### **Supporting Information**

# Superimposed molecular keypad lock and half-subtractor implications in a single fluorophore

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1. **General Experiment Conditions:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectra and titrations were carried out at temperature 25 °C using JEOL A1 spectrometer operating at 300 MHz. <sup>13</sup>C NMR sepctra were recorded at 75 MHz. All chemical shifts are reported in ppm relative to the TMS as an internal reference. UV-Vis studies were carried out on a Shimadzu UV-1601 PC or Shimadzu UV-2400 machines using slit width of 1.0 nm and matched quartz cells. The fluorescence experiments were performed on Shimadzu 1501 fluorescence spectrophotometer. Elemental analysis were performed on Flash EA-1112 series CHNS-O analyser instrument.

#### 2. Synthesis of fluorophore 2



A mixture of 2,3-diaminopyridine (1 mmol) and 3-hydroxy-2-naphthoic acid (1 mmol) in PPA (polyphosphoric acid) was heated at 140 °C for 6 hrs. The reaction mixture was poured into ice, neutralised with NH<sub>4</sub>OH and filtered and then dried to get brown colored solid which was further recrystallized from CHCl<sub>3</sub>: MeOH mixture to get pure **2**, mp. 180 °C, 80%, FAB Mass M<sup>+</sup> m/z = 262 (M<sup>+</sup>+1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 300 MHz) :  $\delta$  7.27-7.36 (m, 3H, 3 ArH), 7.47 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.72 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.85 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.04 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H, ArH, observed on addition of TBAF), 8.42 (bs, 1H, ArH), 8.79 (s, 1H, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 75 MHz): 110.9, 114.7, 118.8, 123.9, 124.3, 126.0, 127.0, 128.1, 128.5, 128.6, 130.0, 135.7, 143.3, 149.6, 153.2, 154.4. Elemental analysis: Found: C, 73.23; H, 4.29; N, 16.02%. C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O requires C, 73.55; H, 4.24; N, 16.08; O, 6.12%.

# 3. Photophysical studies – Parameters and Conditions

All the UV-Vis and Fluorescence studies have been performed in CH<sub>3</sub>CN. All absorption scans and fluorescence spectra were saved as ACS II files and further processed in Excel<sup>TM</sup> to produce all graphs shown. Solutions of **2** were typically 20  $\mu$ M for UV-Vis studies and 1  $\mu$ M for fluorescence studies.



Figure SI-1: Effect of incremental addition of fluoride ions on the UV-Vis Spectrum of 2  $(20 \ \mu M, CH_3CN)$ 



Figure SI-2: Effect of incremental addition (equivalents) of fluoride ions on the fluorescence spectrum of  $2 (1 \mu M, CH_3 CN)$ 



Figure SI-3: Effect of incremental addition (equivalents) of  $Cu^{2+}$  on UV-Vis spectrum of **2** (20  $\mu$ M, CH<sub>3</sub>CN).



Figure SI-4: Effect of incremental addition (equivalents) of  $Cu^{2+}$  on fluorescence spectrum of 2 (1µM, CH<sub>3</sub>CN)



Figure SI-5: Ratiometric plot for estimation of Cu<sup>2+</sup> using fluorophore 2



**Figure SI-6:** Bar diagram of half-subtractor showing the fluorescence intensities with different inputs; a only **2**; b, **2** + TBA F (2  $\mu$ M); c, **2**+ Cu<sup>2+</sup> (2  $\mu$ M); d, **2** + TBA F (2  $\mu$ M) + Cu<sup>2+</sup> (2  $\mu$ M) ('A' is XOR at 490 nm ; 'B' is INHIBIT at 540 nm)



Figure SI-7: Effect of incremental addition of TBA F on <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of probe 2

#### **Density functional theory Calculations**

All calculations were performed with Gaussian 98 (G98) suite of programme. Calculations were performed using Density functional theory (DFT) with Becke's three parameter hybrid exchange functional and Lee-Yang-Parr correlation functional (B3LYP). The double – basis set of Hay and Wadt (LANL2DZ) was used for the copper center. The ligand hydrogen, carbon, nitrogen and oxygen were described using the 6-31G\* basis set.



