Synthesis, Structure Elucidation, and Functionalization of Sulfonamide Catenanes

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Section A. Materials and general methods.

All reagents were commercially available and used as supplied without further purification. Deuterated solvents were purchased from Cambridge Isotope Laboratory. Compounds **B** and **C** were prepared according to the published procedures.^{S1-S3}

All solvents were dried according to standard procedures and all of them were degassed under N₂ for 30 minutes before use. All reactions were carried out under inert N₂ atmosphere. ¹H NMR; ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker 400 MHz Spectrometer (¹H: 400 MHz) and Bruker 500 MHz Spectrometer (¹H: 500 MHz; ¹³C: 126 MHz) at 298 K. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR chemical shifts are reported relative to residual solvent signals. 2D-NMR spectra (¹H-¹H COSY, NOESY) were recorded on Bruker 400 MHz Spectrometer (¹H: 500 MHz Spectrometer (¹H: 400 MHz) and Bruker 500 MHz at 298 K.

ESI-MS was conducted on Waters Synapt G2-Si mass spectrometer with traveling wave ion mobility. The IM-MS experiments for complexes were performed under the following conditions: ESI capillary voltage, 3.0 kV; sample cone voltage, 20 V; extraction cone voltage, 1.0 V; source temperature 100 °C; desolvation temperature, 120 °C; cone gas flow, 10 L/h; desolvation gas flow, 700 L/h (N₂); source gas control, 0 mL/min; trap gas control, 2 mL/min; Helium cell gas control, 100 mL/min; ion mobility (IM) cell gas control, 30 mL/min; sample flow rate, 5 μ L/min; IM traveling wave height, 25 V; and IM traveling wave velocity, 1000 m/s.

UV-vis spectra and steady-state fluorescence spectra were recorded in a quartz cell (light path 10 mm) on a Shimadzu UV2700 UV-visible spectrophotometer and a Shimadzu RF-6000 fluorescence spectrophotometer.

All calculations were performed with the Gaussian 09 program.^{S4} The B3LYP functional was utilized for geometry optimization.^{S5-S7} The 6-31G* basis set was considered for all atoms.

Section B. Synthesis and characterization of [2]catenanes 3 and 6.

Scheme S1. The synthesis route of [2]catenanes 3 and 6.



Synthesis of macrocycle 1 and [2]catenane 3: **B** (0.360 g, 1.00 mmol, 1 eq.) in CHCl₃ (dry, 40 mL) and **A** (0.239 g, 1.00 mmol, 1 eq.) in CHCl₃ (dry, 40 mL) were added simultaneously *via* syringe pump to NEt₃ (0.7 mL, 5 mmol, 5 eq.) in CHCl₃ (dry, 160 mL) over 4 h at room temperature under N₂ before stirring for an additional 16 h. The reaction mixture was washed with 1 M HCl (aq.) (100 mL), 1 M KOH (aq.) (100 mL) and brine (100 mL), dried (MgSO₄) and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. The solution was concentrated and the residue was purified by column chromatography (SiO₂; DCM/Acetone = 10:1 for **1**, DCM/Acetone = 5:1 for **3**). Both **1** and **3** were obtained as white solids. **Macrocycle 1** (120 mg, 20%): ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 9.12-9.14 (t, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 8.23 (s, 1H), 8.15-8.17 (t, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 7.98-8.00 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 7.83-7.85 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 7.53-7.56 (t, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 7.24-7.26 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 6.94-6.95 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 6.84-6.86 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 6.45-6.47 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 4.41-4.42 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 4.14-4.15 (m, 2H), 4.08-4.09 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 3.72-3.74 (m, 4H), 3.58-3.62 (m, 4H), 3.52-3.53 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 164.69, 158.04, 157.86, 142.28, 135.12, 132.34, 130.87, 129.56, 129.46, 129.36, 129.06, 128.85, 126.13, 115.35, 114.16, 70.70, 70.22, 69.31, 69.20, 67.99, 67.43, 46.23, 42.50, 31.17. HRMS (ESI-TOF): Calculated for [**1** + Na]⁺: 549.1666; Found: 549.1672.

[2]Catenane 3 (108 mg, 18%): ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 9.17-9.20 (t, J = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 8.25 (s, 2H), 8.14-8.16 (t, J = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 8.06-8.08 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 7.87-7.88 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 7.61-7.64 (t, J = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 7.23-7.25 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 4H), 7.04-7.06 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 4H), 6.89-6.90 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 4H), 6.73-6.74 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 4H), 4.41-4.42 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 4H), 4.04-4.06 (m, 4H), 3.94-3.98 (m, 8H), 3.68-3.73 (m, 8H), 3.58-3.59 (m, 8H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ

165.13, 158.03, 157.60, 141.68, 135.50, 131.93, 131.21, 129.76, 129.41, 128.56, 128.38, 126.98, 125.95, 114.76, 114.57, 69.97, 69.31, 67.97, 67.53, 56.30, 46.12, 43.07, 42.68, 32.38, 31.93, 30.30. HRMS (ESI-TOF): Calculated for [**3** + Na]⁺: 1075.3440; Found: 1075.3991.

