

## Supporting Information

# Peptoid Helicity Modulation: Precise Control of Peptoid Secondary Structures via Position-Specific Placement of Chiral Monomers.

Hye-Min Shin,<sup>a</sup> Chang-Muk Kang,<sup>c</sup> Myung-Han Yoon,<sup>\*,a</sup> Jiwon Seo<sup>\*,b,c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Materials Science and Engineering, <sup>b</sup>Division of Liberal Art and Sciences, and <sup>c</sup>Department of Chemistry,  
Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology, Gwangju, 500-712, South Korea

Email: jseo@gist.ac.kr

mhyoon@gist.ac.kr

### Table of contents

1. General methods	S2
2. Amine submonomers	S2
3. Peptoid synthesis and purification	S2 – S3
4. Circular dichroism spectroscopy	S4
5. HPLC data of <b>1 – 30</b>	S5 – S9
6. ESI-MS data of <b>1 - 30</b>	S10
7. Interpretation of CD spectra	S11

## 1. General methods

Solvents and reagents purchased from commercial sources (Sigmaaldrich, Acros Organics, Novabiochem, and Merck) were used without further purification. Peptide synthesis grade DMF (Acros Organics, NJ, USA) was used for peptoid synthesis. *N,N'*-Diisopropylcarbodiimide was purchased from Advanced ChemTech, KY, USA. Abbreviations for reagents are as follows: 9-fluorenylmethoxycarbonyl (Fmoc); trifluoroacetic acid (TFA); triisopropylsilane (TIS); dichloromethane (DCM); *N,N'*-dimethylformamide (DMF); *N,N'*-diisopropylcarbodiimide (DIC); acetonitrile (ACN); and 1-Methyl-2-pyrrolidinone (NMP).

## 2. Amine submonomers

(*S*)-*N*-(1-phenylethyl)glycine (or *Nspe*, (*S*)-1-phenylethylamine), (*R*)-*N*-(1-phenylethyl)glycine (or *Nrpe*, (*R*)-1-phenylethylamine), and *N*-(1-phenylmethyl)glycine (or *Npm*, benzylamine) were obtained from Sigmaaldrich (Milwaukee, WI, USA) at a purity >99%. Structures of the peptoid side chains derived from these amine submonomers are shown in Table 1.

## 3. Peptoid synthesis and purification

Peptoids **1** - **30** were synthesized using microwave-assisted solid-phase submonomer synthesis methods<sup>1</sup> on an Fmoc-Rink amide MBHA resin. A CEM MARS multimodal microwave reactor equipped with a fiber-optics temperature probe and magnetic stirrer was used (CEM Corp., Matthews, NC, USA). The fiber-optics temperature probe was positioned in the reaction mixture, and a solution was stirred and irradiated at different reaction conditions as described below. Fmoc-Rink amide MBHA resin (0.59 mmol/g, 102 mg, 0.06 mmol) was swelled in DMF for 20 minutes and drained. The resin was treated with 20% piperidine in DMF (5 mL) at room temperature for 60 seconds and at 80 °C (microwave, 800W max power, 80% power, ramp 2 min, hold 2 minutes, stirring level 3) in the microwave reactor. The resin was washed (5 mL each time) with DMF (3x), methanol (3x), and DCM (2x). The deprotected Rink amide resin (0.06 mmol) was suspended in DMF (2 mL) and drained. Acylation reaction was performed by the addition of bromoacetic acid (1 mL of 1.2 M bromoacetic acid stock solution, 1.2 mmol), followed by DIC (0.19 mL of 0.152 g, 1.2 mmol). Reaction mixture was stirred at 35 °C (microwave, 400W max power, 15% power, hold 2 minutes, stirring level 3) in the microwave reactor. The resin was washed (5 mL each time) with DMF (3x) and DCM (2x). Displacement reaction was performed

