

Supplementary Material (ESI) for Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry  
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**Supplementary Material (ESI)**

**A Red-shift Colorimetric and Fluorescent Sensor for Cu<sup>2+</sup> in Aqueous Solution: Unsymmetrical 4,5-Diaminonaphthalimide with N-H Deprotonation Induced by Metal Ion**

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## S1. Reagents and general methods

### 1.1 Reagents

All the reagents and solvents were commercial available and used without purification.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectra were collected in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at  $25\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  on a Bruker AV-400 spectrometer. Electrospray ionization (ESI) spectroscopy was performed in Mass Instrumentation Facility of Analysis&Research Center of ECUST.

UV-vis spectra were obtained using a Varian Cary 100 spectrophotometer (1 cm quartz cell) at room temperature; Fluorescence spectra were obtained using a Varian Cary Eclipse fluorescent spectrophotometer (1 cm quartz cell) at room temperature; Melting points were determined by using a Büchi Melting point B-540 apparatus (uncorrected when using); pH was measured with a Sartorius pH-Meter PB-20.

The metal salts employed are  $\text{LiClO}_4$ ,  $\text{NaClO}_4$ ,  $\text{KClO}_4$ ,  $\text{Mg}(\text{ClO}_4)_2$ ,  $\text{Cd}(\text{ClO}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{Hg}(\text{ClO}_4)_2 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{Mg}(\text{ClO}_4)_2$ ,  $\text{Cr}(\text{ClO}_4)_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{FeCl}_3$ ,  $\text{FeSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{Zn}(\text{ClO}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{AgClO}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{Co}(\text{ClO}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{Mn}(\text{ClO}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{Cu}(\text{ClO}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{Ni}(\text{ClO}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , and  $\text{Pb}(\text{ClO}_4)_2 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , respectively.

Metal ions and sensors were dissolved in water or ethanol to obtain 1 mM stock solutions.

