#### Water-Soluble Ionic Benzoporphyrins

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#### I. General

All solvents were analytical reagent grade unless otherwise stated and were obtained either from Sigma-Aldrich or ACROS. Analytical TLC's were performed on Silicycle UltraPure Silica Gel 60 F254 TLC plates. Preparative column chromatography was performed on silica gel (1000µm), which was purchased from Silicycle. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C experiments were conducted on a Bruker Avance 500MHz spectrometer. All samples were prepared in CDCl<sub>3</sub> and chemical shifts were referenced to CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 7.24ppm for <sup>1</sup>H NMR and referenced to CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 77 ppm for <sup>13</sup>C-NMR unless otherwise stated. UV-Visible spectra were recorded on an Agilent 8453 UV-Visible spectrometer in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Mass spectra were obtained on Bruker MALDI-TOF mass spectrometer and Bruker ESQUIRE~LCMS. M.P.'s were measured on an Electrothermal MEL-TEMP apparatus and were uncorrected.

# **II.** General procedure for the Heck coupling reaction of metalated dibromoporphyrins



3-vinyl pyridine was prepared using literature reported procedure. (A. Gordillo, E. Jesus, C. Lo´pez-Mardomingo; *Chem. Commun.*, 2007, 4056–4058)
Dibromoarylporphyrin 1 (0.045 mmol), palladium acetate (0.012 mmol),

Distribution of dry DMF (10 mL) and  $K_2CO_3$  (0.09 mmol) were added to Schlenk tube and dried under vacuum. The vacuum was released under argon to allow the addition of dry DMF (10 mL) and dry xylene (10 mL) and 4-vinylpyridine or 3-vinylpyridine or sodium 4-phenyl sulfonate (25-fold excess). The mixture was then degassed via four freeze-pump-thaw cycles before the vessel was purged with argon again. The Schlenk flask was sealed and heated to reflux for 72h. After 72 h, the mixture was diluted with  $CHCl_3$  and washed with water. The organic layer was removed under vacuum. The residue was subjected to silica column chromatography. The band containing the desired porphyrin was collected and recrystallized from  $CHCl_3$  and methanol. This procedure was used to prepare **2a**, **2b**.

For 2c, after refluxing for 72h, the solvent was removed under vacuum and the compound was redissolved in isopropanol and passed through a short silica gel plug. Solvent was removed again and the mixture was run through a saphadex resin column in methanol to get rid of excess 4-styrenesulfonic acid sodium salt hydrate. The ideal product 2c was isolated on a silica column (DCM/MeOH). Recrystallization was performed using methanol and DCM, in which DCM served as the poorer solvent. In order to obtain a better <sup>1</sup>H NMR, excess of ionic exchange resin (Dowex 50Wx8) was used to convert the product to the acidic form 2c'.

**2a:** mp > 320°C. Yield: 56%. UV-Vis λmax (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)/nm 434 (log ε 5.52), 545 (4.31), 577 (4.12); <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, Me<sub>4</sub>Si) δ 8.68-8.71 (6 H, m, β-H), 8.46-8.48 (4H, m, *o*-pyridine-H), 7.85-7.90 (8H, m, *o*-Ph-H on *meso*-phenyl ring), 7.50-7.56 (8H, m, *m*-Ph-H on *meso*-phenyl ring), 7.21 (2H, s, fused benzene-H), 6.95 (4H, m, *m*-pyridine-H), 3.13-3.19 (4H, m, isopropyl(CH)-H), 1.41-1.47 (24H, m, isopropyl (CH<sub>3</sub>)-H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, Me<sub>4</sub>Si) δ 24.21, 24.29, 34.07, 34.15, 115.50, 120.49, 124.88, 125.12, 126.10, 126.47, 131.24, 131.79, 132.77, 132.80, 133.64, 134.44, 137.11, 137.66, 138.15, 140.35, 141.20, 142.14, 143.99, 148.47; Calculated Mass, 1042.42, Found MS (MALDI-TOF), m/z 1042.52.

