm) mixtures of AzoP[5]A-1 (2.0 mM) and G3 (2.0 mM).



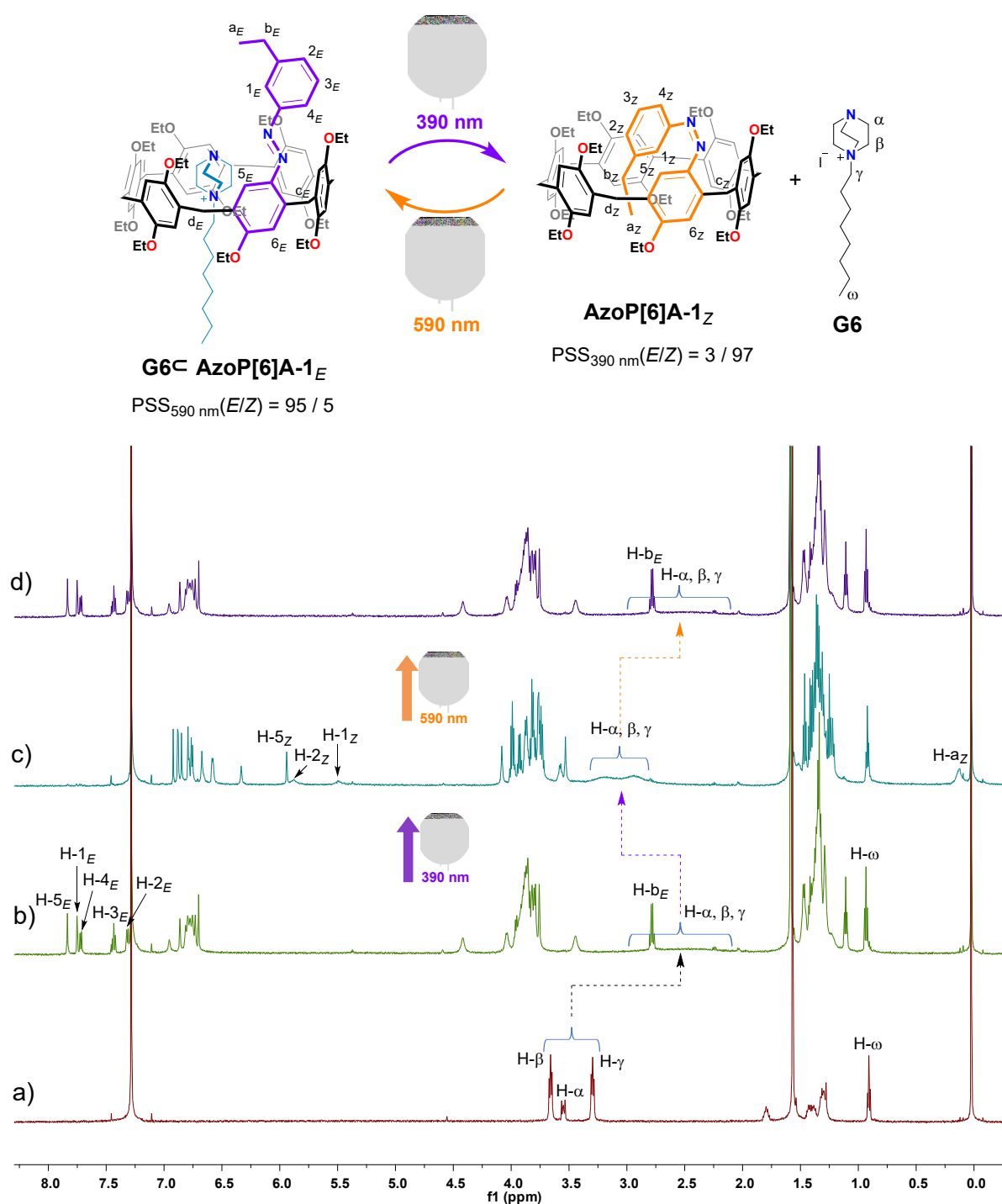
**Fig. S51** Schematic representation for the *E/Z* photoisomerization of **AzoP[5]A-1** in the presence of **G4**, and partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) spectra for the solution of a) **G4** (4.0 mM), b) **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub>** (2.0 mM) and **G4** (4.0 mM), c) the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of **AzoP[5]A-1** (2.0 mM) and **G4** (4.0 mM), and d) the PSS<sub>E</sub> (590 nm) mixtures of **AzoP[5]A-1** (2.0 mM) and **G4** (4.0 mM).



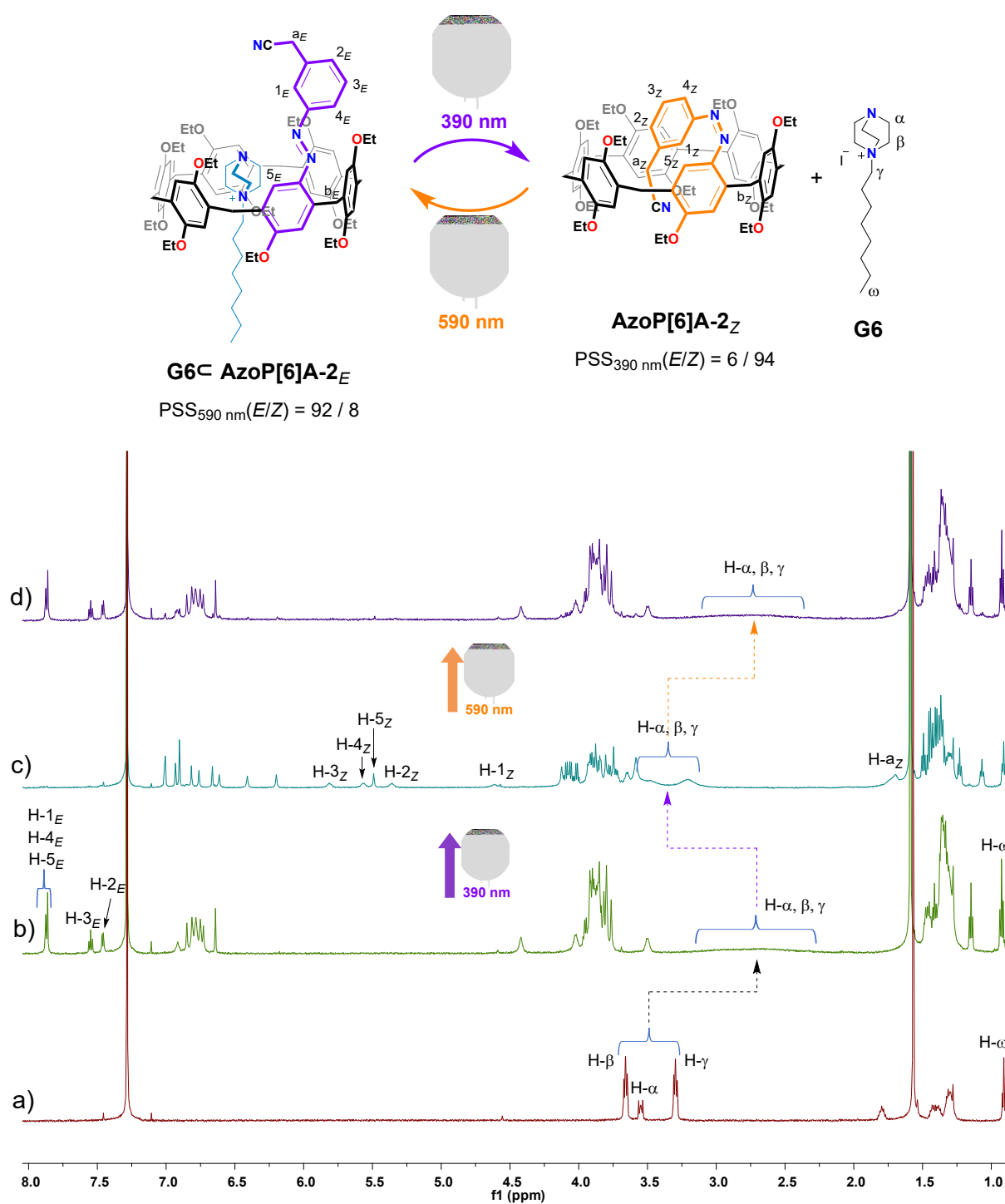
**Fig. S52** Schematic representation for the *E/Z* photoisomerization of AzoP[5]A-1 in the presence of G5, and partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) spectra for the solution of a) G5 (2.0 mM), b) AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub> (2.0 mM) and G5 (2.0 mM), c) the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of AzoP[5]A-1 (2.0 mM) and G5 (2.0 mM), and d) the PSS<sub>E</sub> (590 nm) mixtures of AzoP[5]A-1 (2.0 mM) and G5 (2.0 mM).



**Fig. S53** Schematic representation for the *E/Z* photoisomerization of **AzoP[5]A-2** in the presence of **G5**, and partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) spectra for the solution of a) **G5** (2.0 mM), b) **AzoP[5]A-2<sub>E</sub>** (2.0 mM) and **G5** (2.0 mM), c) the **PSS<sub>Z</sub>** (390 nm) mixtures of **AzoP[5]A-2** (2.0 mM) and **G5** (2.0 mM), and d) the **PSS<sub>E</sub>** (590 nm) mixtures of **AzoP[5]A-2** (2.0 mM) and **G5** (2.0 mM).

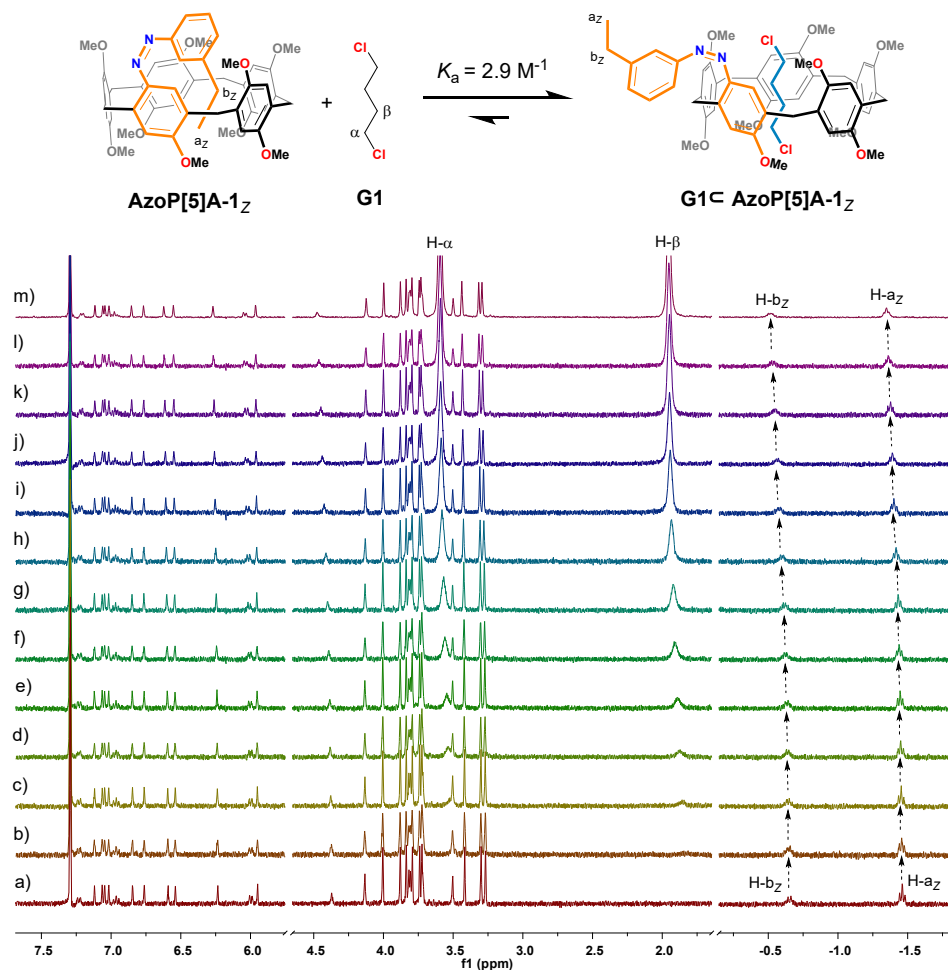


**Fig. S54** Schematic representation for the *E/Z* photoisomerization of **AzoP[6]A-1** in the presence of **G6**, and partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) spectra for the solution of a) **G6** (2.0 mM), b) **AzoP[6]A-1<sub>E</sub>** (2.0 mM) and **G6** (2.0 mM), c) the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of **AzoP[6]A-1** (2.0 mM) and **G6** (2.0 mM), and d) the PSS<sub>E</sub> (590 nm) mixtures of **AzoP[6]A-1** (2.0 mM) and **G6** (2.0 mM).

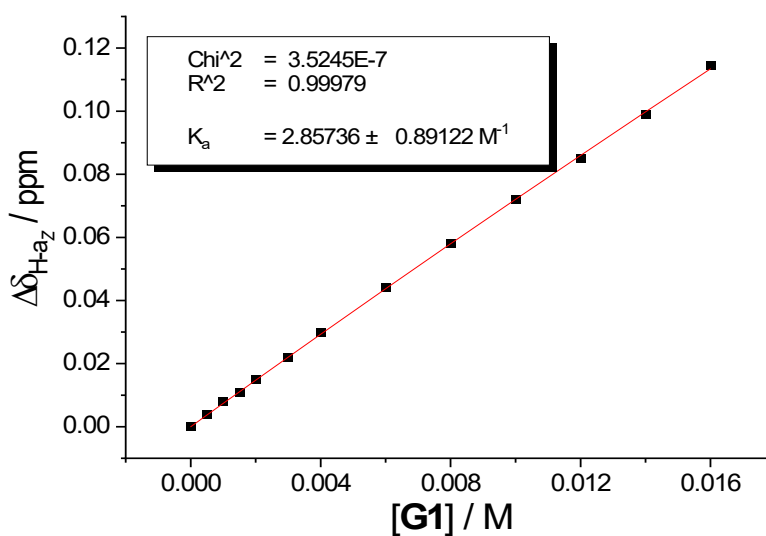


**Fig. S55** Schematic representation for the *E/Z* photoisomerization of AzoP[6]A-2 in the presence of G6, and partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) spectra for the solution of a) G6 (2.0 mM), b) AzoP[6]A-2<sub>E</sub> (2.0 mM) and G6 (2.0 mM), c) the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of AzoP[6]A-2 (2.0 mM) and G6 (2.0 mM), and d) the PSS<sub>E</sub> (590 nm) mixtures of AzoP[6]A-2 (2.0 mM) and G6 (2.0 mM).

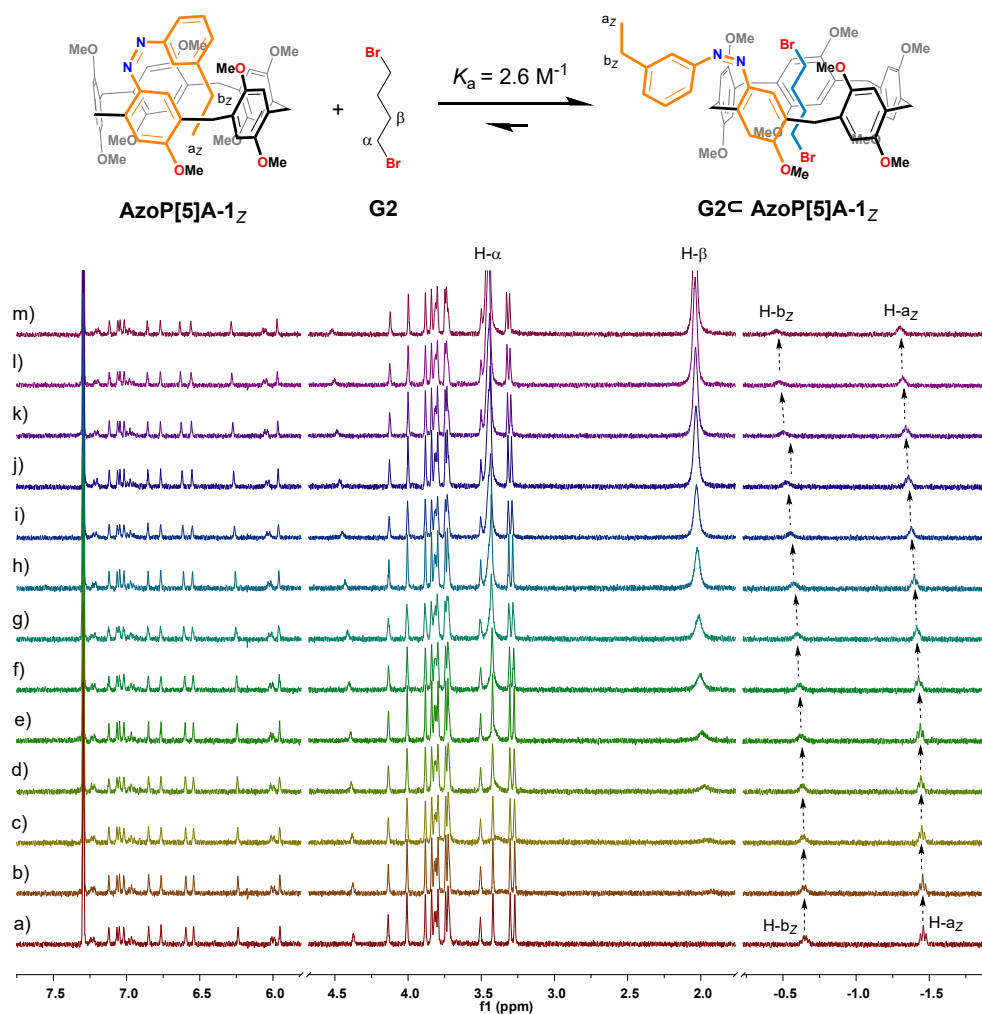
## Section 6: Guest Binding Properties of the Z-isomeric AzoP[5/6]A macrocycles



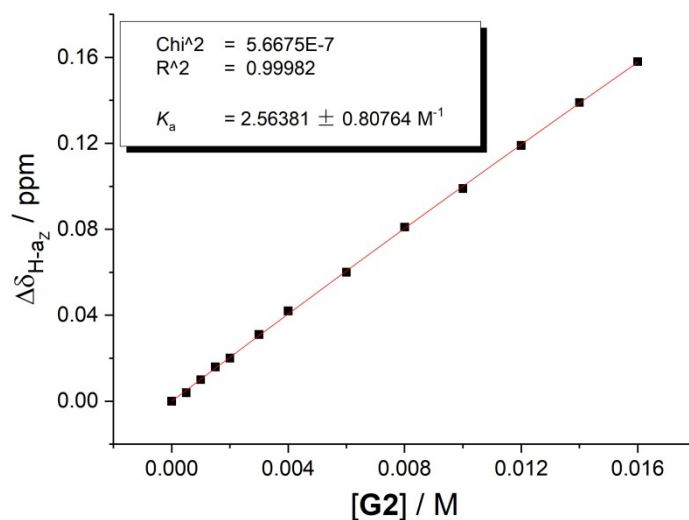
**Fig. S56** Schematic representation for the complexation behavior of **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>Z</sub>** and **G1**, and partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) for the solution of the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>Z</sub>** (2.0 mM) in the presence of a) 0, b) 0.25, c) 0.5, d) 0.75, e) 1.0, f) 1.5, g) 2.0, h) 3.0, i) 4.0, j) 5.0, k) 6.0, l) 7.0, and m) 8.0 equiv. of **G1**.



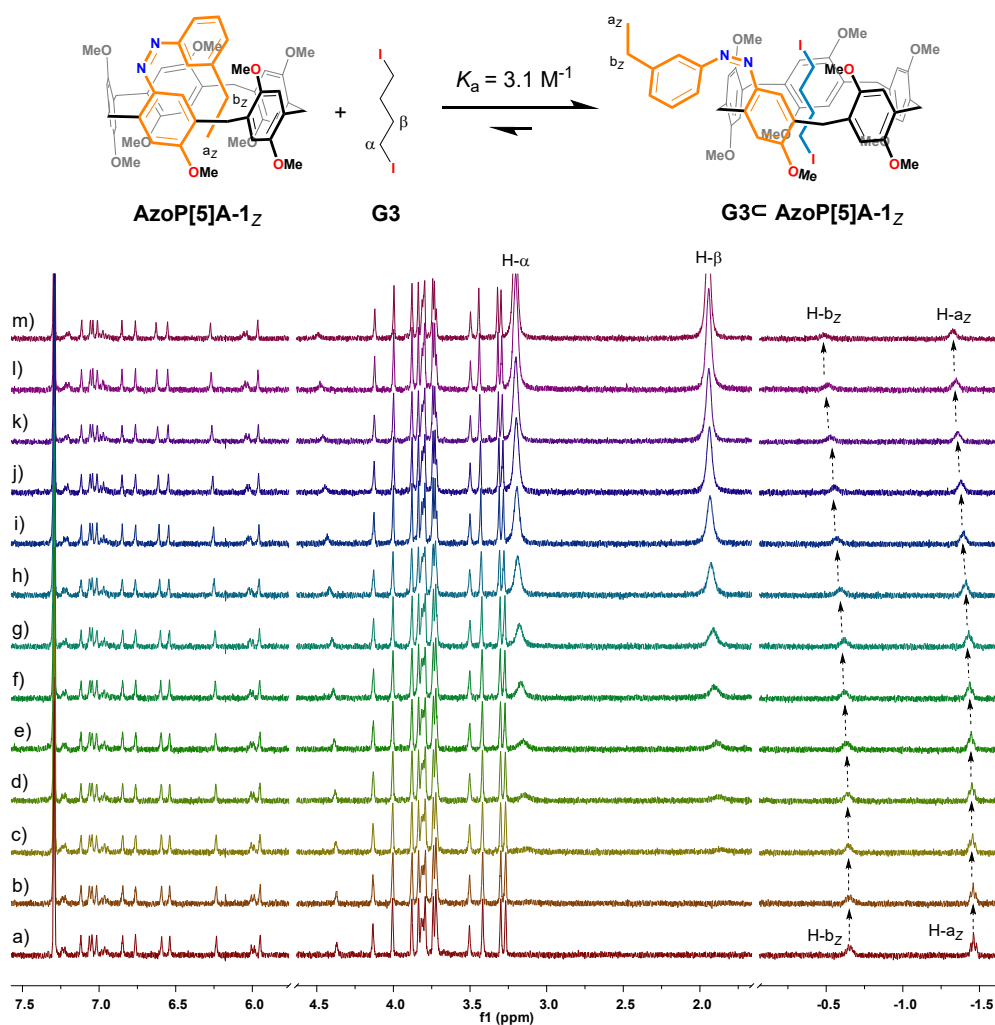
**Fig. S57** Plot of the chemical shift changes of proton H-a<sub>Z</sub> of **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>Z</sub>** versus the concentration of **G1**. The fit of the data for H-a<sub>Z</sub> ( $\delta$  ppm) from Fig. S56 to a 1:1 binding model.



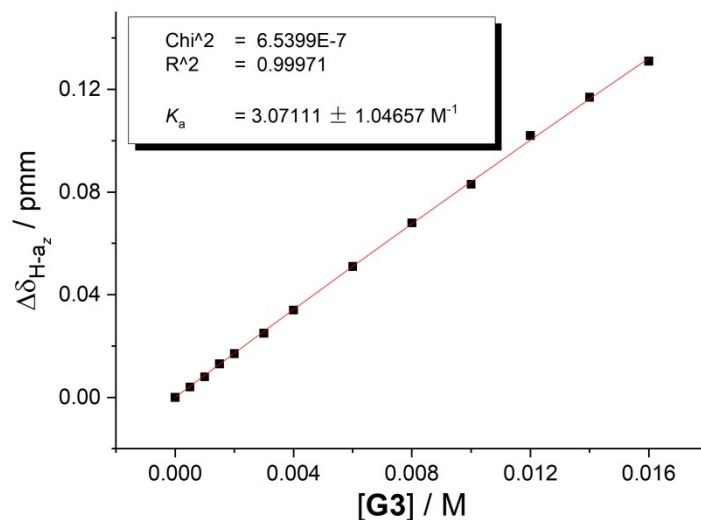
**Fig. S58** Schematic representation for the complexation behavior of **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>Z</sub>** and **G2**, and partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K) for the solution of the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>Z</sub>** (2.0 mM) in the presence of a) 0, b) 0.25, c) 0.5, d) 0.75, e) 1.0, f) 1.5, g) 2.0, h) 3.0, i) 4.0, j) 5.0, k) 6.0, l) 7.0, and m) 8.0 equiv. of **G2**.



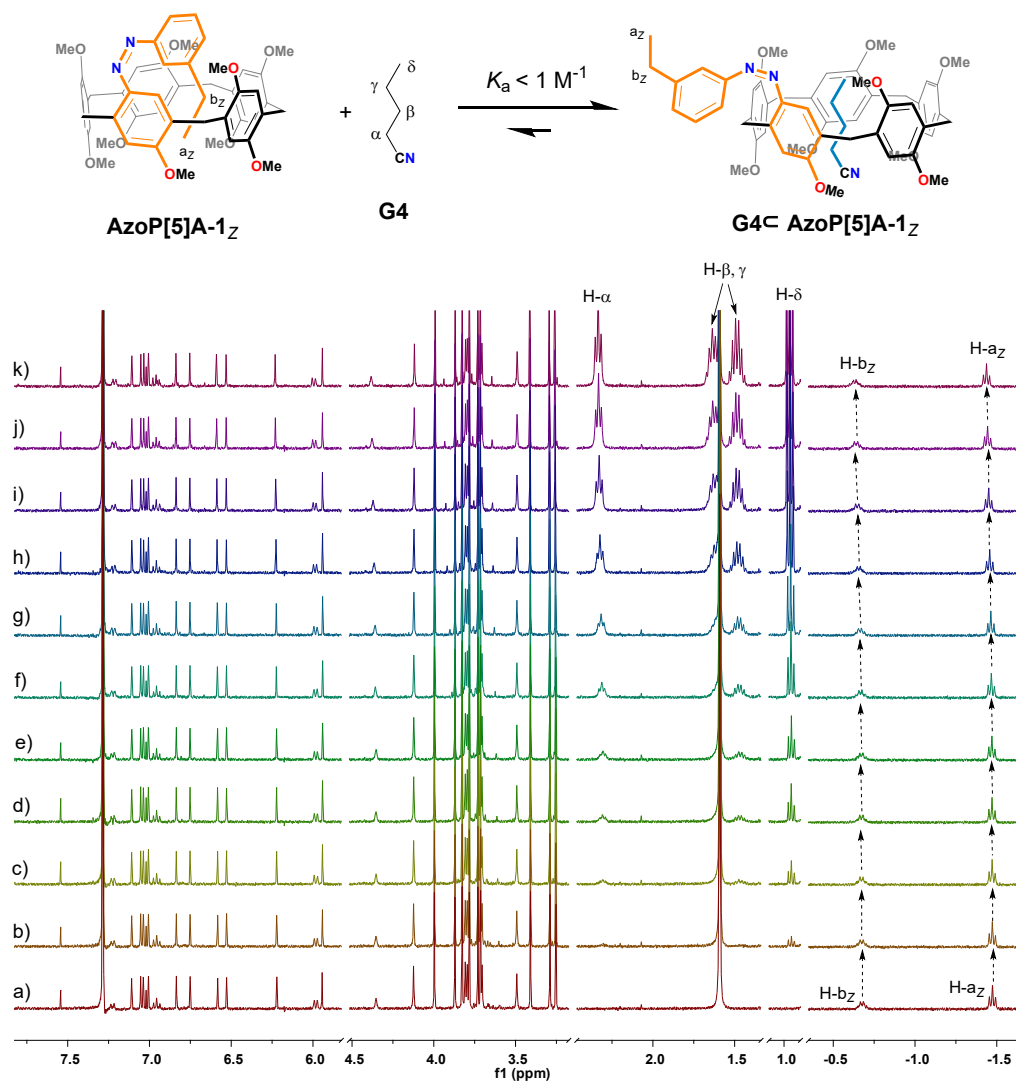
**Fig. S59** Plot of the chemical shift changes of proton H-a<sub>Z</sub> of **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>Z</sub>** versus the concentration of **G2**. The fit of the data for H-a<sub>Z</sub> ( $\delta$  ppm) from Fig. S58 to a 1:1 binding model.



