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J. Am. Chem. Soc., **Just Accepted Manuscript** • DOI: 10.1021/jacs.8b08555 • Publication Date (Web): 28 Sep 2018

Downloaded from <http://pubs.acs.org> on September 28, 2018

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Selective Extraction of C₇₀ by a Tetragonal Prismatic Porphyrin Cage

Yi Shi^{1,#}, Kang Cai^{1,#}, Hai Xiao², Zhichang Liu³, Jiawang Zhou¹, Dengke Shen¹, Yunyan Qiu¹,
Qinghui Guo¹, Charlotte Stern,¹ Michael R. Wasielewski¹, François Diederich⁴,
William A. Goddard III², and J. Fraser Stoddart^{1,5,6,*}

¹ Department of Chemistry, Northwestern University, 2145 Sheridan Road, Evanston, Illinois 60208, USA.

² Materials and Process Simulation Center, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California 91125, USA.

³ Institute of Natural Sciences, Westlake Institute for Advanced Study, Westlake University, No. 18 Shilongshan Road, Xihu District, Hangzhou 310064, P. R. China.

⁴ Laboratory of Organic Chemistry, ETH Zurich, Vladimir-Prelog-Weg 3, CH-8093 Zurich, Switzerland.

⁵ Institute for Molecular Design and Synthesis, Tianjin University, Tianjin 300072, P. R. China.

⁶ School of Chemistry, University of New South Wales, Sydney, NSW 2052, Australia.

*E-mail: stoddart@northwestern.edu

MAIN TEXT

*Correspondence Address

Professor J Fraser Stoddart
Department of Chemistry
Northwestern University
2145 Sheridan Road
Evanston, IL 60208-3113 (USA)
Tel: (+1)-847-491-3793
E-Mail: stoddart@northwestern.edu

ABSTRACT: Along with the advent of supramolecular chemistry, research on fullerene receptors based on noncovalent bonding interactions has attracted a lot of attention. Here, we present the design and synthesis of a cationic molecular cage – a cyclophane composed of two tetraphenylporphyrins, bridged face-to-face by four viologen units in a rhomboid prismatic manner. The large cavity inside the cage, as well as the favorable donor-acceptor interactions between the porphyrin panels and the fullerene guests, enables the cage to be an excellent fullerene receptor. The 1:1 host-guest complexes formed between the cage and both C₆₀ and C₇₀ were characterized in the solution by HRMS and NMR, UV-Vis and fluorescence spectroscopies, and confirmed in solid-state by single-crystal X-ray diffraction analyses. The results from solution studies reveal that the cage has a much stronger binding for C₇₀ than for C₆₀, resulting in a selective extraction of C₇₀ from a C₆₀-enriched fullerene mixture (C₆₀/C₇₀=10/1), demonstrating the potential of the cage as an attractive receptor for fullerene separation.

■ INTRODUCTION

Since their discovery¹ in 1985, fullerenes have attracted considerable attention on account of, not only their unique spheroidal² structures, but also because of their numerous applications³ in materials science. Along with the advent⁴ of supramolecular chemistry, which marked a departure from the preoccupation of chemists with covalent bonds towards an understanding of the weak intermolecular interactions, research on fullerene receptors on the basis of noncovalent bonding interactions became an active area of research in the recent decades. To date, a number of covalently and supramolecularly assembled receptors, including pincer / bowl⁵ types, box / ring⁶ types, and cage⁷ types, have been designed as hosts for fullerenes. Among them, molecular

cages⁸ with suitable cavity sizes demonstrate stronger binding to the spherically shaped fullerene guests as a result of the enhanced geometric match of these all-carbon molecules with three-dimensional (3D) cavities. However, hosts, which feature both high affinity and good selectivity towards a certain fullerene homologue, are limited⁹ because of the geometrical similarities of the carbon spheres.

Previously, we have described the evolution¹⁰ of the **ExⁿBox_m⁴⁺** family, the box-like tetracationic cyclophanes consisting of two π -electron-poor bipyridinium units, which are capable of binding with various aromatic guests when the size and electronic constitution are appropriately matched. A variety of mechanically interlocked molecules¹¹ with distinctive topological or electronic properties, as well as molecular machines,¹² have been developed based on these tetracationic cyclophanes. Recently, we have extended the “two-dimensional” macrocyclic boxes into “three-dimensional” molecular cages and synthesized¹³ **ExCage⁶⁺** and **BlueCage⁶⁺** as powerful receptors for polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). In order to extend the cationic cyclophane family and explore the limits of this chemistry, we have now introduced porphyrin units, which have been demonstrated as versatile functional units in areas such as catalysis,¹⁴ self-assembly,¹⁵ and photosynthesis,¹⁶ as new building blocks to construct a cationic porphyrin cage molecule. In addition, the use of porphyrin units will extend significantly the dimensions of the newly developed cyclophanes, thus enabling the encapsulation of large guests such as fullerenes or polyoxometalates.¹⁷ Herein, we describe how we have designed and synthesized a novel molecular cage **TPPCage⁸⁺**, a compound composed of two tetraphenylporphyrins bridged face-to-face by four viologen units in a rhomboid prismatic manner. The enlarged cavity inside the cage, along with their electron-rich π -conjugated porphyrin panels, enables **TPPCage⁸⁺** to act as an excellent host for the fullerenes C₆₀ and C₇₀.

Notably, the results of solution studies reveal that **TPPCage**⁸⁺ has a much stronger binding affinity for C₇₀ than for C₆₀, resulting in a selective extraction of C₇₀ from a C₆₀-enriched fullerene mixture (C₆₀/C₇₀=10/1), demonstrating the potential of **TPPCage**⁸⁺ as an attractive receptor for fullerene separation.

■ RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Synthesis and Characterization of TPPCage•8PF₆. Receptor **TPPCage•8PF₆** was synthesized (Scheme 1) using a TBAI-catalyzed ring-closure strategy with **bzTTP** and **TB•4PF₆** as starting materials. **TB•4PF₆** was derived from **bzTTP** by substitution of the bromines with bipyridine. The synthesis overall was accomplished through S_N2 reactions in three steps from commercially available starting materials. Pure **TPPCage•8PF₆** was obtained from the reaction mixture directly by collecting the precipitate, followed by counterion exchange (NH₄PF₆/H₂O) and bypassing the use of chromatography.

