

## **A colorimetric, NIR, ultrafast fluorescent probe for ferric iron based on PET mechanism and its multiple application**

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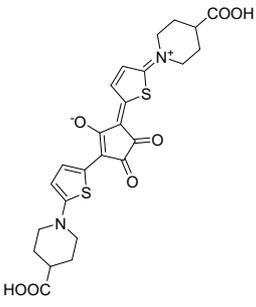
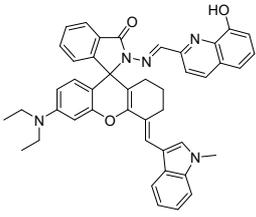
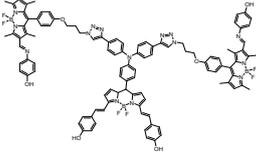
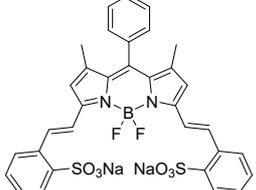
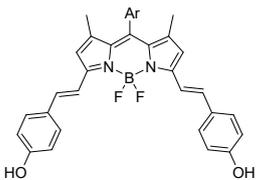
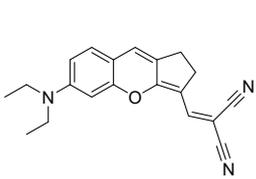
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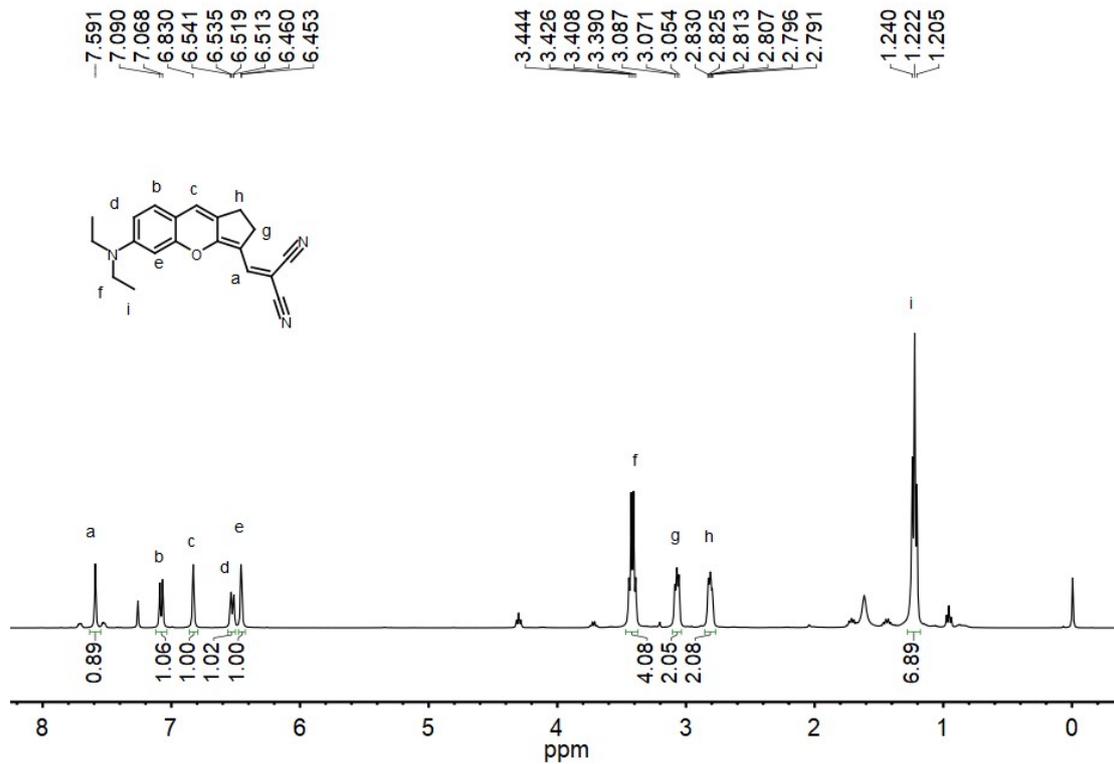
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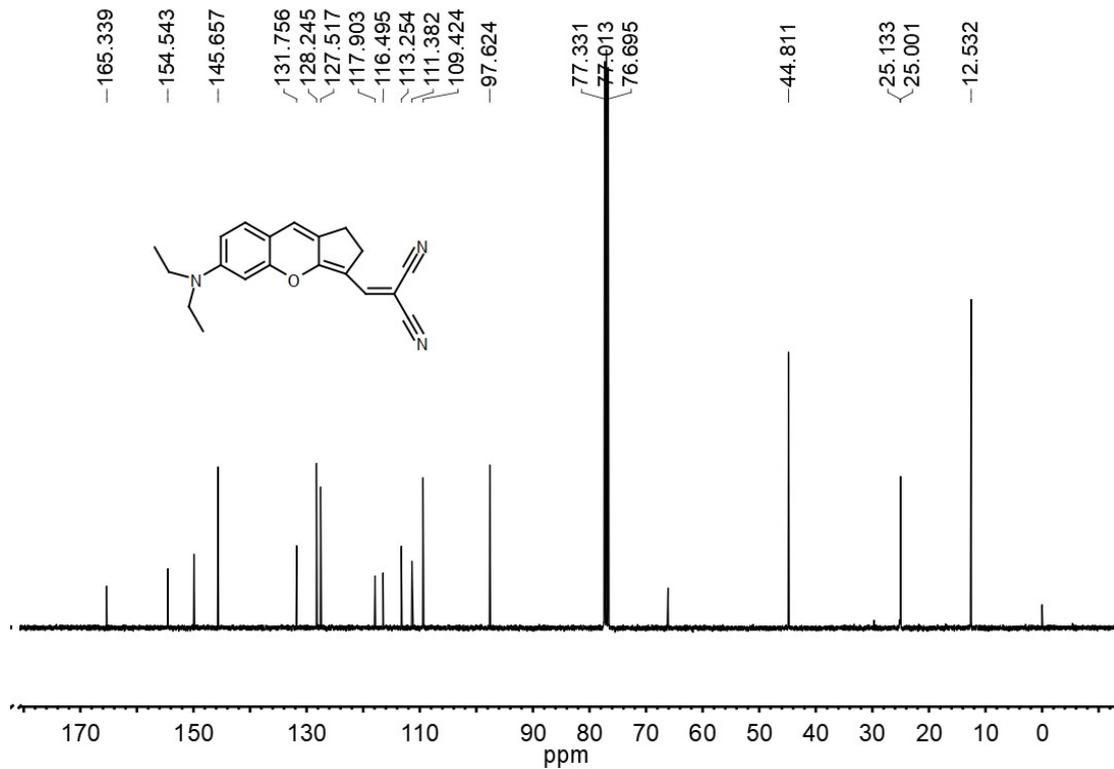
*ljtang@bhu.edu.cn (L. Tang).*

