

## Supporting Information

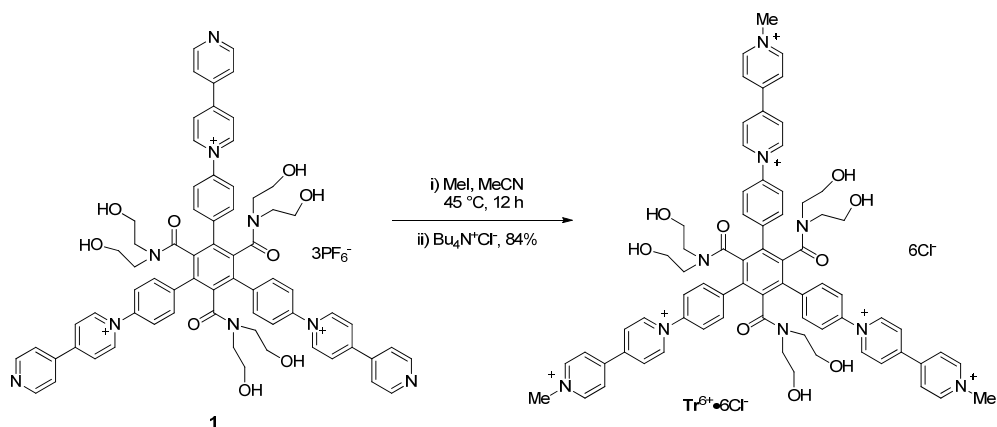
### **Two-dimensional single-layer supramolecular organic framework that is driven by viologen radical cation dimerization and further promoted by cucurbit[8]uril**

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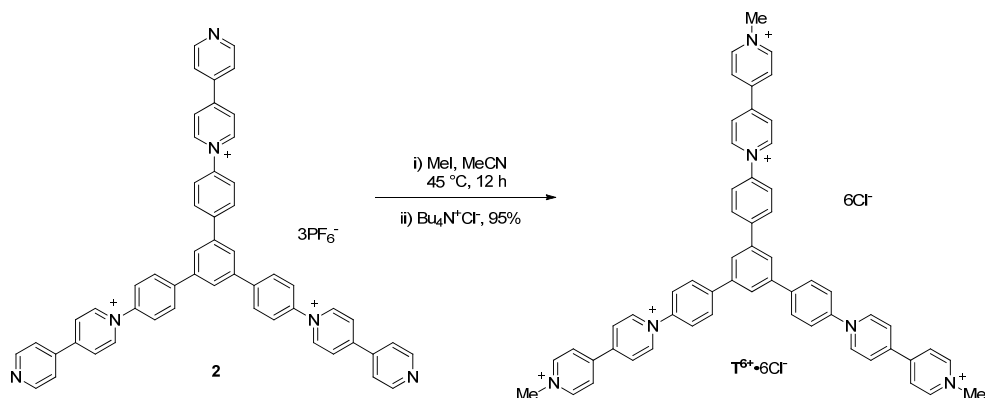
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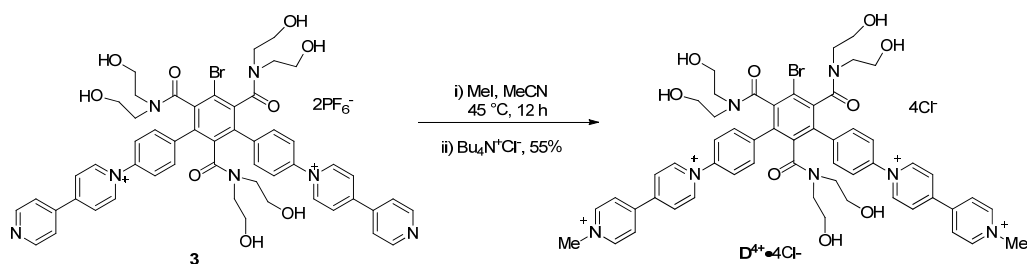
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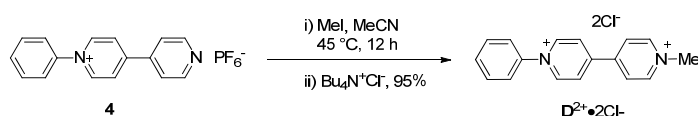
**Compound  $\text{Tr}^{6+}\cdot 6\text{Cl}^-$ .** A solution of compound **1**<sup>1</sup> (0.19 g, 0.12 mmol) and methyl iodide (0.36 g, 2.50 mmol) in acetonitrile was stirred at 45 °C for 12 h and then was added tetrabutylammonium chloride (2.78 g, 10.0 mmol). The solution was cooled to room temperature and the formed solid was filtrated and washed with acetonitrile (100 mL). The crude product was further recrystallized from methanol and THF to give compound  $\text{Tr}^{6+}\cdot 6\text{Cl}^-$  as a yellow solid (0.17 g, 84 %). M.p. >300 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O): δ 9.40 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 6H), 9.08 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 6H), 8.74 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 6H), 8.60 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 6H), 8.11-7.88 (m, 12H), 4.52-4.49 (m, 9H), 3.71-3.05 (m, 24H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O): δ 169.2, 168.7, 151.4, 149.5, 146.4, 145.4, 143.0, 138.0, 136.5, 135.2, 127.2, 126.9, 124.2, 124.1, 58.3, 58.2, 57.6, 57.5, 51.7, 51.3, 48.4, 45.9, 45.8. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>72</sub>H<sub>75</sub>F<sub>18</sub>N<sub>9</sub>O<sub>9</sub>P<sub>3</sub> [M-3PF<sub>6</sub>]<sup>3+</sup>: 548.1532, found: 548.1530; calcd for C<sub>72</sub>H<sub>75</sub>F<sub>12</sub>N<sub>9</sub>O<sub>9</sub>P<sub>2</sub> [M-2PF<sub>6</sub>]<sup>4+</sup>: 374.8737, found: 374.8730; calcd for C<sub>72</sub>H<sub>75</sub>N<sub>9</sub>O<sub>9</sub> [M]<sup>6+</sup>: 201.5943, found: 201.5942.



**Compound  $\text{T}^{6+}\cdot 6\text{Cl}^-$ .** A solution of compound **2**<sup>1</sup> (0.12 g, 0.1 mmol) and methyl iodide (0.36 g, 2.50 mmol) in acetonitrile was stirred at 45 °C for 12 h and then was added tetrabutylammonium chloride (2.78 g, 10.0 mmol). The solution was cooled to room temperature and the formed solid was filtrated. The solid was washed with acetonitrile (50 mL) and dried in vacuo to give compound  $\text{T}^{6+}\cdot 6\text{Cl}^-$  as a yellow solid (0.10 g, 95%). M.p. >300 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O): δ 9.36 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 6H), 8.98 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 6H), 8.64 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 6H), 8.51 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 6H), 8.14 (s, 3H), 8.10 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 6H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 6H), 4.41 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O): δ 146.4, 145.4, 129.4, 127.1, 126.8, 126.7, 124.7, 68.3. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>57</sub>H<sub>48</sub>N<sub>6</sub> [M]<sup>6+</sup>: 136.0651, found: 136.0648.



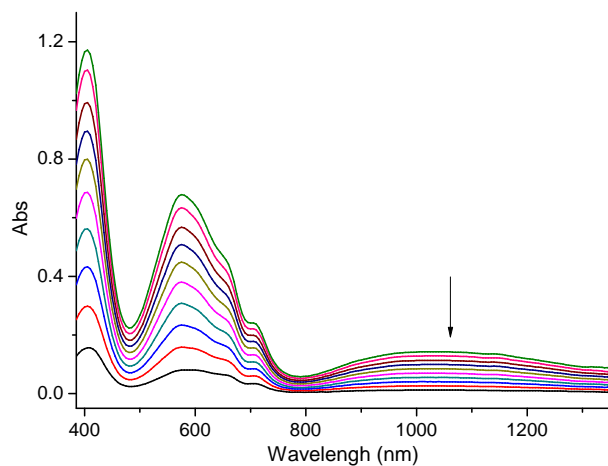
**Compound  $D^{4+} \cdot 4Cl^-$ .** A solution of compound **3**<sup>1</sup> (0.26 g, 0.2 mmol) and methyl iodide (0.36 g, 2.50 mmol) in acetonitrile was stirred at 45 °C for 12 h and then was added tetrabutylammonium chloride (2.78 g, 10.0 mmol). The solution was cooled to room temperature and the formed solid was filtrated and washed with acetonitrile (100 mL). The crude product was further recrystallized from methanol and THF to give compound **D**<sup>4+</sup>·4Cl<sup>-</sup> as a yellow solid (0.13 g, 55 %). M.p. >300 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O): δ 9.44 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 9.11 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 8.78 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 8.63 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 4H), 8.21-7.82 (m, 8H), 4.54 (s, 6H), 3.81-3.13 (m, 23H) 2.81-2.72 (m, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O): δ 168.8, 151.3, 149.5, 146.4, 145.5, 143.3, 143.1, 142.9, 138.2, 137.4, 136.1, 135.6, 132.3, 127.3, 126.9, 124.8, 124.4, 119.1, 118.6, 58.5, 58.1, 58.0, 57.7, 57.4, 55.3, 51.5, 48.5, 47.0, 45.8. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>55</sub>H<sub>60</sub>BrN<sub>7</sub>O<sub>9</sub> [M]<sup>4+</sup>: 260.3404, found: 260.3409.



