

**Electronic Supporting Information**

**A new pyridoxal based fluorescence chemo-sensor for detection of Zn(II) and its application in bio imaging**

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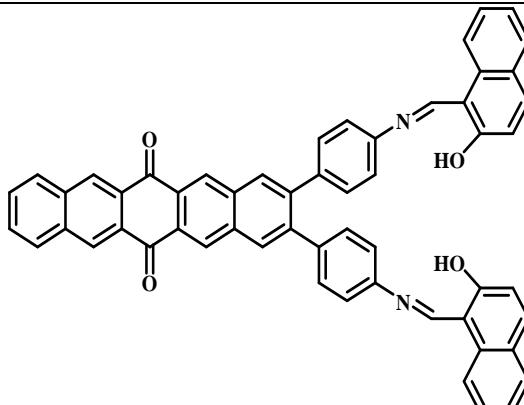
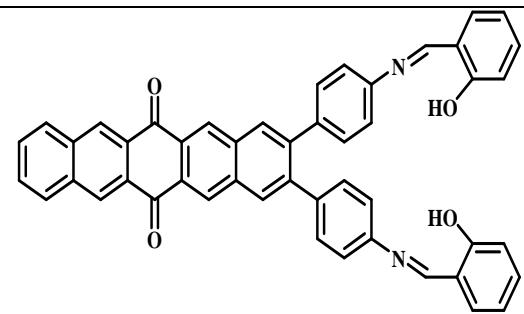
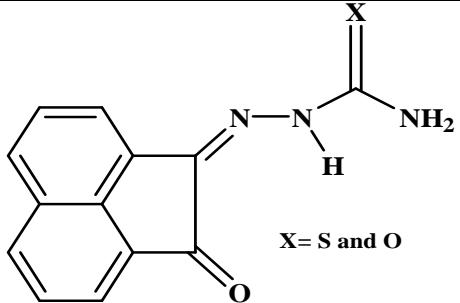
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|---|-----------|
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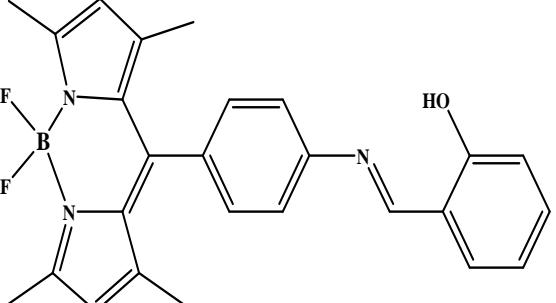
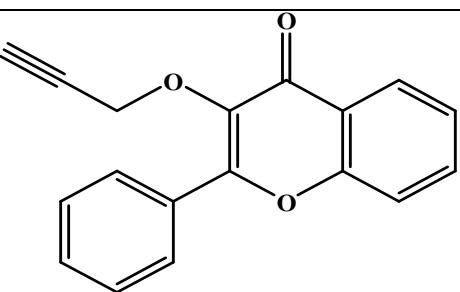
**Chart 1 :** Examples of tautomerism encountered in literature.

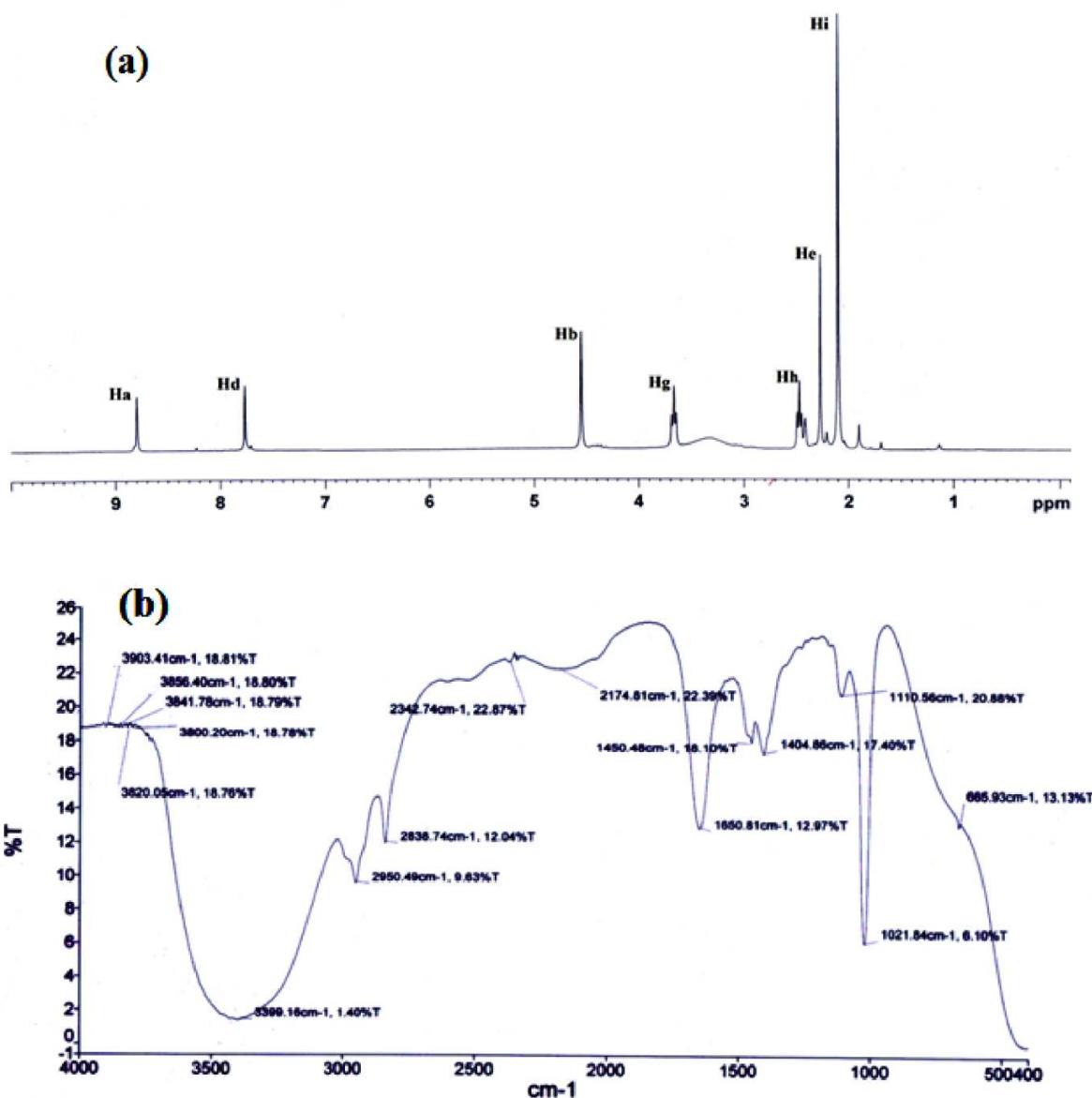
| Serial No. | Ligands used  | Sensed species   | Type of tautomerism | Reference |
|------------|---|------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| 1          |    | Zn <sup>2+</sup> | Keto-enol           | 13(a)     |
| 2          |   | Zn <sup>2+</sup> | Keto-enol           | 13(b)     |
| 3          |  | F <sup>-</sup>   | Azo-hydrazone       | 13(c)     |

