

*Electronic Supplementary Information*

**Salicylazine activated plasmonic Silver Nanoprisms  
for deciphering Fe(II) & Fe(III) from their aqueous solutions**

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(a)



(b)

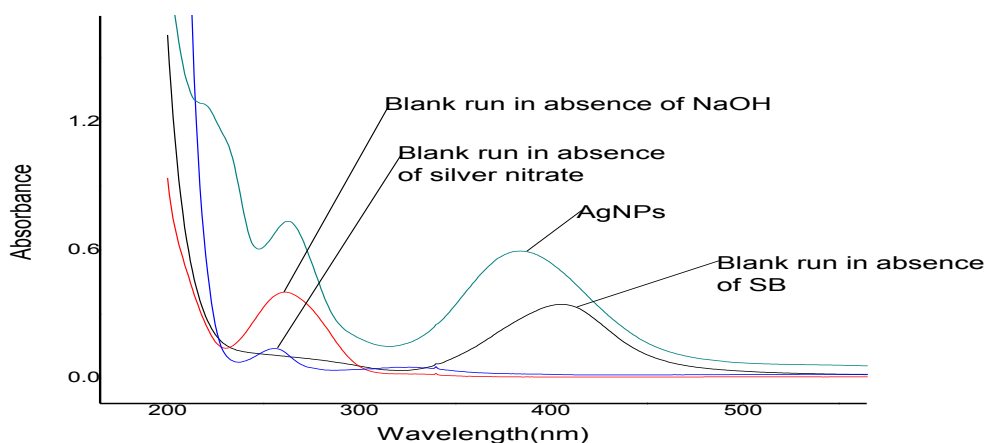


(c)



(d)

**Figure S1. Photographs showing: (a) Synthesized AgNPs , (b) Blank run in absence of  $\text{AgNO}_3$  , (c) Blank run in absence of Schiff base (Salicylazine) , (d) Blank run in absence of  $\text{NaOH}$  .**



**Figure S2: UV-Vis Spectra of AgNPs and various controlled preparations**

**Nanoparticle Volume, Mass and Concentration**

Volume of Silver Nanoparticle = 2831.765 nm<sup>3</sup> (approx.).

**Concentration of Silver Nanoparticle:**

$$N = M_c / m$$

where  $M_c$  is the mass concentration of the measured element and  $m$  is the mass of an individual nanoparticle. If the total mass concentration is expressed in units of g/mL, and the particle mass has units of g/particle, the calculated concentration has units of particles/mL

In our experiment we have:

$$\text{Salicylaldehyde Azine}(w_1) = 240 \text{ g} \quad C_1 = 240/100 = 2.40 \text{ g/ml}$$

$$\text{Silver Nitrate}(w_2) = 169.87 \text{ g} \quad C_2 = 169.87/100 = 1.69 \text{ g/ml}$$

$$\text{NaOH}(w_3) = 40 \text{ g} \quad C_3 = 40/100 = 0.40 \text{ g/ml}$$

$$\text{Water}(w_4) = 18 \text{ g} \quad C_4 = 18/100 = 0.18 \text{ g/ml}$$

$$\text{Chloroform}(w_5) = 119.38 \text{ g} \quad C_5 = 119.38/100 = 1.19 \text{ g/ml}$$

$$M_c = C_1 + C_2 + C_3 + C_4 + C_5 = (2.40 + 1.69 + 0.40 + 0.18 + 1.19) \text{ g/ml} = 5.86 \text{ g/ml}$$

For a hexagonal nanoparticles,  $V = 3 \times 1.73 \times s^2 \times h / 2$

$$V_1 = 3 \times 1.73 \times 19 \times 19 \times 3 / 2 = 2810.4 \text{ nm}^3 = 2.810 \times 10^{-18} \text{ ml}$$

$$V_2 = 3 \times 1.73 \times 17 \times 17 \times 0.8 / 2 = 599.96 \text{ nm}^3 = 0.6 \times 10^{-18} \text{ ml}$$

$$V_3 = 3 \times 1.73 \times 18 \times 18 \times 4.5 / 2 = 3783.51 \text{ nm}^3 = 3.78 \times 10^{-18} \text{ ml}$$

$$V_4 = 3 \times 1.73 \times 21 \times 21 \times 3.6 / 2 = 4119.82 \text{ nm}^3 = 4.12 \times 10^{-18} \text{ ml}$$

$$V_{\text{mean}} = (2.810 + 0.6 + 3.78 + 4.12) \times 10^{-18} / 4 = 2.83 \times 10^{-18} \text{ ml}$$

$$m_{\text{individual}} = \text{density}_{\text{Ag}} \times V_{\text{mean}} = 10.5 \text{ g/ml} \times 2.83 \times 10^{-18} \text{ ml} = 2.97 \times 10^{-17} \text{ g/particle}$$

Number Concentration of Nanoparticle:

$$N = M_c / m_{\text{individual}} = 5.86 \text{ g/ml} / 2.97 \times 10^{-17} \text{ g/particle}$$

$$= 1.97 \times 10^{17} \text{ particles/ml (approx..)}$$

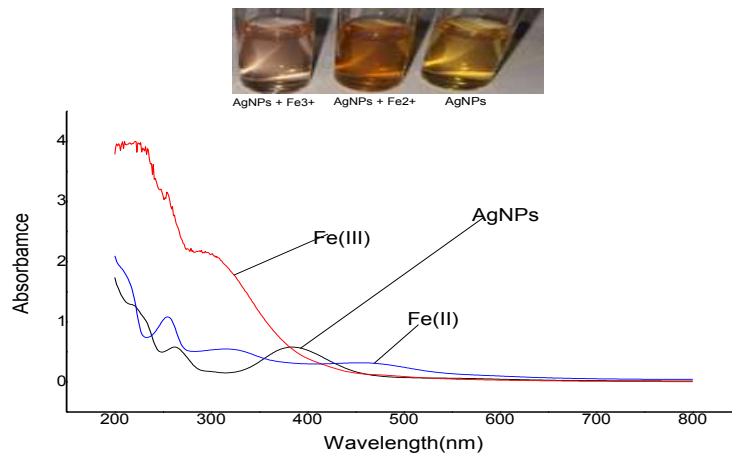
Nanoparticle Concentration in Molar Concentration:

The particle molarity is calculated as

$$M = N / 6.023 \times 10^{23}$$

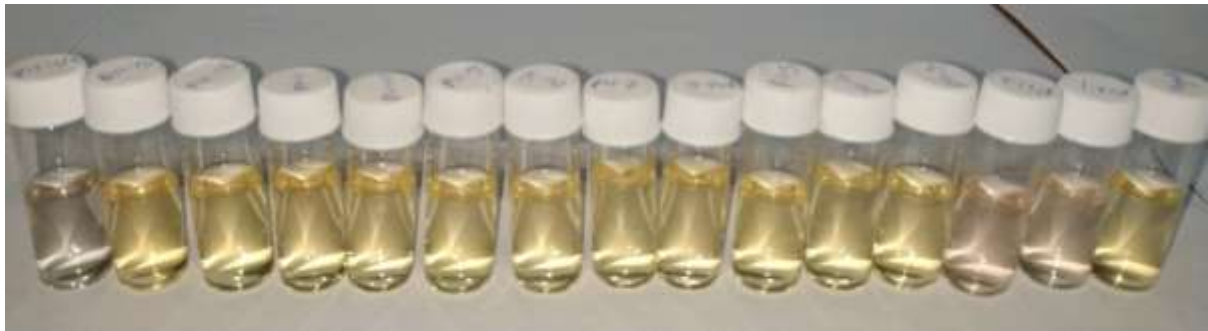
$$M = 1.97 \times 10^{17} / 6.023 \times 10^{23}$$

$$= 327 \text{ nM}$$



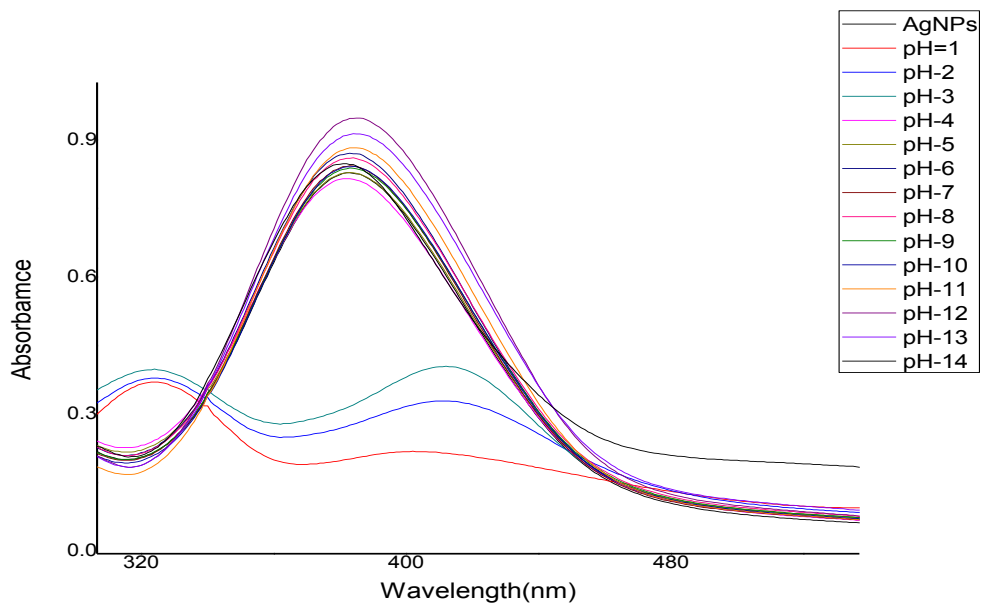
Visual Responses: AgNPs and their interaction with  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  along with their corresponding UV-vis spectra.

**Figure.S3**



14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 AgNPs

(a)



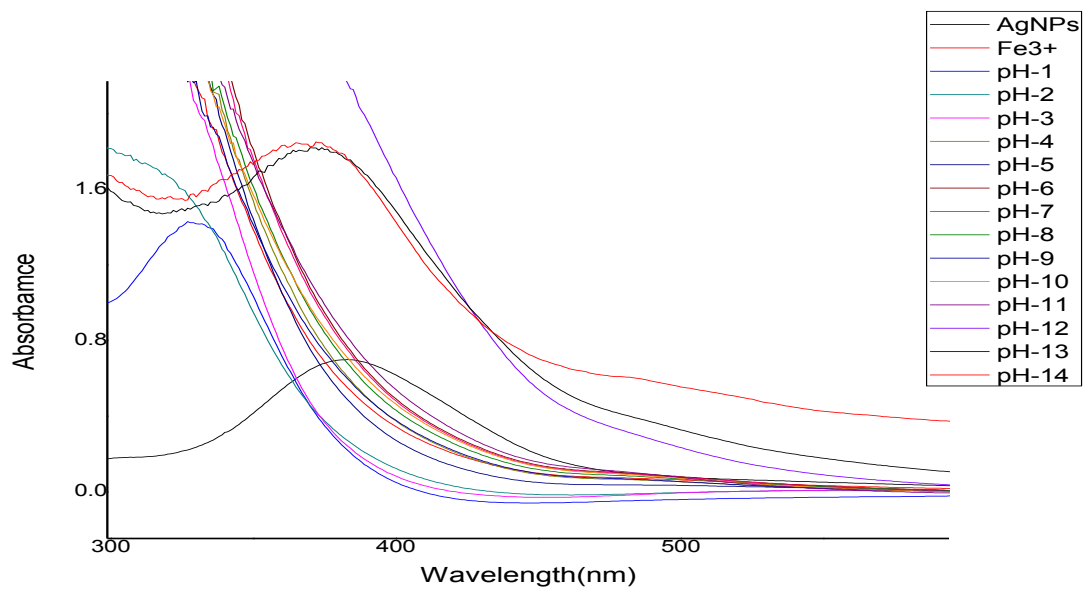
(b)

Figure S4 : Effect of pH variation (1-14) on AgNPs :(a) Visual changes in AgNPs (b) Corresponding UV-Visible spectra of AgNPs.



14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 Fe<sup>3+</sup> AgNPs

(a)



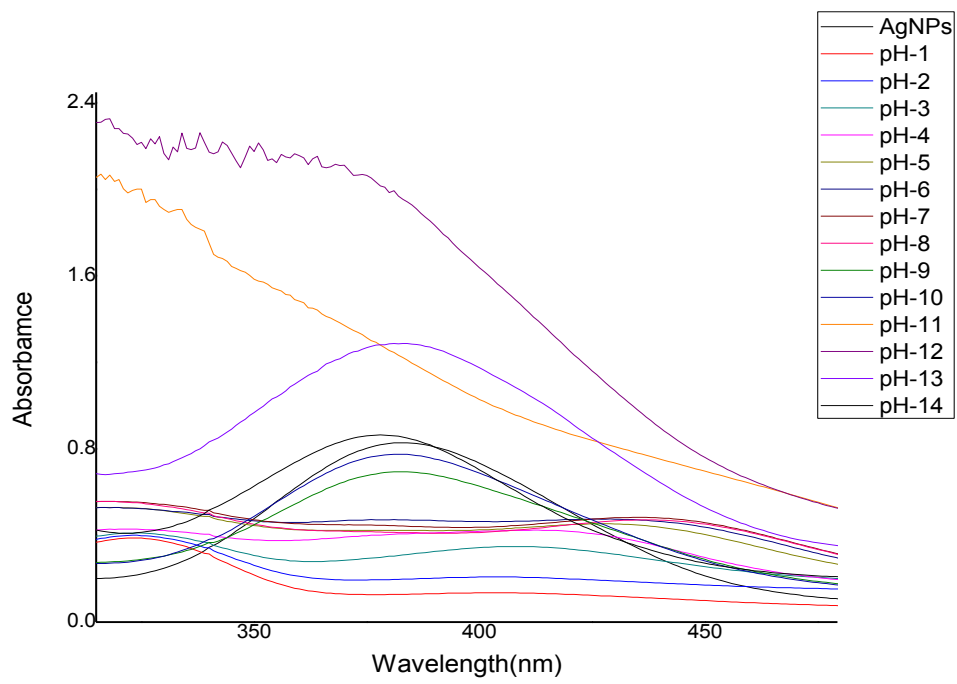
(b)

Figure S5: pH studies : (a) Sensing of Fe<sup>3+</sup> with AgNPs ,(b) Corresponding UV-Visible Spectra.



