

Supporting information for

**Highly selective fluorescence sensors for the fluoride anion based on carboxylate-bridged dinuclear iron complexes**

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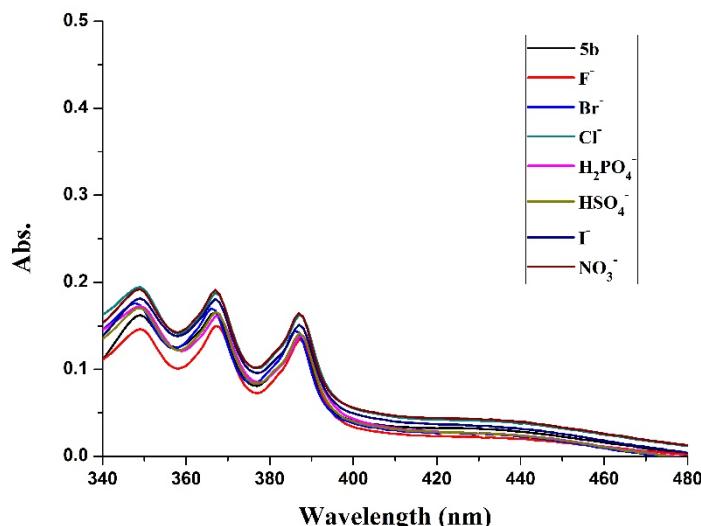
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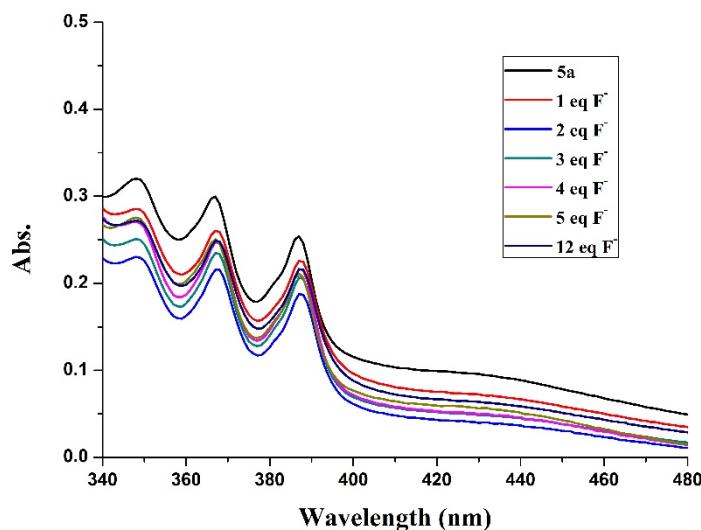
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Synthesis of  $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Ru}(\mu\text{-SEt})_2(\text{MeCN})_2\text{RuCp}^*][\text{PF}_6]_2$  (**4c**)

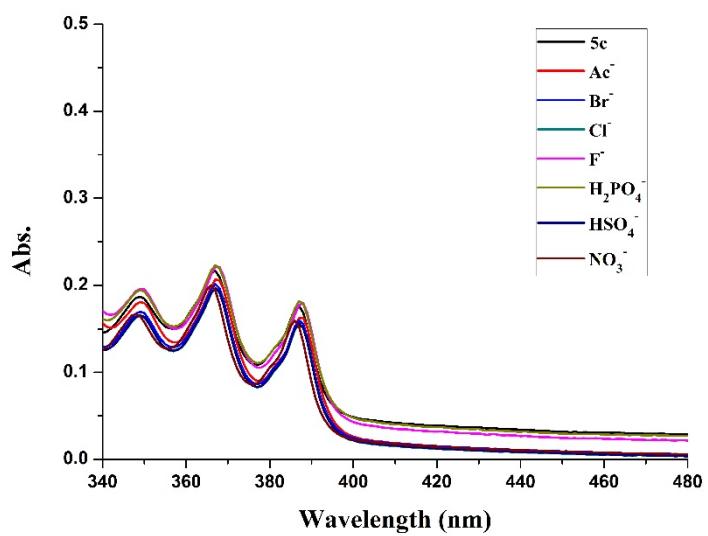
To a solution of  $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Ru}(\mu\text{-SEt})_2\text{Cl}_2\text{RuCp}^*]$ <sup>1</sup> (69.4 mg, 0.104 mmol) in MeCN (3 mL) was added  $\text{NH}_4\text{PF}_6$  (67.9 mg, 0.416 mmol) and then the resulting solution was stirred at room temperature under Ar for 1 h. The solution was removed *in vacuum*. Then, the residue was extracted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (3 mL). After filtration, the solution was removed *in vacuum*. The residue was washed with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  (2 mL × 2) to give brown solid  $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Ru}(\mu\text{-SEt})_2(\text{MeCN})_2\text{RuCp}^*][\text{PF}_6]_2$  (**4c**, 80.6 mg, 80%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  2.92 (q,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 8.0$  Hz, 4H), 2.27 (s, 6H), 1.72 (s, 30H), 1.61 (t,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 8.0$  Hz, 6H).