|   |  |   |                             |       |
|---|--|---|-----------------------------|-------|
| 4 |  | Zn <sup>2+</sup>                                | Keto-enol                   | 13(d) |
| 5 |  | Al <sup>3+</sup> ,ClO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup> | Keto-enol                   | 13(e) |
| 6 |  | F <sup>-</sup>                                  | Keto-enol                   | 13(f) |
| 7 |  | Mg <sup>2+</sup> ,Ca <sup>2+</sup>              | Benzoid-quinoid tautomerism | 13(g) |

|   |  |                  |               |       |
|---|--|------------------|---------------|-------|
|   |  | $\text{Ba}^{2+}$ |               |       |
| 8 |  | $\text{Hg}^{2+}$ | Azo-hydrazone | 13(h) |
| 9 |  | $\text{F}^-$     | Azo-hydrazone | 13(i) |

|    |          |  |           |       |
|----|----------|--|-----------|-------|
|    | <br><br> |  |           |       |
| 10 |          | $\text{F}^-$ , $\text{AcO}^-$ ,<br>$\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^-$ | Keto-enol | 13(j) |

|    |   |                  |                         |       |
|----|---|------------------|-------------------------|-------|
| 11 |  | $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ | Enol-imine keto-enamine | 13(k) |
| 12 |  | $\text{Pd}^{2+}$ | Keto-enol               | 13(l) |



**Figure S1:** (a)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of **PydDmen** in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ , (b) FTIR spectra of **PydDmen**.

