# Discrimination of Redox-Responsible Biomolecules by a Single Molecular Sensor 

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## General information

All the chemicals were purchased from either Sigma-Aldrich or TCI and were used as received except anhydrous solvents. Thin layer chromatography was performed over Merck silica gel 60 F254 on aluminum foil. Merck silica gel 60 was used for stationary phase in chromatographic separation or silica pad filtration. Celite ${ }^{\circledR}$ 545 was used for celite filtration. All the ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectra were obtained from Bruker DRX 300 NMR spectrometer. Fluorescence emission spectra were obtained on a JASCO FP-6500 spectrometer and the slit width was 3 or 5 nm for excitation and 5 nm for emission. HRMS were taken by Agilent 6890 Series, with FABpositive mode. The PyDPA solution for all the photophysical experiment were prepared from 20 mM stock solution in DMSO, diluted with 1 mM HEPES buffer ( pH 7.40 ). Obtained data were subjected to graph with Origin 8 program and further calculation studies were performed with Sigmaplot 8.0 program.

## Synthesis of compounds

Tetrahydrofuran was distilled over sodium/benzophenone ketyl. Dichloromethane was purified by distillation over calcium hydride. Trace of water in pyridine and acetonitrile were removed by $4 \AA$ molecular sieves prior to use. For NMR spectra analysis, samples were prepared by dissolving in DMSO- $d_{6}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ or acetone $-d_{6}$, and multiplicities are reported using the following abbreviations: s , singlet; d , doublet; t , triplet; m , multiplet; br, broad.

Scheme S1. Synthetic route to PyDPA

a) malonic acid, cat. piperidine, Pyridine, reflux; b) $\left.\mathrm{Pd} / \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{H}_{2}(1 \mathrm{~atm}), \mathrm{THF} / \mathrm{PrOH} ; \mathrm{c}\right) \mathrm{LiAlH}_{4}$, THF; d) dimethy-5-hydroxyisophthalate, DIAD, $\mathrm{PPh}_{3}$, THF, $-78^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ then reflux; e) $\left.\left.\mathrm{LiAlH}_{4}, \mathrm{THF} ; \mathrm{f}\right) \mathrm{PBr}_{3}, \mathrm{DCM} ; \mathrm{g}\right) \mathrm{di}(2-$ picolyl)amine, $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}$, KI, Acetonitrile, reflux; h) $\mathrm{Zn}\left(\mathrm{NO}_{3}\right)_{2} \cdot 6 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, Acetonitrile. THF $=$ tetrahydrofuran, $i \mathrm{PrOH}=$ 2-propanol, DIAD $=$ diisopropylazodicarboxylate, $\mathrm{DCM}=$ dichloromethane.

Synthesis of $\mathbf{3}^{1}$ : 3-(pyren-1-yl)acrylic acid

To a stirred solid mixture of 1-pyrenecarboxaldehyde ( $1100 \mathrm{mg}, 4.78 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and malonic acid ( 920 $\mathrm{mg}, 8.8 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), pyridine ( 8 mL ) and catalytic amount of piperidine ( 8 drops) were successively added, and then refluxed for 3 hours. The mixture was poured into 3 M HCl solution cooled to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. The resulting solid was filtered, washed with cold water and recrystallized from $\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}-\mathrm{MeOH}$ to give $1.1 \mathrm{~g}(84 \%)$ of pure yellow solid product of 3: ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(300 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{DMSO}-d_{6}\right) \delta 6.79\left(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=15.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{ArCH}=\mathrm{CHCO}_{2} \mathrm{H}\right), 8.08(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}, J=7.6$ $\mathrm{Hz}), 8.16-8.34(6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{Ar} H), 8.46(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=4.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar} H), 8.49(1 \mathrm{H}, J=5.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar} H), 8.66(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=15.7 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $\left.\mathrm{ArCH}=\mathrm{CHCO}_{2} \mathrm{H}\right), 12.6\left(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{br},-\mathrm{CO}_{2} \mathrm{H}\right) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(75 \mathrm{MHz}\right.$, DMSO- $\left.d_{6}\right) \delta 122.050,122.649,124.193,124.433$, $124.978,125.696,126.237,126.502,126.986,127.735,128.266,128.846,129.050,129.313,130.588,131.252$, 132.493, 140.335, 168.095. HRMS $\left(\mathrm{FAB}^{+}\right)\left[\mathrm{M}=\mathrm{C}_{19} \mathrm{H}_{12} \mathrm{O}_{2}\right]^{+}$, calculated 272.0837, found 272.0837.

