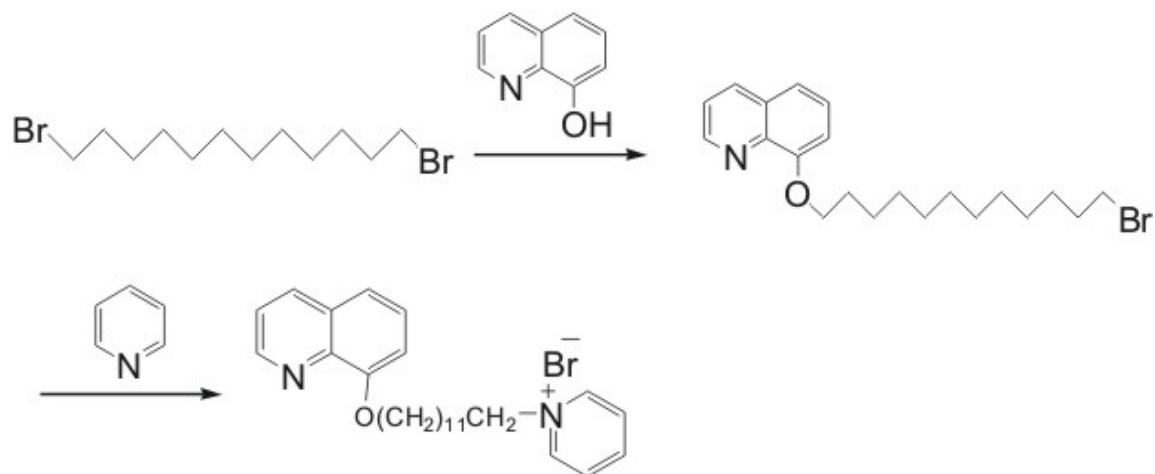


## Supporting Information

### A quinoline-functionalized amphiphilic fluorogenic probe for specific detection of trivalent cations

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**Scheme 1** Synthetic routes to 1

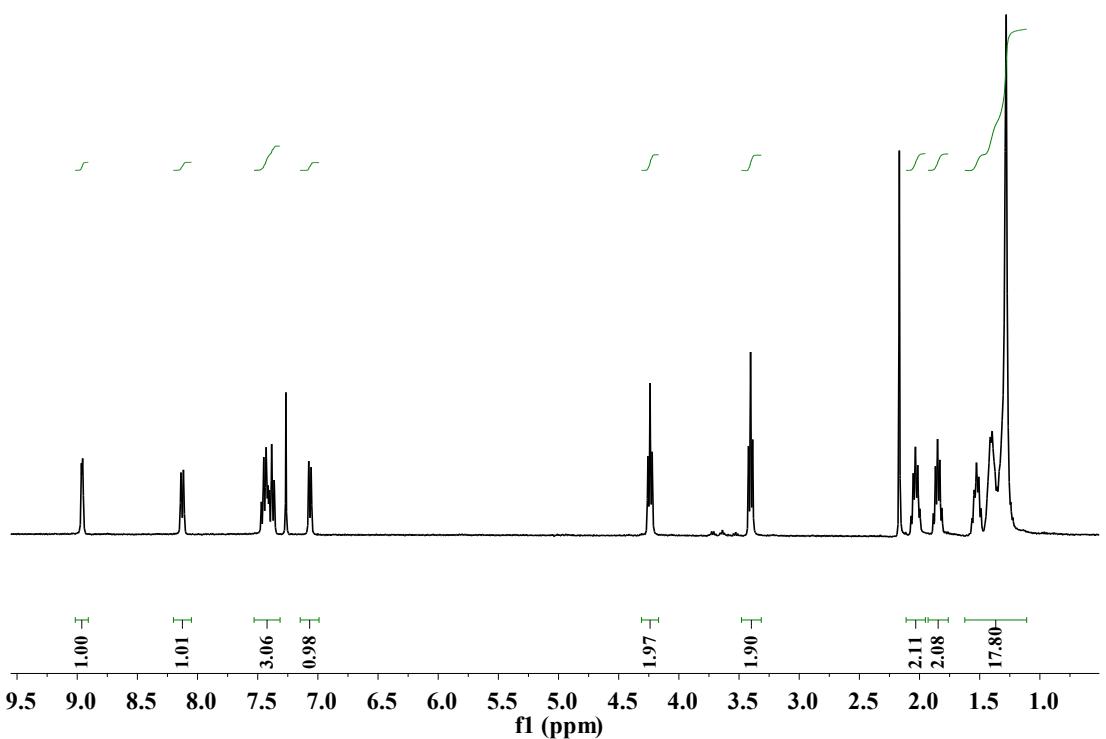


Fig. S1  ${}^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of QC<sub>12</sub>Br in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

