

## Supporting Information

### Tb-MOF: A Naked-eye and Regenerable Fluorescent Probe for Selective and Quantitative Detection of Fe<sup>3+</sup> and Al<sup>3+</sup> Ions

Mengfei Zhang,<sup>‡a</sup> Jing Han,<sup>‡a</sup> Haipeng Wu,<sup>a</sup> Qing Wei,<sup>\*a</sup> Gang Xie,<sup>a</sup> Sanping Chen,<sup>\*a</sup> Shengli Gao<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Key Laboratory of Synthetic and Natural Functional Molecule Chemistry of Ministry of Education, College of Chemistry and Materials Science, Northwest University, Xi'an 710127, P. R. China

<sup>‡</sup> These authors contributed equally to this work.

#### Corresponding author

**Prof. Sanping Chen**

**Tel.: +86-029-81535026**

**Fax: +86-029-81535026**

**E-mail: sanpingchen@126.com**

## Content of Table

**Fig. S1** FT-IR spectra of compound **1**.

**Fig. S2** The coordinated modes of TCA<sup>3-</sup> ligand in compound **1**.

**Fig. S3** Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) of simulated from the single-crystal data of **1** (black), as-synthesized compound **1** (blue), **1**+Fe<sup>3+</sup> (red) and **1**+Al<sup>3+</sup> (yellow).

**Fig. S4** Typical DSC and TG curves of compound **1**.

**Fig. S5** The UV/vis absorption spectra of the free ligand H<sub>3</sub>TCA and its corresponding compounds Tb-MOF were recorded in DMSO solution ( $c = 1 \times 10^{-5}$  M).

**Fig. S6** Solid-state excitation (purple line) and emission (blue line) spectra of compound **1**.

**Fig. S7** PXRD patterns of Tb-MOF: the simulated pattern from single crystal analysis, as-synthesized Tb-MOF and immersed in solution for 10 days.

**Fig. S8** Day to day fluorescence stability of compound **1** in aqueous solution.

**Fig. S9** Comparison of emission spectra of compound **1**, Tb<sup>3+</sup> and H<sub>3</sub>TCA (10<sup>-3</sup> M) under excitation at 375 nm.

**Fig. S10** Optimization of the solvent.

**Fig. S11** Optimization of the solvent ratio.

**Fig. S12** Comparison of the luminescence intensity at 549 nm of compound **1** in 10<sup>-3</sup> M different cations.

**Fig. S13** Comparison of the luminescence intensity at 463 nm of compound **1** in 10<sup>-3</sup> M different cations.

**Fig. S14** Photographs showing the visual color change of the Fe<sup>3+</sup> ions solution before (left) and after (right) adding compound **1**.

**Fig. S15** The visual change on the addition of various M(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>x</sub> under the fluorescent lamp (left), laboratory UV light (right,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 375$  nm).

**Fig. S16** Comparison of the luminescence intensity of **1**+Fe<sup>3+</sup> with **1**+Fe<sup>3+</sup>+ different metal ions (10<sup>-4</sup> M) at 549 nm.

**Fig. S17** Comparison of the luminescence intensity of **1**+Al<sup>3+</sup> with **1**+Al<sup>3+</sup>+ different metal ions (10<sup>-4</sup> M) at 463 nm.

**Fig. S18** Fluorescence responses of Tb-MOF in aqueous solutions in the presence of various concentrations of Cu<sup>2+</sup>.

**Fig. S19** Fluorescence responses of Tb-MOF in aqueous solutions in the presence of various concentrations of Fe<sup>3+</sup>.

**Fig. S20** Low- (right) and high- magnification (left) TEM images of the products.

**Fig. S21** Low- (right) and high- magnification (left) SEM images of the products.

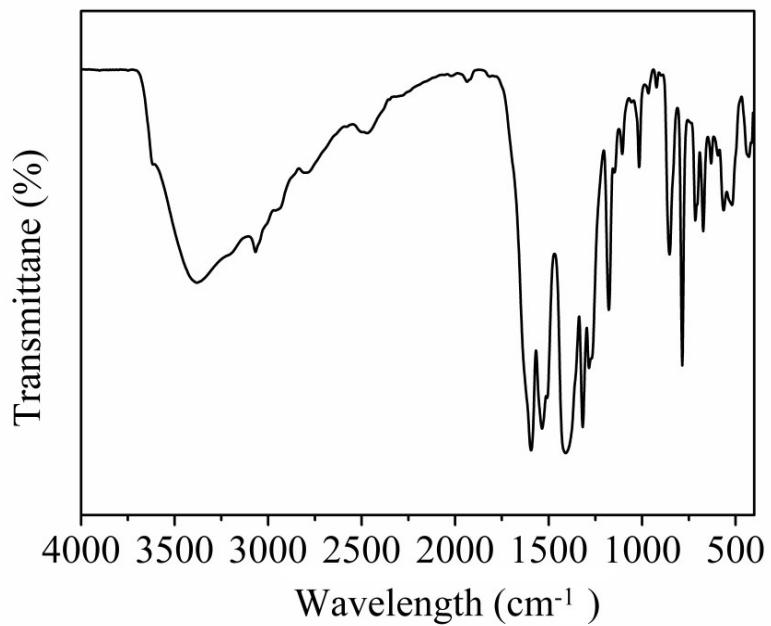
**Fig. S22** Comparison of the luminescence intensity of Tb<sup>3+</sup> under Fe<sup>3+</sup> (10<sup>-3</sup> M).

**Fig. S23** The luminescence intensity (549 nm) of one recycles (a) after the first recycle.

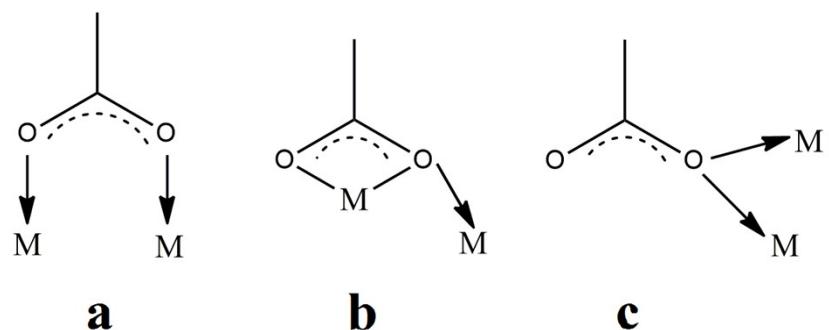
**Fig. S24** Comparison of the luminescence intensity of H<sub>3</sub>TCA and compound **1** under Al<sup>3+</sup> (10<sup>-3</sup> M).

