

# Molecular Tweezers with Varying Anions - A Comparative Study

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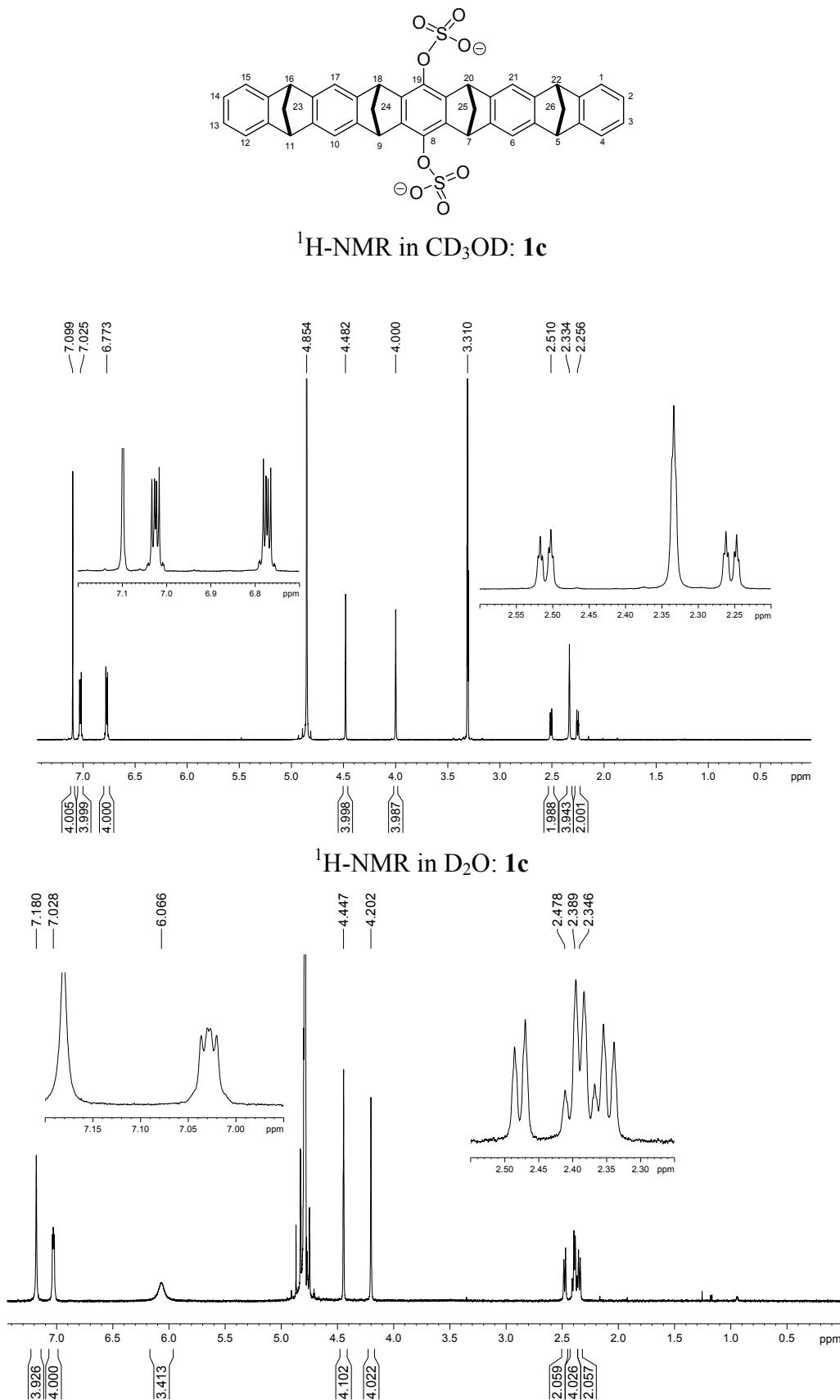
## Supporting Information

### Table of Contents

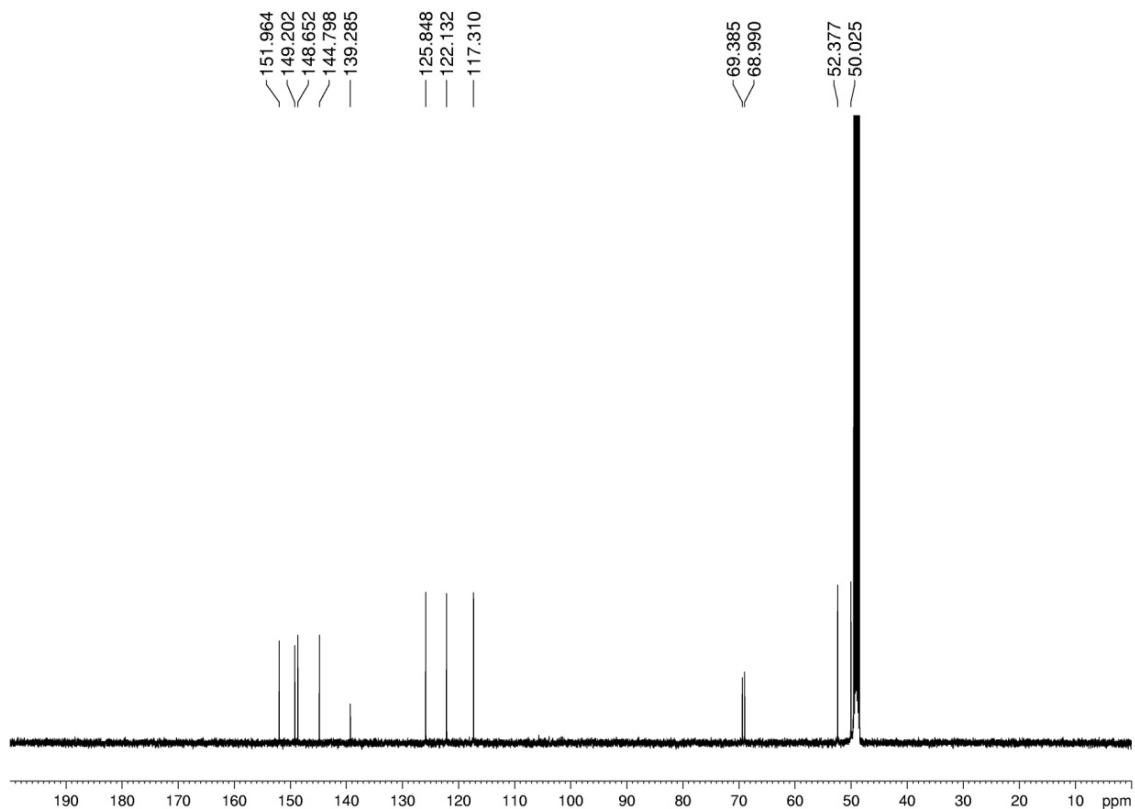
|  | Page |
|--|------|
| <b>1. Experimental Section:</b>  |      |
| 1.1 $^1\text{H}$ NMR and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra of the tweezers <b>1c</b> , <b>1g</b> , and <b>1d</b>   | 2    |
| 1.2 Dimerisation of the molecular tweezers determined by NMR titration   | 8    |
| 1.3 Host-guest complex formation of the molecular tweezers with various amino acid and peptide guest molecules containing lysine or arginine moieties determined by fluorescence titration                 | 11   |
| 1.4 Host-guest complex formation of the molecular tweezers with various amino acid and peptide guest molecules containing lysine or arginine moieties determined by $^1\text{H}$ -NMR titration            | 47   |
| 1.5 Solvent-dependent $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectra of host-guest complexes  | 55   |
| 1.6 Host-guest complex formation of the molecular tweezers with various amino acid and peptide guest molecules containing lysine or arginine moieties determined by isothermal titration calorimetry (ITC) | 57   |
| <b>2. Computational Section:</b>   |      |
| 2.1 Calculation of host-guest complex structures by QM/MM  | 60   |
| 2.2 Calculation of $^1\text{H}$ NMR shifts of the guest signals by <i>ab initio</i> methods  | 64   |

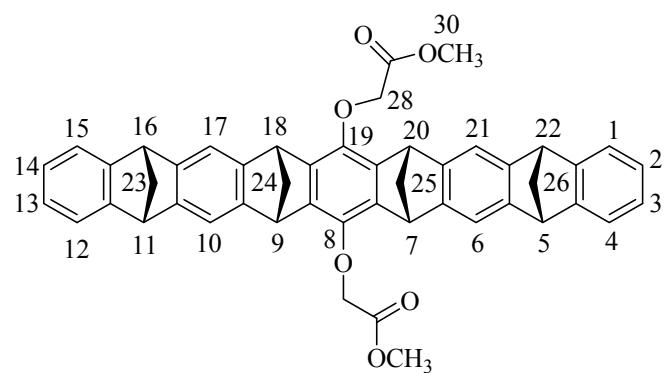
# 1 Experimental Section

## 1.1 $^1\text{H}$ NMR and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra of the tweezers **1c**, **1g**, and **1d**

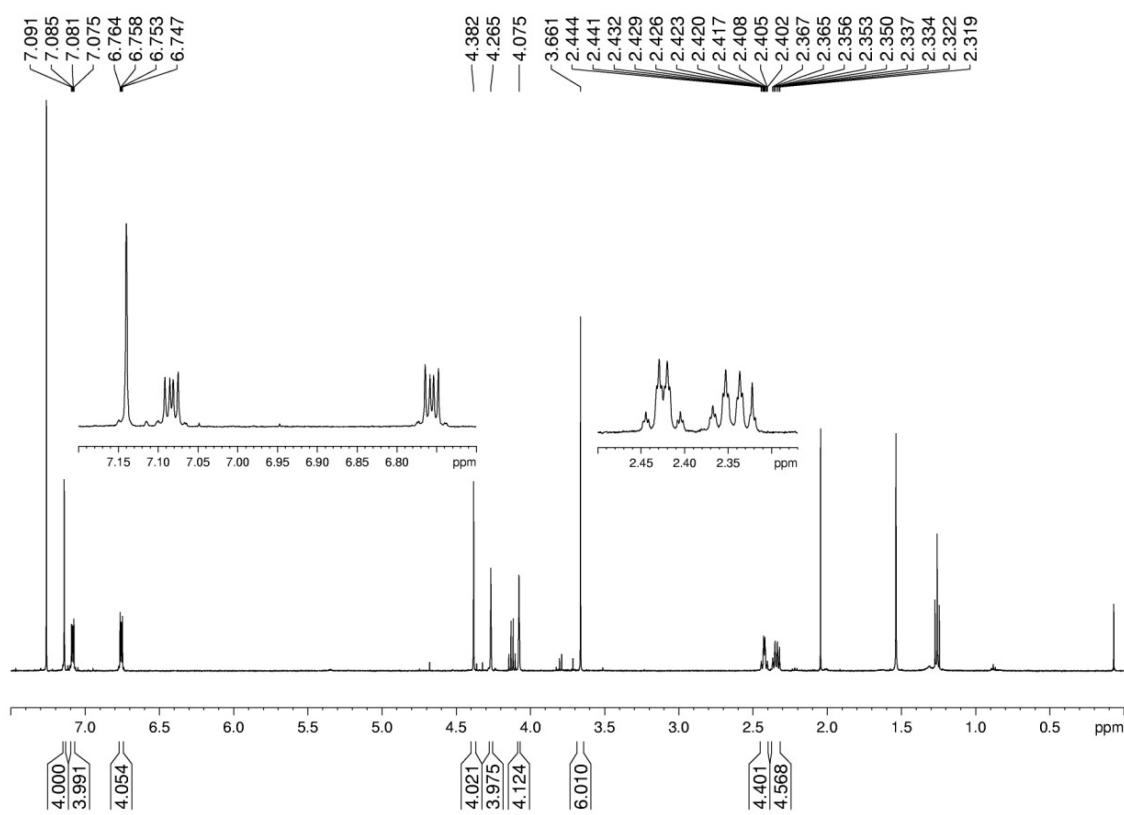


<sup>13</sup>C-NMR in CD<sub>3</sub>OD: **1c**

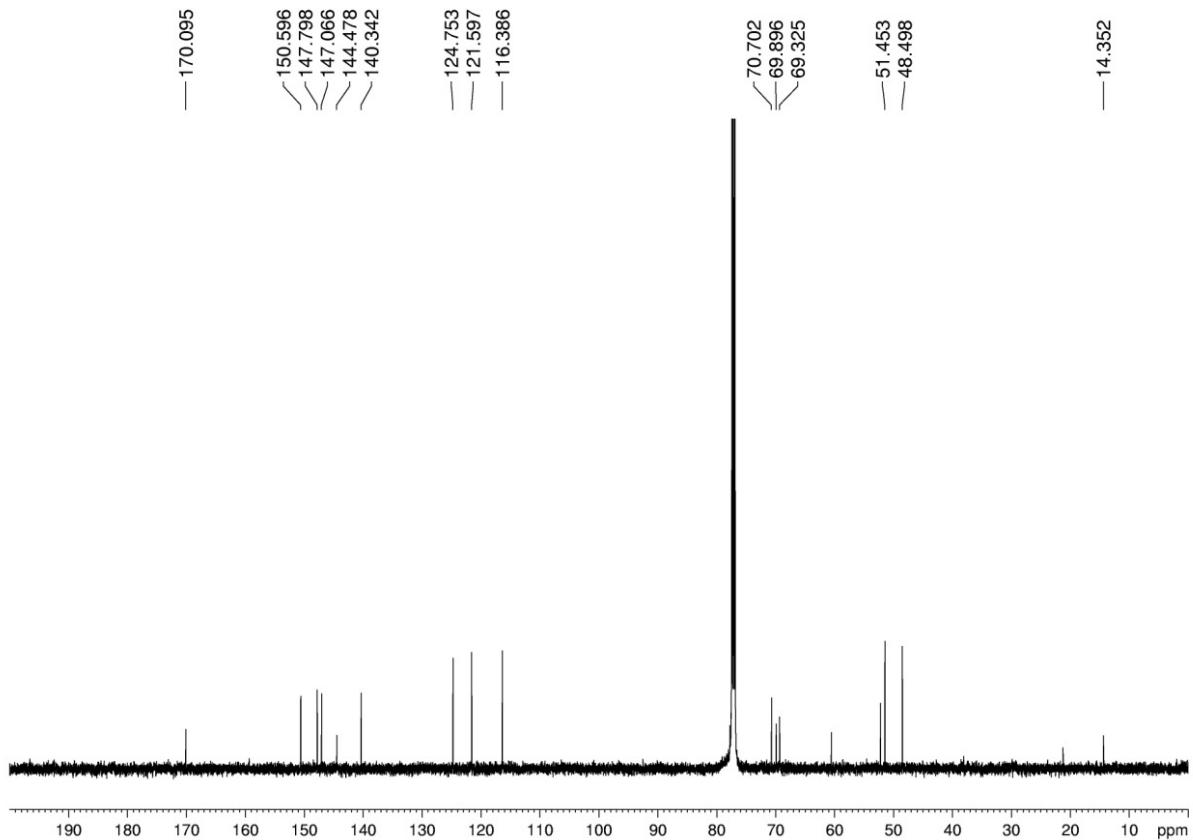


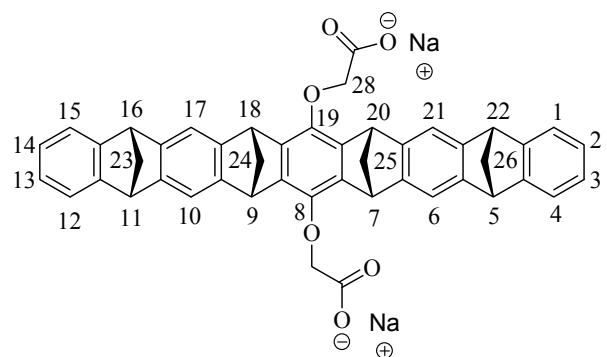


<sup>1</sup>H-NMR in CDCl<sub>3</sub>: **1g**

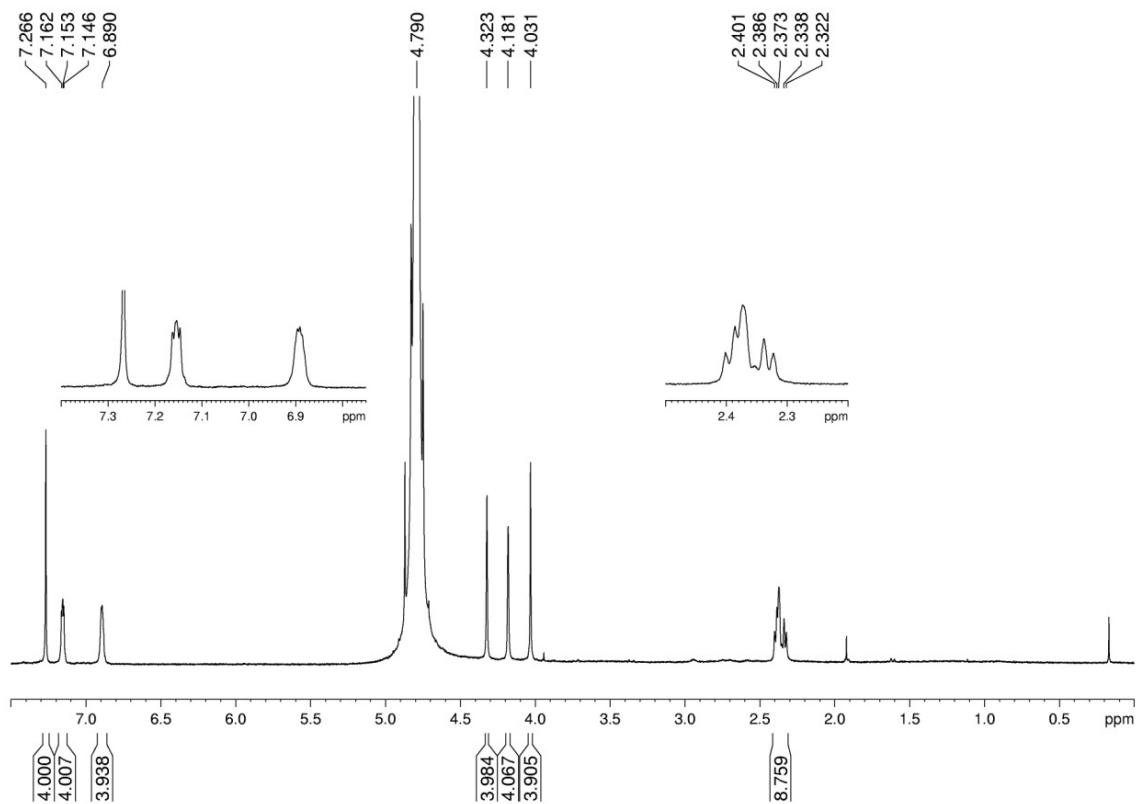


<sup>13</sup>C-NMR in CDCl<sub>3</sub>: **1g**

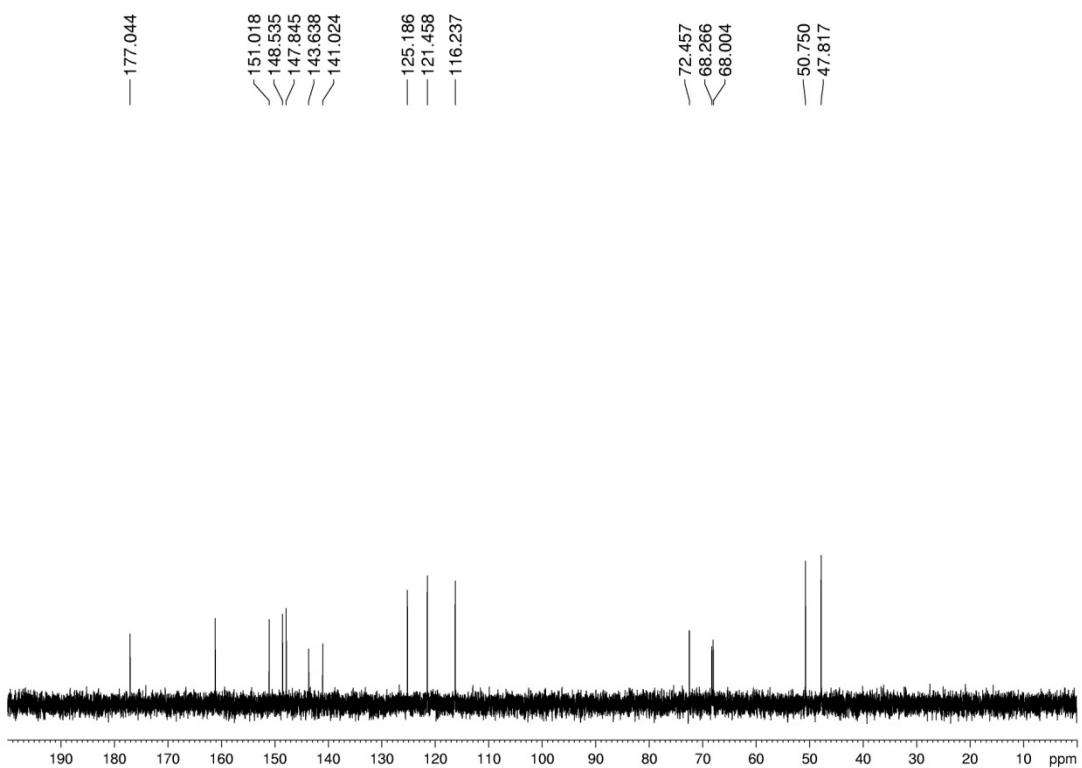




<sup>1</sup>H-NMR in D<sub>2</sub>O: **1d**



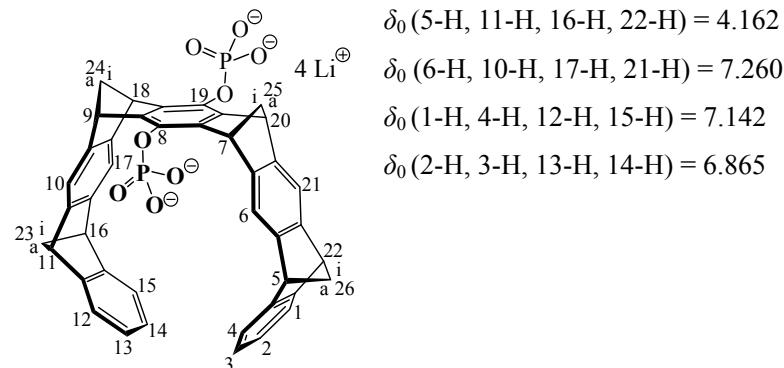
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR in D<sub>2</sub>O: **1d**



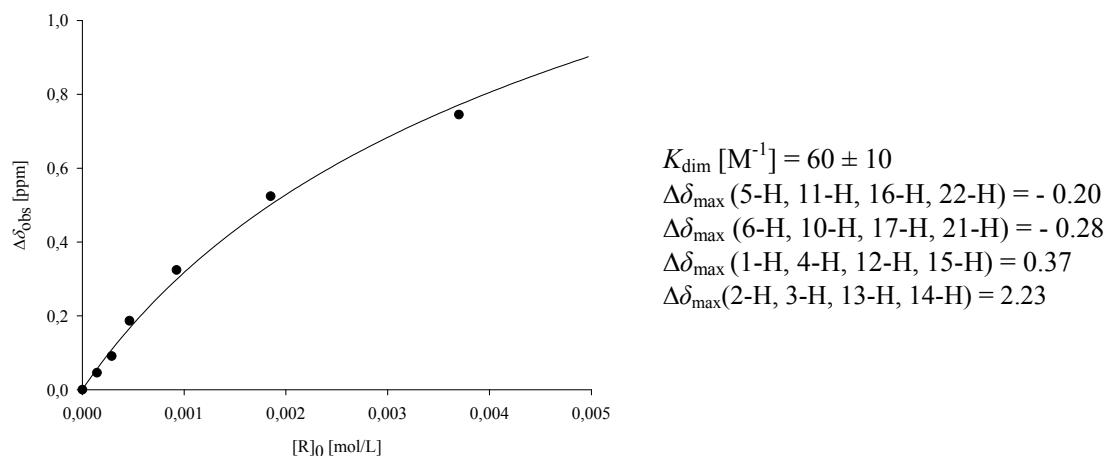
## 1.2 Dimerisation of the molecular tweezers determined by NMR titration

### 1.2.1 Dilution titration of the phosphate tweezer **1a**

|              |                  |                         |       |
|--------------|------------------|-------------------------|-------|
| Receptor (R) | <b>1a</b>        | $M_R$ g/mol]            | 1a.19 |
| Solvent      | Phosphate buffer | $m_R(\mathbf{1a})$ [mg] | 10.10 |
| Substrate    | <b>Itself</b>    | $V_0$ [mL]              | 2     |
| $T$ [°C]     | 25               | $[\mathbf{R}]_0$ [mM]   | 7.40  |

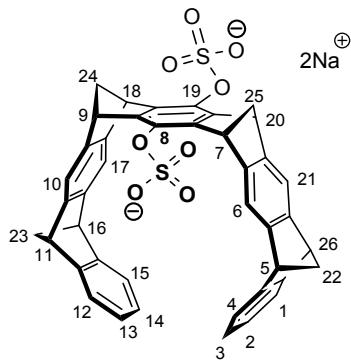


| [ <b>1a</b> ] [mM] | $\delta_{\text{obs}}$ (2-H, 3-H, 13-H, 14-H) | $\Delta\delta_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta\delta_{\text{calc}}$ |
|--------------------|--|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 7.40               | 6.120  | 0.745                       | 0.771                        |
| 3.70               | 6.341  | 0.524                       | 0.501                        |
| 1.85               | 6.541  | 0.324                       | 0.298                        |
| 0.92               | 6.679  | 0.186                       | 0.166                        |
| 0.58               | 6.775  | 0.091                       | 0.109                        |
| 0.29               | 6.820  | 0.046                       | 0.057                        |

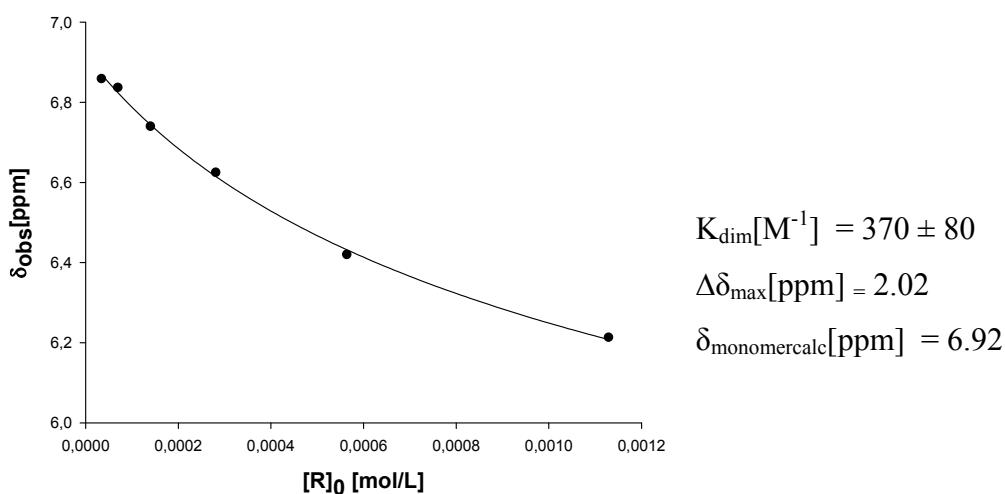


### 1.2.2 Dilution titration of the sulfate tweezer **1c**

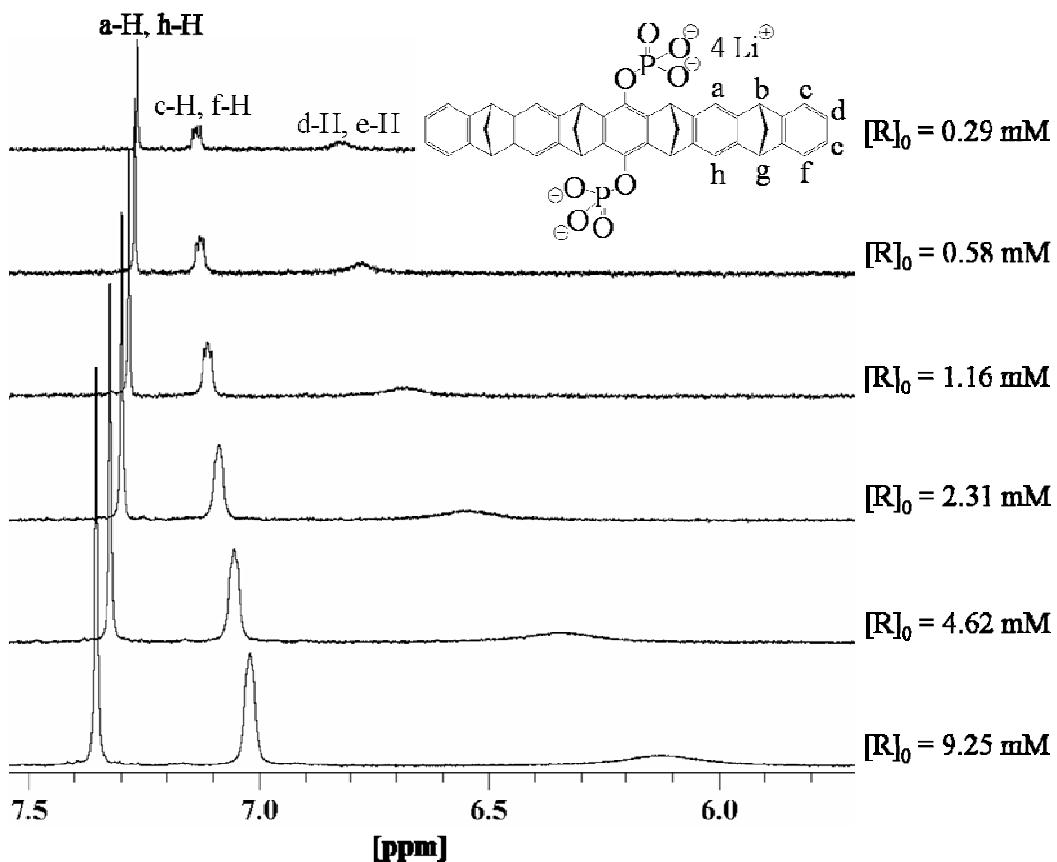
|                     |                  |                     |        |
|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|--------|
| Receptor(R)         | <b>1c</b>        | $M_R[\text{g/mol}]$ | 770.78 |
| Solvent             | Phosphate buffer | $m_R[\text{mg}]$    | 1.13   |
| $T[^\circ\text{C}]$ | 25               | $V_0 [\text{ml}]$   | 2.3    |
| Substrate           | Itself           | $[R]_0[\text{mM}]$  | 1.13   |



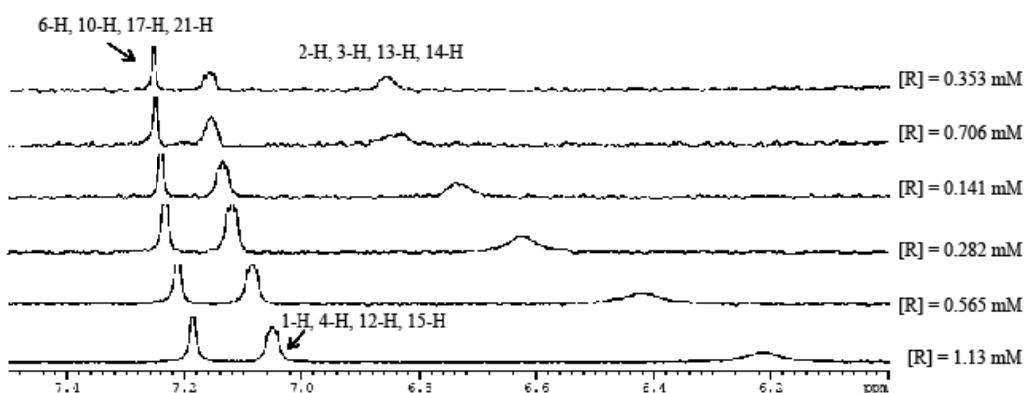
| $[R][\text{mM}]$ | $\delta_{\text{obs}}[\text{ppm}]$ | $\delta_{\text{monomercalc}} - \delta_{\text{obs}} = \Delta\delta_{\text{calc}}[\text{ppm}]$ |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1.13             | 6.212                             | 0.707  |
| 0.565            | 6.419                             | 0.500  |
| 0.282            | 6.624                             | 0.295  |
| 0.141            | 6.733                             | 0.186  |
| 0.0706           | 6.836                             | 0.083  |
| 0.0353           | 6.858                             | 0.061  |



**1.2.3 Concentration-dependent  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of tweezer **1a****  
 in aqueous phosphate buffer (70 mM, pH 7.2, 25°C)

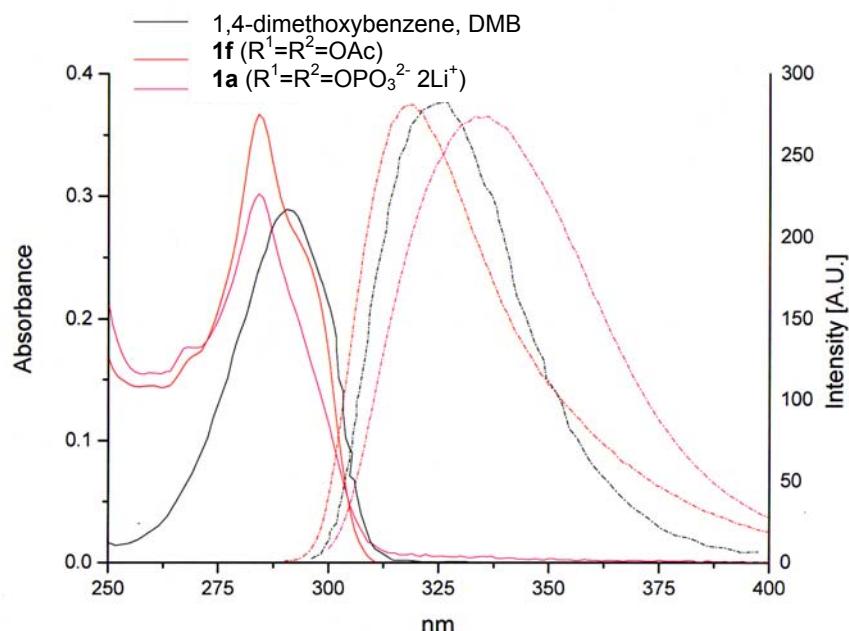


**1.2.3 Concentration-dependent  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of tweezer **1c****  
 in aqueous phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.2, 25°C)



### 1.3 Fluorescence titrations

#### 1.3.1 UV-Vis and Fluorescence spectra of molecular tweezers and 1,4-dimethoxybenzene



| Compound                                       | Solvent            | Absorption                              |            | Emission                                     |      |     |
|--|--------------------|---|------------|--|------|-----|
|  |                    | $\lambda_{\max}\epsilon_{\max}$<br>[nm] | [M⁻¹ cm⁻¹] | $\lambda_{\max}\Phi_{\text{em}}\tau$<br>[nm] | [ns] |     |
| <b>1a</b> ( $R^1=R^2=OPO_3^{2-} \cdot 2Li^+$ ) | H <sub>2</sub> O   | 284                                     | -          | 336  | 0.10 | 3.1 |
| <b>1f:</b> ( $R^1=R^2=OAc$ )                   | CD <sub>3</sub> CN | 284                                     | -          | 318  | 0.11 | 3.8 |
| 1,4-dimethoxybenzene                           | CD <sub>3</sub> CN | 290                                     | 2800       | 320  | 0.11 | 2.5 |

**Figure S1.** UV-VIS and fluorescence spectra of the molecular tweezers substituted by phosphate or acetoxy groups in the central benzene bridge and of 1,4-dimethoxybenzene (determined by P. Ceroni, Dipartimento di ChimicaCiamicianUniversita' di Bologna Via Selmi, 2, 40126 Bologna, Italy).

