

Supporting Information

## **A Highly Selective Ratiometric Fluorescent Probe for Biothiol and Imaging in Live Cells**

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# 1. $^1\text{H}$ NMR, $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR and MS spectra of probe

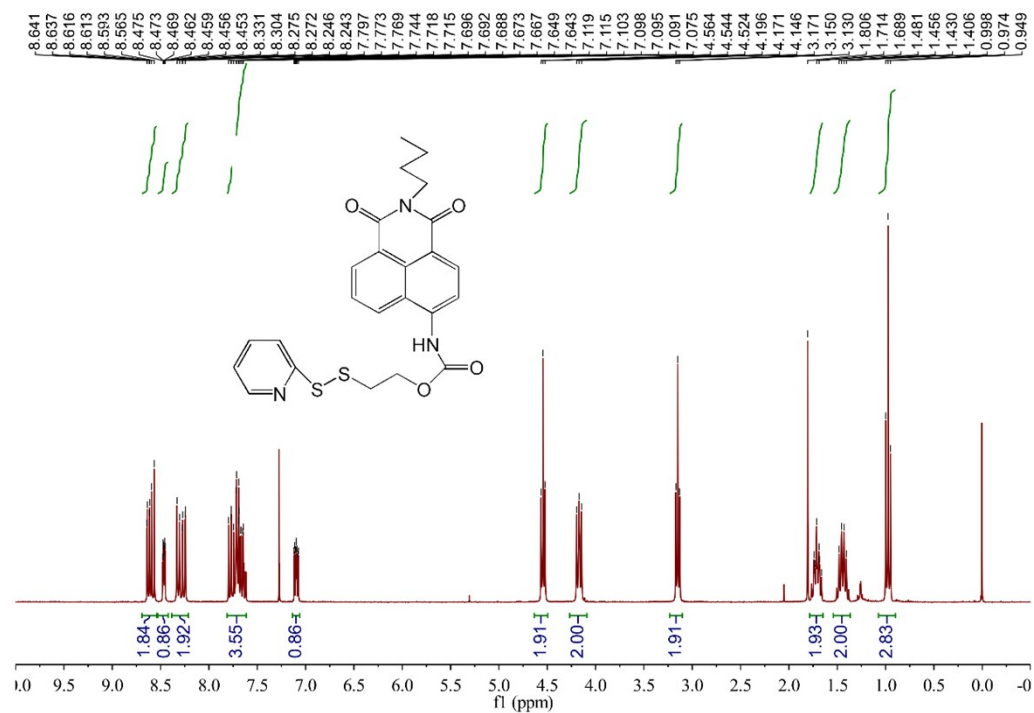


Fig.S1(a) The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of probe.

