Conformational switching of a foldamer in a multi-component system by pH-filtered selection between competing non-covalent interactions

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I. General experimental method

• All reactions were carried out in oven-dried glassware under an atmosphere of nitrogen using standard anhydrous techniques. All reagents were obtained from commercially available sources and used without further purification. Anhydrous dichloromethane was obtained by distillation from calcium hydride. Other anhydrous reaction solvents were obtained from standard anhydrous solvent engineering system. Flash column chromatography was carried out using Aldrich silica gel 60 Å, 230-400 Mesh. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using commercially available precoated plates (Macherey-Nagel, POLYGRAM[®]. SIL G/UV254) and visualized with UV light at 254 nm; phosphomolybdic acid dip was used to reveal the products. All products were dried on a rotary evaporator followed by connection to a high vacuum system to remove any residual solvent.

• All ¹H, ¹⁹F and ¹³C nuclear magnetic resonance spectra were obtained using Bruker Ultrashield 300, 400 or 500 MHz spectrometers. Chemical shifts (δ) are quoted in parts per million (ppm) and coupling constants (*J*) are quoted in Hz. ¹H-NMR were referenced to the residual deuterated solvent peak (CDCl₃, 7.24 ppm and MeOH-d₄ (= CD₃OD), 3.31 ppm). ¹³C-NMR were referenced to the carbon resonance of the solvent (CDCl₃, 77.23; MeOH-d₄, 49.15 ppm). Multiplicities are denoted as s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), spt (septet) and m (multiplet) or denoted as br (broad), or some combination of these, where appropriate. Exchangeable protons (NH, OH) are reported only where observed. Infra-red spectra were recorded on a Thermo Scientific Nicolet iS5 FTIR Spectrometer. Only absorption maxima (λ max) of interest are reported and quoted in wavenumbers (cm⁻¹). Low and high resolution mass spectra were recorded by staff at the University of Manchester. Electrospray (ES) spectra were recorded on a Waters Platform II and high resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on a Thermo Finnigan MAT95XP and are accurate to ± 0.001 Da. Melting points were taken on an AA-100 polarimeter at +20 °C with the solvent and concentration stated.

• The following abbreviations have been used: Aib = aminoisobutyric acid, DIPEA = N,N,diisopropylethylamine, EDC·HCl = N-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-1N'-ethylcarbodiimide, EtOAc = Ethyl acetate, HOBt = 1-hydroxybenzotriazole, MeOH = Methanol, TRIPHAT = [Tetrabutylammonium] [Δ -tris(tetrachloro-1,2-benzenediolato)phosphate(V)]; BINPHAT = [Tetrabutylammonium][(Λ ,R)-(1,1'-binaphthalene-2,2'diolato)(bis(tetrachlor-1,2-benzenediolato)phosphat(V))].

 $N_3Aib_4O^tBu$, N_3Aib_4OH , $H_2NAib_4O^tBu$, 2-amino-1, 1-di(3-fluorophenyl) ethanol, $N_3Aib_4Aib^{**}OMe$ (**F0**), $H_2NAib_4Aib^{**}OMe$ (**F1**), $Z-L(\alpha Me)ValOH$ and *N*-triflyl phosphoramide **HA6**⁵ were prepared according previously reported procedures.

NB: Phosphoric acids **HA2-5** (purchased from Aldrich) and *N*-triflyl phosphoramide **HA6** were dissolved in CH₂Cl₂, washed with an aqueous solution of HCl (2 N), water, dried over NaSO₄ and evaporated to dryness prior their use in all the experiments described in this study.

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II. Preparation of foldamers F2-F7, F5Me⁺ and F6Me⁺

• Synthesis of foldamer F2

<u>Step1:</u> Z-β-Ala-Aib₄Aib**OMe (S1)



To a solution Z- β -Ala-OH (64 mg, 0.30 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 0 °C were added successively 1-Hydroxybenzotriazole hydrate (41 mg, 0.30 mmol) and EDC·HCL (58 mg, 0.30 mmol). The cold bath was removed and the reaction mixture was stirred for a further 45 min. After this time, DIPEA (160 μ L, 0.90 mmol) and H₂NAib₄Aib**OMe F1 (70 mg, 0.15 mmol) were added to the reaction mixture. After 12 h stirring at RT, the reaction was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and water. The layers were separated and the organic phase was washed two times with a saturated solution of NaHCO₃, brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (gradient starting from 98:2 to 90:10 / CH₂Cl₂:MeOH) to give **S1** (72 mg, 72%) as a white solid; **M.p.** = 247-248 °C; ¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃ + 2% MeOH-d3)** δ 7.64 (s, 1H, NH), 7.45 (s, 1H, NH), 7.43 (s, 1H, NH), 7.34-7.26 (m, 6H, 5*^{Ar}CH and NH), 6.99 (s, 1H, NH), 5.84 (br s, 1H, NH), 5.04 (s, 2H, -OCH₂Ph), 3.62 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.47-3.37 (m, 2H, CbzHNCH₂-), 2.45-2.38 (m, 2H, CbzNCH₂CH₂-), 1.48 (dd, 6H, ¹J_{C-H} = 129.1 and ${}^{3}J_{C-H} = 4.1 \text{ Hz}$, $2^{*13}CH_{3}$), 1.44 (s, 6H, $2^{*}CH_{3}$), 1.40 (s, 6H, $2^{*}CH_{3}$), 1.36 (s, 6H, $2^{*}CH_{3}$), 1.35 (s, 6H, $2^{*}CH_{3}$); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃ + 2% MeOH-d3) ($C(^{13}CH_3)_2$ signal is not observed), δ 175.9 (CO), 175.4 (CO), 175.0 (CO), 174.7 (CO), 174.3 (CO), 172.5 (CO), 157.2 (CO), 136.3 (C), 128.7 (2*CH), 128.5 (CH), 128.3, (2*CH), 67.1 (CH₂), 57.0 (C), 56.9 (C), 56.8 (C), 56.7 (C), 52.2 (OCH₃), 37.7 (CH₂), 36.9 (CH₂), 25.7-24.2 $(8*CH_3 \text{ and } 2*^{13}CH_3)$; FTIR ($\nu_{\text{max}} \text{ cm}^{-1}$). 3280, 2944, 2934, 1727, 1651, 1537, 1455, 1435, 1383, 1361, 1264, 1234,1147. **HRMS** calcd for $C_{30}^{13}C_2H_{50}N_6O_9Na[M+Na]^+$: 687.3604. Found 687.3572.

<u>Step 2:</u> β-Ala-Aib₄Aib**OMe (F2)



To a solution of Z- β -Ala-Aib₄Aib**OMe **S1** (55 mg, 0.08 mmol) in MeOH (15 mL) at RT and under inert atmosphere was added Pd/C (6.0 mg, 0.006 mmol, 10 Wt%). The atmosphere was purged with hydrogen and the reaction was stirred for 12 h under hydrogen (1 atm). After this time, the reaction was filtered through a Celite (MeOH) and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂, washed with aqueous saturated solution of NaHCO₃, brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to give **F2** (30 mg, 70%) as a white solid; **M.p.** = 194-195 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.91 (s, 1H, NH), 7.87 (s, 1H, NH), 7.73 (s, 1H, NH), 7.52 (s, 1H, NH), 7.49 (s, 1H, NH), 3.65 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.05 (br s, 1H, H₂NCH₂-), 2.39 (br s, 1H, H₂NCH₂-), 2.12 (br s, 4H, H₂NCH₂CH₂- and

NH₂), 1.49 (br d, 6H, ${}^{1}J_{C-H}$ = 129.2 Hz, 2*¹³CH₃), 1.47 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃), 1.43 (s, 9H, 3*CH₃), 1.38 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃), 1.22 (br s, 3H, CH₃); 13 C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.9 (CO), 175.5 (CO), 175.4 (CO), 175.0 (CO), 174.7 (CO), 173.8 (CO), 57.05 (C), 56.96 (2C), 56.7 (C), 55.9 (t, $C({}^{13}CH_{3})_{2}$, J_{C-C} = 36.6 Hz), 52.3 (OCH₃), 39.1 (CH₂), 38.3 (CH₂), 25.7-24.5 (8*CH₃ and 2*¹³CH₃); FTIR (ν_{max} cm⁻¹). 3289, 2983, 2925, 1731, 1644, 1532, 1455, 1435, 1382, 1360, 1304, 1263, 1224, 1147. HRMS calcd for $C_{22}{}^{13}C_{2}H_{44}N_{6}O_{7}Na$ [M+Na]⁺: 553.3236. Found 553.3246.

● Synthesis of foldamer 2-Pyridine-Aib₄Aib**OMe (F3)



To a solution of H₂NAib₄Aib**OMe F1 (25 mg, 0.05 mmol) and 2-picolinic acid (13 mg, 0.11 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (0.5 mL) at RT were added successively DIPEA (40 µL, 0.22 mmol), 1-Hydroxybenzotriazole hydrate (15 mg, 0.11 mmol) and EDC·HCI (21 mg, 0.11 mmol). After 12 h stirring at RT, the reaction was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and water. The layers were separated and the organic phase was washed two times with a saturated solution of NaHCO₃, brine, dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (gradient starting from 98:2 to 95:5 / CH₂Cl₂:MeOH). The purified product was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂, washed with aqueous saturated solution of NaHCO₃, brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to give F3 (24 mg, 85%) as a white solid; **M.p.** = 241-242 °C; ¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 8.69 (br d, 1H, J = 4.9 Hz, ^{Ar}CH), 8.41 (s, 1H, NH), 8.20 (br d, 1H, J = 7.8 Hz, ^{Ar}CH), 7.99 (ddd, apparent td, 1H, J = 7.8 and 1.6 Hz, ^{Ar}CH), 7.69 (s, 1H, NH), 7.62 (br dd, 1H, J = 7.8 and 4.9 Hz, ^{Ar}CH), 7.37 (s, 1H, NH), 7.28 (s, 1H, NH), 6.43 (s, 1H, NH), 3.63 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 1.58 (s, 6H, $2^{*}CH_{3}$), 1.49 (s, 6H, $2^{*}CH_{3}$), 1.48 (dd, 6H, ${}^{1}J_{C-H}$ = 129.2 and ${}^{3}J_{C-H}$ = 4.3 Hz, $2^{*13}CH_{3}$), 1.45 (s, 6H, $2^{*}CH_{3}$), 1.39 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.7 (CO), 174.8 (CO), 174.2 (CO), 173.9 (CO), 173.6 (CO), 165.0 (CO), 148.7 (C), 148.7 (CH), 138.1 (CH), 127.4 (CH), 122.5 (CH), 57.2 (C), 57.1 (C), 57.0 (C), 56.8 (C), 55.8 (t, $C(^{13}CH_3)_2$, $J_{C-C} = 36.6$ Hz), 52.1 (OCH₃), 25.7-24.6 (8*CH₃ and 2*¹³CH₃); FTIR (ν_{max} cm⁻¹). 3303, 2986, 2945, 1738, 1652, 1527, 1463, 1455, 1434, 1384, 1224. **HRMS** calcd for C₂₅¹³C₂H₄₃N₆O₇ [M+H]⁺: 565.3255. Found 565.3247.

• Synthesis of foldamer 2-Pyridine-CH₂-Aib₄Aib**OMe (F4)



To a solution of H_2N -Aib₄Aib**OMe **F1** (100 mg, 0.22 mmol) and 2-piridylacetic acid hydrochloride (76 mg, 0.44 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at RT were added successively DIPEA (230 µL, 1.31 mmol), 1-Hydroxybenzotriazole hydrate (59 mg, 0.44 mmol) and EDC·HCl (83 mg, 0.44 mmol). After 12 h stirring at RT, the reaction was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and water. The layers were separated and the organic phase was washed two times with a saturated solution of NaHCO₃, brine, dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (gradient starting from 98:2 to 95:5 / CH₂Cl₂:MeOH). The purified product was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂, washed with aqueous saturated solution of NaHCO₃, brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to give **F4** (95 mg, 75%) as a white solid; **M.p.** = 261-262 °C; ¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 8.47 (br d, 1H, J = 4.3 Hz, ^{Ar}CH), 7.67 (ddd, apparent td, 1H, J = 7.7 and 1.5 Hz, ^{Ar}CH), 7.41 (s, 1H, NH), 7.34 (s, 1H, NH), 7.27-7.16 (m, 4H, 2*^{Ar}CH and 2*NH), 7.11 (s, 1H, NH), 3.73 (s, 2H, CH₂), 3.60 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 1.48 (dd, 6H, ¹ $J_{C-H} = 128.9$ and ³ $J_{C-H} = 4.1$ Hz, 2*¹³CH₃), 1.43 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃), 1.41 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃), 1.33 (s, 12H, 4*CH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) ($C(^{13}CH_{3})_2$ signal is not observed) δ 175.8 (CO), 174.9 (CO), 174.4 (CO), 173.9 (CO), 170.1 (CO), 155.5 (C), 149.2 (CH), 137.8 (CH), 124.6 (CH), 122.8 (CH), 57.4 (C), 57.1 (C), 56.9 (C), 56.8 (C), 52.2 (OCH₃), 45.4 (CH₂), 25.8-24.5 (8*CH₃ and 2*¹³CH₃); **FTIR (\nu_{max} cm⁻¹)** 3282, 2984, 2941, 1732, 1667, 1641, 1537, 1463, 1435, 1381, 1221. **HRMS** calcd for C₂₆¹³C₂H₄₅N₆O₇ [M+H]⁺: 579.3411. Found 579.3399.

