

## Supplementary material

### **Self-assembly of Flavin Mononucleotide and Cationic Polythiophene in Aqueous Media: Spectroscopic Studies and Sensing Applications**

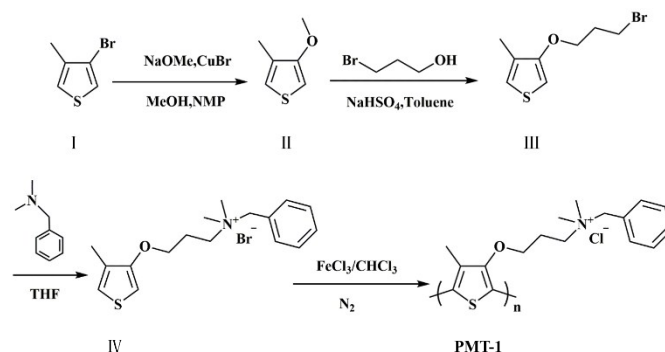
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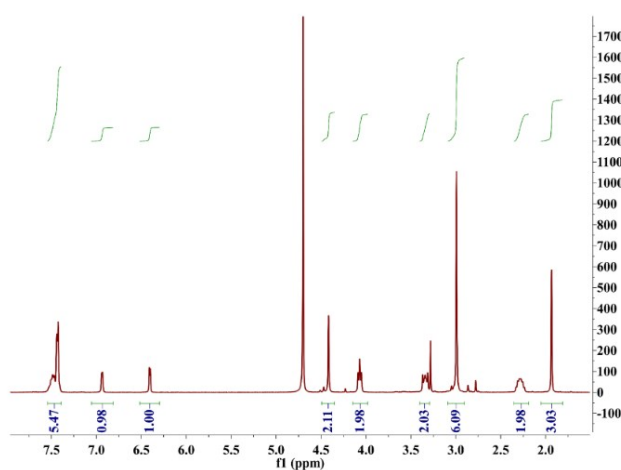
**Fig. S1.** Synthesis route of PMT-1

Compound **II** and **III** were synthesized and purified as reported previously <sup>1</sup>

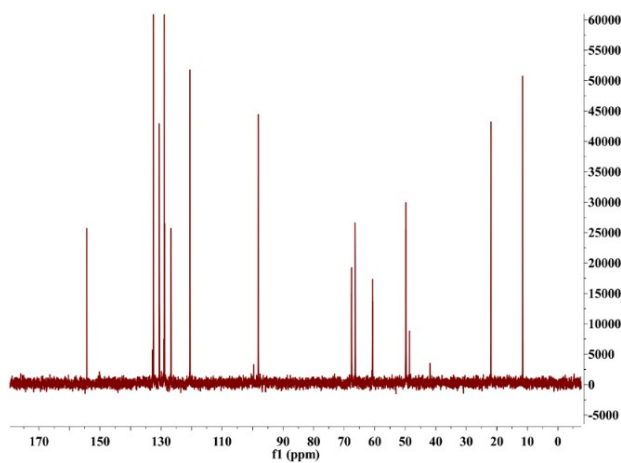
**3-(4-Methyl-3'-thienyloxy) propyl dimethyl benzylamine bromide (IV).** Mixing 3-(3-Bromo) propoxy-4-methylthiophene (200mg, 0.852mmol) and N, N-Dimethyl benzylamine (12mL) in a sealed tube and the mixture were heated at 50 °C for 48 hours. After the reaction is completed, the mixture is transferred to a rotary flask for rotary treatment to remove unreacted reactants. The obtained mixture was dissolved in a small amount of methanol, followed by addition of a large amount of diethyl ether and centrifugation to obtain a white precipitate, which was collected 112 mg (36%) as product. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O, 300 MHz)  $\delta$ 7.47(5H, m), 6.93(1H, d,  $J$  = 3.0 Hz), 6.40(1H, d,  $J$  = 3.0 Hz), 4.42(2H, s), 4.07(2H, t,  $J$  = 5.7 Hz), 3.31(2H, m), 2.99(6H, s), 2.26(2H, m), 1.93(3H, s). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O, 300MHz)  $\delta$ 154.31(s), 132.49(s), 128.95(s), 128.84(s), 126.74(s), 120.54(s), 98.10(s), 67.57(s), 66.38(s), 60.72(s), 49.85(s), 49.80(s), 49.75(s), 48.63(s), 21.94(s), 11.55(s). Exact mass calcd for [M-Br]<sup>+</sup> : 290.1573. Found: 290.1582.

