Electronic Supplementary Information

Triptycene-derived calix[6]arenes: synthesis, structure and tubular assemblies in the solid state

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1. Synthesis and characterization data of macrocycles 1 and 2

2, **7-Dimethyl-1**, **8-dimethoxy-9**, **10-anthracenedione (5).** To a vigorously stirred mixture of 2, 7-dimethyl-1, 8- dihydroxy-9, 10-anthracenedione $\mathbf{4}^{\text{S1}}$ (3.0 g, 11.1 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (12.3 g, 89.1 mmol) in acetone (100 mL) was added dimethylsulfate (8.4 mL, 88.8 mmol). The reaction mixture was refluxed for 24 h. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure, and then concentrated ammonia solution was added. The solution was stirred for 3 h at r.t. and filtered. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with petroleum ether/EtOAc (4:1) as eluent to afford 5 (2.9 g, 88 %) as a yellow solid. Mp: 160-162 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.42 (s, 6H), 3.95 (s, 6H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 16.7, 61.6, 122.5, 127.7, 133.1, 135.6, 140.4, 158.4, 183.0, 183.6. EI-MS: 321 [M+Na]⁺. Anal. calcd. for C₁₈H₁₆O₄: C 72.96, H 5.44; found: C 72.64, H 5.56.

2, 7-Dimethyl-1, 8-dimethoxyanthracene (6). To a 10% NaOH solution (150 mL) of compound **5** (2.9 g, 9.7 mmol) was added zinc powder (3.3 g, 49.8 mmol). The mixture was stirred for 4 h at 120 °C, cooled to room temperature and then filtered.

The filtered cake was washed with CH₂Cl₂. The organic solution was concentrated, and the residue was subjected to chromatography on silica gel with petroleum ether/ CH₂Cl₂ (4:1) as eluent to give compound **6** (2.4 g, 92 %) as a light-yellow crystals. Mp: 152-153 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.49 (s, 6H), 4.01 (s, 6H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.34 (s, 1H), 8.85 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 16.0, 61.1, 114.3, 123.9, 124.6, 126.4, 126.9, 129.2, 131.8, 153.3. EI-MS: 267 [M+H]⁺, 289 [M+Na]⁺. Anal. calcd. for C₁₈H₁₈O₂: C 81.17, H 6.81; found: C 81.12, H 6.87.

2, **7-Dimethyl-1**, **8-dimethoxytriptycene (7).** To a refluxing solution of compound **6** (2.4 g, 9.0 mmol) in 1,2-dichloroethane (100 mL) and 1, 2-epoxypropane (10 mL) was added portionwise benzenediazonium carboxylate (5.4 g, 36.0 mmol) over 24 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and then purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/CH₂Cl₂ 4:1) to give **7** (2.6 g, 85 %) as a white solid. Mp: 156-158 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.18 (s, 6H), 3.87 (s, 6H), 5.33 (s, 1H), 6.15 (s, 1H), 6.78 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (m, 2H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.30–7.73 (m, 2H).¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 15.7, 42.3, 53.8, 61.4, 119.2, 123.5, 123.6, 125.1, 127.4, 127.9, 137.0, 144.8, 145.8, 146.4, 153.7. EI-MS: 365 [M+Na]⁺. Anal. calcd. for C₂₄H₂₂O₂: C 84.18, H 6.48; found: C 83.97, H 6.55.

1, 8-Dimethoxytriptycene-2, 7-dicarboxylic acid (8). To a refluxing solution of compound **7** (2.6 g, 7.7 mmol) in pyridine (60 mL) and H₂O (20 mL) was added portionwise KMnO₄ (21.9 g, 138.6 mmol, 9 equiv per CH₃ group) over 24 h. After cooling to r.t., the reaction mixture was filtered and washed with 1 % NaOH solution. The filtrate was evaporated, and then acidified to pH 1 with 6 N HCl. The suspension was filtered, dried and further purified by recrystallization from methanol to afford **8** (2.1 g, 66 %) as a white solid. Mp: 254-256 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.90 (s, 6H), 5.86 (s, 1H), 6.26 (s, 1H), 7.07 (m, 2H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.61 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 52.7, 62.6, 119.6, 123.1, 123.8, 124.2, 125.5, 125.7, 128.6, 137.9, 143.7, 144.2, 150.8, 154.1, 166.8. EI-MS: 401 [M-H]⁺. Anal. calcd. for C₂₄H₂₂O₂: C 71.64, H 4.51; found: C

71.86, H 4.68.

