

## Catalytic amination in the synthesis of hybrid polymacrocycles comprising porphyrin and azacrown ether moieties

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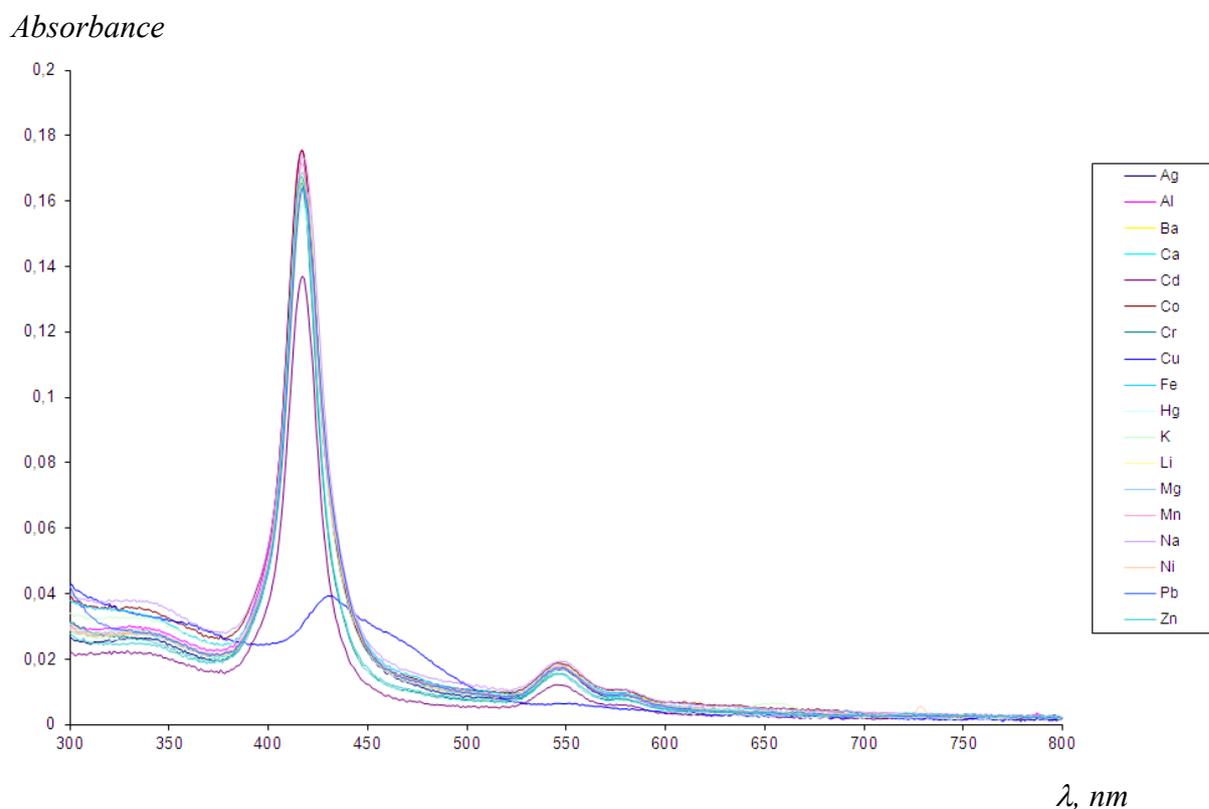
**Conjugate 6.** A two-necked flask flushed with dry argon, equipped with a magnetic stirrer and reflux condenser was charged with Zn porphyrinate **5** (0.15 mmol, 113 mg), azacrown derivative **4** (0.15 mmol, 64 mg), Pd(dba)<sub>2</sub> (7 mg, 8 mol%), BINAP (8.5 mg, 9 mol%), absolute dioxane (2 ml) and *t*BuONa (0.23 mmol, 22 mg). The reaction mixture was refluxed for 24 h, cooled to ambient temperature, diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 ml), the residue was filtered off, washed with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 ml), combined organic fractions were evaporated *in vacuo*, dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, washed with water (5 ml) and dried over molecular sieves. Solvent was again evaporated *in vacuo* and the residue was chromatographed on silica gel using a gradient of eluents: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> – CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 3:1. The target compound was eluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 10:1 Yield 24 mg (15%), deep-red solid. UV-vis (CH<sub>3</sub>CN):  $\lambda_{\max}$  = 409 nm (lg $\epsilon$  5.55), 539 (4.32), 574 (4.13); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 0.97 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.51 (sextet, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.69 (quintet, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.12 (quintet, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.25 (br.s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.51 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.70-3.50 (br.m, 26H, CH<sub>2</sub>N, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 3.11 (br.s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 3.34 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 3.41 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.43 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.71 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 4H), 6.06 (br.s, 1H, Ph), 6.27 (br.s, 2H, Ph), 6.80 (t, *J*<sub>obs</sub> = 6.9 Hz, 1H Ph), 6.92 (d, *J*<sub>obs</sub> = 6.8 Hz, 1H, Ph), 7.14 (s, 1H, Ph), 7.32 (d, *J*<sub>obs</sub> = 6.2 Hz, 1H, Ph), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, Ph), 9.42 (s, 1H, H<sub>meso</sub>), 9.82 (s, 2H, H<sub>meso</sub>) (two NH protons were not assigned); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 11.5 (2C), 12.1 (2C), 14.1 (2C), 15.1 (2C), 22.7 (2C), 26.3 (2C), 28.5 (1C), 32.4 (2C), 33.0 (2C), 41.6 (1C), 41.7 (1C), 51.9 (2C), 57.3 (1C), 68.8 (2C), 69.4 (4C), 69.6 (4C), 95.8 (1C), 96.7 (2C), 102.6 (1C), 112.5 (1C), 118.8 (1C), 123.0 (2C), 128.0 (1C), 135.6 (2C), 137.8 (2C), 138.4 (2C), 140.9 (2C), 144.4 (1C), 146.8 (2C), 146.9 (2C), 147.5 (2C), 147.7 (2C), 149.1 (1C), 149.2 (1C) (four quaternary carbon atoms were not assigned); MALDI-TOF: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 1096.6054; calcd for C<sub>64</sub>H<sub>86</sub>N<sub>7</sub>O<sub>5</sub>Zn: 1096.5982.