**Polymer PMT-1.** 100 mg (0.27 mmol) of **IV** and 175 mg (1.08 mmol) of anhydrous FeCl<sub>3</sub> were added in 25 mL dry CHCl<sub>3</sub>, and the mixture was stirred for 24h at 30 °C

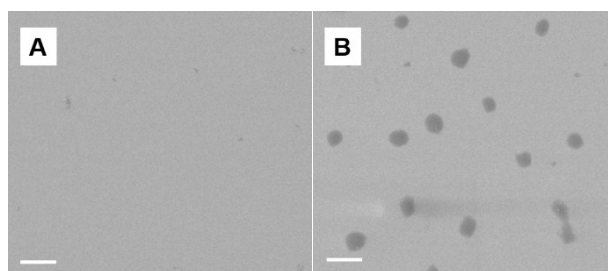
under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere in a Shrek tube. After the reaction is completed, the mixture was washed three times with methanol. Then, a large amount of methanol and a small amount of hydrazine were added to the obtained mixture to be overnight. The mixture after overnight is centrifuged, and obtain a methanol solution of the product, which is subjected to rotary distillation to obtain pure product PMT-1 (28.4mg, 28.4%).



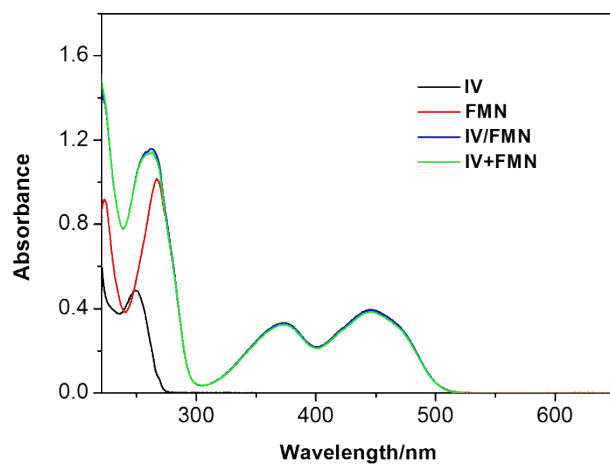
**Fig. S2.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of IV



**Fig. S3.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of IV

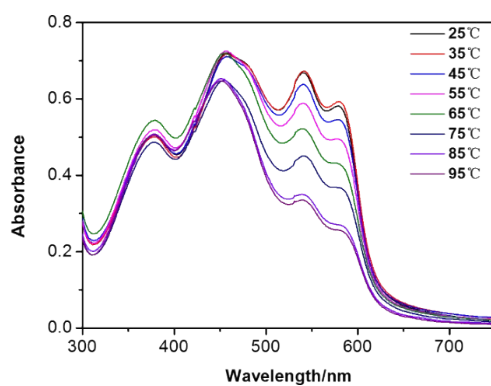


**Fig. S4.** SEM images of the PMT-1 (A) and PMT-1/FMN (B) complex. Scale bar: 2 $\mu$ m



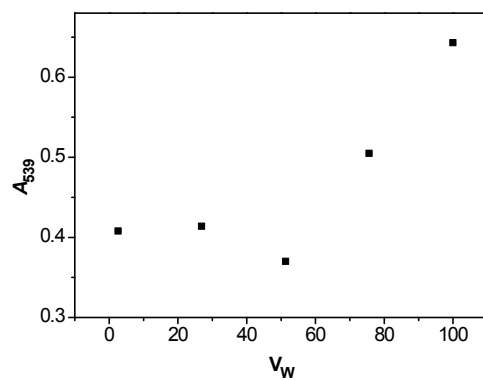
**Fig. S5.** Absorption spectra of compound IV, FMN, IV/FMN and superposition of IV and FMN