1, 8-Dimethoxytriptycene-2, 7-dicarboxylic acid dimethyl ester (9). To a refluxing solution of compound **8** (2.1 g, 5.2 mmol) in methanol (40 mL) was added SOCl₂ (5.0 mL) dropwise. The mixture was refluxed for another 8 h. After the mixture was cooled, the suspension was filtered to afford **9** (2.1 g, 93 %) as a white solid. Mp: 200-202 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.85 (s, 6H), 3.99 (s, 6H), 5.49 (s, 1H), 6.33 (s, 1H), 7.03 (m, 2H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.38–7.47 (m, 2H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 41.7, 52.0, 54.4, 63.1, 119.5, 122.0, 124.0, 124.1, 125.7, 125.9, 129.4, 138.6, 143.8, 144.2, 151.5, 155.2, 166.2. EI-MS: *m/z* 431 [M+H]⁺, 453 [M+Na]⁺. Anal. calcd. for C₂₆H₂₂O₆: C 72.55, H 5.15; found: C 72. 21, H 5.21.

2, 6-Dihydroxymethyl-1, 8-dimethoxytriptycene (3). To a solution of **9** (2.1 g, 4.9mmol) in THF was added sodium borohydride (1.9 g, 49mmol). The mixture was stirred for 15 min at refluxing temperature. Methanol (8 mL) was then added dropwise. The mixture was refluxed for another 3 h. After cooling to r.t., 3 N HCl was added to quench the reaction and extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The organic phase was dried and concentrated to give pure alcohol **3** (1.7 g, 95 %) as a white solid. Mp: 170-171 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.92 (s, 2H), 3.96 (s, 6H), 4.61 (s, 4H), 5.41 (s, 1H), 6.15 (s, 1H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (m, 2H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.30–7.52 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 42.2, 54.0, 61.3, 62.7, 119.7, 123.5, 123.9, 125.5, 126.1, 131.1, 137.0, 144.0, 145.6, 147.7, 153.5. EI-MS: *m/z* 397 [M+Na]⁺. Anal. calcd. for C₂₄H₂₂O₄: C 76.99, H 5.92; found: C 76.64, H 5.94.

Reference:

S1. C. Marschalk, F. Koenig, N. Ouroussoff, Bull. Soc. Chim. Fr., 1936, 5, 1545–1568.

