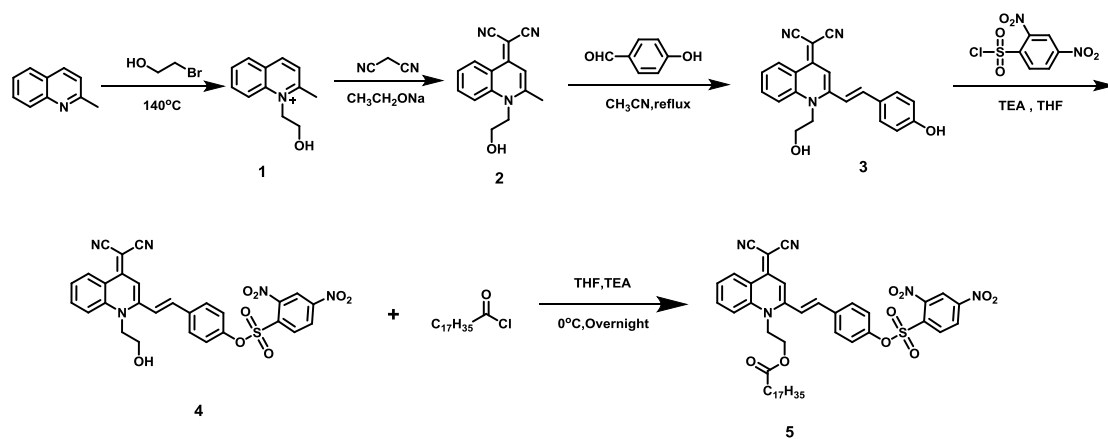


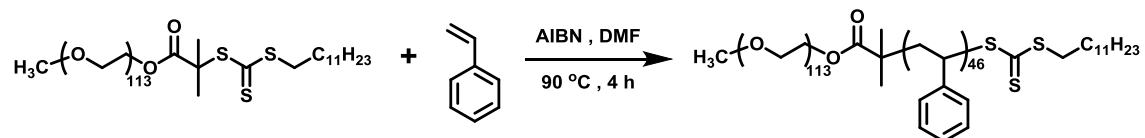
## Electronic Supplementary Information

### **Selective visualization of endogenous hydrogen sulfide in lysosomes via using aggregation induced emission dots**

Peisheng Zhang,<sup>a, ‡</sup> Yongxiang Hong,<sup>a,b, ‡</sup> Hong Wang,<sup>a</sup> Maolin Yu,<sup>a,b</sup> Yong Gao,<sup>\*b</sup> Rongjin Zeng,<sup>\*a</sup>  
Yunfei Long<sup>a</sup> and Jian Chen<sup>\*a</sup>



**Scheme S1.** Synthesis route of compound 5



**Scheme S2.** Synthesis route of PEO<sub>113</sub>-*b*-PS<sub>46</sub>.

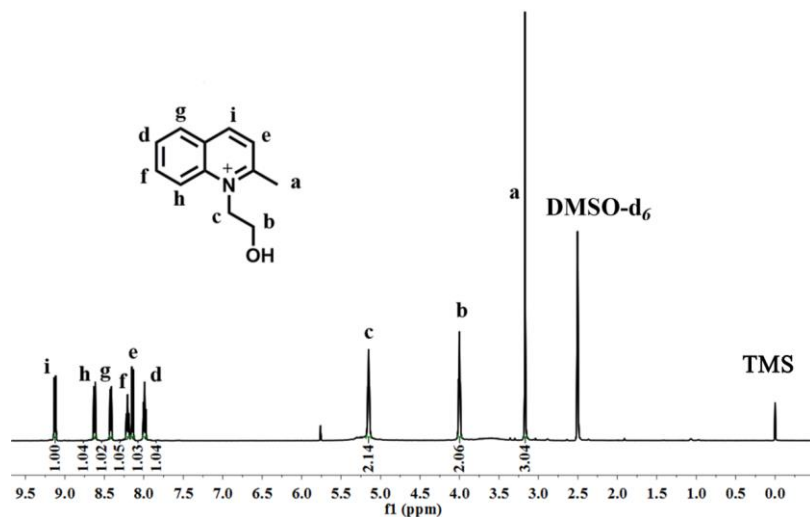


Figure S1  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ ) of the compound 1.

