Supporting Information for:

# Selective formation of spiroborate-based double-stranded *hetero*-helicates assisted by donor-acceptor interactions

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#### 1. Instruments and Materials.

#### Instruments

The melting points were measured on a Yanaco MP-500D micromelting point apparatus (Yanako, Kyoto, Japan) and were uncorrected. The IR spectra were recorded on a JASCO FT/IR-680 spectrophotometer (JASCO, Tokyo, Japan). The NMR spectra were measured using a Bruker Ascend 500 (Bruker Biospin, Billerica, MA, USA) spectrometer, a Varian 500AS (Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, CA, USA) spectrometer or an Avance III HD 600 (Bruker, Billerica, MA, USA) spectrometer equipped with a cryoprobe operating at 500 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H and 126 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C (Bruker Ascend 500 and Varian 500AS) or 600 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H and 151 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C (Avance III HD 600) using tetramethylsilane (TMS) or a solvent residual peak as the internal standard. The absorption and CD spectra were measured in a 1-cm quartz cell using a JASCO V-570 spectrophotometer and a JASCO J-1500 spectropolarimeter, respectively. The temperature was controlled with a JASCO ETC-505 apparatus. The electrospray ionization (ESI) mass spectra were recorded using a JEOL JMS-T100CS mass spectrometer (JEOL, Akishima, Japan), a Thermo Fisher Scientific Exactive Plus mass spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA) or a Bruker Daltonics micrOTOF-QII mass spectrometer (Bruker Daltonics, Billerica, MA, USA). The recycling preparative HPLC was performed with an LC-908W-C60 liquid chromatograph (Japan Analytical Industry, Tokyo, Japan) equipped with two SEC columns (JAIGEL-1H ( $4 \times 60$  cm) and JAIGEL-2H ( $4 \times 60$  cm)) in series and a UV-visible detector (254 nm, JAI UV-3702), and CHCl<sub>3</sub> was used as the eluent. The chiral HPLC analyses were performed on a JASCO PU-4185 liquid chromatograph equipped with UVvisible (JASCO UV-2070 and JASCO MD-4010) and CD (JASCO CD-2095) detectors using a CHIRALPAK IA or a CHIRALPAK IB column (0.46 (i.d.) × 25 cm, Daicel, Osaka, Japan).

### Materials

All starting materials were purchased from commercial suppliers and were used without further purification unless otherwise noted. Silica gel (SiO<sub>2</sub>) for the flash chromatography was purchased from Kanto Chemical (Tokyo, Japan). **5**, **L2** and *homo*-**DH2**<sub>Na2</sub> were synthesized by the procedures reported previously.<sup>S1</sup>

#### 2. Synthetic Procedures.



Scheme S1. Synthesis of compound 6.



**6.** To a degassed solution of  $\mathbf{5}^{S1}$  (1.32 g, 3.11 mmol), 3-bromoaniline (0.50 g, 2.9 mmol) and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (1.03 g, 7.45 mmol) in 1,2-dimethoxyethane (60 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) was added Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (72 mg, 0.062 mmol), and the mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 16 h under nitrogen. After being cooled to room temperature, CHCl<sub>3</sub> (600 mL) was added to this. The solution was washed with brine (100 mL × 3) and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH = 1/0 to 9/1, v/v) and recycling preparative HPLC (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) to afford **6** (0.76 g, 69% yield) as a brown solid. Mp: 92.5–93.7 °C. IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3379, 2961, 1617, 1610, 1229. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta$  7.35 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.33–7.32 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.31–7.27 (m, 2H, ArH), 6.83–6.82 (m, 1H, ArH), 5.88 (br s, 1H, OH), 5.76 (br s, 1H, OH), 3.81 (br s, 2H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 1.36 (s, 9H, *t*-Bu), 1.34 (s, 9H, *t*-Bu). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 23 °C):  $\delta$  151.27, 147.03, 146.82, 144.30, 144.01, 138.74, 130.30, 128.68, 128.42, 128.31, 127.28, 126.59, 125.12, 124.78, 119.55, 116.92, 116.08, 114.92, 34.46, 34.33, 31.70, 31.68. HRMS (ESI–): *m/z* calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (M–H<sup>+</sup>), 388.2277; found, 388.2285.



