

## Supporting Information

### A colorimetric and ratiometric fluorescent probe for rapid, sensitive and visual detection of metabisulfite in food and living cells

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**Table S1.** Comparison of ratiometric fluorescent probes for SO<sub>2</sub> derivatives.

Probes	$\lambda_{\text{ex}}$ /nm	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$ /nm	Solvent	Detection limit/nM	Sensitivity	Response time/s	Detection object	Application
<b>NDMB</b> T [1]	360 488	430 690	PBS buffer (5% DMSO)	43.0	good	< 100	HSO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	Living cells
<b>NHB-ID</b> [2]	404 550	467 611	PBS buffer (30% DMSO)	58.6	good	< 90	HSO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	Living cells
<b>probe 1</b> [3]	420 600	485 640	PBS buffer (0.25% EtOH)	34.0	good	< 300	SO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	Living cells
<b>probe 2</b> [4]	466 580	523 663	HEPES buffer	0.27	good	< 90	SO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	Living cells
<b>CP</b> [5]	380	450 645	PBS buffer (5% DMSO)	390	good	< 5	HSO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	Living Cells, brain tissues, and zebrafishes
<b>probe 1</b> [6]	500	560 717	PBS buffer (10% DMF)	87	good	< 30	HSO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	Living cells and food samples
<b>CZBI</b>	322 510	462 588	PBS buffer (30% EtOH)	6.8	good	< 30	S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	Living cells and food samples

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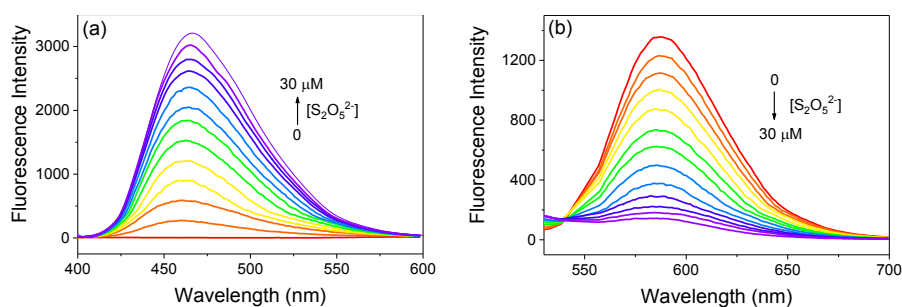
[2] H. Huang, W. Liu, X.-J. Liu, Y.-Q. Kuang and J.-H. Jiang, *Talanta*, 2017, **168**, 203–209.

[3] Y. Chen, X. Wang, X.-F. Yang, Y. Zhong, Z. Li and H. Li, *Sens. Actuators B*, 2017, **206**, 268–275.

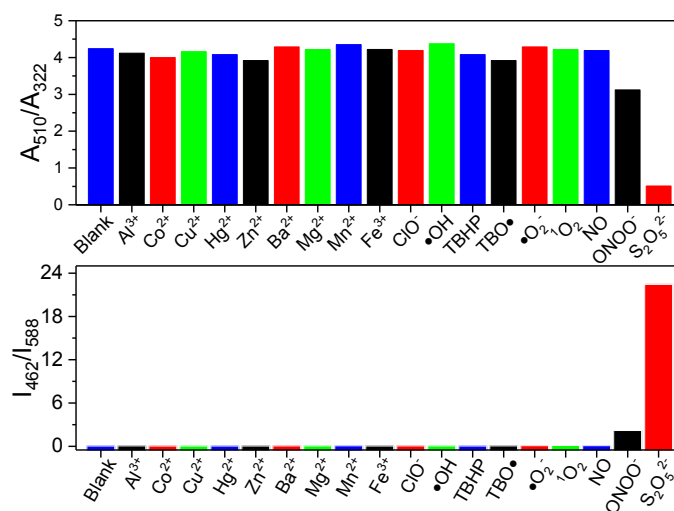
[4] M.X. Li, W.Y. Feng, H.Y. Zhang and G.Q. Feng, *Sens. Actuators B*, 2017, **243**, 51–58.

