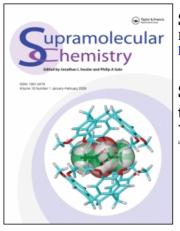
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Yunyan Wang<sup>a</sup>; Yahua Cai<sup>a</sup>; Chaoguo Yan<sup>a</sup> <sup>a</sup> College of Chemistry & Chemical Engineering, Yangzhou University, Yangzhou, P. R. China

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# Synthesis, Recognition of Metal Ions of Salicylidenimine Functionalized *p*-tert-Butylcalix[n]arene-core Dendrimers

YUNYAN WANG, YAHUA CAI and CHAOGUO YAN\*

College of Chemistry & Chemical Engineering, Yangzhou University, Yangzhou 225002, P. R. China

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A series of salicylidenimine functionalized p-tertbutylcalix[n]arene-core dendrimers 7a-b were synthesized in higher yields by divergent method from the corresponding ethyl p-butylcalix[n]arylacetates 2a-b (n = 6, 8). 2a-b were first treated with excess of 1,6diaminohexane to give amide derivatives with free amine terminal groups 3a-b, which in turn reacted with salicylaldehyde in alcohol to yield the first generation of Schiff bases 4a-b. 3a-b reacted with ethyl acrylate, ammonolized with 1,6-diaminohexane and condonsated with salicylaldehyde successfully to give the second generation of Schiff bases 7a-b. The extraction and binding properties of the dentritic Schiff bases 4a-b and 7a-b for several kinds of metal ions were studied with UV-Vis spectroscopy and atomic absorption spectroscopy. In which they showed a great affinity for soft Cu<sup>2+</sup> ions and formed 1:1 or 1:2 stoichiometric complexes.

*Keywords*: Calixarene; Dendrimer; Extraction; Schiff base; Complexation; Ion recognition

## INTRODUCTION

Over the past two decades dendrimers have attracted considerable attention because of their inherently novel structural features and their potential applications to various scientific and industrial fields such as catalysis, carriers of drugs, models of supramolecular biological and colloidal structures, or new material [1]. On the synthetic viewpoint the divergent and convergent methods are two main synthetic ways to build dendrimers. The preparation of such hyperbranched molecules demands the use of particular building blocks with the appropriate stereochemistry and multiple, equivalent reaction centers. The use of highly functionalized core molecules for quickly generating high molecular weight dendrimers is still an important aspect of dendritic study [2]. For this purpose calixarene seems to be one of the ideal candidates as a polyfunctional core because of their ease of synthesis, high functionality, persistent shape and size as well as easy chemical modification, from which a high molecular weight of dendrimers can be prepared in fewer steps and with greater ease than the conventional divergent approach [3]. Indeed *p*-tert-butylcalix[4]arenes or calix[4]resorcinarenes have been used as core molecules for synthesis of some dendritic molecules with the first work published in 1995 [4]. From then several calixarenecore dendrimers with variable branches such as azobenzene [5], sugar [6], peptide [7], carbamoylmethylphosphine oxide [8], triaminoethylamine [9], crown ether [10] and even calixarene itself [11-13] as well as thiacalix[4]arene [14] have been synthesized in recent years. A timely review focused on the synthesis of dendrimers from calix[4]arenes and thiacalix[4] arenes has appeared this year [15]. On the other hand the dendritic molecules based on calix[4]resorcinarenes have also been developed [16–19]. But to the author's knowledge there are no reports of using larger calix[*n*] arenes (n = 6, 8) as the starting core for the synthesis of dendrimer in the literature. The author's recent interests have been focused on the structural modification of calixarenes for the design of new supramolecular systems and synthesis of calixarene-core dendrimers [20–22]. The present article reports a simple and efficient synthesis of polyamidoamine-type dendrimers based on *p*-butylcalix[*n*]arnes (n = 6, 8) with terminal salicylidenimine groups and their binding ability for some metal ions.

