



## Synthesis and characterization of 9,9-dialkylfluorene capped benzo[*c*]thiophene/benzo[*c*]selenophene analogs as potential OLEDs

Arasambattu K. Mohanakrishnan \*, Natarajan Senthil Kumar, P. Amaladass

Department of Organic Chemistry, University of Madras, Guindy Campus, Chennai 600 025, India

### ARTICLE INFO

#### Article history:

Received 18 March 2008

Revised 8 May 2008

Accepted 14 May 2008

Available online 28 May 2008

#### Keywords:

Friedel–Crafts reaction

9,9-Dialkylfluorene

Thionation/selenation

Benzo[*c*]thiophene/benzo[*c*]selenophene

### ABSTRACT

The synthesis of soluble benzo[*c*]thiophene analogs capped with 9,9-dialkylfluorene at one end is described.

© 2008 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

Electronic properties of linear conjugated oligomers have acquired growing importance in many areas of modern chemistry. In particular,  $\pi$ -conjugated thiophene oligomers possess interesting electronic and optical properties and they have been investigated as Organic Field Effect Transistors (OFETs)<sup>1</sup> and Organic Light-Emitting Diodes (OLEDs).<sup>2</sup> Dialkyl/diarylfluorene-containing thienyl oligomers are reported widely in the literature. Bao and co-workers reported the synthesis of fluorene-end capped oligothiophenes which are used as organic thin film transistors.<sup>3</sup> The oligo(fluorenebithiophene)core was found to have high charge transport mobility and good device performance. Lee et al. reported the synthesis of oligo(9,9-dihexyl-2,7-fluorene ethynylene)s as a blue light-emitting diode<sup>4</sup> whilst Pei and co-workers have reported the synthesis of oligothiophene-truxene conjugates.<sup>5</sup> Wong and co-workers reported the synthesis and photo-physical studies of 9,9-ditolylfluorene analogs containing thiophene rings.<sup>6</sup>

Numerous examples of benzo[*c*]thiophene **1** (Fig. 1) and its analogs<sup>7</sup> are known in the literature. However, to our knowledge,

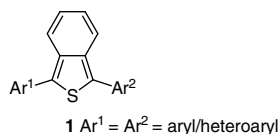
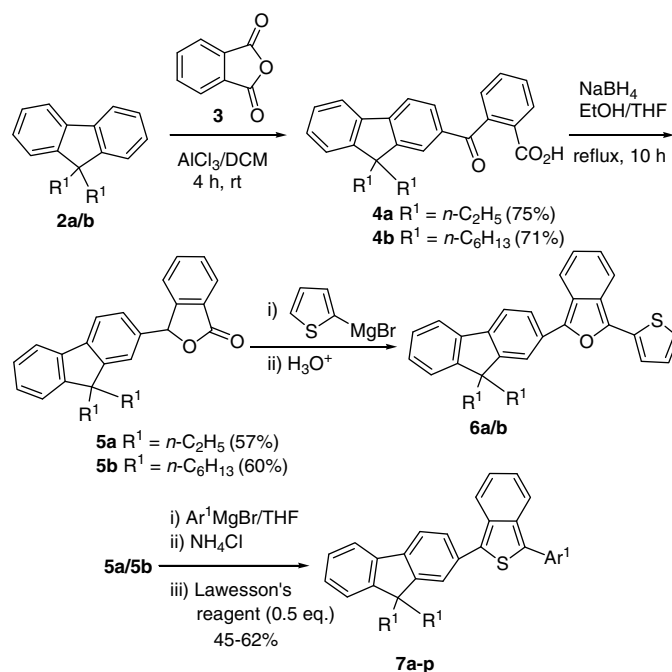


Figure 1.

there are no reports on benzo[*c*]thiophene derivatives capped with fluorene. In continuation of our work on benzo[*c*]thiophenes,<sup>8</sup>



Scheme 1.

\* Corresponding author. Tel.: +91 44 24451108; fax: +91 44 22352494.  
E-mail address: mohan\_67@hotmail.com (A. K. Mohanakrishnan).

we report here our preliminary results on the synthesis and characterization of 9,9-dialkylfluorene capped benzo[*c*]thiophenes/benzo[*c*]selenophenes.

