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# **Supporting Information**

## Investigation of Thiolysis of NBD Amines for the Development of H<sub>2</sub>S Probes and Evaluating the Stability of NBD dyes

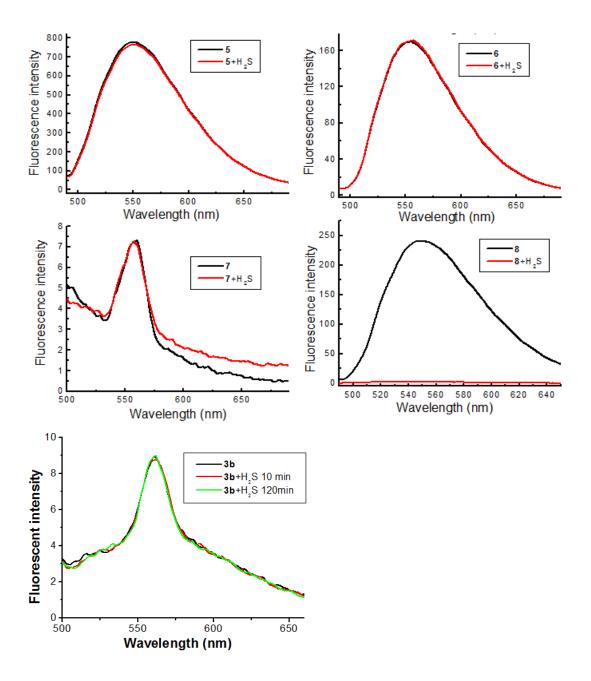
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Yi<sup>b</sup>\*

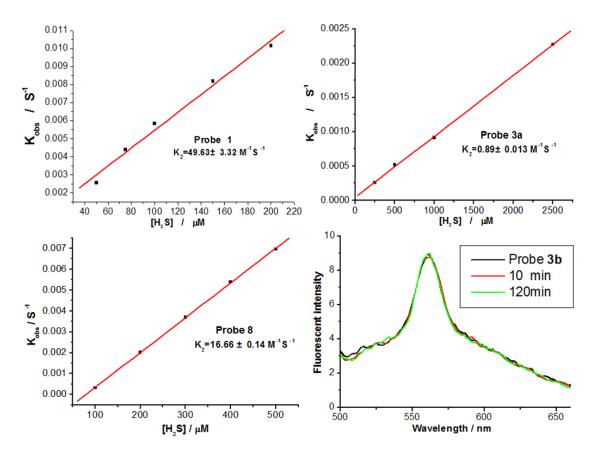
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#### 1. Supporting figures



**Figure S1.** Emission spectra of NBD-based probes (**5-8** or **3b** 1  $\mu$ M) in the absence (black line) or presence (red line) of 100  $\mu$ M H<sub>2</sub>S. Excitation is 470 nm for all tests in PBS buffer (50 mM, pH 7.4, containing 20% DMSO).



**Figure S2.** Kinetic studies for thiolysis of NBD amines in 1% DMSO-containing PBS. Time-dependent fluorescence intensity at 560 nm (excitation = 470 nm) of probe **1**, **3a**, **8** (1  $\mu$ M) upon reaction with different concentrations of H<sub>2</sub>S in PBS buffer (pH 7.4). The linear relationship of  $k_{obs}$  versus H<sub>2</sub>S concentrations gives reaction kinetics constant  $k_2$  for **1**, **3a**, **8** and H<sub>2</sub>S. The fluorescence spectra of probe **3b** with 200  $\mu$ M H<sub>2</sub>S at different reaction time.