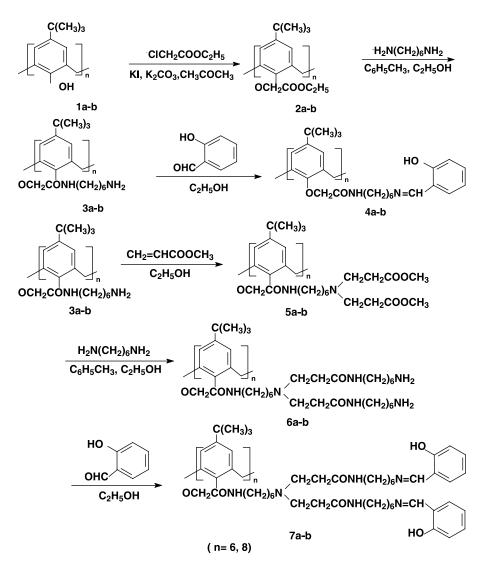
<sup>\*</sup>Corresponding author. E-mail: cgyan@yzu.edu.cn

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# **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

#### Synthesis of Calixarene Schiff Bases

Schiff bases or imines are employed widely in the formation of metal complexes and in the study of inclusion phenomena, owing to their relatively easy preparation, remarkable stability and high versatility. In designing new supramolecular receptors imino groups have been incorporated in to the calix[4]arene platform to achieve selective binding or complexation ability [23–26] and as catalyst [27,28]. It is also interesting to find the synthesis of calixarene-like salen or 'calixsalen' by using imino groups as ring components of calixarene [29,30]. The synthetic strategy is to provide an efficient and simple procedure to modify the larger cavity calix[*n*]arene at lower rim with salicylidenimine groups. The reaction procedure leading to the first and second generations of target Schiff bases 4a-b and 7a-b are shown in Scheme 1. As shown in Scheme 1, *p*-tert-butylcalix[*n*]arenes 1a-b (n = 6, 8) [31] were fully alkylated with ethyl  $\alpha$ -bromoacetate according to the published procedure [32] with a little deviation to give six or eight ethoxycarbonylmethoxy substituted derivatives 2a-b (2a, 86.5%; 2b, 87.2%). This kind of activated ester group provides an excellent chance for further chemical modification on the lower rim of calixarenes. The esters 2a-b were refluxed with a large excess of 1,6-diaminohexane  $NH_2(CH_2)_6NH_2$  in a mixture of ethanol and toluene (v/v, 1:1) for about 24 hours to afford corresponding amides 3a-b in high yields (69-78%). Excess diamine in the reaction would confirm monoammonolysis of each diamine and give the amide product with free terminal amino groups, which greatly prevented formation of other kinds of diamidation or cyclization products [33]. Besides being highly hydrogynic in air the amides 3a-b have very poor solubility in common organic solvent such as ether, chloroform, toluene and acetonitrile, only partial dissolving in hot ethanol, which makes it difficult to get satisfactory



SCHEME 1 Synthesis of calixarene Schiff bases 4a-b and 7a-b.

characterization data for them. In order to remove the excess unreacted diamine the amide product must be crystallized two times and washed thoroughly with alcohol. All amides 3a-b have very similar IR spectra. The absorption of C==O in amide shows a very strong band at 1650-1670 cm<sup>-1</sup>, while the absorption band of C==O in the ester derivatives 2a-b appears at 1760 cm<sup>-1</sup>. This means all ester groups in 2a-b have transferred to amides. The middle stronger bands at 3300-3500 cm<sup>-1</sup> belong to the absorption of NH<sub>2</sub> or NH groups.

Even if the amides 3a-b do not have good solubility in ethanol, they can react smoothly with salicylaldehyde in hot ethanol. The suspension of amides and salicylaldehyde in ethanol was stirred under reflux overnight. The white solid disappeared at first and then the expected yellow precipitates of Schiff base were formed. After workup the salicylidenimine derivatives **4a**–**b** were prepared in moderate yields (40–71%). All the products 4a-b have six or eight functional salicylidenimine groups with aliphatic amide spacers and have good solubility in common organic solvents. In their UV-Vis spectrum, the new C=N groups has a maximum absorption in CHCl<sub>3</sub> at about  $315 \sim 317$  nm. In IR spectrum the C=O group of amide shows a very strong absorption at  $1654 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , while the C=N group of imines shows a strong peak at  $1625 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . On the other hand the reaction of amides 4a-b with salicylaldehyde can also confirm the existence of free amino group in amide derivatives 3a-b. In <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra they all show one peak of phenolic hydroxyl group at about 13.50 ppm and one single broad peak of ArCH=N (sometimes with a little splitting) at 8.30 ppm. Protons of t-butyl groups in 4a-b show two signs at about 1.24 ppm and 0.91 ppm. The signs of cyclic methylene ArCH<sub>2</sub>Ar and OCH<sub>2</sub>CO groups overlap heavily and show a mixed peak at about 4.00-4.50 ppm. Thus it is difficulty to determine the conformational isomers of these amide derivatives according to the <sup>1</sup>H NMR data.