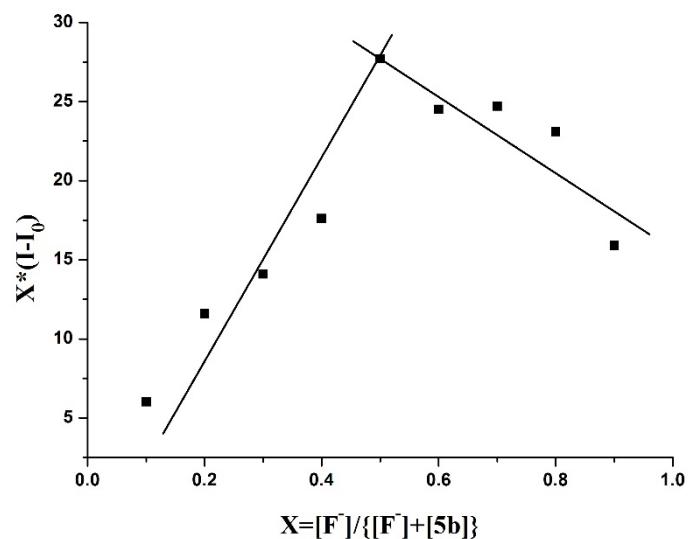
**Fig. S1** Absorption spectra of chemosensor **5b** ( $1 \times 10^{-5}$  M) upon addition of various anions (3 equiv) in THF solution.



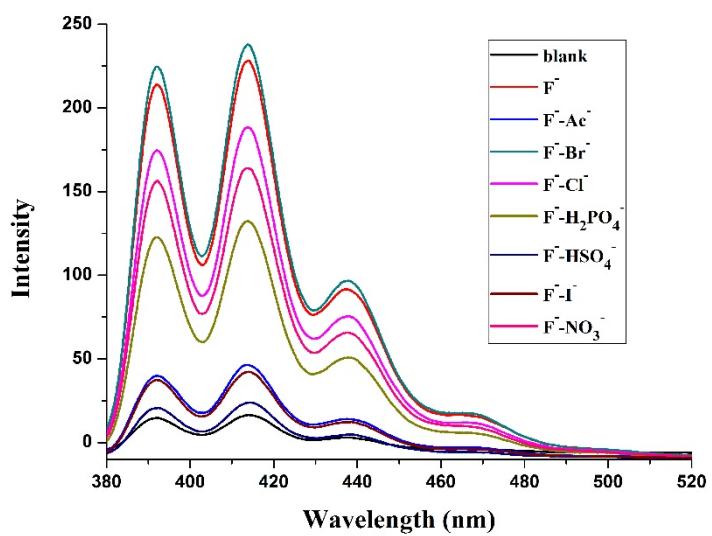
**Fig. S2** Absorption spectra of chemosensor **5a** ( $1 \times 10^{-5}$  M) upon addition of  $\text{F}^-$  (as its TBA salts) in THF.