## Synthesis of 4 : 3-(pyren-3-yl)propan-1-ol

To a stirred solution of $\mathbf{3}(1.0 \mathrm{~g}, 4.04 \mathrm{mmol})$ in tetrahydrofuran:2-propanol mixture ( $40 \mathrm{~mL}: 20 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) was added a suspension of $10 \mathrm{wt} \% \mathrm{Pd} / \mathrm{C}(20 \mathrm{mg}$ in 10 mL 2-propanol). Several balloons of molecular hydrogen were adapted for few hours, until the characteristic ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR signal at $\delta 6.8$ (olefinic proton) were completely disappeared. Then the solution was filtered through celite pad, volatiles were evaporated under reduced pressure, then trace of solvents was azeotropically removed with hexanes. The resulting material dissolved in 40 mL of anhydrous tetrahydrofuran was added to the pre-chilled suspension of $\mathrm{LiAlH}_{4}(600 \mathrm{mg}, 15.8 \mathrm{mmol}, 3.6$ equiv.) in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran. The mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature. Excessive hydride was destroyed by successive addition of 1 mL water, $2 \mathrm{~mL} 15 \% \mathrm{NaOH}$ in water, and 3 mL water. The mixture was filtered through celite pad and concentrated under reduced pressure to give $880 \mathrm{mg}(84 \%$ over two steps $)$ of semi-solid product, 4: ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(300 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 2.10(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, J=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz}), 2.97\left(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{br} \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{OH}\right), 3.38(2 \mathrm{H}$, $\mathrm{t}, J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}), 3.76(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}, J=6.4 \mathrm{~Hz}), 7.80(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}), 7.9-8.08(5 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{Ar} H), 8.16(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}, J=7.9 \mathrm{~Hz}), 8.23$ $(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=9.2 \mathrm{~Hz}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $75 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 29.655,34.511,62.293,123.357,124.801,124.897,124.941$, $125.059,125.120,125.871,126.669,127.194,127.315,127.574,128.692,129.884,130.962,131.489,136.227$. HRMS ( $\mathrm{FAB}^{+}$) $\left[\mathrm{M}=\mathrm{C}_{19} \mathrm{H}_{16} \mathrm{O}\right]^{+}$, calculated 260.1201, found 260.1201.

Synthesis of 5 : dimethyl 5-(3-(pyren-1-yl)propoxy)isophthalate

To a pre-chilled, stirred solution of $4(781 \mathrm{mg}, 3.0 \mathrm{mmol})$, dimethyl-5-hydroxyisophthalate ( 945 mg , $4.5 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.5$ equiv.), and triphenylphosphine ( $944 \mathrm{mg}, 3.6 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.2$ equiv.) in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran ( 50 mL ) was added diisopropylazodicarboxylate ( $0.79 \mathrm{~mL}, 3.9 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.3$ equiv.) dropwise during 5 minutes at -78 ${ }^{\circ}$ C. After finishing the addition, the mixture was refluxed for three hours. Water ( 1 mL ) was then added,

[^0]volatiles were removed and 10 mL of ethyl ether-ethyl acetate mixture was added, and stood at $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ overnight. Precipitates were collected to give 832 mg ( $61 \%$ ) of pure 5. Resulting residue was chromatographed on silica gel by $20 \%$ ethyl acetate in hexanes to give more products ( $230 \mathrm{mg}, 17 \%$ ): ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $300 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 2.38$ $(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, J=6.2 \mathrm{~Hz}), 3.59(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}, J=7.7 \mathrm{~Hz}), 3.94(6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}), 4.14(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}, J=5.9 \mathrm{~Hz}), 7.79(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=1.4 \mathrm{~Hz}), 7.88(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}$, $J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}), 8.0-8.05(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \operatorname{Ar} \underline{H}), 8.10(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dd}, \mathrm{J}=6.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 9.3 \mathrm{~Hz}), 8.17(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=7.7 \mathrm{~Hz}), 8.30(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}), 8.31(1 \mathrm{H}$, $\mathrm{d}, J=7.6 \mathrm{~Hz}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(75 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 29.651,31.012,52.403,67.558,119.878,122.981,123.189,124.810$, $124.876,124.959,124.984,125.123,125.861,126.750,127.377,127.454,128.768,130.013,130.888,131.424$, 131.777, 135.446, 159.111, 166.180. HRMS $\left(\mathrm{FAB}^{+}\right)\left[\mathrm{M}=\mathrm{C}_{29} \mathrm{H}_{24} \mathrm{O}_{5}\right]^{+}$, calculated 452.1624, found 452.1624.