**2b**: mp > 320°C. Yield: 50%. UV-Vis  $\lambda$ max (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)/nm 433 (log  $\varepsilon$  5.51), 538 (4.32), 577 (4.10); <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, Me<sub>4</sub>Si)  $\delta$  8.68-8.70 (6 H, m,  $\beta$ -H), 8.43-8.44 (2H, m), 8.26 (2H, m), 7.85-7.91 (8H, m, *o*-Ph-H on *meso*-phenyl ring), 7.50-7.55 (8H, m, *m*-Ph-H on *meso*-phenyl ring), 7.29-7.30 (2H, m), 7.099-7.11 (4H, m), 3.11-3.20 (4H, m, isopropyl(CH)-H), 1.36-1.48 (24H, m, isopropyl (CH<sub>3</sub>)-H) ; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, Me<sub>4</sub>Si)  $\delta$  24.21, 24.26, 34.08, 34.17, 115.43, 120.38, 122.80, 125.09, 126.12, 126.54, 131.10, 131.62, 132.73, 133.64, 137.09, 137.19, 137.37, 137.75 138.20, 140.17, 141.06, 142.01, 143.96, 147.63, 148.41, 149.54,

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150.73; Calculated Mass, 1042.42, Found MS (MALDI-TOF), m/z 1043.18.

**2c'**: mp > 320°C. Yield: 42%. UV-Vis  $\lambda$ max (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)/nm 430 (log  $\varepsilon$  5.51), 540 (4.60), 575 (4.47); <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> with two drops of CD<sub>3</sub>OD, Me<sub>4</sub>Si)  $\delta$  8.56-8.70 (6 H, m,  $\beta$ -H), 7.80-8.10 (8H, m), 7.45-7.63 (12H, m), 6.80-7.15 (6H, m), 3.11-3.15 (4H, m, isopropyl(CH)-H), 1.33-1.46 (24H, m, isopropyl (CH<sub>3</sub>)-H); Calculated Mass, 1200.35, Found MS (MALDI-TOF), m/z 1200.32. (For **2c'**, five proton NMRs were attached, of which CDCl<sub>3</sub> with two drops of CD<sub>3</sub>OD gave the best results. Other solvent systems including only CDCl<sub>3</sub>, only MeOD, and one or three drops of MeOD mixed with CDCl<sub>3</sub> gave worse results.)



III. General procedure for the octabromination reactions

Ni-arylporphyrin (1 mmol) or Cu-arylporphyrin (1 mmol) and NBS (14 mmol) were added into a round bottom flask and dissolved in dry 1, 2-dichloroethane. The mixture was then refluxed for 2 hours. The organic layer was removed under vacuum. The residue was subjected to column chromatography. The bands containing the desired porphyrins were collected and recrystallized from CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH. This procedure was used to prepare **3a** and **3b**. **3c** was prepared by demetalation of **3b** through treatment of concentrated H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and TFA, followed by re-insertion of Zn using Zn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>.

**3a:** mp > 320°C. yield: 54%. UV-Vis  $\lambda$ max (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)/nm 451 (log  $\varepsilon$  5.54), 564 (4.96), 598 (4.62); <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, Me<sub>4</sub>Si)  $\delta$  7.79 (8H, d, J = 8.0 Hz, *o*-Ph-H),

7.51 (8H, d, J = 8.0 Hz, *m*-Ph-H), 3.13-3.19 (4H, m, isopropyl (CH)-H), 1.44 (24H, d, J = 6.5 Hz, isopropyl (CH<sub>3</sub>)-H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, Me<sub>4</sub>Si)  $\delta$  24.33, 24.36, 34.20, 34.25, 120.12, 126.22, 126.29, 126.99, 133.51, 134.97, 143.60, 150.99; Calculated Mass, 1470.90, Found MS (MALDI-TOF), m/z 1470.91.

**3b**: mp > 320°C. Yield: 55%. UV-Vis  $\lambda$ max (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)/nm 461 (log  $\varepsilon$  5.56), 579 (4.82), 624 (4.50); Calculated Mass, 1475.75, Found MS (MALDI-TOF), m/z 1475.11.

**3c**: mp > 320°C. Yield: 72% in two steps. UV-Vis  $\lambda$ max (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)/nm 463 (log  $\varepsilon$  5.55), 597 (4.88), 654 (4.58); <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, Me<sub>4</sub>Si)  $\delta$  8.00 (8H, m, *o*-Ph-H), 7.58 (8H, m, *m*-Ph-H), 3.22 (4H, m, isopropyl (CH)-H), 1.49 (24H, m, isopropyl (CH<sub>3</sub>)-H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, Me<sub>4</sub>Si)  $\delta$  24.49, 34.28, 109.88, 111.42, 111.67, 113.33, 113.57, 121.08, 124.62, 126.04, 136.49, 145.51, 150.61; Calculated Mass, 1477.59, Found MS (MALDI-TOF), m/z 1476.70.