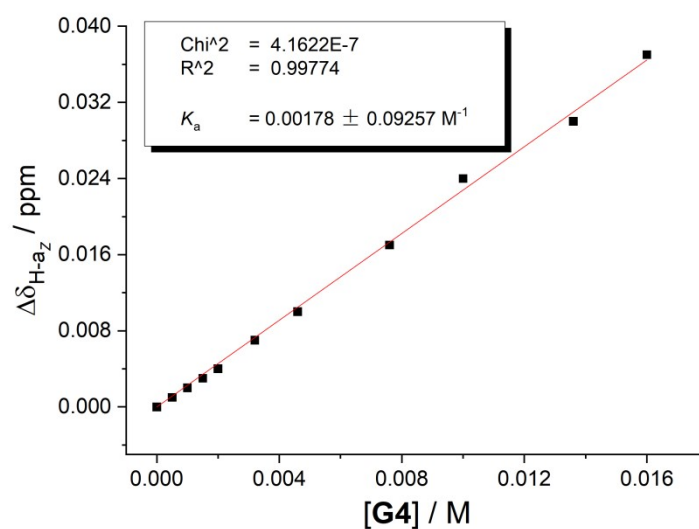
**Fig. S60** Schematic representation for the complexation behavior of AzoP[5]A-1<sub>Z</sub> and G3, and partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K) for the solution of the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of AzoP[5]A-1<sub>Z</sub> (2.0 mM) in the presence of a) 0, b) 0.25, c) 0.5, d) 0.75, e) 1.0, f) 1.5, g) 2.0, h) 3.0, i) 4.0, j) 5.0, k) 6.0, l) 7.0, and m) 8.0 equiv. of G3.



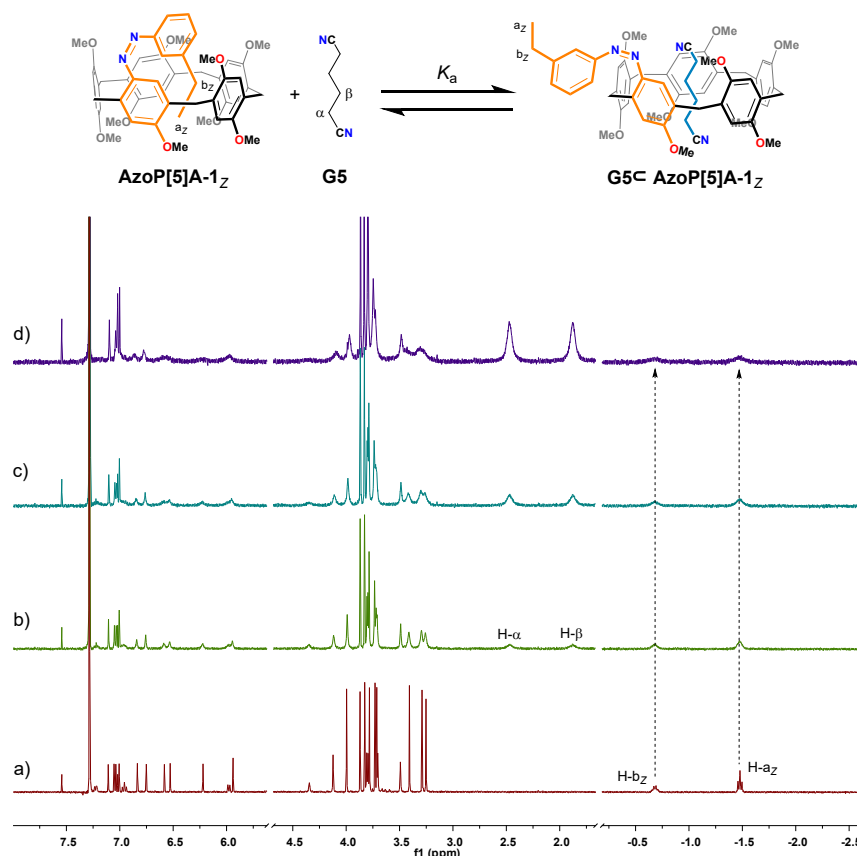
**Fig. S61** Plot of the chemical shift changes of proton H-az of AzoP[5]A-1<sub>Z</sub> versus the concentration of G3. The fit of the data for H-az ( $\delta$  ppm) from Fig. S60 to a 1:1 binding model.



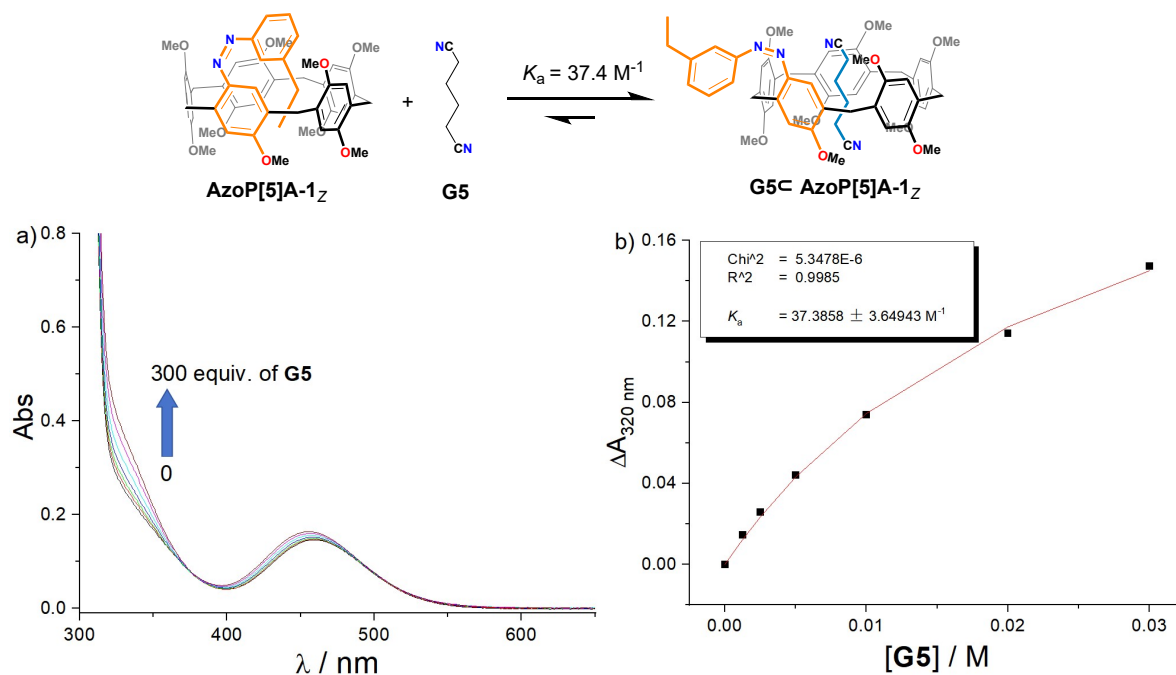
**Fig. S62** Schematic representation for the complexation behavior of AzoP[5]A-1Z and G4, and partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K) for the solution of the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of AzoP[5]A-1Z (2.0 mM) in the presence of a) 0, b) 0.25, c) 0.5, d) 0.75, e) 1.0, f) 1.6, g) 2.3, h) 3.8, i) 5.0, j) 6.8, and k) 8.0 equiv. of G4.



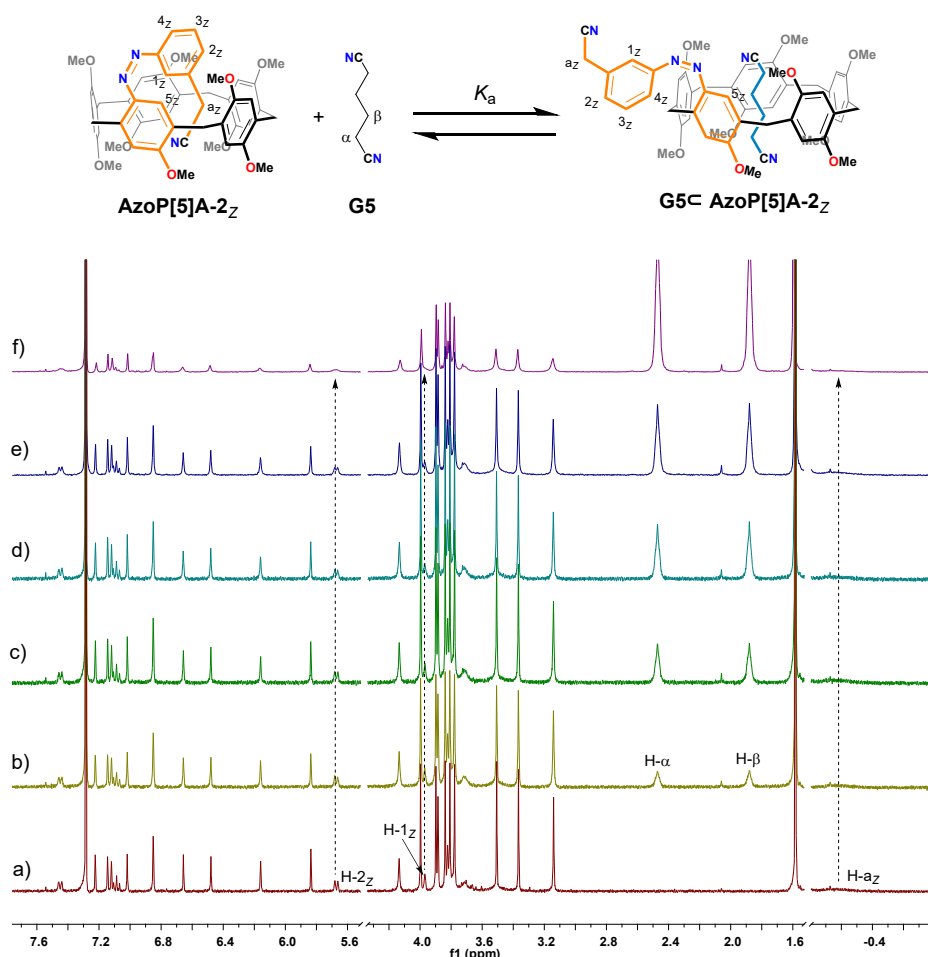
**Fig. S63** Plot of the chemical shift changes of proton H-az of AzoP[5]A-1Z versus the concentration of G4. The fit of the data for H-az ( $\delta$  ppm) from Fig. S62 to a 1:1 binding model.



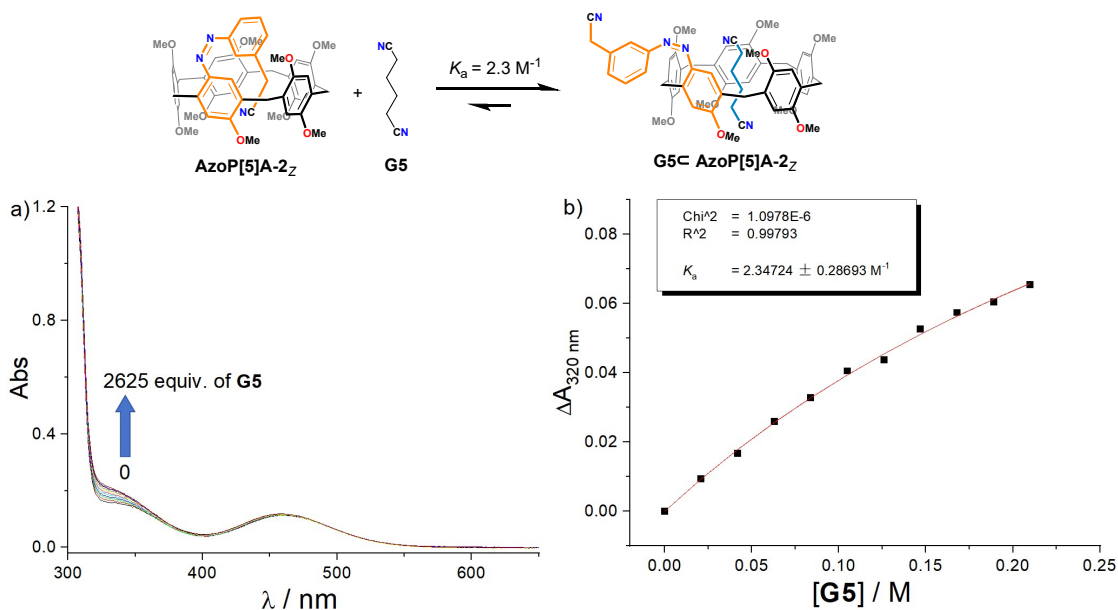
**Fig. S64** Schematic representation for the complexation behavior of **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>Z</sub>** and **G5**, and partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K) of the solution of the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of **AzoP[5]A-1** (2.0 mM) in the presence of a) 0, b) 0.50, c) 1.0, and d) 2.0 equiv. of **G5**. Note: when the guest **G5** was gradually introduced, the proton signals ( $a_Z$  and  $b_Z$ ) of **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>Z</sub>** only become broadened but exhibit negligible chemical shift changes, thus, the  $K_a$  value could not be determined by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration or single-point method.



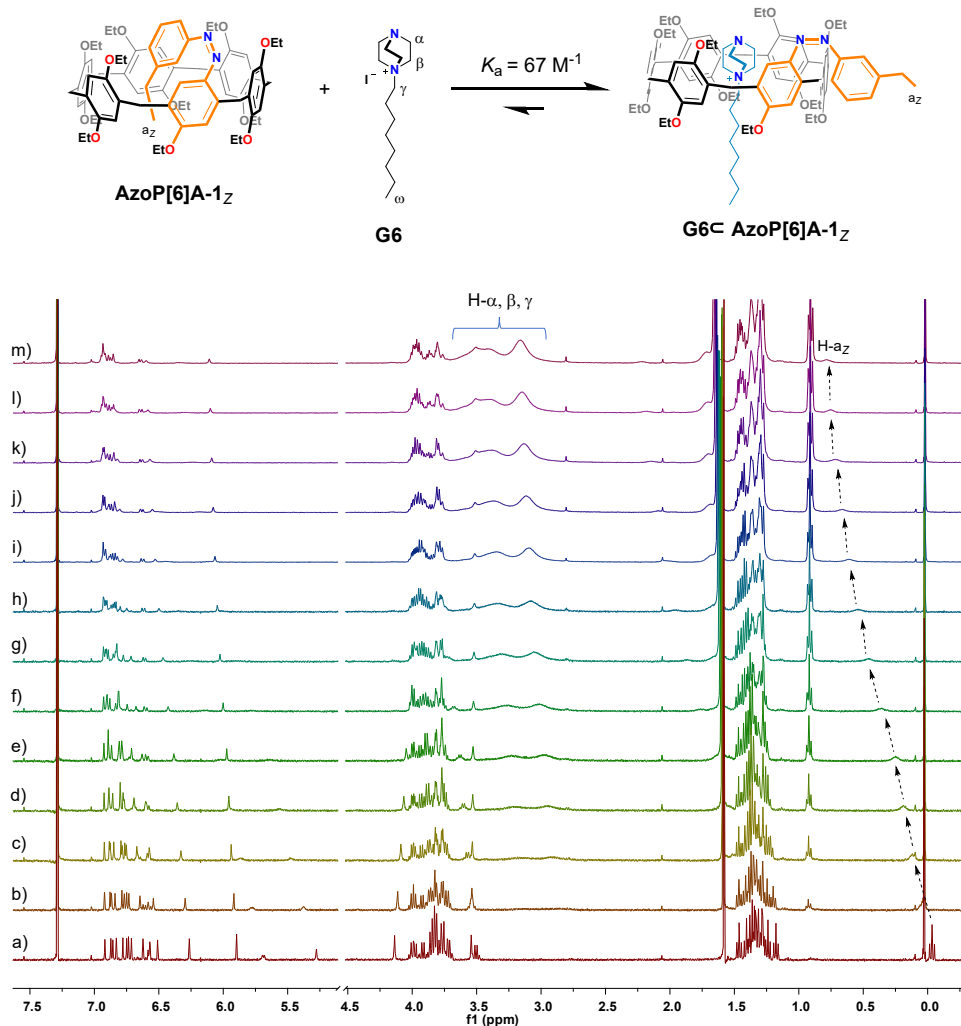
**Fig. S65** a) UV-vis absorption spectral of the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of **AzoP[5]A-1** (0.1 mM) in  $\text{CHCl}_3$  at 298 K in presence of 0 to 300 equiv. of **G5**. b) Plot of the absorbance changes at 320 nm versus the concentration of **G5**. The solid line represents the best least-squares fit of the data to a 1:1 binding model.



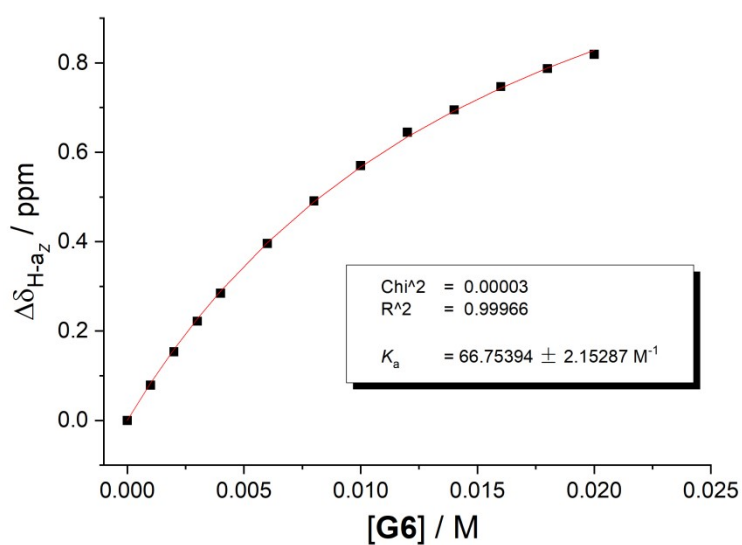
**Fig. S66** Schematic representation for the complexation behavior of AzoP[5]A-2<sub>z</sub> and G5, as well as the partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K) for the PSS<sub>z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of AzoP[5]A-2 (2.0 mM) in the presence of a) 0, b) 0.50, c) 1.0, d) 1.5, e) 2.0 and f) 8.0 equiv. of G5. Note: when the guest G5 was gradually introduced, the proton signals (a<sub>z</sub> and b<sub>z</sub>) of AzoP[5]A-2<sub>z</sub> only become broadened but exhibit negligible chemical shift changes, thus, the  $K_a$  value could not be determined by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration or single-point method.



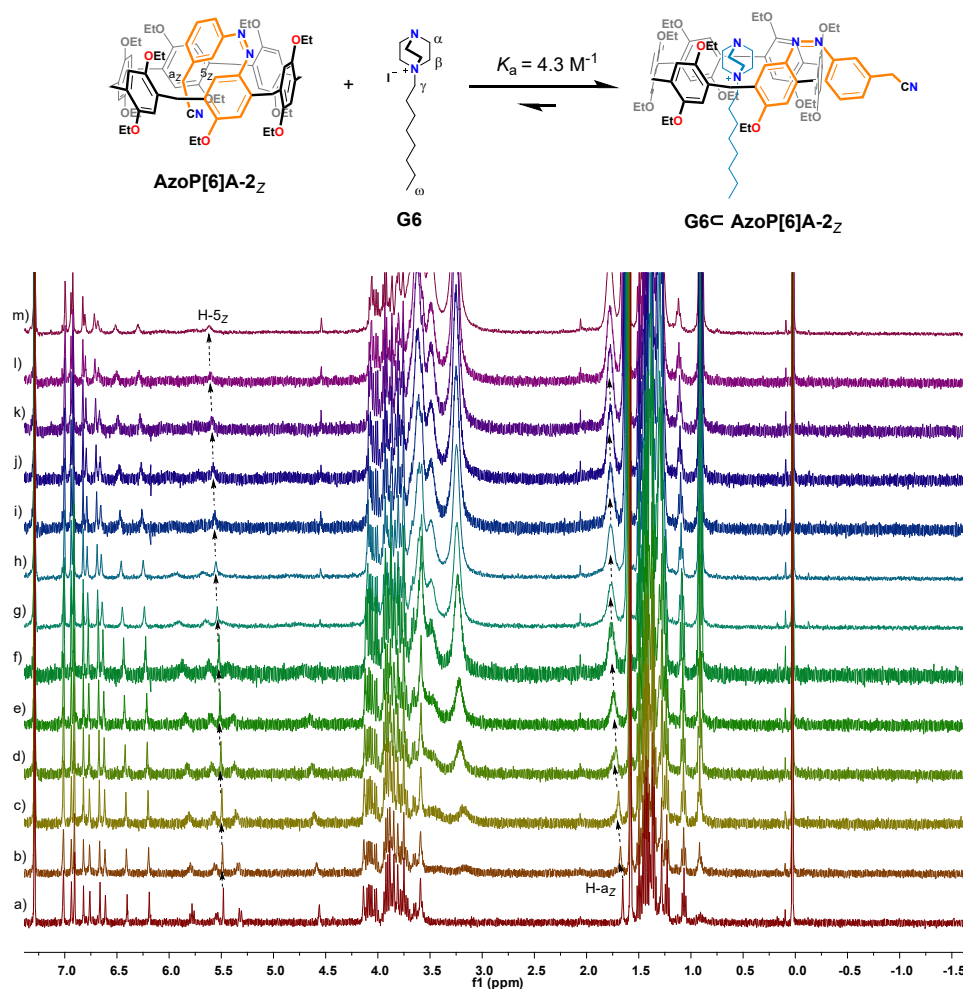
**Fig. S67.** a) UV-vis absorption spectral of the PSS<sub>z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of AzoP[5]A-2 (0.08 mM) in  $\text{CHCl}_3$  at 298 K in presence of 0 to 2625 equiv. of G5. b) Plot of the absorbance changes at 320 nm versus the concentration of G5. The solid line represents the best least-squares fit of the data to a 1:1 binding model.



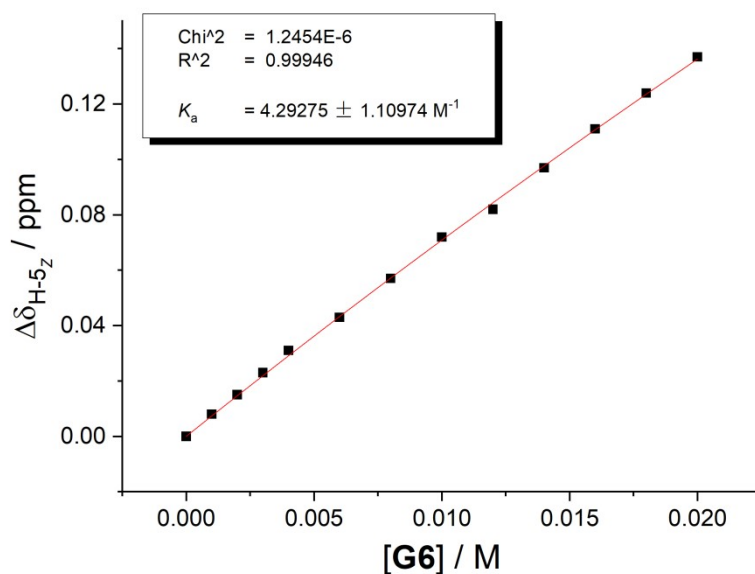
**Fig. S68** Schematic representation of the complexation behavior of **AzoP[6]A-1<sub>Z</sub>** and **G6**, as well as the partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K) for the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of **AzoP[6]A-1** (2.0 mM) in the presence of a) 0, b) 0.5, c) 1.0, d) 1.5, e) 2.0, f) 3.0, g) 4.0, h) 5.0, i) 6.0, j) 7.0, k) 8.0, l) 9.0, and m) 10 equiv. of **G6**.



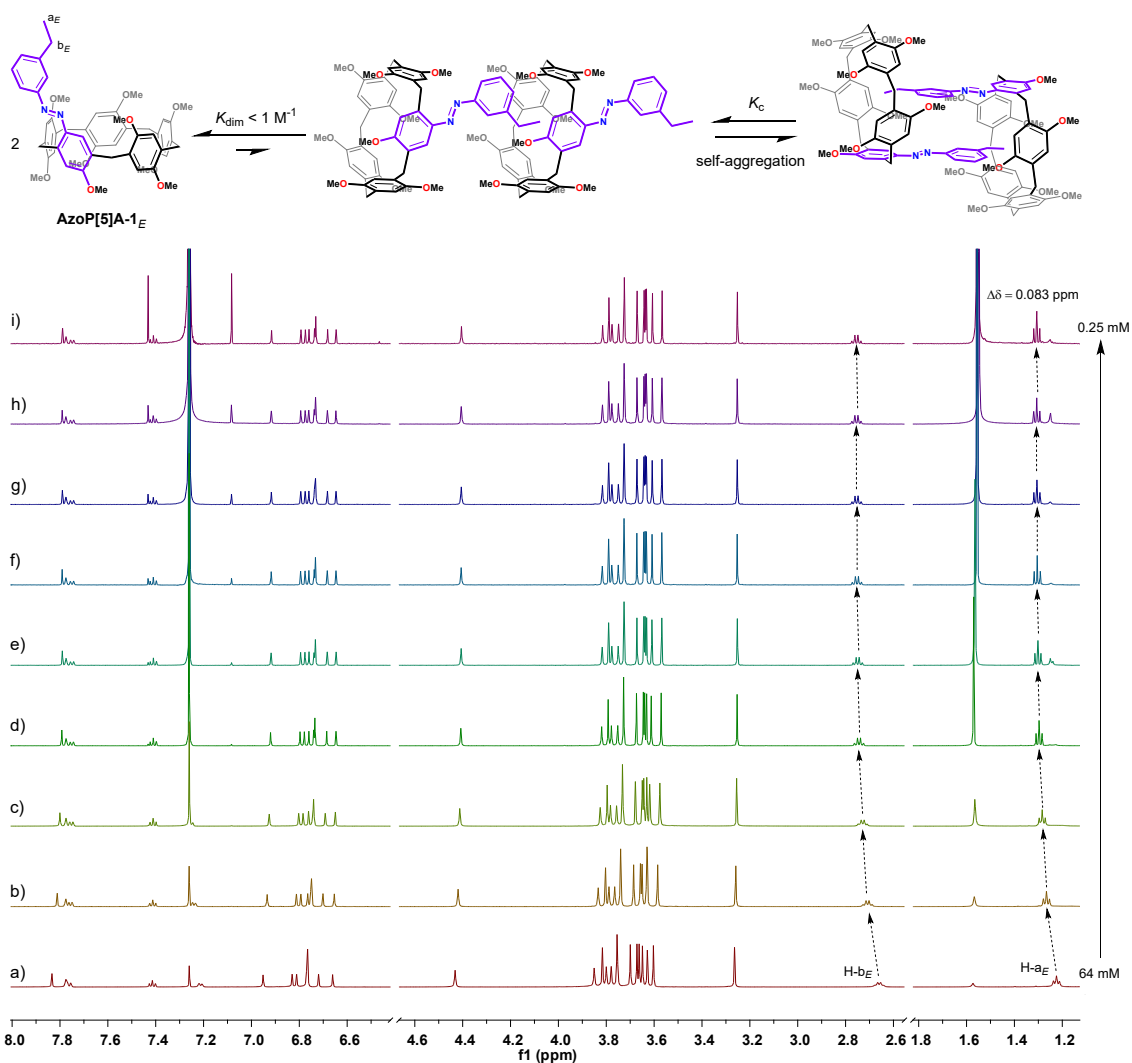
**Fig. S69** Plot of the chemical shift changes of proton H-a<sub>Z</sub> of **AzoP[6]A-1<sub>Z</sub>** versus the concentration of **G6**. The fit of the data for H-a<sub>Z</sub> ( $\delta$  ppm) from Fig. S68 to a 1:1 binding model.