Synthesis of macrocycle 4 and [2]catenane 6: C (0.404 g, 1.00 mmol, 1 eq.) in CHCl₃ (dry, 40 mL) and **A** (0.239 g, 1.00 mmol, 1 eq.) in CHCl₃ (dry, 40 mL) were added simultaneously via syringe pump to NEt₃ (0.7 mL, 5 mmol, 5 eq.) in CHCl₃ (dry, 160 mL) over 4 h at room temperature under N₂ before stirring for an additional 16 h. The reaction mixture was washed with 1 M HCl (aq) (100 mL), 1 M KOH (aq) (100 mL) and brine (100 mL), dried (MgSO₄) and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. The solution was concentrated and the residue was purified by column chromatography (SiO₂; DCM/Acetone = 10:1 for **4**, DCM/Acetone = 5:1 for **6**). Both **4** and **6** were obtained as white solids. **Macrocycle 4** (147 mg, 23%): ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 9.12-9.15 (t, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 8.22 (s, 1H), 8.13-8.15 (t, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 7.99-8.01 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 7.83-7.84 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 7.54-7.57 (t, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.27 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 6.91-6.93 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 6.87-6.88 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 6.50-6.52 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 4.41-4.42 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 4.06-4.09 (m, 4H), 3.73-3.78 (d, 4H), 3.53-3.63 (m, 10H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 164.81, 157.95, 157.84, 142.05, 135.18, 132.18, 130.98, 129.54, 129.37, 129.13, 128.85, 126.03, 114.77, 114.18, 70.59, 70.44, 70.31, 70.26, 69.27, 67.78, 67.45, 46.26, 42.52. HRMS (ESI-TOF): Calculated for [**4** + Na]⁺: 593.1928; Found: 593.1912.

[2]Catenane 6 (103 mg, 16%): ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 9.18-9.20 (t, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 8.26 (s, 2H), 8.14-8.16 (t, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 8.06-8.07 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 7.88-7.89 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 7.61-7.65 (t, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 7.23-7.25 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 4H), 7.06-7.07 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 4H), 6.88-6.90 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 4H), 6.74-6.76 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 4H), 4.41-4.42 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 4H), 4.03-4.05 (t, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 4H), 3.94-3.98 (m, 8H), 3.68-3.71 (m, 8H), 3.53-3.55 (m, 16H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 165.16, 158.05, 157.92, 141.65, 135.52, 131.91, 131.22, 129.77, 129.65, 129.41, 129.18, 128.65, 128.41, 126.98, 125.96, 114.75, 114.57, 114.26, 70.40, 70.31, 69.38, 69.35, 67.60, 67.54, 46.12, 42.70. HRMS (ESI-TOF): Calculated for [**6** + Na]⁺: 1163.3964; Found: 1163.3986.

$\begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} & 0 \\$



210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 chemical shift (ppm)

Figure S2. ¹³C NMR spectrum (DMSO-*d*₆, 298 K, 126 MHz) of **1**.



Figure S4. ¹H NMR spectrum (DMSO-*d*₆, 298 K, 500 MHz) of **3**.



Figure S6. 2D ¹H-¹H COSY spectrum (DMSO-*d*₆, 298 K, 500 MHz) of **3**.







Figure S8. ¹H NMR spectrum (DMSO-*d*₆, 298 K, 500 MHz) of **4**.



Figure S10. 2D 1 H- 1 H COSY spectrum (DMSO- d_{6} , 298 K, 500 MHz) of 4.



Figure S11. ¹H NMR spectrum (DMSO-*d*₆, 298 K, 500 MHz) of 6.



Figure S12. ¹³C NMR spectrum (DMSO-*d*₆, 298 K, 126 MHz) of **6**.



Figure S13. 2D ¹H-¹H COSY spectrum (DMSO-*d*₆, 298 K, 500 MHz) of **6**.



Figure S14. Partial 2D 1 H- 1 H NOESY spectrum (DMSO- d_{6} , 298 K, 500 MHz) of 6.





Figure S15. HRMS (ESI-TOF-MS) spectrum of 1.



msTornado Analysis 1.10.2, 2020-08-20T15:39:45+08:00

Figure S16. HRMS (ESI-TOF-MS) spectrum of 3.



msTornado Analysis 1.10.2, 2021-01-21T14:12:42+08:00



Figure S17. HRMS (ESI-TOF-MS) spectrum of 4.





Intensity



Section C. CID/IMS measurements of [2]catenanes 3 and 6.



Figure S19. ESI-TOF-MS spectrum of 3.



