

## **Supplementary Information**

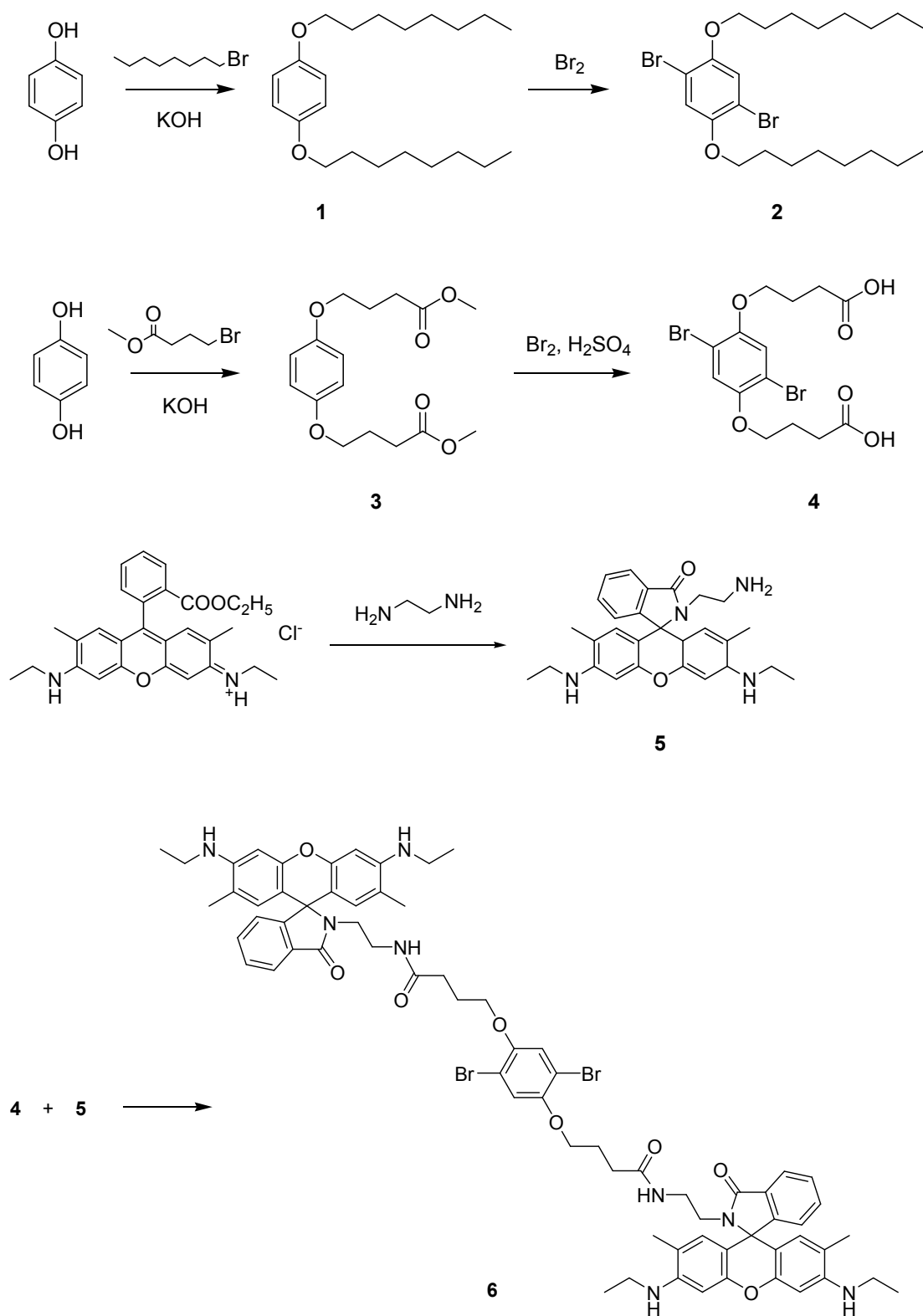
for

### **Synthesis of poly(*p*-phenylene) containing rhodamine 6G derivative for detection of Fe (III) in organic and aqueous media**