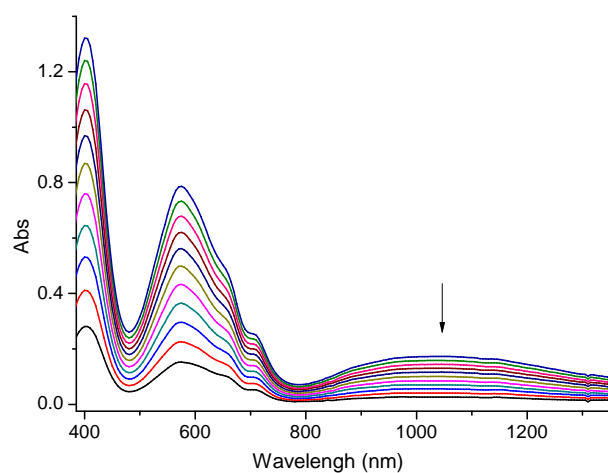
**Compound  $M^{2+} \cdot 2Cl^-$ .** A solution of compound **4**<sup>1</sup> (0.38 g, 1.0 mmol) and methyl iodide (0.36 g, 2.50 mmol) in acetonitrile was stirred at 45 °C for 12 h and then was added tetrabutylammonium chloride (2.78 g, 10.0 mmol). The solution was cooled to room temperature and the formed solid was filtrated. The solid was washed with acetonitrile (50 mL) and dried in vacuo to give compound **M**<sup>2+</sup>·2Cl<sup>-</sup> as a yellow solid (0.30 g, 95%). M.p. 281-283 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O): δ 9.38 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 9.09 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.71 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 8.60 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.81-7.77 (m, 5H), 4.52 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O): δ 146.4, 132.0, 130.6, 126.6, 124.0, 48.3. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub> [M]<sup>2+</sup>: 124.0651, found: 124.0647.

## References

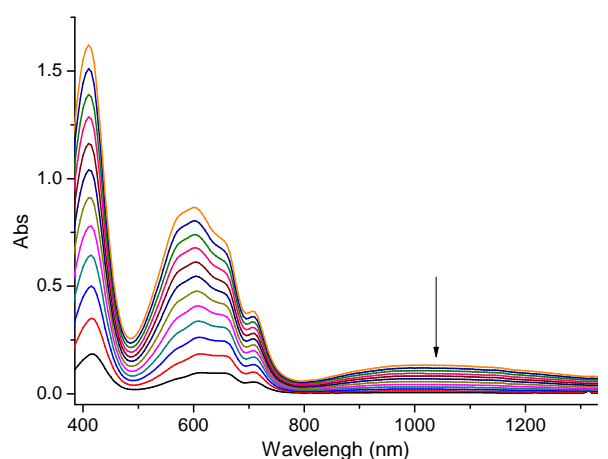
- (1) K.-D. Zhang, J. Tian, D. Hanifi, Y. Zhang, A. C.-H. Sue, T.-Y. Zhou, L. Zhang, X. Zhao, Y. Liu and Z.-T. Li, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2013, **135**, 17913.



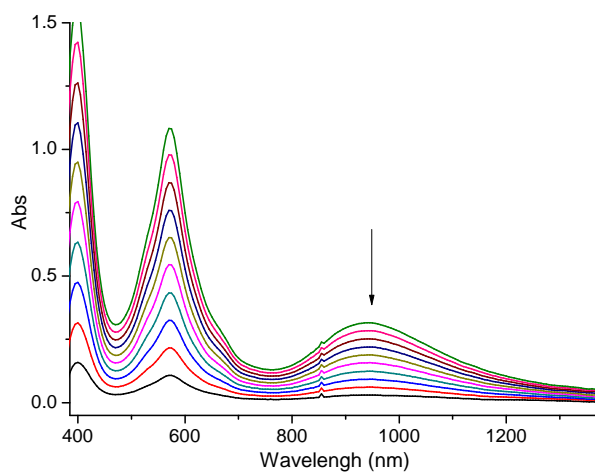
**Figure S1.** Absorption spectra of  $\text{Tr}^{3(++)}$  from 50  $\mu\text{M}$  to 5  $\mu\text{M}$  in sodium phosphate buffer (0.1 M) containing sodium dithionite (50 mM) at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ .



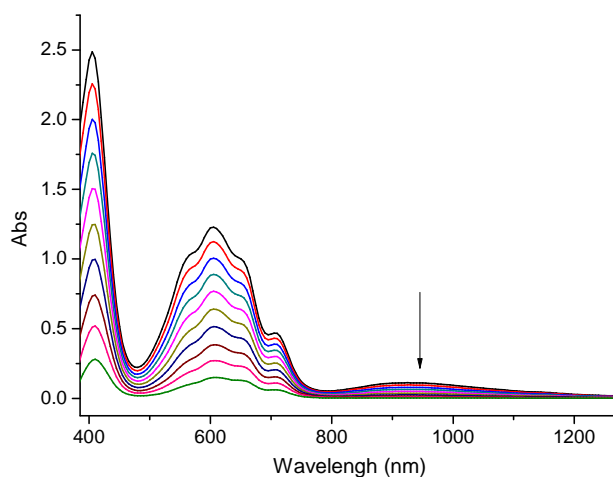
**Figure S2.** Absorption spectra of  $\text{Tr}^{3(++)}$  from 57  $\mu\text{M}$  to 1.0  $\mu\text{M}$  in sodium phosphate buffer (0.1 M, 7.5% THF) containing sodium dithionite (50 mM) at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ .



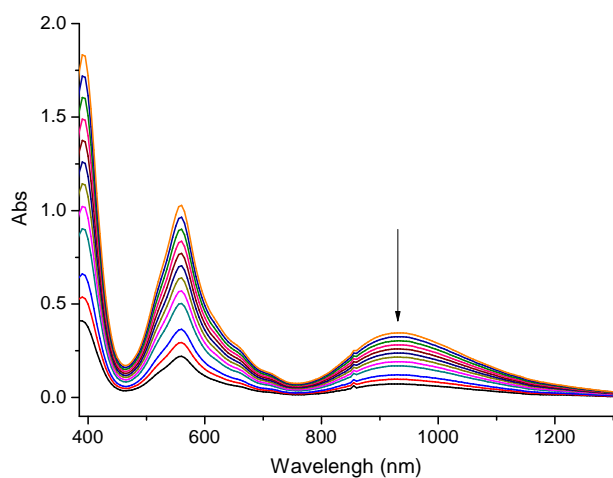
**Figure S3.** Absorption spectra of  $\text{Tr}^{3(++)}$  from 55  $\mu\text{M}$  to 5.0  $\mu\text{M}$  in sodium phosphate buffer (0.1 M, 15% THF) containing sodium dithionite (50 mM) at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ .



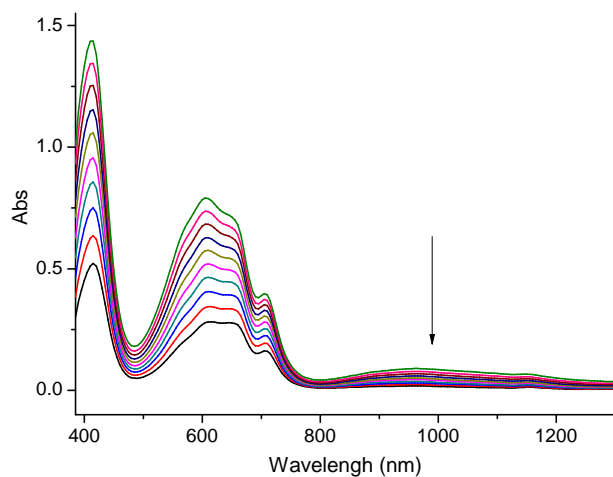
**Figure S4.** Absorption spectra of  $\text{Tr}^{3(\bullet+)}$ , in the presence of CB[8] ( $\text{CB}[8] = 1.5 \times [\text{Tr}^{3(\bullet+)}]$ ), from 47  $\mu\text{M}$  to 5.0  $\mu\text{M}$  in sodium phosphate buffer (0.1 M) containing sodium dithionite (50 mM) at 25 °C.



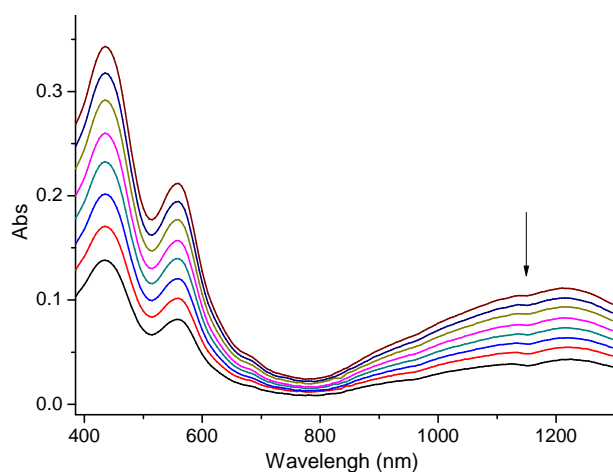
**Figure S5.** Absorption spectra of  $\text{M}^{\bullet+}$  from 95  $\mu\text{M}$  to 5.0  $\mu\text{M}$  in sodium phosphate buffer (0.1 M) containing sodium dithionite (50 mM) at 25 °C.



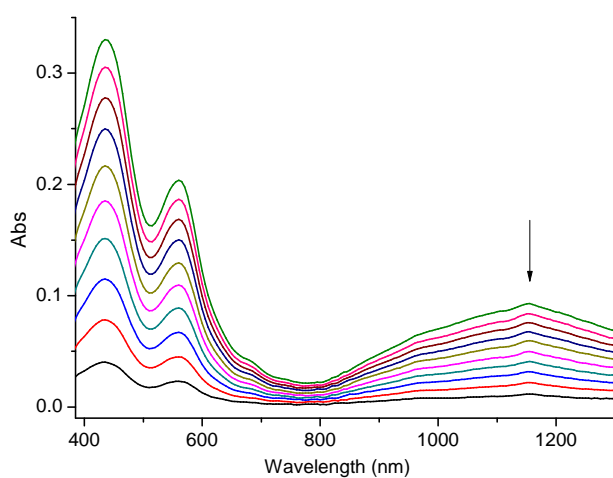
**Figure S6.** Absorption spectra of  $\text{M}^{\bullet+}$ , in the presence of CB[8] ( $\text{CB}[8] = 0.5 \times [\text{M}^{\bullet+}]$ ), from 70  $\mu\text{M}$  to 5.0  $\mu\text{M}$  in sodium phosphate buffer (0.1 M) containing sodium dithionite (50 mM) at 25 °C.



