

## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

**Potential anion sensing properties by a redox and substitution series of  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_{3-n}(\text{Hdpa})_n]^{2+}$ ,  $n = 1-3$ ; Hdpa = 2,2'-Dipyridylamine: selective recognition and stoichiometric binding with cyanide and fluoride ions**

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**Table S1** Crystallographic data for [Ru(bpy)(Hdpa)<sub>2</sub>](ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> [**2**](ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and [Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>(dpa)](BF<sub>4</sub>) [**1**](BF<sub>4</sub>)

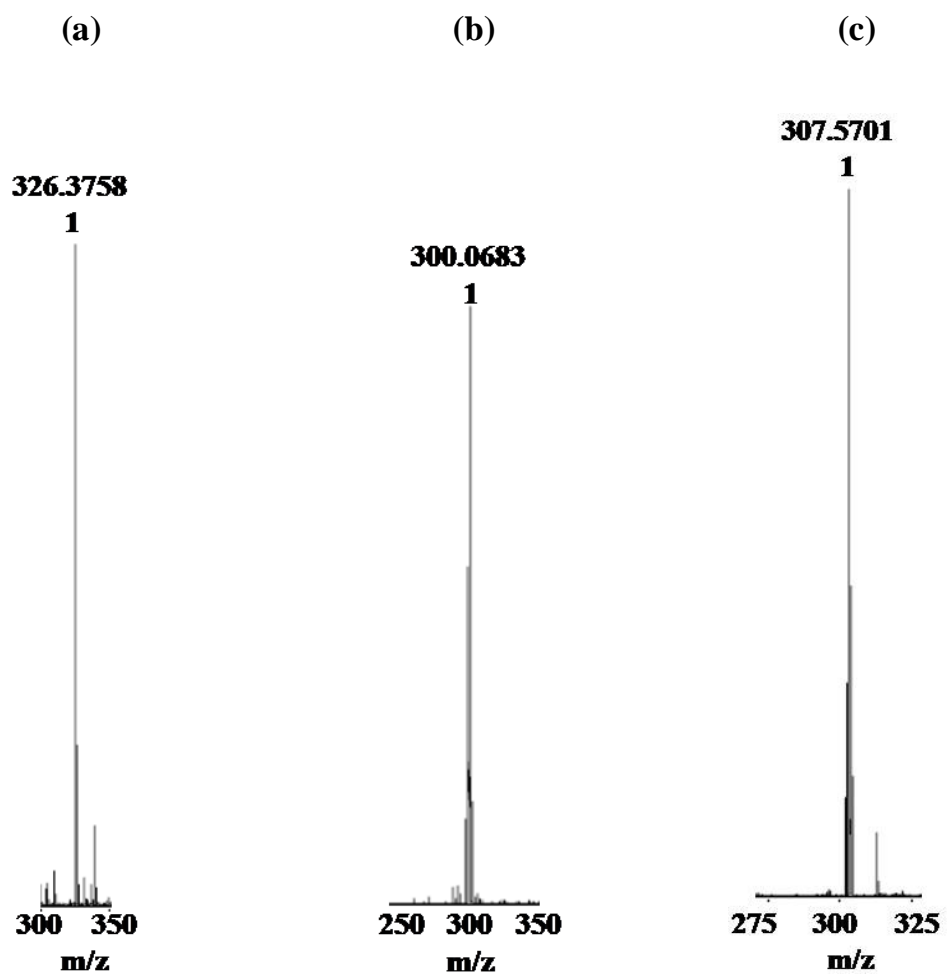
	[ <b>2</b> ](ClO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	[ <b>1</b> ]BF <sub>4</sub>
Formula	C <sub>30</sub> H <sub>26</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>8</sub> Ru	C <sub>30</sub> H <sub>24</sub> BF <sub>4</sub> N <sub>7</sub> Ru
Fw	798.56	670.44
T(K)	293(2) K	293 (2) K
Cryst. Syst.	Triclinic	Trigonal
Space group	<i>P</i> -1	<i>P</i> 3221
<i>a</i> /Å	8.1459(5)	13.0588(3)
<i>b</i> /Å	10.9387(5)	13.0588(3)
<i>c</i> /Å	17.8507(9)	31.5888(11)
$\alpha$ (°)	88.824(4)	90
$\beta$ (°)	88.463(4)	90
$\gamma$ (°)	88.991(4)	120
<i>V</i> /Å <sup>3</sup>	1589.46(15)	4665.2(3)
<i>D<sub>c</sub></i> (g cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.669	1.432
<i>Z</i>	2	6
$\mu$ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.727	0.559
<i>F</i> (000)	808	2028
$\theta$ range (deg)	2.976- 24.997	3.120-24.994
Data/restraints/params	5593/0/442	5487/482/433
GOF on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	1.166	1.108
<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> <sup>a</sup> [ <i>I</i> > 2σ( <i>I</i> )], w <i>R</i> <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup> (all data)	0.0903, 0.2689	0.0982, 0.2582
Largest diff. peak/ hole/ e Å <sup>-3</sup>	2.761/ -1.985	1.676/ -1.035

**Table S2** Selected bond distances (Å) and bond angles (°) for [Ru(bpy)(Hdpa)<sub>2</sub>](ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>,[2](ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>

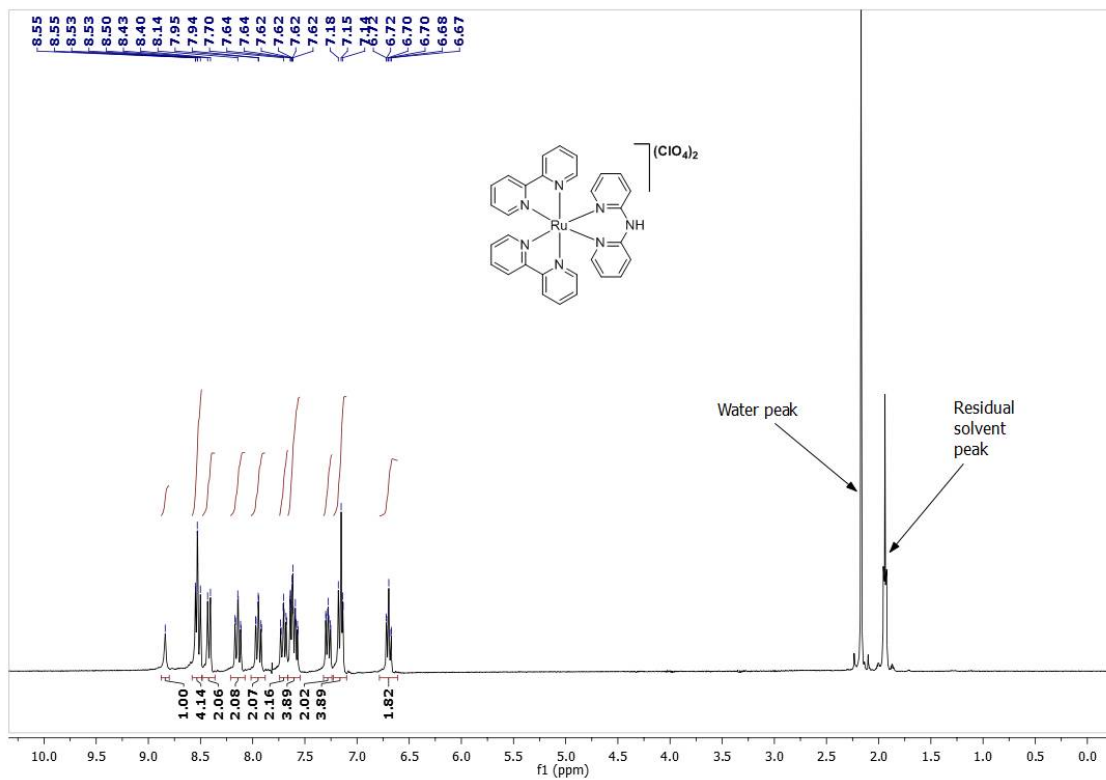
	[2](ClO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>
Ru(1)-N(2)	2.079(8)
Ru(1)-N(5)	2.085(8)
Ru(1)-N(3)	2.094(8)
Ru(1)-N(1)	2.095(8)
Ru(1)-N(8)	2.097(8)
Ru(1)-N(6)	2.100(8)
N(4)-H(4)	0.86
N(7)-H(7)	0.86
N(2)-Ru(1)-N(5)	95.9(3)
N(2)-Ru(1)-N(3)	85.8(3)
N(5)-Ru(1)-N(3)	87.9(3)
N(2)-Ru(1)-N(1)	79.2(3)
N(5)-Ru(1)-N(1)	173.8(3)
N(3)-Ru(1)-N(1)	88.0(3)
N(2)-Ru(1)-N(8)	92.6(3)
N(5)-Ru(1)-N(8)	94.2(3)
N(3)-Ru(1)-N(8)	177.5(3)
N(1)-Ru(1)-N(8)	89.8(3)
N(2)-Ru(1)-N(6)	175.7(3)
N(5)-Ru(1)-N(6)	88.2(3)
N(3)-Ru(1)-N(6)	93.1(3)
N(1)-Ru(1)-N(6)	96.6(3)
N(8)-Ru(1)-N(6)	88.3(3)