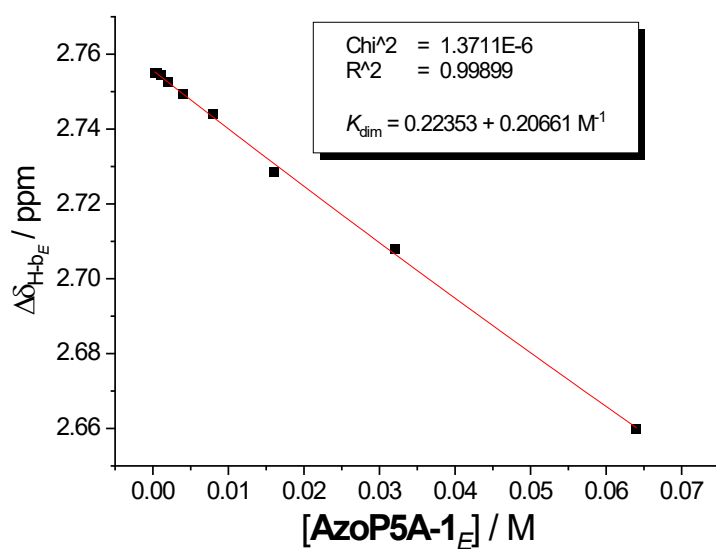
**Fig. S70** Schematic representation of the complexation behavior of AzoP[6]A-2<sub>Z</sub> and G6, as well as the partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K) for the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of AzoP[6]A-2 (2.0 mM) in the presence of a) 0, b) 0.5, c) 1.0, d) 1.5, e) 2.0, f) 3.0, g) 4.0, h) 5.0, i) 6.0, j) 7.0, k) 8.0, l) 9.0, and m) 10 equiv. of G6.



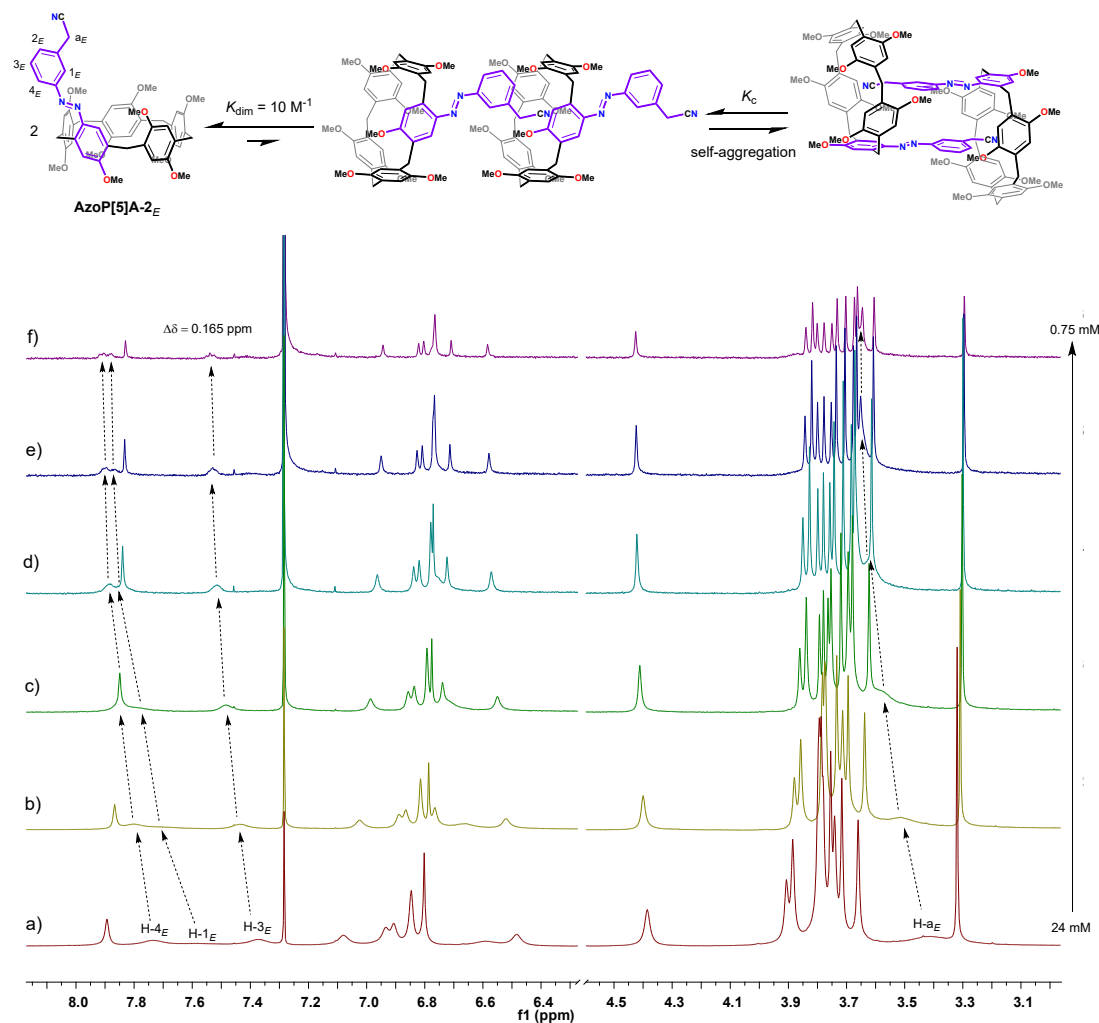
**Fig. S71** Plot of the chemical shift changes of proton H-5<sub>Z</sub> of AzoP[6]A-2<sub>Z</sub> versus the concentration of G6. The fit of the data for H-5<sub>Z</sub> ( $\delta$  ppm) from Fig. S70 to a 1:1 binding model.



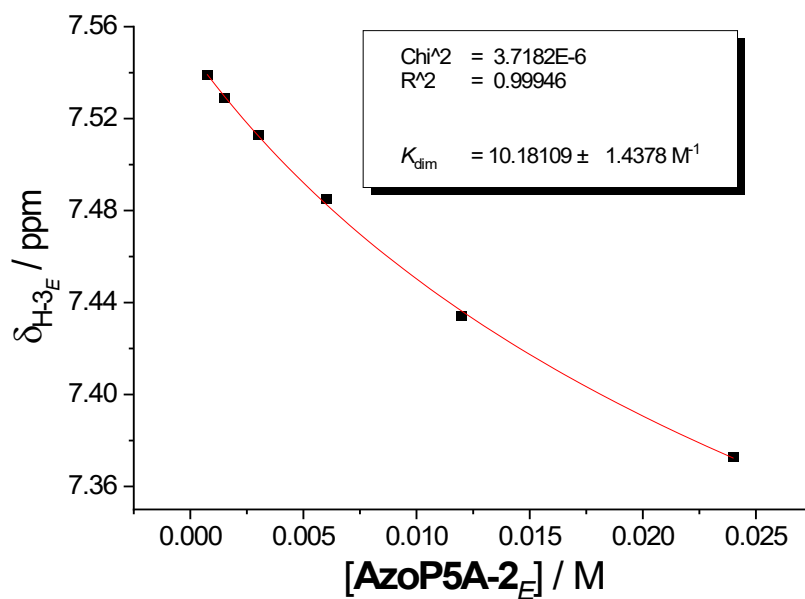
**Fig. S72**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298K) of the solution of **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub>** at different concentrations of a) 64 mM, b) 32 mM, c) 16 mM, d) 8.0 mM, e) 4.0 mM, f) 2.0 mM, g) 1.0 mM, h) 0.5 mM and i) 0.25 mM.



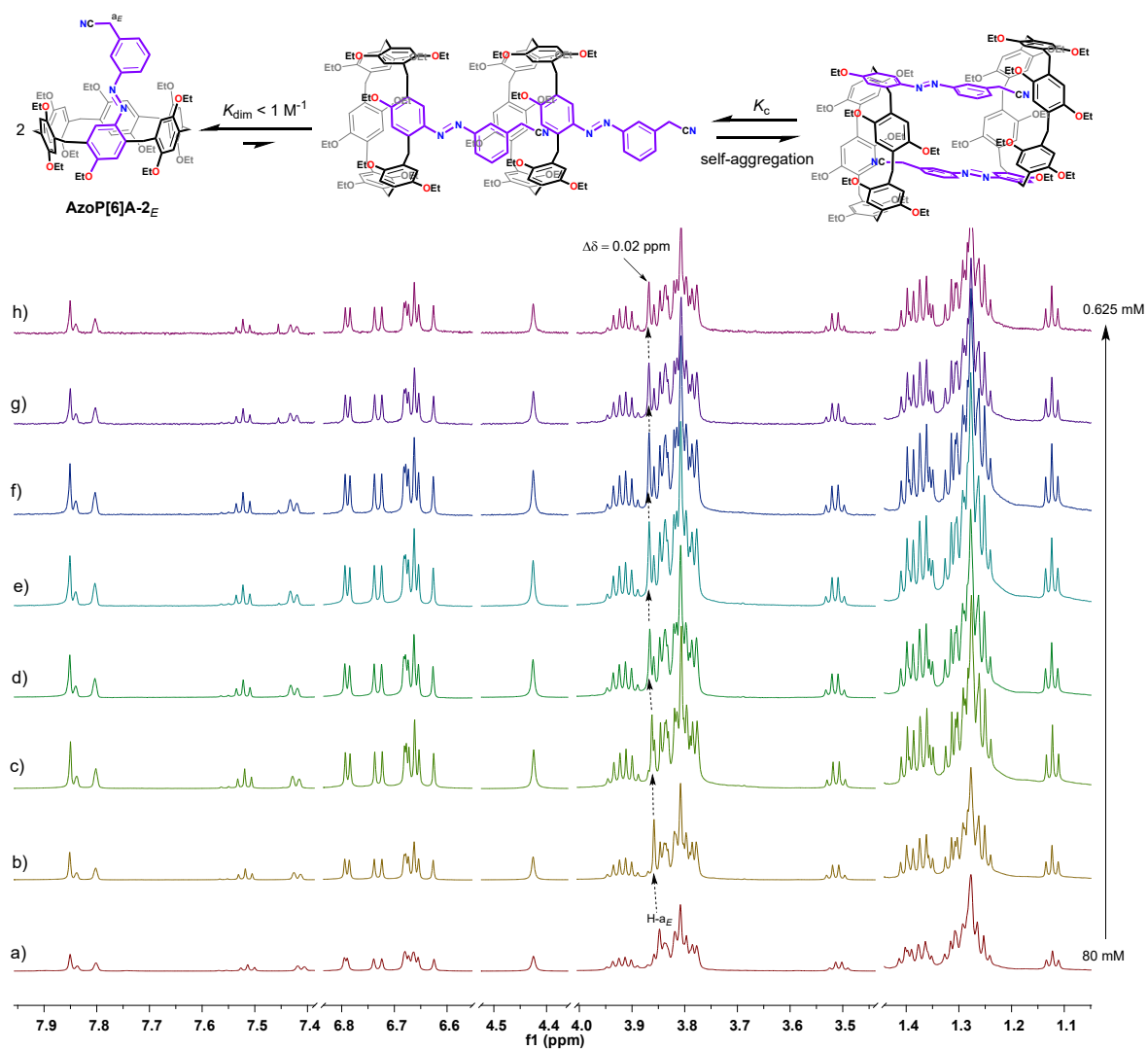
**Fig. S73** Plot of the chemical shift of proton  $\text{H-b}_E$  of **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub>** versus the concentration of itself. The fit of the data for  $\text{H-b}_E$  ( $\delta$  ppm) from Fig. S72 to a dimer aggregation model.



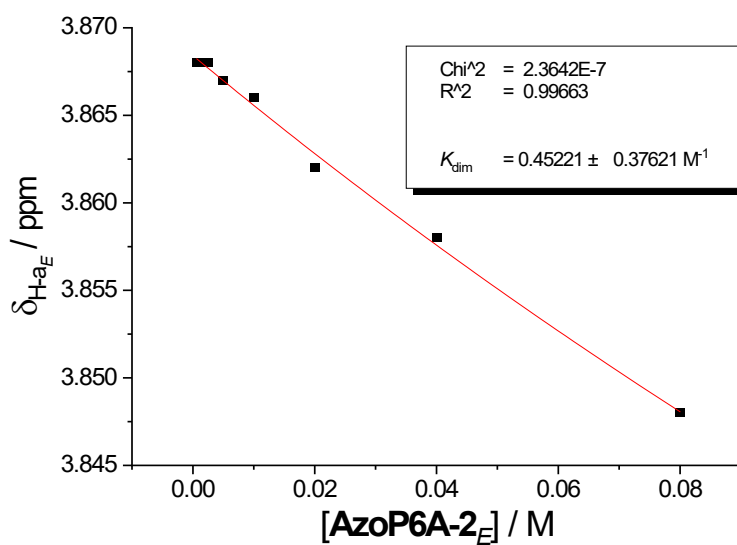
**Fig. S74**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298K) of the solution of **AzoP[5]A-2<sub>E</sub>** at different concentrations of a) 24 mM, b) 12 mM, c) 6.0 mM, d) 3.0 mM, e) 1.5 mM, and f) 0.75 mM.



**Fig. S75** Plot of the chemical shift of proton H-a<sub>E</sub> of **AzoP[5]A-2<sub>E</sub>** versus the concentration of itself. The fit of the data for H-b<sub>E</sub> ( $\delta$  ppm) from Fig. S74 to a dimer aggregation model.

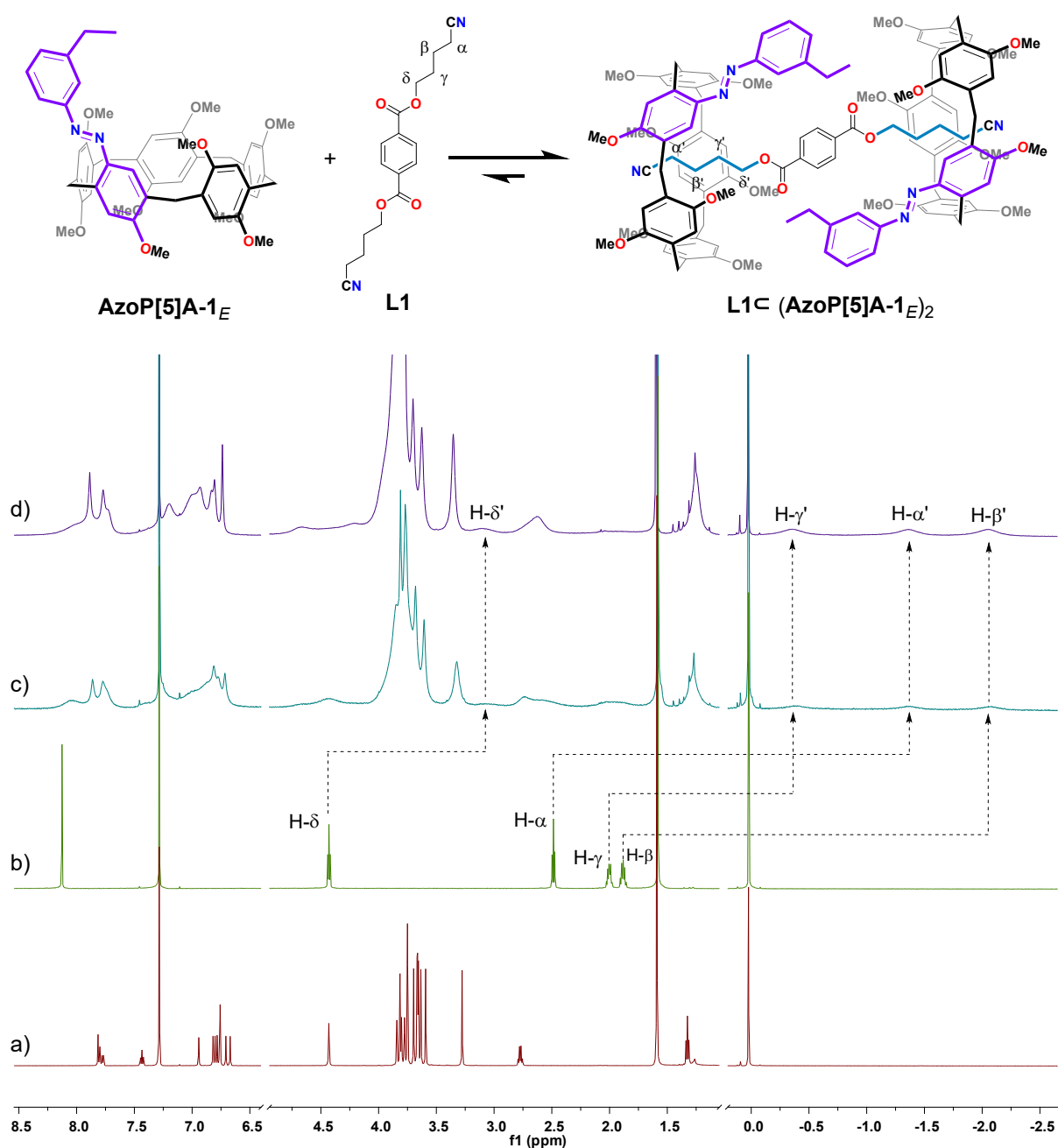


**Fig. S76** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298K) of the solution of **AzoP[6]A-2<sub>E</sub>** at different concentrations of a) 80 mM, b) 40 mM, c) 20 mM, d) 10 mM, e) 5.0 mM, f) 2.5 mM, g) 1.25 mM, and h) 0.625 mM.

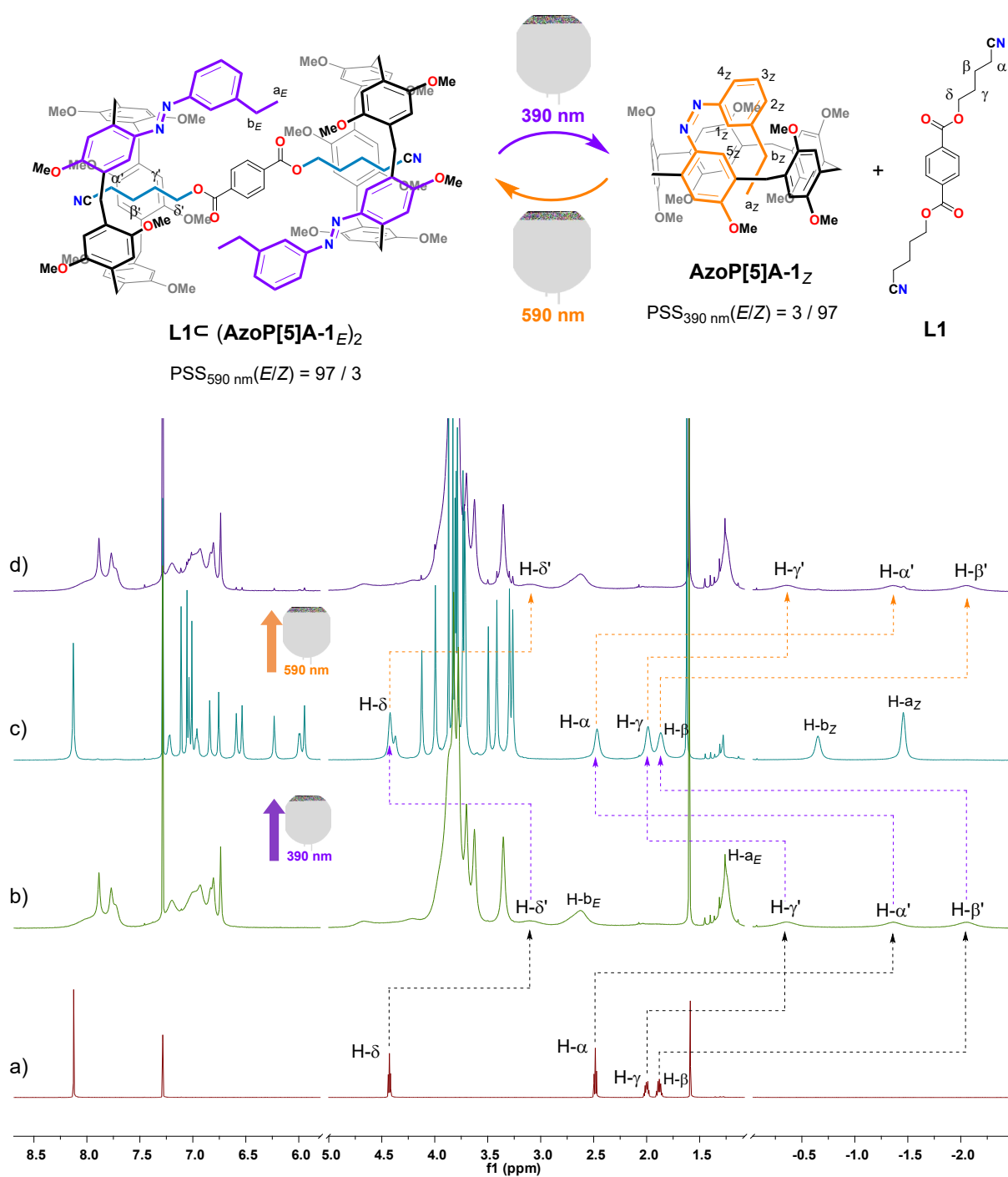


**Fig. S77** Plot of the chemical shift of proton H-a<sub>E</sub> of **AzoP[6]A-2<sub>E</sub>** versus the concentration of itself. The fit of the data for H-b<sub>E</sub> ( $\delta$  ppm) from Fig. S76 to a dimer aggregation model.

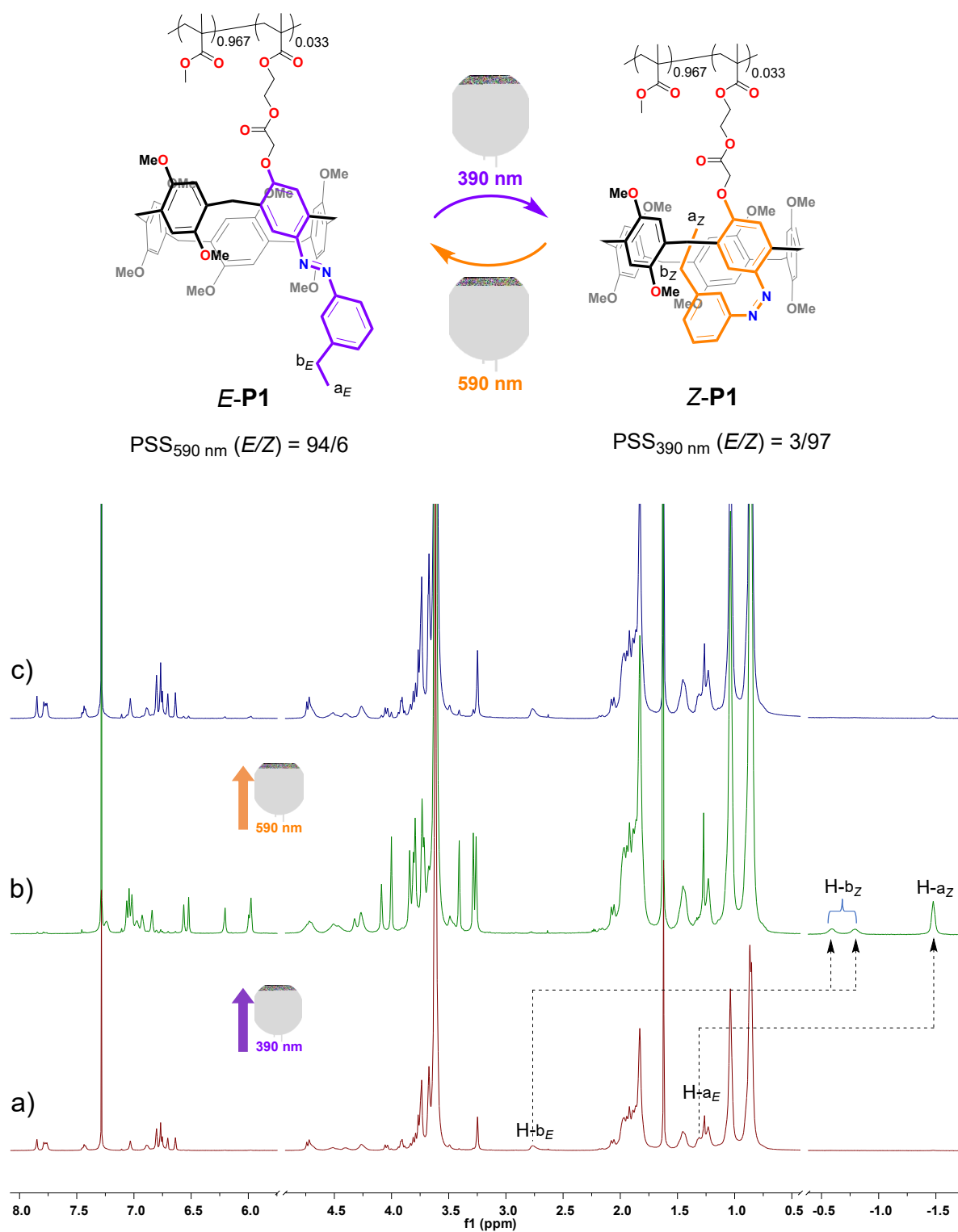
## Section 7: Photocontrolled Host-Guest Interaction Mediated Macromolecular Self-Assembly.



