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## K<sup>+</sup> Catalyzed Diels-Alder Reaction by Macrocyclic Bis(crown ether) Boronic Ester

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### 1. General Methods

All operations were performed under air unless otherwise noted. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL ECX-500, a Bruker DRX-500 (500 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H and 125 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C), or a JEOL ECX-400, a JEOL AL-400, a JEOL Lambda-400 (400 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H and 100 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C), or a JEOL AL-300 (300 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H and 75 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C) spectrometer using CDCl<sub>3</sub> [residual CHCl<sub>3</sub> (7.26 ppm) served as an internal standard in <sup>1</sup>H NMR and CDCl<sub>3</sub> (77.0 ppm) in <sup>13</sup>C NMR], dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO)-d<sub>6</sub> [residual DMSO (2.49 ppm) served as an internal standard in <sup>1</sup>H NMR and DMSO- $d_6$  (39.73 ppm) in <sup>13</sup>C NMR] as a solvent. Chemical shifts are expressed in parts per million (ppm). High- or low-resolution mass analyses (FAB<sup>+</sup>) were performed on a JEOL JMS-700 mass spectrometer. High- or low-resolution mass analyses (FD<sup>+</sup>) were performed on a JEOL T-GCV mass spectrometer. IR spectra were recorded on a JASCO FT/IR-460 plus spectrometer. Gel permeation chromatography (GPC) was performed using LC-9130NEXT series (Japan Analytical Industry Co., Ltd.). ITC (Isothermal Titration Calorimetry) experiments were performed on a Microcal iTC200 at 298 K. GPC (Gel Permeation Chromatography) experiments were performed on a JAIGEL-1H and JAIGEL-2H columns. The single crystal X-ray diffraction data were collected on a Rigaku R-AXIS II with IP area detector system using  $CuK\alpha$  radiation ( $\alpha = 1.54186$  Å). Dehydrated dichloromethane, DMF, Et<sub>2</sub>O, acetonitrile, toluene and benzene was purchased from Kanto Chemical Co., Inc. and all other solvents were distilled before using. Tetrahydrofuran (THF) was purified by solvent purification system of Glass-Contour. Other solvents were distilled according to the usual procedures and stored over molecular sieves. 1,4,9,10-Anthradiquinone 1,<sup>S1</sup> enantiopure tetrol (+)-3 and (-)-3,<sup>S2</sup> bis[2-(methylsulfonyl)oxyethyllether, S3 2-substituted-1,3-butadiene (7, 9, 10, 12)S4 were prepared according to the literature procedures.

### 2. Self-assembly of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub>

The (+)-tetrol (+)-3 (17.7 mg, 0.064 mmol) was added to a methanol/ CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1:1) solution (3.6 mL) of **2** (30 mg, 0.067 mmol). The reaction mixture became homogeneous in a few minutes. After the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 hours, solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by GPC to afford the desired product [**2+2**]<sub>crown</sub> (37 mg, 88 %).

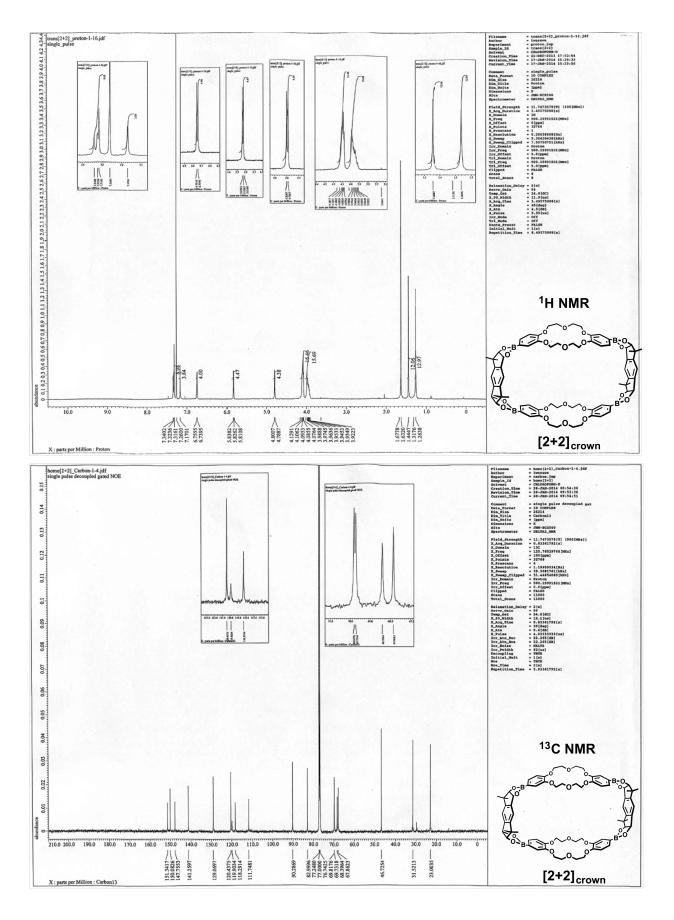
### Physical data of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.34-7.32 (m, 8H), 7.17 (s, 4H), 6.75 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 4H), 5.83 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 4H), 4.80 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 4H), 4.11 (br, 16H), 3.98 (br, 16H), 1.44 (s, 12H), 1.26 (s, 12H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 151.3, 150.1, 147.8, 141.3, 129.1, 120.4, 119.9, 118.3. 111.7, 90.3, 83.0, 69.8, 69.7, 68.4, 67.9, 46.7, 31.5, 23.0.

 $HRMS \ (FAB^+, NBA): \ \textit{m/z} \ Calcd. \ for \ C_{72}H_{80}O_{20}B_4K: \ 1346.5289., \ Found: \ 1346.5299 \ [M]^+.$ 

IR (ATR): 1601, 1518, 1419, 1356, 1310, 1260, 1213, 1142, 1093, 1055, 953 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



# 3. Complexation of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> with 1,4,9,10-Anthradiquinone 1 in the Presence of 2 equiv. KOTf 3-1. NMR Study of the Complexation of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> with 1 in the Presence of 2 equiv. of KOTf

The binding behavior of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> containing alkaline metal salts with 1,4,9,10-anthradiquinone 1 was examined (Fig. S1a). When [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> (6.5 mM), 2 equivalents of KOTf (13.0 mM), and 1 equivalent of 1 (6.5 mM) were mixed in CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>CN (0.8 mL, 1:1), a large up-field shift of protons of the guest molecule 1 was observed as shown in Fig. S1b,c. Almost the same degree of upfield shifts of A, B and C of 1 as shown in Fig. S1b,c was due to the shielding effect of the benzene ring of the host framework, suggesting that 1 was included just inside the host molecule with its  $\pi$ -face facing outside as shown in Fig. S1a. This speculation suggests that 1 included in this [2+2]<sub>crown</sub>•2K<sup>+</sup> could react with appropriate substrates on its  $\pi$ -face, where the reaction might be accelerated by coordination of four carbonyl oxygens of 1 to two K<sup>+</sup> ions. By the addition of another 1 equivalent of 1 to the solution, the peaks derived from 1 in the host shifted downfield and came closer to the peaks of free guest 1 (Fig. S1d). This <sup>1</sup>H NMR study suggested 1:1 complexation of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> with 1 in the presence of 2 equiv. K<sup>+</sup>.

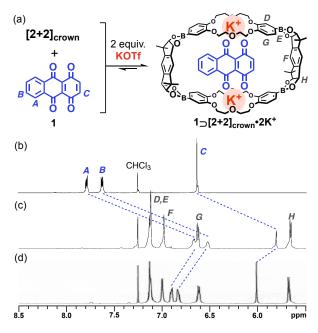


Fig. S1 (a) Complexation of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> with diquinone 1 in the presence of K<sup>+</sup>. Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>CN (1:1), 298 K) of (b) 1, (c) a mixture of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> (6.5 mM), 1 (6.5 mM), and KOTf (13mM), and (d) a mixture of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> (6.5 mM), 1 (13 mM), and KOTf (13mM).

3-2. ITC Study of the Complexation of with [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> with 1 in the Presence of 2 Equiv. of KOTf A 1 mM CHCl<sub>3</sub>/CH<sub>3</sub>CN (1:1) solution of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub>•2K<sup>+</sup> was prepared. Titration of this solution with 60 mM solution of 1 was operated. The titration curve was fitted with a simple 1:1 model and the thermodynamic parameters  $K_a = 3.54 \times 10^3$  M<sup>-1</sup>,  $\Delta H = -1284$  cal/mol, and  $\Delta S = 11.9$  cal/mol/deg were

obtained for the association of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub>•2K<sup>+</sup> with 1 (Fig. S2b). The value of binding constant indicated that ca. 80% of the guest 1 was included in 6.5 mM each of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub>•2K<sup>+</sup> and 1 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>/CH<sub>3</sub>CN (1:1).

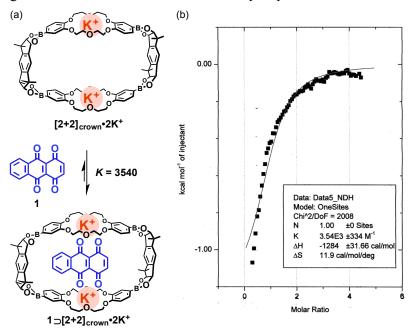


Fig. S2. (a) Complexation of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub>•2K<sup>+</sup> with diquinone 1. (b) Titration curve of the addition of 60 mM solution of 1 charged with 1 mM [2+2]<sub>crown</sub>•2K<sup>+</sup> in CHCl<sub>3</sub>/CH<sub>3</sub>CN (1:1) at 25°C. The line represents the curve fitting analysis with the one set of sites model. Thermodynamic parameters are also shown.

### 3-3. Control Experiments of the Complexation of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> with 1

The binding behavior of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> containing other alkaline metal salts with 1,4,9,10-anthradiquinone 1 was examined (Fig. 3a). When [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> (6.5 mM), 2 equivalents of MOTf (M = Li, Na; 13.0 mM), and 1 equivalent of 1 (6.5 mM) were mixed in CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>CN (0.8 mL, 1:1), no shift of the signals of the guest molecule 1 was observed as shown in Fig. S3b-d. A mixture of monomeric pinacol ester of dibenzo-18-crown-6 diboronic acid 2<sub>pin</sub>, KOTf, and 1 was also exmanied. When 2<sub>pin</sub> (13.0 mM), 1 equivalent of KOTf (13.0 mM) and 0.5 equivalent of 1 (6.5 mM) were mixed in CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>CN (0.8 mL, 1:1), no shift of the signals of the guest molecule 1 was observed as shown in Fig. S4b,c. These <sup>1</sup>H NMR studies suggested that the macrocyclic structure of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> and K<sup>+</sup> ion was essential for the efficient binding of 1.

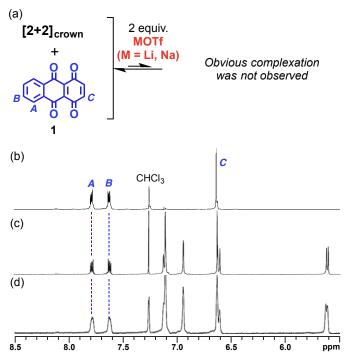


Fig. S3 (a) Examination of complexation of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> with diquinone 1 in the presence of MOTf (M = Li, Na). Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>CN (1:1), 298 K) of (b) 1, (c) a mixture of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> (6.5 mM), 1 (6.5 mM), and LiOTf (13mM), and (d) a mixture of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> (6.5 mM), 1 (6.5 mM), and NaOTf (13mM).

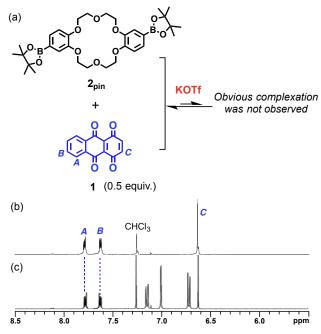


Fig. S4 (a) Examination of complexation of 2<sub>pin</sub> with diquinone 1 in the presence of KOTf. Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>CN (1:1), 298 K) of (b) 1, and (c) a mixture of 2<sub>pin</sub> (13 mM), 1 (6.5 mM), and KOTf (13mM).

#### 4. The Diels-Alder Reaction of 1 with Various Dienes

Typical experiment: 1 (5.2 μmol, 6.5 mM), diene (7.8 μmol, 9.8 mM), [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> (5.2 μmol, 6.5 mM), and KOTf (10.4 μmol, 13 mM) were dissolved in 0.8 mL of CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>CN (1:1) in an NMR tube. The sample was kept at 27 °C and NMR spectrum was periodically recorded. Concentrations of 1, products (internal and terminal adduct) and diene were monitored by using 1,4-dinitrobenzene as standard. The second-order rate constants were evaluated using a least-squares computer program (Excel program) from the plot ((1/([diene]<sub>0</sub>-[1]<sub>0</sub>)ln([diene]<sub>1</sub>]<sub>0</sub>/[1][diene]<sub>0</sub>) / M<sup>-1</sup> vs. t /min). Control experiments (no cat.) were carried out under the same conditions but in the absence of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> and KOTf. The purification of the products was performed as follows. To the reaction mixture was added water and the organic material was extracted with dichloromethane. Organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by GPC to afford the products.