# IV. General procedure for the Heck coupling reaction of metalated octabromoporphyrins





Octabromoarylporphyrins (0.045 mmol), palladium acetate (0.040 mmol), triphenylphosphine (0.120 mmol) and  $K_2CO_3$  (0.36 mmol) were added to Schlenk tube and dried under vacuum. The vacuum was released under argon to allow the addition of dry DMF (10 mL) and dry xylene (10 mL) and relevant alkene (60-fold excess). The mixture was then degassed via four freeze-pump-thaw cycles before the vessel was purged with argon again. The Schlenk flask was sealed and heated to reflux for 72h. After 72 h, the mixture was diluted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> and washed with water. The organic layer was removed under vacuum. The residue was subjected to silica column chromatography. The bands containing the desired porphyrins were collected. This procedure was used to prepare **4a**, **4b** and **4e**. **4c** was obtained after demetalation of **4b** by treating with concentrated H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and TFA. **4d** was obtained by re-insertion of Zn using Zn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>.

Water solubility was tested for **4a**. Porphyrin **4a** (20 mg) was dissolved in methanol and added excess of TFA (0.1 ml). After the mixture was stirred for 30 mins, the solvent was removed. The protonated porphyrin was recrystallized from DCM/MeOH (DCM acts as the bad solvent). The solid porphyrin was tested for

solubility in water.

Both protonation and methylation were performed for 4c. The protonated 4c was obtained through the treatment of 4c in methanol with excess of TFA for 5 hours. The solvent was removed. The desired product was recrystallized from DCM and methanol. The protonated product can be dissolved in methanol and water, but not in chloroform or DCM. A <sup>1</sup>HNMR was taken in CD<sub>3</sub>OD. Methylation was also performed on 4c. Excess of MeI was added into the solution of 4c in methanol, and the resulting mixture was stirred for 1.5 days. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The product was recrystallized from DCM and methanol. The methylated product can be dissolved in water (concentration  $\geq$  15mM) and methanol, but not in chloroform or DCM. <sup>1</sup>HNMR was taken in CD<sub>3</sub>OD.

For **6**, after the reaction was completed, the reaction mixture went through a short silica plug using methanol/DCM as the eluent, and was then directly converted to its acidic form **6** using acidic ion exchange resin (Dowex 50Wx8). **6** was then purified by silica column chromatography using MeOH/DCM as the eluent, followed by size-exclusion chromatography (Sephadex LH-20).

**Discussion of 6**: ESI mass spectrometry revealed the existence of **6**. UV-Vis spectra of **6** showed well defined Soret band at 466 nm, similar to the Soret bands of Ni(II) porphyrin **4a** and **4e**. However, <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **6** displayed broadened and undefined proton shifts. This is likely due to the combined effects arising from porphyrin aggregation, intermolecular hydrogen bonding of the sulfonic acid groups, the dynamic ring flipping of the macrocycle owning to the crowding on the porphyrin periphery as well as the hindered ring rotation of phenyl substituents. This phenomenon has been observed for other peripherally crowded porphyrins.<sup>9b</sup> **6** is highly soluble in water, methanol and DMSO, and does not dissolve in DCM, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, and acetonitrile. <sup>1</sup>H NMR measurement of **6** was carried out in deuterated methanol, DMSO and water. All the spectra showed broadened shifts, although the broadening varies to different extent in different solvents. For comparison, we also took a <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **4c** (with pyridyl substituents) in deuterated methanol. As expected, the <sup>1</sup>H NMR shifts of **4c** were also significantly broadened due to the hydrogen-bonding with

the solvent. In all these solvents, hydrogen bonding can be easily formed between the solvent molecules and the sulfonic groups. For comparison, we also took a <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **4c** (with pyridyl substituents) in deuterated methanol. As expected, the <sup>1</sup>H NMR shifts of **4c** were also significantly broadened due to the hydrogen-bonding with the solvent. Another factor may make the situation of **6** much more complicated than **4a-e** is that **6** can form "intramolecular" hydrogen bond through a solvent molecule or intermolecular hydrogen bond with itself (see Figure 1), but **4a-e** are less likely to form such kind of hydrogen bonds. We believe that the formation of hydrogen bond restricts the rotation of the aromatic substituents on the fused benzene rings. The restricted rotation will also slow down the dynamic ring flipping of the macrocycle. In addition, **6** is likely to self-assemble leading to more complicated situation to obtain well-defined <sup>1</sup>HNMR.

