

## Supporting Information

for

# Star-shaped tetrathiafulvalene oligomers towards the construction of conducting supramolecular assembly

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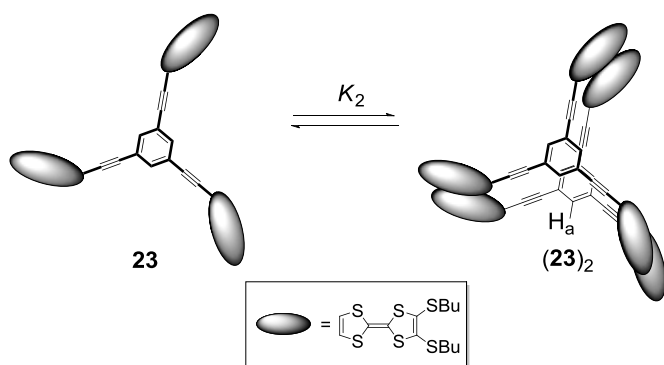
## Determination of association constants ( $K_2$ ) of **23** by NMR and cyclic voltammetry analysis of **23**

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## S1. Determination of association constant by NMR technique

The association constant of **23** was determined by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration experiments. As mentioned in the text, the protons at the central benzene ring clearly shifted to higher field with increasing concentration. Thus, the central  $\text{H}_a$  (Scheme S1) varied from  $\delta$  7.478 to 7.457 as the concentration changed from 0.48 to 48.3 mM in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 293 K. On the contrary, the chemical shift of  $\text{H}_a$  in 14.3 mM of **23** varied from  $\delta$  7.464 to 7.484 downfield as the temperature changed from 40 to  $-20^\circ\text{C}$ .



**Scheme S1:** Self-association of **23**

The association constants ( $K_2$ ) of **23** were determined by assuming that monomer–dimer equilibrium is the predominant process. The chemical shifts of **23** were plotted against the concentrations and the data were treated by least-square curve-fitting to eq. 2, to determine  $K_2$ ,  $\delta_m$ , and  $\delta_d$ , where  $\delta_m$  and  $\delta_d$  are chemical shifts of the monomer and dimer, and  $C$  is the total stoichiometric concentration.

$$K_2 = \frac{[(23)_2]}{[23]^2} \quad \text{eq. 1}$$

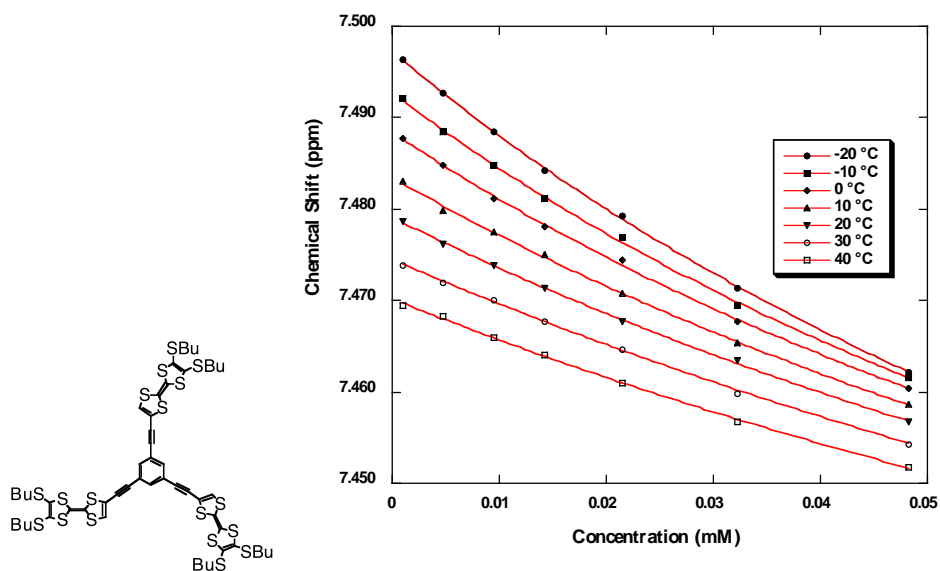
$$\delta = \delta_m + (\delta_d - \delta_m) \left( 1 + \frac{1 - \sqrt{8K_2C + 1}}{4K_2C} \right) \quad \text{eq. 2}$$

The chemical shifts of the  $\text{H}_a$  proton, which show reasonable concentration and temperature dependence, were applied to the equations. The dilution curve and plotted points are shown in Figures S1 and S2, and the calculated parameters,  $K_2$ ,  $\delta_m$ , and  $\delta_d$ , are summarized in Tables 1 and 2.

