## Organic Letters

### Supporting Information for

# Title: Biased Helical Folding of Chiral Oligoindole Foldamers

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#### 1. Synthesis and Characterization

General: All chemicals were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification unless otherwise specified. E<sub>3</sub>N and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> were purified by drying over CaH<sub>2</sub>, followed by distillation, and tetrahydrofuran was distilled from sodium and benzophenone. The chemical shifts of <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra are reported using the solvent signal as an internal reference, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> (2.50 ppm for <sup>1</sup>H NMR and 39.5 ppm for <sup>13</sup>C NMR). The column chromatography was performed using 230-400 mesh ultra pure silica. UV-visible absorption spectra were recorded on Agilent 8453 UV-visible spectrophotometer. <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were obtained on Bruker 400 MHz spectrometer. MALDI-TOF mass spectrometric measurements were performed on Voyager-DE<sup>TM</sup> STR Biospectrometry Workstation MALDI-TOF. Circular dichroism (CD) spectra were conducted on a JASCO J-810 spectropolarimeter. Melting points were determined with a Barnsted Electrochemical (IA9100) and were not corrected. The elemental analysis data were obtained from the National Center for Inter-University Research Facilities at the Seoul National University.

Compound 3: Oxallyl chloride (8.5 g, 67.1 mmol) and a catalytic amount of DMF were added to a stirred solution of 3-bromobenzoic acid (4.5 g, 22.4 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (20 mL) at

0 °C (ice-water bath) for 1 h under nitrogen atmosphere, and the solution was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in anhydrous CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 mL) and slowly transferred to a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution (5 mL) at 0 °C containing (S)-phenylethylamine (2.7 g, 22.4 mmol) and pyridine (0.5 mL). After stirring for 6 h (0 °C to room temperature), the mixture was diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (20 mL), washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and brine, and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After concentration, the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 5:3) to give 3 (6.2 g, 92%) as a white solid. Mp: 117-118 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  8.93 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (s, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (m, 2H), 7.32 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.16 (qn, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 1.48 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  163.9, 144.6, 136.6, 133.9, 130.5, 129.9, 128.2, 126.6, 126.6, 126.0, 121.6, 48.6, 22.1. IR (thin film): 3285(NH), 1638(C=O) cm<sup>-1</sup>. MALDI-TOF MS: calcd for  $C_{15}H_{14}Br$  NO  $[MH]^+ = 304.03$ , found,  $[MH]^+ = 304.09$ . Anal. Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub>Br NO: C, 59.23; H, 4.64; N, 4.60. Found: C, 59.36; H, 4.70; N, 4.63. The identical procedure was followed by using (R)-phenylethylamine to prepare the enantiomer of 3 (ent-3) in 93% yield.

Compound 4:<sup>1</sup> 3 (5.0 g, 16.4 mmol), Pd (dba)<sub>2</sub> (0.23 g, 0.41 mmol), pph<sub>3</sub> (0.43 g, 1.64 mmol) and CuI (0.08 g, 0.41 mmol) were mixed in a 50 mL schlenk flask under nitrogen. The flask was then evacuated under vacuum and backfilled with N<sub>2</sub>, which process was repeated three times. After addition of degassed Et<sub>3</sub>N (35 mL), THF (15 mL), and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> (a) Sonogashira, K. In Metal-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling Reactions; Diederch, F.; Stang, P. J. Eds.; Wiley: Weinheim (Germany), **1997**; Chapter 5, pp 203-229. (b) Zhang, J.; Pesak, D. J.; Ludwick, J. L.; Moore, J. S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1994**, *116*, 4227-4239. (c) Erdelyi, M.; Gogoll, A. *J. Org. Chem.* **2001**, *66*, 4165-4169.

trimethylsilyl-ethyne (5.5 g, 56.2 mmol), the rubber stopper was replaced with screw stopper (screw cock) under nitrogen. The solution was stirred at 53-55 °C for 16 h. The resulting suspension was allowed to reach room temperature and filtered through Celite pad. After concentration, the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 5:3) to give **S1**. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  8.93 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (s, 1H), 7.89 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (m, 2H), 7.32 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.17 (qn, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.48 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  164.5, 144.7, 134.8, 134.1, 130.0, 128.8, 128.3, 128.2, 126.6, 126.0, 122.1, 104.6, 94.8, 48.6, 22.1, 0.1.

