

*Supporting Information for*

**A Near IR Fluorescent Probe for  
Enantioselective Recognition of Amino  
Acids in Aqueous Solution**

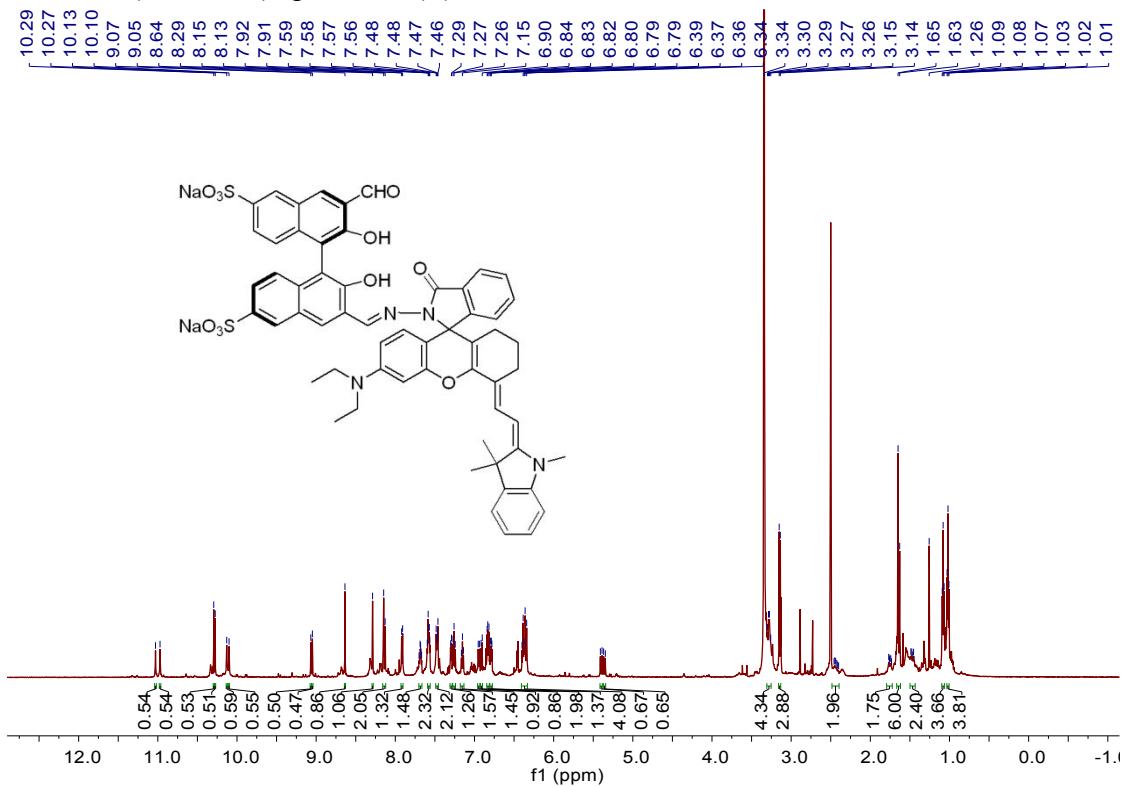
Feng Zhao<sup>a,b</sup>, Jun Tian<sup>a</sup>, Xuedan Wu<sup>b</sup>, Shuo Li<sup>b,c</sup>, Yu Chen<sup>a</sup>, Shanshan Yu\*<sup>a</sup>, Xiaoqi Yu\*<sup>a</sup>, Lin Pu\*<sup>b</sup>

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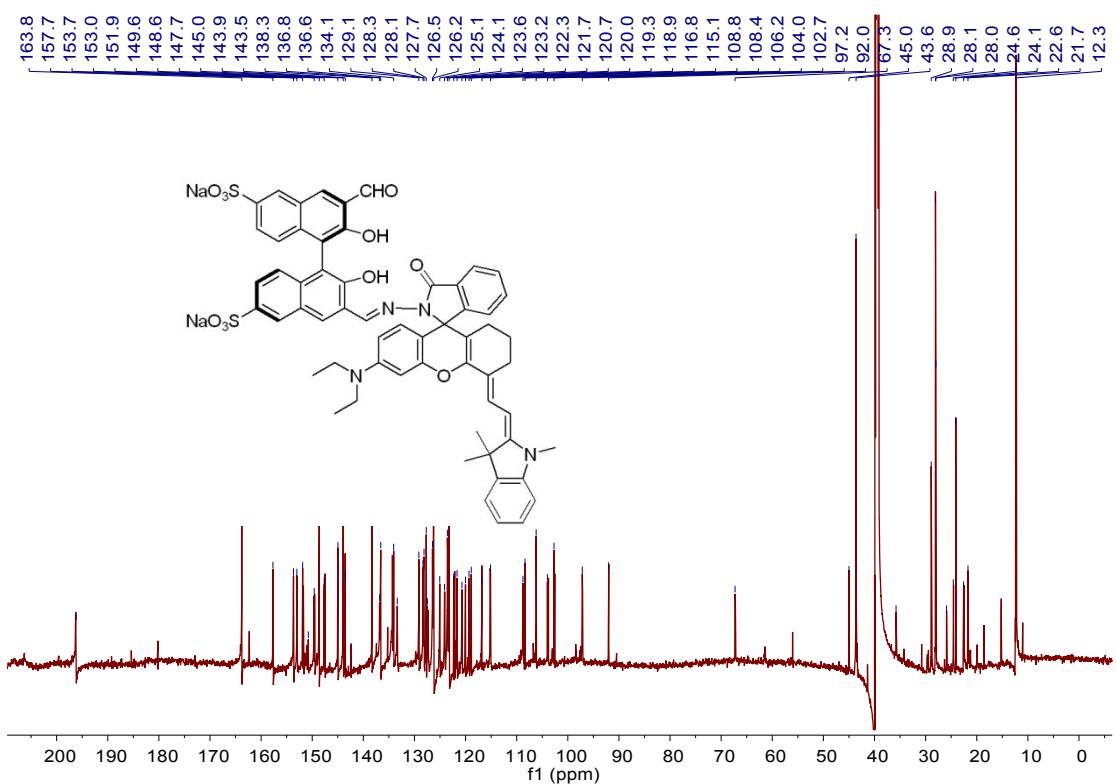
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## 1. $^1\text{H}$ NMR, $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR and HRMS Spectra of 4

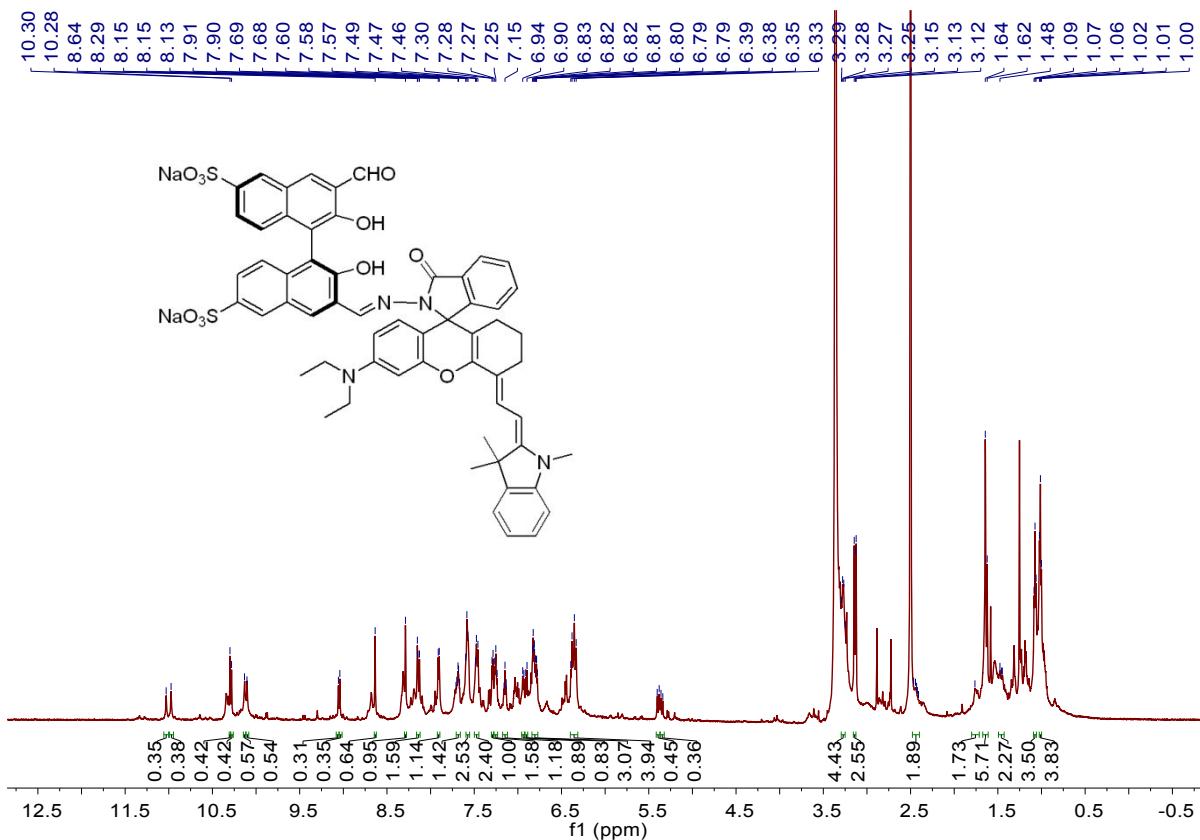
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz) spectra of (*R*)-4 in  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$



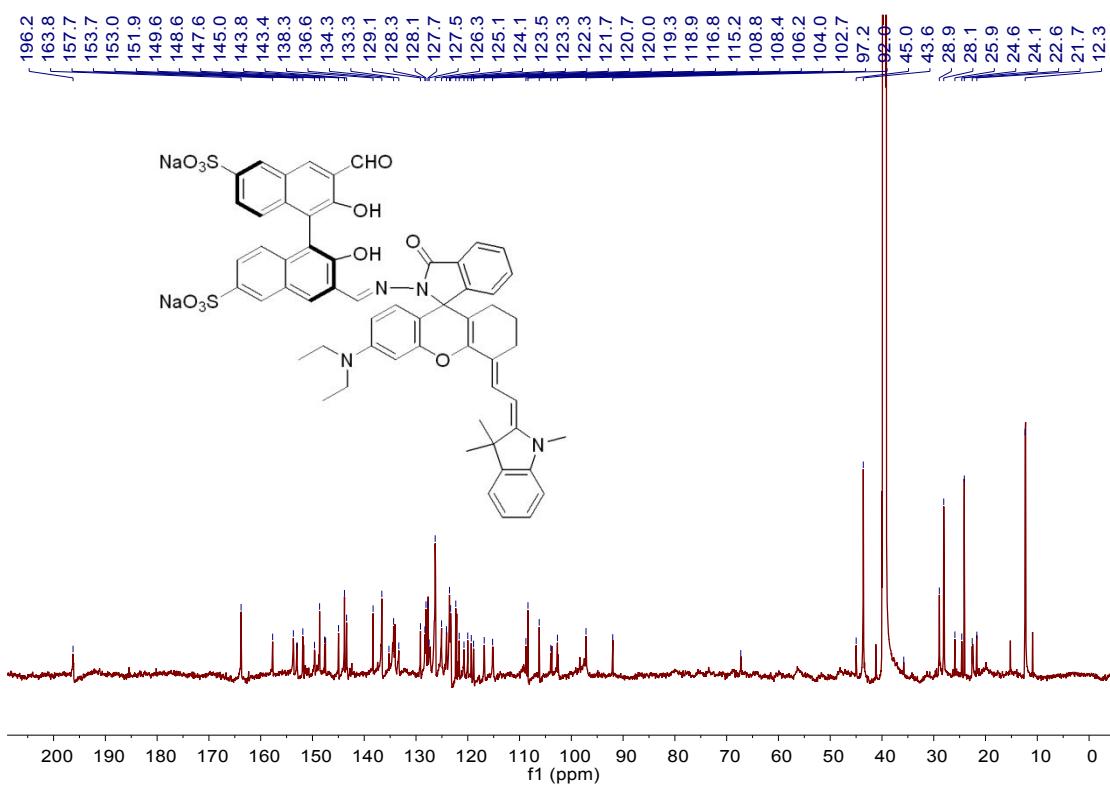
$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (201 MHz) spectra of (*R*)-4 in  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$



