

A pillar[6]arene with mono(ethylene oxide) substituents: synthesis and complexation with diquat

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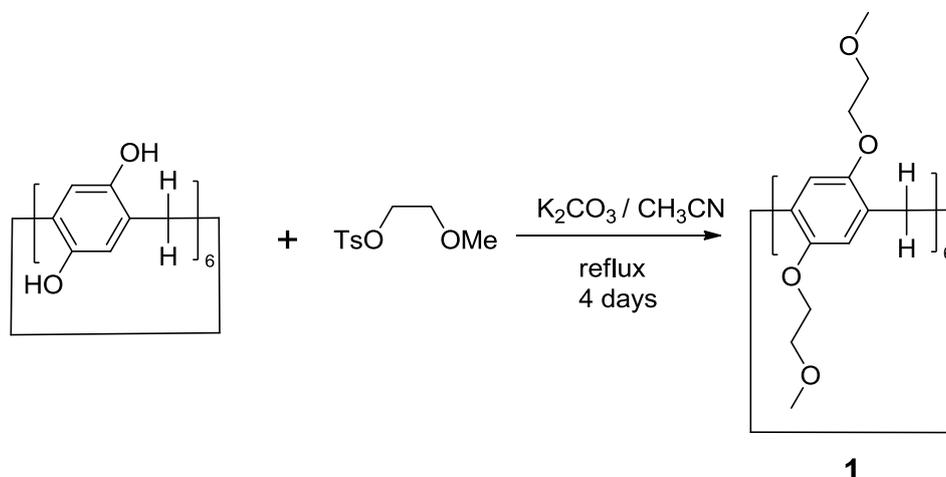
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1. Materials and methods:

Pillar[5]arene **2**^{S1} and *per*-hydroxylated pillar[6]arene **3**^{S2} were synthesized according to literature procedures. Solvents were either employed as purchased or dried according to procedures described in the literature. ¹H NMR spectra were collected on a temperature-controlled 400 MHz spectrometer. ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AVANCE DMX-500 spectrometer at 125 MHz. Low-resolution electrospray ionization (LRESI) mass spectra were obtained on a Bruker Esquire 3000 plus mass spectrometer (Bruker-Franzen Analytik GmbH Bremen, Germany) equipped with an ESI interface and an ion trap analyzer. High-resolution mass spectrometry experiments were performed with a Bruker Daltonics Apex III spectrometer. UV-vis spectroscopy was performed on a Shimadzu UV-2550 instrument at room temperature.

2. Synthetic route to pillar[6]arene **1**



Scheme S1 Synthetic route to pillar[6]arene **1**.

3. Synthesis of pillar[6]arene **1**

per-Hydroxylated pillar[6]arene **3** (0.500 g, 0.682 mmol) was dissolved in CH₃CN (50 mL). K₂CO₃ (2.25 g, 16.3 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred. Then 2-methoxyethyl *p*-toluenesulfonate (4.10 g, 21.3 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred under N₂ at reflux for 4 days. The solvent was evaporated and the residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂. The resultant solution was

washed with H₂O and brine. The organic phase was collected, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated to give a crude solid. Column chromatography (silica gel; CH₂Cl₂ : CH₃OH = 20 : 1) afforded a light yellow solid (195 mg, 20%). M.p. 90.2–92.8 °C. The ¹H NMR spectrum of pillar[6]arene **1** is shown in Figure S1. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, room temperature) δ (ppm): 6.74 (s, 12H), 3.92 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 24H), 3.81 (s, 12H), 3.61 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 24H), 3.35 (s, 36H). The ¹³C NMR spectrum of pillar[6]arene **1** is shown in Figure S2. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, room temperature) δ (ppm): 150.63, 128.38, 115.66, 71.43, 68.24, 58.93, 30.74. LRESIMS: *m/z* 1451.1 [M + Na]⁺ (100%). HRMALDIMS: *m/z* calcd. for [M + Na]⁺ C₇₈H₁₀₈O₂₄Na, 1451.7128, found 1451.7124, error –0.3 ppm.

