
CONTENTS

Chapter 1: INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1. A World of Carbon	2
1.2. Helicenes: Origins.....	3
1.3. Applications	5
1.4. Synthetic Pathways	7
1.4.1. Photocyclodehydrogenation Approach	8
1.4.2. Diels–Alder and Friedel–Crafts Approaches	10
1.4.3. Metal-catalyzed Cyclization.....	12
1.4.4. [2+2+2] Alkyne Cyclotrimerization.....	13
1.5. Optical Spectroscopy	15
1.6. Previous Work	18
1.7. Project Goal	20
1.8. DAE Switches.....	21
Chapter 2: HELICENE OLIGOMERS	23
2.1. Previous Work & Project Goal	24
2.2. Synthesis.....	26
2.2.1. Heck-based Approach.....	27
2.2.2. Wittig-based Approach	29
2.3. ¹ H NMR Analysis	32
2.4. X-Ray Crystallography	34
2.5. Photophysical Properties.....	37
2.6. Conclusions and Outlook.....	41
Chapter 3: FLUORESCENT HELICENE DIMERS	43
3.1. Fluorescent Helicenes: An Introduction	44
3.2. Project Goal	46
3.3. Synthesis	47
3.4. Photophysical Properties.....	49
3.5. X-Ray Crystallography	54
3.6. DFT Calculations	56
3.7. Conclusions.....	60
Chapter 4: SWITCHING HELICENE DIMERS.....	61
4.1. Photoswitching Helicene Dimers: An Introduction.....	62
4.2. Azohelicene Dimers	63
4.2.1. Introduction	63
4.2.2. Synthesis	64
4.3. DAE-linked Dimers	65
4.3.1. Introduction	65
4.3.2. Synthesis	66
4.4. pH-Responsive Fluorescent Dimeric [6]Helicene	67
4.5. Conclusions and Outlook	75
Chapter 5: PYRAZINE–BASED DIARYLETHENE SWITCHES	77
5.1. Introduction.....	78
5.2. Synthesis	81
5.3. Geometry Analysis.....	81
5.4. Evaluation of Aromaticity.....	83
5.5. Photoswitching Studies.....	86
5.5.1. Electrochemical Switching Study	86
5.5.2. UV/Vis Switching Study.....	88
5.6. Conclusion	91
Chapter 6: CONCLUSIONS & OUTLOOK	93
6.1. General Conclusions	94
6.2. Outlook	97

6.2.1. [9]Helicene Oligomers	97
6.2.2. Other Tetrameric Compounds	98
6.2.3. Molecular "Figure Eight"	98
6.2.4. Novel Linkers	100
Chapter 7: EXPERIMENTAL PART	103
7.1. Materials and General Experimental Methods	104
7.1.1. Computational Methods	105
7.2. Synthetic Procedures of Published Compounds	106
7.3. Synthetic Procedures for Various Unpublished Precursors	130
Chapter 8: APPENDIX	153
8.1. HPLC Conditions for Enantiomer Separations	154
8.2. X-Ray Crystallography	156
8.2.1. Published Crystal Structures	156
8.2.2. Unpublished Crystal Structures of Various Precursors	186
8.3. DFT Calculations	196
Chapter 9: REFERENCES	201