

[Electronic Supplementary Information to accompany:]

## Cyclic metalloporphyrin dimers and tetramers: tunable shape-selective hosts for fullerenes

Byungman Kang,<sup>a,b</sup> Ryan K. Totten,<sup>a,b</sup> Mitchell H. Weston,<sup>a</sup> Joseph T. Hupp<sup>a</sup> and SonBinh T. Nguyen<sup>\*,a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Chemistry and International Institute for Nanotechnology, Northwestern University, 2145 Sheridan Road, Evanston, Illinois 60208-3113, USA. <sup>b</sup>Authors contributed equally

Table of Contents	Page number
I. General information	S1
II. General procedures and materials	S1
III. Preparation of metalloporphyrin “dividers”	S2
IV. Preparation of the saturated ( <b>Zn-PP</b> ) <sub>4</sub> tetramer	S4
V. Evaluation of association constants by UV-vis and fluorescence titrations	S6
VI. Variable-temperature <sup>13</sup> C NMR experiments	S18
VII. The geometry optimizations for Zn(porphyrin) dimer <b>A2</b> and bisected Zn(porphyrin) tetramer <b>B2</b>	S20
VIII. Authors contributions audit	S21
IX. References	S21

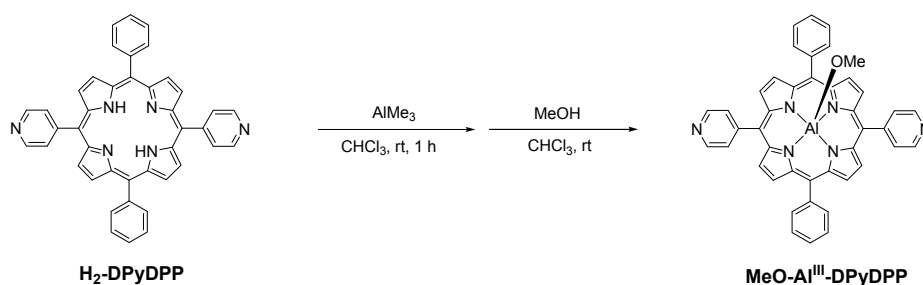
**I. General Information.** <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on either a Varian INOVA 500 FT-NMR (499.6 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H, 125.6 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C) or a Varian Mercury 400 FT-NMR spectrometer (400.6 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H, 100.7 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR data are reported as follows: chemical shift (multiplicity (br s = broad singlet, s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, and m = multiplet), coupling constant and integration). <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C chemical shifts are reported in ppm downfield from tetramethylsilane (TMS,  $\delta$  scale) using residual solvent resonances as internal standards.

Matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization time-of-flight (MALDI-ToF) mass spectra were recorded on a Bruker Autoflex III MALDI spectrometer using either reflective positive or linear negative ionization method with dithranol matrix. Electrospray-ionization mass spectrometric (ESIMS) data were obtained by staff members in the Integrated Molecular Structure Education and Research Center (IMSERC) at Northwestern University (Evanston, IL, USA).

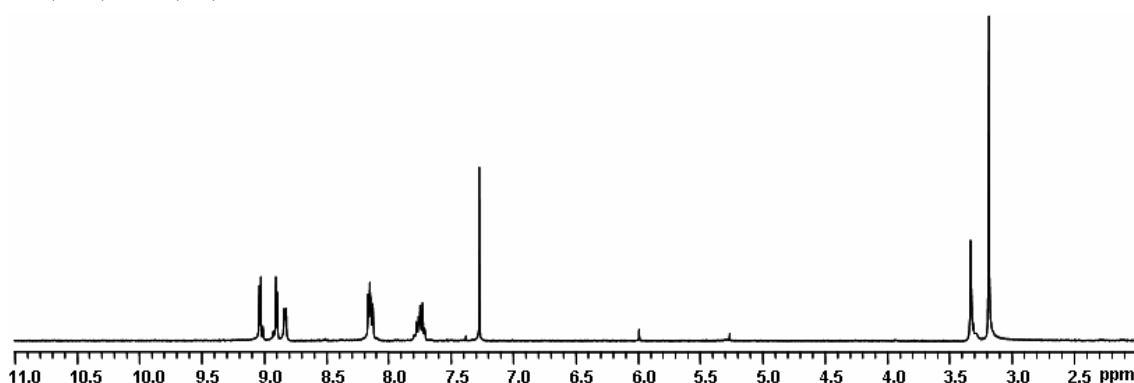
UV-vis spectra were obtained in toluene on a Varian Cary 500 spectrophotometer, unless otherwise noted. Fluorescence emission spectra were obtained in toluene on a Jobin Yvon FluoroLog fluorometer ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 419$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 500 - 800$  nm, slit width = 3 nm) (HORIBA Jobin Yvon Inc., Edison, NJ, USA).

**II. General procedures and materials.** All air- or water-sensitive reactions were carried out under nitrogen using oven-dried glassware. All synthetic experiments concerning porphyrin and porphyrin derivatives were carried out under light-deficient conditions: the hood lights were turned off and the reaction flasks are covered with aluminum foil to further minimize light exposure. Isolated porphyrin products were stored at low temperatures (-10 °C) in foil-covered vials. All flash-column chromatography was carried out using silica gel (MP Silitech 60-200 mesh) under a positive pressure of nitrogen, unless otherwise noted. Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was

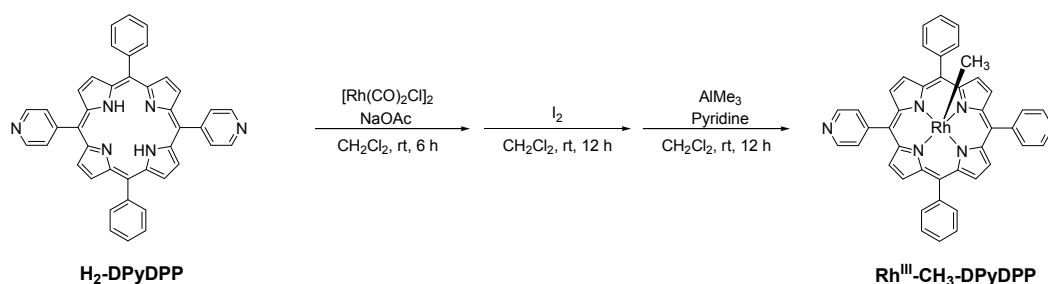




**[[5,15-bis(4-pyridyl)-10,20-diphenyl]porphinato]aluminum(III) methoxide (MeO-Al<sup>III</sup>-DPyDPP).** Under a N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere, a 50-mL Schlenk flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar was loaded with a solution of **H<sub>2</sub>-DPyDPP** (40 mg, 65 μmol) in anhydrous CHCl<sub>3</sub> (20 mL). A solution of AlMe<sub>3</sub> (97 μL, 195 μmol, 2.0 M in heptane) was then added to the reaction mixture using a gas-tight syringe under N<sub>2</sub>. After stirring for 1 h under N<sub>2</sub>, MeOH (10 mL) was added to quench the reaction and the mixture was evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure. The residue was subject to size-exclusion chromatography (column dimensions = 30 mm × 250 mm, Bio-Rad Bio-Beads S-X1, eluent = CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH 20:1 v/v) to afford **MeO-Al<sup>III</sup>-DPyDPP** as a purple solid (40 mg, 59 μmol, 91% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (499.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>OD): δ 3.33 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 7.75 (m, 6H, Ar-*H*), 8.15 (m, 8H, α-pyridyl-*H* and Ar-*H*), 8.83 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 4H, β-pyridyl-*H*), 8.89 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 4H, β-*H*), 9.03 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 4H, β-*H*). ESIMS (positive mode): Calcd for C<sub>43</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N<sub>6</sub>OAl: 672.22, found: *m/z* 672.89 [M]<sup>+</sup>. UV-vis (nm, (ε × 10<sup>4</sup> / M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>)): 417 (11.0), 549 (0.5).



**Fig. S2** The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **MeO-Al<sup>III</sup>-DPyDPP**.



**Methyl[[5,15-bis(4-pyridyl)-10,20-diphenyl]porphinato]rhodium(III) (Me-Rh<sup>III</sup>-DPyDPP).** This compound was synthesized following a modified literature procedure.<sup>S8</sup> In a 100-mL round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, NaOAc (359 mg, 4.38 mmol) was added to a mixture of **H<sub>2</sub>-DPyDPP** (90 mg, 146 μmol) and [Rh(CO)<sub>2</sub>Cl]<sub>2</sub> (227 mg, 584 μmol) in anhydrous CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50 mL). After stirring for 6 h under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere at room temperature, I<sub>2</sub> (222 mg, 875 μmol) was added as a solid and the reaction was stirred for an additional 12 h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of silica gel, which was then washed with a

mixture of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH/pyridine (2 × 30 mL, 40:1:1 v/v/v). To a mixture of the residue and pyridine (7.5 mg, 95 μmol) in anhydrous CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50 mL), AlMe<sub>3</sub> (379 μL of a 2.0 M solution in heptane, 758 μmol,) was immediately added under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere, and the reaction mixture was stirred for 12 h at room temperature. MeOH (20 mL) was added to quench the reaction and the mixture was evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was subjected to silica gel column chromatography (column dimensions = 20 mm × 200 mm, eluent = CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH/pyridine = 30:1:1 v/v/v) to yield **Me-Rh<sup>III</sup>-DPyDPP** as a red solid (54 mg, 74 μmol, 51% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (499.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/pyridine-*d*<sub>5</sub>): δ -6.71 (s, 3H, Rh-CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.75 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H, α-pyridyl-*H*), 7.06 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H, β-pyridyl-*H*), 7.67 (m, 6H, Ar-*H*), 8.05 (m, 4H, Ar-*H*), 8.61 (m, 8H, β-*H*). ESIMS (positive mode): Calcd for C<sub>43</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N<sub>6</sub>Rh: 732.15, found: *m/z* 733.47 [M + H]<sup>+</sup>. UV-vis (nm, (ε × 10<sup>4</sup> /M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>)): 414 (1.7), 523 (0.2).

