

## Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

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### **A Ferrocenyl-Guanidine Derivative as Highly Selective Electrochemical and Colorimetric Chemosensor Molecule for Acetate Anion.**

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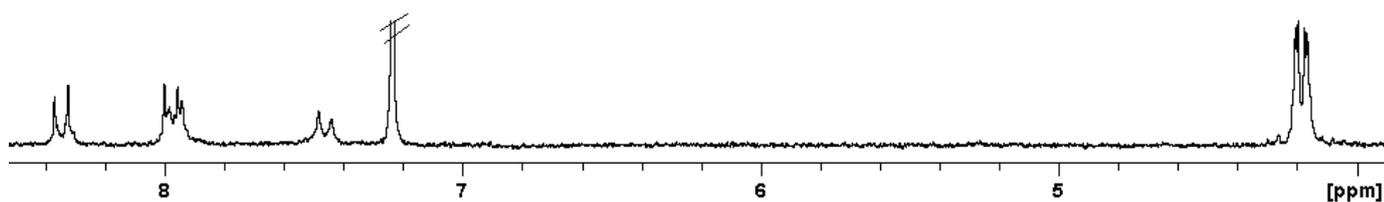
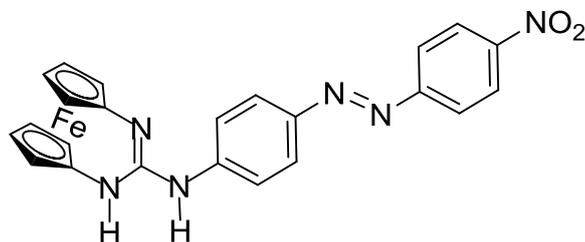
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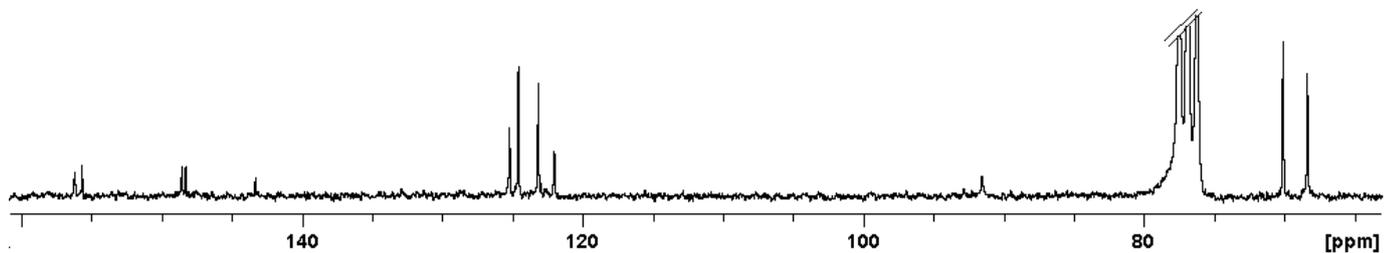
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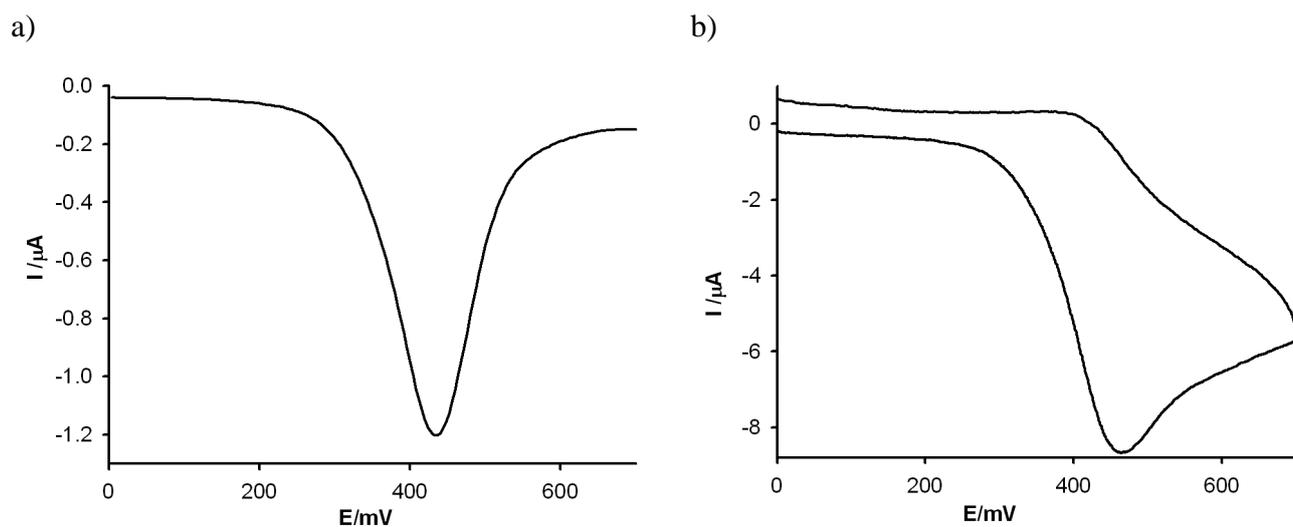
2{(*E*)-4-[2-(4-nitrophenyl)diazenyl]phenylamino-1,3-diaza[3]ferrocenophane, 1

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (200MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

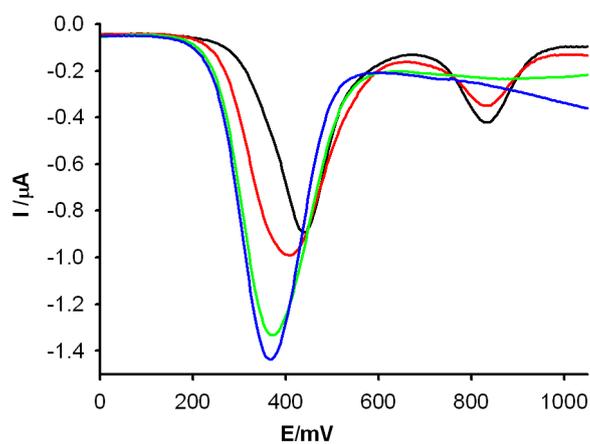


$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (50 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

