

Supporting Information

Pyridinium-based symmetrical diamides as chemosensors in visual sensing of citrate through indicator displacement assay (IDA) and gel formation

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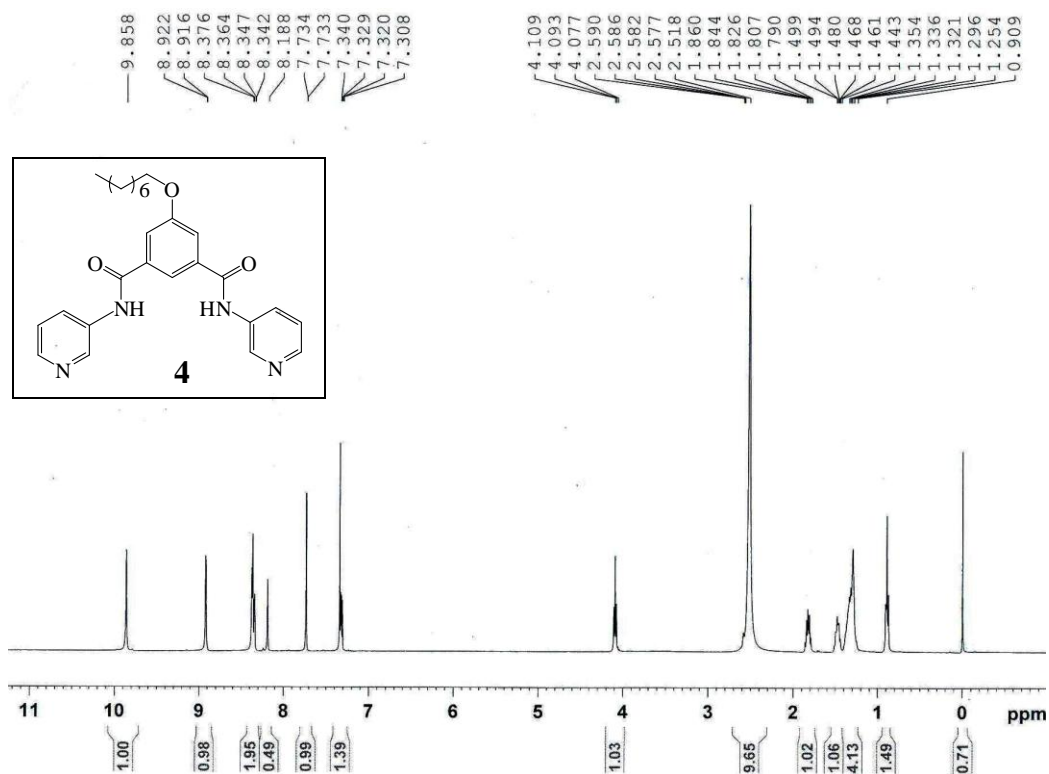
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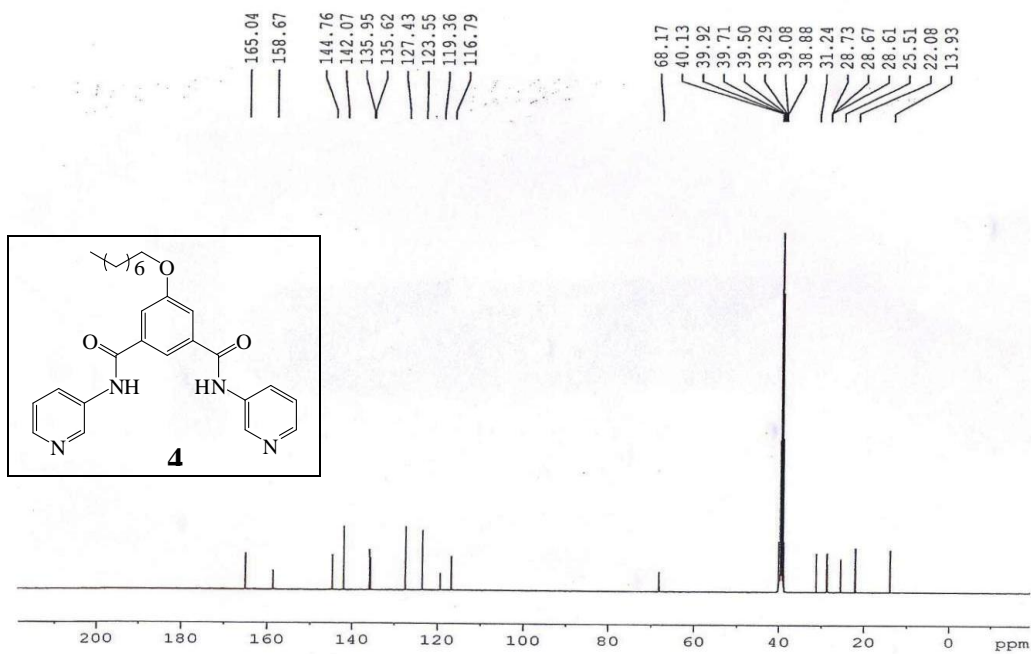
1. Spectral data
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Spectral data of compounds:

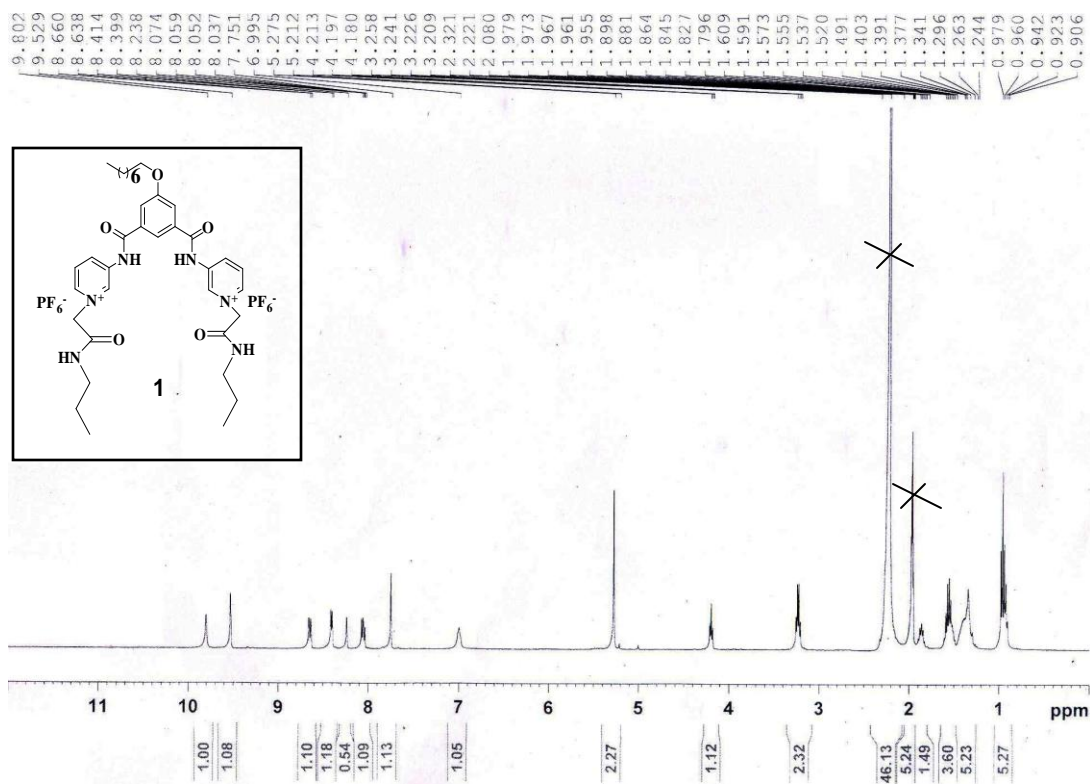
¹H NMR of **4** (400 MHz, CDCl₃ containing few drops of d₆-DMSO):



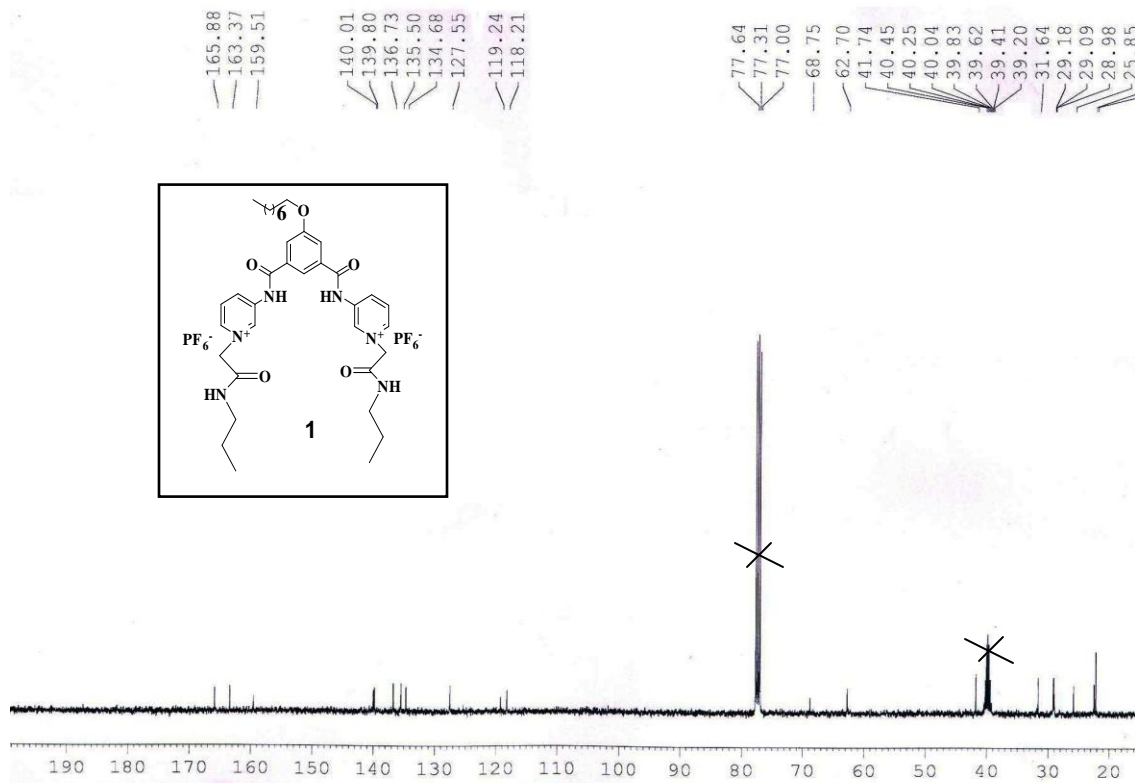
¹³C NMR of **4** (100 MHz, d₆-DMSO):