Compound **S1** (4.5 g, 14 mmol) was dissolved in MeOH (60 mL), to which solution a catalytic amount of  $K_2CO_3$  (0.4 g, 2.8 mmol) was added. After stirred for 30 min, the mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure, and then  $CH_2Cl_2$  was added. The solution was washed with  $H_2O$  and brine, and dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After concentration, the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 7:3) to give **4** (3.3 g, 81% for two steps) as a white solid. Mp: 137-138 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  8.91 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.90 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.16 (qn, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (s, 1H), 1.48 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  164.5, 144.7, 134.9, 134.2, 130.3, 128.8, 128.2, 128.1, 126.6, 126.0, 121.7, 82.9, 81.4, 48.6, 22.2. IR (thin film): 3313(C(sp)-H), 3273(NH), 1634(C=O) cm<sup>-1</sup>.  $C_{17}H_{15}NO$  [MH]<sup>+</sup> = 250.12, found, [MH]<sup>+</sup> = 250.15. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{17}H_{15}NO$ : C, 81.90; H, 6.06; N, 5.62. Found: C, 81.90; H, 6.00; N, 5.63. The

identical procedure was followed to prepare the enantiomer of **4** (ent-**4**) from ent-**3** in 92% yield for two steps.

**Compound 6:** The synthesis of 5,5'-di(*tert*-butyl)-7,7'-diiodo-2,2'-biindolyl (**5**) was described previously.<sup>2</sup> Compound 5 (3.4 g, 5.7 mmol), Pd (dba)<sub>2</sub> (55 mg, 0.095 mmol), pph<sub>3</sub> (0.1 g, 0.38 mmol), and CuI (18 mg, 0.095 mmol) were added to a schlenk flask under N<sub>2</sub>. The Schlenk flask was fitted with a rubber stopper, and evacuated under vacuum and back-filled with N<sub>2</sub> (repeated three times). After addition of degassed Et<sub>3</sub>N (20 mL), THF (30 mL), and compound **4** (0.95 g, 3.81 mmol), the rubber stopper was replaced with a screw stopper and the solution was stirred at 53-55 °C for 16 h. The resulting suspension was allowed to cool down room temperature, filtered through Celite pad and concentrated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Chang, K.-J.; Moon, D.; Lah, M. S. and Jeong, K.-S. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.*, **2005**, *44*, 7926-7929.

The residue was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (100 mL), washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and brine, and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After concetration, the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 7:3) to give **6** (1.64 g, 60%) as a white solid. Mp: 213-214 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  11.56 (s, 1H), 11.02 (s, 1H), 8.99 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.29 (s, 1H), 7.95 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.60 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (s, 2H), 7.43 (m, , 3H), 7.34 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (m, , 2H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 5.21 (qn, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 1.51 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.37 (s, 9H), 1.33 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  164.8, 144.7, 144.4, 142.4, 137.1, 135.2, 135.0, 134.1, 131.8, 131.7, 131.6, 130.3, 129.1, 128.8, 128.8, 128.7, 128.3, 127.8, 126.7, 126.1, 123.9, 123.0, 117.6, 116.0, 104.6, 101.6, 101.2, 92.0, 87.7, 76.2, 48.7, 34.3, 34.2, 31.7, 31.6., 22.2. IR (thin film): 3297(NH), 1634(C=O) cm<sup>-1</sup>. MALDI-TOF MS: calcd for C<sub>41</sub>H<sub>40</sub>IN<sub>3</sub>O [M]<sup>+</sup> = 717.22, found, [M]<sup>+</sup> = 717.39, Anal. Calcd for C<sub>41</sub>H<sub>40</sub>IN<sub>3</sub>O: C, 68.62; H, 5.62; N, 5.86. Found: C, 68.60; H, 5.61; N, 5.81. The identical procedure was followed to prepare ent-**6** (63%) from ent-**4**.

**Compound 7: 6** (0.80 g, 1.1 mmol), Pd (dba) <sub>2</sub> (16 mg, 0.028 mmol), PPh<sub>3</sub> (29 mg, 0.11 mmol) and CuI (6 mg, 0.028 mmol) were added to a 50 mL schlenk flask under an atmosphere of N<sub>2</sub>. The flask was fitted with a rubber stopper, and then evacuated under vacuum and back-filled with N<sub>2</sub> (repeated three times). After addition of degassed Et<sub>3</sub>N (20 mL), THF (15 mL) and trimethylsilyl-ethyne (0.47 mL, 0.33 mmol), the solution was stirred at 53-55 °C for 18 h. The work-up is the same as that for compound **6**. The product was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 4:1) to give **S2** (0.65 g, 85%) as an oil: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-  $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  11.55 (s, 1H), 11.23 (s, 1H), 8.97 (d,