Synthesis of $\mathbf{6}^{2}: 5$-(3-(pyren-1-yl)propoxy) $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$-dibromo- $m$-xylene

To a suspension of $\mathrm{LiAlH}_{4}$ ( $258 \mathrm{mg}, 6.8 \mathrm{mmol}, 4$ equiv.) in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran ( 50 mL ), a solution of $5(770 \mathrm{mg}, 1.7 \mathrm{mmol})$ in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran $(5 \mathrm{~mL})$ was added dropwise. The mixture was then stirred for 5 hours, until all the starting material was completely disappeared in TLC analysis. Then the mixture was quenched by successive addition of 0.5 mL water, 1 mL of $15 \% \mathrm{NaOH}$ and 1.5 mL of water, and then filtered through celite pad. Volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and dried under vacuum. The resulting residue was dissolved in 2:1 mixture of anhydrous tetrahydrofuran-dichloromethane ( 30 mL ), and then 3.4 mL of 1 M phosphorous tribromide in dichloromethane was added under nitrogen atmosphere, at $7^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. The mixture was further stirred for 3 hours at room temperature, quenched with 1 mL of MeOH , diluted with 50 mL dichloromethane, added half-saturated sodium bicarbonate and extracted twice with 50 mL dichloromethane each. Combined organic layer was dried over magnesium sulfate, evaporated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was filtered through small quantity of silica gel pad to give 710 mg of 6 ( $80 \%$ ): ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 300 $\left.\mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 2.35(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, J=7.0 \mathrm{~Hz}), 3.56(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}, J=7.7 \mathrm{~Hz}), 4.05(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}, J=6.0 \mathrm{~Hz}), 4.43\left(4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{ArCH}_{2} \mathrm{Br}\right)$, $6.89(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}), 7.02(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}), 7.89(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}), 8.02-8.05(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}), 8.08(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dd}, J=9.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}), 8.18(2 \mathrm{H}$, $\mathrm{d}, J=7.6 \mathrm{~Hz}), 8.30(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=9.3 \mathrm{~Hz}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(75 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 29.690,31.064,32.935,67.160,115.323$, $121.837,123.250,124.832,124.897,124.974,125.005,125.134,125.891,126.765,127.392,127.467,127.516$, $127.784,130.009,130.917,131.443,135.599,139.622,159.444$. HRMS $\left(\mathrm{FAB}^{+}\right)\left[\mathrm{M}=\mathrm{C}_{27} \mathrm{H}_{22} \mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right]^{+}$, calculated 520.0037, found 520.0037.

Synthesis of $1^{2}: 5$-(3-(pyren-1-yl)propoxy) $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$-bis((di-2-picolyl)amino) $m$-xylene
6 ( $350 \mathrm{mg}, 0.67 \mathrm{mmol}, 1$ equiv.), di-(2-picolyl) amine ( $0.26 \mathrm{~mL}, 1.47 \mathrm{mmol}, 2.2$ equiv.), potassium iodide ( $244 \mathrm{mg}, 1.47 \mathrm{mmol}, 2.2$ equiv.), and potassium carbonate ( $276 \mathrm{mg}, 3.0$ equiv.) were dissolved in acetonitrile $(15 \mathrm{~mL})$. The resulting mixture was stirred at slightly raised temperature for 16 hours. Volatiles were

[^1]removed under reduced pressure, diluted with ethyl ether, half-saturated sodium bicarbonate solution, and extracted twice to 50 mL of ethyl ether each. Combined organic layer was dried over magnesium sulfate, evaporated under reduced pressure, and then subjected to flash silica gel column chromatography. Gradient elution from chloroform to $10 \%$ methanol in chloroform gave 300 mg of $\mathbf{1}(43 \%):{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(300 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$ $\delta 2.37(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, J=6.7 \mathrm{~Hz}), 3.58(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}, J=7.7 \mathrm{~Hz}), 3.67(4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}), 3.83(8 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}), 4.07(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}, J=6.0 \mathrm{~Hz}), 6.93(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s})$, $7.11(5 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}), 7.53(8 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}), 7.90(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}), 7.96-8.18(7 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}), 8.33(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=9.2 \mathrm{~Hz}), 8.50(4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}$, $J=4.7 \mathrm{~Hz}){ }^{13}{ }^{3} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(75 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 29.718,31.206,58.607,60.093,66.834,113.617,121.517,121.915$, $122.696,123.313,124.771,124.829,124.918,124.973,125.101,125.852,126.711,127.337,127.415,127.484$, $127.792,129.926,130.867,131.403,135.814,136.367,140.667,148.977,159.214,159.757$. HRMS $\left(\mathrm{FAB}^{+}\right)$ $\left[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}=\mathrm{C}_{51} \mathrm{H}_{47} \mathrm{~N}_{6} \mathrm{O}\right]^{+}$, calculated 759.3811, found 759.3811.

