Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for New Journal of Chemistry. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry and the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique 2022

## Supplemental Information

## Regulation of Conjugate Rigid Plane Structure to Achieving Transform Different Properties

Xiao-Tong Kan<sup>a</sup>, Hong Yao<sup>\*a</sup>, Yan-Bing Niu<sup>a</sup>, Yin-Ping Hu,<sup>a</sup> You-Ming Zhang<sup>a,b</sup>, Tai-Bao Wei<sup>a</sup>, and Qi Lin<sup>\*a</sup>

<sup>[a]</sup> Key Laboratory of Eco-Environment-Related Polymer Materials, Ministry of Education of China, Key Laboratory of Polymer Materials of Gansu Province; College of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Northwest Normal University, Lanzhou, Gansu, 730070. P. R. China

E-mail: <u>yhxbz@126.com</u>; <u>linqi2004@126.com</u>;

<sup>[b]</sup> Gansu Natural Energy Research Institute, Lanzhou, Gansu 730046, China

## **Table of Contents**

Fig. S1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, 298K) spectra of  $B_1$  in DMSO- $d_6$ .

Fig. S2. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, 298K) spectra of  $B_2$  in DMSO- $d_6$ .

Fig. S3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, 298K) spectra of  $B_3$  in DMSO- $d_6$ .

Fig. S4. FT-IR spectrum of  $B_1$ ,  $B_2$ ,  $B_3$ .

**Fig. S5.** Fluorescence quantum yield according to the corresponding formula (using quinoline sulfate as standard).

Fig. S6. (a-c) Fluorescent spectrum linear range for  $Hg^{2+}$  by addition of various concentrations of  $Hg^{2+}$  into  $B_1$ ,  $B_2$  and  $B_3$ . (d-f) The photograph of the linear range based on Bensi-Hildebrand equation to calculated  $K_a$  between  $Hg^{2+}$  with  $B_1$ ,  $B_2$  and  $B_3$ .

Table S1. Calculation formula and related date of the detection limits of B1, B2, B3.

Table S2. Association constants of the  $B_1$ ,  $B_2$ ,  $B_3$  treated by  $Hg^{2+}$ , calculation formula and related data.

Fig. S7. The optimized structure, frontier orbitals (HOMO and LUMO) and electronic potential maps (ESP) of  $B_1$ ,  $B_2$  and  $B_3$ .

Fig. S8. The simulated spectrum and measured spectrum of B<sub>1</sub>, B<sub>2</sub> and B<sub>3</sub>.

Fig. S9. (a) Chemical shift equimolar ratio diagram of B<sub>1</sub>.(b) Job's plot of B<sub>2</sub> and B<sub>3</sub>.

## Synthesis of compound B<sub>1</sub>, B<sub>2</sub> and B<sub>3</sub>

We synthesized compound  $B_1$ ,  $B_2$  and  $B_3$  according to the literature. The amidation reaction was carried out at low temperature by grinding method, and then the ringclosure reaction was completed during reflux. The 1,2-diaminobenzene (7.2 g, 67 mmol), polyphosphoricacid (12 mL) and oxalic acid (4.2 g, 33 mmol) were added to ethylene glycol (50 mL). The solution was refluxed 1.5 h at 160°C. Then cool to room temperature, deionized water (300 mL) was added. After filtration, the product was recrystallized to obtained  $B_1$  as a yellow needle-like solid (12.9 g, yield 83.0%). The 1,2-diaminobenzene (7.2 g, 67 mmol), polyphosphoricacid (12 mL) and 1,4dicarboxybenzene (4.2 g, 33 mmol) were added to ethylene glycol (50 mL). The 1,2diaminobenzene (7.2 g, 67 mmol), polyphosphoricacid (12 mL) and Diphthalic acid (4.2 g, 33 mmol) were added to ethylene glycol (50 mL). The synthesis method of  $B_2$ (yield 78.7%), **B**<sub>3</sub> (yield 62.7%) the same as that of **B**<sub>1</sub>. **B**<sub>1</sub>:<sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ , 600 MHz), δ/ppm: 13.48 (s, 2H), 7.61(s, 2H), 7.41 (s, 2H), 7.27 (s, 2H), 7.26 (s, 2H); **B**<sub>2</sub>: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 600 MHz) δ/ppm: 13.21 (s, 2H), 8.41 (s, 4H), 7.87(s, 4H), 7.30 (s, 4H); **B**<sub>3</sub>: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 600 MHz) δ/ppm: 13.11 (s, 2H), 8.44 (s, 4H), 8.15 (s, 4H), 7.80 (s, 4H), 7.30 (s, 4H);



