

## Supporting Information

# Visual determination of ferric ions in aqueous solution based on a high selectivity and sensitivity ratiometric fluorescent nanosensor

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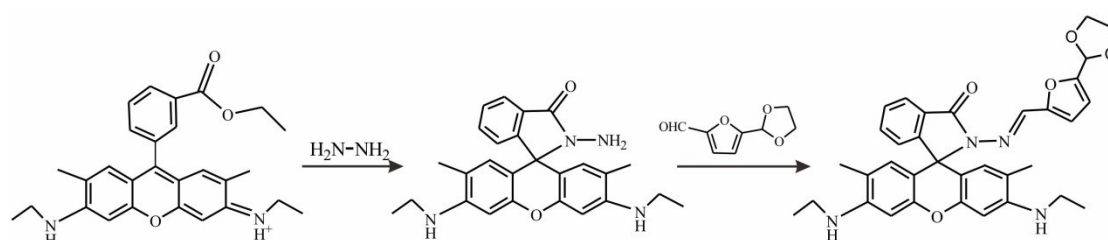
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**Scheme.S1.** The synthetic route of the RhB

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.97 (d, 1H), 7.45 (m, 4H), 7.11 (d, 1H), 6.48 (m, 4H), 6.20 (m, 2H), 3.91 (m, 6H), 3.31(m, 4H), 2.31 (s, 6H), 1.15 (t, 6H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (400MHz, *d*<sub>6</sub>-DMSO)  $\delta$  (ppm): 165.46, 156.82, 152.11, 150.14, 140.95, 134.45, 129.08, 127.16, 122.02, 120.71, 118.51, 61.32, 49.79, 15.97, 13.74.

**Elemental analysis:** calcd for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>34</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>5</sub>: C, 70.57; H, 5.92; N, 9.68. Found: C,

70.22; H, 5.84; N, 9.97.

