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Review

Synthesis of Neutral Metallodendrimers Possessing Adamantane Termini: Supramolecular Assembly with β -Cyclodextrin

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ABSTRACT: First and second generations of $1 \rightarrow (2 + 1)$ C-branched metallodendrimers were prepared employing terpyridine–Ru^{II}–terpyridine connectivity. Each surface dendron is comprised of a terpyridinyl (focal group), a diester (capable of easy hydrolysis), and a terminal adamantyl moiety (for encapsulation). Internal incorporation of counterbalancing carboxylate moieties derived by ester cleavage with formic acid and subsequent treatment of the intermediate diacid with base gave access to overall charge–neutral dendritic macromolecules. Aqueous solubility was effected by the supramolecular encapsulation of the terminal adamantane moieties with β -cyclodextrin, causing dissolution of the water-insoluble dendrimers (**11** and **15**) into an aqueous environment.

Introduction

In recent years, metallodendritic chemistry^{1–11} has emerged as one of the most interesting topics within suprasupermolecular chemistry^{12–15} due to the inherent novel physical properties. This has facilitated studies in sensor arrays,¹⁶ optical,¹⁷ redox,¹⁸ electrochemical,^{19–24} and photochemical characteristics^{20,25–31} as well as biological diagnostic^{32,33} and catalytic attributes.^{34–42} Such metallodendrimers generally incorporate metal ions into their infrastructure via use as cores, branching centers, arm connectors, and termini or by metal incorporation at specific loci within the preassembled dendritic framework. In our previous work,^{43–50} the bis(2,2';6',2''-terpyridine)ruthenium(II) complex (i.e., [$-\langle\text{Ru}\rangle-$]) has been employed as a building block connector and has afforded entrance to numerous metallodendritic assemblies, all utilizing external counterions, such as Cl[−], BF₄[−], and PF₆[−]. Recently, Schubert and co-workers^{51–65} have utilized this [$-\langle\text{Ru}\rangle-$] mode of connectivity for the assembly of related stable metallostars as well as linear polymers.

Later, we reported overall charge–neutral metallodendrimers,^{45,47,49} incorporating [$-\langle\text{Ru}\rangle-$] connectivity and covalently connected, internal carboxylate moieties as the neutralizing counterions. This change from external to internal counterions in these zwitterionic metallodendrimers yielded a marginal effect on their spectra, stability, and most of the physical properties; however, the solubility of these neutral species decreased in polar solvents, such as MeOH and H₂O when

compared to those constructs possessing external Cl[−] counterions, which were quite soluble in the same solvents.

To circumvent this limited solubility, the covalent and noncovalent incorporation of water-soluble units onto the dendritic framework was necessary. Toward this goal, the use of β -cyclodextrin (β -CD), one of the cyclic oligosaccharides, presented an attractive option due to its demonstrated potential to form stable inclusion complexes with molecular guests in aqueous solution.^{66,67} For example, β -CD strongly binds to adamantane by forming a 1:1 inclusion complex with a stability constant⁶⁸ on the order of 10^4 M^{-1} . The use of CDs, as cores, for dendritic construction has been reported,⁶⁹ and they have subsequently been shown to readily host adamantane units that serve as polymer caps. Among the many reports using β -CD as the molecular host are the elegant works of Kaifer et al.,⁷⁰ in which the CDs readily encapsulate cobaltocenes attached to a dendritic surface, Lui et al.,⁷¹ where bis(pseudopolyrotaxane)s are encircled with β -CDs creating a threaded polymer chain, and Michels, Huskens, and Reinhoudt,⁷² who employed the phenomenon for gold and platinum nanoparticle construction.

Thus, as an extension of our previous work, we designed a series of new $1 \rightarrow (2 + 1)$ branching monomers⁷³ (e.g., **6**) possessing in this case covalently attached: (1) an adamantyl guest for encapsulation of a β -CD host and (2) a focal terpyridinyl moiety, for metal connectivity, with neighboring dicarboxylate groups. Herein, we describe the formation of metallodendrimers possessing either 4 or 12 [$-\langle\text{Ru}\rangle-$] linkages initially employing external counterions and subsequent conversion to internal counterions; then finally we probed the host–guest character of the terminal adamantane units with β -CD.

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Experimental Section

General Section. The melting points were determined in capillary tubes with an Electrothermal 9100 apparatus and are uncorrected. All commercially available solvents were used without further purification, except for THF, which was dried by refluxing with benzophenone/Na under N₂. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded at 300 and 75 MHz, respectively, on a Bruker Gemini 300 spectrometer and were obtained in CDCl₃, unless otherwise stated. Mass spectral data were obtained on either a Bruker Esquire-LC ion trap mass spectrometer (ESI-MS) or an ABI Voyager-DE STR mass spectrometer (MALDI-TOF).