Friedel–Crafts phthaloylation of 9,9-dialkylfluorenes **2a–b**<sup>9</sup> in the presence of anhydrous AlCl<sub>3</sub> in DCM at room temperature for 4 h followed by workup led to the isolation of fluorenyl keto-acids **4a–b** in good yields. Reduction of the ketone carbonyl of **4a–b** using NaBH<sub>4</sub> in EtOH/THF at reflux followed by acidic workup furnished the lactones **5a/b**. Ring-opening of the lactones **5a/b** using freshly prepared 2-thienylmagnesium bromide followed by acidic

workup and column chromatographic purification gave the respective benzo[*c*]furans **6a/6b** as orange-yellow solids. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectral analysis of bright yellow fluorescent solutions of **6a/6b** confirmed that these compounds were highly unstable as the solutions turned red. However, ring-opening of the lactones **5a/b** with aryl/hetero-aryl Grignards<sup>10</sup> followed by quenching with aq NH<sub>4</sub>Cl led to the respective keto-alcohols. The DCM solution of keto-alcohol on thionation using 0.5 equiv of Lawesson's reagent followed by in situ intramolecular cyclization and subsequent column chromatographic purification afforded respective benzo[*c*]thiophene

**Table 1**  
Synthesis of benzo[*c*]thiophene analogs containing 9,9-dialkylfluorenes

Entry	Lactone	Ar <sup>1</sup> MgBr <sup>10</sup>	Product <sup>11</sup>	Yield (%) <sup>a</sup> mp
1	<b>5a</b>		 <b>7a</b> R <sup>1</sup> = H, R <sup>2</sup> = H <b>7b</b> R <sup>1</sup> = H, R <sup>2</sup> = <i>n</i> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>13</sub> <b>7c</b> R <sup>1</sup> = <i>n</i> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>13</sub> , R <sup>2</sup> = H	57 (56 °C) 45 (Orange liquid) 57 (Orange liquid)
2	<b>5a</b>		 <b>7d</b> R <sup>1</sup> = H, R <sup>2</sup> = H <b>7e</b> R <sup>1</sup> = Me, R <sup>2</sup> = H <b>7f</b> R <sup>1</sup> = H, R <sup>2</sup> = Me <b>7g</b> R <sup>1</sup> = H, R <sup>2</sup> = OMe	50 (55 °C) 56 (52 °C) 52 (55 °C) 47 (59 °C)
3	<b>5a</b>		 <b>7h</b>	52 (Yellow liquid)
4	<b>5b</b>		 <b>7i</b> R <sup>1</sup> = H, R <sup>2</sup> = H <b>7j</b> R <sup>1</sup> = <i>n</i> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>13</sub> , R <sup>2</sup> = H <b>7k</b> R <sup>1</sup> = H, R <sup>2</sup> = <i>n</i> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>13</sub>	62 (Orange liquid) 57 (Orange liquid) 50 (Orange liquid)
5	<b>5b</b>		 <b>7l</b> R <sup>1</sup> = H, R <sup>2</sup> = H <b>7m</b> R <sup>1</sup> = Me, R <sup>2</sup> = H <b>7n</b> R <sup>1</sup> = H, R <sup>2</sup> = Me <b>7o</b> R <sup>1</sup> = H, R <sup>2</sup> = OMe	57 (Yellow liquid) 52 (Yellow liquid) 57 (Yellow liquid) 58 (Yellow liquid)
6	<b>5b</b>		 <b>7p</b>	55 (Yellow liquid)

<sup>a</sup> Isolated yield after column chromatography.

analogues **7a–p**<sup>11</sup> as highly stable compounds in 45–62% yields (Scheme 1). The results are presented in Table 1.