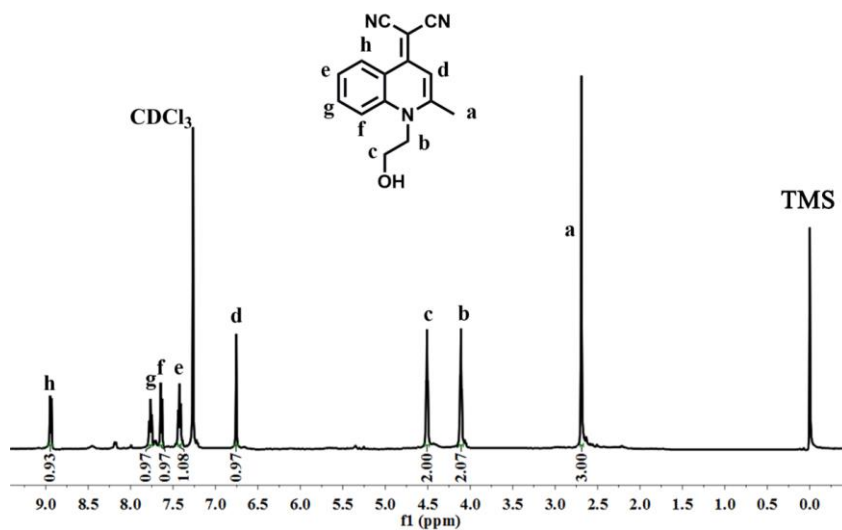


Figure S2  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of the compound 2.

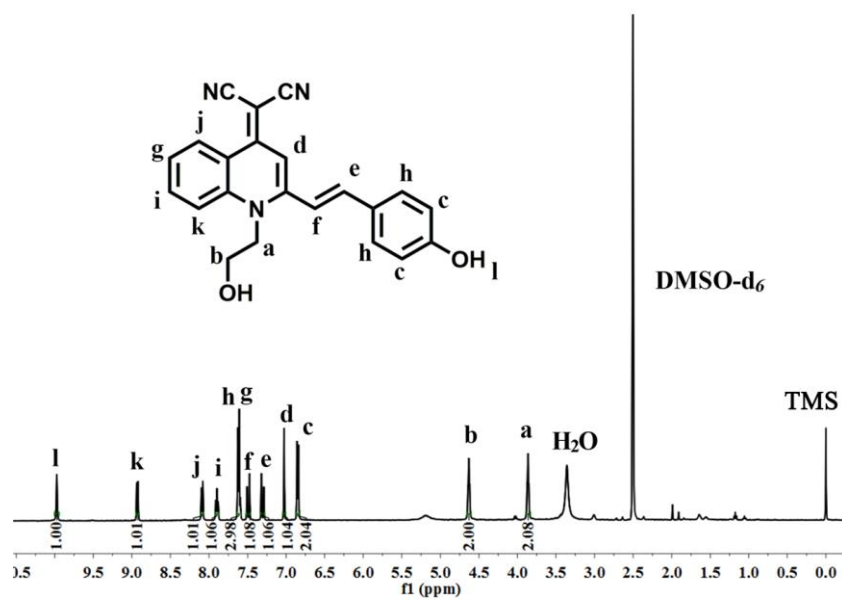
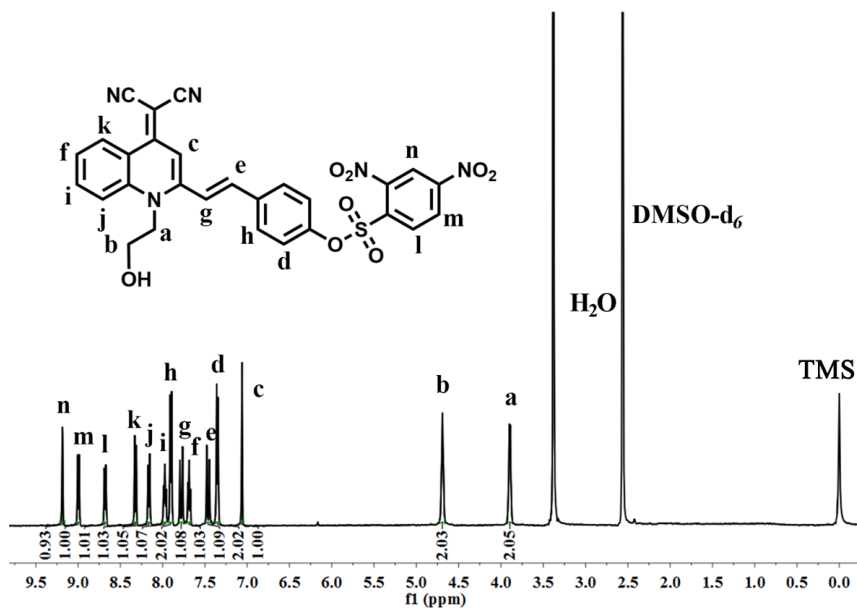


Figure S3  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ ) of the compound 3.



