

## Electronic Supporting Information

### **A Simple Chemosensor for Hg<sup>2+</sup> and Cu<sup>2+</sup> that Works as a Molecular Keypad Lock.**

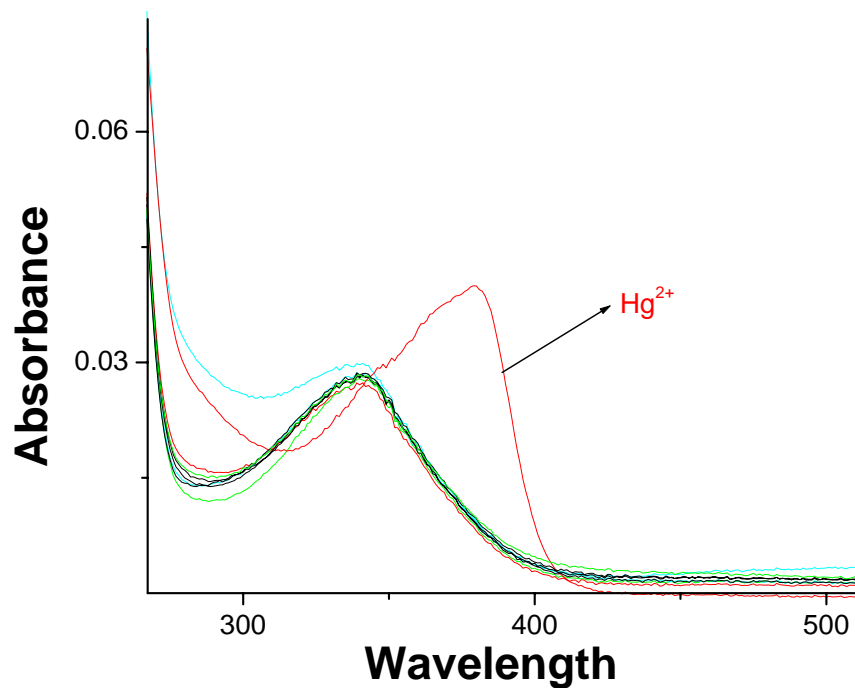
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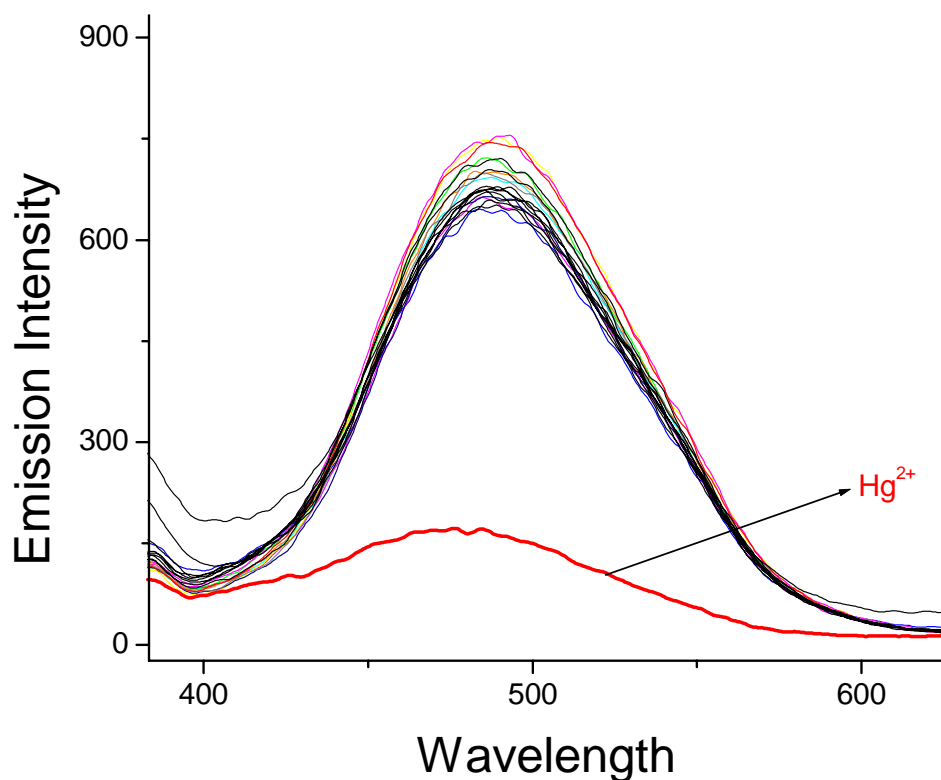