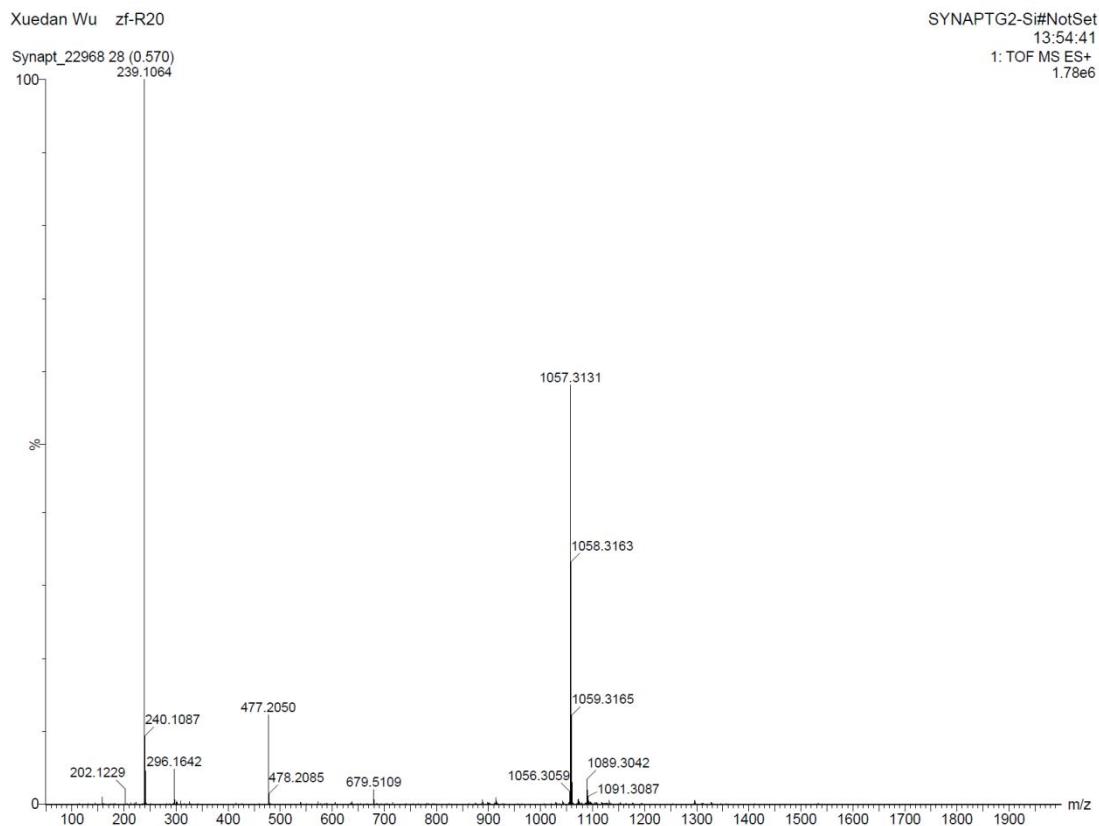
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz) spectra of (*S*)-4 in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>



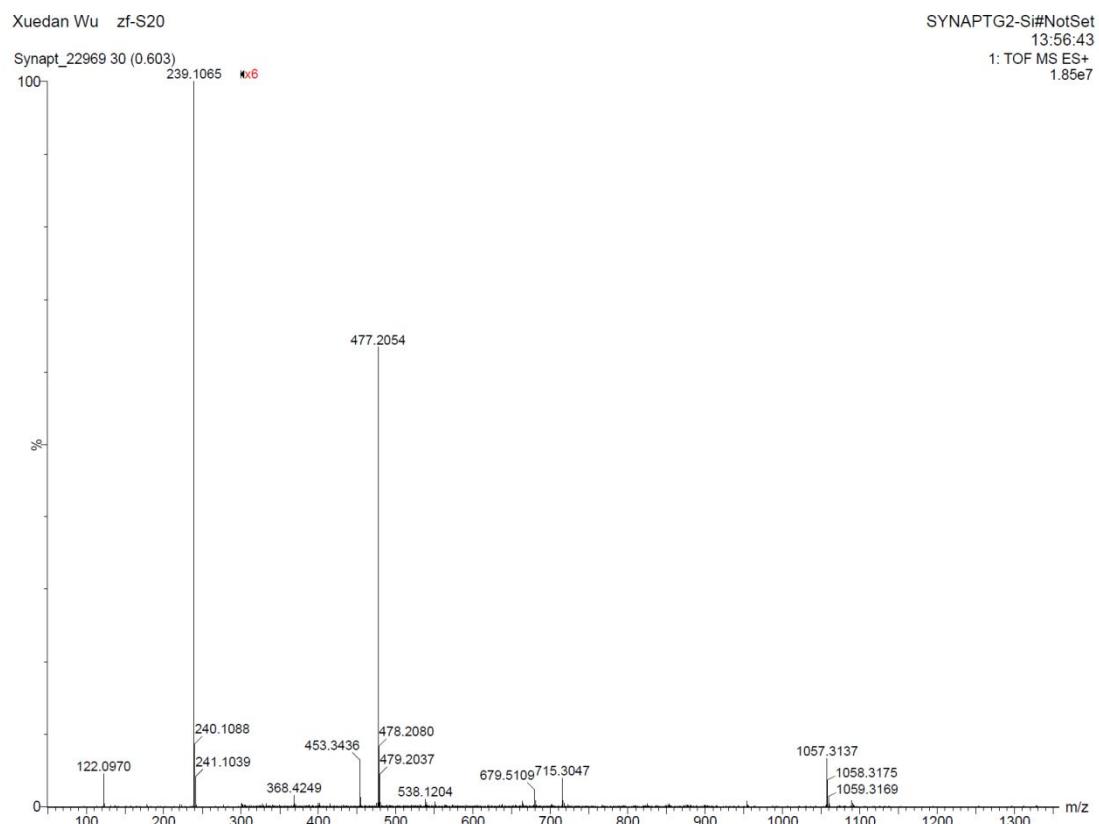
$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (201 MHz) spectra of (*S*)-4 in  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$