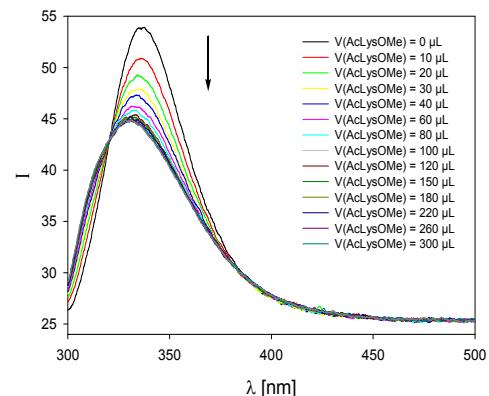
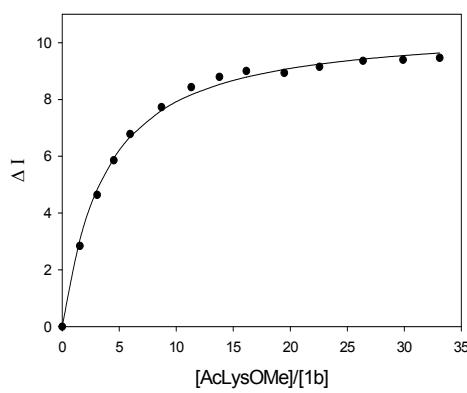
### 1.3.2 Fluorescence titrations

#### Fluorescence titrations for Ac Lys OMe

Titration of Ac Lys OMe and tweezer **1b** in phosphate buffer (200mM, pH 7.64)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 280 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1b</b> | Guest<br>Ac Lys OMe· HCl |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.165                 | 0.38                     |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 10.277                | 0.66                     |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.18 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $2.4 \cdot 10^{-3}$      |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{336}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 2.19E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.00                   | 53.7                  | 0.0                     | 0.0                      |
| 10                           | 710                             | 2.19E-05              | 3.40E-05           | 1.55                   | 50.9                  | 2.8                     | 3.1                      |
| 20                           | 720                             | 2.19E-05              | 6.70E-05           | 3.07                   | 49.1                  | 4.6                     | 4.8                      |
| 30                           | 730                             | 2.19E-05              | 9.91E-05           | 4.54                   | 47.9                  | 5.9                     | 5.9                      |
| 40                           | 740                             | 2.19E-05              | 1.30E-04           | 5.97                   | 46.9                  | 6.8                     | 6.7                      |
| 60                           | 760                             | 2.19E-05              | 1.90E-04           | 8.71                   | 46.0                  | 7.7                     | 7.6                      |
| 80                           | 780                             | 2.19E-05              | 2.47E-04           | 11.32                  | 45.3                  | 8.4                     | 8.2                      |
| 100                          | 800                             | 2.19E-05              | 3.01E-04           | 13.79                  | 44.9                  | 8.8                     | 8.5                      |
| 120                          | 820                             | 2.19E-05              | 3.53E-04           | 16.15                  | 44.7                  | 9.0                     | 8.8                      |
| 150                          | 850                             | 2.19E-05              | 4.26E-04           | 19.47                  | 44.8                  | 8.9                     | 9.1                      |
| 180                          | 880                             | 2.19E-05              | 4.93E-04           | 22.57                  | 44.6                  | 9.1                     | 9.2                      |
| 220                          | 920                             | 2.19E-05              | 5.77E-04           | 26.39                  | 44.4                  | 9.4                     | 9.4                      |
| 260                          | 960                             | 2.19E-05              | 6.53E-04           | 29.89                  | 44.3                  | 9.4                     | 9.5                      |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 2.19E-05              | 7.24E-04           | 33.11                  | 44.3                  | 9.5                     | 9.6                      |

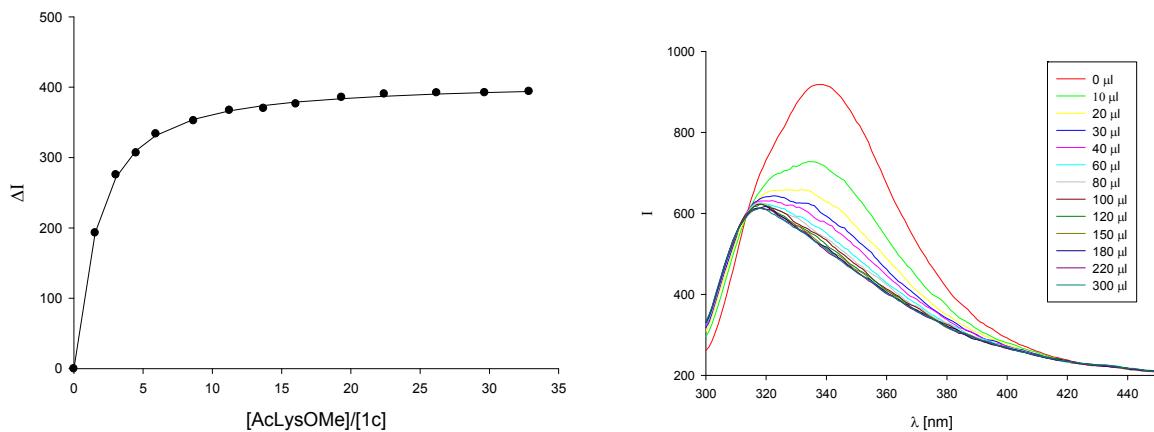


$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 14766 \pm 1\%, K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 68 \pm 1\%$$

Titration of **AcLysOMe** and tweezer **1c** in phosphate buffer (200mM, pH 7.64)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1c</b> | Guest<br>Ac Lys OMe · HCl |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.156                 | 0.410                     |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 8.69                  | 0.673                     |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.33 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $2.55 \cdot 10^{-3}$      |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{337}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 2.33E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.00                   | 918.114               | 0.000                   | 0                        |
| 10                           | 710                             | 2.33E-05              | 3.59E-05           | 1.54                   | 725.153               | 192.961                 | 193.3159                 |
| 20                           | 720                             | 2.33E-05              | 7.09E-05           | 3.04                   | 642.548               | 275.566                 | 272.2011                 |
| 30                           | 730                             | 2.33E-05              | 1.05E-04           | 4.50                   | 611.539               | 306.575                 | 309.9996                 |
| 40                           | 740                             | 2.33E-05              | 1.38E-04           | 5.92                   | 584.480               | 333.634                 | 331.4145                 |
| 60                           | 760                             | 2.33E-05              | 2.01E-04           | 8.65                   | 565.857               | 352.257                 | 354.424                  |
| 80                           | 780                             | 2.33E-05              | 2.62E-04           | 11.23                  | 551.001               | 367.113                 | 366.4685                 |
| 100                          | 800                             | 2.33E-05              | 3.19E-04           | 13.69                  | 548.189               | 369.925                 | 373.8478                 |
| 120                          | 820                             | 2.33E-05              | 3.73E-04           | 16.03                  | 541.879               | 376.235                 | 378.8253                 |
| 150                          | 850                             | 2.33E-05              | 4.50E-04           | 19.33                  | 532.487               | 385.627                 | 383.8455                 |
| 180                          | 880                             | 2.33E-05              | 5.22E-04           | 22.40                  | 527.754               | 390.360                 | 387.2144                 |
| 220                          | 920                             | 2.33E-05              | 6.10E-04           | 26.19                  | 526.147               | 391.967                 | 390.2914                 |
| 260                          | 960                             | 2.33E-05              | 6.91E-04           | 29.66                  | 525.849               | 392.265                 | 392.4293                 |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 2.33E-05              | 7.66E-04           | 32.86                  | 524.197               | 393.917                 | 394.0008                 |



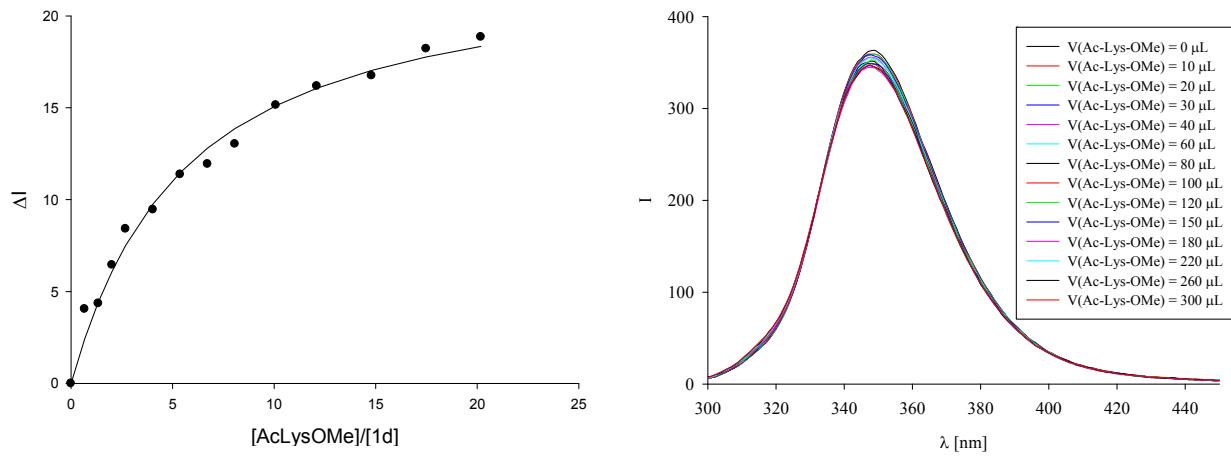
$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 36000 \pm 2 \%$$

$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 28 \pm 2 \%$$

Titration of **AcLysOMe** and tweezer **1d** in phosphate buffer (200mM, pH 7.64)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1d</b> | Guest<br>Ac Lys OMe · HCl |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.119                 | 0.184                     |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 4.00                  | 0.40                      |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $4.094 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $1.93 \cdot 10^{-3}$      |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{349}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 4.09E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.000                  | 363.402               | 0.000                   | 0.0000                   |
| 10                           | 710                             | 4.09E-05              | 2.71E-05           | 0.663                  | 359.354               | 4.048                   | 2.4168                   |
| 20                           | 720                             | 4.09E-05              | 5.35E-05           | 1.308                  | 359.055               | 4.347                   | 4.4184                   |
| 30                           | 730                             | 4.09E-05              | 7.92E-05           | 1.934                  | 356.959               | 6.443                   | 6.0942                   |
| 40                           | 740                             | 4.09E-05              | 1.04E-04           | 2.544                  | 354.993               | 8.409                   | 7.5123                   |
| 60                           | 760                             | 4.09E-05              | 1.52E-04           | 3.716                  | 353.948               | 9.454                   | 9.7697                   |
| 80                           | 780                             | 4.09E-05              | 1.98E-04           | 4.828                  | 352.032               | 11.370                  | 11.4768                  |
| 100                          | 800                             | 4.09E-05              | 2.41E-04           | 5.884                  | 351.464               | 11.938                  | 12.8070                  |
| 120                          | 820                             | 4.09E-05              | 2.82E-04           | 6.889                  | 350.378               | 13.024                  | 13.8699                  |
| 150                          | 850                             | 4.09E-05              | 3.40E-04           | 8.307                  | 348.260               | 15.142                  | 15.1132                  |
| 180                          | 880                             | 4.09E-05              | 3.94E-04           | 9.628                  | 347.229               | 16.173                  | 16.0644                  |
| 220                          | 920                             | 4.09E-05              | 4.61E-04           | 11.256                 | 346.654               | 16.748                  | 17.0304                  |
| 260                          | 960                             | 4.09E-05              | 5.22E-04           | 12.749                 | 345.190               | 18.212                  | 17.7638                  |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 4.09E-05              | 5.78E-04           | 14.122                 | 344.553               | 18.849                  | 18.3391                  |



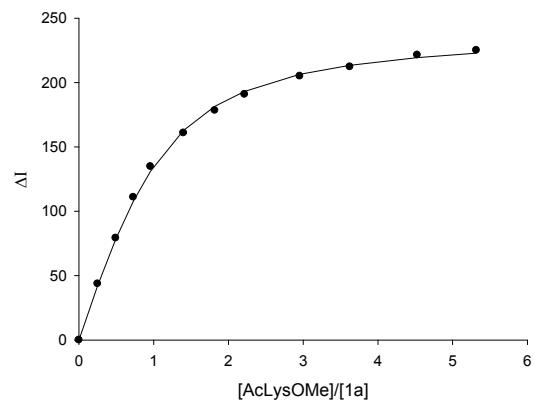
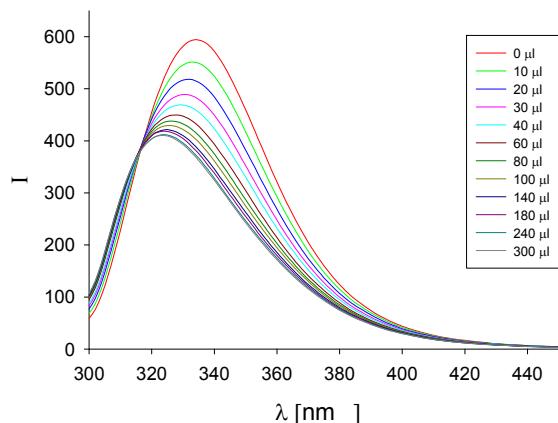
$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 4434 \pm 14\%$$

$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 226 \pm 14\%$$

Titration of **AcLysOMe** and tweezer **1a** in phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.6)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor              | Guest                 |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 334 \text{ nm}$  | <b>1a</b>             | <b>AcLysOMe · HCl</b> |
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.225                 | 0.263                 |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 10.710                | 0.780                 |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.579 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $4.573 \cdot 10^{-4}$ |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{334 \text{ nm}}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 2.58E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.00                   | 594.451                          | 0.000                   | 0.000                    |
| 10                           | 710                             | 2.58E-05              | 6.44E-06           | 0.25                   | 550.838                          | 43.613                  | 42.321                   |
| 20                           | 720                             | 2.58E-05              | 1.27E-05           | 0.49                   | 515.279                          | 79.172                  | 78.336                   |
| 30                           | 730                             | 2.58E-05              | 1.88E-05           | 0.73                   | 483.590                          | 110.861                 | 107.795                  |
| 40                           | 740                             | 2.58E-05              | 2.47E-05           | 0.96                   | 459.677                          | 134.774                 | 131.058                  |
| 60                           | 760                             | 2.58E-05              | 3.61E-05           | 1.40                   | 433.532                          | 160.919                 | 162.749                  |
| 80                           | 780                             | 2.58E-05              | 4.69E-05           | 1.82                   | 416.212                          | 178.239                 | 181.512                  |
| 100                          | 800                             | 2.58E-05              | 5.72E-05           | 2.22                   | 403.594                          | 190.857                 | 193.191                  |
| 140                          | 840                             | 2.58E-05              | 7.62E-05           | 2.95                   | 389.476                          | 204.975                 | 206.378                  |
| 180                          | 880                             | 2.58E-05              | 9.35E-05           | 3.63                   | 382.237                          | 212.214                 | 213.434                  |
| 240                          | 940                             | 2.58E-05              | 1.17E-04           | 4.53                   | 373.044                          | 221.407                 | 219.364                  |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 2.58E-05              | 1.37E-04           | 5.32                   | 369.385                          | 225.066                 | 222.793                  |



$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 113000 \pm 6 \%$$

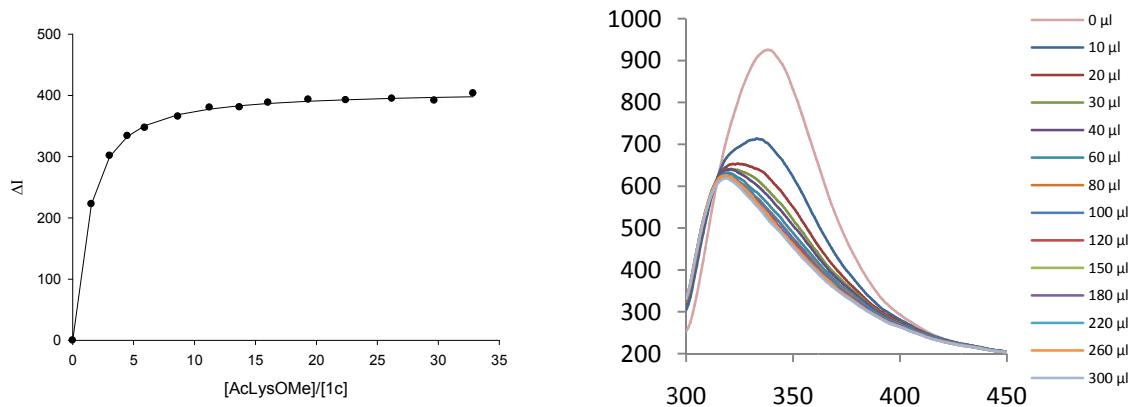
$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 9 \pm 6 \%$$

$$\Delta I_{\text{max}} = 240 \text{ (40 \%)}$$

Titration of **AcLysOMe** and tweezer **1c** in phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.2)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1c</b> | Guest<br>Ac Lys OMe · HCl |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.100                 | 0.354                     |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 5.568                 | 0.581                     |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.33 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $2.55 \cdot 10^{-3}$      |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{338}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 2.33E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.00                   | 925.462               | 0.000                   | 0.000                    |
| 10                           | 710                             | 2.33E-05              | 3.60E-05           | 1.54                   | 702.801               | 222.661                 | 222.446                  |
| 20                           | 720                             | 2.33E-05              | 7.09E-05           | 3.04                   | 623.958               | 301.504                 | 299.942                  |
| 30                           | 730                             | 2.33E-05              | 1.05E-04           | 4.50                   | 591.476               | 333.986                 | 332.975                  |
| 40                           | 740                             | 2.33E-05              | 1.38E-04           | 5.92                   | 578.192               | 347.270                 | 350.558                  |
| 60                           | 760                             | 2.33E-05              | 2.02E-04           | 8.65                   | 559.736               | 365.726                 | 368.613                  |
| 80                           | 780                             | 2.33E-05              | 2.62E-04           | 11.24                  | 545.225               | 380.237                 | 377.746                  |
| 100                          | 800                             | 2.33E-05              | 3.19E-04           | 13.69                  | 544.797               | 380.665                 | 383.242                  |
| 120                          | 820                             | 2.33E-05              | 3.74E-04           | 16.03                  | 537.159               | 388.303                 | 386.908                  |
| 150                          | 850                             | 2.33E-05              | 4.50E-04           | 19.33                  | 532.127               | 393.335                 | 390.573                  |
| 180                          | 880                             | 2.33E-05              | 5.22E-04           | 22.41                  | 533.112               | 392.350                 | 393.015                  |
| 220                          | 920                             | 2.33E-05              | 6.10E-04           | 26.20                  | 530.630               | 394.832                 | 395.234                  |
| 260                          | 960                             | 2.33E-05              | 6.91E-04           | 29.67                  | 533.667               | 391.795                 | 396.769                  |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 2.33E-05              | 7.66E-04           | 32.86                  | 522.077               | 403.385                 | 397.893                  |



$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 51500 \pm 3 \%$$

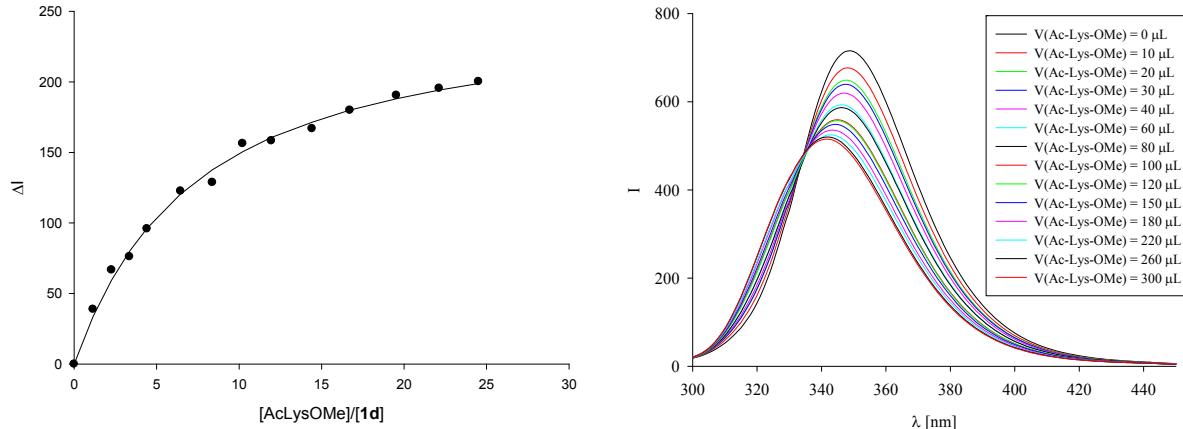
$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 19 \pm 3 \%$$

$$\Delta I_{\text{max}} = 408 \text{ (44 \%)}$$

Titration of **AcLysOMe** and tweezer **1d** in phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.2)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1d</b> | Guest<br>Ac Lys OMe· HCl |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.492                 | 1.509                    |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 7.00                  | 0.800                    |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $9.67 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $7.90 \cdot 10^{-3}$     |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{348}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 9.67E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.00                   | 715.684               | 0.000                   | 0.0000                   |
| 10                           | 710                             | 9.67E-05              | 1.11E-04           | 1.151                  | 676.845               | 38.839                  | 33.7203                  |
| 20                           | 720                             | 9.67E-05              | 2.19E-04           | 2.269                  | 648.935               | 66.749                  | 59.5512                  |
| 30                           | 730                             | 9.67E-05              | 3.25E-04           | 3.358                  | 639.607               | 76.077                  | 79.9818                  |
| 40                           | 740                             | 9.67E-05              | 4.27E-04           | 4.416                  | 619.840               | 95.844                  | 96.1721                  |
| 60                           | 760                             | 9.67E-05              | 6.24E-04           | 6.450                  | 593.112               | 122.572                 | 120.5213                 |
| 80                           | 780                             | 9.67E-05              | 8.10E-04           | 8.380                  | 586.929               | 128.755                 | 137.6953                 |
| 100                          | 800                             | 9.67E-05              | 9.88E-04           | 10.213                 | 559.378               | 156.306                 | 150.5497                 |
| 120                          | 820                             | 9.67E-05              | 1.16E-03           | 11.956                 | 557.382               | 158.302                 | 160.5912                 |
| 150                          | 850                             | 9.67E-05              | 1.39E-03           | 14.418                 | 548.790               | 166.894                 | 171.3778                 |
| 180                          | 880                             | 9.67E-05              | 1.62E-03           | 16.712                 | 535.738               | 179.946                 | 179.9713                 |
| 220                          | 920                             | 9.67E-05              | 1.89E-03           | 19.537                 | 525.169               | 190.515                 | 188.0593                 |
| 260                          | 960                             | 9.67E-05              | 2.14E-03           | 22.127                 | 520.197               | 195.487                 | 194.1389                 |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 9.67E-05              | 2.37E-03           | 24.510                 | 515.458               | 200.226                 | 198.8329                 |



$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 1555 \pm 7\%$$

$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 643 \pm 7\%$$

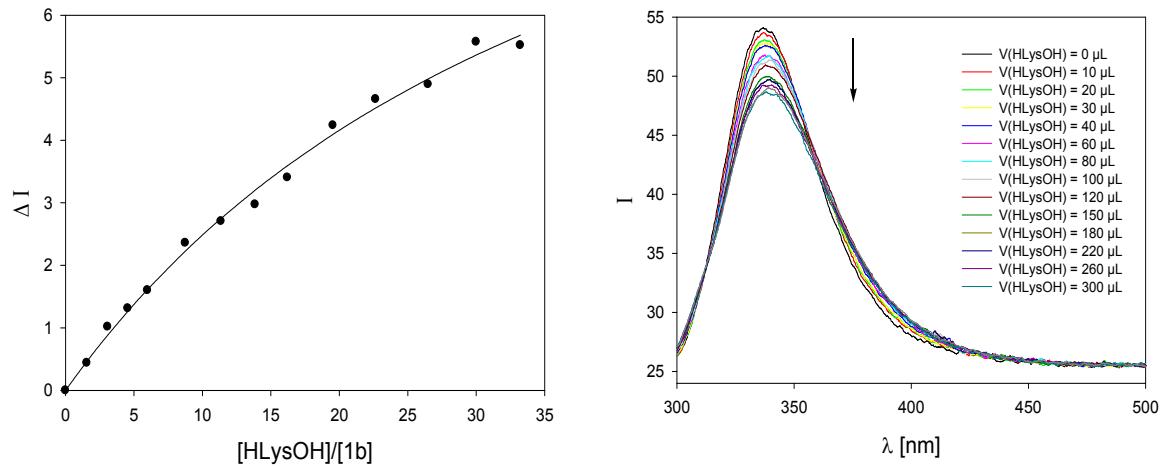
$$\Delta I_{\text{max}} = 225 \text{ (36 \%)}$$

## Fluorescence titrations for H Lys OH

Titration of **H LysOH** and tweezer **1b** in phosphate buffer (200 mM, pH 7.6)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 280 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1b</b> | Guest<br>H Lys OH · HCl |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.165                 | 0.314                   |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 10.277                | 0.71                    |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.18 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $2.4 \cdot 10^{-3}$     |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{336}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 2.19E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.00                   | 54.0                  | 0.0                     | 0.0                      |
| 10                           | 710                             | 2.19E-05              | 3.41E-05           | 1.56                   | 53.6                  | 0.4                     | 0.5                      |
| 20                           | 720                             | 2.19E-05              | 6.72E-05           | 3.08                   | 52.9                  | 1.0                     | 0.9                      |
| 30                           | 730                             | 2.19E-05              | 9.95E-05           | 4.55                   | 52.7                  | 1.3                     | 1.3                      |
| 40                           | 740                             | 2.19E-05              | 1.31E-04           | 5.99                   | 52.4                  | 1.6                     | 1.6                      |
| 60                           | 760                             | 2.19E-05              | 1.91E-04           | 8.74                   | 51.6                  | 2.4                     | 2.2                      |
| 80                           | 780                             | 2.19E-05              | 2.48E-04           | 11.36                  | 51.3                  | 2.7                     | 2.8                      |
| 100                          | 800                             | 2.19E-05              | 3.03E-04           | 13.84                  | 51.0                  | 2.9                     | 3.2                      |
| 120                          | 820                             | 2.19E-05              | 3.54E-04           | 16.21                  | 50.6                  | 3.4                     | 3.6                      |
| 150                          | 850                             | 2.19E-05              | 4.27E-04           | 19.54                  | 49.8                  | 4.2                     | 4.1                      |
| 180                          | 880                             | 2.19E-05              | 4.95E-04           | 22.65                  | 49.4                  | 4.7                     | 4.5                      |
| 220                          | 920                             | 2.19E-05              | 5.79E-04           | 26.48                  | 49.1                  | 4.9                     | 4.9                      |
| 260                          | 960                             | 2.19E-05              | 6.56E-04           | 29.99                  | 48.4                  | 5.6                     | 5.4                      |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 2.19E-05              | 7.26E-04           | 33.23                  | 48.5                  | 5.5                     | 5.7                      |



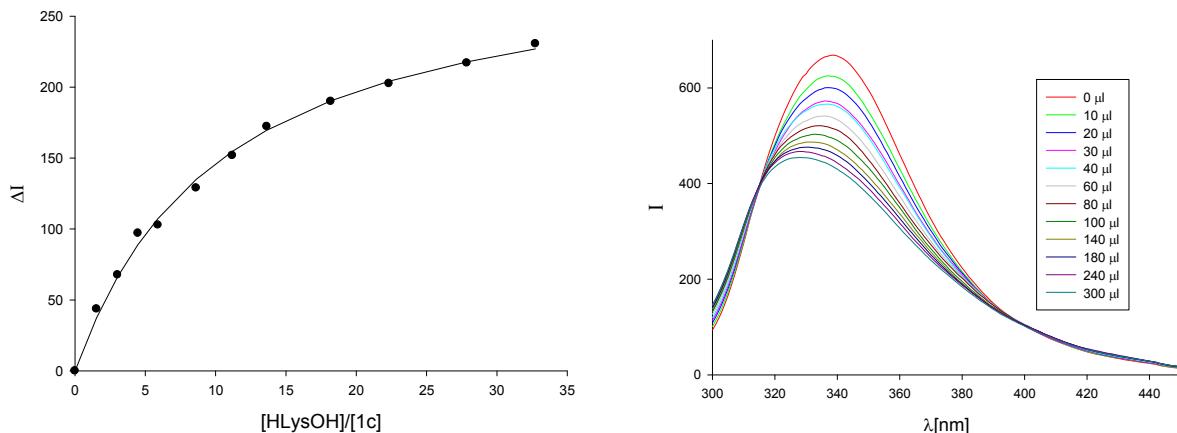
$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 1144 \pm 1\%$$

$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 874 \pm 1\%$$

Titration of **HLysOH** and tweezer **1c** in phosphate buffer (10mM, pH 7.6)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1c</b> | Guest<br><b>H LysOH · HCl</b> |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 338 \text{ nm}$  |                       |                               |
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.154                 | 0.282                         |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 8.58                  | 0.607                         |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.33 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $2.54 \cdot 10^{-3}$          |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{338}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 2.33E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.00                   | 668.101               | 0.000                   | 0.000                    |
| 10                           | 710                             | 2.33E-05              | 3.58E-05           | 1.54                   | 624.460               | 43.641                  | 37.471                   |
| 20                           | 720                             | 2.33E-05              | 7.06E-05           | 3.03                   | 600.417               | 67.684                  | 66.272                   |
| 30                           | 730                             | 2.33E-05              | 1.05E-04           | 4.49                   | 571.074               | 97.027                  | 88.995                   |
| 40                           | 740                             | 2.33E-05              | 1.37E-04           | 5.90                   | 565.345               | 102.756                 | 107.324                  |
| 60                           | 760                             | 2.33E-05              | 2.01E-04           | 8.62                   | 539.165               | 128.936                 | 134.979                  |
| 80                           | 780                             | 2.33E-05              | 2.61E-04           | 11.19                  | 516.322               | 151.779                 | 154.784                  |
| 100                          | 800                             | 2.33E-05              | 3.18E-04           | 13.64                  | 495.840               | 172.261                 | 169.631                  |
| 140                          | 840                             | 2.33E-05              | 4.24E-04           | 18.19                  | 478.098               | 190.003                 | 190.359                  |
| 180                          | 880                             | 2.33E-05              | 5.20E-04           | 22.32                  | 465.560               | 202.541                 | 204.114                  |
| 240                          | 940                             | 2.33E-05              | 6.49E-04           | 27.86                  | 451.082               | 217.019                 | 217.799                  |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 2.33E-05              | 7.63E-04           | 32.74                  | 437.507               | 230.594                 | 226.874                  |



