

# Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

## Detection and adsorption of Hg<sup>2+</sup> by new mesoporous silica and membrane material grafted with chemodosimeter

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<sup>1</sup> These authors have the same contribution to this work.

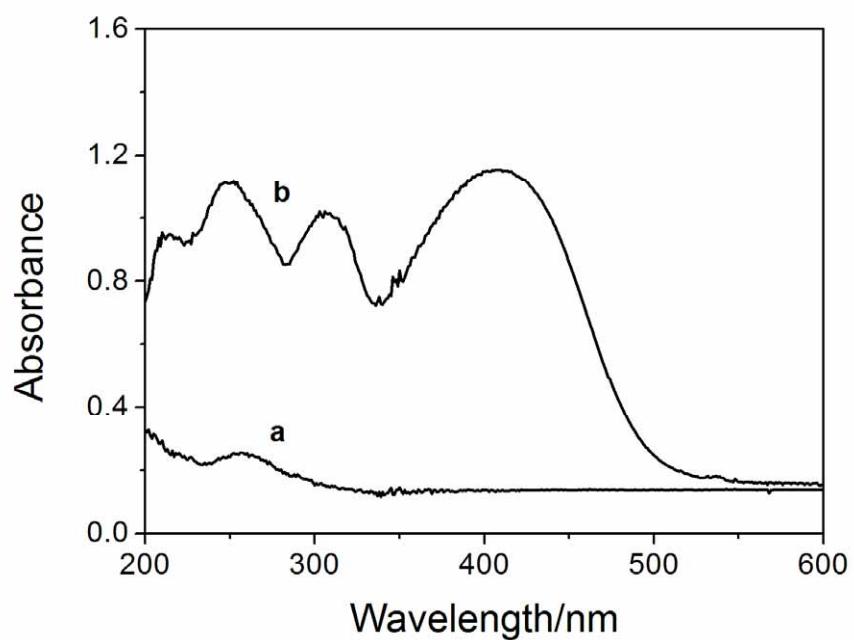
### Synthesis of compound 1

Under a dry atmosphere of nitrogen, 5-(aminoethylene) amino-2,1,3-benzothiadiazole (1.26 g, 6.5 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (THF, 30 mL). The solution was cooled to 0 °C and then a solution of n-butylisothiocyanate (1.26 g, 11.0 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added dropwise under stirring. After 0.5 h at this temperature, the resultant yellow reaction mixture was allowed to warm gently to room temperature and stirred overnight. The solvent was then evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as eluent to yield 1.18 g (59%) of **1** as yellow solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ): 0.90 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.4 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.34 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.54 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.28 (m, 2H, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.46 (m, 2H, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.03 (m, 2H, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 5.36 (s, 1H, NH), 5.93 (m, 2H, NH, NH), 6.71 (s, 1H, benzene-H), 7.04 (d, 1H, *J* = 9.4 Hz, benzene-H), 7.70 (d, 1H, *J* = 9.6 Hz, benzene-H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, δ): 13.66, 19.55, 30.74, 42.12, 91.74, 120.81, 126.17, 149.65, 149.78, 157.06. HRMS (EI+, *m/z*): [M]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>5</sub>S<sub>2</sub>, 309.1082; found, 309.1088.

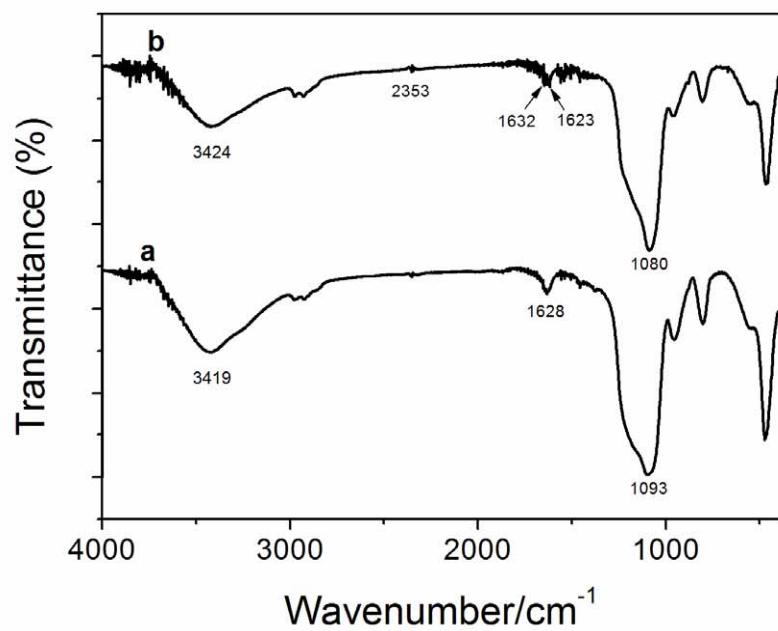
### Synthesis of compound 3

Under a dry atmosphere of nitrogen, 5-(aminoethylene) amino-2,1,3-benzothiadiazole (1.36 g, 7.0 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (THF, 30 mL). The solution was cooled to 0 °C and then a solution of 3-(triethoxysilyl) propylisothiocyanate (2.21 g, 8.4 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added dropwise under

