Supporting Information

for

Halogenated volatiles from the fungus

Geniculosporium and the actinomycete

Streptomyces chartreusis

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Synthetic procedures, characterization data, mass spectra of all isomers of chlorodimethoxybenzene and dichlorodimethoxybenzene and ¹H, ¹³C, and DEPT spectra of all synthetic compounds

Synthetic procedures

General methods: Chemicals were purchased from Acros Organics (Geel, Belgium) or Sigma Aldrich Chemie GmbH (Steinheim, Germany). All non-aqueous reactions were performed under an inert atmosphere (N_2) in flame-dried flasks. Solvents were purified by distillation and dried according to standard methods. For general procedures, relative quantities of reagents are given in equivalents (equiv), and the amounts of solvents are indicated by the final concentrations of the starting material (set to 1.0 equiv). Thin-layer chromatography was performed with 0.2 mm precoated plastic sheets Polygram[®] Sil G/UV254 (Machery-Nagel). Column chromatography was carried out using Merck silica gel 60 (70-200 mesh). ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker DRX-400 (400 MHz) and AV III-400 (400 MHz) spectrometers, and were referenced against TMS ($\delta = 0.00$ ppm) for ¹H NMR and CDCl₃ (δ = 77.01 ppm) for ¹³C NMR. NMR data of all commercially available and synthetic chlorodimethoxybenzenes 4a-4f and dichlorodimethoxybenzenes 10a-10k are listed in Tables 2 and 3 (main text). ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, and DEPT spectra of synthetic compounds are shown in Figures S3–S53. UV spectra were obtained using a Varian Cary 100 Bio, and IR spectra were recorded with a Bruker Tensor 27 ATR.

General procedure for the methylation of phenols: Similar to the procedure by An et al. [1], to a solution of the catechol (13), resorcinol (8 or 14), or hydroquinone (crude 16, cf. below, or 18) (1.0 equiv) in acetone (0.1 M), potassium carbonate (5.0 equiv) was added and the mixture was stirred for 10 min. Methyl iodide (2.6 equiv) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred under reflux for 16 h. After cooling to room temperature water was added and the mixture was extracted three times with diethyl ether. The combined organic extracts were dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford the pure compounds 4c (from 8), 10b (from 13), 10h (from 14), 10i (from crude 16), and 10k (from 18).

2-Chloro-1,3-dimethoxybenzene (**4c**): Pale yellow solid (76 mg, 0.44 mmol, 88%). TLC (hexane/ethyl acetate 10:1) $R_{\rm f}$ 0.38; IR (ATR) \tilde{v} 3011 (w), 2966 (w), 2947 (w), 2840 (w), 1594 (m), 1472 (m), 1435 (m), 1299 (m), 1253 (m), 1191 (w), 1174 (w), 1099 (m), 1053 (m), 1025 (m), 849 (w), 764 (m), 709 (m), 654 (m), 597 (m); UV–vis λ_{max} (log ϵ) 280 (3.08), 274 (3.10), 230 (3.79) nm.

1,5-Dichloro-2,3-dimethoxybenzene (**10b**): Colourless solid (50 mg, 0.24 mmol, 80%). TLC (hexane/ethyl acetate 10:1) $R_{\rm f}$ 0.55; IR (ATR) \tilde{v} 3089 cm⁻¹ (w), 3005 (w), 2967 (w), 2939 (w), 2831 (w), 1572 (m), 1480 (m), 1425 (m), 1399 (m), 1292 (m), 1263 (m), 1229 (m), 1171 (m), 1102 (m), 1043 (m), 999 (m), 895 (m), 830 (m), 760 (m), 718 (m), 589 (m); UV-vis (CH₂Cl₂) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 286 (3.22), 280 (3.20), 231 (3.83) nm.

1,5-Dichloro-2,4-dimethoxybenzene (**10h**): Pale yellow solid (49 mg, 0.24 mmol, 80%). TLC (hexane/ethyl acetate 10:1) R_f 0.37; IR (ATR) \tilde{v} 2976 (w), 2946 (w), 2879 (w), 2847 (w), 1575 (m), 1494 (m), 1470 (m), 1455 (m), 1428 (m), 1373 (m), 1294

(m), 1231 (m), 1207 (m), 1172 (m), 1087 (m), 1055 (m), 1020 (m), 860 (m), 803 (m), 741 (m), 579 (m) cm⁻¹; UV–vis (CH₂Cl₂) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 292 (3.59), 233 (3.89) nm.