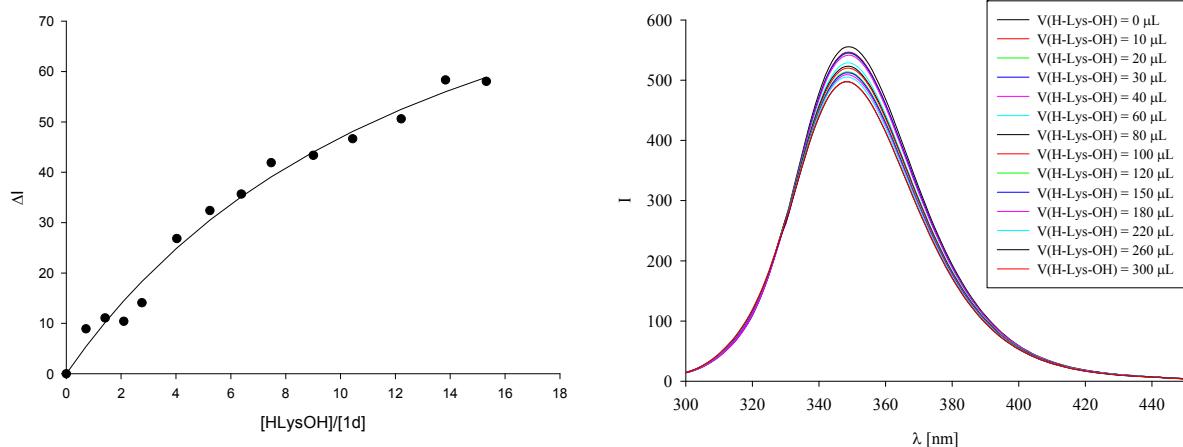
$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 4410 \pm 6 \%$$

$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 227 \pm 6\%$$

Titration of **HLysOH** and tweezer **1d** in phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.2)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1d</b> | Guest<br>$\text{H LysOH} \cdot \text{HCl}$ |
|---|-----------------------|--|
| $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 348 \text{ nm}$  |                       |  |
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.259                 | 0.655                                      |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 4.00                  | 0.80                                       |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $8.91 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $4.55 \cdot 10^{-3}$                       |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{348}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 8.91E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.000                  | 555.580               | 0.000                   | 0.0000                   |
| 10                           | 710                             | 8.91E-05              | 6.41E-05           | 0.719                  | 546.684               | 8.896                   | 5.4037                   |
| 20                           | 720                             | 8.91E-05              | 1.26E-04           | 1.418                  | 544.499               | 11.081                  | 10.2046                  |
| 30                           | 730                             | 8.91E-05              | 1.87E-04           | 2.099                  | 545.179               | 10.401                  | 14.4953                  |
| 40                           | 740                             | 8.91E-05              | 2.46E-04           | 2.760                  | 541.476               | 14.104                  | 18.3508                  |
| 60                           | 760                             | 8.91E-05              | 3.59E-04           | 4.031                  | 528.748               | 26.832                  | 24.9908                  |
| 80                           | 780                             | 8.91E-05              | 4.67E-04           | 5.237                  | 523.192               | 32.388                  | 30.4993                  |
| 100                          | 800                             | 8.91E-05              | 5.69E-04           | 6.383                  | 519.935               | 35.645                  | 35.1385                  |
| 120                          | 820                             | 8.91E-05              | 6.66E-04           | 7.473                  | 513.713               | 41.867                  | 39.0962                  |
| 150                          | 850                             | 8.91E-05              | 8.03E-04           | 9.011                  | 512.214               | 43.366                  | 44.0476                  |
| 180                          | 880                             | 8.91E-05              | 9.31E-04           | 10.445                 | 508.936               | 46.644                  | 48.0994                  |
| 220                          | 920                             | 8.91E-05              | 1.09E-03           | 12.211                 | 504.988               | 50.592                  | 52.4776                  |
| 260                          | 960                             | 8.91E-05              | 1.23E-03           | 13.830                 | 497.261               | 58.319                  | 55.9979                  |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 8.91E-05              | 1.36E-03           | 15.319                 | 497.562               | 58.018                  | 58.8887                  |



$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 855 \pm 20\%$$

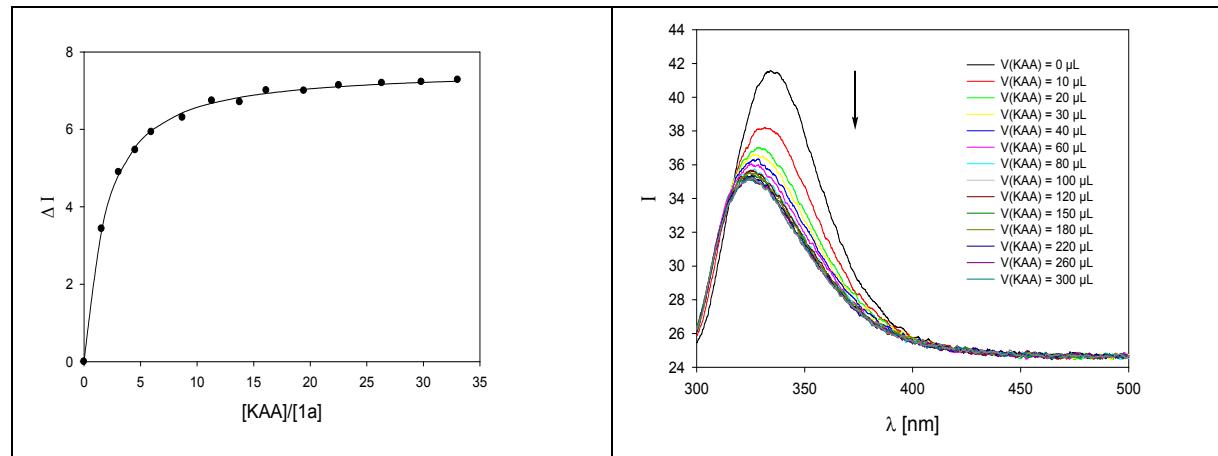
$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 1170 \pm 20\%$$

## Fluorescence titration for peptide KAA

Titration of KAA and tweezer **1a** in phosphate buffer (200 mM, pH 7.6)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Tweezer <b>1a</b>                           | KAA  |
|---|---|--|
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.164 ( $2.18 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ mmol}$ ) | 0.347 ( $1.2 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ mmol}$ ) |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 10  | 0.5  |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.18 \cdot 10^{-5}$                        | $2.4 \cdot 10^{-3}$                        |

| $V_{\text{Guest}}$<br>[ $\mu\text{L}$ ] | $V_{\text{total}}$<br>[ $\mu\text{L}$ ] | [ <b>1a</b> ]<br>[mol/L] | [KAA]<br>[mol/L]     | [KAA]/<br>[ <b>1a</b> ] | I<br>334 nm | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|---|---|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                                       | 700                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | 0                    | 0                       | 41.6        | 0.0                     | 0                        |
| 10                                      | 710                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $3.39 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 1.55                    | 38.1        | 3.4                     | 3.4                      |
| 20                                      | 720                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $6.69 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 3.06                    | 36.7        | 4.9                     | 4.8                      |
| 30                                      | 730                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $9.89 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 4.53                    | 36.1        | 5.5                     | 5.5                      |
| 40                                      | 740                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $1.30 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 5.95                    | 35.6        | 5.9                     | 5.9                      |
| 60                                      | 760                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $1.90 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 8.69                    | 35.3        | 6.3                     | 6.4                      |
| 80                                      | 780                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $2.47 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 11.29                   | 34.8        | 6.7                     | 6.7                      |
| 100                                     | 800                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $3.01 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 13.77                   | 34.9        | 6.7                     | 6.8                      |
| 120                                     | 820                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $3.52 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 16.12                   | 34.6        | 7.0                     | 6.9                      |
| 150                                     | 850                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $4.25 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 19.43                   | 34.6        | 6.9                     | 7.0                      |
| 180                                     | 880                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $4.92 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 22.53                   | 34.4        | 7.1                     | 7.1                      |
| 220                                     | 920                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $5.76 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 26.33                   | 34.4        | 7.2                     | 7.2                      |
| 260                                     | 960                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $6.52 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 29.82                   | 34.3        | 7.2                     | 7.2                      |
| 300                                     | 1000                                    | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $7.22 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 33.04                   | 34.3        | 7.3                     | 7.2                      |



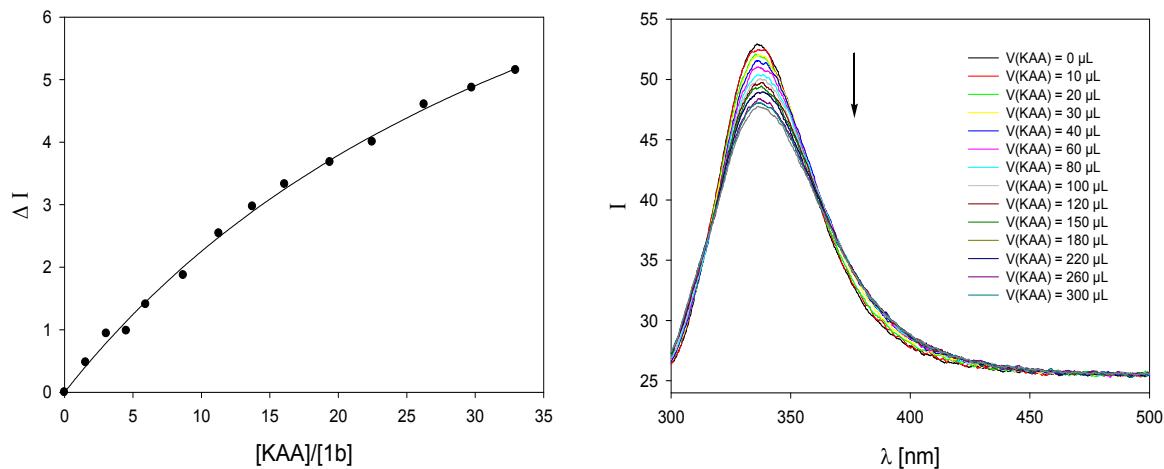
$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 33340 \pm 3 \%$$

$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 30 \pm 3 \%$$

Titration of **KAA** and tweezer **1b** in phosphate buffer (200 mM, pH 7.6)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 280 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1b</b> | Guest<br><b>KAA</b> |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.165                 | 0.360               |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 10.277                | 0.52                |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.18 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $2.4 \cdot 10^{-3}$ |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{334}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 2.19E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.00                   | 52.9                  | 0.0                     | 0.0                      |
| 10                           | 710                             | 2.19E-05              | 3.38E-05           | 1.55                   | 52.4                  | 0.5                     | 0.4                      |
| 20                           | 720                             | 2.19E-05              | 6.67E-05           | 3.05                   | 51.9                  | 0.9                     | 0.8                      |
| 30                           | 730                             | 2.19E-05              | 9.87E-05           | 4.51                   | 51.9                  | 0.9                     | 1.1                      |
| 40                           | 740                             | 2.19E-05              | 1.30E-04           | 5.94                   | 51.5                  | 1.4                     | 1.4                      |
| 60                           | 760                             | 2.19E-05              | 1.90E-04           | 8.67                   | 51.0                  | 1.9                     | 2.0                      |
| 80                           | 780                             | 2.19E-05              | 2.46E-04           | 11.27                  | 50.4                  | 2.5                     | 2.5                      |
| 100                          | 800                             | 2.19E-05              | 3.00E-04           | 13.73                  | 49.9                  | 2.9                     | 2.9                      |
| 120                          | 820                             | 2.19E-05              | 3.51E-04           | 16.08                  | 49.6                  | 3.3                     | 3.3                      |
| 150                          | 850                             | 2.19E-05              | 4.24E-04           | 19.38                  | 49.2                  | 3.7                     | 3.7                      |
| 180                          | 880                             | 2.19E-05              | 4.91E-04           | 22.47                  | 48.9                  | 4.0                     | 4.1                      |
| 220                          | 920                             | 2.19E-05              | 5.74E-04           | 26.27                  | 48.3                  | 4.6                     | 4.5                      |
| 260                          | 960                             | 2.19E-05              | 6.50E-04           | 29.75                  | 48.0                  | 4.9                     | 4.9                      |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 2.19E-05              | 7.20E-04           | 32.95                  | 47.7                  | 5.2                     | 5.2                      |



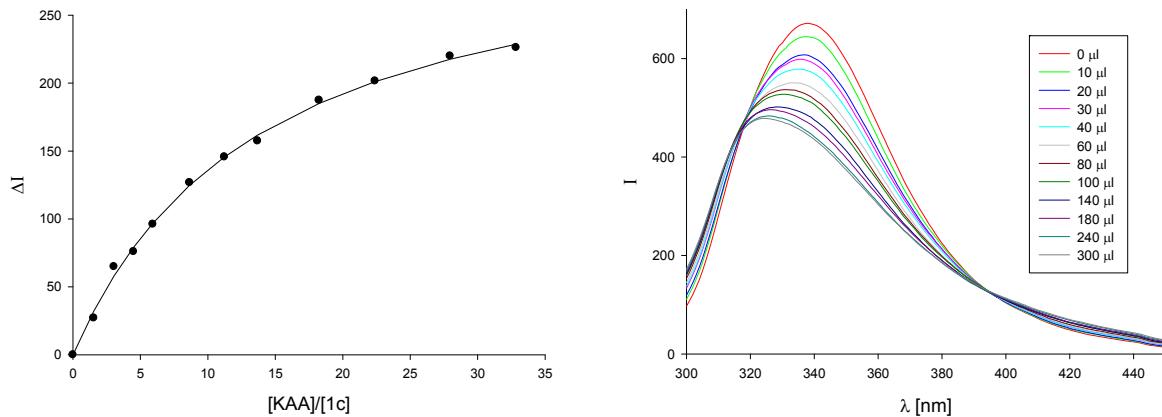
$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 1105 \pm 1\%$$

$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 905 \pm 1\%$$

Titration of **KAA** and tweezer**1c** in phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.6)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1c</b> | Guest<br><b>KAA</b>  |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------|
| $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 338 \text{ nm}$  |                       |                      |
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.154                 | 0.37                 |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 8.58                  | 0.503                |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.33 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $2.55 \cdot 10^{-3}$ |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{338}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 2.33E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.00                   | 671.428               | 0.000                   | 0.000                    |
| 10                           | 710                             | 2.33E-05              | 3.59E-05           | 1.54                   | 644.313               | 27.115                  | 32.063                   |
| 20                           | 720                             | 2.33E-05              | 7.09E-05           | 3.04                   | 606.546               | 64.882                  | 57.917                   |
| 30                           | 730                             | 2.33E-05              | 1.05E-04           | 4.50                   | 595.503               | 75.925                  | 79.153                   |
| 40                           | 740                             | 2.33E-05              | 1.38E-04           | 5.92                   | 575.253               | 96.175                  | 96.878                   |
| 60                           | 760                             | 2.33E-05              | 2.01E-04           | 8.64                   | 544.662               | 126.766                 | 124.722                  |
| 80                           | 780                             | 2.33E-05              | 2.62E-04           | 11.23                  | 525.733               | 145.695                 | 145.552                  |
| 100                          | 800                             | 2.33E-05              | 3.19E-04           | 13.69                  | 514.004               | 157.424                 | 1c.693                   |
| 140                          | 840                             | 2.33E-05              | 4.25E-04           | 18.25                  | 484.077               | 187.351                 | 185.041                  |
| 180                          | 880                             | 2.33E-05              | 5.22E-04           | 22.39                  | 469.864               | 201.564                 | 201.088                  |
| 240                          | 940                             | 2.33E-05              | 6.51E-04           | 27.95                  | 451.425               | 220.003                 | 217.517                  |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 2.33E-05              | 7.65E-04           | 32.85                  | 445.244               | 226.184                 | 228.679                  |



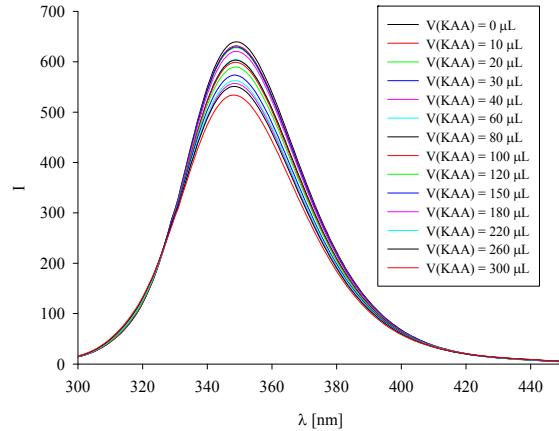
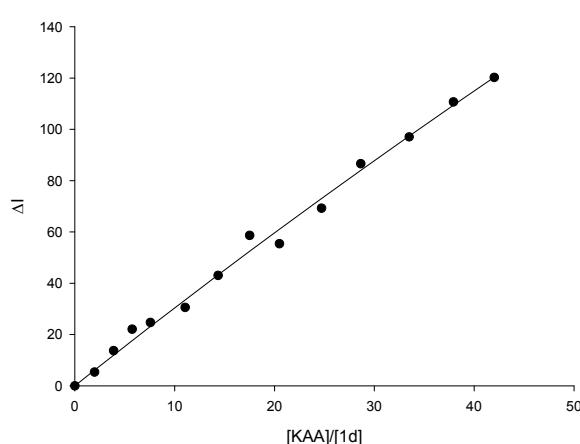
$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 3300 \pm 5 \%$$

$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 303 \pm 5 \%$$

Titration of **KAA** and tweezer **1d** in phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.2)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1d</b> | Guest<br>KAA        |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.215                 | 1.349               |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 4.50                  | 0.80                |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $6.65 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $9.2 \cdot 10^{-3}$ |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{348}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 6.57E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.000                  | 476.535               | 0.000                   | 0.0000                   |
| 10                           | 710                             | 6.57E-05              | 1.30E-04           | 1.973                  | 471.176               | 5.359                   | 6.0899                   |
| 20                           | 720                             | 6.57E-05              | 2.56E-04           | 3.891                  | 462.806               | 13.729                  | 11.9661                  |
| 30                           | 730                             | 6.57E-05              | 3.78E-04           | 5.756                  | 454.449               | 22.086                  | 17.6395                  |
| 40                           | 740                             | 6.57E-05              | 4.98E-04           | 7.572                  | 451.804               | 24.731                  | 23.1205                  |
| 60                           | 760                             | 6.57E-05              | 7.27E-04           | 11.058                 | 445.960               | 30.575                  | 33.5432                  |
| 80                           | 780                             | 6.57E-05              | 9.45E-04           | 14.367                 | 433.475               | 43.060                  | 43.3038                  |
| 100                          | 800                             | 6.57E-05              | 1.15E-03           | 17.509                 | 417.927               | 58.608                  | 52.4635                  |
| 120                          | 820                             | 6.57E-05              | 1.35E-03           | 20.499                 | 421.166               | 55.369                  | 61.0761                  |
| 150                          | 850                             | 6.57E-05              | 1.63E-03           | 24.719                 | 407.293               | 69.242                  | 73.0718                  |
| 180                          | 880                             | 6.57E-05              | 1.88E-03           | 28.652                 | 389.996               | 86.539                  | 84.0812                  |
| 220                          | 920                             | 6.57E-05              | 2.20E-03           | 33.496                 | 379.260               | 97.275                  | 97.4253                  |
| 260                          | 960                             | 6.57E-05              | 2.49E-03           | 37.937                 | 365.539               | 110.996                 | 109.451                  |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 6.57E-05              | 2.76E-03           | 42.022                 | 355.788               | 120.747                 | 120.344                  |



$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 30 \pm 83\%$$

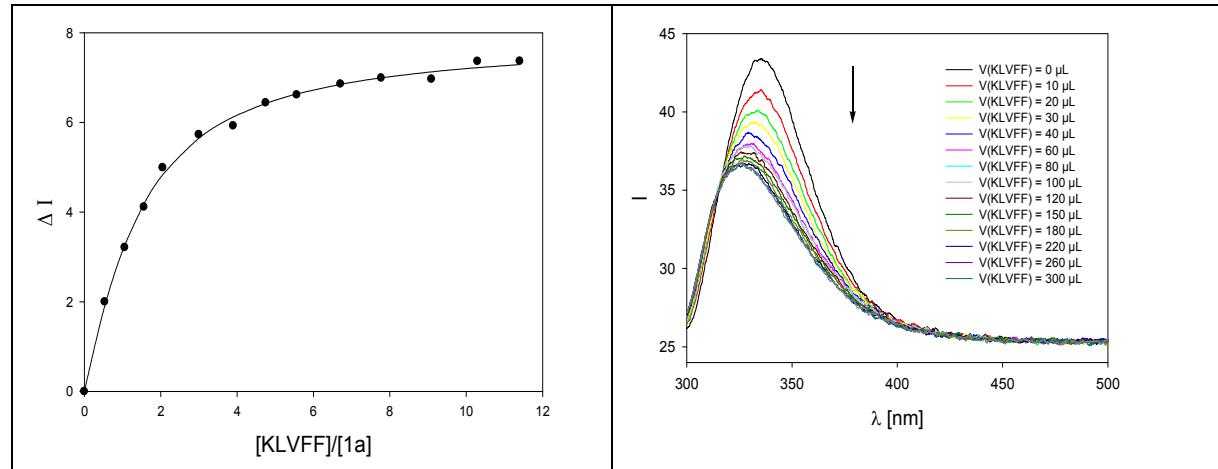
$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 33333 \pm 83\%$$

## Fluorescence titrations for KLVFF

Titration of KLVFF and tweezer**1a** in phosphate buffer (200 mM, pH 7.6)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 280 \text{ nm}$ | Tweezer <b>1a</b>                           | KLVFF                                       |
|---|---|---|
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.172 ( $2.29 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ mmol}$ ) | 0.217 ( $3.32 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ mmol}$ ) |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 10.487                                      | 0.4   |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.18 \cdot 10^{-5}$                        | $8.3 \cdot 10^{-4}$                         |

| $V_{\text{Gast}}$<br>[ $\mu\text{L}$ ] | $V_{\text{gesamt}}$<br>[ $\mu\text{L}$ ] | [ <b>750</b> ]<br>[mol/L] | [KLVFF]<br>[mol/L]   | [KLVFF]/ [1a] | I<br>334 nm | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|--|--|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                                      | 700                                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$      | 0.00                 | 0.00          | 43.3        | 0.0                     | 0.0                      |
| 10                                     | 710                                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$      | $1.17 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 0.54          | 41.3        | 2.0                     | 1.9                      |
| 20                                     | 720                                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$      | $2.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 1.06          | 40.1        | 3.2                     | 3.3                      |
| 30                                     | 730                                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$      | $3.42 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 1.56          | 39.2        | 4.1                     | 4.2                      |
| 40                                     | 740                                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$      | $4.49 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 2.06          | 38.3        | 4.9                     | 4.8                      |
| 60                                     | 760                                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$      | $6.56 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 3.00          | 37.6        | 5.7                     | 5.7                      |
| 80                                     | 780                                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$      | $8.52 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 3.90          | 37.4        | 5.9                     | 6.1                      |
| 100                                    | 800                                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$      | $1.04 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 4.75          | 36.9        | 6.4                     | 6.4                      |
| 120                                    | 820                                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$      | $1.22 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 5.56          | 36.7        | 6.6                     | 6.6                      |
| 150                                    | 850                                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$      | $1.47 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 6.71          | 36.4        | 6.6                     | 6.8                      |
| 180                                    | 880                                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$      | $1.70 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 7.78          | 36.3        | 6.9                     | 6.9                      |
| 220                                    | 920                                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$      | $1.99 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 9.09          | 36.3        | 6.9                     | 7.1                      |
| 260                                    | 960                                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$      | $2.25 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 10.30         | 35.9        | 7.4                     | 7.2                      |
| 300                                    | 1000                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$      | $2.49 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 11.41         | 35.9        | 7.4                     | 7.3                      |



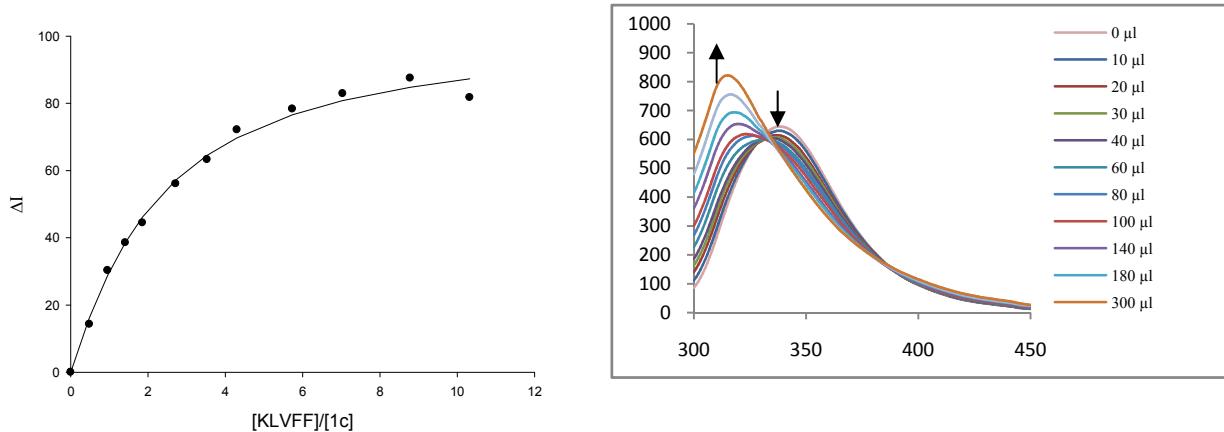
$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 49481 \pm 5 \%$$

$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 20 \pm 5 \%$$

Titration of KLVFF and tweezer **1c** in phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.6)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1c</b> | Guest<br>KLVFF      |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|
| $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 338 \text{ nm}$  |                       |                     |
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.113                 | 0.355               |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 6.724                 | 0.725               |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.18 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $7.5 \cdot 10^{-4}$ |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{338}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 2.18E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.00                   | 644.084               | 0.000                   | 0.000                    |
| 10                           | 710                             | 2.18E-05              | 1.06E-05           | 0.48                   | 629.776               | 14.308                  | 16.276                   |
| 20                           | 720                             | 2.18E-05              | 2.08E-05           | 0.96                   | 613.787               | 30.297                  | 28.826                   |
| 30                           | 730                             | 2.18E-05              | 3.08E-05           | 1.41                   | 605.562               | 38.522                  | 38.553                   |
| 40                           | 740                             | 2.18E-05              | 4.05E-05           | 1.86                   | 599.635               | 44.449                  | 46.180                   |
| 60                           | 760                             | 2.18E-05              | 5.92E-05           | 2.72                   | 588.012               | 56.072                  | 57.153                   |
| 80                           | 780                             | 2.18E-05              | 7.69E-05           | 3.53                   | 580.781               | 63.303                  | 64.522                   |
| 100                          | 800                             | 2.18E-05              | 9.38E-05           | 4.30                   | 571.938               | 72.146                  | 69.743                   |
| 140                          | 840                             | 2.18E-05              | 1.25E-04           | 5.73                   | 565.785               | 78.299                  | 76.576                   |
| 180                          | 880                             | 2.18E-05              | 1.53E-04           | 7.04                   | 561.215               | 82.869                  | 80.811                   |
| 240                          | 940                             | 2.18E-05              | 1.92E-04           | 8.78                   | 556.559               | 87.525                  | 84.792                   |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 2.18E-05              | 2.25E-04           | 10.32                  | 562.350               | 81.1b                   | 87.306                   |



$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 26200 \pm 11 \%$$

$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 38 \pm 11 \%$$

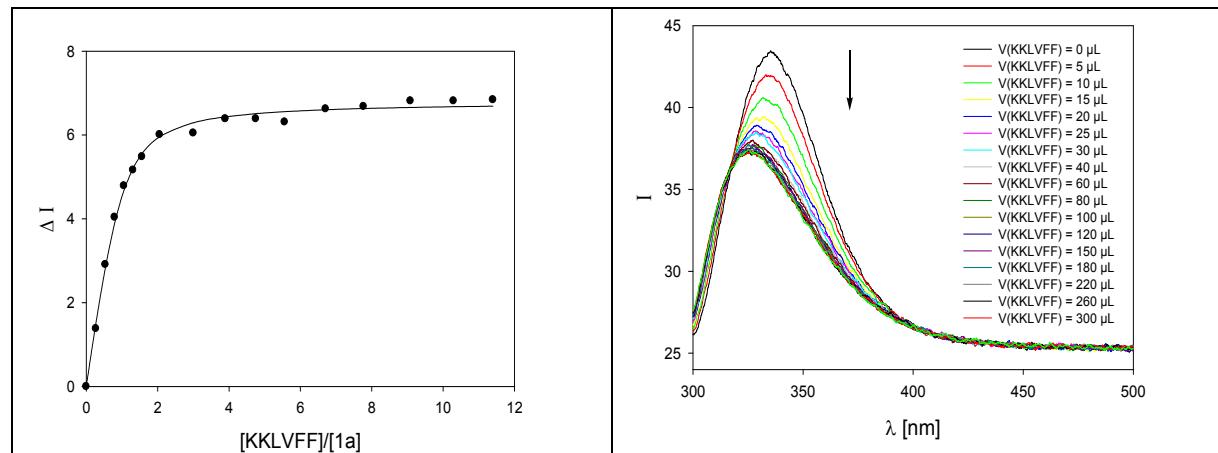
$\Delta\lambda \sim 20 \text{ nm}$ , blue shift

## Fluorescence titrations for KKLVFF

Titration of KKLVFF and tweezer **1a** in phosphate buffer (200 mM, pH 7.64)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 280 \text{ nm}$ | Tweezer <b>1a</b>                           | KKLVFF                                     |
|---|---|--|
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.172 ( $2.29 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ mmol}$ ) | 0.26 ( $3.32 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ mmol}$ ) |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 10.487                                      | 0.45                                       |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.18 \cdot 10^{-5}$                        | $8.3 \cdot 10^{-4}$                        |

| $V_{\text{Guest}}$<br>[ $\mu\text{L}$ ] | $V_{\text{total}}$<br>[ $\mu\text{L}$ ] | [ <b>1a</b> ]<br>[mol/L] | [KKLVFF]<br>[mol/L]  | [KKLVFF]/<br>[ <b>1a</b> ] | I<br>334 nm | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|---|---|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                                       | 700                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | 0                    | 0                          | 43.3        | 0                       | 0                        |
| 5                                       | 705                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $5.89 \cdot 10^{-6}$ | 0.27                       | 41.9        | 1.4                     | 1.5                      |
| 10                                      | 710                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $1.17 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 0.54                       | 40.4        | 2.9                     | 2.8                      |
| 15                                      | 715                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $1.74 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 0.80                       | 39.3        | 4.0                     | 3.9                      |
| 20                                      | 720                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $2.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 1.06                       | 38.5        | 4.8                     | 4.7                      |
| 25                                      | 725                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $2.86 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 1.31                       | 38.1        | 5.2                     | 5.2                      |
| 30                                      | 730                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $3.41 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 1.56                       | 37.8        | 5.5                     | 5.6                      |
| 40                                      | 740                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $4.49 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 2.05                       | 37.3        | 6.0                     | 5.9                      |
| 60                                      | 760                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $6.56 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 3.00                       | 37.3        | 6.0                     | 6.3                      |
| 80                                      | 780                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $8.52 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 3.90                       | 36.9        | 6.4                     | 6.4                      |
| 100                                     | 800                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $1.04 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 4.75                       | 36.9        | 6.4                     | 6.5                      |
| 120                                     | 820                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $1.22 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 5.56                       | 36.9        | 6.3                     | 6.6                      |
| 150                                     | 850                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $1.47 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 6.70                       | 36.7        | 6.6                     | 6.6                      |
| 180                                     | 880                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $1.70 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 7.77                       | 36.6        | 6.7                     | 6.6                      |
| 220                                     | 920                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $1.99 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 9.08                       | 36.5        | 6.8                     | 6.7                      |
| 260                                     | 960                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $2.25 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 10.29                      | 36.5        | 6.8                     | 6.7                      |
| 300                                     | 1000                                    | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $2.49 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 11.40                      | 36.5        | 6.8                     | 6.7                      |



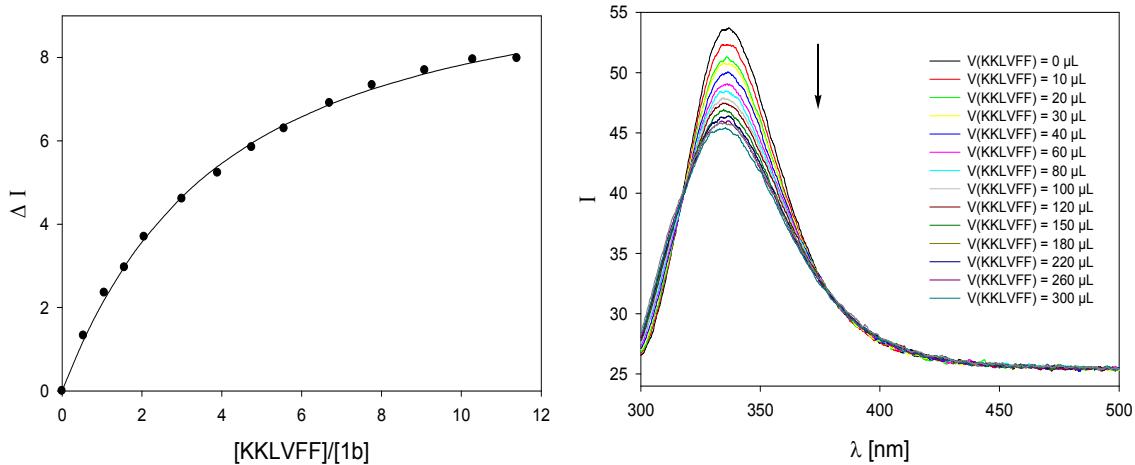
$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 277310 \pm 1 \%$$