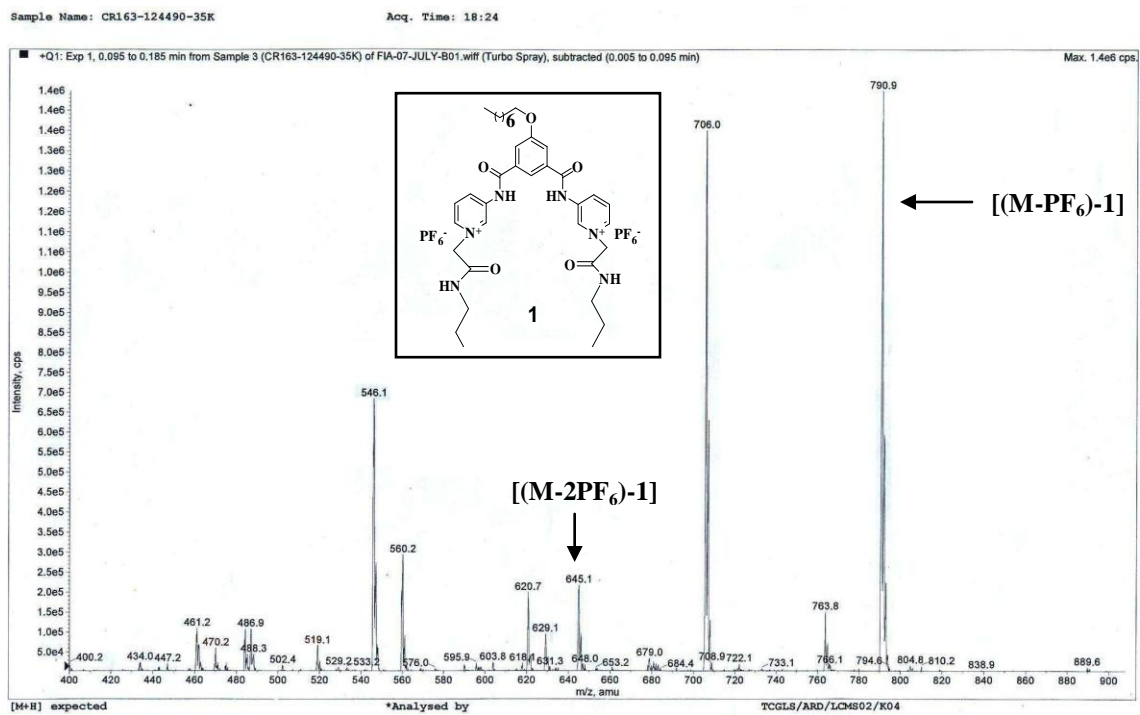
^1H NMR of 1 (400 MHz, CD_3CN):



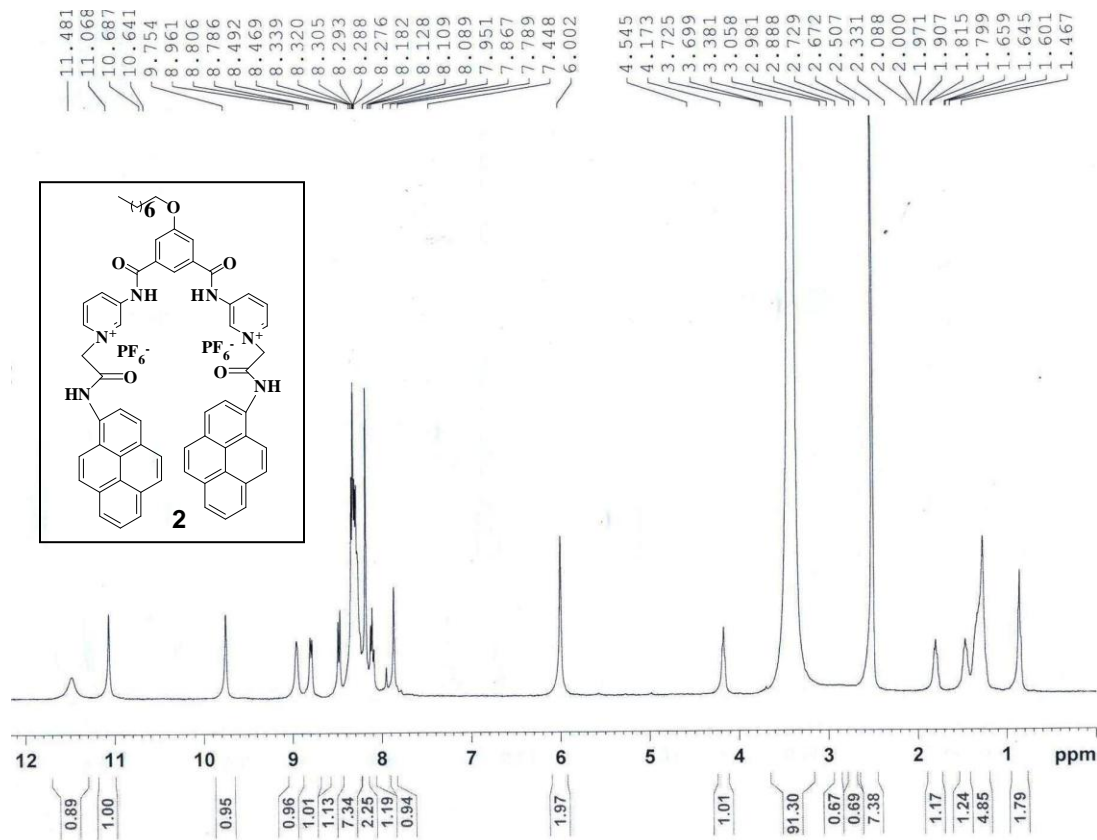
^{13}C NMR of 1 (100 MHz, CDCl_3 containing few drops of d_6 -DMSO):



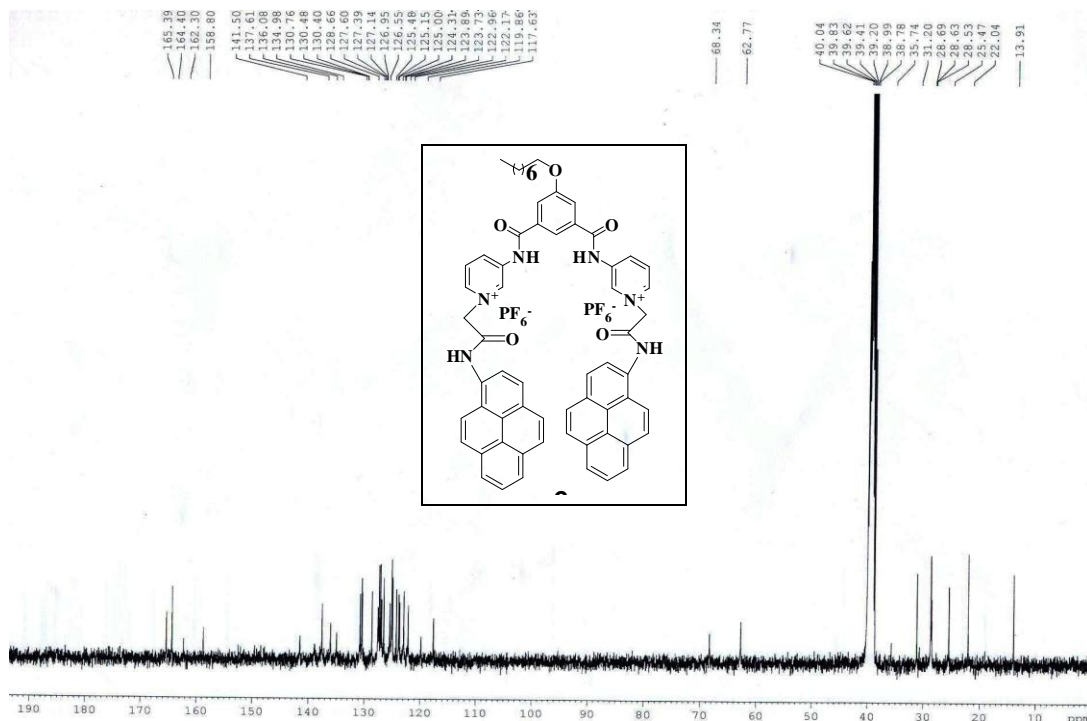
ESI mass of 1:



¹H NMR of 2 (400 MHz, d₆-DMSO):