**Figure S4**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ ) of the compound **4**.

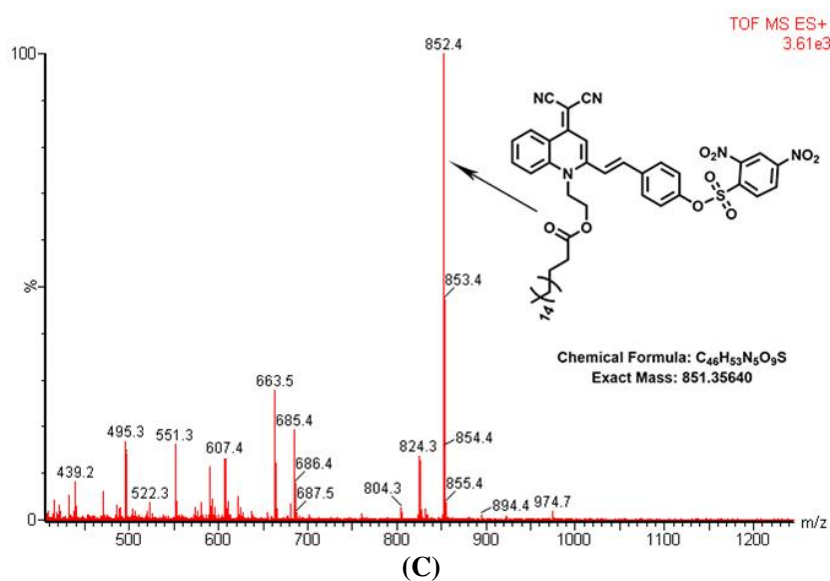
