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## **Effect of Spacer Length of Ionic Liquid-Type Imidazolium Gemini Surfactant Based Water-in-Oil Microemulsion for Extraction of Gold from Hydrochloric Acid Medium**

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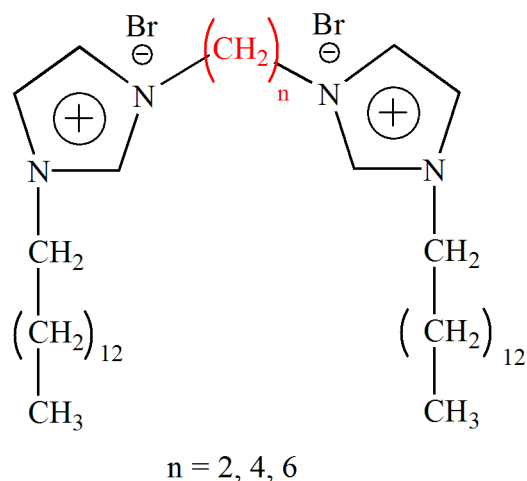
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**Fig. S1.** The chemical structures of ionic liquid-type gemini imidazolium surfactants with different spacer lengths

### Synthesis of ionic liquid-type imidazolium gemini surfactants

This class of ionic liquid-type imidazolium gemini surfactants were synthesized by mixing 0.05 mol of imidazolium and 0.052 mol of sodium hydroxide in 35 mL of dimethyl sulfoxide with stirring for 2 h at room temperature. After that, 0.04 mol of 1-bromotetradecan was added drop wise and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 8-10 h. The resulting mixture was then dissolved in 35 mL of chloroform. The solution was washed several times with deionized water. Residual solvent was removed under vacuum for 1 h at 40 °C. Then, 0.01 mol, 1,2-dibromoethane, 1,4-dibromobutane, or 1,6-dibromohexane was added drop wise with absolute ethyl alcohol and the mixture was refluxed

at 80 °C with stirring for 48 h under nitrogen atmosphere. The obtained products were purified twice by recrystallization in ethyl acetate and then dried under vacuum for 2 day.<sup>1</sup>

The schematic diagram of synthesis route is presented in Figure S2. The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of [C<sub>14</sub>-n-C<sub>14</sub>im]Br<sub>2</sub> (n = 2, 4, 6) in CDCl<sub>3</sub> is presented in Figure S3, S6, S8, respectively. All the products are characterized through <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum (AV300, Bruker) in CDCl<sub>3</sub> and the result are shown below.

(1) 1,2-bis(3-myristylimidazolium-1-yl) ethane bromide [C<sub>14</sub>-2-C<sub>14</sub>im]Br<sub>2</sub>

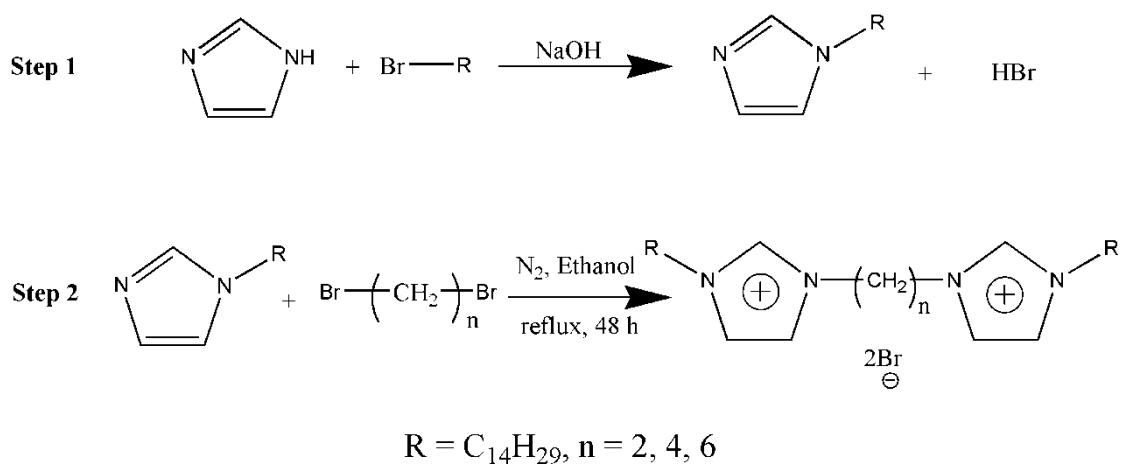
<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) 10.37 (s, 2H), 8.86 (s, 2H), 7.13 (s, 2H), 5.33 (s, 4H), 4.15 (s, 4H), 1.92 (s, 4H), 1.30 (d, 44H), 0.88 (t, 6H)