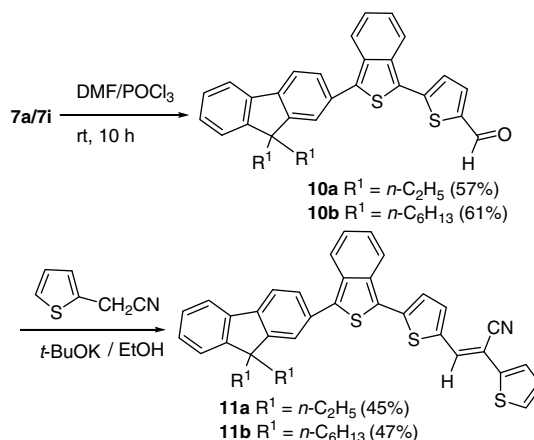
Ring-opening of lactone **5a** with thienyl-2-magnesium bromide followed by thionation afforded 1-(9,9-diethylfluorenyl)-3-thienylbenzo[*c*]thiophene **7a** in 57% yield as an orange solid (Table 1, entry 1). Reaction of lactone **5a** with 5-hexyl-2-thienylmagnesium bromide/3-hexyl-2-thienylmagnesium bromide gave benzo[*c*]thiophenes **7b** and **7c** as orange liquids in 45% and 57% yields, respectively (Table 1, entry 1). Lactone **5a** also underwent similar reaction with aryl Grignards to afford the respective benzo[*c*]thiophenes **7d–h** in 47–56% yields (Table 1, entries 2 and 3). Similarly, reaction of 9,9-dihexylfluorenyl lactone **5b** with thienyl Grignards followed by thionation and column chromatographic purification led to the isolation of the corresponding benzo[*c*]thiophenes **7i–k** as orange liquids in 50–62% yields (Table 1, entry 4). Similarly, reaction of lactone **5b** with various aryl Grignards also afforded the expected benzo[*c*]thiophenes **7l–p** as yellow liquids in 52–58% yields (Table 1, entries 5 and 6).

As a representative case, the ring-opening of the lactone **5b** with various 2-thienylmagnesium bromides followed by acidic workup and subsequent treatment with 0.25 equiv of Woollins reagent adopting our published procedure<sup>12</sup> afforded benzo[*c*]selenophene derivatives **8a–c**<sup>13</sup> in 55–62% yields, (Scheme 2). Most of the benzo[*c*]thiophenes **7a–p** and benzo[*c*]selenophenes **8a–c** were found to be highly soluble in common organic solvents.

The 9,9-dialkylfluorenyl benzo[*c*]thiophenes **7a/7i** could be converted into the corresponding dimers **9a/9b**<sup>14</sup> in low yields using anhydrous FeCl<sub>3</sub> in DCM (Scheme 3).

Finally, Vilsmeier–Haack formylation of **7a/7i** followed by column chromatographic purification afforded aldehydes **10a/b**<sup>15</sup> in 57% and 61% yields, respectively. Condensation of these aldehydes with thiophene-2-acetonitrile afforded the corresponding conjugated cyano-vinylenes **11a/b**<sup>15</sup> (Scheme 4).

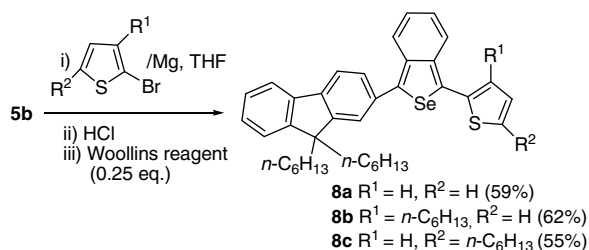
The UV–vis spectra of benzo[*c*]thiophene/benzo[*c*]selenophene analogues exhibited a strong absorption in the region of 425–465 nm due to the  $\pi$ – $\pi^*$  electronic transition of the conjugated backbone system. The exact  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  values of these compounds are given in Table 2. The qualitative emission data of selected



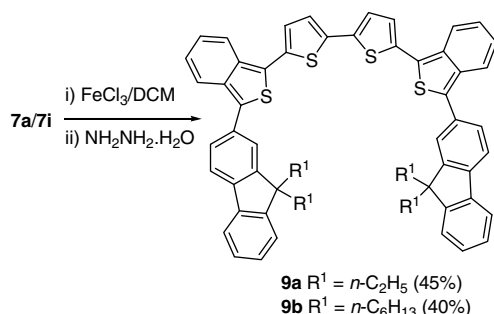
Scheme 4.