2,3-Dichloro-1,4-dimethoxybenzene (**10i**): Pale yellow solid (1.03 g, 5.0 mmol, 13% over two steps from **15**). TLC (hexane/ethyl acetate 10:1) $R_{\rm f}$ 0.42; IR (ATR) \tilde{v} 3094 (w), 2967 (w), 2946 (w), 2914 (w), 2873 (w), 2840 (w), 1591 (w), 1570 (w), 1479 (m), 1457 (m), 1406 (w), 1303 (w),1262 (m), 1192 (w), 1116 (w), 1038 (s), 900 (w), 790 (s), 711 (w), 608 (m) cm⁻¹; UV–vis (CH₂Cl₂) $\lambda_{\rm max}$ (log ε) 296 (3.59), 229 (3.76) nm.

1,3-Dichloro-2,5-dimethoxybenzene (**10k**): Colourless solid (49 mg, 0.24 mmol, 48%). TLC (hexane/ethyl acetate 10:1) $R_{\rm f}$ 0.56; IR (ATR) \tilde{v} 3087 (w), 2992 (w), 2949 (w), 2903 (w), 2835 (w), 1704 (w), 1663(w), 1610 (m), 1594 (m), 1559 (m), 1480 (s), 1420 (m), 1403 (m), 1306 (m), 1257 (m), 1222 (s), 1175 (m), 1074 (m), 1042 (s), 984 (s), 909 (w), 909 (m), 850 (m), 831 (m), 804 (s), 761 (s), 717 (m), 606 (m) cm⁻¹; UV-vis (CH₂Cl₂) λ_{max} (log ε) 292 (3.56), 287 (3.45), 230 (3.78) nm.

1-Chloro-2,3-dimethoxybenzene (4a): To a solution of veratrole (5) (1.38 g, 1.00 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry ether (2.00 mL), 1.6 м n-butyllithium in hexane (1.25 mL) was added slowly and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 48 h [2]. The resulting solution of (2,3-dimethoxyphenyl)lithium was diluted with dry diethyl ether (12 mL), triethylamine (101 mg, 1.00 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added, and the mixture was further stirred for 10 min. Trifluoromethanesulfonyl chloride (169 mg, 1.00 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added dropwise to the mixture [3]. After stirring at room temperature for 1 h, the reaction was guenched by the addition of water. The aqueous phase was extracted three times with diethyl ether. The combined extracts were dried over MgSO₄, concentrated in vacuo and purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford 1-chloro-2.3-dimethoxybenzene (4a, 80 mg, 0.47 mmol, 47%) as a pale yellow oil. TLC (hexane/ethyl acetate 10:1) $R_{\rm f}$ 0.40; IR (ATR) \tilde{v} 3003 (w), 2936 (w), 2835 (w), 1582 (w), 1481 (m), 1460 (m), 1427 (m), 1295 (w), 1263 (m), 1237 (m), 1173 (w), 2253 (w), 1079 (w), 1041 (s), 1001 (s), 855 (m), 799 (w), 771 (m), 736 (m), 654 (w), 556 (w) cm⁻¹; UV-vis (CH₂Cl₂) λ_{max} (log ε) 280 (3.15), 273 (3.17), 231 (3.55) nm.

4-Chloro-1,2-dimethoxybenzene (4b): To a cooled solution (0 °C) of 3,4dimethoxyaniline (**6**) (3.10 g, 20.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in 6 M HCl (30 mL) was added a 2.5 M solution of NaNO₂ (1.40 g, 20.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in H₂O (8 mL), resulting in solution A. In a separate flask CuSO₄ (5.80 g, 26.7 mmol, 1.3 equiv) was dissolved in H₂O (25 mL) and NaCl (2.30 g, 40.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv) was added. To this solution was added Na₂SO₃ (1.70 g, 13.4 mmol, 0.7 equiv) in H₂O (6 mL). The precipitate was filtered off, washed with H₂O, dissolved in concentrated HCl (11 mL) and cooled to 0 °C. Solution A was added dropwise and the mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature, followed by 30 min at 100 °C. After cooling to room temperature the mixture was extracted three times with EtOAc. The combined extracts were dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel yielding **4b** (2.10 g, 12.20 mmol, 61%) as colourless oil. TLC (hexane/ethyl acetate 10:1) R_f 0.22; IR (ATR) \tilde{v} 3003 (w), 2956 (w), 2908 (w), 1591 (m), 1500 (s), 1441 (m), 1402 (w), 1252 (s), 1226 (s), 1177 (m), 1131 (m), 1022 (s), 873 (m), 838 (m), 797 (m), 763 (m), 643 (m) cm⁻¹; UV-vis (CH₂Cl₂) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 283 (3.47), 235 (3.91) nm.

