

## Electronic Supplementary Information

### A Novel Fluorescent Probe for Imaging the Process of HOCl Oxidation and Cys/Hcy Reduction in Living Cells

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## 1. General Experimental Procedures

### Reagents and Apparatus.

Methanesulfonic acid, 4-(diethylamino)-salicylaldehyde, 2-mercaptoethanol, dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO), sodium hypochlorite (NaOCl, 14.5% available chlorine), *tert*-butylhydroperoxide (*t*-BuOOH, 70%) were purchased from Aladdin and used as received. UV/Vis spectra were recorded on a GBC Cintra 2020 UV-vis spectrometer. Fluorescent spectra measurements were obtained on a HITACHI F-4500 fluorescent spectrophotometer. NMR spectra were performed on a Bruker DPX-400 NMR spectrometer. HPLC-MS were obtained on Agilent 1100 series and LC/MSD Trap XCT. High resolution mass spectra were ensured on a MALDI-FTMS. The stop-flow test was obtained on an Applied Photophysics Chirscan Series spectrometers. The path length was 1 cm with cell volume of 3.0 mL. All the spectroscopic measurements in this supporting information were carried out in PBS buffer (20 mM PBS buffer/CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 7:3, v/v, pH = 7.4,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 405$  nm) with stirring at room temperature. Confocal fluorescence imaging experiments were performed with an Olympus FV-1000 laser scanning microscopy system, based on an IX81 (Olympus, Japan) inverted microscope. Images were collected and processed with Olympus FV10-ASW Ver.2.1b software.

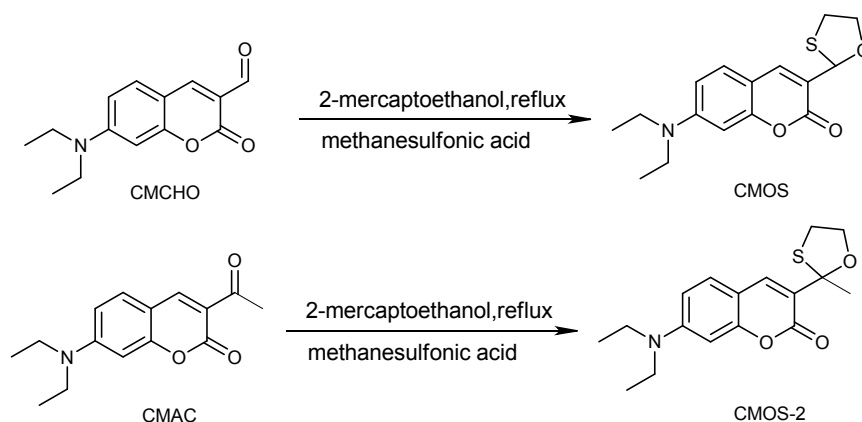
### Preparation of ROS and RNS

Hypochlorous acid (HOCl), hydrogen peroxide (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) and *tert*-butylhydroperoxide (*t*-BuOOH) stock solutions were prepared by dilution of commercial NaOCl solution (14.5% available chlorine), H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (30%) and *t*-BuOOH (70%) in deionized water. Superoxide anion (O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>), Hydroxyl radical (HO•) and Singlet oxygen (<sup>1</sup>O<sub>2</sub>) were prepared as previous report<sup>S1</sup>: Superoxide anion (O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>) was prepared from KO<sub>2</sub> (2 mg) in dry DMSO (2 mL) with vigorously stirring;<sup>S2</sup> Hydroxyl radical (HO•) and *t*-BuOO• was generated in situ by Fenton reaction from 200  $\mu$ M H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> or *t*-BuOOH and FeSO<sub>4</sub> (1 mM);<sup>S3</sup> Singlet oxygen (<sup>1</sup>O<sub>2</sub>) was generated in situ by the H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/MoO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> (200  $\mu$ M/1 mM) system in alkaline media.<sup>S4</sup> Nitrate and nitrite stock solutions were prepared by commercial NaNO<sub>3</sub> and NaNO<sub>2</sub> solid in deionized water. ONOO<sup>-</sup> was generated from NaNO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, and quantified according to literature.<sup>S5</sup> Nitric oxide (NO) was generated from SNP (Sodium Nitroferricyanide (III) Dihydrate).

### Methods of Cell Culture

Human epithelial ovarian cancer cell SKOV-3 cells were cultured in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (DMEM, Gibco) supplemented with 10% fetal calf serum (FCS, Gibco), 50  $\mu$ g mL<sup>-1</sup> penicillin/streptomycin (Hyclone) at 37 °C in a humidified incubator containing 5% CO<sub>2</sub> gas. The cells were plated in a 35 mm glass-bottomed dish and cultured for 2 days before dye loading. Then the cells were washed with phosphate-buffered saline (PBS) and bathed in corresponding serum-free DMEM/RPMI-1640 medium with 5  $\mu$ M CMOS for 20 min at 37 °C, washed with PBS three times to remove the excess probe and bathed in PBS (2 mL) before imaging.

