# **Multiphase Behavior of Tetraphenylethylene Derivatives with Different Polarities at High Pressures**

Akihisa Miyagawa,†, ‡\* Tomokazu Kinoshita,† Yue Zheng, § Makoto Harada,†

Gaku Fukuhara,<sup>†, |\*</sup> and Tetsuo Okada<sup>†</sup>\*

† Department of Chemistry, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Meguro-ku, Tokyo 152-8551, Japan

<sup>‡</sup> Department of Chemistry, University of Tsukuba, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 305-8577, Japan

§ Department of Chemistry, Beijing Key Laboratory for Microanalytical Methods and

Instrumentation, Key Laboratory of Bioorganic Phosphorus Chemistry and Chemical

Biology, Tsinghua University, Beijing 100084 (P. R. China)

ǁ JST, PRESTO, 4-1-8 Honcho, Kawaguchi, Saitama 332-0012, Japan

Phone and Fax: +81-29-853-6914

Email: miyagawa.akihisa.gf@u.tsukuba.ac.jp (A.M.)

Email: gaku@chem.titech.ac.jp (G.F.)

Email: tokada@chem.titech.ac.jp (T.O.)

#### **Abstract**

Although both pressure and temperature are essential parameters governing thermodynamics, the effects of the pressure on solution phase equilibria have not been well studied compared to those of temperature. Here, we demonstrate the interesting pressure-dependent behavior of tetraphenylethylene derivatives in multiphase systems composed of an organic phase and an aqueous phase in the presence and absence of γcyclodextrin (γ-CD). In this system, tetraphenylethylene monocarboxylic acid (TPE1H) and its dicarboxylic acid (TPE2H2) are distributed in the aqueous phase and dissociated into the corresponding anions, that is, TPE1 and  $TPE2<sup>2</sup>$ , when the pH is sufficiently high. The distribution ratios of TPE1H/TPE1<sup>-</sup> and TPE2H/TPE2<sup>2-</sup> show opposing pressure dependencies: the distribution of the former in the organic phase increases with increasing pressure, whereas that of the latter decreases. The 1:1 complexation constants of TPE1 and TPE2<sup>2-</sup> with γ-CD, which can be determined from the distribution ratios in the presence of  $\gamma$ -CD, also show opposing pressure dependencies: the former shows a positive pressure dependence, but the latter exhibits a negative one. These pressure effects on the distribution and complexation of TPE derivatives can be interpreted based on the differences in the molecular polarity of these solutes. The water permittivity is enhanced at high pressure, thus stabilizing the more polar  $TPE2<sup>2</sup>$  in the aqueous phase to a larger

extent than TPE1<sup>−</sup> and, as a result, reduces its distribution in the organic phase, as well as its complexation with  $\gamma$ -CD. Fluorescence spectra in the aqueous phase suggest that the TPE derivatives form aggregates with  $\gamma$ -CD molecules, as detected by specific fluorescence. In addition, the fluorescence intensities of the  $\gamma$ -CD complexes are enhanced at high pressures because of the restricted rotation of the phenyl rings in the TPE molecules. This study provides new perspectives for multiphase partitioning and an attractive alternative to conventional extraction methods.

# **Introduction**

Chemical reactions and processes are mostly performed in a single phase. However, multiphase systems allow versatile reaction design and also act as a useful model for environmental and biological systems. For example, the two-phase partitioning of compounds an important chemical process in industry and the laboratory can be used widely in solvent extraction,<sup>1-5</sup> solid phase extraction,<sup>6, 7</sup> as well as gas and liquid chromatography.<sup>8-11</sup> The mass transfer of substances through biological membranes,  $12-16$ drug deposition in organisms,  $17-19$  and the dissolution of compounds of environmental importance<sup>20, 21</sup> can also be understood based on the two-phase partitioning principle. In particular, the partition constants of organic compounds between water and 1-octanol are extensively used as a convenient measure for predicting the efficiency of pharmaceuticals, environmental circulation of organic compounds, and chromatographic retention of organic solutes.22-24