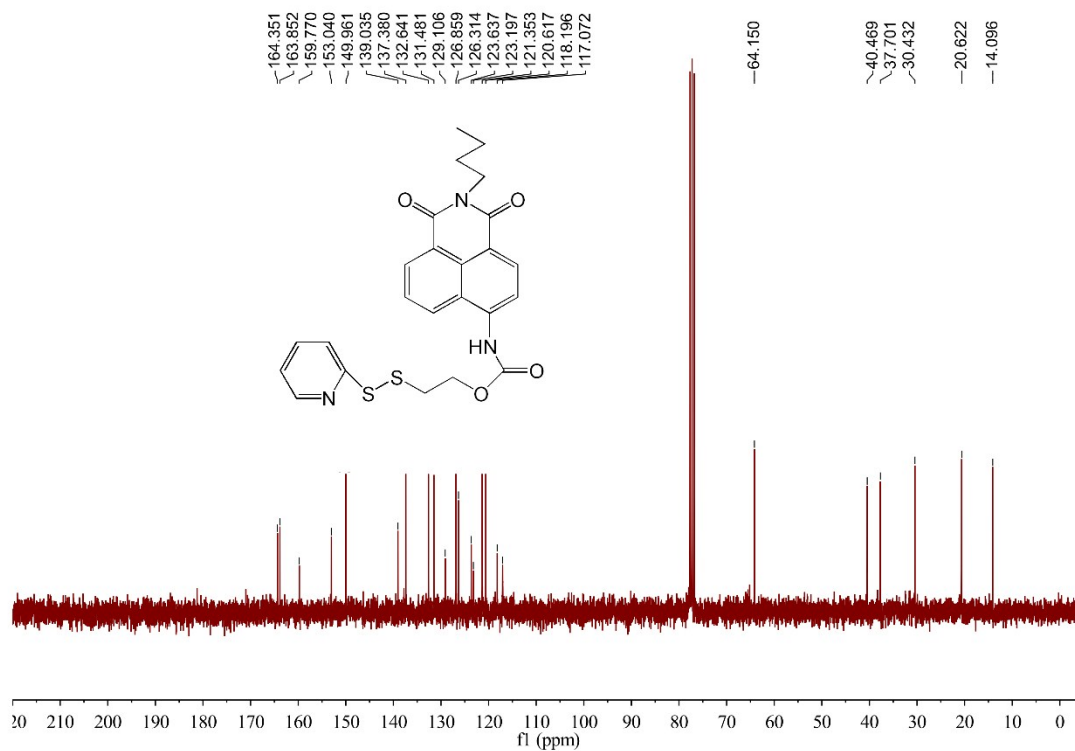


Fig.S1(b) The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of probe.

## Spectrum Report

Final - Shots 400 - CLEAN Dec3 2014; Label B1

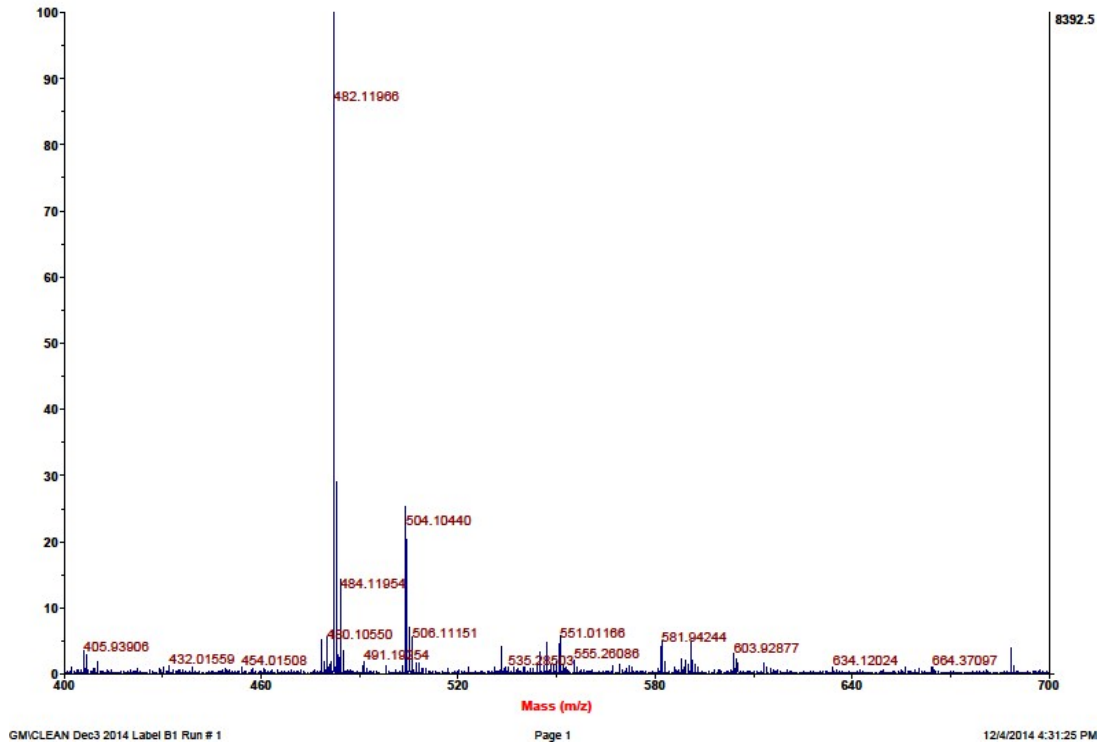


Fig.S1(c) The MS spectrum of probe.