**Table S3** Selected bond distances (Å) and bond angles (°) for [Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>(dpa)](BF<sub>4</sub>), [1](BF<sub>4</sub>)

	[1](BF <sub>4</sub> )
Ru(1)-N(2)	2.043(11)
Ru(1)-N(3)	2.054(12)
Ru(1)-N(4)	2.066(11)
Ru(1)-N(1)	2.070(11)
Ru(1)-N(6)	2.076(12)
Ru(1)-N(5)	2.113(13)
N(2)-Ru(1)-N(3)	87.6(5)
N(2)-Ru(1)-N(4)	95.0(5)
N(3)-Ru(1)-N(4)	78.2(5)
N(2)-Ru(1)-N(1)	79.2(5)
N(3)-Ru(1)-N(1)	96.5(5)
N(4)-Ru(1)-N(1)	172.3(5)
N(2)-Ru(1)-N(6)	93.3(4)
N(3)-Ru(1)-N(6)	173.8(5)
N(4)-Ru(1)-N(6)	95.6(5)
N(1)-Ru(1)-N(6)	89.8(5)
N(2)-Ru(1)-N(5)	175.5(6)
N(3)-Ru(1)-N(5)	91.8(6)
N(4)-Ru(1)-N(5)	89.3(5)
N(1)-Ru(1)-N(5)	96.5(6)
N(6)-Ru(1)-N(5)	87.8(6)



**Fig. S1** ESI-MS (positive) for  $[1](ClO_4)_2$  (a),  $[2](ClO_4)_2$  (b) and  $[3](ClO_4)_2$  (c).



**Fig. S2**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of receptor [1] $(\text{ClO}_4)_2$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .

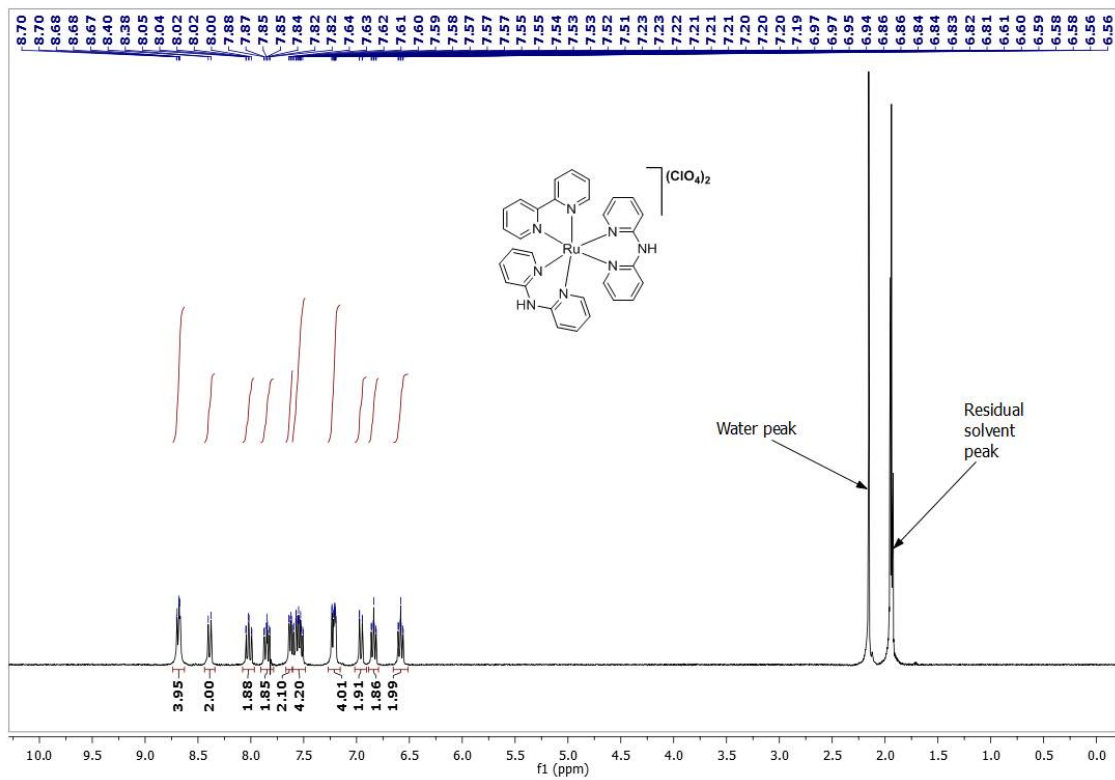
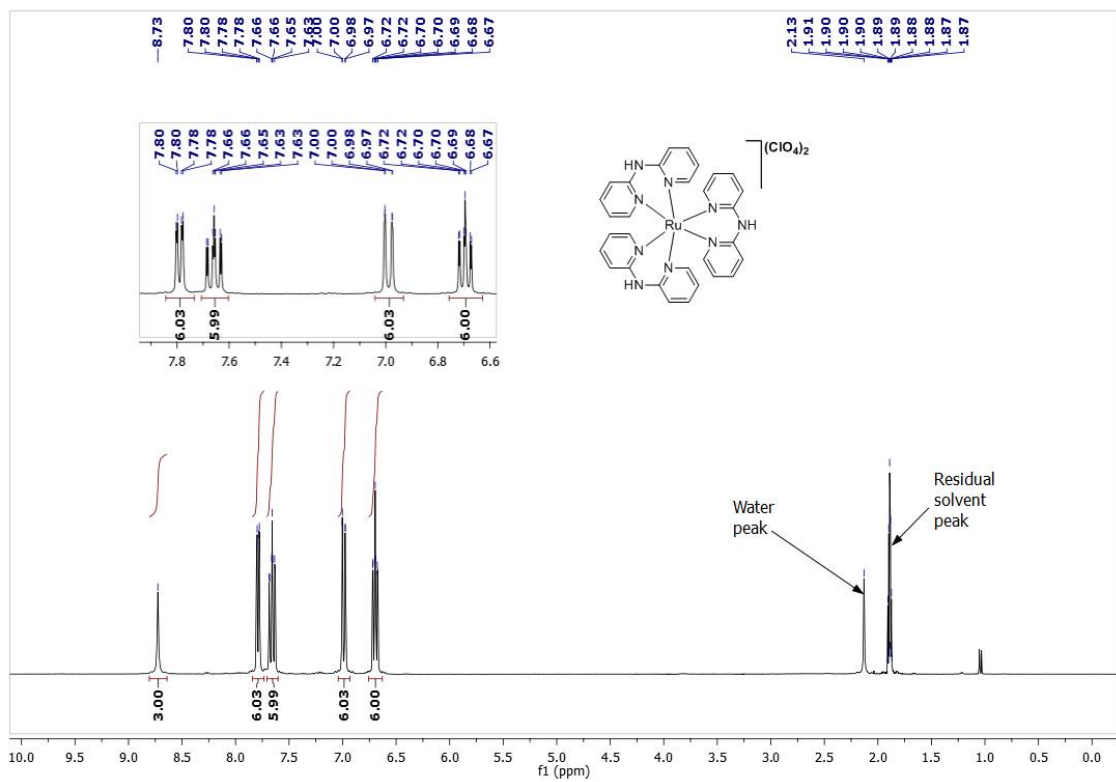
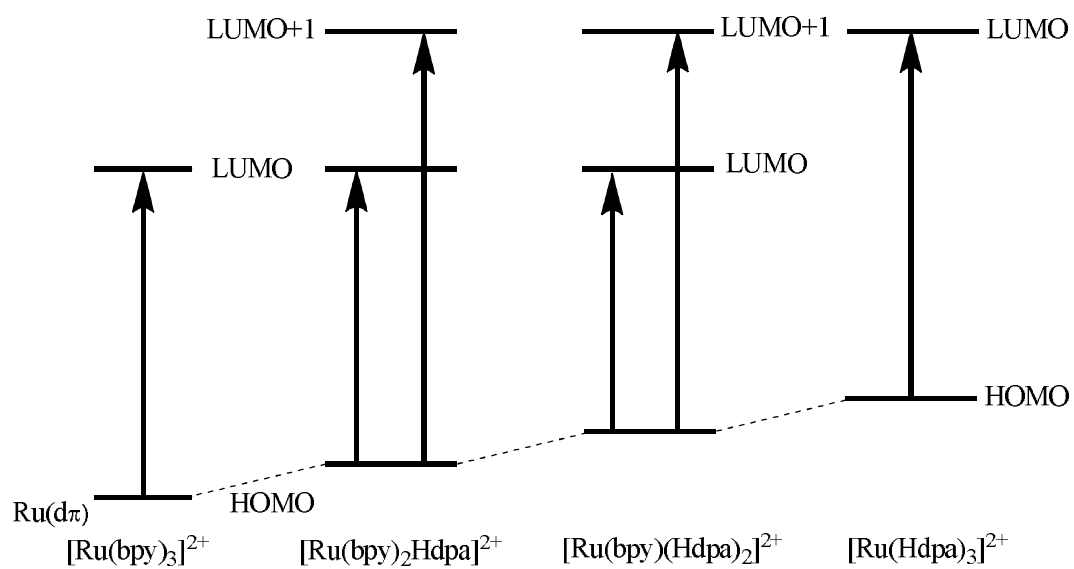


