

Electronic Supplementary Information

Synthesis, X-ray structure and *in vitro* cytotoxicity studies of Cu(I/II) complexes of thiosemicarbazone: Special emphasis on their interactions with DNA

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Table S1 DNA binding parameters for the ligands.

Fig. S1 Absorption spectral traces of the complexes **1** (a), **2** (b), **3** (c) and **4** (d) (25 μM each) in 10 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0) containing 1% DMF. The spectra were recorded over the period of the biological assays, *i.e.* 72 h, at room temperature.

Fig. S2 ^1H NMR spectra of complex **1** in DMSO- d_6 (a) at time 0 hrs and room temp; (b) at time 24 hrs and room temp; (c) at time 0 hrs and 100 $^\circ\text{C}$.

Fig. S3 ESI-MS of complex **1** in CH_3CN in the range of molecular mass of metal precursor.

Fig. S4 ESI-MS of complex **4** in CH_3OH .

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Fig. S6 Cyclic voltammogram of **1** in anodic region.

Fig. S7 Cyclic voltammogram of ligand HL^3 in anodic region.

Fig. S8 Electronic absorption spectra of HL^1 (a), HL^2 (b), HL^3 (c) and H_2L^4 (d) (25 μM each) upon the titration of CT-DNA (0 – 350 μM) in 10 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0) containing 1% DMF. The inset shows the linear fit of $[\text{DNA}]/(\epsilon_a - \epsilon_f)$ vs $[\text{DNA}]$ and binding constant (K_b) was calculated using Eq. 1.

Fig. S9 Fluorescence absorption spectra of HL^1 (a), HL^2 (b), HL^3 (c) and H_2L^4 (d) (0–60 μM) on the emission intensity of ethidium bromide (2 μM) bound CT-DNA (50 μM) at different concentrations in 10 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0) containing 1% DMF. Arrow indicates the effect of increasing concentration of complex on the fluorescence emission of CT-DNA bound ethidium bromide. The inset shows the linear fit of F_0/F vs $[\text{complex}]$ and Stern-Volmer quenching constant (K_{SV}) was calculated using Eq. 2.

Fig. S10 Effect of DMF (1%) and ligands on the chemical-induced cleavage of SC pUC19 DNA. 300 ng SC pUC19 DNA was treated with hydrogen peroxide (0.5 mM) in dark for 1 h at 37 $^\circ\text{C}$ in presence of 1 % DMF and various ligands (100 μM). Lane 1, DNA only; Lane 2, DNA in presence of 1% DMF; Lane 3, DNA + HL^1 ; Lane 4, DNA + HL^2 ; Lane 5, DNA + HL^3 ; Lane 6, DNA + H_2L^4 .

Fig. S11 Gel diagram depicting cleavage of SC pUC19 DNA by **1–4** in presence of various additives in 50 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0) containing 1% DMF. SC pUC19 DNA (300 ng) in the presence of various additives was treated with hydrogen peroxide (0.5mM) in dark for 1 h at 37 $^\circ\text{C}$ with **1–4** (100 μM). The additive concentrations were: sodium azide (0.5 mM), L-histidine (0.5 mM), KI (0.5 mM) and D-mannitol (0.5 mM). Lane 1, DNA + complex; Lane 2, DNA + complex + sodium azide; Lane 3, DNA + complex + L-histidine; Lane 4, DNA + complex + KI; Lane 5, DNA + complex + D-mannitol.

Fig. S12 Effect of DMF (1%) and ligands on the photo-induced cleavage of SC pUC19 DNA. 300 ng SC pUC19 DNA was photo-irradiated in presence of 1% DMF and various ligands (100 μM) with UVA at 350 nm for 1 h. Lane 1, DNA only; Lane 2, DNA in presence of 1% DMF; Lane 3, DNA + HL^1 ; Lane 4, DNA + HL^2 ; Lane 5, DNA + HL^3 ; Lane 6, DNA + H_2L^4 .

Fig. S13 Gel diagram depicting cleavage of SC pUC19 DNA by **1–4** in presence of various additives in 50 mM Tris–HCl buffer (pH 8.0) containing 1% DMF. SC pUC19 DNA (300 ng) in the presence of various additives was photo-irradiated at 350 nm for 1 h with **1–4** (100 μ M). The additive concentrations were: sodium azide (0.5 mM), L-histidine (0.5 mM), KI (0.5 mM) and D-mannitol (0.5 mM). Lane 1, DNA + complex; Lane 2, DNA + complex + sodium azide; Lane 3, DNA + complex + L-histidine; Lane 4, DNA + complex + KI; Lane 5, DNA + complex + D-mannitol.