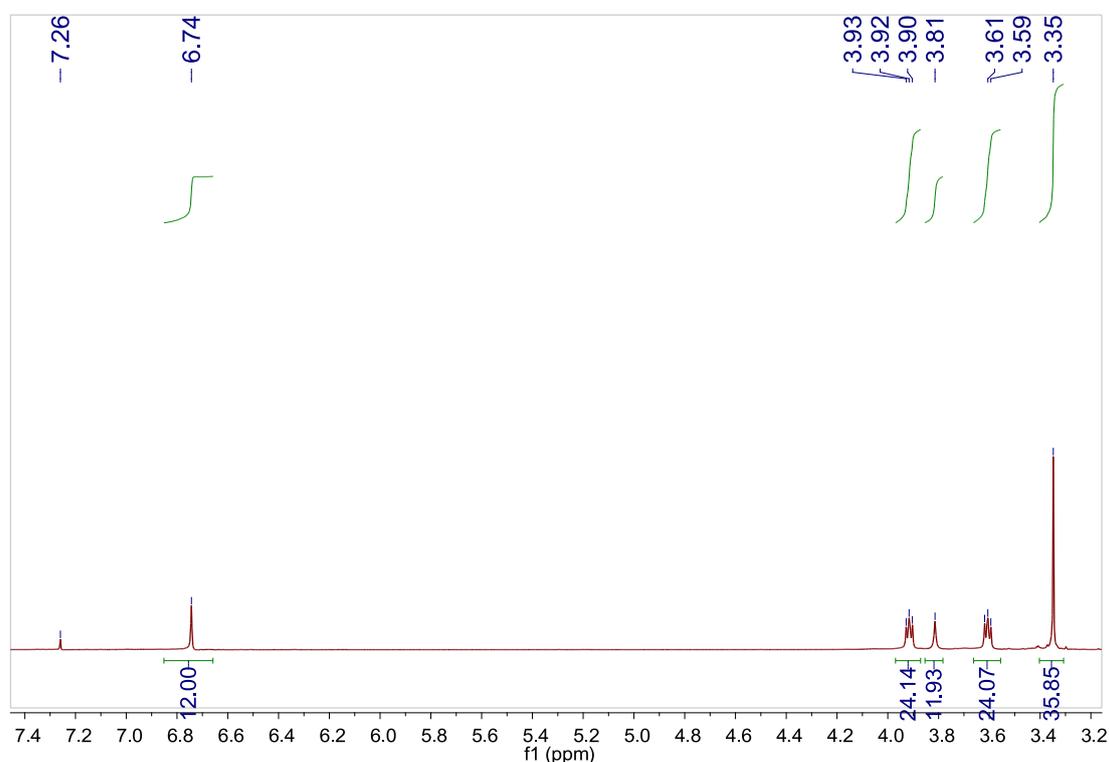


Fig. S1 ¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃, room temperature) of pillar[6]arene **1**.

