

*Supplementary materials for:*

## **Nickel(II) and Iron(III) Selective Off-On-Type Fluorescence Probes Based on Perylene Tetracarboxylic Diimide**

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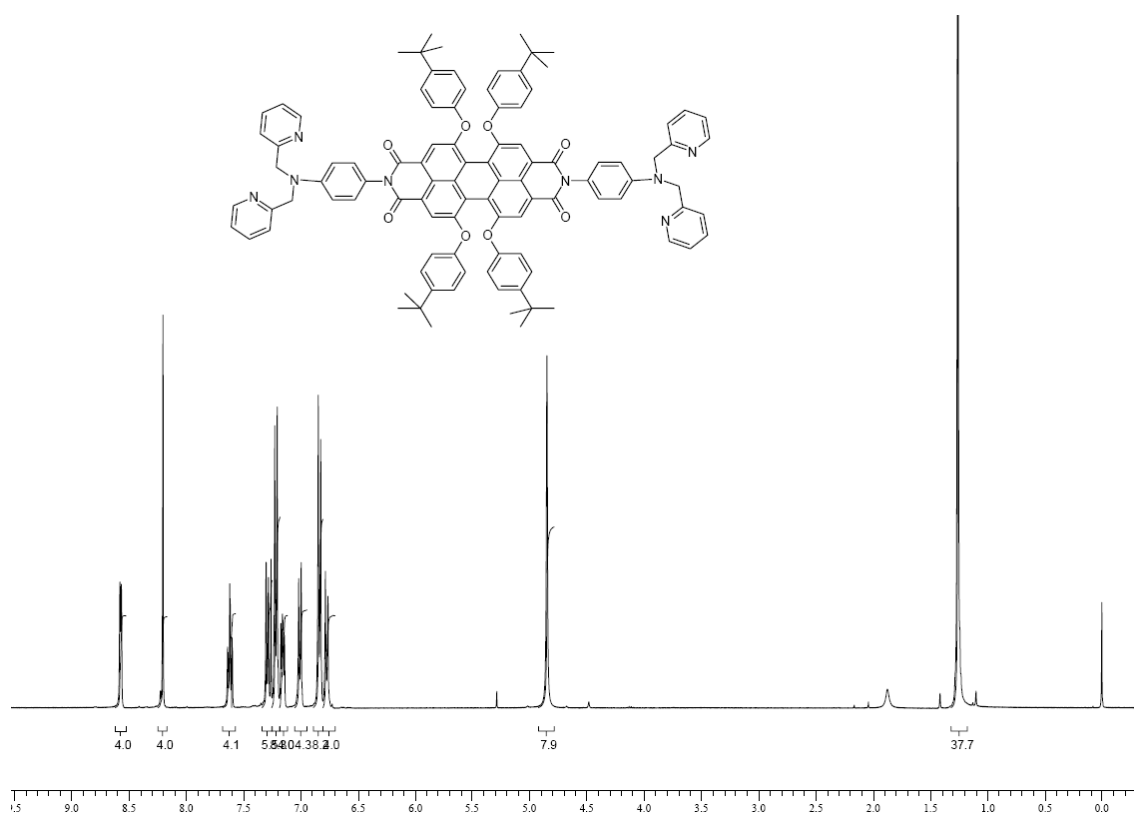
