

Electronic Supporting Information (ESI):

**Homocysteine-specific fluorescence detection and quantification for
evaluating S-Adenosylhomocysteine hydrolase activity**

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Determination of quantum yields and fluorescence lifetime

Quantum yields and fluorescent lifetime were determined at 25 °C, Excitation was chosen at 480 nm; the emission spectra were corrected and integrated from 460 nm to 750 nm.

Kinetics constant¹

The reaction of F₅₄₂-Cu²⁺ (10 μM) with 10 equivalents Hcy in Tris-HCl buffer solution (20 mM, pH 7.4) was monitored using the fluorescence spectrophotometer. Fluorescence intensity at 523 nm were recorded in the course of the reaction. The apparent rate constant of the reaction was determined by fitting the fluorescence intensities to the pseudo first-order equation:

$$\ln ((F_{\max}-F_t) / F_{\max}) = -k_t t$$

Where F_t is the fluorescence intensity at 523 nm at times t, F_{max} is the fluorescence intensity at 523 nm obtained after the reaction was complete at the maximum value. k is the apparent rate constant.

Binding constant²

The binding constant was calculated from the emission intensity-titration curves according to the Benesi-Hildebrand plots. F_{max} is the emission intensity of probe L at 523 nm, F is the emission intensity of probe L at 523 nm upon the addition of different amount of Cu²⁺, [Cu²⁺] is the concentration of Cu²⁺. The association constant values K_S is given by the ratio intercept/slope.

Determination of the detection limit

The detection limit was calculated according to the fluorescence titration curve. To determine the S/N ratio, the emission intensity of F₅₄₂-Cu²⁺ at 523 nm without any analyte was measured 10 times and the standard deviation of blank measurement was obtained. Three independent duplication measurements of emission intensity were made for different concentrations of Hcy and Plot the average intensity as a function of [Hcy] for determine the slope. The detection limit was calculated with the

following equation: $LOD=3\sigma/k$. Where σ is the standard deviation of blank measurement, k is the slope between the fluorescence intensity versus Hcy concentrations. The detection limit was estimated to be 116.0 nM.

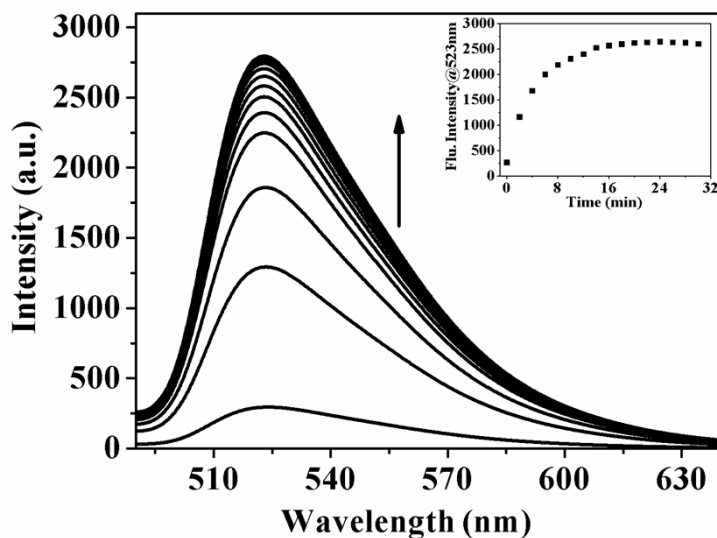


Figure S1. Time-dependent fluorescence changes of $F_{542}\text{-Cu}^{2+}$ ($10\ \mu\text{M}$) after the addition of 20 equivalents Hcy in Tris-HCl buffer solution ($20\ \text{mM}$, $\text{pH}\ 7.4$); Inset: fluorescence intensity at 523 nm. Excitation wavelength was 480 nm.

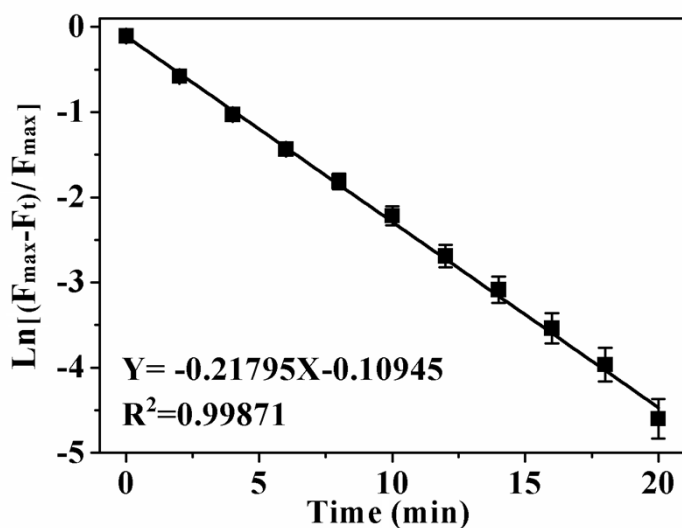


Figure. S2. Pseudo first-order kinetic plots of reaction of $10\ \mu\text{M}\ F_{542}\text{-Cu}^{2+}$ with 20 equivalents Hcy in Tris-HCl buffer solution ($20\ \text{mM}$, $\text{pH}\ 7.4$). Excitation wavelength was 480 nm, slit width 5.0 nm. Slope= $-0.21795 \pm 0.00298\ \text{min}^{-1}$.

