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#### Supporting Information for

# Dimethyl yellow-based colorimetric chemosensors for "naked eye" detection of Cr<sup>3+</sup> in aqueous media *via* test papers

De-Hui Wang,‡<sup>a\*</sup> Yuan Zhang,‡<sup>b</sup> Ran Sun<sup>a</sup> and De-Zhi Zhao <sup>a\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> College of chemistry, chemical engineering and environmental engineering,
Liaoning Shihua University, Fushun, 113001, China
<sup>b</sup> Liaoning Institute for Food Control, Shenyang, 110015, China.

E-mail: dhuiwang@aliyun.com

‡D. Wang and Y. Zhang contributed equally to this work.

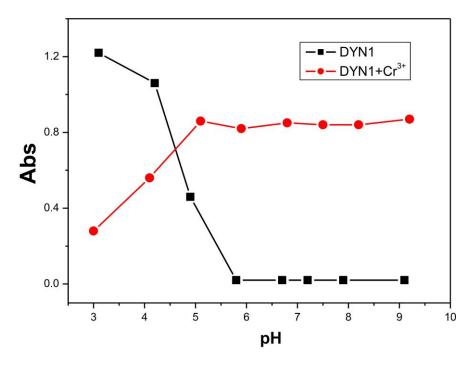
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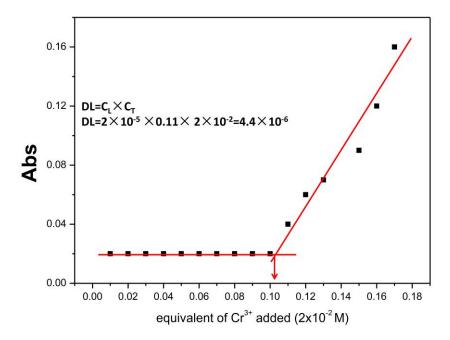
**1. Figure S1** UV-Vis spectra of **DYN1** ( $2 \times 10^{-5}$  M) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN:H<sub>2</sub>O (1:1, v/v, containing 0.01 M HEPES, pH=7.21) upon titration with 3.0 equiv. of perchlorate salts of metals. The red bars represent the absorbance of **DYN1** in the presence of 2 equiv. of cations of interest, respectively. The green bars represent the absorbance that occur upon the subsequent addition of 2 equiv. of  $Cr^{3+}$  to the above mentioned solutions, respectively. The absorbance measurements were recorded at 516 nm.



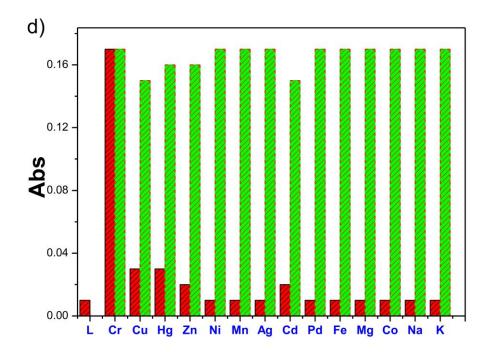
**2. Figure S2** The pH-dependent absorbance response of **DYN1** (20  $\mu$ M) and **DYN1**+Cr<sup>3+</sup> in CH<sub>3</sub>CN/H<sub>2</sub>O (1:1, v/v). The absorbance measurements were recorded at 516 nm.



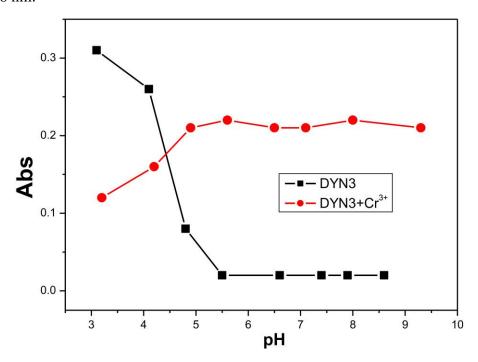
**3. Figure S3** Calculations for detection limit of **DYN1** with Cr<sup>3+</sup>. The absorbance measurements were recorded at 516 nm.



