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Supporting information for

Tetraamidoindolyl Calix[4]arene as a Selective Ion Pair Receptor for LiCl

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1. General experimental and synthetic details

Solvents and reagents used for the synthetic work were purchased from Aldrich, TCI, or Alfa Aesar and used without further purification. Compound **2** was prepared as reported previously.¹ NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Advance-300 MHz instrument. The NMR spectra were referenced to residual solvent peaks and the spectroscopic solvents were purchased from either Cambridge Isotope Laboratories or Aldrich. Chemical ionization (CI) and electrospray ionization (ESI) mass spectra were recorded on a VG ZAB-2E instrument and a VG AutoSpec apparatus, respectively. TLC analyses were carried out using Sorbent Technologies silica gel (200 mm) sheets. Column chromatography was performed on Sorbent Technologies silica gel 60 (40–63 mm).

Receptor 1

Under a nitrogen atmosphere, compound 2 (500 mg, 0.82 mmol) and indole-2-carboxylic acid (538 mg, 3.34 mmol) were dissolved in 5 mL of a 2:1 v/v mixture of dichloromethane (DCM) and tetrahydrofuran (THF) in the presence of N-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-N'ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride (EDCI; 781 mg, 4.08 mmol) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (438 mg, 3.59 mmol). The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 4 h at room temperature. After the reaction was deemed complete (TLC), solvents were removed in vacuo. To the resulting yellowish solid, DCM (50 mL) and water (50 mL) were added. Then, organic phase was separated off and washed with water (30 mL) three times. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and evaporated in vacuo to give a yellow solid. Column chromatography over silica gel (eluent: ethyl acetate/hexanes (1:1)), followed by recrystallization from DCM and methanol, gave 0.5 g of receptor 1 (39% yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.50 (s, 4H), 9.88 (s, 4H), 7.44-7.42 (d, 4H, *J* = 8 Hz), 7.36-7.34 (d, 4H, *J* = 8 Hz), 7.24 (s, 8H), 7.21 (s, 4H), 7.13-7.09 (t, 4H, J = 8 Hz & J = 16 Hz), 6.96-6.92 (t, 4H, J = 8 Hz & J = 16 Hz), 4.47-4.44 (d, 4H, J = 12 Hz), 3.88-3.84 (t, 8H, J = 8 Hz & J = 16 Hz), 3.24-3.21 (d, 4H, J = 12 Hz), 2.02-1.93 (m, 8H), 1.01-0.97 (t, 9H, J = 8 Hz & J = 16 Hz), ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 159.8, 152.9, 137.0, 134.7, 133.3, 132.1, 127.5, 124.0, 122.1, 121.7, 120.2, 112.7, 104.0, 77.2, 23.2, 10.7. HR-ESI-MS calc. C₇₆H₇₂N₈O₈Li 1231.56290; found 1231.5653 [M+Li]⁺.

2. ¹H NMR spectra and mass spectra



Figure S1. Partial ¹H NMR spectra of receptor **1** (3 mM) recorded in 10% DMSO- d_6 in CDCl₃ in the presence of TBAF, TBACI, TBABr, and TBAI (>50 equiv).



Figure S2. Top: Partial ¹H NMR spectra of receptor **1** (3 mM) recorded during the titration with F^- (as TBAF) in 10% DMSO- d_6 in CDCl₃. Bottom: The corresponding binding isotherms.



Figure S3. Top: Partial ¹H NMR spectra of receptor **1** (3 mM) recorded during the titration with Cl^- (as TBACI) in 10% DMSO- d_6 in CDCl₃. Bottom: The corresponding binding isotherms.



Figure S4. Top: Partial ¹H NMR spectra of receptor **1** (3mM) recorded during the titration with Br^{-} (as TBABr) in 10% DMSO- d_6 in CDCl₃. Bottom: The corresponding binding isotherms.



Figure S5. Partial ¹H NMR spectra of (a) receptor **1** only, (b) **1** + LiClO₄, (c) **1** + TBACl, (d) **1** + LiClO₄ + TBACl, and (e) **1** + LiCl in DMSO- d_6 /CDCl₃ (1:9, v/v).



Figure S6. Partial ¹H NMR spectra of receptor **1** (3 mM) recorded in 10% DMSO- d_6 in CDCl₃ in the presence of LiCl (12 equiv), and LiBr (12 equiv).



Figure S7. Top: Partial ¹H NMR spectra of receptor **1** (3 mM) recorded during the titration with Li⁺ (as LiClO₄) in 10% DMSO- d_6 in CDCl₃. Bottom: The corresponding binding isotherms.



Figure S8. Top: Partial ¹H NMR spectra of receptor **1** (3 mM) recorded during the titration with LiBr in 10% DMSO- d_6 in CDCl₃. Bottom: The corresponding binding isotherms.