#### Figure 1.

**Esterification of 6:** 20 mg of 6 was treated with 5 mL of thionyl chloride and one drop of dry DMF. The mixture was allowed to stir for four hours and dried under vacuum. Then 10 mL of dry methanol and three drops of dry triethylamine were added and the mixture was stirred overnight.

Possible Hydrogen-bond formation of compound **6** and **2c**. For clarity, only one set of two sulfonic groups are shown for hydrogen bond formation



After drying under vacuum, DCM was added and the solution was sonicated for 20 min then passed through a filter to isolate the precipitant. The organic filtrate was then washed with water in order to remove inorganic residues. However, it turned out that

the ester of 6 was hydrolyzed back to sulfonic acid by the acequeous workup.

**Amidation of 6 was then performed**. A 50 mL round-bottomed flask containing **6** was equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and an addition funnel fitted at the top with an argon balloon. The flask was cooled to 0°C in an ice-water bath and 2 mL of thionyl chloride and one drop of dry DMF were added dropwise through the addition funnel. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 1.5 hours after addition of thionyl chloride and DMF. Then the reaction flask is fitted with a distillation head and the excess of thionyl chloride was distilled off at reduced pressure. The flask containing residue was dried for one hour, 5 mL of dry DCM was then added into the flask under argon. Then 1.5 mL of dry hexylamine was added dropwise into the flask. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 hours. The solvent was removed, and the excess hexylamine was washed off with hexane. The product was isolated and purified through a preparative TLC plate. <sup>1</sup>H NMR and MALDI-TOF were done in chloroform.

**4a**: mp > 320°C. Yield: 54%. UV-Vis λmax (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)/nm 465 (log ε 5.93), 608 (4.81), 659 (5.57); <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, Me<sub>4</sub>Si) δ 8.42 (16 H, d, J = 4.5 Hz, *o*-pyridine-H), 8.01 (8H, d, J = 7.5 Hz, *o*-Ph-H), 7.65 (8H, d, J = 7.5Hz, *m*-Ph-H), 7.22 (8H, s, fused-benzene-H), 6.88 (16H, d, J = 5.0 Hz, *m*-pyridine-H), 3.12-3.18 (4H, m, isopropyl(CH)-H), 1.36 (24H, d, J = 7.0 Hz, isopropyl (CH<sub>3</sub>)-H) ; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, Me<sub>4</sub>Si) δ 24.32, 34.39, 108.56, 116.27, 124.60, 126.16, 127.39, 133.12, 134.42, 137.69, 138.63, 138.88, 148.87, 149.45, 151.16; Calculated Mass, 1654.63, Found MS (MALDI-TOF), m/z 1654.83.

**4b**: mp > 320°C. Yield: 51%. UV-Vis  $\lambda$ max (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)/nm 473 (log  $\epsilon$  5.82), 612 (4.78), 662 (5.30); Calculated Mass, 1661.49, Found MS (MALDI-TOF), m/z 1661.32.

**4c**: mp > 320°C. Yield: 90%. UV-Vis λmax (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)/nm 484 (log ε 5.80), 605 (4.60), 658 (5.08), 708 (4.49); <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, Me<sub>4</sub>Si) δ 8.43 (16 H, m, *o*-pyridine-H), 8.30 (8H, d, J = 7.0 Hz, *o*-Ph-H), 7.69 (8H, d, J = 7.0 Hz, *m*-Ph-H), 7.24 (8H, s, fused-benzene-H), 6.90 (16H, m, *m*-pyridine-H), 3.16-3.21 (4H, m, isopropyl(CH)-H), 1.36 (24H, d, J = 7.0 Hz, isopropyl (CH<sub>3</sub>)-H), -1.01 (2H, s, free base H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, Me<sub>4</sub>Si) δ 24.32, 34.37, 116.56, 124.58, 127.29, 134.16, 135.56, 139.13, 148.88, 149.52, 149.65, 151.25; Calculated Mass, 1598.71, Found MS (MALDI-TOF), m/z 1598.29. Protonated **4c**: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  8.68 (16 H, d, J = 5.5 Hz), 8.50 (8 H, d, J = 7.5 Hz), 7.89 (8 H, d, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.56-7.60 (24H, m), 3.34 (4H, m, isopropyl(CH)-H), 1.40 (24H, d, J = 7.0 Hz, isopropyl (CH<sub>3</sub>)-H). Methylated **4c**: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  8.82-8.85 (16H, m), 8.52-8.76 (8H, m), 7.89-7.93 (8H, m), 7.75-7.76 (18H, m), 7.50-7.58 (6H, m), 4.40-4.42 (24H, s, -CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.34 (4H, m, isopropyl(CH)-H), 1.46 (24H, d, J = 6.5 Hz, isopropyl (CH<sub>3</sub>)-H).