Table S1 DNA binding parameters for the ligands

| Ligands | Binding Constant (K_b) ^a (M^{-1}) | Stern–Volmer Quenching Constant (K_{SV}) (M^{-1}) ^b | K_{app} (M^{-1}) ^c |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| HL¹ | 5.50×10^3 | 5.01×10^2 | 3.02×10^5 |
| HL² | 5.20×10^3 | 5.80×10^2 | 3.60×10^5 |
| HL³ | 1.80×10^3 | 9.28×10^2 | 6.70×10^5 |
| H₂L⁴ | 7.00×10^3 | 4.50×10^2 | 2.69×10^5 |

^aDNA binding constant by UV–vis spectral method. ^bStern–Volmer Quenching constant for CT–DNA–EB complex. ^cthe apparent DNA binding constant.

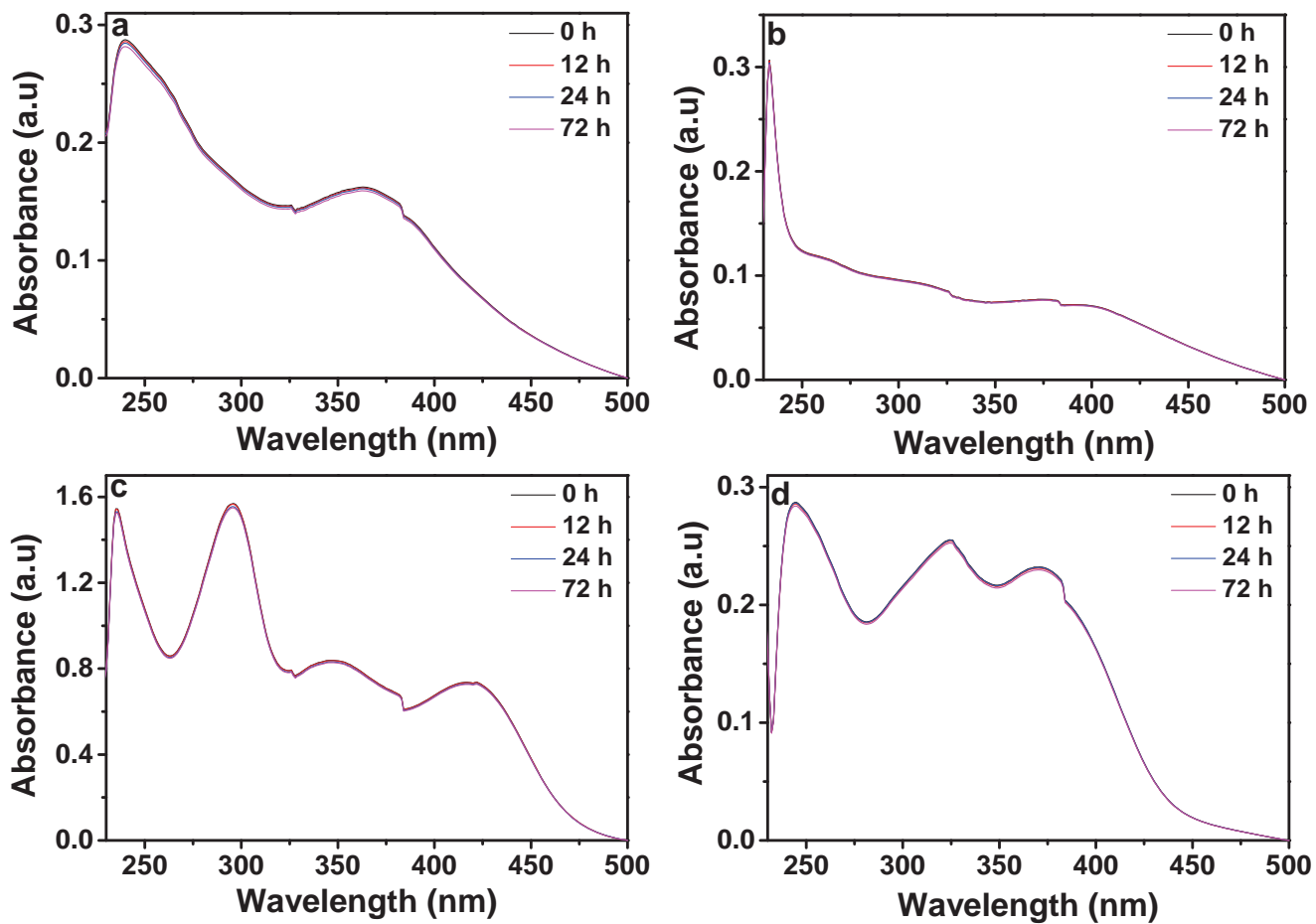


Fig. S1.

