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Supporting Information

# Detecting Labile Heme and Ferroptosis Through 'Turn-On' Fluorescence and lipid droplet localization post Fe2+ sensing

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#### **S1.** Synthetic procedure



**General procedure:** NPy/NCN (1 equiv) in chloroform (0.1M) was placed in a roundbottomed flask, and m-CPBA (1 equiv) was added in small portions with the temperature maintained at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was gradually brought to room temperature and stirred for 1 hour until all the starting material was consumed, as monitored on a chromatographic TLC plate. Upon completion of the reaction, chloroform was evaporated using a rotary evaporator, and the residue was directly loaded onto a basic alumina oxide stationary phase, isolated, and weighed"

For NOPy, TLC system -10 % methanol in DCM - Rf (0.45). Column eluent -1 to 8 % gradient elution of methanol in DCM;

For NOCN, TLC system -5 % methanol in Dichloromethane - Rf (0.30); Column eluent -1 to 8 % gradient elution of methanol in Dichloromethane.

The compounds NPy and NCN were synthesized from the literature procedure<sup>1,2</sup>.

Figure S2. Response to Fe<sup>2+</sup> by NOPy



Fig. S2 Comparative (A) Absorption spectra of NPy, NOPy, NOPy with  $Fe^{+2}$  and (B) Emission spectra for NPy, NOPy, NOPy with  $Fe^{2+}$  in DMSO [20  $\mu$ M of dye (in DMSO) and 20  $\mu$ M of Fe<sup>2+</sup> (in water)]





Fig. S3 (A) Absorption titration with varying concentration of  $Fe^{2+}$  in DMSO (B) Emission titration with varying concentration of  $Fe^{2+}$ 

#### Figure S4. Limit of detection

The detection limit of the probe can be calculated using the formula -  $\text{LOD} = (3 \text{ x } \text{R}^2)/\text{m}$ , where  $\text{R}^2$  is R-square and m is the slope of the  $\text{F}/\text{F}_0$  versus  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  concentration. To get the slope, the  $\text{F}/\text{F}_0$  at 490 nm and 536 nm for NOPy and NOCN, respectively, was plotted against a concentration of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ .



Fig. S4 LOD plot for (A) NOPy and (B) NOCN

**Table S5**. Comparison of NOPy and NOCN with several recently reported N-oxide probes for the detection of  $Fe^{2+}$ 

Probe	Time (min)	LOD (µM)	Reference
	Instant	<b>NOPy-</b> 0.035	This work
O <sup>O</sup> I (NOPy)	(~0.16)	NOCN-0.042	
	30	0.81	Metallomics, 2018, 10(6), 794- 801

	15	4.5	Sensors Actuators B: Chem., 2019, 288, 217-224.
	20	0.2	Org. Biomolecular Chem. 2014, 12(34), 6590-6597
	-	0.2	Chemical science, 2013, 4(3), 1250-1256
	5	0.15	Sensors Actuators B: Chem. 2020, 305, 127470.
	30	-	Chem. Science, 2017, 8(7), 4858- 4866
BO'N O O H PPh3	30	1.03	J. Photochem. Photobiol.B: Biol., 2020, 209, 111943
	60	1.02	Chemical Communications, 2019, 55(81), 12136-12139.

Figure S6. Selectivity and strip test of NOCN



**Fig. S6** 20  $\mu$ M probe titration against various 20  $\mu$ M of analyte supplemented as their chloride salt (A) Absorption and (B) emission spectra for NOCN with different analytes in DMSO (C) Emission intensity changes for NOPy with Fe(II) compared with analytes [A to T = None, Fe<sup>2+</sup>, Na<sup>+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>, Cu<sup>+</sup>, Cu<sup>2+</sup>, Ca<sup>2+</sup>, Mg<sup>2+</sup>, Zn<sup>2+</sup>, Co<sup>2+</sup>, Mn<sup>2+</sup>, Ni<sup>2+</sup>, Fe<sup>3+</sup>, Glycine, Glutamine, Histidine, Cysteine, Homocysteine, NaOCl, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and (D) color variations as obtained through chromatographic strip paper (NOCN) in water (Fe<sup>2+</sup> conc. mentioned on strip paper).





Figure S8. Cytotoxicity assay for NOPy and NOCN at various concentrations.







Fig S9A. Uv-Vis plot for NOPy (left panel) and NOCN (right panel) with increasing concentration of probe in water



Fig S9B. Uv-Vis calibration curve plot for NOPy (left panel) and NOCN (right panel)

Figure S10. Response to pH



Fig. S10 pH response of NOPy and NOCN at various pH

 $[20 \mu M \text{ of dye (in DMSO)} + 20 \mu M \text{ of Fe(II) (in water)}]$  is taken in water of pH-1,3,5,7,9,11,13.

#### S11. Characterization Data

1. (E)-N,N-dimethyl-4-(2-(pyridin-4-yl)vinyl)aniline oxide (NOPy)



<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.61 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 8.02 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, J = 15 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, J = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 3.61 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>**C** NMR (126 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  154.39, 150.19, 143.89, 136.78, 131.19, 127.72, 127.46, 120.85, 120.53, 63.38. **HRMS** (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sup>+</sup> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 241.1335, found 241.1317. IR in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (cm<sup>-1</sup>) : 3020, 1595, 1503, 1459, 1418, 1214, 967, 835, 744, 667, 571. Melting point : 145-148 °C.

2. (E)-4-(4-cyanostyryl)-N,N-dimethylaniline oxide (NOCN)



<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.94 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (m, 6H), 7.15 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.54 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>**C** NMR (126 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  153.31, 140.20, 136.04, 131.53, 129.48, 127.52, 126.43, 126.05, 119.60, 117.87, 110.04, 62.42. **HRMS** (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sup>+</sup> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 265.1335, found 265.1355. IR in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3272, 2957, 2920, 2848, 2224, 1601, 1507, 1460, 1417, 1203, 969, 841, 770, 571. Melting point : 171-173 °C.



# 1. (E)-N,N-dimethyl-4-(2-(pyridin-4-yl)vinyl)aniline oxide (NOPy)





# 2. (E)-4-(4-cyanostyryl)-N,N-dimethylaniline oxide (NOCN)



### S12. References

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