TPPCage•8PF₆ was characterized in solution by NMR spectroscopy. Each signal in the ¹H (Figure 1a) and ¹³C NMR (Figure 1b) spectra was assigned on the basis of a series of two-dimensional (2D) NMR spectra including COSY, NOESY, HSQC, and HMBC. The simplicity of the spectra concurs with the high *D*_{4h} symmetry expected for a tetragonal prismatic cage. In addition, HRMS shows the desired molecular ion peaks at *m/z* 1413.8092 (calcd for C₁₃₆H₁₀₀F₃₆N₁₆P₆: *m/z* = 1413.8095 [*M* – 2 PF₆]²⁺), an observation which confirms the formation of **TPPCage•8PF₆**.

Solid-State Characterization of TPPCage•8PF₆. In order to obtain the solid-state structure of the cage compound and its degree of preorganization for host-guest chemistry, single crystals were grown by slow vapor diffusion of ⁱPr₂O into a solution of **TPPCage•8PF₆** in MeCN (0.6

mM) over the course of 4 days. The solid-state structure (Figure 2a) which is commensurate with the nanocage **TPPCage**⁸⁺ crystallizing in the $P2_1/c$ space group, consists of two parallel *meso*-tetraphenylporphyrins linked by four viologen units. The distance between the two porphyrin panels was found to be 12.2 Å. In order to minimize the torsional strain and also reduce the free space, while enhancing the crystal packing density, the four *meso*-metaphenylene connectors to the viologen pillars are not oriented perpendicular to the porphyrin planes, but rather adopt an angle of 131°. Further evidence in support of the cage's prismatic structure (Figure S22) comes from a diffusion-ordered spectroscopy / nuclear magnetic resonance (DOSY NMR) experiment. DOSY NMR provides a diffusion coefficient D of $2.12 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cm}^2\text{s}^{-1}$, corresponding to a hydrodynamic diameter of 24.0 Å in solution, and is commensurate with the 24.5 Å diagonal distance from the *meta*-phenylene moiety located at the top-left corner to the other *meta*-phenylene moiety located at the bottom-right corner present in the solid-state structure. Although the “open window” of the cage is measured to be 8.5 Å (distance between two viologen units), which is slightly smaller than the van der Waals diameter (10.1 Å) of a C₆₀ molecule, we envision that the flexibility resulting from the rotation of the corner *meso*-metaphenylene rings and/or the adjustment of the torsional angles encompassing the CH₂ linkers will allow larger guests to be encapsulated in the cavity.

Fullerene Encapsulation – Solution Studies. The large void volume inside the cage – in addition to the well-known¹⁵ affinity of porphyrin units for fullerenes – establishes favorable donor-acceptor interactions, and ensures that the cage acts as a good fullerene receptor. The encapsulation of fullerenes occurs upon the addition of solid C₆₀ or C₇₀ to a solution of **TPPCage**•8PF₆ in DMF-

d_7 , followed by sonication for 2 h at room temperature. The resulting 1:1 complexes were characterized in solution by HRMS, and by NMR, UV-Vis and fluorescence spectroscopies.

In the case of C_{60} encapsulation, HRMS reveals the desired peak at m/z 1774.3122, which corresponds to the 1:1 host-guest complex $C_{60}\subset\text{TPPCage}\bullet 8\text{PF}_6$ after loss of counterions (calcd. for $C_{196}H_{100}F_{36}N_{16}P_6$: $m/z = 1774.3112 [M - 2 \text{PF}_6]^{2+}$). More evidence comes from the ^1H NMR spectrum (~ 1 mM solution of $\text{TPPCage}\bullet 8\text{PF}_6$ in $\text{DMF-}d_7$), wherein (Figure 3a) two sets of signals are present on account of slow host-guest exchange at room temperature. By comparison with the ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra (Figure 3) of C_{60} and the empty cage $\text{TPPCage}\bullet 8\text{PF}_6$, the spectra of the post-sonication mixture indicate clearly that one set of signals corresponds to the empty cage $\text{TPPCage}\bullet 8\text{PF}_6$, while a second set of signals can be assigned to the $C_{60}\subset\text{TPPCage}\bullet 8\text{PF}_6$ complex. The most significant change in chemical shift occurs for the resonances H_b (Figure 3a; for labeling of the cage atoms, see Figure 1) and C_b (Figure 3b). As indicated by the red arrows, the ^1H NMR resonance for H_b shifts upfield from 8.22 ppm in the empty $\text{TPPCage}\bullet 8\text{PF}_6$ to 7.42 ppm in the $C_{60}\subset\text{TPPCage}\bullet 8\text{PF}_6$ complex, while the ^{13}C NMR resonance of C_b is upfield shielded from 136.1 ppm in the empty $\text{TPPCage}\bullet 8\text{PF}_6$ to 132.4 ppm in the $C_{60}\subset\text{TPPCage}\bullet 8\text{PF}_6$ complex. In contrast, resonances of all other protons and carbons associated with the *meta*-phenylene units are not shifted to any great extent. This observation suggests that the chemical environment inside the cage is altered as a result of the encapsulation of C_{60} by TPPCage^{8+} . In addition, the ^{13}C NMR resonance for C_{60} in the complex is also shifted upfield by approximately 4 ppm, from 144.0 to 139.9 ppm, an observation which confirms the formation of the $C_{60}\subset\text{TPPCage}\bullet 8\text{PF}_6$ complex. It is noteworthy that incomplete inclusion of C_{60} in TPPCage^{8+} was observed, even when a large excess of C_{60} was added to a solution of $\text{TPPCage}\bullet 8\text{PF}_6$ in $\text{DMF-}d_7$. This observation can be ascribed to the low concentration of C_{60} in

a saturated DMF solution, precluding the possibility of driving the equilibrium towards the complete formation of the $C_{60}\text{Cage}^{8+}\text{PF}_6$ complex. This situation, however, provides us with an easy method to measure the binding constant of $\text{TPPCage}^{8+}\text{PF}_6$ with C_{60} directly from integration of the ^1H NMR spectrum of the solution containing a mixture of empty TPPCage^{8+} and $C_{60}\text{Cage}^{8+}$ complex.