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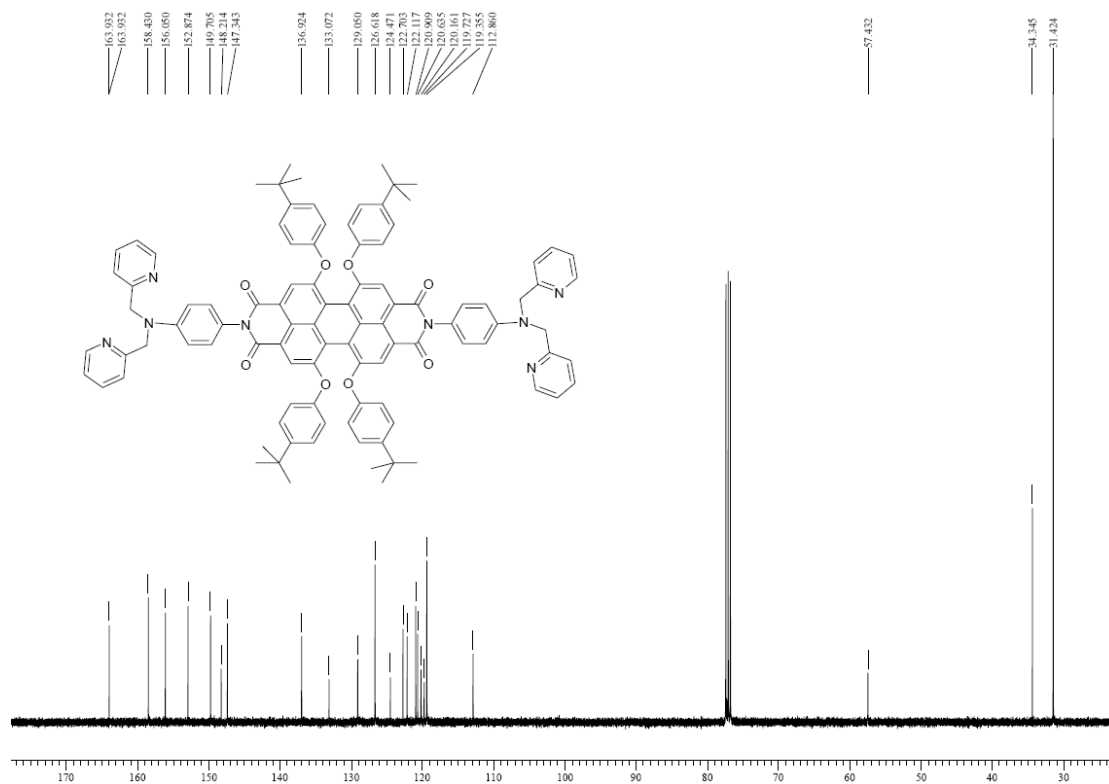
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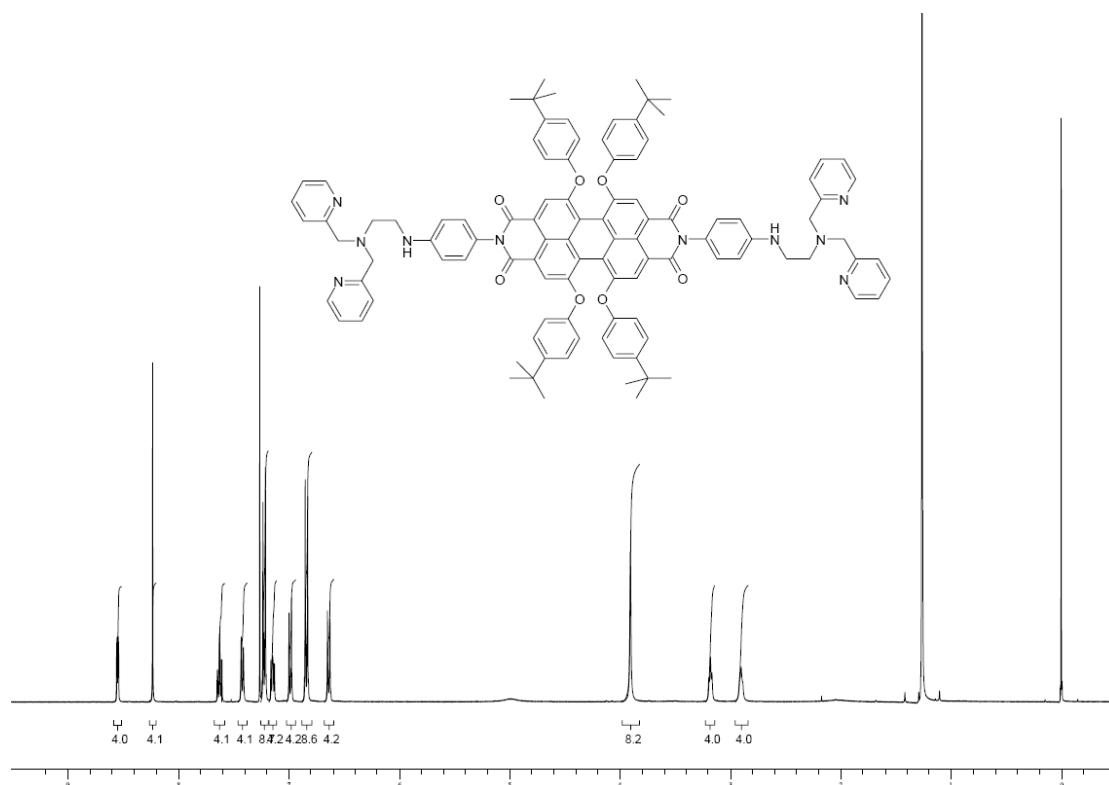
**Figure S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **PDI-1** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



