

Electronic Supporting Information (ESI)

A Newly Developed Highly Selective Zn²⁺-AcO⁻ Ion-pair Sensor through Partner Preference: Equal Efficiency under Solitary and Colonial Situation

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Characterization of HBP:

1. NMR result:

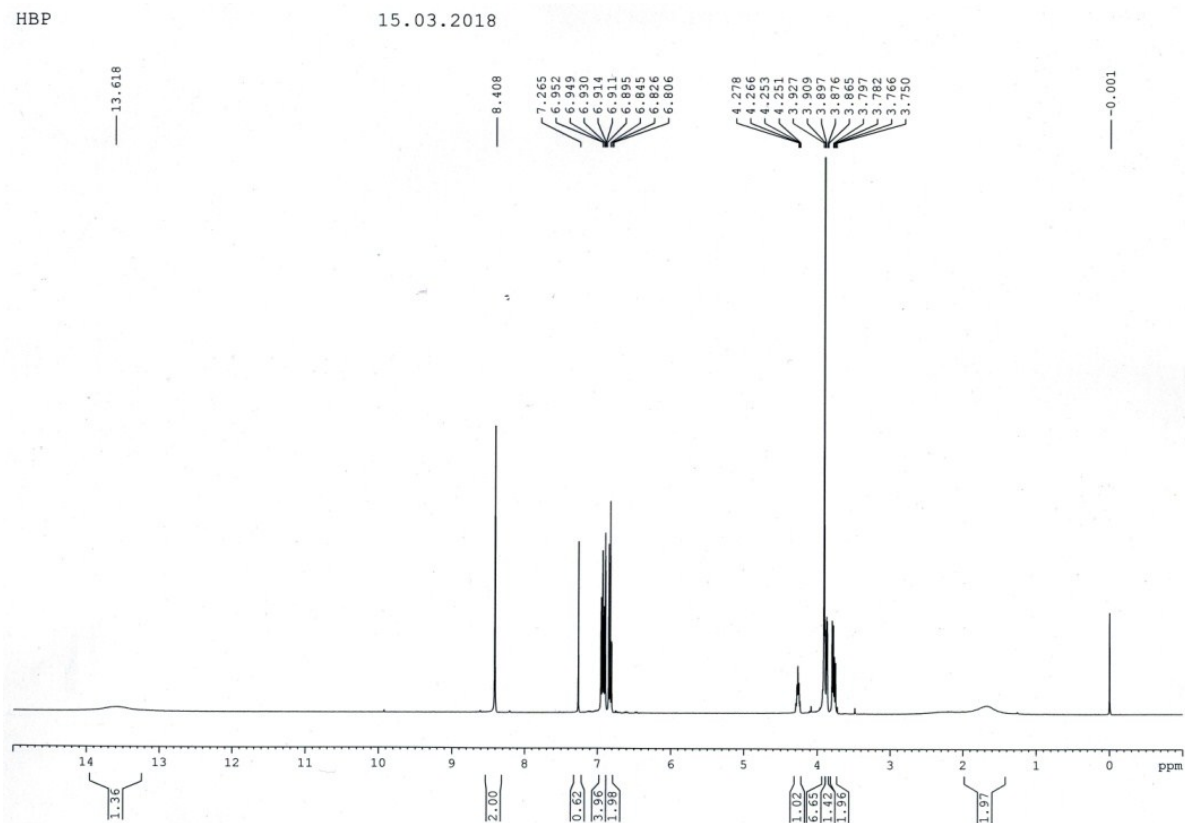


Figure S1: ^1H NMR spectrum of HBP in CDCl_3 at 298K.