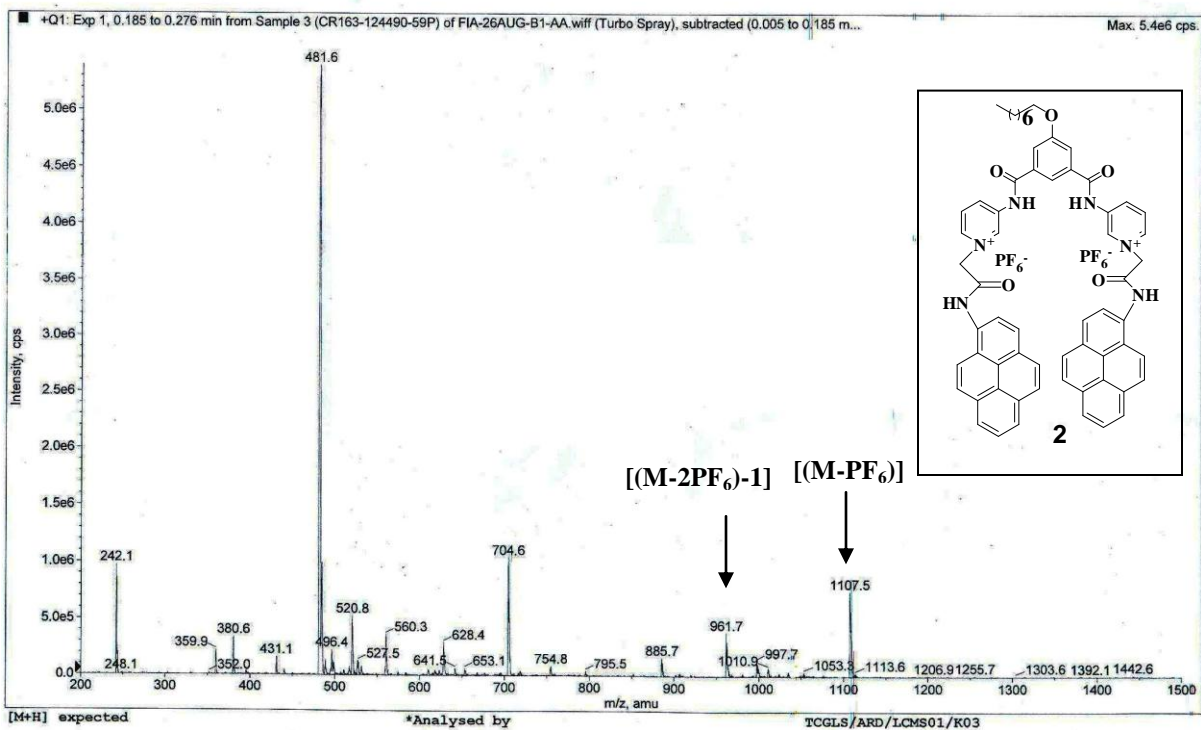
^{13}C NMR of 2 (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO):



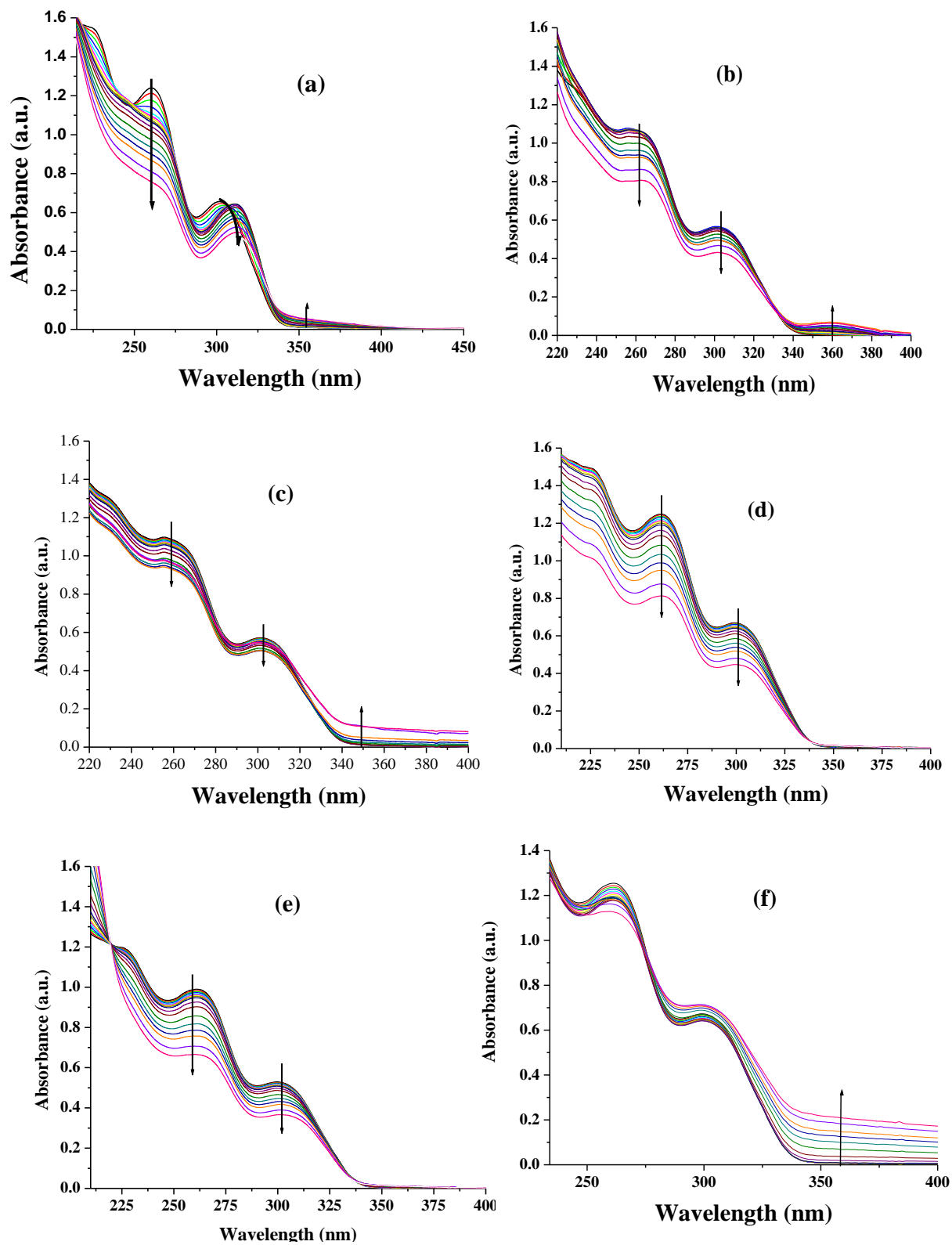
ESI mass of 2:

Sample Name: CR163-124490-59P

Acq. Time: 09:40



Selected UV-vis titration curves for receptor 1 in CH₃CN:H₂O (4:1 v/v, pH = 6.3, 10 mM Tris/HCl buffer)



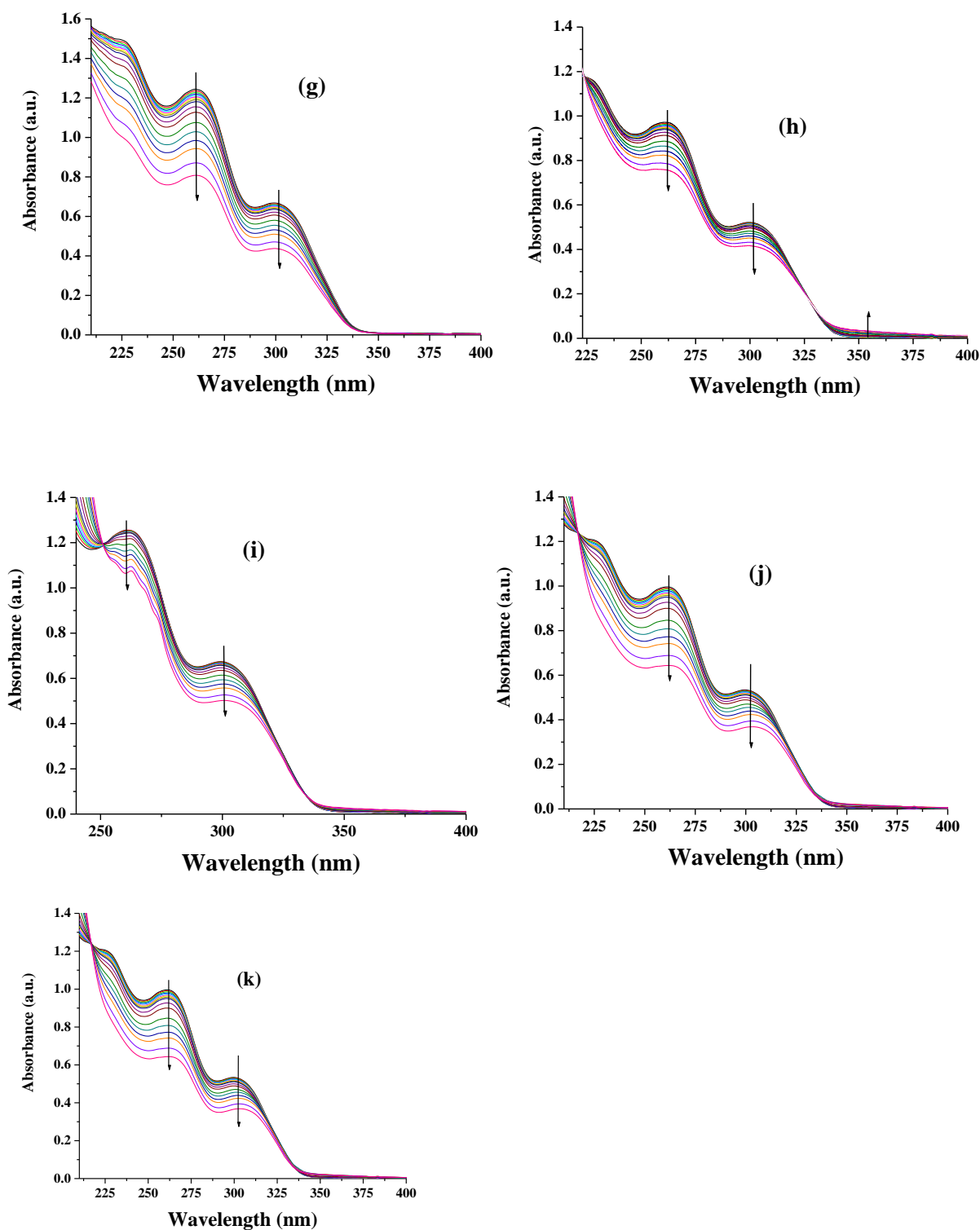


Figure 1S: UV-vis titration curves of receptor **1** ($c = 4.8 \times 10^{-5}$ M) with the tetrabutylammonium (a) Citrate, (b) tartarate, (c) malate, (d) acetate, (e) adipate, (f) dihydrogenphosphate, (g) fluoride, (h) glutarate, (i) malonate, (j) N-Ts glutamate (k) pimelate in 4:1 CH₃CN:H₂O (v/v) 10 mM Tris/HCl buffer pH = 6.3, where the concentration of all guests ($c = 9.6 \times 10^{-4}$ M).