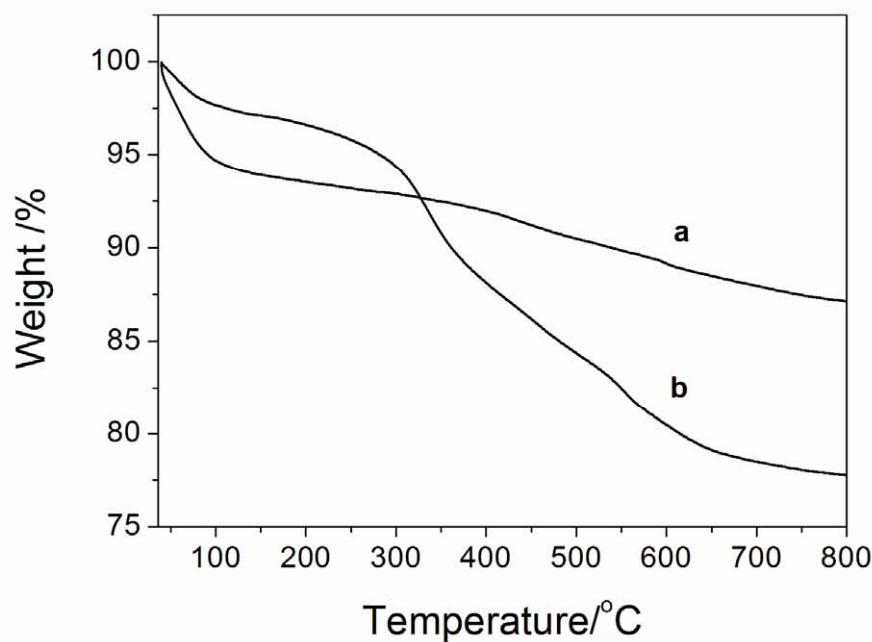
stirring. After 1 h at this temperature, the resultant yellow reaction mixture was allowed to warm gently to room temperature and stirred overnight. The solvent was then evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica using 15:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-EtOAc as eluent to yield 1.54 g (48%) of **3** as yellowish green liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ): 0.64 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.6 Hz, SiCH<sub>2</sub>), 1.21 (t, 9H, *J* = 7.0 Hz, (OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 1.42 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.72 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Si), 3.33 (m, 2H, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.44 (m, 2H, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.81 (q, 6H, *J* = 7.2 Hz, (OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 4.04 (m, 2H, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 5.54 (s, 1H, NH), 6.29 (m, 2H, NH, NH), 6.69 (s, 1H, benzene-H), 7.06 (d, 1H, *J* = 9.4 Hz, benzene-H), 7.69 (d, 1H, *J* = 9.2 Hz, benzene-H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, δ): 7.43, 14.16, 18.27, 21.06, 22.47, 44.55, 58.61, 60.45, 93.05, 121.34, 125.50, 148.96, 150.29, 156.98. HRMS (EI+, *m/z*): [M]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>31</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub>Si, 457.1638; found, 457.1637.



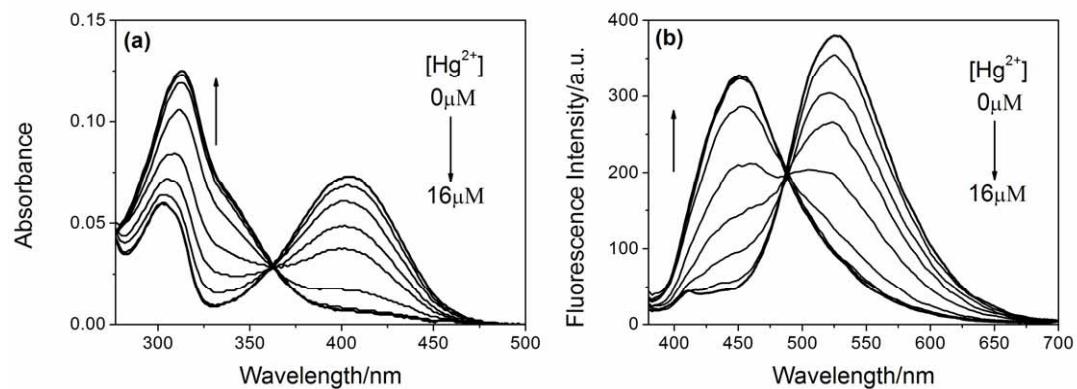
**Fig. S1** UV–vis diffuse reflectance spectra of (a) mesoporous silica and (b) **MCM-3T**.



**Fig. S2** IR spectra of (a) mesoporous silica and (b) **MCM-3T**.



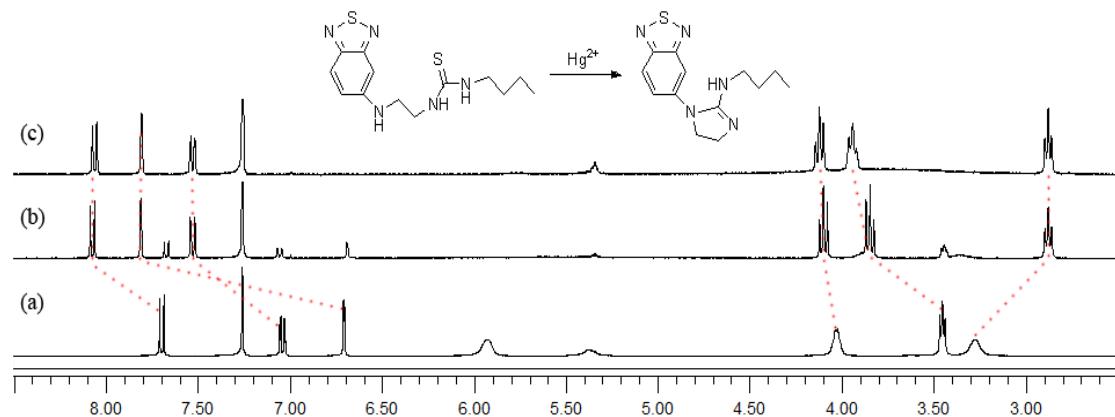
**Fig. S3** Thermogravimetric analysis data of (a) mesoporous silica and (b) **MCM-3T**.



