

Electronic Supplementary Information

N-Alkyl calix[4]azacrowns for the selective extraction of uranium

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Table SI-1 : ^1H -NMR signals of NOCAC and NOCAC- UO_2^{2+} .

| | Ar-CH ₂ -Ar | Ar-H | O-CH ₂ -C(O) | Ar-OH | NH-CH ₂ -CH ₂ -N | NH-CO | [NRH] ⁺ |
|--|--------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|--|---------------|--------------------|
| NOCAC | AB | 2 singlets | 1 singlet | 1 singlet | 2 triplets | 1 singlet | - |
| δ ppm | 4.15 & 3.38 | 7.19 & 6.79 | 4.51 | 6.42 | 3.52 & 2.75 | 8.19 | - |
| Complex NOCAC-UO_2^{2+} | 2 AB | 4 singlets | AB | 2 singlets | 4 multiplets | Broad singlet | Broad singlet |
| δ ppm | 4.32 & 3.46 4.13&3.43 | 7.13, 7.09, 6.90 & 6.87 | 4.88 & 4.66 | 7.61 & 7.30 | 4.37, 3.8, 3.7, & 3.59 | 9.42 | 10.19 |

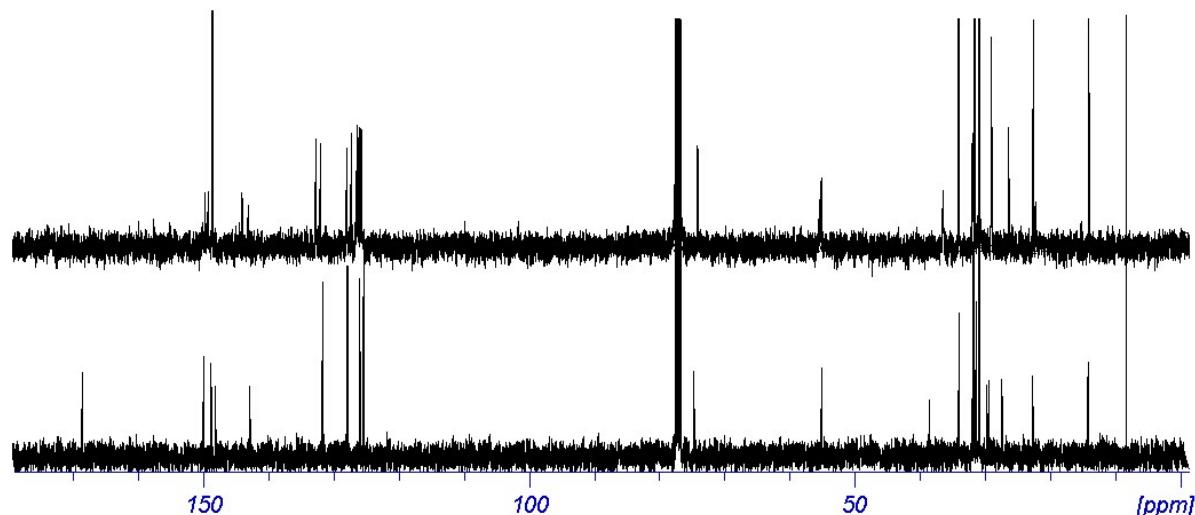


Figure SI-1: ^{13}C -NMR spectra of the free ligand (bottom) and the complex (top) at [NOCAC]/[UO_2^{2+}] = 1:2.