$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 4 \pm 1 \%$$

Titration of **KKLVFF** and tweezer **1b** in phosphate buffer (200 mM, pH 7.64)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 280 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1b</b> | Guest<br>KKLVFF     |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.165                 | 0.497               |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 10.277                | 0.765               |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.18 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $8.0 \cdot 10^{-3}$ |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{336}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 2.19E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.00                   | 53.7                  | 0.0                     | 0.0                      |
| 10                           | 710                             | 2.19E-05              | 1.17E-05           | 0.35                   | 52.3                  | 1.3                     | 1.2                      |
| 20                           | 720                             | 2.19E-05              | 2.31E-05           | 1.05                   | 51.3                  | 2.4                     | 2.2                      |
| 30                           | 730                             | 2.19E-05              | 3.41E-05           | 1.56                   | 50.7                  | 2.9                     | 2.9                      |
| 40                           | 740                             | 2.19E-05              | 4.49E-05           | 2.05                   | 49.9                  | 3.7                     | 3.6                      |
| 60                           | 760                             | 2.19E-05              | 6.55E-05           | 3.00                   | 49.1                  | 4.6                     | 4.6                      |
| 80                           | 780                             | 2.19E-05              | 8.51E-05           | 3.89                   | 48.4                  | 5.2                     | 5.4                      |
| 100                          | 800                             | 2.19E-05              | 1.04E-04           | 4.75                   | 47.8                  | 5.9                     | 5.9                      |
| 120                          | 820                             | 2.19E-05              | 1.21E-04           | 5.56                   | 47.4                  | 6.3                     | 6.4                      |
| 150                          | 850                             | 2.19E-05              | 1.46E-04           | 6.70                   | 46.8                  | 6.9                     | 6.9                      |
| 180                          | 880                             | 2.19E-05              | 1.70E-04           | 7.77                   | 46.3                  | 7.3                     | 7.2                      |
| 220                          | 920                             | 2.19E-05              | 1.98E-04           | 9.08                   | 45.9                  | 7.7                     | 7.6                      |
| 260                          | 960                             | 2.19E-05              | 2.25E-04           | 10.28                  | 45.7                  | 7.9                     | 7.9                      |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 2.19E-05              | 2.49E-04           | 11.39                  | 45.7                  | 7.9                     | 8.1                      |



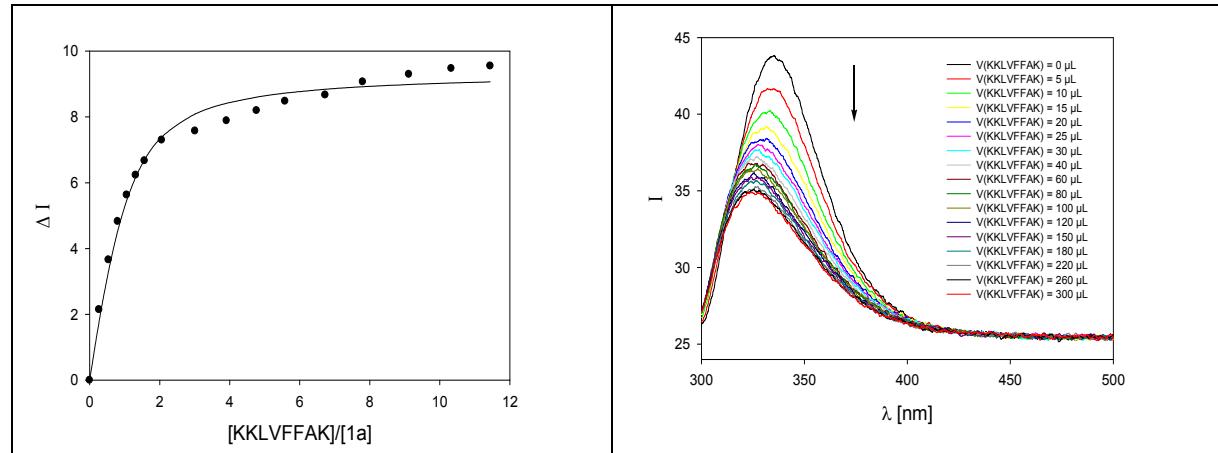
$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 14048 \pm 1\%$$

$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 71 \pm 1$$

Fluorescence titration of **KKLVFFAK** and tweezer **1a** in phosphate buffer (200 mM, pH 7.64)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 280 \text{ nm}$ | Tweezer <b>1a</b>                           | <b>KKLVFFAK</b>                             |
|---|---|---|
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.172 ( $2.29 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ mmol}$ ) | 0.394 ( $4.00 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ mmol}$ ) |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 10.487                                      | 0.48  |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.18 \cdot 10^{-5}$                        | $8.3 \cdot 10^{-4}$                         |

| $V_{\text{Guest}}$<br>[ $\mu\text{L}$ ] | $V_{\text{total}}$<br>[ $\mu\text{L}$ ] | [ <b>1a</b> ]<br>[mol/L] | [ <b>KKLVFFAK</b> ]<br>[mol/L] | [ <b>KKLVFFAK</b> ]/<br>[ <b>1a</b> ] | I<br>334 nm | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|---|---|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                                       | 700                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | 0.00                           | 0.00                                  | 43.8        | 0.0                     | 0.0                      |
| 10                                      | 710                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $1.17 \cdot 10^{-5}$           | 0.54                                  | 40.1        | 3.7                     | 3.3                      |
| 20                                      | 720                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $2.32 \cdot 10^{-5}$           | 1.06                                  | 38.1        | 5.6                     | 5.5                      |
| 30                                      | 730                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $3.43 \cdot 10^{-5}$           | 1.57                                  | 37.1        | 6.7                     | 6.7                      |
| 40                                      | 740                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $4.51 \cdot 10^{-5}$           | 2.06                                  | 36.5        | 7.3                     | 7.4                      |
| 60                                      | 760                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $6.58 \cdot 10^{-5}$           | 3.01                                  | 36.2        | 7.6                     | 8.1                      |
| 80                                      | 780                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $8.55 \cdot 10^{-5}$           | 3.91                                  | 35.9        | 7.9                     | 8.4                      |
| 100                                     | 800                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $1.04 \cdot 10^{-4}$           | 4.77                                  | 35.6        | 8.2                     | 8.6                      |
| 120                                     | 820                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $1.22 \cdot 10^{-4}$           | 5.58                                  | 35.3        | 8.5                     | 8.7                      |
| 150                                     | 850                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $1.47 \cdot 10^{-4}$           | 6.73                                  | 35.1        | 8.7                     | 8.8                      |
| 180                                     | 880                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $1.70 \cdot 10^{-4}$           | 7.80                                  | 34.7        | 9.1                     | 8.9                      |
| 220                                     | 920                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $1.99 \cdot 10^{-4}$           | 9.12                                  | 34.5        | 9.3                     | 8.9                      |
| 260                                     | 960                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $2.26 \cdot 10^{-4}$           | 10.33                                 | 34.3        | 9.5                     | 9.0                      |
| 300                                     | 1000                                    | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $2.50 \cdot 10^{-4}$           | 11.44                                 | 34.2        | 9.6                     | 9.1                      |



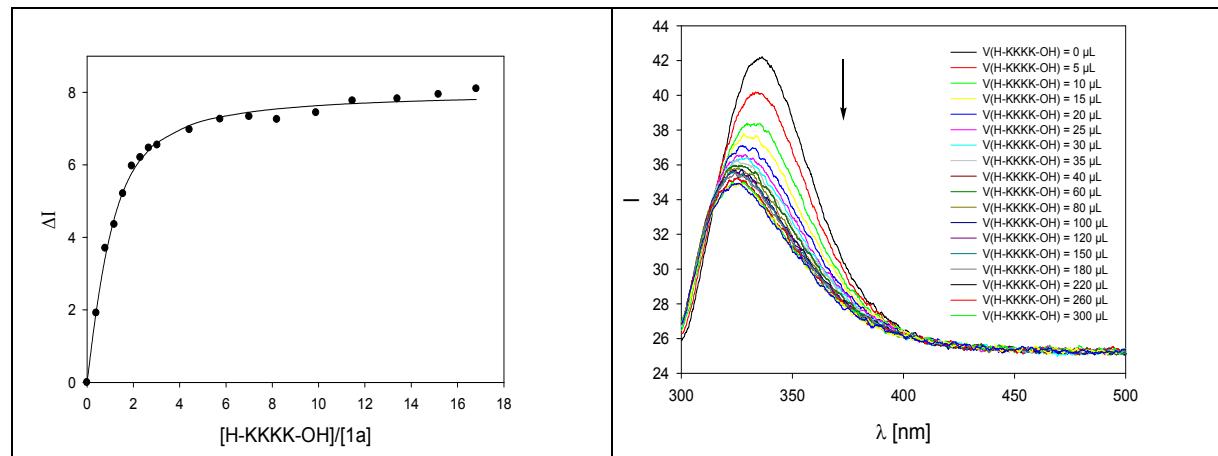
$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 135848 \pm 1 \%$$

$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 7 \pm 1 \%$$

Fluorescence titration of **H-KKKK-OH** and tweezer **1a** in phosphate buffer (200 mM, pH 7.64)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 280 \text{ nm}$ | <b>Tweezer1a</b>                            | <b>H-KKKK-OH</b>                           |
|---|---|--|
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.172 ( $2.29 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ mmol}$ ) | 0.26 ( $4.89 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ mmol}$ ) |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 10.487                                      | 0.45                                       |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.18 \cdot 10^{-5}$                        | $1.2 \cdot 10^{-3}$                        |

| $V_{\text{Guest}}$<br>[ $\mu\text{L}$ ] | $V_{\text{total}}$<br>[ $\mu\text{L}$ ] | [ <b>1a</b> ]<br>[mol/L] | [KKKK]<br>[mol/L]    | [KKKK]/<br>[1a] | I<br>334 nm | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|---|---|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                                       | 700                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | 0.00                 | 0.00            | 42.0        | 0.0                     | 0.0                      |
| 10                                      | 710                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $1.73 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 0.79            | 38.3        | 3.7                     | 3.5                      |
| 20                                      | 720                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $3.40 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 1.56            | 36.8        | 5.2                     | 5.3                      |
| 30                                      | 730                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $5.03 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 2.30            | 35.8        | 6.2                     | 6.1                      |
| 40                                      | 740                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $5.83 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 2.67            | 35.6        | 6.5                     | 6.4                      |
| 60                                      | 760                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $6.62 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 3.03            | 35.5        | 6.5                     | 6.6                      |
| 80                                      | 780                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $9.67 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 4.42            | 35.1        | 6.9                     | 7.1                      |
| 100                                     | 800                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $1.26 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 5.75            | 34.8        | 7.3                     | 7.3                      |
| 120                                     | 820                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $1.53 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 7.00            | 34.7        | 7.3                     | 7.5                      |
| 150                                     | 850                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $1.79 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 8.20            | 34.8        | 7.3                     | 7.5                      |
| 180                                     | 880                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $2.16 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 9.89            | 34.6        | 7.4                     | 7.6                      |
| 220                                     | 920                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $2.51 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 11.46           | 34.3        | 7.8                     | 7.7                      |
| 260                                     | 960                                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $2.93 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 13.40           | 34.2        | 7.8                     | 7.7                      |
| 300                                     | 1000                                    | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$     | $3.32 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 15.18           | 34.1        | 7.9                     | 7.8                      |



$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 96610 \pm 7 \%$$

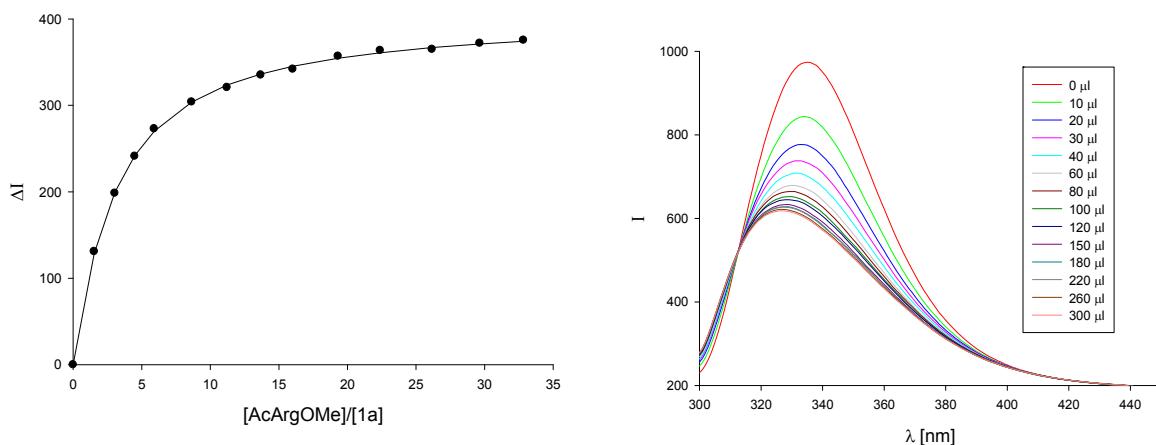
$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 10 \pm 7 \%$$

## Fluorescence titrations for Ac ArgOMe

Titration of **AcArgOMe** and tweezer **1a** in phosphate buffer (200mM, pH 7.6)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1a</b> | Guest<br><b>AcArgOMe · HCl</b> |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 335 \text{ nm}$  |                       |                                |
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.170                 | 0.364                          |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 8.96                  | 0.535                          |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.33 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $2.55 \cdot 10^{-3}$           |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{335 \text{ nm}}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 2.33E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.00                   | 973.832                          | 0.000                   | 0.000                    |
| 10                           | 710                             | 2.33E-05              | 3.59E-05           | 1.54                   | 842.941                          | 130.891                 | 128.837                  |
| 20                           | 720                             | 2.33E-05              | 7.09E-05           | 3.04                   | 775.363                          | 198.469                 | 199.554                  |
| 30                           | 730                             | 2.33E-05              | 1.05E-04           | 4.50                   | 732.780                          | 241.052                 | 242.139                  |
| 40                           | 740                             | 2.33E-05              | 1.38E-04           | 5.92                   | 700.879                          | 272.953                 | 270.041                  |
| 60                           | 760                             | 2.33E-05              | 2.01E-04           | 8.64                   | 669.874                          | 303.958                 | 303.919                  |
| 80                           | 780                             | 2.33E-05              | 2.62E-04           | 11.23                  | 653.089                          | 320.743                 | 323.546                  |
| 100                          | 800                             | 2.33E-05              | 3.19E-04           | 13.68                  | 638.677                          | 335.155                 | 336.290                  |
| 120                          | 820                             | 2.33E-05              | 3.73E-04           | 16.02                  | 631.899                          | 341.933                 | 345.214                  |
| 150                          | 850                             | 2.33E-05              | 4.50E-04           | 19.32                  | 616.878                          | 356.954                 | 354.492                  |
| 180                          | 880                             | 2.33E-05              | 5.22E-04           | 22.39                  | 610.332                          | 363.500                 | 360.880                  |
| 220                          | 920                             | 2.33E-05              | 6.10E-04           | 26.18                  | 608.956                          | 364.876                 | 366.829                  |
| 260                          | 960                             | 2.33E-05              | 6.91E-04           | 29.65                  | 602.008                          | 371.824                 | 371.029                  |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 2.33E-05              | 7.65E-04           | 32.84                  | 598.502                          | 375.330                 | 374.151                  |



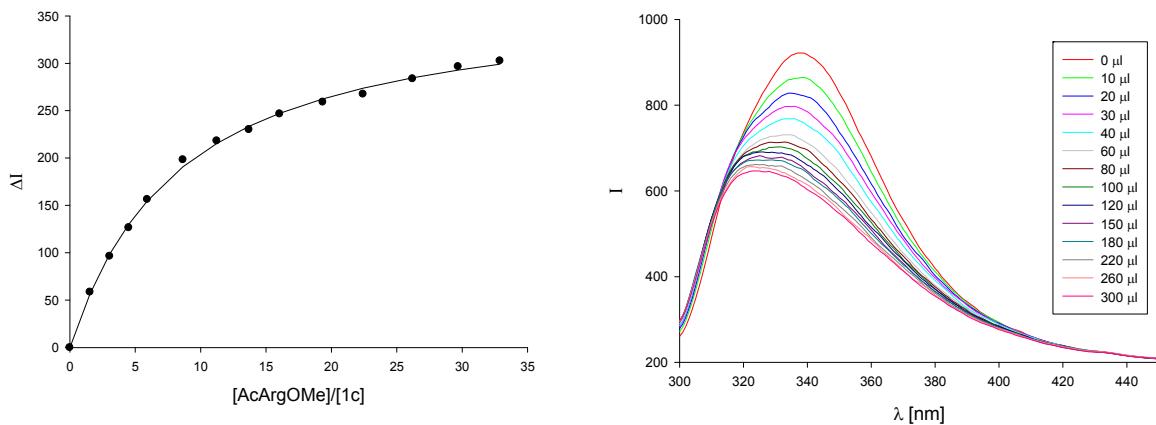
$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 16400 \pm 2 \%$$

$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 60 \pm 2 \%$$

Titration of AcArgOMe and tweezer **1c** in phosphate buffer (200mM, pH 7.6)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1c</b> | Guest<br>Ac ArgOMe · HCl |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.156                 | 0.340                    |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 8.69                  | 0.499                    |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.33 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $2.55 \cdot 10^{-3}$     |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{337}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 2.33E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.00                   | 921.704               | 0.000                   | 0.000                    |
| 10                           | 710                             | 2.33E-05              | 3.60E-05           | 1.54                   | 863.162               | 58.542                  | 56.863                   |
| 20                           | 720                             | 2.33E-05              | 7.10E-05           | 3.05                   | 825.328               | 96.376                  | 98.541                   |
| 30                           | 730                             | 2.33E-05              | 1.05E-04           | 4.51                   | 795.250               | 126.454                 | 130.157                  |
| 40                           | 740                             | 2.33E-05              | 1.38E-04           | 5.93                   | 765.497               | 156.207                 | 154.846                  |
| 60                           | 760                             | 2.33E-05              | 2.02E-04           | 8.66                   | 723.468               | 198.236                 | 190.741                  |
| 80                           | 780                             | 2.33E-05              | 2.62E-04           | 11.24                  | 703.545               | 218.159                 | 215.465                  |
| 100                          | 800                             | 2.33E-05              | 3.19E-04           | 13.70                  | 691.642               | 230.062                 | 233.478                  |
| 120                          | 820                             | 2.33E-05              | 3.74E-04           | 16.04                  | 675.124               | 246.580                 | 247.162                  |
| 150                          | 850                             | 2.33E-05              | 4.51E-04           | 19.35                  | 662.666               | 259.038                 | 262.445                  |
| 180                          | 880                             | 2.33E-05              | 5.23E-04           | 22.42                  | 654.232               | 267.472                 | 273.656                  |
| 220                          | 920                             | 2.33E-05              | 6.11E-04           | 26.22                  | 638.021               | 283.683                 | 284.648                  |
| 260                          | 960                             | 2.33E-05              | 6.92E-04           | 29.69                  | 625.181               | 296.523                 | 292.749                  |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 2.33E-05              | 7.66E-04           | 32.89                  | 619.139               | 302.565                 | 298.964                  |



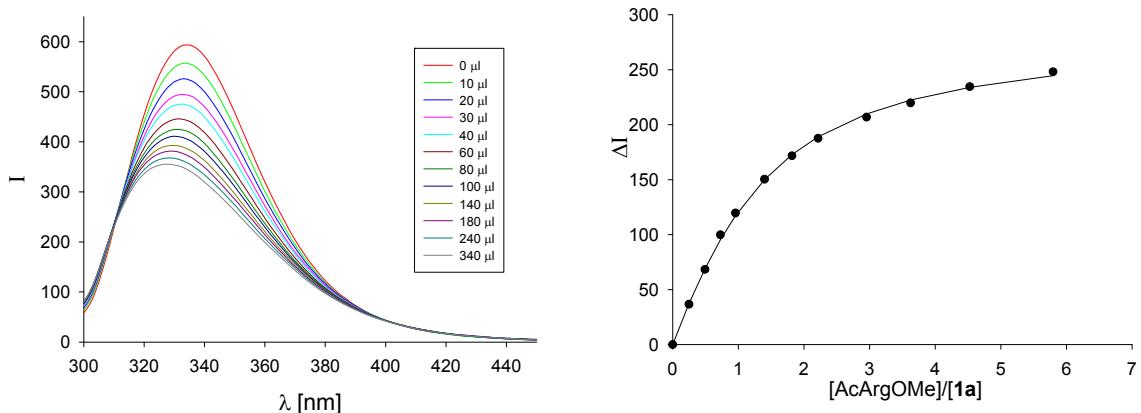
$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 5600 \pm 4 \%$$

$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 178 \pm 4 \%$$

Titration of **AcArgOMe** and tweezer **1a** in phosphate buffer (10mM, pH 7.6)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor              | Guest                 |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 334 \text{ nm}$  | <b>1a</b>             | <b>AcArgOMe · HCl</b> |
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.225                 | 0.101                 |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 10.710                | 0.828                 |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.579 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $4.573 \cdot 10^{-4}$ |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{334 \text{ nm}}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 2.58E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.00                   | 593.577                          | 0.000                   | 0.000                    |
| 10                           | 710                             | 2.58E-05              | 6.44E-06           | 0.25                   | 556.958                          | 36.619                  | 37.456                   |
| 20                           | 720                             | 2.58E-05              | 1.27E-05           | 0.49                   | 525.313                          | 68.264                  | 69.073                   |
| 30                           | 730                             | 2.58E-05              | 1.88E-05           | 0.73                   | 493.808                          | 99.769                  | 95.421                   |
| 40                           | 740                             | 2.58E-05              | 2.47E-05           | 0.96                   | 473.990                          | 119.587                 | 117.216                  |
| 60                           | 760                             | 2.58E-05              | 3.61E-05           | 1.40                   | 443.240                          | 150.337                 | 150.075                  |
| 80                           | 780                             | 2.58E-05              | 4.69E-05           | 1.82                   | 421.906                          | 171.671                 | 172.777                  |
| 100                          | 800                             | 2.58E-05              | 5.72E-05           | 2.22                   | 405.990                          | 187.587                 | 188.925                  |
| 140                          | 840                             | 2.58E-05              | 7.62E-05           | 2.96                   | 386.727                          | 206.850                 | 209.801                  |
| 180                          | 880                             | 2.58E-05              | 9.35E-05           | 3.63                   | 373.825                          | 219.752                 | 222.433                  |
| 240                          | 940                             | 2.58E-05              | 1.17E-04           | 4.53                   | 359.004                          | 234.573                 | 233.984                  |
| 340                          | 1040                            | 2.58E-05              | 1.50E-04           | 5.80                   | 345.525                          | 248.052                 | 244.467                  |



$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 50600 \pm 5 \%$$

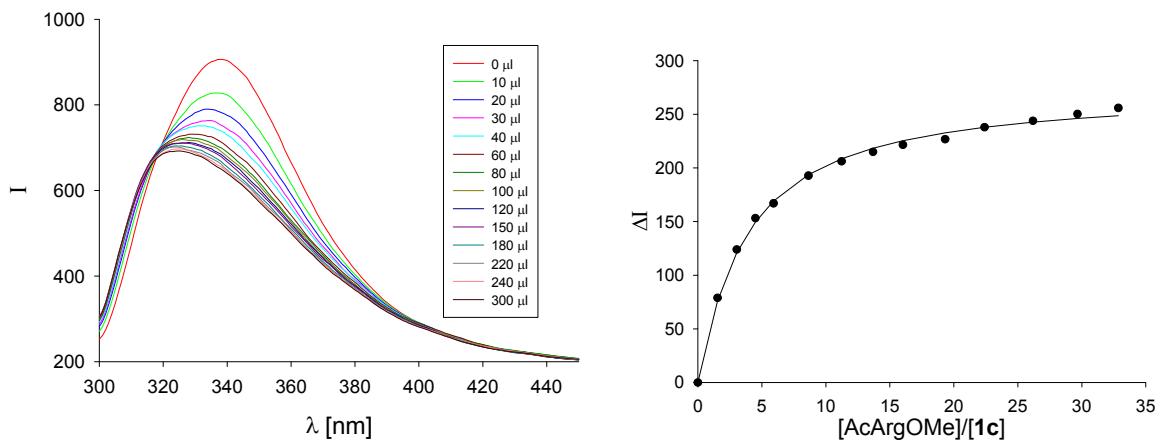
$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 20 \pm 5 \%$$

$$\Delta I_{\text{max}} = 282 \text{ (47 \%)}$$

Titration of **AcArgOMe** and tweezer **1c** in phosphate buffer (10mM, pH 7.2)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1c</b> | Guest<br><b>Ac ArgOMe·HCl</b> |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.100                 | 0.354                         |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 5.568                 | 0.520                         |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.33 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $2.55 \cdot 10^{-3}$          |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{338}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 2.33E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.00                   | 906.244               | 0.000                   | 0.000                    |
| 10                           | 710                             | 2.33E-05              | 3.59E-05           | 1.54                   | 827.374               | 78.870                  | 76.058                   |
| 20                           | 720                             | 2.33E-05              | 7.09E-05           | 3.04                   | 782.379               | 123.865                 | 120.955                  |
| 30                           | 730                             | 2.33E-05              | 1.05E-04           | 4.50                   | 753.140               | 153.104                 | 149.585                  |
| 40                           | 740                             | 2.33E-05              | 1.38E-04           | 5.92                   | 739.276               | 166.968                 | 169.129                  |
| 60                           | 760                             | 2.33E-05              | 2.01E-04           | 8.65                   | 713.500               | 192.744                 | 193.803                  |
| 80                           | 780                             | 2.33E-05              | 2.62E-04           | 11.23                  | 700.130               | 206.114                 | 208.608                  |
| 100                          | 800                             | 2.33E-05              | 3.19E-04           | 13.69                  | 691.374               | 214.870                 | 218.432                  |
| 120                          | 820                             | 2.33E-05              | 3.74E-04           | 16.03                  | 684.805               | 221.439                 | 225.413                  |
| 150                          | 850                             | 2.33E-05              | 4.50E-04           | 19.33                  | 679.489               | 226.755                 | 232.761                  |
| 180                          | 880                             | 2.33E-05              | 5.22E-04           | 22.41                  | 668.375               | 237.869                 | 237.873                  |
| 220                          | 920                             | 2.33E-05              | 6.10E-04           | 26.19                  | 662.402               | 243.842                 | 242.675                  |
| 260                          | 960                             | 2.33E-05              | 6.91E-04           | 29.67                  | 656.113               | 250.131                 | 246.088                  |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 2.33E-05              | 7.66E-04           | 32.86                  | 650.395               | 255.849                 | 248.638                  |



$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 13000 \pm 5 \%$$

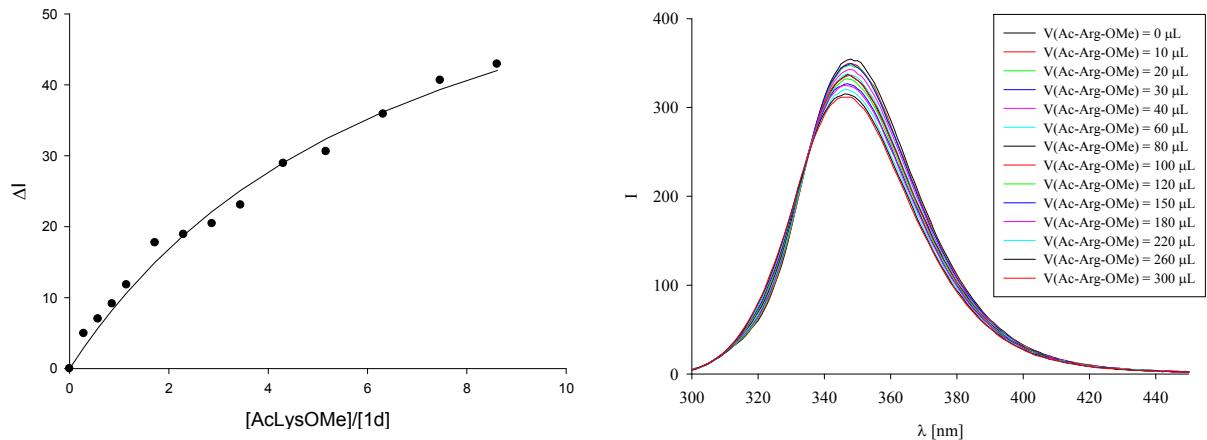
$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 77 \pm 5 \%$$

$$\Delta I_{\text{max}} = 274 \text{ (30 \%)} \quad$$

Titration of **AcArgOMe** and tweezer **1d** in phosphate buffer (200mM, pH 7.6)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1d</b> | Guest<br><b>Ac ArgOMe·HCl</b> |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.141                 | 0.208                         |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 2.00                  | 0.40                          |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $9.70 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $1.95 \cdot 10^{-3}$          |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{348}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 9.70E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.000                  | 354.492               | 0.000                   | 0.0000                   |
| 10                           | 710                             | 9.70E-05              | 2.75E-05           | 0.283                  | 349.540               | 4.952                   | 2.9700                   |
| 20                           | 720                             | 9.70E-05              | 5.42E-05           | 0.558                  | 347.493               | 6.999                   | 5.7261                   |
| 30                           | 730                             | 9.70E-05              | 8.01E-05           | 0.826                  | 345.364               | 9.128                   | 8.2892                   |
| 40                           | 740                             | 9.70E-05              | 1.05E-04           | 1.086                  | 342.694               | 11.798                  | 10.6780                  |
| 60                           | 760                             | 9.70E-05              | 1.54E-04           | 1.587                  | 336.766               | 17.726                  | 14.9956                  |
| 80                           | 780                             | 9.70E-05              | 2.00E-04           | 2.061                  | 335.593               | 18.899                  | 18.7888                  |
| 100                          | 800                             | 9.70E-05              | 2.44E-04           | 2.512                  | 334.062               | 20.430                  | 22.1443                  |
| 120                          | 820                             | 9.70E-05              | 2.85E-04           | 2.941                  | 331.431               | 23.061                  | 25.1314                  |
| 150                          | 850                             | 9.70E-05              | 3.44E-04           | 3.546                  | 325.565               | 28.927                  | 29.0404                  |
| 180                          | 880                             | 9.70E-05              | 3.99E-04           | 4.111                  | 323.905               | 30.587                  | 32.3905                  |
| 220                          | 920                             | 9.70E-05              | 4.66E-04           | 4.806                  | 318.624               | 35.868                  | 36.1733                  |
| 260                          | 960                             | 9.70E-05              | 5.28E-04           | 5.443                  | 313.851               | 40.641                  | 39.3446                  |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 9.70E-05              | 5.85E-04           | 6.029                  | 311.581               | 42.911                  | 42.0394                  |



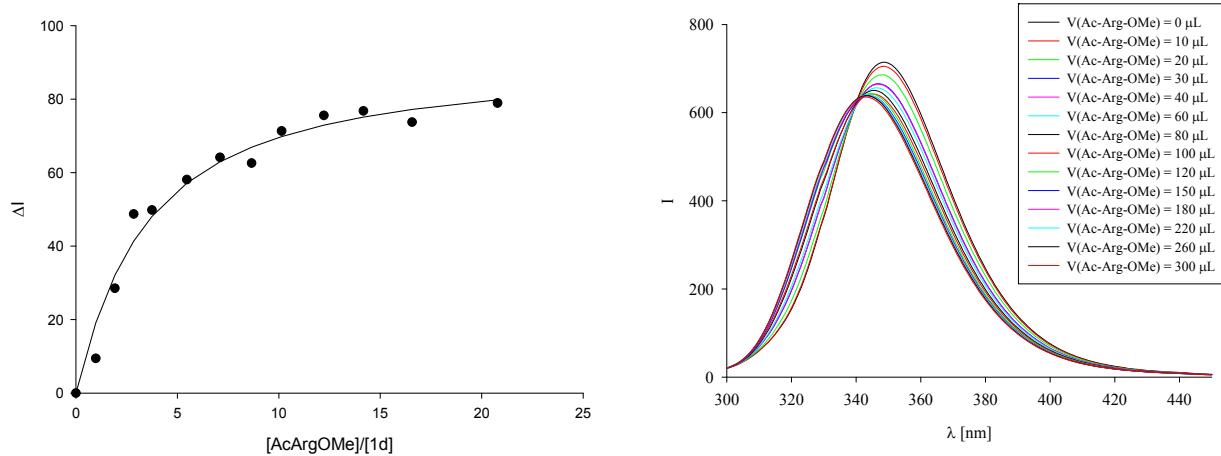
$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 1134 \pm 26\%$$

