# **Supplementary Information**

# Cyclic dimer of a fused porphyrin zinc complex as a novel host with two $\pi$ -electronically coupled binding sites

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#### 1. Measurements

Electronic absorption spectra were recorded on a JASCO model U-best V-560 or V-570 spectrometer. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded at 293 K in CDCl<sub>3</sub> or toluene-*d*<sub>8</sub> on a JEOL Type GSX-270 spectrometer, operating at 270.05 MHz, using a residual non-deuterated solvent as an internal reference. Matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization time-of-flight mass spectrometry (MALDI-TOF-MS) was performed on an Applied Biosystems BioSpectrometry Workstation<sup>TM</sup> model Voyager-DE<sup>TM</sup> STR spectrometer using dithranol as a matrix.

#### 2. Synthesis

#### 2-1. Synthesis of boronic acid 8



Scheme 1. Reagents and conditions: (i) TBDPSCl, imidazole, DMF, r.t.; (ii) n-BuLi, B(OMe)<sub>3</sub>, THF, -78 °C.

8: To a DMF solution (350 mL) of a mixture of 3-bromophenol (25 g, 0.14 mol) and imidazole (10 g, 0.15 mol) was dropwise added tert-butyldiphenylsilyl chloride (TBDPSCl; 40 mL, 0.15 mol), and the mixture was stirred for 2 h under Ar at room temperature. Then, the reaction mixture was poured into toluene, and the solution was washed with water, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel with CHCl<sub>3</sub> as an eluent, where the first fraction was collected and evaporated to leave 7 as colorless transparent oil (58 g, 98%). To a THF solution (80 mL) of 7 (10 g, 24 mmol) was dropwise added a hexane solution of *n*-BuLi (1.5 M, 19 mL), and the mixture was stirred for 2 h at -78 °C under Ar. To the reaction mixture was dropwise added B(OMe)<sub>3</sub> (8.1 mL, 72 mmol), and the mixture was stirred for 2 h at -78 °C under Ar. Then, the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and evaporated to dryness. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel with CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH (98/2) as an eluent, where the second fraction was collected and evaporated to leave boronic acid 8 as colorless transparent oil (4.8 g, 53%): <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $(CDCl_3)$   $\delta$  7.80–7.70 (m, 4H, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>), 7.59 (d, 1H, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>), 7.50 (d, 1H, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>), 7.45–7.36  $(m, 6H, C_6H_5), 7.21 (t, 1H, C_6H_4), 6.96 (d x 2, 1H, C_6H_4), 1.16 (s, 9H, t-Bu).$ 



# 2-2. Synthesis of triaryl substituted porphyrin zinc complex 2

Scheme 2. Reagents and conditions: (i) I<sub>2</sub>, AgPF<sub>6</sub>, CHCl<sub>3</sub>/pyridine, r.t.; (ii) 8, Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, DMF, 60 °C.

2: To a CHCl<sub>3</sub>/pyridine (60/1) solution (66 mL) of 9 (499 mg, 0.67 mmol) (M. J. Plater, S. Aiken and G. Bourhill, Tetrahedron, 2002, 58, 2405.) were added I<sub>2</sub> (168 mg, 0.66 mmol) and  $AgPF_6$  (170 mg, 0.67 mmol), and the mixture was stirred for 30 min at room temperature. Then, the reaction mixture was washed with saturated aqueous KI and water, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness. To a CHCl<sub>3</sub> solution (60 mL) of the residue was added 12 N aqueous HCl/MeOH (1/1, 5 mL), and the mixture, stirred for 10 min at room temperature, was treated with aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness. To a CHCl<sub>3</sub> solution (60 mL) of the residue was added a MeOH suspension of Zn(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (3 mL), and the mixture was stirred for 12 h at room temperature. Then, the reaction mixture was washed with water, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel with  $CHCl_3$ /hexane (1/2) as an eluent, where the first fraction containing 10 was collected and evaporated to dryness. To the residue (330 mg) dissolved in DMF (30 mL) were successively added boronic acid 8 (1.38 g, 3.6 mmol) and  $K_2CO_3$  (495 mg, 3.6 mmol), and the mixture was subjected to freeze-pump-thaw cycles. To the resulting suspension was added Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (87 mg, 0.33 mmol) under Ar, and the mixture was stirred for 3 h at 60 °C and evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure. Then, the residue was dissolved in AcOEt, and the solution was washed with water, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness to give a crude product, which was subjected to recycling preparative size exclusion chromatography (SEC) with CHCl<sub>3</sub> as an eluent. The second fraction was collected and evaporated to leave 2 as purple solid (302 mg, 42%): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.23 (s, 1H, meso-H), 9.38 (d, 2H, pyrrole-β-H), 9.12 (d, 2H, pyrrole-β-H), 8.94 (d, 2H, pyrrole-β-H), 8.73 (d, 2H, pyrrole-β-H), 8.09 (t, 4H, Ar), 7.83–7.80 (m, 6H, Ar), 7.67–7.63 (m, 2H, Ar), 7.40-7.34 (m, 6H, Ar), 7.20-7.16 (m, 2H, Ar), 1.56 (s, 18H, t-Bu), 1.54 (s, 18H, t-Bu), 1.14 (s, 9H, t-Bu); MALDI-TOF-MS m/z calcd. for C<sub>70</sub>H<sub>74</sub>N<sub>4</sub>OSiZn (M<sup>+</sup>) 1080.8, found