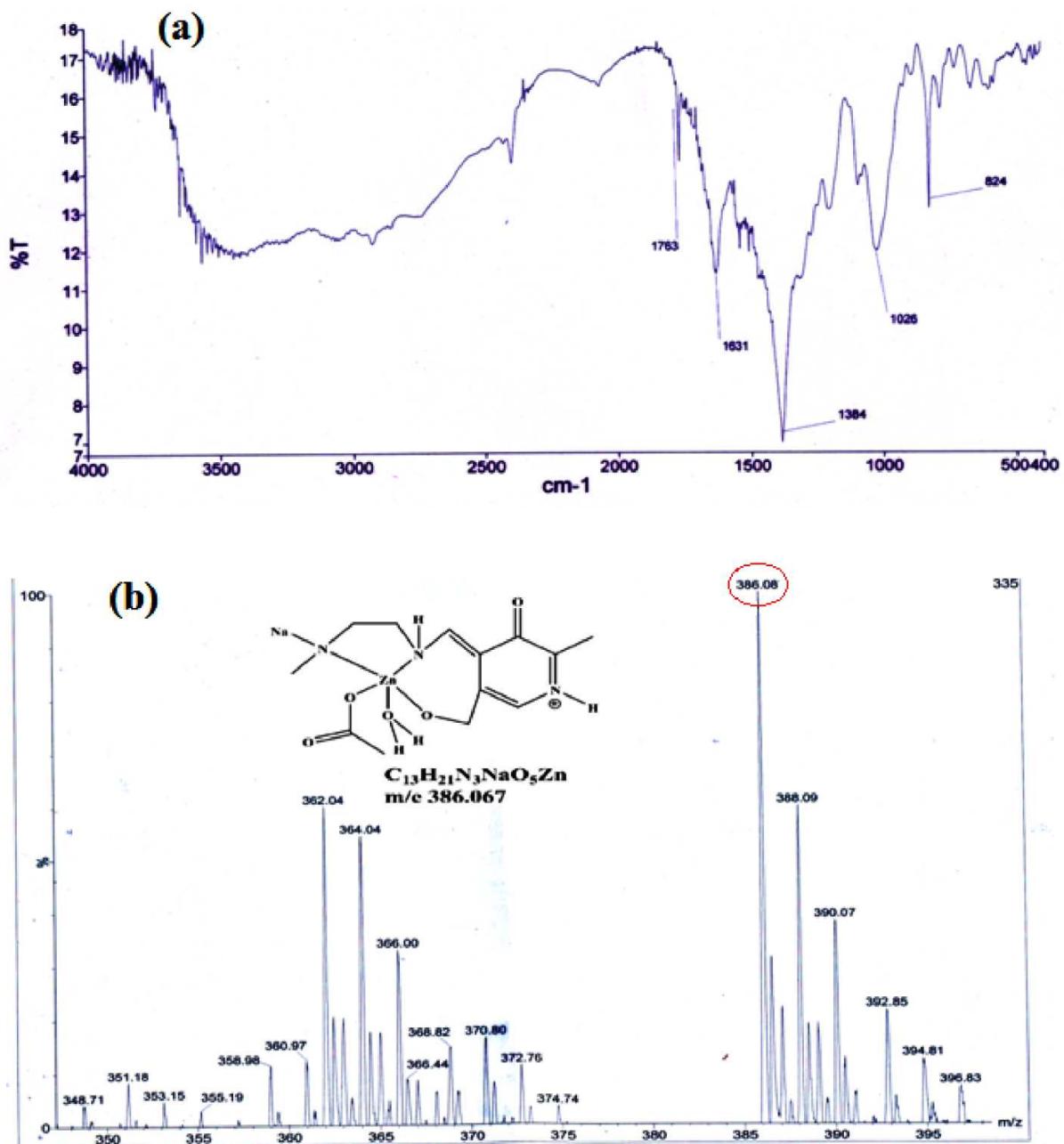
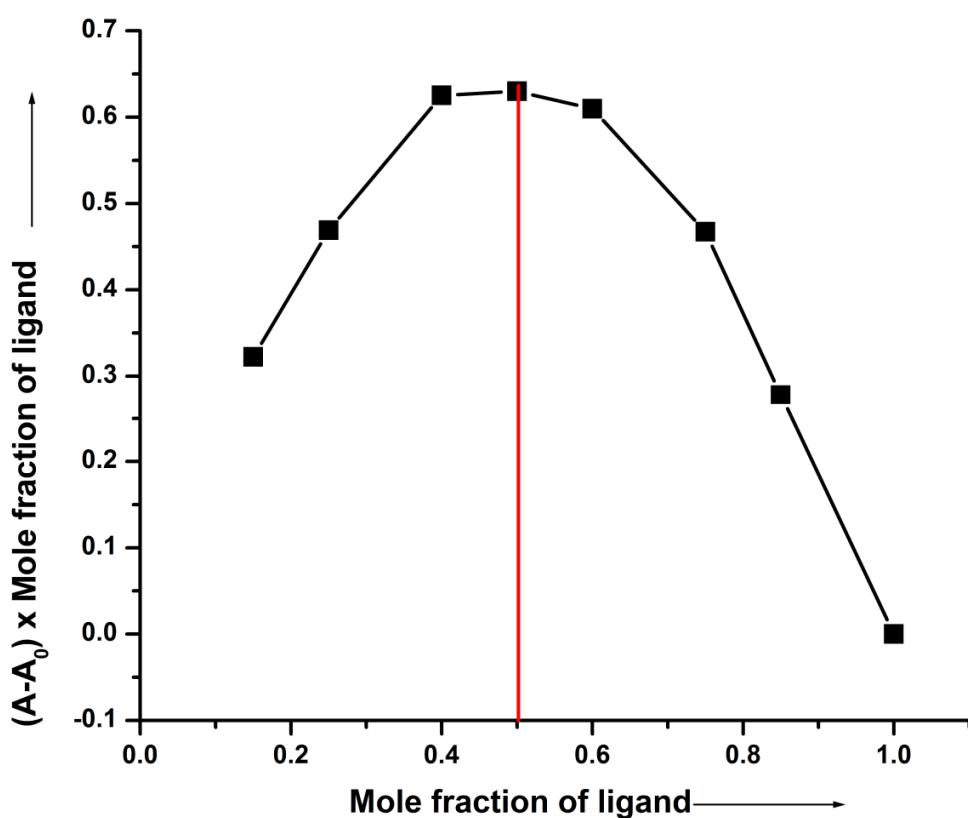
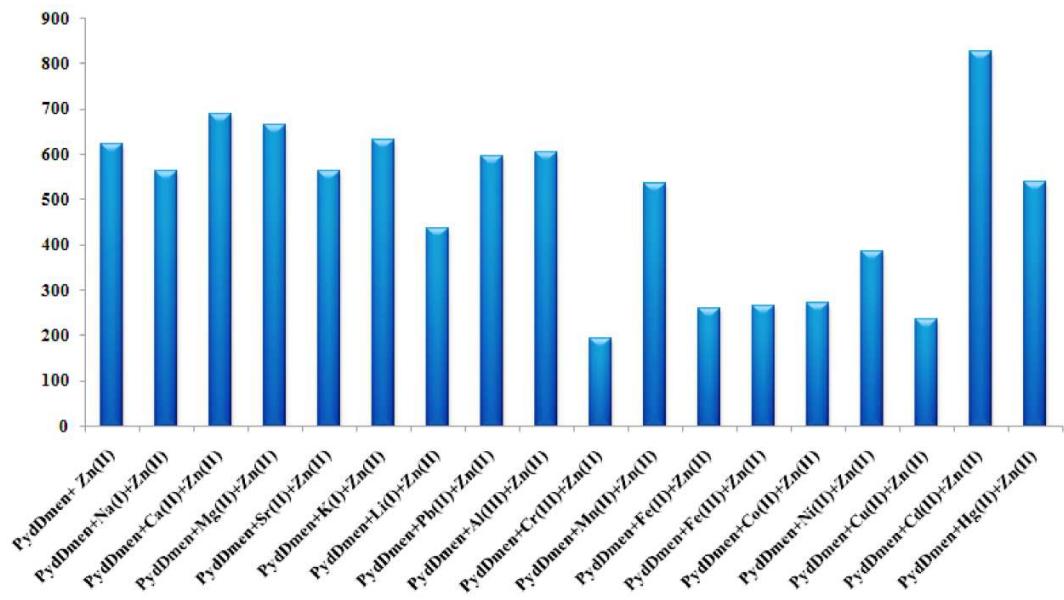