2. IR spectral data:

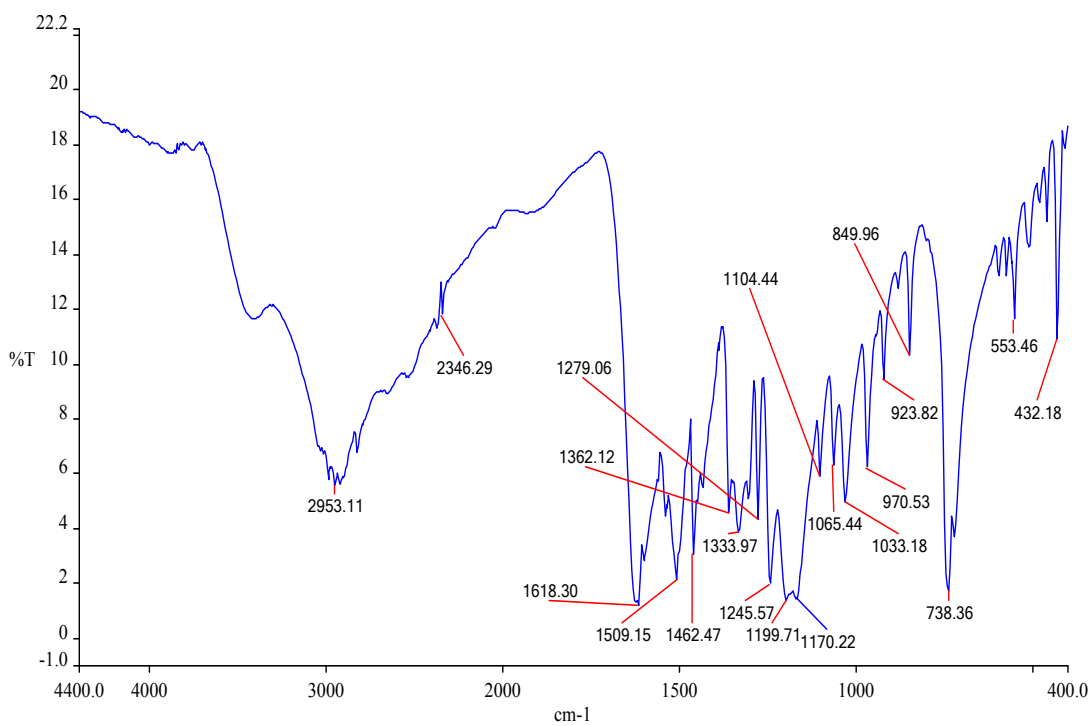
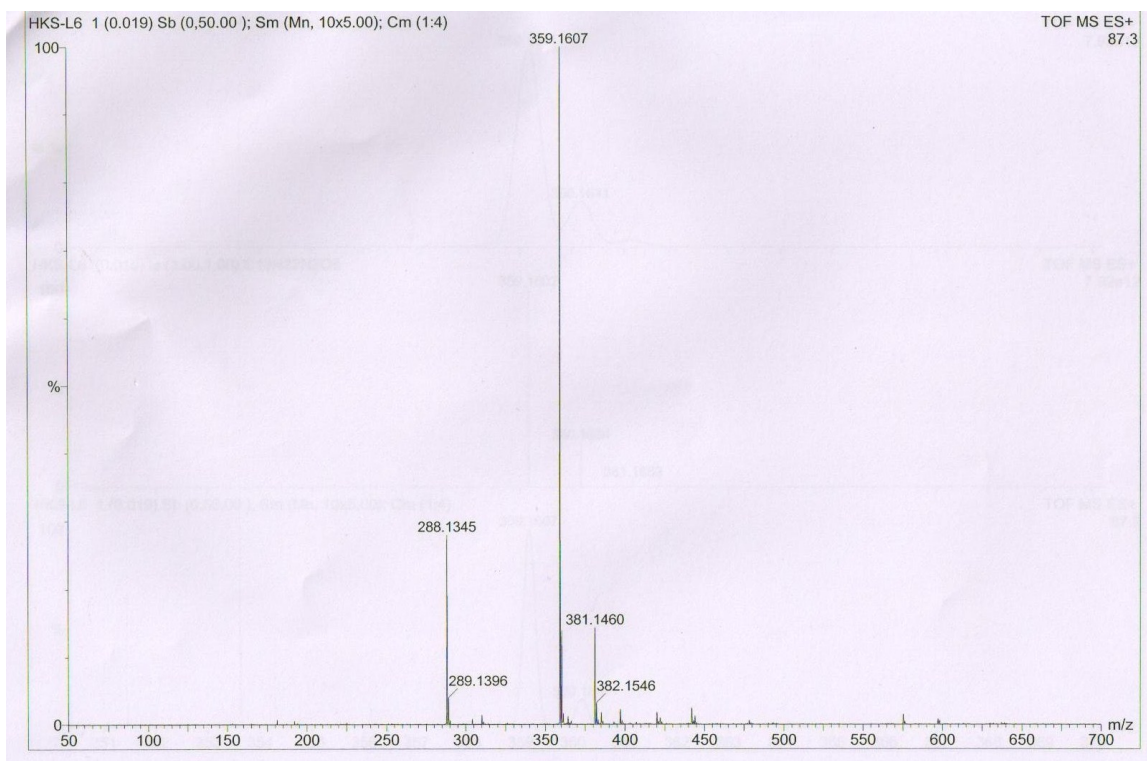


Figure S2: IR spectrum of HBP.