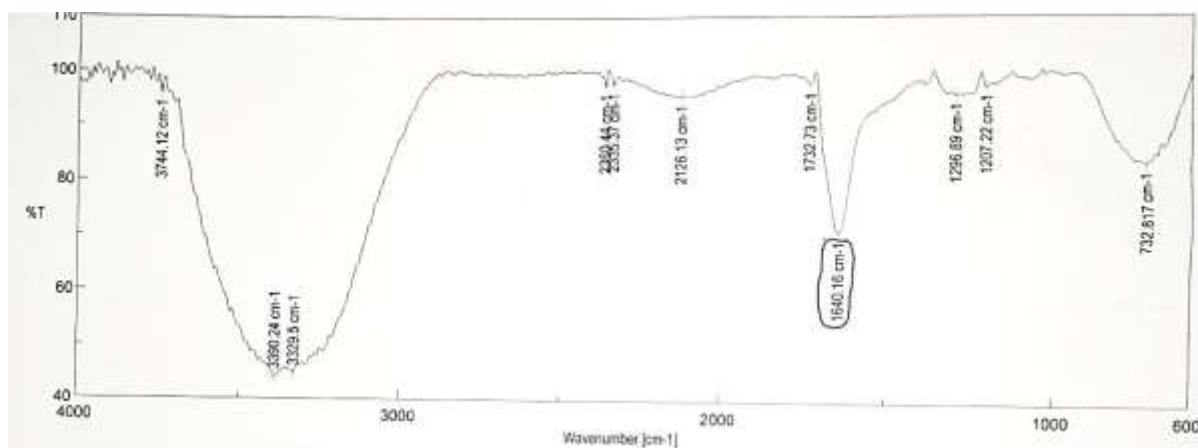
AgNPs Fe2+ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

(a)

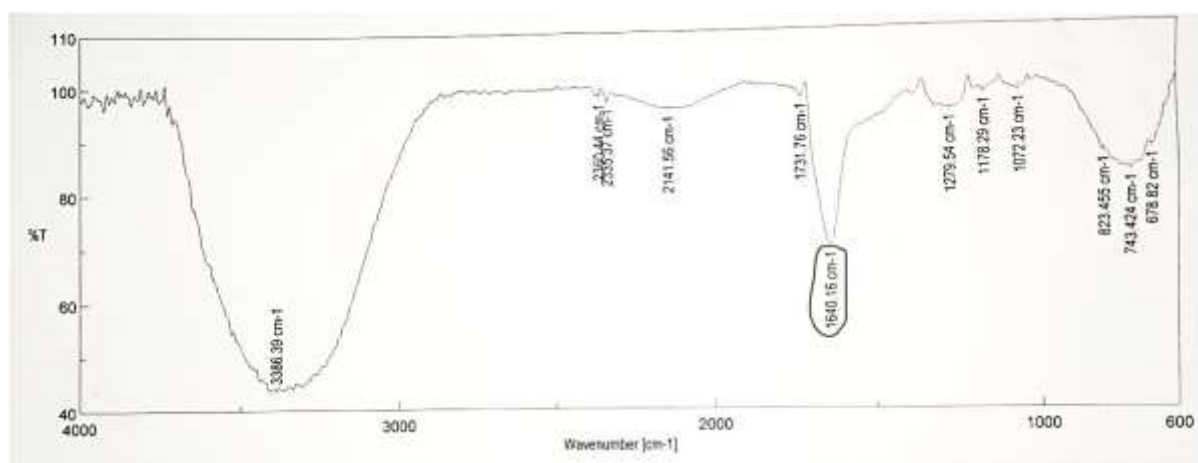


(b)

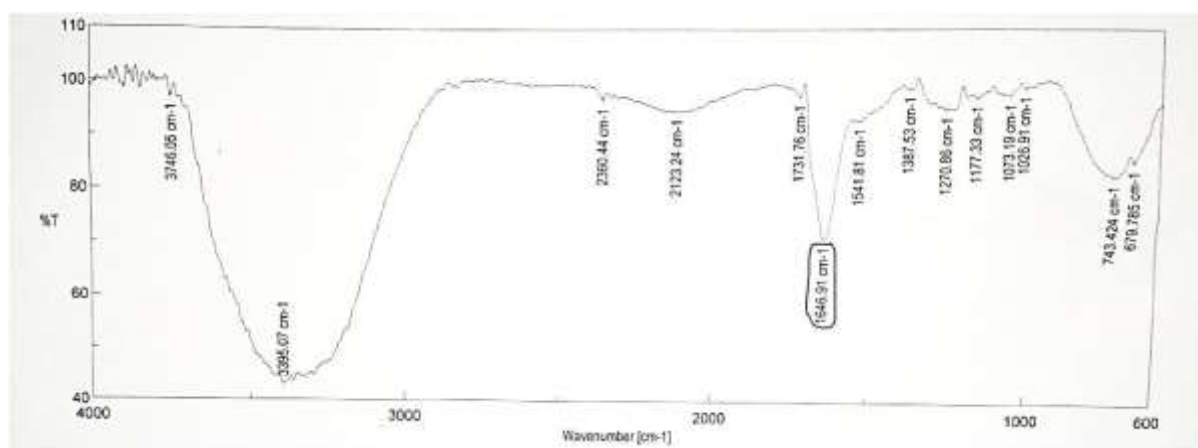
Figure S6 : pH studies : (a) Sensing of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  with AgNPs (b) Corresponding UV-Vis Spectra.