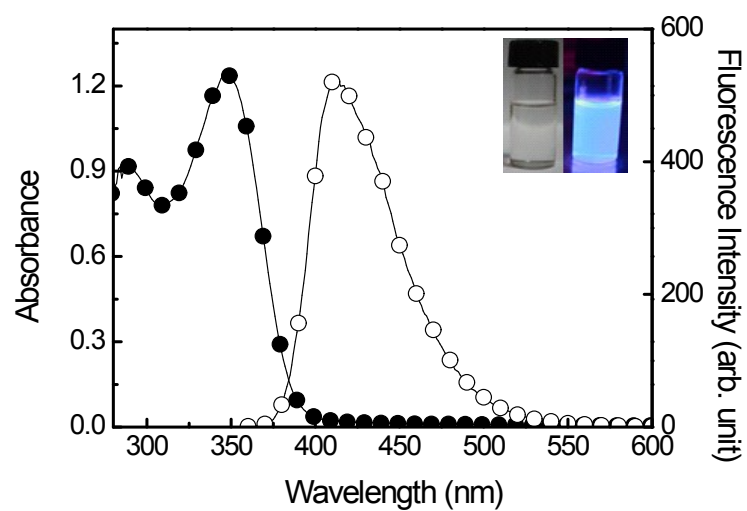
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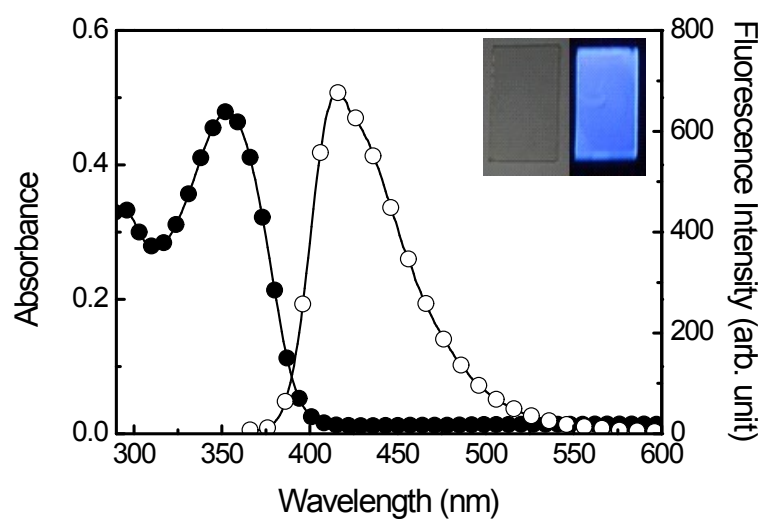
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**Scheme S1.** Synthesis of monomers.

