## A new class of functionalized calix[4] arenes as neutral receptors for colorimetric detection of fluoride ions

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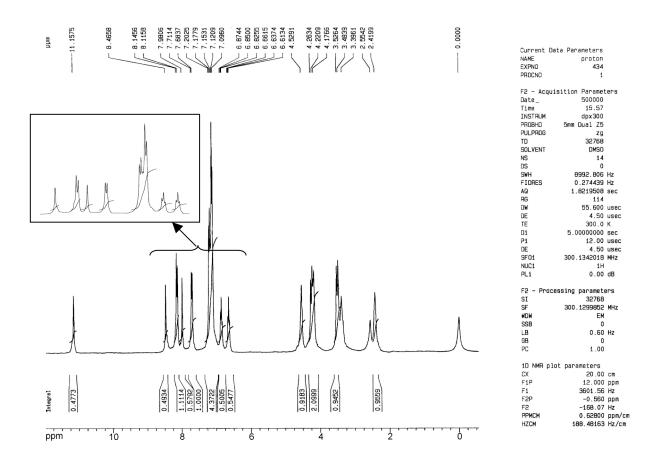


Figure S1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 4b in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>.

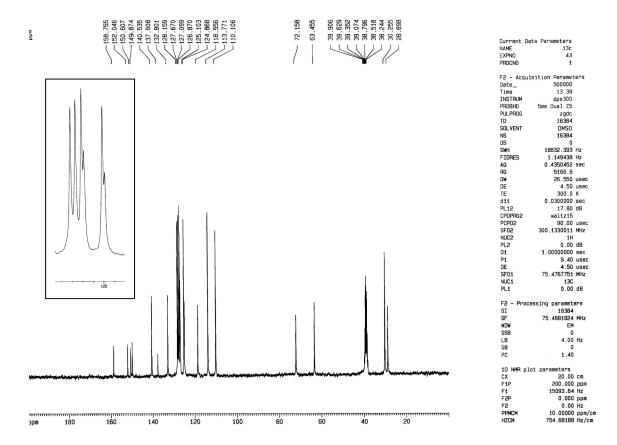


Figure S2.  $^{13}$ C NMR spectrum 4b in DMSO- $d_6$ .

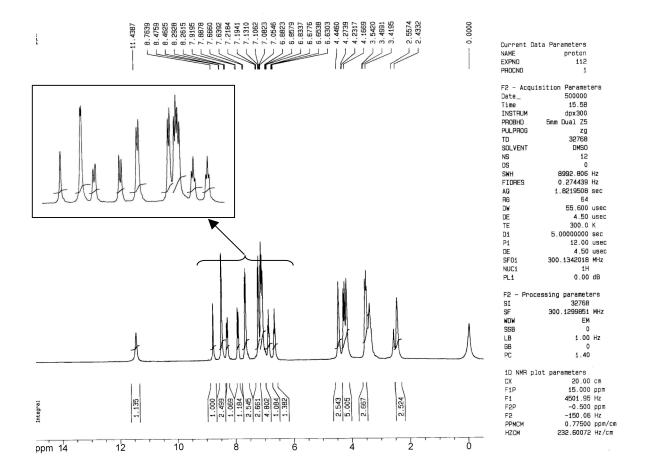


Figure S3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 4c in DMSO- $d_6$ .

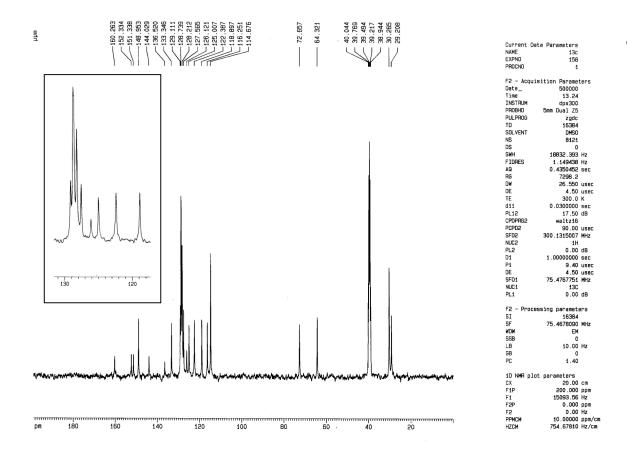
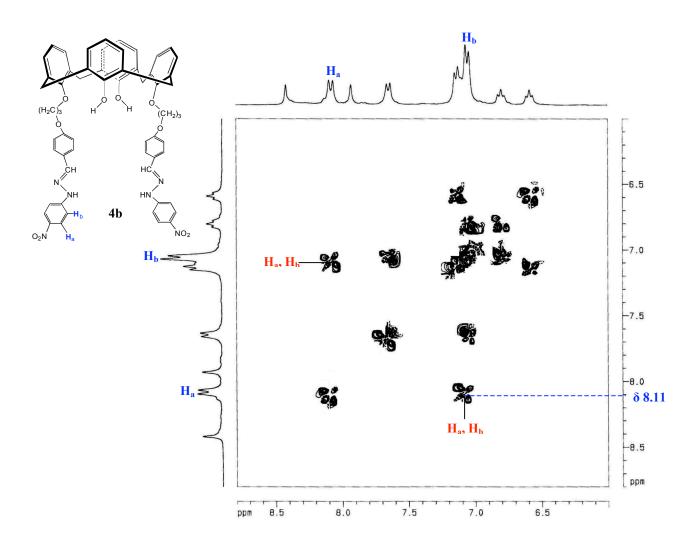


