

*Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)*

**A fluorescent probe with aggregation-induced emission  
characteristics for distinguishing homocysteine over cysteine  
and glutathione**

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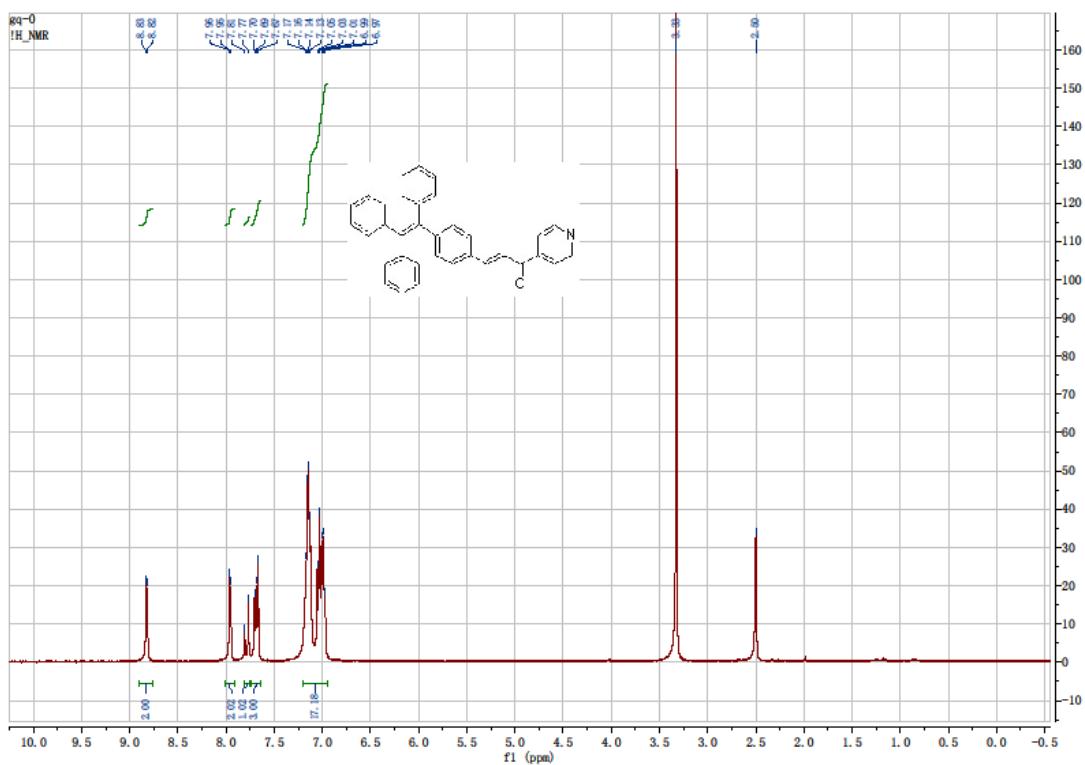


Fig. S1  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of TPE-Py.