**4d**: mp > 320°C. Yield: 88%. UV-Vis λmax (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)/nm 492 (log ε 5.90), 630 (4.89), 676 (5.19); FL (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, excited by 480nm) 707.50 (183.290), 750.0 (202.980); <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: No good 1H NMR was got from **3d** by using CDCl<sub>3</sub>, MeOD or d<sub>5</sub>-pyridine. The only interpretable NMR was got from combination of CDCl3 and d<sub>5</sub>-pyridine (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> and d<sub>5</sub>-pyridine with a ratio of 2: 1, Me<sub>4</sub>Si) δ the singlet peaks at 8.71, 7.83 and 7.33 are from d<sub>5</sub>-pyridine solvents with the integration ratio of 2 : 1 : 2. δ 8.61 (16 H, m, *o*-pyridine-H), 8.46 (8H, d, J = 7.5 Hz, *o*-Ph-H), 7.83 (8H, d, J = 7.5 Hz, *m*-Ph-H), 7.55 (8H, s, fused-benzene-H), 7.10 (16H, m, *m*-pyridine-H), 4.32 (water peak from d<sub>5</sub>-pyridine), 3.31-3.32 (4H, m, isopropyl(CH)-H), 1.36 (24H, d, J = 7.0 Hz, isopropyl (CH<sub>3</sub>)-H); Calculated Mass, 1663.33, Found MS (MALDI-TOF), m/z 1662.67.

**4e**: mp > 320°C. Yield: 49%. UV-Vis λmax (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)/nm 463 (log ε 5.95), 605 (4.80), 657 (5.55); <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, Me<sub>4</sub>Si) δ 8.42 (8 H, m), 8.26 (8H, m), 8.04 (8H, d, J = 8.0 Hz, *o*-Ph-H), 7.64 (8H, d, J = 8.0 Hz, *m*-Ph-H), 7.28-7.29 (8H, m), 7.28 (4H, m), 7.09-7.11 (12H, m), 3.12-3.15 (4H, m, isopropyl(CH)-H), 1.32 (24H, d, J = 7.0 Hz, isopropyl (CH<sub>3</sub>)-H) ; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, Me<sub>4</sub>Si) δ 24.32, 34.42, 116.08, 122.75, 126.25, 127.37, 128.51, 133.09, 133.74, 136.90, 137.04, 137.91, 138.54, 138.65, 147.81, 150.62, 151.13; Calculated Mass, 1656.64, Found MS (MALDI-TOF), m/z 1656.04.

**6**: mp > 320°C. Yield: 15%. UV-Vis  $\lambda$ max (MeOH)/nm 466 (log  $\varepsilon$  5.68), 630 (5.29), 646 (5.22); No good 1H NMR was got from any solvent. Found MS (ESI) (after treated with excess of triethylamine(TEA)) from negative ion polarity 325.2

([M-7H]<sup>7-</sup>), 380.9 ([M-6H]<sup>6-</sup>), 457.4 ([M-5H]<sup>5-</sup>); from positive ion polarity 102.1 (TEA<sup>+</sup>).