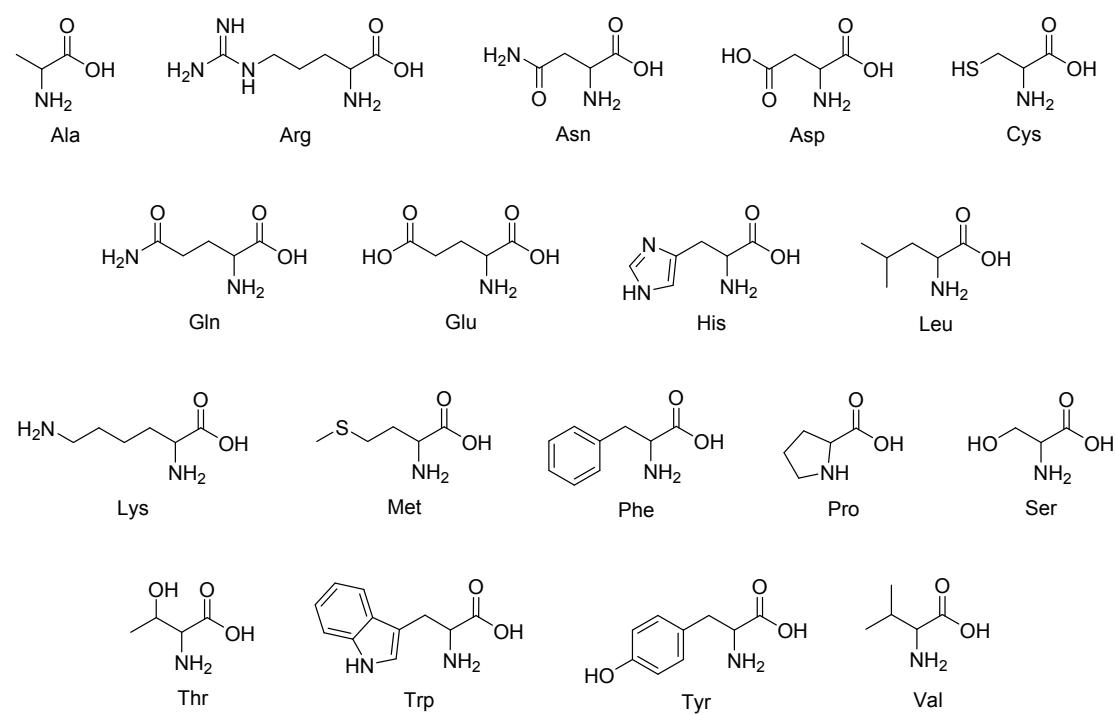
## HRMS of (*R*)-4



## HRMS of (*S*)-4

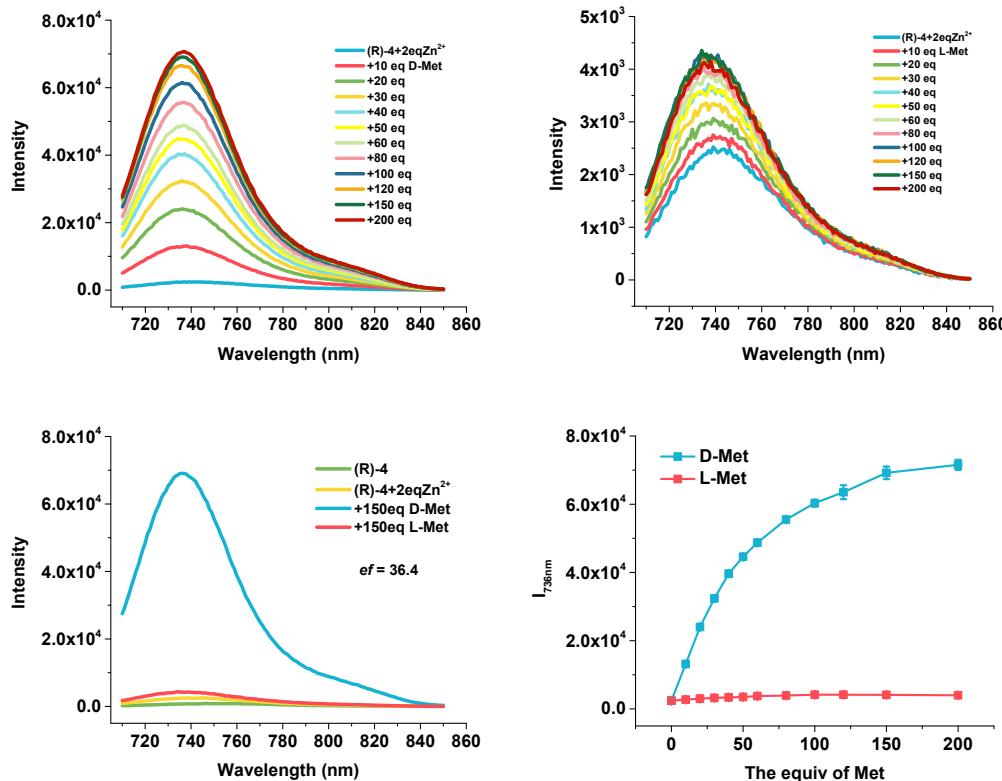


**Figure S1.** Structures of amino acids studied.

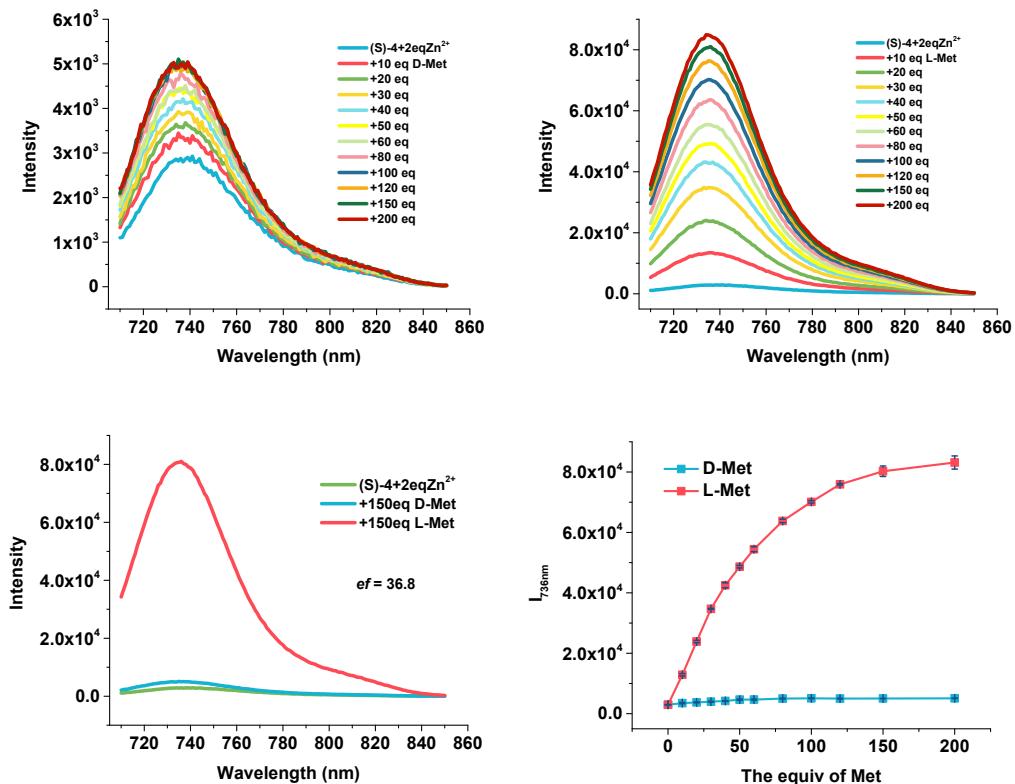


## 2. Fluorescence spectra of 4 with methionine

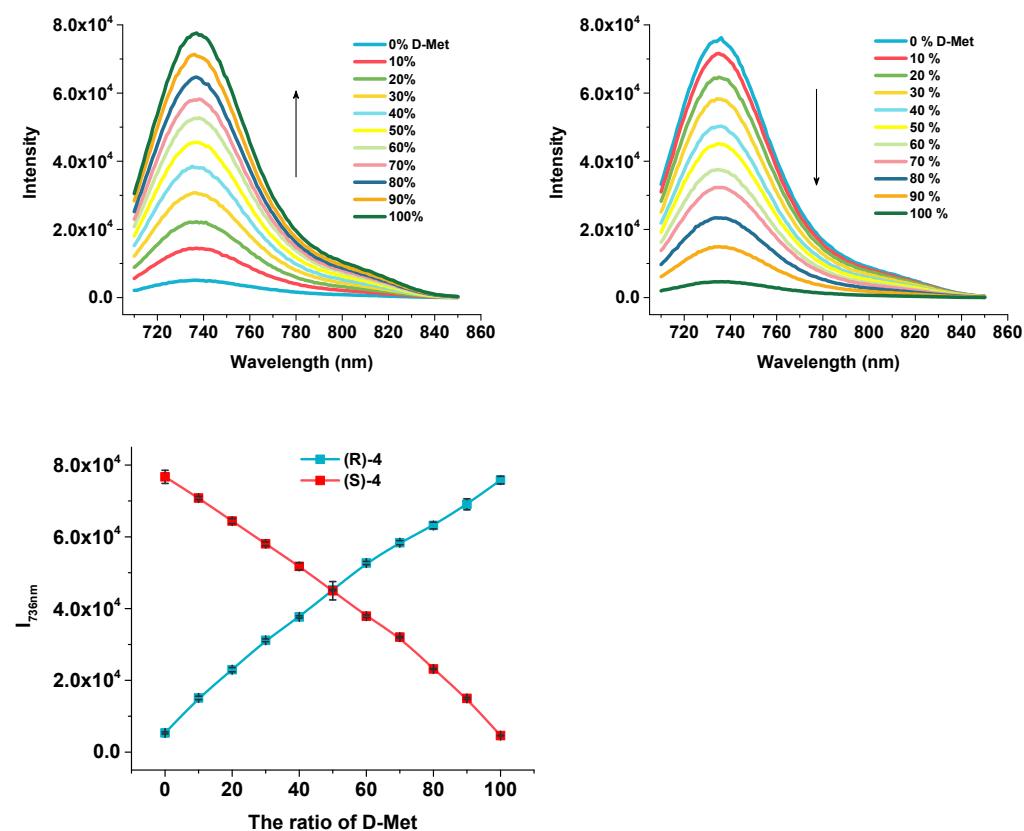
**Figure S2.** Fluorescence spectra of (*R*)-4+Zn<sup>2+</sup> (2 equiv) (10 μM) with various equiv of D-Met or L-Met in 50 mM HEPES (pH = 7.4)/1% DMSO. Fluorescence intensity at 736 nm versus the equiv of methionine. Spectra were recorded at rt after mixing at 37 °C for 4 h. ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 690 \text{ nm}$ , slits = 5/5 nm)



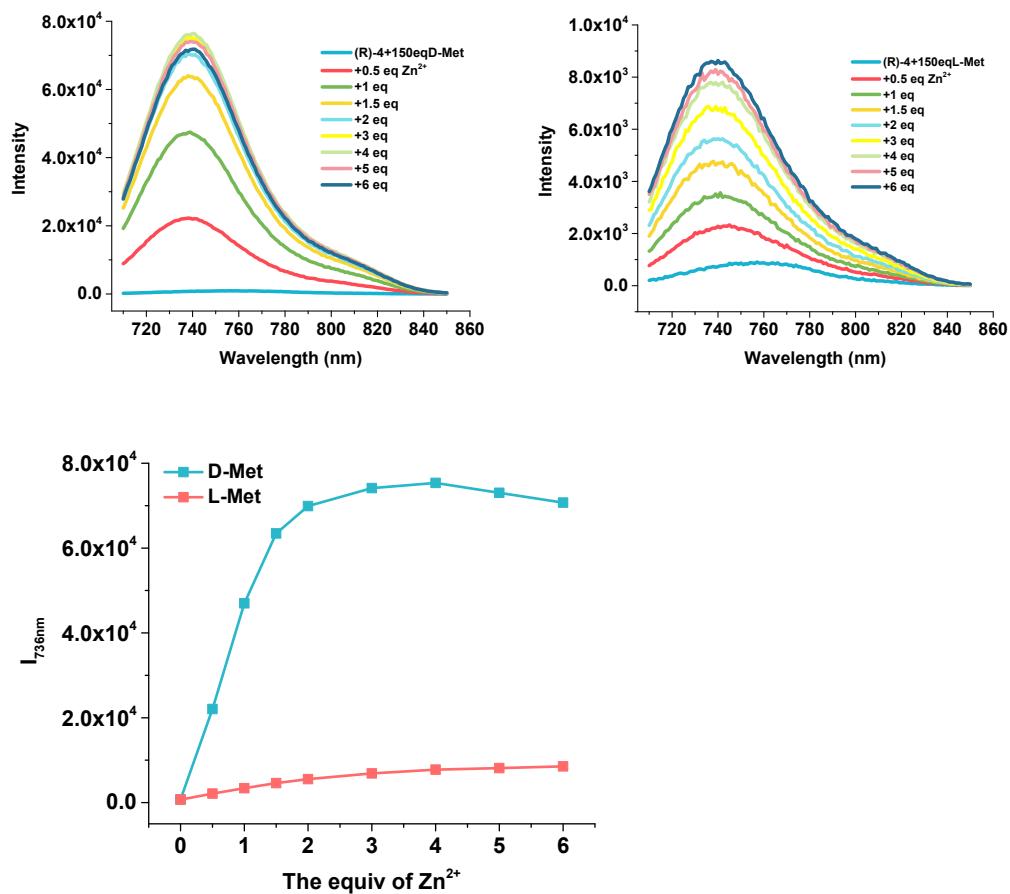
**Figure S3.** Fluorescence spectra of (*S*)-4+Zn<sup>2+</sup> (2 equiv) (10  $\mu$ M) with various equiv of D-Met or L-Met in 50 mM HEPES (pH = 7.4)/1% DMSO. Fluorescence intensity at 736 nm versus the equiv of methionine. Spectra were recorded at rt after mixing at 37 °C for 4 h. ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 690 \text{ nm}$ , slits = 5/5 nm)



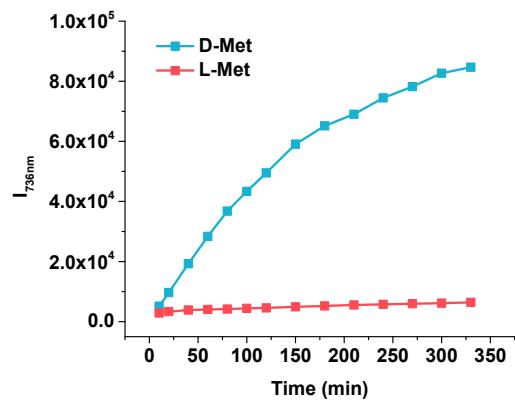
**Figure S4.** Fluorescence spectra of (*R*)-4 and (*S*)-4 (10  $\mu$ M)+Zn<sup>2+</sup> (2 equiv) ( $1.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M) in the presence of the enantiomeric mixture of methionine (150 equiv) [from 0% to 100% D-Met]. Fluorescence intensity at 736 nm versus the enantiomeric purity of methionine. Spectra were recorded at rt after mixing at 37 °C for 4 h. ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 690$  nm, slits = 5/5 nm)



**Figure S5.** Fluorescence spectra of (*R*)-4 ( $1.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M) with various equiv of  $Zn^{2+}$  in 50 mM HEPES buffer ( $pH = 7.4$ )/1% DMSO in the presence of 150 equiv of D-Met or L-Met. Fluorescence intensity at 736 nm versus the equiv of  $Zn(OAc)_2$ . Spectra were recorded at rt after mixing at 37 °C for 4 h. ( $\lambda_{exc} = 690$  nm, slits = 5/5 nm)

