

closing metathesis. The RCM reactions can be greatly accelerated by the addition of HCl which is believed to generate the highly reactive complex **2** in solution.

Experimental Section

3: Complex **1** (0.91 mmol) and KOtBu (3.2 mmol) were combined in C₆H₆ (30 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred for 24 h during which time it changed color from purple to brownish red. The solvent was frozen and removed by sublimation under vacuum. The resulting solids were suspended in a mixture of C₆H₆ (0.5 mL) and pentane (50 mL). CuCl (9.1 mmol) was added, and the suspension was stirred for 20 min, and then cooled at –30 °C for 24 h. The supernatant solution was decanted and the solvent removed under vacuum to give **3** as a dark brown foamy solid (52 % yield). This solid is typically about 95 % pure (by ³¹P NMR), and contains traces of CuCl(PCy₃) polymer. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = 15.5 (d, ³J_{PH} = 4.4 Hz, 1 H, Ru=CH), 7.88 (d, ²J_{H,H} = 7.3 Hz, 2 H, *ortho*-H), 7.27 (t, ²J_{H,H} = 7.3 Hz, 1 H, *meta*-H), 7.17 (s, 2 H, *para*-H), 2.4–1.1 (m, 33 H, PCy₃), 1.29 (s, 9 H, *t*Bu); ³¹P{¹H} NMR (162 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = 83.5 (s); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = 230.5 (d, ²J_{PC} = 15.2 Hz, Ru=C), 152.1, 129.9, 125.3, 124.6, 74.50, 36.69, 34.57, 34.48, 34.14, 33.68, 33.44, 31.52, 29.61, 28.84, 28.70, 28.51, 28.37, 27.48.

4: Hexafluoro-*tert*-butanol (0.5 mL) was added to a solution of complex **3** (0.41 mmol) in pentane (25 mL). The reaction was stirred for 30 min then cooled to –30 °C for 24 h. The supernatant solution was decanted and the solvents were removed under vacuum to give an oily dark brown solid. The product was recrystallized from a minimum volume of pentane to afford reddish crystals of **4** (40 % yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = 17.5 (s, 1 H, Ru=CH), 7.88 (d, ²J_{H,H} = 5.9 Hz, 2 H, *ortho*-H), 7.14 (m, 3 H, *meta*-H and *para*-H), 2.4–1.1 (m, 33 H, PCy₃); ³¹P{¹H} NMR (162 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = 80.1 (s); ¹⁹F NMR (283 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = –77.93 (s), –79.27 (s); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = 262.6 (d, ²J_{PC} = 18 Hz, Ru=C), 150.6, 131.0, 130.4, 126.1 (q, ¹J_{FC} = 288 Hz), 125.4 (q, ¹J_{FC} = 288 Hz), 124.5, 34.33, 34.00, 29.49, 28.40, 28.26, 27.02, 20.46; elemental analysis calcd (%) for C₃₃H₄₅F₁₂O₂PRu: C 47.54, H 5.44; found: C 47.19, H 5.41.

5: The same procedure as for complex **4**, but using perfluoro-*tert*-butanol, afforded **5** as a reddish microcrystalline solid (37 % yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = 19.2 (s, 1 H, Ru=CH), 7.72 (d, ²J_{H,H} = 7.34 Hz, 2 H, *ortho*-H), 7.14 (m, 3 H, *meta*-H and *para*-H), 2.1–0.8 (m, 33 H, PCy₃); ³¹P{¹H} NMR (162 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = 75.1 (s); ¹⁹F NMR (283 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = –73.55 (s); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, C₆D₆): δ = 286.5 (d, ²J_{PC} = 15.2 Hz, Ru=C), 151.4, 130.0, 129.6, 125.6, 123.0 (q, ¹J_{FC} = 292 Hz), 35.20, 34.90, 32.23, 31.91, 31.66, 31.63, 29.91, 28.34, 28.21, 27.95, 27.80, 26.94, 26.75; elemental analysis calcd (%) for C₃₃H₃₉F₁₈O₂PRu: C 42.09, H 4.17; found: C 41.60, H 4.18.