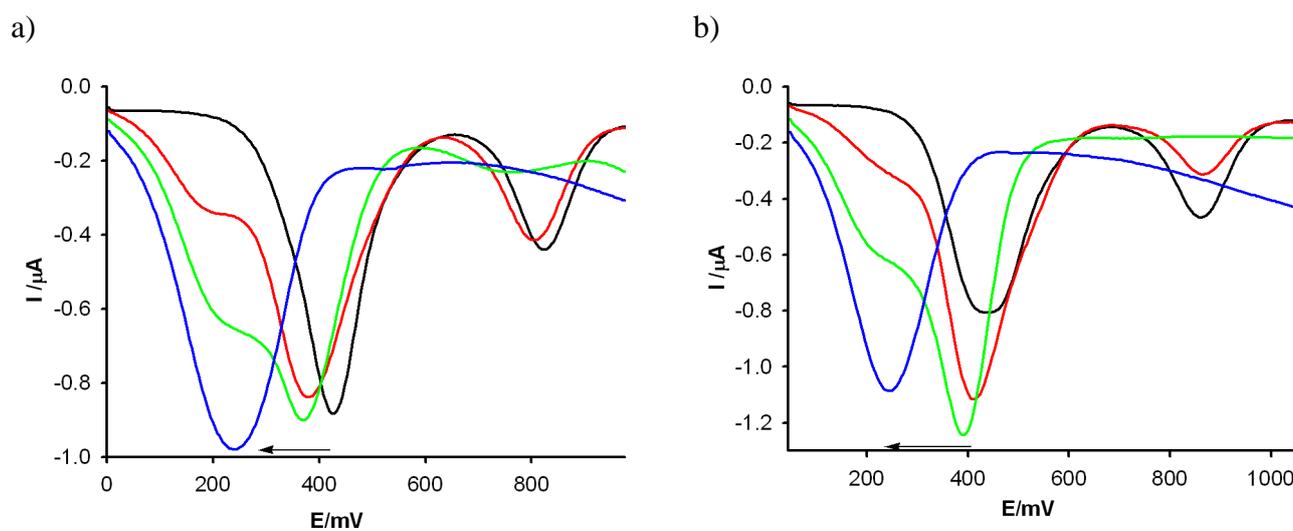




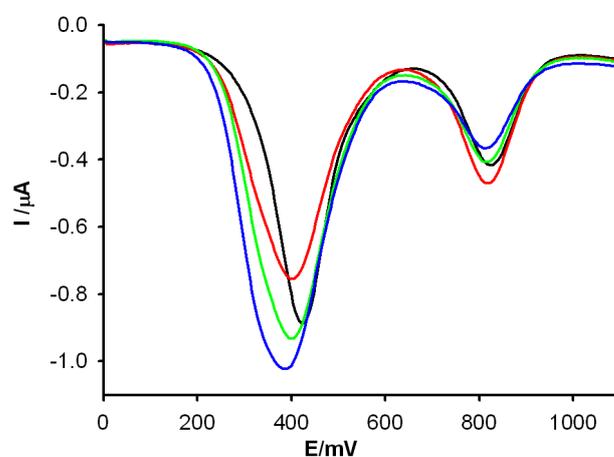
**Figure ESI 1.** a) OSWV and b) CV, from 0-700 mV of compound **1** ( $c = 1 \times 10^{-4}$  M in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ) using  $[(n\text{-C}_4\text{H}_9)_4\text{N}]\text{PF}_6$  (0.1 M) as supporting electrolyte, scanned at  $0.1 \text{ V s}^{-1}$ .



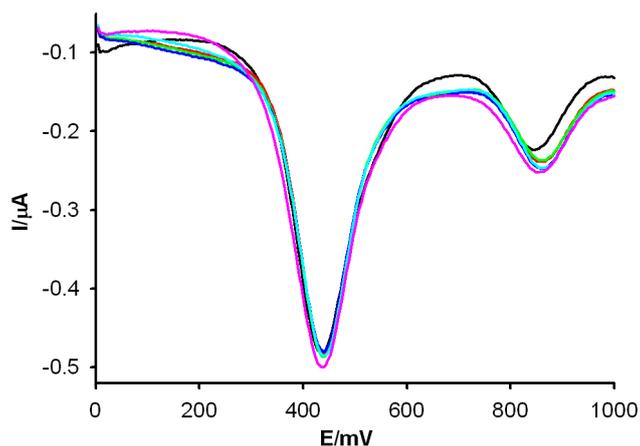
**Figure ESI 2.** Evolution of the OSWV of **1** ( $c = 1 \times 10^{-4}$  M in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ) using  $[(n\text{-Bu})_4\text{N}]\text{PF}_6$  scanned at  $0.1 \text{ V s}^{-1}$  in the presence of 20 equiv of  $\text{AcOH}$ , upon addition of  $\text{AcO}^-$  from 0 (black) to 3 (blue) equiv.



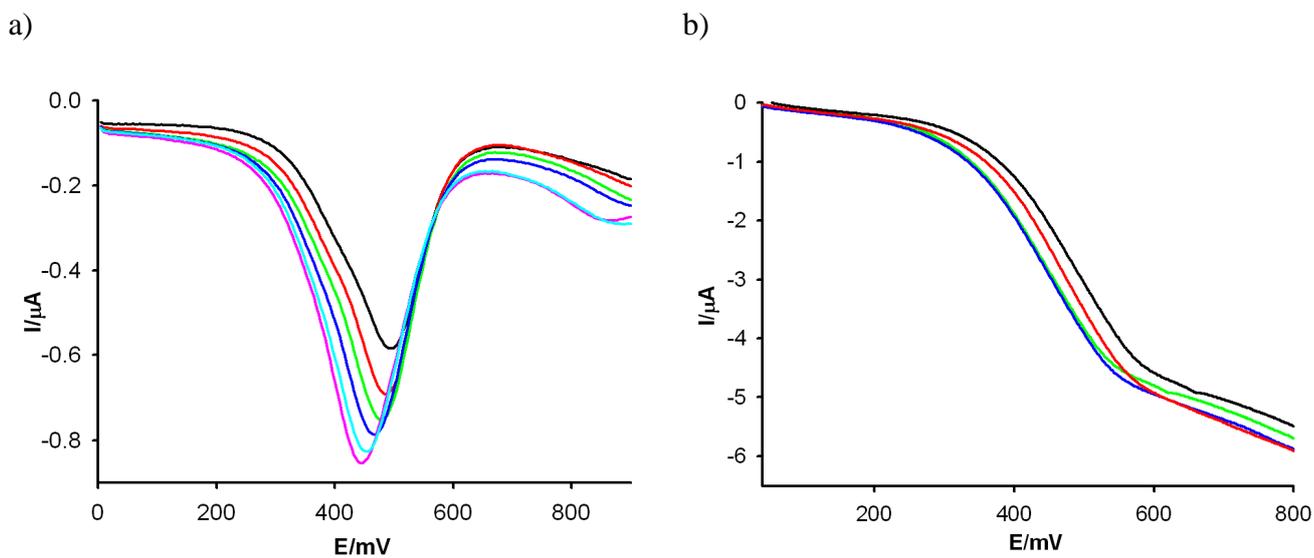
**Figure ESI 3.** Evolution of the OSWV of **1** ( $c = 1 \times 10^{-4}$  M in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ) using  $[(n\text{-Bu})_4\text{N}]\text{PF}_6$  scanned at  $0.1 \text{ V s}^{-1}$  upon addition of a)  $\text{F}^-$  and b)  $\text{Bu}_4\text{NOH}$ , from 0 (black) to 6 (blue) equiv.