Multiphase partitioning is thermodynamically characterized by a partition constant, which is defined as the ratio of solute concentrations (activities) in two phases and can also be represented by the standard Gibbs energy of transfer of the solute between the two phases.<sup>25</sup> Water (or an aqueous solution) is usually selected as a candidate of the two phases. Therefore, the other phase is chosen from a list of organic solvents immiscible with water considering solvent properties, such as polarity and proton donor and acceptor abilities In general, the appropriate organic solvent would be chosen from a limited scope, as the relative permittivity of a water-immiscible solvent typically ranges from 1.9 for hexane to approximately 10 for 1,2-dichloroethane. The solvent properties also depend on the temperature and pressure  $(P)$ , but the range of temperatures for exploration is limited because of the evaporation of liquids. However, in contrast, we can study the effects of pressure over a wider range. The pressure dependence of the permittivity has been reported for various solvents such as water,  $2^{6}$  organic solvents,  $2^{7-30}$  and thallous halides.<sup>31</sup> We have previously reported that the fluorescence spectrum of a mechanochromic molecule shows a red-shift under high pressures because of the increase in the solvent polarity around the molecule.<sup>32</sup> Floriano et al. calculated the relative permittivity of water to be 89 at 400 MPa and greater than 78 at 0.1 MPa.<sup>26</sup> Moreover, Hegar et al. experimentally demonstrated the pressure dependence of the permittivity of water and confirmed the positive pressure dependence.<sup>33</sup> On the other hand, the change in the permittivity ( $d\varepsilon/dP$ ) of the organic solvent is very small; for example,  $3.1 \times 10^{-4}$ MPa<sup>-1</sup> for ethyl acetate<sup>29</sup> and 5.5  $\times$  10<sup>-3</sup> MPa<sup>-1</sup> for chloroform.<sup>30</sup> Thus, the partitioning between water and an organic solvent at high pressures should be dominantly governed by the changes in the properties of water.

Host–guest and supramolecular reactions can also be considered multiphase reactions in some cases because a guest molecule is removed from the main solvent to form different species. Some of these reactions are also influenced by pressure. Hara et al. studied the solvation dynamics of a solvatochromic probe in a micellar phase and found that the polarity of the micelles decreases at high pressures because of the suppression of water penetration into the solvated region of the micelle.34 Marx et al. calculated the pressure effects on the water structure and solvation of osmolytes using *ab initio* molecular dynamics.35 The number of water molecules in a hydrophobic solvation shell around trimethylamine-*N*-oxide increased from 17 to 21 from 0.1 to 1 MPa, respectively. Cyclodextrin (CD) complexation is also influenced by pressure.<sup>36-40</sup> Sueishi et al. reported the pressure dependence of the complexation of phenolic compounds with β-CD derivatives.<sup>40</sup> For example, the complexation constant of 2-naphthol with permethylated β-CD at 80 MPa is 1.6 times larger than that at 0.1 MPa. Thus, the complexation of CD should be affected by high pressures.

In this work, we studied the multiphase behavior of tetraphenylethylene (TPE) derivatives at high pressures. As typical aggregation-induced emission (AIE) fluorophores, TPE derivatives have been sufficiently studied and widely applied for fluorescent imaging, analyzing and materials.<sup>41-43</sup> TPE emits no fluorescence when dissolved in a good solvent

as a single molecule. However, when TPE at aggregate state or trapped in a CD cavity,<sup>44</sup> strong emission will occur because of suppressed nonradiative decay caused by the restriction of intramolecular rotation of the phenyl rings. The pressure-dependent behavior of two TPE derivatives with one and two carboxylic groups in molecules were studied in a multiphase system composed of an organic solvent, aqueous phase, and γ-CD in the aqueous phase. UV-absorption spectrometry in the organic phase provided quantitative information on the *P-*dependent liquid/liquid partition and CD-complexation of the TPE derivatives. In addition, fluorescence spectroscopy revealed the effects of pressure on the photophysical properties of the probes in the aqueous phase.

## **Methods**

Synthesis of tetraphenylethylene monocarboxylic acid and dicarboxylic acid TPE monocarboxylic acid (TPE1H) and dicarboxylic acid (TPE2H2) were synthesized as reported previously, and the <sup>1</sup>H NMR data showed satisfactory agreement between the literature values (see Figure S1 in the Supporting Information(SI)).<sup>45,46</sup> The structures of TPE1H and TPE2H2 are shown in Figure 1.

#### Materials

γ-CD and tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane were purchased from Tokyo

Chemical Industry Co., Ltd. (Tokyo, Japan). All solvents (hexane, chloroform, and ethyl acetate) were purchased from FUJIFILM Wako Pure Chemical Co. (Osaka, Japan).

