

*Electronic Supplementary Information*

## **Carbazole sulfonamide-based macrocyclic receptors capable of selective complexation of fluoride ion**

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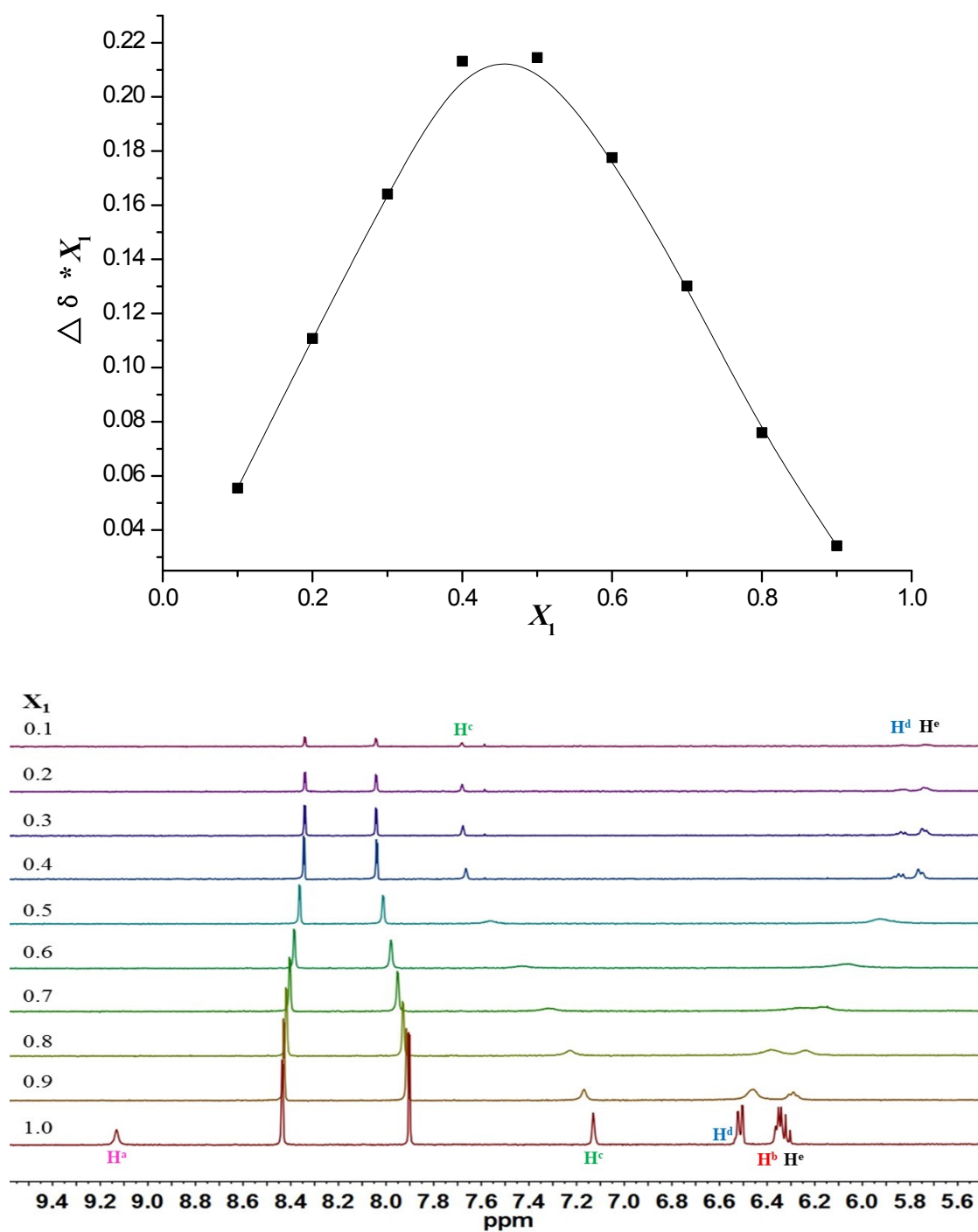
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## 1. Crystal data

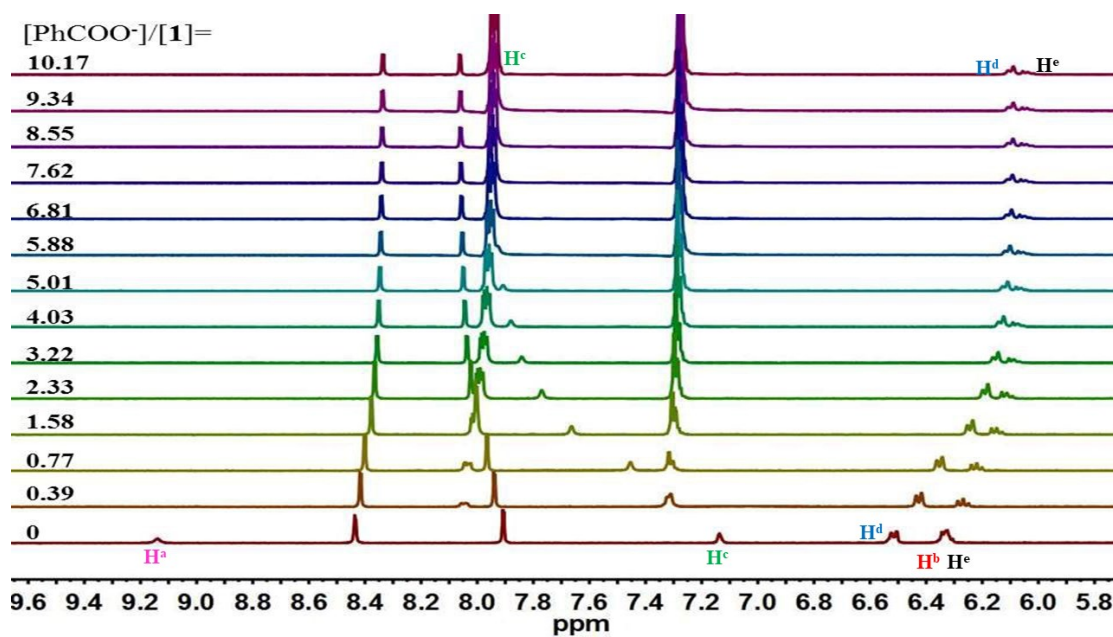
**Table S1.** Crystal data for macrocycle **1**, its fluoride complex (**[1]<sub>2</sub>·TBAF**), and macrocycle **2**.

	macrocycle <b>1</b>	<b>[1]<sub>2</sub>·TBAF</b>	macrocycle <b>2</b>
CCDC number	<b>1976672</b>	<b>1976667</b>	<b>2021529</b>
Empirical formula	C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>33</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>72</sub> H <sub>102</sub> FN <sub>7</sub> O <sub>8</sub> S <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>27</sub> H <sub>32</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>4</sub> S <sub>2</sub>
Formula weight	539.69	1340.84	540.68
Temperature/K	150.03	273.15	273.00
Wavelength/Å	1.54178	1.54178	0.71073
Crystal system	orthorhombic	orthorhombic	monoclinic
Space group	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub>	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub>	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> / <i>n</i>
<i>a</i> /Å	18.5696(4)	16.4040(17)	30.948(4)
<i>b</i> /Å	26.4247(6)	16.5999(19)	6.6912(8)
<i>c</i> /Å	6.5248(1)	29.9980(4)	30.949(4)
$\alpha$ /°	90	90	90
$\beta$ /°	90	90	119.496(4)
$\gamma$ /°	90	90	90
<i>V</i> /Å <sup>3</sup>	3201.69(11)	8168.7(16)	5578.3(12)
<i>Z</i>	4	4	8
<i>D</i> <sub>calc</sub> /g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.120	1.090	1.288
Absorption coefficient/mm <sup>-1</sup>	1.776	1.496	0.230
<i>F</i> (000)	1144.0	2880.0	2288.0
Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>	0.24 × 0.22 × 0.19	0.38 × 0.31 × 0.12	0.15 × 0.15 × 0.12
Radiation, $\lambda$ /Å	CuK $\alpha$ ( $\lambda$ = 1.54178)	CuK $\alpha$ ( $\lambda$ = 1.54178)	MoK $\alpha$ ( $\lambda$ = 0.71073)
2 $\theta$ range /°	5.816 to 144.236	5.892 to 134.036	1.512 to 56.67
Index ranges	-22 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 22, -32 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 32, -7 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 6	-19 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 19, -19 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 19, -35 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 35	-41 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 41, -8 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 8, -41 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 41
Reflections collected	21398 6171	100660 14480	172216 13837
Independent reflections	[ <i>R</i> <sub>int</sub> = 0.0355, <i>R</i> <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0297]	[ <i>R</i> <sub>int</sub> = 0.1695, <i>R</i> <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.1056]	[ <i>R</i> <sub>int</sub> = 0.0934, <i>R</i> <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0397]
Data/restraints/parameters	6171/135/371	14480/134/906	13837/156/731
Goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	1.081	1.018	1.069
Final <i>R</i> indexes [ <i>I</i> ≥ 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> )]	<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.0834, <i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.2191	<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.0803, <i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.2048	<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.0568, <i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.1334
Final <i>R</i> indexes [all data]	<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.0879, <i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.2240	<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.1309, <i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.2396	<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.0771, <i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.1452
Largest diff. peak/hole/e Å <sup>-3</sup>	0.61/-0.36	0.30/-0.55	0.61/-0.35

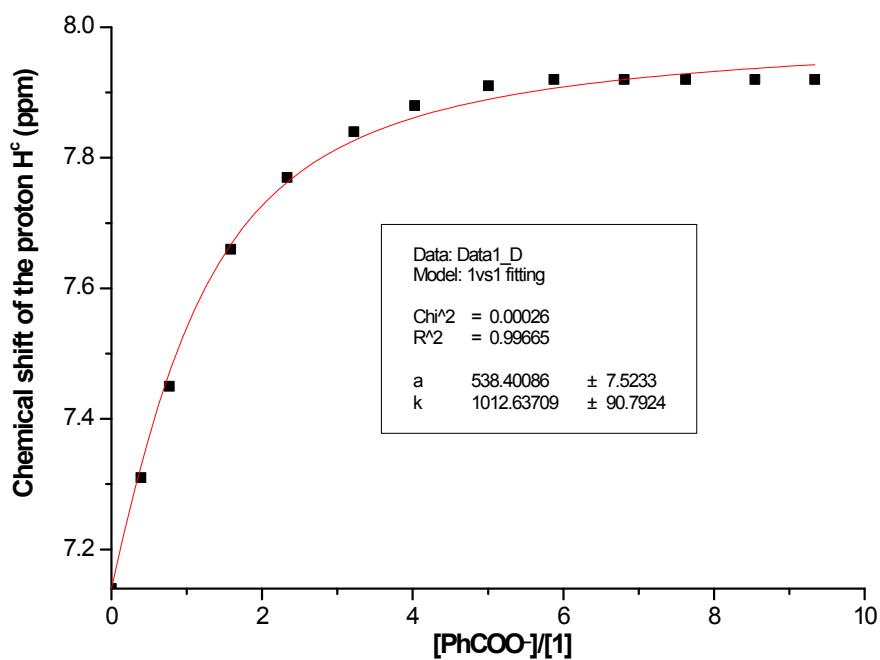
## 2. $^1\text{H}$ NMR titration studies



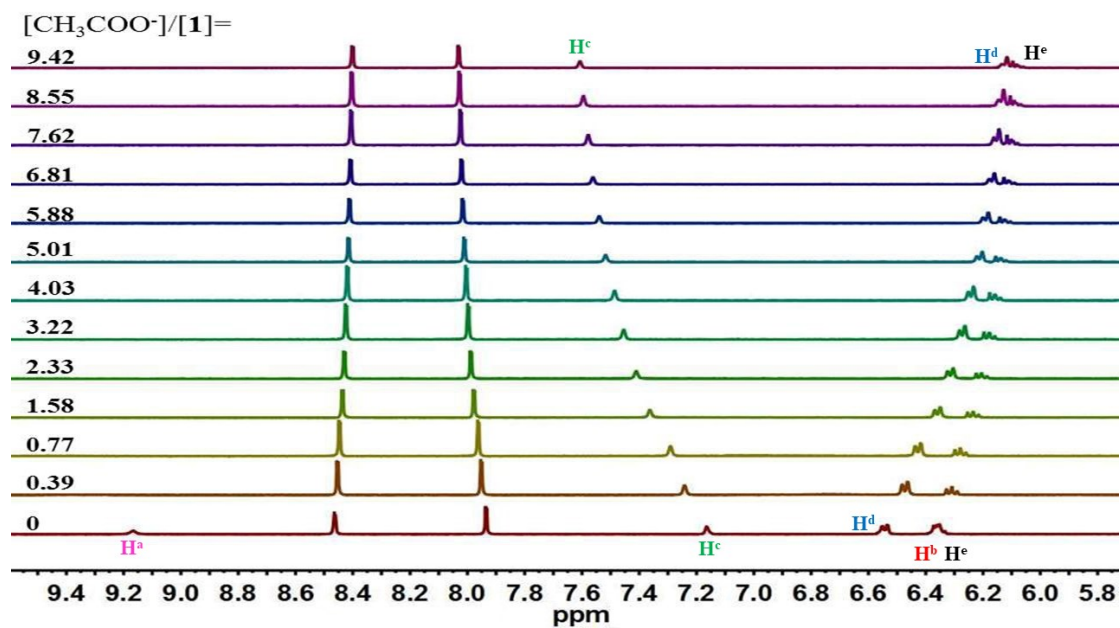
**Figure S1.** Job's plot of macrocycle **1** with TBAF (monitoring the chemical shift of the proton  $\text{H}^c$ ) in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  at 298 K with a total concentration of 1.0 mM (top) and the corresponding  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (bottom).



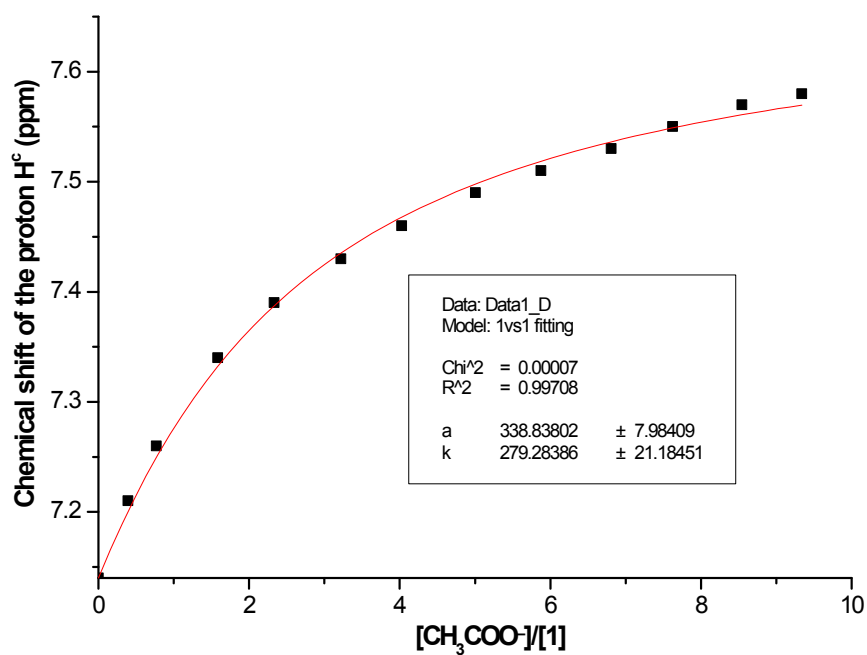
**Figure S2.** Stack plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration of macrocycle **1** (1.6 mM) with TBAPhCOO in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  at 298 K.