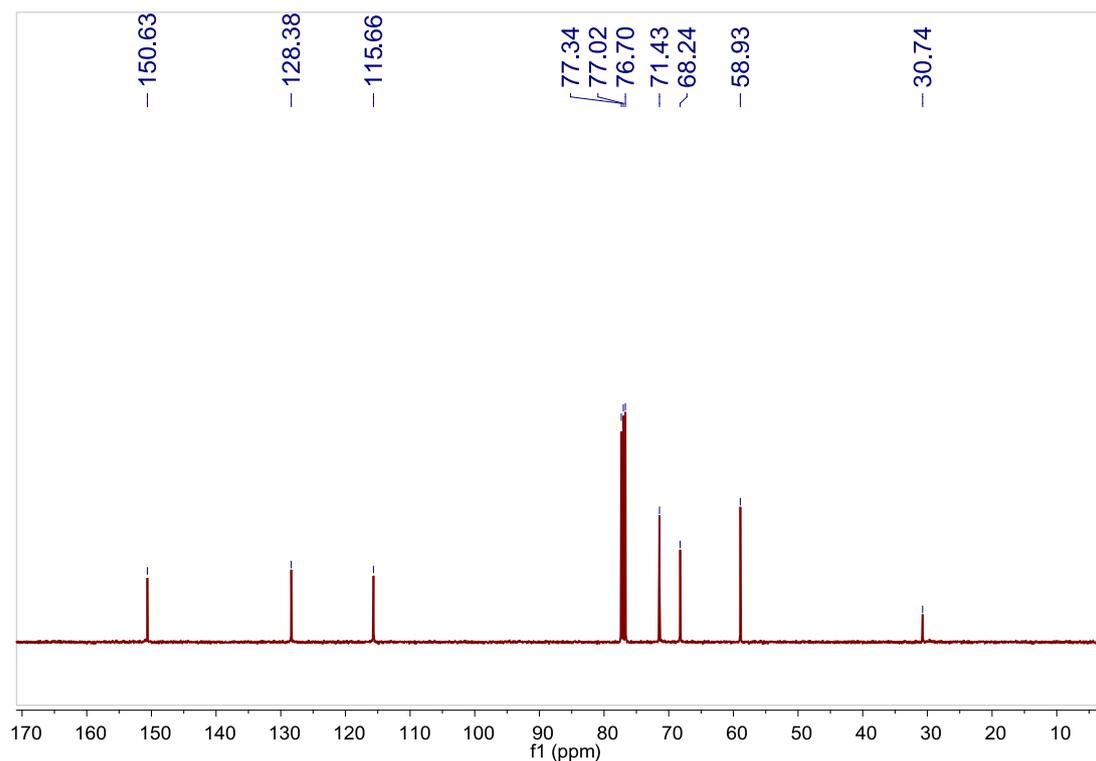


Fig. S2 ^{13}C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, CDCl_3 , room temperature) of pillar[6]arene **1**.

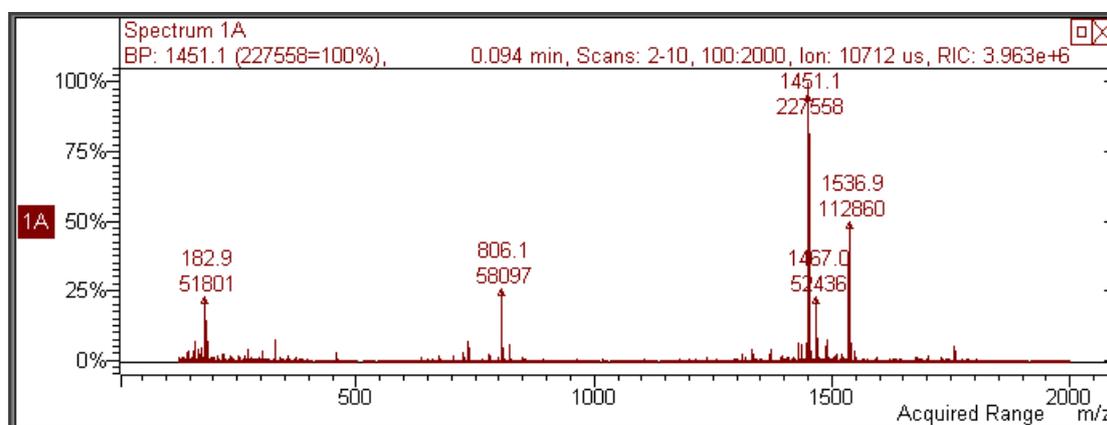


Fig. S3 LRESI mass spectrum of pillar[6]arene **1**. Assignment of the main peak: m/z 1451.1 $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$ (100%).

4. X-ray crystal data of **1**⊃**4**

Crystal data of **1**⊃**4**: red, C₉₄H₁₂₆F₁₂O₂₄N₄P₂, FW 1985.93, monoclinic, space group *C* 2/*c*, *a* = 39.5938(13), *b* = 13.3342(3), *c* = 38.3519(8) Å, α = 90.00°, β = 100.616(3)°, γ = 90.00°, *V* = 19901.3(9) Å³, *Z* = 8, *D*_c = 1.326 g cm⁻³, *T* = 140(2) K, μ = 1.216 mm⁻¹, 35832 measured reflections, 16879 independent reflections, 384 parameters, 3 restraints, *F*(000) = 8384.0, *R*₁ = 0.0891, *wR*₂ = 0.0730 (all data), *R*₁ = 0.2282, *wR*₂ = 0.2097 [*I* > 2σ(*I*)], max. residual density 0.948 e Å⁻³, and goodness-of-fit (*F*²) = 1.037. CCDC-946929.

