

## *Supplementary Information*

# **Supramolecular Spectral/Visual Detection of Urinary Polyamines through Synergetic/Competitive Complexation with $\gamma$ -CD and CB[7]**

Haoyu Tian,<sup>a</sup> Xingke Yu,<sup>a</sup> Jiabin Yao,<sup>a</sup> Guowei Gao,<sup>a</sup> Dan Su,<sup>a</sup> Zhihui Zhong,<sup>a</sup> Guo Cheng,<sup>a</sup> Wanhua Wu,<sup>\*a</sup> and Cheng Yang<sup>\*a</sup>

a. Key Laboratory of Green Chemistry & Technology of Ministry of Education, College of Chemistry, State Key Laboratory of Biotherapy, and Healthy Food Evaluation Research Center, Sichuan University, Chengdu 610064, China.

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## 1 General

### Chemicals and instruments

All of the chemicals used for synthesis were analytically pure and were used as received. Solvents were dried and distilled before use for synthesis. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded at room temperature on a Bruker AMX-400 (400 MHz) in CDCl<sub>3</sub> or DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> with TMS as an internal standard. HRMS were measured with a Waters-Q-TOF Premiers (ESI). UV-vis spectra were obtained on JASCO V-650. Fluorescence spectra were acquired using Fluoromax-4 spectrofluorometer. ITC data were acquired using VP-ITC.

## 2 Synthesis

**Py-1** 460 mg (2 mmol) of pyrene-1-carboxaldehyde was added to 80 mL of methanol, and then 670 μL (6 mmol) of p-aminobenzylamine was added. The reaction mixture was allowed to react overnight at room temperature. 80 mg (2 mmol) of sodium borohydride was added while the temperature of the flask was kept at 0 °C in an ice bath and then stirred for 3h after the addition at room temperature. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting solid was dissolved in dichloromethane and washed with water to remove the inorganic salt. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure again. The resulting solid was purified with silica gel chromatography to give pale yellow solid (yield: 71%).

**Py-2** 0.5 mL of triethylamine was added to a 250 mL-flask containing 444 mg (2 mmol) of 4-dimethylaminobenzylamine dihydrochloride and 100 mL ethanol. As the solid was dissolved completely, 690 mg (3 mmol) of pyrene-1-carboxaldehyde was added. The reaction mixture was allowed to react overnight at room temperature. 380 mg (10 mmol) of sodium borohydride was added while the temperature of the flask was kept to be 0 °C in an ice bath and then stirred for 3h at room temperature. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting solid was dissolved in dichloromethane and washed with water to remove the inorganic salt. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure again. The resulting solid was eluted with silica gel chromatography to give pale yellow solid (yield: 57%).

**Py-3** 460 mg (2 mmol) of pyrene-1-carboxaldehyde was added to 80 mL of methanol, and then 96 mg (0.7 mmol) of 2-aminonaphthalene was added. The reaction mixture was allowed to react overnight at room temperature. 100 mg (2.7 mmol) of sodium borohydride was added while the temperature of the flask was kept to be 0 °C in an ice bath and then stirred for 3h at room temperature. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting solid was dissolved in dichloromethane and washed with water to remove the inorganic salt. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure again. The resulting solid was eluted with silica gel chromatography to give pale yellow solid (yield: 65%).

**Py-4** 115 mg (0.5 mmol) of pyrene-1-carboxaldehyde was added to 80 mL of methanol and then 720 mg (5 mmol) of 1,8-diaminooctane was added. The reaction mixture was allowed to react overnight at room temperature. 190 mg (5 mmol) of sodium borohydride was added while the temperature of the flask was kept to be 0 °C in an ice bath and then stirred for 3h at room temperature. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting solid was dissolved in dichloromethane and washed with water to remove the inorganic salt. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure again. The resulting solid was eluted with silica gel chromatography to give pale yellow solid (yield: 81%).