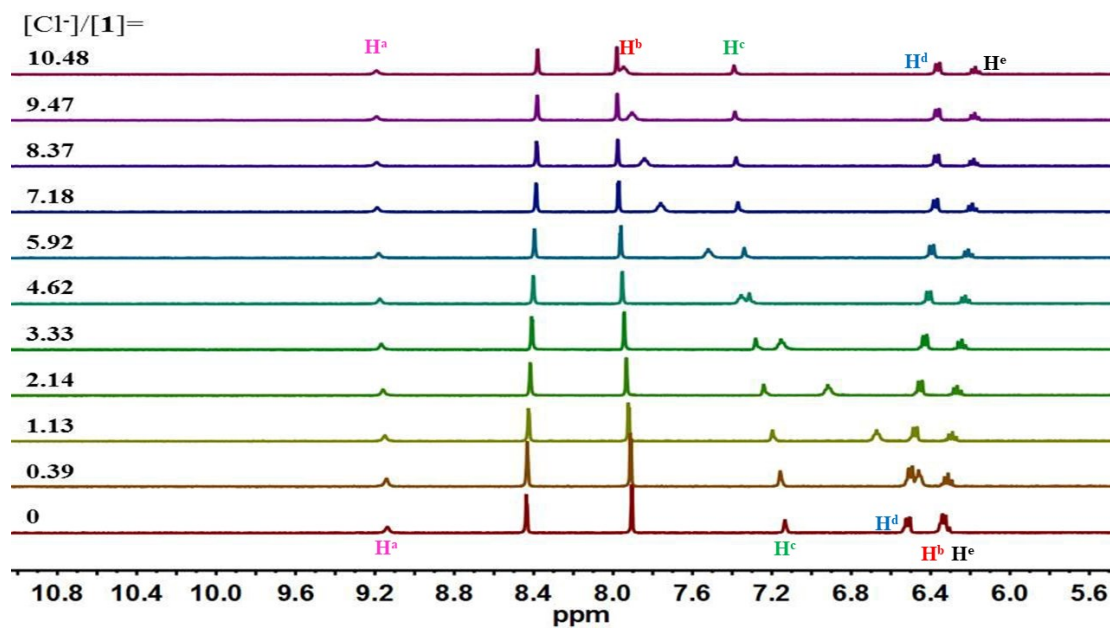
**Figure S3.** Fitting binding isotherms of macrocycle **1** with TBAPhCOO in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  at 298 K, showing chemical shift changes of the proton  $\text{H}^c$  based on a 1:1 binding model ( $K_a = 1013 \text{ M}^{-1}$ ).



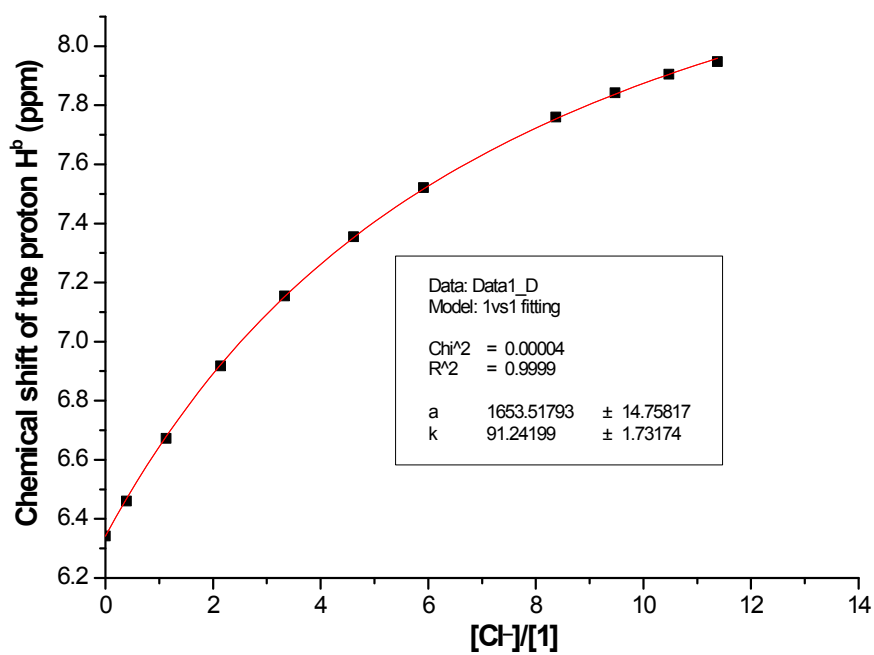
**Figure S4.** Stack plot of <sup>1</sup>H NMR titration of **1** (1.6 mM) with TBACH<sub>3</sub>COO in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 298 K.



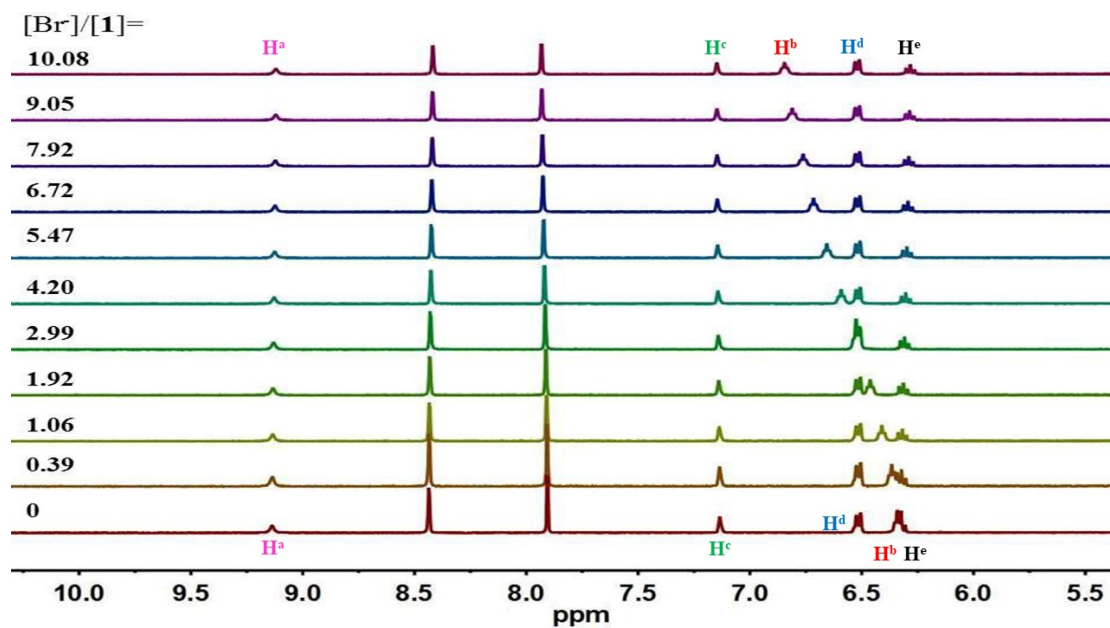
**Figure S5.** Fitting binding isotherms of macrocycle **1** with TBACH<sub>3</sub>COO in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 298 K, showing chemical shift changes of the proton H<sup>c</sup> based on a 1:1 binding model ( $K_a = 279 \text{ M}^{-1}$ ).



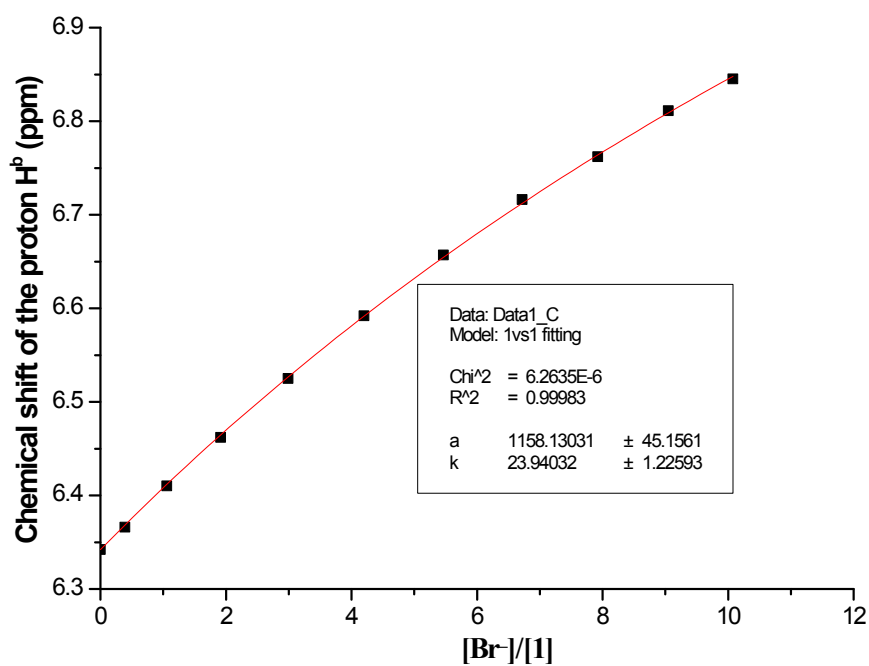
**Figure S6.** Stack plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration of macrocycle **1** (1.6 mM) with TBACl in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  at 298 K.



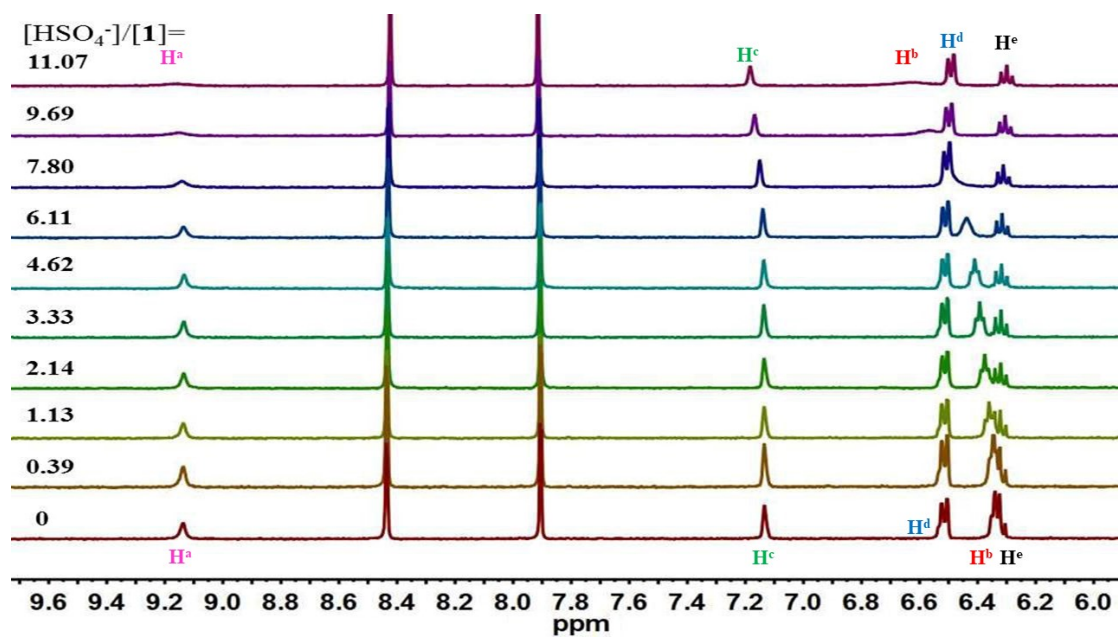
**Figure S7.** Fitting binding isotherms of macrocycle **1** with TBACl in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  at 298 K, showing chemical shift changes of the proton  $\text{H}^b$  based on a 1:1 binding model ( $K_a = 91 \text{ M}^{-1}$ ).



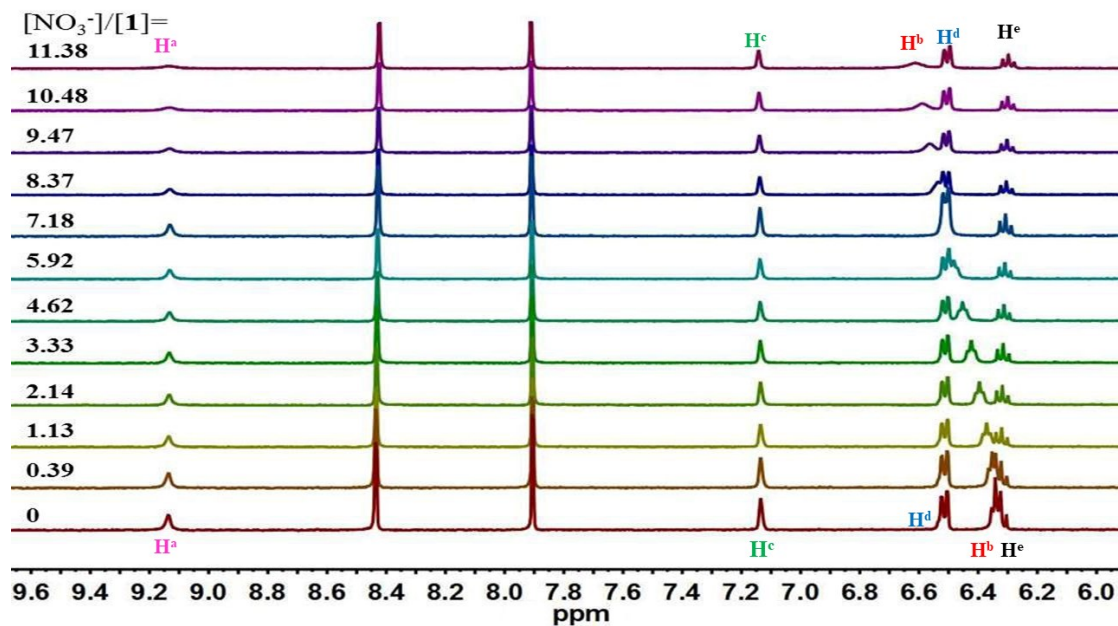
**Figure S8.** Stack plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration of macrocycle **1** (1.6 mM) with TBABr in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  at 298 K.



**Figure S9.** Fitting binding isotherms of macrocycle **1** with TBABr in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  at 298 K, showing chemical shift changes of the proton  $\text{H}^b$  based on a 1:1 binding model ( $K_a = 24 \text{ M}^{-1}$ ).

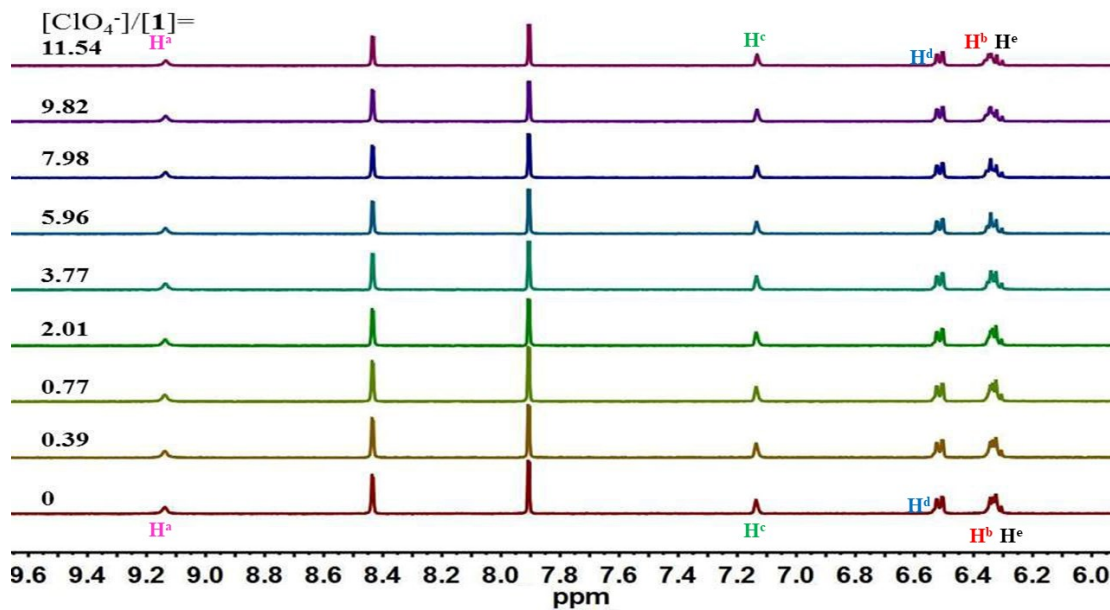


**Figure S10.** Stack plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration of macrocycle **1** (1.6 mM) with TBAHSO<sub>4</sub> in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 298 K ( $K_a < 10 \text{ M}^{-1}$ ).