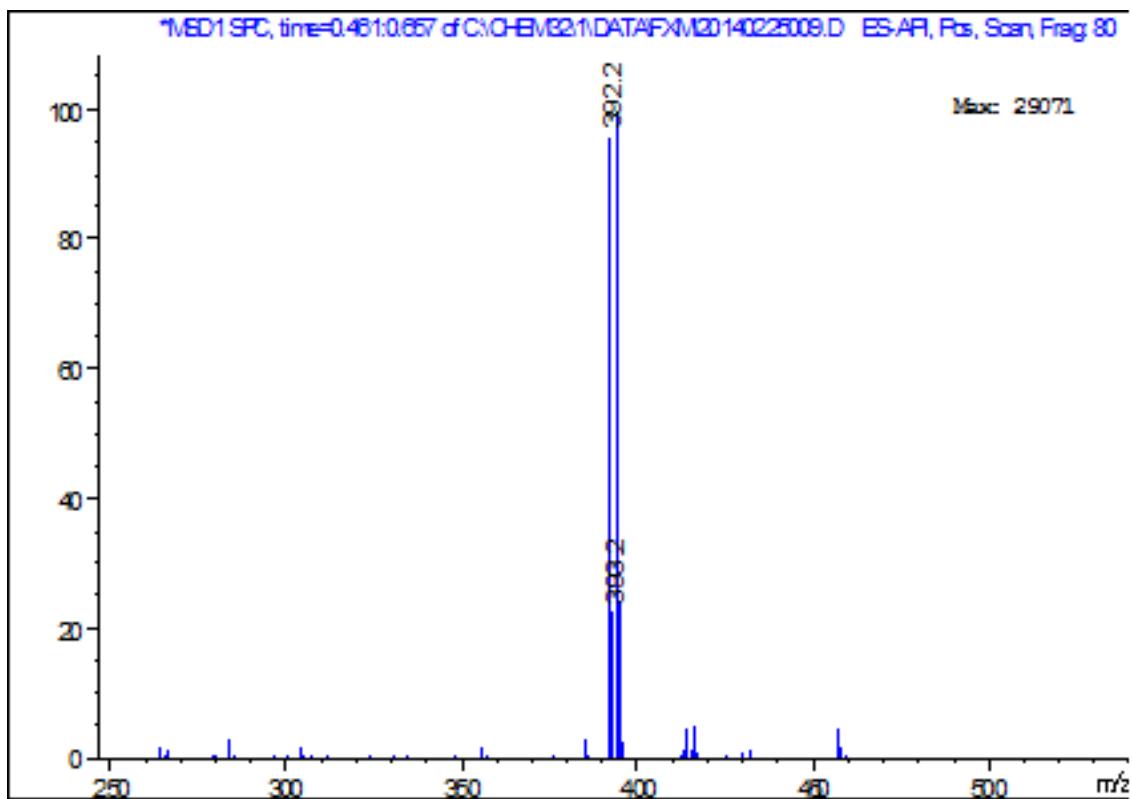


Fig. S2 MS spectrum of QC<sub>12</sub>Br.

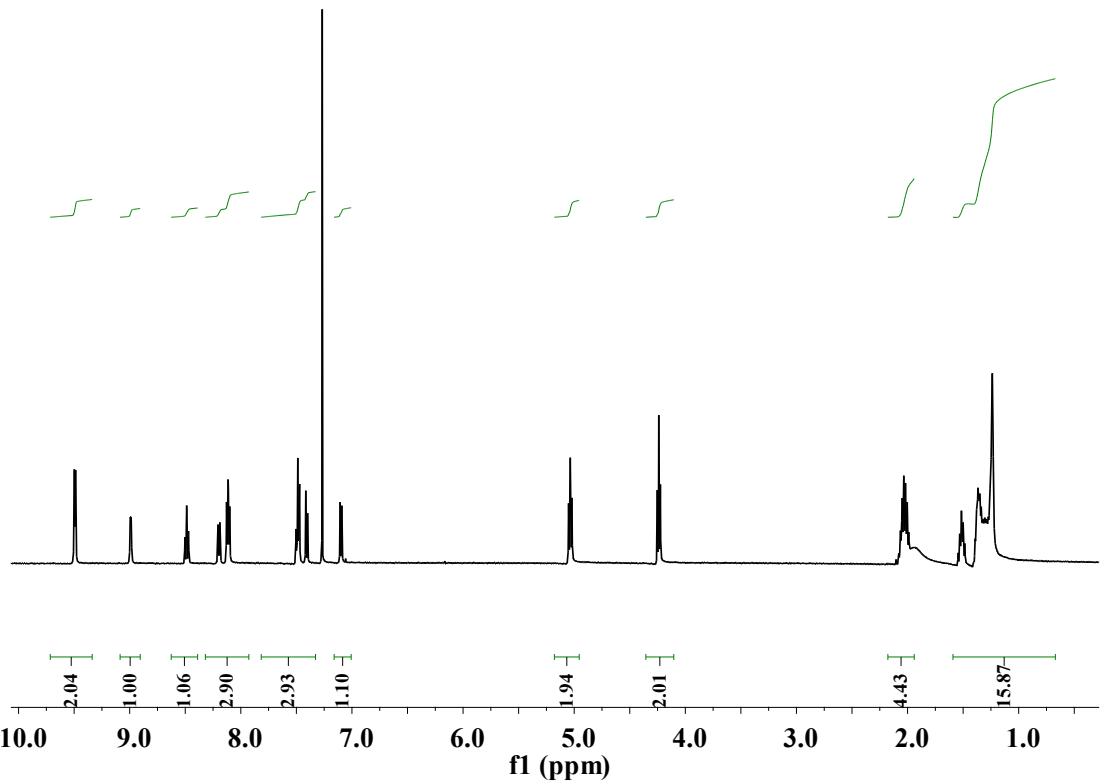


Fig. S3  ${}^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of QC<sub>12</sub>PyBr in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

