# **Supporting Information**

# A Stable Aggregate System of Silyl Ether Substituted Quinacridone and Its Aggregation-state Changes Induced by Fluoride-ion: Inspiration for A Dual Guaranteed Strategy for Probe Design

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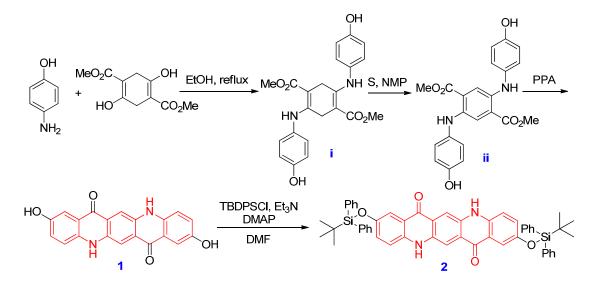
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# TABLE OF CONTENT:

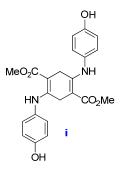
1. Synthesis of 2,9-di(tert-butyldiphenylsilyloxy) quinacridone (2)	S1
2. References	S3
3. Copies of NMR Spectra	S4

# 1. Synthesis of 2,9-di(*tert*-butyldiphenylsilyloxy) quinacridone (2)



NMP = N-Methyl pyrrolidone, PPA = polyphosphoric acid, TBDPSCI = *tert*-butylchlorodiphenylsilane, DMAP = 4-dimethylaminopyridine.

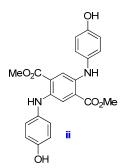
### Dimethyl 2,5-bis(p-hydroxyanilino)-3,6-dihydro terephthalate (i)



Dimethy succinylosuccinate (5.0 g, 21.9 mmol) and *p*-aminophenol (7.12 g, 65.2 mmol, 3.0 equiv) were suspended in ethanol (150 mL). The resulting reaction mixture was then refluxed and stirred under argon until dimethy succinylosuccinate disappeared (about 12 h). After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was filtered, washed with water and cold ethanol, dried in vacuum, affording the expected compound **i** (7.58 g, 84 % yield). The NMR spectrum is in good correspondence with literature data<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*6):  $\delta$  = 10.28 (s, 2H), 9.51 (s, 2H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 4H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 4H), 3.54 (s, 6H), 3.17 (s, 4H) ppm.

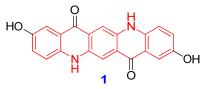
#### Dimethyl 2,5-bis(p-hydroxyanilino)-terephthalate (ii)



To a solution of **i** (5.0 g, 12.2 mmol) in N-Methyl pyrrolidone (30 mL) was added sulfur (0.78 g, 24.33 mmol, 2.0 equiv). The resultant reaction mixture was then heated to  $115 \,^{\circ}$ C and stirred under argon for 3 h. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was poured into 250 mL of water under vigorous stirring. The resulting precipitate was washed with water and dried in vacuum, giving compound **ii** (4.0 g, 80% yield). The NMR spectrum is in good correspondence with literature data<sup>1</sup>.

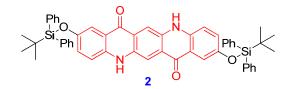
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*6):  $\delta$  = 9.26 (s, 2H), 8.25 (s, 2H), 7.50 (s, 2H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 4H), 6.76 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 4H), 3.77 (s, 6H) ppm.

# 2,9-Dihydroxy quinacridone $(1)^{1}$



20 mL of polyphosphoric acid (PPA) in round-bottom flask was heated to 80 °C. Then to the above system was added **ii** (1.0 g, 2.45 mmol) under argon. After removing air thoroughly by repeated evacuation/argon-flushing cycles, the reaction mixture was heated to 135 °C and stirred for 4 h. Then the mixture was cooled to 80 °C and poured into 100 mL of hot water. The resulting suspension was cooled to room temperature. Then the precipitate was filtered, washed with water and dried in vacuum, affording the crude compound **1** (759 mg, 90 % yield). The crude compound **1** was directly used for next step without further purification.

