

## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

# **Highly sensitive and selective coumarin probe for hydrogen sulfide imaging in living cells**

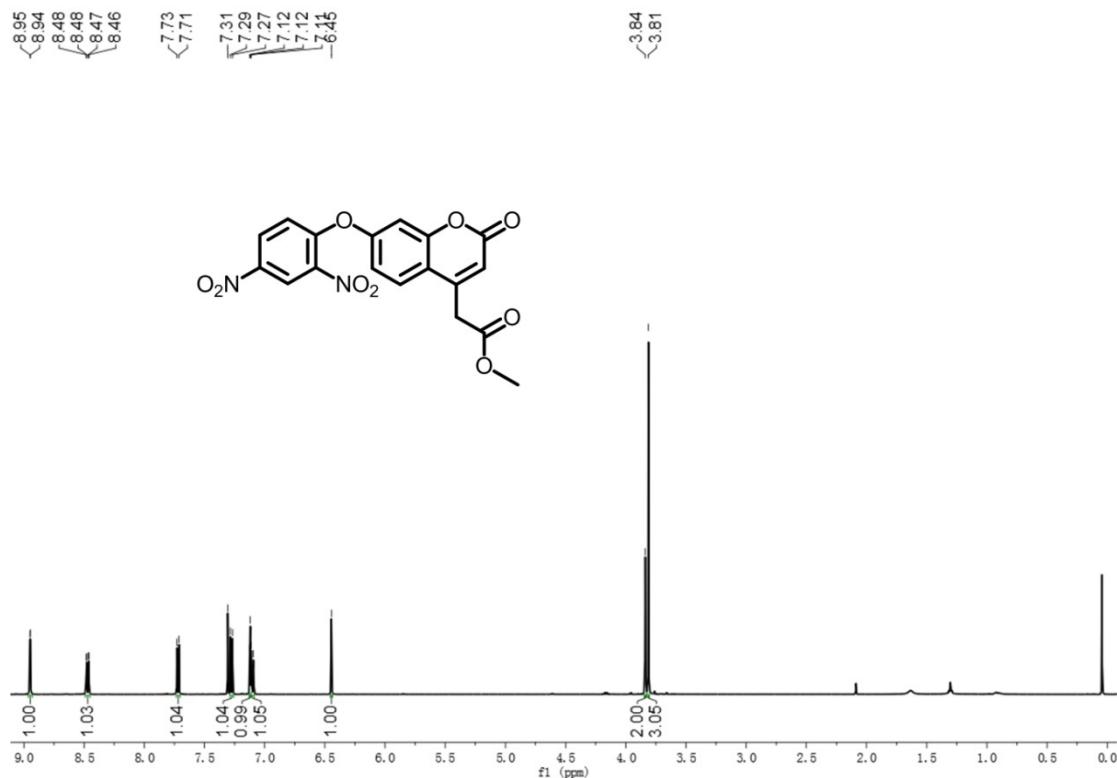
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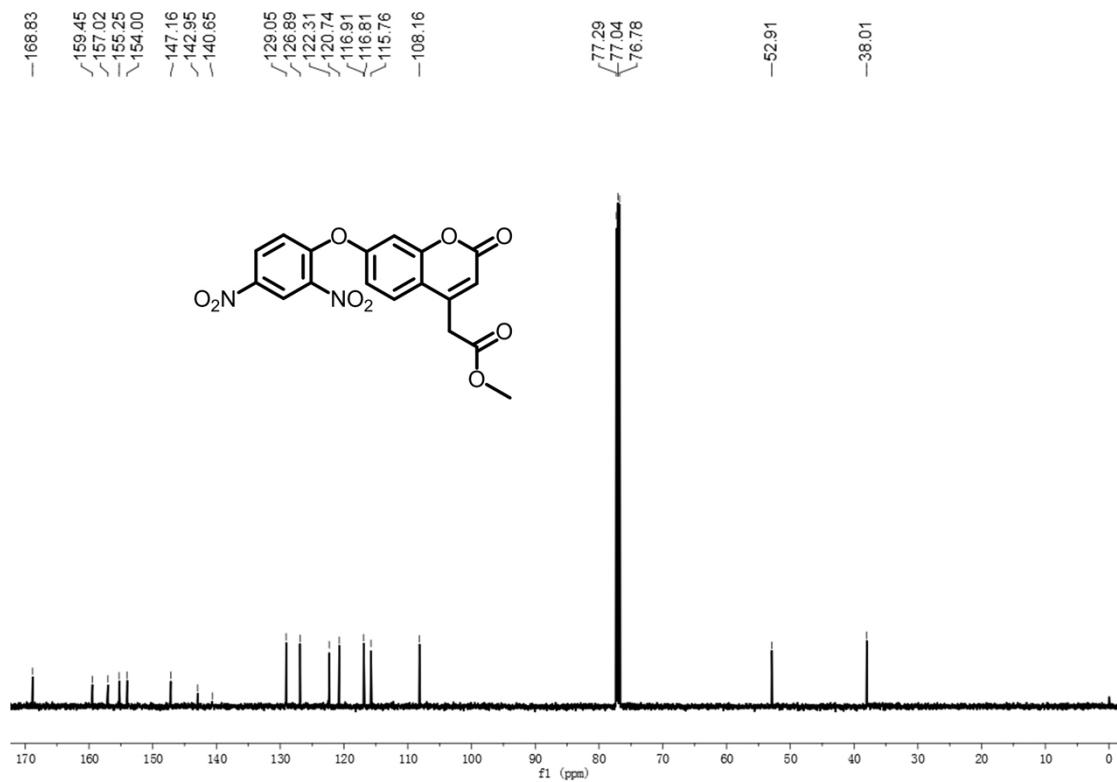
<sup>b</sup> *College of Veterinary Medicine, Northwest A&F University, Yangling, Shaanxi 712100, P. R. China*

