

## *Supporting Information*

A dual functional probe for “turn-on” fluorescence response of  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  and colorimetric detection of  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  based on rhodamine derivative in aqueous media

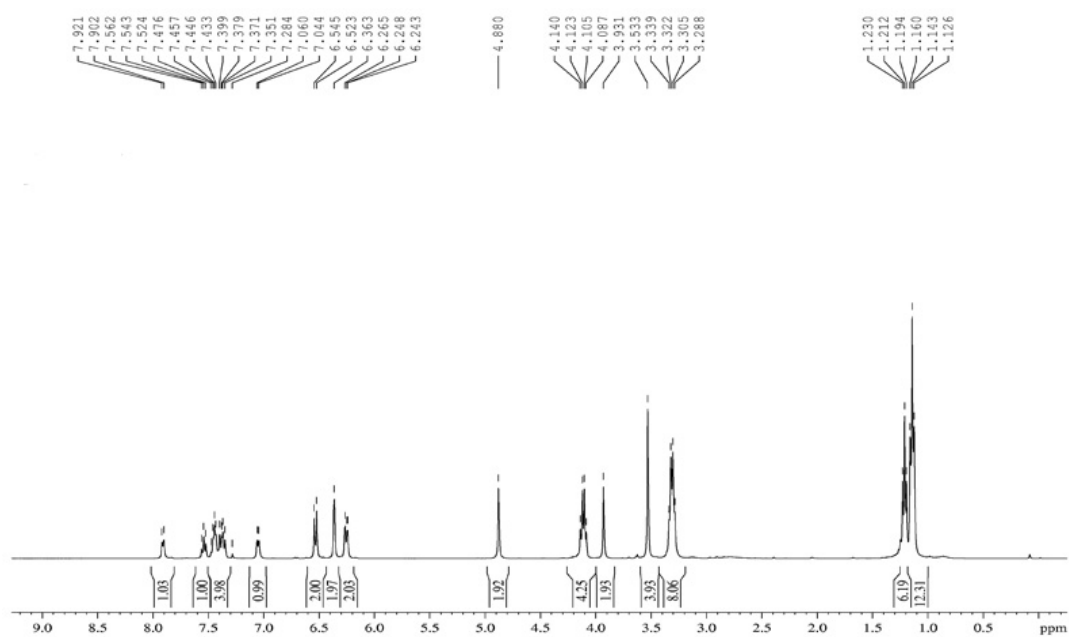
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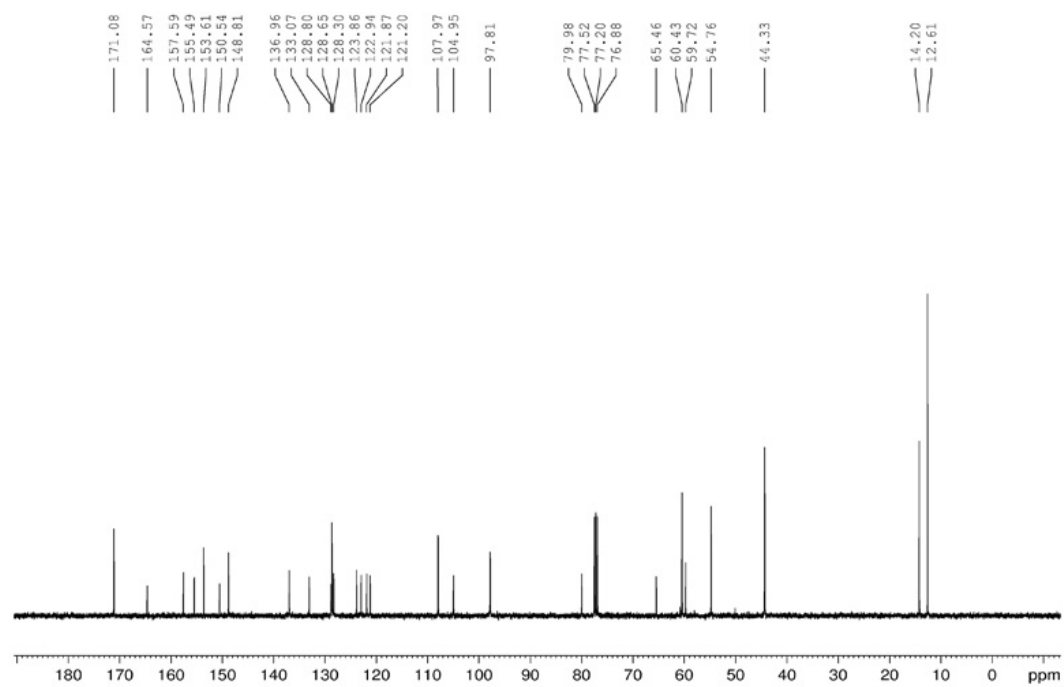
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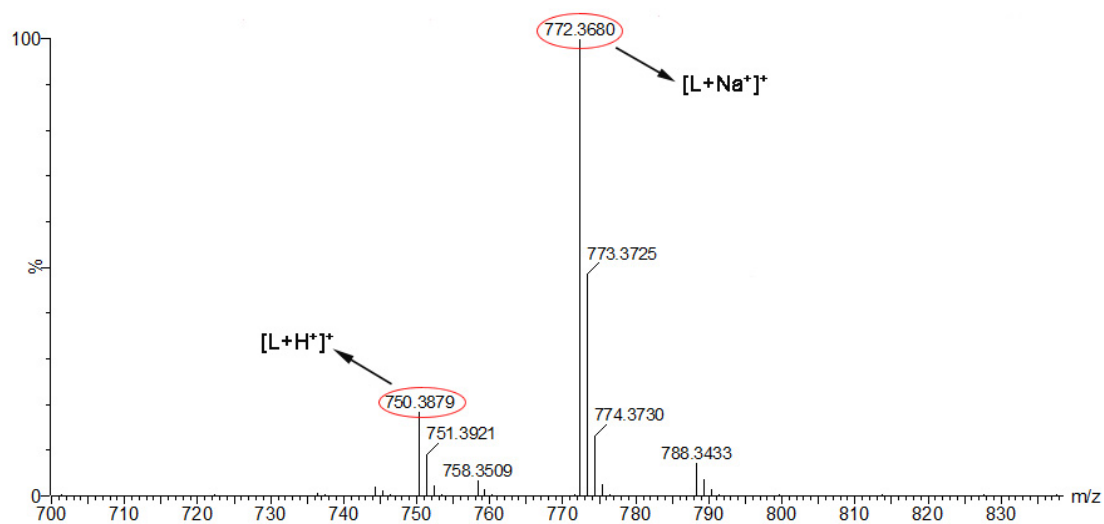
E-mail: [zangsqzg@zzu.edu.cn](mailto:zangsqzg@zzu.edu.cn), [xuhong@zzu.edu.cn](mailto:xuhong@zzu.edu.cn)



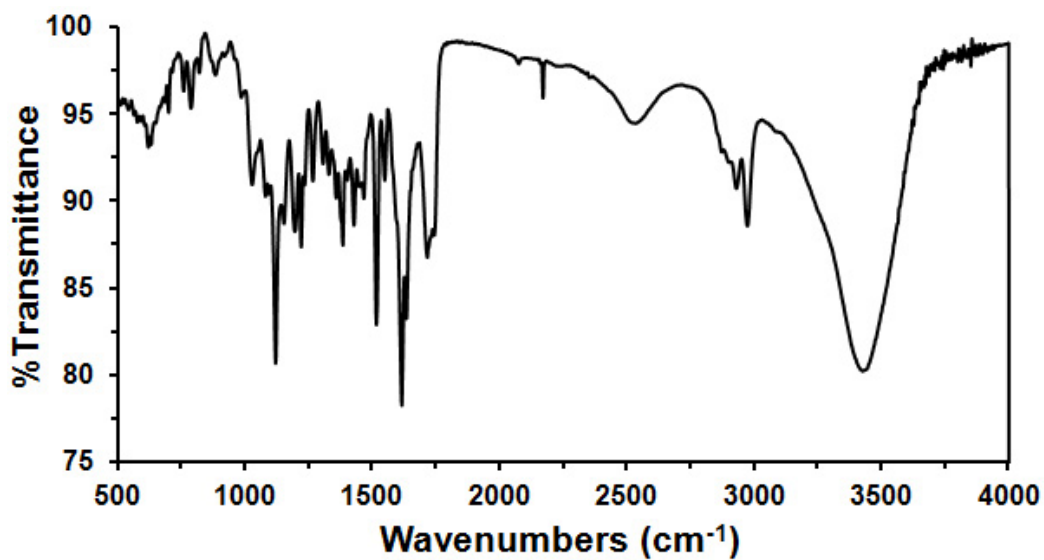
**Fig. S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **L** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



