

# Supporting Information for

## An ESIPT based naphthalimide chemosensor for visualizing endogenous ONOO<sup>-</sup> in living cells

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## 1. Determination of detection limit

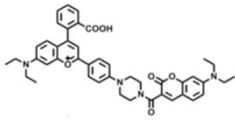
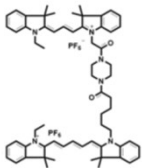
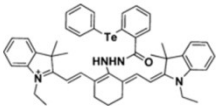
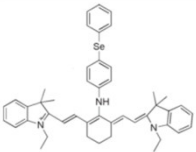
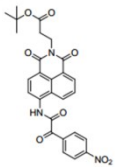
The detection limit (DL) was calculated by the fluorescence titration experiment, the fluorescence intensity of the blank sample was determined for ten times, the data were used to calculate the standard deviation. The detection limit was calculated with the following equation:

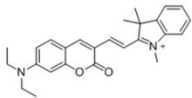
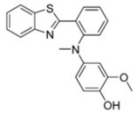
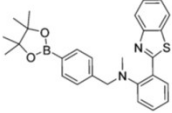
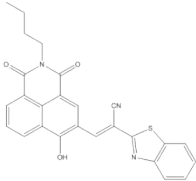
$$DL=3\sigma/k$$

In the equation,  $\sigma$  is the standard deviation of blank measurements;  $k$  is the slope of the fluorescence intensity versus the concentration plot.

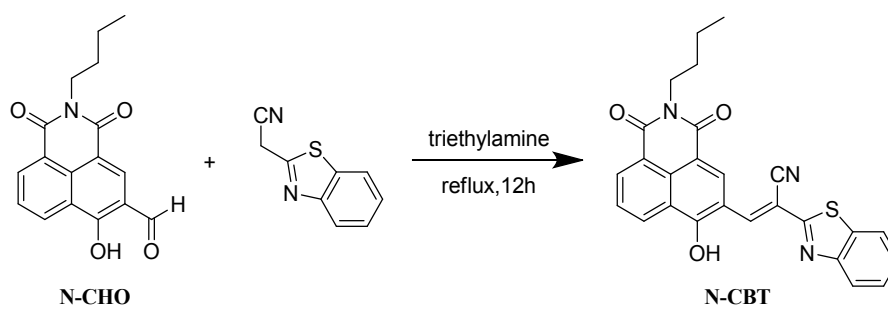
## 2. The compared table of lately ONOO<sup>-</sup> probe

**Table S1** Summary of lately reported fluorescent probes for ONOO<sup>-</sup>.

probe	sensing mechanism	$\lambda_{ex} / \lambda_{em}$	stokes shift	LOD
	FRET	420 nm 473 nm/651nm	N.A	11.30 nM
J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2017, 139, 285-292.				
	FRET	530 nm 560 nm/660 nm	30nm 20nm	0.65 nM
J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2016, 138, 10778-10781.				
	PET	793 nm 820 nm	27nm	0.917 μM
J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2013, 135, 7674-7680.				
	PET	758 nm 775 nm	17nm	N.A
J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2011, 133, 11030-11033.				
	ICT	430 nm 560 nm	130nm	25nM
Chem. Sci. 2017, 8, 4006-4011.				

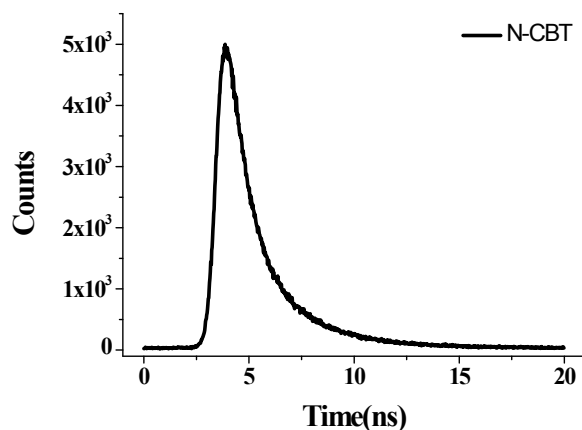
probe	sensing mechanism	$\lambda_{ex} / \lambda_{em}$	stokes shift	LOD
	ICT	475 nm 515 nm/635 nm	N.A	49.7 nM
Biosens. Bioelectron., 2015,64, 285-291.				
	ESIPT	375 nm 470 nm	95nm	5.0 nM
J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2015, 137, 12296-12303.				
	ESIPT	400 nm 461 nm	61nm	N.A
Chem. Commun. 2016, 52, 12350-12352.				
	ESIPT/ICT	405 nm 518 nm	103nm	37nM
this work				