## Synthesis of PyDPA :

To an aliquot of $\mathbf{1}$ ( 3 micromoles) in acetonitrile ( 0.2 mL ), zinc(II)nitrate hexahydrate ( 6.15 micromoles, 2.05 equiv.), in acetonitrile ( 0.1 mL ) was added slowly, stirred for 1 hour, and then solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was dried under vacuum then used without further purification. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $300 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{DMSO}-d_{6}$ ) $\delta 2.36(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{br}), 3.63(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz}), 3.73(4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=16 \mathrm{~Hz})$, $3.87(4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}), 4.20(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}, J=7 \mathrm{~Hz}), 4.34(4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=16 \mathrm{~Hz}), 6.93(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}), 7.06(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}), 7.48(4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}), 7.65(4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}$, $J=6.5 \mathrm{~Hz}), 8.03-8.5(13 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}), 8.68(4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=4.7 \mathrm{~Hz}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( 75 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ) $\delta 29.335,31.162,56.107$, $57.411,67.322,118.190,123.828,123.892,124.578,124.720,125.028,125.331,125.539,126.695,126.792$, $127.116,127.380,127.769,127.937,128.110,128.766,129.903,130.849,131.359,134.134,136.472,141.201$, 148.374, 154.743, 159.334. HRMS $\left(\mathrm{FAB}^{+}\right)\left[\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{NO}_{3}=\mathrm{C}_{51} \mathrm{H}_{46} \mathrm{~N}_{9} \mathrm{O}_{10} \mathrm{Zn}_{2}\right]^{+}$, calculated 1072.1945, found 1072.1951.

Scheme S2. Synthesis of model compound, BnN


## Synthesis of BnN :

To a stirred suspension of nicotinamide ( $610 \mathrm{mg}, 5 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in acetone ( 10 mL ), benzyl bromide $(0.77$ $\mathrm{mL}, 6.5 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.3$ equiv.) were added, then gently heated for 2 days. Resulting suspension was filtered to give pure benzylated nicotinamide, $\mathbf{B n N}(1.2 \mathrm{~g}, 82 \%) .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $300 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{DMSO}-d_{6}$ ) $\delta 5.96\left(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{N}^{+} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Ph}\right.$ ) 7.43-7.46 (3H, m, Hs in Bn), 7.58-7.63 (2H, m, Hs in Bn), $8.19(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{br} \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{N} H), 8.27(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dd}, J=6.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 7.9 \mathrm{~Hz})$,
$8.64(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{br} \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{N} H), 8.98(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dd}, J=1.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}), 9.35(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=5.0 \mathrm{~Hz}), 9.71(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $(75 \mathrm{MHz}$, DMSO- $d_{6}$ ) 63.920, 128.747, 129.505, 129.678, 129.915, 134.441, 134.520, 144.310, 145.276, 146.837, 163.153. HRMS $\left(\mathrm{FAB}^{+}\right)\left[\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{Br}^{-}=\mathrm{C}_{13} \mathrm{H}_{13} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right]^{+}$, calculated 213.1022, found 213.1028.

Scheme S3. Synthesis of model compound, MEI


MEI

## Synthesis of MEI :

To a stirred solution of 4,5-dimethylphenylene-1,2-diamine ( $1.02 \mathrm{~g}, 0.75 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and potassium carbonate ( $1.0 \mathrm{~g}, 0.75 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in DMF ( 20 mL ), 2-bromoethyl methyl ether ( $0.6 \mathrm{~mL}, 0.68 \mathrm{mmol}, 0.9$ equiv.) were added at $60{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. The mixture was stirred for 6 hours, then organic solvent were removed under vacuum. Resulting material was diluted with 150 mL of ethyl ether and washed with 3 portions of water. Ethereal layer were dried over magnesium sulfate, and ether were removed under reduced pressure to give dark brown liquid. Materials were redissolved by acetic acid $(30 \mathrm{~mL})$ then 3 g of boric acid and 2.0 g of alloxane monohydrate were added at room temperature. Resulting mixture was stirred overnight. Acetic acid was evaporated in vacuo, and resulting material were recrystallized from $25 \% \mathrm{MeOH}$ in chloroform to give isoalloxazine derivative, MEI $(0.75 \mathrm{~g}, 33 \%) .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $300 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{DMSO}-d_{6}$ ) $\delta 2.38(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}), 2.48(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}), 3.25(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}) 3.74(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}, J=5.7 \mathrm{~Hz})$, $4.77(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}, J=5.7 \mathrm{~Hz}), 7.82(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{Ar} H), 7.84(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{Ar} H), 11.30(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{br} \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{N} H) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $75 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{DMSO}-d_{6}$ ) 19.211, 21.117, 44.338, 58.906, 68.662, 117.125, 131.216, 131.808, 134.077, 136.207, 137.503, 146.722, 150.653, 155.968, 160.315. HRMS $\left(\mathrm{FAB}^{+}\right)\left[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}=\mathrm{C}_{15} \mathrm{H}_{17} \mathrm{~N}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{3}\right]^{+}$, calculated 301.1301, found 301.1301.