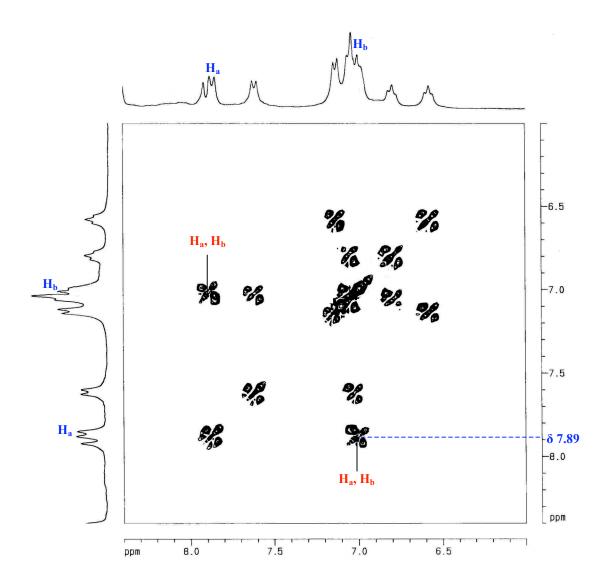
Figure S4.  $^{13}$ C NMR spectrum of 4c in DMSO- $d_6$ 

## <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY spectra of 4b

The 2D COSY correlation spectrum of **4b** (**Figure S5**) indicated that  $H_a$  protons are correlated with  $H_b$  protons at the *ortho*-position of the nitro group which exhibited a moderate upfield shift ( $\Delta \delta$ = - 0.22) upon addition of tetrabutylammonium fluoride ions (5.0 equiv.) as depicted in **Figure S6**.



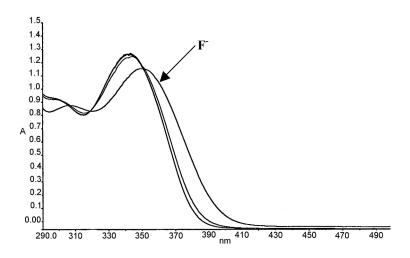
**Figure S5.**  ${}^{1}\text{H}-{}^{1}\text{H COSY spectrum of }\mathbf{4b}$  in DMSO- $d_{6}$ .



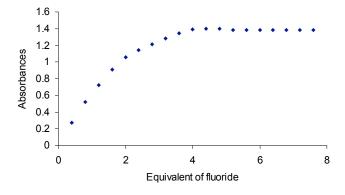
**Figure S6.**  $^{1}\text{H-}^{1}\text{H COSY}$  spectrum of **4b** in DMSO- $d_{6}$  in the presence of 5.0 equiv of tetrabutylammonium fluoride.

## Uv-visible spectra and absorbance titration curves

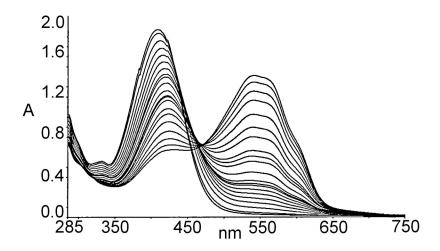
Note: The receptors **4d** and **4e** exhibited similar Uv-visible spectral changes and colorimetric observations with the examined anions as that observed for **4b** and **4c** respectively in analogous experimental set-ups.



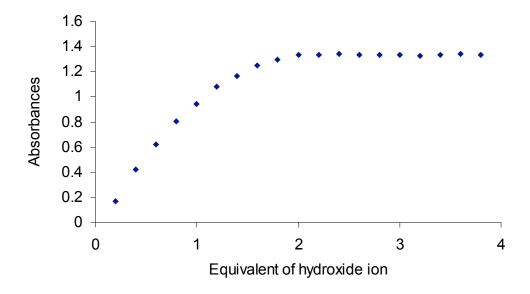
**Figure S7.** UV-visible spectra of **4a**  $(5\times10^{-5} \text{ M})$  with different anions  $(1\times10^{-4} \text{ M})$  (F<sup>-</sup>, Cl<sup>-</sup>, Br<sup>-</sup>, I<sup>-</sup>, HSO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>, H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>, AcO<sup>-</sup>, ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>, PF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup> in the form of tetrabutylammonium salts) in DMSO:CH<sub>3</sub>CN (0.5:9.5 v/v).