Di-*tert*-butyl 4-[3-(2-Cyanoethoxy)propyl]-4-[4-(2,2';6',2''-terpyridin-4'-yloxy)butyrylamino]heptanedioate (3). To a stirred solution of 4-[4'-oxa-(2,2';6',2''-terpyridinyl)]butanoic acid⁴⁴ (**2**; 2.415 g, 7.202 mmol) in DMF (20 mL) was added DCC (1.486 g, 7.202 mmol) and 1-HOBT (973 mg, 7.202 mmol) at 25 °C. After 30 min, amine⁷⁴ **1** (2.87 g, 7.202 mmol) was added. After stirring for 24 h at 25 °C, the mixture was filtered. The filtrate was concentrated in vacuo to give a crude product, which was column chromatographed (basic Al₂O₃) eluting with a 1:1 mixture of *n*-hexane/EtOAc to afford (67%) nitrile **3** as a white solid: 3.47 g; mp 129–130 °C. ¹H NMR δ: 1.41 [s, 18H, C(CH₃)₃], 1.48 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂O), 1.78 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂CH₂O), 1.95 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H, CH₂CH₂CO₂), 2.16 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂CONH), 2.22 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H, CH₂CO₂), 2.37 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, CH₂CONH), 2.53 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H, CH₂CN), 3.40 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H, CH₂O), 3.56 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H, OCH₂CH₂CN), 4.26 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H, tpyOCH₂), 5.79 (s, 1H, NH), 7.32 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 4.8, 0.9 Hz, 2H, 5,5''-tpyH), 7.84 (td, *J* = 7.8, 1.5 Hz, 2H, 4,4''-tpyH), 8.01 (s, 2H, 3',5'-tpyH), 8.61 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H, 3,3''-tpyH), 8.68 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 2H, 6,6''-tpyH). ¹³C NMR δ: 18.9 (CH₂CN), 23.8 (CH₂CH₂O), 25.2 (CH₂CH₂CONH), 28.2 (CH₃), 30.0 (CH₂CO₂), 30.3 (CH₂CH₂CO₂), 31.6 (CH₂CONH), 33.5 (CH₂CH₂CH₂O), 57.9 (CONHC), 65.4 (OCH₂CH₂CN), 67.3 (CH₂O), 71.4 (tpyOCH₂), 80.8 (CMe₃), 107.5 (3',5'-tpyC), 118.0 (CN), 121.5 (3,3''-tpyC), 124.0 (5,5''-tpyC), 137.0 (4,4''-tpyC), 149.2 (6,6''-tpyC), 156.2 (2,2''-tpyC), 157.3 (2',6'-tpyC), 167.2 (4'-tpyC), 171.6 (CONH), 173.1 (CO₂Bu). ESI-MS for C₄₀H₅₃N₅O₇: calcd 715.4, found 737.9 (M + Na)⁺.

Di-*tert*-butyl 4-[3-(3-Aminopropoxy)propyl]-4-[4-(2,2';6',2''-terpyridin-4'-yloxy)butyrylamino]heptanedioate (4). To a solution of nitrile **3** (2.20 g, 3.073 mmol) in MeOH (120 mL) was added Raney cobalt⁷⁵ (2.0 g, slurry in water); the mixture was stirred under 40 atm of H₂ for 6 h at 40 °C. After cooling to 25 °C, the mixture was filtered and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo to afford (98%) amine **4** as a liquid: 2.17 g. ¹H NMR δ: 1.41 [s, 18H, C(CH₃)₃], 1.48 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂O), 1.66 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂NH₂), 1.75 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂CH₂O), 1.98 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 4H, CH₂CH₂CO₂), 2.16 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂CONH), 2.21 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 4H, CH₂CH₂CO₂), 2.37 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H, CH₂CONH), 2.76 (br t, 2H, CH₂NH₂), 3.34 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H, OCH₂CH₂CH₂NH₂), 3.42 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H, CH₂O), 4.26 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H, tpyOCH₂), 5.85 (s, 1H, NH), 7.32 (ddd, *J* = 6.9, 5.4, 0.9 Hz, 2H, 5,5''-tpyH), 7.84 (td, *J* = 7.8, 1.5 Hz, 2H, 4,4''-tpyH), 8.00 (s, 2H, 3',5'-tpyH), 8.61 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H, 3,3''-tpyH), 8.67 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 2H, 6,6''-tpyH). ¹³C NMR δ: 23.5 (CH₂CH₂O), 25.0 (CH₂CH₂CONH), 27.9 (CH₃), 29.8 (CH₂CO₂), 30.0 (CH₂CH₂CO₂), 30.4 (CH₂CH₂NH₂), 31.4 (CH₂CONH), 33.3 (CH₂CH₂CH₂O), 37.3 (CH₂NH₂), 57.5 (CONHC), 67.1 (CH₂O), 69.0 (OCH₂CH₂CH₂NH₂), 70.7 (tpyOCH₂), 80.4 (CMe₃), 107.2 (3,3'-tpyC), 121.2 (3,3''-tpyC), 123.8 (5,5''-tpyC), 136.7 (4,4''-tpyC), 148.9 (6,6''-tpyC), 155.9 (2,2''-tpyC), 157.0 (2',6'-tpyC), 166.9 (4'-tpyC), 171.4 (CONH), 172.8 (CO₂Bu). ESI-MS for C₄₀H₅₇N₅O₇: calcd 719.4, found 720.0 (M + H)⁺.

Di-*tert*-butyl 4-[3-[3-(Adamantane-1-carbonyl)amino]propoxy]propyl]-4-[4-(2,2';6',2''-terpyridin-4'-yloxy)butyrylamino]heptanedioate (6). To a stirred mixture of amine **4** (1.26 g, 1.75 mmol) and Et₃N (212 mg, 2.10 mmol) dissolved in dry THF (15 mL) was slowly added a solution of 1-(chlorocarbonyl)adamantane⁷⁶ (**5**; 417 mg, 2.10 mmol) in dry THF (5 mL) at 0 °C. After addition, the mixture was slowly warmed to 25 °C and stirred for a further 6 h. The mixture was then filtered and concentrated in vacuo to give a crude