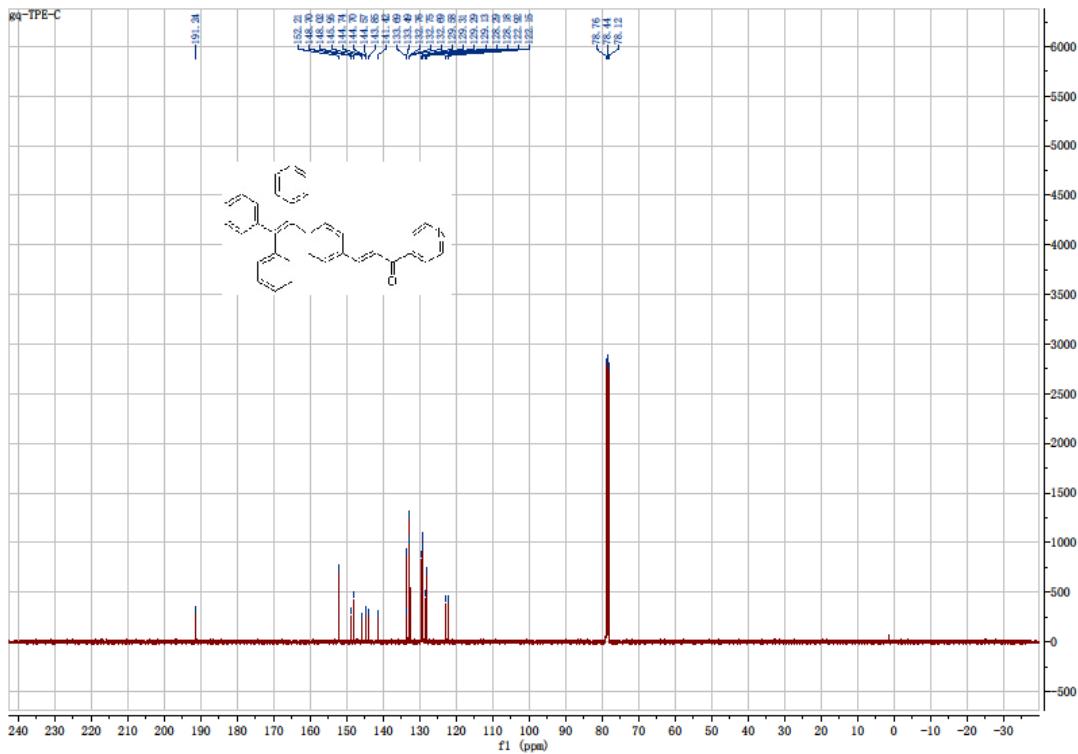


Fig. S2  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of TPE-Py.

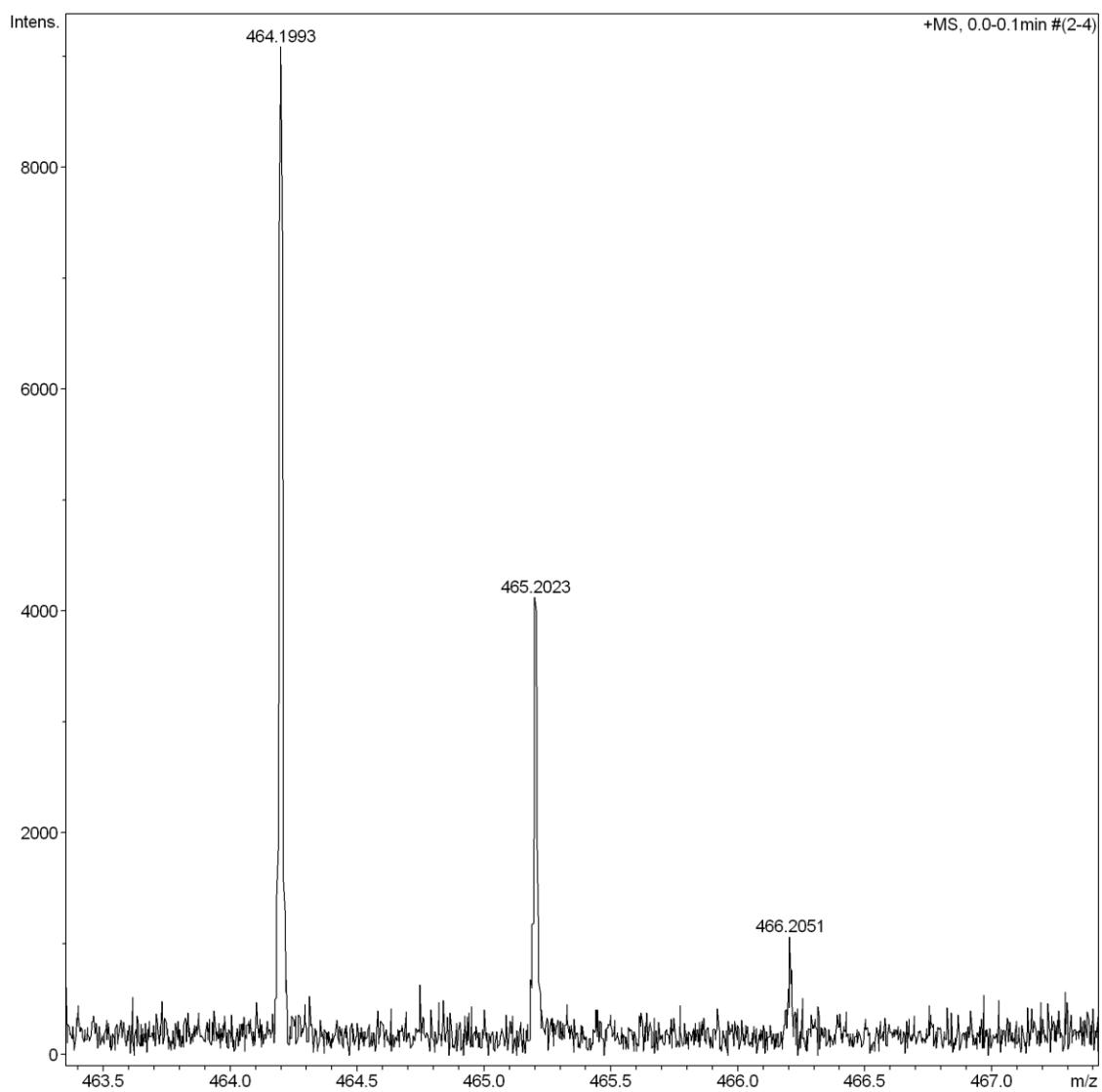


Fig. S3 High resolution mass spectrum of TPE-Py.

