# Supporting Information

## Harvesting red fluorescence through design specific tuning of ICT and ESIPT: An efficient optical detection of cysteine and live cell imaging

Uzra Diwan<sup>a</sup>, Virendra Kumar<sup>a</sup>, Rakesh K. Mishra<sup>b</sup>, Nishant Rana<sup>c</sup>, Biplob Koch<sup>c</sup> and K. K. Upadhyay<sup>\*a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Chemistry (Centre of Advanced Study), Institute of Science, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi-221005, India.

<sup>b</sup>Photosciences and Photonics Section, Chemical Sciences and Technology Division, CSIR– National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram-695019, India.

<sup>c</sup>Department of Zoology (Centre of Advanced Study), Institute of Science, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi-221005, India.

\*E-mail: drkaushalbhu@yahoo.co.in; kku@bhu.ac.in, Tel: +91 542 670 2488

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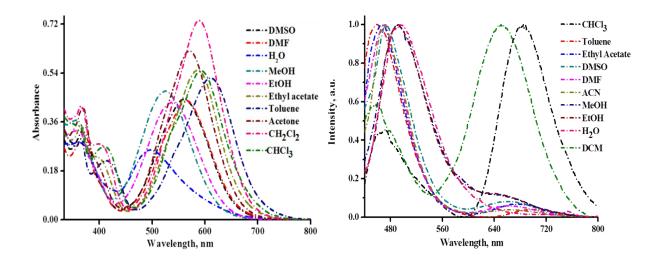


Figure S1: Effect of solvent polarity on absorption and emission spectrum of R1

**Figure S2:** Naked eye colour changes of R1 (10 $\mu$  M) towards different anions and neutral analytes in of H<sub>2</sub>O:ACN (7:3, v/v)

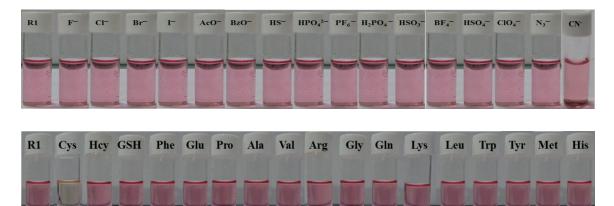
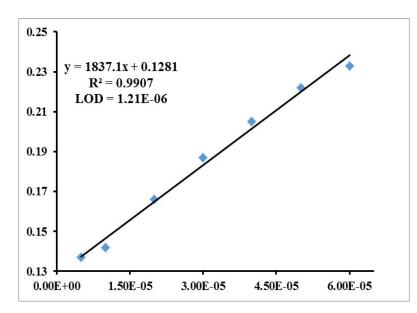


Figure S3: Detection limit and calibration curves for R1 with Cys from UV-visible titration data



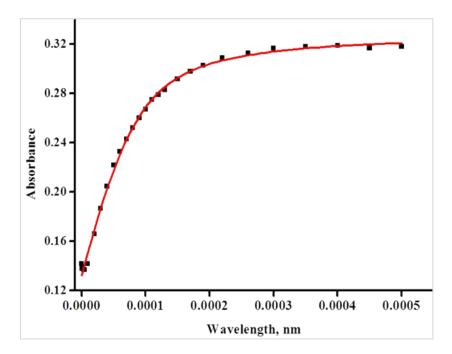
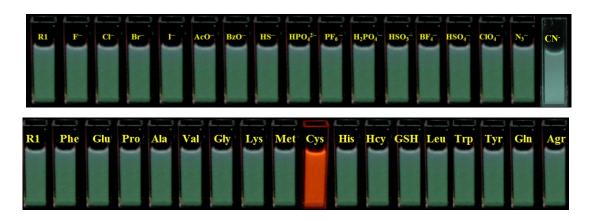
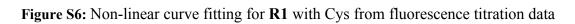
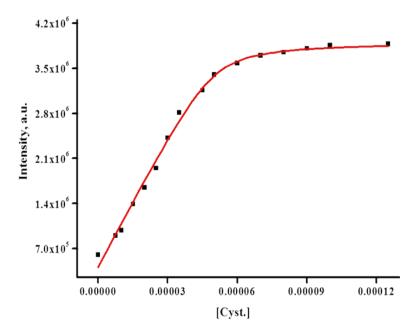


