

## Supporting Information

# From BODIPY-Rhodamine Scaffold to Ratiometric Fluorescent Probe for Nitric Oxide

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## General information

All reagents such as  $\text{ClCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ ,  $\text{POCl}_3$ , acetonitrile and triethylamine were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. Column chromatography was performed with silica gel (200-300 mesh). RPMI 1640 culture medium with L-glutamine was purchased from GIBCO (Invitrogen, USA), FBS (fetal calf serum) was purchased from GIBCO (Invitrogen, USA).

Melting points were determined using X-6 melting point apparatus and uncorrected.  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR were measured on Varian MERCURY 400 spectrometer in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  with TMS as internal reference. Multiplicities of signals are described as follows: s---singlet, br. s---broad singlet, d---doublet, t---triplet, m---multiplet. Coupling constants ( $J$ ) are given in Hz. Mass spectra were measured on a HP 1100 LC-MSD, Gas chromatography/TOF Mass spectrometers and the UPLC/Q-TOF Mass spectrometers. Fluorescence spectra were measured on Recording Spectrofluorophotometer FP-6500. Absorbance spectra were recorded on a UV-vis Spectrophotometer HP-8453. An inverted confocal fluorescent microscopy (IX81, Olympus, Japan) equipped with an objective lens ( $\times 100$  oil, 1.4 Numerical Aperture (NA), Scan mode XY) was used in the imaging of living cells.

## Experimental

### Preparation and calibration of Reactive Oxygen/Nitrogen Species

Hydrogen peroxide ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ ) was diluted immediately from a stabilized 30% solution and was assayed by using its molar absorption coefficient of  $43.6 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$  at 240 nm.<sup>[1]</sup> Freshly prepared aqueous solutions of  $\text{NaNO}_2$  and  $\text{NaNO}_3$  were used as nitrite ( $\text{NO}_2^-$ ) and nitrate ( $\text{NO}_3^-$ ) sources, respectively, and their concentrations were determined by Griess reagent. Singlet oxygen was chemically generated from the  $^1\text{OCl}/\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  system in buffer.<sup>[2]</sup> Hydroxyl radicals ( $\cdot\text{OH}$ ) were generated in the Fenton system from ferrous ammonium sulfate and hydrogen peroxide.<sup>[3]</sup> Peroxynitrite was synthesized from sodium nitrite (0.6 M) and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (0.65 M) in a quenched-flow reactor (excess  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  was used to minimize nitrite contamination). After the reaction, the solution was treated with  $\text{MnO}_2$  to eliminate the excess  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ . The concentration

of the  $\text{ONOO}^-$  stock solution was determined by measuring the absorbance at 302 nm with a molar extinction coefficient of  $1670\text{ m}^{-1}\text{ cm}^{-1}$ .<sup>[4]</sup> NO solution was prepared by bubbling NO through deoxygenated water for about 20 min. The concentration of NO was determined by Griess reagent.

### Culture of MCF-7 cells and fluorescent imaging

MCF-7 (human breast carcinoma) were obtained from Institute of Basic Medical Sciences (IBMS) of Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences (CAMS) and cultured in RPMI 1640 supplemented with 10% FBS (fetal bovine serum) in an atmosphere of 5%  $\text{CO}_2$  and 95% air at 37 °C. Grow MCF-7 Cells in the exponential phase of growth on 35-mm glass-bottom culture dishes ( $\Phi$  20 mm) for 1-2 days to reach 70-90% confluency. The cells was washed three times with RPMI 1640, and then incubated for 10 min in an atmosphere of 5%  $\text{CO}_2$  and 95% air at 37 °C with 2 mL RPMI 1640 containing a certain concentration of fluorescent probe. Wash cells twice with 1 mL PBS at room temperature, and then add 1 mL RPMI 1640 culture medium and observe under a confocal microscopy (Olympus FV1000).