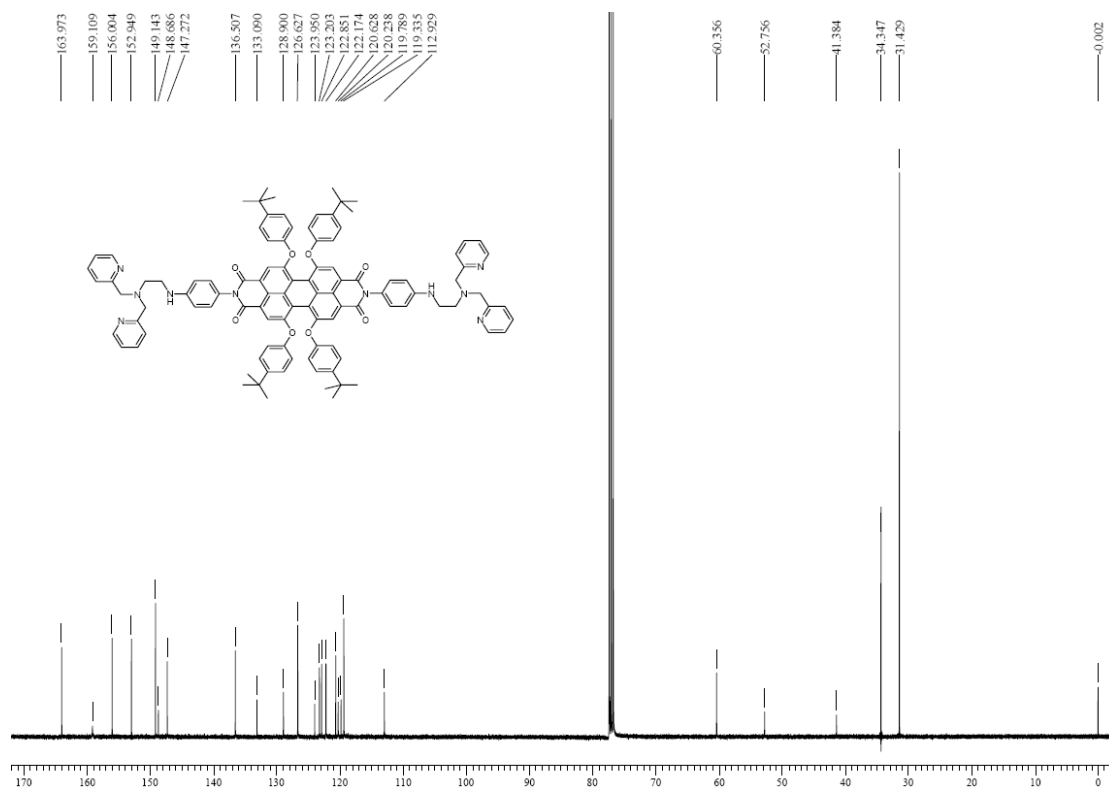
**Figure S2.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **PDI-1** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



