

Supporting Information

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**Photochemical Control of Reversible Encapsulation\*\***

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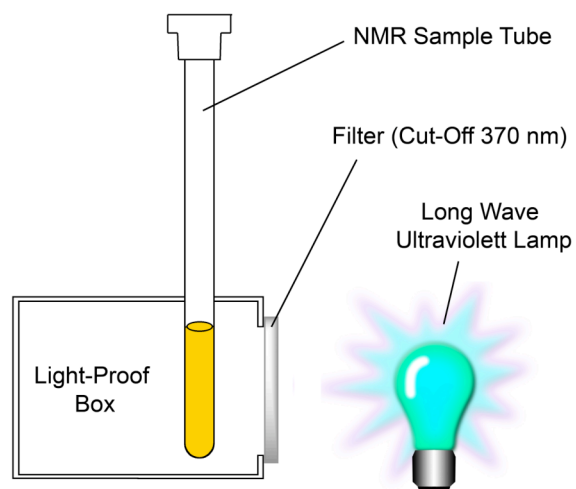
## Experimental

**Materials and General Methods:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DRX-600 spectrometer with a 5 mm QNP probe. Proton ( $^1\text{H}$ ) chemical shifts, reported in parts per million (ppm), were indirectly referenced to external tetramethylsilane employing resonance as an internal reference. Deuterated mesitylene was obtained from Cambridge Isotope Laboratories, Inc.

Compounds **1**, *n*-tridecane, benzoic acid, benzamide, 4,4'-dimethylbenzil, 4-ethylbenzamide, *p*-cymene, and 4,4'-dibromobenzil were purchased at reagent grade from Acros, Fluka, Fisher and Sigma-Aldrich, and used as received. Compounds **2**,<sup>[1]</sup> **3**,<sup>[2]</sup> **4**,<sup>[3]</sup> and **5**<sup>[4]</sup> were prepared according to literature procedures.

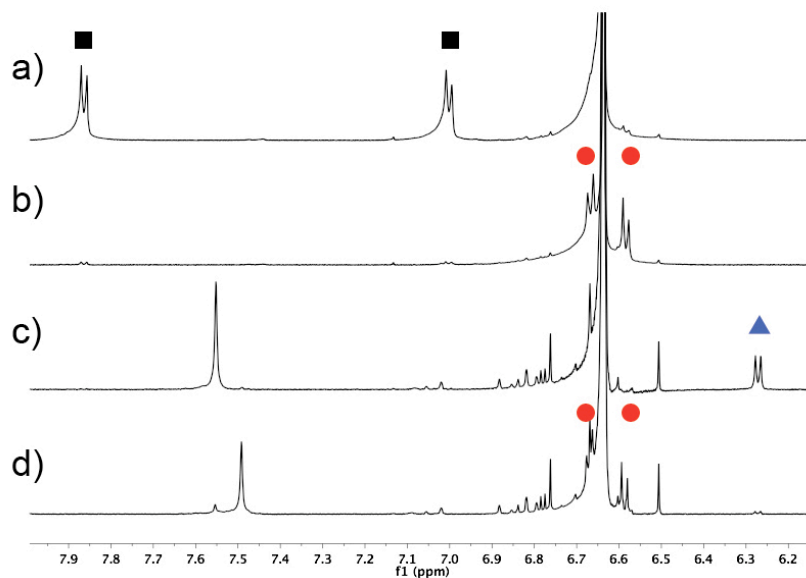
Samples of the capsular assembly **2•2** were prepared at 1.2 mM concentrations. Samples of extended assemblies were prepared at 0.6 mM concentrations. First, capsule (and glycoluril) and azoguests were dissolved in 0.5 mL mesitylene- $d_{12}$  at elevated temperature (160 °C). Afterwards, the second guest was added to the solution and  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra were recorded. After irradiation with a Blak-Ray Long Wave Ultraviolet Lamp, Model B-100 AP  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra were recorded after which the sample was heated to 160 °C for 2 min and  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra were recorded again. This cycle was repeated three times for each sample.

