

# A Water-stable Zinc(II)-organic Framework as an “on-off-on” Fluorescent Sensor for Detection of Fe<sup>3+</sup> and Reduced Glutathione

Xiao-Qing Wang<sup>a\*</sup>, Jing Tang<sup>a</sup>, Xuehui Ma<sup>a</sup>, Dan Wu<sup>a</sup> and Jie Yang<sup>b\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Chemistry, College of Science, North University of China, Taiyuan 030051, PR China

<sup>b</sup> Shandong Provincial Key Laboratory of Chemical Energy Storage and Novel Cell Technology, and School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Liaocheng University, Liaocheng 252000, PR China

## 1. Photoluminescent sensing experiments.

The fluorescence performance of complex **1** in the phosphate buffered saline (PBS) of pH = 7.0 (0.1 M) was studied at room temperature. Firstly, 0.01 M various cations (including Na<sup>+</sup>, Ag<sup>+</sup>, Ni<sup>2+</sup>, Zn<sup>2+</sup>, Ca<sup>2+</sup>, Mg<sup>2+</sup>, Co<sup>2+</sup>, Cu<sup>2+</sup>, Ba<sup>2+</sup>, Mn<sup>2+</sup>, Cd<sup>2+</sup>, Fe<sup>2+</sup>, Pb<sup>2+</sup>, Hg<sup>2+</sup>, Cr<sup>3+</sup>, Al<sup>3+</sup>, Fe<sup>3+</sup>) and reduced glutathione (GSH), ascorbic acid (AA), amino acid (including glutamine (Glu), aspartic (Asp), cysteine (Cys), methionine (Met), proline (Pro), glycine (Gly), valine (Val), threonine (Thr), asparagine (Asn), phenylalanine (Phe), histidine (His), leucine (Leu) and L-isoleucine (Lie)) PBS solutions were prepared at room temperature. Secondly, 2.0 mg of a powder sample of complex **1** was soaked in PBS solution of different analytes (2 mL) and the fluorescence intensity of complex **1** in analytes was recorded. For Fe<sup>3+</sup>@**1** sensing reduced GSH, firstly, 45 μL (0.01 M) of Fe<sup>3+</sup> ions were added to the suspension of complex **1** (2 mL) and record the fluorescence intensity of complex **1**. Based on the first step, 100 μL (0.01 M) of GSH were added and the fluorescence intensity of Fe<sup>3+</sup>@**1**-GSH was collected.

## 2. Fluorescence Titration experiments.

The process of fluorescence titration experiments were achieved by gradually adding various target analytes solution (0.01 M) to the suspensions of complex **1**.

## 3. Time-dependent fluorescence sensing experiments.

The fluorescence intensities of complex **1** within the Fe<sup>3+</sup> solution (0.225 mM), Pb<sup>2+</sup> solution (0.48 mM), were recorded at 30 s, 1 min, 2 min, 3 min, 4 min, 6 min 8 min and 10 min. For Fe<sup>3+</sup>@**1** sensing reduced GSH, firstly, 45 μL of Fe<sup>3+</sup> ions solution were added to the suspension of complex **1** (2 mL), secondly, based on the first step, 100 μL of reduced GSH solution were added, the fluorescence intensity of complex **1** was collected at next 30 s, 1 min, 2 min, 3 min, 4 min, 6 min, 8 min and 10 min.

## 4. Recyclable Luminescence Experiments.

After the first fluorescence detection of various analytes, the powder sample of complex **1** was recovered by centrifugation and washed by water and EtOH. After drying, the samples collected were used again for the detection of various analytes.

## 5. Sensing of reduced GSH in practical samples.

10 μL of diluted serum and 100 μL of real samples were added into the solution of complex **1** (2 mg·mL<sup>-1</sup>), respectively. A stable suspension was obtained after 30 min of ultrasound. Then, PBS solution of Fe<sup>3+</sup> (0.01 M, 45 μL) was added into the suspension. With gradually adding reduced GSH solution, the fluorescence emission spectrum of Fe<sup>3+</sup>@**1** was recorded.