med by addition of primary amine as 1.5 M solution in NMP (1.6 ml, 1.5 M primary amine in NMP stock solution, 2.4 mmol), followed by stirring at 95 °C (microwave, 400 W max power, 75% power, ramp 2 minutes, hold 90 seconds, stirring level 3) in the microwave reactor. The resin was washed with DMF (3x) and DCM (2x). Acylation and displacement reaction were performed until desired sequence is obtained. The peptoids were cleaved from the resin by the addition of cleavage solution (95:2.5:2.5 (v/v/v) TFA/water/TIS, 1 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred for 10 - 20 minutes at room temperature. The cleavage solution was filtered by solid-phase extraction (SPE) cartridges with 20 µm PE frit (Applied Separations, Allentown, PA, USA), diluted by the addition of excess water, and the volatiles were removed by lyophilizer. The final product was dissolved in ACN. Crude peptoid oligomers were analyzed on a C18 analytical HPLC column at room temperature (SunFire C18, 4.6 x 250 mm, 5 µm). Analytical HPLC was performed on a Waters HPLC system (Waters 2489 UV/Visible Detector, Waters 1525 Binary HPLC Pump, Waters 2707 Autosampler, and Waters 5CH column oven). A linear gradient of 5-100% ACN/water (0.1% TFA) over 30 min was used with a flow rate of 1 mL/min. Crude peptoid oligomers were purified using a preparative HPLC system (Waters prepLC system, Waters 2489 UV/Visible Detector, Waters fraction collector III). Preparative HPLC was performed on a C18 column (SunFire, 5 µm, 19 mm x 150 mm) with a linear gradient of 5-100% ACN/water (0.1% TFA) over 30 min with a flow rate of 14 mL/min. Sample elution was monitored at 220 and 254 nm by absorbance. The purity of the product fractions were confirmed by analytical HPLC. Each fraction was further analyzed by LC/MS performed on an Agilent 1100 liquid chromatography system with an Agilent 6130 single quadrupole mass spectrometer (Applied Biosystems). Fractions containing pure product (>97% purity) were collected, lyophilized, and stored at -80 °C.

#### **4. Circular dichroism spectroscopy**

CD measurements were performed on a Jasco model 810 spectropolarimeter (Jasco, Inc., Easton, MD, USA). CD sample solutions (typically 50  $\mu\text{M}$ ) were made in 1.5 mL microtube by dilution of stock solutions (1 mM). Stock solutions (1 mM) were prepared in 12 mL scintillation vial by a precise weighing of at least 1 mg of lyophilized peptoid powder and then adding appropriate volume of solvent. CD spectra were acquired in a quartz cell with a path length of 1 mm, employing a scan rate of 20 nm/min. CD spectra reported here represent the average of 3 successive spectral accumulations. Data are expressed in terms of per-residue molar ellipticity ( $\text{deg cm}^2/\text{dmol}$ ), as calculated per mole of amide groups present and normalized by the molar concentration of peptoids.