Figure S9. Top: Partial ¹H NMR spectra of receptor $1 \cdot Li^+$ (3 mM; produced from 1 and LiClO₄) recorded upon titration with Br⁻ (as TBABr) in 10% DMSO- d_6 in CDCl₃. Bottom: The corresponding binding isotherms.



Figure S10. Top: Partial ¹H NMR spectra of receptor $1 \cdot Cl^-$ (3 mM produced from 1 and TBACI) recorded upon titration with Li⁺ (as the perchlorate salt) in 10% DMSO- d_6 in CDCl₃. Bottom: The corresponding binding isotherms.



Figure S11. Top: Partial ¹H NMR spectra of receptor $1 \cdot Br^-$ (3 mM, produced from 1 and TBABr) recorded upon titration with Li⁺ (as the perchlorate salt) in 10% DMSO- d_6 in CDCl₃. Bottom: The corresponding binding isotherms.



Figure S12. HRMS spectrum of the lithium cation complex of receptor 1.

3. X-ray Experimental for 1•LiCl•2CH₃OH

Crystals grew as colorless plates by slow evaporation of a CHCl₃/CH₃CN/CH₃OH solution of receptor **1** in the presence of excess lithium chloride. The data crystal was separated from a cluster of crystals and had approximate dimensions; 0.23 x 0.063 x 0.045 mm. The data were collected on an Agilent Technologies SuperNova Dual Source diffractometer using a µ-focus Cu K α radiation source (λ = 1.5418 Å) with collimating mirror monochromators using a Saturn S2 CCD detector. A total of 1010 frames of data were collected using 2-scans with a scan range of 1° and a counting time of 25 seconds per frame for frames collected with a detector offset of 0.0° and 40 seconds per frame with frames collected with a detector offset of +/- 53.8°. The data were collected at 100 K using an Oxford Cryostream low temperature device. Details of crystal data, data collection and structure refinement are listed in Table S1. Data collection, unit cell refinement and data reduction were performed using Rigaku Oxford Diffraction's CrysAlisPro V 1.171.41.70a.³ The structure was solved by direct methods using SHELXT⁴ and refined by full-matrix least-squares on F² with anisotropic displacement parameters for the non-H atoms using SHELXL-2018/3.⁵ Structure analysis was aided by use of the programs PLATON⁶ and OLEX2⁷. The hydrogen atoms were calculated in ideal positions with isotropic displacement parameters set to 1.2xUeq of the attached atom (1.5xUeq for methyl hydrogen atoms).

Two regions of disordered solvent were observed in the unit cell. The solvent appeared to be composed of mostly methanol. The solvent mix could not be satisfactorily modeled. The contributions to the scattering factors due to these solvent molecules were removed by using SQUEEZE.⁸

The function, $\Sigma w(|F_0|^2 - |F_c|^2)^2$, was minimized, where $w = 1/[(\mathbb{P}(F_0))^2 + (0.0785*P)^2 + (10.6814*P)]$ and $P = (|F_0|^2 + 2|F_c|^2)/3$. $R_W(F^2)$ refined to 0.170, with R(F) equal to 0.0649 and a goodness of fit, S, = 0.992. Definitions used for calculating R(F), $R_W(F^2)$ and the goodness of fit, S, are given below.⁹ The data were checked for secondary extinction effects but no correction was necessary. Neutral atom scattering factors and values used to calculate the linear absorption coefficient are from the International Tables for X-ray Crystallography (1992).¹⁰ All figures were generated using SHELXTL/PC.¹¹ Tables of positional and thermal parameters, bond lengths and angles, torsion angles and figures may be obtained from the Cambridge Crystallographic Centre by referencing CCDC number 2209048.

| lable S1. Crystal data and structure refinemen | t for 1 •LiCl. | |
|--|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Empirical formula | C78 H80 Cl Li N8 O10 | |
| Formula weight | 1331.89 | |
| Temperature | 100.15 K | |
| Wavelength | 1.54184 Å | |
| Crystal system | monoclinic | |
| Space group | P 1 21/n 1 | |
| Unit cell dimensions | a = 11.6204(4) Å | α = 90°. |
| | b = 34.8192(10) Å | β = 105.015(4)°. |
| | c = 20.2204(9) Å | γ = 90°. |
| Volume | 7902.2(5) Å ³ | |
| Z | 4 | |
| Density (calculated) | 1.120 Mg/m ³ | |
| Absorption coefficient | 0.898 mm ⁻¹ | |
| F(000) | 2816 | |
| Crystal size | 0.23 x 0.063 x 0.045 mm ³ | |
| Theta range for data collection | 2.594 to 44.995°. | |
| Index ranges | -10<=h<=10, -31<=k<=31, -1 | L8<=l<=18 |
| Reflections collected | 30780 | |
| Independent reflections | 6341 [R(int) = 0.0642] | |
| Completeness to theta = 44.995° | 99.2 % | |
| Absorption correction | Gaussian and multi-scan | |
| Max. and min. transmission | 1.00 and 0.677 | |
| Refinement method | Full-matrix least-squares on | F ² |
| Data / restraints / parameters | 6341/611/905 | |
| Goodness-of-fit on F ² | 1.042 | |
| Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)] | R1 = 0.0649, wR2 = 0.1559 | |
| R indices (all data) | R1 = 0.0879, wR2 = 0.1703 | |
| Extinction coefficient | n/a | |
| Largest diff. peak and hole | 0.291 and -0.260 e.Å ⁻³ | |
| | | |