**Table S1** Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) of complex **1**.

Zn2 <sup>i</sup> —O2	2.092(8)	Zn2—O5	2.341(8)
Zn2 <sup>i</sup> —O1	2.242(9)	Zn1 <sup>ii</sup> —O5	1.993(9)
Zn2 <sup>i</sup> —C1	2.498(10)	Zn2—O6	2.184(9)
Zn2—O4 <sup>ii</sup>	2.003(6)	Zn2—N2	2.055(7)
O3—Zn1	1.911(6)	C1—O2—Zn2 <sup>i</sup>	94.6(7)
C1—O1—Zn2 <sup>i</sup>	86.1(7)	O2—C1—Zn2 <sup>i</sup>	56.6(5)
O1—C1—Zn2 <sup>i</sup>	63.6(6)	C2—C1—Zn2 <sup>i</sup>	175.1(7)
C21—O5—Zn2	87.3(7)	C21—O5—Zn1 <sup>ii</sup>	126.9(7)
Zn1 <sup>ii</sup> —O5—Zn2	118.6(3)	C21—O6—Zn2	96.5(8)
O2 <sup>iii</sup> —Zn2—O1 <sup>iii</sup>	59.1(3)	O2 <sup>iii</sup> —Zn2—C1 <sup>ii</sup>	28.8(3)
O2 <sup>iii</sup> —Zn2—O5	94.6(3)	O2 <sup>iii</sup> —Zn2—O6	92.0(4)
O1 <sup>iii</sup> —Zn2—C1 <sup>iii</sup>	30.3(3)	O1 <sup>iii</sup> —Zn2—O5	118.4(3)
O5—Zn2—C1 <sup>iii</sup>	107.9(3)	O6—Zn2—O1 <sup>iii</sup>	151.0(4)
O6—Zn2—C13	120.7(4)	O6—Zn2—O5	57.3(3)
O4 <sup>ii</sup> —Zn2—O2 <sup>iii</sup>	138.3(4)	O4 <sup>ii</sup> —Zn2—O1 <sup>iii</sup>	83.1(3)
O4 <sup>ii</sup> —Zn2—C1 <sup>iii</sup>	111.7(4)	O4 <sup>ii</sup> —Zn2—O5	88.1(3)
O4 <sup>ii</sup> —Zn2—O6	123.3(4)	O4 <sup>ii</sup> —Zn2—N2	95.9(3)
N2—Zn2—O2 <sup>iii</sup>	105.4(3)	N2—Zn2—O1 <sup>iii</sup>	97.6(3)
N2—Zn2—O6	103.8(3)	N2—Zn2—O5	144.0(3)
N2—Zn2—O2 <sup>iii</sup>	91.7(3)	C8—O3—Zn1	131.5(6)
O5 <sup>iv</sup> —Zn1—O5 <sup>v</sup>	94.7(5)	O3—Zn1—O5 <sup>v</sup>	107.6(3)
O3—Zn1—O5 <sup>iv</sup>	117.1(3)	O3 <sup>vi</sup> —Zn1—O5 <sup>v</sup>	117.1(3)
O3 <sup>vi</sup> —Zn1—O5 <sup>iv</sup>	107.6(3)	O3 <sup>vi</sup> —Zn1—O3	112.1(4)
Symmetry codes: (i) 1+x,+y,+z; (ii) -1+x,-1+y,+z; (iii) -1+x,+y,+z; (iv) 1-x,-x+y,-2/3-z; (v) 1+x,1+y,+z; (vi) x,-x+y,-2/3-z.			