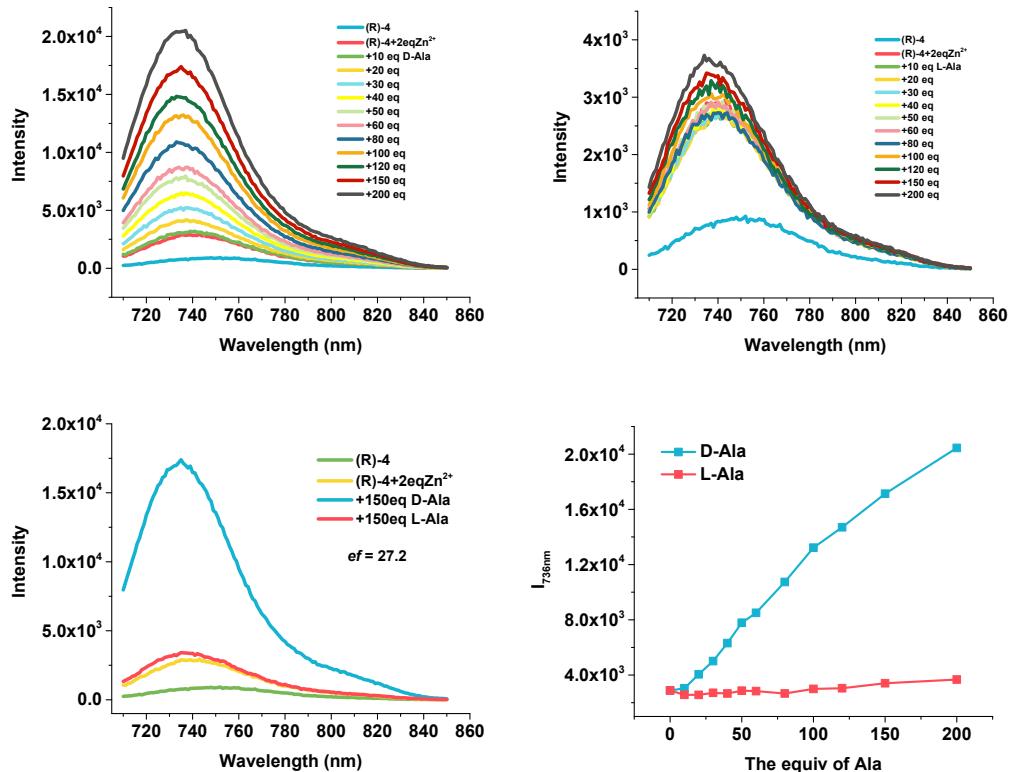


**Figure S6.** Time dependence fluorescence responses. (*R*)-**4** ( $1.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M in 50 mM HEPES at pH = 7.4 / 1% DMSO) and Zn<sup>2+</sup> (2 equiv) were placed in a 10 mL test tube, to which was added D- or L- Met (150 equiv). The resulting solutions were allowed to stand at 37 °C for 10, 20, 40, 60, 80, 100, 120, 150, 180, 210, 240, 270, 300 and 330 min respectively and each fluorescent spectrum was recorded at rt. This figure plots the fluorescent intensities at 736 nm versus the reaction time. ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 690$  nm, slits = 5/5 nm)

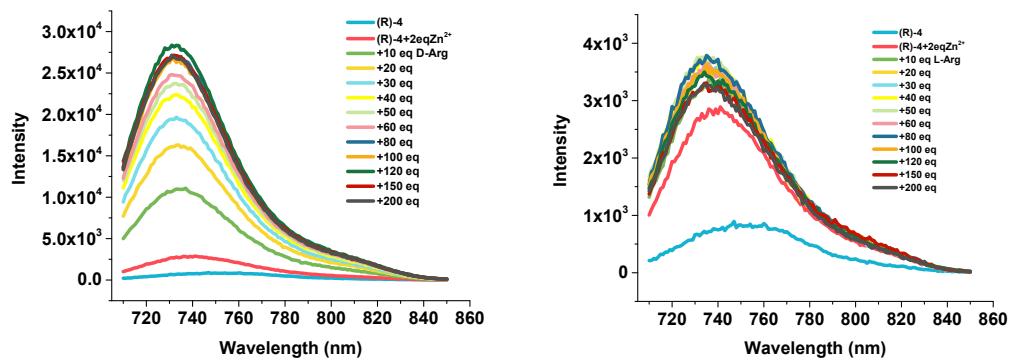


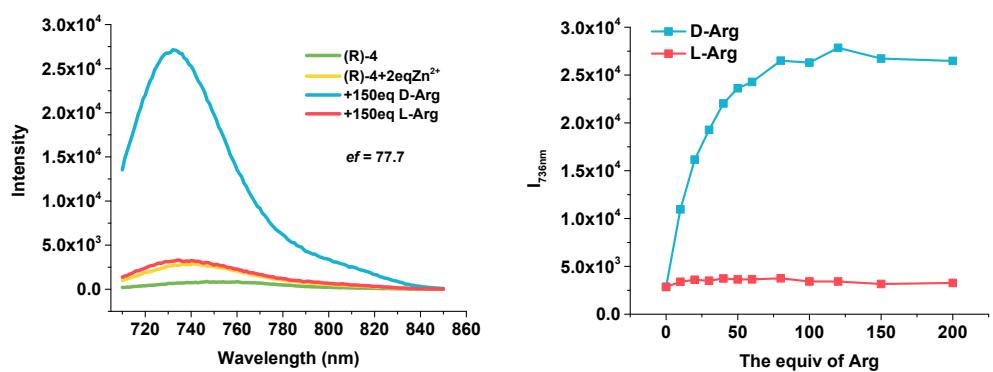
### 3. Fluorescence spectra of (*R*)-4 with amino acids

**Figure S7.** Fluorescence spectra of (*R*)-4 (10  $\mu$ M)+Zn<sup>2+</sup> (2 equiv) with various equiv of D- or L-Ala in 50 mM HEPES (pH = 7.4)/1% DMSO. Fluorescence intensity at 736 nm versus the equiv of alanine. Spectra were recorded at rt after mixing at 37 °C for 4 h. ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 690$  nm, slits = 5/5 nm)

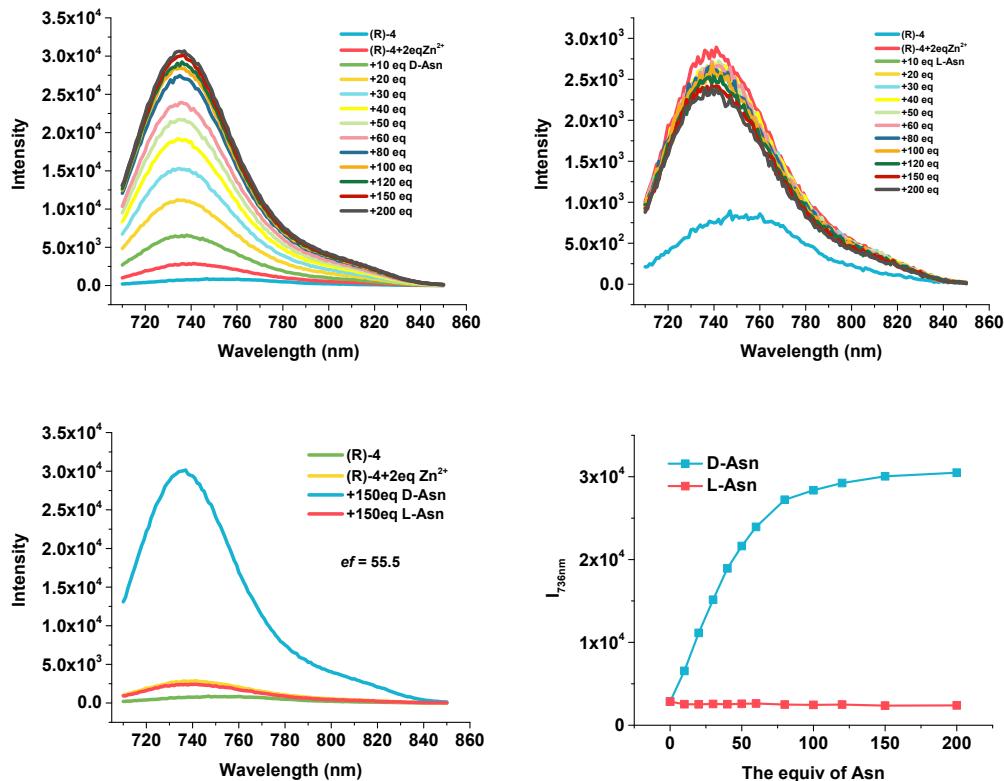


**Figure S8.** Fluorescence spectra of (*R*)-4 (10  $\mu$ M)+Zn<sup>2+</sup>(2 equiv) with various equiv of D-Arg or L-Arg in 50 mM HEPES (pH = 7.4)/1% DMSO. Fluorescence intensity at 736 nm versus the equiv of arginine. Spectra were recorded at rt after mixing at 37 °C for 4 h. ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 690$  nm, slits = 5/5 nm)