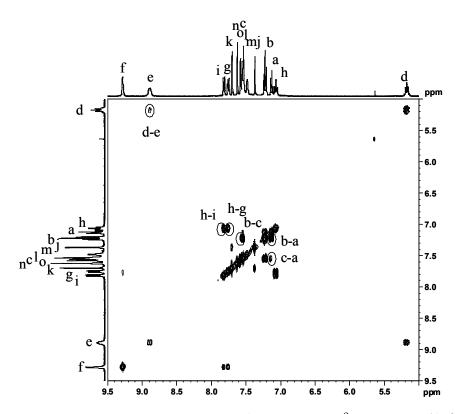
J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (s, 1H), 7.93 (m, 2H), 7.64 (m, 2H), 7.56 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (m, 3H), 7.34 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 1.77 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (m, 2H), 5.23 (qn, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 1.51 (d, J = 7.12 Hz, 3H), 1.37 (s, 9H), 1.34 (s, 9H), 0.34 (s, 9H),  $^{13}$ C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  164.7, 144.8, 142.4, 142.3, 135.3, 135.2, 135.0, 134.0, 131.8, 131.7, 130.2, 128.7, 128.6, 128.6, 127.7, 126.6, 126.1, 124.2, 123.5, 123.0, 117.6, 117.6, 104.8, 104.5, 102.7, 101.0, 97.6, 92.1, 87.6, 48.6, 34.3, 34.2, 20.7, 0.1. Compound S2 (0.55 g, 0.8 mmol) was dissolved in MeOH (20 mL) and a catalytic amount of K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.05 g, 0.4 mmol) was added. After 30 min stirring, the mixture was concentrated and the residue was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The solution was washed with H<sub>2</sub>O and brine, and dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After concentration, the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 4:1) to give 7 (0.45 g, 91%) as a white solid. Mp: 195-196 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  11.50 (s, 1H), 11.44 (s, 1H), 8.99 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.29 (s, 1H), 7.92 (m, 2H), 7.60 (m, 3H), 7.43 (m, 3H), 7.34 (m, 3H), 7.23 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 5.23 (qn, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 1.51 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.37 (s, 9H), 1.34 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  164.8, 144.8, 142.4, 142.2, 135.6, 135.2, 135.0, 134.1, 131.9, 131.9, 130.3, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.3, 127.7, 126.7, 126.1, 124.1, 123.8, 123.0, 123.5, 117.6, 117.4, 104.5, 104.2, 100.9, 100.8, 91.9, 87.6, 84.2, 81.3, 48.6, 34.3, 34.2, 29.4, 22.2. IR (thin film): 3301(NH), 2202(C=C), 1642(C=O) cm<sup>-1</sup>. MALDI-TOF MS: calcd for  $C_{43}H_{41}N_3O$  [M]<sup>+</sup> = 615.32, found,  $[M]^+ = 615.52$ . Anal. Calcd for  $C_{43}H_{41}N_3O$ : C, 83.87; H, 6.71; N, 6.82. Found: C, 83.87; H, 6.90; N, 6.65. The identical procedure was followed to prepare ent-7 (90% for two steps) from ent-6.

**Compound 8a: 6** (0.31 g, 0.438 mmol), Pd (dba)  $_2$  (7 mg, 0.011 mmol), pph $_3$  (12 mg, 0.044 mmol) and CuI (2 mg, 0.010 mmol) were mixed in a 50 mL schlenk flask under N $_2$ . The flask was evacuated under vacuum and back-filled with N $_2$  (repeated three times). After addition of degassed Et $_3$ N (10 mL), THF (15 mL), and **7** (0.27 g, 0.438 mmol), the solution was stirred at 53-55 °C for 18 h. The work-up is the same as that for **6**. The crude product was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc = 5:1) to give **8a** (0.35 g, 66%) as a white solid. Mp: 242-243 °C.  $^1$ H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  11.57 (s, 1H; NH), 11.54 (s, 1H; NH), 8.92 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.23, (s, 1H), 7.89 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (s, 2H), 7.59 (s, 1H), 7.48 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (m, 3H), 7.32 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (m, 3H), 5.18 (qn, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.48 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 1.39 (s, 9H), 1.37 (s, 9H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  164.7, 144.8, 142.4, 135.3, 135.1, 134.9, 134.0, 132.1, 131.9, 130.3, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.2, 127.6, 126.6, 126.1,