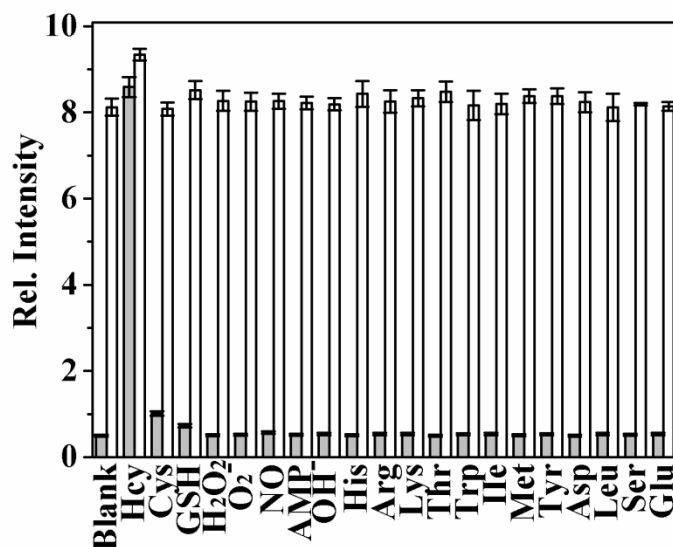


Figure S3. Competitive fluorescence responses of 10 μM the $\text{F}_{542}\text{-Cu}^{2+}$ ensemble in the presence (white bar) of Hcy (20 equivalents) and presence (black bar) of biothiols (20 equivalents) and various substrates (100 equivalents) in Tris-HCl buffer solution (20 mM, pH 7.4). Fluorescence intensities at 523 nm were recorded 20 minutes after Hcy (20 equivalents) was added. Excitation wavelength was 480 nm. Slit width 5.0 nm. The data represents the average of three independent experiments. The error bars represent \pm S.D.

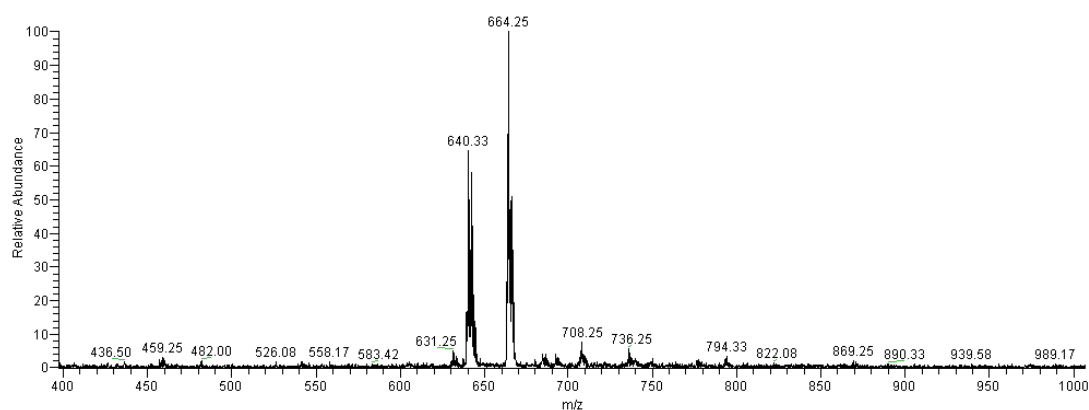


Figure S4. ESI-MS spectrum of $[\text{F}_{542}+\text{CuCl}^+]$, $m/z=640.33$ and $[\text{F}_{542}+\text{CuCl}^++\text{Na}]$, $m/z=664.25$.