(a)



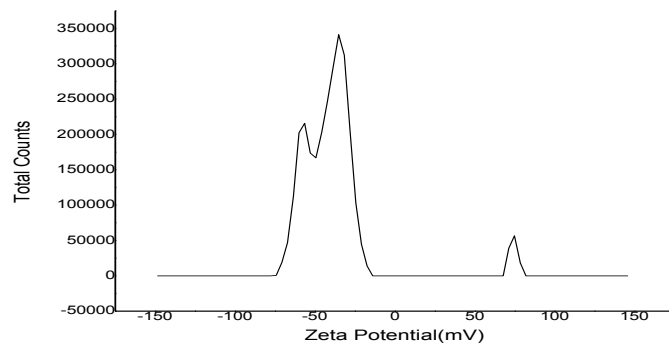
(b)



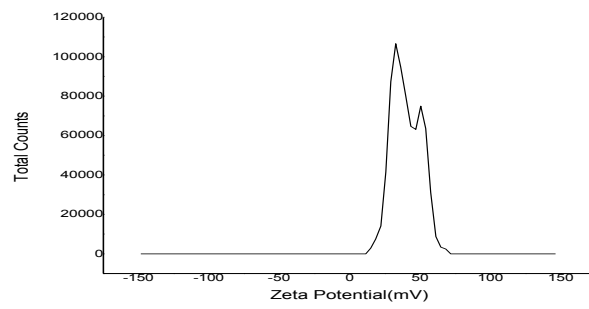
(c)

Figure S7 : Showing (a) FT-IR of AgNPs ; (b) FT-IR for the sensing of Fe<sup>2+</sup> with AgNPs ; (c) FT-IR for the sensing of Fe<sup>3+</sup> with AgNPs.

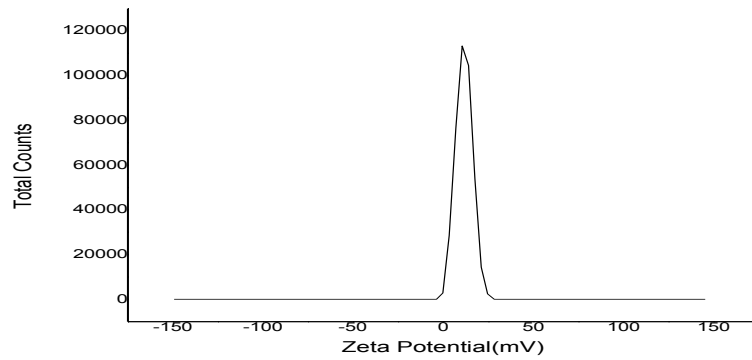




(a)

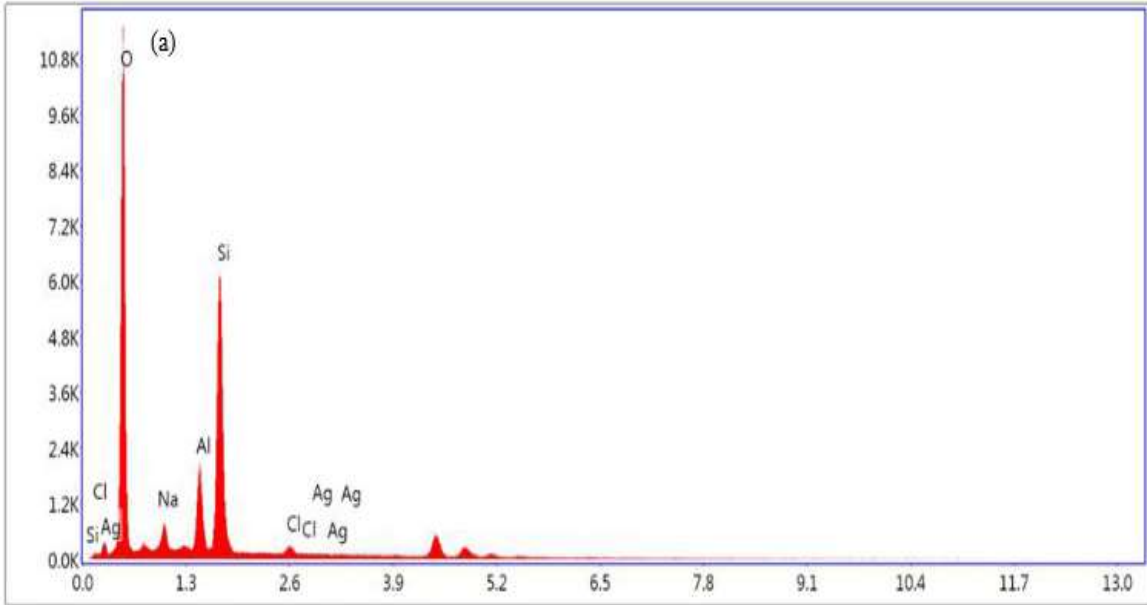


(b)

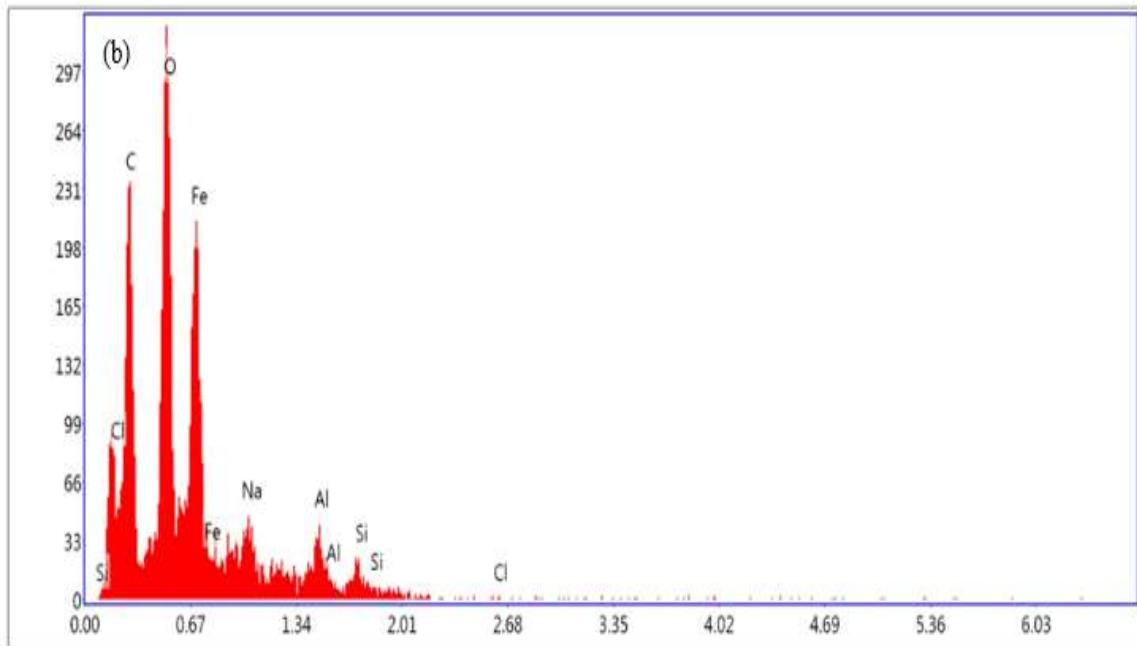


(c)

**Fig S8: Zeta Potential values of (a) AgNP ;(b) Interaction of AgNPs with  $Fe^{3+}$  ; (c) Interaction of AgNPs with  $Fe^{2+}$ .**