[5] M.-Y. Wu, K. Li, C.-Y. Li, J.-T. Hou and X.-Q. Yu, *Chem. Commun.*, 2014, **50**, 183–185.

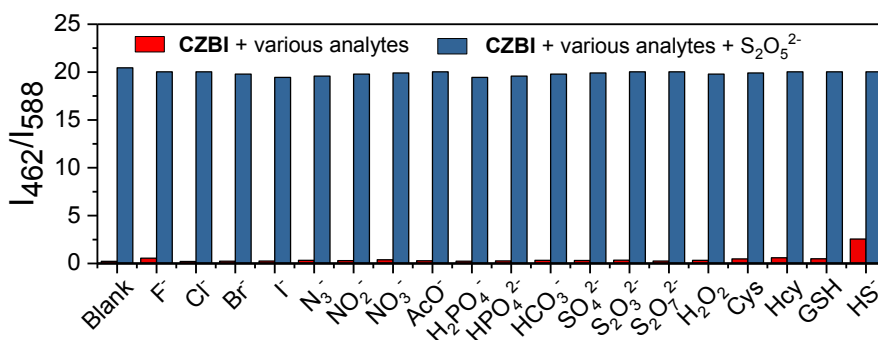
[6] Y. Ma, Y. Tang, Y. Zhao, S. Gao and W. Lin, *Anal. Chem.*, 2017, **89**, 9388–9393.



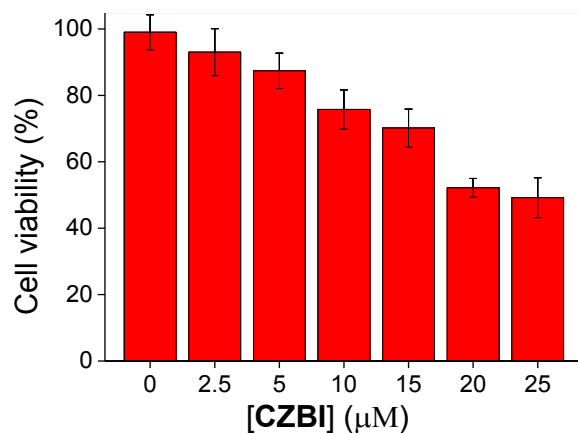
**Fig. S1** Fluorescence spectra changes of **CZBI** in EtOH/PBS solution ( $v/v = 3/7$ , pH 7.4, 10 mM) upon addition of increasing amount of  $S_2O_5^{2-}$  (0–30  $\mu M$ ). Each spectrum was recorded after **CZBI** was incubated with  $S_2O_5^{2-}$  for 1 min. (a)  $\lambda_{em} = 462$  nm,  $\lambda_{ex} = 322$  nm, slits: 2.5/2.5 nm; (b)  $\lambda_{em} = 588$  nm,  $\lambda_{ex} = 510$  nm, slits: 2.5/10 nm.



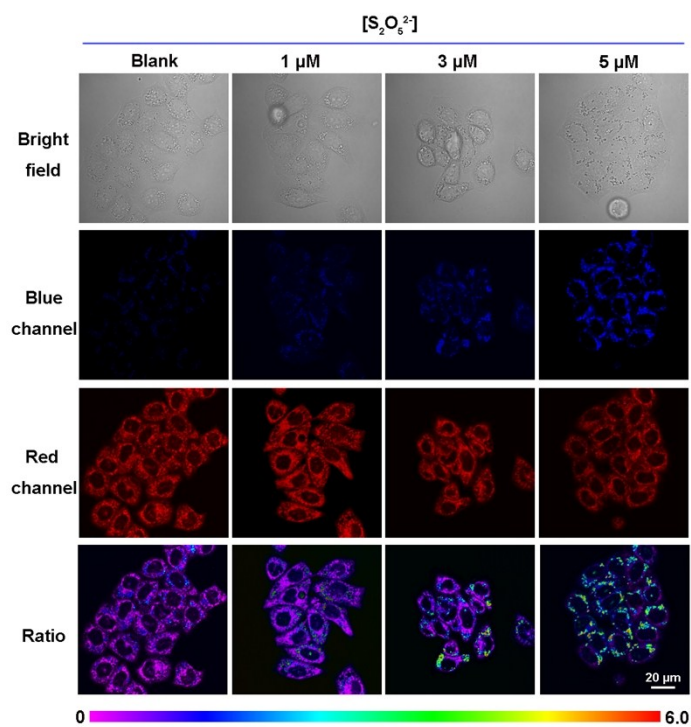
**Fig. S2** (a) Absorbance ratios ( $A_{510}/A_{322}$ ) and (b) Fluorescence intensity ratios ( $F_{462}/F_{588}$ ) of **CZBI** (10  $\mu M$ ) in the presence of various analytes (100.0  $\mu M$ ) in EtOH/PBS solution ( $v/v = 3/7$ , pH 7.4, 10 mM) at 25  $^{\circ}C$ . Each spectrum was recorded after **CZBI** was incubated with  $S_2O_5^{2-}$  for 1 min.