**Table S2.** Comparison of reported MOF-based sensors for Fe<sup>3+</sup> and Pb<sup>2+</sup> detection.

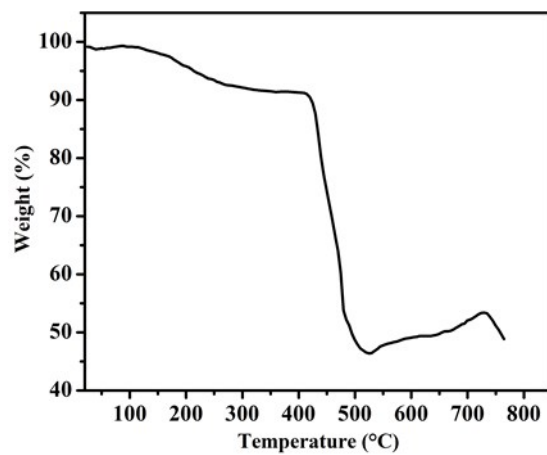
	MOF	Metal ions	Detection Limit	Medium Used	Ref.
1	[Zn <sub>3</sub> (TNB)(DPE) <sub>2</sub> ] $\cdot$ 2H <sub>2</sub> O $\cdot$ DMF	Fe <sup>3+</sup>	3.4 $\times$ 10 <sup>-7</sup> M	PBS solution	This work
2	[Cd <sub>2</sub> (HDDB)(bimpy)(NMP)(H <sub>2</sub> O)] $\cdot$ 3H <sub>2</sub> O	Fe <sup>3+</sup>	5.9 $\times$ 10 <sup>-7</sup> M	H <sub>2</sub> O	30
3	[Zn(bimpy)(1,4-ndc)] $\cdot$ H <sub>2</sub> O	Fe <sup>3+</sup>	8.82 $\times$ 10 <sup>-7</sup> M	H <sub>2</sub> O	22
4	{[Cd(L)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> ] $\cdot$ 4H <sub>2</sub> O} <sub>n</sub>	Fe <sup>3+</sup>	0.78 $\mu$ M	H <sub>2</sub> O	49
5	[TbL $\cdot$ 2H <sub>2</sub> O] <sub>n</sub>	Fe <sup>3+</sup>	8.32 $\times$ 10 <sup>-6</sup> M	H <sub>2</sub> O	50
6	{[Eu <sub>2</sub> (L) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> ] $\cdot$ 5H <sub>2</sub> O $\cdot$ 6DMAC} <sub>n</sub>	Fe <sup>3+</sup>	10 <sup>-5</sup> M	H <sub>2</sub> O	51
7	{Zn <sub>2</sub> (tp <sup>6</sup> )(tad) <sub>2</sub> ] $\cdot$ H <sub>2</sub> O}	Fe <sup>3+</sup>	4.72 $\times$ 10 <sup>-6</sup> M	H <sub>2</sub> O	52
8	Ti <sub>2</sub> (HDOBDC) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> DOBDC)	Fe <sup>3+</sup>	0.45 $\mu$ M	H <sub>2</sub> O	53
9	{[Cd <sub>2</sub> (L)(DMA)] $\cdot$ H <sub>2</sub> N(Me) <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>n</sub>	Fe <sup>3+</sup>	1.2 $\times$ 10 <sup>-3</sup> M	H <sub>2</sub> O	54
10	{Zn <sub>2</sub> (NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (4,4'-bpy) <sub>2</sub> (TBA)}	Fe <sup>3+</sup>	1.2 $\times$ 10 <sup>-6</sup> M	H <sub>2</sub> O	55
11	[CH <sub>3</sub> -d <sup>pb</sup> ] <sub>2</sub> [Mg <sub>3</sub> (1,4-NDC) <sub>4</sub> ( $\mu$ -H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> (CH <sub>3</sub> OH)(H <sub>2</sub> O)] $\cdot$ 1.5H <sub>2</sub> O	Fe <sup>3+</sup>	4.7 $\times$ 10 <sup>-4</sup> M	H <sub>2</sub> O	56
12	{[Mg <sub>2</sub> ( $\mu_6$ -L)( $\mu_2$ -OH <sub>2</sub> )(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub> ] $\cdot$ DMF} <sub>n</sub>	Fe <sup>3+</sup>	1.68 $\times$ 10 <sup>-3</sup> M	H <sub>2</sub> O	57
13	[Ca <sub>2</sub> ( $\mu_{10}$ -L)(EtOH)] <sub>n</sub>	Fe <sup>3+</sup>	1.70 $\times$ 10 <sup>-3</sup> M	H <sub>2</sub> O	57
14	{[Zn-(ATA)(L)] $\cdot$ H <sub>2</sub> O} <sub>n</sub>	Fe <sup>3+</sup>	3.76 $\mu$ M	H <sub>2</sub> O	58
15	{[Cd(ATA)(L)] $\cdot$ 2H <sub>2</sub> O} <sub>n</sub>	Fe <sup>3+</sup>	1.77 $\mu$ M	H <sub>2</sub> O	58
16	[Zn <sub>3</sub> (TNB)(DPE) <sub>2</sub> ] $\cdot$ 2H <sub>2</sub> O $\cdot$ DMF	Pb <sup>2+</sup>	4.59 $\times$ 10 <sup>-7</sup> M	PBS solution	This work
17	{[Mg <sub>2</sub> ( $\mu_6$ -L)( $\mu_2$ -OH <sub>2</sub> )(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub> ] $\cdot$ DMF} <sub>n</sub>	Pb <sup>2+</sup>	1.32 $\times$ 10 <sup>-3</sup> M	H <sub>2</sub> O	57
18	[Ca <sub>2</sub> ( $\mu_{10}$ -L)(EtOH)] <sub>n</sub>	Pb <sup>2+</sup>	6.94 $\times$ 10 <sup>-4</sup> M	H <sub>2</sub> O	57
19	[Zn(HL)(bipy) <sub>0.5</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)] $\cdot$ 2H <sub>2</sub> O	Pb <sup>2+</sup>	0.8 $\mu$ M	H <sub>2</sub> O	59
20	{[Eu <sub>2</sub> (PBA) <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ] $\cdot$ DMF $\cdot$ 3H <sub>2</sub> O} <sub>n</sub>	Pb <sup>2+</sup>	68.13 $\mu$ M	DMF	60
21	{[Cd(BIPA)(HIPA)] $\cdot$ DMF} <sub>n</sub>	Pb <sup>2+</sup>	5.0 $\times$ 10 <sup>-7</sup> M	H <sub>2</sub> O	61
22	{[Cd(BIPA)(IPA)] $\cdot$ DMF} <sub>n</sub>	Pb <sup>2+</sup>	7.5 $\times$ 10 <sup>-7</sup> M	H <sub>2</sub> O	61
23	(Eu <sub>2</sub> (FDC) <sub>3</sub> DMA(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ] $\cdot$ DMA $\cdot$ 4.5H <sub>2</sub> O	Pb <sup>2+</sup>	8.22 $\mu$ M	H <sub>2</sub> O	62