# 2,9-di(tert-butyldiphenylsilyloxy) quinacridone (2)



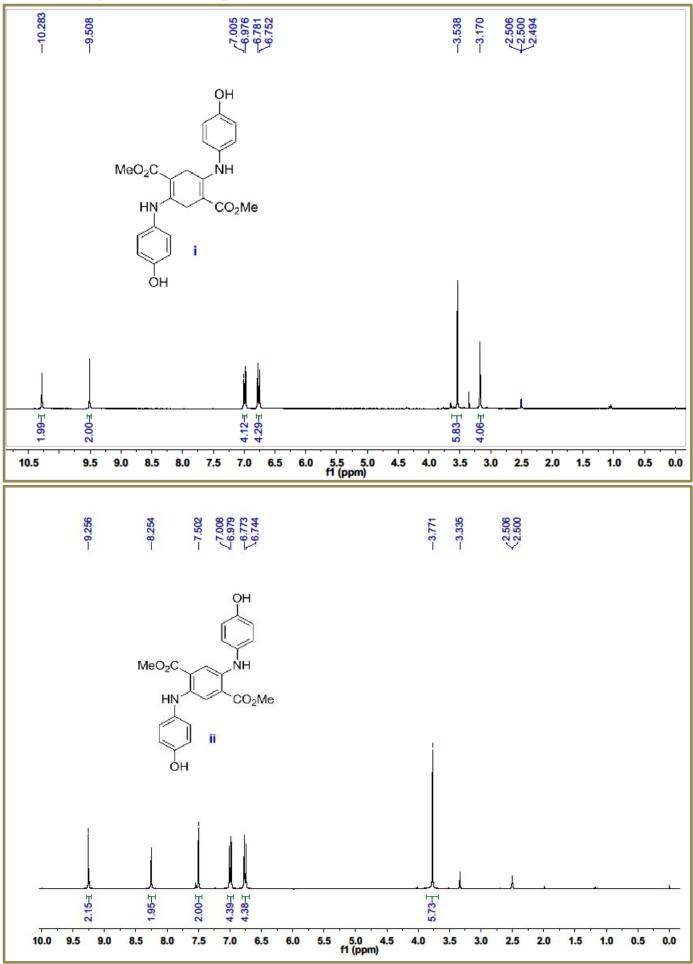
The crude compound 1 (1.0 g, 2.99 mmol), tert-butylchlorodiphenylsilane (3.30g, 11.96 mmol, 4.0 equiv), triethylamine (2.5mL, 17.94 mmol, 6.0 equiv) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (0.73 g, 5.98 mmol, 2.0eq) was added into DMF (50 mL) under argon, and the resulting reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. After removing DMF under high vacuum while stirring, to the resulting residue was added CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (20 mL) and water (20 mL). Then, the precipitate was filtered, washed with  $CH_2Cl_2$ , water and Et<sub>2</sub>O, dried in vacuum, affording the compound 2 (1.91g, 80% yield).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  = 8.34 (s, 2H), 8.10 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 2H), 7.85–7.80 (m, 8H), 7.42 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 2.6 Hz, 2H), 7.34–7.27 (m, 12H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 1.11 (s, 18H) ppm; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*6, 1.42M):  $\delta$  = 11.66 (s, 2H), 8.42 (s, 2H), 8.05 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 2H), 7.82–7.79 (m, 8H), 7.62 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 2.5 Hz, 2H), 7.39–7.27 (m, 14H), 0.96 (s, 18H) ppm;<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-*d*6):  $\delta$  = 176.5, 147.7, 137.5, 135.0, 134.7, 134.5, 129.3, 127.5, 127.3, 123.7, 119.0, 117.4, 115.0, 113.0, 26.5, 19.2 ppm; IR: v = broad band 3680–3110 peaking at 3380, 3075, 3050, 2960, 2930, 2890, 2860, 1615–1550, 1475, 1210, 1090, 880, 700 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C<sub>54</sub>H<sub>52</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> [*M*+H+CH<sub>3</sub>CN]<sup>+</sup>: 862.3; found: 862.2 [*M*+H+CH<sub>3</sub>CN]<sup>+</sup>.

## 2. References

 P. H. Liu, T. He and C. P. Chang, J. Photochem. Photobiol. A Chem., 2000, 137, 99-104.

# 3. Copies of NMR Spectra



S4

