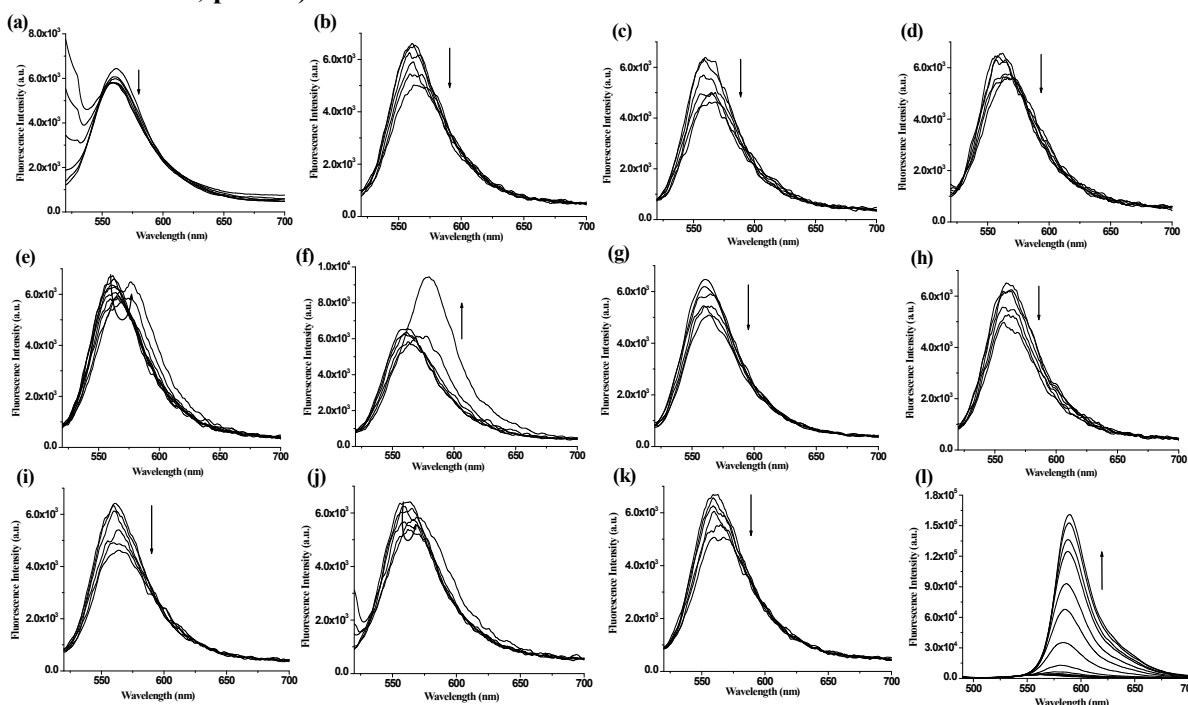


## Supporting Information

### Selective sensing of $\text{Al}^{3+}$ by naphthyridine coupled rhodamine chemosensors

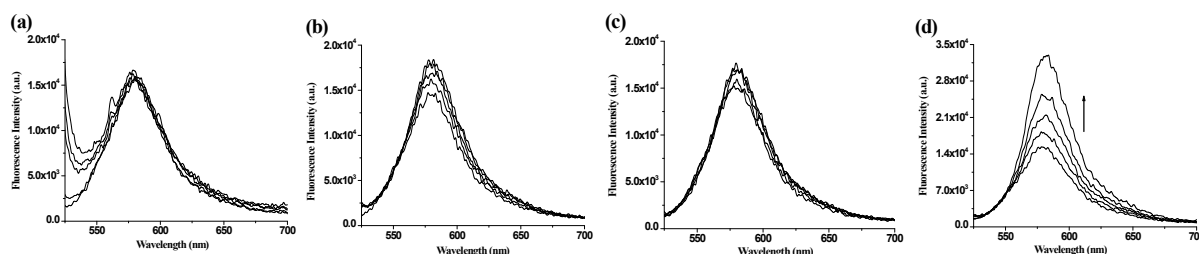
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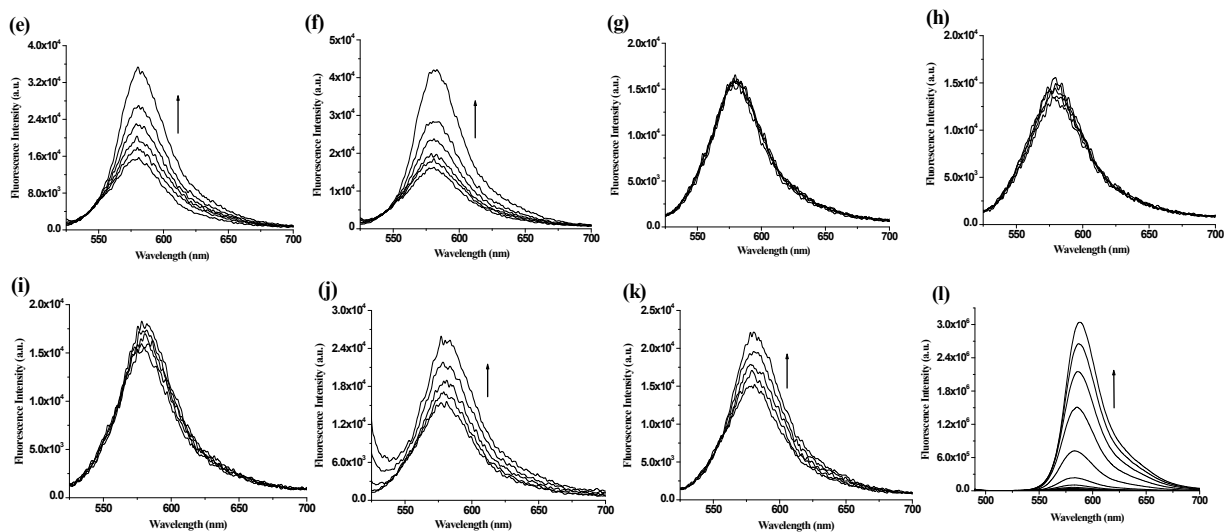
#### 1. Change in emission of receptor 1 with various metal ions in MeCN/water (4/1, v/v; 10 $\mu\text{M}$ tris HCl buffer; pH = 7).



