# **Supporting Information**

# A Naphthalimide-Based Turn-on Fluorescent Probe for Peroxynitrite Detection and Imaging in Living Cells

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#### 1. Experiment

#### 1.1 Preparation of reactive oxygen species (ROS)

Peroxynitrite solution (ONOO<sup>-</sup>) was synthesized as reported literature. Briefly, hydrogen peroxide (0.7 M, 1.5 mL) was acidified with hydrochloric acid (0.6 M, 1.5 mL) under ice-water bath, sodium nitrite (0.6 M, 3 mL) and sodium hydroxide (1.5 M, 3 mL) was added simultaneously in 1-2 s. The solution turned bright yellow. Then a small amount of  $MnO_2$  was added to remove excess hydrogen peroxide. The prepared ONOO<sup>-</sup> package is stored at -20 °C. The concentration of peroxynitrite was estimated by using an extinction coefficient of 1670 M<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup> at 302 nm. C<sub>ONOO</sub> =  $(Abs302 \text{ nm} / 1670)^*$  dilution factor.<sup>1</sup> Hydrogen peroxide (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>), hypochlorite (ClO<sup>-</sup>), sodium nitrite (NaNO<sub>2</sub>) and tert-butyl hydroperoxide (t-BuOOH) were delivered from commercial aqueous solutions, respectively. Nitric oxide (NO) was used from a stock solution prepared by sodium nitroprusside. Singlet oxygen  $({}^{1}O_{2})$  was generated in situ by addition of the H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> stock solution into a solution containing 10 equiv. of HClO. Superoxide solution  $(O_2^{\bullet})$  was prepared by adding KO<sub>2</sub> into dry dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) and stirring vigorously for 10 min. Hydroxyl radicals (•OH) was generated by Fenton reaction, FeCl<sub>2</sub> was added in the presence of 10 equiv. H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>.



Fig. S1 Absorption spectrum of peroxynitrite

#### 1.2 The limit of detection (LOD) of HCA-OH

The emission spectrum of free HCA-OH in PBS buffer (10 mM, pH 7.4, containing 1% DMSO) was collected for 11 times to confirm the background noise  $\sigma$ . The probe noise can be calculated from fluorescence signals in solution without ONOO<sup>-</sup> using the root-mean-square ( $\sigma$ ), we took 11 data points to obtain the average value before treated with ONOO-.  $Vx^2 = \Sigma (vi - v)^2$ 

Where yi is the average value from calculation and y is the measured data point. The  $\sigma$  noise is calculated as

$$\sigma = \sqrt{Vx^2/N}$$

Where N is the number of data points used for the average value.

$$LOD = 3\sigma/K$$

The linear regression curve was then fitted according to the data in the range of ONOO<sup>-</sup> from 10 to 80  $\mu$ M and obtained the slope of the curve (7.83  $\mu$ M). The detection limit was determined to be 49.7 nM, which facilitate the quantitative detection of ONOO<sup>-</sup> in the complex environment.<sup>2</sup>

#### 2. UV-Vis absorption spectra



**Fig. S2** UV -Vis absorption spectra of **HCA-OH** (black), **HCA-OH** with ONOO<sup>-</sup> (red line). The final concentration of the probe was 10  $\mu$ M and ONOO<sup>-</sup> concentrations was 50  $\mu$ M. Data was acquired in 10 mM PBS buffer (pH 7.4, 1% DMSO) after incubation at 37 °C for 20 min.

# 3. Time-dependent changes in the fluorescence intensity



**Fig. S3** Time-dependent changes in the fluorescence intensity of **HCA-OH** (black line:  $0 \mu M$  ONOO<sup>-</sup>, red line:  $30 \mu M$  ONOO<sup>-</sup>). The excitation and emission wavelength were 460 nm and 548 nm, respectively.



**Fig. S4** (a) HPLC traces of **HCA-OH** (purple line), **HCA-NH**<sub>2</sub> (red line), **HCA-OH** reaction with ONOO<sup>-</sup> for 10 min (blue line) and 20 min (green line). (b) ESI-MS spectrum of **HCA-OH** after treated with ONOO<sup>-</sup>.