• Synthesis of 2-Pyridine-CH₂-Aib₄Aib*OMe (F4*)



To a solution of H₂NAib₄Aib*OMe F1 (50 mg, 0.11 mmol) and 2-piridylacetic acid hydrochloride (38 mg, 0.22 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (1 mL) at RT were added successively DIPEA (115 µL, 0.65 mmol), 1-Hydroxybenzotriazole hydrate (29 mg, 0.22 mmol) and EDC·HCl (42 mg, 0.22 mmol). After 12 h stirring at RT, the reaction was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and water. The layers were separated and the organic phase was washed two times with a saturated solution of NaHCO₃, brine, dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (gradient starting from 98:2 to 95:5 / CH₂Cl₂:MeOH). The purified product was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂, washed with aqueous saturated solution of NaHCO₃, brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to give **F4*** (42 mg, 67%) as a white solid; **M.p.** = 261-262 °C; ¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 8.51 (br dd, 1H, J = 4.9 and 2.3 Hz, ^{Ar}CH), 7.71 (ddd, apparent td, 1H, J = 7.7 and 1.9 Hz, ^{Ar}CH), 7.46 (s, 1H, NH), 7.39 (s, 1H, NH), 7.29 (s, 1H, NH), 7.27-7.24 (m, 4H, 2*^{Ar}CH and 2*NH), 7.14 (s, 1H, NH), 3.77 (s, 2H, CH₂), 3.65 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 1.48 (d, 3H, ${}^{1}J_{C-H}$ = 129.2 Hz, ${}^{13}CH_{3}$), 1.48 (d, 3H, ${}^{3}J_{C-H}$ = 4.6 Hz, $CH_{3}(C)^{13}CH_{3}$), 1.47 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃), 1.46 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃), 1.38 (br s, 12H, 4*CH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.8 (CO), 174.9 (CO), 174.4 (CO), 173.9 (CO), 173.8 (CO), 170.1 (CO), 155.5 (C), 149.3 (CH), 137.8 (CH), 124.6 (CH), 122.8 (CH), 57.4 (C), 57.1 (C), 56.9 (C), 56.8 (C), 55.9 (d, $CH_3(C)^{13}CH_3$), $J_{C-C} = 36.3$ Hz), 52.2 (OCH_3), 45.5 (CH_2), 25.4-24.8 (9*CH₃ and ¹³CH₃); FTIR (ν_{max} cm⁻¹) 3270, 2986, 2930, 1732, 1668, 1642, 1537, 1467, 1436, 1383, 1223. **HRMS** calcd for $C_{27}^{13}C_1H_{45}N_6O_7$ [M+H]⁺: 578.3378. Found 578.3369.

• Synthesis of foldamer F4'

Step 1: N₃Aib₈Aib**OMe (S2)



(a) Azlactone formation: To solution of N_3Aib_4OH (167 mg, 0.43 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (2 mL) at 0 °C was added EDC·HCl (167 mg, 0.87 mmol). The cold bath was removed and the reaction was stirred at rt for 5 h. After this time, the reaction was diluted with CH_2Cl_2 and H_2O . The layers were separated and the organic phase was washed with H_2O , saturated solution of $NaHCO_3$, brine, dried over $MgSO_4$, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to give the corresponding crude azlactone residue (140 mg, 87%) which was used in the next step without further purification.

(*b*) *Azlactone ring-opening*: Crude step (a) (104 mg, 0.28 mmol), H₂NAib₄Aib**OMe **F1** (100 mg, 0.22 mmol), triethylamine (40 μL, 0.28 mmol) and MeCN (1.5 mL) were heated at 90 °C in a sealed tube under argon for 3 days. After this time, the reaction was diluted with CH₂Cl₂, washed with an aqueous solution of KHSO₄ (5 Wt%), a saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO₃, brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (gradient starting from 60:40 to 80:20 / EtOAc:CH₂Cl₂) to give **S2** (115 mg, 63%) as a white solid; **M.p.** = 287-288 °C; ¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.61 (s, 1H, NH), 7.56 (s, 1H, NH), 7.55 (s, 1H, NH), 7.49 (s, 1H, NH), 7.45 (s, 1H, NH), 7.34 (s, 1H, NH), 6.94 (s, 1H, NH), 6.16 (s, 1H, NH), 3.66 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 1.53 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃), 1.51 (dd, 6H, ¹J_{C-H} = 128.7 and ³J_{C-H} = 4.8 Hz, 2*¹³CH₃), 1.50 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃), 1.41 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃), 1.47 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃), 1.46 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃), 1.45 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃), 1.44 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃), 1.41 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) (C(¹³CH₃)₂ signal is not observed), δ 175.9 (CO), 175.8 (CO), 175.5 (CO), 175.4 (CO), 175.1 (CO), 174.4 (CO), 174.2 (CO), 173.5 (CO), 173.4 (C), 64.2 (C), 57.1 (C), 57.05 (C), 56.99 (C), 56.86 (3*C), 56.8 (C); 52.2 (OCH₃), 25.6-24.7 (14*CH₃ and 2*¹³CH₃), 24.6 (2* CH₃) **FTIR (** ν_{max} cm⁻¹) 3300, 2983, 2942, 2111, 1729, 1656, 1530, 1455, 1382, 1226. HRMS calcd for C₃₅¹³C₂H₆₆N₁₁O₁₀ [M+H]⁺: 826.5056. Found 826.5058.

Step 2: H2NAib8Aib**OMe (S3)



To a solution of $N_3Aib_8Aib^{**}OMe$ **S2** (100 mg, 0.12 mmol) in MeOH (15 mL) at RT and under inert atmosphere was added Pd/C (10 mg, 0.009 mmol, 10 Wt%). The atmosphere was purged with hydrogen and the reaction was stirred for 12 h under hydrogen (1 atm). After this time, the reaction was filtered through a Celite (MeOH) and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was

dissolved in CH₂Cl₂, washed with aqueous saturated solution of NaHCO₃, brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to give **S3** (75 mg, 78%) as a white solid; **M.p.** = 295-296 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.27 (s, 1H, NH), 7.83 (s, 1H, NH), 7.63 (s, 1H, NH), 7.59 (s, 2H, 2*NH), 7.44 (s, 1H, NH), 7.34 (s, 1H, NH), 6.25 (s, 1H, NH), 3.66 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 1.53 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃), 1.51 (dd, 6H, ¹J_{C-H} = 129.3 and ³J_{C-H} = 4.4 Hz, 2*¹³CH₃), 1.48-1.43 (m, 30H, 10*CH₃), 1.40 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃), 1.36 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) ($C(^{13}CH_3)_2$ signal is not observed), δ 178.9 (CO), 175.94 (CO), 175.89 (CO), 175.6 (2*CO), 175.1 (CO), 174.49 (CO), 174.47 (CO), 174.1 (CO), 57.01 (C), 56.98 (C), 56.83 (2*C), 56.79 (C), 56.7 (C), 56.4 (C), 55.0 (C), 52.2 (OCH₃), 29.1 (2*CH₃), 25.6-24.7 (14*CH₃ and 2*¹³CH₃); **FTIR (\nu_{max} cm⁻¹)** 3291, 2983, 2939, 1729, 1655, 1534, 1450, 1534, 1382, 1227. HRMS calcd for C₃₅¹³C₂H₆₈N₉O₁₀ [M+H]⁺: 800.5151. Found 800.5146.

<u>Step 3:</u> 2-Pyridine-CH₂-Aib₈Aib**OMe (F4')

To a solution of H₂NAib₈Aib**OMe S3 (40 mg, 0.05 mmol) and 2-piridylacetic acid hydrochloride (17 mg, 0.10 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (1 mL) at RT were added successively DIPEA (55 µL, 0.30 mmol), 1-Hydroxybenzotriazole hydrate (13 mg, 0.10 mmol) and EDC·HCl (19 mg, 0.10 mmol). After 12 h stirring at RT, the reaction was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and water. The layers were separated and the organic phase was washed two times with a saturated solution of NaHCO₃, brine, dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (gradient starting from 98:2 to 90:10 / CH₂Cl₂:MeOH). The purified product was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂, washed with aqueous saturated solution of NaHCO₃, brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to give **F4'** (30 mg, 65%) as a white solid; **M.p.** > 300 °C; ¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 8.46 (br d, 1H, J = 4.9 H, ^{Ar}CH), 7.71 (ddd, apparent td, 1H, J = 7.8 and 1.6 Hz, ^{Ar}CH), 7.68-7.55 (m, 5H, 2* ^{Ar}CH and 3*NH), 7.55 (s, 1H, NH), 7.48 (s, 1H, NH), 7.43 (s, 1H, NH), 7.38 (s, 1H, NH), 7.27 (s, 1H, NH), 7.25 (s, 1H, NH), 3.81 (s, 2H, CH₂), 3.64 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 1.49 (dd, 6H, ${}^{1}J_{CH}$ = 129.3 and ${}^{3}J_{CH}$ = 4.4 Hz, $2^{*13}CH_{3}$), 1.48 (s, 6H, $2^{*}CH_{3}$), 1.47 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃), 1.47-1.44 (m, 24H, 8*CH₃), 1.39 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃), 1.36 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $(C(^{13}CH_3)_2 \text{ signal is not observed}), \delta$ 176.13 (CO), 176.07 (CO), 175.9 (2*CO), 175.8 (CO), 175.3 (CO), 175.0 (CO), 174.7 (CO), 174.6 (CO), 170.5 (CO), 155.9 (C), 149.2 (CH), 137.7 (CH), 124.6 (CH), 122.7 (CH), 57.3 (*C*), 56.9 (*C*), 56.8-56.6 (6**C*), 52.1 (O*C*H₃), 45.3 (*C*H₂), 29.9 (2**C*H₃), 25.6-24.6 (14**C*H₃ and 2*¹³*C*H₃); FTIR (ν_{max} cm⁻¹) 3303, 2984, 2936, 1727, 1652, 1532, 1467, 1455, 1435, 1381, 1227. HRMS calcd for C₄₂¹³C₂H₇₃N₁₀O₁₀ [M]⁺: 919.5522. Found 919.5524.

• Synthesis of foldamer 3-Pyridine-CH₂-Aib₄Aib**OMe (F6)



To a solution of H₂N-Aib₄Aib**OMe (30 mg, 0.06 mmol) and 3-piridylacetic acid hydrochloride (23 mg, 0.13 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (1 mL) at RT were added successively DIPEA (70 μL, 0.39 mmol), 1-Hydroxybenzotriazole hydrate (18 mg, 0.13 mmol) and EDC·HCl (25 mg, 0.13 mmol). After 12 h stirring at RT, the reaction was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and water. The layers were separated and the organic phase was washed two times with a saturated solution of NaHCO₃, brine, dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (gradient starting from 98:2 to 95:5 / CH₂Cl₂:MeOH). The purified product was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂, washed with aqueous saturated solution of NaHCO₃, brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to give **F6** (14 mg, 38%) as a white solid; **M.p.** = 253-254 °C; ¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 8.70-8.41 (m, 2H, ^{Ar}CH), 7.90 (s, 1H, NH), 7.74 (br d, 1H, J = 7.8 Hz, ^{Ar}CH), 7.54 (s, 1H, NH), 7.45 (s, 1H, NH), 7.42 (s, 1H, NH), 7.30-7.24 (br m, 1H, ^{Ar}CH), 6.63 (s, 1H, NH), 3.65 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.64 (s, 2H, CH₂), 1.48 (dd, 6H, ¹J_{C-H} = 128.7 and ³*J*_{C-H} = 4.8 Hz, 2^{*13}CH₃), 1.47 (s, 6H, 2^{*}CH₃), 1.44 (s, 6H, 2^{*}CH₃), 1.34 (s, 6H, 2^{*}CH₃), 1.27 (s, 6H, 2^{*}CH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) (${}^{Ar}C$ and CH₃(C) 13 CH₃) signals are not observed), δ 176.1 (CO), 175.5 (CO), 174.84 (CO), 174.77 (CO), 174.5 (CO), 171.6 (CO), 150.2 (CH), 148.3 (CH), 137.4 (CH), 123.8 (CH), 57.2 (C), 57.0 (C), 56.8 (C), 56.6 (C), 52.4 (OCH₃), 40.2 (CH₂), 26.1-24.5 (8*CH₃ and 2^{*13} CH₃); FTIR (ν_{max} cm⁻¹) 3290, 2984, 2930, 1730, 1643, 1532, 1455, 1434, 1382, 1222. **HRMS** calcd for C₂₆¹³C₂H₄₅N₆O₇ [M+H]⁺: 579.3417. Found 579.3416.