**Table S1.** Crystal Data and Structure Refinement Summary for compound **1**.

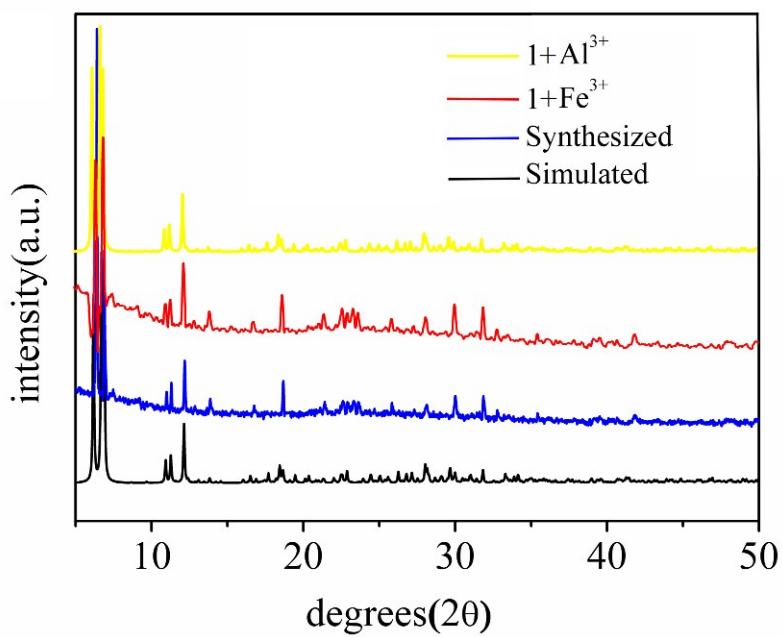
**Table S2.** Selected Bond Lengths (Å) and Bond Angles (°) for compound **1**.



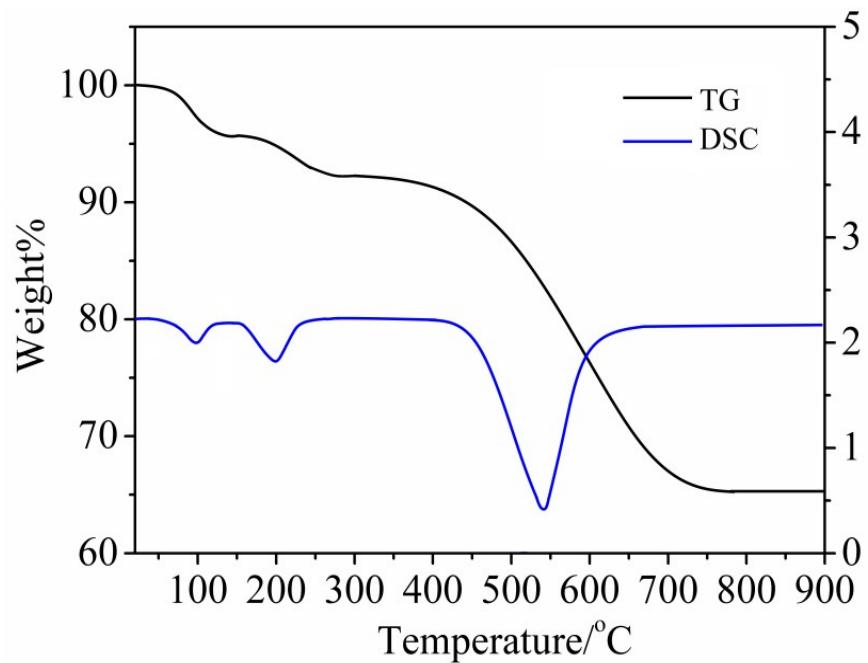
**Fig. S1** FT-IR spectra of compound **1**.



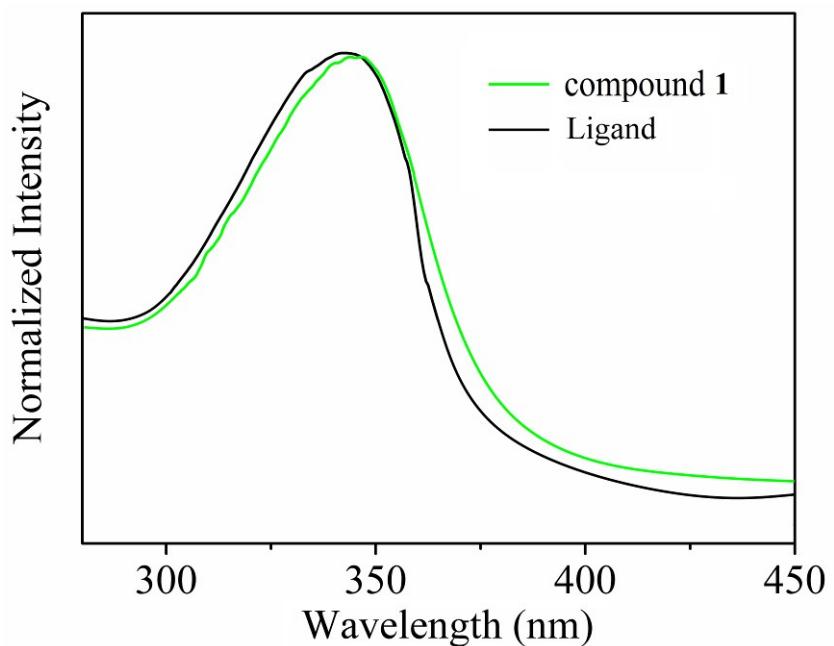
**Fig. S2** The coordinated modes of  $\text{TCA}^{3-}$  ligand in compound **1**. a,  $\mu_2\text{-}\eta^1\text{:}\eta^1$ ; b,  $\mu_2\text{-}\eta^2\text{:}\eta^1$ ; c,  $\mu_2\text{-}\eta^2$ .



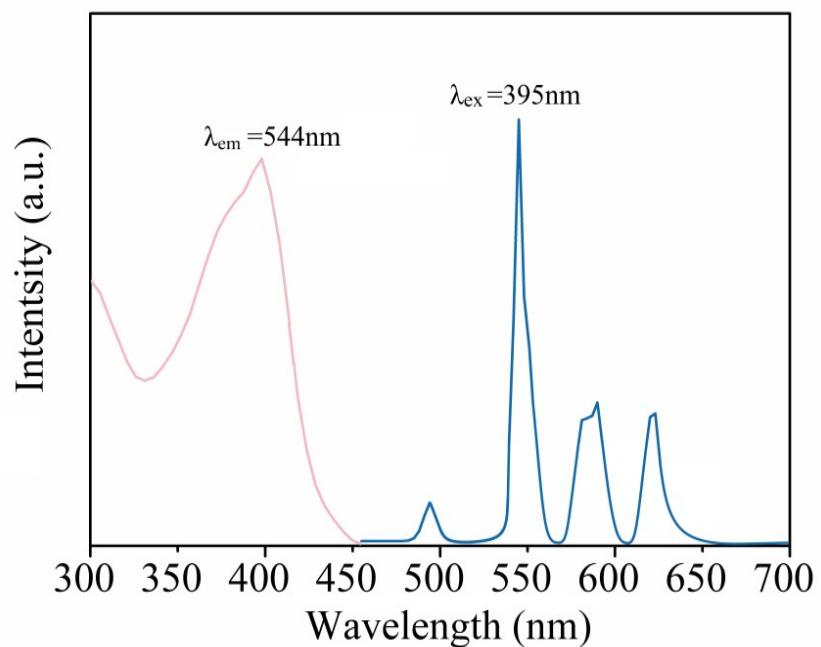
**Fig. S3** Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) of simulated from the single-crystal data of 1 (black), as-synthesized compound **1** (blue), **1**+Fe<sup>3+</sup> (red) and **1**+Al<sup>3+</sup> (yellow).