**Conjugate 9.** Yield 28 mg (15%), deep-red solid. UV-vis (CH<sub>3</sub>CN):  $\lambda_{\max}$  = 417 nm (lg $\epsilon$  4.80), 546 (3.45), 578 (3.17); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 0.96 (t,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 12H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.53 (sextet,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.73 (quintet,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.01 (br.s, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.18 (quintet,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.56 (s, 12H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.70 (br.s, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 3.21 (br.s, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 3.35-3.68 (m, 48H, CH<sub>2</sub>N, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 3.94 (t,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 6.44 (d,  $J_{\text{obs}}$  = 5.4 Hz, 2H, Ph), 6.63 (d,  $J_{\text{obs}}$  = 7.0 Hz, 4H, Ph), 6.93 (d,  $J_{\text{obs}}$  = 7.8 Hz, 4H, Ph), 7.10 (t,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 2H, Ph), 7.77 (d,  $J_{\text{obs}}$  = 7.8 Hz, 4H), 10.10 (s, 2H, H<sub>meso</sub>) (four NH protons were not assigned); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 14.2 (4C), 15.5 (4C), 22.8 (4C), 26.7 (4C), 29.6 (2C), 32.5 (4C), 33.1 (4C), 42.0 (2C), 42.2 (2C), 53.6 (4C), 59.3 (2C), 69.7-70.6 (m, 20C), 97.0 (2C), 111.7 (2C), 112.0 (4C), 114.3 (2C), 118.4 (2C), 128.7 (2C), 129.0 (4C), 133.7 (4C), 138.2 (4C), 142.8 (4C), 146.2 (4C), 148.2 (2C), 148.4 (4C) (four quaternary carbon atoms were not assigned); MALDI-TOF: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 1708.0395; calcd for C<sub>100</sub>H<sub>143</sub>N<sub>10</sub>O<sub>10</sub>Zn: 1708.0280.