## Additional spectral data and fitting results

## 1) Mathematical basis for fittings

A. $1: 1$ binding profile

$$
\begin{gather*}
\mathrm{H}+\mathrm{G} \rightleftharpoons \mathrm{HG} \text { with } K_{d}=K_{a}^{-1}=\frac{[H] \cdot[G]}{[H G]}  \tag{1}\\
H_{0}=[H]+[H G], G_{0}=[G]+[H G] \\
H_{0} \cdot G_{0}=[H] \cdot[H G]+[G] \cdot[H G]+[H] \cdot[G]+[H G]^{2} \\
{[H G]=\frac{H_{0}+G_{0}+K_{d}-\sqrt{\left(H_{0}+G_{0}+K_{d}\right)^{2}-4 \cdot H_{0} \cdot G_{0}}}{2}}  \tag{3}\\
F_{o b s}=\alpha \cdot[H]+\beta[H G]=\alpha \cdot\left(H_{0}-[H G]\right)+\beta \cdot[H G] \\
=\alpha \cdot H_{0}+(\beta-\alpha) \cdot[H G] \tag{4}
\end{gather*}
$$

By substituting [HG] of (4) to (3), $F_{\text {obs }}$ is given by function of $H_{0}, G_{0}$ and $K_{d}$, thus the scattered graph can be fitted with respect to $G_{0}$, to estimate value of the only unknown constant, $K_{d}$.

## B. Approximation of excited state population in given molar extinction coefficients

For a solution of $x$ and $y$ without absorption interference, assume that the molar extinction coefficients and concentrations of $x, y$ are $\varepsilon_{x}, \varepsilon_{y}$ and $c_{x}, c_{y}$, respectively.

If the solution is partitioned by $2 \mathrm{n}(\mathrm{n} \in \square)$, with half of partitions banishes $x$ to the others, and reversely to $y$, and if two sets of partitions appeared alternatingly, then we calculate the absorbance with following definitions;

$$
d a_{x}=\varepsilon_{x} \cdot 2 \cdot c_{x} \cdot \frac{l}{2 n}=\varepsilon_{x} \cdot c_{x} \cdot \frac{l}{n} \quad, \quad d a_{y}=\varepsilon_{y} \cdot c_{y} \cdot \frac{l}{n}
$$

Then, $d A_{j}=$ either $d a_{x}($ for $j=2 k-1)$ or $d a_{y}($ for $j=2 k)$

By definition of absorbance and transmittance,

$$
1-d T_{j}=1-10^{-d A_{j}}
$$

Thus, relative transmitted intensity at the front of $\mathrm{j}^{\text {th }}$ partition is:

$$
1 \times \prod_{k=1}^{j-1} d T_{k}
$$

With a definition of $q=10^{-d a_{x}-d a_{y}}=10^{-\left(\frac{\varepsilon x c_{x} l}{n}+\frac{\varepsilon_{y} c_{y} l}{n}\right)}$, the amount of light intensity by species $x$ is :

$$
\begin{gathered}
\sum_{k=1}^{n}\left[\left(1-10^{-d a_{x}}\right) \cdot \prod_{m=0}^{2(k-1)} d T_{m}\right]=\left(1-10^{-d a_{x}}\right) \cdot\left[1+q+q^{2}+\cdots+q^{n-1}\right] \\
=\left(1-10^{-d a_{x}}\right) \cdot \frac{1-q^{n}}{1-q}
\end{gathered}
$$

By taking limit of $n$ to infinity, we can write:

$$
\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1-10^{-d a_{x}}}{1-10^{-d a_{x}-d a_{y}}} \cdot\left(1-q^{n}\right)
$$

Applying L'Hopital's theorem, the value of limit becomes

$$
\begin{equation*}
=\frac{\varepsilon_{x} c_{x}}{\varepsilon_{x} c_{x}+\varepsilon_{y} c_{y}} \cdot(1-T)=\frac{A_{x}}{A_{x}+A_{y}} \cdot(1-T) \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

C. Approximation of pseudo-first order kinetics.

For given catalyst C and substrate S , we can consider the following reaction kinetics.

$$
\mathrm{C}+\mathrm{S} \rightleftharpoons{ }_{k_{-1}}^{k_{1}} \mathrm{CS} \rightarrow^{k_{2}} \mathrm{C}+\mathrm{P}
$$