## S2. Chemical shifts of H<sub>a</sub> and association constants (*K*<sub>2</sub>) of **23** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

**Table S1:** Chemical shifts of H<sub>a</sub> and calculated  $\delta_d$ ,  $\delta_m$ , and *K*<sub>2</sub> in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

Conc	−10 °C	0 °C	10 °C	20 °C	30 °C	40 °C
48.3	7.4616	7.4604	7.4586	7.4567	7.4543	7.4518
32.2	7.4695	7.4677	7.4653	7.4634	7.4598	7.4567
21.5	7.4769	7.4744	7.4708	7.4677	7.4647	7.4610
14.3	7.4811	7.4781	7.4750	7.4714	7.4677	7.4640
9.5	7.4848	7.4811	7.4775	7.4738	7.4701	7.4659
4.8	7.4884	7.4848	7.4799	7.4762	7.4720	7.4683
0.95	7.4921	7.4878	7.4830	7.4787	7.4738	7.4695
0.48	7.4921	-	7.4830	7.4781	7.4744	7.4695
$\delta_d$	7.304 ± 0.026	7.2948 ± 0.033	7.291 ± 0.035	7.291 ± 0.028	7.283 ± 0.051	7.278 ± 0.061
$\delta_m$	7.493 ± 0.000	7.488 ± 0.000	7.4835 ± 0.000	7.479 ± 0.000	7.475 ± 0.000	7.470 ± 0.000
<i>K</i> <sub>2</sub>	2.46 ± 0.47	2.05 ± 0.47	1.78 ± 0.43	1.58 ± 0.30	1.38 ± 0.45	1.22 ± 0.47

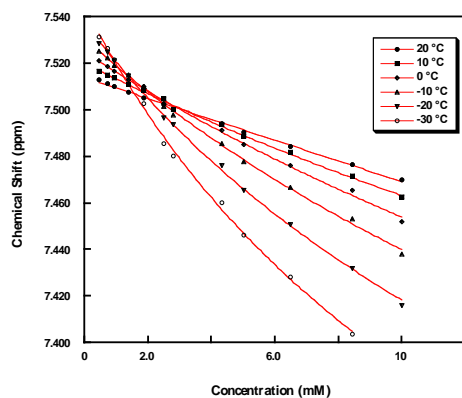


**Figure S1:** Curve fitting for H<sub>a</sub> proton of **23** in CDCl<sub>3</sub> solution.

**S3. Chemical shifts of H<sub>a</sub> and association constants ( $K_2$ ) of **23** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>–CD<sub>3</sub>CN (3:7)**

**Table S2:** Chemical shifts of H<sub>a</sub> and calculated  $\delta_d$ ,  $\delta_m$ , and  $K_2$  in CDCl<sub>3</sub>–CD<sub>3</sub>CN (3:7).

