## Switching Ion Binding Selectivity of Thiacalix[4]arene Monocrowns at Liquid–Liquid and 2D-Confined Interfaces

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## Structures of the compounds











2b











5b

6a

6b



5c





Fig. S1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound **2a** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz, 303 K).



Fig. S2. MALDI mass spectrum of compound 2a (p-nitroaniline matrix).



Fig. S3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound **2b** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz, 303 K).



Fig. S4. MALDI mass spectrum of compound 2b (p-nitroaniline matrix).



Fig. S5. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound **2c** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz, 303 K).



Fig. S6. MALDI mass spectrum of compound 2c (p-nitroaniline matrix).



Fig. S8. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum and DEPT-135 experiment of compound **5a** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz, 303 K).



Fig. S9. MALDI mass spectrum of compound 5a (p-nitroaniline matrix).



Fig. S10. IR spectrum of compound 5a (KBr).



Fig. S12. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum and DEPT-135 experiment of compound **5b** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 126 MHz, 303 K).



Fig. S13. MALDI mass spectrum of compound **5b** (*p*-nitroaniline matrix).



Fig. S14. IR spectrum of compound **5b** (KBr).



Fig. S16.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of compound 5c (CDCl\_3, 100 MHz, 295 K).



Fig. S17. MALDI mass spectrum of compound 5c (p-nitroaniline matrix).



Fig. S18. IR spectrum of compound 5c (KBr).



Fig. S20. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound **6b** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz, 303 K).





## Gas-phase complexation data of thiacalixcrown receptors

lon	2a	2b	2c	5a	5b	5c
Li⁺	[M+Li] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+Li] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+Li] <sup>+</sup> 23%	[M+Li] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+Li] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+Li] <sup>+</sup> 100%
	[M+2Li-H]⁺ 6.4%	[M+2Li-H] <sup>+</sup> 28%	[M+2Li-H] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 3.1%	[M+Na]⁺ 3%	
					[M+K] <sup>+</sup> 8%	
Na⁺	[M+H]⁺ 6%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> <1%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+Na]⁺ 100%	[M+H]⁺ 1.5%	[M+Na]⁺ 100%
	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+2Na-H] <sup>+</sup> 1.6%	[M+K] <sup>+</sup> 1.2%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+K]⁺ 4.6%
		[M+K] <sup>+</sup> 30%	[M+K] <sup>+</sup> 29%		[M+K]⁺ 37%	
K <sup>+</sup>	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 66.5%	[M+Na]⁺ 3.8%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 1.2%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+K] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 3.7%
	[M+Na]⁺ 63%	[M+K] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+K] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+K]⁺ 3.3%		[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 7%
	[M+K] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+2K-H] <sup>+</sup> 1.4%	[M+2K-H] <sup>+</sup> 3%			[M+K] <sup>+</sup> 100%
Rb⁺	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 78%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 34%	[M+K] <sup>+</sup> 2.7%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> <1%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> <1%
	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 78%	[M+K] <sup>+</sup> 31%	[M+Rb] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+K] <sup>+</sup> 2%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> <1%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> <1%
	[M+K] <sup>+</sup> 22%	[M+Rb] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+2Rb-H] <sup>+</sup> <1%	[M+Rb] <sup>+</sup> 4.5%	[M+K]⁺ 5.3%	[M+K] <sup>+</sup> <1%
	[M+Rb] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+2Rb-H] <sup>+</sup> <1%			[M+Rb] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+Rb] <sup>+</sup> 100%
Cs⁺	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> (7.2%)	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 5%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 7.3%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+H]⁺ 5.5%	[M+Cs] <sup>+</sup> 100%
	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> (99%)	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+K] <sup>+</sup> 2%	[M+K]⁺ 3.5%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 19%	
	[M+K] <sup>+</sup> (6.6%)	[M+K] <sup>+</sup> 18%	[M+Cs] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+Cs]⁺ 4.5%	[M+K] <sup>+</sup> 100%	
	[M+Cs] <sup>+</sup> (100%)	[M+Cs]⁺ 78%	[M+2Cs-H] <sup>+</sup> <1%		[M+Cs] <sup>+</sup> 32%	
		[M+2Cs-H] <sup>+</sup> <1%				