**Figure S1.** Emission titration spectra for **1** ( $c = 3 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 510 \text{ nm}$ ) with, (a)  $\text{Ag}^+$ , (b)  $\text{Cd}^{2+}$ , (c)  $\text{Co}^{2+}$ , (d)  $\text{Cr}^{3+}$ , (e)  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ , (f)  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ , (g)  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$ , (h)  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ , (i)  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ , (j)  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$ , (k)  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  and (l) **1** ( $c = 3 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 480$ ) with  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  in MeCN/water (4/1, v/v; 10  $\mu\text{M}$  tris HCl buffer; pH = 7) (in all cases [cation] =  $1.2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$ ).

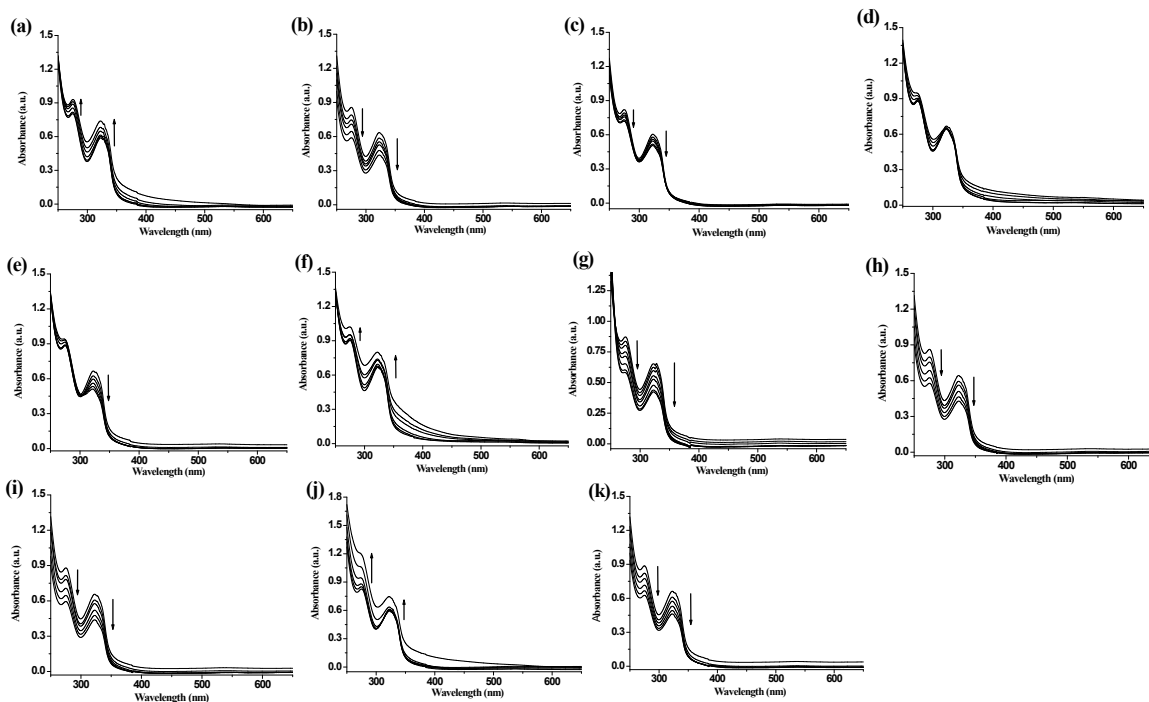
#### 2. Change in emission of receptor 2 with various metal ions in MeCN/water (4/1, v/v; 10 $\mu\text{M}$ tris HCl buffer; pH = 7).