Table S1 C tal date d structure refinement for 1 I iCl



Figure S13. View of the LiCl complex in **1** showing the heteroatom labeling scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are scaled to the 30% probability level.



4. NMR spectra and HRMS data

Figure S14. ¹H NMR spectrum of 1 (3 mM) recorded in DMSO- d_6 .



Figure S15. ¹³C NMR spectrum of 1 (5 mM) recorded in DMSO- $d_{6.}$

| Data File Position Acq Method | lile MSF16-0111(4-indole calls(4)arene + LIC)_hrESIpos1.d n P1-E8 ethod pos.m | | | | i S In A | ample Name 0 nstrument Name Ir couired Time 1 | 111(4-indole callx[4]arene + UCI) istrument 1 (6/2016 5:10:07 PM | Comment User Name DA Method | 0111(4-indole callx[4]arene + UCI) Ian.m | | |
|---|---|------------|----------|-----------|----------------|---|--|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MS Zoomed Spectrum | | | | | | | | | | | |
| x10 5 Cpd 1: C76 H72 Li N8 O8: +ESI Scan (0.134-0.251 min, 8 Scans) Frag=180.0V MSF16-0111(4-in | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4- | | 123 | 1.5653 1 | 232.5684 | | | | | | | |
| 3- | | | | Δ | | | | | | | |
| 2- | | | | | 1233.5707 | | | | | | |
| 1- 1230.5620 1234.5727 1235.5748 1236.5747 1237.5710 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0 | | | | | | | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | | | | |
| 1231 1232 1233 1234 1235 1236 1237 Country to Mass to Charge (79/2) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Counts vs. mass-to-Gnarge (IT/Z) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MS Spectrur | m Peak | Calc. m/z | Charge | Abund | Formula | Ion/Isotope | Tot Mass Error (nom) | | | | |
| 1230.5 | 56200 | 1230.56190 | 1 | 26435.12 | C76H72LIN8O8 | M+ | -0.08 | | | | |
| 1231.9 | 56530 | 1231.56290 | 1 | 446090.77 | C76H72LIN8O8 | M+ | -1.95 | | | | |
| 1232.5 | 56840 | 1232,56600 | 1 | 372871.35 | C76H72LIN8O8 | M+ | -1.95 | | | | |
| 1233.5 | 57070 | 1233,56910 | 1 | 160835.09 | C76H72LIN8O8 | M+ | -1.35 | | | | |
| 1234.5 | 57270 | 1234.57210 | 1 | 47128.44 | C76H72LIN8O8 | M+ | -0.5 | | | | |
| 1235.5 | 57480 | 1235.57500 | 1 | 9368.6 | C76H72LIN808 | M+ | 0.12 | | | | |
| 1236.5 | 57470 | 1236.57790 | 1 | 2551.02 | C76H72LIN8O8 | M+ | 2.58 | | | | |
| 1237.5 | 57100 | 1237.58070 | 1 | 5824.89 | C76H72LIN8O8 | M+ | 7.84 | | | | |
| 1238.5 | 57360 | 1238.58350 | 1 | 4552.18 | C76H72LIN8O8 | M+ | 8.04 | | | | |
| End Of Rep | port | | | | | | | | | | |

Target Compound Screening Report

Figure S16. ESI HRMS of $[1 + Li]^+$.

5. References

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- 9. $R_W(F^2) = {\Sigma w(|F_0|^2 |F_c|^2)^2 / \Sigma w(|F_0|)^4}^{1/2}$ where w is the weight given each reflection.

 $R(F) = \Sigma(|F_O| - |F_C|)/\Sigma|F_O|$ for reflections with $F_O > 4(\Sigma(F_O))$.

S = $[\Sigma w(|F_0|^2 - |F_c|^2)^2/(n - p)]^{1/2}$, where n is the number of reflections and p is the number of refined parameters.

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