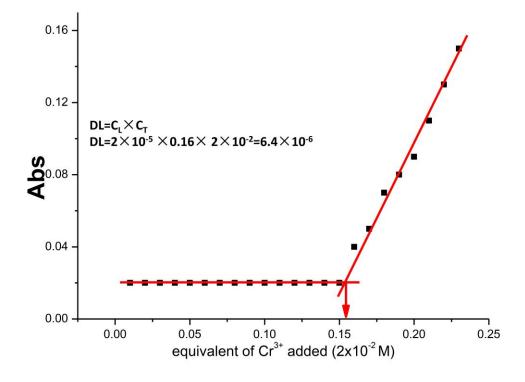
**4. Figure S4** UV-Vis spectra of **DYN3** ( $2 \times 10^{-5}$  M) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN:H<sub>2</sub>O (1:1, v/v, containing 0.01 M HEPES, pH=7.21) upon titration with 3.0 equiv. of perchlorate salts of metals. The red bars represent the absorbance of **DYN3** in the presence of 3 equiv. of cations of interest, respectively. The green bars represent the absorbance that occur upon the subsequent addition of 3 equiv. of  $Cr^{3+}$  to the above mentioned solutions, respectively. The absorbance measurements were recorded at 526 nm.



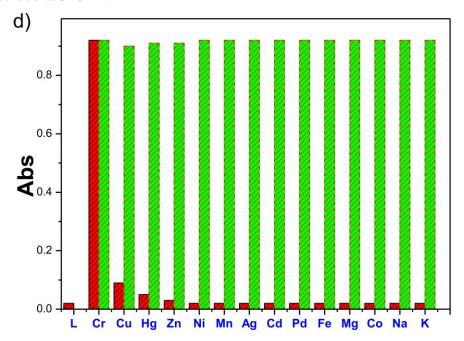
**5. Figure S5** The pH-dependent absorbance response of **DYN3** (20  $\mu$ M) and **DYN3**+Cr<sup>3+</sup> in CH<sub>3</sub>CN/H<sub>2</sub>O (1:1, v/v). The absorbance measurements were recorded at 526 nm.



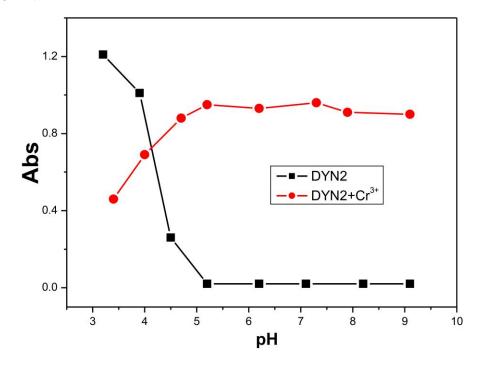
**6. Figure S6** Calculations for detection limit of **DYN3** with Cr<sup>3+</sup>. The absorbance measurements were recorded at 526 nm.



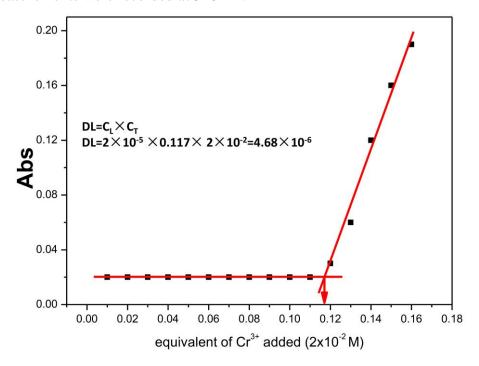
**7. Figure S7** UV-Vis spectra of **DYN2**  $(2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M})$  in CH<sub>3</sub>CN:H<sub>2</sub>O (1:1, v/v, containing 0.01 M HEPES, pH=7.21) upon titration with 2.0 equiv. of perchlorate salts of metals. The red bars represent the absorbance of **DYN2** in the presence of 2 equiv. of cations of interest, respectively. The green bars represent the absorbance that occur upon the subsequent addition of 2 equiv. of  $\text{Cr}^{3+}$  to the above mentioned solutions, respectively. The absorbance measurements were recorded at 516 nm.



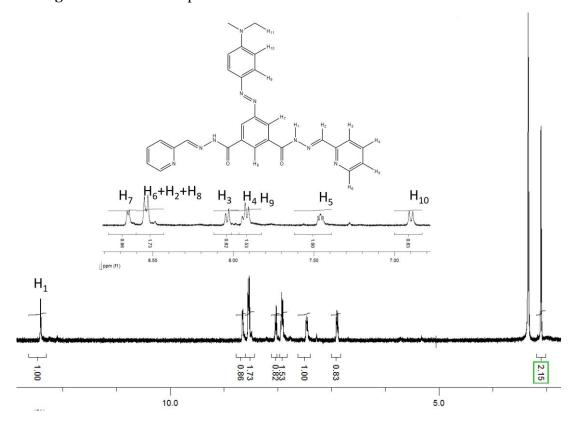
**8. Figure S8** The pH-dependent absorbance response of **DYN2** (20  $\mu$ M) and **DYN2**+Cr<sup>3+</sup> in CH<sub>3</sub>CN/H<sub>2</sub>O (1:1, v/v). The absorbance measurements were recorded at 516 nm.