**Table S3.** Comparison of reported substances for reduced GSH detection.

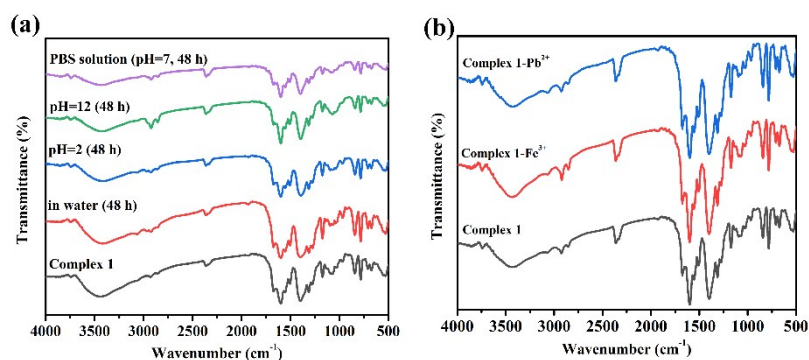
	MOF		Detection Limit	Medium Used	Ref.
1	[Zn <sub>3</sub> (TNB)(DPE) <sub>2</sub> ]•2H <sub>2</sub> O•DMF	FL (turn-on)	2.48 × 10 <sup>-8</sup> M	PBS solution	This work
2	Cu-MOF	Colorimetric	0.97 μM	MOPS buffer	66
3	g-CNQD-Hg <sup>2+</sup>	FL (turn-on)	37 nM	PBS solution	4
4	GQDs-MnO <sub>2</sub>	FL (turn-on)	150 nM	PBS solution	67
5	GQDs-Au@MnO <sub>2</sub>	FL (turn-on)	0.11 μM	PBS solution	35
6	B-CQDs	FL (turn-on)	0.5 nM	PBS solution	68
7	N-CDs	FL (turn-on)	0.226 μM		36