**Abstract.** This Supplementary data include all of the additional information as noted in the manuscript.

### S1. $^1\text{H}$ , $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR and Mass Spectra of DNPOCA

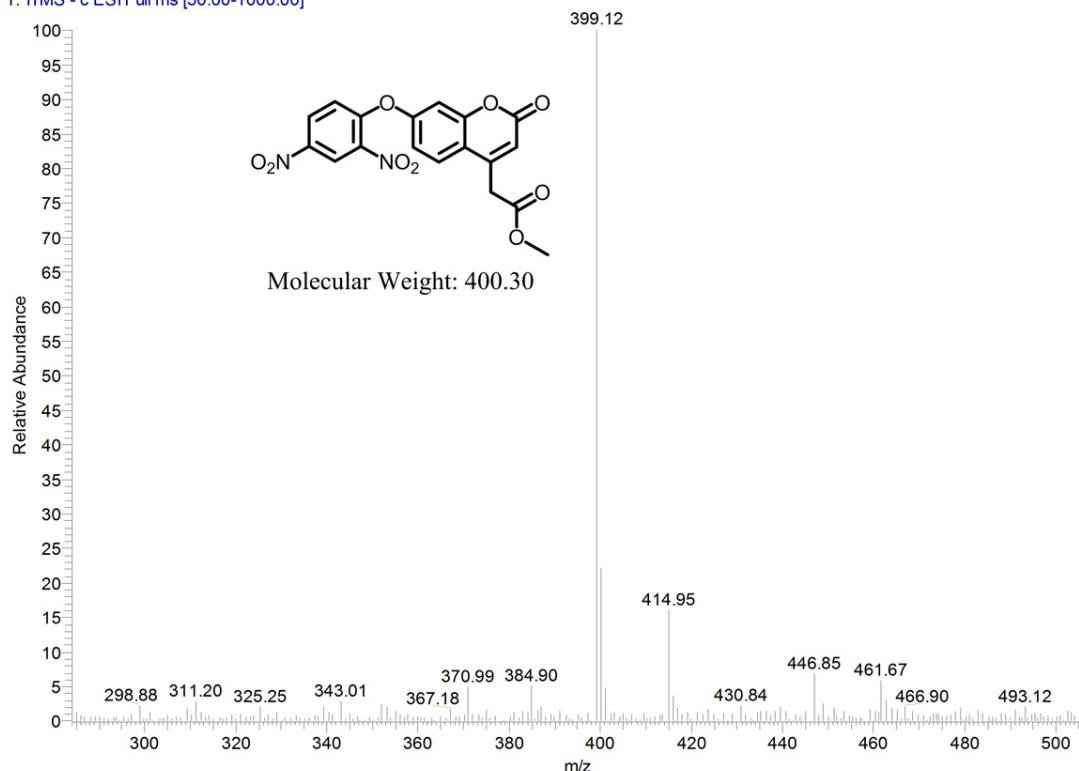


**Figure S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of DNPOCA in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



**Figure S2.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of DNPOCA in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

