

## *Supporting Information*

# **Protonation activates anion binding and alters binding selectivity in new inherently fluorescent 2,6-bis(2-anilinoethyl)pyridine bisureas**

**Calden N. Carroll, Orion B. Berryman, Charles A. Johnson II, Lev N. Zakharov,  
Michael M. Haley\* and Darren W. Johnson\***

*Department of Chemistry and the Material Science Institute, 1253 University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon 97403-1253 USA*

[haley@uoregon.edu](mailto:haley@uoregon.edu), [dwj@uoregon.edu](mailto:dwj@uoregon.edu)

## **Table of Contents**

General Details	.....	S2
Synthetic Details	.....	S2
NMR Titration Conditions	.....	S8
Binding Constant Fits	.....	S8
UV Titration Conditions	.....	S15
Binding Constant Fits	.....	S15
DFT Details	.....	S21

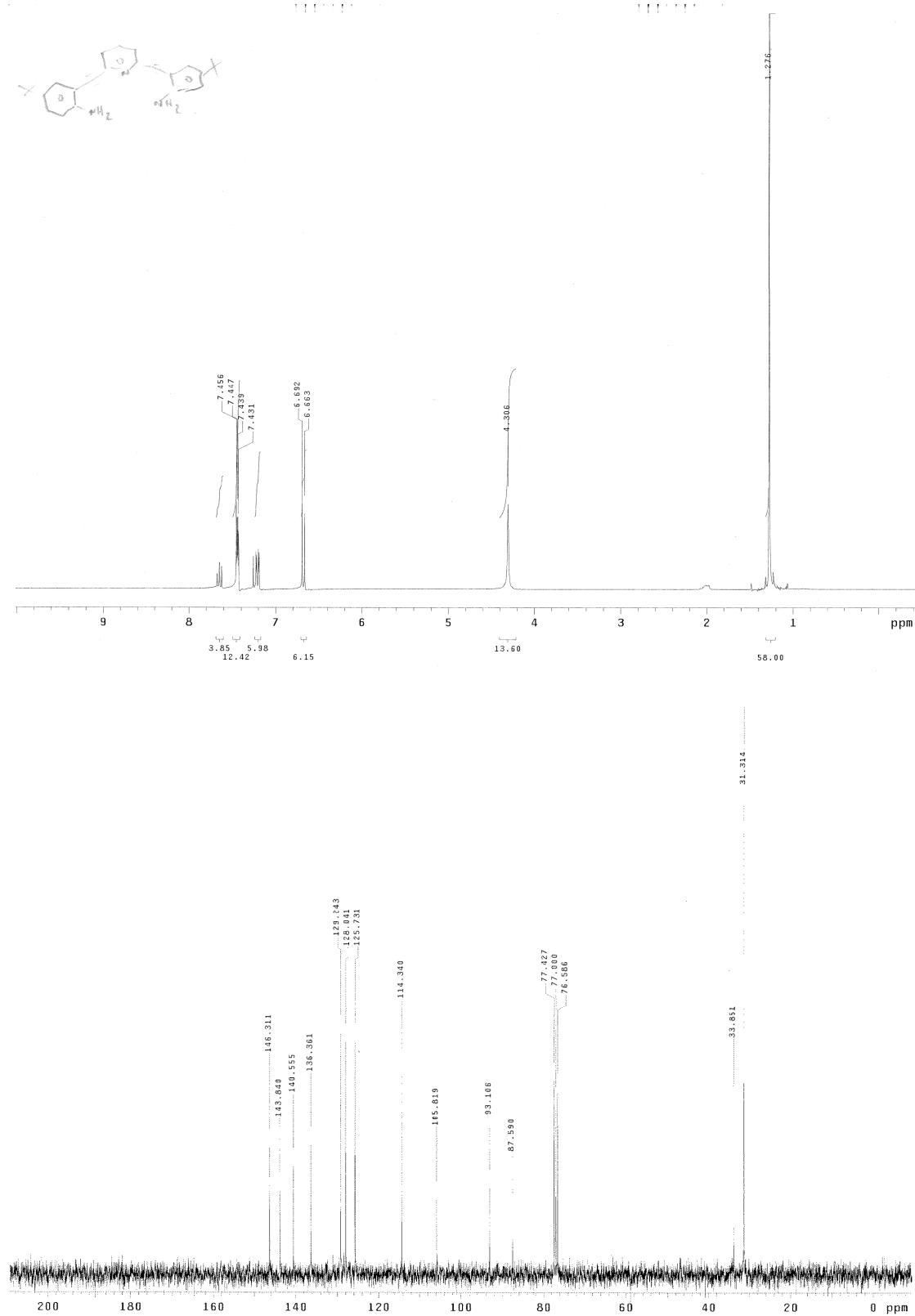
## General Details

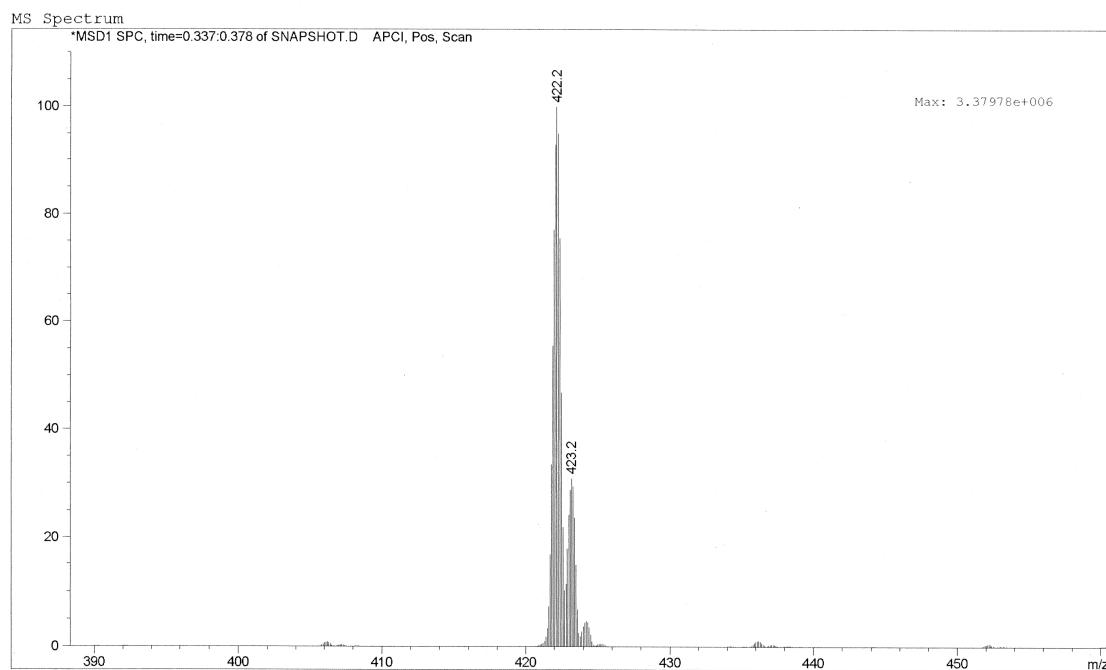
<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were obtained on a Varian 300 MHz spectrometer (<sup>1</sup>H 299.95 Hz, <sup>13</sup>C 75.43 Hz) or Inova 500 MHz spectrometer (<sup>1</sup>H 500.10 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C 125.75 MHz). Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are expressed in ppm downfield from tetramethylsilane (TMS) using non-deuterated solvent present in the bulk deuterated solvent (CDCl<sub>3</sub>: <sup>1</sup>H 7.26 ppm, <sup>13</sup>C 77.0 ppm; THF-d<sub>8</sub>: <sup>1</sup>H 3.58 ppm <sup>13</sup>C 67.57 ppm). Unless otherwise specified, solvents were obtained from distillation using published literature procedures directly before use. X-ray crystal data were obtained on a Bruker AXIS CCD diffractometer.