Figure S4: Non-linear curve fitting for R1 with Cys from UV-visible titration data

Figure S5: Fluorescence response of R1 in the presence of different analytes under the UV lamp







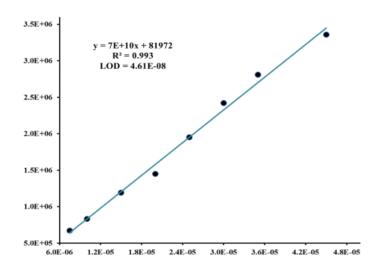
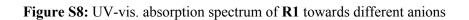


Figure S7: Detection limit and calibration curves for **R1** with Cys from fluorescence titration data



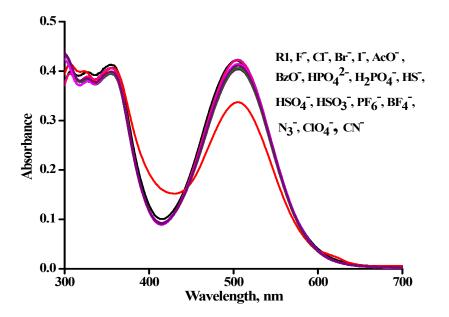
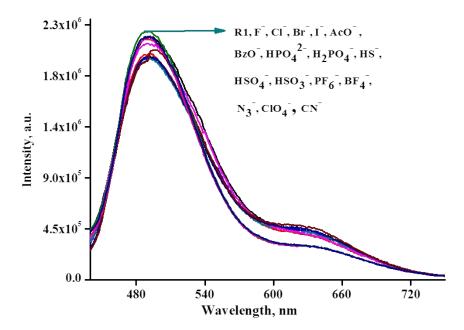
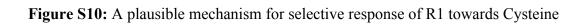
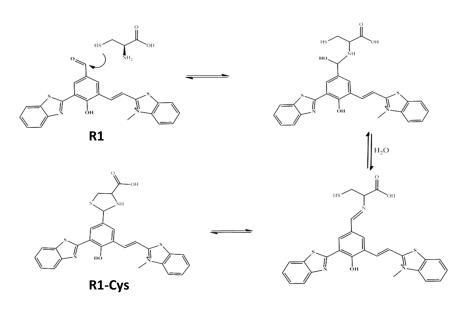
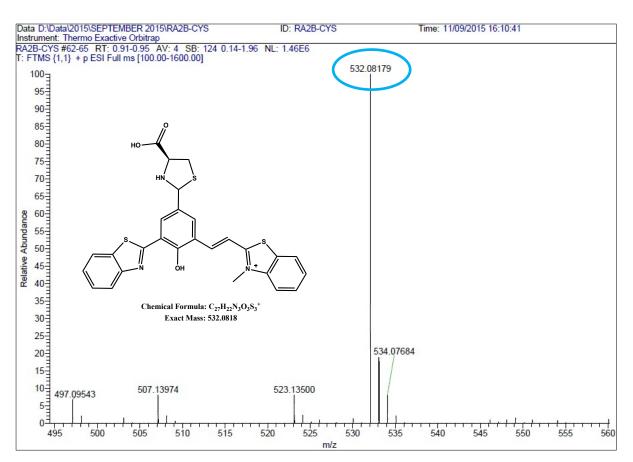