Crystal Structure of 3: Dark red-brown blades were grown from pentane: C₃₃H₅₇O₂PRu (617.83), crystal dimensions: 0.21 × 0.16 × 0.03 mm³, monoclinic, space group *P*2₁/*n* (no. 14), *a* = 10.0120(7), *b* = 20.5338(14), *c* = 15.7802(11) Å, β = 92.1300(10)°, *Z* = 4, *V* = 3241.9(4) Å³, ρ_{calc} = 1.266 mg m^{–3}, *T* = 93 K, 2θ = 57.5°, 29820 reflections were measured, 7759 independent reflections were obtained (*R*_{int} = 0.0683) on a Bruker SMART diffractometer with MoK_α radiation (λ = 0.71073 Å). The structure was solved by direct methods,^[13a] with refinement by full-matrix least squares of *F*² [^{13b}]; *R*₁ = 0.0328, *wR*₂ = 0.0527 (for *I* > 2σ(*I*)), *R*₁ = 0.0611, *wR*₂ = 0.0569 (for all data), residual electron density : +0.632/–0.510 e Å^{–3}. Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the structure reported in this paper have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication no. CCDC-140726. Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge on application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK (fax: (+44) 1223-336-033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk), and structure factors are available on request from xray@caltech.edu.

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 [11] Complexes **4** and **5** have also been characterized by X-ray crystallography, and their structures are qualitatively similar to that of **3**. However, reliable bond lengths and angles could not be determined because of the extreme disorder of the CF₃ groups in both molecules.
 [12] We have attempted to study the binding of other ligands (including THF, PMe₃, and CH₃CN) to these complexes. Complexes **2–4** do not appear to bind THF, while the other ligands lead to decomposition or to a mixture of products.
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Calix[6]arene as a Wheel for Rotaxane Synthesis**

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Rotaxanes and catenanes^[1] are interesting supermolecules that have been extensively studied for their use in the preparation of molecular switches. A possible approach to their synthesis is based on the formation of an axial complex between a molecular wheel that is used as the host and a specific guest that is employed as the axle.

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In this context calixarenes, which are versatile and potent receptors, have never been used as molecular wheels and, in spite of their similarity to cyclodextrins,^[2] no examples of axial complexation where all their inner binding sites are simultaneously involved in the binding of the guest have been reported. In fact the two rims in these macrocycles have usually been considered as distinct and separate domains.^[3] Examples exist in which the two calixarene rims have been shown to act in a combined manner, for example, in the recognition of both cations and anions^[4] or to exchange information between them.^[5] A rational approach to the synthesis of a calixarene-based rotaxane was thus undertaken to explore the possibility of utilizing a calixarene receptor as a molecular wheel.

The calix[6]arene platform was chosen on the basis of its ring size and because it possesses an annulus large enough to allow a sufficiently bulky and elongated guest to cross the two rims. On the basis of our previous studies on the binding ability of calix[6]arene derivatives^[6] compound **1**,^[7] which is "preorganized" by the presence of 1,3,5-trimethoxy-2,4,6-trioctyloxy groups on the lower rim^[8] and bears three phenylureido groups which extend the apolar cavity, was chosen as the wheel and the dioctylviologen dication was selected as the axle (Scheme 1).

Direct experimental evidence of complex formation and consequently of the passage of the guest through the macrocycle annulus was obtained by extraction experiments and ¹H NMR studies on the complex formed. The triphenylureidocalix[6]arene derivative **1** is able to dissolve the colorless crystals of dioctylviologen ditsylate (**2a**) in chloroform to afford a deep purple solution. Similar results were obtained by using the dioctylviologen diiodide.^[9] The ¹H NMR spectrum of the solution obtained by equilibrating a suspension of dioctylviologen diiodide (**2b**) in CDCl₃ with a solution of **1** showed the formation of a 1:1 adduct. The main features of the NMR spectrum (Figure 1) are the extensive upfield shift (1 to 3 ppm) of the signals corresponding to the aromatic CH and NCH₂ hydrogen atoms of the guest, which indicates that it is included inside the calix[6]arene cavity. The six protons of the host ureido groups suffer a downfield shift from $\delta = 6.7$ and 7.1 to $\delta = 8.00$ and 8.33, respectively, which suggests their participation in hydrogen-bonding interactions with the two iodine anions. Particularly informative was the observation that the protons of the methoxy groups present at the lower rim of **1**, which resonate at $\delta = 2.82$ in the free calixarene because they are oriented into the calixarene cavity, are shifted downfield ($\Delta\delta = 1.12$) in the complex. This observation indicates that their orientation has changed to a situation where they are no longer affected by the shielding effect of the aromatic cavity.