According to Tomalia's synthetic procedure for PAMAM dendrimer [34,35], the second generation of dendritic compounds were constructed by treating amide 3a-b with methyl acrylate in alcohol at 45-50°C for at least 5 d to confirm a complete addition reaction. In this step amino groups in 3a-b were smoothly added to methyl acrylate to yield the corresponding branched methyl aminodiproponate 5a–b (79  $\sim$  84%). In IR spectra, the new ester groups show very strong C=O absorption at 1731 cm<sup>-1</sup> with the peak of CONH group at 1654 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Consequently **5a-b** were treated with 1,6-diaminohexane again as mentioned above to transform into the second generation amide derivatives with free terminal amino groups 6a-b. Similarly, the absorption of C=O at  $1675 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and those of NH<sub>2</sub> or NH at about  $3400 \,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$  can be observed in their IR spectrum.

The second generation amide dendrimers 6a-b reacted smoothly with salicylaldehyde in hot ethanol to give the expected Schiff base derivatives 7a-b in moderate yields (51  $\sim$  79%). All the products 7**a**-**b** are yellow solids with a sharp melting point range and are very soluble in common organic solvents. In their UV–Vis spectrum, the new C=N group has a maximum absorption in CHCl3 at about  $317 \sim 320$  nm. In IR spectra the C=O group of amide shows a very strong absorption at  $1654 \,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ , while the C=N group of imines shows a strong peak at 1625 cm<sup>-1</sup>. In their <sup>1</sup>H NMR the expected ratios of hydrogen atoms for each characteristic unit were observed by comparison of the integral intensity of their signals, which means the completeness of conversion, and the appropriate formation of dendrimers with less statistical defects. **7a**–**b** have 12 or 16 terminal salicylidenimine functional groups with soft aliphatic amide chain spacers and the molecular weight of them reached to 4188 for 7a and 5920 for 7b respectively. It is a pity that trying to get the suitable single crystals for X-ray analysis was failed until now.

In conclusion a series of salicylideneimine functionalized *p*-tert-butylcalix[n]arene-core dendrimers 7a-b were easily synthesized in good yields by the divergent method. Their structures are very similar to the famous Polyamidoamine (PAMAM) [35] dendrimer, which makes them ideal building blocks for synthesizing high generation dendrimers. On the other hand they can be looked at as potentially polydentate ligands for coordinating metal ions and organometallic compounds.

#### **Extraction Properties**

To evaluate the binding ability of these new calixarene Schiff bases for metal ions, liquid-liquid extractions of different kinds of metal ions were carried out. The extraction percentages are calculated and listed in Table I. The first generation Schiff bases 4a-b and second generation Schiff bases 7a-b have very little affinity towards alkali and alkaline earth metal ions (Na<sup>+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>, Ca<sup>2+</sup>, Ba<sup>2+</sup>) and have moderate affinity (6-31%) towards some heavy metal ions such as  $Hg^{2+}$ ,  $Fe^{3+}$ ,  $Pb^{2+}$ ,  $Ni^{2+}$ ,  $UO_2^{2+}$ . They all show stronger extraction efficiencies for  $Cu^{2+}$  (50 ~ 80%). It is also interesting to find that the extraction efficiencies of 7a-b are better than that of 4a-b, which is clearly due to 7a-b having 12 or 16 functional salicylidenimine groups and 4a-b only having 6 or 8 salicylidenimine groups. The extraction percentages of **4b** and **7b** for some metal ions are also listed in Fig. 1. According to the above experimental results, the extraction abilities of these calixarene Schiff bases 4a-b and 7a-b are mainly due to the functional salicylidenimine groups and calixarene only acts as a platform to construct the active salicylidenimine groups.