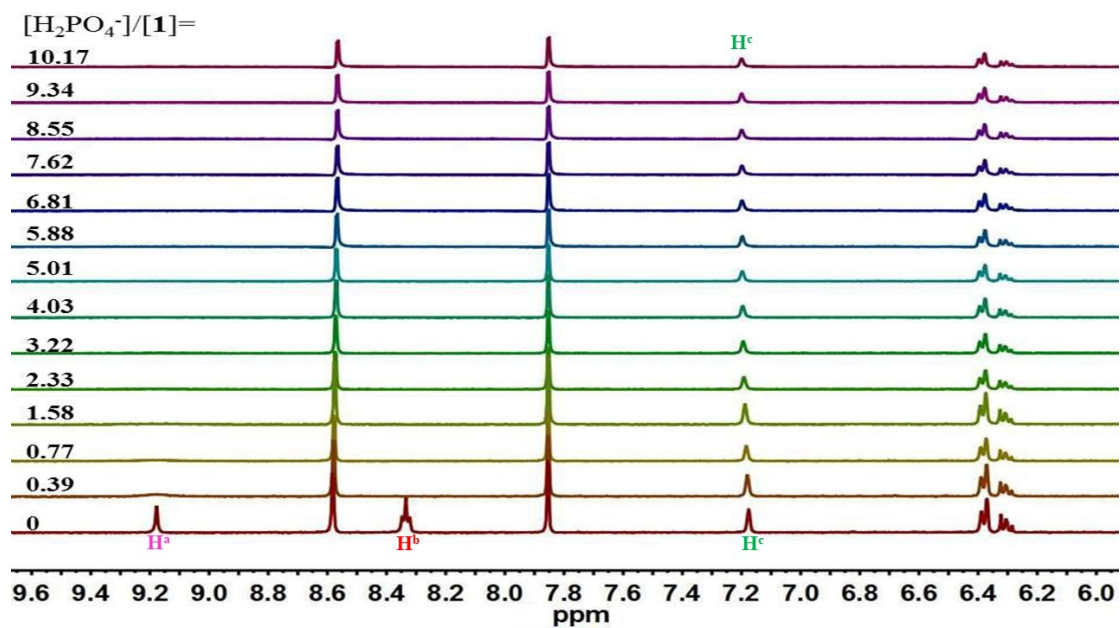


**Figure S11.** Stack plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration of macrocycle **1** (1.6 mM) with TBANO<sub>3</sub> in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 298 K ( $K_a < 10 \text{ M}^{-1}$ ).

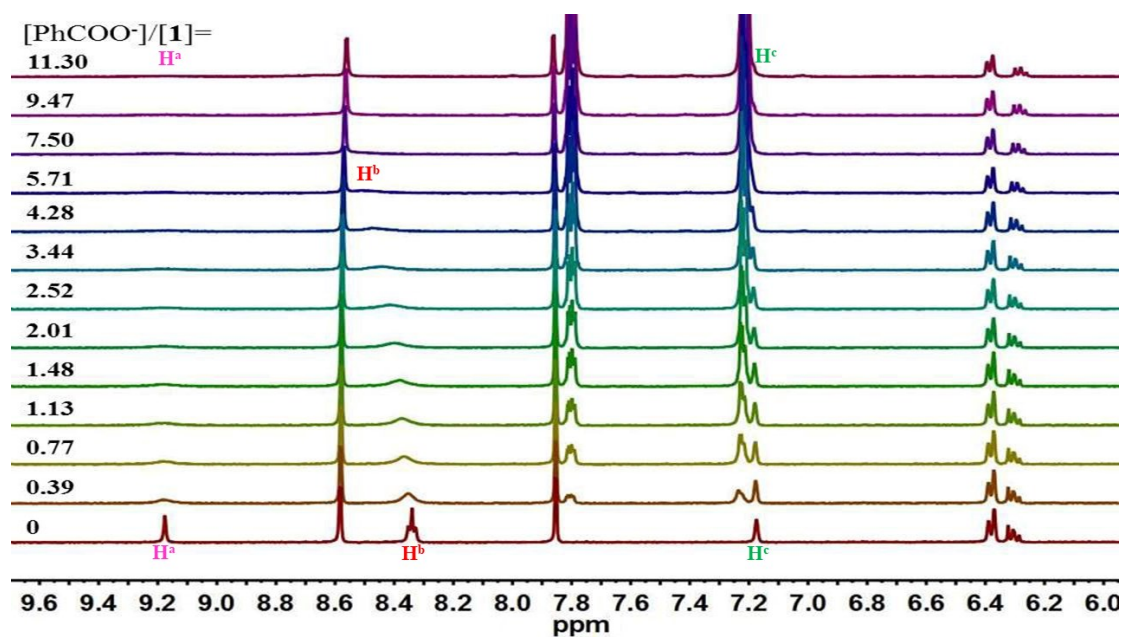




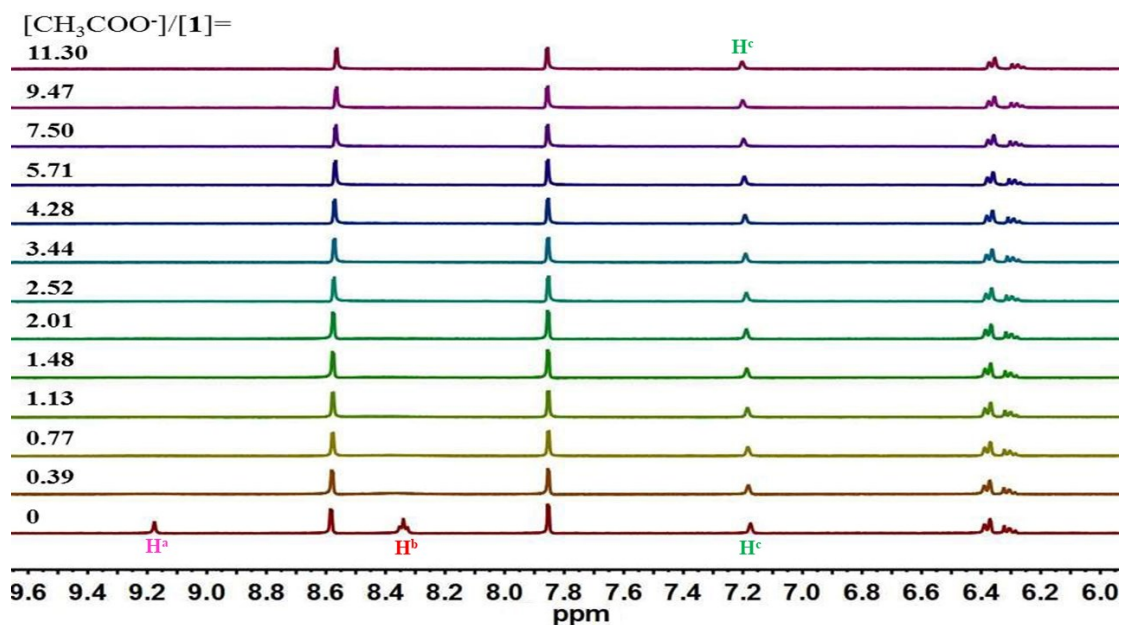
**Figure S12.** Stack plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration of macrocycle **1** (1.6 mM) with  $\text{TBAClO}_4$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  at 298 K (no binding).



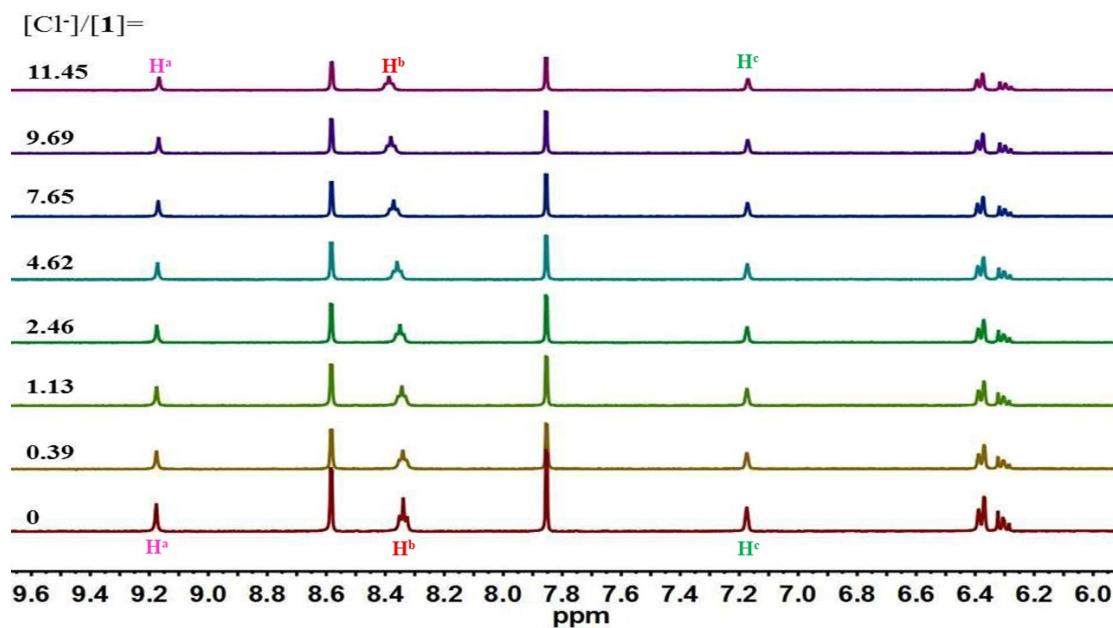
**Figure S13.** Stack plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration of macrocycle **1** (1.6 mM) with  $\text{TBAH}_2\text{PO}_4$  in  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$  at 298 K (very weak or no binding).



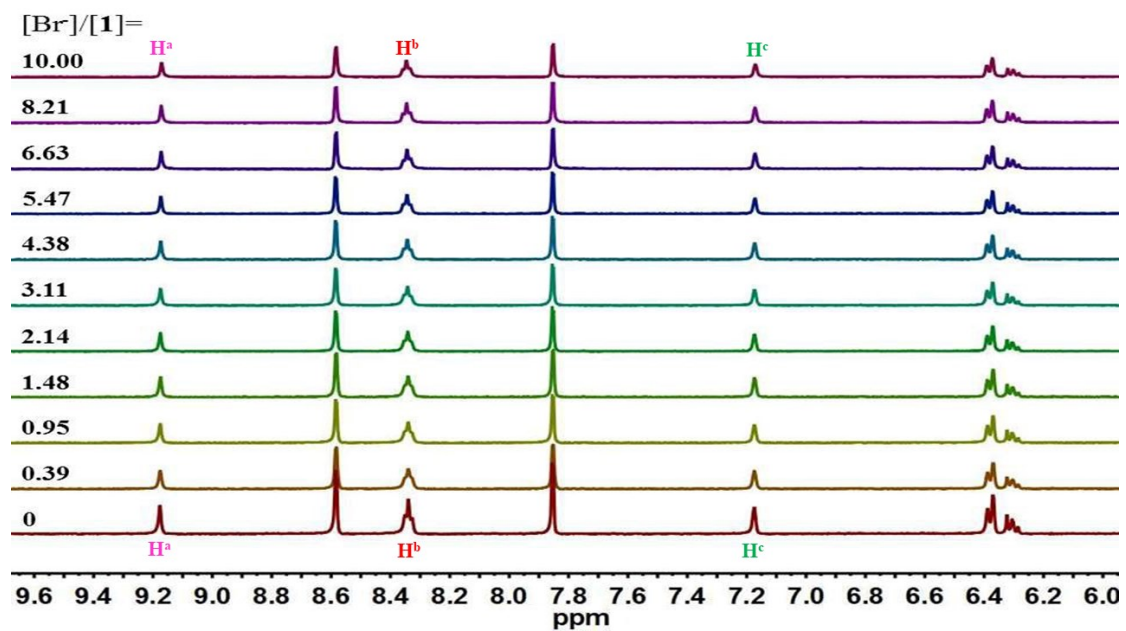
**Figure S14.** Stack plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration of macrocycle **1** (1.6 mM) with  $\text{TBAPhCOO}$  in  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$  at 298 K (very weak binding).



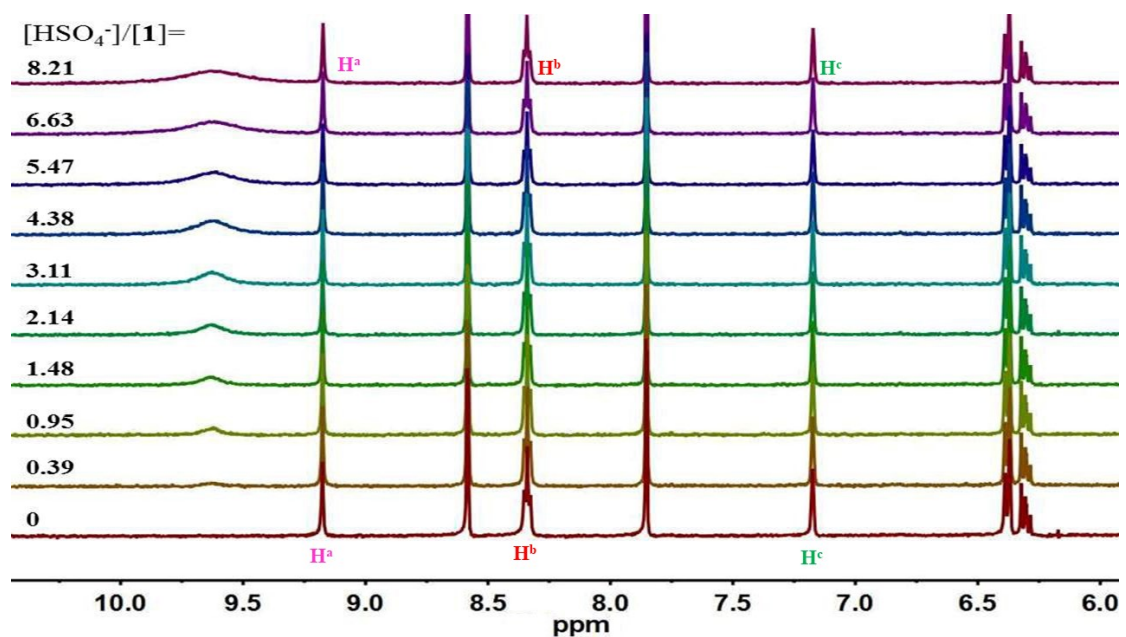
**Figure S15.** Stack plot of <sup>1</sup>H NMR titration of macrocycle **1** (1.6 mM) with TBACH<sub>3</sub>COO in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> at 298 K (very weak or no binding).



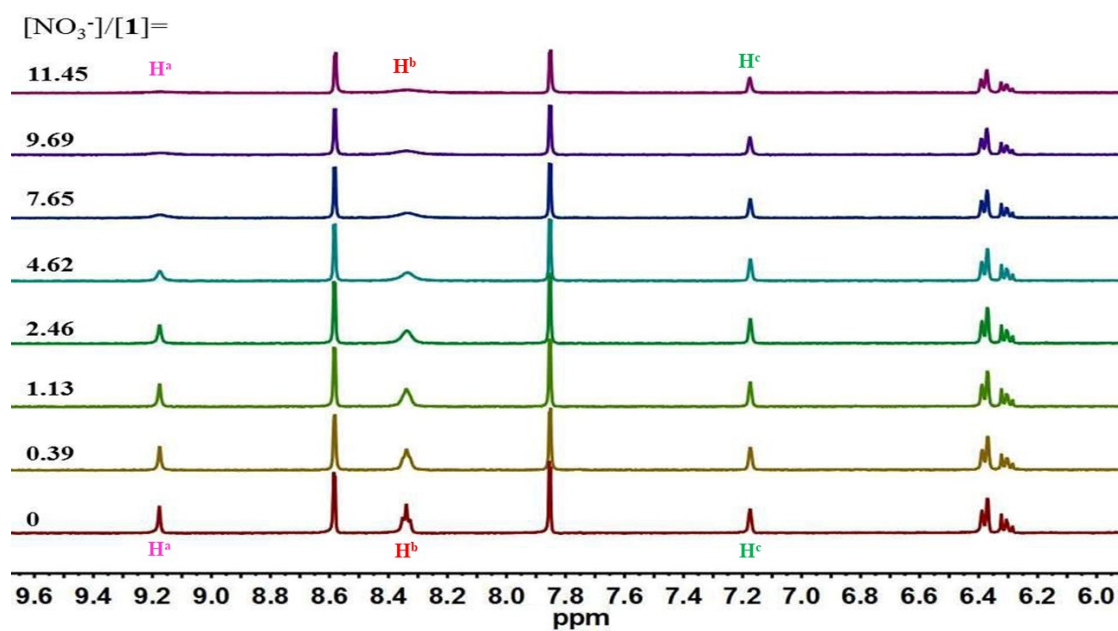
**Figure S16.** Stack plot of <sup>1</sup>H NMR titration of macrocycle **1** (1.6 mM) with TBACl in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> at 298 K (no binding).