These data, together with 2D NMR experiments, could be rationalized with the hypothesis that a pseudorotaxane^[1] **3** was formed (Scheme 1). Evidence for the stability of this complex came from

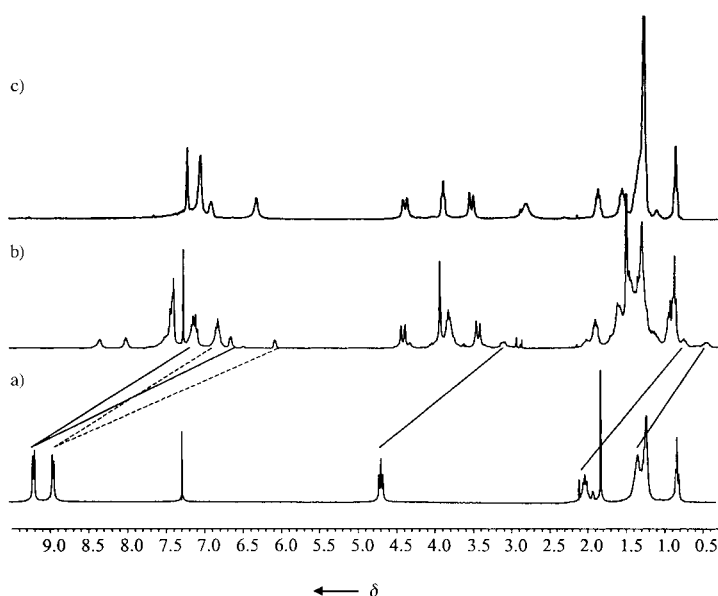
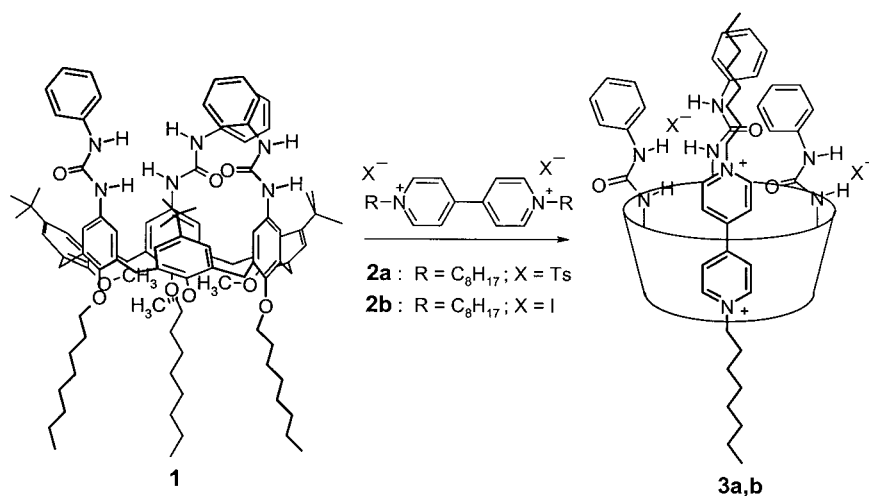


Figure 1. ¹H NMR spectra (300 MHz, 300 K) of: a) dioctylviologen diiodide (**2b**) in 10% CD₃CN/CDCl₃; b) pseudorotaxane **3b** in CDCl₃; c) triphenylureidocalix[6]arene (**1**) in CDCl₃.

thin layer chromatography which showed that it was possible to separate the complex in aprotic solvents without competitive decomplexation processes occurring. The slow evaporation of the solution containing host **1** and **2b** gave red crystals of **3b** that were suitable for X-ray analysis (Figure 2).^[10] Analysis of the structure shows that all the binding sites present in the host are involved in the stabilization of the supramolecular structure (Figure 3). The N1 atom is located 0.399(6) Å above the least-squares plane through the bridging methylene groups of the calixarene and points its attached octyl chain across the lower annulus of the macrocycle, thus expelling the three methoxy groups from the aromatic cavity. The lower pyridinium ring of the guest is sandwiched and stacked by rings F and B of the host (the distance between the centroids of these rings is 6.810(8) Å) and is almost perpendicular to rings A and D of the host. The two hydrogen atoms on C1 and C5 of the guest and the two hydrogen atoms of the octyl chain (C11) are involved in hydrogen-bonding inter-



Scheme 1. Synthesis of pseudorotaxanes **3a,b**.