Fig. S1 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, 298K) spectra of  $B_1$  in DMSO- $d_6$ .



Fig. S2 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, 298K) spectra of  $B_2$  in DMSO- $d_6$ .



Fig. S3 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, 298K) spectra of B<sub>3</sub> in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>.







**Fig. S8** Fluorescence quantum yield according to the corresponding formula (using quinoline sulfate as standard).

The fluorescence quantum yield of the sample was calculated using quinine sulfate as the standard ( $\Phi_{std} = 0.55$ ). In this equation,  $\Phi_B$  and  $\Phi_{std}$  are the fluorescence

quantum yields of the sample and the standard, respectively;  $I_B$  and  $I_{std}$  are the integral areas of the fluorescent spectra, respectively;  $A_B$  and  $A_{std}$  are the absorbances of the sample and the standard at the excitation wavelength, respectively.

$$\Phi_{\rm B} = \Phi_{\rm std} \times (I_{\rm B} / I_{\rm std}) \times (A_{\rm std} / A_{\rm B}) \Phi_{\rm std}$$
  
$$\Phi_{\rm B1} = 0.55 \times (2760.63/3393.82) \times (0.0224 / 0.0227) = 0.43$$
  
$$\Phi_{\rm B2} = 0.55 \times (6024.76/3493.76) \times (0.0221 / 0.0453) = 0.46$$
  
$$\Phi_{\rm B3} = 0.55 \times (7411.26/3756.88) \times (0.0221 / 0.0528) = 0.45$$

Fluorescence quantum yield: 43.0%, 46.0%, 45.0%.



Fig. S9 (a-c) Fluorescent spectrum linear range for  $Hg^{2+}$  by addition of various concentrations of  $Hg^{2+}$  into  $B_1$ ,  $B_2$  and  $B_3$ . (d-f) The photograph of the linear range based on Bensi-Hildebrand equation to calculated  $K_a$  between  $Hg^{2+}$  with  $B_1$ ,  $B_2$  and  $B_3$ .



Fig. S10 A plot of fluorescent intensity depending on the concentration of  $Hg^{2+}$ in the range from different equivalents: (a)B<sub>1</sub>, (b) B<sub>2</sub> and (c)B<sub>3</sub>.

Table S1 Comparison of recognition and adsorption properties of  $B_1$ ,  $B_2$  and  $B_3$ with other reported sensors.

Materials	Detection Ion	Recognition property	Adsorption property	Ref.
Biocompatible Nanodendrimer	$\mathrm{Hg}^{2+}$	-	$\checkmark$	[20]
Magnetic bentonite (M-B)	Hg <sup>2+</sup>	-	$\checkmark$	[21]
Diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid-modified cellulose	$\mathrm{Hg}^{2+}$	-	$\checkmark$	[22]
L-Cysteine Functionalized UiO-66 MOFs	$\mathrm{Hg}^{2+}$	-	$\checkmark$	[23]
Mesoporous Silica–Gelatin Aerogels	$\mathrm{Hg}^{2+}$	-	$\checkmark$	[24]
Rhodamine-naphthalimide conjugated chemosensor	$\mathrm{Hg}^{2+}$	$\checkmark$	-	[25]
Nitrogen-doped carbon dots	$\mathrm{Hg}^{2+}$	$\checkmark$	-	[26]
Fluorescent monomer of boron dipyrromethene (BODIPY) derivative	$\mathrm{Hg}^{2+}$	$\checkmark$	-	[27]
Luminescent complex	$\mathrm{Hg}^{2+}$	$\checkmark$	-	[28]
FeOOH modified nanoporous gold microelectrode	$\mathrm{Hg}^{2+}$	$\checkmark$	-	[29]
Bisbenzimidazole derivatives (B1, B2 and B3)	$\mathrm{Hg}^{2+}$	V	$\checkmark$	This work