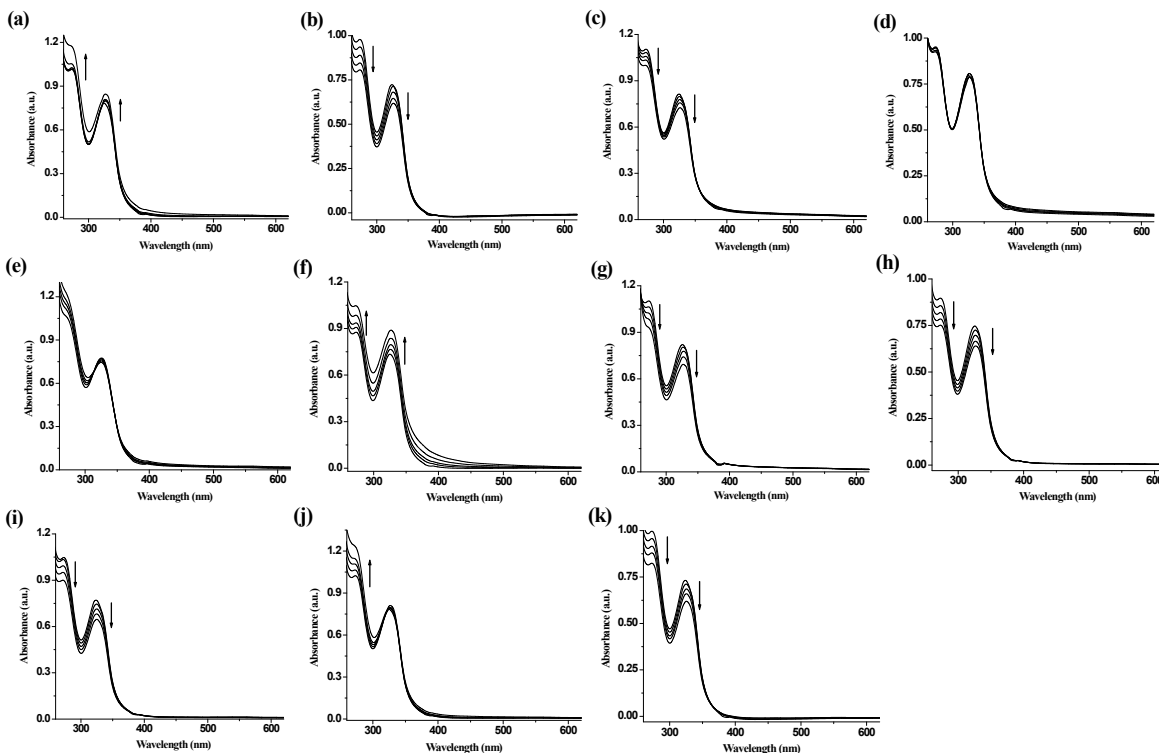
**Figure S2.** Emission titration spectra for **2** ( $c = 3 \times 10^{-5}$  M,  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 510$  nm) with (a)  $\text{Ag}^+$ , (b)  $\text{Cd}^{2+}$ , (c)  $\text{Co}^{2+}$ , (d)  $\text{Cr}^{3+}$ , (e)  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ , (f)  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ , (g)  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$ , (h)  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ , (i)  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ , (j)  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$ , (k)  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  and (l) **2** ( $c = 3 \times 10^{-5}$  M,  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 480$  nm) with  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  in MeCN/water (4/1, v/v; 10  $\mu\text{M}$  tris HCl buffer; pH = 7) (in all cases  $[\text{cation}] = 1.2 \times 10^{-3}$  M).

### 3. Change in absorbance of receptor 1 with various metal ions in MeCN/water (4/1, v/v; 10 $\mu\text{M}$ tris HCl buffer; pH = 7).



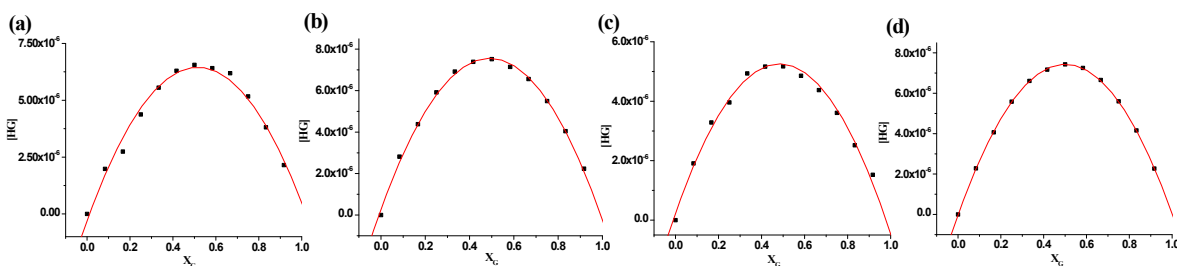
**Figure S3.** Absorption titration spectra for **1** ( $c = 3 \times 10^{-5}$  M) with (a)  $\text{Ag}^+$ , (b)  $\text{Cd}^{2+}$ , (c)  $\text{Co}^{2+}$ , (d)  $\text{Cr}^{3+}$ , (e)  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ , (f)  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ , (g)  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$ , (h)  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ , (i)  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ , (j)  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  and (k)  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  in MeCN/water (4/1, v/v; 10  $\mu\text{M}$  tris HCl buffer; pH = 7) (in all cases  $[\text{cation}] = 1.2 \times 10^{-3}$  M).

**4. Change in absorbance of receptor 2 with various metal ions in MeCN/water (4/1, v/v; 10  $\mu$ M tris HCl buffer; pH = 7).**



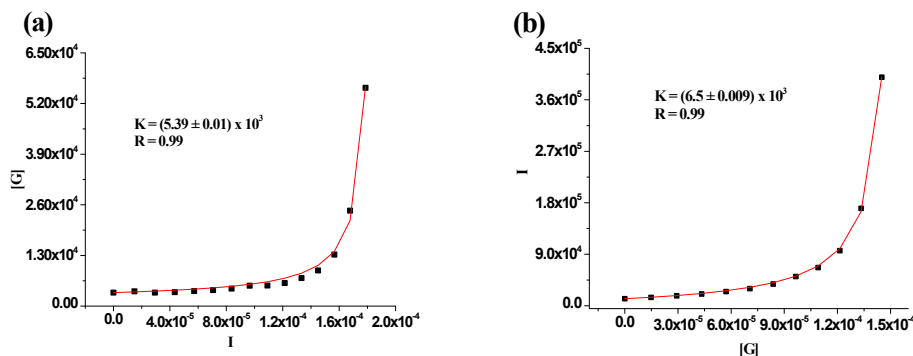
**Figure S4.** Absorption titration spectra for **2** ( $c = 3 \times 10^{-5}$  M) with (a)  $\text{Ag}^+$ , (b)  $\text{Cd}^{2+}$ , (c)  $\text{Co}^{2+}$ , (d)  $\text{Cr}^{3+}$ , (e)  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ , (f)  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ , (g)  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$ , (h)  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ , (i)  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ , (j)  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  and (k)  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  in MeCN/water (4/1, v/v; 10  $\mu$ M tris HCl buffer; pH = 7) (in all cases  $[\text{cation}] = 1.2 \times 10^{-3}$  M).