Scheme S2. Synthesis of ligands (L2 and L3).



**L3.** A solution of **6** (180 mg, 0.462 mmol) and 1,4,5,8-naphthalenetetracarboxylic dianhydride (56 mg, 0.21 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (10 mL) was stirred at 140 °C for 6 h under nitrogen. After being cooled to room temperature, the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by recycling preparative HPLC (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) to afford **L3** (90 mg, 43% yield) as a brown solid. Mp: 209.3–210.5 °C. IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2961, 1716, 1677, 1580, 1346, 1251. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 50 °C):  $\delta$  8.86 (s, 4H, ArH), 7.75–7.69 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.602–7.596 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.44 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.39–7.37 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.36 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.31 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.29 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 5.74 (s, 2H, OH), 5.53 (s, 2H, OH), 1.36 (s, 18H, *t*-Bu), 1.33 (s, 18H, *t*-Bu). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 26 °C):  $\delta$  163.08, 151.16, 147.47, 144.49, 144.26, 139.66, 134.71, 131.66, 130.40, 130.08, 129.80, 128.47, 128.16, 127.88, 127.65, 127.57, 127.30, 127.12, 126.97, 124.76, 124.00, 116.63, 34.51, 34.36, 31.70 (25 signals out of 26 expected ones due to the overlap of the CH<sub>3</sub> carbons of the two *t*-Bu groups). HRMS (ESI–): *m/z* calcd for C<sub>66</sub>H<sub>62</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (M–H<sup>+</sup>), 1009.4428; found, 1009.4448.



L4. A mixture of 6 (360 mg, 0.924 mmol), perylene-3,4,9,10-tetracarboxylic dianhydride (181 mg, 0.461 mmol) and Zn(CH<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O (13.2 mg, 0.0601 mmol) in imidazole (4.0 g, 0.059 mol) was stirred at 140 °C for 10 h under nitrogen. After being cooled to room temperature, CHCl<sub>3</sub> (300 mL) was added to this. The solution was washed with 2 M HCl (200 mL  $\times$  3) and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by precipitation with CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH (1/4, v/v) to afford L4 (330 mg, 63.1% yield) as a brown solid. Mp: > 300 °C. IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2961, 1703, 1664, 1594, 1578, 1359, 1255. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 50 °C):  $\delta$  8.72 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 4H, ArH), 8.60 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 4H, ArH), 7.67–7.61 (m, 6H, ArH), 7.43 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.38–7.36 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.33 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.30 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.29 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.97 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 5.76 (br s, 2H, OH), 5.59 (br s, 2H, OH), 1.36 (s, 18H, *t*-Bu), 1.33 (s, 18H, *t*-Bu). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 50 °C): δ 163.34, 151.40, 147.33, 144.52, 144.10, 139.51, 135.05, 134.50, 131.55, 130.12, 130.07, 129.95, 129.41, 128.62, 128.28, 128.18, 127.82, 126.58, 126.21, 125.60, 125.09, 123.56, 123.27, 117.00, 34.53, 34.38, 31.76 (27 signals out of 29 expected ones due to the overlap of an aromatic carbon and the CH<sub>3</sub> carbons of the two *t*-Bu groups). HRMS (ESI-): *m/z* calcd for C<sub>76</sub>H<sub>66</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (M-H<sup>+</sup>), 1133.4741; found, 1133.4707.



Scheme S3. Synthesis of homo- and hetero-helicates.