## 2. Absorption spectra of ANSE in water with various metal ions.



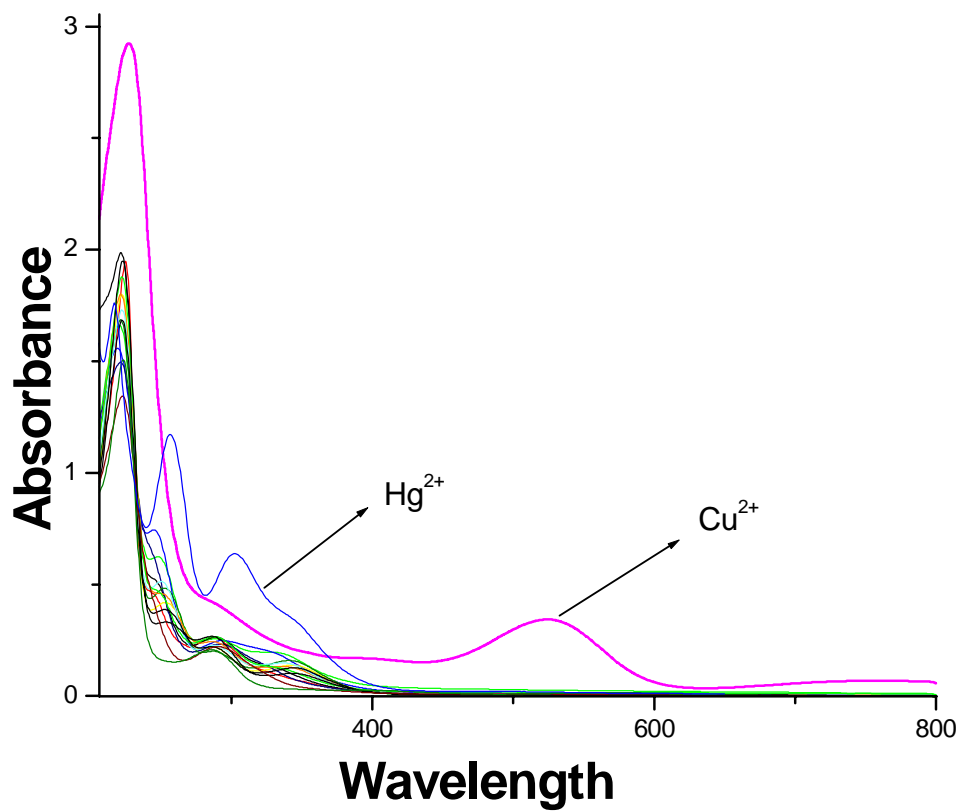
**Figure S1** : Changes in the absorption spectra of ANSE ( $1.5 \times 10^{-5}$  M) in the presence of various other metal ions ( $\text{Co}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Cd}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Co}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{K}^+$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ ) in neutral water ( $4.0 \times 10^{-4}$  M).