$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 882 \pm 26\%$$

Titration of **AcArgOMe** and tweezer **1d** in phosphate buffer (10mM, pH 7.2)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1d</b> | Guest<br>Ac ArgOMe· HCl |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.492                 | 1.43                    |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 7.00                  | 0.8                     |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $9.67 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $6.70 \cdot 10^{-3}$    |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{348}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 9.67E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.00                   | 714.662               | 0.000                   | 0.0000                   |
| 10                           | 710                             | 9.67E-05              | 9.44E-05           | 0.976                  | 705.219               | 9.443                   | 19.7970                  |
| 20                           | 720                             | 9.67E-05              | 1.86E-04           | 1.925                  | 686.177               | 28.485                  | 32.9222                  |
| 30                           | 730                             | 9.67E-05              | 2.75E-04           | 2.848                  | 665.925               | 48.737                  | 41.9554                  |
| 40                           | 740                             | 9.67E-05              | 3.62E-04           | 3.745                  | 664.865               | 49.797                  | 48.4348                  |
| 60                           | 760                             | 9.67E-05              | 5.29E-04           | 5.470                  | 656.591               | 58.071                  | 56.9735                  |
| 80                           | 780                             | 9.67E-05              | 6.87E-04           | 7.107                  | 650.534               | 64.128                  | 62.2789                  |
| 100                          | 800                             | 9.67E-05              | 8.38E-04           | 8.661                  | 642.645               | 62.574                  | 65.8686                  |
| 120                          | 820                             | 9.67E-05              | 9.81E-04           | 10.140                 | 643.352               | 71.310                  | 68.4499                  |
| 150                          | 850                             | 9.67E-05              | 1.18E-03           | 12.228                 | 639.091               | 75.571                  | 71.1925                  |
| 180                          | 880                             | 9.67E-05              | 1.37E-03           | 14.173                 | 637.916               | 76.746                  | 73.1148                  |
| 220                          | 920                             | 9.67E-05              | 1.60E-03           | 16.569                 | 640.940               | 73.722                  | 74.9300                  |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 9.67E-05              | 2.01E-03           | 20.787                 | 635.733               | 78.929                  | 77.1957                  |



$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 3558 \pm 18\%$$

$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 281 \pm 18\%$$

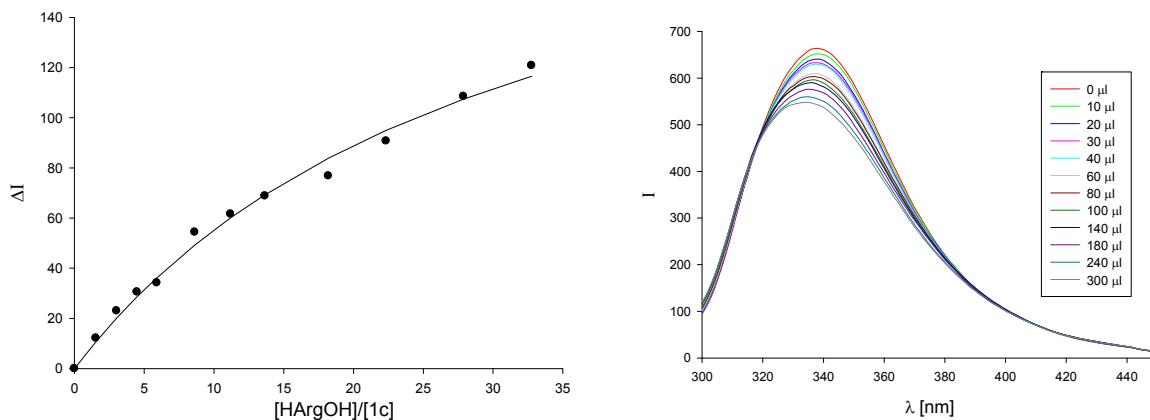
$$\Delta I_{\text{max}} = 91 \text{ (13 \%)} \quad$$

## Fluorescence titrations for HArgOH

Titration of **HArgOH** and tweezer **1c** in phosphate buffer (10mM, pH 7.6)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1c</b> | Guest<br><b>H Arg OH · HCl</b> |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 338 \text{ nm}$  |                       |                                |
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.154                 | 0.282                          |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 8.58                  | 0.607                          |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.33 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $2.54 \cdot 10^{-3}$           |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{338}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 2.33E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.00                   | 663.928               | 0.000                   | 0.000                    |
| 10                           | 710                             | 2.33E-05              | 3.58E-05           | 1.54                   | 651.777               | 12.151                  | 10.660                   |
| 20                           | 720                             | 2.33E-05              | 7.07E-05           | 3.03                   | 640.915               | 23.013                  | 20.121                   |
| 30                           | 730                             | 2.33E-05              | 1.05E-04           | 4.49                   | 633.350               | 30.578                  | 28.573                   |
| 40                           | 740                             | 2.33E-05              | 1.38E-04           | 5.90                   | 629.736               | 34.192                  | 36.168                   |
| 60                           | 760                             | 2.33E-05              | 2.01E-04           | 8.62                   | 609.553               | 54.375                  | 49.252                   |
| 80                           | 780                             | 2.33E-05              | 2.61E-04           | 11.20                  | 602.310               | 61.618                  | 60.118                   |
| 100                          | 800                             | 2.33E-05              | 3.18E-04           | 13.65                  | 595.105               | 68.823                  | 69.282                   |
| 140                          | 840                             | 2.33E-05              | 4.24E-04           | 18.20                  | 587.086               | 76.842                  | 83.879                   |
| 180                          | 880                             | 2.33E-05              | 5.21E-04           | 22.34                  | 573.167               | 90.761                  | 94.982                   |
| 240                          | 940                             | 2.33E-05              | 6.50E-04           | 27.88                  | 555.393               | 108.535                 | 107.403                  |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 2.33E-05              | 7.63E-04           | 32.76                  | 543.114               | 120.814                 | 116.533                  |



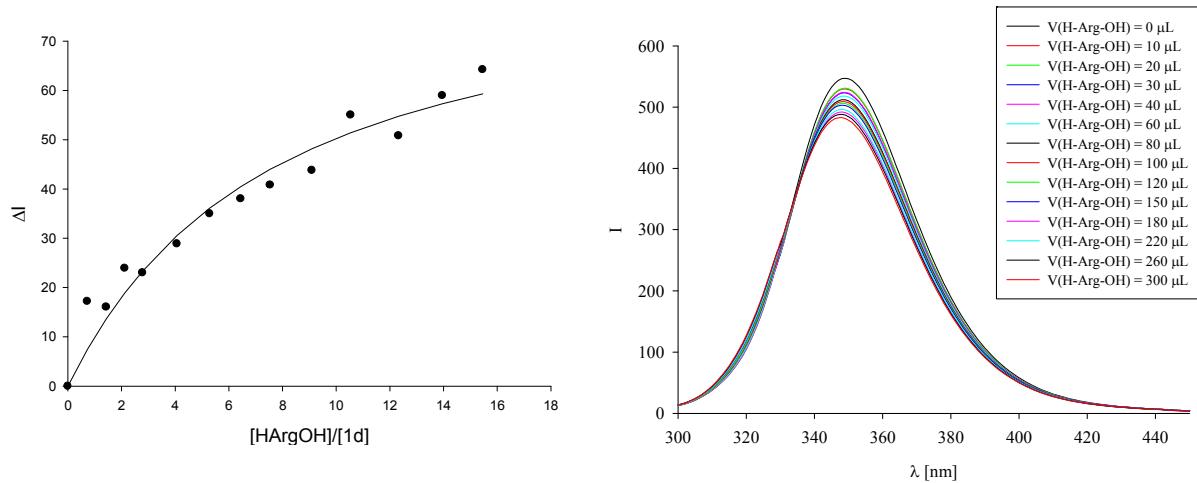
$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 1430 \pm 15 \%$$

$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 699 \pm 15 \%$$

Titration of HArgOH and tweezer **1d** in phosphate buffer (10mM, pH 7.2)

|   |                      |                      |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor             | Guest                |
| $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 348 \text{ nm}$  | <b>1d</b>            | H Arg OH · HCl       |
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.259                | 0.774                |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 4.00                 | 0.80                 |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $8.91 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $4.59 \cdot 10^{-3}$ |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{338}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 8.91E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.00                   | 547.049               | 0.000                   | 0.0000                   |
| 10                           | 710                             | 8.91E-05              | 6.47E-05           | 0.726                  | 529.854               | 17.195                  | 7.4316                   |
| 20                           | 720                             | 8.91E-05              | 1.28E-04           | 1.432                  | 531.017               | 16.032                  | 13.6360                  |
| 30                           | 730                             | 8.91E-05              | 1.89E-04           | 2.118                  | 523.134               | 23.915                  | 18.8764                  |
| 40                           | 740                             | 8.91E-05              | 2.48E-04           | 2.786                  | 524.054               | 22.995                  | 23.3500                  |
| 60                           | 760                             | 8.91E-05              | 3.63E-04           | 4.069                  | 518.176               | 28.873                  | 30.5603                  |
| 80                           | 780                             | 8.91E-05              | 4.71E-04           | 5.286                  | 512.063               | 34.986                  | 36.0975                  |
| 100                          | 800                             | 8.91E-05              | 5.74E-04           | 6.442                  | 509.052               | 37.997                  | 40.4704                  |
| 120                          | 820                             | 8.91E-05              | 6.72E-04           | 7.542                  | 506.257               | 40.792                  | 44.0047                  |
| 150                          | 850                             | 8.91E-05              | 8.10E-04           | 9.095                  | 503.272               | 43.777                  | 48.1879                  |
| 180                          | 880                             | 8.91E-05              | 9.39E-04           | 10.542                 | 492.028               | 55.021                  | 51.4265                  |
| 220                          | 920                             | 8.91E-05              | 1.10E-03           | 12.324                 | 496.235               | 50.814                  | 54.7516                  |
| 260                          | 960                             | 8.91E-05              | 1.24E-03           | 13.958                 | 488.097               | 58.952                  | 57.3016                  |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 8.91E-05              | 1.38E-03           | 15.461                 | 482.845               | 64.204                  | 59.3180                  |



$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 1643 \pm 27\%$$

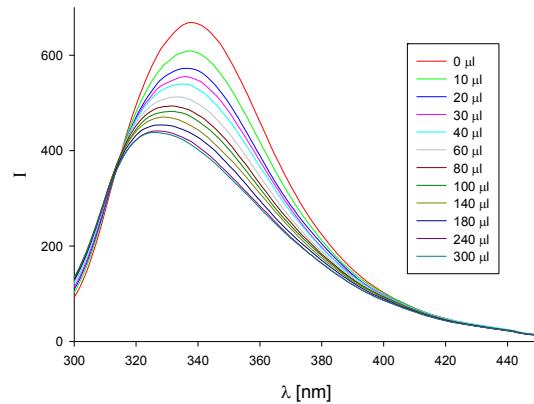
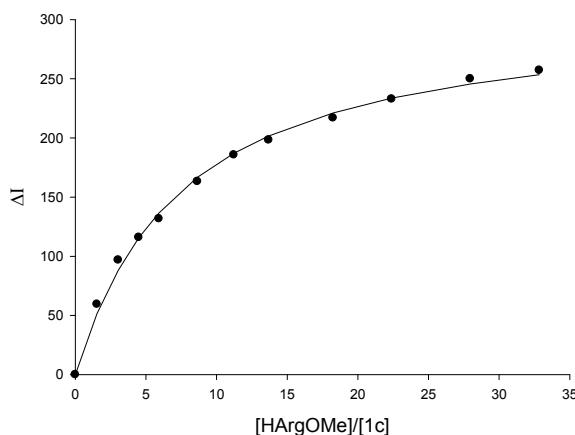
$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 609 \pm 27\%$$

## Fluorescence titrations for HArgOMe

Titration of **HArgOMe** and tweezer **1c** in phosphate buffer (10mM, pH 7.6)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1c</b> | Guest<br>H ArgOMe · 2HCl |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 338 \text{ nm}$  |                       |                          |
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.154                 | 0.429                    |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 8.575                 | 0.644                    |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.33 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $2.55 \cdot 10^{-3}$     |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{338 \text{ nm}}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 2,33E-05              | 0,00E+00           | 0,00                   | 668,334                          | 0,000                   | 0,000                    |
| 10                           | 710                             | 2,33E-05              | 3,59E-05           | 1,54                   | 608,912                          | 59,422                  | 51,408                   |
| 20                           | 720                             | 2,33E-05              | 7,09E-05           | 3,04                   | 571,524                          | 96,810                  | 88,201                   |
| 30                           | 730                             | 2,33E-05              | 1,05E-04           | 4,50                   | 552,344                          | 115,990                 | 115,571                  |
| 40                           | 740                             | 2,33E-05              | 1,38E-04           | 5,92                   | 536,594                          | 131,740                 | 136,610                  |
| 60                           | 760                             | 2,33E-05              | 2,01E-04           | 8,64                   | 505,163                          | 163,171                 | 166,659                  |
| 80                           | 780                             | 2,33E-05              | 2,62E-04           | 11,23                  | 482,611                          | 185,723                 | 186,984                  |
| 100                          | 800                             | 2,33E-05              | 3,19E-04           | 13,68                  | 470,043                          | 198,291                 | 201,600                  |
| 140                          | 840                             | 2,33E-05              | 4,25E-04           | 18,25                  | 451,324                          | 217,010                 | 221,160                  |
| 180                          | 880                             | 2,33E-05              | 5,22E-04           | 22,39                  | 435,475                          | 232,859                 | 233,623                  |
| 240                          | 940                             | 2,33E-05              | 6,51E-04           | 27,95                  | 418,363                          | 249,971                 | 245,633                  |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 2,33E-05              | 7,65E-04           | 32,84                  | 411,150                          | 257,184                 | 253,393                  |



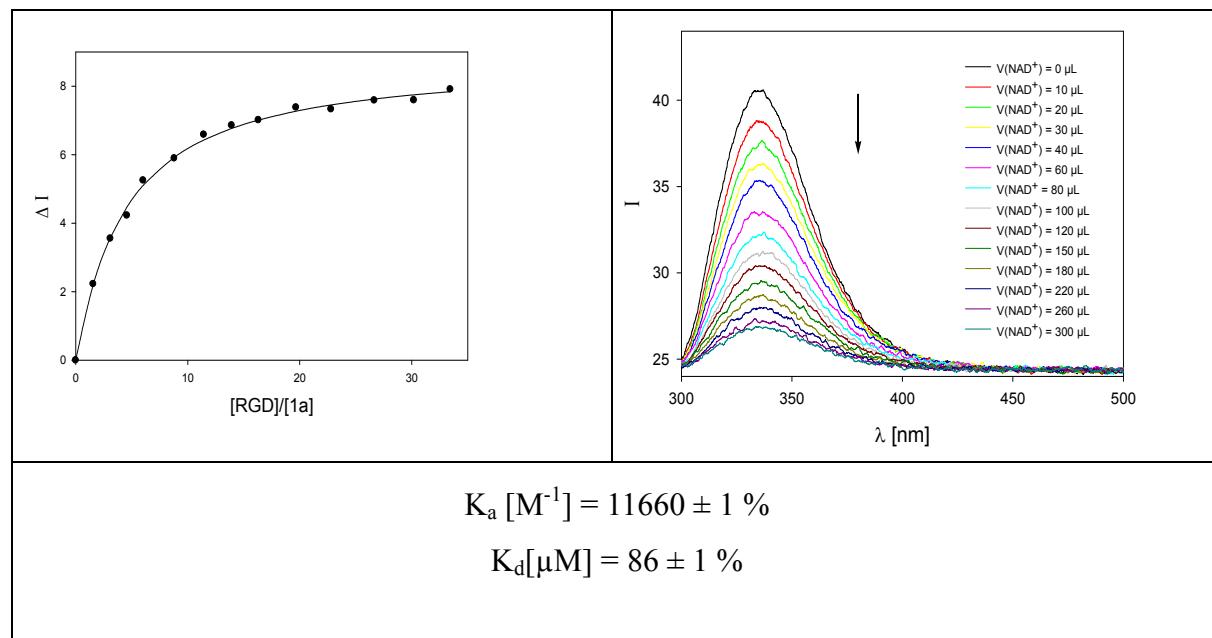
$$K_a = 6260 \pm 6 \%$$

$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 160 \pm 6 \%$$

Titration of **RGD** and tweezer **1a** in phosphate buffer (200mM, pH 7.6)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 280 \text{ nm}$ | Tweezer <b>1a</b>                           | H ArgGly Asp OH                             |
|---|---|---|
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.164 ( $2.18 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ mmol}$ ) | 0.696 ( $2.01 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ mmol}$ ) |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 10  | 0.825                                       |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.18 \cdot 10^{-5}$                        | $2.4 \cdot 10^{-3}$                         |

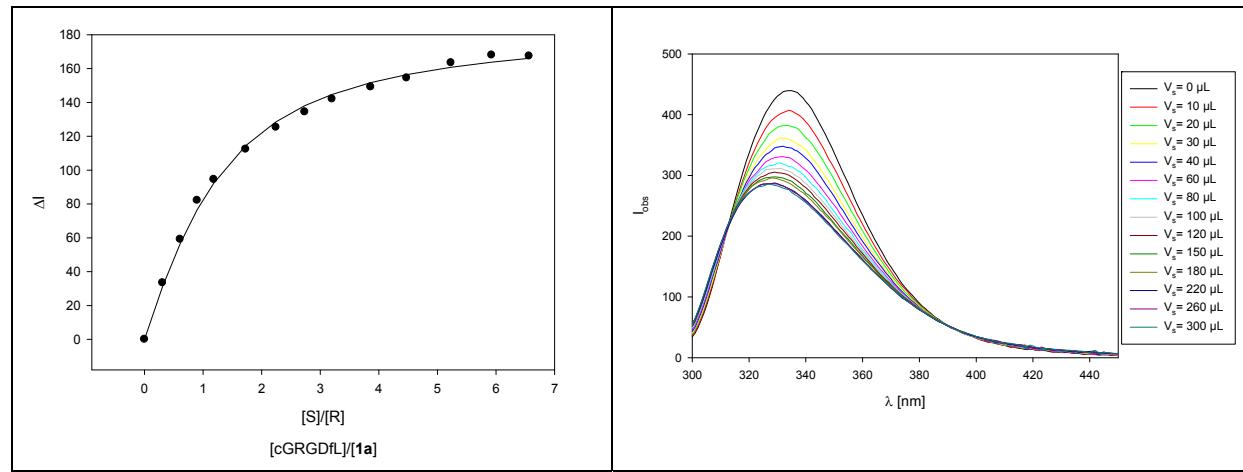
| V_Guest<br>[ $\mu\text{L}$ ] | V_t<br>[ $\mu\text{L}$ ] | [750]<br>[mol/L]     | [RGD]<br>[mol/L]     | [RGD]/<br>[1a] | I<br>334 nm | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------|-------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 0.00                 | 0.00           | 42.7        | 0.0                     | 0.0                      |
| 10                           | 710                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $3.43 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 1.57           | 40.4        | 2.2                     | 2.2                      |
| 20                           | 720                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $6.77 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 3.10           | 39.1        | 3.6                     | 3.6                      |
| 30                           | 730                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $1.00 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 4.58           | 38.4        | 4.2                     | 4.5                      |
| 40                           | 740                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $1.32 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 6.02           | 37.4        | 5.3                     | 5.1                      |
| 60                           | 760                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $1.92 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 8.80           | 36.8        | 5.9                     | 5.9                      |
| 80                           | 780                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $2.50 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 11.43          | 36.1        | 6.6                     | 6.4                      |
| 100                          | 800                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $3.04 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 13.93          | 35.8        | 6.9                     | 6.8                      |
| 120                          | 820                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $3.56 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 16.31          | 35.7        | 7.0                     | 7.0                      |
| 150                          | 850                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $4.30 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 19.67          | 35.3        | 7.4                     | 7.3                      |
| 180                          | 880                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $4.98 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 22.80          | 35.3        | 7.3                     | 7.5                      |
| 220                          | 920                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $5.82 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 26.65          | 35.1        | 7.6                     | 7.6                      |
| 260                          | 960                      | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $6.60 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 30.19          | 35.1        | 7.6                     | 7.7                      |
| 300                          | 1000                     | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $7.31 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | 33.44          | 34.8        | 7.9                     | 7.8                      |



Titration of cRGDfL and tweezer **1a** in phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.4)

|                                 |                         |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Receptor</b>                 | Tweezer <b>1a</b>       |
| <b>Solvent</b>                  | Phosphate buffer pH 7.4 |
| <b>T [°C]</b>                   | 25                      |
| <b>Substrate</b>                | cRGDfL                  |
| <b><math>m_R</math> [mg]</b>    | 0.12                    |
| <b><math>m_S</math> [mg]</b>    | 0.25                    |
| <b><math>[R]_0</math> [M]</b>   | $3.7 \cdot 10^{-5}$     |
| <b><math>[S]_0</math> [M]</b>   | $0.8 \cdot 10^{-3}$     |
| <b><math>V_{0R}</math> [mL]</b> | 4.0                     |
| <b><math>V_{0S}</math> [mL]</b> | 0.4                     |

| <b>V<sub>Guest</sub> [μL]</b> | <b>V<sub>Total</sub> [μL]</b> | <b>[R][mol/L]</b> | <b>[S][mol/L]</b> | <b>[S]/[R]</b> | <b>I335 nm</b> | <b>ΔI<sub>obs</sub></b> |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| <b>0</b>                      | 700                           | 3.68E-05          | 0.00E+00          | 0.00           | 439.525        | 0.000                   |
| <b>10</b>                     | 710                           | 3.68E-05          | 1.13E-05          | 0.31           | 406.075        | 33.450                  |
| <b>20</b>                     | 720                           | 3.68E-05          | 2.24E-05          | 0.61           | 380.365        | 59.160                  |
| <b>30</b>                     | 730                           | 3.68E-05          | 3.31E-05          | 0.90           | 357.329        | 82.196                  |
| <b>40</b>                     | 740                           | 3.68E-05          | 4.36E-05          | 1.18           | 344.975        | 94.550                  |
| <b>60</b>                     | 760                           | 3.68E-05          | 6.36E-05          | 1.73           | 327.138        | 112.387                 |
| <b>80</b>                     | 780                           | 3.68E-05          | 8.26E-05          | 2.24           | 314.131        | 125.394                 |
| <b>100</b>                    | 800                           | 3.68E-05          | 1.01E-04          | 2.73           | 305.119        | 134.406                 |
| <b>120</b>                    | 820                           | 3.68E-05          | 1.18E-04          | 3.20           | 297.448        | 142.077                 |
| <b>150</b>                    | 850                           | 3.68E-05          | 1.42E-04          | 3.86           | 290.326        | 149.199                 |
| <b>180</b>                    | 880                           | 3.68E-05          | 1.65E-04          | 4.48           | 285.031        | 154.494                 |
| <b>220</b>                    | 920                           | 3.68E-05          | 1.93E-04          | 5.23           | 276.013        | 163.512                 |
| <b>260</b>                    | 960                           | 3.68E-05          | 2.18E-04          | 5.93           | 271.499        | 168.026                 |
| <b>300</b>                    | 1000                          | 3.68E-05          | 2.42E-04          | 6.56           | 272.071        | 167.454                 |



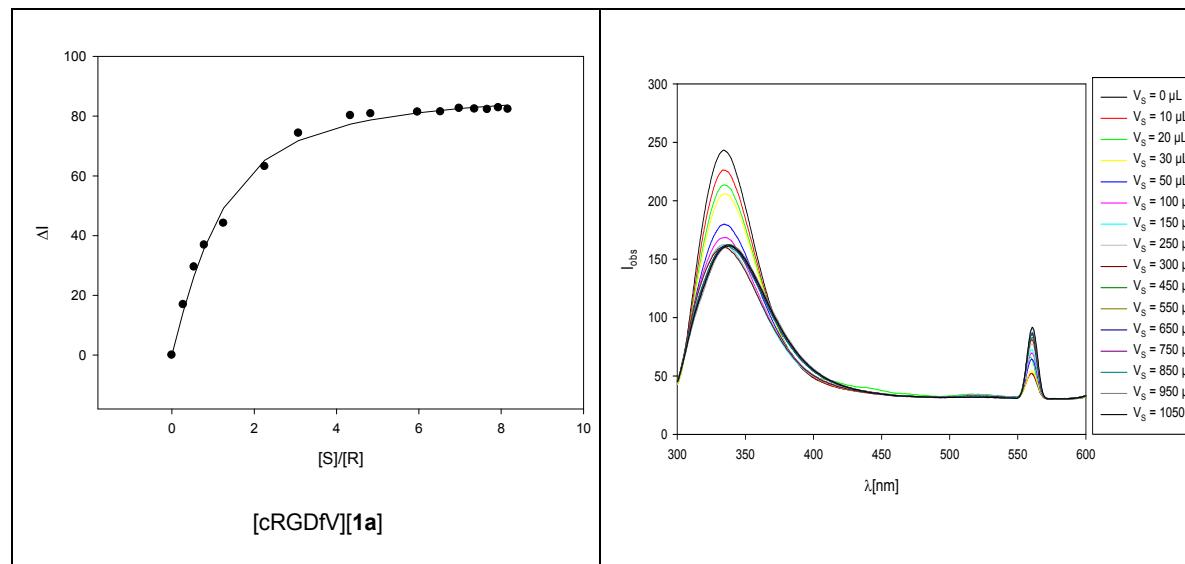
$$K_a = 38706 \pm 3125$$

$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 26 \pm 8 \%$$

Titration of cRGDfV and tweezer **1a** in phosphate buffer (10mM, pH 7.4)

|                                 |                         |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Receptor</b>                 | <b>1a</b>               |
| <b>Solvent</b>                  | Phosphate buffer pH 7.4 |
| <b>T [°C]</b>                   | 25                      |
| <b>Substrate</b>                | cRGDfV                  |
| <b><math>m_R</math> [mg]</b>    | 0.892                   |
| <b><math>m_S</math> [mg]</b>    | 4.907                   |
| <b><math>[R]_0</math> [M]</b>   | $9.95 \cdot 10^{-5}$    |
| <b><math>[S]_0</math> [M]</b>   | $1.12 \cdot 10^{-3}$    |
| <b><math>V_{0R}</math> [mL]</b> | 11.0                    |
| <b><math>V_{0S}</math> [mL]</b> | 7.60                    |

| $V_{\text{Guest}}$ [ $\mu\text{L}$ ] | $V_{\text{Total}}$ [ $\mu\text{L}$ ] | $[R]$ [mol/L]        | $[S]$ [mol/L]        | $[S]/[R]$ | $I_{334 \text{ nm}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>0</b>                             | 400                                  | $9.95 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 0                    | 0.000     | 242.896              | 0.000                   |
| <b>10</b>                            | 410                                  | $9.95 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $2.74 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 0.275     | 226.009              | 16.887                  |
| <b>20</b>                            | 420                                  | $9.95 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $5.34 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 0.537     | 213.434              | 29.462                  |
| <b>30</b>                            | 430                                  | $9.95 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $7.83 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | 0.787     | 206.067              | 36.829                  |
| <b>50</b>                            | 450                                  | $9.95 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $1.24 \cdot 10^{-6}$ | 1.253     | 198.764              | 44.132                  |
| <b>100</b>                           | 500                                  | $9.95 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $2.24 \cdot 10^{-6}$ | 2.255     | 179.812              | 63.084                  |
| <b>150</b>                           | 550                                  | $9.95 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $3.10 \cdot 10^{-6}$ | 3.075     | 168.613              | 74.283                  |
| <b>250</b>                           | 650                                  | $9.95 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $4.31 \cdot 10^{-6}$ | 4.336     | 162.722              | 80.174                  |
| <b>300</b>                           | 700                                  | $9.95 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $4.81 \cdot 10^{-6}$ | 4.832     | 162.128              | 80.768                  |
| <b>450</b>                           | 850                                  | $9.95 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $5.94 \cdot 10^{-6}$ | 5.969     | 161.568              | 81.328                  |
| <b>550</b>                           | 950                                  | $9.95 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $6.50 \cdot 10^{-6}$ | 6.527     | 161.500              | 81.396                  |
| <b>650</b>                           | 1050                                 | $9.95 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $6.95 \cdot 10^{-6}$ | 6.980     | 160.293              | 82.603                  |
| <b>750</b>                           | 1150                                 | $9.95 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $7.31 \cdot 10^{-6}$ | 7.353     | 160.532              | 82.364                  |
| <b>850</b>                           | 1250                                 | $9.95 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $7.63 \cdot 10^{-6}$ | 7.667     | 160.693              | 82.203                  |
| <b>950</b>                           | 1350                                 | $9.95 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $7.90 \cdot 10^{-6}$ | 7.934     | 160.107              | 82.789                  |
| <b>1050</b>                          | 1450                                 | $9.95 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $8.13 \cdot 10^{-6}$ | 8.164     | 160.624              | 82.272                  |



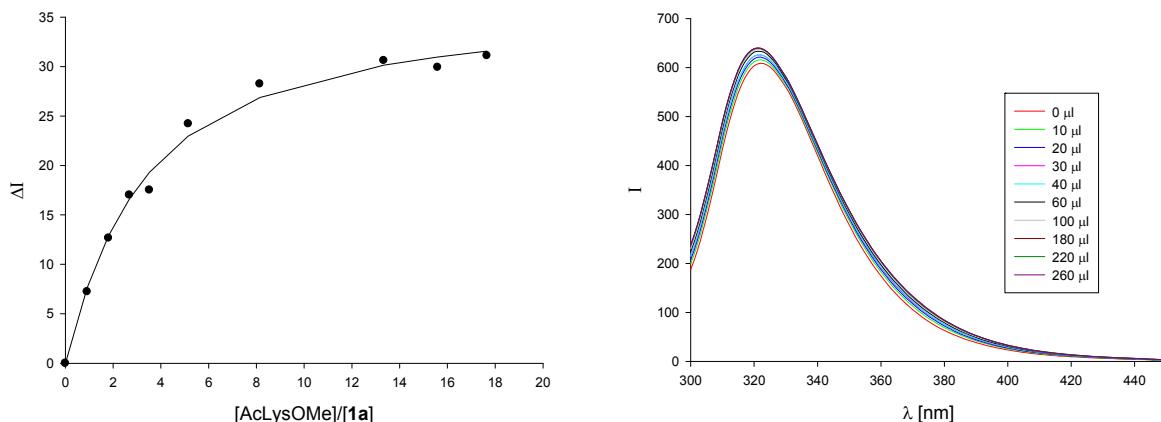
$$K_a = 16791 \pm 1817, K_d[\mu\text{M}] = 59 \pm 11 \%$$

**Fluorescence titrations of the tweezers and the amino acid guests in methanol and mixture of methanol-buffer**

Fluorescence titration of the tweezer **1a** with AcLysOMe in methanol

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor             | Guest                |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 322 \text{ nm}$  | <b>1a</b>            | Ac Lys OMe · HCl     |
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.120                | 0.382                |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 6.00                 | 1.00                 |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.46 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $1.60 \cdot 10^{-3}$ |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{322}$ ) | $-\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $-\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 2.46E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.00                   | 608.731               | 0.000                    | 0.000                     |
| 10                           | 710                             | 2.46E-05              | 2.25E-05           | 0.92                   | 615.971               | 7.240                    | 7.651                     |
| 20                           | 720                             | 2.46E-05              | 4.45E-05           | 1.81                   | 621.386               | 12.655                   | 12.889                    |
| 30                           | 730                             | 2.46E-05              | 6.58E-05           | 2.68                   | 625.740               | 17.009                   | 16.594                    |
| 40                           | 740                             | 2.46E-05              | 8.65E-05           | 3.52                   | 626.250               | 17.519                   | 19.308                    |
| 60                           | 760                             | 2.46E-05              | 1.26E-04           | 5.15                   | 632.937               | 24.206                   | 22.964                    |
| 100                          | 800                             | 2.46E-05              | 2.00E-04           | 8.15                   | 636.981               | 28.250                   | 26.873                    |
| 180                          | 880                             | 2.46E-05              | 3.27E-04           | 13.33                  | 639.343               | 30.612                   | 30.135                    |
| 220                          | 920                             | 2.46E-05              | 3.83E-04           | 15.59                  | 638.661               | 29.930                   | 30.962                    |
| 260                          | 960                             | 2.46E-05              | 4.33E-04           | 17.65                  | 639.838               | 31.107                   | 31.555                    |



$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 15200 \pm 11 \%$$

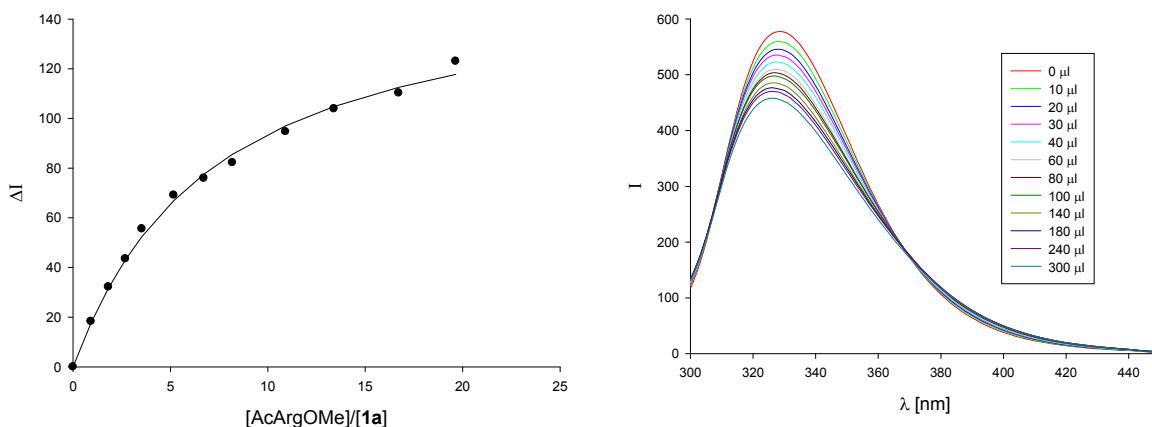
$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 66 \pm 11 \%$$

$$\Delta I_{\text{max}} = -37 \text{ (6 \%)} \quad$$

Fluorescence titration of the tweezer **1a** with AcArgOMe in 1:9 mixture of methanol/buffer (10 mM, pH 7.6)

