

## Supporting Information

### A New Fluorescent Probe for Ultrasensitive Detection of Phosgene in Solution and Gas Phase

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## Contents

Photophysical properties of <b>APQ</b> .....	S3
Additional spectroscopic data.....	S4
The characterization data of <b>APQ</b> .....	S18
References.....	S22

## Photophysical properties of APQ

Table S1 Photophysical properties of the probe.

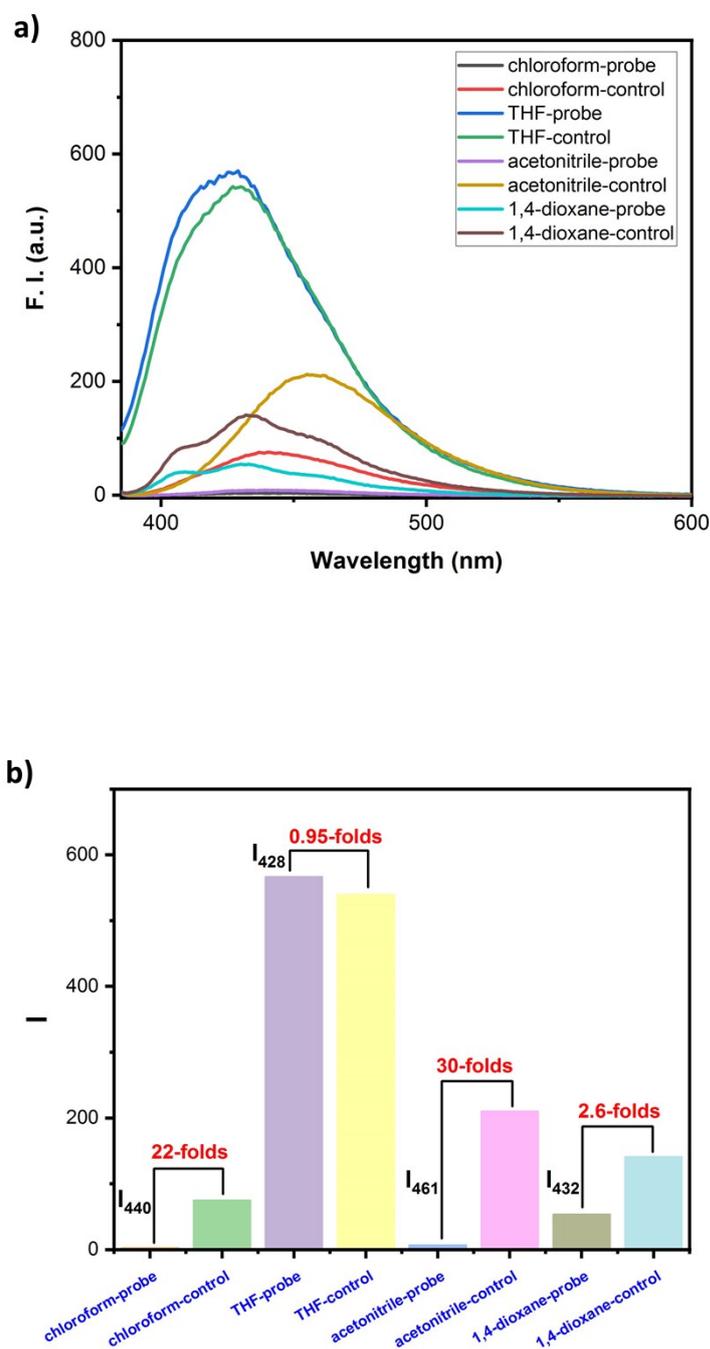
entry	$\lambda_{\text{ab}}$ (nm)	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$ (nm)	$\Phi^{\text{a}}$
<b>APQ</b>	361	447	0.009
<b>APQ+phosgene</b>	357	461	0.192 <sup>b</sup>

(a) The quantum yield ( $\Phi$ ) of **APQ** and **APQ**-phosgene system were determined according to the literature.<sup>1</sup> (b)  $\Phi$  was determined in the present of 1.0 equiv. of triphosgene and 2.0 equiv. of TEA.

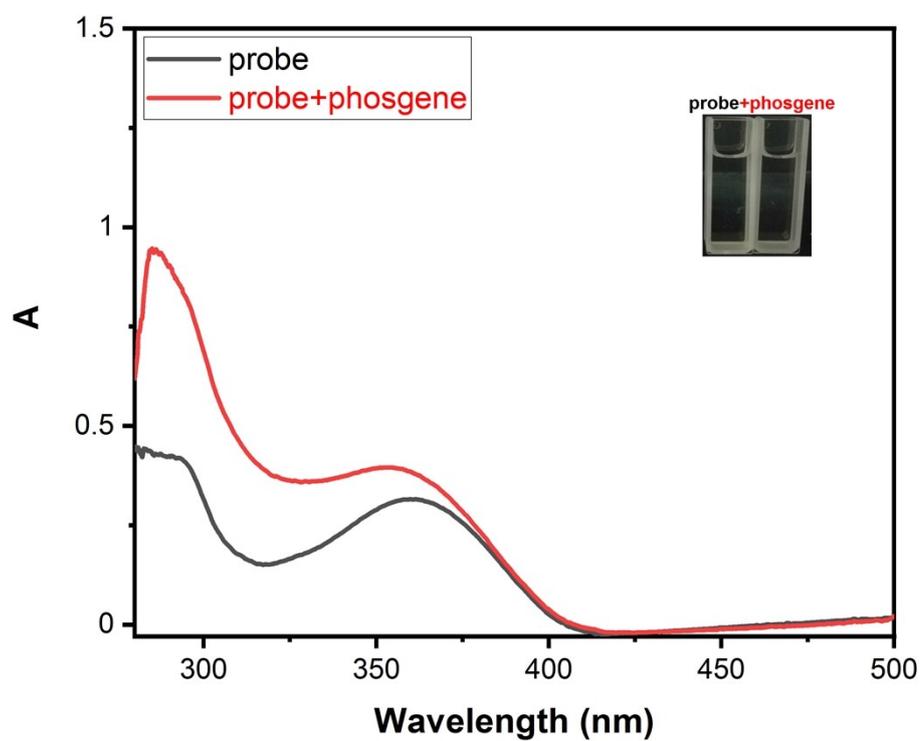
$$\Phi_{\text{Sample}} = \frac{\Phi_{\text{QS}} \cdot A_{\text{QS}} \cdot F_{\text{Sample}} \cdot \lambda_{\text{exQS}} \cdot \eta_{\text{Sample}}^2}{A_{\text{Sample}} \cdot F_{\text{QS}} \cdot \lambda_{\text{exSample}} \cdot \eta_{\text{QS}}^2}$$

Where  $\Phi$  is quantum yield; A is absorbance at the excitation wavelength; F is integrated area under the corrected emission spectra;  $\lambda_{\text{ex}}$  is the excitation wavelength;  $\eta$  is the refractive index of the solution; the Sample and QS refer to the sample and the standard, respectively. We chose quinine sulfate in 0.1N H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> as standard, which has the quantum yield of 0.546.<sup>2</sup>

