

## Supporting Information for

### A new, highly water-soluble, fluorescent turn-on chemodosimeter for direct measurement of hydrogen sulfide in biological fluids

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## I. Materials.

All reagents were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, Fisher Scientific or TCI America unless otherwise specified and were used as received. Reactions were carried out in foil-wrapped flasks protected from light. The precursor to N<sub>3</sub>-PTS, triammonium 8-aminopyrene-1,3,6-trisulfonic acid, was prepared in one step from 1-aminopyrene as described<sup>1</sup>.

## II. Synthesis.

**Triammonium 8-azidopyrene-1,3,6-trisulfonate (N<sub>3</sub>-PTS).** A solution of triammonium 8-aminopyrene-1,3,6-trisulfonate (100 mg, 0.22 mmol) was dissolved in ice cold 3.6 N H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (500 μL) in a foil wrapped flask on ice. An aqueous solution of 0.66 M NaNO<sub>2</sub> (1 mL, 3 eq) was added dropwise over 10 min. A solution of ice cold 1.1 M sodium azide (1.2 mL, 6 eq) was added dropwise over 10 min. The reaction was stirred on ice for an additional 40 min and was quenched with 0.5 mL concentrated NH<sub>4</sub>OH. The solution was concentrated via rotary evaporation and purified using a Biogel P-2 column (1.5 x 80 cm), eluted with 50 mM aq NH<sub>4</sub>OAc at a flow rate of 0.15 mL/min. The fractions containing the product were combined and lyophilized giving a fluffy yellow powder (79 mg, 75%). IR  $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$  (3435m, 3180s, 3199s, 2870m, 2113s (N<sub>3</sub> stretch), 1625w, 1416s, 1161s, 1115s, 1036s, 998s, 733m, 653s, 604s). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O):  $\delta$  = 9.23 (s, 1H), 9.21 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 9.8 Hz), 9.11 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 9.8 Hz), 9.10 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 9.7 Hz), 8.73 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 9.7 Hz), 8.64 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O) 139.05 (q), 135.90 (q), 130.43 (q), 129.71 (q), 127.73 (C-H), 125.68 (C-H), 125.51 (q), 125.20 (C-H), 124.87 (C-H), 124.76 (C-H), 123.44 (q), 123.40 (q), 116.60 (C-H). HRMS (ESI) C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>7</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>S<sub>3</sub> calculated  $[M - 2H]^{2-} = 240.4677$ ; Observed = 240.4678.

## III. Analytical Methods.

**Fluorescence spectra.** Fluorescence spectra were recorded with a Cary Eclipse Fluorescence Spectrophotometer (Agilent Technologies, Inc.) at ambient temperature and under ambient atmosphere. Samples were contained in black, flat-bottomed 96 well plates. The PMT setting was 600 V for all readings. For samples containing H<sub>2</sub>S, the plate was sealed immediately after addition of a NaHS solution of the appropriate concentration. Fluorescence readings were taken either with the seal removed

or with optically clear sealing tape intact. Readings taken in FBS had a final FBS concentration of 90%, with the remaining 10% aqueous solution containing the fluorophore and NaHS.