Spectroscopic measurements under hydrostatic pressure

UV-vis and fluorescence spectra were measured under a range of hydrostatic pressures (0.1–320 MPa) using a custom-built high-pressure apparatus (Teramecs Co., Kyoto, Japan), as shown in Figure S2. A sample solution was filled and sealed in a quartz cell (inner dimension: 3 mm width  $\times$  2 mm thickness  $\times$  7 mm height) fitted to a short Teflon tube. Hydrostatic pressures in the range of 0.1 to 320 MPa were applied to the sample solution. The high-pressure apparatus was then attached to each spectrometer to measure either the UV-vis absorption spectra (JASCO, V-560) or fluorescence spectra (JASCO, FP-8500). A circular dichroism spectrometer (JASCO, J-720WI) was used for measurements at ambient pressure.

Organic solvents were selected so that the *P*-dependence of the solute partition could be clearly measured. Preliminary experiments indicated that 2:8 mixtures of chloroform and hexane is suitable for TPE1H, and ethyl acetate for TPE2H<sub>2</sub>. The aqueous solution was 100 mM Tris buffer (pH 9.0 for TPE1H and pH 7.4 for TPE2H2 with varying concentrations of  $\gamma$ -CD. The concentration range of  $\gamma$ -CD and the pH were also

determined so that the measurable pressure dependence of the solute partition could be confirmed. The organic and aqueous phases in a 1:1 volume ratio were shaken in a 10 mL centrifuge tube for 30 min, and then the phases were separated by centrifugation at 4000 rpm for 10 min. For the UV-vis spectrometric measurements of the organic phase, the organic phase was first introduced into the cell, and, then, the aqueous phase was placed on the organic phase because the incident light passed through the lower half of the cell, as shown by the yellow ellipse in Figure S2. The order of phase introduction into the cell was reversed when the fluorescence spectra were measured for the aqueous phase. The less dense phase remained in the denser phase by adjusting the order of the phase introduction, for example, the aqueous phase  $(0.997 \text{ g cm}^{-3})$  on ethyl acetate  $(0.902 \text{ g})$  $\text{cm}^{-3}$ ).

# Molecular orbital calculations

Molecular orbital (MO) calculations of TPE1<sup>-</sup> and TPE2H<sup>2-</sup> were performed using the semi-empirical quantum chemical program MOPAC 2016.<sup>47</sup> The structure and dipole moment of  $TPE1$ <sup>-</sup> and  $TPE2H<sup>2</sup>$  were optimized using the semi-empirical PM7 method.

### **Results & discussion**

Liquid/liquid partitioning of TPE1H/TPE1<sup> $-$ </sup> and TPE2H<sub>2</sub>/TPE2<sup>2 $-$ </sup> at high pressures

The acid dissociation constant  $(pK_a)$  of TPE1H was determined to be 5.89 by pH titration in a 1:3 water and methanol mixture. To evaluate the effects of methanol, the  $pK_a$  of benzoic acid was assessed;  $pK_a = 4.75$  and 5.95 in 1:1 and 1:3 water and methanol mixtures, respectively. In water, the  $pK_a$  of benzoic acid is 4.2, as confirmed by a number of researchers.<sup>48</sup> Thus, the  $pK_a$  appears to increase with increasing methanol concentration. We speculate that the  $pK_a$  of TPE1H in water is lower than that determined in 1:3 water/methanol and should be similar to that of benzoic acid ( $pK_a \approx 4.2$ ) in water.

The *P*-dependence of the partition ratio  $(D^{TPE1})$  of TPEH1 was studied between the aqueous phase at pH 9.0 and 2:8 chloroform/hexane phase. In the aqueous phase, TPE1H is completely deprotonated into TPE1<sup>-</sup>. Thus,  $D^{TPE1}$  is given by

$$
DTPE1 = \frac{[TPE1H]_0}{[TPE1']_W},
$$
 (1)

$$
TPE1^{-}(W) \rightleftharpoons TPE1H(O),
$$

where O and W denote the organic and aqueous phases, respectively. Figure 2A shows the pressure dependence of ln  $D^{TPE1}$  for the TPE1H/TPE1<sup>-</sup> system for  $P = 0.1 - 320$  MPa. Obviously,  $D^{TPE1}$  increases with increasing *P*;  $D^{TPE1} = 14$  at  $P = 320$  MPa, whereas  $D^{TPE1}$  $= 4.4$  at  $P = 0.1$  MPa. From the ln  $D_1$ –*P* relationship,  $\Delta V_1^{\circ} = V_1(O) - V_1(W)$  was estimated to be  $-8.6$  cm<sup>3</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>.