## Synthesis

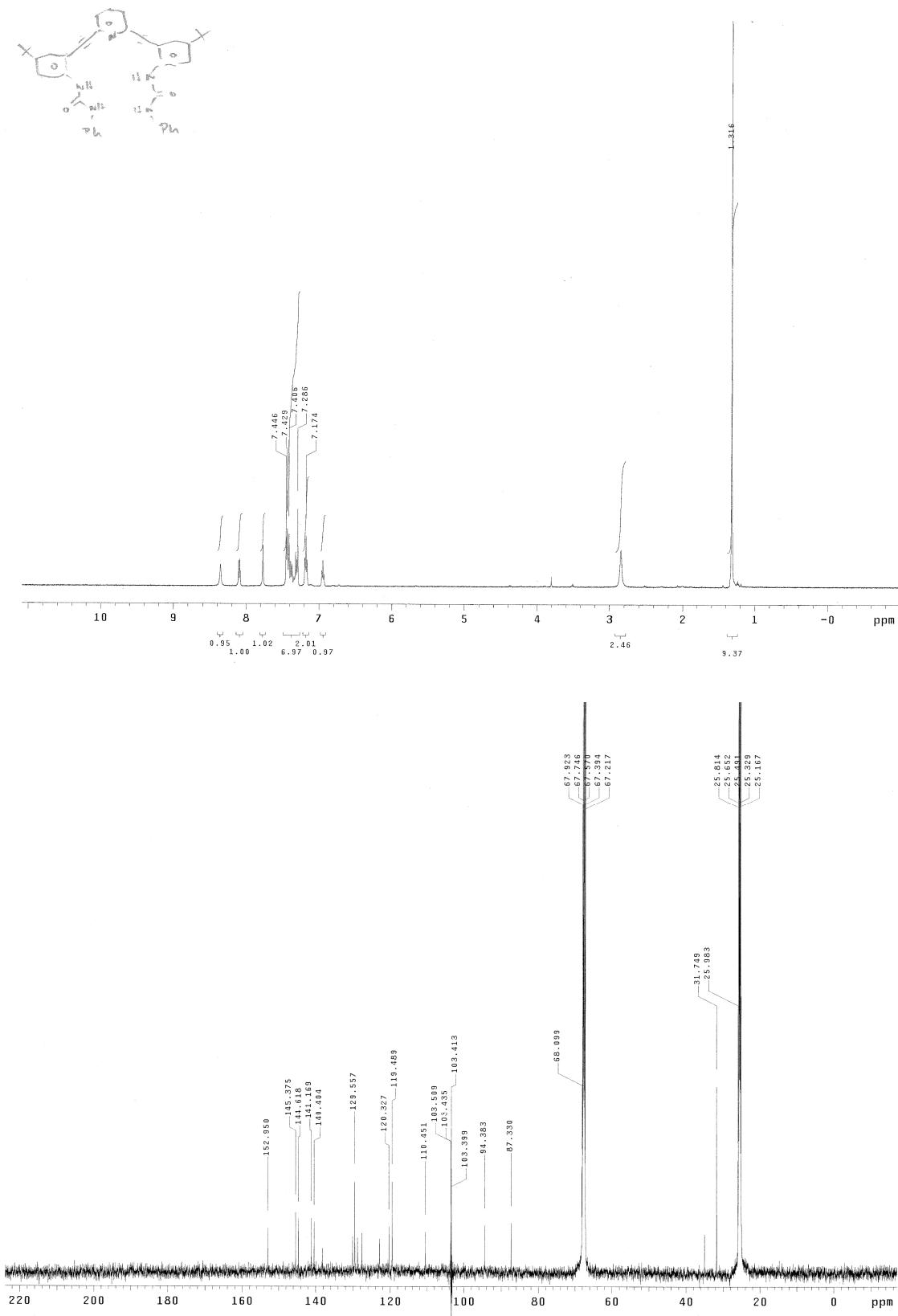
**General Procedure for Sonogashira Cross-Coupling.** To an Ar purged solution of haloarene in 1:1 freshly distilled THF/*i*-Pr<sub>2</sub>NH (50 mM w.r.t. haloarene) was added CuI (0.05 equiv) and Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (0.03 equiv). To this solution was added alkyne (1.05 equiv) in minimal THF dropwise with stirring over 4-8 h. Upon complete addition the reaction was stirred an additional 3-4 h and then concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was taken up in Et<sub>2</sub>O and filtered through a 2.5 cm Celite pad. The remaining salts were washed thrice with Et<sub>2</sub>O and the organics combined, concentrated and purified by silica gel column chromatography.

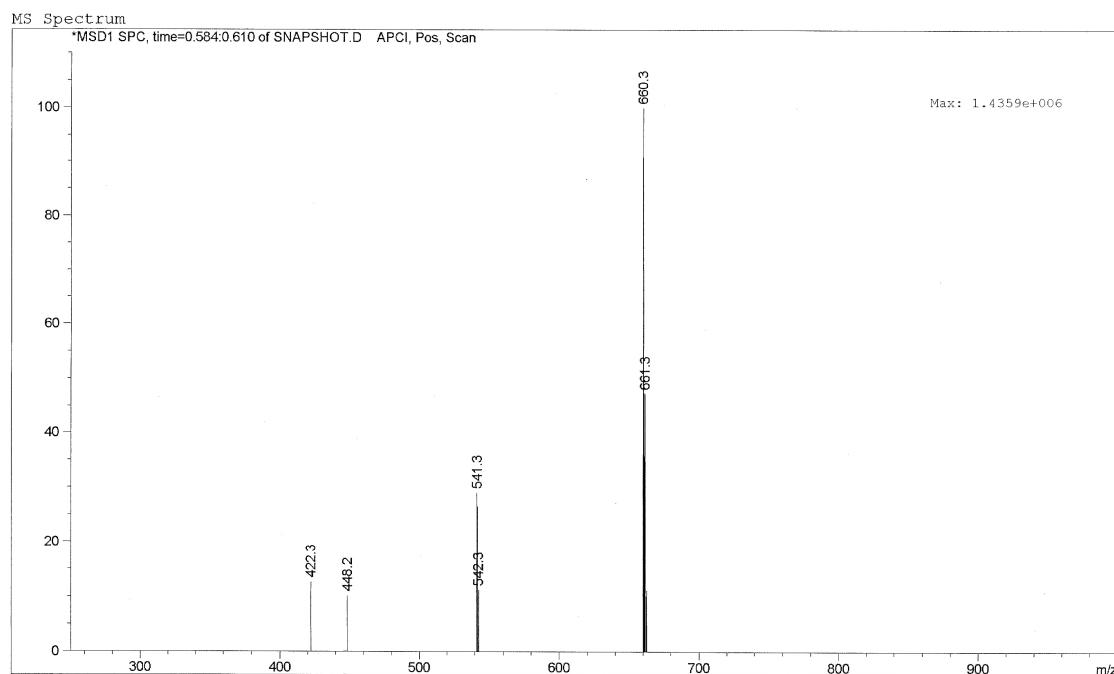
**Dianiline 1.** Iodoaniline **3** was reacted with TMSA according to the General Procedure for Sonogashira Cross-Coupling. After purification by column chromatography, a suspension of TMS-protected ethynylarene (227 mg, 0.92 mmol) and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (6 equiv) in MeOH (30 mL) and Et<sub>2</sub>O (15 mL) was stirred at rt and monitored by TLC until completion (15-20 min). The solution was diluted with Et<sub>2</sub>O and washed thrice with water and brine. The organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated *in vacuo*. Without further purification, the residue was taken up in THF (15 mL) and reacted with 2,6-dibromopyridine (96 mg, 0.40 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (4.7 mg, 0.04 mmol) and CuI (1.5 mg, 0.08 mmol) according to the General Procedure. The product was purified by column chromatography (3:2 hexanes/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) to afford **1** (135 mg, 81%) as a pale yellow crystalline solid. Mp: 226 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.64 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.43 (m, 4H), 7.20 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 1.8 Hz, 2H), 6.67 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 4.35 (br s, 4H), 1.27 (s, 18H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  146.31, 143.84, 140.56, 136.36, 129.24, 128.04, 125.73, 114.34, 105.82, 93.11, 87.59, 33.85, 31.31. MS (APCI) *m/e* 422.2 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100).