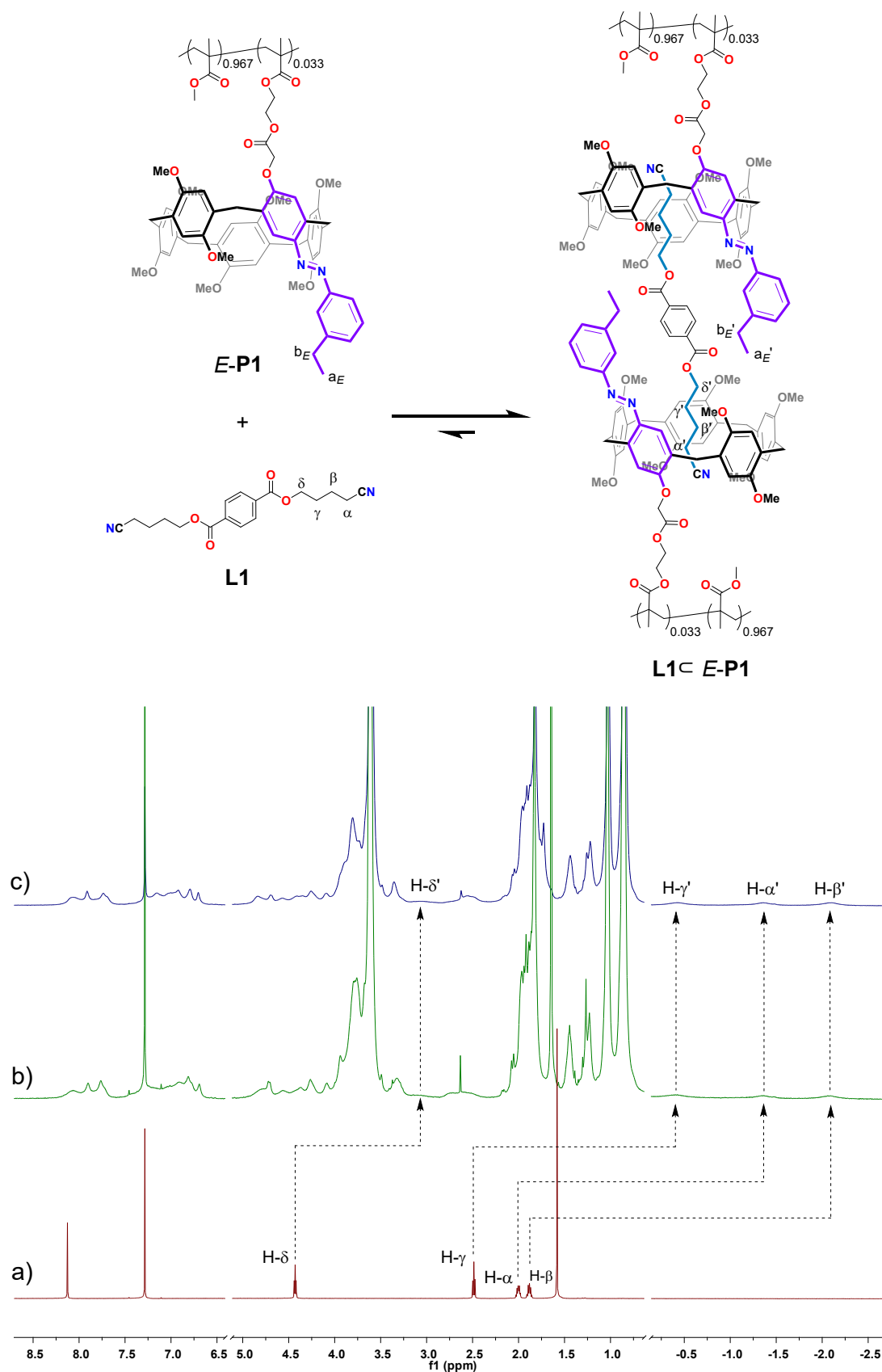
**Fig. S78** Schematic representation of the complexation behavior of **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub>** and **L1**, as well as the partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) for the solution of a) **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub>** (5.0 mM), b) **L1** (2.5 mM), c) the mixture of **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub>** (2.5 mM) and **L1** (2.5 mM), and d) the mixture of **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub>** (20 mM) and **L1** (10 mM).



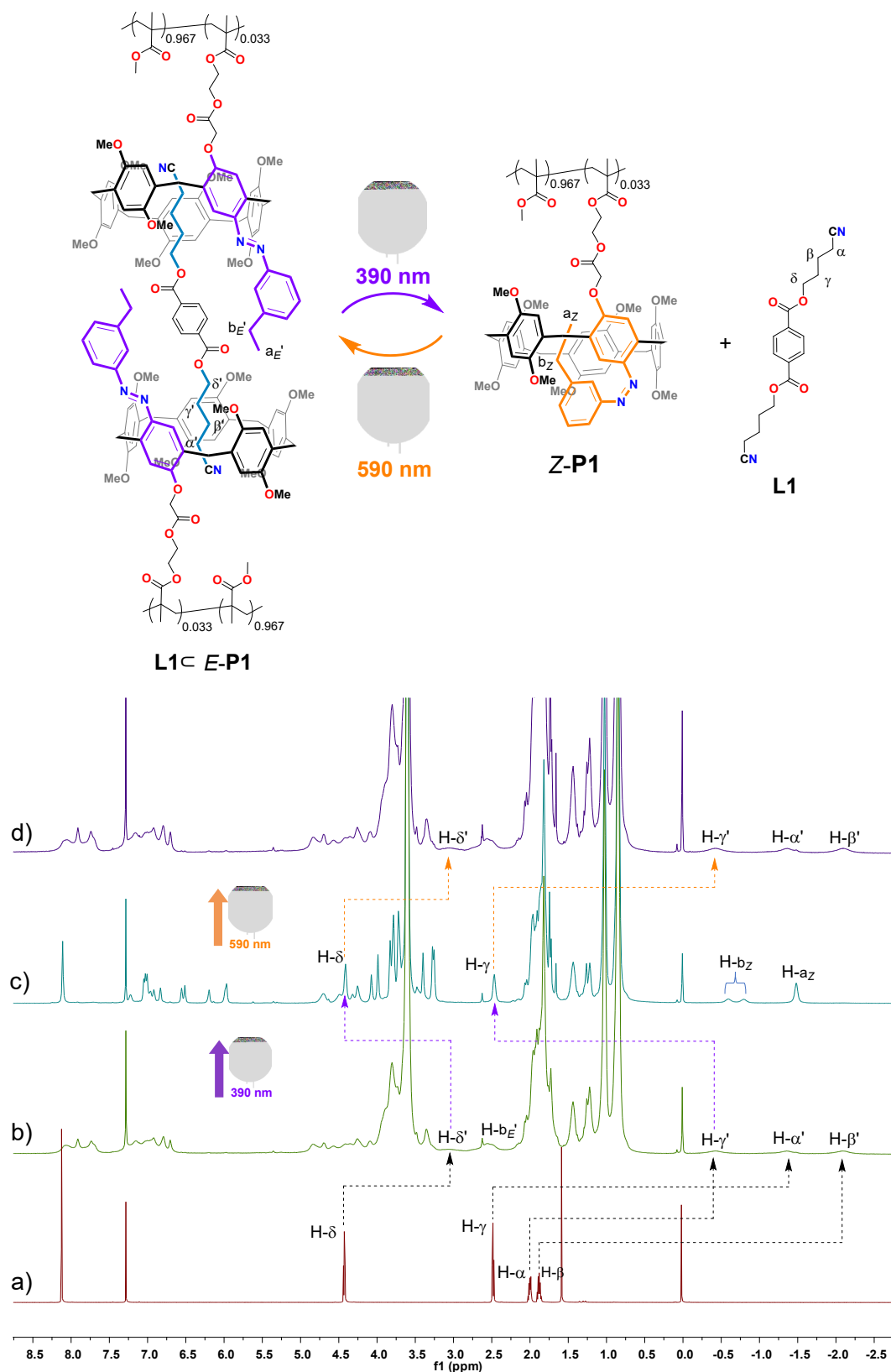
**Fig. S79** Schematic representation of the photoswitchable host-guest complexation of **AzoP[5]A-1** and **L1**, as well as the partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) for the solution of a) **L1** (10 mM), b) **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub>** (20 mM) and **L1** (10 mM), c) the **PSS<sub>Z</sub>** (390 nm) mixtures of **AzoP[5]A-1** (20 mM) and **L1** (10 mM), and d) the **PSS<sub>E</sub>** (590 nm) mixtures of **AzoP[5]A-1** (20 mM) and **L1** (10 mM).



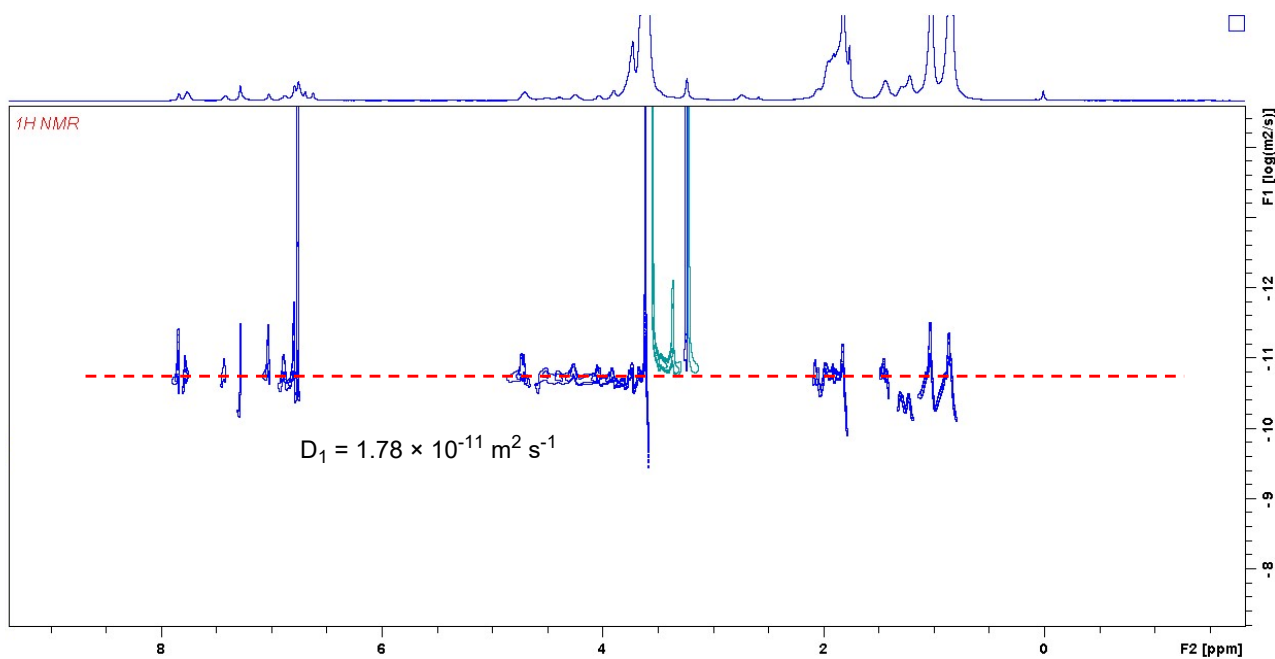
**Fig. S80** Schematic representation of the *E/Z* photoisomerization of **P1**, and the partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) for the solution of a) **E-P1** (19.6 mg / mL), b) the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of **P1** (19.6 mg / mL), and c) the PSS<sub>E</sub> (590 nm) mixtures of **P1** (19.6 mg / mL).



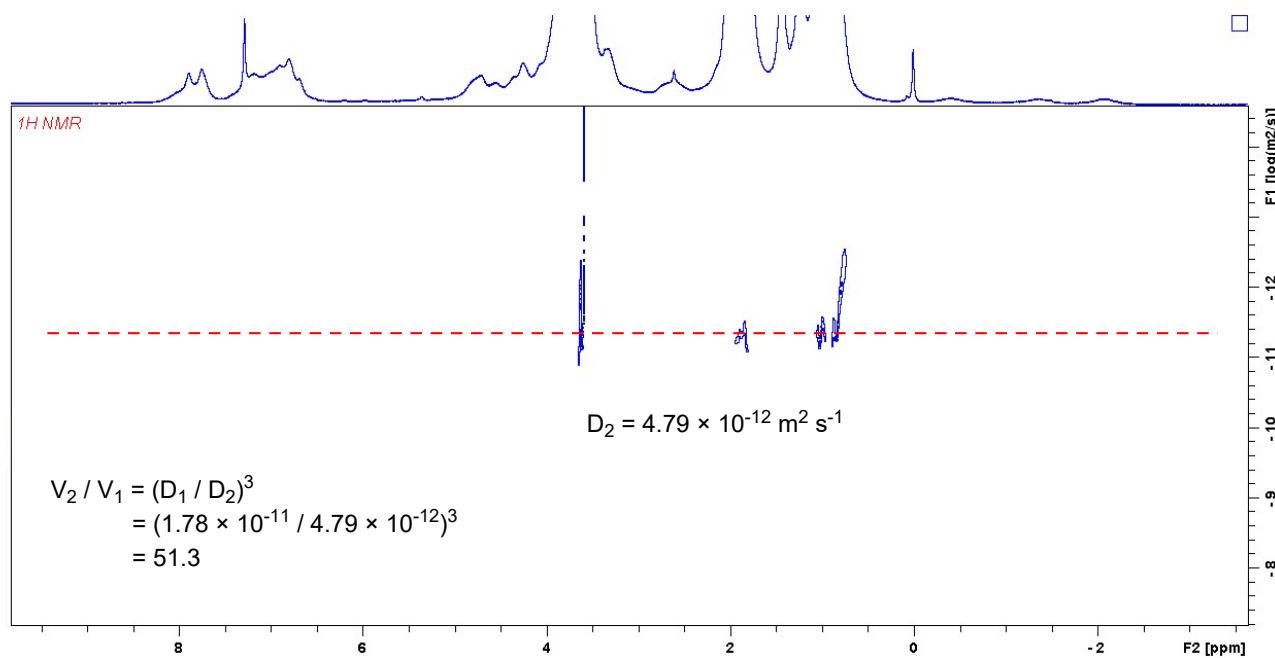
**Fig. S81** Schematic representation for the complexation behavior of *E*-P1 and L1, as well as the partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) for the solution of a) L1 (2.5 mM), b) the mixture of *E*-P1 (19.6 mg/mL, 5.0 mM of AzoP[5]A-1 unit) and L1 (2.5 mM), and c) the mixture of *E*-P1 (78.2 mg/mL, 20 mM of AzoP[5]A-1 unit) and L1 (10 mM).



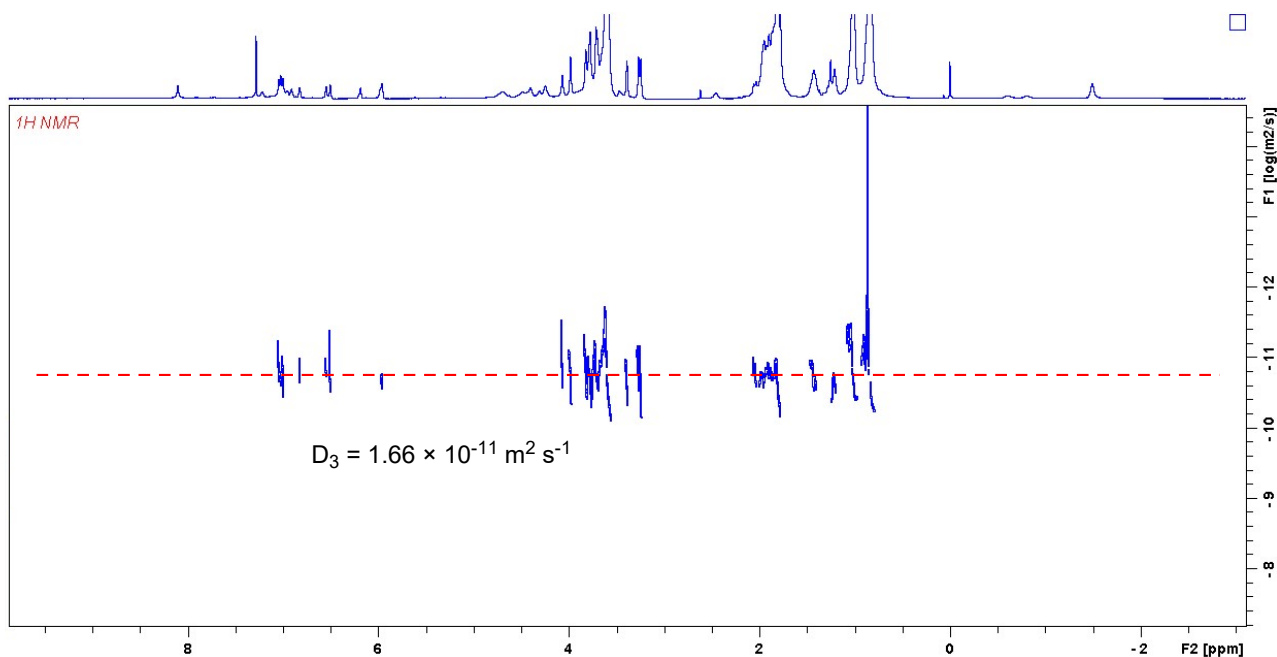
**Fig. S82** Schematic representation for the photocontrolled supramolecular polymeric assembly based on a guest linker **L1** and polymer **P1** with **AzoP[5]A-1** unit modified sidechains, as well as the partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K) for the solution of a) **L1** (10 mM), b) the mixture of *E*-P1 (78.2 mg/mL, 20 mM of **AzoP[5]A-1** unit) and **L1** (10 mM), c) the PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of **P1** (78.2 mg/mL, 20 mM of **AzoP[5]A-1** unit) and **L1** (10 mM), and d) the PSS<sub>E</sub> (590 nm) mixtures of **P1** (78.2 mg/mL, 20 mM of **AzoP[5]A-1** unit) and **L1** (10 mM).



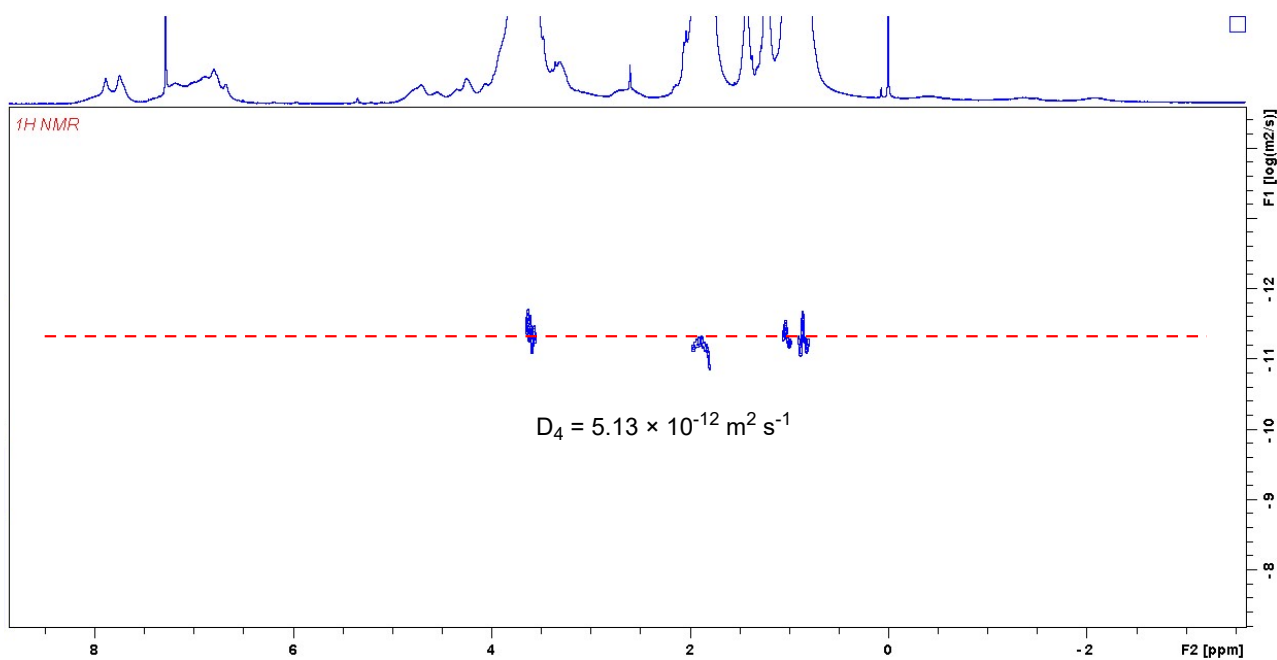
**Fig. S83** 2D DOSY-NMR spectrum (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) for the solution of *E*-**P1** (78.2 mg /mL).



**Fig. S84** 2D DOSY-NMR spectrum (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) for the solution of *E*-**P1** (78.2 mg /mL, 20 mM of AzoP[5]**A-1<sub>E</sub>** unit) and **L1** (10 mM).

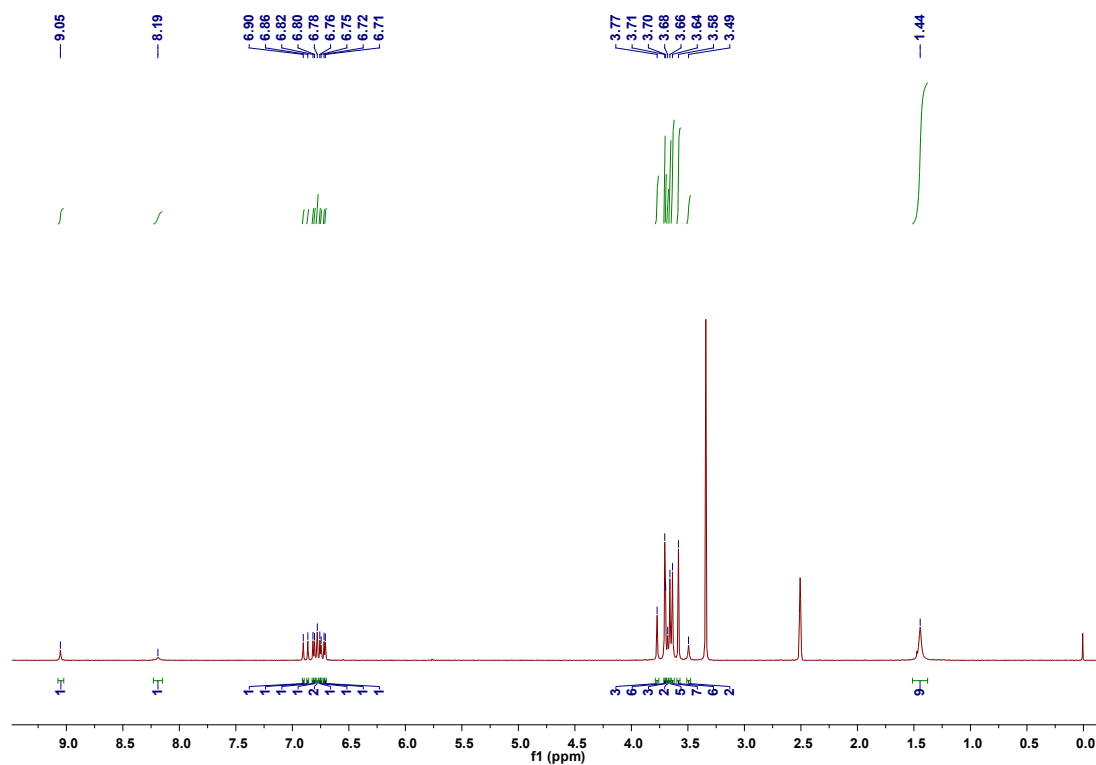


**Fig. S85** 2D DOSY-NMR spectrum (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) for the solution of PSS<sub>Z</sub> (390 nm) mixtures of **P1** (78.2 mg /mL, 20 mM of **AzoP[5]A-1** unit) and **L1** (10 mM).

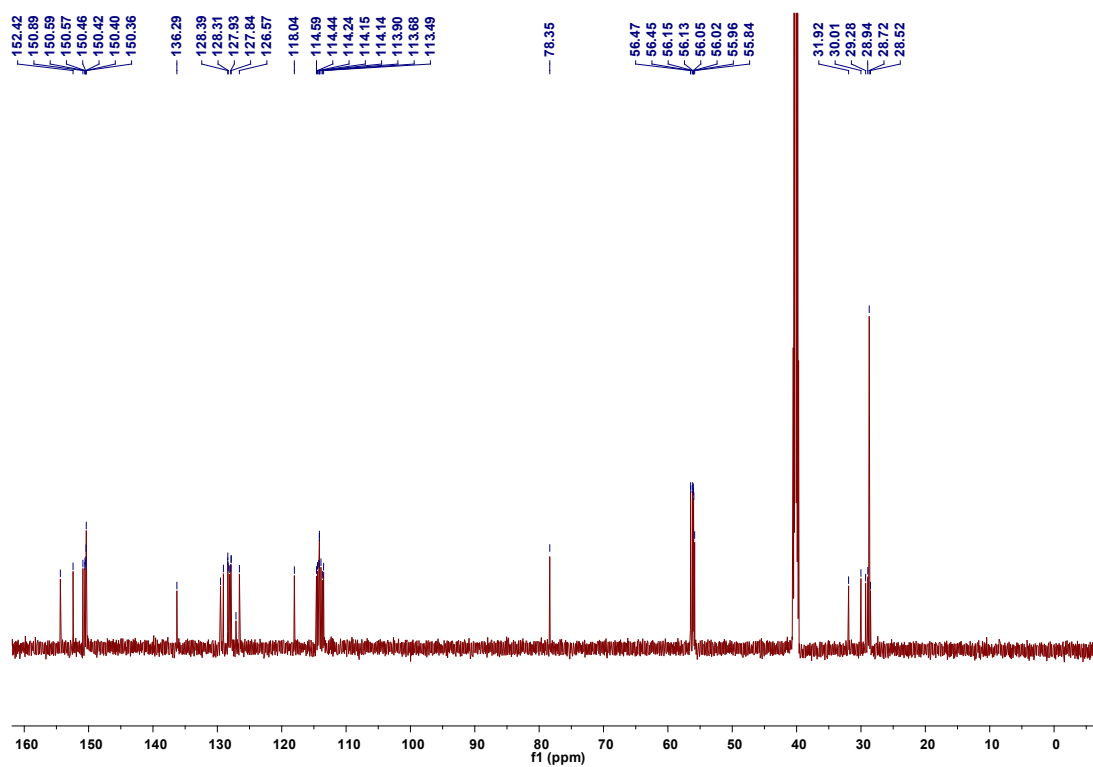


**Fig. S86** 2D DOSY-NMR spectrum (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) for the solution of PSS<sub>E</sub> (590 nm) mixtures of **P1** (78.2 mg /mL, 20 mM of **AzoP[5]A-1** unit) and **L1** (10 mM).