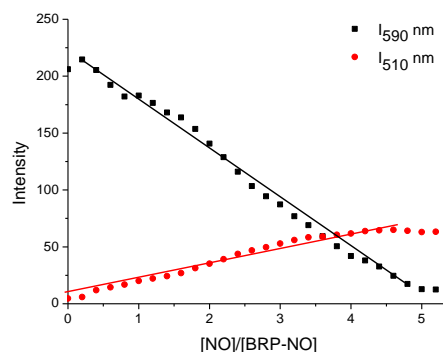


Figure S1 Emission change at 590 nm and 510 nm in the presence of various amounts of NO solution (0-1.24  $\mu\text{M}$ ), respectively

### The limit of detection of BRP-NO

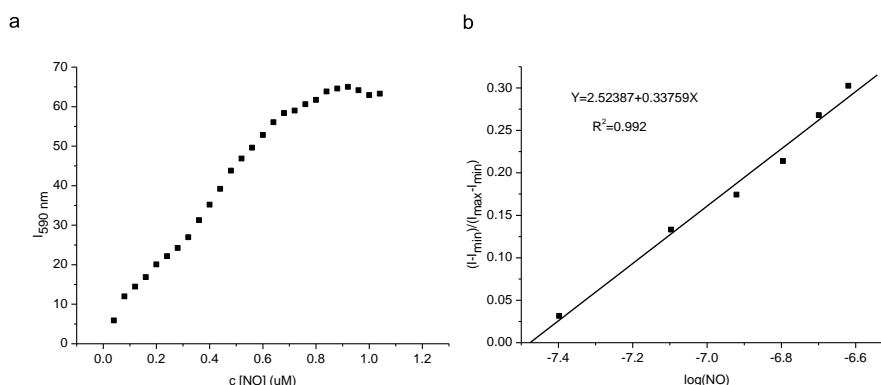


Figure S2 (a) Response of the fluorescence signal at 590 nm to changing NO concentrations. (b) A linear regression curve was then fitted to these fluorescence intensity data, and the point at which this line crossed the horizontal axis was considered as the detection limit  $2.74 \times 10^{-8}$  M for NO

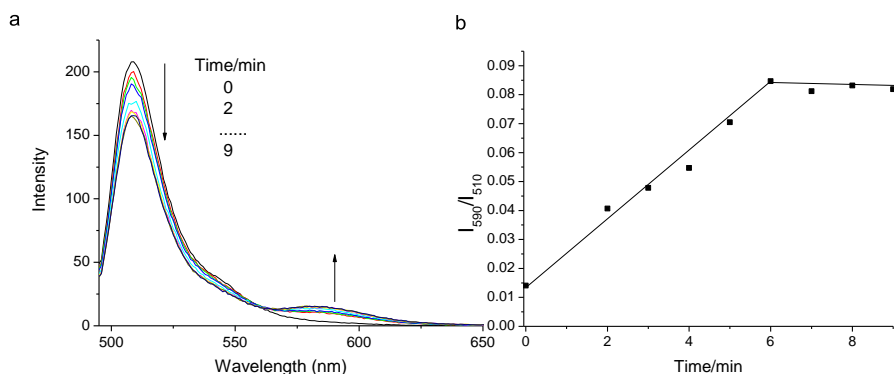


Figure S3 (a) Fluorescence changes of BRP-NO (0.2  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in the presence of NO (0.6 equiv) versus time (b) time course of ratio intensity at 590 nm and 510 nm depending on 0.6 equiv NO.

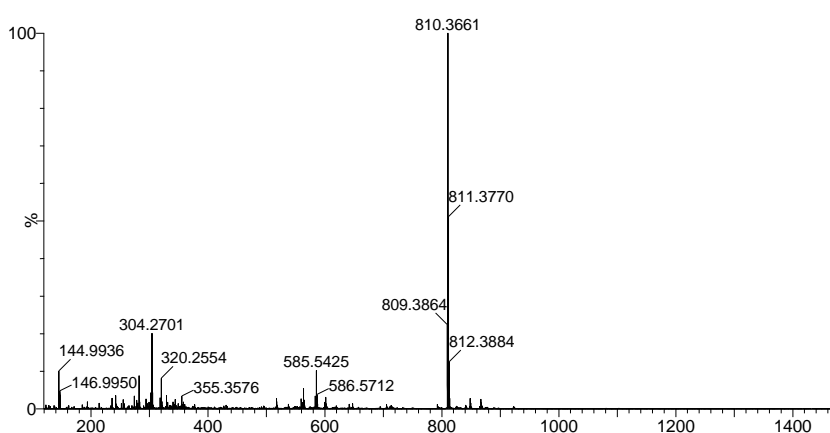


Figure S4 ESI-MS (positive) spectrum of BRP-NO (2  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in the presence of NO (5 equiv.) in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ .

## Reference:

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- [3] Setsukinai, K.; Urano, Y.; Kakinuma, K.; Majima, H. J.; Nagano, T. *J. Biol. Chem.* 2003, **278**, 3170
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## NMR spectra of BRP-NO