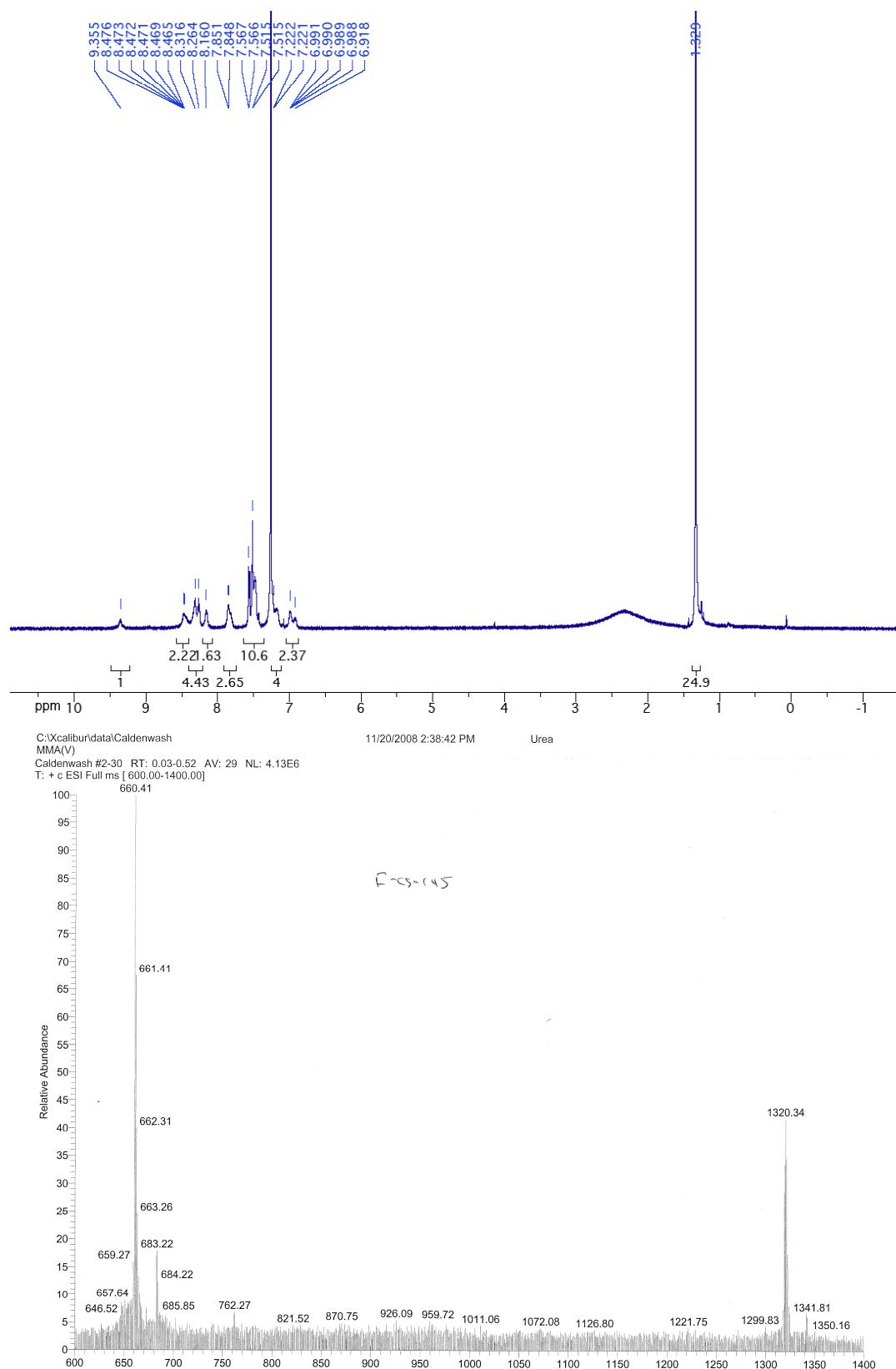


**Phenylurea **2a**.** All glassware was flame-dried before use. Dianiline **1** (800 mg, 1.9 mmol) was reacted with phenyl isocyanate (3 equiv) in 10 mL toluene with stirring for 3 h under N<sub>2</sub>. Following concentration *in vacuo*, the crude product was filtered through a short silica plug (2:1 hexanes/CHCl<sub>3</sub>). Trituration with Et<sub>2</sub>O afforded **2a** (1.15 g, 92%) as a fluffy white powder. Mp: 212–215 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.32 (br s, 2H), 8.07 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 2H), 7.74 (br s, 2H), 7.47–7.28 (m, 11H), 7.15 (t, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 4H), 6.92 (t, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 2H), 1.29 (s, 18H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 152.95, 145.38, 144.62, 141.17, 140.40, 138.15, 10.11, 129.56, 128.78, 127.65, 122.94, 120.33, 114.49, 110.45, 94.38, 87.33, 35.01, 31.75. MS (APCI) *m/e* 660.3 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100).





**Phenylurea **2a**•TFA** Freebase phenylurea **2a** (200 mg, 30.3 mmol) was dissolved in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (15 mL) and a solution of trifluoroacetic acid in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (5 mL, 1.5 M) was added. The bright yellow solution was evaporated to ~10 mL, and pentane was added to precipitate the product as a bright orange, amorphous solid. Recrystallization from CHCl<sub>3</sub>/pentane yields an orange, crystalline solid. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 9.35 (br s, 1H), 8.47 (br s, 2H), 8.31 (br s, 2H), 8.26 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.15 (br s, 1H), 7.85 (br m, 2H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.56-7.47 (m, 8H), 7.17 (br m, 2H), 6.98 (br s, 1H), 6.91 (br s, 1H), 1.32 (s, 18H).