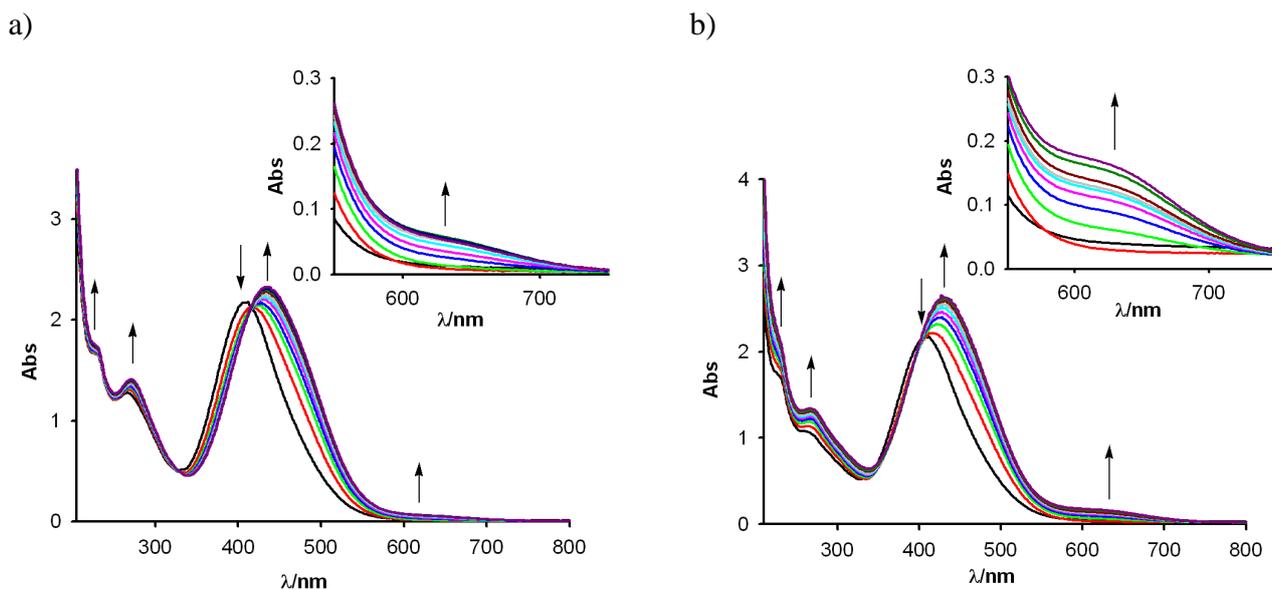
**Figur ESI 4.** a) Evolution of the OSWV of **1** ( $c = 1 \times 10^{-4}$  M in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ) using  $[(n\text{-Bu})_4\text{N}]\text{PF}_6$  scanned at  $0.1 \text{ V s}^{-1}$  in the presence of 20 equiv. of  $\text{AcOH}$  upon addition of  $\text{F}^-$ , from 0 (black) to 3 equiv (blue).



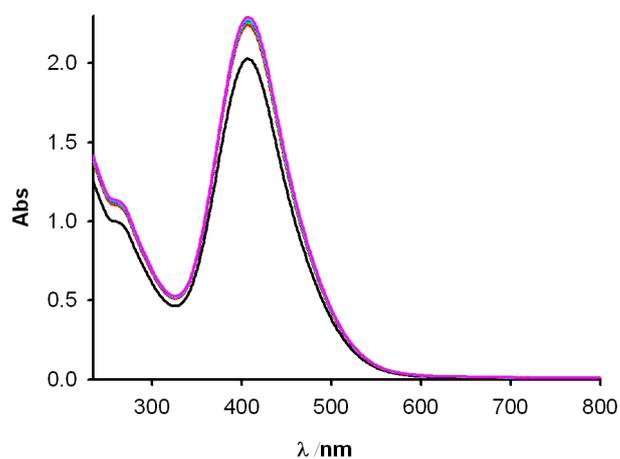
**Figure ESI 5.** a) Evolution of the OSWV of **1** ( $c = 1 \cdot 10^{-4}$  M) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/[(n\text{-Bu})_4\text{N}]\text{PF}_6$  scanned at  $0.1 \text{ V s}^{-1}$  upon addition of  $(\text{Bu}_4\text{N})_2\text{CO}_3$  ( $c = 2.5 \cdot 10^{-2}$  M in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ), from 0 (black) to 1 (pink) equiv.



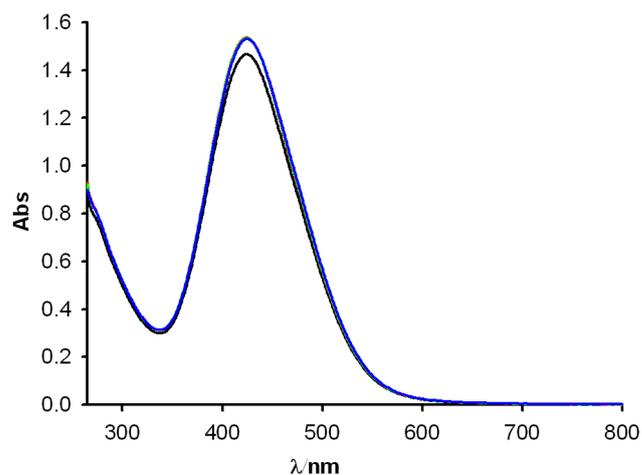
**Figure ESI 6.** a) Evolution of the OSWV of **1** ( $c = 1 \cdot 10^{-4}$  M) in  $\text{DMF}/[(n\text{-Bu})_4\text{N}]\text{PF}_6$  scanned at  $0.1 \text{ V s}^{-1}$  upon addition of  $\text{NaClO}$  ( $c = 2.5 \cdot 10^{-2}$  M in  $\text{DMF}$ ), from 0 (black) to 5 (pink) equiv. b) Evolution of the linear sweep voltammetry (LSV) of **1** ( $1 \times 10^{-4}$  M) in  $\text{DMF}/[(n\text{-Bu})_4\text{N}]\text{PF}_6$  obtained using a rotating disk electrode at  $100 \text{ mVs}^{-1}$  and 1000 rpm., upon addition of increasing amounts [from 0 (black) to 5 equiv (blue)] of  $\text{NaClO}$ .



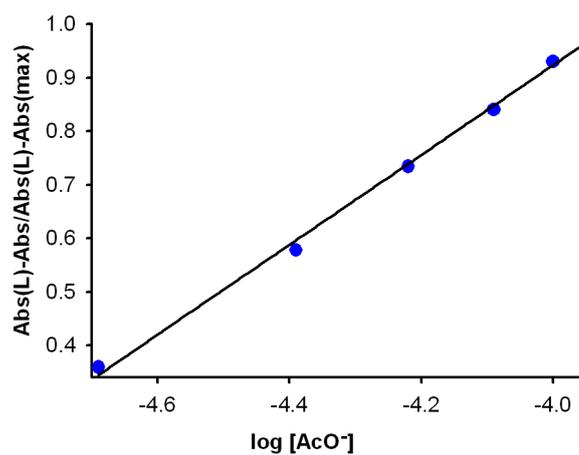
**Figure ESI 7.** Changes in the absorption spectra of **1** ( $c = 1 \times 10^{-4}$  M) in  $CH_3CN$  upon addition of: a)  $F^-$ , and b)  $Bu_4NOH$ , from 0 to 5 equiv. Arrows indicate the absorptions that increase or decrease during the titration process.



