

Electronic Supplementary Information

(ESI)

Thermally Responsive Shuttling Behavior of Pillar[6]arene-based [2]Rotaxane

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Experimental section

Materials. All solvents and reagents were used as supplied. Per-ethylated pillar[5]arene (**C2[5]**) and pillar[6]arene (**C2[6]**) were synthesized according to the previous papers.^{1,2}

Measurements. The ¹H NMR spectra were recorded at 500 MHz and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded at 125 MHz with a JEOL-ECA500 spectrometer.

Determination of association constants. In axle **1-C2[5]** complex in CDCl₃, chemical exchange between free and complexed species is slow on an NMR timescale. Thus, ¹H NMR spectra of mixtures of **C2[5]** and axle **1** in different ratio showed two sets of resonances for complexed and free axle **1**. The association constant for axle **1-C2[5]** complex was calculated from integrations of complexed (**Fig. 2**, blue peak g') and free signals (**Fig. 2**, blue peak g) of the pyridinium moiety of axle **1**.

In axle **1-C2[6]** complex in CDCl₃ and axle **1-C2[6]** complex in CDCl₃, chemical exchange between free and complexed species was fast on an NMR timescale. Thus, NMR titrations were done with solutions which had a constant concentration of axles (1 mM) and varying concentrations of **C2[6]**. By the non-linear curve-fitting methods, the association constant for axle **1-C2[6]** complex in CDCl₃ was estimated to be 19.1 ± 2.2 M⁻¹ for 1:1 stoichiometry. The non-linear curve-fitting was based on the equation:³

$$\Delta\delta_{\text{obs}} = \frac{\Delta\delta_{11}}{2K[G]_0} [1 + K[H]_0 + K[G]_0 - \{(1 + K[H]_0 + K[G]_0)^2 - 4K^2[H]_0[G]_0\}^{1/2}]$$

Where $\Delta\delta_{\text{obs}}$ is the chemical shift change of proton signal of pyridinium moiety of the axle (**Fig. 3**, blue peak g) at $[H]_0$, $\Delta\delta_{11}$ is the chemical shift change of the axle proton resonance when the axle is completely complexed, $[G]_0$ is the fixed initial concentration of the axle, and $[H]_0$ is the initial concentration of the host **C2[6]**.

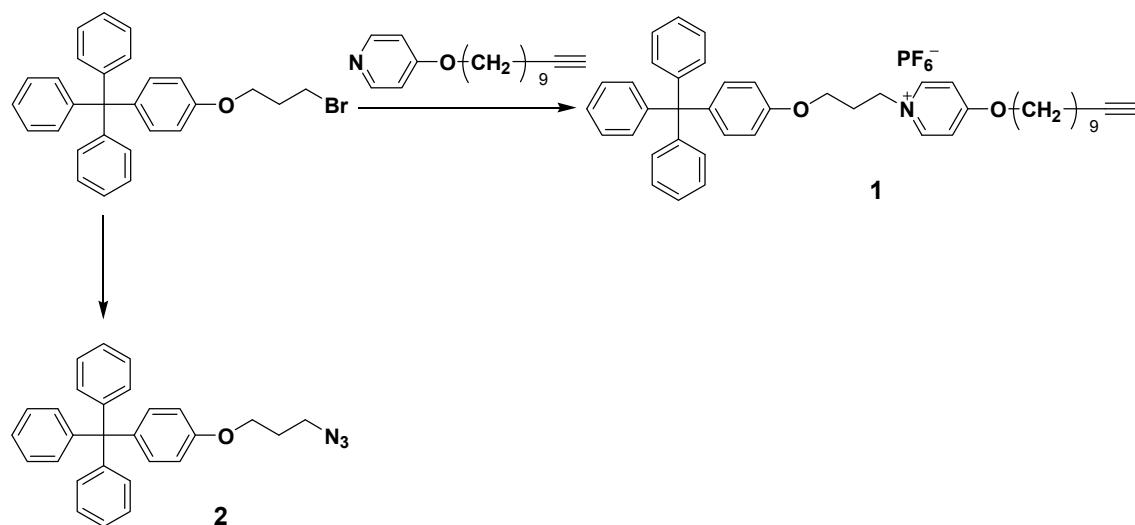
Study of thermodynamic parameters by variable-temperature ¹H NMR measurements. The thermodynamic parameters such as ΔH , ΔS , ΔG , and equilibrium constant K were determined from the temperature dependence of K by the use of the linear van't Hoff plots:

$$\ln K = -\Delta H / RT + \Delta S / R$$

The ΔH and ΔS for the shuttling from station I to II were calculated from the slope and intercept by plotting $\ln K$ vs $1/T$. ΔG was obtained according to the equation:

$$\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S$$

Compounds for synthesis of C2[5]- and C2[6]-based [2]rotaxanes



Axle 1. To a solution of 1-(3-bromopropoxy)-4-(triphenylmethyl)benzene⁴ (1.25 g, 3.28 mmol) in *N,N*-dimethylformamide (10 mL), 4-(undec-10-yn-1-yloxy)pyridine⁵ (0.670 g, 2.74 mmol) was added. The mixture was heated at 100 °C for 72 h under nitrogen. The resulting solution was concentrated under *vacuo*. The obtained product was dissolved in the mixture of acetone (20 mL) and water (20 mL). To the mixture, NaPF₆ (2.30 g, 13.7 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 1 h. The resulting solution was concentrated under *vacuo*. The residue was poured into water and the precipitate was collected by filtration. Column chromatography (silica gel; dichloromethane : methanol = 8 : 1) afforded an white solid (axle **1**, 630 mg, 0.821 mmol, Yield: 30%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz, ppm): δ 8.40 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H, pyridyl), 7.34 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H, pyridyl), 7.16-7.25 (m, 15 H, phenyl), 7.12 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H, phenyl), 6.76 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H, phenyl), 4.49 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 2H, methylene), 4.37 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H, methylene), 4.11 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 2H, methylene), 2.37 (q, J = 5.6 Hz, 2H, methylene), 2.17 (m, 2H, methylene), 1.92 (s, 1H, terminal alkyne), 1.91 (m, 2H, methylene), 1.50 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H, methylene), 1.37 (m, 2H, methylene), 1.27-1.32 (m, 8H, methylene). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz, ppm): δ 170.4, 156.3, 147.0, 145.3, 139.5, 132.3, 131.1, 127.5, 125.9, 114.1, 113.2 (C of phenyl and pyridyl),

84.7 (C of alkyne), 68.2 (C of methylene), 68.0 (C of alkyne), 64.3 (C of methylene), 63.1 (sp³ carbon of triryl), 60.6, 31.1, 29.1, 28.8, 28.6, 28.4, 18.3 (C of methylene). HRFABMS: *m/z* Calcd for C₄₄H₄₈NO₂ [M-PF₆]⁺: 622.3680, found 622.3689.

Stopper 2. To a solution of 1-(3-bromopropoxy)-4-(triphenylmethyl)benzene (400 mg, 0.876 mmol) in *N,N*-dimethylformamide (10 mL), sodium azide (68.4 mg, 1.05 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was heated at 50 °C for 5 h, cooled to room temperature and added to ethyl acetate. The solution was washed with water, and dried (Na₂SO₄). After evaporation of the solvent, the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel; hexane : ethyl acetate = 9 : 1) to give a white solid (stopper 2, 340 mg, 0.810 mmol, Yield: 92%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz, ppm): δ 7.16-7.25 (m, 15H, phenyl), 7.10 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H, phenyl), 6.77 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H, phenyl), 4.01 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H, methylene), 3.50 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H, methylene), 2.03 (q, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H, methylene). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz, ppm): δ 156.6, 147.0, 139.3, 132.2, 131.1, 127.4, 125.4, 113.2 (C of phenyl), 64.3 (sp³ carbon of triryl), 48.3, 28.8 (C of methylene). HRFABMS: *m/z* Calcd for C₂₈H₂₆N₃O [M+H]⁺: 420.2076, found 420.2068.