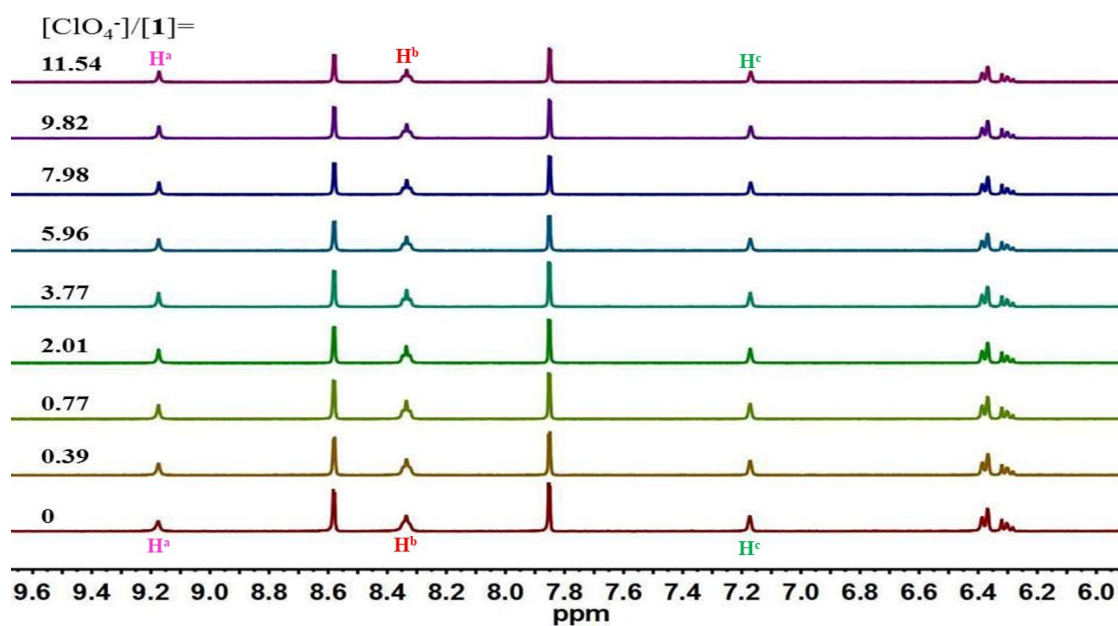
**Figure S17.** Stack plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration of macrocycle **1** (1.6 mM) with TBABr in  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$  at 298 K (no binding).



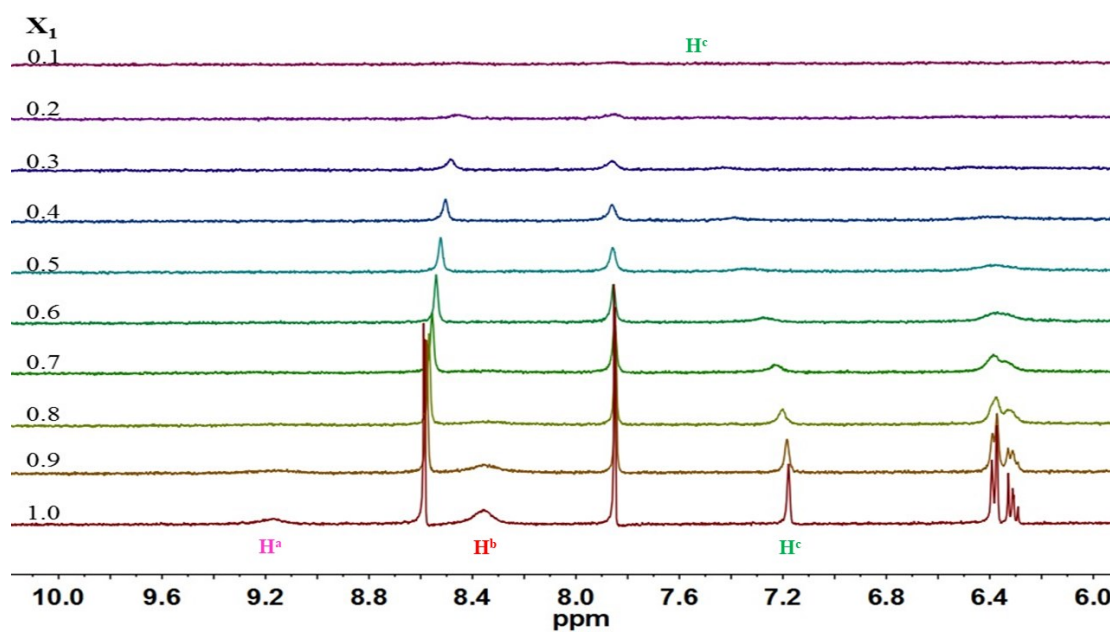
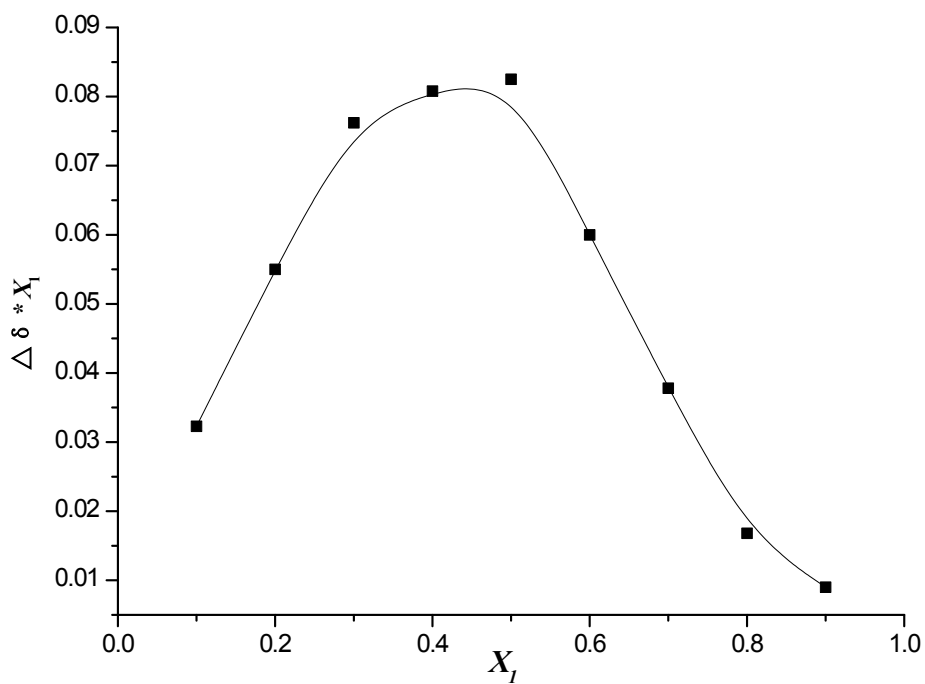
**Figure S18.** Stack plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration of macrocycle **1** (1.6 mM) with TBAHSO<sub>4</sub> in  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$  at 298 K (no binding).



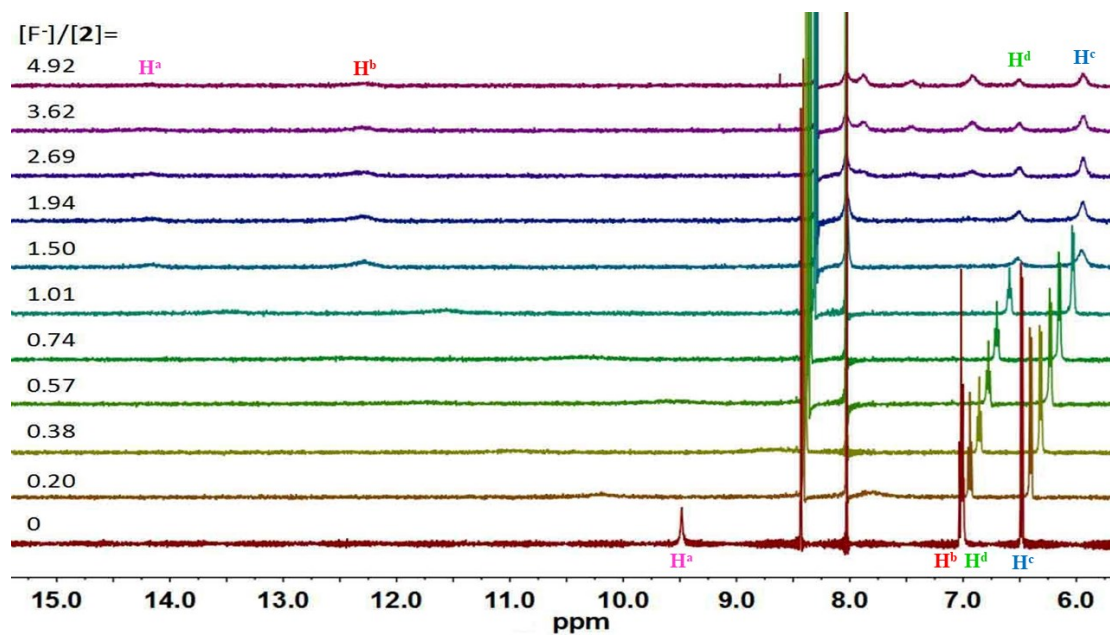
**Figure S19.** Stack plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration of macrocycle **1** (1.6 mM) with  $\text{TBANO}_3$  in  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$  at 298 K (very weak binding).



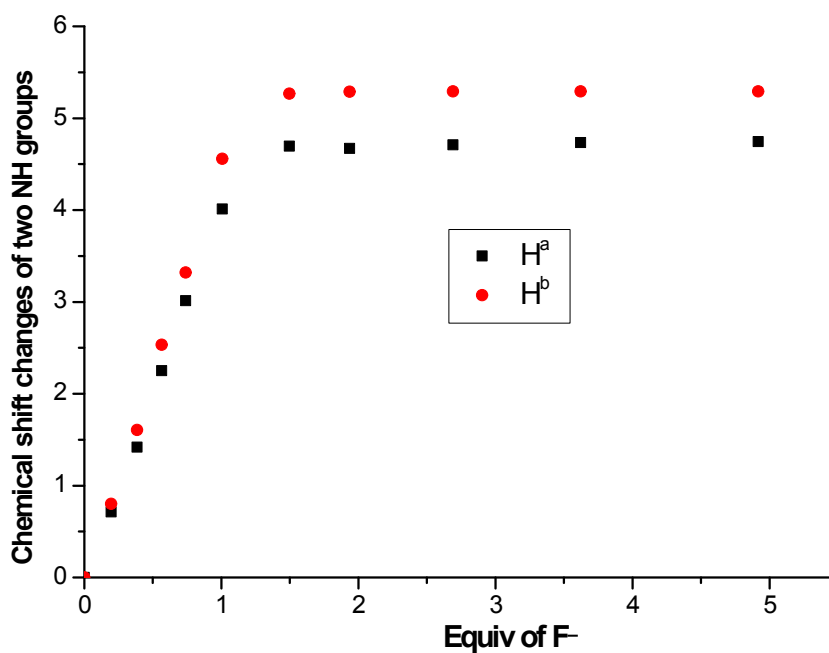
**Figure S20.** Stack plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration of macrocycle **1** (1.6 mM) with  $\text{TBAClO}_4$  in  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$  at 298 K (no binding).



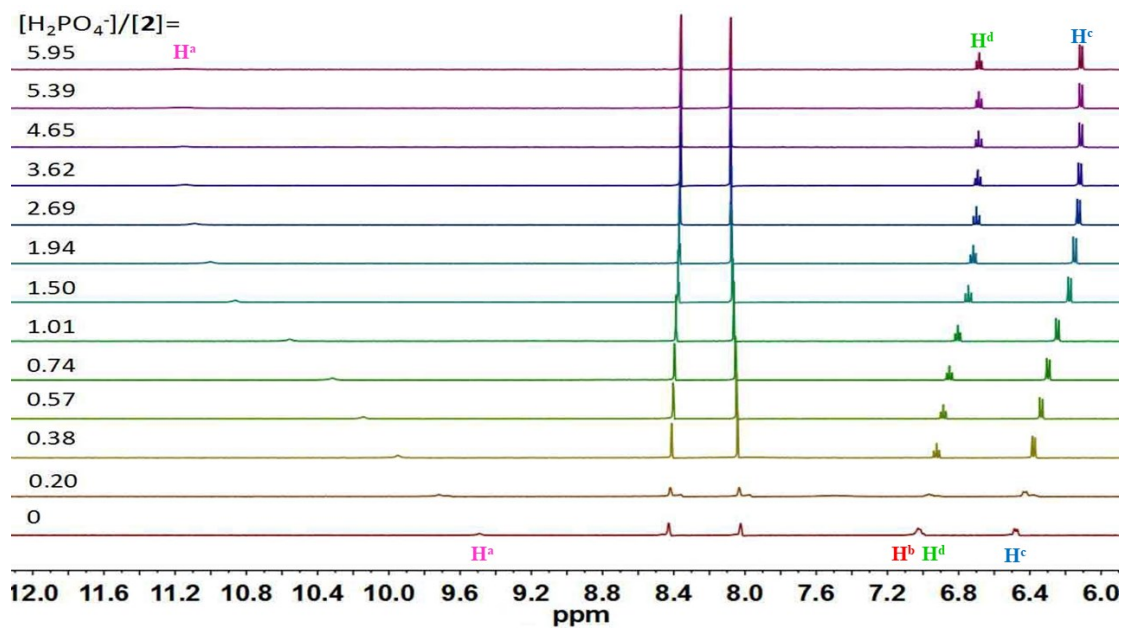
**Figure S21.** Job's plot of macrocycle **1** with TBAF (monitoring the chemical shift of the proton  $H^c$ ) in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> at 298 K with a total concentration of 1.0 mM (top) and the corresponding <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (bottom).



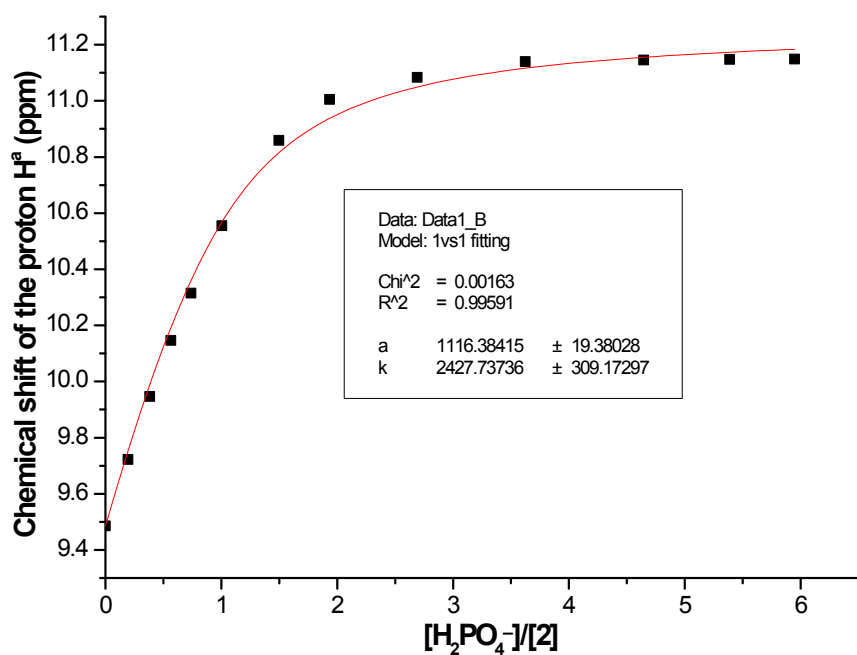
**Figure S22.** Stack plot of <sup>1</sup>H NMR titration of macrocycle **2** (1.6 mM) with TBAF in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 298 K.



**Figure S23.** Chemical shift changes of two NH groups in macrocycle **2** in CD<sub>3</sub>CN upon addition of TBAF. An inflection point for the titration isotherm was seen at nearly 1.0 equiv of TBAF., indicative of a  $K_a > 10000 \text{ M}^{-1}$ .