**Figure ESI 8.** Changes in the absorption spectra of **1**, ( $c = 1 \cdot 10^{-4}$  M in  $CH_3CN$ ) (black), upon addition of increasing amounts of  $(Bu_4N)_2CO_3$  ( $c = 2.5 \cdot 10^{-2}$  M in  $CH_3CN$ ) until 1 equiv (pink line).



**Figure ESI 9.** Changes in the absorption spectra of **1**, ( $c = 1 \cdot 10^{-4}$  M in DMF) (black), upon addition of increasing amounts of NaClO ( $c = 2.5 \cdot 10^{-2}$  M in DMF) until 3 equiv (blue line).

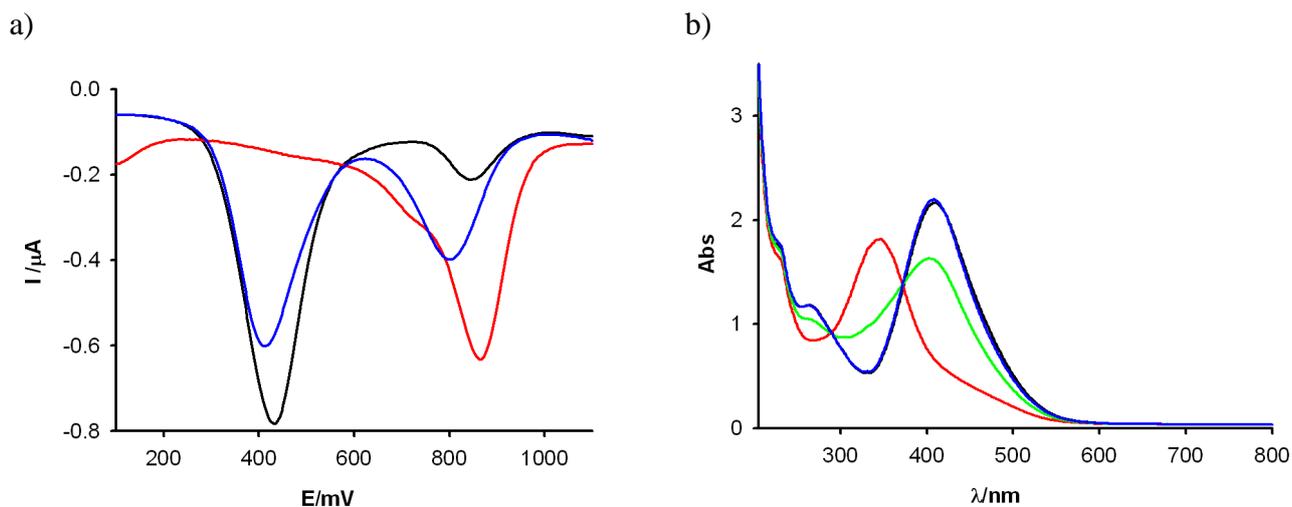


**Figure ESI 10.** Absorbance of **1** ( $c = 1 \cdot 10^{-4}$  M in CH<sub>3</sub>CN) at each concentration of AcO<sup>-</sup> added, normalized between the minimum absorbance, found at zero equiv of AcO<sup>-</sup>, and the maximum absorbance.

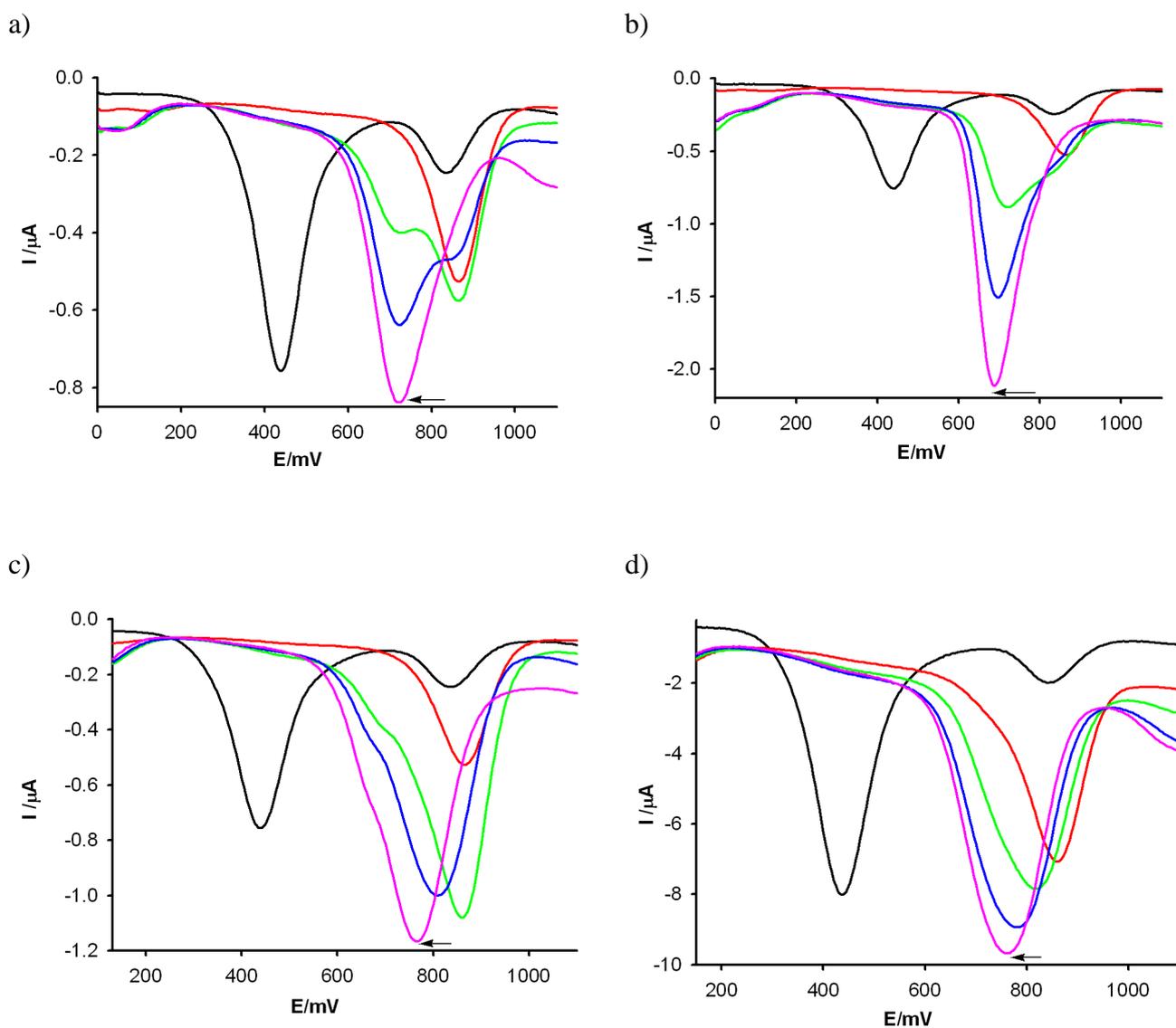
**Table ESI 1.** Electrochemical and UV-Vis data of **1** and **[1•H]<sup>+</sup>**, and in the presence of the corresponding anions.

