

**Supplementary data for:**

**A highly selective fluorescent sensor for Hg(II) ions based on an NTe<sub>2</sub> chelating motif and its application in living cell imaging**

Shao-Lun Kao, Parthiban Venkatesan and and Shu-Pao Wu\*

*Department of Applied Chemistry, National Chiao Tung University, Hsinchu, Taiwan  
300, Republic of China*

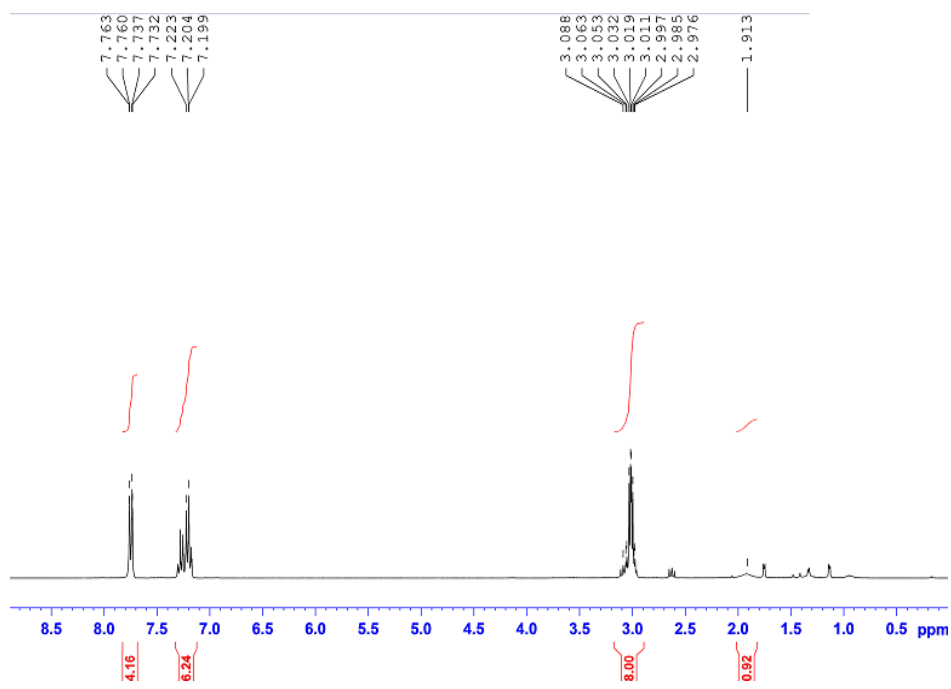
Tel.: +886-3-5712121-ext56506

Fax: +886-3-5723764

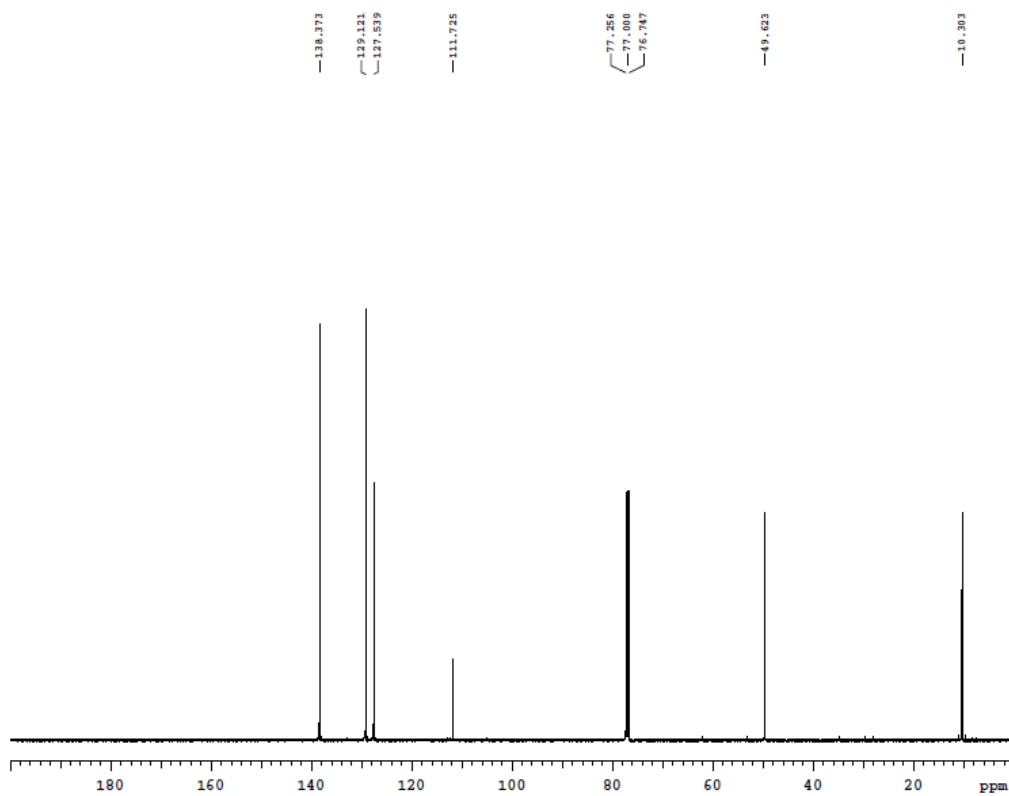
E-mail: [spwu@mail.nctu.edu.tw](mailto:spwu@mail.nctu.edu.tw)