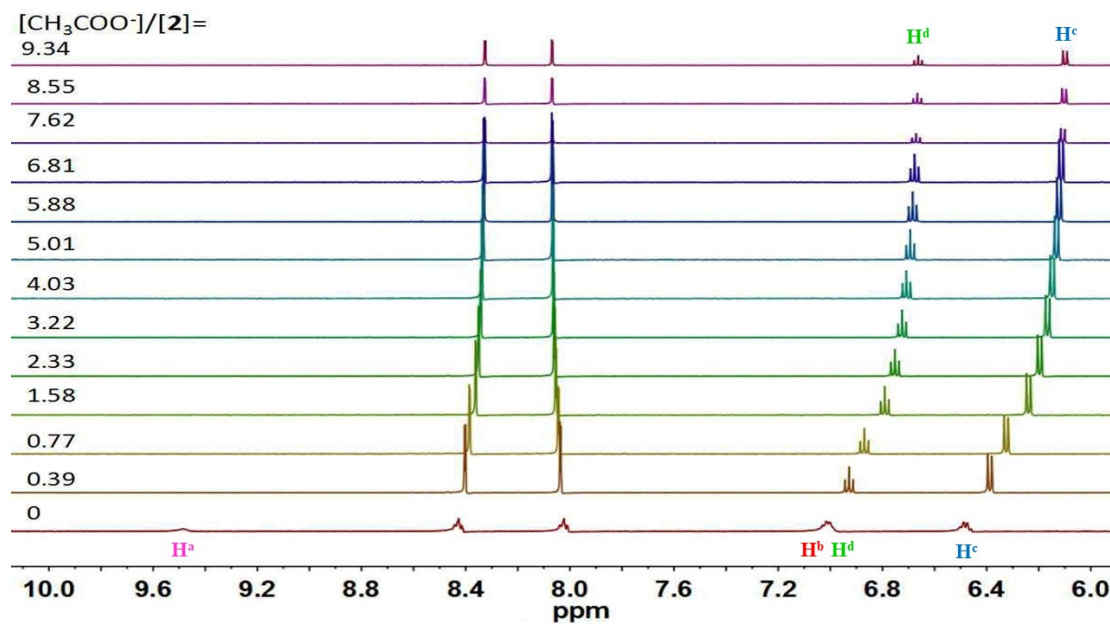


**Figure S24.** Stack plot of <sup>1</sup>H NMR titration of macrocycle **2** (1.6 mM) with TBAH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 298 K.

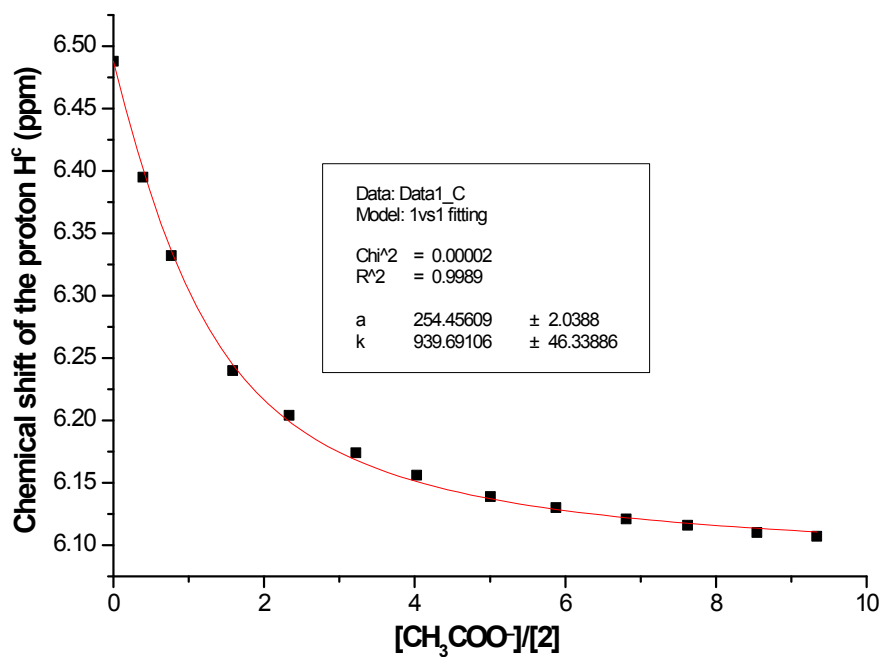


**Figure S25.** Fitting binding isotherms of macrocycle **2** with TBAH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 298 K, showing chemical shift changes of the proton H<sup>a</sup> based on a 1:1 binding model ( $K_a = 2428 \text{ M}^{-1}$ ).

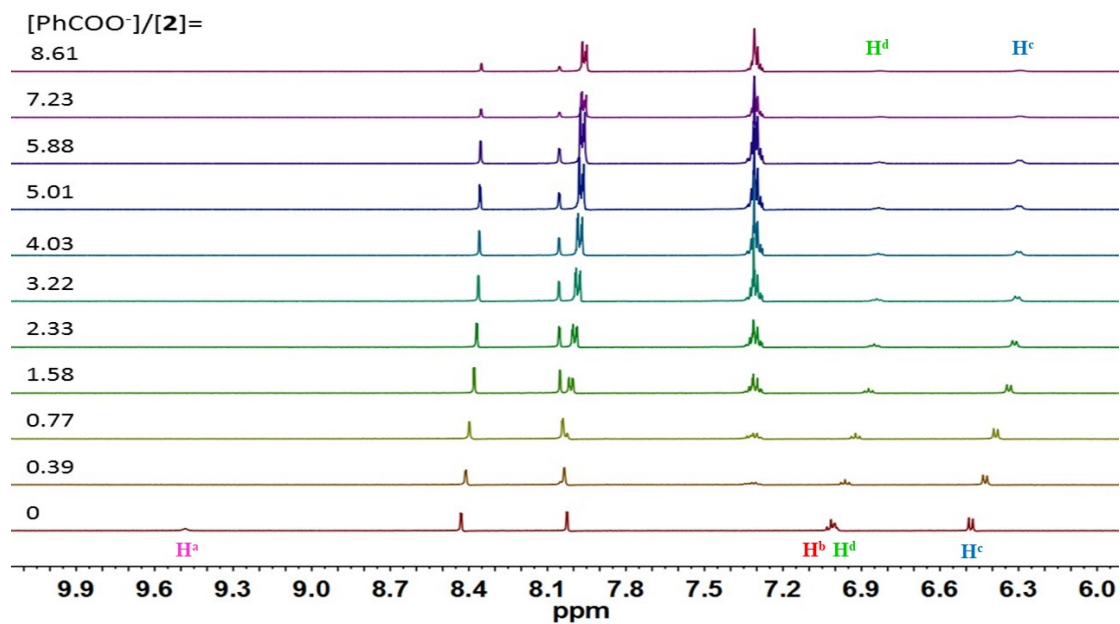




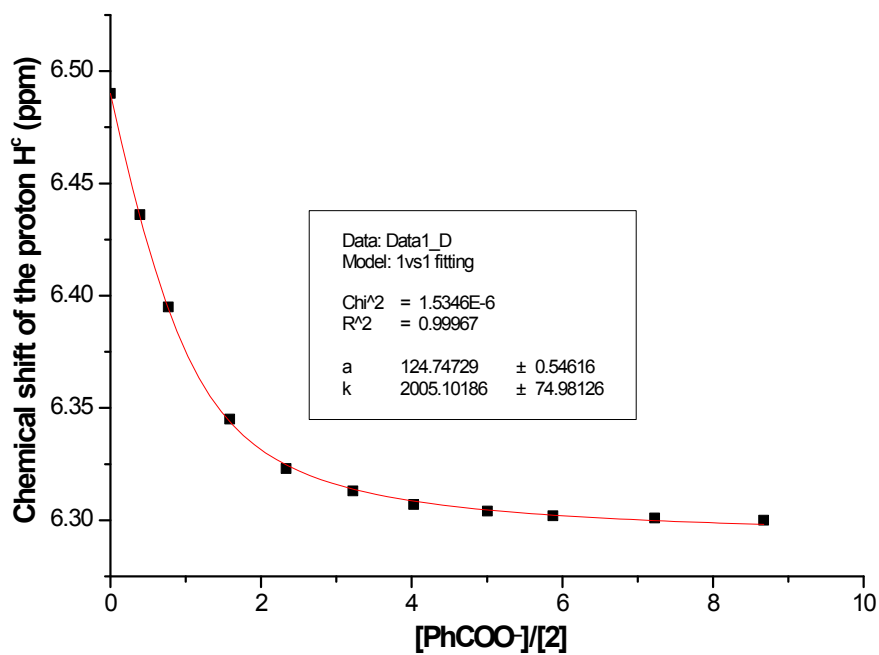
**Figure S26.** Stack plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration of **2** (1.6 mM) with  $\text{TBACH}_3\text{COO}$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  at 298 K.



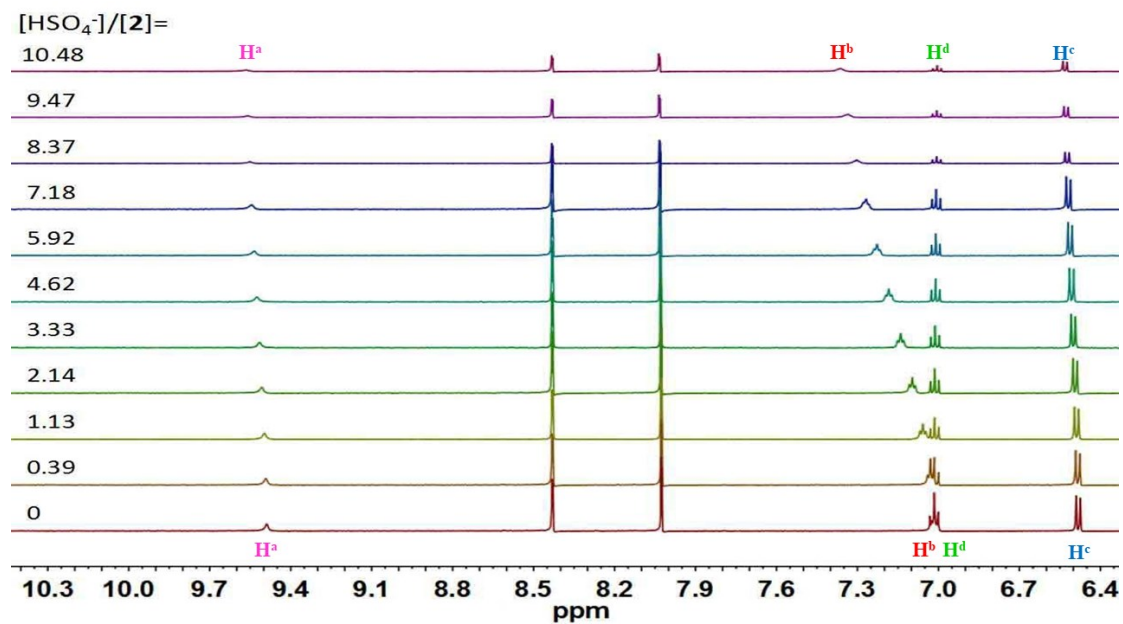
**Figure S27.** Fitting binding isotherms of macrocycle **2** with  $\text{TBACH}_3\text{COO}$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  at 298 K, showing chemical shift changes of the proton  $\text{H}^c$  based on a 1:1 binding model ( $K_a = 939 \text{ M}^{-1}$ ).



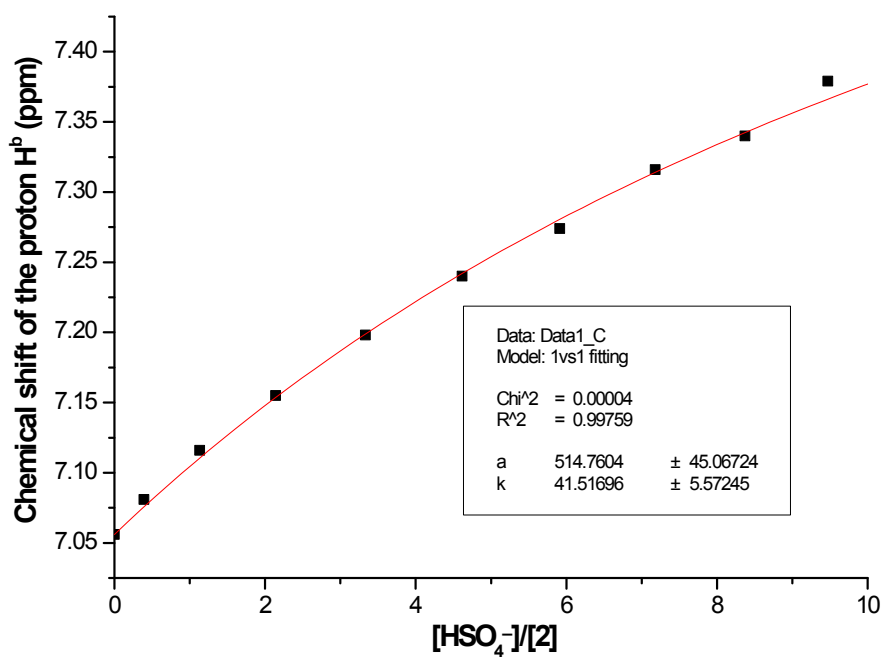
**Figure S28.** Stack plot of <sup>1</sup>H NMR titration of **2** (1.6 mM) with TBAPhCOO in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 298 K.



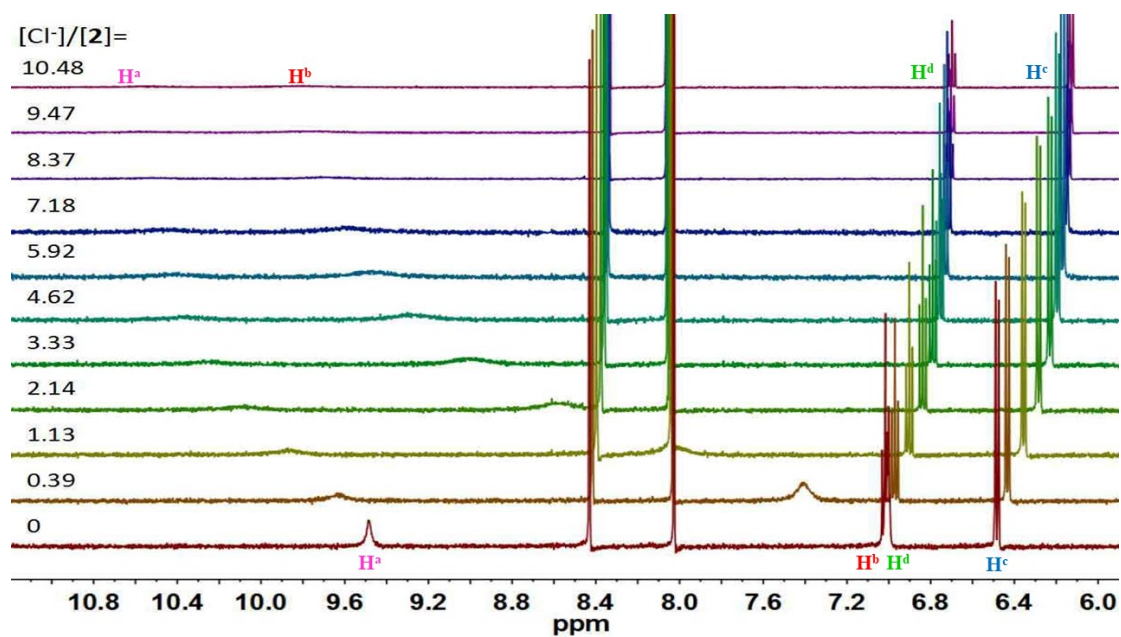
**Figure S29.** Fitting binding isotherms of macrocycle **2** with TBAPhCOO in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 298 K, showing chemical shift changes of the proton H<sup>c</sup> based on a 1:1 binding model ( $K_a = 2005 \text{ M}^{-1}$ ).



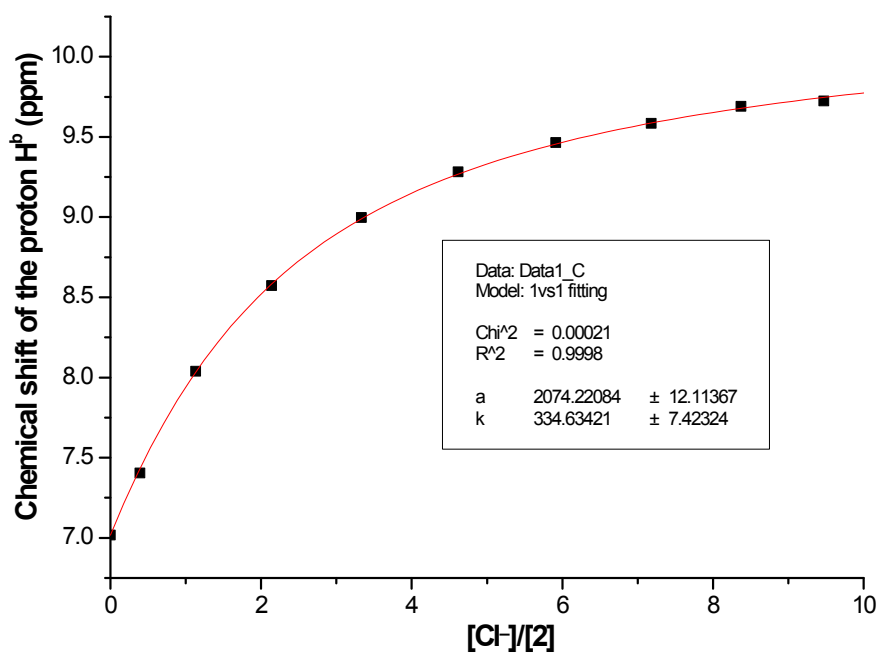
**Figure S30.** Stack plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration of macrocycle **2** (1.6 mM) with TBAHSO<sub>4</sub> in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 298 K.