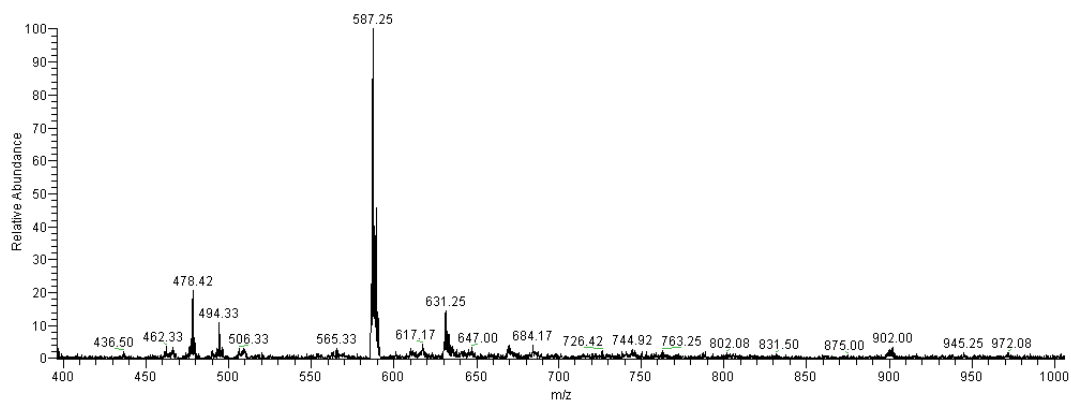


Figure S5. ESI-MS spectrum of $[F_{465}+CuCl^+]$, $m/z= 565.33$ and $[F_{465}+CuCl^++Na]$, $m/z= 587.25$.

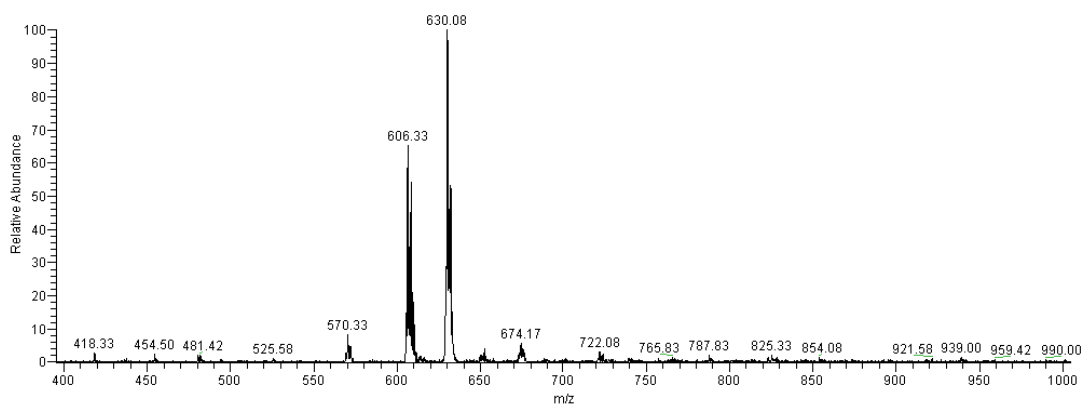


Figure S6. ESI-MS spectrum of $[F_{508}+CuCl^+]$, $m/z= 606.33$ and $[F_{508}+CuCl^++Na]$, $m/z= 630.08$.

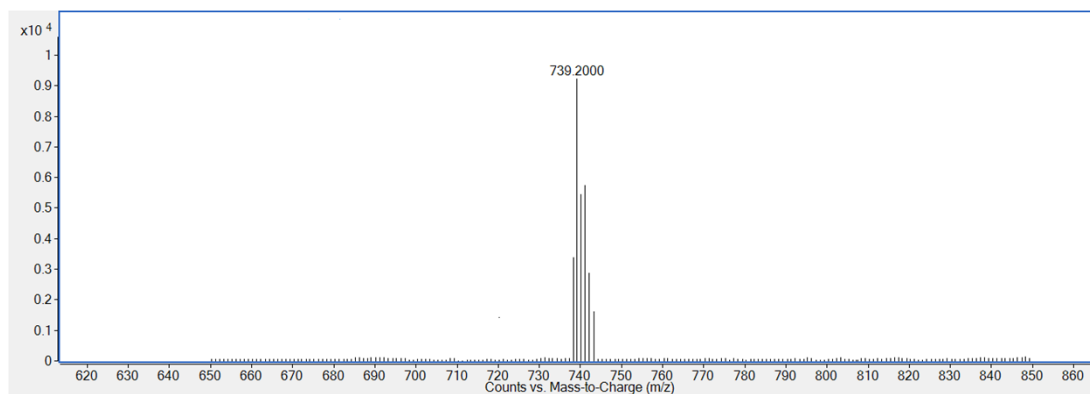


Figure S7. ESI-MS spectrum of $[F_{542}+Cu^{++}Hcy]$, $m/z= 739.20$.