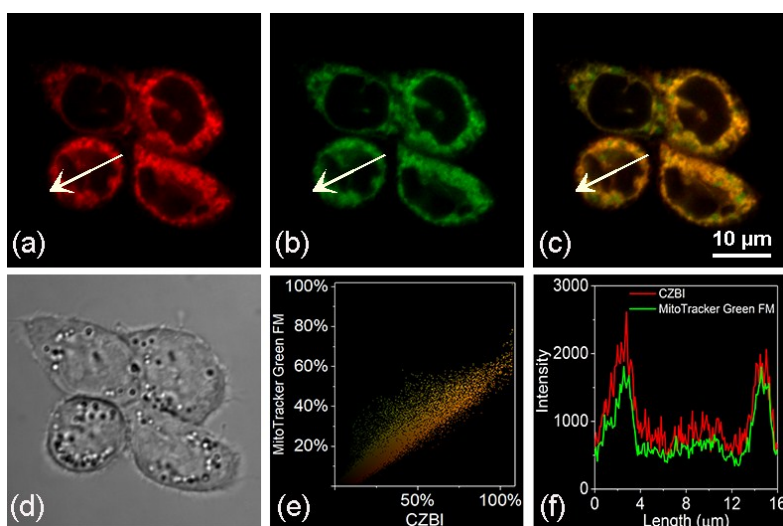
**Fig. S3** Fluorescence response of **CZBI** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) towards  $\text{S}_2\text{O}_5^{2-}$  in the presence of various analytes (100.0  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in EtOH/PBS solution ( $v/v = 3/7$ , pH 7.4, 10 mM) at 25  $^\circ\text{C}$ . Each spectrum was recorded after the analytes were incubated with **CZBI** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) for 1 min.



**Fig. S4** Cytotoxicity of **CZBI**. HeLa cells were incubated with **CZBI** (0–25  $\mu\text{M}$ ) for 24 h. Results are mean  $\pm$  SD,  $n = 5$ .



**Fig. S5** Confocal fluorescence images of **CZBI** in HeLa cells incubated with different concentrations of  $S_2O_5^{2-}$ . HeLa cells were incubated with **CZBI** (10  $\mu$ M) at 37 °C for 30 min, and then further treated with different amounts of  $S_2O_5^{2-}$  for 10 min. Fluorescence images of HeLa cells from blue channel ( $\lambda_{ex}$  = 403 nm,  $\lambda_{em}$  = 425–475 nm) and red channel ( $\lambda_{ex}$  = 543 nm,  $\lambda_{em}$  = 552–617 nm). The ratiometric images ( $F_{blue}/F_{red}$ ) were obtained by mediating the blue channel image with the related red channel image. Scale bar: 20  $\mu$ m.



**Fig. S6** Confocal fluorescence images of HeLa cells stained with (a) 10  $\mu$ M **CZBI** (red channel:  $\lambda_{ex}$  = 543 nm,  $\lambda_{em}$  = 560–610 nm) and (b) 200 nM MitoTracker Green FM (green channel:  $\lambda_{ex}$  = 488 nm,  $\lambda_{em}$  = 500–530 nm) at 37 °C for 30 min (c) Merged image of (a) and (b). (d) Bright field image. (e) Correlation plot of MitoTracker Green FM and **CZBI** intensities. (f) Intensity profile of regions of interest (ROI) across HeLa cells. Scale bar: 10  $\mu$ m.

