## Supporting Information

Inhibition and Stabilization: Cucurbituril Induced Distinct Effects on the Schiff Base Reaction
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e)
 n $\qquad$
b)


Figure S1. Partial ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra ( $600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{pD}=13.6$ ) for a) $\mathbf{1}(2.0 \mathrm{mM})$; b) 1 h after adding $\mathbf{1}(2.0 \mathrm{mM})$ to $\mathbf{2}(2.0 \mathrm{mM})$; c) 1 h after adding $\mathbf{1}(2.0 \mathrm{mM})$ to a $1: 1.1$ mixture of $\mathbf{2}$ (2.0 mM ) and $\mathrm{CB}[7]$; d) 1:1.1 mixture of $\mathbf{2}(2.0 \mathrm{mM})$ and $\mathrm{CB}[7]$; e) $\mathbf{2}(2.0 \mathrm{mM})$.


Figure S2. Plot of imine percentage at different pD for the condensation reaction of $\mathbf{1}$ and $\mathbf{2}$.

Table S1. Values of $K_{a}\left[\mathrm{M}^{-1}\right]$ measured by UV-Vis titration for the binding of $\mathbf{1}$ and $\mathbf{2}$ with $\mathrm{CB}[7]$ at different pH .

| Guest | $\mathrm{pH}=9.6$ | $\mathrm{pH}=13.6$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | $(6.5 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{2}$ | $(4.3 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{2}$ |
| $\mathbf{2}$ | $(1.7 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{4}$ | $(1.2 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{3}$ |



Figure S3. pH titration of $2(1.0 \mathrm{mM})$ in the absence of $\mathrm{CB}[7]$ (circle) and in the presence of 5.0 mM CB[7] (square). And the $\mathrm{p} K_{\mathrm{a}}$ values were determined according to the equation (3).

$$
\begin{equation*}
A=\frac{\mathrm{A} 1-\mathrm{A} 2}{1+\exp \left[\frac{[\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{pK}}{\mathrm{K}}\right]}+\mathrm{A} 2 \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

Where " n " denotes a fitting parameter, $\mathrm{p} K_{a}$ represents the negative logarithm of the equilibrium constant $K_{a}=[2]\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right] /\left[2 \mathrm{H}^{+}\right], \mathrm{A} 1$ and A 2 are the absorbances at low and high pH , respectively. The non-linear-squares fit of equation (3) to the experimental dates gives $\mathrm{p}_{\mathrm{a}}$ $=9.68 \pm 0.01$ for 2 in the absence of $C B[7]$ and $p K_{a}=12.10 \pm 0.02$ for $\mathbf{2}$ in the presence of CB[7].
$\qquad$ 9\%


Figure S4. Partial ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra ( $600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ) for the hydrolysis of imine with ( $\mathrm{b}, \mathrm{d}, \mathrm{f}$ ) and without ( $\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{c}, \mathrm{e}$ ) $\mathrm{CB}[7]$ in $\mathrm{pD}=13.6(\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{b})$, $\mathrm{pD}=12.5(\mathrm{c}, \mathrm{d})$ and $\mathrm{pD}=11.5$ (e, f). Percentage of imine was calculated until there was no any change on ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra.

Table S2. The CIS values for cations in the absence/presence of $C B[7]$.

| Guest | $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}$ ( $\alpha$ moiety) |  |  | $\mathrm{N}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}(\beta$ moiety $)$ |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | Free | With CB[7] | CIS | Free | With CB[7] | CIS |
| $\mathbf{3}$ | 3.94 | 3.12 | -0.82 | 2.17 | 1.96 | -0.21 |
| $\mathbf{4}$ | 3.88 | 3.46 | -0.42 | 2.82 | 2.14 | -0.68 |
| $\mathbf{5}$ | 3.99 | 3.82 | -0.17 | 2.79 | 1.87 | -0.92 |
| $\mathbf{6}$ | 3.97 | 3.90 | -0.07 | 2.91 | 2.06 | -0.85 |
| $\mathbf{7}$ | 3.99 | 3.97 | -0.02 | 3.23 | 2.44 | -0.79 |

Table S3. Volumes of iminium cations and PCs.

