

## Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) for:

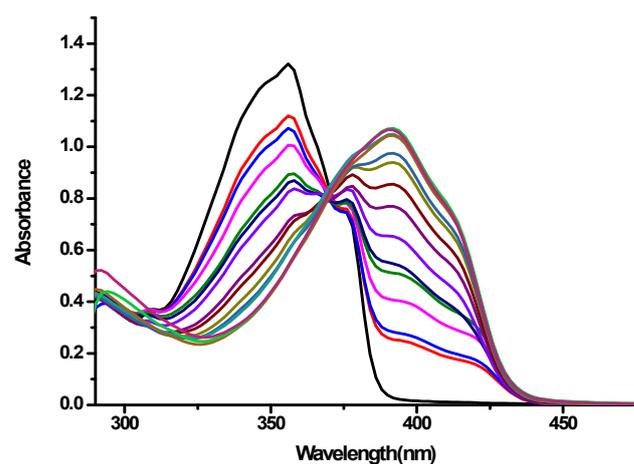
### Simple and Sensitive Colorimetric Sensors for the Selective Detection of Cu(II)

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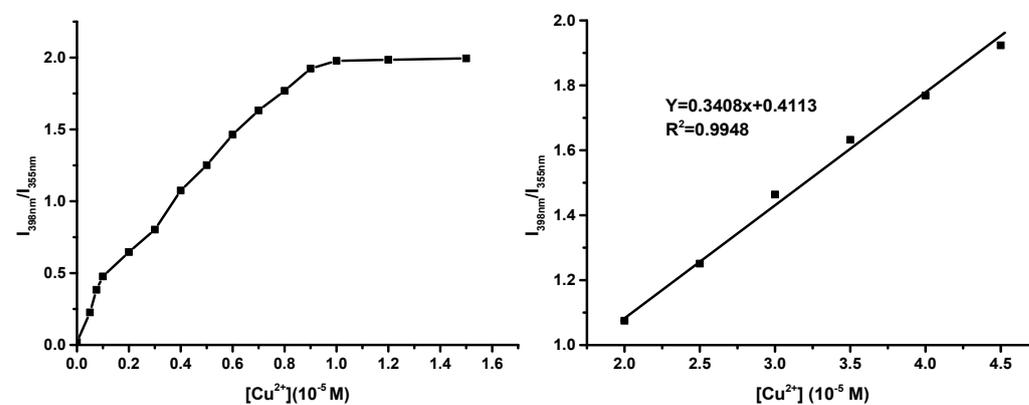
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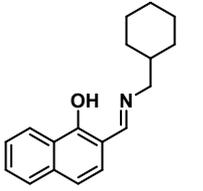
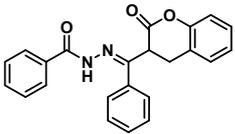
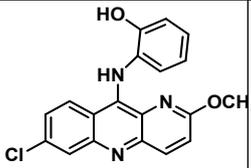
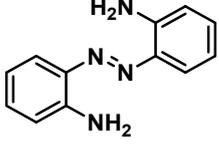
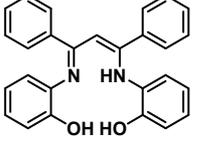
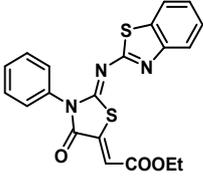
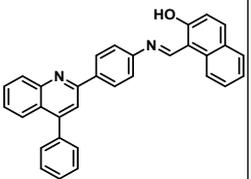


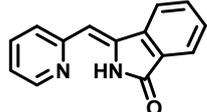
**Figure S1.** UV-vis absorption spectra of L ( $5.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M) in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O=4:1 solution upon addition Cu<sup>2+</sup> ( $0-7.5 \times 10^{-5}$  M) at room temperature.

