## **Supporting Information**

## Octathienyl/phenyl-substituted zinc phthalocyanines J-aggregated

## through conformational planarization

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**Fig. S1** (a) The TLC experiment of 4,5-dibromophthalic acid dimethyl ester (left) and the product obtained from the Suzuki cross-coupling reaction (right), with a 2:1(volume ratio) mixed solvents of petroleum and ether ethyl acetate as the eluent. (b) <sup>1</sup>HNMR spectra of the product in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



**Fig. S2** The TLC experiments in the synthesis of phthalonitrile 7 from the mixture obtained from the Suzuki cross-coupling reaction. In each TLC experiment, the left is reagent and the right is the product. (1)  $2\rightarrow3$ ; (2)  $3\rightarrow4$ ; (3)  $4\rightarrow5$ ; (4)  $5\rightarrow6$ ; (5)  $6\rightarrow7$ ; The eluent is a 2:1(volume ratio) mixed solvents of petroleum and ether ethyl acetate.



**Fig. S3** The UV-Vis spectrum of Cu-TPc and Ni-TPc in THF ( $c = 1 \times 10^{-4}$  mol. L<sup>-1</sup>). The sample is placed in a standard 1-mm quartz curvette



**Fig. S4** <sup>1</sup>HNMR spectra of (A) Ni-TPc  $(1.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mol.L}^{-1})$  in CDCl<sub>3</sub>; (B) Zn-TPc  $(1.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mol.L}^{-1})$  in the 5:1 mixed solvents of CDCl<sub>3</sub> and  $d_5$ -pyridine; (C) 5:1 mixed solvents of CDCl<sub>3</sub> and  $d_5$ -pyridine

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**Fig. S5** The UV-Vis spectrum of Zn-TPc in THF ( $c = 2 \times 10^{-5}$  mol. L<sup>-1</sup>)



Fig. S6 The UV-Vis spectral changes of Zn-TPc ( $c = 2 \times 10^{-5}$  mol. L<sup>-1</sup>) in chloroform upon the addition of a drop of pyridine.



Fig. S7 The plot of  $lg(c-A_{700}/\epsilon_{700})$  versus  $lg(A_{700}/\epsilon_{700})$  of Zn-TPc in the concentration range of  $1.25 \times 10^{-6}$  to  $2 \times 10^{-5}$  mol. L<sup>-1</sup>.



Fig. S8 Computer optimized conformation of Zn-PPc by energy minimization method. Left: side view; right: top view