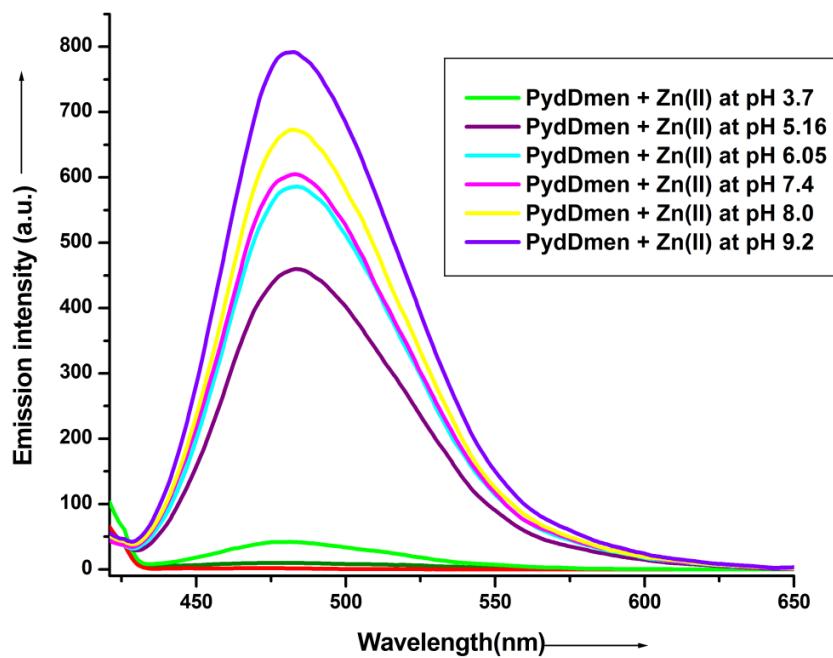
Figure S2: (a) FTIR spectra of PydDmen-Zn<sup>2+</sup>, (b)ESI-MS of PydDmen-Zn<sup>2+</sup> in methanol.



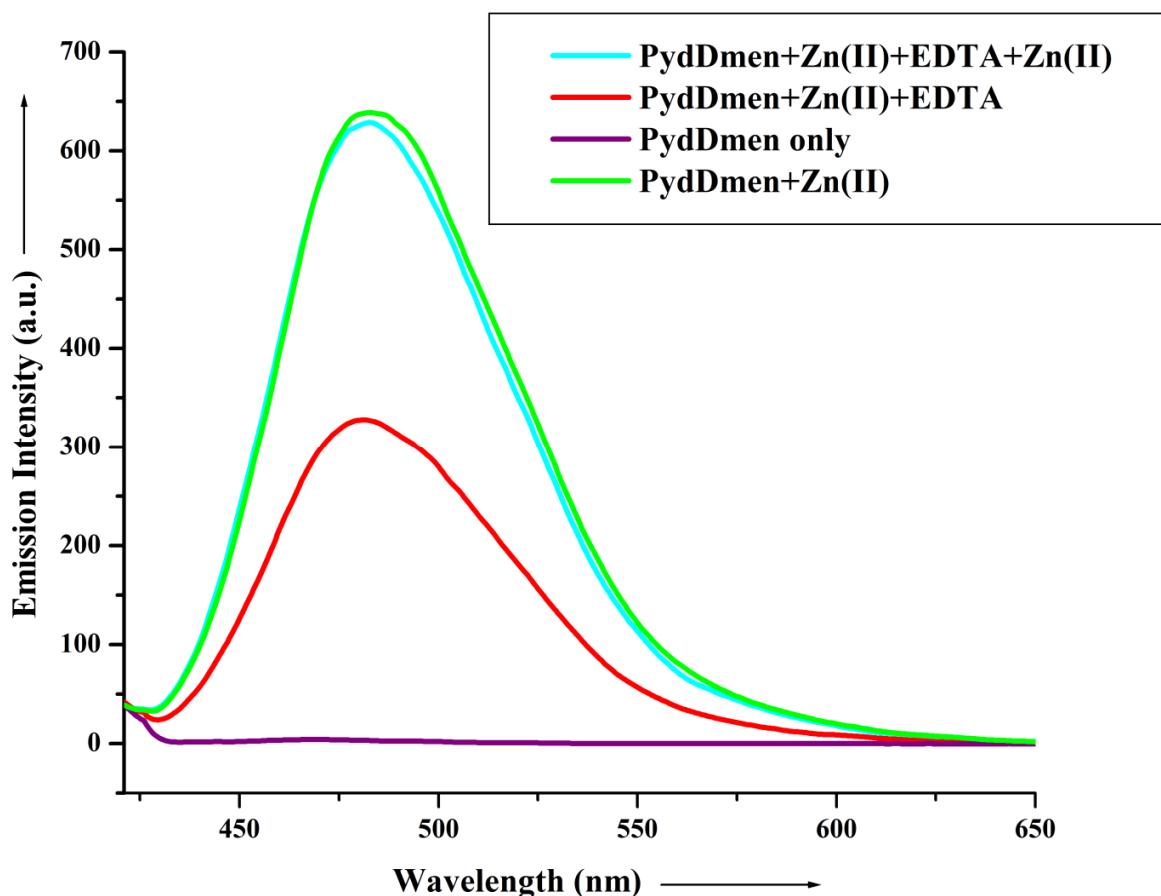
**Figure S3:** Job's plot for the determination of **PydDmen-Zn<sup>2+</sup>** (1:1) complex stoichiometry.