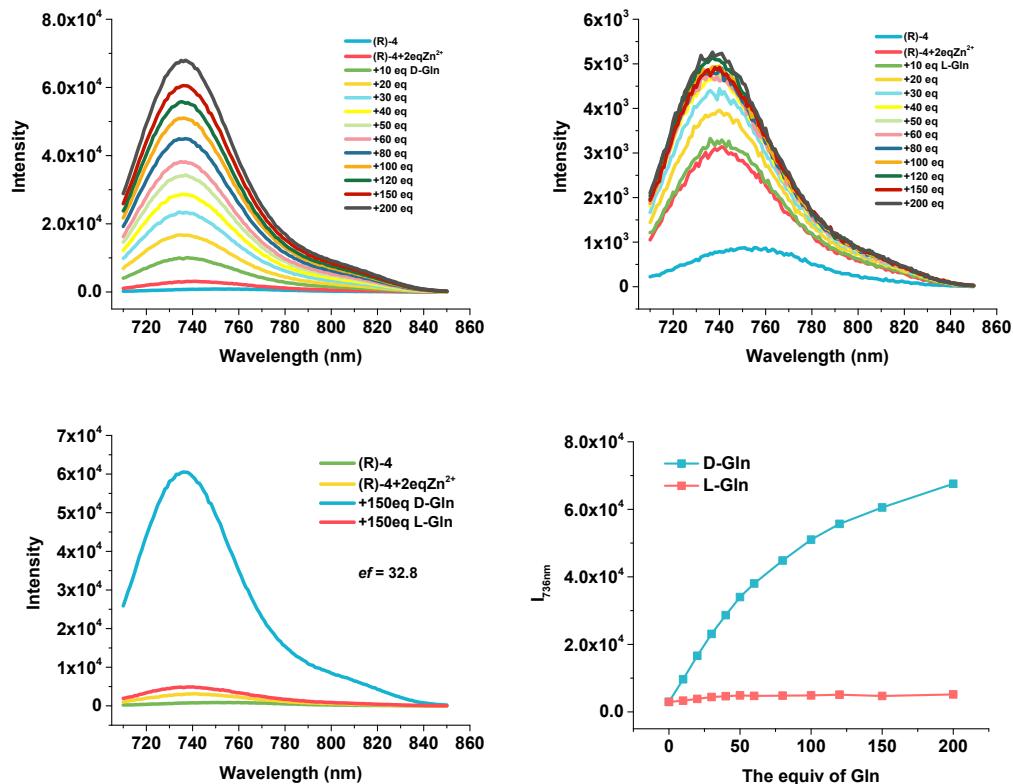




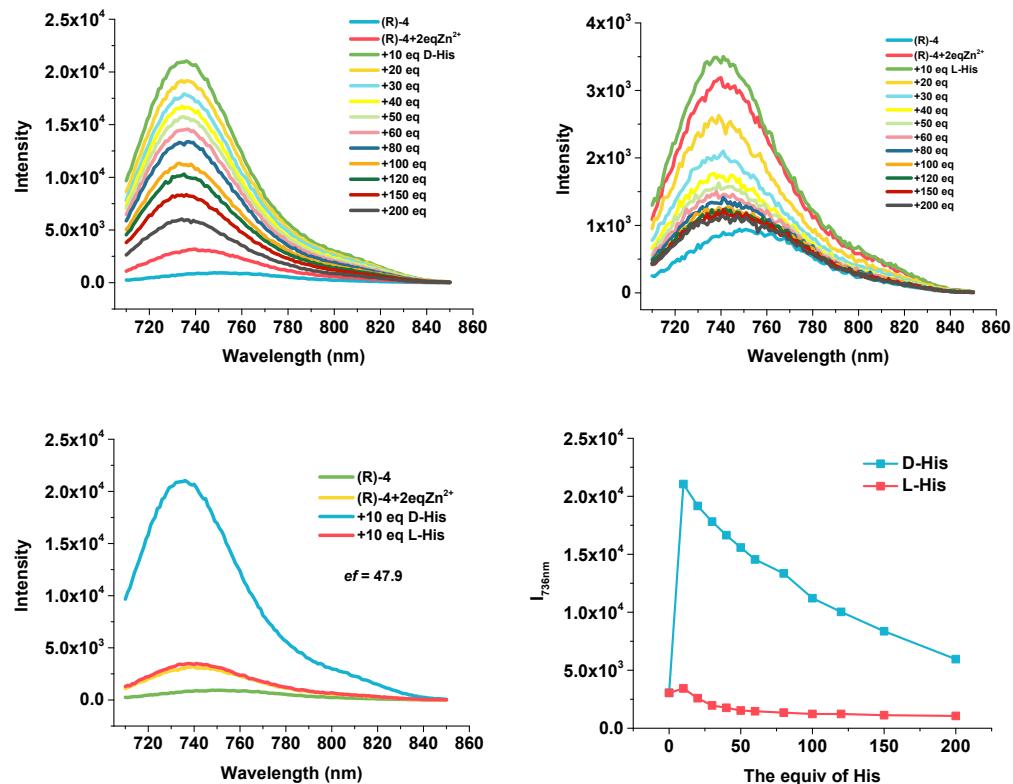
**Figure S9.** Fluorescence spectra of (*R*)-4 (10  $\mu$ M)+Zn<sup>2+</sup> (2 equiv) with various equiv of D-Asn or L-Asn in 50 mM HEPES (pH = 7.4)/1% DMSO. Fluorescence intensity at 736 nm versus the equiv of Asparagine. Spectra were recorded at rt after mixing at 37 °C for 4 h. ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 690 \text{ nm}$ , slits = 5/5 nm)



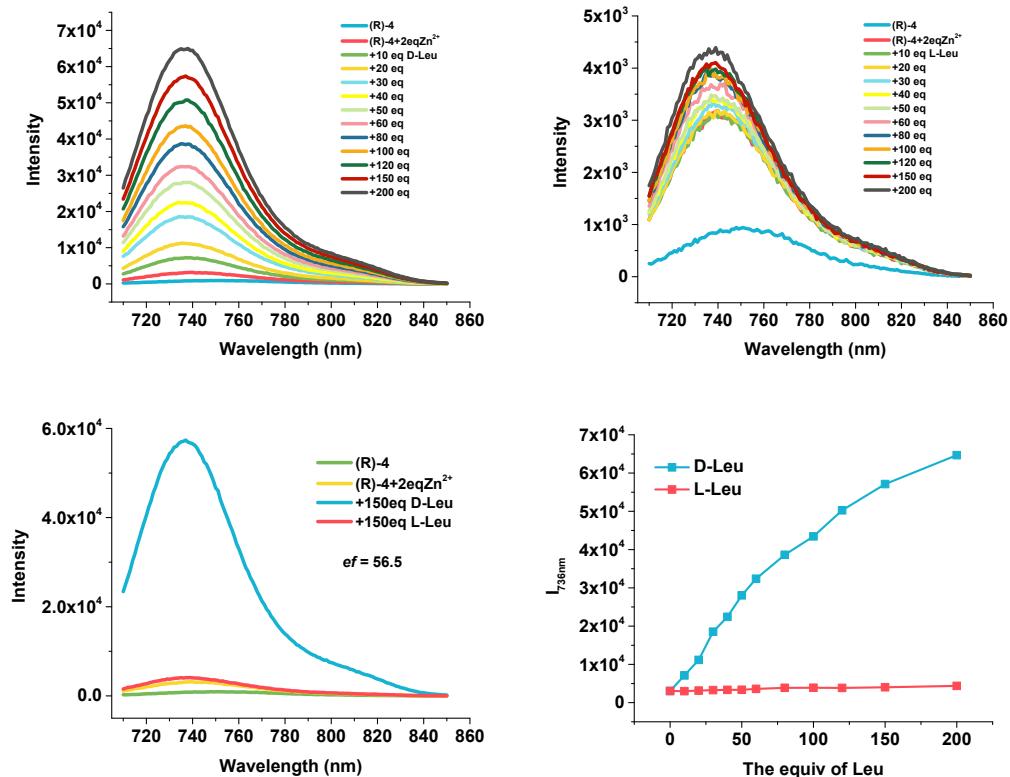
**Figure S10.** Fluorescence spectra of (*R*)-4 (10  $\mu$ M) + Zn<sup>2+</sup>(2 equiv) with various equiv of D-Gln or L-Gln in 50 mM HEPES (pH = 7.4)/1% DMSO. Fluorescence intensity at 736 nm versus the equiv of glutamine. Spectra were recorded at rt after mixing at 37 °C for 4 h. ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 690 \text{ nm}$ , slits = 5/5 nm)



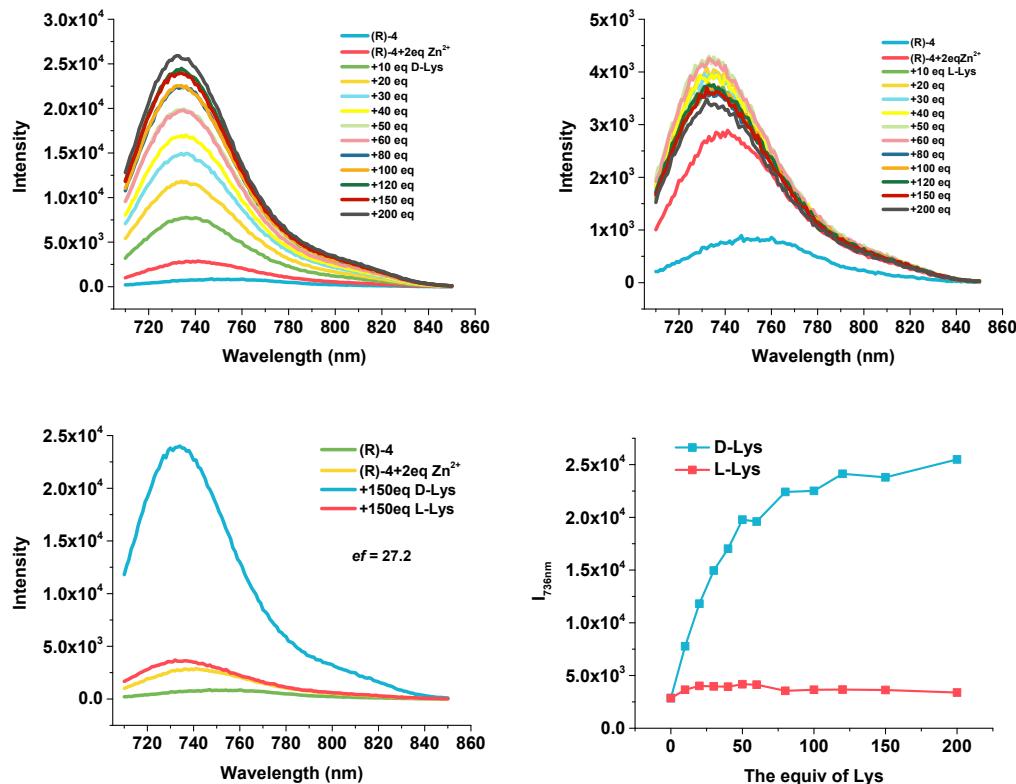
**Figure S11.** Fluorescence spectra of (*R*)-4 (10  $\mu$ M) + Zn<sup>2+</sup> (2 equiv) with various equiv of D-His or L-His in 50 mM HEPES (pH = 7.4)/1% DMSO. Fluorescence intensity at 736 nm versus the equiv of histidine. Spectra were recorded at rt after mixing at 37 °C for 4 h. ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 690$  nm, slits = 5/5 nm)



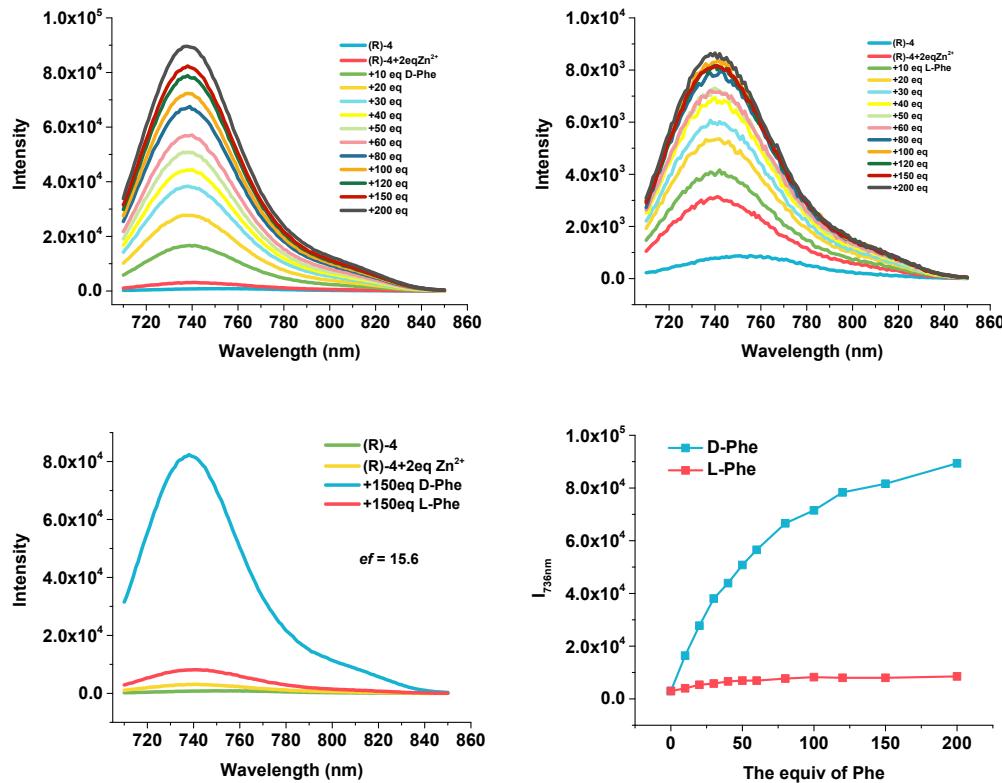
**Figure S12.** Fluorescence spectra of (*R*)-4 (10  $\mu$ M) + Zn<sup>2+</sup> (2 equiv) with various equiv of D-Leu or L-Leu in 50 mM HEPES (pH = 7.4)/1% DMSO. Fluorescence intensity at 736 nm versus the equiv of Leucine. Spectra were recorded at rt after mixing at 37 °C for 4 h. ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 690 \text{ nm}$ , slits = 5/5 nm)



