

## Supplementary Information

### Highly selective and sensitive macrocycle-based dinuclear foldamer for fluorometric and colorimetric sensing of citrate in water

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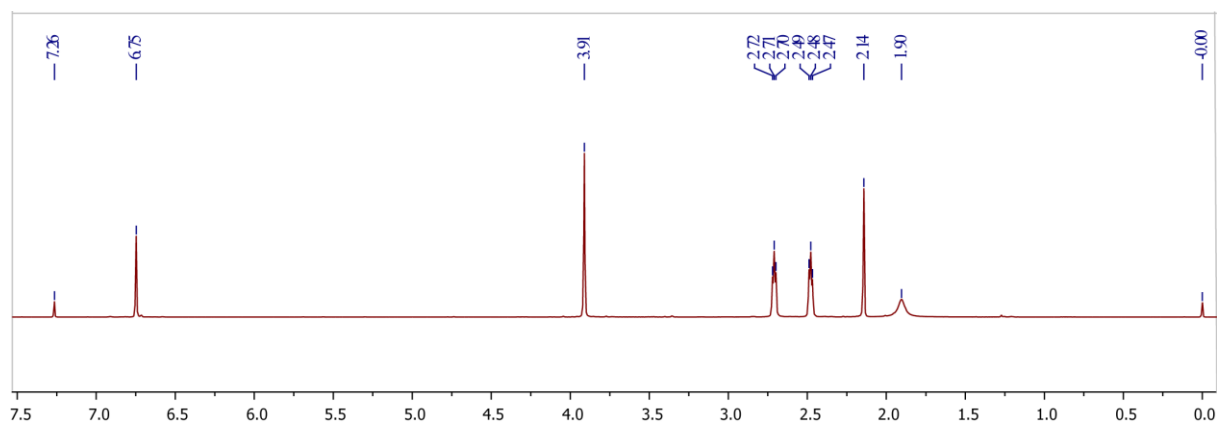
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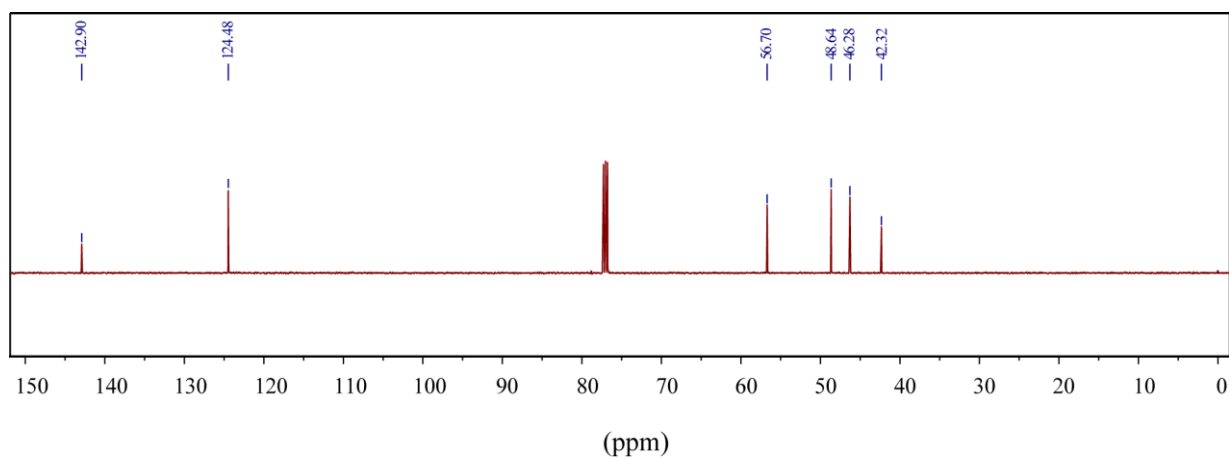