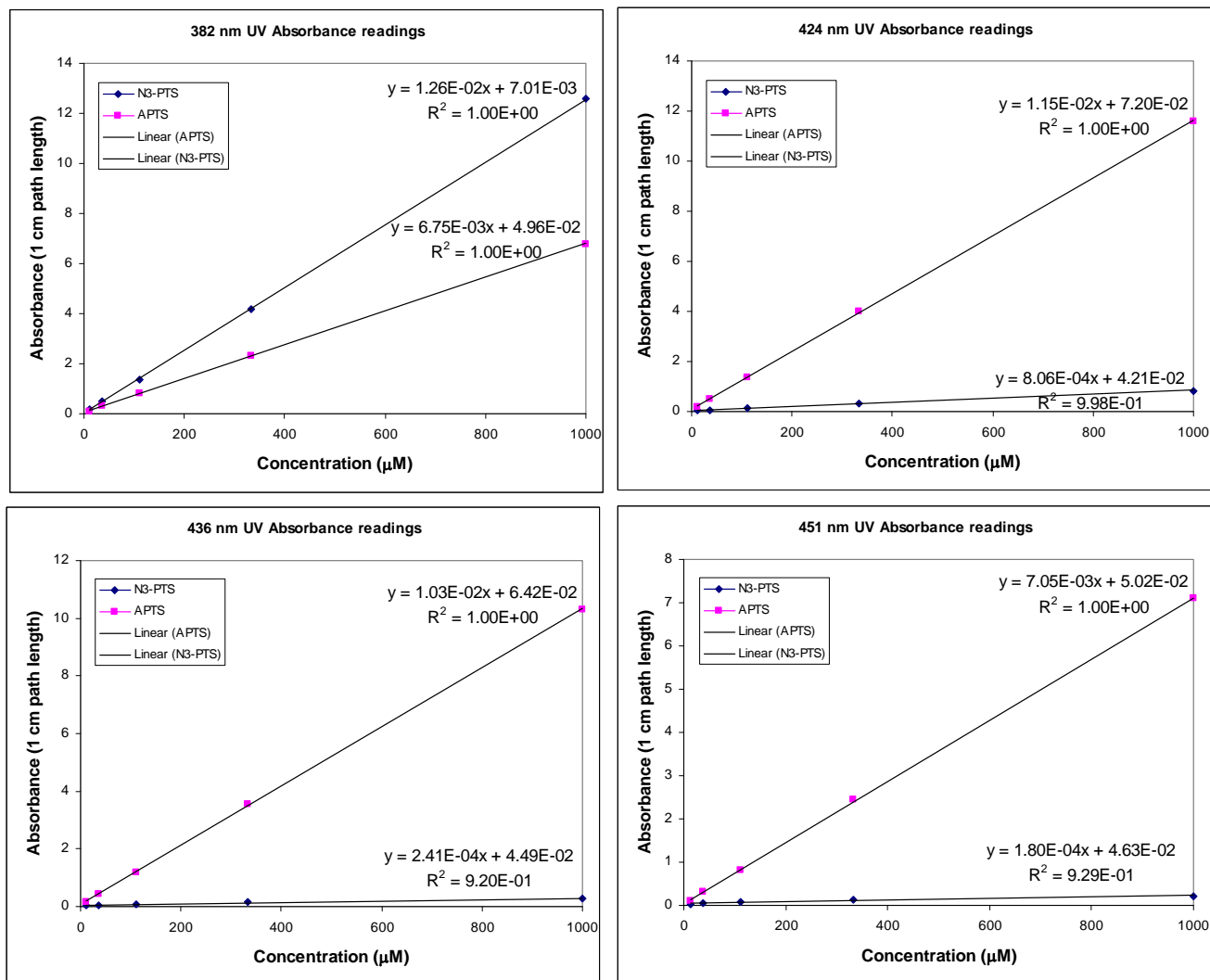
**UV-Vis Absorbance.** UV-Vis Absorbance spectra were recorded on a Hewlett Packard 8453 UV-visible Spectroscopy Systems instrument in disposable UV cuvettes (BrandTech) (Quantum yield measurements) or using a Nano-Drop 2000 spectrophotometer (UV-Vis absorbance profile and Beer's Law readings).

**IR.** IR readings were taken on a Nicolet Avatar 360 FT-IR.

**NMR.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker 400 MHz NMR.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra were calibrated to the  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  solvent peak which was set to 4.79 ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a 600 MHz Bruker Advance III instrument using the attached proton test.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  were calibrated using methanol as an internal standard set to 49.50 ppm. Even using this high field instrument there were indistinguishable  $^{13}\text{C}$  peaks for  $\text{N}_3\text{-PTS}$ . Observed peaks were reported.

**MS.** Mass spectra were acquired on a LTQ-Orbitrap Velos from Thermo Electron Corporation operating in negative ion mode.