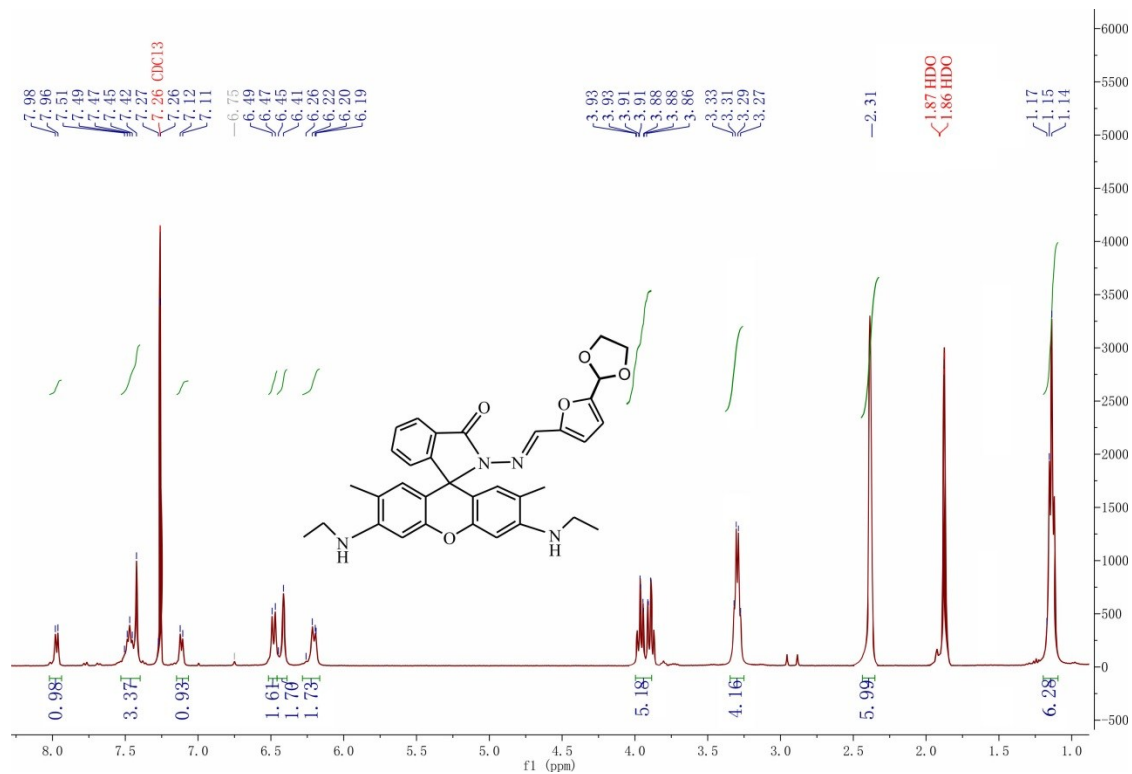


Fig. S1. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of RhB in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

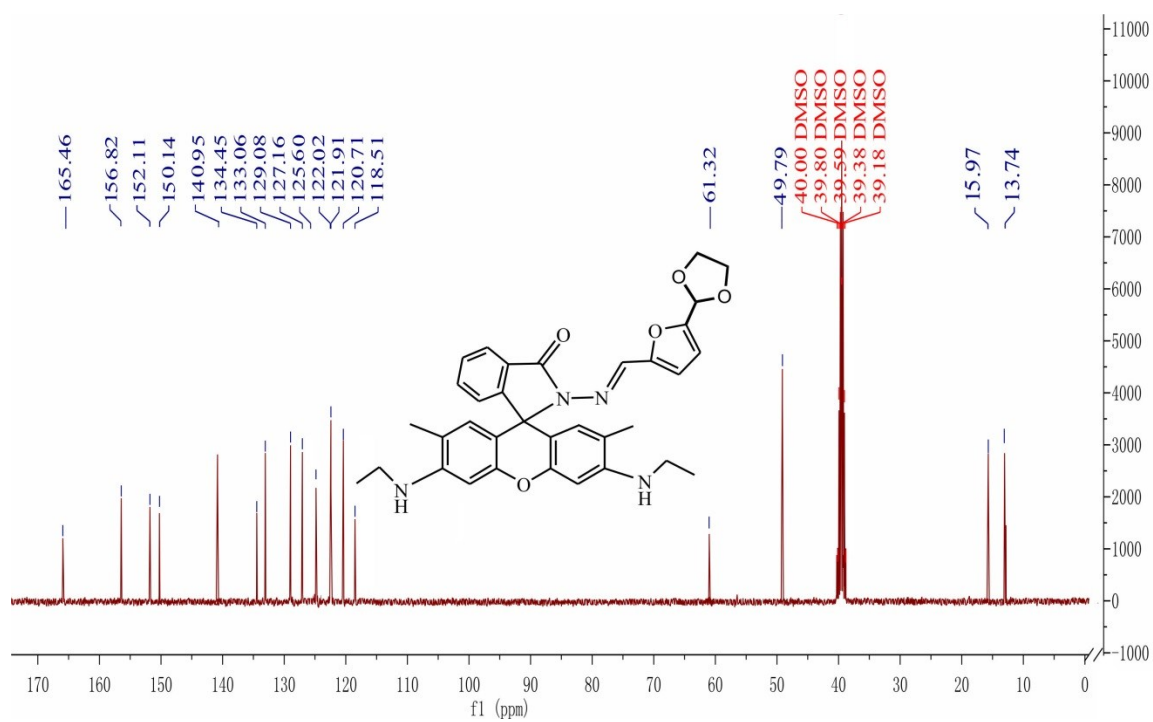
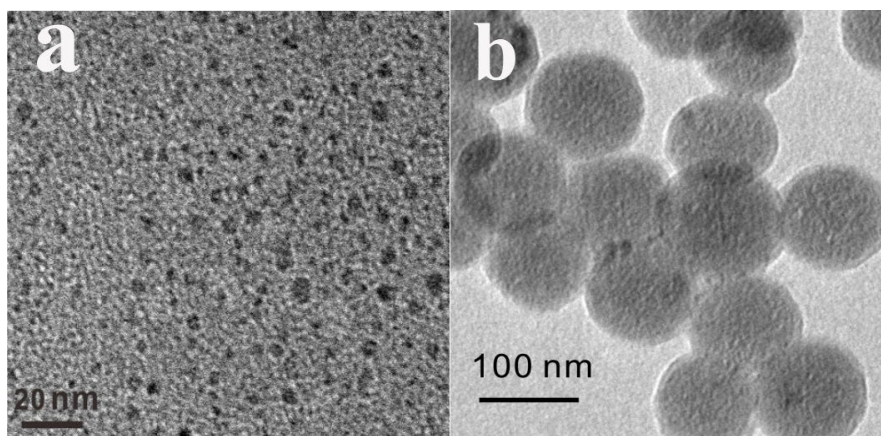
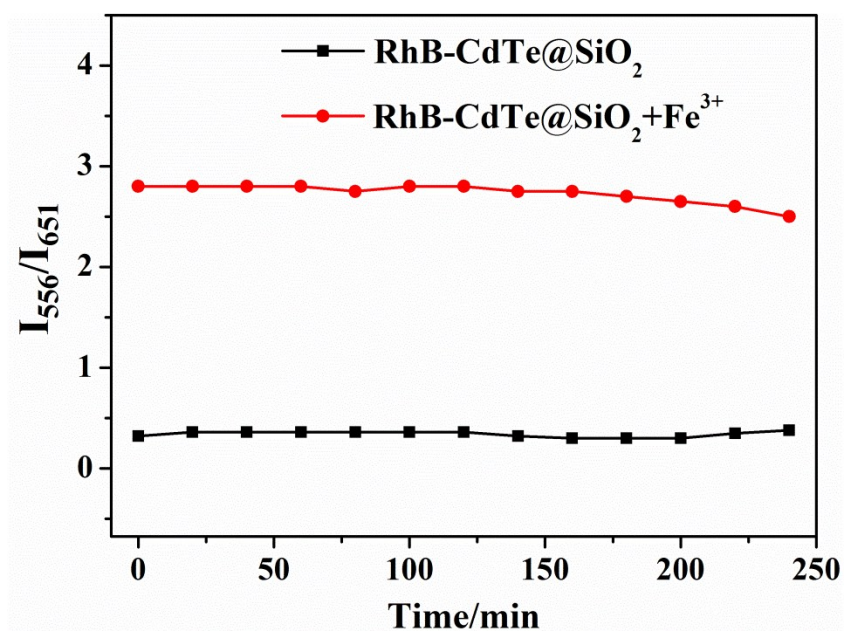