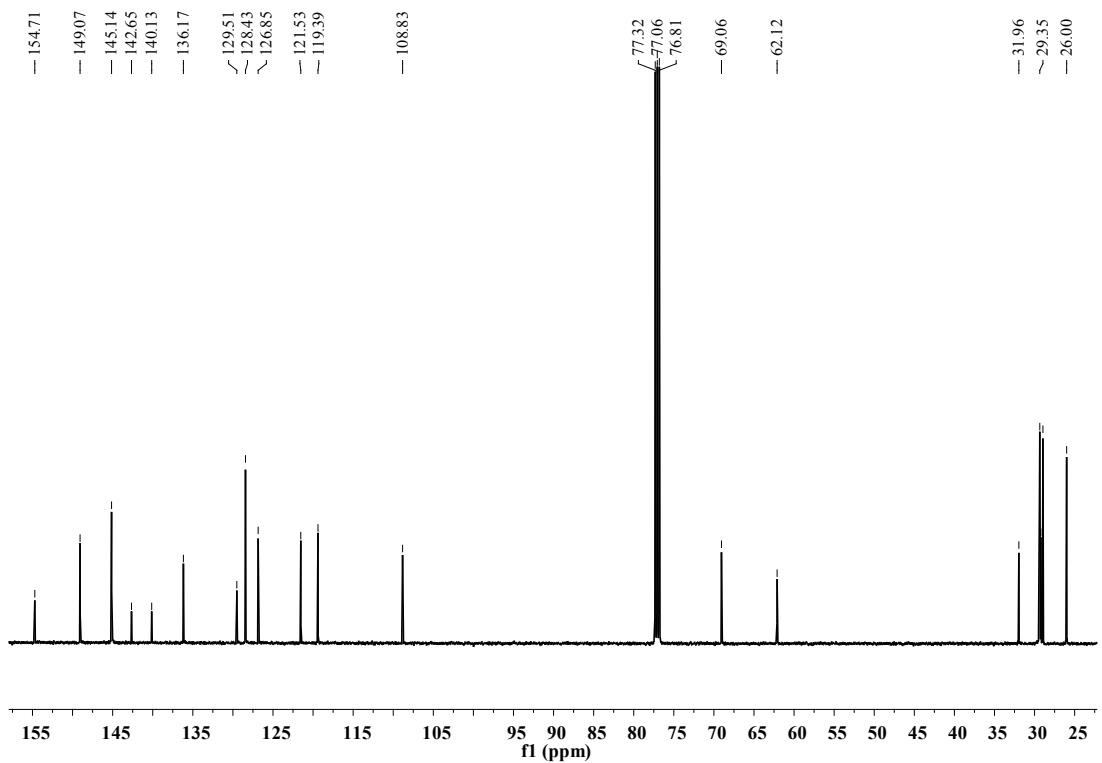


Fig. S4 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of QC<sub>12</sub>PyBr in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

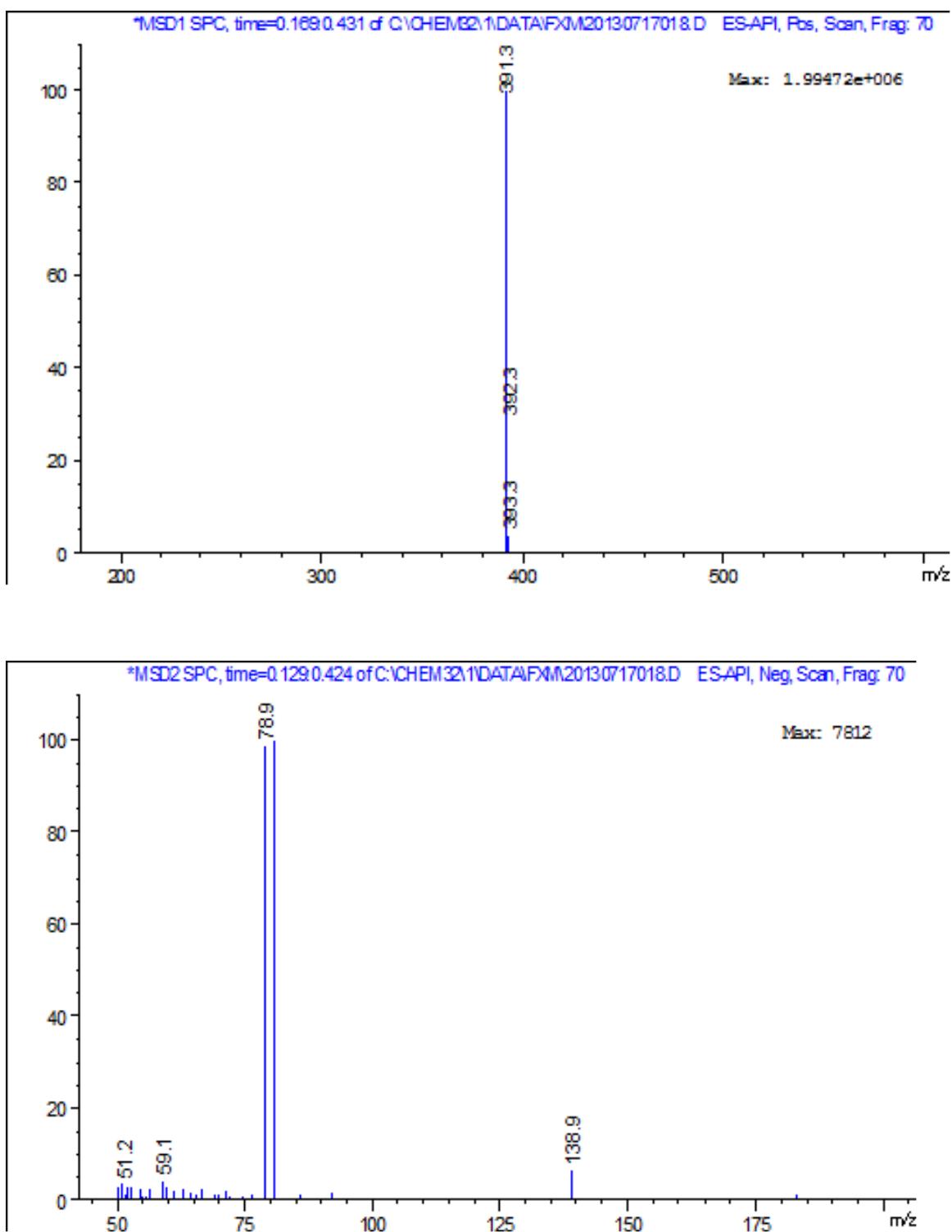


Fig. S5 MS spectrum of QC<sub>12</sub>PyBr.