compounds were recorded in DCM solution and the emission values of selected benzo[*c*]thiophene/benzo[*c*]selenophene analogues are also presented. The HOMO and LUMO energy levels of the benzo[*c*]thiophene/benzo[*c*]selenophene analogues were calculated from the absorption onset and the onset oxidation potential. The  $E_g$ , HOMO and LUMO values obtained for selected benzo[*c*]heterocycles are presented in Table 2. The monomeric benzo[*c*]thiophene/benzo[*c*]selenophene analogues showed  $E_g$  values in the range of 2.5–2.7 eV. The dimerization of benzo[*c*]thiophenes (**7a/7i**) as well as the introduction of electron-withdrawing group (**10a/b**) significantly reduced the  $E_g$  values. In general, dimerization (**9a/b**) reduced the HOMO energy levels ( $\sim 5.3$  eV to  $\sim 5.1$  eV) and simultaneously enhanced the LUMO energy levels ( $\sim 2.6$  eV to  $\sim 2.9$  eV). The introduction of an electron withdrawing group (**10a/b**) significantly enhanced the LUMO energy levels ( $\sim 0.3$  eV).

In summary, the synthesis of various benzo[*c*]thiophene analogues incorporating 9,9-dialkylfluorenyl units was achieved in reasonable yields. The highly soluble nature of these annelated thiophenes may make them suitable for transistor applications through spin-coating techniques. The higher-lying HOMO energy levels of these fluorene-incorporated benzo[*c*]heterocycles ( $\sim 5.2$  eV) greatly reduce the energy barrier for hole injection from ITO ( $\varphi = 4.8$  eV) to emissive Alq<sub>3</sub> ( $\varphi = 4.8$  eV), hence, these heterocycles should be explored as hole-transporting materials for double-layer OLEDs.



Scheme 2.



Scheme 3.

Table 2

Summary of the physical properties of selected benzo[*c*]thiophenes/benzo[*c*]selenophenes

Compound	$\lambda_{\text{max}}^a$ (nm)	$\lambda_{\text{onset}}$ (nm)	$\lambda_{\text{emiss}}^b$ (nm)	$E_g^c$ (eV)	$E_{\text{onset}}^{\text{ox}}$ (eV)	HOMO <sup>d</sup> (eV)	LUMO <sup>e</sup> (eV)
<b>7i</b>	445	475	539	2.61	0.82	5.26	2.65
<b>7j</b>	425	450	512	2.75	0.91	5.35	2.60
<b>7k</b>	430	455	515	2.72	0.85	5.29	2.57
<b>8a</b>	465	490	553	2.53	0.72	5.16	2.63
<b>8b</b>	440	470	541	2.64	0.76	5.20	2.56
<b>8c</b>	435	465	545	2.66	0.77	5.21	2.55
<b>9a</b>	495	550	597	2.25	0.67	5.11	2.86
<b>9b</b>	480	540	592	2.30	0.71	5.15	2.85
<b>10a</b>	510	570	605	2.17	0.69	5.13	2.96
<b>10b</b>	500	555	600	2.23	0.72	5.16	2.93

<sup>a</sup> Measured in dilute dichloromethane solution.

<sup>b</sup> Excited at the absorption maxima.

<sup>c</sup> Estimated from the onset of absorption ( $E_g = 1240/\lambda_{\text{onset}}$ ).

<sup>d</sup> Calculated using the empirical equation: HOMO = (4.44 +  $E_{\text{onset}}^{\text{ox}}$ ).

<sup>e</sup> Calculated from LUMO = HOMO –  $E_g$ .

## Acknowledgements

We thank DST, New Delhi (SR/S1/OC-37/2005) and UGC–Potential for excellence for financial support. N.S. thanks DST for a fellowship. Financial support from the Department by DST-FIST is also acknowledged.