**Conjugate 10.** A two-necked flask flushed with dry argon, equipped with a magnetic stirrer and reflux condenser was charged with porphyrin **8** (0.1 mmol, 96 mg), azacrown derivative **3** (0.2 mmol, 76 mg), Pd(dba)<sub>2</sub> (9 mg, 16 mol%), BINAP (11 mg, 18 mol%), absolute dioxane (1 ml) and *t*BuONa (0.3 mmol, 29 mg). The reaction mixture was refluxed for 24 h and then worked up in a similar manner as described for compound **6**. The target compound was eluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH/NH<sub>3</sub>aq 100:20:3. Yield 32 mg (20%), deep-red solid. UV-vis (CH<sub>3</sub>CN):  $\lambda_{\max}$  = 409 nm (lg $\epsilon$  5.02); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = -2.40 (br.s, 2H, NH<sub>porph</sub>), 0.95 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 12H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.51 (sextet,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.71 (quintet,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.15 (quintet,  $J$  = 5.8 Hz, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.19 (quintet,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.61 (s, 12H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.84 (br., 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 3.42 (t,  $J$  = 6.3 Hz, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 3.53 (t,  $J$  = 6.1 Hz, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 3.64 (br.s, 36H, CH<sub>2</sub>N, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 3.98 (t,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.60 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H, Ph), 6.69 (d,  $J_{\text{obs}}$  = 7.1 Hz, 2H, Ph), 6.86 (br.s, 2H, Ph), 6.98 (d,  $J_{\text{obs}}$  = 8.1 Hz, 4H, Ph), 7.17 (t,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 2H, Ph), 7.79 (d,  $J_{\text{obs}}$  = 8.1 Hz, 4H, Ph), 10.20 (s, 2H, H<sub>meso</sub>) (four NH protons were not assigned); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 14.2 (4C), 14.9 (4C), 22.8 (4C), 26.7 (4C), 29.5 (2C), 32.5 (4C), 33.0 (4C), 42.2 (2C), 42.4 (2C), 54.4 (4C), 60.7 (2C), 69.9 (4C), 70.2 (4C), 70.5 (4C), 70.9 (4C), 96.6 (2C), 111.1 (2C), 112.0 (4C), 113.7 (2C), 118.1 (4C), 122.5 (2C), 129.1 (2C), 133.5 (4C), 136.5 (4C), 141.3 (4C), 142.8 (4C), 145.8 (2C), 148.3 (2C), 148.4 (2C) (four quaternary carbon atoms were not assigned); MALDI-TOF: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 1558.0527; calcd for C<sub>96</sub>H<sub>137</sub>N<sub>10</sub>O<sub>8</sub>: 1558.0621.