Figure S20. ESI-TOF-MS spectrum of 6.

| 450 | | | | | | 200 450 | | | |
|-------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 475 | 475 | 475 | 475 | 475 | 475 | 475 | 475 | 475 1218202 48 | 1218202 45.198 |
| 50 | 0_S_C/ | 0_S_C/ | 0 S C/ | 0_S_C/ | 0_S_C/ | 0 S C/ | 0 S C/ | 5.1986 | S C |
| - 52 | т_1-2 | T_1-2_ | т_1-2 Т_1-2 | Т_1-2_ Т_1-2_ | T_1-2_ | т <u>1-2</u> | т_1-2_ | л_1-2_ г_ | Т_1-2_ |
| 5 550 | 550 3MS2_10V_1 | 3MS2_30V_1 | 3MS2_50V_ | 3MS2_60V_1 | 3MS2_65V_ | 550 3MS2_70V_1 | 550 3MS2_75V_1 | 550 3MS2_80V_1 | 3MS2_85V_I |
| 575 | 575 NIS-1 1 | 575 MS-1 1 | 575 NIS-1 1 | 575 NS-1 1 | 575 MS-1 1 | 575 NIS-1 1 | 575 MS-1 1 | 575 NS-1 1 | MS-1 1 |
| 600 | (0.033) | 600 (0.033) | 600 (0.033) | 600 (0.033) | 600 (0.033) | 600 (0.033) | 600 (0.033) | 600 (0.033) | (0.034) |
| 625 | 625 | 625 | 625 | 625 | 625 | 625 | 625 | 625 | - |
| 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | |
| 675 | 675 | 675 | 675 | 675 | 675 | 675 | 675 | 675 | |
| 700 | 700 | 700 | 700 | 700 | 700 | 700 | 700 | 700 | |
| 725 | 725 | 725 | 725 | 725 | 725 | 725 | 725 | 725 | |
| 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | • |
| 775 | 775 | 775 | 775 | 775 | 775 | 775 | 775 | 775 | - |
| 008 | 800 | 800 | 800 | 800 | 008 | 008 | 800 | 800 | |
| 825 | 825 | 825 | 825 | 825 | 825 | 825 | 825 | 825 | |
| 058 | 850 | 850 | 850 | 850 | 850 | 850 | 850 | 850 | : |
| 875 | 875 | 875 | 875 | 875 | 875 | 875 | 875 | 875 | |
| 006 | 006 | 900 | 000 | 000 | 900 | 000 | 900 | 000 | - |
| 925 | 925 | 925 | 925 | 925 | 925 | 925 | 925 | 925 | |
| 950 | 950 | 950 | 950 | 950 | 950 | 950 | 950 | 950 | |
| 975 | 975 | 975 | 975 | 975 | 975 | 975 | 975 | 975 | |
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | |
| 1025 | 1025 | 1025 | 1025 | 1025 | 1025 | 1025 | 1025 | 1025 | - |
| 1050 | 1050 | 1050 | 1050 | 1050 | 1050 | 1050 | 1050 | 1050 | |
| 1075 | 1075.3348 | 1075.3348 | 1075.3348 | 1075 1075.3348 | 1075.3206 | 1075.3206 | 1075.3348 | 1075 1075.3348 | <u>.</u> |
| 1100 | 1100 | 1100 | 1100 | 1100 | 1100 6.337(78.3285 | 1100 6.3221 78.3285 | 1100 6.3370 77.325 | - 110) .3370 | |
| 1125 | 1125 | 1125 | 1125 | 1125 | 1125 | 1125 | 1125 | 1125 | |
| 1150 | 1150 TOF M | 1150 TOF M | 1150 TOF MS | 1150 TOF MS | 1150 TOF MX | 1150 TOF M | 1150 TOF MS | 1150 TOF MS | TOF MS |
| 1175 | 1175 SMS 107 | 1175 SMS 107 | 1175 SMS 107 | 1175 SMS 107 | SMS 107 |
| 1 | 15.50ES+ 3.66e5 | 15.50ES+ 4.45e5 | 15.50ES+ 2.95e5 | 15.50ES+ 2.27e5 | 15.50ES+ 1.49e5 | 15.50ES+ 5.51e4 | 15.50ES+ 1.63e4 | 15.50ES+ 1.47e3 | 75.50ES+ 172 |

<u> 1</u> 2 <u>1</u> 22 <u>-</u>28 <u>-</u>28 <u>-</u>28

Figure S21. Full gMS^2 mass spectrum of 3 at 10 - 85V collision voltage in the mass selected CID/IMS experiments.

| 560 1 700 750 800 850 560 700 750 800 850 560 700 750 800 850 |
|---|
| 750 800 850 |
| 750 800 850 750 800 850 |
| 800 850 800 850 |
| 1 1 |
| 900 |
| 950 1000 10 |
| 1050 1100 |
| 1166.3755 |
| |
| |
| |

Figure S22. Full gMS² mass spectrum of **6** at 10 - 85V collision voltage in the mass selected CID/IMS experiments.



Figure S23. Normalized arrival time distributions of the species formed from [2]catenane 3 at 65 - 85 V collision voltage.



Figure S24. Normalized arrival time distributions of the species formed from [2]catenane **6** at 65 - 85 V collision voltage.



Fig. S25. Possible fragmentation pathways of the two isomers of macrocycle 2 and the expected m/z values of the corresponding sodiated *pseudo*-molecular ions.



Fig. S26. Possible fragmentation pathways of the two isomers of macrocycle 5 and the expected m/z values of the corresponding sodiated *pseudo*-molecular ions.



Figure S27. Partial gMS^2 mass spectrum of **3** at 10 - 85V collision voltage in the mass selected CID/IMS experiments in which the characteristic peaks of macrocycle **2** were not observed.