**Table S4** Determination of reduced GSH in fruits and vegetables by the proposed fluorescence sensing method.

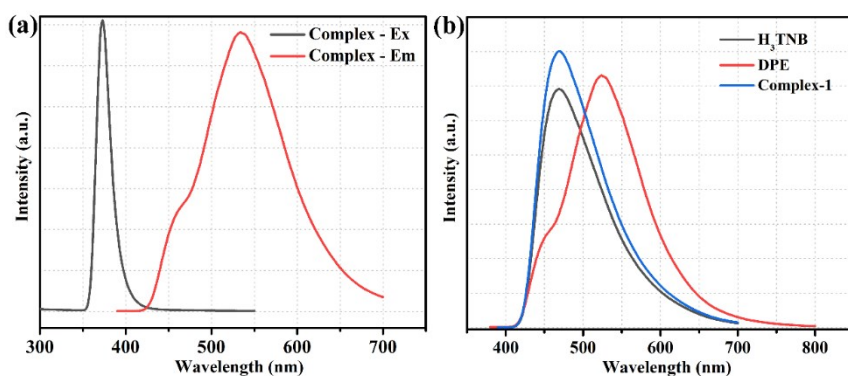
Sample	Added ( $\mu\text{M}$ )	Detected ( $\mu\text{M}$ )	Recovery (%)	RSD (%, n=3)
Tomato	0.300	0.321	86.3	3.03
	0.450	0.462	88.8	2.17
Cherry tomato	0.300	0.315	85.5	2.28
	0.450	0.473	103.7	2.13
Cucumber	0.300	0.305	92.2	3.33
	0.450	0.465	97.2	5.79
White grape	0.300	0.298	95.8	6.25
	0.450	0.469	101	1.73
Purple grape	0.300	0.301	82.1	3.20
	0.450	0.473	92.9	1.24



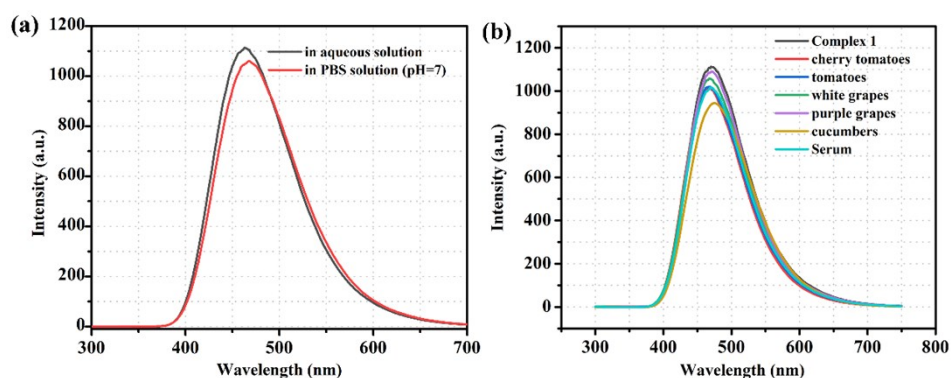
**Fig. S1** TGA pattern of complex 1.



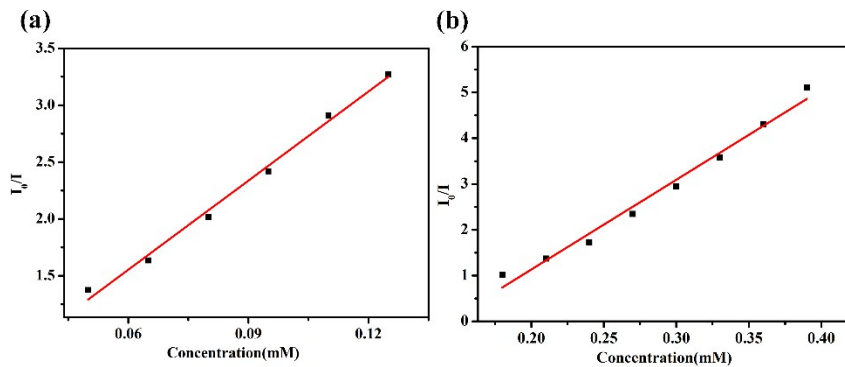
**Fig. S2** FTIR spectra of complex 1 recorded in aqueous solution and different pH value of 2, 12 and PBS solution for 48 h (a); and after immersing in  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  for 48 h (b).



