

## Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

### **Tuning the fluorescence sensing for Fe<sup>3+</sup> ions by using different dipyridyl linkers in pillar-layered metal-organic frameworks**

Yan-E Liu‡, Ye Zhou‡, Xiao-Yu Li, Yao Jun, Qiu-Xia Li, Quan-Qing Xu, Rong-Rong Zhu\* and Ai-Xin Zhu\*

Faculty of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Yunnan Normal University, Kunming 650500, China.

‡ These authors contributed equally to this paper.

\* Corresponding author.

E-mail: chemzrr1993@163.com (Rong-Rong Zhu); zaxchem@126.com (Ai-Xin Zhu)

Tel: +86 0871 65941088

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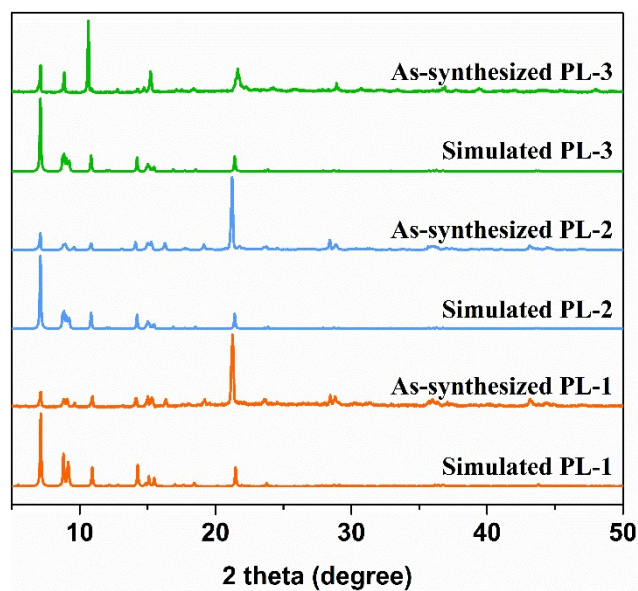


Fig. S1 PXRD patterns of PL-1, PL-2, and PL-3.

