Electronic Supplementary Information

Bis-chalcone based colorimetric probe for the selective detection of bisulfite/sulfite anions: exploring surfactant promoted Michael addition of anions to α, β-unsaturated ketone.

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Synthesis of the probe (1E,4E)-1,5-di(thiophen-2-yl) penta-1,4-dien-3-one

To a mixture of 1.87 ml (0.02 mol) of thiophene-2-carboxaldehyde, 2g (0.05 mol) NaOH in water (0.1g/ml ratio), 40 mL of EtOH and 60 mL of water, 0.74 ml (0.01 mol) of acetone was added dropwise. The reaction was carried out at room temperature for 1 h and the reaction mixture was poured into crushed ice. The yellow crystalline solid was collected by filtration and dried to give 2.19 g (89%) of product, mp 114-116.5 °C: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS): δ 7.83 (d, 2 H, J = 15 Hz),7.40 (d, 2 H, J = 5.0 Hz), 7.33 (d, 2 H, J = 3.6 Hz), 7.08 (dd, 2H, J = 3.6, 5.0 Hz), 6.82 (d, 2 H, J = 15 Hz); ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 187.8, 140.3,135.6, 131.9, 128.8, 128.3, 124.4; MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%) 246 ; Ir (KBr) 3087, 1661, 1604,1565, 1105, 749, 729 cm-1.



Fig. S1. ¹³C NMR spectra of the probe-OH adduct in CD₃OD.



Fig. S2. DEPT analysis spectra of the probe-OH adduct in CD₃OD.



Fig. S3. ¹H NMR spectra of the probe-OH adduct in CD₃OD.



Fig. S4. Enlarged ¹H NMR spectra of the probe-OH adduct in CD₃OD.



Fig. S5. ¹H NMR spectra of the probe and probe-OH in CDCl₃ and CD₃OD respectively.



Fig. S6. ¹³C NMR spectra of the probe and probe-OH in CDCl₃ and CD₃OD respectively.



Fig. S7. FT-IR spectrum of the probe and probe-OH.



Fig. S8. (A) Absorption spectra of probe (10 μ M) upon the addition of NaHSO₃ (200 μ M) and (B) Na₂SO₃ (200 μ M) respectively in HEPES buffer solution (20 mM, pH 7.4) in the absence of CTAB.



Fig. S9. (A) Spectra for the reaction between probe (10 μ M) and NaHSO₃ (200 μ M) and (B) Na₂SO₃ (200 μ M) respectively at different pH values.



Fig. S10. (A) Absorption spectra of probe (10 μ M) upon the addition of NaHSO₃ (200 μ M) and (B) Na₂SO₃ (200 μ M) respectively in HEPES buffer solution (20 mM, pH 7.4) in the presence of anionic surfactant SDBS.



Fig. S11. (A) Absorption spectra of probe (10 μ M) upon the addition of NaHSO₃ (200 μ M) and (B) Na₂SO₃ (200 μ M) respectively in HEPES buffer solution (20 mM, pH 7.4) in the presence of zwitter ionic surfactant CAPB.