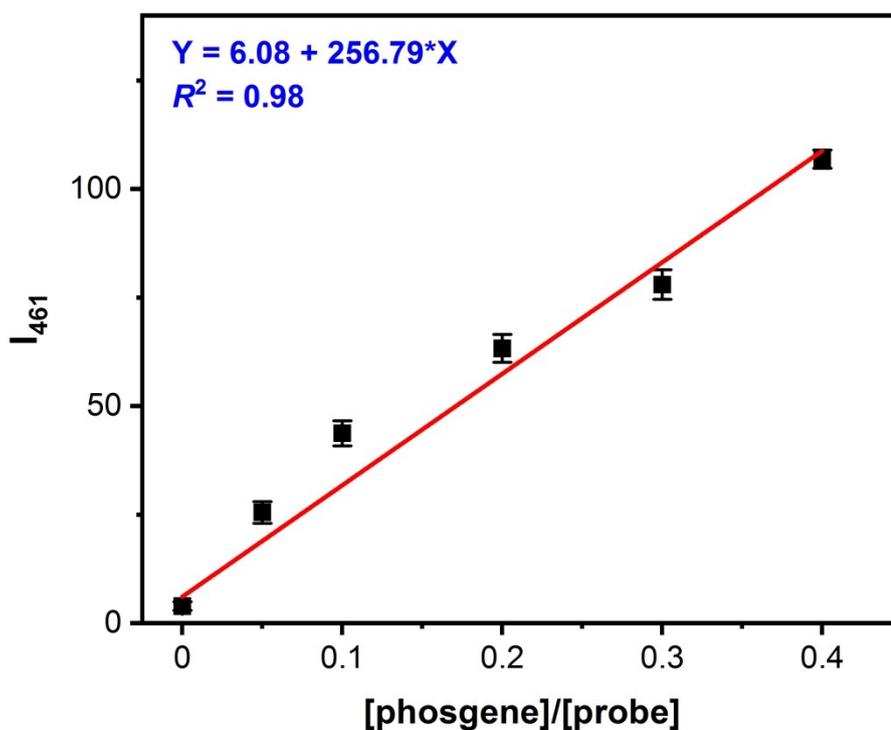
## Additional spectroscopic data



**Fig. S1** a) Fluorescence spectra of APQ (10.0  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in the presence of 1.0 equiv. of triphosgene in chloroform, THF, acetonitrile, and dioxane solution, respectively (containing 1% TEA,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 377$  nm). b) Fluorescence intensity of a different solution of APQ (10.0  $\mu\text{M}$ ) before and after addition of 1.0 equiv. of triphosgene (containing 1% TEA).



**Fig. S2** The UV-vis absorption of APQ (20.0 μM) and APQ (20.0 μM) in the present of 1.0 equiv. of triphosgene in CH<sub>3</sub>CN solution (containing 1% TEA).

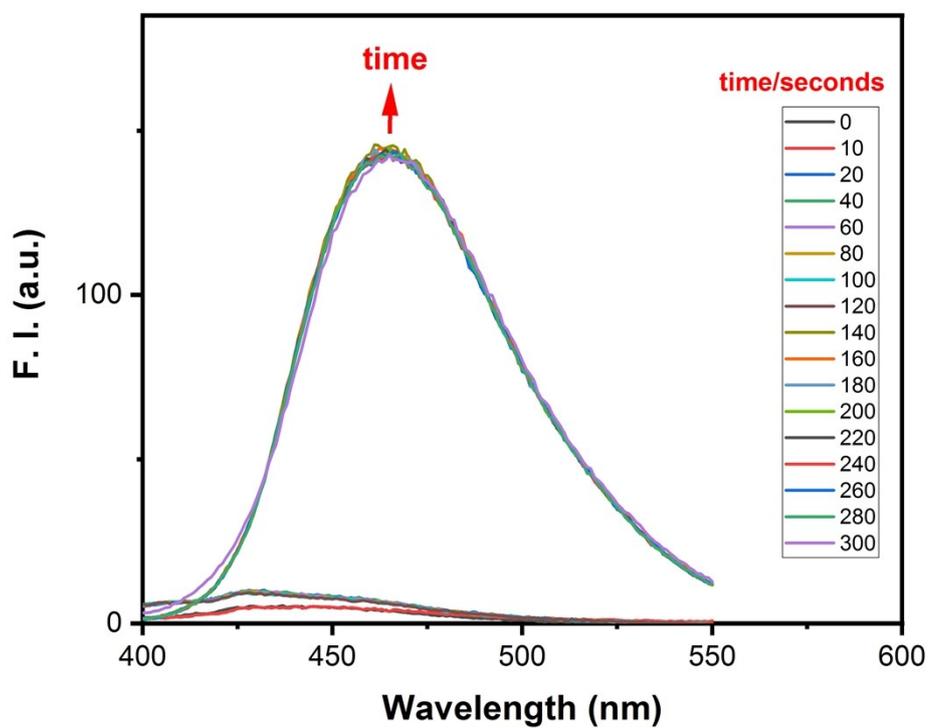


**Fig. S3** The changes of the fluorescent intensity of **APQ** (10.0  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at 461 nm ( $I_{461}$ ) as a function of phosgene concentration (0-4.0  $\mu\text{M}$ ) under the same condition as the phosgene titration.

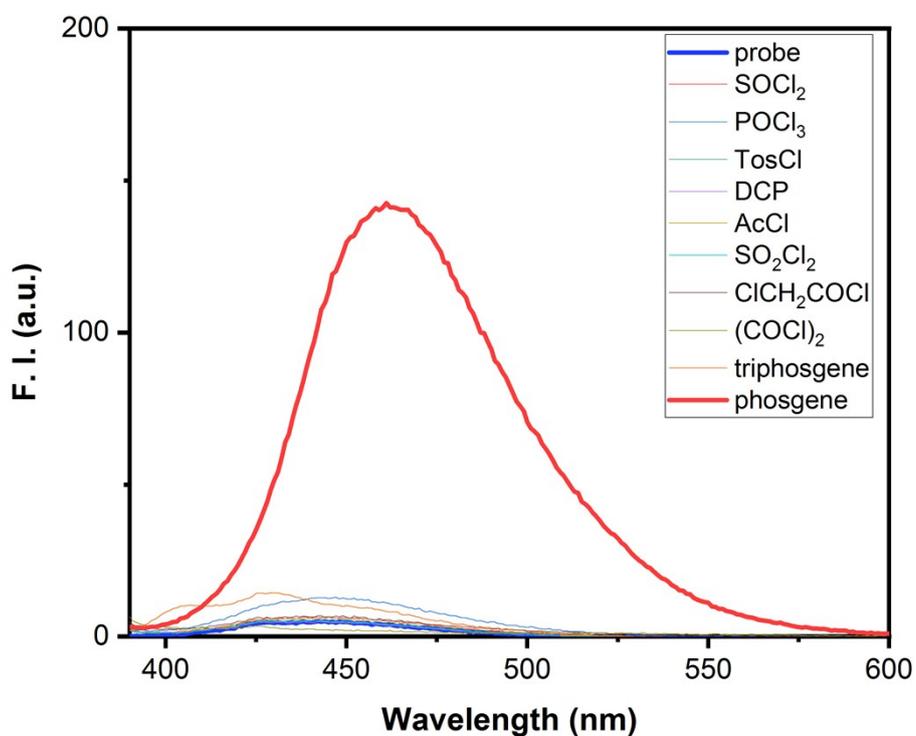
The detection limit (DL) of phosgene using **APQ** was determined from the following equation: <sup>3</sup>