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1a</b> | Guest<br>Ac ArgOMe · HCl |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 322 \text{ nm}$  |                       |                          |
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.178                 | 0.318                    |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 9.00                  | 0.75                     |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.43 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $1.59 \cdot 10^{-3}$     |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{329}$ ) | $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 2.43E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.00                   | 577.521               | 0.000                   | 0.000                    |
| 10                           | 710                             | 2.43E-05              | 2.24E-05           | 0.92                   | 559.216               | 18.305                  | 17.616                   |
| 20                           | 720                             | 2.43E-05              | 4.42E-05           | 1.82                   | 545.347               | 32.174                  | 31.650                   |
| 30                           | 730                             | 2.43E-05              | 6.53E-05           | 2.69                   | 534.020               | 43.501                  | 43.031                   |
| 40                           | 740                             | 2.43E-05              | 8.59E-05           | 3.54                   | 521.926               | 55.595                  | 52.412                   |
| 60                           | 760                             | 2.43E-05              | 1.25E-04           | 5.17                   | 508.400               | 69.121                  | 66.898                   |
| 80                           | 780                             | 2.43E-05              | 1.63E-04           | 6.72                   | 501.594               | 75.927                  | 77.513                   |
| 100                          | 800                             | 2.43E-05              | 1.99E-04           | 8.18                   | 495.321               | 82.200                  | 85.598                   |
| 140                          | 840                             | 2.43E-05              | 2.65E-04           | 10.91                  | 482.860               | 94.661                  | 97.059                   |
| 180                          | 880                             | 2.43E-05              | 3.25E-04           | 13.39                  | 473.636               | 103.885                 | 104.770                  |
| 240                          | 940                             | 2.43E-05              | 4.06E-04           | 16.72                  | 467.250               | 110.271                 | 112.518                  |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 2.43E-05              | 4.77E-04           | 19.64                  | 454.493               | 123.028                 | 117.696                  |



$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 6380 \pm 8 \%$$

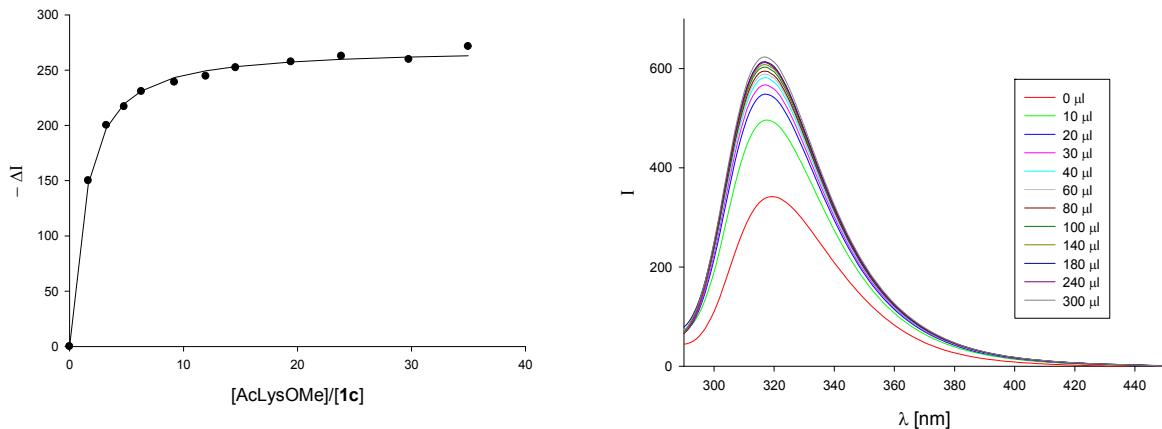
$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 157 \pm 8 \%$$

$$\Delta I_{\text{max}} = 158 (27 \%)$$

Fluorescence titration of the tweezer **1c** with AcLysOMe in methanol

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1c</b> | Guest<br>Ac Lys OMe  |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------|
| $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 320 \text{ nm}$  |                       |                      |
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.118                 | 0.459                |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 7.000                 | 0.754                |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $2.55 \cdot 10^{-3}$ |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{320}$ ) | - $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | - $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 2.19E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.00                   | 341.665               | 0.000                     | 0.000                      |
| 10                           | 710                             | 2.19E-05              | 3.59E-05           | 1.64                   | 491.668               | 150.003                   | 147.138                    |
| 20                           | 720                             | 2.19E-05              | 7.08E-05           | 3.24                   | 541.670               | 200.005                   | 197.765                    |
| 30                           | 730                             | 2.19E-05              | 1.05E-04           | 4.79                   | 558.559               | 216.894                   | 219.535                    |
| 40                           | 740                             | 2.19E-05              | 1.38E-04           | 6.30                   | 572.238               | 230.573                   | 231.212                    |
| 60                           | 760                             | 2.19E-05              | 2.01E-04           | 9.21                   | 580.712               | 239.047                   | 243.285                    |
| 80                           | 780                             | 2.19E-05              | 2.62E-04           | 11.96                  | 586.192               | 244.527                   | 249.429                    |
| 100                          | 800                             | 2.19E-05              | 3.19E-04           | 14.58                  | 593.864               | 252.199                   | 253.137                    |
| 140                          | 840                             | 2.19E-05              | 4.25E-04           | 19.43                  | 599.100               | 257.435                   | 257.390                    |
| 180                          | 880                             | 2.19E-05              | 5.22E-04           | 23.85                  | 604.290               | 262.625                   | 259.757                    |
| 240                          | 940                             | 2.19E-05              | 6.51E-04           | 29.77                  | 601.297               | 259.632                   | 261.830                    |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 2.19E-05              | 7.65E-04           | 34.98                  | 613.000               | 271.335                   | 263.074                    |



$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 49800 \pm 6 \%$$

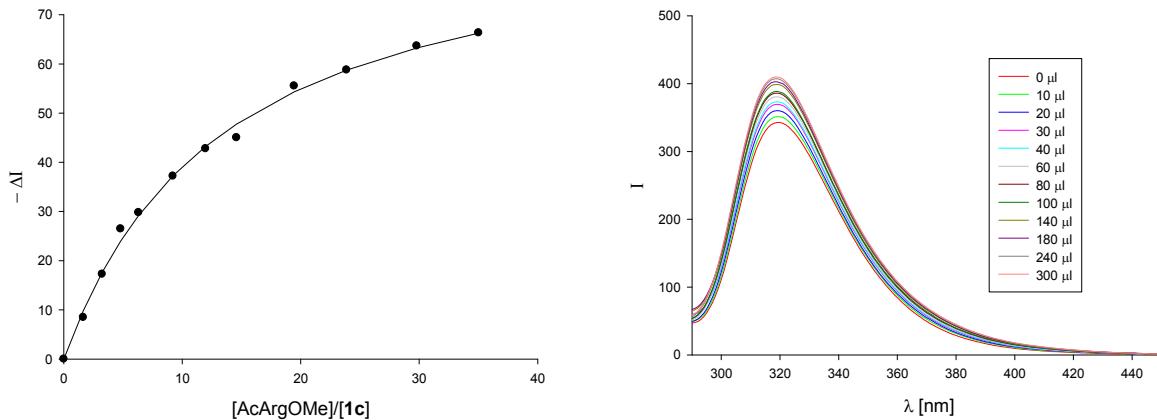
$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 20 \pm 6 \%$$

$$\Delta I_{\text{max}} = -270 \text{ (44 \%)} \text{ (44 \%)}$$

Fluorescence titration of the tweezer **1c** with AcArgOMe in methanol

| $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 285 \text{ nm}$ | Receptor<br><b>1c</b> | Guest<br>Ac ArgOMe   |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------|
| $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 320 \text{ nm}$  |                       |                      |
| Amount [mg]:                            | 0.118                 | 0.484                |
| Volume [mL]:                            | 7.000                 | 0.711                |
| Concentration [mol/L]:                  | $2.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $2.55 \cdot 10^{-3}$ |

| Guest<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | Receptor<br>V ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | [Receptor]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]<br>[mol/L] | [Guest]/<br>[Receptor] | F.I.<br>( $I_{320}$ ) | - $\Delta I_{\text{obs}}$ | - $\Delta I_{\text{calc}}$ |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 0                            | 700                             | 2.19E-05              | 0.00E+00           | 0.00                   | 342.695               | 0.000                     | 0.000                      |
| 10                           | 710                             | 2.19E-05              | 3.59E-05           | 1.64                   | 351.154               | 8.459                     | 9.834                      |
| 20                           | 720                             | 2.19E-05              | 7.09E-05           | 3.24                   | 359.956               | 17.261                    | 17.635                     |
| 30                           | 730                             | 2.19E-05              | 1.05E-04           | 4.80                   | 369.160               | 26.465                    | 23.956                     |
| 40                           | 740                             | 2.19E-05              | 1.38E-04           | 6.31                   | 372.464               | 29.769                    | 29.172                     |
| 60                           | 760                             | 2.19E-05              | 2.02E-04           | 9.21                   | 379.892               | 37.197                    | 37.254                     |
| 80                           | 780                             | 2.19E-05              | 2.62E-04           | 11.97                  | 385.463               | 42.768                    | 43.213                     |
| 100                          | 800                             | 2.19E-05              | 3.19E-04           | 14.59                  | 387.707               | 45.012                    | 47.780                     |
| 140                          | 840                             | 2.19E-05              | 4.25E-04           | 19.45                  | 398.203               | 55.508                    | 54.306                     |
| 180                          | 880                             | 2.19E-05              | 5.22E-04           | 23.87                  | 401.469               | 58.774                    | 58.740                     |
| 240                          | 940                             | 2.19E-05              | 6.52E-04           | 29.80                  | 406.335               | 63.640                    | 63.235                     |
| 300                          | 1000                            | 2.19E-05              | 7.66E-04           | 35.01                  | 409.009               | 66.314                    | 66.264                     |



$$K_a [\text{M}^{-1}] = 3620 \pm 7 \%$$

$$K_d [\mu\text{M}] = 276 \pm 7 \%$$

$$\Delta I_{\text{max}} = -91 \text{ (22 \%)} \quad$$

## 1.4 $^1\text{H}$ NMR titrations

### NMR titrations of the phosphate tweezer **1a**

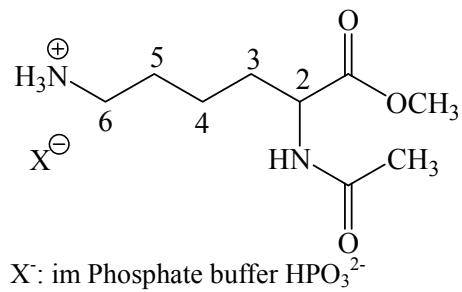
Titration of tweezer **1a** and AcLysOMe in phosphate buffer (70 mM, pH 7.2)

Receptor

Solvent

$T$  [°C]

Substrat



**1a**

Phosphate buffer

25

**Ac Lys OMe**

$\delta_0$  (2-H) [ppm] = 4.379

$\delta_0$  (6-H) [ppm] = 2.980

$\delta_0$  (-NAc) [ppm] = 2.031

$\delta_0$  (-COOMe) [ppm] = 3.752

$M_R$  [g/mol]

$M_S$  [g/mol]

1a.19

238.11

$m_R$  [mg]

3.61

$m_S$  [mg]

1.39

$V_0$  [mL]

2

$[R]_0$  [mM]

2.41

$[S]_0$  [mM]

2.49

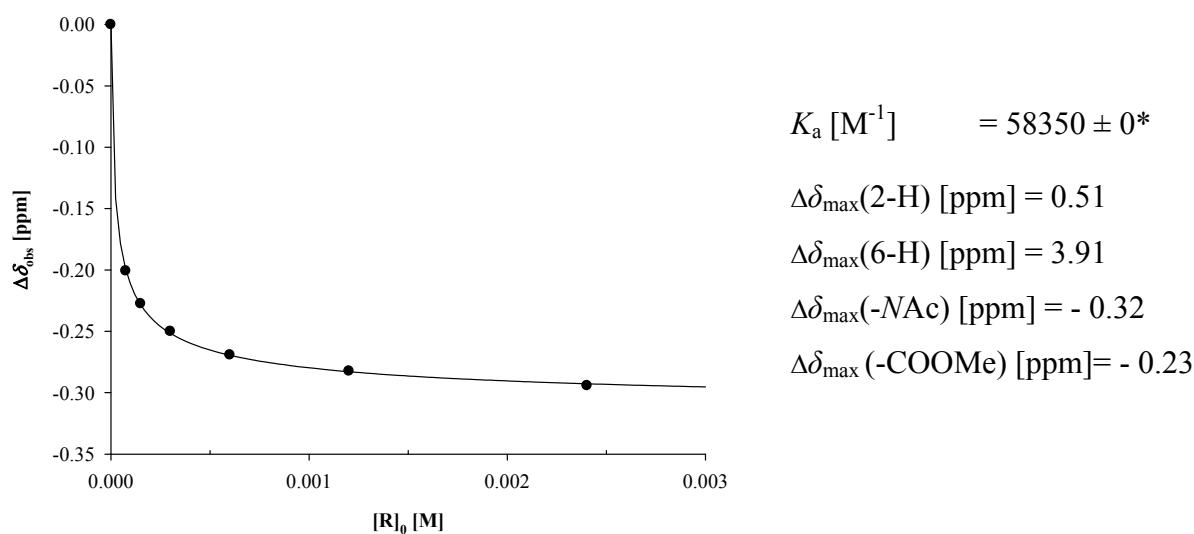
$K_a$  [M<sup>-1</sup>]

58350 ± 0\*

$\Delta\delta_{\text{obs}}$

Δδ<sub>calc</sub>

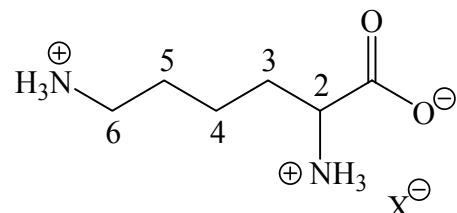
| [R] <sub>0</sub> [mM] | [S] <sub>0</sub> [mM] | $\delta_{\text{obs}}$ (NAc-H) | $\Delta\delta_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta\delta_{\text{calc}}$ |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2.41                  | 2.49                  | 2.325                         | - 0.294                     | - 0.293                      |
| 1.20                  | 1.24                  | 2.313                         | - 0.282                     | - 0.283                      |
| 0.60                  | 0.62                  | 2.300                         | - 0.269                     | - 0.269                      |
| 0.30                  | 0.31                  | 2.281                         | - 0.250                     | - 0.252                      |
| 0.15                  | 0.16                  | 2.258                         | - 0.228                     | - 0.228                      |
| 0.08                  | 0.08                  | 2.232                         | - 0.201                     | - 0.199                      |



\* Limit of 95% - confidence interval from the nonlinear regression of the signals of the Protons NAc-H.

Titration of tweezer **1a** and **HLysOH** in phosphate buffer (70 mM, pH 7.2)

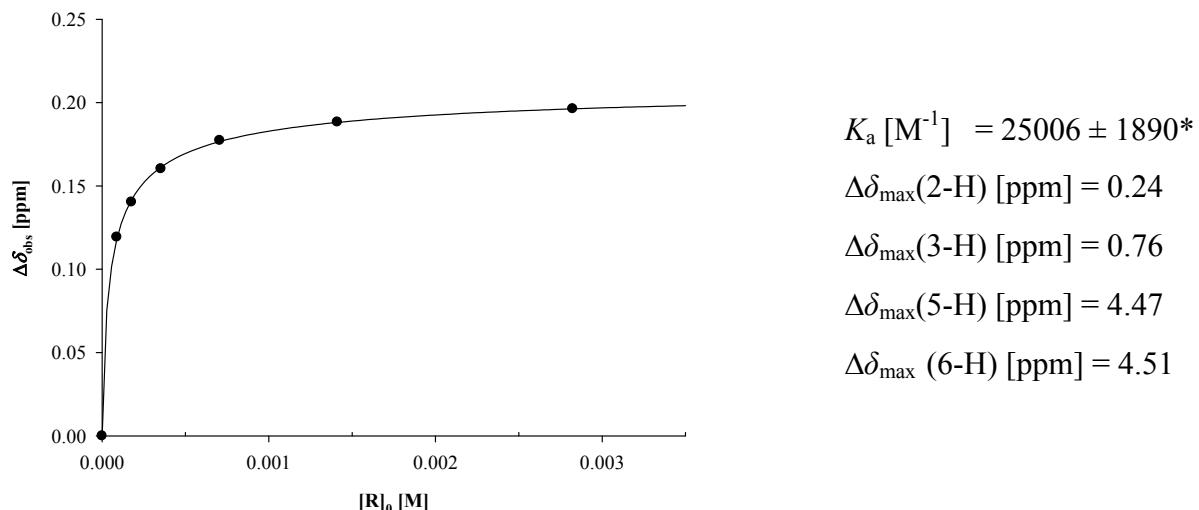
Receptor  
Solvent  
 $T$  [ $^{\circ}$ C]  
Substrat



$X^-$ : in Phosphate buffer  $\text{HPO}_3^{2-}$

|                                |                       |        |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------|
| <b>1a</b>                      | $M_R$ [g/mol]         | 1a.19  |
| Phosphate buffer               | $M_S$ [g/mol]         | 182.08 |
| 25                             | $m_R$ [mg]            | 5.00   |
| <b>H Lys OH</b>                | $m_S$ [mg]            | 1.39   |
| $\delta_0$ (2-H) [ppm] = 3.741 | $V_0$ [mL]            | 2      |
| $\delta_0$ (3-H) [ppm] = 1.713 | [R] <sub>0</sub> [mM] | 2.82   |
| $\delta_0$ (5-H) [ppm] = 1.891 | [S] <sub>0</sub> [mM] | 3.24   |
| $\delta_0$ (6-H) [ppm] = 3.009 |                       |        |

| [R] <sub>0</sub> [mM] | [S] <sub>0</sub> [mM] | $\delta_{\text{obs}}$ (2-H) | $\Delta\delta_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta\delta_{\text{calc}}$ |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2.82                  | 3.24                  | 3.545                       | 0.196                       | 0.196                        |
| 1.41                  | 1.62                  | 3.553                       | 0.188                       | 0.188                        |
| 0.71                  | 0.81                  | 3.564                       | 0.177                       | 0.177                        |
| 0.35                  | 0.41                  | 3.581                       | 0.160                       | 0.1c                         |
| 0.18                  | 0.20                  | 3.601                       | 0.140                       | 0.142                        |
| 0.09                  | 0.10                  | 3.622                       | 0.119                       | 0.118                        |



\* Limit of 95% - confidence interval from the nonlinear regression of the signals of the Protons 2-H.

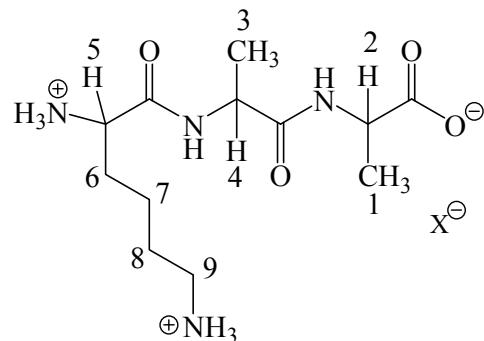
Titration of tweezer **1a** and **KAA** in phosphate buffer (70 mM, pH 7.2)

Receptor

Solvent

*T* [°C]

Substrat



X<sup>−</sup>: im Phosphate buffer HPO<sub>3</sub><sup>2−</sup>

**1a**

Phosphate buffer

25

**KAA**

$\delta_0$ (1-H) [ppm] = 1.414

$\delta_0$ (3-H) [ppm] = 1.336

$\delta_0$ (4-H) [ppm] = 4.097

$\delta_0$ (5-H) [ppm] = 3.966

$\delta_0$ (6-H) [ppm] = 1.905

$\delta_0$ (7-H) [ppm] = 1.463

$\delta_0$ (8-H) [ppm] = 1.713

$\delta_0$ (9-H, 9'-H) [ppm] = 3.013

*M<sub>R</sub>* [g/mol]

1a.19

*M<sub>S</sub>* [g/mol]

288.35

*m<sub>R</sub>* [mg]

3.57

*m<sub>S</sub>* [mg]

1.75

*V<sub>0</sub>* [mL]

2

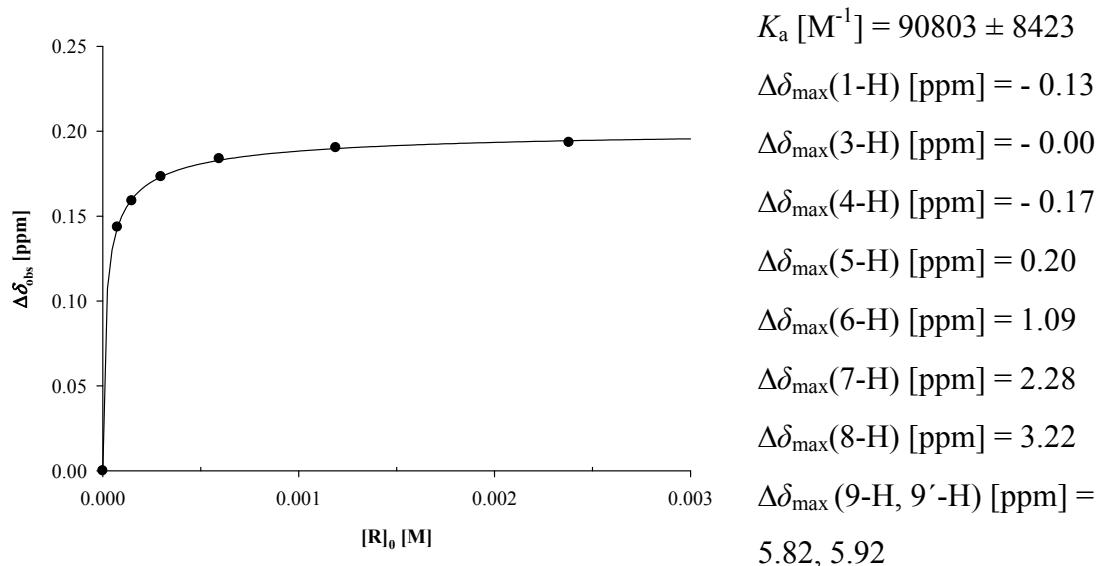
[R]<sub>0</sub> [mM]

2.38

[S]<sub>0</sub> [mM]

2.13

| [R] <sub>0</sub> [mM] | [S] <sub>0</sub> [mM] | $\delta_{\text{obs}}$ (5-H) | $\Delta\delta_{\text{obs}}$ | $\Delta\delta_{\text{calc}}$ |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2.38                  | 2.13                  | 3.773                       | 0.193                       | 0.194                        |
| 1.19                  | 1.06                  | 3.776                       | 0.190                       | 0.190                        |
| 0.59                  | 0.53                  | 3.782                       | 0.184                       | 0.183                        |
| 0.30                  | 0.27                  | 3.793                       | 0.173                       | 0.173                        |
| 0.15                  | 0.13                  | 3.807                       | 0.159                       | 0.160                        |
| 0.07                  | 0.07                  | 3.823                       | 0.144                       | 0.143                        |

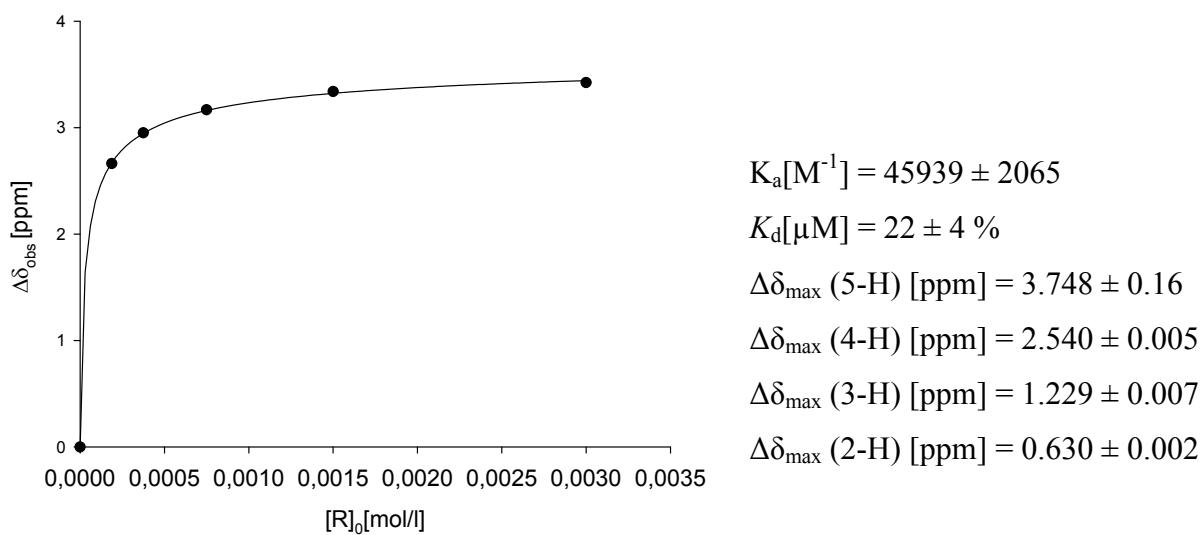


\* Limit of 95% - confidence interval from the nonlinear regression of the signals of the Protons 5-H.

Titration of tweezer **1a** and AcArgOMe in phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.2)

|                      |                  |  |        |
|----------------------|------------------|--|--------|
| Receptor             | <b>1a</b>        | $M_R$ [g/mol]                                  | 770.78 |
| Solvent              | Phosphate buffer | $M_S$ [g/mol]                                  | 266.7  |
| $T$ [°C]             | 25               | $m_R$ [mg]                                     | 0.800  |
| Substrate            | <b>Ac ArgOMe</b> | $m_S$ [mg]                                     | 0.511  |
|                      |                  | $\delta_0$ (2-H) [ppm] = 4.421                 |        |
|                      |                  | $\delta_0$ (5-H) [ppm] = 3.226                 |        |
|                      |                  | $\delta_0$ (4-H) [ppm] = 1.663                 |        |
|                      |                  | $\delta_0$ (-NAc) [ppm] = 2.052                |        |
| $X^-$ : $HPO_4^{2-}$ |                  | $\delta_0$ (-CO <sub>2</sub> Me) [ppm] = 3.775 |        |

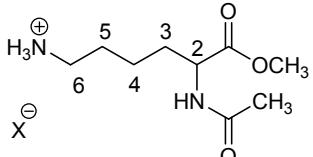
| <b>[R]<sub>0</sub>[mM]</b> | <b>[S]<sub>0</sub>[mM]</b> | <b><math>\delta</math> (5-H) [ppm]</b> | <b><math>\Delta\delta_{obs}</math>[ppm]</b> | <b><math>\Delta\delta_{calc}</math>[ppm]</b> |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|---|--|
| 3.0                        | 3.0                        | -0.198                                 | 3.424                                       | 3.442  |
| 1.5                        | 1.5                        | -0.113                                 | 3.338                                       | 3.323  |
| 0.75                       | 0.75                       | 0.058                                  | 3.168                                       | 3.162  |
| 0.375                      | 0.375                      | 0.274                                  | 2.952                                       | 2.947  |
| 0.188                      | 1.88                       | 0.563                                  | 2.663                                       | 2.671  |



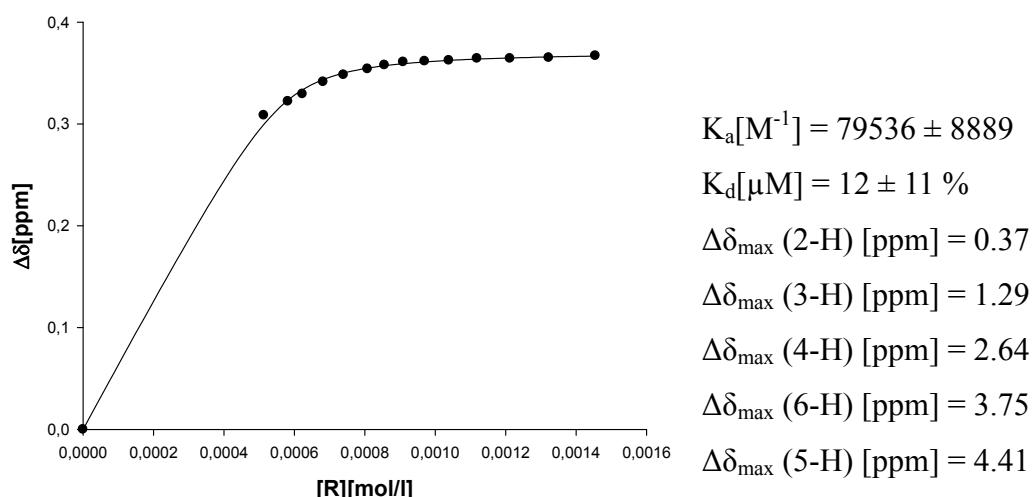
\* Limit of 95% - confidence interval from the nonlinear regression of the signals of the Protons 5-H.

## NMR titrations of sulfate tweezer **1c**

Titration of tweezer **1c** and **AcLysOMe** in phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.2)

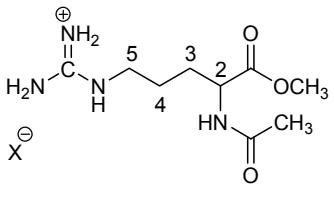
|   |   |  |              |        |
|---|---|--|--------------|--------|
| Receptor  | <b>1c</b>   | $M_R$ [g/mol]                                  | 770.78       |        |
| Solvent   | Phosphate buffer  | $M_S$ [g/mol]                                  | 238.7        |        |
| $T$ [°C]  | 25  | $m_R$ [mg]                                     | 0.672        |        |
| Substrate                                       | <b>AcLysOMe</b>   | $m_S$ [mg]                                     | 0.410        |        |
|   |  | $\delta_0$ (2-H) [ppm] = 4.398                 | $V_0$ [ml]   | 3.0    |
|   |   | $\delta_0$ (6-H) [ppm] = 2.999                 | $[S_0]$ [mM] | 0.5725 |
|   |   | $\delta_0$ (- <i>N</i> Ac) [ppm] = 2.050       |              |        |
|   |   | $\delta_0$ (-CO <sub>2</sub> Me) [ppm] = 3.770 |              |        |
| X <sup>-</sup> : HPO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> |   |  |              |        |

| $V$ [ml] | $[R]$ [mM] | $\delta$ (2-H) [ppm] | $\Delta\delta_{obs}$ [ppm] | $\Delta\delta_{calc}$ [ppm] |
|----------|------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 0.60     | 1.4548     | 4.0313               | 0.3670                     | 0.3667                      |
| 0.66     | 1.3225     | 4.0332               | 0.3651                     | 0.3658                      |
| 0.72     | 1.2123     | 4.0340               | 0.3643                     | 0.3648                      |
| 0.78     | 1.1191     | 4.0340               | 0.3643                     | 0.3637                      |
| 0.84     | 1.0391     | 4.0359               | 0.3624                     | 0.3624                      |
| 0.90     | 0.9699     | 4.0367               | 0.3616                     | 0.3609                      |
| 0.96     | 0.9093     | 4.0374               | 0.3609                     | 0.3592                      |
| 1.02     | 0.8558     | 4.0405               | 0.3578                     | 0.3572                      |
| 1.08     | 0.8082     | 4.0443               | 0.3540                     | 0.3549                      |
| 1.18     | 0.7397     | 4.0501               | 0.3482                     | 0.3500                      |
| 1.28     | 0.6819     | 4.0570               | 0.3413                     | 0.3436                      |
| 1.40     | 0.6235     | 4.0689               | 0.3294                     | 0.3337                      |
| 1.50     | 0.5819     | 4.0761               | 0.3222                     | 0.3235                      |
| 1.70     | 0.5135     | 4.0898               | 0.3085                     | 0.2997                      |
| 0.00     | 0.0000     | 4.3983               | 0.0000                     | 0.0000                      |

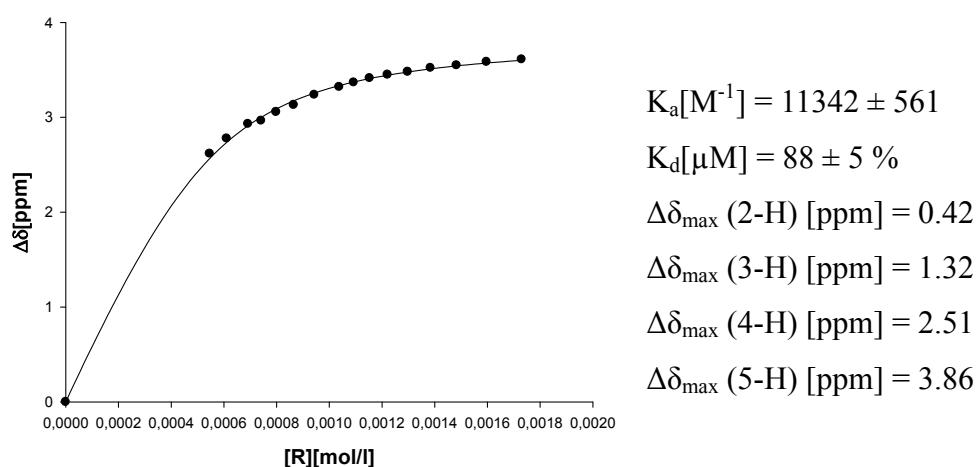


\* Limit of 95% - confidence interval from the nonlinear regression of the signals of the Protons 2-H.