**Content:**

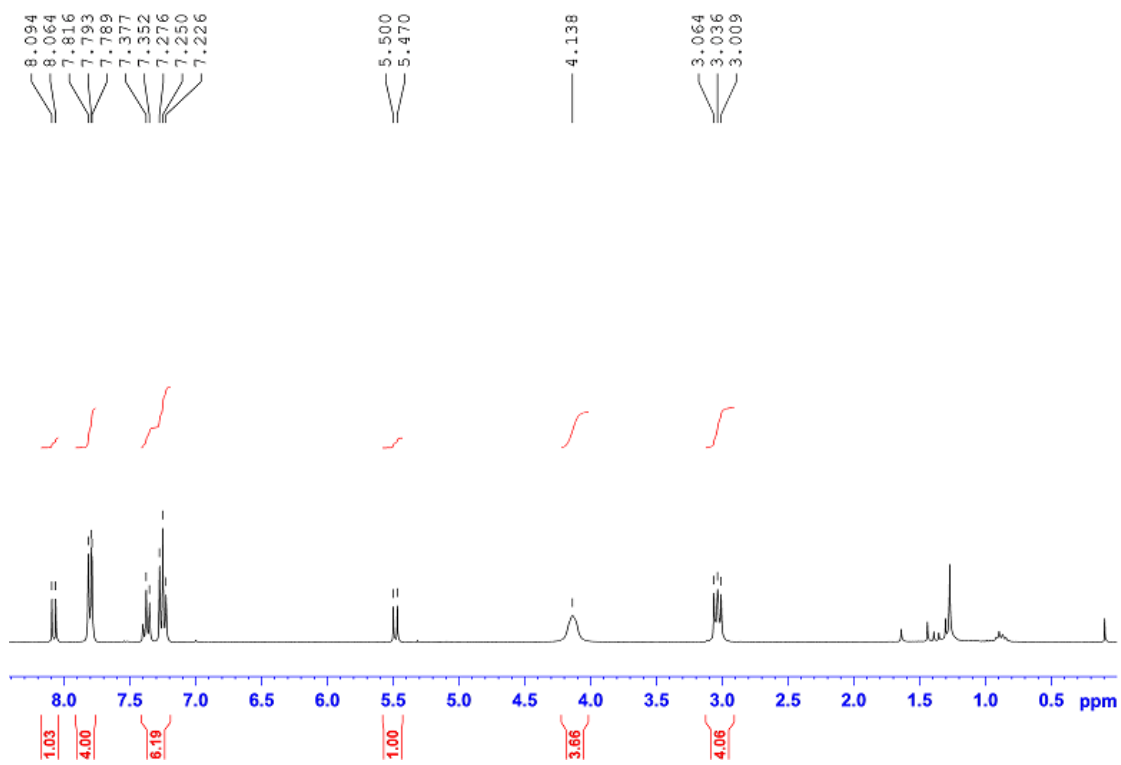
1. **Figure S1.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectra of bis(2-(phenyltellanyl)ethyl) amine.
2. **Figure S2.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectra of bis(2-(phenyltellanyl)ethyl) amine.
3. **Figure S3.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectra of chemosensor **NBDTe**.
4. **Figure S4.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectra of chemosensor **NBDTe**.
5. **Figure S5.** Absorption spectrum of chemosensor **NBDTe** (30 μM) in the presence of Hg<sup>2+</sup> and other metal ion (150 μM) in acetonitrile-water (v/v, 8:2) solutions.
6. **Figure S6.** Absorption changes of chemosensor **NBDTe** (30 μM) in the presence of various equivalents of Hg<sup>2+</sup> in acetonitrile-water (v/v, 4:1) solutions.
7. **Figure S7.** ESI Mass spectra of chemosensor **NBDTe** in the presence of Hg<sup>2+</sup>.
8. **Figure S8.** Calibration curve of **NBDTe** -Hg<sup>2+</sup> in CH<sub>3</sub>CN/H<sub>2</sub>O (v/v = 4:1).
9. **Figure S9.** Reversible binding of Hg<sup>2+</sup> to **NBDTe**. Uv-vis spectra of (a) **NBDTe**, (b) **NBDTe** in the presence of Hg<sup>2+</sup>(90 μM), and (c) **NBDTe** in the presence of Hg<sup>2+</sup> (90 μM) upon addition of Na<sub>2</sub>S (360 μM).
10. **Figure S10.** Reversible binding of Hg<sup>+</sup> to **NBDTe**. Hg<sup>2+</sup> (90 μM) were added to the **NBDTe** solutions, resulting **NBDTe**-Hg<sup>2+</sup> complex.