## Experimental Setup for Irradiation

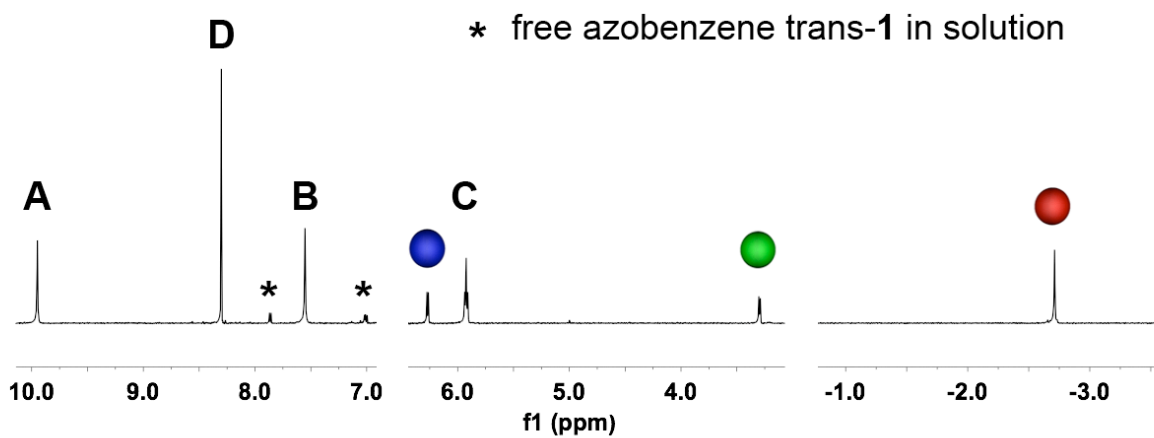
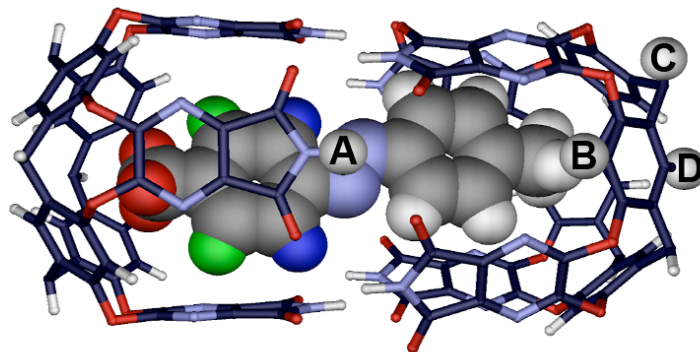


**Figure 1SI:** Experimental setup for irradiation. A Blak-Ray Long Wave Ultraviolet Lamp, Model B-100 AP was used as light source.