Table: The bond lengths, bond angles and Mulliken charges in gas phase optimized structures of probe 2, Probe 2-Cu<sup>2+</sup> and Probe 2 -F complexes

PARAMETERS	Probe 2	Probe 2 -Cu <sup>2+</sup> complex	Probe 2 - F <sup>-</sup> complex
BOND LENGTHS(Å)			
C2-C1	1.394	1.408	1.397
C3-C2	1.406	1.404	1.404
N4-C3	1.341	1.380	1.343
C5-N4	1.326	1.354	1.330
C6-C1	1.395	1.399	1.396
N7-C6	1.379	1.393	1.373
C8-N7	1.329	1.362	1.334
N9-C8	1.378	1.389	1.377
H10-C1	1.085	1.085	1.087
H11-C2	1.085	1.084	1.087
H12-C3	1.087	1.084	1.089
H13-N9	1.008	1.012	1.029
C8-C14	1.457	1.440	1.458

C15-C14	1.443	1.486	1.462
C16-C15	1.384	1.440	1.409
C17-C16	1.411	1.409	1.403
C18-C17	1.435	1.453	1.442
C19-C14	1.388	1.396	1.386
C20-C17	1.423	1.431	1.429
C21-C20	1.375	1.398	1.375
C22-C21	1.419	1.420	1.421
C23-C18	1.423	1.417	1.420
O24-C15	1.345	1.293	1.301
H25-O24	0.993	1.713	1.512
H26-C16	1.085	1.087	1.086
H27-C19	1.087	1.090	1.087
H28-C20	1.087	1.086	1.088
H29-C20	1.086	1.085	1.088
H30-C22	1.086	1.085	1.087
H31-C23	1.087	1.087	1.089
		1.941(Cu32-N4)	0.990 (F32-H25)
H25-N7	1.841	1.028	
BOND ANGLES( <sup>0</sup> )			
C3-C2-C1	120.5	120.8	120.2
N4-C3-C2	124.4	122.9	124.6
C5-N4-C3	113.5	116.1	113.8
C6-C1-C2	116.3	116.0	116.9
N7-C6-C1	132.7	133.0	132.1
C8-N7-C6	106.1	110.5	104.4
N9-C8-N7	111.4	107.2	112.9
1			

H1	1-C2-C1	120.3	120.5	120.5		
H12	2-C3-C2	119.7	120.0	119.6		
H1	3-N9-C5	124.8	126.4	134.2		
H14-C8-N7		124.6	129.3	120.7		
C15-C14-C8		119.4	117.0	120.4		
C16-C15-C14		119.3	117.8	116.6		
C17-C16-C15		121.8	121.9	122.7		
C18-	-C17-C16	119.2	119.4	119.8		
C19-C14-C15		118.9	119.4	120.6		
C20-C17-C16		122.4	121.5	122.5		
C21-C20-C17		120.8	120.3	121.3		
C22-C21-C20		120.7	120.3	120.7		
C23-C18-C19		122.3	121.4	122.5		
O24	-C15-C14	122.3	121.4	121.2		
H25-	-O24-C15	108.6	108.6	111.7		
H26	-C16-C17	120.2	121.4	120.6		
H27-	-C19-C18	117.4	116.8	119.7		
H28-	-C20-C17	118.6	119.3	118.2		
H29-	-C21-C20	119.8	120.0	119.8		
H30-	-C22-C21	119.7	119.5	119.9		
H31	-C23-C22	120.4	119.5	120.4		
Cu32-N4-C3			116.1	173.9		
Mulliken Charges						
S. No.	АТОМ	Probe 2	Probe 2 - Cu <sup>2+</sup> complex	Probe 2 - F <sup>-</sup> complex		
1	С	-0.130942	-0.251467	-0.160118		
2	C	-0.165030	-0.107552	-0.166344		
3	C	0.028965	-0.127977	0.013250		
4	N	-0.508175	-0.361671	-0.513254		

5	С	0.507706	0.224474	0.515342
6	C	0.290127	0.294842	0.262674
7	N	-0.693862	-0.400002	-0.612292
8	С	0.561424	0.296978	0.471533
9	N	-0.739881	-0.418650	-0.726952
10	Н	0.155376	0.305893	0.116510
11	Н	0.140777	0.288702	0.096824
12	Н	0.144417	0.263740	0.102370
13	Н	0.348602	0.371634	0.378298
14	С	0.107905	0.283535	0.040963
15	С	0.310878	0.101200	0.410726
16	С	-0.261851	-0.473832	-0.349559
17	С	0.153325	0.428458	0.171361
18	С	0.141828	0.414336	0.131375
19	С	-0.293009	-0.499082	-0.291986
20	С	-0.195585	-0.336006	-0.204824
21	С	-0.131815	-0.187987	-0.137489
22	С	-0.144096	-0.186094	-0.159557
23	С	-0.185589	-0.375365	-0.186914
24	0	-0.661477	-0.298625	-0.755958
25	Н	0.440331	0.451275	0.475760
26	Н	0.141179	0.302843	0.126893
27	Н	0.114664	0.218818	0.135069
28	Н	0.134230	0.282503	0.107638
29	Н	0.132617	0.280417	0.089486
30	Н	0.130576	0.276136	0.086563
31	Н	0.126384	0.262031	0.100218
32			0.676497(Cu)	-0.567607(F)