Mg <sup>2+</sup>	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 10% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 1.3% [M+Mg-H] <sup>+</sup> / [M+Na <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+K] <sup>+</sup> 4.7% [M+Mg-H] <sup>+</sup> / [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 80% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+K] 66%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 1.4% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 16% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 82% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 88% [M+MgNO-] <sup>+</sup>
	[M+NgNO <sub>3</sub> +Mg -2H] <sup>+</sup> 4%	2H] <sup>+</sup> 26%				55%
Ca <sup>2+</sup>	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 22.5% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 1.2% [M+Ca- H] <sup>+</sup> /[M+K] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> (4%) [M+Ca-H] <sup>+</sup> / [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 27% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 54% [M+Ca-H] <sup>+</sup> / [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+CaNO <sub>3</sub> ] <sup>+</sup> 12%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 3.4% [M+CaNO <sub>3</sub> ] <sup>+</sup> 7.5%	[M+H]⁺ 18.5% [M+Na]⁺ 33% [M+K]⁺ 100%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 73% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 32% [M+CaNO <sub>3</sub> ] <sup>+</sup> 89%
Sr <sup>2+</sup>	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 48% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 18% [M+Sr-H] <sup>+</sup> 23%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 34% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 31% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 5% [M+Sr-H] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 21% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 4% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 22% [M+Sr-H] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+Na]⁺ 100% [M+K]⁺ 1%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 36% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 91%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 74% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 32%
Ba <sup>2+</sup>	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 20% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 49% [M+Ba-H] <sup>+</sup> 4.5%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 6% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 15% [M+Ba-H] <sup>+</sup> 10%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 14% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 88% [M+Ba-H] <sup>+</sup> 89%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+Na]⁺ 55.5% [M+K]⁺ 100%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 14% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 89.5%
Pb <sup>2+</sup>	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 21% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 18% [M+Pb-H] <sup>+</sup> 67%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 4% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 78% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 46% [M+Pb-H] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 4% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 57% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 18% [M+Pb-H] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 1%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 92% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 10.5% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 33%
Cu <sup>2+</sup>	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 11% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 35% [M+Cu] <sup>+</sup> 22%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 99% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 31% [M+Cu] <sup>+</sup> 37%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 9% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 94% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 57% [M+Cu] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+2Cu-H] <sup>+</sup> 10%	[M+Na]⁺ 5.5% [M+Cu]⁺ 100%	[M+Na]⁺ 6% [M+K]⁺ 100% [M+Cu]⁺ 33%	[M+Cu] <sup>+</sup> 100%
Ag <sup>+</sup>	[M+Ag] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+2Ag-H] <sup>+</sup> 1%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 2.6% [M+Ag] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+2Ag-H] <sup>+</sup> 8% [M+3Ag-2H] <sup>+</sup> <1%	[M+Ag] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+2Ag-H] <sup>+</sup> 6% [M+3Ag-2H] <sup>+</sup> <1%	[M+Ag] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 2.7% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 20% [M+Ag] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> <1% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> <1% [M+Ag] <sup>+</sup> 100%
Eu <sup>3+</sup>	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 47% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 18% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 12% [M+Eu-2H] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 9% [M+Eu-2H] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+EuNO₃-H] <sup>+</sup> 2.8%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 32% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 79% [M+Eu-2H] <sup>+</sup> 69%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 5% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 47% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+EuNO <sub>3</sub> -H] <sup>+</sup> 4.3%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 53% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 32% [M+EuNO <sub>3</sub> -H] <sup>+</sup> 85%
Tb <sup>3+</sup>	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 88% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 3.9% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 11% [M+Tb-2H] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 20% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 9% [M+Tb-2H] <sup>+</sup> 70%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 58% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 79% [M+Tb-2H] <sup>+</sup> 96%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+Na]⁺ 8.4% [M+K]⁺ 100%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 100% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 41% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 45%
Gd <sup>3+</sup>	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 27% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 10% [M+Gd-2H] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 8% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 98% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 9% [M+Gd-2H] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 35% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 43% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 27% [M+Gd-2H] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 1.6% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 24% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 100%	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> 34% [M+Na] <sup>+</sup> 72% [M+K] <sup>+</sup> 100%



Fig. S22. MALDI mass spectra of the ligands **5a-c** mixed with metal nitrate salts.



Dynamic light scattering data of thiacalixcrown receptors

Fig. S23. Number-averaged particle size distribution plots and corresponding correlation functions of compound **2c** in organic phase (green line) and aqueous phase (red line) after extraction of CsNO<sub>3</sub>.