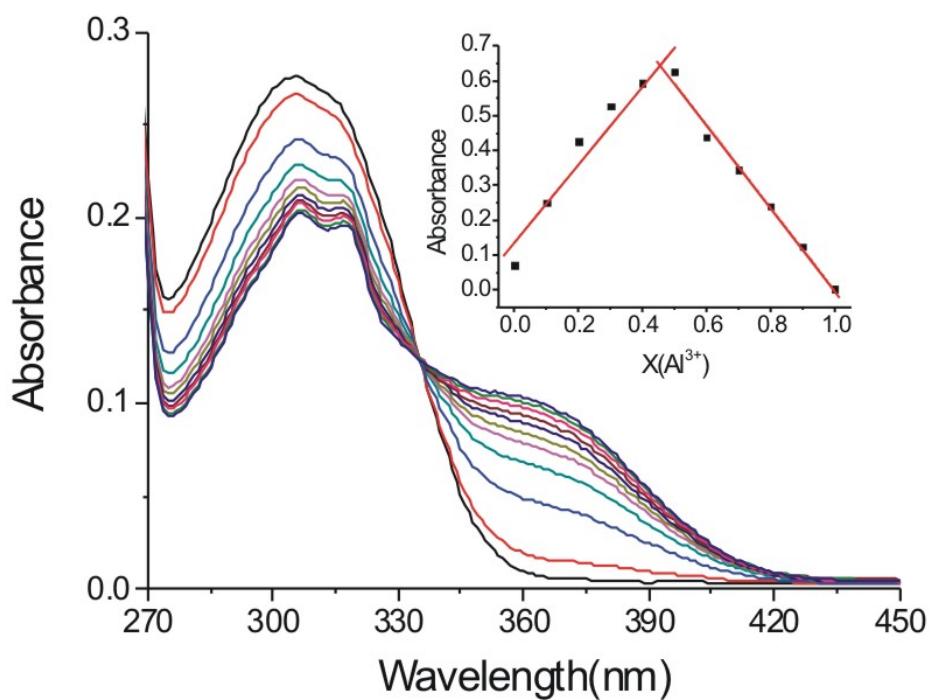


Fig. S6 Adsorption spectra of 1 ( $10^{-4}$  M) in water when titrated with Al<sup>3+</sup> (0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20  $\mu\text{L}$ ). Inset: Job's plot of 1 and Al<sup>3+</sup> in the same medium according to the absorbance at 365 nm.

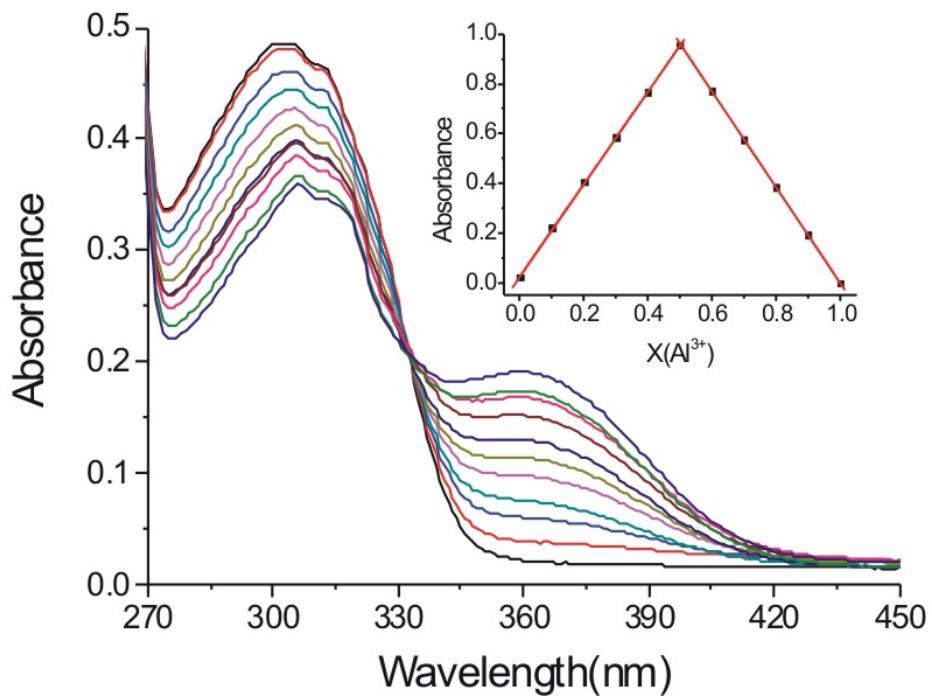


Fig. S7 Adsorption spectra of 1 ( $10^{-4}$  M) in acetonitrile when titrated with  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  (0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20  $\mu\text{L}$ ). Inset: Job's plot of 1 and  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  in the same medium according to the absorbance at 365 nm.