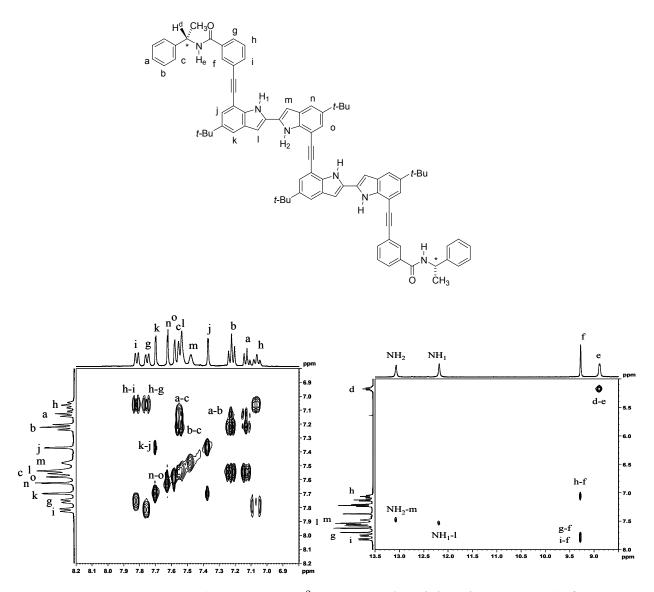
124.2, 123.8, 122.9,117.6, 117.2, 105.4, 104.5, 01.1, 101.0, 91.9, 90.1, 87.6, 48.6, 34.3, 34.2, 22.2. IR (thin film): 3420(NH), 1636(C=O) cm<sup>-1</sup>. MALDI-TOF MS: calcd for  $C_{84}H_{80}N_6O_2$  [M]<sup>+</sup> = 1204.63, found, [M]<sup>+</sup> = 1204.86.; **8a:** Anal. Calcd for  $C_{84}H_{80}N_6O_2$ : C, 83.69; H, 6.69; N, 6.97. Found: C, 83.75; H, 6.64; N, 6.92.

The identical procedure was followed to prepare **8b** (60%) from ent-**6** and ent-**7**. **8b**: MALDI-TOF MS: calcd for  $C_{84}H_{80}N_6O_2$  [M]<sup>+</sup> = 1204.63, found, [M]<sup>+</sup> = 1204.85.; Anal. Calcd for  $C_{84}H_{80}N_6O_2$ : C, 83.69; H, 6.69; N, 6.97. Found: C, 83.64; H, 6.68; N, 6.91.

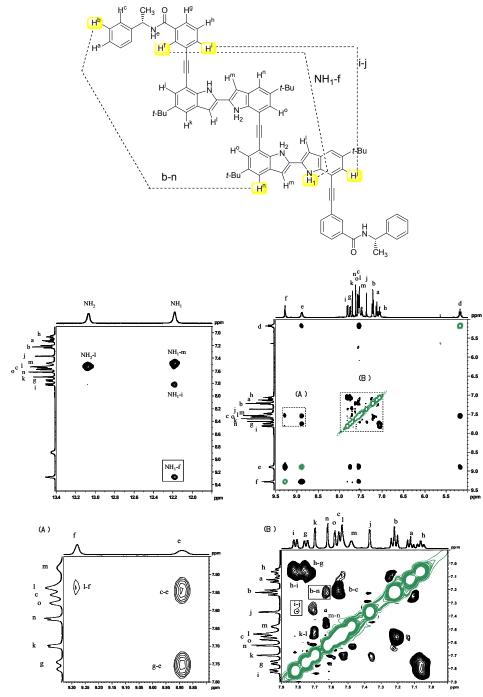
# 2. 2D <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY, TOCSY, and NOESY spectra



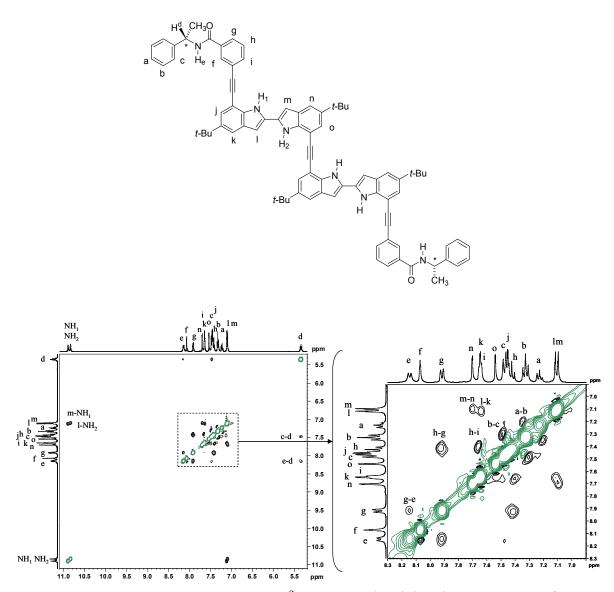
**Figure S1**. Partial COSY spectrum (400 MHz, 25  $^{\circ}$ C, acetone- $d_6$ ) for a mixture of **8a** (10 mM) and TBA $^{+}$ Cl $^{-}$  (3 equiv).



