# An Al<sup>3+</sup> and H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>/HSO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> selective conformational arrest and bail to pyrimidine-naphthalene anchored molecular switch Ajit Kumar, Virendra Kumar and K. K. Upadhyay\*

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1. EXPERIMENTAL- PAGE 2-3
- 2. FIGURES AND CAPTIONS- PAGE 4-12
- 3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, IR and Mass spectrum of receptor 1- PAGE- 13-16

#### **1. EXPERIMENTAL**

#### 1.1 Apparatus:

The IR Spectra for the receptors **1** was recorded on JASCO-FTIR Spectrophotometer while <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra for the same were recorded on a JEOL AL 300 FT NMR Spectrometer. Mass spectrometric analysis was carried out on a MDS Sciex API 2000 LCMS spectrometer. Electronic spectra were recorded at room temperature (298 K) on a UV-1700 pharmaspec spectrophotometer with quartz cuvette (path length=1 cm). Emission spectra were recorded on Varian Cary Eclipse Fluorescence spectrophotometer/ JY HORIBA Fluorescence spectrophotometer.

#### **1.2 Materials:**

All reagents for synthesis were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich and were used without further purification.

#### **1.3 General Methods:**

All titration experiments were carried at room temperature. All the cations were used as their chloride salts while anions were used as their tetrabutyl ammonium (TBA) salts. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded by using tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal reference standard. For the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of receptor **1**,  $5x10^{-3}$  M solutions was prepared in DMSOd<sub>6</sub> while the stock solution of Al<sup>3+</sup> and HSO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> was prepared in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>:D<sub>2</sub>O (95:5, v/v). For fluorescence titration experiment the solution of cations were prepared in aqueous medium. Due to insufficient solubility of receptor **1** in pure water its stock solution of 0.25 M was prepared in ethanol which was used for fluorescence titration experiment in water at 1  $\mu$ M concentration through dilution.

The detection limit of receptor **1** towards  $Al^{3+}$  or receptor  $1+Al^{3+}$  ensemble towards  $H_2PO_4^-$  and  $HSO_4^-$  was determined from a plot of fluorescence intensity as a function of the

concentration of the added metal ions or anion. To determine the S/N ratio, the fluorescence intensity of receptor **1** in absence of any analyte was measured by 10 times and the standard deviation of blank measurements was determined. The detection was calculated as three times the standard deviation from the blank measurement (in the absence of analyte) divided by the slope of calibration plot between analyte concentration and fluorescence intensity.

#### 1.4. Theoretical studies:

All DFT calculations were carried out with the Gaussian 03 program. The structures of receptor **1** in the absence and presence of anions were fully optimized in gaseous phase using B3LYP functional with the 6-31g\*\* basis set. To visualize the optimized structures Gauss View software was used.

- Figure S1: Naked-eye color change of  $10\mu$  M aqueous solution of receptor 1 upon addition of 2 equivalent of Al<sup>3+</sup>
- Figure S2: Perturbation of UV-visible spectrum of 10  $\mu$ M aqueous solution of receptor 1 with different metal ions (2 equiv. each)

**Figure S3:** Job's Plot of  $Al^{3+}$  with receptor **1** showing 1:1 stoichiometry

Figure S4: Non-linear fitting of fluorescence titration data between receptor 1 and Al<sup>3+</sup>

- Figure S5: Effect of various anions (30 equiv. each) on the emission spectrum of  $1\mu M$  aqueous solution of receptor  $1 + Al^{3+}$  ensemble
- **Figure S6:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  M solution (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) of receptor **1** in the absence and presence of HSO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>(D<sub>2</sub>O)
- Figure S7: Revival of quenched fluorescence intensity of 1  $\mu$ M aqueous solution of receptor 1+Al<sup>3+</sup>+HSO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> upon addition of Al<sup>3+</sup>
- **Figure S8:** Non-linear fitting of fluorescence titration data between receptor  $1+Al^{3+}$  ensemble and (a)  $H_2PO_4^-$  (b)  $HSO_4^-$

# Figure S1: Naked-eye color change of $10\mu M$ aqueous solution of receptor 1 upon addition of 2 equivalent of $Al^{3+}$



Figure S2: Perturbation of UV-visible spectrum of 10  $\mu$ M aqueous solution of receptor 1 with different metal ions (2 equiv. each)



Page 6













**Figure S6:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  M solution (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) of receptor **1** in the absence and presence of HSO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (D<sub>2</sub>O)





Page 12



(b) **HSO**<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>

# <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of Receptor 1



# <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of Receptor 1





## IR spectrum of Receptor 1

#### Mass spectrum of Receptor 1