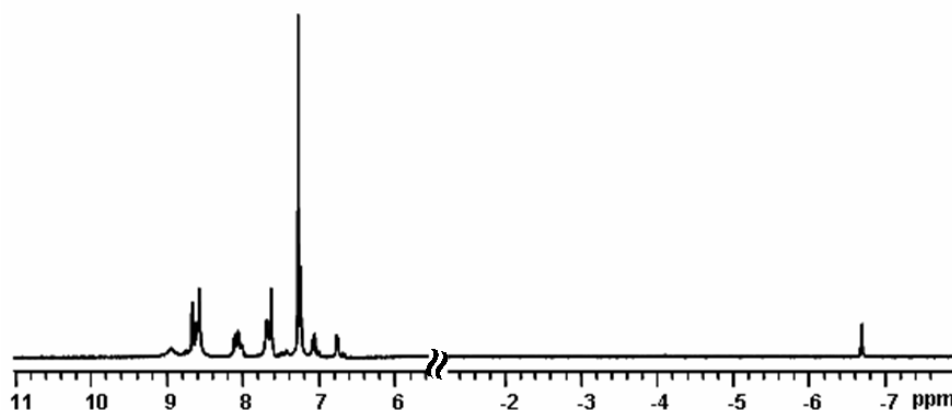
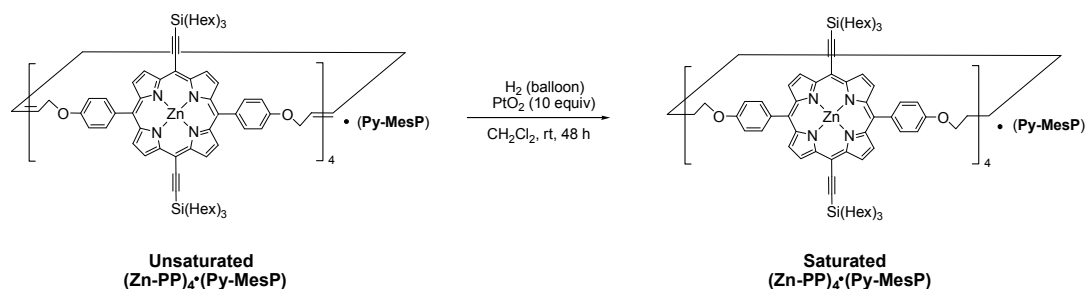


Fig. S3 The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **Me-Rh<sup>III</sup>-DPyDPP**.

#### IV. Preparation of the saturated (Zn-PP)<sub>4</sub> tetramer.



**Saturated (Zn-PP)<sub>4</sub>(Py-MesP)**. In a 25-mL two-neck, round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, PtO<sub>2</sub> (9.3 mg, 40.9 μmol) was added to a solution of unsaturated (Zn-PP)<sub>4</sub>(Py-MesP) (25 mg, 4.1 μmol) in anhydrous CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL). After stirring for 48 h under H<sub>2</sub> (balloon) at room temperature, the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite and evaporated to dryness by rotary evaporation. The resulting residue was subjected to silica gel column chromatography (column dimensions = 20 mm × 200 mm, eluent = CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/hexanes 1:1.5 v/v) to yield the saturated (Zn-PP)<sub>4</sub>(Py-MesP) as a purple solid (22 mg, 3.6 μmol, 88% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (499.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -3.40 (s, 2H, NH), 0.88 (m, 72H, <sup>n</sup>Hex CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.99 (m, 48H, <sup>n</sup>Hex CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.27-1.37 (m, 96H, <sup>n</sup>Hex CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.52 (m, 48H, <sup>n</sup>Hex CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.75 (m, 48H, <sup>n</sup>Hex CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.83 (m, 16H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.15 (m, 16H, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O), 2.75 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 8H, α-pyridyl-*H*), 4.38 (m, 16H, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O), 5.59 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 8H, β-pyridyl-*H*), 7.28 (s, 16H, Ar-*H*), 7.38 (br s, 8H, Py-MesP Ar-*H*), 8.15 (br s, 8H, Py-MesP β-*H*), 8.29 (s, 16H, Ar-*H*), 8.97 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 16H, β-*H*), 9.68 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 16H, β-*H*). MALDI-ToF (linear negative mode): Calcd for C<sub>320</sub>H<sub>440</sub>N<sub>16</sub>O<sub>8</sub>Si<sub>8</sub>Zn<sub>4</sub> [M -

(Py-MesP)]<sup>-</sup>: 5125.26, found:  $m/z$  5125.16 [M - (Py-MesP)]. UV-vis (nm, ( $\epsilon \times 10^5 / M^{-1}cm^{-1}$ )): 420 (3.1), 440 (5.6), 454 (3.6), 597 (0.2), 645 (0.7).

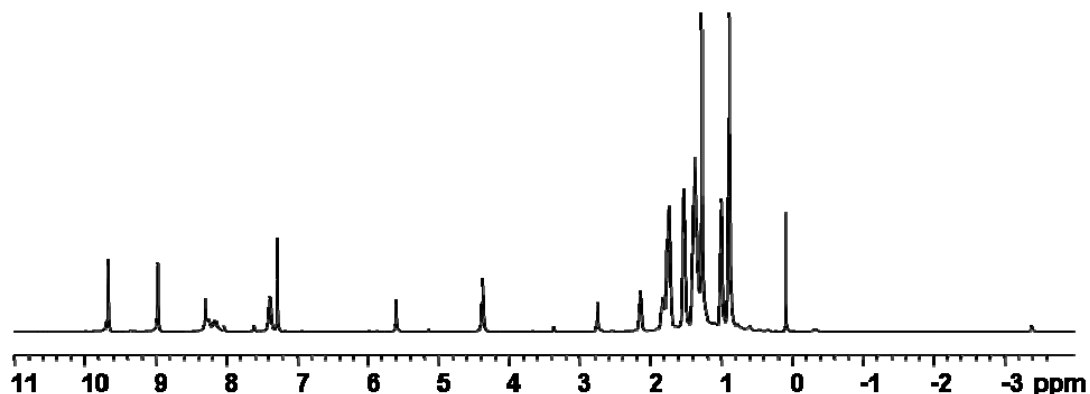
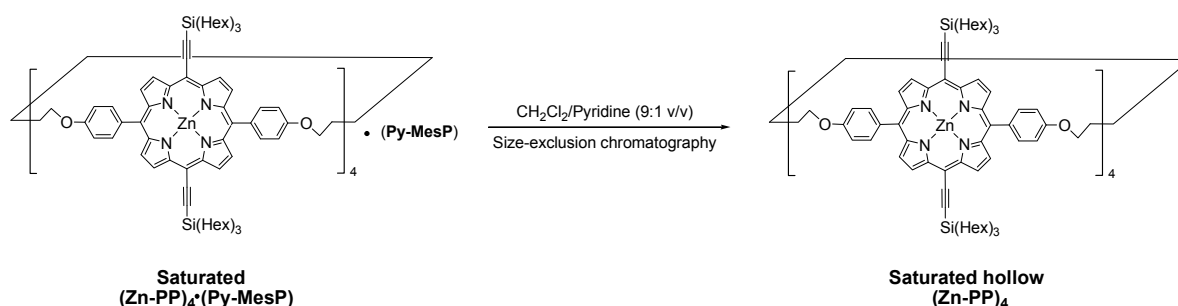


Fig. S4 The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of saturated (Zn-PP)<sub>4</sub>(Py-MesP).



**Saturated hollow (Zn-PP)<sub>4</sub>.** Saturated (Zn-PP)<sub>4</sub>(Py-MesP) (20 mg, 3.2  $\mu$ mol) was dissolved in a mixture of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/pyridine (9:1 v/v) and then subjected to size-exclusion chromatography (column dimensions = 20 mm  $\times$  200 mm, Bio-Rad Bio-Beads S-X1, eluent = CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/pyridine 9:1 v/v). Template-free saturated hollow (Zn-PP)<sub>4</sub> was collected from a dark purple band and the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. To remove excess pyridine completely, the isolated purple solid was evacuated for 4 h at 60 °C. Yield = 16 mg (3.1  $\mu$ mol, 97%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (499.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.89 (m, 48H, <sup>n</sup>Hex CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.98 (m, 24H, <sup>n</sup>Hex CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.27-1.43 (m, 160H, <sup>n</sup>Hex CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.52 (m, 40H, <sup>n</sup>Hex CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.71 (m, 40H, <sup>n</sup>Hex CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.81 (m, 16H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.13 (m, 16H, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O), 4.37 (m, 16H, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O), 7.34 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 16H, Ar-*H*), 8.07 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 16H, Ar-*H*), 8.85 (d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, 16H,  $\beta$ -*H*), 9.45 (d,  $J$  = 3.2 Hz, 16H,  $\beta$ -*H*). MALDI-ToF (linear negative mode): Calcd for C<sub>320</sub>H<sub>440</sub>N<sub>16</sub>O<sub>8</sub>Si<sub>8</sub>Zn<sub>4</sub>: 5125.26, found:  $m/z$  5125.75 [M]<sup>-</sup>. UV-vis (nm, ( $\epsilon \times 10^5 / M^{-1}cm^{-1}$ )): 440 (23.2), 537 (0.3), 580 (0.9), 628 (2.4).