(2) 1,4-bis(3-myristylimidazolium-1-yl) butane bromide [C<sub>14</sub>-4-C<sub>14</sub>im]Br<sub>2</sub>

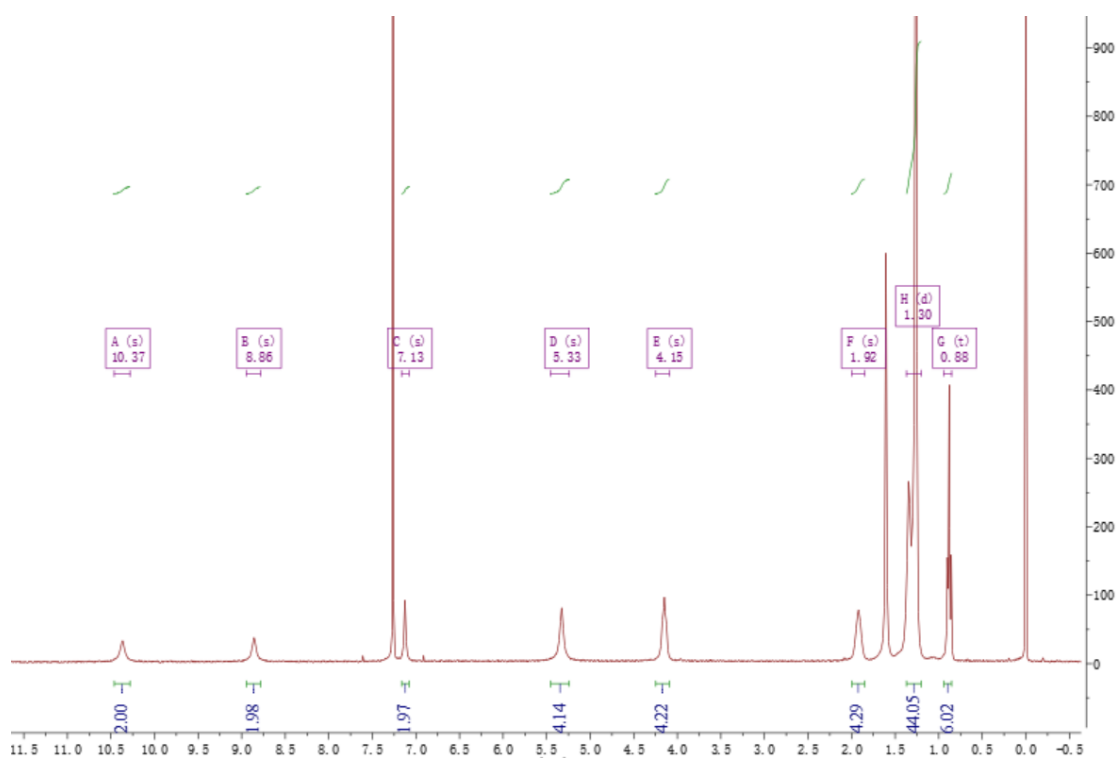
<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) 10.35 (s, 2H), 8.01 (s, 2H), 7.17 (s, 2H), 4.60 (s, 4H), 4.25 (t, 4H), 2.24 (s, 4H), 1.91 (s, 4H), 1.28 (m, 44H), 0.88 (t, 6H).

(3) 1,6-bis(3-myristylimidazolium-1-yl) hexane bromide [C<sub>14</sub>-6-C<sub>14</sub>im]Br<sub>2</sub>