Figure S28. Partial gMS^2 mass spectrum of **6** at 10 - 85V collision voltage in the mass selected CID/IMS experiments in which the characteristic peaks of macrocycle **5** were not observed.

Section D. Synthesis and photophysical properties of pyrenefunctionalized [2]catenane 7 and macrocycle 8.

Scheme S2. The synthesis route of pyrene-functionalized [2]catenane 7 and macrocycle 8.



Synthesis of the [2]catenane 7: K₂CO₃ (15 mg, 0.108 mmol, 2.5 eq.) was added to a solution of [2]catenane **6** (50 mg, 0.043 mmol, 1 eq.) in DMF (20 mL) and then the suspension was stirred at room temperature for 30 min. 1-(Bromomethyl)pyrene (127 mg, 0.430 mmol, 10 eq.) was added and then the mixture was heated at 50°C for 48 h. After cooling to room temperature, then evaporating the organic solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was partitioned between H₂O (20 mL) and CH₂Cl₂ (3 × 20 mL); the combined organic phases were dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated. The residue was purified chromatographically (SiO₂; EtOAc/DCM = 1:4) to afford **7** as a white solid (52 mg, 78%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ 7.86-8.15 (m, 22H), 7.69-7.71 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 7.43-7.47 (t, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 7.11-7.12 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 4H), 7.02-7.05 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 6.72-6.74 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 4H), 6.65-6.66 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 4H), 6.25-6.26 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 4H), 4.98 (s, 4H), 4.38-4.39 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 4H), 4.20 (s, 4H), 3.92-3.93 (m, 4H), 3.70-3.71 (m, 4H), 3.54-3.59 (m, 20H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ 165.46, 158.19, 157.81, 140.03, 153.62, 131.46, 131.17, 131.09, 130.55, 130.45, 129.66, 129.43, 129.37, 129.09, 128.34, 127.73, 127.70, 127.68, 127.41, 127.20, 125.98, 125.41, 125.26, 124.54, 124.41, 124.30, 122.82, 114.55, 113.82, 70.65, 70.60, 69.52, 69.37, 67.49, 67.23, 51.01, 50.08, 43.37. HRMS (ESI-TOF): Calculated for [**7** + Na]⁺: 1591.5529; Found: 1591.5511.

Synthesis of the macrocycle 8: K₂CO₃ (15 mg, 0.110 mmol, 1.2 eq.) was added to a solution of macrocycle 4 (50 mg, 0.088 mmol, 1 eq.) in DMF (20 mL) and then the suspension was stirred at room temperature for 30 min. 1-(Bromomethyl)pyrene (127 mg, 0.430 mmol, 5 eq.) was added and then the mixture was heated at 50°C for 48 h. After cooling to room temperature, then evaporating the organic solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was partitioned between H₂O (20 mL) and CH₂Cl₂ (3 \times 20 mL); the combined organic phases were dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated. The residue was purified chromatographically (SiO₂; EtOAc/DCM = 1:6) to afford 8 as a white solid (44 mg, 64%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ 7.97-8.21 (m, 11H), 7.91-7.93 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.52 (t, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 7.23-7.25 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 6.89-6.90 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 6.55-6.57 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 6.43-6.45 (t, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 6.41-6.43 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 5.12 (s, 2H), 4.48-4.49 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 4.26 (s, 2H), 4.08-4.10 (m, 2H), 3.76-3.80 (m, 4H), 3.63-3.68 (m, 4H), 3.57-3.60 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ 165.01, 158.43, 158.23, 140.65, 135.50, 131.35, 131.30, 131.21, 130.68, 130.60, 129.85, 129.61, 129.45, 129.39, 129.12, 128.41, 127.85, 127.70, 127.57, 127.35, 127.30, 126.11, 125.41, 125.36, 125.07, 124.77, 124.71, 124.47, 122.66, 114.88, 114.12, 70.76, 70.71, 70.59, 70.54, 69.52, 69.44, 67.77, 67.39, 49.89, 49.14, 43.34. HRMS (ESI-TOF): Calculated for [8 + Na]⁺: 807.2711; Found: 807.2731.

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Figure S30. ¹H NMR spectrum (CD₂Cl₂, 298 K, 500 MHz) of 8.



Figure S32. ¹³C NMR spectrum (CD₂Cl₂, 298 K, 126 MHz) of 8.



Figure S33. 2D ¹H-¹H COSY spectrum (CD₂Cl₂, 298 K, 400 MHz) of **7**.



Figure S34. Partial 2D ¹H-¹H NOESY spectrum (CD₂Cl₂, 298 K, 400 MHz) of 7.



Figure S35. HRMS (ESI-TOF-MS) spectrum of 7.



Figure S36. HRMS (ESI-TOF-MS) spectrum of 8.



Figure S37. UV-vis absorption spectra of 7 in DCM at different concentration.



Figure S38. UV–vis absorption spectra of 8 in DCM at different concentration.



Figure S39. Partial ¹H NMR spectra (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 298 K) of (a) the [2]catenane **7** and (b) the solution in (a) after the addition of 1 equiv. of NaTFPB, and (c) the solution in (b) after the addition of 1 equiv. of [2.2.2]cryptand. #: Signals for the TFPB anion; *: Signals for the [2.2.2]cryptand.