product, which was column chromatographed (Al₂O₃) eluting with an equal mixture of *n*-hexane/EtOAc to afford (84%) the pure bisamide **6** as a colorless liquid: 1.30 g. ¹H NMR δ: 1.42 [s, 18H, C(CH₃)₃], 1.50 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂O), 1.70–2.01 (m, 15H, adamantane), 1.73 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂NHCO), 1.75 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂CH₂O), 1.97 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H, CH₂CH₂CO₂), 2.17 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂CONH), 2.22 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H, CH₂CH₂CO₂), 2.38 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H, CH₂CONH), 3.31 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H, CH₂NHCO), 3.37 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H, OCH₂CH₂CH₂NHCO), 3.45 (t, *J* = 6.0, 5.7 Hz, 2H, CH₂CH₂CH₂O), 4.27 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H, tpyOCH₂), 5.92 (s, 1H, NH), 7.32 (ddd, *J* = 6.0, 4.5, 1.2 Hz, 2H, 5,5''-tpyH), 7.84 (td, *J* = 7.8, 1.5 Hz, 2H, 4,4''-tpyH), 8.01 (s, 2H, 3',5'-tpyH), 8.61 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H, 3,3''-tpyH), 8.69 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 2H, 6,6''-tpyH). ¹³C NMR δ: 23.8 (CH₂CH₂O), 25.1 (CH₂CH₂CONH), 28.1 (CH₃), 28.2 (CH of adamantane), 29.1 (CH₂CH₂NHCO), 29.9 (CH₂CO₂), 30.2 (CH₂CH₂CO₂), 31.5 (CH₂CONH), 33.4 (CH₂CH₂CH₂O), 36.6 and 39.3 (CH₂ of adamantane), 37.8 (C⁴ of adamantane), 40.5 (CH₂NHCO), 57.7 (CONHC), 67.3 (CH₂O), 69.8 (OCH₂CH₂CH₂NHCO), 70.7 (tpyOCH₂), 80.4 (CMe₃), 107.2 (3,3'-tpyC), 121.4 (3,3''-tpyC), 123.9 (5,5''-tpyC), 136.9 (4,4''-tpyC), 149.1 (6,6''-tpyC), 156.1 (2,2''-tpyC), 157.2 (2',6'-tpyC), 167.2 (4'-tpyC), 171.6 (CONH), 173.1 (CO₂Bu), 178.0 (CO-adamantane). ESI-MS for C₅₁H₇₁N₅O₈: calcd 881.5, found 904.5 (M + Na)⁺.

Di-*tert*-butylruthenium(III) Complex of 4-[3-[3-(Adamantyl-1-carbonyl)amino]propoxy]propyl]-4-[4-(2,2';6',2''-terpyridin-4'-yloxy)butyrylamino]heptanedioate (7). To a solution of bisamide **6** (1.10 g, 1.247 mmol) in MeOH (50 mL) was added RuCl₃·H₂O (326 mg, 1.247 mmol), and then the mixture was refluxed for 2 h. Upon cooling to 25 °C, the resultant solid was filtered and washed successively with MeOH (5 mL), water (10 mL), and MeOH (5 mL) and then dried in vacuo to afford (76%) the Ru(III) complex **7** as a red solid (1.03 g), which was used without further purification.

Tetrakisruthenium(II) Metallodendrimer (9). To a suspension of complex **7** (192 mg, 176 μmol) in MeOH (15 mL) was added a solution of tetrakis(terpyridine) core⁴⁴ (**8**; 52 mg, 40 μmol) and *N*-ethylmorpholine (25 mg) in CHCl₃ (5 mL) at 25 °C, and then the mixture was refluxed for 2 h. After cooling to 25 °C, the mixture was filtered and the filtrate was sealed into a membrane (cutoff mass = 1000) to dialyze for 24 h. The solution inside the membrane was concentrated in vacuo to give (91%) the Ru(II) complex **9** as a red solid: 200 mg; mp >210 °C. ¹H NMR (CD₃OD) δ: 1.38 [s, 72H, C(CH₃)₃], 1.53–2.58 (br m, 140H, CH, CH₂), 3.22 (br t, 8H, CH₂NH), 3.42 (m, 16H, OCH₂), 3.56 (s, 4H, NH), 3.78 (br s, 8H, C⁴CH₂O), 3.89 (br t, 8H, OCH₂), 4.61 and 4.77 (br t, 16H, tpyOCH₂), 7.22 (br m, 16H, 5,5''-tpyH), 7.50 (br m, 16H, 6,6''-tpyH), 7.92 (m, 16H, 4,4''-tpyH), 8.64 (br s, 16H, 3',5'-tpyH), 8.73–8.78 (br m, 16H, 3,3''-tpyH). ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD) δ: 24.8 (CH₂CH₂O), 26.1 (CH₂CH₂CONH), 28.5 [C(CH₃)₃], 29.7 (CH of adamantane), 30.6 (CH₂CH₂O), 30.8 (CH₂CH₂NHCO), 30.9 (CH₂CO₂), 31.0 (CH₂CH₂CO₂), 32.1 (CH₂CONH), 33.6 (CH₂CH₂CH₂O), 37.7 and 40.3 (CH₂ of adamantane), 38.2 (C⁴ of adamantane), 41.8 (CH₂NHCO), 47.1 (C⁴), 59.1 (CONHC), 68.8, 69.3, 70.1, 70.6, 71.7, 72.1 (all CH₂O), 81.6 (CMe₃), 112.6 (3,3'-tpyC), 126.0 (3,3''-tpyC), 129.0 (5,5''-tpyC), 139.2 (4,4''-tpyC), 153.5 (6,6''-tpyC), 157.9 (2,2''-tpyC), 160.0 (2',6'-tpyC), 167.6 and 167.8 (4'-tpyC), 174.7 (CONH, CO₂), 180.7 (CO-adamantane). MALDI-TOF MS for C₂₈₁H₃₅₆Cl₈N₃₂O₄₀Ru₄: calcd 5506.05 (M⁺), found 5506 (broad signal; 2,5-dihydroxybenzoic acid (DHB) matrix).