**Figure S3.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **PDI-2** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



**Figure S4.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **PDI-2** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



## Free energy calculation for the photoinduced electron transfer from DPA to PDI.

The Rehm-Weller equation:

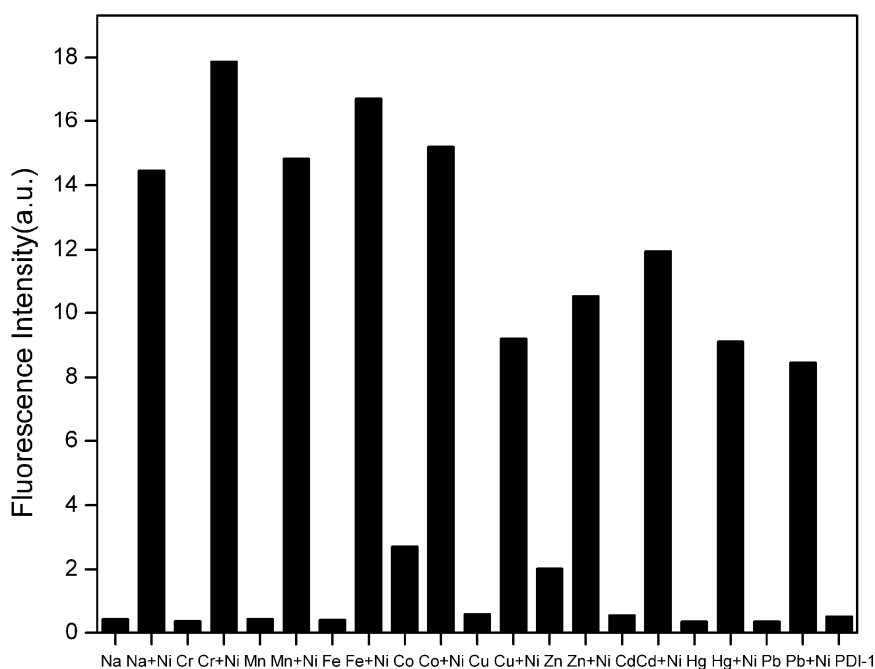
$$\Delta G_{\text{PET}} = E_{\text{ox}}^0 - E_{\text{red}}^0 - E_{\text{S}} - e^2/\epsilon r$$

where the  $E_{\text{ox}}^0$  is the oxidation potential of the electron donor (amino group), the  $E_{\text{red}}^0$  is the reduction potential of the electron acceptor (PDI unit),  $E_{\text{S}}$  is the energy of the lowest excited singlet state of the PDI, and the part  $- e^2/\epsilon r$  corresponds to the energy of stabilization of the solvent to the ion pair.

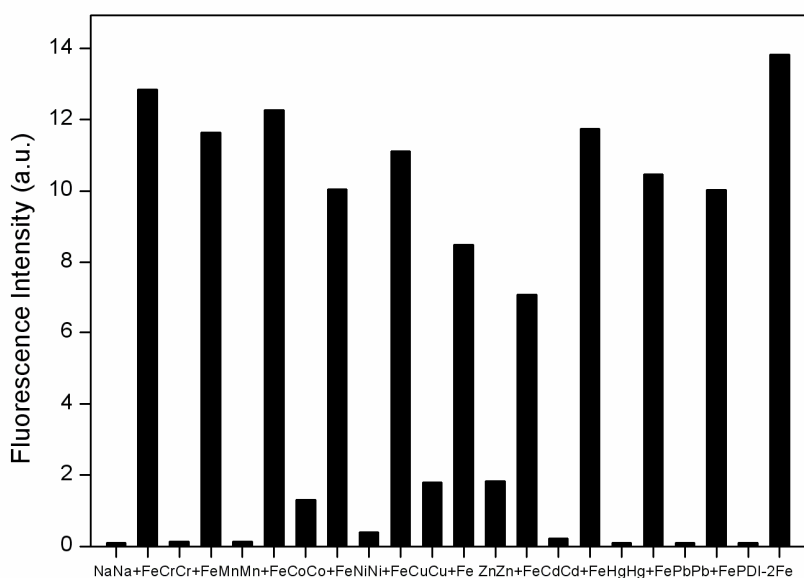
The values of the  $E_{\text{ox}}^0$ ,  $E_{\text{red}}^0$ ,  $E_{\text{S}}$  and  $e^2/\epsilon r$  were 0.97 eV<sup>1</sup>, - 0.72 eV<sup>2</sup>, 2.07 eV and - 0.12 eV<sup>3</sup>, respectively.