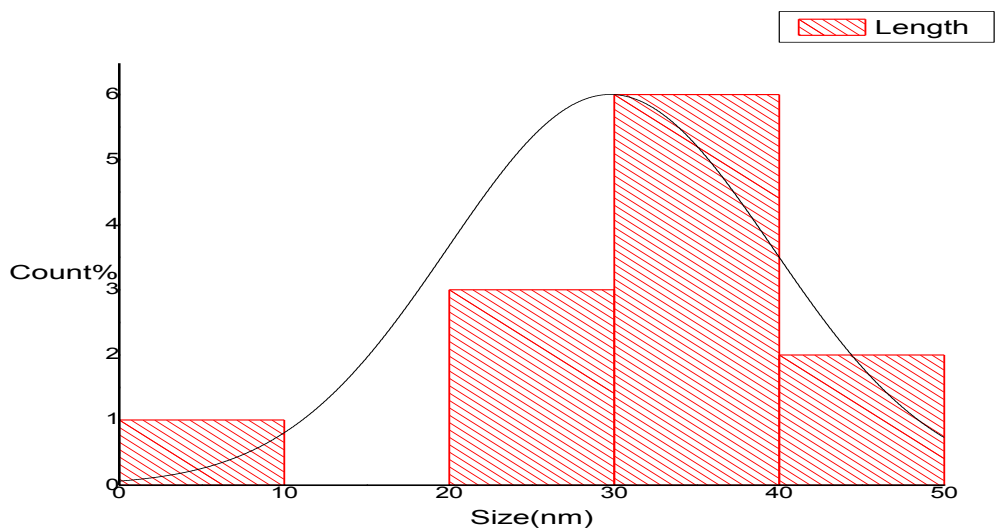


(a)

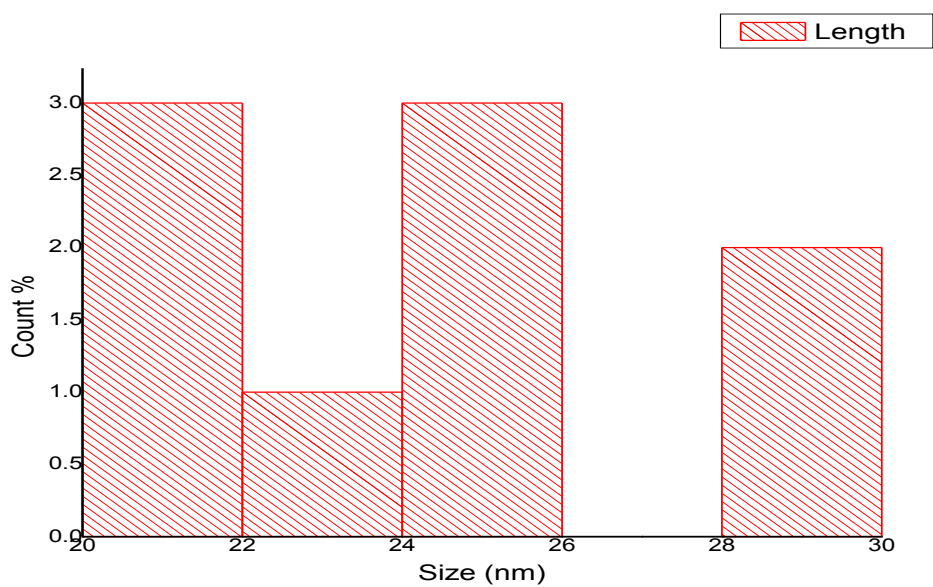


(b)

Figure S9 Showing EDX study of (a) AgNPs ; (b) One of its sensing part with  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ .

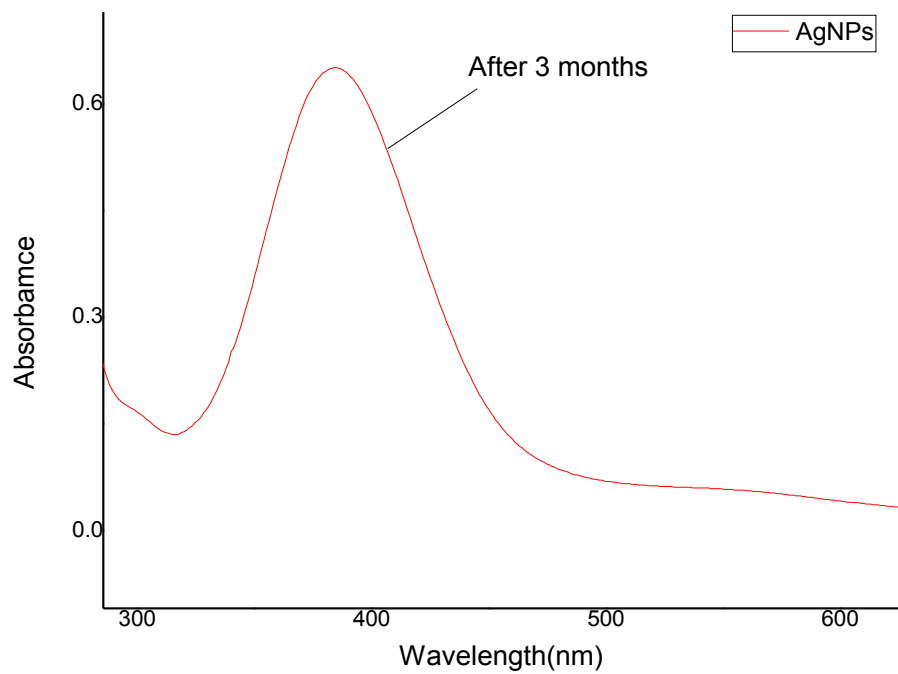


(a)

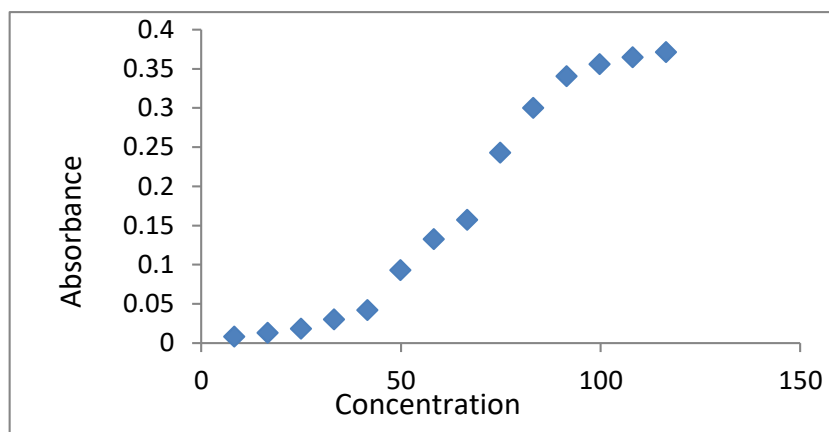


(b)

Figure S10: (a) Histogram Curve showing distribution of AgNPs, (b) Histogram Curve showing size distribution of AgNPs after interaction with Fe(II).