### 3. Emission Spectra of ANSE in water with various metal ions.



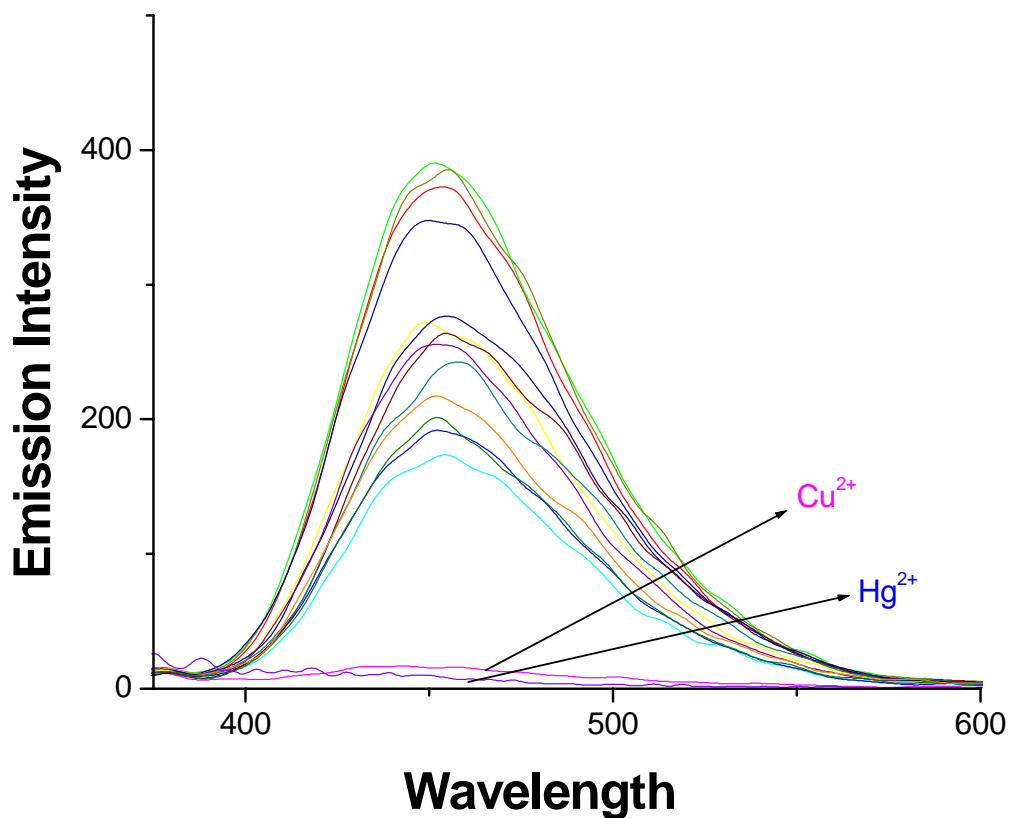
**Figure S2** : Changes in the emission spectra of ANSE ( $3.0 \times 10^{-6}$  M) in the presence of various other metal ions ( $\text{Co}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Cd}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Co}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{K}^+$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ce}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Er}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{La}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Nd}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Pr}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Sm}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$ ) in neutral water ( $1.6 \times 10^{-3}$  M). Excitation wavelength is 340 nm.

#### **4. Absorption spectra of ANSE in acetonitrile with various metal ions.**



**Figure S3:** Changes in the absorption spectra of ANSE ( $4.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M) in the presence of various other metal ions ( $\text{Co}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Cd}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Co}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{K}^+$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ ) ( $2.0 \times 10^{-4}$  M) in acetonitrile.

## **5. Emission spectra of ANSE in acetonitrile with various metal ions.**



**Figure S4:** Changes in the emission spectra of ANSE ( $2.0 \times 10^{-6}\text{M}$ ) in the presence of various other metal ions ( $\text{Co}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Cd}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Co}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{K}^+$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ ) in acetonitrile ( $6.0 \times 10^{-6}\text{M}$ ). Excitation wavelength is 352 nm.

