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## **Supporting Material**

## A diketopyrrolopyrrole-based fluorescent probe for investigating mitochondrial zinc ions

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Figure S1. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **DPP-C2** in DMSO- $d_6$ .



Figure S2. The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **DPP-C2** in DMSO- $d_6$ .



Figure S3. Mass spectrum of **DPP-C2**.



Figure S4. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **DPP-Mito** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S5. The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **DPP-Mito** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S6. Mass spectrum of **DPP-Mito**.



Figure S7. (a) Job's plot of **DPP-C2** in HEPES buffer (50 mM HEPES, 100 mM KCl, pH 7.2, 1% DMSO). The total concentration of **DPP-C2** and Zn<sup>2+</sup> was maintained at 1 $\mu$ M. (b) Emission spectra of **DPP-C2** in HEPES buffer (50 mM HEPES, 100 mM KCl, 10 mM EGTA, pH 7.2) with a series of [Zn<sup>2+</sup>]<sub>free</sub> (0 ~ 127 nM). (c) The fluorescence titration curve of the complexation of **DPP-C2** with [Zn<sup>2+</sup>]<sub>free</sub> (0 ~ 127 nM). (d) Hill plots for the complexation of **DPP-C2** with free [Zn<sup>2+</sup>]<sub>free</sub>. The excitation wavelength was 500 nm.



Figure S8. Fluorescence spectra of **DPP-Mito**/ $Zn^{2+}$  complex in buffer solution before and after exposure to natural light for one week.



Figure S9. MS (MALDI-TOF) spectrum of **DPP-C2**/Zn<sup>2+</sup> complex.



Figure S10. MS (MALDI-TOF) spectrum of **DPP-Mito**/Zn<sup>2+</sup> complex.



Figure S11. (a) The influence of pH on **DPP-C2** with or without  $Zn^{2+}$  in HEPES buffer. (b) Metal ion selectivity profiles of **DPP-C2** (1  $\mu$ M) in HEPES buffer solutions (50 mM HEPES, 100 mM KCl, 10 mM EGTA, pH 7.2, 1% DMSO). Black bars represent the relative fluorescence intensities (F/F<sub>0</sub>) of **DPP-C2** with various metal ions. Red bars represent the relative fluorescence intensities (F/F<sub>0</sub>) of **DPP-C2** in the presence of the indicated metal ions, followed by  $Zn^{2+}$ .



Figure S12. Viability of Hela cells after incubation in cell culture medium containing 5 and 10  $\mu$ M probes for 24 h as measured by CCK-8 cell-viability assay.



Figure S13. Fluorescent microscopy images of Hela cells (a) the cells were incubated with **DPP-C2** (10  $\mu$ M) for 24 h; (b) the cells were incubated with **DPP-C2** (10  $\mu$ M) for 24 h, followed by further incubation with TPEN (50  $\mu$ M) for 10 min; (c) the cells were incubated with **DPP-C2** (10  $\mu$ M) for 24 h, followed by further incubation with a mixture of 50  $\mu$ M zinc pyrithione for 10 min.

Compound	Solvent	$\lambda^{abs}_{max} (nm)^{[b]}$	$\lambda^{\mathrm{fl}}_{\mathrm{max}}\left(\mathrm{nm} ight)^{[\mathrm{c}]}$	$\Phi^{[d]}$
DPP-C2	DCM	543	562	0.03
	DMSO	547	564	0.0144
	Ethanol	536	557	0.025
	Buffer	519	558	0.0036
DPP-C2+Zn <sup>2+</sup>	DCM	543	563	0.1544
	DMSO	548	564	0.2829
	Ethanol	538	557	0.2887
	Buffer	526	558	0.1330
DPP-Mito	DCM	543	563	0.0271
	DMSO	548	565	0.02
	Ethanol	539	559	0.0154
	Buffer	515	560	0.0086
<b>DPP-Mito</b> +Zn <sup>2+</sup>	DCM	542	562	0.2418
	DMSO	548	564	0.2825
	Ethanol	539	559	0.2863
	Buffer	510	560	0.1562

Table S1. Spectroscopic properties of probes with/without Zn<sup>2+</sup> in various solvents.<sup>[a]</sup>

[a] The probes were measured in HEPES buffer (50 mM HEPES, 100 mM KCl, 10 mM EGTA, pH 7.2, 1% DMSO) with or without 10 mM Zn<sup>2+</sup>. [b] The maximum absorption wavelength in solution. [c] The maximum emission wavelength in solution. The excitation wavelength was 500 nm. [d] Fluorescent quantum yields were determined in reference to rhodamine 6G ( $\Phi_F = 0.89$ , in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>).