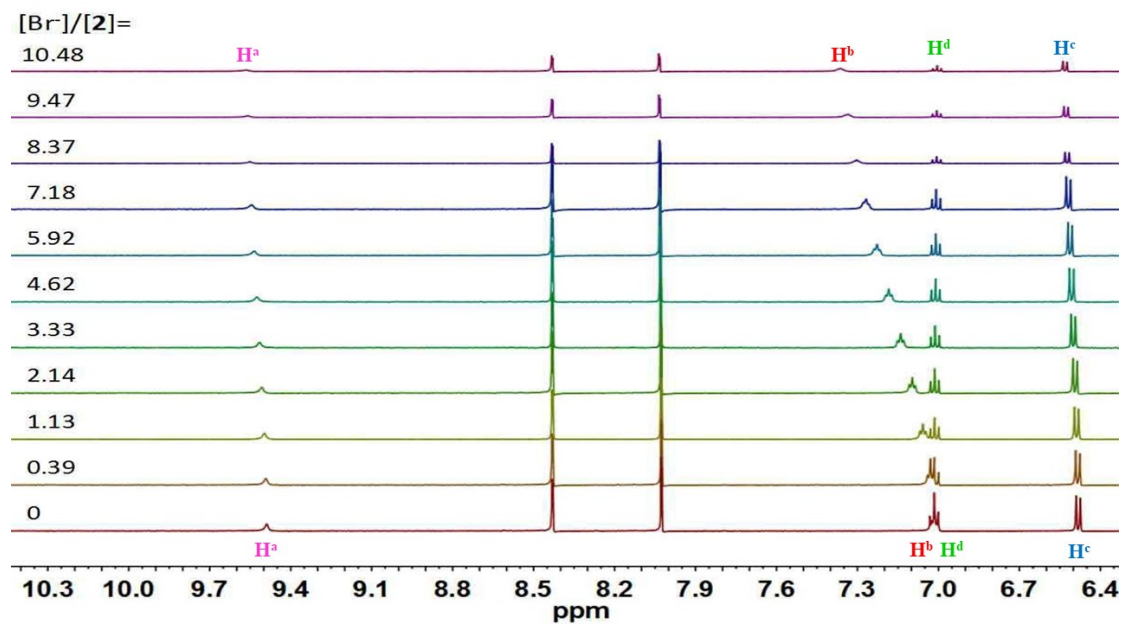
**Figure S31.** Fitting binding isotherms of macrocycle **2** with TBAHSO<sub>4</sub> in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 298 K, showing chemical shift changes of the proton H<sup>b</sup> based on a 1:1 binding model ( $K_a = 41 \text{ M}^{-1}$ ).



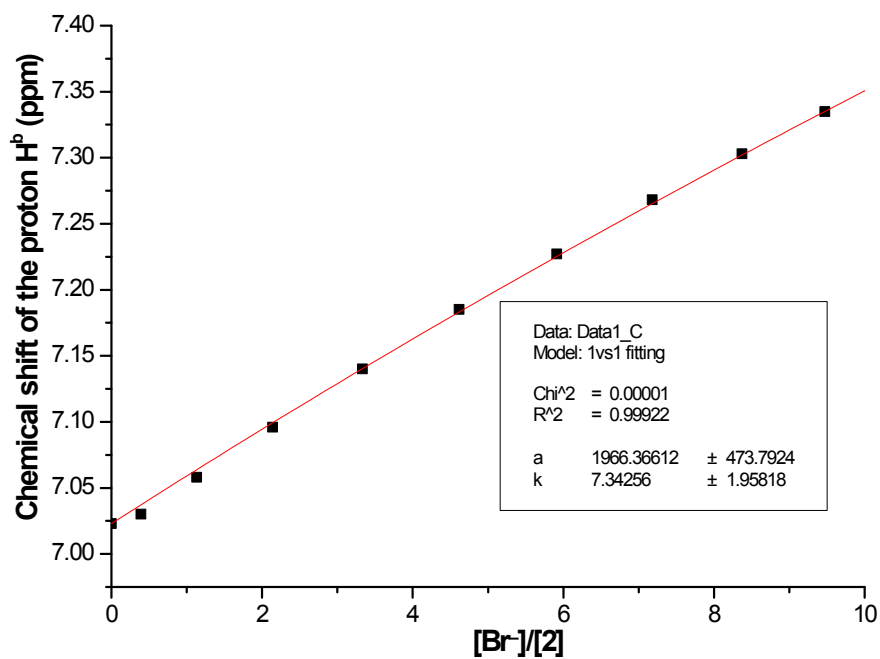
**Figure S32.** Stack plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration of macrocycle **2** (1.6 mM) with TBACl in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  at 298 K.



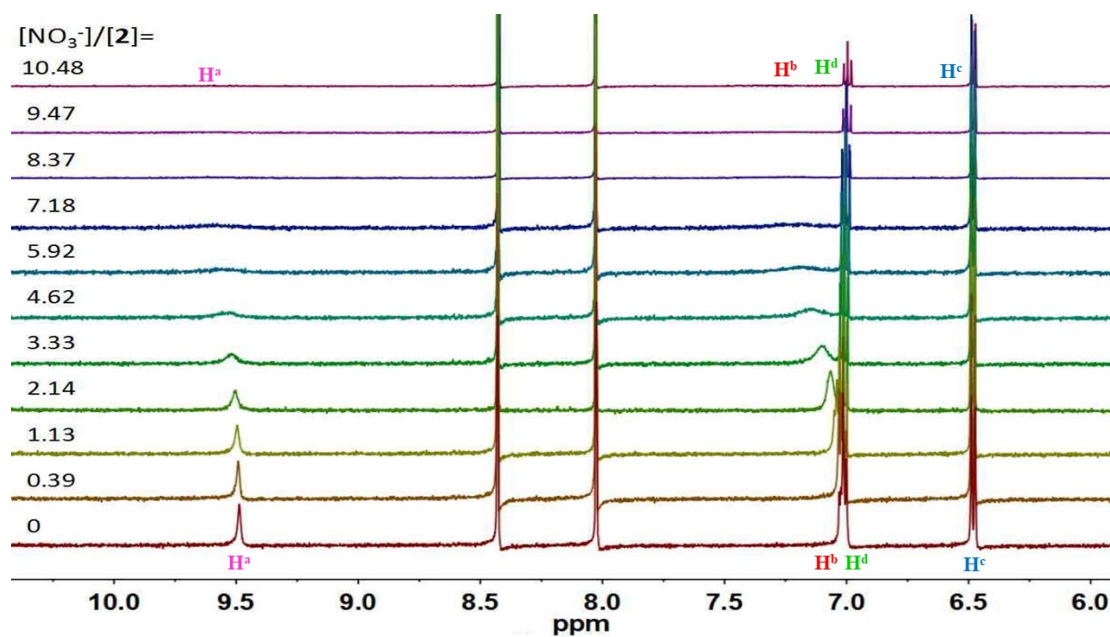
**Figure S33.** Fitting binding isotherms of macrocycle **2** with TBACl in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  at 298 K, showing chemical shift changes of the proton  $\text{H}^b$  based on a 1:1 binding model ( $K_a = 334 \text{ M}^{-1}$ ).



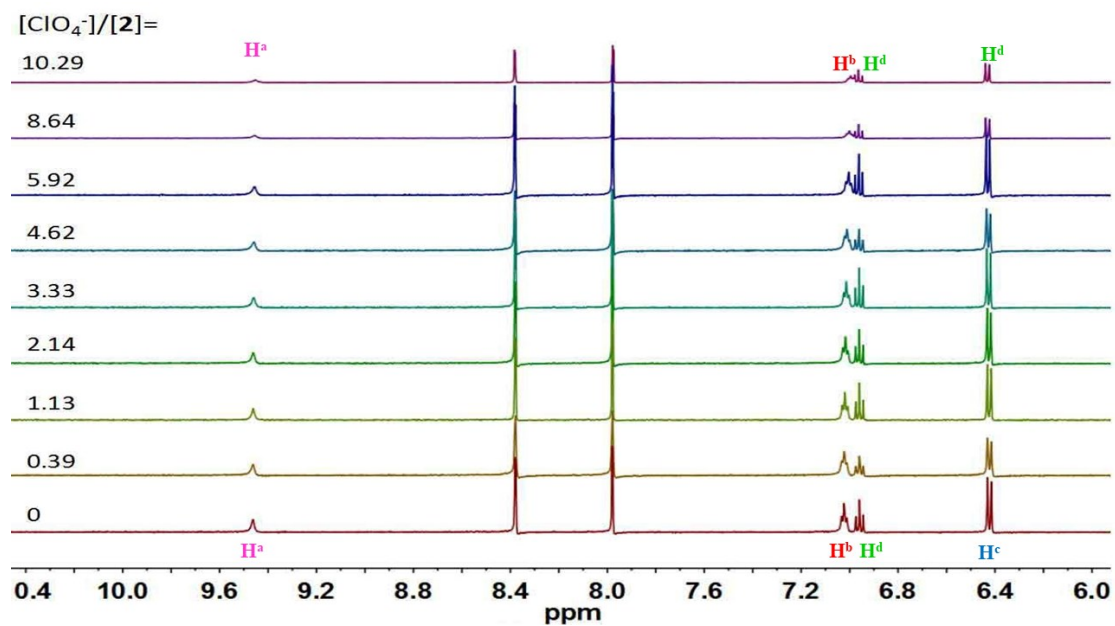
**Figure S34.** Stack plot of <sup>1</sup>H NMR titration of macrocycle **2** (1.6 mM) with TBABr in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 298 K ( $K_a < 10 \text{ M}^{-1}$ ).



**Figure S35.** Fitting binding isotherms of macrocycle **2** with TBABr in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 298 K, showing chemical shift changes of the proton H<sup>b</sup> based on a 1:1 binding model ( $K_a = 7 \text{ M}^{-1}$ ).

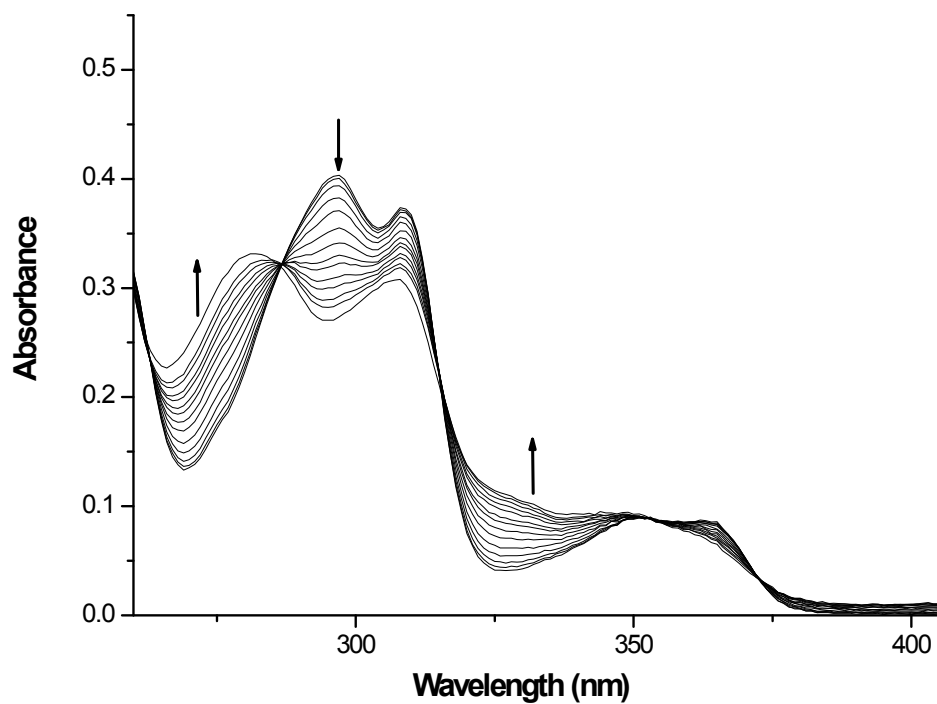


**Figure S36.** Stack plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration of macrocycle **2** (1.6 mM) with  $\text{TBANO}_3$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  at 298 K ( $K_a < 10 \text{ M}^{-1}$ ).

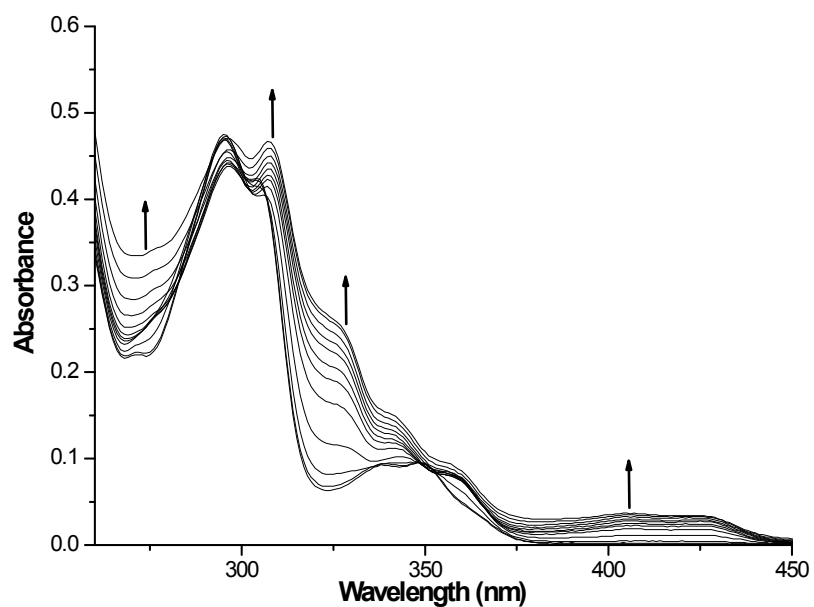


**Figure S37.** Stack plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration of macrocycle **2** (1.6 mM) with  $\text{TBAClO}_4$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  at 298 K (no binding).

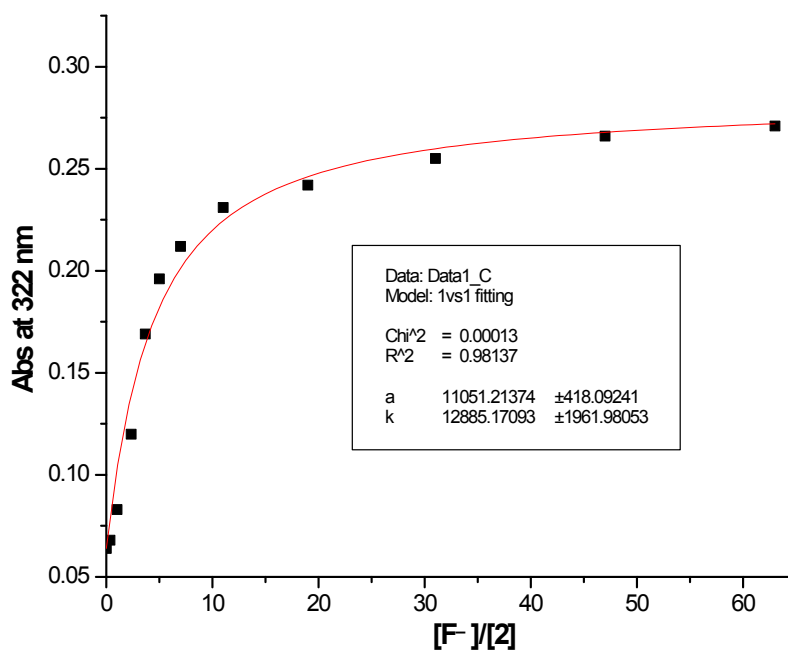
### 3. UV-vis titration studies



**Figure S38.** UV-vis titration of macrocycle **1** (20 μM) with strong base TBAOH (0~17.3 equiv) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN.



**Figure S39.** UV-vis spectral changes of macrocycle **2** (20 μM) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN upon addition of TBAF (0~ 63 equiv).



**Figure S40.** A 1:1 non-linear curve fitting of the absorbance at 322 nm of macrocycle **2** against the added F<sup>-</sup> ( $K_a = 12885 \text{ M}^{-1}$ ).



