# Anion Binding Induced Conformational Changes Exploited for Recognition, Sensing and Pseudorotaxane Disassembly

Graeme T. Spence, Carmen Chan, Fridrich Szemes and Paul D. Beer\*

Department of Chemistry, University of Oxford, Mansfield Road, Oxford, OX1 3TA, UK.

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# Part I: Spectral Characterisation of Novel Compounds







**Supplementary Fig. S1** <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra and high resolution MS of compound **2**.

# Compound 3



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, d<sup>e</sup>-DMSO)



**Supplementary Fig. S2** <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra and high resolution MS of compound **3**.









**Supplementary Fig. S3** <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of compound  $5 \cdot Br$ .







**Supplementary Fig. S4** <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of compound  $\mathbf{6}$ ·Br.

# Receptor 7.PF<sub>6</sub>







88 80 72 emical Shift (ppm)

442.3177

442

442.3168

64 56 48 40 32 24 16 8

443.3209

443.3188

444.3243

444.3257 ^ m/z 446

444

168 160 152 144

HR (ESI +ve) MS

136 128 120 112

104 96 Ch

Isotope Model

Actual Spectrum

0



Supplementary Fig. S5  $^{1}$ H and  $^{13}$ C NMR spectra and high resolution MS of receptor 7. PF<sub>6</sub>.

# Receptor $\mathbf{8} \cdot \mathbf{PF}_6$



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCI<sub>3</sub>)



Supplementary Fig. S6 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra and high resolution MS of receptor 8·PF<sub>6</sub>.

# Receptor $9 \cdot (PF_6)_2$





<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125.8 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)



**Supplementary Fig. S7** <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra and high resolution MS of receptor  $9 \cdot (PF_6)_2$ .

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**Supplementary Fig. S8** <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of compound **10**.

# Compound 11





**Supplementary Fig. S9** <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra and high resolution MS of compound **11**.

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# Compound 12·Cl







Supplementary Fig. S10 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra and high resolution MS of compound 12·Cl.

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Supplementary Fig. S11 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra and high resolution MS of compound 13. Cl.

# Receptor 14 · PF<sub>6</sub>





Supplementary Fig. S12 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra and high resolution MS of receptor 14·PF<sub>6</sub>.

# Part II: <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H 2D ROESY NMR Spectrum

Pseudorotaxane  $8 \cdot 16 \cdot PF_6$ 



**Supplementary Fig. S13** Portion of the <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H ROESY spectrum of  $8 \cdot 16 \cdot PF_6$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz, 293 K). Intercomponent correlations are marked on the structure.

# Part III: <sup>1</sup>H NMR Titrations

#### **Protocols**

All <sup>1</sup>H NMR titrations were conducted at 293 K with the spectra recorded on a Varian Unity Plus 500 spectrometer.

# Receptors $7 \cdot PF_6$ , $8 \cdot PF_6$ and $9 \cdot (PF_6)_2$ :

To a 0.60 mL, 2.0 x  $10^{-3}$  M solution of the host were added aliquots of the guest such that spectra were recorded at 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8, 1.0, 1.2, 1.4, 1.6, 1.8, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 7.0 and 10.0 equivalents, with a total of 100 µL added. The pyridine/pyridine N-oxide/pyridinium proton 10 was monitored throughout the titrations. The resultant curves were analysed as approximations of a Job-plot, and association constants obtained by WinEQNMR2 analysis.

# Pseudorotaxane Titrations:

To a 0.60 mL, 2.0 x  $10^{-3}$  M solution of the host macrocycle (**15** or **16**) were added aliquots of thread **8**·PF<sub>6</sub> such that spectra were recorded at 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8, 1.0, 1.2, 1.4, 1.6, 1.8, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 7.0 and 10.0 equivalents, with a total of 100 µL added. The macrocycle phenolic/hydroquinone protons (f or g'/h') were monitored throughout the titrations, and association constants were obtained by WinEQNMR2 analysis.

#### Pseudorotaxane Disassembly Titration:

To a 0.60 ml, 2.0 x  $10^{-3}$  M solution of 1:1 macrocycle (**15** or **16**) and pyridine *N*-oxide thread **8**·PF<sub>6</sub> were added aliquots of TBACl such that spectra were recorded at 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8, 1.0, 1.2, 1.4, 1.6, 1.8, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 7.0 and 10.0 equivalents, with a total of 100 µL added.

#### WinEQNMR2<sup>1</sup>:

The titration data were analysed initially using approximations of Job plots to confirm the binding stoichiometries.<sup>2</sup>

Association constants were then obtained using WinEQNMR2<sup>1</sup> computer programme as the associations were found to be fast on the NMR timescale. The values of the observed chemical shift in the monitored proton signal and the species concentrations were entered for every titration point and estimates for the binding constant and limiting chemical shifts were made. The parameters were refined using non-linear least-squares analysis to obtain the best fit between observed and calculated chemical shifts for a 1:1 binding stoichiometry. The

program reveals the accuracy of the calculated binding isotherm, and the input parameters were varied until the best-fit values of the stability constants, and their errors, converged.

For ease of comparison and to provide the best indication of the accuracy of the fit, the calculated association constants and their errors are given as absolute values without any rounding, e.g. 5731 (957)  $M^{-1}$ . As a consequence, the association constants are often quoted to significant figures beyond that of their error values, and this is taken into consideration when discussing binding trends.