## 2. <sup>1</sup>H NMR of N-butyl-4-amino-1,8-naphthalimide

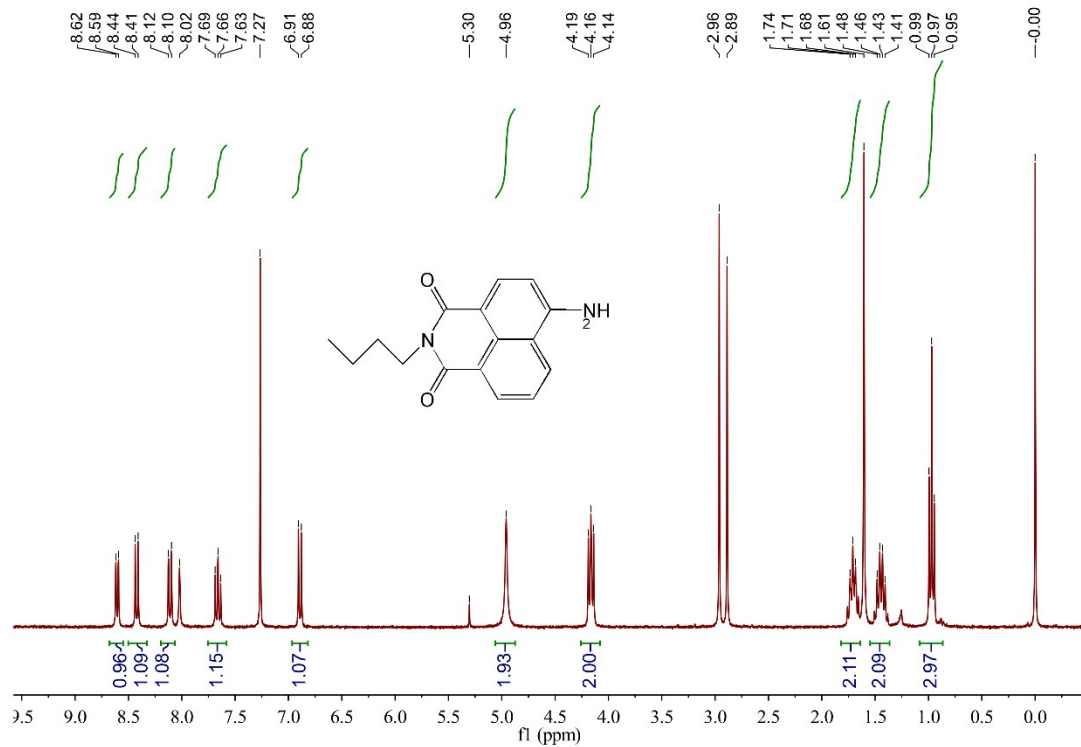


Fig.S2 The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of N-butyl-4-amino-1,8-naphthalimid

### 3. Ratiometric responses towards Cys

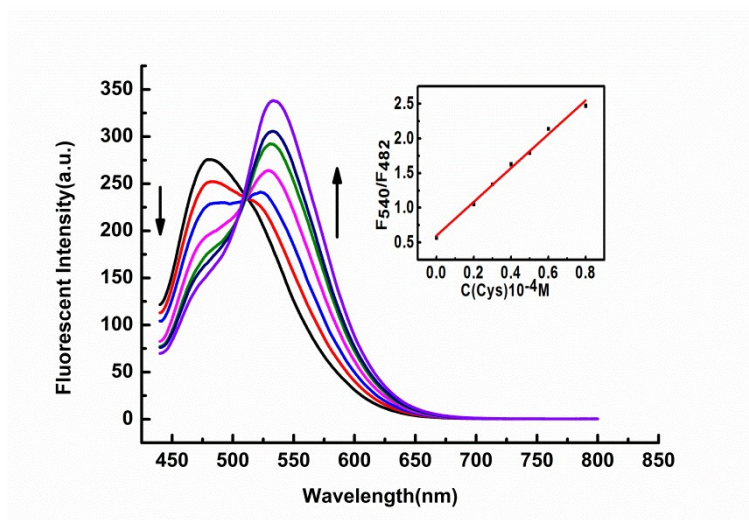


Fig.S3 The emission spectra of probe (1  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in 50 mM PBS buffer (pH 7.4, 10% DMF) with different concentrations of Cys (0, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 80, 90, 100  $\mu\text{M}$ ) for 90 min at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}}=420$  nm. Insert is the concentration of Cys dependence of the ratiometric fluorescence signal ( $F_{540}/F_{482}$ ), the concentrations of Cys is 0-80  $\mu\text{M}$ .