*homo*-DH3<sub>Na2</sub>. To a solution of L3 (27.1 mg, 26.8 μmol) in anhydrous 1,2-dichloroethane (10.6 mL) was added a solution of NaBH<sub>4</sub> in EtOH (75 mM, 0.53 mL, 40 μmol) under nitrogen. After stirring at 80 °C for 9 h, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and the solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was washed with *n*-hexane to quantitatively afford *homo*-DH3<sub>Na2</sub> as a dark brown solid. Mp: > 300 °C. IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2960, 1718, 1678, 1579, 1346, 1251, 1001. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 25 °C): *δ* 8.44 (s, 8H, ArH), 7.72–7.69 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.43 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 4H, ArH), 7.40 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 4H, ArH), 7.27 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.5 Hz, 4H, ArH), 7.212–7.207 (m, 8H, ArH), 6.95–6.89 (m, 8H, ArH), 6.77 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 4H, ArH), 1.49 (s, 36H, *t*-Bu), 1.40 (s, 36H, *t*-Bu). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 25 °C): *δ* 163.42, 156.12, 153.23, 143.13, 143.10, 142.49, 135.03, 132.58, 132.50, 132.14, 131.61, 130.09, 127.91, 127.65, 127.36, 127.19, 126.92, 126.24, 125.90, 125.61, 122.08, 34.85, 34.75, 32.11, 32.01 (25 signals out of 26 expected ones due to the overlap of an aromatic carbon). HRMS (ESI–): *m/z* calcd for C<sub>132</sub>H<sub>116</sub>B<sub>2</sub>N<sub>4</sub>Na<sub>2</sub>O<sub>16</sub> (M–2Na<sup>+</sup>), 1017.4292; found, 1017.4303.



*homo*-DH4<sub>Na2</sub>. A mixture of L4 (57 mg, 50 μmol) and NaBH<sub>4</sub> (2.8 mg, 74 μmol) in anhydrous toluene (20 mL) and EtOH (1.0 mL) was stirred at 80 °C for 13 h under nitrogen. After being cooled to room temperature, the solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was then purified by precipitation with THF/*n*-hexane (2/1, v/v) to afford *homo*-DH4<sub>Na2</sub> (23 mg, 40% yield) as a dark red solid. Mp: > 300 °C. IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2958, 1704, 1663, 1594, 1577, 1359, 1256, 1002. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 25 °C): *δ* 8.28 (br d, 4H, ArH), 8.05 (br d, 4H, ArH), 7.94 (br d, 4H, ArH), 7.85 (br d, 4H, ArH), 7.68–7.66 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.45 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 4H, ArH), 7.43 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 4H, ArH), 7.28–7.26 (m, 8H, ArH), 7.20 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 4H, ArH), 6.95–6.89 (m, 8H, ArH), 6.76 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 4H, ArH), 1.49 (s, 36H, *t*-Bu), 1.41 (s, 36H, *t*-Bu). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 27 °C): *δ* 163.80, 156.14, 153.24, 143.03, 142.98, 142.59, 135.51, 134.41, 134.01, 133.22, 132.62, 131.84, 131.67, 131.37, 130.79, 130.75, 130.12, 129.09, 127.78, 127.60, 127.32, 126.49, 125.76, 125.69, 125.63, 124.65, 124.29, 123.99, 123.40, 122.03, 34.89, 34.76, 32.20, 32.04. HRMS (ESI–): *m/z* calcd for C<sub>152</sub>H<sub>124</sub>B<sub>2</sub>N<sub>4</sub>Na<sub>2</sub>O<sub>16</sub> (M–2Na<sup>+</sup>), 1141.4605; found, 1141.4631.



*hetero*-DH2·3<sub>Na2</sub>. A mixture of L2<sup>S1</sup> (26 mg, 25  $\mu$ mol), L3 (25 mg, 25  $\mu$ mol) and NaBH<sub>4</sub> (2.8 mg, 74  $\mu$ mol) in anhydrous 1,2-dichloroethane (20 mL) and EtOH (1.0 mL) was stirred at 80 °C for 13 h under nitrogen. After being cooled to room temperature, the solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure. The formation of the *hetero*-DH2·3<sub>Na2</sub> was investigated by measuring the <sup>1</sup>H NMR and negative-mode ESI mass spectra of the products (Fig. S5e). The product molar ratio of the *homo*-

 $DH2_{Na2}^{S1}$ : *hetero*-DH2·3<sub>Na2</sub>: *homo*-DH3<sub>Na2</sub> was roughly estimated to be 6 : 93 : 1 from the <sup>1</sup>H NMR (run 3 in Table 1).

