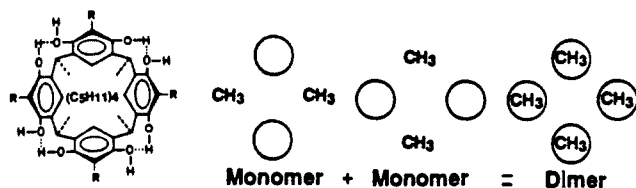


Kite: 1, R = H
2, R = CH₃
3, R = C₂H₅

Vase, 4



5, R = H
6, R = CH₃
7, R = C₂H₅

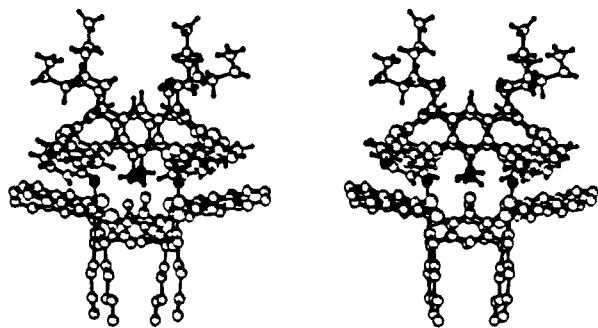
8

9

10

containing two protruding up-methyl groups and two methyl-sized indentations lined by a sloping aryl face, an out-methyl, and two oxygens. Rotation of **8** by 90° gives **9**. Superposition of **8** on **9** produces face-to-face dimer **10**, in which four methyl groups as guests occupy four host cavities. In models of **2-2**, two sets of quinoxalines contact one another. Two models of **3** are inhibited from dimerizing by the inability of ethyls to enter methyl-sized cavities.

Experimentally, **2** exists only as dimer in CDCl₃ (¹H NMR 360-MHz spectra, at available temperatures and vapor-phase osmometry, 27 °C, 10.9–40 mM, observed MW 2783 ± 280, calcd for **2-2** 2656). A crystal structure of **2-2** is shown in **11**.⁶ It conforms in detail to expectations based on models. Intermolecular atom-to-atom van der Waals contacts in **11** number 70; 44 more are within contact distance plus 0.1–0.2 Å.

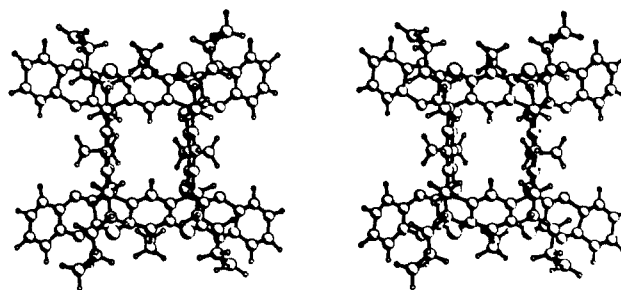


11, side stereoview of **2-2** crystal structure

In contrast, **3** exists detectably only as monomer in CDCl₃ (¹H NMR).⁷ The crystal structure of **3** (**12**)⁶ shows pentyl to quinoxaline layering.

(6) Crystallization of **2-2** from acetone gave **2-2-6**(CH₃)₂CO: monoclinic, C2/c, *a* = 23.780 (2) Å, *b* = 31.251 (3) Å, *c* = 23.391 (2) Å, β = 93.900 (4)°, *V* = 16.308 Å³, *Z* = 8 (four dimers of C₂ symmetry; the asymmetric unit contains two half-molecules), acetone disordered, *R* = 0.166. Crystallization of **3** from EtOAc–C₆H₅NO₂–CH₂Cl₂–CHCl₃ gave **3-EtOAc**: monoclinic, C2/c, *a* = 38.71 (1) Å, *b* = 8.907 (3) Å, *c* = 30.260 (8) Å, β = 114.53 (1)°, *V* = 9493 Å³, *Z* = 4 (half-molecules related by 2-fold axis), ester disordered, *R* = 0.169. Details will be published elsewhere.

(7) The ¹H NMR spectrum of **3** in CDCl₃ is concentration independent. If the ¹H NMR spectrum of **2** vs **2-2** models that of **3** vs **3-3**, as little as 5% of **3-3** could have been detected.