Octaacid Metallodendrimer (10). Octaester (**9**; 150 mg, 28.7 μmol) was dissolved in HCO₂H (10 mL) and stirred for 6 h at 25 °C. After removal of HCO₂H in vacuo, the residue was dissolved in MeOH to dialyze for 24 h, and then the solution was concentrated in vacuo to afford (97%) octaacid **10** as a red solid: 134 mg; mp >275 °C. ¹H NMR (CD₃OD) δ: 1.48–2.49 (br m, 140H, CH, CH₂), 3.15 (br t, 8H, CH₂NH), 3.33 (m, 16H, OCH₂), 3.76 (br s, 8H, C⁴CH₂O), 3.86 (br t, 8H, OCH₂CH₂CH₂O), 4.55 and 4.72 (br t, 16H, tpyOCH₂), 7.19 (br m, 16H, 5,5''-tpyH), 7.45 (br m, 16H, 6,6''-tpyH), 7.88 (m, 16H, 4,4''-tpyH), 8.62 (br s, 16H, 3',5'-tpyH), 8.69 (br m, 16H, 3,3''-tpyH). ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD) δ: 25.0 (CH₂CH₂O), 26.0 (CH₂CH₂CONH), 29.7 (CH of adamantane), 30.6 (OCH₂CH₂CH₂O), 30.9 (CH₂CH₂NHCO), 32.2 (CH₂CONH), 32.4 (CH₂CO₂), 33.7 (CH₂CH₂

CO₂), 37.7 and 40.4 (CH₂ of adamantane), 38.4 (CH₂CH₂CH₂O), 38.5 (C^o of adamantane), 41.9 (CH₂NHCO), 47.1 (C⁴), 59.4 (CONHCO), 68.7, 69.4, 70.1, 70.5, 71.8, 72.4 (all CH₂O), 112.5, 112.7 (3,3'-tpyC), 126.0 (3,3''-tpyC), 128.9, 129.1 (5,5''-tpyC), 139.2 (4,4''-tpyC), 153.4, 153.6 (6,6''-tpyC), 157.9, 158.0 (2,2''-tpyC), 160.0, 160.1 (2',6'-tpyC), 167.7 (4'-tpyC), 174.2 (CONH), 180.4 (CO₂H), 180.7 (CO-adamantane). MALDI-TOF MS for C₂₄₉H₂₉₂Cl₈N₃₂O₄₀Ru₄: calcd 5057.548 (M⁺), found 4807.97 (M - 7Cl)⁺, 4771.74 (M - 8Cl)⁺, 3-indoleacrylic acid (IAA) as matrix.

Neutral Tetrakisruthenium Metallodendrimer (11). Octaacid **10** (120 mg, 23.7 μmol) was dissolved in a mixture of MeOH (10 mL) and aqueous KOH solution (10 mL, 1 N) and then rapidly stirred at 25 °C. After 30 min, the solution was sealed into a membrane (cutoff mass = 1000) and dialyzed for 24 h. The solution inside the membrane was concentrated in vacuo to dryness to afford (98%) the neutral metallodendrimer **11** as a red solid: 111 mg; mp > 260 °C (dec). ¹H NMR (CD₃OD) δ: 1.58–2.58 (br m, 140H, CH, CH₂, CH₃), 3.21 (br t, 8H, CH₂NH), 3.44 (m, 16H, OCH₂), 3.84 (br s, 8H, C⁴CH₂O), 3.96 (br t, 8H, OCH₂CH₂CH₂O), 4.39 (s, 4H, NH), 4.63 and 4.78 (br t, 16H, tpyOCH₂), 7.25–7.35 (br m, 16H 5,5''-tpyH), 7.46–7.53 (br m, 16H, 6,6''-tpyH), 8.00 (m, 16H, 4,4''-tpyH), 8.61 (br s, 16H, 3',5'-tpyH), 8.71–8.74 (br m, 16H, 3,3''-tpyH). ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD) δ: 24.8 (CH₂CH₂O), 26.0 (CH₂CH₂CONH), 29.5 (CH of adamantane), 30.3 (CH₂CH₂NHCO), 30.6 (CH₂CH₂O), 32.5 (CH₂CONH), 32.9 (CH₂CO₂), 33.5 (CH₂CH₂CO₂), 34.0 (CH₂-CH₂CH₂O), 37.6 and 40.2 (CH₂ of adamantane), 38.2 (C^o of adamantane), 41.8 (CH₂NHCO), 47.0 (C⁴), 59.7 (CONHCO), 68.6, 69.6, 69.9, 70.5, 71.7, 72.5 (all CH₂O), 112.1 and 112.5 (5,5''-tpyC), 125.9, 126.1 (4,4''-tpyC), 128.9, 129.2 (3,3''-tpyC), 139.3, 139.5 (3',5'-tpyC), 153.0, 153.4 (6,6''-tpyC), 157.7, 157.9 (2,2''-tpyC), 159.7, 159.9 (2',6'-tpyC), 167.5, 167.6 (4'-tpyC), 174.7 (CONH), 181.1 (CO-adamantane), 182.6 (CO₂⁻). MALDI-TOF MS for C₂₄₉H₂₈₄N₃₂O₄₀Ru₄: calcd 4770.74 (M + H)⁺, found 4771.97 with an IAA matrix.