• Synthesis of foldamer 2-Pyridine-CH₂-Aib₄Aib**OMe (F7)



To a solution of H₂NAib₄Aib**OMe **F1** (30 mg, 0.06 mmol) and phenylacetic acid (18 mg, 0.13 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (1 mL) at RT were added successively DIPEA (70 µL, 0.39 mmol), 1-Hydroxybenzotriazole hydrate (18 mg, 0.13 mmol) and EDC·HCl (25 mg, 0.13 mmol). After 12 h stirring at RT, the reaction was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and water. The layers were separated and the organic phase was washed two times with a saturated solution of NaHCO₃, brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (gradient starting from 98:2 to 95:5 / CH₂Cl₂:MeOH) to give **F7** (30 mg, 79%) as a white solid; **M.p.** = 273-274 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, MeOH-d4) (partially exchange N*H* signals were omitted for clarity) δ 7.41-7.23 (m, 5H, ^{Ar}CH), 3.67 (s, 3H, CH₃), 3.56 (s, 2H, CH₂), 1.48 (dd, 6H, ¹J_{C-H} = 129.0 Hz and ³J_{C-H} = 4.3 Hz, 2*¹³CH₃), 1.46 (s, 12H, 2*CH₃), 1.32 (s, 6H, 2*CH₃),

1.28 (s, 6H, 2*C*H*₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, MeOH-d4) ($C(^{13}CH_3)_2$ signal is not observed), δ 177.0 (2*CO), 176.9 (2*CO), 176.6 (CO), 174.0 (CO), 137.2 (C), 130.4 (2*CH), 129.7 (2*CH), 128.1 (CH), 57.9 (2*C), 57.7 (C), 57.6 (C), 52.7 (OCH₃), 43.6 (CH₂), 26.0-24.9 (8*CH₃ and 2*¹³CH₃); FTIR (ν_{max} cm⁻¹) 3253, 2984, 2937, 1732, 1673, 1654, 1642, 1532, 1455, 1380, 1228. HRMS calcd for $C_{27}^{13}C_2H_{46}N_5O_7$ [M+H]⁺: 578.3459. Found 578.3451.

• Synthesis of foldamer F5Me+

Step 1: 3-Pyridine-Aib₄O^tBu (S4)



To a solution of nicotinic acid (0.18 g, 1.5 mmol) and HOBt (0.49 g, 3.7 mmol) in dry CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL) at 0 °C was added EDC·HCl (0.70 g, 3.7 mmol) and the reaction mixture was stirred at this temperature for 10 min. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature, after which time H₂NAib₄O^tBu (0.60 g, 1.5 mmol) and DIPEA (0.64 mL, 3.7 mmol) were successively added and the resulting solution stirred at room temperature for 18 h. The solution was then diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (30 mL) and the organic layer washed with 5% KHSO₄ (2×8 mL), sat. NaHCO₃ (2×8 mL) and brine (8 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by flash column chromatography $(SiO_2, 4 \rightarrow 6\% \text{ MeOH in CHCl}_3)$ to give the desired product as a white solid (0.52 g, 69%); M.p. = 213-214 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.09 (1H, s, PyH), 8.76 (1H, d, J = 4.4 Hz, PyH), 8.23 (1H, d, J = 8.0 Hz, PyH), 7.47 - 7.41 (2H, m, PyH + NH), 7.34 (1H, br, s, NH), 7.31 (1H, br, s, NH), 6.60 (1H, br, s, NH), 1.63 (6H, s, 2 × CH₃, Aib), 1.53 (6H, s, 2 × CH₃, Aib), 1.44 (6H, s, 2 × CH₃, Aib), 1.42 (6H, s, 2 × CH₃, Aib), 1.40 (9H, s, $3 \times CH_3$, O^tBu); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.0 (CO), 173.6 (CO), 173.2 (CO), 172.5 (CO), 164.7 (CO), 148.8 (Py), 148.3 (Py), 137.8 (Py), 127.1 (Py), 122.4 (Py), 79.8 (αC, O^tBu), 57.0 (αC, Aib), 56.9 (αC, Aib), 56.8 (αC, Aib), 56.0 (αC, Aib), 27.9 (CH₃, O^tBu), 25.5 (CH₃, Aib), 25.4 (CH₃, Aib), 25.2 (CH₃, Aib), 24.7 (CH₃, Aib); **FTIR** (ν_{max} cm⁻¹) 3324, 2984, 2937, 1725, 1651, 1592, 1533, 1469, 1455, 1384, 1365, 1310, 1257, 1147. **HRMS** calcd for $C_{26}H_{42}N_5O_6$ [M+H]⁺: 520.3130. Found 520.3119.

Step 2: 3-Pyridine-Aib₄-2-amino-1,1-di(3-fluorophenyl)ethanol (S5)



(a) Boc deprotection: To a solution of 3-Pyridine-Aib₄O^tBu (0.350 g, 0.67 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (7 mL) was added trifluoroacetic acid (7 mL) and the reaction mixture was stirred at ambient temperature overnight. After this time, the excess solvent was removed under reduced pressure and 3-PyridineAib₄OH (0.23 g,

0.50 mmol) isolated as a white solid after recrystallization from Et_2O and used in the next step without further purification.

(b) Azlactone formation: To a solution of 3-Pyridine-Aib₄OH (0.23 g, 0.5 mmol) in dry CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL) was added EDC·HCl (0.19 g, 1.0 mmol) and the resulting colourless solution was left stirring at ambient temperature overnight. After this time, the resulting solution was diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL) and washed with sat. NaHCO₃ (2 × 3 mL) and the brine (3 mL). The organic washings were dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to give the corresponding azlactone as a white solid (0.26 g, 0.57 mmol), which was used in the next step without further purification.

(c) Azlactone ring-opening: To a solution of crude step (b) (0.26 g, 0.57 mmol) in acetonitrile (3 mL) was added 2-amino-1,1-di(3-fluorophenyl)ethanol (0.17 g, 0.69 mmol) and NEt₃ (0.096 mL, 0.69 mmol) and the reaction mixture was refluxed for 72 h. The excess solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the resulting residue subjected to column chromatography (SiO₂) (5 \rightarrow 10 % MeOH in CHCl₃) to give the desired product as a white solid (0.24 g, 51% over 3 steps); **M.p.** = 217-220 °C; ¹H **NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d_4:1/9):** δ 9.09 (1H, dd, *J* = 1.6 Hz, ⁴*J* = 0.4 Hz, PyH), 8.73 (1H, dd, *J* = 4.0 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.4 Hz, PyH), 8.35 (1H, dt, *J* = 6.4 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.6 Hz, PyH), 7.76 (1H, br, s, NH), 7.58 (1H, dd, *J* = 4.0 Hz, ⁴*J* = 0.4 Hz, PyH), 7.33 – 7.23 (8H, m, ArH + 2 × NH), 6.95 – 6.93 (2H, m, ArH), 4.03 (2H, s, CH₂), 1.54 (6H, s, 2 × CH₃), 1.43 (6H, s, 2 × CH₃), 1.36 (6H, s, 2 × CH₃), 1.34 (6H, s, 2 × CH₃); ¹³C **NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 176.8 (CO), 174.9 (CO), 173.6 (CO), 173.5 (CO), 165.1 (CO), 164.5 (Py), 161.2 (Ar), 148.61 (Py), 148.58 (Py), 147.9 (d, *J* = 32 Hz, Ar), 137.9 (Py), 129.5 (d, *J* = 44 Hz, Ar), 127.4 (Py), 122.3 (d, *J* = 48 Hz, Ar), 114.0 (d, *J* = 36 Hz, Ar), 113.7 (d, *J* = 28 Hz, Ar), 78.3 (CH₃), 57.3 (αC, Aib), 57.2 (αC, Aib), 57.0 (αC, Aib), 56.8 (αC, Aib), 49.8 (αC), 25.5 (CH₃, Aib), 25.2 (CH₃, Aib), 25.13 (CH₃, Aib), 25.10 (CH₃, Aib); ¹⁹F **NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄:1/9)** δ 113.6; **FTIR (\nu_{max} cm^{-1})** 3305, 2929, 2872, 1650, 1612, 1591, 1539, 1484, 1445, 1385, 1363, 1269, 1229, 1170, 1128, 1058. **HRMS** calcd for C₃₆H₄₅N₆O₆F₂ [M+H]⁺: = 695.3363. Found 695.3354.

Step 3: 3-Methylpyridinium-Aib₄-2-amino-1,1-di(3-fluorophenyl)ethanol iodide (F5Me+)



To a solution of 3-PyridineAib4-2-amino-1,1-di(3-fluorophenyl)ethanol (0.034 mg, 0.049 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (0.068 g, 0.49 mmol) in acetone (2 mL) was added iodomethane (0.061 mL, 0.98 mmol) and the resulting bright yellow solution refluxed for 48 h. After this time, the resulting solution was filtered and washed with acetone (5 mL) and the solution concentrated (approx. 2 mL) under reduced pressure. The desired product was isolated as a bright yellow solid upon the addition of Et₂O (4 mL) and collected by filtration (0.026 g, 75%); **M.p.** = 196-197 °C; ¹**H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄ : 1/1)** δ 9.44 (1H, s, PyH), 9.08 – 9.03 (2H, m, 2 × PyH), 8.24 (1H, t, J = 4.0 Hz, NH), 7.61 (1H, s, br, NH), 7.41 (1H, s, br, NH), 7.40 – 7.32 (1H, m, PyH), 7.29 –

7.20 (6H, m, Ar*H*), 6.95 – 6.90 (2H, m, Ar*H*), 4.50 (3H, s, br, N⁺C*H*₃), 4.01 (2H, d, J = 4.0 Hz, CH₂), 1.56 (6H, s, 2 × C*H*₃), 1.40 (6H, s, 2 × C*H*₃), 1.36 (6H, s, 2 × C*H*₃), 1.32 (6H, s, 2 × C*H*₃); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, MeOH-d₄) δ 177.2 (CO), 176.6 (CO), 175.5 (CO), 165.4 (CO), 163.5 (CO), 163.0 (Py), 149.1 (d, *J* = 28 Hz, Ar), 148.7 (Ar), 147.1 (Py), 144.9 (Py), 135.3 (Py), 130.9 (d, *J* = 36 Hz, Ar), 129.0 (Py), 123.2 (d, *J* = 12 Hz, Ar), 114.8 (d, *J* = 84 Hz, Ar), 114.4 (d, *J* = 92 Hz, Ar), 78.7 (CH₂), 58.9 (aC), 58.16 (aC, Aib), 58.13 (aC, Aib), 58.11 (aC, Aib), 58.03 (aC, Aib), 29.5 (N⁺CH₃), 25.7 (CH₃, Aib), 25.4 (CH₃, Aib), 25.3 (CH₃, Aib), 25.1 (CH₃, Aib); ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄:1/1) δ 113.5; FTIR (ν_{max} cm⁻¹) 3396, 2479, 2072, 1657, 1591, 1473, 1422, 1381, 1364, 1228, 1119, 1090. HRMS calcd for C₃₇H₄₇N₆O₆F₂ [M]⁺: 709.3520. Found 709.3524.

• Synthesis of foldamer F6Me+

<u>Step 1:</u> **3-Pyridine-CH₂Aib₄O^tBu (S6)**



To a solution of 3-pyridineacetic acid (0.15 g, 1.1 mmol)and HOBt (0.37 g, 2.7 mmol) in dry CH₂Cl₂ (11 mL) at 0 °C was added EDC·HCI (0.52 g, 2.7 mmol) and the reaction mixture was stirred at this temperature for 10 min. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature, after which time, H₂NAib₄O^tBu (0.45 g, 1.1 mmol) and DIPEA (0.48 mL, 2.7 mmol) were successively added and the resulting solution stirred at room temperature for 18 h. The solution was then diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (22 mL) and the organic layer washed with 5% KHSO₄ (2×5 mL), sat. NaHCO₃ (2×5 mL) and brine (5 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 5 \rightarrow 8 % MeOH in CHCl₃) to give the desired product as a white solid (0.43 g, 73%); **M.p.** = 190-191 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.52 (1H, d, J = 4.2 Hz, PyH), 7.72 (1H, dt, J = 7.7 Hz, ⁴J = 1.8 Hz, PyH), 7.38 (1H, br, s, NH), 7.29 – 7.25 (3H, m, 2 x PyH + NH), 7.14 (1H, br, s, NH), 7.11 (1H, br, s, NH), 3.78 (2H, s, CH₂), 1.49 (6H, s, 2 x CH₃, Aib), 1.44 (6H, s, 2 x CH₃, Aib), 1.41 (15H, s, 5 x CH₃, Aib + O^tBu), 1.36 (6H, s, 2 x CH₃, Aib); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.0 (CO), 173.8 (CO), 173.7 (CO), 172.9 (CO), 169.8 (CO), 155.5 (Py), 149.0 (Py), 137.5 (Py), 124.4 (Py), 122.5 (Py), 79.8 (αC, O^tBu), 57.2 (αC, Aib), 56.7 (αC, Aib), 56.6 (αC, Aib), 56.0 (αC, Aib), 45.3 (CH₂), 27.8 (CH₃, O^tBu), 25.3 (CH₃, 2 × Aib), 25.1 (CH₃, Aib), 24.7 (CH₃, Aib); FTIR (ν_{max} cm⁻¹) 3324, 2982, 2928, 2855, 1731, 1664, 1657, 1530, 1455, 1431, 1384, 1365, 1310, 1226, 1148. **HRMS** calcd for C₂₇H₄₄O₆N₅ [M+H]⁺: 534.3286. Found 534.3276.

Step 2: 3-Pyridine-CH₂-Aib4-2-amino-1,1-di(3-fluorophenyl)ethanol (S7)



(a) Boc deprotection: To a solution of 3-Pyridine- CH_2 -Aib₄O^tBu (0.20 g, 0.38 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (4 mL) was added trifluoroacetic acid (4 mL) and the reaction mixture was stirred at ambient temperature overnight. After this time, the excess solvent was removed under reduced pressure and 3-Pyridine- CH_2 -Aib₄OH (0.16 g, 0.34 mmol) isolated as a white solid after recrystallization from Et_2O and used in the next step without further purification.