Figure S40. Partial 2D ¹H-¹H COSY spectrum (CD₂Cl₂, 298 K, 400 MHz) of $7 \supset Na^+$ (1 eq.). #: Signals for the TFPB anion.



Figure S41. Partial 2D ¹H-¹H NOESY spectrum (CD₂Cl₂, 298 K, 400 MHz) of $7 \supset Na^+$ (1 eq.).



Figure S42. Stacked ¹H NMR spectra (500 MHz, 298K) of [2]catetane 7 (10 mM) titrated by Na⁺ (0 -5.0 equiv.) in CD₂Cl₂. #: Signals for the TFPB anion.



Figure S43. Stacked plots of UV–vis absorption spectra of [2]catetane 7 (10 μ M) titrated by Na⁺ (0 -5.0 equiv.) in DCM.



Figure S44. Stacked plots of emission spectra of [2]catetane 7 (10 μ M) titrated by Na⁺ (0 -5.0 equiv.) in DCM. (Excitation, 330 nm; emission, 485 nm.)



Figure S45. The Stern-Völmer plots of [2]catenane **7** titration with NaTFPB. (According to previous reports: *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2004, **126**, 14736; *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2017, **139**, 1554, the quenching constant (*Ksv*) was calculated based on the fluorescence quenching titration results and the Stern-Völmer equation. In accordance with the Stern-Völmer equation, the measured absorbance I₀/I at 485 nm varied as a function of

concentration (mM) in a linear relationship ($R^2 = 0.9982$), suggesting 1:1 stoichiometry of the interaction between Na⁺ and the host **7** in the range of not more than 1.0 eq. Na⁺. The *K*sv constant was calculated as 127129±2707 M⁻¹ with NaTFPB.)

Section E. DFT results and computational details

In order to verify the possibility of the bond breaking position of [2]catenanes **3** and **6**, we established model compound **S1**, and calculated the bond energies of its 6 chemical bonds.

Table S1. Bond energy analysis of radical fragments for model compound S1.



| | ΔH_{S1} (kcal/mol) | $\Delta H_{radicall}$ (kcal/mol) | $\Delta H_{radical2}$ (kcal/mol) | Bond energy ^a (kcal/mol) |
|-----------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| S1 | -1161.8 | | | |
| Bond [1] | | -683.0 | -478.7 | 71.6 |
| Bond [2] | | -134.4 | -1027.3 | 53.6 |
| Bond [3] | | -79.1 | -1082.6 | 79.2 |
| Bond [4] | | -247.8 | -913.9 | 95.6 |
| Bond [5] | | -134.4 | -1027.3 | 90.5 |
| Bond [6] | | -79.1 | -1082.6 | 87.0 |

^a (Bond energy (ΔH) = $\Delta H_{radical_1}$ + $\Delta H_{radical_2}$ - ΔH_{S1})

Cartesian Coordinates for All of the Calculated Structures

S1, E_(SCF Done)=-1161.819322

| С | -0.790583000 | -1.090276000 | 0.190757000 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| С | -0.874779000 | -2.433616000 | -0.172760000 |
| С | 0.283580000 | -3.086730000 | -0.603278000 |
| С | 1.496316000 | -2.404188000 | -0.651847000 |
| С | 1.580728000 | -1.062072000 | -0.250618000 |

| С | 0.421923000 | -0.398929000 | 0.162583000 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Н | -1.826645000 | -2.950028000 | -0.109875000 |
| Н | 0.235730000 | -4.131233000 | -0.897068000 |
| Н | 2.402633000 | -2.890926000 | -0.996269000 |
| Н | 0.434832000 | 0.649352000 | 0.441939000 |
| С | 2.935232000 | -0.402035000 | -0.320873000 |
| 0 | 3.809317000 | -0.836046000 | -1.066465000 |
| Ν | -2.652131000 | 0.667579000 | -0.659071000 |
| Н | -3.112759000 | 0.038282000 | -1.317709000 |
| Ν | 3.113669000 | 0.683783000 | 0.490223000 |
| Н | 2.409845000 | 0.891103000 | 1.184506000 |
| С | 4.365499000 | 1.430031000 | 0.545064000 |
| Н | 4.834586000 | 1.285500000 | 1.527911000 |
| Н | 5.019737000 | 0.974786000 | -0.201070000 |
| С | -3.438370000 | 1.904199000 | -0.445843000 |
| Н | -4.428618000 | 1.689474000 | -0.019577000 |
| Н | -2.890196000 | 2.507632000 | 0.280500000 |
| С | -3.578232000 | 2.647535000 | -1.771787000 |
| Н | -4.127762000 | 2.051612000 | -2.510928000 |
| Н | -4.132650000 | 3.580015000 | -1.620610000 |
| Н | -2.595385000 | 2.888199000 | -2.188873000 |
| С | 4.165938000 | 2.921390000 | 0.267698000 |
| Н | 3.487206000 | 3.378841000 | 0.998093000 |
| Н | 5.124120000 | 3.449831000 | 0.328005000 |
| Н | 3.746738000 | 3.078422000 | -0.731517000 |
| S | -2.265244000 | -0.224783000 | 0.734282000 |
| 0 | -3.293505000 | -1.237827000 | 1.010248000 |
| 0 | -1.887283000 | 0.760658000 | 1.752641000 |