Pillar[5]arene-based [2]rotaxane 3. To a solution of axle 1 (76.3 mg, 0.100 mmol), C2[5] (445 mg, 0.500 mmol) and stopper 2 (41.2 mg, 0.120 mmol) in chloroform (1 mL), tris[(1-benzyl-1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)methyl]amine (TBTA, 53.0 mg, 0.100 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 1 h. To the mixture, Cu(CH₃CN)₄PF₆ (37.2 mg, 0.100 mmol) was added, and the mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 24 h. The resulting solution was concentrated under *vacuo*. Column chromatography (silica gel; ethyl acetate : dichloromethane = 1 : 10 to 1 : 1) afforded a white solid (pillar[5]arene-based [2]rotaxane 3, 120 mg, 0.0601 mmol, Yield: 60%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz, ppm): δ 7.42 (s, 1H, triazole), 7.16-7.26 (m, 30H, phenyl), 7.11-7.14 (m, 4H, phenyl), 6.95 (m, 2H, pyridinium), 6.93 (s, 5H, phenyl of C2[5] moiety), 6.82 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H, phenyl), 6.77 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H, phenyl), 6.68 (s, 5H, phenyl of C2[5] moiety), 5.98 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H, pyridinium), 4.57 (m, 2H, methylene), 4.46 (m, 2H, methylene), 4.18 (m, 2H, methylene), 3.99 (m, 2H, methylene), 3.95-4.00 (m, 30H, methylene and methylene bridge of C2[5]), 2.76 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H, methylene), 2.40 (m, 2H, methylene), 1.76 (m, 2H, methylene), 1.47 (t, J = 6.3 Hz, 15H, methyl of C2[5]), 1.44 (m, 2H, methylene), 1.34 (t, J = 6.3 Hz, 15H, methyl of C2[5]), 1.31 (m, 2H, methylene), 1.15 (m, 2H, methylene), 0.73 (m, 2H, methylene), 0.64 (m, 2H, methylene), -0.06 (m, 2H, methylene), -1.16 (m, 2H, methylene). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃,

125 MHz, ppm): δ 169.1, 156.6, 156.4, 150.3, 149.4, 147.0, 144.0, 139.5, 139.3, 132.3, 131.1, 129.9, 129.2, 127.4, 125.9, 121.3, 116.2, 115.0, 113.2, 112.3 (C of phenyl, pyridinium and triazole), 68.2, 65.4 (C of methylene), 64.3 (sp³ carbon of triryl), 64.1, 63.5, 57.3, 47.1, 30.9, 30.1, 30.0, 29.8, 29.2, 29.0, 28.4, 27.7, 26.5, 25.8 (C of methylene), 15.5, 15.3 (C of methyl of **C2[5]**). HRESIMS: *m/z* Calcd for C₁₂₇H₁₄₃N₄O₁₃ [M-PF₆]⁺: 1932.0652, found 1932.06502.

Pillar[6]arene-based [2]rotaxane 4. To a solution of axle **1** (76.3 mg, 0.100 mmol), **C2[6]** (534 mg, 0.500 mmol) and stopper **2** (41.2 mg, 0.120 mmol) in chloroform (1 mL), TBTA (53.0 mg, 0.100 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 1 h. To the mixture, Cu(CH₃CN)₄PF₆ (37.2 mg, 0.100 mmol) was added, and the mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 24 h. The resulting solution was concentrated under *vacuo*. Column chromatography (silica gel; ethyl acetate : dichloromethane = 1 : 10 to 1 : 1) afforded a orange solid (Pillar[5]arene-based [2]rotaxane **4**, 30.0 mg, 0.00138 mmol, Yield: 14%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz, ppm): δ 7.48 (s, 1H, triazole), 7.17-7.23 (m, 30H, phenyl), 7.14 (m, 2H, phenyl), 7.09 (m, 2H, phenyl), 6.76 (m, 2H, phenyl), 6.71 (br, 12H, phenyl of **C2[6]**), 6.69 (m, 2H, phenyl), 6.12 (br, 2H, pyridinium), 5.12 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H, pyridinium), 4.54 (m, 2H, methylene), 3.97 (m, 2H, methylene), 3.93 (m, 2H, methylene), 3.89 (br, 36H, methylene and methylene bridge of **C2[6]**), 3.46 (br, 2H, methylene), 2.72 (m, 2H, methylene), 2.37 (m, 2H, methylene), 2.24 (br, 2H, methylene), 1.96 (br, 2H, methylene), 1.70 (m, 2H, methylene), 1.38 (br, 36H, methyl of **C2[6]**), 1.06-1.31 (m, 10H, methylene). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz, ppm): δ 168.4, 167.7, 156.6, 156.4, 150.7, 148.2, 147.0, 146.9, 143.1, 139.8, 139.2, 132.4, 132.2, 131.1, 129.4, 129.0, 127.5, 127.4, 125.9, 125.8, 121.5, 115.8, 113.3, 112.7, 111.5 (C of phenyl, pyridinium and triazole), 66.6, 65.7 (C of methylene), 64.3 (sp³ carbon of triryl), 62.8, 57.8, 47.1, 32.5, 31.9, 30.8, 30.2, 29.6, 29.4, 29.2, 29.1, 29.0, 28.6, 28.1, 27.3, 26.4, 25.7, 25.6 (C of methylene), 15.4 (C of methyl of **C2[6]**). HRESIMS: *m/z* Calcd for C₁₃₈H₁₅₇N₄O₁₅ [M-PF₆]⁺: 2110.1645, found 2110.1645.

Dumbbell 5. This compound was prepared using the same conditions as those used for the preparation of pillar[5]arene-based [2]rotaxane **3** in the absence of **C2[5]**. Column chromatography (silica gel; ethyl acetate) afforded an white solid (94.9 mg, 0.0802 mmol, Yield: 80%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz, ppm): δ 8.41 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H, pyridinium), 7.33 (s, 1H, triazole), 7.31 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H, pyridinium), 7.16-7.23 (m, 30H, phenyl), 7.01-7.11 (m, 4H, phenyl), 6.72-6.76 (m, 4H, phenyl), 4.51 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H, methylene), 4.46 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H, methylene), 4.37 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H, methylene),

4.08 (t, $J = 5.7$ Hz, 2H, methylene), 3.92 (t, $J = 5.5$ Hz, 2H, methylene), 2.66 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H, methylene), 2.29-2.38 (m, 4H, methylene), 1.88 (br, 2H, methylene), 1.60 (m, 2H, methylene), 1.18-1.38 (m, 10H, methylene). ^{13}C NMR (acetone- d_6 , 125 MHz, ppm): δ 171.5, 157.8, 157.7, 148.0, 147.0, 140.0, 132.9, 131.8, 128.4, 126.8, 121.4, 114.9, 114.2 (C of phenyl, pyridinium and triazole), 68.9, 65.3, 65.1 (C of methylene), 64.5 (sp³ carbon of triryl), 60.8, 47.4, 31.7, 30.8, 26.5, 26.2 (C of methylene). HRESIMS: m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{72}\text{H}_{73}\text{N}_4\text{O}_3 [\text{M}-\text{PF}_6]^+$: 1041.5683, found 1041.5729.

¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of axle 1

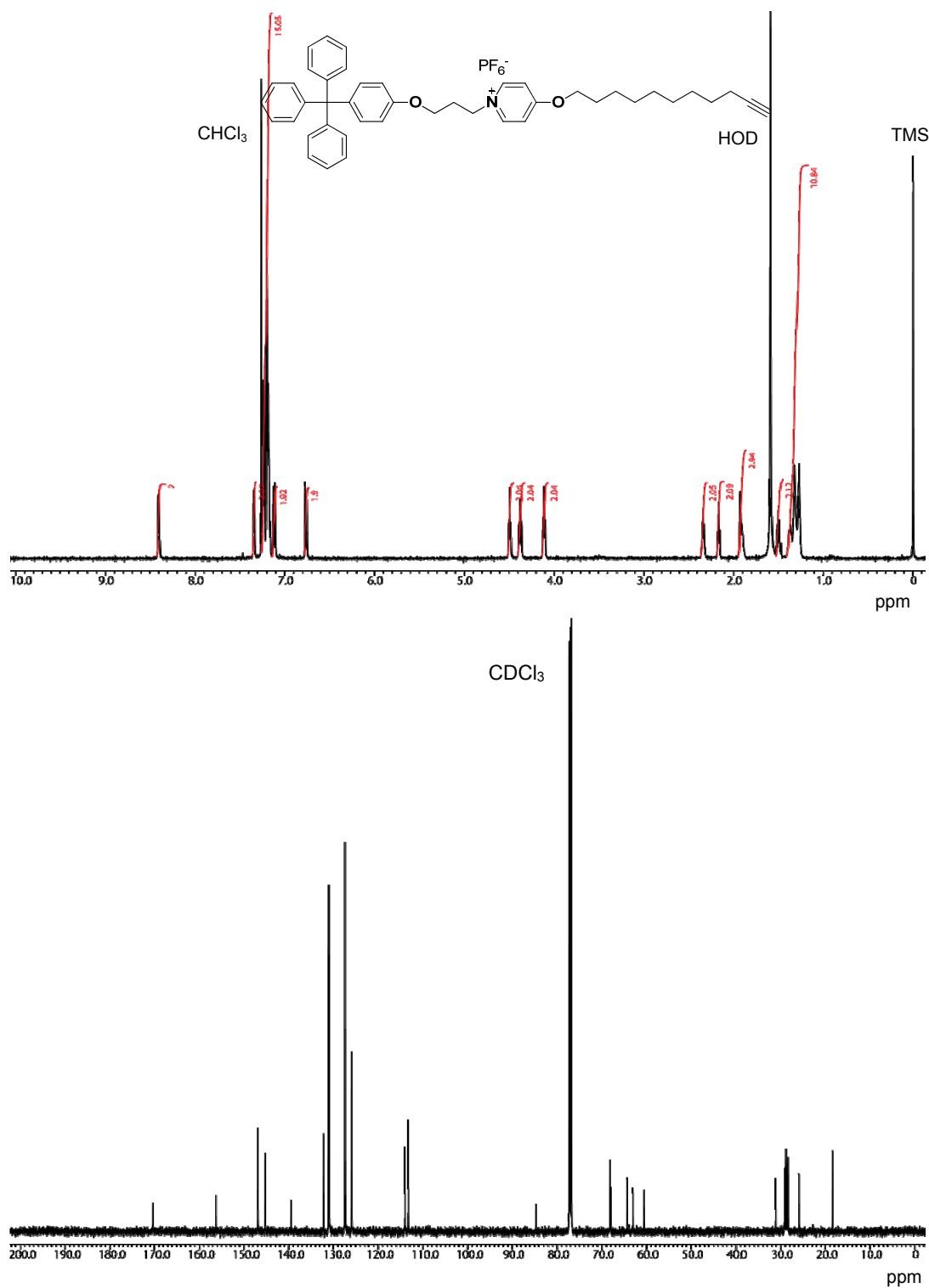


Fig. S1 ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of axle 1 in CDCl₃ at 25 °C.

¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of stopper 2

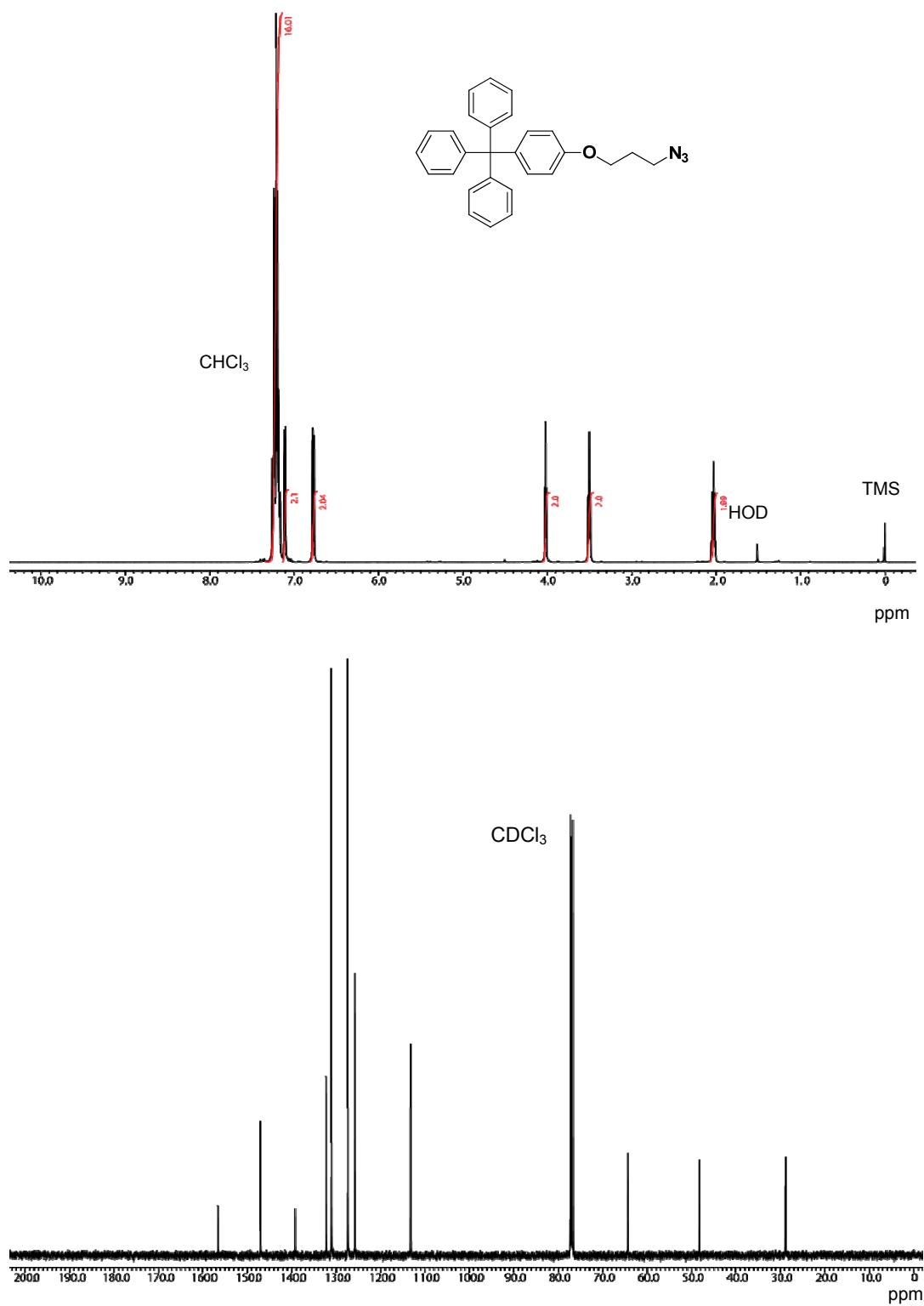


Fig. S2 ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of stopper 2 in CDCl_3 at 25 °C.

¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of pillar[5]arene-based [2]rotaxane 3

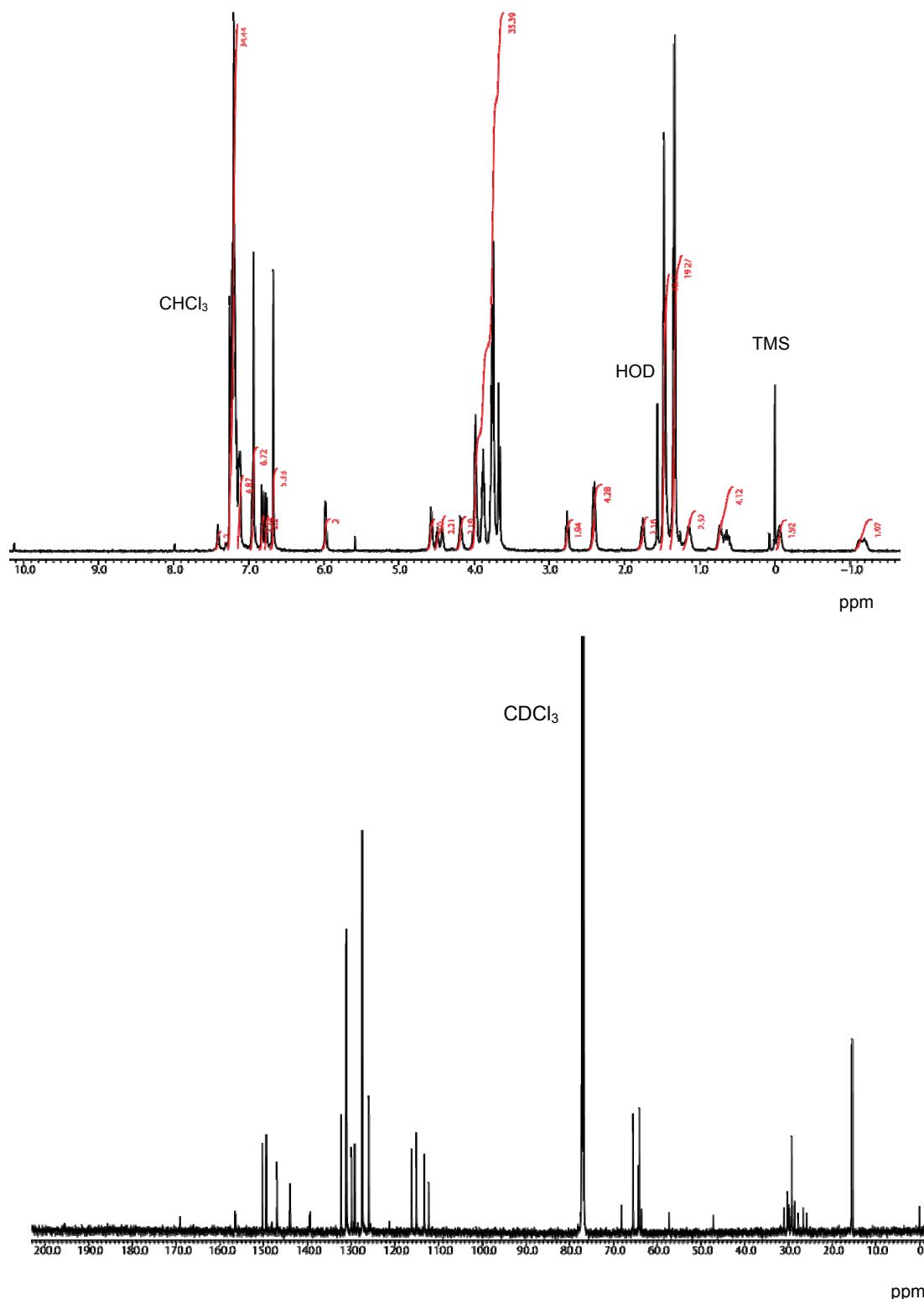


Fig. S3 ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of pillar[5]arene-based [2]rotaxane 3 in CDCl₃ at 25 °C.

¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of pillar[6]arene-based [2]rotaxane 4

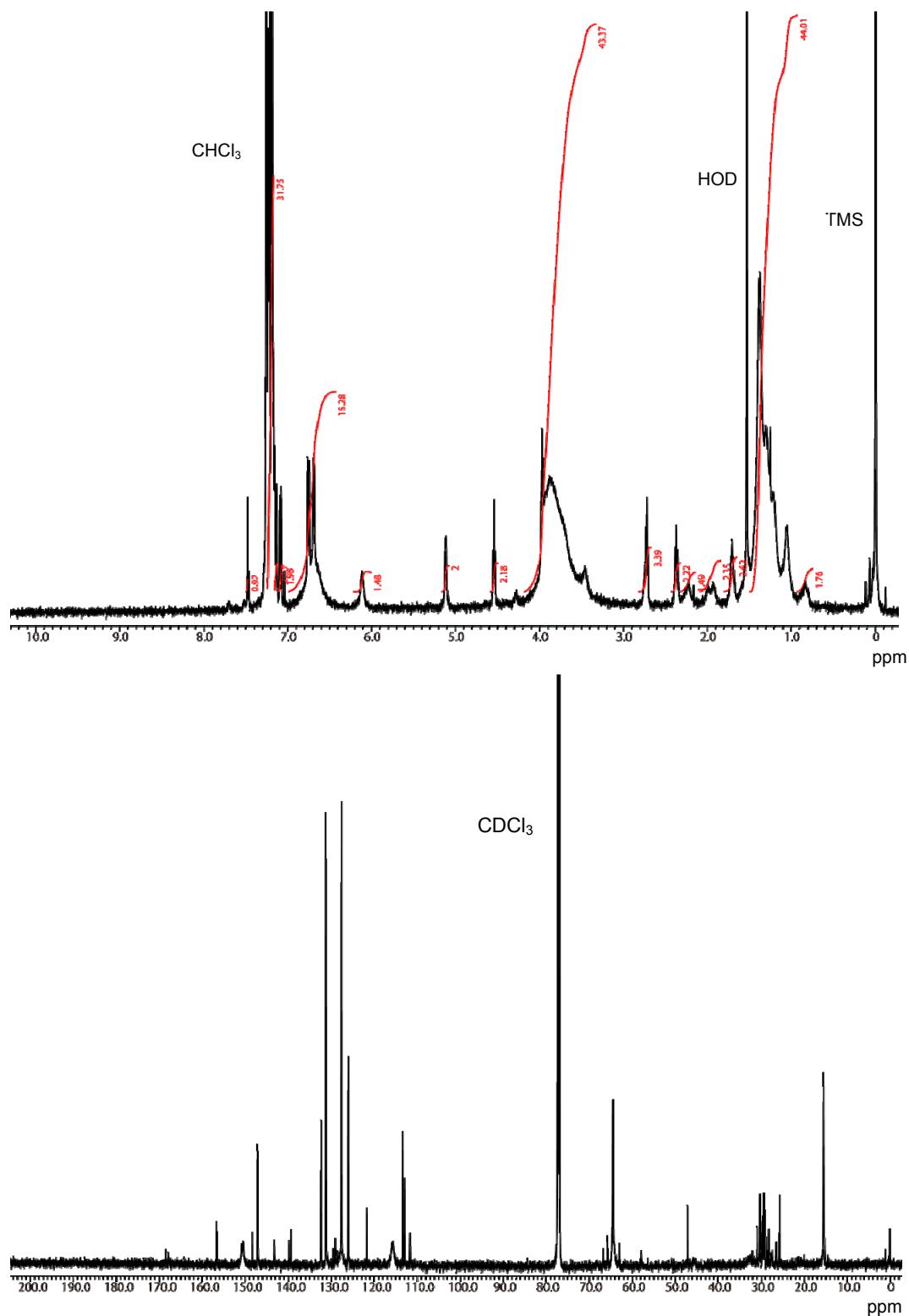


Fig. S4 ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of pillar[6]arene-based [2]rotaxane 4 in CDCl_3 at 25 °C.

¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of dumbbell 5

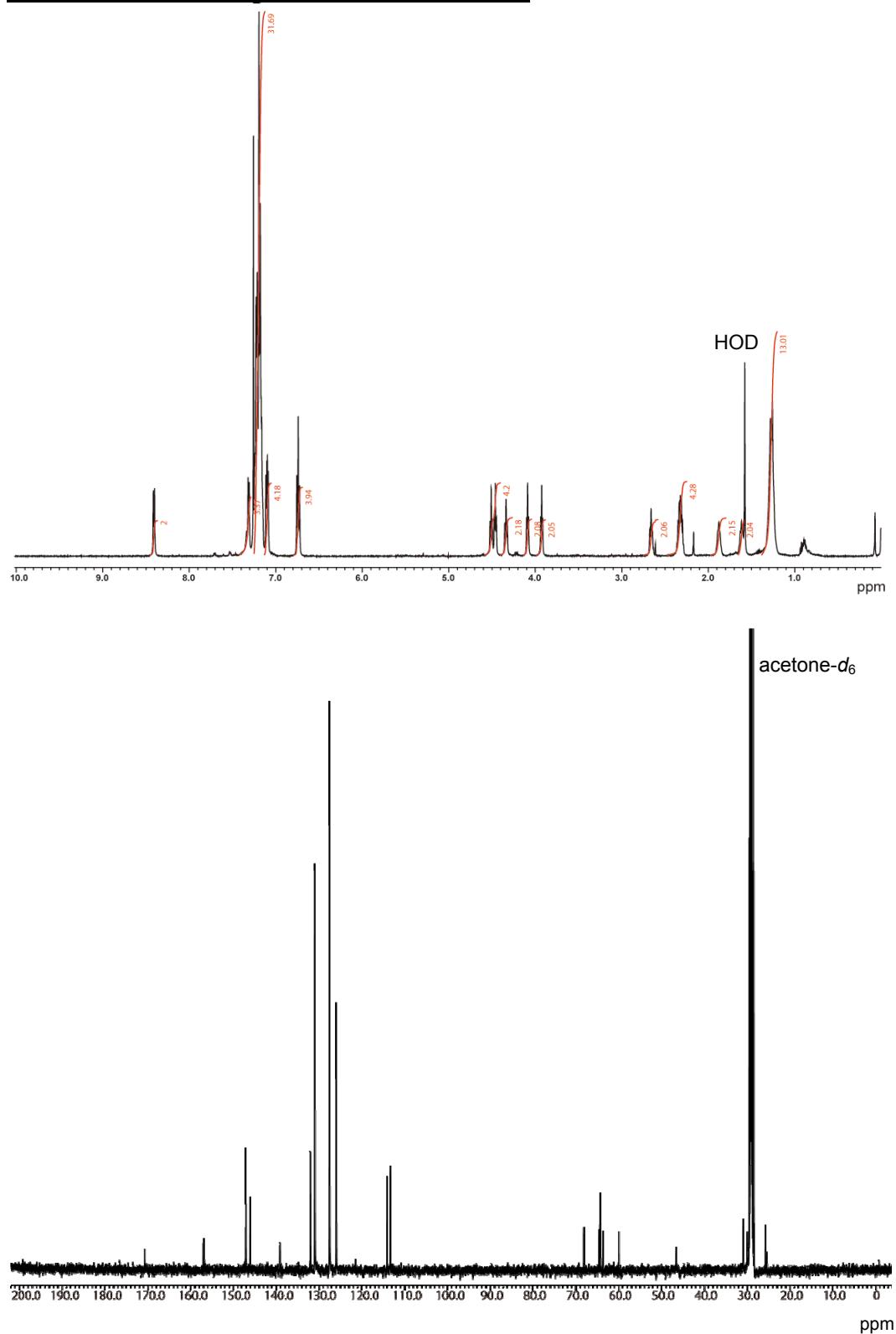


Fig. S5 ¹H NMR spectrum of dumbbell 5 in CDCl₃ and ¹³C NMR spectrum of dumbbell 5 in acetone- d_6 at 25 °C.

Job plot for a mixture of axle 1 and C2[5]

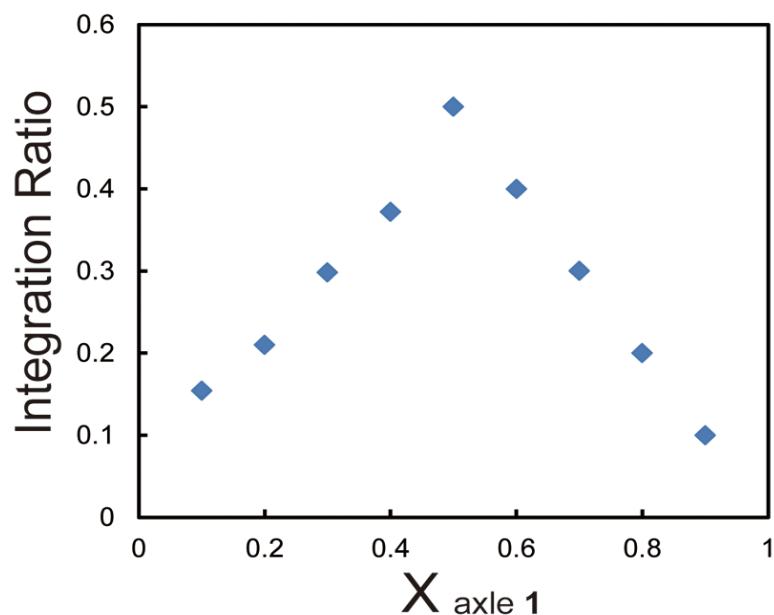


Fig. S6 Job plot between axle 1 (guest) and C2[5] (host). The job plot was conducted by varying the mole fractions of the guest and host. Integration ratios between free and complexed pyridinium proton signals (**Fig. 2**, blue peaks g and g') were utilized. Concentration: [axle 1] + [C2[5]] = 10 mM. The plot indicates a 1:1 binding between the host and guest.

Job plot for a mixture of axle 1 and C2[6]

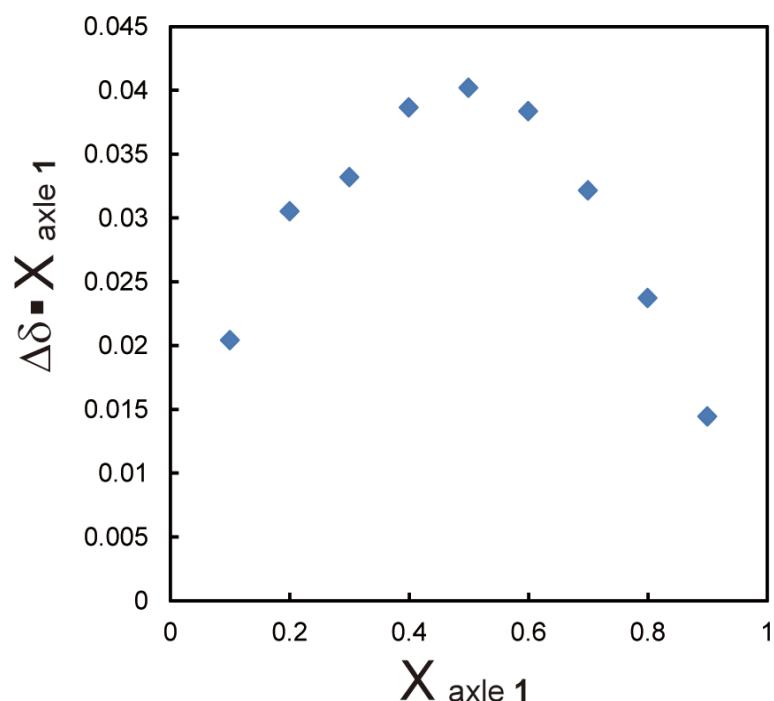


Fig. S7 Job plot between axle 1 (guest) and C2[6] (host) was collected by plotting the $\Delta\delta$ in chemical shift of the proton signal of pyridinium moiety (**Fig. 3**, blue peak g) of axle 1 observed by ^1H NMR spectroscopy against the change in the mole fraction of the guest ($X_{\text{axle } 1}$). Concentration: [axle 1] + [C2[6]] = 10 mM. The plot indicates a 1:1 binding between the host and guest.