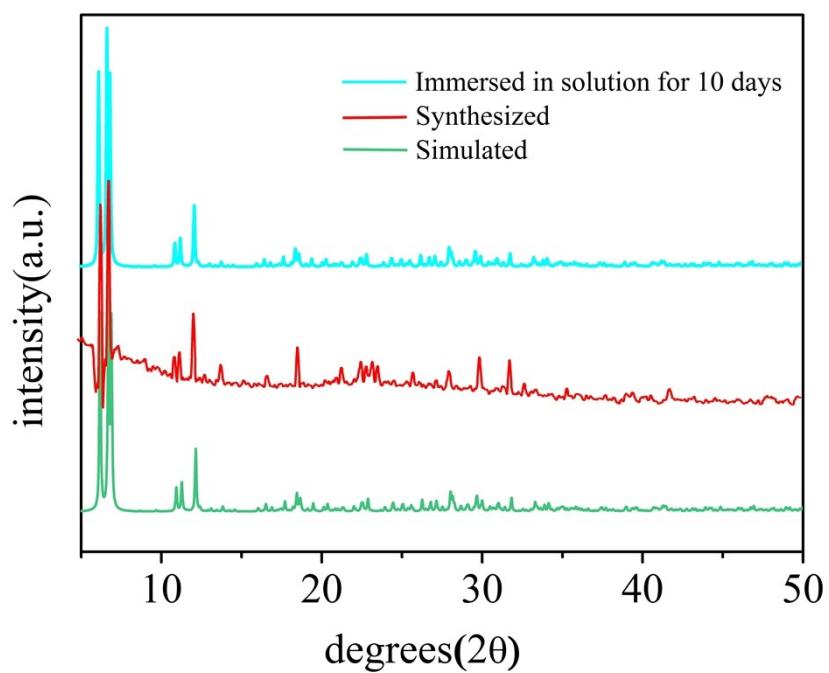
**Fig. S4** Typical DSC and TG curves of compound **1**.



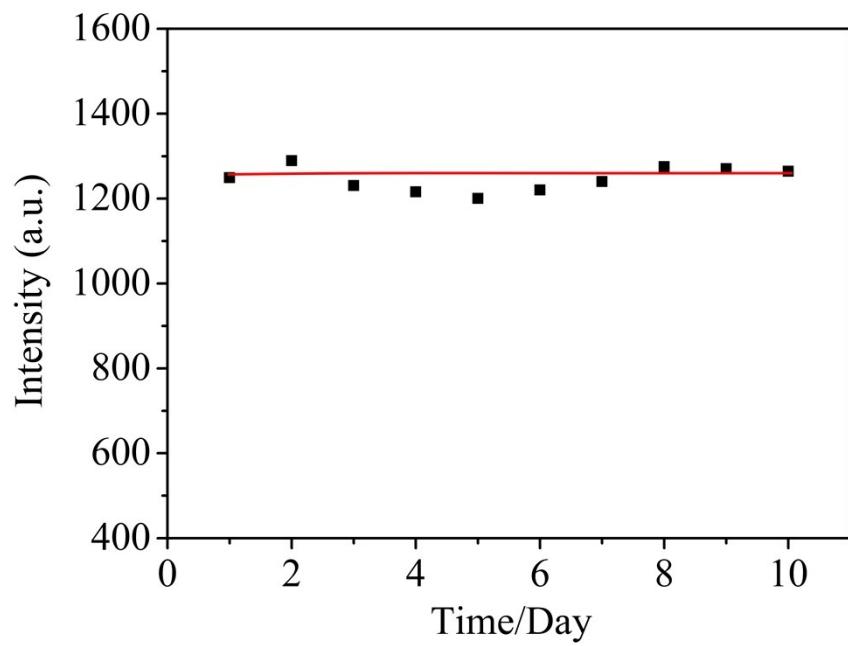
**Fig. S5** The UV/vis absorption spectra of the free ligand H<sub>3</sub>TCA and its corresponding compounds Tb-MOF were recorded in CH<sub>3</sub>OH solution ( $c = 1 \times 10^{-5}$  M).



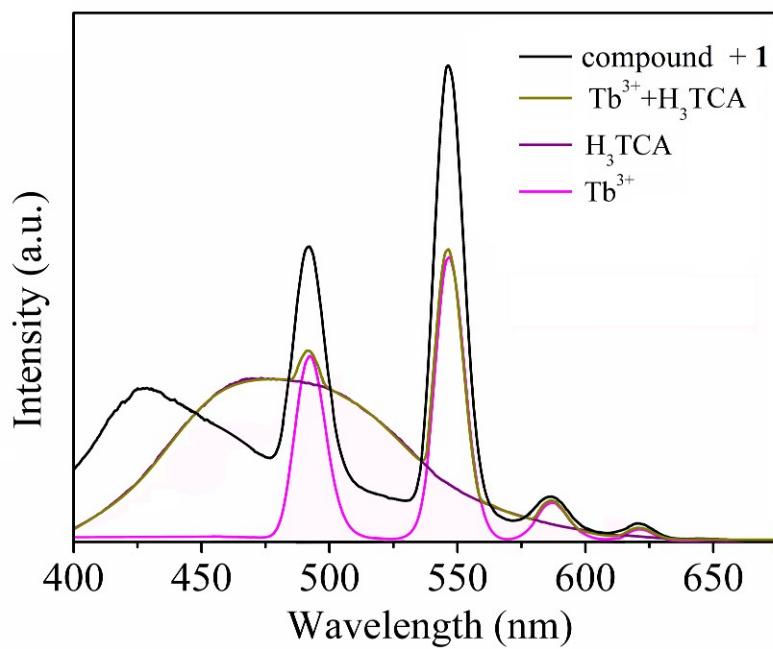
**Fig. S6** Solid-state excitation (purple line) and emission (blue line) spectra of compound 1.