### 4. Ratiometric responses towards Hcy

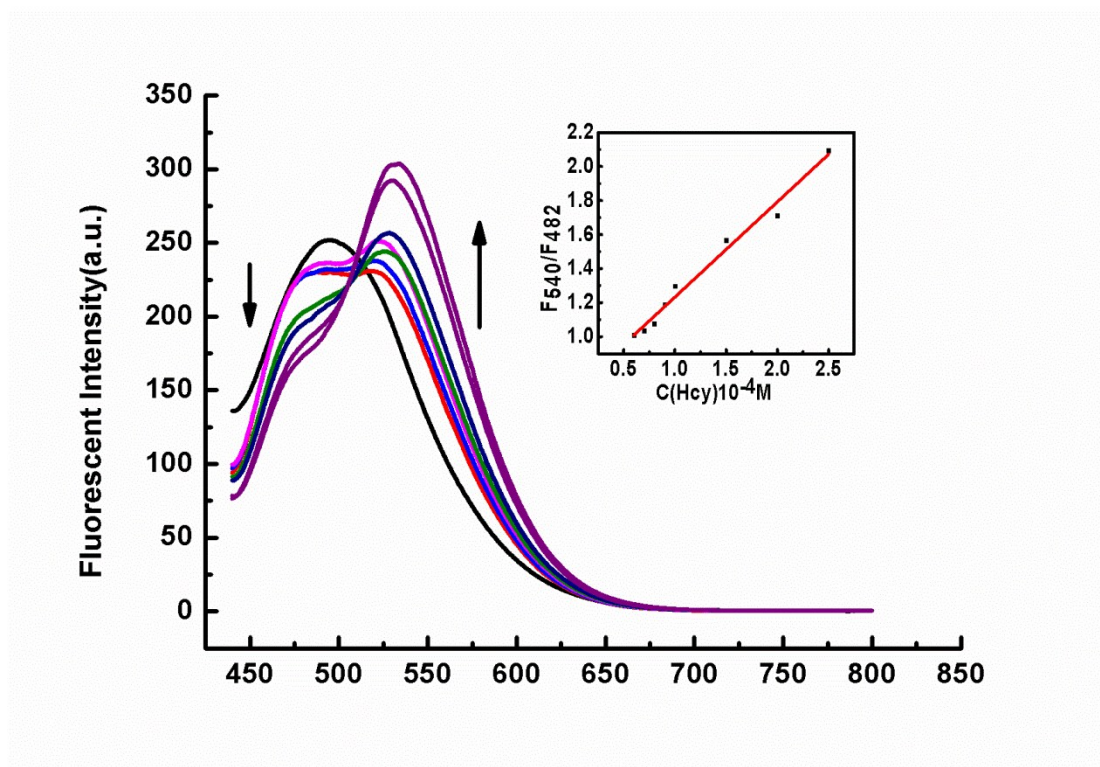


Fig.S4 The emission spectra of probe (1  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in 50 mM PBS buffer (pH 7.4, 10% DMF) with different concentrations of Hcy (0, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 150, 200, 250 $\mu\text{M}$ ) for 90 min at 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}}=420$  nm. Insert is the concentration of Hcy dependence of the ratiometric fluorescence signal ( $F_{540}/F_{482}$ ), the concentrations of Hcy is 60-250 $\mu\text{M}$