**Figure S2**. TOCSY spectra (400 MHz, 25  $^{\circ}$ C, acetone- $d_6$ , mixing time = 60 ms) for a mixture of **8a** (10 mM) and TBA $^{+}$ Cl $^{-}$  (3 equiv).



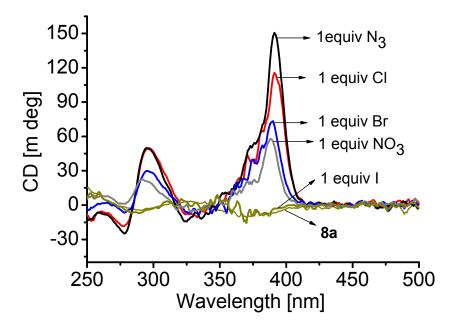
**Figure S3**. NOESY specta (400 MHz, 25 °C, acetone- $d_6$ , mixing time = 600 ms) of a mixture of **8a** (10 mM) and TBA<sup>+</sup>Cl<sup>-</sup> (3 equiv).



**Figure S4**. NOESY spectra (400 MHz, 25 °C, acetone- $d_6$ , mixing time = 600 ms) of **8a** (10 mM) in the absence of an anion, which shows no long distance NOE cross peak.

## 3. Circular Dichroism (CD) Spectra:<sup>3</sup>

Stock solutions ( $5.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M) of **8a** and **8b** were prepared with and without tetrabutylammonium anion (TBA<sup>+</sup>N<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, TBA<sup>+</sup>Br<sup>-</sup>, TBA<sup>+</sup>Cl<sup>-</sup>, TBA<sup>+</sup>NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> or TBA<sup>+</sup>I<sup>-</sup>) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The CD spectra were taken with conditions (scanning rate: 50 nm min<sup>-1</sup>, bond width: 1 nm, response time: 0.5 sec, accumulations: 3 scans)



**Figure S5.** CD spectra of **8a** in the presence of TBA anions in  $CH_2Cl_2$  at  $25 \pm 1$  °C.

<sup>3</sup> a) Rodger, A.; Norden, B. Circular Dichroism and Linear Dichroism, Oxford University Press, Oxford, **1997.** b) Berova, N.; Nakanishi, K.; Woody, R. W. Circular Dichroism: Principles and Applications, 2nd ed. Wiley-VCH, New York, **2000.** 

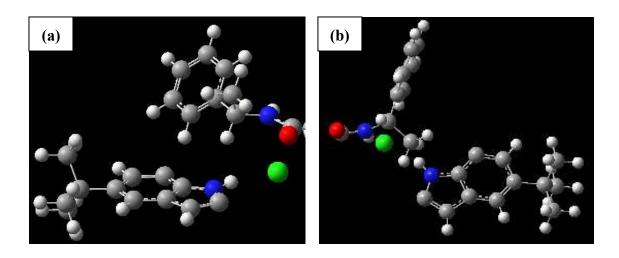
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#### 4. Theoretical calculation

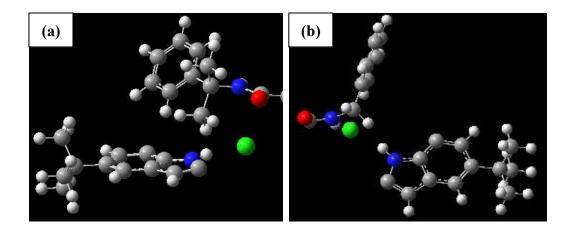
Calculations were conducted in gas phase using hybrid *ab-initio* methods with the Gaussian 03 package. First, the structure optimization was performed with HF/3-21G method for both cases. Using the optimized structures, we performed single point calculations with B3LYP/3-21G, and MP2/3-21G methods to compare the energy of the helices. This kind of structure optimization-single point hybrid calculation is widely used due to their relatively accurate result, yet inexpensive computation cost. For all three cases (HF/3-21G, HF/3-21G//B3LYP/3-21G, and HF/3-21G//MP2-3-21G), the (*P*)-helix is more stable than the (*M*)-helix as summarized in Table S1.