## 5. HPLC data of 1 - 30

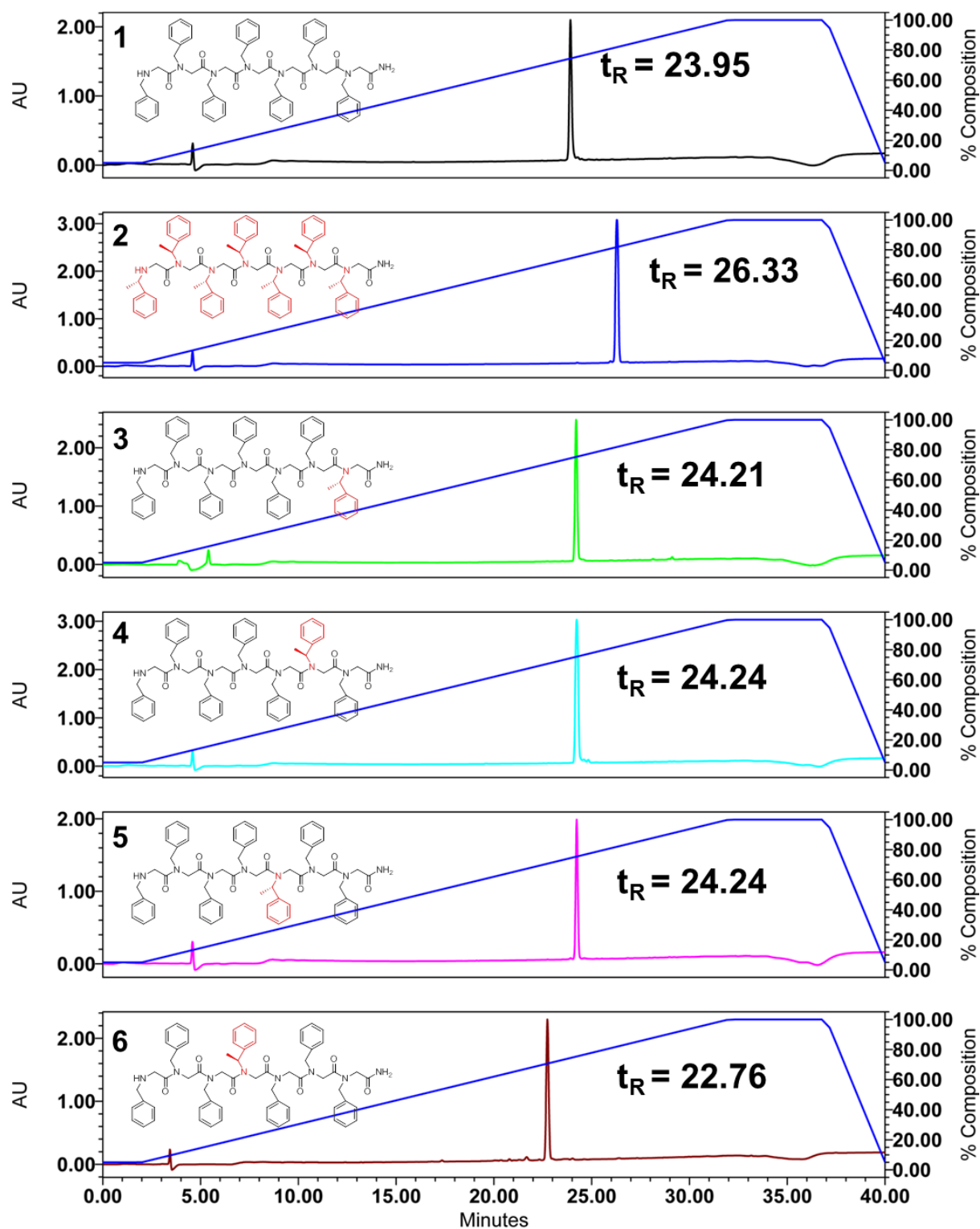


Fig. S1. HPLC chromatograms of 1 - 6 with UV detection at 220 nm.