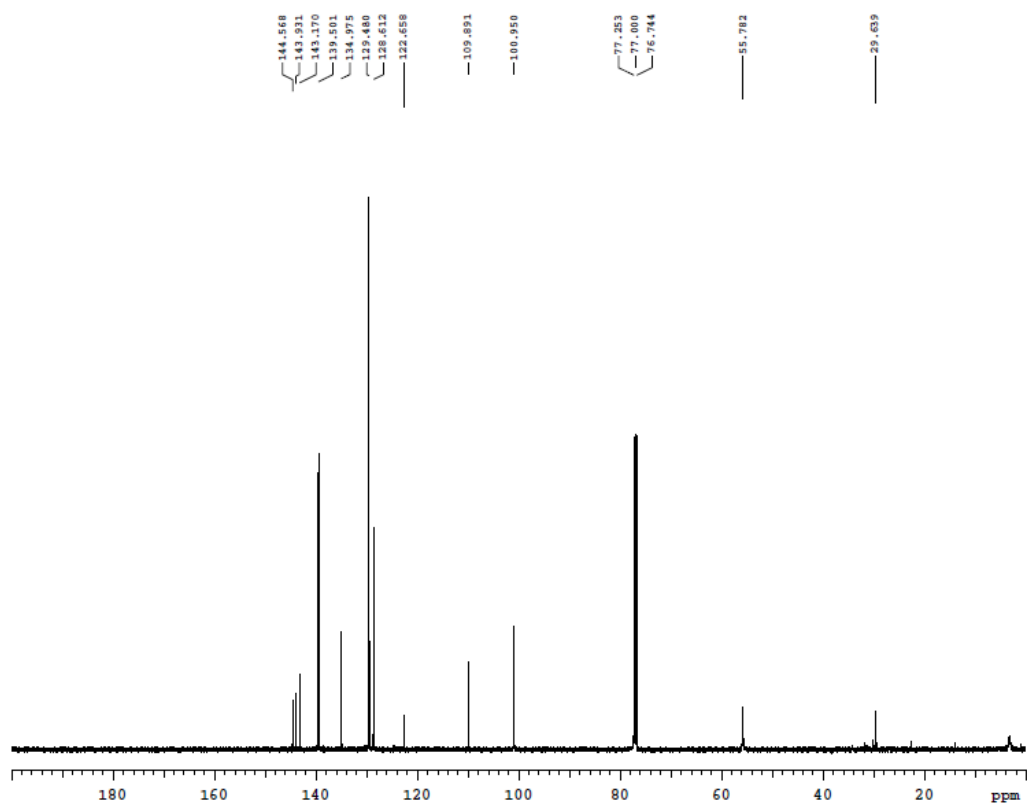
**Figure S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectra of bis(2-(phenyltellanyl)ethyl)amine.