#### **Example Titration Spectra**



**Supplementary Fig. S14** Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (500 MHz) in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 293 K of pyridine receptor  $7 \cdot PF_6$  upon addition of TBACI.

#### **Binding Curves**

Receptor 7.PF<sub>6</sub>



**Supplementary Fig. S15** Changes in the chemical shifts of proton 10 in pyridine receptor  $7 \cdot PF_6$  upon addition of anions in 99:1 CD<sub>3</sub>CN/D<sub>2</sub>O at 293 K. Symbols represent experimental data points; lines represent calculated binding isotherms.

Receptor 8.PF<sub>6</sub>



**Supplementary Fig. S16** Changes in the chemical shifts of proton 10 in receptor  $\mathbf{8} \cdot PF_6$  upon addition of anions in 99:1 CD<sub>3</sub>CN/D<sub>2</sub>O at 293 K. Symbols represent experimental data points; lines represent calculated binding isotherms.

Receptor  $9 \cdot (PF_6)_2$ 



**Supplementary Fig. S17** Changes in the chemical shifts of proton 10 in receptor  $9 \cdot (PF_6)_2$  upon addition of anions in 95:5 CD<sub>3</sub>CN/D<sub>2</sub>O at 293 K. Symbols represent experimental data points; lines represent calculated binding isotherms.

Pseudorotaxane  $8 \cdot 15 \cdot PF_6$ 



**Supplementary Fig. S18** Changes in the chemical shift of hydroquinone protons (g and h) in **15** upon addition of thread  $\mathbf{8} \cdot PF_6$  in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 293K. Crosses represent experimental data points; line represents calculated binding isotherm.

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Pseudorotaxane  $8 \cdot 16 \cdot PF_6$ 



**Supplementary Fig. S19** Changes in the chemical shift of phenolic protons f' in **16** upon addition of thread  $8 \cdot PF_6$  in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 293K.



**Supplementary Fig. S20** Approximations of Job Plot experiments indicating 1:1 stoichiometries for receptors  $7 \cdot PF_6$ ,  $8 \cdot PF_6$  and  $9 \cdot (PF_6)_2$  with chloride.

#### Part IV: Fluorescence and UV/Vis Studies

#### **Fluorescence Spectrum**



**Supplementary Fig. S21** Emission spectrum of pyrene-appended receptor  $14 \cdot PF_6$  in 1:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/acetone (c = 5 x 10<sup>-7</sup> M,  $\lambda_{excit}$  = 345 nm, 293 K).

#### **Fluorescence Protocol**

Fluorescence emission spectra of **14** were recorded on Hitachi F-4500 spectrophotometer using a Hellma Quartz cuvette of pathlength 10 mm at 293 K with an excitation wavelength of 345 nm. To a 2.5 mL, 5.0 x  $10^{-7}$  M solution of **14** in 1:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/acetone were added aliquots of the guest dissolved in a stock solution made up with the receptor, such that the same concentration of the host was maintained throughout the titration experiments. Addition was carried out up to 100 equivalents of the guest, which corresponded to approximately 0.20 mL. Excitation spectra were recorded during these titrations by monitoring both the monomer and excimer emission bands (381 and 484 nm). Where possible, the titration data were analysed using SPECFIT<sup>3</sup> computer programme to determine log *K* values. The parameters were refined using a non-linear least-squares method.

#### **UV/Vis Protocol**

The electronic absorption spectrum was recorded on a PGT60 U spectrophotometer using a Hellma Quartz cuvette of pathlength 10 mm at 293 K. To a 2.5 mL,  $1.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M solution of the host in 1:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/acetone were added aliquots of the guests corresponding to approximately 5.0 equivalents, such that 100 µL was added and the concentration of the host remained constant.

#### **Binding Curves**



**Supplementary Fig. S22** Changes in the emission intensity of pyrene-appended receptor **14**·PF<sub>6</sub> in 1:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/acetone (c = 5 x  $10^{-7}$  M,  $\lambda_{excit}$  = 345 nm, 293 K) at 484 nm upon addition of a) TBACl, and b) TBABr. Symbols represent experimental data points, lines represent calculated binding isotherms. Note: different y-axis scales.



**Supplementary Fig. S23** Changes in the emission intensity at 381 and 484 nm of pyrene-appended receptor **100**·PF<sub>6</sub> in 1:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/acetone (c = 5 x  $10^{-7}$  M,  $\lambda_{excit}$  = 345 nm, 293 K) upon addition of a) TBAF·3H<sub>2</sub>O, and b) TBAH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>. Blue and red represent different stages of fluorescence behaviour.





**Supplementary Fig. S24** Changes in a) the UV/Vis spectrum of pyrene-appended receptor **100**·PF<sub>6</sub> in 1:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/acetone (c = 1 x 10<sup>-5</sup> M), and b) the excitation spectrum of pyrene-appended receptor **14**·PF<sub>6</sub> in 1:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/acetone (c = 5 x 10<sup>-7</sup> M,  $\lambda_{\text{emission}} = 381$  or 484 nm), upon addition of anions at 293 K. Note: wavelengths lower than 322 nm were not possible in the UV/Vis spectrum due to the presence of acetone in the solvent mixture. Extinction coefficient of **14**·PF<sub>6</sub>,  $\varepsilon_{\rm r} = 8.3 \times 10^4 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

#### **Part V: References**

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