#### 4. Cartesian coordinates

B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p) Energy: -347.934691 Hartree

Num. Imaginary Frequencies: 0

Cartesian Coordinates (Angstroms) for the Optimized Structures of the  $1/F^-$  Complex in Acetonitrile

C	3.232786	-2.476024	-0.218567
C	2.001376	-3.116263	-0.012446
C	0.809406	-2.415527	0.200390
C	0.831854	-1.015368	0.180691
C	2.078187	-0.355270	0.002293
C	3.252635	-1.076205	-0.189907
N	-0.184925	-0.074612	0.272676
C	0.388796	1.181441	0.191466
C	1.795709	1.067476	0.061668
C	-0.192709	2.458765	0.177533
C	0.643085	3.580591	0.173258
C	2.042979	3.480346	0.131767
C	2.603281	2.201323	0.028569
C	2.955631	4.721321	0.154678
C	3.903521	4.632392	1.373866
C	2.156843	6.032958	0.262789
C	3.794573	4.772230	-1.143546
C	4.537114	-3.259347	-0.460639
C	5.129324	-2.858568	-1.832188
C	4.314345	-4.782681	-0.461368
C	5.554006	-2.920798	0.654533
S	-0.605891	-3.437587	0.691721
S	-1.883558	2.787235	-0.355459
C	-3.856954	-1.754182	-0.863602
C	-5.153692	-2.256727	-0.745948
C	-6.198219	-1.391816	-0.409987
C	-5.941886	-0.051120	-0.119144
C	-4.644594	0.461373	-0.234260
C	-3.637583	-0.391056	-0.672937
C	-2.634168	-2.635854	-0.985925
C	-4.317862	1.877844	0.214308
N	-2.039618	-2.700107	0.377345
N	-2.929631	2.049513	0.716903
O	-2.121254	4.239547	-0.274260
O	-2.018899	2.211854	-1.712382
O	-0.548586	-4.663857	-0.118062
O	-0.531003	-3.559228	2.156790
H	-2.634543	-0.012363	-0.797700

H	1.950590	-4.195490	-0.010121
H	4.184552	-0.539459	-0.324749
H	-1.031944	-0.223178	0.883528
H	0.167461	4.549844	0.158958
H	3.676325	2.081812	-0.066738
H	4.531442	3.738962	1.335508
H	3.335486	4.605841	2.308128
H	4.564113	5.504190	1.402017
H	1.496007	6.181383	-0.595655
H	1.552073	6.068062	1.173217
H	2.849959	6.877638	0.293919
H	4.424879	3.886964	-1.256640
H	4.450119	5.648219	-1.133604
H	3.147956	4.841288	-2.022858
H	4.432143	-3.093700	-2.641436
H	5.355295	-1.790711	-1.881015
H	6.059403	-3.405183	-2.014979
H	3.622126	-5.093590	-1.248790
H	3.928385	-5.139940	0.497317
H	5.266810	-5.287929	-0.641429
H	6.488020	-3.466757	0.490789
H	5.791481	-1.854573	0.678646
H	5.163311	-3.202077	1.636562
H	-5.345734	-3.315255	-0.885349
H	-7.208249	-1.776249	-0.321970
H	-6.750032	0.588060	0.222524
H	-1.927246	-2.213095	-1.707849
H	-2.892118	-3.645784	-1.303799
H	-4.490730	2.596190	-0.591611
H	-4.993922	2.160682	1.024332
H	-2.206376	-1.883446	0.990880
H	-2.561708	1.199493	1.188788
F	-2.157075	-0.333536	1.894640

## 5. Original Spectral Files of Macrocycles 1 and 2

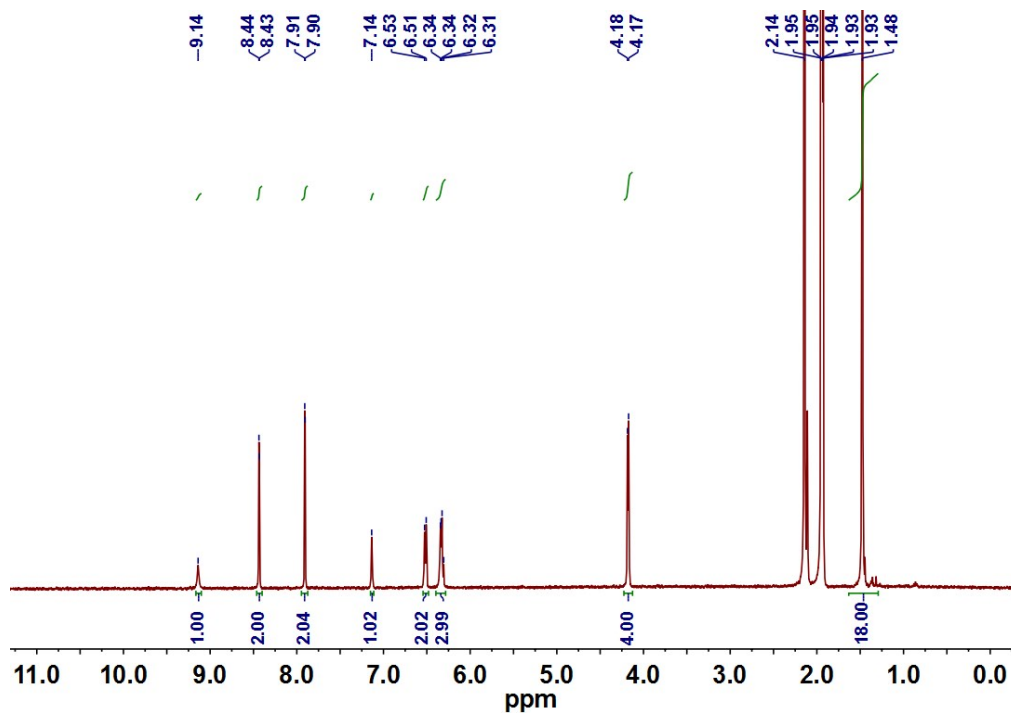


Figure S41.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of macrocycle **1** in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .

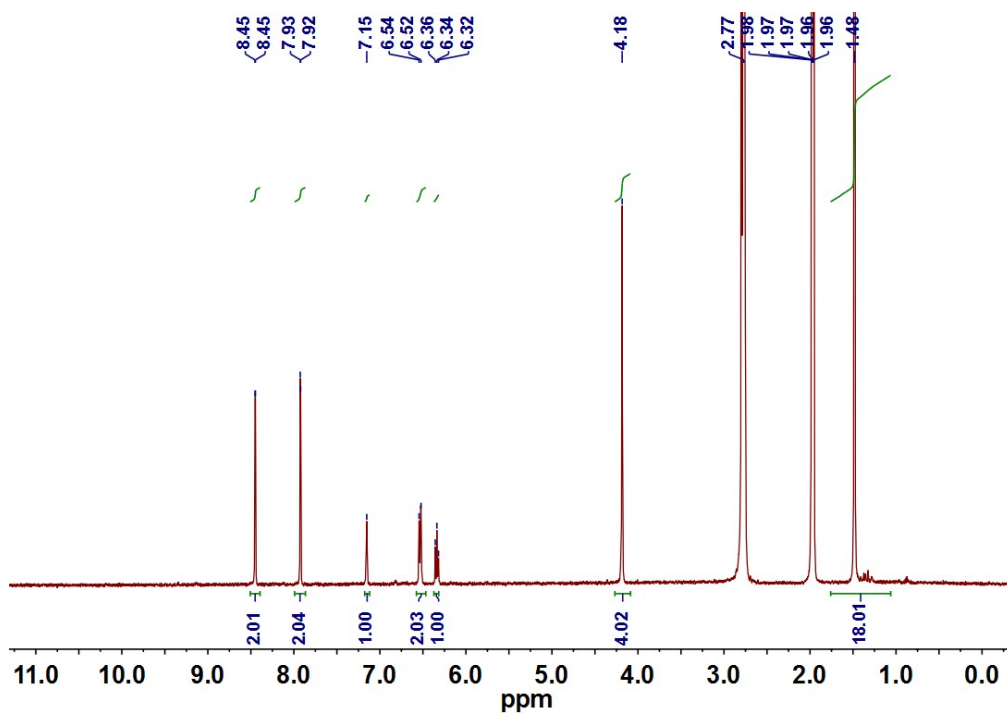


Figure S42.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of macrocycle **1** in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  exchange) at 298 K.

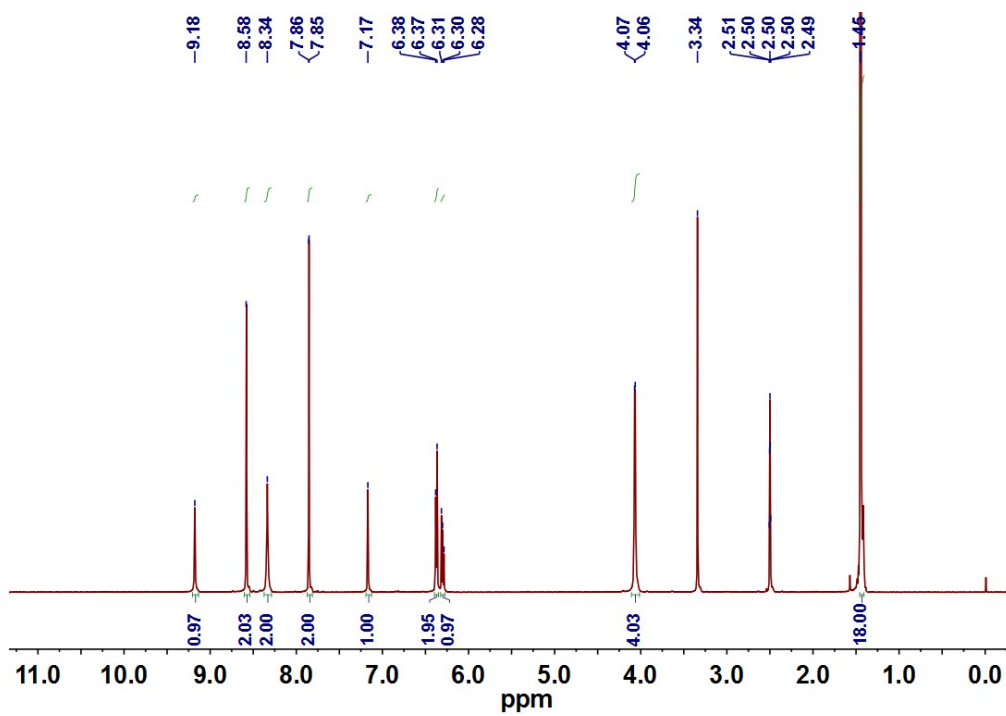


Figure S43.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of macrocycle **1** in  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$  at 298 K.

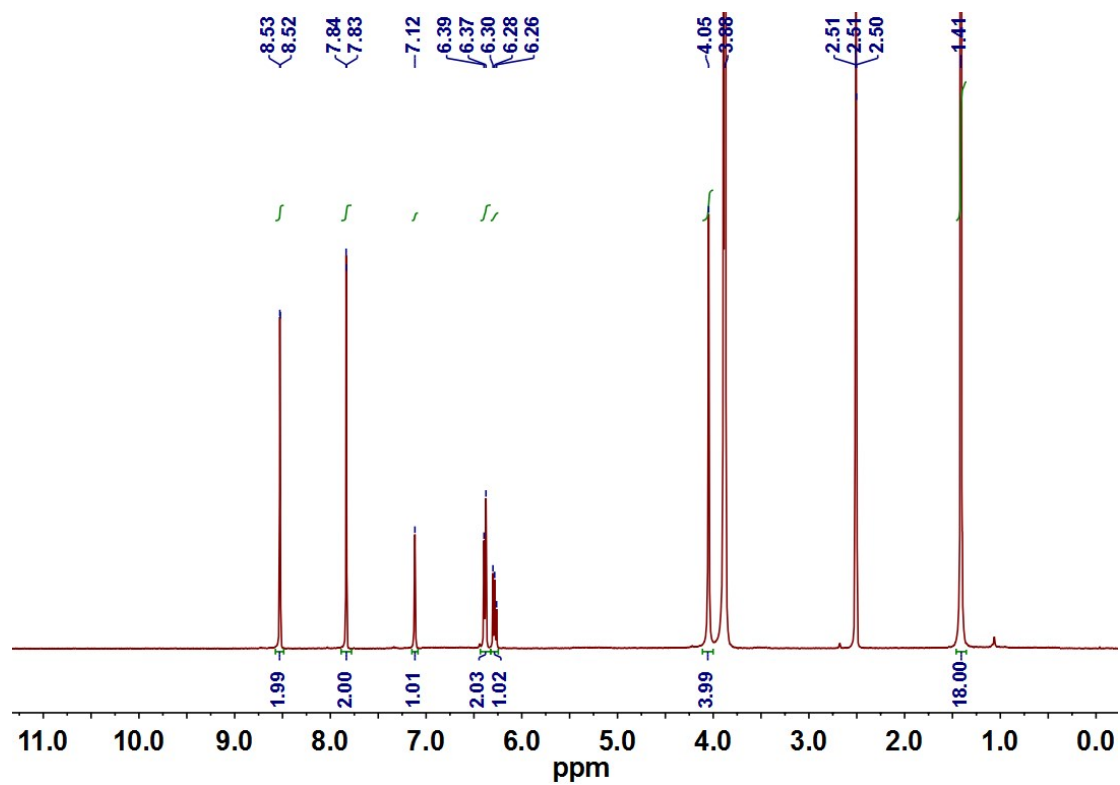


Figure S44.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of macrocycle **1** in  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$  ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  exchange) at 298 K.

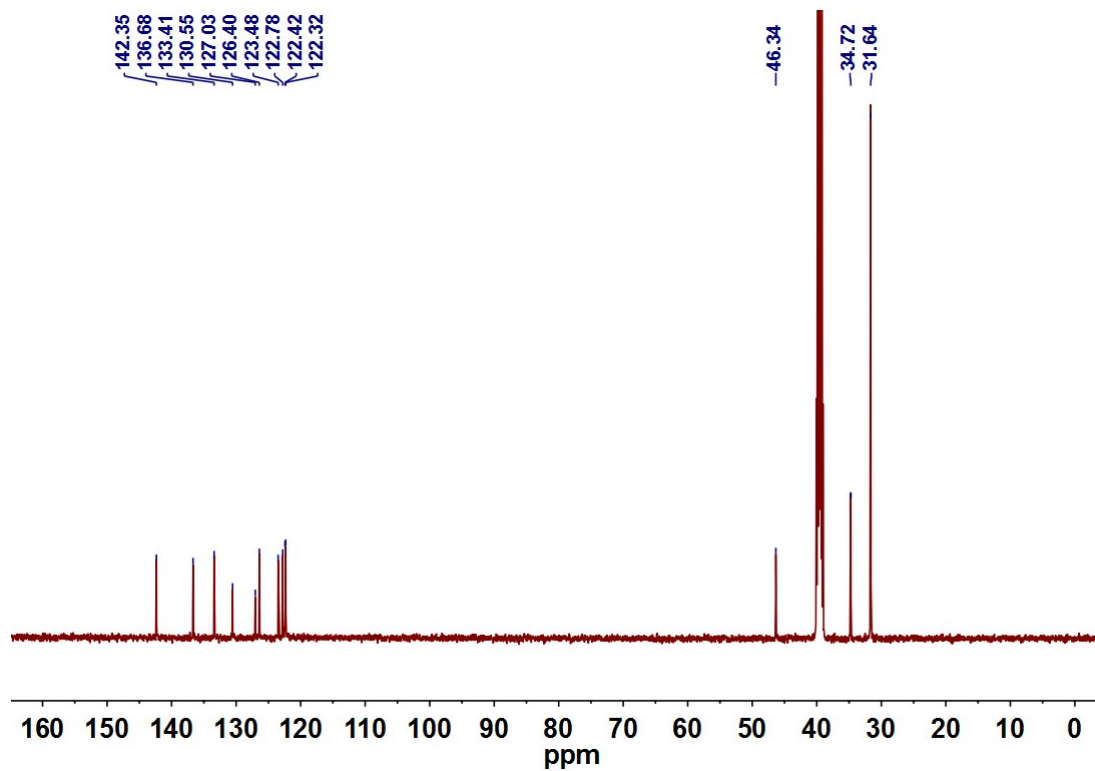


Figure S45.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of macrocycle **1** in  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$  at 298 K.