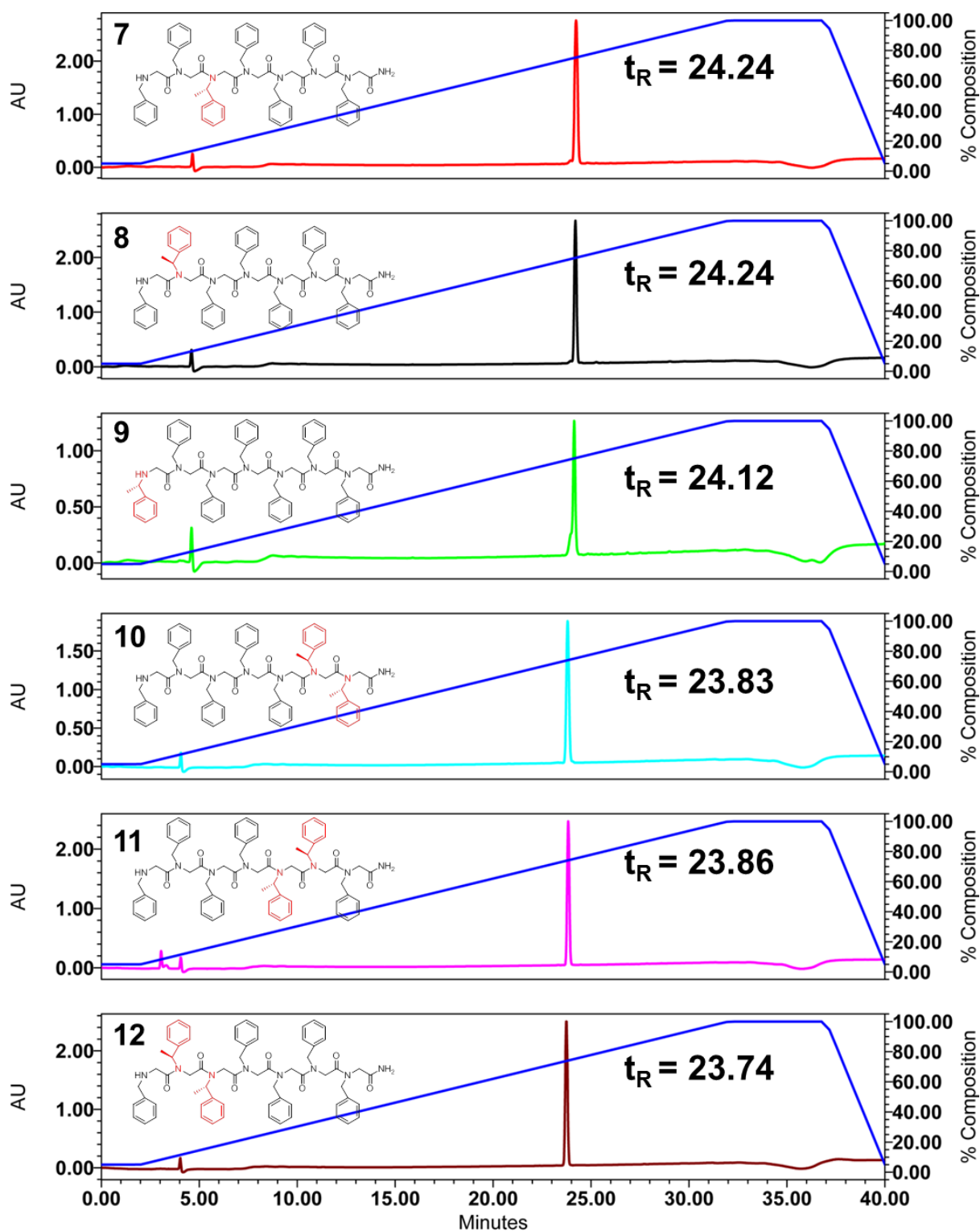


Fig. S2. HPLC chromatograms of 7 - 12 with UV detection at 220 nm.