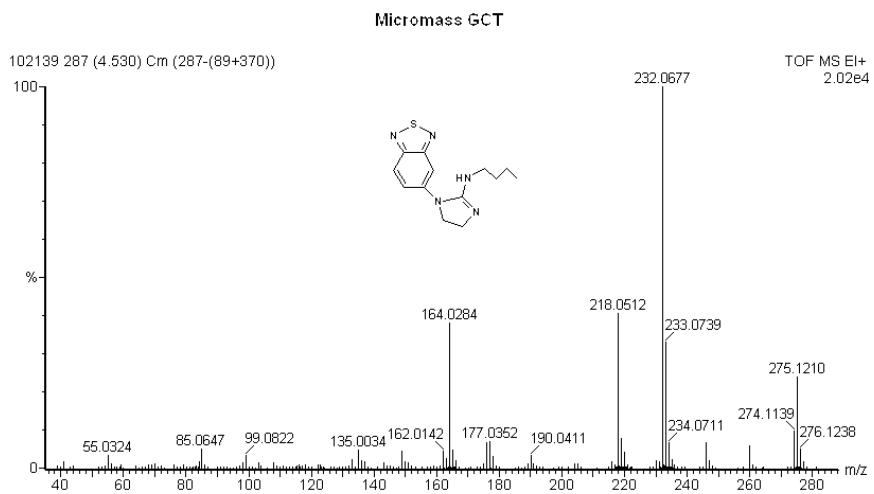
**Fig. S4** (a) UV-vis spectra of **1** ( $1.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M) and Hg<sup>2+</sup> ( $0\text{--}1.6 \times 10^{-5}$  M) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN–H<sub>2</sub>O (1:1, v/v) at 25 °C; (b) Fluorescence titration of **1** ( $1.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M) with Hg<sup>2+</sup> ( $0\text{--}1.6 \times 10^{-5}$  M) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN–H<sub>2</sub>O (1:1, v/v) at 25 °C,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 361$  nm.



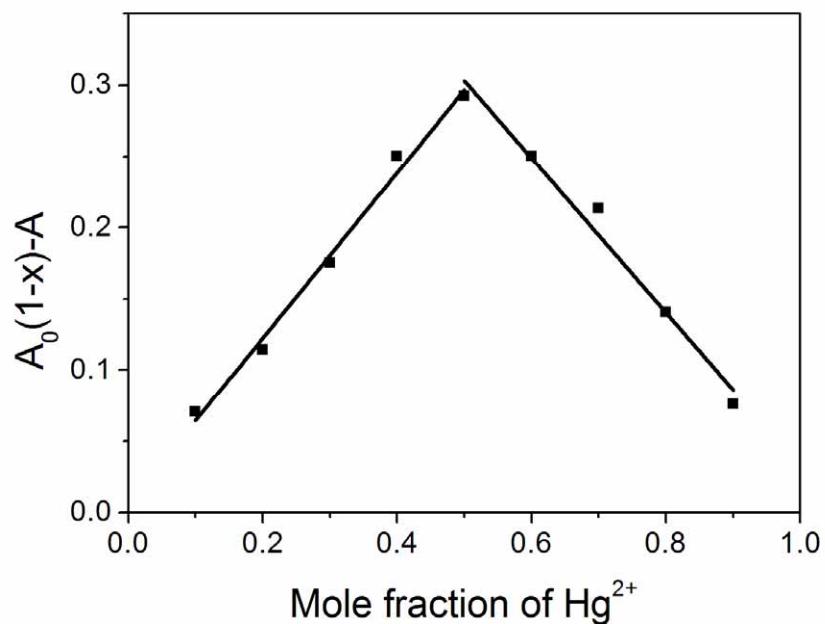
**Fig. S5** The fluorescence emission response of **1** ( $10 \mu\text{M}$ ) upon addition of 2 equiv. of  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}-\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (1:1, v/v) solution. Left to right: the emission of **1**, the emission of **1** with  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  (irradiated at 365 nm using UV lamp)



**Fig. S6** Partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz) titrations of **1** ( $5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$ ) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at  $25^\circ\text{C}$  with  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  (a) none; (b) 0.7 equiv.; (c) 3 equiv..