## 2. Synthesis and Characterization of Compounds



**Scheme S1** Synthetic route of CMOS and CMOS-2

**Preparation of CMCHO and CMCA** Compound CMCHO and CMCA was synthesized according to the literature procedure.<sup>S6</sup>

**Preparation of CMOS** 7-(diethylamino)-2-oxo-2H-chromene-3-carbaldehyde (100 mg, 0.41 mmol), methanesulfonic acid (160  $\mu$ L) and 2-mercaptoethanol (41.6 mg, 0.48 mmol) were mixed in 6 mL dichloromethane solution and refluxed for 3 h under nitrogen protection. Then the mixture was purified by preparative TLC with a solvent system (ethyl acetate: petroleum ether = 2:1). Light yellow solid product was obtained.

**CMOS.** Yield: 44.3 mg (35.6%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.78 (1H, s), 7.29 (1H, d,  $J$  = 8.8Hz), 6.62 (1H, d,  $J$  = 8.7Hz), 6.52 (1H, s), 6.13 (1H, s), 4.52-4.48 (1H, m), 4.04-3.98 (1H, m), 3.44 (4H, q,  $J$  = 7.1Hz), 3.16-3.12 (2H, m), 1.22 (6H, t,  $J$  = 7.1Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.13, 155.82, 150.51, 138.13, 129.09, 119.90, 108.87, 107.97, 96.89, 71.98, 44.65, 32.82, 12.29. HR-MS C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S<sup>+</sup> [M+H<sup>+</sup>], found 306.1168, calculated 306.1158.

**Preparation of CMOS-2** 3-acetyl-7-(diethylamino)-2H-chromen-2-one (100 mg, 0.38 mmol), methanesulfonic acid (140  $\mu$ L) and 2-mercaptoethanol (34.7 mg, 0.40 mmol) were mixed in 6 mL dichloromethane solution and refluxed for 3 h under nitrogen protection. Then the mixture was purified by preparative TLC with a solvent system (ethyl acetate: petroleum ether = 2: 1). Yellow solid product was obtained.

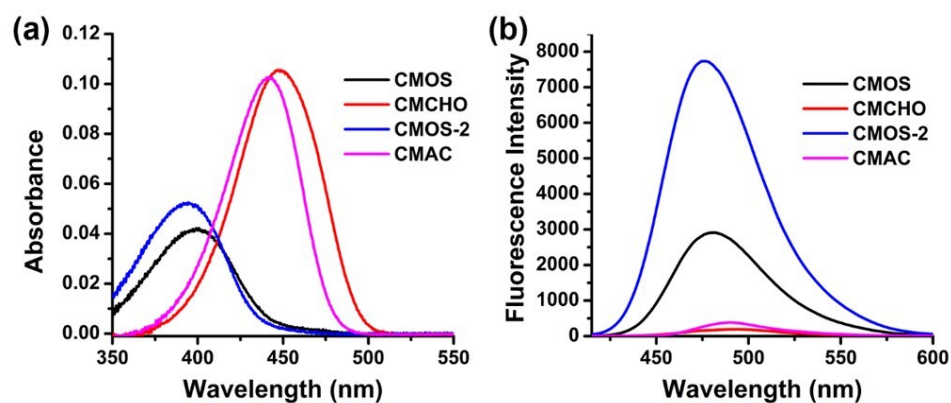
**CMOS-2.** Yield: 73.9 mg (60.1%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.63 (1H, s), 7.28 (1H, d,  $J$  = 8.8Hz), 6.61 (1H, d,  $J$  = 8.4Hz), 6.52 (1H, d,  $J$  = 1.8Hz), 4.42-4.37 (1H, m), 4.17-4.13 (1H, m), 3.43 (4H, q,  $J$  = 7.1Hz), 3.17-3.11 (1H, m), 2.99-2.94 (1H, m), 1.94 (3H, s), 1.21 (6H, t,  $J$  = 7.1Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  160.81, 155.72, 150.11, 134.56, 128.92, 125.64, 108.78, 107.94, 97.02, 91.73, 71.04, 44.68, 33.21, 29.44, 12.24. HR-MS C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S<sup>+</sup> [M+H<sup>+</sup>], found 320.1323, calculated 320.1315.

### 3. Spectra of UV-visible Absorbance and Fluorescence, and HPLC-MS Analysis

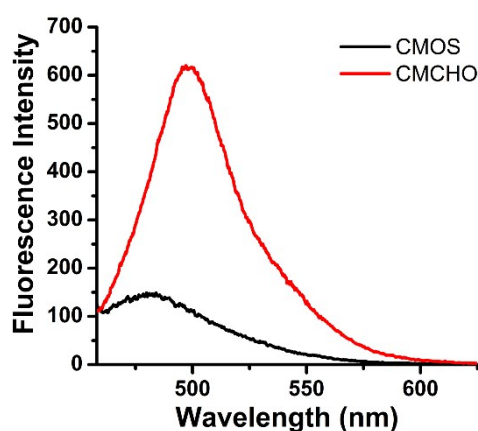
**Table S1** Photophysical parameters of fluorophores