The concentration of C_{60} in the saturated DMF solution was readily measured by UV absorption spectroscopy to be $[C_{60}] = 1.58 \times 10^{-4}$ M, allowing us to obtain the concentration of free C_{60} guest in the solution containing the cage compound. On account of the slow-exchange between the $C_{60}\text{Cage}^{8+}$ complex and free TPPCage^{8+} , signals for both the complex and empty cage are observed, allowing us to measure directly the ratio of the two components by ^1H NMR integration. As a consequence, the average of three integrated ratios obtained from the encapsulation of C_{60} using three $\text{TPPCage}^{8+}\text{PF}_6$ solutions with different absolute concentrations resulted (Table S2) in an association constant, $K_a = (4.5 \pm 0.4) \times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1}$. This moderately weak binding is presumably attributed to the imperfect match in size between TPPCage^{8+} and C_{60} which is a little too small to fill the cage cavity.

After gaining insight into the nature of the encapsulation between TPPCage^{8+} and C_{60} , we turned our attention to the larger fullerene C_{70} , which we expected to form a stronger 1:1 complex with TPPCage^{8+} . In contrast with C_{60} encapsulation, in which two sets of signals can be identified in the ^1H NMR spectrum (in $\text{DMF-}d_7$ at 298 K, ~ 1 mM for $\text{TPPCage}^{8+}\text{PF}_6$), only one set of signals in the case of both ^1H (Figure 4a) and ^{13}C (Figure 4b) NMR spectra are observed. This observation suggests that all the cage receptors are saturated with C_{70} in slow exchange on the NMR timescale (Figure S15), indicating an enhanced affinity of the TPPCage^{8+} towards the fullerene. As in the case of $C_{60}\text{Cage}^{8+}\text{PF}_6$, the resonances for H_b – shifted

upfield from 8.22 to 7.65 ppm, and that for C_b – shifted upfield from 136.1 to 132.8 ppm – move the most when compared with the resonances for other protons or carbons at the corner meso-phenylene units – as indicated by red arrows – an observation which suggests the chemical environment inside the cage is changed as a result of the encapsulation of C₇₀ by **TPPCage•8PF₆**. The encapsulation also results (Table S1) in the upfield shift of the five ¹³C NMR signals of C₇₀. HRMS Data gives *m/z* 1834.3094, which corresponds to C₇₀⊂**TPPCage•8PF₆** with counterion loss (calcd for C₂₀₆H₁₀₀F₃₆N₁₆P₆: *m/z* = 1834.3112 [*M* – 2 PF₆]²⁺), an observation which confirms the formation of the C₇₀⊂**TPPCage•8PF₆** complex.

Preliminary results from ¹H NMR binding studies suggest that the binding constant of **TPPCage•8PF₆** to C₇₀ is larger than 1.6 × 10⁵ M⁻¹, based on the assumption that the ratio of C₇₀⊂**TPPCage•8PF₆** to **TPPCage•8PF₆** is over 20/1 according to the error associated with the NMR spectroscopic technique, while the concentration of C₇₀ in a saturated DMF solution was measured as 1.2 × 10⁻⁴ M by UV-Vis absorption. Accurate measurements of the binding constant were carried out (Figure 5) by UV titration of **TPPCage•8PF₆** with a C₇₀ solution in DMF. The formation of the C₇₀⊂**TPPCage•8PF₆** complex is characterized by a substantial decrease in intensity at 419 nm and the slight red shift (3 nm) of the Soret band of the porphyrin in comparison with that of **TPPCage•8PF₆** itself. As a result, the binding constant was determined to be (2.4 ± 0.2) × 10⁵ M⁻¹ in DMF on the basis of a 1:1 binding mode.

In addition, the fluorescence quantum yields of **TPPCage•8PF₆**, C₆₀⊂**TPPCage•8PF₆**, and C₇₀⊂**TPPCage•8PF₆** were found to be 1.20%, 0.48%, and 0.52%, respectively. The significant quenching of emission in fullerene⊂**TPPCage•8PF₆** complexes can be ascribed to the intermolecular electron transfer from the excited-state porphyrin planes to the fullerene guests, demonstrating the encapsulation of fullerenes by **TPPCage•8PF₆**.

On account of the shape persistency of the cage, DOSY NMR experiments (Figure S23 and S24) give identical hydrodynamic diameters for the host-guest complexes and the free cage, i.e., 24.2 Å for both the $C_{60}\text{⊂TPPCage}^{8+}$ and $C_{70}\text{⊂TPPCage}^{8+}$ complexes – and similar (24.0 Å from DOSY) to that for the empty cage $\text{TPPCage} \bullet 8\text{PF}_6$, indicating that the molecular entity does not change its size on addition of the fullerenes.

X-Ray Superstructures of the Fullerene⊂TPPCage•8PF₆ Complexes. In order to gain further insight into the co-conformational differences between the host-guest complexes formed with C_{60} and C_{70} , single crystals were grown by slow vapor diffusion of $t\text{-Pr}_2\text{O}$ into a mixture of the fullerenes and $\text{TPPCage} \bullet 8\text{PF}_6$ in DMF/PhMe (1/1). It transpires (Figure 2b and 2c) that the cage is no longer oblique. In order to achieve stronger interactions with the fullerene guests, the cage becomes twisted and the two porphyrin panels form an eclipsed sandwich, trapping the carbon spheres. In the C_{60} complex (space group $C2/c$), the cage is a distorted tetragonal antiprismatic with an angle between the two porphyrin planes of 58°. In the C_{70} complex (space group $P3_121$), the geometry is only weakly distorted from being tetragonal antiprismatic and the angle between the two porphyrin planes is 44°, near the ideal 45°. These co-conformational changes compared to that of the free host expose a much larger surface area of the porphyrins and the viologen bridges to the fullerenes, establishing much larger $[\pi \cdots \pi]$ interactions. Notably, the twist endows the host-guest complex with axial chirality, resulting (Figure S27) in a racemic mixture upon molecular packing. X-Ray diffraction analysis also reveals that the heights of the cages in the $C_{60}\text{⊂TPPCage}^{8+}$ and $C_{70}\text{⊂TPPCage}^{8+}$ complexes only increase slightly by 0.2 and 0.5 Å, respectively, while the diameters of the complexes are compressed from 24.0 Å (TPPCage^{8+}) to 21.8 Å ($C_{60}\text{⊂TPPCage}^{8+}$) and to 21.9 Å ($C_{70}\text{⊂TPPCage}^{8+}$). These minor differences in shape agree with DOSY NMR results, demonstrating the high degree of preorganization of this three-