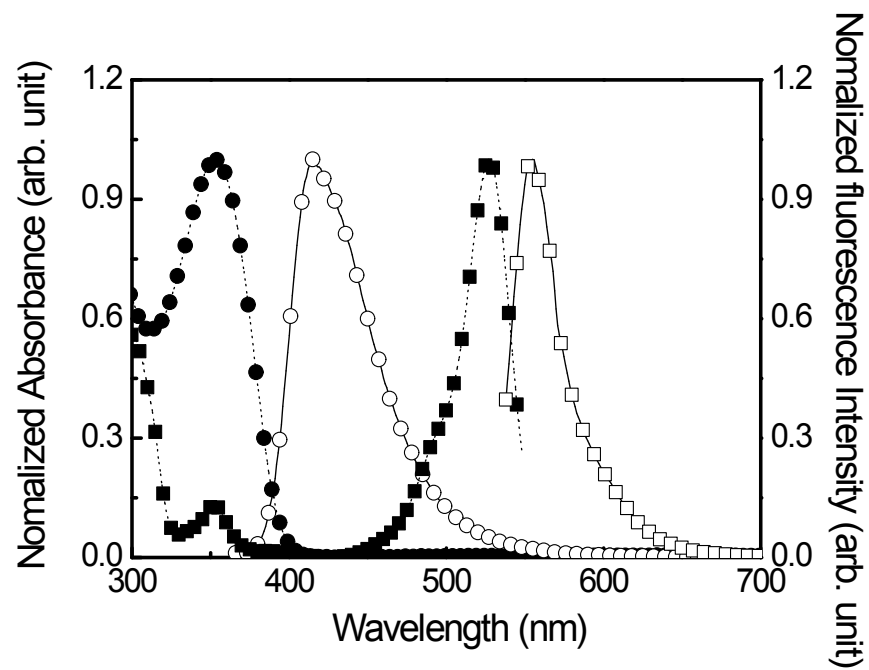


(a)

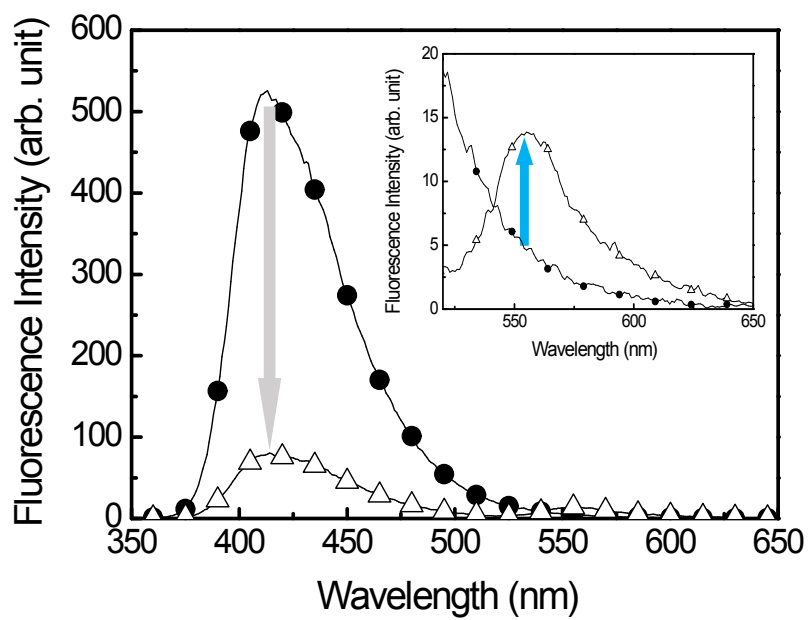


(b)

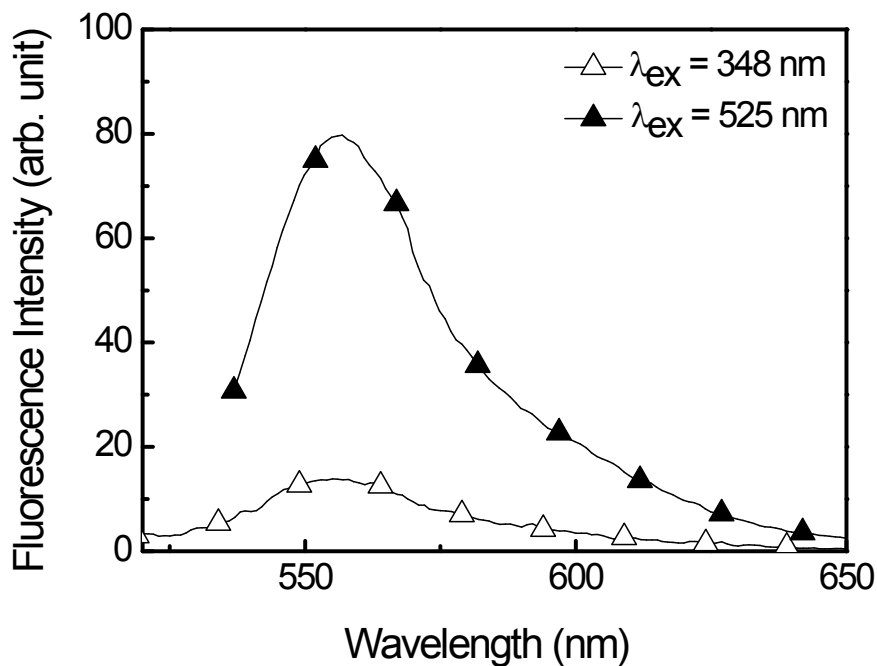
**Figure S1.** UV-vis (●) and fluorescence (○) spectra of R6G-PPP (a) in THF solution (0.01 mg/mL) and in the film (Excitation wavelength 354 nm). Inset photographs were taken under ambient (left) and UV light (right; 365 nm).