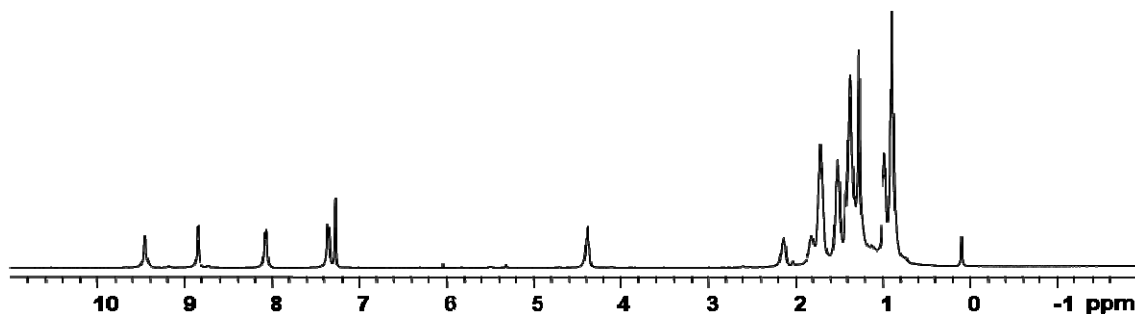


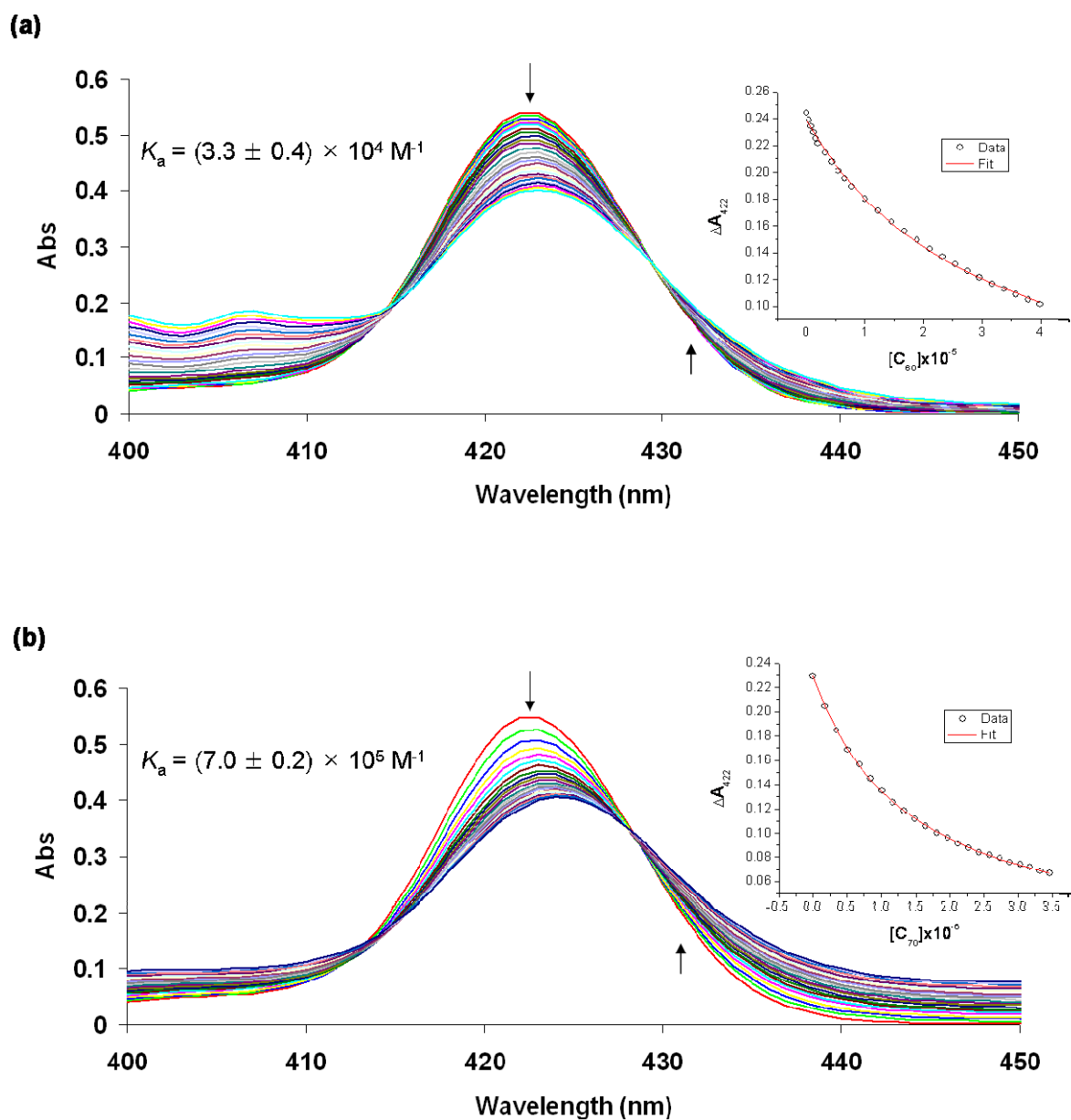
Fig. S5 The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of saturated hollow (Zn-PP)<sub>4</sub>.

**V. Evaluation of association constants by UV-vis and fluorescence titrations.** The UV-vis spectrophotometric titrations of cofacial porphyrin dimers were conducted by progressively adding small aliquots (10  $\mu\text{L}$ ) of fullerene solution ( $[\text{C}_{60}] = 0.5, 0.9, 3,$  and  $6 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M}$  or  $[\text{C}_{70}] = 2$  and  $4 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}$ ) in toluene, using a 25- $\mu\text{L}$  microliter syringe, to a cuvette containing the dimer solution (2.3 mL of a  $0.5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$  solution) in toluene. To minimize the change of the solution volume, the maximum total added volume for all aliquots of the fullerene was less than 250  $\mu\text{L}$ .

In the case of the bisected Zn(porphyrin) tetramer, prior incorporation of the divider into the hollow (**Zn-PP**)<sub>4</sub> is required before carrying out the UV-vis titration experiments. To this end, an aliquot (10  $\mu\text{L}$ ) of the **M-DPyDPP** divider in toluene ( $0.12 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$ ; note: a mixture of toluene/MeOH (45:1 v/v) is required for the **MeO-Al<sup>III</sup>-DPyDPP** and **Me-Rh<sup>III</sup>-DPyDPP** dividers) was added to a cuvette containing either unsaturated or saturated (**Zn-PP**)<sub>4</sub> solution (2.3 mL of a  $0.5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$  solution) in toluene. The mixture was then stirred at room temperature for 5 min, resulting in the appearance of a new peak in the Q band (644 nm) indicative of the encapsulation of the divider. Titration of the resulting bisected Zn(porphyrin) tetramer with fullerenes was carried out under the same conditions as described above for the dimer. As an example for the analysis of UV-vis titration data, the absorbances (*A*) of a cofacial porphyrin dimer **A1** in the presence and absence of the fullerene was plotted against  $[\text{C}_{60}]$  or  $[\text{C}_{70}]$  (Fig. S6). The association constants ( $K_a$ ) for  $\text{C}_{60}$  and  $\text{C}_{70}$  were derived using the Marquardt least-squares minimization based on the 1:1 complexation model.<sup>S9</sup>

Similarly, the fluorescence titrations were carried out by progressively adding small aliquots (10  $\mu\text{L}$ ) of fullerene solution to a quartz fluorescence cuvette containing the dimer solution (1 mL of a  $0.5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$  solution) in toluene. The solution was excited at 419 nm and the fluorescent emission intensity was recorded from 500 to 800 nm after each addition of the fullerene. A plot of intensity versus  $[\text{C}_{60}]$  or  $[\text{C}_{70}]$  was carried out to determine the  $K_a$  value by the nonlinear fitting method described above (Figs. S11 and S13).

Interestingly, in the UV-vis titration experiments, addition of incremental amounts of  $\text{C}_{60}$  and  $\text{C}_{70}$  to a solution of **A6** caused a bathochromic shift along with an increase in absorption of the Soret band (Fig. S12). This spectral feature is inconsistent with the behaviors observed for the interactions of fullerenes with **A1-A5** and other porphyrin hosts reported thus far.<sup>S10,11</sup> While we are unable to explain this result, fluorescence titrations clearly demonstrate the existence of strong  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interactions between the fullerene and **A6**: the fluorescence emission of **A6** is efficiently quenched upon addition of  $\text{C}_{60}$  and  $\text{C}_{70}$  (Fig. S13).<sup>S12-15</sup> The nonlinear fit of the fluorescence titration data to the 1:1 binding model also gave  $K_a$  values that are comparable to those of the absorption titrations ( $\sim 2.0 \times 10^6 \text{ M}^{-1}$  for  $\text{C}_{60}$  and  $\sim 8.5 \times 10^6 \text{ M}^{-1}$  for  $\text{C}_{70}$ , see Figs. S12 and S13). Analysis of the variable-temperature <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of a mixture of **A6** and  $\text{C}_{60}$  (3 equiv) in toluene-*d*<sub>8</sub> provided additional evidence supporting the association of **A6** with fullerene (Fig. S22). The coalescence temperature arising from the fast exchange of bound and unbound  $\text{C}_{60}$  was observed to be  $\sim 296 \text{ K}$ , which is much higher than that for **A1** (253 K, Fig. S21).



**Fig. S6** Absorption spectra of **A1** ( $0.5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$ ) in toluene at 296 K upon titration with (a)  $\text{C}_{60}$  and (b)  $\text{C}_{70}$ . Insets: the absorption changes at 422 nm and the result of fitting the experimental data.