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1 and 2. To a solution of catalytic amount of TsOH in *o*-dichlorobenzene (60 mL) was slowly added at 100 °C a solution of **3** (0.374 g, 1 mmol) and *p-tert*-butylphenol (0.15 g, 1 mmol) in o-dichlorobenzene (120 mL) under argon atmosphere. After 24 h an additional quantity of *p-tert*-butylphenol (0.15g, 1 mmol) was added and the mixture heated for an additional 24 h. The dark resolution was evaporated in vacuum, and then the mixture was separated by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent: 1:10 ethyl acetate/petroleum ether) to afford **1** (0.19 g, 19%) and **2** (0.17 g, 17%). **1** and 2 could be further crystallized from CH₂Cl₂/petroleum ether. 1. Mp: $300 > {}^{\circ}C$. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.30 (s, 18H), 3.35 (d, J = 15.3 Hz, 4H), 3.91 (s, 12H), 4.25 (d, J = 15.3 Hz, 4H), 5.24 (s, 2H), 5.97 (s, 2H), 6.09 (s, 2H), 6.64 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 6.88–6.97 (m, 8H), 7.08 (s, 4H), 7.28–7.40 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 29.9, 31.7, 33.9, 42.6, 53.7, 62.5, 119.9, 123.4, 123.6, 125.1, 125.2, 125.4, 126.5, 127.2, 130.0, 136.7, 141.9, 144.9, 145.8, 146.6, 150.2, 152.6. MALDI-TOF MS: m/z 999 $[M+Na]^+$, 1015 $[M+K]^+$. Anal. Calcd for $C_{68}H_{64}O_6 \cdot 1.5CH_2Cl_2 \cdot 0.5H_2O$: C 74.96, H 6.15; found: C 74.97, H 6.21. **2.** Mp: > 300 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.22 (s, 18H), 3.20 (s, 12H), 3.68 (d, J = 14.5 Hz, 4H), 3.87 (d, J = 14.5 Hz, 4H), 5.34 (s, 2H), 5.86 (s, 2H), 6.00 (s, 2H), 6.97 (m, 8H), 7.16–7.02 (m, 8H), 7.30–7.40 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 31.6, 32.6, 34.0, 42.5, 53.9, 61.9, 119.4, 123.4, 125.1, 125.3, 126.1, 127.3, 128.0, 130.9, 136.8, 143.0, 144.6, 146.3, 146.5, 150.5, 153.2. MALDI-TOF MS: m/z 999 $[M+Na]^+$, 1015 $[M+K]^+$. Anal. Calcd for C₆₈H₆₄O₆·0.5H₂O: C 74.66, H 6.12; found: C 74.84, H 6.36.

2. Copies of ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra of new compounds



Figure S2. ¹³C NMR spectrum (CDCl₃) of 5.







Figure S4. ¹³C NMR spectrum (CDCl₃) of 6.

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Figure S8. ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃) of 8.

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Figure S12. ¹³C NMR spectrum (CDCl₃) of 3



Figure S3. ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃) of 1



Figure S14. ¹³C NMR spectrum (CDCl₃) of 1.



Figure S16. ¹³C NMR spectrum (CDCl₃) of 2.

3. ¹H-¹H COSY and ¹³C-¹H COSY 2D NMR spectra of 1 and 2



Figure S17. ¹H-¹H COSY spectrum of **1**.



Figure S18. ¹H-¹H COSY spectrum of 2.







Figure S20. ¹³C-¹H COSY spectrum of **2**.

4. X-ray crystal structures and packing of 1 and 2

The X-ray measurements were carried on a Saturn724+ CCD diffractometer with graphite-monochromator Mo-K α radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å) at 173 K. Intensities were collected using CrystalClear (Rigaku Inc., 2008) technique and absorption effects were collected using the multi-scan technique. The structure of **1** was solved by direct methods and refined by a full matrix least squares technique based on F^2 using SHELXL 97 program. The structure of **2** was solved using SHELXS-97 (Sheldrick, 1990) program and refined by a full matrix least squares technique based on F^2 using SHELXL 97 program. Application of the restraints is for confining the thermal vibration parameters of the disordered solvent molecules, which can make them be isotropic. Because highly disordered solvent molecules were difficult to be determined, they were deleted with SQUEEZE program in the crystal structure of **1**. For **2**, the high *R*-factor and weighted *R*-factor might be mainly due to the solvent molecules which haven't been treated with SQUEEZE program.



Figure S21. A 3D microporous structure of 1 viewed along the *b*-axis. Solvent molecules and hydrogen atoms were omitted for clarity.



Figure S22. View of the non-covalent interactions between CH_2Cl_2 molecules and macrocycle 2 during the formation of the organic tube. Other solvent molecules and hydrogen atoms not involved in the interactions are omitted for clarity.



Figure S23. Packing of 2. View of a 2D layer structure. Dashed lines denote the non-covalent interactions between the CH_2Cl_2 molecule and its adjacent macrocycles.



Figure S24. Packing of 2. View of the 3D microporous structure (a) without the solvents, and (b) with the solvents situated in the different channels along the a-axis. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.