3. Mass data:



4. Elemental analysis data of HBP:

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Department of Inorganic Chemistry

Name of applicant:..... *A. Kondal*
Date of report :..... *2/12/12* Analysis No.....

Ref.No. Carbon(%) Hydrogen(%) Nitrogen(%)

PMN → — 31.39 — 3.26 — 9.99

Analyst..... *Mishra* In-Charge of Elemental Analyzer, CSS

5. 3D Emission response:

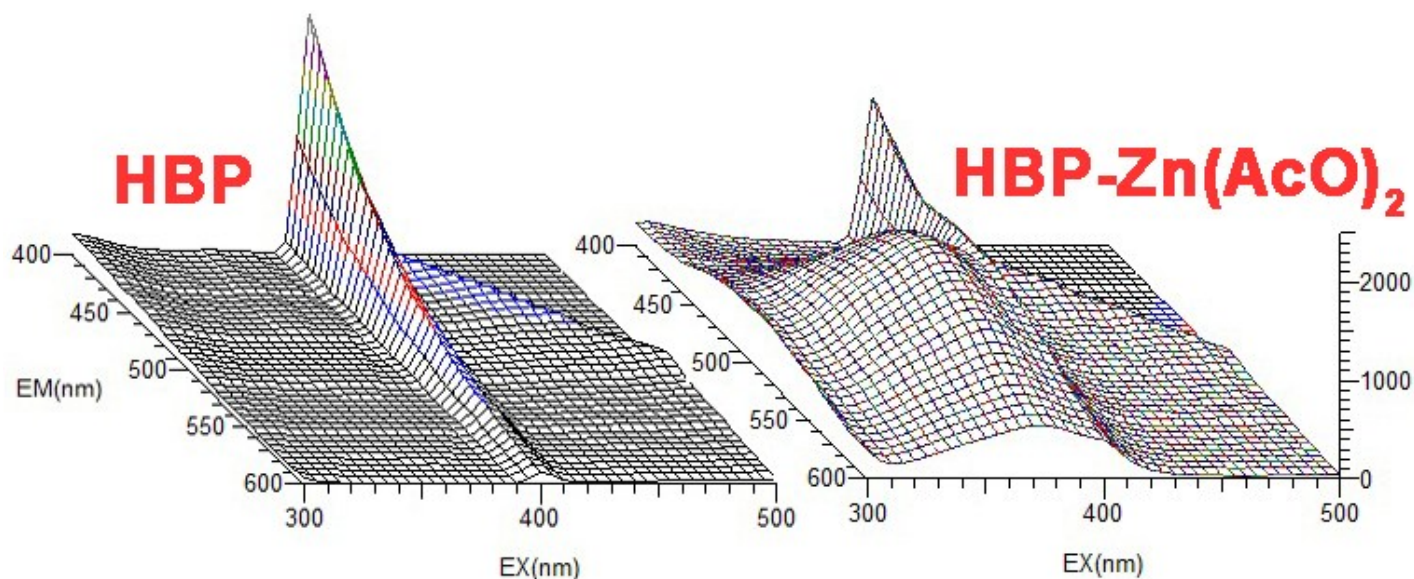


Fig. S4: 3D emission spectra of HBP (left) and its Zinc acetate complex (right) varying excitation wavelength from 300 nm to 500 nm with emission wavelength ranging between 400 nm - 600 nm ; [HBP] = 9.9 μ M; [Zn(AcO)₂]_{Final} = 106 μ M; Temp 298K.