Figure S9: Emission spectrum of R1 in the presence of different anions

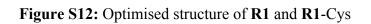


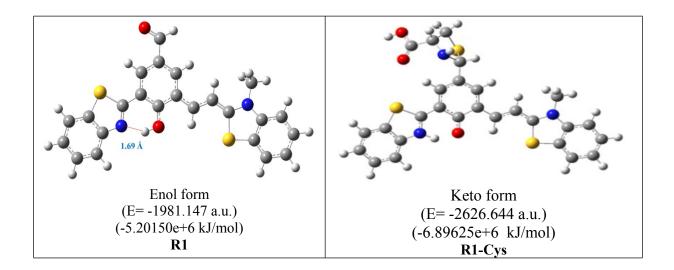


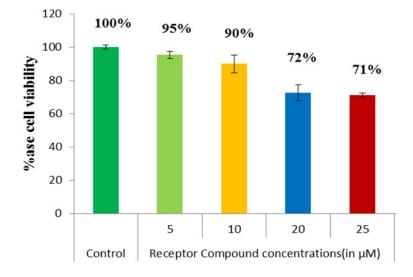




#### Figure S11: HRMS spectrum of R1-Cys







## Figure S13. Cytotoxicity profile of R1 on HeLa cells after 24 hr treatment



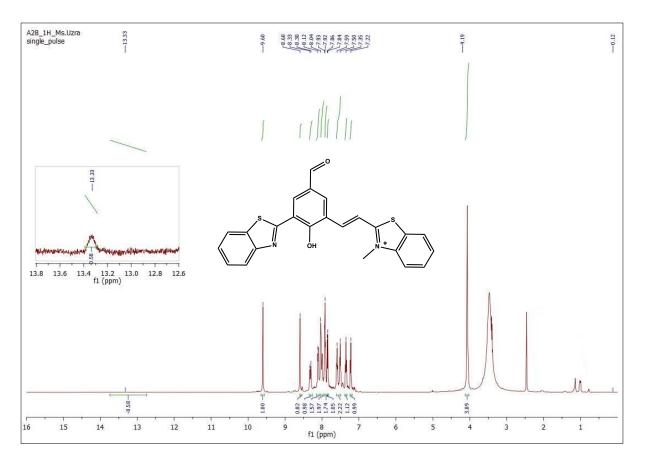
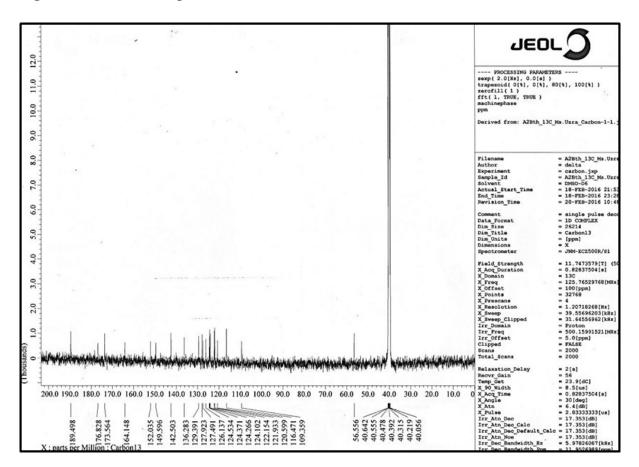
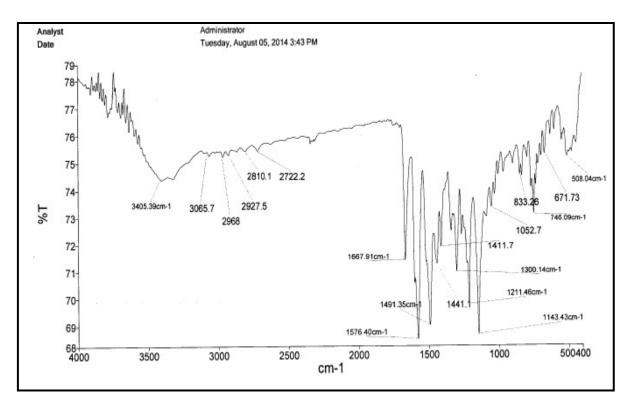
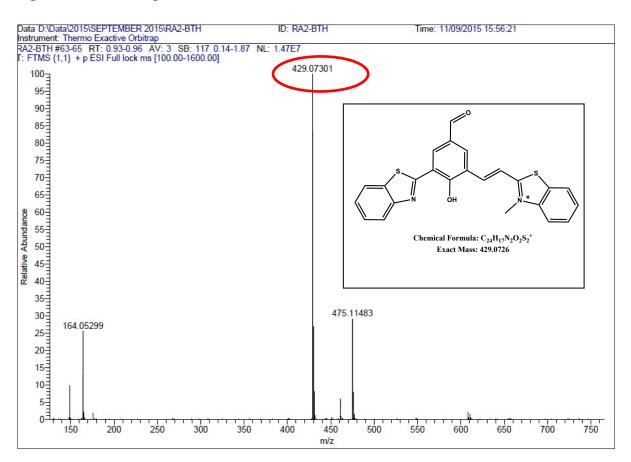


