## Supplementary Information for

# Highly Selective Ratiometric Fluorescent Recognition of Histidine by Tetraphenylethene-Terpyridine-Zn(II) Complexes

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#### **Preparation of the HEPES buffer solution**

HEPES powder (5.958 g, 25 mmmol) was added to a 1L volumetric flask and water (900 mL) was added to dissolve the HEPES powder. NaOH solution (2.0 M) was added dropwise to the mixture until the pH was adjusted to 7.35. Then the volumeric flask was filled with water to obtain the HEPES buffer solution (25 mM, pH = 7.35).





### NMR Spectra of Compound 10



NMR spectra of compound 4



#### HRMS of compound 3



### HRMS of compound 4





HRMS spectra of complex 4+Zn<sup>2+</sup> (1.5 equiv) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN:H<sub>2</sub>O (4:1)

HRMS spectra of complex 4+Zn<sup>2+</sup> (1.5 equiv) with 5.0 equiv of histidine in CH<sub>3</sub>CN:H<sub>2</sub>O (4:1)



HRMS spectra of complex  $4+Zn^{2+}$  (1.5 equiv) with 10.0 equiv of histidine in CH<sub>3</sub>CN:H<sub>2</sub>O (4:1)



HRMS spectra of complex  $4+Zn^{2+}$  (1.5 equiv) with 15.0 equiv of histidine in CH<sub>3</sub>CN:H<sub>2</sub>O (4:1)