Compound	$E_p^{1a}$	$E_p^{2a}$	$\Delta E_p^{2b}$	$\lambda_{max}(10^{-3} \epsilon)^c$	$\Delta\lambda^d$	IP <sup>e</sup>	Kas
<b>1</b>	440	830	---	230(14.14), 270(9.55), 410(18.40)	---	---	---
<b>[1•AcO<sup>-</sup>]</b>	258	---	-182	231(14.96), 272(10.78),440(20.86)	30	330, 415	$3.81 \times 10^6 \pm 0.55^f$
<b>[1•H]<sup>+</sup></b>	---	865	---	231(16.44),344(19.13)	66	---	---
<b>[1•H]<sup>+</sup> + AcO<sup>-</sup></b>	410	800	---	230(14.14), 270(9.55), 410(18.40)	---	---	---
<b>[1•H]<sup>+</sup> + Cl<sup>-</sup></b>	---	724	-141	231(17.81),352(19.42)	8	291, 345	$2.80 \times 10^{11} \pm 0.91^g$
<b>[1•H]<sup>+</sup> + Br<sup>-</sup></b>	---	683	-182	350(19.18)	6	286, 347	$3.27 \times 10^5 \pm 0.19d^f$
<b>[1•H]<sup>+</sup> + NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup></b>	---	758	-107	350(18.85)	6	277, 350	$1.66 \times 10^5 \pm 0.15^f$
<b>[1•H]<sup>+</sup> + HSO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup></b>	---	758	-107	230(16.93),352(18.87)	8	280, 350	$1.98 \times 10^5 \pm 0.18^f$

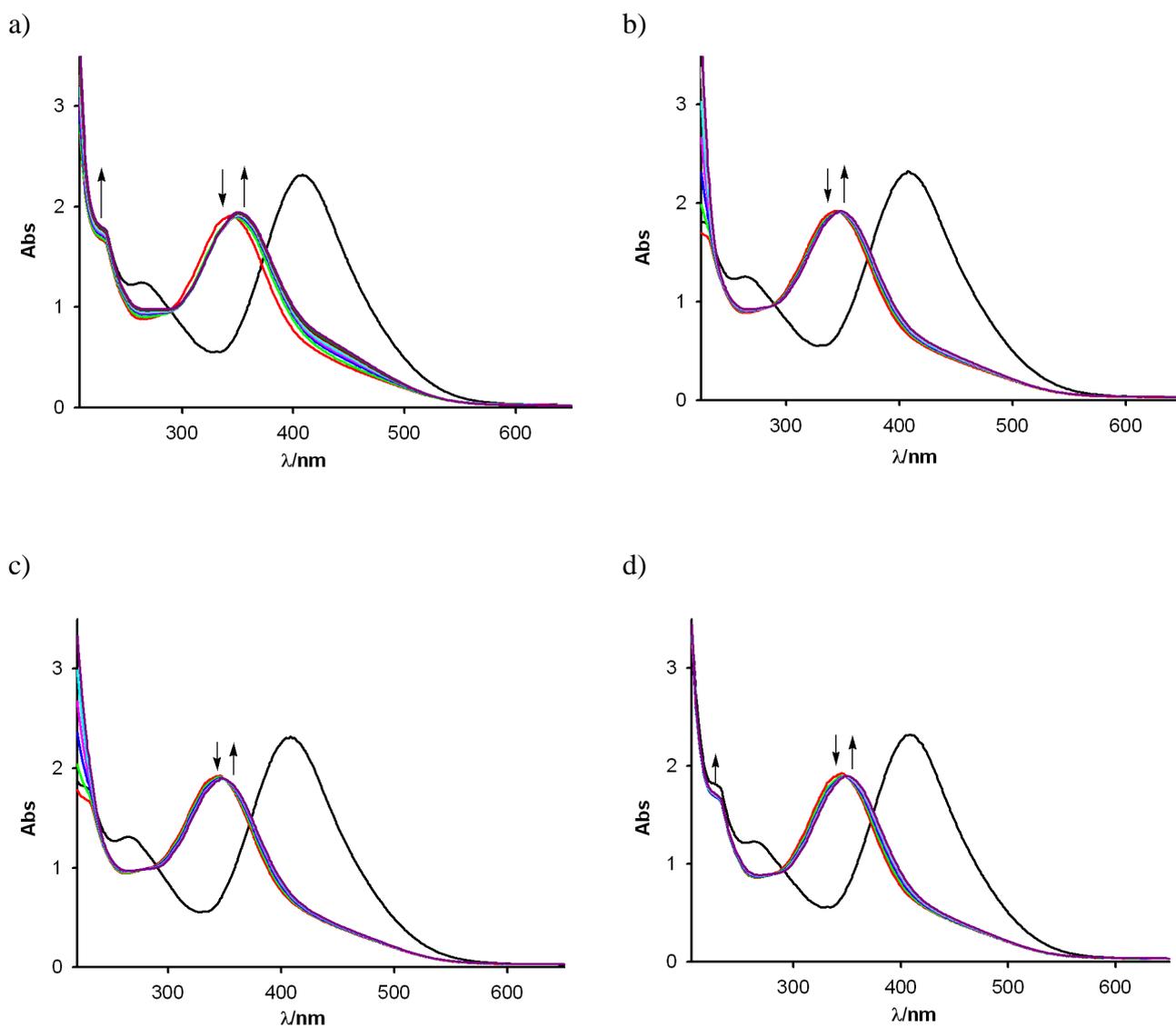
<sup>a</sup> in mV; <sup>b</sup> electrochemical shifting, in mV, observed upon addition of the corresponding anion; <sup>c</sup>  $\lambda_{max}$  in nm,  $\epsilon$  in  $\text{dm}^3 \text{mol}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1}$ ; <sup>d</sup> shifting in nm from the lower energy band in the complex and in the free receptor; <sup>e</sup> isobestic points in nm; <sup>f</sup> in  $\text{M}^{-1}$ ; <sup>g</sup> in  $\text{M}^{-2}$ .