(b) Azlactone formation: To a solution of 3-Pyridine-CH₂-Aib₄OH (0.16 g, 0.34 mmol) in dry CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL) was added EDC·HCl (0.13 g, 0.68 mmol) and the resulting colourless solution was left stirring at ambient temperature overnight. After this time, the resulting solution was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (5mL) and washed with sat. NaHCO₃ (2 × 2 mL) and the brine (2 mL). The organic washings were dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to give the corresponding azlactone as a white solid (0.11 g, 0.24 mmol), which was used in the next step without further purification.

(*c*) *Azlactone ring-opening*: To a solution of crude step (b) (0.11 g, 0.24 mmol) in acetonitrile (1.2 mL) was added 2-amino-1,1-di(3-fluorophenyl)ethanol (0.072 g, 0.29 mmol) and NEt₃ (0.040 mL, 0.29 mmol) and the reaction mixture was refluxed for 72 h. The excess solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the resulting residue subjected to column chromatography (SiO₂) (5 \rightarrow 10 % MeOH in CHCl₃) to give the desired product as a white solid (0.088 g, 33% over 3 steps); **M.p.** = 202-204 °C; ¹**H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 8.54 (1H, d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, PyH), 7.84 (1H, t, *J* = 12.0 Hz, PyH), 7.55 (1H, t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, NH), 7.49 (1H, s, br, NH), 7.37 – 7.32 (2H, m, PyH + NH), 7.23 – 7.20 (8H, m, NH + 6 ArH + PyH), 6.88 – 6.83 (2H, m, ArH), 6.00 (1H, s, br, NH), 4.00 (2H, d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, CH₂), 3.82 (2H, s, PyCH₂), 1.45 (6H, s, 2 x CH₃), 1.39 (6H, s, 2 x CH₃), 1.27 (6H, s, 2 x CH₃); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄:1/1) δ 177.2 (CO), 176.0 (CO), 174.9 (CO), 170.7 (CO), 164.2 (CO), 161.8 (Py), 155.8 (Ar), 148.9 (Py), 147.5 (d, *J* = 24 Hz, Ar), 113.8 (d, *J* = 88 Hz, Ar), 78.1 (CH₂), 57.3 (aC), 57.1 (aC, Aib), 56.9 (aC, Aib), 56.7 (aC, Aib), 53.7 (aC, Aib), 44.8 (CH₂), 25.3 (CH₃, Aib), 24.7 (CH₃, Aib); ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄:1/1) δ 113.7; FTIR (ν_{max} cm⁻¹). 3310, 2986, 2476, 2070, 1651, 1591, 1536, 1440, 1385, 1364, 1230. HRMS calcd for C₃₇H₄₆N₆O₆F₂Na [M+Na]⁺: 731.3345. Found 731.3322.

Step 3: 3-Methylpyridinium-CH₂-Aib4-2-amino-1,1-di(3-fluorophenyl)ethanol iodide (F6Me+)



To a solution of foldamer B6 (0.020 mg, 0.028 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (0.039 g, 0.28 mmol) in acetone (1 mL) was added methyl iodide (0.035 mL, 0.56 mmol) and the resulting bright yellow solution refluxed for 48 h. After this time, the resulting solution was filtered and washed with acetone (4 mL) and the solution concentrated (approx. 2 mL) under reduced pressure. The desired product was isolated as a bright yellow solid upon the addition of Et₂O (4 mL) and collected by filtration. (0.014 g, 69%); M.p. = 182-184 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, **MeOH-d**₄) δ 8.98 (1H, d, J = 4.0 Hz, PyH), 8.95 (1H, br, s, NH), 8.56 (1H, dt, J = 8.0 Hz, ⁴J = 1.2 Hz, PyH), 8.11 (1H, dd, J = 8.0 Hz, ⁴J = 1.2 Hz, PyH), 8.02 (1H, d, J = 7.6 Hz, ⁴J = 1.6 Hz, PyH), 7.51 (1H, br, s, NH), 7.42 -7.18 (7H, m, 1 x NH + 6 x ArH), 6.95 – 6.91 (2H, m, 2 x ArH), 4.38 (3H, s, N⁺CH₃), 4.36 (2H, d, J = 8.0 Hz, CH₂), 3.98 (2H, s, CH₂), 1.46 (6H, s, 2 x CH₃), 1.35 (6H, s, 2 x CH₃), 1.29 (6H, s, 2 x CH₃), 1.25 (3H, s, CH₃), 1.10 (3H, s, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, MeOH-d₄) δ 176.3 (CO), 175.68 (CO), 175.67 (CO), 171.6 (CO), 165.0 (CO), 164.1 (Py), 163.1 (Ar), 149.02 (Py), 148.97 (Py), 148.1 (Ar), 146.9 (Py), 130.7 (d, J = 28 Hz, Ar), 127.8 (Py), 123.1 (Ar), 114.7 (d, J = 68 Hz, Ar), 114.3 (d, J = 72 Hz, Ar), 70.5 (CH₂), 58.2 (α C), 58.0 (α C, Aib), 57.9 (α C, Aib), 57.8 (αC, Aib), 55.9 (αC, Aib), 46.9 (CH₂), 29.4 (CH₃, N⁺Me), 25.5 (CH₃, Aib), 25.3 (CH₃, Aib), 25.1 (CH₃, Aib), 25.0 (CH₃, Aib); ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄:1/1) δ 113.6; FTIR (ν_{max} cm⁻¹) 3455, 3322, 2985, 2935, 2476, 1658, 1590, 1520, 1472, 1441, 1383, 1364, 1230. **HRMS** calcd for C₃₈H₄₉N₆O₆F₂ [M]⁺: 723.3682. Found 723.3670.

III. Investigation of the HA-F interaction (Table 1)

• Entries 1-6 and 9

Procedure for the preparation of the NMR samples $HA1 \leftrightarrow F$: A solution of HA1 (0.0075 mmol, 0.5 mL, 15 mM) was added to foldamer F (0.005 mmol) which was directly weighed in an NMR tube. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. The portions of the ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) spectra of F in the presence of HA1 are shown in Table S1.

Procedure for the preparation of the NMR samples HA2-6 \leftrightarrow F: HA2, HA3, HA4, HA5 and HA6 (0.006 mmol) and foldamer F (0.005 mmol) were directly weighed in an NMR tube to which CDCl₃ (0.5 mL) was added. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. The portions of the ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) spectra of F in the presence of HA2-6 are shown in Table S1.











Table S1: Portions of the ¹³C (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of **F** in the presence of **HA** recorded at 296 K; [**F**] = 10 mM; [**HA1**] = 15 mM; [**HA2**], [**HA3**], [**HA4**], [**HA5**] and [**HA6**] = 12 mM.

• Entries 7 and 8

Procedure for the titration of the foldamer (F5Me⁺ or F6Me⁺) with TRISPHAT or BINPHAT: To a solution of foldamer (**F5Me⁺** or **F6Me⁺**) (0.008 M, 600 μL) in CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄ the appropriate amount of TRISPHAT or BINPHAT (1 < number of equiv. < 10) was added and the solution transferred to an NMR tube. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 30 seconds, ¹H and ¹⁹F spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. The anisochronicity (Δδ) of the ¹H and ¹⁹F NMR reporters are reported in Tables S2-4. The portions of the ¹H and ¹⁹F NMR spectra of **F5Me⁺** and **F6Me⁺** in the presence of TRISPHAT or BINPHAT are shown in Figures S1-23.

TRISPHAT (equiv.)	Δδ (ppb) of ¹ H NMR reporter	Δδ (ppb) of ¹⁹ F NMR reporter
1	0	5
3	30	15
6	30	15
8	40	20
10	40	19

Table S2. Titration experiment TRISPHAT↔F5Me⁺



Figure S1. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **TRISPHAT** \leftrightarrow **F5Me**⁺ (1:1). Iodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.



Figure S2. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$ /MeOH-d₄; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **TRISPHAT** \leftrightarrow **F5Me**⁺ (3:1). Iodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.



Figure S3. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **TRISPHAT** \leftrightarrow **F5Me**⁺ (3:1). Iodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.



Figure S4. Partial ¹H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3/MeOH-d_4$; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **TRISPHAT** \leftrightarrow **F5Me**⁺ (6:1). Iodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.



Figure S5. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **TRISPHAT** \leftrightarrow **F5Me**⁺ (6:1). Iodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.



Figure S6. Partial ¹H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3/MeOH-d_4$; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **TRISPHAT** \leftrightarrow **F5Me**⁺ (8:1). Iodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.



Figure S7. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **TRISPHAT** \leftrightarrow **F5Me**⁺ (8:1). lodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.



Figure S8. Partial ¹H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3/MeOH-d_4$; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **TRISPHAT** \leftrightarrow **F5Me**⁺ (10:1). Iodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.



Figure S9. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **TRISPHAT** \leftrightarrow **F5Me**⁺ (10:1). Iodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.

BINPHAT (equiv.)	Δδ (ppb) of ¹ H NMR reporter	Δδ (ppb) of ¹⁹ F NMR reporter
1	26	7
2	58	15
4	79	21
8	/	28

Table S3. Titration experiment **BINPHAT**↔**F5Me**⁺



Figure S10. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **BINPHAT** \leftrightarrow **F5Me**⁺ (1:1). Iodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.



Figure S11. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **BINPHAT**↔**F5Me**⁺ (1:1). lodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.



Figure S12. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **BINPHAT** \leftrightarrow **F5Me**⁺ (2:1). Iodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.



Figure S13. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **BINPHAT**↔**F5Me**⁺ (2:1). lodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.



Figure S14. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **BINPHAT** \leftrightarrow **F5Me**⁺ (4:1). Iodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.



Figure S15. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **BINPHAT**↔**F5Me**⁺ (4:1). lodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.



Figure S16. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **BINPHAT**↔**F5Me**⁺ (8:1). lodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.

TRISPHAT (equiv.)	Δδ (ppb) of ¹ H NMR reporter	Δδ (ppb) of ¹⁹ F NMR reporter
6	0	0
10	/	0

Table S4. Titration experiment **TRISPHAT**↔**F6Me**⁺



Figure S17. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **TRISPHAT** \leftrightarrow **F6Me**⁺ (6:1). Iodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.



Figure S18. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, $CDCl_3/MeOH-d_4$; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **TRISPHAT** \leftrightarrow **F6Me**⁺ (6:1). Iodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.



Figure S19. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, $CDCl_3/MeOH-d_4$; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **TRISPHAT** \leftrightarrow **F6Me**⁺ (10:1). Iodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.

BINPHAT (equiv.)	Δδ (ppb) of ¹ H NMR reporter	$\Delta\delta$ (ppb) of ¹⁹ F NMR reporter
1.5	0	8
2.5	0	9
4	36	12

Table S5. Titration experiment **BINPHAT**↔**F6Me**⁺



Figure S20. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **BINPHAT** \leftrightarrow **F6Me**⁺ (1.5:1). Iodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.



Figure S21. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **BINPHAT** \leftrightarrow **F6Me**⁺ (2.5:1). Iodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.



Figure S22. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOH-d₄; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **BINPHAT** \leftrightarrow **F6Me**⁺ (2.5:1). Iodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.



Figure S23. ¹⁹F NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3/MeOH-d_4$; 5/2, 296 K) spectrum of **BINPHAT** \leftrightarrow **F6Me**⁺ (4:1). Iodide and tetrabutylammonium counter ions removed for clarity.

IV. Estimation of the helical excess

• Synthesis of foldamer S9

<u>Step 1:</u> Z-L-(αMe)Val-Aib₄Aib**OMe (S8)



(a) Acid fluoride formation: To a solution of Z-L-(α Me)ValOH (29 mg, 0.11 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (1 mL) at RT were added pyridine (9 μ L, 0.11 mmol) and fluoro-N,N,N',N'-tetramethylformamidinium hexafluorophosphate (43 mg, 0.16 mmol). After stirring for 3 h at RT, the reaction was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and the organic phase was washed three times with ice-cold H₂O, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting acid fluoride crude material was used in the next step without further purification.

