## **Electronic Supporting Information (ESI) for**

## Nanomolar Zn(II) Sensing and Subsequent PPi Detection in Physiological Medium and Live Cells with A Benzothiazole Functionalized Chemosensor

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Figure S1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR of  $L_1$  in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> solution at room temperature.



Figure S2. <sup>13</sup>C NMR of L<sub>1</sub> in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> solution at room temperature.



Figure S3. ESI-MS Mass Spectrum of  $L_1$  in positive mode.



Figure S4. IR spectrum of  $L_1$  recorded on KBr disc.



Figure S5. <sup>1</sup>H NMR of  $L_2$  in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> solution at room temperature.



Figure S6. <sup>13</sup>C NMR of  $L_2$  in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> solution at room temperature



Figure S7. ESI-MS Mass Spectrum of  $L_2$  in positive mode.



Figure S8. IR spectrum of L<sub>2</sub> recorded on KBr disc.

![](_page_5_Figure_0.jpeg)

Figure S9. The Job's plot for determining the binding stoichiometry of  $L_1$  with  $Zn^{2+}$  (1:1 host-guest complex).

![](_page_5_Figure_2.jpeg)

Figure S10. Fluorescence titration of  $L_1$  with varying  $Zn^{2+}$  concentration from 0 to 60  $\mu$ M ( $\lambda_{ex} = 430$  nm, slit = 3/3 nm) in buffered ethanol (1:1:: EtOH: 10 mM HEPES buffer, pH~7.2). (b) Fluorescence Intensity at 510 nm versus  $Zn^{2+}$  concentration ( $\mu$ M) plot.

![](_page_6_Figure_0.jpeg)

Figure S11. (a) The Bensei-Hildebrand plot to calculate the binding constant for  $Zn^{2+}$  ion in buffered ethanol solution. (b) Ratio of fluorescence emission intensity change at 510 nm versus  $Zn^{2+}$  concentrations for the LOD calculation.

![](_page_6_Figure_2.jpeg)

Figure S12. Bar plot presentation of  $L_1$  and  $Zn^{2+}$  in the presence of various other metal ions.

![](_page_7_Figure_0.jpeg)

Figure S13. Fluorescence emission change after addition of  $Zn^{2+}$  to  $L_2$  under the same experimental condition.

![](_page_7_Figure_2.jpeg)

Figure S14. HRMS analysis of the solution of  $L_1$  with  $Zn(NO_3)_2$ .

![](_page_8_Figure_0.jpeg)

Figure S15. Effect of pH on emission behaviour of  $L_1$  and ' $L_1$ -Zn<sup>2+</sup> ensemble' (Blue line represents the change for  $L_1$ , whereas the changes for ' $L_1$ -Zn<sup>2+</sup> ensemble' is represented by red line).

![](_page_8_Figure_2.jpeg)

Figure S16. Change in colour after addition of  $Zn^{2+}$  and  $Cd^{2+}$  ions to  $L_1$  under normal light and (b) under the UV lamp. (c) The paper coated colour change experiment with different concentration of  $Zn^{2+}$  ion under the UV lamp ( $\lambda = 365$  nm).

![](_page_9_Figure_0.jpeg)

Figure S17. Change in UV-VIS absorption spectra of ' $L_1$ -Zn<sup>2+</sup>' ensemble with different anions in the buffered ethanol (1:1:: EtOH: 10 mM HEPES buffer, pH~7.2).

![](_page_9_Figure_2.jpeg)

Figure S18. a) UV-Vis and b) fluorescence selectivity study of the naked probe  $L_1$  with anions and nucleotides in buffered ethanol (1:1 EtOH:10 mM HEPES buffer, pH~7.2).

![](_page_10_Figure_0.jpeg)

Figure S19. (a) Job's plot for determining the stoichiometry of ' $L_1$ -Zn<sup>2+</sup>' and PPi ion and (b) the corresponding Benesi–Hildebrand plot for binding constant determination.

![](_page_10_Figure_2.jpeg)

Figure S20. Ratio of fluorescence emission intensity change at 510 nm versus PPi concentrations for lowest detection limits (LOD) calculation.

![](_page_11_Figure_0.jpeg)

Figure S21. Competitive binding affinity of PPi towards the flourish ' $L_1$ -Zn<sup>2+</sup>' ensemble in presence of other anions (10 equivalents).

![](_page_11_Figure_2.jpeg)

Figure S22. MTT based cytotoxicity assay for L<sub>1</sub> and L<sub>1</sub>-zinc complex.

