## Supporting information for

## Pyrrole-containing hydrazone and its resultant Cu<sup>2+</sup> complex: an

## easily accessible optical chemosensor system for the successive

## detection of Zn<sup>2+</sup>/Cu<sup>2+</sup> and pyrophosphate

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0.25 0.20 Absorbance 0.15 0.10 0.05 CUR XNA × CU \* 40 \* C4.24 CU<sup>44</sup> Cures Vires Cu<sup>3</sup> Cura Var 0.00 CU24

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Fig. S1 The effect of 10  $\mu M$  coexistent metal cations on the absorbance at 432 nm of 10  $\mu M$  1 with 10

 $\mu$ M Cu<sup>2+</sup> in DMF/H<sub>2</sub>O (8/2, v/v, pH = 7.40) solution.



Fig. S2 The linear relation of the absorbance at 432 nm and the concentration of  $Cu^{2+}$  (0-10  $\mu$ M).



Fig. S3 Job plots of 1 and  $Cu^{2+}$  in DMF/H<sub>2</sub>O (8/2, v/v, pH = 7.40) solution according to the absorbance

at 432 nm. The total concentration of 1 and  $Cu^{2+}$  were all kept at 20  $\mu M.$ 



Fig. S4 The Benesi-Hildebrand plot of the  $1+Cu^{2+}$  complex (where  $R = A_{432}/A_{346}$ ).



Fig. S5 Time course for the absorbance response of 10  $\mu$ M 1 upon the addition of 10  $\mu$ M Cu<sup>2+</sup> in DMF/H<sub>2</sub>O (8/2, v/v, pH = 7.40) solution at room temperature.



Fig. S6 The effect of pH (2.0-12.0) on the absorbance at 432 nm of 10  $\mu$ M probe 1 with 10  $\mu$ M Cu<sup>2+</sup> in DMF/H<sub>2</sub>O (8/2, v/v, pH = 7.40) solution.



Fig. S7 The effect of 10  $\mu$ M coexistent metal cations on the fluorescence intensity at 532 nm of 10  $\mu$ M 1 with 10  $\mu$ M Zn<sup>2+</sup> in DMF/H<sub>2</sub>O (8/2, v/v, pH = 7.40) solution.



**Fig. S8** The effect of 20  $\mu$ M masking reagents (F<sup>-</sup> for Al<sup>3+</sup>/Fe<sup>3+</sup>, I<sup>-</sup> for Cu<sup>2+</sup>, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and N(CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH)<sub>3</sub> for Cr<sup>3+</sup>) on the fluorescence emission of 10  $\mu$ M 1 with 10  $\mu$ M Zn<sup>2+</sup> and 10  $\mu$ M coexistent metal cations in DMF/H<sub>2</sub>O (8/2, v/v, pH = 7.40) solution.



Fig. S9 Absorption spectra of 10  $\mu$ M probe 1 upon the addition of Zn<sup>2+</sup> (0-55  $\mu$ M) in DMF/H<sub>2</sub>O (8/2,

v/v, pH = 7.40) solution.



Fig. S10 The linear relation of the fluorescence intensity at 532 nm and the concentration of  $Zn^{2+}$  (0-15

μM).



Fig. S11 Job plots of 1 and Zn<sup>2+</sup> in DMF/H<sub>2</sub>O (8/2, v/v, pH = 7.40) solution according to the fluorescence intensity at 532 nm. The total concentration of 1 and Zn<sup>2+</sup> were all kept at 20  $\mu$ M.



Fig. S12 The Benesi-Hildebrand plot of the  $1+Zn^{2+}$  complex.



Fig. S13 Time course for the fluorescence response of 10  $\mu$ M 1 upon the addition of 10  $\mu$ M Zn<sup>2+</sup> in DMF/H<sub>2</sub>O (8/2, v/v, pH = 7.40) solution at room temperature.



Fig. S14 Fluorescence intensity changes at 532 nm of 1 (10  $\mu$ M) upon alternating addition of Zn<sup>2+</sup> (10  $\mu$ M) and EDTA (10  $\mu$ M) in DMF/H<sub>2</sub>O (8/2, v/v, pH = 7.40) solution.



Fig. S15 The effect of pH (2.0-12.0) on the fluorescence intensity at 532 nm of 10  $\mu$ M probe 1 with 10  $\mu$ M Zn<sup>2+</sup> in DMF/H<sub>2</sub>O (8/2, v/v, pH = 7.40) solution.



Fig. S16 Partial of ESI-MS spectra of 1 with Cu<sup>2+</sup> in DMF solution.







Fig. S18 Partial of ESI-MS spectra of 1 in DMF solution.







**Fig. S20** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **1** in DMSO- $d_6$  solution.