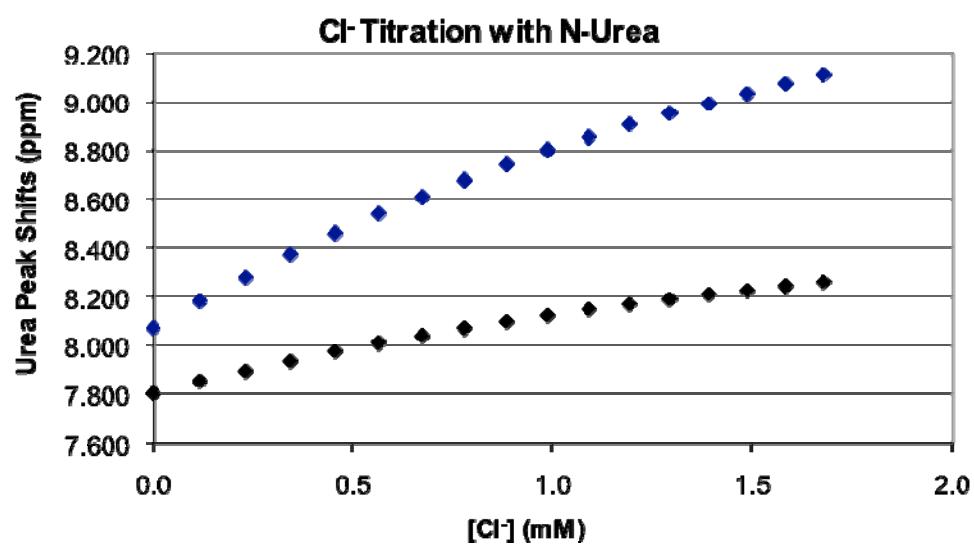
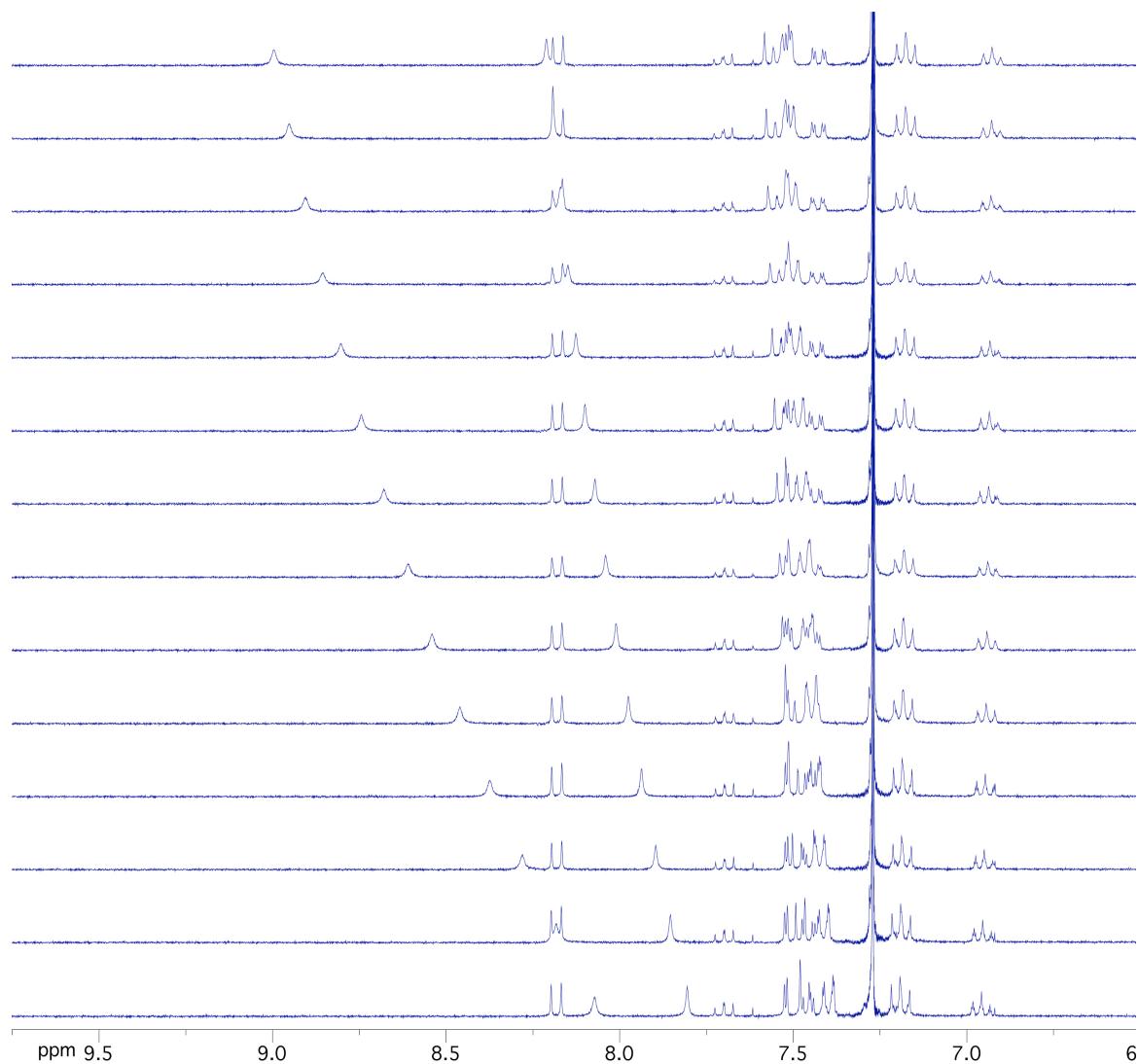
## Titration Details

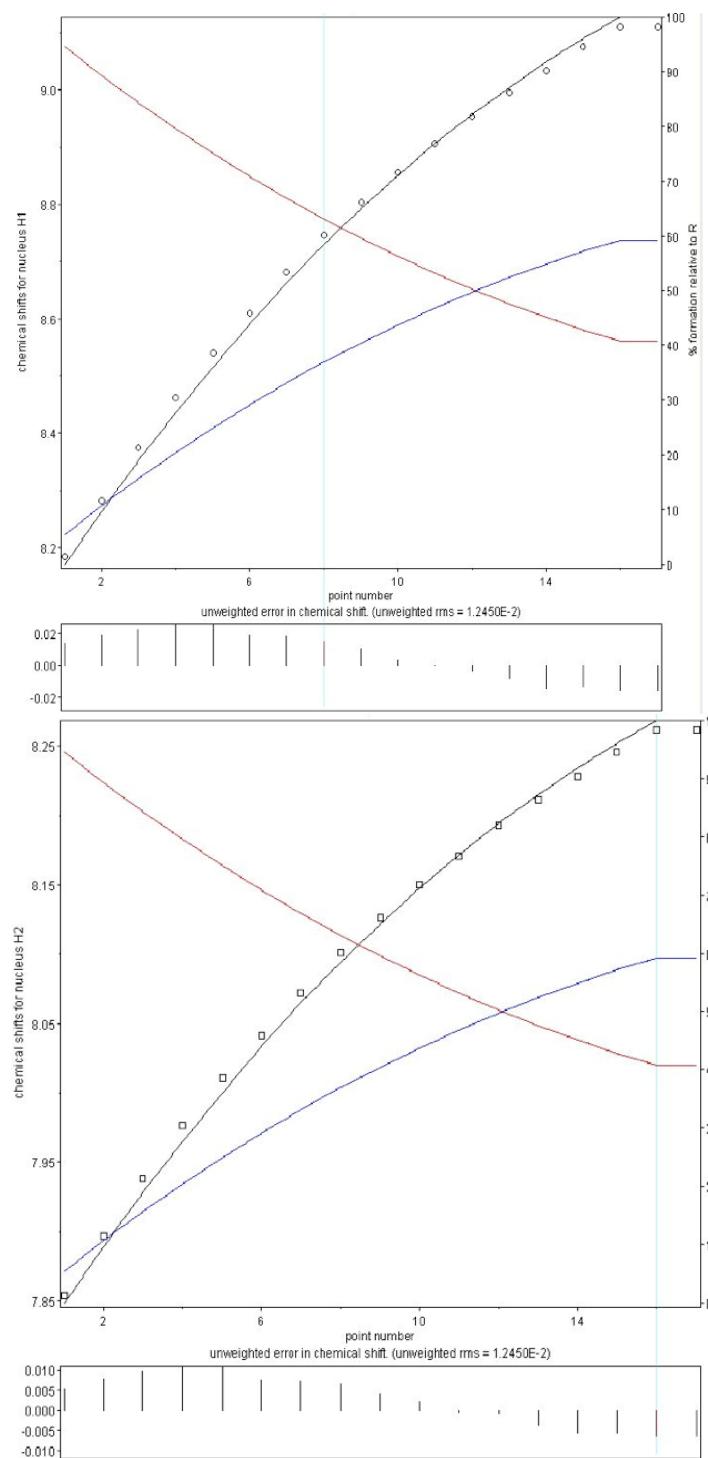
In all titrations care was taken to keep the receptor concentration constant during the titration. A stock solution of receptor was prepared and the guest serial dilution was prepared with the stock receptor solution. Receptor concentration was thus kept constant while titrating in the guest solution to avoid concentration effects on the urea N–H proton chemical shifts and provide clean isosbestic points in the UV spectra. All additions were done through septa with a Hamilton gas-tight syringe. Titrations were carried out in triplicate and the reported binding constants represent the average of the fits from three titrations. Representative data are provided for each set.

**NMR Titration Conditions.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titrations were carried out on an Inova 500 MHz spectrometer ( $^1\text{H}$  500.10 MHz). Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are expressed in ppm downfield from tetramethylsilane (TMS) using non-deuterated solvent present in the bulk deuterated solvent ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ :  $^1\text{H}$  7.26 ppm).  $\text{CDCl}_3$  was passed over activated alumina and saturated with deionized water (1:1 v/v  $\text{CDCl}_3$  and water were mixed in a separatory funnel and the organic layer was collected). Tetrabutylammonium salts were used as purchased from TCI America.