### 3 NMR and HRMS spectra

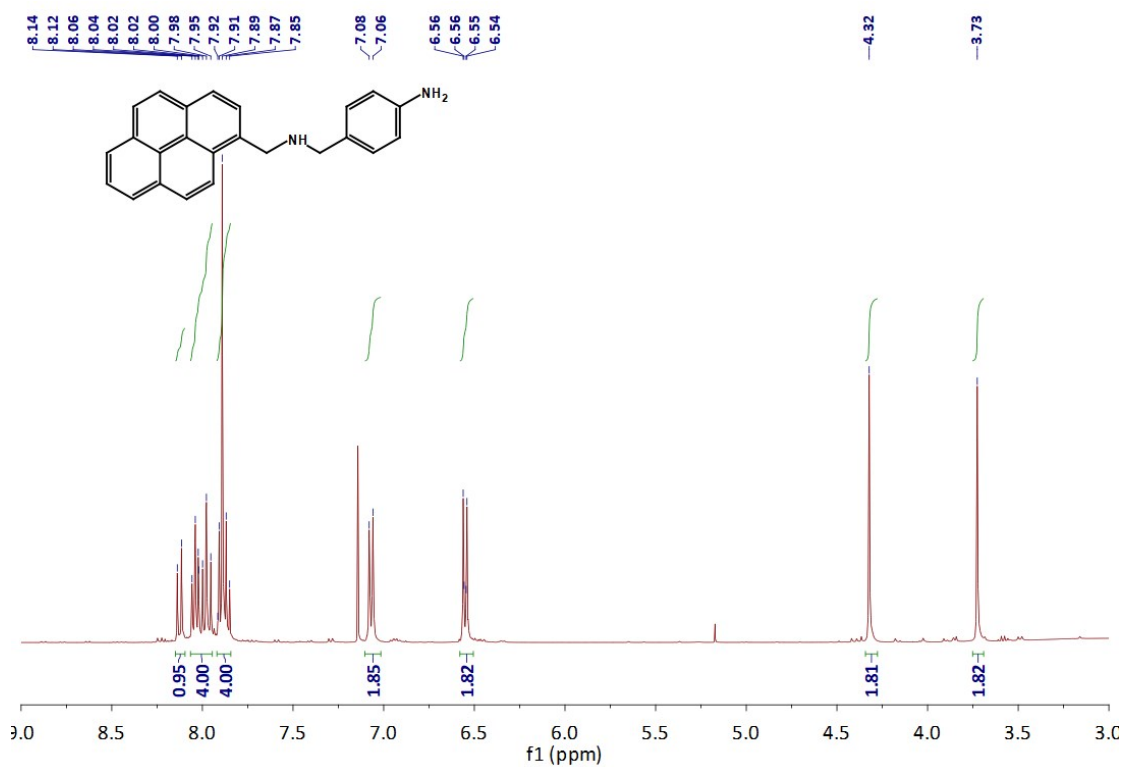


Figure S1  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (400 MHz, chloroform-*d*, room temperature) of Py-1.

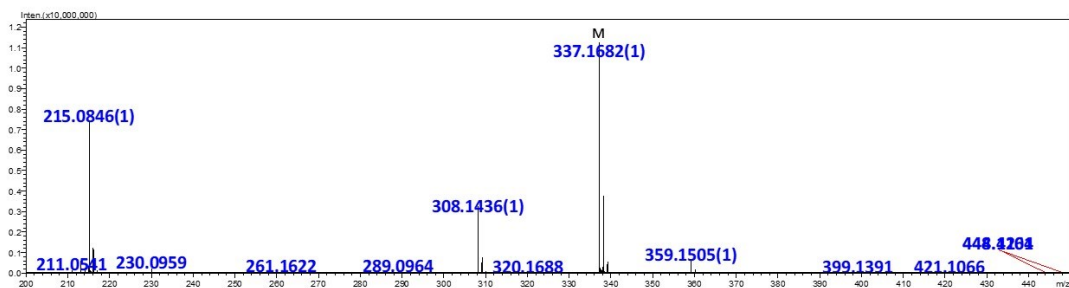


Figure S2 Mass spectrum of Py-1. Assignment of main peaks:  $m/z$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , 337.170, found: 337.1682.