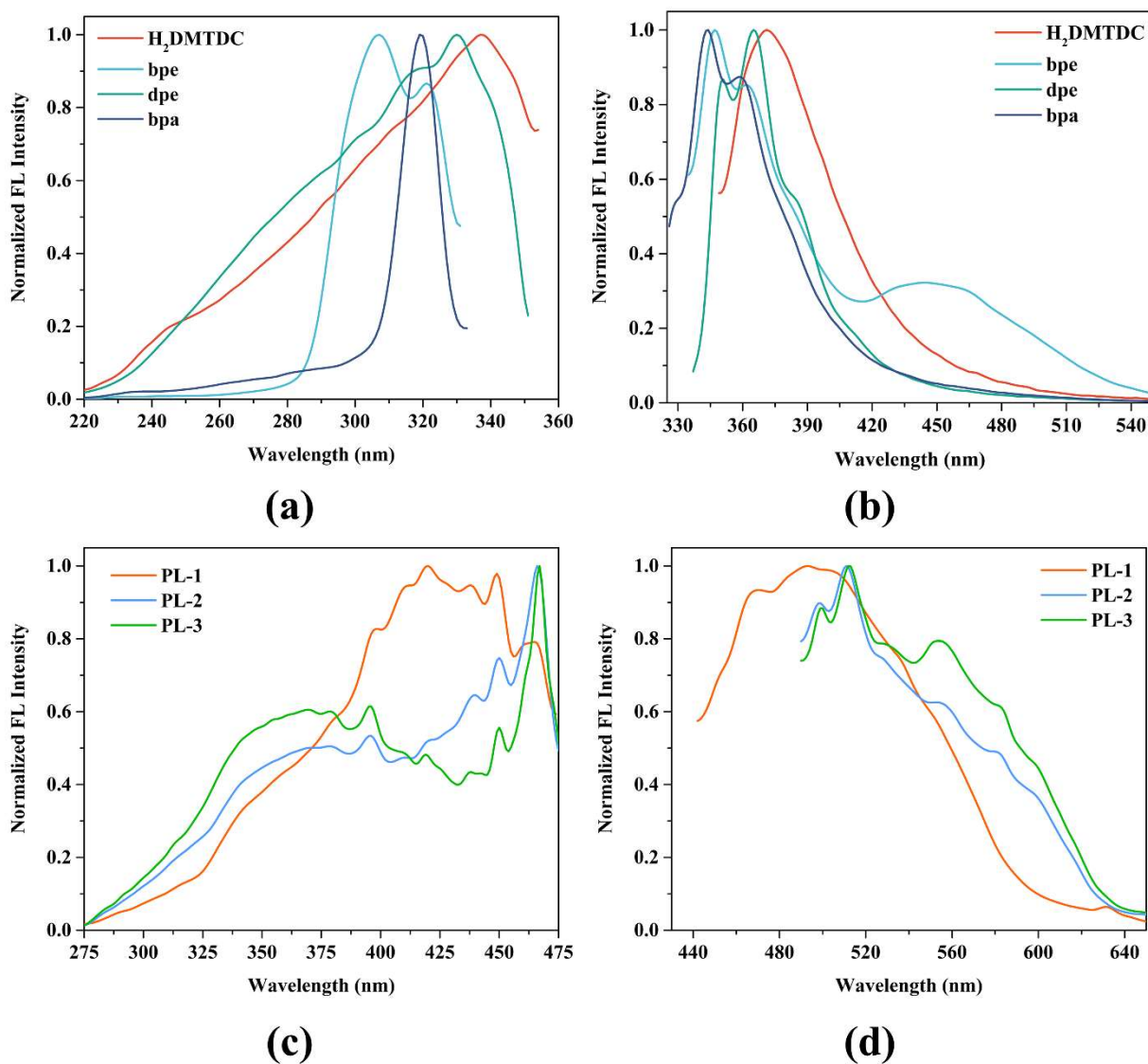
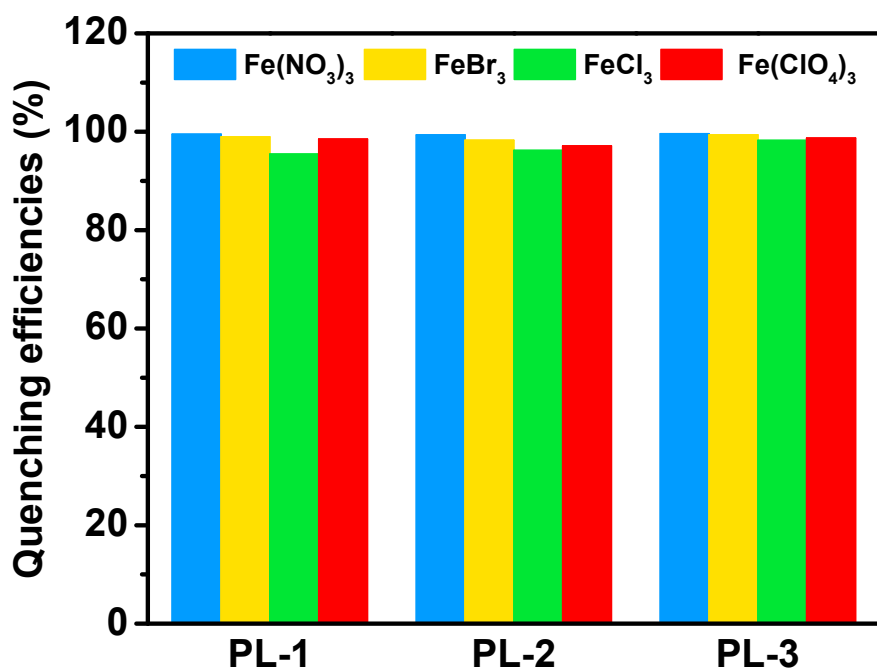