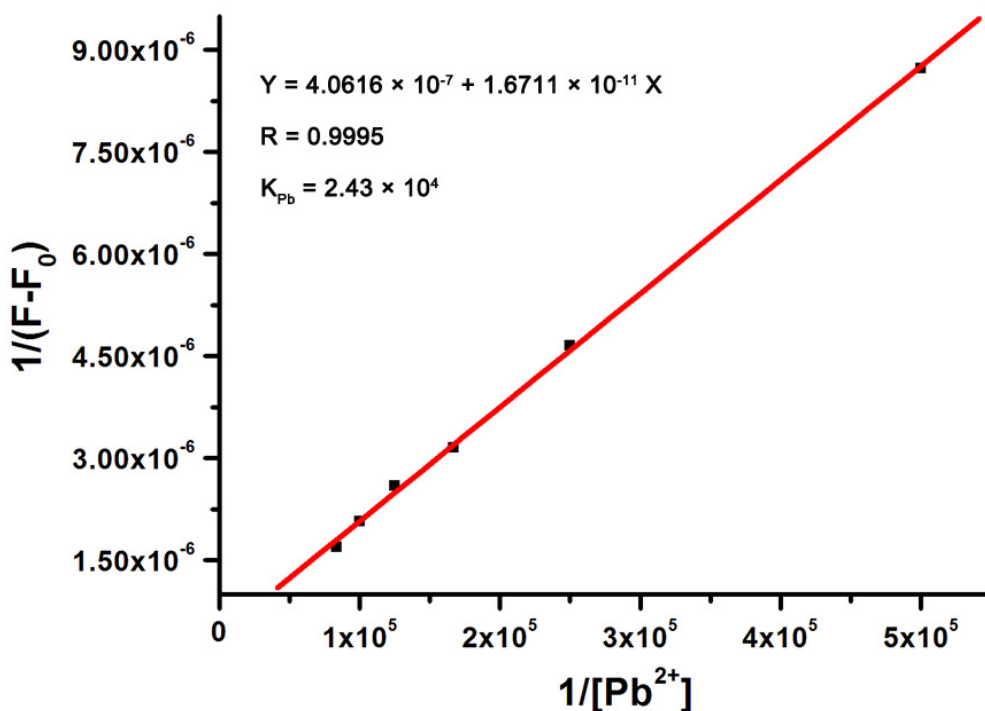
**Fig. S2.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **L** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



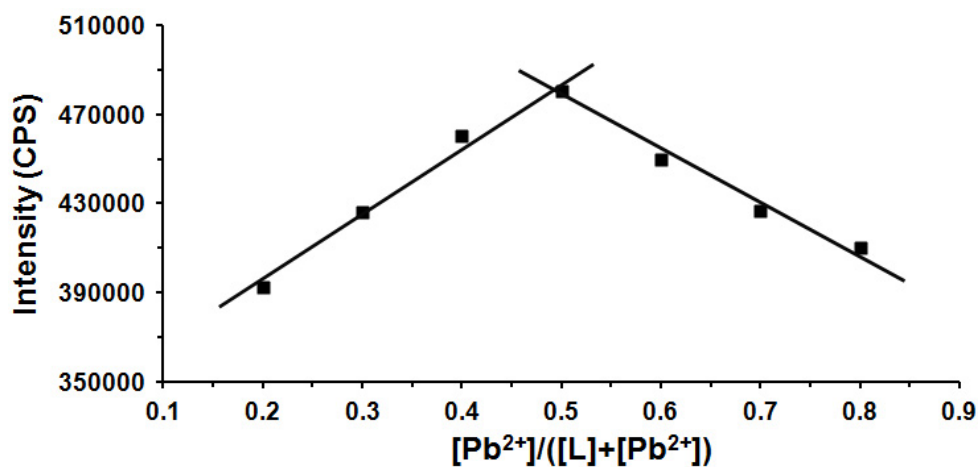
**Fig. S3.** ESI-MS spectrum of L in methanol.



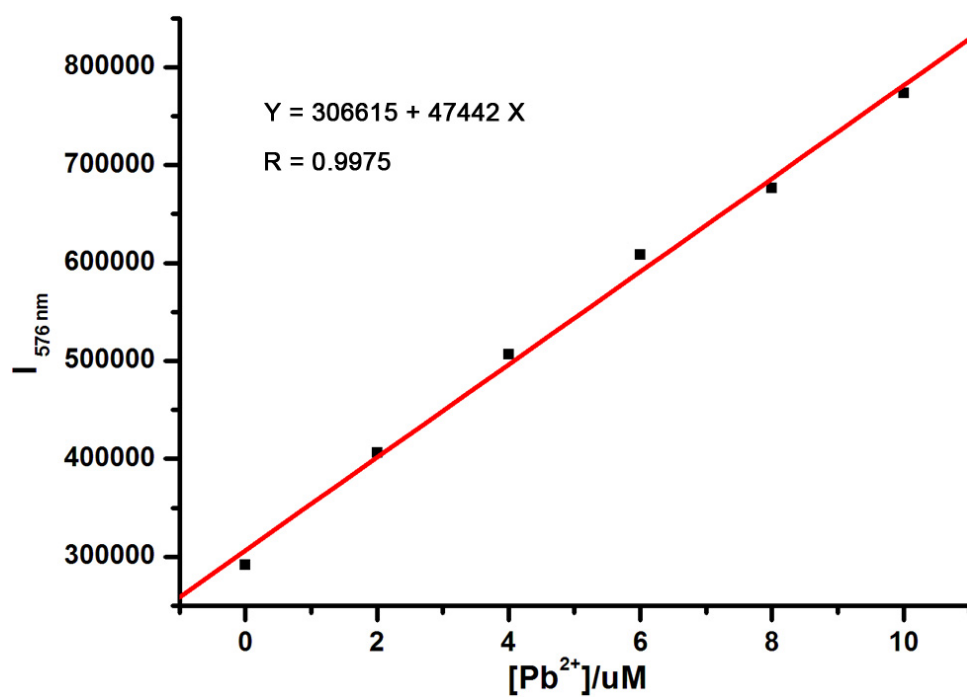
**Fig. S4.** IR spectrum of L.



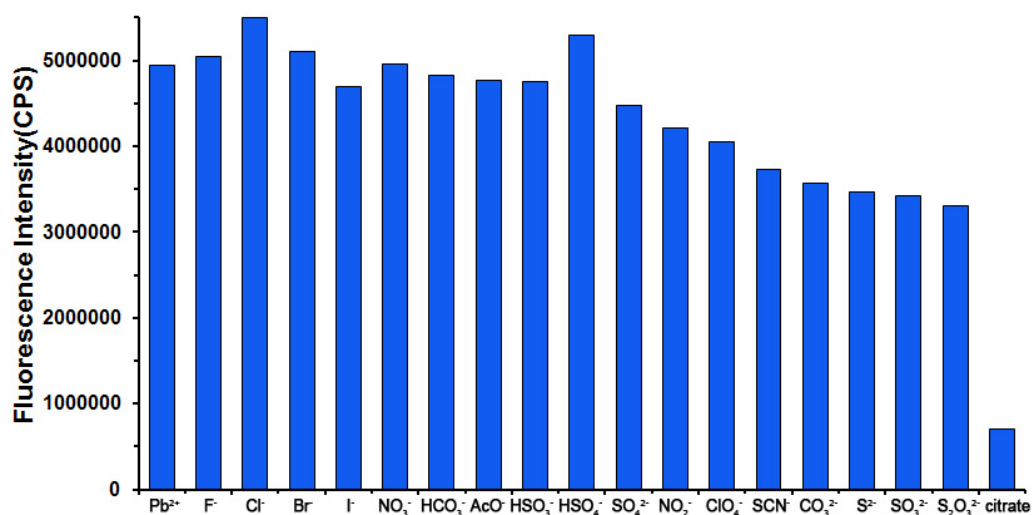
**Fig. S5.** Benesi–Hildebrand plot of **L** (10  $\mu$ M) assuming 1:1 stoichiometry between **L** and  $Pb^{2+}$  in aqueous HEPES buffer (10 mM, pH 6.5) containing 1%  $CH_3CN$  (v/v).  $\lambda_{ex} = 483$  nm. The binding constant of **L**- $Pb^{2+}$  was  $2.43 \times 10^4 M^{-1}$ .