5. Stoichiometry and association constant determination for the complexation between **1** and **4**

The association constant of complex **1**⊃**4** was determined by probing the charge-transfer band of the complex by UV/Vis spectroscopy and employing a titration method. Progressive addition of a solution with high guest concentration (5.0 × 10⁻³ M) and low host **1** concentration (2.0 × 10⁻⁴ M) to a solution with the same concentration of host **1** resulted in an increase of the intensity of the charge-transfer band of the complex. Treatment of the collected absorbance data with a non-linear curve-fitting program afforded the corresponding association constant (*K*_a).

The non-linear curve-fitting was based on the equation:^{S3}

$$A = (A_{\infty}/[H]_0) (0.5[G]_0 + 0.5 ([H]_0 + 1/K_a) - (0.5 (([G]_0^2) + (2[G]_0(1/K_a - [H]_0)) + (1/K_a + [G]_0^2)^{0.5})) (Eq S1)$$

Where *A* is the absorption intensity of the charge-transfer band at [G]₀, *A*_∞ is the absorption intensity of the charge-transfer band when the host is completely complexed, [H]₀ is the fixed initial concentration of the host, and [G]₀ is the varying concentration of the guest.

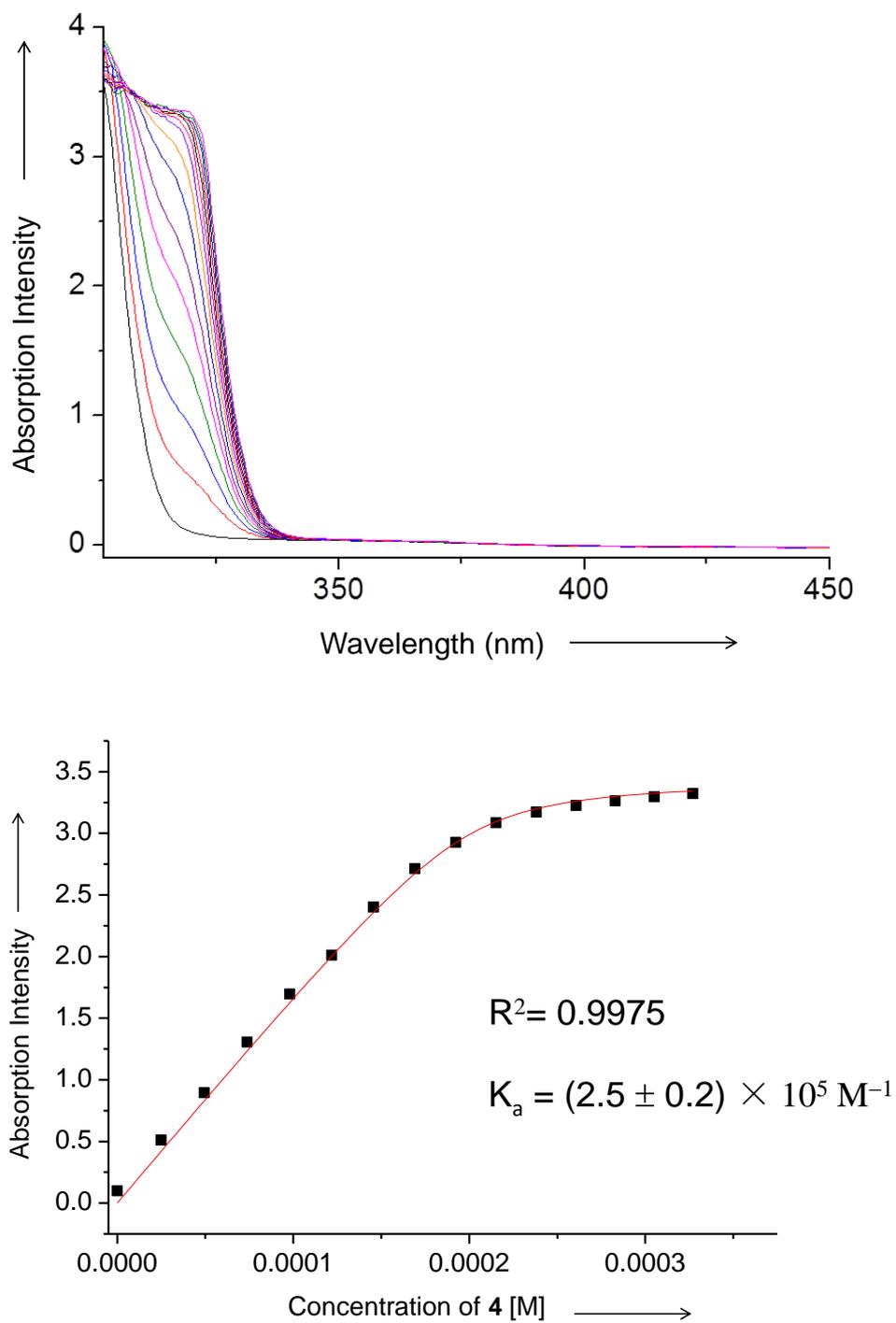


Fig. S4 Titration curve (top) and non-linear fitting curve (bottom) of host **1** and guest **4** in acetonitrile.

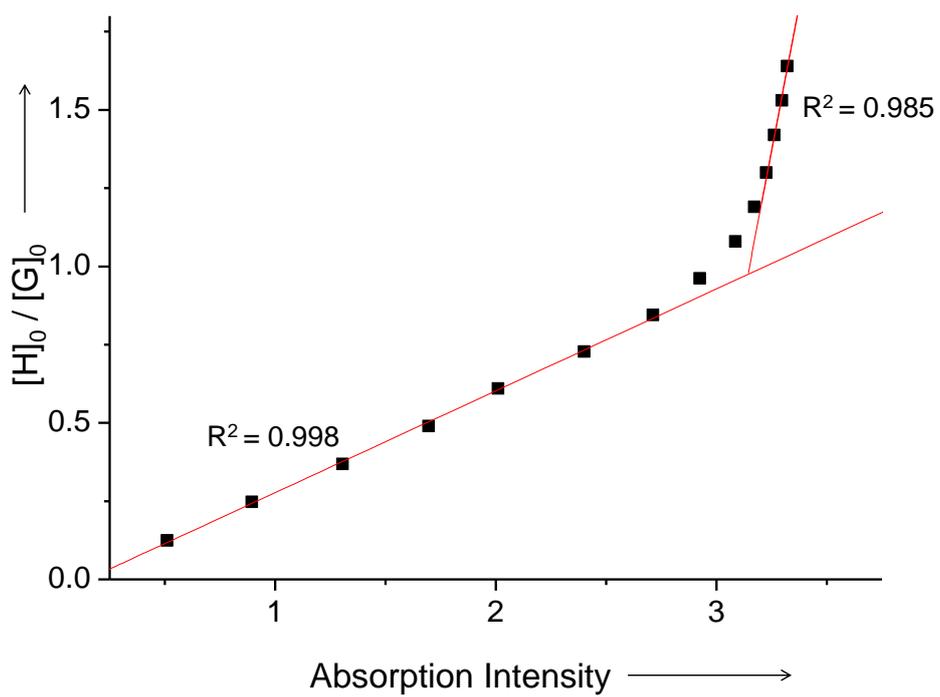


Fig. S5 Mole ratio plot for the complexation between **1** and **4**, indicating a 1:1 stoichiometry.