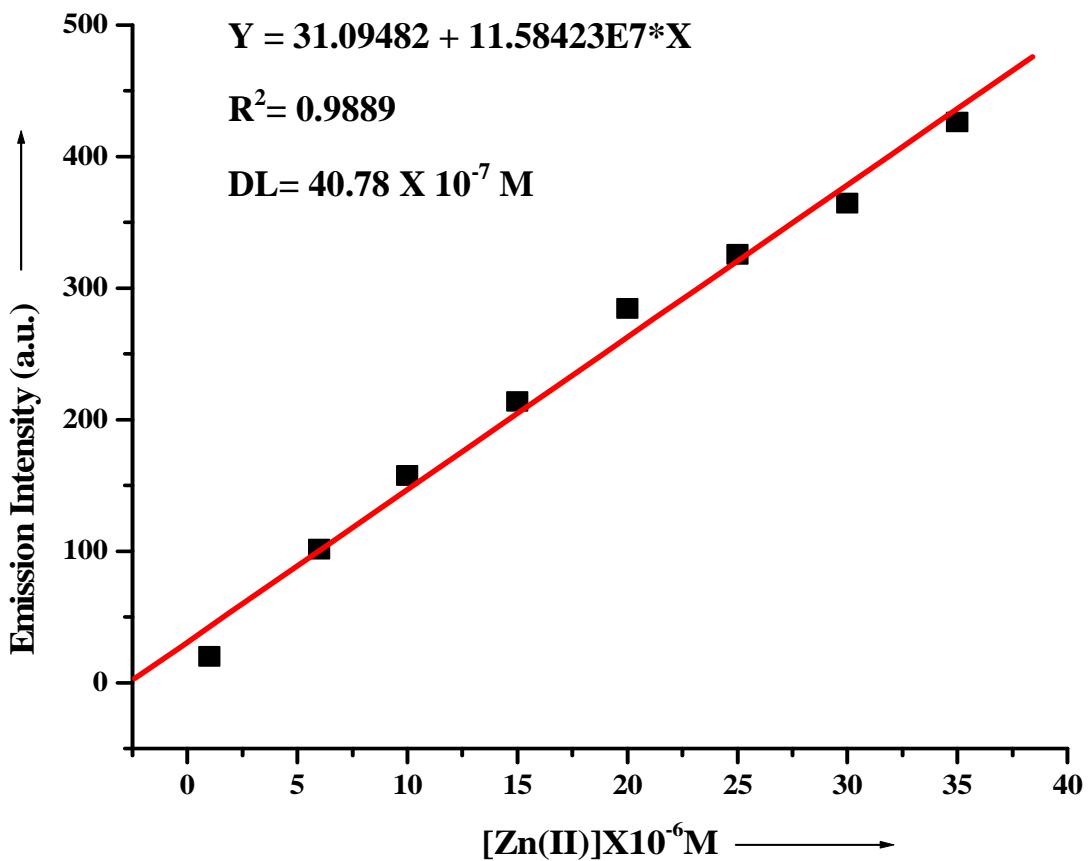
**Figure S4:** Relative emission intensity change profile of the chemosensor **PydDmen** ( $5 \times 10^{-6}$  M) in presence of 14 equiv. of various metal ions at  $25^{\circ}\text{C}$  in EtOH/  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (4:1, v/v) in tris buffer at pH 7.4 ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 411$  nm).



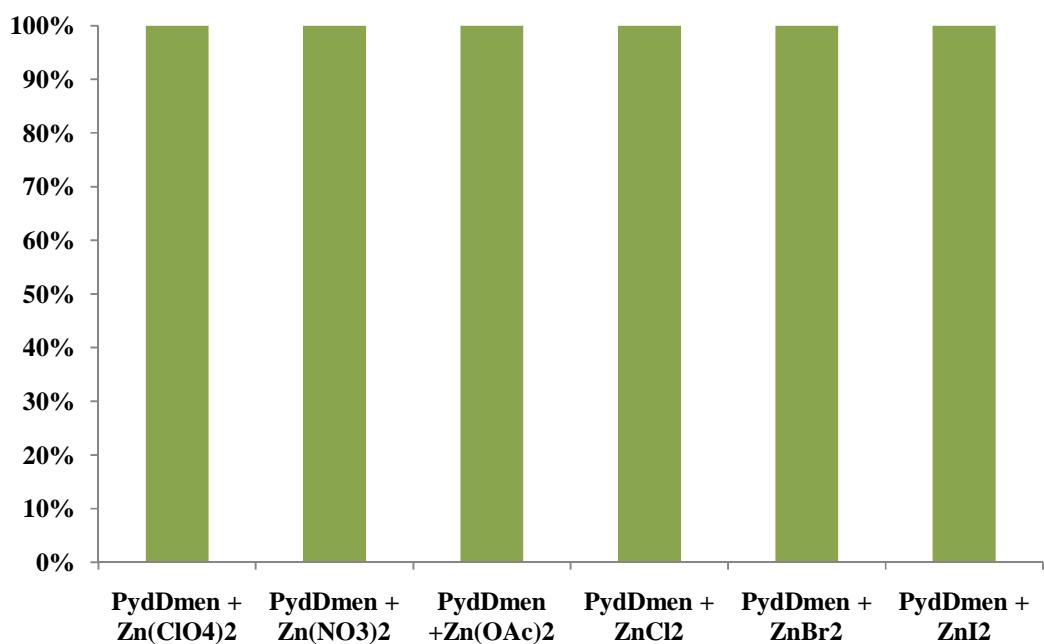
**Figure S5:** Effect of the pH on the fluorescence intensity of **PydDmen** ( $5 \times 10^{-6}$  M) in the presence of 14 equiv. of  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  ions ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 411$  nm).