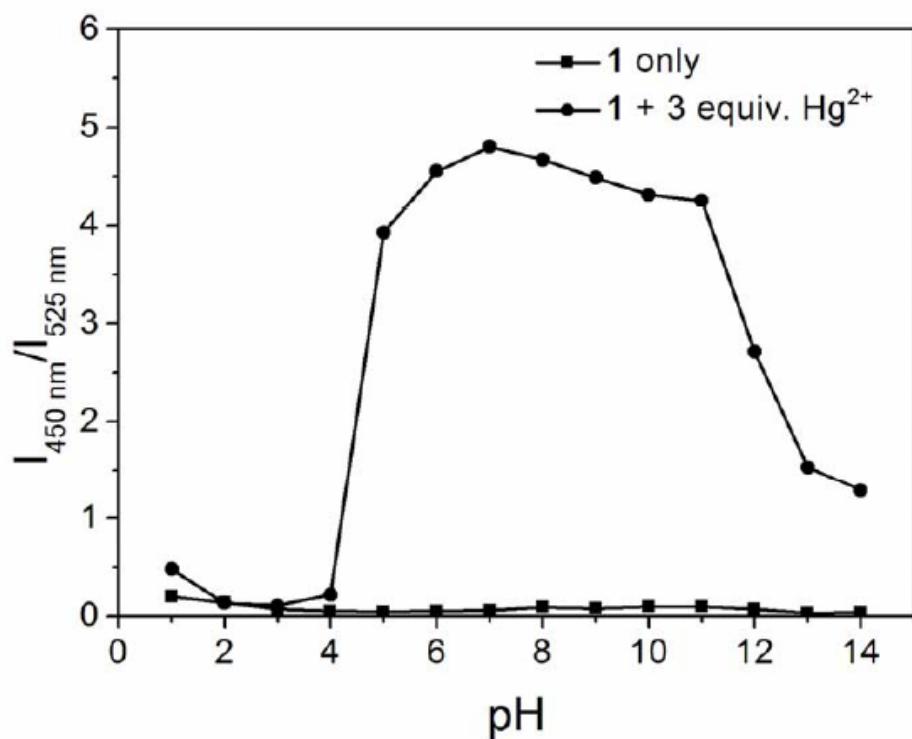
**Fig. S7** HRMS (EI+) spectrum of compound **1** (10 $\mu$ M) with Hg $^{2+}$  (30 $\mu$ M) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN–H<sub>2</sub>O (1:1, v/v) solution.



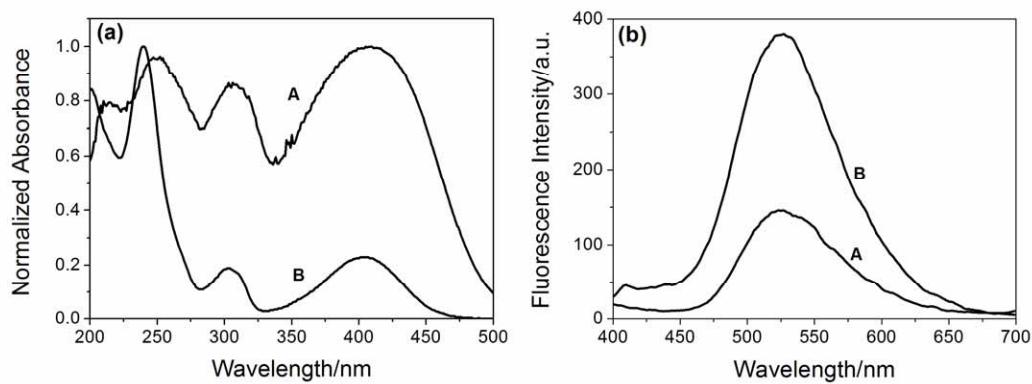
**Fig. S8** Job's plot of **1** and Hg $^{2+}$ , A and A<sub>0</sub> are the absorbance value at 405 nm of **1** in the presence and absence of Hg $^{2+}$ , respectively; the total concentration of **1** and Hg $^{2+}$  is 1.0 $\times$ 10<sup>-4</sup> M in CH<sub>3</sub>CN–H<sub>2</sub>O (1:1, v/v) solution at 25 °C.



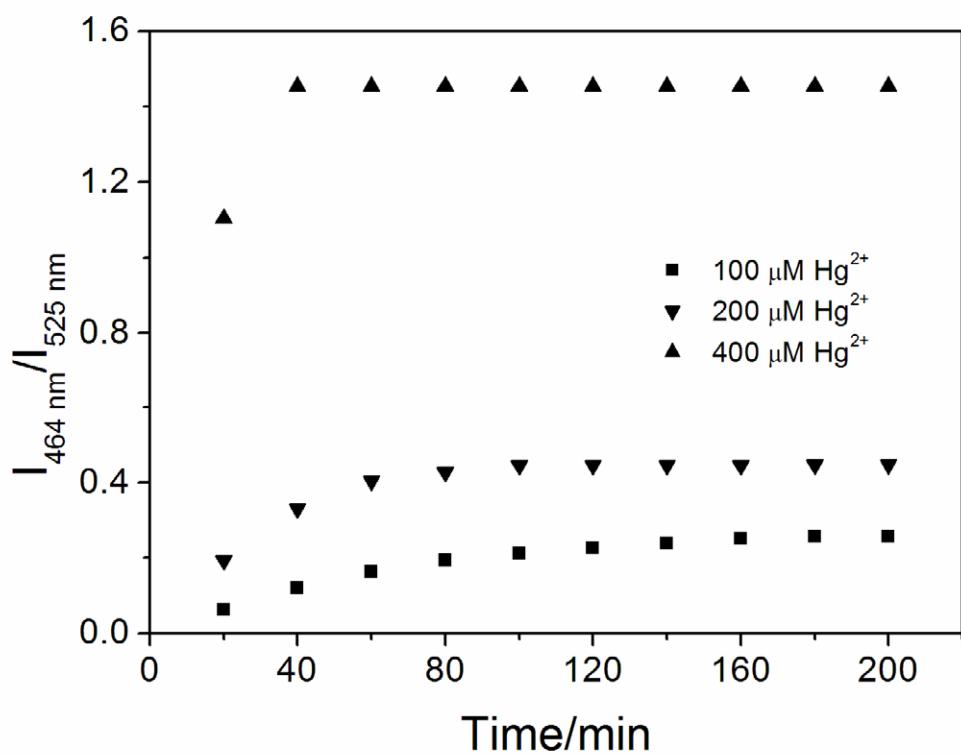
**Fig. S9** Fluorescence images of **1** ( $1.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M) on addition of different metal ions in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}-\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (1:1, v/v) solution. Left to right: free metal ions,  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  ( $1.0 \times 10^{-4}$  M),  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  ( $1.0 \times 10^{-4}$  M),  $\text{Cd}^{2+}$  ( $1.0 \times 10^{-4}$  M),  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  ( $1.0 \times 10^{-4}$  M),  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  ( $2.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M),  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  ( $1.0 \times 10^{-4}$  M),  $\text{Ag}^+$  ( $1.0 \times 10^{-4}$  M),  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  ( $1.0 \times 10^{-4}$  M).