(a)

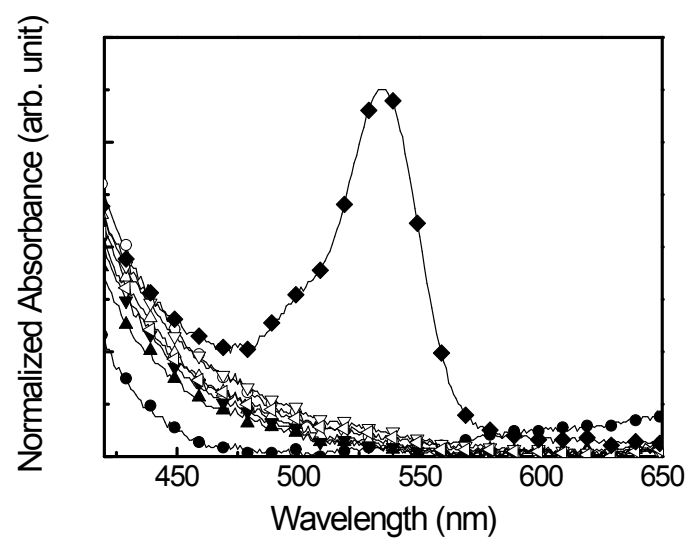


(b)

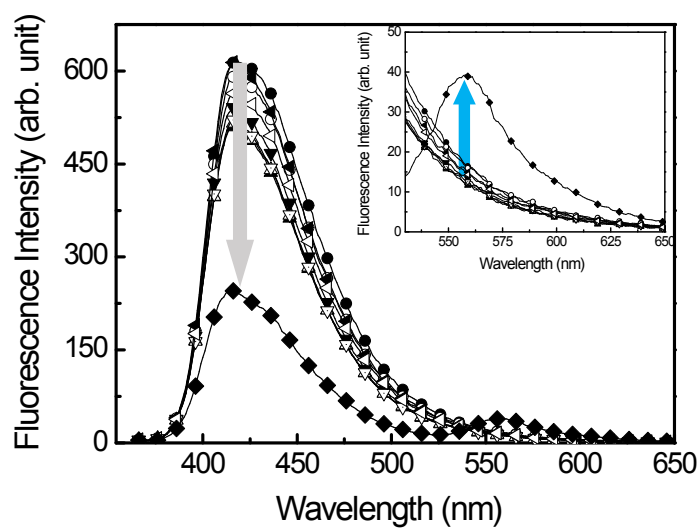


(c)