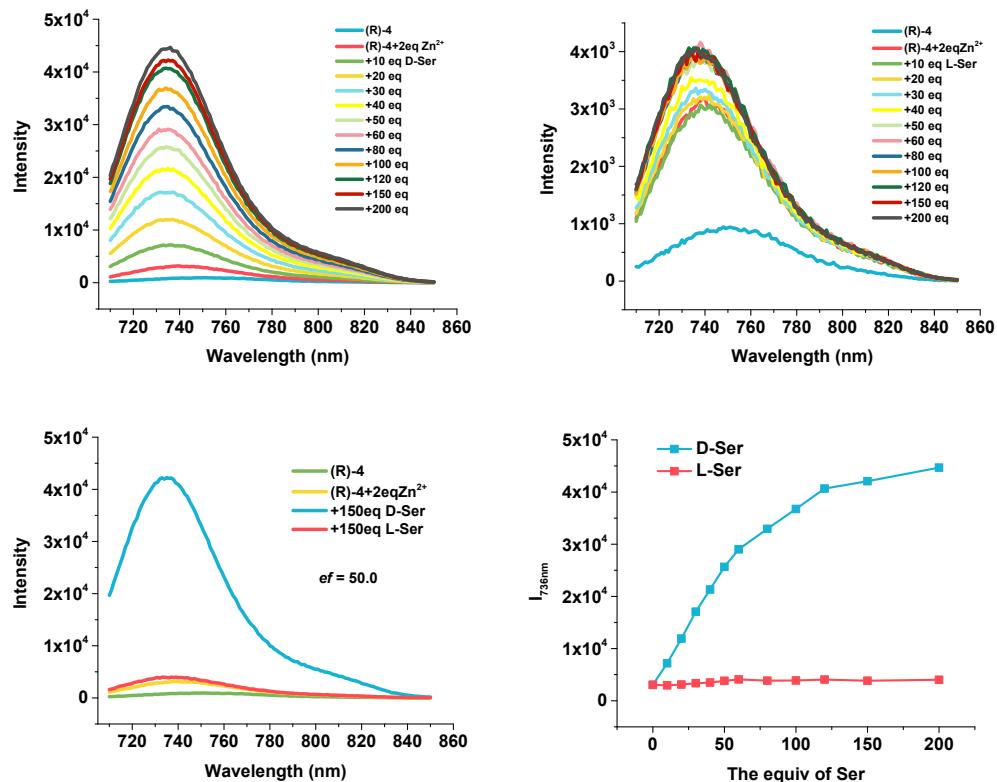
**Figure S13.** Fluorescence spectra of (*R*)-4 (10  $\mu$ M) + Zn<sup>2+</sup> (2 equiv) with various equiv of D-Lys or L-Lys in 50 mM HEPES (pH = 7.4)/1% DMSO. Fluorescence intensity at 736 nm versus the equiv of Lysine. Spectra were recorded at rt after mixing at 37 °C for 4 h. ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 690 \text{ nm}$ , slits = 5/5 nm)



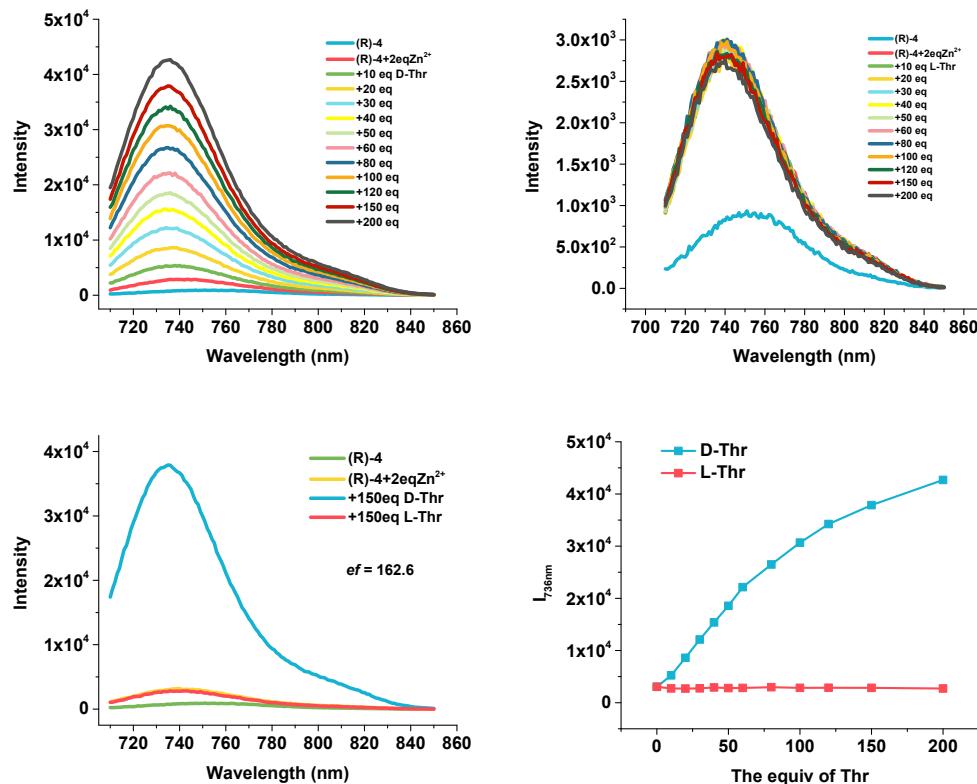
**Figure S14.** Fluorescence spectra of (*R*)-4 (10  $\mu$ M) + Zn<sup>2+</sup> (2 equiv) with various equiv of D-Phe or L-Phe in 50 mM HEPES (pH = 7.4)/1% DMSO. Fluorescence intensity at 736 nm versus the equiv of phenylalanine. Spectra were recorded at rt after mixing at 37 °C for 4 h. ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 690 \text{ nm}$ , slits = 5/5 nm)



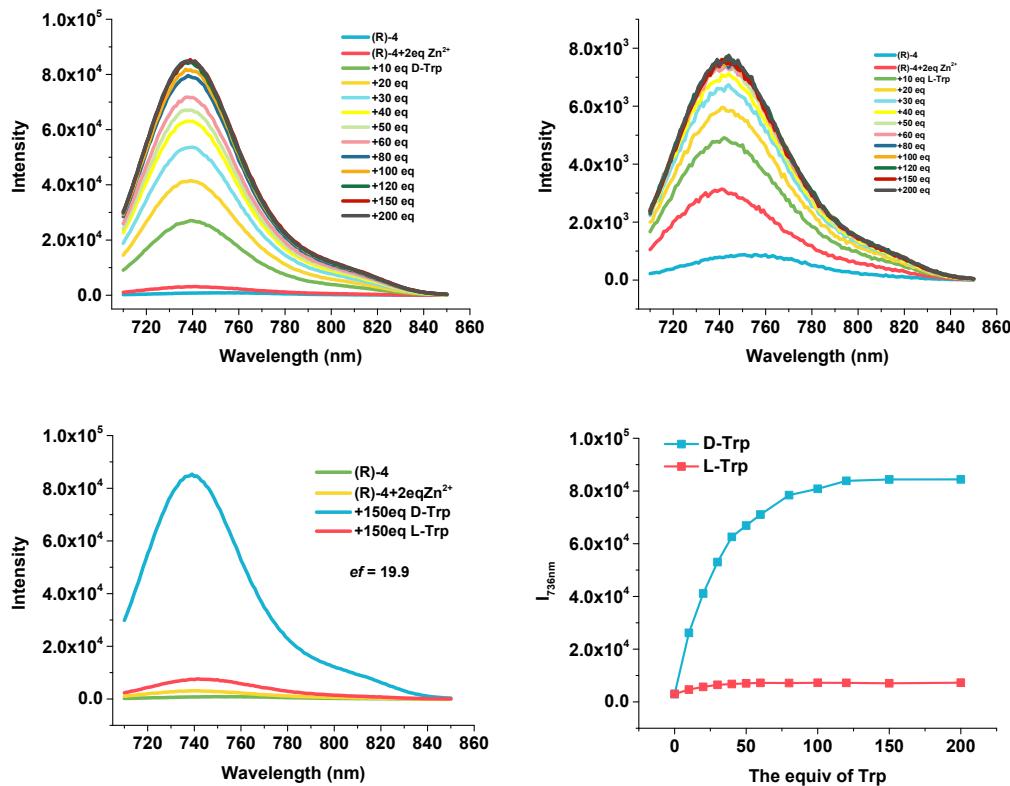
**Figure S15.** Fluorescence spectra of (*R*)-4 (10  $\mu$ M) + Zn<sup>2+</sup> (2 equiv) with various equiv of D-Ser or L-Ser in 50 mM HEPES (pH = 7.4)/1% DMSO. Fluorescence intensity at 736 nm versus the equiv of Serine. Spectra were recorded at rt after mixing at 37 °C for 4 h. ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 690$  nm, slits = 5/5 nm)



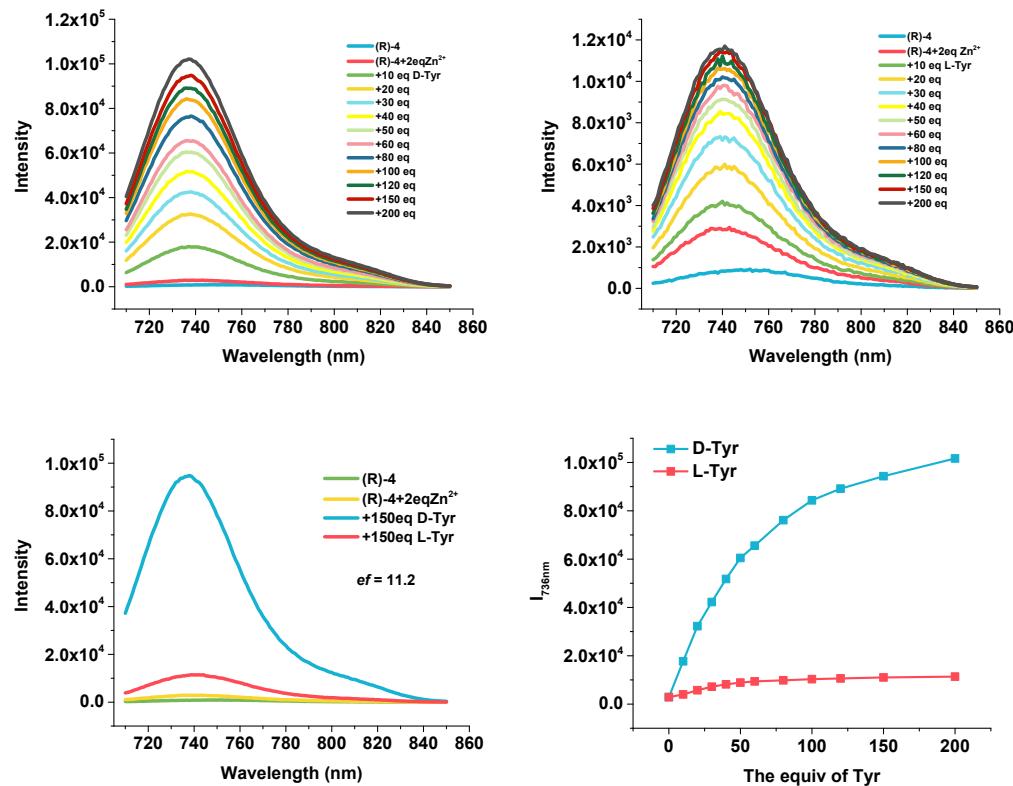
**Figure S16.** Fluorescence spectra of (*R*)-4 (10  $\mu$ M) + Zn<sup>2+</sup> (2 equiv.) with various equiv of D-Thr or L-Thr in 50 mM HEPES (pH = 7.4)/1% DMSO. Fluorescence intensity at 736 nm versus the equiv of Threonine. Spectra were recorded at rt after mixing at 37 °C for 4 h. ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 690 \text{ nm}$ , slits = 5/5 nm)