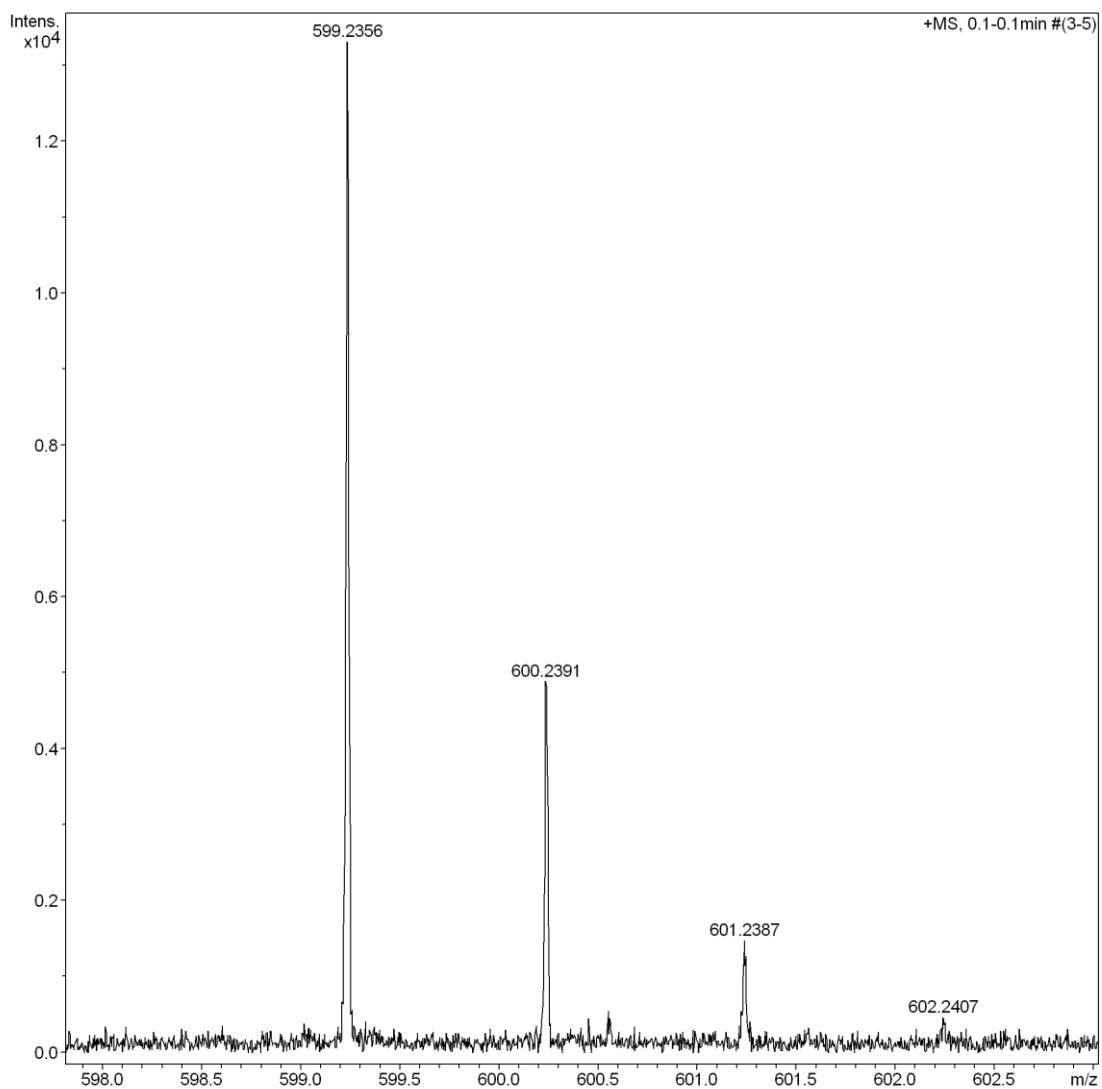


Fig. S4 High resolution mass spectrum of TPE-Py-Hcy.