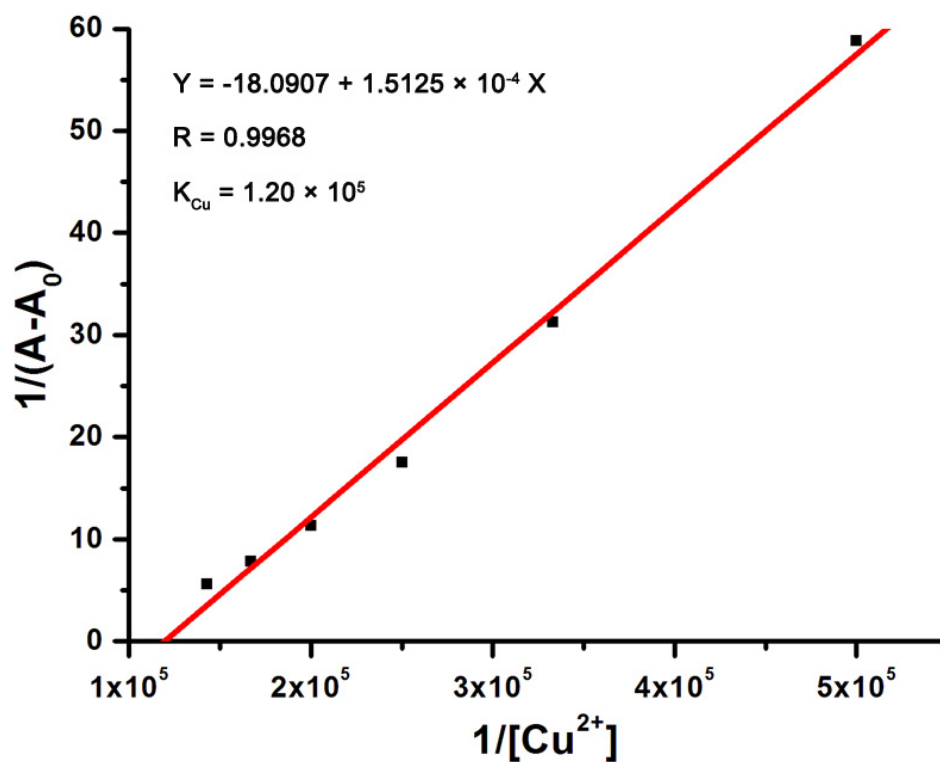
**Fig. S6.** Job's plot for **L** with  $Pb^{2+}$  in aqueous HEPES buffer (10 mM, pH 6.5) containing 1%  $CH_3CN$  (v/v).



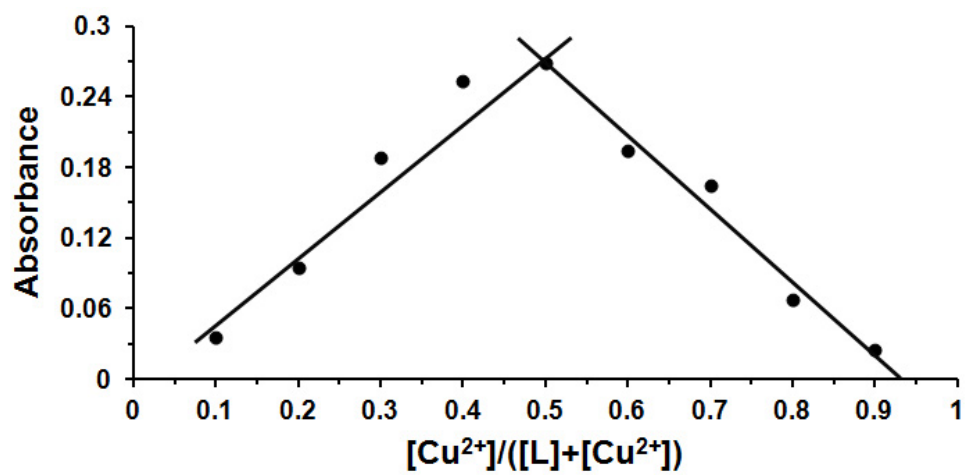
**Fig. S7.** The linearity of fluorescence intensity of **L** (10  $\mu$ M) at 576 nm with respect to  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  concentrations in aqueous HEPES buffer (10 mM, pH 6.5) containing 1%  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (v/v).



**Fig. S8.** Fluorescence responses ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 483 \text{ nm}$ ) of **L** ( $10 \mu\text{M}$ ) at  $576 \text{ nm}$  treated with marked anions (10 equiv) followed by 10 equiv  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  in aqueous HEPES buffer ( $10 \text{ mM}$ ,  $\text{pH } 6.5$ ) containing  $1\% \text{ CH}_3\text{CN}$  (v/v).

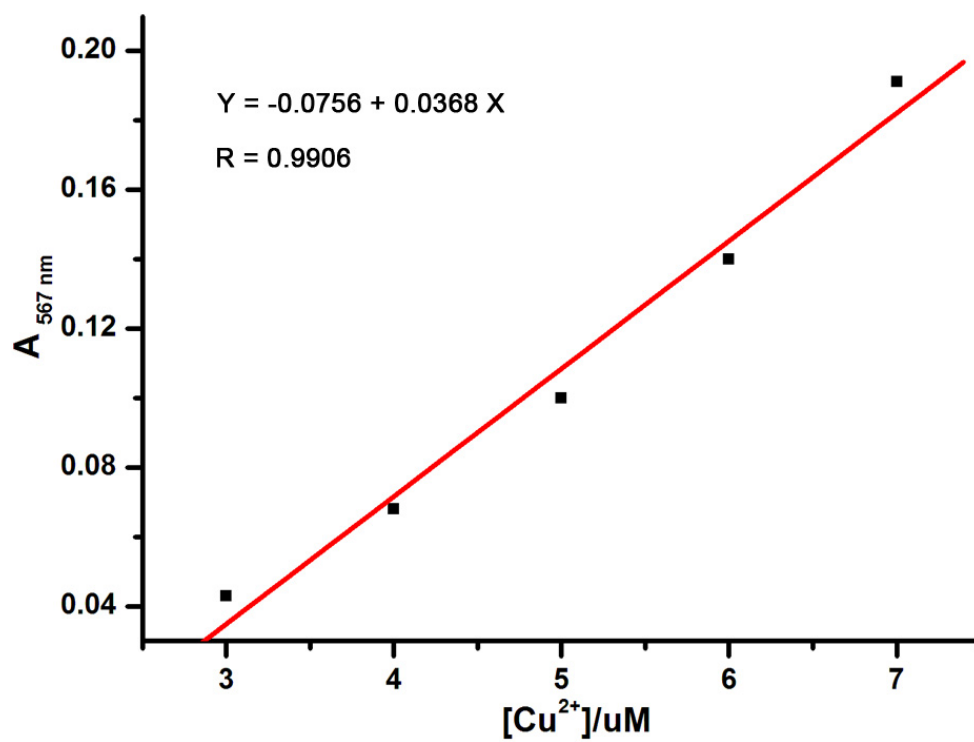


**Fig. S9.** Benesi–Hildebrand plot of **L** (10  $\mu$ M) assuming 1:1 stoichiometry between **L** and  $Cu^{2+}$  in aqueous HEPES buffer (10 mM, pH 7.2) containing 1%  $CH_3CN$  (v/v). The binding constant of **L**- $Cu^{2+}$  was  $1.20 \times 10^5 M^{-1}$ .

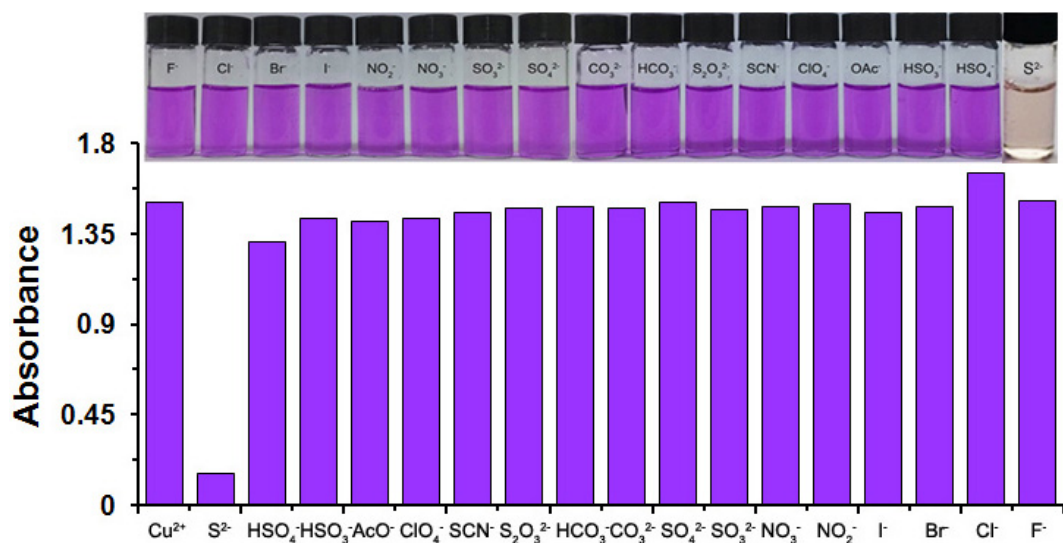


**Fig. S10.** Job's plot for L with Cu<sup>2+</sup> in aqueous HEPES buffer (10 mM, pH 7.2) containing 1% CH<sub>3</sub>CN (v/v).