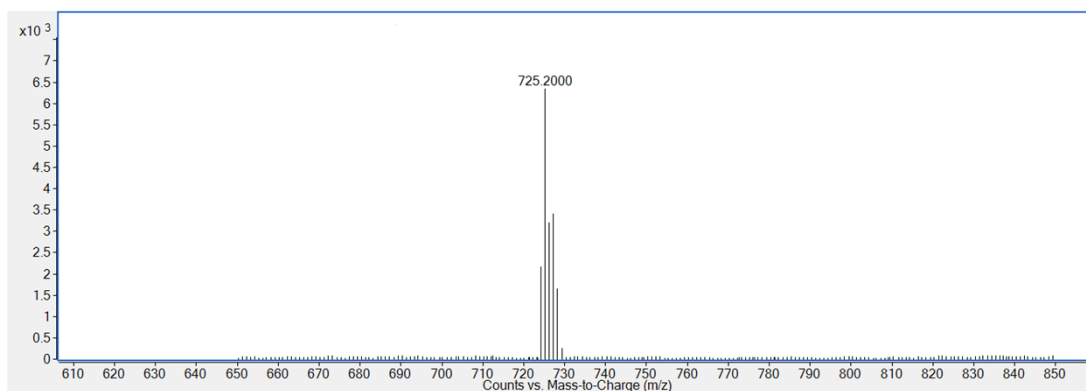


Figure S8. ESI-MS spectrum of $[F_{542}+Cu^{++}Cys]$, $m/z= 725.20$.

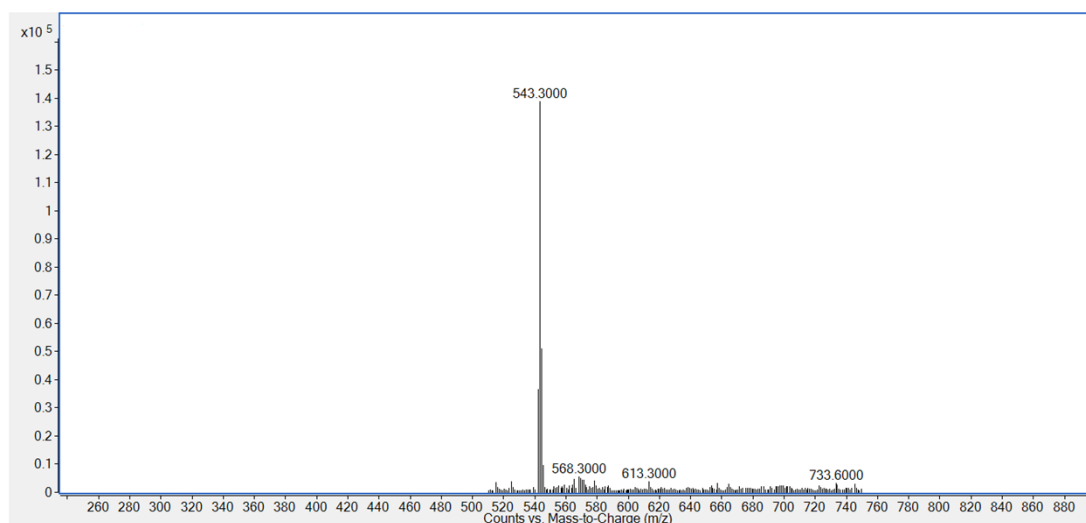


Figure S9. ESI-MS spectrum of $[F_{542}+H^+]$, $m/z= 543.30$.

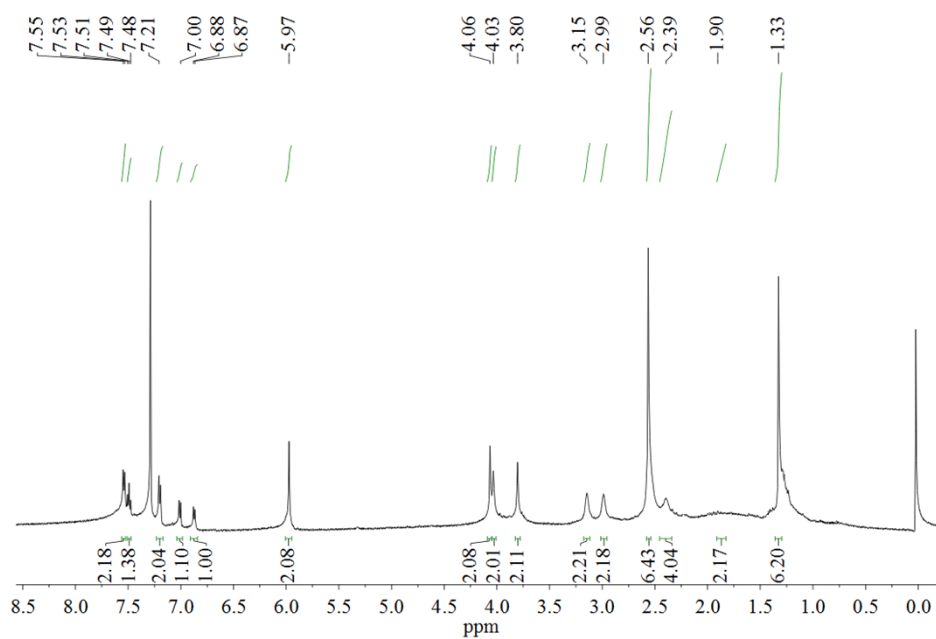


Figure S10. 1H NMR spectrum of 8-[3,6,9,15-tetraazabicyclo[9.3.1]pentadeca-1(15),11,13-triene]-4,4-difluoro-1,3,5,7-tetramethyl-4-bora-3a,4a-diaza-s-indacene

(F₅₄₂) in chloroform.