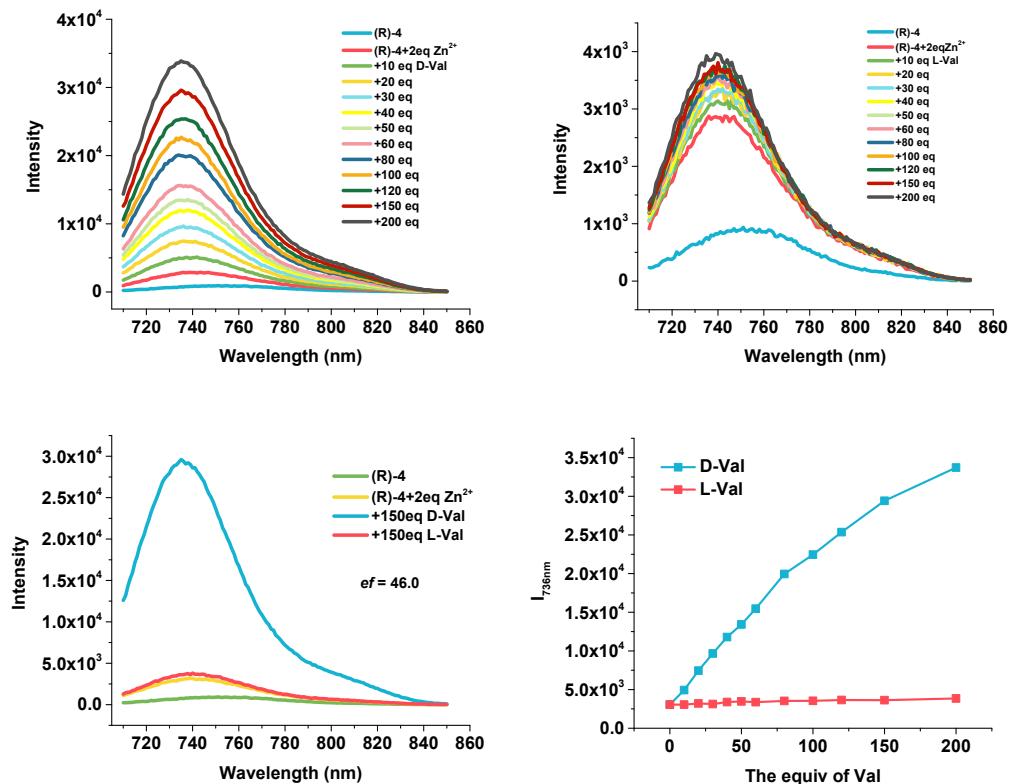
**Figure S17.** Fluorescence spectra of (*R*)-4 (10  $\mu$ M) + Zn<sup>2+</sup> (2 equiv) with various equiv of D-Trp or L-Trp in 50 mM HEPES (pH = 7.4)/1% DMSO. Fluorescence intensity at 736 nm versus the equiv of tryptophan. Spectra were recorded at rt after mixing at 37 °C for 4 h. ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 690$  nm, slits = 5/5 nm)



**Figure S18.** Fluorescence spectra of (*R*)-4 (10  $\mu$ M) + Zn<sup>2+</sup> (2 equiv) with various equiv of D-Tyr or L-Tyr in 50 mM HEPES (pH = 7.4)/1% DMSO. Fluorescence intensity at 736 nm versus the equiv of tyrosine. Spectra were recorded at rt after mixing at 37 °C for 4 h. ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 690$  nm, slits = 5/5 nm)

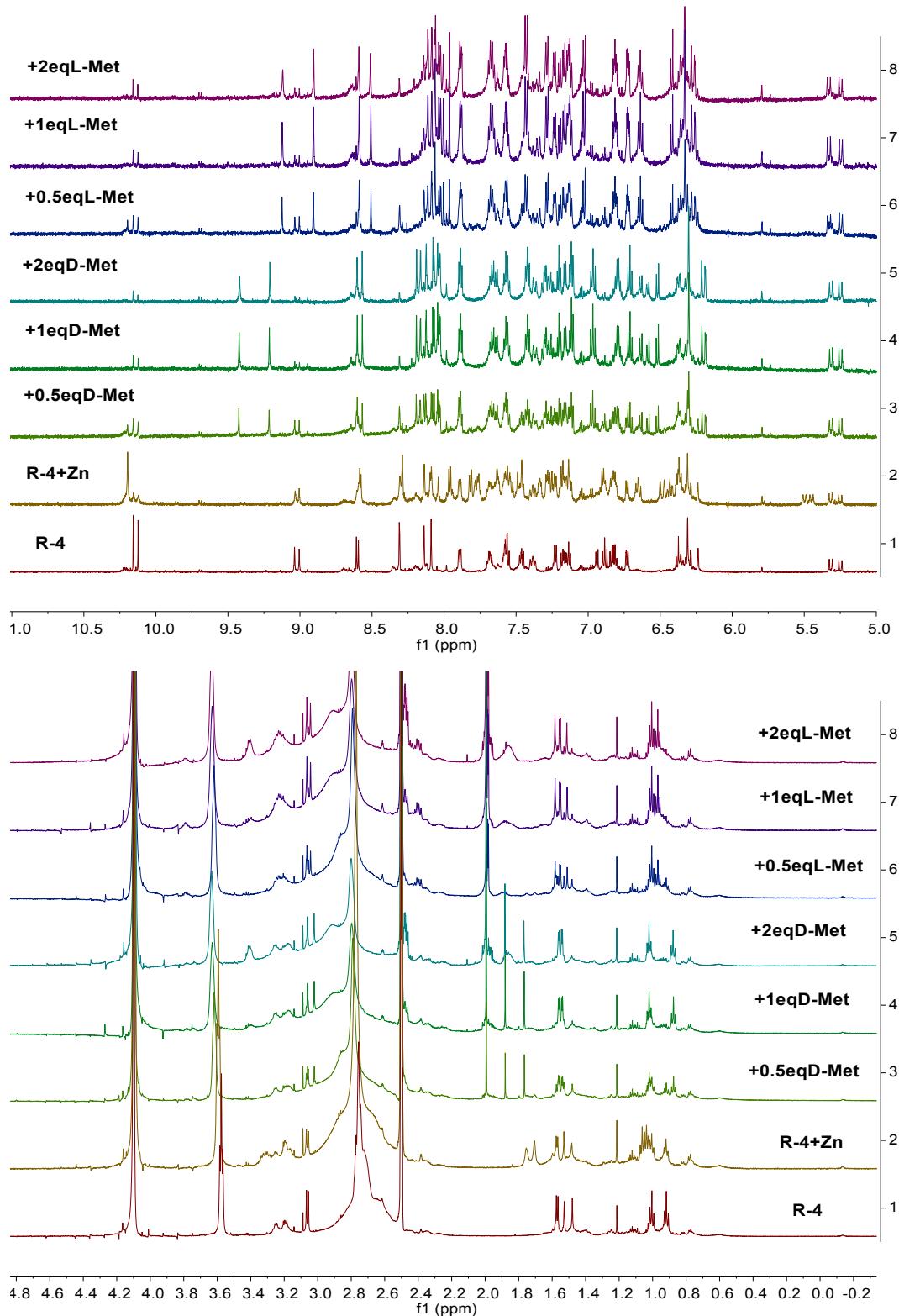


**Figure S19.** Fluorescence spectra of (*R*)-4 (10  $\mu$ M) + Zn<sup>2+</sup> (2 equiv) with various equiv of D-Val or L-Val in 50 mM HEPES (pH = 7.4)/1% DMSO. Fluorescence intensity at 736 nm versus the equiv of valine. Spectra were recorded at rt after mixing at 37 °C for 4 h. ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 690$  nm, slits = 5/5 nm)

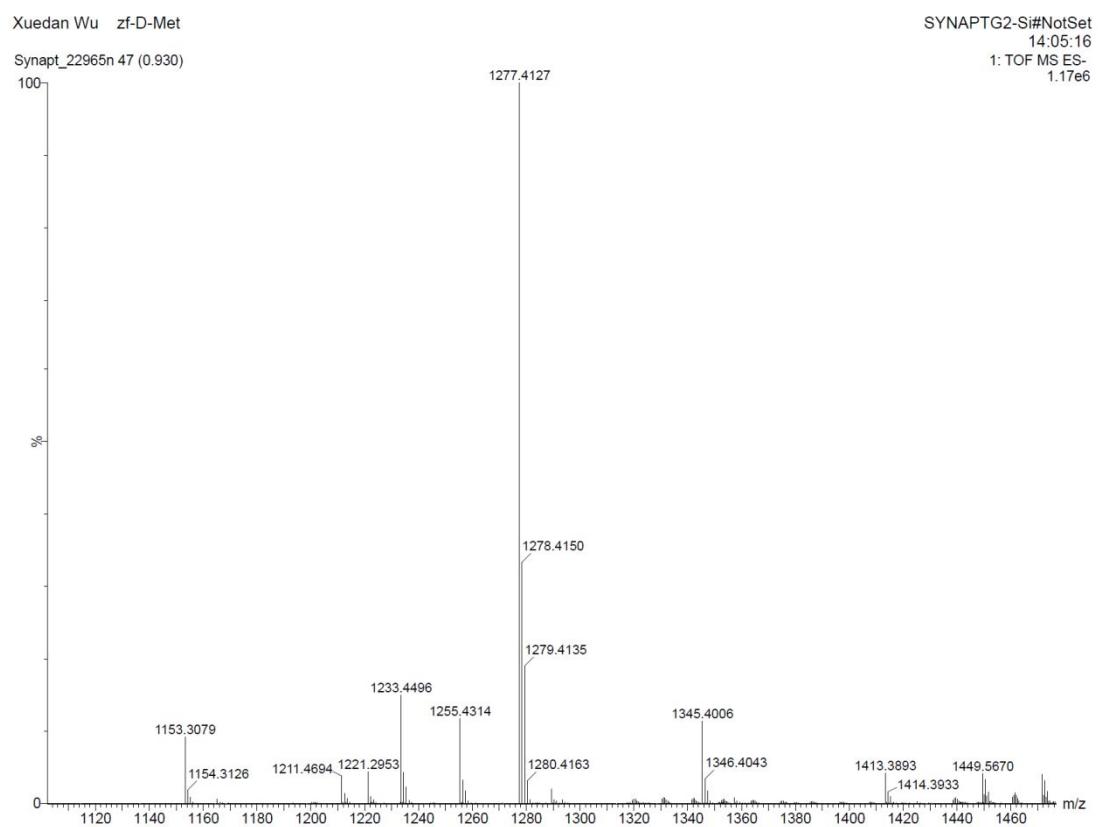
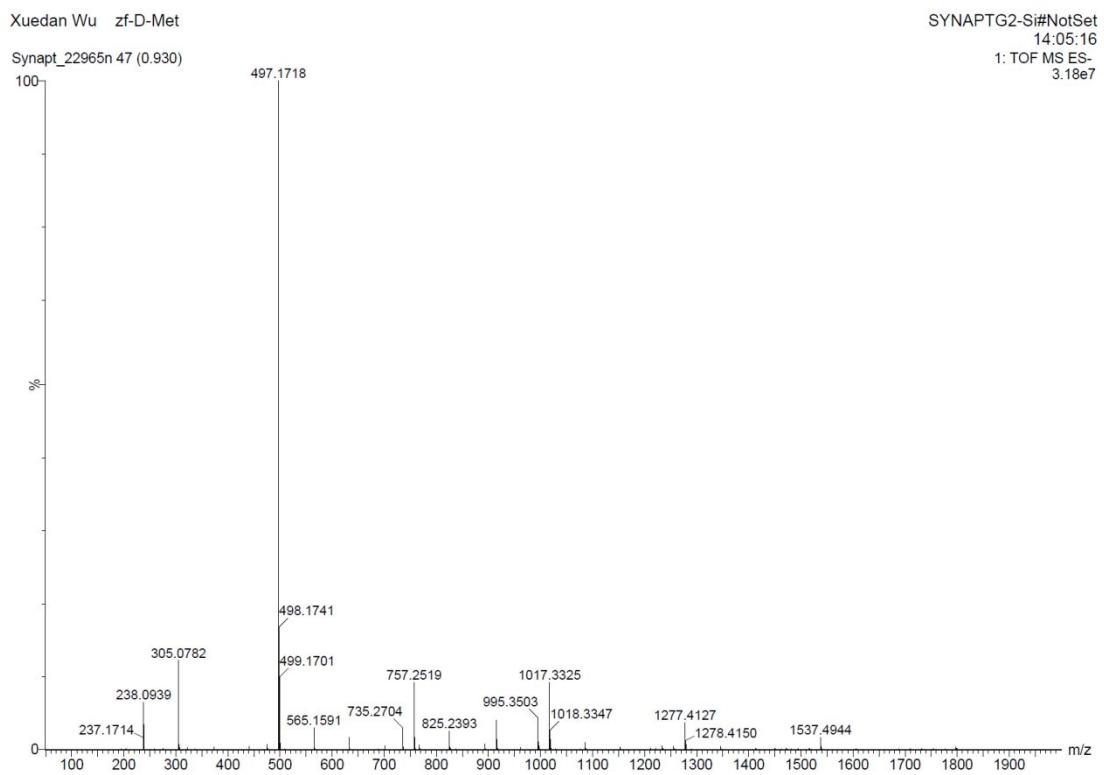