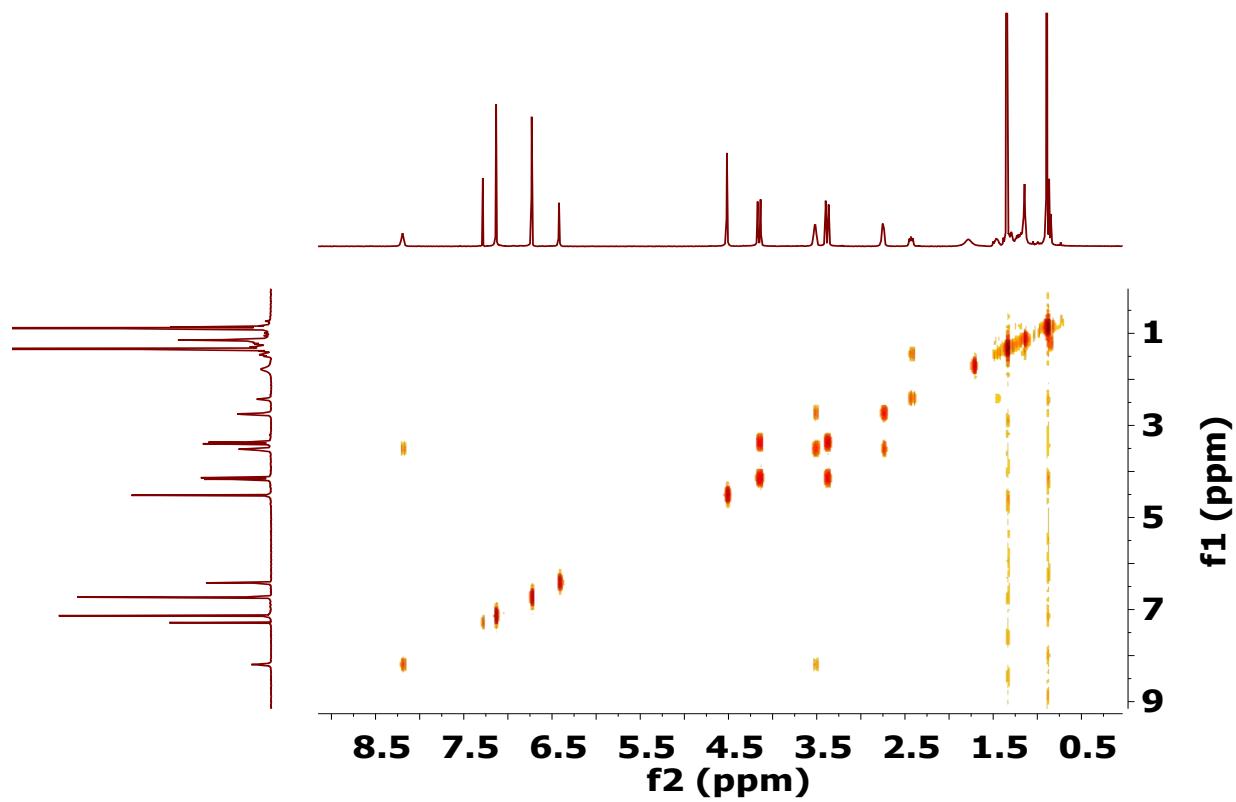


Figure SI-2: COSY-NMR spectrum of free Li : NOCAC.