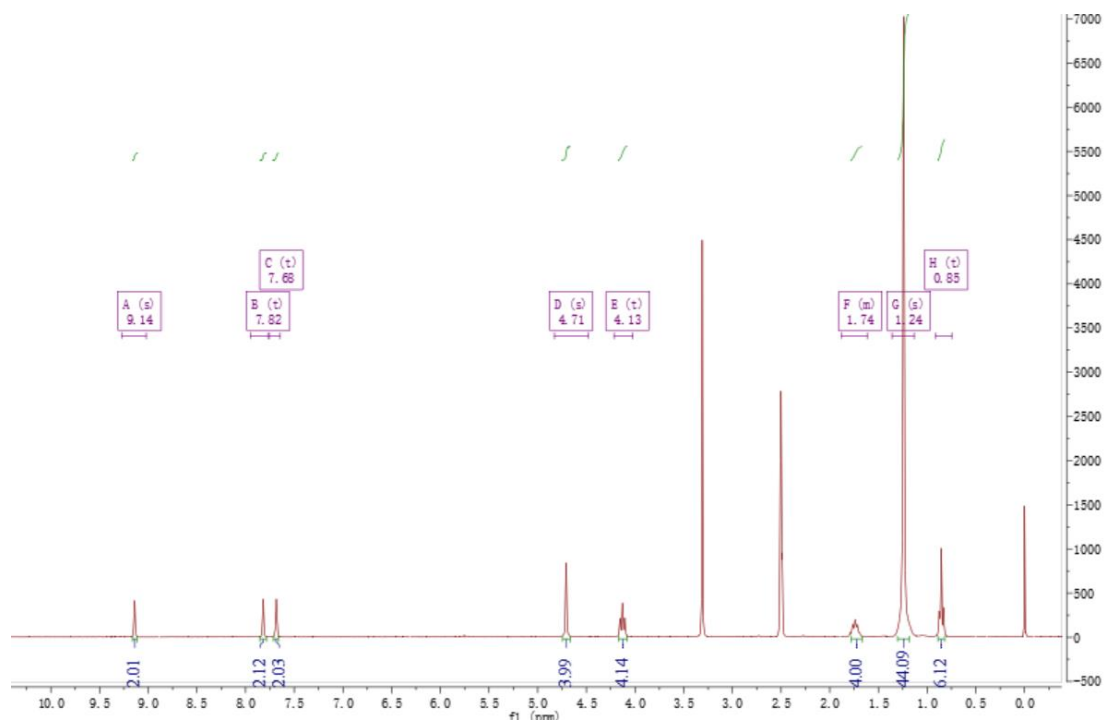
<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) 10.75 (s, 2H), 8.03 (s, 2H), 7.38 (s, 2H), 4.66 (t, 4H), 4.49 (t, 4H), 2.25 (d, 4H), 2.11 (s, 4H), 1.73 (s, 4H), 1.48 (d, 44H), 0.88 (t, 6H).



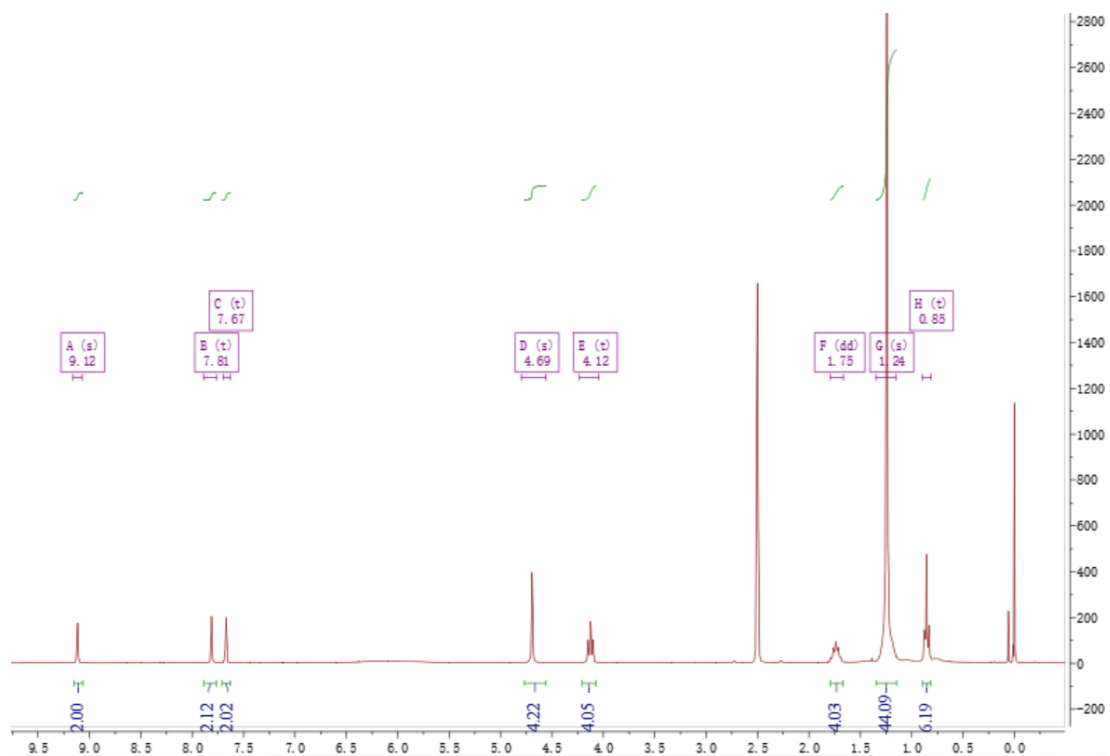
**Fig. S2.** The synthesis route of ionic liquid-type gemini imidazolium surfactants