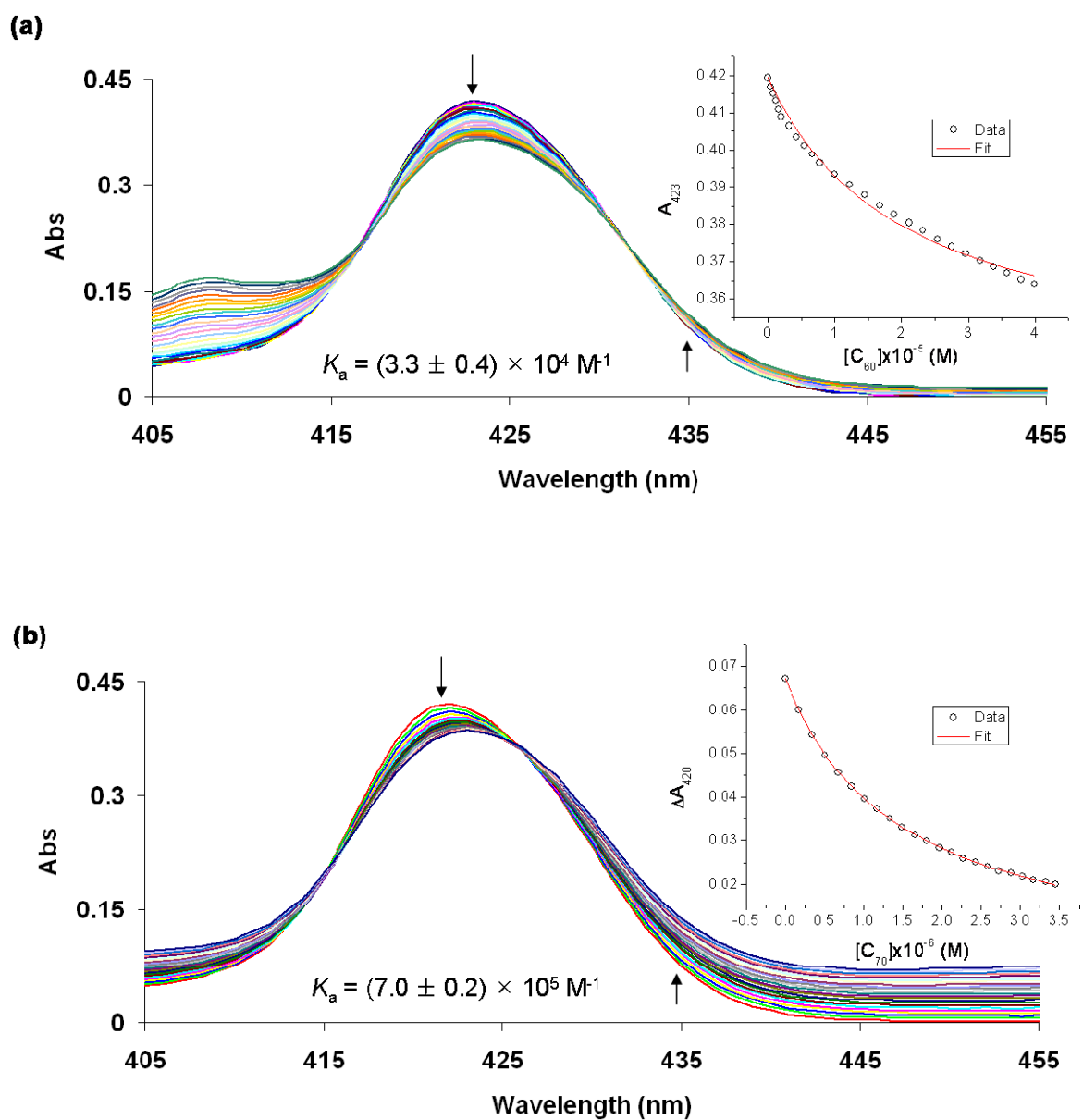
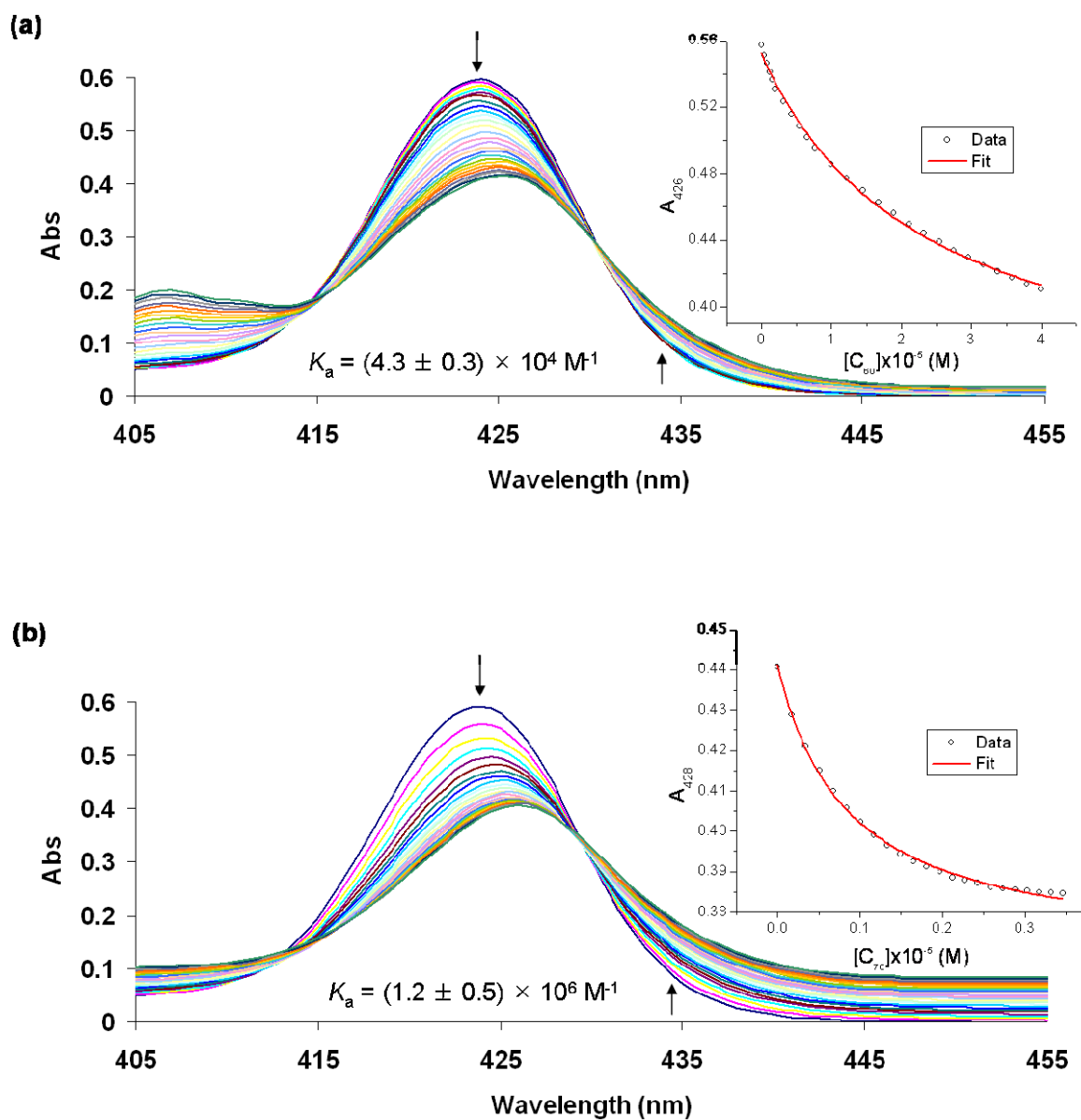
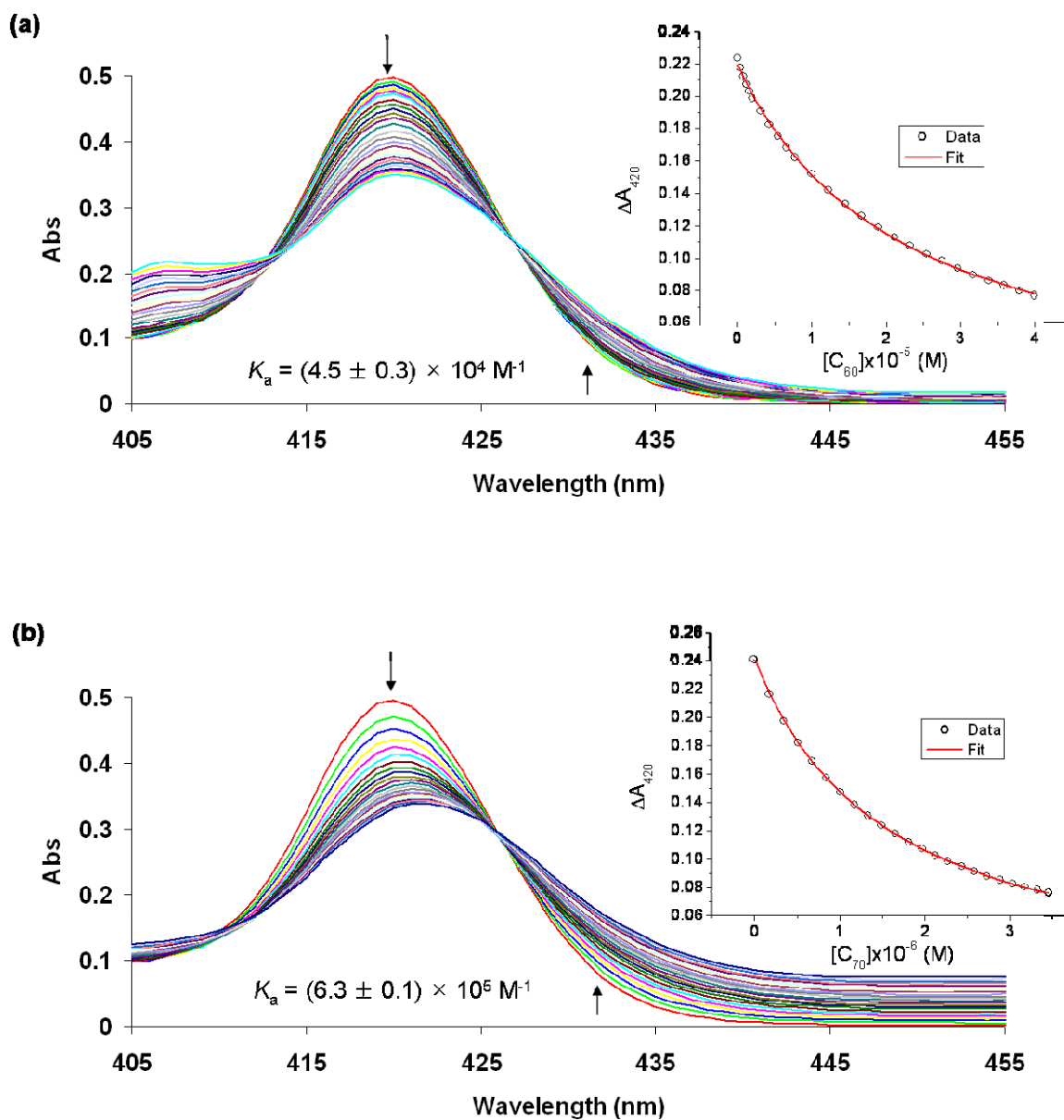


Fig. S7 Absorption spectra of **A2** ( $0.5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$ ) in toluene at 296 K upon titration with (a)  $C_{60}$  and (b)  $C_{70}$ . Insets: the absorption changes at (a) 423 and (b) 420 nm and the result of fitting the experimental data.

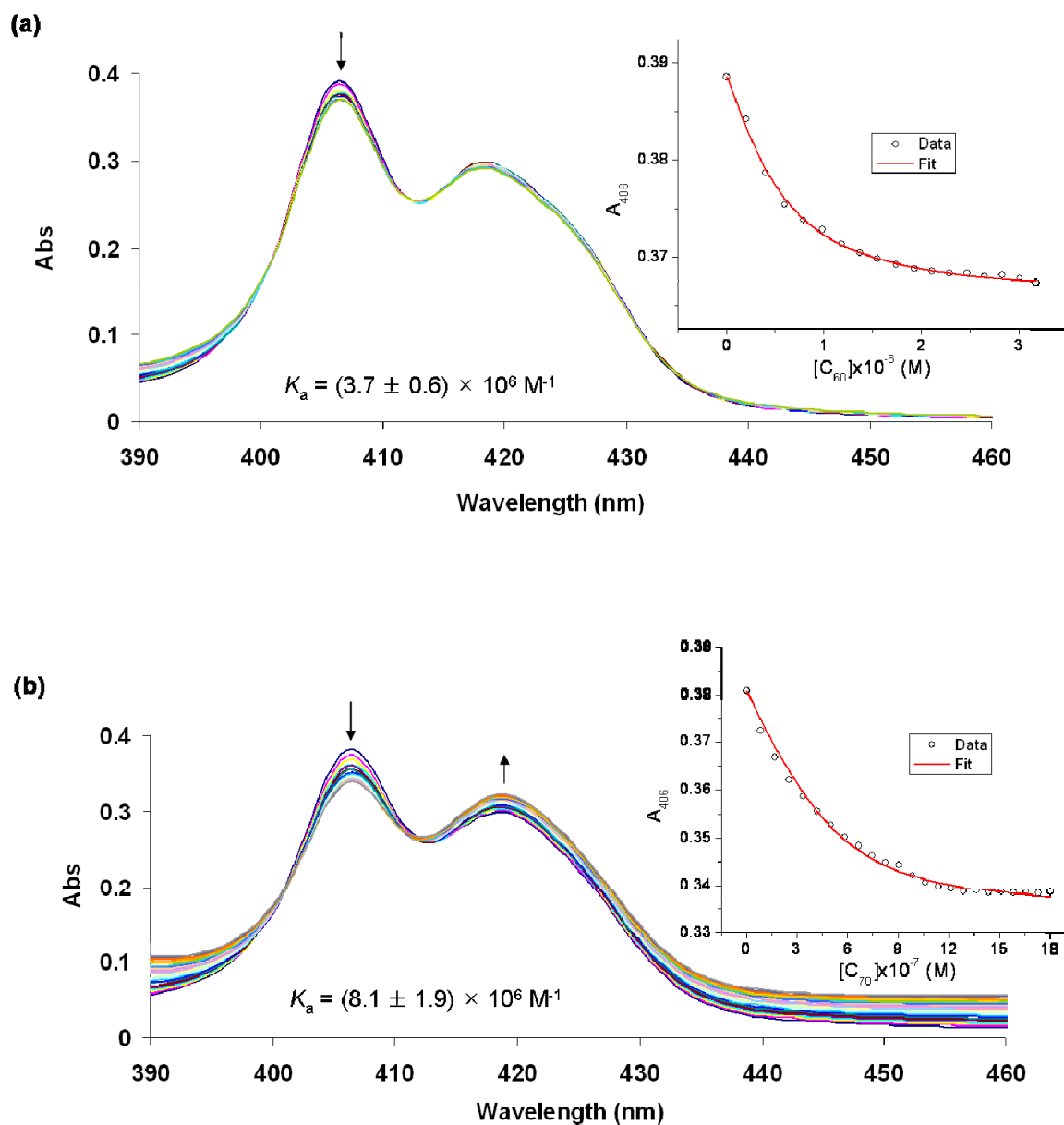




**Fig. S8** Absorption spectra of A3 ( $0.5 \times 10^{-6}$  M) in toluene at 296 K upon titration with (a) C<sub>60</sub> and (b) C<sub>70</sub>. Insets: the absorption changes at (a) 426 and (b) 428 nm and the result of fitting the experimental data.