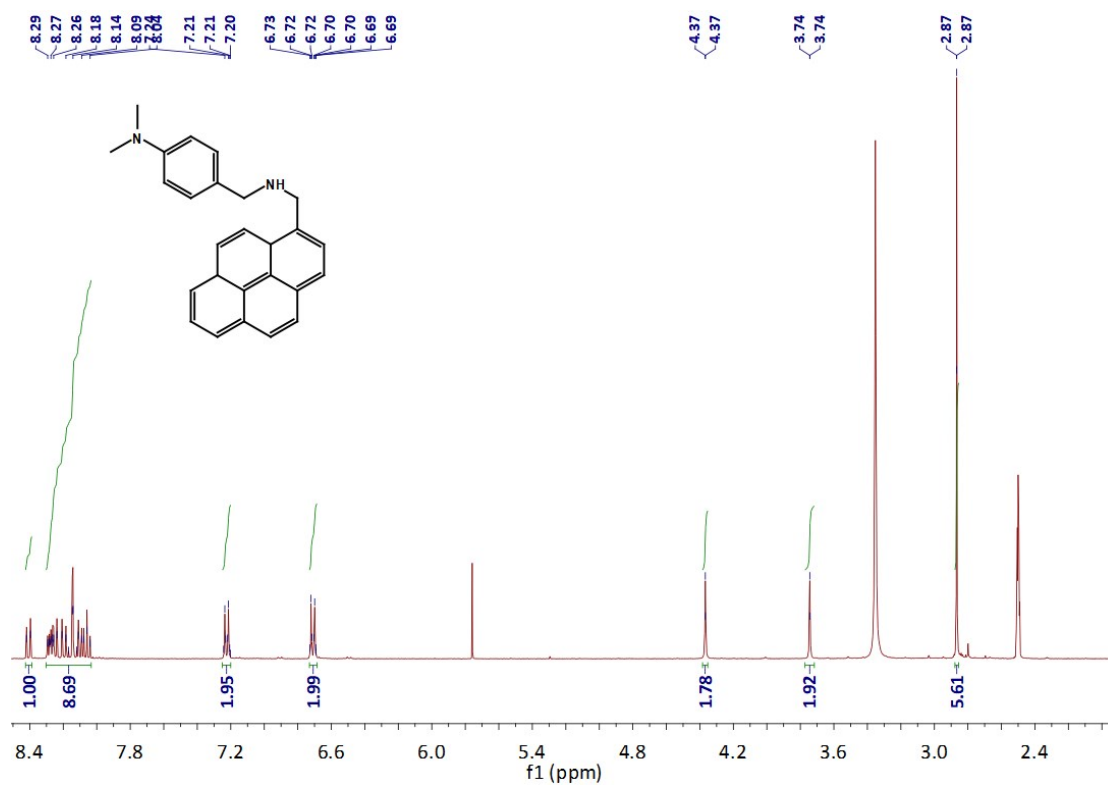


Figure S3  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (400 MHz, dimethyl sulfoxide- $d_6$ , room temperature) of Py-2.

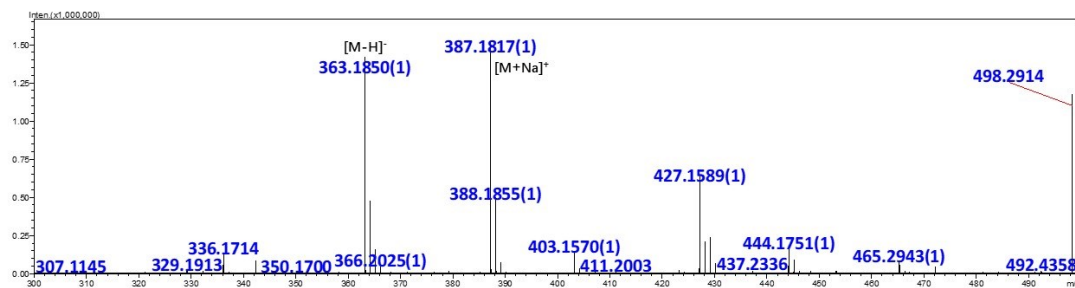


Figure S4 Mass spectrum of Py-2. Assignment of main peaks:  $m/z$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , 387.184, found: 387.1817.

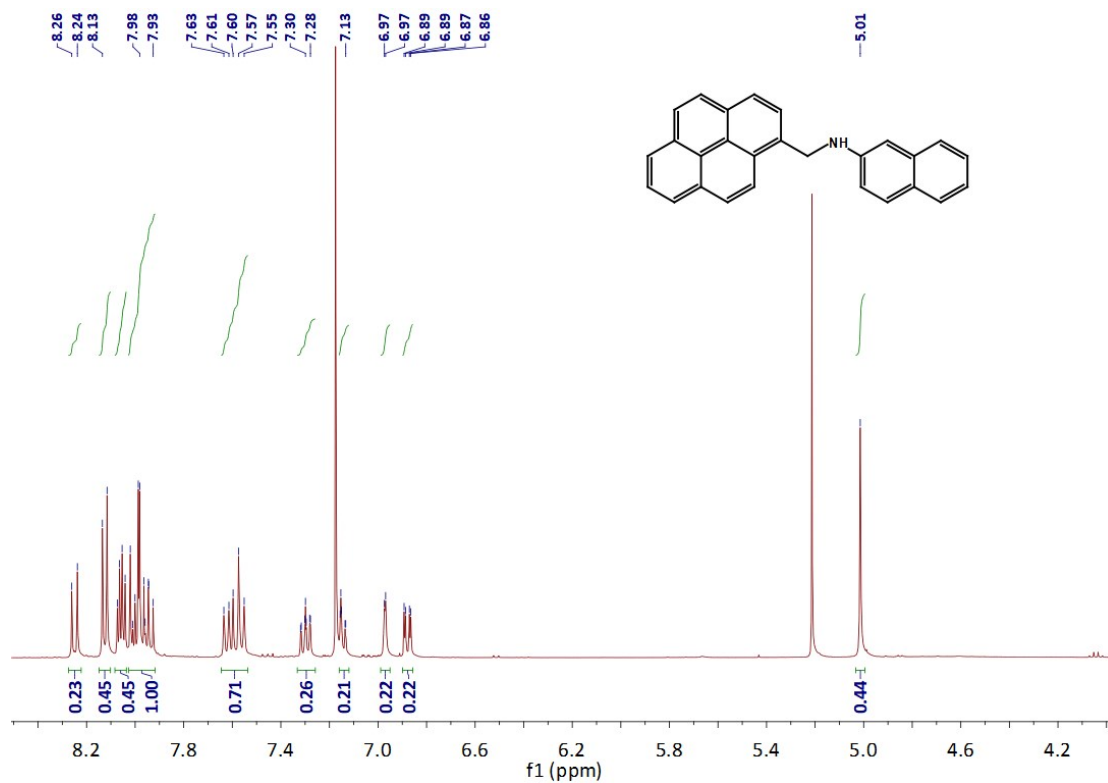


Figure S5 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, chloroform-*d*, room temperature) of Py-3.