1080.5.



### 2-3. Synthesis of fused porphyrin zinc complexes 3–5

**Scheme 3.** *Reagents and conditions*: (i) DDQ, Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub>, toluene, r.t.; (ii) Br(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>6</sub>Br, KF, 18-crown-6, acetone, 50 °C; (iii) TBAF, THF, r.t..

**3:** To a toluene solution (75 mL) of triarylporphyrin **2** (302 mg, 0.28 mmol), after freeze-pump-thaw cycles, was added 2,3-dichloro-5,6-dicyano-1,4-benzoquinone (DDQ) (190 mg, 0.84 mmol), and the mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature. Then, Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub> (412 mg, 0.84 mmol) was added, and the mixture was stirred for 15 h at room temperature. After the addition of THF (30 mL), followed by stirring for 1 h, the reaction mixture was washed with water, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness. The residue was subjected to recycling preparative SEC with CHCl<sub>3</sub> as an eluent, where the first fraction was collected and evaporated to leave **3** as dark purple solid (205 mg, 63%): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.74 (t, 4H, Ar), 7.72 (d, 4H, pyrrole- $\beta$ -H), 7.63 (d, 4H, pyrrole- $\beta$ -H), 7.61 (t, 8H, Ar), 7.58 (d, 4H, Ar), 7.43 (d, 4H, Ar), 7.36–7.31 (m, 12H, Ar), 7.28 (s, 4H, pyrrole- $\beta$ -H), 7.22–7.20 (m, 4H, Ar), 7.00–6.98 (m, 2H, Ar), 1.46 (s, 36H, *t*-Bu), 1.43 (s, 36H, *t*-Bu), 1.10 (s, 18H, *t*-Bu); MALDI-TOF-MS *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>140</sub>H<sub>142</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>Zn<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 2155.6, found 2155.4; UV-vis (toluene):  $\lambda_{max}$  (log  $\varepsilon$ ) 420 (5.13), 461 (4.68), 585 (5.08), 927 (4.24), 1058 (4.50) nm.

**4:** An acetone suspension (8 mL) of a mixture of porphyrin **3** (82 mg, 0.04 mmol), 1,6-dibromohexane (2 mL, 13 mmol), KF (26 mg, 0.53 mmol) and 18-crown-6 (23 mg, 0.09 mmol) was stirred for 4 h at 50 °C under Ar and evaporated to dryness. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as an eluent, where the first fraction was collected and evaporated to dryness. A CHCl<sub>3</sub> solution (10 mL) of the residue was washed with water, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness. The residue was subjected to recycling preparative SEC with CHCl<sub>3</sub> as an eluent, where the first fraction was collected and evaporated to leave **4** as dark purple solid (77 mg, 97%): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) *δ*7.72 (t, 4H, pyrrole-β-H), 7.66 (d, 4H, pyrrole-β-H), 7.63 (br, 8H, Ar), 7.60 (br, 4H, Ar), 7.45–7.36 (m, 6H, Ar), 7.32 (s, 4H, pyrrole-β-H), 7.10–7.07 (m, 2H, Ar), 4.02 (t, 4H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.38 (t, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>Br), 1.89–1.78 (m, 4H, OCH<sub>2</sub>CL<sub>4</sub>C4H<sub>8</sub>Br), 1.60–1.45 (m,

12H, OC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>(*CH*<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Br), 1.43 (s, 72H, *t*-Bu); MALDI-TOF-MS m/z calcd. for C<sub>148</sub>H<sub>176</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>18</sub>Zn<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 2003.7, found 2004.1.