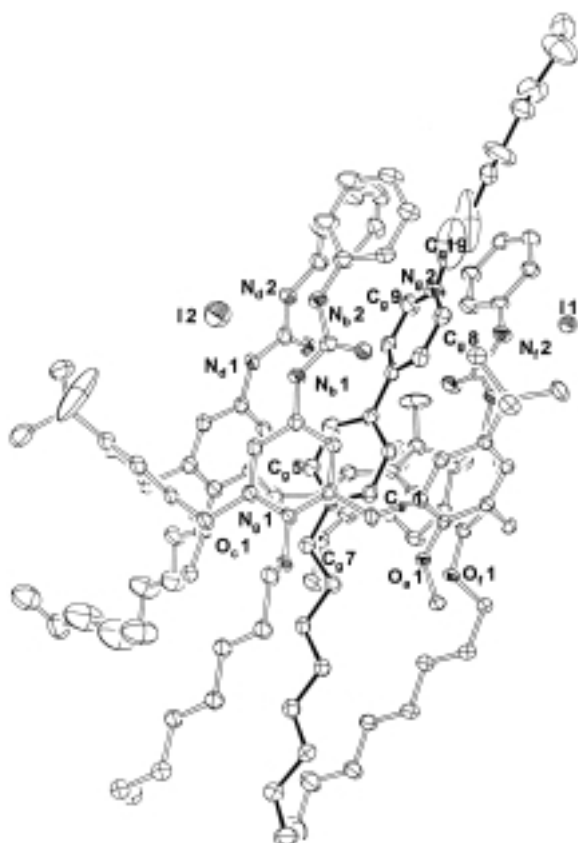
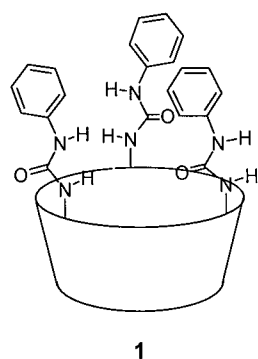


Figure 2. X-ray crystal structure of pseudorotaxane **3b** at 173 K. The hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity, and the bonds of the guest are darkened for clarity.

actions with the three oxygen atoms of the host methoxy groups. The hydrogen atoms on C8 of the upper ring of the guest as well as one of those belonging to C19 form CH- π interactions with the phenyl groups D' (2.639(8) Å) and B' (2.641(8) Å), respectively. The two iodide ions also participate in the assembly process through hydrogen-bonding interactions with the NH ureido groups of the host.

The formation of the pseudorotaxane was then exploited to synthesize a rotaxane.^[11] Refluxing the diol axle **4** and wheel **1** in toluene gave an homogeneous deep red solution. This solution was then treated with diphenylacetyl chloride, which acted as the stopper (Scheme 2). Purification of the reaction mixture gave the rotaxane **5** in 25% yield. The ¹H NMR spectrum of **5** was very similar to that of the pseudorotaxane. The presence of a singlet at δ =5.05, a multiplet at δ =7.29, and a triplet at δ =4.17 for the ω CH₂



Scheme 2. Synthesis of rotaxane **5**. a) toluene, reflux, 24 h; b) toluene, reflux, 72 h.