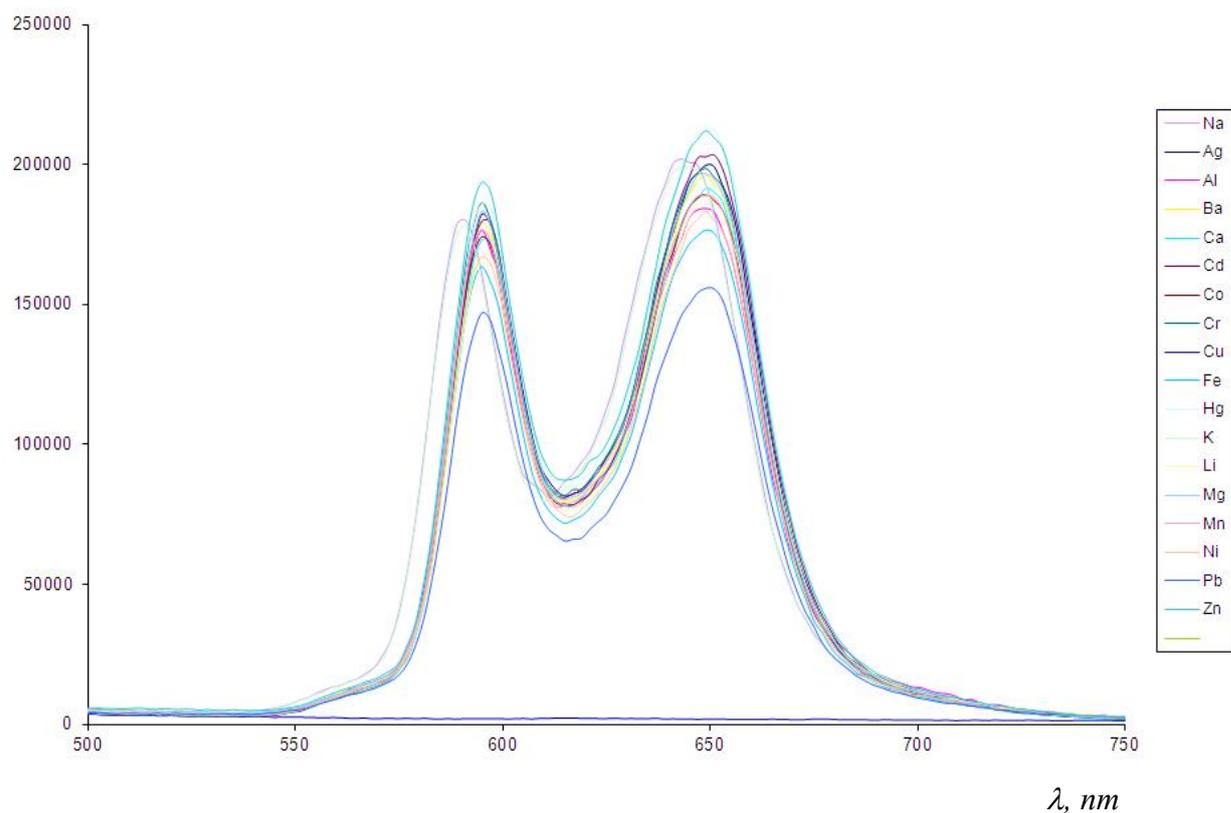
**Porphyrin 11.** A two-necked flask flushed with dry argon, equipped with a magnetic stirrer and reflux condenser was charged with porphyrin **8** (0.1 mmol, 96 mg), propane-1,3-diamine (0.3 mmol, 22 mg), Pd(dba)<sub>2</sub> (2.5 mg, 4 mol%), BINAP (3 mg, 4.5 mol%), absolute dioxane (1 ml)

and *t*BuONa (0.3 mmol, 29 mg). The reaction mixture was refluxed for 24 h, cooled to ambient temperature, diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 ml), the residue was filtered off, washed with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 ml), combined organic fractions were evaporated *in vacuo*, and chromatographed on silica gel using a gradient of eluents: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> – CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 3:1 – CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH/NH<sub>3</sub>aq 100:20:1-10:14:1. The target compound was eluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH/NH<sub>3</sub>aq 100:20:3. Yield 46 mg (49%), deep-red solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = -2.30 (br.s, 2H, NH<sub>porph</sub>), 1.00 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 12H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.57 (sextet, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.77 (quintet, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.88 (quintet, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.25 (quintet, *J*<sub>obs</sub> = 5.8 Hz, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.65 (s, 12H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.93 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 3.37 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 4.03 (t, *J*<sub>obs</sub> = 5.8 Hz, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.92 (d, *J*<sub>obs</sub> = 8.1 Hz, 4H, Ph), 7.80 (d, *J*<sub>obs</sub> = 8.1 Hz, 4H, Ph), 10.26 (s, 2H, H<sub>meso</sub>) (six NH protons were not assigned); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 14.2 (4C), 14.9 (4C), 22.8 (4C), 26.7 (4C), 32.5 (6C), 33.0 (4C), 40.2 (2C), 42.4 (2C), 96.6 (2C), 111.9 (4C), 118.4 (2C), 131.1 (2C), 133.5 (4C), 136.5 (4C), 141.3 (4C), 142.8 (4C), 145.9 (4C), 148.5 (2C); MALDI-TOF: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 943.7136; calcd for C<sub>62</sub>H<sub>87</sub>N<sub>8</sub>: 943.7054.