**Fig. S9** Absorption spectra of A4 ( $0.5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$ ) in toluene at 296 K upon titration with (a) C<sub>60</sub> and (b) C<sub>70</sub>. Insets: the absorption changes at 420 nm and the result of fitting the experimental data.



**Fig. S10** Absorption spectra of A5 ( $0.5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$ ) in toluene at 296 K upon titration with (a) C<sub>60</sub> and (b) C<sub>70</sub>. Insets: the absorption changes at 406 nm and the result of fitting the experimental data.

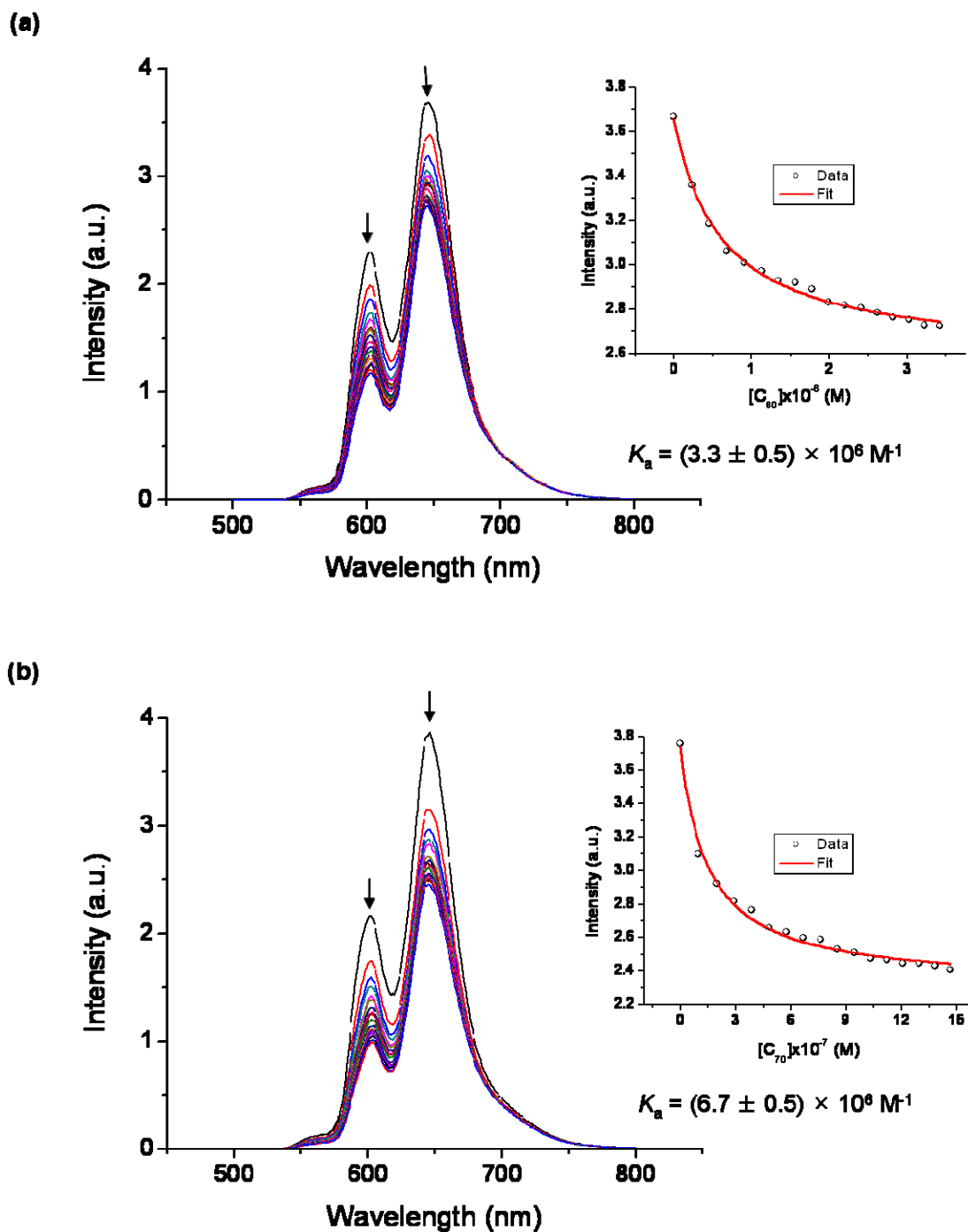
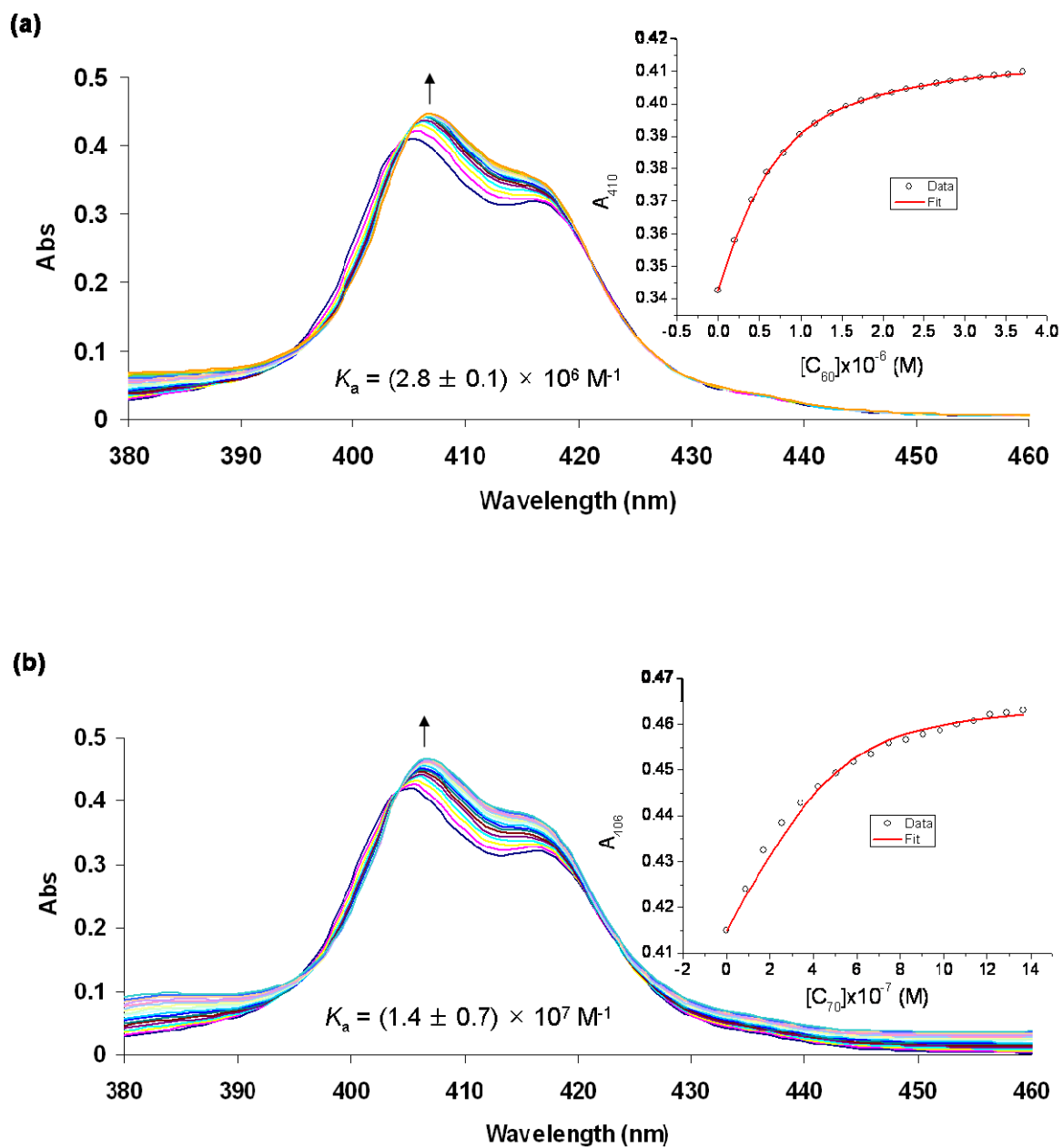
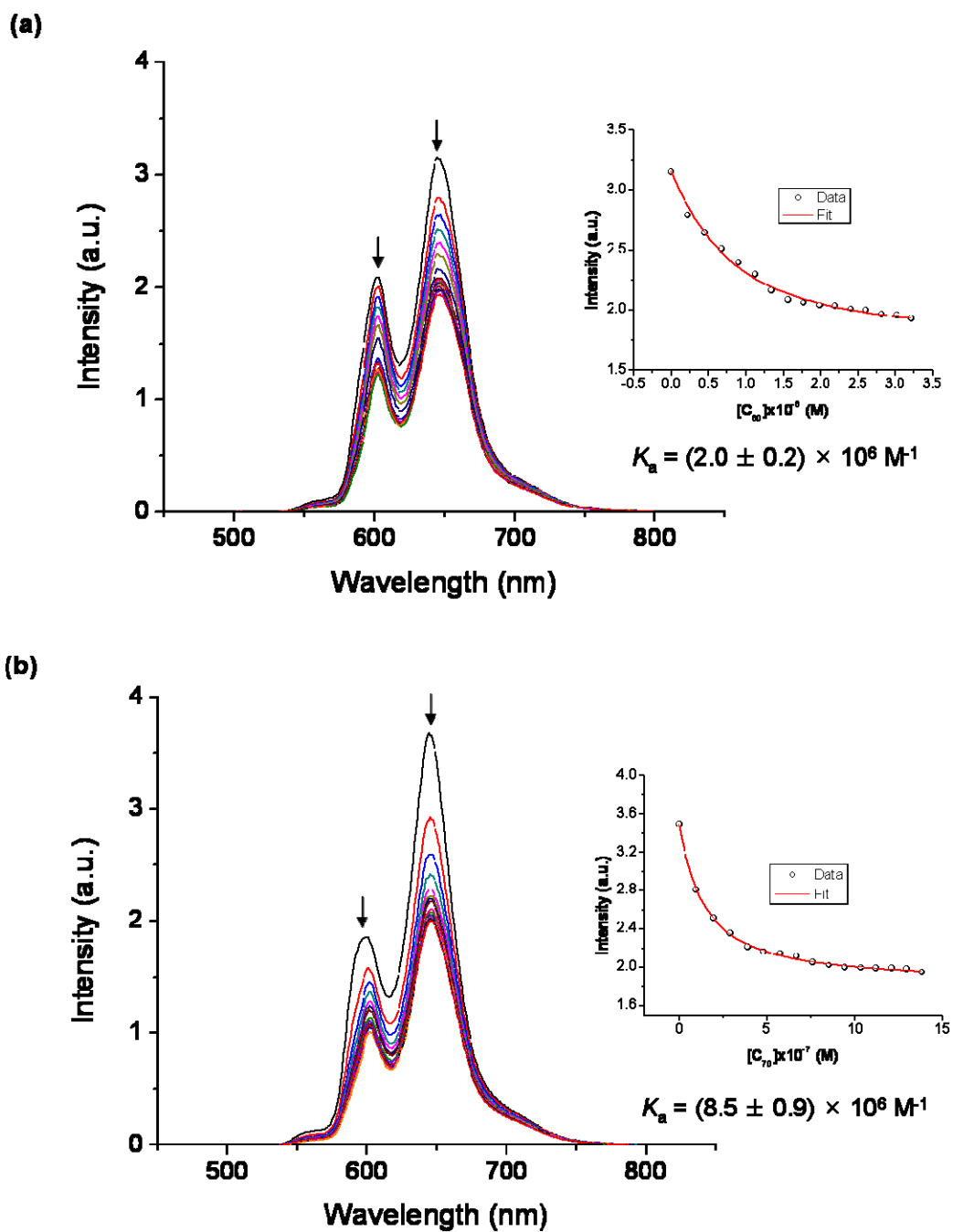