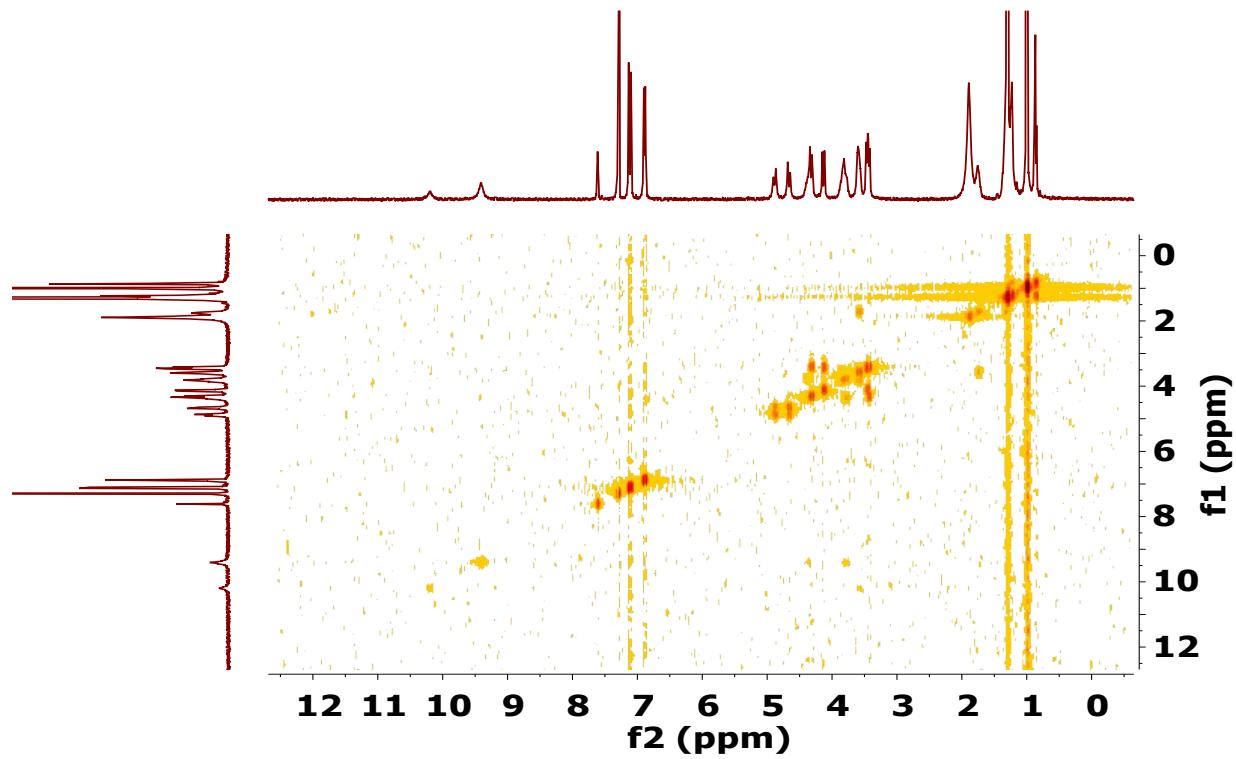


Figure SI-3: COSY-NMR spectrum of the Li-U complex, $[NOCAC]/[UO_2^{2+}] = 1:2$.