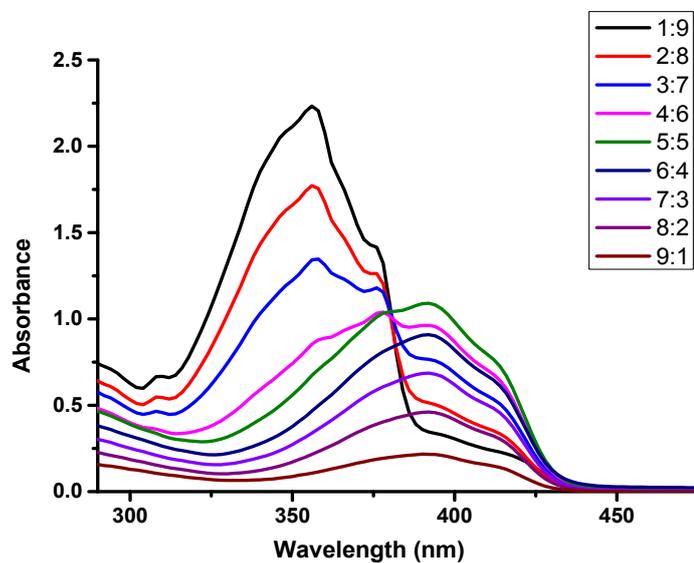


**Figure S2.** Plot of relative absorbance intensity  $I_{398\text{nm}}/I_{355\text{nm}}$  versus Cu<sup>2+</sup> ( $0-7.5 \times 10^{-5}$  M).

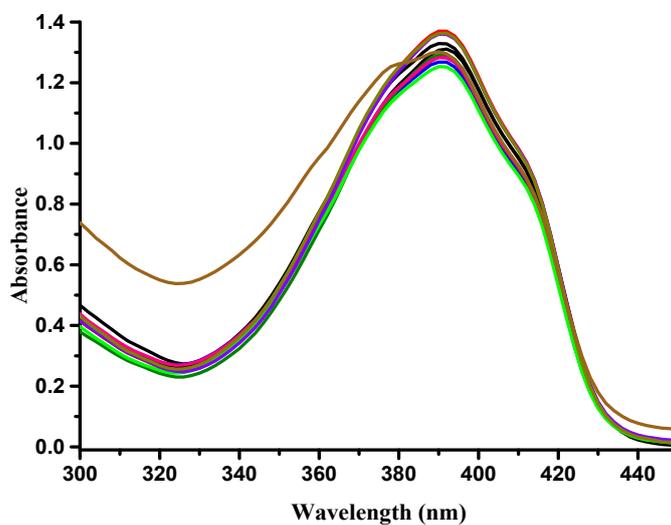
**Table S1.** Comparison of the recently reported sensors for the determination of Cu<sup>2+</sup>

Cu <sup>2+</sup> -sensor	Detection limit (μM)	sensor	Operation mode	Working system	interference	Reference
	43.11	Fluorescent Sensor	Turn on	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	Zn <sup>2+</sup>	54
	8	Colorimetric /Fluorescent sensor	Turn on	CH <sub>3</sub> CN/H <sub>2</sub> O (9:1, v/v)	Al <sup>3+</sup>	55
	0.16	Colorimetric Sensors	Turn on	CH <sub>3</sub> CN/H <sub>2</sub> O (V/V, 1:9)	Fe <sup>3+</sup> , Cr <sup>3+</sup> , Al <sup>3+</sup>	56
	0.648	Colorimetric sensor	Turn on	EtOH	none	57
	none	Colorimetric Sensors	Turn on	MeOH	Al <sup>3+</sup> , Mn <sup>2+</sup>	58
	0.36	fluorescent probes	Turn off	CH <sub>3</sub> OH/H <sub>2</sub> O (50 : 50 v/v)	Hg <sup>2+</sup>	59
	0.044	fluorescent probes	Turn on	in PBS buffer	none	60