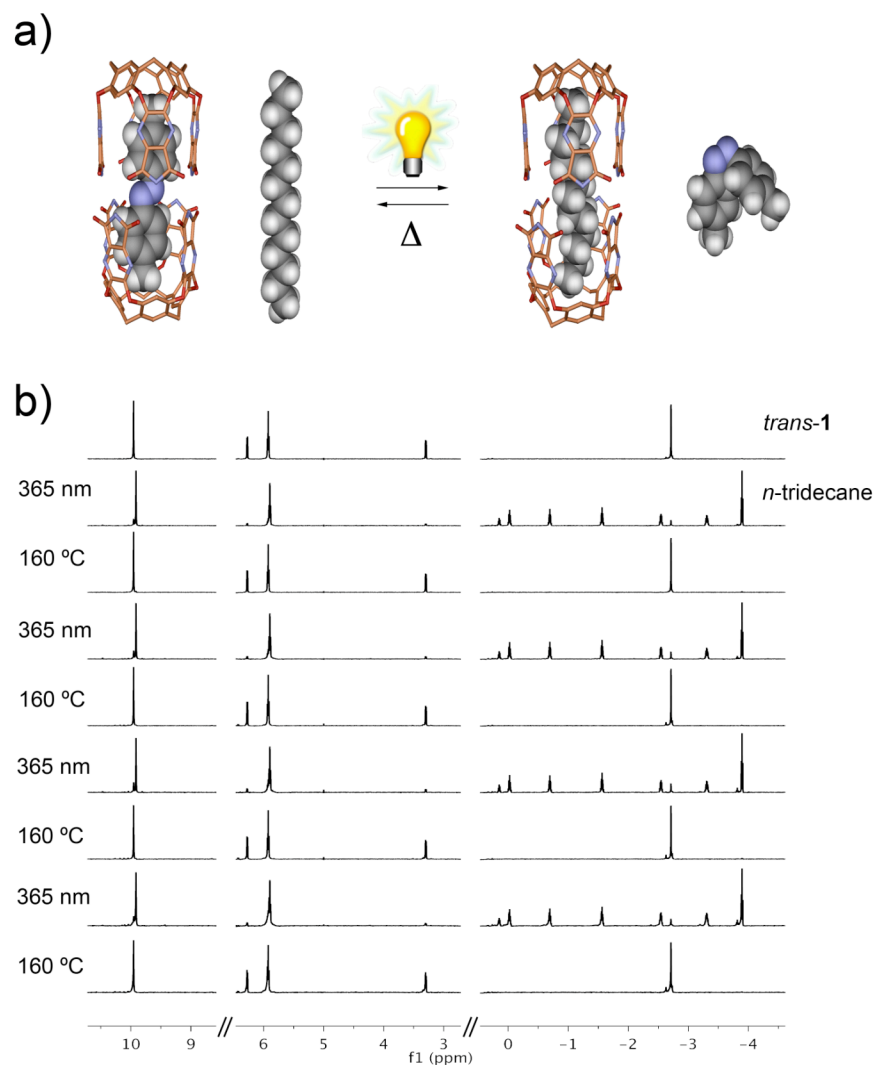
## Spectra



**Figure 2SI:** Aromatic region of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (mesitylene- $d_{12}$ , 20 °C). a) Black squares indicate aromatic signals of free *trans*-1. b) Red circles indicate aromatic signals of free *cis*-1. c) The blue triangle indicates one aromatic signal of encapsulated *trans*-1. d) After irradiation with 365 nm light, the aromatic signals of free *cis*-1 can be seen.

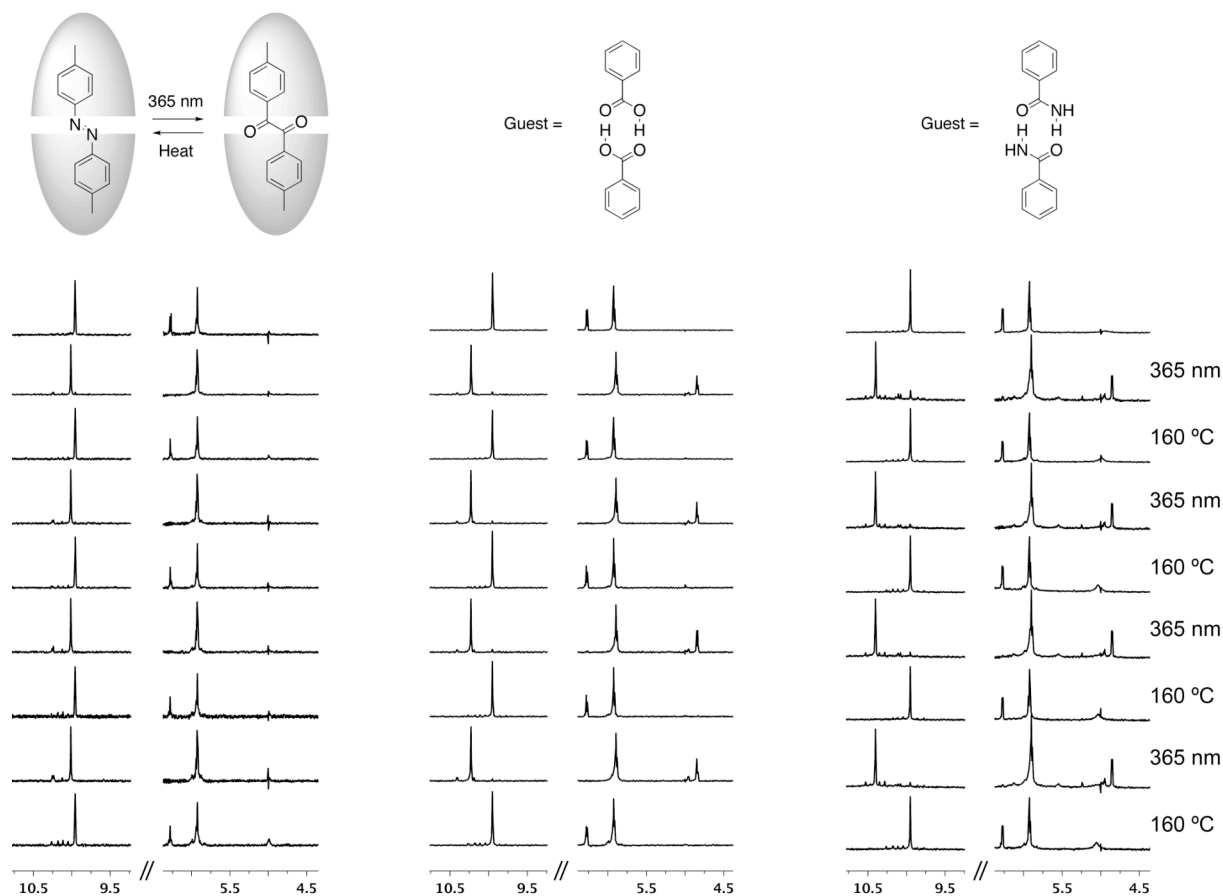


**Figure 3SI:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of *trans*-1 encapsulated in 2·2 (mesitylene- $d_{12}$ , 20 °C) and assignment of the signals to the structure.