The formation of the *hetero*-DH2· $3_{Na2}$  was also investigated using L2<sup>S1</sup> and L3 at a different feed molar ratio ([L2<sup>S1</sup>]/[L3] = 1/1.5) (run 4 in Table 1).

hetero-DH2·3<sub>Na2</sub>. A mixture of L2<sup>S1</sup> (26.4 mg, 25.0 µmol), L3 (37.9 mg, 37.5 µmol) and NaBH<sub>4</sub> (2.8 mg, 74 µmol) in anhydrous 1,2-dichloroethane (20 mL) and EtOH (1.0 mL) was stirred at 80 °C for 11 h under nitrogen. After being cooled to room temperature, the solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure. The product molar ratio of the homo-DH2<sub>Na2</sub><sup>S1</sup> : hetero-DH2 $\cdot$ 3<sub>Na2</sub> : homo-DH3<sub>Na2</sub> was roughly estimated to be 1:98:1 on the basis of the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the products. The residue was then purified by precipitation with THF/n-hexane (1/2, v/v) to afford hetero-DH2 $\cdot$ 3<sub>Na2</sub> (12 mg, 23% yield) as a dark red solid. Mp: > 300 °C. IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2960, 1717, 1675, 1579, 1346, 1251, 999. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 25 °C):  $\delta$  10.23 (s, 2H, CH=C), 9.49 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 2H, CH=CH), 9.19 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 2H, CH=CH), 9.06–9.03 (m, 4H, CH=CH), 8.172–8.165 (m, 2H, ArH), 8.13–8.11 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.81–7.79 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.73 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.71 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.68–7.66 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.63 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.51 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.46 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.45 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.31 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.29 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.6 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.23 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.88 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.84 (br d, 2H, ArH), 6.80 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.74 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.66–6.45 (m, 2H, ArH), 6.37–6.35 (m, 2H, ArH), 6.33 (br d, 2H, ArH), 1.79 (s, 18H, t-Bu), 1.56 (s, 18H, t-Bu), 1.41 (s, 18H, *t*-Bu), 1.39 (s, 18H, *t*-Bu), -4.22 (s, 2H, NH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 27 °C): δ161.90, 161.43, 156.23, 156.00, 153.62, 153.46, 143.33, 143.21, 143.09, 142.95, 142.76, 141.36, 140.30, 137.43, 134.62, 134.17, 133.78, 133.73, 133.45, 133.20, 133.09, 132.79, 132.63, 131.92, 131.88, 131.71, 131.32, 130.85, 130.38, 128.40, 128.17, 127.87, 127.76, 127.65, 127.33, 127.11, 126.50, 126.23, 126.07, 125.88, 125.82, 125.70, 124.29, 124.14, 123.86, 122.28, 122.10, 120.60, 105.97, 35.18, 34.99, 34.77, 34.74, 32.45, 32.15, 32.03, 32.01. HRMS (ESI-): *m/z* calcd for C<sub>138</sub>H<sub>124</sub>B<sub>2</sub>N<sub>6</sub>Na<sub>2</sub>O<sub>12</sub> (M-2Na<sup>+</sup>), 1039.4737; found, 1039.4718.