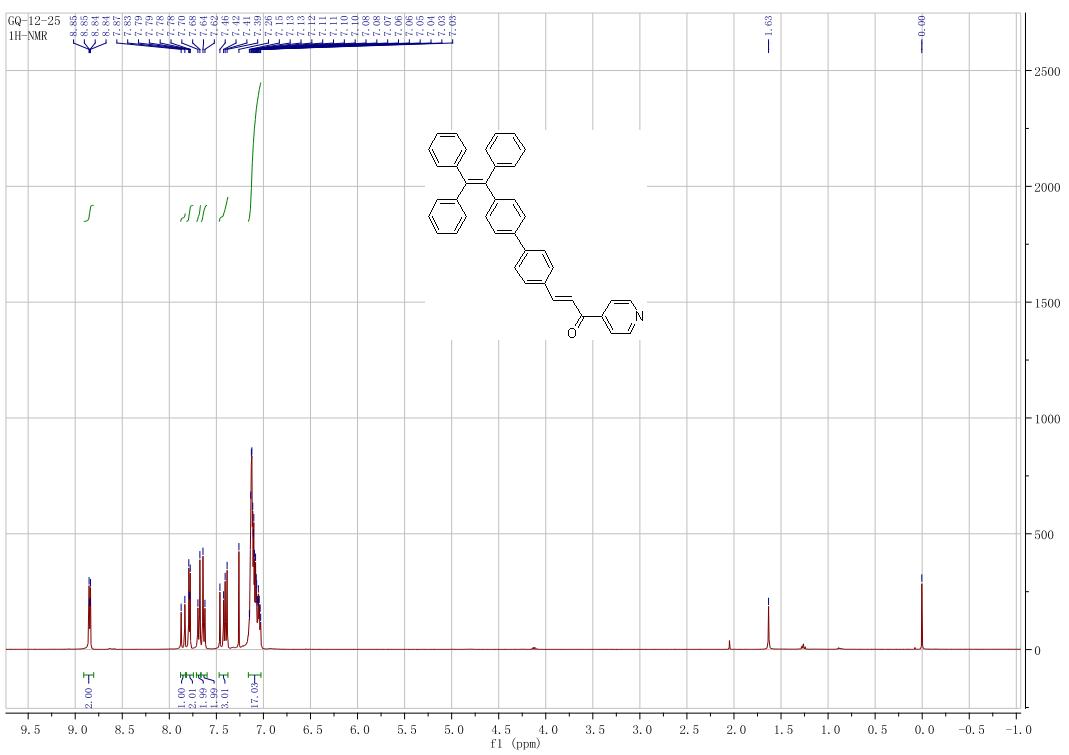


Fig. S5  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of TPEPh-Py.