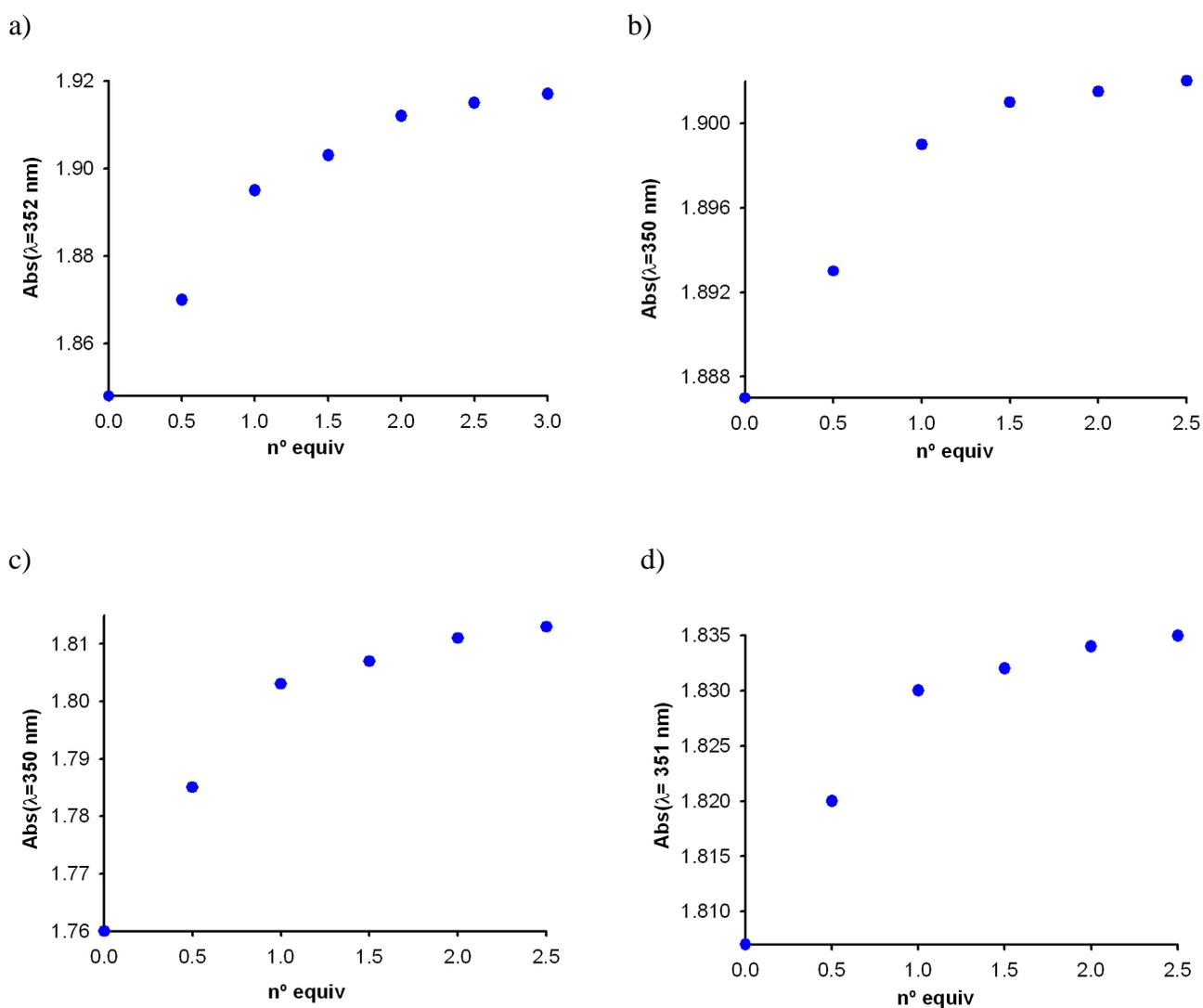
**Figure ESI 11.** a) Evolution of the OSWV of **1** (c = 1·10<sup>-4</sup> M) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN/[*n*-Bu)<sub>4</sub>N]PF<sub>6</sub> scanned at 0.1 V s<sup>-1</sup> containing 1 equiv. of HBF<sub>4</sub> (red line) when 1 equiv. of AcO<sup>-</sup> was added (blue line). The black line corresponds to the OSWV of the neutral ligand **1**. b) Changes in the absorption spectra of [1·H<sup>+</sup>], (c = 1·10<sup>-4</sup> M in CH<sub>3</sub>CN) (red), upon addition of increasing amounts of AcO<sup>-</sup> until 1 equiv (blue line). The black line, which appears superimposed to the blue one, corresponds to the neutral ligand **1**.



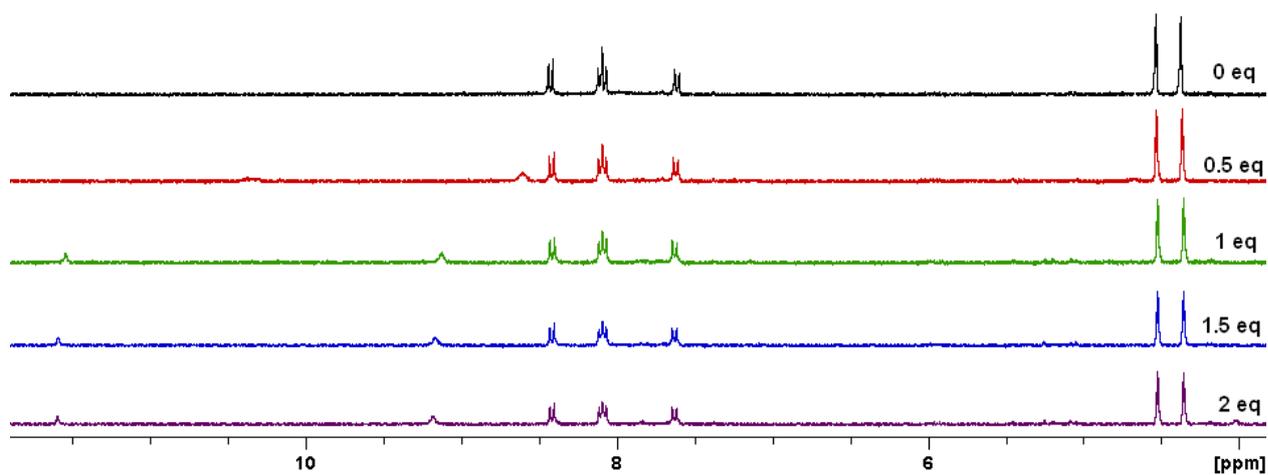
**Figure ESI 12.** Evolution of the OSWV of **1** ( $c = 1 \cdot 10^{-4}$  M) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/[(n\text{-Bu})_4\text{N}]\text{PF}_6$  scanned at  $0.1 \text{ V s}^{-1}$  containing 1 equiv. of  $\text{HBF}_4$  (red line) when 2 equiv of: a)  $\text{Cl}^-$ , b)  $\text{Br}^-$ , c)  $\text{NO}_3^-$ , and d)  $\text{HSO}_4^-$ , were added (pink lines). The black line corresponds to the OSWV of the neutral ligand **1**.



