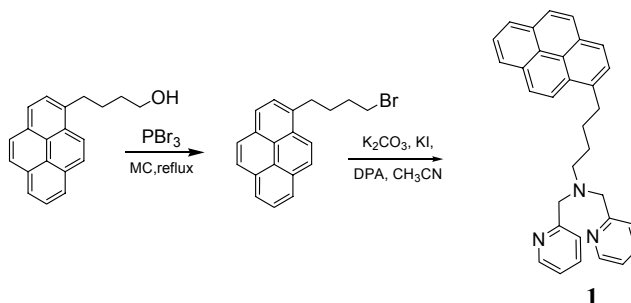


Supporting Information

## 1. Synthesis



### Synthesis of 1

Commercially available 4-pyrenyl-1-butanol (211 mg, 0.769 mmol) was dissolved in methylene chloride (10 mL). After cooling to 0 °C,  $\text{PBr}_3$  (208 mg, 0.769 mmol) was slowly added to 4-pyrenyl-1-butanol solution with vigorous stirring. The mixture was refluxed for 12 hr and cooled to room temperature. After evaporating solvent, the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel; hexane:ethylacetate = 50:1 v/v) to provide 1-(4-bromobutyl)pyrene as a white solid (194 mg, 0.575 mmol).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.27 (d,  $J = 9.3$  Hz, 1H), 8.21~8.12 (m, 4H), 8.06~7.97 (m, 3H), 7.90 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.50 (t,  $J = 6.3$  Hz, 2H), 3.40 (t,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.07~2.04 (m, 4H).

1-(4-Bromobutyl)pyrene (50.0 mg, 0.148 mmol), potassium carbonate (41 mg, 0.296 mmol), di(2-picolyl)amine (DPA; 28.0  $\mu\text{l}$ , 0.155 mmol) and potassium iodide (49.0 mg, 0.296 mmol) were dissolved in acetonitrile and stirred vigorously at ambient temperature for 2 days. After solvent evaporation, the residue was diluted with water and extracted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . The  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  extract was concentrated and purified by column chromatography (silica gel; ethylacetate) to give a pale yellow oil (49 mg, 0.107 mmol).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.54 (d,  $J = 4.2$  Hz, 2H), 8.25~8.16 (m,

3H), 8.10~7.99 (m, 5H), 7.81 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.56 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.51 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H), 7.11 (t,  $J = 5.7$  Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 4H), 3.29 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.68 (t,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 2H), 1.87 (m, 2H), 1.74 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (60 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) 149.17, 136.84, 131.61, 131.08, 129.96, 128.75, 127.69, 127.39, 127.35, 126.76, 125.99, 125.20, 125.03, 124.95, 124.86, 123.86, 123.57, 122.61, 60.04, 54.18, 33.30, 32.93, 29.89, 29.36, 21.36, 26.57 ; ESI-MS:  $m/z$  456.7 [ $\text{M}+\text{H}^+$ ].

### Synthesis of **1-Zn**

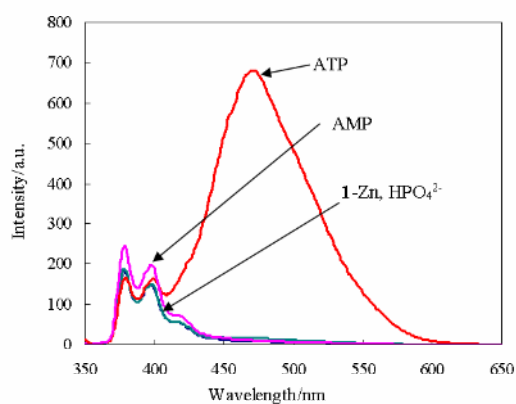
To a solution of **1** (15.0 mg, 0.0329 mmol) in 15 mL of MeOH-THF (1:1) was added dropwise aqueous solution of  $\text{ZnClO}_4 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (1 eq., 0.2 mL), and the mixture was stirred for 30 min at room temperature. After solvent evaporation, the solid was collected to give **1-Zn** (98%) without further purification.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.59 (s, 2H), 8.30~8.26 (m, 3H), 8.21~8.04 (m, 8H), 7.83 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.58 (m, 4H), 4.28 (d,  $J = 16.2$  Hz, 2H), 3.94 (d,  $J = 16.2$  Hz, 2H), 3.35 (s, 4H), 2.73 (s, 2H), 1.55 (s, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (60 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) 184.14, 147.48, 140.58, 140.56, 136.40, 130.88, 130.36, 129.28, 127.99, 127.44, 127.28, 126.56, 126.20, 125.02, 124.93, 124.81, 124.60, 124.29, 124.22, 124.12, 82.80, 56.98, 32.54, 29.11 ; HRMS ( $\text{FAB}^+$ , m-NBA, ):  $m/z$  found 618.1128, calcd for [ $\text{M}+\text{ClO}_4^+$ ] 618.1138.