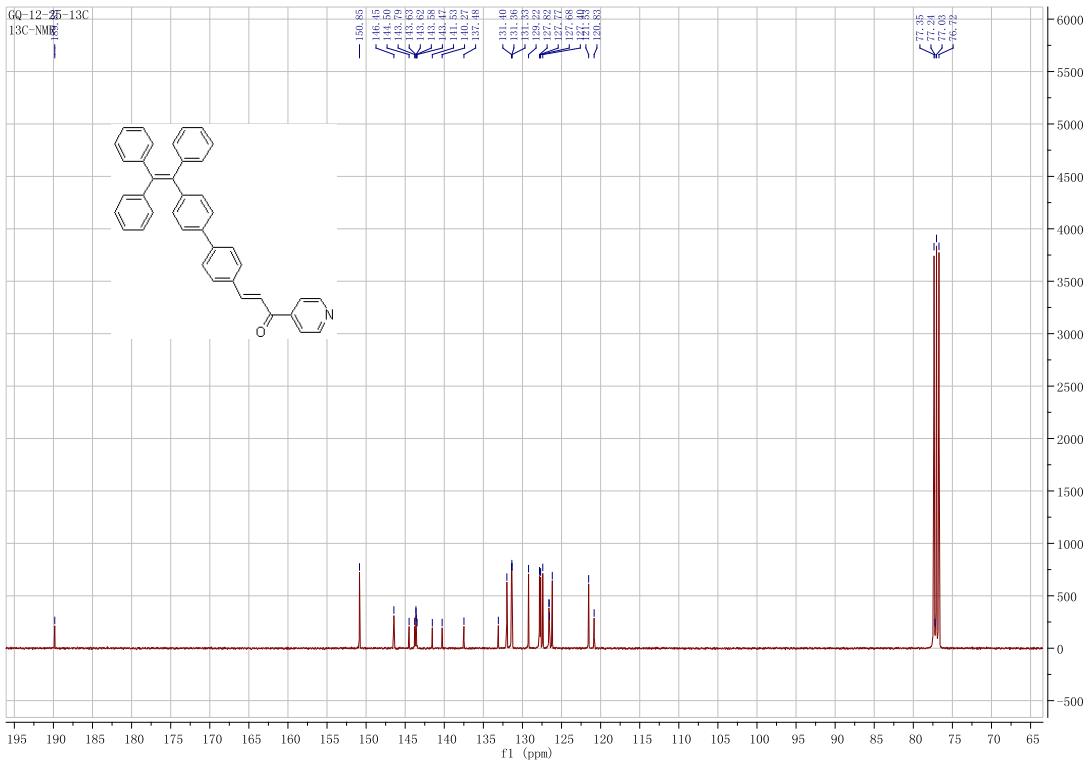


Fig. S6  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of TPEPh-Py.

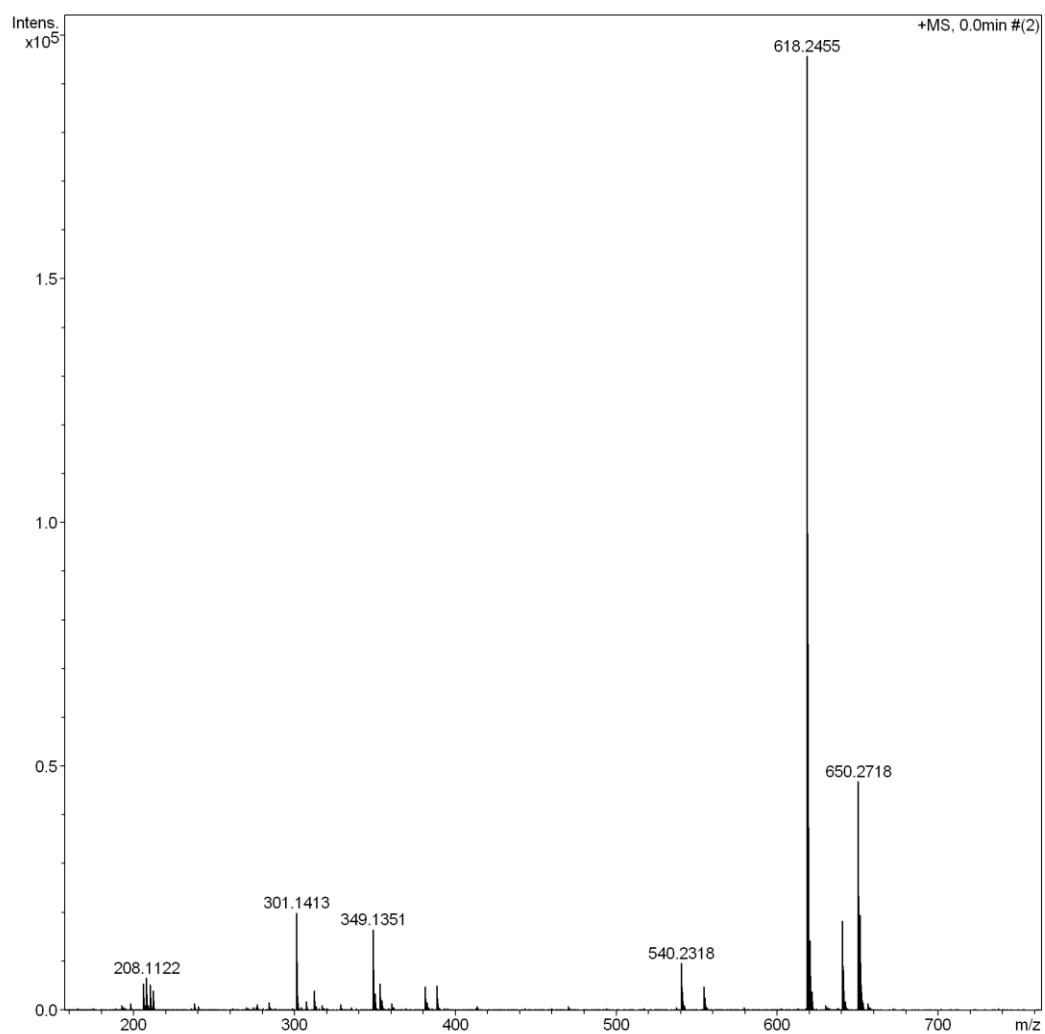


Fig. S7 High resolution mass spectrum of TPEPh-Py.