### 5. Effects of pH



**Fig. S5** Fluorescence intensity changes of **HCA-OH** (10  $\mu$ M) towards ONOO<sup>-</sup> (10  $\mu$ M) in PBS buffer with 1% DMSO under different pH conditions (2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, 10.0, 11.0). The excitation and emission wavelength were 460 nm and 548 nm, respectively.



## 6. Cytotoxicity assays

Fig. S6 MTT assays of HepG2 cells

# 7. Crystal data and structure refinement for HCA-OH



#### Fig. S7 The crystal structure of HCA-OH

Compound	НСА-ОН		
Empirical formula	$C_{22} H_{22} N_2 O_4$		
CCDC	1974831		
Formula weight	378.41		
Crystal system, space group	Monoclinic, P2 <sub>1</sub> /c		
Unit cell dimensions (Å, °)	$a = 13.7287(13) \text{ Å} \qquad a = 90^{\circ}.$		
	$b=18.656(2)$ Å $b=105.962(6)^{\circ}$ .		
	$c = 7.4592(7) \text{ Å } g = 90^{\circ}.$		
Volume/ Å <sup>3</sup>	1836.8(3) Å <sup>3</sup>		
Z, Calculated density	4, 1.368 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>		
Absorption coefficient/mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.493		
F (000)	800		
Theta range for data collection/	2.913 to 52.995.		
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	0.960		
Final R indices [I>2 $\sigma$ ]	R1 = 0.0616, $wR2 = 0.1407$		
Large diff. peak and hole/e Å <sup>-3</sup>	0.235 and -0.236 e.		

#### Table S1 Crystal data and structure refinement for HCA-OH

# 8. Optimization result "coordinate data" calculated by Density Functional Theory (TD-DFT)

Table S2 Density Functional Theory (TD-DFT) optimized coordinate data Ground state  $(S_0)$ :

Standard orientation:

Center	Atomic	Atomic	Coordinates (Angstroms)			
Number	Number	Туре	Х	Y	Z	
1	6	0	2.176516	-0.812352	-1.000887	
2	6	0	0.833450	-0.310541	-0.977437	
3	6	0	-0.218009	-1.094082	-1.477238	
4	6	0	0.565784	0.987011	-0.442086	
5	6	0	1.626995	1.776242	0.067336	
6	6	0	2.975005	1.244910	0.030579	
7	6	0	1.351145	3.036721	0.590209	
8	1	0	2.169364	3.647265	0.984053	
9	6	0	0.041924	3.519015	0.616908	
10	6	0	-1.003795	2.756402	0.121421	
11	6	0	-0.760783	1.483823	-0.418224	
12	6	0	-1.814676	0.661707	-0.946212	
13	6	0	-1.552962	-0.571639	-1.447331	
14	1	0	-2.355483	-1.202772	-1.841710	
15	1	0	-0.161036	4.510203	1.035430	
16	1	0	-2.027356	3.141470	0.151531	
17	1	0	-0.025555	-2.067936	-1.877693	
18	7	0	3.233870	0.003774	-0.480661	
19	7	0	-3.173114	1.210120	-0.918445	
20	1	0	-3.478647	1.385296	-1.854729	
21	6	0	-4.103973	0.288774	-0.273282	
22	6	0	-4.809312	-0.644977	-1.029322	
23	6	0	-4.291931	0.348910	1.105404	
24	6	0	-5.699333	-1.517879	-0.408265	
25	1	0	-4.660835	-0.693173	-2.113236	
26	6	0	-5.182495	-0.522337	1.726522	
27	1	0	-3.739155	1.083887	1.698559	
28	6	0	-5.885728	-1.455552	0.969811	
29	1	0	-6.250723	-2.253186	-1.002616	
30	1	0	-5.332961	-0.475089	2.809217	
31	6	0	3.908701	-0.800045	0.560693	
32	6	0	5.348489	-1.056468	0.186858	
33	1	0	3.359934	-1.756367	0.675477	
34	1	0	3.849266	-0.246334	1.519221	
35	6	0	6.065008	-1.881599	1.239953	
36	1	0	5 390941	-1 586992	-0 792098	
37	1	0	5 879499	-0.082546	0 077579	
38	6	0	7 506556	-2 137670	0.867156	
39	1	0	6.020881	-1.350261	2.219347	