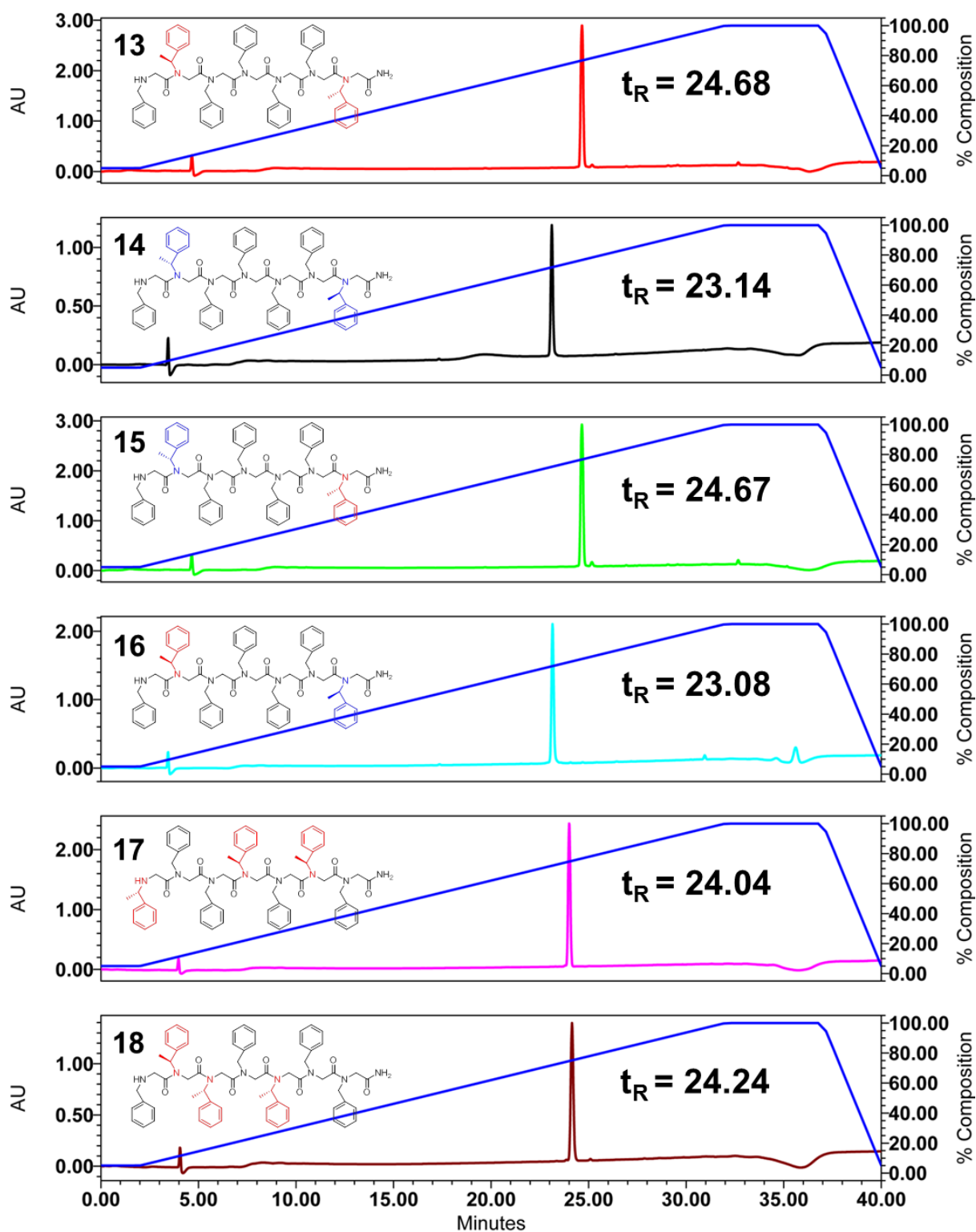


Fig. S3. HPLC chromatograms of 13 - 18 with UV detection at 220 nm.