## **7. Visible color change of ANSE.**

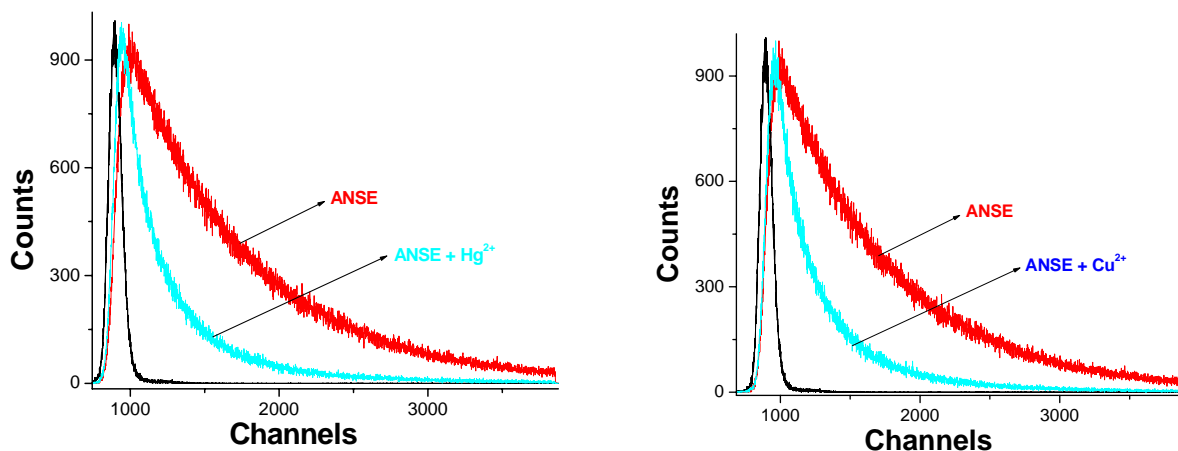


**Figure S5:** Visible color changes of **ANSE** with different metal ions in acetonitrile.

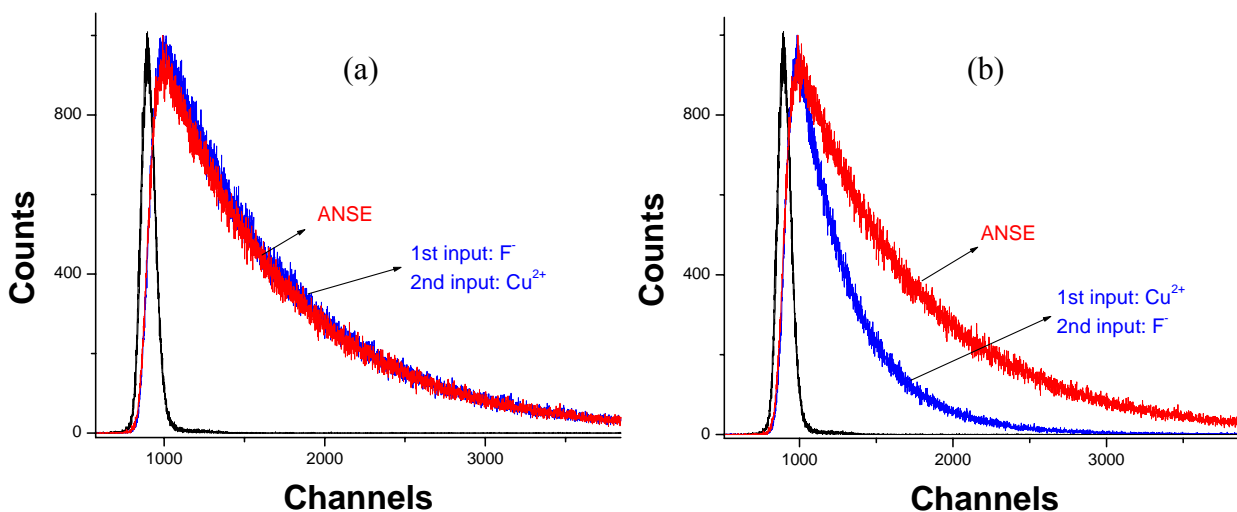
## 7. Excited state properties:

No	Life time		Compound
	Acetonitrile	Water	
1	$\chi^2 = 1.0129$ B1: 100% $\tau_1: 1.12 \times 10^{-8}$ sec $\lambda_{\text{ext}}: 340$ nm $\lambda_{\text{emi}}: 450$ nm	$\chi^2 = 1.130$ B1: 100% $\tau_1: 5.28 \times 10^{-9}$ sec $\lambda_{\text{ext}}: 340$ nm $\lambda_{\text{emi}}: 490$ nm	<b>ANSE</b>
2	$\chi^2 = 1.217$ B1: 100% $\tau_1: 3.32 \times 10^{-9}$ sec. $\lambda_{\text{ext}}: 340$ nm $\lambda_{\text{emi}}: 450$ nm	---	<b>ANSE + Cu<sup>2+</sup></b>
3	$\chi^2 = 1.126$ B1: 25.99% B2: 74.01% $\tau_1: 1.26 \times 10^{-9}$ sec. $\tau_2: 5.42 \times 10^{-9}$ sec. $\lambda_{\text{ext}}: 340$ nm $\lambda_{\text{emi}}: 450$ nm	$\chi^2 = 1.190$ B1: 100% $\tau_1: 2.639 \times 10^{-9}$ sec $\lambda_{\text{ext}}: 340$ nm $\lambda_{\text{emi}}: 490$ nm	<b>ANSE + Hg<sup>2+</sup></b>
4	$\chi^2 = 0.9896$ B1: 100% $\tau_1: 4.8 \times 10^{-9}$ sec $\lambda_{\text{ext}}: 340$ nm, $\lambda_{\text{emi}}: 500$ nm	---	<b>ANSE + 1<sup>st</sup> Input Cu<sup>2+</sup> + 2<sup>nd</sup> Input F<sup>-</sup></b>
5	$\chi^2 = 1.014$ B1: 100% $\tau_1: 1.102 \times 10^{-8}$ sec $\lambda_{\text{ext}}: 340$ nm, $\lambda_{\text{emi}}: 450$ nm	---	<b>ANSE + 1<sup>st</sup> Input F<sup>-</sup> + 2<sup>nd</sup> Input Cu<sup>2+</sup></b>

## 8. Fluorescence decay curves:

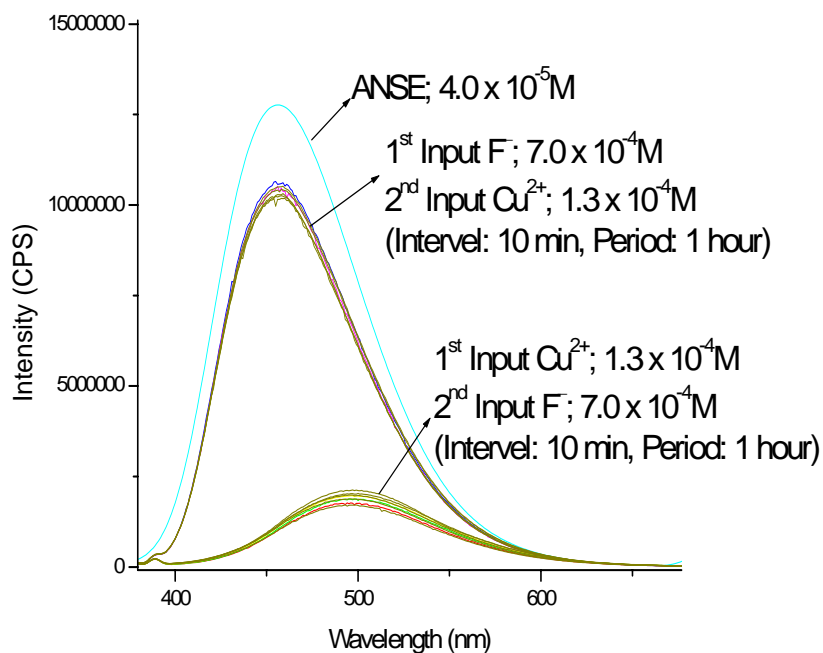


**Figure S6:** Fluorescence decay curve for ANSE in the presence of Hg<sup>2+</sup> and Cu<sup>2+</sup> in acetonitrile.  $\lambda_{\text{ext}} = 340 \text{ nm}$  and the emission decay was monitored at 450 nm



**Figure S7:** Fluorescence decay curve for ANSE in the presence of two different sequence of inputs in acetonitrile.  $\lambda_{\text{ext}} = 340 \text{ nm}$  and emission decay was monitored at 450 nm and 500 nm for (a) and (b) respectively. Trace shown in black is the lamp response time.

## **9. Fluorescence spectra with different sequence of ionic inputs at different time interval:**



**Figure S8:** Emission output of ANSE, following excitation at 352 nm with different input sequences recorded at 10 min interval over a period of one hour.