**Table S1** NIR fluorescent probe recognition of Fe<sup>3+</sup> published by literature

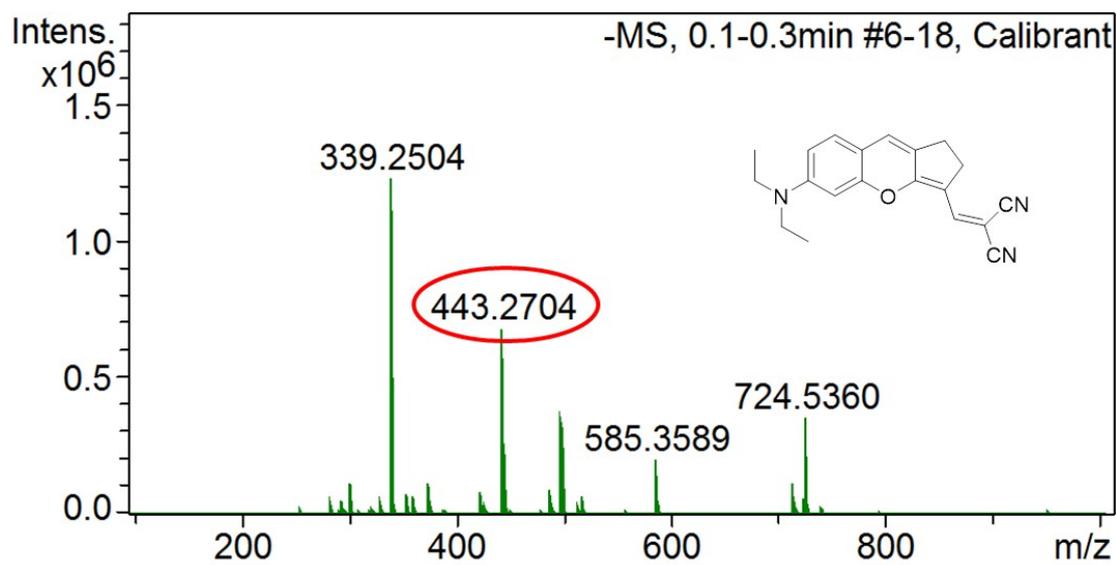
No.	Target	Molecular structure	$\lambda_{ex}/\lambda_{em}$ (nm)	LOD ( $\mu$ M)	Application	Literature
1	Fe <sup>3+</sup> / Cu <sup>2+</sup>		—/818	—	none	Tetrahedron <b>2015</b> , 71, 5478
2	Fe <sup>3+</sup>		650/700	0.12	Living cells Zebrafishes	J. Lumin. <b>2019</b> , 207, 613.
3	Hg <sup>2+</sup> /Fe <sup>3+</sup>		460/670	0.515/ 0.681	Living cells	J. Mater. Chem. B <b>2016</b> , 4, 7549.
4	Fe <sup>3+</sup>		565/628	0.0142	Water sample	J. Photochem. Photobiol., A <b>2018</b> , 355, 78.
5	Fe <sup>3+</sup>		378/697	3.75	Living cells	Spectrochim. Acta, Part A <b>2020</b> , 228, 117720.
6	Fe <sup>3+</sup>		570/670	19.47	Living cells Lake water Tap water anti- counterfeiti ng ink	This work