## References and notes

- (a) Bao, Z.; Dodabalapur, A.; Lovinger, A. J. *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **1996**, *69*, 4108–4110; (b) Sirringhaus, H.; Tessler, N.; Friend, R. H. *Science* **1998**, *280*, 1741–1744; (c) Li, X. C.; Sirringhaus, H.; Garnier, F.; Holmes, A. B.; Moratti, S. C.; Feeder, N.; Clegg, W.; Teat, S. J.; Friend, R. H. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1998**, *120*, 2206–2207.
- (a) Burroughes, J. H.; Bradley, D. D. C.; Brown, A. R.; Marks, R. N.; Mackay, K.; Friend, R. H.; Burn, P. L.; Holmes, A. B. *Nature* **1990**, *347*, 539–541; (b) Noda, T.; Ogawa, H.; Noma, N.; Shirota, Y. *J. Chem. Mater.* **1999**, *9*, 2177–2181.
- Meng, H.; Zheng, J.; Lovinger, A. J.; Wang, B.-C.; Patten, P. G. V.; Bao, Z. *Chem. Mater.* **2003**, *15*, 1778–1787.
- Lee, S. H.; Nakamura, T.; Tsutsui, T. *Org. Lett.* **2001**, *3*, 2005–2007.
- (a) Pei, J.; Ni, J.; Zhou, X.-H.; Cao, X.-Y.; Lai, Y.-H. *J. Org. Chem.* **2002**, *67*, 4924–4936; (b) Pei, J.; Wang, J.-L.; Cao, X.-Y.; Zhou, X.-H.; Zhang, W.-B. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2003**, *125*, 9944–9945; (c) Wang, J.-L.; Luo, J.; Liu, L.-H.; Zhou, Q.-F.; Ma, Y.; Pei, J. *Org. Lett.* **2006**, *8*, 2281–2284.
- Wong, K.-T.; Hwu, T.-Y.; Balaiiah, A.; Chao, T.-C.; Fang, F.-C.; Lee, C.-T.; Peng, Y.-C. *Org. Lett.* **2006**, *8*, 1415–1418.
- (a) Lorcy, D.; Cava, M. P. *Adv. Mater.* **1992**, *4*, 562–564; (b) Bauerle, P.; Gotz, G.; Emerle, P.; Port, H. *Adv. Mater.* **1992**, *4*, 564–568; (c) Musinanni, S.; Ferraris, J. P. *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* **1993**, 172–174; (d) Kiebooms, R. H. L.; Adriaensens, P. J. A.; Vanderzande, D. J. N.; Gelan, J. M. J. V. *J. Org. Chem.* **1997**, *62*, 1473–1480; (e) Mohanakrishnan, A. K.; Lakshmikantham, M. V.; McDougal, C. D.; Cava, M. P.; Baldwin, J. W.; Metzger, R. M. *J. Org. Chem.* **1998**, *63*, 3105–3112; (f) Raimundo, J. M.; Blanchard, P.; Brisset, H.; Akoudad, S.; Roncali, J. *Chem. Commun.* **2000**, 939–940; (g) Strassler, C.; Davis, N. E.; Kool, E. T. *Helv. Chim. Acta* **1999**, *82*, 2160–2171; (h) Tan, S.; Bhowmik, A. K.; Thakur, M.; Lakshmikantham, M. V.; Cava, M. P. *J. Chem. Phys.* **2000**, *112*, 383–385.
- (a) Mohanakrishnan, A. K.; Amaladass, P. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2005**, *46*, 4225–4229; (b) Mohanakrishnan, A. K.; Amaladass, P.; Arul Clement, J. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2007**, *48*, 779–784; (c) Mohanakrishnan, A. K.; Arul Clement, J.; Amaladass, P.; Thirunavukkarasu, V. S. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2007**, *48*, 8715–8720.
- The required 9,9-dialkylfluorenes **2a/2b** were prepared from fluorene via successive lithiations using *n*-BuLi/THF at  $-78^\circ\text{C}$ , followed by quenching with alkyl halides.
- The required aryl/hetero-aryl Grignard reagents were prepared from the corresponding bromo compounds by refluxing with magnesium in dry THF under a  $\text{N}_2$  atmosphere.