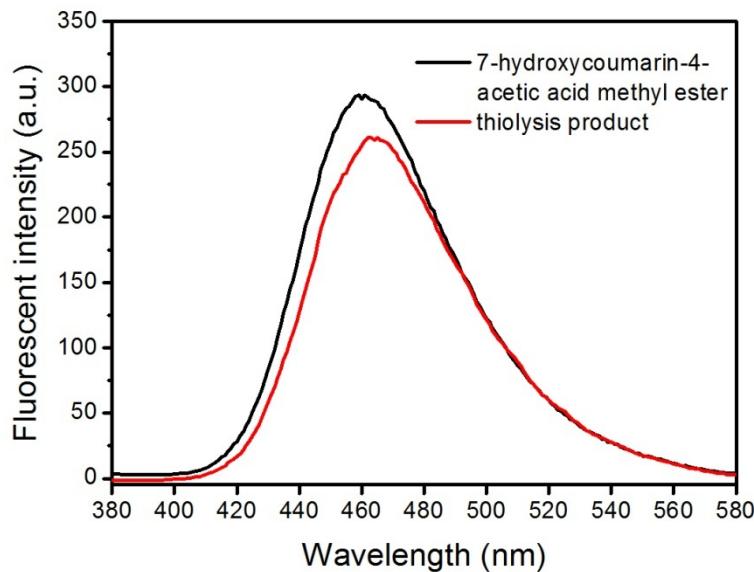
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T: ITMS - c ESI Full ms [50.00-1000.00]



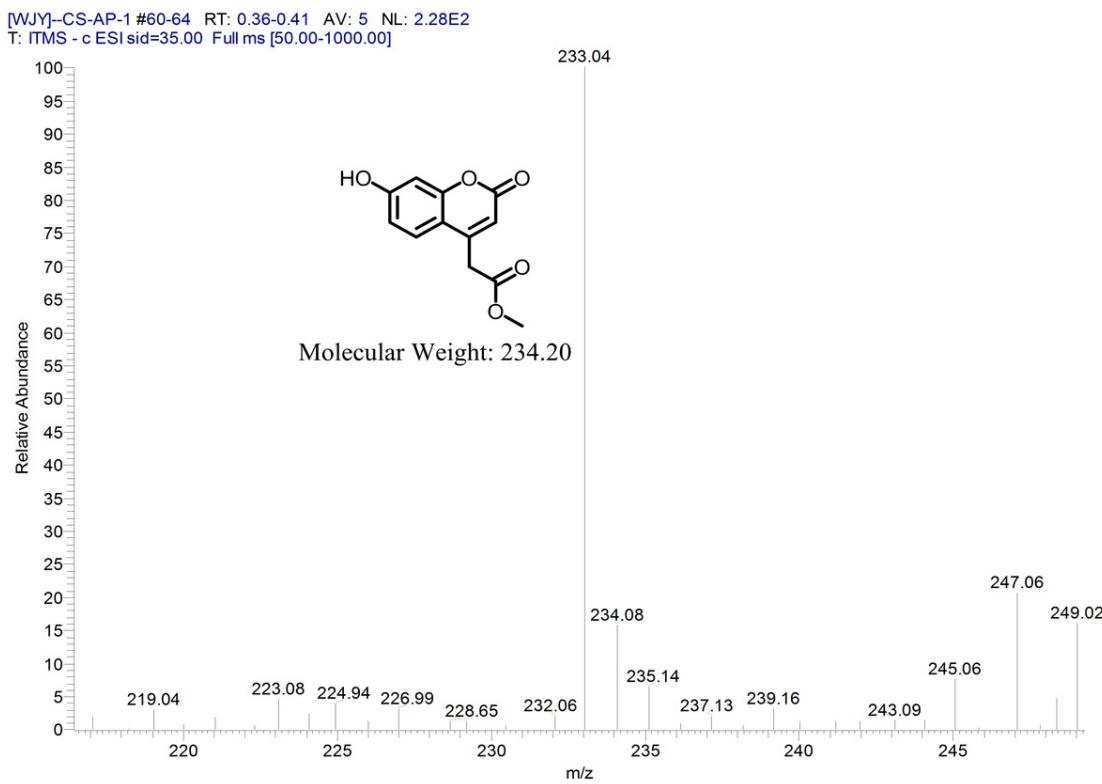
**Figure S3.** ESI-MS of DNPOCA

## S2. The acquisition and analysis of thiolysis product of DNPOCA after incubated with Na<sub>2</sub>S

DNPOCA (20 mg, 0.05 mmol) was dissolved in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (10 mL), followed by the addition of Na<sub>2</sub>S•9H<sub>2</sub>O (199.35 mg, 0.83 mmol). The resultant mixture was stirred for 5 hours at room temperature. Subsequently, the solvent was evaporated. The fluorescent product was purified by column chromatography and analyzed by mass spectrometry.