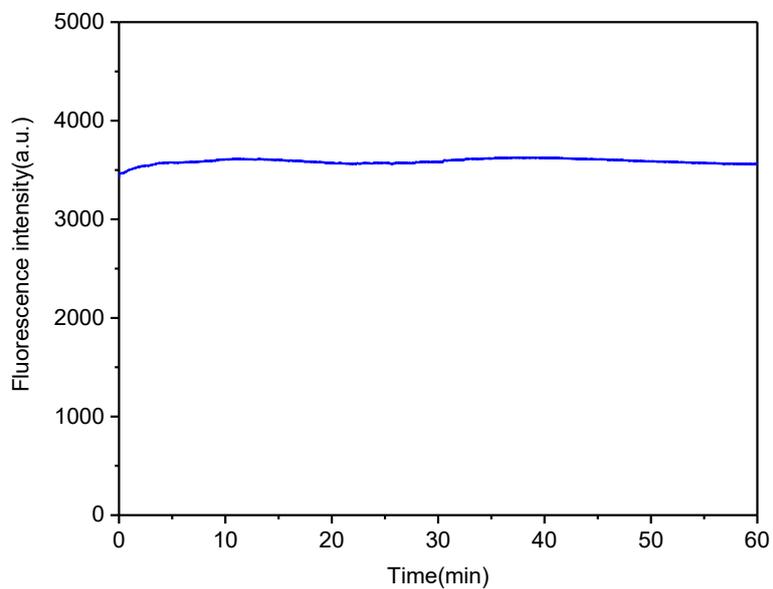
**Figure S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound **DCA-MIn** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



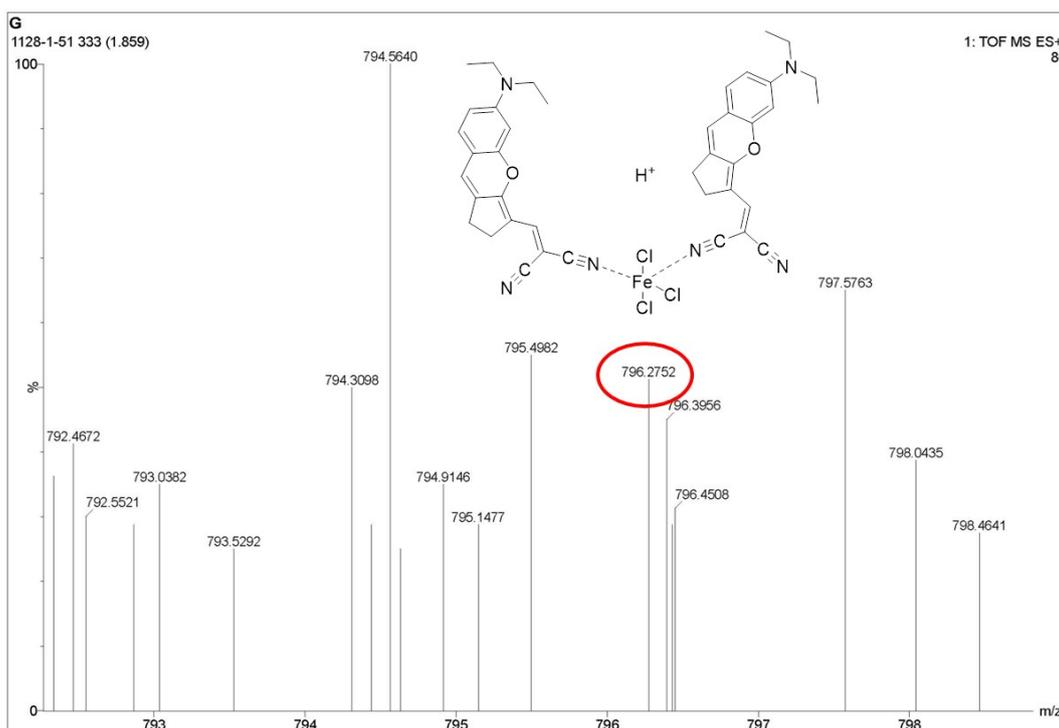
**Figure S2.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **DCA-MIn** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