**Table S1**. Calculated energy difference ( $\Delta E = E_{\rm M} - E_{\rm P}$ ) between the (M)-helix and the (P)-helix

| Method      | HF/3-21G | HF/3-21G//B3LYP/3-21G | HF/3-21G//MP2/3-21G |
|-------------|----------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| ΔE (kJ/mol) | 23.63    | 19.43                 | 16.30               |



**Figure S6.** Terminal benzylic portions of the optimized structure for (a) the (M)-helix, and (b) the (P)-helix. To clarify the relation between the methyl group and indole surface, other atoms are omitted.



**Figure S7.** (a) The (M)-helix with the benzylic hydrogen substituted to the methyl group, and (b) the (P)-helix with the benzylic methyl group substituted to hydrogen. For clarity, some atoms are hidden from view.

In order to verify why the (P)-helix has lower energy than the (M)-helix, we performed further simulations by changing the group facing the indole surface (Figures S6 and S7). In case of the (M)-helix, when the indole surface facing hydrogen was changed to methyl group the energy was greatly stabilized. On the other hand, as the indole surface facing methyl group was substituted to a hydrogen atom, the energy of the (P)-helix was greatly destabilized. This indicates the methyl group facing the indole surface experiences strong  $CH\cdots\pi$  interactions which greatly stabilizes the (P)-helix. The results are summarized in Table S2.

**Table S2.** Calculated energy difference between the original helices and the methyl substituted (*M*)-helix and the hydrogen substituted (*P*)-helix. ( $\Delta E_{\rm M} = E_{\rm M-substitued} - E_{\rm M}$ ,  $\Delta E_{\rm P} = E_{\rm P-substitued} - E_{\rm P}$ )

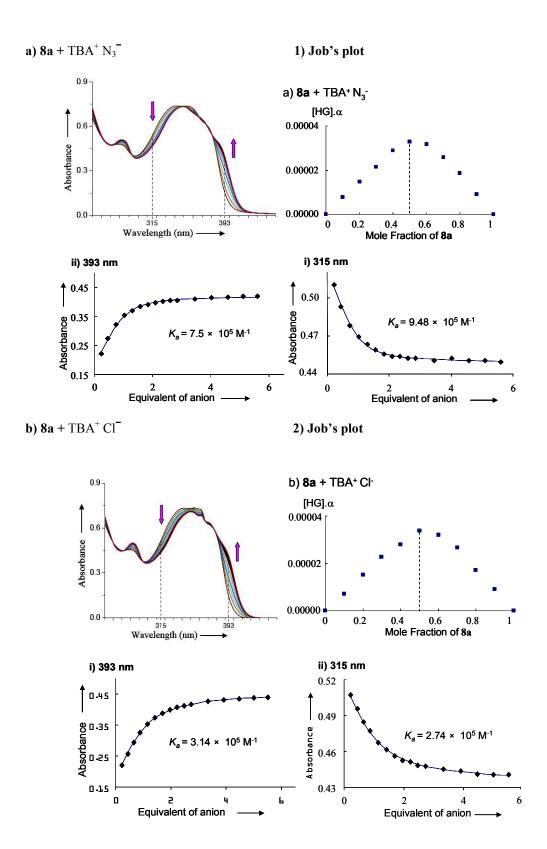
| Method                             | HF/3-21G | MP2/3-21G |
|------------------------------------|----------|-----------|
| $\Delta E_{\rm M}$ (kJ/mol)        | -101,876 | -102,154  |
| $\Delta E_{\rm P}  ({\rm kJ/mol})$ | +101,932 | +102,189  |

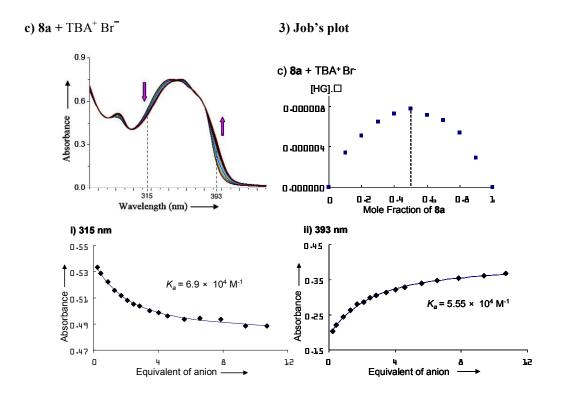
#### 5. Binding Studies

**Titrations**: The experiments were conducted using UV-visible spectroscopy and were all duplicated at  $21 \pm 1$  °C in 1% (v/v) MeOH in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The stock solution (1.0 × 10<sup>-5</sup> M) of 8a was first prepared. Using this solution as a solvent, a stock solution of an anion (0.3-20) mM, depends on the guest) was prepared. A 2.0 mL of 8a was transferred to a UV cell, and an initial absorption spectrum was taken. To this solution were added small portions of the anion solution (10 µL initially, then 20-50 µL, and finally 100-200 µL), and the spectrum was recorded after each addition and 12-16 data points were obtained. Upon addition of an anion, the UV-visible spectra were gradually changed, showing multiple isosbestic points at wavelengths. The association constants  $(K_a)$  were determined by nonlinear curve fitting of the titration curves<sup>4</sup>, plotting the absorbance change at two different wavelengths against equivalents of an anion added.