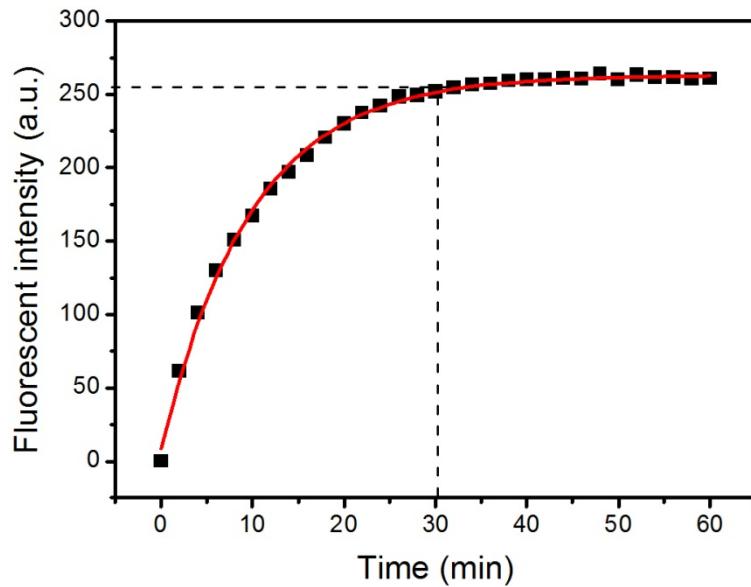


**Figure S4.** Fluorescence spectra of 7-hydroxycoumarin-4-acetic acid methyl ester and thiolysis product in aqueous solution (20 mM, pH = 7.4, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/PBS = 1:9, 3 mM CTAB) at room temperature.

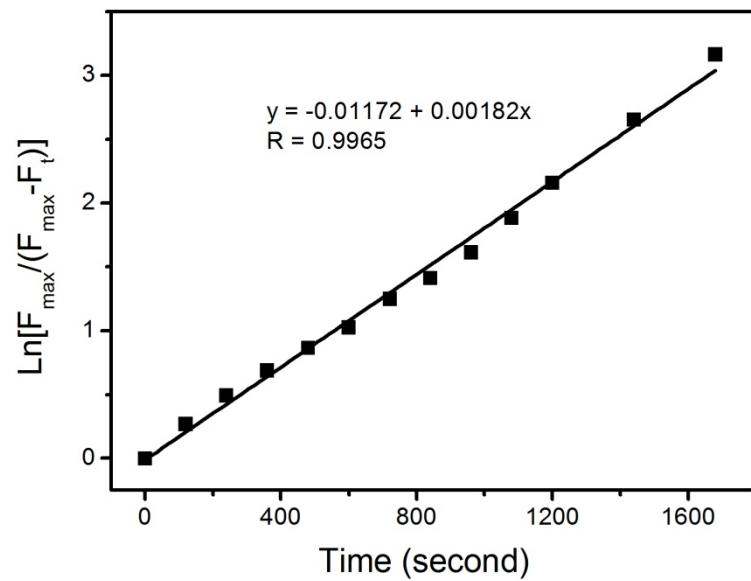


**Figure S5.** ESI-MS confirmed the formation of 7-hydroxycoumarin-4-acetic acid methyl ester in the reaction of DNPOCA with Na<sub>2</sub>S.

### S3. Study on the reaction kinetics of DNPOCA



**Figure S6.** Time-dependent fluorescence intensity changes at 463 nm of the probe DNPOCA (5.0  $\mu$ M) in the absence of  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}$  (100  $\mu$ M) in aqueous solution (20 mM, pH = 7.4,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{PBS}$  = 1:9, 3 mM CTAB) at room temperature.



**Figure S7.** The pseudo-first-order kinetic plot of the reaction of the probe DNPOCA (5.0  $\mu$ M) with  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}$  (100  $\mu$ M) in aqueous solution (20 mM, pH = 7.4,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{PBS}$  = 1:9, 3 mM CTAB) at room temperature.