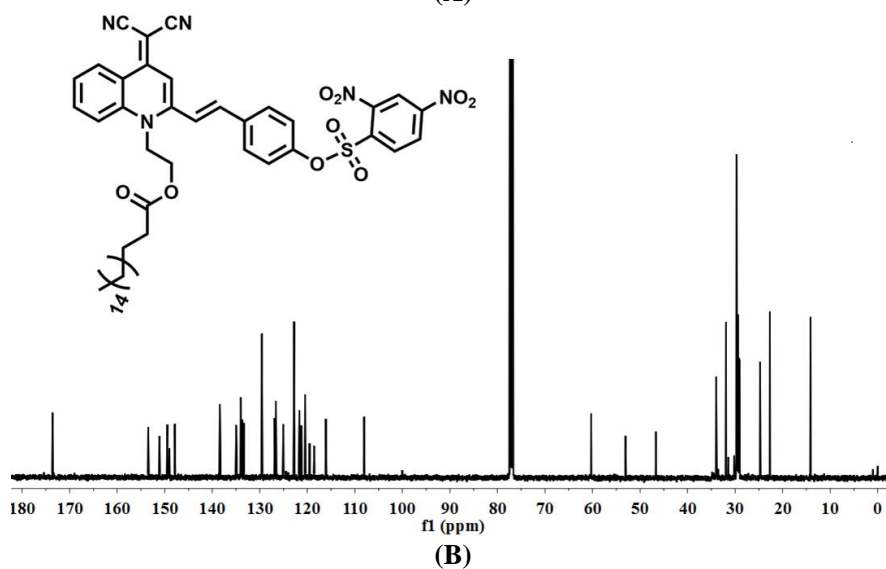
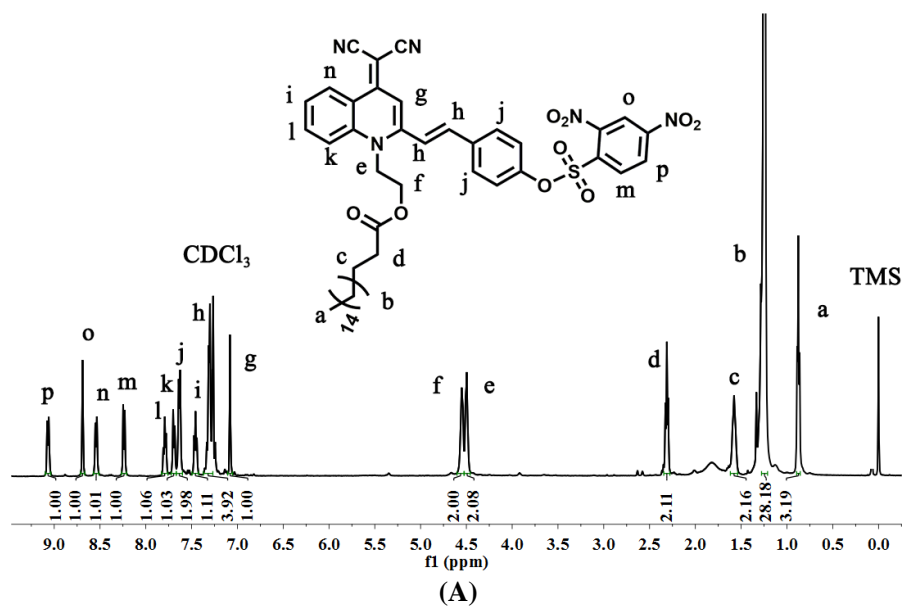
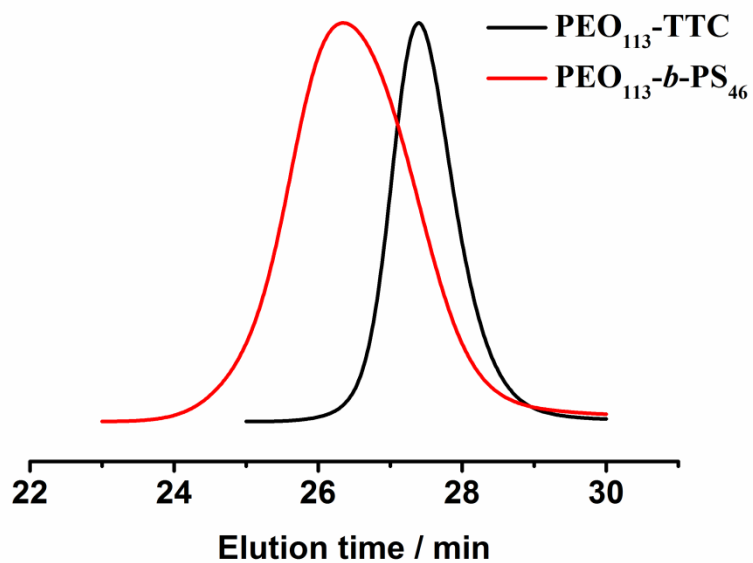