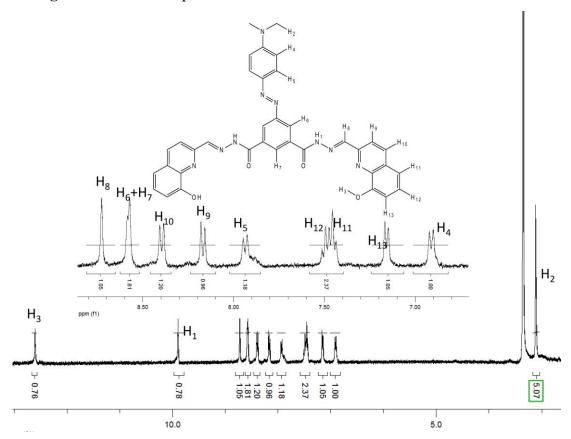
**9. Figure S9** Calculations for detection limit of **DYN2** with Cr<sup>3+</sup>. The absorbance measurements were recorded at 516 nm.



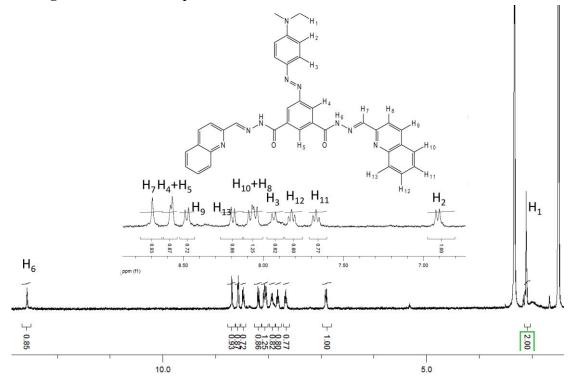
#### **10. Figure S10** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of **DYN1**



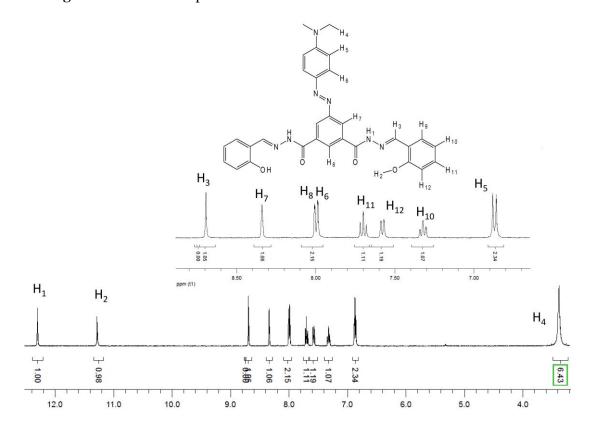
#### 11. Figure S11 <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of **DYN3**



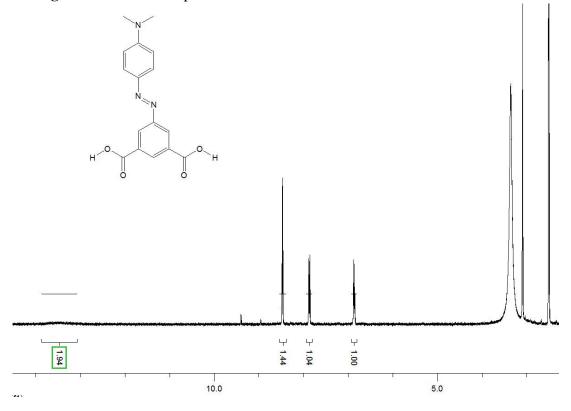
#### **12. Figure S12** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of **DYN2**



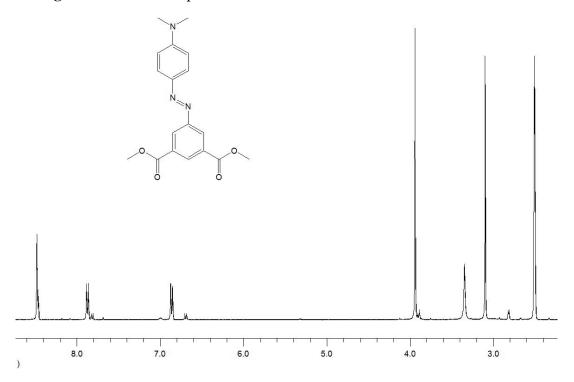
## 13. Figure S13 <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of **DYN4**