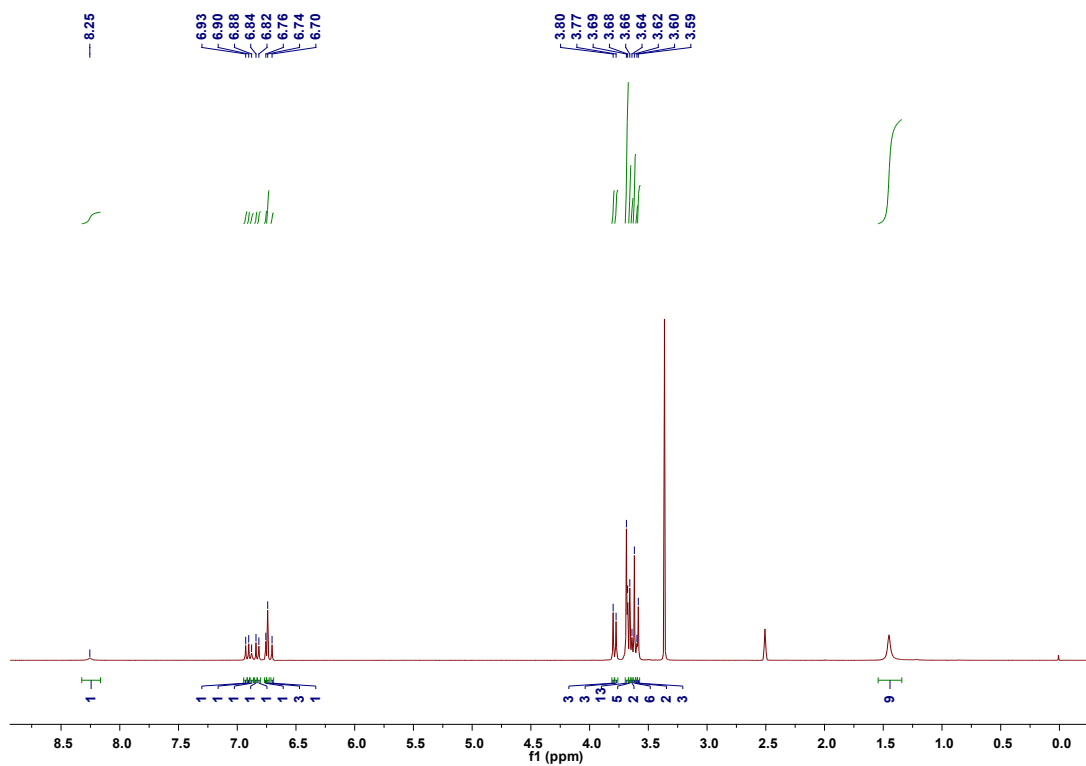
## Section 8: The $^1\text{H}$ and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR, 2D COSY and NOESY NMR Spectra for the New Compounds



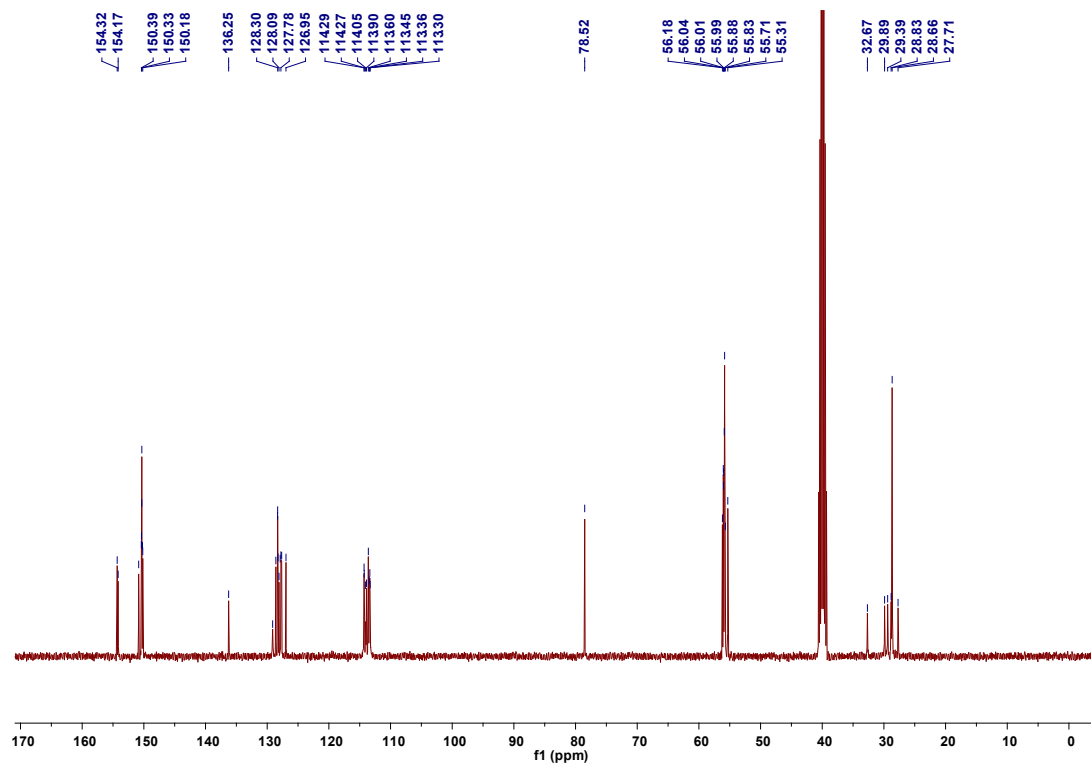
$^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (600 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ , 298 K) of compound 2.



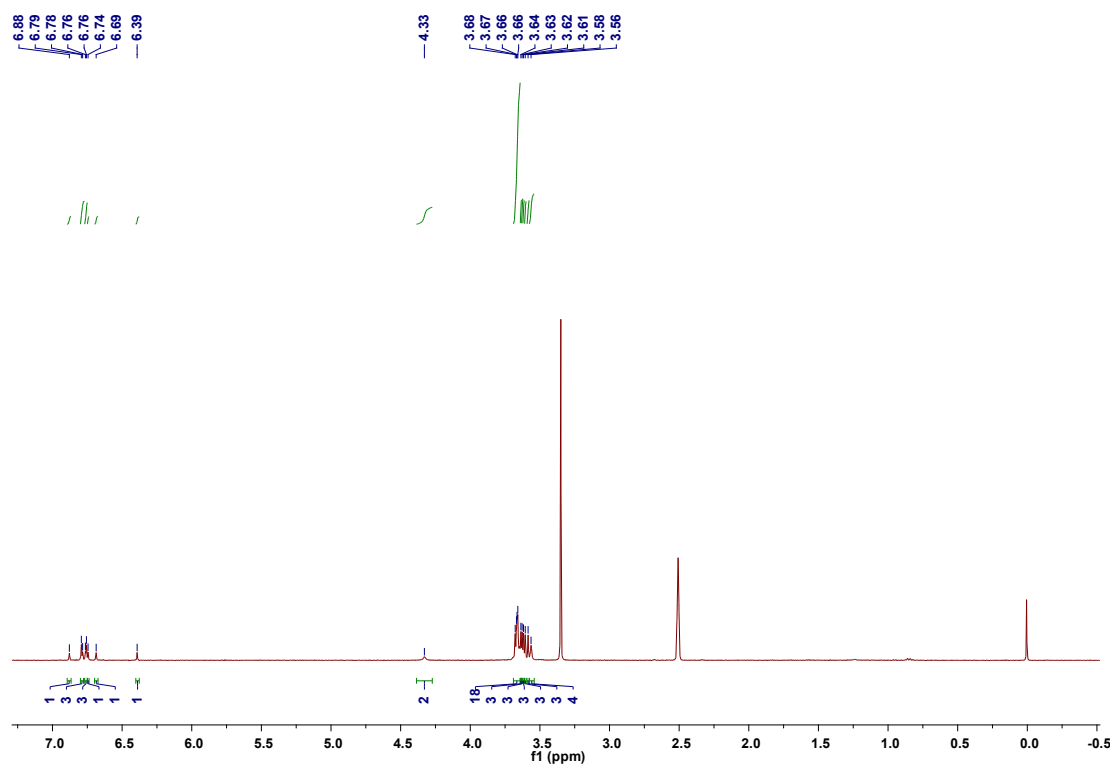
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum (150 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ , 298 K) of compound 2.



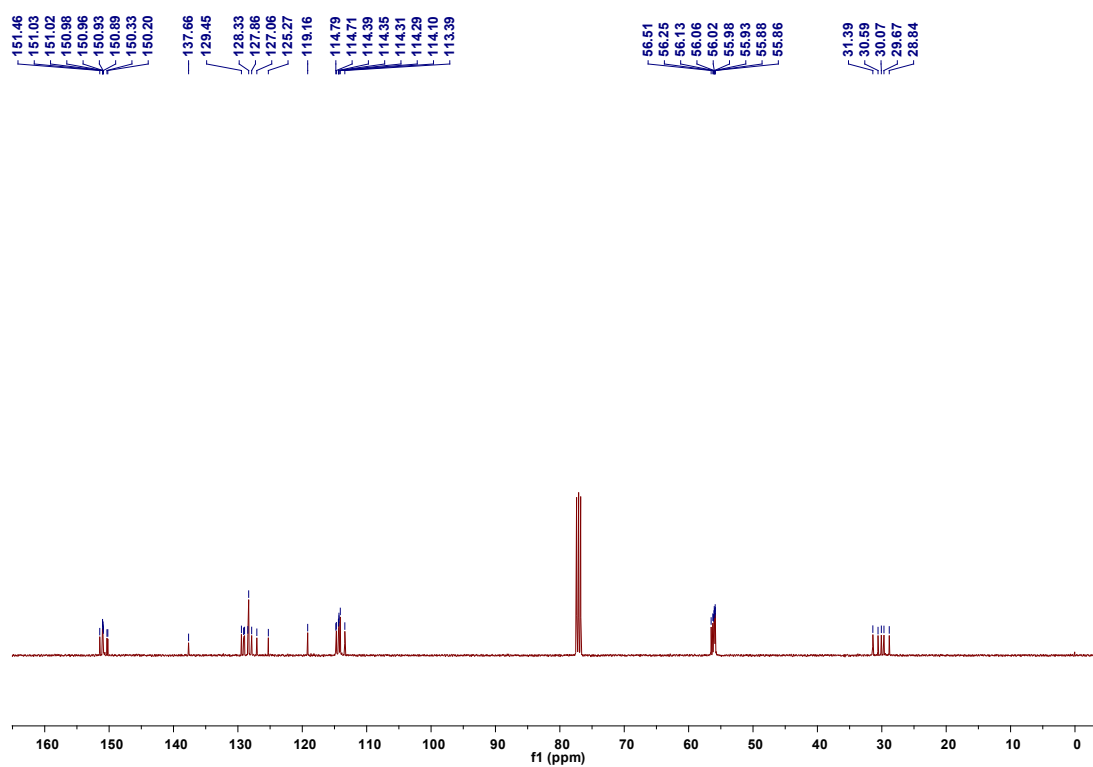
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 298 K) of compound **3**.



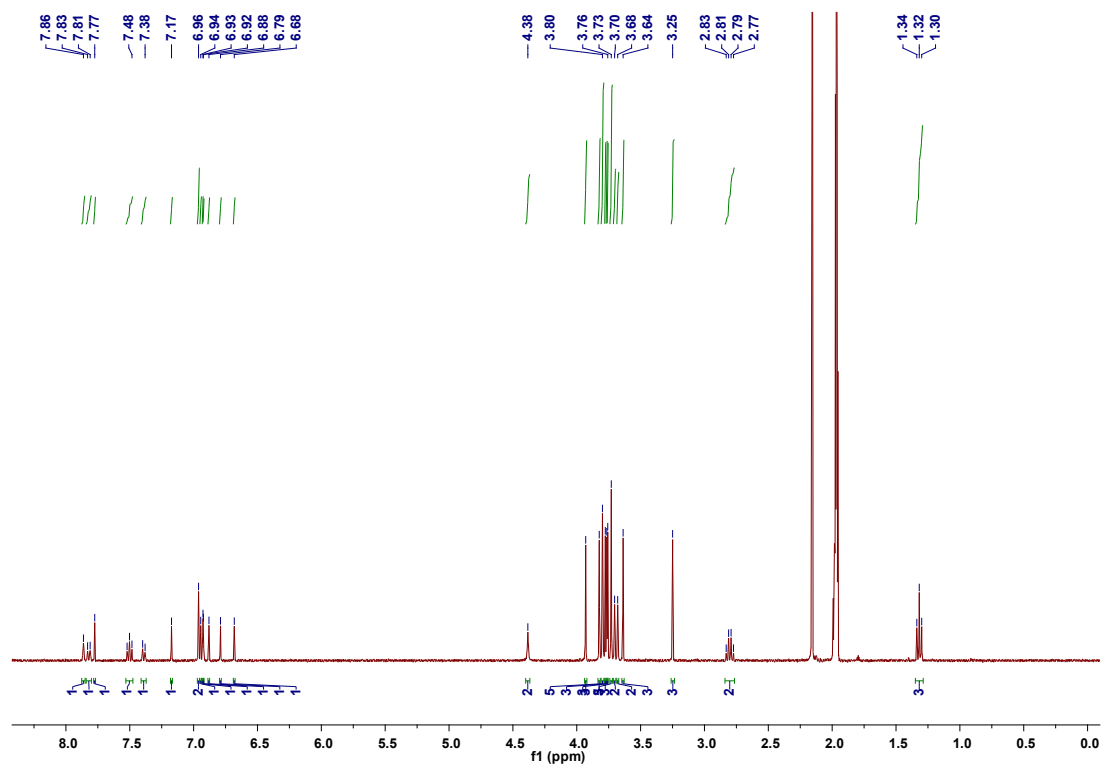
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 298 K) of compound **3**.



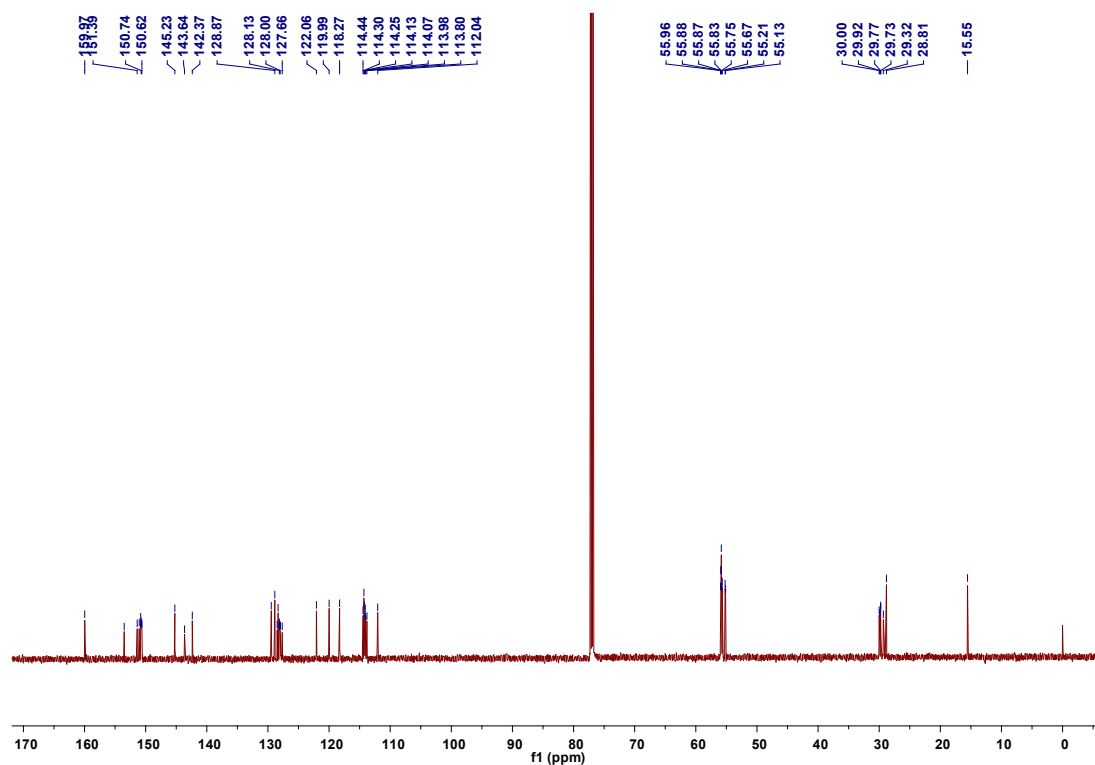
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 298 K) of compound 4.



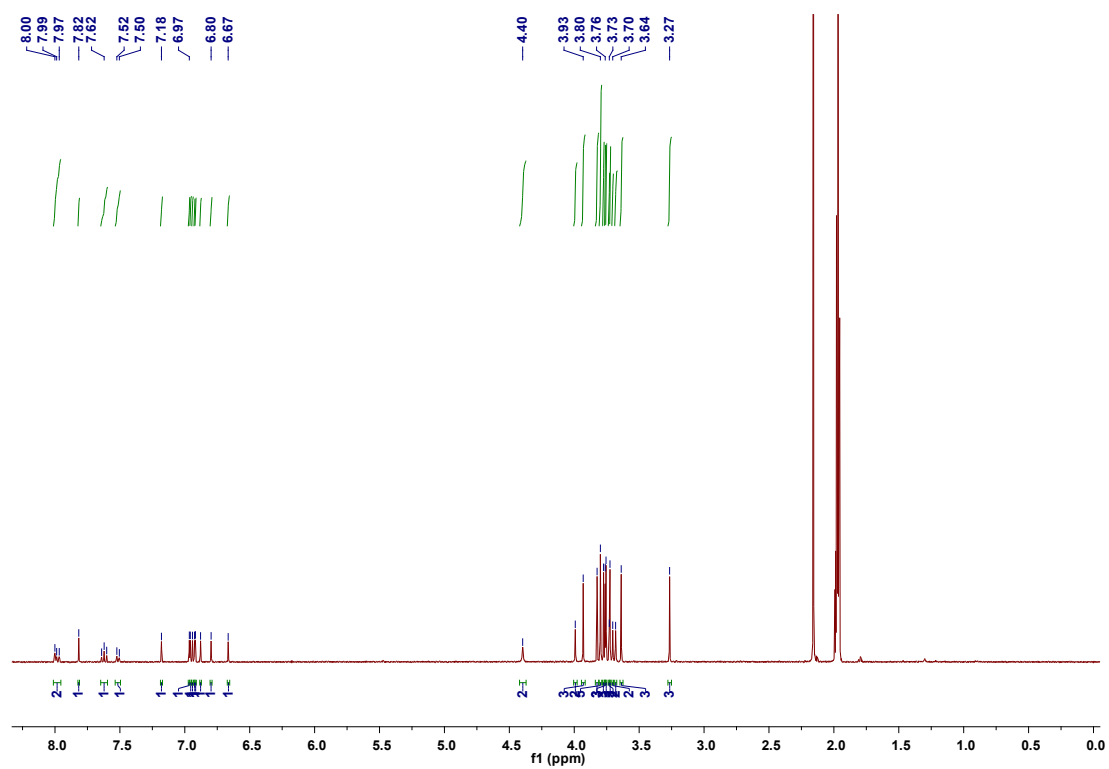
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) of compound 4.



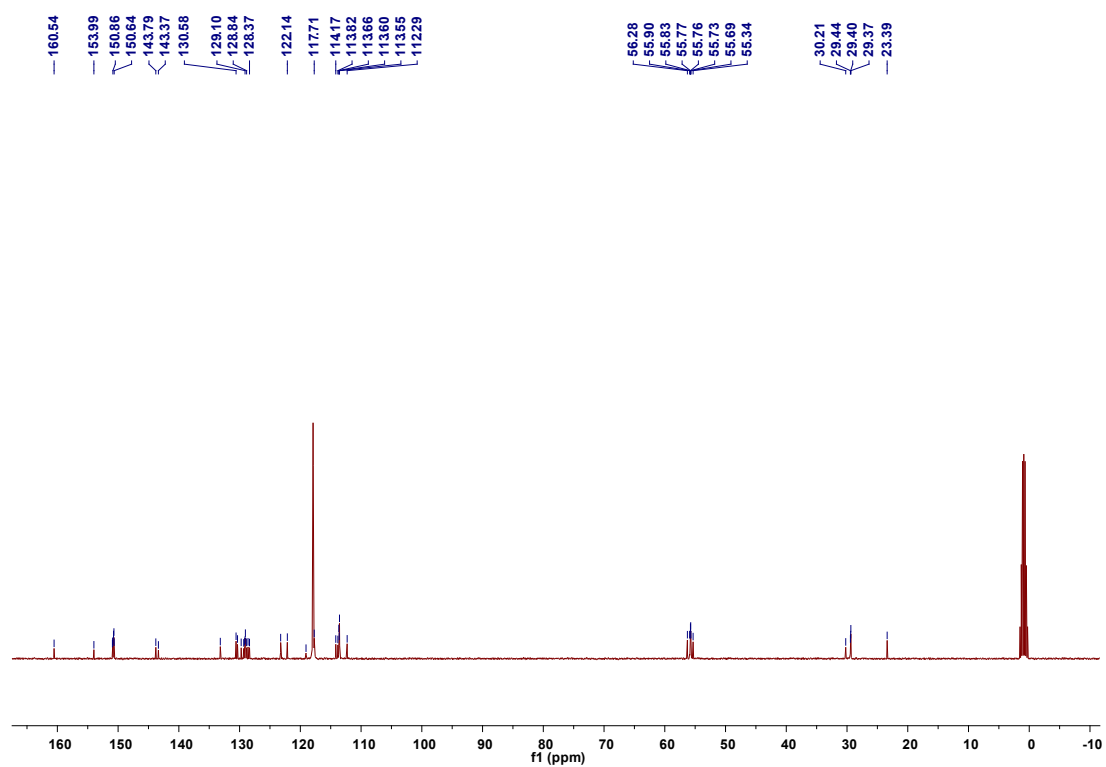
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 298 K) of compound **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub>**.



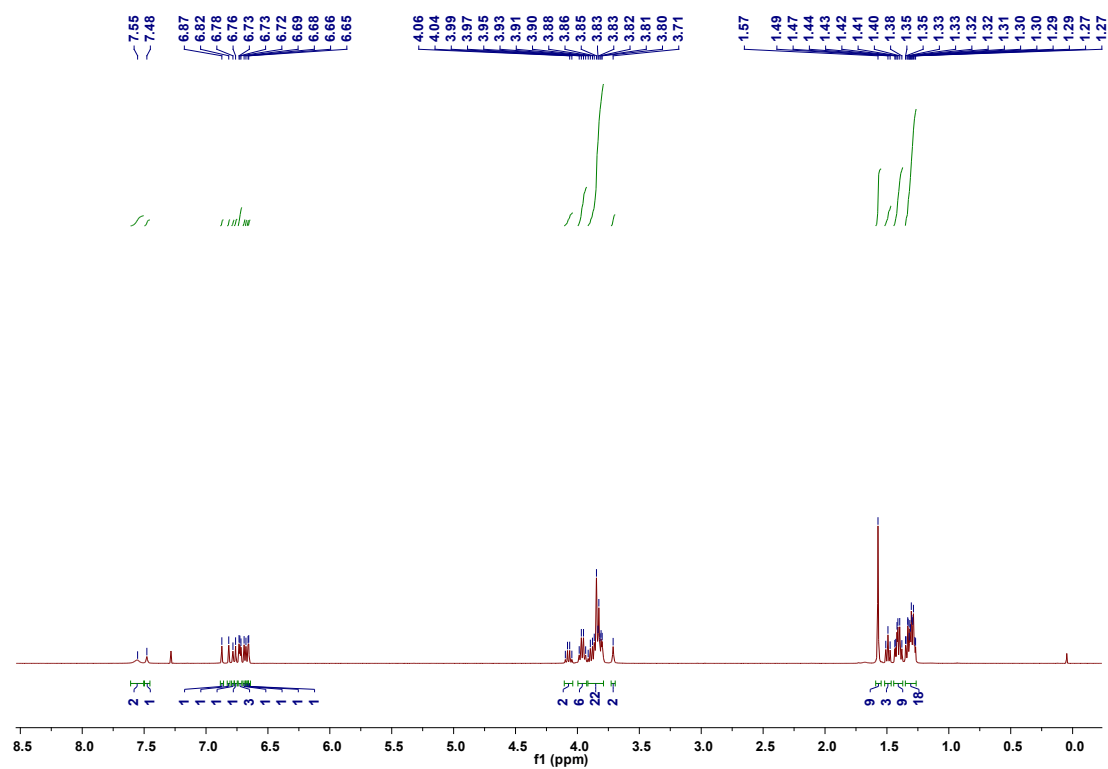
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) of compound **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub>**.



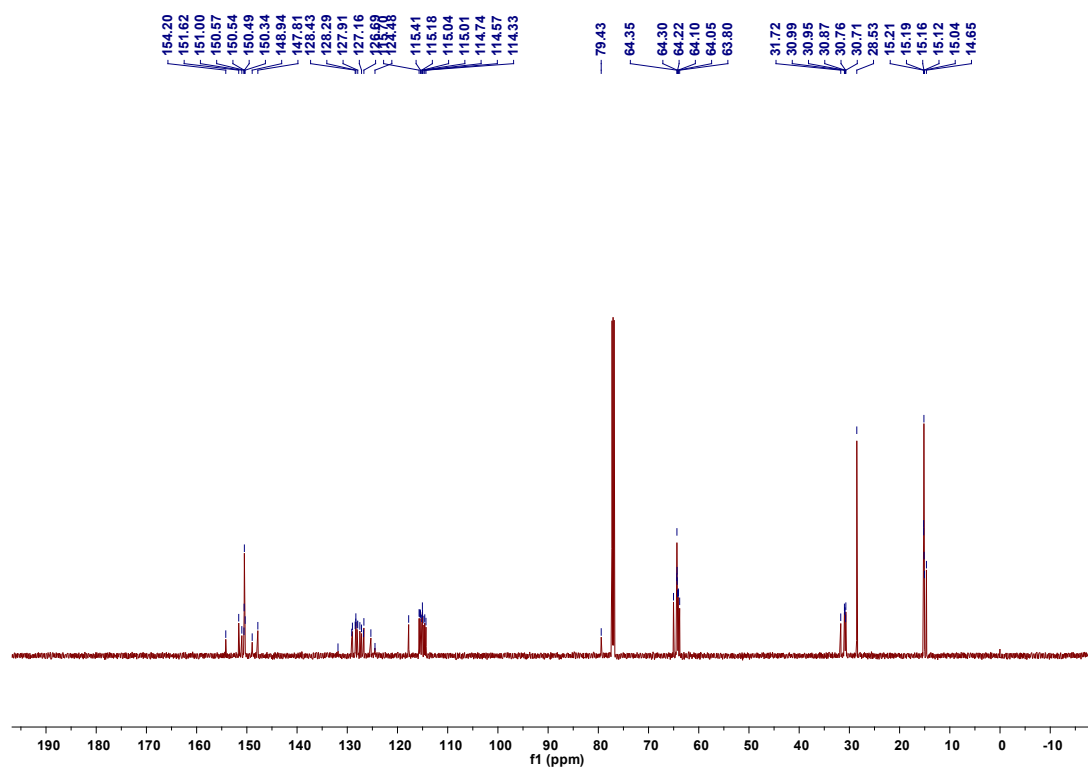
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 298 K) of compound **AzoP[5]A-2<sub>E</sub>**.



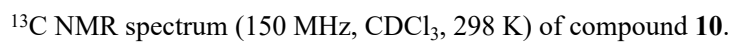
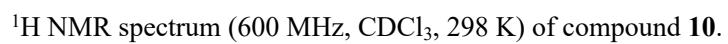
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 298 K) of compound **AzoP5A-2<sub>E</sub>**.