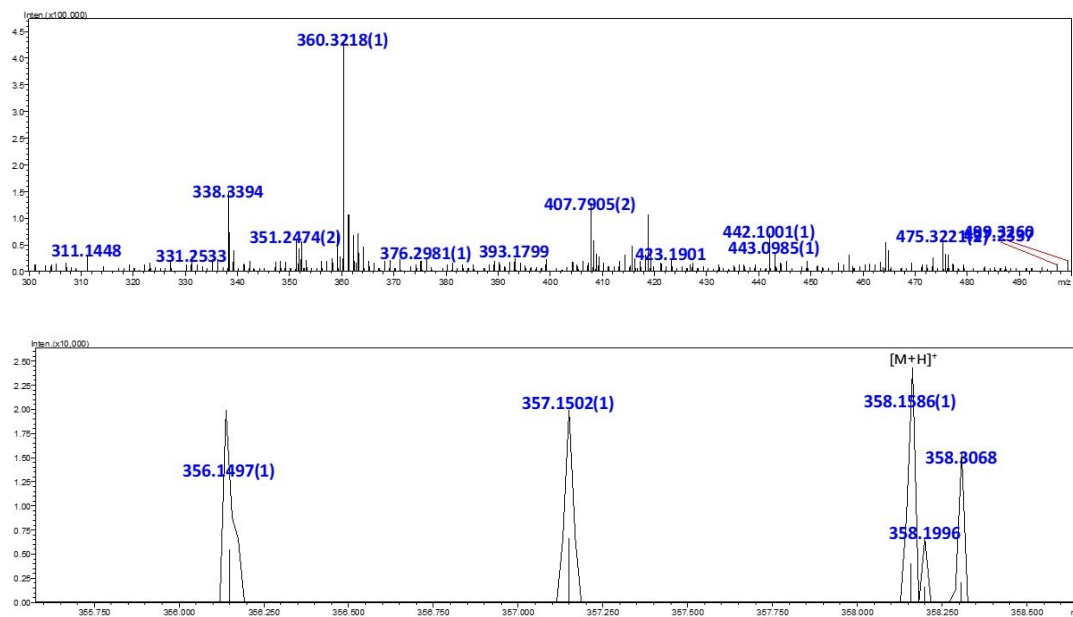


Figure S6 Mass spectrum of Py-3. Assignment of main peaks:  $m/z$  [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, 358.160, found: 358.1586.

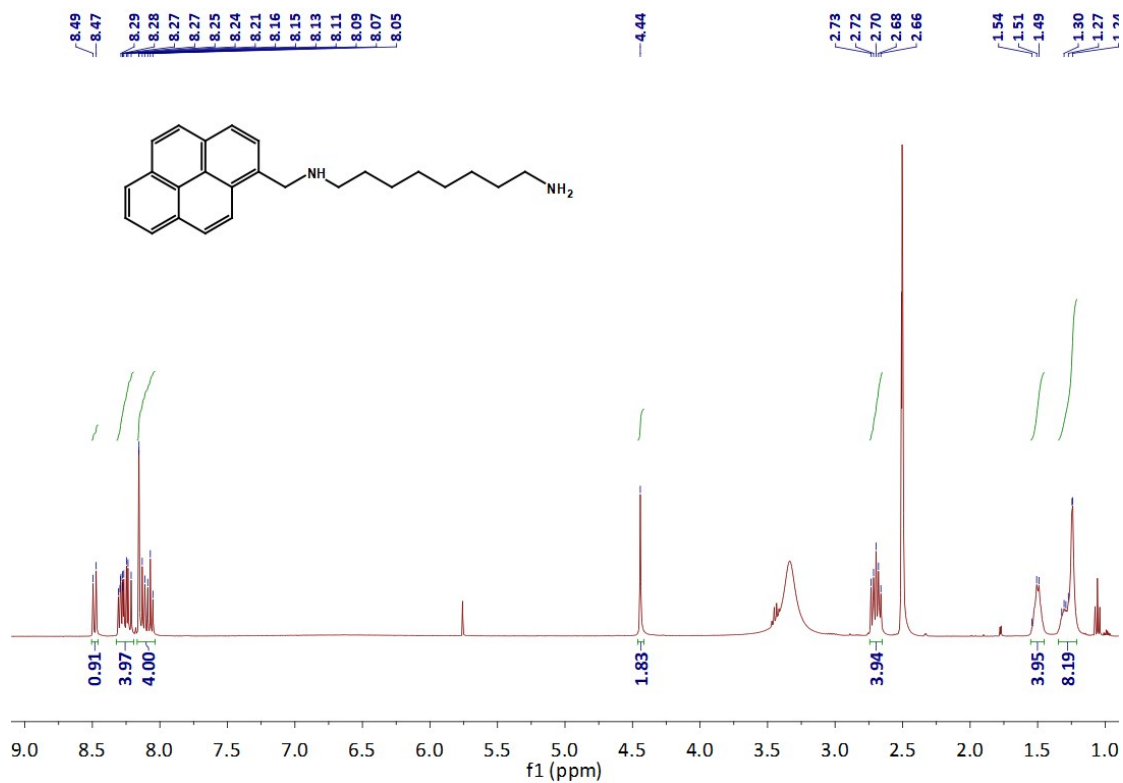


Figure S7  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (400 MHz, dimethyl sulfoxide- $d_6$ , room temperature) of Py-4.

