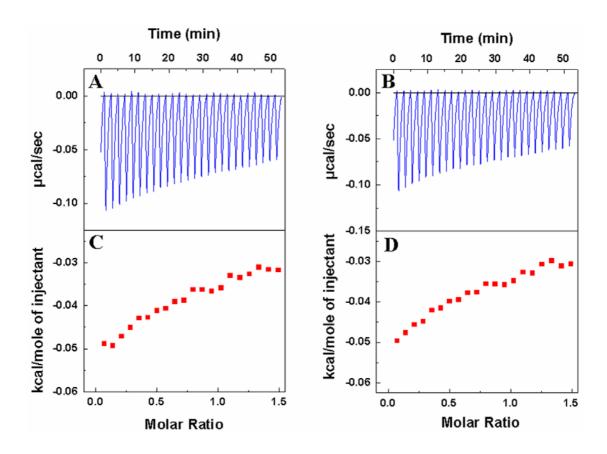
## **Supporting Information (S1):**



**S1.** (A & B) Isothermal titration calorimetric data recorded during successive injections of 10  $\mu$ l aqueous CaCl<sub>2</sub> (A) and MgCl<sub>2</sub> (B) solution (10<sup>-2</sup> M) into the titration cell containing 1.47 ml of water. (C & D) Binding isotherms obtained by integration of the raw data shown in the A and B respectively plotted as a function of the metal ion molar concentration in solution.