General procedure for ipso-substitutions of chlorobenzenes to methoxybenzenes: According to the method of Testaferri et al. [4], sodium methoxide (4.0 equiv) was added to a stirred solution of the tetrachlorobenzene **11** or **12** (1.0 equiv) in hexamethylphosphoramide (0.3 M). The reaction mixture was stirred at 120 °C for 3 h and then cooled to room temperature. At this stage the mixture contains some minor amounts of phenols that are subsequently methylated by the addition of methyl iodide (1.5 equiv). The mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature and then poured into 2 M HCI. The aqueous phase was extracted three times with diethyl ether. The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated in vacuo. Column chromatography on silica gel yielded the target compounds 10a, 10c, and 10e (from 11), and 10f and 10g (from 12).

1,2-Dichloro-3,4-dimethoxybenzene (**10a**), **1,4-dichloro-2,3-dimethoxybenzene** (**10c**), and **1,3-dichloro-2,4-dimethoxybenzene** (**10e**): The crude product contained mainly monosubstitution products, but small amounts of disubstitution products could be isolated by rigorous purification via column chromatography. The yields were: **10a** (40 mg, 0.19 mmol, 4%, pale yellow oil), **10c** (100 mg, 0.48 mmol, 10%, colourless solid), and **10e** (40 mg, 0.19 mmol, 4%, colourless oil).

10a: TLC (hexane/ethyl acetate 5:1) $R_{\rm f}$ 0.25; IR (ATR) \tilde{v} 3005 (w), 2939 (w), 2840 (w), 1579 (w), 1474 (m), 1431 (m), 1400 (m), 1291 (m), 1262 (m), 1169 (w), 1140 (w), 1043 (m), 1007 (m), 889 (w), 834 (m), 796 (m), 752 (w), 672 (m), 644 (w), 598 (w) cm⁻¹; UV-vis (CH₂Cl₂) λ_{max} (log ε) 288 (3.23), 283 (3.22), 230 (3.84).

10c: TLC (hexane/ethyl acetate 5:1) $R_{\rm f}$ 0.47; IR (ATR) \tilde{v} 3003 (w), 2973 (w), 2941 (w), 2876 (w), 1579 (w), 1459 (m), 1430 (m), 1403 (m), 1239 (m), 1152 (w), 1128 (m), 1004 (s), 865 (m), 797 (m), 645 (m), 627 (m) cm⁻¹; UV–vis (CH₂Cl₂) λ_{max} (log ε) 274 (2.60), 231 (3.87) nm.

10e: TLC (hexane/ethyl acetate 5:1) $R_{\rm f}$ 0.56; IR (ATR) \tilde{v} 3007 (w), 2968 (w), 2941 (w), 2873 (w), 2840 (w), 1579 (w), 1466 (m), 1433 (m), 1402 (m), 1294 (m), 1270 (w), 1227 (m), 1151 (w), 1081 (s), 1008 (m), 914 (m), 794 (s), 750 (m), 686 (m), 644 (w), 576 (w) cm⁻¹; UV-vis (CH₂Cl₂) λ_{max} (log ε) 288 (3.22), 283 (3.21), 230 (3.84).

2,5-Dichloro-1,3-dimethoxybenzene(10f)and1,2-dichloro-3,5-dimethoxybenzene(10g):The yields were:10f(120 mg, 0.58 mmol, 29%,colourless solid) and 10g(72 mg, 0.35 mmol, 17%, colourless solid).

10f: TLC (hexane/ethyl acetate 10:1) $R_{\rm f}$ 0.27; IR (ATR) \tilde{v} 3092 (w), 3032 (w), 2976 (w), 2942 (w), 2909 (w), 2839 (w), 1590 (m), 1567 (m), 1459 (m), 1439 (m), 1404 (m), 1315 (m), 1296 (m), 1230 (m), 1119 (m), 1061 (m), 914 (m), 869 (m), 820 (m), 669 (s), 633 (m), 582 (m) cm⁻¹; UV–vis (CH₂Cl₂) λ_{max} (log ε) 276 (3.01), 231 (3.90) nm.

10g: TLC (hexane/ethyl acetate 10:1) $R_{\rm f}$ 0.45; IR (ATR) \tilde{v} 3092 (w), 2983 (w), 2954 (w), 2939 (w), 2837 (w), 1594 (m), 1569 (m), 1463 (m), 1429 (m), 1410 (m), 1323 (m), 1274 (m), 1214 (m), 1185 (m), 1159 (m), 1095 (m), 1030 (m), 933 (m), 857 (m), 825 (m), 782 (m), 697 (s), 658 (m), 639 (m), 621 (m); UV-vis (CH₂Cl₂) λ_{max} (log ε) 289 (3.42), 229 (3.91) nm.