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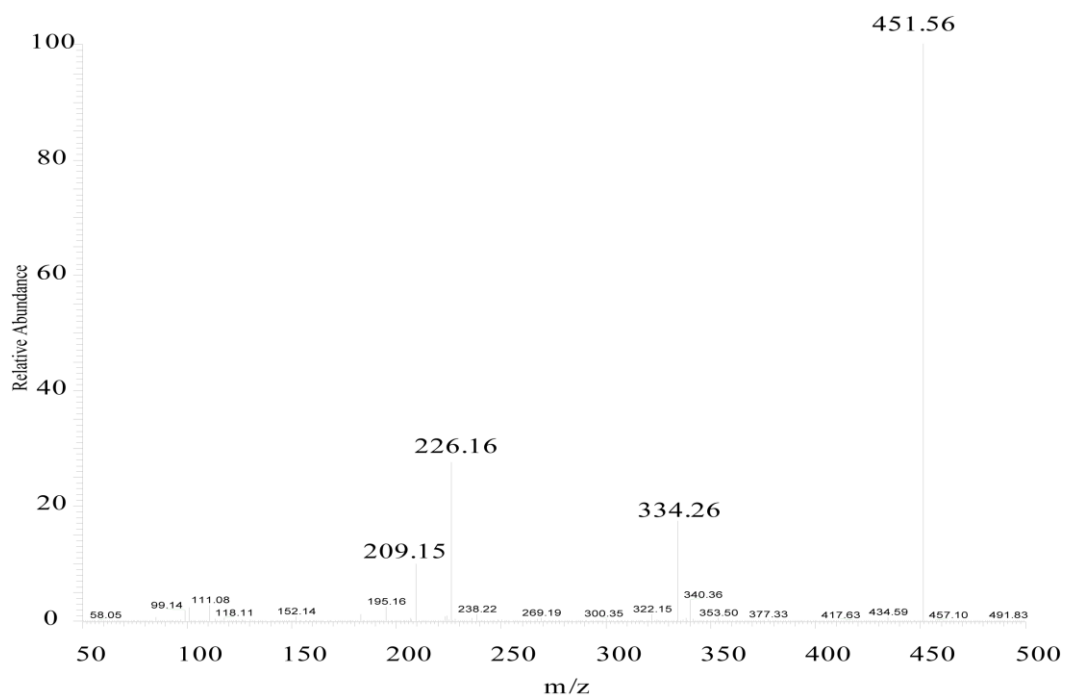
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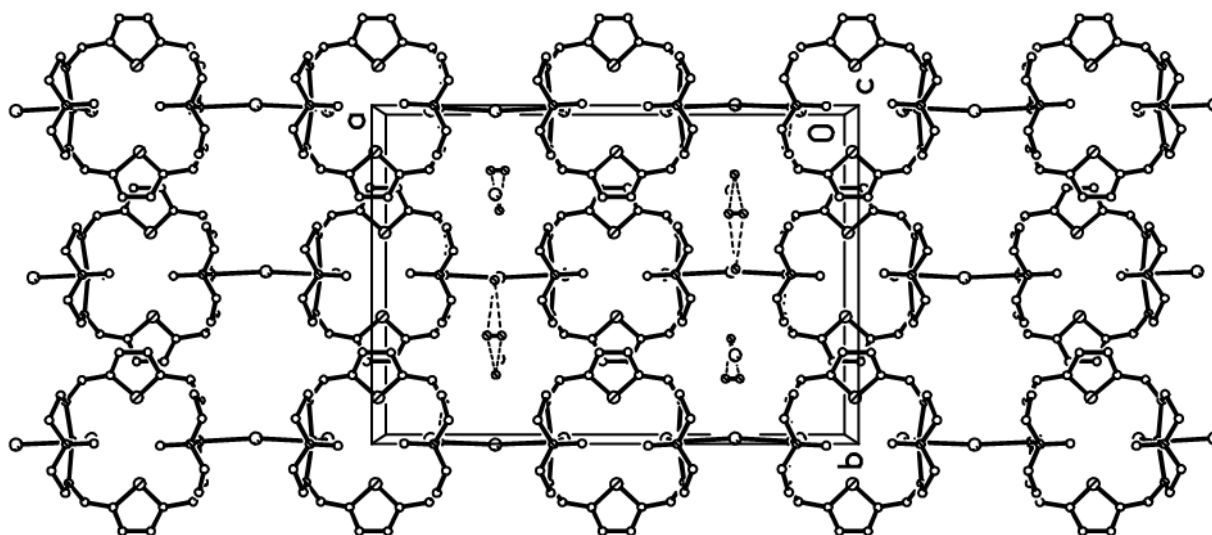
**Figure S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of **L** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