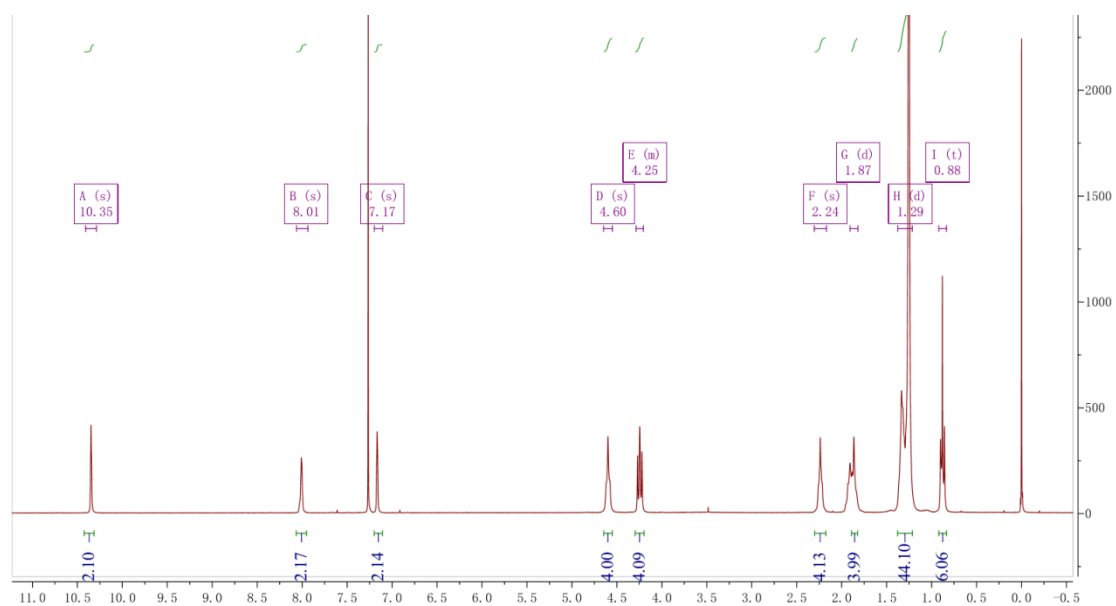
**Fig. S3.** The  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectra of  $[\text{C}_{14}\text{-2-C}_{14}\text{im}]\text{Br}_2$  in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