40	1	0	5.534885	-2.853835	1.371605	
41	1	0	8.009891	-2.742158	1.650442	
42	1	0	7.572080	-2.688973	-0.094496	
43	1	0	8.059837	-1.181373	0.755689	
44	8	0	3.962946	1.995141	0.508361	
45	8	0	2.448011	-2.008984	-1.491825	
46	8	0	-6.787754	-2.338278	1.609534	
47	1	0	-7.685214	-2.057673	1.438207	

Excited state  $(S_1)$ :

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Standard orientation:

Center	Atomic	Atomic	Coordinates (Angstroms)			
Number	Number	Туре	Х	Y	Z	
1	6	0	-1.380305	2.177788	0.051124	
2	6	0	-0.898273	1.006176	-0.578418	
3	6	0	-1.699636	0.050207	-1.262358	
4	6	0	-0.504581	3.047067	0.713123	
5	6	0	0.520405	0.735786	-0.540025	
6	6	0	1.377769	1.634668	0.143960	
7	6	0	0.856677	2.784815	0.770126	
8	6	0	2.816041	1.379106	0.208610	
9	6	0	2.478858	-0.703374	-1.134734	
10	6	0	1.047376	-0.420142	-1.179509	
11	6	0	0.197614	-1.314052	-1.864991	
12	6	0	-1.164762	-1.072044	-1.910573	
13	1	0	-1.827889	-1.751770	-2.439595	
14	1	0	0.638967	-2.181103	-2.341465	
15	1	0	-0.902972	3.941011	1.186892	
16	1	0	1.547554	3.444835	1.281913	
17	1	0	-2.439166	2.414755	0.020736	
18	8	0	3.608846	2.116187	0.807270	
19	8	0	2.986873	-1.705562	-1.656463	
20	7	0	3.281849	0.231710	-0.458859	
21	6	0	4.726694	-0.028403	-0.416844	
22	6	0	5.140416	-0.867606	0.797188	
23	1	0	5.223453	0.942976	-0.388258	
24	1	0	4.982640	-0.550720	-1.340313	
25	6	0	6.651251	-1.125882	0.837622	
26	1	0	4.829709	-0.342901	1.709605	
27	1	0	4.601248	-1.823049	0.765490	
28	6	0	7.083307	-1.965497	2.044310	

29	1	0	6.959065	-1.632466	-0.088343
30	1	0	7.183953	-0.164307	0.852462
31	1	0	8.166816	-2.133963	2.050522
32	1	0	6.817175	-1.469405	2.985941
33	1	0	6.592906	-2.946871	2.038106
34	7	0	-3.133786	0.271323	-1.361131
35	1	0	-3.471516	0.814668	-2.152310
36	6	0	-4.063482	-0.138329	-0.499663
37	6	0	-5.446695	0.174064	-0.735905
38	6	0	-3.719948	-0.899107	0.670798
39	6	0	-6.417633	-0.243375	0.137222
40	1	0	-5.714012	0.746642	-1.618164
41	6	0	-4.696477	-1.308179	1.536393
42	1	0	-2.678958	-1.131483	0.845337
43	6	0	-6.056278	-0.989367	1.285763
44	1	0	-7.461768	-0.005317	-0.047195
45	1	0	-4.457903	-1.880108	2.425841
46	8	0	-6.953455	-1.427873	2.177582
47	1	0	-7.853888	-1.160586	1.926304

# 9. NMR and HRMS spectra



Fig. S8 The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of compound 1



Fig. S9 The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and <sup>13</sup>C- NMR spectrum of compound 2



Fig. S10 The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of HCA-OH in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>



<sup>1.</sup> J. S. Hu, C. Shao, X. Wang, X. Di, X. Xue, Z. Su, J. Zhao, H. L. Zhu, H. K. Liu and Y. Qian, Imaging Dynamic Peroxynitrite Fluxes in Epileptic Brains with a Near-Infrared Fluorescent Probe. *Advanced Science*, **2019**, 6(15), 1900341.

<sup>2.</sup> P. J. Ogren, A. Meetze and W. C. Duer, The Limit of Detection in Generalized Least-Squares Calibrations: An Example Using Alprazolam Liquid Chromatography-Tandem Mass Spectrometry Data. *Journal of Analytical Toxicology*, **2009**, 33(3):129-142.