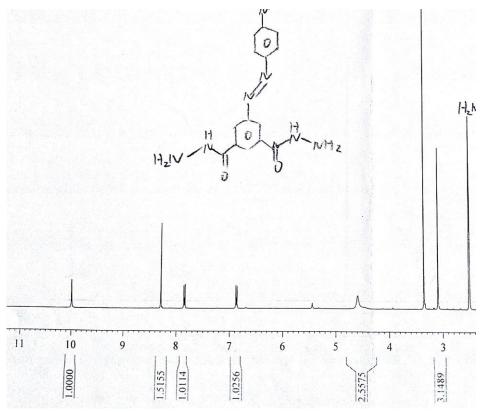
### **14. Figure S14** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of **1**



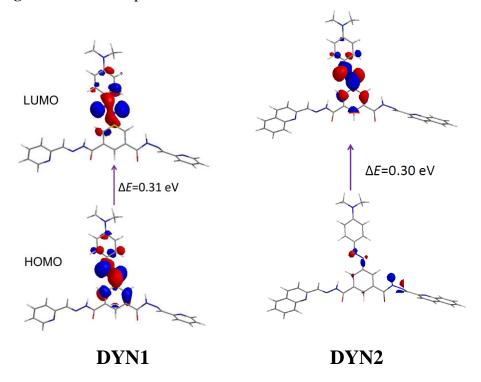
#### **15. Figure S15** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of **2**

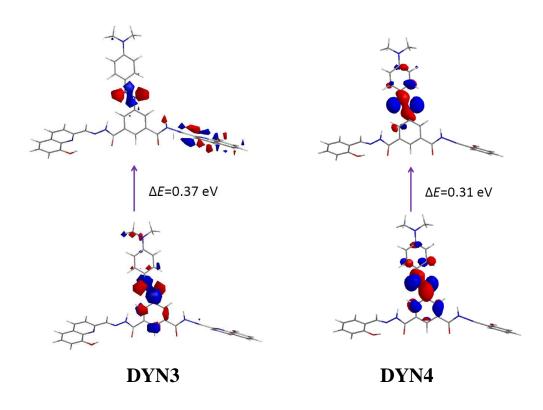


#### **16. Figure S16** $^{1}$ H-NMR spectra of **3**

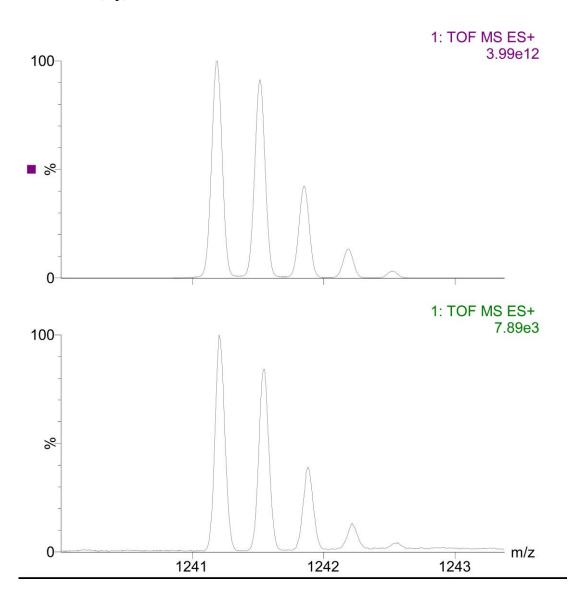


#### 17. Figure S17 Contour plots of the HOMO and LUMO for DYN1-4



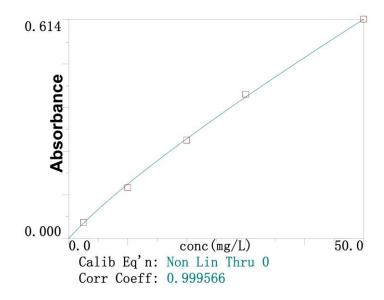


**18. Figure S18** ESI-TOF spectra of **DYN1**+Cr<sup>3+</sup>. Comparison of the experimental peak (bottom) with the simulation results obtained on the basis of natural isotopic abundances (top).



## **19. Figure S19** ICP-AES spectra of sewage sample (bottom). Standard working curve (top).

Cr 357.87



Cr 357.87 Rep: 1