$$\text{DL} = 3 \cdot \sigma / K$$

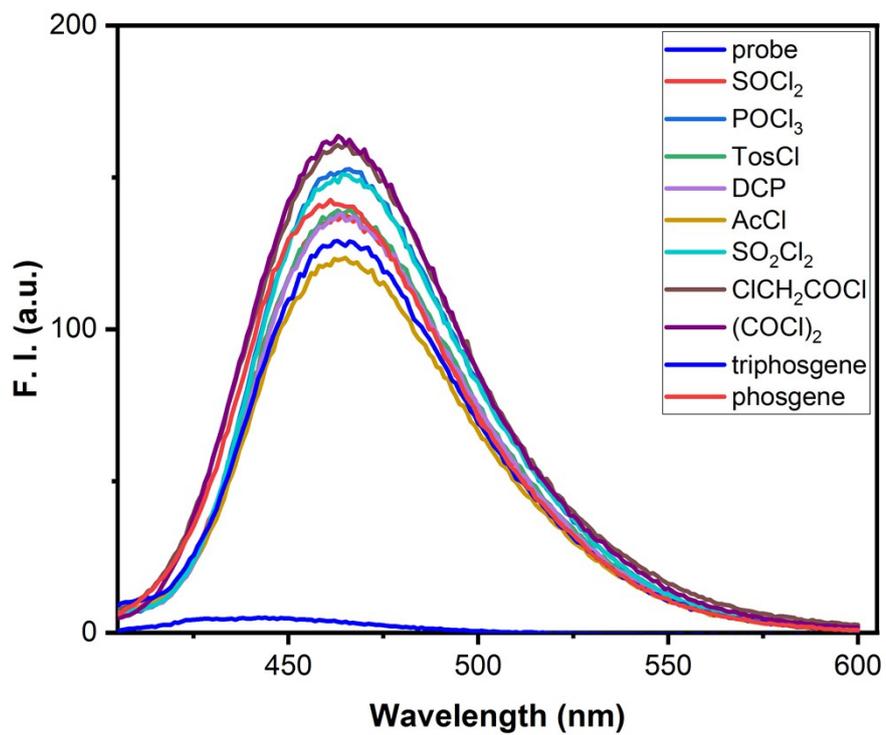
Where  $\sigma$  is the standard deviation of the blank solution; K is the slope of the calibration curve.



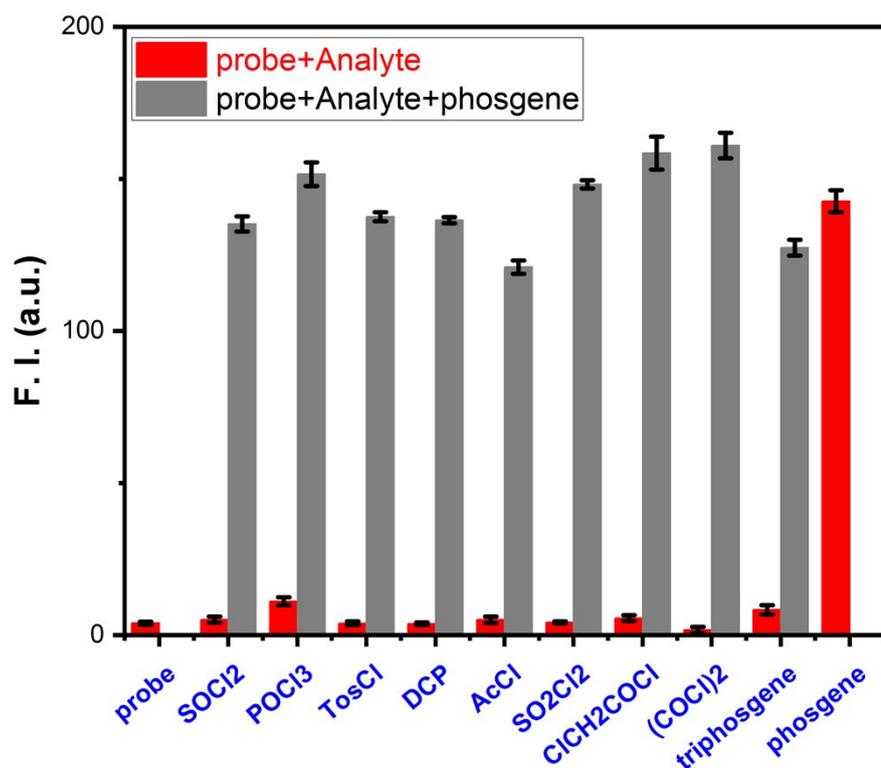
**Fig. S4** The fluorescent spectra of APQ (10.0  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in the present of triphosgene (10.0  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in the different reaction time (0-300 s) under the same condition as the phosgene titration.



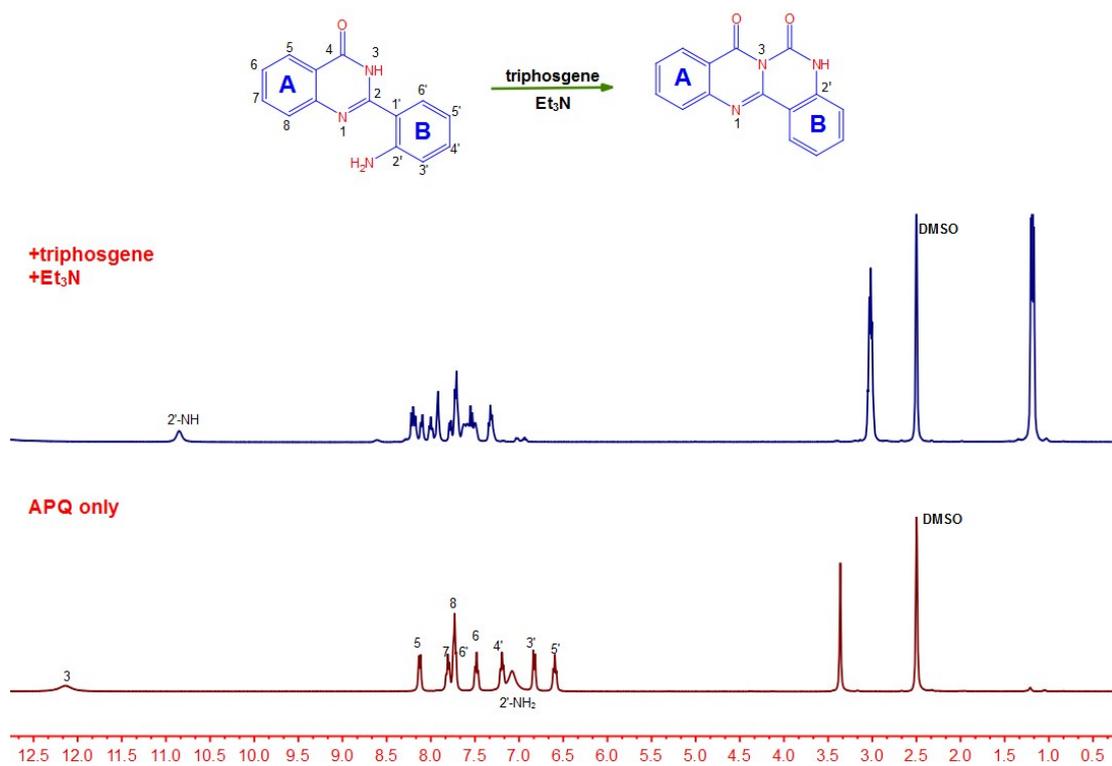
**Fig. S5** Fluorescence spectra of a CH<sub>3</sub>CN solution of probe **APQ** (10.0 μM) before and after addition of various analytes (including SOCl<sub>2</sub>, POCl<sub>3</sub>, TosCl, DCP, AcCl, SO<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, ClCH<sub>2</sub>COCl, (COCl)<sub>2</sub>, triphosgene, and phosgene ( $\lambda_{ex} = 377$  nm)).