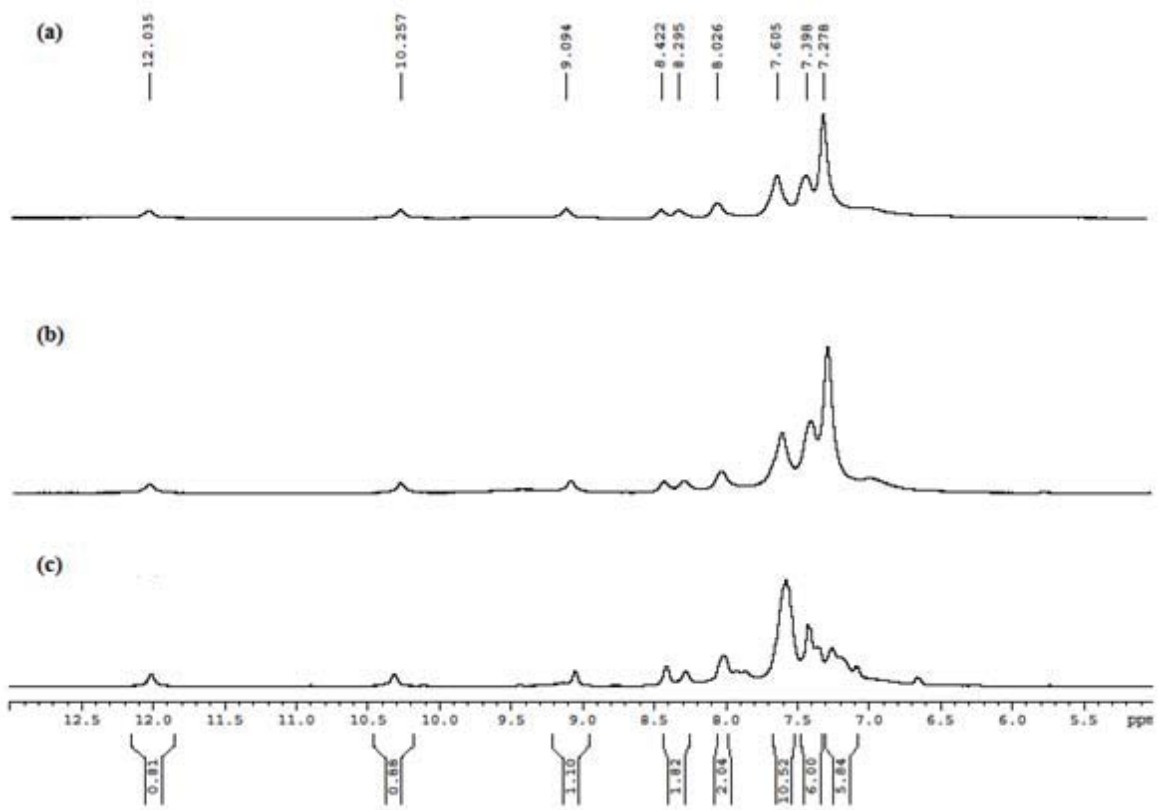


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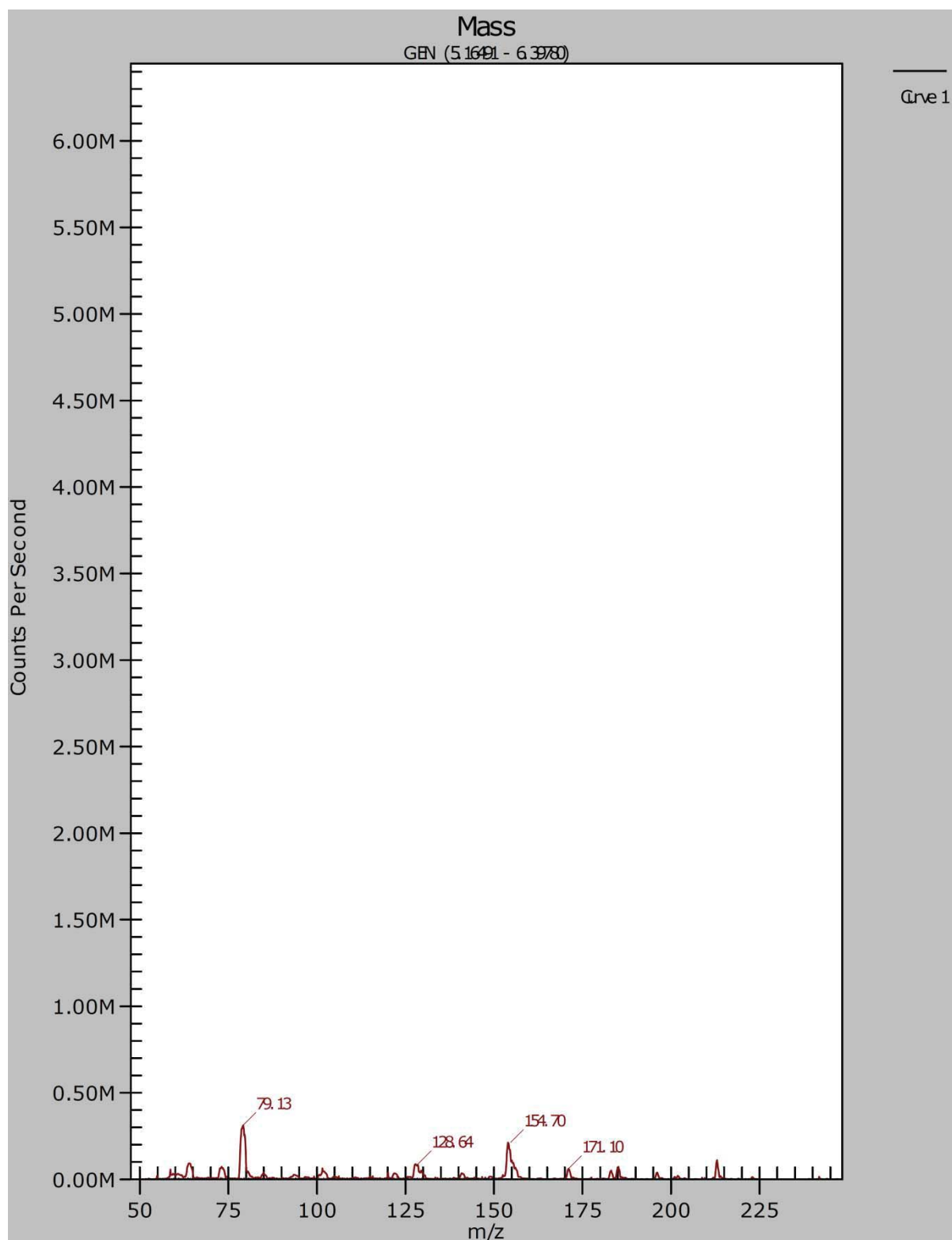