TABLE I Extraction rates of calix[n]arenes 4a-b and 7a-b for metal ions

	Extraction rate (%)					Extraction rate (%)			
Metal cations	4a	4b	7a	7b	Metal cations	4a	4b	7a	7b
Na <sup>+</sup>	_	_	_	_	Ni <sup>2+</sup>	8.64	19.30	15.42	21.76
K <sup>+</sup>	_	0.62	_	_	Cu <sup>2+</sup>	50.50	55.23	75.21	79.96
Ca <sup>2</sup> +	0.25	1.53	_	_	Fe <sup>3+</sup>	6.31	32.15	28.20	19.02
Ba <sup>2+</sup>	_	_	1.08	1.65	$Ag_{-}^{+}$	1.56	6.33	7.96	15.32
$Ca^{2 +} Ba^{2 +} Co^{2 +} Co^{2 +}$	-	8.31	12.98	5.29	$Hg^{2+}$	13.15	15.21	21.99	19.39
$Zn^{2+}$	_	_	10.95	3.33	$Pb^{2+}$	12.06	9.87	15.88	15.45
Mn <sup>2+</sup>	_	3.81	7.55	5.06	$UO_2^{2+}$	19.55	21.40	31.20	29.44

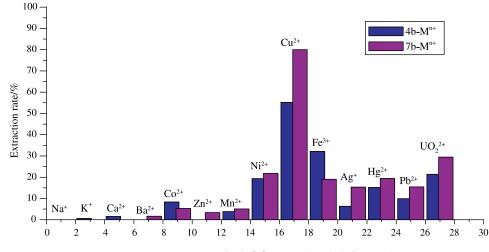


FIGURE 1 Extraction rates of calix[n]arenes 4b and 7b for metal ions.

# **UV-Visible Titrations**

The binding properties of the target compounds  $4\mathbf{a}-\mathbf{b}$  and  $7\mathbf{a}-\mathbf{b}$  to metal ions were also studied by UV–Vis spectroscopy. The maxim absorption of the Schiff bases  $4\mathbf{a}-\mathbf{b}$  and  $7\mathbf{a}-\mathbf{b}$  appear at about 320 nm. Upon the addition of alkali and alkaline

earth metal salts, no changes of absorption were observed. This indicated the target compounds have negligible binding ability for these kinds of metal ions. When transition metal salts were introduced the maximum absorption shifts a little to longer wavelengths ( $\Delta\lambda < 10$  nm), which means weak complexation between them. It is very

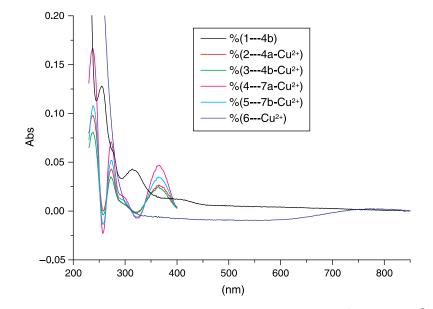


FIGURE 2 UV–Vis spectroscopy of the ligands and Cu complexes( $C_{ligand} = C_{Cu}^{2+} = 2.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol/L}$ ).

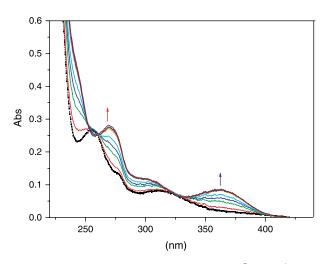


FIGURE 3 UV–Vis spectra of **7b**  $(5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol·L}^{-1})$  with different concentration of Cu<sup>2+</sup>.  $[Cu^{2+}]/[7b] = 0$ , 0.2, 0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 6.0, 7.0.

interesting to find that  $Cu^{2+}$  ions cause a very large shift of the maximum absorption of the target compounds ( $\[tmm] \lambda > 40 \text{ nm}$ ). Figure 2 shows the UV– Vis spectra of the Schiff bases **4a–b** and **7a–b** in the presence of  $Cu^{2+}$  ions with the spectra of **4a** as a reference for Schiff bases **4a–b** and **7a–b** have very similar absorption bands. From Fig. 2 it can be seen that the maximum absorption band at about 320 nm of the ligands was shifted to 360 nm after adding  $Cu^{2+}$  ions.