Figure S5 (A)  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ), (B)  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  and (C) Mass spectrum of the compound 5.

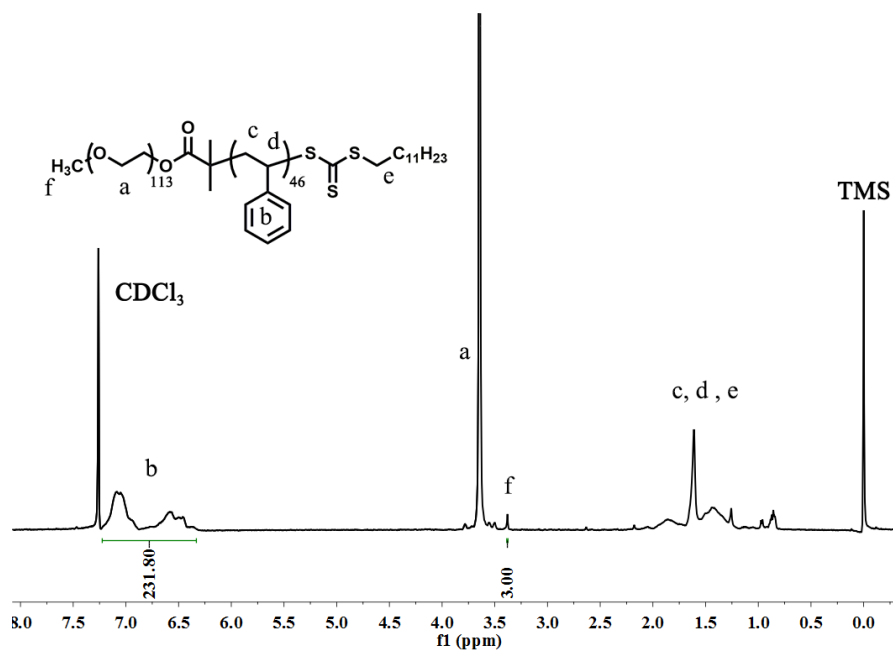


**Figure S6.** GPC trace of PEO<sub>113</sub>-TTC and PEO<sub>113</sub>-*b*-PS<sub>46</sub>.

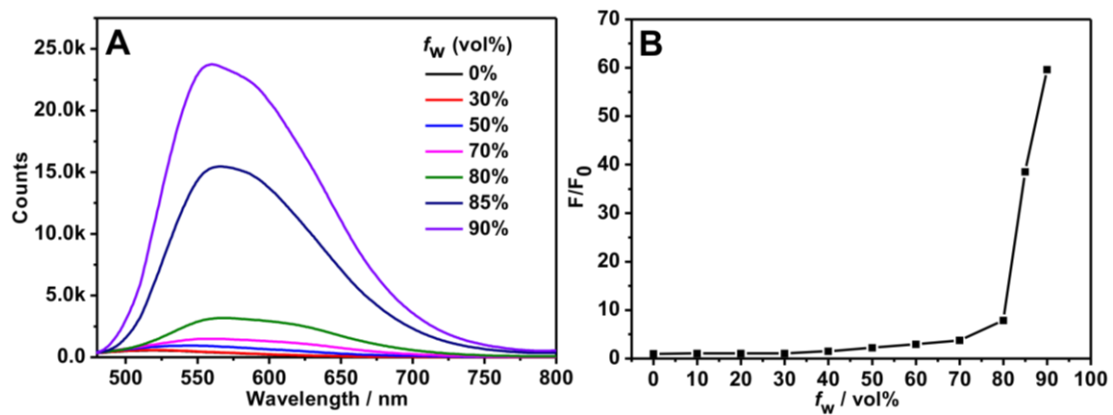
**Table S1.** Molecular weight distribution data of starting linear polymers

Sample	M <sub>n,GPC</sub> <sup>a</sup>	M <sub>w,GPC</sub> <sup>a</sup>	PDI
PEO <sub>113</sub> -TTC	8206	8699	1.06
PEO <sub>113</sub> - <i>b</i> -PS <sub>46</sub>	13125	15380	1.17

<sup>a</sup>The data were acquired using SEC based on a polystyrene calibration curve and obtained from GPC analysis was using THF as eluent at a flow rate of 1.0 mL/min.



**Figure S7.**  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectrum (in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of  $\text{PEO}_{113}\text{-}b\text{-PS}_{46}$ .



**Figure S8.** (A) Fluorescence emission spectra of compound **3** in water/THF mixtures with varied water fractions,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 435$  nm. (B) Compound **3** with  $f_w$ .  $F_0$  and  $F$  are the PL intensities in THF ( $f_w = 0$ ) and a THF/water mixture with a specific  $f_w$ , respectively.



### Determination of fluorescence quantum yield of the compound 3

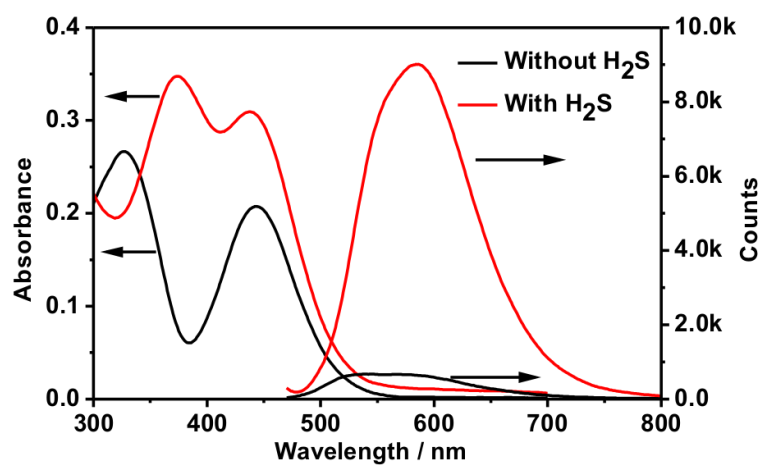
The quantum yield can be described as follows:

$$\Phi_U = \Phi_S \times \frac{F_U}{F_S} \times \frac{A_S}{A_U} \times \frac{(n_U)^2}{(n_S)^2}$$