Dye	$\lambda_{\max}(\text{nm})^a$	$\epsilon_{\max}(10^4 \text{ cm}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1})^b$	$\lambda_{\text{em}}(\text{nm})^c$	$\Phi^d$
CMOS	398	2.62	480	0.10
CMCHO	451	4.92	491	0.01
CMOS-2	394	2.87	475	0.24
CMAC	448	6.77	490	0.01

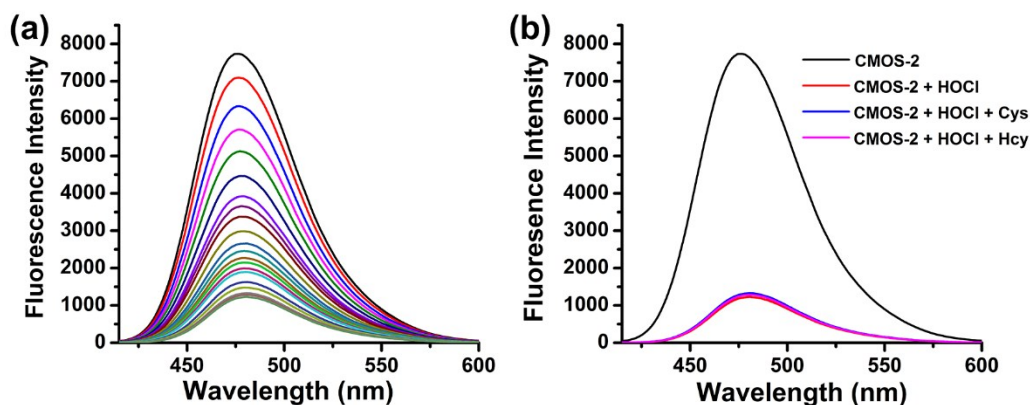
<sup>a</sup> Maximum absorbance wavelength of fluorophores in PBS buffer (20 mM PBS buffer/CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 7:3, v/v, pH = 7.4,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 405 \text{ nm}$ ). <sup>b</sup> The molar extinction coefficients at maximum wavelength. <sup>c</sup> Maximum fluorescence emission wavelength in PBS buffer (20 mM PBS buffer/CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 7:3, v/v, pH = 7.4,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 405 \text{ nm}$ ). <sup>d</sup> The relative fluorescence quantum yields were measured in PBS solution using quinine-sulfate ( $\Phi = 0.54$  in 0.1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) as a reference.



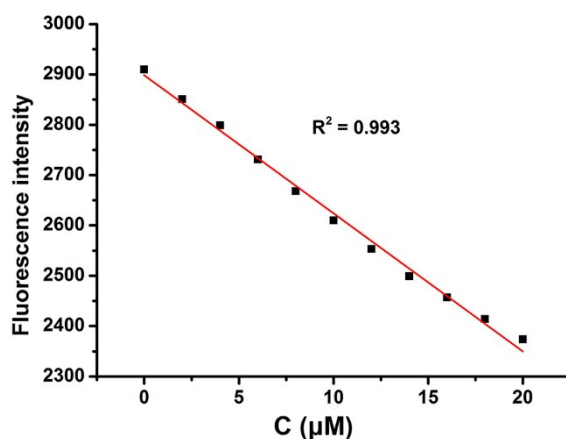
**Fig. S1** (a) UV-visible Absorbance spectra and (b) Fluorescence spectra of 2  $\mu\text{M}$  CMOS, CMCHO, CMOS-2, and CMAC. (20 mM PBS buffer/CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 7:3, v/v, pH = 7.4,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 405 \text{ nm}$ ).



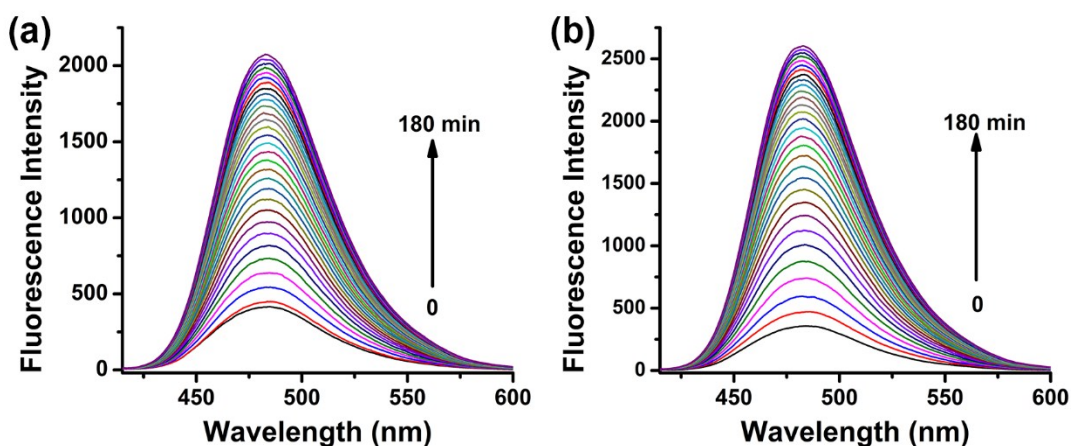
**Fig. S2** Fluorescence spectra of 2  $\mu\text{M}$  CMOS and CMCHO. (20 mM PBS buffer/CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 7:3, v/v, pH = 7.4,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 448 \text{ nm}$ ).