**Figure S11: SPR band of AgNPs after 3 months of its preparation.**



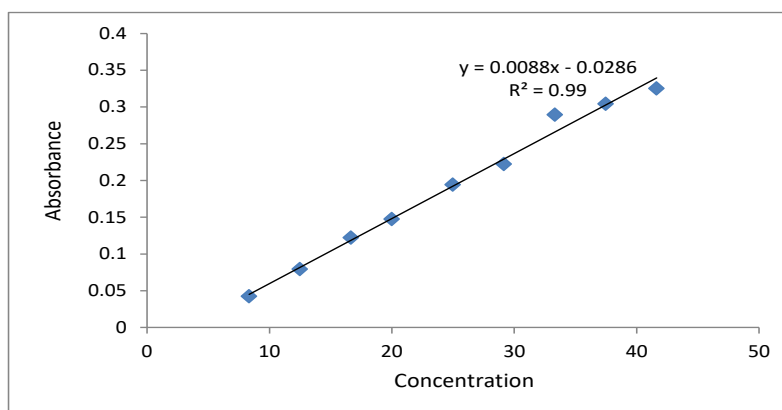
$$\text{LOB} = \text{mean}_{\text{blank}} + 1.645 \text{ sigma}_{\text{blank}}$$

$$\text{LOD} = \text{LOB} + 1.645 \text{ sigma}_{\text{low concentration sample}}$$

LOD of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  = 0.9 nM.

(Biomolecular Detection and Quantification ,**12**, June 2017, Pages **1-6**)

(K. Besar , J. Dailey , X. Zhao , & H.E. Katz , *J. of Mat. Chemistry C*,2017, **5(26)** , 6506–6511)



$$\text{LOD} = 3 \times \text{Standard Deviaton of response} / \text{Slope of calibration curve}$$

LOD of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  = 3.47 nM (approx.)

(O.B. da Silva and Sergio A. S. Machado , *Anal. Methods*, 2012,**4**, 2348-2354)

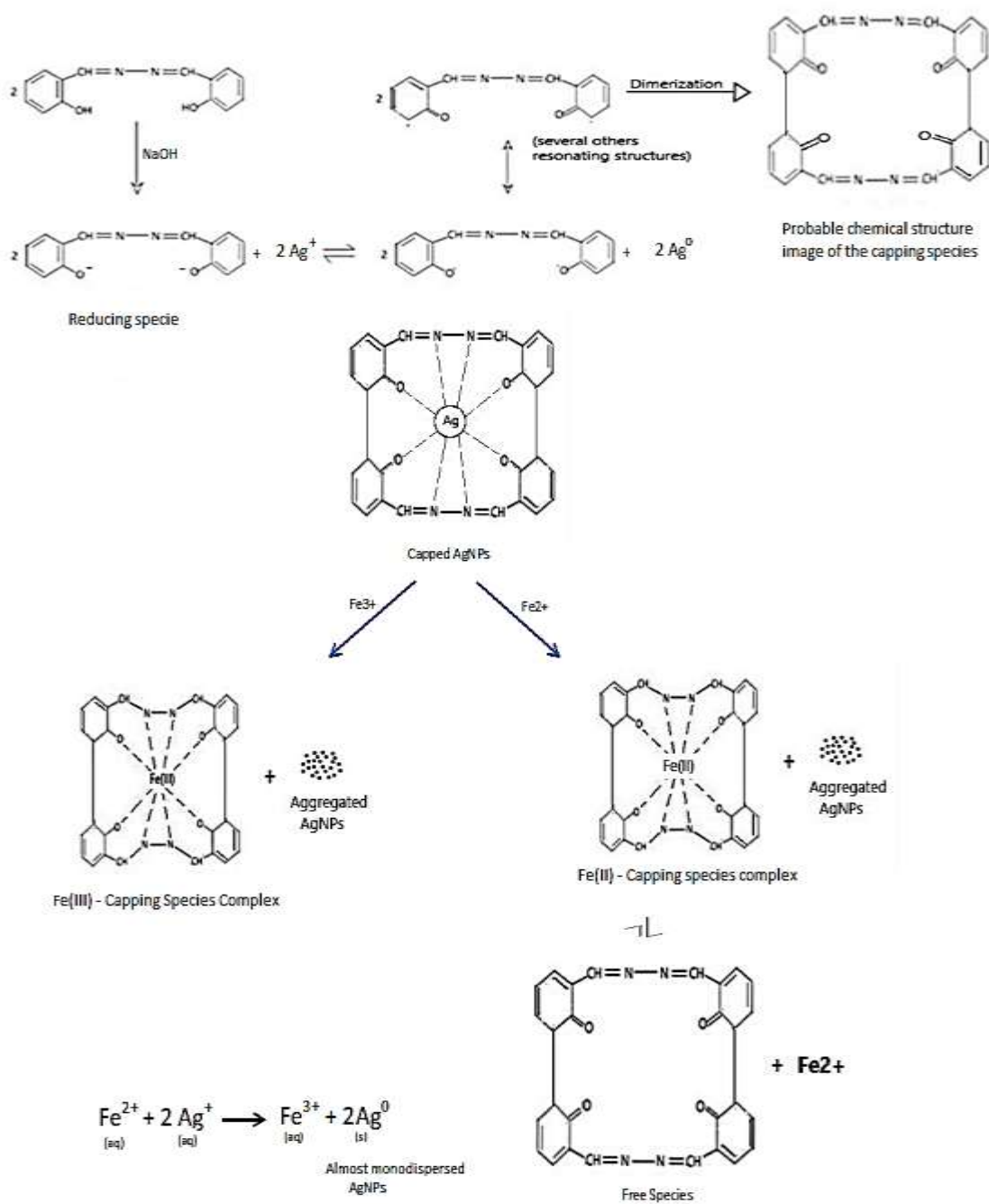
Figure S12

**Figure S13 : Comparison of sensing performance towards Fe<sup>3+</sup> and Fe<sup>2+</sup> ( in terms of LOD) of our AgNPs with others**

Analytes	Detection Limit	References
Fe <sup>2+</sup> and Fe <sup>3+</sup>	3.47 nM and 0.9 nM	Present Study
Fe <sup>2+</sup> and Fe <sup>3+</sup>	1 μM and 5 μM	[1]
Fe <sup>2+</sup>	5 × 10 <sup>-5</sup> M	[2]
Fe <sup>3+</sup>	17 nM	[3]
Fe <sup>3+</sup>	10 <sup>-3</sup> M	[4]
Fe <sup>3+</sup>	1.29 μM	[5]
Fe <sup>3+</sup>	0.0894 nM	[6]

1. K. Dayanidhi and N. Sheik Eusuff , *New J. Chem.*, 2021,**45**, 9936-9943.
2. X. Chen, X. Cheng and J. Justin Gooding, *Analyst*, 2012,**137**, 2338-2343.
3. M. S. Coutinho, E. Latocheski, J. M. Neri, A. C. O. Neves, J. B. Domingos, L. N. Cavalcanti, L. H. S. Gasparotto, E. P. Moraes and F. G. Menezes, *RSC Adv.*, 2019,**9**, 30007-30011.
4. S. K. Chandraker, M. K. Ghosh, M. Lal, T. K. Ghorai and R. Shukla , *New J. Chem.*, 2019,**43**, 18175-18183.
5. S. Bothra, J. N. Solanki, S. Sahoo, *Sensors and Actuators B Chemical* ,2013, **188**:937-943.
6. R. Azimpanah, Z. Solati , M. Hashemi, *IET Nanobiotechnology*,2018, **12(5)** , 673–677.