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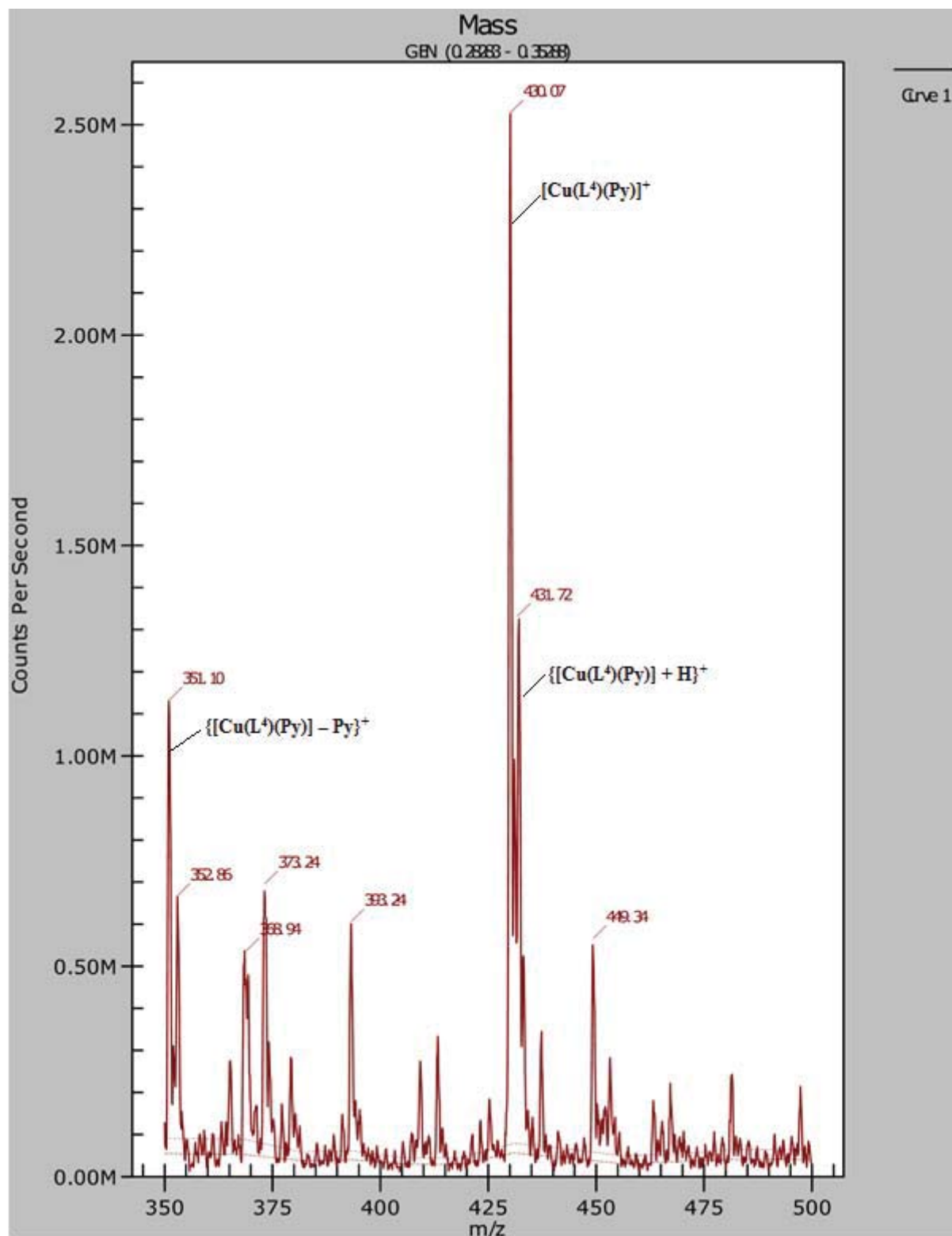