Dodecaruthenium(II) Metallodendrimer (13). To a solution of metalloappendage (**7**; 140 mg, 128.5 μmol) in MeOH (10 mL) was added a solution of the dodecaterpyridine core⁴³ (**12**; 34 mg, 8.6 μmol) in CHCl₃ (10 mL) and *N*-ethylmorpholine (20 mg) at 25 °C, and then the mixture was refluxed for 3 h. After cooling, the mixture was filtered and the filtrate was sealed into a membrane (mass cutoff = 3500) to dialyze for 24 h. The solution inside the membrane was concentrated in vacuo to afford (98%) dodecaruthenium(II) complex **13** as a red solid: 140 mg; mp > 240 °C. ¹H NMR (CD₃OD) δ: 1.44 [s, 216H, C(CH₃)₃], 1.58–2.62 (br m, 452H, CH, CH₂), 3.28 (br t, 24H, CH₂NH), 3.47 (m, 48H, OCH₂), 3.78–3.99 (br m, 16H, C⁴CH₂O, OCH₂CH₂CH₂O), 4.66 and 4.87 (br t, 48H, tpyOCH₂), 7.25 (br m, 48H, 5,5''-tpyH), 7.54 (br m, 48H, 6,6''-tpyH), 7.94 (m, 48H, 4,4''-tpyH), 8.69–8.92 (br m, 96H, 3',5'-tpyH, 3,3''-tpyH). ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD) δ: 23.5 (CH₂CH₂O), 24.9 (CH₂CH₂-CONH), 27.3 [C(CH₃)₃], 28.5 (CH of adamantane), 29.4 (CH₂-CH₂NHCO), 29.7 (CH₂CO₂), 29.8 (CH₂CH₂CO₂), 30.9 (C⁴CH₂-CH₂CH₂O), 32.4 (CH₂CH₂CH₂O), 36.5 and 39.2 (CH₂ of adamantane), 37.0 (OCH₂CH₂CONH, C⁴ of adamantane), 40.6 (CH₂NHCO), 45.8 (C⁴), 57.9 (CONHCO), 68.9, 69.5, 70.9 (all CH₂O), 80.4 (CMe₃), 111.4 (3,3'-tpyC), 124.8 (3,3''-tpyC), 127.8 (5,5''-tpyC), 138.0 (4,4''-tpyC), 152.3 (6,6''-tpyC), 156.6, 156.7 (2,2''-tpyC), 158.8, 158.9 (2',6'-tpyC), 166.4 and 166.8 (4'-tpyC), 173.5 (CONH, CO₂), 179.5 (CO-adamantane). MALDI-TOF MS for C₈₄₉H₁₀₇₂Cl₂₄N₁₀₀O₁₁₆Ru₁₂: calcd 16 586.211 (M⁺), found 16 609 (M + Na)⁺ as a broad signal with DHB matrix.

Tetracosaaacid Metallodendrimer (14). Tetracosaaester (**13**; 130 mg, 7.83 μmol) was dissolved in HCO₂H (10 mL) and stirred for 12 h at 25 °C. After removal of HCO₂H in vacuo, the residue was dissolved in MeOH to dialyze for 24 h, and then the solution was concentrated in vacuo to afford (99%) tetracosaaacid **14** as a red solid: 119 mg; mp > 275 °C. ¹H NMR (CD₃OD) δ: 1.59–2.52 (br m, 452H, CH, CH₂), 3.27 (br t, 24H, CH₂NH), 3.47 (m, 48H, OCH₂), 3.78–3.99 (br m, 16H, C⁴CH₂O, OCH₂CH₂CH₂O), 4.66 and 4.87 (br t, 48H, tpyOCH₂), 7.22 (br m, 48H, 5,5''-tpyH), 7.42 (br m, 48H, 6,6''-tpyH), 7.95 (m, 48H, 4,4''-tpyH), 8.65–8.88 (br m, 96H, 3',5'-tpyH, 3,3''-tpyH). ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD) δ: 24.0 (CH₂CH₂O), 24.7 (CH₂CH₂CONH), 28.4

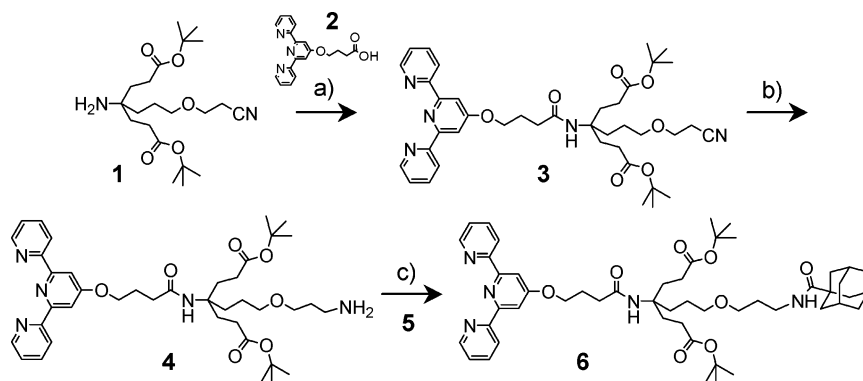
(CH of adamantane), 29.2 (CH₂CH₂NHCO), 30.5 (C⁴CH₂CH₂-CH₂O), 31.3 (CH₂CO₂), 32.7 (CH₂CH₂CO₂), 37.8 (CH₂CH₂-CH₂O), 36.6 and 39.2 (CH₂ of adamantane), 37.6 (OCH₂CH₂-CONH, C^o of adamantane), 40.7 (CH₂NHCO), 45.8 (C⁴), 58.3 (CONHCO), 69.4, 71.5 (all CH₂O), 111.7 (3,3'-tpyC), 125.2 (3,3''-tpyC), 128.1 (5,5''-tpyC), 138.3 (4,4''-tpyC), 152.0 (6,6''-tpyC), 156.5, 156.6 (2,2''-tpyC), 158.5, 158.8 (2',6'-tpyC), 166.5, 166.7 (4'-tpyC), 172.7 (CONH), 179.0 (CO₂H), 179.5 (CO-adamantane). MALDI-TOF MS for C₇₅₃H₈₈₀Cl₂₄N₁₀₀O₁₁₆Ru₁₂: calcd 15 240.71 (M⁺), found 15 263 (M + Na)⁺ as a broad signal with DHB matrix.