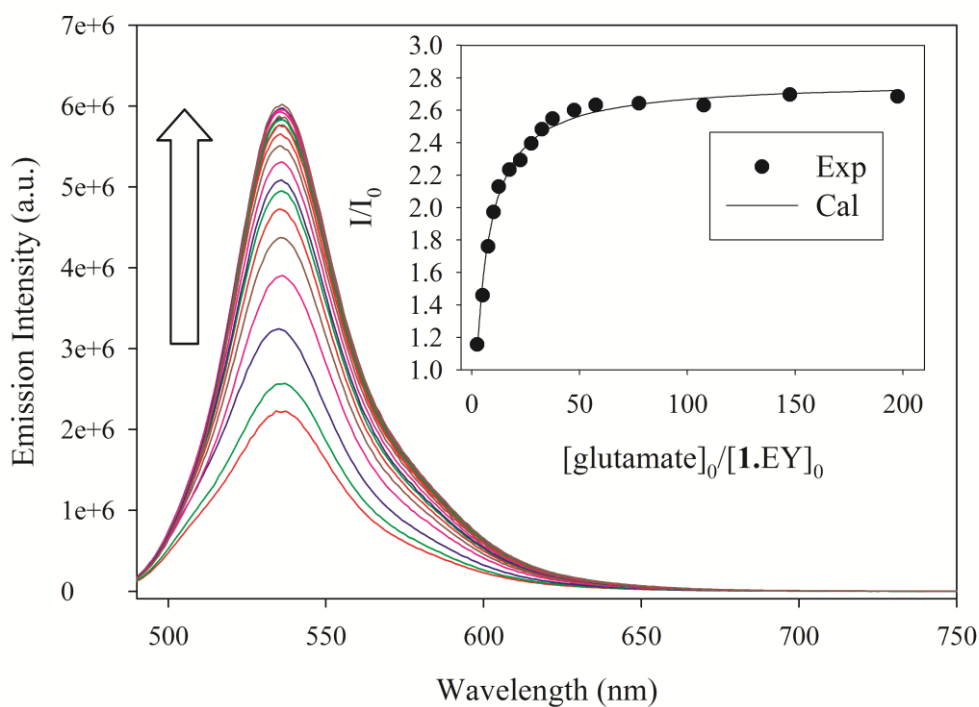
**Figure S2.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of **L** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



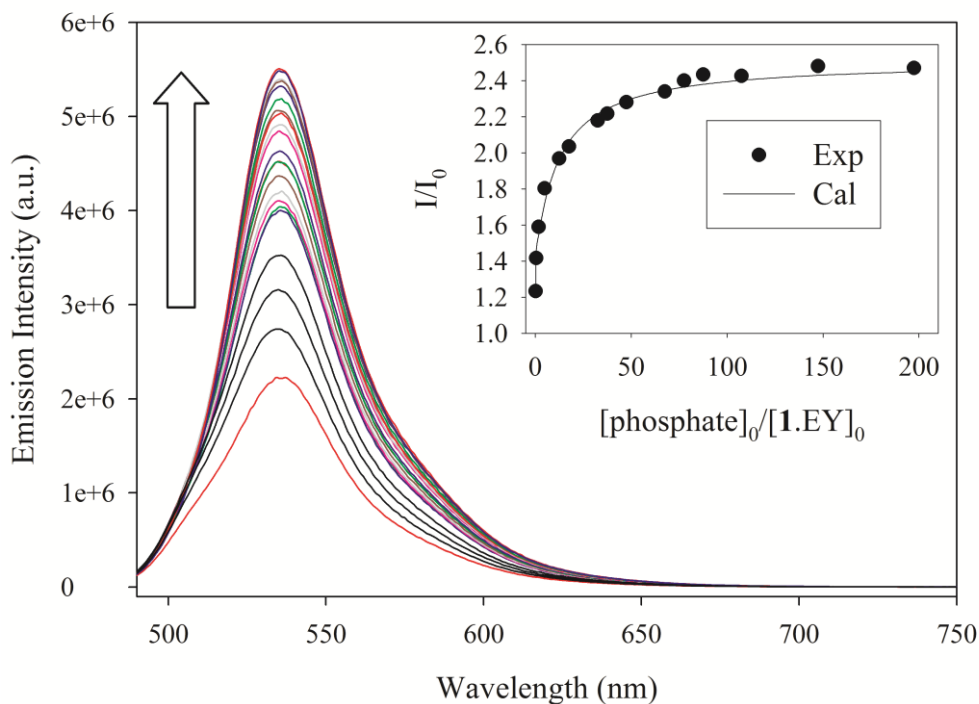
**Figure S3.** ESI-MS (+) spectra of **L**.