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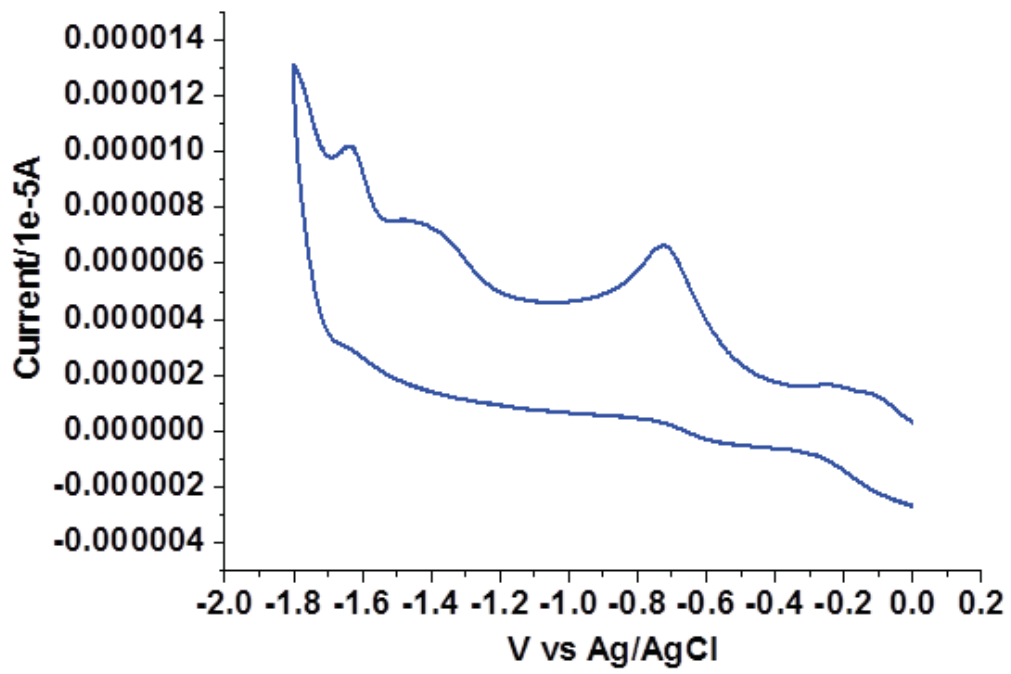