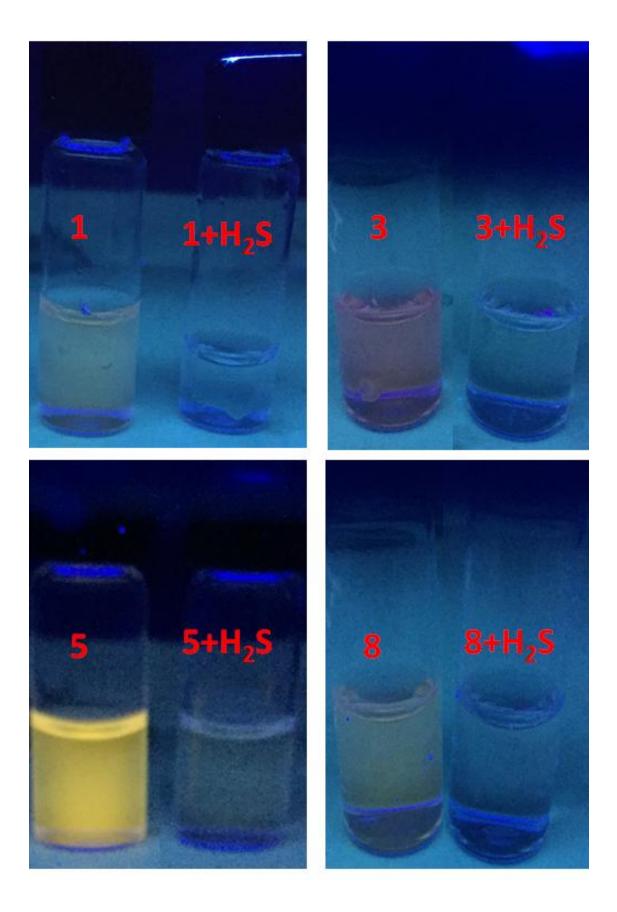
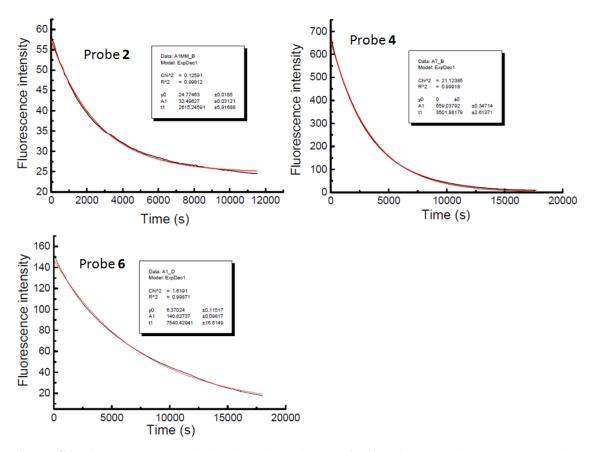
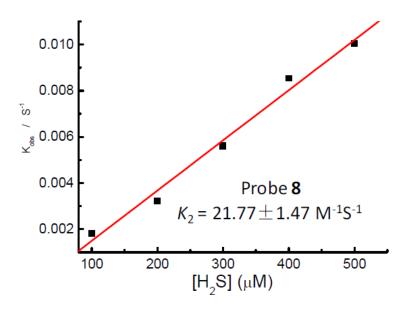


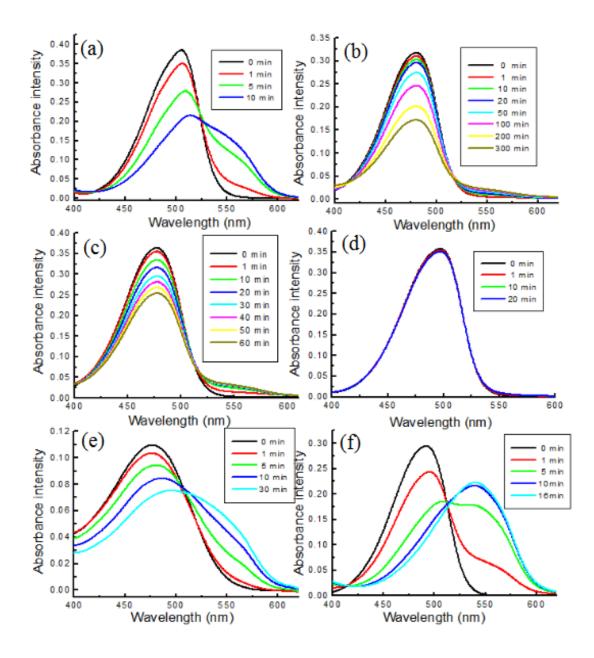
Figure S3. Photographs of probes (10  $\mu$ M) and their reaction with H<sub>2</sub>S (100  $\mu$ M for 1 or 8; 2 mM for 3 or 5) under 365 nm UV lamp.