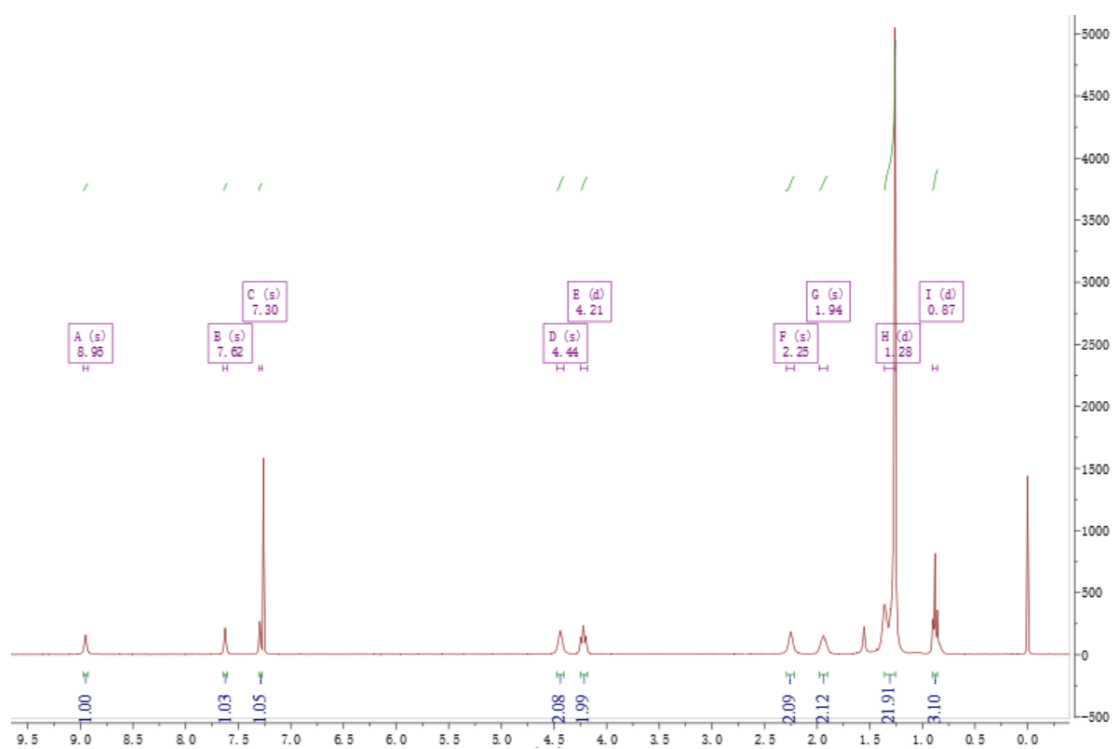
**Fig. S4.** The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of [C<sub>14</sub>-2-C<sub>14</sub>im]Br<sub>2</sub> in DMSO



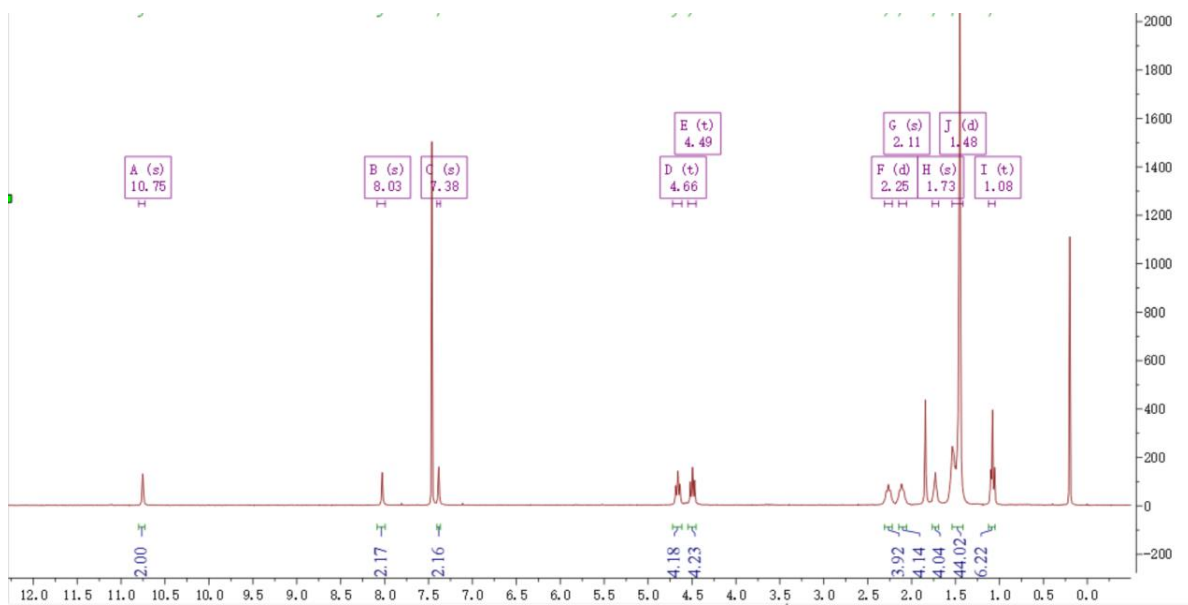
**Fig. S5.** The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of [C<sub>14</sub>-2-C<sub>14</sub>im]-Au (III) in DMSO