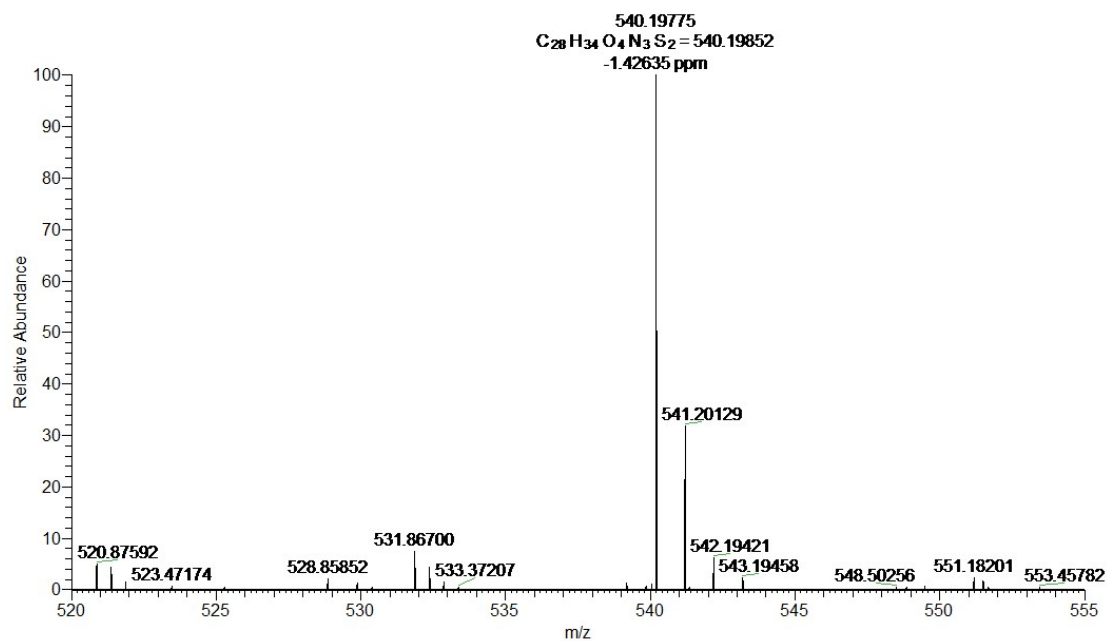


Figure S46. HRMS-ESI spectrum of macrocycle **1**.

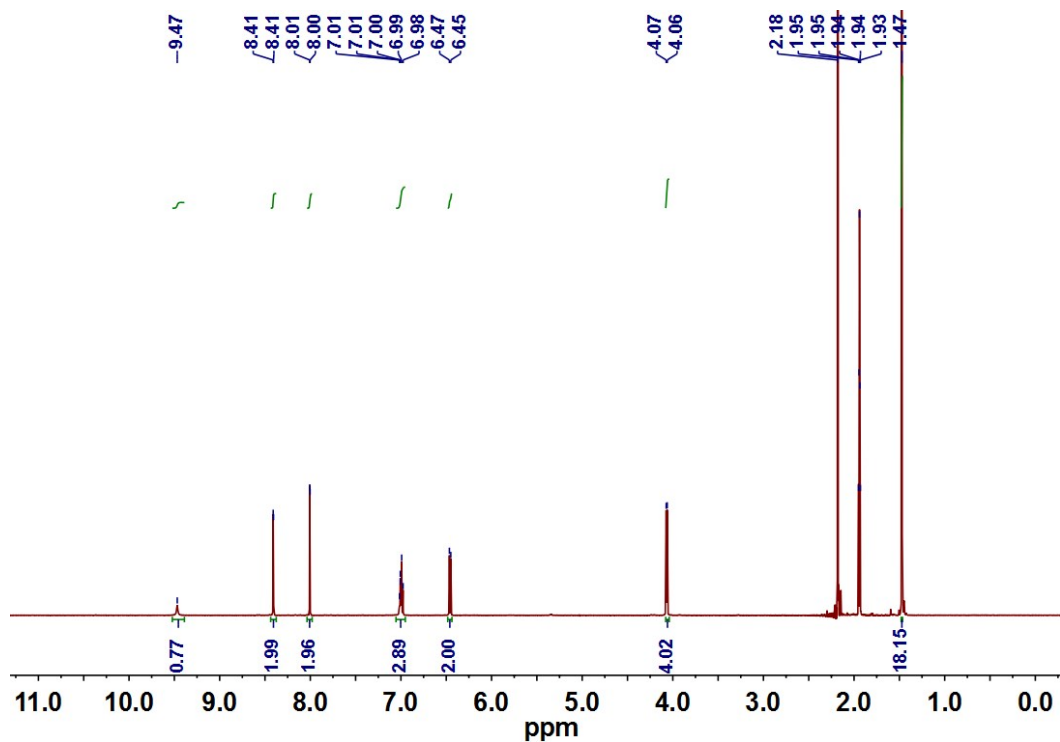


Figure S47.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of macrocycle **2** in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  at 298 K.

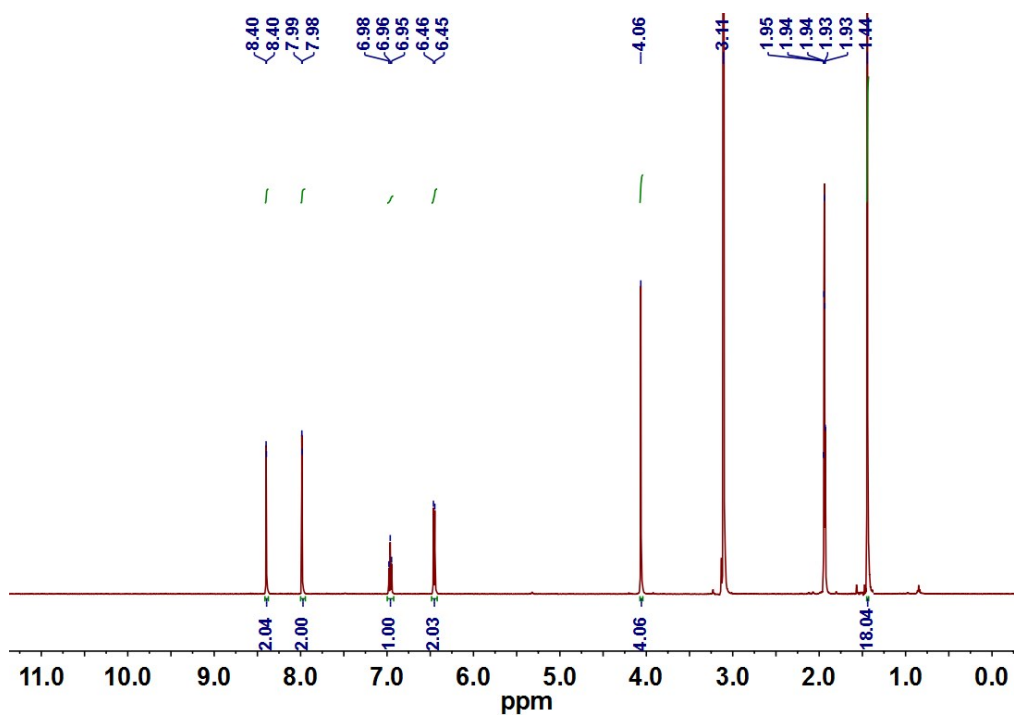


Figure S48.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of macrocycle **2** in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  exchange) at 298 K.

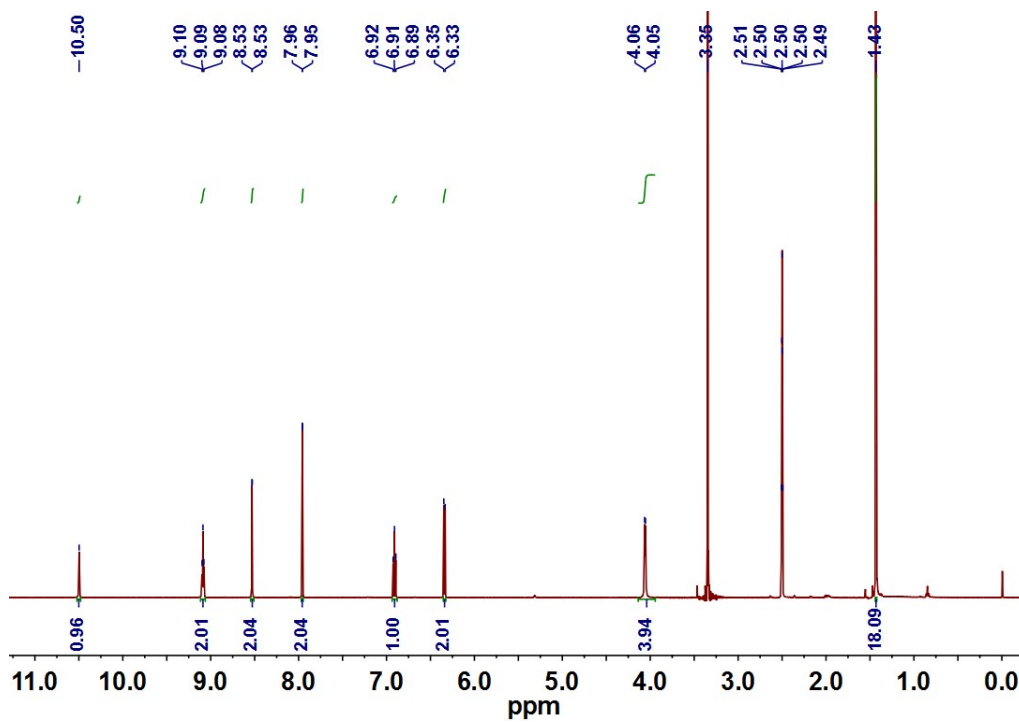


Figure S49.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of macrocycle **2** in  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$  at 298 K.

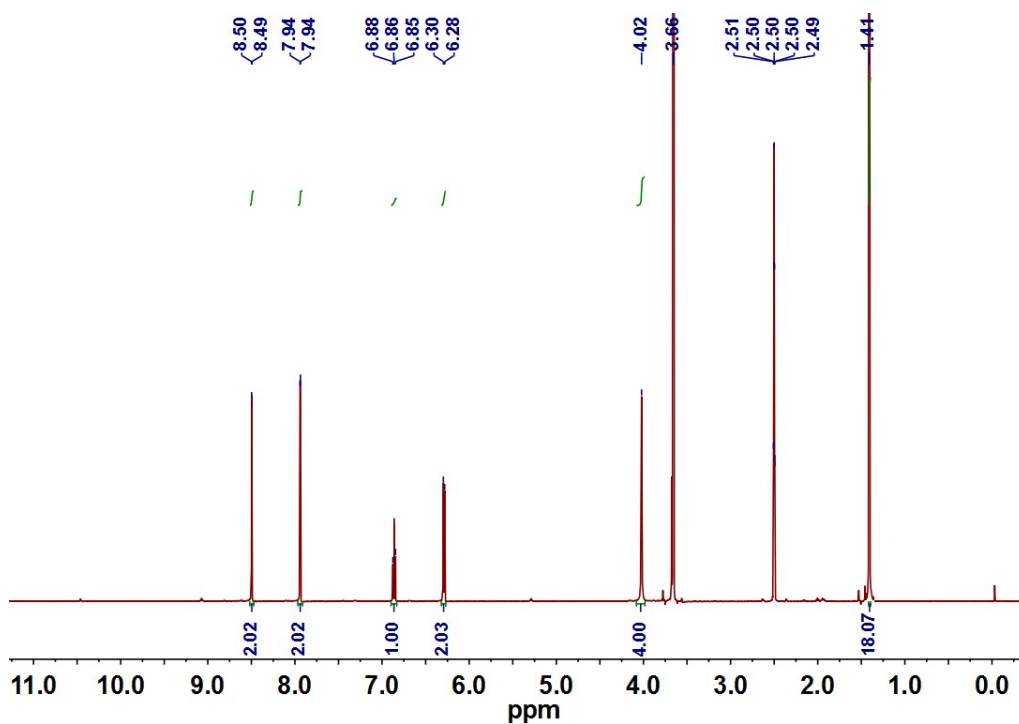


Figure S50.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound **2** in  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$  ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  exchange) at 298 K.

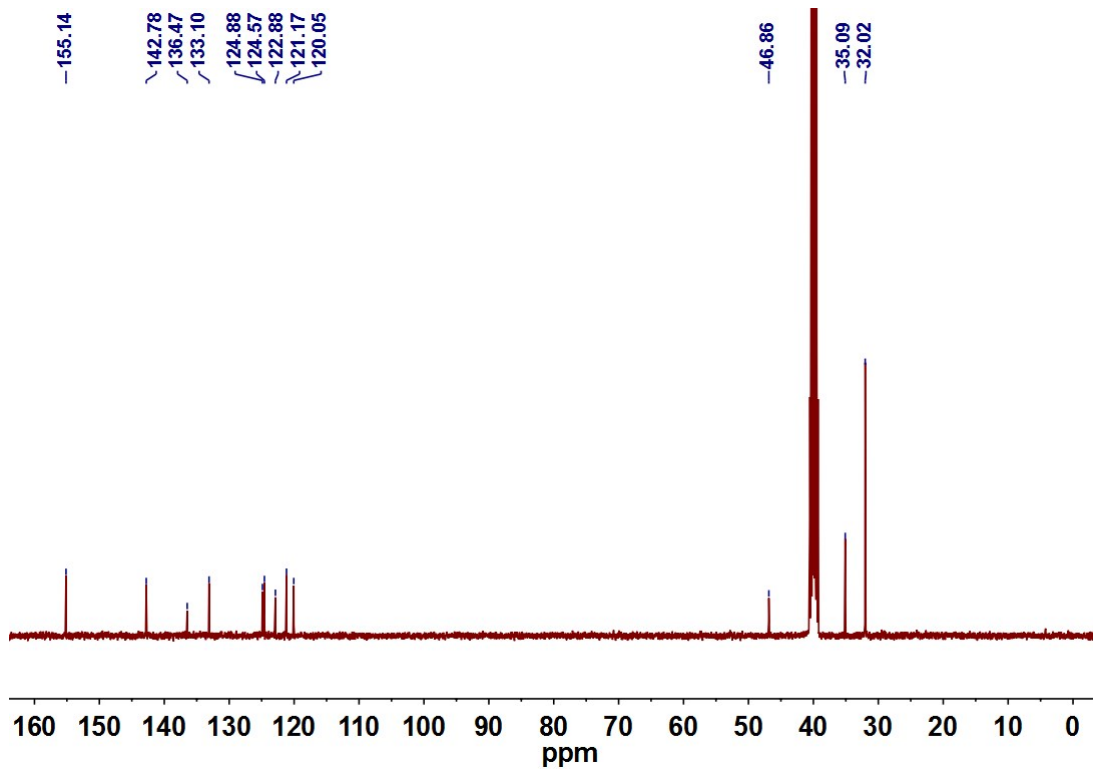


Figure S51.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of macrocycle **2** in  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$  at 298 K.

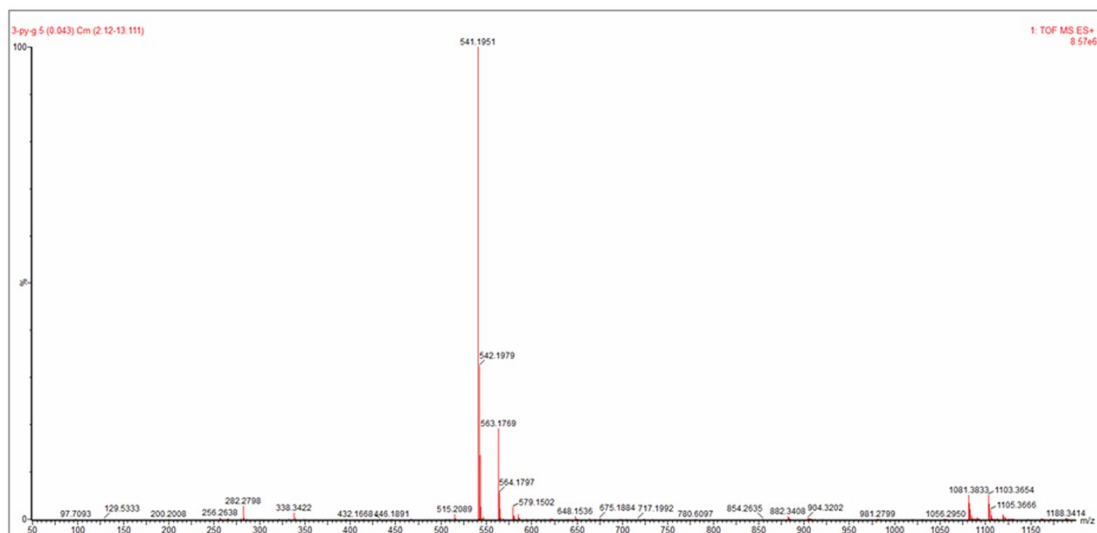


Figure S52. HRMS-ESI spectrum of macrocycle **2**.