(b) Amide bond formation: To a solution of H₂NAib₄Aib**OMe **F1** (25 mg, 0.05 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (1.5 mL) at RT were added N,N-diisopropylethylamine (20 µL, 0.11 mmol) and a solution of crude step (a) in CH₂Cl₂ (0.5 mL). The reaction was stirred at RT for 5 days. After this time, the reaction was diluted with CH_2CI_2 , washed with an aqueous solution of KHSO₄ (5 Wt%), a saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO₃, brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Before all solvent being removed, Et₂O was added and a white precipitate was formed. After filtration, the desired product S8 (30 mg, 79%) was isolated as a white solid; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D}$ +38.0 (c 1.0, CHCl₃); **M.p.** = 194-195 °C; ¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.60 (s, 1H, NH), 7.46 (s, 1H, NH), 7.44 (s, 1H, NH), 7.36-7.30 (m, 5H, ^{Ar}CH), 7.27 (s, 1H, NH), 6.32 (s, 1H, NH), 5.40 (s, 1H, NH), 5.16 (d, 1H, AB syst, J_{AB} = 12.0 Hz, CH₂), 5.01 (d, 1H, AB syst, J_{AB} = 12.0 Hz, CH₂), 3.64 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 1.96-1.87 (m, 1H, CH), 1.52 (dd, 3H, ${}^{1}J_{C-H}$ = 129.2 and ${}^{3}J_{C-H}$ = 4.0 Hz, ${}^{13}CH_{3}$), 1.50 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.48 (dd, 3H, ${}^{1}J_{C-H}$ = 129.2 and ${}^{3}J_{C-H}$ = 4.0 Hz, ${}^{13}CH_{3}$), 1.47-1.37 (m, 21H, 7*CH₃), 1.19 (s, 3H, CH₃), 0.96 (d, 3H, J = 7.0 Hz, CH₃), 0.93 (d, 3H, J = 7.0 Hz, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) ($C(^{13}CH_3)_2$ signal is not observed), δ 175.9 (CO), 175.3 (CO), 175.0 (CO), 174.2 (CO), 174.0 (CO), 172.9 (CO), 156.3 (CO), 136.2 (C), 128.95 (2*CH), 128.89 (2*CH), 128.4 (CH), 67.7 (CH₂), 63.2 (C), 57.02 (C), 56.97 (C), 56.83 (C), 56.80 (C), 52.1 (OCH₃), 35.7 (CH), 27.4 (CH₃), 27.0 (CH₃), 26.96 (CH₃), 26.85 (CH₃), 25.76 (¹³CH₃), 24.5 (¹³CH₃), 23.75 (CH₃), 23.70 (CH₃), 23.54 (CH₃), 23.49 (CH₃), 17.8 (CH₃), 17.5 (CH₃), 17.4 (CH₃); FTIR (ν_{max} cm⁻¹) 3304, 2980, 2937, 1724, 1703, 1651, 1527, 1453, 1381, 1263. **HRMS** calcd for C₃₃¹³C₂H₅₇N₉O₆ [M+H]⁺: 707.4249. Found 707.4245.

<u>Step2:</u> Z-L-(αMe)Val₂₋Aib₄Aib**OMe (S9)

$$CbzHN \longrightarrow H & O \\ M & M & M \\ H & O \\ Mol. Wt.: 819.9969$$

(a) Cbz deprotection: To a solution of Z-L-(α Me)ValAib₄Aib**OMe **S8** (30 mg, 0.04 mmol) in MeOH (5 mL) at RT and under inert atmosphere was added Pd/C (3 mg, 0.003 mmol, 10 Wt%). The atmosphere was purged with hydrogen and the reaction was stirred for 12 h under hydrogen (1 atm). After this time, the reaction was filtered through a Celite (MeOH) and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂, washed with aqueous saturated solution of NaHCO₃, brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to give H-L-(α Me)ValAib₄Aib**OMe (22 mg, 95%) as a white solid which was used in the next step without further purification.

(b) Acid fluoride formation: To a solution of Z-L-(α Me)ValOH (23 mg, 0.09 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (1 mL) at RT were added pyridine (7 μ L, 0.11 mmol) and fluoro-*N*,*N*,*N'*,*N'*-tetramethylformamidinium hexafluorophosphate (36 mg, 0.13 mmol). After stirring for 3 h at RT, the reaction was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and the organic phase was washed three times with ice-cold H₂O, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting acid fluoride crude material was used in the next step without further purification.

(c) amide bond formation: To a solution of H-L-(α Me)ValAib₄Aib**OMe (22 mg, 0.042 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (1.5 mL) at RT were added N,N-diisopropylethylamine (14 μ L, 0.083 mmol) and a solution of crude step (b) in CH₂Cl₂ (0.5 mL). The reaction was stirred at RT for 5 days. After this time, the reaction was diluted with CH_2CI_2 , washed with an aqueous solution of $KHSO_4$ (5 Wt%), a saturated aqueous solution of $NaHCO_3$, brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (gradient starting from 70:30 to 40:60 / petroleum ether: EtOAc) to give **S9** (20 mg, 61%) as a white solid; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D}$ +37.0 (c 1.0, CHCl₃); **M.p.** = 247-248 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, **CDCl**₃) δ 7.63 (br s, 2H, NH), 7.48 (s, 1H, NH), 7.40 (s, 1H, NH), 7.34-7.27 (br s, 6H, 5*^{Ar}CH and NH), 6.28 (s, 1H, NH), 5.15 (s, 1H, NH), 5.12 (d, 1H, AB syst, J_{AB} = 12.0 Hz, CH₂), 4.96 (d, 1H, AB syst, J_{AB} = 12.0 Hz, CH₂), 3.61 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 1.84-1.74 (m, 1H, CH), 1.62-1.56 (m, 1H, CH), 1.49 (dd, 3H, ¹J_{C-H} = 129.2 and ³J_{C-H} = 4.0 Hz, ¹³CH₃), 1.48 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.44 (dd, 3H, ¹J_{C-H} = 129.2 and ³J_{C-H} = 4.0 Hz, ¹³CH₃), 1.45-1.35 (m, 24H, 8*CH₃), 1.33 (s, 3H, CH₃), 0.92 (d, 3H, J = 7.0 Hz, CH₃), 0.90 (d, 3H, J = 7.0 Hz, CH₃), 0.72 (d, 3H, J = 7.0 Hz, CH₃), 0.71 (d, 3H, J = 7.0 Hz, CH_3); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.9 (CO), 175.8 (CO), 175.2 (CO), 175.1 (CO), 174.4 (CO), 172.5 (2*CO), 156.4 (CO), 135.9 (C), 128.9 (3*CH), 128.8 (2*CH), 67.8 (CH₂), 63.6 (C), 62.5 (C), 57.05 (C), 56.96 (C), 56.87 (C), 56.77 (C), 55.9 (t, C(¹³CH₃)₂, J_{C-C} = 36.5 Hz), 52.1 (OCH₃), 36.2 (CH), 35.9 (CH), 28.0 (CH₃), 27.5 (CH₃), 27.4 (CH₃), 27.3 (CH₃), 25.9 (¹³CH₃), 24.3 (¹³CH₃), 23.1 (2*CH₃), 23.0 (CH₃), 22.9 (CH₃), 18.26 (CH₃), 18.22 (CH₃), 17.5 (CH₃), 17.4 (CH₃), 17.23 (CH₃), 17.17 (CH₃); **FTIR** (ν_{max} cm⁻¹) 3370, 2974, 2927, 1734, 1703, 1684, 1661, 1641, 1522, 1459, 1384, 1260. **HRMS** calcd for C₃₉¹³C₂H₆₈N₇O₁₀ [M+H]⁺: 820.5089. Found 820.5086.

• Dilution study of foldamer S9 in CDCl₃ at 296 K



Figure S24. Dilution experiment: portions of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of foldamer S9 at 296 K; [S9] = $46.0 \rightarrow 0.1 \text{ mM}$.



Figure S25. Plot the anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in foldamer **S9** *vs* [**S9**] (mM) recorded in CDCl₃ at 296 K.
• Variable temperature experiments of foldamer S10 in CDCl₃ at different concentrations



Figure S26. Variable temperature experiment: portions of the ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of foldamer **S10**; **[S10]** = 10 mM.



Figure S27. Variable temperature experiment: portions of the ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of foldamer **S10**; **[S10]** = 2.5 mM.



Figure S28. Variable temperature experiment: portions of the ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of foldamer **S10**; **[S10]** = 0.5 mM.



Figure S29. Plot of the anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in foldamer **S10** vs the temperature (T, K) recorded in CDCl₃ at 296 K; (-) [**S10**] = 10 mM; (-) [**S10**] = 2.5 mM; (-) [**S10**] = 0.5 mM.

Coalescence was observed between 260 and 280 K (Figures S25, S26 and S27) and the helical excess at 293 K was determined in each case using the formula h.e. = ($\Delta \delta_{fast}$ at 293 K / $\Delta \delta_{slow}$ at 233 K) x 100.⁶ The values are summarized in Table S6 and were found to be constant over the range of concentrations of foldamer **S10**.

Entry	[S10] (mM)	Δδ _{fast} (ppb) at 293 K	$\Delta\delta_{slow}$ (ppb) at 233 K	h.e. (%)
1	10	3502	4864	72
2	2.5	3564	4834	73
3	0.5	3564	4841	73

Table S6. Helical excess of foldamer S10 determined at 293 K

• Determination of an estimated value of $\Delta \delta_{slow}$ for ¹³C NMR reporter in foldamer S9

(a) The variable temperature ¹³C NMR experiments carried out with foldamer **S10** allowed the determination of $\Delta\delta_{slow}$ (4864 ppb) in CDCl₃ for foldamers having a ¹³C NMR probe inserted in the middle of the Aib backbone (Figure S30, eq. 1).

(b) Irrespective of the difference in their chiral inducers (Z α MeVal- and Z α MeVal₂-), both foldamers **S10** and **S11** have an identical ¹³C NMR helicity probe located in the same position in their Aib chain. Therefore, the previous value of $\Delta\delta_{slow}$ (4864 ppb) was used to calculate the helical excess of foldamer **S11** in CDCl₃. The value obtained (92%) was found to be in agreement with the value of the helical excess obtained for foldamer **S11** in THF (Figure S30, eq. 2).⁷

(c) Since both foldamers **S9** and **S11** have the same chiral controller ($Z\alpha MeVal_2$ -) covalently attached to their *N*-terminus positions and a similar ¹³C NMR probe located four Aib residues after the chiral controller, the probes in foldamers **S9** and **S11** should experience approximately equal local helical excess. Using this assumption in conjunction with the formula previously described, the value of $\Delta \delta_{slow}$ in CDCl₃ for foldamers having a ¹³C-labelled Aib methyl ester probe located at their *C*-terminal position is estimated to be 1771 ppb (Figure S30, eq. 3). This value was used to calculate the helical excess reported in Table 1.

$(eq. 1) \qquad (bzHN) \qquad H \qquad $	h.e. ([S10] = 10 mM) = (3510/ 4864)⊠100 = 72%
	h.e. ([S11] = 10 mM) = (4470/ 4864)፻100 = 92%
	h.e. = $\frac{\boxed{22}}{\boxed{22}} \frac{fast}{slow}$ 2 100 \Rightarrow 22 $slow$ = $\frac{\boxed{22}}{h.e.}$ 2 100 h.e. ([S9] = 10 mM)= 92% and $\boxed{22} \frac{fast}{fast}$ (ppb) = 1630
	<pre></pre>



^[6] Solà, J.; Morris, G. M.; Clayden; J. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2011, 133, 3712–3715.

^[7] Byrne, L.; Solà, J.; Boddaert, T.; Marcelli, T.; Adams, R. W.; Morris, G. M.; Clayden; J. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2014, 53, 151–155.

V. Titration studies of F with HA

Procedure for the titration of F2 with HA4: foldamer **F2** (0.005 mmol, 2.6 mg) was directly weighed in an NMR tube to which CDCl₃ (0.5 mL) was added. Portions of **HA4** (0.0015 mmol, 1.1 mg) were added to the NMR tube containing the solution of **F2**. After each addition of **HA4**, the NMR tube was shaken vigorously for 1 min and ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. The portions of ¹H and ¹³C spectra of **F2** in the presence of **HA4** are shown in Figure S31-33. The plot of the anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in **F2** *vs* the ratio **HA4:F2** is shown in Figure S34. <u>NB:</u> broadening in the ¹H NMR spectra did not allow accurate integrations of diagnostic signals of **HA4** and **F2**, therefore the ratios **HA4:F2** were uncorrected.

Procedure for the titration of F4 with HA1: foldamer **F4** (0.005 mmol, 2.9 mg) was directly weighed in an NMR tube to which CDCl₃ (0.5 mL) was added. Portions of **HA1** in CDCl₃ (0.0015 mmol, 5 µL, 0.3 M) were added to the NMR tube containing the solution of **F4**. After each addition of **HA1**, the NMR tube was vigorous shaken for 1 min then ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. The portions of the ¹H and ¹³C spectra of **F4** in the presence of **HA1** are shown in Figures S35-37. The plot of the anisochronicity (Δδ, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in **F4** *vs* the ratio **HA1**:**F4** is shown in Figure S38. <u>NB:</u> ratios **HA1**:**F4** were corrected by integrating diagnostic signals of **HA1** and **F4** in the ¹H NMR spectra.

Procedure for the titration of F4 with HA4: foldamer **F4** (0.005 mmol, 2.9 mg) was directly weighed in an NMR tube to which CDCl₃ (0.5 mL) was added. Portions of **HA4** (0.0015 mmol, 1.1 mg) were added to the NMR tube containing the solution of **F4**. After each addition of **HA4**, the NMR tube was vigorous shaken for 1 min then ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. The portions of the ¹H and ¹³C spectra of **F4** in the presence of **HA4** are shown in Figures S39-41. The plot of the anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in **F4** *vs* the ratio **HA4**:**F4** is shown in Figure S42. <u>NB:</u> ratios **HA4**:**F4** were corrected by integrating diagnostic signals of **HA4** and **F4** in the ¹H NMR spectra.