The *P*-dependence of the partitioning ratio for TPE2H<sub>2</sub> ( $D^{TPE2}$ ) was also evaluated. The

p*K*<sup>a</sup> values for the first and second deprotonation of stilbenedicarboxylic acid have been reported to be 4.03 and 4.06, respectively.<sup>49</sup> Because  $TPE2H_2$  has a similar structure to stilbenedicarboxylic acid, its deprotonation constants may be in a similar range. We measured the partition ratio in the aqueous phase at pH 7.4, and ethyl acetate. TPE2H2 should be deprotonated into  $TPE2^{2-}$  in the aqueous phase. Thus,  $D^{TPE2}$  is defined as

$$
DTE2 = \frac{[TPE2H_2]_0}{[TPE2^2]}.
$$
\n(2)

 $TPE2^{2-} (W) \rightleftharpoons TPE2H_2 (O).$ 

Figure 2B shows the *P*-dependence of  $\ln D^{TPE2}$ . In contrast to the pressure effect on  $D^{TPE1}$ ,  $D^{TPE2}$  decreases with increasing *P*;  $D^{TPE2} = 0.74$  at  $P = 320$  MPa but  $D^{TPE2} = 1.3$  at  $P =$ 0.1 MPa. The ln *D*<sub>2</sub>-*P* relationship provides  $\Delta V_2^{\circ} = V_2(O) - V_2(W) = 4.4 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$ .

Interestingly, the introduction of one carboxyl group on a TPE1H molecule leads to an entirely different partitioning pressure dependence. The partial molar volumes of various compounds were determined in water based on density measurements. The dissociation of the carboxyl group of benzoic acid in water induces a decrease in Δ*V*° by -11 cm<sup>3</sup> mol-<sup>1.50, 51</sup> In contrast, the dissociation of one carboxyl group is involved in a change in  $\Delta V^{\circ}$ for the TPE1H/TPE1- system, whereas the dissociation of the two carboxyl groups contributes to that of the  $TPE2H_2/TPE2^{2-}$  system. If the volumes in the organic phase for TPE1H and TPE2H<sub>2</sub> are almost identical,  $\Delta V^{\circ}$  for phase transfer can be estimated to be  $\Delta V(W) = V_2(W) - V_1(W) = \Delta V_1^{\circ} - \Delta V_2^{\circ} = -13$  cm<sup>3</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>. This value almost corresponds to Δ*V*° for the dissociation of one mole of carboxylic groups. 52

Multiphase equilibrium in the presence of  $\gamma$ -CD in the aqueous phase at high pressures The complexation constants of TPE1<sup>-</sup> and TPE2<sup>2-</sup> with γ-CD in the aqueous phase ( $K_{CD}$ ) were evaluated from the dependence of the solute concentration in the organic phase on the γ-CD concentration in the aqueous phase. Assuming 1:1 complexation of the solutes with  $\gamma$ -CD in the aqueous phase, the partition ratio of TPE1H or TPE2H<sub>2</sub> ( $D_{CD}^{TPE}$ ) is given by

$$
D_{\rm CD}^{\rm TPE} = \frac{[\rm TPE]_0}{[\rm TPE^-]_W + [\rm TPE^- \cdot CD]_W},\tag{3}
$$

where TPE represents TPE1H or TPE2H<sub>2</sub>, TPE<sup>-</sup> denotes TPE1<sup>-</sup> or TPE2<sup>2-</sup>, and TPE<sup>-</sup> CD is the inclusion complex. This equation is rearranged into the following equation with the equilibrium concentration of  $\gamma$ -CD ([CD]<sub>w</sub>) in the aqueous phase:

$$
\frac{1}{D_{\text{CD}}^{\text{TPE}}} = \frac{1}{D^{\text{TPE}}} + \frac{K_{\text{CD1}}}{D^{\text{TPE}}} [\text{CD}]_{\text{W}},\tag{4}
$$

where  $K_{\text{CD1}}$  is the 1:1 complexation constant of  $\gamma$ -CD with TPE1<sup>-</sup> or TPE2<sup>2-</sup>.