Tetrabromoarylporphyrins (0.045 mmol), palladium acetate (0.023 mmol), triphenylphosphine (0.058 mmol) and  $K_2CO_3$  (0.17 mmol) were added to Schlenk tube and dried under vacuum. The vacuum was released under argon to allow the addition of dry DMF (10 mL) and dry xylene (10 mL) and 4-vinylpyridine (35-fold excess). The mixture was then degassed via four freeze-pump-thaw cycles before the vessel was purged with argon again. The Schlenk flask was sealed and heated to reflux for 72h. After 72 h, the mixture was diluted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> and washed with water. The organic layer was removed under vacuum. The residue was subjected to silica column chromatography. The band containing the desired porphyrin was collected. This procedure was used to prepare **5**.

**5**: mp > 320°C. Yield: 48%. UV-Vis λmax (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)/nm 454 (log ε 5.67), 579 (4.68), 618 (4.60); <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, Me<sub>4</sub>Si) δ 8.74 (4H, s, β-H), 8.42 (8H, m, *o*-pyridine), 7.86 (8H, d, J = 8.0 Hz, *o*-Ph-H), 7.56 (8H, d, J = 8.0 Hz, *m*-Ph-H), 7.17 (4H, s, fused-benzene-H), 6.91(8H, m, *m*-pyridine-H), 3.13-3.18 (4H, m, isopropyl(CH)-H), 1.41 (24H, d, J = 7.0 Hz, isopropyl (CH<sub>3</sub>)-H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, Me<sub>4</sub>Si) δ 24.28, 29.70, 34.17, 113.78, 116.91, 118.08, 120.15, 124.81, 126.18, 131.61, 132.66, 134.39, 136.52, 137.59, 139.96, 142.38, 149.05, 149.46, 149.66; Calculated Mass, 1246.49, Found MS (MALDI-TOF), m/z 1246.09.

#### VI. Spectroscopy data





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Comment 1 Comment 2







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2c in MeOD



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#### 2c' in CDCI3 and two drops of MeOD



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2c' in CDCl3 only



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#### 2c' in CDCI3 and one drop of MeOD



#### 2c' in CDCI3 and three drops of MeOD



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1200.315	181.5	418	56/8	364.61	
1202.334	144.7	4648	5505	290.29	
1204.343	23.6	312	5461	47.01	

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#### Comment 1 Comment 2



m/z	SN	Quality Fac.	Res.	Intens.	Area
1313.894	6.6	534	3675	27.19	26
1315.909	19.0	11678	4727	77.78	52
1317.922	16.3	4722	4575	66.92	45
1393.832	32.8	163	4622	111.39	81
1394.830	53.2	300	4439	179.66	139
1395.827	130.3	2511	4362	440.79	340
1397.822	116.7	8983	4170	393.02	317
1398.820	83.0	5692	4352	279.49	215
1400.820	51.3	11639	5475	173.35	106
1474.711	69.0	11247	5040	196.14	144
1476.700	81.9	44167	4923	233.71	176
1478.690	51.6	17440	5186	146.35	104

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![](_page_32_Figure_4.jpeg)

	D1 (	Quanty 1 act	1100.	Incomo.	
1642.201	15.9	64	743	7.00	43
1654.826	2280.7	2860	6766	1359.75	940
1655.823	3816.0	9407	6232	2258.66	1685
1657.728	1212.6	646	7190	724.21	463
1658.800	232.2	101	7801	137.18	81
1670.831	26.4	1692	8248	15.51	9

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![](_page_33_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Figure_3.jpeg)

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![](_page_34_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Figure_2.jpeg)

in MeOD

For comparison, 1HNMR was also done in CD3OD, please refer to 1HNMR done in CD3CI in previous page. Broadened shifts in protonic solvent suggest the presence of hydrogen bonding.

![](_page_35_Picture_3.jpeg)
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180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 ppm

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in MeOD



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4994

1142.05

621

50



1248.095

273.2



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Bruker Daltonics DataAnalysis 3.0

Page 1 of 1

# **Display Report**



Bruker Daltonics DataAnalysis 3.0

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53

# **Display Report**

#### Analysis Info

-		
Analysis Name	79_30004.d	Acquisiti
Method	XQ Default.ms	Operato
Sample Name	lin_79_3	Instrume
Comment	dissolved in MEOH/0.1% acetic acid	