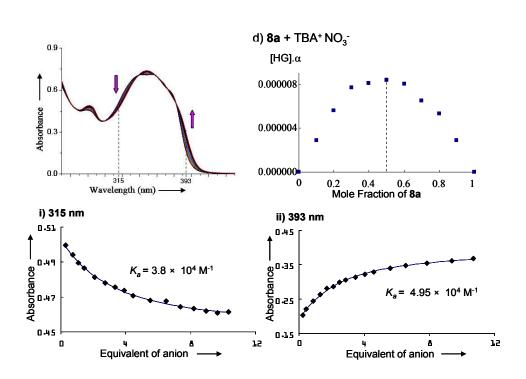
**Job's plots**: Stock solutions of the chiral oligomer 8a  $(5.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M})$  and an anion  $(5.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M})$ 10<sup>-5</sup> M) were separately prepared in 1% (v/v) MeOH in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The UV-visible spectrum was taken for each of 10 different solutions containing total 1.5 mL of the host and an anion in the following ratios: 1.50:0, 1.35:0.15, 1.20:0.30, 1.05:0.45, 0.90:0.60, 0.75:0.75, 0.60:0.90, 0.45:1.05, 0.30:1.20, and 0.15:1.35.

Long, J. R; Drago, R. S. J. Chem. Edu., 1982, 59, 1037-1039.
Connors, K. A. Binding Constants, John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1987, pp. 24–28.