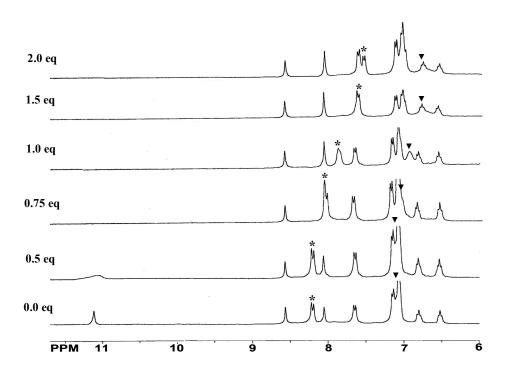
**Figure S8.** Absorbance changes for **4b** at 549 nm on addition of various equivalents of tetrabutylammonium fluoride.



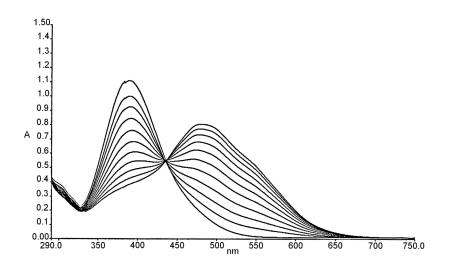
**Figure S9.** Changes in absorption spectra for **4b**  $(5\times10^{-5} \text{ M})$  in DMSO:CH<sub>3</sub>CN (0.5:9.5 v/v) with addition of tetrabutylammonium hydroxide from 0 to 4 equiv.



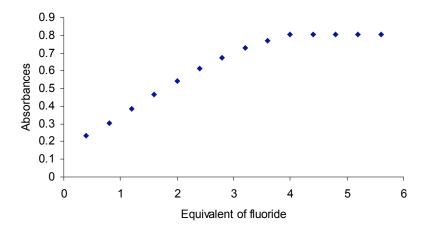
**Figure S10.** Absorbance changes for **4b** at 549 nm on addition of various equivalents of tetrabutylammonium hydroxide.



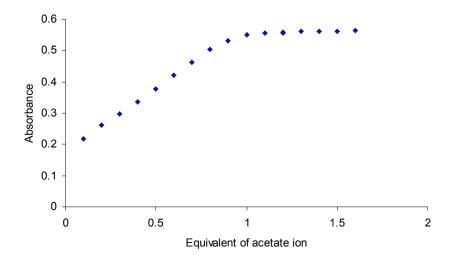
**Figure S11** Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz and 298 K) spectra of **4b** (10 mM) upon addition of various equiv. of TBA.OH (40 mM) in DMSO- $d_6$ . Numbers at the left side indicate the equivalent amounts of OH added (\* = Ar $H_a$ ,  $\nabla$  = Ar $H_b$ ).



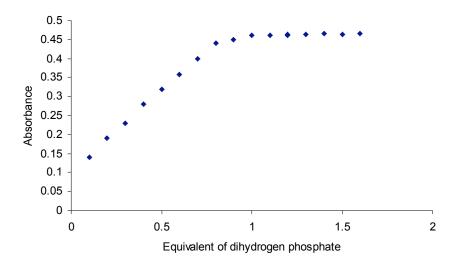
**Figure S12.** Changes in absorption spectra for 4c  $(2\times10^{-5} \text{ M})$  in DMSO:CH<sub>3</sub>CN (0.5:9.5 v/v) with addition of tetrabutylammonium fluoride from 0 to 5 equiv.



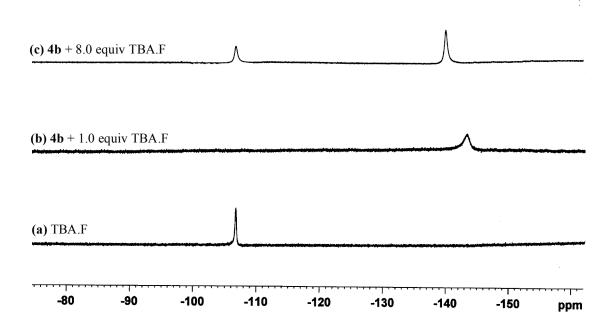
**Figure S13.** Absorbance changes for **4c** at 485 nm on addition of various equivalents of tetrabutylammonium fluoride.



**Figure S14.** Absorbance changes for **4c** at 477 nm on addition of various equivalents of tetrabutylammonium acetate.



**Figure S15.** Absorbance changes for **4c** at 469 nm on addition of various equivalents of dihydrogen phosphate.



**Figure S16.** Partial  $^{19}$ F NMR (300 MHz and 298 K) spectra of **4b** (10 mM) (a) only TBA.F (b) **4b**+1.0 eq TBA.F (c) **4b**+8.0 equiv TBA.F