**Tetrabutylammonium chloride.** A 10 mL stock solution of **2a** (12.60 mg, [R]=1.60 mM) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  was prepared and used in the dilution of TBACl guest solution (9.11 mg, [G]=16.40 mM). Starting volume of 700  $\mu\text{L}$ .

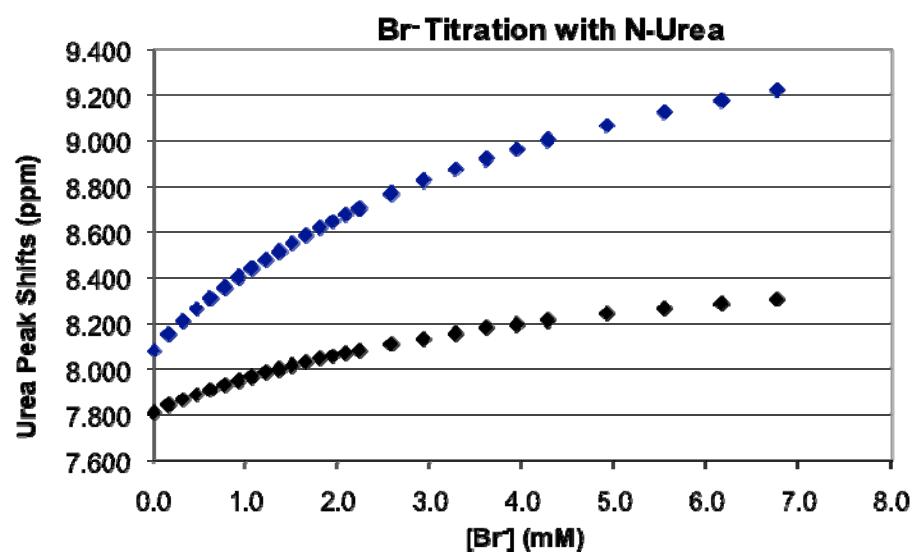
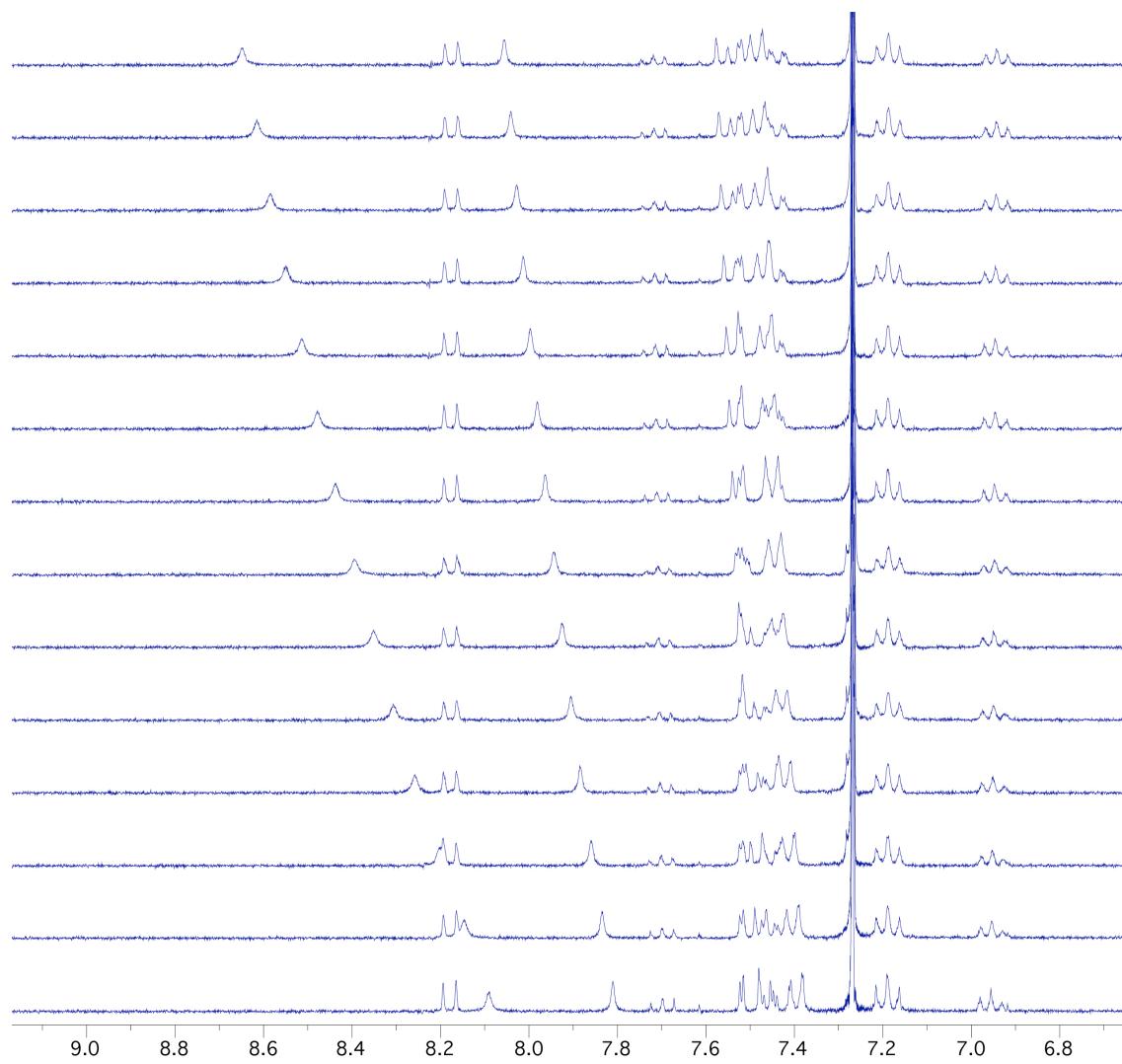
Addition (uL)	Volume of Anion (uL)	[TBACl]	Equivalents	s	s
0	0	0.00E+000	0	8.073	7.806
5	5	1.16E-004	0.07254619	8.184	7.854
5	10	2.31E-004	0.144070602	8.282	7.897
5	15	3.43E-004	0.214594673	8.374	7.938
5	20	4.55E-004	0.284139243	8.461	7.976
5	25	5.65E-004	0.352724577	8.541	8.011
5	30	6.73E-004	0.420370387	8.610	8.041
5	35	7.80E-004	0.487095845	8.681	8.072
5	40	8.85E-004	0.552919608	8.745	8.101
5	45	9.89E-004	0.61785983	8.803	8.126
5	50	1.09E-003	0.681934183	8.855	8.150
5	55	1.19E-003	0.745159869	8.907	8.171
5	60	1.29E-003	0.807553638	8.953	8.193
5	65	1.39E-003	0.869131802	8.996	8.211
5	70	1.49E-003	0.92991025	9.034	8.228
5	75	1.58E-003	0.989904459	9.075	8.246
5	80	1.68E-003	1.049129512	9.111	8.262