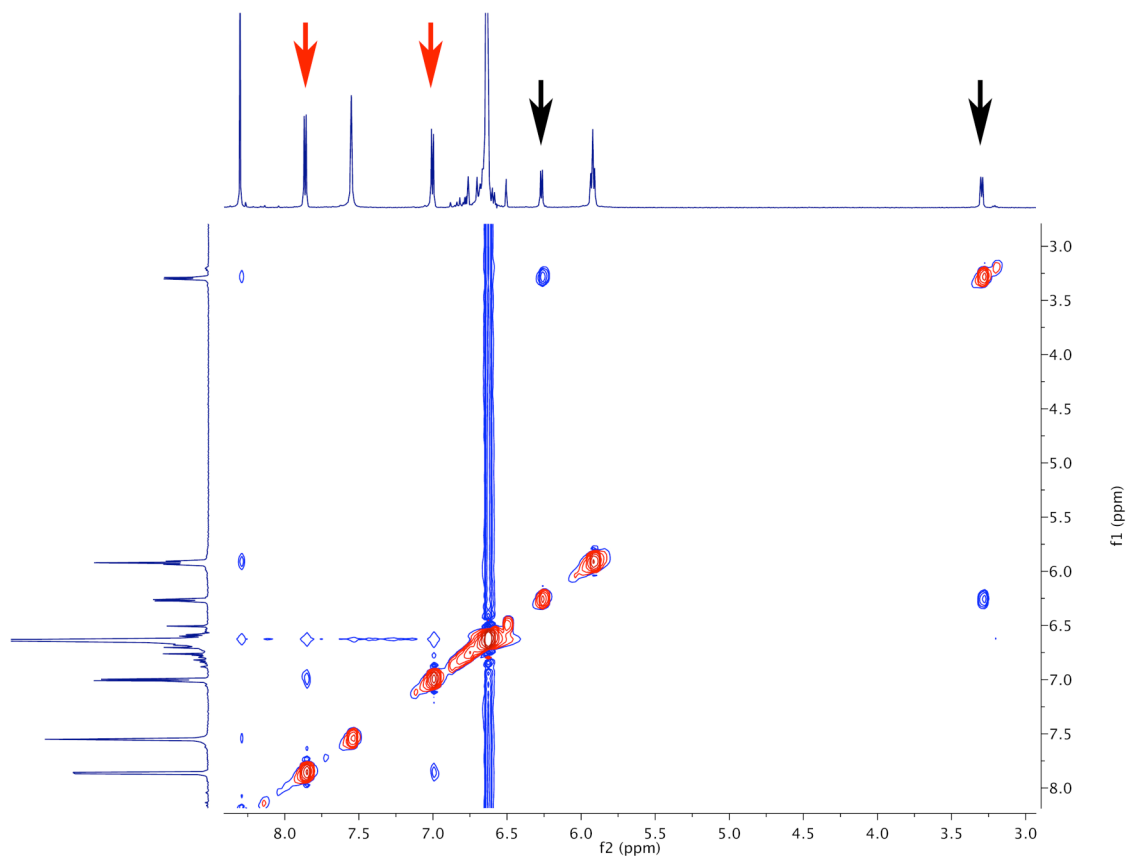


**Figure 4SI:** a) Light induced guest exchange of *trans-1* by *n*-tridecane in **2·2** (mesitylene- $d_{12}$ , 20 °C). Heating the sample restores the starting point. b) Indicative regions of the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra measured at 20 °C in mesitylene- $d_{12}$  are shown before irradiation (*trans-1* is the only guest) and after irradiation at 365 nm wavelength for 50 min at 20 °C (*n*-tridecane is the only guest). After heating the sample to 160 °C for 2 min, the initial state is completely restored. The cycle was repeated three times.