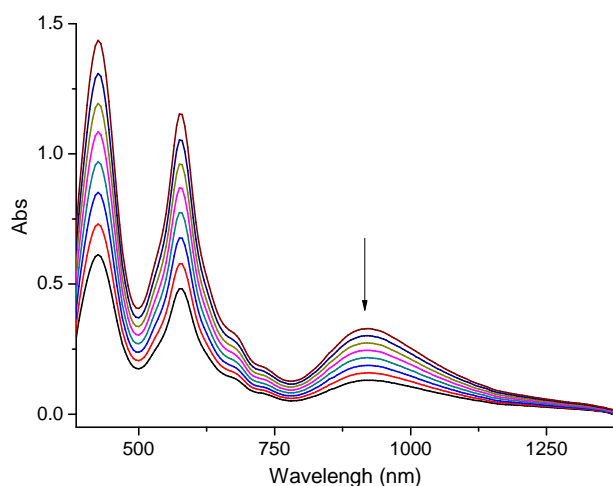
**Figure S7.** Absorption spectrum of  $\mathbf{D}^{2(+)}$  from 65  $\mu\text{M}$  to 5.0  $\mu\text{M}$  in sodium phosphate buffer (0.1 M) containing sodium dithionite (50 mM) at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ .



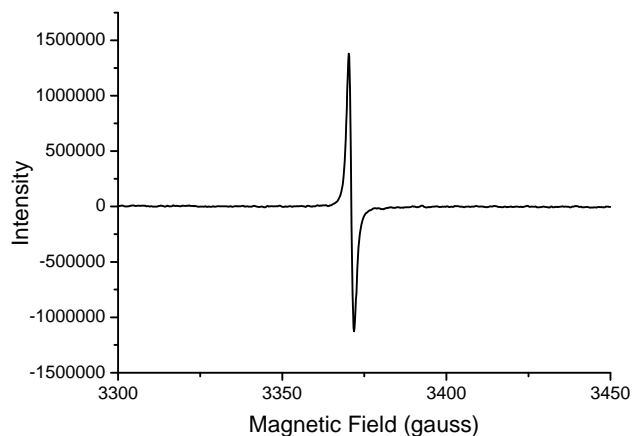
**Figure S8.** Absorption spectra of  $\mathbf{T}^{3(+)}$  from 40  $\mu\text{M}$  to 4.0  $\mu\text{M}$  in sodium phosphate buffer (0.1 M) containing sodium dithionite (50 mM) at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ .



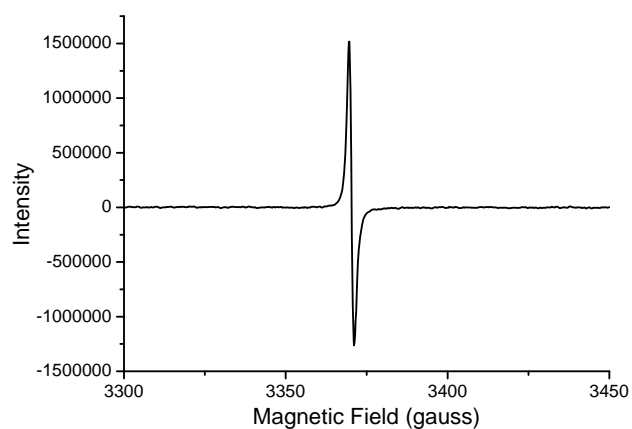
**Figure S9.** Absorption spectra of  $\mathbf{T}^{3(+)}$  from 40  $\mu\text{M}$  to 1.0  $\mu\text{M}$  in sodium phosphate buffer (0.1 M, 7.5% THF) containing sodium dithionite (50 mM) at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ .



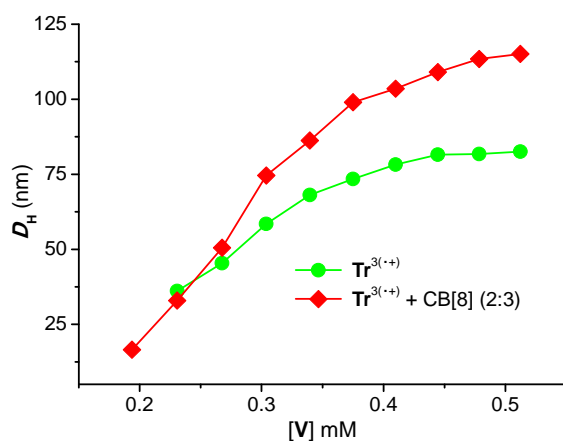
**Figure S10.** Absorption spectra of  $\text{Tr}^{3(++)}$ , in the presence of  $\text{CB}[8]$  ( $\text{CB}[8] = 1.5 \times [\text{Tr}^{3(++)}]$ ), from 40  $\mu\text{M}$  to 3.0  $\mu\text{M}$  in sodium phosphate buffer (0.1 M) containing sodium dithionite (50 mM) at 25 °C.



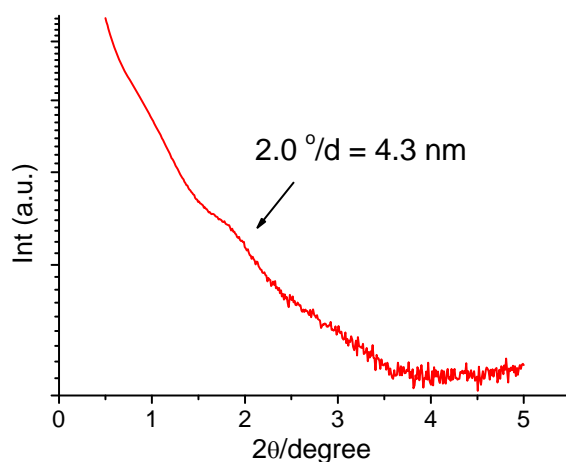
**Figure S11.** EPR spectrum of  $\text{Tr}^{3(++)}$  (0.033 mM) at 80 °C in sodium phosphate buffer (0.1 M) containing sodium dithionite (50 mM), with the addition of  $\text{CB}[8]$  (0.05 mM).



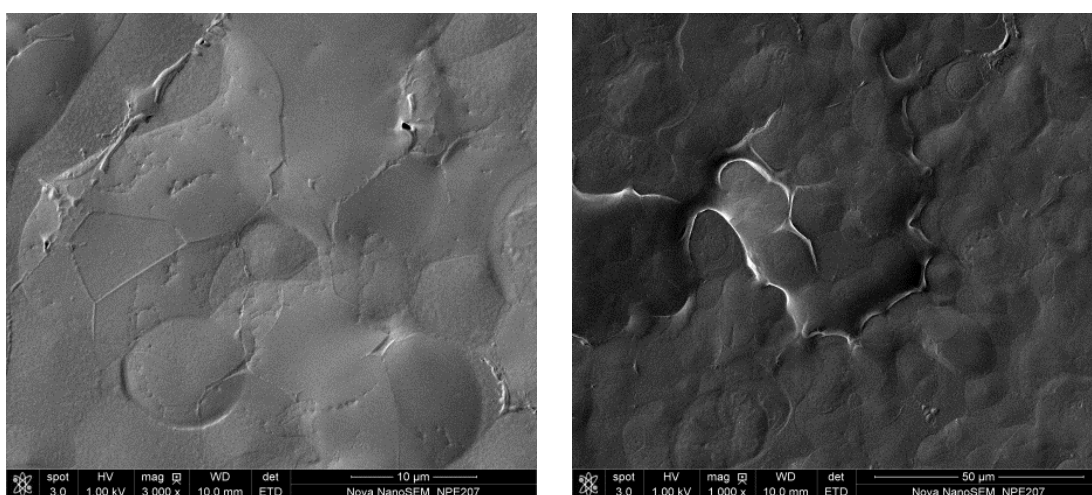
**Figure S12.** EPR spectrum of  $\text{D}^{2(++)}$  (0.05 mM) at 80 °C in sodium phosphate buffer (0.1 M) containing sodium dithionite (50 mM), with the addition of  $\text{CB}[8]$  (0.05 mM).



**Figure S13.** The concentration dependence of  $D_H$  of the solution of  $\text{Tr}^{3(++)}$  and its 2:3 mixture with CB[8] in sodium phosphate buffer (0.1 M) in the presence of sodium dithionite (0.05 M) at 25 °C.

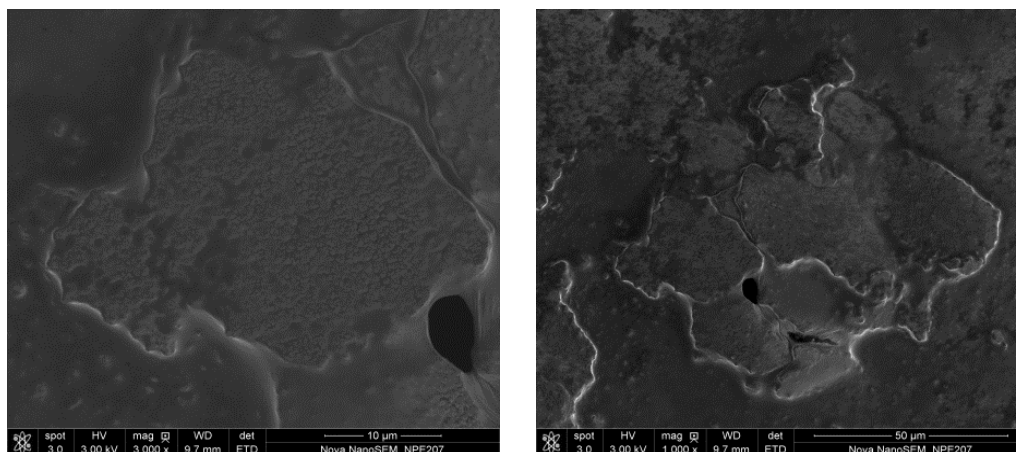


**Fig. S14** SAXD profile of the solid sample of  $\text{Tr}^{3(++)}$  obtained by evaporating the aqueous solution of  $\text{Tr}^{6+} \cdot 6\text{Cl}^-$  (1.0 mM) and CB[8] (1.5 mM) containing sodium dithionite (50 mM).