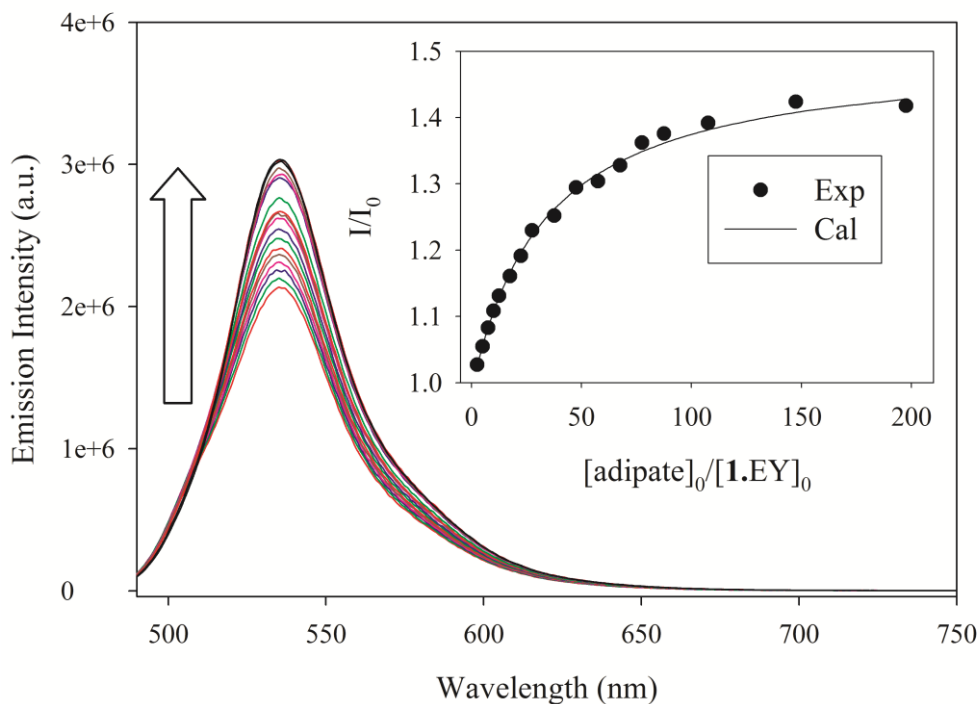
**Figure S4.** Packing diagram of **1'** showing an infinite polymer along the *a*-axis.