### 1.2 Association Constants and Curve fitting

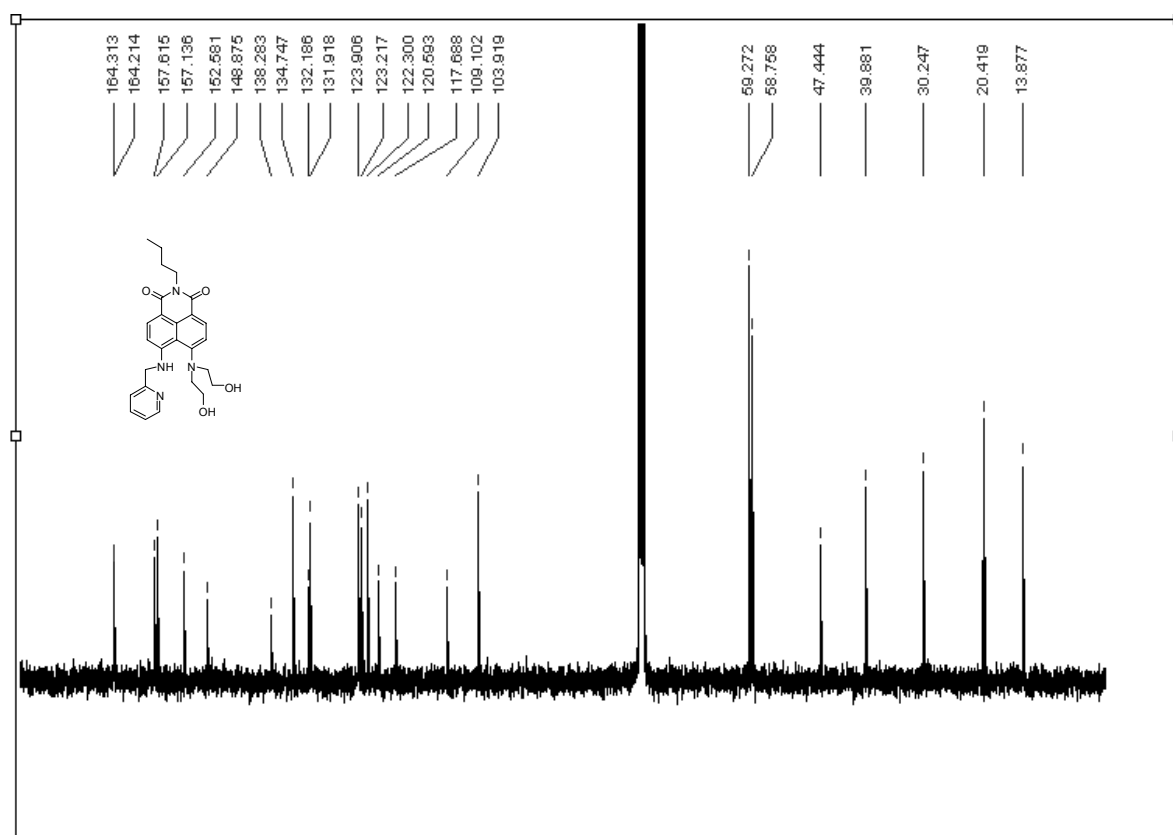
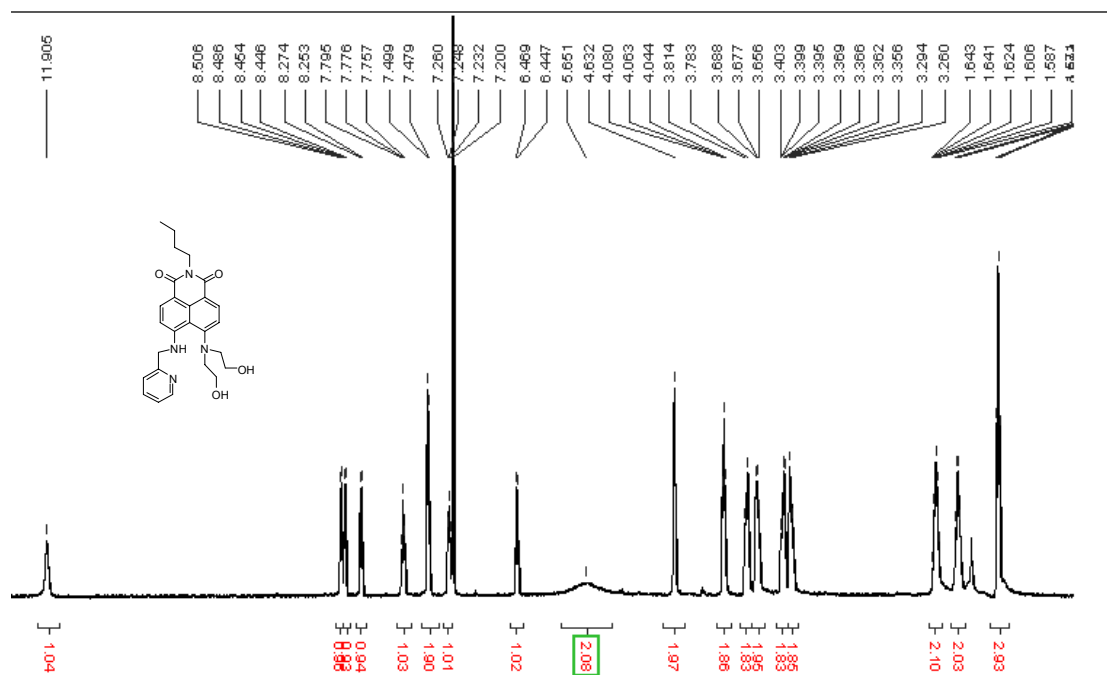
The following equation was used for the nonlinear least squares analysis to determine the binding constant ( $K_a$ ):

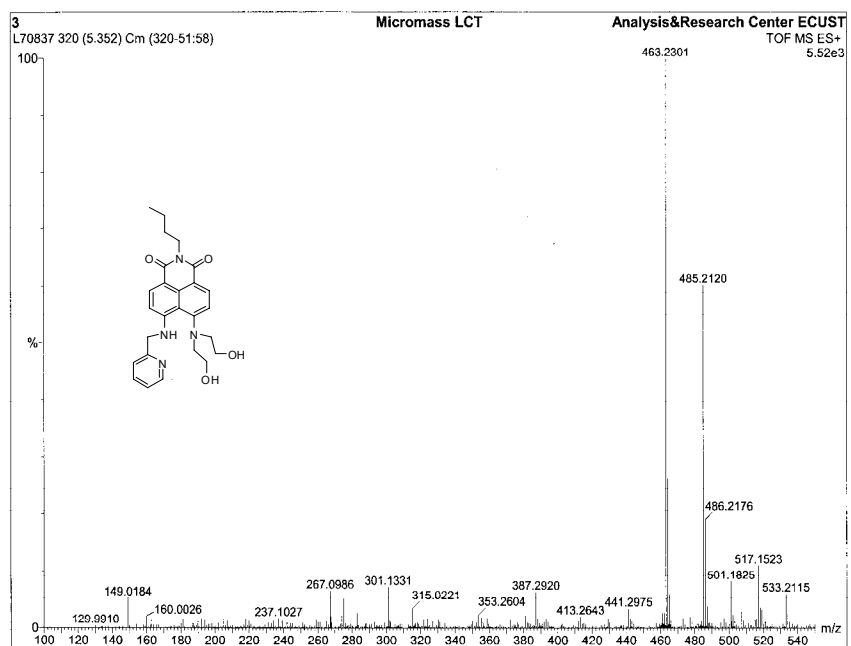
$$Y = Y_0 + \frac{Y_{\text{lim}} - Y_0}{2} \left\{ 1 + \frac{c_M}{c_L} + \frac{1}{K_s c_L} - \left[ \left( 1 + \frac{c_M}{c_L} + \frac{1}{K_s c_L} \right)^2 - 4 \frac{c_M}{c_L} \right]^{1/2} \right\}$$