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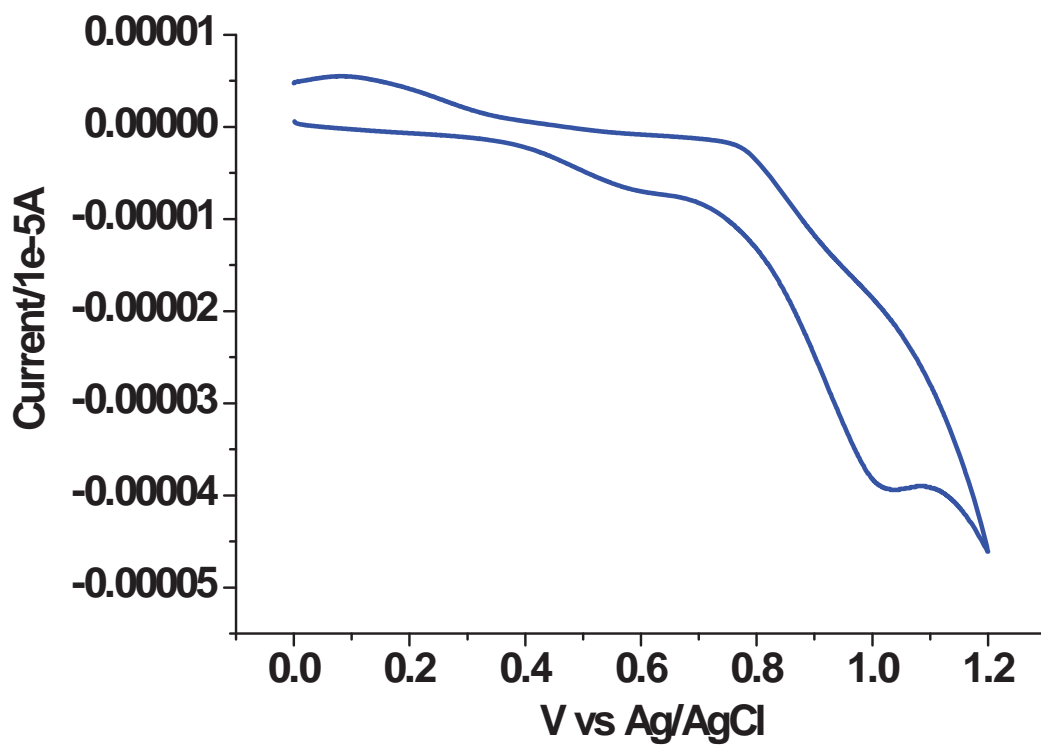


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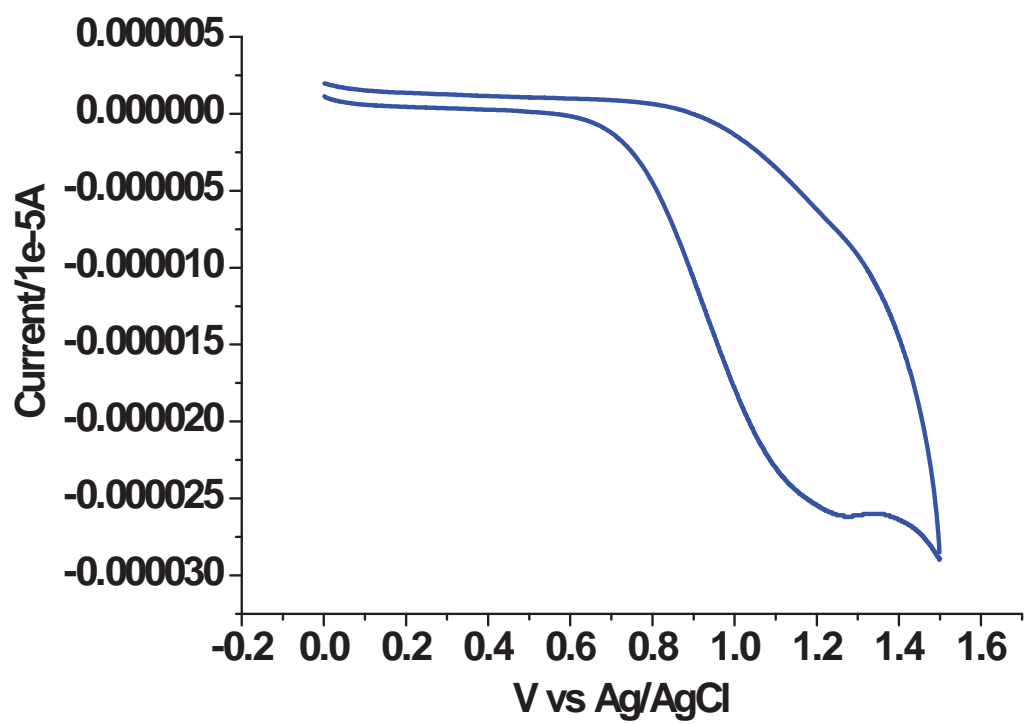