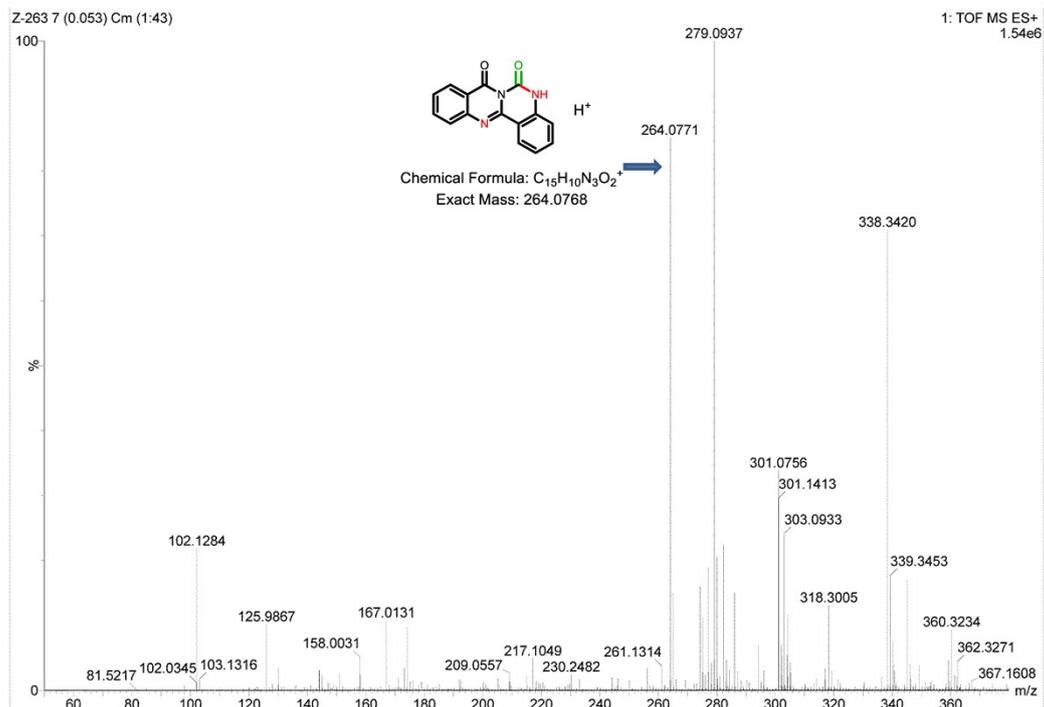
**Fig. S6** Fluorescence spectra of a CH<sub>3</sub>CN solution of probe APQ (10.0 μM) in the presence of 1.0 equiv. of various analytes (including SOCl<sub>2</sub>, POCl<sub>3</sub>, TosCl, DCP, AcCl, SO<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, ClCH<sub>2</sub>COCl, (COCl)<sub>2</sub>, triphosgene, and phosgene, followed by 1.0 equiv. of triphosgene (containing 1% TEA, λ<sub>ex</sub> = 377 nm).



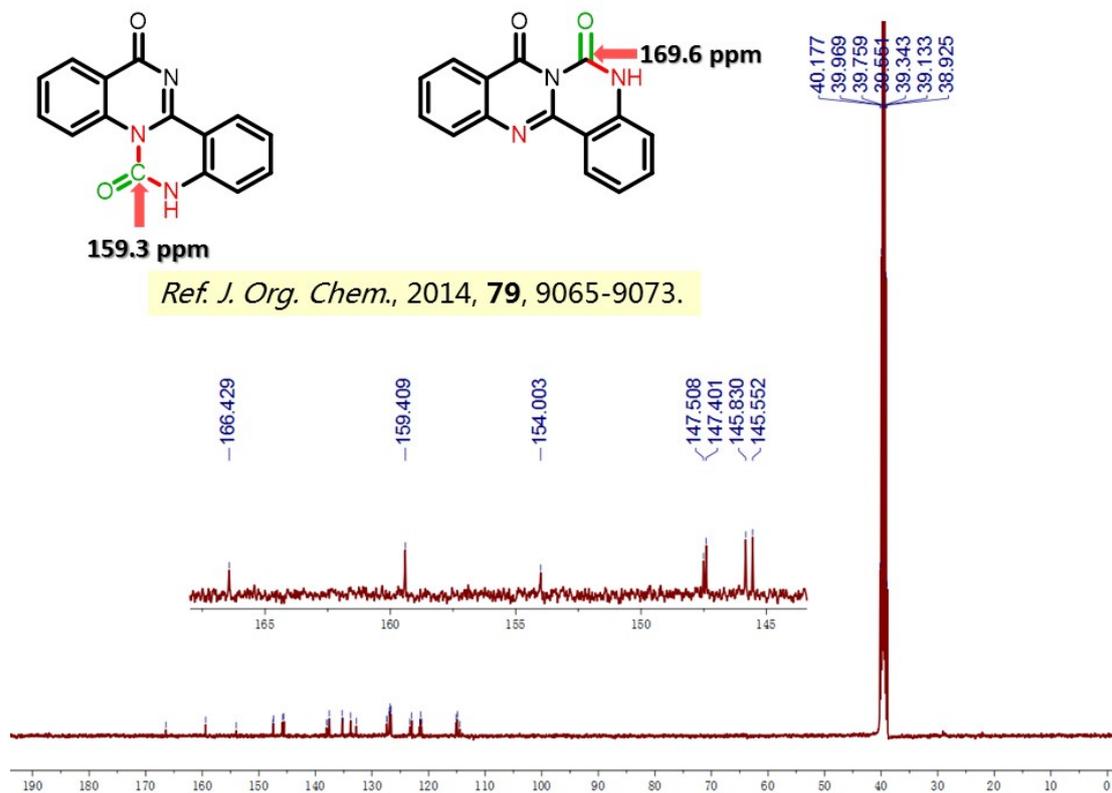
**Fig. S7** Fluorescence intensity in 461 nm ( $I_{461}$ ) of a  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  solution of probe APQ ( $10.0 \mu\text{M}$ ) before and after addition of various analytes (including  $\text{SOCl}_2$ ,  $\text{POCl}_3$ ,  $\text{TosCl}$ ,  $\text{DCP}$ ,  $\text{AcCl}$ ,  $\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $\text{ClCH}_2\text{COCl}$ ,  $(\text{COCl})_2$ , triphosgene, and phosgene, followed by the addition of 1.0 equiv. of triphosgene (containing 1% TEA,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 377 \text{ nm}$ ).



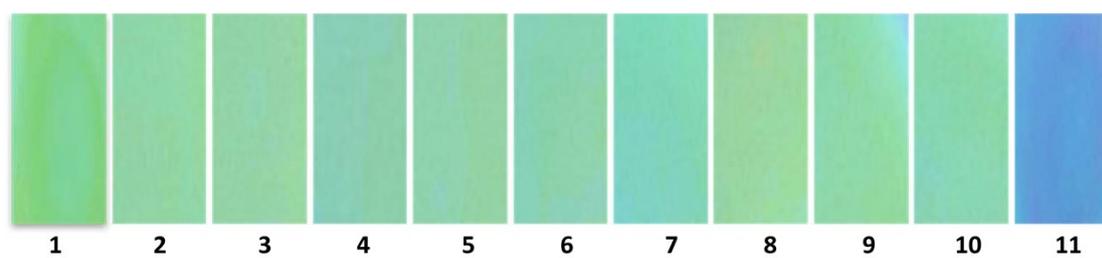
**Fig. S8** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of APQ and APQ in the present of phosgene in *d*<sub>6</sub>-DMSO.