Here,  $Y$  was the recorded fluorescent intensity,  $Y_0$  was the start value without the addition of  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  ion,  $Y_{\text{lim}}$  was the limiting value (left as a floating parameter),  $C_M$  was the  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  concentration, and  $C_L$  was the sensor concentration. (B. Valeur, *Molecular Fluorescence: Principle and Applications*, Wiley-VCH, Germany, 2002)

### S2 Spectra ( $^1\text{H}$ NMR, $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR, HRMS) of H1

6-(bis(2-hydroxyethyl)amino)-2-butyl-7-(pyridin-2-ylmethylamino)-1H-benzo[de]isoquinoline-1,3(2H)-dione





**S3. The ESI(+)-Ms of H1 and Cu<sup>2+</sup> (equimolar H1/Cu<sup>2+</sup>, 2 μM/2 μM) in water/ethanol (9/1) solution.**

**Elemental Composition Report**

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**Multiple Mass Analysis: 6 mass(es) processed**

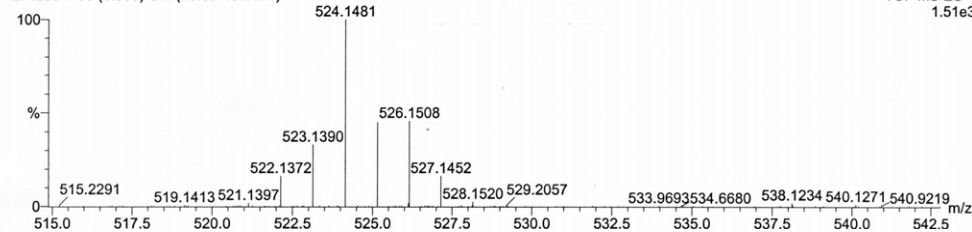
Tolerance = 5.0 mDa / DBE: min = -1.5, max = 50.0

Isotope cluster parameters: Separation = 1.0 Abundance = 1.0%

Monoisotopic Mass, Odd and Even Electron Ions

40 formula(e) evaluated with 4 results within limits (up to 50 closest results for each mass)

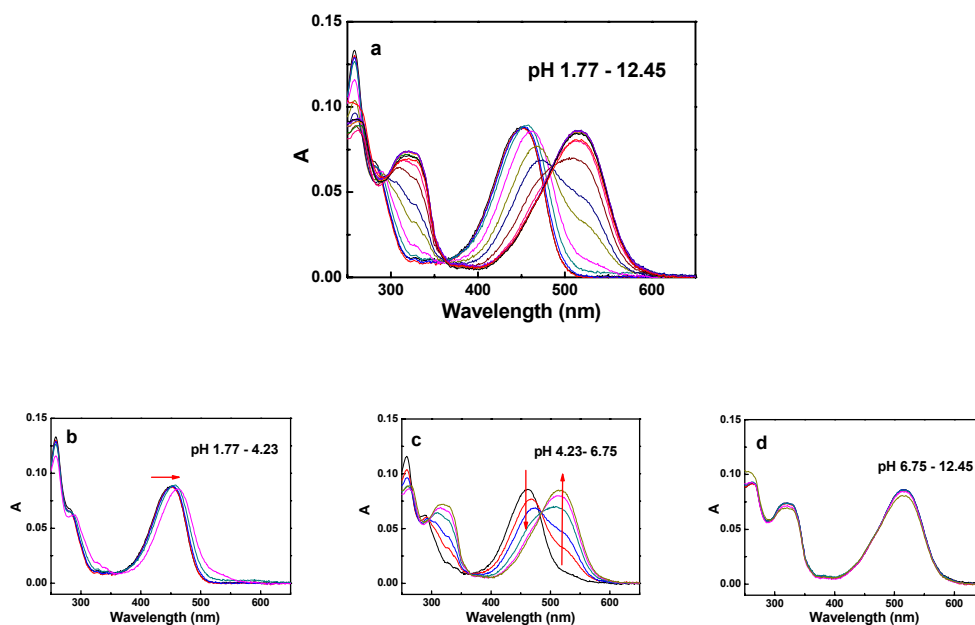
H1Cu  
 L71256-1 58 (0.966) Cm (45:60-461:471) Micromass LCT AnalysisResearch Center ECUST  
 TOF MS ES+  
 1.51e3