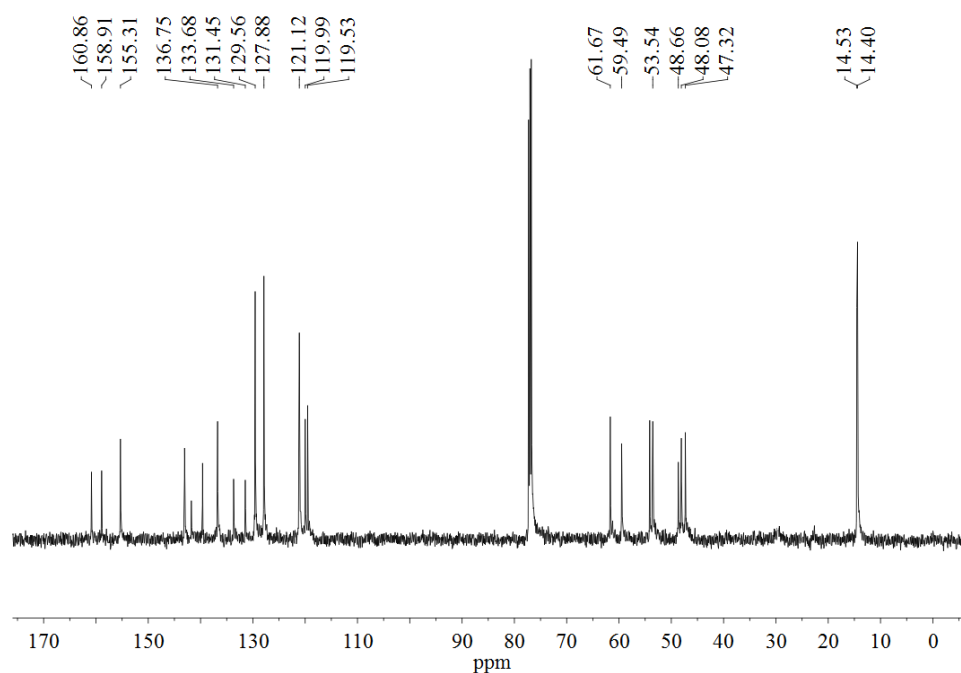


Figure S11. ¹³C NMR spectrum of 8-[3,6,9,15-tetraazabicyclo[9.3.1]pentadeca-1(15), 11,13-triene]-4,4-difluoro-1,3,5,7-tetramethyl-4-bora-3a,4a-diaza-s-indacene (F₅₄₂) in chloroform.

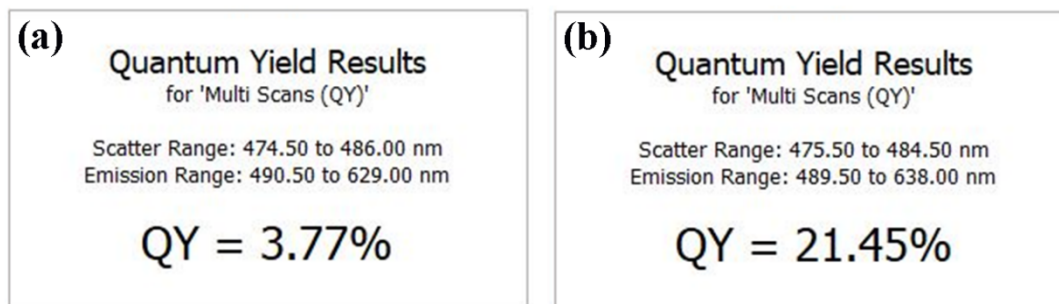


Figure S12. Fluorescence quantum yields of F₅₄₂-Cu²⁺ (10 μM) (a), F₅₄₂-Cu²⁺ (10 μM) with 20 equivalents Hcy (b) in Tris-HCl buffer solution. All measurements were taken at 25 °C.