**5. Job plots of 1 and 2 with  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  ion.**



**Figure S5.** (a) Fluorescence and (b) Uv Job plots for **1** with  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  in MeCN/water (4/1, v/v; 10  $\mu$ M tris HCl buffer; pH = 7) ( $[\text{H}] = [\text{G}] = 3 \times 10^{-5}$  M); (c) Fluorescence and (d) Uv Job plots for **2** with  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  in MeCN/water (4/1, v/v; 10  $\mu$ M tris HCl buffer; pH = 7) ( $[\text{H}] = [\text{G}] = 3 \times 10^{-5}$  M).

## 6. Nonlinear curve fitting of the fluorescence titration data for 1 and 2 with Al<sup>3+</sup> ion.

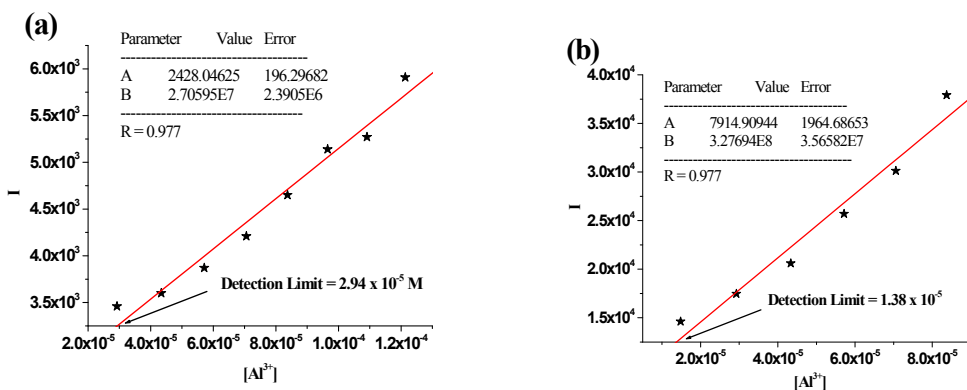


**Figure S6.** (a) Nonlinear curve fitting of the fluorescence titration data for **1** ( $c = 3 \times 10^{-5}$  M) with Al<sup>3+</sup> in MeCN/water (4/1, v/v; 10  $\mu$ M tris HCl buffer; pH = 7) upon addition of Al<sup>3+</sup> and (b) Nonlinear curve fitting of the fluorescence titration data for **2** ( $c = 3 \times 10^{-5}$  M) with Al<sup>3+</sup> in MeCN/water (4/1, v/v; 10  $\mu$ M tris HCl buffer; pH = 7) upon addition of Al<sup>3+</sup>.

Note: The nonlinear fit was done using equation (1)<sup>1</sup> where  $I$  represents the intensity;  $I_0$  represents the intensity of pure host;  $C_H$  and  $C_G$  are corresponding concentration of host and cationic guest;  $K_a$  is the binding constant. The binding constant ( $K_a$ ) and the correlation coefficient ( $R$ ) were obtained from a nonlinear least-square analysis of  $I$  vs  $C_H$  and  $C_G$ .

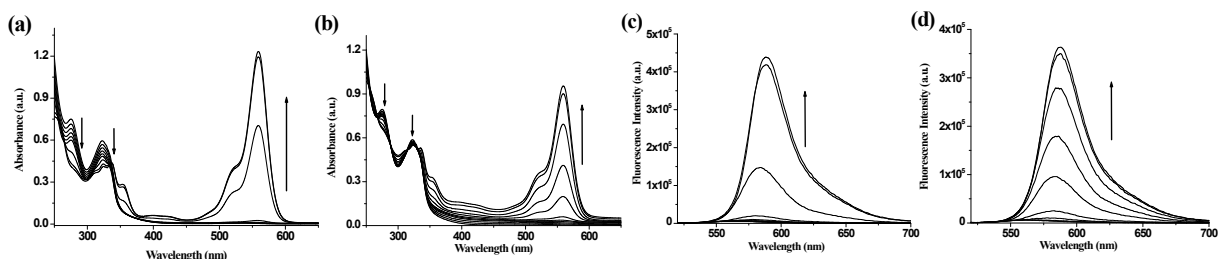
$$I = I_0 + (I_{\text{lim}} - I_0) / 2C_H \{ C_H + C_G + 1/K_a - [(C_H + C_G + 1/K_a)^2 - 4C_H C_G]^{1/2} \} \quad (1)$$

## 7. Detection limit for Al<sup>3+</sup> ion.



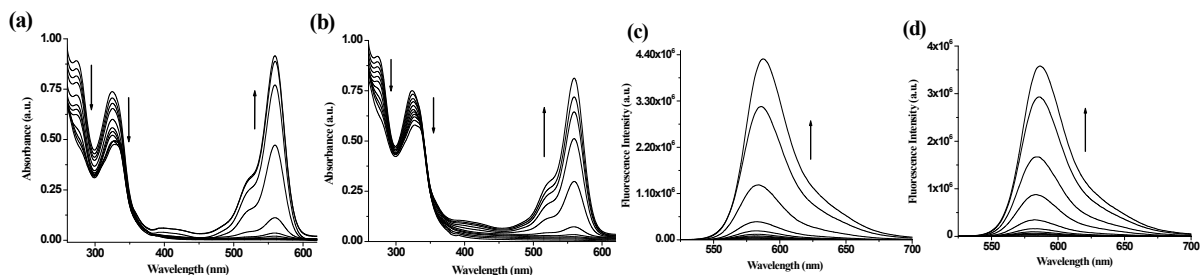
**Figure S7:** Plot for the evaluation of detection limit for Al<sup>3+</sup> ion from fluorescence of (a) **1** and (b) **2**.