2-Chloro-1,4-dimethoxybenzene (4f): Following the procedure of Kajigaeshi et al. [5], a solution of 1,4-dimethoxybenzene (**9**, 414 mg, 3.00 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ was treated with Bn(Me)₃N⁺ICl₄⁻ (1.30 g, 3.00 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and stirred overnight at room temperature. The reaction mixture was diluted with H₂O and extracted three times with EtOAc. The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel yielding **4f** (174 mg, 1.00 mmol, 34%) as yellow oil. TLC (hexane/ethyl acetate 20:1) *R*_f 0.31; IR (ATR) \tilde{v} 3003 (w), 2948 (w), 2836 (w), 1581 (w), 1496 (s), 1461 (m), 1438 (m), 1271 (m), 1213 (s), 1180 (m), 1039 (s), 882 (m), 797 (m), 735 (s) cm⁻¹; UV–vis (CH₂Cl₂) λ_{max} (log ε) 294 (3.56), 230 (3.78) nm.

General procedure for the bis-chlorination of dimethoxybenzenes: A solution of the dimethoxybenzene **5** or **9** (1.0 equiv) in acetic acid (0.3 M) was treated with $Bn(Me)_3N^+ICl_4^-$ (2.0 equiv) [5]. The mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature, diluted with H₂O, and extracted three times with EtOAc. The combined extracts were dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to yield **10d** (from **5**) and **10j** (from **9**).

1,2-Dichloro-4,5-dimethoxybenzene (**10d**): Pale yellow oil (466 mg, 2.25 mmol, 45%). TLC (hexane/ethyl acetate 10:1) R_f 0.39; IR (ATR) \tilde{v} 3004 (w), 2966 (w), 2906 (w), 2839 (w), 1594 (m), 1503 (s), 1432 (s), 1362 (m), 1337 (m), 1253 (s), 1210 (s), 1178 (s), 1131 (s), 1025 (s), 919 (s), 838 (s), 793 (s), 676 (s) cm⁻¹; UV–vis (CH₂Cl₂) λ_{max} (log ε) 290 (3.51), 235 (3.91) nm.

1,4-Dichloro-2,5-dimethoxybenzene (**10***j*): Colourless oil (118 mg, 0.57 mmol, 38%). TLC (hexane/ethyl acetate 20:1) $R_{\rm f}$ 0.30; IR (ATR) \tilde{v} 3029 (w), 2909 (w), 1501 (s), 1481 (m), 1439 (s), 1367 (m), 1279 (m), 1213 (s), 1187 (m), 1079 (s), 1025 (s), 858 (s), 775 (s) cm⁻¹; UV–vis (CH₂Cl₂) $\lambda_{\rm max}$ (log ε) 299 (3.69), 230 (3.90) nm.

2,3-Dichlorohydroquinone (16): To a solution of 1,4-benzoquinone (**15**, 4.32 g, 40.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry ether (35 mL), sulfuryl chloride (6.50 mL, 80.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv) was added and stirred for 16 h at room temperature. The mixture was cooled with ice and the dark brown precipitate was filtered off, washed with cold diethyl ether (10 mL), and dried in vacuo. A suspension of the obtained solid was treated with glacial AcOH (20 mL) and concentrated H_2SO_4 (2 mL). The mixture was stirred for 24 h at 60 °C and then poured on ice, followed by extraction (3×) with diethyl ether. The collected organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated to yield a brown solid (3.10 g) containing **16** (GC–MS) that was used in the methylation step (cf. above) without further purification.

2,6-Dichlorobenzene-1,4-diol (18): To a solution of 2,6-dichloro-*p*-benzoquinone (**17**, 1.00 g, 5.70 mmol) in ethyl acetate (20 mL), phosphate buffer (10 mL, 10 mmol Na₂HPO₄, 10 mmol KH₂PO₄, pH 7.0) and L-ascorbic acid (4.0 g) were added. The mixture was shaken in a separatory funnel for 5 min. The mixture was extracted three times with ethyl acetate, the combined extracts were dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated in vacuo to yield pure 2,6-dichlorobenzene-1,4-diol (**18**, 1.00 g, 5.60 mmol, 99%) as a colourless solid [6]. TLC (hexane/ethyl acetate 10:1) *R*_f 0.56. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.72 (s, 2H, 2 × CH), 4.86 (s, 2H, 2 × OH) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 151.9 (C_q), 143.5 (C_q), 123.9 (2 × C_q), 116.4 (2 × CH) ppm; IR (ATR) \tilde{v} 3384 cm⁻¹ (br), 3075 (w), 2517 (m), 2415 (m), 2077 (w), 1791 (m), 1746 (w), 1687 (w), 1614 (w), 1577 (m), 1477 (s), 1430 (m), 1344 (m), 1275 (w), 1213 (m), 1112 (m), 1095 (m), 971 (s), 947 (s), 844 (m), 803 (s), 700 (w), 599 (w) cm⁻¹; UV–vis (CH₂Cl₂) λ_{max} (log ε) 296 (3.58), 229 (3.49) nm. MS (EI, 70 eV) *m/z* (%) 178 (100) [M]⁺, 142 (12), 114 (59), 86 (41), 79 (44), 61 (16), 53 (48).

