## **Supporting Information**

## Determination of divalent metal ions regulated proton concentration and polarity at the interface of anionic phospholipid membrane

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M <sup>2+</sup>	[M <sup>2+</sup> ]		ZP (mV)	
	(mM) -	DMPG	DOPG	POPG
	Absence	-61.0	-58.7	-54.4
Ca <sup>2+</sup>	0.1	-60.5	-57.0	-53.6
	0.2	-58.0	-55.8	-52.0
	0.3	-56.5	-53.5	-50.2
$Mg^{2+}$	0.1	-59.0	-57.1	-53.9
	0.2	-58.6	-55.8	-52.7
	0.3	-56.9	-53.9	-51.3
Zn <sup>2+</sup>	0.1	-59.6	-57.3	-53.7
	0.3	-58.3	-56.2	-52.8
	0.5	-56.3	-54.5	-51.6

Table S1 Different bivalent metal ion concentration dependent zeta potential (ZP) for various lipid LUV system.<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Lipid concentration was 1 mM



Fig. S1. Synthetic procedure of compound RGG.



**Fig. S2.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of compound **2** in CDCl<sub>3</sub> as a solvent.



Fig. S3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of compound RGG in D<sub>2</sub>O as a solvent.



Fig. S4. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of compound RGG in CDCl<sub>3</sub> as a solvent.



Fig. S5. HR-MS spectrum of compound RGG.



Fig. S6. UV-Vis absorption spectrum of RGG (2  $\mu$ M) in 2 mM Britton–Robinson buffer, at pH 2.5. The spectrum was recorded 1 hours after addition of RGG.



**Fig. S7.** Changes of fluorescence intensities of RGG at 555 nm in absence (black) and presence (red) of DMPG (1 mM) LUV were plotted against of exposure time of RGG in 2 mM Britton–Robinson buffer, pH 2.5 (black) or HEPES, pH 5.5 at 25 °C. Excitation and emission wavelengths were 530 and 560 nm.



**Fig. S8.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of RGG (1.0 mM) in the downfield region in (a)  $D_2O$  and (b) 6:4 DMSO- $d_6$  and  $D_2O$  medium.



**Fig. S9.** (a) Phase contrast and (b) fluorescence microscopic observation of DOPG/DOPC (2:1) GUVs (total lipid, 0.5 mM) in 1 mM HEPES buffer, pH 7.0, containing 200 mM sucrose at 25°C. Images were captured after 2 hours of RGG (0.5  $\mu$ M) addition in the solution. White bars represent 5  $\mu$ m.



**Fig. S10.** LUV-concentration dependence (lipid, 0–1.0 mM) of normalized fluorescence spectra of RGG (1  $\mu$ M) in the presence of LUVs: (A) DMPG, (B) DOPG and (C) POPG LUVs in 2 mM HEPES, pH 7.0 at 25°C. The increases in intensities by increasing the LUV concentrations are indicated in arrows. *F* represents the fluorescence intensity at pH 7.0, and  $F^{0}_{560}$  represents *F* at pH 5.5. Excitation wavelength was 530 nm.



**Fig. S11.** Normalized fluorescence spectra of RGG (1  $\mu$ M) in the presence of binding saturated concentration of (A) DOPG and (B) POPG LUV (1 mM) at various pH: 7.50, 7.25, 7.00, 6.80, 6.60, 6.40, 6.20, 6.00, 5.75, 5.50. *F* represents the fluorescence intensity, and  $F_{560}^0$  represents *F* at pH 5.5. The intensity changes by decreasing pH are shown in arrows. Excitation wavelength was 530 nm.



**Fig. S12.** Normalized fluorescence spectra of RGG (1  $\mu$ M) in in 2 mM Britton–Robinson buffer containing 30% (v/v) ethanol at various pH: 4.50, 4.00, 3.80, 3.40, 3.00 and 2.25. F represents the fluorescence intensity, and F<sup>0</sup><sub>560</sub> represents F at pH 5.5. The intensity changes by decreasing pH are shown in arrows. Excitation wavelength was 530 nm.



**Fig. S13.** UV-Vis absorption spectra of GPP (2.5  $\mu$ M)) in the presence of binding saturated concentration of DMPG (red), DOPG (blue) and POPG (purple) LUV (1 mM) in 2 mM HEPES buffer at different pH values: (A) 7.0 and (B) 6.0 at 25 °C.



**Fig. S14.** (A)  $Ca^{2+}$ , (B)  $Mg^{2+}$  and (C)  $Na^+$  ion concentration (0.03–0.5 mM for  $Ca^{2+}/Mg^{2+}$ ; 1.0 mM for  $Na^+$ ) dependent UV-Vis absorption spectra of GPP (2.5  $\mu$ M)) in the presence of binding saturated concentration of DMPG LUV (1 mM) in 2 mM HEPES buffer, pH values at 25 °C. (A–C) The spectra in the absence of metal ions are depicted by black. (A,B) The intensity changes by increasing metal ion concentration are shown in arrows.



**Fig. S15.** Normalized fluorescence spectra of RGG (1  $\mu$ M) in the presence of different bivalent metal ions (0.5 mM) in 2 mM Britton–Robinson buffer, pH 3.7: red, Ca<sup>2+</sup>; blue, Mg<sup>2+</sup> and orange, Zn<sup>2+</sup>. The spectrum in the absence of metal ions is shown by black. *F* represents the fluorescence intensity, and *F*<sup>0</sup><sub>555</sub> represents *F* at pH 2.4. Excitation wavelength was 530 nm.



**Fig. S16.** DLS measurement showing particle size distribution profile of DOPG LUV (1 mM) in the (A,B) absence and (C–H) presence of various mono-valent (1 mM) and bi-valent metal ions (0.3 mM) at pH (A, C–E, H) 7.5 and (B, F, G) 6.0: (C,F)  $Ca^{2+}$ , (D,G)  $Mg^{2+}$ , (E)  $Zn^{2+}$  and (H)  $Na^+$ . Each of these spectra is an average of 48 scan.



**Fig. S17.** Normalized fluorescence spectra of RGG (1  $\mu$ M) in the presence of binding saturated concentration of POPG LUV (1 mM) containing 1.0 mM NaCl (orange) or KCl (violet) in 2 HEPES, pH 7.0. The spectrum in the absence of salts is shown by purple. *F* represents the fluorescence intensity, and  $F_{560}^0$  represents *F* at pH 5.5. Excitation wavelength was 530 nm.