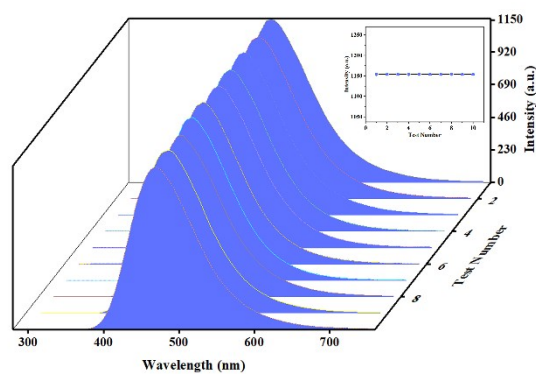
**Fig. S3** (a) Solid state fluorescence excitation and emission spectra of complex 1; (b) The fluorescence emission spectra of  $\text{H}_3\text{TNB}$  ligand, DPE ligand and complex 1.



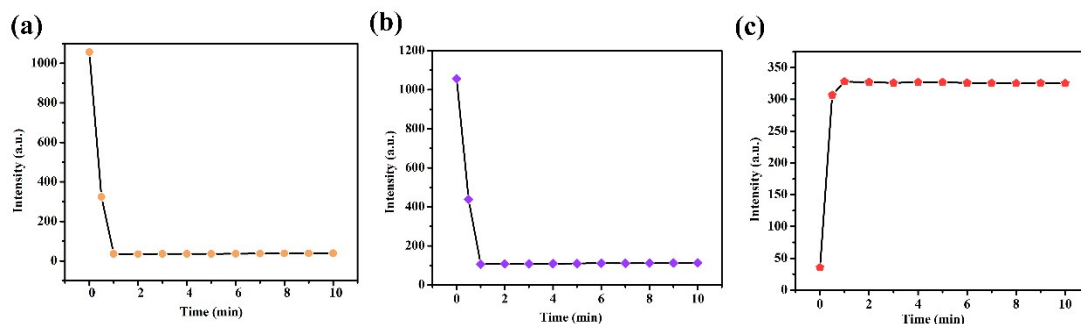
**Fig. S4** (a) The fluorescence intensity of complex 1 in aqueous solution (Black) and PBS solution (Red); (b) The fluorescence intensity of complex 1 in serum, cherry tomatoes, tomatoes, white grapes, purple grapes and cucumbers solution.



**Fig. S5** The  $SV$  plot for the fluorescence titration experiments of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$ .

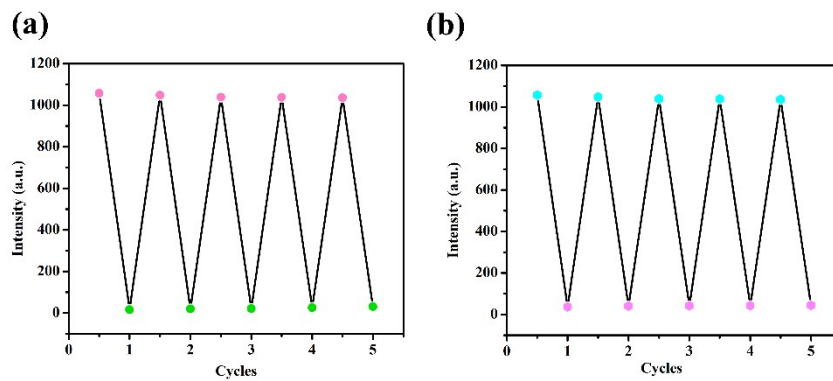


**Fig. S6** The fluorescence intensity of complex **1** was measured 10 times in water.

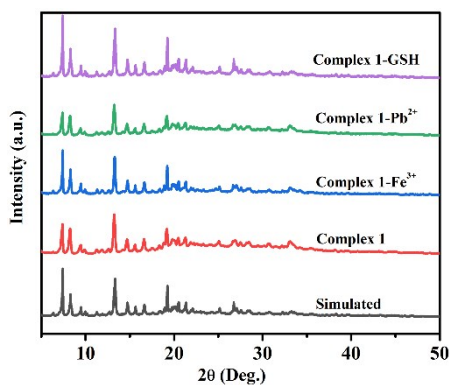


**Fig. S7** Time-dependent fluorescence intensity of complex **1** with the addition of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  (a),  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  (b),