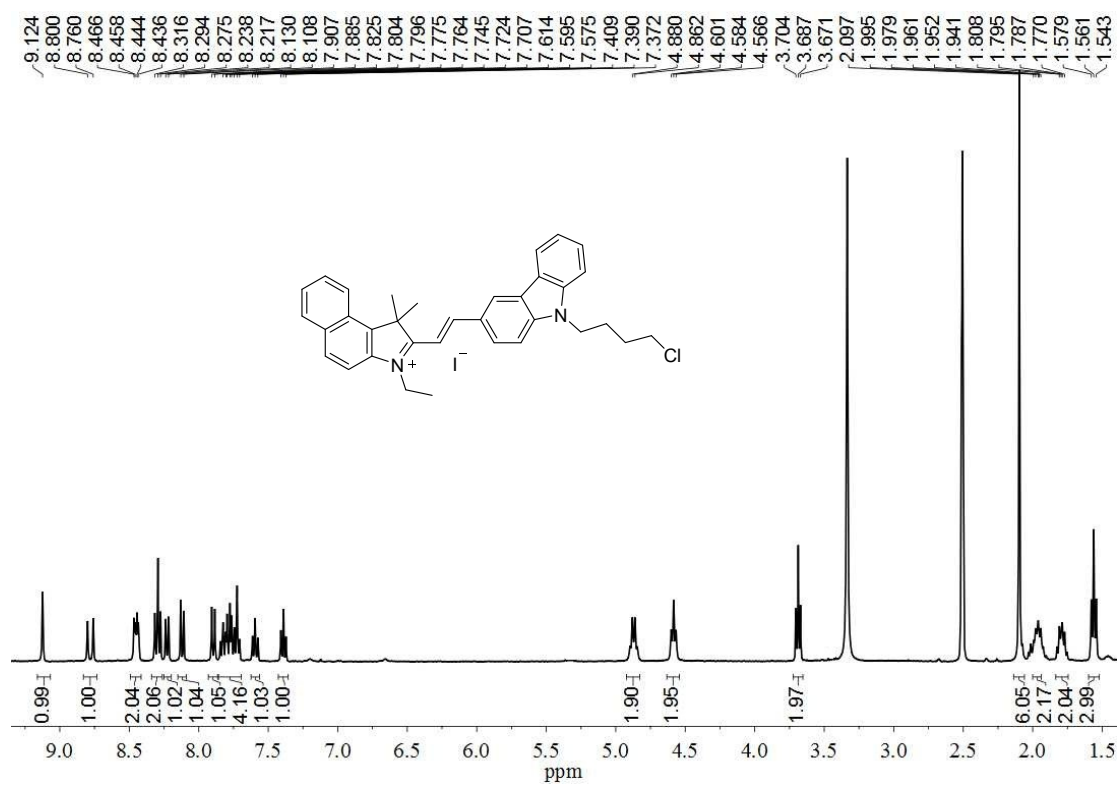


Fig. S7  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound **CZBI** in  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$  (400 MHz).