12, bottom stereoview of **3** crystal structure

Binding in **2-2** is a unique expression of each monomer containing two hostlike and two guestlike parts that are preorganized⁸ to dimerize. Changing four aryl methyls of **2** to four aryl hydrogens of **1** or to four aryl ethyls of **3** destroys the complementarity required for observable complexation.⁹ The high structural recognition of **2** by **2** rivals that observed in the evolutionary systems of nature, but without hydrophobic, hydrogen-bonding, pole–pole, or pole–dipole binding forces.

(8) Cram, D. J. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* 1986, 25, 1039–1057.

(9) The low-temperature ¹H NMR spectrum of **1** in CDCl₃, in which essentially only the kite form exists, shows no ¹H NMR concentration dependence and no detectable signals at positions characteristic of **2-2** and other similar dimers.

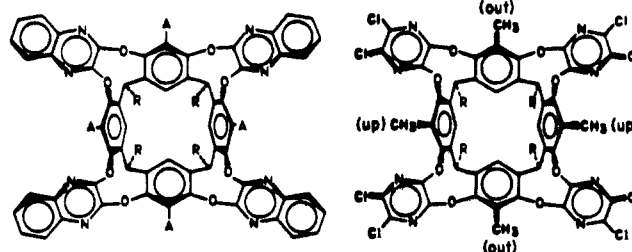
High Preorganization of Large Lipophilic Surfaces Common to Two Complexing Partners Provides High Binding Free Energies That Vary Dramatically with Changes in Organic Solvent Composition¹

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Previous work established that **1** (unlike **2** and **3**) when dissolved in CDCl₃ existed mainly as **1-1**, in which two molecules share a large preorganized surface composed of four methyls inserted into four complementary cavities, and four sets of quinoxaline faces contact one another.^{2a} This paper reports quantitative studies of **1 + 1** ⇌ **1-1**, **5 + 5** ⇌ **5-5**, and **1 + 5** ⇌ **1-5**. Compounds



1, R = H, A = CH₃
2, R = CH₃, A = C₂H₅
3, R = C₂H₅, A = H

4, R = CH₃
5, R = C₂H₅

4³ and **5³** were prepared by condensing the appropriate octols⁴

(1) We warmly thank the U.S. Public Health Service for supporting Grant GM 12640.

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with 4 mol of tetrachloropyrazine⁵ (50% and 32%, respectively). The low solubility of **4** led us to **5**, whose dimerization was most conveniently studied. Vapor pressure osmometry showed that **5** at 27 °C in CHCl₃ (7.8–31 mM concentrations) gave molecular weights of 2665 ± 270, closer to that of dimer (2808) than of monomer (1404). In CDCl₃ at -18 °C, the 360-MHz ¹H NMR spectrum of monomer **5** gave δ 2.19 for the two up-methyls and δ 2.43 for the two out-methyls, whereas these respective signals moved to δ 1.69 and 2.63 in dimer. Irradiation of the δ 2.63 peak (500 MHz at -18 °C) produced -3% enhancements of the δ 1.69 peak. Irradiation of the δ 1.69 peak was unfruitful because it was partially obscured by water peaks. Control irradiations of aryl protons gave -3 to -10% enhancements.⁶ Negative enhancements are frequently encountered in large molecules.⁷ Intermolecular distances between up-methyls and out-methyls in CPK models of **5-5** are <5 Å. We concluded that **5-5**^{2a} is structured much like **1-1**, whose crystal structure is known.^{2b} Similar differences in ¹H NMR chemical shifts for **1** and **1-1** were observed.

Association constants (K_a , M⁻¹) and $-\Delta G^\circ$ values for **5 + 5** ⇌ **5-5** were measured by employing 360-MHz ¹H NMR spectral differences between monomer and dimer. At -46 °C, $-\Delta G^\circ$ (kcal mol⁻¹) values varied with solvent as follows: CD₃C₆D₅, 3.5; CDCl₃, 4.1; CD₂Cl₂, 4.3. At -18 °C, they varied as follows (solvent %, v/v): 100% CDCl₃, 4.1; 75% CDCl₃-25% (CD₃)₂CO, 5.1; 75% CDCl₃-25% CD₃NO₂, 5.3; 75% CDCl₃-25% CD₃OD, >5.6 kcal mol⁻¹. Values of k_a (M⁻¹) for **5** dimerization in CDCl₃ changed with temperature (K) as follows: 2300 (263); 3070 (253); 4520 (241); 5270 (237); 7090 (227). The least-squares line ($r > 0.99$) of a van't Hoff plot provided $\Delta H^\circ = -3.8 \pm 0.5$ kcal mol⁻¹ and $\Delta S^\circ = 1.1 \pm 3$ eu. Similar plots from data obtained in 90% CDCl₃-10% (CD₃)₂CO (v/v) and 90% CDCl₃-10% CD₃OD (v/v) gave, respectively: ΔH° , -4.0 ± 0.5 and -3.7 ± 0.5 kcal mol⁻¹; $\Delta S^\circ = 2 \pm 3$ eu and 3 ± 3 eu. Typical entropy changes for host-guest complexation in organic solvents usually range from -11 to -15 eu.⁸ Molecular model examination of **5** and **1** suggests that each face can be solvated by up to 9 mol of CDCl₃, which is released to solvent upon dimerization. Decollection of many solvent molecules probably pays the entropic cost of collecting and rigidifying two monomers during dimer formation. Thus the full $-\Delta H^\circ$ values are felt in the $-\Delta G^\circ$ binding values.