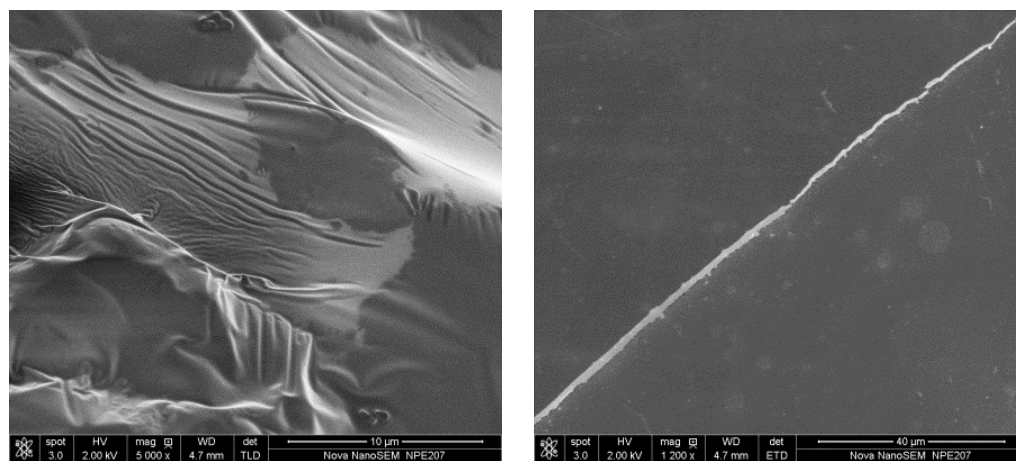


**Fig. S15** SEM images of the solid sample obtained by evaporating the aqueous solution of  $\text{Tr}^{6+} \cdot 6\text{Cl}^-$  (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) containing sodium dithionite (10 mM).

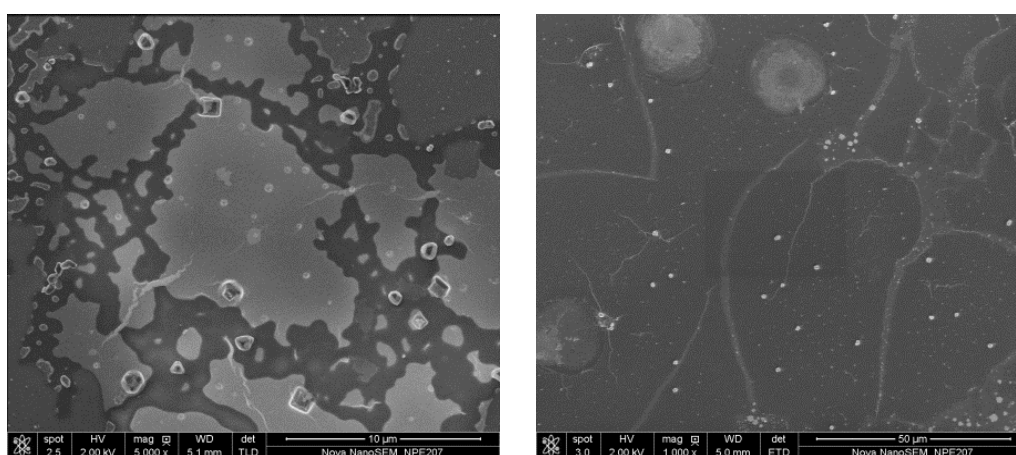




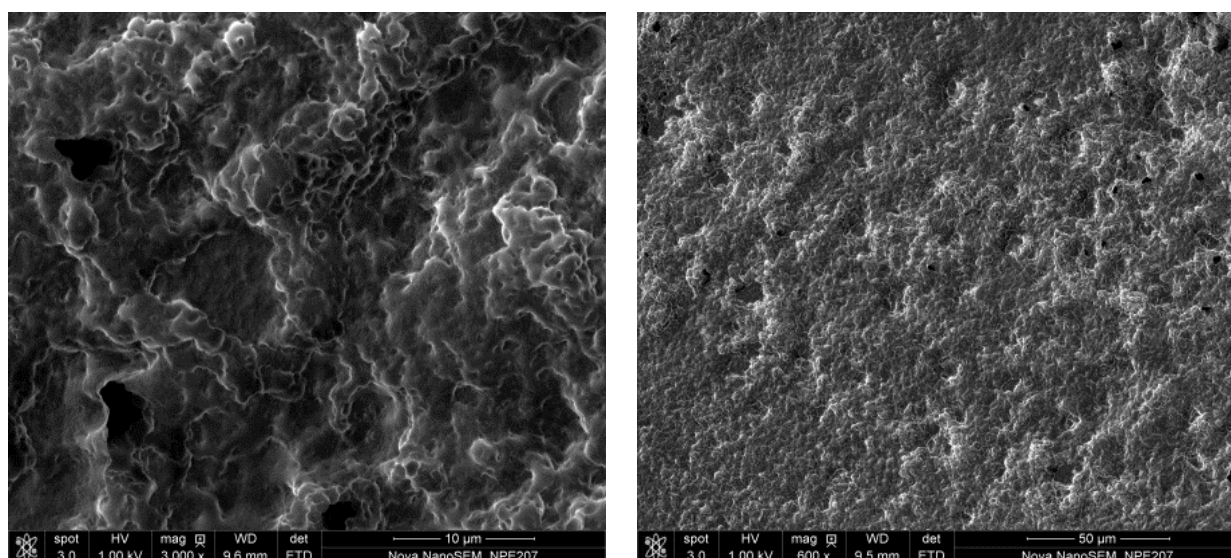
**Fig. S16** SEM images of the solid sample obtained by evaporating the aqueous solution of  $\text{Tr}^{6+} \cdot 6\text{Cl}^-$  (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) and CB[8] (15  $\mu\text{M}$ ) containing sodium dithionite (10 mM).



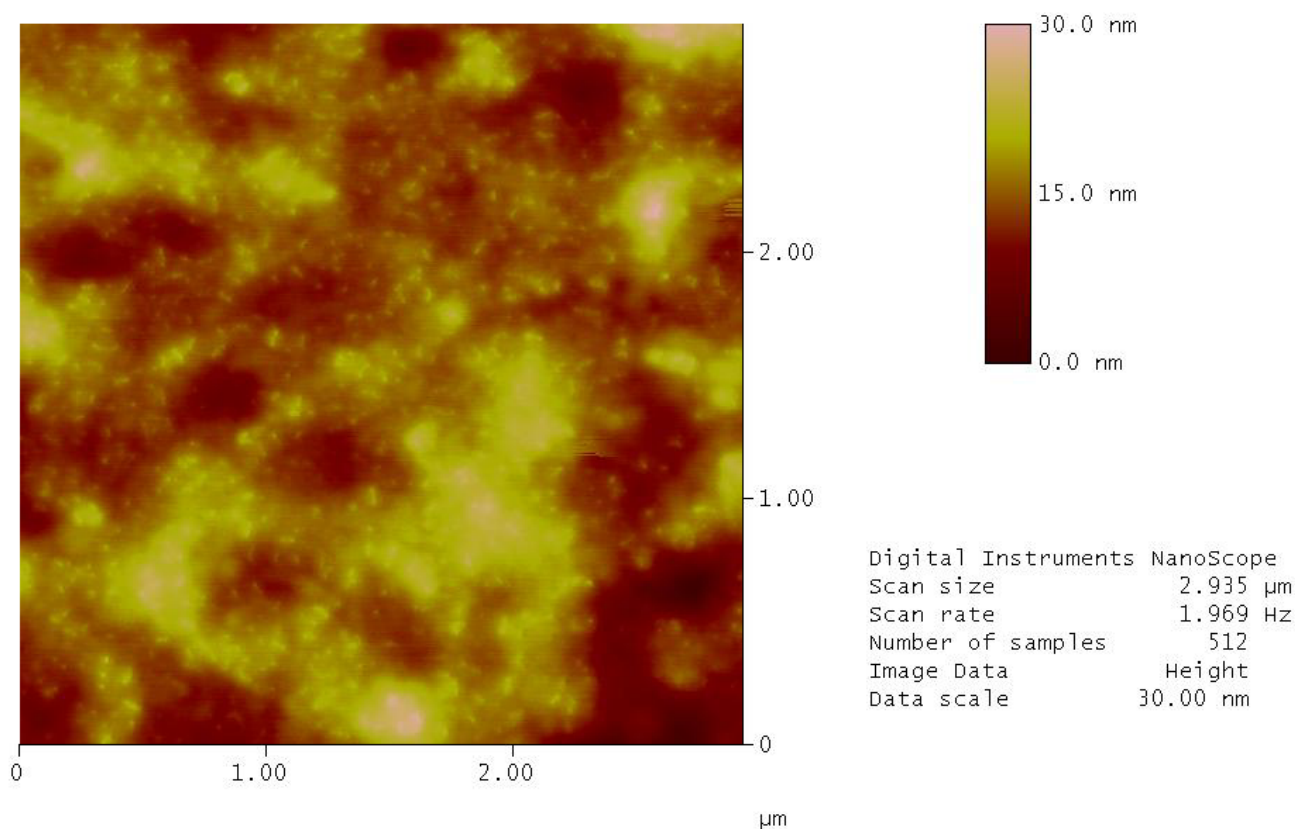
**Fig. S17** SEM images of the solid sample obtained by evaporating the aqueous solution of  $\text{Tr}^{6+} \cdot 6\text{Cl}^-$  (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) after  $\text{Tr}^{6+}$  was reduced to  $\text{Tr}^{3(++)}$  with zinc dust.