Titration of tweezer **1c** and AcArgOMe in phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.2)

|   |   |                                     |                |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Receptor  | <b>1c</b>   | M <sub>R</sub> [g/mol]              | 770.78         |
| Solvent   | Phosphate buffer  | M <sub>S</sub> [g/mol]              | 266.7          |
| T[°C]   | 25  | m <sub>R</sub> [mg]                 | 0.800          |
| Substrate   | <b>AcArgOMe</b>   | m <sub>S</sub> [mg]                 | 0.511          |
|  | $\delta_0$ (2-H) [ppm] = 4.421<br>$\delta_0$ (5-H) [ppm] = 3.226<br>$\delta_0$ (4-H) [ppm] = 1.663<br>$\delta_0$ (-NAc) [ppm] = 2.052<br>$\delta_0$ (-CO <sub>2</sub> Me) [ppm] = 3.775 | $V_0$ [ml]<br>[S] <sub>0</sub> [mM] | 3.42<br>0.5602 |
| X <sup>-</sup> : HPO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>                                   |   |                                     |                |

| V [ml] | [R] [mM] | $\delta$ (5-H) [ppm] | $\Delta\delta_{obs}$ [ppm] | $\Delta\delta_{calc}$ [ppm] |
|--------|----------|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 0.60   | 1.7298   | -0.3837              | 3.6096                     | 3.6009                      |
| 0.65   | 1.5968   | -0.3578              | 3.5837                     | 3.5719                      |
| 0.70   | 1.4827   | -0.3216              | 3.5475                     | 3.5416                      |
| 0.75   | 1.3839   | -0.2950              | 3.5209                     | 3.5101                      |
| 0.80   | 1.2974   | -0.2534              | 3.4793                     | 3.4773                      |
| 0.85   | 1.2211   | -0.2227              | 3.4486                     | 3.4433                      |
| 0.90   | 1.1532   | -0.1865              | 3.4124                     | 3.4079                      |
| 0.95   | 1.0925   | -0.1410              | 3.3669                     | 3.3714                      |
| 1.00   | 1.0379   | -0.0926              | 3.3185                     | 3.3338                      |
| 1.10   | 0.9436   | -0.0113              | 3.2372                     | 3.2553                      |
| 1.20   | 0.8649   | 0.0957               | 3.1302                     | 3.1729                      |
| 1.30   | 0.7984   | 0.1700               | 3.0559                     | 3.0876                      |
| 1.40   | 0.7414   | 0.2620               | 2.9639                     | 3.0004                      |
| 1.50   | 0.6919   | 0.2955               | 2.9304                     | 2.9119                      |
| 1.70   | 0.6105   | 0.4491               | 2.7768                     | 2.7358                      |
| 1.90   | 0.5463   | 0.6097               | 2.6162                     | 2.5658                      |
| 0.00   | 0.0000   | 3.2259               | 0.0000                     | 0.0000                      |



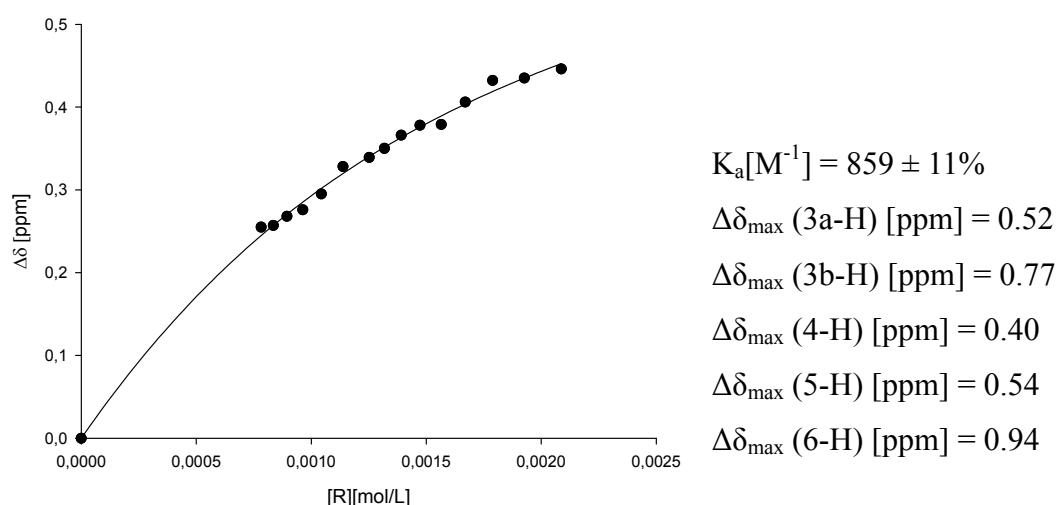
\* Limit of 95% - confidence interval from the nonlinear regression of the signals of the Protons 5-H.

## NMR titrations of the carboxymethyl tweezer **1d**

Titration of tweezer **1d** and **AcLysOMe** in phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.2)

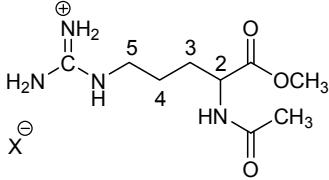
|   |  |               |        |
|---|--|---------------|--------|
| Receptor  | <b>1d</b>                                      | $M_R$ [g/mol] | 726.72 |
| Solvent   | Phosphate buffer (74 mM)                       | $M_S$ [g/mol] | 238.7  |
| $T[^\circ\text{C}]$                             | 25   | $m_R$ [mg]    | 0.910  |
| Substrate                                       | <b>AcLysOMe</b>                                | $m_S$ [mg]    | 0.552  |
|   |  |               |        |
|   | $\delta_0$ (3b-H) [ppm] = 1.682                | $V_0$ [ml]    | 3.00   |
|   | $\delta_0$ (6-H) [ppm] = 2.984                 | $[S_0]$ [mM]  | 0.771  |
|   | $\delta_0$ (- <i>N</i> Ac) [ppm] = 2.038       |               |        |
|   | $\delta_0$ (-CO <sub>2</sub> Me) [ppm] = 3.763 |               |        |
| X <sup>-</sup> : HPO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> |  |               |        |

| $V$ [ml] | [R][mM] | $\delta$ (3b-H)<br>[ppm] | $\Delta\delta_{\text{obs}}$ [ppm] | $\Delta\delta_{\text{calc}}$ [ppm] |
|----------|---------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 0.60     | 2.0870  | 1.2360                   | 0.4460                            | 0.4524                             |
| 0.65     | 1.9265  | 1.2470                   | 0.4350                            | 0.4351                             |
| 0.70     | 1.7889  | 1.2500                   | 0.4320                            | 0.4188                             |
| 0.75     | 1.6696  | 1.2760                   | 0.4060                            | 0.4036                             |
| 0.80     | 1.5653  | 1.3030                   | 0.3790                            | 0.3893                             |
| 0.85     | 1.4732  | 1.3040                   | 0.3780                            | 0.3759                             |
| 0.90     | 1.3913  | 1.3160                   | 0.3660                            | 0.3634                             |
| 0.95     | 1.3181  | 1.3320                   | 0.3500                            | 0.3515                             |
| 1.00     | 1.2522  | 1.3430                   | 0.3390                            | 0.3404                             |
| 1.10     | 1.1384  | 1.3540                   | 0.3280                            | 0.3199                             |
| 1.20     | 1.0435  | 1.3870                   | 0.2950                            | 0.3016                             |
| 1.30     | 0.9632  | 1.4060                   | 0.2760                            | 0.2853                             |
| 1.40     | 0.8944  | 1.4140                   | 0.2680                            | 0.2705                             |
| 1.50     | 0.8348  | 1.4250                   | 0.2570                            | 0.2571                             |
| 1.60     | 0.7826  | 1.4270                   | 0.2550                            | 0.2449                             |
| 0.00     | 0.0000  | 1.6820                   | 0.0000                            | 0.0000                             |

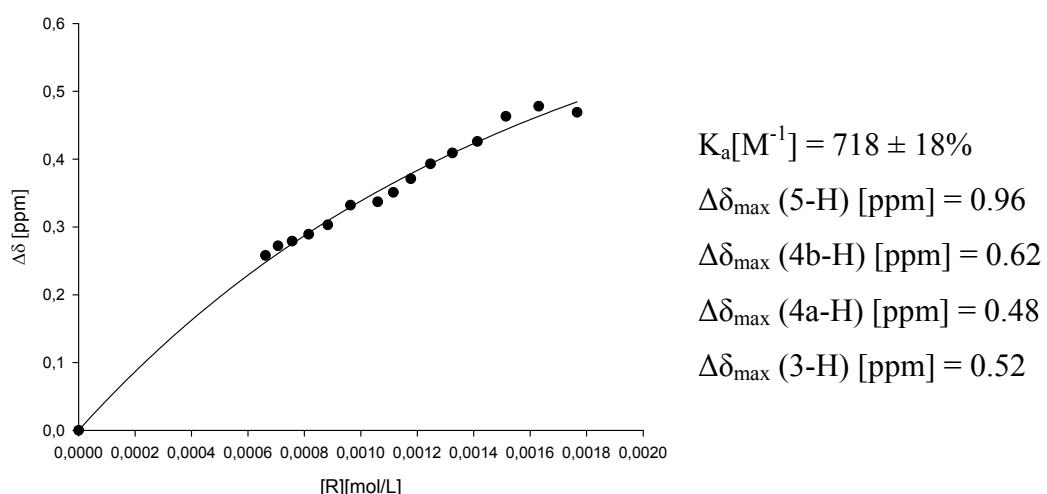


\* Limit of 95% - confidence interval from the nonlinear regression of the signals of the Protons 3b-H.

Titration of tweezer **1d** and AcArgOMe in phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.2)

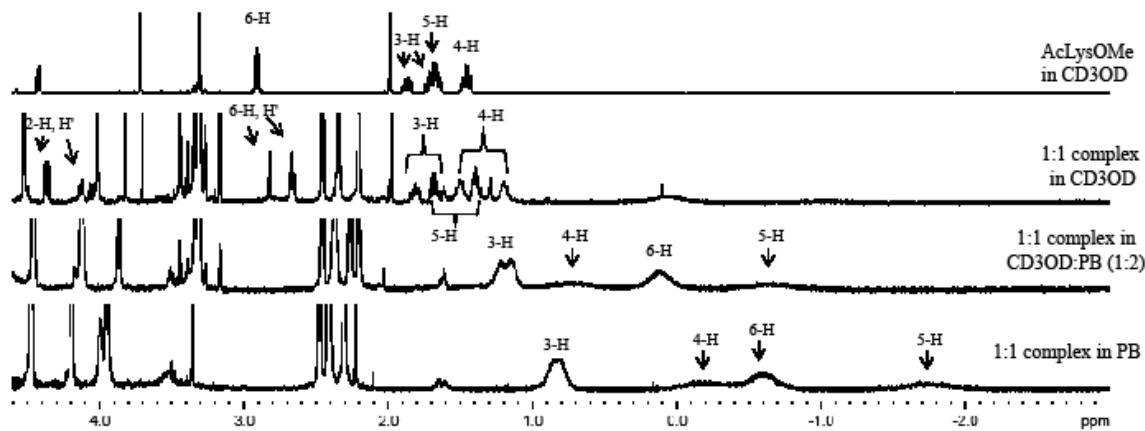
|                      |   |  |              |        |
|----------------------|---|--|--------------|--------|
| Receptor             | <b>1d</b>   | $M_R$ [g/mol]                                  | 726.72       |        |
| Solvent              | Phosphate buffer (74 mM)  | $M_S$ [g/mol]                                  | 266.7        |        |
| $T$ [°C]             | 25  | $m_R$ [mg]                                     | 0.770        |        |
| Substrate            | <b>AcArgOMe</b>   | $m_S$ [mg]                                     | 0.552        |        |
|                      |  | $\delta_0$ (2-H) [ppm] = 4.414                 | $V_0$ [ml]   | 3.00   |
|                      |   | $\delta_0$ (5-H) [ppm] = 3.213                 | $[S]_0$ [mM] | 0.6898 |
|                      |   | $\delta_0$ (3-H) [ppm] = 1.656                 |              |        |
|                      |   | $\delta_0$ (-NAc) [ppm] = 2.041                |              |        |
| $X^-$ : $HPO_4^{2-}$ |   | $\delta_0$ (-CO <sub>2</sub> Me) [ppm] = 3.762 |              |        |

| $V$ [ml] | [R] [mM] | $\delta$ (5-H) [ppm] | $\Delta\delta_{obs}$ [ppm] | $\Delta\delta_{calc}$ [ppm] |
|----------|----------|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 0.60     | 1.7659   | 2.744                | 0.4690                     | 0.4846                      |
| 0.65     | 1.6301   | 2.735                | 0.4780                     | 0.4632                      |
| 0.70     | 1.1514   | 2.750                | 0.4630                     | 0.4436                      |
| 0.75     | 1.4127   | 2.787                | 0.4260                     | 0.4254                      |
| 0.80     | 1.3244   | 2.804                | 0.4090                     | 0.4086                      |
| 0.85     | 1.2466   | 2.820                | 0.3930                     | 0.3930                      |
| 0.90     | 1.1773   | 2.842                | 0.3710                     | 0.3784                      |
| 0.95     | 1.1153   | 2.862                | 0.3510                     | 0.3649                      |
| 1.00     | 1.0596   | 2.876                | 0.3370                     | 0.3522                      |
| 1.10     | 0.9632   | 2.881                | 0.3320                     | 0.3293                      |
| 1.20     | 0.8829   | 2.910                | 0.3030                     | 0.3091                      |
| 1.30     | 0.8150   | 2.924                | 0.2890                     | 0.2912                      |
| 1.40     | 0.7568   | 2.934                | 0.2790                     | 0.2752                      |
| 1.50     | 0.7064   | 2.941                | 0.2720                     | 0.2608                      |
| 1.60     | 0.6622   | 2.955                | 0.2580                     | 0.2478                      |
| 0.00     | 0.0000   | 3.213                | 0.0000                     | 0.0000                      |

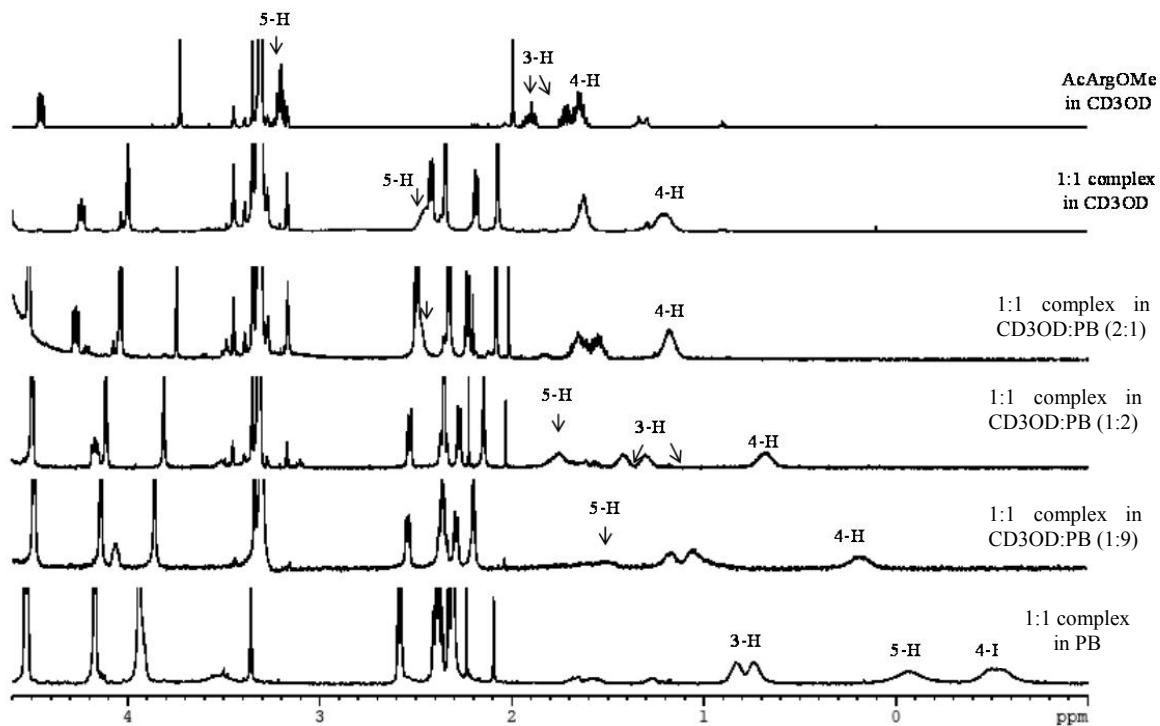


\* Limit of 95% - confidence interval from the nonlinear regression of the signals of the Protons 5-H.

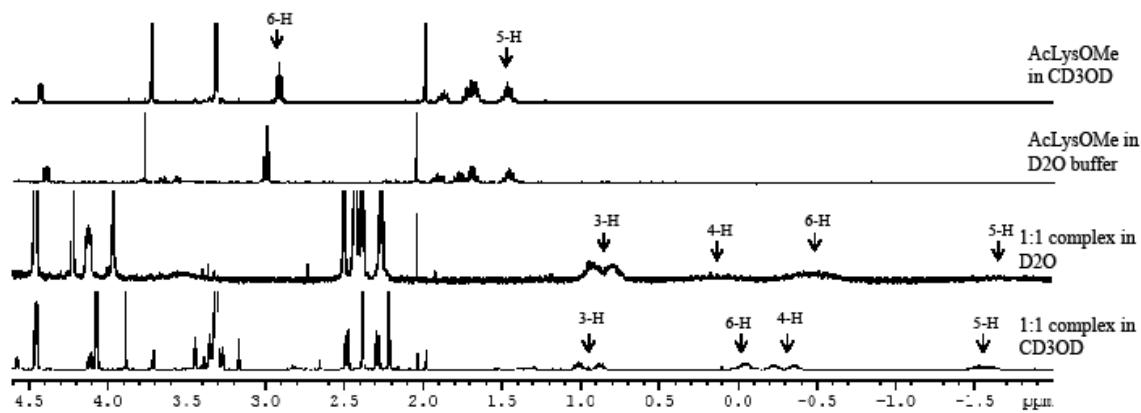
## 1.5 Solvent-dependent $^1\text{H}$ NMR spectra of the complexes



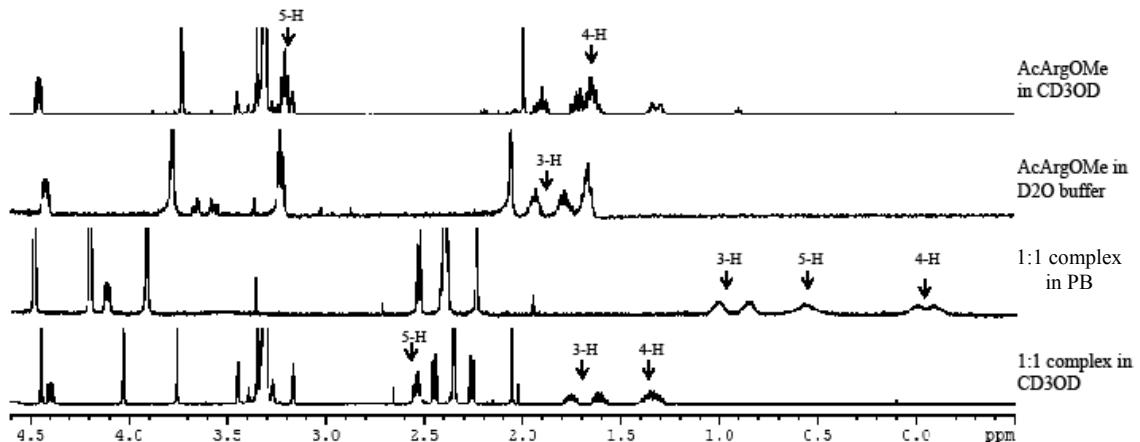
**Figure S2.**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectra of 1:1 mixture of the phosphate tweezer **1a** and **AcLysOMe** in different polarity medium methanol/phosphate buffer (10mM, pH 7.2) mixture. Lysine side-chain protons are assigned by numbers.



**Figure S3.**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectra of 1:1 mixture of the phosphate tweezer **1a** and **AcArgOMe** each at 1.0 mM concentration in different polarity medium methanol/phosphate buffer (PB, 10mM, pH 7.2) mixture. The spectrum in methanol/buffer (1:9) was measured at 0.5 mM concentration of both host and guest. Arginine side chain protons are assigned by numbers.



**Figure S4.**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectra of 1:1 mixture of the sulfate tweezer **1c** and **AcLysOMe**, each at 1.0 mM concentration. Signals of lysine side-chain are shifted upfield in the similar range both in buffer and in methanol. 6-H protons of lysine shifted upfield by  $\sim 3.40$  ppm in phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.2) and by  $\sim 3.00$  ppm in methanol.



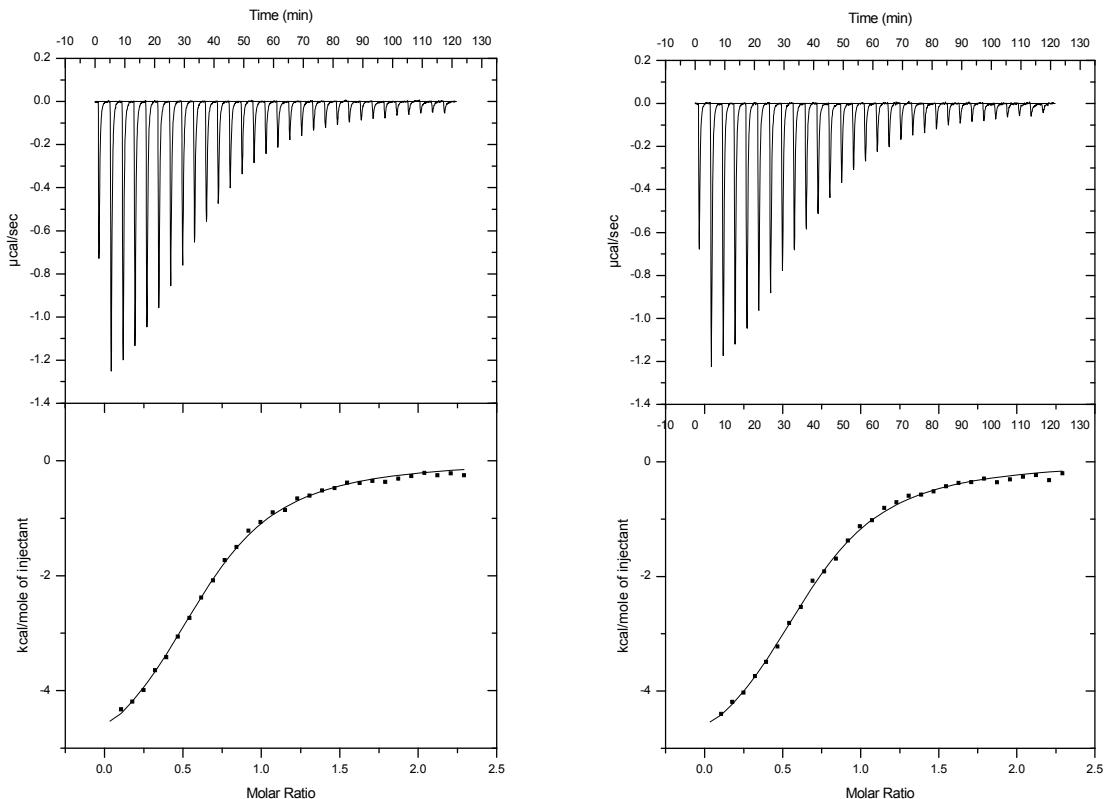
**Figure S5.**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectra of 1:1 ratio of the sulfate tweezer **1c** and **AcArgOMe**, each at 1.0 mM concentration. Signals of the arginine side chain protons are shifted upfield strongly in buffer but only weakly in methanol. The signal of the arginine protons 5-H is shifted upfield by  $\sim 2.70$  ppm in buffer and by  $\sim 0.70$  ppm in methanol.

## 1.6 Isothermal titration calorimetry (ITC) studies of the host-guest complex formation of tweezers **1a** and **1c**.

### ITC experiments of the phosphate tweezer **1a** complexes

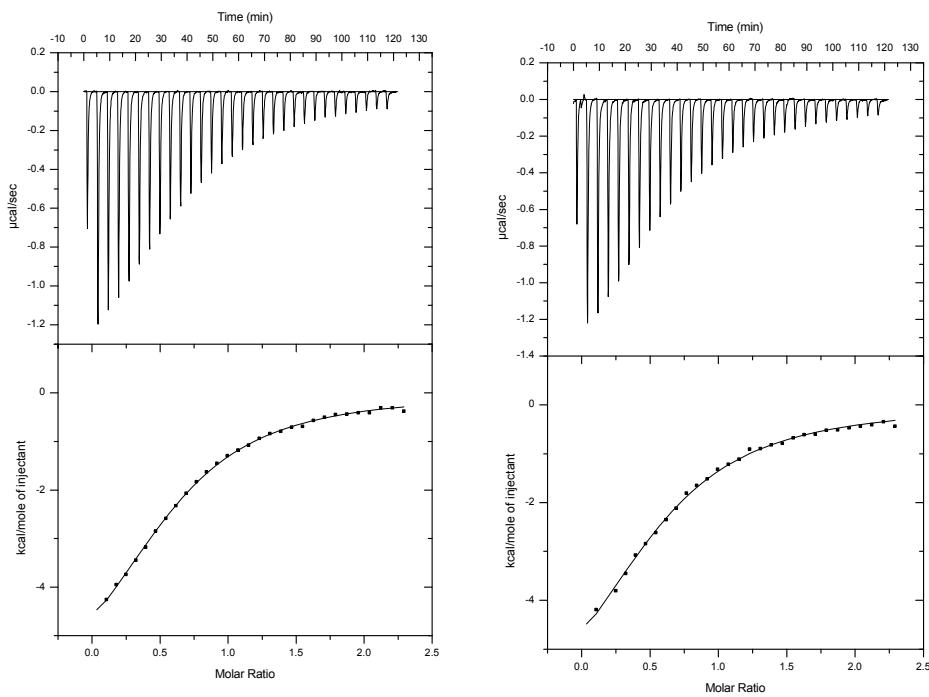
ITC titration of the tweezer **1a** (0.1 mM) with AcLysOMe (1.0 mM) in phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.6)

| Nr. | $K_a [M^{-1}]$   | n                 | $\Delta H [kcal/mol]$ | $-T\Delta S [kcal/mol]$ | $\Delta G [kcal/mol]$ |
|-----|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1   | $69300 \pm 3700$ | $0.679 \pm 0.009$ | $-5.552 \pm 0.101$    | -1.05                   | -6.60                 |
| 2   | $67900 \pm 3200$ | $0.648 \pm 0.008$ | $-5.609 \pm 0.095$    | -0.99                   | -6.60                 |



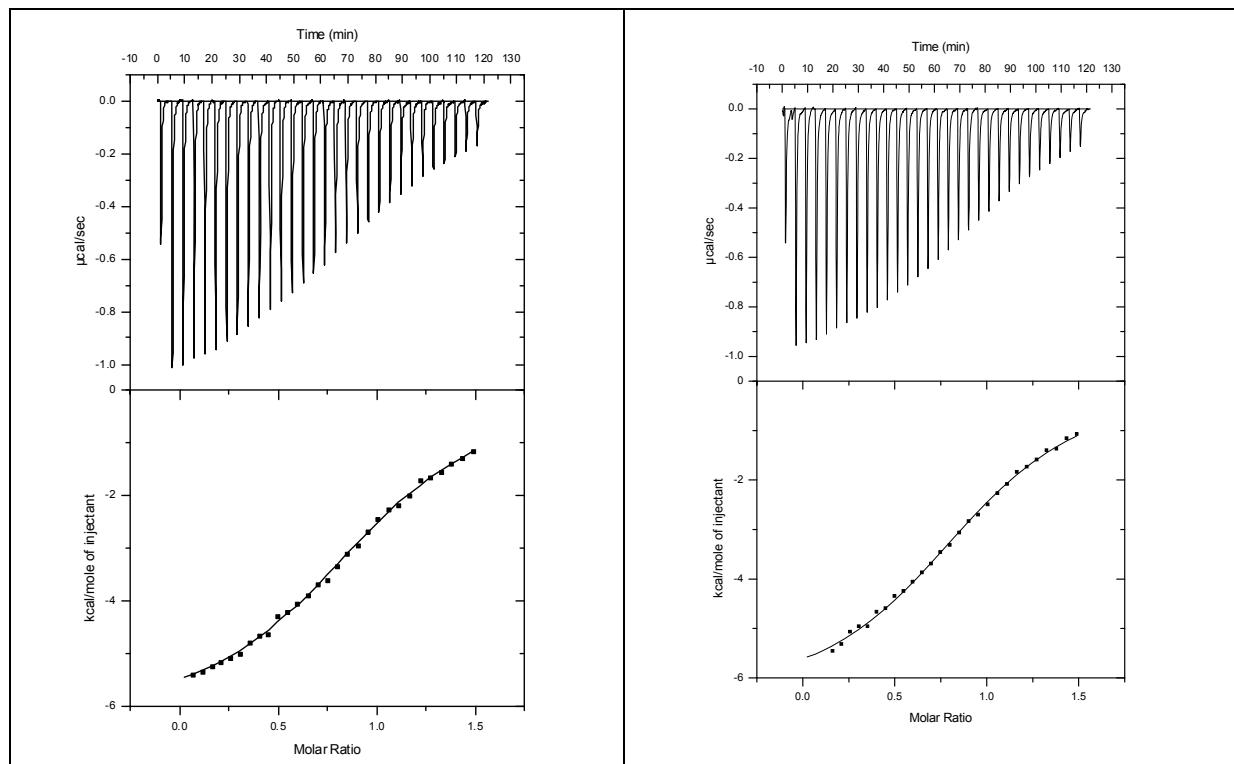
ITC titration of the tweezer **1a** (0.1 mM) with AcArgOMe (1.0 mM) in phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.6)

| Nr. | $K_a [M^{-1}]$   | n                 | $\Delta H [kcal/mol]$ | $-T\Delta S [kcal/mol]$ | $\Delta G [kcal/mol]$ |
|-----|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1   | $31700 \pm 1100$ | $0.625 \pm 0.010$ | $-6.805 \pm 0.145$    | 0.67                    | -6.14                 |
| 2   | $27500 \pm 1700$ | $0.613 \pm 0.020$ | $-7.249 \pm 0.305$    | 1.19                    | -6.06                 |



ITC titration of the tweezer **1a** (0.1 mM) with KLVFF (0.65 mM) in phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.6)