#### S4. The calculation method for the detection limit.

The limit of detection (LOD) for DNPOCA was calculated based on the fluorescence titration. To determine the S/N ratio, the fluorescence emission intensity of DNPOCA without  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}$  was measured by 10 times and the standard deviation of blank measurements was determined. Then, the solution was treated with  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}$  from 0 to 100  $\mu\text{M}$ . A linear regression curve was then achieved according to the fluorescence emission intensity in the range of  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}$  from 0 to 20  $\mu\text{M}$ . The detection limit was calculated with the equation (Eq. 1) at  $\text{S/N}=3$ , in which  $\sigma$  is the standard deviation of the background and  $s$  is the sensitivity.

$$LOD = 3 \times \frac{\sigma}{s} \quad (\text{Eq. 1})$$

**Table S1. Comparison of fluorescent probes for hydrogen sulfide**

Probe	$\lambda_{\text{ex}}/\lambda_{\text{em}}$ (nm)	Detection medium	Detection limit	Ref.
	490/525	HEPES (pH 7.4), 0.2% DMF	5-10 $\mu\text{M}$	1
	340/535	PBS (pH 7.4), 0.5% Tween-20	1 $\mu\text{M}$	2
	360/480	HEPES (pH 7.4), 80% DMF	0.1 $\mu\text{M}$	3

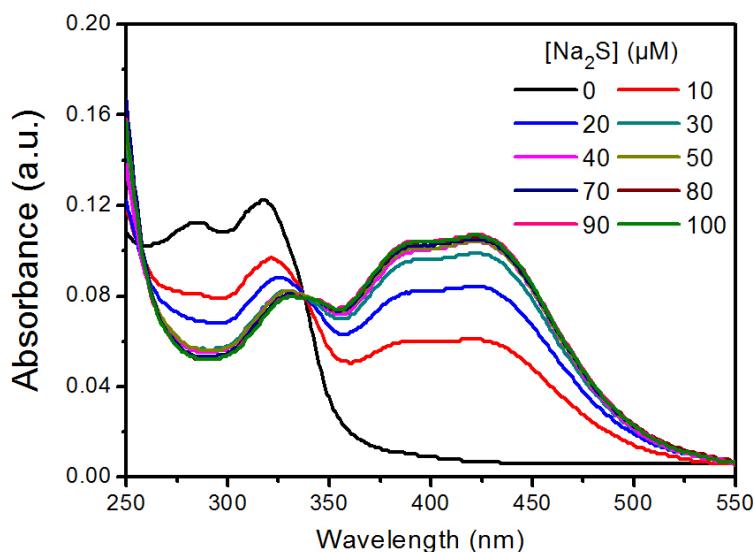


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	440/545	PBS (pH 7.4), 25% CH <sub>3</sub> CN	48 nM	12
	450/555	PBS (pH 7.4), 10% CH <sub>3</sub> CN	0.48 μM	13
	365/463	PBS (pH 7.4), 10% CH <sub>3</sub> CN 3mM CTAB	49.7 nM	This work

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### S5. Study on the sensitivity of DNPOCA by UV-visible absorption spectra.

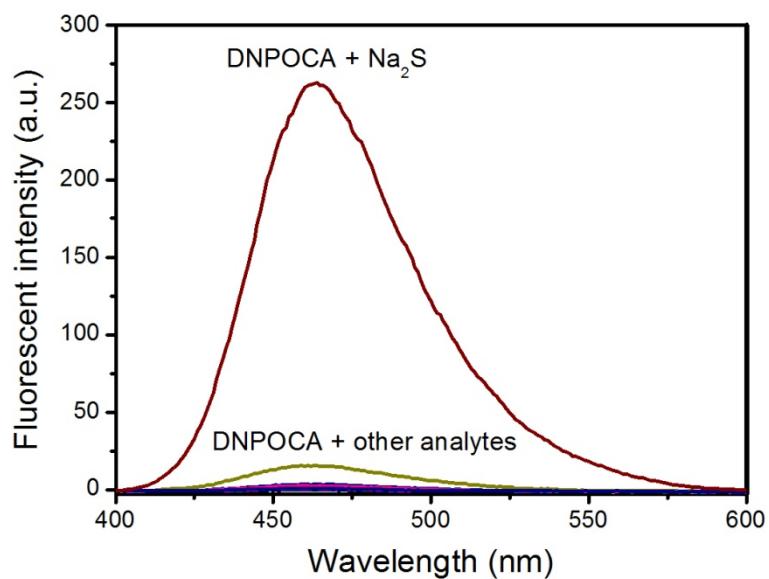


**Figure S8.** UV-vis absorption spectra changes of the probe DNPOCA (5.0  $\mu$ M) in the presence of  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}$  (0-20 equiv.) in aqueous solution (20 mM, pH = 7.4,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{PBS} = 1:9$ , 3 mM CTAB) at room temperature.