Fig. S3 <sup>1</sup>H NMR of receptor [2](ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> in CD<sub>3</sub>CN.

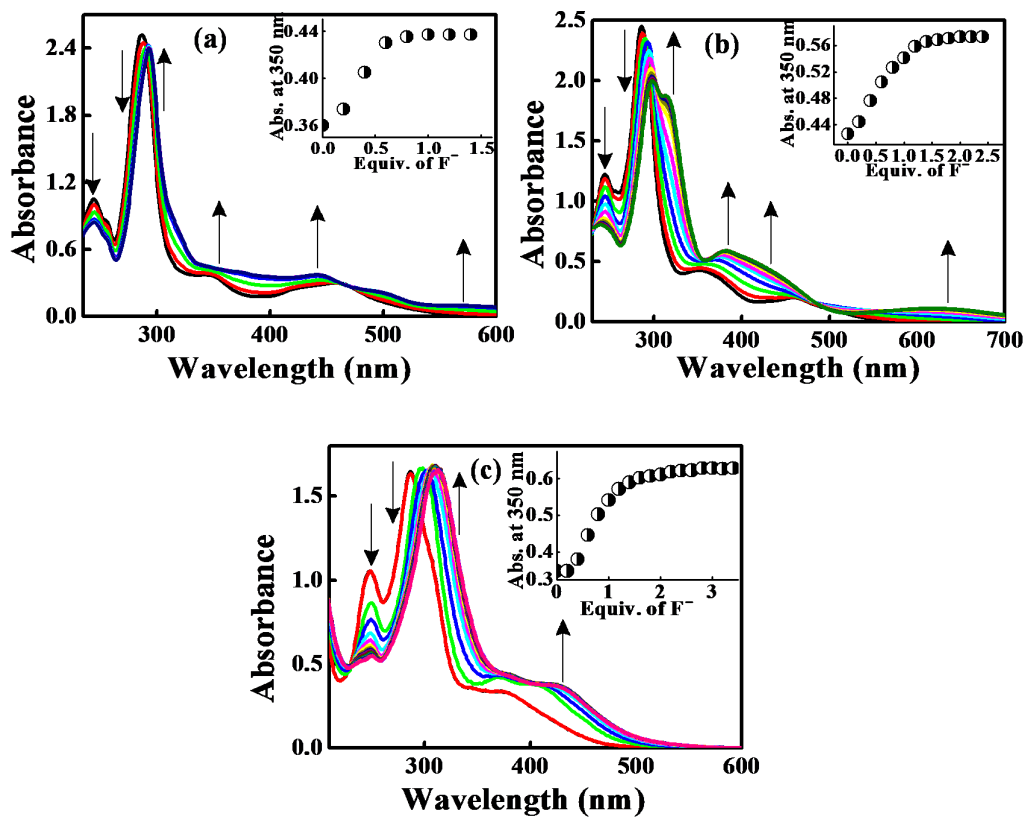


**Fig. S4**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of receptor  $[3](\text{ClO}_4)_2$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .

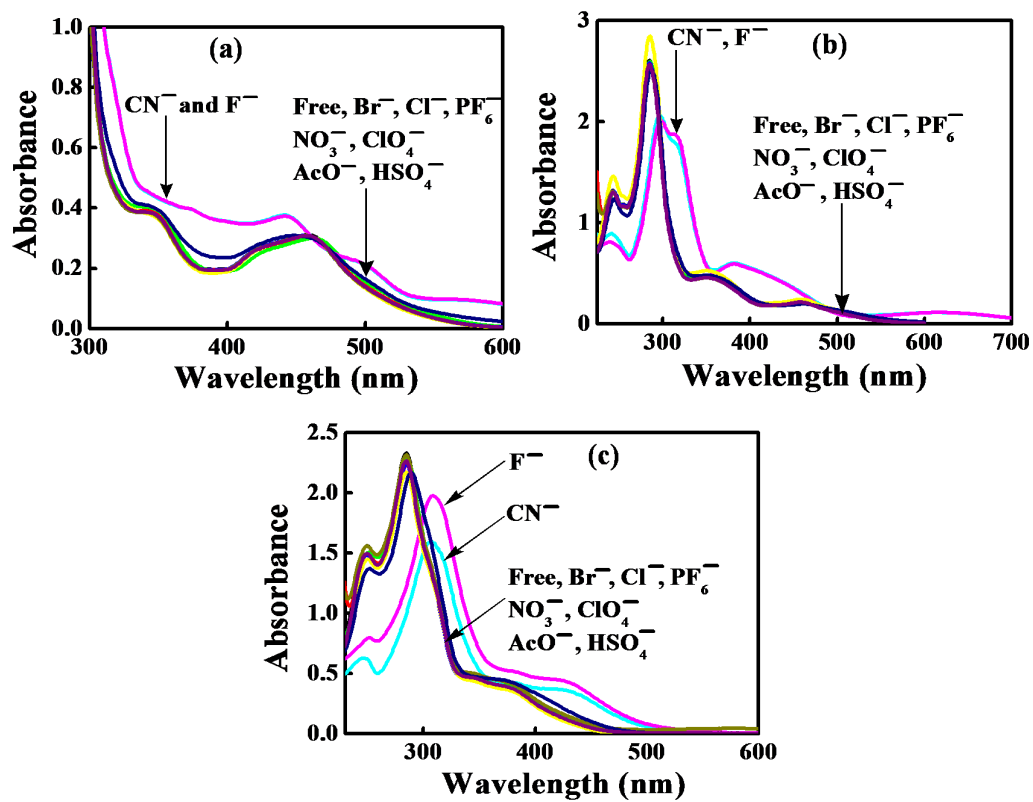




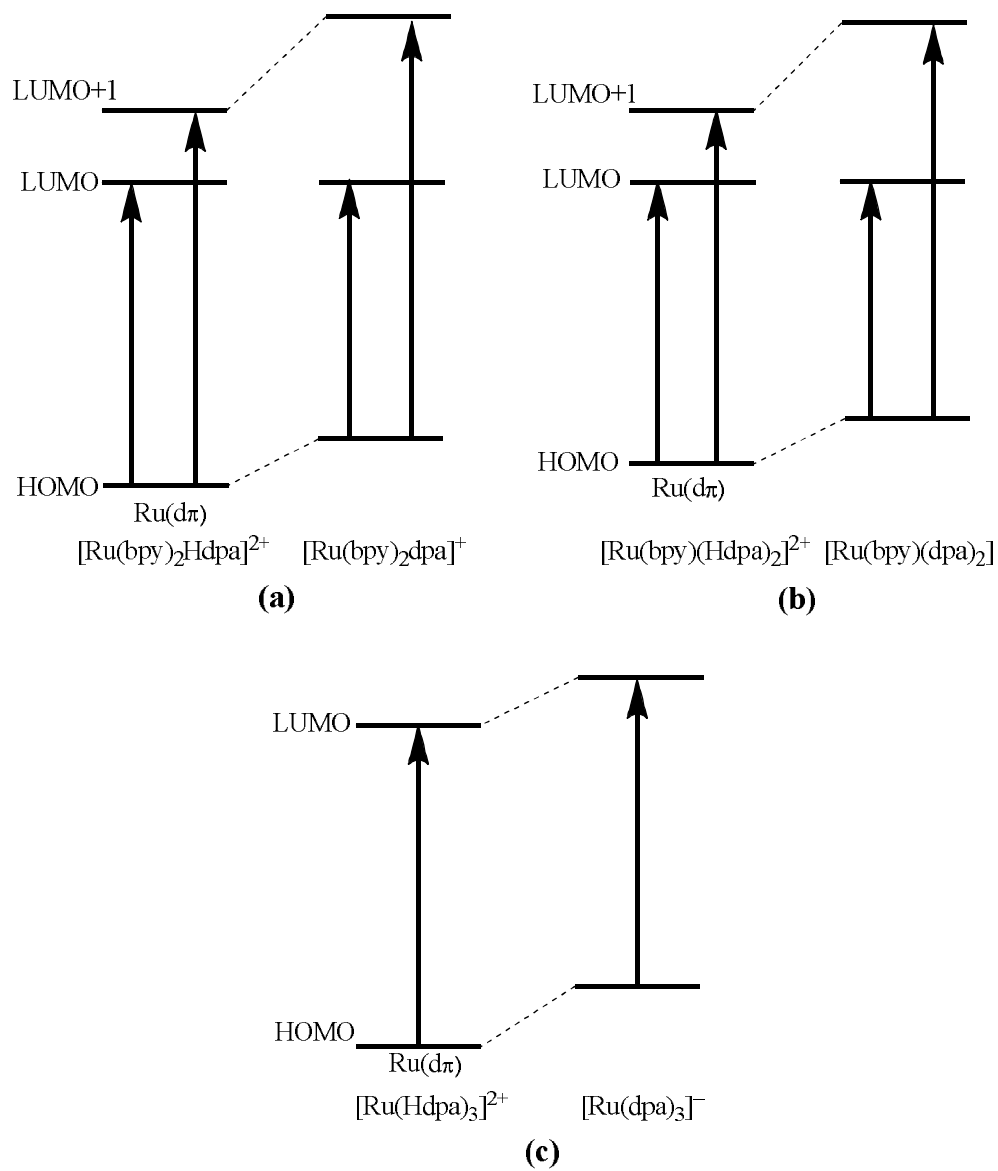
**Fig. S5** Qualitative schematic energy diagram for  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_{3-n}(\text{Hdpa})_n](\text{ClO}_4)_2$ , where  $n = 0-3$ .



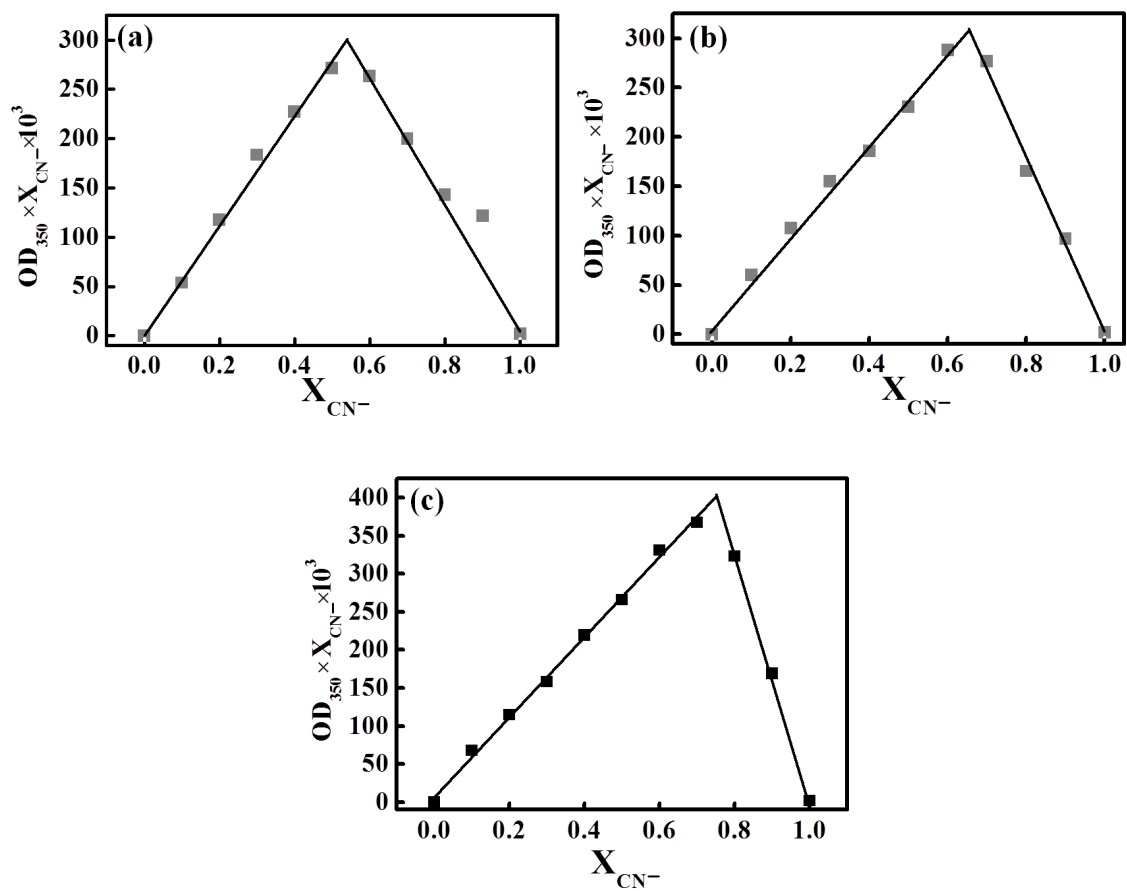
**Fig. S6** Changes in absorption spectra of receptor  $1^{2+}$  (a),  $2^{2+}$  (b) and  $3^{2+}$  (c) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN upon addition of F<sup>-</sup>. The inset shows the changes of absorbance as a function of the equivalents of F<sup>-</sup> added.



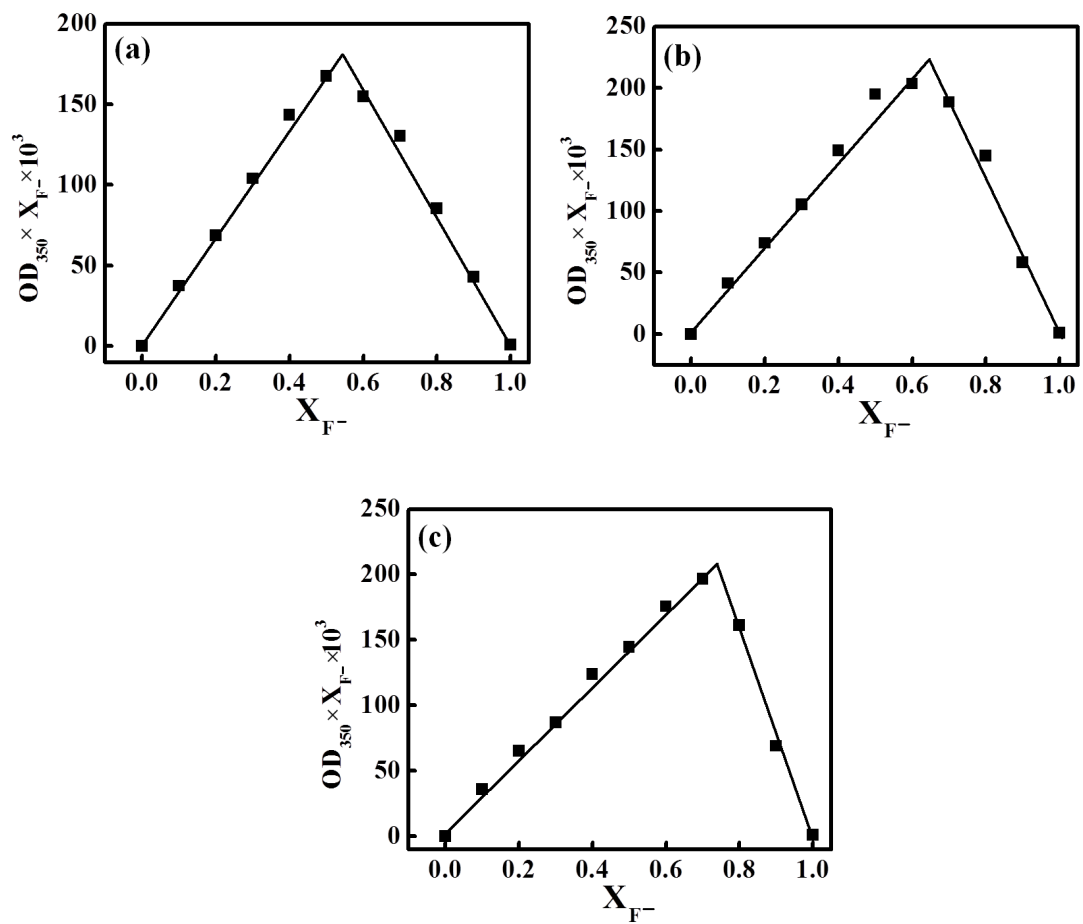
**Fig. S7** Changes in absorption spectra of receptor  $1^{2+}$  (a),  $2^{2+}$  (b) and  $3^{2+}$  (c) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  in addition of different anions as their TBA-salts.