Fig. S2 The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of RhB in d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO



**Fig. S3.** The TEM image of (a) CdTe QDs and (b) CdTe@SiO<sub>2</sub> QDs.



**Fig. S4.** (a) The stability of the RhB-CdTe@SiO<sub>2</sub> QDs sensor in acetonitrile/water mixtures (1:4 v/v, 1/1; pH=7.0). (B) The stability of the RhB-CdTe@SiO<sub>2</sub> QDs sensor in the presence of 4.5  $\mu$ M of Fe<sup>3+</sup>.

Table S1 The comparison of the LOD and linear range for the detection of Fe<sup>3+</sup> by other rhodamine-based fluorescence sensor.

Rhodamine-based fluorescence sensor for Fe <sup>3+</sup>	LOD	linear ranges(mol/L <sup>-1</sup> )
An “off-on” rhodamine-based fluorescence probe <sup>1</sup>	14 nM	6.0×10 <sup>-8</sup> -7.2×10 <sup>-6</sup>
Ferric ion chemosensor based on rhodamine derivative <sup>2</sup>	0.32 μM	0-2.0×10 <sup>-5</sup>
Rhodamine-based "off-on" chemosensors for ferric ion <sup>3</sup>	5.0 μM	5.0×10 <sup>-6</sup> -2.0×10 <sup>-5</sup>
Rhodamine hydroxamate as fluorescent chemosensor <sup>4</sup>	1.0 μM	1.0×10 <sup>-6</sup> -2.0×10 <sup>-5</sup>
Rhodamine-based thiacalix[4]arene fluorescent sensor <sup>5</sup>	35.0 nM	5.0×10 <sup>-6</sup> -6.0×10 <sup>-5</sup>
This Work	20.5 nM	0-3.5×10 <sup>-6</sup>

## References

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