**Binding constant curve for receptor 1 with tetrabutylammonium citrate from UV-vis in CH₃CN:H₂O
(4:1 v/v, pH = 6.3, 10 mM Tris/HCl buffer)**

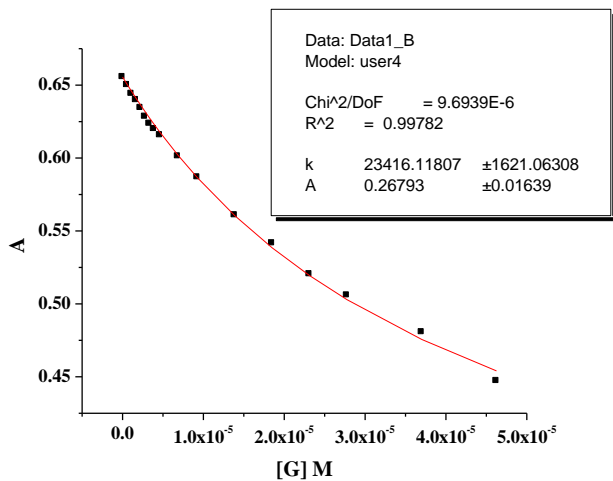
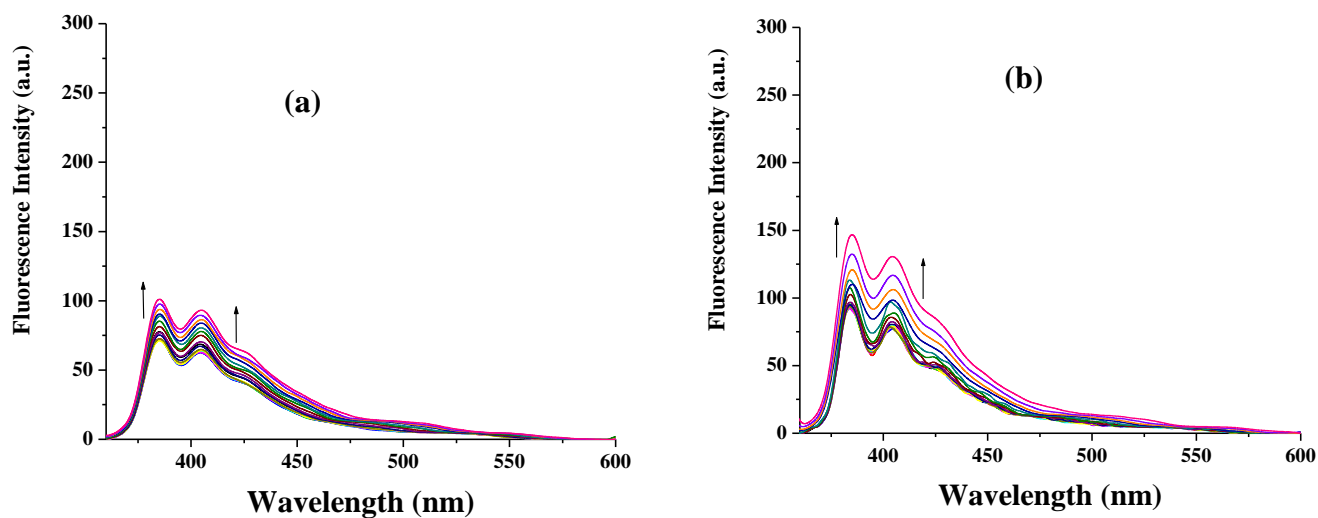


Figure 2S: Binding constant curve for **1** ($c = 4.80 \times 10^{-5}$ M) with citrate ($c = 4.2 \times 10^{-4}$ M) [Determined using non-linear curve fitting $y = (A_0 + A * K * x) / (1 + K * x)$. $x = [G]$, $y =$ absorbance in CH₃CN: H₂O (4:1 v/v, pH = 6.3, 10 mM Tris/HCl buffer) at $\lambda_{max} = 295$ nm].

Selected fluorescence titration curves for receptor 2 in CH₃CN:H₂O (4:1 v/v, pH = 6.3, 10 mM Tris/HCl buffer)



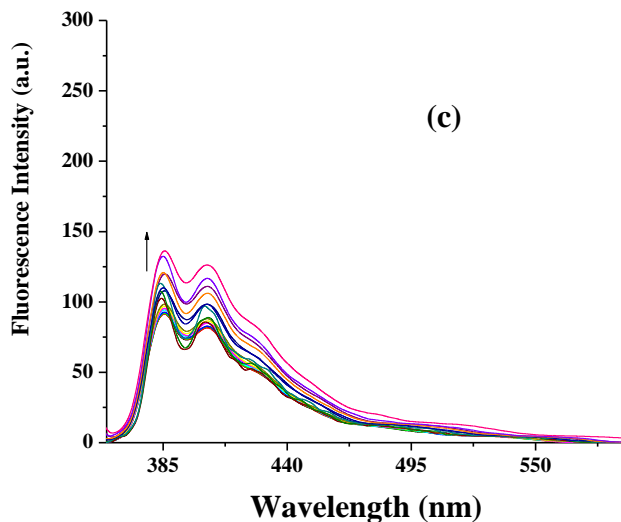
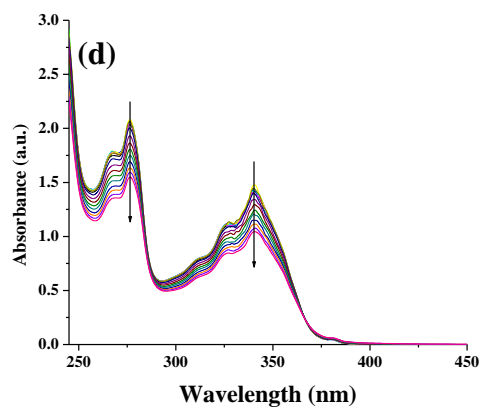
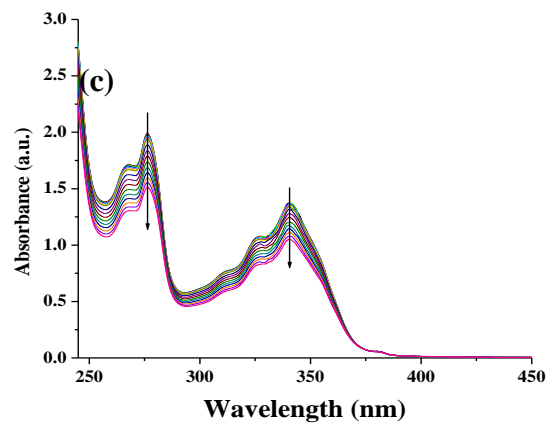
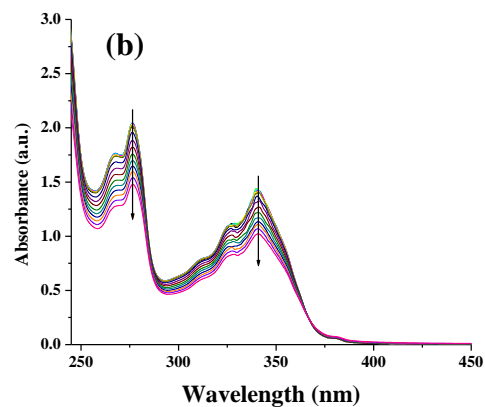
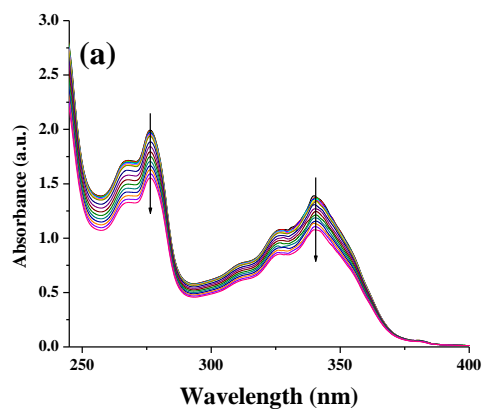


Figure 3S: Fluorescence titration curves of receptor 2 ($c = 2.5 \times 10^{-5}$ M) with the tetrabutylammonium (a) Glutarate, (b) Dihydrogenphosphate (c) Pimelate in 4:1 $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}:\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (v/v) 10 mM TrisHCl buffer pH = 6.3 [Concentration of all guests were 9.6×10^{-4} M].

Selected UV-vis titration curves for receptor 2 in $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}:\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (4:1 v/v, pH = 6.3, 10 mM Tris/HCl buffer)