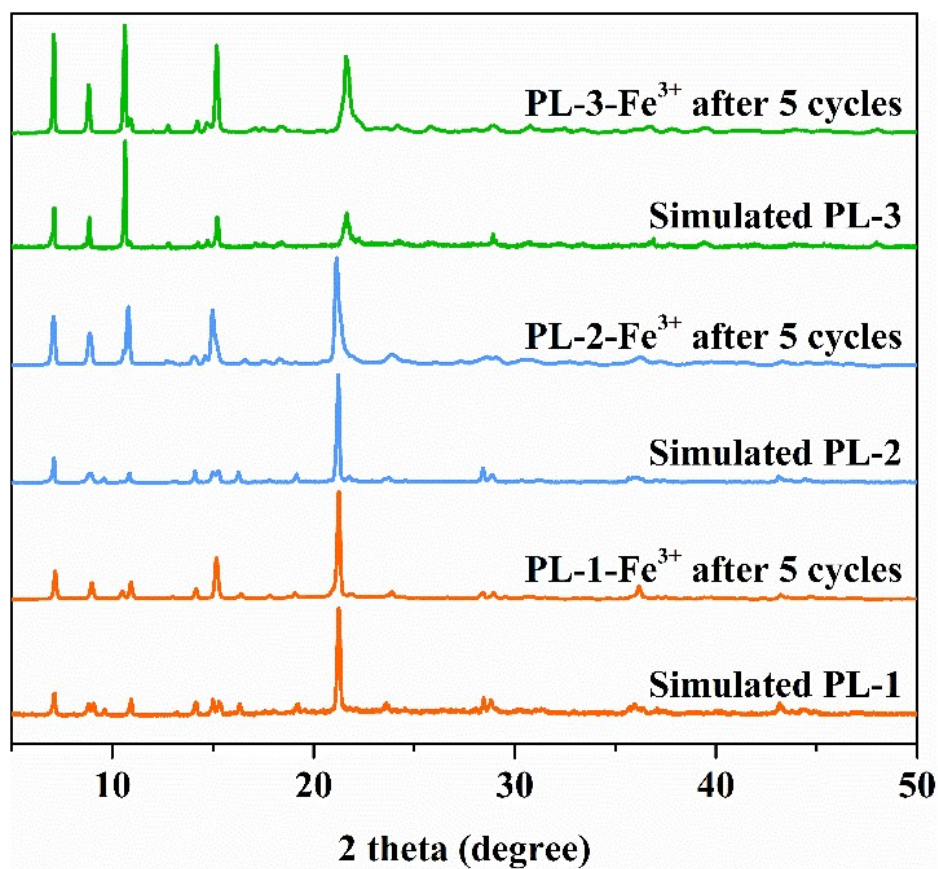