¹H NMR titration of axle 1 with C2[6] in CDCl₃

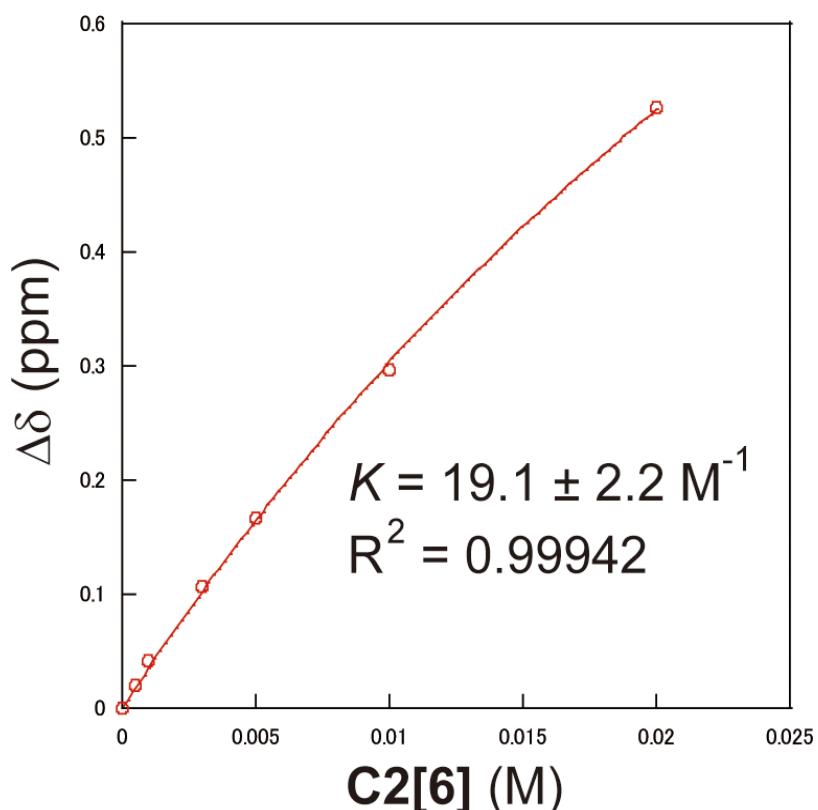


Fig. S8 ¹H NMR titration of axle 1 (Fig. 3, pyridinium proton peak g) with C2[6] in CDCl₃ at 25 °C.

HRESIMS spectra of [2]rotaxane 3

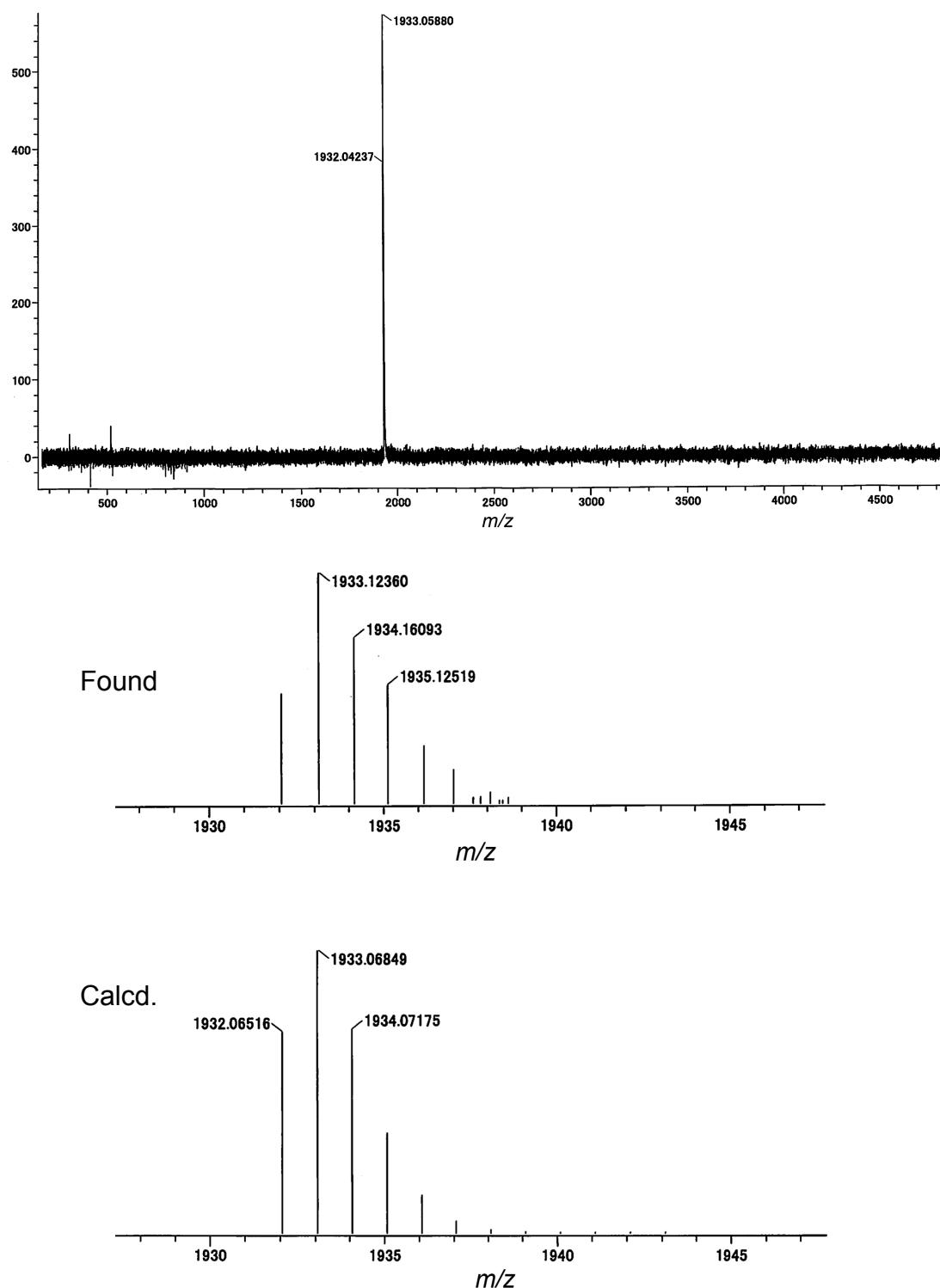


Fig. S9 HRESIMS spectra (CHCl_3) of [2]rotaxane 3.

