

## Building Heterodimer Porphyrin Capsules Bearing Different Number of Hydrogen Bond Function and Application to Aromatic Multi-Layer Structure

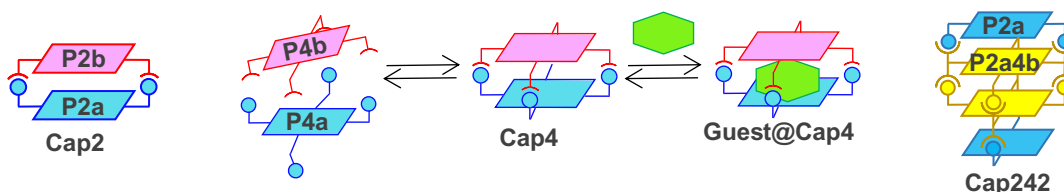
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We have achieved construction of self-assembled porphyrin dimer and trimer capsules.<sup>1,2</sup> The capsules consisted of a pair of porphyrins bearing two or four benzoic acid or aminoquinoline units as H-bonding moieties at meso position, respectively, and could bind  $\pi$ -aromatic compounds, forming multi-layer  $\pi$ -aromatic structures. Here, we report kinetic and thermodynamic stabilities of two- and four- armed porphyrin dimers and their molecular recognition behaviors. Taking the results into account, we present construction of a higher order structure by using porphyrins featuring different numbers of the complementary H-bonding donor and acceptor pair.

**Stabilities of porphyrin dimers:** Two- and four- armed porphyrin dimers **Cap2** and **Cap4** quantitatively formed from the corresponding pairs of porphyrins in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ . In  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of an equimolar mixture of the pairs in a mixture of  $\text{CDCl}_3$  and  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ , the dimers and monomeric species were observed, respectively. **Cap4** is kinetically and thermodynamically more stable than **Cap2**.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration experiments of the capsules and electron-deficient mono- and bicyclic aromatic guests revealed that recognition abilities of **Cap2** were ca. 10 times higher than those of **Cap4**.

**Formation of porphyrin tetramer:** We designed and synthesized porphyrin **P2a4b**, bearing two terephthalic acid and two aminoquinoline, for construction of porphyrin tetramer **Cap242**. Although **P2a4b** was not soluble in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , the addition of an equimolar amount of the two-armed aminoquinolylporphyrin **P2a** and  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$  solution of aromatic guest resulted in homogeneous solution. The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of the mixture featured complexes formed from **Cap242** and the guest molecule(s).



- 1) M. Kimura, J. Miyashita, S. Miyagawa, T. Kawasaki, H. Takaya, Y. Tokunaga, *Asian J. Org. Chem.* **2018**, 7, 2087–2093. 2) M. Ueda, M. Kimura, S. Miyagawa, H. Takaya, M. Naito, Y. Tokunaga, *Chem. Asian J.* **2020**, 15, 2212–2217.