(IV+FMN) in HEPES buffer (1mM, pH = 7.4) [IV] = 0.1 mM, [FMN] = 30 $\mu$ M

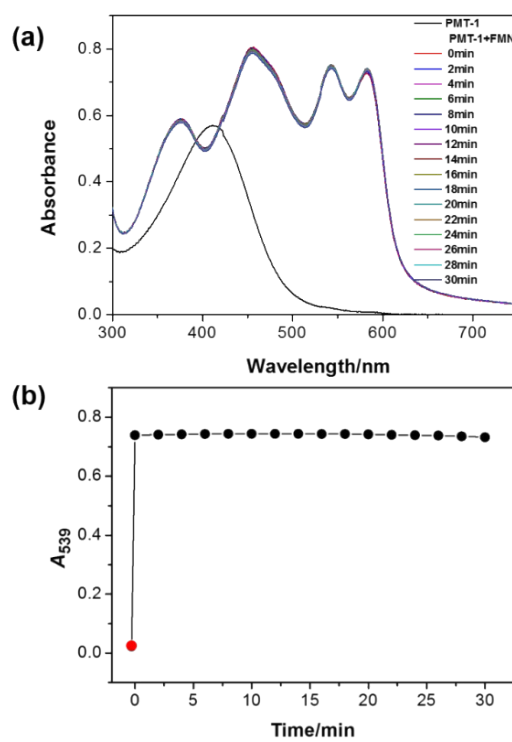


**Fig. S6.** Absorption spectra of PMT-1 (0.1mM) in the presence of FMN (30  $\mu$ M) in HEPES buffer

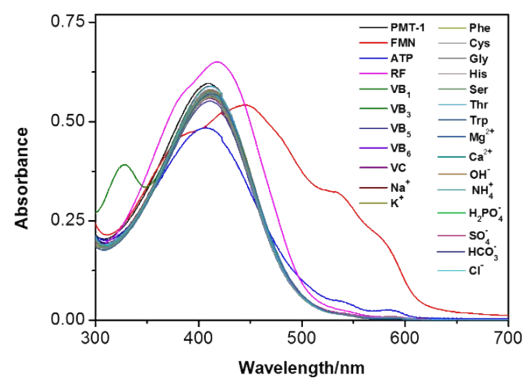
(1mM, pH = 7.4) with different temperatures



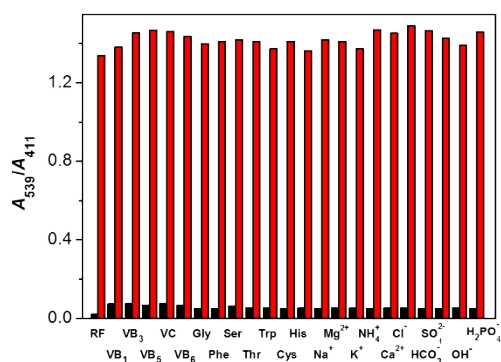
**Fig. S7.** Solvent composition dependence of the absorbance at 539 nm of PMT-1/FMN in the water/methanol mixed solvents. [PMT-1] = 0.1 mM; [FMN] = 30  $\mu$ M



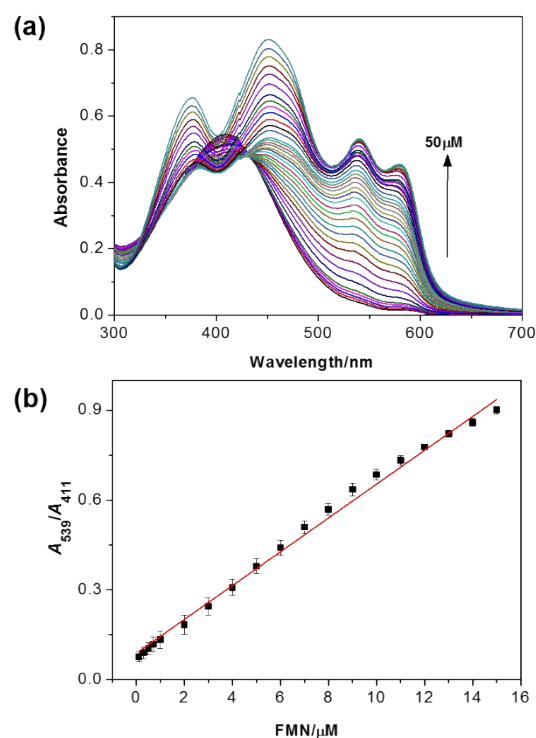
**Fig. S8.** Absorption spectra (a) and the change of value at 539nm (b) of PMT-1 (0.1mM) and FMN (42 $\mu$ M) over time



**Fig. S9.** Absorption spectra of PMT-1 (0.1mM) in the absence and presence of various analytes in HEPES buffer (1mM, pH = 7.4) as indicated. [FMN] = [analytes] = 10 $\mu$ M



**Fig. S10.** The relative absorbance of PMT-1/interference in the absence (black bars) and presence (red bars) of FMN in HEPES buffer (1mM pH = 7.4). [PMT-1] = 0.1 mM, [FMN] = [interferences] = 30 $\mu$ M



**Fig. S11.** (a) Absorption spectra of PMT-1 (0.1mM) upon addition of increasing concentration of FMN in HEPES (1mM pH 7.4) containing 10% FBS. (b) Linear relationship of PMT-1 (0.1mM) with different concentrations of FMN in HEPES (1mM pH 7.4) containing 10% FBS

## REFERENCES

- 1 Z. Yao, B. Huang, X. Hu, L. Zhang, D. Li, M. Guo, X. Zhang, H. Yuan, H. Wu, Colorimetric detection of copper ions based on a supramolecular complex of water-soluble polythiophene and ATP. *Analyst* 2013, **138**, 1649-1652.