**8. Change in absorbance and emission of 1 with  $\text{AlCl}_3$  and  $\text{K}_2\text{SO}_4 \cdot \text{Al}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3 \cdot 24\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in MeCN/water (4/1, v/v; 10  $\mu\text{M}$  tris HCl buffer; pH = 7).**



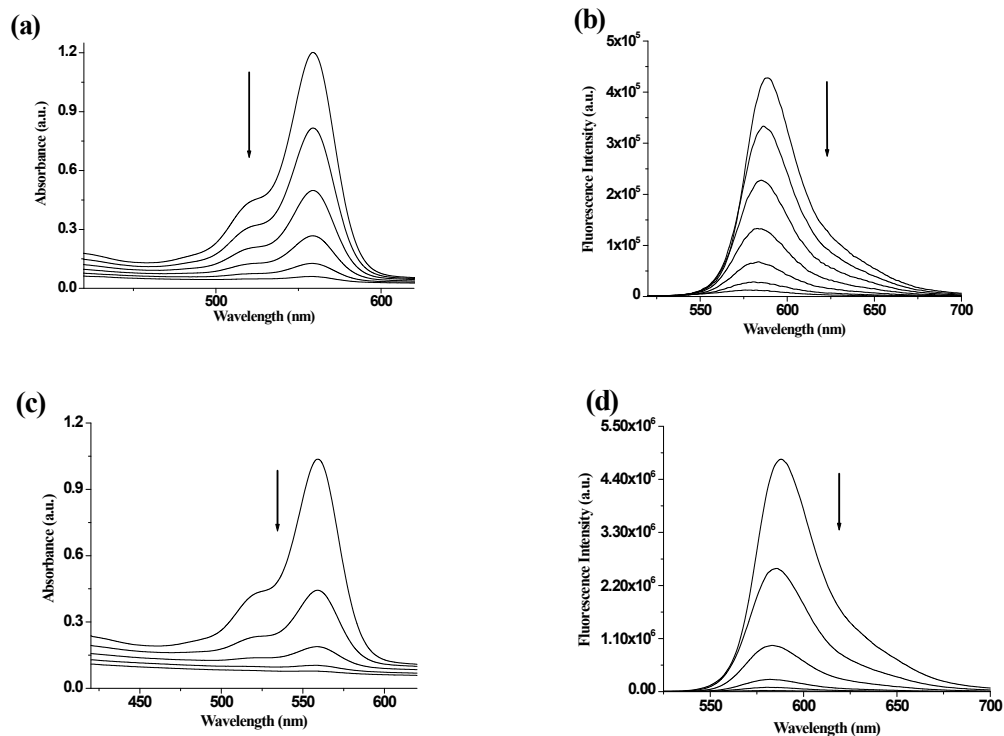
**Figure S8.** UV-vis titration spectra of (a) **1** ( $c = 3 \times 10^{-5}$  M) upon addition of  $\text{AlCl}_3$  ( $c = 1.2 \times 10^{-3}$  M), (b) **1** ( $c = 3 \times 10^{-5}$  M) upon addition of  $\text{K}_2\text{SO}_4 \cdot \text{Al}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3 \cdot 24\text{H}_2\text{O}$  ( $c = 1.2 \times 10^{-3}$  M) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{water}$  (4/1, v/v; 10  $\mu\text{M}$  tris HCl, pH = 7.0); Fluorescence titration spectra of (c) **1** ( $c = 3 \times 10^{-5}$  M) upon addition of  $\text{AlCl}_3$  ( $c = 1.2 \times 10^{-3}$  M) and (d) **1** ( $c = 3 \times 10^{-5}$  M) upon addition of  $\text{K}_2\text{SO}_4 \cdot \text{Al}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3 \cdot 24\text{H}_2\text{O}$  ( $c = 1.2 \times 10^{-3}$  M) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{water}$  (4/1, v/v; 10  $\mu\text{M}$  tris HCl, pH = 7.0).

**9. Change in absorbance and emission of 2 with  $\text{AlCl}_3$  and  $\text{K}_2\text{SO}_4 \cdot \text{Al}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3 \cdot 24\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in MeCN/water (4/1, v/v; 10  $\mu\text{M}$  tris HCl buffer; pH = 7).**