HRESIMS spectra of [2]rotaxane 4

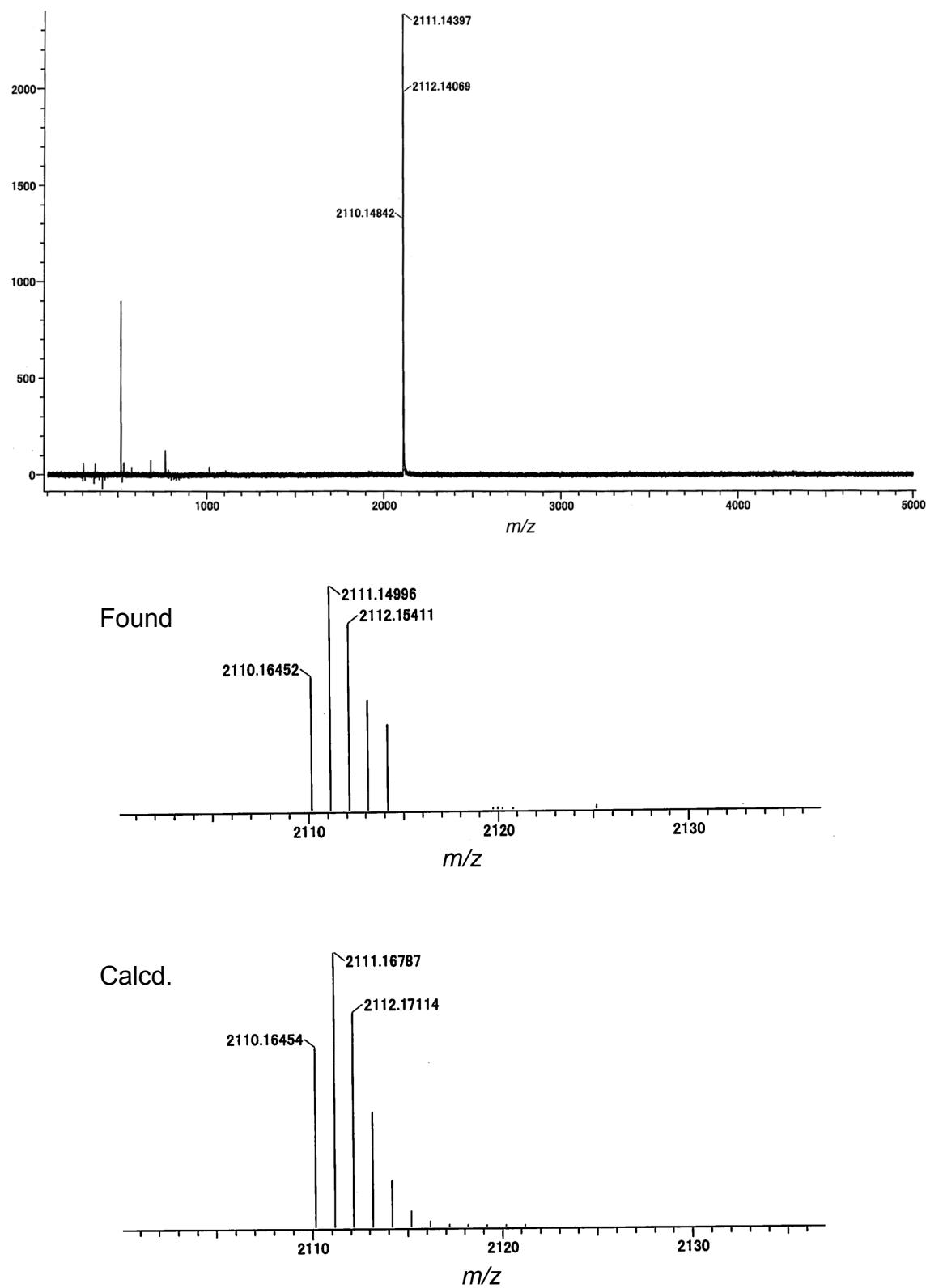


Fig. S10 HRESIMS spectra (CHCl_3) of [2]rotaxane 4.

Variable-temperature ^1H NMR spectra of [2]rotaxane 3

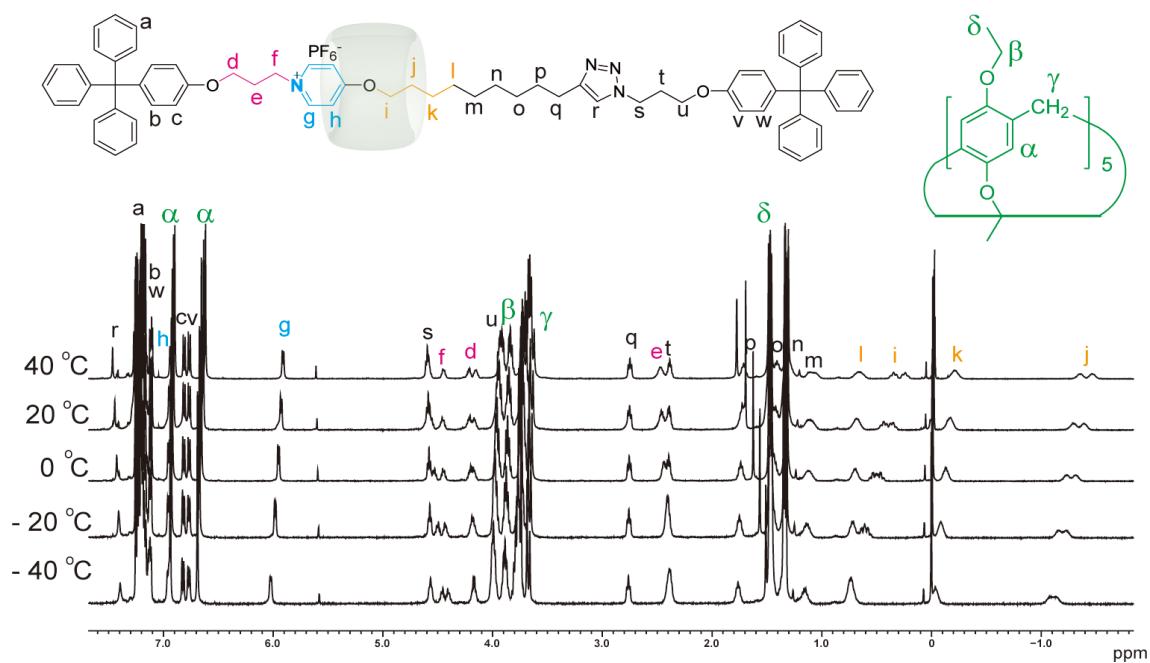


Fig. S11 Variable-temperature ^1H NMR spectra of [2]rotaxane 3 (5 mM in CDCl_3). The signals of [2]rotaxane 3 hardly changed when the sample was cooled and heated, indicating that the shuttling of the C2[5] wheel along the axle did not take place in the temperature investigated.

Variable-temperature ^1H NMR spectra of [2]rotaxane 4

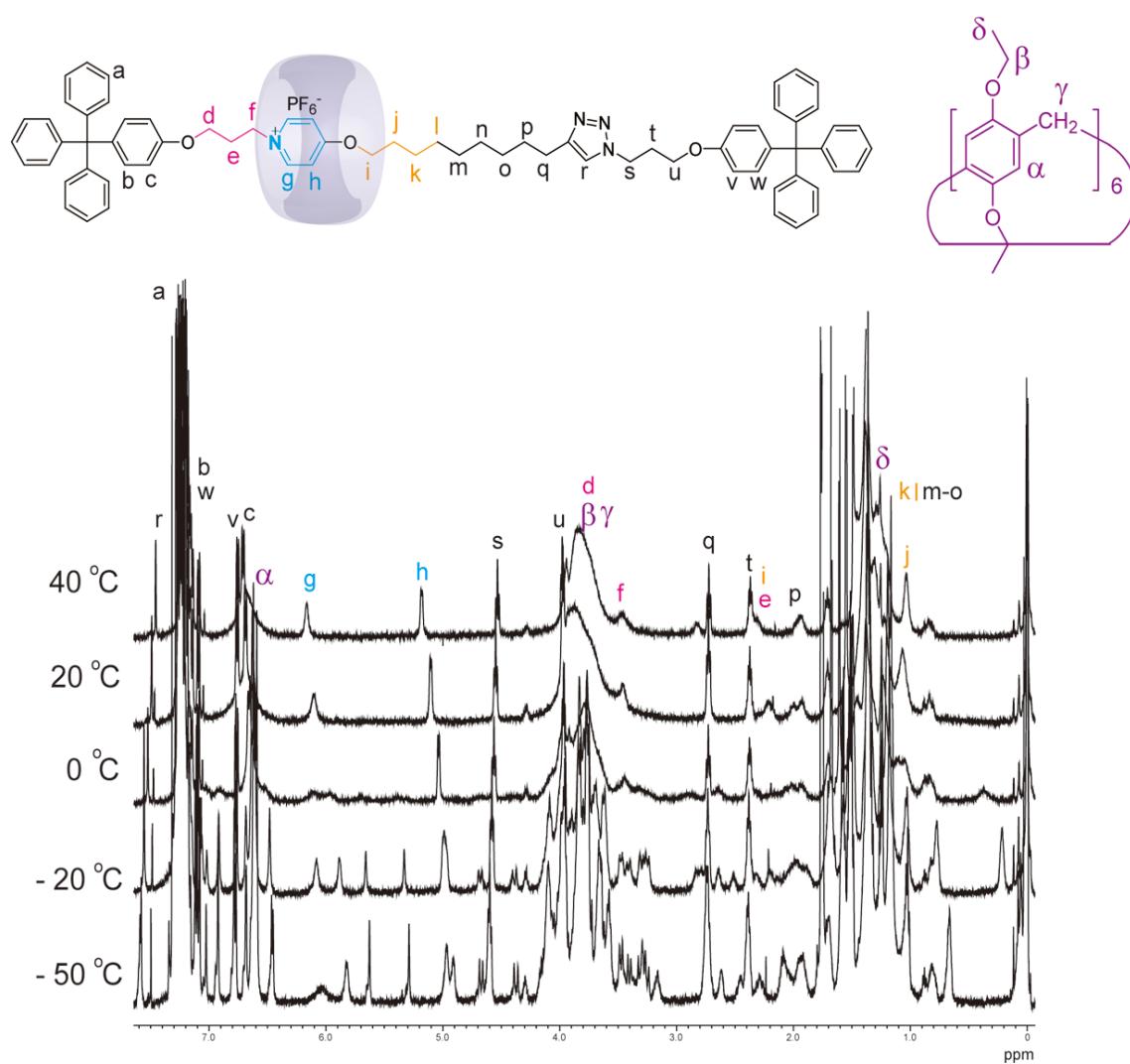


Fig. S12 Variable-temperature ^1H NMR spectra of [2]rotaxane 4 (5 mM in CDCl_3). The signals of [2]rotaxane 4 became sharp and split when the sample was cooled and heated, indicating shuttling of the C₂[6] wheel along the axle.