Compound	A(Slope)	B(Intercept)	R <sup>2</sup>	δ	S	
B1	115.106	174.122	0.998	5.239	1.15×10 <sup>8</sup>	
B <sub>2</sub>	15.438	379.712	0.995	0.953	1.63×10 <sup>7</sup>	
B <sub>3</sub>	14.084	434.887	0.995	5.111	$1.40 \times 10^{7}$	
calculation formula	Linear Equation: $y=Ax + B$ $\delta = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (F - \overline{F})^2}{(N-1)}}$ N=20 K=3 $S = A \times 10^6$					
	$LOD = K \times \delta / S$					

Table S2. Calculation formula and related date of the detection limits of  $B_1$ ,  $B_2$ ,  $B_3$ .

Table S3. Association constants of the  $B_1$ ,  $B_2$ ,  $B_3$  treated by  $Hg^{2+}$ , calculation formula and related data.

Compound	Metal ions	A(Slope)	B(Intercept)	$\mathbb{R}^2$	Ka/ M <sup>-2</sup>		
$\mathbf{B}_1$	$\mathrm{Hg}^{2+}$	2.32	26.67	0.994	3.83×10 <sup>11</sup>		
B <sub>2</sub>	$\mathrm{Hg}^{2+}$	2.96	24.58	0.993	4.73×10 <sup>10</sup>		
<b>B</b> <sub>3</sub>	$\mathrm{Hg}^{2+}$	2.75	21.75	0.997	2.79×10 <sup>9</sup>		
calculation		Linear Equation: y=Ax + B					
formula	$\operatorname{Ln}\frac{I-I_{\min}}{I_{\max}-I} = LnKa + nLn[M^{2+}]$						
B <sub>1</sub>	نور دون وهر روز	B,	5.5852 588 58985 589	ada ara Ada garaj	B3		
	<b>)</b>						
E <sub>LUMO</sub> = -1.75e	V	$E_{LUMO} = -2.01$	eV	ELUMO	= -1.96eV		
$\mathbf{\Delta}\mathbf{E}=4.$	34eV	ΔΕ=	= 3.85eV		ΔE= 3.75eV		
	<b>)</b> 🧃	( <b>)</b> ( ( ( ( ( ( ( ( ( ( ( ( ( ( ( ( ( ( (	ļ <b>ļ</b> ā (		99992		
$E_{\rm HOMO}$ = -6.09	leV	$E_{HOMO}$ = -5.86	5eV	E <sub>HOMO</sub>	= -5.71eV		
	1 416 1	850	1 859	-1 909	1.909		

Fig. S11. The optimized structure, frontier orbitals (HOMO and LUMO) and electronic potential maps (ESP) of  $B_1$ ,  $B_2$  and  $B_3$ .



Fig. S12. The simulated spectrum and measured spectrum of  $B_1$ ,  $B_2$  and  $B_3$ .



Fig. S13. (a) Chemical shift equimolar ratio diagram of B<sub>1</sub>.(b) Job's plot of B<sub>2</sub> and B<sub>3</sub>.



Fig. S14 Fluorescence stability (a)  $B_1$ , (b)  $B_2$ , (c)  $B_3$  in various pH conditions.