As an example the UV–Vis spectra of **7b** with different concentration of  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  are shown in Fig. 3. From Fig. 3, an isoabsorptive point at 325 nm could be obviously observed. It showed again that Cu-**7b** formed a complex. With the saturation method (Fig. 4) and Job plot method (Fig. 5) the molar ratio of  $C_{7b}$ : $C_{Cu2+}$  was determined as 1:2. The value of stability constants and complex ratios of  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  complexes of **4a–b** and **7a–b** which were determined by the same methods are shown in Table II. From Table II and Fig. 3, the Cu<sup>2+</sup> complexes of

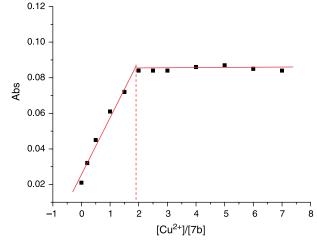


FIGURE 4 Plot of **7b** with  $Cu^{2+}$  absorbance (*A*) to ( $[Cu^{2+}]/[7b]$ ),  $[Cu^{2+}]/[7b] = 0, 0.2, 0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 6.0, 7.0.$ 

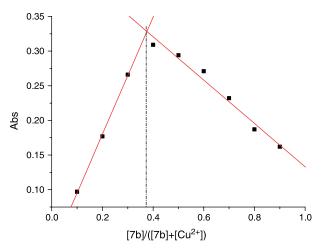


FIGURE 5 Job plot of **7b** with  $Cu^{2+}$  absorbance (*A*) to  $([7b]/([Cu^{2+}] + [7b])$ . The total concentration is 0.5 mmol·L<sup>-1</sup>.

**4a–b** and **7a–b** all have an absorption peak near 360 nm. These results showed that calixarene Schiff bases represented the similar outcome for the same action, and along with the more Schiff base groups from **4a–b** to **7a–b**, the complex ratio was gradually changed from 1:1 to 1:2 ( $L/M^{n+}$ ).

#### **EXPERIMENTAL**

#### Materials and Apparatus

Melting points were taken on a hot-plate microscope apparatus. IR spectra were obtained on a Nicolet FT-IR 740 spectrometer (KBr disc). <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded with a Bruker AV-600 spectrometer with CDCl<sub>3</sub> as solvent and TMS as internal standard. UV-Vis spectra were recorded on Shimadzu UV-2501 PC spectrophotometer and atomic absorption spectra were record on Australia GBC 932A spectrophotometer. 1,6-Diaminohexne, ethyl acrylate, salicylaldehyde are commercial reagents and used as received. Solvents (acetone, alcohol and dichloromethane, etc) were purified by standard techniques. The reaction process was monitored by TLC. *p*-tert-Butylcalix[*n*]arenes [31] 1a-b (*n* = 6, 8) and ethyl *p*-tert-butylcalix[n]arylacetates [32] **2a**-**b** were prepared according to the published methods.

#### **Extraction Studies**

The extractions of metal ions by dentritic calixarenes were investigated using metal acetate salts. The organic solutions were prepared by dissolving a weighed amount of the ligand in chloroform. Liquid–liquid extraction experiments were carried out in a flask by shaking the mixture of organic phase and water phase for 12 min. After standing for 12 h the organic phase and water phase were separated. The water phases before and after extraction were analyzed by atomic absorption spectroscopy.

TABLE II Value of stability constants of  $Cu^{2+}$  complexes of 4a-b and 7a-b

	4a	4b	7a	7b
$\begin{array}{l} Molar \ ratio \ (L/M^{n+}) \\ K_{ass} \\ \lambda_{max}/nm \end{array}$	1:1	1:1	1:2	1:2
	2.067 × 10 <sup>5</sup>	$4.55 \times 10^5$	3.65 × 10 <sup>9</sup>	$3.94 \times 10^9$
	360.50	360.50	359.0	360.0

#### **UV-Vis Measurements**

UV–Vis titrations were carried at 25°C in ethanol/ water (v/v = 9:1) using a Shimadzu UV-2501 PC spectrophotometer. Usually 1.0 mL of ligand solution ( $5 \times 10^{-5}$  mol·L<sup>-1</sup>) was added to the metal ion solution ( $5 \times 10^{-5}$  mol·L<sup>-1</sup>) in a 10 mL flask and the solution allowed to equilibrate for 5 min. The spectrometric data were collected over the range 220–600 nm.