Figure S14 : Probable Mechanism for the formation of Silver Nanoparticles and their sensing action towards Fe<sup>3+</sup>/Fe<sup>2+</sup>



L. Li, F. Hu, D. Xu, S. Shen and Q. Wang, *Chem. Commun.*, 2012, **48**, 4728–4730.

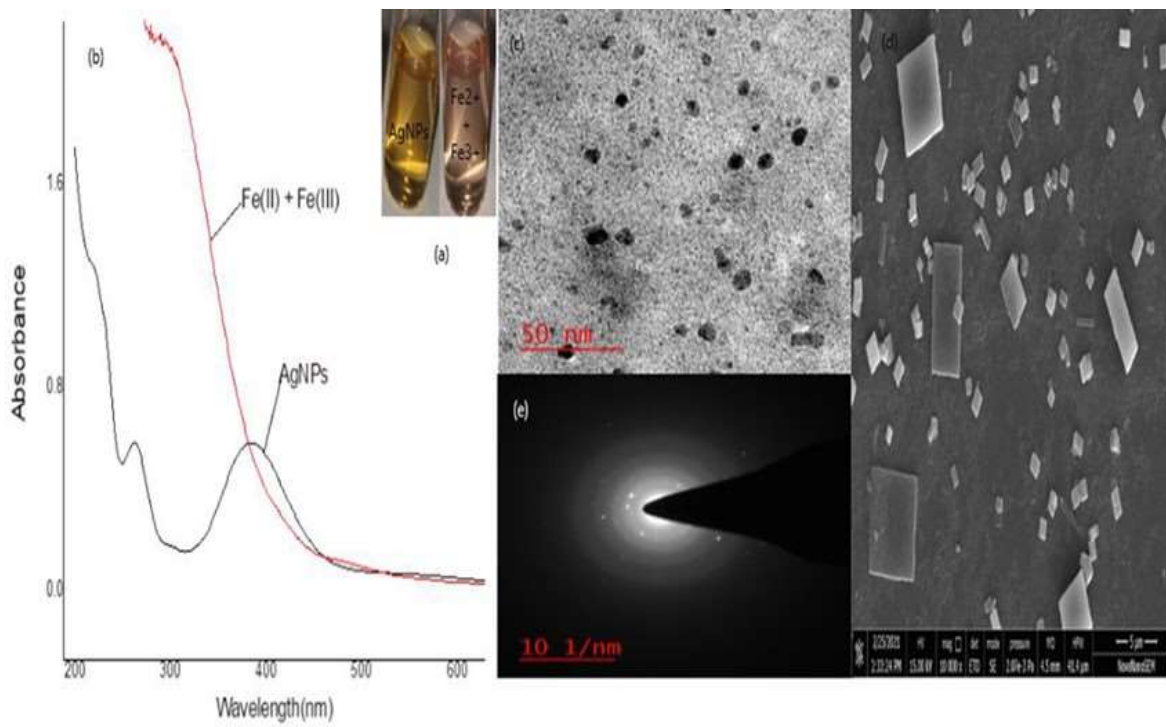


Figure S15 : Showing (a) Visual changes in AgNPs upon addition of a mixture of Fe<sup>2+</sup> & Fe<sup>3+</sup> (b) Corresponding UV- Vis spectra (c) HRTEM (d) FESEM (e) SAED .



## Studies on performance of AgNPs towards a few real samples

Two sets of real samples were studied :

1. Water samples viz. Millipore, Tap and Pond water : In three separate vials of 4mL capacity ,2mL water was taken of each type. 1mL of newly prepared AgNPs was added to each vial making the total volume 3mL. The contents of the vial were mixed properly and left as such for 2 minutes followed by recording of their visual and UV-vis spectral responses. The tap water showed positive response for  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  in terms of naked eye as well as spectral both [Fig.4(a,b,c) main text]. This was followed by the standard addition (60 $\mu\text{L}$ ) of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  respectively in all the above mentioned water samples followed by recording of visual as well as their spectral responses. All the three water samples showed visual as well as spectral responses. (Fig.4 main text)