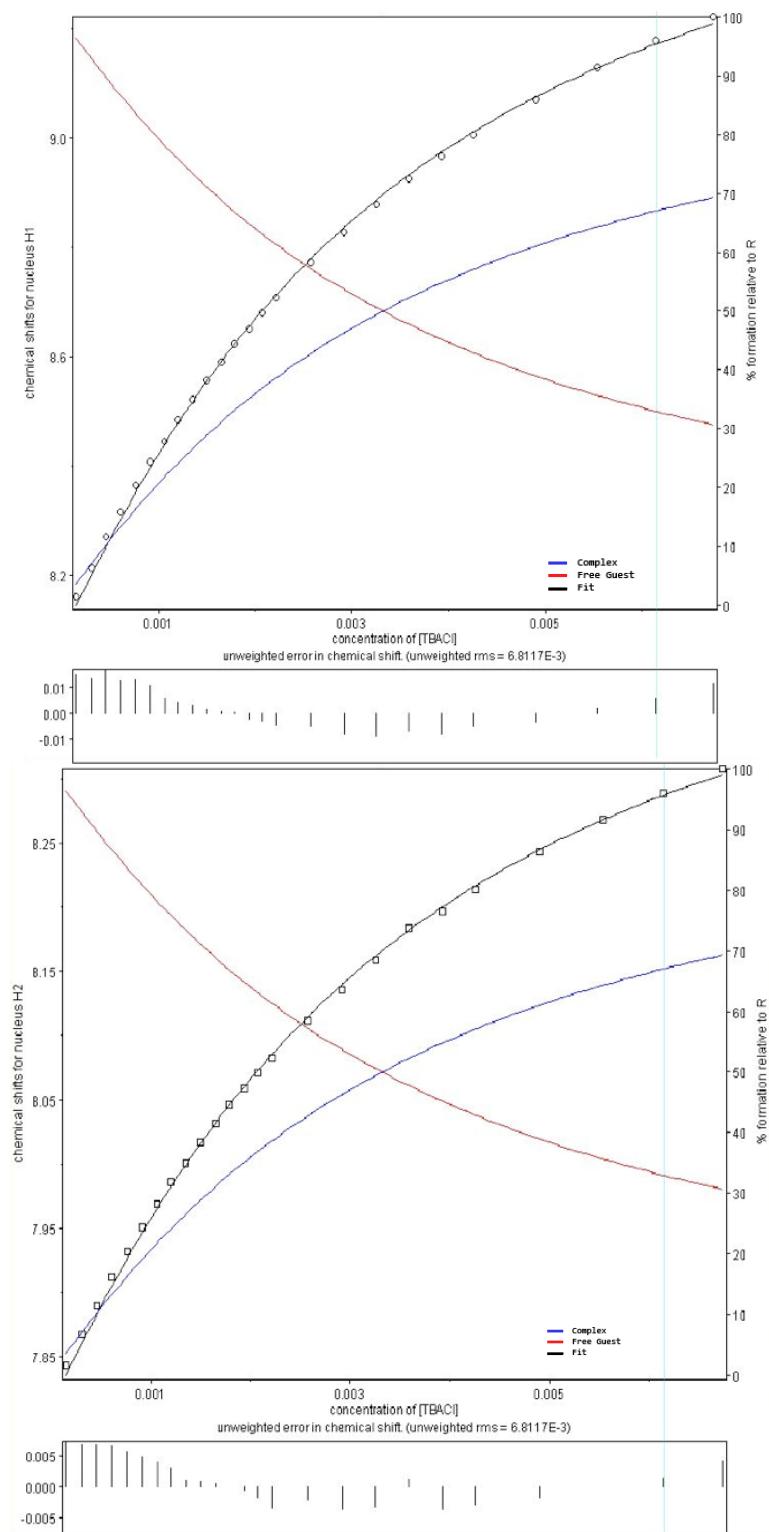




**Tetrabutylammonium bromide.** A 10 mL stock solution of **2a** (10.90 mg, [R]=1.38 mM) in CDCl<sub>3</sub> was prepared and used in the dilution of TBABr guest solution (34.8 mg, [G]=54.00 mM). Starting volume of 700  $\mu$ L.

Addition (uL)	Volume of Anion (uL)	[TBABr]	Equivalents	s	s
0	0	0.00E+000	0.000	8.086	7.810
2	2	1.54E-004	0.111	8.160	7.843
2	4	3.07E-004	0.221	8.214	7.867
2	6	4.59E-004	0.331	8.270	7.890
2	8	6.10E-004	0.440	8.316	7.912
2	10	7.60E-004	0.549	8.364	7.932
2	12	9.10E-004	0.657	8.407	7.951
2	14	1.06E-003	0.764	8.445	7.969
2	16	1.21E-003	0.871	8.484	7.986
2	18	1.35E-003	0.977	8.522	8.001
2	20	1.50E-003	1.083	8.557	8.017
2	22	1.64E-003	1.188	8.591	8.032
2	24	1.79E-003	1.292	8.624	8.046
2	26	1.93E-003	1.396	8.652	8.059
2	28	2.08E-003	1.499	8.681	8.071
2	30	2.22E-003	1.602	8.708	8.082
5	35	2.57E-003	1.856	8.773	8.112
5	40	2.92E-003	2.107	8.828	8.136
5	45	3.26E-003	2.354	8.879	8.159
5	50	3.60E-003	2.598	8.927	8.184
5	55	3.93E-003	2.839	8.967	8.197
5	60	4.26E-003	3.077	9.007	8.214
10	70	4.91E-003	3.543	9.072	8.243
10	80	5.53E-003	3.997	9.131	8.268
10	90	6.15E-003	4.440	9.179	8.289
10	100	6.75E-003	4.872	9.222	8.308





**Tetrabutylammonium iodide.** A 10 mL stock solution of **2a** (11.60 mg, [R]=1.47 mM) in CDCl<sub>3</sub> was prepared and used in the dilution of TBAI guest solution (36.3 mg, [G]=54.00 mM). Starting volume of 700 μL. Titration to 2 equiv with 5 μL aliquots showed no shift in the N-H protons from the initial spectrum. Plotting N-H chemical shifts vs [TBAI] yielded flat isotherms. No binding was measurable.

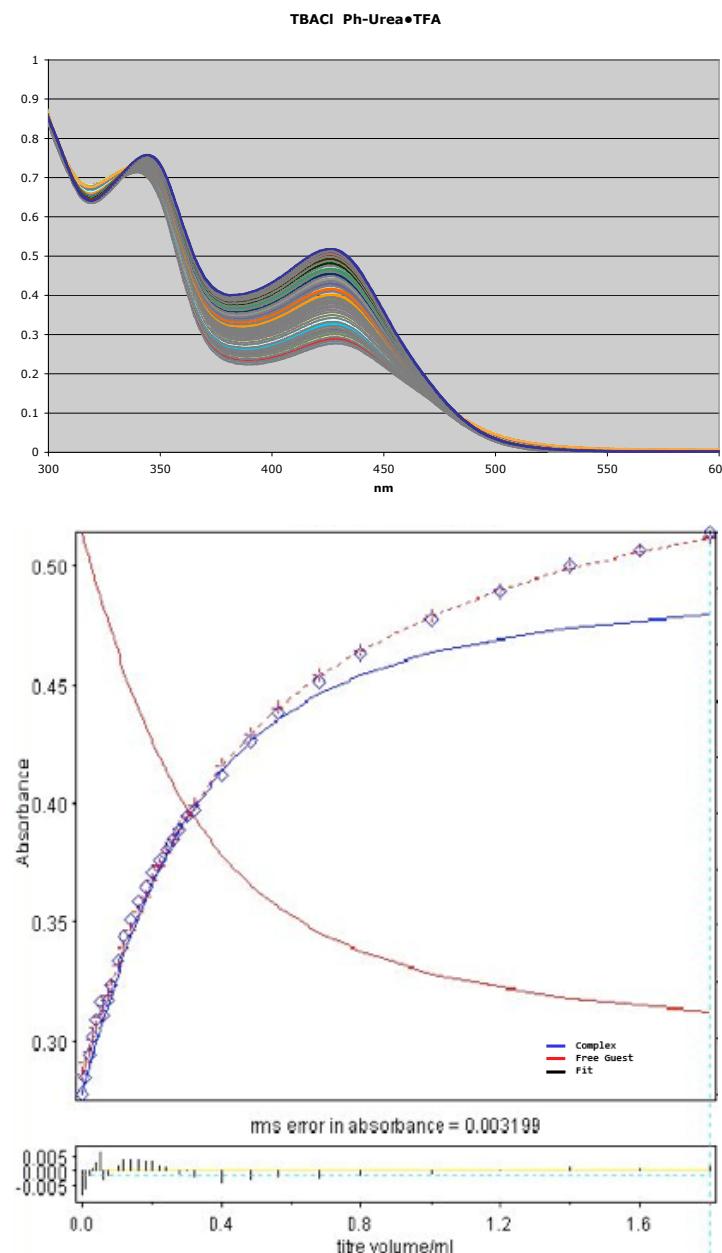
## UV-Vis Titration Conditions

UV-Vis titrations held the receptor concentration constant as in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR titrations. Spectroscopically pure CH<sub>3</sub>CN was passed over basic alumina, dried over 4 Å molecular sieves, and used immediately. Tetrabutylammonium salts were purchased from TCI America and purified by recrystallization and heating above the melting point *in vacuo* or by sublimation.