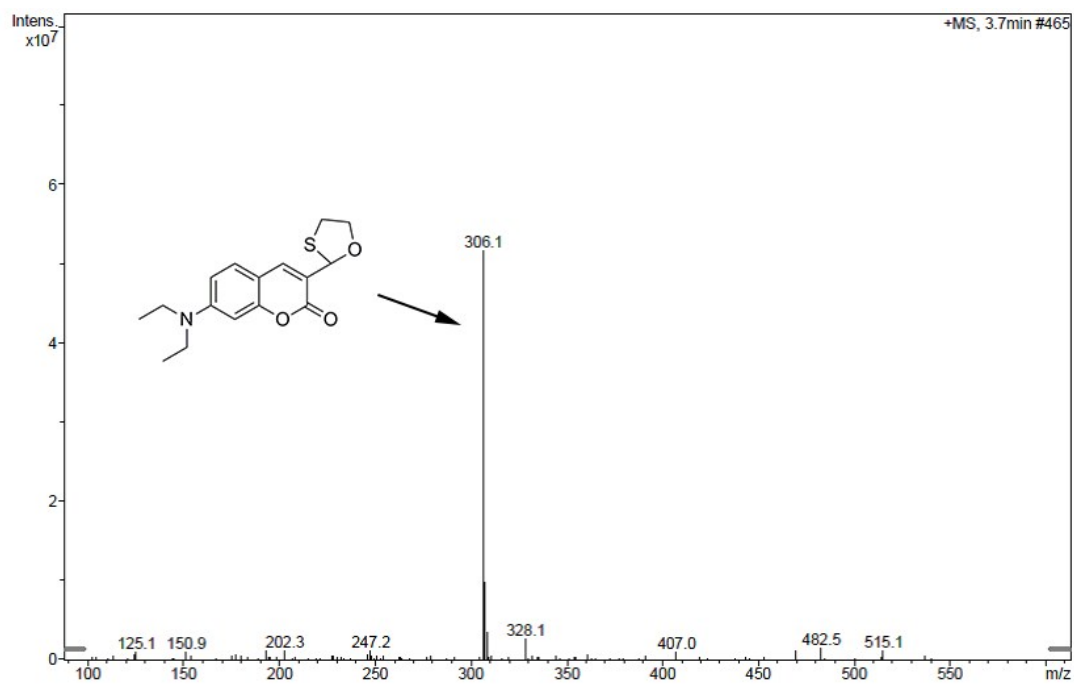
**Fig. S3** (a) Fluorescence responses of **CMOS-2** ( $2 \mu\text{M}$ ) to different concentrations of HOCl (0-200  $\mu\text{M}$ ). (b) Fluorescence responses of the **CMOS-2** solution ( $2 \mu\text{M}$ ) with HOCl (200  $\mu\text{M}$ ) to Cys/Hcy (5 mM). (20 mM PBS buffer/ $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ , 7:3, v/v, pH = 7.4,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 405 \text{ nm}$ ).



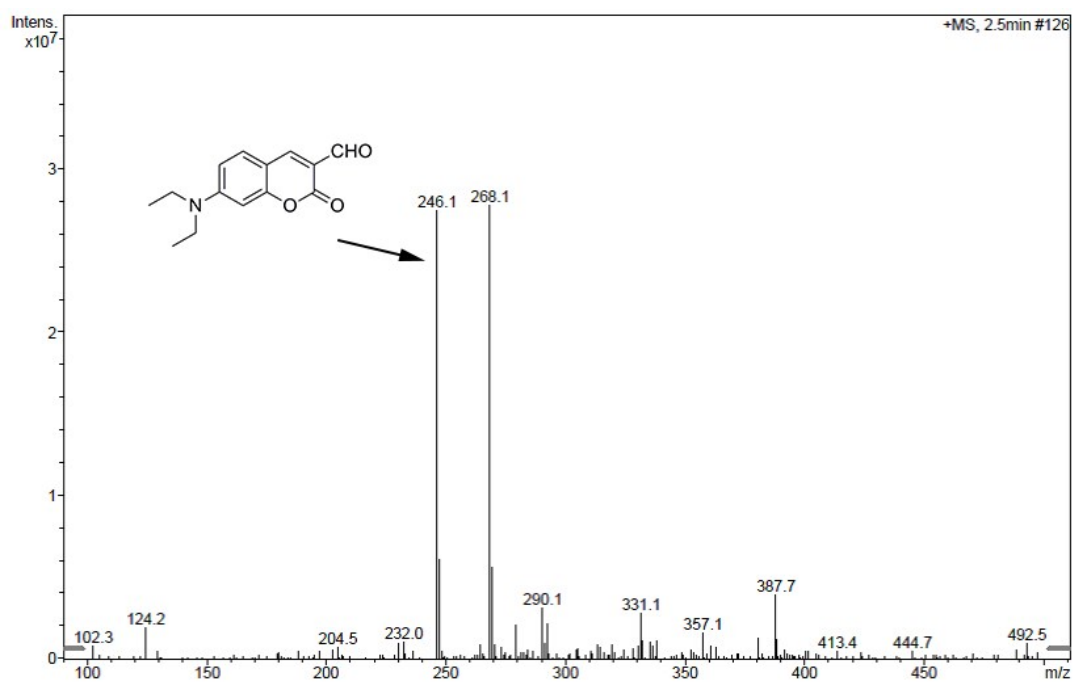
**Fig. S4** Fluorescence intensities of  $2 \mu\text{M}$  **CMOS** at 480 nm as a function of the concentrations of HOCl in the range of 0-20  $\mu\text{M}$  (20 mM PBS, PBS/ $\text{CH}_3\text{CN} = 7:3 \text{ v/v}$ , pH = 7.4,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 405 \text{ nm}$ ).