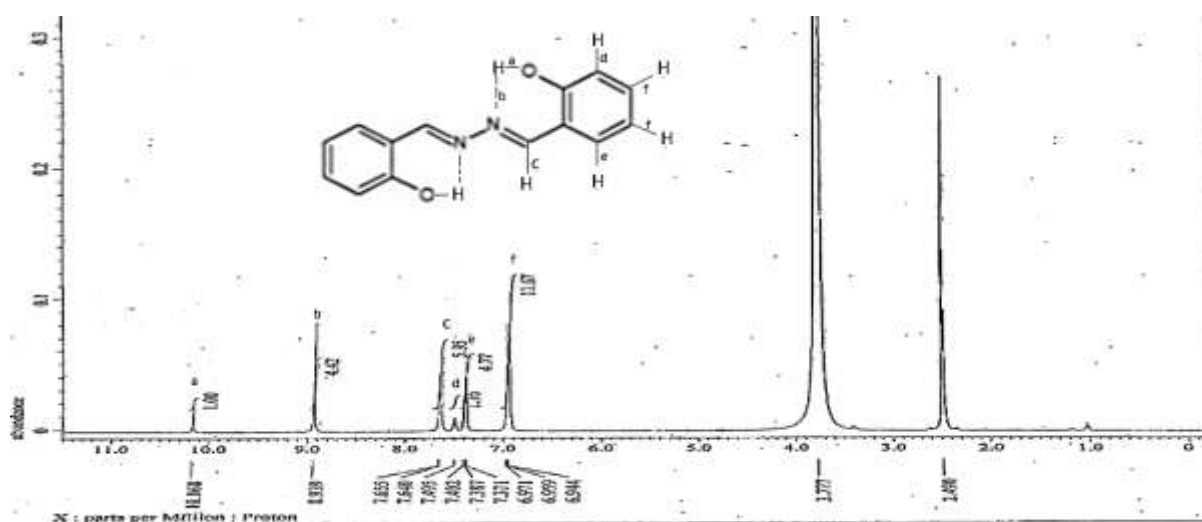
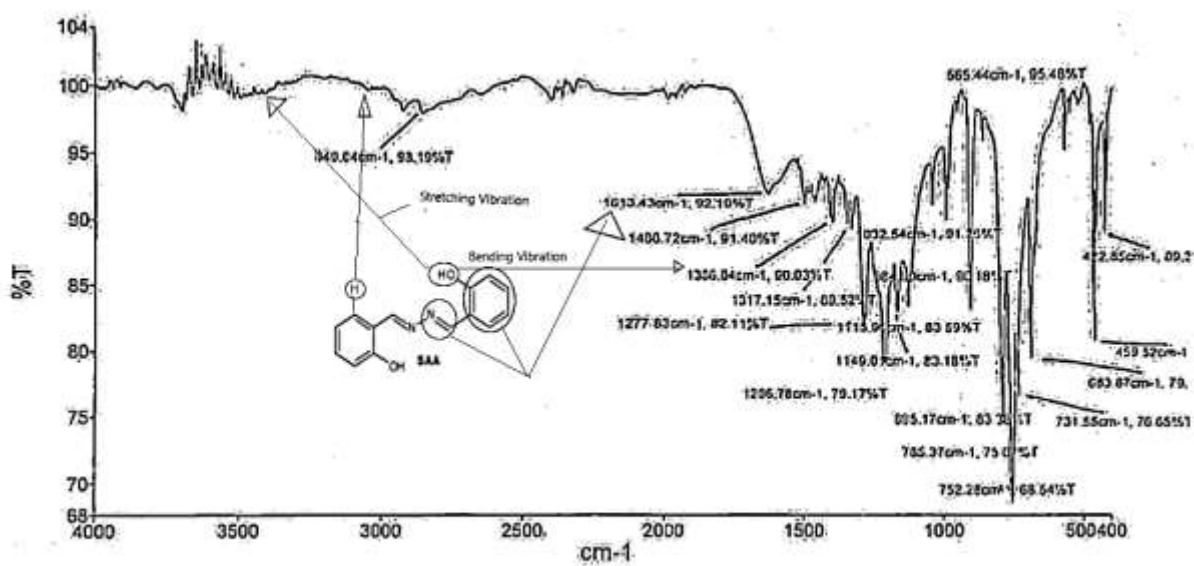
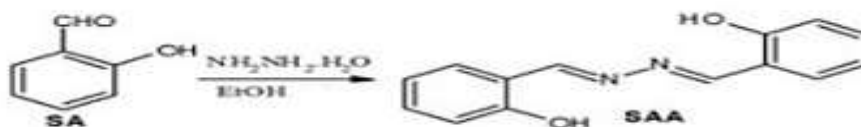
2. Ferrous Ascorbate and Folic Acid Tablets were purchased from the market. One tablet was crushed and dissolved in 10mL of Millipore water (10000 ppm) solutions. From this stock solution corresponding 5000 ppm ,1000 ppm , 500 ppm , 100 ppm, 10 ppm and 1 ppm solutions were prepared by dilution with Millipore water. All these solutions were checked for their probable interaction with AgNPs through visual and spectral responses. For this purpose 1 mL of AgNPs in separate vials were treated with 60  $\mu\text{L}$  of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  solution of above mentioned concentrations (ppm) prepared from the iron tablet. As it is clear (Fig.4d, main text) that our AgNPs recognized the  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  in the tablet at its 5000 and 1000 ppm level ( visual as well as spectral responses). Nevertheless, the same AgNPs also gave spectral response for the 10000 ppm stock solution at comparatively higher wavelength with very high intensity as compared to 5000 and 1000 ppm solutions. Due to very high intensity the visual response was not clear (Fig.4d, main text). After that 10000 ppm solution of tablet was acidified with conc.  $\text{HNO}_3$  followed by its drying over a hot plate. The same procedure was repeated twice. Finally 100 mL Millipore water was added and by this way the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  solution (1000 ppm) was prepared from the above mentioned tablet. This solution gave almost similar spectral response as we observed from the aqueous solution of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  in Millipore water.



Figure S16: Photograph of the iron Tablet purchased from the market ( For the recognition of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  /  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  with AgNPs).

## Preparation and Characterization of Salicylazine

The Salicylazine was prepared by the literature procedure(Ref.no.43 main text)



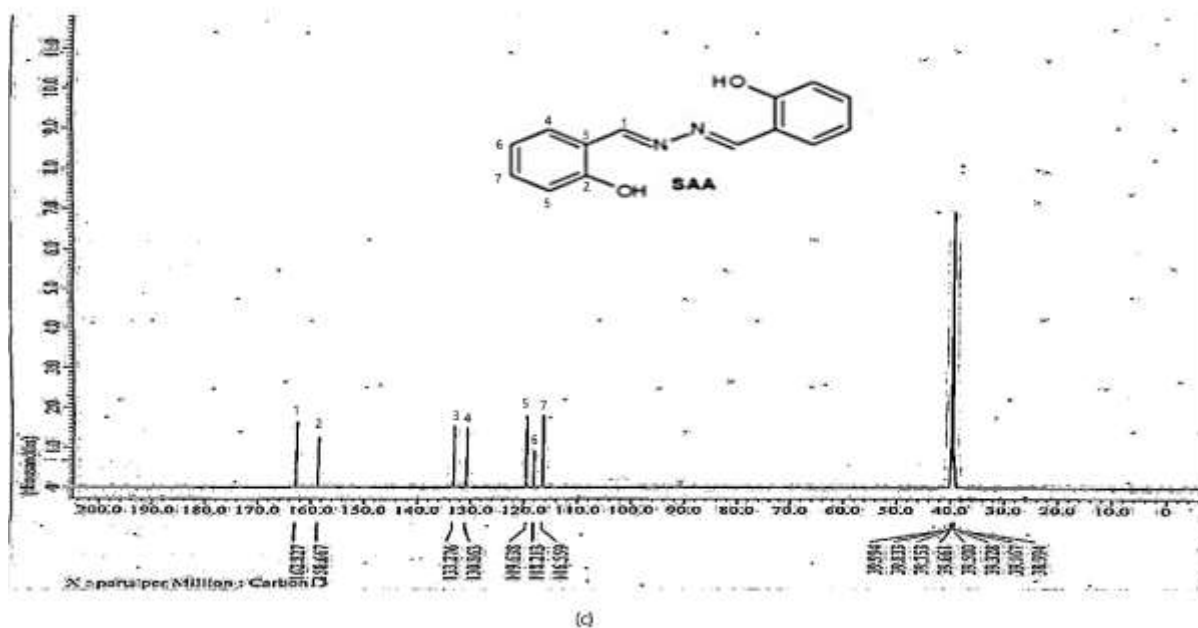


Figure S17: (a) IR , (b)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR & (c)  $\text{C}^{13}$  NMR Spectra of Salicylazine.