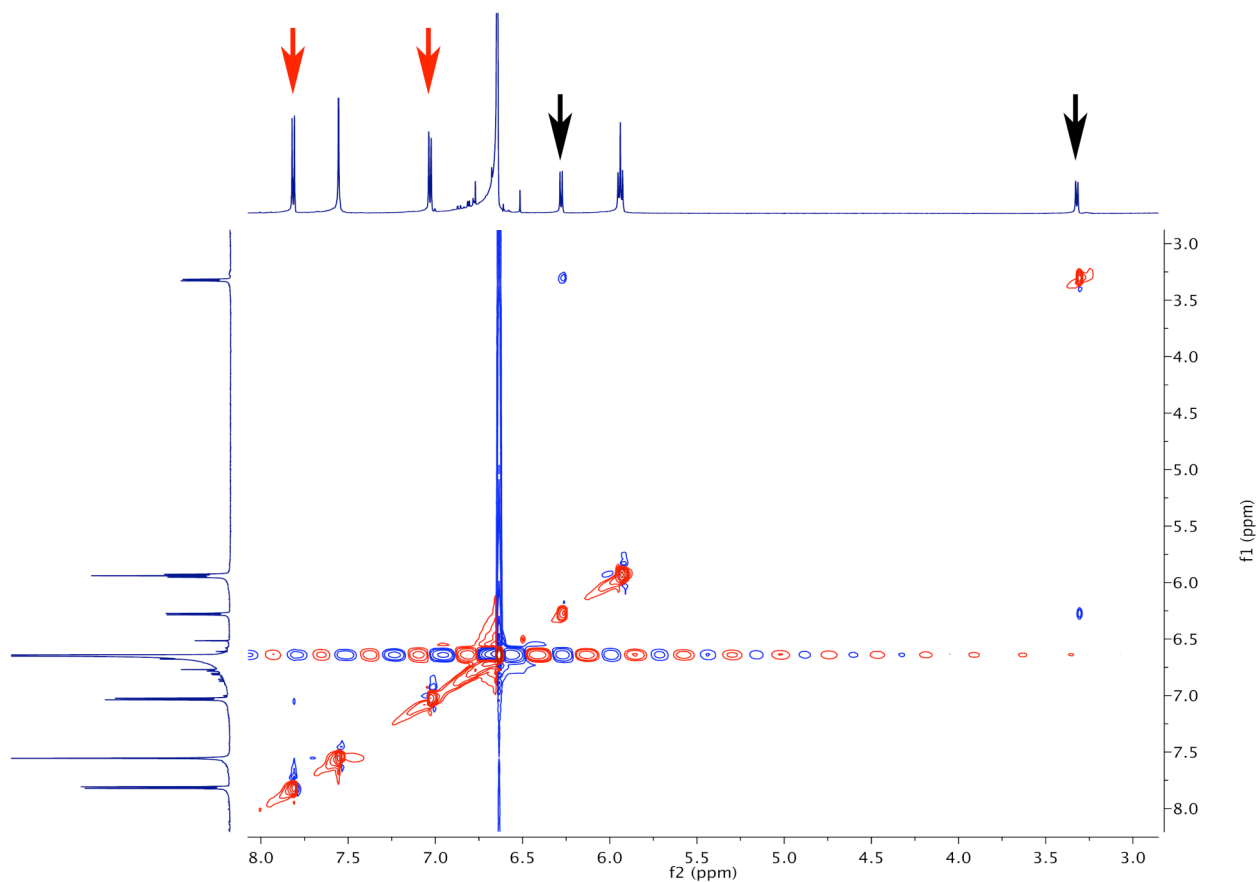




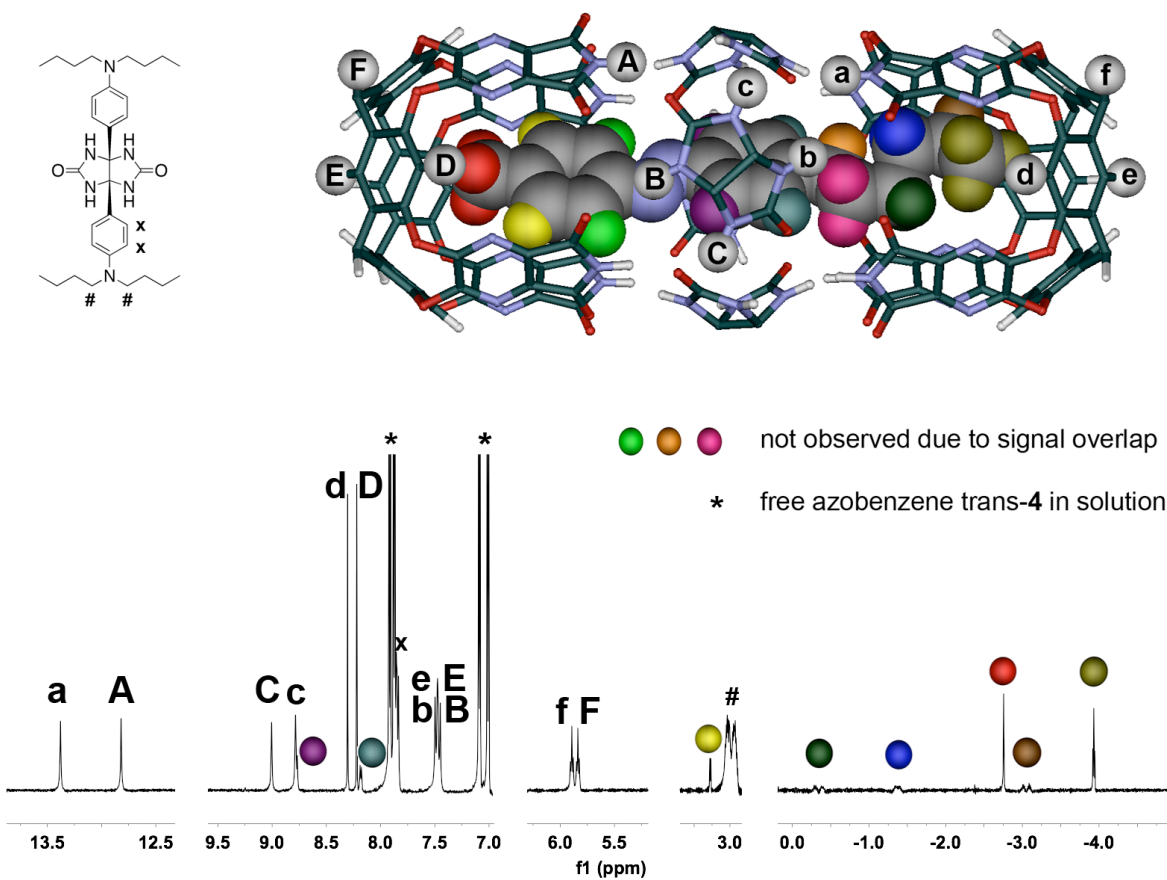
**Figure 5SI:** Light induced guest exchange of *trans-1* in 2·2 (mesitylene-*d*<sub>12</sub>, 20 °C) by a) 4,4'-dimethylbenzil; b) benzoic acid hydrogen bonded dimer; and c) benzamide hydrogen bonded dimer. Indicative sections of <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra are shown before irradiation (*trans-1* is the only guest) and after irradiation at 365 nm wavelength for 50 min at 20 °C. After heating the sample to 160 °C for 2 min, the starting point is restored completely. The cycle was repeated three times in each case.



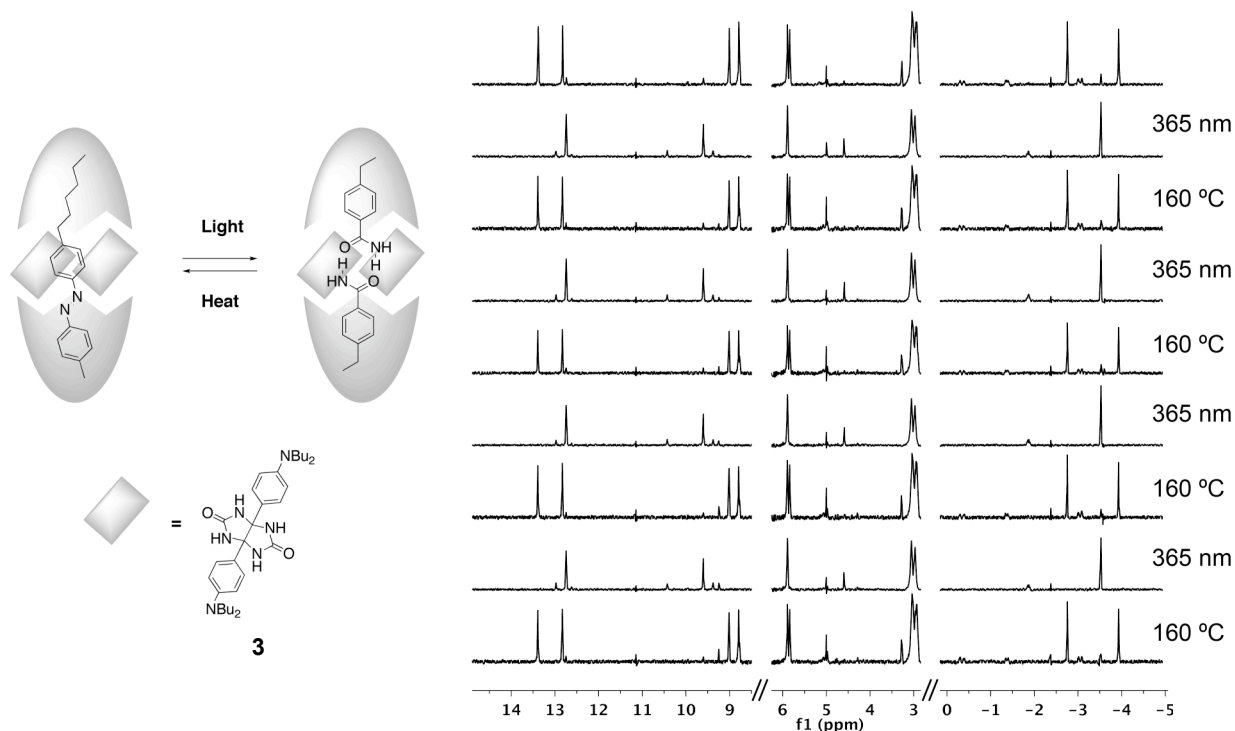
**Figure 6SI:** Partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ROESY spectrum (mesitylene- $d_{12}$ , 300 K, mixing time = 0.3 s,  $D_1$  = 1.5 s) of the host guest complex of *trans*-**1** and **2**·**2** in the presence of 1.5 equiv. *trans*-**1** free in solution. Red arrows assign the aromatic signals of free *trans*-**1** whereas black arrows assign the aromatic signals of encapsulated *trans*-**1**. No exchange signals between these signals can be observed as the guest exchange is slow.