*hetero*-DH2·4<sub>Na2</sub>. To a solution of L2<sup>S1</sup> (2.6 mg, 2.5  $\mu$ mol) and L4 (2.8 mg, 2.5  $\mu$ mol) in anhydrous 1,2-dichloroethane (2.0 mL) was added a solution of NaBH<sub>4</sub> in EtOH (75 mM, 0.10 mL, 7.5  $\mu$ mol). After stirring at 80 °C for 9 h under nitrogen, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and the solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure. The formation of the *hetero*-DH2·4<sub>Na2</sub> was investigated by measuring the <sup>1</sup>H NMR and negative-mode ESI mass spectra of the products (Figs. S7e and S8).



*hetero*-DH3·4<sub>Na2</sub>. To a solution of L3 (5.1 mg, 5.0  $\mu$ mol) and L4 (5.7 mg, 5.0  $\mu$ mol) in anhydrous 1,2-dichloroethane (4.0 mL) was added a solution of NaBH<sub>4</sub> in EtOH (75 mM, 0.20 mL, 15  $\mu$ mol). After stirring at 80 °C for 9 h under nitrogen, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and the solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was then washed with *n*-hexane. The formation of the *hetero*-DH3·4<sub>Na2</sub> was investigated by measuring the <sup>1</sup>H NMR and negative-mode ESI mass spectra of the reaction products (Figs. S9e and S10).

#### 3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR and ESI Mass Spectra of the *homo-* and *hetero-*Helicates.



Fig. S1 Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, rt) of (a) L3, (b) the products after the reaction of L3 with NaBH<sub>4</sub> (1.5 equiv) in 1,2-dichloroethane/EtOH (20/1, v/v) at 80 °C for 9 h and (c) the *homo*-DH3<sub>Na2</sub> isolated from the reaction products (b). The peak assignments of the isolated *homo*-DH3<sub>Na2</sub> were done on the basis of *g*COSY and ROESY spectra (Figs. S12 and S13). \* denotes the proton from the residual CHCl<sub>3</sub> (a–c).



Fig. S2 Negative-mode ESI mass spectrum (CH<sub>3</sub>CN/MeOH = 1/1, v/v) of the *homo*-DH3<sub>Na2</sub> isolated from the reaction products (Fig. S1c).



**Fig. S3** Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (500 MHz, rt) of (a) L4, (b) the products after the reaction of L4 with NaBH<sub>4</sub> (1.5 equiv) in toluene/EtOH (20/1, v/v) at 80 °C for 13 h and (c) the *homo*-DH4<sub>Na2</sub> isolated from the reaction products (b) measured in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (a) and CD<sub>3</sub>CN (b,c). \* and # denote the <sup>13</sup>C satellite peaks (a) and the protons from the residual toluene used as the reaction solvent (b), respectively. The peak assignments of the isolated *homo*-DH4<sub>Na2</sub> were done on the basis of *g*COSY and ROESY spectra (Figs. S14 and S15). Because of poor solubility of L4 in CD<sub>3</sub>CN, CDCl<sub>3</sub> was used as the solvent.



Fig. S4 Negative-mode ESI mass spectrum (CH<sub>3</sub>CN/MeOH = 1/1, v/v) of the *homo*-DH4<sub>Na2</sub> isolated from the reaction products (Fig. S3c).



**Fig. S5** Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, rt) of (a) L2,<sup>S1</sup> (b) L3, (c) *homo*-DH2<sub>Na2</sub>,<sup>S1</sup> (d) *homo*-DH3<sub>Na2</sub>, (e,f) the products after the reaction of L2<sup>S1</sup> and L3 ([L2<sup>S1</sup>]/[L3] = 1/1 (e) and 1/1.5 (f)) with NaBH<sub>4</sub> (1.5 (e) and 1.2 equiv (f)) in 1,2-dichloroethane/EtOH (20/1, v/v) at 80 °C for 13 (e) and 11 h (f) and (g) the *hetero*-DH2·3<sub>Na2</sub> isolated from the reaction products (f). \* denotes the protons from the residual EtOH used as the reaction solvent. The peak assignments of the isolated *hetero*-DH2·3<sub>Na2</sub> were done on the basis of *g*COSY and ROESY spectra (Figs. S16 and S17).