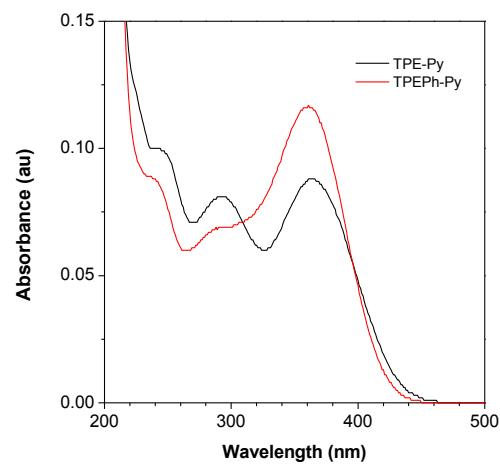


Fig. S8 UV-vis spectra of TPE-Py and TPEPh-Py (3  $\mu$ M) in acetonitrile.

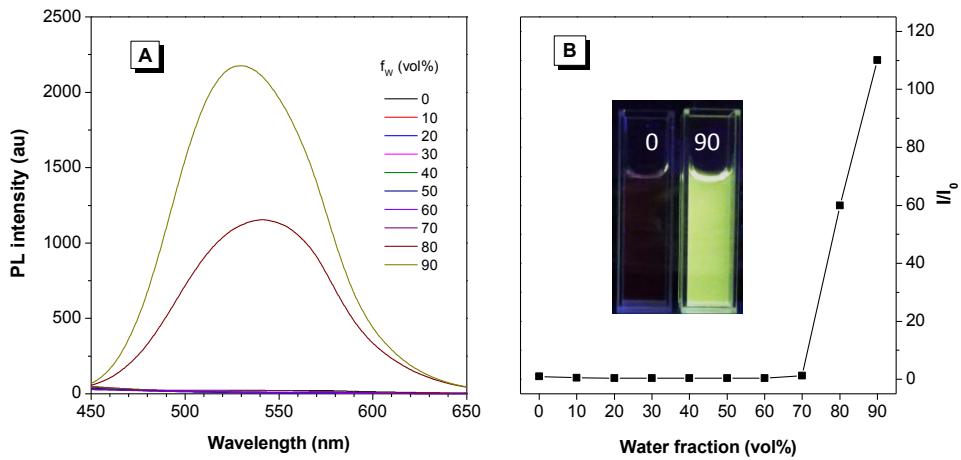


Fig. S9 (A) PL spectra of TPEPh-Py (3  $\mu$ M) in acetonitrile and acetonitrile–water mixtures with different water fractions ( $f_w$ ). (B) Plots of emission intensity versus the composition of the aqueous mixtures of TPEPh-Py. Inset: photographs of TPEPh-Py in acetonitrile–water mixtures with  $f_w$  values of 0 and 90 vol%.

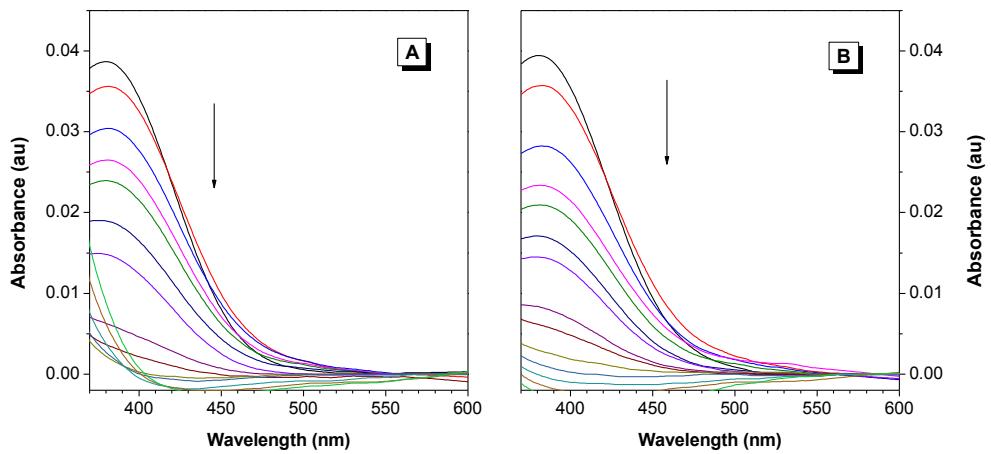


Fig. S10 UV-vis spectra of TPE-Py (3  $\mu$ M) in acetonitrile/phosphate buffer (20 : 80 v/v, 20 mM, pH 8) with different concentration of (A) Hcy and (B) Cys (0-60 mM).