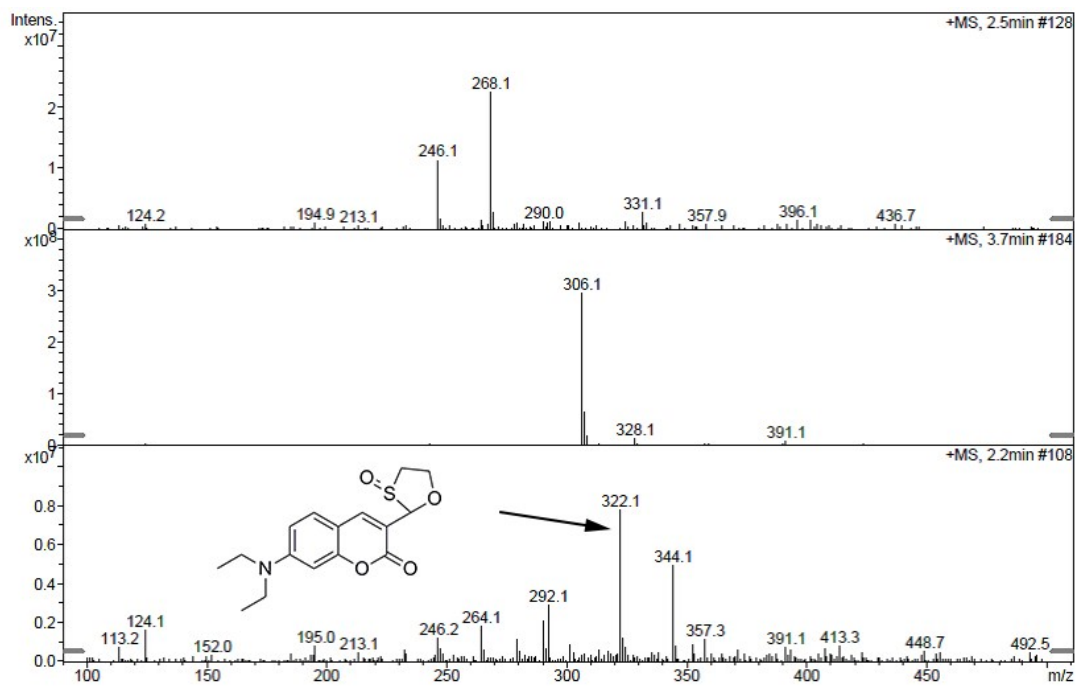
**Fig. S5** Fluorescence intensity enhancement of **CMOS** ( $2 \mu\text{M}$ ) added excess HOCl and 5 mM Cys (a) or Hcy (b) in 180 mins (20 mM PBS, PBS/ $\text{CH}_3\text{CN} = 7:3 \text{ v/v}$ , pH = 7.4,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 405 \text{ nm}$ ).



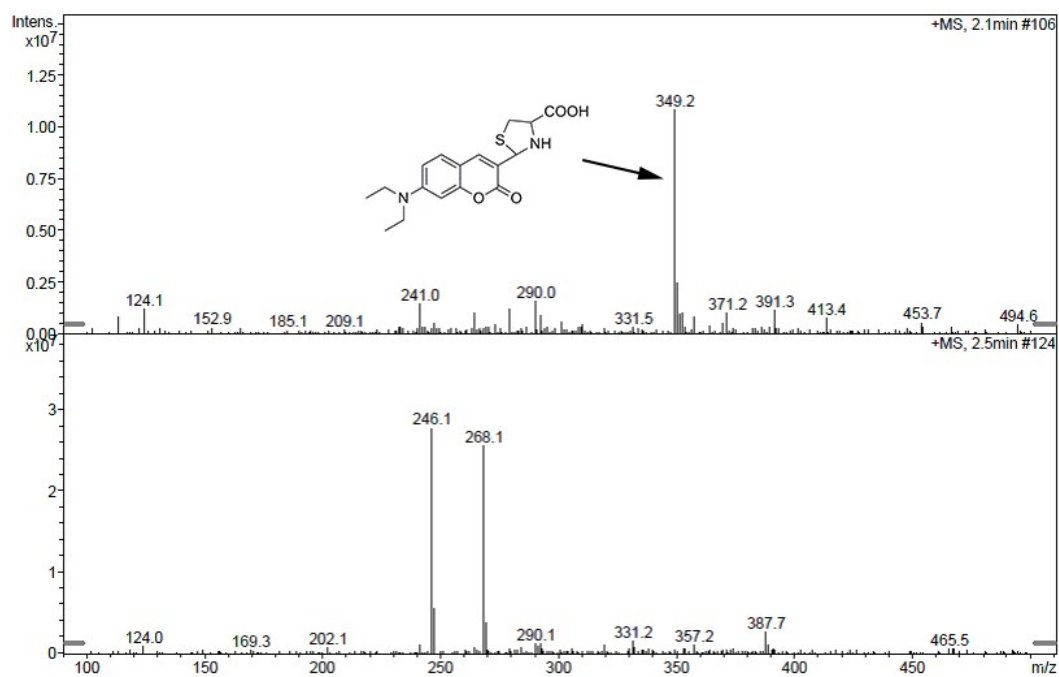
**Fig. S6** The mass spectrum corresponding to Fig. 2a.