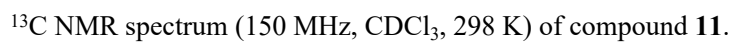


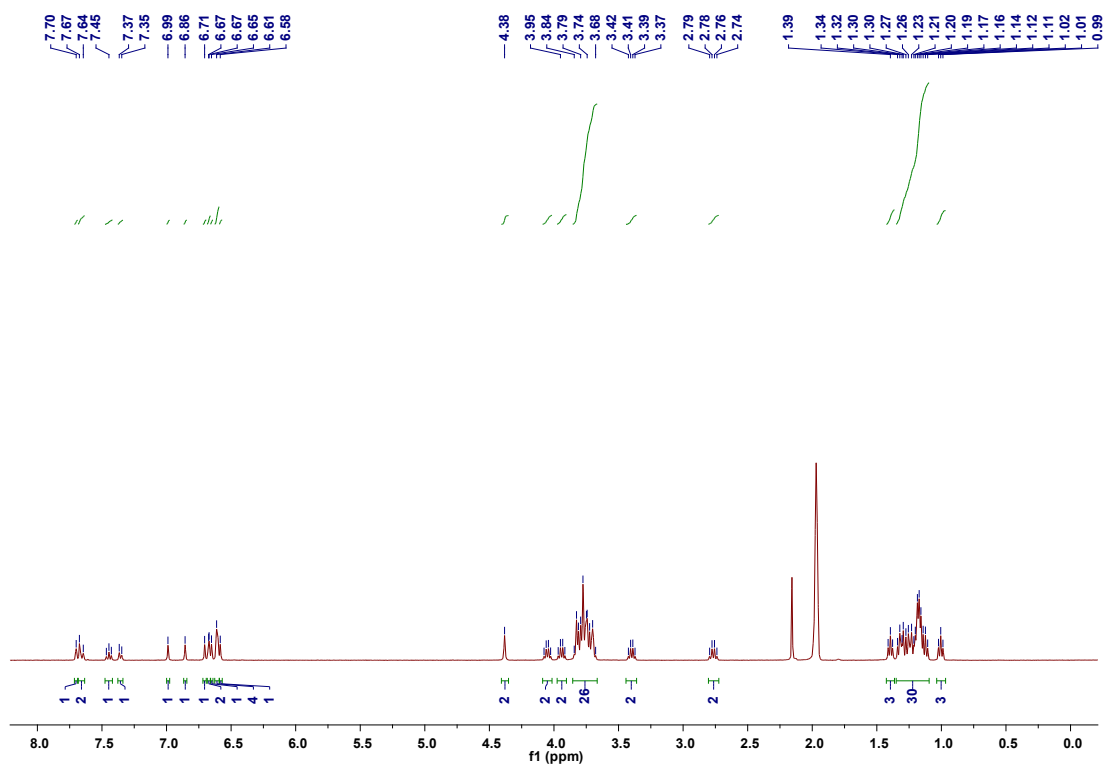
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) of compound **9**.



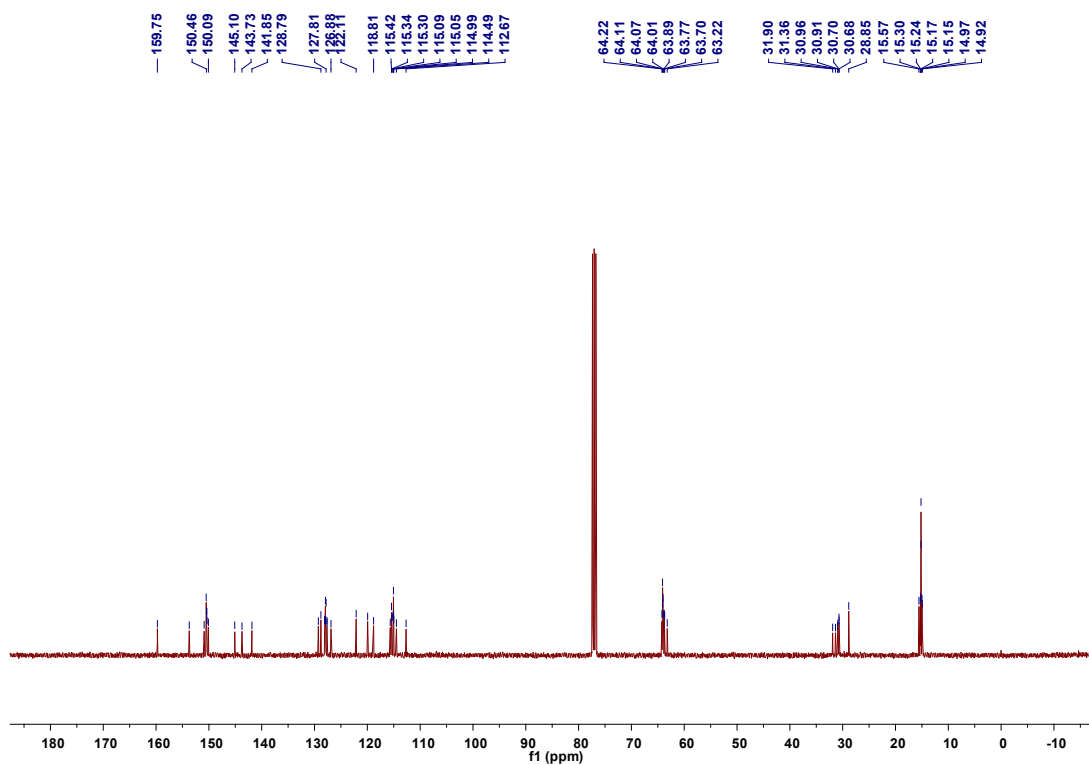
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) of compound **9**.



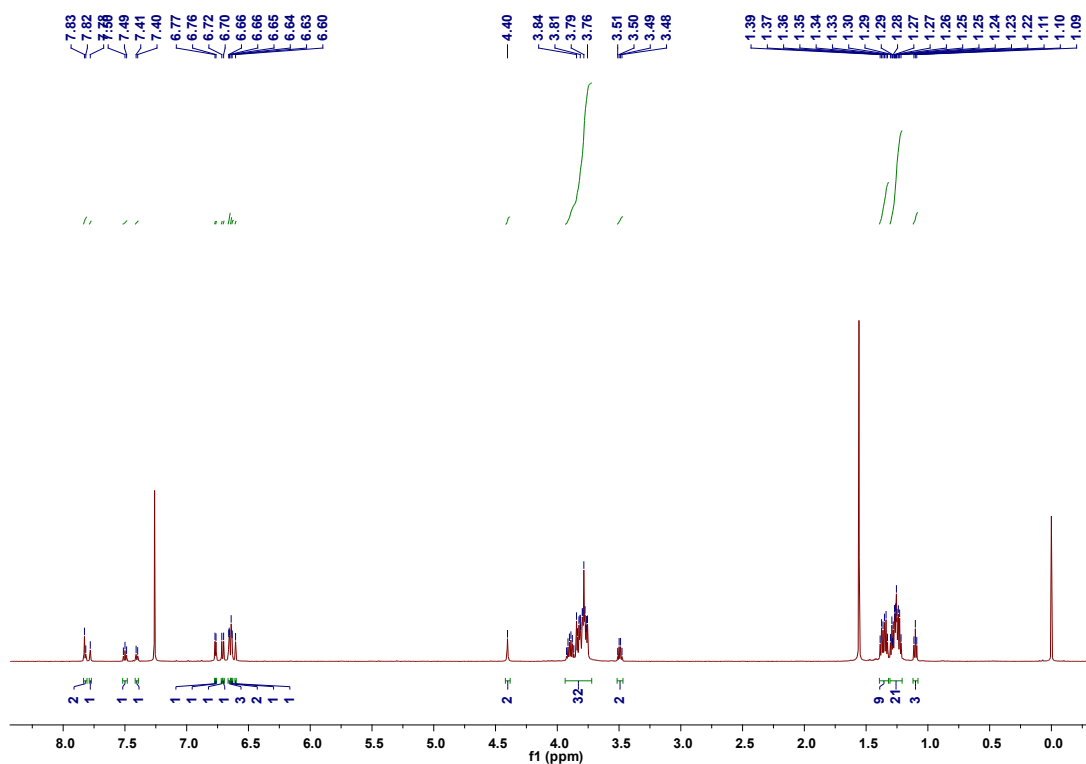




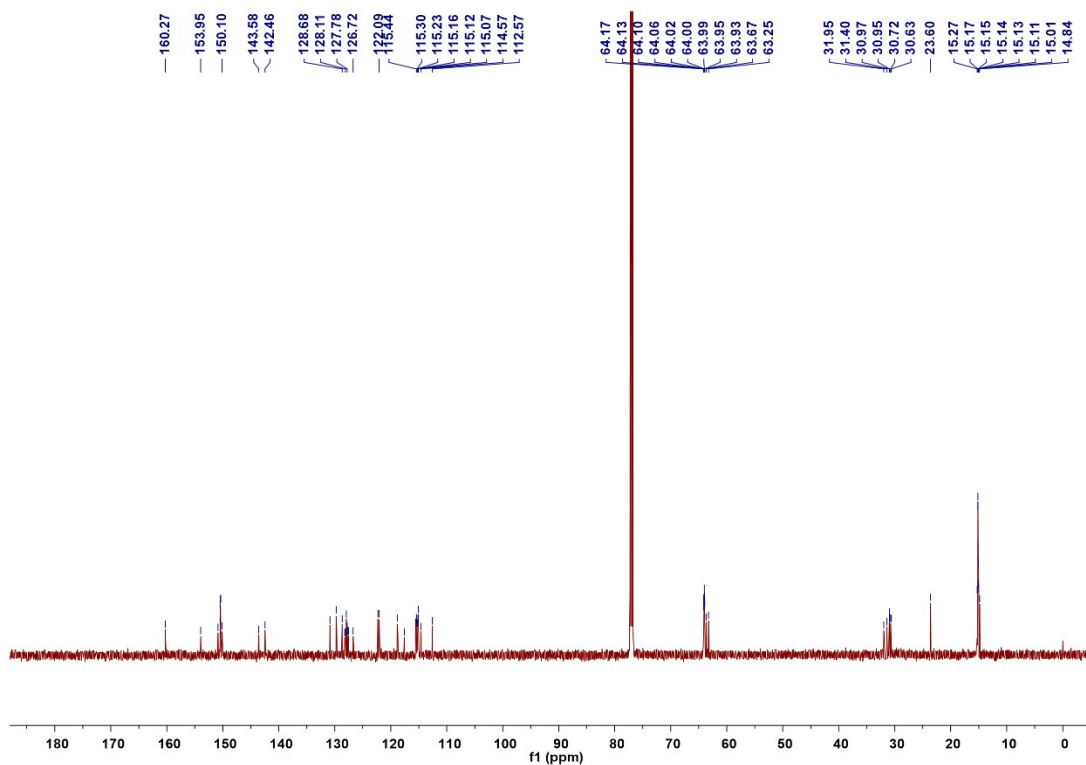
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 298 K) of compound **AzoP[6]A-1<sub>E</sub>**.



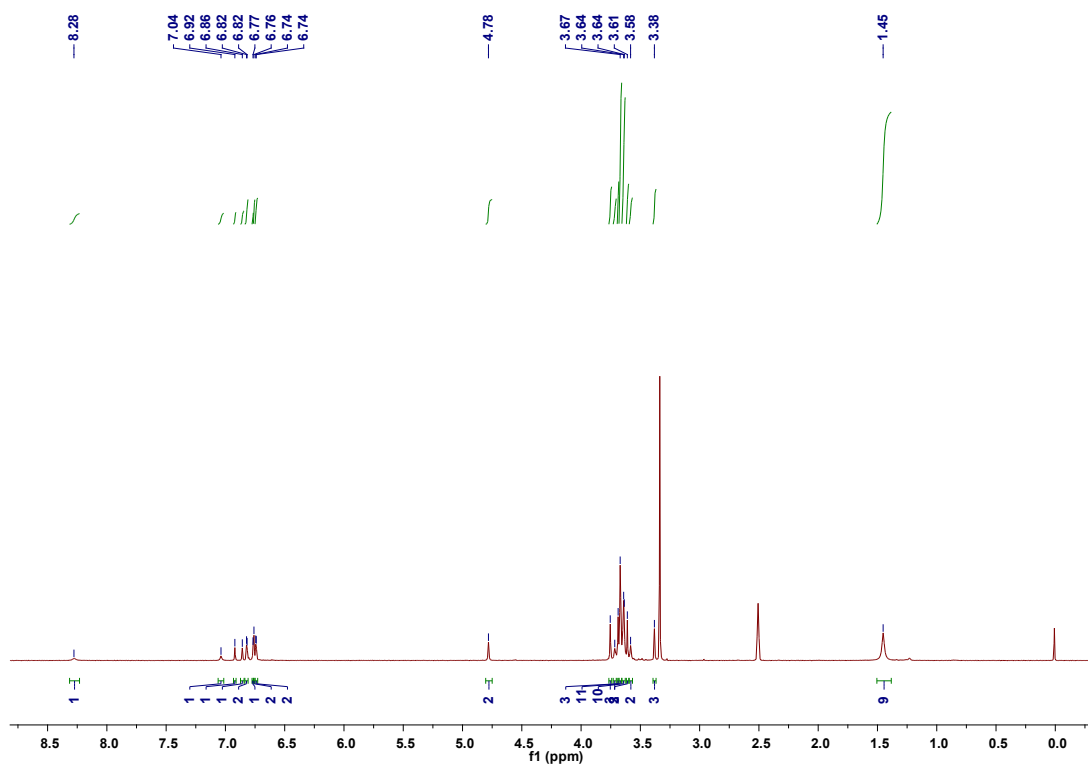
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) of compound **AzoP[6]A-1<sub>E</sub>**.



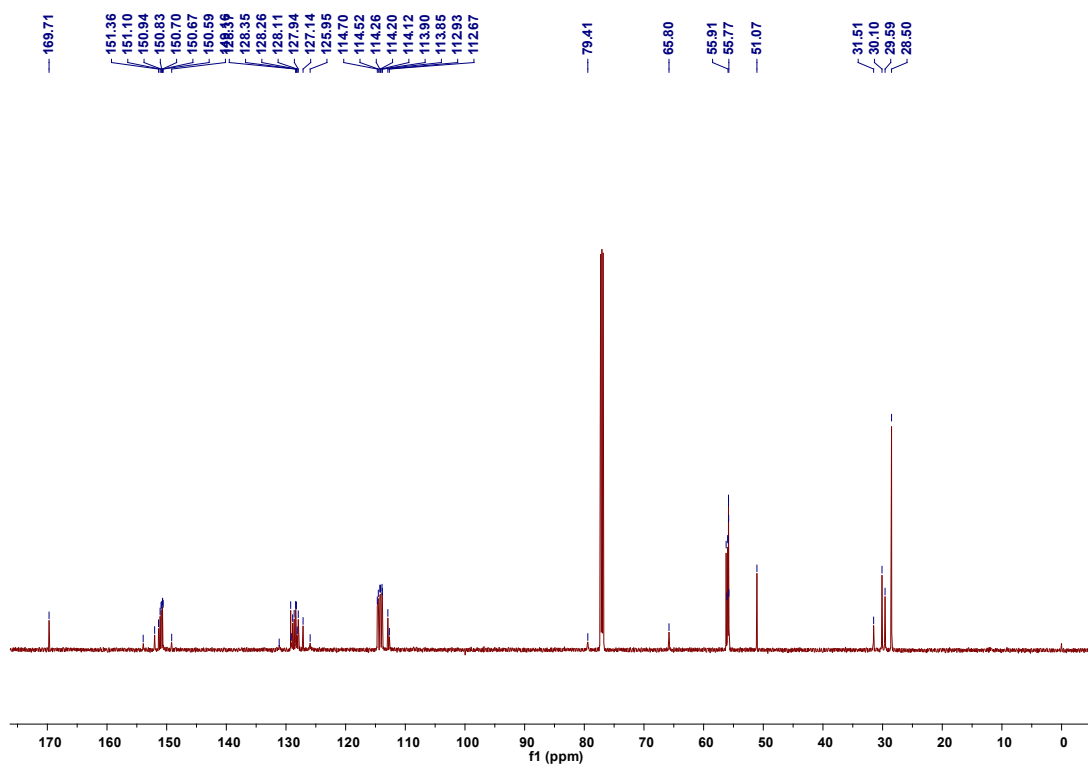
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) of compound AzoP[6]A-2<sub>E</sub>.



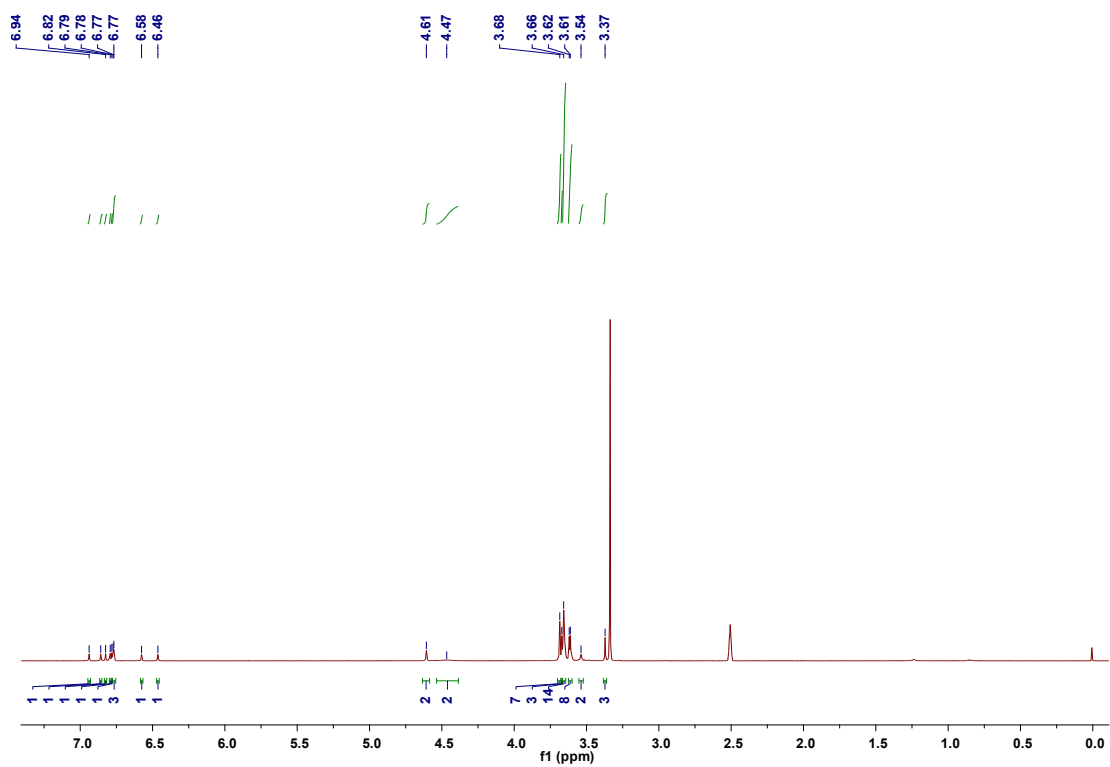
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) of compound AzoP[6]A-2<sub>E</sub>.



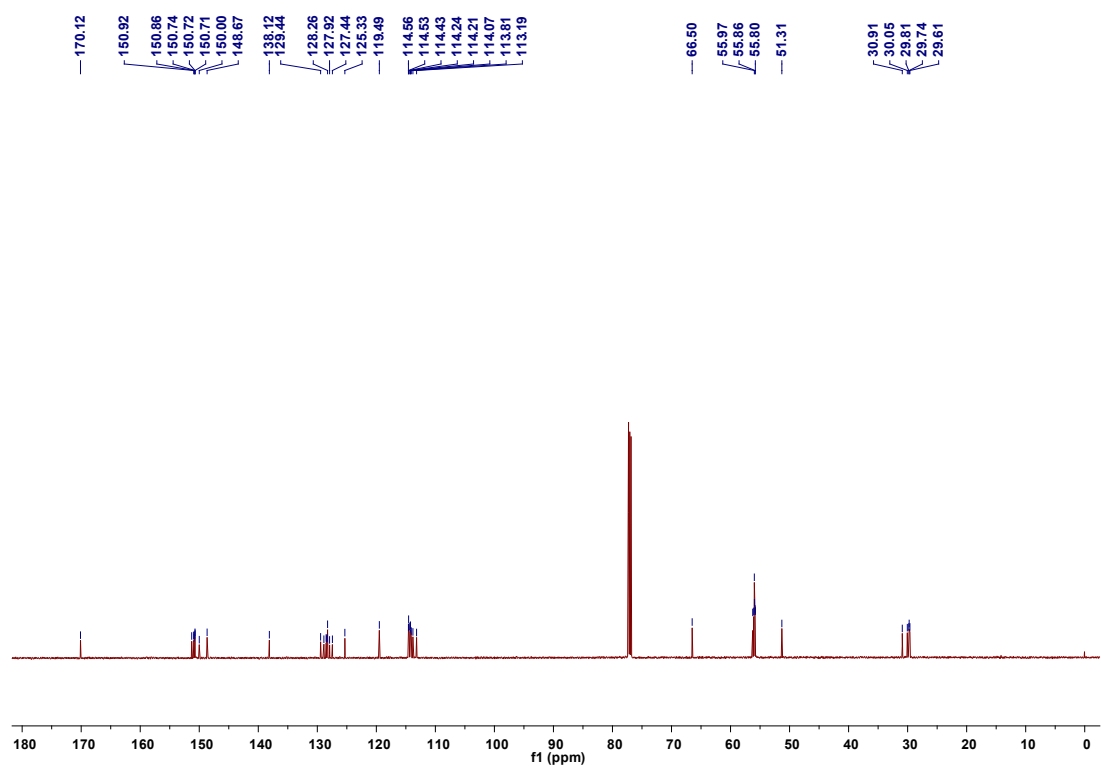
$^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ , 298 K) of compound **13**.



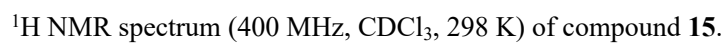
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K) of compound **13**.

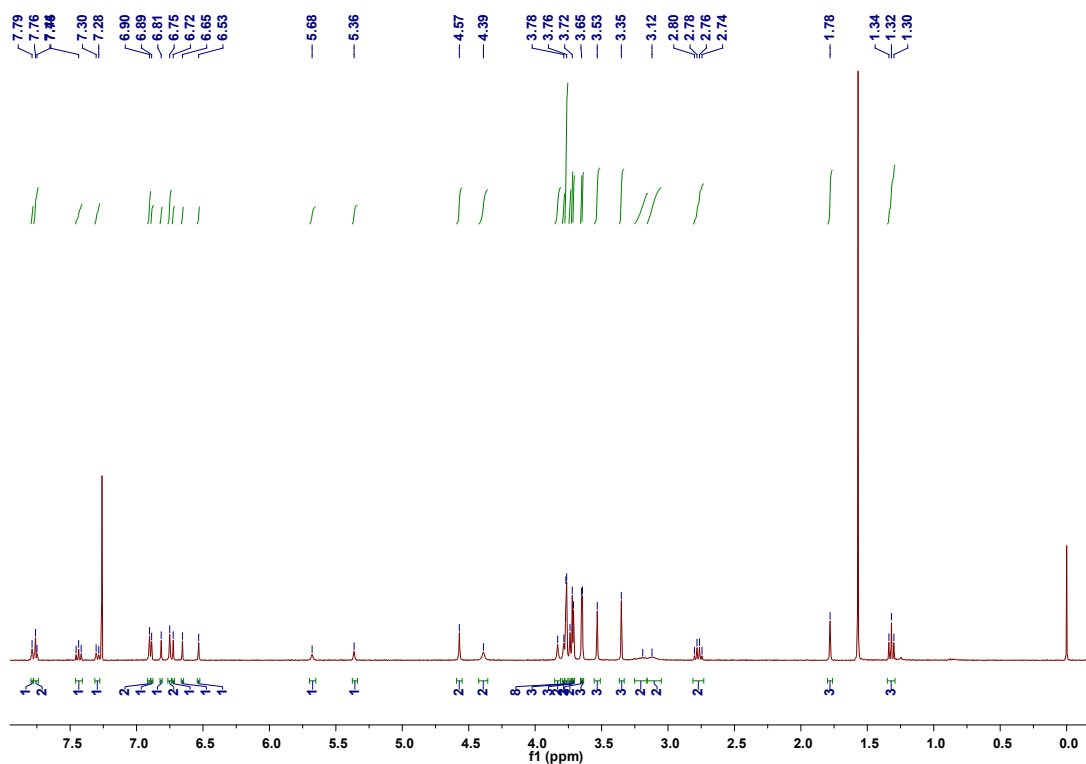


<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 298 K) of compound **14**.

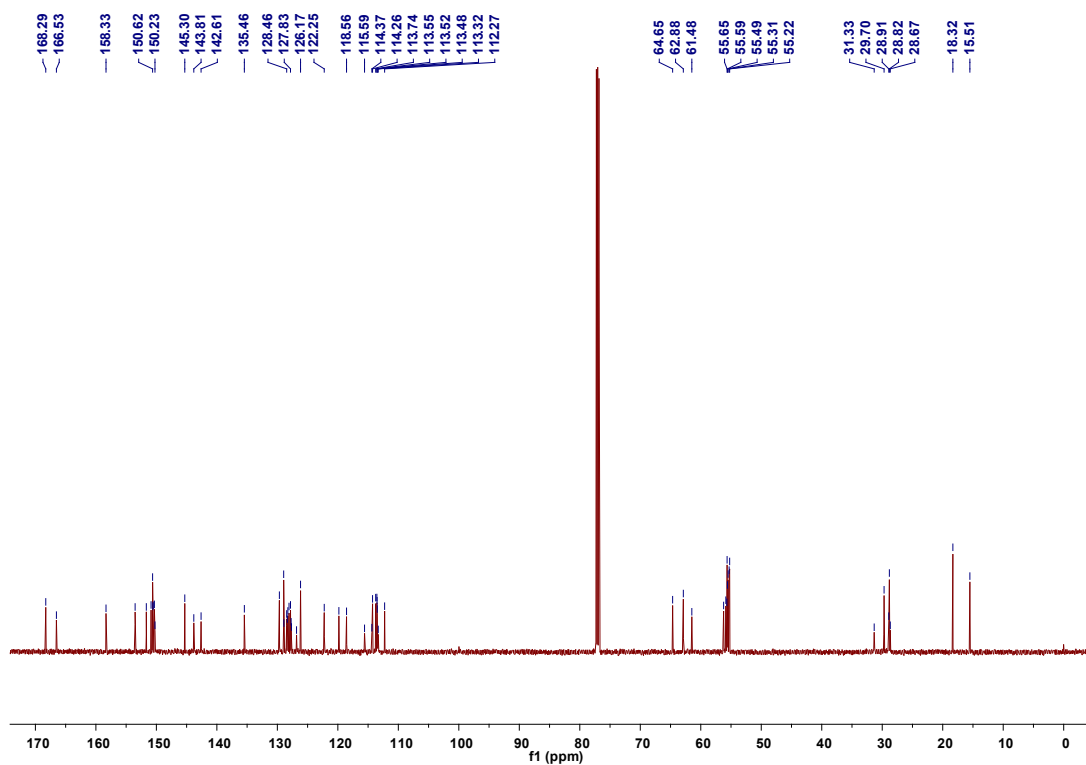


<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) of compound **14**.