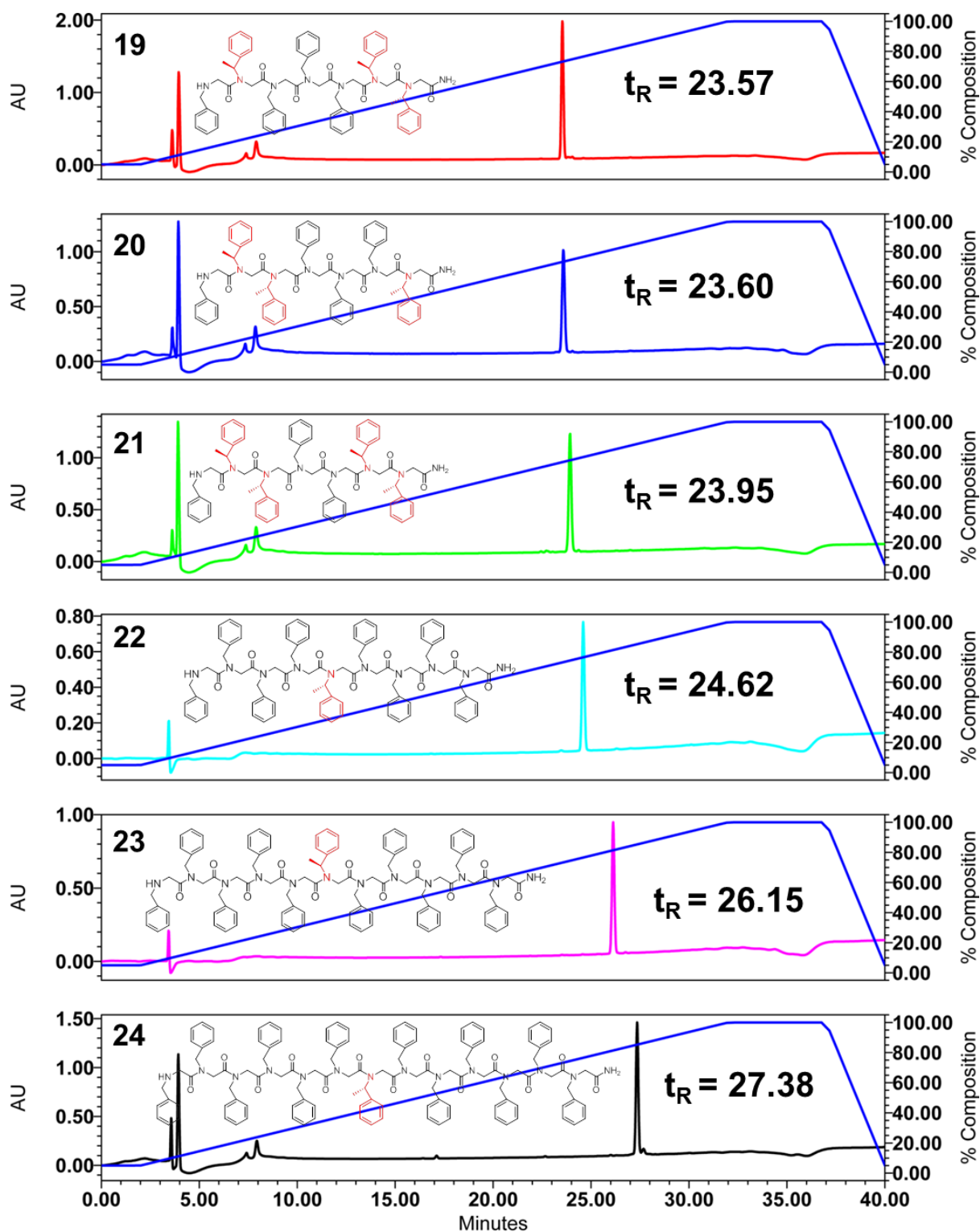


Fig. S4. HPLC chromatograms of 19 - 24 with UV detection at 220 nm.



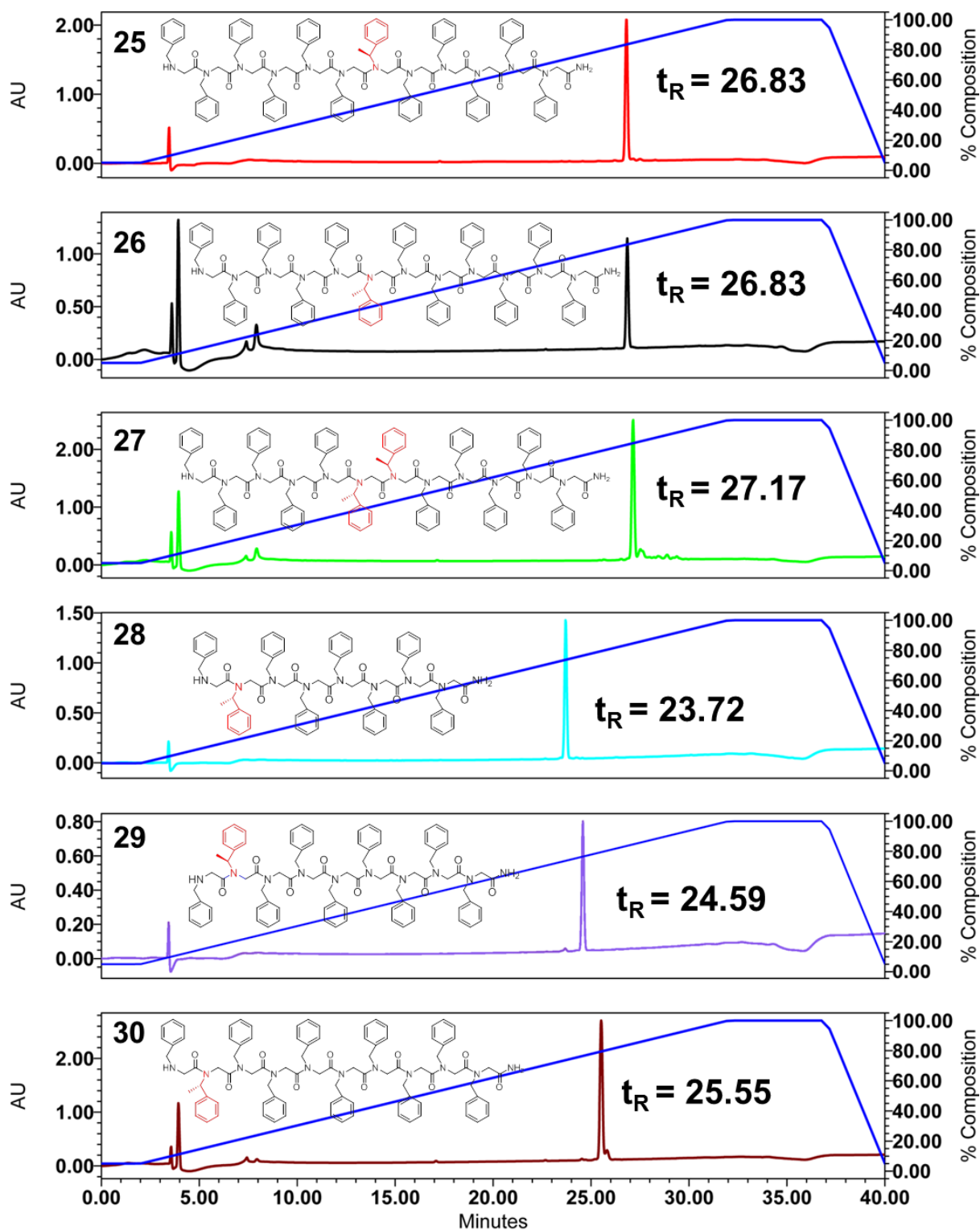


Fig. S5. HPLC chromatograms of 25 - 30 with UV detection at 220 nm.