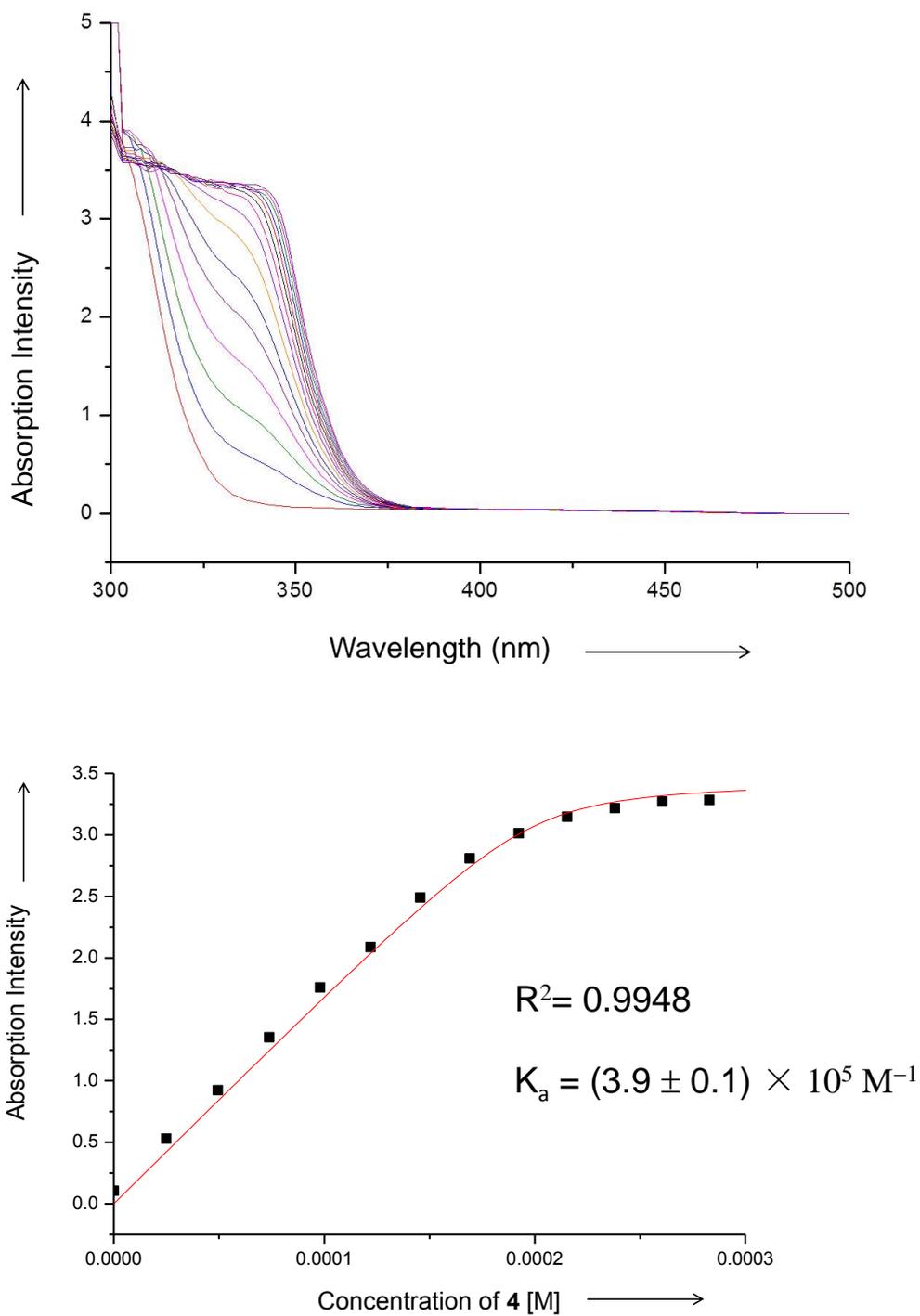


Fig. S6 Titration curve (top) and non-linear fitting curve (bottom) of host **1** and guest **4** in acetone.

6. Electrospray ionization mass spectrometry of an equimolar mixture of **1** and **4**.

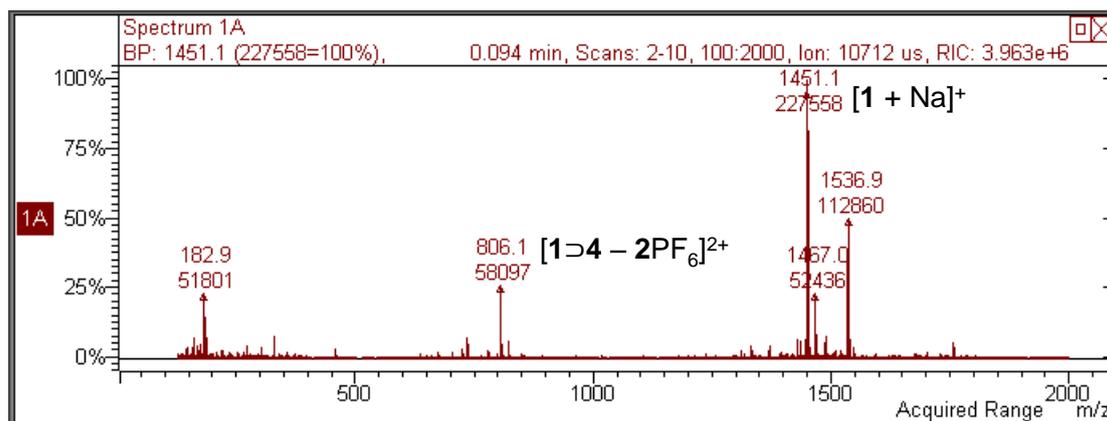


Fig. S7 Electrospray ionization mass spectrometry of an equimolar mixture of **1** and **4**.