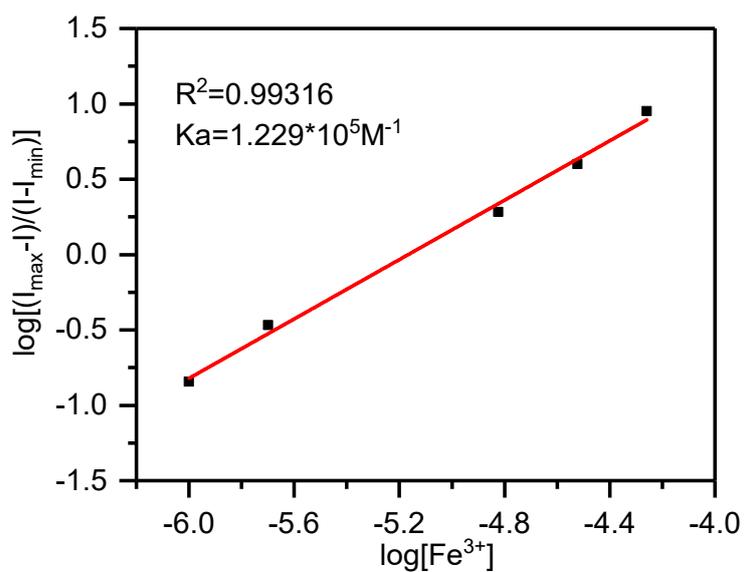
**Figure S3.** HRMS spectrum of **DCA-MIn** in CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH



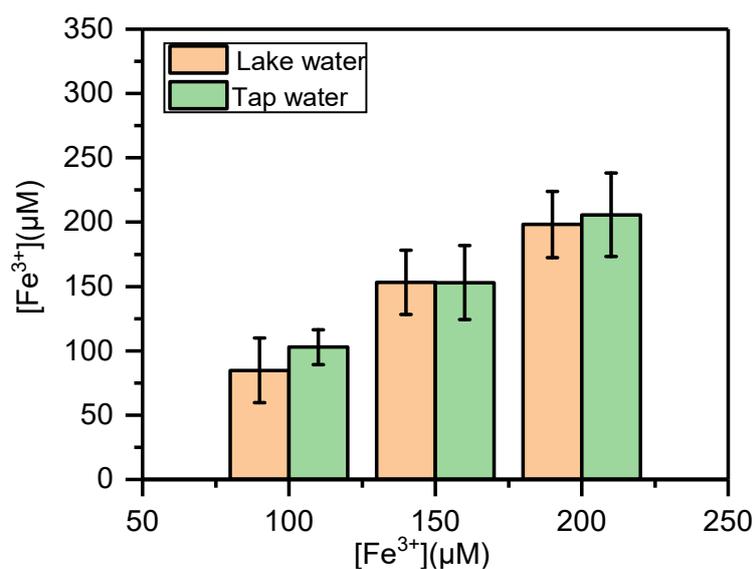
**Figure S4.** The change of fluorescence intensity of DCA-MIn over time