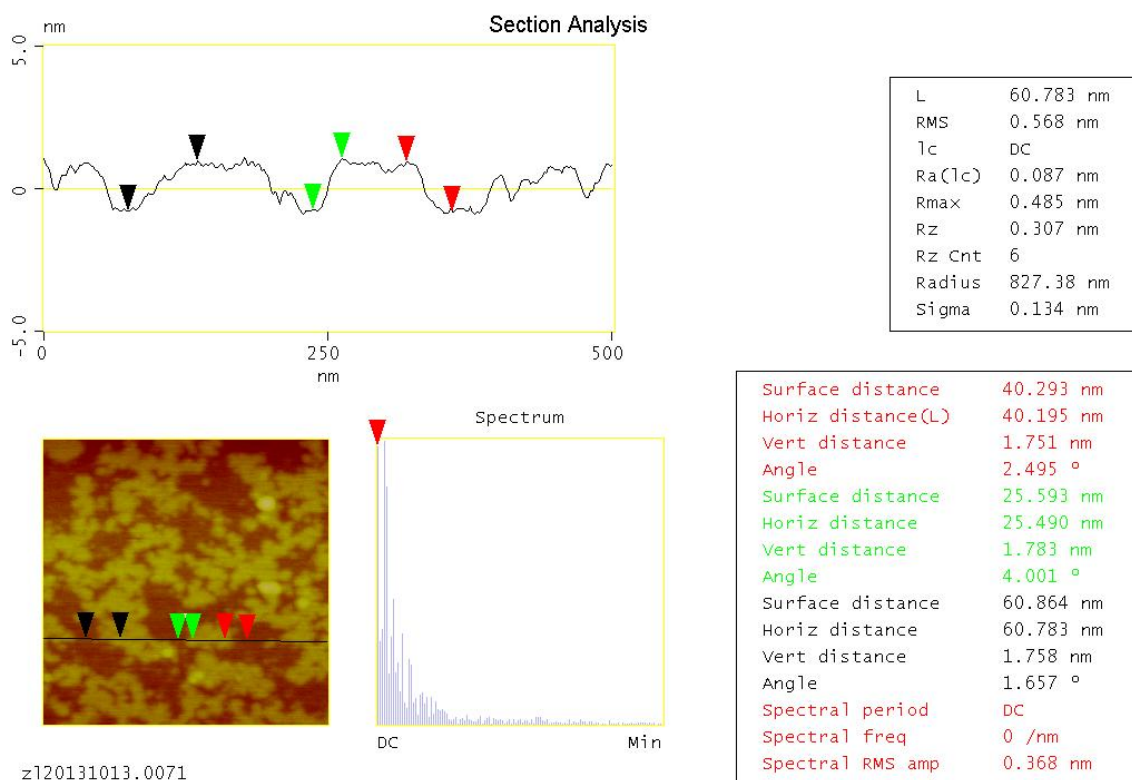
**Fig. S18** SEM images of the solid sample obtained by evaporating the aqueous solution of  $\text{Tr}^{6+} \cdot 6\text{Cl}^-$  (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) and CB[8] (15  $\mu\text{M}$ ) after  $\text{Tr}^{6+}$  was reduced to  $\text{Tr}^{3(++)}$  with zinc dust.



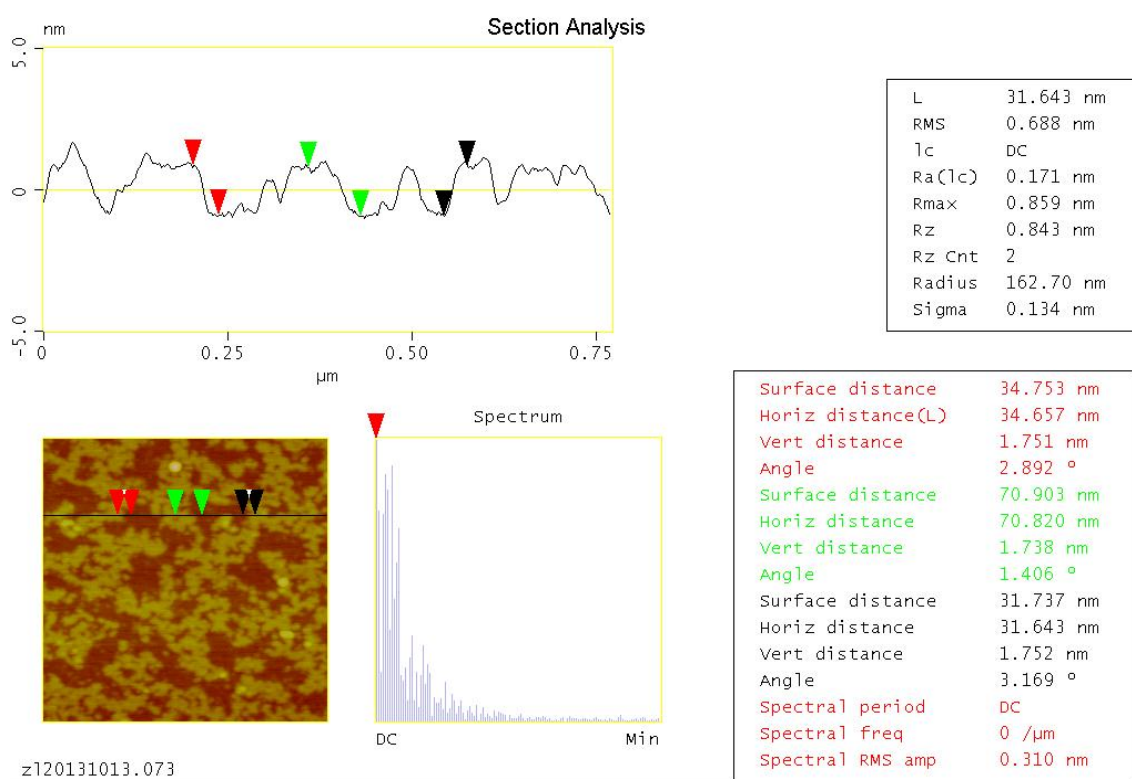
**Fig. S19** SEM images of sodium dithionite by evaporating its aqueous solution (10 mM).



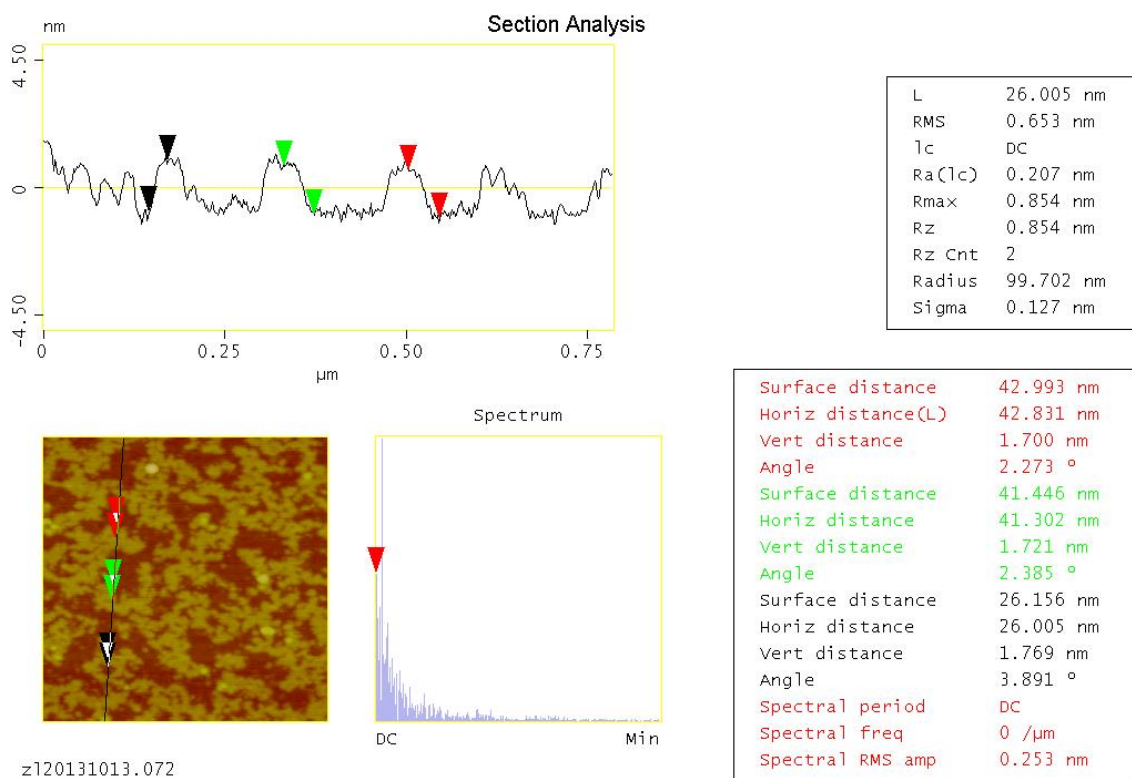
**Fig. S20** AFM image of the solid sample obtained by evaporating the aqueous solution of  $\text{Tr}^{6+} \cdot 6\text{Cl}^-$  (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) under reduced pressure after  $\text{Tr}^{6+}$  was reduced to  $\text{Tr}^{3(++)}$  with zinc dust.