**5:** To a THF solution (10 mL) of **3** (115 mg, 0.053 mmol) was added a THF solution of *n*-Bu<sub>4</sub>NF (TBAF; 1.0 M, 0.5 mL), and the mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature and evaporated to dryness. A CHCl<sub>3</sub> solution (10 mL) of the residue was washed with water, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness. The residue was subjected to preparative SEC with toluene as an eluent, where the first fraction was collected and evaporated to dryness. The residue was recrystallized from CHCl<sub>3</sub>/cyclohexane to leave **5** as black solid (85 mg, 95%): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) *δ*7.71 (d, 4H, pyrrole-β-H), 7.67 (d, 4H, pyrrole-β-H), 7.63 (t, 8H, Ar), 7.60 (t, 4H, Ar), 7.41–7.34 (m, 6H, Ar), 7.34 (s, 4H, pyrrole-β-H), 7.06–7.02 (m, 2H, Ar), 4.76 (s, 2H, OH), 1.43 (s, 72H, *t*-Bu); MALDI-TOF-MS *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>108</sub>H<sub>106</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Zn<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 1678.8, found 1678.5.



## 2-4. Synthesis of phenylene-bridged diporphyrin zinc complex 6

Scheme 4. Reagents and conditions: (i) pinacol, Et<sub>2</sub>O, r.t., 1 d.; (ii) 11, Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, DMF, 60 °C, 2 d...

6: An ether solution (10 mL) of a mixture of 1,4-phenylenediboronic acid (500 mg, 3.0 mmol) and pinacol (785 mg, 6.6 mmol) was stirred for 12 h at room temperature and evaporated to dryness. The residue dissolved in CHCl<sub>3</sub> was chromatographed on silica gel with CHCl<sub>3</sub> as an eluent, where the first fraction was collected and evaporated to leave 11 as white solid (940 mg, 95%). To a DMF solution (10 mL) of 11 (27 mg, 0.08 mmol) were added K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (184 mg, 3.6 mmol) and the solid substance containing 10 (70 mg; see preparation of compound 2), and the mixture was subjected to freeze-pump-thaw cycles. Then, Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (192 mg, 0.33 mmol) was added to the resulting suspension under Ar, and the mixture was stirred for 2 days at 60 °C and evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in AcOEt, and the solution was washed with water, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness. The residue was subjected to preparative SEC with toluene as an eluent, where the third fraction was collected and evaporated to leave 6 as purple solid (59 mg, 32%): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.31 (s, 2H, meso-H), 9.45 (d x 2, 8H, pyrrole-β-H), 9.21 (t, 8H, pyrrole-β-H), 8.61 (s, 4H, Ar), 8.19 (d, 8H, Ar), 7.85 (t, 4H, Ar), 1.58 (s, 72H, t-Bu); MALDI-TOF-MS m/z calcd. for C<sub>70</sub>H<sub>74</sub>N<sub>4</sub>OSiZn (M<sup>+</sup>) 1080.8, found 1080.5; UV-vis (toluene):  $\lambda_{max}$  (log  $\varepsilon$ ) 419 (5.66), 426 (5.68), 546 (4.55) nm.

Spectroscopic titration of cyclic host 1 with 4,4'-bipyridine (bpy) in toluene at 20 °C. [1]<sub>0</sub> = 1.6 x 10<sup>-6</sup> M; [bpy]/[1] = 0–2.0



Job's plots (∠Abs; monitored at (a) 1107 and (b) 1122 nm) upon mixing of cyclic host 1 with 4,4'-bipyridine (bpy) in toluene at 20 °C. [1] + [bpy] = 5.9 x 10<sup>-6</sup> M



The formation of  $1 \supset bpy(a)$  and  $1 \supset bpy_2(b)$  was confirmed by appropriate selection of the monitoring wavelengths sensitive to the 1:1 and 1:2 complexations, respectively.

5. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (pyrrole-β, Ar and OCH<sub>2</sub> proton regions) of cyclic host 1
(A) and 1⊃bpy<sub>2</sub> (1:2.5) (B) in toluene-d<sub>8</sub> at 20 °C





6. Absorption spectra of the zinc complexes of fused porphyrin 3 and phenylene-bridged diporphyrin 6 in toluene at 20 °C. [3] and [6] =  $8.6 \times 10^{-6}$  M



7. Spectroscopic titration of the zinc complexes of fused porphyrin 3 and phenylene-bridged diporphyrin 6 with pyridine (py) in toluene at 20 °C



**7-1.**  $[\mathbf{3}]_0 = 2.5 \text{ x } 10^{-5} \text{ M}; (a) [py]/[\mathbf{3}] = 0-5 \text{ and } (b) 50-90$ 

**7-2.**  $[6]_0 = 1.5 \ge 10^{-6} \text{ M};$  (a) [py]/[6] = 0-24 and (b) 27-78