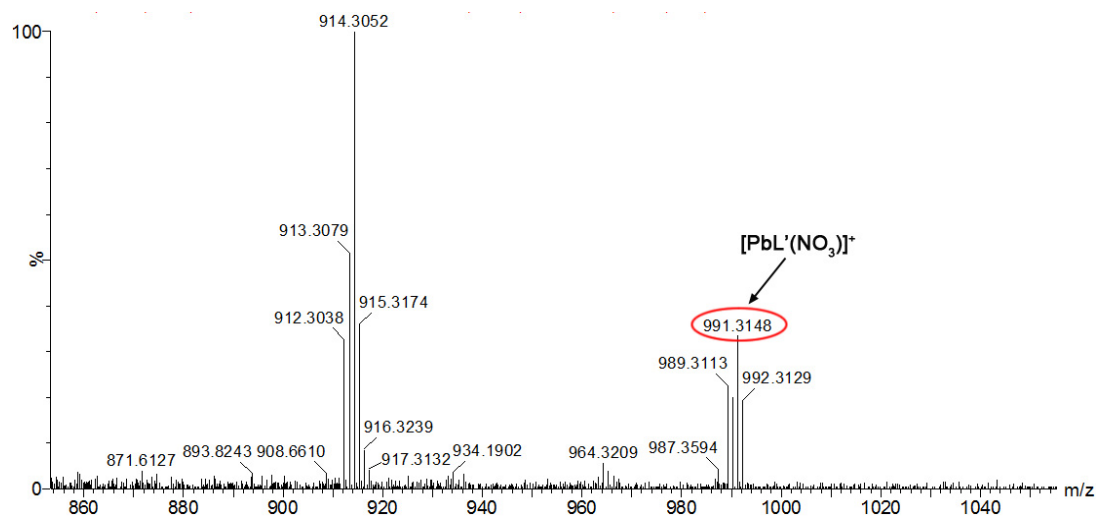




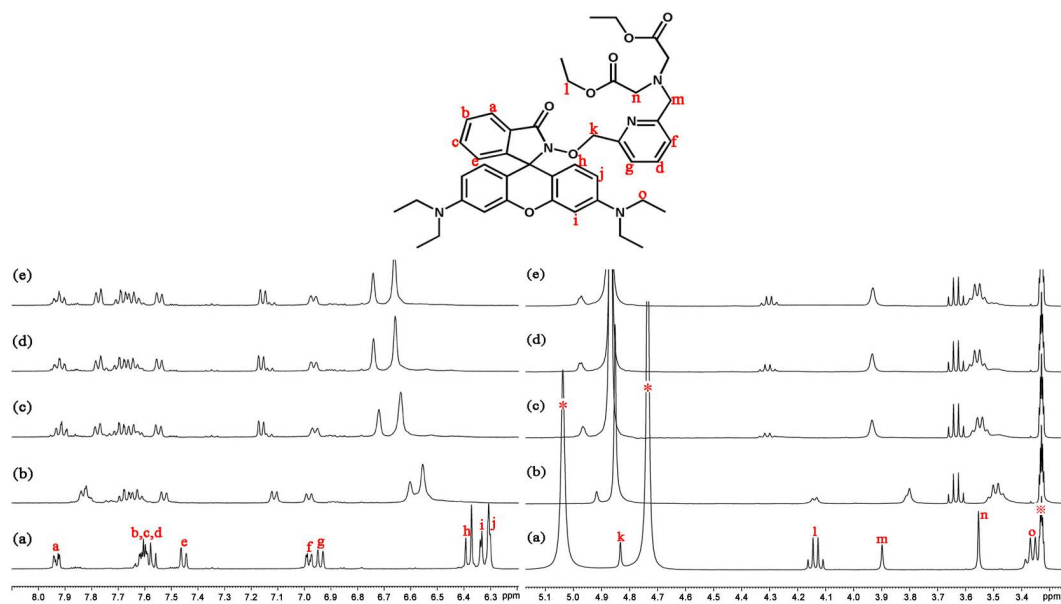
**Fig. S11.** The linearity of absorption intensity of **L** (10  $\mu M$ ) at 567 nm with respect to  $Cu^{2+}$  concentrations in aqueous HEPES buffer (10 mM, pH 7.2) containing 1%  $CH_3CN$  (v/v).



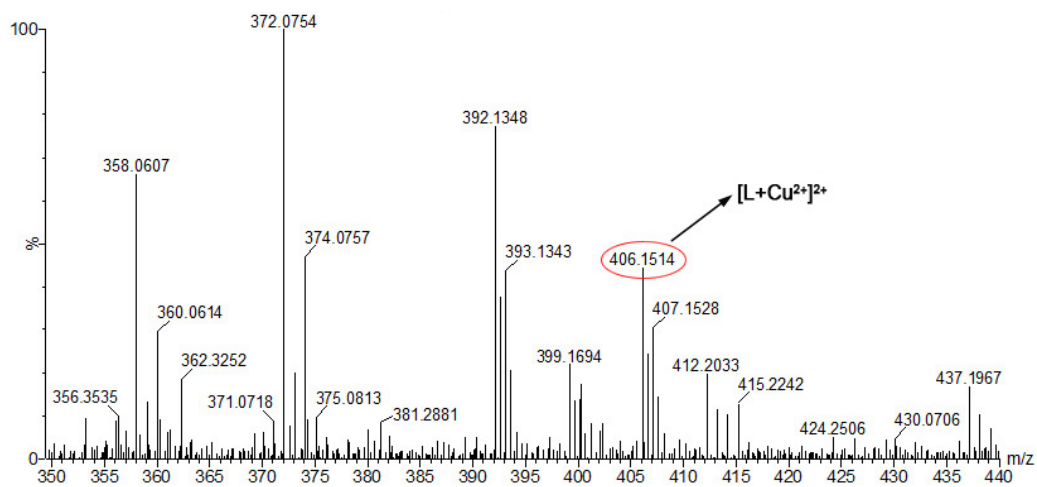
**Fig. S12.** Absorbance responses of **L** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at 567 nm treated with marked anions (10 equiv) followed by 10 equiv  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  in aqueous HEPES buffer (10 mM, pH 7.2) containing 1%  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (v/v). Inset: observed color changes of **L** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) treated with marked anions (10 equiv) followed by 10 equiv  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ .



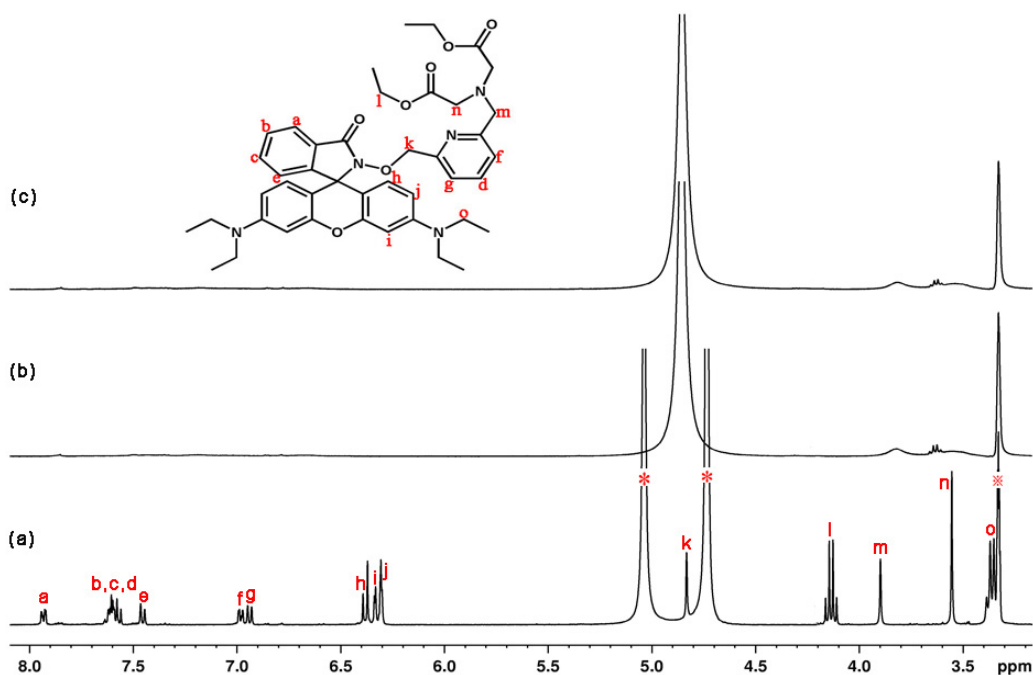
**Fig. S13.** ESI-MS spectrum of **L** in the presence of  $\text{Pb}(\text{NO}_3)_2$ , where **L'** represented the ester hydrolyzed product of **L**.



**Fig. S14.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz) spectral changes of **L** (10 mM) in  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}/\text{D}_2\text{O}$  (4.5:1) upon addition of  $\text{Pb}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  at 298 K. (a) **L**, (b) **L** +  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  (1:0.5), (c) **L** +  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  (1:1), (d) **L** +  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  (1:2), (e) **L** +  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  (1:5), where \* denotes the residual proton signal from  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  and ✕ denotes the residual proton signal from  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ .



**Fig. S15.** ESI-MS spectrum of **L** in the presence of  $\text{CuCl}_2$ .



**Fig. S16.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz) spectral changes of **L** (10 mM) in  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}/\text{D}_2\text{O}$  (4.5:1) upon addition of  $\text{CuCl}_2$  at 298 K. (a) **L**, (b) **L** +  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  (1:0.5), (c) **L** +  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  (1:1), where \* denotes the residual proton signal from  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  and ※ denotes the residual proton signal from  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ .

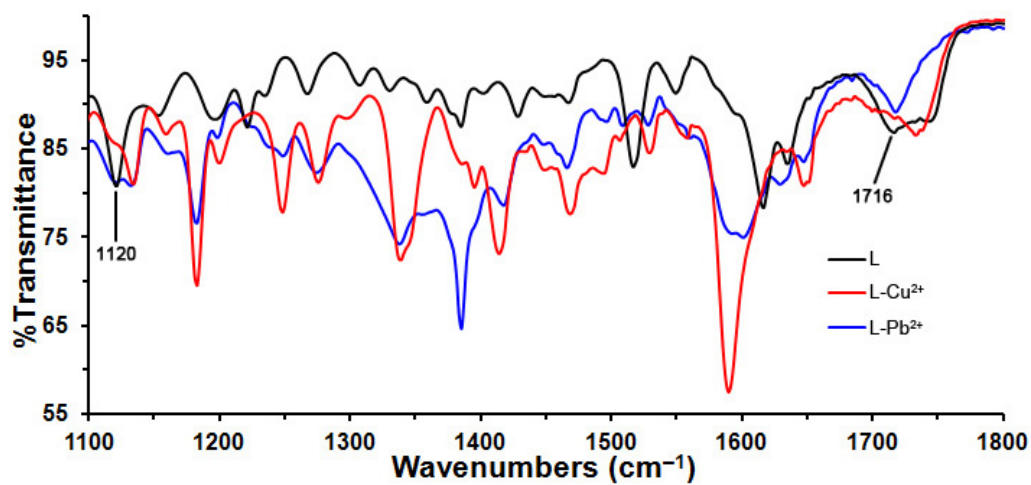


Fig. S17. IR spectra of L, L-Cu<sup>2+</sup> and L-Pb<sup>2+</sup>.

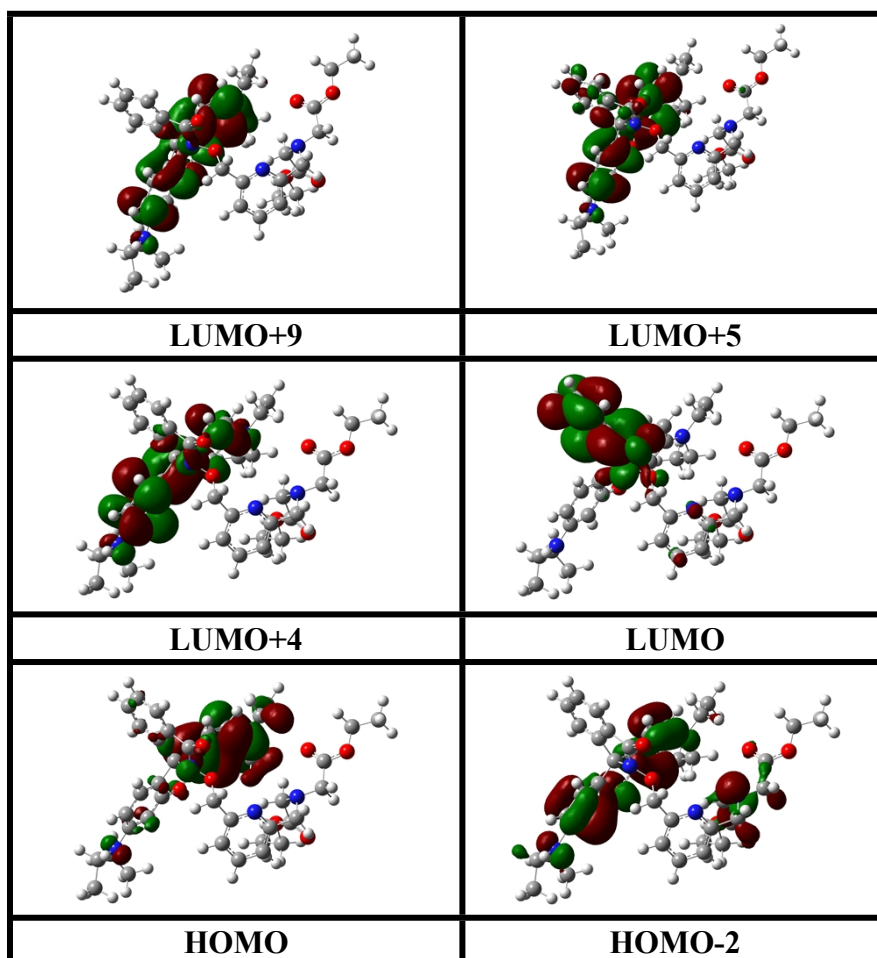
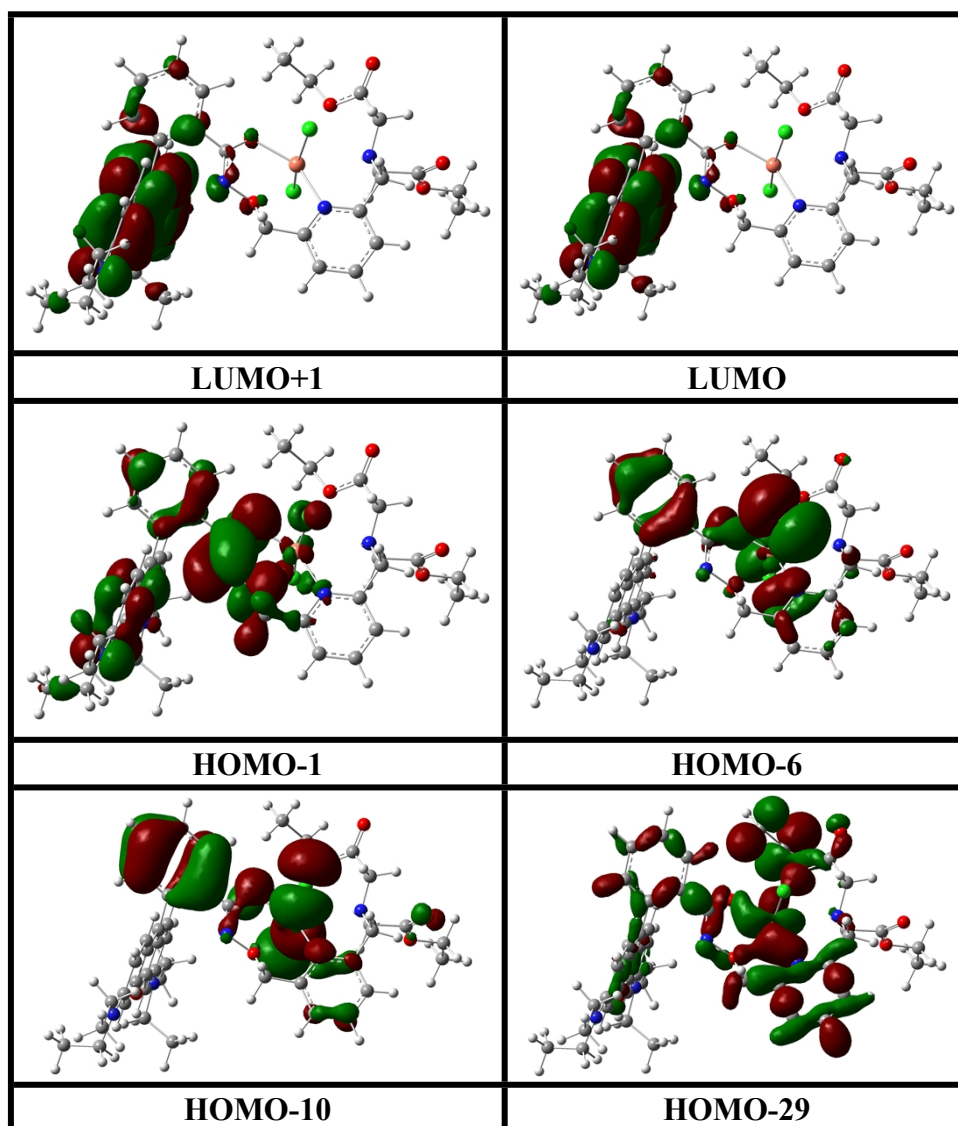
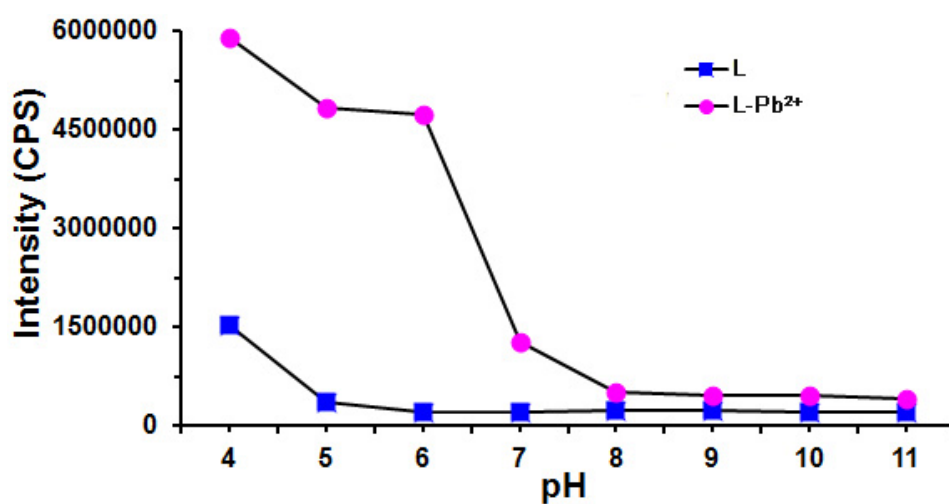