Fig. S24. Number-averaged PSD and corresponding correlation functions of compound **5c** in organic phase after mixing  $CH_2CI_2$  and water solvents (blue line); organic phase after extraction of CsPic (red line) and CsNO<sub>3</sub> (pink line); and aqueous phase after extraction of cesium picrate (green line) and cesium nitrate (black line).



Fig. S25. Number-averaged PSD and corresponding correlation functions of compound **6c** in aqueous phase after mixing CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and water (red line) and organic phase after extraction of CsPic (blue line) and CsNO<sub>3</sub> (green line).



Fig. S26. Number-averaged PSD and corresponding correlation functions of compound (a) **2c** and (b) **5c** in aqueous phase after extraction of NaPic (red line) and RbPic (green line).





Fig. S27. MM+ minimized geometries of *PC/DC* stereoisomeric forms of ligands **2a**–**c** and *1,3-alternate* **5a–c** and **6a–c**.





Langmuir monolayer measurements of thiacalix[4]crown-ethers



Fig. S28. Evolution of the mean molecular area of compounds **2a** (black,  $\pi$  = 11 mN/m), **2b** (red,  $\pi$  = 15 mN/m), and **2c** (green,  $\pi$  = 20 mN/m) in monolayers at constant surface pressure.



Fig. S29. (a) Electronic absorption spectra of compounds **2**, **5**, and **6** in CHCl<sub>3</sub> ( $c = (1.0-5.0) \times 10^{-5}$  mol L<sup>-1</sup>). (b) UVRAS spectra of compounds **2**, **5**, and **6** at the air–water interface (c = 0.1 mM (compounds **2** and **5**) and 0.01 mM (compounds **6**) in CHCl<sub>3</sub>). (c) Electronic absorption spectra of **2c** in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>–(0–3)MeOH.  $c_0 = 1.0 \times 10^{-4}$  mol L<sup>-1</sup>.



Fig. S30. Height image of bare quartz substrate (AFM, tapping mode, 5  $\mu$ m × 5  $\mu$ m).



Fig. S31. Height image of quartz substrate with 1 monolayer of thiacalixcrown **2a** transferred at surface pressure of 10 mN/m (AFM, tapping mode, 1  $\mu$ m × 1  $\mu$ m) and the histogram corresponding to topography.



Fig. S32. Height image of quartz substrate with 1 monolayer of thiacalixcrown **2b** transferred at surface pressure of 12 mN/m (AFM, tapping mode, 1 μm × 1 μm) and the histogram corresponding to topography.



Fig. S33. Height image of quartz substrate with 1 monolayer of thiacalixcrown **5a** transferred at surface pressure of 6 mN/m (AFM, tapping mode, 1 μm × 1 μm) and the histogram corresponding to topography.



Fig. S34. Height image of quartz substrate with 1 monolayer of thiacalixcrown **5b** transferred at surface pressure of 6 mN/m (AFM, tapping mode, 1 μm × 1 μm) and the histogram corresponding to topography.



Fig. S35. Height image of quartz substrate with 1 monolayer of thiacalixcrown **6a** transferred at surface pressure of 10 mN/m (AFM, tapping mode, 1 μm × 1 μm) and the histogram corresponding to topography.



Fig. S36. UVRAS spectra of (a) 2c and (b-d) 5a-c at the air-0.01 M salt water interface (c = 0.1 mM in CHCl<sub>3</sub>).



Fig. S37. Surface pressure/SPOT–molecular area isotherms of monolayers of thiacalixcrowns **6a–c** on water or 0.01 M salt water subphase. Concentration of the ligands in spreading solvent is  $1 \times 10^{-5}$  M.



Fig. S38. UVRAS spectra of compound 8 at the air-water interface over monolayer compression (c = 0.1 mM in CHCl<sub>3</sub>).



Fig. S39. Evolution of <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of compounds **6c** and **2c** on exposure to  $AgCIO_4$  in  $CDCI_3$  (**6c**) and  $CDCI_3$ :  $CD_3OD$  (10:1) (**2c**) (numbering of protons is given in Scheme S1).



Fig. S40. The  $\pi$ -A isotherms of compound **9** on water or 0.01 M AgNO<sub>3</sub> subphase.  $c = 1 \times 10^{-4}$  M in CHCl<sub>3</sub>.



Fig. S41. Frontier molecular orbitals contributing to low-energy absorption bands: a) **5b'** HOMO, b) **5b'** LUMO + 1, c) **5b'**-Ca HOMO-2, d) **5b'**-Ca LUMO + 1,