Bond [1] radical₁, $E_{(SCF Done)}$ =-683.007342

| Ν | -0.473687000 | -0.527649000 | -0.126392000 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Н | -0.504565000 | -1.425654000 | 0.349881000 |
| С | -1.549543000 | 0.428072000 | 0.167834000 |
| Н | -1.451261000 | 0.827860000 | 1.187057000 |
| Н | -1.437036000 | 1.273133000 | -0.516731000 |
| С | -2.909005000 | -0.237794000 | -0.026989000 |
| Н | -3.038753000 | -1.088433000 | 0.653099000 |
| Н | -3.708798000 | 0.479772000 | 0.184645000 |
| Н | -3.025051000 | -0.598116000 | -1.053825000 |
| S | 1.120909000 | 0.008588000 | -0.281225000 |
| 0 | 1.971590000 | -1.057644000 | 0.304896000 |
| 0 | 1.190662000 | 1.425882000 | 0.161998000 |

Bond [1] radical₂, $E_{(SCF Done)}$ =-478.697923

| С | 2.398018000 | -1.564952000 | -0.094284000 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| С | 3.445889000 | -0.675154000 | -0.001669000 |
| С | 3.106404000 | 0.686413000 | 0.073976000 |
| С | 1.768609000 | 1.080008000 | 0.058790000 |
| С | 0.736482000 | 0.134167000 | -0.018078000 |
| С | 1.061855000 | -1.235666000 | -0.111181000 |
| Н | 4.483887000 | -0.996424000 | 0.007006000 |
| Н | 3.892199000 | 1.434904000 | 0.142151000 |
| Н | 1.495317000 | 2.128788000 | 0.102253000 |
| Н | 0.292491000 | -1.993899000 | -0.232953000 |
| С | -0.680383000 | 0.649167000 | -0.027414000 |
| 0 | -0.938029000 | 1.797565000 | -0.378174000 |
| Ν | -1.640687000 | -0.237574000 | 0.380453000 |
| Н | -1.345555000 | -1.105353000 | 0.803994000 |

| С | -3.056052000 | 0.105248000 | 0.438833000 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Н | -3.385944000 | 0.129450000 | 1.486788000 |
| Н | -3.134612000 | 1.121419000 | 0.047200000 |
| С | -3.924324000 | -0.863909000 | -0.366324000 |
| Н | -3.829170000 | -1.892194000 | 0.004370000 |
| Н | -4.980370000 | -0.580441000 | -0.291336000 |
| Н | -3.638194000 | -0.855686000 | -1.423140000 |

Bond [2] radical₁, $E_{(SCF Done)}$ =-134.420739

| Ν | 1.325532000 | -0.269507000 | -0.114431000 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Н | 1.197598000 | -1.088545000 | 0.502410000 |
| С | 0.140391000 | 0.543678000 | 0.045651000 |
| Н | 0.202623000 | 1.049124000 | 1.028726000 |
| Н | 0.159096000 | 1.338847000 | -0.710277000 |
| С | -1.185712000 | -0.231967000 | -0.026386000 |
| Н | -1.249722000 | -0.977389000 | 0.775973000 |
| Н | -2.039087000 | 0.448299000 | 0.073397000 |
| Н | -1.277303000 | -0.754054000 | -0.984798000 |

Bond [2] radical₂, E_(SCF Done)=-1027.313097

| С | 1.660186000 | 0.250795000 | -0.084557000 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| С | 2.131502000 | 1.561575000 | -0.014147000 |
| С | 1.197279000 | 2.596525000 | 0.061020000 |
| С | -0.167843000 | 2.313523000 | 0.054185000 |
| С | -0.628161000 | 0.990309000 | -0.007281000 |
| С | 0.299623000 | -0.053124000 | -0.098561000 |
| Η | 3.198118000 | 1.758296000 | -0.004866000 |
| Η | 1.538462000 | 3.625646000 | 0.123739000 |
| Η | -0.906197000 | 3.107352000 | 0.091600000 |

| Н | -0.008496000 | -1.089016000 | -0.191704000 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| С | -2.122848000 | 0.777078000 | -0.007470000 |
| 0 | -2.882634000 | 1.680203000 | -0.345987000 |
| N | -2.552705000 | -0.457156000 | 0.389008000 |
| Н | -1.885249000 | -1.098665000 | 0.793013000 |
| С | -3.964805000 | -0.821053000 | 0.444252000 |
| Н | -4.262603000 | -0.967307000 | 1.491393000 |
| Н | -4.513239000 | 0.043091000 | 0.064383000 |
| С | -4.273513000 | -2.075304000 | -0.375473000 |
| Н | -3.703985000 | -2.941177000 | -0.016030000 |
| Н | -5.338159000 | -2.323634000 | -0.300556000 |
| Н | -4.028187000 | -1.920606000 | -1.431206000 |
| S | 2.851252000 | -1.104925000 | -0.275232000 |
| 0 | 4.135543000 | -0.649282000 | 0.325129000 |
| 0 | 2.168331000 | -2.350550000 | 0.174495000 |