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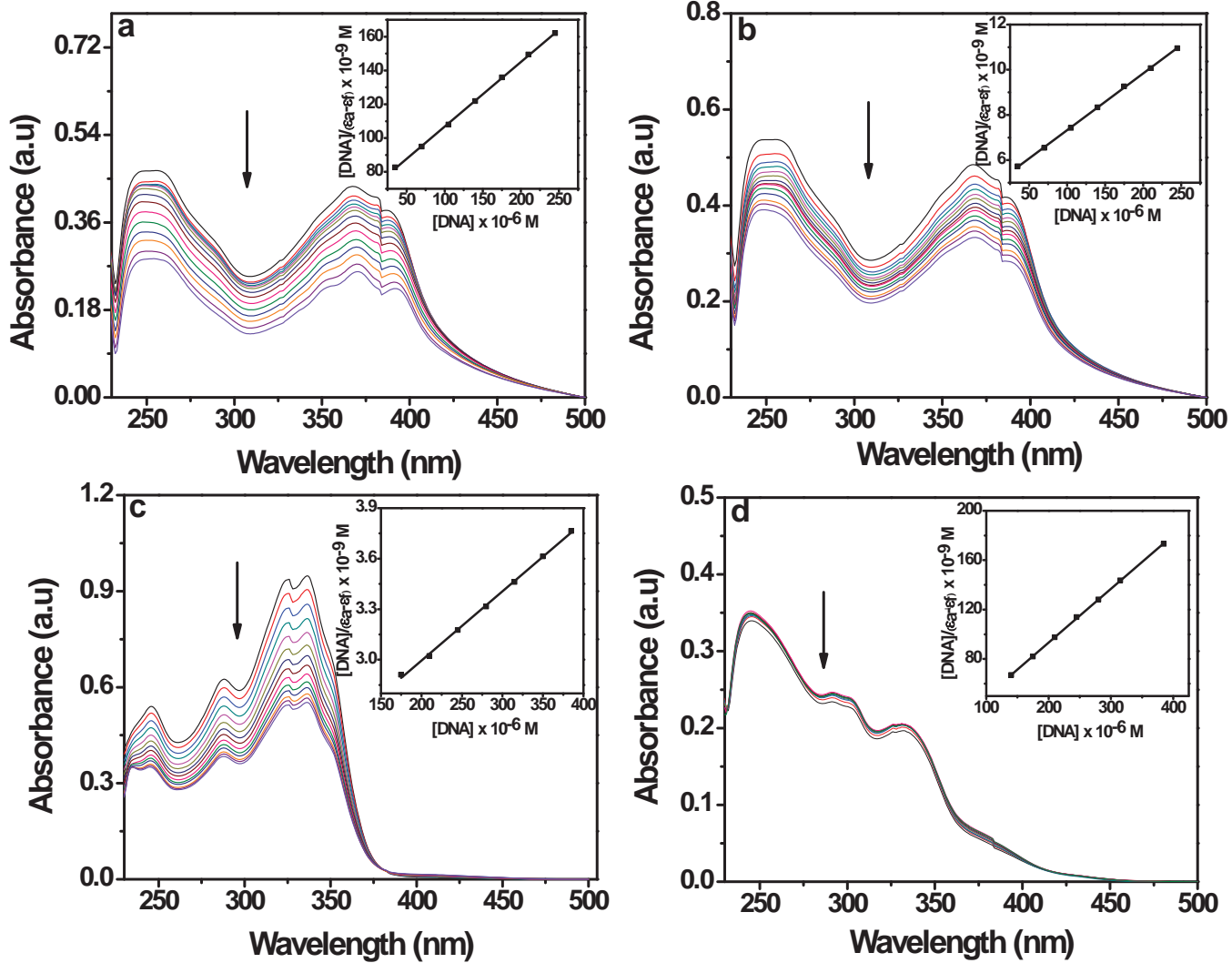