## 2. Fluorescence Spectra

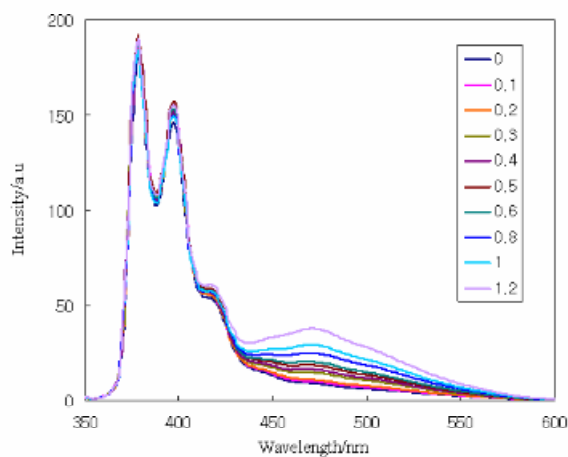
All stock solutions were prepared in DMSO, then diluted with 10 mM HEPES buffer (pH=7.4) solution to prepare samples. Total volume percent of DMSO in a sample is below 0.1%. Fluorescence spectra were recorded on a Jasco FP-750 spectrophotometer.

Fluorescence quantum yields were calculated according to the following equation. In this equation,  $\Phi_{\text{sample}}$  and  $\Phi_{\text{std}}$  are the quantum yields of sample and standard, respectively;  $I_{\text{sample}}$  and  $I_{\text{std}}$  are the integrated emission intensities of the sample and the standard, respectively;  $A_{\text{sample}}$  and  $A_{\text{std}}$  are the absorbance of the sample and standard, respectively; and  $n_{\text{sample}}$  and  $n_{\text{std}}$  are the refractive indexes of the sample and standard solutions, respectively.

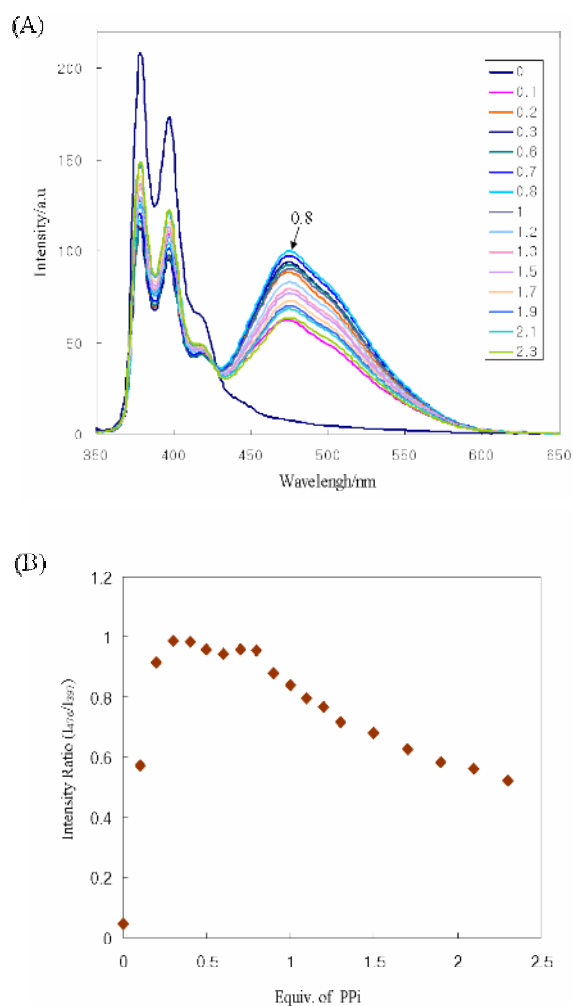
$$\Phi_{\text{sample}} = \Phi_{\text{std}} [I_{\text{sample}}/I_{\text{std}}][A_{\text{std}}/A_{\text{sample}}][n_{\text{sample}}/n_{\text{std}}]^2$$



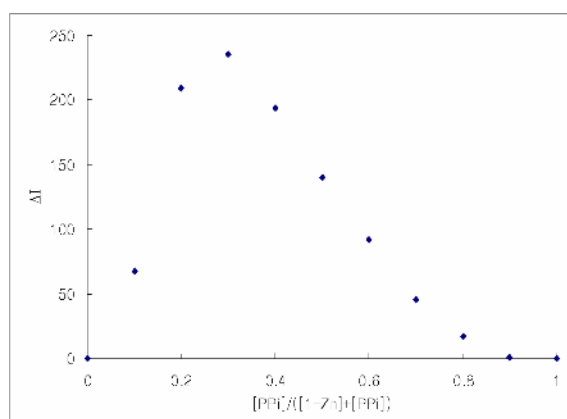
**Figure S1.** Fluorescence spectra of **1-Zn** (0.02 mM) in aqueous solvent of 10 mM HEPES buffer (pH=7.4) in the presence of various anions (0.4 equiv). Excitation wavelength, 343 nm.