- Spectral data of selected benzo[*c*]thiophenes:** Compound **7a**: mp  $56^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  0.40 (t,  $J = 3.6$  Hz, 6H), 2.06–2.15 (m, 4H), 7.01 (m, 1H), 7.14 (t,  $J = 3$  Hz, 1H), 7.29–7.36 (m, 5H), 7.53 (d,  $J = 3$  Hz, 1H), 7.7–7.92 (m, 6H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.6, 32.9, 56.3, 118.9, 119.7, 120.1, 120.2, 120.3, 121.8, 122.2, 122.9, 123.8, 123.9, 125.2, 125.4, 125.6, 127.1, 127.2, 127.9, 130.2, 133.7, 140.1, 140.6, 141.1, 144.2, 150.2, and 150.7. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{24}\text{S}_2$ : C, 79.77; H, 5.54; S, 14.69. Found: C, 79.60; H, 5.62; S, 14.78. Compound **7c**: viscous orange liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  0.41 (t,  $J = 7.35$  Hz, 6H), 0.79–0.83 (m, 3H), 1.21–1.25 (m, 6H), 1.55–1.63 (m, 2H), 2.08 (q,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 4H), 2.67 (t,  $J = 8.25$  Hz, 2H), 7.06–7.11 (m, 3H), 7.29–7.34 (m, 1H), 7.35–7.38 (m, 4H), 7.57–7.60 (m, 1H), 7.64–7.68 (m, 2H), 7.73–7.74 (m, 1H), 7.82–7.85 (m, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.6, 14.1, 22.6, 29, 29.1, 30.8, 31.6, 32.8, 56.3, 119.8, 120.2, 121.0, 121.8, 123.0, 123.7, 124.0, 124.2, 125.9, 127.0, 127.3, 128.1, 128.2, 129.3, 132.8, 134.3, 136.2, 138.0, 139.2, 141, 141.1, 142.3, 150.2, and 150.8. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{35}\text{H}_{36}\text{S}_2$ : C, 80.72; H, 6.97; S, 12.31. Found: C, 80.84; H, 7.05; S, 12.11. Compound **7i**: viscous orange liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  0.79–0.89 (m, 10H), 10.8–1.24 (m, 12H), 2.10–2.18 (m, 4H), 7.10–7.22 (m, 3H), 7.36–7.47 (m, 4H), 7.61–7.62 (m, 1H), 7.80–7.88 (m, 3H), 7.92–8.02 (m, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  14.1, 22.7, 23.9, 29.8, 31.6, 40.5, 55.3, 119, 119.8, 120.1, 120.3, 120.4, 121.9, 122.2, 122.9, 123.9, 124.0, 125.3, 125.4, 125.5, 127.0, 127.2, 127.9, 130.3, 133.8, 140.1, 140.3, 140.8, 144.3, 151.1, and 151.6. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{37}\text{H}_{40}\text{S}_2$ : C, 80.97; H, 7.35; S, 11.68. Found: C, 80.85; H, 7.30; S, 11.85. Compound **7o**: viscous yellow liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  0.62–0.65 (m, 10H), 0.89–1.11 (m, 12H), 1.80–1.83 (m, 4H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 6.95–6.98 (m, 4H), 7.20–7.24 (m, 3H), 7.49–7.73 (m, 8H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  14.0, 22.6, 23.8, 29.7, 31.5, 40.5, 55.2, 55.3, 114.6, 118.8, 119.7, 119.8, 120.2, 120.3, 121.3, 122.0, 122.9, 123.6, 124.7, 124.8, 125.1, 126.3, 126.9, 127.0, 130.4, 130.6, 139.8, 140.8, 143.9, 151.0, 151.5, and 158.8. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{40}\text{H}_{44}\text{S}_2$ : C, 83.87; H, 7.74; S, 5.60. Found: C, 83.80; H, 7.79; S, 5.65.
- Mohanakrishnan, A. K.; Amaladass, P. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2005**, *46*, 7201–7204.