Figure 3 shows the relationships between  $[CD]_w$  and  $1/D_{CD}^{TPE1}$  and  $1/D_{CD}^{TPE2}$  at 0.1, 160, and 320 MPa. Obviously,  $1/D_{CD}^{TPE}$  is not proportional to  $[CD]_w$  in all cases, and the slope becomes larger with increasing  $[CD]_w$ . Figure 3 suggests that a higher-order inclusion

complex is likely to be involved in partition; for example, a 1:2 (TPE1<sup>-</sup>:  $\gamma$ -CD) complex may form. If such species are formed in the aqueous phase, Equation (4) can be written as a polynomial of  $[CD]_W$ ,

$$
\frac{1}{D_{\text{CD}}^{\text{TPE}}} = \frac{1}{D^{\text{TPE}}} + \frac{K_{\text{CD1}}}{D^{\text{TPE}}} [\text{CD}]_w + f([\text{CD}]_w^n), n \ge 2,
$$
\n
$$
(5)
$$

where  $f({[CD]_w}^n)$  consists of quadratic or higher-order terms of  $[CD]_w$ . When 1:2 complexation occurs,  $f([CD]_w) = \frac{KCD_1KCD_2}{D^{TPE}} [CD]_w^2$ , where  $KCD_2$  is the consecutive 1:2 complexation constant. The plots in Figure 3 were analyzed assuming 1:2 complexation as a possible case. The fittings to the experimental results shown in green curves in Figure 3 are not perfect, but provisional complexation constants are summarized in Table S1. Because  $K_{CD2}$  is larger than  $K_{CD1}$  in some cases, these values are not reliable. This anomalous result obviously arises from the inappropriate assumption of 1:2 complexation. The species involving multiple  $\gamma$ -CD molecules, which were not specified at this stage, should be present in the aqueous phase; otherwise, the [CD]<sub>W</sub> dependence of  $\frac{1}{2}$  $rac{1}{D_{CD}^{TPE}}$  cannot be interpreted. The above analysis indicates that the plots in Figure 3 cannot be explained by the usual multiple complexation of γ-CD. This will be discussed later using the fluorescence spectra in the aqueous phase.

 $K_{CD1}$  can be determined from the limiting slope at  $[CD]_W \rightarrow 0$  because  $f([CD]_W^{\{n\}})$ approaches zero.

$$
\left(\frac{\mathrm{d}(1/D_{\mathrm{CD}}^{\mathrm{TPE}})}{\mathrm{d}[\mathrm{CD}]_{\mathrm{w}}}\right)_{[\mathrm{CD}]_{\mathrm{w}}=0} = \frac{K_{\mathrm{CD1}}}{D^{\mathrm{TPE}}} \tag{6}
$$

Figure 4 shows the change in ln  $K_{CD1}^{TPE1}$  and that in ln  $K_{CD1}^{TPE2}$  with *P*. Interestingly, the former increases but the latter decreases with increasing *P*. From the results, ∆*V* for the complexation of TPE1<sup>-</sup> with  $\gamma$ -CD was determined to be -6.1 cm<sup>3</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>, and the corresponding value for TPE $2^{2-}$  is 4.2 cm<sup>3</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>.

The configuration of the TPE molecules in the cavity of  $\gamma$ -CD was studied using spectroscopy and molecular simulation. Figure S3A shows the UV and circular dichroism spectra, as well as the anisotropy (g) factor ( $\Delta \varepsilon/\varepsilon$ ) of the TPE1<sup>-</sup>/γ-CD system. The configuration of TPE can be interpreted from the Cotton effect confirmed in the circular dichroism spectra, which provides information on the conformational and structural features of a molecule.<sup>53</sup> A negative Cotton effect was observed at 286 nm, which was induced by the complexation of TPE1<sup>-</sup> with  $\gamma$ -CD. Similarly, a negative Cotton effect was observed at 287 nm for TPE2<sup>2-</sup>/γ-CD, as shown in Figure S3B. The *g*-factor values (- $0.002$ ) of the negative peaks are relatively large compared to other cases,<sup>54</sup> suggesting that both TPE1<sup>-</sup> and TPE2<sup>2-</sup> penetrate the  $\gamma$ -CD cavity deeply. Figures S4A and S5A show the dipole moments of TPE1<sup>-</sup> and TPE2<sup>2-</sup> calculated using MOPAC 2016.<sup>47</sup> The dipole moment of TPE1- lies in the direction perpendicular to the ethylene double bond. The molecular orientation of TPE1- in the γ-CD cavity can be determined based on the sector rule.55, 56 The negative Cotton effect indicates that the dipole moment lies in the direction of the negative region outside the sector cone, as shown in Figure S4B. Thus, the ethylene double bond is aligned parallel to the direction connecting the open cavities of the γ-CD molecule. X-ray crystallography measurements of the β-CD complex of benzoic acid have shown that the carboxyl group of benzoic acid points to the smaller rim of the CD cone.<sup>57</sup> Wei et al. also reported a similar location of the carboxyl group of an ursolic acid molecule in a  $\gamma$ -CD complex.<sup>58</sup> Thus, one carboxyl acid should be present on the narrower rim of the γ-CD cone. The dipole moment of  $TPE2<sup>2</sup>$  lies in the direction perpendicular to the ethylene double bond (Figure S5A). Thus,  $TPE2<sup>2</sup>$  is accommodated in the  $\gamma$ -CD cavity in a similar way to TPE1. Hence, the structures of the  $\gamma$ -CD complexes can be reasonably inferred, as shown in Figures S4B and S5B. These different structures should lead to different hydration structures of the complexes. This is reflected in the Δ*V* values for complexation.