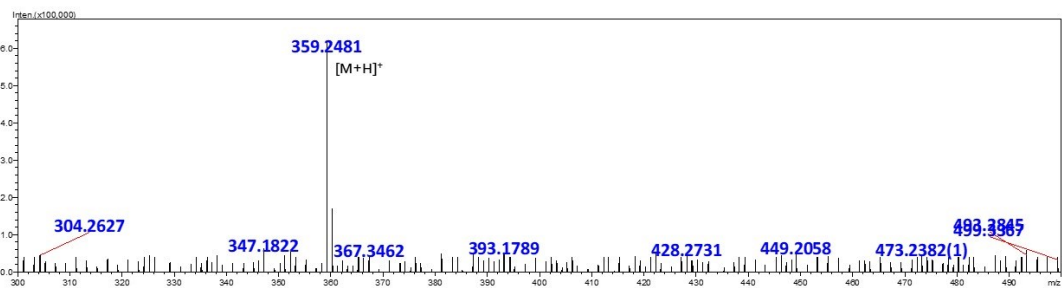


Figure S8 Mass spectrum of Py-4. Assignment of main peaks:  $m/z$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , 359.249, found: 359.2481.

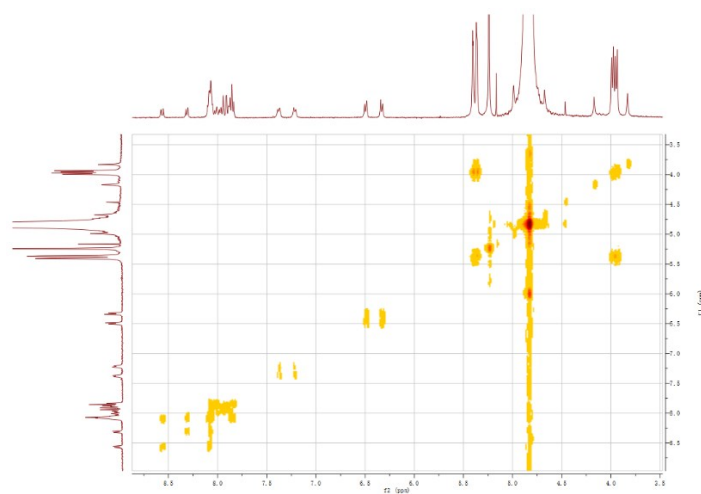


Figure S9 Correlation spectroscopy of inclusion compound composed by Py-1 (1 mM) and CB[7] (0.5 mM) (5% DCl with 25% DMSO- $d_6$  in it, 400 MHz).

## 4 Isothermal Titration Calorimetry

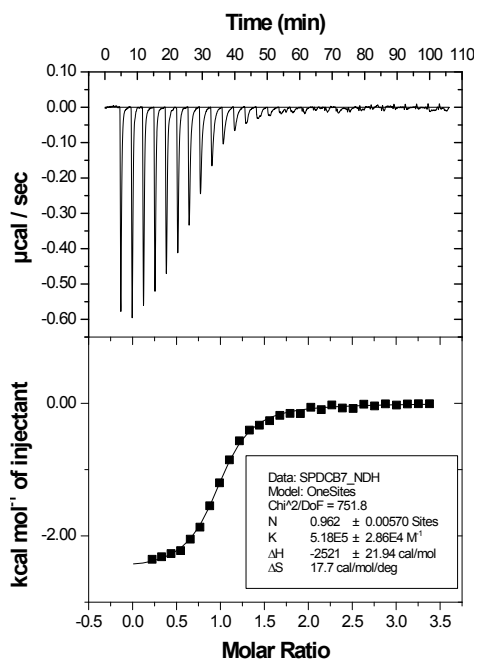


Figure S10 ITC data for the titration of 0.05 mM CB[7] solution by 0.75 mM spermidine solution in a borate buffer (pH 9).