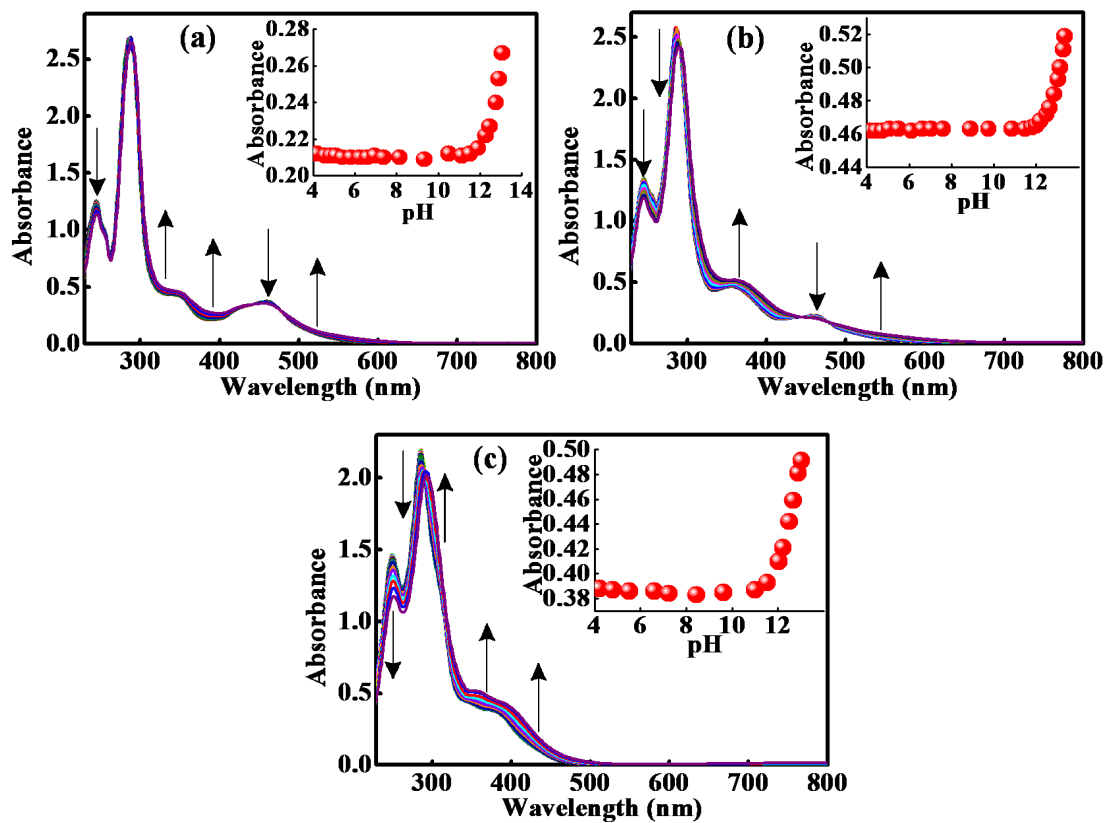
**Fig. S8** Qualitative energy diagram for  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_{3-n}(\text{Hdpa})_n](\text{ClO}_4)_2$ , where  $n = 1-3$ , with corresponding deprotonated complexes.



**Fig. S9** Job plots for the determination of the stoichiometry of  $1^{2+}$  (a),  $2^{2+}$  (b) and  $3^{2+}$  (c) with  $CN^-$  ion.



**Fig. S10** Job plots for the determination of the stoichiometry of  $1^{2+}$  (a),  $2^{2+}$  (b) and  $3^{2+}$  (c) with  $F^-$  ion.



**Fig. S11** Absorption spectra of (a)  $1^{2+}$  (b)  $2^{2+}$  and (c)  $3^{2+}$  as a function of pH in Britton-

Robinson aqueous universal buffer solution. Insets show the changes in absorbance

at (a) 398 nm for  $1^{2+}$ , (b) 360 nm for  $2^{2+}$  (c) 368 nm for  $3^{2+}$  with the pH.