Fig. S2 Solid-state excitation (a, c) and emission (b, d) spectra of ligands and MOFs.



**Fig. S3** The comparison of the quenching efficiency of PL-1, PL-2, and PL-3 dispersed in EtOH upon the addition of 400 μL of various anions of Fe<sup>3+</sup> solutions (10 mM).



**Fig. S4** PXRD patterns of PL-1, PL-2, and PL-3 after 5 cycles for sensing Fe<sup>3+</sup> ions.

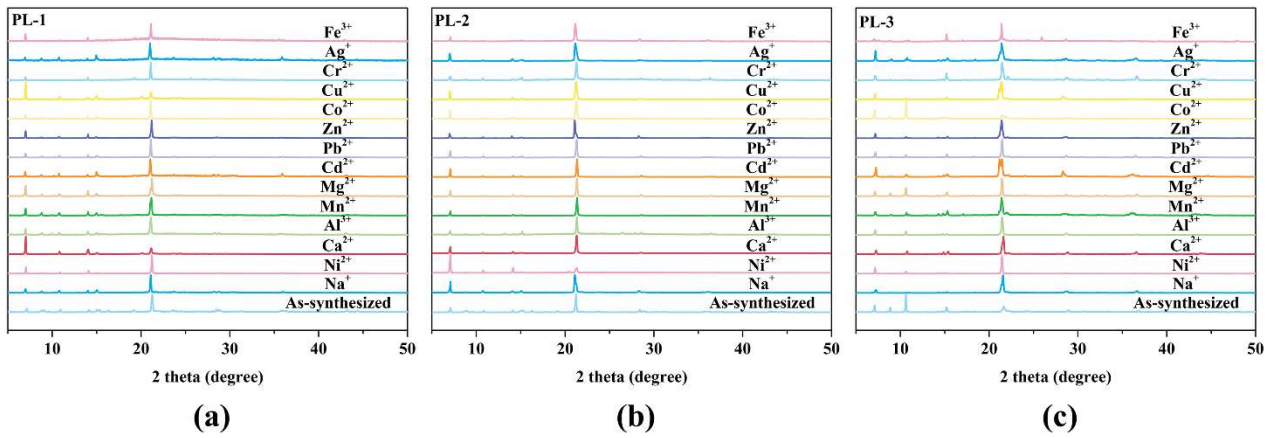


Fig. S5 PXRD patterns of PL-1 (a), PL-2 (b), and PL-3 (c) after being soaked in different metal solutions.

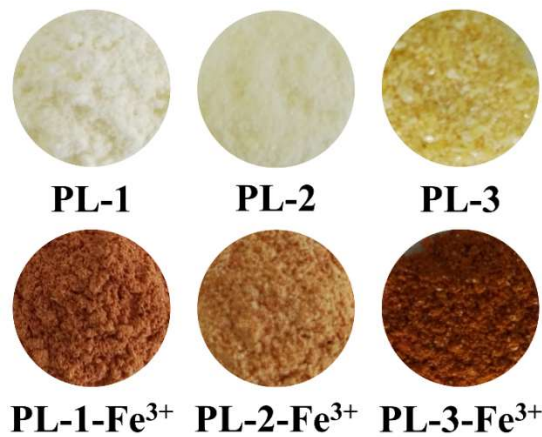


Fig. S6 Photographs of PL-1, PL-2, PL-3 and Fe<sup>3+</sup> incorporated PL-1, PL-2, PL-3.