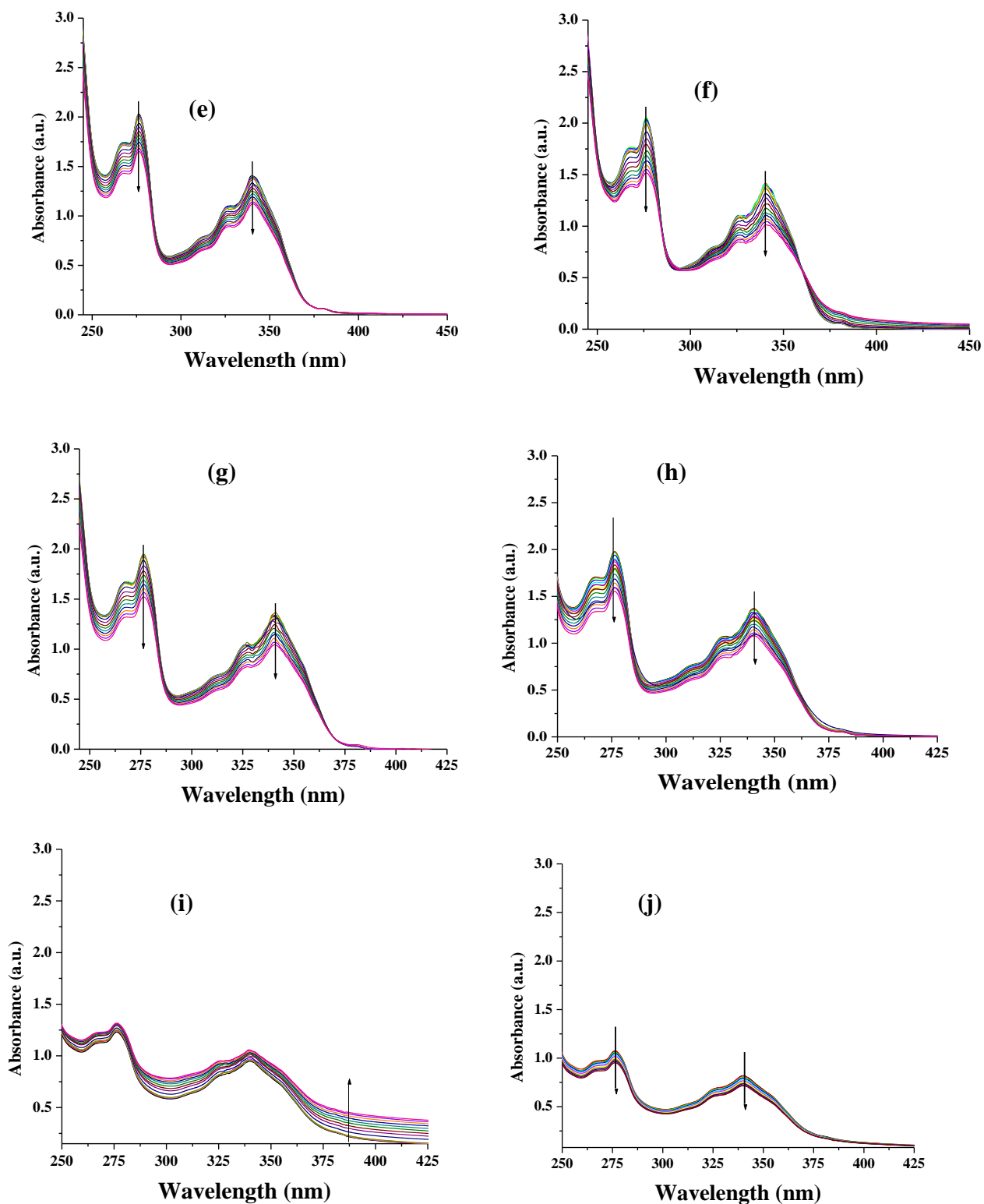


Figure 4S: UV-vis titration curves of receptor **2** (c = 2.5 x 10⁻⁵ M) with the tetrabutylammonium (a) acetate, (b) adipate, (c) fluoride, (d) glutarate, (e) malonate, (f) N-Ts glutamate, (g) pimelate, (h) dihydrogenphosphate, (i) tartarate, (j) malate in 4:1 CH₃CN:H₂O (v/v) 10 mM Tris/HCl buffer pH = 6.3 [concentration of all guests (c = 9.6 x 10⁻⁴ M)].

Job plots of **2** with some selected guests from UV-vis and fluorescence.

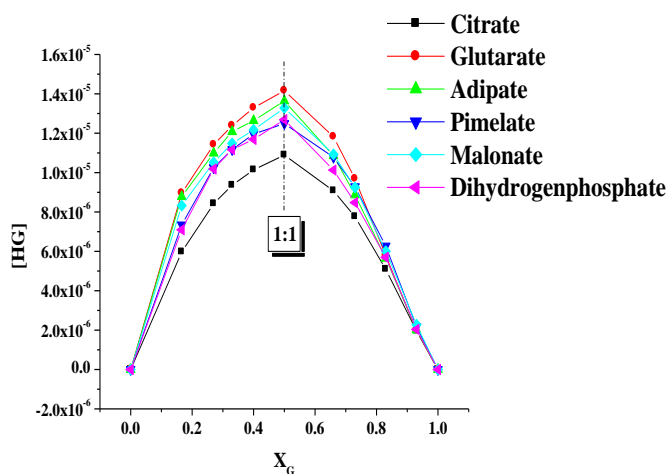


Figure 5S: UV-vis Job plots for **2** with tetrabutylammonium salts of (a) Citrate, (b) Glutarate, (c) Adipate, (d) Pimelate, (e) Malonate and (f) Dihydrogenphosphate at 340 nm in $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}:\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (4:1 v/v, pH = 6.3, 10 mM Tris/HCl buffer) where $[\text{G}] = [\text{H}] = 8.5 \times 10^{-5}$ M at 25 °C.

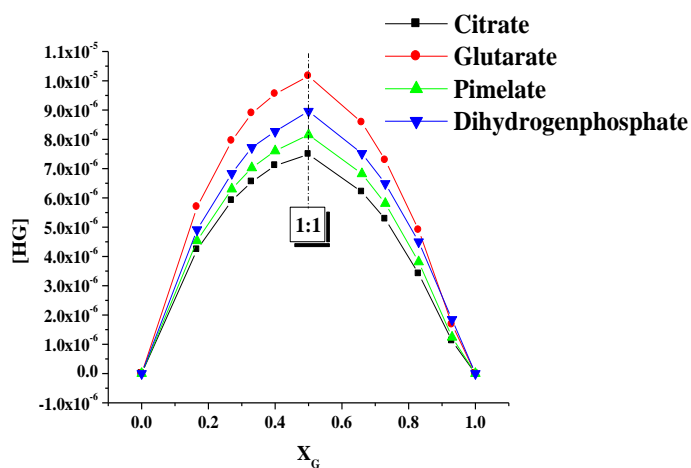


Figure 6S: Fluorescence Job plots of **2** with tetrabutylammonium salts of (a) Citrate, (b) Glutarate, (c) Pimelate and (d) Dihydrogenphosphate at 385 nm in $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}:\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (4:1 v/v, pH = 6.3, 10 mM Tris/HCl buffer) where $[\text{G}] = [\text{H}] = 8.5 \times 10^{-5}$ M at 25 °C.

Binding constant curve for receptor **2** with citrate from fluorescence in $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}:\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (4:1 v/v, pH = 6.3, 10 mM Tris/HCl buffer) at 25 °C, $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 385$ nm:

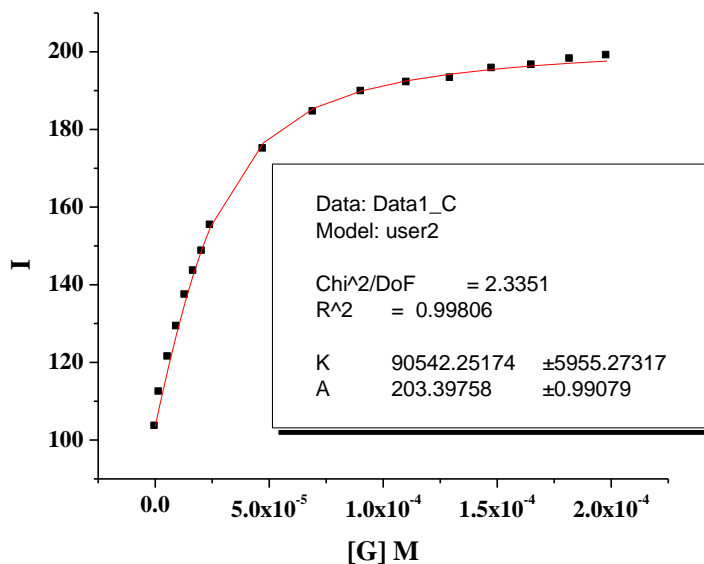


Figure 7S: Binding constant curve of **2** ($c = 2.5 \times 10^{-5}$ M) with the tetrabutylammonium citrate ($c = 9.6 \times 10^{-4}$ M) from fluorescence titration in $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}:\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (4:1 v/v, pH = 6.3, 10 mM Tris/HCl buffer). Working formula $y = I_0 + ((I - I_0) / (2 * x_2)) * (x_1 + x_2 + 1 / K - ((x_1 + x_2 + 1 / K)^2 - 4 * x_1 * x_2)^{0.5})$, $x_1 = [\text{G}]$, $x_2 = [\text{H}]$, $y = \text{intensity}$.

Binding constant curve for receptor 2 with citrate in CH₃CN:H₂O (4:1 v/v, pH = 6.3, 10 mM Tris/HCl buffer) at 25 °C λ_{\max} = 340 nm:

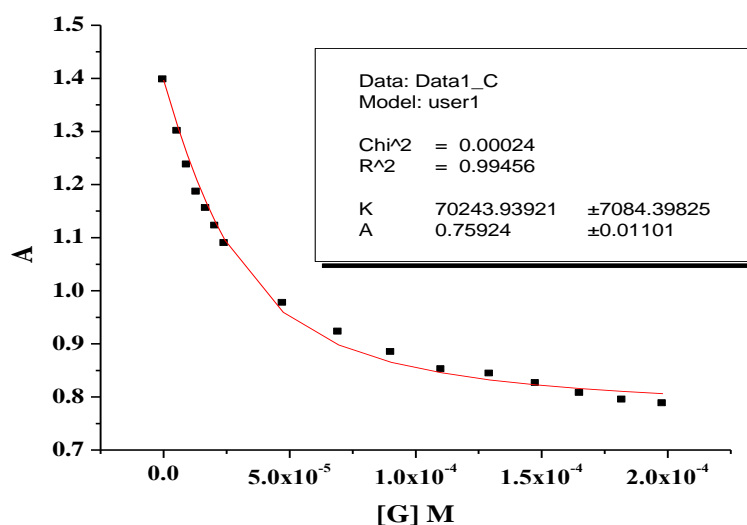


Figure 8S: Binding constant curve for receptor 2 ($c = 2.5 \times 10^{-5}$ M) with the tetrabutylammonium citrate ($c = 9.6 \times 10^{-4}$ M) from UV-vis titration in CH₃CN:H₂O (4:1 v/v, pH = 6.3, 10 mM Tris/HCl buffer). Working formula: $y = A_0 + ((A - A_0) / (2 * x_2)) * (x_1 + x_2 + 1/K - ((x_1 + x_2 + 1/K)^2 - 4 * x_1 * x_2)^{.5})$, $x_1 = [G]$, $x_2 = [H]$, $y = \text{intensity}$, $Y = \text{absorbance}$.