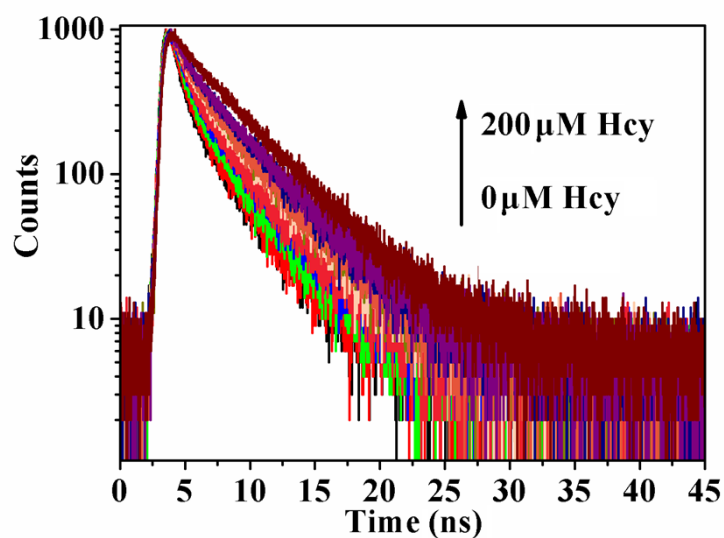


Figure S13. Fluorescence lifetime spectra of $F_{542}\text{-Cu}^{2+}$ ($10\ \mu\text{M}$), measured after adding concentrations of Hcy ($0\text{--}200\ \mu\text{M}$) for 20 minutes in Tris-HCl buffer solution ($20\ \text{mM}$, $\text{pH}\ 7.4$).

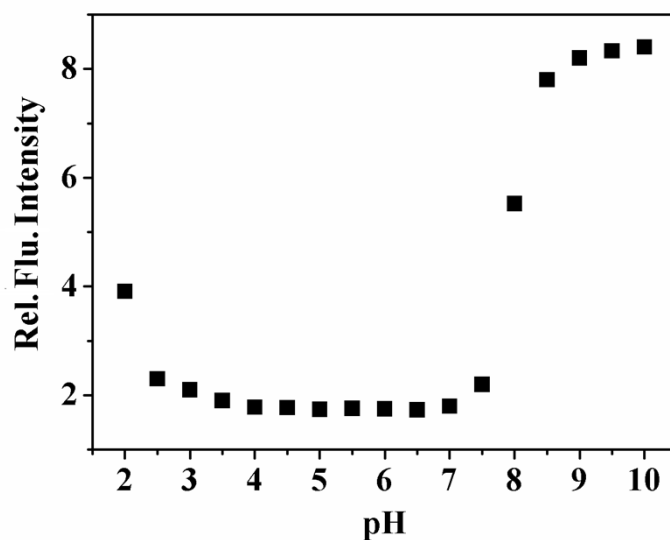


Figure S14. Relative fluorescence intensity at 523 nm of $F_{542}\text{-Cu}^{2+}$ as a function of pH. Excitation wavelength was 480 nm. Slit width 5.0 nm. All measurements were taken at $25\ ^\circ\text{C}$.

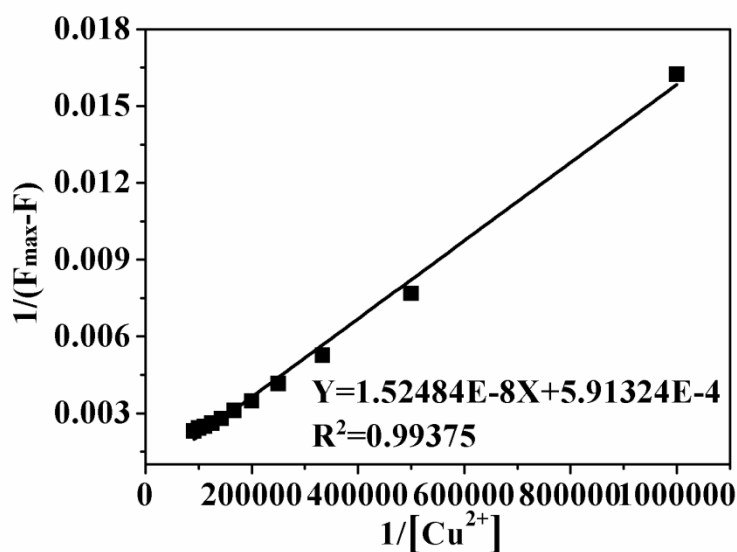


Figure S15. Fitting of fluorescence titration curve of F_{542} in Tris-HCl buffer (20 mM, pH 7.4). The association constant (K_s) is $3.68 \times 10^4 \text{ M}^{-1}$.