#### uisition Date 12/0 rator Adm ument Esqu

12/07/11 11:35:52 Administrator Esquire-LC\_00137



# **Display Report**

#### Analysis Info

Analysis Name	79_30004.d	Acc
Method	XQ Default.ms	Ор
Sample Name	lin_79_3	Ins
Comment	dissolved in MEOH/0.1% acetic acid	
110-0004		

cquisition Date Operator Instrument

12/07/11 11:35:52 Administrator Esquire-LC\_00137



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#### MALDI-TOF

Comment 1



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in D2O



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in D2O and MeOD







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10.0



in CDCI3









#### VII. X-ray crystal structure of compound 4a

Crystal of compound **4a** suitable for X-ray diffraction analysis was obtained by slow evaporation from CHCl<sub>3</sub>/pyridine in a ratio of 1:30. Crystallographic data have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre (CCDC 865552). Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge on application to the CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB21EZ, UK (fax: (+44)-1223-336-033; e-mail: <u>deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk</u>. Crystal data for **4a**:

```
Bond precision: C-C = 0.0065 A
                                         Wavelength=1.54178
Cell:
              a=12.6976(4)
                               b=21.9195(5)
                                                  c=22.0585(5)
              alpha=97.683(2) beta=101.995(2)
                                                  gamma=96.078(2)
              100 K
Temperature:
               Calculated
                                          Reported
Volume
               5894.6(3)
                                          5894.6(3)
                                          P-1
Space group
               P -1
                -P 1
Hall group
                                          ?
                C122 H94 N14 Ni, 5(C5 H5
Moiety formula
                                          ?
               N)
Sum formula
               C147 H119 N19 Ni
                                          C147 H119 N19 Ni
               2210.31
                                          2210.32
Mr
               1.245
                                          1.245
Dx,g cm-3
Ζ
               2
                                          2
Mu (mm-1)
               0.724
                                          0.724
F000
               2324.0
                                          2324.0
F000′
               2324.02
h,k,lmax
               14,24,25
                                          14,24,25
Nref
               18025
                                          17351
Tmin,Tmax
               0.893,0.910
                                          0.818,0.912
Tmin'
               0.811
Correction method= MULTI-SCAN
Data completeness= 0.963
                                  Theta(max) = 61.000
R(reflections) = 0.0785(12877) wR2(reflections) = 0.2717(17351)
S = 1.122
                          Npar= 1512
```



### NSD data for 4a:

# Normal-Coordinate Structure Decomposition (NSD) Analysis of 4a Summary of the NSD (in Å):

basis	Dip	dip	B2g	B1g	Eu(x)	Eu(y)	A1g	A2g
			(m-str)	(n-str)	(trn)	(trn)	(bre)	(rot)
min.	0.0936	0.0345	-0.0304	0.0152	-0.0136	-0.0173	0.0841	0.0062
ext.	0.1363	0.0271	-0.0302	0.0150	-0.0132	-0.0171	0.0915	0.0048
			-0.0122	-0.0116	0.0152	0.0102	-0.0592	-0.0749
			0.0121	-0.0050	0.0019	0.0000	0.1428	-0.0037
			0.0043	-0.0036	0.0103	0.0086	0.0570	-0.0012
			0.0033	0.0110	0.0074	0.0032	0.0146	-0.0182
			0.0010	0.0146	-0.0072	0.0047	-0.0173	
					0.0014	-0.0018		
					0.0060	0.0008		
					-0.0014	-0.0010		
					-0.0052	0.0000		
					-0.0016	-0.0057		
comp.	0.2092	0.0000	0.0354	0.0272	0.0266	0.0233	0.1859	0.0772
basis	Doop	doop	B2u	B1u	A2u	Eg(x)	Eg(y)	Alu
			(sad)	(ruf)	(dom)	(wav)	(wav)	(pro)
min.	2.0650	0.0278	-2.0109	0.4647	-0.0214	-0.0452	0.0072	-0.0449
ext.	2.0713	0.0051	-2.0079	0.4647	-0.0205	-0.0463	0.0075	-0.0449
			0.1542	-0.0346	0.0219	-0.0225	0.0039	0.0079
			0.0017	0.0041	-0.0012	-0.0274	-0.0048	
						0.0078	-0.0029	
						0.0030	0.0101	
comp.	2.0715	0.0000	2.0168	0.4660	0.0306	0.0579	0.0142	0.0456

VIII. DFT calculations: Gaussian 03 (Rev. D.02) calculations were carried out on Miami University's Redhawk computer cluster. Following geometry optimizations, vibrational that frequency analysis was used to ensure all stationary points were energy minima. Geometry optimization and electronic structure calculations of the porphyrins were performed by using the B3LYP functional and 6-31G(d,p) basis set. Molecular orbitals were visualized using Molekel 5.4.0. [Ref: Ugo Varetto, Molekel 5.4.0.8; Swiss National Supercomputing Centre: Manno (Switzerland)]

Density functional calculations (B3LYP/6-31G(d,p)) were conducted for **4a-e**. Similar to the crystal structure of **4a**, the calculated structure of **4a** also adopts a saddle conformation. All the other tetrabenzoporphyrins **4b-4c** assume a similar conformation (**Fig.1**).