## 6. ESI-MS data of 1 - 30

**Table S1.** ESI-MS data of 1 - 30.

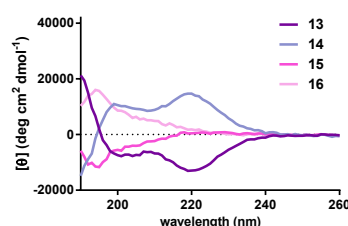
Compounds	Mass calculated	Mass observed <sup>a</sup>
<b>1</b>	1048.3	1048.8 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>2</b>	1146.4	1147.0 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>3</b>	1062.3	1062.7 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>4</b>	1062.3	1062.8 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>5</b>	1062.3	1062.8 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>6<sup>b</sup></b>	1062.3	542.0 (Na <sup>+</sup> +H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>7</b>	1062.3	1062.8 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>8<sup>b</sup></b>	1062.3	542.0 (Na <sup>+</sup> +H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>9<sup>b</sup></b>	1062.3	542.0 (Na <sup>+</sup> +H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>10</b>	1076.3	1076.9 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>11</b>	1076.3	1076.6 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>12</b>	1076.3	1076.9 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>13</b>	1076.3	1077.0 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>14</b>	1076.3	1077.0 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>15</b>	1076.3	1077.0 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>16</b>	1076.3	1076.6 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>17</b>	1090.3	1091.0 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>18</b>	1090.3	1091.0 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>19</b>	1090.3	1091.5 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>20</b>	1090.3	1091.5 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>21</b>	1104.4	1104.3 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>22</b>	1355.7	1355.3 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>23</b>	1649.8	1649.4 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>24<sup>b</sup></b>	1942.9	981.1 (Na <sup>+</sup> +H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>25</b>	1798.2	1798.6 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>26</b>	1798.2	1798.7 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>27</b>	1812.2	1812.7 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>28</b>	1208.6	1208.5 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>29</b>	1355.7	1355.1 (H <sup>+</sup> )
<b>30</b>	1503.8	1503.9 (H <sup>+</sup> )

<sup>a</sup>Observed in ESI-MS. <sup>b</sup> The observed parent peaks are doubly charged (Na<sup>+</sup>+H<sup>+</sup>) peaks, not fragments.

## 7. Interpretation of CD spectra

### (1) Peptoid **15** and **16**.

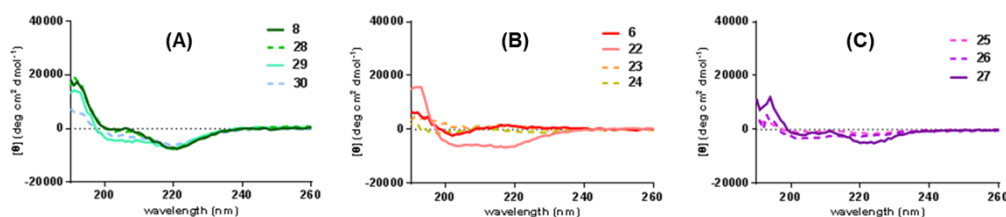
Since it was demonstrated that two positions, the second from N-terminus and the first from C-terminus, contributed more significantly on the peptoid structure formation, peptoids **15** - **16** were prepared to investigate the relationship between two  $\alpha$ -chiral monomers with the opposite chirality (Fig. S6). The CD spectrum of **15** with *Nspe* on the first position from the C-terminus and *Nrpe* on the second position from the N-terminus showed uncharacteristic CD signature, but negative Cotton effect at 195 nm was observed probably due to the influence of C-terminal *Nspe*. Peptoid **16**, which has switched positions of *Nspe* and *Nrpe* of **15**, showed a symmetrical CD signature, and again the positive Cotton effect at 195 nm was possibly induced by C-terminal *Nrpe*. These results agree with the conclusions reached by Lee and coworkers in their helical polyisocyanate studies; the chirality of the monomer at the beginning of the polymer chain growth played a critical role in determining the overall handedness of the chain.<sup>2</sup> In addition, we confirmed the importance of the placement of an  $\alpha$ -chiral, aromatic residue on the carboxy terminus as Barron and coworkers noted.<sup>3</sup>