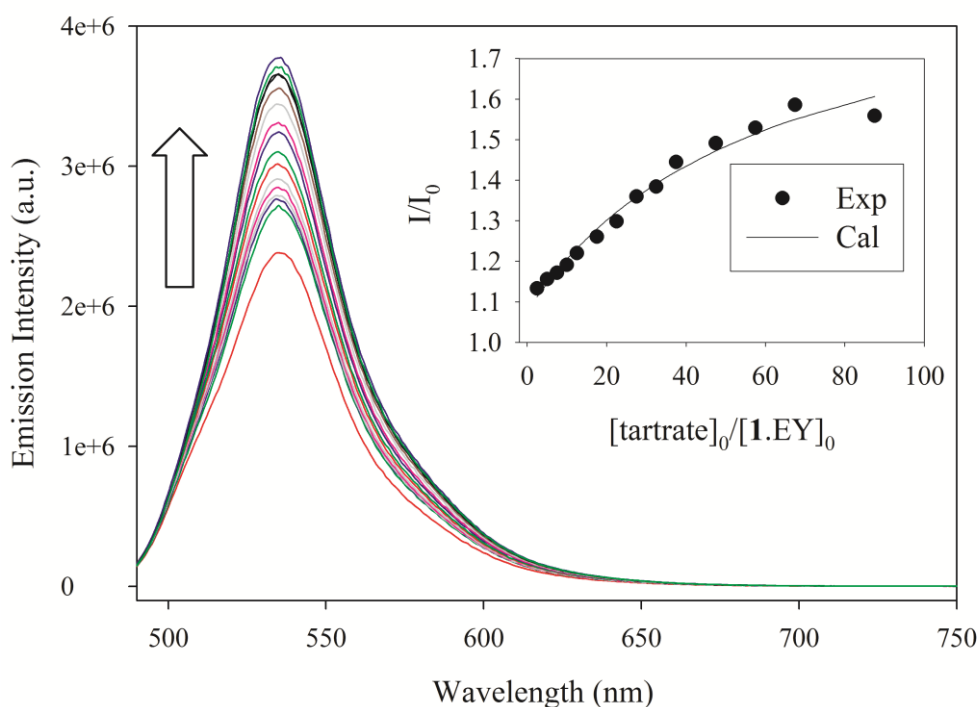
**Figure S5.** The enhancement of fluorescence intensity of [**1**·EY] (**1**/EY = 5:1) upon the addition of glutamate ( $[\mathbf{1}\cdot\text{EY}]_0 = 2 \times 10^{-6}$  M,  $[\text{glutamate}]_0 = 2 \times 10^{-3}$  M) in water buffered with 20 mM HEPES at pH 7.0.  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 470$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 536$  nm. The inset shows the titration plot of  $I/I_0$  against  $[\text{glutamate}]_0/[\mathbf{1}\cdot\text{EY}]_0$  at  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 536$  nm.



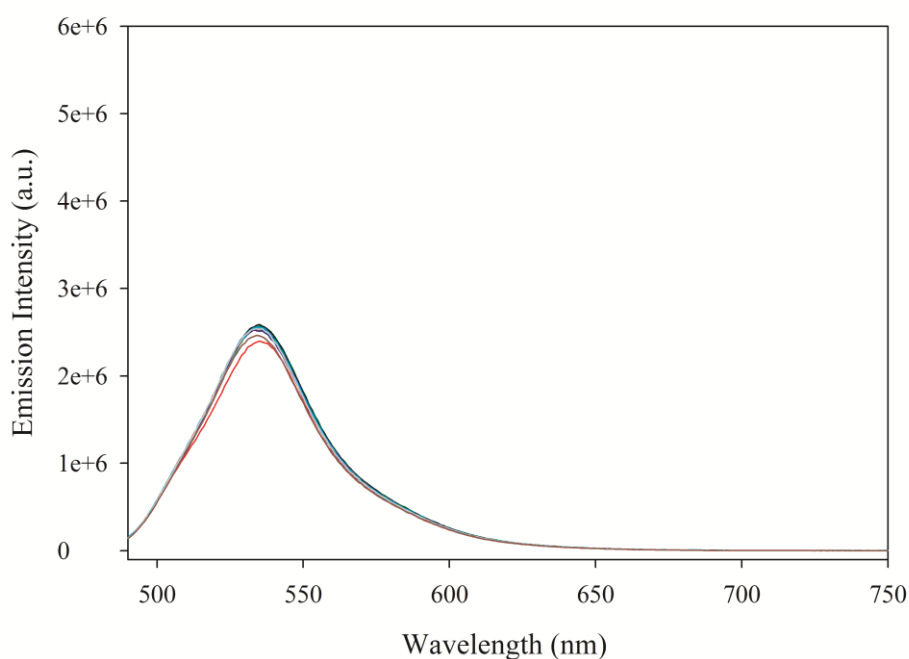
**Figure S6.** The enhancement of fluorescence intensity of [1·EY] (1/EY = 5:1) upon the addition of  $\text{K}_2\text{HPO}_4$  ( $[\mathbf{1}\cdot\text{EY}]_0 = 2 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$ ,  $[\text{K}_2\text{HPO}_4]_0 = 2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$ ) in water buffered with 20 mM HEPES at pH 7.0.  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 470 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 536 \text{ nm}$ . The inset shows the titration plot of  $I/I_0$  against  $[\text{K}_2\text{HPO}_4]_0/[\mathbf{1}\cdot\text{EY}]_0$  at  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 536 \text{ nm}$ .