Bond [3] radical₁, E_(SCF Done)=-79.091826

| С | 0.795448000 | 0.000004000 | -0.023361000 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Н | 1.354029000 | -0.927709000 | 0.051459000 |
| Н | 1.354368000 | 0.927439000 | 0.051671000 |
| С | -0.694382000 | 0.000074000 | -0.000706000 |
| Н | -1.109783000 | -0.886012000 | -0.496804000 |
| Н | -1.095416000 | -0.003514000 | 1.029165000 |
| Н | -1.109591000 | 0.889328000 | -0.491090000 |
| | | | |

| С | -1.430842000 | 0.412352000 | -0.054133000 |
|---|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| С | -1.824538000 | 1.751021000 | -0.079851000 |
| С | -0.836865000 | 2.736315000 | -0.042889000 |

| С | 0.509533000 | 2.379053000 | 0.007510000 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| С | 0.897434000 | 1.031904000 | 0.001096000 |
| С | -0.087440000 | 0.038670000 | -0.018100000 |
| Н | -2.876862000 | 2.008566000 | -0.132657000 |
| Н | -1.120713000 | 3.784345000 | -0.055506000 |
| Н | 1.289306000 | 3.132013000 | 0.050913000 |
| Н | 0.162095000 | -1.016411000 | 0.014387000 |
| С | 2.377538000 | 0.739151000 | 0.047204000 |
| 0 | 3.168914000 | 1.580070000 | 0.464739000 |
| Ν | -3.050079000 | -1.041209000 | 1.555019000 |
| Н | -3.771092000 | -1.782537000 | 1.571428000 |
| Ν | 2.760544000 | -0.492888000 | -0.401753000 |
| Н | 2.078255000 | -1.078144000 | -0.862192000 |
| С | 4.152666000 | -0.929037000 | -0.418817000 |
| Н | 4.487149000 | -1.040069000 | -1.459234000 |
| Н | 4.728157000 | -0.115058000 | 0.026233000 |
| С | 4.361318000 | -2.236406000 | 0.347938000 |
| Н | 3.763916000 | -3.052115000 | -0.077623000 |
| Н | 5.414050000 | -2.537441000 | 0.303482000 |
| Н | 4.079075000 | -2.120222000 | 1.399376000 |
| S | -2.675959000 | -0.866166000 | -0.074685000 |
| 0 | -3.878912000 | -0.348496000 | -0.743141000 |
| 0 | -2.053010000 | -2.122041000 | -0.521130000 |
| | | | |

Bond [4] radical₁, E_(SCF Done)=-247.75747

| С | -1.428708000 | 0.313629000 | -0.302894000 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 0 | -1.881091000 | -0.739681000 | 0.072973000 |
| Ν | -0.209297000 | 0.838585000 | -0.086778000 |
| Н | -0.003001000 | 1.721585000 | -0.531865000 |

| С | 0.879481000 | 0.134937000 | 0.611641000 |
|---|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| Н | 1.349864000 | 0.836775000 | 1.310754000 |
| Н | 0.402410000 | -0.651831000 | 1.201283000 |
| С | 1.917968000 | -0.455167000 | -0.343273000 |
| Н | 2.388386000 | 0.325654000 | -0.952682000 |
| Н | 2.709194000 | -0.962681000 | 0.220828000 |
| Н | 1.454504000 | -1.182531000 | -1.017496000 |

Bond [4] radical₂, $E_{(SCF Done)}$ =-913.90945

| С | -1.019279000 | 0.115089000 | 0.107429000 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| С | -1.922003000 | 0.682763000 | -0.793383000 |
| С | -3.202667000 | 0.137067000 | -0.925128000 |
| С | -3.579796000 | -0.972424000 | -0.153670000 |
| С | -2.637967000 | -1.474810000 | 0.721133000 |
| С | -1.365209000 | -0.989937000 | 0.904216000 |
| Н | -1.621802000 | 1.550127000 | -1.370864000 |
| Н | -3.909644000 | 0.577506000 | -1.623450000 |
| Н | -4.572298000 | -1.404914000 | -0.245245000 |
| Н | -0.660366000 | -1.408620000 | 1.615419000 |
| Ν | 1.572190000 | -0.330671000 | -0.503626000 |
| Н | 1.507853000 | -0.163428000 | -1.508289000 |
| С | 2.978623000 | -0.442770000 | -0.055151000 |
| Н | 3.543182000 | 0.480583000 | -0.247829000 |
| Н | 2.956567000 | -0.595720000 | 1.025636000 |
| С | 3.638650000 | -1.627133000 | -0.756596000 |
| Н | 3.666827000 | -1.485988000 | -1.844172000 |
| Н | 4.672028000 | -1.737570000 | -0.410566000 |
| Н | 3.097915000 | -2.555097000 | -0.545905000 |
| S | 0.619253000 | 0.834788000 | 0.283406000 |

| 0 | 0.624930000 | 2.100496000 | -0.464009000 |
|---|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| 0 | 1.008100000 | 0.791271000 | 1.695639000 |