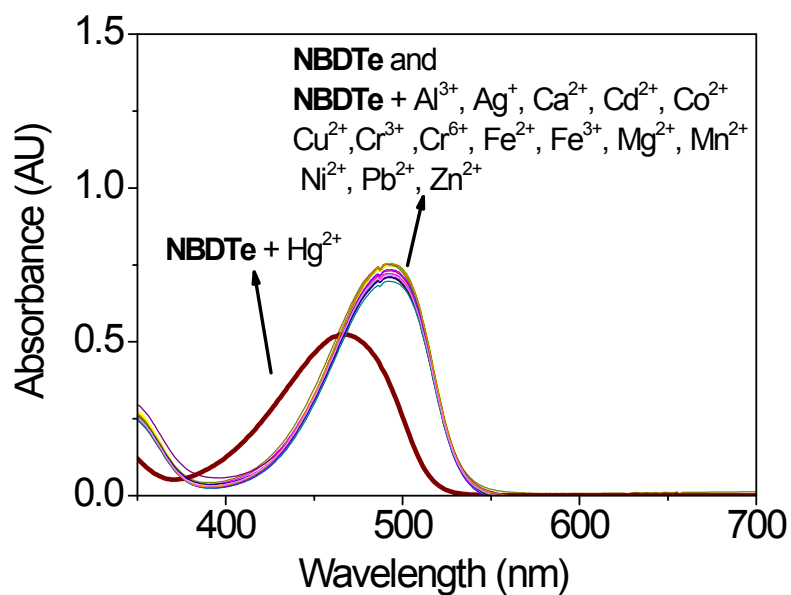
**Figure S2.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectra of bis(2-(phenyltellanyl)ethyl)amine.



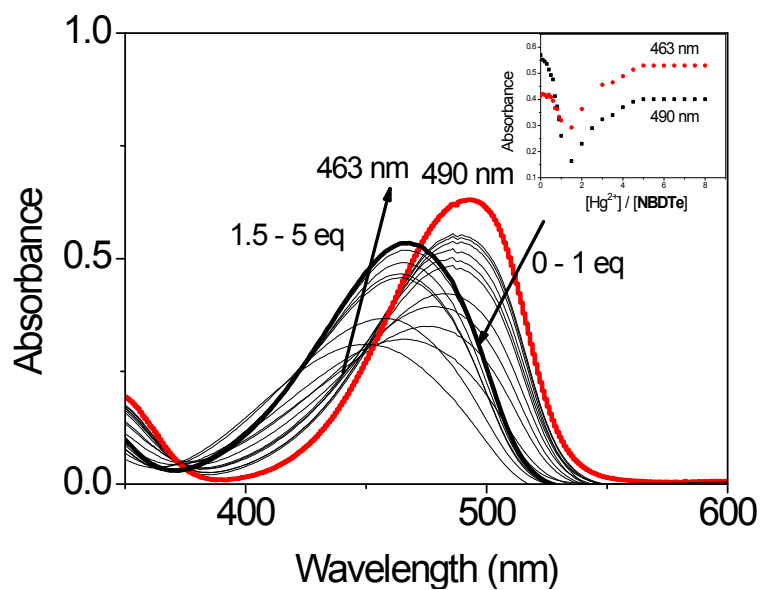
**Figure S3.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectra of chemosensor NBDTe.