7. A photo showing color changes after host-guest complexation

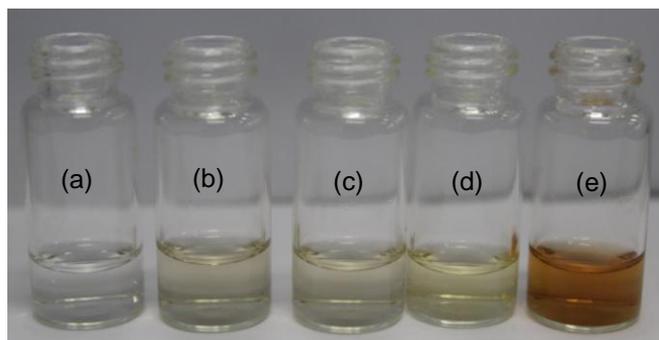


Fig. S8 A photo showing color changes after host-guest complexation in acetonitrile: (a) diquat alone; (b) **2** alone; (c) equimolar mixture of **2** and diquat; (d) **1** alone; (e) equimolar mixture of **1** and diquat.

8. Investigation on the complexation between pillar[5]arenes **1** and **2** with **4**.

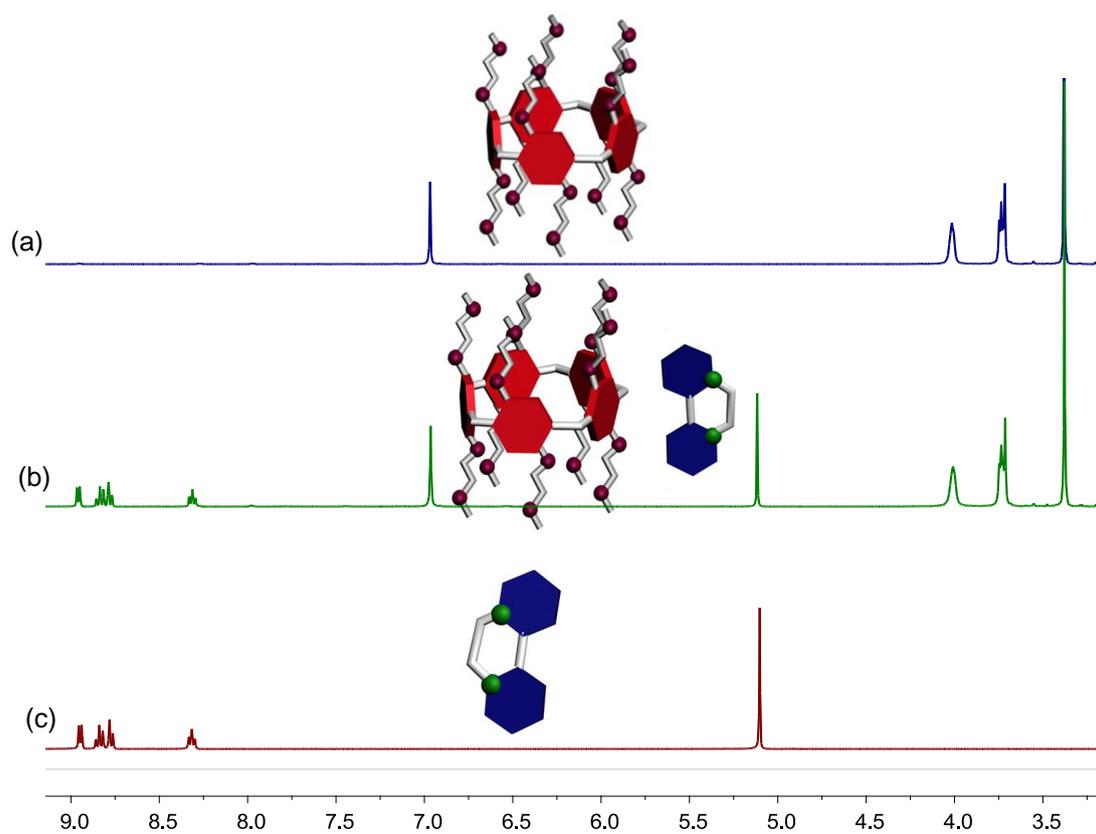