6. Solvent effect on emission spectra of HBP:

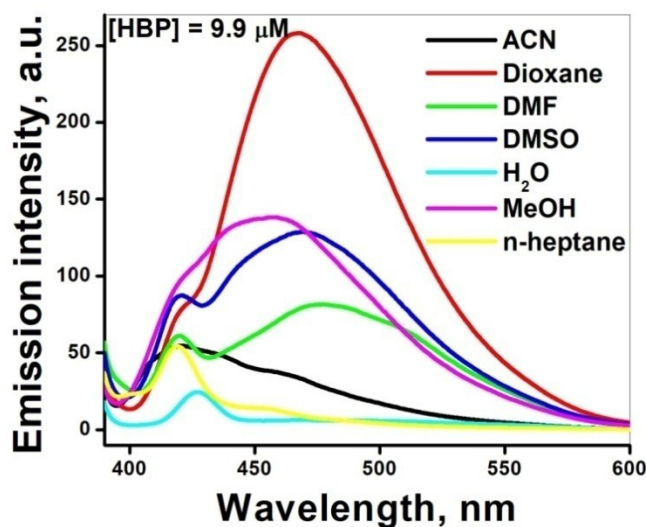


Fig. S5 Effect of solvent polarity on the emission spectra of HBP in solvents with different polarities ($\epsilon_{\text{ACN}} = 5.8$; $\epsilon_{\text{Dioxan}} = 4.8$; $\epsilon_{\text{DMF}} = 6.4$; $\epsilon_{\text{DMSO}} = 7.2$; $\epsilon_{\text{Water}} = 10.2$; $\epsilon_{\text{MeOH}} = 5.1$; $\epsilon_{\text{heptane}} = 0.1$); $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 370$ nm; [HBP] = 9.9 μ M; Temp 298K.

7. Selectivity of HBP towards $\text{Zn}(\text{AcO})_2$ in 1:1 condition

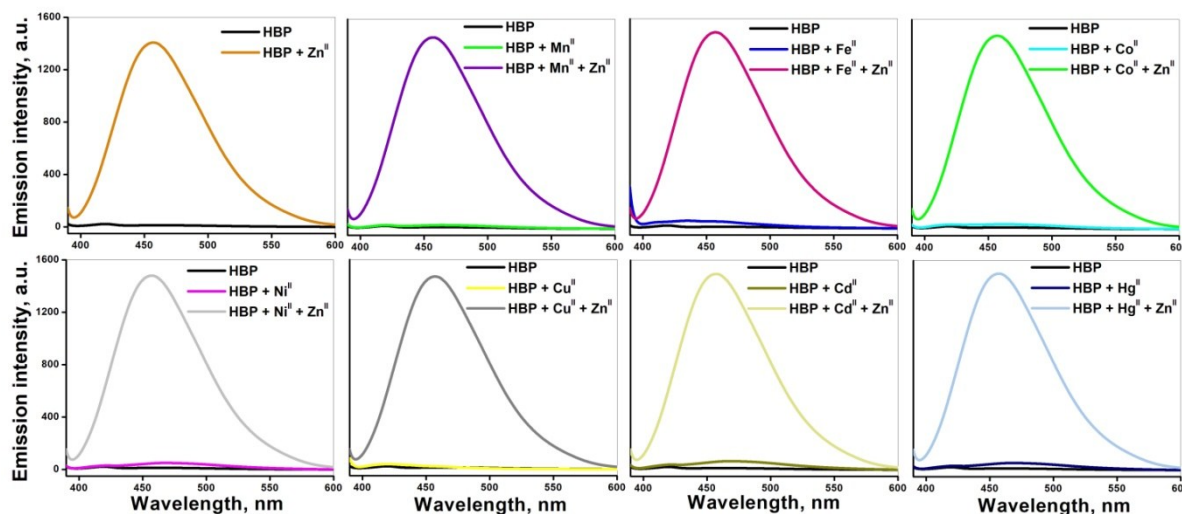


Fig. S6: Emission spectra of cation selectivity for Zn^{II} sensing of HBP for (a) 1:1 ion-pair situation; $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 370$ nm; $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 457$ nm; $[\text{HBP}] = 9.9 \mu\text{M}$; $[\text{M}(\text{AcO})_2]_{\text{Final}} = 106 \mu\text{M}$; Temp 298K. (M = metal ions).