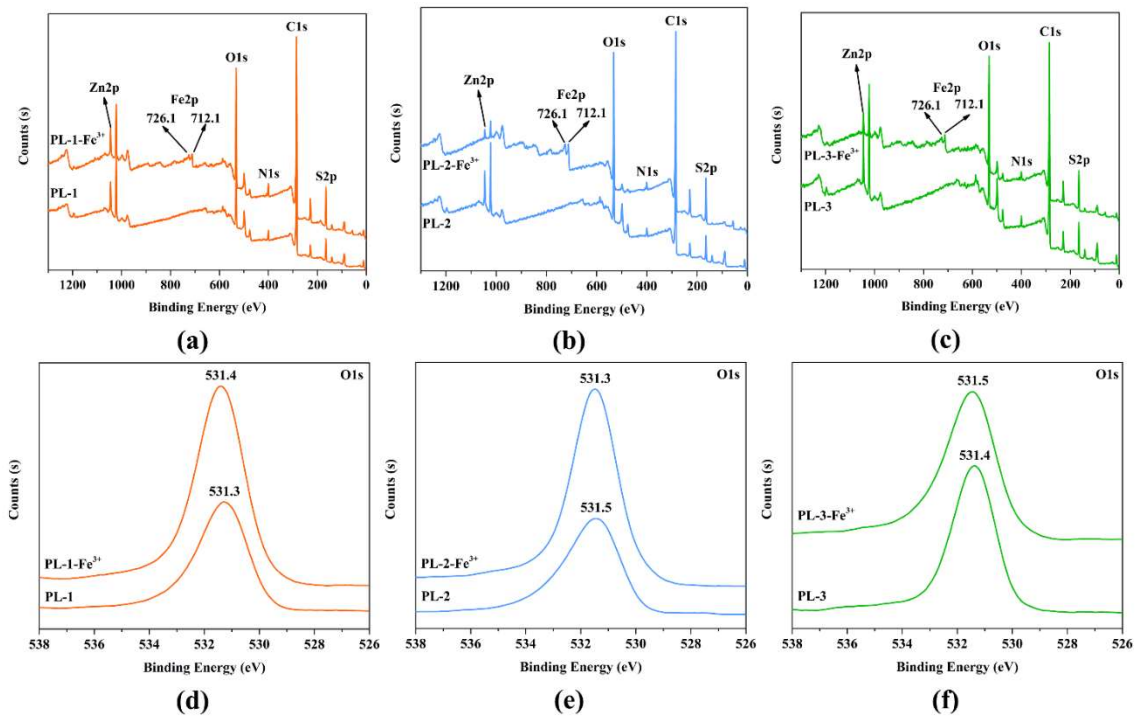
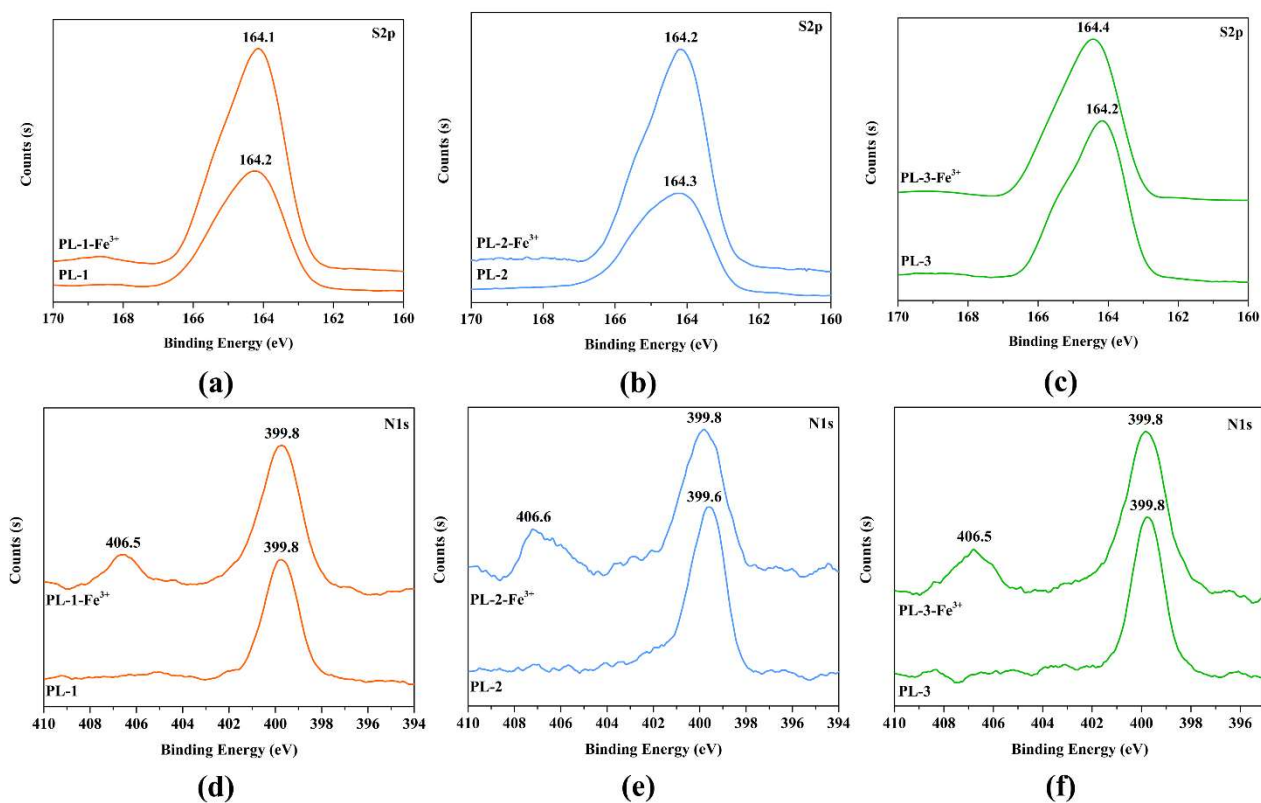
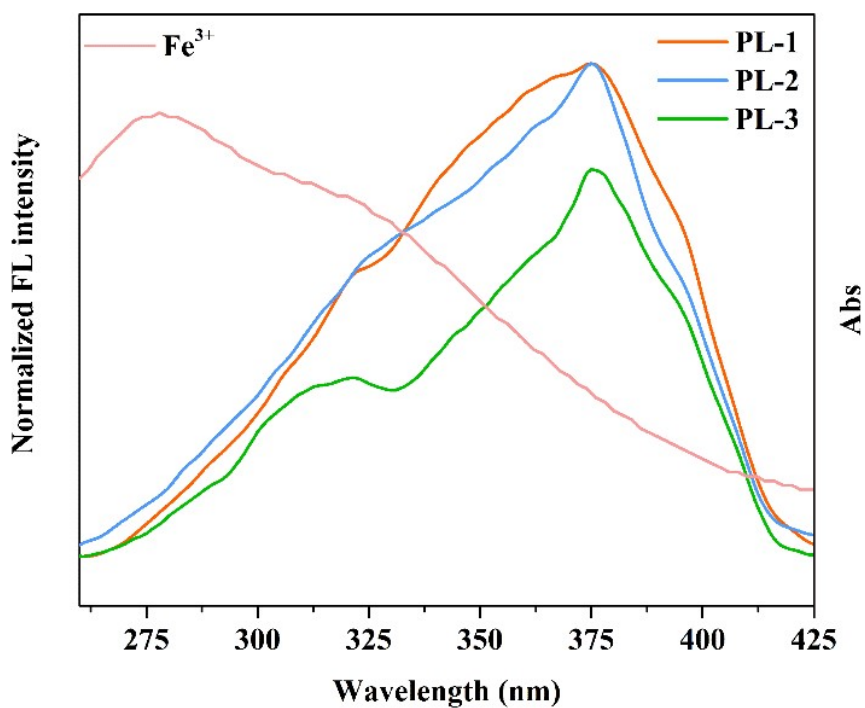