Fig. S11 Fluorescence spectra of A5 ( $0.5 \times 10^{-6}$  M) in toluene at 296 K upon titration with (a) C<sub>60</sub> and (b) C<sub>70</sub>. Insets: the fluorescence emission changes at (a) 645 and (b) 649 nm and the result of fitting the experimental data.



**Fig. S12** Absorption spectra of A6 ( $0.5 \times 10^{-6}$  M) in toluene at 296 K upon titration with (a) C<sub>60</sub> and (b) C<sub>70</sub>. Insets: the absorption changes at (a) 410 and (b) 406 nm and the result of fitting the experimental data.



**Fig. S13** Fluorescence spectra of A6 ( $0.5 \times 10^{-6}$  M) in toluene at 296 K upon titration with (a) C<sub>60</sub> and (b) C<sub>70</sub>. Insets: the fluorescence emission changes at (a) 645 and (b) 649 nm and the result of fitting the experimental data.

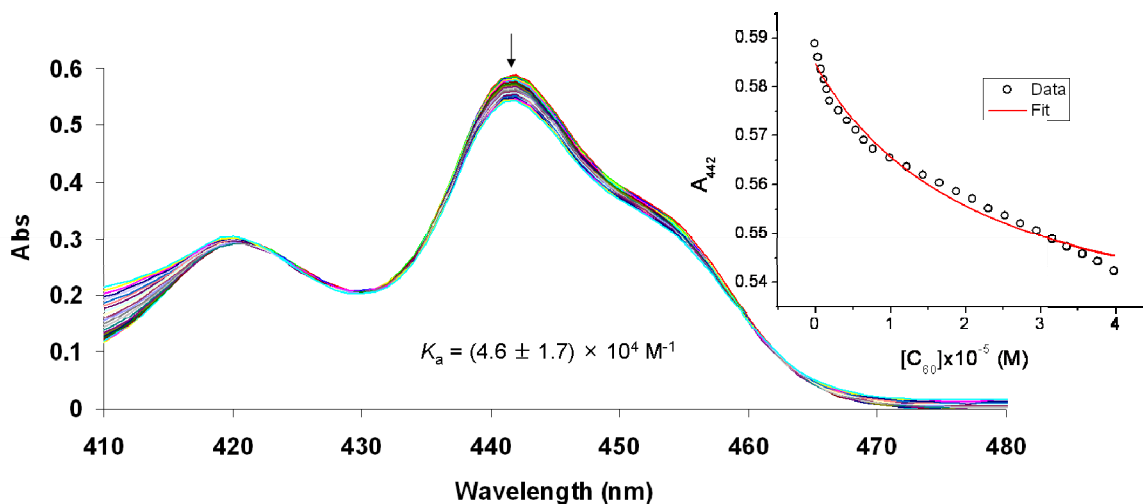


Fig. S14 Absorption spectra of **B1** ( $0.5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$ ) in toluene at 296 K upon titration with  $\text{C}_{60}$ . Inset: the absorption changes at 442 nm and the result of fitting the experimental data.

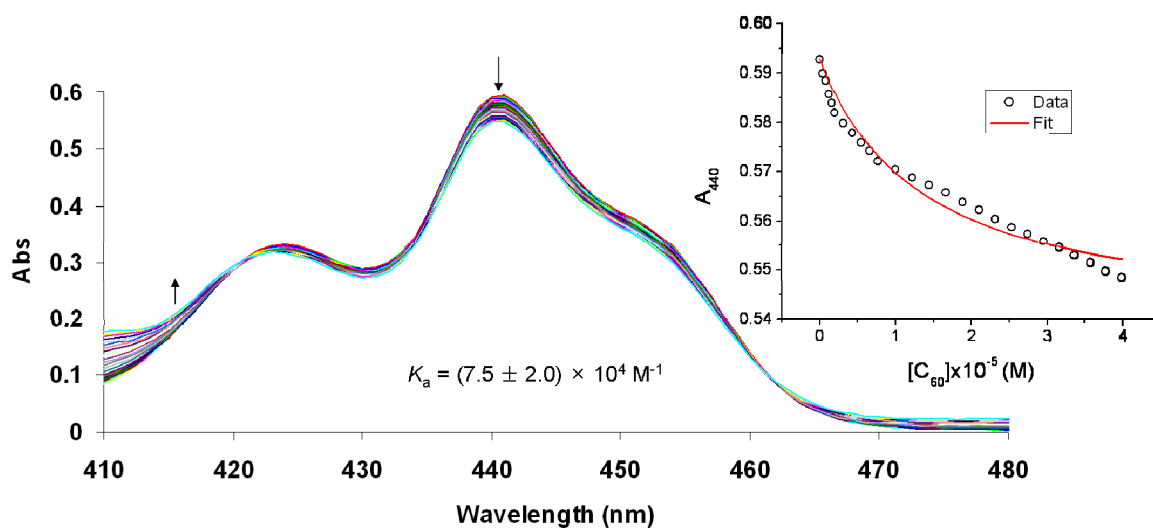
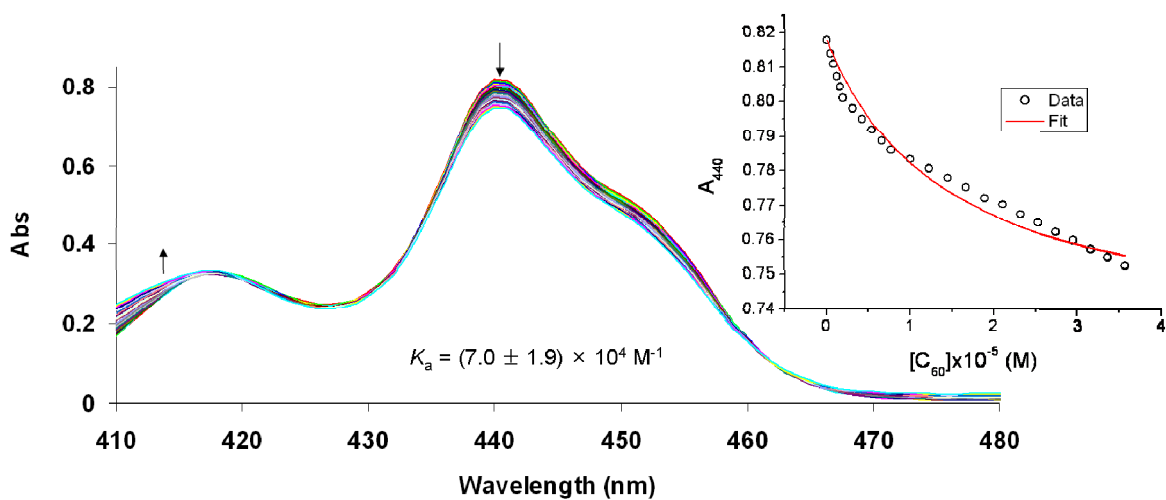
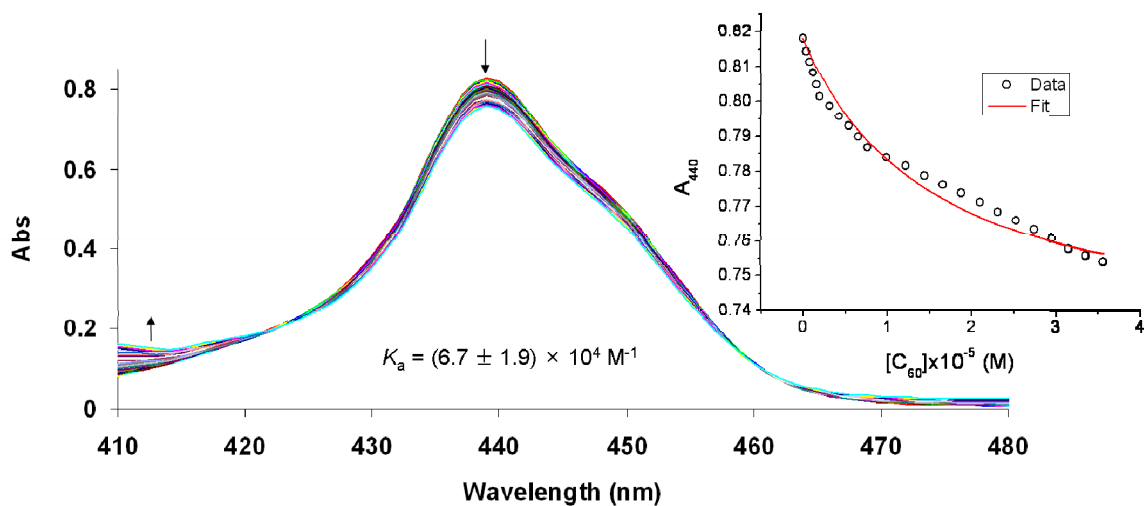


Fig. S15 Absorption spectra of **B2** ( $0.5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$ ) in toluene at 296 K upon titration with  $\text{C}_{60}$ . Inset: the absorption changes at 440 nm and the result of fitting the experimental data.