Bond [5] radical₁, $E_{(SCF Done)}$ =-134.420735

| 1 | 1.325303000 | -0.269646000 | -0.114592000 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|] | 1.196998000 | -1.088014000 | 0.503155000 |
| (| 0.140424000 | 0.543793000 | 0.045720000 |
| 1 | 0.202716000 | 1.048726000 | 1.029056000 |
| 1 | 0.158946000 | 1.339081000 | -0.710079000 |
| (| -1.185480000 | -0.231966000 | -0.026384000 |
| 1 | -1.249928000 | -0.977284000 | 0.776060000 |
|] | -2.038953000 | 0.448288000 | 0.072696000 |
|] | -1.276568000 | -0.754240000 | -0.984763000 |

Bond [5] radical₂, E_(SCF Done)=-1027.254423

| (| 0.232970000 | -0.606739000 | -0.028858000 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| (| 0.573849000 | -1.267287000 | -1.213083000 |
| (| 1.867451000 | -1.138767000 | -1.723052000 |
| (| 2.807614000 | -0.358487000 | -1.052225000 |
| (| 2.456516000 | 0.294150000 | 0.141282000 |
| (| 1.161776000 | 0.167560000 | 0.660775000 |
| ł | -0.164905000 | -1.880395000 | -1.718823000 |
| ł | 2.138942000 | -1.651680000 | -2.641115000 |
| ł | 3.818160000 | -0.246895000 | -1.433520000 |
| ł | 0.891348000 | 0.654910000 | 1.591447000 |
| (| 3.447705000 | 1.122622000 | 0.873658000 |
| (| 4.580866000 | 1.343413000 | 0.569686000 |
| 1 | -2.336873000 | 0.149945000 | -0.437278000 |
| ł | -3.226021000 | -0.331426000 | -0.572708000 |

| C | -2. | 485883000 | 1.585135000 | -0.127391000 |
|---|-----|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Η | -2. | 935700000 | 1.739769000 | 0.861534000 |
| Η | -1. | 480609000 | 2.019395000 | -0.099734000 |
| C | -3. | 315267000 | 2.259502000 | -1.217035000 |
| Η | -4. | 327861000 | 1.840055000 | -1.262360000 |
| Η | -3. | 409691000 | 3.330098000 | -1.007665000 |
| Η | -2. | 848569000 | 2.135194000 | -2.199164000 |
| S | -1. | 428001000 - | 0.794097000 | 0.632307000 |
| С | -1. | 875841000 - | 2.169346000 | 0.394024000 |
| С | -1. | 421195000 - | 0.211467000 | 1.979006000 |

Bond [6] radical₁, $E_{(SCF Done)}$ =-79.091825

| | 0.795387000 | 0.000009000 | -0.023346000 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1.353851000 | -0.927775000 | 0.051477000 |
| | 1.354525000 | 0.927332000 | 0.051580000 |
| - | -0.694358000 | 0.000102000 | -0.000710000 |
| - | -1.109727000 | -0.884617000 | -0.499252000 |
| - | -1.095328000 | -0.006294000 | 1.029184000 |
| - | -1.109496000 | 0.890692000 | -0.488655000 |

| Bond [6] radical₂ , E _(SCF Done) =-1082.288786 | |
|---|--|
|---|--|

| С | -0.081621000 | 0.871431000 | 0.055256000 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| С | -0.538816000 | 2.069199000 | -0.495015000 |
| С | -1.888474000 | 2.188527000 | -0.842785000 |
| С | -2.758994000 | 1.123226000 | -0.635438000 |
| С | -2.289643000 | -0.075091000 | -0.073819000 |
| С | -0.941723000 | -0.203781000 | 0.276994000 |
| Н | 0.155411000 | 2.890735000 | -0.635752000 |
| Н | -2.254965000 | 3.116842000 | -1.270583000 |

| Н | -3.809184000 | 1.198047000 | -0.898675000 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Н | -0.575627000 | -1.127873000 | 0.710124000 |
| С | -3.248784000 | -1.185879000 | 0.160745000 |
| 0 | -4.427145000 | -1.152601000 | -0.229300000 |
| Ν | 2.214224000 | -0.385046000 | -0.618216000 |
| Н | 2.460314000 | 0.130957000 | -1.463102000 |
| Ν | -2.764171000 | -2.346951000 | 0.715548000 |
| Н | -3.553181000 | -2.849146000 | 1.141253000 |
| С | 3.297323000 | -1.299245000 | -0.190750000 |
| Н | 4.221237000 | -0.753127000 | 0.046209000 |
| Н | 2.959926000 | -1.787166000 | 0.725611000 |
| С | 3.551970000 | -2.327136000 | -1.290306000 |
| Н | 3.890817000 | -1.849068000 | -2.217733000 |
| Н | 4.333915000 | -3.025721000 | -0.973631000 |
| Н | 2.642921000 | -2.895513000 | -1.510192000 |
| S | 1.645739000 | 0.724683000 | 0.530870000 |
| 0 | 2.262022000 | 2.042473000 | 0.323288000 |
| 0 | 1.719972000 | 0.049201000 | 1.828753000 |

Section F. References

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