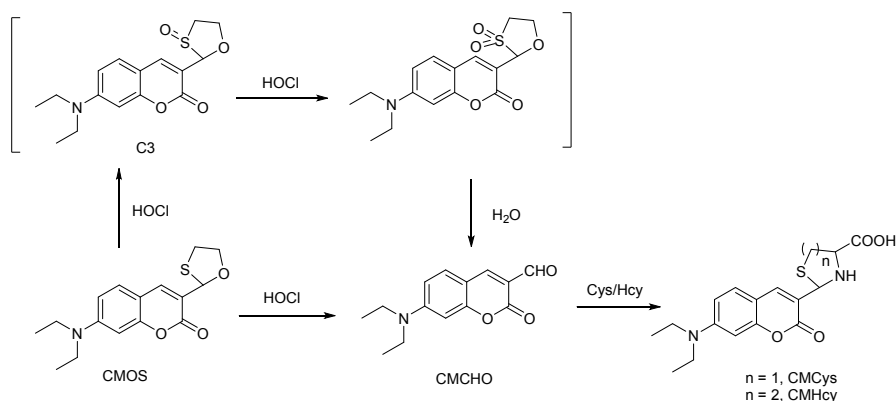
**Fig. S7** The mass spectrum corresponding to Fig. 2b.



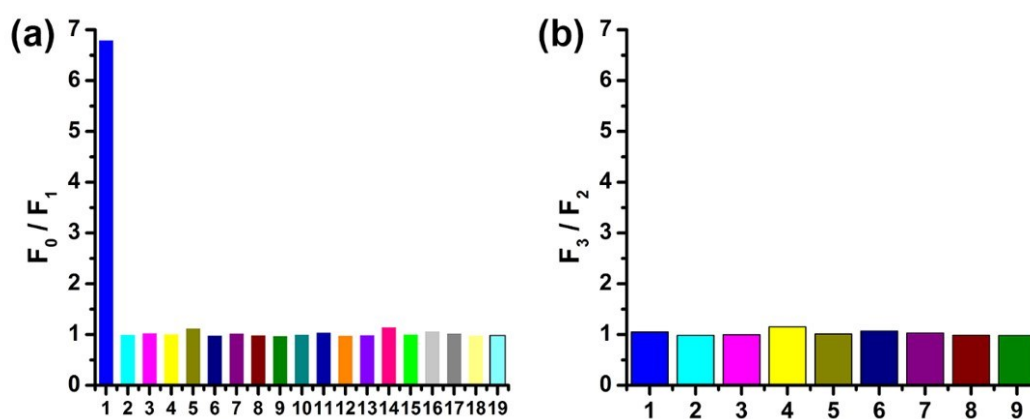
**Fig. S8** The mass spectra corresponding to Fig. 2c.