8. Selectivity of HBP towards $\text{Zn}(\text{AcO})_2$ in the presence of other competitive metal salts

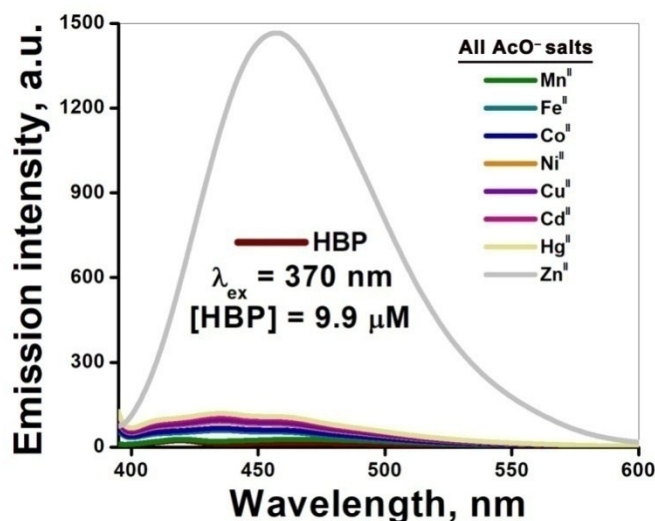


Fig. S7: Emission spectra to show the Zn^{II} specificity within the diversified crowd of common and similar cations (Mn^{II} , Fe^{II} , Co^{II} , Ni^{II} , Cu^{II} , Cd^{II} & Hg^{II}) including 1st transition metal series and some from the group where Zn^{II} belongs; $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 370$ nm; $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 457$ nm; $[\text{HBP}] = 9.9 \mu\text{M}$; $[\text{Zn}(\text{X})_n]_{\text{Final}} = 106 \mu\text{M}$; Temp 298K. (M = metal ions; X = different anions).

9. Selectivity of HBP towards Zn^{II} and AcO^- ion-pair from independent source

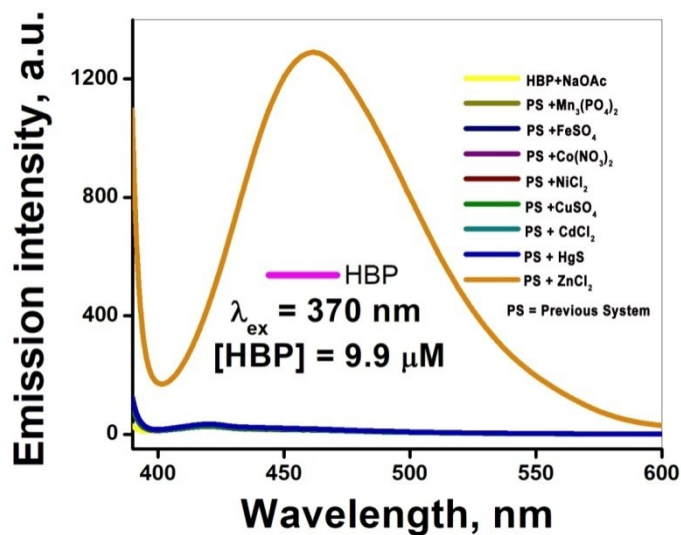


Fig. S8: Emission spectra of selectivity of HBP towards $Zn(AcO)_2$ where the anionic part of the salt came from NaAcO and the cationic part was contributed by $ZnCl_2$ within their addition, various types of other metal salts were added (≈ 12 equivalent of all salts added; $\lambda_{ex} = 370$ nm; $\lambda_{em} = 457$ nm; $[HBP] = 9.9 \mu M$; $[M(X)_n]_{Final} = 106 \mu M$; Temp 298K. (M = metal ions; X = different anions)).