Fig. S9 Partial ¹H NMR spectra (400 MHz, CD₃CN, 22 °C): (a) 2.00 mM **2**; (b) 2.00 mM **2** and diquat **4**; (c) 2.00 mM diquat **4**. After equimolar diquat **4** and pillar[5]arene **2** were mixed in acetonitrile, no chemical shift changes were observed, indicating that no host-guest complexation occurred between **4** and **2**.

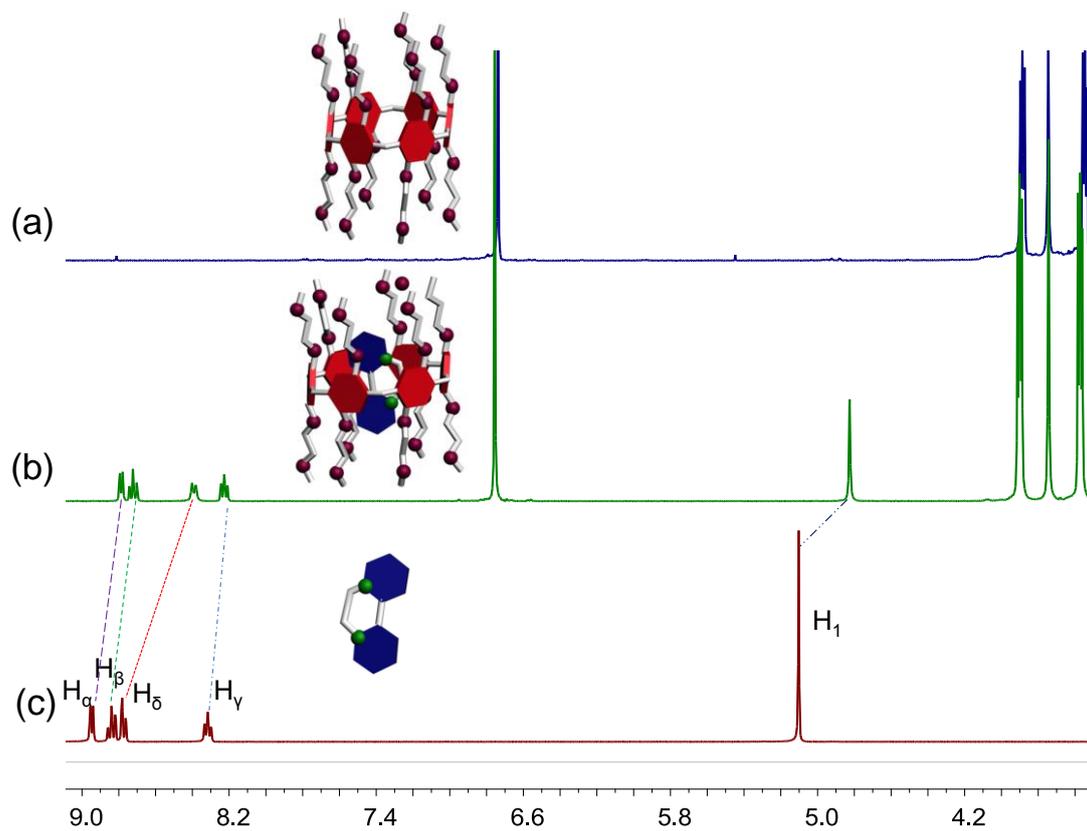


Fig. S10 Partial ¹H NMR spectra (400 MHz, CD₃CN, 22 °C): (a) 1.00 mM **1**; (b) 0.500 mM **1** and diquat **4**; (c) 1.00 mM diquat **4**.

References:

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