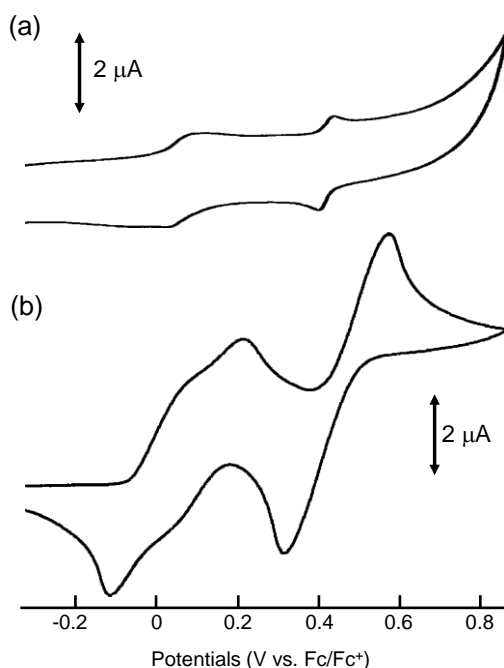
Conc. (mM)	–30 °C	–20 °C	–10 °C	0 °C	10 °C	20 °C	30 °C
10.00	–	7.4161	7.4381	7.4522	7.4626	7.4699	7.4729
8.44	7.4039	7.4320	7.4534	7.4656	7.4717	7.4766	–
6.49	7.4284	7.4510	7.4668	7.4760	7.4821	7.4845	7.4858
5.00	7.4461	7.4656	7.4778	7.4851	7.4888	7.4906	7.4909
4.33	7.4601	7.4760	7.4858	7.4913	7.4937	7.4943	7.4931
2.79	7.4802	7.4937	7.4979	7.5004	7.5004	7.5004	7.4992
2.50	7.4858	7.4968	7.5016	7.5029	7.5047	7.5022	7.4992
1.85	7.5029	7.5084	7.5102	7.5102	7.5084	7.5053	7.5022
1.39	7.5114	7.5145	7.5151	7.5132	7.5108	7.5077	7.5041
0.923	7.5218	7.5212	7.5193	7.5169	7.5139	7.5102	7.5065
0.723	7.5267	7.5248	7.5224	7.5187	7.5151	7.5114	–
0.462	7.5315	7.5285	7.5254	7.5211	7.5169	7.5130	7.5077
$\delta_d$	6.9021 ± 0.075	6.9137 ± 0.062	6.9238 ± 0.107	6.9599 ± 0.179	6.9743 ± 0.154	6.9815 ± 0.089	6.9846 ± 0.208
$\delta_m$	7.5445 ± 0.002	7.5370 ± 0.001	7.5310 ± 0.001	7.5253 ± 0.001	7.5203 ± 0.001	7.5151 ± 0.000	7.5100 ± 0.000
$K_2$	21.1 ± 3.85	14.5 ± 2.10	10.4 ± 2.46	7.98 ± 3.24	6.40 ± 2.21	5.01 ± 0.98	4.04 ± 1.84



**Figure S2:** Curve fitting for H<sub>a</sub> proton of **23** in CD<sub>3</sub>CN–CDCl<sub>3</sub> solution.

### S3. Cyclic voltammetry analysis of **23** in dilute and concentrated CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solutions.

The redox potentials of **23** were measured by cyclic voltammetry using 0.1 M *n*-Bu<sub>4</sub>NClO<sub>4</sub>, Pt as working electrode, Ag/Ag<sup>+</sup> as reference electrode, and Pt wire as counter electrode at 100 mV/sec. Potentials were referred to Fc/Fc<sup>+</sup>. As shown in Figure S2, CV analysis of **23** in a dilute CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution ( $1.9 \times 10^{-5}$  M) showed two three-electron redox waves at 0.05 and 0.40 V vs Fc/Fc<sup>+</sup> corresponding to the formation of **23**<sup>3+</sup> and **23**<sup>6+</sup>, whereas a similar CV analysis of **23** in a concentrated CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution ( $1.2 \times 10^{-3}$  M) displayed three reversible waves at -0.04, 0.14, and 0.47 V vs Fc/Fc<sup>+</sup> corresponding to the formation of (**23**)<sub>2</sub><sup>3+</sup>, (**23**)<sub>2</sub><sup>6+</sup>, and (**23**)<sub>2</sub><sup>12+</sup>.



**Figure S2:** Cyclic voltammograms of **23**. (a) Dilute ( $c = 1.9 \times 10^{-5}$  M) solution in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. (b) Concentrated ( $c = 1.2 \times 10^{-3}$  M) solution in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.