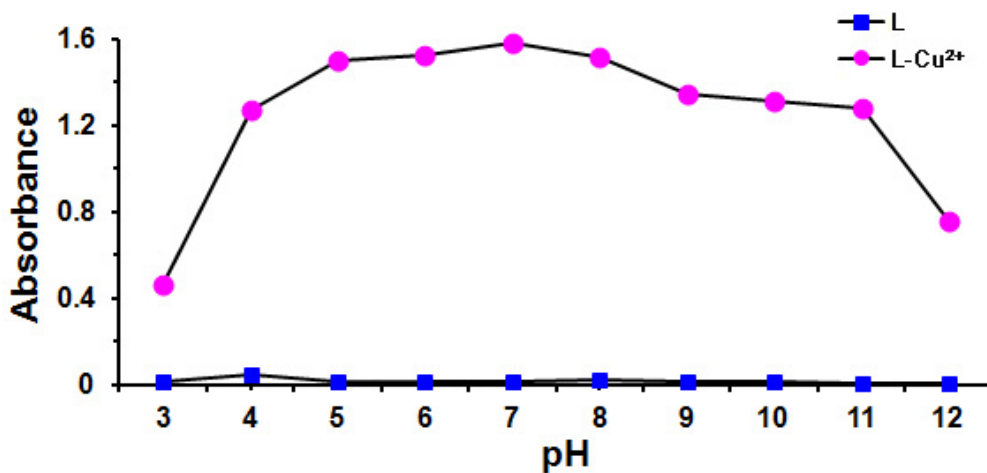
Fig. S18. Frontier molecular orbitals of L.



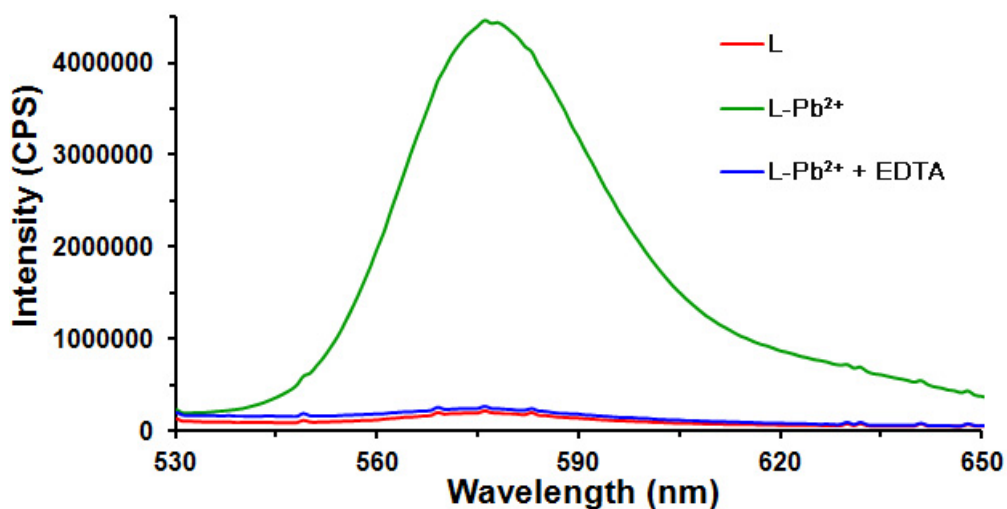
**Fig. S19.** Frontier molecular orbitals of complex  $L-Cu^{2+}$ .



**Fig. S20.** Fluorescence intensity at 576 nm of **L** (10  $\mu$ M) measured with 10 equiv  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  and without  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  in 10 mM HEPES buffer (containing 1%  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ , v/v) at various pH values. The excitation wavelength was 483 nm. The pH of the solutions was adjusted by addition of NaOH (1 M) or HCl (1 M).

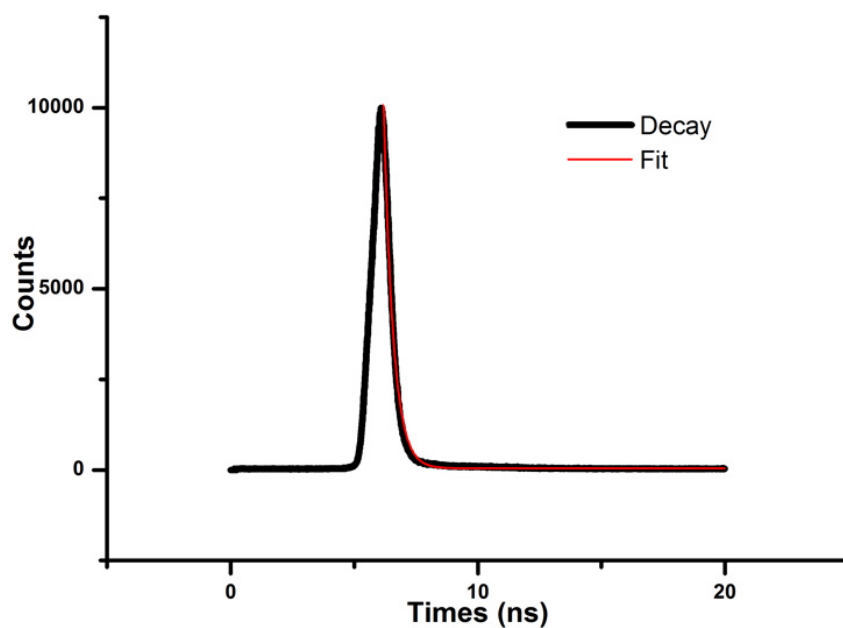


**Fig. S21.** Absorbance at 567 nm of **L** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) measured with 10 equiv  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  and without  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  in 10 mM HEPES buffer (containing 1%  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ , v/v) at various pH values. The pH of the solutions was adjusted by addition of NaOH (1 M) or HCl (1 M).

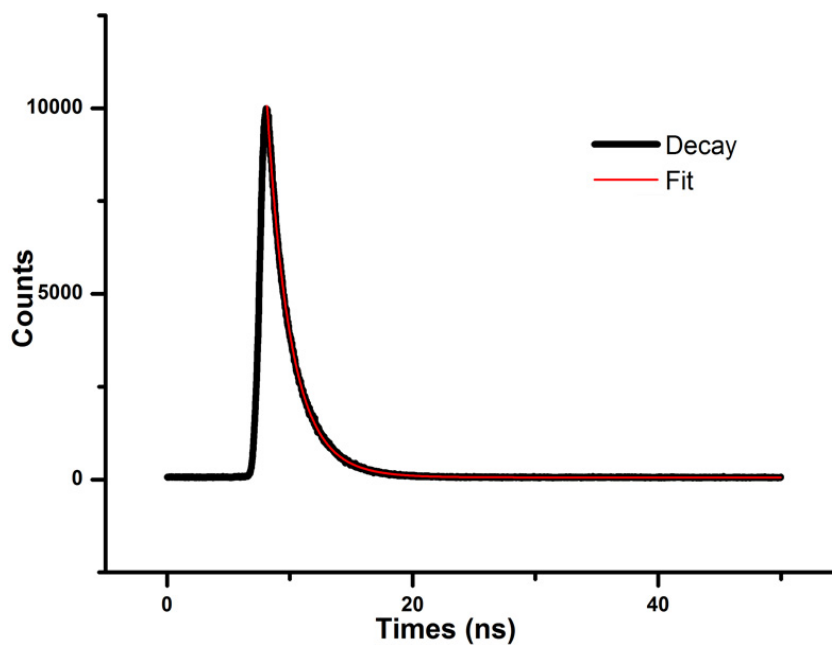


**Fig. S22.** Reversibility of  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  (60  $\mu\text{M}$ ) coordination to **L** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) by EDTA disodium (60  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in aqueous HEPES buffer (10 mM, pH 6.5) containing 1%  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (v/v). The excitation wavelength was 483 nm.