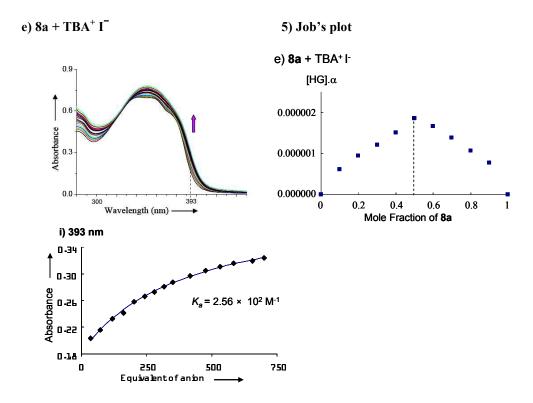




**d)**  $8a + TBA^{+} NO_{3}^{-}$ 

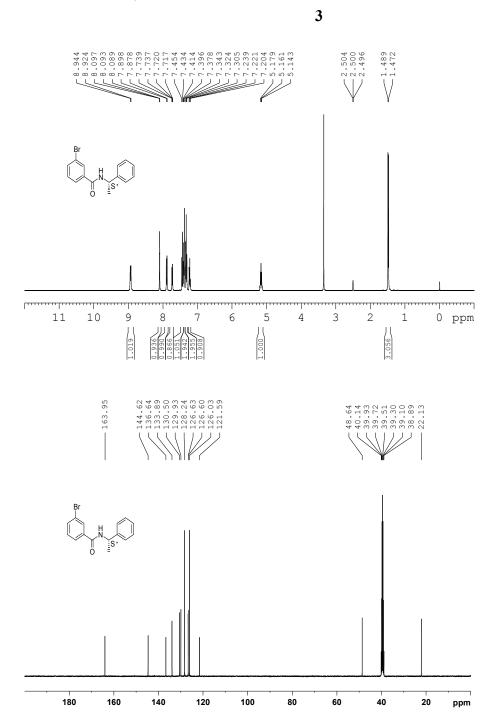


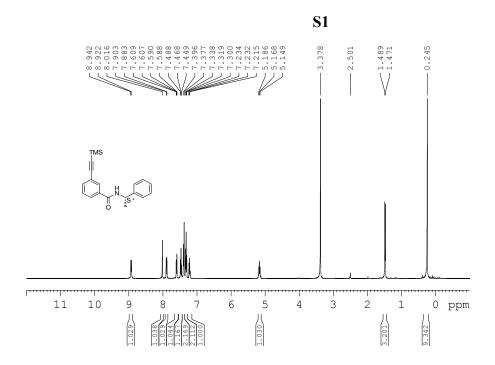
4) Job's plot

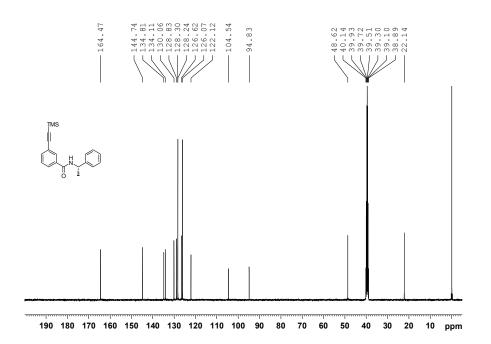


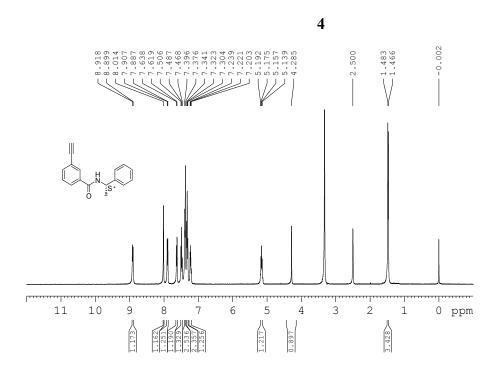
**Figure S8.** The UV/Vis spectra of **8a** upon addition of anion (top, left), experimental (dots) and theoretical curves(lines) (bottom), and Job's plots (top, right)

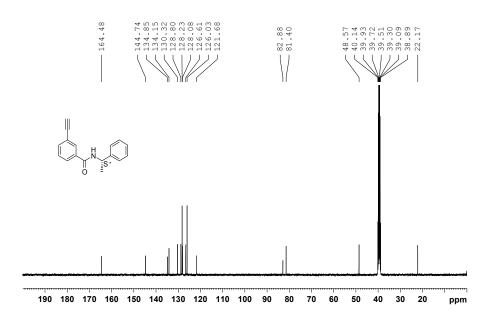
6.  $^{1}$ H and  $^{13}$ C NMR spectra of new compounds (400 MHz for  $^{1}$ H and 100 MHz for  $^{13}$ C, DMSO- $d_6$ , 25  $^{\circ}$ C)



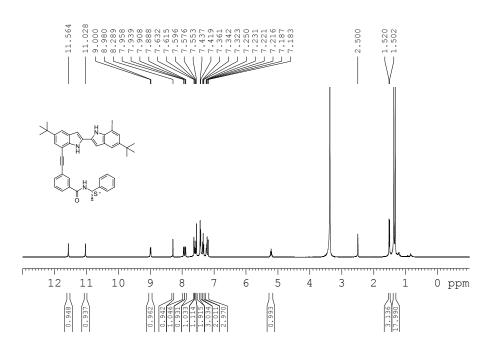


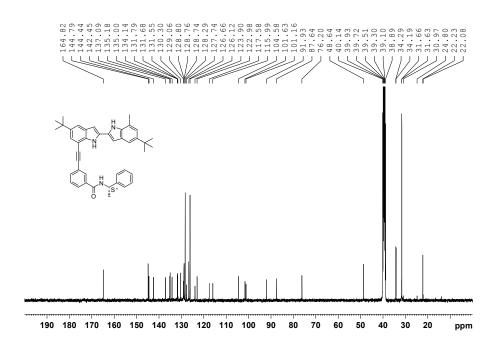


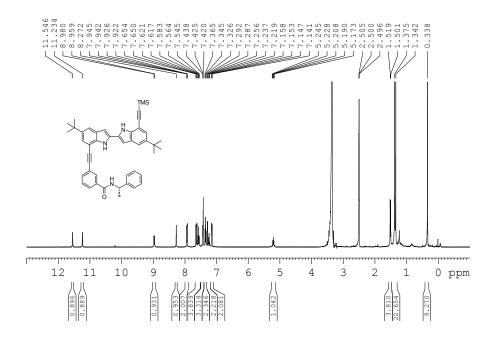


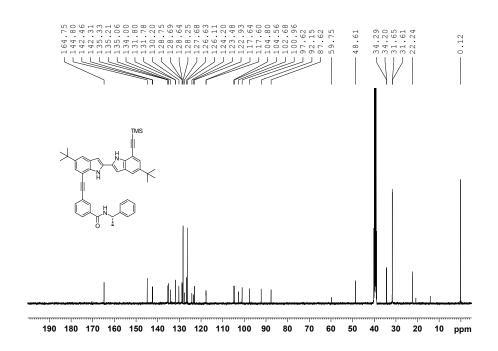


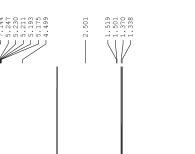












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