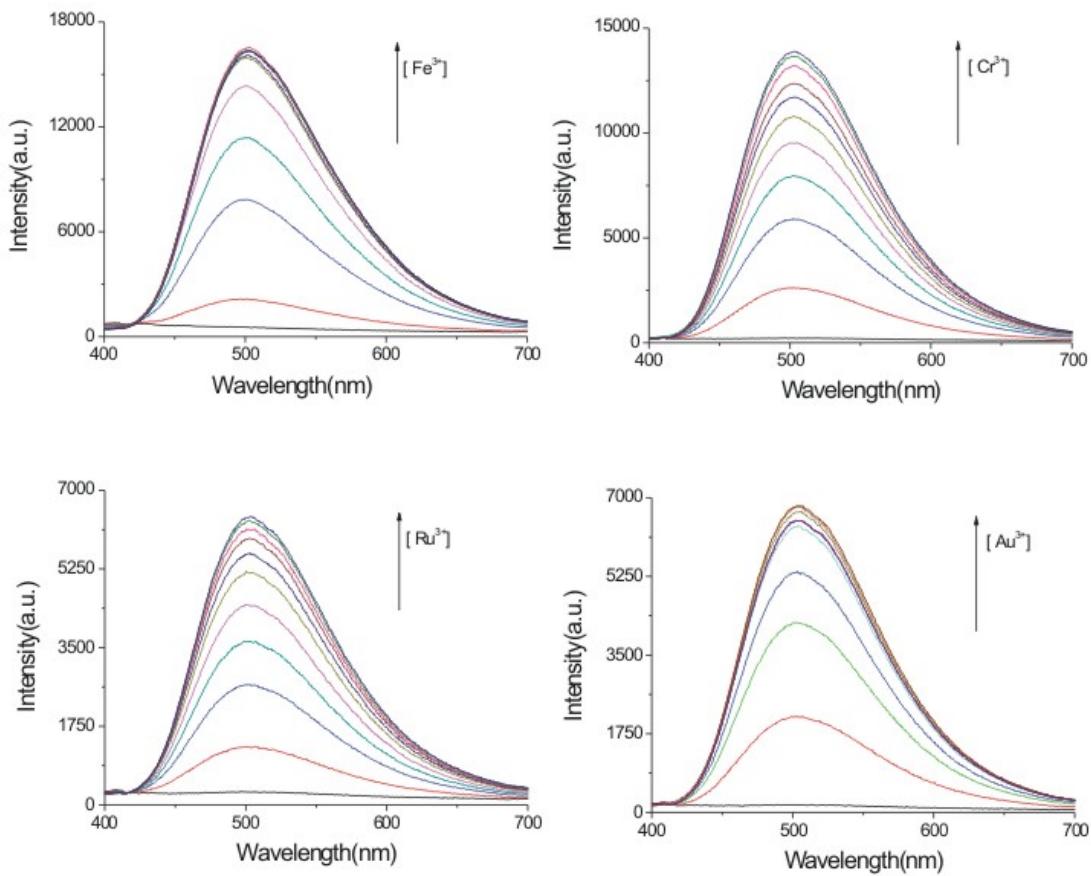


Fig. S8 Fluorescence titration spectra of 1 ( $10^{-4}$  M) upon titration with  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Cr}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Ru}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Au}^{3+}$  (0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20  $\mu\text{L}$ ) in ethanol absolute (excitation is at 365 nm, emission is monitored at 502 nm).