Neutral Dodecaruthenium(II) Metallodendrimer (15). Tetracosaaacid **14** (100 mg, 6.6 μmol) was dissolved in a mixture of MeOH (10 mL) and aqueous KOH solution (10 mL, 1 N) and then stirred for 30 min at 25 °C. The solution was sealed into a membrane (cutoff mass = 3500) to dialyze for 24 h. The solution inside the membrane was concentrated in vacuo to dryness to afford (94%) the neutral metallodendrimer **15** as a red solid: 89 mg; mp > 270 °C. ¹H NMR (CD₃OD) δ: 1.57–2.56 (br m, 452H, CH, CH₂), 3.25 (br t, 24H, CH₂NH), 3.45 (m, 48H, OCH₂), 3.62–3.98 (br m, 16H, C⁴CH₂O, OCH₂CH₂-CH₂O), 4.62 and 4.95 (br t, 48H, tpyOCH₂), 7.28 (br m, 48H, 5,5''-tpyH), 7.45 (br m, 48H, 6,6''-tpyH), 8.00 (m, 48H, 4,4''-tpyH), 8.69–8.89 (br m, 96H, 3',5'-tpyH, 3,3''-tpyH). ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD) δ: 24.6 (CH₂CH₂O), 25.4 (CH₂CH₂CONH), 28.9 (CH of adamantane), 29.0 (CH₂CH₂NHCO), 29.9 (C⁴CH₂CH₂-CH₂O), 32.7 (CH₂CO₂), 33.1 (CH₂CH₂CO₂), 37.2 (CH₂CH₂-CH₂O, CH₂ of adamantane), 38.0 (C⁴ of adamantane), 39.7 (CH₂ of adamantane), 41.2 (CH₂NHCO), 45.8 (C⁴), 59.0 (CONHCO), 69.7, 72.2 (all CH₂O), 112.1 (3,3'-tpyC), 125.9 (3,3''-tpyC), 128.7 (5,5''-tpyC), 138.9 (4,4''-tpyC), 152.7 (6,6''-tpyC), 157.1, 157.3 (2,2''-tpyC), 159.1, 159.4 (2',6'-tpyC), 167.2 (4'-tpyC), 173.1 (CONH), 180.0 (CO-adamantane), 181.5 (CO₂⁻). MALDI-TOF MS for C₇₅₃H₈₅₆Cl₂₄N₁₀₀O₁₁₆Ru₁₂: calcd 14 377.27 (M⁺), found 14 400 (M + Na)⁺ using DHB as the matrix.

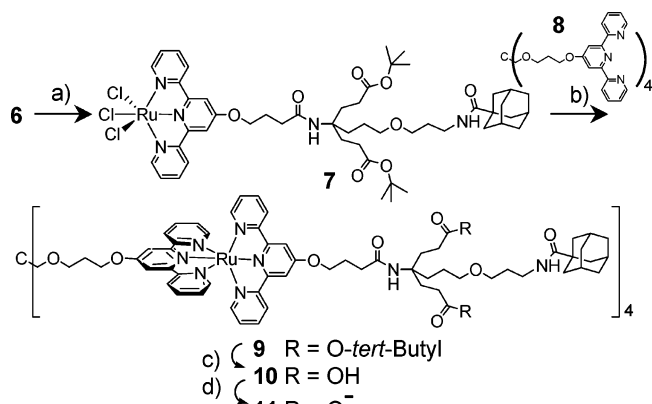
Preparation of Dendrimer-β-Cyclodextrin Complexes. To a solution of β-CD (1 mL of 4 mM D₂O solution, 4 μmol) was added the dendrimer **11** (4.77 mg, 1 μmol), and then the mixture was ultrasonicated for 30 min, affording a clear red solution of the **11**·(β-CD)₄ complex. The complex **11**·(β-CD)₈ was prepared in a similar manner. Attempted preparation of **15**·(β-CD)₂₄ and **15**·(β-CD)₄₈ following the same stoichiometric route failed to give complete dissolution, but when excess of β-CD was added, a clear aqueous red solution was obtained.

Results and Discussion

A. Syntheses of Metallodendrimers. An ideal starting material to prepare the appendage **7** would be a 1 → (2 + 1) branching monomer (**1**; Scheme 1) having both amino and nitrile functionalities, each of which can be selectively manipulated. Thus, amine **1** was reacted with 4-[4'-oxa-(2,2';6',2''-terpyridinyl)]butanoic acid (**2**) under a standard peptide coupling condition^{77,78} to afford (67%) terpyridinyl derivative **3**. Amidation was confirmed by a chemical shift (¹³C NMR) from 52.2 (H₂N^{3°}C) to 57.9 ppm (CONH^{3°}C) and appearance of two carbonyl peaks possessing an approximate 2:1 ratio as well as an ESI MS peak at 737.9 (M + Na)⁺. Reduction of the nitrile group in **3** was accomplished (98%) by means of the Raney cobalt catalyst⁷⁵ under 40 atm of H₂ at 40 °C to afford the corresponding amine **4**, whose structure was confirmed by the chemical shift (¹³C NMR) from 118.0 (CN) to 37.3 ppm (CH₂NH₂) and the ESI-MS peak at 720 (M + H)⁺. The resulting amine **4** was capped by treatment with 1-(chlorocarbonyl)adamantane⁷⁶ (**5**) in the presence of Et₃N to give (84%) the desired terpyridine **6** possessing an adamantyl terminus. Structural confirmation of **6** was supported by a downfield shift (Δ = 3.2 ppm) for CH₂NH₂ to CH₂NHCO and a new peak at 178.0 ppm for the NHCO-adamantane connection as well as the mass peak (ESI-MS) at

Scheme 1^a

^a (a) **2**, DCC, HOBT, DMF, 25 °C, 24 h; (b) Raney Co, MeOH, 40 atm of H₂, 40 °C, ca. 6 h; (c) 1-(chlorocarbonyl)adamantane (**5**), dry THF, Et₃N, 25 °C, 6 h.