Reference:

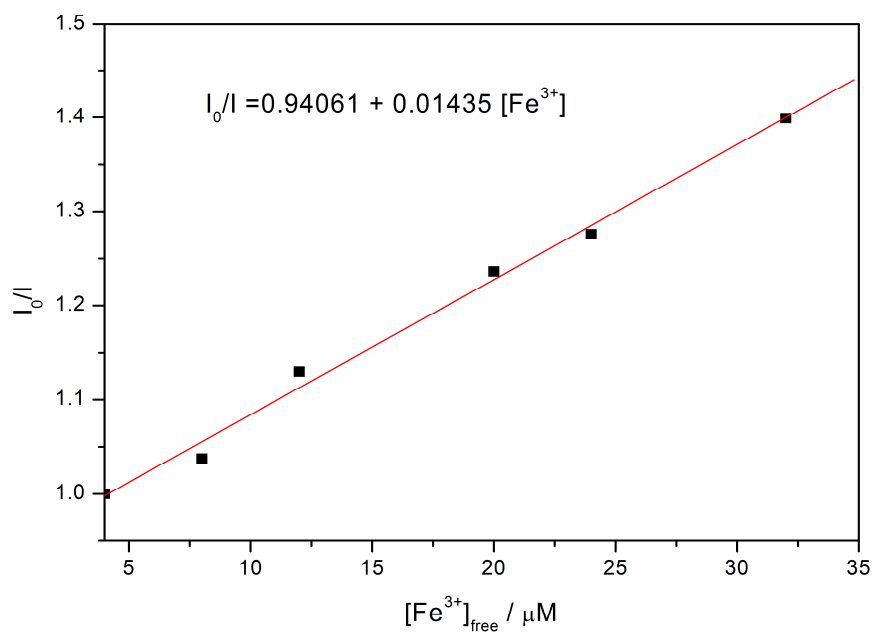
1. B. Rybtchinski, L. E. Sinks, M. R. Wasielewski, *J. Phy. Chem. A*, **2004**, *108*, 7497-7505.
2. J. Feng, Y. Zhang, C. Zhao, R. Li, W. Xu, X. Li, J. Jiang, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2008**, *14*, 7000-7010.
3. R. Zhang, Z. Wang, Y. Wu, H. Fu, J. Yao, *Org. Lett.*, **2008**, *10*, 3065-3068.