**Fig. S10** Fluorescence ratios ( $I_{450 \text{ nm}} / I_{525 \text{ nm}}$ ) of free **1** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) and **1** + 3 equiv. of  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}-\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (1:1, v/v) with different pH conditions at 25 °C.  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 361$  nm.



**Fig. S11** (a) Absorption and (b) fluorescence spectra of (A) **MCM-3T** and (B) chemodosimeter **1** in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}-\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (1:1, v/v) solution.



**Fig. S12** Fluorescence ratios ( $I_{464 \text{ nm}}/I_{525 \text{ nm}}$ ) of **MCM-3T** ( $0.5 \text{ mg mL}^{-1}$ ) over time with the addition of  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  (100, 200, 400  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}-\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (1:9, v/v) solution at 25 °C.  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 361 \text{ nm}$ .



**Fig. S13** Photographs of emission colors of **MCM-3T** ( $0.5 \text{ mg ml}^{-1}$ ) towards different concentrations of  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  ( $0\text{--}4.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M}$ ) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}\text{--H}_2\text{O}$  (1:9, v/v) solution under the radiation of (a) room light and (b) a UV lamp.



**Fig. S14** (a) Color images and (b) fluorescence images of CH<sub>3</sub>CN–H<sub>2</sub>O (1:9, v/v) suspensions of **MCM-3T** (0.5 mg ml<sup>-1</sup>) on addition of different metal ions. Left to right: free metal ions, Ni<sup>2+</sup>, Zn<sup>2+</sup>, Cd<sup>2+</sup>, Co<sup>2+</sup>, Hg<sup>2+</sup>, Cu<sup>2+</sup>, Ag<sup>+</sup>, Pb<sup>2+</sup>.

**Table S1** Adsorption isotherm parameters for Hg<sup>2+</sup> on **MCM-3T** (temperature 25 °C, pH at 6.0).

Adsorption isotherm	Parameter	MCM-3T Value of parameter	R <sup>2</sup>
Langmuir	K <sub>L</sub> (L mmol <sup>-1</sup> )	41.2653	0.6833
	q <sub>L</sub> (mmol g <sup>-1</sup> )	0.9894	
Freundlich	K <sub>F</sub> (L g <sup>-1</sup> )	0.9174	0.9412
	n	5.8688	
Redlich-Peterson	K <sub>R</sub> (L g <sup>-1</sup> )	1424.7496	0.9399
	α <sub>R</sub> (L mmol <sup>-1</sup> )	1532.8991	
	β	0.8591	

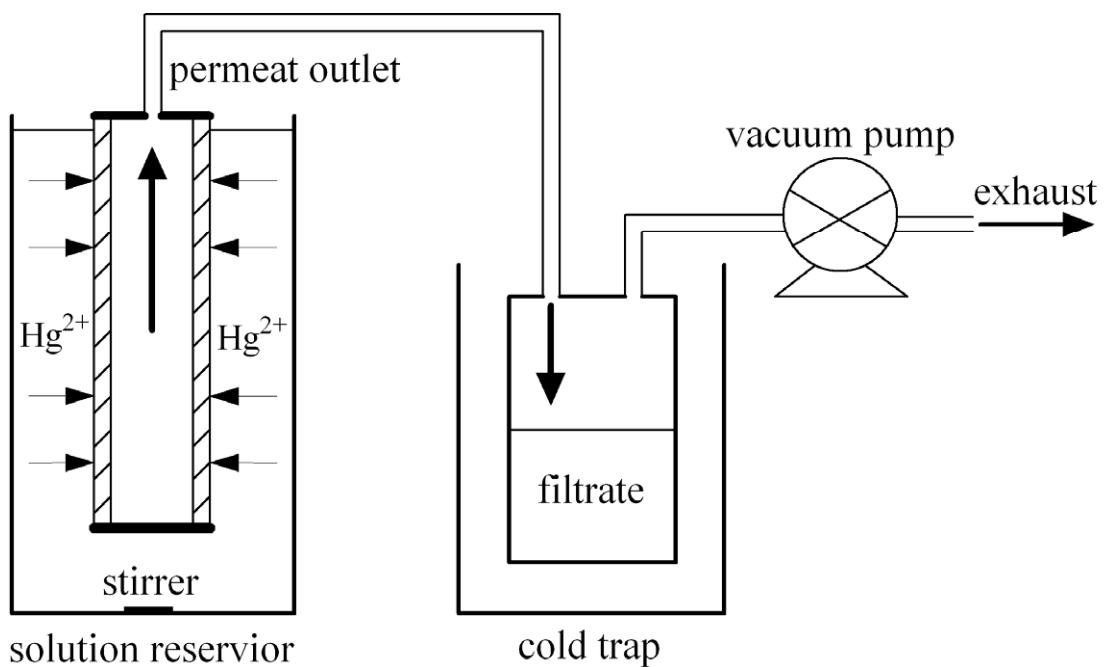
$$\text{Langmuir Isotherm: } q_e = \frac{K_L \times q_L \times C_e}{1 + K_L \times C_e} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Freundlich Isotherm: } q_e = K_F \times C_e^{\frac{1}{n}} \quad (2)$$

$$\text{Redlich-Peterson Isotherm: } q_e = \frac{K_R \times C_e}{1 + \alpha_R \times C_e^\beta} \quad (3)$$

where q<sub>e</sub> is the amount of sorbate per unit of adsorbent (mmol g<sup>-1</sup>), C<sub>e</sub> is the

