

## Supplementary Information

**Table S1** Observed BIRD rate constants for the dissociation of  $R_i-A^-$  complexes to products  $R_i$  and  $A^-$ .

Temperature / K	$k / s^{-1}$	$R_M-Br^-$	$R_M-I^-$	$R_B-I^-$	$R_B-TsO^-$	$R_B-HSO_4^-$	$R_B-NO_3^-$	$R_B-H_2PO_4^-$	$R_T-I^-$	$R_T-TsO^-$	$R_T-HSO_4^-$
293		0.0106				0.0007					
316	0.0021	0.0418			0.0070	0.0065					
320			0.0004	0.0072			0.0004				
336-337	0.0079	0.1189	0.0029	0.0306	0.0503	0.0023	0.00026			0.0007	
342	0.0167	0.1300			0.0498	0.0615		0.00057		0.0007	0.0015
346-347							0.0058		$4.2 \times 10^{-5}$	0.0011	
350-352			0.0099	0.0845	0.0809	0.0124	0.0023	0.0002	0.0021	0.0073	
354-355	0.0391	0.1931					0.0250	0.0043			0.0066
357							0.0335	0.0083	0.0008		0.0181
361-362	0.0628	0.2467	0.0186	0.1208				0.0007	0.0072		0.0258
363-365								0.0096	0.0012	0.0100	0.0259
367	0.1047	0.3505	0.0285		0.2423			0.0104	0.0020	0.0173	
372	0.1286	0.3751	0.0384	0.2293	0.2466				0.0046	0.0365	
379			0.0611	0.2760							0.0794
381-383	0.1291	0.4763	0.0854		0.3895	0.0704	0.0275	0.0058			

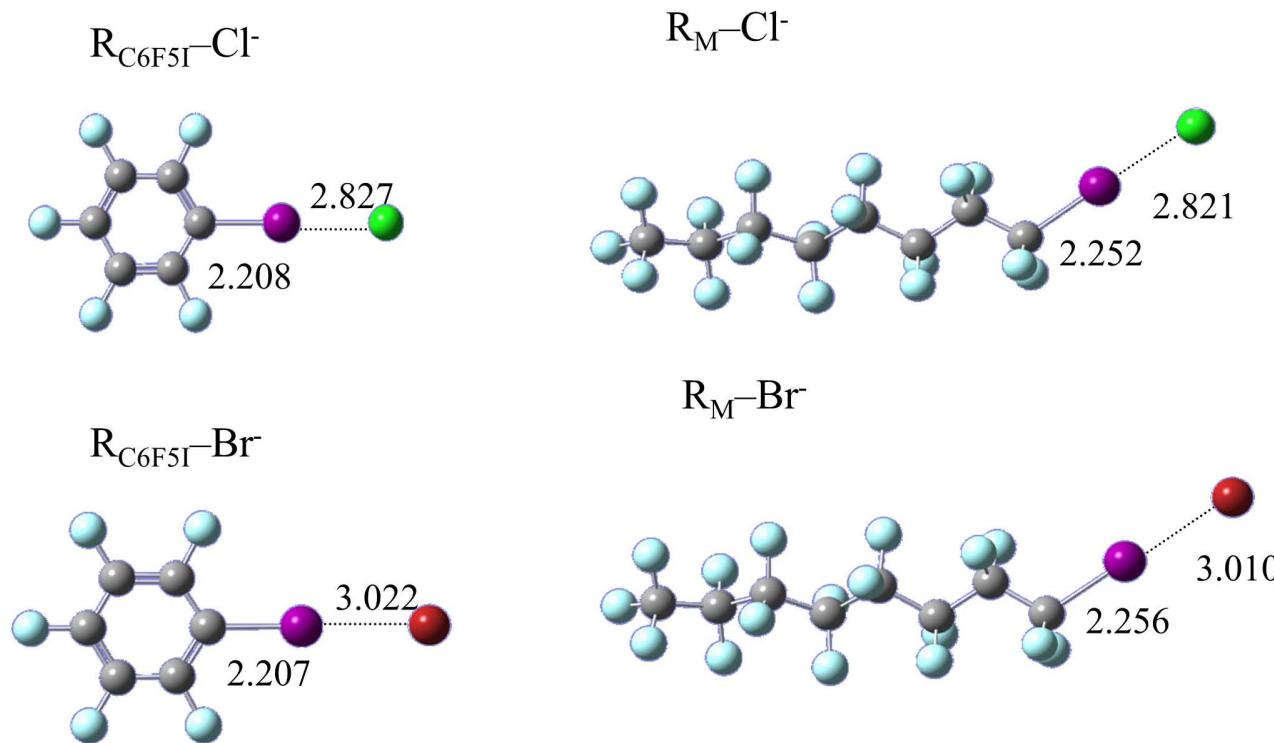
**Table S2.** Calculated free energies of interaction  $\Delta G$  in comparison to solution phase data.

Values indicated are in kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> and calculated at 298 K.

Receptor	Anion	<sup>a</sup> $\Delta G(\text{solution}) \times 10^3$	$\Delta G(\text{gas})$
B3LYP/ 6-31+G(d,p)			
$R_{C_6F_5I}$	$Cl^-$	-12.1	-68.1
	$Br^-$	-11.3	-66.9
	$I^-$	-9.3	-52.7
$R_M$	$Cl^-$	-19.0	-77.0
	$Br^-$	-16.8	-75.7
	$I^-$	-14.3	-61.5
$R_B$	$Cl^-$	-18.4	-105.3
	$I^-$	-	-82.5
	$TsO^-$	-	-24.7
	$HSO_4^-$	-	-35.9
	$NO_3^-$	-	-58.6
	$H_2PO_4^-$	-	-64.6
$R_T$	$Cl^-$	-24.2	-
	$Br^-$	-20.2	-
	$I^-$	-16.3	-98.1
	$TsO^-$	< -5.6	-29
	$HSO_4^-$	< -5.6	-42.9
	$NO_3^-$	< -5.6	-

a: from Refs. [<sup>13,48</sup>].

**Figure S1**



**Figure S2**