**Fig. S9** HR-MS (ESI) spectra of reaction mixture of APQ and phosgene.

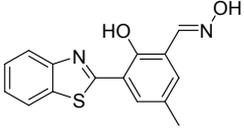
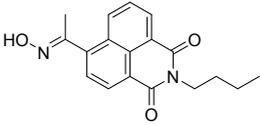
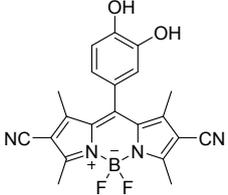
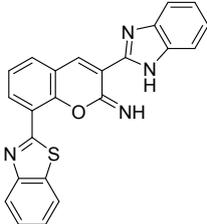
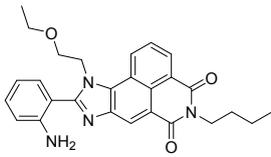
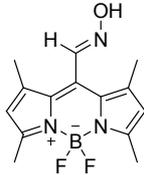
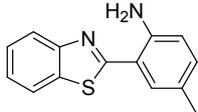


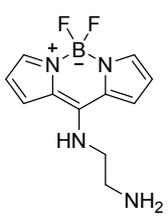
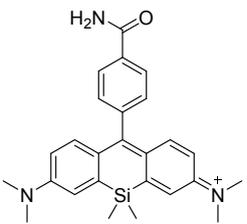
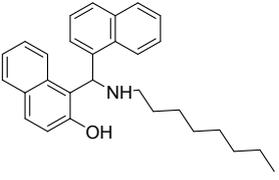
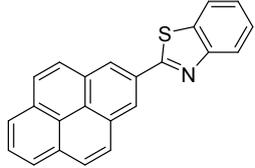
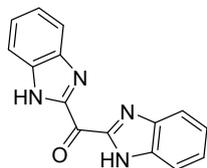
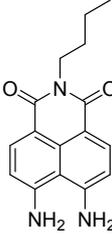
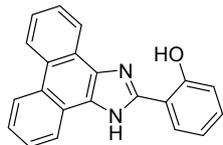
**Fig. S10** The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of the reaction product of APQ and phosgene.

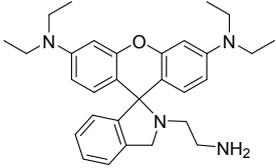
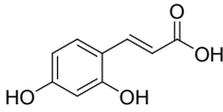
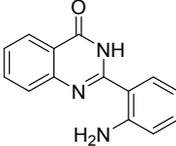


**Fig. S11** Photographs of the fluorescence of test strips containing absorbed probe **APQ** exposed for 1 min to vapors containing various analytes, (1) **APQ** only; (2)  $\text{SOCl}_2$ ; (3)  $\text{POCl}_3$ ; (4)  $\text{TosCl}$ ; (5)  $\text{DCP}$ ; (6)  $\text{AcCl}$ ; (7)  $\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ; (8)  $\text{ClCH}_2\text{COCl}$ ; (9)  $(\text{COCl})_2$ ; (10) triphosgene, and (11) phosgene (under a 365 nm hand-held UV lamp).

**Table S2** Summary of some reported phosgene fluorescent probes.

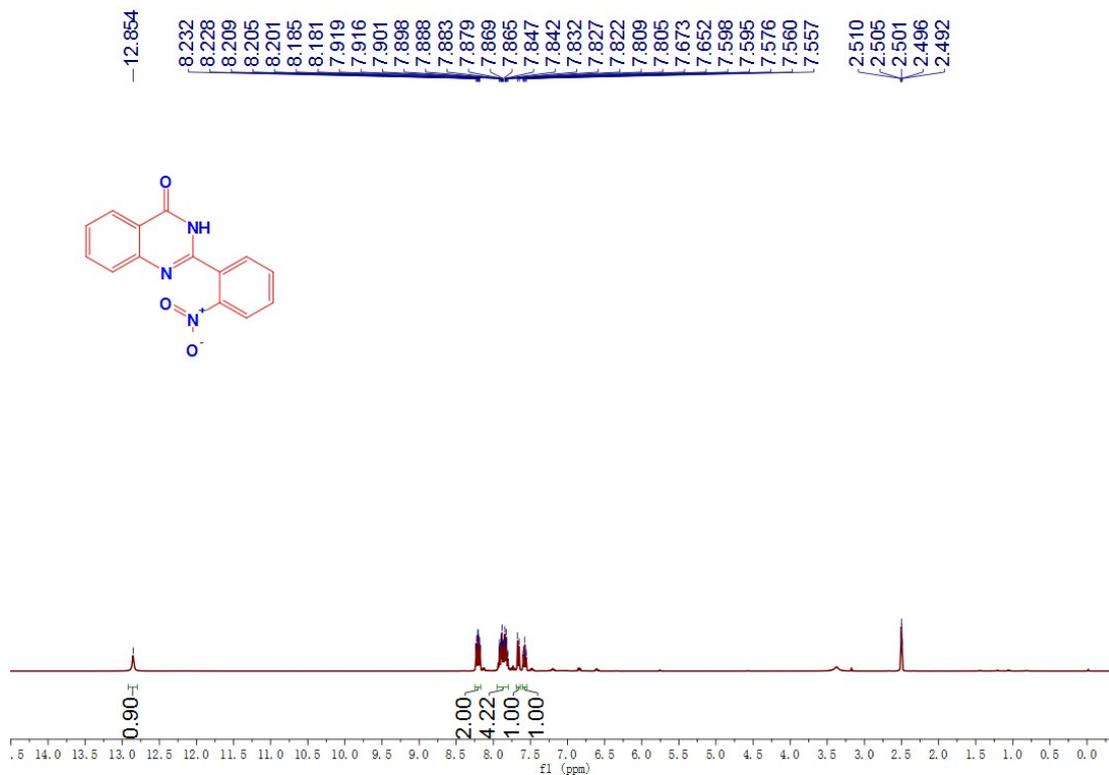
Entry	Structures	Response mode	LOD (in solution)	Response time		References
				In solution	Gaseous	
1		off-on	0.48 nM	20 min	20 min	<i>Dyes Pigments</i> , <b>2019</b> , 163, 483-488.
2		off-on	6.3 nM	15 min	5 min	<i>Dyes Pigments</i> , <b>2020</b> , 173, 10784.
3		off-on	124 pM	< 3 s	30 s	<i>Sens. Actuators. B. Chem.</i> , <b>2019</b> , 283, 458-462.
4		off-on	1.65 nM	3 min	-	<i>Sens. Actuators. B. Chem.</i> , <b>2021</b> , 326, 128837.
5		ratiometric	526 nM	2.5 s	10 s	<i>Anal. Chem.</i> , <b>2019</b> , 91, 5690-5697.
6		off-on	0.09 ppb	< 10 s	30 s	<i>Anal. Chem.</i> , <b>2017</b> , 89, 12837-12842.
7		ratiometric	0.14 ppm	4 min	10 min	<i>Anal. Chem.</i> , <b>2017</b> , 89, 12596-12601.

8		ratio- metric	0.14 ppm	< 1.5 s	< 1 min	<i>ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces</i> , <b>2017</b> , 9, 13920-13927.
9		off-on	8.9 nM	< 4 min	5 min	<i>J. Mater. Chem. C.</i> , <b>2018</b> , 6, 10472-10479.
10		off-on	0.4 μM	< 1 min	20 s	<i>New J. Chem.</i> , <b>2019</b> , 43, 11743-11748.
11		off-on	1.54 nM	< 1.3 min	50 s	<i>New J. Chem.</i> , <b>2019</b> , 43, 14991-14996.
12		off-on	3.3 nM	< 30 s	10 min	<i>Anal. Methods</i> , <b>2020</b> , 12, 3123-3129.
13		ratio- metric	2.25 μM	10 min	20 min	<i>J. Chin. Chem. Soc.</i> , <b>2020</b> , 67, 1213-1218.
14		ratio- metric	0.14 ppm	< 30 s	< 2 min	<i>Talanta</i> , <b>2019</b> , 200, 78- 83.