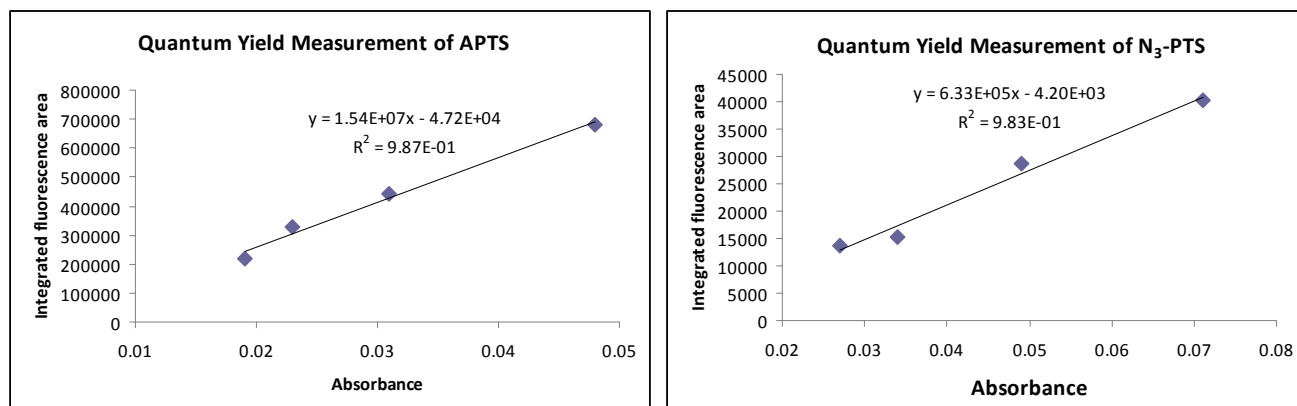
#### IV. Supplementary Figures and Tables.



**Fig. S1.** Absorbance vs. concentration plots of APTS and N<sub>3</sub>-PTS at various wavelengths in water. Absorbance parameters (Table S1) were calculated using Beer's law.

**Table S1.** Calculated absorbance coefficients of APTS and N<sub>3</sub>-PTS in water

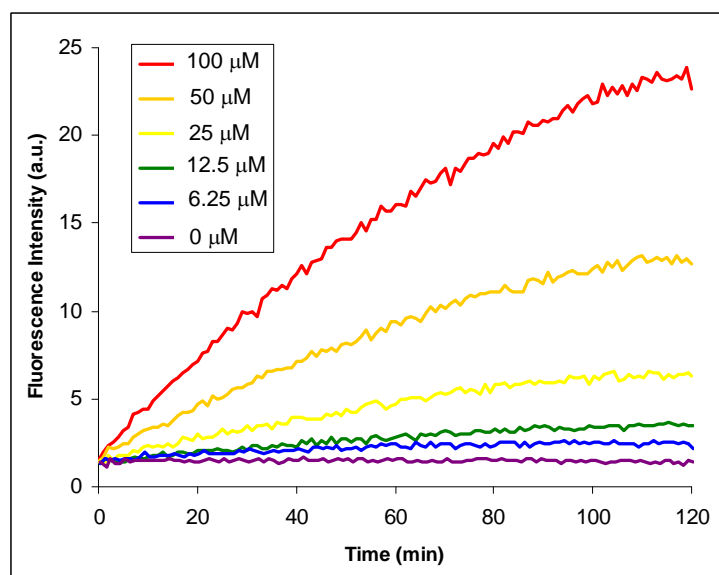
Wavelength	$\epsilon_{N_3PTS}$ (M <sup>-1</sup> cm <sup>-1</sup> )	$\epsilon_{APTS}$ (M <sup>-1</sup> cm <sup>-1</sup> )	$\epsilon_{APTS/N_3PTS}$
382 nm	12600	6750	0.54
424 nm	806	11500	14.3
436 nm	241	10300	42.7
451 nm	180	7050	39.2