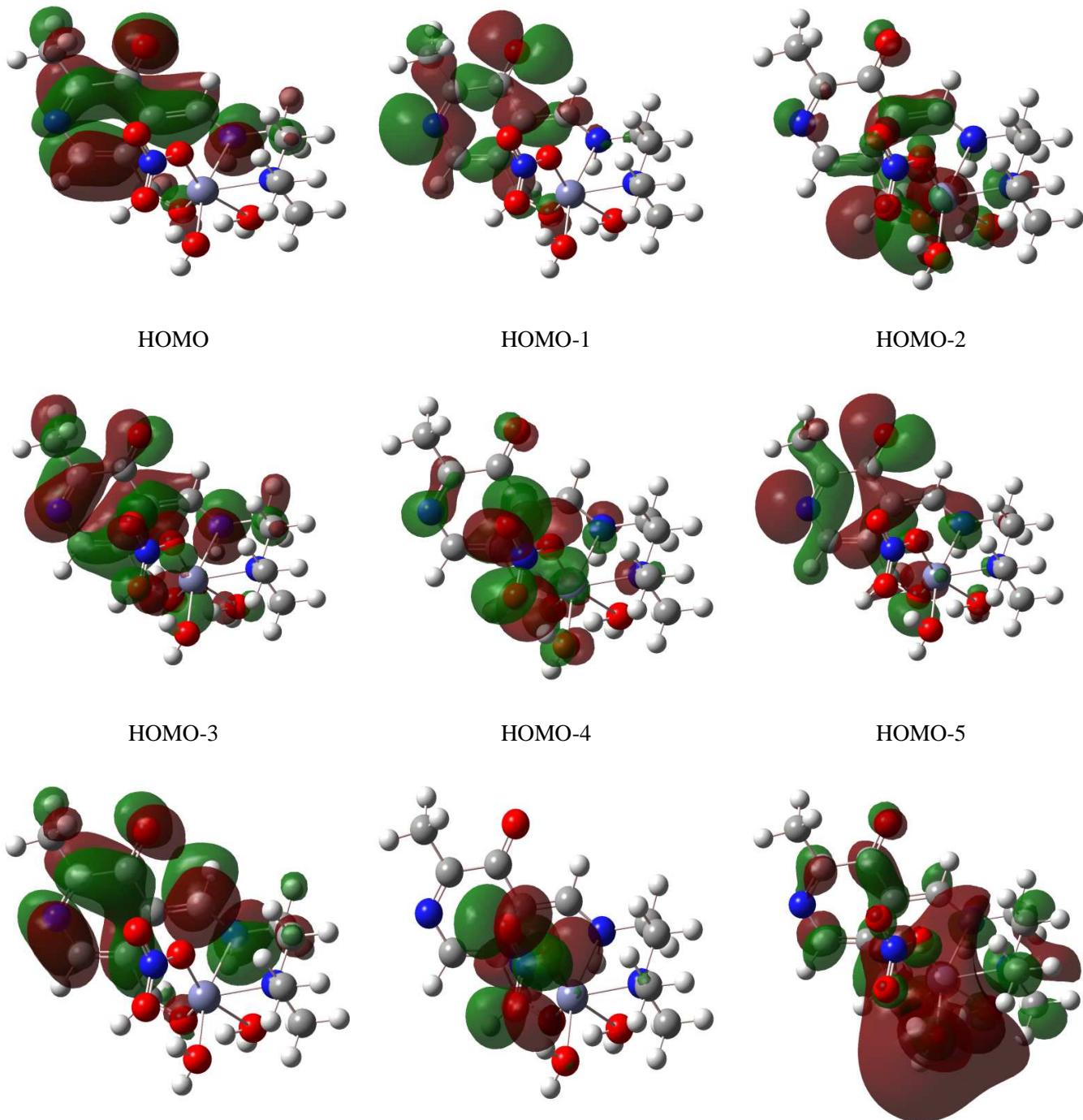
**Figure S6:** Fluorescence emission spectra of **PydDmen** in presence of  $Zn^{2+}$  ion followed by addition of  $Na_2EDTA$  ( $\lambda_{ex}=411\text{ nm}$ ) and  $Zn^{2+}$  ion.