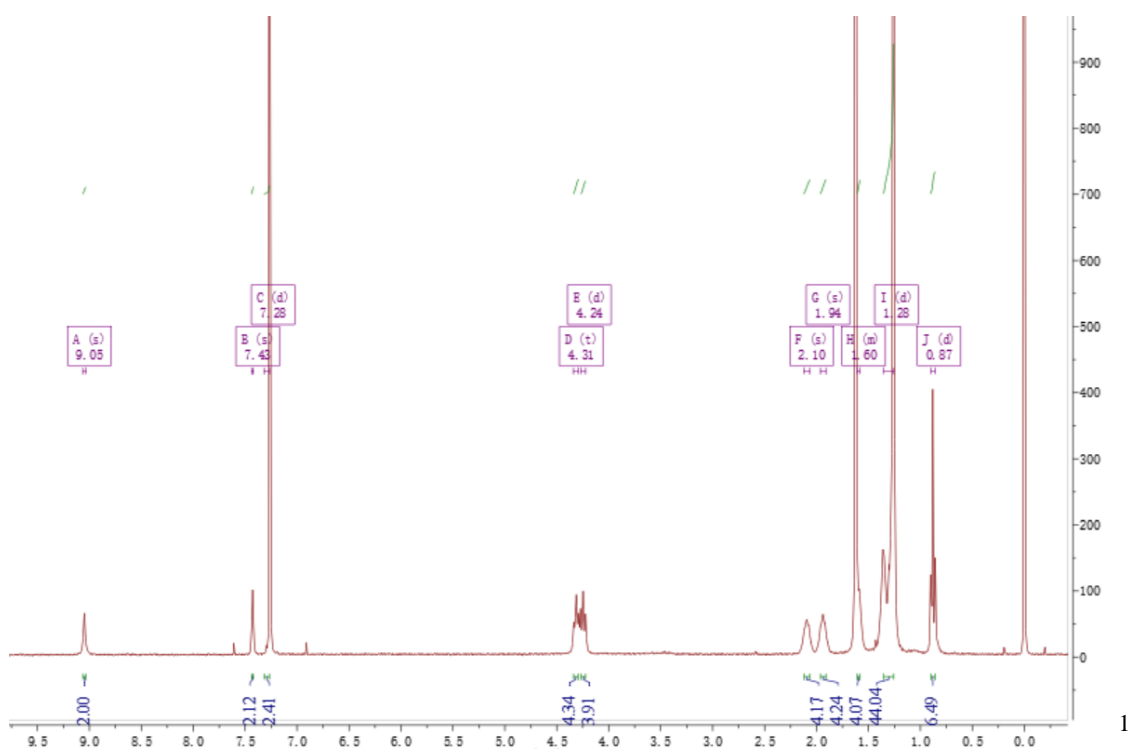
**Fig. S6.** The  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectra of  $[\text{C}_{14}\text{-4-C}_{14}\text{im}]\text{Br}_2$   $\text{CDCl}_3$



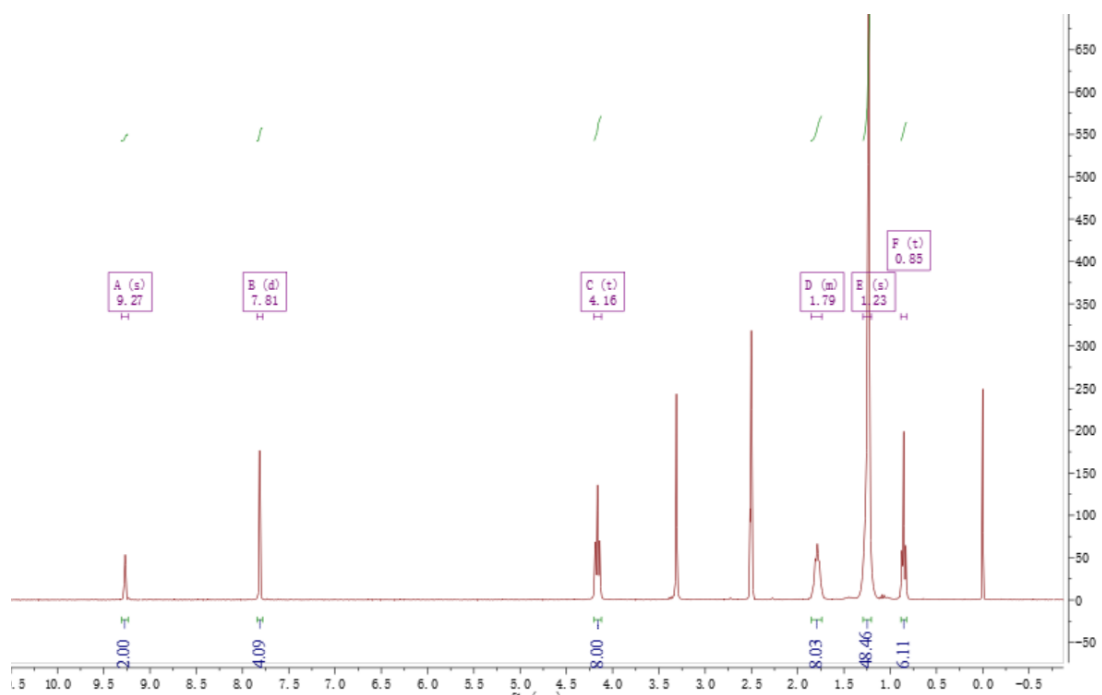
**Fig. S7.** The  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectra of  $[\text{C}_{14}\text{-4-C}_{14}\text{im}]\text{-Au (III)}$  in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