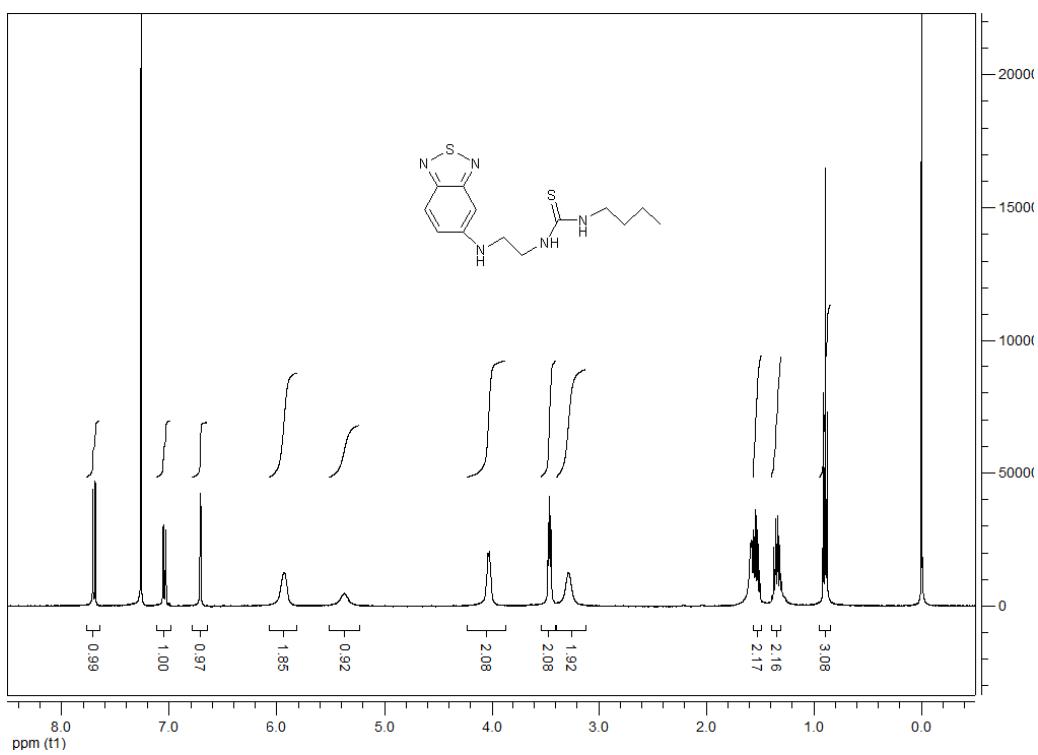
equilibrium concentration ( $\text{mmol L}^{-1}$ ),  $q_L$  is the saturation capacity of the adsorbent ( $\text{mmol g}^{-1}$ ),  $K_L$  is the Langmuir isotherm constant ( $\text{L mmol}^{-1}$ ).  $K_F$  and  $1/n$  in the Freundlich model are the Freundlich constant and the heterogeneity factor, respectively.  $K_R$  is the Redlich-Peterson isotherm constant ( $\text{L g}^{-1}$ ),  $\alpha_R$  is the Redlich-Peterson isotherm constant ( $\text{L mmol}^{-1}$ ), and  $\beta$  is the exponent, which lies between 0 and 1. If  $\beta=1$ , the Redlich-Peterson equation becomes a Langmuir type form.<sup>1</sup>



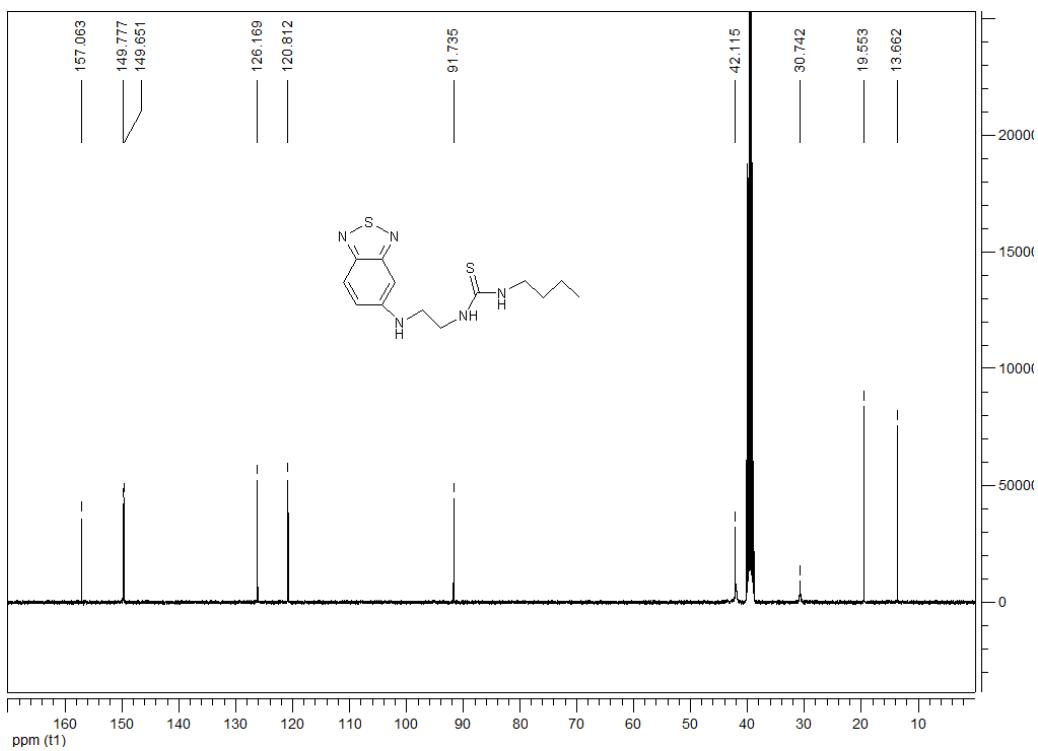
**Fig. S15** Illustration of the membrane system.