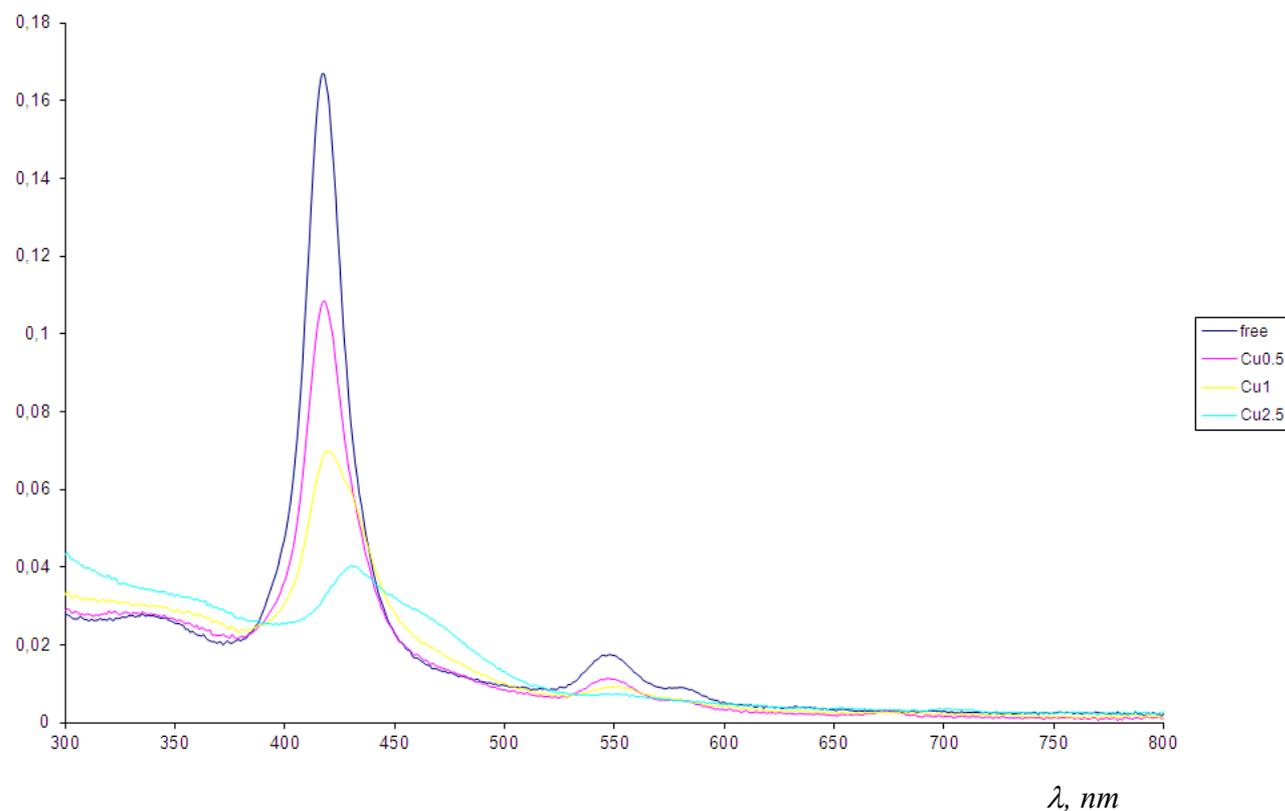
**Figure S1** Evolution of UV-vis spectrum of trismacrocycle **9** after addition of 2.5 equiv. metal perchlorates (MeCN, C = 3.33·10<sup>-6</sup> M).