### 4-1. The Diels-Alder Reaction of 1 with Anthracene 4 Under Various Conditions

 $A = 1/([diene]_0 - [1]_0)ln([diene]_1]_0/[1][diene]_0)$ 

Condition: Table 1 entry 1

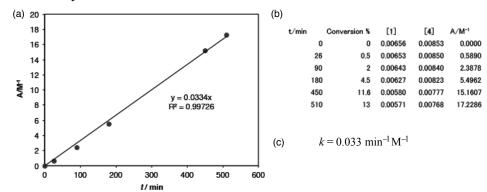


Fig. S5 (a) Second-order plot  $(A/M^{-1} \text{ vs. t/min})$  (b) table of time dependence of conversion, [1], [4] and A and (c) reaction rate

Condition: Table 1 entry 2

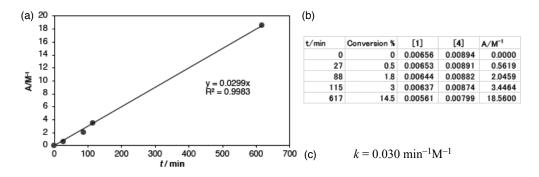


Fig. S6 (a) Second-order plot  $(A/M^{-1} \text{ vs. t/min})$  (b) table of time dependence of conversion, [1], [4] and A and (c) reaction rate

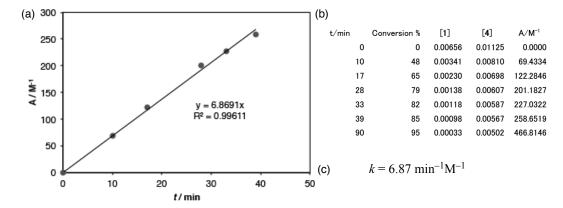


Fig. S7 (a) Second-order plot  $(A/M^{-1} \text{ vs. t/min})$  (b) table of time dependence of conversion, [1], [4] and A and (c) reaction rate

Condition: Table 1 entry 4

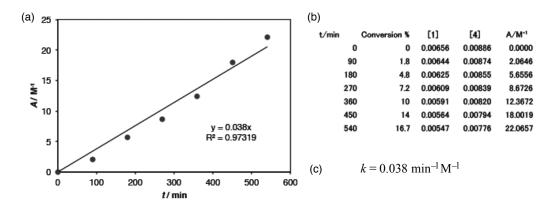


Fig. S8 (a) Second-order plot  $(A/M^{-1} \text{ vs. } t/\text{min})$  (b) table of time dependence of conversion, [1], [4] and A and (c) reaction rate

Condition: Table 1 entry 5

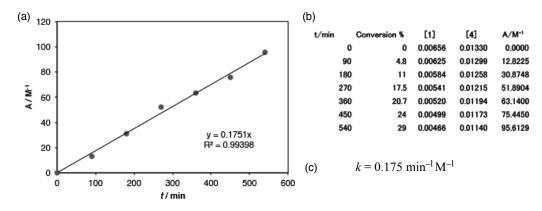


Fig. S9 (a) Second-order plot  $(A/M^{-1} \text{ vs. t/min})$  (b) table of time dependence of conversion, [1], [4] and A and (c) reaction rate

In the reaction of anthracene (Table 1, entry 3), the signal of the anthracene slightly up-field shifted compared to free anthracene in <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra, suggesting the formation of a weak Michaelis complex 1•4@[2+2]<sub>crown</sub>•2K<sup>+</sup> (Fig. S10a,b).

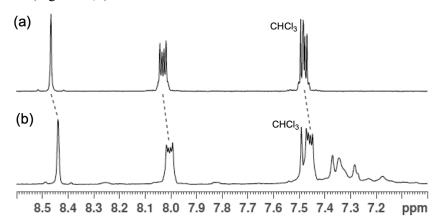


Fig. S10 Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>CN (1:1)) of (a) 4 and (b) a mixture of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> (6.5 mM), 1 (6.5 mM), 4 (9.8 mM), and KOTf (13.0 mM). (Residual TMS was set at 0 ppm.)

When 1 (0.65 mM) and 4 (0.65 mM) were mixed in CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>CN (1:1), no shift of the signals was observed (Fig. S11).

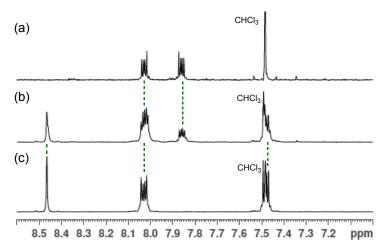


Fig. S11 Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>CN (1:1)) of (a) 1, (b) a mixture of 1 (6.5 mM), and 4 (6.5 mM) and (c) 4. (Residual TMS was set at 0 ppm.)



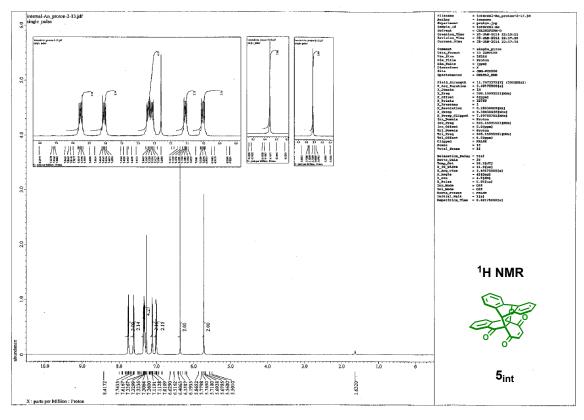
### Physical data of 5<sub>int</sub>

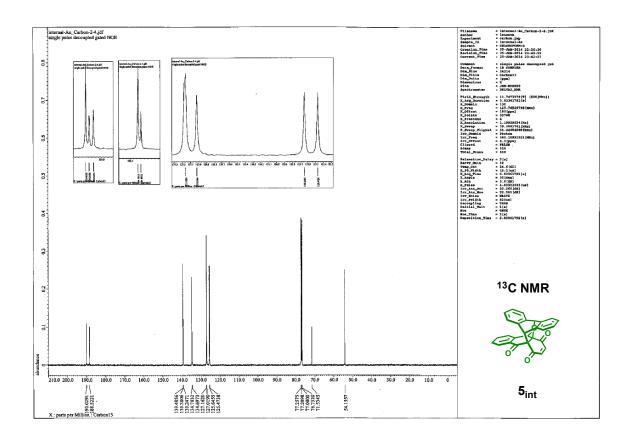
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.75-7.74 (m, 2H), 7.62-7.60 (m, 2H), 7.34-7.31 (m, 4H), 7.14-7.09 (m, 2H), 7.01-6.99 (m, 2H), 6.36 (s, 2H), 5.72 (s, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 190.0, 188.5, 139.5, 139.4, 139.2, 134.8, 134.7, 127.2, 127.0, 125.6, 125.5, 71.5, 54.2.

 $HRMS \ (FAB^+, \, NBA): \ \textit{m/z} \ Calcd. \ for \ C_{28}H_{17}O_4\text{: } 417.1127., \ Found: \ 417.1134 \ [M+H]^+.$ 

IR (ATR): 1705, 1607, 1593, 1274, 1244, 1087, 1045, 1003 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





The binding behavior of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> containing K<sup>+</sup> with  $\mathbf{5}_{int}$  was examined (Fig. S12a). [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> (6.5 mM), 2 equivalents of KOTf (13.0 mM), and 1 equivalent of  $\mathbf{5}_{int}$  (6.5 mM) were mixed in CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>CN (0.8 mL, 1:1) and <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were measured at 303 K and 323 K (Fig. S12c,d). Upfield shift and broadening of proton signals of  $\mathbf{5}_{int}$  was observed (Fig. 12b,c). These signals also became diastereotopic and the separation of signals was observed due to the chirality of the [2+2]<sub>crown</sub>, suggesting  $\mathbf{5}_{int}$  was included in the host. From the ITC study, association constant of  $\mathbf{5}_{int}$  with [2+2]<sub>crown</sub>•2K<sup>+</sup> was measured. A 1 mM CHCl<sub>3</sub>/CH<sub>3</sub>CN (1:1) solution of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub>•2K<sup>+</sup> was titrated with 30 mM solution of  $\mathbf{5}_{int}$ . The titration curve was fitted with a simple 1:1 model and the thermodynamic parameters  $K_a = 1.08 \times 10^3$  M<sup>-1</sup>,  $\Delta H = -3463$  cal/mol, and  $\Delta S = 2.76$  cal/mol/deg were obtained for the association of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub>•2K<sup>+</sup> with  $\mathbf{5}_{int}$  (Fig. S12e).

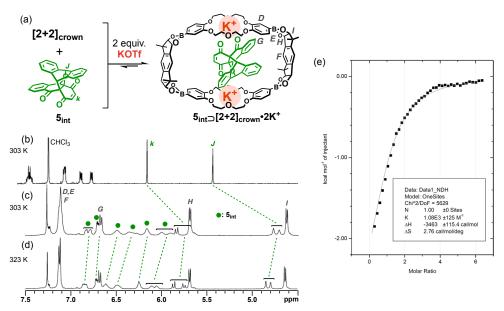
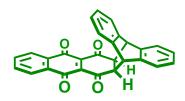


Fig. S12 (a) Complexation of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> with 5<sub>int</sub> in the presence of K<sup>+</sup>. Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>CN (1:1)) of (b) 5<sub>int</sub> at 303 K, (c) a mixture of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> (6.5 mM), 5<sub>int</sub> (6.5 mM), and KOTf (13mM) at 303 K, and (d) the same sample at 323 K. (e) Titration curve of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub>•2K<sup>+</sup> with 5<sub>int</sub> in CHCl<sub>3</sub>/CH<sub>3</sub>CN (1:1) at 25°C. The line represents the curve fitting analysis with the one set of sites model. Thermodynamic parameters are also shown.



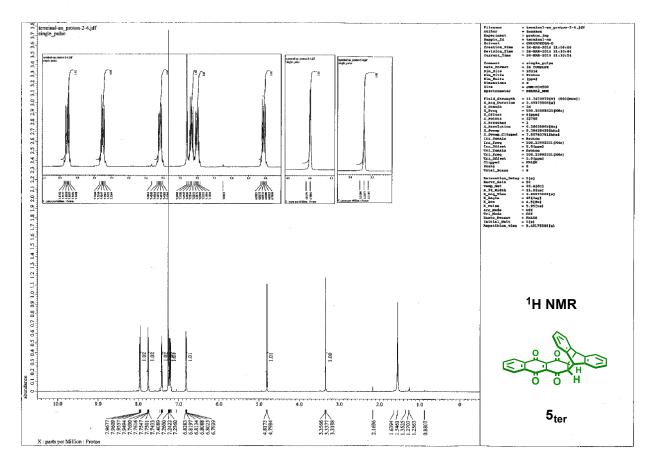
### Physical data of 5<sub>ter</sub>

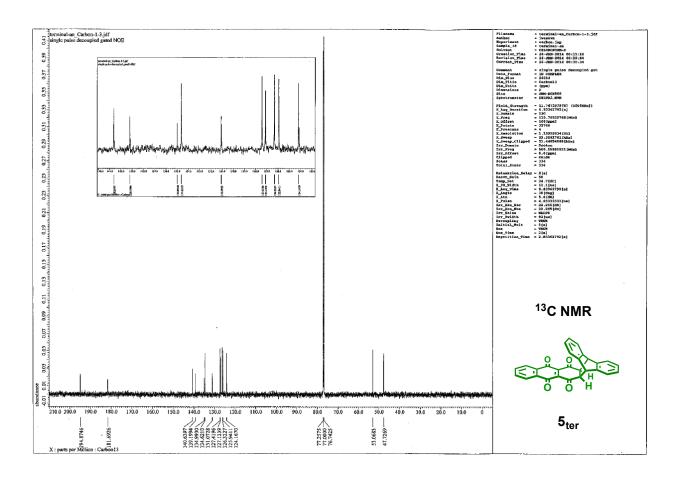
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.97-7.94 (m, 2H), 7.77-7.74 (m, 2H), 7.42-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.24-7.22 (m, 4H), 7.21-7.19 (m, 2H), 6.83-6.79 (m, 2H), 4.80 (s, 2H), 3.34 (s, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 194.9, 181.7, 140.6, 139.2, 135.0, 134.6, 131.1, 127.4, 127.1, 126.3, 125.9, 124.2, 53.1, 47.7.

HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>, NBA): m/z Calcd. for  $C_{28}H_{17}O_4$ : 417.1127., Found: 417.1109 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

IR (ATR): 1705, 1607, 1593, 1274, 1244, 1087, 1045, 1003 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





### <u>4-2-1</u>. The Diels-Alder Reaction of **1** with 2-Mono and 2,3-Di-substituted 1,3-Butadienes

 $A = 1/([diene]_0 - [1]_0)ln([diene][1]_0/[1][diene]_0)$ 

Condition: Table 2 entry 1

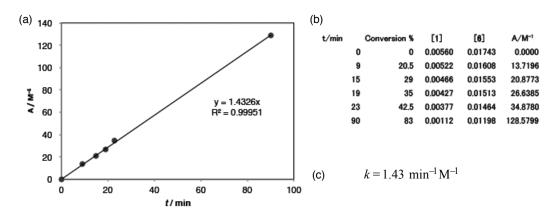


Fig. S13 (a) Second-order plot  $(A/M^{-1} \text{ vs. } t/\min)$  (b) table of time dependence of conversion, [1], [6] and A and (c) reaction rate

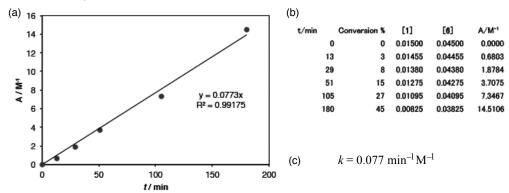
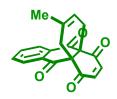


Fig. S14 (a) Second-order plot ( $A/M^{-1}$  vs. t/min) (b) table of time dependence of conversion, [1], [6] and A and (c) reaction rate



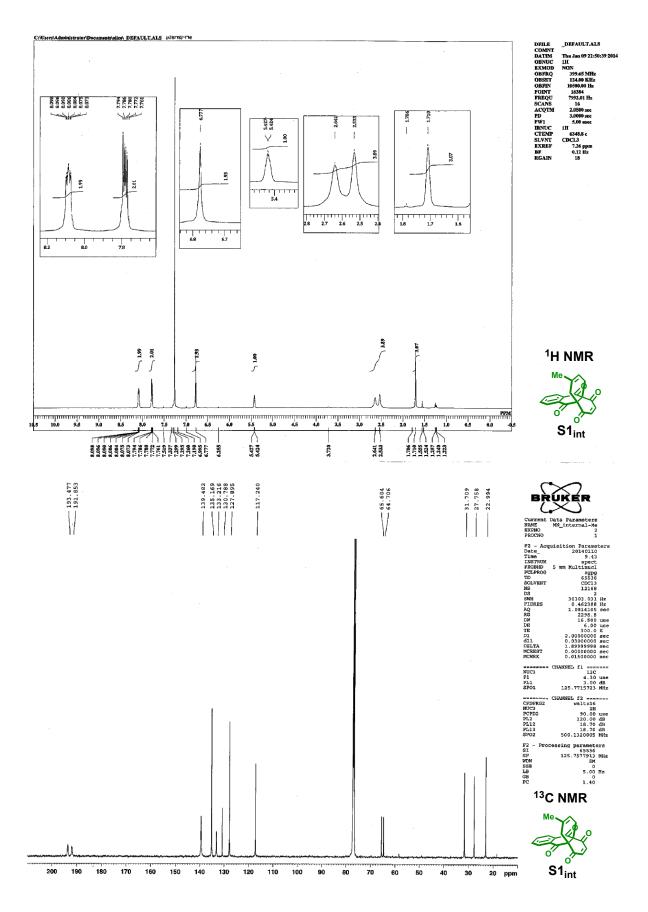
### Physical data of S1<sub>int</sub>

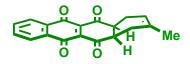
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.10-8.07 (m, 2H), 7.79-7.76 (m, 2H), 6.78 (br, 4H), 5.42 (br, 1H), 2.64 (br, 2H), 2.53 (br, 2H), 1.71 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 193.5, 191.9, 139.5, 135.2, 133.2, 130.8, 127.9, 117.2, 65.6, 64.7, 31.7, 27.8, 23.0.

HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>, NBA): *m/z* Calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: 307.0971., Found: 307.0944 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

IR (ATR): 1710, 1679, 1592, 1259, 1234 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





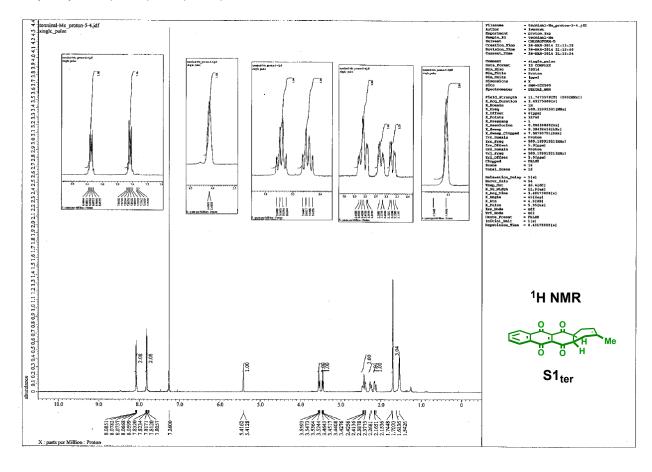
### Physical data of S1<sub>ter</sub>

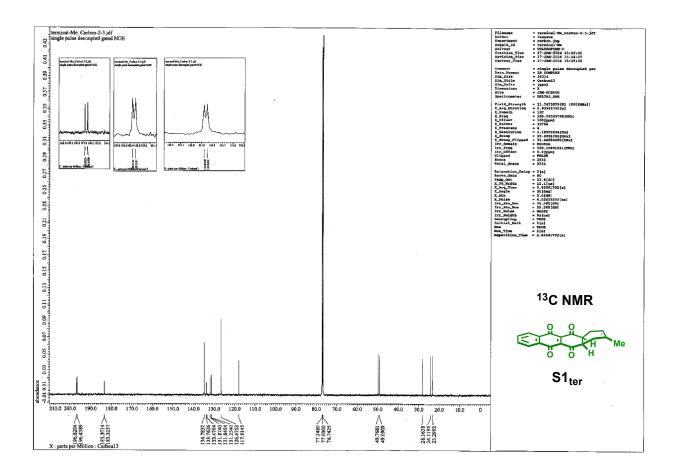
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.07-8.05 (m, 2H), 7.83-7.80 (m, 2H), 5.41 (br, 1H), 3.55 (q, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (q, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (td, J = 18.1, 5.0 Hz, 2H), 2.26-2.23 (m, 1H), 2.14 (dd, J = 17.5, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 1.70 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 196.8, 196.4, 183.4, 183.3, 134.8, 133.8, 133.5, 131.9, 131.8, 131.3, 126.5, 117.8, 49.8, 49.1, 28.2, 24.1, 23.3.

HRMS (FD<sup>+</sup>): *m/z* Calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: 306.0892., Found: 306.0868 [M]<sup>+</sup>.

IR (ATR): 1708, 1665, 1591, 1284, 1179 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





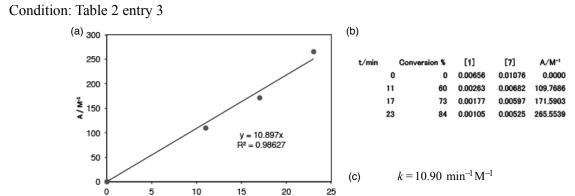


Fig. S15 (a) Second-order plot ( $A/M^{-1}$  vs. t/min) (b) table of time dependence of conversion, [1], [7] and A and (c) reaction rate

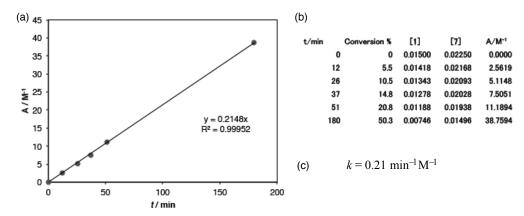
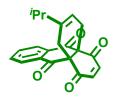


Fig. S16 (a) Second-order plot  $(A/M^{-1} \text{ vs. } t/\min)$  (b) table of time dependence of conversion, [1], [7] and A and (c) reaction rate



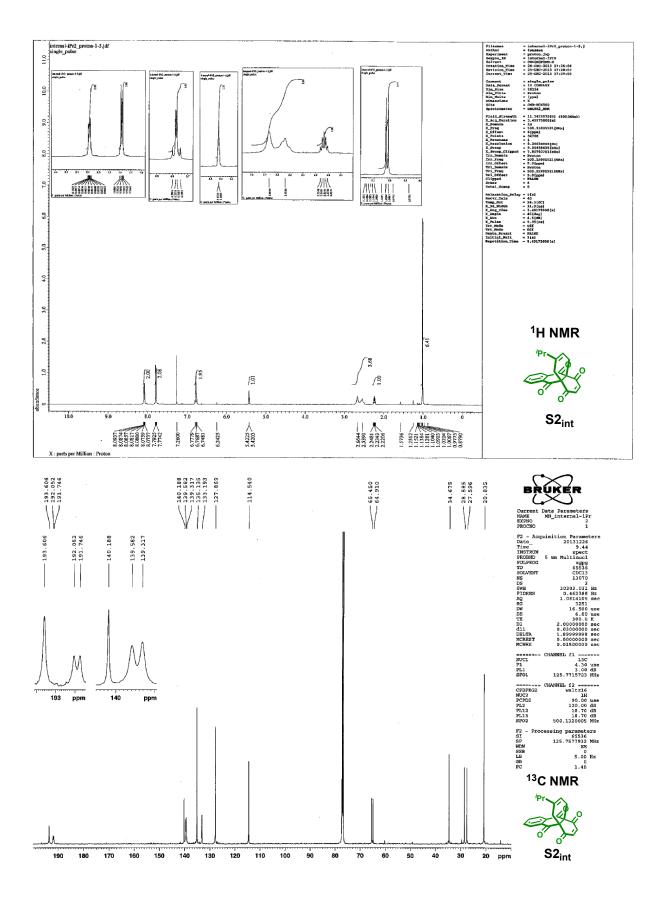
### Physical data of S2<sub>int</sub>

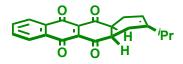
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.10-8.07 (m, 2H), 7.80-7.77 (m, 2H), 6.80-6.75 (m, 2H), 5.42 (br, 1H), 2.66 (br, 2H), 2.54 (br, 2H), 2.23 (sep, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 1.01 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 6H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 193.6, 192.1, 191.7, 140.2, 139.6, 139.3, 135.1, 133.2, 127.9, 114.5, 65.5, 64.9, 34.7, 28.6, 27.6, 20.8.

HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>, NBA): *m/z* Calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>19</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: 334.1283., Found: 335.1279 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

IR (ATR): 2961, 2927, 1710, 1683, 1592, 1465, 1424, 1363, 1259, 1235, 1083 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



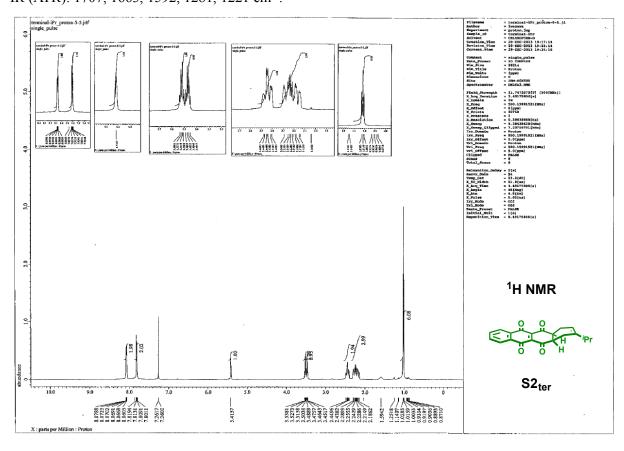


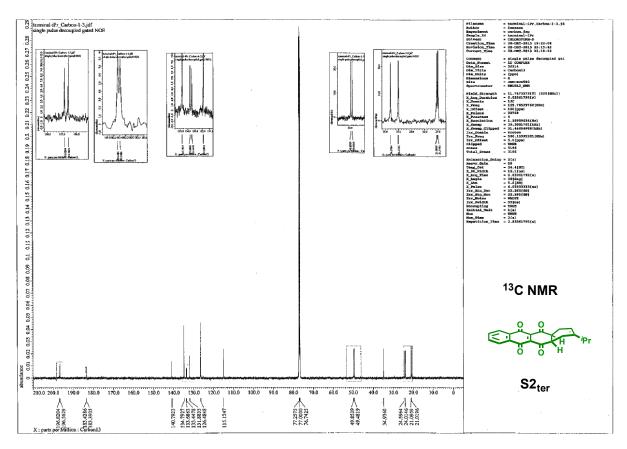
### Physical data of S2ter

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.09-8.06 (m, 2H), 7.82-7.79 (m, 2H), 5.42 (br, 1H), 3.54-3.50 (m, 1H), 3.49-3.45 (m, 1H), 2.48-2.40 (m, 2H), 2.29-2.15 (m, 3H), 1.03-1.00 (m, 6H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 196.8, 196.6, 183.4, 183.4, 140.8, 134.8, 133.7, 133.4, 131.9, 126.5, 115.1, 49.9, 49.5, 34.9, 24.6, 24.0, 21.1, 21.0.

HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>, NBA): m/z Calcd. for  $C_{21}H_{18}O_4$ : 334.1205., Found: 334.1204 [M]<sup>+</sup>. IR (ATR): 1707, 1663, 1592, 1281, 1221 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





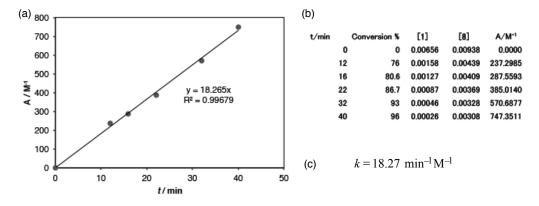


Fig. S17 (a) Second-order plot ( $A/M^{-1}$  vs. t/min) (b) table of time dependence of conversion, [1], [8] and A and (c) reaction rate

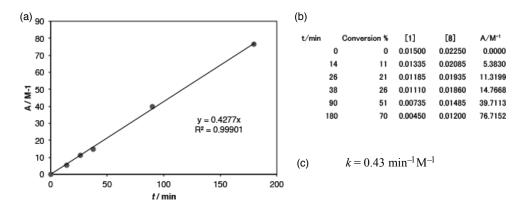
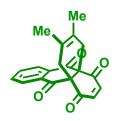


Fig. S18 (a) Second-order plot (A /  $M^{-1}$  vs. t / min) (b) table of time dependence of conversion, [1], [8] and A and (c) reaction rate



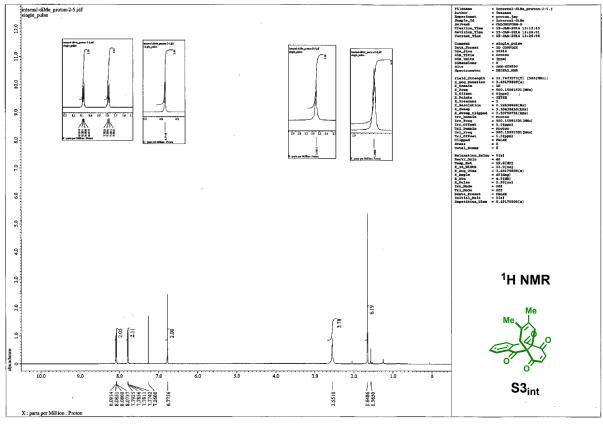
Physical data of S3<sub>int</sub>

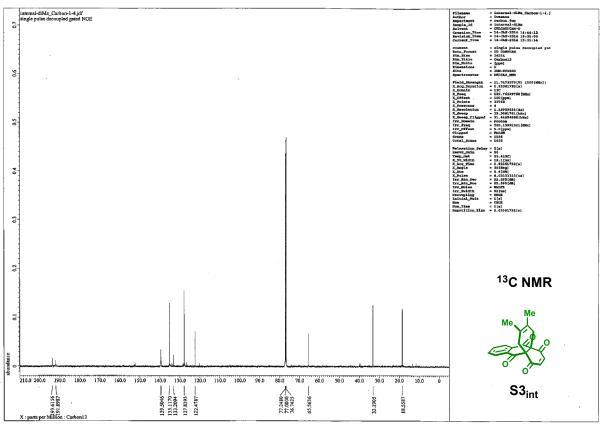
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.09-8.07 (m, 2H), 7.79-7.77 (m, 2H), 6.77 (s, 2H), 2.55 (br, 4H), 1.64 (s, 6H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 193.6, 191.9, 139.5, 135.1, 133.2, 127.8, 122.5, 65.6, 33.2, 18.6.

HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>, NBA): *m/z* Calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: 320.1049., Found: 320.1079 [M]<sup>+</sup>.

IR (ATR): 2915, 2873, 1712, 1678, 1592, 1425, 1259, 1240, 1081, 1066, 859 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





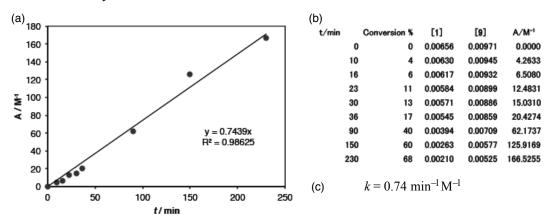


Fig. S19 (a) Second-order plot (A /  $M^{-1}$  vs. t / min) (b) table of time dependence of conversion, [1], [9] and A and (c) reaction rate

Condition: Table 2 entry 8

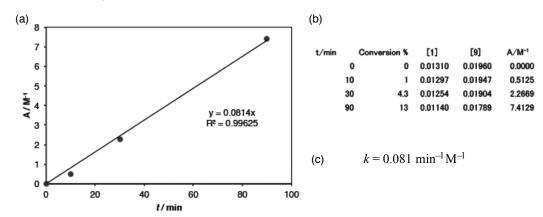
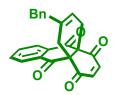


Fig. S20 (a) Second-order plot  $(A/M^{-1} \text{ vs. t/min})$  (b) table of time dependence of conversion, [1], [9] and A and (c) reaction rate



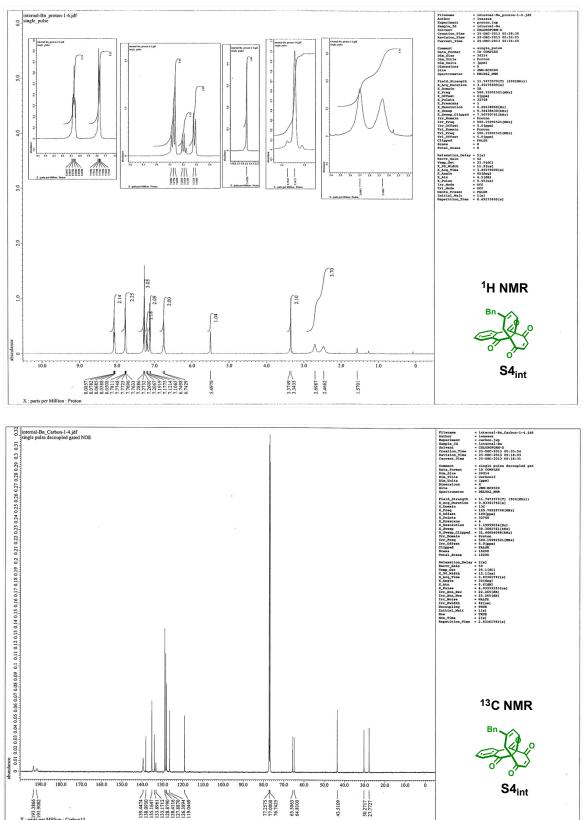
### Physical data of S4int

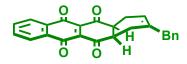
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.09-8.05 (m, 2H), 7.79-7.75 (m, 2H), 7.28 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.75 (m, 2H), 5.50 (br, 1H), 3.37-3.34 (m, 2H), 2.70 (br, 2H), 2.47 (br, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 193.4, 191.9, 139.4, 138.1, 135.2, 133.9, 133.2, 128.9, 128.4, 127.9, 126.4, 119.0, 65.5, 64.8, 43.5, 30.3, 27.8.

HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>, NBA): *m/z* Calcd. for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: 382.1205., Found: 382.1213 [M]<sup>+</sup>.

IR (ATR): 2893, 1710, 1681, 1592, 1494, 1453, 1423, 1258, 1234, 1070 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





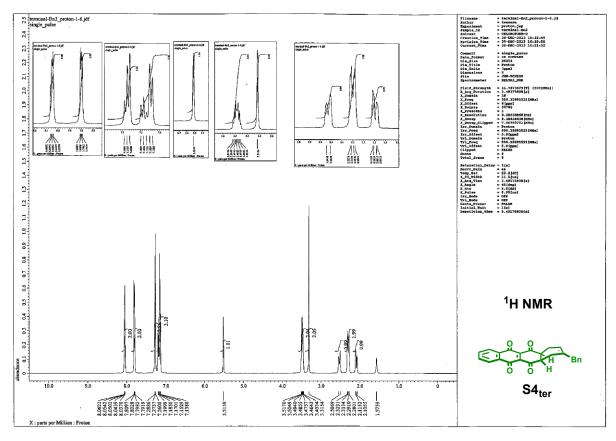
### Physical data of S4ter

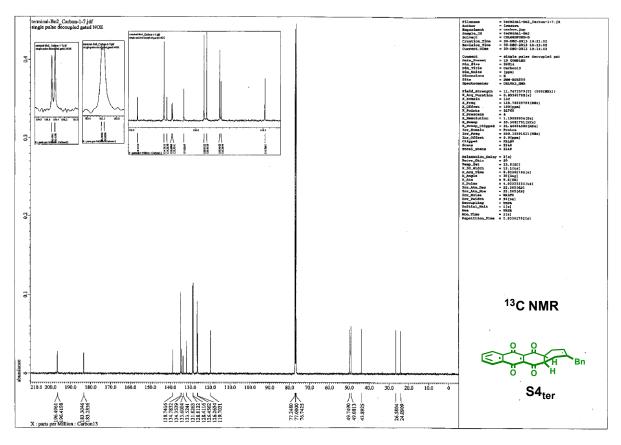
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.06-8.04 (m, 2H), 7.81-7.79 (m, 2H), 7.28 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.52 (br, 1H), 3.45-3.52 (m, 2H), 2.05 (s, 2H), 2.51-2.54 (m, 1H), 2.30 (dd, J = 16.5, 4.9 Hz, 2H), 2.09 (dd, J = 16.5, 4.9 Hz, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 196.5, 196.4, 183.3, 183.3, 138.7, 134.8, 134.4, 133.6, 133.5, 131.8, 128.8, 128.4, 126.5, 126.3, 119.7, 49.7, 49.1, 43.9, 26.6, 24.1.

HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>, NBA): m/z Calcd. for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: 384.1362., Found: 384.1359 [M+2H]<sup>+</sup>. The peak derived from reduction product was observed in MS analysis.

IR (ATR): 1707, 1665, 1592, 1492, 1453, 1279, 1222, 1180 cm<sup>-1</sup>.







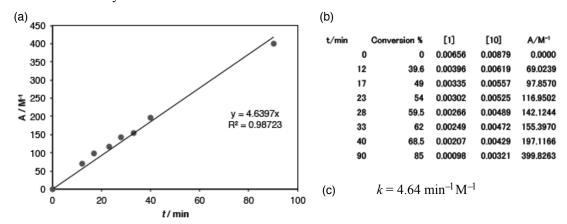


Fig. S21 (a) Second-order plot (A /  $M^{-1}$  vs. t / min) (b) table of time dependence of conversion, [1], [10] and A and (c) reaction rate

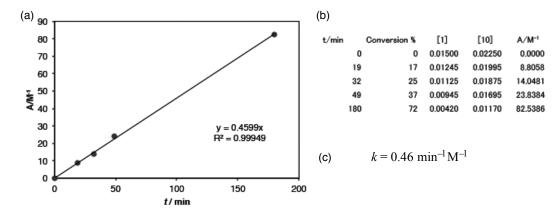
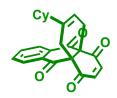


Fig. S22 (a) Second-order plot (A /  $M^{-1}$  vs. t / min) (b) table of time dependence of conversion, [1], [10] and A and (c) reaction rate



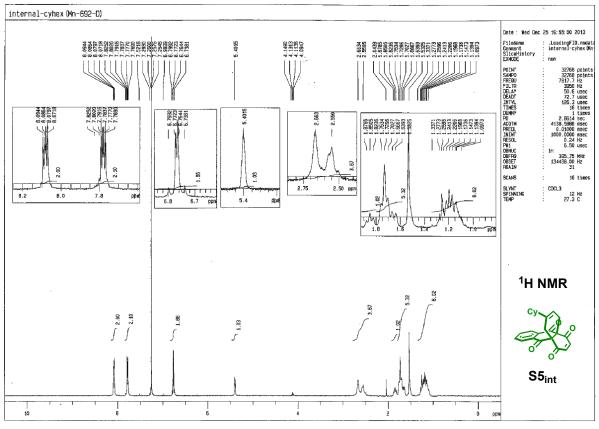
### Physical data of S5<sub>int</sub>

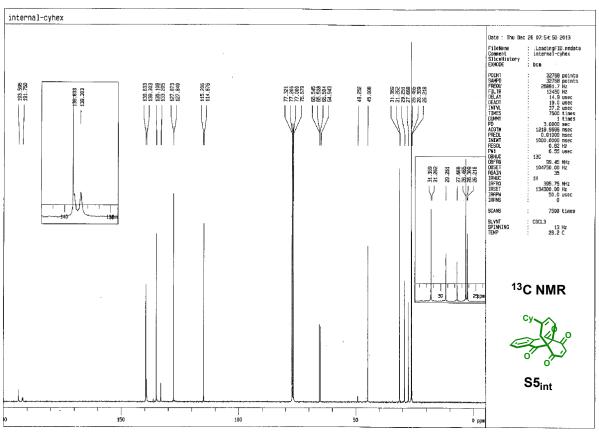
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.09-8.07 (m, 2H), 7.82-7.77 (m, 2H), 6.77 (m, 2H), 5.40 (br, 1H), 2.66 (br, 2H), 2.55 (br, 2H), 1.85 (t, J = 14.0 Hz, 1H), 1.75-1.64 (m, 4H), 1.28-1.10 (m, 6H).

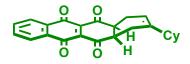
<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 193.6, 191.8, 139.6, 139.3, 135.1, 133.2, 127.9, 127.8, 114.9, 65.5, 65.5, 65.5, 64.9, 45.0, 31.4, 29.3, 27.7, 26.5, 26.2.

HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>, NBA): *m/z* Calcd. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>23</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: 375.1596., Found: 375.1605 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

IR (ATR): 2925, 2851, 1711, 1683, 1593, 1448, 1424, 1258, 1238 cm<sup>-1</sup>.