# General Procedure for the Synthesis of First Generation Amide Derivatives 3a-d

A mixture of ethyl *p*-tert-butylcalix[6]arylacetate **2a** (1.0 mmol, 1.488 g) and 1,6-diaminohexane (10 mL) in ethanol (25 mL) and toluene (25 mL) was refluxed for 24 h. The organic solvent and excess of diamine was removed in vacuum. The residue was washed thoroughly with alcohol to give the white solid as amide derivatives **3a**, 1.379 g (72.3%); m.p.  $> 250^{\circ}$ C. IR (KBr disc) v: 3281(w), 3074(w), 2957(s), 2860(m), 1660(vs), 1543(s), 1473(s), 1191(m), 1115(m), 1039(m), 873(w), 729(w) cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**3b** was prepared in the same way as **3a** using ethyl p-tert-butylcalix[8]arylacetate **2b** (1.0 mmol, 1.984 g). 1.954 g (76.5%), m.p.  $> 250^{\circ}$ C; IR (KBr disk) v: 3295(m), 3074(w), 2957(vs), 2867(s), 1660(vs), 1543(s), 1473(s), 1356(m), 1287(m), 1184(m), 1115(m), 873(w), 715(w) cm<sup>-1</sup>.

## General Procedure for the Synthesis of First Generation Schiff Base (4a-b)

To a suspension of amides 3a (0.954 g, 0.5 mmol) in 30 mL of ethanol was added salicylaldehyde (1.1 mole for each NH<sub>2</sub> group) in 10 mL of ethanol at room temperature. This reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 6h, and then heated to reflux about 12h under a nitrogen atmosphere. A brown-yellow precipitate was observed. After removal of alcohol the residue was recrystallized from alcohol-chloroform to give Schiff base product 4a. Yellow solid, 0.991 g (78.3%), m.p. 164-166°C. IR (KBr disk) v: 3295(w), 3055(w), 2950(s), 2886(m), 2851(m), 1661(vs), 1625(vs), 1541(s), 1470(s), 1450(m), 1273(s), 1175(m), 1111(m), 1034(m) cm<sup>-1</sup>. UV-Vis  $\lambda_{max}$  (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH): 316.70, 288.80, 255.80 nm. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 13.56 (br, 6H, OH), 8.26 (m, 6H, CH=N), 7.31-6.81 (m, 42H, NH, ArH), 4.42-4.10 (m, 24H,

ArCH<sub>2</sub>Ar, OCH<sub>2</sub>); 3.90–3.20 (m, 24H, NCH<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 1.61–1.35 (m, 48H, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>), 1.35, 0.88 (s, s, 54H, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) ppm.

**4b** was prepared in the same way as **4a** using **3b** (1.272 g, 0.5 mmol). Yellow solid, 1.017 g (66.4%). m.p. 182°C. IR (KBr disk) υ: 3288(w), 3048(w), 2950(s), 2886(m), 2858(m), 1668(vs), 1625(vs), 1534(s), 1470(s), 1273(s), 1182(m), 1111(m), 1034(m) cm<sup>-1</sup>. UV–Vis  $\lambda_{max}$  (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH): 315.40, 289.30, 255.70 nm. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 13.60 (br, 8H, OH), 8.27 (m, 8H, CH=N), 7.27–6.68 (m, 56H, NH, ArH), 4.37–4.10 (m, 32H, ArCH<sub>2</sub>Ar, OCH<sub>2</sub>); 3.63–3.19 (m, 32H, NCH<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 2.30–1.60 (m, 64H, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>), 1.29, 0.83 (s, s, 72H, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) ppm.