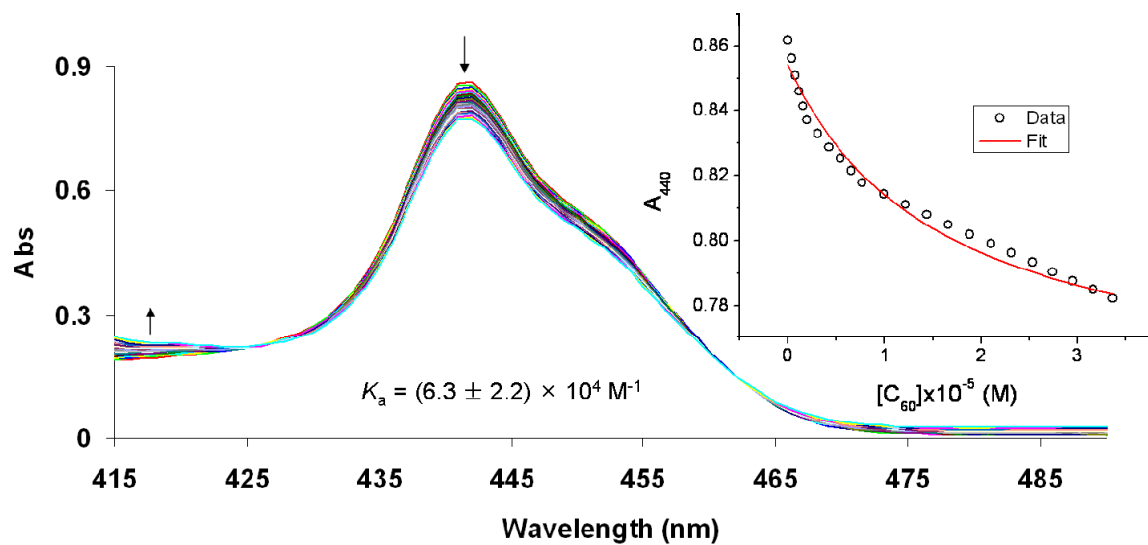


**Fig. S16** Absorption spectra of **B3** ( $0.5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$ ) in toluene at 296 K upon titration with  $\text{C}_{60}$ . Inset: the absorption changes at 440 nm and the result of fitting the experimental data.

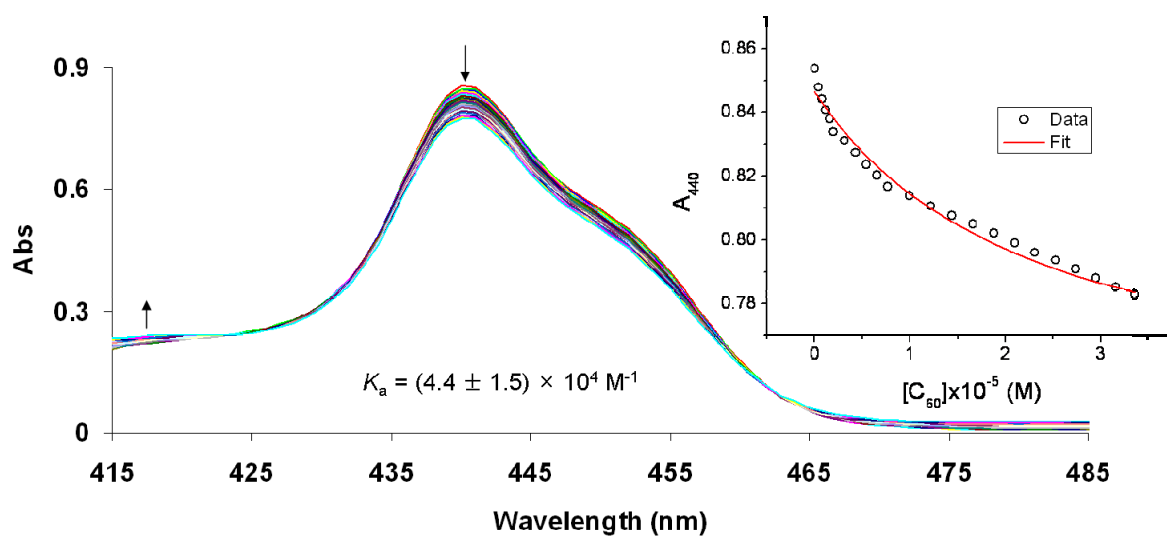


**Fig. S17** Absorption spectra of **B4** ( $0.5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$ ) in toluene at 296 K upon titration with  $\text{C}_{60}$ . Inset: the absorption changes at 440 nm and the result of fitting the experimental data.

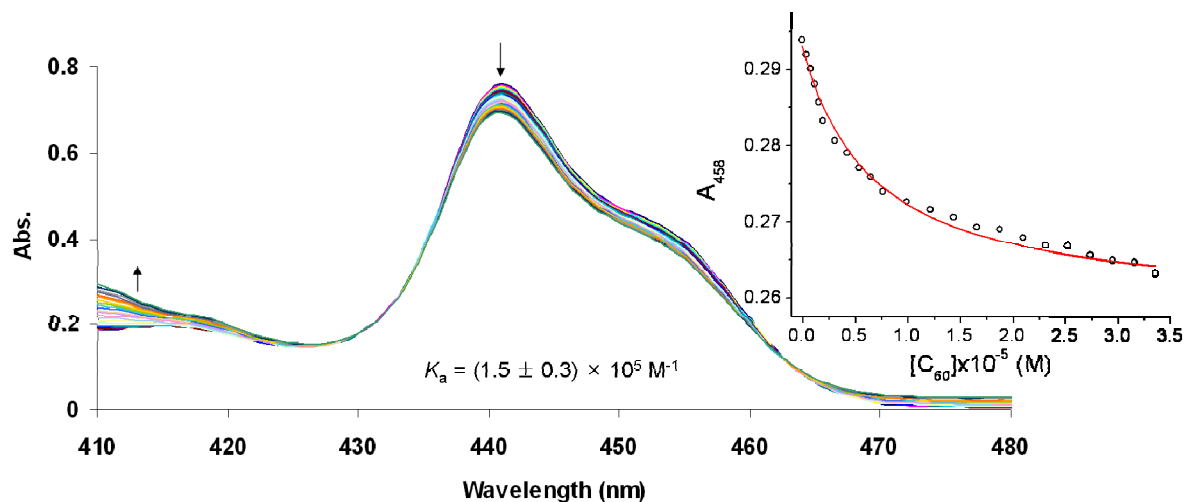




**Fig. S18** Absorption spectra of **B5** ( $0.5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$ ) in toluene at 296 K upon titration with  $\text{C}_{60}$ . Inset: the absorption changes at 440 nm and the result of fitting the experimental data.

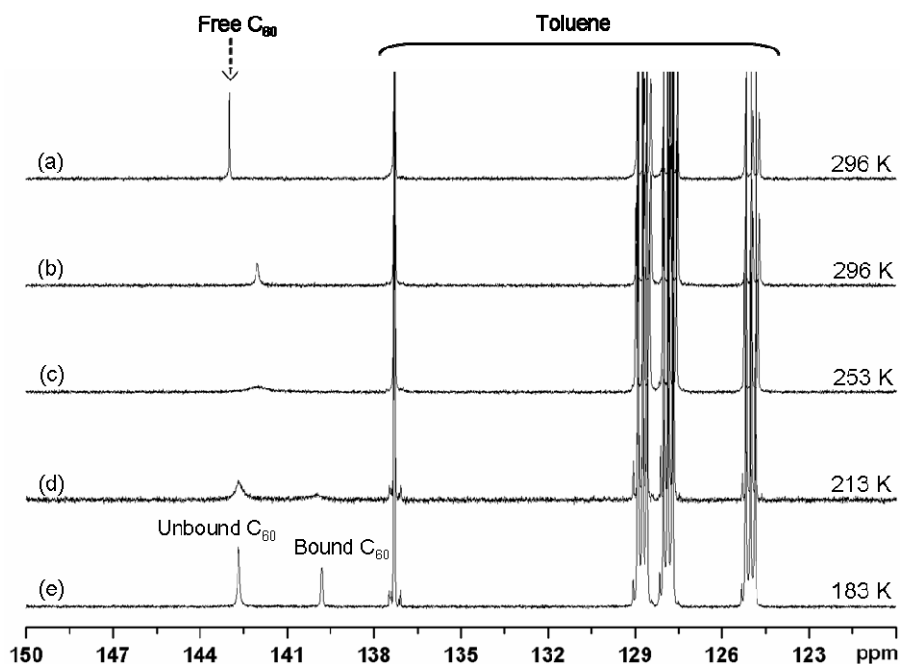


**Fig. S19** Absorption spectra of **B6** ( $0.5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$ ) in toluene at 296 K upon titration with  $\text{C}_{60}$ . Inset: the absorption changes at 440 nm and the result of fitting the experimental data.

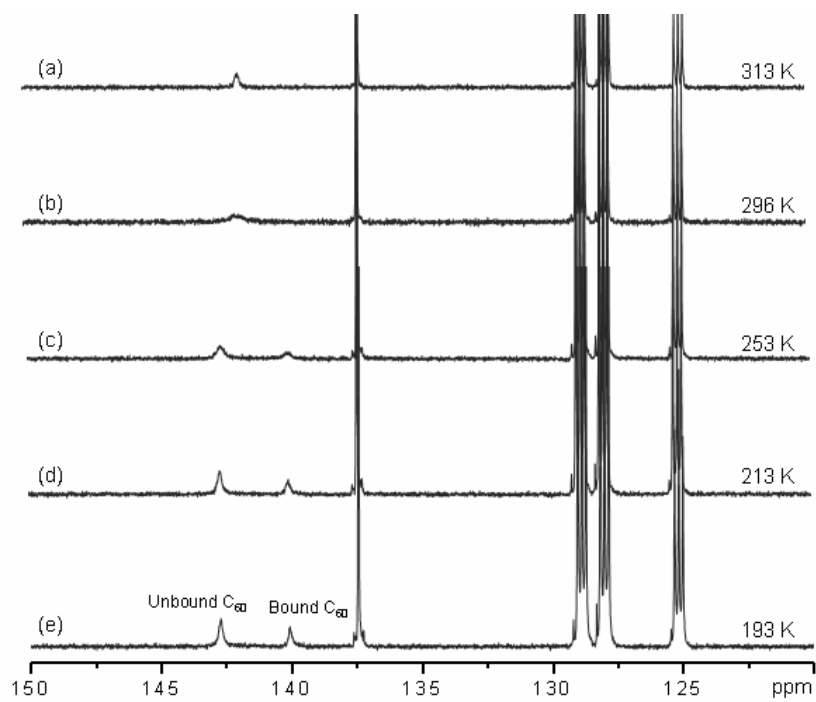


**Fig. S20** Absorption spectra of **B7** ( $0.5 \times 10^{-6}$  M) in toluene at 296 K upon titration with  $C_{60}$ . Inset: the absorption changes at 458 nm and the result of fitting the experimental data.