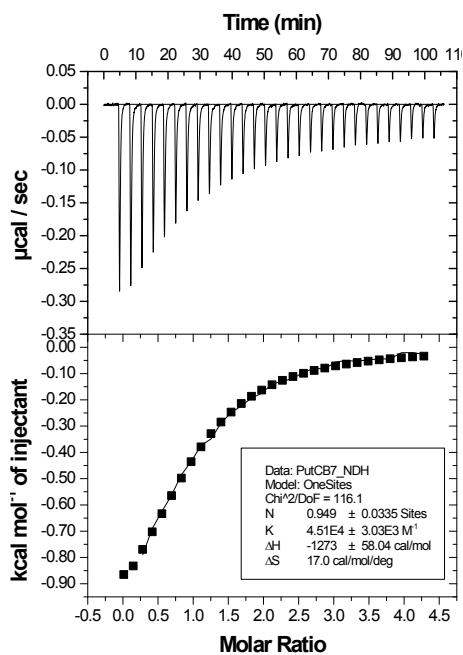
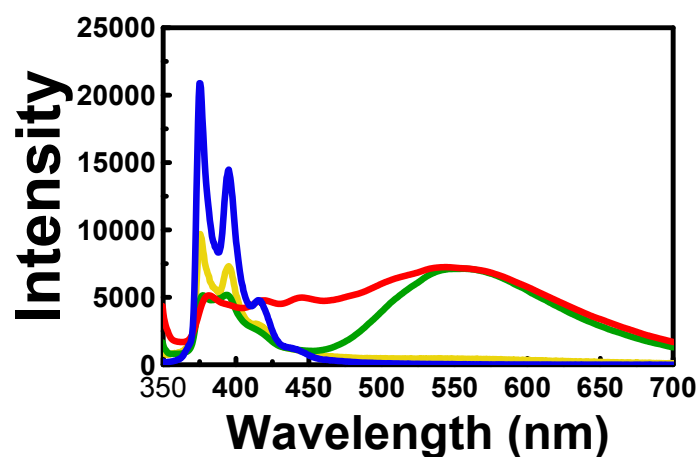
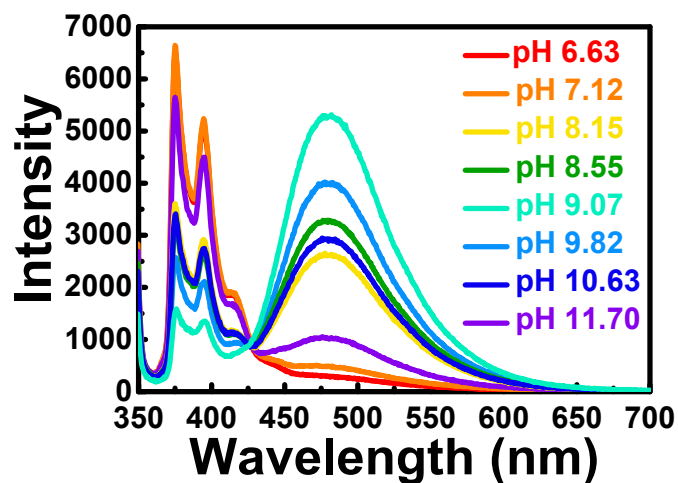


Figure S11 ITC data for the titration of 0.05 mM CB[7] solution by 0.95 mM putrescine solution in a borate buffer (pH 9).

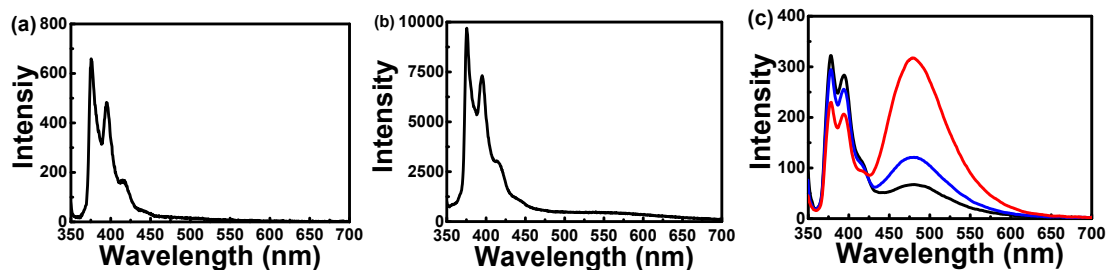
## 5 Fluorescence spectra of host and guest binding complexes