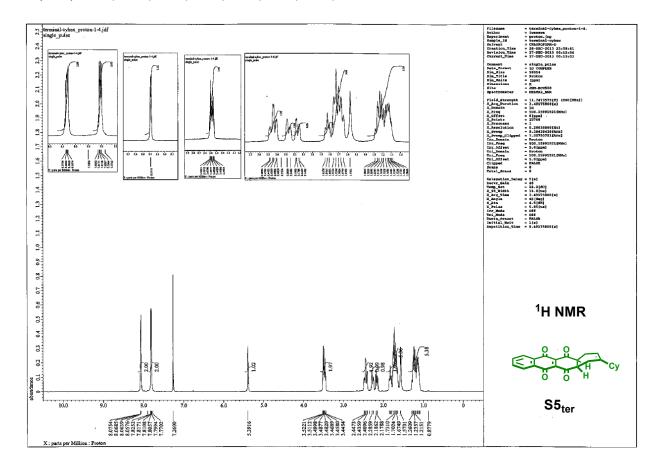
### Physical data of S5<sub>ter</sub>

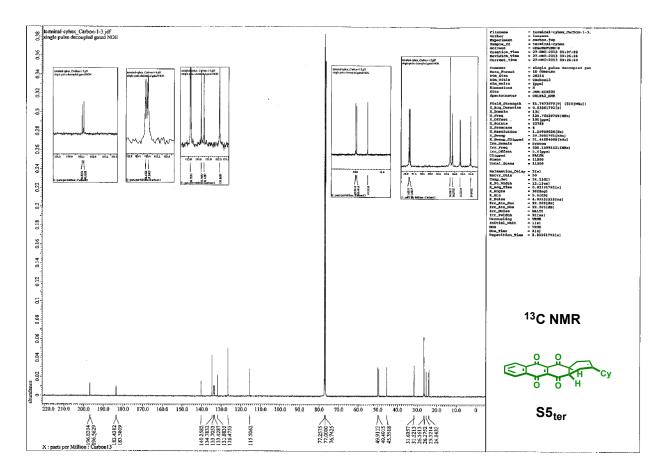
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.07-8.06 (m, 2H), 7.82-7.77 (m, 2H), 5.39 (br, 1H), 3.52-3.45 (m, 2H), 2.44 (dt, J = 18.6, 4.3 Hz, 2H), 2.27 (d, J = 18.6 Hz, 1H), 2.17 (dd, J = 18.6 Hz, 1H), 1.83 (t, J = 11.5 Hz, 1H), 1.76-1.65 (m, 5H), 1.29-1.09 (m, 5H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 196.8, 196.6, 183.4, 183.4, 140.3, 134.8, 133.7, 133.4, 131.9, 126.5, 115.5, 49.9, 49.5, 45.4, 31.6, 31.5, 26.6, 26.3, 25.3, 24.0.

HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>, NBA): m/z Calcd. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: 375.1674., Found: 376.1646 [M+2H]<sup>+</sup>. The peak derived from reduction product was observed in MS analysis.

IR (ATR): 1707, 1665, 1592, 1492, 1453, 1279, 1222, 1180 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





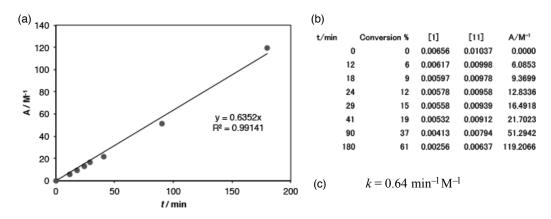


Fig. S23 (a) Second-order plot (A /  $M^{-1}$  vs. t / min) (b) table of time dependence of conversion, [1], [11] and A and (c) reaction rate

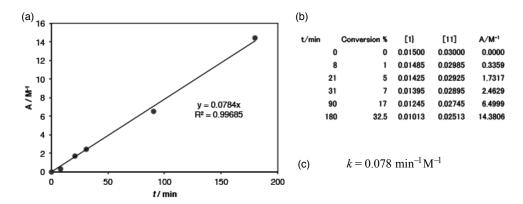
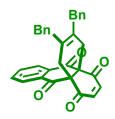


Fig. S24 (a) Second-order plot (A /  $M^{-1}$  vs. t / min) (b) table of time dependence of conversion, [1], [11] and A and (c) reaction rate

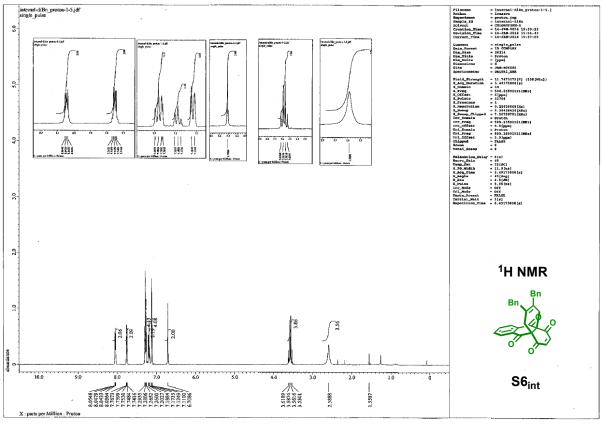


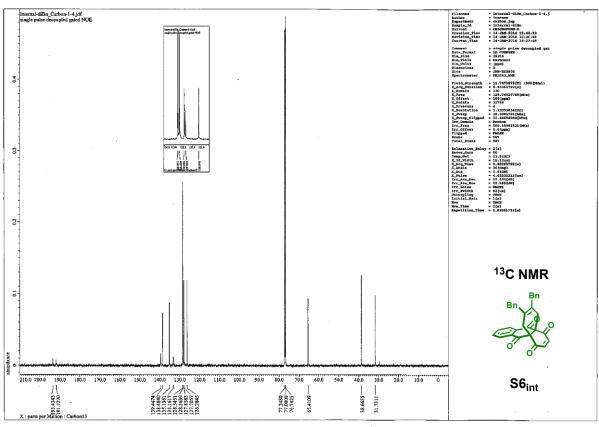
### Physical data of S6<sub>int</sub>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.05-8.04 (m, 2H), 7.77-7.74 (m, 2H), 7.28 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 7.19 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 6.71 (br, 2H), 3.57 (q, J = 12.9 Hz, 4H), 2.59 (br, 4H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 193.4, 191.7, 139.4, 138.5, 135.1, 133.1, 128.5, 128.4, 127.9, 127.7, 126.3, 65.4, 38.7, 31.7.

HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>, NBA): *m/z* Calcd. for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: 472.1675., Found: 472.1699 [M]<sup>+</sup>. IR (ATR): 2920, 1710, 1684, 1593, 1494, 1260, 1074 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





ITC study revealed that the association constants of adducts  $S1_{int}$ ,  $S4_{int}$  and  $S6_{int}$  were almost 0 M<sup>-1</sup>. The binding behavior of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> containing K<sup>+</sup> with  $S6_{int}$  was also examined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR study. [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> (2.0 mM), 2 equivalents of KOTf (4.0 mM), and 1 equivalent of  $S6_{int}$  (2.0 mM) were mixed in CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>CN (0.8 mL, 1:1) and <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum was measured at 303 K. No obvious shift of proton signals of  $S6_{int}$  was observed, compared with the signal of free  $S6_{int}$  (Fig. S25a,b).

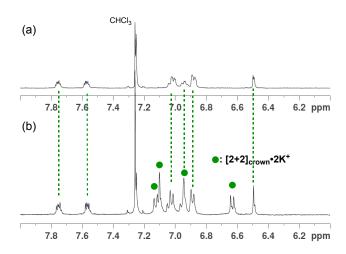


Fig. S25 Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>CN (1:1)) of (a) S6<sub>int</sub> and (b) a mixture of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> (2.0 mM), S6<sub>int</sub> (2.0 mM), and KOTf (4.0 mM).

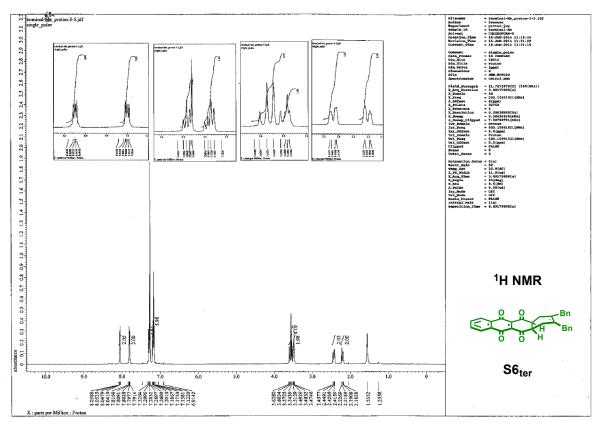
Physical data of S6ter

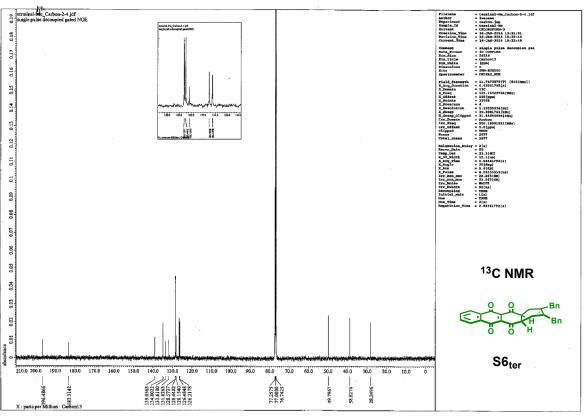
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.06-8.04 (m, 2H), 7.82-7.79 (m, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 7.16-7.20 (m, 6H), 3.60-3.51 (q, J = 14.3 Hz, 4H), 3.48 (t, J = 4.1 Hz, 2H), 2.43 (dd, J = 16.9, 4.1 Hz, 2H), 2.20 (dd, J = 18.0, 4.1 Hz, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 196.5, 183.3, 139.1, 134.8, 133.6, 131.8, 128.6, 128.4, 128.2, 126.5, 126.2, 49.8, 38.8, 28.3.

HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>, NBA): *m/z* Calcd. for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: 474.1831., Found: 474.1815 [M+2H]<sup>+</sup>. The peak derived from reduction product was observed in MS analysis.

IR (ATR): 1717, 1706, 1666, 1594, 1285 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





Condition: Table 2 entry 13

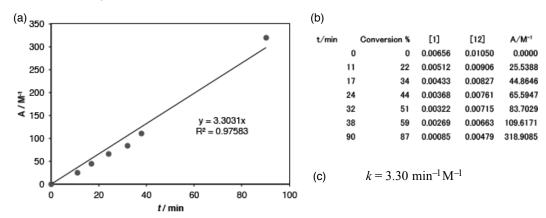


Fig. S26 (a) Second-order plot  $(A/M^{-1} \text{ vs. } t/\min)$  (b) table of time dependence of conversion, [1], [12] and A and (c) reaction rate

Condition: Table 2 entry 14

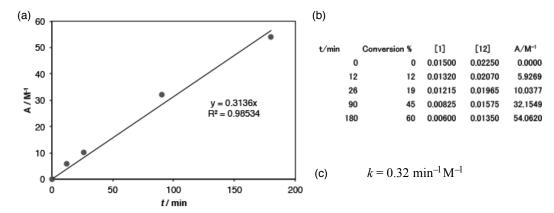


Fig. S27 (a) Second-order plot  $(A/M^{-1} \text{ vs. } t/\min)$  (b) table of time dependence of conversion, [1], [12] and A and (c) reaction rate

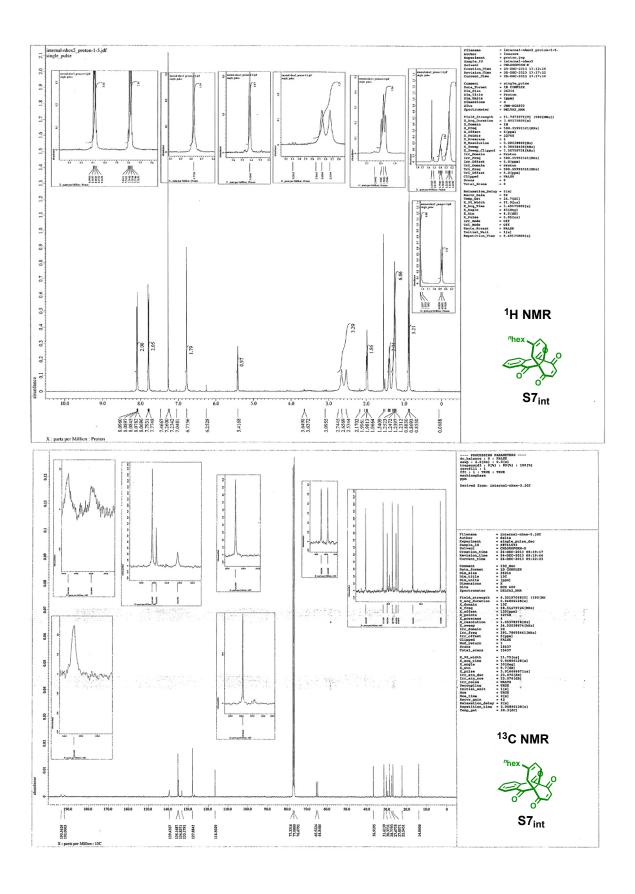


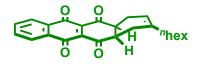
Physical data of S7<sub>int</sub>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.10-8.07 (m, 2H), 7.80-7.77 (m, 2H), 6.77 (br, 2H), 5.42 (br, 1H), 2.66 (br, 2H), 2.53 (br, 2H), 1.98 (t, J = 7.45 Hz, 2H), 1.39-1.38 (m, 2H), 1.25-1.23 (m, 6H), 0.87 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 193.6, 192.0, 139.4, 135.2, 134.8, 133.2, 127.9, 116.5, 65.5, 64.8, 36.9, 31.6, 30.4, 28.8, 27.7, 27.1, 22.5, 14.1.

HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>, NBA): *m/z* Calcd. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: 376.1675., Found: 376.1648 [M]<sup>+</sup>.

IR (ATR): 2926, 2856, 1712, 1679, 1592, 1466, 157, 1427, 1365, 1257, 1084, 1067 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





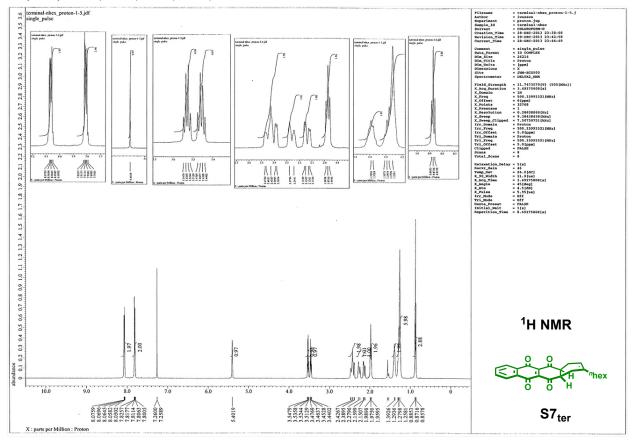
# Physical data of S7ter

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.08-8.05 (m, 2H), 7.83-7.80 (m, 2H), 5.40 (br, 1H), 3.53 (q, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (q, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 2.47-2.38 (m, 2H), 2.28-2.24 (m, 1H), 2.16-2.12 (m, 1H), 1.98 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 1.39-1.38 (m, 2H), 1.31-1.26 (m, 6H), 0.87 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 196.8, 196.5, 183.4, 183.4, 135.3, 134.8, 133.6, 133.6, 131.9, 126.5, 117.2, 49.8, 49.3, 37.3, 31.7, 28.9, 27.4, 26.7, 24.1, 22.6, 14.1.

HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>, NBA): m/z Calcd. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: 378.1831., Found: 378.1856 [M+2H]<sup>+</sup>.

IR (ATR): 1717, 1706, 1668, 1593, 1287 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



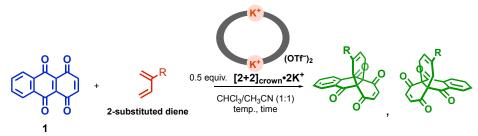


## 4-2-2. The Enantioselective Diels-Alder Reaction of 1 with 2-Substituted 1,3-Butadienes

The enantioselectivities of the reaction of 1 and various 2-substituted 1,3-butadienes in the presence of chiral host catalyst [2+2]<sub>crown</sub>•2K<sup>+</sup> were examined (Table S1). Chirality induction was slightly observed (up to 19% ee). It also suggested that [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> framework recognized the substituent of dienes and the reaction proceeded inside the host.

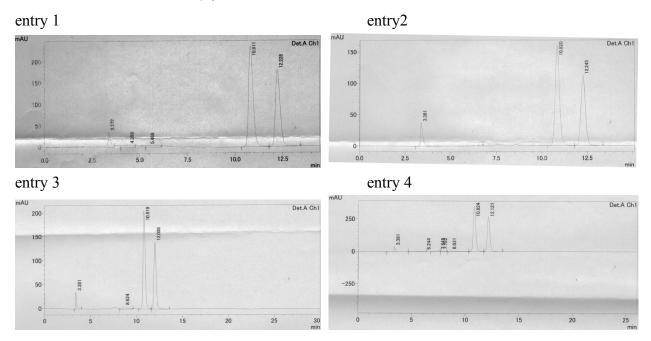
Typical experiment: 1 (10.5 μmol), 2-substituted 1,3-butadiene, [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> (5.25 μmol), and KOTf (10.5 μmol) were dissolved in 0.8 mL of CHCl<sub>3</sub>/CH<sub>3</sub>CN (1:1) in a test tube and the solution was stirred at -10 °C for 3h. The reaction mixture was evaporated, dissolved in dichloromethane and washed with water. The organic layer was concentrated under reduced pressure, followed by purification by GPC to afford the product. The enantiomeric excess (*ee*) of the product was determined by HPLC using Chiralpak IF column (DAICEL, 4.6 mmφ x 250 mm) [EtOAc/hexane (20:80)]; flow rate 1.0 mL/min, UV detector 254 nm (Fig. S28).

Table S1 The enantioselective Diels-Alder reaction of 1 with 2-substituted 1,3-butadines in the presence of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub>•2K<sup>+</sup>



entry	diene		temp.	time	ee %
1	3 equiv.	Me 6	rt	3 h	11% ee
2			-10 °C	3 h	15% ee
3			-40 °C	3 h	19% ee
4 <sup>a</sup>			rt	3 h	12% ee
5 <sup>b</sup>			rt	24 h	11% ee
6	2.5 equiv.		-10 °C	3 h	16% ee
7 <sup>c</sup>			-10 °C	3 h	15% ee
8	1.5 equiv.	10	-40 °C	3 h	19% ee
9	2.5 equiv.	<i>n</i> -hex	-10 °C	3 h	9% ee
10	2.5 equiv.	Bn	-10 °C	3 h	1% ee
11	2.5 equiv.	i-Pr 7	-10 °C	3 h	0.5% ee

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm a}$  KPF  $_{\rm 6}$  was employed.  $^{\rm b}$  Solvent was CH  $_{\rm 3}$ CN only.  $^{\rm c}$  1 equiv. [2+2]crown+2K+ and 2 equiv. KOTf were employed.



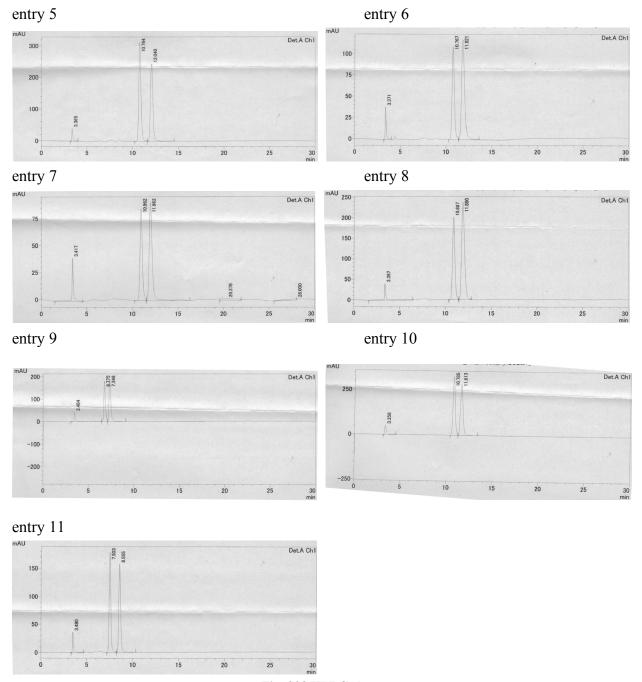
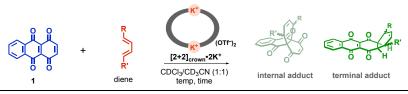


Fig. S28 HPLC charts

# 4-3. The Diels-Alder Reaction of 1 with 1-Mono and 1,4-Di-substituted 1,3-Butadienes

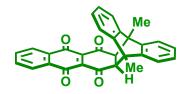
The limitation of applicable diene in this system was also assessed with 1-mono, and 1,4-di-substituted 1,3-butadienes **S8**, **S9**, and **S10** (Table S1). In the reaction with these dienes, the acceleration of the reaction was not observed clearly, and terminal adduct was obtained as major product regardless of whether the catalyst was used. This result indicates that substituents at 1- or 1,4-position of 1,3-butadienes are too much steric hindrance for this reaction.

Table S2 The Diels-Alder reaction of 1 and S8, S9 or S10 in the presence or absence of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub>•2K<sup>+</sup> <sup>a</sup>



						Yield <sup>b</sup>		
Entry		Diene	[2+2] <sub>crown</sub> •2K+	Temp.	Time	Internal	Terminal	
1	1.5 equiv.	Me	1.0 equiv.	−10 °C	4 h	none	45%	
2	s	Me Me	none	−10 °C	4 h	none	34%	
3	1.5 equiv.	Me	1.0 equiv.	27 °C	1.5 h	none	68%	
4	S		none	27 °C	1.5 h	trace	61%	
5	3.0 equiv.		1.0 equiv.	60 °C	4 h	none	44%	
6	S1	10 O OMe	none	60 °C	4 h	trace	14%	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: [1], 6.5 mM; [KOTf], 13 mM; 0.8 mL CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>CN (1:1). NMR yield.

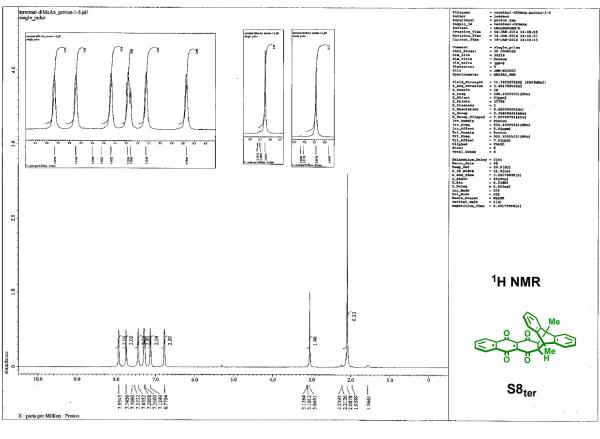


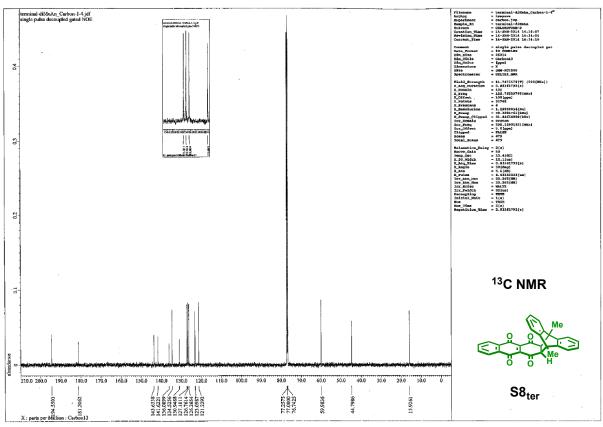
# Physical data of S8ter

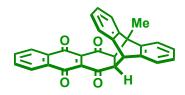
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.93 (br, 2H), 7.75 (br, 2H), 7.44 (br, 2H), 7.29 (br, 2H), 7.12 (br, 2H), 6.77 (br, 2H), 3.04 (s, 2H), 2.09 (s, 6H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 194.6, 181.2, 143.7, 141.6, 136.1, 134.5, 130.9, 127.2, 126.8, 126.3, 123.1, 121.2, 60.0, 44.8, 15.9.

HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>, NBA): *m/z* Calcd. for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: 445.1440, Found: 445.1460 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>. IR (ATR): 1710, 1661, 1590, 1454, 1386, 1291, 1272, 1191, 908 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





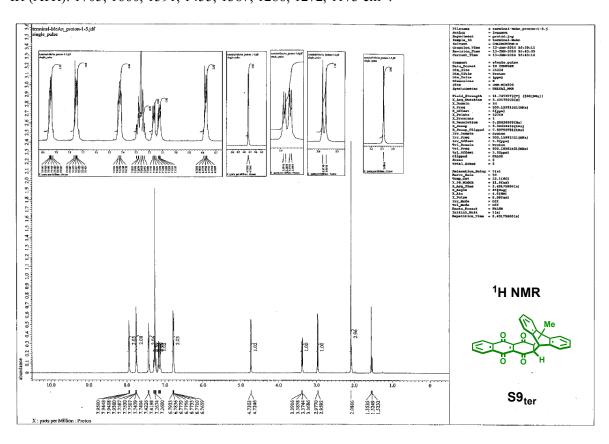


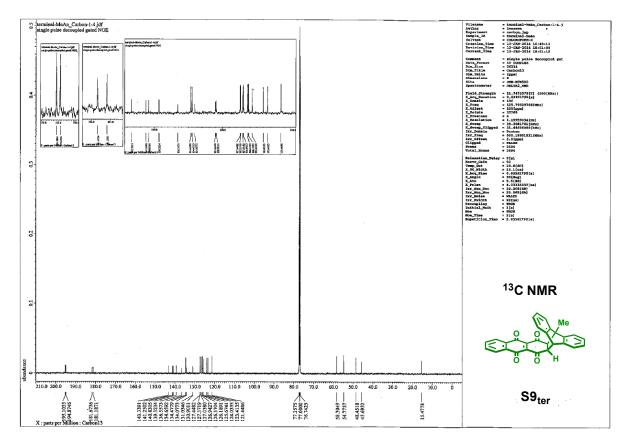
## Physical data of S9<sub>ter</sub>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.95-7.92 (m, 2H), 7.77-7.74 (m, 2H), 7.41-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.23 (m, 2H), 7.17-7.15 (m, 1H), 7.13-7.12 (m, 1H), 6.79-6.77 (m, 2H), 4.73 (d, J = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 3.38 (dd, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 2.97 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 2.09 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 195.1, 194.9, 181.7, 181.2, 143.3, 141.3, 140.8, 139.3, 136.6, 134.7, 134.5, 134.1, 131.0, 130.9, 127.4, 127.4, 127.0, 126.9, 126.4, 126.2, 125.7, 124.0, 123.4, 121.4, 58.3, 54.8, 48.5, 45.7, 15.5.

HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>, NBA): *m/z* Calcd. for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>19</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: 438.1284, Found: 431.1298 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>. IR (ATR): 1705, 1660, 1591, 1455, 1387, 1286, 1272, 1173 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





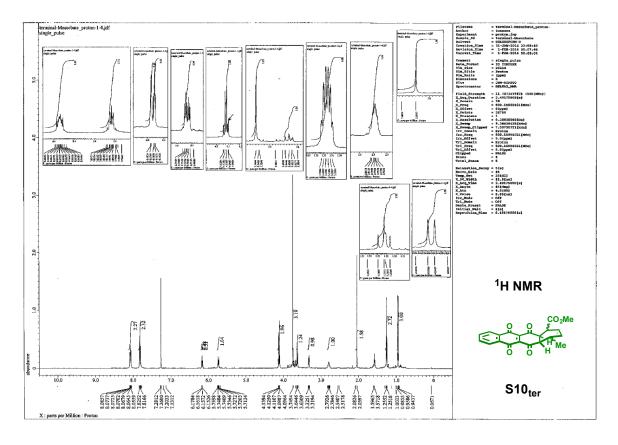
Physical data of S10ter

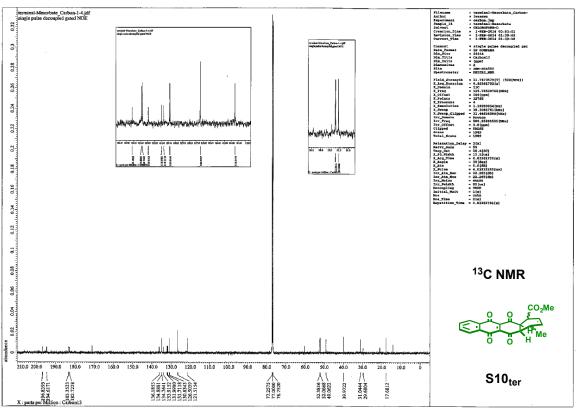
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.09-8.05 (br, 2H), 7.84-7.80 (br, 2H), 6.18-6.15 (m, 1H), 5.71-5.75 (m, 1H), 4.10-4.09 (m, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.63 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.34-3.31 (m, 1H), 2.82-2.77 (m, 1H), 0.95 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 196.8, 194.6, 182.7, 136.2, 134.9, 134.8, 133.9, 132.0, 131.7, 130.8, 126.5, 121.5, 52.4, 52.1, 49.1, 40.0, 31.0, 17.7.

HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>, NBA): m/z Calcd. for  $C_{21}H_{18}O_6$ : 336.1103, Found: 336.1125 [M+2H]<sup>+</sup>. The peak derived from reduction product was observed in MS analysis.

IR (ATR): 1710, 1668, 1591, 1435, 1277, 1191, 908 cm<sup>-1</sup>.





## 5. Experimental Procedure and Characterization of New Compounds

To a DMF (100 mL) solution of 5-Bromo-2-methoxyphenol (5.42 g, 26.7 mmol) was added KOH (1.57 g, 27.9 mmol) and the mixture was heated at 70  $^{\circ}$ C for 1 h. After cooling at room temperature, to this solution was added a DMF (60 ml) solution of bis-[2-(methlsulfonyl)oxyethyl]ether (10.5 g, 40.1 mmol). After the mixture was heated at 70  $^{\circ}$ C for 10 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with water. The organic materials were extracted with ethyl acetate three times, and the combined extracts were washed with brine, and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (n-hexane/ethyl acetate = 1:1), and white solid of **S11** was obtained (4.77 g, 48% yield).

#### Physical data of S11

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.05 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 4.39-4.41 (m, 2H), 4.14-4.16 (m, 2H), 3.88-3.90 (m, 2H), 3.83-3.85 (m, 2H), 3,82 (s, 3H), 3.06 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 148.8, 148.8, 124.2, 117.0, 113.0, 112.5, 69.6, 69.2, 68.7, 56.0, 37.7. HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>, NBA): *m/z* Calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>17</sub>O<sub>6</sub>BrS: 367.9929., Found: 367.9420 [M]<sup>+</sup>. IR (ATR): 1586, 1507, 1350, 1254, 1224, 1173, 1129, 1023, 1016, 959, 812 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

To a DMF (33 mL) solution of 4-Bromo-2-methoxyphenol (2.71 g, 12.7 mmol) was added KOH (712 mg, 12.7 mmol) and the mixture was heated at 70 °C for 1 h. After cooling at room temperature, to this solution was added a DMF (37 ml) solution of **S11** (4.71g, 12.7 mmol). After the mixture was heated at 70 °C for 8 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with water. The organic materials were extracted with ethyl acetate three times, and the combined extracts were washed with brine, and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (*n*-

hexane/ethyl acetate = 2:1), and white solid of S12 was obtained (4.83 g, 81% yield).

#### Physical data of S12

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.04-7.01 (m, 2H), 6.99-6.96 (m, 2H), 6.78 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.72-6.71 (m, 1H), 4.17-4.15 (m, 4H), 3.94-3.91 (m, 4H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3,80 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 150.4, 149.0, 148.9, 147.5, 123.9, 123.3, 117.0, 115.2, 115.2, 113.4, 113.0, 112.5, 69.8, 69.7, 68.9, 68.8, 56.1, 56.0.

HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>, NBA): m/z Calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>5</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>: 473.9677., Found: 473.9672 [M]<sup>+</sup>.

IR (ATR): 1588, 1505, 1399, 1358, 1325, 1253, 1227, 1184, 1123, 1020, 965, 853, 841 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

To a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (100 mL) solution of **S12** (2 g, 4.2 mmol) was added AlCl<sub>3</sub> (3.36 g, 25.2 mmol) and NaI (6.29 g, 42 mmol). After the mixture was refluxed for 13 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with water. The organic materials were extracted with ethyl acetate three times, and the combined extracts were washed with brine, and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate = 3:2), and colorless oil of **S13** was obtained (1.56 g, 83% yield).

#### Physical data of S13

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.13 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.07-7.04 (m, 2H), 6.94 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 4.19-4.15 (m, 4H), 3.87-3.83 (m, 4H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 148.5, 146.7, 146.4, 145.1, 126.2, 123.0, 119.5, 119.1, 117.8, 117.5, 115.7, 111.2, 70.3, 69.9, 69.4, 69.4.

HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>, NBA): *m/z* Calcd. for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>5</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>: 445.9344., Found: 445.9335 [M]<sup>+</sup>.

IR (ATR): 3392, 1490, 1455, 1362, 1259, 1216, 1115, 1050, 941, 870, 792 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

To a DMF (70 mL) solution of **S13** (1.5 g, 3.34 mmol) was added KOH (0.39 g, 3.51 mmol) and the mixture was heated at 70 °C for 1 h. After cooling at room temperature, to this solution was added a DMF (60 ml) solution of bis[2-(methlsulfonyl)oxyethyl]ether (0.92 g, 3.51 mmol). After the mixture was heated at 70 °C

for 10 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with water. The precipitate was filtered and washed with water and ethyl acetate, and dried to afford the white solid **S14** (1.28 g, 74% yield).

#### Physical data of S14

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.00 (dd, J = 6.7, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 4.14-4.12 (m, 8H), 4.00-3.99 (m, 8H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 149.5, 148.0, 123.8, 116.8, 114.9, 113.1, 69.9, 69.7, 69.0.

HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>, NBA): m/z Calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>6</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>: 513.9763., Found: 513.9756 [M]<sup>+</sup>.

IR (ATR): 1506, 1252, 1227, 1134, 997, 931, 864 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

To a DMF (27 mL) solution of **S14** (1.24 g, 2.39 mmol) was added PdCl<sub>2</sub>(dppf) (174 mg, 0.239 mmol), B<sub>2</sub>pin<sub>2</sub>(2.42 g, 9.57 mmol) and KOAc (1.40 g, 14.34 mmol). After the mixture was heated at 100 °C for 18 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with water. The organic materials were extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> three times, and the combined extracts were washed with water five times and brine, and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was purified by GPC to afford the desired product 2<sub>pin</sub> (658 mg, 45% yield).

#### Physical data of 2<sub>pin</sub>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.38 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 4.23-4.21 (m, 2H), 4.17 (m, 2H), 4.06-4.04 (m, 2H), 4.02-4.00 (m, 2H), 1.32 (s, 24H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 151.5, 148.1, 128.9, 121.3, 119.2, 112.6, 83.6, 70.0, 69.9, 69.0, 68.5, 24.9. HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>, NBA): m/z Calcd. for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>46</sub>O<sub>10</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>: 612.3277., Found: 612.3274 [M]<sup>+</sup>.

IR (ATR): 1601, 1520, 1419, 1353, 1300, 1258, 1217, 1138, 1060, 970 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

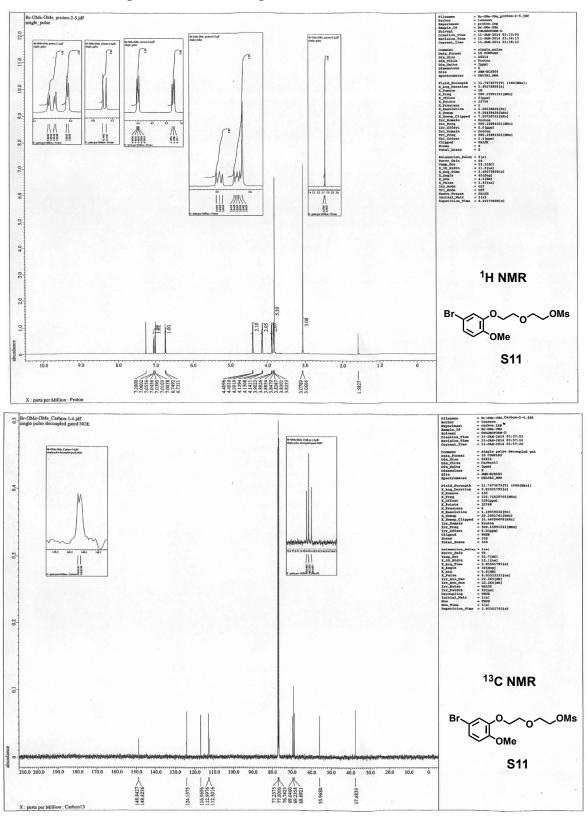
To a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/EtOH (9:1) (35 mL) solution of **2**<sub>pin</sub> (350 mg, 0.57 mmol) was added diethanolamine (0.35 mL, 3.42 mmol). After stirred at room temperature for 10 h, solvent was removed under reduced pressure. 1N HCl (10 mL) were added to the residue and stirred for 2 h, white precipitate was obtained by filtration. The precipitate was washed with water and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, **2** (185 mg, 72% yield) was obtained.

