# **Electronic Supplementary Information for**

# Enhanced Chiral Recognition by γ-Cyclodextrin-Cucurbit[6]uril-

# **Cowheeled** [4]Pseudorotaxanes

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## Content

- 1. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of 1b and 1c.
- 2. Time-dependent circular dichroism spectra change of the dumbbell of  $1b@(CB[6])_2$  after the addition of  $\gamma$ -CD.
- 3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of **1c** upon addition of  $\gamma$ -CD.
- 4. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra for the complexation of **Rot1a** with **1e**.
- 5. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra for the complexation of **Rot1a** with **1d**.

**Materials and instruments**:  $\gamma$ -Cyclodextrin, 4, 4'-bis(chloromethyl)biphenyl, 1,4-butanediamine and 1, 6-diaminohexane were purchased from Tokyo Chemical Industry and were vacuum-dried before use. CB[6] was prepared according to the literature method.<sup>1</sup> **1a** was synthesized according to the previously reported procedure.<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were obtained with a JEOL JNM-EX 400 spectrometer or in D<sub>2</sub>O or DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>. FAB mass spectra were obtained on a JEOL JMS-DX303 mass spectrometer. UV-vis spectra were recorded using a JASCO V650 spectrometer. Circular dichroism spectra were measured on a JASCO J-1500 spectropolarimeter. Titration calorimetry measurements were performed with a VP-ITC calorimeter. In each microcalorimetric experiment, a constant volume of guest/host solution in 40 mM standard phosphate buffer at pH 4.2 was injected into the reaction cell (1.4 mL) charged with a host/guest solution in the same buffer (5-10 *u*L/injection; 20-30 injections in total).

The single crystal structure of the dumbbell structure  $1e@(CB[6])_2$  can be found at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, CCDC number: 1821323

#### Synthesis of axle molecules:

A bis(chloromethyl) aromatic reagent (10 mmol) and an alkyl diamine (80 mmol) were dissolved in anhydrous DMF (100 mL), and the solution was heated under nitrogen at 70 °C for 36h. After the solvent was removed under vacuum, the residue was poured into diethyl ether (300 mL). The resultant precipitate was collected and purified on an ion exchange column (Dowex-50w) to give a pale yellow solid, which is recrystallized from a mixture of acetone and 10% HCl aqueous solution to give white solid.

**1b**. Yield: 52.1 %, FAB-MS (free amine): 411.3 [M+1]<sup>+</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O):  $\delta$  7.59 (d, 4H, J=7.2 Hz), 7.39 (d, 4H, J = 7.6 Hz), 4.09 (s, 4H), 2.91 (t, 2H, J = 4.0 Hz, 4.0 Hz), 2.80 (t, 2H, J = 4.0 Hz, 4.0 Hz), 1.56 (m, 2H), 1.48 (m, 2H), 1.22 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O):  $\delta$  140.69, 130.35, 130.25, 127.56, 50.41, 46.84, 39.19, 26.35, 25.15, 24.99.

**1c**: Yield: 41.2 %, FAB-MS (free amine): 329.2 [M+1]<sup>+</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O): δ 7.86 (m, 4H), 7.50 (d, 2H, J=4 Hz), 4.03 (s, 4H), 2.72 (m, 4H), 1.53 (m, 4H), <sup>13</sup>C NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O): δ 176.40, 133.25, 132.66, 128.66, 128.34, 127.76, 51.33, 46.85, 24.75, 24.10, 23.98.



Fig. S1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (upper) and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (lower) spectra of 1b measured in D<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C.





Fig. S2. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (upper) and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (lower) spectra of 1c measured in D<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C.



Fig. S3. The time-dependent circular dichroism spectra after adding 5 mM  $\gamma$ -CD into the aqueous solution containing 5 mM Rot1b, measured at 25 °C in a 1 mm path length cell (upper) and the curve fitting of the spectral change at  $\lambda = 253$  nm assuming a second order reaction kinetic (lower). The relatively large deviation at the initial stage of kinetic process should be due to the weak circular dichroism spectral response.



Fig. S4. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of 20 mM 1c in the absence (a) and presence of 3mM (b) and 8 mM (c)  $\gamma$ -CD



**Fig. S5**. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of 10 mM **1b** in the absence (a) and presence of 2mM (b) 4 mM (c) 6 mM (d) and 8 mM (e)  $\gamma$ -CD, measured in D<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C.



**Fig. S6.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of (a) 5 mM racemic **2e** (b) 5 mM racemic **2e** and 10 mM  $\gamma$ -CD, (c) 5 mM racemic **2e**, 10 mM **1a** and 10 mM  $\gamma$ -CD (d) 5 mM racemic **2e** and 10 mM **Rot1a**, (e) 5 mM (*R*)-**2e** and 10 mM **Rot1a** and (f) 5 mM (*S*)-**2e** and 10 mM **Rot1a**.



**Fig. S7.**<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of 10 mM **Rot1a** in the presence of a) 2 mM, b) 4 mM, c) 6 mM, d) 8 mM and e) 10 mM racemic **2e** in  $D_2O$  solution at 25 °C. Signals of **1a**,  $\gamma$ -CD and CB[6] are highlighted in blue, light blue and yellow respectively.



Fig. S8. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of (a) 2 mM (S)-2e, and 10 mM Rot1a in presence of (b) 2 mM, (c) 4 mM, (d) 6 mM, (e) 8 mM and (f) 10 mM (S)-2e.



Fig. S9. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of (a) 2 mM (S)-2e, and 10 mM Rot1a in the presence of (b) 2 mM, (c) 4 mM, (d) 6 mM, (e) 8 mM and (f) 10 mM (R)-2e.



Fig. S10. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of (a) 5 mM racemic 2d, (b) 10 mM Rot1a and 5 mM racemic 2d and (c) 10 mM Rot1a and 10 mM racemic 2d in D<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C.



Fig. S11. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of (a) 2.0 mM 1c, (b) 2.0 mM 1c and 2.0 mM  $\beta$ -CD and (c) 2.0 mM 1c and 4.0 mM  $\beta$ -CD in D<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C.



Fig. S12. <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY spectrum of 10 mM Rot1a in the absence of 10 mM (*R*)-2e measured in D<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C.



Fig. S13. <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>13</sup>C HMQC spectrum of 10 mM Rot1a in the absence of 10 mM (R)-2e measured in D<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C.



Fig. S14. ROESY spectrum of 10 mM Rot1a in the absence of 10 mM (R)-2e measured in D<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C.

### Reference

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