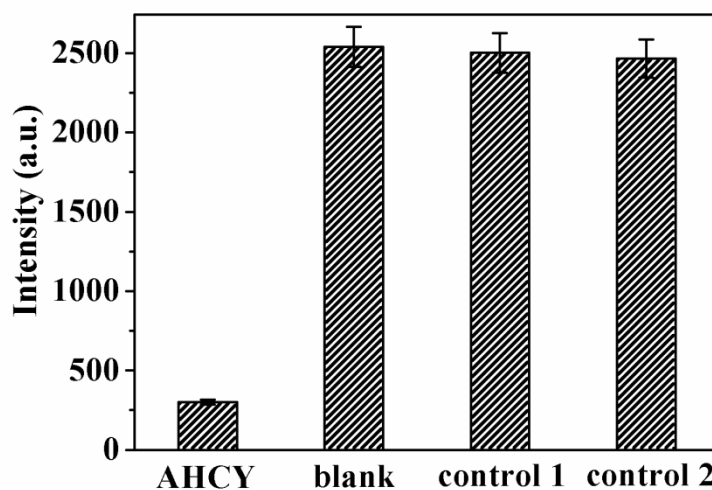


Figure S16. Fluorescence intensity of $F_{542}\text{-Cu}^{2+}$ ($10 \mu\text{M}$) at 523 nm upon adding the resultant solutions. The solution consisted of L-homocysteine (2.5 mM) and adenosine (6 mM). Note: AHCY: adding $2 \mu\text{L}$ AHCY (2.5 mg/mL); blank: adding no AHCY; control 1: $2 \mu\text{L}$ AHCY (2.5 mg/mL) was heated in boiling water for 15 minutes and then added into the solution; control 2: $10 \mu\text{l}$ AHCY (2.5 mg/mL) was heated in boiling water for 15 minutes and then added into the solution. All the solution was incubated at $37 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$.

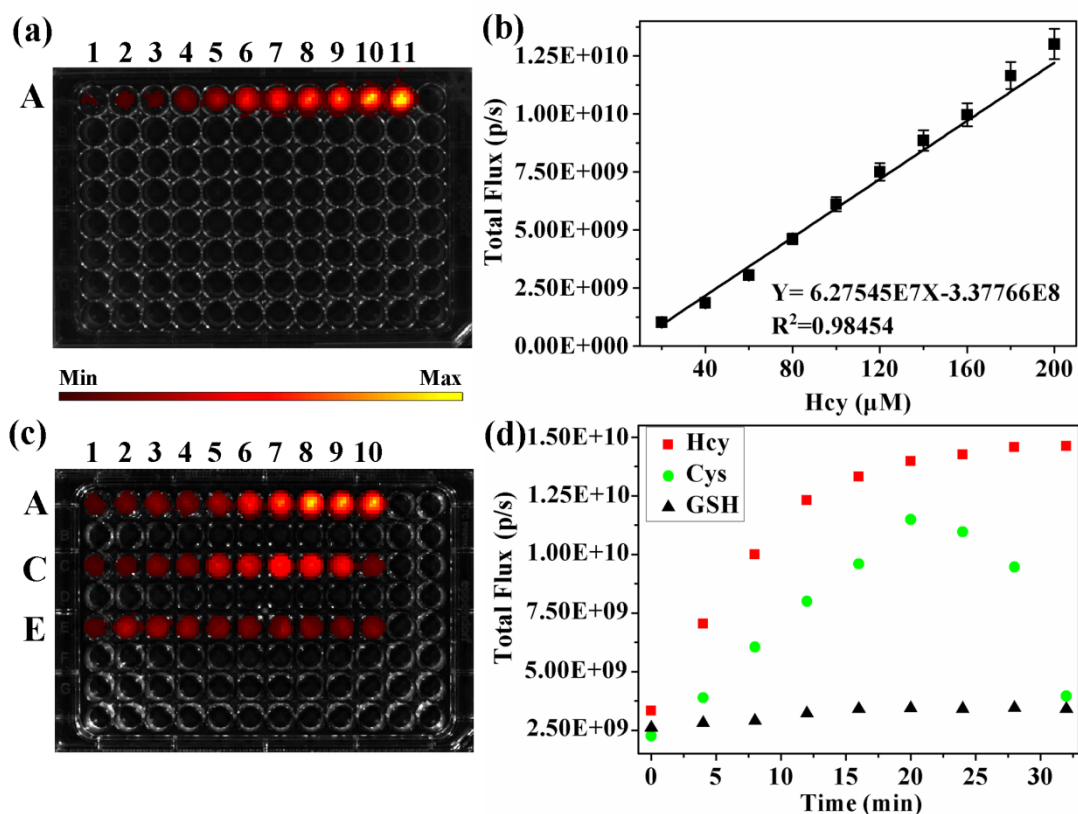
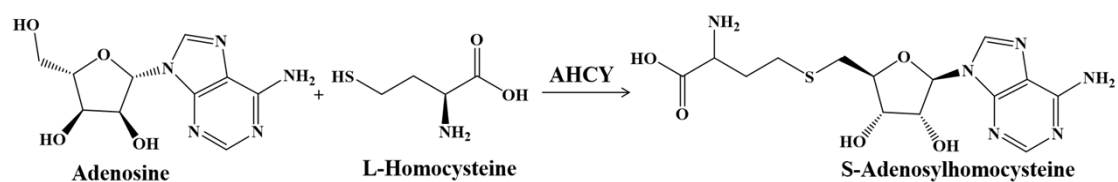
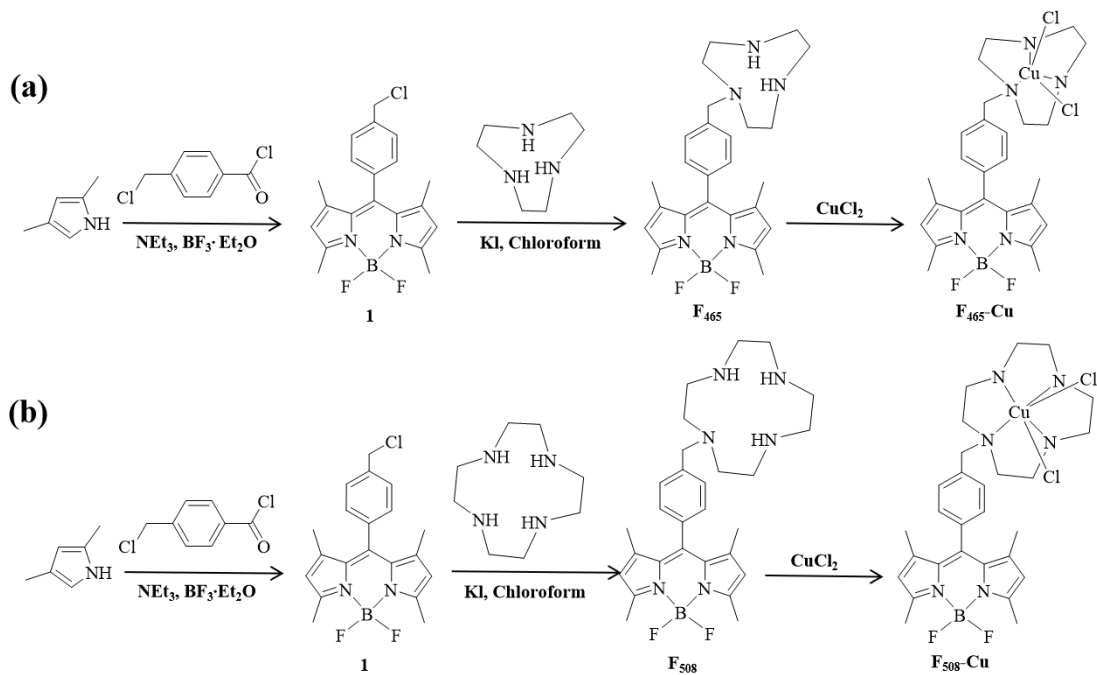