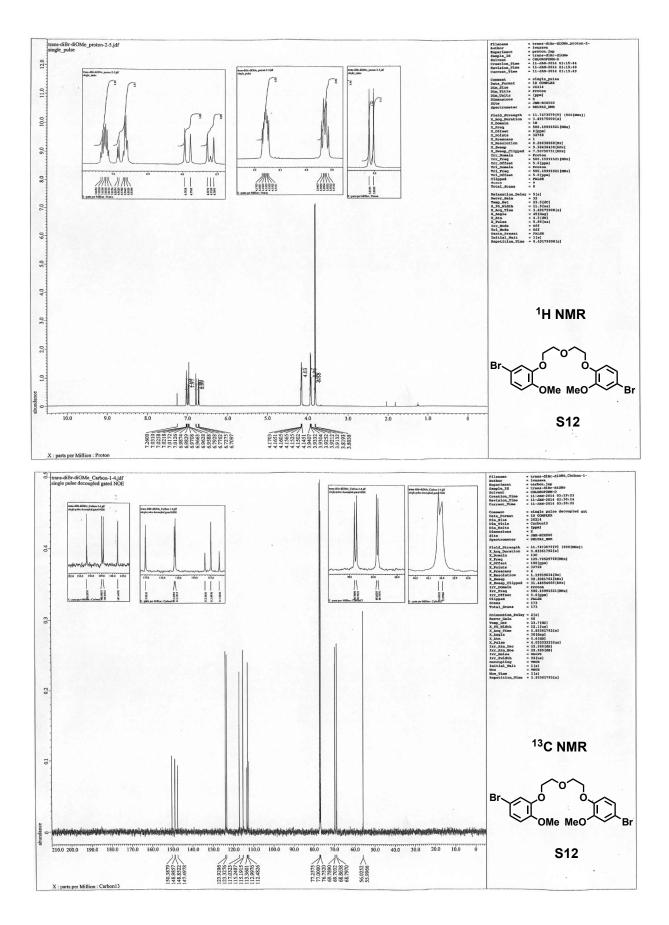
# Physical data of 2

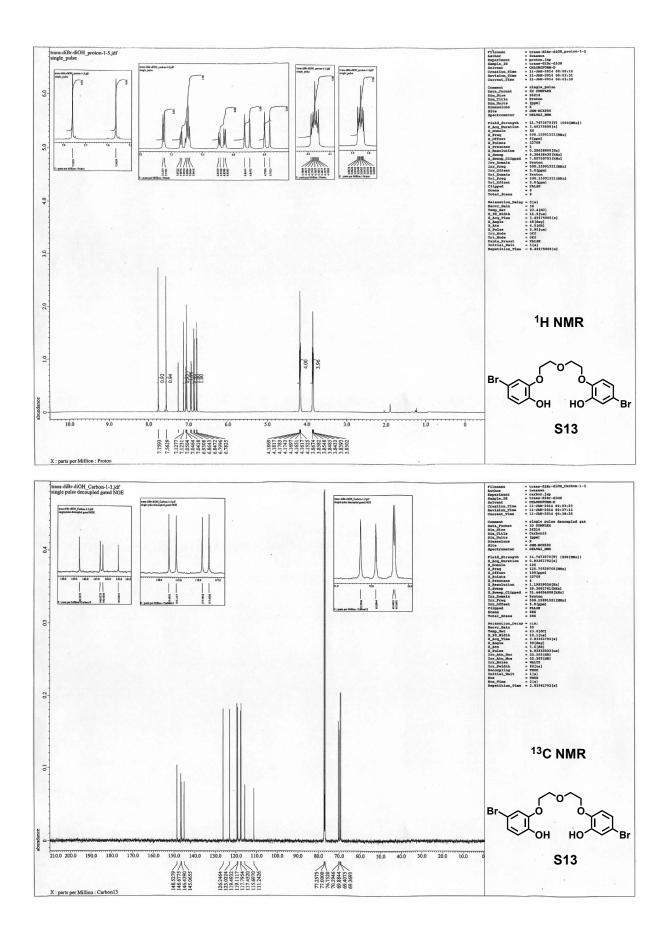
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  7.85 (s, 4H), 7.36-7.35 (m, 4H), 6.90 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 4.07 (br, 8H), 3.84 (br, 8H).

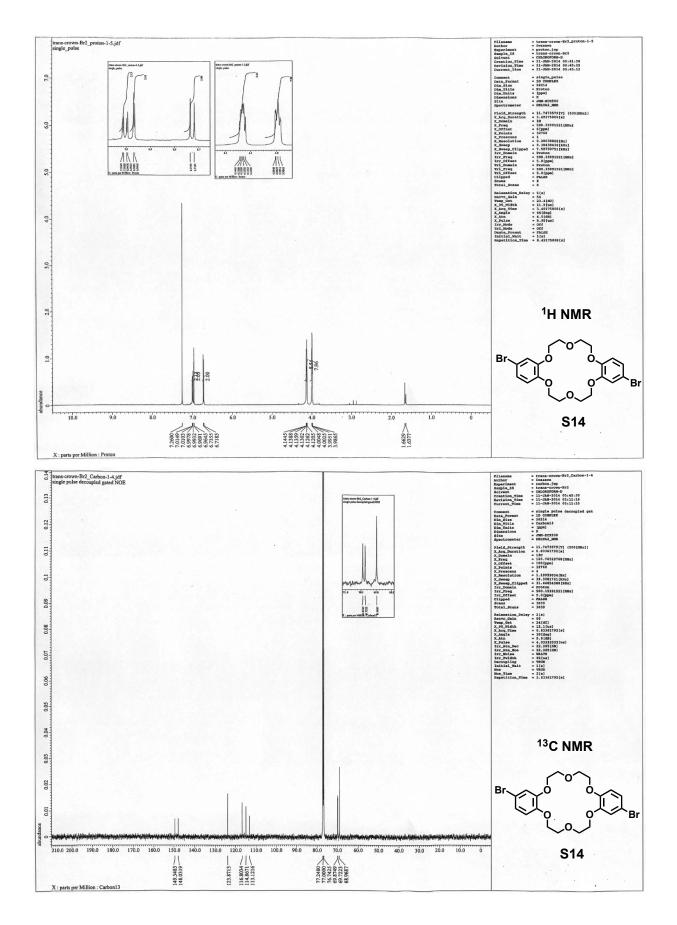
 $^{13}C\ NMR\ (125\ MHz,\ DMSO-d_6):\ \delta\ 149.7,\ 147.0,\ 127.6,\ 125.7,\ 117.6,\ 111.4,\ 69.0,\ 68.9,\ 67.5,\ 67.4.$  IR (ATR): 3363, 1601, 1519, 1420, 1388, 1349, 1315, 1257, 1227, 1157, 1121, 1087, 1052, 988, 942 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

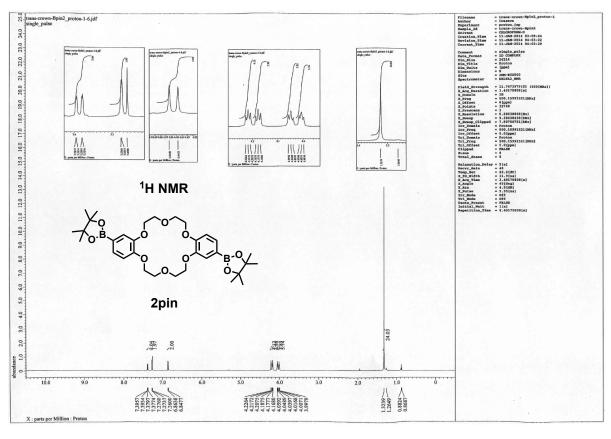
# 6. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectra of New Compounds

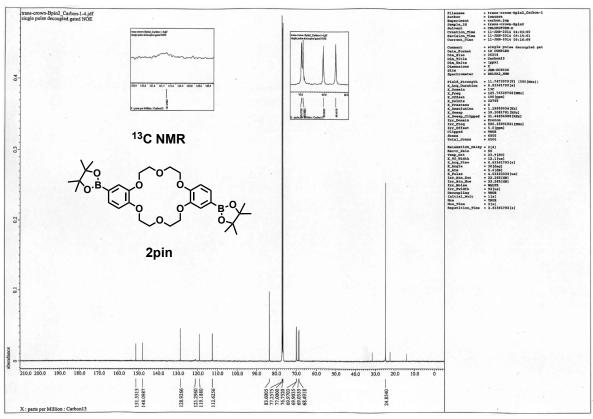


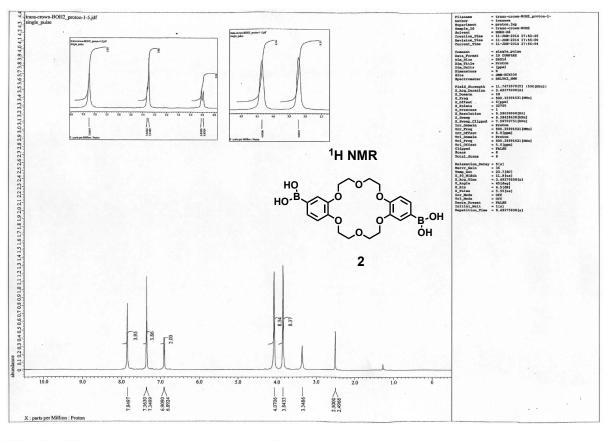


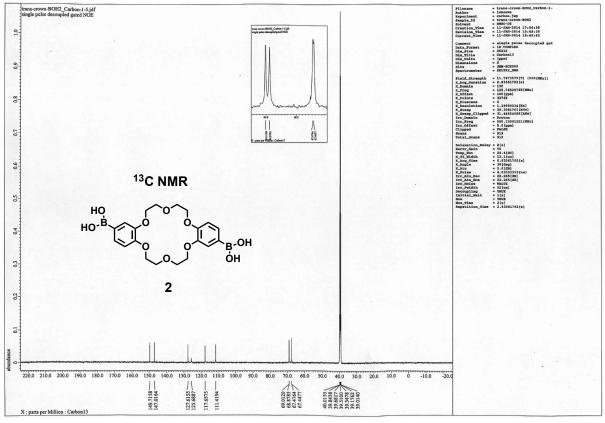












# 7. X-ray Crystallographic Analysis of a racemic crystal of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub>

Single crystals, suitable for X-ray diffraction analysis, were obtained as racemic crystals from the mixture of equimolar amounts of macrocyclic boronic esters constructed by using 2 and (+)-tetrol or (-)-tetrol, respectively. Racemic crystals of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> were obtained by vapor diffusion method using a dichloromethane solution as a good solvent, and pentane as a poor solvent.

The single crystal X-ray diffraction data were collected on a Rigaku R-AXIS II with IP area detector using  $CuK\alpha$  ( $\lambda = 1.54186 \text{ Å}$ ). The structure was solved by direct methods by *SHELXS*. The cage molecular structure of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> was obtained. The five dichloromethane molecules were included by [2+2]<sub>crown</sub> (the site occupancy factors were 0,8, 0.8, 0.7, 0.4 and 0.65, respectively). And a dichloromethane molecule was outside the cage (the site occupancy factor is 0.4). The refinement was performed by full-matrix least squares using *SHELXL*-2014. Crystal structure of [2+2]<sub>crown</sub>:  $C_{72}$  H<sub>80</sub> B<sub>4</sub> O<sub>20</sub>, 3.75(C H<sub>2</sub> Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $M_r$  = 1627.07, Monoclinic,  $P_2$ <sub>1</sub>/c, a = 18.3378(10) Å, b = 20.9587(10) Å, c = 22.0613(12) Å,  $\beta$  = 91.6688(18)°, V=8475.4(8) Å<sup>3</sup>,  $D_{calc}$  = 1.275 g cm<sup>-3</sup>, T = 93(2) K, no. of unique reflections = 15473,  $R_{int}$  = 0.1521, no. of parameters = 1042, no. of restraints = 60,  $R_1$  = 0.1203,  $wR_2$  = 0.3170, S =0.893 for 15473 reflections, max/min. residual density 0.757/-0.264 eÅ<sup>-3</sup>. CCDC reference number 1541693.

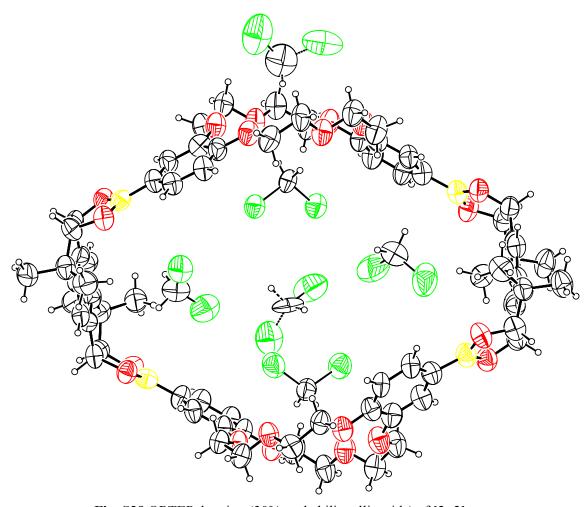


Fig. S29 ORTEP drawing (30% probability ellipsoids) of  $[2+2]_{crown}$ .

Table S3 Crystal data and structure refinement for [2+2]<sub>crown</sub>.

Empirical formula  $C_{72} H_{80} B_4 O_{20}$ ,  $3.75(CH_2Cl_2)$ 

Formula weight 1627.07

Temperature 93(2) K

Wavelength 1.54186 Å

Crystal system Monoclinic

Space group  $P 2_1/c$ 

Unit cell dimensions a = 18.3378(10) Å.

b = 20.9587(10) Å  $\beta = 91.6688(18)^{\circ}.$ 

c = 22.0613(12) Å.

Volume 8475.4(8) Å<sup>3</sup>

Z 4

Density (calculated) 1.275 Mg/m³
Absorption coefficient 2.828 mm⁻¹

F(000) 3398

Crystal size  $0.150 \times 0.110 \times 0.090 \text{ mm}^3$ 

Theta range for data collection 3.203 to 68.247°.

Index ranges -22 <= h <= 22, -25 <= k <= 24, -26 <= l <= 26

Reflections collected 78205

Independent reflections 15473 [R(int) = 0.1521]

Completeness to theta =  $67.686^{\circ}$  99.9 %

Absorption correction Semi-empirical from equivalents

Max. and min. transmission 0.785 and 0.482

Refinement method Full-matrix least-squares on  $F^2$ 

Data / restraints / parameters 15473 / 60 / 1042

Goodness-of-fit on  $F^2$  0.893

Final *R* indices [I > 2 sigma(I)]  $R_1 = 0.1203$ ,  $wR_2 = 0.3170$ *R* indices (all data)  $R_1 = 0.2748$ ,  $wR_2 = 0.4130$ 

Extinction coefficient n/a

Largest diff. peak and hole 0.757 and -0.264 e.Å<sup>-3</sup>

# 8. References

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