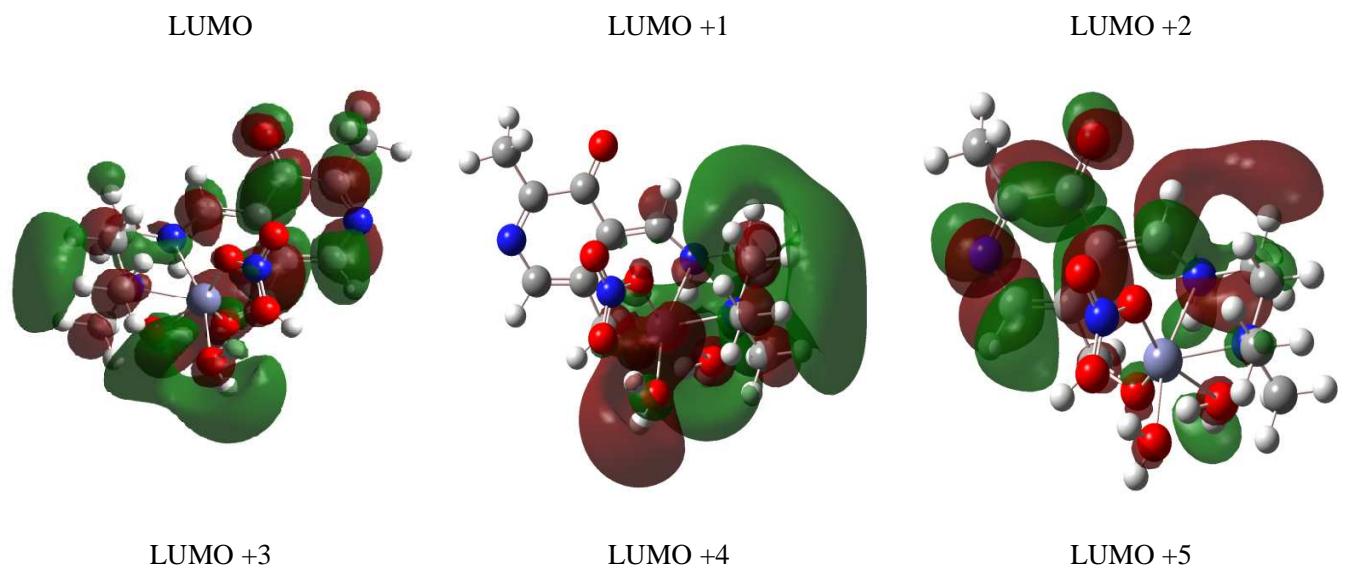


**Figure S7:** Determination of the detection limit of Zn<sup>2+</sup> by PydDmen ( $5 \times 10^{-6}$  M) in EtOH/ H<sub>2</sub>O (4:1, v/v) in tris buffer at pH 7.4 ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}}=411$  nm).



**Figure S8:** Relative emission intensity profile showing anion independency of **PydDmen** at 25°C in EtOH/ H<sub>2</sub>O (4:1, v/v) in tris buffer at pH 7.4 ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 411 \text{ nm}$ ).





**Figure S9:** Contour plots of some selected molecular orbitals of **PydDmen-Zn<sup>2+</sup>**.

**Table S1:** Fluorescence lifetimes of chemosensor **PydDmen** and **PydDmen-Zn<sup>2+</sup>** in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O (4:1,v/v).

|                                | $\tau_1$ (ns) | $\tau_2$ (ns) | $\tau_3$ (ns) | a <sub>1</sub> | a <sub>2</sub> | a <sub>3</sub> | $\chi^2$ | $\tau_{av}$ | $\Phi$ | $k_f(s^{-1}) \times 10^9$ | Fold w.r.t.<br><b>PydDmen</b> | $k_{nr}(s^{-1}) \times 10^9$ |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------|-------------|--------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>PydDmen</b>                 | 0.821         | 3.375         | 9.334         | 0.349          | 0.243          | 0.406          | 1.089    | 3.79        | 0.094  | 0.0248                    | -                             | 0.239                        |
| <b>PydDmen-Zn<sup>2+</sup></b> | 1.479         | 9.078         | -             | 0.112          | 0.888          | -              | 1.1      | 8.23        | 0.408  | 0.0496                    | 2                             | 0.0719                       |

**Table S2:** Changes in chemical shifts ( $\delta$  ppm) of **PydDmen** during  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR titration experiment upon gradual addition of  $\text{Zn}(\text{CH}_3\text{COO})_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .

| Equiv. | H <sub>a</sub> | H <sub>b</sub> | H <sub>d</sub> | H <sub>e</sub> | H <sub>g</sub> | H <sub>h</sub> |
|--------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 0.0    | 8.797          | 4.548          | 7.762          | 2.271          | 3.672          | 2.471          |
| 0.5    | 8.666          | 4.442          | 7.224          | 2.157          | 3.614          | 2.513          |
| 1.0    | 8.689          | 4.434          | 7.237          | 2.165          | 3.582          | 2.534          |
| 1.5    | 8.700          | 4.442          | 7.263          | 2.179          | 3.595          | 2.546          |
| 2.0    | 8.703          | 4.446          | 7.272          | 2.182          | 3.601          | 2.547          |

**Table S3:** Theoretical bond lengths and bond angles of **PydDmen-Zn<sup>2+</sup>**.

| Bonds (Å) | Calc.   |
|-----------|---------|
| Zn1-O2    | 1.87830 |
| Zn1-O3    | 2.09134 |
| Zn1-O4    | 3.66364 |
| Zn1-O7    | 1.97689 |
| Zn1-N2    | 2.84727 |
| Zn1-N3    | 2.10894 |
| Angles(°) |         |
| O2-Zn1-O3 | 98.800  |
| O2-Zn1-O4 | 108.829 |
| O2-Zn1-O5 | 137.041 |
| O2-Zn1-N2 | 71.650  |
| O2-Zn1-N3 | 120.002 |
| O3-Zn1-O4 | 108.829 |
| O3-Zn1-O5 | 94.733  |
| O3-Zn1-N2 | 159.937 |
| O3-Zn1-N3 | 99.222  |
| O4-Zn1-O5 | 156.413 |
| O4-Zn1-N2 | 52.232  |
| O4-Zn1-N3 | 78.168  |
| O5-Zn1-N2 | 104.250 |
| O5-Zn1-N3 | 97.462  |
| N2-Zn1-N3 | 72.236  |