The electronic absorption of porphyrins including both Soret band and Q bands arises from  $\pi$ - $\pi^*$  transitions. The frontier orbitals responsible for the transitions in the parent porphin are two  $\pi$  orbitals ( $a_{1u}$  and  $a_{2u}$ ) and two degenerate  $\pi^*$  orbitals ( $eg_x$  and  $eg_y$ ) in the Gouterman four-orbital model. (Ref: A. Ceulemans, W. Oldenhof, C. Gorllerwalrand and L. G. Vanquickenborne, *Journal of the American Chemical Society* **1986**, *108*, 1155-1163; Gouterman, M. *J. Chem. Phys.* **1959**, *30*, 1139.) **Fig. 2** illustrates the calculated HOMOs and LUMOs for compounds **4a**-**4d**, and protonated **4a**. It is interesting to note that, while all the HOMOs and LUMOs of **4a**-**4d** do not clearly involve the participation of the pyridyl substitutes on the fused benzene rings, the HOMOs and LUMOs of protonated **4a** heavily involve those substitutes.





Fig. 1 Optimized molecular structure of 4a-4d, protonated 4a and 2a.



Fig.2 The calculated HOMOs and LUMOs of 4a-4d and protonated 4a

#### IX. Beer's law experiment and selected UV-vis spectra

#### Beer's law experiment:

Compound **4a** was chosen to perform the Beer's law experiment. 1mg of **4a** was dissolved in 10 mL of DCM. 0.1 mL of this solution was dissolved in 1 mL, 1.5 mL, 2 mL, 2.5 mL, 3 mL and 4 mL respectively. The absorption was measured for these solutions using a UV-vis spectrophotometer. Graph **1** displays the absorption vs. the concentration. The trendline equation is y = 0.2738x + 0.2959 with an R<sup>2</sup> value equal to 0.9781. So the porphyrin is monomeric.



Graph 1. Beer's law experiment on 4a.

Selected UV-vis spectra:

UV-Visible spectra were recorded on an Agilent 8453 UV-Visible spectrometer in  $CH_2Cl_2$ , calculated log  $\varepsilon$  numbers are displayed with each characterized compound. One drop of TFA was added into the cuvettes of **2a**, **4a-e** and **5**, after testing the UV-vis spectra in DCM and UV-vis were collected again to get the protonated spectra. The absorption spectra of **4a-e** were shown in **Fig. 2**. (larger scale than in manuscript) Original and protonated absorption spectra of monobenzoporphyrin **2a** an *opp*-dibenzoporphyrin 5 are shown in **Fig. 3** and **Fig. 4**. Methylation was also done for **4c**. **4c** was dissolved in methanol and 100 equivalent of MeI was added and the mixture was stirred for 1.5 days. The methylated compound can dissolve in methanol and water, but not chloroform. UV-vis spectra of both compounds are got from methanol and shown in **Fig. 5**. UV-vis spectra of **4a** and **6** were also shown in **Fig. 6**. for comparative purpose. **Fig. 7**. shows the comparative UV-vis of **4a** and amidation product of **6** in DCM.





**Fig. 2**. (a) Normalized absorption spectra of porphyrins **4a-e** in  $CH_2Cl_2$  solution; (b) normalized absorption spectra of porphyrins **4a-e** upon treatment with TFA in  $CH_2Cl_2$  solution; (c) fluorescent spectrum of **4d** (excitation wavelength: 480 nm).

4d



Fig. 3. Normalized absorption spectra of 2a and protonated 2a in DCM.



Fig. 4. Normalized absorption spectra of 5 and protonated 5 in DCM.







**UV-vis Spectra**




Fig. 7. Normalized UV-vis spectra of 4a and amidation product of 6 in DCM.