#### 4. NMR and Mass spectroscopic studies of the reactions

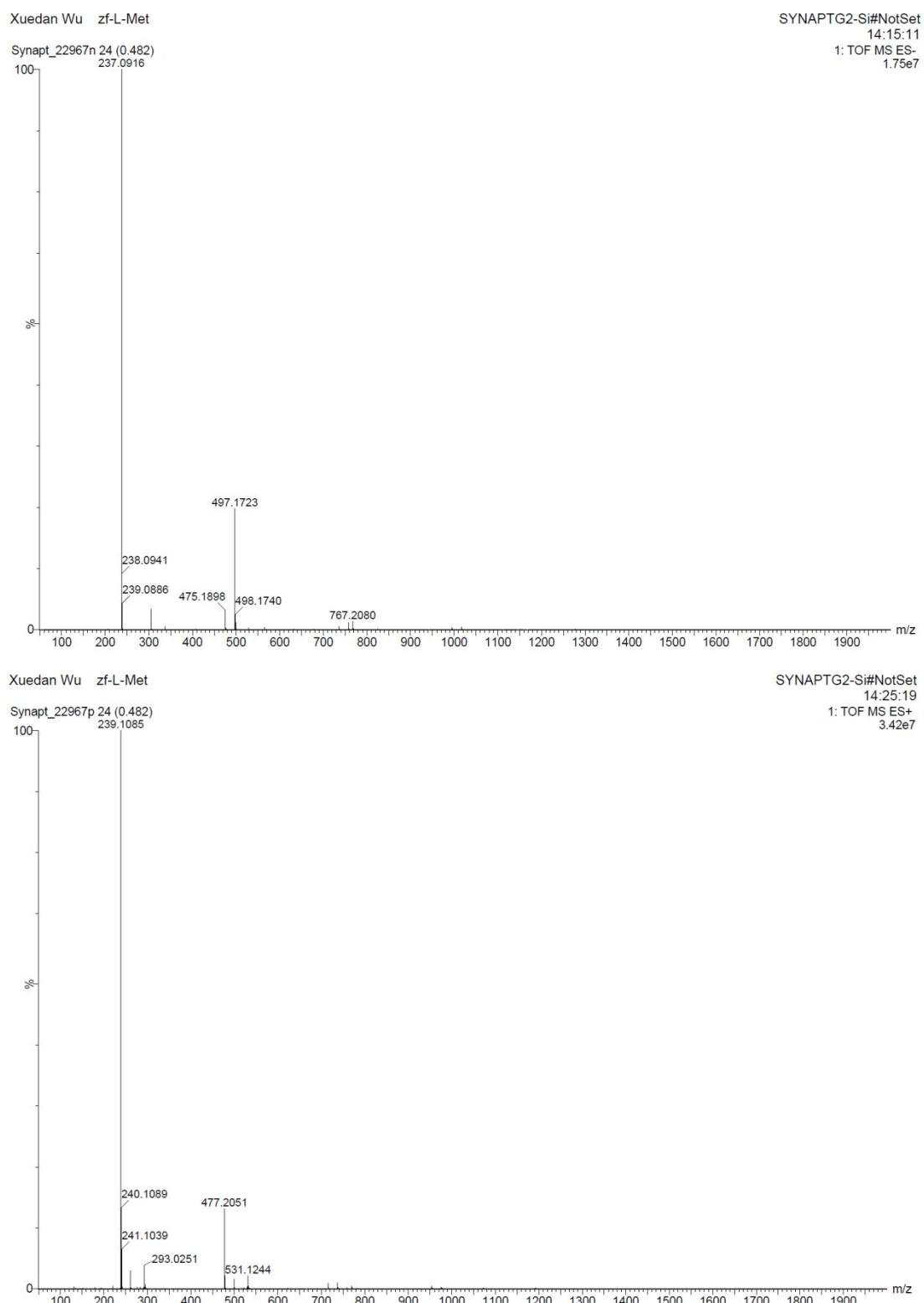
**Figure S20.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz) titration of (*R*)-4 (4 mM) + ZnBr<sub>2</sub> (1 equiv) with D-Met or L-Met in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>:HEPES buffer (3:1) (The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra were taken after the solution was allowed to stand at room temperature for 4 h. HEPES buffer: 50 mM at pD = 7.4 made with D<sub>2</sub>O).

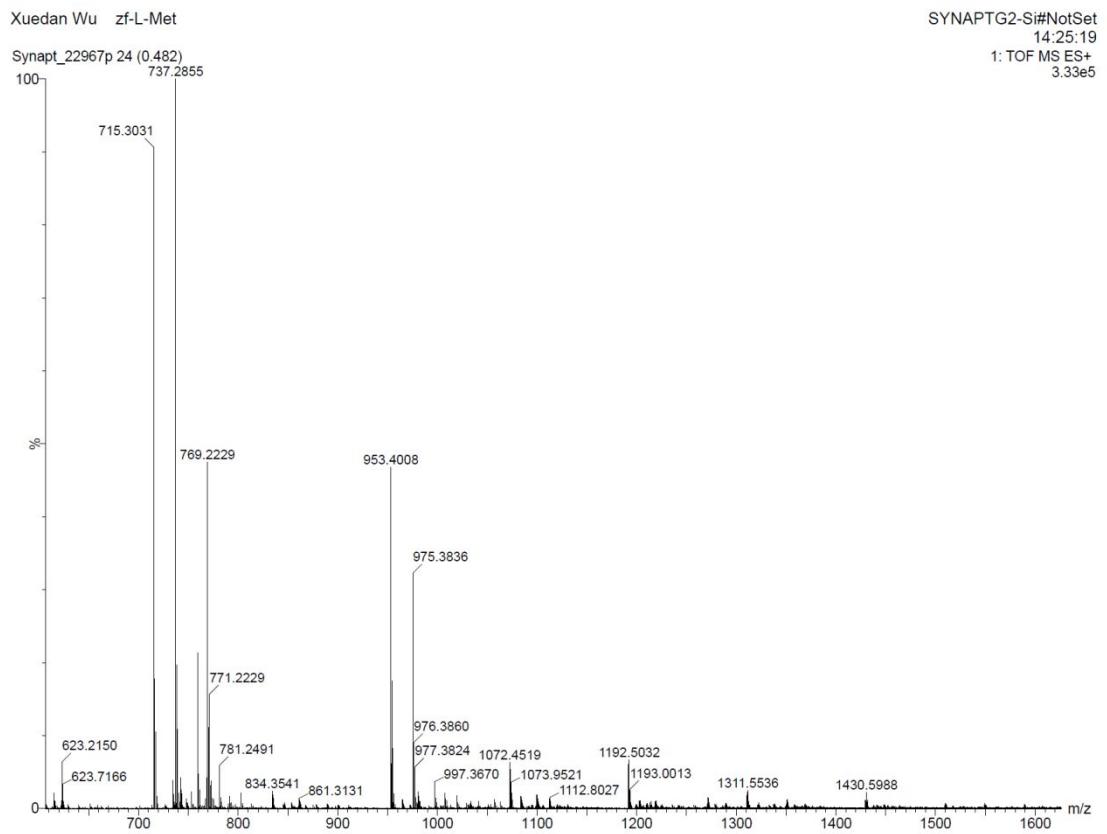


**Figure S21.** TOF mass spectra of (*R*)-4 ( $2.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M) + Zn(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (2 equiv) + D-Met (150 equiv).



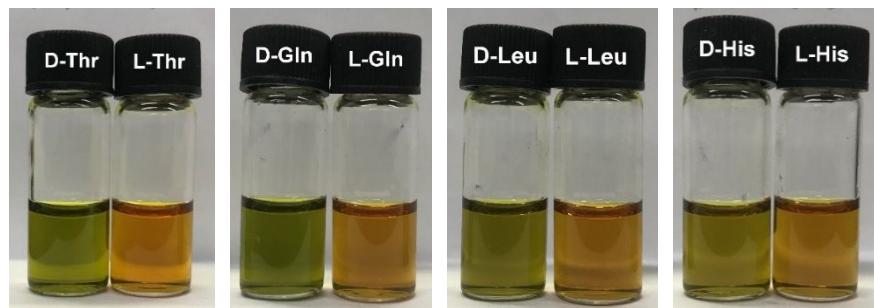
**Figure S22.** TOF mass spectra of (*R*)-**4** ( $2.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M) + Zn(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (2 equiv) + L-Met (150 equiv).





## 5. Photographs of (*R*)-4 and ZnBr<sub>2</sub> with D- or L-amino acids

**Figure S23.** Photographs (in room light) of (*R*)-4 (1 mM) + ZnBr<sub>2</sub> (1 equiv) with 1 equiv. of D- or L-amino acids in DMSO: HEPES buffer (3: 1).



## 6. Fluorescence spectra of (*R*)-4 with D-Met or L-Met in the presence of Zn<sup>2+</sup> salts of various counter anions

**Figure S24.** Fluorescence spectra of (*R*)-4 ( $1.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M) with several Zn<sup>2+</sup> salts in 50 mM HEPES buffer (pH = 7.4)/1% DMSO in the presence of 150 equiv of D-Met or L-Met. Spectra were recorded at rt after mixing at 37 °C for 4 h. ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 690$  nm, slits = 5/5 nm, recorded on Hitech F-7000 spectrofluorometer).