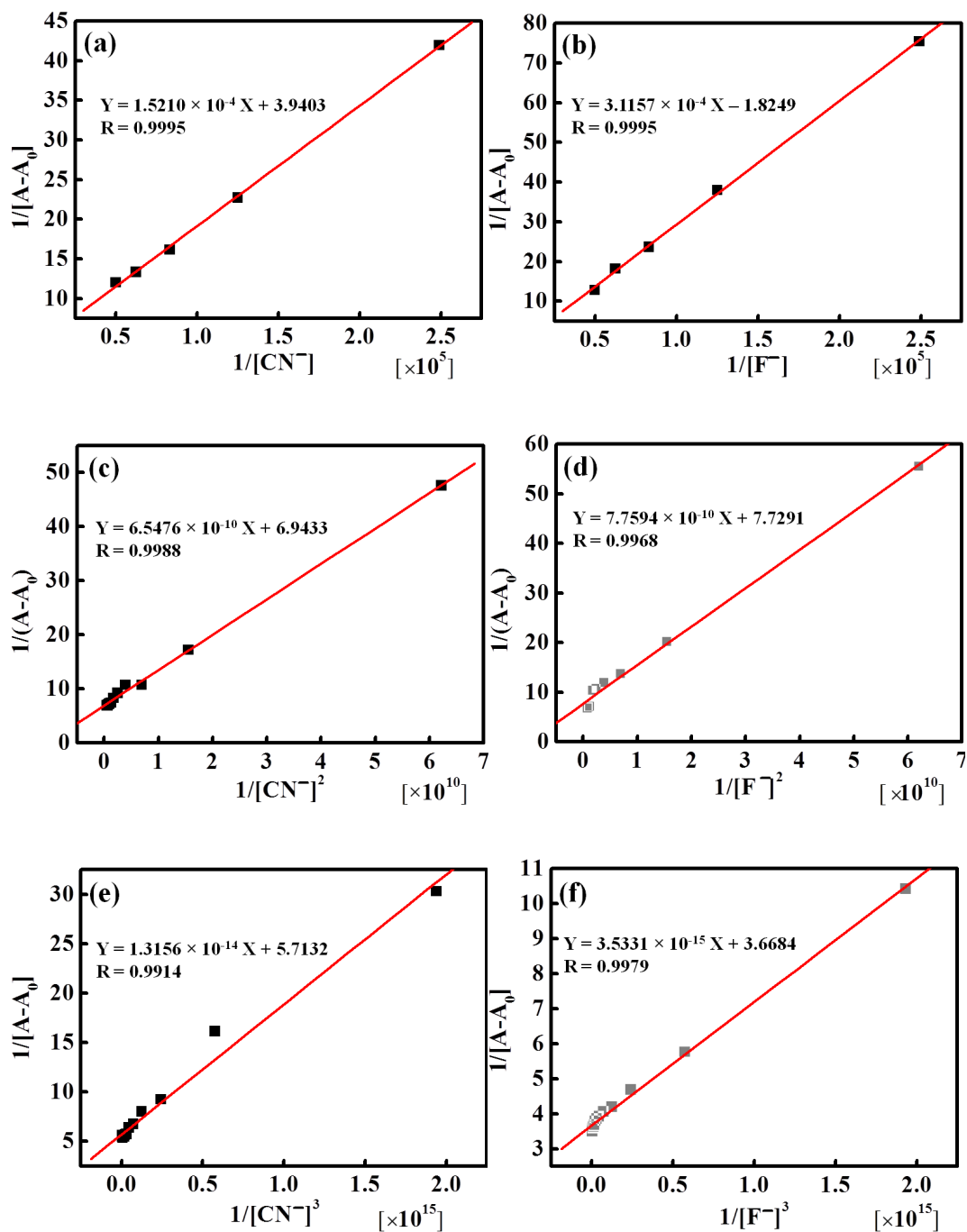
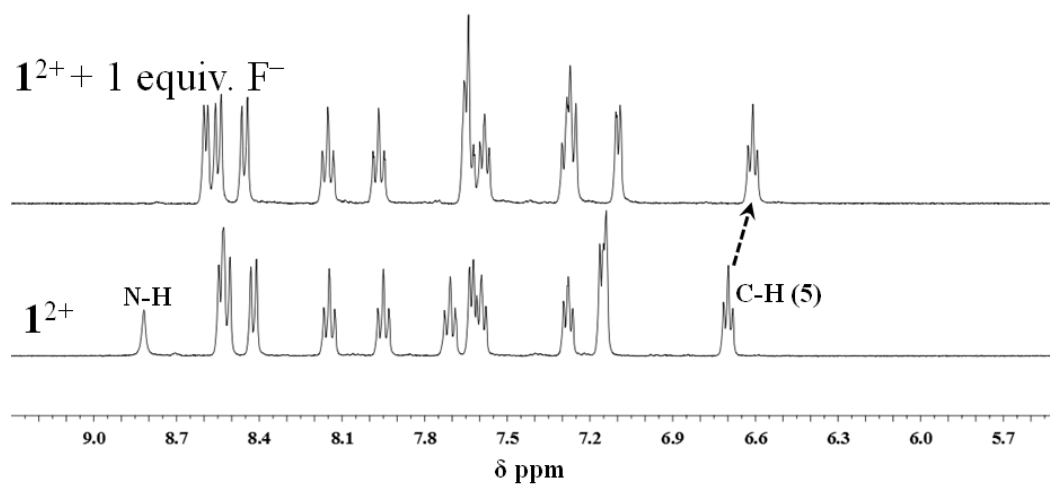
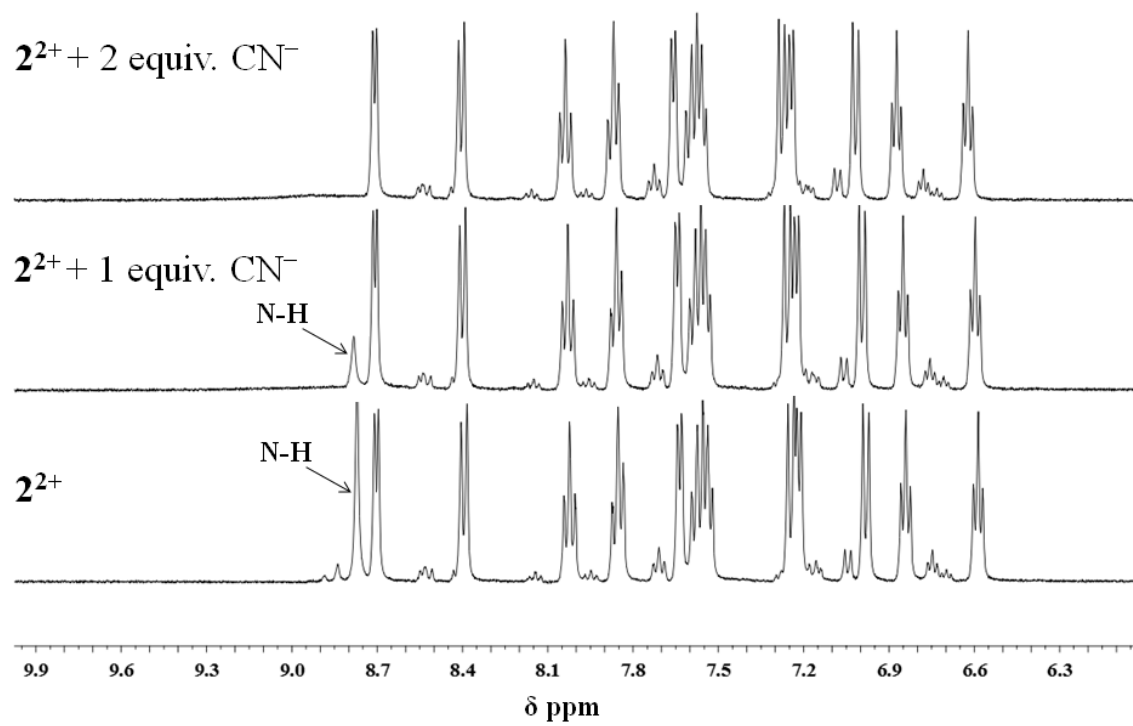


Fig. S12 Benesi-Hildebrand plots (a-f) of  $1^{2+}$ ,  $2^{2+}$  and  $3^{2+}$  with  $\text{CN}^-$  and  $\text{F}^-$ .

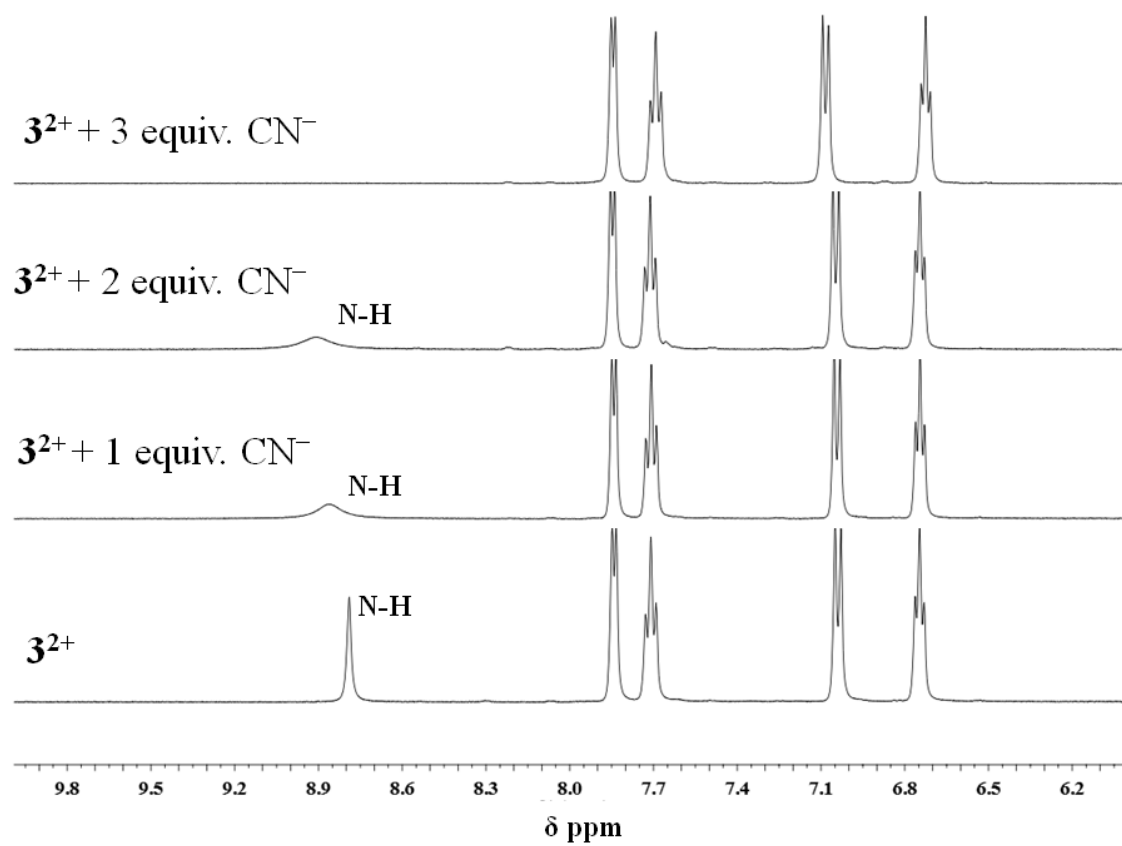




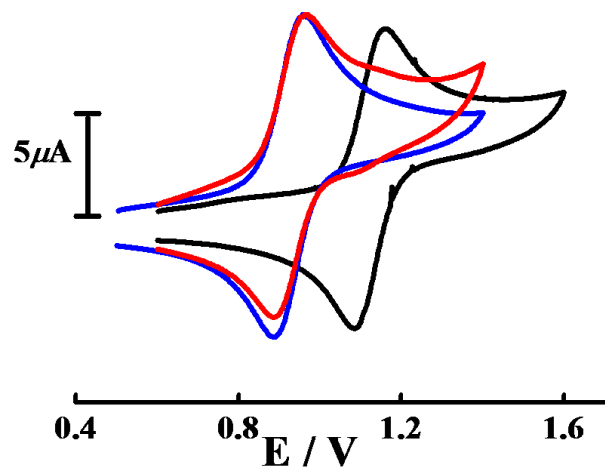
**Fig. S13**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of  $\mathbf{1}^{2+}$  in absence and presence of one equivalent of  $\text{F}^-$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .



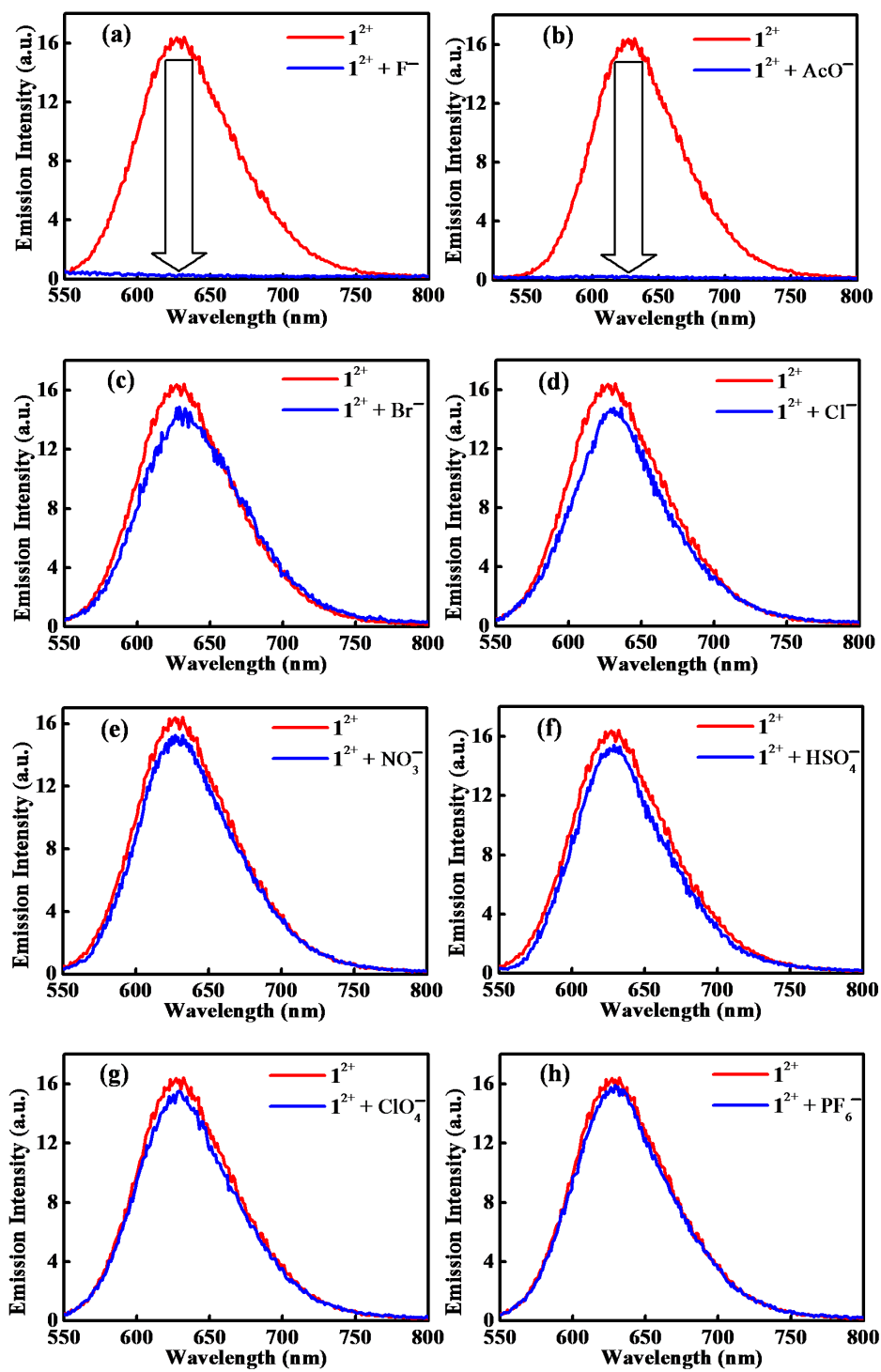
**Fig. S14**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration of  $2^{2+}$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  with the TBA salt of  $\text{CN}^-$  ion (0–2 equivalents).



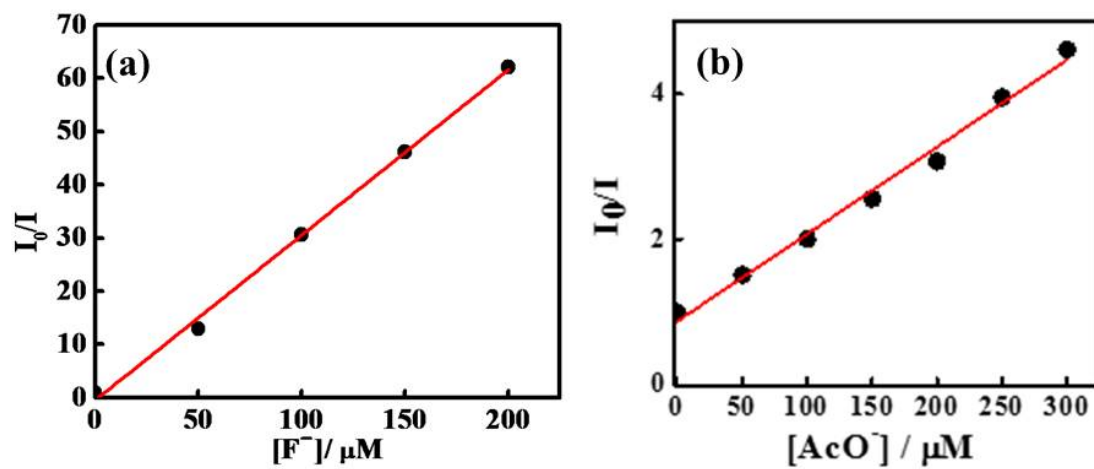
**Fig. S15**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration of  $3^{2+}$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  with the TBA salt of  $\text{CN}^-$  ion (0–3 equivalents).



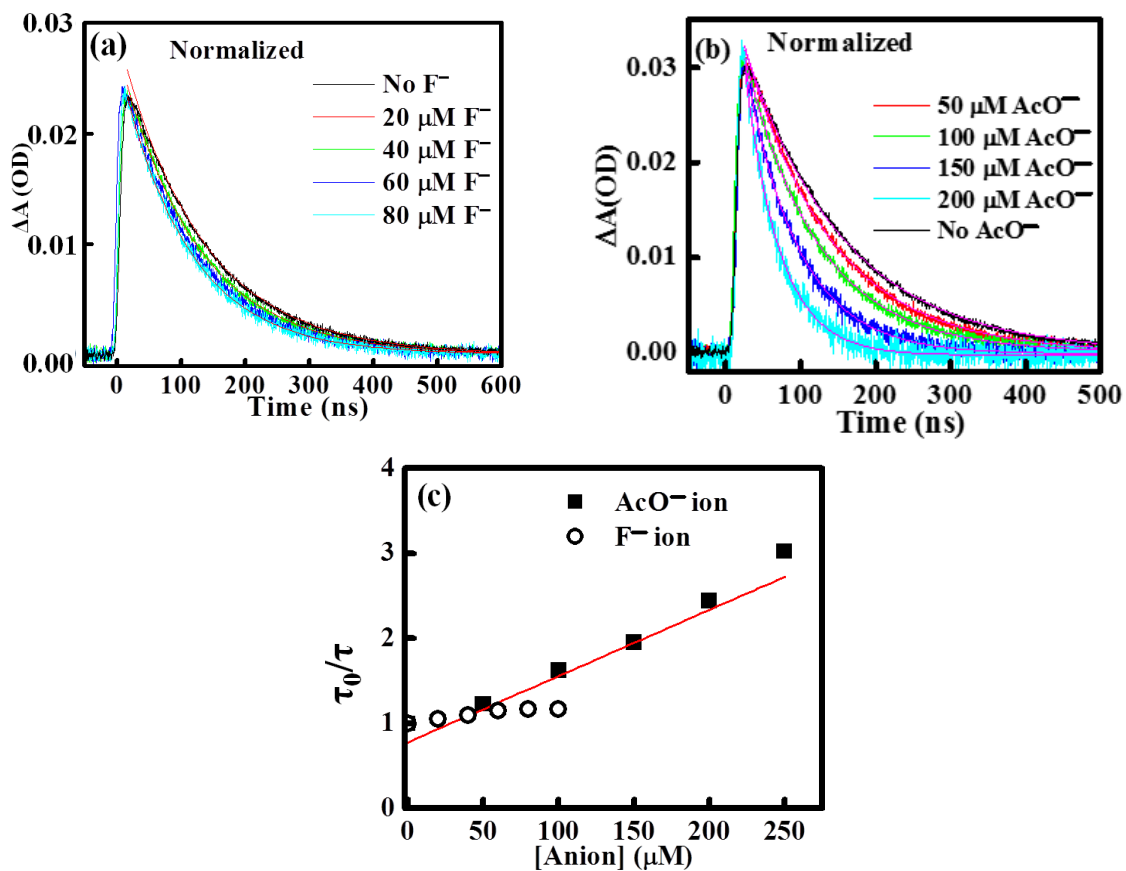
**Fig. S16** Cyclic voltammograms of  $1^{2+}$  (black),  $2^{2+}$  (red) and  $3^{2+}$  (blue) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ .



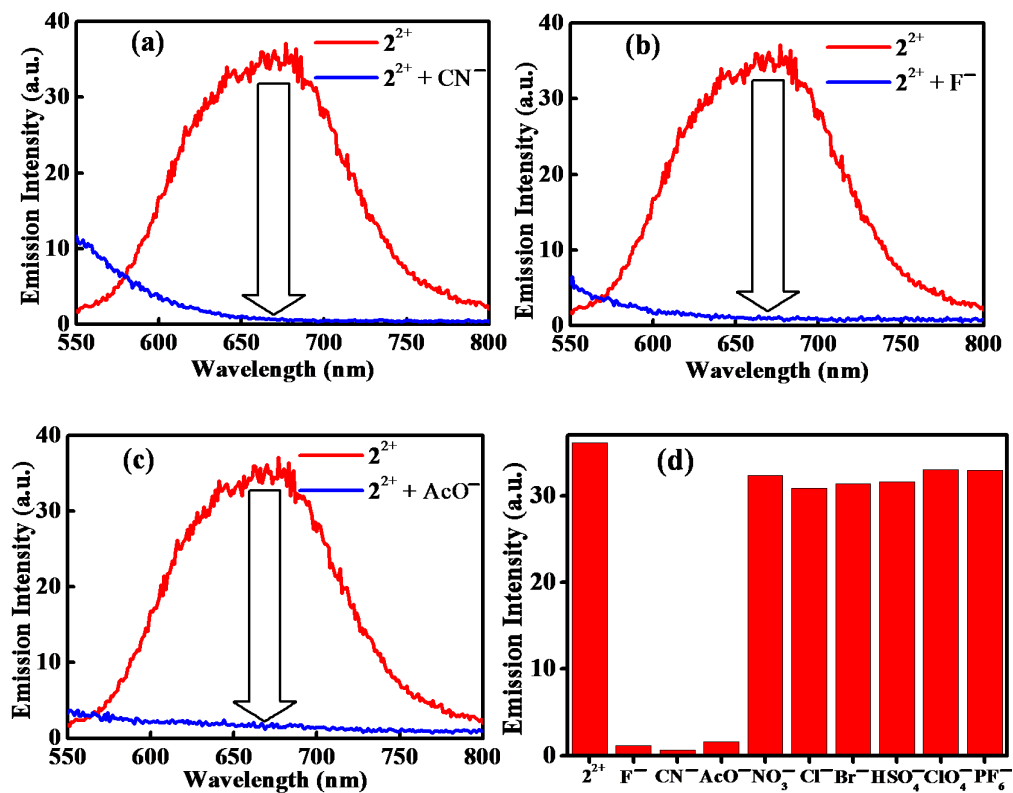
**Fig. S17** Changes in emission intensity of receptor  $1^{2+}$  upon addition of TBA-salts of different anions.



**Fig. S18** Stern-Volmer plots of [1](ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> with F<sup>-</sup> (a) and AcO<sup>-</sup> (b).



**Fig. S19** Emission kinetics (normalized at maxima) of complex [1](ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> in presence of F<sup>-</sup> (a) and AcO<sup>-</sup> (b) ion. (c) Plot of  $\tau_0/\tau$  versus concentration of anions (F<sup>-</sup> and AcO<sup>-</sup>).



**Fig. S20** Emission spectra of receptor  $2^{2+}$  in  $CH_3CN$  solution in the presence and absence of  $CN^{-}$  (a),  $F^{-}$  (b) and  $AcO^{-}$  (c) anions. (d) Relative emission intensity of receptor  $2^{2+}$  upon addition of  $F^{-}$ ,  $CN^{-}$ ,  $AcO^{-}$ ,  $NO_3^{-}$ ,  $Cl^{-}$ ,  $Br^{-}$ ,  $HSO_4^{-}$ ,  $ClO_4^{-}$  and  $PF_6^{-}$  ions in  $CH_3CN$  solution.



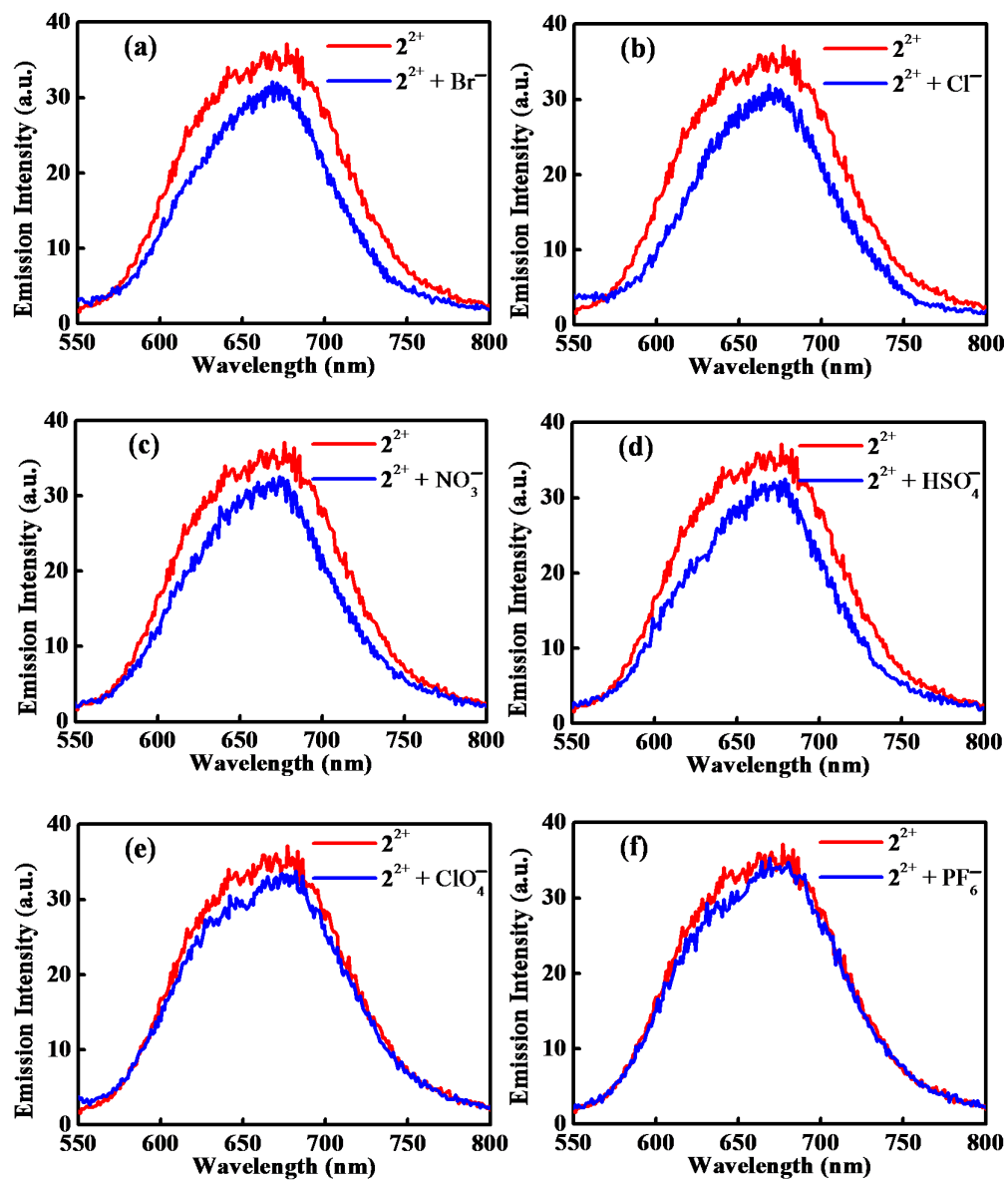


Fig. S21 Changes in emission spectra of receptor  $2^{2+}$  upon addition of different anions of TBA-salts.