#### VI. Variable-temperature $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR experiments.

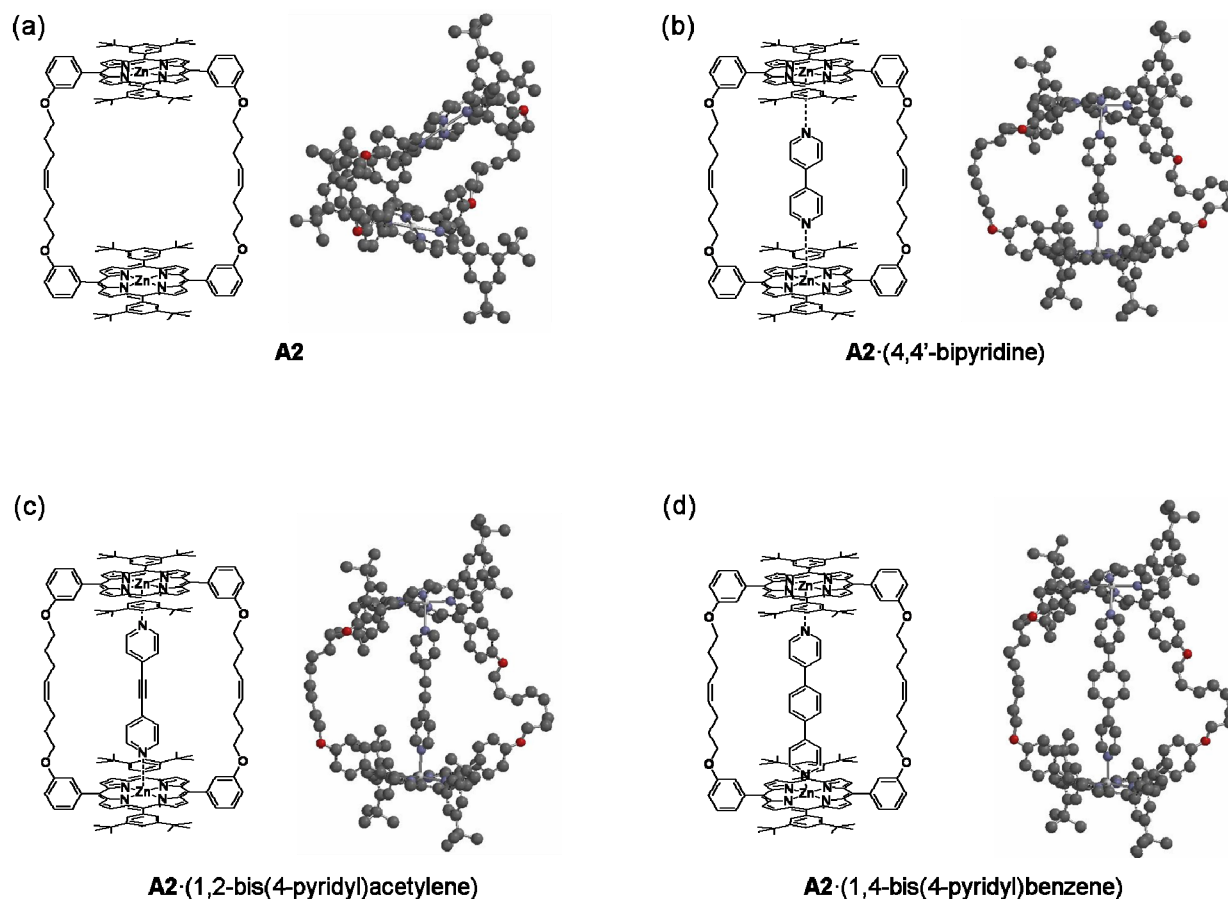


**Fig. S21** Variable-temperature  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of  $^{13}\text{C}$ -enriched  $C_{60}$  in the (a) absence or (b-e) presence of **A1** (0.33 equiv) in toluene- $d_8$ .



**Fig. S22** Variable-temperature  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of  $^{13}\text{C}$ -enriched  $\text{C}_{60}$  in the presence of **A6** (0.33 equiv) in toluene- $d_8$ .

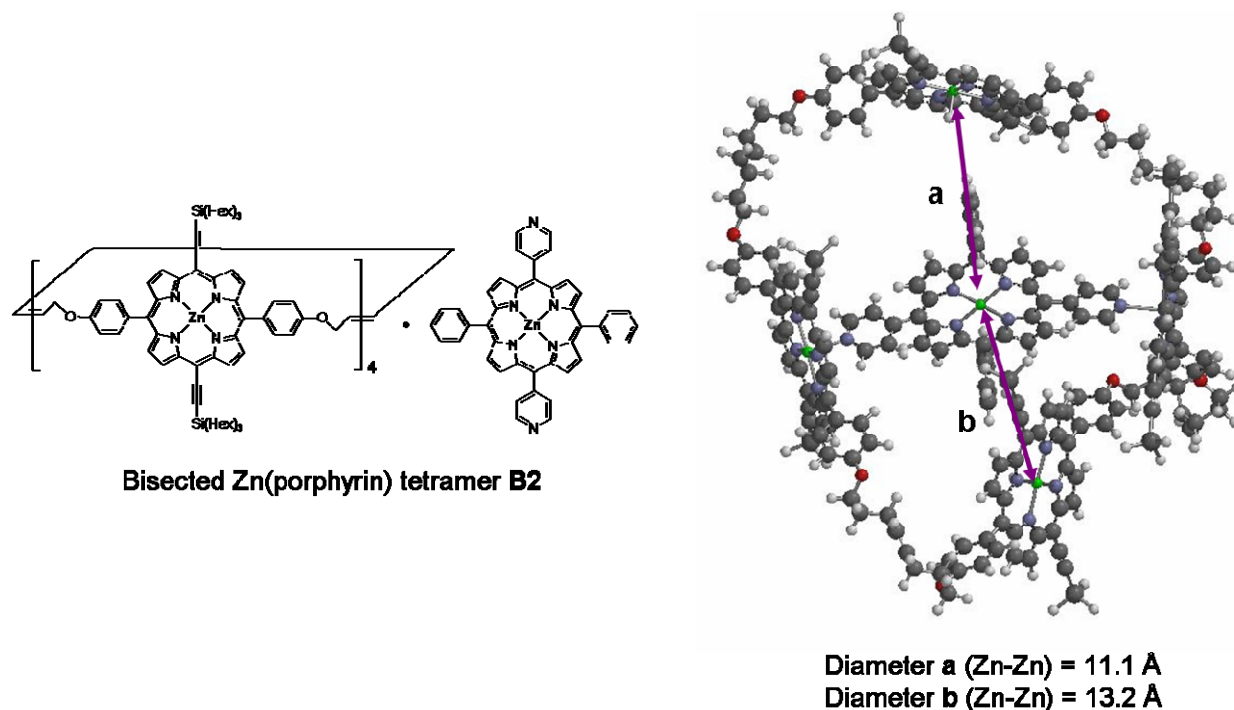
**VII. The geometry optimizations for Zn(porphyrin) dimer A2 and bisected Zn(porphyrin) tetramer B2.** Ab initio quantum mechanical calculations were carried out using Spartan'08 for Windows on an Intel Core i5 CPU Studio 1569 laptop running Windows 7 operating system.<sup>S16</sup> To facilitate geometry optimization, the *n*-hexyl group of bisected Zn(porphyrin) tetramer **B2** was replaced by H atom. The geometry optimizations (equilibrium geometries) for each complex at the ground state were performed with the 3-21G basis set, using the Hartree-Fock method (HF).



**Fig. S23** Optimized HF geometries for: (a) dimer **A2**, (b) **A2·(4,4'-bipyridine)**, (c) **A2·(1,2-bis(4-pyridyl)acetylene)**, and (d) **A2·(1,4-bis(4-pyridyl)benzene)** structures.

**Table S1.** Zn-Zn distances and total energies for dimer **A2**, **A2·(4,4'-bipyridine)**, **A2·(1,2-bis(4-pyridyl)acetylene)**, and **A2·(1,4-bis(4-pyridyl)benzene)** structures.

	<b>A2</b>	<b>A2·(4,4'-bipyridine)</b>	<b>A2·(1,2-bis(4-pyridyl)acetylene)</b>	<b>A2·(1,4-bis(4-pyridyl)benzene)</b>
Zn-Zn distance (Å) × minimum horizontal distance (Å)	8.4 × 24.3	11.4 × 18.3	13.8 × 16.7	15.6 × 14.7
Total energy (kJ/mol)	-950	-1925	-1893	-2061



**Fig. S24** Optimized HF geometry of the bisected Zn(porphyrin) tetramer **B2** structure.

**VIII. Author contributions audit:** B.K. and S.T.N. conceived the experiments presented herein based on a suggestion from J.T.H.. B.K. and R.K.T. synthesized and characterized all compounds. B.K. carried out the UV-vis and fluorescence titration experiments. R.K.T. carried out the variable-temperature  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR experiments. M.H.W. performed the geometrical optimization of porphyrin assemblies using Spartan'08. S.T.N. supervised the project. B.K. wrote the initial draft of the paper and received inputs and corrections from all co-authors. B.K., R.K.T., and S.T.N. finalized the manuscript.

#### IX. References

- S1 R. K. Totten, P. Ryan, B. Kang, S. J. Lee, L. J. Broadbelt, R. Q. Snurr, J. T. Hupp and S. T. Nguyen, *Chem. Commun.* 2012, **48**, 4178-4180.
- S2 B. Kang, J. W. Kurutz, K.-T. Youm, R. K. Totten, J. T. Hupp and S. T. Nguyen, *Chem. Sci.* 2012, **3**, 1938-1944.
- S3 E. B. Fleischer and A. M. Shachter, *Inorg. Chem.* 1991, **30**, 3763-3769.
- S4 J. Fan, J. A. Whiteford, B. Olenyuk, M. D. Levin, P. J. Stang and E. B. Fleischer, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1999, **121**, 2741-2752.
- S5 B. Steiger, C. Shi and F. C. Anson, *Inorg. Chem.* 1993, **32**, 2107-2113.
- S6 A. B. Pangborn, M. A. Giardello, R. H. Grubbs, R. K. Rosen and F. J. Timmers, *Organometallics* 1996, **15**, 1518-1520.
- S7 C. He, Q. He, C. Deng, L. Shi, D. Zhu, Y. Fu, H. Cao and J. Cheng, *Chem. Commun.* 2010, **46**, 7536-7538.
- S8 Y. Shoji, K. Tashiro and T. Aida, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2006, **128**, 10690-10691.
- S9 OriginPro 8.0, OriginLab Corp., Northampton, MA, USA.
- S10 P. D. W. Boyd and C. A. Reed, *Acc. Chem. Res.* 2005, **38**, 235-242.

- S11 K. Tashiro and T. Aida, *Chem. Soc. Rev.* 2007, **36**, 189-197.
- S12 A. Hosseini, S. Taylor, G. Accorsi, N. Armaroli, C. A. Reed and P. D. W. Boyd, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2006, **128**, 15903-15913.
- S13 G. Gil-Ramírez, S. D. Karlen, A. Shundo, K. Porfyrakis, Y. Ito, G. A. D. Briggs, J. J. L. Morton and H. L. Anderson, *Org. Lett.* 2010, **12**, 3544-3547.
- S14 L. P. Hernández-Eguía, E. C. Escudero-Adán, I. C. Pintre, B. Ventura, L. Flamigni and P. Ballester, *Chem.—Eur. J.* 2011, **17**, 14564-14577.
- S15 L. P. Hernández-Eguía, E. C. Escudero-Adán, J. R. Pinzón, L. Echegoyen and P. Ballester, *J. Org. Chem.* 2011, **76**, 3258-3265.
- S16 *Spartan '08 for Windows*; Wavefunction, Inc. Irvine, CA, 2008.