### 5. Time-dependent fluorescence spectral changes of probe with biothiols.

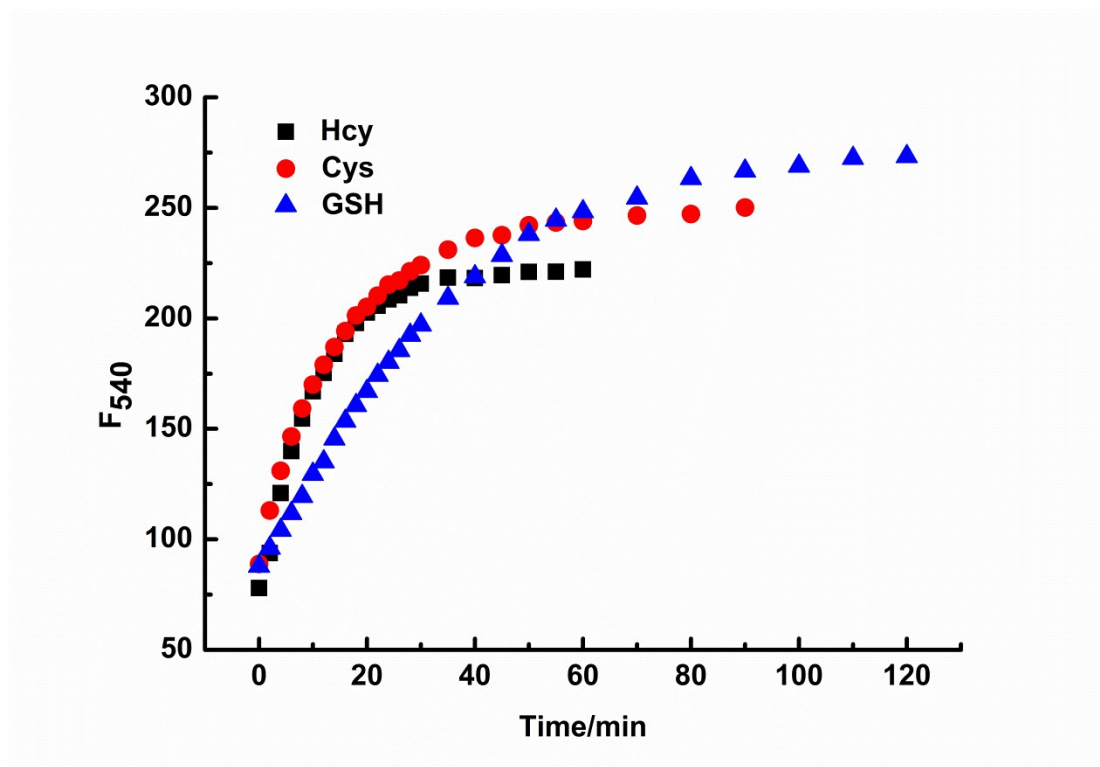


Fig.S5 Time-dependent fluorescence enhancements of probe (1  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in 50 mM PBS buffer (pH 7.4, 10% DMF) to GSH, Cys and Hcy (1 mM). ( $\lambda_{\text{ex/em}} = 420/540$  nm)

### 6. The effects of pH.

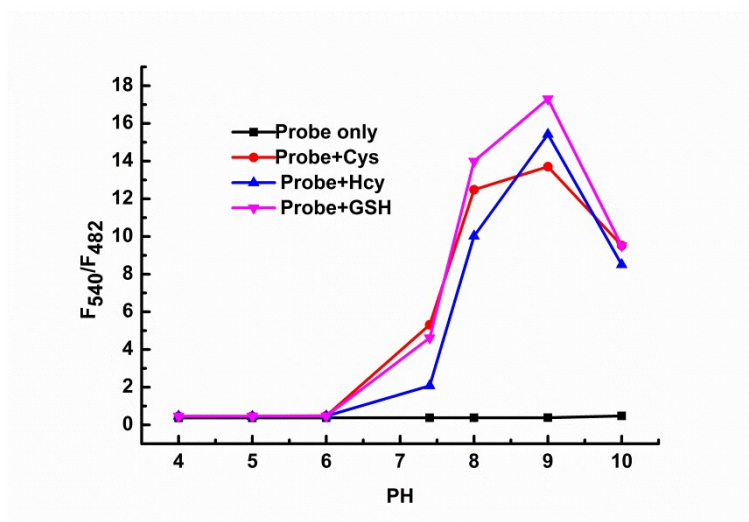


Fig.S6 pH-dependent ratiometric fluorescence changes of probe (1  $\mu$ M) in 50 mM PBS buffer (pH 7.4, 10% DMF) to GSH, Cys and Hcy (1 mM). ( $\lambda_{ex}$  = 420 nm)

## 7. Determination of quantum yield.

The quantum yield of probe 1 was determined according to the following equation:

$$\Phi_{f \text{ sample}} = \Phi_{f \text{ standard}} \times (I_{\text{sample}} / I_{\text{standard}}) \times (A_{\text{standard}} / A_{\text{sample}}) \times (n_{\text{sample}} / n_{\text{standard}})^2$$

Where  $\Phi$  is quantum yield; I is integrated area under the uncorrected emission spectra; A is absorbance at the excitation wavelength; n denotes the refractive index of the solvent. 7-hydroxycoumarin ( $\Phi_f = 0.76$ , excited at 330nm in 0.1 M pH 7.4 sodium phosphate buffer) as the standard. [1]

## 8. References

[1] K. Setsukinai, Y. Urano, K. Kikuchi, T. Higuchi, T. Nagano, J. Chem. Soc. Perkin Trans. 2, 2000, 2453–2457.