Table S1. Comparison of metal sensing aptitude of some reported dipodal Schiff base type chemosensor.

References	Experimental Medium	Sensed Metal ion with LOD	<i>In vivo</i> application	Anion Sensing with	<i>In vivo</i> application
	Methanolic HEPES Buffer (3:2), pH 7.4	Zn <sup>2+</sup> sensor LOD for Zn <sup>2+</sup> 56 ppb	Zn <sup>2+</sup> imaging	PPi sensing, LOD for PPi <b>2 ppb</b>	PCR
Anal. Chem, 2013, 85, 8369 $ \begin{array}{c}                                     $	CH <sub>3</sub> CN/aqueous HEPES buffer (1:4, v/v)	Zn <sup>2+</sup> sensor LOD for Cu <sup>2+</sup> <b>3 ppb</b>	Cu <sup>2+</sup> imaging	No anion sensing	
HN <sup>N</sup> OH N <sub>NH</sub> HN <sup>2</sup> O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	CH <sub>3</sub> CN/ buffer (2:8, v/v)	Zn <sup>2+</sup> and Cu <sup>2+</sup> sensing LOD not discussed	Zn <sup>2+</sup> and Cu <sup>2+</sup> images in HELa cells	PPi sensing, LOD for PPi <b>123 ppb</b>	No imaging Crystals of Zn and Cu
RSC Adv., 2014, 4, 18270–18277	CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH–Tris– HCl buffer solution (50 mM Tris, 50 : 50, v/v, pH 7.2)	Zn <sup>2+</sup> sensor LOD for Zn <sup>2+</sup> <b>0.1µM</b>	No imaging	S <sup>2-</sup> sensing, LOD for S <sup>2-</sup> 10 <sup>6-</sup> M	No imaging Crystals of Zn and Cu

Table S2. Comparison of som	e latest reported Zn <sup>2+</sup> c	chemosensors with the present work.
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Sl No.	References	Lowest Detection	Solvent system
		limit of Zn <sup>2+</sup>	
1	Present work	25 ppb	7:3, v/v, MeOH, HEPES
			buffer, pH 7.2
2	Barun Kumar Datta, Sandipan Mukherjee,	56 ppm	MeOH: aqueous HEPES
	Chirantan Kar, Aiyagari Ramesh, and Gopal Das;		buffer (1 mM, pH 7.4; 3:2
	Org. Biomol. Chem., 2014,12, 4975-4982		v/v)
3	Sharanjeet Kaur, Vandana Bhalla and Manoj	110 nm	(8:2, v/v H <sub>2</sub> O:THF)
	Kumar; Chem. Commun., 2014,50, 9725-9728		
4	Zhengping Dong, Xuanduong Le, Panpan Zhou,	0.1µM	CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH–Tris–HCl
	Chunxu Dong and Jiantai Ma; RSC Adv., 2014, 4,		buffer solution (50 mM Tris,
	18270		50 : 50, v/v, pH 7.2)
4	Manoj Kumar, Naresh Kumar and Vandana	20×10 <sup>-8</sup> mol L <sup>-1</sup>	$H_2O$ : $CH_3CN$ (2 : 8, v/v)
	Bhalla ; Chem. Commun., 2013,49, 877-879		HEPES buffer, pH=7.0
5	Jie Guan, Peng Zhang, Tai-bao Wei, Qi Lin, Hong	0.13µM	DMSO- $H_2O$ (8 : 2, v/v,
	Yao and You-ming Zhang; RSC Adv., 2014, 4,		containing 0.01 M HEPES,
	35797		pH 7.24
6	Zhipeng Liu, Changli Zhang, Yuncong Chen, Fang	0.5 nM	HEPES buffer (50 mM, 0.1
	Qian, Yang Bai, Weijiang He and Zijian Guo;		M KNO <sub>3</sub> , pH 7.2,
	Chem. Commun., 2014, 50, 1253-1255		
7	Vijay Luxami, Kamaldeep Paula and In Howa		$CH_3CN-H_2O::1$ : 1)
	Jeong; Dalton Trans., 2013, 42, 3783		(HEPES buffer, $pH = 7.0$ )
8	Junfeng Wang, Bin Liu, Xiumin Liu, Matthew J.		EtOH
	Panzner, Chrys Wesdemiotisa and		
	Yi Pang; Dalton Trans., 2014,43, 14142-14146		