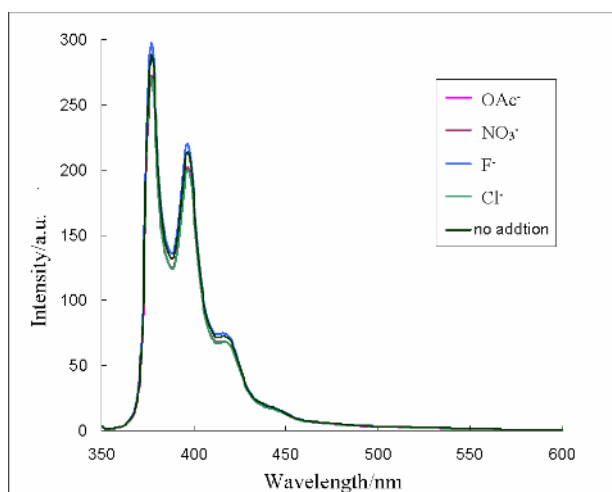
**Figure S2.** Fluorescence titration spectra of **1-Zn** upon addition of HPO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> (sodium salt, equiv). [**1-Zn**] = 0.02 mM in aqueous HEPES buffer (pH=7.4). [HPO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>] = 0 ~ 1.2 equiv of **1-Zn**. Excitation wavelength, 343 nm.



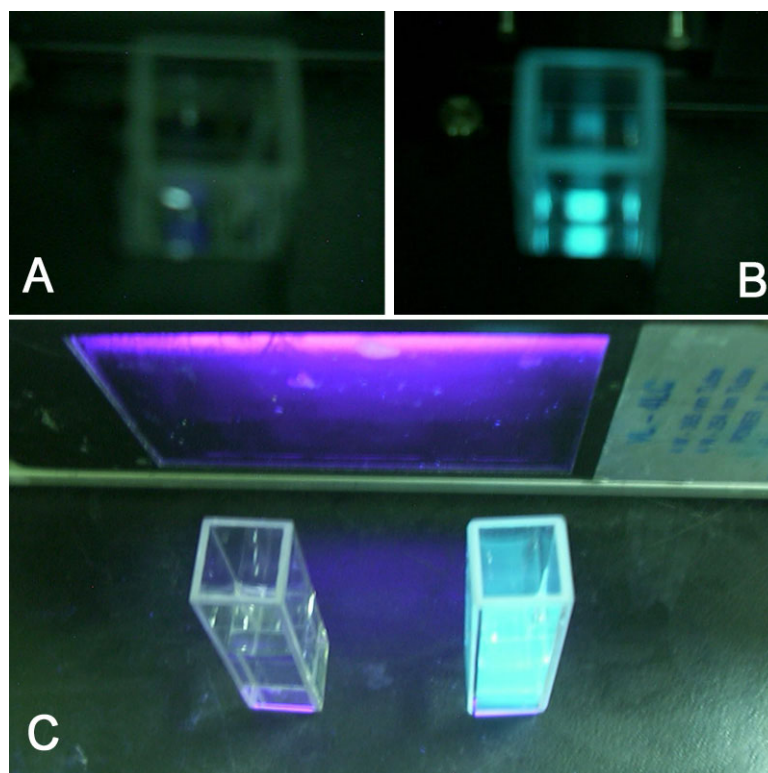
**Figure S3.** (A) Fluorescence spectra of **1-Zn** in the presence of 10 equiv of ATP upon addition of PPI (sodium salt, equiv). [**1-Zn**] = 0.02 mM in aqueous HEPES buffer (pH=7.4). [PPI] = 0 ~ 2.3 equiv of **1-Zn**. Excitation wavelength, 343 nm. (B) Dependence of  $I_{476}/I_{397}$  in the presence of 10 equiv of ATP on the concentration of PPI (sodium salt, equiv).



**Figure S4.** Job's plot for the binding between **1-Zn** and PPI.  $[1-Zn] + [PPI] = 0.02$  mM.



**Figure S5.** Fluorescence spectra of **1-Zn** (0.02 mM) in aqueous solvent of 10 mM HEPES buffer (pH=7.4) in the presence of various anions (1 equiv). Excitation wavelength, 343 nm. Addition of 0.5 eq. and further addition over 10 eq. of these anions did not affect the spectral change.



**Figure S6.** Photographs of light emission of **1-Zn** solution before (**A**) and after (**B**) addition of PPI in PL spectrophotometer (excitation wavelength = 343 nm); photographs of light emission of **1-Zn** solution before (left) and after (right) addition of PPI under UV lamp (365 nm) (**C**).