Scheme 2^a

^a (a) RuCl₃·3H₂O, reflux 2 h; (b) tetraligand **8**, *N*-ethylmorpholine, MeOH, reflux, 2 h; (c) formic acid, 25 °C, 6 h, dialysis; (d) KOH, MeOH, 25 °C, 30 min, dialysis.

m/z 904.5 ($M + Na$)⁺. This appendage **6** was activated by treatment with RuCl₃·3H₂O in boiling MeOH (Scheme 2) to furnish (76%) the paramagnetic ruthenium(III) complex **7**, which was used without further purification.

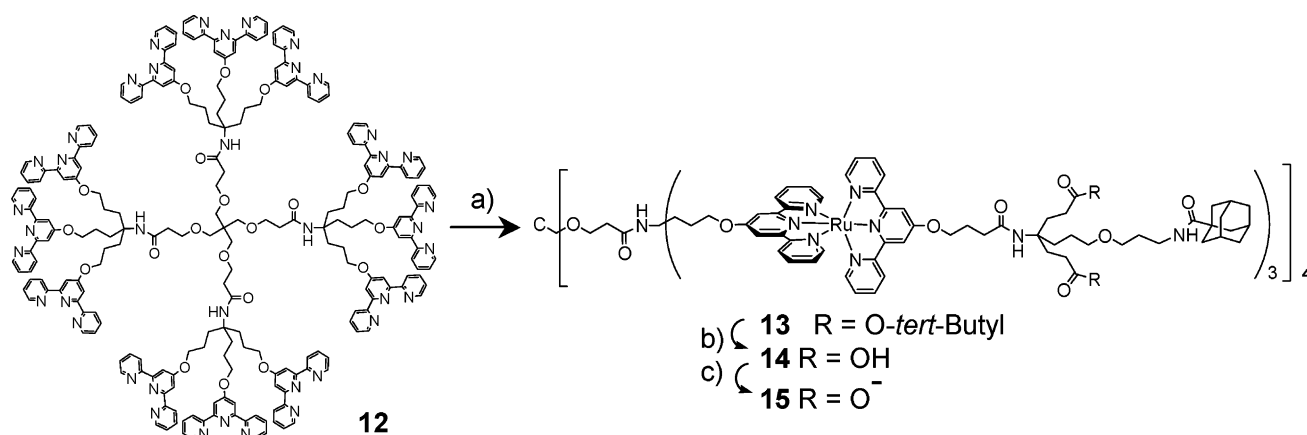
Assembly of two different metallodendrimers (**9** and **13**; Schemes 2 and 3, respectively) was realized via a reductive complexation of this metalloappendage **7** with two different cores **8** and **12**, respectively. Thus, treatment of the simplest core **8** with 4 equiv of metalloappendage **7** in the presence of 4-ethylmorpholine, as reducing agent, in boiling MeOH gave the tetrakis[μ -Ru]-linked metallodendrimer **9**. Although initially appendage **7** possessed limited solubility in MeOH, it readily dissolved upon the addition of the reducing agent to afford the expected deep red [μ -Ru]₄ complex. After dialysis, pure metallodendrimer **9** was isolated, and its structure was confirmed by the molecular peak (MALDI-TOF) at m/z 5057.55. The significant downfield shift (¹³C NMR) of all terpyridine carbons except 4'-tpyC and the appearance of two equal sets of peaks for the terpyridine carbons support the presence of inner and outer complexed terpyridines in the construct.

The *tert*-butyl groups were quantitatively removed by subjecting **9** with formic acid at 25 °C to afford acid metallodendrimer **10**, which was characterized by downfield shift (¹³C NMR) of the carbonyl carbon (Δ = 5.7 ppm), clearly indicative of the transformation to the acid. Formation of its neutral counterpart **11** was accomplished by treatment with a slight excess of KOH

in a H₂O/MeOH solution, followed by dialysis for 24 h. The desired neutral complex **11** was characterized by a downfield shift (¹³C NMR) of the carboxylate carbon (Δ = 2.2 ppm), and the mass peak (MALDI-TOF) at m/z 4771.97 [$(M + H)^+$] further confirmed its composition.

In the similar manner, core **12**⁴³ was reacted with 15 equiv of **7** in boiling MeOH in the presence of 4-ethylmorpholine as reducing agent to give after dialysis (98%) the red, crystalline dodecaruthenium metallodendrimer **13** (Scheme 3), whose structure was confirmed by the MALDI-TOF MS peak at 16 609 for ($M + Na$)⁺ as well as the significant downfield shift (¹³C NMR) of all terpyridine carbons except 4'-tpyC, which, however, demonstrated the in-out (166.4 and 166.8 ppm) orientation of the terpyridine moieties. Removal of *tert*-butyl groups from **13** by treatment with formic acid at 25 °C readily afforded (99%) the metallodendritic acid **14**, which showed a typical downfield shift (¹³C NMR) of the carbonyl carbon (Δ = 5.5 ppm), strongly indicating the transformation into the acid. Treatment of **14** with KOH in H₂O/MeOH solution afforded a hygroscopic red solid, which after dialysis gave (94%) the desired neutral complex **15**. Although peak broadening was observed for the terpyridine carbon signals in the ¹³C NMR spectrum, there was only one downfield shift for the carbonyl carbon (Δ = 2.5 ppm); this coupled with the observed mass peak (MALDI-TOF) at m/z 14 387.38 [$(M + Na)^+$] supports the formation of the carboxylate anions.