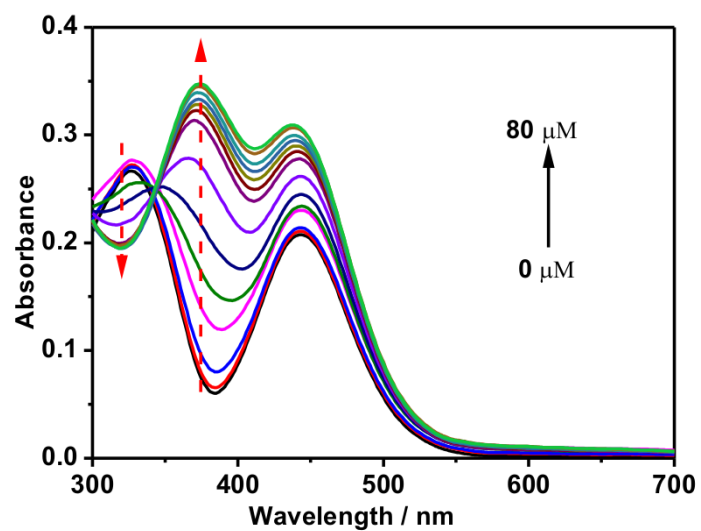
Where  $\Phi_S$  is the fluorescence quantum yield of the standard (rhodamine B in ethanol, 65%, 25 °C)<sup>[1]</sup>,  $F_U$  and  $F_S$  are the integral area of fluorescence intensity of the unknown sample and the standard at the same excitation wavelength, respectively;  $A_U$  and  $A_S$  are the absorbance of the unknown sample and the standard at the defined excitation wavelength, respectively;  $n_S$  and  $n_U$  are the refractive index at 25 °C of the solvent of standard (ethanol) and the unknown sample (mainly H<sub>2</sub>O), respectively.

The  $\Phi_U$  of compound 3 was calculated to be 2.8%.

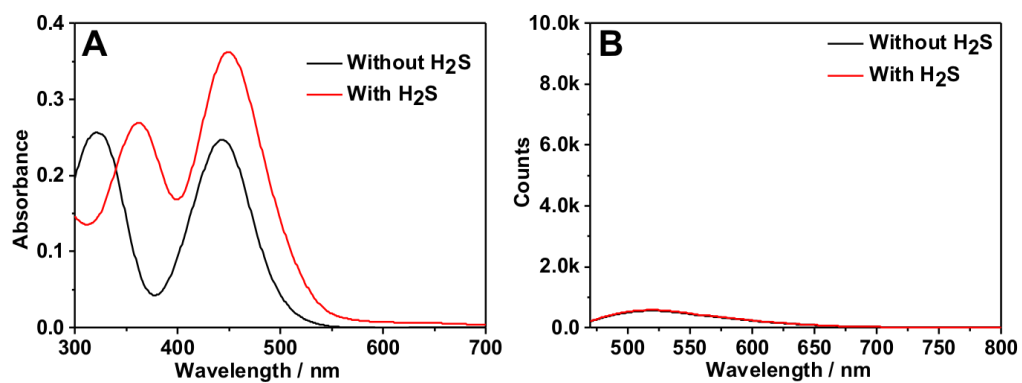
[1]. R.F. Kubin, A.N. Fletcher, *J. Lumin.* **1982**, 27, 455-462



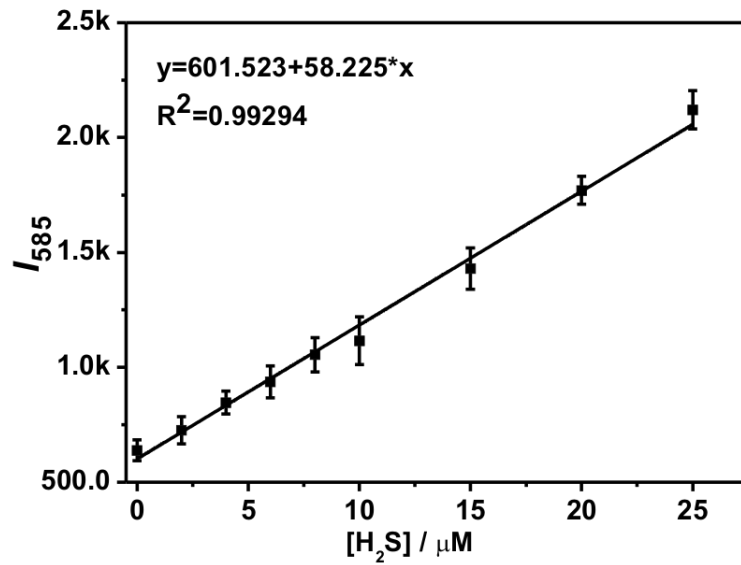
**Figure S9.** Absorbance and fluorescence spectra of **AIED** (10 µg/mL) in pH 5.0 PBS buffered water without (black) and with (red) H<sub>2</sub>S (80 µM),  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 435$  nm.



**Figure S10.** Absorbance spectra of AIED (10 μg/mL) in pH 5.0 PBS buffered water under different concentration of H<sub>2</sub>S (0~ 80 μM).