We can find few relations between variables,

$$
\begin{gather*}
\mathrm{C}_{0}=[C]+[C S]  \tag{6}\\
S_{0}=[S]+[C S]+[P] \tag{7}
\end{gather*}
$$

With the constant defined;

$$
K_{C, S}=\frac{[C S]}{[C] \cdot[S]}
$$

Then, the rate of production of P is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d}{d t}[P]=k_{2}[C S] \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

By assuming steady-state kinetics for [CS], we can use following equation;

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d}{d t}[C S]=k_{1}[C][S]-\left(k_{-1}+k_{2}\right)[C S] \approx 0, \text { Hence }[C S]=\frac{k_{1}}{k_{-1}+k_{2}}[C] \cdot[S] \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

From (6), (8), and the by defining $K_{S}=k_{1} /\left(k_{-1}+k_{2}\right)$

$$
\begin{gather*}
{[\mathrm{CS}]=K_{S}\left(C_{0}-[C S]\right) \cdot[S]} \\
{[\mathrm{CS}]=\frac{K_{S} \cdot C_{0}[S]}{1+K_{S}[S]}} \tag{10}
\end{gather*}
$$

Thus equation (8) becomes as follow;

$$
\frac{d}{d t}[P]=k_{2} \cdot \frac{K_{S}}{1+K_{S}[S]} C_{0}[S]
$$

Since $k_{1}, k_{-1}$ are involved in kinetic equilibrium we assume two conditions that;

$$
k_{1} \gg k_{2} \text { and } k_{-1} \gg k_{2}
$$

Then the equation becomes;

$$
\begin{equation*}
\approx k_{2} \cdot \frac{k_{1}}{k_{-1}} \cdot C_{0}[S]=k_{o b s} \cdot C_{0}[S] \tag{12}
\end{equation*}
$$

Since we used steady-state approximation,
we can choose appropriate value of $s_{0}^{\prime}=[S]+[P]$,

$$
\frac{d}{d t}([S]+[P])=0, \frac{d}{d t}[S]=-\frac{d}{d t}[P]
$$

The equation (12) becomes;

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d}{d t}[S]=-k_{o b s} \cdot C_{0} \cdot[S] \tag{13}
\end{equation*}
$$

A solution of equation (13) is;

$$
\begin{gathered}
{[S]=s_{0}^{\prime} \cdot e^{-k_{o b s} \cdot C_{0} \cdot t}} \\
{[P]=s_{0}^{\prime} \cdot\left(1-e^{-k_{o b s} \cdot C_{0} \cdot t}\right)}
\end{gathered}
$$

Thus, the fluorescence can be fitted with several constants;

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{F}=\alpha \cdot[\mathrm{S}]+\beta \cdot[P]=s_{0}^{\prime} \cdot\left\{\beta-(\beta-\alpha) \cdot e^{-k_{o b s} \cdot C_{0} \cdot t}\right\} \tag{14}
\end{equation*}
$$

Which gave $k_{\text {obs }}$ of few tens, thus the approximations we used are valid.

## D. Job's Plot Analysis

Job's plot analysis starts from the following equation.

$$
F_{t o t}=F(H)+F(H G)=\alpha \cdot[H]+\beta \cdot[H G]
$$

By substituting $[H]=H_{0}-[H G]$

$$
\begin{array}{r}
F_{t o t}=\alpha \cdot H_{0}+(\beta-\alpha) \cdot[H G] \\
\Delta F=\alpha \cdot H_{0}-F_{t o t}=(\beta-\alpha) \cdot[H G] \tag{15}
\end{array}
$$

Thus, the corrected fluorescence $\Delta F$ is linearly correlated to [ $H G]$.

At the peak point, binding stoichiometry is optimal to make [HG], directly implies the binding stoichiometry.
2) $\mathrm{NAD}^{+}$
A. Figure S1. Fluorescence spectral change of PyDPA upon addition of $\mathrm{NAD}^{+}$


Fluorescence at 398 nm was recorded where [PyDPA] $=20 \mu \mathrm{M}$ in 1 mM HEPES buffer ( pH 7.40 ) excitation $=344 \mathrm{~nm}$, square: observed fluorescence, solid line: fitted curve. The fluorescence changes were fitted with equation (4) described above.

## 3) $\mathrm{NADP}^{+}$

A. Figure S2. Fluorescence spectral change of PyDPA upon addition of $\mathrm{NADP}^{+}$


Fluorescence at 398 nm was recorded where [PyDPA] $=20 \mu \mathrm{M}$ in 1 mM HEPES buffer ( pH 7.40 ) excitation $=344 \mathrm{~nm}$, circle: observed fluorescence, solid line: fitted curve. The fluorescence changes were fitted with equation (4) described above. Binding constant was estimated using a twofold concentration of $\mathrm{NADP}^{+}$.
B. Figure S3. Job's plot for NADP ${ }^{+}$and PyDPA.