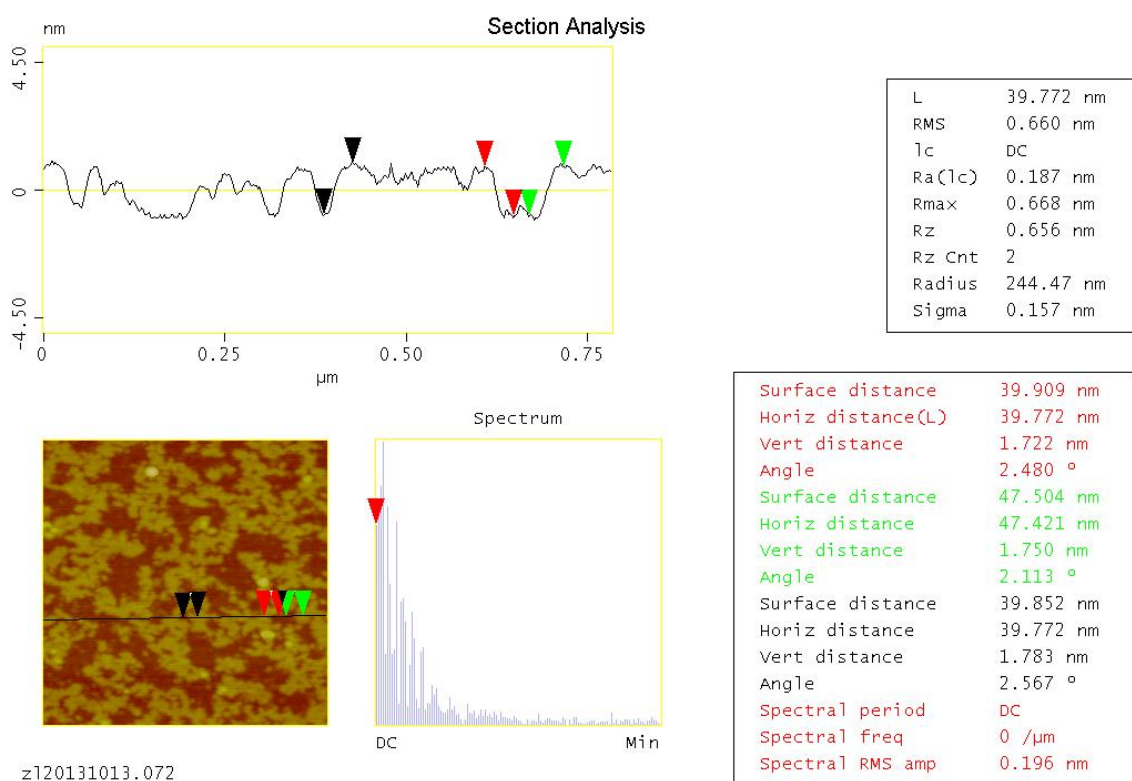
**Fig. S21** AFM image of the solid sample obtained by evaporating the aqueous solution of  $\text{Tr}^{6+} \cdot 6\text{Cl}^-$  (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) and CB[8] (15  $\mu\text{M}$ ) after  $\text{Tr}^{6+}$  was reduced to  $\text{Tr}^{3(++)}$  with zinc dust.



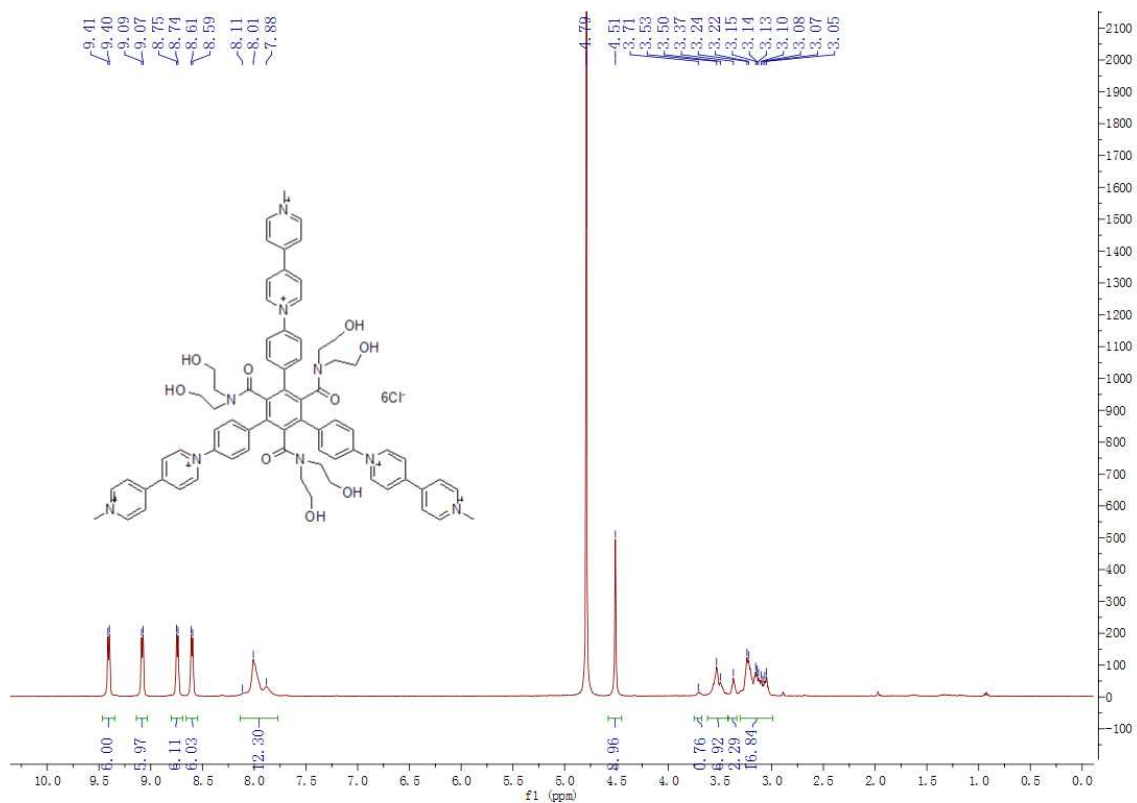
**Fig. S22** AFM image of the solid sample obtained by evaporating the aqueous solution of  $\text{Tr}^{6+} \cdot 6\text{Cl}^-$  (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) and CB[8] (15  $\mu\text{M}$ ) after  $\text{Tr}^{6+}$  was reduced to  $\text{Tr}^{3(++)}$  with zinc dust.



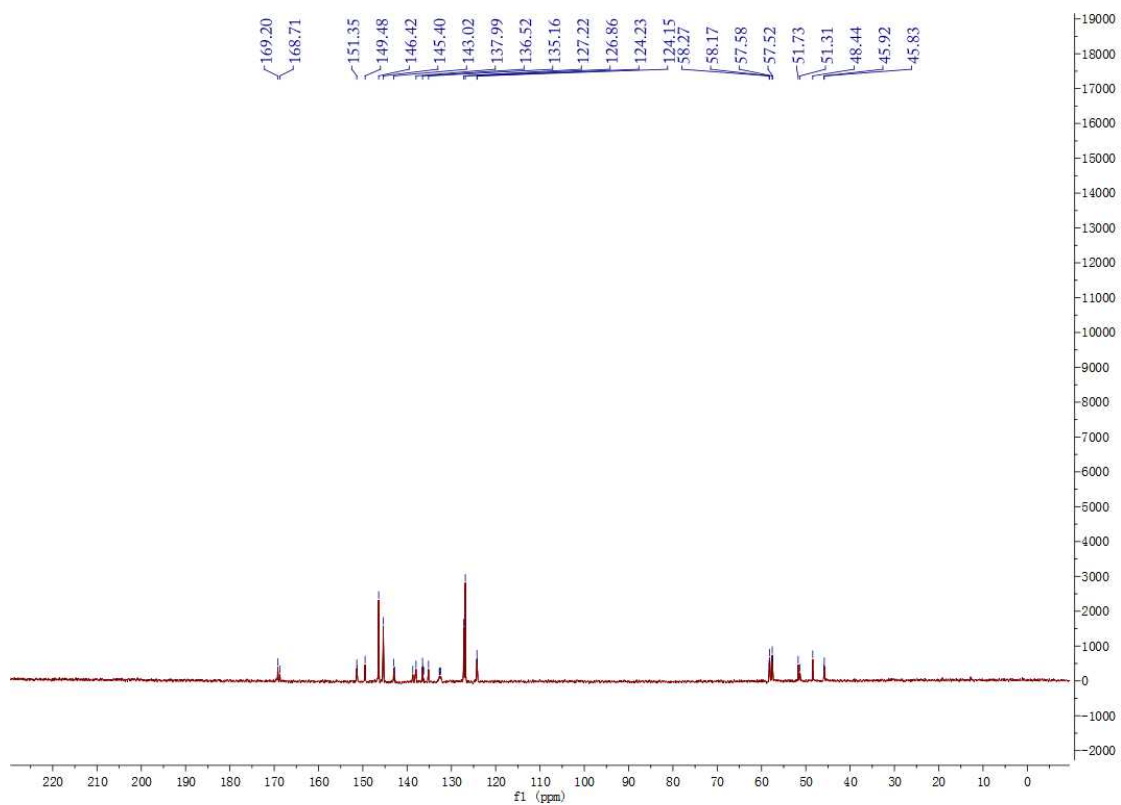
**Fig. S23** AFM image of the solid sample obtained by evaporating the aqueous solution of  $\text{Tr}^{6+} \cdot 6\text{Cl}^-$  (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) and CB[8] (15  $\mu\text{M}$ ) after  $\text{Tr}^{6+}$  was reduced to  $\text{Tr}^{3(+)}$  with zinc dust.