## References

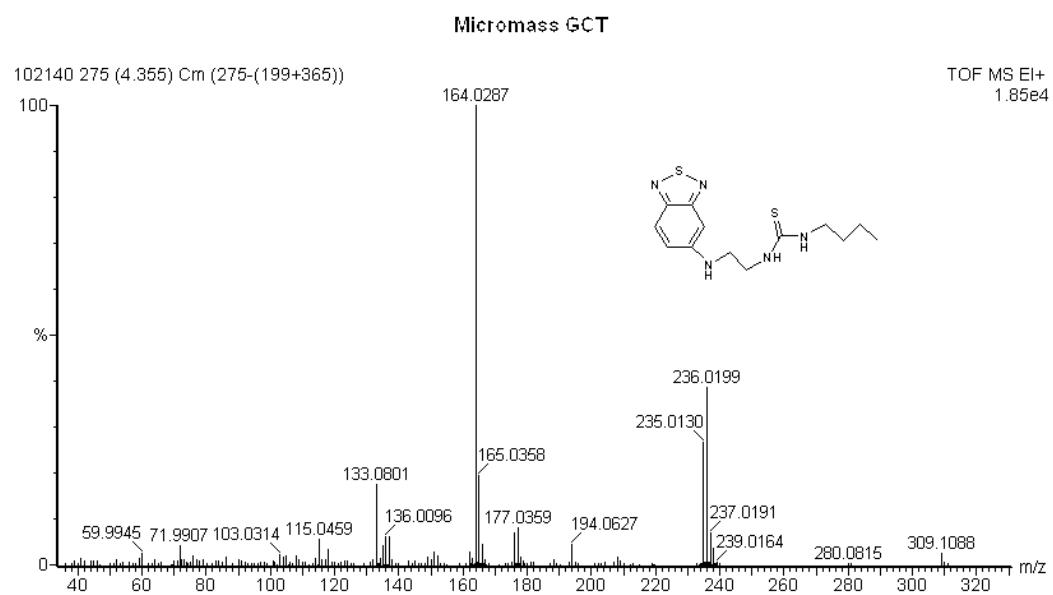
- 1 X. M. Xue and F. T. Li, *Micropor. Mesopor. Mater.*, 2008, **116**, 116.



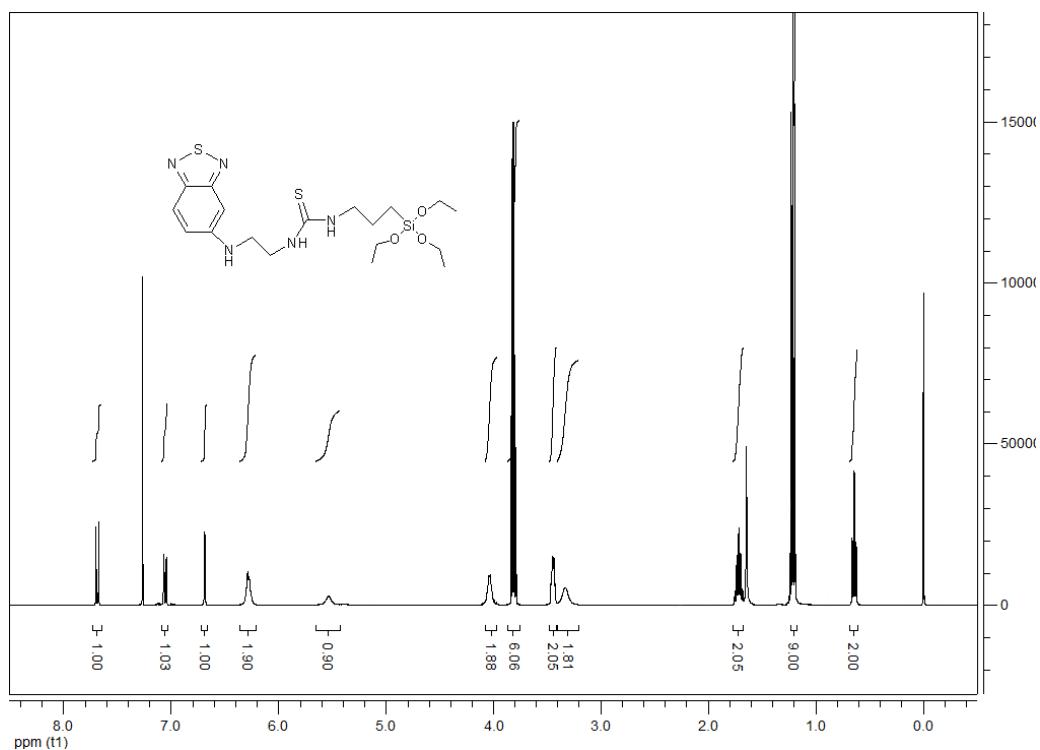
**Fig. S16**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz) spectrum of compound 1.