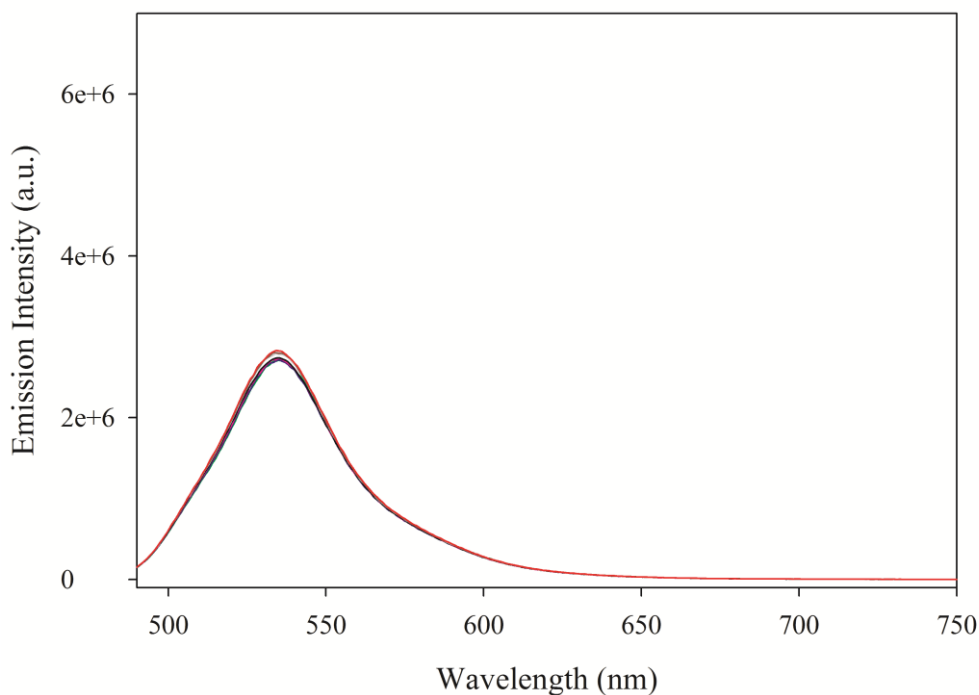
**Figure S7.** The enhancement of fluorescence intensity of [1·EY] (1/EY = 5:1) upon the addition of adipate ( $[\mathbf{1}\cdot\text{EY}]_0 = 2 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$ ,  $[\text{adipate}]_0 = 2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$ ) in water buffered with 20 mM HEPES at pH 7.0.  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 470 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 536 \text{ nm}$ . The inset shows the titration plot of  $I/I_0$  against  $[\text{adipate}]_0/[\mathbf{1}\cdot\text{EY}]_0$  at  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 536 \text{ nm}$ .