protons are indicative of the introduction of the two stoppers

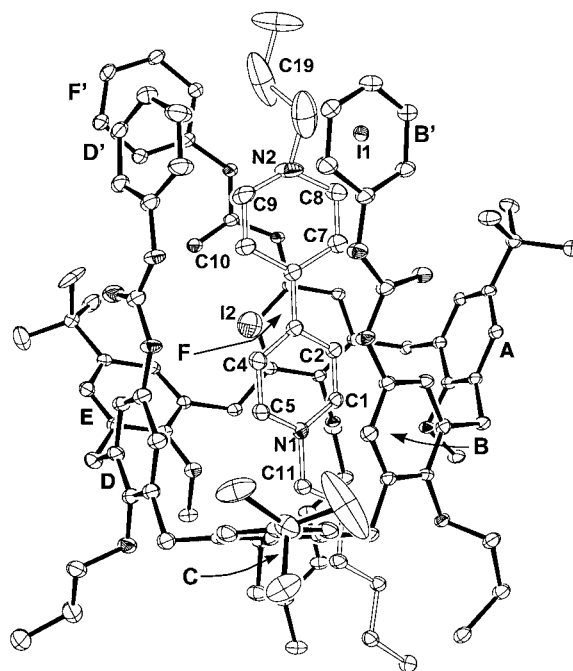
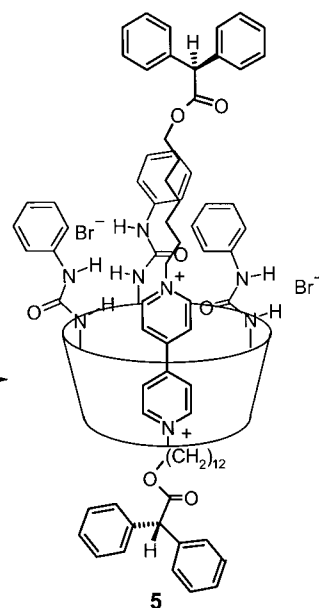


Figure 3. Structure of **3b** showing the numbering of the atoms and groups; part of the host structure is omitted for clarity.

at the ends of the axle. The ESI-MS spectrum and the elemental analysis of **5** are in agreement with the proposed structure.

Further studies to understand the role of the single interactions which stabilize and drive the formation of these unprecedented calixarene complexes and to extend the field of application to other calixarenes and ammonium salts to the preparation of molecular switching systems are in progress in our laboratories.

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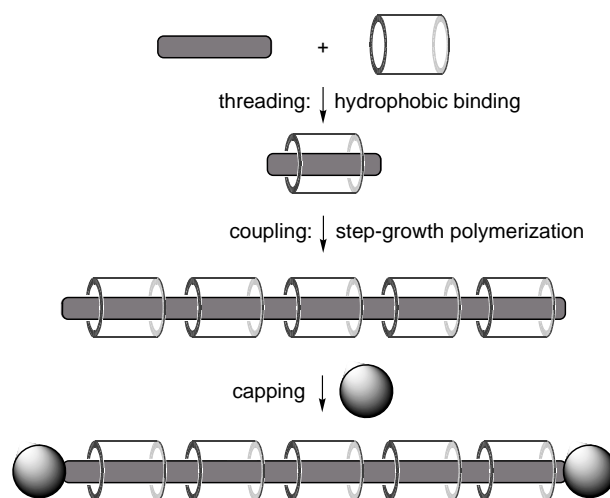


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Insulated Molecular Wires: Synthesis of Conjugated Polyrotaxanes by Suzuki Coupling in Water**

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The semiconductivity and fluorescence of conjugated polymers result in potential applications, particularly in the area of electroluminescent display devices.^[1] We are interested in enhancing the luminescence, stability, and processability of these polymers by threading them through macrocycles to form conjugated polyrotaxanes, as a type of "insulated molecular wire".^[2,3] Recently we proposed the general route to conjugated polyrotaxanes outlined in Scheme 1. Hydrophobic binding fixes the monomer inside



Scheme 1. Hydrophobic binding directs the synthesis of an insulated molecular wire.

the cavity of a macrocycle, this 1:1 pseudorotaxane complex is then polymerized to form a conjugated polypseudorotaxane, which is coupled to bulky end groups to give the polyrotaxane. Our initial attempts at realizing this scheme used a cationic cyclophane as the macrocycle and Glaser coupling as the polymerization reaction. This failed to give polyrotaxanes higher than the [3]rotaxanes, due to problems of unthreading, aggregation, and precipitation of the growing polymer

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