Figure S17. (a) Concentration-dependent in vitro imaging of $F_{542}\text{-Cu}^{2+}$ ($10\ \mu\text{M}$) toward Hcy ($0\text{--}200\ \mu\text{M}$, from A1-A11); (b) Linear calibration curve of fluorescence intensity in $F_{542}\text{-Cu}^{2+}$ ($10\ \mu\text{M}$) solution versus concentrations of Hcy ($0\text{--}200\ \mu\text{M}$); (c) Time-dependent fluorescence imaging of $F_{542}\text{-Cu}^{2+}$ ($10\ \mu\text{M}$) solution after addition of Hcy, Cys and GSH ($200\ \mu\text{M}$) respectively. Note: reaction times ($0\text{--}32$ minutes from left to right). Hcy was A2–A10, and A1 represent blank; Cys was C2–C10, and C1 represent blank; GSH was E2–E10, and E1 represent blank; (d) Time-dependent fluorescence intensity in $F_{542}\text{-Cu}^{2+}$ ($10\ \mu\text{M}$) solution after adding 20 equivalents of Hcy, Cys and GSH respectively. Ex was $480\ \text{nm}$, Em was $523\ \text{nm}$. The data were acquired in Tris-HCl buffer solution ($20\ \text{mM}$, pH 7.4).



Scheme S1. The route of S-Adenosylhomocysteine (SAH) forming catalyzed by S-Adenosylhomocysteine Hydrolase (AHCY).



Scheme S2. Synthetic procedure for F_{465} , F_{508} , $F_{465}\text{-Cu}^{2+}$ and $F_{508}\text{-Cu}^{2+}$.

Reference

- [1] X. F. Yang, Q. Huang, Y. G. Zhong, Z. Li, H. Li, M. Lowry, J. O. Escobedo and R. M. Strongin, *Chem. Sci.*, 2014, 5, 2177–2183.
- [2] Y. Fu, Q. C. Feng, X. J. Jiang, H. Xu, M. Li and S. Q. Zang, *Dalton Trans.*, 2014, 43, 5815–5822.