**Fig. S9** The mass spectra corresponding to Fig. 2d.



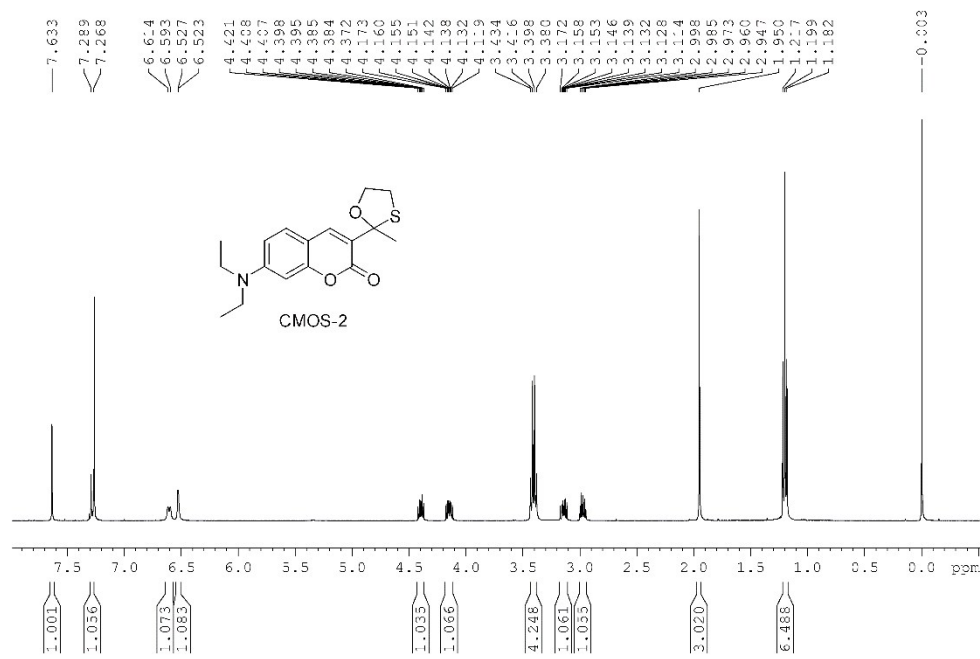
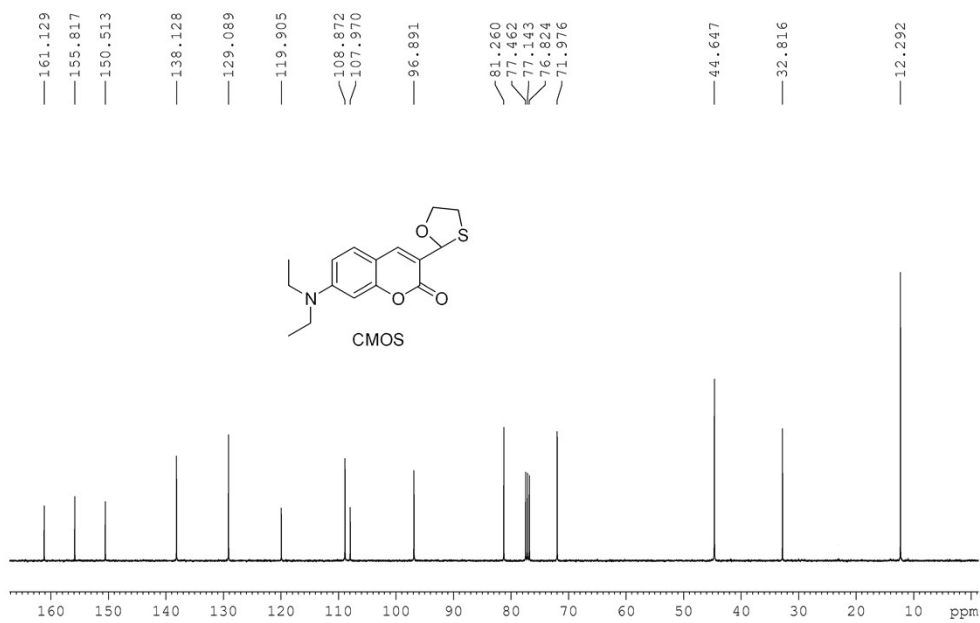
**Fig. S10** Proposed sensing mechanism of **CMOS** responding to HOCl and Cys/Hcy.