Procedure for the titration of F4 with HA6: foldamer **F4** (0.005 mmol, 2.9 mg) was directly weighed in an NMR tube to which CDCl₃ (0.5 mL) was added. Portions of **HA6** (0.0015 mmol, 1.0 mg) were added to the NMR tube containing the solution of **F4**. After each addition of **HA6**, the NMR tube was shaken vigorously for 1 min, then ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. The portions of the ¹H and ¹³C spectra of **F4** in the presence of **HA6** are shown in Figures S43-45. The plot of the anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in **F4** *vs* the ratio **HA6:F4** is shown in Figure S46. <u>NB:</u> broadening in the ¹H NMR spectra did not allow accurate integrations of diagnostic signals of **HA6** and **F4**, therefore the ratios **HA6:F4** were uncorrected.



Figure S31. Titration experiment: portions of the ¹H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) spectra of **F2** recorded at 296 K in the presence of different numbers of equivalents of **HA4**; [**F2**] = 10 mM.



Figure S32. Titration experiment: portions of the ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of **F2** recorded at 296 K in the presence of different numbers of equivalents of **HA4**; [**F2**] = 10 mM.



Figure S33. Titration experiment: portions of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) spectra of **F2** recorded at 296 K in the presence of different numbers of equivalents of **HA4**; [**F2**] = 10 mM.



Figure S34. Plot of the anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in **F2** *vs* the ratio **HA4:F2** recorded in CDCl₃ at 296 K; [**F2**] = 10 mM.







Figure S36. Titration experiment: portions of the ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of **F4** recorded at 296 K in the presence of different numbers of equivalents of **HA1**; 8.8 < [**F4**] < 10 mM; (\diamond) δ H_{AB}.



Figure S37. Titration experiment: portions of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) spectra of **F4** recorded at 296 K in the presence of different numbers of equivalents of **HA1**; 8.8 < [**F4**] < 10 mM.



Figure S38. Plot of the anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in **F4** *vs* the ratio **HA1:F4** recorded in CDCl₃ at 296 K; 8.8 < [**F4**] < 10 mM.



Figure S39. Titration experiment: portions of the ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of **F4** recorded at 296 K in the presence of different numbers of equivalents of **HA4**; [**F4**] = 10 mM; (\blacktriangle) δ H4; (\blacksquare) δ H5; (\bullet) δ H6.



Figure S40. Titration experiment: portions of the ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of **F4** recorded at 296 K in the presence of different numbers of equivalents of **HA4**; [**F4**] = 10 mM; (\blacklozenge) δ H_{AB}.



Figure S41. Titration experiment: portions of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) spectra of **F4** recorded at 296 K in the presence of different numbers of equivalents of **HA4**; [**F4**] = 10 mM.



Figure S42. Plot of the anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in **F4** *vs* the ratio **HA4:F4** recorded in CDCl₃ at 296 K; **[F4]** = 10 mM.



Figure S43. Titration experiment: portions of the ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of **F4** recorded at 296 K in the presence of different numbers of equivalents of **HA6**; [**F4**] = 10 mM; (•) δ H6; (\blacktriangle) δ H4.



Figure S44. Titration experiment: portions of the ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of **F4** recorded at 296 K in the presence of different numbers of equivalents of **HA6**; [**F4**] = 10 mM; (\blacklozenge) δ H_{AB}.



Figure S45. Titration experiment: portions of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) spectra of **F4** recorded at 296 K in the presence of different numbers of equivalents of **HA6**; [**F4**] = 10 mM.



Figure S46. Plot of the anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in **F4** *vs* the ratio **HA6:F4** recorded in CDCl₃ at 296 K; [**F4**] = 10 mM.

VI. Dilution studies for systems $HA \leftrightarrow F$

Procedure for the dilution experiment of systems HA4 \leftrightarrow F2: A NMR sample of HA4 \leftrightarrow F2 ([F2] = 10 mM, [F2] = 12 mM) prepared according the procedure used to establish Table 1 was diluted with CDCl₃ until [F2] = 0.1 mM. After each dilution, the NMR tube was vigorous shaken for 1 min then ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. The portions of the ¹³C spectra of F2 in the presence of HA4 are shown in Figure S47. The plot of the anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in F2 vs [F2] (mM) is shown in Figure S48.

Procedure for the dilution experiment of systems HA1 \leftrightarrow F4: A NMR sample of HA1 \leftrightarrow F4 ([F4] = 10 mM, [HA1] = 15 mM) prepared according the procedure used to establish Table 1 was diluted with CDCl₃ until [F4] = 0.1 mM. After each dilution, the NMR tube was vigorous shaken for 1 min then ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. The portions of the ¹³C spectra of F4 in the presence of HA1 are shown in Figure S49. The plot of the anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in F4 vs [F4] (mM) is shown in Figure S50.

Procedure for the dilution experiment of systems HA4 \leftrightarrow **F4:** A NMR sample of HA4 \leftrightarrow **F4** ([**F4**] = 10 mM, [HA4] = 12 mM) prepared according the procedure used to establish Table 1 was diluted with CDCl₃ until [**F4**] = 0.1 mM. After each dilution, the NMR tube was vigorous shaken for 1 min then ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. The portions of the ¹³C spectra of **F4** in the presence of **HA4** are shown in Figure S51. The plot of the anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in **F4** *vs* [**F4**] (mM) is shown in Figure S52.

Procedure for the dilution experiment of systems HA6 \leftrightarrow **F4**: A NMR sample of HA6 \leftrightarrow **F4** ([**F4**] = 10 mM, [HA6] = 12 mM) prepared according the procedure used to establish Table 1 was diluted with CDCl₃ until [**F4**] = 0.1 mM. After each dilution, the NMR tube was vigorous shaken for 1 min then ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. The portions of the ¹³C spectra of **F4** in the presence of **HA6** are shown in Figure S53. The plot of the anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in **F4** *vs* [**F4**] (mM) is shown in Figure S54.



Figure S47. Dilution experiment: portions of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of **F2** at 296 K in the presence of **HA4**; **HA4**:**F2** = 1.2:1; [**F2**] = $10 \rightarrow 0.1 \text{ mM}$; [**HA4**] = $12 \rightarrow 0.12 \text{ mM}$.



Figure S48. Plot of the anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in **F2** *vs* [**F2**] (mM) recorded in CDCl₃ at 296 K; **HA4:F2** = 1.2:1.



Figure S49. Dilution experiment: portions of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of **F4** at 296 K in the presence of **HA1**; **HA1**:**F4** = 1.5:1; [**F4**] = $10 \rightarrow 0.1$ mM; [**HA1**] = $15 \rightarrow 0.15$ mM.



Figure S50. Plot of the anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in **F4** *vs* [**F4**] (mM) recorded in CDCl₃ at 296 K; **HA1:F4** = 1.5:1.





Figure S51. Dilution experiment: portions of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of **F4** at 296 K in the presence of **HA4**; **HA4**:**F4** = 1.2:1; [**F4**] = $10 \rightarrow 0.1$ mM; [**HA4**] = $12 \rightarrow 0.12$ mM.



Figure S52. Plot the anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in **F4** *vs* [**F4**] (mM) recorded in CDCl₃ at 296 K; **HA4:F4** = 1.2:1.





Figure S53. Dilution experiment: portions of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of **F4** at 296 K in the presence of **HA6**; **HA6**:**F4** = 1.2:1; [**F4**] = $10 \rightarrow 0.1 \text{ mM}$; [**HA6**] = $12 \rightarrow 0.12 \text{ mM}$.



Figure S54. Plot of the anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in **F4** *vs* [**F4**] (mM) in CDCl₃ at 296 K; **HA6:F4** = 1.2:1.

VII. Influence of MeOH-d3 on HA4↔F4 system

MeOH-d3 was gradually added to an NMR sample containing the **HA4** \leftrightarrow **F4** system which was prepared according the procedure used to establish Table 1. After each addition of MeOH-d3, the NMR tube was vigorous shaken for 1 min then ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. The portions of the ¹³C spectra of **F4** in the presence of **HA4** and MeOH-d3 are shown in Figure S55. The plot of the anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in **F4** *vs* the percentage of **MeOH-d3** (%) added to **F4** is shown in Figure S56.



$$ppm$$
 26,5 26 25,5 25 24,5 24 23,5

Figure S55. Portions of the ¹³C (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra in **F4** recorded at 296 K in the presence of **HA4** and MeOH-d3; [**F4**] = $10 \rightarrow 7$ mM; [**HA4**] = $12 \rightarrow 8.5$ mM; MeOH-d3 / $0 \rightarrow 40\%$.



Figure S56. Plot the anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in **F4** recorded at 296 K for the system **HA4** \leftrightarrow **F4** *vs* the percentage of MeOH-d3 (%).

VIII. Influence of HCl on F4 in CDCl₃ at 296 K

Foldamer **F4** (0.005 mmol, 2.9 mg) was directly weighed in an NMR tube, to which $CDCI_3$ (0.5 mL) was added. A solution of HCl (0.015 mmol, 20 μ L, 0.75 M) in $CDCI_3$:dioxane (5.3:1), prepared from commercially available solution of HCl in dioxane (4 M), was added to the NMR tube containing the solution of **F4**. The NMR tube was shaken vigorously for 1 min and the ¹H spectrum of the resultant solution was recorded at 296 K. The portions of the ¹H spectra of **F4** and of **F4** in the presence of HCl are shown in Figure S57.



Figure S57. Portions of the ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of **F4**, and **F4** in the presence of HCl (3.0 equiv.) both recorded at 296 K; [**F4**] = $10 \rightarrow 9.6$ mM; () δ H3; () δ H4; () δ H5; () δ H6.

IX. Estimation of the binding constants for the systems HA1↔F4, HA4↔F4 and HA6↔F4

The estimation of the order of magnitude of the binding constants (K) for the systems $HA1 \leftrightarrow F4$, $HA4 \leftrightarrow F4$ and $HA6 \leftrightarrow F4$ have been obtained using the program DYNAFIT.⁸

• For the **HA1**↔**F4** system, a 1:1 binding model has been used to fit the experimental data from the corresponding titration experiment. Four different spectroscopic outputs were fitted:

- a) The anisochronicities ($\Delta\delta$) of the two diastereotopic signals ¹³C of the NMR probe from Figure S37.
- b) The anisochronicities ($\Delta\delta$) of the two diastereotopic signals ¹H of the 2-pyridylacetamide motif **B4** from Figure S36.⁹
- c) The chemical shift difference of the aromatic proton in position 4 ($\Delta\delta$ H4) of the 2-pyridylacetamide motif **B4** with respect to δ^{0} H4 = 7671 ppb (**HA1** = 0 equiv.) of **F4** from Figure S35.
- d) The chemical shift of the aromatic proton in position 6 ($\Delta\delta$ H6) of the 2-pyridylacetamide motif **B4** with respect to δ^{0} H6 = 8468 ppb (**HA1** = 0 equiv.) of **F4** from Figure S35.

In each cases, three binding constants (K = 10^3 , 10^4 and 10^5 M⁻¹) have been simulated and plotted alongside the experimental data. The results are shown Figures S58-61.

• For the HA1 \leftrightarrow F4 system, a 1:1 binding model has been used to fit the experimental data from the corresponding titration experiment (Figure 41). The anisochronicities ($\Delta\delta$) of the two diastereotopic signals ¹³C of the NMR probe have been simulated and plotted alongside the experimental data using three binding constants (K = 10³, 10⁴ and 10⁵ M⁻¹). The results are shown Figure S62.

• For the HA6 \leftrightarrow F4 system, a 2:1 binding model have been used in order to fit the experimental data of the corresponding titration experiment (Figure S45). The anisochronicities ($\Delta\delta$) of the two diastereotopic signals ¹³C of the NMR probe have been simulated and plotted alongside the experimental data. In this case, two sets of fitting have been performed: a) K = 10⁵, 10⁶, 10⁷ and 10⁸ M⁻¹ with K' = 10⁴ M⁻¹; b) K = 10⁷ M⁻¹ with K' = 10³, 10⁴, 10⁵ and 10⁶ M⁻¹. The results are shown Figures S63 and S64.

^[8] Kuzmic, P. Anal. Biochem. **1996**, 237, 260–273.

^[9] Anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$) in this AB systems was calculated from the formula: $\Delta\delta = [(v_1 - v_4) \times (v_2 - v_3)]^{1/2}$



Figure S58. Anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in **F4** vs [**HA1**] (M): (**X**) Plot of the experimental data recorded in CDCl₃ at 296 K; 0.088 < [**F4**] < 0.010 M. Curves fits shown for a 1:1 binding model using the program DynaFit: K = 10³ M⁻¹ (-), K = 10⁴ M⁻¹ (-), K = 10⁵ M⁻¹ (-).

No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)	
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.00840965	0.000132323	1.57	
#2	r(HA1.F4) (Δδ/M)	100000	117441	1558.63	1.33	

Optimized Parameters for $K = 10^3 M^{-1}$

Optimized Parameters for $K = 10^4 M^{-1}$

No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.0102202	0.000630884	6.17
#2	r(HA1.F4) (Δδ/M)	100000	89216.2	4532.79	5.08

No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.010253	0.000691109	6.74
#2	r(HA1.F4) (Δδ/M)	100000	86858.2	5048.47	5.81



Figure 59. Anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹H signals of the NMR probe in **F4** vs [**HA1**] (M): (**X**) Plot of the experimental data recorded in CDCl₃ at 296 K; 0.088 < [**F4**] < 0.010 M. Curves fits shown for a 1:1 binding model using the program DynaFit: K = 10³ M⁻¹ (-), K = 10⁴ M⁻¹ (-), K = 10⁵ M⁻¹ (-).