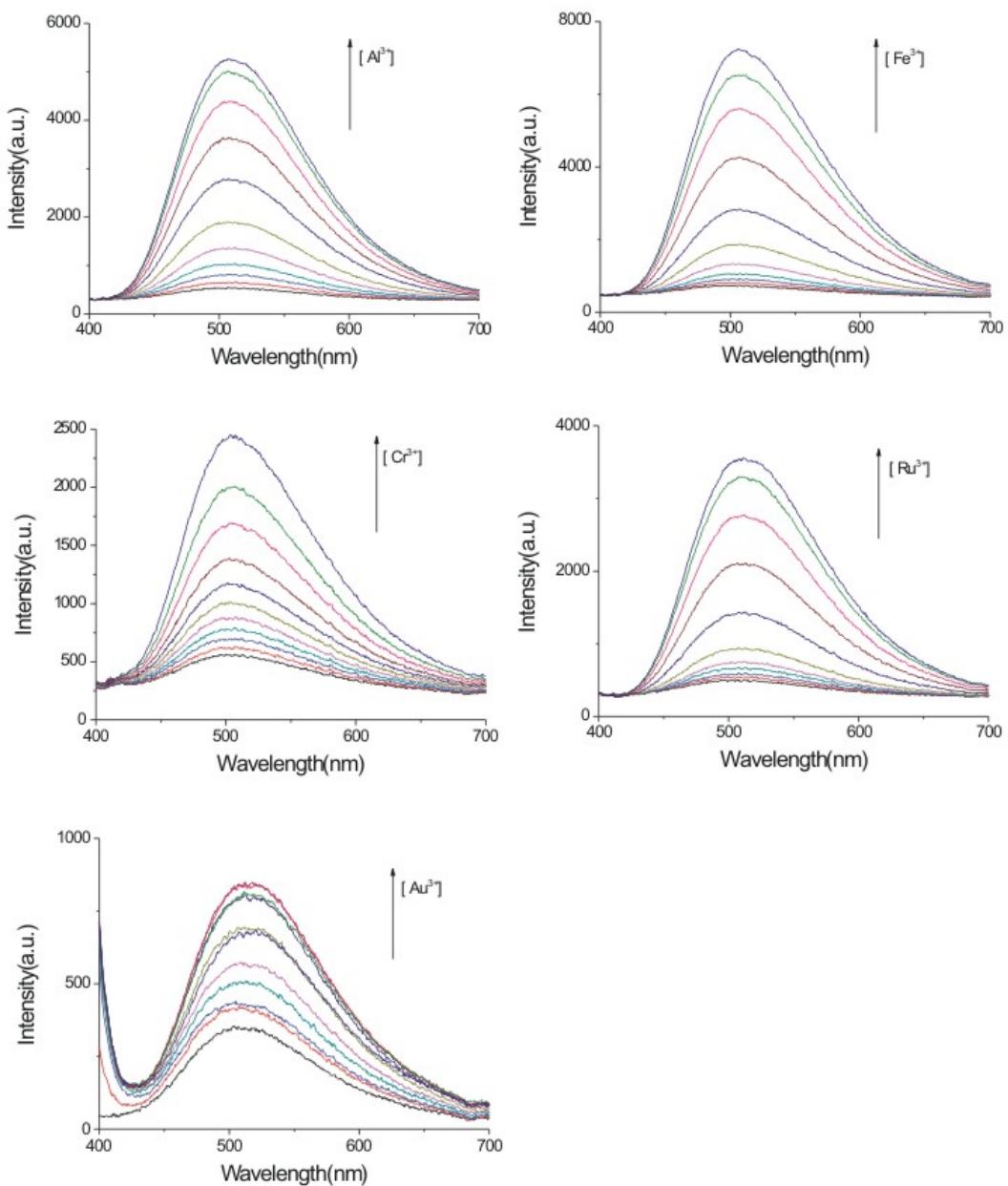


Fig. S9 Fluorescence titration spectra of  $1(10^{-4} \text{ M})$  upon titration with  $\text{Al}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Cr}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