**Fig. S6** Negative-mode ESI mass spectrum (CH<sub>3</sub>CN/MeOH = 1/1, v/v) of the *hetero*-**DH2**·**3**<sub>Na2</sub> isolated from the reaction products (Fig. S5g).



**Fig. S7** Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (500 MHz, rt) of (a) L2,<sup>S1</sup> (b) L4, (c) *homo*-**DH2**<sub>Na2</sub>,<sup>S1</sup> (d) *homo*-**DH4**<sub>Na2</sub> and (e) the products after the reaction of  $L2^{S1}$  and L4 ([ $L2^{S1}$ ]/[L4] = 1/1) with NaBH<sub>4</sub> (1.5 equiv) in 1,2-dichloroethane/EtOH (20/1, v/v) at 80 °C for 9 h measured in CD<sub>3</sub>CN (a,c–e) and CDCl<sub>3</sub> (b). \* and # denote the <sup>13</sup>C satellite peaks of the solvent (b) and the protons from the residual EtOH used as the reaction solvent (e), respectively.



**Fig. S8** Negative-mode ESI mass spectrum (CH<sub>3</sub>CN/MeOH = 1/1, v/v) of the products after the reaction of  $L2^{S1}$  and L4 ([ $L2^{S1}$ ]/[L4] = 1/1) with NaBH<sub>4</sub> (1.5 equiv) in 1,2-dichloroethane/EtOH (20/1, v/v) at 80 °C for 9 h (Fig. S7e). The divalent peaks (a) and (c) were assigned to the *homo*-helicates ([*homo*-DH2<sub>Na2</sub><sup>S1</sup> - 2Na<sup>+</sup>]<sup>2-</sup> (a) and [*homo*-DH4<sub>Na2</sub> - 2Na<sup>+</sup>]<sup>2-</sup> (c)), respectively. \* and # denote the peaks for unknown products (\*) and divalent and trivalent peaks for a trimeric macrocycle composed of two  $L2^{S1}$  and one L4 ligands bridged by three spiroborates ([*macrocycle*-2<sub>2</sub>·4<sub>Na3</sub> - Na<sup>+</sup>]<sup>2-</sup> and [*macrocycle*-2<sub>2</sub>·4<sub>Na3</sub> - 3Na<sup>+</sup>]<sup>3-</sup> (#), respectively.



Fig. S9 Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, rt) of (a) L3, (b) L4, (c) *homo*-DH3<sub>Na2</sub>, (d) *homo*-DH4<sub>Na2</sub> and (e) the products after the reaction of L3 and L4 ([L3]/[L4] = 1/1) with NaBH<sub>4</sub> (1.5 equiv) in 1,2-dichloroethane/EtOH (20/1, v/v) at 80 °C for 9 h and then washed with *n*-hexane. \* denotes the <sup>13</sup>C satellite peaks of the solvent (b).

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the reaction products (Fig. S9e) was confirmed to be almost identical to those of the isolated *homo*-**DH3**<sub>Na2</sub> and *homo*-**DH4**<sub>Na2</sub> (Fig. S9c,d). The molar ratio of the products, *homo*-**DH3**<sub>Na2</sub> : *homo*-**DH4**<sub>Na2</sub>, was roughly estimated to be 39 : 61 from the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (Fig. S9e).



**Fig. S10** Negative-mode ESI mass spectrum (CH<sub>3</sub>CN/MeOH = 1/1, v/v) of the products after the reaction of L3 and L4 ([L3]/[L4] = 1/1) with NaBH<sub>4</sub> (1.5 equiv) in 1,2-dichloroethane/EtOH (20/1, v/v) at 80 °C for 9 h and then washed with *n*-hexane (Fig. S9e).