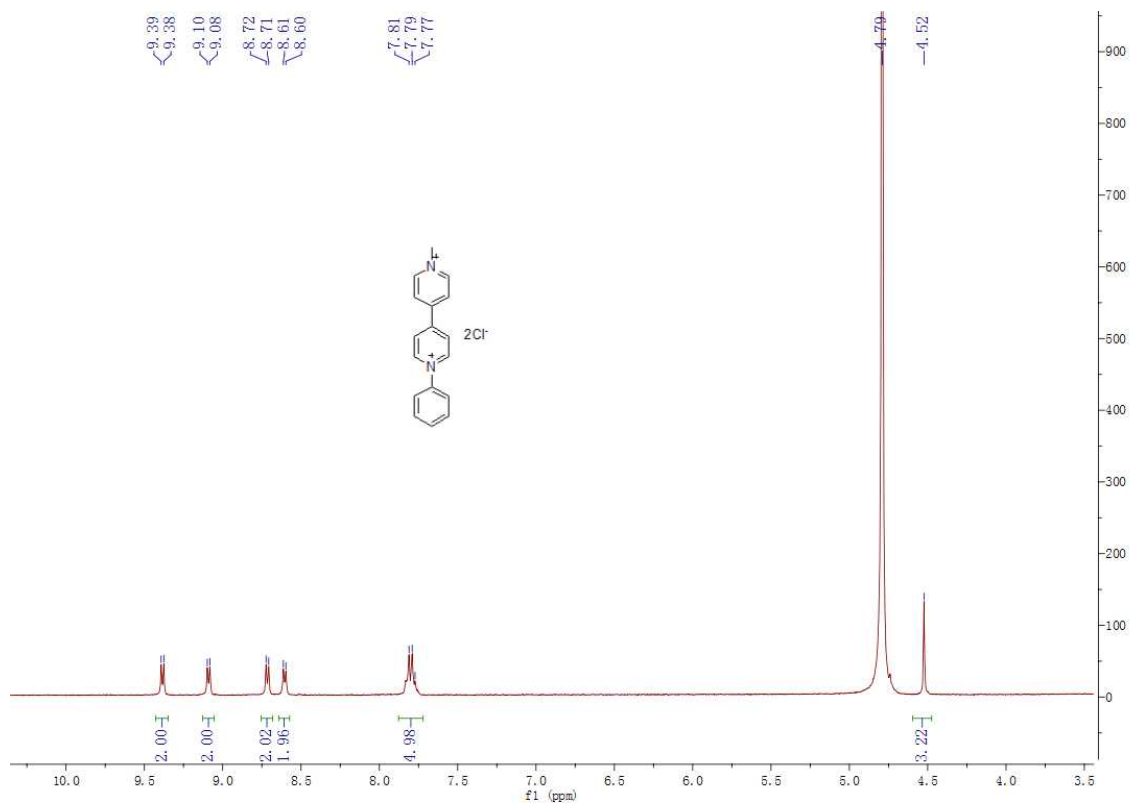
**Fig. S24** AFM image of the solid sample obtained by evaporating the aqueous solution of  $\text{Tr}^{6+} \cdot 6\text{Cl}^-$  (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) and CB[8] (15  $\mu\text{M}$ ) after  $\text{Tr}^{6+}$  was reduced to  $\text{Tr}^{3(+)}$  with zinc dust.



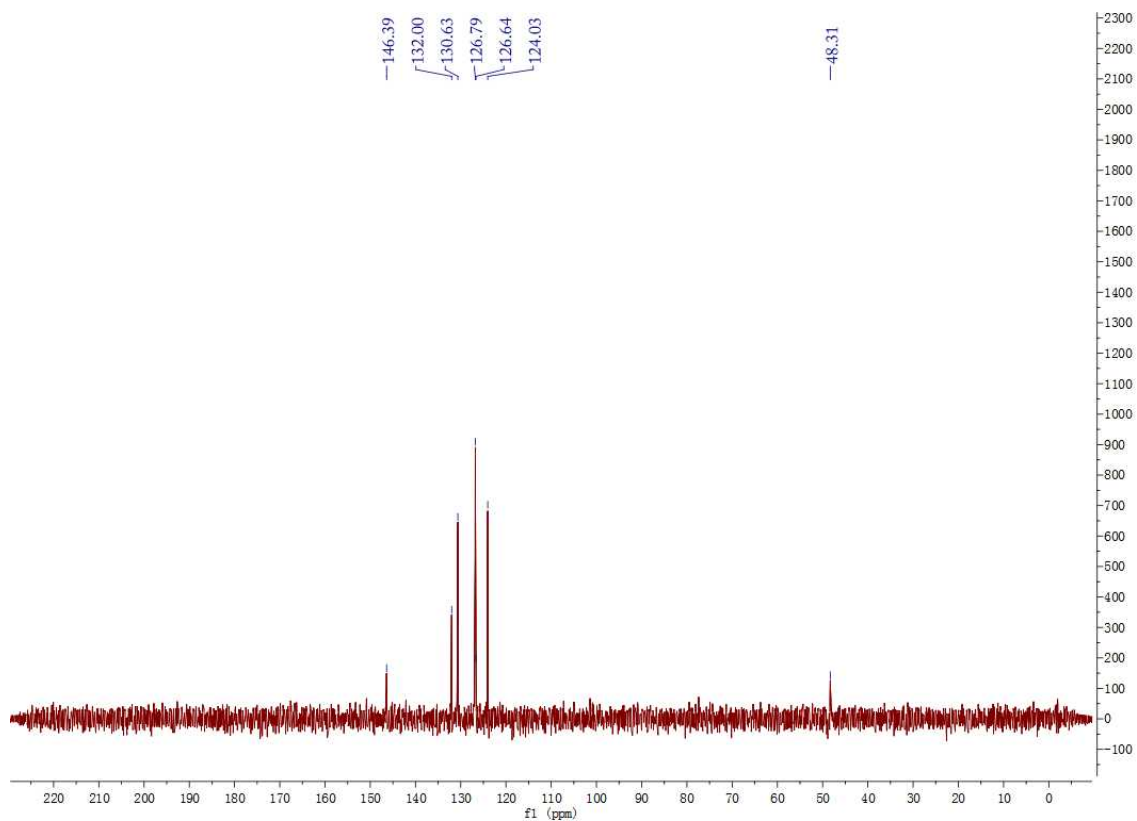
**Fig. S25**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of  $\text{Tr}^{6+} \cdot 6\text{Cl}^-$  in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  (0.5 mM).



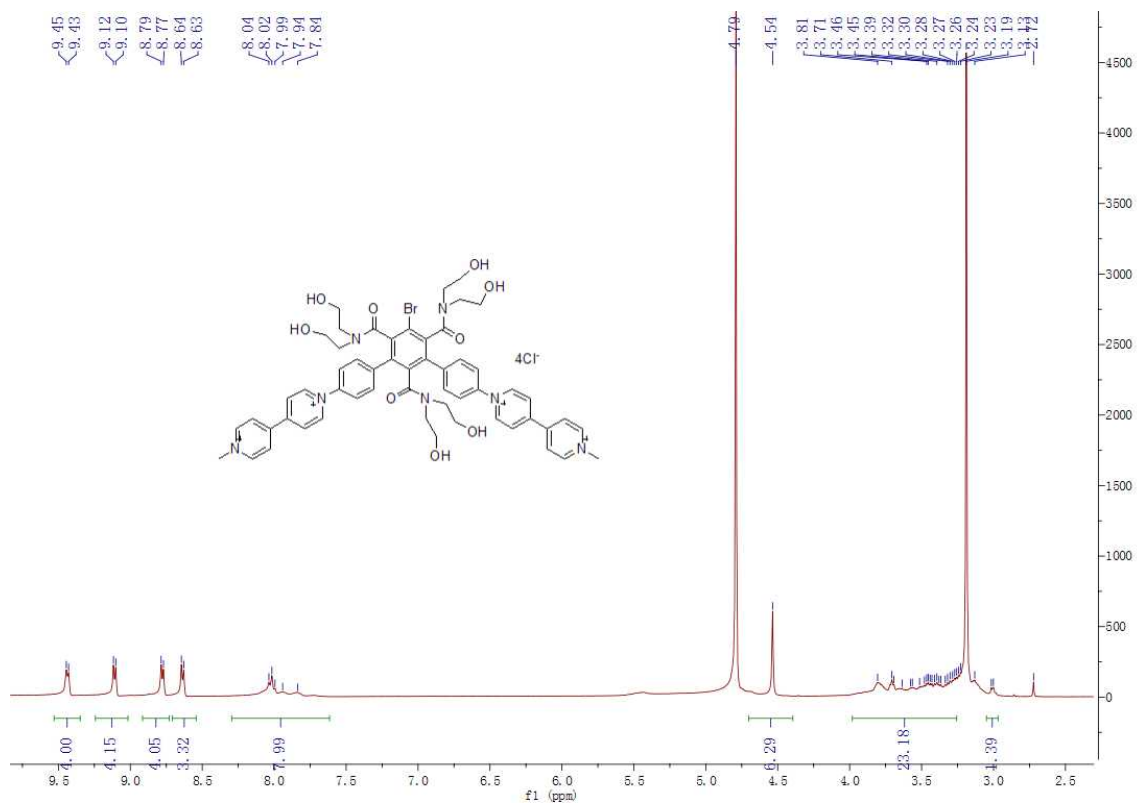
**Fig. S26**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum (100 MHz) of  $\text{Tr}^{6+} \cdot 6\text{Cl}^-$  in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  (10 mM).