### Emission



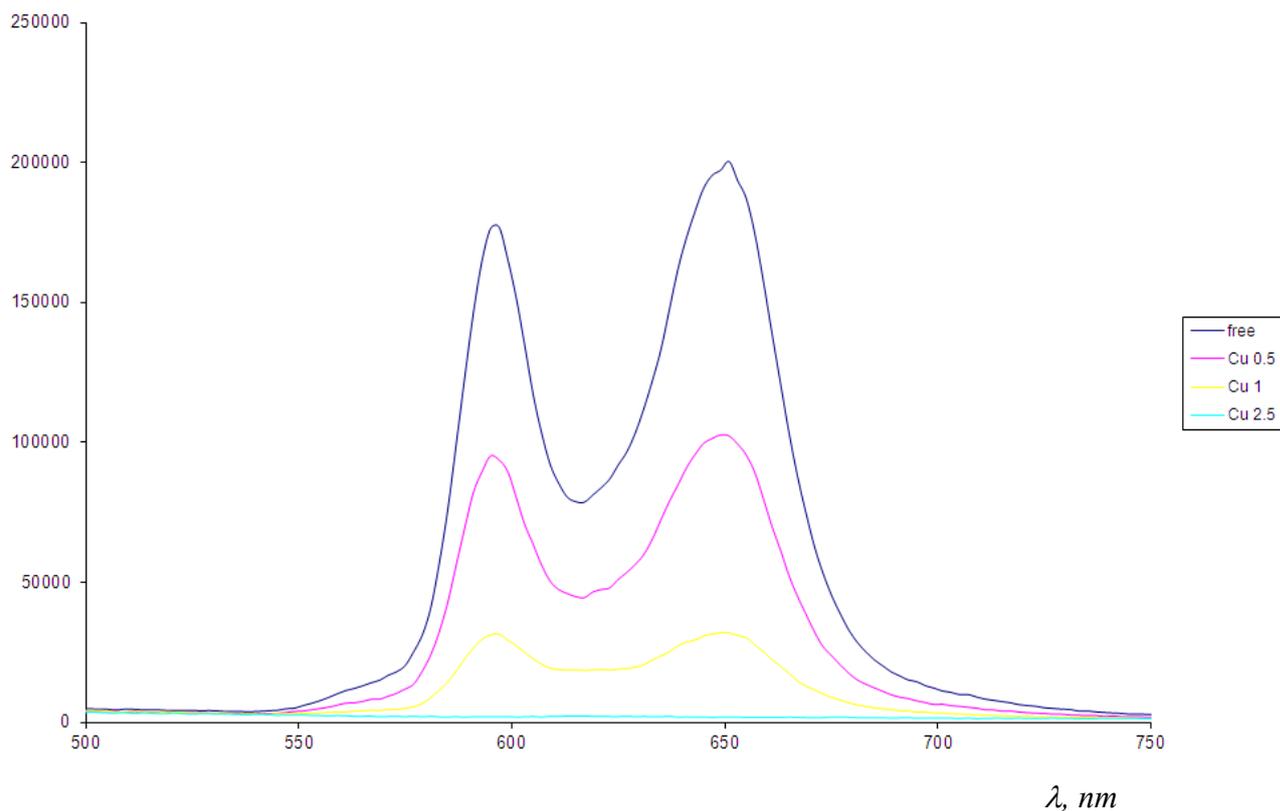
**Figure S2** Evolution of the fluorescence of trismacrocycle **9** after addition of 2.5 equiv. metal perchlorates (MeCN,  $C = 3.33 \times 10^{-6}$  M,  $\lambda_{ex}$  418 nm).