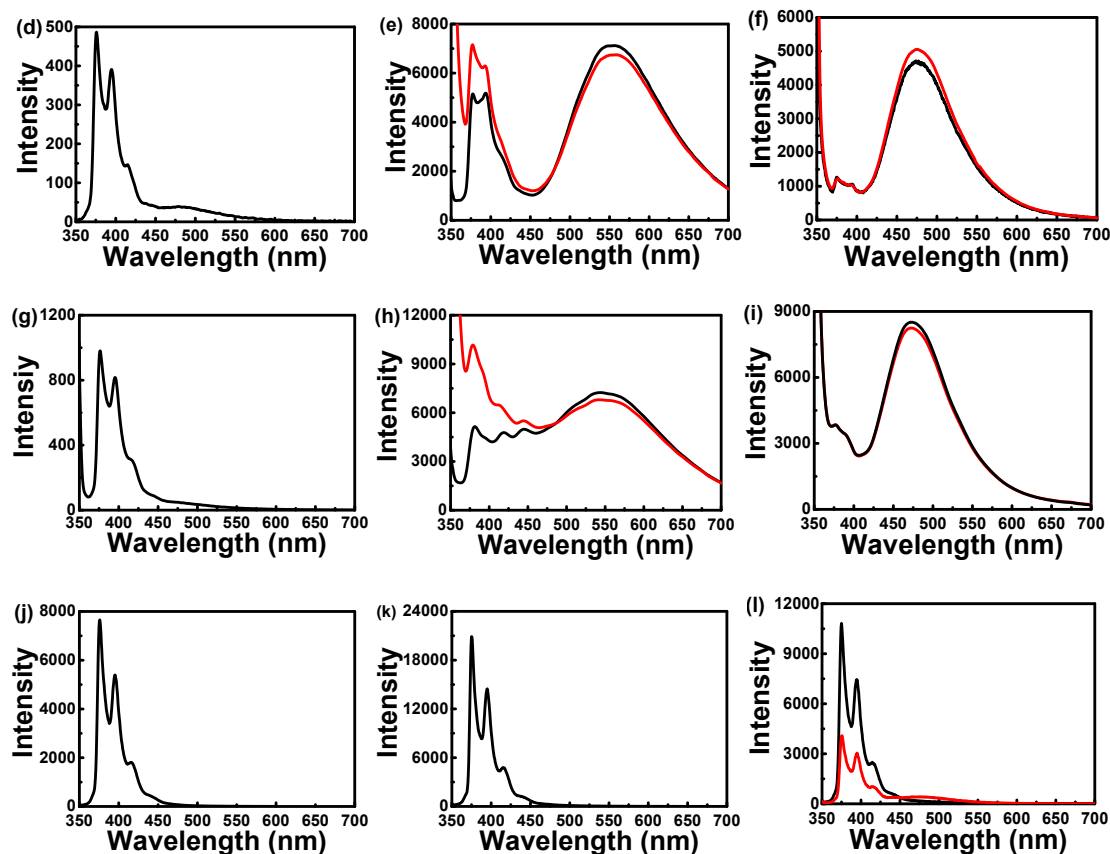
*Figure S12* The fluorescence emission spectra of 10  $\mu\text{M}$  Py-1 (yellow), Py-2 (green), Py-3 (red) and Py-4 (blue) in ethanol solution measured at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 340$  nm.



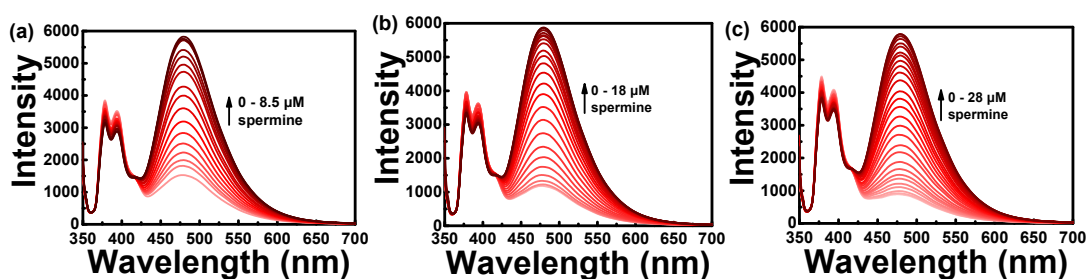
*Figure S13* Fluorescence spectra of 10  $\mu\text{M}$  Py-1 as a function of pH in the presence of 5 mM  $\gamma\text{-CD}$  at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 340$  nm.