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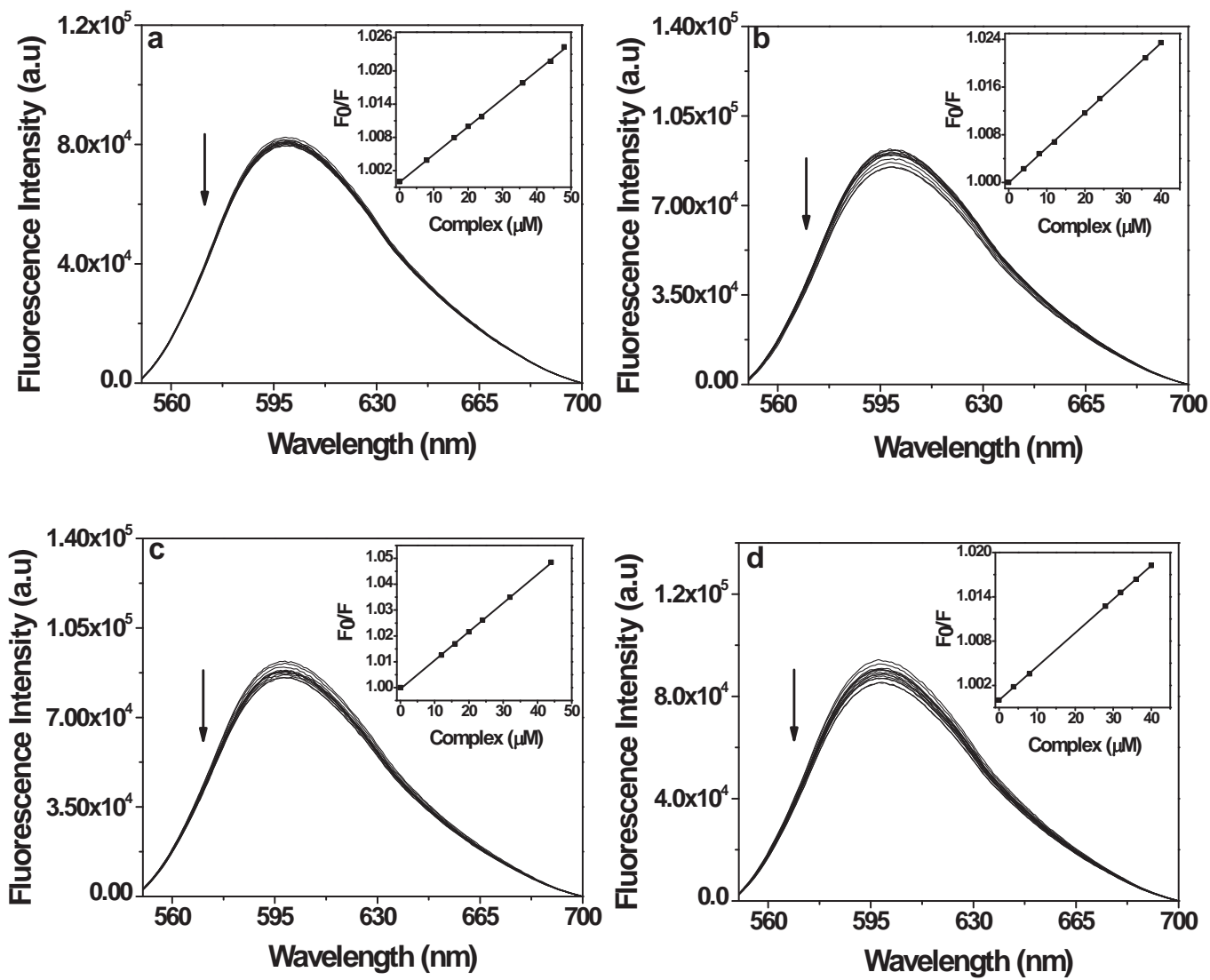


Fig. S9.



Fig. S10.

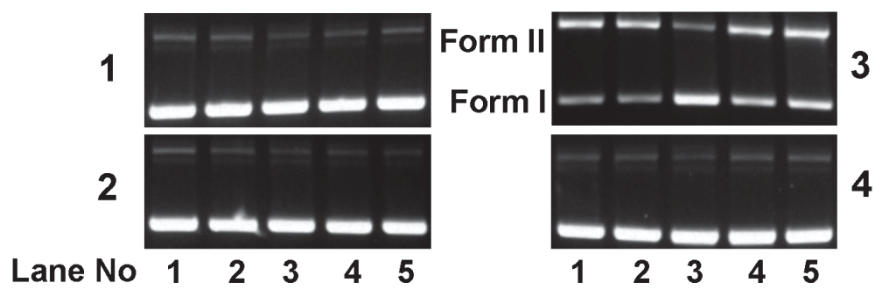


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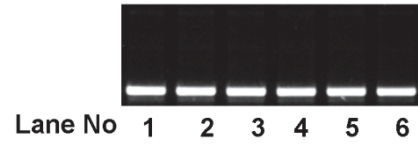


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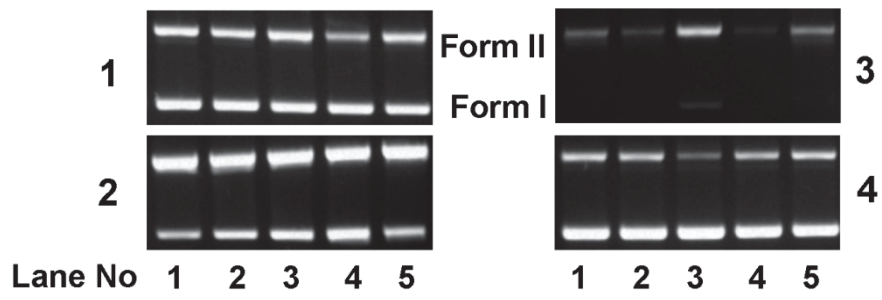


Fig. S13.