**Figure S11.** Absorbance (A) and fluorescence spectra (B) of compound 5 in pure THF without (black) and with (red) H<sub>2</sub>S (80 μM),  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 435$  nm.



**Figure S12.** Linear relationship curve of fluorescence intensity at 585 nm ( $I_{585}$ ) versus concentration of  $H_2S$  (0 ~ 25  $\mu M$ ),  $\lambda_{ex} = 435$  nm.

Determination of the detection limit:

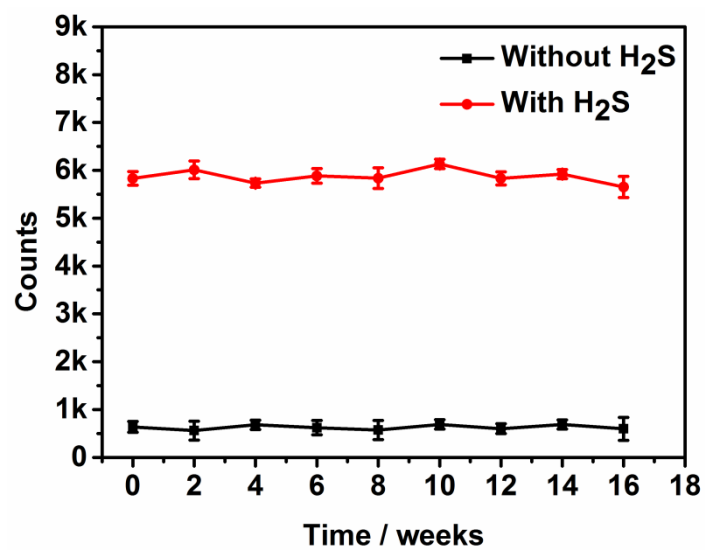
First the calibration curve was obtained from the plot of fluorescence intensity ( $I_{585}$ ) versus  $H_2S$  concentration. The regression curve equation was then obtained for the lower concentration part.

The detection limit =  $3 \times S.D. / k$

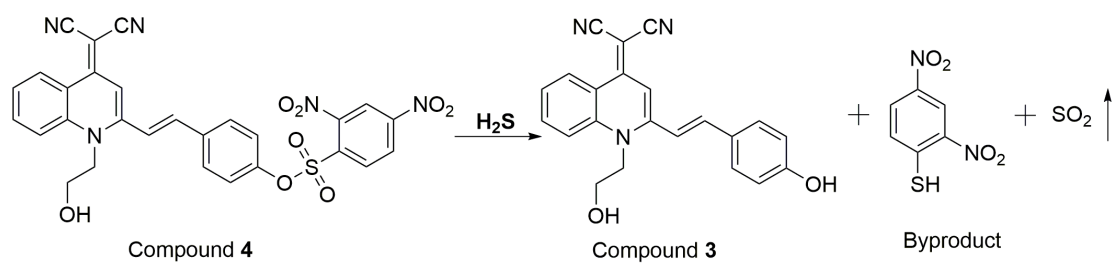
Where  $k$  is the slope of the curve equation, and S.D. represents the standard deviation for the fluorescence intensity ( $I_{585}$ ) of **AIED** in the absence of  $H_2S$ .

$$I_{585} = 601.523 + 58.225 \times [H_2S] \quad (R^2 = 0.9929)$$

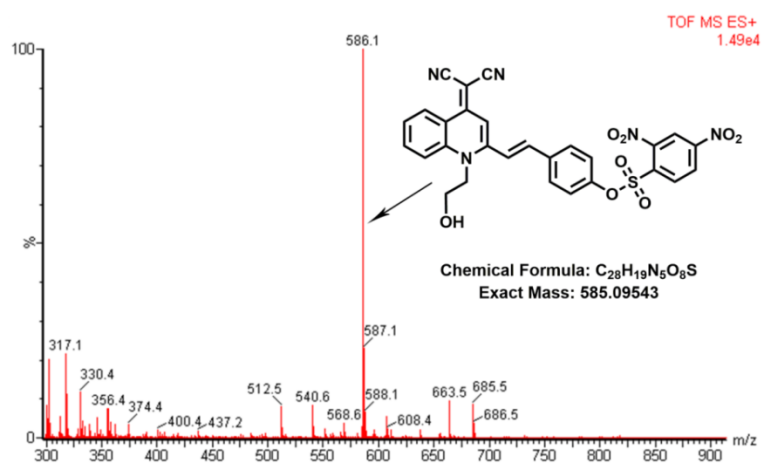
$$LOD = 3 \times 0.8494 / 58.225 = 0.0438 \mu M = 43.8 \text{ nM.}$$