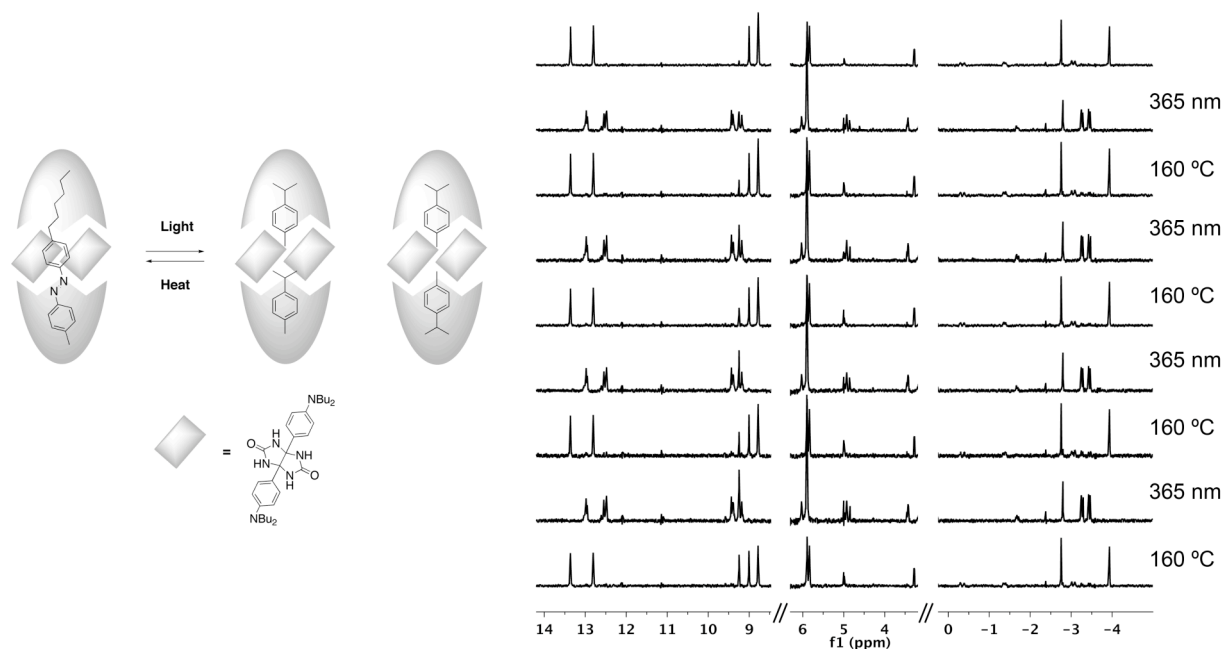
**Figure 7SI:** Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR ROESY spectrum (mesitylene-*d*<sub>12</sub>, 335 K, mixing time = 0.3 s, D1 = 1.5 s) of the host guest complex of *trans*-**1** and **2·2** in the presence of 1.5 equiv. *trans*-**1** free in solution in mesitylene-*d*<sub>12</sub> at 335 K. Red arrows assign the aromatic signals of free *trans*-**1** whereas black arrows assign the aromatic signals of encapsulated *trans*-**1**. No exchange signals between these signals can be observed as the guest exchange is slow.