**Tetrabutylammonium chloride.** A 10 mL stock solution of **2a•TFA** (6.01 mg, 7.77 μmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN was prepared and used in the dilution of TBACl guest solution (5.02 mg, 18.00 μmol). Serial dilution to [Host]= 6.00 x 10<sup>-5</sup>; [Guest]= 4.00 x 10<sup>-4</sup>. Host starting volume of 2 mL.

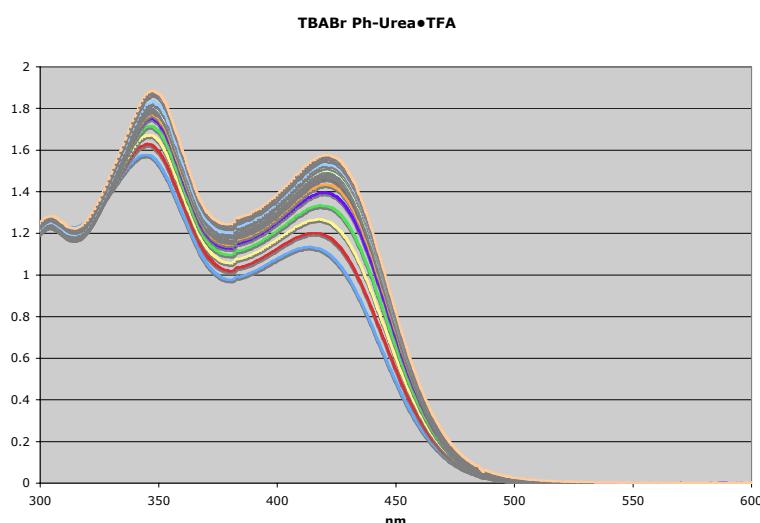
Additions	Total TBACl (mL)	mol Cl- Delivered	[Cl] Cuvett
0	0	0	0
1	0.01	4.00E-06	2.00E-06
2	0.02	8.00E-06	4.00E-06
3	0.03	1.20E-05	6.00E-06
4	0.04	1.60E-05	8.00E-06
5	0.05	2.00E-05	1.00E-05
6	0.06	2.40E-05	1.20E-05
7	0.07	2.80E-05	1.40E-05
8	0.08	3.20E-05	1.60E-05
9	0.09	3.60E-05	1.80E-05
10	0.1	4.00E-05	2.00E-05
11	0.11	4.40E-05	2.20E-05
12	0.12	4.80E-05	2.40E-05
13	0.13	5.20E-05	2.60E-05
14	0.14	5.60E-05	2.80E-05
15	0.15	6.00E-05	3.00E-05
16	0.3	1.20E-04	6.00E-05
17	0.45	1.80E-04	9.00E-05
18	0.6	2.40E-04	1.20E-04
19	0.75	3.00E-04	1.50E-04

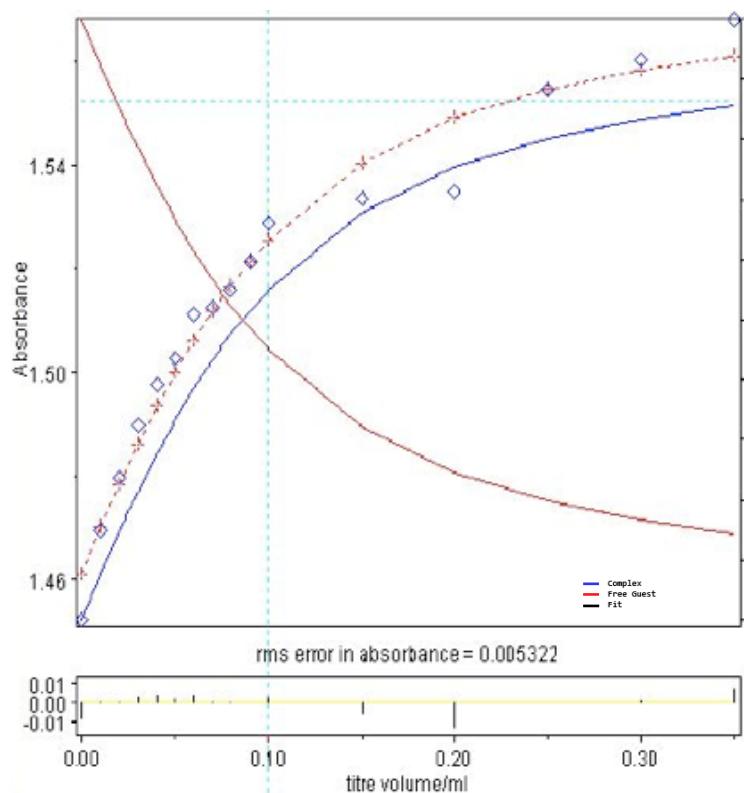
20	0.9	3.60E-04	1.80E-04
21	1.05	4.20E-04	2.10E-04
22	1.2	4.80E-04	2.40E-04
23	1.35	5.40E-04	2.70E-04
24	1.5	6.00E-04	3.00E-04
25	1.65	6.60E-04	3.30E-04



**Tetrabutylammonium bromide A** 10 mL stock solution of **2a•TFA** (6.01 mg, 7.77  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  was prepared and used in the dilution of TBABr guest solution (12.26 mg, 38.03  $\mu\text{mol}$ ). [Host] =  $8.20 \times 10^{-5}$ ; [Guest] =  $1.82 \times 10^{-3}$ . Host starting volume of 2.00 mL.

Additions	Total TBABr (mL)	mol Br- Delivered	[Br-] Cuvett
0	0	0	0
1	0.01	1.82E-05	9.10E-06
2	0.02	3.64E-05	1.82E-05
3	0.03	5.46E-05	2.73E-05
4	0.04	7.28E-05	3.64E-05
5	0.05	9.10E-05	4.55E-05
6	0.06	1.09E-04	5.46E-05
7	0.07	1.27E-04	6.37E-05
8	0.08	1.46E-04	7.28E-05
9	0.09	1.64E-04	8.19E-05
10	0.1	1.82E-04	9.10E-05
11	0.15	2.73E-04	1.37E-04
12	0.2	3.64E-04	1.82E-04
13	0.25	4.55E-04	2.28E-04
14	0.3	5.46E-04	2.73E-04
15	0.35	6.37E-04	3.19E-04