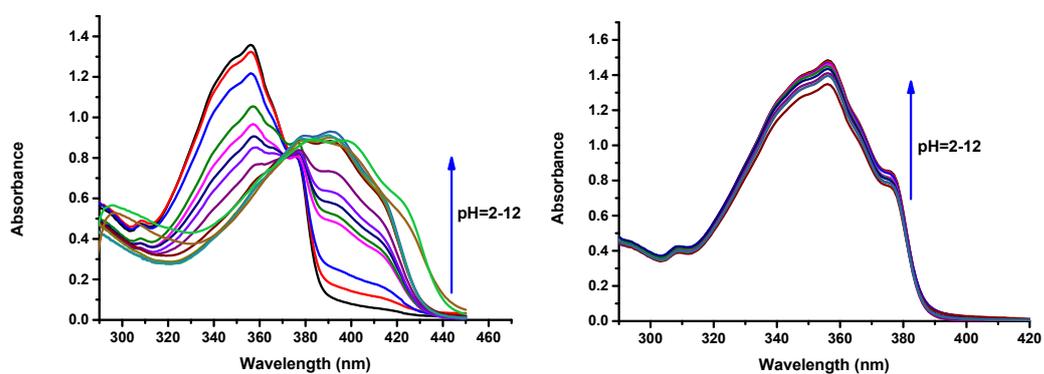
	2.82	Colorimetric Sensors	Turn on	EtOH/H <sub>2</sub> O	none	This study
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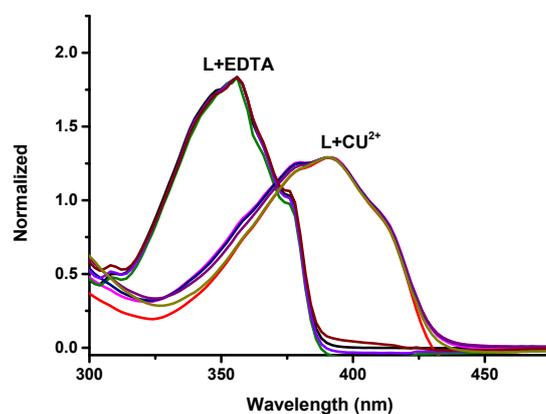
**Figure S3.** The molar ratio  $[Cu^{2+}]/[L]$ . The total concentration of  $Cu^{2+}$  with receptor L was  $5.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M.



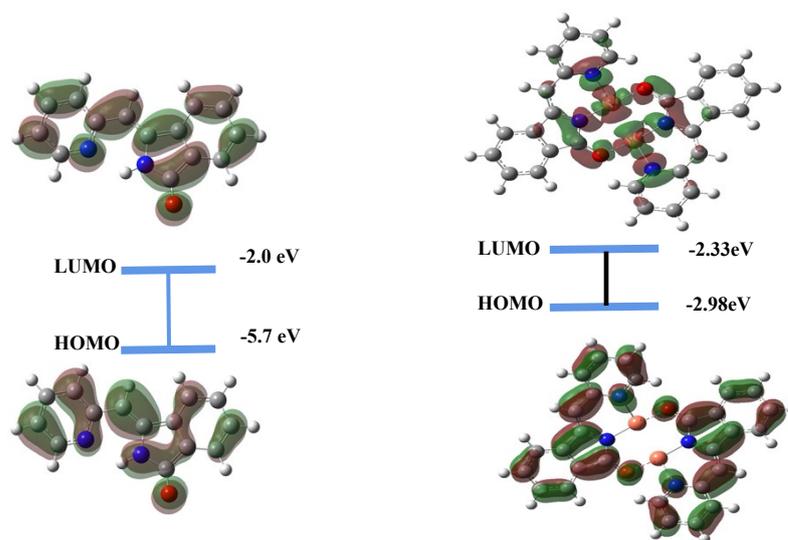
**Figure S4.** UV-vis selectivity-competition study of receptor L with added M(II) salts (5.0 equiv) followed by 1.0 equiv of added Cu(II) ( $[L] = 5.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M).



**Figure S5.** UV-vis absorption spectra of  $L-Cu^{2+}$ ,  $L$  in  $EtOH/H_2O=4:1$  solution over a range of  $pH=2-12$  at room temperature.



**Figure S6.** (a) (b) The cycle of  $L-Cu^{2+}$  and  $Cu^{2+}-EDTA$



**Figure S7.** LUMO and HOMO orbitals for  $L$  and  $L-Cu^{2+}$ . The red and green lobes represent the

positive and negative signs of the coefficients of the molecular orbitals.