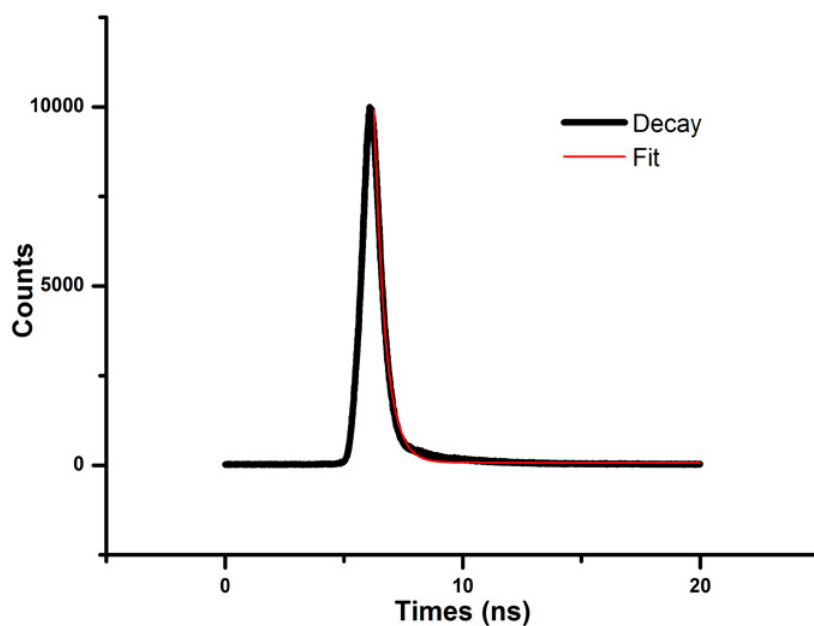




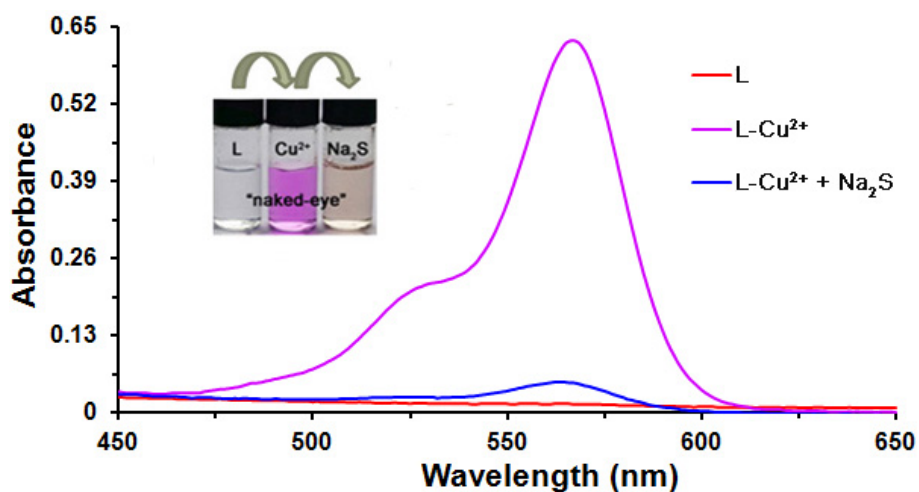
**Fig. S23.** Fluorescence decay curve of L at 576 nm in aqueous HEPES buffer (10 mM, pH 6.5) containing 1% CH<sub>3</sub>CN (v/v).  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 483$  nm.



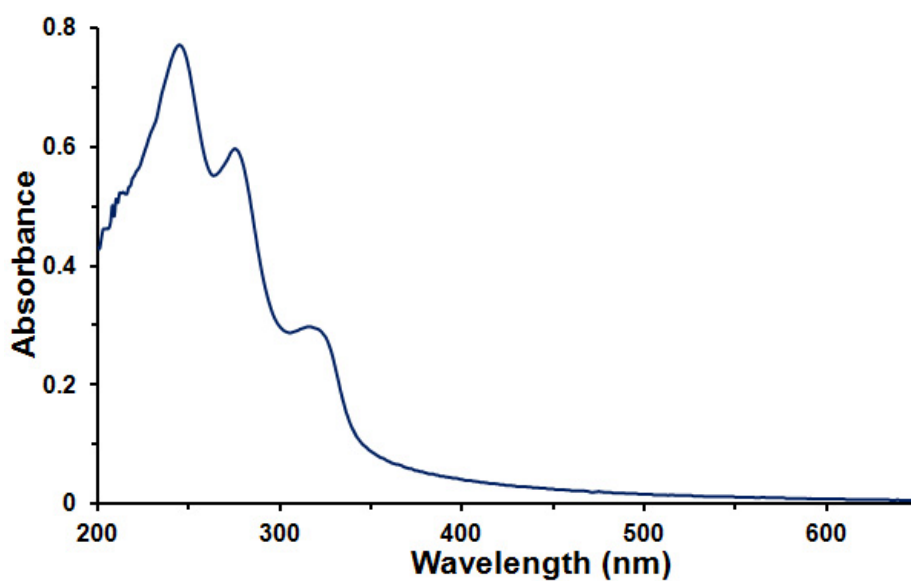
**Fig. S24.** Fluorescence decay curve of L at 576 nm in the presence of 10 equiv Pb<sup>2+</sup> in aqueous HEPES buffer (10 mM, pH 6.5) containing 1% CH<sub>3</sub>CN (v/v).  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 483$  nm.



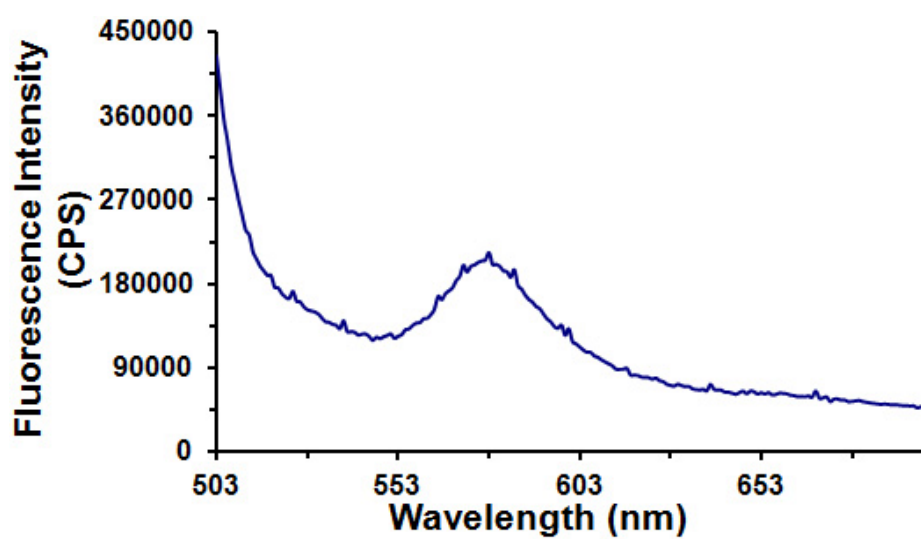
**Fig. S25.** Fluorescence decay curve of L-Pb<sup>2+</sup> at 576 nm in the presence of 100 equiv EDTA in aqueous HEPES buffer (10 mM, pH 6.5) containing 1% CH<sub>3</sub>CN (v/v).  $\lambda_{\text{ex}}$  = 483 nm.



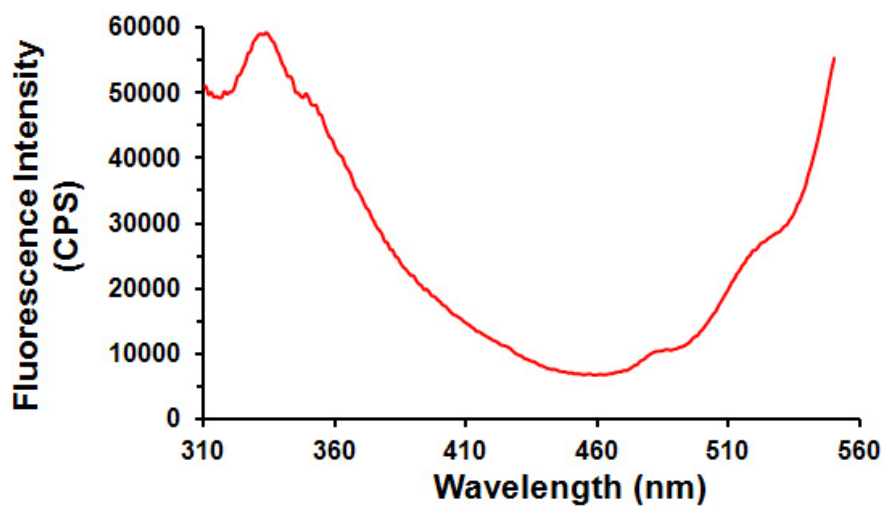
**Fig. S26.** Reversibility of Cu<sup>2+</sup> (10  $\mu$ M) coordination to L (10  $\mu$ M) by Na<sub>2</sub>S (20  $\mu$ M) in aqueous HEPES buffer (10 mM, pH 7.2) containing 1% CH<sub>3</sub>CN (v/v).