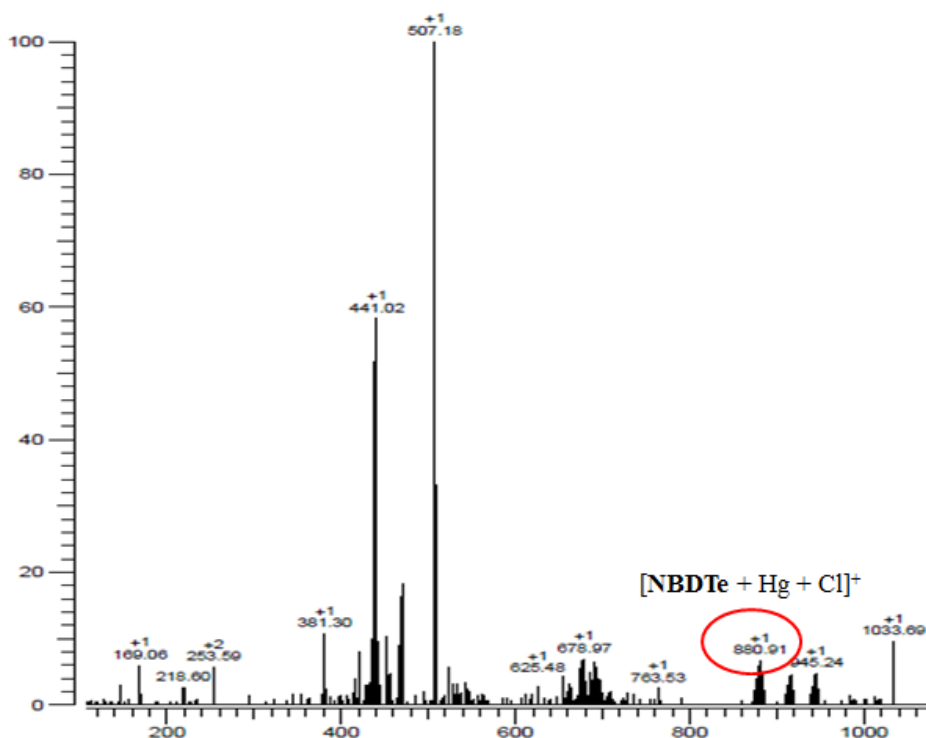
**Figure S4.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectra of chemosensor NBDTe.



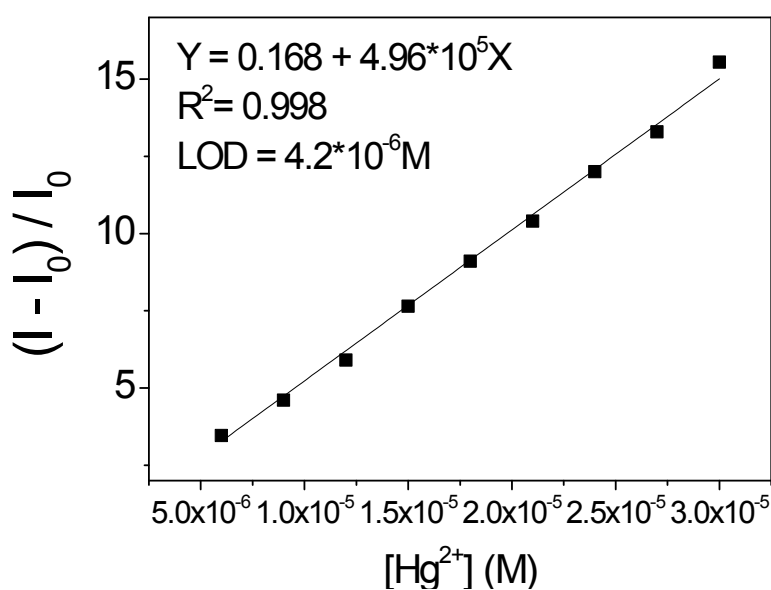
**Figure S5.** Absorption spectrum of chemosensor **NBDTe** (30  $\mu$ M) in the presence of  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  and other metal ion (150  $\mu$ M) in acetonitrile-water (v/v = 4:1) solutions.