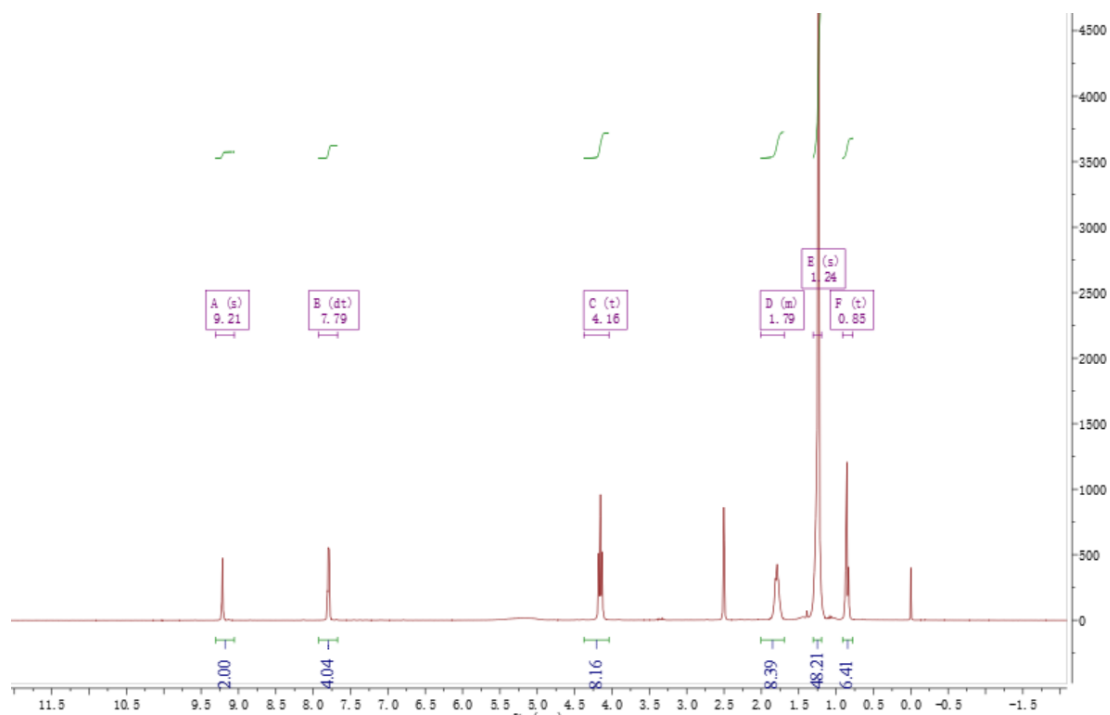
**Fig. S8.** The  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectra of  $[\text{C}_{14}\text{-6-C}_{14}\text{im}]\text{Br}_2$  in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



**Fig. S9.** The  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectra of  $[\text{C}_{14}\text{-6-C}_{14}\text{im}]\text{-Au (III)}$  in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



**Fig. S10.** The  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectra of  $[\text{C}_{14}\text{-6-C}_{14}\text{im}]\text{Br}_2$  in DMSO



**Fig. S11.** The  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectra of  $[\text{C}_{14}\text{-6-C}_{14}\text{im}]\text{-Au (III)}$  in DMSO



## Reference

- 1 M. Ao, P. Huang, G. Xu, X. Yang, Y. Wang, *Colloid. Polym. Sci.*, 2008, **287**, 395.