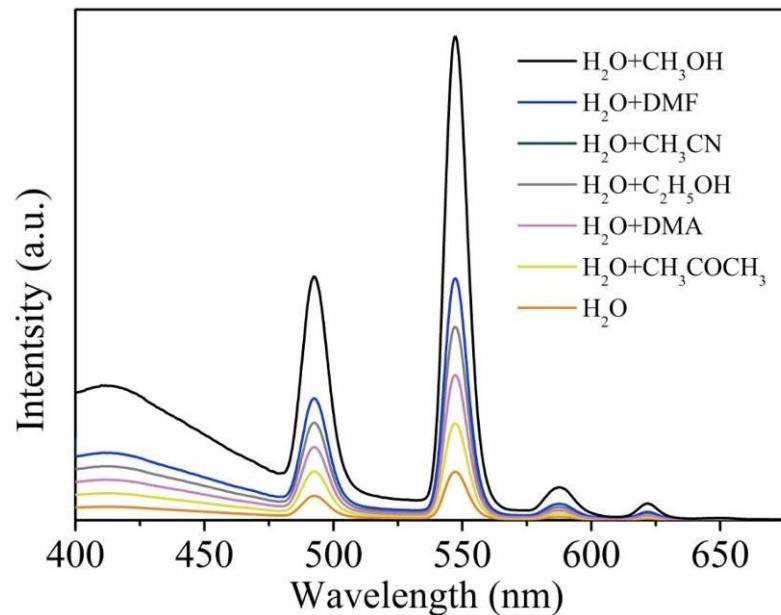
**Fig. S7** PXRD patterns of Tb-MOF: the simulated pattern from single crystal analysis, as-synthesized Tb-MOF and immersed in solution for 10 days.



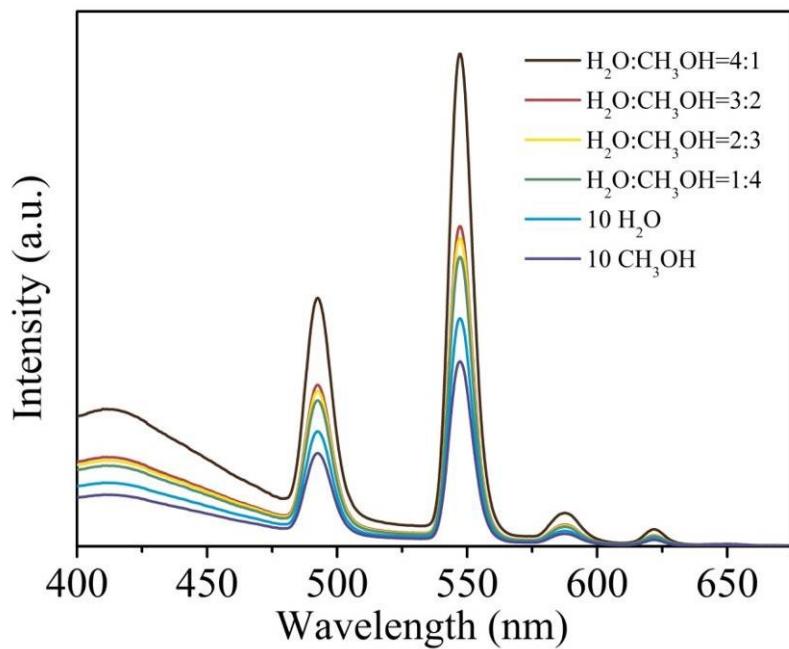
**Fig. S8** Day to day fluorescence stability of compound **1** in aqueous solution.



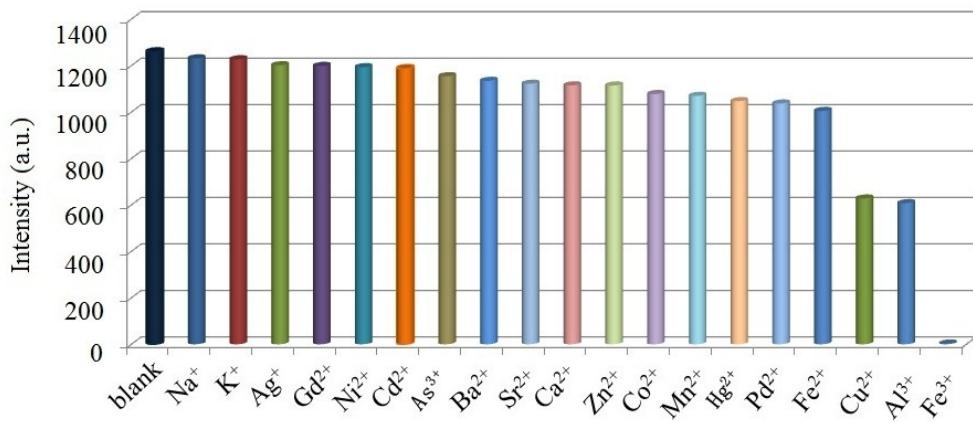
**Fig. S8** Comparison of emission spectra of compound **1**, Tb<sup>3+</sup> and H<sub>3</sub>TCA (10<sup>-3</sup> M) under excitation at 375 nm.



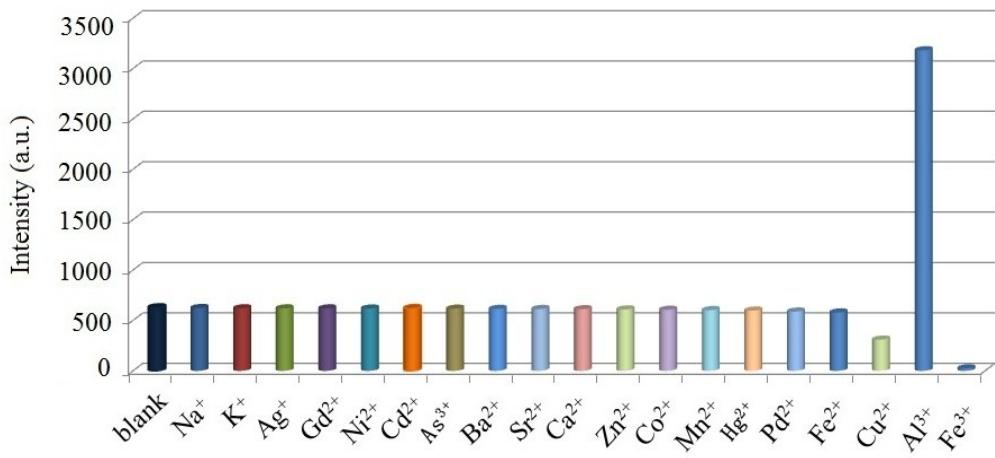
**Fig. S10** Optimization of the solvent.