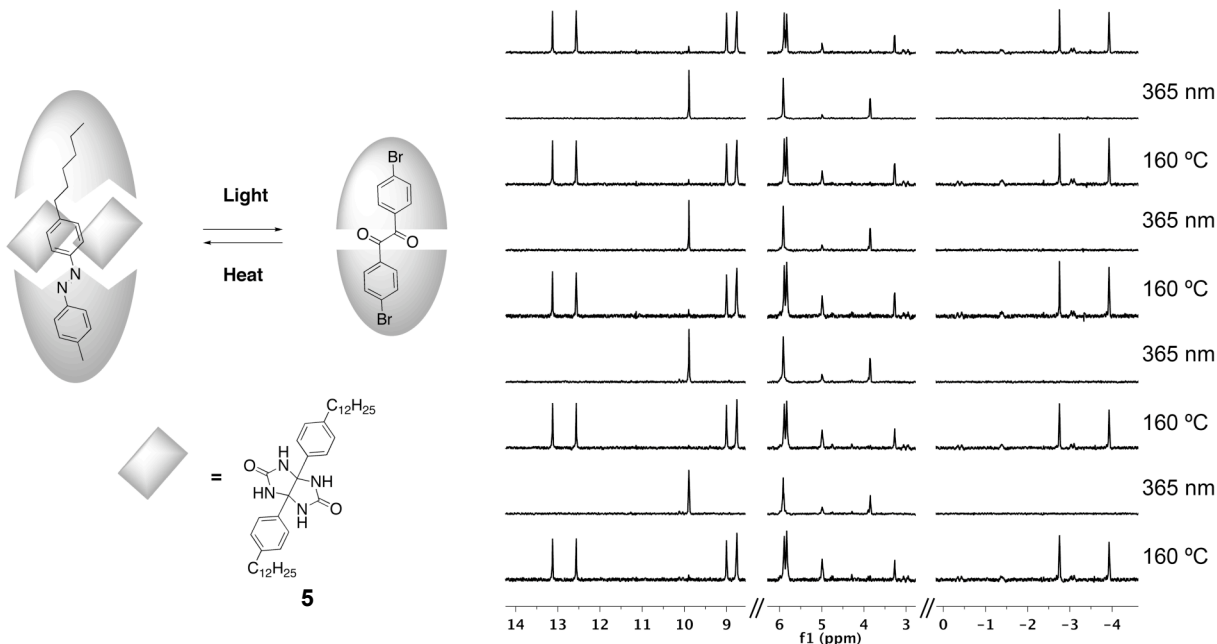
**Figure 8SI:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of *trans*-4 encapsulated in  $2\cdot 3_4\cdot 2$  (mesitylene- $d_{12}$ , 20 °C) and assignment of the signals to the structure.



**Figure 9SI:** Light induced guest exchange of *trans*-4 by 4-ethylbenzamide in 2·3<sub>4</sub>·2 (mesitylene-*d*<sub>12</sub>, 20 °C). The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum is shown before irradiation (*trans*-4 is the only guest, top spectrum) and after irradiation at 365 nm wavelength for 50 min at 20 °C (the homodimer of 4-ethylbenzamide is the only guest). After heating the sample to 160 °C for 2 min, the starting point is completely restored. This cycle was repeated three times.



**Figure 10SI:** Light induced guest exchange of *trans*-4 in  $2 \cdot 3_4 \cdot 2$  (mesitylene- $d_{12}$ , 20 °C) by *p*-cymene. The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum is shown before irradiation (*trans*-4 is the only guest) and after irradiation at 365 nm wavelength for 50 min at 20 °C (two molecules of *p*-cymene are encapsulated in two different orientations). After heating the sample to 160 °C for 2 min, the starting point is completely restored. This cycle was repeated three times.



**Figure 11SI:** Light induced guest exchange with concomitant change of assembly (mesitylene- $d_{12}$ , 20 °C). The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum is shown before irradiation (*trans-4* is the guest in the extended assembly  $2 \cdot 5_4 \cdot 2$ ) and after irradiation at 365 nm wavelength for 50 min at 20 °C (4,4'-dibromobenzil is the guest in the capsule  $2 \cdot 2$ ). After heating the sample to 160 °C for 2 min, the starting point is completely restored. This cycle was repeated three times.

## References

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- [3] R. Dabrowski, K. Kenig, Z. Raszewski, J. Kedzierski, K. Sadowska, *Mol. Cryst. Liq. Cryst.* **1980**, *61*, 61–78.
- [4] D. Ajami, J. Rebek Jr., *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2006**, *128*, 5314–5315.