dimensional cage molecule. The distances between porphyrin panels and fullerene guests were measured as 2.64 Å and 2.48 Å in the cases of $C_{60}\subset\text{TPPCage}^{8+}$ and $C_{70}\subset\text{TPPCage}^{8+}$, respectively, implying strong $[\pi\cdots\pi]$ interactions between the two porphyrin platforms and the fullerenes. These distances are shorter than the normal distance (~ 3.4 Å) for $[\pi\cdots\pi]$ stacking interactions. These shorter distances can be attributed to the hollow porphyrin panel. $[\pi\cdots\pi]$ Interactions are largely concentrated on the outer perimeters of the porphyrin macrocycles. In addition, the complex is stabilized by multiple $[C-H\cdots\pi]$ interactions between the fullerene guest and the protons H_b pointing toward the cage cavity. The shortest fullerene-to-viologen distances were measured as 3.30 Å in $C_{60}\subset\text{TPPCage}^{8+}$ and 2.94 Å in $C_{70}\subset\text{TPPCage}^{8+}$, revealing that $[\text{cation}\cdots\pi]$ interactions¹⁸ can still be operative. These short distances are actually quite remarkable as the electropositive viologen pillars and fullerene guests which also possess electropositive electrostatic potential surfaces are approaching to each other, suggesting substantial contributions from $[\text{cation}\cdots\pi]$ interactions.

It is conceivable that the superstructures of the host–guest complexes differ in the solid state and solution phases. Therefore, we carried out density functional theory (DFT) calculations in order to obtain insight into the solution-state superstructures and clarification of the preference for encapsulation of fullerenes by the cage. The DFT calculations were performed for both C_{60} and C_{70} encapsulation by the cage, employing the B3LYP functional¹⁹ with empirical D3 dispersion correction²⁰ (B3LYP-D3), and the M06-2X functional²¹ that includes dispersion intrinsically. The solvation effect was taken into account using the conductor-like continuum polarization model²² (C-PCM) with DMF as the solvent. In the case of the calculated superstructures (Figure S28) of the fullerene $\subset\text{TPPCage}^{8+}_{\text{DFT}}$ complexes, both B3LYP-D3 and M06-2X results confirm that the encapsulation of C_{70} is preferred, with the encapsulation energy

(Table S4) being larger than that for C₆₀ by 15.1 kcal/mol (B3LYP-D3) and 4.2 kcal/mol (M06-2X), respectively. The results of these calculation are consistent with the solid-state superstructures, illustrated in Figure 2b and 2c, an observation which indicates that the ellipsoidal C₇₀ provides a larger area than the perfectly spherical C₆₀ to form $[\pi\cdots\pi]$ interactions with two porphyrin panels. In addition, the formation of the C₇₀⊂TPPCage⁸⁺ is more thermodynamically favorable than that of C₆₀⊂TPPCage⁸⁺ because of stronger [cation $\cdots\pi$] and [C–H $\cdots\pi$] interactions between the cage and the better size-matched C₇₀.

Selective Extraction of C₇₀. Encouraged by the different binding affinities of TPPCage•8PF₆ towards C₆₀ and C₇₀, we decided to explore the potential of TPPCage•8PF₆ in the separation of C₇₀ from C₆₀. We used a mixture of C₆₀ and C₇₀ to carry out the binding competition experiments. As expected, selective complexation (Figure 6) of the cage with C₇₀ in a C₆₀-enriched fullerene mixture is observed. When a mixture of solid C₆₀ and C₇₀ (C₆₀/C₇₀/TPPCage•8PF₆ = 10/1/1) was added to a DMF-*d*₇ solution of TPPCage•8PF₆ (~1 mM), and sonicated, the cage selectively bound with C₇₀ to afford the C₇₀⊂TPPCage•8PF₆ complex in the solution, while C₆₀ remained behind as a solid. From the ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra (Figures 6a and 6b), clearly all the signals correspond very well to those of C₇₀⊂TPPCage•8PF₆, an observation which demonstrates the selective binding of TPPCage•8PF₆ to C₇₀, facilitating the separation of C₇₀ from a C₆₀-enriched mixture.

■ CONCLUSION

We have synthesized a covalently connected three-dimensional organic molecular cage TPPCage•8PF₆ by employing a metal-free TBAI-catalyzed ring-closure strategy with porphyrin

and viologen building blocks. The tetragonal prismatic cages possess large cavities which are capable of encapsulating fullerene guests – namely, C_{60} and C_{70} – by means of $[\pi \cdots \pi]$ (porphyrin $\cdots$ fullerene), $[C-H \cdots \pi]$ (C–H $\cdots$ fullerene), and $[cation \cdots \pi]$ interactions. Host-guest binding was investigated in solution by HRMS, and by NMR, UV-Vis and fluorescence spectroscopies, while the solid-state characterization of the empty cage **TPPCage**•8PF₆, as well as those of the host–guest complexes $C_{60} \subset \text{TPPCage} \bullet 8PF_6$ and $C_{70} \subset \text{TPPCage} \bullet 8PF_6$ were carried out by single-crystal X-ray diffraction analysis. The comparison between empty and complexed host demonstrates a high degree of geometric preorganization for fullerene complexation. The cage molecule exhibits favorable binding selectivity towards the larger, ellipsoidal C_{70} over the icosahedral C_{60} , thus facilitating the selective extraction of C_{70} from a C_{60} -enriched fullerene mixture ($C_{60}/C_{70} = 10/1$). The research highlights the potential application of a host-guest technology for a selective isolation process of fullerene mixtures by using precisely design host molecules.

■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

Detailed synthetic procedures and characterization data for all. This information is available free of charge via the internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

■ AUTHOR INFORMATION

Corresponding Author

*stoddart@northwestern.edu

Author Contributions

#Y.S. and K.C. contributed equally.

■ ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This research is part of the Joint Center of Excellence in Integrated Nano-Systems (JCIN) at King Abdulaziz City of Science and Technology (KACST) and Northwestern University (NU). The authors would like to thank both KACST and NU for their continued support of this research. Computational investigations were supported by the U.S. National Science Foundation under grant no. EFRI-1332411 (W.A.G. and H.X.). This work was also supported by the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, Office of Basic Energy Sciences under Award DE-FG02-99ER14999 (M.R.W. and J.Z.).

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Figure Legends

Scheme 1 | Synthesis of **TPPCage•8PF₆**.

Figure 1 | NMR Spectroscopic characterization of **TPPCage•8PF₆**. (a) ¹H (600 MHz, DMF-*d*₇, 298 K) and (b) ¹³C (125 MHz, DMF-*d*₇, 298 K) NMR spectra of **TPPCage•8PF₆**.