**Fig. S11** Optimization of the solvent ratio.



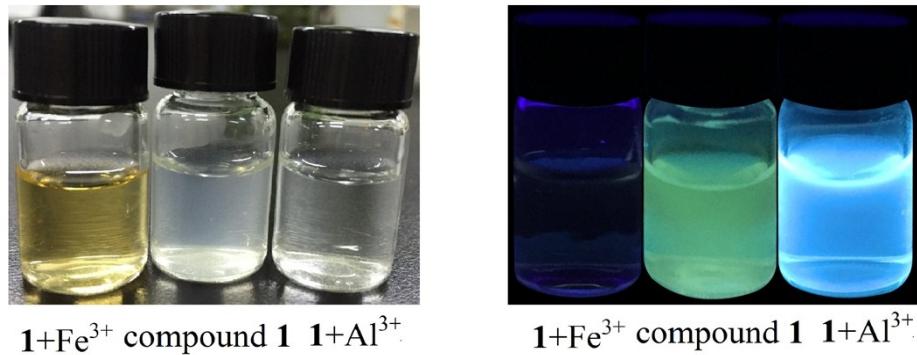
**Fig. S12** Comparison of the luminescence intensity at 549 nm of compound **1** in  $10^{-3}$  M different cations.



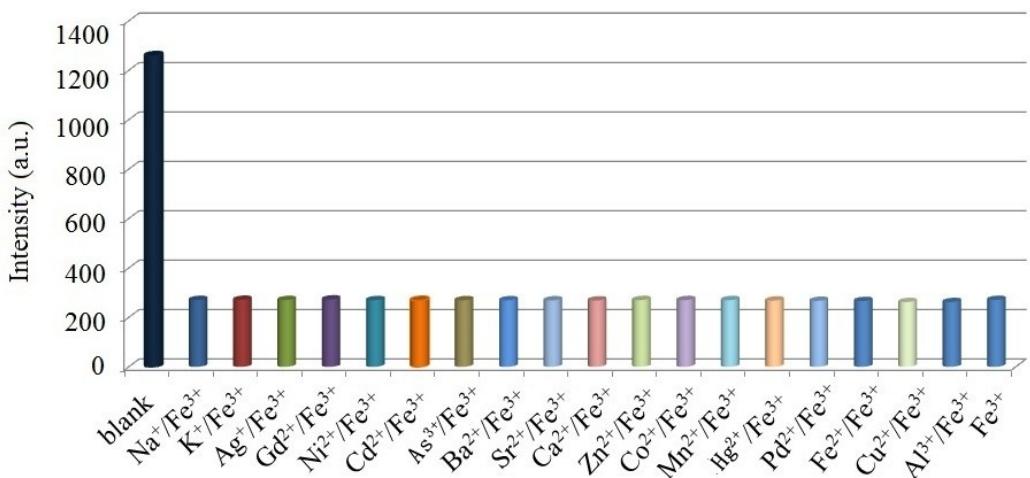
**Fig. S13** Comparison of the luminescence intensity at 463 nm of compound **1** in  $10^{-3}$  M different cations.



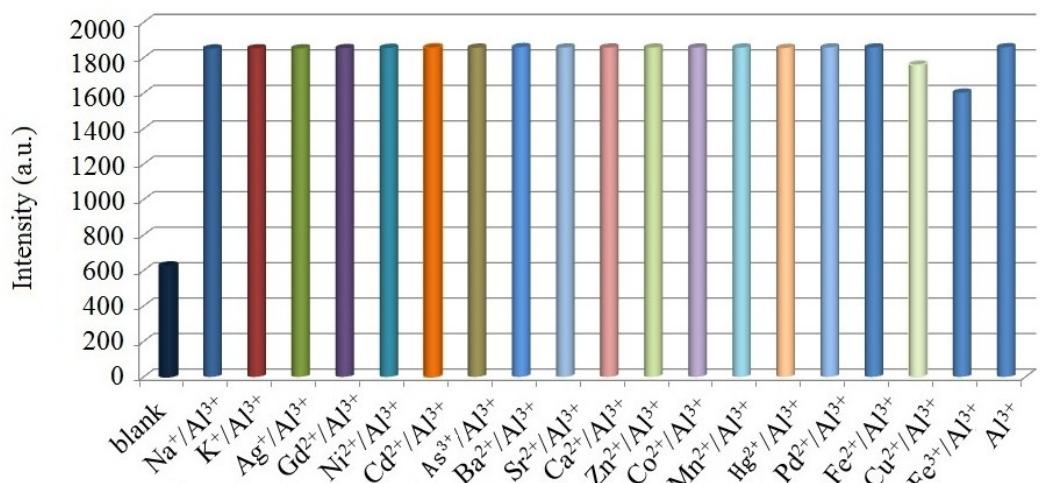
**Fig. S14** Photographs showing the visual color change of the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  ions solution before (left) and after (right) add compound **1** about 12h.



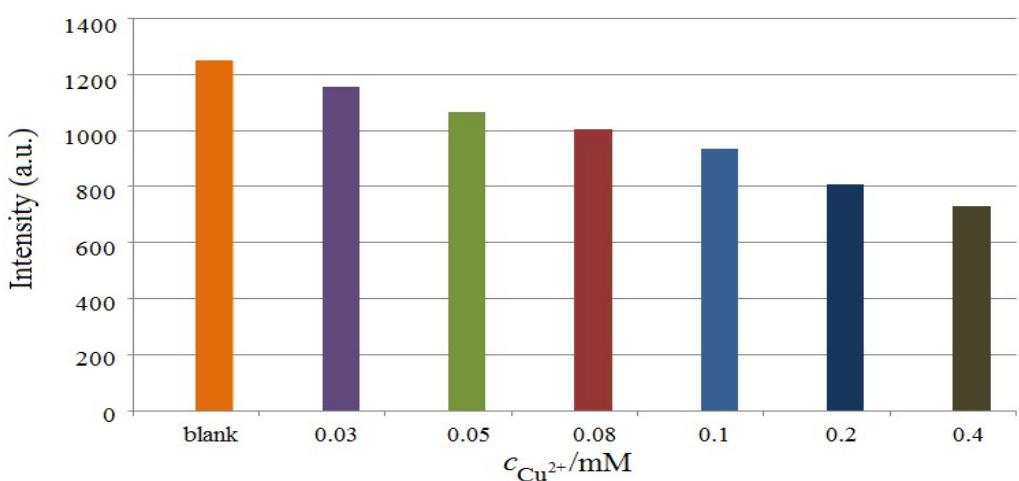
**Fig. S15** The visual change on the addition of various  $\text{M}(\text{NO}_3)_x$  under the fluorescent lamp (left), laboratory UV light (right,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 365$  nm).