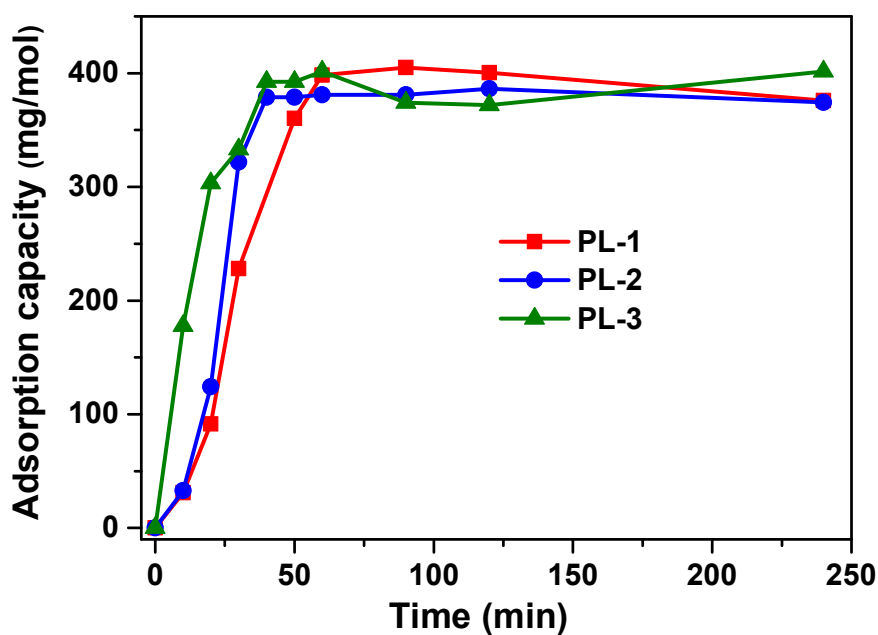
Fig. S7 XPS survey (a, b, c) and O1s XPS spectra (d, e, f) of PL-1, PL-2, and PL-3 before and after being immersed in EtOH solutions of Fe(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>.