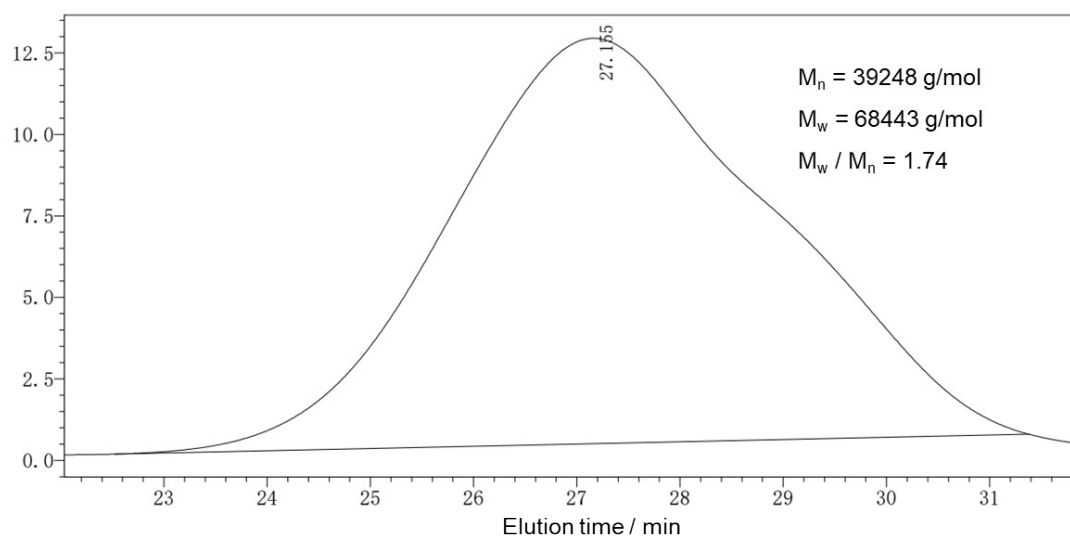




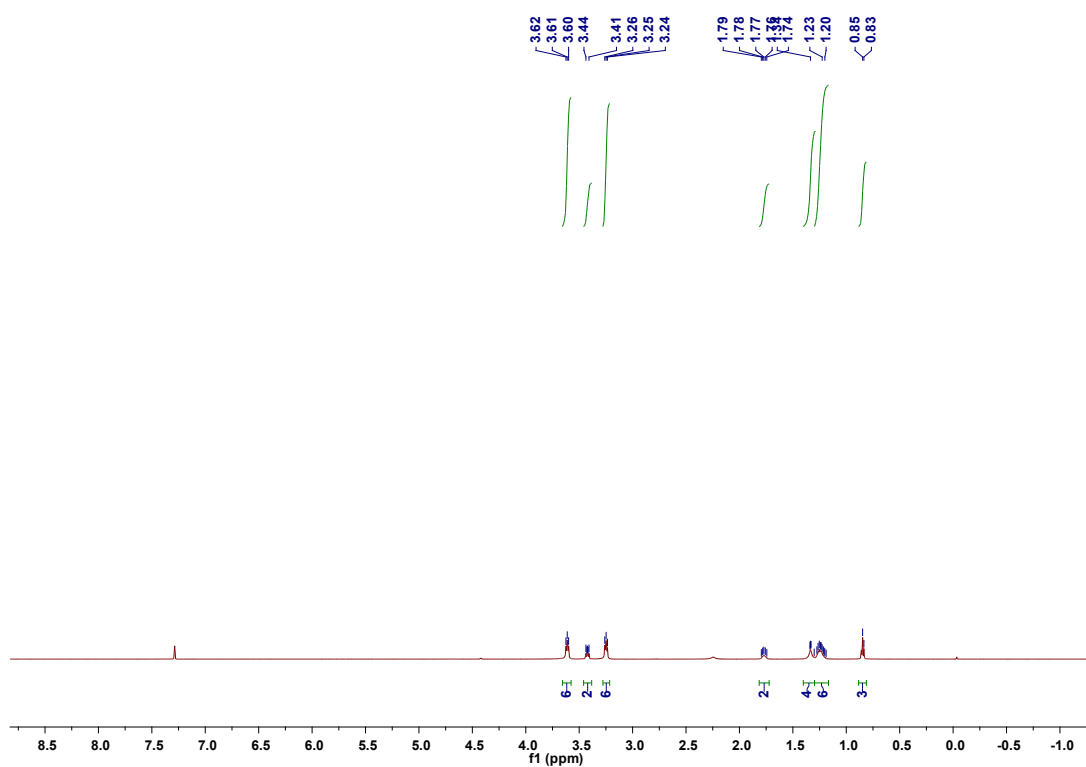
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) of compound **18**.



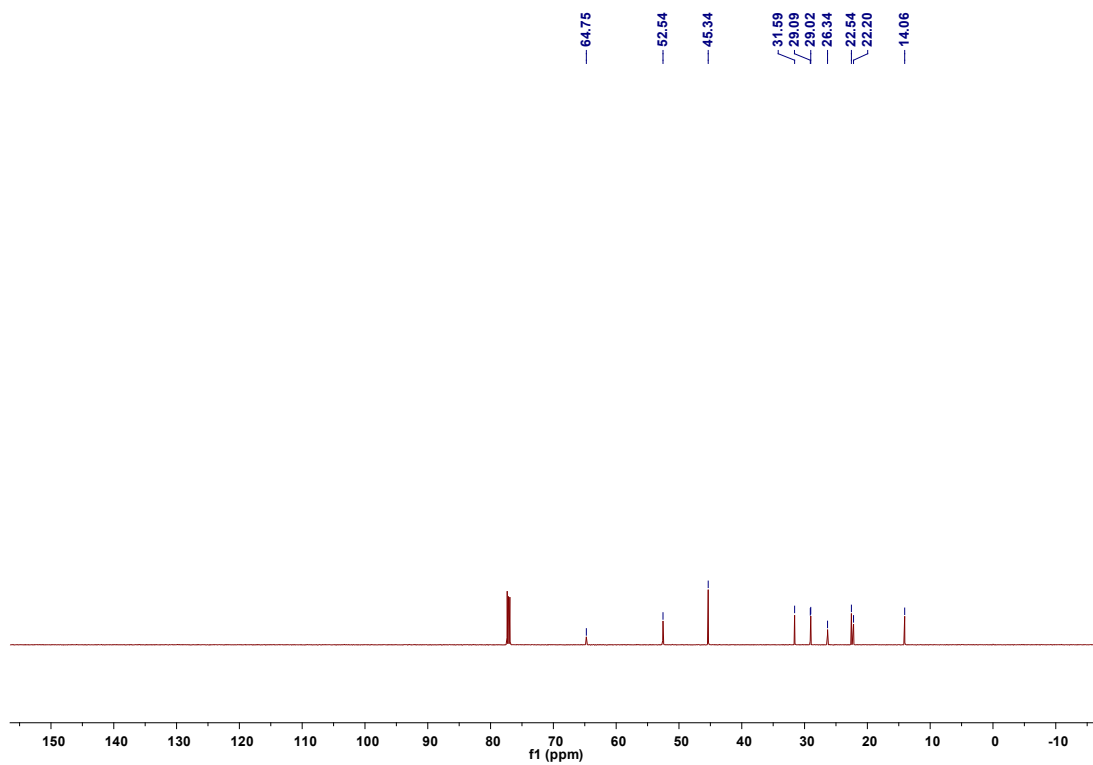
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) of compound **18**.



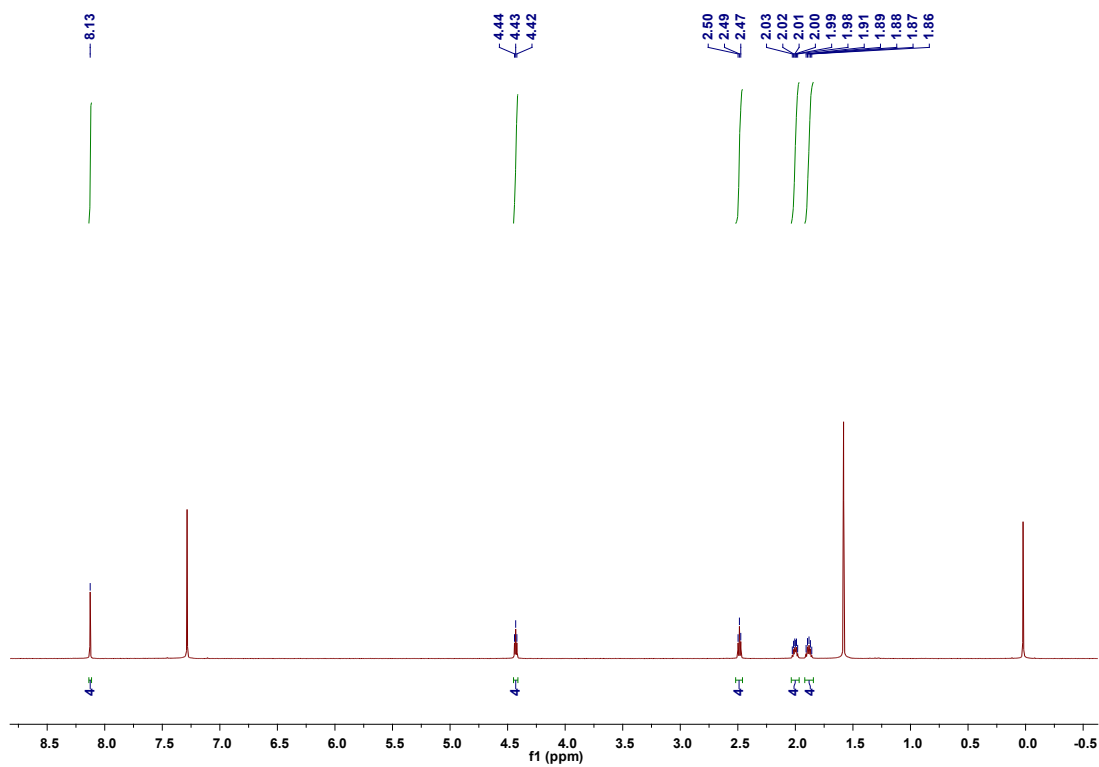
GPC trace of the polymer *E-P1*.



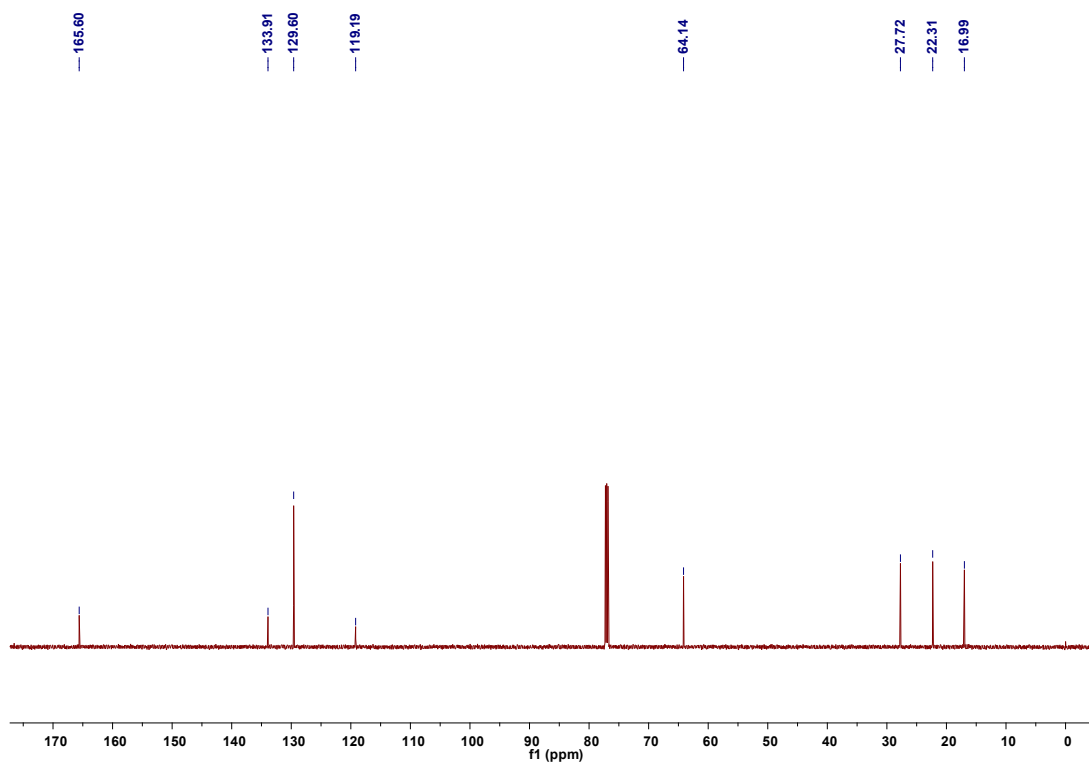
$^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K) of compound **G6**.



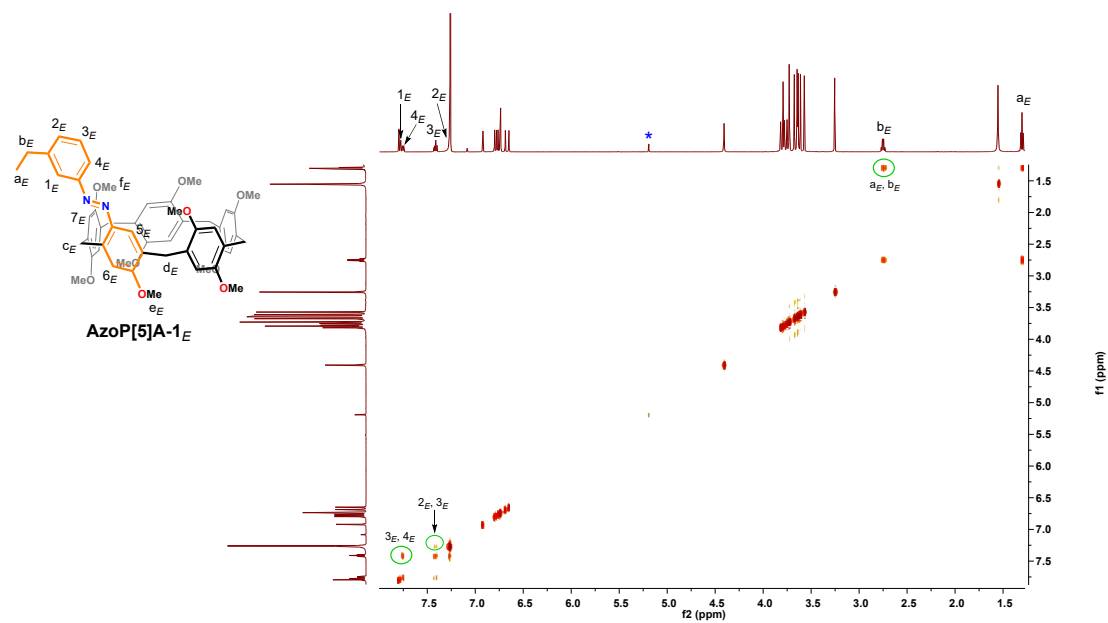
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K) of compound **G6**.



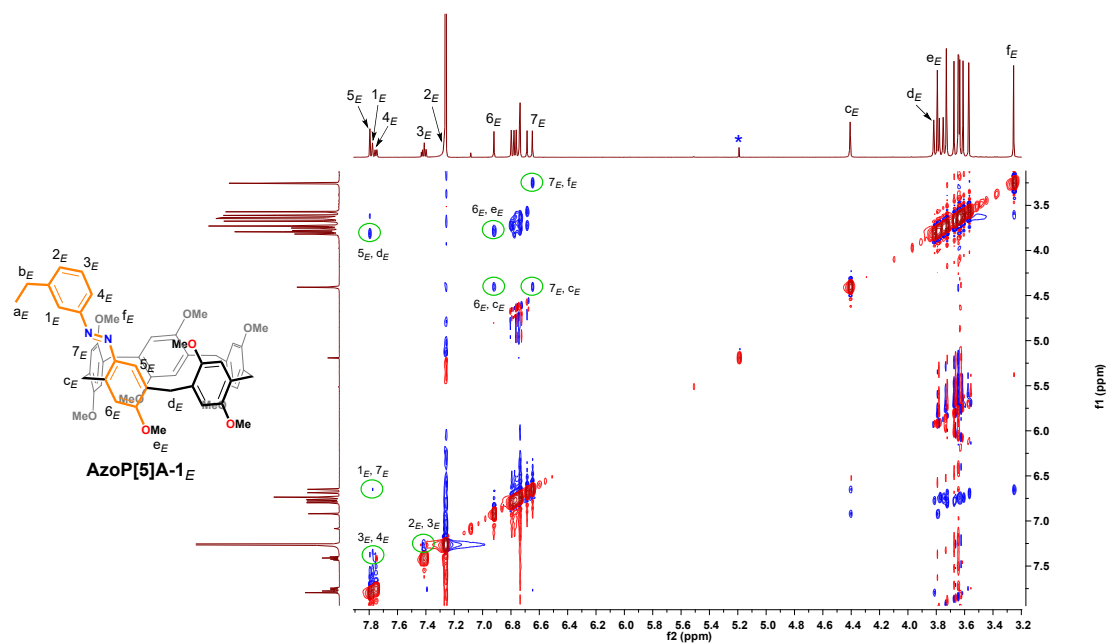
$^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K) of compound **L1**.



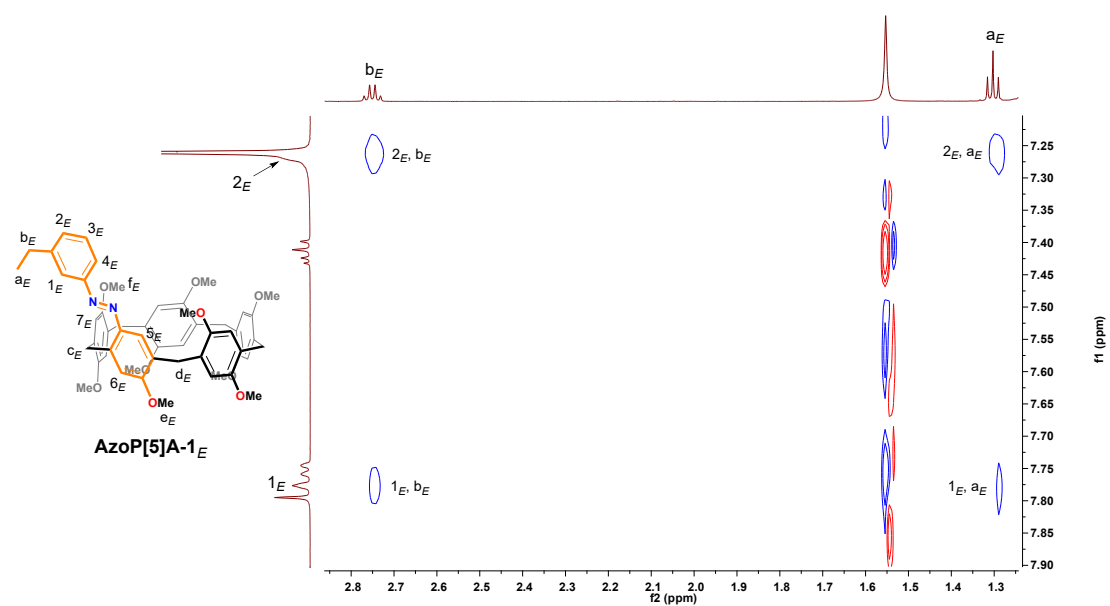
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K) of compound **L1**.



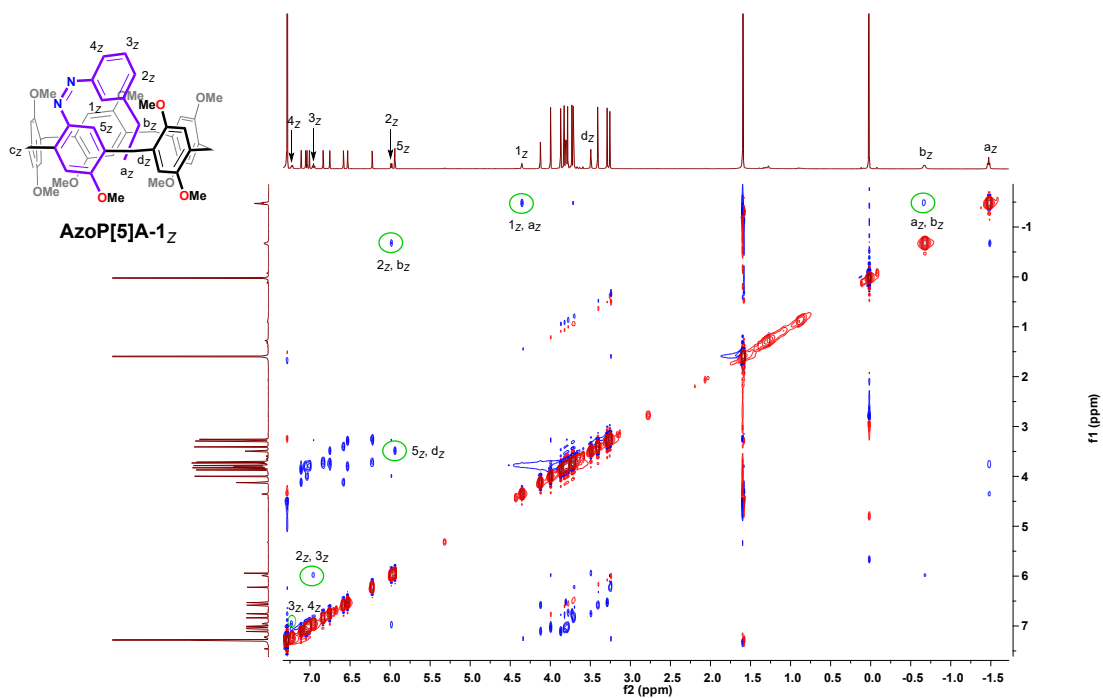
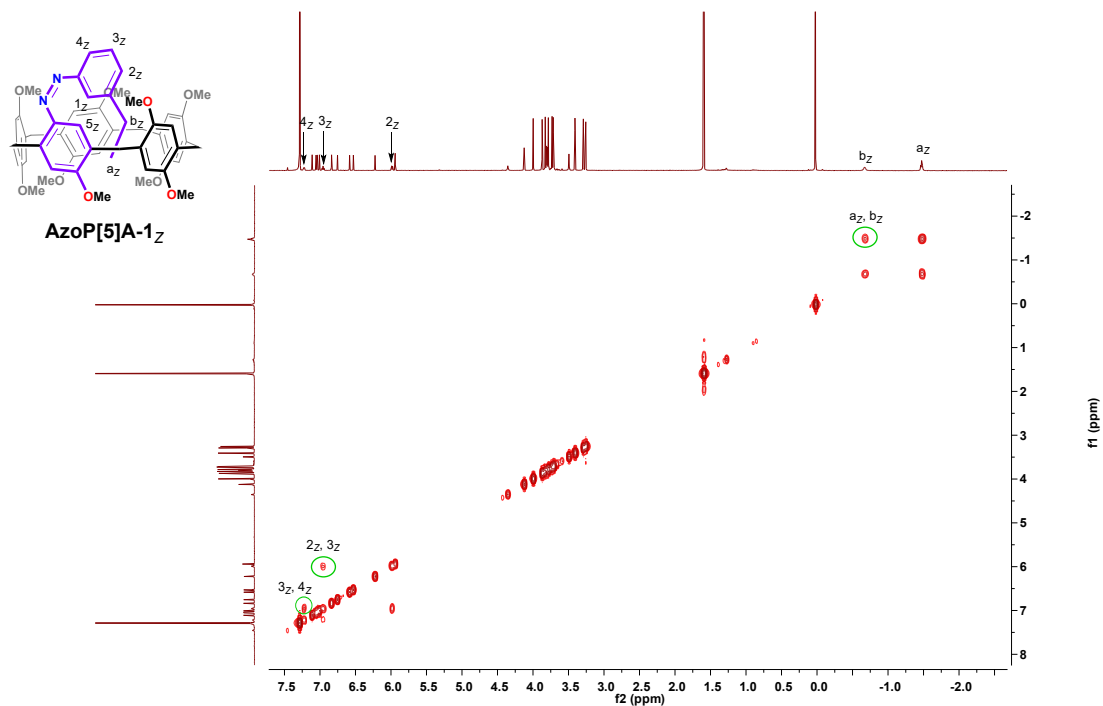
2D COSY-NMR spectrum (600 MHz, 4.0 mM,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298K) for the solution of **AzoP[5]A-1E**. The blue star marked signal refers to  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .

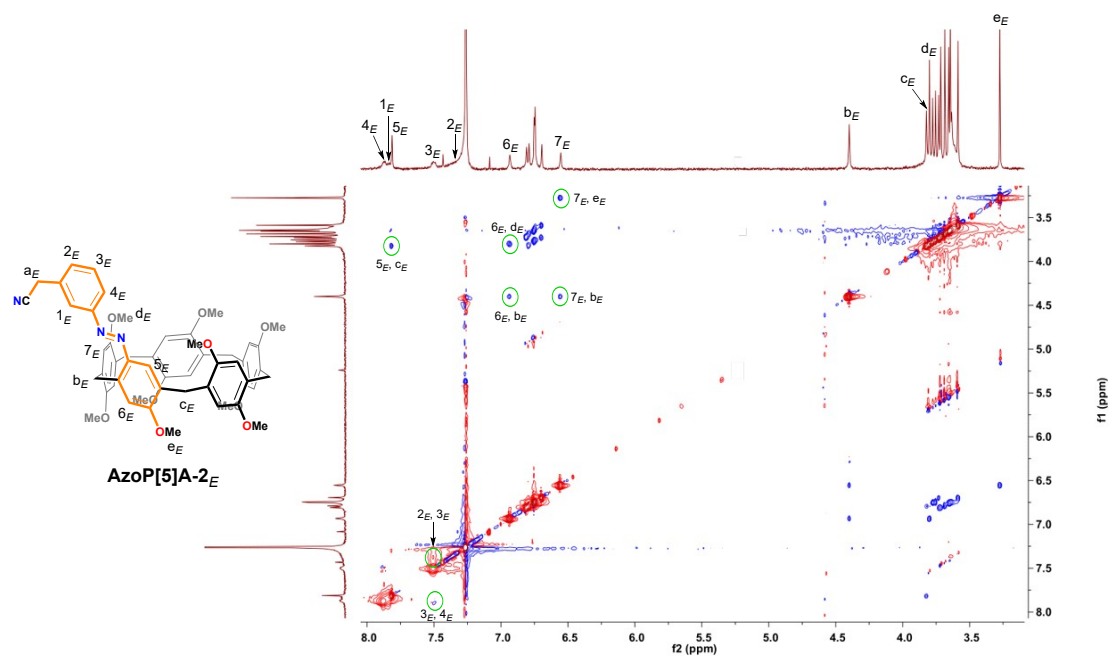


Partial 2D NOESY-NMR spectrum (600 MHz, 4.0 mM, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298K) for the solution of **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub>**. The blue star marked signal refers to CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.