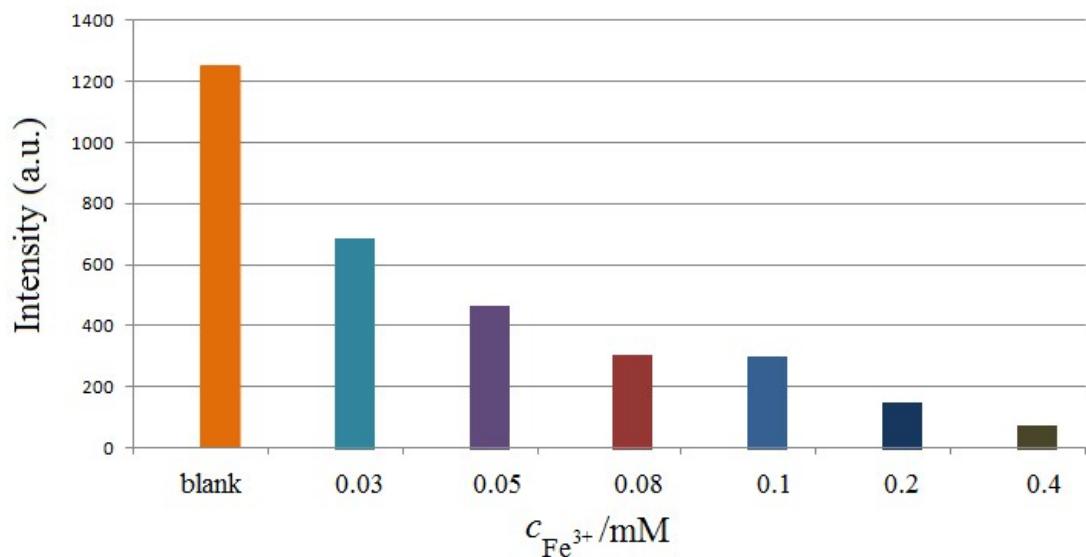
**Fig. S16** Comparison of the luminescence intensity of **1+Fe<sup>3+</sup>** with different metal ions at 549 nm (10<sup>-4</sup> M).



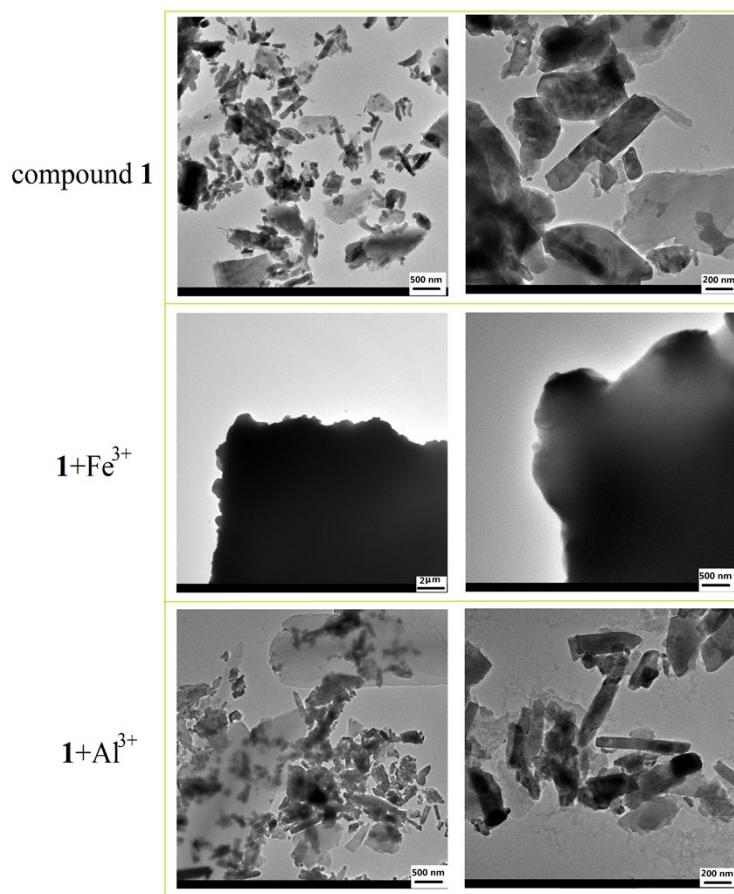
**Fig. S17** Comparison of the luminescence intensity of **1+Al<sup>3+</sup>** with different metal ions at 463 nm (10<sup>-4</sup> M).



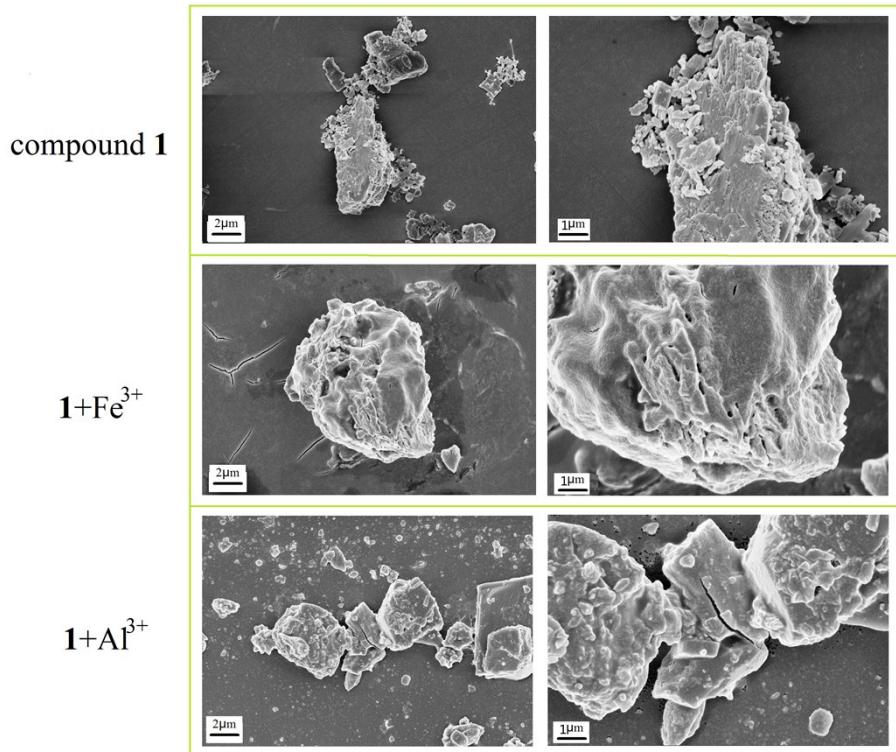
**Fig. S18** Fluorescence responses of Tb-MOF in aqueous solutions in the presence of various concentrations of Cu<sup>2+</sup>.