**Table S4:** Energy of selected MOs of **PydDmen-Zn<sup>2+</sup>**.

| MO      | Energy (eV) |
|---------|-------------|
| LUMO+5  | 0.64        |
| LUMO+4  | 0.49        |
| LUMO+3  | 0.39        |
| LUMO+2  | -0.28       |
| LUMO+1  | -1.19       |
| LUMO    | -2.26       |
| HOMO    | -5.54       |
| HOMO-1  | -5.95       |
| HOMO-2  | -7.16       |
| HOMO-3  | -7.30       |
| HOMO-4  | -7.41       |
| HOMO-5  | -7.55       |
| HOMO-6  | -7.82       |
| HOMO-7  | -8.43       |
| HOMO-8  | -8.63       |
| HOMO-9  | -8.69       |
| HOMO-10 | -8.79       |

**Table S5:** Vertical electronic transitions calculated by TDDFT/CPCM method for **PydDmen-Zn<sup>2+</sup>** in ethanol.

| E <sub>excitation</sub> (eV) | λ <sub>excitation</sub> (nm) | Osc. Strength (f) | Key transitions  | Character  |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| 2.6848                       | 461.81                       | 0.0231            | (69%) HOMO-1 → LUMO<br>(31%) HOMO → LUMO   | π(L) → π*(L), ILCT<br>π(L) → π*(L), ILCT   |
| 3.0345                       | 408.58                       | 0.2724            | (31%) HOMO-1 → LUMO<br>(69%) HOMO → LUMO   | π(L) → π*(L), ILCT<br>π(L)/pπ(o) → π*(L), ILCT   |
| 3.6541                       | 339.30                       | 0.0016            | (71%) HOMO → LUMO+1  | π(L) → π*(L), ILCT   |
| 3.7591                       | 329.83                       | 0.0059            | (70%) HOMO-2 → LUMO  | π(L)/pπ(o) → π*(L), ILCT   |
| 4.1860                       | 296.19                       | 0.0176            | (23%) HOMO-6 → LUMO<br>(26%) HOMO-4 → LUMO<br>(51%) HOMO-3 → LUMO  | π(L)/pπ(o) → π*(L), ILCT<br>π(L) → π*(L), ILCT<br>π(L) → π*(L), ILCT   |
| 4.2580                       | 291.18                       | 0.0005            | (16%) HOMO-5 → LUMO+1<br>(84%) HOMO-1 → LUMO+1   | π(L) → π*(L), ILCT<br>π(L)/pπ(o) → π*(L), ILCT   |
| 4.3687                       | 283.80                       | 0.0002            | (12%) HOMO-7 → LUMO+1<br>(56%) HOMO-5 → LUMO+1<br>(10%) HOMO-4 → LUMO+1<br>(9%) HOMO-2 → LUMO+1<br>(12%) HOMO-1 → LUMO+1 | π(L)/pπ(o) → π*(L), ILCT<br>π(L)/pπ(o) → π*(L), ILCT<br>π(L)/pπ(o) → π*(L), ILCT<br>π(L)/pπ(o) → π*(L), ILCT<br>π(L)/pπ(o) → π*(L), ILCT |

|        |        |        |   |  |
|--------|--------|--------|---|--|
| 4.4266 | 280.09 | 0.0852 | (36%) HOMO-6 → LUMO<br>(31%) HOMO-4 → LUMO<br>(32%) HOMO-3 → LUMO   | $\pi(L)/p\pi(o) \rightarrow \pi^*(L)$ , ILCT<br>$\pi(L) \rightarrow \pi^*(L)$ , ILCT<br>$\pi(L) \rightarrow \pi^*(L)$ , ILCT   |
| 4.5150 | 274.61 | 0.0211 | (47%) HOMO-6 → LUMO<br>(52%) HOMO-4 → LUMO  | $\pi(L) \rightarrow \pi^*(L)$ , ILCT<br>$\pi(L)/p\pi(o) \rightarrow \pi^*(L)$ , ILCT   |
| 4.5974 | 269.68 | 0.0057 | (69%) HOMO-5 → LUMO   | $\pi(L)/p\pi(o) \rightarrow \pi^*(L)$ , ILCT   |
| 4.8591 | 255.16 | 0.0006 | (69%) HOMO-2 → LUMO +1  | $\pi(L)/p\pi(o) \rightarrow \pi^*(L)$ , ILCT   |
| 5.1145 | 242.42 | 0.0057 | (14%) HOMO-1 → LUMO+2<br>(85%) HOMO → LUMO+2  | $\pi(L) \rightarrow \pi^*(L)$ , ILCT<br>$\pi(L) \rightarrow \pi^*(L)$ , ILCT   |
| 5.1485 | 240.82 | 0.0009 | (70%) HOMO-7 → LUMO   | $\pi(L)/p\pi(o) \rightarrow \pi^*(L)$ , ILCT   |
| 5.2076 | 238.08 | 0.0013 | (11%) HOMO-6 → LUMO<br>(47%) HOMO-1 → LUMO+2<br>(18%) HOMO-1 → LUMO+3<br>(12%) HOMO-1 → LUMO+4<br>(10%) HOMO → LUMO+2 | $\pi(L) \rightarrow \pi^*(L)$ , ILCT<br>$\pi(L) \rightarrow \pi^*(L)$ , ILCT<br>$\pi(L) \rightarrow \pi^*(L)$ , ILCT<br>$\pi(L) \rightarrow \pi^*(L)$ , ILCT<br>$\pi(L) \rightarrow \pi^*(L)$ , ILCT |
| 5.2741 | 235.08 | 0.0009 | (68%) HOMO-8 → LUMO   | $\pi(L) \rightarrow \pi^*(L)$ , ILCT   |