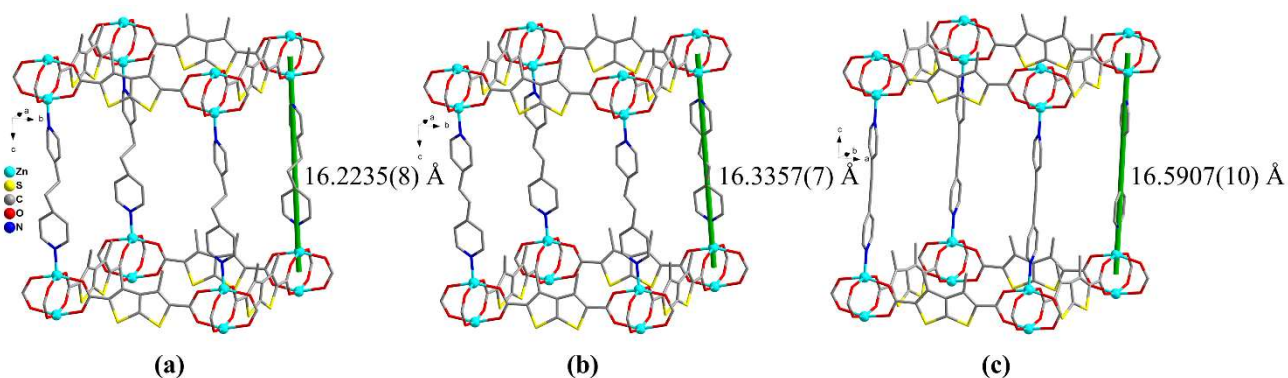
**Fig. S8** S2p (a, b, c) and N1s (d, e, f) XPS spectra of **PL-1**, **PL-2**, and **PL-3** before and after being immersed in EtOH solutions of Fe(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>.



**Fig. S9** Excitation spectra of **PL-1**, **PL-2**, and **PL-3** dispersed in EtOH and UV-vis absorption spectrum of Fe<sup>3+</sup> ions in EtOH.



**Fig. S10** Plots of adsorption capacities of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  ions vs. the adsorption time for **PL-1**, **PL-2**, and **PL-3**. The saturated adsorption capacity for  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  ions is comparable for **PL-1**, **PL-2** and **PL-3** with *ca.* 376, 374, and 402 mg/mol at 4 h, respectively. The adsorption rate (from the slope for this curve) below 30 min obviously follows the order: **PL-3** > **PL-2** > **PL-1**.



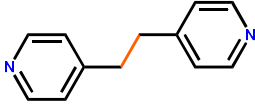
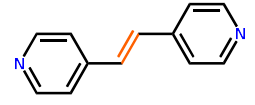
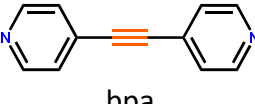
**Fig. S11** Lengths of pillar for **PL-1** (a), **PL-2** (b), and **PL-3** (c).