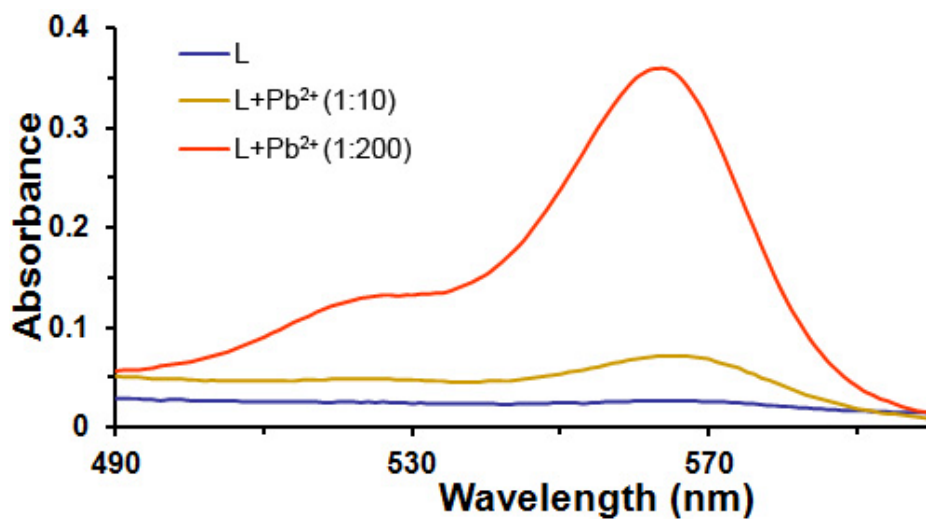
**Fig. S27.** The absorbance spectra of **L** in aqueous HEPES buffer (10 mM, pH 7.2) containing 1% CH<sub>3</sub>CN (v/v).



**Fig. S28.** The fluorescence emission spectra of **L** in aqueous HEPES buffer (10 mM, pH 6.5) containing 1% CH<sub>3</sub>CN (v/v).  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 483$  nm.



**Fig. S29.** The excitation spectra of **L** in aqueous HEPES buffer (10 mM, pH 6.5) containing 1% CH<sub>3</sub>CN (v/v).  $\lambda_{em} = 576$  nm.



**Fig. S30.** UV-vis absorption spectra of **L** (10  $\mu$ M) with addition of Pb<sup>2+</sup> in aqueous HEPES buffer (10 mM, pH 7.2) containing 1% CH<sub>3</sub>CN (v/v).

**Table S1.** Crystallographic data and structure refinement parameters for complex **L-Pb<sup>2+</sup>**.

Compound	L-Pb <sup>2+</sup>
Empirical formula	C <sub>82</sub> H <sub>110</sub> N <sub>14</sub> O <sub>34</sub> Pb <sub>2</sub>
Formula weight	2250.24
Temperature (K)	293(2)
Crystal system	Triclinic
Space group	<i>P</i> $\bar{1}$
<i>a</i> (Å)	12.1829(4)
<i>b</i> (Å)	14.0906(8)
<i>c</i> (Å)	14.9798(6)
$\alpha$ (°)	63.766(5)
$\beta$ (°)	77.410(3)
$\gamma$ (°)	78.245(4)
<i>V</i> (Å <sup>3</sup> )	2234.16(17)
<i>Z</i>	1
<i>D<sub>c</sub></i> (Mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	1.673
$\mu$ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	3.858
<i>F</i> (000)	1136
Reflns collected	17572
Independent reflns	8315
Completeness	99.8 %
<i>R</i> (int)	0.0589
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	8302 / 3733 / 588
GOF on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	1.007
<sup>a</sup> <i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> [ <i>I</i> > 2σ( <i>I</i> )], <i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub>	0.0680, 0.1700
<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> [all data], <i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub>	0.0819, 0.1824

$$^a R_1 = \frac{\sum ||F_o| - |F_c||}{\sum |F_o|}, wR_2 = \left[ \frac{\sum [w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2]}{\sum w(F_o^2)^2} \right]^{1/2}$$

**Table S2.** Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles [deg] for complex L-Pb<sup>2+</sup>.

bond lengths (Å)			
Pb(1)–O(7)	2.387(6)	Pb(1)–O(7)#1	2.676(5)
Pb(1)–O(1)	2.471(5)	Pb(1)–O(12)	3.023(10)
Pb(1)–N(4)	2.643(7)	Pb(1)–O(4)	2.924(7)
Pb(1)–N(5)	2.660(7)	Pb(1)–O(3)	2.921(6)

bond angles (°)			
O(7)–Pb(1)–O(1)	70.92(18)	N(5)–Pb(1)–O(4)	58.0(2)
O(7)–Pb(1)–N(4)	102.0(2)	N(5)–Pb(1)–O(12)	83.4(3)
O(1)–Pb(1)–N(4)	73.5(2)	N(4)–Pb(1)–O(3)	61.1(2)
O(7)–Pb(1)–N(5)	64.2(2)	N(4)–Pb(1)–O(4)	105.9(2)
O(1)–Pb(1)–N(5)	106.7(2)	N(4)–Pb(1)–O(12)	67.0(3)
N(4)–Pb(1)–N(5)	63.8(2)	O(1)–Pb(1)–O(4)	160.6(2)
O(7)–Pb(1)–O(7)#1	66.1(2)	O(1)–Pb(1)–O(3)	59.8(2)
O(1)–Pb(1)–O(7)#1	73.30(18)	O(1)–Pb(1)–O(12)	129.1(3)
N(4)–Pb(1)–O(7)#1	146.8(2)	O(7)#1–Pb(1)–O(3)	101.9(2)
N(5)–Pb(1)–O(7)#1	126.59(19)	O(7)#1–Pb(1)–O(4)	105.1(2)
O(7)–Pb(1)–O(4)	90.5(2)	O(7)#1–Pb(1)–O(12)	139.2(3)
O(7)–Pb(1)–O(3)	130.6(2)	O(3)–Pb(1)–O(4)	137.6(2)
O(7)–Pb(1)–O(12)	146.8(3)	O(4)–Pb(1)–O(12)	64.8(3)
N(5)–Pb(1)–O(3)	124.8(2)	O(3)–Pb(1)–O(12)	73.3(3)

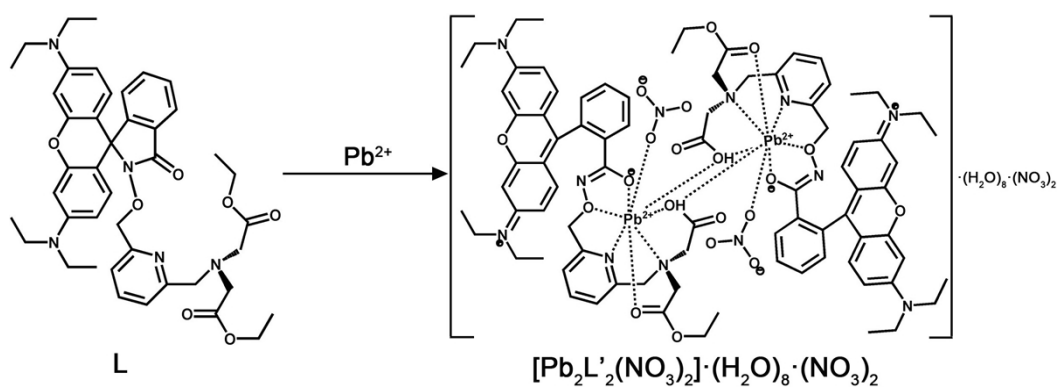
Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: #1  $-x + 1, -y, -z + 1$ .

**Table S3.** The contribution of each orbital transitions to the lowest energy transition of L and L-Cu<sup>2+</sup>.

electronic transition	L oscillator strength (f)	electronic transition	L-Cu <sup>2+</sup> oscillator strength (f)
HOMO→LUMO+4	0.1434	HOMO-10→LUMO+1	0.4619
HOMO-2→LUMO	0.1434	HOMO-6→LUMO+1	0.4619
HOMO-2→LUMO+5	0.2312	HOMO-1→LUMO	0.4295
HOMO→LUMO+9	0.7335	HOMO-29→LUMO+1	0.4295

**Table S4.** Fluorescence decay time constants of **L**, **L-Pb<sup>2+</sup>** and **L-Pb<sup>2+</sup>-EDTA**.

	$A_1$	$\tau_1/\text{ns}$	$A_2$	$\tau_2/\text{ns}$	$\langle\tau\rangle/\text{ns}$	$\chi^2$
<b>L</b> at 576 nm	50%	0.384	50%	0.384	0.384	1.024
<b>L-Pb<sup>2+</sup></b> at 576 nm	40%	2.597	60%	1.608	2.004	1.163
<b>L-Pb<sup>2+</sup>-EDTA</b> at 576 nm	50%	0.467	50%	0.467	0.467	1.144



**Scheme S1.** The schematic representation the transformation process of **L** structure upon complexation to **Pb<sup>2+</sup>**, where **L'** represented the ester hydrolyzed product of **L**.