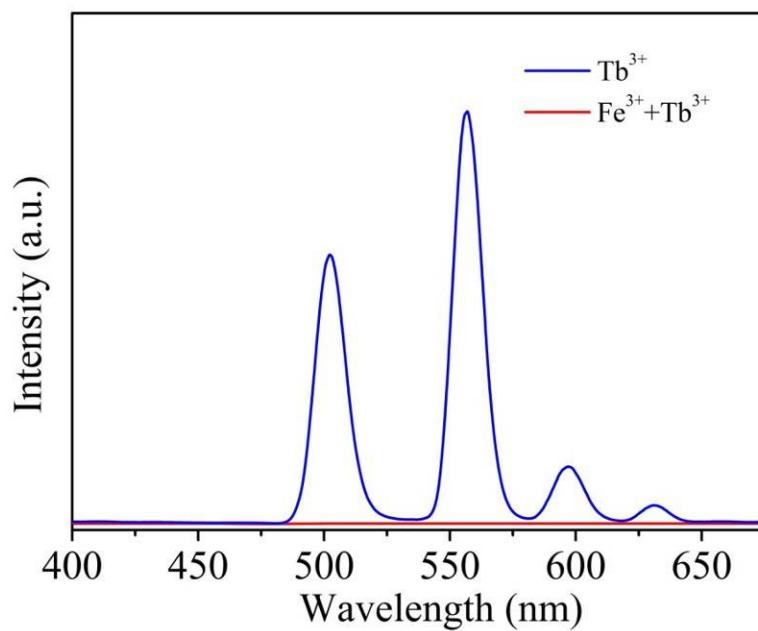
**Fig. S19** Fluorescence responses of Tb-MOF in aqueous solutions in the presence of various concentrations of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ .



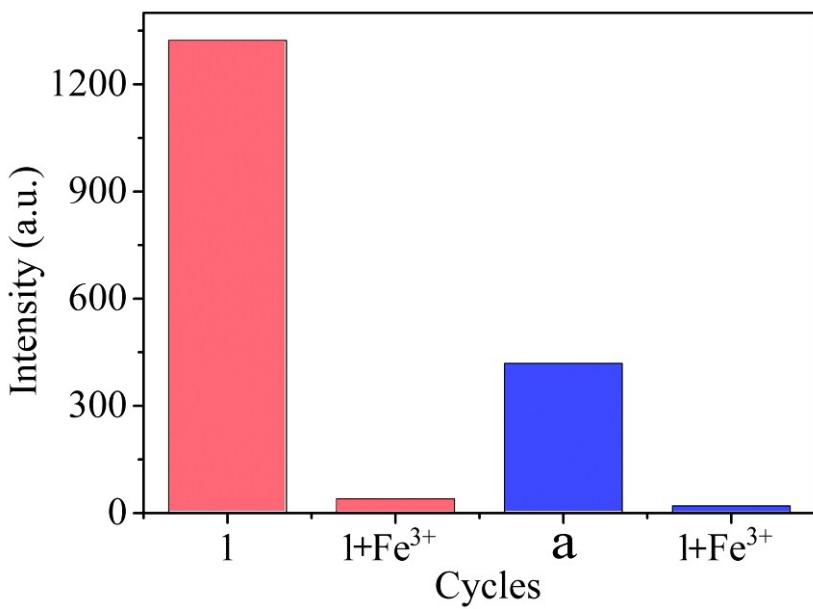
**Fig. S20** Low- (right) and high- magnification (left) TEM images of the products.



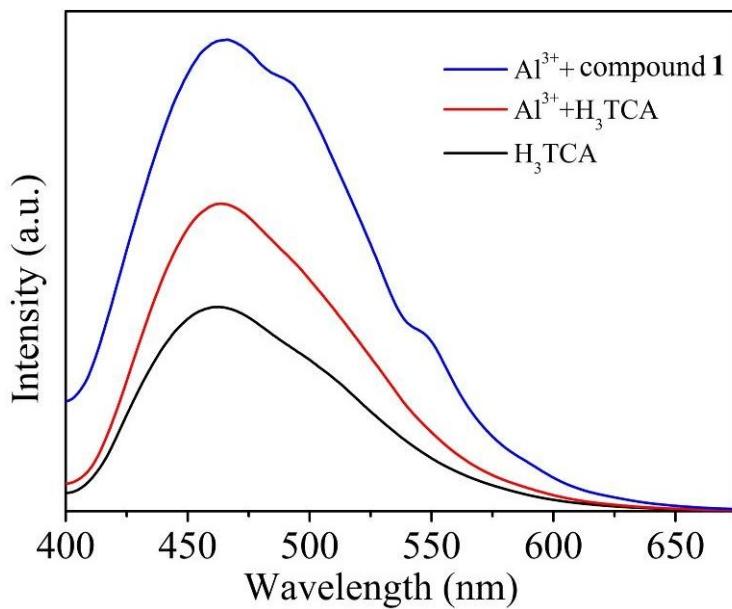
**Fig. S21** Low- (right) and high- magnification (left) SEM images of the products.



**Fig. S22** Comparison of the luminescence intensity of  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  under  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  ( $10^{-3}$  M).



**Fig. S23** The luminescence intensity (549 nm) of one recycles (a) after the first recycle.



**Fig. S24** Comparison of the luminescence intensity of  $\text{H}_3\text{TCA}$  and compound **1** under  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  ( $10^{-3}$  M).

**Table S1.** Crystal Data and Structure Refinement Summary for compound **1**.

$[\text{Tb}_3(\text{TCA})_2(\text{DMA})_{0.5}(\text{OH})_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{0.5}] \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$	
Empirical formula	$\text{C}_{44}\text{H}_{38.5}\text{N}_{2.5}\text{O}_{19}\text{Tb}_3$
Formula weight	1329.02
Crystal system	Monoclinic
space group	$\text{C}2/\text{c}$
$a$ (Å)	29.155(3)
$b$ (Å)	11.0593(13)
$c$ (Å)	31.580(5)

$\alpha$ (deg)	90
$\beta$ (deg)	115.607(2)
$\gamma$ (deg)	90
$V$ ( $\text{\AA}^3$ )	9182(2)
$Z$	8
$D_c$ (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	1.923
$\mu$ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	4.643 mm <sup>-1</sup>
$F(000)$	5095
Reflections collected/unique	24948/9386
$R(\text{int})$	0.0592
Data / restraints / parameters	9386/42/623
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	1.01
$R1^a$ [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ]	0.0422
$wR_2^b$ (all data)	0.1097

<sup>a</sup> $R_1 = \sum(F_o - F_c)/\sum F_o$ . <sup>b</sup> $wR_2 = [\sum w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2/\sum w(F_o^2)^2]^{1/2}$ .