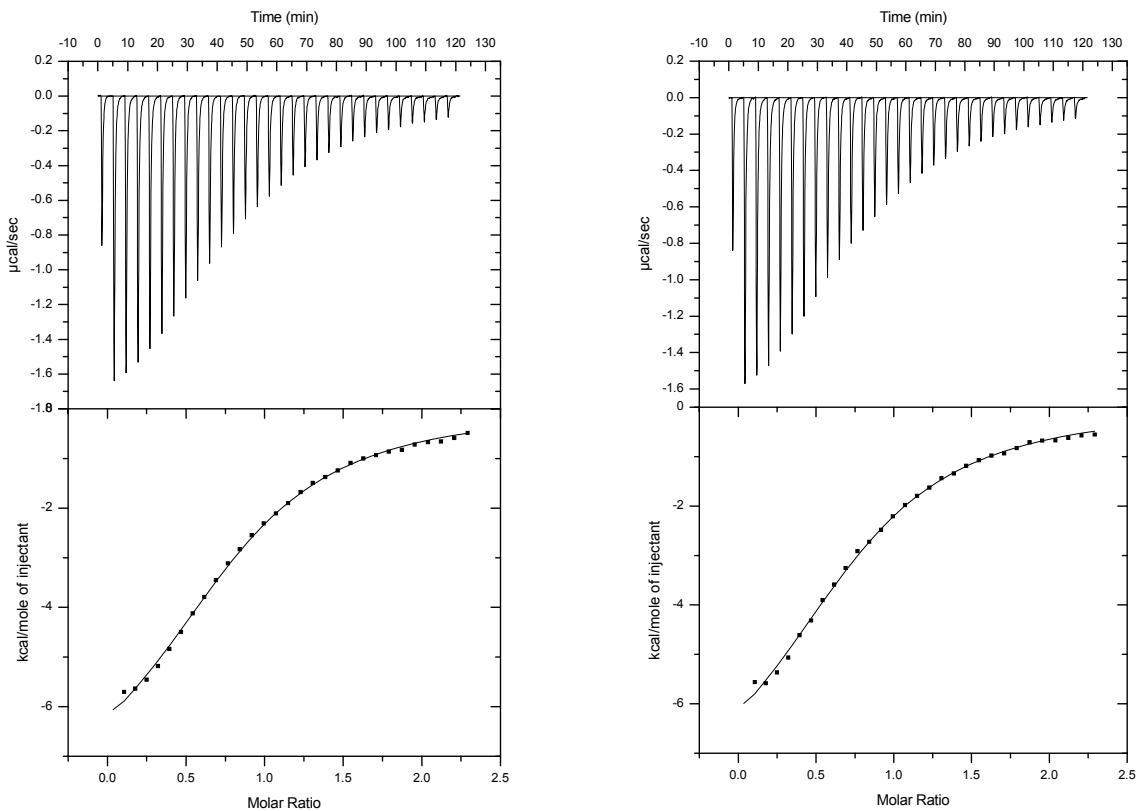
| Nr. | $K_a [M^{-1}]$   | n                 | $\Delta H [kcal/mol]$ | $-T\Delta S [kcal/mol]$ | $\Delta G [kcal/mol]$ |
|-----|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1   | $65800 \pm 2600$ | $1.02 \pm 0.005$  | $-6.293 \pm 0.055$    | -0.28                   | -6.57                 |
| 2   | $65300 \pm 3300$ | $0.983 \pm 0.007$ | $-6.466 \pm 0.084$    | -0.10                   | -6.57                 |



## ITC experiments of the sulfate tweezer **1c** complexes

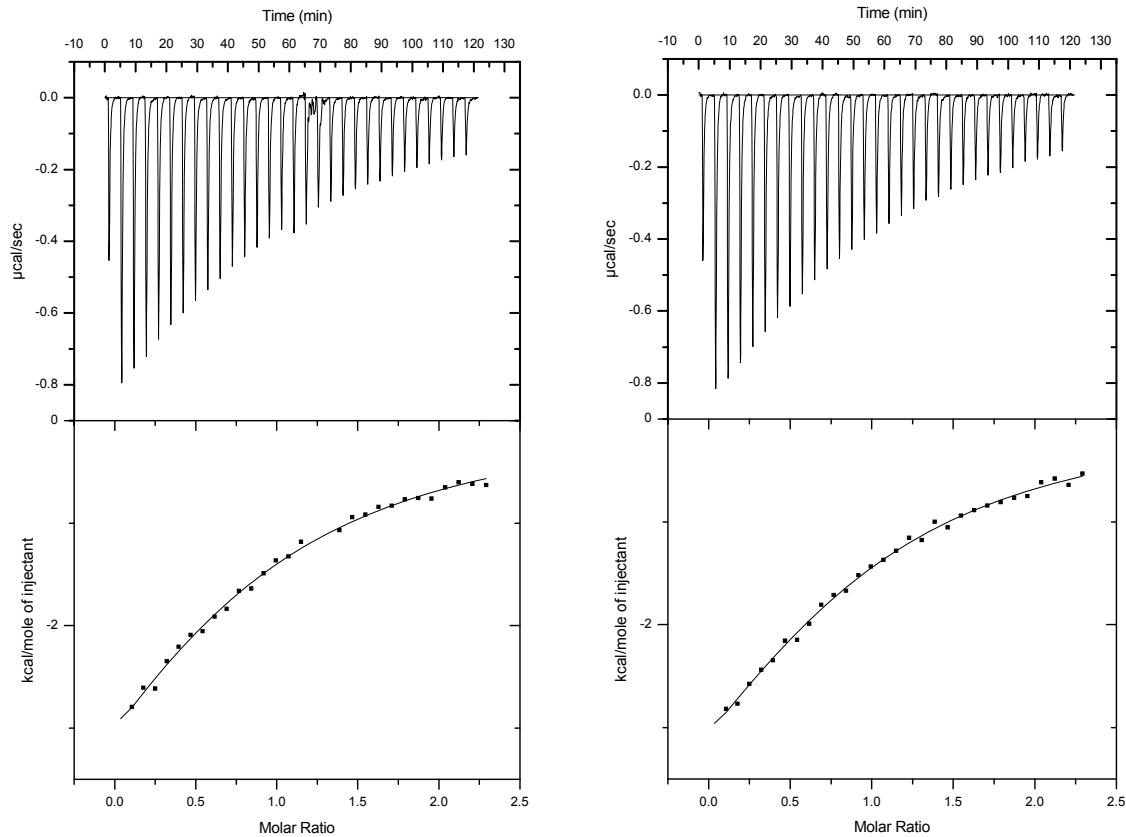
ITC titration of the tweezer **1c** (0.1 mM) with AcLysOMe (1.0 mM) in phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.6)

| Nr. | $K_a [M^{-1}]$   | n                 | $\Delta H [kcal/mol]$ | $-T\Delta S [kcal/mol]$ | $\Delta G [kcal/mol]$ |
|-----|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1   | $36200 \pm 1600$ | $0.823 \pm 0.011$ | $-8.171 \pm 0.159$    | 1.96                    | -6.21                 |
| 2   | $33000 \pm 1800$ | $0.782 \pm 0.015$ | $-8.403 \pm 0.226$    | 2.24                    | -6.16                 |



The ITC titration of the tweezer **1c** (0.1 mM) with AcArgOMe (1.0 mM) in phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.6)

| Nr. | $K_a [M^{-1}]$   | n                 | $\Delta H [kcal/mol]$ | $-T\Delta S [kcal/mol]$ | $\Delta G [kcal/mol]$ |
|-----|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1.  | $11300 \pm 1000$ | $0.904 \pm 0.048$ | $-5.92 \pm 0.045$     | 0.387                   | -5.53                 |
| 2.  | $9490 \pm 1100$  | $0.816 \pm 0.071$ | $-6.75 \pm 0.796$     | 1.317                   | -5.43                 |

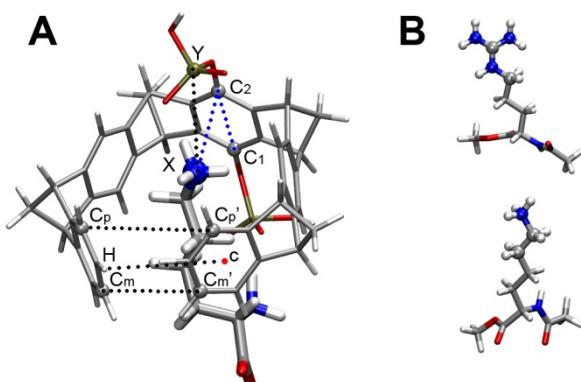


## 2. Computational Section:

### 2.1 Calculation of host-guest complex structures by QM/MM: Material and Methods

The models of the inclusion complexes between the anionic tweezers **1a'-d'** and amino acids or short peptides were built by using the VMD program.<sup>1</sup> Since the phosphate tweezers **1a** is partially protonated in buffered aqueous solution at almost neutral pH value, we also used the mono- and diprotonated structures **1a'** and **1a''** for the calculations (Figure 7). The neutralized initial structures were then submitted to energy minimizations with the CHARMM c33b1 program.<sup>2</sup> After that, the system was placed in a water sphere of 30 Å of radii centered on one of the central carbon atoms of the tweezers. To ensure a correct water distribution twelve hydration-minimization cycles were performed. To prevent the water molecules from vaporizing off, a four order polynomial potential was applied to all water oxygen atoms. After this, the hydrated systems were submitted to 1 ns MD simulations at 300 K for which the program CHARMM c33b1 with the CHARMM22 force field and the TIP3P model for water were used.<sup>3,4</sup> The parameters for the tweezers and tosyl terminal group were generated using the Swissparam server and tested by us (unpublished data).<sup>5</sup> Randomly selected snapshots from the MD simulations were then submitted to QM/MM optimization. The QM/MM optimizations were performed with the program ChemShell v3.2.<sup>6</sup> The Turbomole 5.10 program was used to handle the QM region and DL\_POLY, as driver of the

CHARMM22 force field, to treat the MM part.<sup>7,8</sup> The QM part which includes all atoms of the tweezers and part of the lateral chain of Lys or Arg (see Figure S) was described using the B3LYP density functional with empirical dispersive energy correction (B3LYP-D2) and the SVP basis set from the Turbomole basis set library.<sup>9,10,11</sup> Open valencies at the QM/MM border were saturated using hydrogen link atoms.<sup>12</sup> An electrostatic embedding scheme was used for the interactions between QM and MM regions.<sup>13</sup> To avoid overpolarization of the QM region at the boundary a charge shift scheme was applied.<sup>14</sup> No electrostatic cutoffs were used. The optimization was performed with the HDLC optimizer.<sup>15</sup> The active region consisted of a water sphere of 13 Å of radii centered on one of the central carbon atoms of the tweezers. All atoms within the active region were allowed to move in each optimization step. The optimization was finished when the maximum gradient component was below 0.00045 a.u.



**Figure S6.** **A** Distances (black dotted lines) and angle (blue dotted line) used to describe the interaction between the molecular tweezers and the amino acid and peptides models ( $Y = P, S$ , or  $C$  atom of the  $OCH_2CO_2^-$  group of the tweezers,  $X =$  the N atom or the central C atom of the guanidinium moiety in the lateral chain of Lys or Arg respectively). **B** Atoms of the lateral chains of Arg and Lys included in the QM region used for the QM/MM optimizations are highlighted with a sphere representation.

**Table S1.** Representative distances and the  $C_1-C_2-X$  angle for the isolated tweezers and the inclusion complexes between the tweezers and different Lys/Arg/peptide models ( $o$  stands for the guest not inserted in the tweezers cavity and  $i$  when the guest is threaded inside the tweezers). Depending on the systems  $X$  is the P, S or the C atom of the carboxylate group of the tweezers, while  $Y$  is the N or the central C atom of the guanidinium moiety in the lateral chain of Lys or Arg respectively.  $\pi \dots H$ -cis the distance between the orto hydrogen atom of the last benzene ring and the center of the opposite benzene ring (see Figure 6). Values in

parentheses are for QM/MM optimized structures. All distances are in Å and the angle in degrees.

| System                       | $C_p\text{-}C'_p$         | $C_m\text{-}C'_m$         | X-Y                       | $C_1\text{-}C_2\text{-}X$ | $\pi\ldots\text{H-c}$     |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>1a''</b>                  | $5.51 \pm 0.20$<br>(5.24) | $3.92 \pm 0.20$<br>(3.51) | -                         | -                         | $4.49 \pm 0.25$<br>(3.81) |
| <b>1a'</b>                   | $5.71 \pm 0.21$<br>(5.43) | $3.91 \pm 0.20$<br>(3.80) | -                         | -                         | $4.07 \pm 0.24$<br>(4.13) |
| <b>1a' •H Lys OH'</b>        | $5.51 \pm 0.21$<br>(5.24) | $4.11 \pm 0.20$<br>(3.71) | $3.57 \pm 0.15$<br>(3.39) | $85 \pm 3$<br>(88)        | -                         |
| <b>1a' •KAA'</b>             | $5.80 \pm 0.21$<br>(5.32) | $4.67 \pm 0.22$<br>(3.85) | $3.32 \pm 0.10$<br>(3.29) | $92 \pm 3$<br>(89)        | -                         |
| <b>1a' •Ac Lys OMe'</b>      | $6.24 \pm 0.22$<br>(5.63) | $4.98 \pm 0.22$<br>(4.24) | $3.82 \pm 0.10$<br>(3.91) | $95 \pm 3$<br>(98)        | -                         |
| <b>1a' •Ac ArgOMe'</b>       | $5.62 \pm 0.18$<br>(5.52) | $3.96 \pm 0.18$<br>(3.76) | $3.91 \pm 0.07$<br>(4.00) | $91 \pm 3$<br>(89)        | -                         |
| <b>1b'</b>                   | $6.49 \pm 0.24$<br>(5.94) | $4.96 \pm 0.26$<br>(4.33) | -                         | -                         | $5.66 \pm 0.31$<br>(4.76) |
| <b>1b' •Ac Lys OMe'</b>      | $7.23 \pm 0.22$<br>(7.83) | $6.29 \pm 0.21$<br>(6.82) | $3.90 \pm 0.12$<br>(4.06) | $65 \pm 3$<br>(65)        | -                         |
| <b>1b' •TsArgOMe'</b>        | $5.53 \pm 0.18$<br>(5.33) | $3.86 \pm 0.17$<br>(3.83) | $3.88 \pm 0.10$<br>(3.95) | $86 \pm 3$<br>(82)        | -                         |
| <b>1c'</b>                   | $5.81 \pm 0.22$<br>(5.49) | $3.96 \pm 0.20$<br>(3.89) | -                         | -                         | $4.14 \pm 0.25$<br>(4.05) |
| <b>1c' •Ac Lys OMe'</b>      | $5.69 \pm 0.22$<br>(5.48) | $4.82 \pm 0.22$<br>(4.52) | $4.12 \pm 0.10$<br>(4.06) | $64 \pm 3$<br>(62)        | -                         |
| <b>1c' •Ac ArgOMe'</b>       | $5.58 \pm 0.17$<br>(5.16) | $3.72 \pm 0.15$<br>(3.48) | $4.10 \pm 0.10$<br>(4.28) | $82 \pm 3$<br>(78)        | -                         |
| <b>1d'</b>                   | $5.54 \pm 0.20$<br>(5.25) | $3.73 \pm 0.17$<br>(3.51) | -                         | -                         | $4.38 \pm 0.25$<br>(3.87) |
| <b>1d' •Ac Lys OMe' (i)</b>  | $5.30 \pm 0.19$<br>(4.97) | $3.77 \pm 0.16$<br>(3.53) | $3.20 \pm 0.19$<br>(3.48) | $74 \pm 3$<br>(72)        | -                         |
| <b>1d' •Ac Lys OMe' (o)</b>  | $5.48 \pm 0.19$<br>(5.54) | $3.78 \pm 0.18$<br>(3.68) | $3.32 \pm 0.14$<br>(3.20) | $64 \pm 3$<br>(62)        | -                         |
| <b>1d' • Ac ArgOMe' (i)</b>  | $5.55 \pm 0.18$<br>(5.20) | $3.79 \pm 0.16$<br>(3.42) | $3.64 \pm 0.10$<br>(3.60) | $77 \pm 3$<br>(77)        | -                         |
| <b>1d' • Ac Arg OMe' (o)</b> | $5.67 \pm 0.22$<br>(5.40) | $3.97 \pm 0.21$<br>(3.67) | $3.84 \pm 0.10$<br>(3.90) | $69 \pm 3$<br>(65)        | -                         |

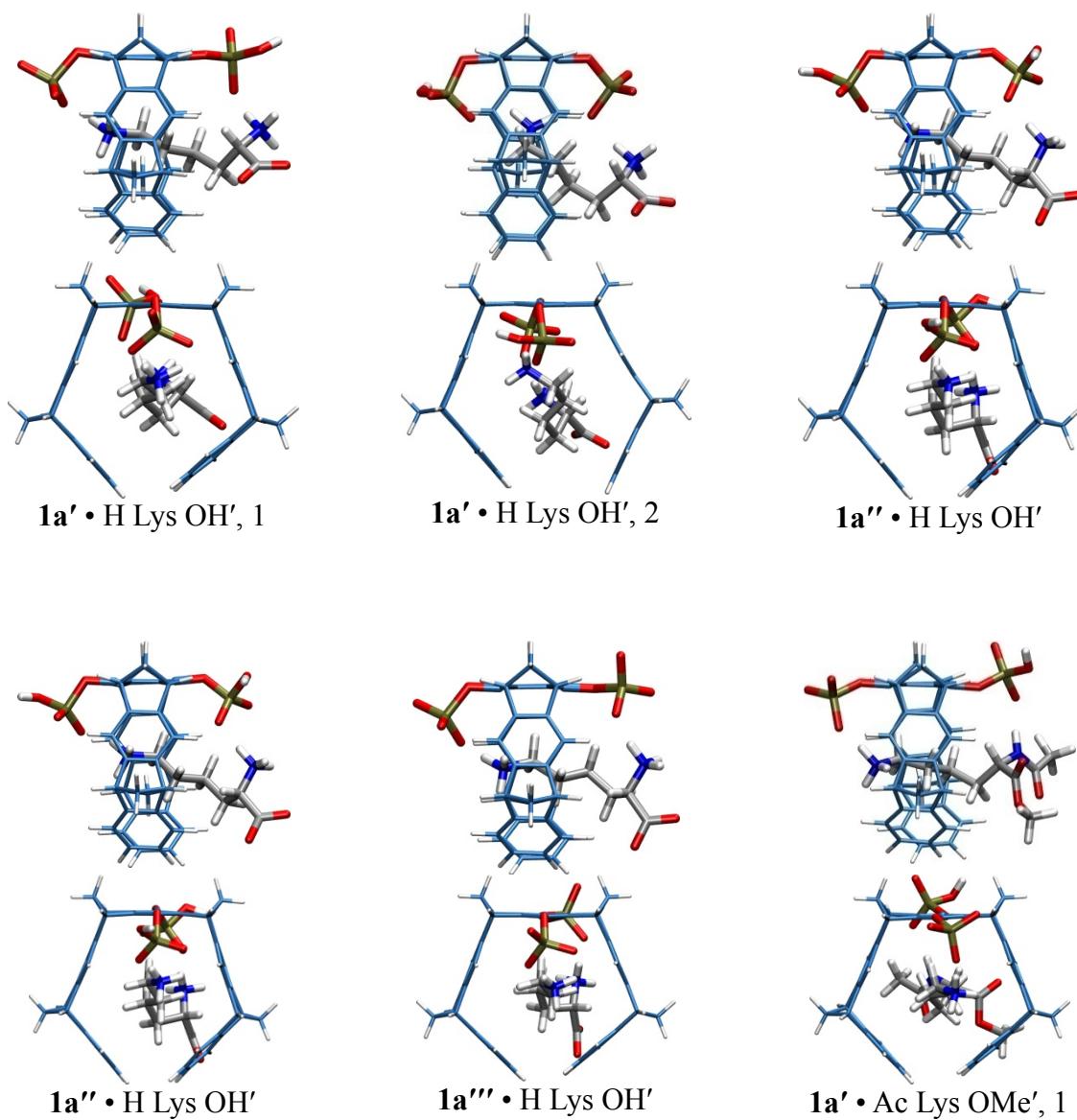
## References

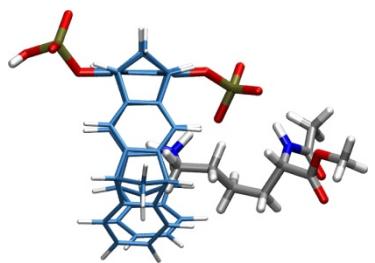
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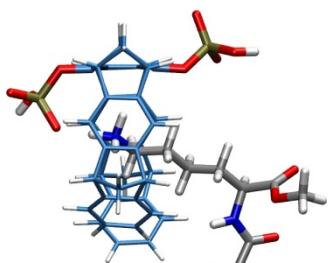
## 2.2 Calculation of $^1\text{H}$ NMR shifts of the guest signals by ab initio methods

The solvent effects were modelled using optimized QM/MM structures with an explicit, static 4-Å water layer around both (the host-guest complex and the pure guest molecule as well). Figure S7 shows the complex structures used for the computation of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR shifts without the water layer:

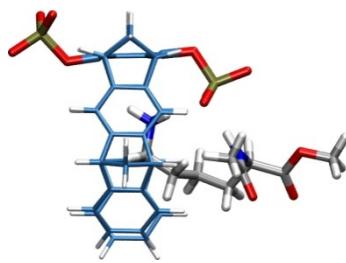




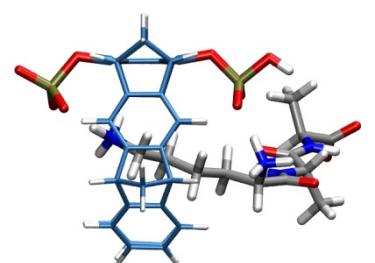
**1a' · Ac Lys OMe', 2**



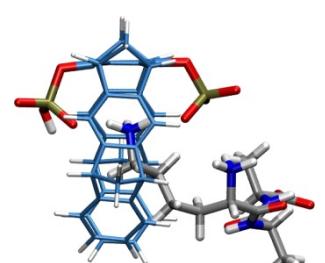
**1a'' · Ac Lys OMe'**



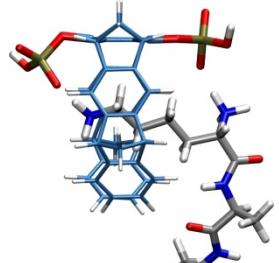
**1a''' · Ac Lys OMe'**



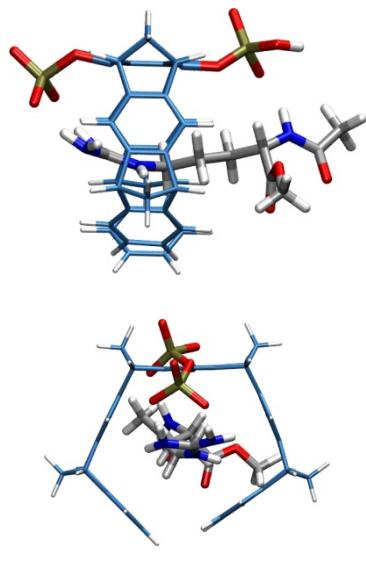
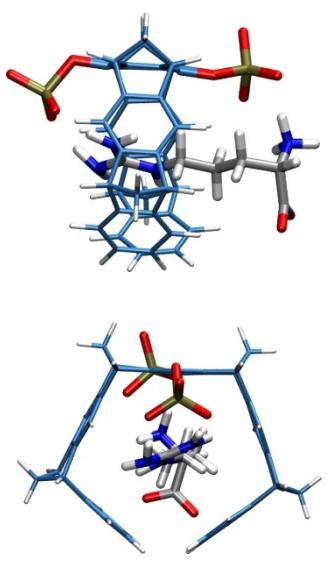
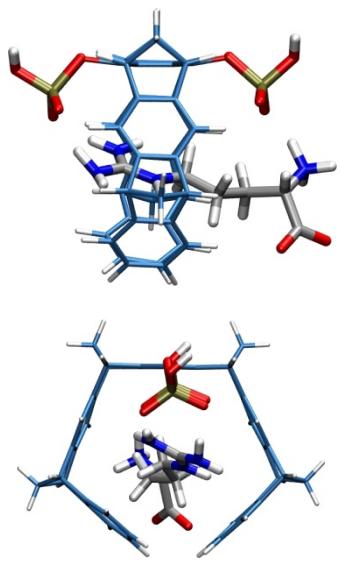
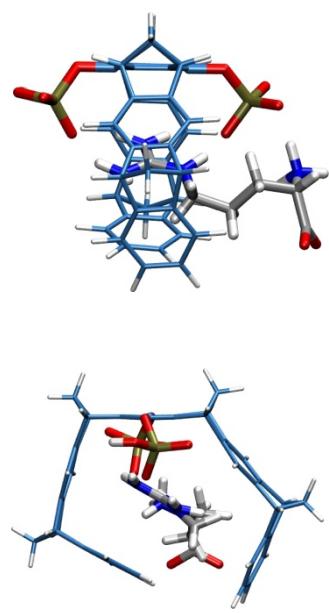
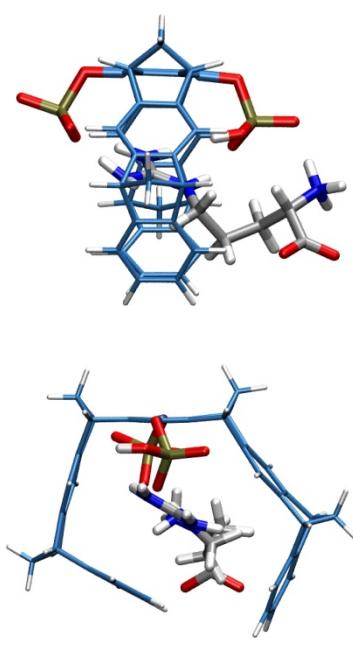
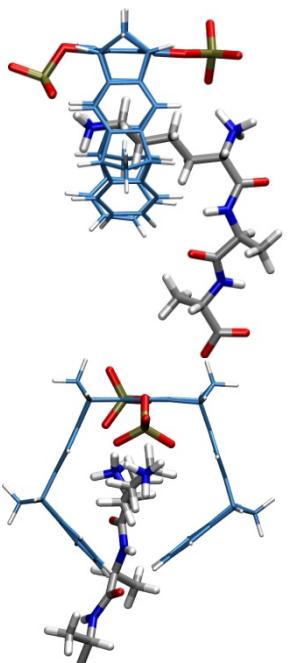
**1a' · KAA', 1**

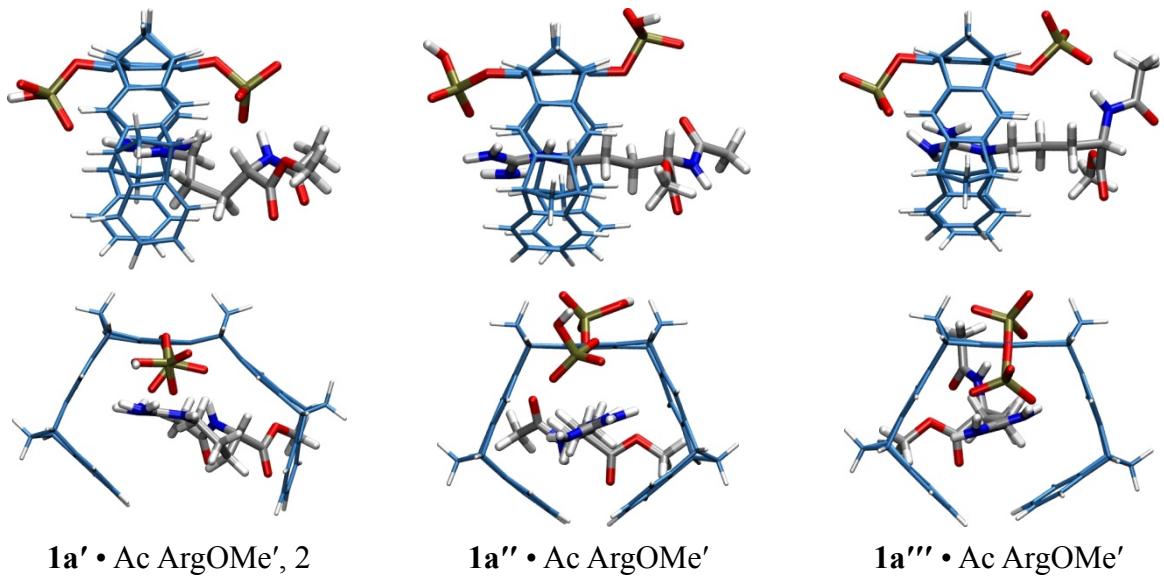


**1a' · KAA', 2**



**1a'' · KAA'**





**Figure S7.** Host-guest complex structures of the differently protonated phosphate tweezers **1a'** ( $\equiv \mathbf{1}$ :  $R^1 = OPO_3^{2-}$ ,  $R^2 = OP(OH)O_2^-$ ), **1a''** ( $\equiv \mathbf{1}$ :  $R^1 = R^2 = OP(OH)O_2^-$ ), **1a'''** ( $\equiv \mathbf{1}$ :  $R^1 = R^2 = OPO_3^{2-}$ ) with lysine and arginine derivatives (without counterions) optimized by QM/MM calculations, each structure contains a 4 Å water layer. In each host-guest complex of the tweezer **1a'** there are two conformers, one with the positively charged lysine ammonium or arginine guanidinium end group pointing toward the doubly negatively charged phosphate group (1) and the other one pointing away from the doubly negatively charged phosphate group (2).

**Table S2.** Comparison of experimental and computational (HF/SVP) complexation-induced chemical  $^1\text{H}$  NMR shifts  $\Delta\delta_{\max}$  for the guest protons in the host-guest complexes of the phosphate tweezer **1a** with lysine and arginine derivatives. The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR data were calculated for the differently protonated complex structures of **1a'** ( $\equiv \mathbf{1}: R^1 = \text{OPO}_3^{2-}, R^2 = \text{OP(OH)O}_2^-$ ), **1a''** ( $\equiv \mathbf{1}: R^1 = R^2 = \text{OP(OH)O}_2^-$ ), **1a'''** ( $\equiv \mathbf{1}: R^1 = R^2 = \text{OPO}_3^{2-}$ ) as shown in Figure S7.

| host-guest<br>complex              | $\Delta\delta_{\max}$ [ppm] |                         |            |            |                    |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------------|------------|--------------------|
|                                    | <b>6-H</b>                  | <b>5-H</b>              | <b>4-H</b> | <b>3-H</b> | <b>2-H</b>         |
| exp.: <b>1a</b> • H Lys OH         | 4.51                        | 4.47                    | -          | 0.76       | 0.24               |
| calc.: <b>1a'</b> • H Lys OH', 1   | 5.44                        | 4.78                    | 1.88       | 0.57       | 0.91               |
| calc.: <b>1a'</b> • H Lys OH', 2   | 3.95                        | 2.77                    | 2.42       | 0.27       | 0.99               |
| calc.: <b>1a''</b> • H Lys OH'     | 5.22                        | 4.00                    | 1.68       | 0.55       | 0.81               |
| calc.: <b>1a'''</b> • H Lys OH'    | 6.04                        | 4.11                    | 1.99       | 0.38       | 0.37               |
| exp.: <b>1a</b> • Ac Lys OMe       | 3.91                        | -                       | -          | -          | 0.51 <sup>a)</sup> |
| calc.: <b>1a'</b> • Ac Lys OMe', 1 | 3.62                        | 5.51                    | 4.62       | 1.24       |                    |
| calc.: <b>1a'</b> • Ac Lys OMe', 2 | 2.203.39                    |                         | 0.72       | 0.52       | -0.53              |
| calc.: <b>1a''</b> • Ac Lys OMe'   |                             | 0.92 5.17               |            | 2.64       | 1.69               |
| calc.: <b>1a'''</b> • Ac Lys OMe'  | 0.28                        | 0.53 3.53               |            | 1.95       | 0.83               |
|                                    | 0.07                        | 1.68                    |            |            | -                  |
| exp.: <b>1a</b> • KAA              | 5.92                        | 3.22                    | 2.28       | 1.09       |                    |
| calc.: <b>1a'</b> • KAA', 1        | 0.20 <sup>b)</sup> 5.71     |                         | 5.08       | 2.55       | 0.36               |
| calc.: <b>1a'</b> • KAA', 2        |                             | 0.06 <sup>b)</sup> 4.06 |            | 2.59       | 1.19               |
| calc.: <b>1a''</b> • KAA'          | 0.09                        | 0.19 <sup>b)</sup> 6.18 |            | 4.89       | 1.73               |
| calc.: <b>1a'''</b> • KAA'         | 0.86                        | 0.20 <sup>b)</sup> 6.92 |            | 5.45       | 2.21               |
|                                    | 1.20                        | 0.26 <sup>b)</sup>      |            |            |                    |
|                                    | <b>5-H</b>                  | <b>4-H</b>              | <b>3-H</b> | <b>2-H</b> |                    |
| exp.: <b>1a</b> • H Arg OH         | -                           | -                       | -          | -          |                    |
| calc.: <b>1a'</b> • H Arg OH', 1   | 3.00                        | 0.75                    | 0.44       | 0.17       |                    |
| calc.: <b>1a'</b> • H Arg OH', 2   | 2.75                        | 1.18                    | 0.11       | -0.57      | 3.69               |
| calc.: <b>1a''</b> • H Arg OH'     |                             | 0.88                    | 0.12       | -0.38      |                    |
| calc.: <b>1a'''</b> • H Arg OH'    | 3.07                        | 1.55                    | -0.07      | -1.05      |                    |
| exp.: <b>1a</b> • Ac ArgOMe        | 3.75                        | 2.54                    | 1.23       | 0.63       |                    |
| calc.: <b>1a'</b> • Ac ArgOMe', 1  | 5.46                        | 2.46                    | 0.56       | 1.07       | 1.21               |
| calc.: <b>1a'</b> • Ac ArgOMe', 2  | 2.58                        | 0.11                    | 2.17       |            | 5.64               |
| calc.: <b>1a''</b> • Ac ArgOMe'    | 2.46                        | 0.56                    | 1.07       |            | 2.30               |
| calc.: <b>1a'''</b> • Ac ArgOMe'   | 0.97                        | 0.04                    | 0.86       |            |                    |

<sup>a)</sup> $\Delta\delta_{\max}$ : -0.32 (exp.), -0.36,-0.28,-0.24,-0.77,(calc. **1a'**,1, **1a'**,2, **1a''**,**1a'''**),  $\text{NCOCH}_3$ ; -0.23 (exp.), -0.17,-0.16,0.13,0.38, (calc. **1a'**,1, **1a'**,2, **1a''**,**1a'''**),  $\text{CO}_2\text{CH}_3$ . <sup>b)</sup> 6-,5-,4-,3-,2-H  $\equiv$  9-,8-,7-,6-,5-H in KAA