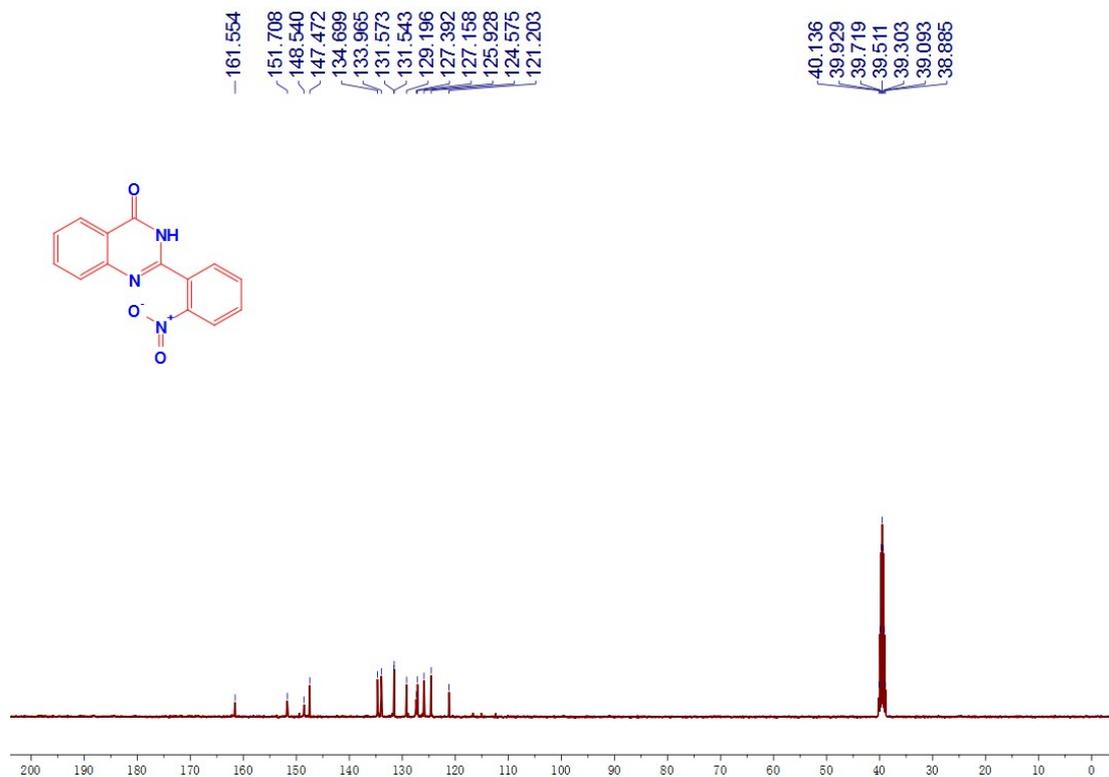
<p><b>15</b></p>		<p>off-on</p>	<p>50 <math>\mu</math>M</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>	<p><i>Chem. Commun.</i>, <b>2012</b>, 48, 1895-1897.</p>
<p><b>16</b></p>		<p>off-on</p>	<p>1-18 nM</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>	<p><i>Anal. Chem.</i>, <b>2012</b>, 84, 4594-4597.</p>
<p><b>17</b></p>		<p>off-on</p>	<p>0.16 ppm</p>	<p>&lt; 20 s</p>	<p>~ 1 min</p>	<p>This work</p>

## The characterization data of APQ

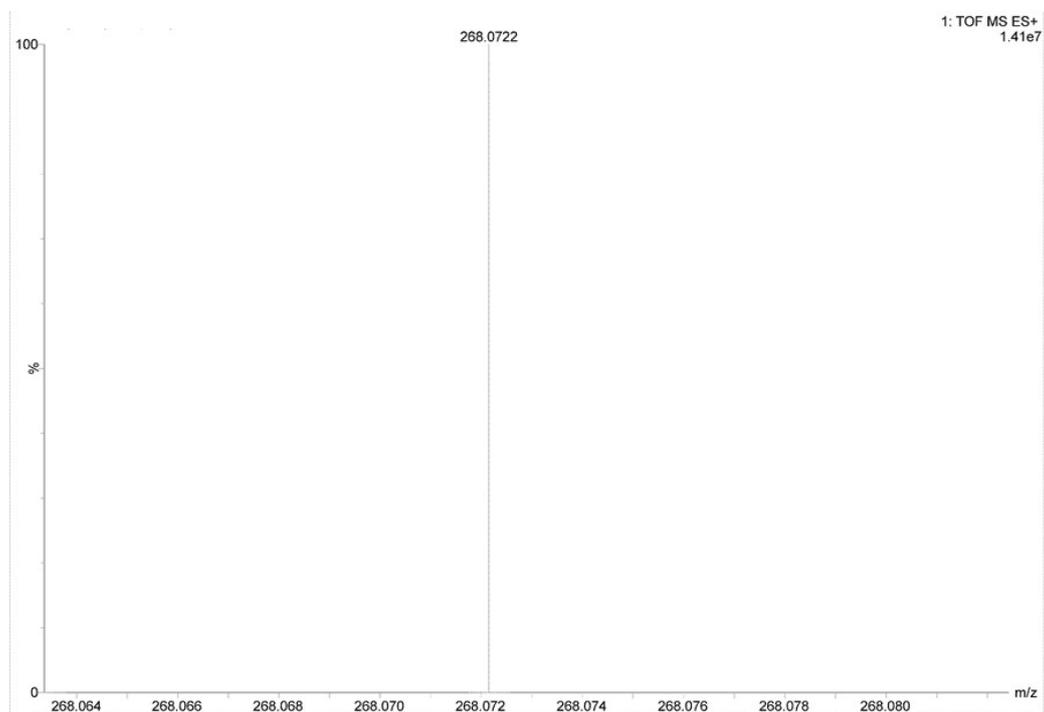
### $^1\text{H}$ NMR of 2-(2-nitrophenyl)quinazolin-4(3H)-one



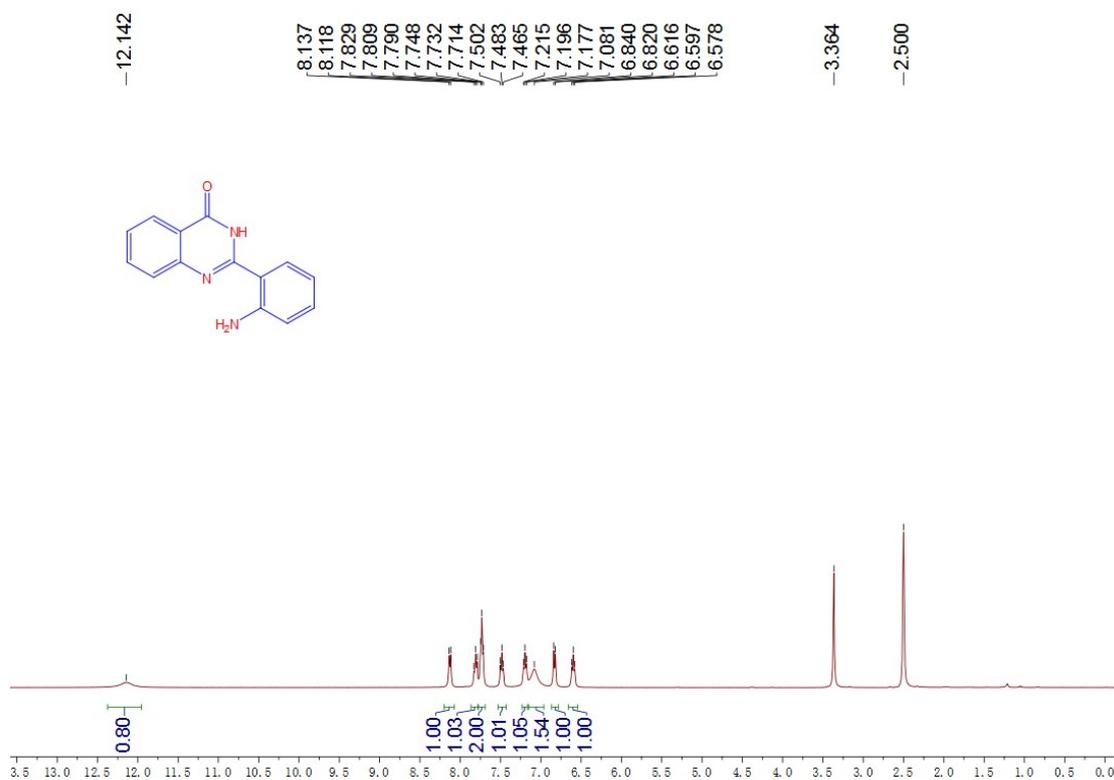
### $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR of 2-(2-nitrophenyl)quinazolin-4(3H)-one