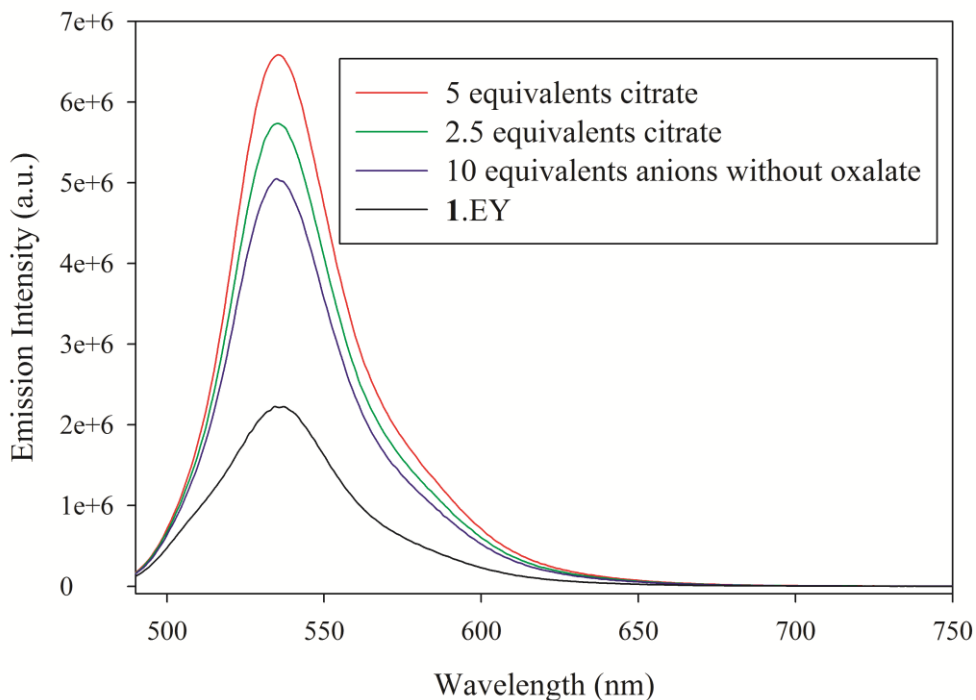
**Figure S8.** The enhancement of fluorescence intensity of  $[\mathbf{1}\cdot\text{EY}]$  ( $\mathbf{1}/\text{EY} = 5:1$ ) upon the addition of tartrate ( $[\mathbf{1}\cdot\text{EY}]_0 = 2 \times 10^{-6}$  M,  $[\text{tartrate}]_0 = 2 \times 10^{-3}$  M) in water buffered with 20 mM HEPES at pH 7.0.  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 470$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 536$  nm. The inset shows the titration plot of  $I/I_0$  against  $[\text{tartrate}]_0/[\mathbf{1}\cdot\text{EY}]_0$  at  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 536$  nm.



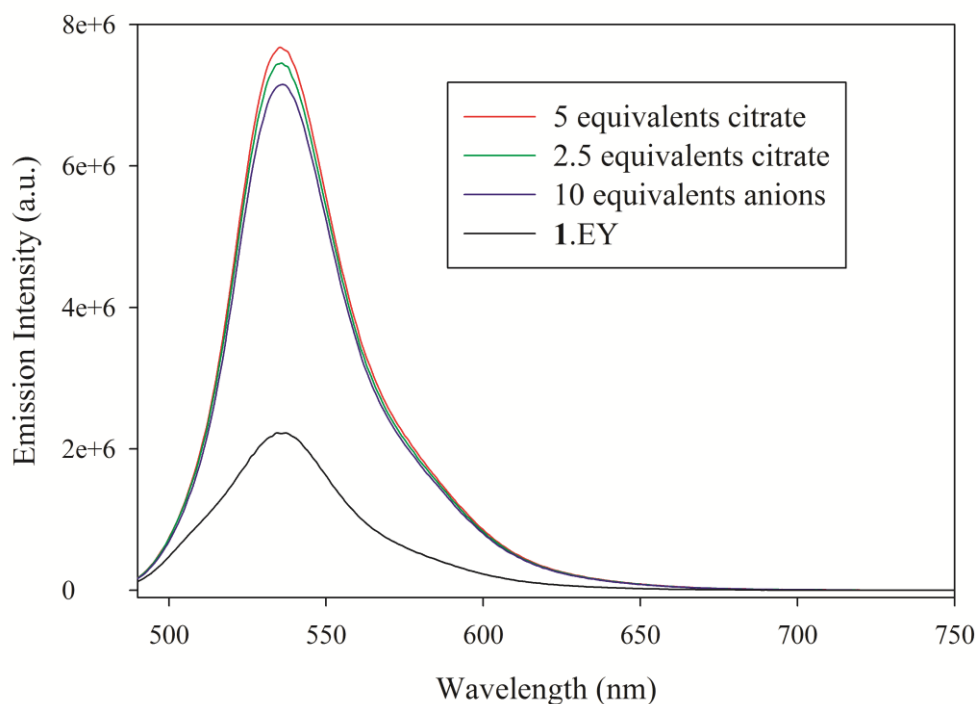
**Figure S9.** The fluorescence intensity of  $[\mathbf{1}\cdot\text{EY}]$  ( $\mathbf{1}/\text{EY} = 5:1$ ) upon the addition of benzoate ( $[\mathbf{1}\cdot\text{EY}]_0 = 2 \times 10^{-6}$  M,  $[\text{benzoate}]_0 = 2 \times 10^{-3}$  M) in water buffered with 20 mM HEPES at pH 7.0.  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 470$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 536$  nm, showing insignificant change in fluorescence intensity.