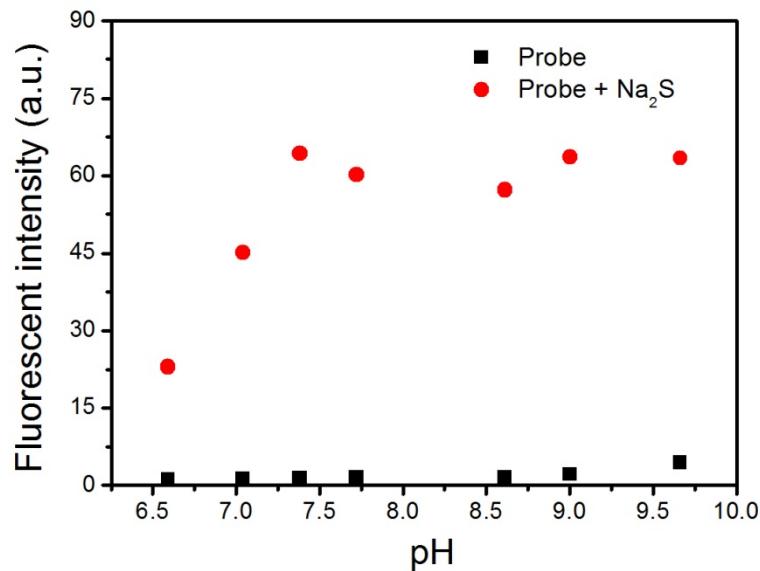
**Figure S9.** Color changes of the probe DNPOCA (5.0  $\mu$ M) with different concentrations of  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}$  for 40 min at room temperature (From 1 to 8: 0, 10, 30, 50, 70, 80, 90, 100  $\mu$ M  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}$ , respectively).

## S6. Study on the selectivity of DNPOCA for $\text{H}_2\text{S}$



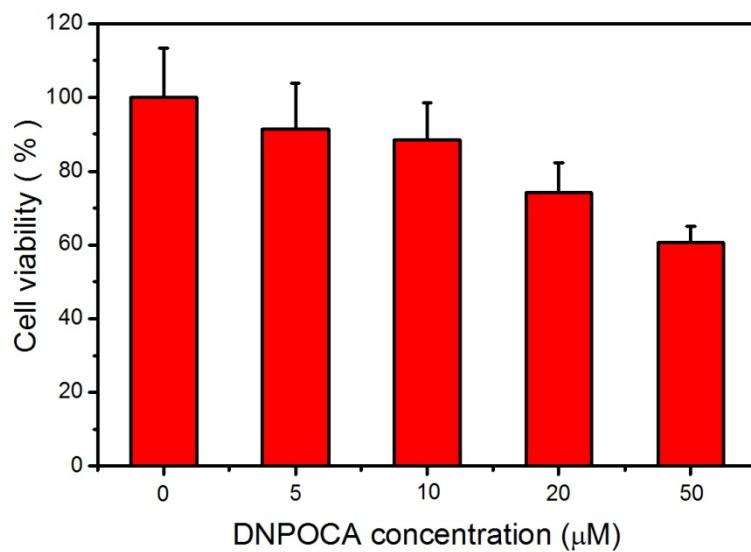
**Figure S10.** Fluorescent spectra changes of the probe DNPOCA (5.0  $\mu$ M) in the presence of various species (20 equiv.) in aqueous solution (20 mM, pH = 7.4,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{PBS}$  = 1:9, 3 mM CTAB) at room temperature.

### S7. Effect of pH for H<sub>2</sub>S detection



**Figure S11.** Fluorescence intensity changes of the probe DNPOCA (5  $\mu$ M) at different pH values in the absence (■) or presence (●) of Na<sub>2</sub>S (100  $\mu$ M) in aqueous solution (20 mM, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/PBS = 1:9, 3 mM CTAB) at room temperature.  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 365$  nm,  $d_{\text{ex}} = 1.5$ ,  $d_{\text{em}} = 3$  nm.

### S8. Cytotoxicity assay



**Figure S12.** Cytotoxicity assay of the probe DNPOCA for HepG2 cells after 24-h culture.

## References

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