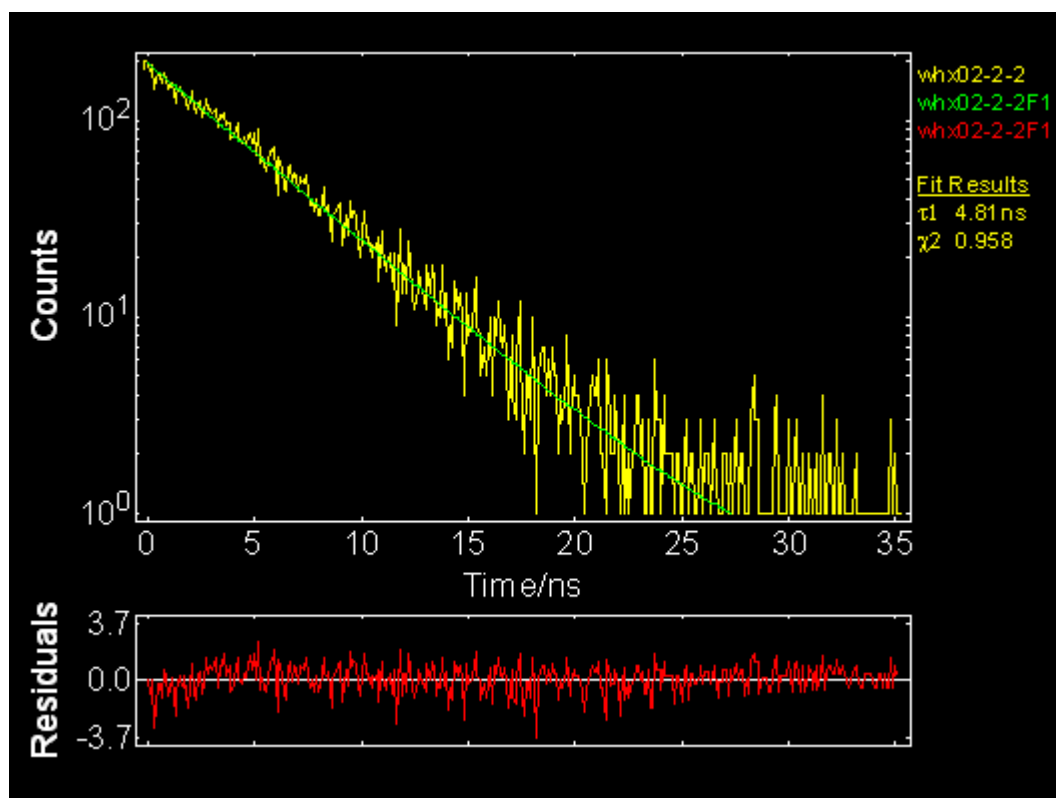
**Figure S5.** Fluorescence responses of PDI-1 (8  $\mu\text{M}$ ) to various metal cations (12 equiv) and equimolar mixtures of these cations with a second transition metal cation, respectively, in DMF solution ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 440 \text{ nm}$ ).



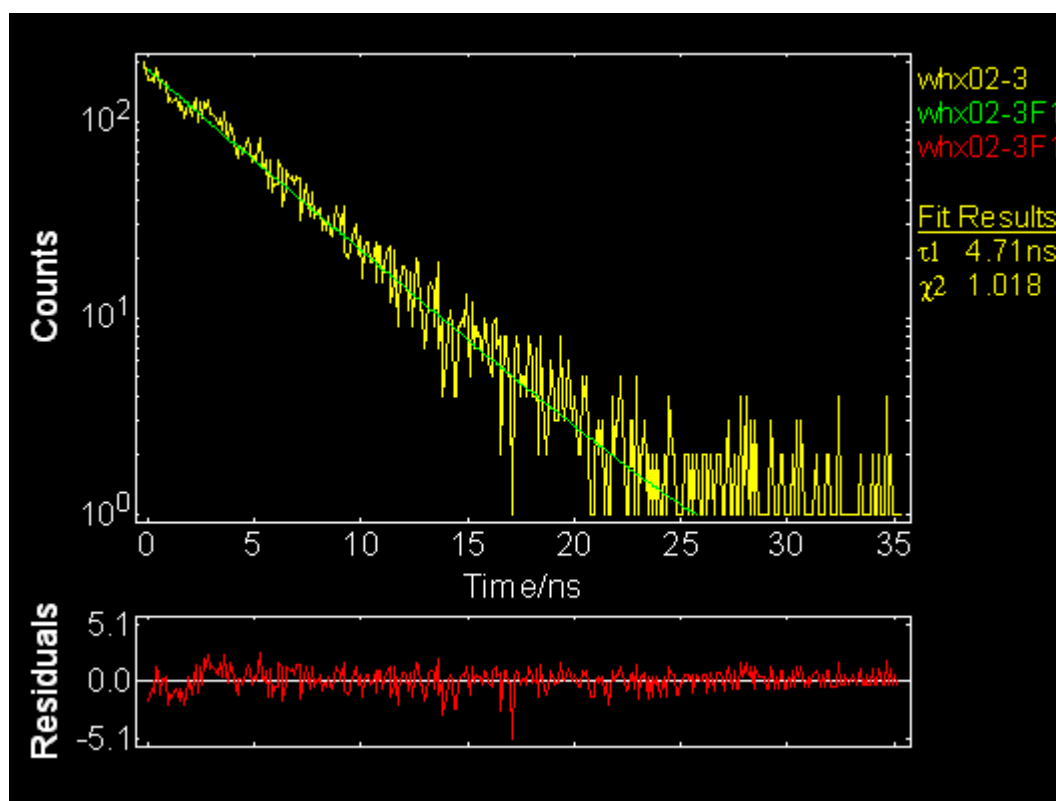
**Figure S6.** Fluorescence responses of PDI-2 (5  $\mu\text{M}$ ) to  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  (4 equiv) and other metal cations (8 equiv) in DMF solution and PDI-2 in the presence of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  (4 equiv) plus other metal cations (8 equiv) in DMF solution, respectively. Bars represent the integrated fluorescence emission. The excitation was 440 nm