The ArCH₃ signals at 2.62 ppm (**5-5**) and 2.48 ppm (**5**) coalesced at 12 ± 5 °C, providing a ΔG^\ddagger for dimer dissociation of 14.0 ± 0.3 kcal mol⁻¹ and $k_{-1} = 106$ s⁻¹, which coupled with K_a gives $k_1 = 1.4 \times 10^5$ M⁻¹ s⁻¹. We attribute the remarkably slow dissociation to the absence of incremental solvation-desolvation of faces involved in dimerization. The locking of four CH₃ groups into four cavities in the dimer^{2b} inhibits monomer-to-monomer slippage. Insertion of one solvent molecule between the rigid dimer faces (clamlike opening) largely dissipates attractive forces.

Similar measurements applied to **1 + 1** ⇌ **1-1** at 500 MHz in CDCl₃ provided these values at 12 °C: $K_a = 87\,000 \pm 30\%$ M⁻¹; $-\Delta G^\circ$, 6.6 ± 0.2 kcal mol⁻¹. Similar experiments applied to mixtures of **1** and **5** at -18 °C (500 MHz) in CDCl₃ provided the following: for **1 + 1** ⇌ **1-1**, $K_a = 650\,000 \pm 30\%$ M⁻¹ and $-\Delta G^\circ = 6.9 \pm 0.2$ kcal mol⁻¹; for **1 + 5** ⇌ **1-5**, $K_a = 263\,000 \pm 30\%$ M⁻¹ and $-\Delta G^\circ = 6.3 \pm 0.2$ kcal mol⁻¹; for **5 + 5** ⇌ **5-5**, $K_a = 3100 \pm 30\%$ M⁻¹ and $-\Delta G^\circ = 4.1 \pm 0.2$ kcal mol⁻¹. In mixtures

of **2** with either **1** or **5**, no **2-1** or **2-5** formation was observed.⁹ Extrapolations of our $-\Delta G^\circ$ values using Diederich's¹⁰ correlations ($-\Delta G^\circ$ changes for a cyclophane host binding pyrene with solvent changes) suggest that, in pure CH₃OH, $-\Delta G^\circ$ values for **1-1** formation could be ≈ 11 kcal mol⁻¹ and, in H₂O ≈ 14 kcal mol⁻¹.

Our study, coupled with others (e.g., Diederich's,^{8d} Still's,¹¹ and Whitlock's¹²), indicates that, given appropriate preorganization, complementarity, and binding surface sizes of host-guest systems, high and variable binding free energies are observed in organic solvents, with solvophobic driving forces playing highly significant roles.

(9) We estimate that $-\Delta G^\circ$ for dimerizations involving **1** as low as ~2.2 kcal mol⁻¹ could have been detected, which provides our best model for $-\Delta G^\circ$ values that *might have been* detected for **2-2** or **3-3**, should they exist at all.

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Spontaneous Assembly of a Double-Helical Binuclear Complex of 2,2':6',2'':6'',2''':6''',2''':6''',2''':6''''-Sextipyridine

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Double-helical molecules have attracted interest since DNA was demonstrated to adopt this molecular topology.¹ Until recently, this geometry was rare in inorganic coordination compounds,² although we³ and others⁴ have demonstrated the spontaneous assembly of double-helical complexes containing polypyridine ligands. We have probed the structural requirements for the formation of double-helical complexes and have demonstrated that it arises when a conjugated polydentate ligand interacts with a metal ion that is too small for the bonding cavity occurring in a *planar* ligand configuration. We have also shown that π -stacking interactions play a crucial role in dictating the stability of the double-helical geometry.

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