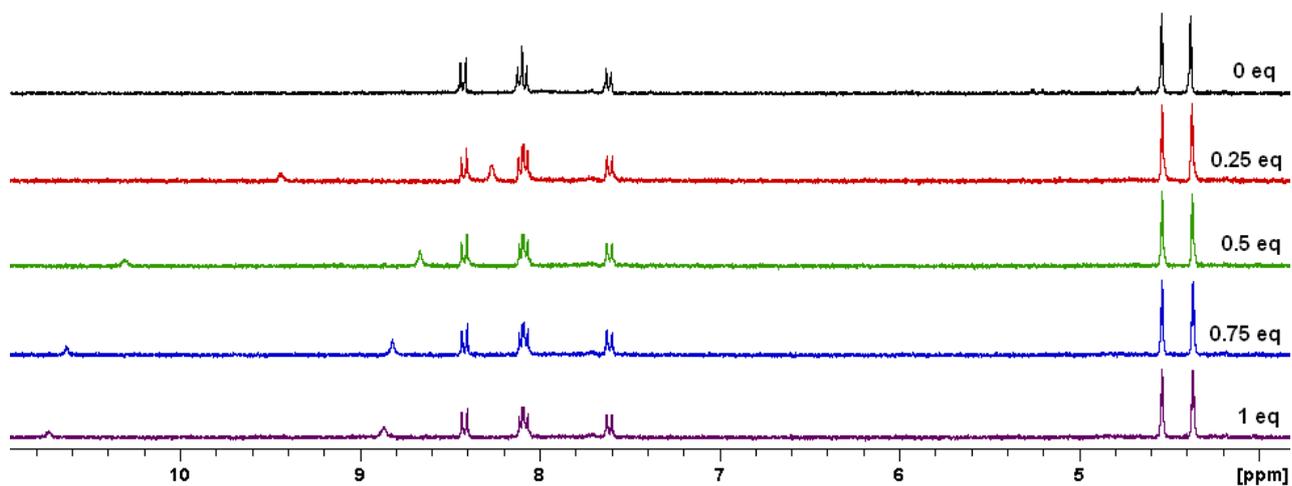
**Figure ESI 13.** Changes in the absorption spectra of  $[1 \cdot H^+]$ , ( $c = 1 \cdot 10^{-4}$  M in  $CH_3CN$ ) (red), upon addition from 0 to 3 equiv of a)  $Cl^-$ , b)  $Br^-$ , c)  $NO_3^-$ , d)  $HSO_4^-$ , (purple lines). The black line corresponds to the neutral ligand **1**. Arrows indicate the absorptions that increase or decrease during the titration process.



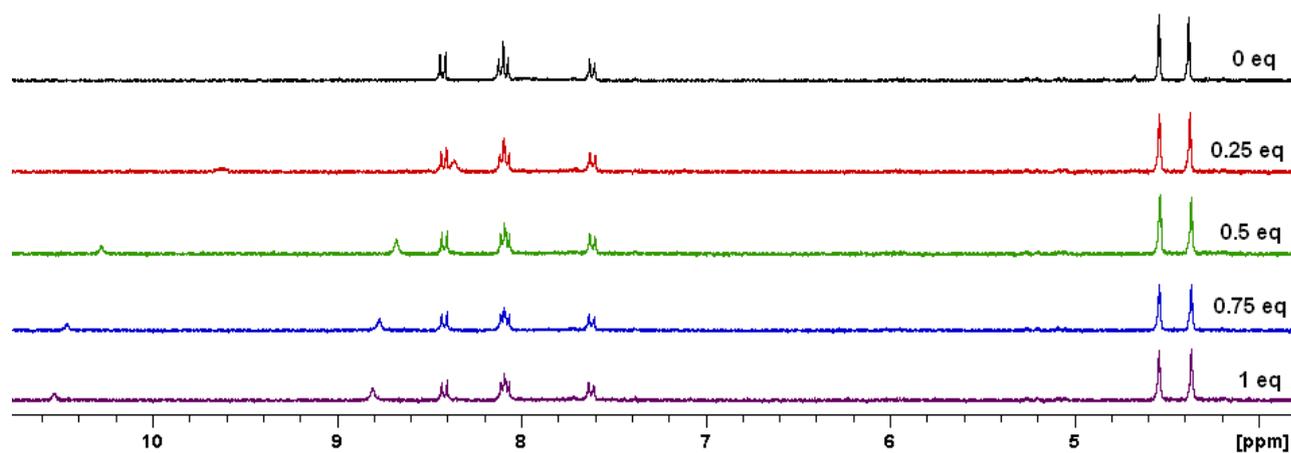
**Figure ESI 14.** Binding profile associated with the observed maximum absorbance of ligand  $[1 \cdot H^+]$  ( $c = 1 \cdot 10^{-4}$  M in  $CH_3CN$ ) upon addition of increasing amounts of a)  $Cl^-$ , indicating the formation of 1:2 complex and b)  $Br^-$ , c)  $NO_3^-$ , d)  $HSO_4^-$ , indicating the formation of 1:1 complexes (receptor/anion).



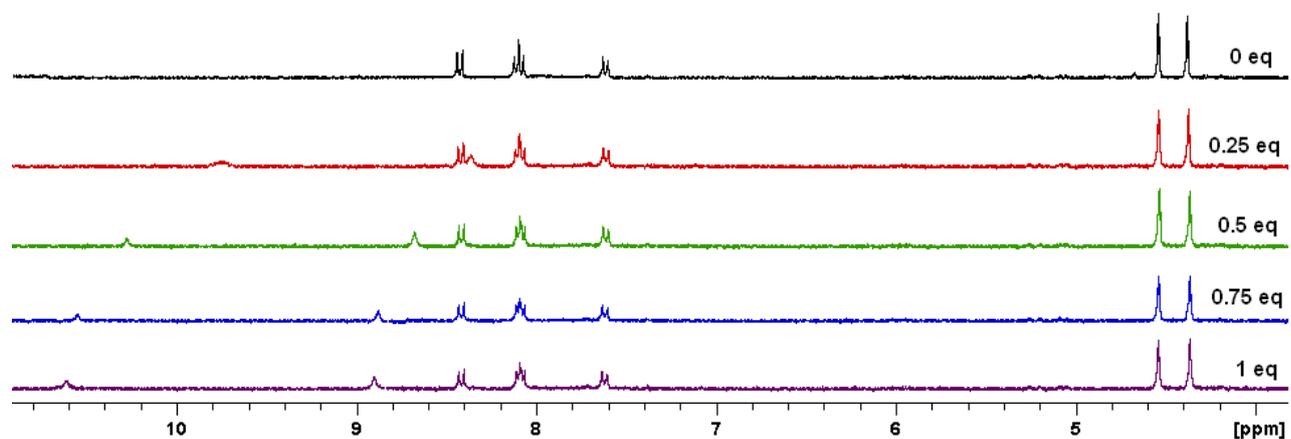
**Figure ESI 15.** Changes in the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of [1·H<sup>+</sup>] in CD<sub>3</sub>CN upon addition of increasing amounts of Cl<sup>-</sup> from 0 equiv (top) to 2 equiv. (bottom).