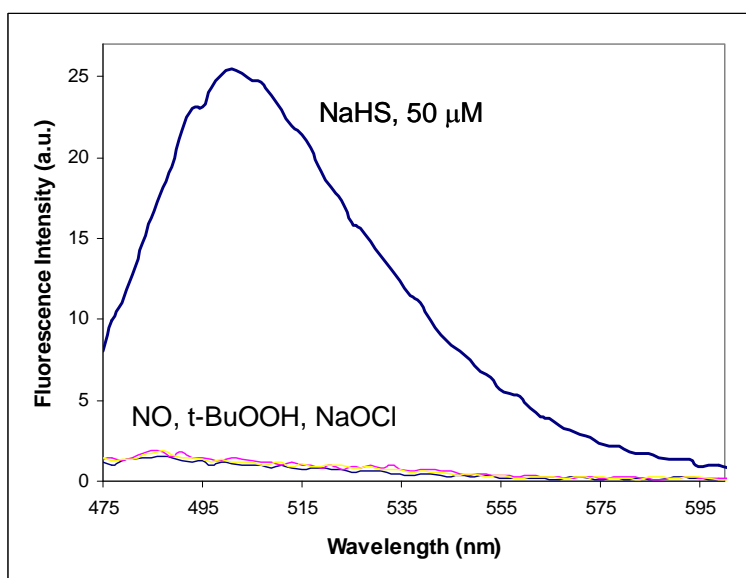
**Fig. S2.** Relative quantum yield measurement of APTS and N<sub>3</sub>-PTS. Fluorescence spectra were obtained with  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 425$  nm.

**Table S2.** Relative Quantum Yield Measurement

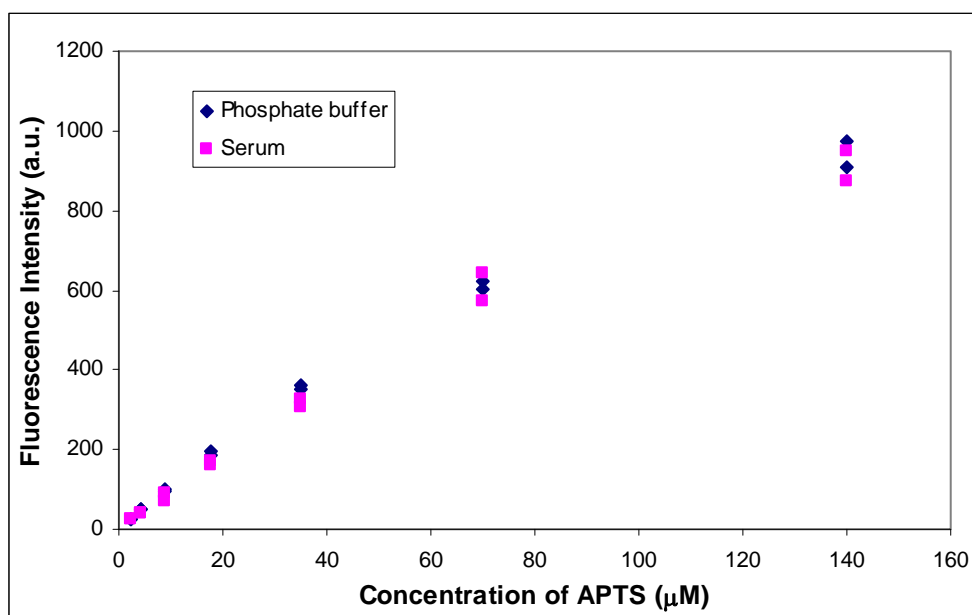
Compound	Slope	Relative Quantum Yield
APTS	$1.54 \times 10^7$	<b>24.3</b>
N <sub>3</sub> -PTS	$6.33 \times 10^5$	



**Fig. S3.** Reaction of H<sub>2</sub>S at various concentrations with N<sub>3</sub>-PTS. The reaction was monitored at 505 nm ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 435$  nm), and readings were taken at 1 minute intervals.



**Fig. S4.** Comparison of the fluorescence of  $N_3$ -PTS after incubation in 50 mM phosphate buffer (pH 7.8) along with with NaHS (50  $\mu$ M) or NaOCl, Sodium Diethylamine NONOate, or tBuOOH (all 1 mM). Fluorescence emission ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 435$  nm) was measured after 90 min.



**Fig. S5.** Comparison of fluorescence intensity ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 450$  nm) of APTS at various concentrations in either phosphate buffer or Serum (FBS).

#### V. Reference:

1 Z. Sharrett, S. Gamsey, L. Hirayama, B. Vilozny, J. T. Suri, R. A. Wessling and B. Singaram, *Org. Biomol. Chem.*, 2009, **7**, 1461-1470.

## VI. $^1\text{H}$ and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra for $\text{N}_3\text{-PTS}$