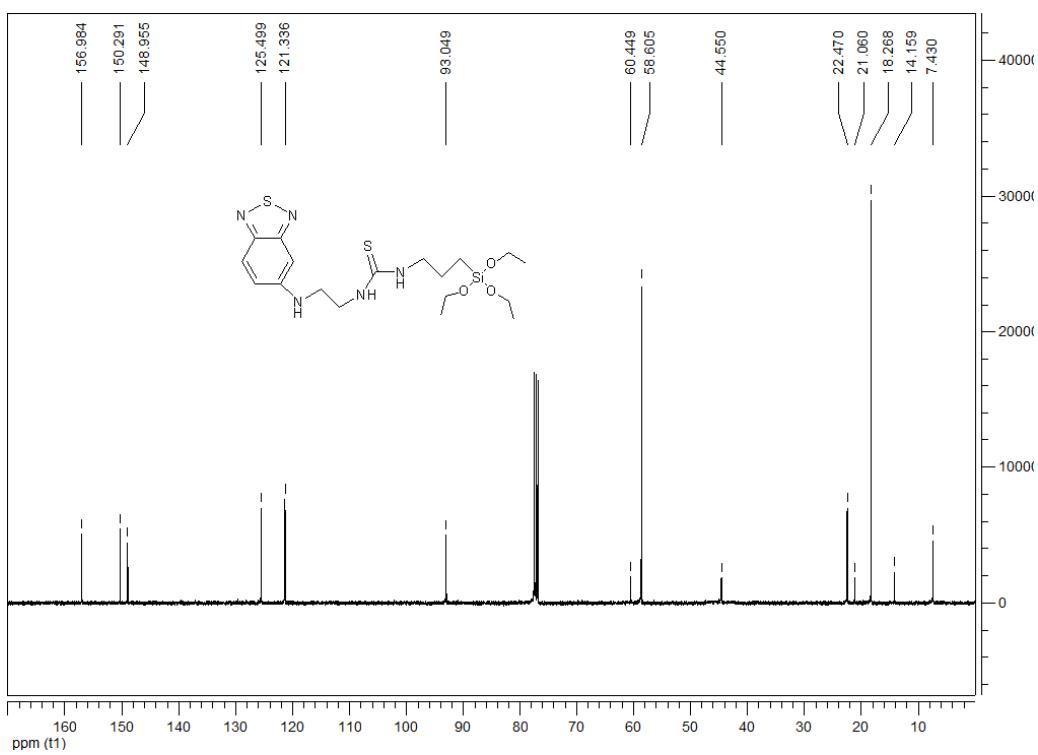
**Fig. S17**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ , 100 MHz) spectrum of compound 1.



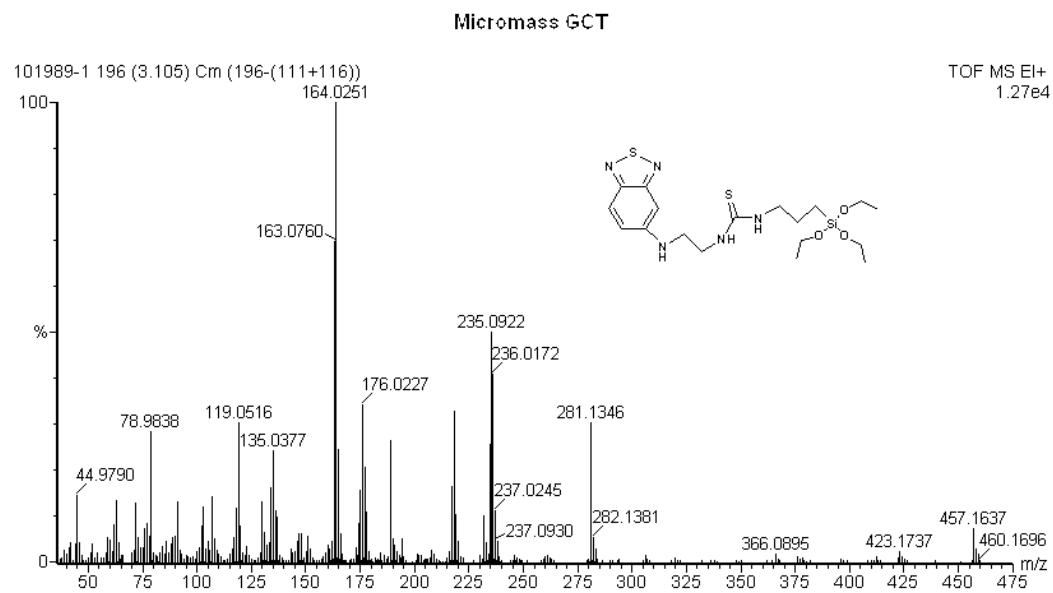
**Fig. S18** HRMS (EI+) spectrum of compound **1**.



**Fig. S19**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz) spectrum of compound **3**.



**Fig. S20**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ , 100 MHz) spectrum of compound 3.



**Fig. S21** HRMS (EI+) spectrum of compound 3.