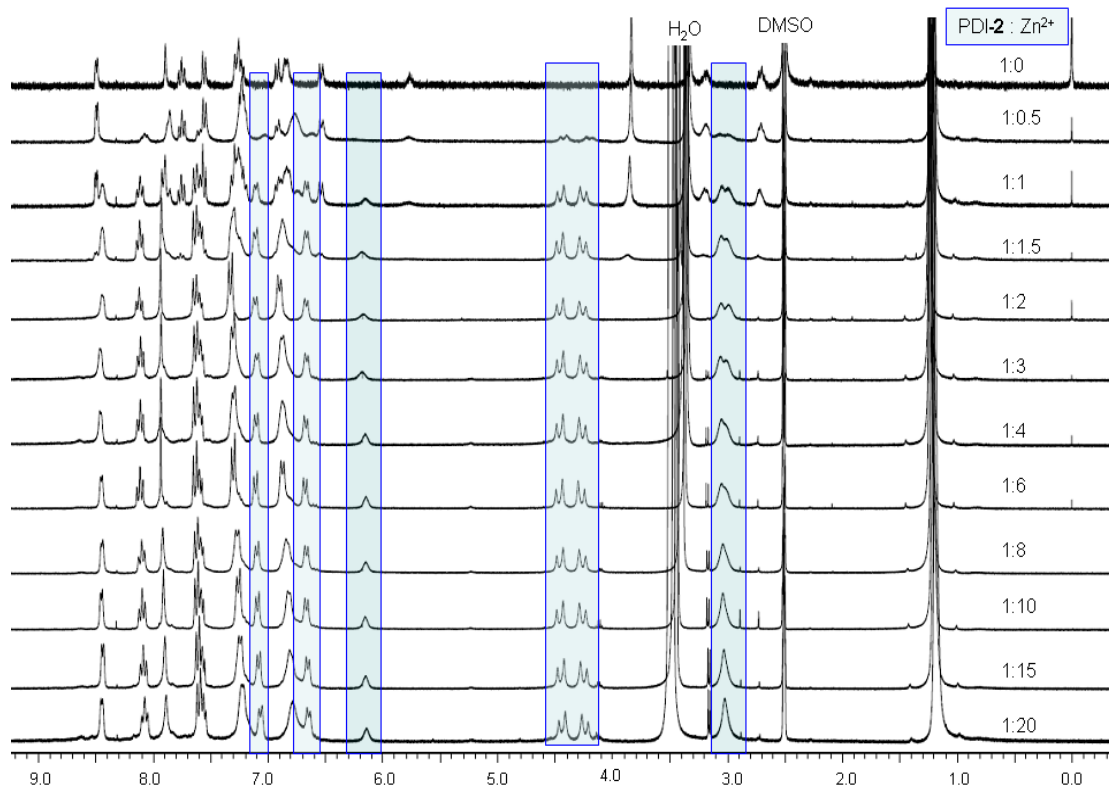
**Figure S7.** Stern-volmer plot of the fluorescence quenching of **PDI-2** in the presence of excess of Fe<sup>3+</sup>