**Table S2.** Selected Bond Lengths ( $\text{\AA}$ ) and Bond Angles ( $\text{o}$ ) for compound **1**.

Tb1-O1 <sup>3</sup>	2.772(5)	O14 <sup>2</sup> -Tb1-O5 <sup>4</sup>	156.01(18)
Tb1-O2 <sup>3</sup>	2.427(5)	O14 <sup>2</sup> -Tb1-O6 <sup>4</sup>	131.56(18)
Tb1-O3	2.512(5)	O14 <sup>2</sup> -Tb1-O9 <sup>1</sup>	99.59(17)
Tb1-O4	2.331(6)	O15 <sup>2</sup> -Tb1-O1 <sup>3</sup>	131.27(16)
Tb1-O5 <sup>4</sup>	2.443(6)	O15 <sup>2</sup> -Tb1-O2 <sup>3</sup>	128.6(2)
Tb1-O6 <sup>4</sup>	2.427(6)	O15 <sup>2</sup> -Tb1-O3	72.30(17)
Tb1-O9 <sup>1</sup>	2.404(5)	O15 <sup>2</sup> -Tb1-O5 <sup>4</sup>	127.27(18)
Tb1-O14 <sup>2</sup>	2.390(5)	O15 <sup>2</sup> -Tb1-O6 <sup>4</sup>	138.94(19)
Tb1-O15 <sup>2</sup>	2.349(5)	O15 <sup>2</sup> -Tb1-O9 <sup>1</sup>	69.68(17)
Tb2-O3 <sup>6</sup>	2.389(5)	O15 <sup>2</sup> -Tb1-O14 <sup>2</sup>	66.67(17)
Tb2-O5 <sup>7</sup>	2.630(6)	O3 <sup>5</sup> -Tb2-O5 <sup>7</sup>	62.15(18)
Tb2-O8	2.314(5)	O3 <sup>5</sup> -Tb2-O9 <sup>8</sup>	81.14(18)
Tb2-O9	2.389(5)	O3 <sup>5</sup> -Tb2-O9	77.22(17)
Tb2-O9 <sup>8</sup>	2.431(5)	O3 <sup>5</sup> -Tb2-O10	80.3(2)
Tb2-O10	2.459(6)	O3 <sup>5</sup> -Tb2-O13 <sup>7</sup>	134.79(17)
Tb2-O13 <sup>7</sup>	2.910(6)	O3 <sup>5</sup> -Tb2-O16 <sup>7</sup>	92.67(19)
Tb2-O15 <sup>7</sup>	2.349(5)	O8-Tb2-O3 <sup>5</sup>	128.71(19)
Tb2-O16 <sup>7</sup>	2.413(6)	O8-Tb2-O5 <sup>7</sup>	66.60(18)
Tb3-O1 <sup>7</sup>	2.387(5)	O8-Tb2-O9	83.7(2)
Tb3-O7 <sup>7</sup>	2.304(5)	O8-Tb2-O9 <sup>8</sup>	133.38(19)
Tb3-O11 <sup>9</sup>	2.372(6)	O8-Tb2-O10	140.8(2)
Tb3-O1 <sup>3</sup>	2.294(5)	O8-Tb2-O13 <sup>7</sup>	70.75(19)
Tb3-O14 <sup>10</sup>	2.389(5)	O8-Tb2-O15 <sup>7</sup>	72.45(19)
Tb3-O14	2.357(5)	O8-Tb2-O16 <sup>7</sup>	78.0(2)
Tb3-O15	2.325(5)	O9 <sup>8</sup> -Tb2-O5 <sup>7</sup>	128.20(16)
O2 <sup>3</sup> -Tb1-O1 <sup>3</sup>	49.70(17)	O9-Tb2-O5 <sup>7</sup>	69.33(17)

O2 <sup>3</sup> -Tb1-O3	136.63(18)	O9-Tb2-O9 <sup>8</sup>	67.7(2)
O2 <sup>3</sup> -Tb1-O5 <sup>4</sup>	76.2(2)	O9 <sup>8</sup> -Tb2-O10	68.33(19)
O2 <sup>3</sup> -Tb1-O6 <sup>4</sup>	92.4(2)	O9-Tb2-O10	133.0(2)
O3-Tb1-O1 <sup>3</sup>	149.49(17)	O9 <sup>8</sup> -Tb2-O13 <sup>7</sup>	116.28(16)
O4-Tb1-O1 <sup>3</sup>	77.11(19)	O9-Tb2-O13 <sup>7</sup>	147.36(16)
O4-Tb1-O2 <sup>3</sup>	126.3(2)	O9-Tb2-O16 <sup>7</sup>	146.43(19)
O4-Tb1-O3	92.21(19)	O10-Tb2-O5 <sup>7</sup>	131.6(2)
O4-Tb1-O5 <sup>4</sup>	127.82(19)	O10-Tb2-O13 <sup>7</sup>	70.14(19)
O4-Tb1-O6 <sup>4</sup>	76.6(2)	O15 <sup>7</sup> -Tb2-O3 <sup>5</sup>	149.56(19)
O4-Tb1-O9 <sup>1</sup>	148.0(2)	O15 <sup>7</sup> -Tb2-O5 <sup>7</sup>	133.30(17)
O4-Tb1-O14 <sup>2</sup>	70.51(18)	O15 <sup>7</sup> -Tb2-O9 <sup>8</sup>	69.21(17)
O4-Tb1-O15 <sup>2</sup>	78.6(2)	O15 <sup>7</sup> -Tb2-O9	85.10(17)
O5 <sup>4</sup> -Tb1-O1 <sup>3</sup>	100.86(18)	O15 <sup>7</sup> -Tb2-O10	94.5(2)
O5 <sup>4</sup> -Tb1-O3	63.24(18)	O15 <sup>7</sup> -Tb2-O13 <sup>7</sup>	68.33(16)
O6 <sup>4</sup> -Tb1-O1 <sup>3</sup>	73.23(18)	O16 <sup>7</sup> -Tb2-O5 <sup>7</sup>	77.60(19)
O6 <sup>4</sup> -Tb1-O3	76.53(19)	O16 <sup>7</sup> -Tb2-O9 <sup>8</sup>	143.01(18)
O6 <sup>4</sup> -Tb1-O5 <sup>4</sup>	54.06(18)	O16 <sup>7</sup> -Tb2-O10	74.7(2)
O9 <sup>1</sup> -Tb1-O1 <sup>3</sup>	127.72(16)	O16 <sup>7</sup> -Tb2-O13 <sup>7</sup>	47.47(18)
O9 <sup>1</sup> -Tb1-O2 <sup>3</sup>	74.64(16)	O1 <sup>7</sup> -Tb3-O14 <sup>10</sup>	72.19(19)
O9 <sup>1</sup> -Tb1-O3	79.17(18)	O7 <sup>7</sup> -Tb3-O17	80.47(19)
O9 <sup>1</sup> -Tb1-O5 <sup>4</sup>	72.37(18)	O7 <sup>7</sup> -Tb3-O1 <sup>19</sup>	78.4(2)
O9 <sup>1</sup> -Tb1-O6 <sup>4</sup>	126.10(18)	O7 <sup>7</sup> -Tb3-O14	143.03(18)
O14 <sup>2</sup> -Tb1-O1 <sup>3</sup>	65.59(17)	O7 <sup>7</sup> -Tb3-O14 <sup>10</sup>	136.15(18)
O14 <sup>2</sup> -Tb1-O2 <sup>3</sup>	80.1(2)	O7 <sup>7</sup> -Tb3-O15	76.57(19)
O14 <sup>2</sup> -Tb1-O3	137.72(18)		