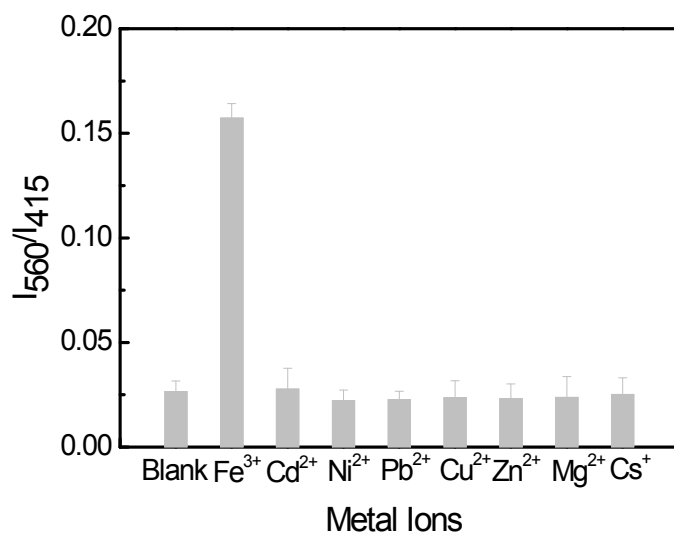
**Figure S2.** (a) UV-vis (dotted) and fluorescence (solid) spectra of R6G-PPP film ( $\circ$ ,  $\bullet$ ) and ring-opened form of R6G ( $\square$ ,  $\blacksquare$ ). For ring-opening of R6G moiety, an acid was used. (b) Changes in fluorescence spectra of R6G-PPP in THF solution (0.01 mg/mL) in the absence ( $\bullet$ ) and presence of Fe (III) ( $\Delta$ ).  $[\text{Fe (III)}] = 5.0 \times 10^{-3}$  M. Excitation wavelength 348 nm. Inset demonstrates partial fluorescence spectra from 500 nm to 600 nm for the clear increase in the fluorescence intensity. (c) Partial fluorescence spectra of R6G-PPP in THF solution (0.01 mg/mL) in the presence of Fe (III) ion upon excitation at 348 nm ( $\Delta$ ) and 525 nm ( $\blacktriangle$ ).



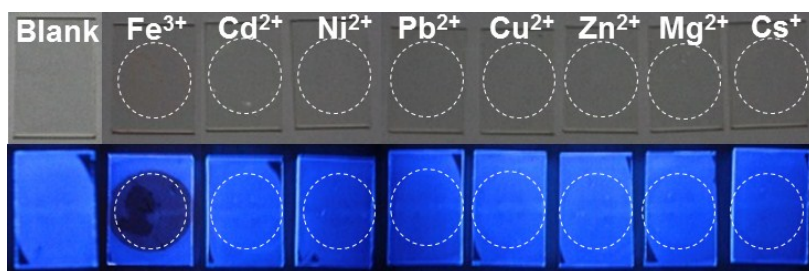
(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

**Figure S3.** Changes in (a) UV-vis and (b) fluorescence spectra of R6G-PPP film upon dropping various metal ion solutions. [Metal ions] = 0.01 M; Excitation wavelength  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 354$  nm; exposure time: 1 h. Blank (●);  $\text{Cs}^{+}$  (○);  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  (▲);  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  (Δ);  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  (▼);  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  (▽);  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  (◀);  $\text{Cd}^{2+}$  (◁);  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  (◆). The inset shows partial fluorescence spectra. (c) Variation in the fluorescence intensity ratio ( $I_{560}/I_{415}$ ) in the dropping site of metal ion solution.  $I_{560}$  and  $I_{415}$  correspond to fluorescence intensity at 560 nm and 415 nm,

respectively. (d) Photographic images of R6G-PPP film after dropping a solution of various metal ions, taken under ambient (upper) and 365 nm UV light (bottom). White dotted circles in images indicate the dropping area of metal ion solutions.

**Table S1.** Comparison of different methods for fluorescence detection of Fe (III) ion

| Type     | Methods                     | LOD                     | Reference |
|----------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| Solid    | Electrospun PVA fibers      | $1.0 \times 10^{-6}$ M  | Ref 1     |
|          | PVA film                    | $1.0 \times 10^{-6}$ M  | Ref 2     |
|          | R6G-PPP strip               | $1.0 \times 10^{-6}$ M  | This work |
| Solution | Graphene quantum dots       | $7.22 \times 10^{-6}$ M | Ref 3     |
|          | Cellulose nanocrystals      | $1.0 \times 10^{-6}$ M  | Ref 4     |
|          | Schiff base molecule        | $2.95 \times 10^{-6}$ M | Ref 5     |
|          | Conjugated polymer solution | $3.0 \times 10^{-7}$ M  | Ref 6     |

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