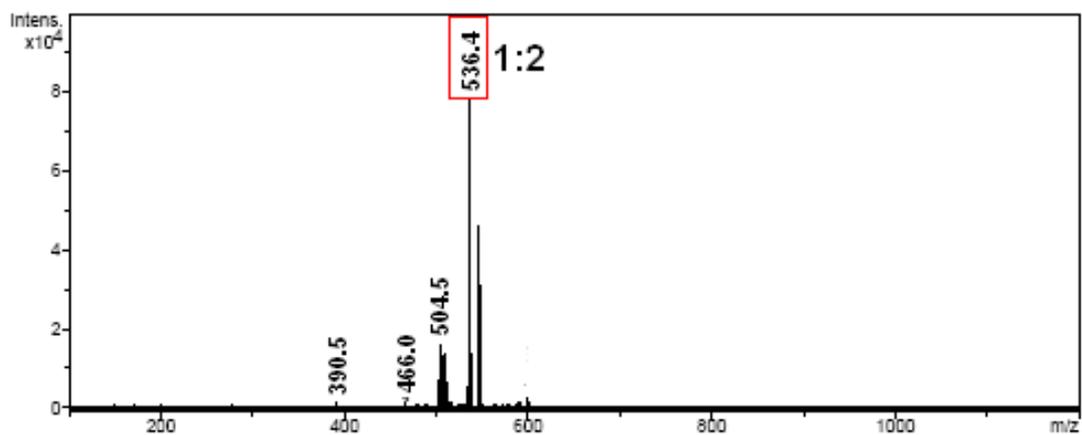
**Figure ESI 16.** Changes in the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of [1·H<sup>+</sup>] in CD<sub>3</sub>CN upon addition of increasing amounts of NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> from 0 equiv (top) to 1 equiv. (bottom).



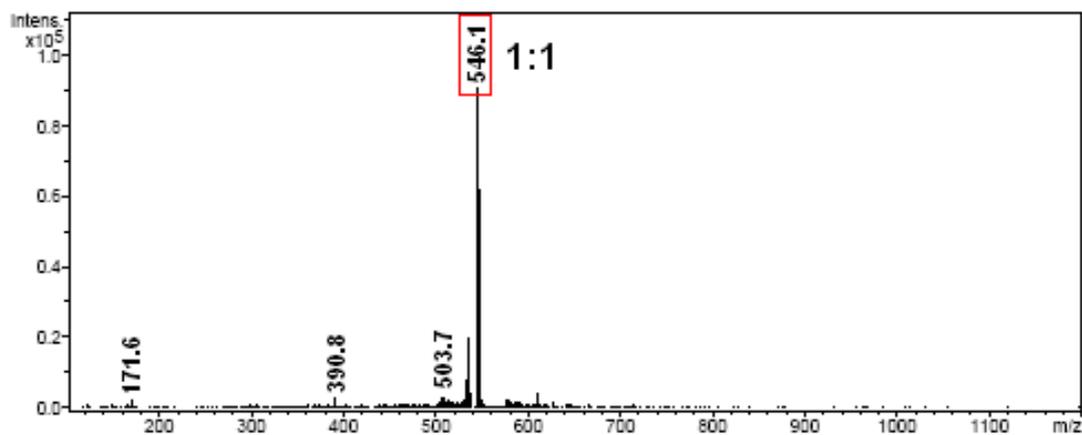
**Figure ESI 17.** Changes in the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of [1·H<sup>+</sup>] in CD<sub>3</sub>CN upon addition of increasing amounts of HSO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> from 0 equiv (top) to 1 equiv. (bottom).



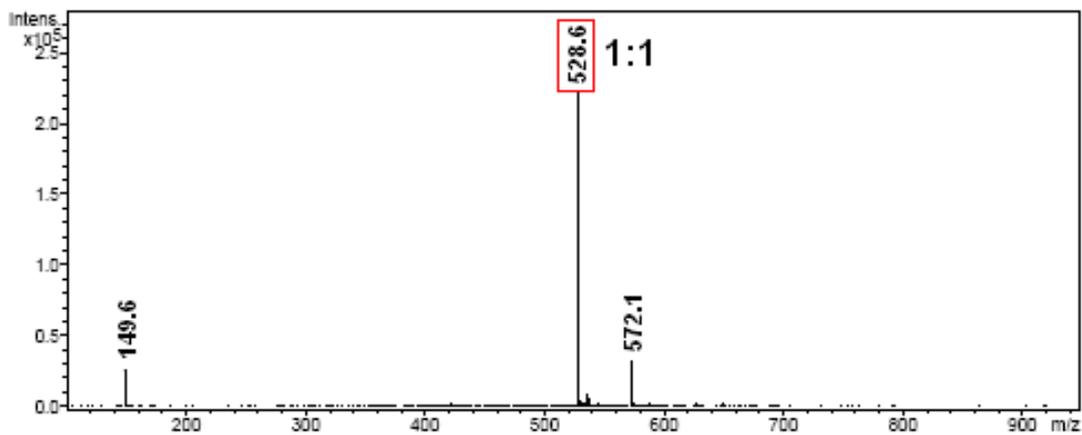
**Figure ESI 18.** Changes in the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of [1·H<sup>+</sup>]CD<sub>3</sub>CN upon addition of increasing amounts of Br<sup>-</sup> from 0 equiv (top) to 1 equiv. (bottom).



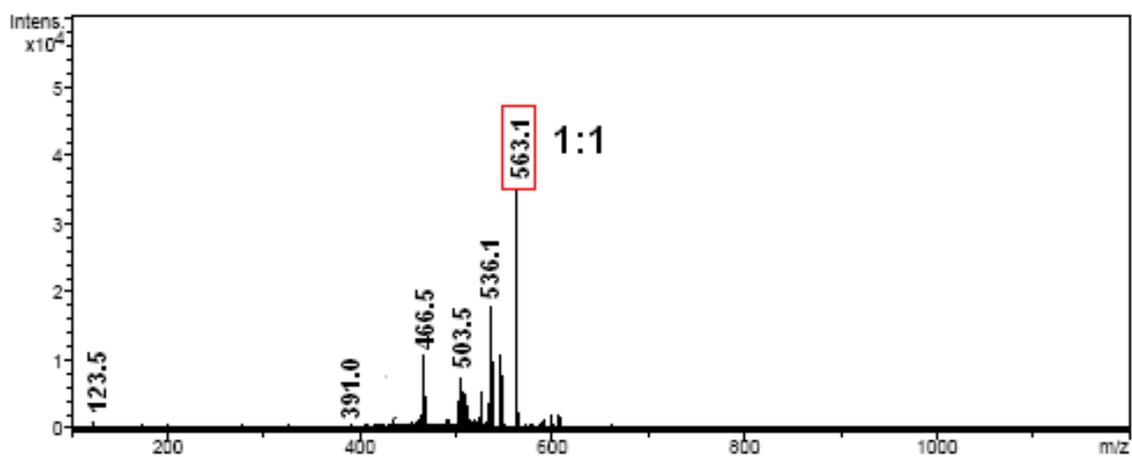
**Figure ESI 19.** ESI mass spectrum of the complex formed between [1·H<sup>+</sup>] and Cl<sup>-</sup>.



**Figure ESI 20.** ESI mass spectrum of the complex formed between [1·H<sup>+</sup>] and Br<sup>-</sup>.



**Figure ESI 21.** ESI mass spectrum of the complex formed between [1·H<sup>+</sup>] and NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>.



**Figure ESI 22.** ESI mass spectrum of the complex formed between  $[1\cdot\text{H}^+]$  and  $\text{HSO}_4^-$ .