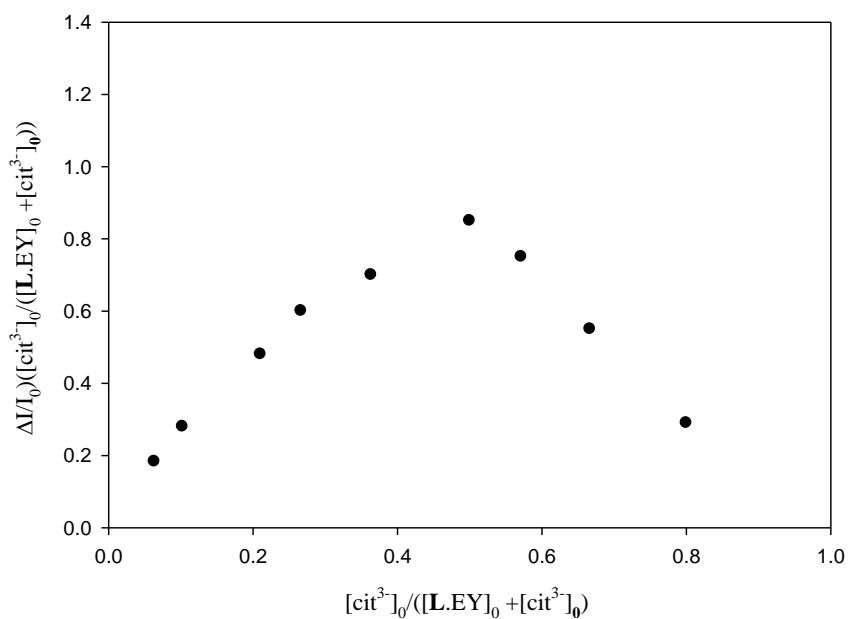
**Figure S10.** The fluorescence intensity of  $[1 \cdot EY]$  ( $1/EY = 5:1$ ) upon the addition of acetate ( $[1 \cdot EY]_0 = 2 \times 10^{-6}$  M,  $[\text{acetate}]_0 = 2 \times 10^{-3}$  M) in water buffered with 20 mM HEPES at pH 7.0.  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 470$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 536$  nm, showing insignificant change in fluorescence intensity.



**Figure S11.** The selectivity of citrate in presence of 10 equivalents of other anions without oxalate,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 470$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 536$  nm,  $d_{\text{ex}} = 2$ ,  $d_{\text{em}} = 3$ .



**Figure S12.** The selectivity of citrate in presence of 10 equivalents of other anions,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 470 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 536 \text{ nm}$ ,  $d_{\text{ex}} = 2$ ,  $d_{\text{em}} = 3$ .



**Figure S13.** Job's plot for the formation of the citrate complex with **1.EY**. The data was obtained from the titration of **1.EY** with citrate as shown in Figure 4 in the main manuscript.