|  | $\beta$ moiety |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | $\mathrm{R}_{1}$ | $\mathrm{R}_{2}$ | a moiety | Volume for $\beta$ moiety <br> $\left(\AA^{3}\right)$ | PCs |
| $\mathbf{3}$ | Me | Me |  | 62 | 22.22 |
| $\mathbf{4}$ | $-\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)_{4}-$ |  | 86 | 30.82 |  |
| $\mathbf{5}$ | $-\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)_{5}-$ |  | 102 | 36.55 |  |
| $\mathbf{6}$ | $-\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)_{6}$ |  | 118 | 42.29 |  |
| $\mathbf{7}$ |  |  |  | 147 | 52.68 |

The volumes were calculated by geometry optimization with AM1 semiempirical method for the corresponding alkane and the PCs were calculated based on the CB[7] inner cavity volume which is reported as $279 \AA^{3} .{ }^{1}$


|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 4.0 | 3.5 | 3.0 | 2.5 | 2.0 | 1.5 |

Figure S5. Partial ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra $\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)$ for a) 3; b) hydrolyzed 3; c) 3 in the presence of CB[7] ( 1.0 eq ). stands for 3 and $\star$ stands for the corresponding ketone and amine.

b)


Figure S6. Partial ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra ( $600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ) for a) 4; b) hydrolyzed 4; c) 4 in the presence of CB[7] ( 1.0 eq ). $\leqslant$ stands for 4 and $\star$ stands for the corresponding ketone and amine.


Figure S7. Partial ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra $\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)$ for a) 5 ; b) hydrolyzed 5 ; c) 5 in the presence of CB[7] (1.0 eq). . stands for 5 and $\star$ stands for the corresponding ketone and amine.


Figure S8. Partial ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra ( $600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ) for a) 6; b) hydrolyzed 6; c) 6 in the presence of CB[7] ( 1.0 eq ). stands for 6 and $\star$ stands for the corresponding ketone and amine.


Figure S9. Lifetime of a) 3; b) 4; c) 5; d) $\mathbf{6}$ and e) $\mathbf{7}$ in the absence of CB[7] (square) and in the presence of $\mathrm{CB}[7]$ (circle).


Figure S10. Side view of the crystal structure of $\mathrm{CB}[7] \cdot 7$ showing that the average distances form C145 and C152 to the adjacent oxygens on CB[7] are quite similar.

a)


| ppm | 4.0 | 3.5 | 3.0 | 2.5 | 2.0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

Figure S11. Partial ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra $\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)$ for a) $\mathbf{3}$; b) $\mathbf{3}$ in the presence of $\mathrm{CB}[6]$ ( 1.0 eq ). $\bullet$ stands for 3 and $\star$ stands for the corresponding ketone and amine.

a)

| ppm | 4.0 | 3.5 | 3.0 | 2.5 | 2.0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

Figure S12. Partial ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra $\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)$ for a) $\mathbf{4}$; b) $\mathbf{4}$ in the presence of $\mathrm{CB}[6]$ ( 1.0 eq ). $\bullet$ stands for 4 and $\star$ stands for the corresponding ketone and amine.
b)


| ppm | 4.0 | 3.5 | 3.0 | 2.5 | 2.0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

Figure S13. Partial ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra $\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)$ for a) $\mathbf{5}$; b) 5 in the presence of $\mathrm{CB}[6]$ ( 1.0 eq ). $\bullet$ stands for 5 and $\star$ stands for the corresponding ketone and amine.


Figure S14. Partial ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra $\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)$ for a) 6; b) 6 in the presence of $\mathrm{CB}[6]$ ( 1.0 eq ). $\bullet$ stands for 6 and $\star$ stands for the corresponding ketone and amine.
b) $\qquad$ $\stackrel{\star}{~} \underbrace{\star}$ Mithi


Figure S15. Partial ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra $\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)$ for a) 7; b) 7 in the presence of $\mathrm{CB}[6]$ (1.0 eq). $\star$ stands for 7 and $\star$ stands for the corresponding ketone and amine.


Figure S16. Lifetime of iminium cations ( $\square$ for $\mathbf{3}$; $\circ$ for $\mathbf{4} ; \Delta$ for 5 ; $\nabla$ for $\mathbf{6} ; \diamond$ for 7 ) in the absence (dotted line) and presence (solid line) of CB[6] (1.0 eq).


Figure S17. Crystal structure of $\mathrm{CB}[7] \cdot 7$ with thermal ellipsoid plot ( $50 \%$ probability ellipsoids).
(1) Nau, W. M.; Florea, M.; Assaf, K. I. Isr. J. Chem. 2011, 51, 559-577.