**Table S1** Summary of the values of  $K_{SV}$  for the fluorescent MOFs used for sensing  $Fe^{3+}$  ions.

Fluorescent MOF materials	Media	$K_{SV}$ ( $M^{-1}$ )	Ref.
$\{[Cd_2(bptc)(2,2'-bipy)_2(H_2O)_2]\}_n$	H <sub>2</sub> O	$8.61 \times 10^3$	S1
$\{[Cd_2(bptc)(phen)_2] \cdot 4H_2O\}_n$	H <sub>2</sub> O	$3.07 \times 10^3$	S1
$\{[Cd_2(bptc)(4,4'-bipy)(H_2O)_2] \cdot 4H_2O\}_n$	H <sub>2</sub> O	$6.21 \times 10^3$	S1
$[Zn_2(trz)_2(btdb)] \cdot 4DMF$	H <sub>2</sub> O	$2.4 \times 10^2$	S2
$[Cd_{1.5}(L)_2(bpy)(NO_3)]$	H <sub>2</sub> O	$1.13 \times 10^4$	S3
$[Eu(BCB)(DMF)] \cdot (DMF)_{1.5}(H_2O)_2$	H <sub>2</sub> O	$2.35 \times 10^4$	S4
$[Zn(DHT)(BPP)]_n$	H <sub>2</sub> O	$1.77 \times 10^4$	S5
$[Cd_{1.5}(L)_2(bpy)(NO_3)]$	H <sub>2</sub> O	$1.91 \times 10^4$	S6
$[Eu_2(L)_3(DMF)_2(H_2O)_4] \cdot 2DMF$	H <sub>2</sub> O	$8.31 \times 10^3$	S7
$[Tb_2(L)_3(DMF)_2(H_2O)_4] \cdot 2DMF$	H <sub>2</sub> O	$5.63 \times 10^3$	S7
$[Gd_2(L)_3(DMF)_2(H_2O)_4] \cdot 2DMF$	H <sub>2</sub> O	$2.86 \times 10^4$	S7
$[Y_2(L)_3(DMF)_2(H_2O)_4] \cdot 2DMF$	H <sub>2</sub> O	$1.50 \times 10^4$	S7
$[Co_6(oba)_4(Hatz)(atz)(H_2O)_2(\mu_3-OH)_2(\mu_2-OH)] \cdot H_2O$	H <sub>2</sub> O	$9.61 \times 10^4$	S8
UiO-67	H <sub>2</sub> O	$5.981 \times 10^4$	S9
UiO-67@N	H <sub>2</sub> O	$5.252 \times 10^4$	S9
UiO-67@NN	H <sub>2</sub> O	$1.646 \times 10^4$	S9
$\{[Zn_4(tpta)_2(OH)_2(bib)_4] \cdot H_2O\}_n$	H <sub>2</sub> O	$7.8 \times 10^3$	S10
JLUMOF201-Y	H <sub>2</sub> O	$7.67 \times 10^3$	S11
JLUMOF201-Tb	H <sub>2</sub> O	$8.38 \times 10^3$	S11
$\{[H_2N(Me)_2]_2[Zn_5(L)_2(OH)_2] \cdot 3DMF \cdot 4H_2O\}_n$	H <sub>2</sub> O	$9.799 \times 10^4$	S12
$[Zn_2(trz)_2(btdb)] \cdot 4DMF$	MeOH	$3.3 \times 10^3$	S2
$[Eu_2(TDC)_3(CH_3OH)_2(CH_3OH)]$	MeOH	$3.42 \times 10^3$	S13
$[Tb_2(TDC)_3(CH_3OH)_2(CH_3OH)]$	MeOH	$3.04 \times 10^4$	S13
$[Cd_2(L1)(tdc)_2(H_2O)]_n$	EtOH	$3.01 \times 10^3$	S14
$[Cd(L2)_{0.5}(tdc)]_n$	EtOH	$4.22 \times 10^3$	S14
Tb <sup>3+</sup> @Zn-MOF	EtOH	$3.26 \times 10^4$	S15
$CH_3-dpb)_2[Mg_3(1,4-NDC)_4(\mu-H_2O)_2(CH_3OH)(H_2O)] \cdot 1.5H_2O$	EtOH	$1.6 \times 10^4$	S16
$[La(TPT)(DMSO)_2] \cdot H_2O$	EtOH	$1.36 \times 10^4$	S17
EuL <sub>3</sub>	EtOH	$4.1 \times 10^3$	S18
$[Eu_2K_2(dcpa)_2(H_2O)_6] \cdot 5H_2O$	EtOH	$4.30 \times 10^4$	S19
$[Eu_3(FDA)_4(DMSO)_2(NO_3)(H_2O)_2]_n$	EtOH	$3.3 \times 10^4$	S20
PL-1	EtOH	$1.58 \times 10^4$	This work
PL-2	EtOH	$1.72 \times 10^4$	This work
PL-3	EtOH	$2.47 \times 10^4$	This work



**Table S2** List of the structure parameters and  $K_{SV}$  for the pillar-layered MOFs.

MOFs	Dipyridyl ligand	Length of the pillar (Å)	Pore volume (%)	$K_{SV}$ (M <sup>-1</sup> )
PL-1	 bpe	16.2235(8)	45.5	1.60 x 10 <sup>4</sup>
PL-2	 dpe	16.3357(7)	45.7	1.73 x 10 <sup>4</sup>
PL-3	 bpa	16.5907(10)	46.0	2.52 x 10 <sup>4</sup>

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