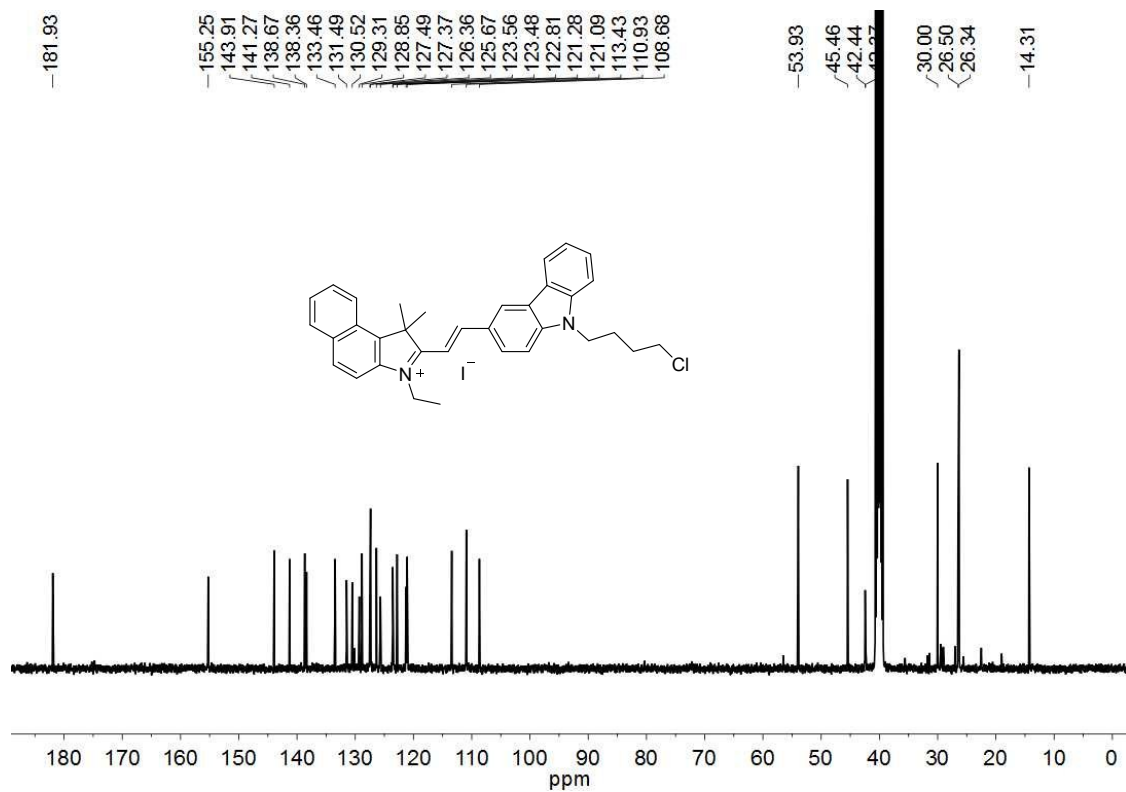
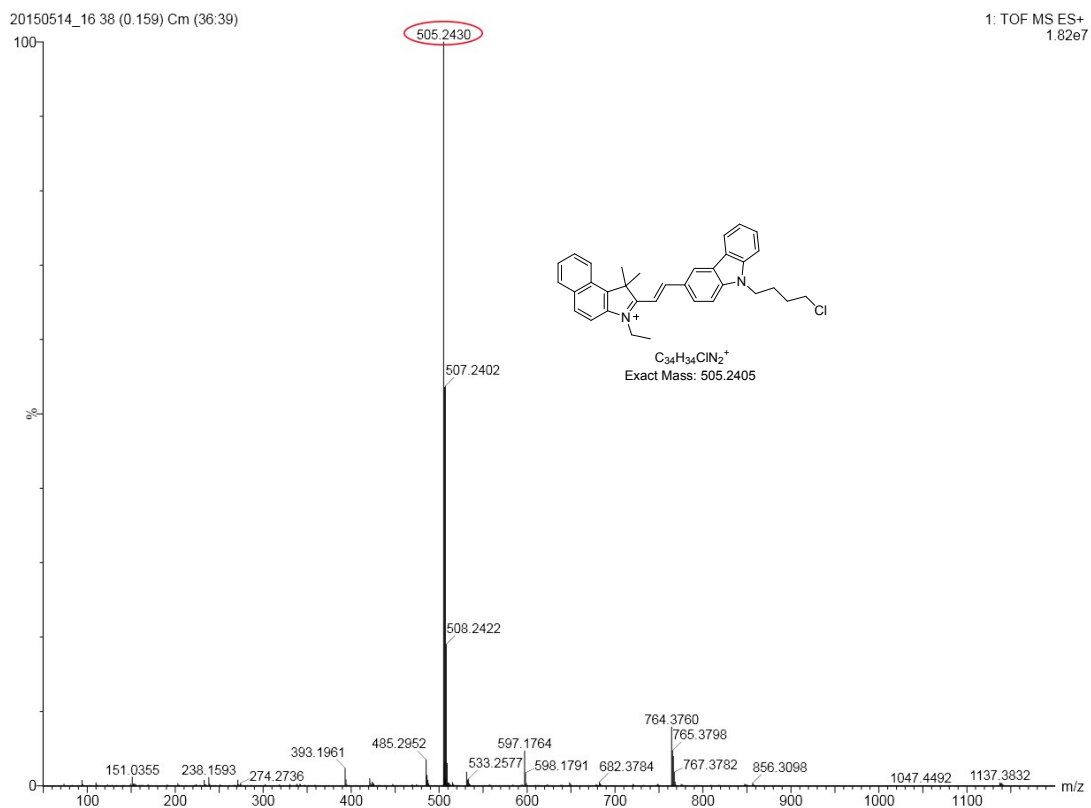
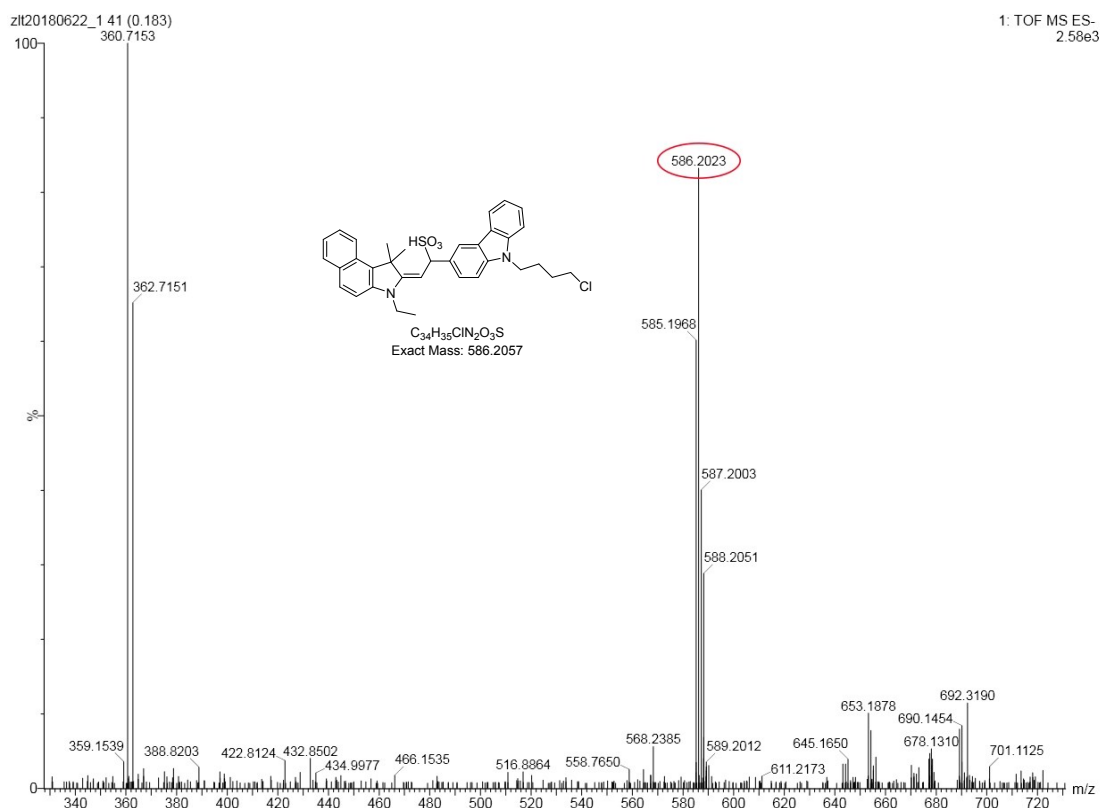


Fig. S8  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **CZBI** in  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$  (100 MHz).



**Fig. S9** HR-MS spectrum of CZBI.



**Fig. S10** HR-MS spectrum of CZBI-HSO<sub>3</sub>.