Fluorescence spectra in the aqueous phase during multiphase partition

Fluorescence spectra were measured in the aqueous phase to provide further insight into the pressure effect on the multiphase behavior of TPE. Figure 5 summarizes the effect of the pressure on the fluorescence spectra of TPE1<sup>-</sup> and TPE2<sup>2-</sup> in the aqueous phases containing γ-CD equilibrated with the organic phases. The fluorescence intensities

increase with increasing pressure for both TPE1 $\cdot$  and TPE2 $\cdot$ . The three vibrational bands observed at 363, 379, and 404 nm are assigned to monomer fluorescence and the broad band at 420–530 nm is assigned to aggregate fluorescence.<sup>44</sup> Although aggregate fluorescence is obvious at 0.1 MPa, that from the monomer becomes dominant with increasing pressure. Figure  $5C$  and  $D$  show the normalized spectra, indicating that the relative contribution from the aggregate fluorescence decreases with increasing pressure. As discussed previously, the relationships between  $1/D_{CD}^{TPE}$  and  $[CD]_w$  were nonlinear in all cases. Although this suggests the formation of species involving multiple CD molecules, 1:2 (TPE:CD) complexation was unlikely. We conclude that the TPE aggregates detected by fluorescence measurements consist of several TPE and  $γ$ -CD molecules and cause a nonlinear relationship between  $1/D_{CD}^{TPE}$  and  $[CD]_{w}$ .

The partition ratios and complexation constants allow the estimation of the concentrations of TPE species in the aqueous phase. In this estimation, the formation of a 1:1 complex and aggregates was considered. Figure 5A and B show the *P*-dependencies of the concentrations of the TPE1<sup>-</sup>- and TPE2<sup>2-</sup>-related species. Because the compositions of the aggregates are not known, the concentration of TPE1<sup>-</sup> or TPE2<sup>2-</sup> contained in the aggregates is plotted in each figure. Details of the estimation of the concentrations are described in the SI. A marked contrast is seen in the *P*-dependence of the concentrations

of free TPE1<sup>-</sup> and TPE2<sup>2-</sup>; the concentration of TPE1<sup>-</sup> decreased, whereas that of TPE2<sup>2-</sup> increased with increasing pressure. This reflects the different *P*-dependencies of  $D^{TPE1}$ and  $D^{TPE2}$ . In addition, the TPE1<sup>-</sup> concentration in the aggregate is almost constant over the entire pressure range, whereas that of  $TPE2<sup>2</sup>$  decreases with increasing pressure. This result is consistent with those from the fluorescence spectra, which indicate that the fluorescence from the aggregates does not show a clear *P*-dependence (Figure 6C andD). Interestingly, the concentrations of the  $\gamma$ -CD complexes of TPE1<sup>-</sup> and TPE2<sup>2-</sup> are almost constant over the entire pressure range; this is due to the opposing *P*-dependencies of  $D^{\text{TPE}}$  and  $K_{\text{CD1}}^{\text{TPE}}$ .