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Mass spectra of chlorodimethoxybenzenes and dichlorodimethoxybenzenes



Figure 1: Mass spectra of chlorodimethoxybenzenes 4a-4c.



Figure 1 (continued): Mass spectra of chlorodimethoxybenzenes 4d-4f.



Figure 2: Mass spectra of dichlorodimethoxybenzenes 10a–10c.



Figure 2 (continued): Mass spectra of dichlorodimethoxybenzenes 10d-10f.



Figure 2 (continued): Mass spectra of dichlorodimethoxybenzenes 10g-10i.

J) *I* = 1448



Figure 2 (continued): Mass spectra of dichlorodimethoxybenzenes 10j-10k.

NMR spectra of synthetic compounds



Figure 3: ¹H NMR spectrum of compound 4a.



Figure 4: ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound 4a.



Figure 5: ¹³C DEPT spectrum of compound 4a.



Figure 6: ¹H NMR spectrum of compound 4b.



Figure 7: ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound 4b.





Figure 8: ¹³C DEPT spectrum of compound 4b.



Figure 9: ¹H NMR spectrum of compound 4c.



Figure 10: ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound **4c**.



Figure 11: ¹³C DEPT spectrum of compound 4c.



Figure 12: ¹H NMR spectrum of compound 4d.



Figure 13: ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound 4d.



Figure 14: ¹³C DEPT spectrum of compound 4d.



Figure 15: ¹H NMR spectrum of compound 4e.



Figure 16: ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound 4e.



Figure 17: ¹³C DEPT spectrum of compound 4e.



Figure 18: ¹H NMR spectrum of compound 4f.



Figure 19: ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound 4f.



Figure 20: ¹³C DEPT spectrum of compound 4f.



Figure 21: ¹H NMR spectrum of compound 10a.



Figure 22: ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound **10a**.



Figure 23: ¹³C DEPT spectrum of compound **10a**.



Figure 24: ¹H NMR spectrum of compound **10b**.



Figure 25: ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound **10b**.



Figure 26: ¹³C DEPTspectrum of compound **10b**.



Figure 27: ¹H NMR spectrum of compound **10c**.



Figure 28: ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound **10c**.



Figure 29: ¹³C DEPT spectrum of compound **10c**.



Figure 30: ¹H NMR spectrum of compound 10d.



Figure 31: ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound **10d**.



120 110 100 f1 (ppm)

Figure 32: ¹³C DEPT spectrum of compound **10d**.



Figure 33: ¹H NMR spectrum of compound **10e**.



Figure 34: ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound **10e**.



Figure 35: ¹³C DEPT spectrum of compound **10e**.



Figure 36: ¹H NMR spectrum of compound 10f.



Figure 37: ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound **10f**.



Figure 38: ¹³C DEPT spectrum of compound **10f**.



Figure 39: ¹H NMR spectrum of compound **10g**.



Figure 40: ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound **10g**.



Figure 41: ¹³C DEPT spectrum of compound **10g**.



Figure 42: ¹H NMR spectrum of compound 10h.



Figure 43: ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound **10h**.



Figure 44: ¹³C DEPT spectrum of compound **10h**.



Figure 45: ¹H NMR spectrum of compound **10i**.



Figure 46: ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound **10***i*.



Figure 47: ¹³C DEPT spectrum of compound **10***i*.



Figure 48: ¹H NMR spectrum of compound 10j.



Figure 49: ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound **10**j.





Figure 50: ¹³C DEPT spectrum of compound **10**j.



Figure 51: ¹H NMR spectrum of compound 10k.



Figure 52: ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound **10a**.



Figure 53: ¹³C DEPT spectrum of compound **10k**.



Figure 54: ¹H NMR spectrum of compound 18.



Figure 55: ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound **18**.



Figure 56: ¹³C DEPT spectrum of compound 18.