Ru}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Au}^{3+}$  ( $0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20 \mu\text{L}$ ) in water.

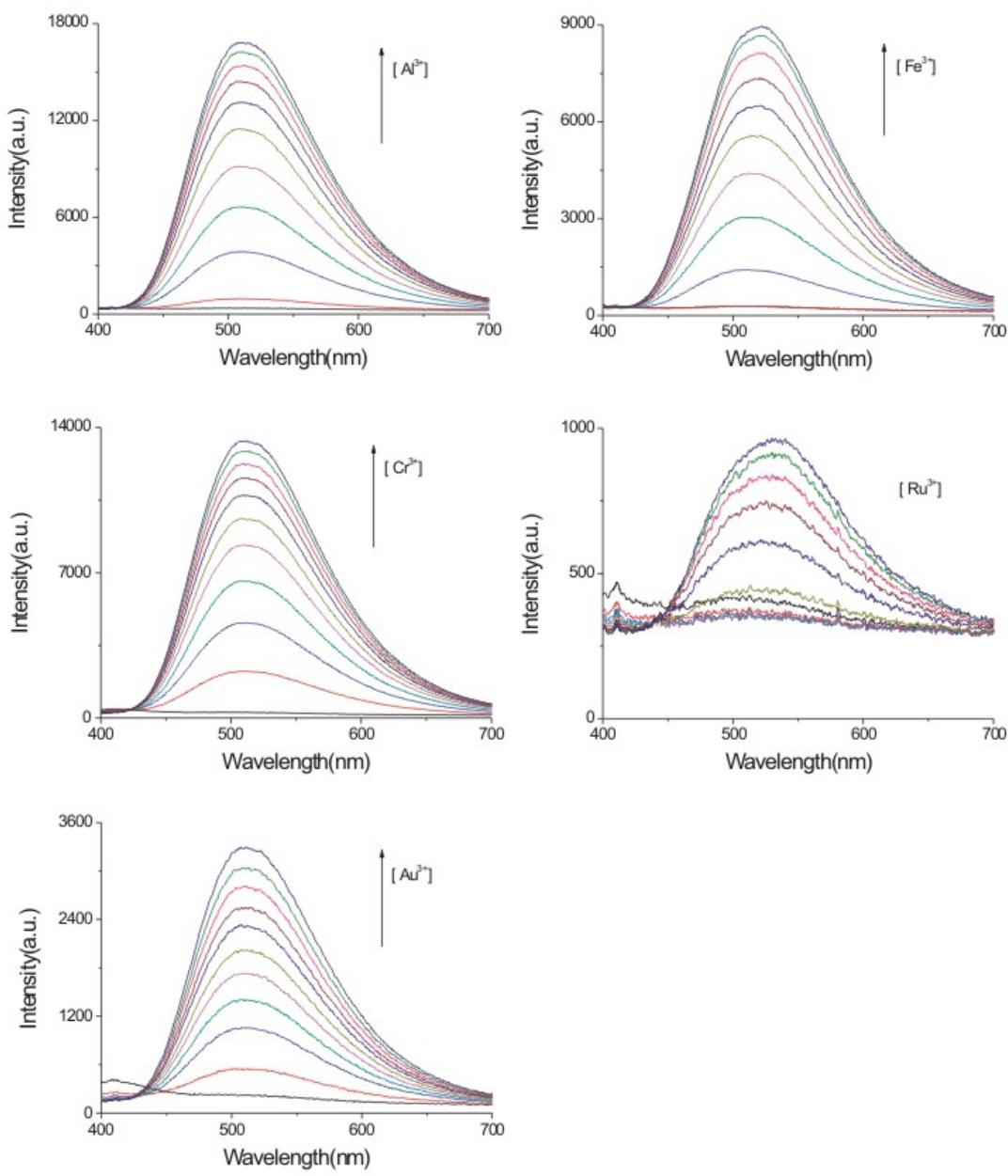
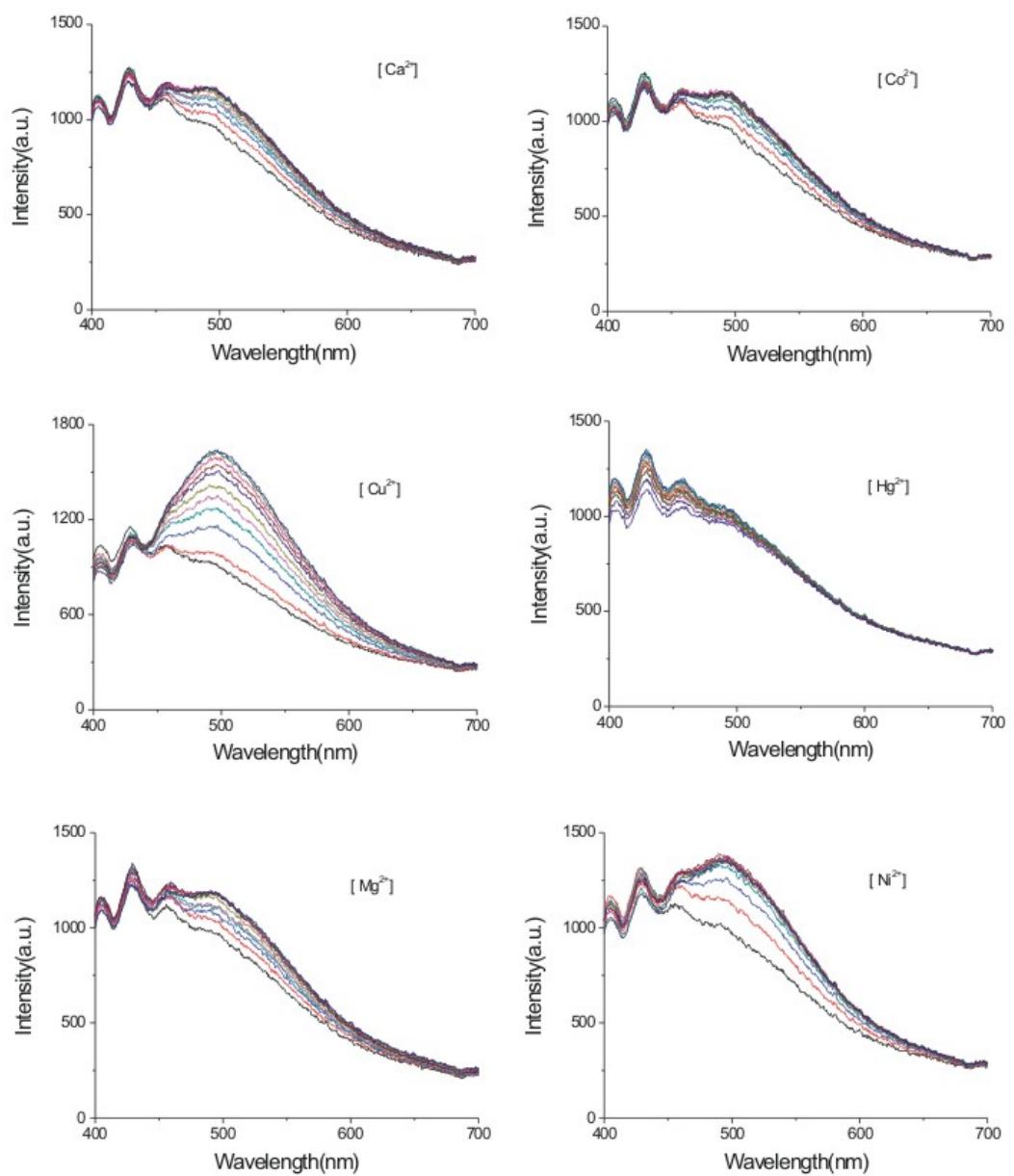