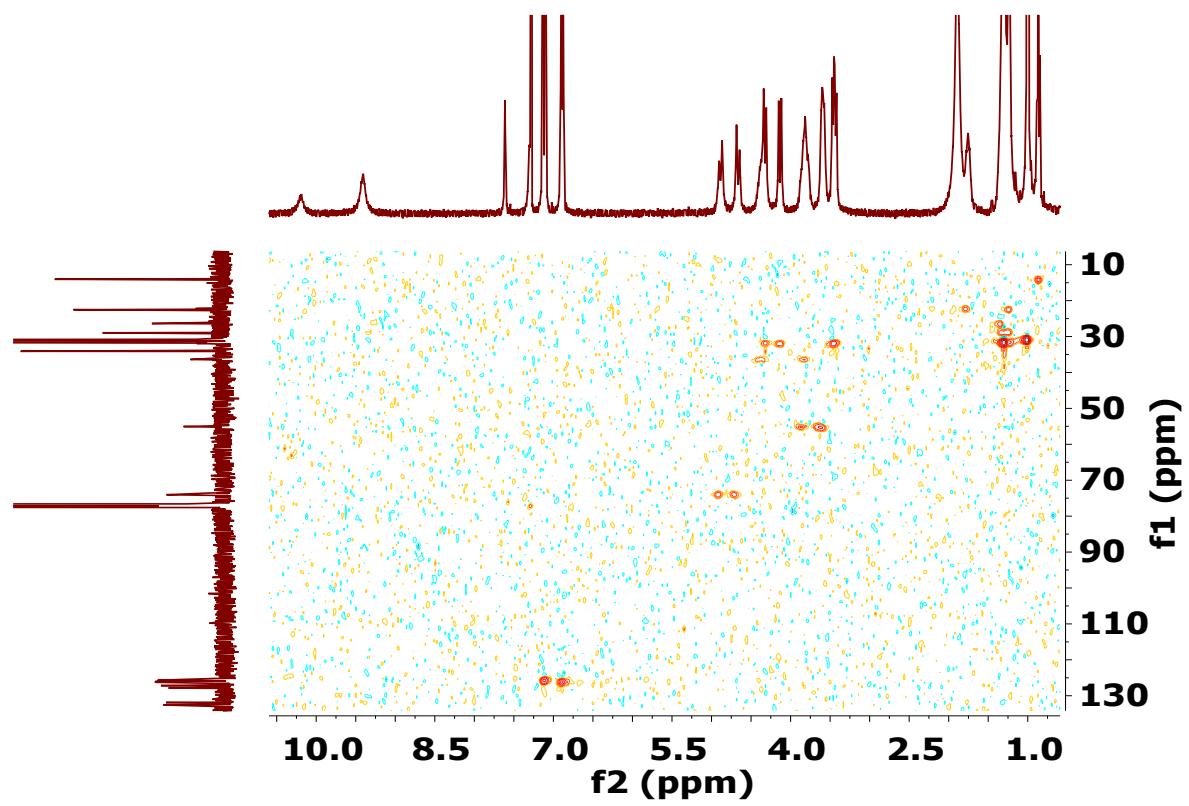


Figure SI-4: HSQC spectrum of the LI-U complex, $[NOCAC]/[UO_2^{2+}] = 1:2$.

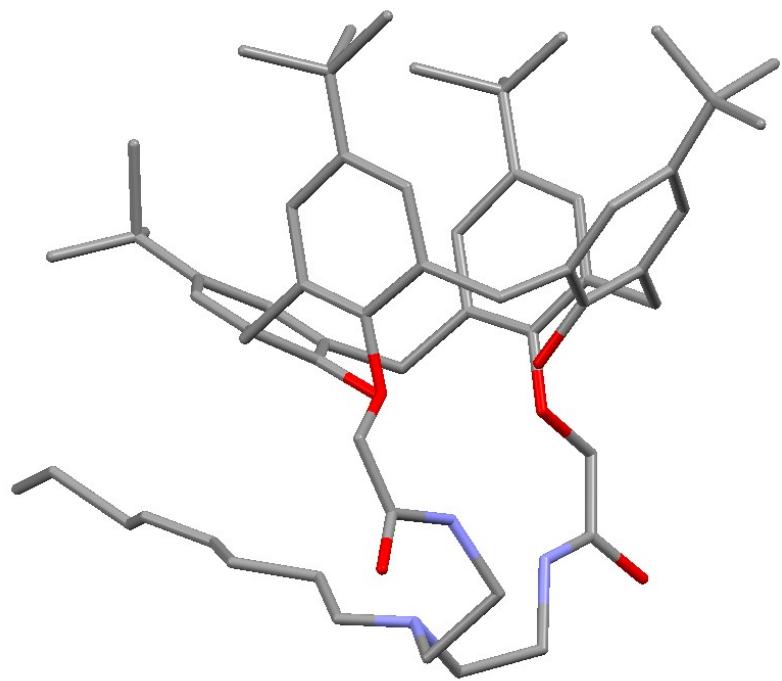


Figure SI-5: Solid state structure of NOCAC determined by single-crystal X-ray diffraction

Space group: **C 2/c**

Cell Lengths: **a** 14.964(1) **b** 32.328(1) **c** 25.693(1)

Cell angles α 90 β 90.102 γ 90

Cell volume : 12429.1

Theta max : 21°

Completion : 99,6%

R(int) : 7,7%

Affinement : Isotrope / without hydrogen atoms

R1 : 29,5%

wR2 : 66,4%

Table SI-2: Individual extraction of uranium by NOCAC and NEHCAC.

| Ligand | [L] mM | [H ₂ SO ₄] M | Diluent | D _U | Extraction % | Stoichiometry L:M |
|---------------|--------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|--------------|-------------------|
| NOCAC | 50 | 0.1 M | Dodecane / 15% Octanol | 23.0 | 95.8 | 1:1 |
| NEHCAC | 50 | 0.1 M | Dodecane / 15% Octanol | 56.9 | 98.3 | - |

Table SI-3: Selective extraction of uranium by NOCAC and NEHCAC from a leaching solution containing seven metals.

| Ligand | [L] mM | [H ₂ SO ₄] M | Diluent | D _U | Extraction % | S _(U/Mo) |
|---------------|--------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------------|
| NOCAC | 20 | 0.1 M | Dodecane / 15% Octanol | 6.8 | 87.2 | 2.4 |
| NEHCAC | 20 | 0.1 M | Dodecane / 15% Octanol | 16.59 | 94.3 | 3.1 |