- Spectral data for 8b**: viscous yellow liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  0.81–0.90 (m, 13H), 1.15–1.32 (m, 18H), 1.61–1.68 (m, 2H), 2.05–2.10 (m, 4H), 2.71 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.00–7.04 (m, 2H), 7.12 (d,  $J = 5.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.37–7.48 (m, 5H), 7.63–7.66 (m, 2H), 7.74–7.85 (m, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  14.0, 14.1, 22.6, 23.9, 29.0, 29.1, 29.7, 30.8, 31.5, 31.6, 40.4, 55.2, 119.9, 120.2, 121.6, 122.4, 123.0, 123.7, 123.8, 124.0, 125.9, 126.9, 127.3, 128.7, 129.2, 130.6, 132.8, 134.8, 136.6, 140.6, 140.8, 142.0, 146.1, 151.1, and 151.5. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{43}\text{H}_{52}\text{S}_2$ : C, 75.96; H, 7.71; S, 4.72. Found: C, 76.10; H, 7.70; S, 4.65.
- A representative procedure for the synthesis of 9a:** A solution of **7a** (0.4 g, 0.92 mmol) in dry  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  was treated with  $\text{FeCl}_3$  (0.30 g, 1.85 mmol) under a  $\text{N}_2$  atmosphere at room temperature for 6 h. The reaction mixture was treated with a dilute solution of  $\text{N}_2\text{H}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ . Evaporation of the solvent followed by column chromatography (silica gel, hexane–EtOAc; 10:1) gave the dimer **9a** (0.18 g, 45%). **Spectral data for 9a**: semi-solid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  0.35 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 12H), 2.0 (q,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 8H), 6.86–6.89 (m, 4H), 7.0–7.3 (m, 14H), 7.5 (m, 2H), 7.61–7.8 (m, 4H), 7.98 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.6, 32.8, 56.3, 119.9, 120.2, 121.7, 123.0, 123.7, 124.3, 124.5, 124.9, 125.8, 126.1, 126.3, 126.9, 127.0, 127.4, 128.2, 132.5, 135.2, 135.3, 135.4, 136.6, 140.9, 141.3, 150.2, and 150.9. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{58}\text{H}_{46}\text{S}_4$ : C, 79.96; H, 5.32; S, 14.72. Found: C, 80.05; H, 5.35; S, 14.60.
- Spectral data for aldehyde 10b**: red liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  0.81–0.95 (m, 10H), 1.15–1.31 (m, 12H), 2.17–2.22 (m, 4H), 7.29–7.37 (m, 3H), 7.41 (d,  $J = 3.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.61–7.66 (m, 5H), 7.67–7.81 (m, 3H), 7.81 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 1H), 9.61 (s, 1H, CHO).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  14.2, 22.7, 23.1, 29.5, 31.9, 40.7, 55.1, 119.1, 120.7, 121.4, 121.5, 123.1, 123.9, 124.7, 125.1, 126.9, 127.7, 128.5, 132.1, 133.9, 135.5, 136.1, 137.7, 138.5, 140.5, 141.5, 141.7, 147.1, 150.7, and 181.7. **Spectral data for cyanovinylene 11b**: black solid; mp  $117^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  0.78–0.84 (m, 10H), 1.18–1.20 (m, 12H), 2.01–2.12 (m, 4H), 7.1 (t,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.13 (t,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.33–7.43 (m, 4H), 7.51–7.55 (m, 2H), 7.59–7.66 (m, 4H), 7.73–7.81 (m, 1H), 7.81–7.90 (m, 3H), 8.49–8.52 (m, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  14.0, 22.6, 23.9, 29.8, 31.5, 40.5, 55.3, 119.0, 119.7, 120.2, 120.3, 120.5, 121.5, 122.9, 123.7, 124.2, 124.8, 125.3, 125.5, 125.8, 126.2, 126.3, 126.6, 126.9, 127.1, 127.4, 127.9, 128.6, 128.7, 130.6, 131.1, 134.4, 140.2, 140.8, 144.2, 145.6, 151.1, and 151.6. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{44}\text{H}_{43}\text{NS}_3$ : C, 77.49; H, 6.35; N, 2.05; S, 14.10. Found: C, 77.35; H, 6.31; N, 2.15; S, 14.18.