Solvent-Driven Selective π-Cation Templating in Dynamic Assembly of Interlocked Molecules

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Electronic Supplementary Information

Experimental Section

General Methods: Reagents were purchased from Aldrich or synthesized as described. Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out using aluminum sheets, precoated with silica gel 60F (Merck 5554). The plates were inspected by UV-light. Melting points were determined on an Electrothermal MEL-TEMP 3.0 apparatus and are uncorrected. Proton and carbon nuclear magnetic resonance spectra (¹H-NMR and ¹³C-NMR) spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance500 II, using the deuterated solvent as lock and the residual solvent as internal standard. All chemical shifts are quoted using the δ scale, and all coupling constants (J) are expressed in Hertz (Hz). Electrospray mass spectra (ESI-MS) were measured on a Q-Tof Premier mass spectrometer from Micromass Technologies (now Waters Corporation). Cyclic voltammetry was performed using a 273A potentiostat (Princeton Applied Research), wherein glassy carbon, platinum and a silver wire act as the working electrode, the counter electrode and the reference electrode, respectively. Samples were prepared in CH₃CN solution with tetrabutylammonium hexafluorophosphate (0.1 M) as the electrolyte at a scan rate of 100 mV s⁻¹, using ferrocene/ferronium (F_c/F_c^+) redox couple as an internal standard. Trisaldehyde 1,^{s1} bromide S1,^{s2} TPY1^{s2} and TPY2^{s2} were synthesized according to literature procedures.





Synthesis of **BPY1**. Bispyridine **S2** (156 mg, 1.00 mmol), bromide **S1** (1.19 g, 3.00 mmol) and DMF (5 mL) were mixed in a round bottom flask and heated at 100 °C for 24 hrs. The flask was cooled to room temperature and H₂O (2 mL) was added. NH₄PF₆ was added to the mixture until there was no more precipitate formed. The precipitate was collected by filtration, washed with H₂O, and further purified by column chromatography (SiO₂, Acetone, followed by 0.3 wt/v% NH₄PF₆ in Acetone) to give the product as a white solid (0.812 g, 75%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz, 298 K): $\delta = 8.80$ (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 4 H), 8.24 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 4 H), 7.85 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 4 H), 7.61 (t, J = 1.9 Hz, 2 H), 4.61 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 4 H), 4.27 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 4 H), 2.04 (m, 4 H), 1.76 (m, 4 H), 1.47 (m, 8 H), 1.33 (s, 36 H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz, 298 K): $\delta = 167.5$, 151.0, 150.4, 145.0, 129.7, 127.2, 127.1, 123.7, 64.6, 62.4, 34.9, 33.9, 31.4, 28.3, 25.5, 25.2. M.P.: >300 °C (dec). HRMS for C₅₂H₇₄F₁₂N₂O₄P₂ (ESI): [*M* –PF₆]⁺: calcd 935.5285, found 935.5322; [*M* – 2PF₆]²⁺: calcd 395.2819, found 395.2825.

References:

s1. N. Kaur, J-G. Delcros, J. Imran, A. Khaled, M. Chehtane, N. Tschammer, B. Martin,O. Phanstiel, *J. Med. Chem.* 2008, **51**, 1393-1401.

s2. A. Pun, D. A. Hanifi, G. Kiel, E. O'Brien and Y. Liu, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, 2012, **51**, 13119-13122.



Figure S1. ¹H NMR spectrum of **LR2** from clipping reaction (in $CDCl_3/CD_3CN$, v/v 1:0.4). Due to fast equilibrium, the resonances are averaged to give a higher symmetry spectrum as opposed to that of **LR1**.



Figure S2. Partial ¹H NMR (500 MHz) spectra of **TPY1** in CDCl₃ at a) 323 K, b) 298 K, c) 273 K, d) 233 K, and e) 213 K.



Figure S3. Electrostatic potential surfaces of three model compounds with methyl substituents. a) **BPY-Me**, b) **TPY-Me**, and c) **TIP-Me**. Blue represents positive electrostatic potential and red stands for negative electrostatic potential. The surfaces were optimized with the MMFF94x force field.



Figure S4. CV of a) **BPY1**, and b) **TPY1** in MeCN, using tetrabutylammonium hexafluorophosphate (0.1 M) as the electrolyte, using ferrocene/ferronium (F_c/F_c^+) redox couple as an internal standard. The graphs were calibrated with respect to F_c .



Figure S5. ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃, 298 K, 500 MHz) of **BPY1**.



Figure S6. ¹³C NMR spectrum (CDCl₃, 298 K, 125 MHz) of **BPY1**.



Figure S7. ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃, 298 K, 500 MHz) of **TPY1**.



Figure S8. ¹H NMR spectrum (CD₃CN, 298 K, 500 MHz) of **TPY1**.