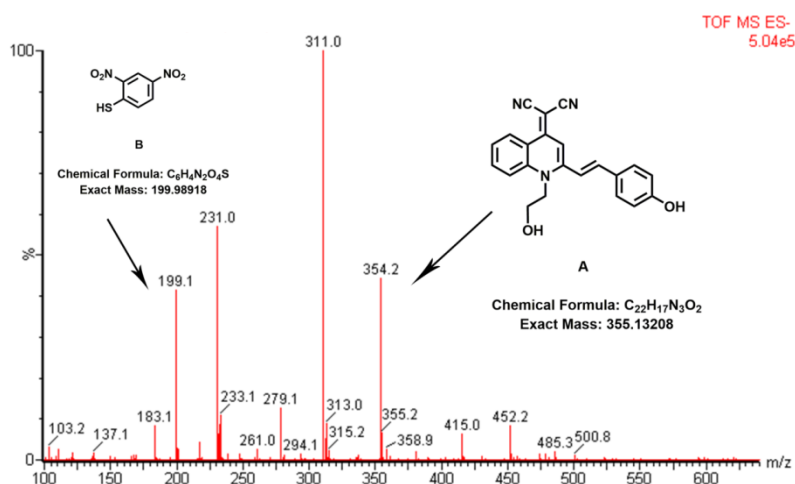
**Figure S13.** Fluorescence long-term photostability of AIED (10 µg/mL) at 585 nm ( $I_{585}$ ) without and with H<sub>2</sub>S (80 µM).  $\lambda_{ex} = 435$  nm.



**Scheme S3.** Possible reaction mechanism of compound 4 with H<sub>2</sub>S;



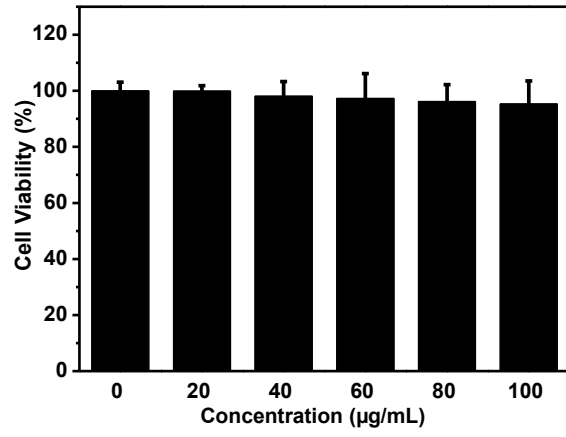
(A)



(B)

**Figure S14.** Mass spectra of compound **4** before (A) and after (B) addition  $H_2S$ . For A: the signals at  $m/z$  586.1 are  $[(\text{compound } 4)+H]^+$ ; For B: the signals at  $m/z$  199.1, 231.0 and 354.2 are  $[(\text{Byproduct})-H]^-$ ,  $[(\text{Byproduct})+CH_3OH-H]^-$  and  $[(\text{compound } 3)-H]^-$ , respectively.





**Figure S15.** Viability for HeLa cells treated with the varied concentrations of **AIED** for 24 h.

**Table S2.** Comparison of the recently reported H<sub>2</sub>S fluorescent probes

Probes	Solution	Detection limit/nM	Stokes shift	AIE characteristics	Reference
HSN2-BG	PBS	--	109 nm	No	Anal. Chem., 2016, 88, 5769-5774.
Lyso-HS	PBS buffer (pH 7.4, 1% DMSO)	--	120 nm	No	Anal. Chem., 2016, 88, 9213-9218.
SulpHensor	Buffer solution (pH 4.5, 10% DMF)	--	25 nm	No	Anal. Chem., 2014, 86, 7508-7515.
Lyso-NHS	PBS buffer (pH 7.4, 10% CH <sub>3</sub> CN)	480 nM	105 nm	No	Org. Lett., 2013, 15, 2310-2313
Lyso-AFP	HEPES buffer (pH 7.4, 50% CH <sub>3</sub> CN)	--	109 nm	No	RSC Adv., 2014, 4, 25790-25794.
1	CTAB 1.0 mM, CH <sub>3</sub> CN / Tris-HCl = 3 : 7, pH = 7.4	790 nM	138 nm	No	Chem. Commun., 2014, 50, 13833-13836.
TP-PMVC	PBS buffer (pH 4.4, 5% DMSO)	--	70 nm	No	Chem. Commun., 2016, 52, 7016-7019
<b>AIED</b>	PBS buffer (pH 5.0.)	43.8 nM	150 nm	Yes	This work