# A mitochondria-targeting fluorescent probe for detection of mitochondrial labile Fe(II) ion

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### 1. Steady state absorption and fluorescence measurements

The UV-vis absorption spectra were recorded on an Agilent 8453 photodiode array UV-vis spectrometer. Fluorescence spectra were recorded using a JASCO FP6600 with a slit width of 5 nm and 6 nm for excitation and emission, respectively. The path length was 1 cm with a cell volume of 3.0 mL. Excitation was provided at 510 nm.

For all the fluorescence measurements, MtFluNox was used at a final concentration of 2  $\mu$ M (from 1 mM stock solution in DMSO) in 50 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4).

Quantum yields were measured in 50 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4) by using a Quantaurus-QY absolute photo-luminescence quantum yields measurement system (C11347-01, Hamamatsu Photonics).

Fluorescence responses of MtFluNox to various metal ions were measured as follows. An aqueous solution of transition metal ion species (stock solutions: 10 mM for MnSO<sub>4</sub>, CoSO<sub>4</sub>, NiSO<sub>4</sub>, FeSO<sub>4</sub>, FeCl<sub>3</sub>, CuSO<sub>4</sub>, and ZnSO<sub>4</sub>; 1 M for NaCl, KCl, MgCl<sub>2</sub>, and CaCl<sub>2</sub>), or [Cu(CH<sub>3</sub>CN)<sub>4</sub>]PF<sub>4</sub> (from 10 mM stock solution in MeCN) was added to give the final concentrations of 1 mM for Na(I), K(I), Mg(II), and Ca(II) and 20  $\mu$ M for other metal ion species. In the case of Cu(I), MtFluNox was reacted with Cu(I) in the presence of 200  $\mu$ M glutathione. The mixtures were kept at room temperature for 1 h and then applied to fluorescence measurement. Selectivity for reductants, reactive oxygen species, transferrin, and effect of chelator were tested under the conditions as follows.

$Na_2S_2O_3$	: 100 $\mu$ M from 100 mM stock solution in water
Sodium ascorbate	: 1 mM from 100 mM stock solution in water
Cysteine	: 1 mM from 100 mM stock solution in water
Glutathione	: 1 mM from 100 mM stock solution in HEPES buffer (pH was adjusted to 7.4)
NaNO <sub>2</sub>	: 100 $\mu$ M from 100 mM stock solution in water
O <sub>2</sub> •¯	: 100 $\mu$ M from saturated KO <sub>2</sub> solution in DMSO (ca. 1 mM) <sup>1)</sup>
$H_2O_2$	: 100 $\mu$ M from 100 mM stock solution in water
•OH	: 200 $\mu$ M H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> and 20 $\mu$ M FeSO <sub>4</sub> (1 mM stock solution of MtFluNox in DMF
	was used instead of DMSO)
NaOCl	: 100 $\mu$ M from 100 mM stock solution in water
NO	: 100 $\mu$ M NOC-5 from 10 mM stock solution in 0.1 M NaOH aq.
hemin	: 20 $\mu$ M hemin from 5 mM stock solution in DMSO.
Fe(II)+Bpy	: 20 $\mu$ M FeSO <sub>4</sub> in the presence of 200 $\mu$ M 2,2'-bipyridyl (Bpy) form 100 mM
	stock solution in DMSO.
Fe(II)+DFO	: 20 $\mu$ M FeSO <sub>4</sub> FeSO <sub>4</sub> in the presence of 200 $\mu$ M deferroxamine (DFO) form
	100 mM stock solution in water.

MtFluNox (2  $\mu$ M) was incubated under each condition in 50 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4, 0.2% DMF as co-solvent) for 1 h, and then fluorescence spectra were measured, respectively.

### 2. Product analysis

To a solution of a probe (100  $\mu$ M) in 50 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4, 5%DMSO as co-solvent) was added a solution of FeSO<sub>4</sub> (final, 1 mM). The mixture was kept for 1 h under an ambient condition. The products were analyzed with LC-MS system (Chromaster<sup>®</sup>5110, Hitachi High-tech) equipped with a photodiode-array detector (Chromaster<sup>®</sup>5430, Hitachi High-tech) and a mass spectrometer (Chromaster<sup>®</sup>5610 MS Detector, Hitachi High-tech) and with Waters symmetry C<sub>18</sub> column (3.5  $\mu$ m, 4.6 × 75 mm) eluted with a gradient system consisting of H<sub>2</sub>O (solvent A) and CH<sub>3</sub>CN (solvent B) containing 0.05% formic acid; 20%B to 70%B over 20 min. The retention times were compared with those of the parent dyes in 50 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4, 5%DMSO as co-solvent). Assignments of the compounds were based on the observed *m/z* values at each peak.

### Reference

1) A. R. Lippert, E. J. New and C. J. Chang, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2011, 133, 10078-10080.

### 3. Supporting figures



*Figure S1* (a) UV-vis absorption spectra of MtFluNox (2  $\mu$ M, black line) and MtRhodol (2  $\mu$ M, red line). (b) UV-vis absorption change of MtFluNox (2  $\mu$ M) upon the addition of Fe(II) (20  $\mu$ M; as FeSO<sub>4</sub>). Each spectrum was recorded every 5 min. All the spectra were obtained in HEPES buffer (50 mM, pH 7.4, 0.2%DMSO as co-solvent).



**Figure S2** HPLC-mass monitoring of the reaction between MtFluNox (100  $\mu$ M) and Fe(II) ion (1 mM). (a) MtFluNox, (b) the reaction mixture of MtFluNox and Fe(II), and (c) MtRhodol (as the parent fluorophore). The detailed LC condition is described in the experimental section 3. Product analysis.



*Figure* **S3** Fluorescence response of MtFluNox against various reductants, reactive oxygen species. Bars represent relative fluorescence intensities at 535 nm.



**Figure S4** (a) Colocalization assay of MtFluNox and MitoTracker<sup>®</sup> Deep Red FM in HepG2 cells in the absence or presence of Fe(II). (b) Colocalization assay of MtRhodol and MitoTracker<sup>®</sup> Deep Red FM in HepG2 cells in the absence or presence of Fe(II). Pearson's correlation values ( $R_{coloc}$ ) for each experiment are shown (n = 5). Scale bars indicate 25  $\mu$ m.



**Figure S5** Fluorescence microscopic images of mitochondrial labile Fe(II) in HEK293 cells treated with (a) vehicle, (b) succinylacetone (SA; 1 mM), or (c) SA in the presence of DFO (100  $\mu$ M). The cells were stained with Ac-MtFluNox (1  $\mu$ M, 1 h). (d–f) DIC images of the same fields of view of (a–c),

respectively. Scale bars indicate 25  $\mu$ m. (g) Quantification of the images taken under each condition (n = 10). Statistical analysis was performed by Student's *t*-test. \*\*P < 0.05 (n = 6). Error bars indicate ±S.E.M.

# 4. <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra of the newly synthesized compounds

3-O-Methoxymethyl-6-(4-tert-butoxycarbonylpyperazin-1-yl)rhodol (Boc-piperazinylrhodol, 2)





## Piperazinylrhodol-triphenylphosphonium bromide salt (MtRhodol, 4)





### MtFluNox•PF<sub>6</sub> salt





### Ac-MtRhodol (5)





### Ac-MtFluNox