Indicator displacement experiments on 1 and 2 with Uranine dye 3:

From UV-vis study

Change in absorption upon gradual addition of 1 and 2 individually to the solution of 3:

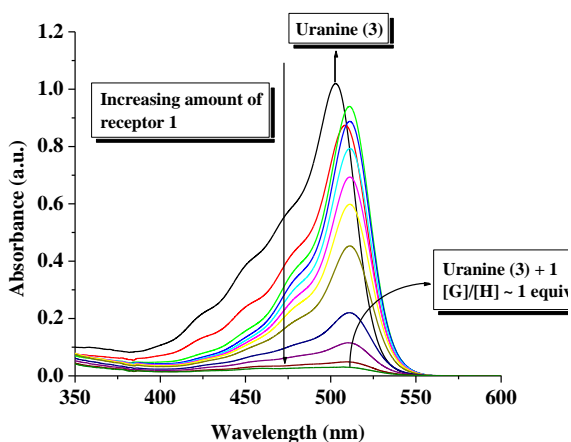


Figure 9S: Addition of 1 ($c = 4.2 \times 10^{-4}$ M) into the solution of 3 ($c = 8.0 \times 10^{-5}$ M) causes a decrease in the absorption intensity of 3 at 502 nm in CH₃CN:H₂O (4:1 v/v, pH = 6.3, 10 mM Tris/HCl buffer) at 25 °C.

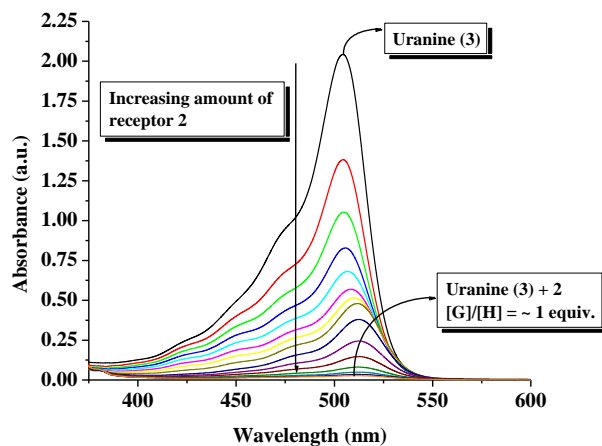


Figure 10S: Addition of 2 ($c = 4.2 \times 10^{-4}$ M) into the solution of 3 ($c = 8.5 \times 10^{-5}$ M) causes a decrease in the absorption intensity of 3 at 502 nm in CH₃CN:H₂O (4:1 v/v, pH = 6.3, 10 mM Tris/HCl buffer) at 25 °C.

Binding constant for receptor 1 with Uranine dye 3 in CH₃CN:H₂O (4:1 v/v, pH = 6.3, 10 mM Tris/HCl buffer) from UV-vis.

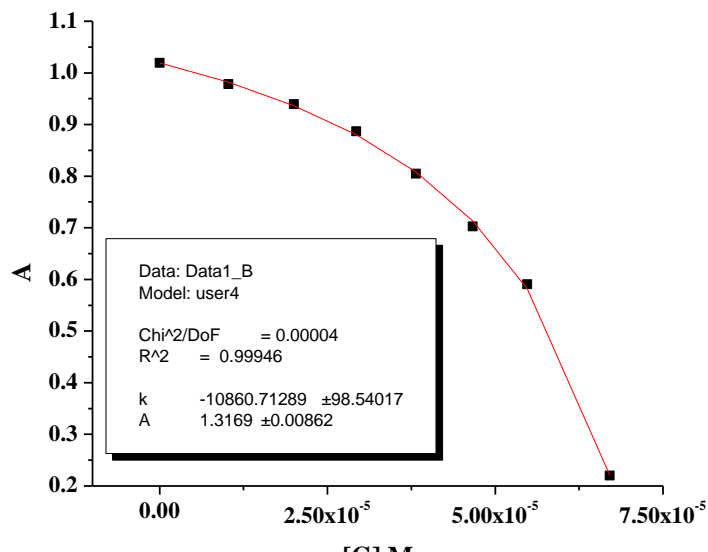


Figure 11S: Binding constant curve for **1** ($c = 4.2 \times 10^{-4}$ M) with Uranine dye **3** ($c = 8.0 \times 10^{-5}$ M) at $\lambda_{\max} = 502$ nm. at 25 °C. [Working formula: $y = (A_0 + A * K * x) / (1 + K * x)$. $x = [G]$, $y = \text{absorbance}$].

Binding constant for receptor 2 with Uranine dye 3 in CH₃CN:H₂O (4:1 v/v, pH = 6.3, 10 mM Tris/HCl buffer)

- From UV-vis:

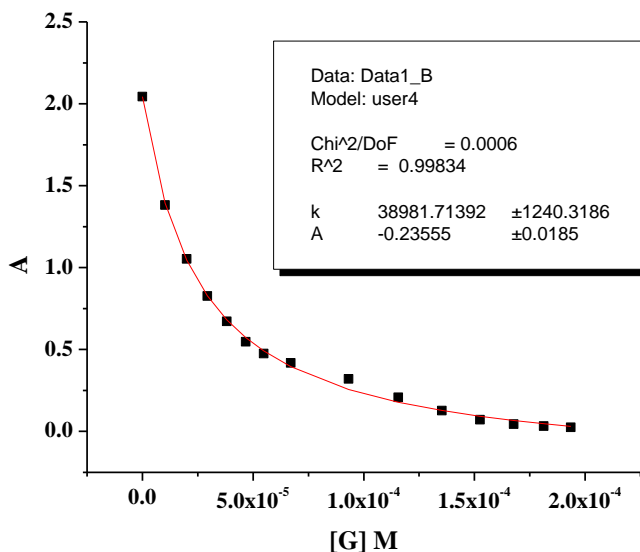


Figure 12S: Binding constant at $\lambda_{\max} = 502$ nm. of Uranine **3** ($c = 8.5 \times 10^{-5}$ M) with **1** ($c = 4.2 \times 10^{-3}$ M) at 25 °C [working formula: $y = A_0 + ((A - A_0) / (2 * x_2)) * (x_1 + x_2 + 1 / K - ((x_1 + x_2 + 1 / K)^2 - 4 * x_1 * x_2)^{.5})$, $x_1 = [G]$, $x_2 = [H]$, $y = \text{absorbance}$].

Dye displacement from the ensemble of 1/3 using citrate and the corresponding changes in absorbance

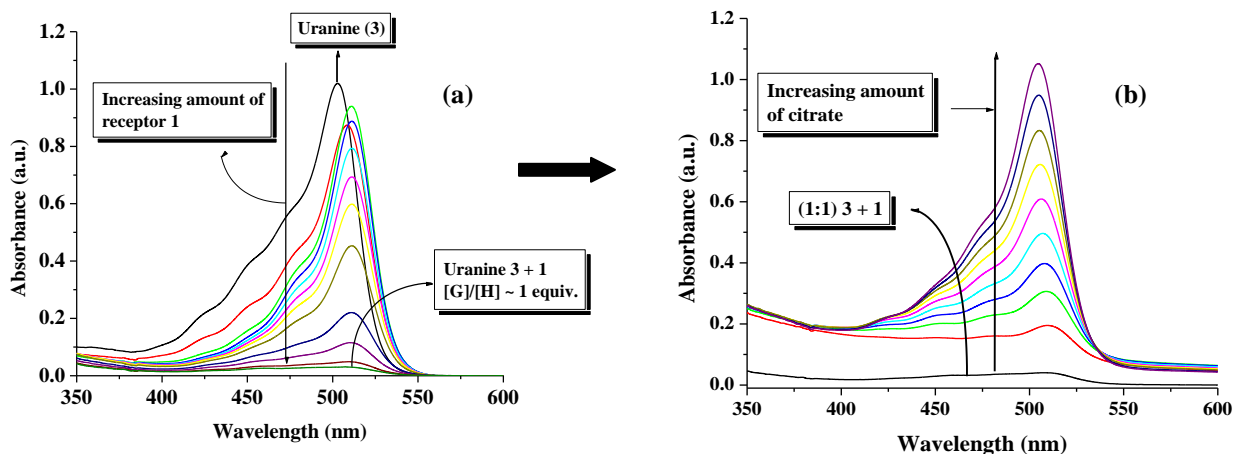


Figure 13S: (a) change in absorbance of dye **3** ($c = 8.0 \times 10^{-5}$ M) upon the addition of increasing amount of **1** ($c = 4.2 \times 10^{-4}$ M), (b) gradual addition of citrate ($c = 4.62 \times 10^{-3}$ M) to the ensemble of dye **3/1** (1:1). All titration are performed at 25 °C in $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}:\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (4:1 v/v, pH = 6.3, 10 mM TrisHCl buffer).