Figure 2 | Solid-state structures of (a) **TPPCage•8PF₆** (top, looking in front of the mirror plane), (b) **C₆₀⊂TPPCage•8PF₆**, and (c) **C₇₀⊂TPPCage•8PF₆** obtained from single-crystal X-ray diffraction. PF₆[−] anions and solvent molecules are omitted for the sake of clarity.

Figure 3 | NMR Spectroscopic characterization of **C₆₀⊂TPPCage•8PF₆**. (a) Comparison of ¹H (600 MHz, DMF-*d*₇, 298 K) NMR spectra of **TPPCage•8PF₆** and the encapsulation solution which contains both **TPPCage•8PF₆** and **C₆₀⊂TPPCage•8PF₆**. (b) Comparison of ¹³C (125 MHz, DMF-*d*₇, 298 K) NMR spectra of free C₆₀, **TPPCage•8PF₆** and the encapsulation solution which contains both **TPPCage•8PF₆** and **C₆₀⊂TPPCage•8PF₆**.

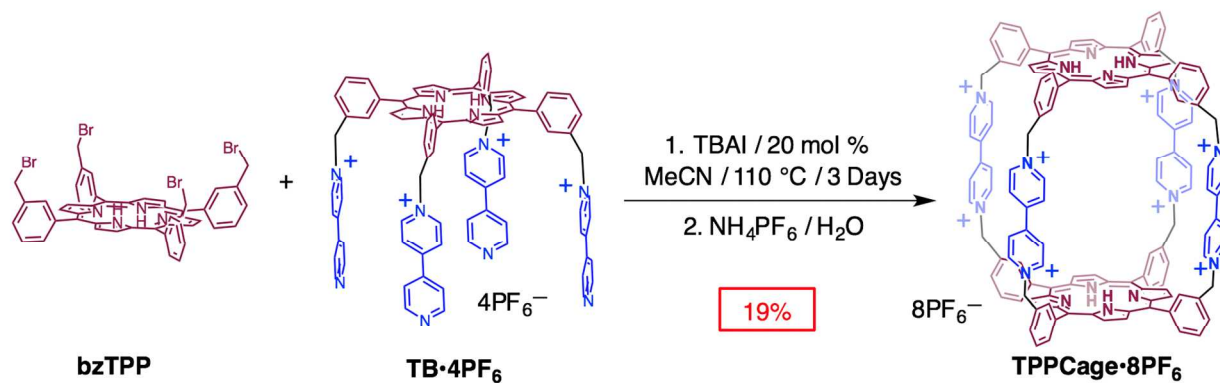
Figure 4 | NMR Spectroscopic characterization of **C₇₀⊂TPPCage•8PF₆**. (a) Comparison of ¹H (600 MHz, DMF-*d*₇, 298 K) NMR spectra of **TPPCage•8PF₆** and the encapsulation solution which contains **C₇₀⊂TPPCage•8PF₆**. (b) Comparison of ¹³C (125 MHz, DMF-*d*₇, 298 K) NMR spectra of free C₇₀, **TPPCage•8PF₆** and the encapsulation solution which contains **C₇₀⊂TPPCage•8PF₆**.

Figure 5 | Binding constant measurements for **C₇₀⊂TPPCage•8PF₆**. UV-Vis spectrophotometric titration of a solution of **TPPCage•8PF₆** (10 μM) in DMF with a solution of C₇₀ in PhMe (1 mM) in a 0.2 cm path cuvette. The formation of the **C₇₀⊂TPPCage•8PF₆** complex is characterized by a significant decrease in intensity at 419 nm and a slight red shift (3 nm) of the Soret band of the porphyrin. Inset: plot of ΔA_{422 nm} vs equivalents of C₇₀ added (A = absorption). The association constant modeled with a 1:1 equilibrium is $K_{C_{70} \subset \text{TPPCage}} = (2.4 \pm 0.2) \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1}$.

Figure 6 | Selective extraction of C₇₀. (a) Selective extraction of C₇₀ from a C₆₀-enriched solid mixture upon adding a solution of **TPPCage•8PF₆** in DMF-*d*₇. (b) ¹H (600 MHz, DMF-*d*₇, 298 K)

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and (c) ^{13}C (125 MHz, $\text{DMF-}d_7$, 298 K) NMR spectra of the fullerene extraction solution which contains only $\text{C}_{70}\text{C}\text{TPPCage}\cdot 8\text{PF}_6$.