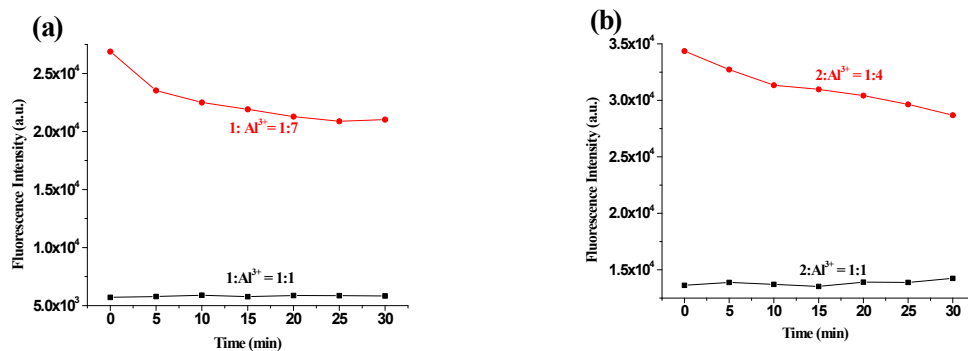


**Figure S9.** UV-vis titration spectra of (a) **2** ( $c = 3 \times 10^{-5}$  M) upon addition of  $\text{AlCl}_3$  ( $c = 1.2 \times 10^{-3}$  M), (b) **2** ( $c = 3 \times 10^{-5}$  M) upon addition of  $\text{K}_2\text{SO}_4 \cdot \text{Al}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3 \cdot 24\text{H}_2\text{O}$  ( $c = 1.2 \times 10^{-3}$  M) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{water}$  (4/1, v/v; 10  $\mu\text{M}$  tris HCl, pH = 7.0); Fluorescence titration spectra of (c) **2** ( $c = 3 \times 10^{-5}$  M) upon addition of  $\text{AlCl}_3$  ( $c = 1.2 \times 10^{-3}$  M) and (d) **2** ( $c = 3 \times 10^{-5}$  M) upon addition of  $\text{K}_2\text{SO}_4 \cdot \text{Al}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3 \cdot 24\text{H}_2\text{O}$  ( $c = 1.2 \times 10^{-3}$  M) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{water}$  (4/1, v/v; 10  $\mu\text{M}$  tris HCl, pH = 7.0).

**10. Change in absorption and emission of 1-Al<sup>3+</sup> and 2-Al<sup>3+</sup> complex with F<sup>-</sup> ions in MeCN/water (4/1, v/v; 10  $\mu$ M tris HCl buffer; pH = 7).**

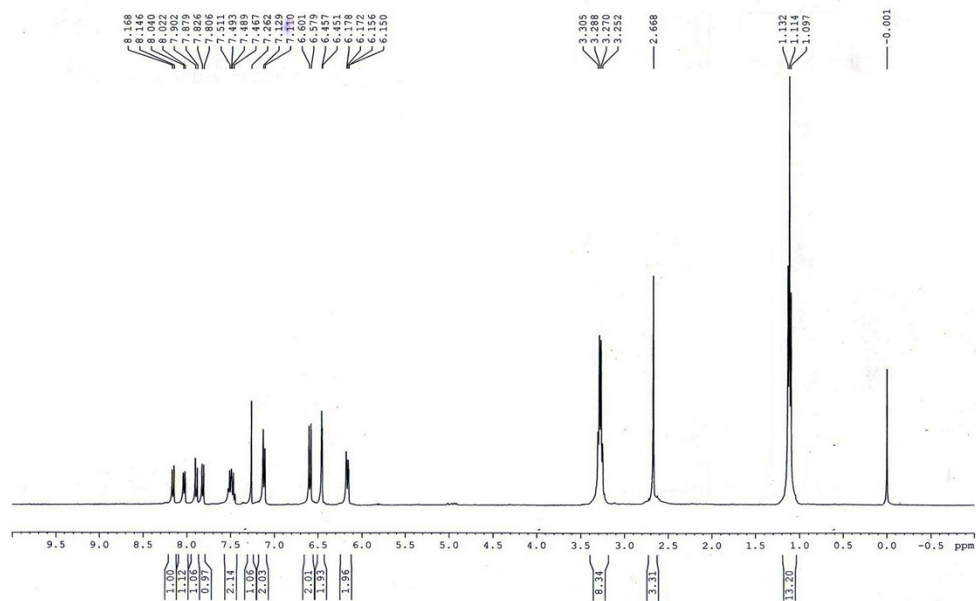


**Figure S10.** Changes (a) in absorbance and (b) emission of 1-Al<sup>3+</sup> complex in CH<sub>3</sub>CN/H<sub>2</sub>O (4/1, v/v; 10  $\mu$ M tris HCl buffer; pH 7.0) upon addition of F<sup>-</sup> ions ( $c = 3 \times 10^{-3}$  M); Changes (c) in absorbance and (b) emission of 2-Al<sup>3+</sup> complex in CH<sub>3</sub>CN/H<sub>2</sub>O (4/1, v/v; 10  $\mu$ M tris HCl buffer; pH 7.0) upon addition of F<sup>-</sup> ions ( $c = 3 \times 10^{-3}$  M).