Dye displacement from the ensemble of 2/3 using citrate and the corresponding changes in absorbance

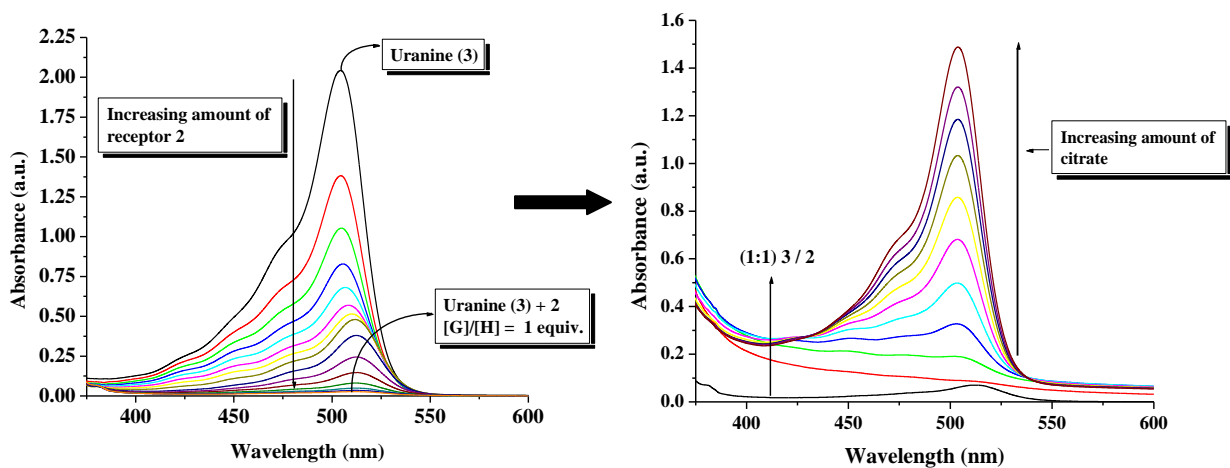


Figure 14S: (a) change in absorbance of dye **3** ($c = 8.5 \times 10^{-5}$ M) upon the addition of increasing amount of **2** ($c = 4.2 \times 10^{-4}$ M), (b) gradual addition of citrate ($c = 4.62 \times 10^{-3}$ M) to the ensemble of dye **3/2** (1:1). All titration are performed at 25 °C in $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}:\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (4:1 v/v, pH = 6.3, 10 mM TrisHCl buffer).

Dye displacement from the ensemble of 1/3 using of tetrabutylammonium salt of various anions and the corresponding changes in absorbance

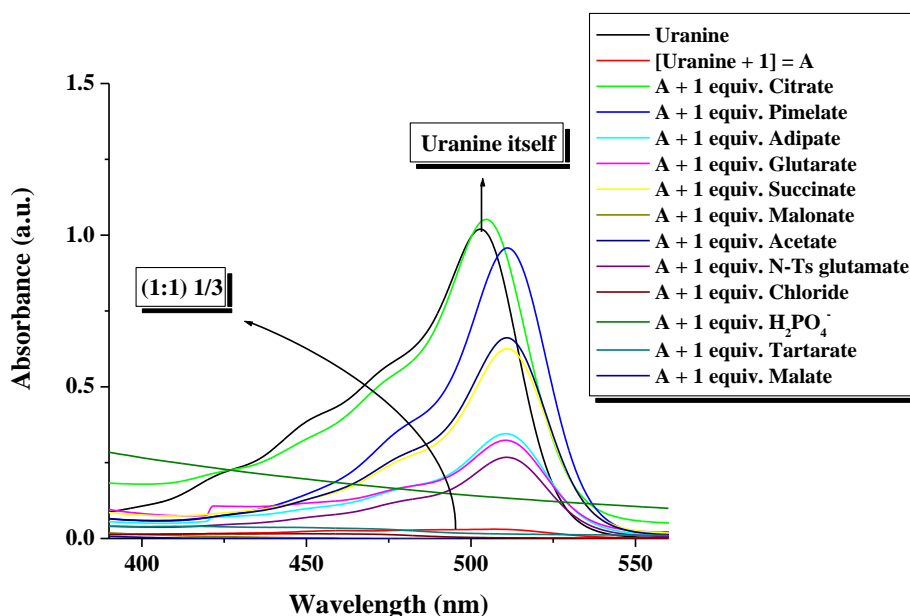


Figure 15S: Change in absorption after addition of 1 equiv. amount of different tetrabutylammonium salts (G) to the ensemble of 1/3 (1:1) ($[G] = 4.62 \times 10^{-3}$ M, $[3] = 8.0 \times 10^{-5}$ M). All titration are performed at 25 °C in CH₃CN:H₂O (4:1 v/v, pH = 6.3, 10 mM TrisHCl buffer).

Dye displacement from the ensemble of 2/3 using of tetrabutylammonium salt of various anions and the corresponding changes in absorbance

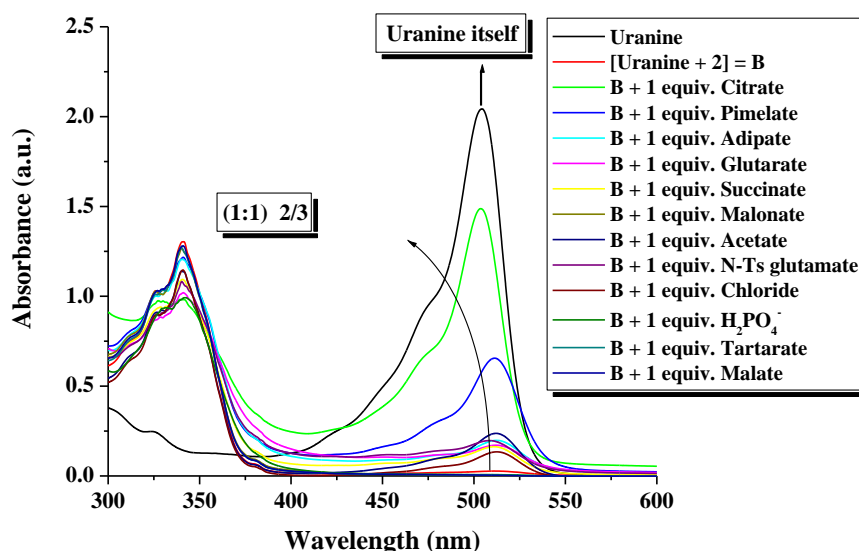


Figure 16S: Change in absorption after addition of 1 equiv. amount of different tetrabutylammonium salts (G) to the ensemble of 2/3 (1:1) ($[G] = 4.62 \times 10^{-3}$ M, $[3] = 8.0 \times 10^{-5}$ M). All titration are performed at 25 °C in CH₃CN:H₂O (4:1 v/v, pH = 6.3, 10 mM TrisHCl buffer).

Dye displacement from the ensemble of 2/3 using citrate and the corresponding changes in fluorescence intensity.

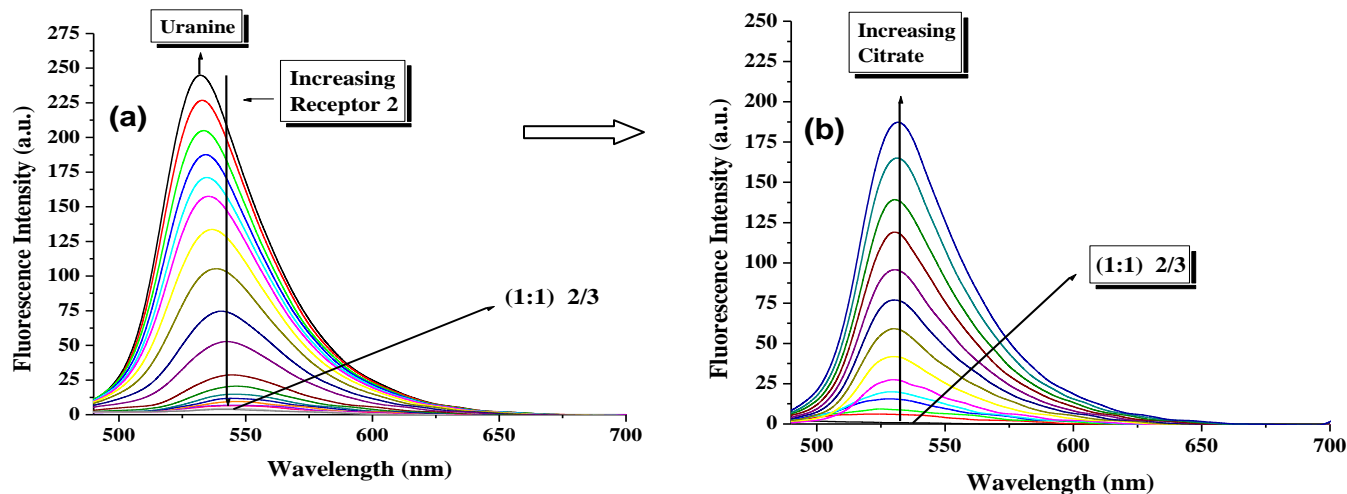


Figure 17S. (a) Change in emission of dye 3 ($c = 8.0 \times 10^{-5}$ M) upon increasing addition of 2 ($c = 4.2 \times 10^{-4}$ M) and (b) retrieval of emission upon increasing addition of citrate ($c = 4.62 \times 10^{-3}$ M) to the ensemble 2/3 in $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}:\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (4:1, v/v, pH 6.3, 10 mM Tris/HCl buffer).

Dye displacement from the ensemble of 1/3 using various tetrabutylammonium salts and the corresponding changes in fluorescence intensity.

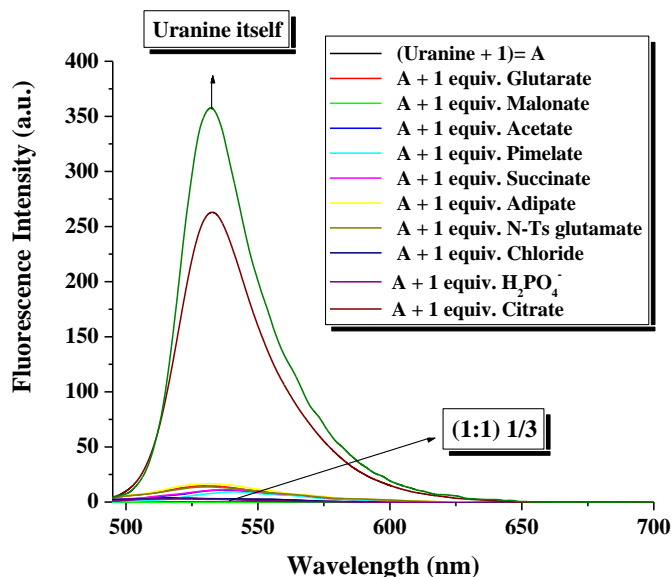


Figure 18S: Change in emission after addition of 1 equiv. amount of different tetrabutylammonium salts (G) to the ensemble of 1/3 (1:1) ([G] = 4.62 x 10⁻³ M, [3] = 8.0 x 10⁻⁵ M). All titration are performed at 25 °C in $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}:\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (4:1 v/v, pH = 6.3, 10 mM TrisHCl buffer).