### Absorbance



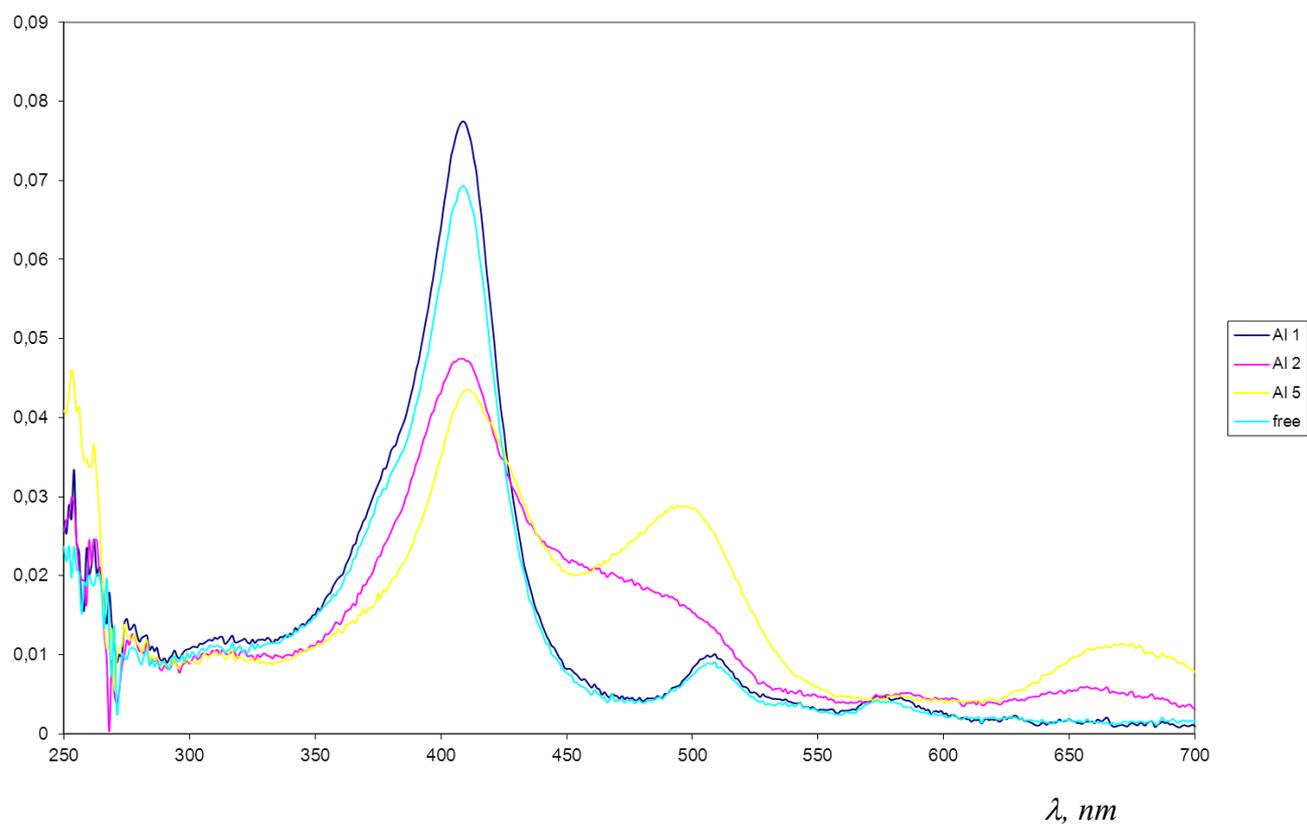
**Figure S3** Evolution of UV-vis spectrum of trismacrocycle **9** after addition of 0.5, 1 and 2.5 equiv.  $\text{Cu}(\text{ClO}_4)_2$  (MeCN,  $C = 3.33 \times 10^{-6}$  M).