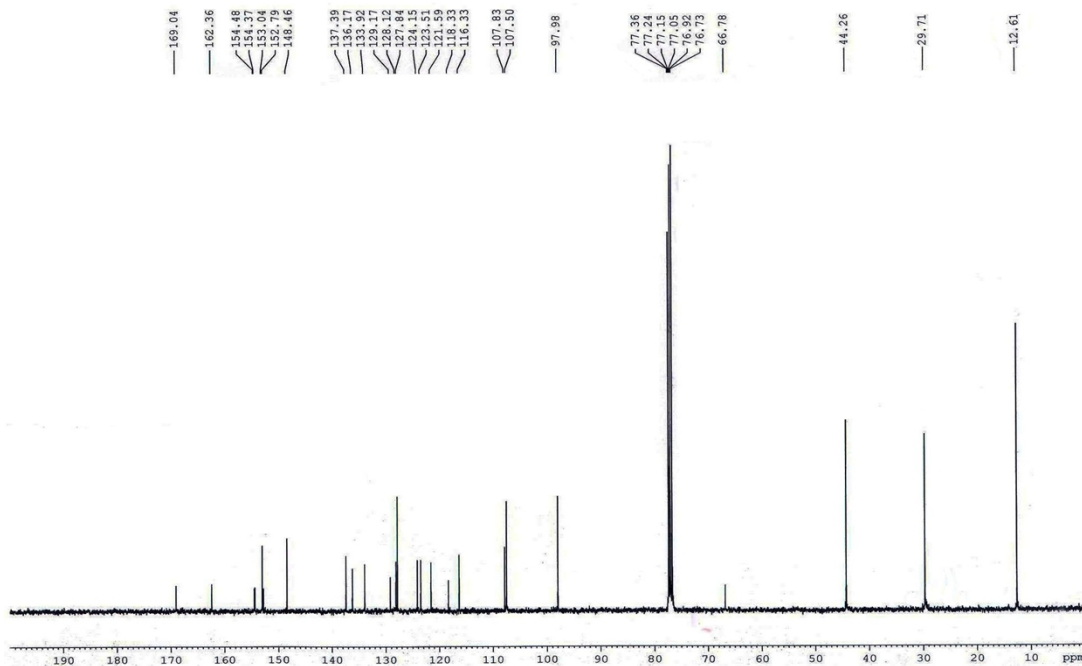


**Figure S11.** Change in emission of the Al-complexes of 1 and 2 in CH<sub>3</sub>CN/H<sub>2</sub>O (4/1, v/v; 10  $\mu$ M tris HCl buffer; pH 7.0) with time.

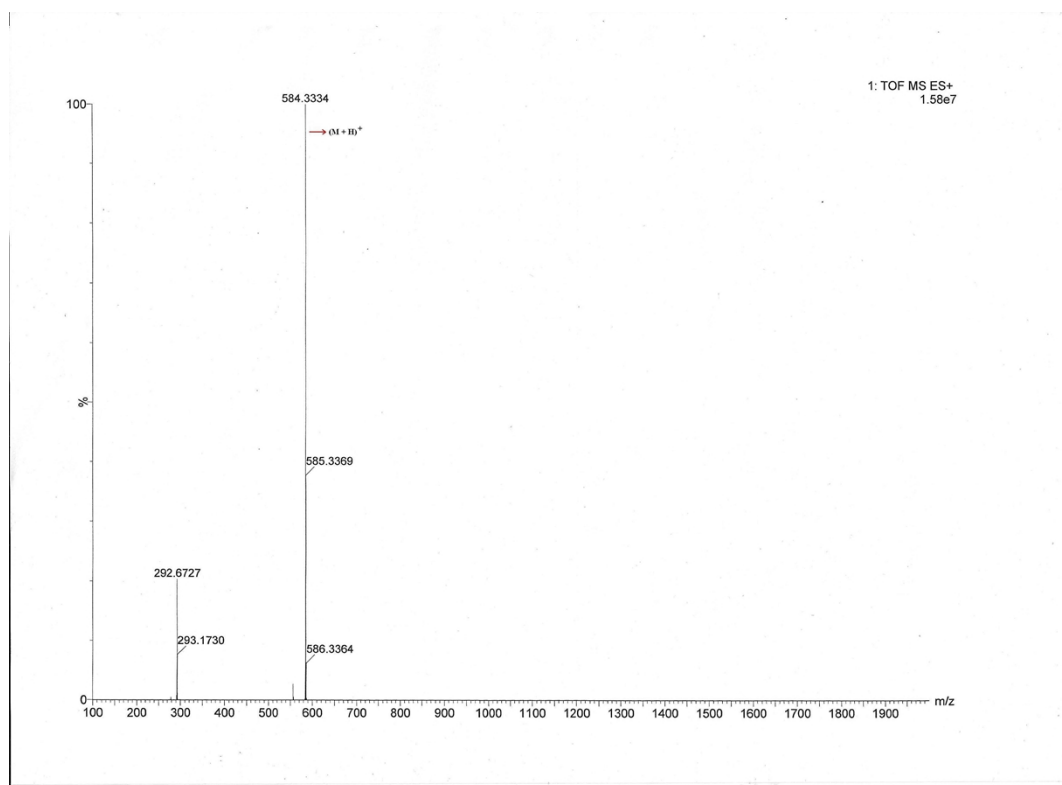
11.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of 1 ( $\text{CDCl}_3$  400 MHz):



12.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of 1 ( $\text{CDCl}_3$  100 MHz):