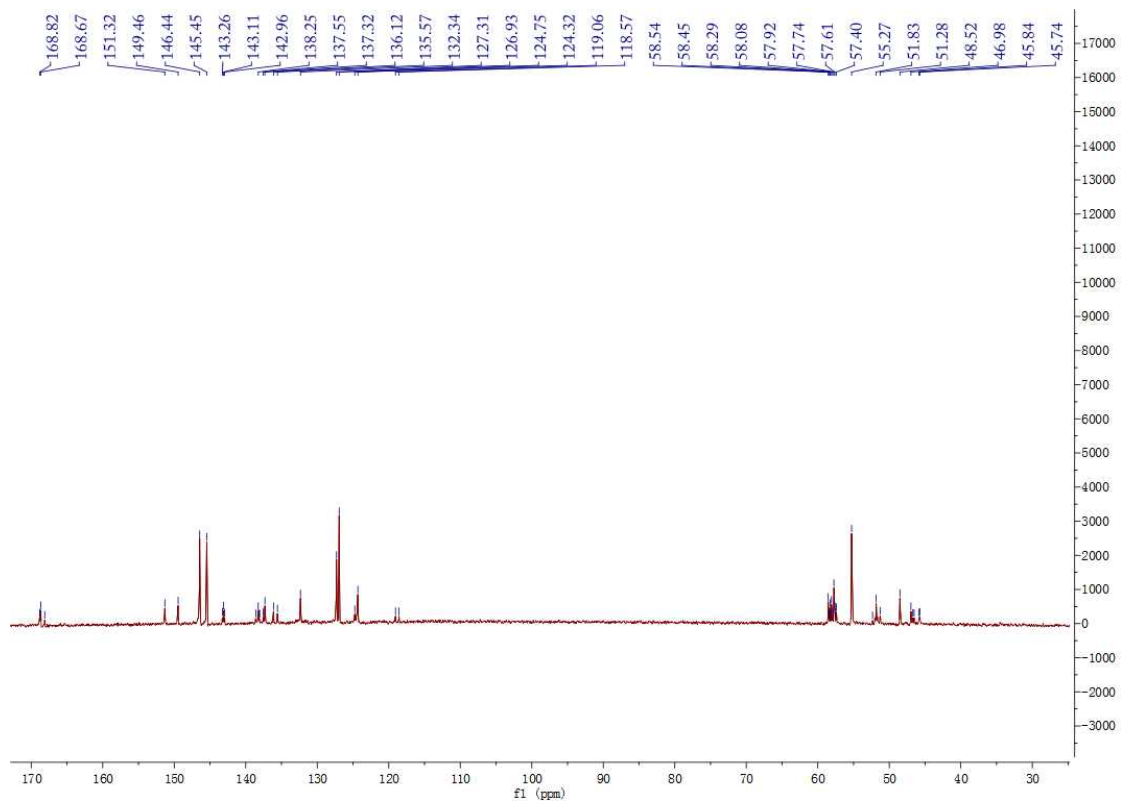
**Fig. S27**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of  $\text{M}^{2+}\cdot 2\text{Cl}^-$  in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  (1 mM).



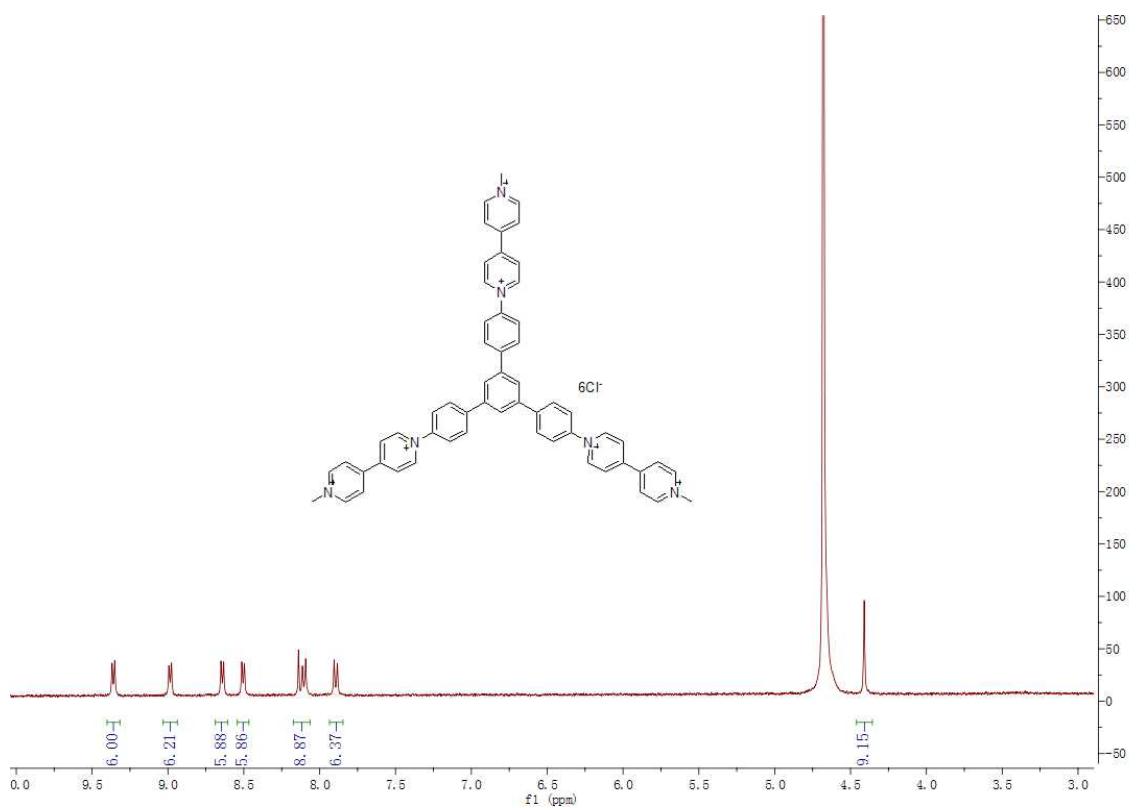
**Fig. S28**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum (100 MHz) of  $\text{M}^{2+}\cdot 2\text{Cl}^-$  in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  (10 mM).



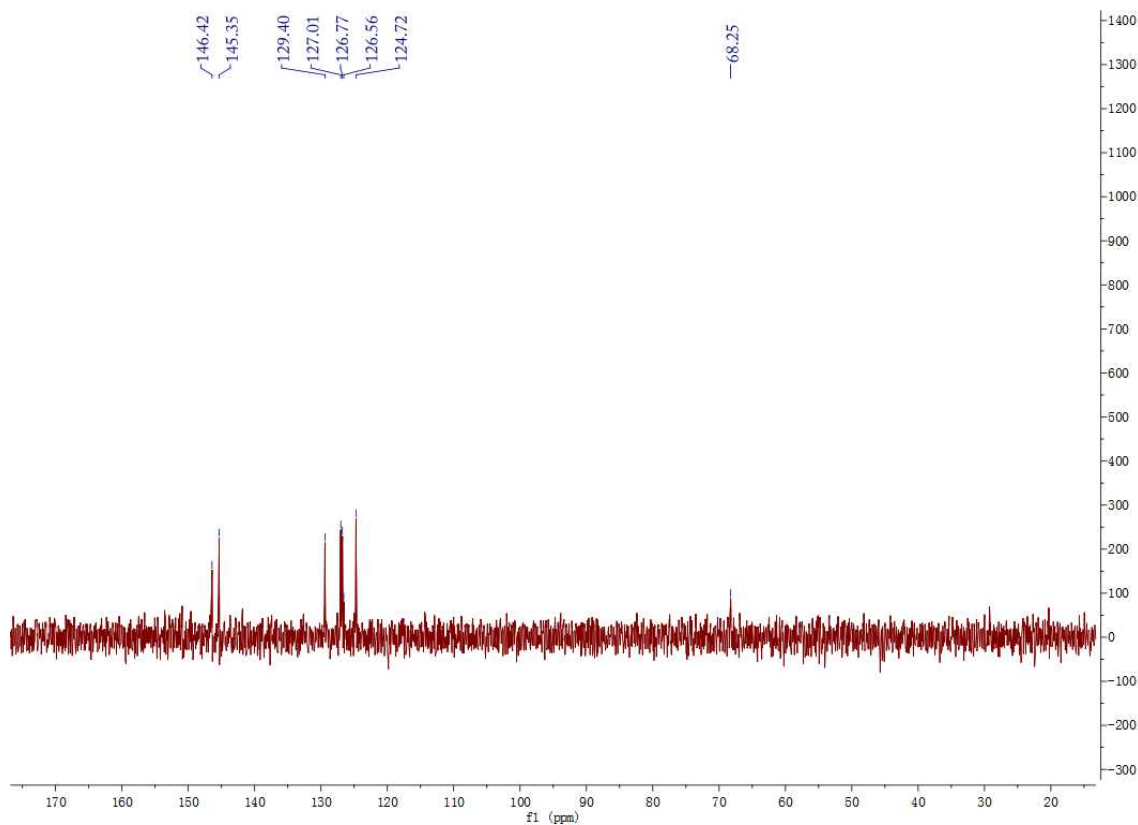
**Fig. S29**  $^1H$  NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of  $D^{4+} \cdot 4Cl^-$  in  $D_2O$  (1 mM).



**Fig. S30**  $^{13}C$  NMR spectrum (100 MHz) of  $D^{4+} \cdot 4Cl^-$  Vs  $V_4Cl$  in  $D_2O$  (10 mM).



**Fig. S31**  $^1H$  NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of  $T^{6+} \cdot 6Cl^-$  in  $D_2O$  (1 mM).



**Fig. S32**  $^{13}C$  NMR spectrum (100 MHz) of  $T^{6+} \cdot 6Cl^-$  in  $D_2O$  (10 mM).