	Optimized Parameters for K = 10 W							
No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)			
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.00837463	0.000129025	1.54			
#2	r(HA1.F4) (Δδ/M)	10000	18696.2	251.208	1.34			

Optimized Parameters for K = 10³ M⁻¹

Optimized Parameters for $K = 10^4 M^{-1}$

No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.00972676	0.000785506	8.08
#2	r(HA1.F4) (Δδ/M)	10000	14829.8	1069.09	7.21

No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.00952711	0.000870217	9.13
#2	r(HA1.F4) (Δδ/M)	10000	14820.1	1261.74	8.51



Figure 60. Chemical shift difference ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the aromatic proton in position 4 in **F4** vs [**HA1**] (M): (**X**) Plot of the experimental data recorded in CDCl₃ at 296 K; 0.088 < [**F4**] < 0.010 M. Curves fits shown for a 1:1 binding model using the program DynaFit: K = 10³ M⁻¹ (—), K = 10⁴ M⁻¹ (—), K = 10⁵ M⁻¹ (—).

	Optimized Parameters for K = 10 M							
No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)			
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.00860129	0.000443531	5.16			
#2	r(HA1.F4) (Δδ/M)	10000	15353.3	687.709	4.48			

Optimized Parameters for K = 10³ M⁻¹

Optimized Parameters for $K = 10^4 M^{-1}$

No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.0102394	0.000554792	5.42
#2	r(HA1.F4) (Δδ/M)	10000	11942.9	569.319	4.77

No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.0100106	0.000727985	7.27
#2	r(HA1.F4) (Δδ/M)	100000	11931.8	808.548	6.78



Figure 61. Chemical shift difference ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the aromatic proton in position 6 in **F4** vs [**HA1**] (M): (**X**) Plot of the experimental data recorded in CDCl₃ at 296 K; 0.088 < [**F4**] < 0.010 M. Curves fits shown for a 1:1 binding model using the program DynaFit: K = 10³ M⁻¹ (—), K = 10⁴ M⁻¹ (—), K = 10⁵ M⁻¹ (—).

	Optimized Parameters for K = 10 M						
No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)		
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.00942117	0.000326581	3.47		
#2	r(HA1.F4) (Δδ/M)	100000	15091.4	447.622	2.97		

Optimized Parameters for K = 10³ M⁻¹

Optimized Parameters for $K = 10^4 M^{-1}$

No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.0110802	0.00112555	10.16
#2	r(HA1.F4) (Δδ/M)	100000	11856.9	1023.3	8.63

No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.0101312	0.00124573	12.30
#2	r(HA1.F4) (Δδ/M)	100000	12495.1	1430.16	11.45



Figure S62. Anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in **F4** vs [**HA4**] (M): (**X**) Plot of the experimental data recorded in CDCl₃ at 296 K; [**F4**] = 0.010 M. Curves fits shown for a 1:1 binding model using the program DynaFit: K = 10³ M⁻¹ (-), K = 10⁴ M⁻¹ (-), K = 10⁵ M⁻¹ (-)

optimized rarameters for K = 10 M								
No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)			
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.00962265	0.00165074	17.15			
#2	r(HA4.F4) (Δδ/M)	101700	126414	15442.6	12.22			

Optimized Parameters for $K = 10^3 M^{-1}$

Optimized Parameters for $K = 10^4 M^{-1}$

No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.0105973	0.000702324	6.63
#2	r(HA4.F4) (Δδ/M)	101700	101255	4530.43	4.47

No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.0106926	0.000458916	4.29
#2	r(HA4.F4) (Δδ/M)	101700	96986.6	2985.36	3.08



Figure S63. Anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in **F4** *vs* [**HA6**] (M): (**X**) Plot of the experimental data recorded in CDCl₃ at 296 K; [**F4**] = 0.010 M. Curves fits shown for a 2:1 binding model using the program DynaFit: K = 10⁵ M⁻¹ and K' = 10⁴ M⁻¹ (--), K = 10⁶ M⁻¹ and K' = 10⁴ M⁻¹ (--), K = 10⁷ M⁻¹ and K' = 10⁴ M⁻¹ (--), K = 10⁷ M⁻¹ and K' = 10⁴ M⁻¹ (--).

Optimized Parameters for $K1 = 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1}$ and $K2 = 10^4 \text{ M}^{-1}$

No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.0128113	0.00102255	7.98
#2	r(HA6.F4) (Δδ/M)	1000	10368.7	866.497	8.36

Optimized Parameters for $K1 = 10^6 \text{ M}^{-1}$ and $K2 = 10^4 \text{ M}^{-1}$

No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.0124041	0.000387968	3.13
#2	r(HA6.F4) (Δδ/M)	1000	8433.23	330.68	3.92

Optimized Parameters for $K1 = 10^7 \text{ M}^{-1}$ and $K2 = 10^4 \text{ M}^{-1}$

No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.0123462	0.0002391	1.94
#2	r(HA6.F4) (Δδ/M)	1000	7916.27	204.668	2.59

Optimized Parameters for $K1 = 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1}$ and $K2 = 10^4 \text{ M}^{-1}$

No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.0124054	0.000232729	1.88
#2	r(HA6.F4) (Δδ/M)	1000	7765.17	189.937	2.45



Figure 64. Anisochronicity ($\Delta\delta$, ppb) of the two diastereotopic ¹³CH₃ signals of the NMR probe in **F4** vs [**HA6**] (M): (**X**) Plot of the experimental data recorded in CDCl₃ at 296 K; [**F4**] = 0.010 M. Curves fits shown for a 2:1 binding model using the program DynaFit: K = 10⁷ M⁻¹ and K' = 10³ M⁻¹ (-), K = 10⁷ M⁻¹ and K' = 10⁴ M⁻¹ (-), K = 10⁷ M⁻¹ and K' = 10⁵ M⁻¹ (-), K = 10⁷ M⁻¹ and K' = 10⁶ M⁻¹ (-).

Optimized Parameters for $K1 = 10^7 \text{ M}^{-1}$ and $K2 = 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1}$

No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.0118217	0.000613102	5.19
#2 r(HA6.F4) (Δδ/M)	1000	7968.98	645.66	8.10

Optimized Parameters for $K1 = 10^7 \text{ M}^{-1}$ and $K2 = 10^4 \text{ M}^{-1}$

No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.0123462	0.0002391	1.94
#2	r(HA6.F4) (Δδ/M)	1000	7916.27	204.668	2.59

Optimized Parameters for $K1 = 10^7 \text{ M}^{-1}$ and $K2 = 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1}$

No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.0124978	0.000360341	2.88
#2	r(HA6.F4) (Δδ/M)	1000	8385.48	296.071	3.53

Optimized Parameters for $K1 = 10^7 \text{ M}^{-1}$ and $K2 = 10^6 \text{ M}^{-1}$

No.	Par#Set	Initial	Final	Std. Error	CV (%)
#1	[F4] (M)	0.01	0.0134769	0.000712328	5.29
#2	r(HA6.F4) (Δδ/M)	1000	9991.32	595.802	5.96

X. Estimation of relative pKa values of acids in 1,2-dichloroethane

The pK_a values of acids **HA1**, **HA4** and **HA6** in 1,2-dichloroethane (DCE) relative to 2,4,6trinitrophenol were estimated by linear regression method. For **HA4** and **HA6**, absolute pK_a values of a set of acids in acetonitrile^{10,11,12,13} were correlated with corresponding relative pK_a values in 1,2dichloroethane.^{10,14} Separate correlations were built for OH and NH acids. The numerical data are shown in Table S7.

As there were no suitable acidity data reported for **HA1**, the dissociation energies of 8 OH acids were calculated using COSMO-RS method¹⁵ and correlated with their relative pK_a values in DCE. Calculations were carried out with software packages Turbomole V6.2¹⁶ and COSMOtherm Version C3.0 release 14.01¹⁷ (with default parametrization). The BP functional with TZVP basis set and RI approximation were used.¹⁸ Calculated dissociation energy values are shown in Table S7. Parameters of linear regressions:

HA1: 8 OH acids, R²=0.9915
HA4: 7 OH acids, R²=0.9941
HA6: 7 NH acids, R²=0.9967

In order to confirm the usability of DCE as model for chloroform the Gibbs free energy differences between acids and their anions were calculated in chloroform using COSMO-RS, and the results correlated with pK_a data in 1,2-dichloroethane. The obtained R² values, 0.97 for OH acids and 0.96 for OH acids, confirm the validity of DCE as a model for chloroform.

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		p <i>K</i> a		∆G _{diss} (kcal/mol)
Acid	Туре	in MeCN (abs) ^a	in DCE (rel) ^b	in DCE
Phenol	он	29.14 [ref 13]	19.6 [ref 14]	81.8
Acetic acid	он	23.51[ref 11]	15.5 [ref 14]	75.8
(CF₃)₃COH	он	20.55 [ref 11]	9.2 [ref 14]	67.3
2,4,6-trinitrophenol	он	11.0	0	56.3
2,4,6-(SO ₂ F) ₃ -phenol	он	5.53	-5.9	47.1
2,4,6-Tf ₃ -phenol	он	4.80	-6.4	49.5
TfOH	он	0.70 [ref 10]	-11.4	41.6
C(CN)2=C(CN)OH	он		-8.8	41.4
4-NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄ SO ₂ NHTos	NH	10.04	-1.5	59.8
4-NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄ SO ₂ -NH-SO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄ -4-Cl	NH	9.17	-2.4	58.6
(4-NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄ -SO ₂) ₂ -NH	NH	8.19	-3.7	56.6
4-CI-C ₆ H ₄ SO(=NTf)-NH-Tos	NH	5.14	-6.8	53.9
4-CI-C ₆ H ₄ SO(=NTf)-NH-SO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄ -4-Cl	NH	4.34	-7.6	52.7
4-NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄ SO ₂ NHTf	NH	4.39	-7.8	50.8
$4-CI-C_6H_4SO(=NTf)-NH-SO_2-C_6H_4-4-NO_2$	NH	3.62	-8.9	48.7
HA1	он			70.9
HA4	ОН	13.6 [ref 12]		59.5
HA6	NH	6.7 [ref 12]		55.1

Table S7. Acidity data used for pK_a estimation: ^aAbsolute pK_a values, experimental data from reference 18, if not stated otherwise; ^brelative pK_a values, experimental data from reference 10, if not stated otherwise.

XI. VT ¹³C NMR experiments of F4 with 0.5 equiv. of HA1 and F4 with 0.5 equiv. of HA4



Figure S65. Variable temperature experiment: portions of the ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of **F4** in the presence of **HA1;** [**F4**] = 10 mM, [**HA1**] = 5 mM



Figure S66. Variable temperature experiment: portions of the ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) spectra of **F4** in the presence of **HA4;** [**F4**] = 10 mM, [**HA4**] = 5 mM

XII. Line shapes simulation of the ¹³C NMR spectra

Experimental methyl region ¹³C NMR spectra for the titration of **F4** with **HA4** from 0 to 0.9 equivalents at +22 °C, and for a mixture of 0.5 equivalents of **HA4** with **F4** as a function of temperature from –38 to +40 °C, were fitted as a single combined dataset to a basic analytical 4+4 site model for the spectral bandshape of the two **F4** methyl signals, using the program Mathematica. (Titration data beyond 0.9 equivalents were discarded because of evidence for multiple binding). The model is summarised in Fig. S67, and involves exchange between the left- and right-handed forms of bound and unbound **F4**. To keep the number of variable parameters within bounds it makes a number of simplifying assumptions, including that there is no direct exchange between bound and unbound **F4** of opposite chirality (i.e. dissociation and inversion are not concerted), that the rate constants for binding are independent of chirality (i.e. that the bound chiral preference is reflected solely in the dissociation rate constants), and that the chemical shifts of the two methyls in bound **F4** are exchanged by inversion (i.e. that the effect of the distant bound **HA4** on the chemical shift difference between the two methyls is negligible). The two-bond coupling between the labelled methyl carbons is unresolved under the conditions used and so is neglected.



Figure S67. Exchange processes for the 4+4 site exchange model for the two methyl resonances of **F4** binding reversibly to **HA4**. The two methyls (**a** and **b**) are found in left- and right-handed forms (**I** and **r**) bound and unbound (**b** and **u**) to **HA4**.

The calculation is simplified by the requirements that the concentrations of left-and right-handed free **F4** be equal, and that the chemical shifts of the two methyl resonances exchange on helix inversion. Since there is no direct exchange between the two methyl groups in a given **F4** molecule, the final bandshape for the reporter methyl region reduces to the result of adding together the independent results of calculating the 4-site exchange spectra for the two different methyl resonances. The 4-site bandshape is calculated analytically by solving four coupled sets of the complex Bloch equations for transverse magnetization in the steady state.

The principal uncertainty in the calculation is the true difference in chemical shift $\Delta\delta$ between the reporter methyl signals; iteration including this as a parameter tends to diverge, so a series of iterative fits were performed for different estimated values and the best fit by eye selected. The complete set of species and processes in Fig. S67 involves far too many parameters for reliable fitting, so some fairly drastic assumptions are necessary. Enthalpy differences between species are neglected, except in the case of helicity preference. Binding of **HA4** to **F4** is tight under all the conditions studied, so it is not possible to differentiate between the activation energies of the association and dissociation processes and a value has to be assumed for one or other. The activation energy is assumed to be the same for left-and right-handed **HA4-F4** dissociation, and the same for left-right interconversion in bound and unbound **F4**.