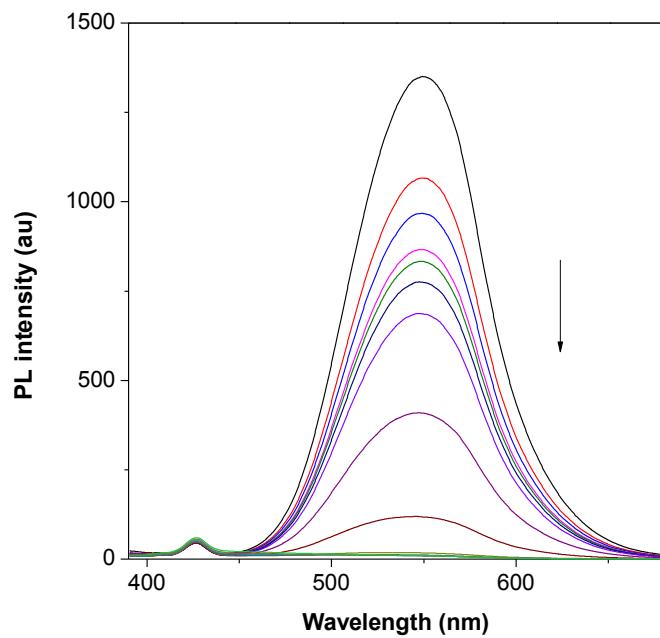


Fig. S11 PL spectra of TPE-Py (3  $\mu$ M) in acetonitrile/phosphate buffer (20 : 80 v/v, 20 mM, pH 8) with different concentration of GSH (0-60 mM).

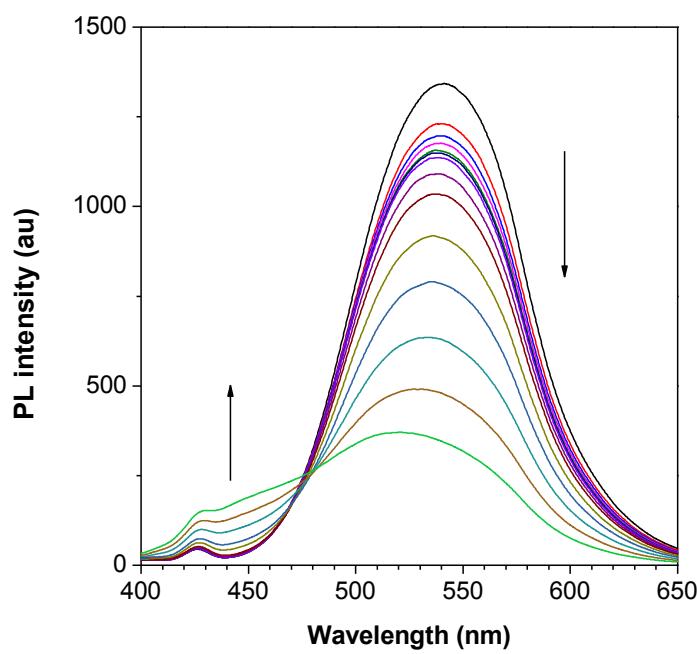


Fig. S12 PL spectra of TPEPh-Py (3  $\mu$ M) in acetonitrile/phosphate buffer (20 : 80 v/v, 20 mM, pH 8) with different concentration of Hcy (0-60 mM).