The vibrational bands mainly arise from the monomer TPE molecule accommodated in the γ-CD cavity, for which the rotation of the phenyl rings of the TPE molecule is strongly inhibited. Therefore, simply, the increase in fluorescence intensity with increasing *P* suggests an increase in the concentration of the γ-CD complex. However, the complex concentration is almost independent of the pressure. Hence, these results strongly suggest that the rotation of phenyl rings in the TPE molecules is more effectively inhibited in the γ-CD complex at high pressures, leading to more intense fluorescence.

# **Conclusion**

The pressure has not been regarded as an important factor in the multiphase partition of compounds. Here, we discuss the results obtained for the multiphase partition of TPE derivatives under hydrostatic pressures. TPE1H/TPE1<sup>-</sup> and TPE2H<sub>2</sub>/TPE2<sup>2-</sup> show different *P*-dependencies in two-phase partition and γ-CD complexation. These behavior can be interpreted by the permittivity of water. Because this paper presents the first liquidliquid partition study under hydrostatic pressures, the qualitative discussions based on the reported *P*-dependence of water permittivity are meaningful. As indicated earlier, the permittivity of water increases with increasing pressure.<sup>33</sup> A hydrophobic molecule escapes from the aqueous phase into the organic phase or the cavity of  $\gamma$ -CD at high pressures, whereas the hydrophilic molecule remains in the aqueous phase. In the present instance, this mechanism leads to two contrasting findings; that is, the concentration of free TPE1- in the aqueous phase decreases but that of TPE2 increases with increasing pressure.

Although the pressure is a critical experimental parameter that governs the partition of organic molecules, its use has been limited compared to that of other physical parameters such as temperature. If a large amount of data is compiled, multiphase partitioning can be conducted by changing the pressure rather than changing the organic solvent. In addition, the pressure effect on multiphase partition is related to the retention mechanism in liquid chromatography, the molecular behavior in biological cells, and geological phenomena occurring in the deep sea. <sup>59</sup> We believe that the present concept will draw the attention of researchers in a range of fields, including analytical chemistry, as well as the environmental and life sciences.

#### **Supporting Information**

The Supporting Information is available free of charge on the ACS Publications website at DOI:

Estimation of the concentrations of TPE1H and TPE2H<sub>2</sub> species in the aqueous phase; Provisional *K*<sub>CD1</sub> and *K*<sub>CD2</sub> values at 0.1, 160, and 320 MPa; NMR spectra for TPE1H and TPE2H2; Schematic illustration of the pressure apparatus and cell; UV spectra, CD spectra, and *g* factor for the complexes of γ-CD and TPE1 and for the complexes of γ-CD and TPE2; Calculated dipole moment of TPE1 and configuration of the complex of γ-CD and TPE1; Calculated dipole moment of TPE2 and configuration of the complex of γ-CD and TPE2.

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Figure 1 Structures of (a) TPE1H and (b) TPE2H2.



Figure 2 *P*-dependencies of the partition ratios between the organic and aqueous phases in TPE1H/TPE1<sup>-</sup> and TPE2H<sub>2</sub>/TPE<sup>2-</sup> systems. The correlation coefficients of TPE1H/TPE1<sup> $-$ </sup> and TPE2H<sub>2</sub>/TPE<sup>2 $-$ </sup> (*r*) are 0.982 and 0.998, respectively.



Figure 3 Dependences of  $1/D<sub>CD</sub>$  on the γ-CD concentration in the aqueous phase at 0.1, 160, and 320 MPa. Plots and experimental values. Red curves are eye guides. Blue curves plot data assuming that the 1:1 CD complex is the only aqueous-phase species containing γ-CD. Green curves assume the formation of 1:1 and 1:2 CD complexes in the aqueous phase.



Figure 4 *P*-dependence of  $\ln K_{CD1}^{\text{TPET}}$  (black,  $r = 0.966$ ) and  $\ln K_{CD1}^{\text{TPET}}$  (red,  $r = 0.995$ ).



Figure 5 Changes in the fluorescence spectra of (A) TPE1 and (B) TPE2 measured in the aqueous phase. (A): [TPE1] = 500  $\mu$ M and [CD]<sub>w</sub> = 300  $\mu$ M. (B): [TPE2] = 50  $\mu$ M and  $[CD]_w = 500 \mu M$ . Normalized spectra of TPE species (TPE1; C and TPE2; D) in the twophase system. Applied pressure: 0.1, 80, 160, 240, and 320 MPa (blue to black).



Figure 6 Concentrations of TPE species (TPE1; A and TPE2; B) in the aqueous phases.



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