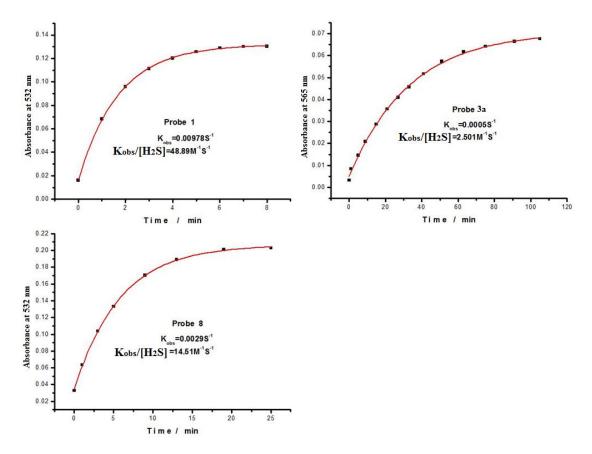
**Figure S4.** Time-dependent emission intensity of probe **2**, **4** or **6** (1  $\mu$ M) in the presence of millimolar H<sub>2</sub>S in PBS buffer (50 mM, pH 7.4, containing 20% DMSO). The red line represents the best fitting for first-order reaction. (a) 2 mM H<sub>2</sub>S,  $k_{obs}$ ,  $3.8*10^4$  s<sup>-1</sup>. (b) 7 mM H<sub>2</sub>S,  $k_{obs}$ ,  $2.9*10^{-4}$  s<sup>-1</sup>. (c) 7 mM H<sub>2</sub>S,  $k_{obs}$ ,  $1.3*10^{-4}$  s<sup>-1</sup>.



**Figure S5.** Linear relationship between  $k_{obs}$  and  $H_2S$  concentration gives the reaction kinetics of 21.77 M<sup>-1</sup>s<sup>-1</sup> for probe **8**.



**Figure S6.** The absorbance spectra of probes **3a-8** (10  $\mu$ M) in the presence of 100  $\mu$ M (for **3a** or **8**) or 2 mM H<sub>2</sub>S (for **4-7**) in PBS buffer (50 mM, pH 7.4, containing 20% DMSO). (a-f) for probes **3-8**, respectively.



**Figure S7.** The time-dependent absorbance intensity of probes (10  $\mu$ M) in the presence of 200  $\mu$ M in PBS buffer (50 mM, pH 7.4, containing 1% DMSO). The red line represents the best fitting for first-order reaction.

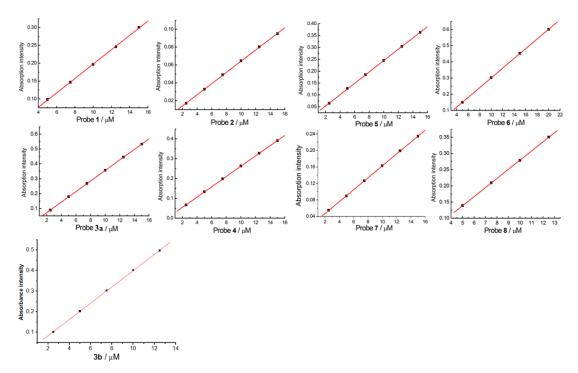
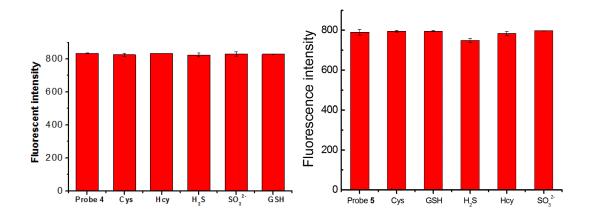


Figure S8. Solubility tests of probes 1-8 in PBS buffer (50 mM, pH 7.4, containing 20% DMSO).

The linear relationship between absorption intensity and probe concentrations indicated the good solubility for all probes up to at least 16  $\mu$ M.



**Figure S9.** Fluorescent intensity at 560 nm for probes (1  $\mu$ M) toward different biothiols in PBS buffer. H<sub>2</sub>S or SO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>, 100  $\mu$ M; Cys, GSH or Hcy, 1 mM. Reactions were performed for 60 min at room temperature.

### 2. Supporting NMR and MS spectra