Scheme 1

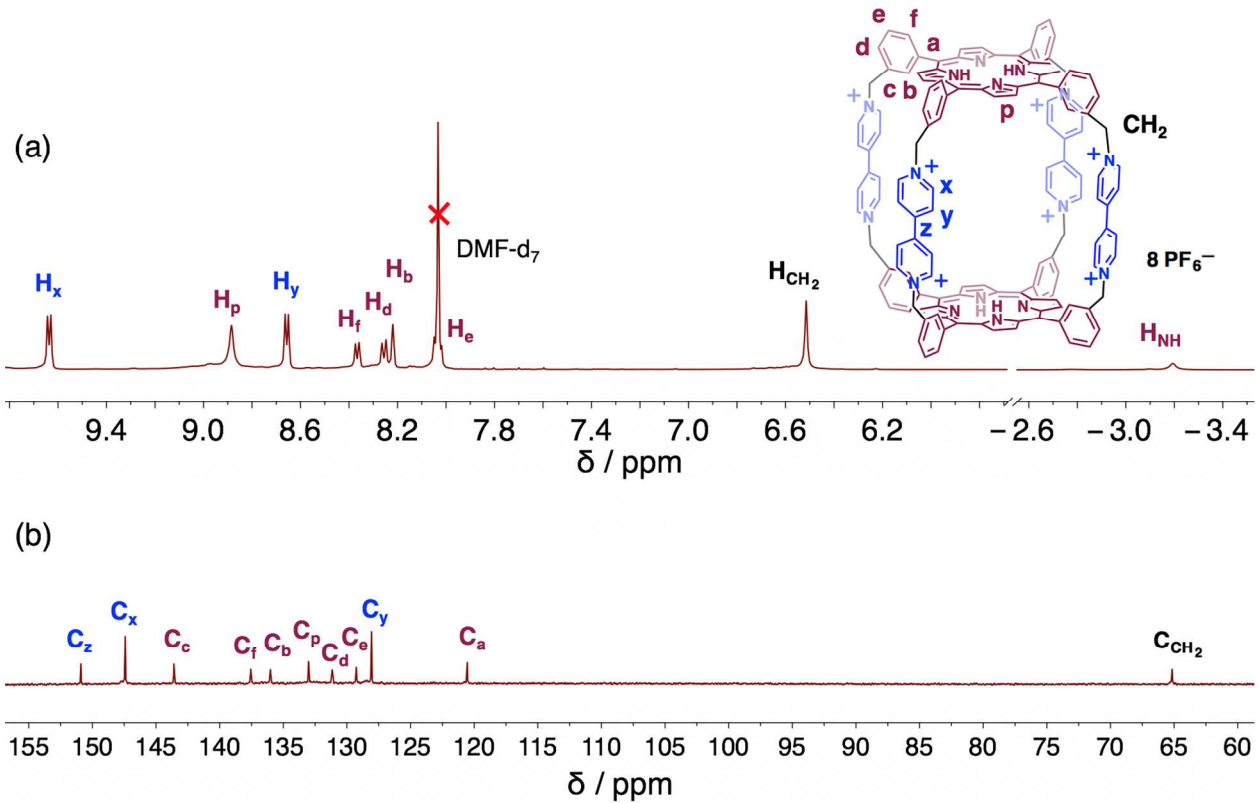


Figure 1

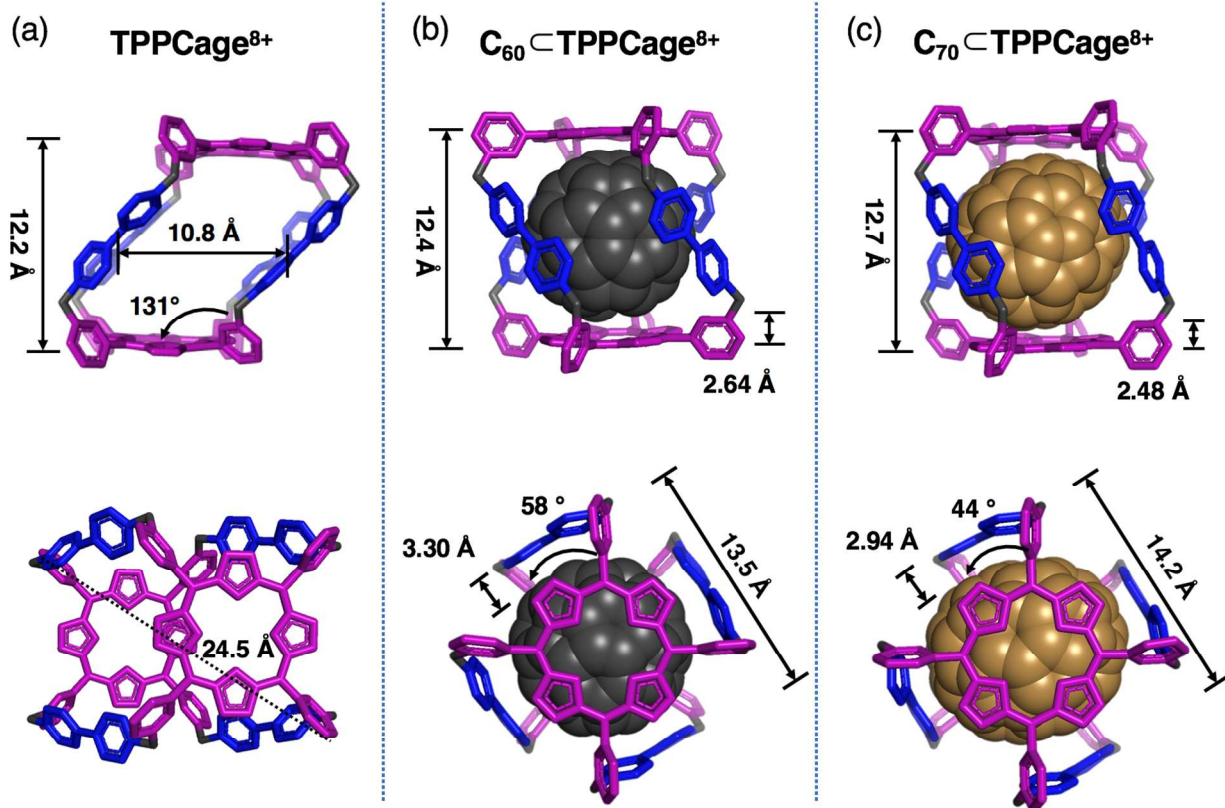


Figure 2