Fig. S10 Fluorescence titration spectra of 1( $10^{-4}$  M) upon titration with Al<sup>3+</sup>, Fe<sup>3+</sup>, Cr<sup>3+</sup>, Ru<sup>3+</sup> and Au<sup>3+</sup> (0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20  $\mu$ L) in acetonitrile.



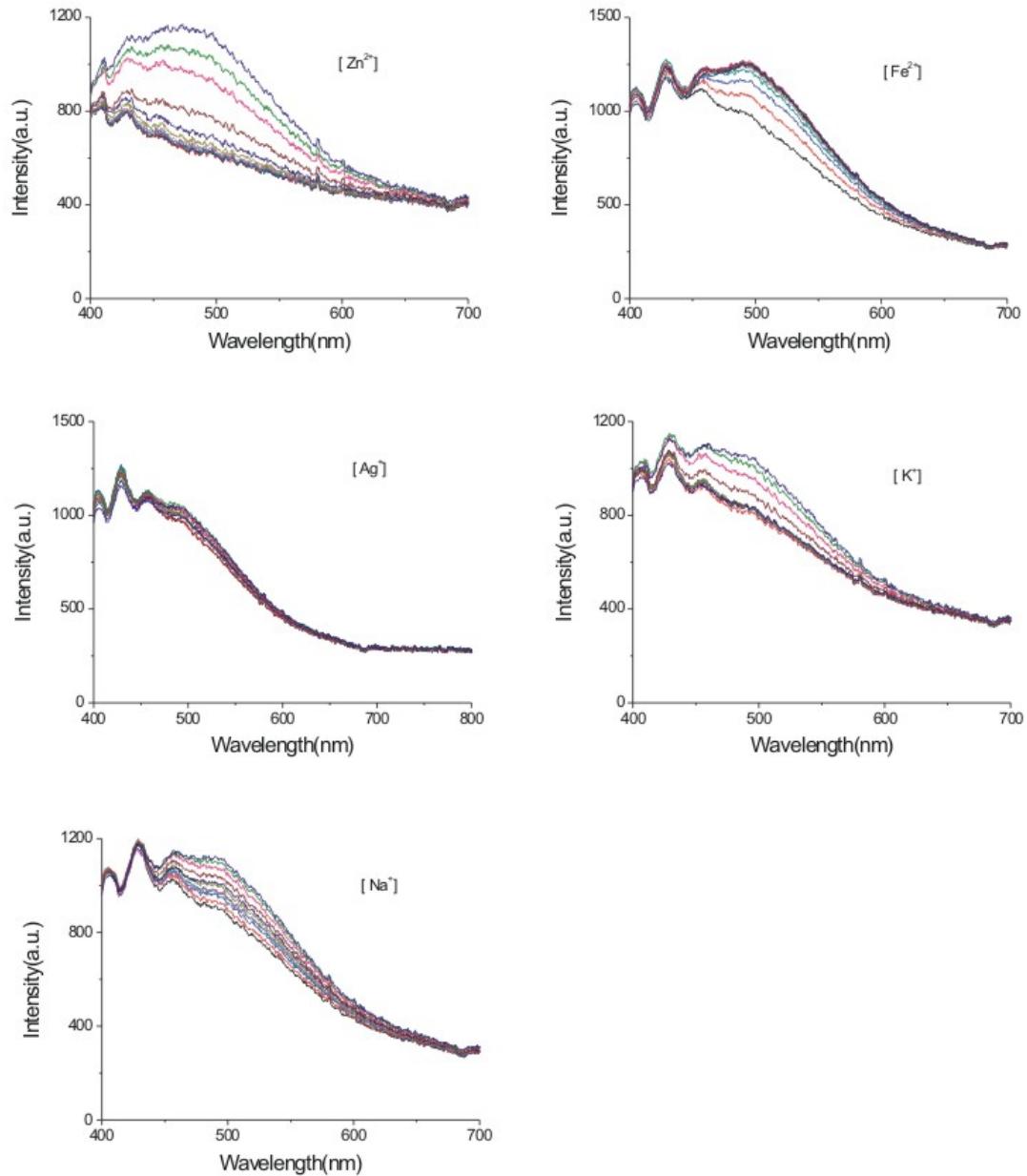


Fig. S11 Fluorescence titration spectra of receptor with different guest cations (0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20  $\mu$ L) in ethanol absolute

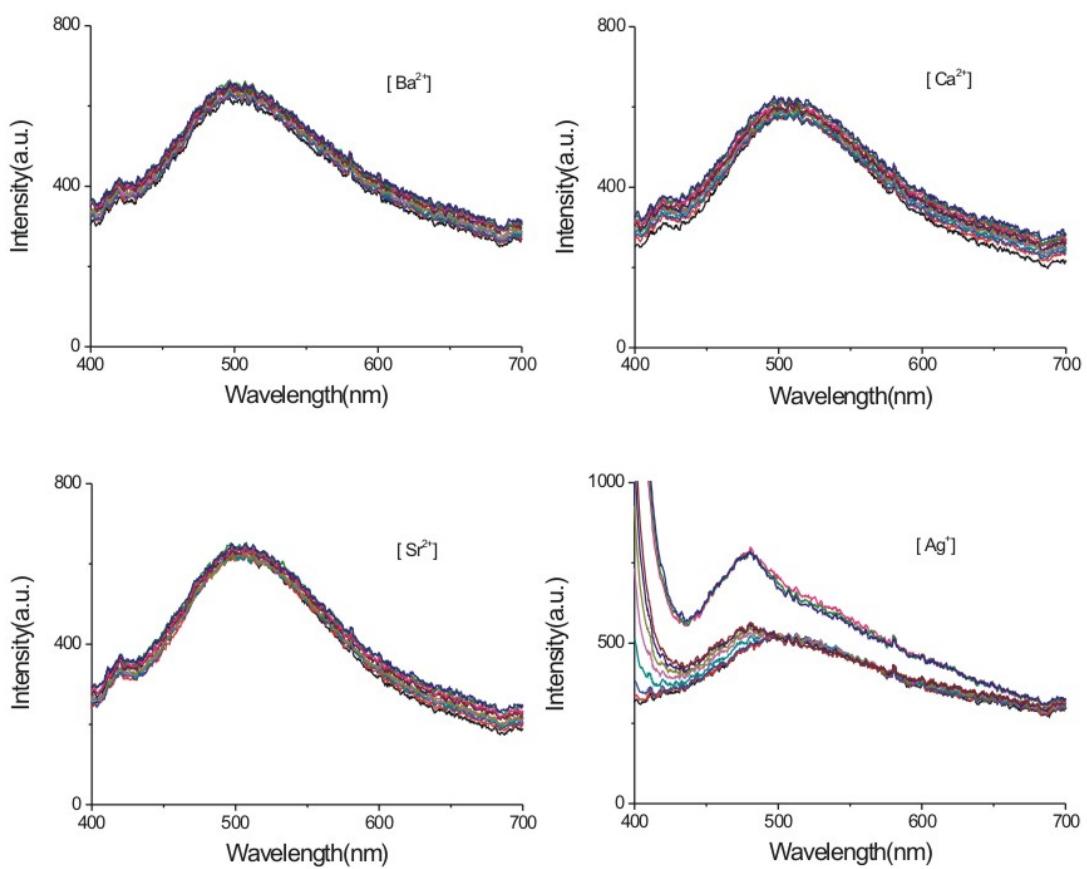


Fig. S12 Fluorescence titration spectra of receptor with different guest cations (0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20  $\mu\text{L}$ ) in water