## **Supporting Information**

# Water-Soluble Aryl-Extended Calix[4]pyrroles with Unperturbed Aromatic Cavities: Synthesis and Binding Studies

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<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR spectra of compounds. All the NMR spectra were measured at 25°C

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of compound 8



 $^{1}$ H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) and  $^{13}$ C NMR { $^{1}$ H} DEPTQ 135 (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectra of compound **3** 



S4

 $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of compound 10



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O), <sup>13</sup>C NMR {<sup>1</sup>H} (125 MHz with cryoprobe, D<sub>2</sub>O), <sup>13</sup>C NMR {<sup>1</sup>H} DEPTQ 135 (125 MHz with cryoprobe, D<sub>2</sub>O) and <sup>13</sup>C NMR {<sup>1</sup>H} HSQC (125 MHz with cryoprobe, D<sub>2</sub>O) spectra of compound **2**. (PD $\approx$  7.2 adjusted with NaOD solution in D<sub>2</sub>O)







### HRMS spectra



HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z:  $[M + Na]^+$  spectrum of compound **3.** Top measured, bottom calculated)



HRMS (MALDI-TOF) spectrum of compound  $2 [M + Na]^+$  (top measured, bottom calculated)

<sup>1</sup>HNMR titration of receptor 2 with PNO13 and ROESY <sup>1</sup>HNMR of the complex in presence of an excess of PNO13.



**Figure S1:** Selected downfield regions of the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra (400 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O adjusted to pD $\approx$ 7.2 with NaOD, 273 K) obtained during the titration of calix[4]pyrrole **2** (1 mM) with incremental amounts of PNO **13**. See figure 3 in the manuscript for proton numbering. Prime letters and numbers represent proton signals corresponding to encapsulation complex PNO13 $\sim$ 2.



Figure S2: Selected region of ROESY <sup>1</sup>H NMR experiment of complex  $13 \ge 2$  in presence of 2.6 eq of PNO 13. Prime letters represent proton signals corresponding to PNO 13 in complex  $13 \ge 2$ . See figure 3 in the manuscript for proton lettering.

#### **ITC Experiments**

Titrations were carried out on a Microcal VP-ITC microcalorimeter, at 298 K, in water adjusting the pH by addition of NaOH<sub>(aq.)</sub> solution until pH $\approx$  11 and then adjusting with HCl<sub>(aq.)</sub> solution until pH $\approx$ 7.2. The association constants between receptor 2 and pyridine *N*-oxide 11, 12 and 13 were determined by monitoring the heat released by the system as incremental amounts of the *N*-oxide 11, 12 or 13 were added. The values of the association constant K<sub>a</sub> and the enthalpy of binding  $\Delta H$  were calculated using the Origin 7 software package which uses least-squares minimization to obtain globally optimized parameters as described in Wiseman *et al.*<sup>1</sup> In all cases the data fit well to a simple 1:1 binding model.

Specifically, the association constants were determined using solution of **2** in water at 296 K, and adding aliquots of a solution of pyridine *N*-oxide derivatives, approximately 10 times more concentrated, also in the same media. The association constant (K<sub>a</sub>), T $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta H$  values for the binding process were determined by averaging the values from the titrations.



**Figure S3**: Top: Raw data for the ITC titration in water of PNO derivatives into receptor **2**. Bottom: Binding isotherm of calorimetric titration data shown on top. a) PNO**11** over [2] = 0.62mM in H<sub>2</sub>O; pH= 7.22. b) PNO **12** over [2] = 0.17mM in H<sub>2</sub>O; pH = 7.21. c) PNO **13** over [2] = 0.63mM in H<sub>2</sub>O; pH = 7.23. c) = 7.43.

(1) Wiseman, T.; Williston, S.; Brandts, J. F.; Lin, L. N. Anal. Biochem. **1989**, *179*, 131.