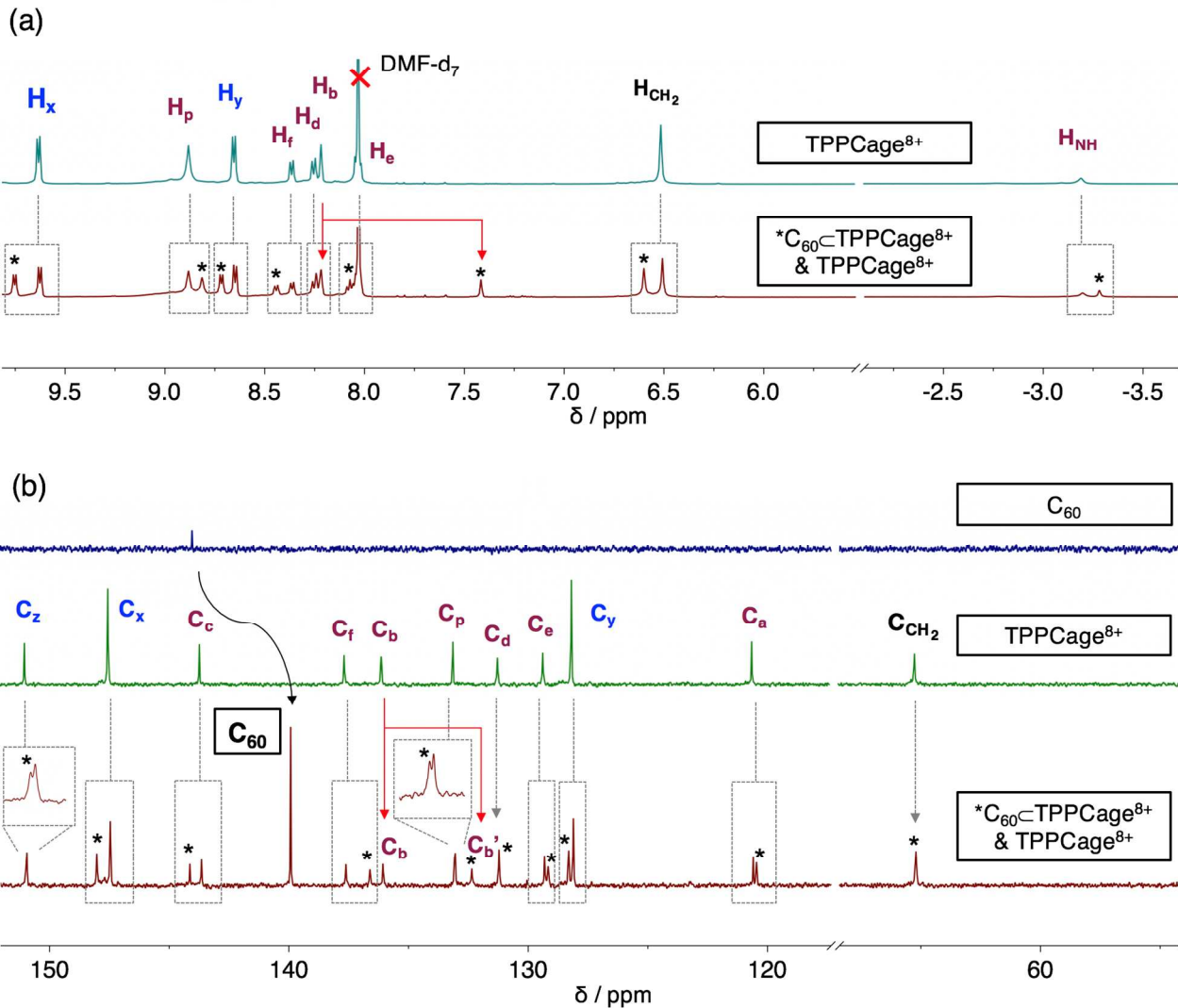


Figure 3

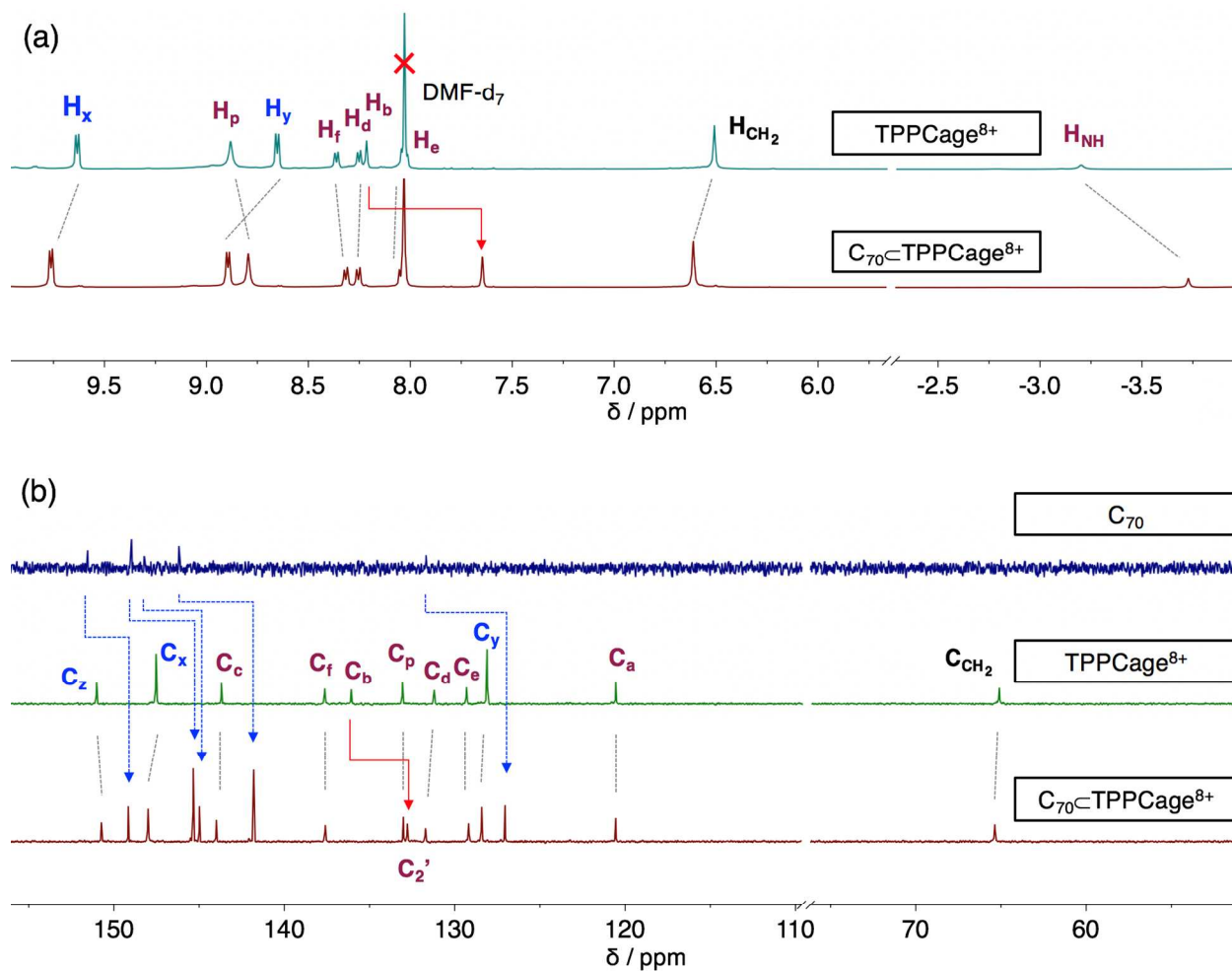


Figure 4