Minimum: 10.00  
 Maximum: 100.00

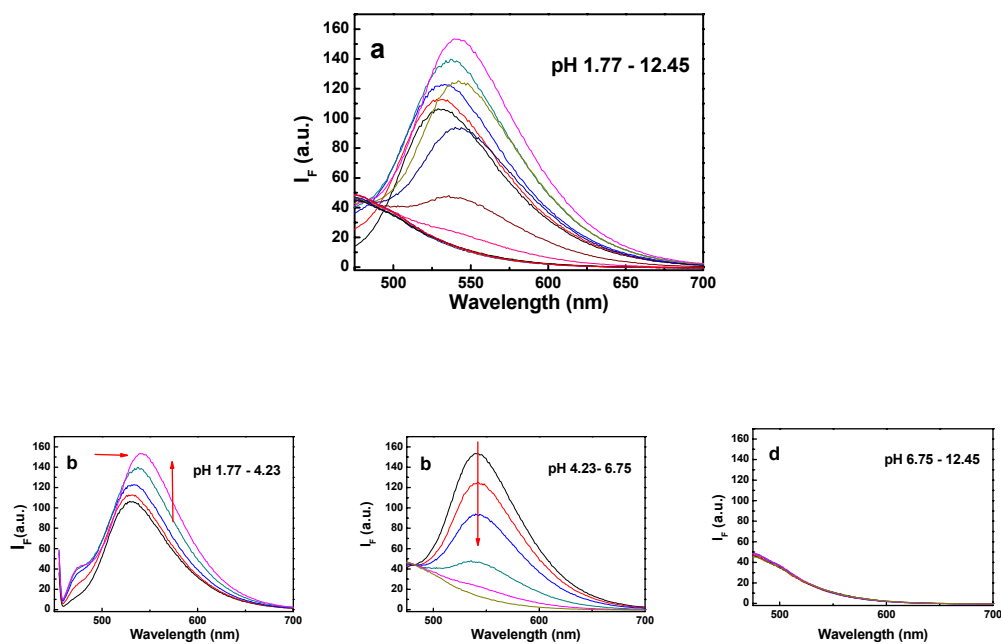
Mass	RA	Calc. Mass	mDa	PPM	DBE	Score	Formula
522.1372	16.17	---	---	---	---	---	---
523.1390	33.06	---	---	---	---	---	---
524.1481	100.00	524.1485	-0.4	-0.7	14.5	n/a	12C26 1H29 14N4 16O4 63Cu
525.1519	44.93	525.1518	0.1	0.1	14.5	n/a	12C25 13C 1H29 14N4 16O4 63Cu
526.1508	45.54	526.1467	4.1	7.8	14.5	n/a	12C26 1H29 14N4 16O4 65Cu
527.1452	16.17	527.1500	-4.8	-9.2	14.5	n/a	12C25 13C 1H29 14N4 16O4 65Cu

#### S4. Influence of pH on the absorption spectra of H1/Cu<sup>2+</sup> adduct



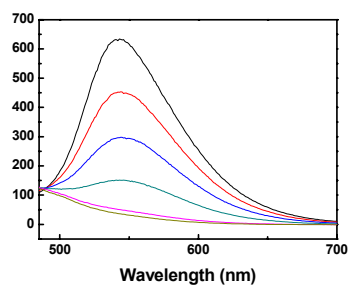
**Fig. S4.** (a). Influence of pH on the absorption spectra of **H1**/Cu<sup>2+</sup> adduct (5  $\mu$ M **H1** and 5  $\mu$ M Cu<sup>2+</sup>) in ethanol-water solutions (1/9, v/v). (b) Influence of pH from 1.77 to 4.23. (c) Influence of pH from 4.23 to 6.75. (d) Influence of pH from 6.75 to 12.45.

#### S5. Influence of pH on the fluorescent spectra of H1/Cu<sup>2+</sup> adduct



**Fig. S5.** (a) Influence of pH on fluorescent spectra of **H1**/Cu<sup>2+</sup> adducts (5  $\mu$ M **H1** and 5  $\mu$ M Cu<sup>2+</sup>) in ethanol-water solutions (1/9, v/v). (b) Influence of pH from 1.77 to 4.23. (c) Influence of pH from 4.23 to 6.75. (d) Influence of pH from 6.75 to 12.45.

**S6. Cu<sup>2+</sup>-titration at pH 11.59 in aqueous ethanol (ethanol/water = 1/9) solution**



**Fig. S6.** Cu<sup>2+</sup> ion titration-induced the fluorescent spectra changes of sensor **H1** (10 μM) at **pH11.59** in aqueous ethanol (ethanol/water = 1/9) solution (Cu<sup>2+</sup> amount was 0.25 , 0.5, 0.75, 1.0 equiv respectively).