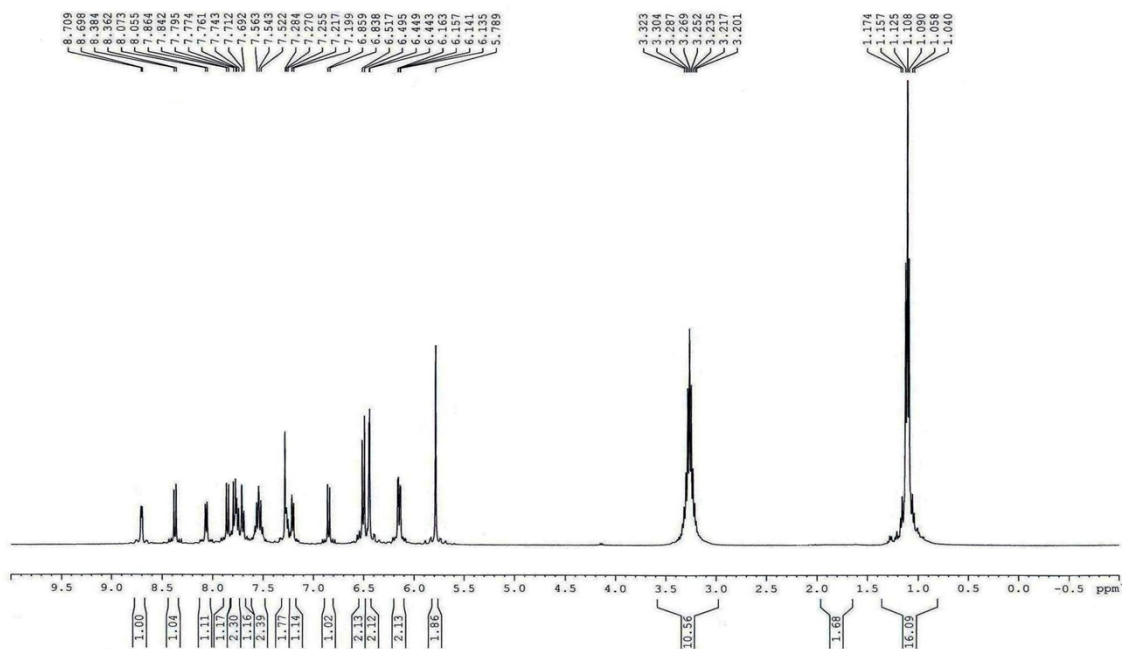


### 13. HRMS of 1:

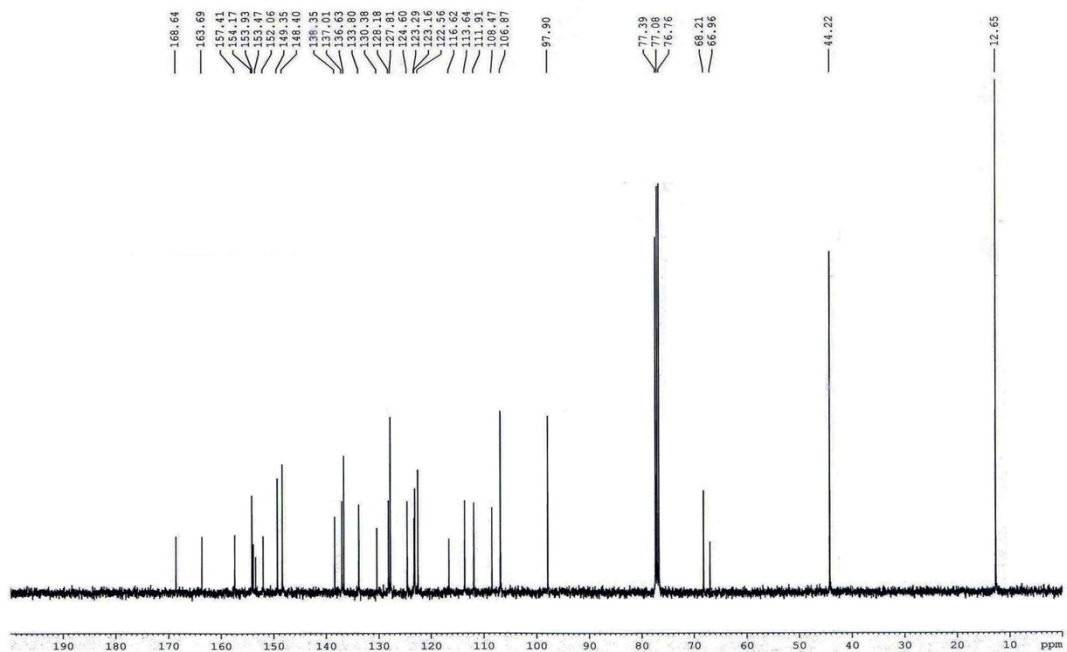




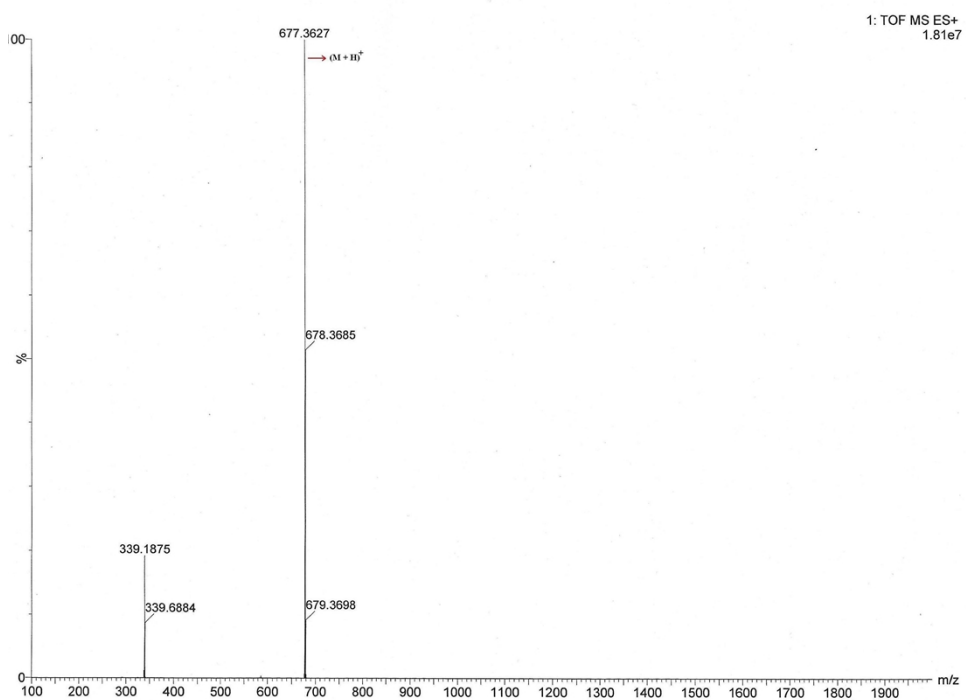
14.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of 2 ( $\text{CDCl}_3$  400 MHz):



15.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of 2 ( $\text{CDCl}_3$  100 MHz):



## 16. Mass of 2:



## Reference

1. B. Valeur, J. Pouget, J. Bourson, M. Kaschke and N. P. Eensting, *J. Phys.Chem.*, 1992, **96**, 6545.