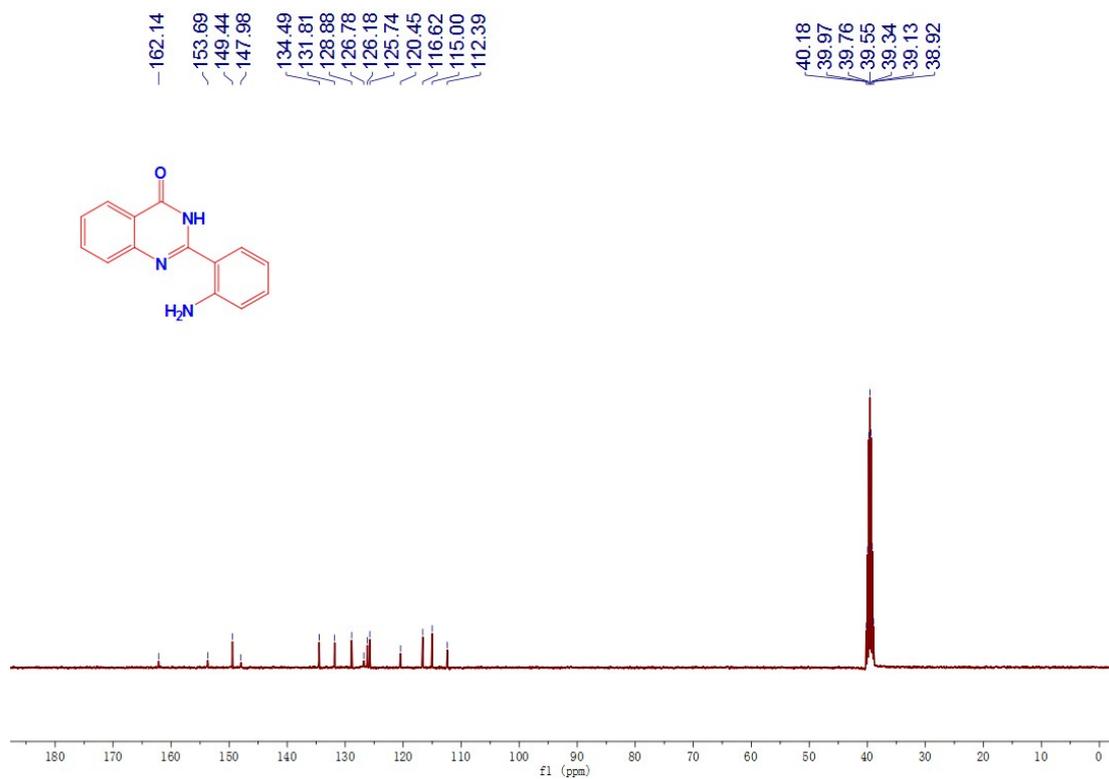
### HR-MS of 2-(2-nitrophenyl)quinazolin-4(3H)-one



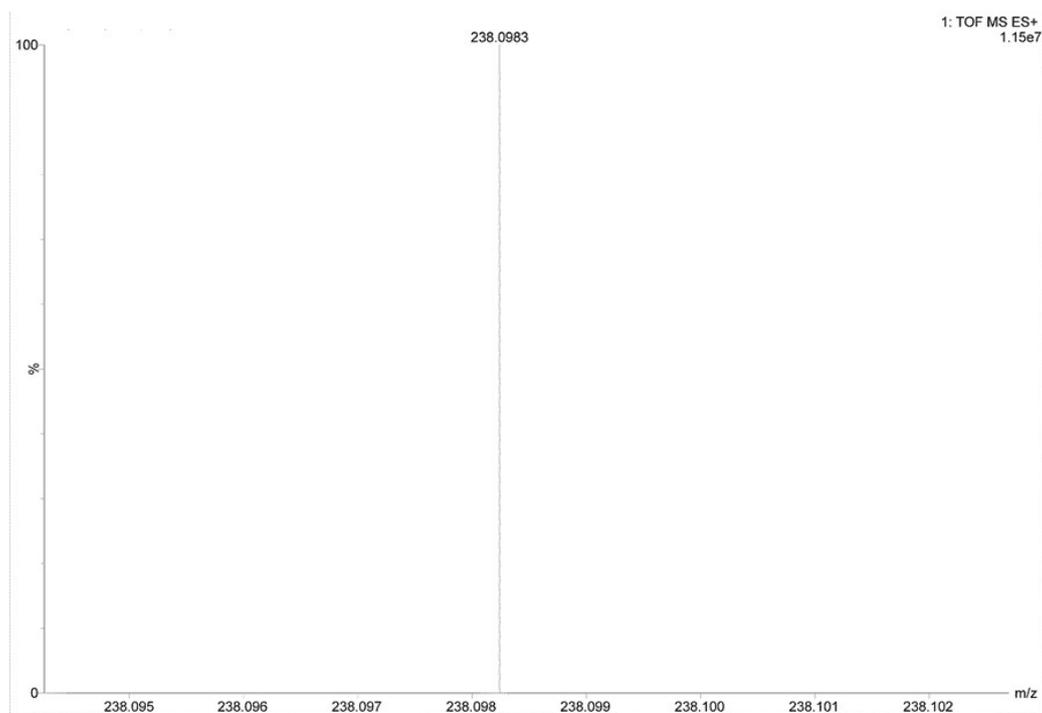
### <sup>1</sup>H NMR of 2-(2-aminophenyl)quinazolin-4(3H)-one (APQ)



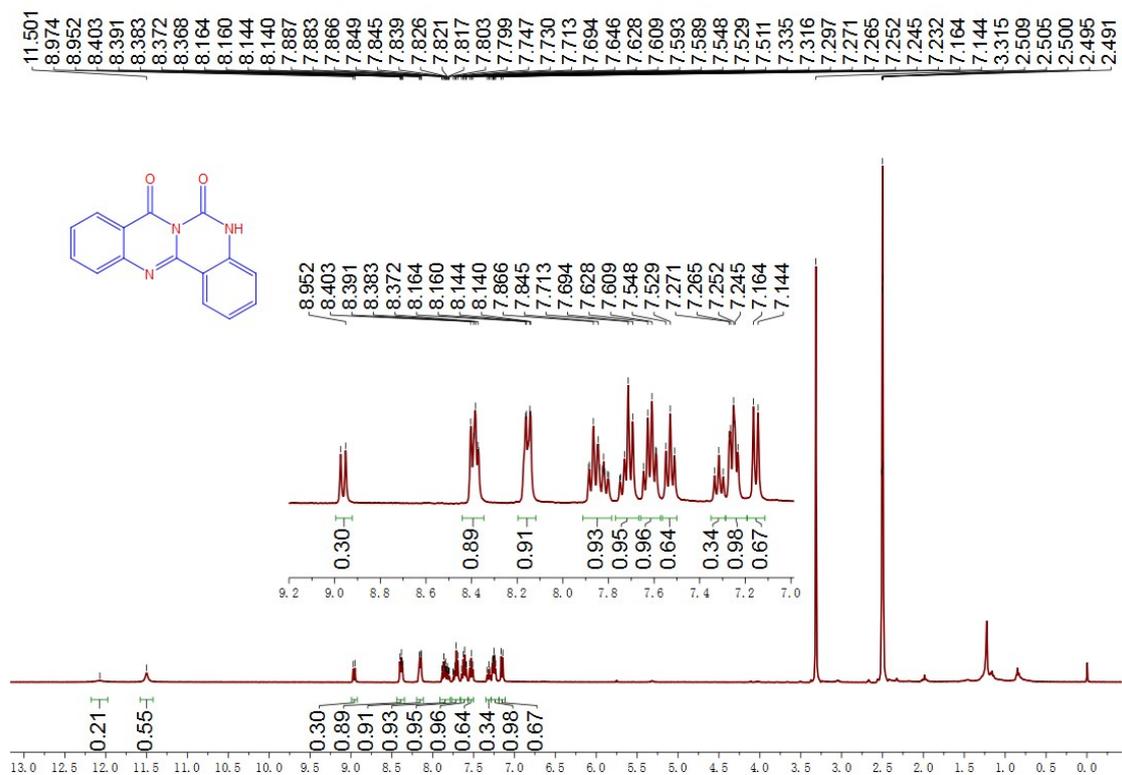
### $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR of 2-(2-aminophenyl)quinazolin-4(3H)-one (APQ)