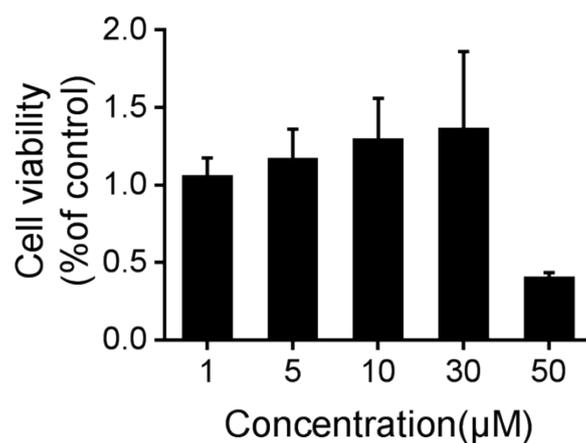
**Figure S5.** HRMS spectrum of compound **DCA-Mln** + Fe<sup>3+</sup> in EtOH (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>39</sub>Cl<sub>3</sub>FeN<sub>6</sub>O<sub>6</sub><sup>+</sup> [2M+FeCl<sub>3</sub>+H]<sup>+</sup>= 796.2544, Found=796.2752



**Figure S6.** DCA-Mln and Fe<sup>3+</sup> complex (2:1) combined with Hill equation diagram of stoichiometry



**Figure S7.** The concentration of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  using **DCA-MIn** ( $10 \mu\text{M}$ ) detection in two actual water samples.



**Figure S8.** Cell viability evaluated by CCK-8 analysis after co-culturing MCF-7 Cells with different concentrations of **DCA-MIn** (1, 5, 10, 30, 50  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at  $37^\circ\text{C}$  for 24 h.

## Experimental

### Instruments and materials

High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were measured using a Bruker micrOTOF-Q mass spectrometer (Bruker Daltonik, Bremen, Germany).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded on an Agilent 400MR spectrometer, and the chemical shifts were expressed in ppm and coupling constants (J) in hertz. Use F-4700FL

Fluorescence Spectrophotometer (Japan) to measure the fluorescence spectrum. The pH measurement was carried out on a Model PHS-25 Bmeter (Shanghai, China). Cell imaging was observed under a confocal laser scanning microscope (LEICA TCS SP5 II, Germany) with excitation at 570 nm.

Unless otherwise noted, reagents were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. The compound **DCA** was prepared according to the reported method [S1]. MCF-7 (human breast carcinoma) cells were obtained from the Institute of Basic Medical Sciences (IBMS) of Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences (CAMS).

### **General methods of experiment**

All experiments were carried out at room temperature. Deionized water was used throughout the experiment. A stock solution (50 mM) of cations (corresponding metal nitrate or chloride),  $\text{FeCl}_3$  are used as iron ion sources. Prepare a stock solution of **DCA-MIn** at 10 mM in DMSO. It was further diluted with a mixed solution of MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O (v/v, 5/5) to a final concentration of 10  $\mu\text{M}$ . The fluorescence spectrum was recorded by excitation at 570 nm. The width of the excitation and emission slits were both 5 nm.

### **Detection of $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ in real water samples**

We use the standard curve method for quantitative analysis. First, we tested the responses of the fluorescence emission intensity (670 nm) of **DCA-MIn** to various concentrations of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  in different water samples (lake water, tap water) using an excitation of 570 nm. Then, we obtained a linear relationship curve as the standard curve (Figure 9,  $y=kx+b$ , y: fluorescence emission intensity; x: concentration of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ). Finally, we used the standard additions method to determine the recovery. That means we added the different concentration of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  within the range of the standard curve, and tested the fluorescence intensity of **DCA-MIn**, and then x which is “ $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  found” value is calculated by substituting the fluorescence intensity value into the above-mentioned formula.

### **Cell viability assays**

After the addition of different concentrations of **DCA-MIn** (10, 50, 100, 300, 500  $\mu\text{M}$ ), the incubated MCF-7 cells were cultured for 24 h. The 10  $\mu\text{L}$  CCK-8 (Cell Counting Kit-8, Dojindo, Japan) was added into **DCA-MIn** -pretreated cells, and the cells were further incubated for another 4 hours. After being washed three times with PBS, the absorbance at 570 nm of cells was recorded, and cell viability was calculated using the reported methods of literature.

### **Preparation of anti-counterfeiting ink**

**DCA-MIn** was dissolved using ethanol and a small amount of glycerin, after stirring 10 minutes to obtain anti-counterfeiting ink. The imprints of Chinese characters and English letters were obtained by using the stamp to dip anti-counterfeiting ink on the silicone plate, and then the imprints were observed using portable UV lamp.

### **Reference**

[S1] Richard, Jean-Alexandre, Romieu, et al. Synthesis of N,N-dialkylamino-nor-dihydroxanthene-hemicyanine fused near-infrared fluorophores and their first water-soluble and/or bioconjugatable analogues. *Chemistry An Asian Journal*, 2017, 12(8):936-946.