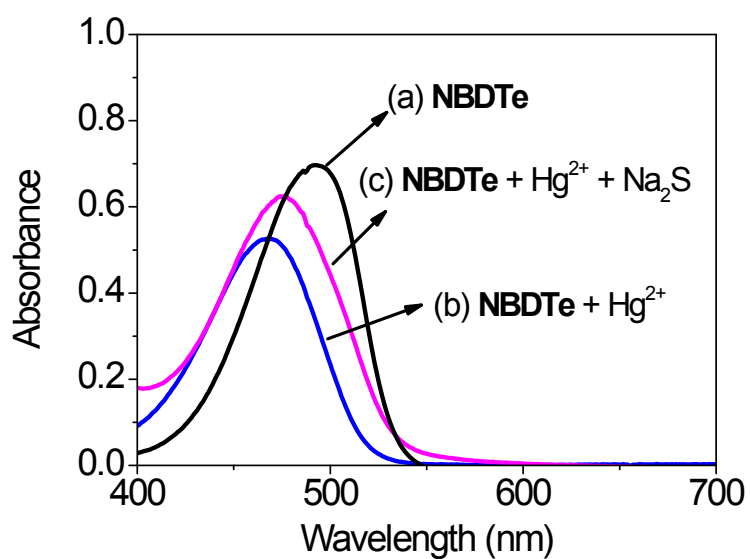
**Figure S6.** Absorption changes of chemosensor **NBDTe** (30  $\mu$ M) in the presence of various equivalents of  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  in acetonitrile-water (v/v = 4:1) solutions.



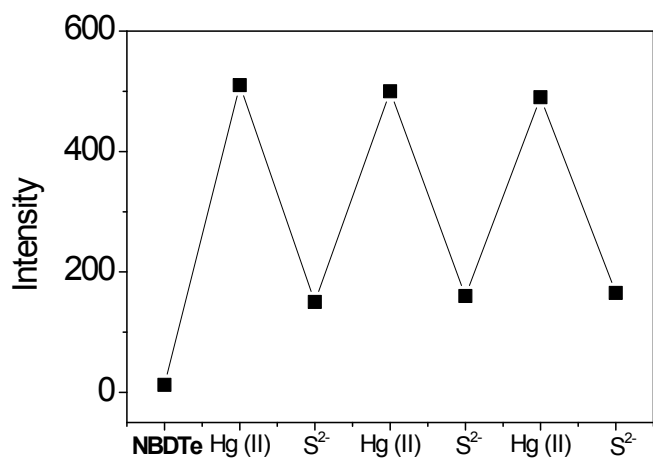
**Figure S7.** ESI Mass spectra of chemosensor **NBDTe** in the presence of  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$ .



**Figure S8.** Calibration curve of **NBDTe** - $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{H}_2\text{O}$  ( $v/v = 4:1$ ). The excitation wavelength was 463 nm and observed wavelength was 532 nm. The limit of detection was 4.2  $\mu\text{M}$  of **NBDTe** for binding  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  based on  $3 \times \delta_{\text{blank}}/k$  (where  $\delta_{\text{blank}}$  is the standard deviation of the blank solution and  $k$  is the slope of calibration plot).  $\text{LOD} = 3 \times 0.738 / (4.98 \times 10^5) = 4.2 \mu\text{M}$ .



**Figure S9.** Reversible binding of  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  to **NBDTe**. Uv-vis spectra of (a) **NBDTe**, (b) **NBDTe** in the presence of  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  ( $90\ \mu\text{M}$ ), and (c) **NBDTe** in the presence of  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  ( $90\ \mu\text{M}$ ) upon addition of  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}$  ( $360\ \mu\text{M}$ ).



**Figure S10.** Reversible binding of  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  to **NBDTe**.  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  ( $90\ \mu\text{M}$ ) were added to the **NBDTe** solutions, resulting **NBDTe**- $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  complex.  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}$  ( $270\ \mu\text{M}$ ) was added to remove  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$ . The  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}$ -based regeneration process was repeated by three times.