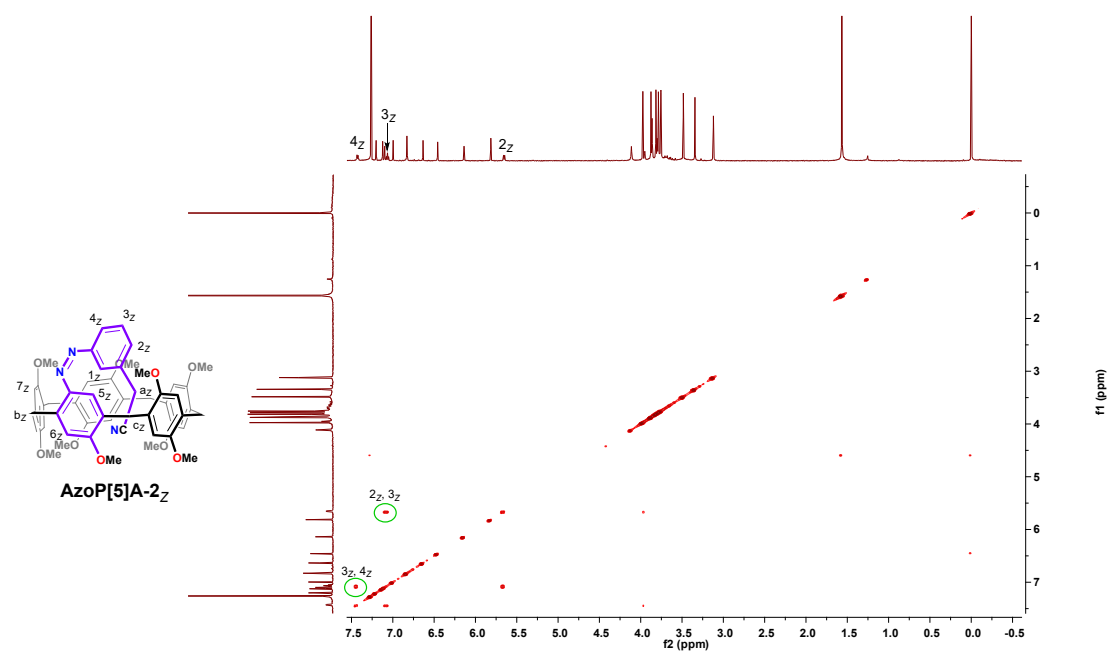


Partial 2D NOESY-NMR spectrum (600 MHz, 4.0 mM, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298K) for the solution of **AzoP[5]A-1<sub>E</sub>**.

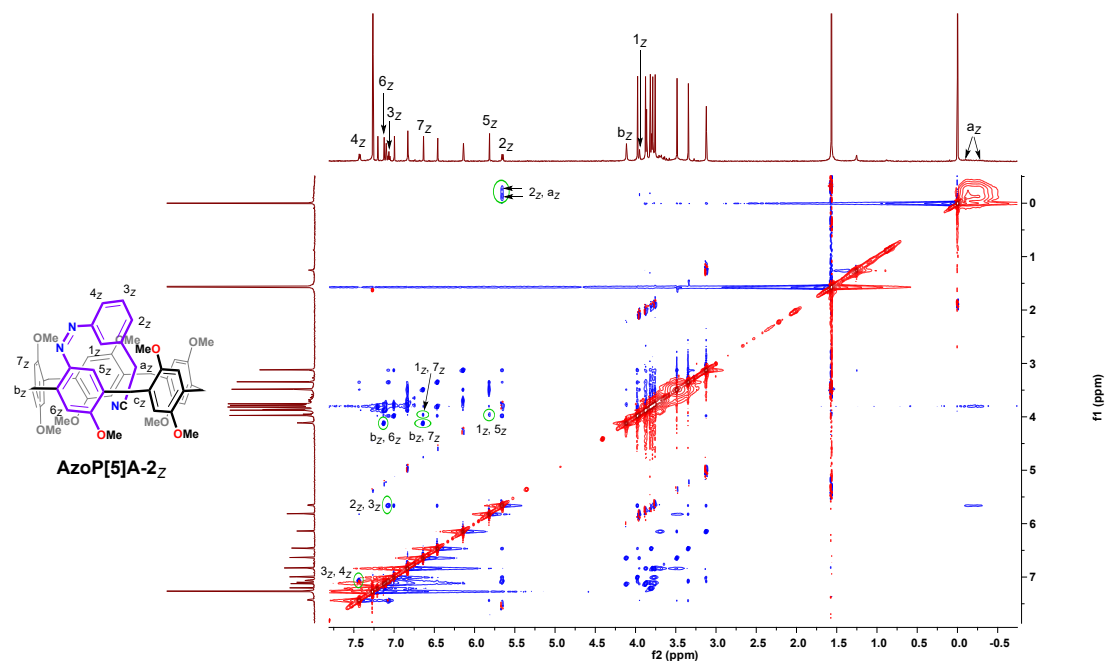




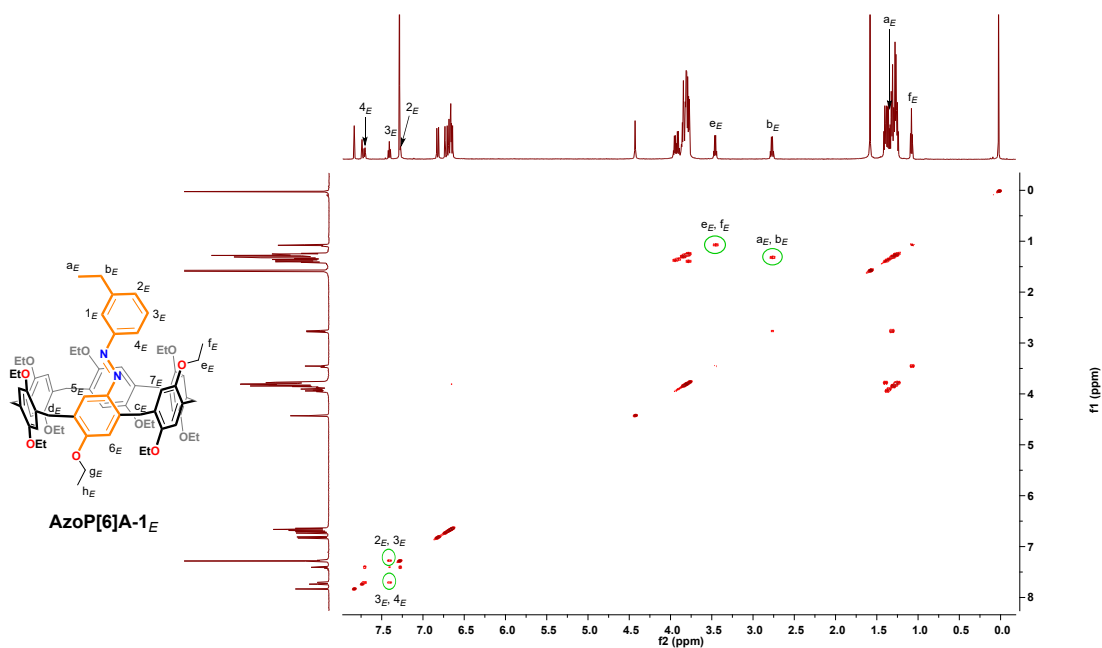
2D NOESY-NMR spectrum (600 MHz, 2.0 mM, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298K) for the solution of **AzoP[5]A-2<sub>E</sub>**.



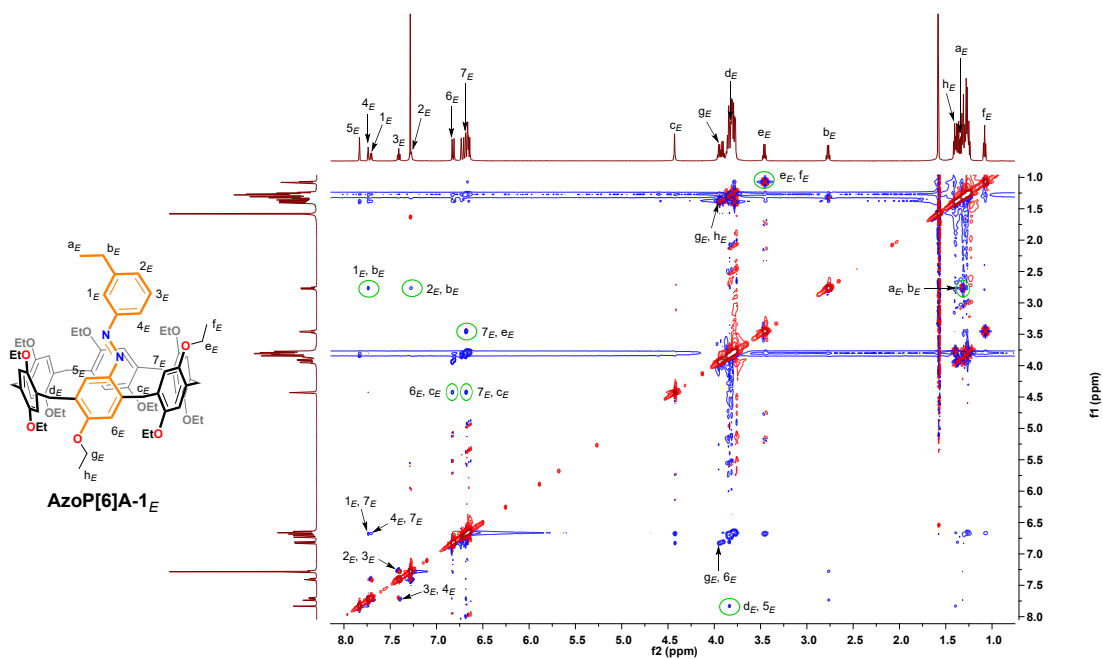
2D COSY-NMR spectrum (600 MHz, 4.0 mM, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298K) for the 390 nm UV light irradiated solution of **AzoP[5]A-2**.



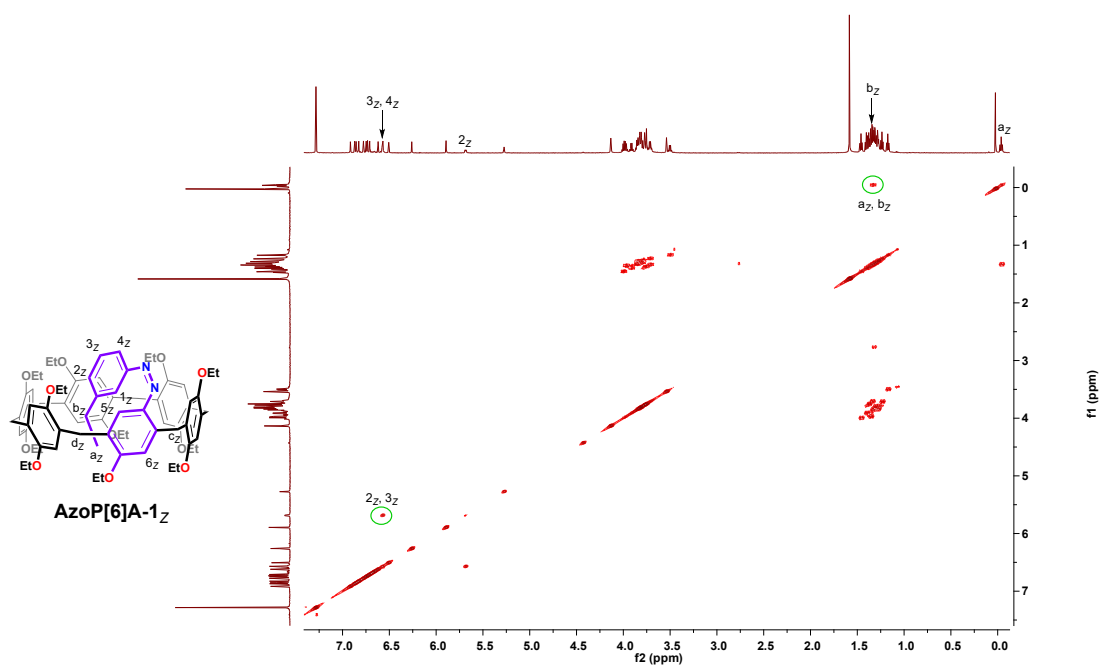
2D NOESY-NMR spectrum (600 MHz, 4.0 mM, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298K) for the 390 nm UV light irradiated solution of **AzoP[5]A-2**.



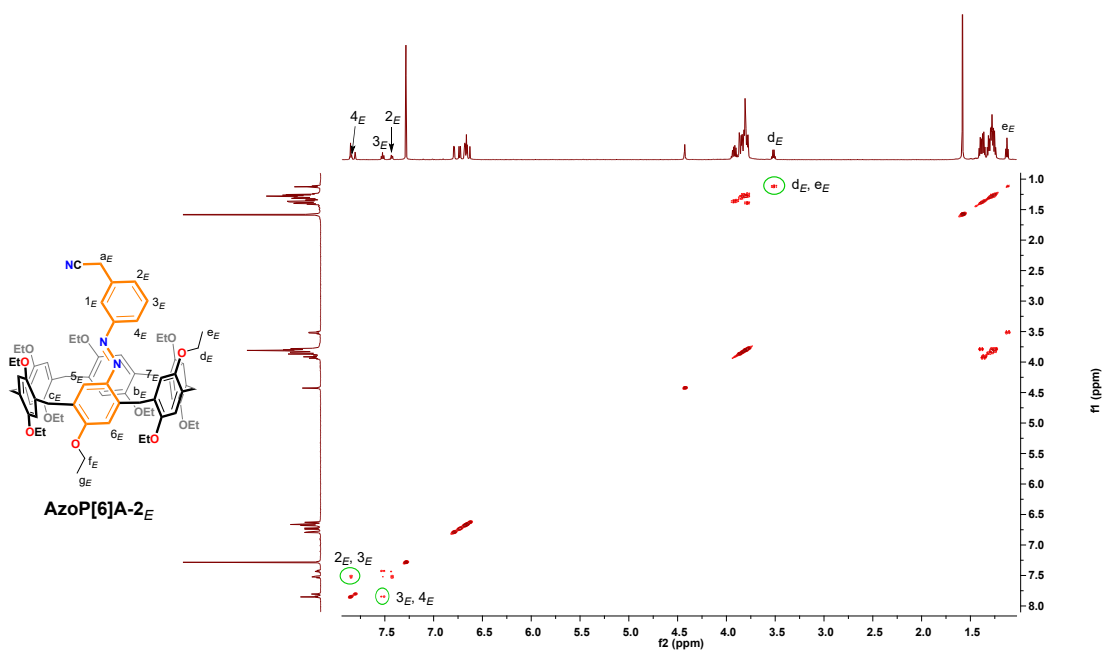
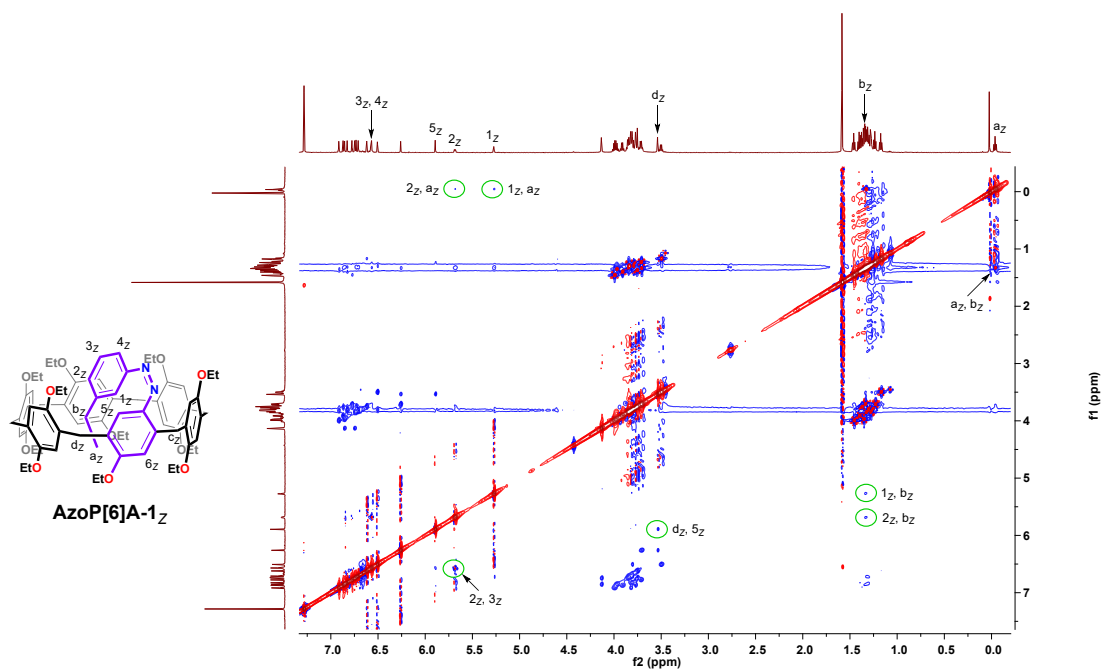
2D COSY-NMR spectrum (600 MHz, 4.0 mM, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298K) for the solution of **AzoP[6]A-1<sub>E</sub>**.

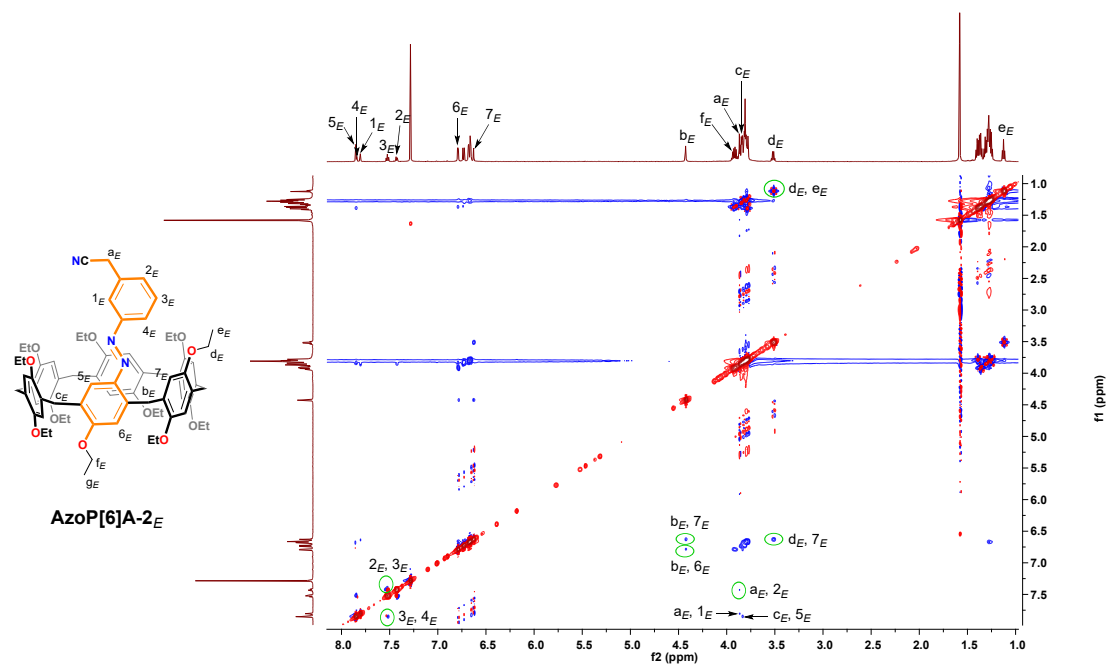


2D NOESY-NMR spectrum (600 MHz, 4.0 mM, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298K) for the solution of **AzoP[6]A-1<sub>E</sub>**.

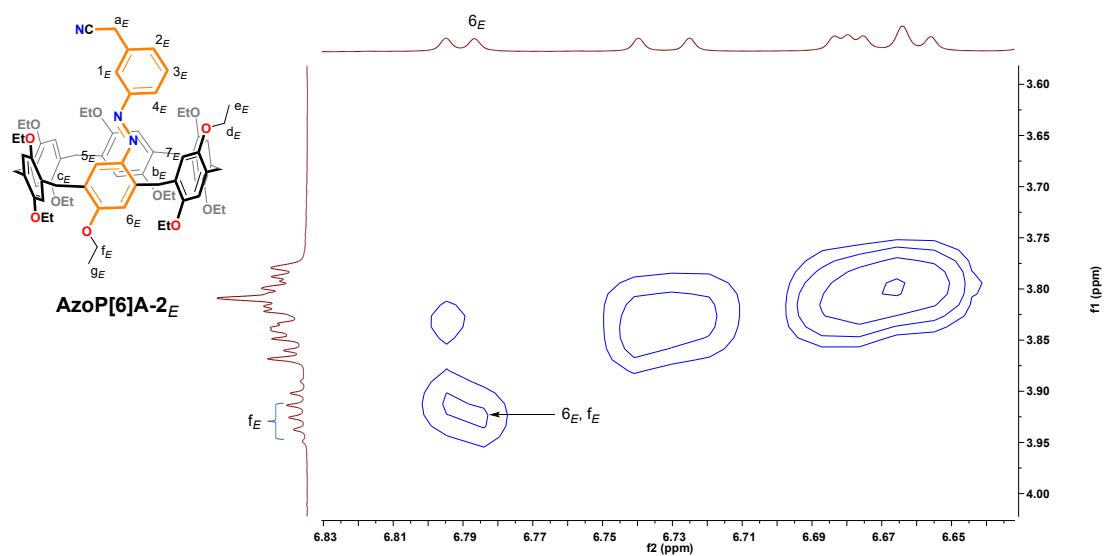


2D COSY-NMR spectrum (600 MHz, 4.0 mM, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298K) for the 390 nm UV light irradiated solution of **AzoP[6]A-1**.

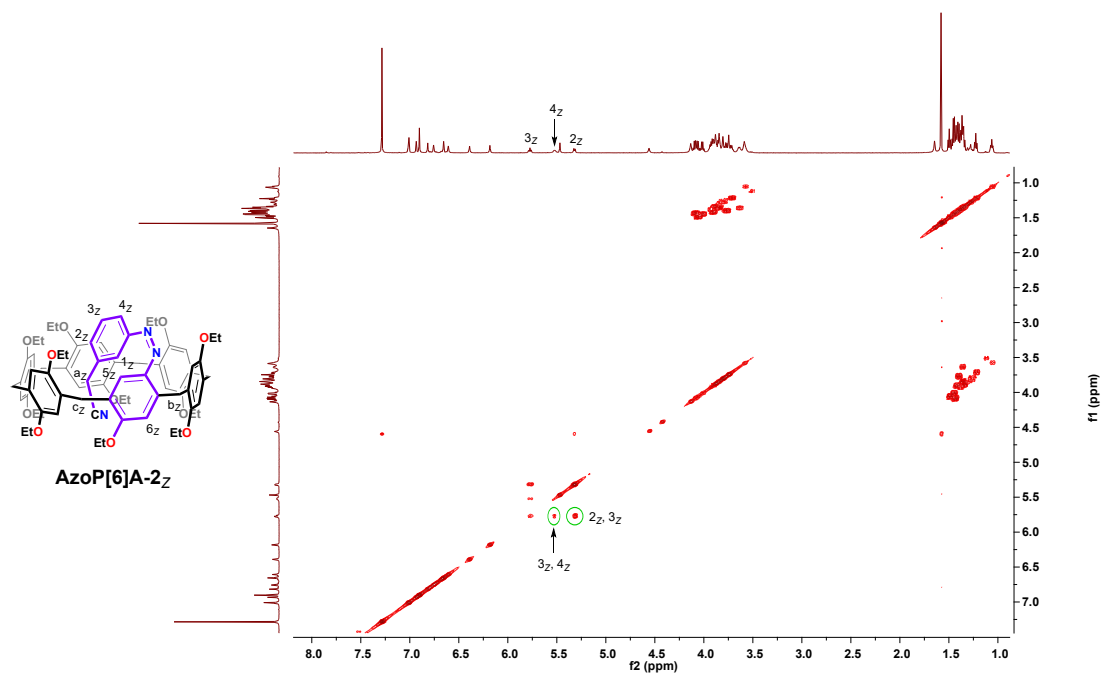




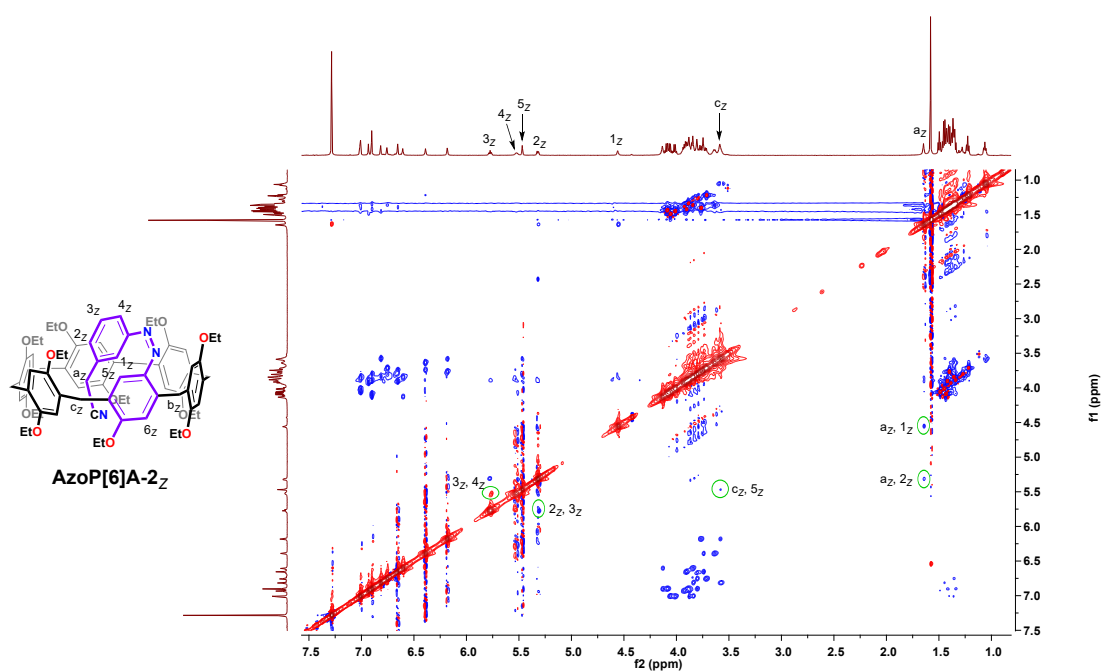
2D NOESY-NMR spectrum (600 MHz, 4.0 mM, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298K) for the solution of **AzoP[6]A-2<sub>E</sub>**.



Partial 2D NOESY-NMR spectrum (600 MHz, 4.0 mM, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298K) for the solution of **AzoP[6]A-2<sub>E</sub>**.



2D COSY-NMR spectrum (600 MHz, 4.0 mM, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298K) for the 390 nm UV light irradiated solution of **AzoP[6]A-2**.



2D NOESY-NMR spectrum (600 MHz, 4.0 mM, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298K) for the 390 nm UV light irradiated solution of **AzoP[6]A-2**.

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