## Direct binding of halide ions by valinomycin via ESI-MS, NMR and DFT

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ESI mass spectrum of valinomycin (0.010 mM) in the presence of TBAF (0.010 mM), TBACI (0.010 mM), TBABr (0.010 mM) and TBAI (0.010 mM) in methanol. The peaks correspond to the 1:1 adducts formed for halide ions with valinomycin, abbreviated as V. We report for the first time the binding of valinomycin with anions. The binding selectivity for halide ions for valinomycin is found to be in the order Cl<sup>-</sup>>Br<sup>-</sup>~F<sup>-</sup>>l<sup>-</sup> based on ESI-MS experiments in methanol. <sup>1</sup>H NMR studies in acetone-d6 and CD<sub>3</sub>CN reveal the binding selectivity of Cl<sup>-</sup>>Br<sup>-</sup>>F<sup>-</sup>~l<sup>-</sup>. NMR studies and DFT calculations support a bracelet- like structure for the binding of a chloride ion to valinomycin. Association constants of 531±45 and 57±2 M<sup>-1</sup> were obtained via NMR titrations in acetone-d<sub>6</sub> for chloride and bromide ions, respectively.



These studies, conducted in collaboration with undergraduate students, Professors Fujita (Chemistry) and Swamy-Mruthinti (Biology) were published in *Supramolecular Chemistry*.

**DFT-optimized structure**