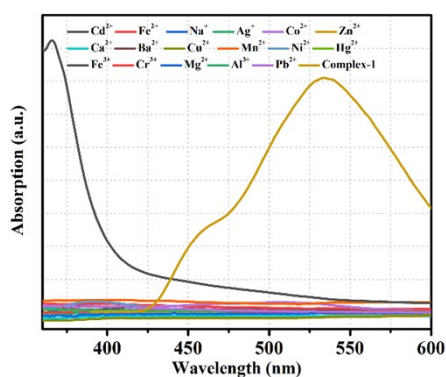
$\text{Fe}^{3+}@1\text{-GSH}$  (c).



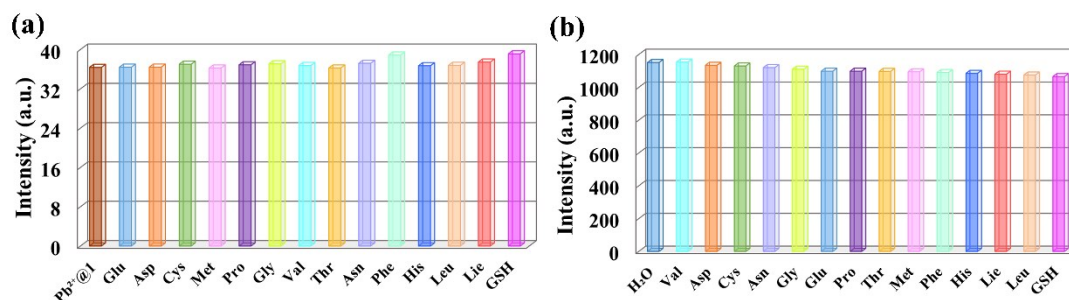
**Fig. S8** The recyclable fluorescence experiments of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  (a),  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  (b).



**Fig. S9** PXRD patterns of complex **1** after soaked in  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  and reduced GSH.

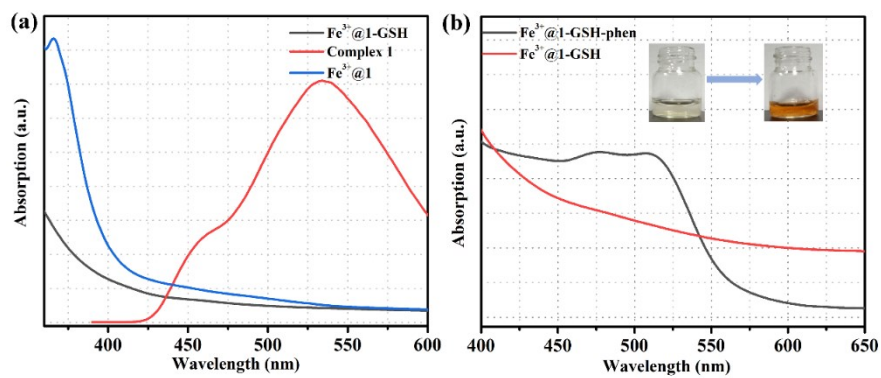


**Fig. S10** The UV-vis absorption spectra of different cations and the emission spectrum of complex **1**.



**Fig. S11** (a) The fluorescence intensity of  $\text{Pb}^{2+}@1$  after adding different amino acids and reduced GSH; (b) The fluorescence intensity after adding different amino acids and reduced GSH to the suspension of complex **1**.





**Fig. S12** (a) Fluorescence emission spectrum of **1** (red) and the UV-vis absorption spectra of Fe<sup>3+</sup>@**1** (blue) and Fe<sup>3+</sup>@**1**-GSH (black); (b) UV-vis absorption spectrum of Fe<sup>3+</sup>@**1**-GSH (red) and Fe<sup>3+</sup>@**1**-GSH-phen (black). Inset: The photograph of the solutions of Fe<sup>3+</sup>@**1**-GSH before (left) and after (right) addition of 1,10-phen under visual light.