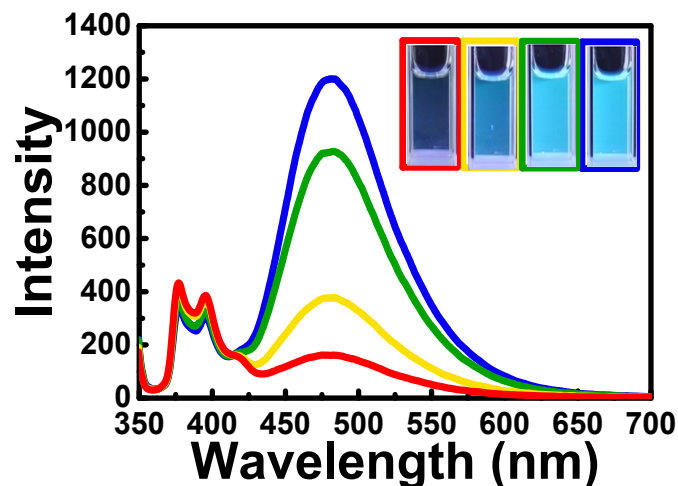




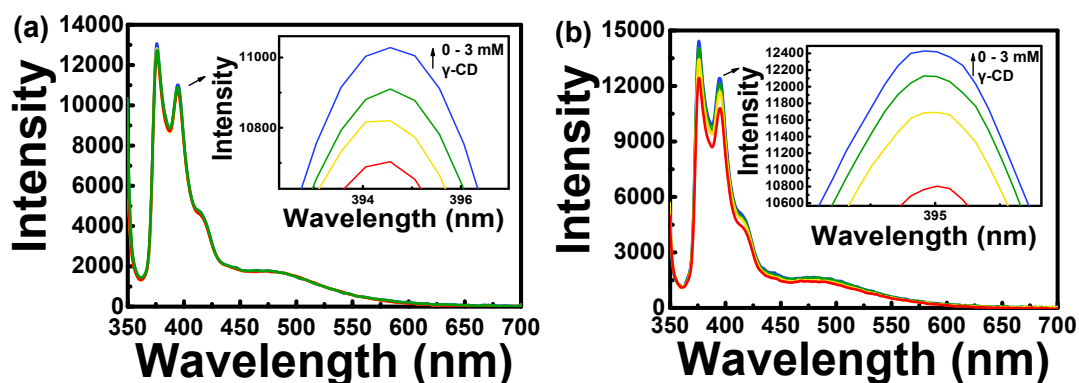
**Figure S14.** (a) Fluorescence spectra of **Py-1** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in ethyl acetate at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 340 \text{ nm}$ . (b) Fluorescence spectra of **Py-1** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in methanol at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 340 \text{ nm}$ . (c) Fluorescence spectra of **Py-1** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in absence (black) of any host and in the presence (red and then blue) of  $\gamma\text{-CD}$  (5 mM) and then  $\gamma\text{-CD}$  (5 mM) & **CB[7]** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in ultra pure water at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 340 \text{ nm}$ . (d) Fluorescence spectra of **Py-2** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in ethyl acetate at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 340 \text{ nm}$ . (e) Fluorescence spectra of **Py-2** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in absence (black) and presence (red) of **CB[7]** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in methanol at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 340 \text{ nm}$ . (f) Fluorescence spectra of **Py-2** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in absence (black) and presence (red) of **CB[7]** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in ultra pure water at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 340 \text{ nm}$ . (g) Fluorescence spectra of **Py-3** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in ethyl acetate at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 340 \text{ nm}$ . (h) Fluorescence spectra of **Py-3** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in absence (black) and presence (red) of **CB[7]** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in methanol at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 340 \text{ nm}$ . (i) Fluorescence spectra of **Py-3** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in absence (black) and presence (red) of **CB[7]** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in ultra pure water at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 340 \text{ nm}$ . (j) Fluorescence spectra of **Py-4** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in ethyl acetate at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 340 \text{ nm}$ . (k) Fluorescence spectra of **Py-4** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in methanol at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 340 \text{ nm}$ . (l) Fluorescence spectra of **Py-4** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in absence (black) and presence (red) of  $\gamma\text{-CD}$  (5  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in ultra pure water at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 340 \text{ nm}$ .



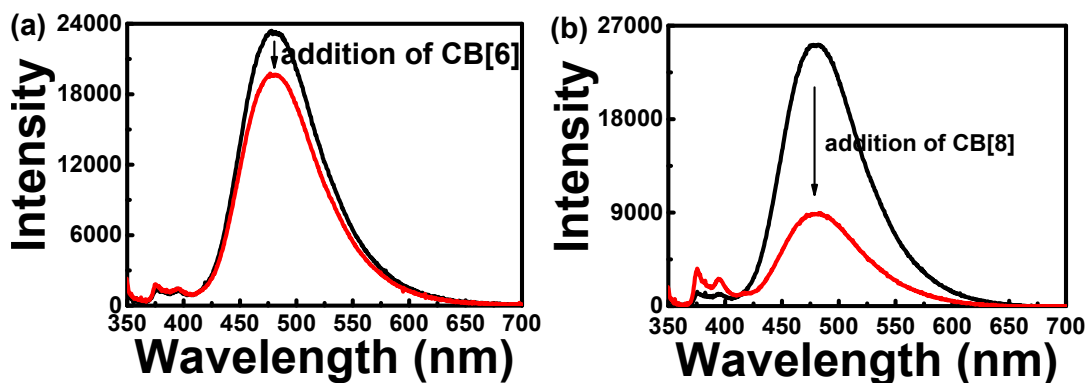
**Figure S15.** Excimer emission of **Py-1** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) quenched by **CB[7]** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) (a); 20  $\mu\text{M}$  (b); 30  $\mu\text{M}$  (c) and recovered by spermine in a borate buffer (pH 9) containing 5 mM  $\gamma\text{-CD}$  at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 340 \text{ nm}$ .



**Figure S16** Fluorescence spectra of the solution containing 10  $\mu\text{M}$  Py-1, 5 mM  $\gamma\text{-CD}$  and 30  $\mu\text{M}$  CB[7] in the absence (red) and presence of urinary polyamines of healthy concentrations (yellow), urinary polyamines of solid tumor concentrations (green) and urinary polyamines of blood tumor concentrations (blue) in a borate buffer (pH 9) at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 340$  nm (urinary polyamines of healthy concentrations, solid tumor concentrations and blood tumor concentrations refer to Table S1).<sup>28</sup> Insets are the photographs of the corresponding samples.



**Figure S17** Fluorescence spectra of 10  $\mu\text{M}$  Py-1 as a function  $\alpha\text{-CD}$  (a) or  $\beta\text{-CD}$  (b) (at pH 9.0 borate buffer solution) at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 340$  nm.



**Figure S18** Emission spectral change of 10  $\mu\text{M}$  Py-1 in the presence of 5 mM  $\gamma\text{-CD}$  upon addition of 10  $\mu\text{M}$  CB[6] (a) or 10  $\mu\text{M}$  CB[8] (b) in a borate buffer (pH 9) at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 340$  nm.