10. Fluorescence Quantum yield measurements

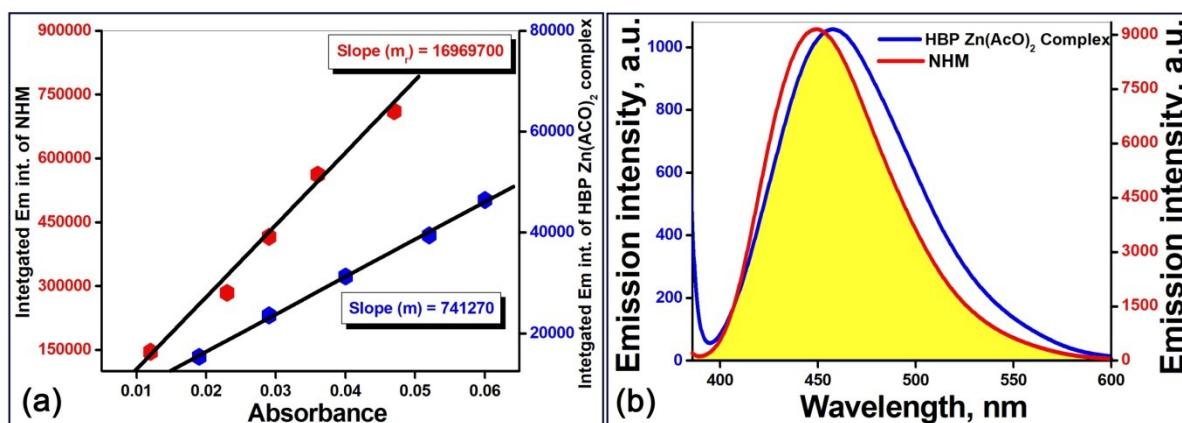


Fig. S9: (a) Plot of integrated emission intensity vs absorbance for norharmane (Standard) and HBP- $Zn(AcO)_2$ complex; Fig. S9(b) represented the choice of norharmane as reference for HBP- $Zn(AcO)_2$ complex indicating significant spectral overlap of emission spectral pattern with 370 nm excitation wavelength for both.

11. Limit of Detection (LOD):

To calculate the limit of detection, the $\frac{I_x - I_0}{I_{\max} - I_0}$ values were plotted along abscissa and the $\text{Zn}(\text{AcO})_2$ concentrations (at lower range) were plotted along ordinate following the data set below.

$$I_0 = 15.54, I_{\max} = 1466, I_{\max} - I_0 = 1450.46.$$

Table S1:

Conc. of $\text{Zn}(\text{AcO})_2$ (μM)	I_x	$I_x - I_0$	$(I_x - I_0)/(I_{\max} - I_0)$
5.83	109.6	94.06	0.064848393
11.3	156.4	140.86	0.097114019
17.3	178	162.46	0.112005846
23	197.8	182.26	0.125656688
28.7	224.6	209.06	0.144133585
34.1	266.0	250.46	0.172679426

Then, the data points were fitted following the equation $Y = A + B * X$ (The best fitted line cut the X axis at $0.049 \mu\text{M}$. Hence, the limit of detection for $\text{Zn}(\text{AcO})_2$ by HBP is considered to be 49 nM).

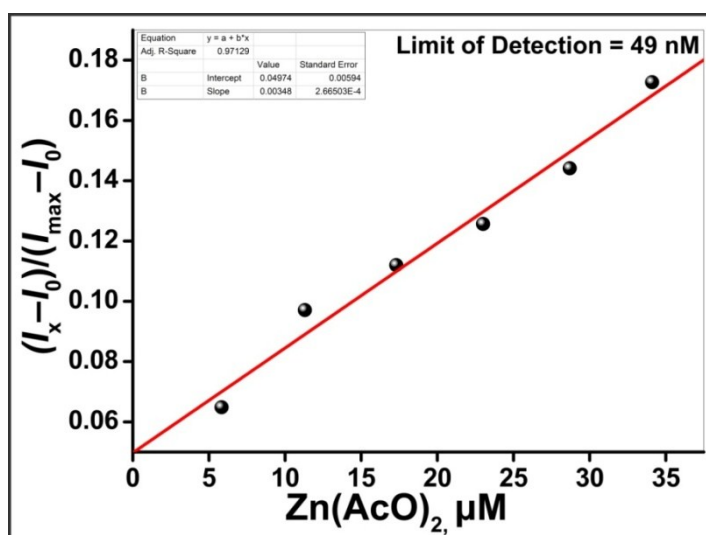


Fig. S10: The normalized emission intensity vs concentration of $\text{Zn}(\text{AcO})_2$ plot for calculating the limit of detection for $\text{Zn}(\text{AcO})_2$ by HBP ([HBP] = $9.9 \mu\text{M}$, Temp. = 298K)