Fluorescence at 378 nm was recorded and corrected with standard equation (15) shown before.
Here, $\left[\mathrm{NADP}^{+}\right]+[$PyDPA $]=20 \mu \mathrm{M}$ in 1 mM HEPES buffer $(\mathrm{pH} 7.40)$ excitation $=344 \mathrm{~nm}$.
4) FMN
A. The extinction coefficients were obtained from their individual UV-vis spectra (11500, 6150 for pyrene and isoalloxazine, respectively), and binding constants were estimated to be $1.93 \times 10^{5} \mathrm{M}^{-1}$ from its fitting with respect to a twofold concentration of FMN, shown in Figure S4.
B. Figure S4. Photophysical property of FMN

$[F M N]=20 \mu \mathrm{M}$ in HEPES buffer $(1 \mathrm{mM}, 1 \%$ DMSO, $\mathrm{pH}=7.4)$. FMN shows its absorption in range of $300 \sim 500 \mathrm{~nm}$ and corresponding PL is observed in range of $450 \sim 650 \mathrm{~nm}$. For photoluminescence measurement, $\lambda_{\mathrm{ex}}=320 \mathrm{~nm}$.
C. Figure S5. Fluorescence spectral change of PyDPA upon addition of FMN and its fitting result with respect to a twofold concentration of added FMN.


Fluorescence at 398 nm was recorded where [PyDPA] $=20 \mu \mathrm{M}$ in 1 mM HEPES buffer ( pH 7.40 ) excitation $=344 \mathrm{~nm}$, circle: observed fluorescence, solid line: fitted curve. The fluorescence changes were fitted using equation (4) and (5) described above. A binding constant was estimated using a twofold concentration of $\mathrm{NADP}^{+}$.
D. Figure S6. Stern-Volmer plot of PyDPA with respect to FMN concentration


Fluorescence at 398 nm was recorded where [PyDPA] $=20 \mu \mathrm{M}$ in 1 mM HEPES buffer $(\mathrm{pH} 7.40)$ excitation $=344 \mathrm{~nm}$, circle: calculated from observed value.

Two different linear correlations ( $0 \sim 0.5$ and $0.75 \sim 1.5$ ) were shown separately in the graph.
E. Figure S7. Job's plot for FMN and PyDPA


Fluorescence at 378 nm was recorded and corrected with standard equation (15) shown before.
Here, $[F M N]+[$ PyDPA $]=20 \mu \mathrm{M}$ in 1 mM HEPES buffer $(\mathrm{pH} 7.40)$. excitation $=344 \mathrm{~nm}$.
F. Figure S8. Normalized excitation spectra at 526 nm , either in the presence or absence of PyDPA


Fluorescence intensity of FMN at 526 nm was recorded with respect to excitation wavelength. The graph represents FMN intensity either with (black) or without (red) PyDPA where [FMN] $=20 \mu \mathrm{M}$ in HEPES buffer ( $1 \mathrm{mM}, \mathrm{pH} 7.40$ ).
G. Figure S9. Pyrophosphate addition to 1:1.5 solution of PyDPA and FMN


Fluorescence intensity of PyDPA-FMN system was recorded with respect to pyrophosphate addition, where $[$ PyDPA $]=20 \mu \mathrm{M}$ and $[F M N]=30 \mu \mathrm{M}$ in 1 mM HEPES buffer $(\mathrm{pH} 7.40)$ excitation $=344 \mathrm{~nm}$. Pyrophosphate concentration is expressed as equiv.alents relative to PyDPA.

Fluorescence intensities of both pyrene and FMN are increased significantly with pyrophosphate concentration.
H. Figure S10. Fluorescence spectra of FMN with respect to the presence of PyDPA.


Fluorescence intensity of FMN was recorded in the absence (black solid line) or presence (red solid line) of PyDPA, where [FMN] $=20 \mu \mathrm{M}$ in 1 mM HEPES buffer $(\mathrm{pH} 7.40)$, excitation $=320 \mathrm{~nm}$. The fluorescence of FMN is greatly decreased by PyDPA addition, which implies that the fluorescence of FMN was quenched by PyDPA.

## 5) FAD

A. Figure S11. Pseudo first-order kinetics of FAD self-lysis at different concentrations of PyDPA


The fluorescence at 526 nm was recorded at $[\mathrm{FAD}]=10 \mu \mathrm{M}$ and [PyDPA] = either (a) $10 \mu \mathrm{M}$ or (b) 1 $\mu \mathrm{M}$ in 1 mM HEPES buffer ( pH 7.40 ) with excitation $=344 \mathrm{~nm}$, circle: observed value, solid line: fitted result by equation (14) described above.