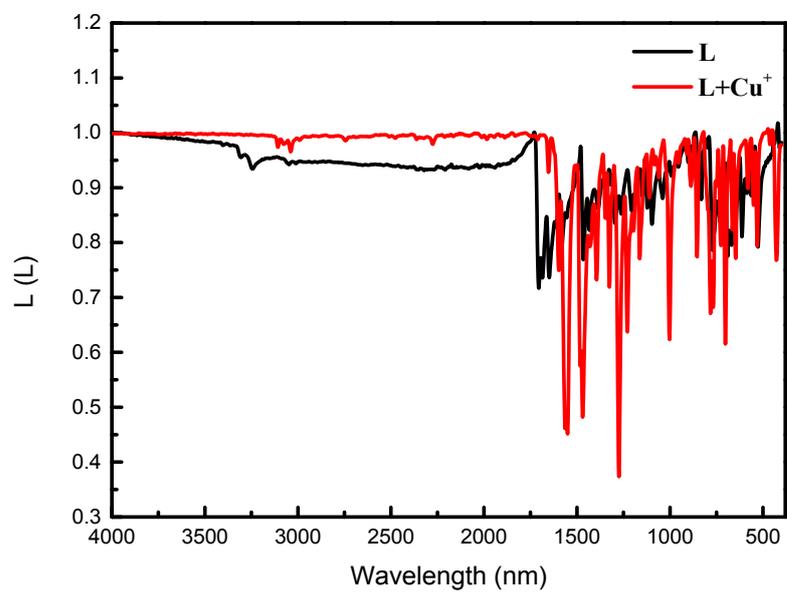


Figure S8. FT-IR spectrum of L and [L- Cu<sup>2+</sup>] complex.

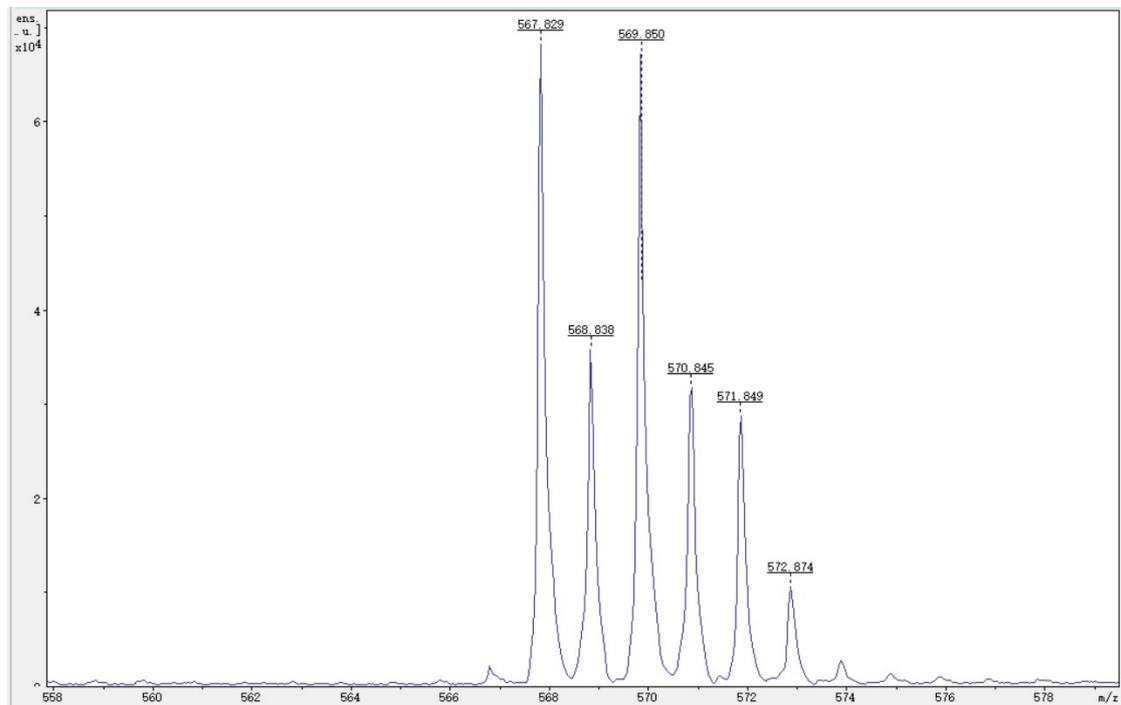


Figure S9. MALDI-TOF spectrum of [L+ Cu(II)] complex.

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