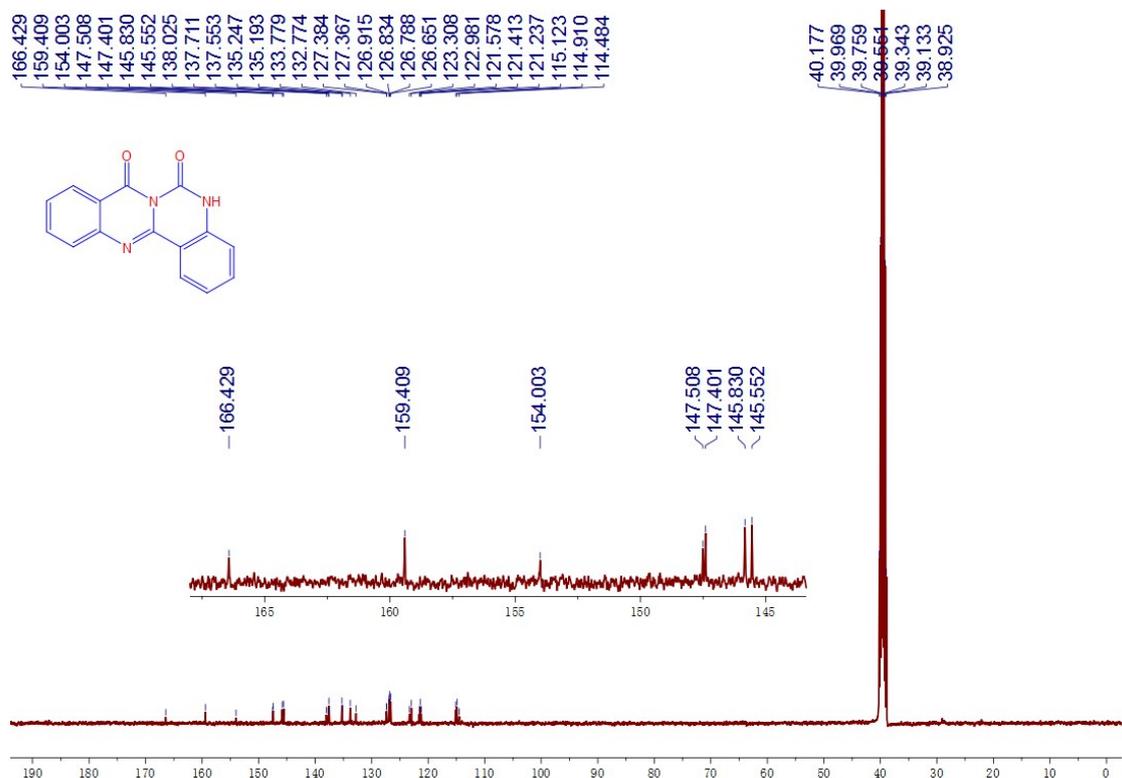
### HR-MS of 2-(2-aminophenyl)quinazolin-4(3H)-one (APQ)



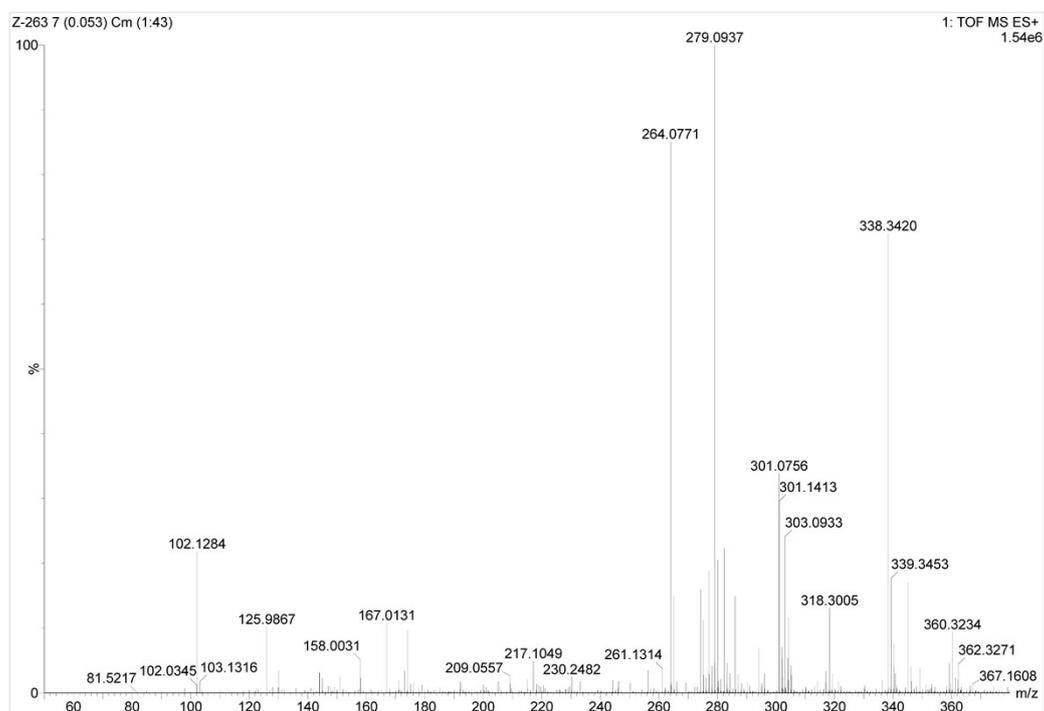
### <sup>1</sup>H NMR of 5H-quinazolino[4,3-b]quinazoline-6,8-dione (APQU1)



### <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 5H-quinazolino[4,3-b]quinazoline-6,8-dione (APQU1)



## HR-MS of 5H-quinazolino[4,3-b]quinazoline-6,8-dione (APQU1)



## References

- 1 R. A. Velapoldi, and H. H. Tønnesen, *J. Fluoresc.*, 2004, **14**, 465-472.
- 2 (a) D. F. Eaton, *Pure Appl. Chem.*, 1988, **60**, 1107-1114; (b) D. Magde, R. Wong, and P. G. Seybold, *Photochem. Photobiol.*, 2002, **75**, 327-334.
- 3 (a) J. T. Yeh, P. Venkatesan and S. P. Wu, *New J. Chem.*, 2014, **38**, 6198-6204. (b) A. Roy, D. Kand, T. Saha and P. Talukdar, *Chem. Commun.*, 2014, **50**, 5510-5513.