2D ^1H - ^1H COSY NMR of [2]rotaxane 4 at -20°C

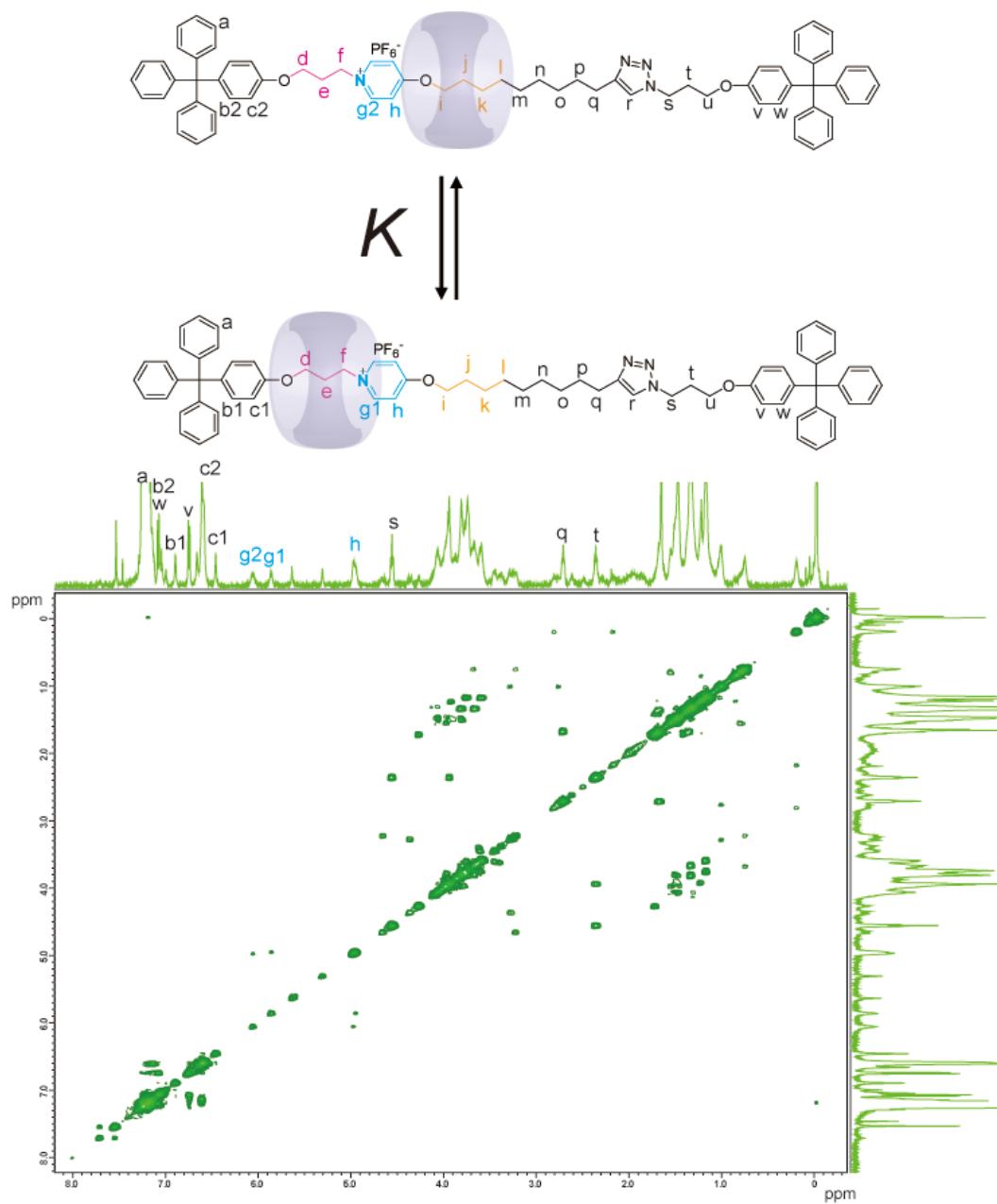


Fig. S13 2D ^1H - ^1H COSY NMR of [2]rotaxane 4 at -20°C in CDCl_3 .

2D EXSY NMR of [2]rotaxane 4 at – 20 °C

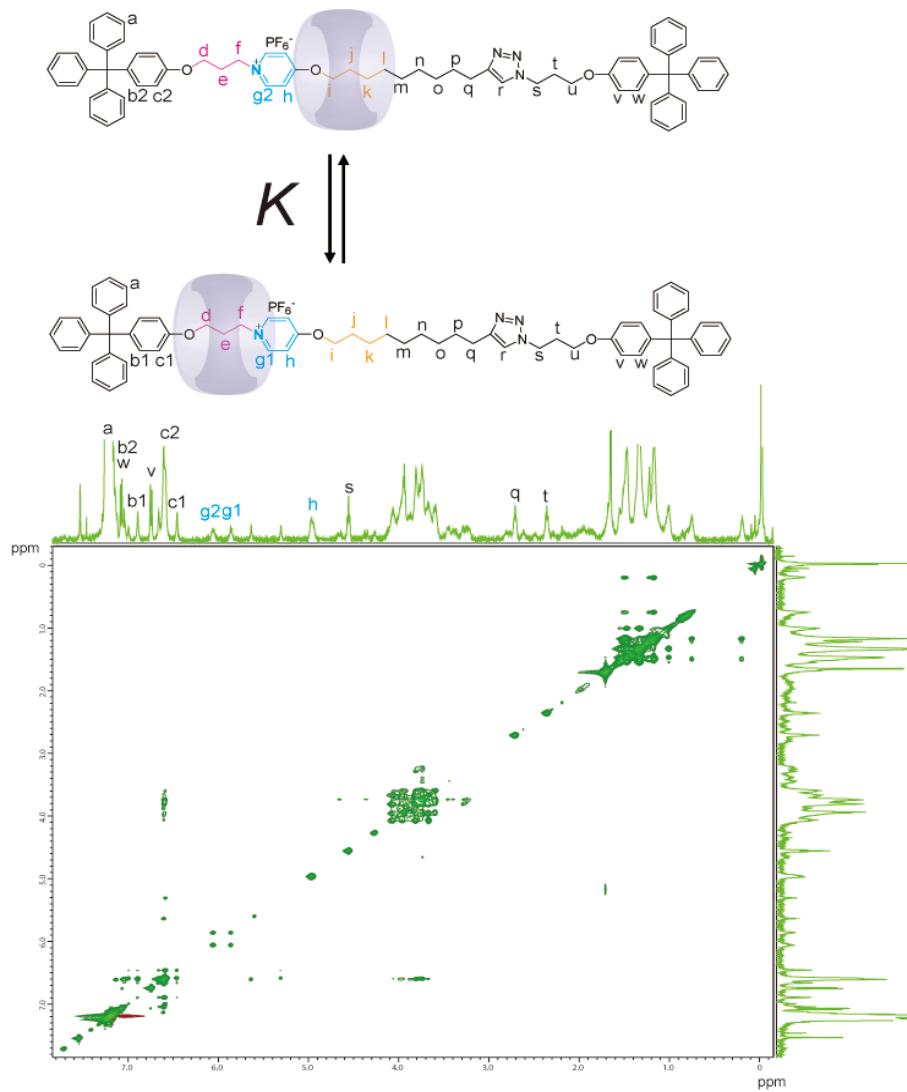


Fig. S14 2D EXSY NMR of [2]rotaxane 4 at – 20 °C in CDCl₃.

References

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