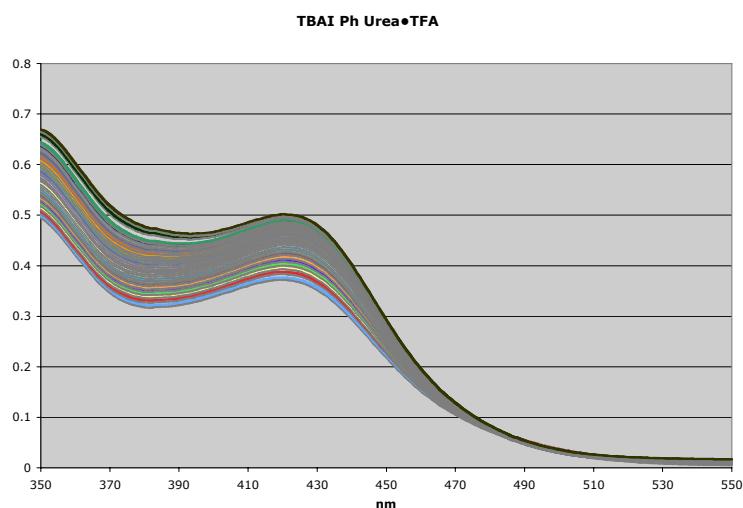


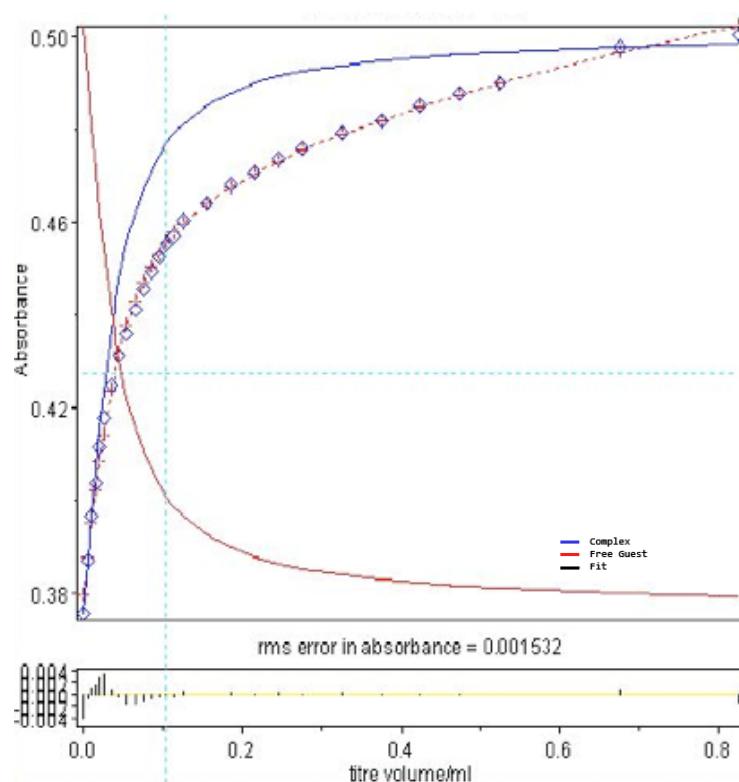


**Tetrabutylammonium iodide** A 10 mL stock solution of **2a•TFA** (3.95 mg, 5.11  $\mu$ mol) was prepared and used in the dilution of TBAI guest solution (10.65 mg, 1.98  $\mu$ mol). [Host]= 2.60  $\times$  10<sup>-5</sup>; [Guest]= 1.39  $\times$  10<sup>-3</sup>. Host starting volume of 2.00 mL.

Additions	Total X (mL)	mol X Delivered	[X] Cuvett
0	0	0	0
1	0.005	6.95E-06	3.48E-06
2	0.01	1.39E-05	6.95E-06
3	0.015	2.09E-05	1.04E-05
4	0.02	2.78E-05	1.39E-05
5	0.025	3.48E-05	1.74E-05
6	0.035	4.87E-05	2.43E-05
7	0.045	6.26E-05	3.13E-05
8	0.055	7.65E-05	3.82E-05
9	0.065	9.04E-05	4.52E-05
10	0.075	1.04E-04	5.21E-05
11	0.085	1.18E-04	5.91E-05
12	0.095	1.32E-04	6.60E-05
13	0.105	1.46E-04	7.30E-05
14	0.115	1.60E-04	7.99E-05

15	0.125	1.74E-04	8.69E-05
16	0.155	2.15E-04	1.08E-04
17	0.185	2.57E-04	1.29E-04
18	0.215	2.99E-04	1.49E-04
19	0.245	3.41E-04	1.70E-04
20	0.275	3.82E-04	1.91E-04
21	0.325	4.52E-04	2.26E-04
22	0.375	5.21E-04	2.61E-04
23	0.425	5.91E-04	2.95E-04
24	0.475	6.60E-04	3.30E-04
25	0.525	7.30E-04	3.65E-04
26	0.675	9.38E-04	4.69E-04
27	0.825	1.15E-03	5.73E-04





## DFT Details

B3LYP/6-31G = -2299.19660605 au	C	-2.71700800	2.57542600	-2.30684300			
B3LYP/6-31G Zero Point Corrected Energy = -	O	5.75511200	-0.16802600	-0.62097700			
2298.626895 au	N	3.83706300	-1.49226500	-0.68354800			
NIMAG = 0							
C	0.35263200	0.60728600	5.12140200	C	4.33310200	-2.66411700	-1.30434100
C	0.33553500	0.69053800	3.71895000	C	3.40521900	-3.69784300	-1.54216900
N	-0.71221500	0.11757500	3.04393000	C	3.81438600	-4.89157200	-2.13642200
C	-1.73773900	-0.55234600	3.66829700	C	5.15294300	-5.07932800	-2.50199800
C	-1.71217000	-0.66162900	5.07047700	C	6.07197700	-4.05157700	-2.26671200
C	-0.66972200	-0.07436400	5.78621900	C	5.67900700	-2.84702100	-1.67399100
C	1.35943000	1.32442700	2.98609000	C	-1.41817800	3.12071800	-2.30918800
C	-2.77565400	-1.06595700	2.87306100	C	-1.11210400	4.21388500	-3.11925900
C	2.31329700	1.86008000	2.43895000	C	-2.09368700	4.78222600	-3.94034800
C	-3.70952600	-1.45302000	2.18267500	C	-3.38204000	4.23751100	-3.93839600
C	3.43451600	2.48056000	1.83347800	C	-3.70635200	3.14188000	-3.13148400
C	-4.79245400	-1.80392500	1.34758000	H	-0.73893700	0.17049900	1.98455100
C	3.83157600	3.76120100	2.28914100	C	-0.27060800	-1.06002400	-1.64027800
C	4.94661400	4.39301400	1.75656200	F	0.68308000	-1.94645400	-2.10469400
C	5.68876800	3.73792600	0.76070200	F	-1.50486700	-1.68892000	-1.72433800
C	5.32520800	2.47739600	0.29396700	F	-0.29471100	0.02599500	-2.50996400
C	4.18834400	1.82090200	0.81198000	C	0.02228000	-0.58473900	-0.20661000
C	-4.95390600	-1.15541300	0.07934100	O	-0.95769700	0.03667700	0.36431500
C	-6.10078500	-1.45277100	-0.68456400	O	1.16843200	-0.80257300	0.26987300
C	-7.03364300	-2.37663300	-0.21944200	H	1.17481300	1.05900900	5.65900500
C	-6.86716400	-3.03527300	1.01138200	H	-2.51449500	-1.18997600	5.56696000
C	-5.75512500	-2.74441800	1.78802200	H	-0.65036400	-0.14962100	6.86767000
N	3.76966900	0.56361900	0.37209800	H	3.24175100	4.23945100	3.06374300
N	-3.96681800	-0.26255800	-0.33407500	H	5.23951600	5.37589000	2.10807500
C	4.54856000	-0.36386300	-0.34521400	H	6.56550600	4.21825000	0.33820900
C	-4.09896800	0.73676100	-1.31238200	H	5.91541700	1.97308200	-0.45531800
N	-2.94553800	1.47734100	-1.44378100	H	-6.24207200	-0.94282000	-1.62530300
O	-5.15476900	0.92654100	-1.95755000	H	-7.90356900	-2.59312700	-0.83110400

H	-7.60029800	-3.75722300	1.35271700	H	5.47131500	-6.00797600	-2.96446300
H	-5.60703200	-3.22680100	2.74811200	H	7.11280700	-4.18100700	-2.54794900
H	2.83271400	0.26353500	0.63494700	H	6.39044600	-2.05399100	-1.50012300
H	-3.05672100	-0.33965200	0.11370600	H	-0.64939100	2.67395500	-1.68619900
H	-2.14979900	1.18875200	-0.87974900	H	-0.10455900	4.61783700	-3.11090900
H	2.83881400	-1.48644100	-0.47831100	H	-1.85620400	5.63174100	-4.57225000
H	2.36460600	-3.55440500	-1.27153100	H	-4.15203900	4.66648700	-4.57242400
H	3.08385400	-5.67466100	-2.31501800	H	-4.70075000	2.72127100	-3.13554500