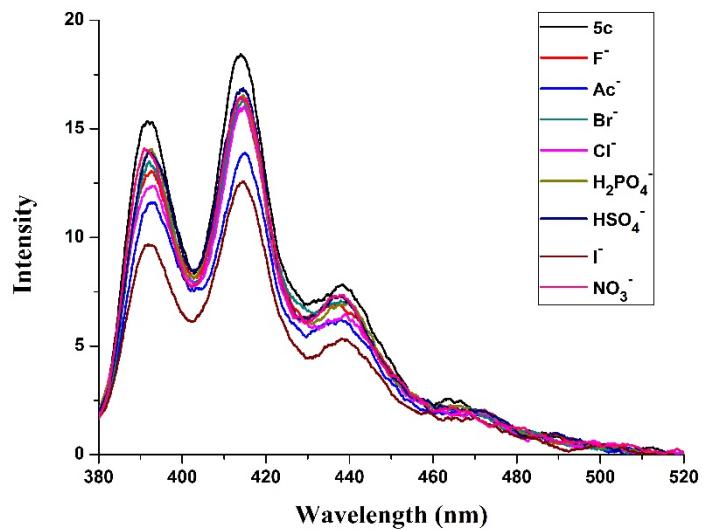
**Fig. S3** Absorption spectra of chemosensor **5c** ( $1 \times 10^{-5}$  M) upon addition of various anions (as their TBA salts) in THF.



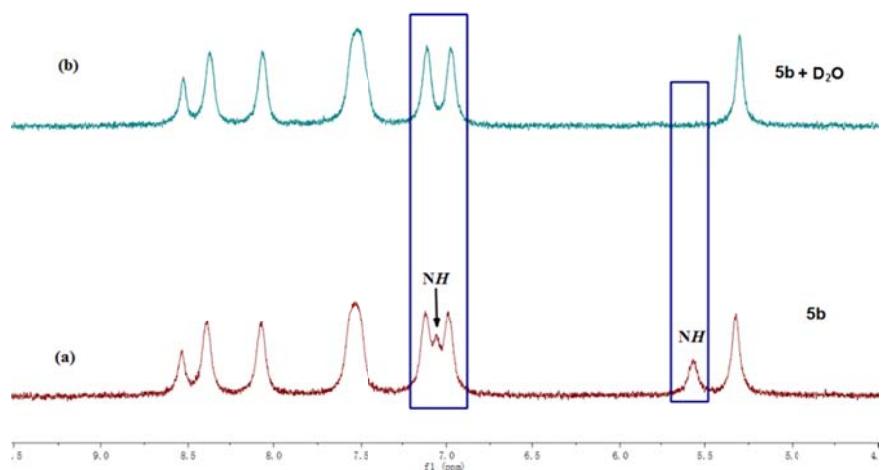
**Fig. S4** Job's plot for determining the stoichiometry for chemosensor **5b** and  $\text{F}^-$  in THF excited with 370 nm. Total concentration of **5b** +  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  =  $2.5 \times 10^{-5}$  M.  $I$  represents the intensity of **5b** upon addition of  $\text{F}^-$  and  $I_0$  represents the **5b** original emission intensity at 414 nm excited with 370 nm.



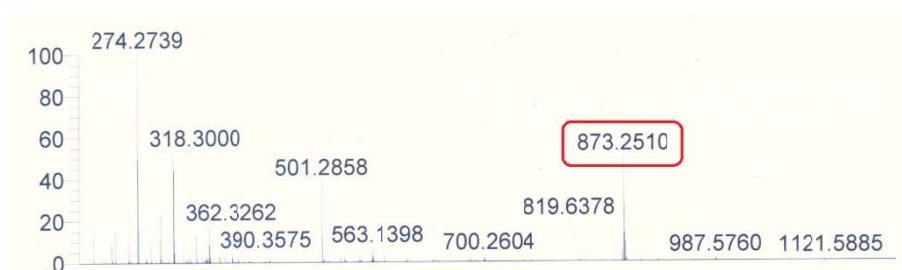
**Fig. S5** Fluorescence emission spectra of chemosensor **5b** (1 × 10<sup>-5</sup> M in THF) upon addition of anions in the presence of F<sup>-</sup>



**Fig. S6** Fluorescence spectrum of **5c** (1 × 10<sup>-5</sup> M in THF) upon addition of different anions (as their TBA salts) excited with 370 nm.



**Fig. S7** Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 400 MHz) spectrum of **5b** before (a) and after (b) adding D<sub>2</sub>O.



**Fig. S8** The ESI-HRMS of chemosensor **5b** upon addition of 2 equiv of F<sup>-</sup>.

## References

- [1] Y. Nishibayashi, H. Imajima, G. Onodera, Y. Inada, M. Hidai and S. Uemura, *Organometallics* 2004, **23**, 5100-5103.