The fitting process finds the lowest sum of squares of differences between experimental and calculated data by varying the rate constants at 295 K and the activation energies for each of the processes shown in Fig S67, the enthalpy difference ΔH_b between the left- and right-handed bound forms of bound F4, the average change $\Delta \delta_b$ in the two methyl signal chemical shifts between bound and unbound F4, the chemical shift difference $\Delta \delta_{lim}$ between the two bound methyl signals in the limit of fast exchange (which is directly linked to the equilibrium constant between left-and right-handed bound forms of F4 and to the helicity excess), and the vertical scale factor for the spectral data. The activation energy for the association process was, as noted above, arbitrarily fixed at 40 kJ mol⁻¹.

The results of fitting are summarised in Fig. S68, which compares experimental data (filled circles) with simulated spectra (solid lines) for the titration and variable temperature datasets. The parameter values used for Fig. S68 were as follows, with assumed values in italics and iterated values in Roman type. The rate constants at 295 K were $k_{ulr} = 2.7 \times 10^6 \text{ s}^{-1}$, $k_{bul} = 1080 \text{ s}^{-1}$ and $k_2 = 6.8 \times 10^6 \text{ dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$, with corresponding activation energies of 81, 6 and 40 kJ mol⁻¹; the bound left-right exchange rate constants at 295 K k_{blr} and k_{brl} were $5.5 \times 10^5 \text{ s}^{-1}$ and $3.1 \times 10^6 \text{ s}^{-1}$ respectively. The enthalpy difference ΔH_b between left-and right-handed bound **F4** was –19 kJ mol⁻¹. The difference in chemical shift between the reporter methyl signals in the limit of slow exchange, $\Delta\delta$, was 1.5 ppm, the limiting difference in fast exchange, $\Delta\delta_{lim}$, was 1.042 ppm, and the average chemical shift change on dissociation, $\Delta\delta_b$, was +0.083 ppm, corresponding to a helicity at 295 K of 69%.



Figure S68. Experimental (filled circles) and simulated (solid lines) 13 C spectra for (bottom) a mixture of 5 mM HA4 and 10 mM **F4** at temperatures of (bottom to top) -38, -30, -20, -10, 0, 10, 20, 30 and 40 °C, and (top) a 10 mM solution of F4 at 22 °C containing (bottom to top) 9, 7, 5, 3.8 and 0 mM **HA4**.

It should be emphasised that the values of the parameters provided by this fitting vary greatly in their significance. While the average chemical shifts are returned with very good confidence, many of the kinetic parameters are much less reliable, and a wide range of parameter sets exists that will give a good fit between theory and experiment. Even without the uncertainties introduced by fitting such a large number of parameters, the kinetic model will be incomplete at low temperatures, where other conformational processes will begin to slow down to the point where they cause significant line broadening. This biases the results of the fitting and, for example, exaggerates the difference in enthalpy between left-and right-handed bound **F4**. The purpose of the fitting exercise is not to try to obtain physically realistic parameters for the many different processes of Fig S67, but rather to provide convincing evidence for the overall form of the network of exchange processes shown there.

● Switching induction ON and OFF in system HA1↔F4

1. A solution of **HA1** (0.0075 mmol, 0.5 mL, 15 mM) was added to foldamer **F4** (0.005 mmol, 2.9 mg) which was directly weighed in an NMR tube. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4** in the presence of **HA1** is shown in Figure 4b.

2. A commercially available solution of NH_3 in dioxane (15 µL, 0.0075 mmol, 0.5 M) was directly added in the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 4b. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4** in the presence of **HA1** and **NH3** is shown in Figure 4c.

3. A solution of **HCI** in CDCl₃:dioxane / 5.3:1 (0.0075 mmol, 10 μ L, 0.75 M), prepared from commercially available solution of HCI in dioxane (4 M) was directly added in the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 4c. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4** in the presence of **HA1**, **NH₃** and **HCI** is shown in Figure 4d.



Switching induction ON and OFF in system HA4↔F4

1. HA4 (0.0075 mmol, 5.6 mg) and foldamer **F4** (2.9 mg, 0.005 mmol) were directly weighed in an NMR tube to which $CDCl_3$ (0.5 mL) was added. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for

1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4** in the presence of **HA4** is shown in Figure 4f.

2. A commercially available solution of NH_3 in dioxane (15 µL, 0.0075 mmol, 0.5 M) was directly added in the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 4f. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4** in the presence of **HA1** and **NH3** is shown in Figure 4g.

3. A solution of **HCI** in CDCl₃:dioxane / 5.3:1 (0.0075 mmol, 10 μ L, 0.75 M), prepared from commercially available solution of HCI in dioxane (4 M) was directly added in the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 4g. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4** in the presence of **HA4**, **NH₃** and **HCI** is shown in Figure 4h.



XIV. Absolute screw sense induction in F4* induced by (S)-HA1, (S)-HA4 and (S)-HA6 (Figure 5a-c)

A solution of (*S*)-**HA1** (0.0075 mmol, 0.5 mL, 15 mM) was added to foldamer **F4*** (2.9 mg, 0.005 mmol) which was directly weighed in an NMR tube. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4*** in the presence of (*S*)-**HA1** are shown in Figure 5a.

(*S*)-**HA4** (0.0075 mmol, 5.6 mg) and foldamer **F4*** (2.9 mg, 0.005 mmol) were directly weighed in an NMR tube to which CDCl₃ (0.5 mL) was added. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4*** in the presence of (*S*)-**HA4** is shown in Figure 5b.

(*S*)-**HA6** (0.0075 mmol, 4.8 mg) and foldamer **F4*** (2.9 mg, 0.005 mmol) were directly weighed in an NMR tube to which CDCl₃ (0.5 mL) was added. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4*** in the presence of (*S*)-**HA6** is shown in Figure 5c.


XV. Conformational switching experiments of foldamer F4* (Three-component system: Figure 6)

1. A solution of (*S*)-**HA1** (0.0075 mmol, 0.5 mL, 15 mM) was added to foldamer **F4*** (0.005 mmol, 2.9 mg) which was directly weighed in an NMR tube. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4*** in the presence of (*S*)-**HA1** is shown in Figure 6b.

2. (*R*)-**HA4** (0.0075 mmol, 5.6 mg) was directly added to the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 6b. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of (*S*)-**HA1** and (*R*)-**HA4** is shown in Figure 6c.

3. A commercially available solution of NH_3 in dioxane (15 µL, 0.0075 mmol, 0.5 M) was directly added to the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 6c. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of F4* in the presence of (*S*)-HA1, (*R*)-HA4 and NH₃ is shown in Figure 6d.



4. A solution of **HCI** in CDCl₃:dioxane / 5.3:1 (0.0075 mmol, 10 μ L, 0.75 M), prepared from commercially available solution of HCI in dioxane (4 M) was directly added to the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 6d. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4*** in the presence of (*S*)-**HA1**, (*R*)-**HA4**, **NH**₃ and **HCI** is shown in Figure 6e.

5. A commercially available solution of NH_3 in dioxane (15 µL, 0.0075 mmol, 0.5 M) was directly added to the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 6e. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of F4* in the presence of (*S*)-HA1, (*R*)-HA4 and 2*NH₃ is shown in Figure 6f.

6. A commercially available solution of NH_3 in dioxane (15 µL, 0.0075 mmol, 0.5 M) was directly added to the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 6f. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of F4* in the presence of (*S*)-HA1, (*R*)-HA4 and **3*NH₃** is shown in Figure 6g.



7. A solution of **HCI** in CDCl₃:dioxane / 5.3:1 (0.0225 mmol, 30 μ L, 0.75 M), prepared from commercially available solution of HCI in dioxane (4 M) was directly added in the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 6g. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4*** in the presence of (*S*)-**HA1**, (*R*)-**HA4**, **3*NH₃** and **3*HCI** is shown in Figure 6h.



XVI. Conformational switching experiments of foldamer F4* (Four-component system: Figure 7)

1. A solution of (*R*)-**HA1** (0.0075 mmol, 0.5 mL, 15 mM) was added to foldamer **F4*** (0.005 mmol, 2.9 mg) which was directly weighed in an NMR tube. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4** in the presence of (*R*)-**HA1** is shown in Figure 7b.

2. (*S*)-**HA4** (0.0075 mmol, 5.6 mg) was directly added in the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 7b. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4*** in the presence of (*R*)-**HA1** and (*S*)-**HA4** is shown in Figure 7c.



3. (*S*)-**HA6** (0.0075 mmol, 4.8 mg) was directly added in the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 7c. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4*** in the presence of (*R*)-**HA1**, (*S*)-**HA4** and (*S*)-**HA6** is shown in Figure 7d.

4. A commercially available solution of NH_3 in dioxane (15 µL, 0.0075 mmol, 0.5 M) was directly added in the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 7d. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of F4* in the presence of (*R*)-HA1, (*S*)-HA4, (*S*)-HA6 and NH₃ is shown in Figure 7e.

5. A commercially available solution of NH_3 in dioxane (15 µL, 0.0075 mmol, 0.5 M) was directly added in the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 7e. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of F4* in the presence of (*R*)-HA1, (*S*)-HA4, (*S*)-HA6 and 2*NH₃ is shown in Figure 7f



6. A commercially available solution of NH_3 in dioxane (15 µL, 0.0075 mmol, 0.5 M) was directly added in the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 7f. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of F4* in the presence of (*R*)-HA1, (*S*)-HA4, (*S*)-HA6 and **3*NH₃** is shown in Figure 7g.

7. A solution of **HCI** in CDCl₃:dioxane / 5.3:1 (0.0225 mmol, 30 μ L, 0.75 M), prepared from commercially available solution of HCI in dioxane (4 M) was directly added in the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 7g. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4*** in the presence of (*R*)-**HA1**, (*S*)-**HA4**, (*S*)-**HA6**, **3*NH₃** and **3*HCI** is shown in Figure 7h.



XVII. Conformational switching experiment of foldamer F4* (Four-component system: Figure 8)

1. A solution of (*R*)-**HA1** (0.0075 mmol, 0.5 mL, 15 mM) was added to foldamer **F4** (0.005 mmol, 2.9 mg) which was directly weighed in an NMR tube. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4*** in the presence of (*R*)-**HA1** is shown in Figure 8b.

2. (*S*)-**HA4** (0.0075 mmol, 5.6 mg) was directly added in the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 8b. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4*** in the presence of (*R*)-**HA1** and (*S*)-**HA4** is shown in Figure 8c.

3. (*S*)-**HA6** (0.0075 mmol, 4.8 mg) was directly added in the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 8c. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4*** in the presence of (*R*)-**HA1**, (*S*)-**HA4** and (*S*)-**HA6** is shown in Figure 8d.



4. A solution of proton sponge (**PS**) in CDCl_3 (25 μ L, 0.0075 mmol, 0.3 M) was directly added in the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 8d. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4*** in the presence of (*R*)-**HA1**, (*S*)-**HA4**, (*S*)-**HA6** and **PS** is shown in Figure 8e.

5. A solution of proton sponge (**PS**) in CDCl₃ (25 μ L, 0.0075 mmol, 0.3 M) was directly added in the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 8e. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4*** in the presence of (*R*)-**HA1**, (*S*)-**HA4**, (*S*)-**HA6** and **2*PS** is shown in Figure 8f.

6. A solution of proton sponge (**PS**) in CDCl₃ (25 μ L, 0.0075 mmol, 0.3 M) was directly added in the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 8f. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4*** in the presence of (*R*)-**HA1**, (*S*)-**HA4**, (*S*)-**HA6** and **3*PS** is shown in Figure 8g.



7. A solution of **HCI** in CDCl₃:dioxane / 5.3:1 (0.0075 mmol, 10 μ L, 0.75 M), prepared from commercially available solution of HCI in dioxane (4 M) was directly added in the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 8g. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4*** in the presence of (*R*)-**HA1**, (*S*)-**HA4**, (*S*)-**HA6**, **3*PS** and **HCI** is shown in Figure 8h.

8. A solution of **HCI** in CDCl₃:dioxane / 5.3:1 (0.0075 mmol, 10 μ L, 0.75 M), prepared from commercially available solution of HCI in dioxane (4 M) was directly added in the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 8h. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4*** in the presence of (*R*)-**HA1**, (*S*)-**HA4**, (*S*)-**HA6**, **3*PS** and **2*HCI** is shown in Figure 8i.

9. A solution of **HCI** in CDCl₃:dioxane / 5.3:1 (0.0075 mmol, 10 μ L, 0.75 M), prepared from commercially available solution of HCI in dioxane (4 M) was directly added in the NMR tube of the NMR sample from Fig. 8i. After vigorous shaking of the NMR tube for 1 min, ¹H and ¹³C spectra of the resultant solution were recorded at 296 K. A portion of the ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **F4*** in the presence of (*R*)-**HA1**, (*S*)-**HA4**, (*S*)-**HA6**, **3*PS** and **3*HCI** is shown in Figure 8j.











¹H, CDCI₃, 400 MHz

`N´ H

O

F3









¹H, CDCI₃, 400 MHz



































----113.63











F

H

¹⁹F, CDCl₃:MeOH-d4 (1:1), 376 MHz

Н

I ⊖

Ń.










---113.67









----113.62