**Fig. S6.** CD spectra of peptoid heptamers **13-16** (50  $\mu$ M in acetonitrile) were recorded as per-residue molar ellipticity, or  $[\theta]$ . Data were acquired at 20  $^{\circ}$ C.

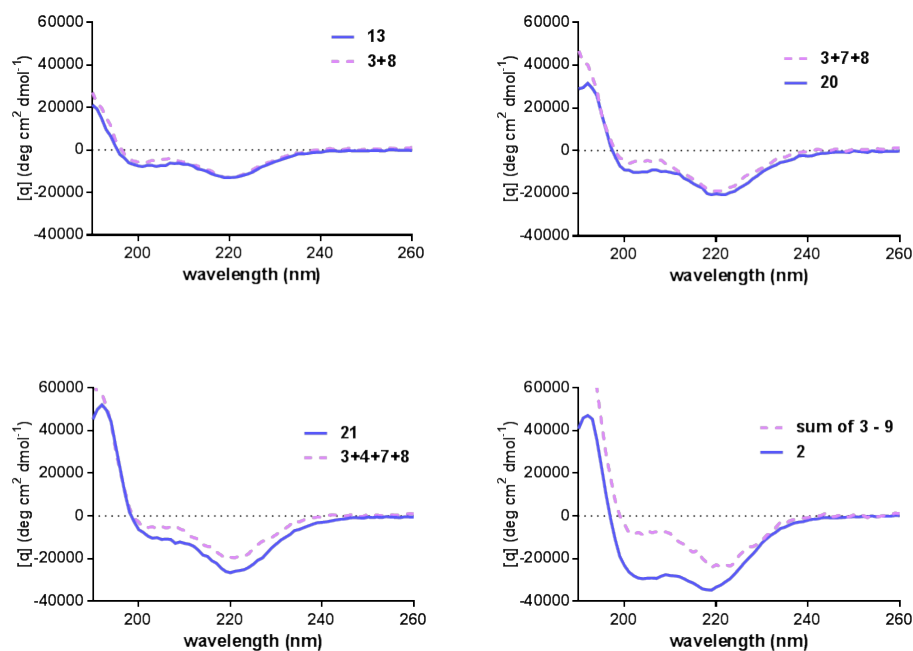
### (2) Peptoid **22-30**.

To compare with peptoids **22-24** that include an odd number of monomer units, even numbered peptoid dodecamers with one *Nspe* (**25** and **26**) and two *Nspe*'s (**27**) at the middle positions were prepared. Again, non-helical peptoid CD signature was obtained with **25** and **26**, but slightly increased but weak Cotton effect was observed with **27**. Peptoid nonamers, **22** and **29**, showed similar CD signatures. Both peptoid nonamers appear to have an elevated population of threaded loop conformations; however, more in-depth study is required to provide more conclusive evidences on this assumption.



**Fig. S7.** CD spectra of longer peptoids (50  $\mu$ M in acetonitrile) were recorded as per-residue molar ellipticity, or  $[\theta]$ . Data were acquired at 20  $^{\circ}$ C. Single *Nspe* incorporation (A) at the second position from N-terminus and (B) at the middle position of the sequence. (C) CD spectra of **25-27**.

(3) Additive effect of **13** and synergistic effects of **20**, **21**, and **2**.



**Fig. S8.** CD spectra of peptoids **13**, **20**, **21**, and **2** (blue) in comparison to the sum of CD spectra of corresponding one *N*spe containing peptoids.

## Reference

- (1) R. N. Zuckermann, J. M. Kerr, S. B. H. Kent, W. H. Moos, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1992, **114**, 10646-10647.
- (2) P. N. Shah, J. Min, J. Lee, *Chem. Comm.* 2012, **48**, 826-828.
- (3) C. W. Wu, T. J. Sanborn, K. Huang, R. N. Zuckermann, A. E. Barron, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2001, **123**, 6778-6784.