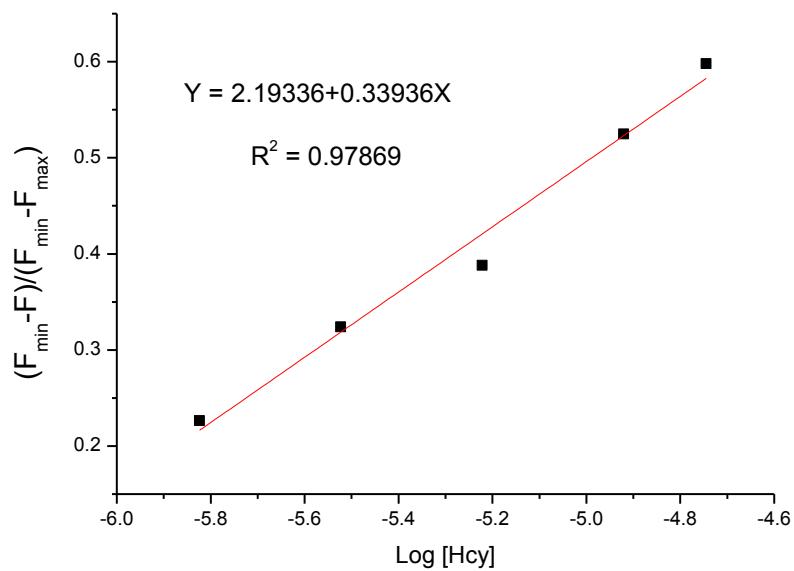


Fig. S13 Normalized fluorescence responses of TPE-Py (3  $\mu$ M) to changing Hcy concentrations (1.5, 3.0, 6.0, 12.0, 18.0  $\mu$ M) in acetonitrile/phosphate buffer (20 : 80 v/v, 20 mM, pH 8). Detection limit =  $3.46 \times 10^{-7}$  M.  $F = I_{455}/I_{550}$ .

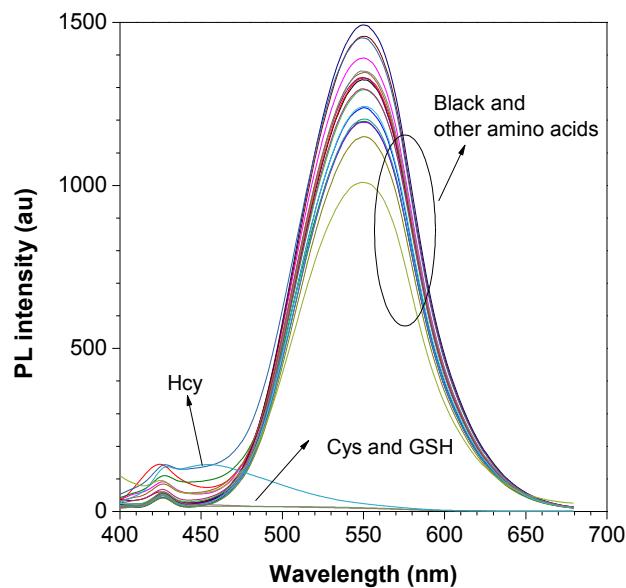


Fig. S14 PL spectra of TPE-Py (3  $\mu$ M) in acetonitrile/phosphate buffer (20 : 80 v/v, 20 mM, pH 8) with different amino acids (60 mM).

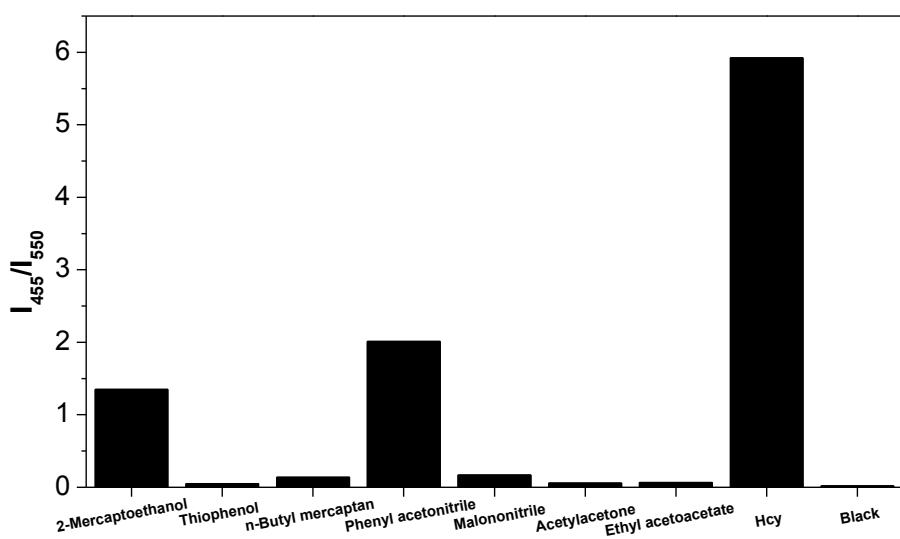


Fig. S15 Emission ratio  $I_{455}/I_{550}$  of TPE-Py in the absence or presence of 60 mM typical thiol compounds and non-thiol nucleophiles.