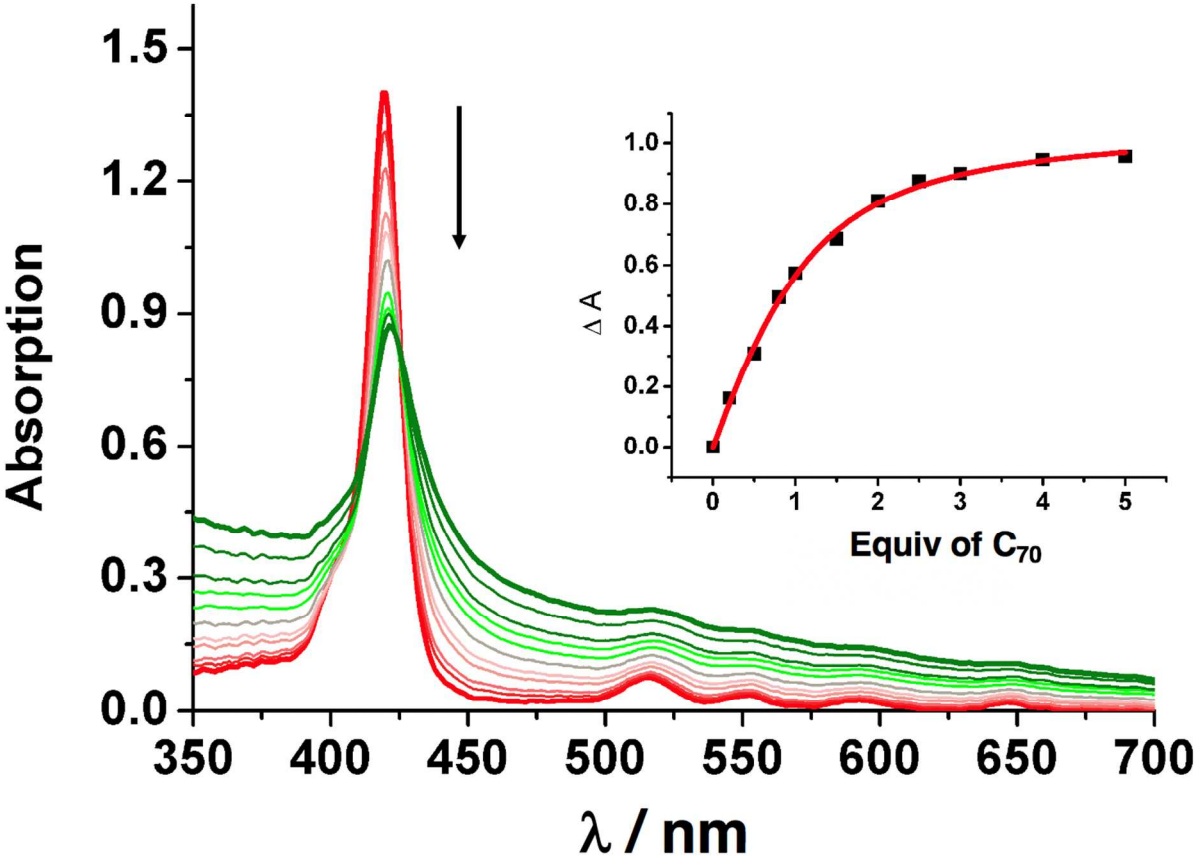


Figure 5

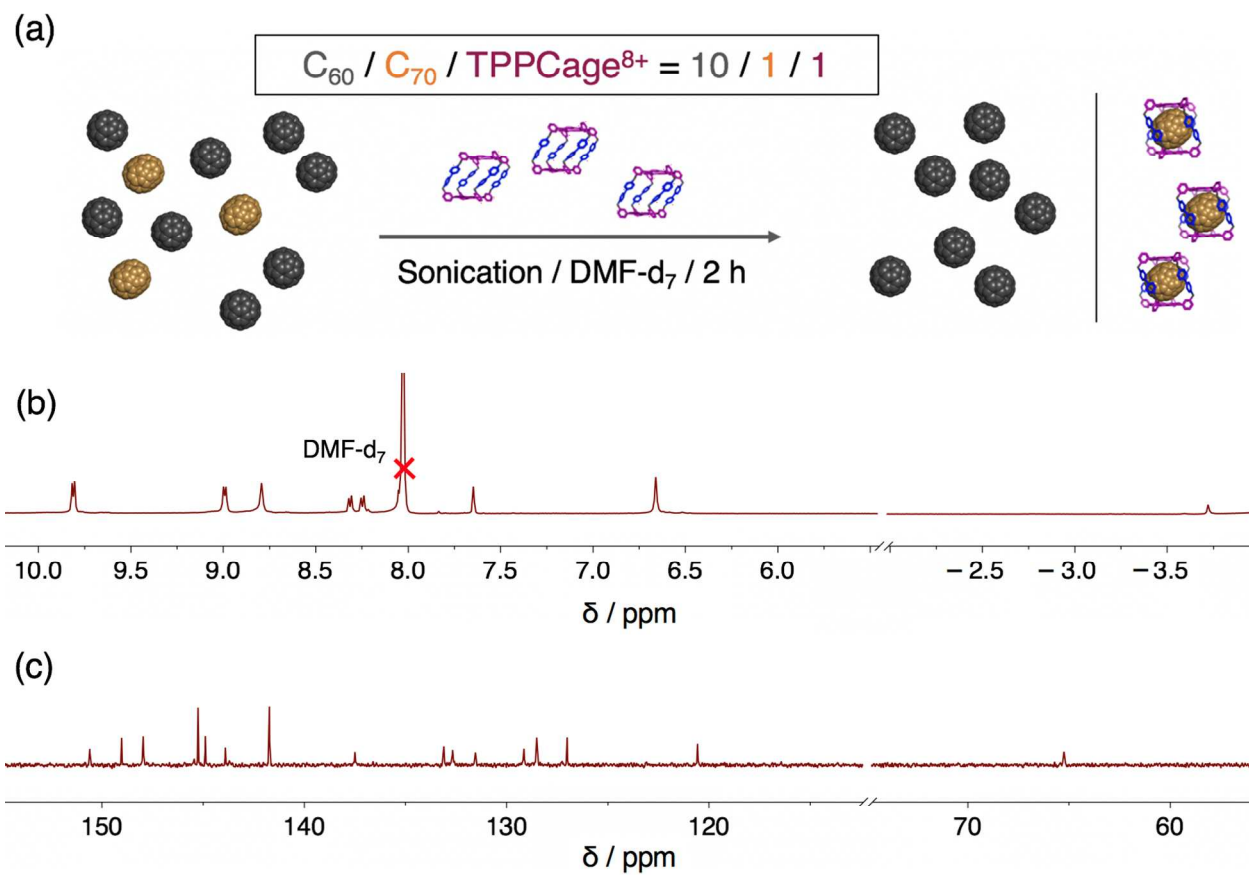
**Figure 6**

Table of Contents Graphic