# General Procedure for the Synthesis of Second Generation Amide (6a-b)

A mixture of amides 3a (0.5 mmol) and ethyl acrylate (15 mL) in ethanol (15 mL) were stirred under an atmosphere of nitrogen at 45-50°C for 5 days. Ethanol and excess of ethyl acrylate was removed in vacuo. The residue was crystallized from alcoho-1/ether to give the ester products (5a-b). Then a mixture of 5a (0.5 mmol) and 1,6-diaminohexane (15 mL) in ethanol (25 mL) and toluene (25 mL) was refluxed for 24 h under an atmosphere of nitrogen. The organic solvent and excess of 1,6-diaminohexane was removed in vacuum. The residue was well washed with alcohol several times to give the amide products 6a. White solid, 0.969 g (48.9%), m.p. = 163-165°C. IR (KBr disk) v: 3419(w), 3288(m), 2943(vs), 2860(m), 1653(vs), 1549(s), 1481(m), 1363(m), 1294(m), 1191(m), 1115(m), 1039(m), 873 (w), 715 (w) cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ: 7.80-8.10 (br, NH); 6.70-6.90 (m, ArH), 4.00-4.30 (m, OCH<sub>2</sub>CO), 3.60-3.30 (m, ArCH<sub>2</sub>Ar, NCH<sub>2</sub>, NH<sub>2</sub>), 2.30-2.64 (br, CH<sub>2</sub>CO), 0.80-1.60 (m, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>,  $C(CH_3)_3).$ 

**6b** was prepared in the same way as **6a** using **3b** (1.272 g, 0.5 mmol). White solid, 1.477 g (56.1%), m.p. = 147 ~ 149°C. IR (KBr disk) v: 3419(w), 3288(m), 2943(vs), 2860(m), 1653(vs), 1549(s), 1481(m), 1363(w), 1294(m), 1191(m), 1115(m), 1039(m), 873(w), 715 (w)/cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO $d_6$ ) &: 7.70–8.10 (br, NH), 6.70–6.90 (m, ArH), 3.80– 4.30 (m, OCH<sub>2</sub>CO), 3.60–3.30 (m, ArCH<sub>2</sub>Ar, NCH<sub>2</sub>, NH<sub>2</sub>), 2.30–2.64 (br, CH<sub>2</sub>CO), 0.80–1.60 (m, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>).

# General Procedure for the Synthesis of Second Generation Schiff Bases (7a-b)

To a suspension of amides 6a (0.791 g, 0.2 mmol) in 20 mL of ethanol was added salicylaldehyde (1.1 mole for each NH<sub>2</sub> group) in 10 mL of ethanol at room temperature. This reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 6h, and then heated to reflux about 12h under a nitrogen atmosphere. A brown-yellow precipitate was observed. After removal of alcohol the residue was recrystallized from alcohol to give Schiff bases 7a. Yellow solid, 0.627 g (60.3%), m.p. 103-105°C. IR (KBr disk) v: 3281(m), 3069(m), 2921(s), 2851(m), 1654(vs), 1625(vs), 1456(m), 1273(m), 1189(m), 1111(m), 1034(m) cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR(CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 13.64 (br, 12H, OH), 8.30 (br, 12H, N=CH), 7.27-6.82 (m, 78H, NH, ArH), 4.30–2.35 (m, 144H, ArCH<sub>2</sub>Ar, OCH<sub>2</sub>, NHCH<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>N, CH<sub>2</sub>N(CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 1.93–0.84 (m, 144H, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>), 1.57–0.84 (m, 54H, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) ppm.

**7b** was prepared in the same way as **7a** using **6b** (1.054 g, 0.2 mmol). 0.658 g (47.4%), m.p. 106–108°C, IR (KBr disk) v: 3281(m), 3092(m), 2929(s), 2851(m), 1654(vs), 1625(vs), 1534(s), 1470(s), 1273(m), 1189(s), 1111(m), 1034(m) cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR(CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 13.60 (br, 16H, OH), 8.32 (br, 16H, N=CH), 7.27–6.85 (m, 104H, NH, ArH), 4.45–2.32 (m, 112H, ArCH<sub>2</sub>Ar, OCH<sub>2</sub>, NHCH<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 1.85–0.84 (m, 192H, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>), 1.46–0.84 (m, 72H, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) ppm.

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