B. Complexation of Terminal Adamantane Moieties with β -Cyclodextrin in an Aqueous Medium. The series of adamantyl-terminated dendrimers **9–11** was completely insoluble in water, but in the presence of a slight excess of β -cyclodextrin relative to the end groups, they were readily soluble in the aqueous environment, affording clear red solutions. These observations support the host-guest interactions of the hydrophobic termini within the β -cyclodextrin cavity. To verify this complexation, NMR spectroscopy studies were conducted with neutral dendrimer **11** and β -cyclodextrin (i.e., **16**; Scheme 4) in D₂O. The chemical shift of the H-3 proton (3.84 ppm, uncomplexed) located at the inner surface of the cyclodextrin cavity was monitored relative to the anomeric H-1 proton signal (4.94 ppm). The H-1 peak is insensitive to guest inclusion due to its remote location on the outer cavity surface.^{79,80} As illustrated in Figure 1, prominent upfield shifts of H-3 ($\Delta\delta$ = -0.034 and -0.067) were observed for the mixtures of **11**·(β -CD)₈ and **11**·(β -CD)₄, while the chemical shifts of the H-2 and H-4, positioned outside the

Scheme 3^a

^a (a) 12 equiv of 7, *N*-ethylmorpholine, MeOH, reflux, 3 h; (b) formic acid, 25 °C, 12 h, dialysis; (c) KOH, MeOH, 25 °C, 30 min, dialysis.

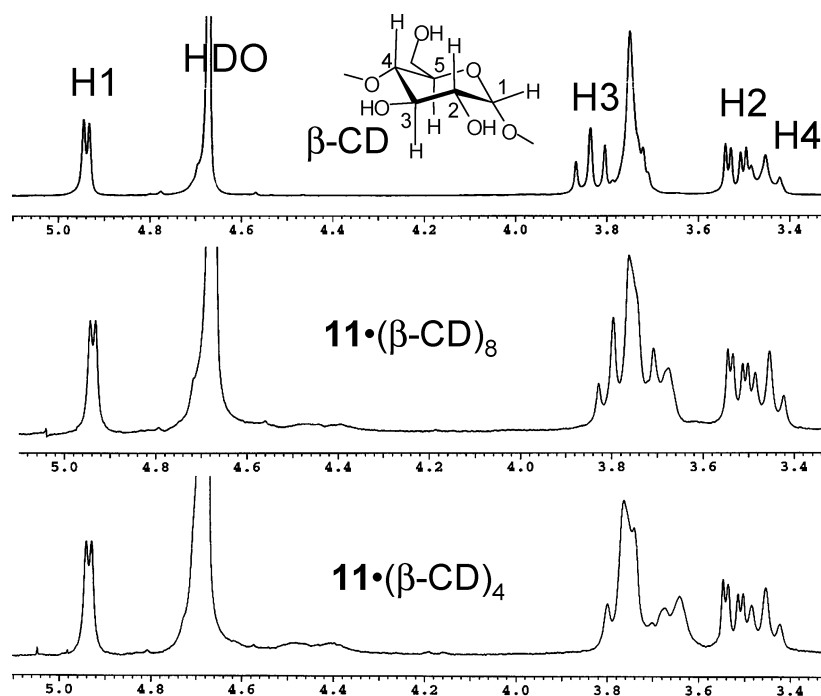
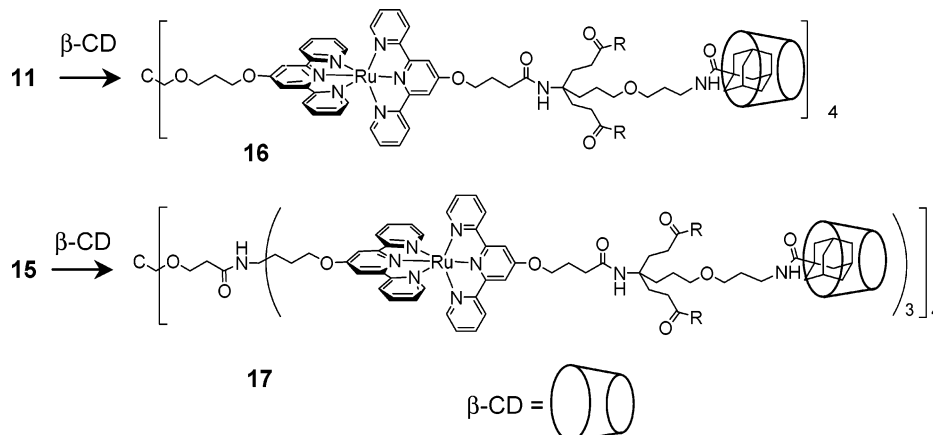


Figure 1. ¹H NMR spectra of (a) the uncomplexed β -CD, (b) β -CD in the 11•(β -CD)₈ complex, and (c) β -CD in the 11•(β -CD)₄ complex in D₂O at 25 °C.

Scheme 4. Formation of the Supramolecular β -Cyclodextrin–Dendrimer Complexes



β -CD cavity, were negligible ($\Delta\delta < 0.002$). This observation implies that the terminal adamantane moieties have been encapsulated within the β -cyclodextrin cavity.

A similar observation was shown for the 15•(β -CD) complexes (i.e., 17), but compared to 11, dendrimer 15 was not completely soluble in the presence of a stoichio-

metric amount of β -CD; however, when the molar ratio of β -CD to **15** was increased to a 2–4 times excess, complete dissolution occurred.

Conclusions

Low generation metallodendrimers, assembled via terpyridine–Ru(II)–terpyridine connectivity, were prepared, characterized, and shown to be water insoluble. The branching motif used in their construction conveniently permitted the internal incorporation of counterbalancing carboxylate moieties; thus, in a quantitative two-step process, overall charge–neutral species were created. The terminal adamantane “guests” were subsequently encapsulated by β -cyclodextrin, resulting in the complete solubilization of these metallodendrimers in aqueous media.

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