## Electrochemical data

Cyclic voltammetry (CV) experiments were performed using a CH instruments 660 electrochemical analyzer, in the form of $\sim 1 \mathrm{mM}$ solution in 10 mM tetraethylammonium perchlorate as supporting electrolyte in acetonitrile. $\mathrm{Ag} / \mathrm{Ag}\left(\mathrm{NO}_{3}\right)$ was employed for reference electrode, applied bias and corresponding current were measured. Finally collected data were corrected by ferrocenium/ferrocene redox pair.

1) CV
A. Figure S12. CV data for 5


Reduction potential was calculated to be $1.197 \mathrm{~V} \mathrm{vs} \mathrm{Fc} / \mathrm{Fc}^{+}$, from the equation $\frac{\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{pc}}+V_{p a}}{2}$. The peak at $.0 .8 \mathrm{~V} \mathrm{vs} \mathrm{Fc} / \mathrm{Fc}^{+}$were assigned to be reduction of dissolved oxygen in acetonitrile.
B. Figure S13. CV data for BnN


The first reduction potential was calculated to be $0.97 \mathrm{~V} \mathrm{vs} \mathrm{Fc} / \mathrm{Fc}^{+}$, obtained from onset point of the graph of reduction part.
C. Figure S14. CV data for MEI


Reduction potential was calculated to be $1.201 \mathrm{~V} \mathrm{vs} \mathrm{Fc}^{+} / \mathrm{Fc}$ pair, from the equation $\frac{\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{pc}}+V_{p a}}{2}$.
2) Table S1. Electrochemical potentials of compounds ${ }^{\text {a }}$

|  | $\mathbf{5}$ | BnN | MEI |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| LUMO | $1.197 \mathrm{~V}(-3.519 \mathrm{~V})^{\mathrm{b}}$ | $0.97 \mathrm{~V}(-3.75 \mathrm{~V})^{\mathrm{b}}$ | $1.201 \mathrm{~V}(-3.515 \mathrm{~V})^{\mathrm{b}}$ |
| HOMO | $-2.153 \mathrm{~V}(-6.869 \mathrm{~V})^{\mathrm{d}}$ | $-0.81 \mathrm{~V}(-5.53 \mathrm{~V})^{\mathrm{b}}$ <br> $-3.45 \mathrm{~V}(-8.17 \mathrm{~V})^{\mathrm{d}}$ | $-1.20 \mathrm{~V}(-5.916 \mathrm{~V})^{\mathrm{b}}$ |
| $\mathrm{E}_{00}{ }^{\mathrm{c}}$ | $3.35 \mathrm{eV}(370 \mathrm{~nm})$ | $4.42 \mathrm{eV}(280 \mathrm{~nm})$ | $2.52 \mathrm{~V}(-6.12 \mathrm{~V})^{\mathrm{d}}$ |

${ }^{a}$ Energy levels relative to $\mathrm{Fc} / \mathrm{Fc}^{+}$pair and corresponding value relative to vacuum level (in parentheses) are shown. ${ }^{\text {b }}$ Obtained from CV. ${ }^{\text {c Obtained from either cross point of normalized UV-Vis absorption spectrum and }}$ normalized PL intensity ( $\mathbf{5}$ and MEI) or UV-Vis absorption spectrum onset point (BnN). ${ }^{\text {d }}$ Obtained from $\mathrm{E}_{00}$, optical transition energy.

## Plausible Binding Modes

Figure S15. Plausible binding modes of PyDPA


## Copies of NMR spectra

1) Figure S16. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{3}$




6く19ㄹ․
wdd

2) Figure S17. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{3}$

3) Figure $\mathrm{S} 18 .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of 4

4) Figure $\mathrm{S} 19 .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{4}$



5) Figure S20. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of 5


6) Figure S21. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum of 5


7) Figure S22. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{6}$

8) Figure $\mathrm{S} 23 .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{6}$

9) Figure $\mathrm{S} 24 .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{1}$


10) Figure $\mathrm{S} 25 .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{1}$

11) Figure S26. ${ }^{1}$ H NMR spectrum of PyDPA


12) Figure S27. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum of PyDPA

13) Figure S28. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{B n N}$


14) Figure S29. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{B n N}$

15) Figure $\mathrm{S} 30 \cdot{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of MEI


16) Figure S31. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum of MEI


13C expt.



[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ S. Kumar; et. al., J. Org. Chem., 1989, 54, 5272

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ Rhee, H.-W.; Lee, C.-R.; Cho, S.-H.; Song, M.-R.; Cashel, M.; Choy, H. E.; Seok, Y. J.; Hong, J.-I., J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2008, 130 (3), 784-5.