Dye displacement from the ensemble of 2/3 using different tetrabutylammonium salts the corresponding changes in fluorescence intensity

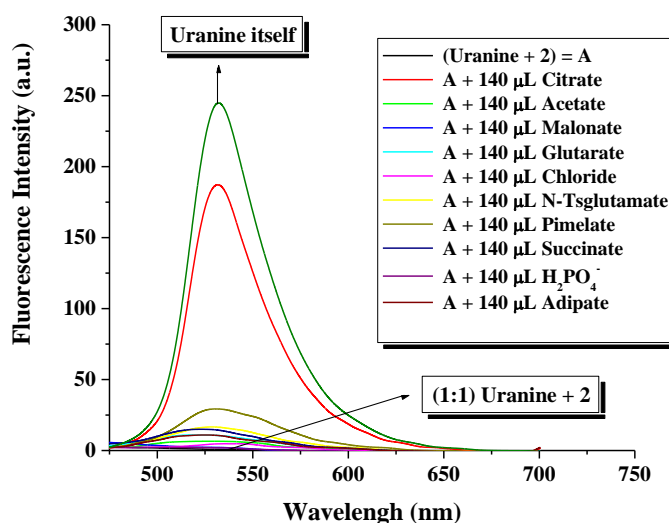


Figure 19S: Change in emission after addition of 1 equiv. amount of different tetrabutylammonium salts (G) to the ensemble of 2/3 (1:1) ($[G] = 4.62 \times 10^{-3}$ M, $[3] = 8.0 \times 10^{-5}$ M). All titration are performed at 25 °C in $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}:\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (4:1 v/v, pH = 6.3, 10 mM TrisHCl buffer).

- **Binding constant curve for 3 with 2 from Fluorescence titration:**

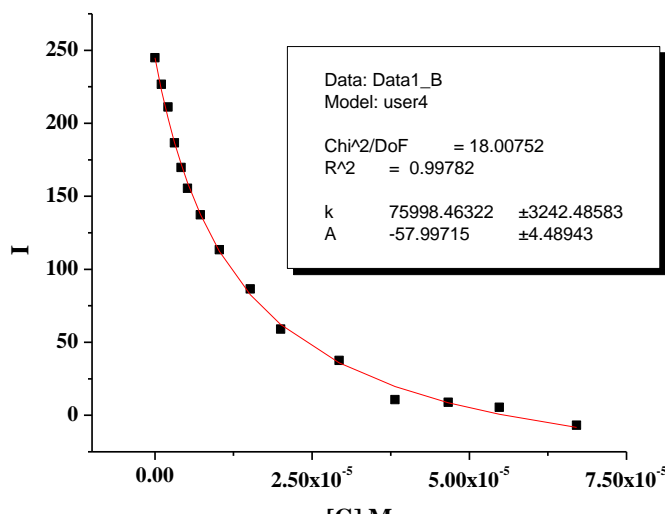


Figure 20S: Binding constant at $\lambda = 532$ nm for dye 3 ($c = 8.5 \times 10^{-5}$ M) with receptor 1 ($c = 4.2 \times 10^{-3}$ M) from fluorescence titration in $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}:\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (4:1 v/v, pH = 6.3, 10 mM TrisHCl buffer). Working formula: $y = I_0 + ((I - I_0)/(2 * x_2)) * (x_1 + x_2 + 1/K - ((x_1 + x_2 + 1/K)^2 - 4 * x_1 * x_2)^{.5})$, $x_1 = [G]$, $x_2 = [H]$, $y = \text{intensity}$.

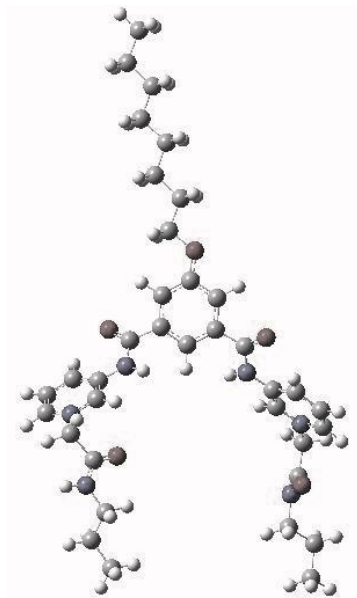


Figure 21S: DFT optimized geometry of **1** ($E = -2106.1779$ a.u.). Gaussian 03³ was used for DFT calculation using 6-31G* basis set and the popular b3LYP functional on the structure **1**.

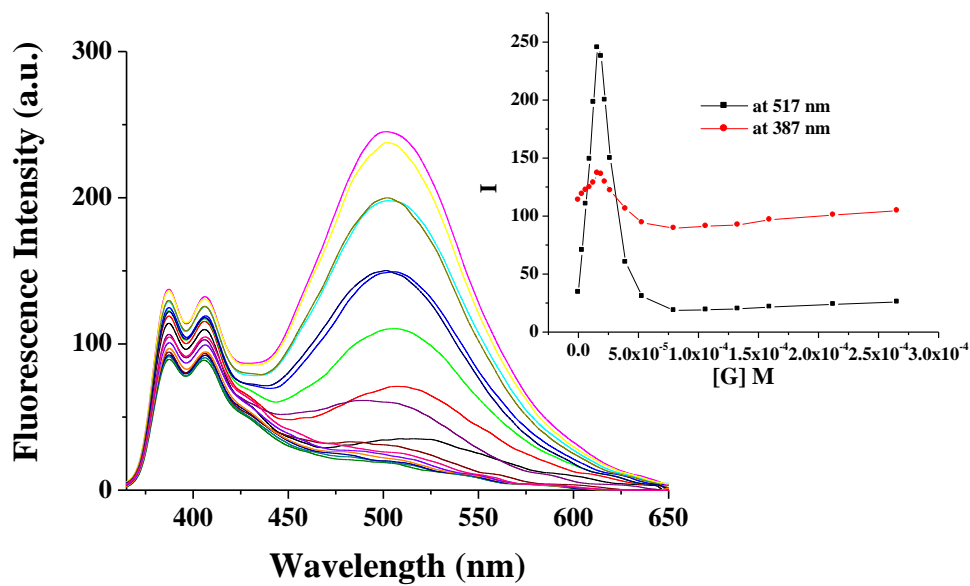


Figure 22S: Fluorescence titration spectra of **2** ($c = 2.5 \times 10^{-5}$ M) in 5% CH₃CN in CHCl₃ with the addition of citrate; Inset: change in emission intensity of **2** ($c = 2.5 \times 10^{-5}$ M) at 387 and 517 nm in 5% CH₃CN in CHCl₃ with the addition of citrate.

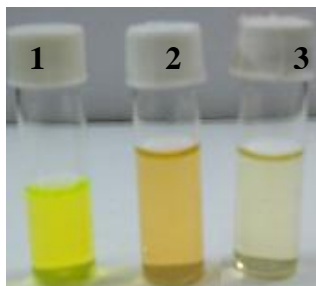


Figure23S: (1) dye **3**, (2) receptor **1** + dye **3** (1:1) = **A**, (3) **A** with 1 equiv. amount of citrate, $[3] = 8.0 \times 10^{-5}$ M, $[1] = 4.2 \times 10^{-4}$, $[G] = 4.62 \times 10^{-3}$ M. In $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}:\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (4:1 v/v, 10 mM Tris HCl buffer at pH = 7.3).

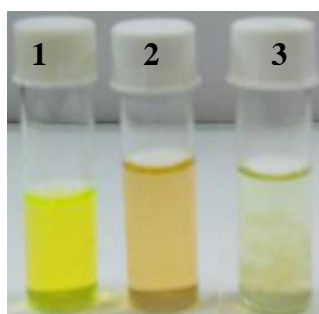


Figure24S: (1) dye **3**, (2) receptor **2** + dye **3** (1:1) = **B**, (3) **B** with 1 equiv. amount of citrate, $[3] = 8.5 \times 10^{-5}$ M, $[2] = 4.2 \times 10^{-4}$, $[G] = 2.0 \times 10^{-3}$ M. In $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}:\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (4:1 v/v, 10 mM Tris HCl buffer at pH = 7.3).

References

1. P. Job, *Ann. Chim.* 1928, **9**, 113.
2. B. Valeur, J. Pouget, J. Bourson, M. Kaschke, N. P. Eensting, *J. Phys. Chem.* 1992, **96**, 6545.
3. M. J. Frisch, G. W. Trucks, H. B. Schlegel, G. E. Scuseria, M. A. Robb, J. R. Cheeseman, J. A. Montgomery, Jr. T. Vreven, K. N. Kudin, J. C. Burant, J. M. Millam, S. S. Iyengar, J. Tomasi, V. Barone, B. Mennucci, M. Cossi, G. Scalmani, N. Rega, G. A. Petersson, H. Nakatsuji, M. Hada, M. Ehara, K. Toyota, R. Fukuda, J. Hasegawa, M. Ishida, T. Nakajima, Y. Honda, O. Kitao, H. Nakai, M. Klene, X. Li, J. E. Knox, H. P. Hratchian, J. B. Cross, C. Adamo, J. Jaramillo, R. Gomperts, R. E. Stratmann, O. Yazyev, A. J. Austin, R. Cammi, C. Pomelli, J. W. Ochterski, P. Y. Ayala, K. Morokuma, G. A. Voth, P. Salvador, J. J. Dannenberg, V. G. Zakrzewski, S. Dapprich, A. D. Daniels, M. C. Strain, O. Farkas, D. K. Malick, A. D. Rabuck, K. Raghavachari, J. B. Foresman, J. V. Ortiz, Q. Cui, A. G. Baboul, S. Clifford, J. Cioslowski, B. B. Stefanov, G. Liu, A. Liashenko, P. Piskorz, I. Komaromi, R. L. Martin, D. J. Fox, T. Keith, M. A. Al-Laham, C. Y. Peng, A. Nanayakkara, M. Challacombe, P. M. W. Gill, B. Johnson, W. Chen, M. W. Wong, C. Gonzalez, J. A. Pople, Gaussian 03, Revision C.01; Gaussian, Inc. Wallingford, CT, 2004.