#### 4. Theoretical Studies on the Structures of the homo- and hetero-Helicates.

The molecular modeling was performed on a Windows 7 PC with the ArgusLab software.<sup>S2</sup> The initial structures of the *homo-* and *hetero*-helicates were constructed based on the crystal structure of the left-handed double-stranded spiroborate helicate with a central porphyrin linker (*homo-* **DH2**<sub>Na2</sub>).<sup>S1</sup> One or two porphyrin units of the *homo-***DH2**<sup>2-</sup> were replaced by the NDI and PDI residues to generate *homo-***DH3**<sup>2-</sup>, *homo-***DH4**<sup>2-</sup>, *hetero-***DH2**·3<sup>2-</sup>, *hetero-***DH2**·4<sup>2-</sup> and *hetero-* **DH3**·4<sup>2-</sup>. The linker units of all these initial structures were selectively geometry-optimized by molecular mechanics calculations (Universal force field (UFF)<sup>S3</sup> in ArgusLab software). The resulting structures were then fully optimized by the DFT calculations using the dispersion corrected B3LYP (B3LYP-D3)<sup>S4</sup> functional with the 6-31G\* (for H, C, N, and O atoms) and the 6-31+G\* (for B atoms) basis sets in *Gaussian 16* software.<sup>S5</sup> Computer resources for the DFT calculations were provided by the Information Technology Center of Nagoya University. The resultant energy-minimized structures are depicted in Figs. 3 and S11.



**Fig. S11** The X-ray crystal structure of (a) left-handed *homo*-**DH2**<sup>2–S1</sup> and the energy-minimized lefthanded double-helical structures of (b) *homo*-**DH3**<sup>2–</sup>, (c) *homo*-**DH4**<sup>2–</sup>, (d) *hetero*-**DH2**·**3**<sup>2–</sup>, (e) *hetero*-**DH2**·**4**<sup>2–</sup> and (f) *hetero*-**DH3**·**4**<sup>2–</sup> obtained by DFT calculations. All the hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

# 5. 2D NMR Spectra of homo-DH3<sub>Na2</sub>, homo-DH4<sub>Na2</sub> and hetero-DH2·3<sub>Na2</sub>.



Fig. S12 (a) Full and (b) partial gCOSY spectra of homo-DH3<sub>Na2</sub> (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 25 °C).



**Fig. S13** (a) Full and (b,c) partial ROESY spectra of *homo-***DH3**<sub>Na2</sub> (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 25 °C, mixing time = 200 ms).



Fig. S14 (a) Full and (b) partial gCOSY spectra of *homo*-DH4<sub>Na2</sub> (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 25 °C).



homo-**DH4<sub>Na</mark>2**</sub>



**Fig. S15** (a) Full and (b,c) partial ROESY spectra of *homo*-**DH4**<sub>Na2</sub> (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 25 °C, mixing time = 200 ms).



hetero-DH2·3<sub>Na2</sub>



Fig. S16 (a) Full and (b,c) partial gCOSY spectra of *hetero*-DH2·3<sub>Na2</sub> (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 25 °C).



**Fig. S17** (a) Full and (b–d) partial ROESY spectra of *hetero*-**DH2** $\cdot$ **3**<sub>Na2</sub> (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 25 °C, mixing time = 200 ms).

## 6. Supporting References.

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## 7. Spectroscopic Data.



Fig. S18 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 6 in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 25 °C. \* denotes the proton from acetone.



Fig. S19 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 6 in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 23 °C.



Fig. S21 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of L3 in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 26 °C.







Fig. S24 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of *homo*-DH3<sub>Na2</sub> in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 25 °C. \* denote the protons from the residual *n*-hexane.



Fig. S25 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of *homo*-DH3<sub>Na2</sub> in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 25 °C. \* denote the carbons from the residual *n*-hexane.



Fig. S26 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of *homo*-DH4<sub>Na2</sub> in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 25 °C. \* denotes the protons from *n*-hexane.



**Fig. S27** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of *homo*-**DH4**<sub>Na2</sub> in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 27 °C. \* and # denote the carbons from the residual *n*-hexane and the unknown impurities.



Fig. S29 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of *hetero*-DH2 $\cdot$ 3<sub>Na2</sub> in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 27 °C.