**Figure S8.** Fluorescence lifetime measurement of PDI-2 in the presence of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ .  $[\text{PDI-2}] = 6\mu\text{M}$ ,  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}] = 24\mu\text{M}$  (4equ.), the excitation was at 440 nm,  $\tau = 4.81$  ns.

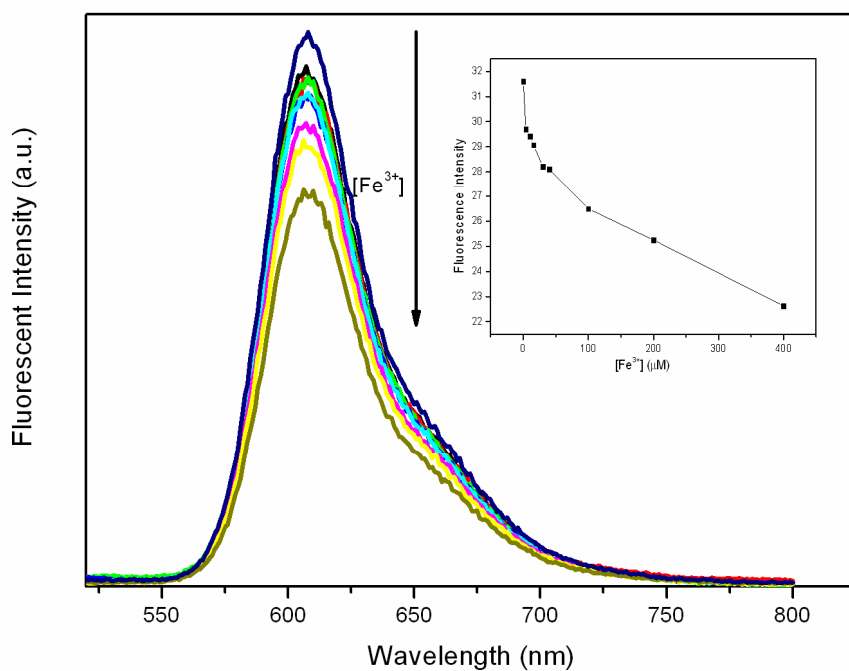


**Figure S9.** Fluorescence lifetime measurement of PDI-2 in the presence of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ .  $[\text{PDI-2}] = 6\mu\text{M}$ ,  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}] = 42\mu\text{M}$  (7equ.), the excitation was at 440 nm,  $\tau = 4.71$  ns.



**Figure S10.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300MHz) spectra of **PDI-2** obtained during the titration with zinc (II) ions measured in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>. The ratio of [PDI-2] to [Zn<sup>2+</sup>] varied from 1/0 to 1/20. The squares indicate the new peaks formed in the presence of Zn<sup>2+</sup>.





**Figure S11.** Fluorescence spectra of **PDI-2** analog *N,N'*-di-*n*-butyl-1,6,7,12-tetra(4-*tert*-butylphenoxy)perylene-3,4:9,10-tetracarboxylic-diimide (4 μM) with the increasing concentration of FeCl<sub>3</sub> in DMF at room temperature. The excitation wavelength was 440 nm. Inset showed the plot of integrated fluorescent intensity of the compound with the concentration of Fe<sup>3+</sup> in DMF.