Figure S15: <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of R1



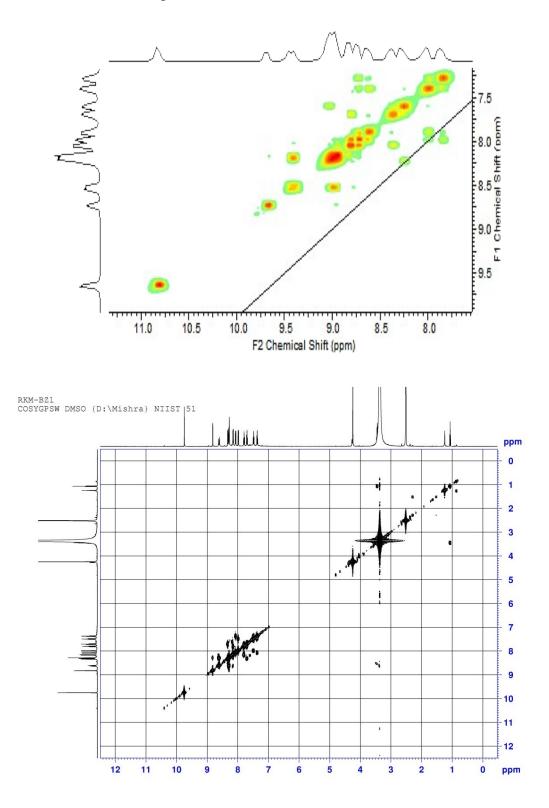






#### Figure S17: MASS spectrum of R1

## Figure S18: <sup>1</sup>H-1H COSY spectrum of R1



S. No.	Probes	λ <sub>ex</sub> and (Enol λ <sub>em</sub> / Keto λ <sub>em</sub> ) of probes in nm	Shift in (Enol λ <sub>em</sub> / Keto λ <sub>em</sub> ) of probes in presence of cysteine	Solvent used for detection	Detectio n limit	Respon se time	Interferenc e
ref 30		344 (436/ 521)	Enol (436) band decreases while keto. (521) one increases	HEPES buffer (at pH 7.4)		~3 min to 5 min.	НСу
ref 31		304 (377/487)	Enol (377) band decreases while keto. (487) one increases	EtOH/ph osphate buffer (20 mm, pH 7.4, 2:8 v/v)]	0.11 μΜ	9 min.	НСу
ref 32		330 (380 /467)	Both the band increases (380 /467)	DMSO: 10 mM HEPES (v/v 8 : 2)	2.8 μM	15 min	GSH
ref 33		305 (rhodol emission at 587 and HBT emission 454)	Rhodol emission at 587 decreases while HBT emission at 454 increases	DMF/ phosphat e buffer (3 : 7 v/v, 20 mM, pH 7.4)	44 nM	5 min For Cys	Same response for Hcy , red fluorescent for GSH
R1	Present Work	430 nm (492/625)	Enol(492) band decreases while keto. (625) one increases	ACN/ H <sub>2</sub> O (3:7 v/v)	49 nm	~ 1.0 min	No interfere- nce from Hcy/GSH

Table S1: Comparison of Fluorescent ESIPT Probes for Cysteine based on HBT derivative