### Emission

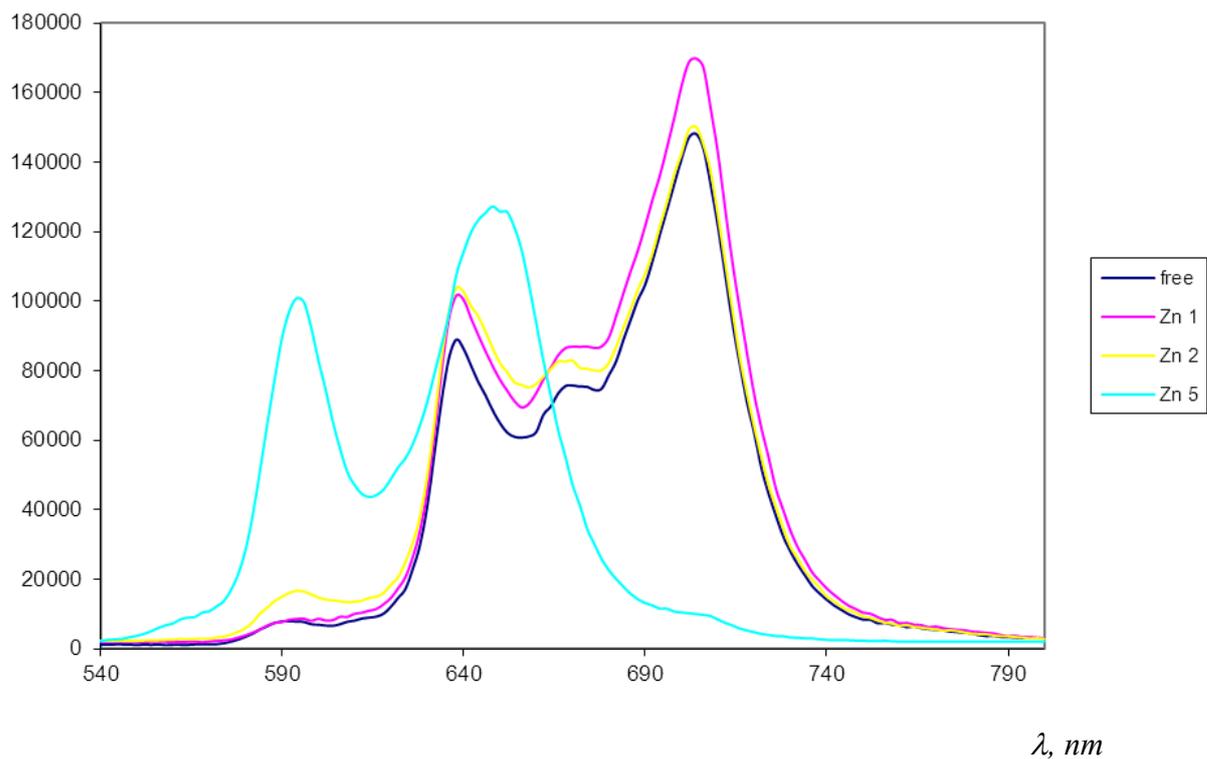


**Figure S4** Evolution of the fluorescence of trismacrocycle **9** after addition of 0.5, 1 and 2.5 equiv.  $\text{Cu}(\text{ClO}_4)_2$  (MeCN,  $C = 3.33 \cdot 10^{-6}$  M,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} 418$  nm).

### Absorbance



**Figure S5** Evolution of UV-vis spectrum of trismacrocycle **10** after addition of 1, 2 and 5 equiv.  $\text{Al}(\text{ClO}_4)_3$  (MeCN,  $C = 6.4 \cdot 10^{-7}$  M).



**Figure S6** Evolution of the fluorescence of trismacrocycle **10** after addition of 1, 2 and 5 equiv.  $\text{Zn}(\text{ClO}_4)_2$  (MeCN,  $C = 6.4 \cdot 10^{-7}$  M,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} 409$  nm).