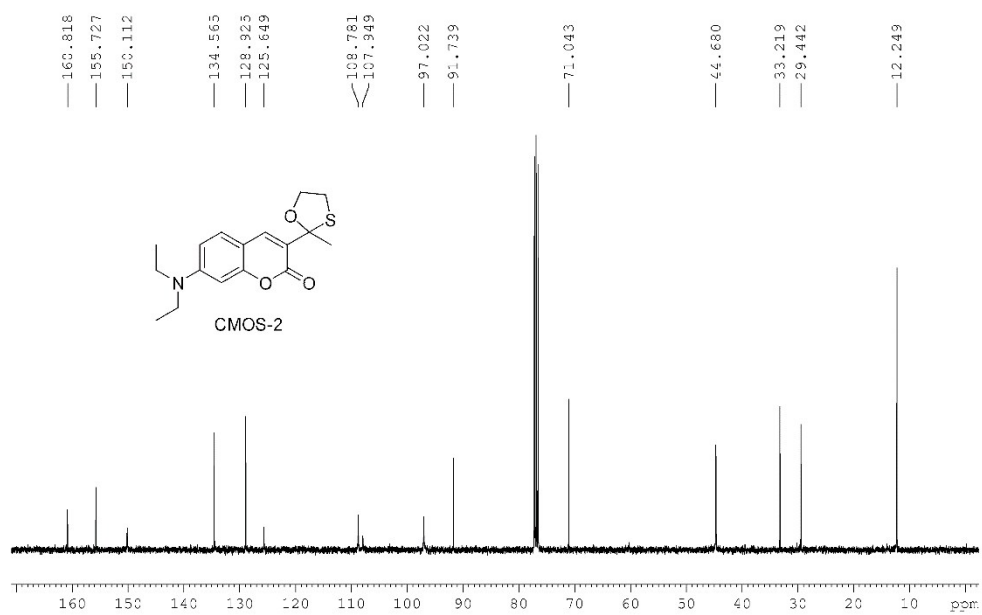


**Fig. S11** (a) Fluorescence response of 2  $\mu\text{M}$  **CMOS-2** to different ROS, RNS and RSS. Bars represent emission intensity ratios before ( $F_0$ ) and after ( $F_1$ ) addition of each analytes (200  $\mu\text{M}$ ). 1: HOCl; 2:  $\text{KO}_2$ ; 3:  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ ; 4:  $^1\text{O}_2$ ; 5:  $\text{HO}\cdot$ ; 6:  $t\text{-BuOOH}$ ; 7:  $t\text{-BuOO}\cdot$ ; 8:  $\text{NO}_2^-$ ; 9:  $\text{NO}_3^-$ ; 10: NO; 11: GSH; 12: Cys; 13: Hcy; 14:  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}$ ; 15:  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$ ; 16:  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$ ; 17: NaSCN; 18: DTT; 19:  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_3$ . (b) Fluorescence response of of the solution added NaOCl in Fig. S10a to different RSS and amino acids. Bars represent emission intensity ratios before ( $F_2$ ) and after ( $F_3$ ) addition of each analytes (5 mM). 1: Cys; 2: Hcy; 3:  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}$ ; 4:  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$ ; 5:  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$ ; 6: NaSCN; 7: DTT; 8:  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_3$ ; 9: GSH. (20 mM PBS buffer/ $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ , 7:3, v/v, pH = 7.4,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}}/\lambda_{\text{em}} = 405/480$  nm).

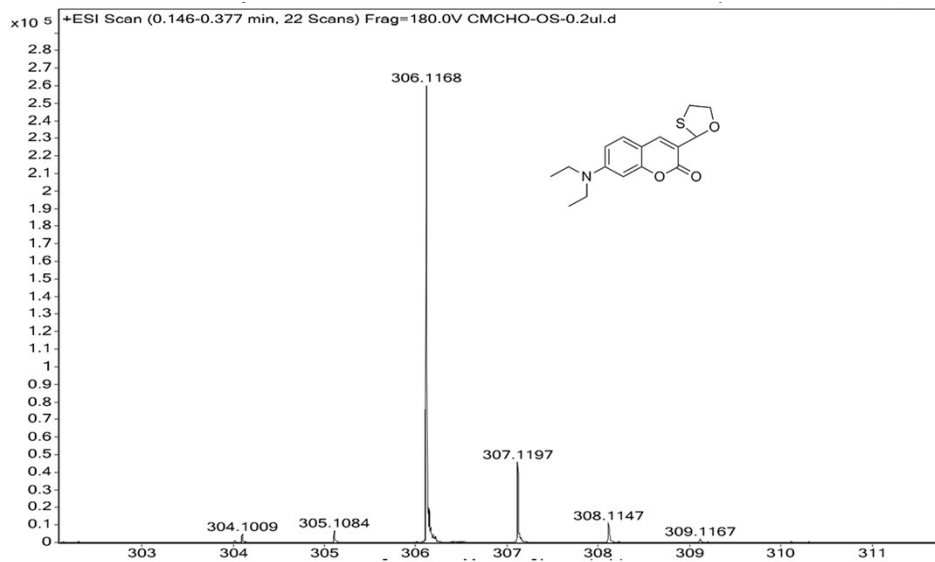


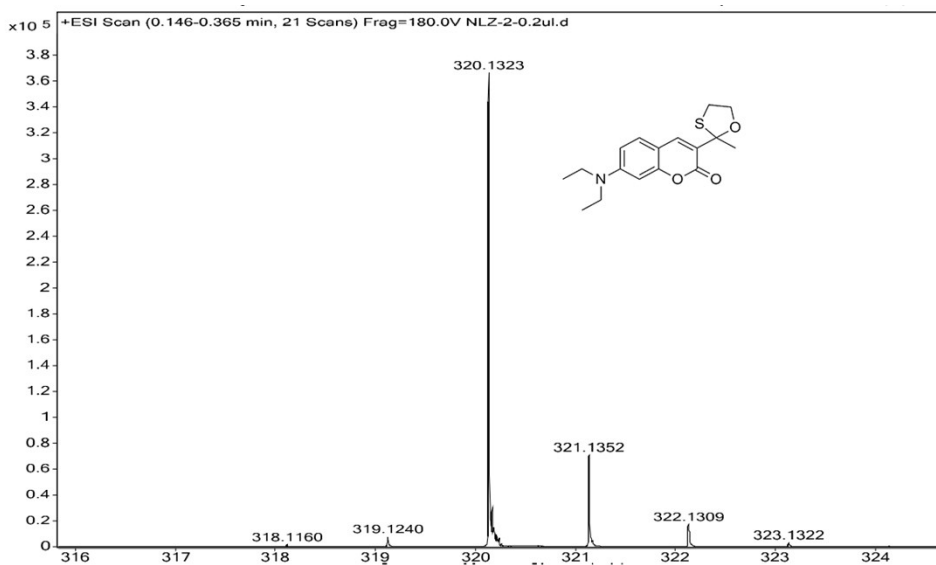






## 5. HR-MS data





## 6. References

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