### 3. The synthesis route of probe N-CBT



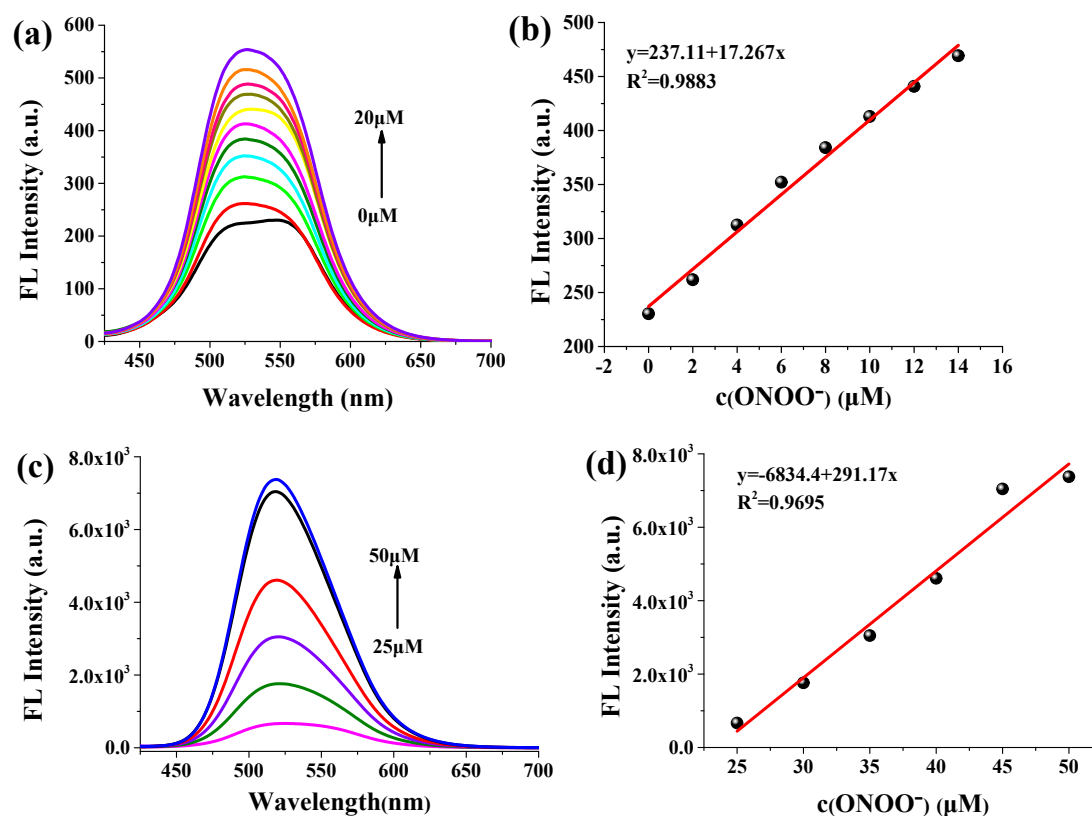
**Scheme S1** The synthesis route of probe N-CBT

### 4. Determination of fluorescence lifetime of N-CBT



**Fig S1** Fluorescence decay curves of N-CBT in DCM ( $\lambda_{ex}=350\text{nm}$ ).

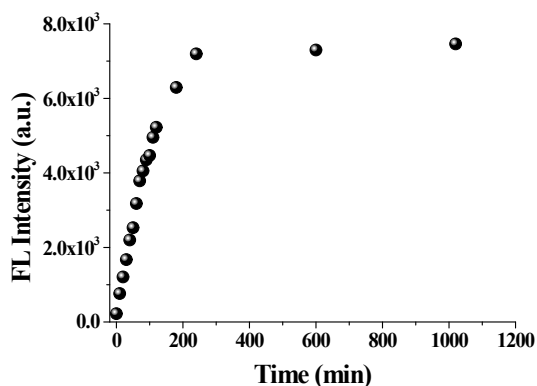
### 5. Linear relationship between concentration of $\text{ONOO}^-$ and fluorescence intensity.



**Fig S2** (a) The fluorescence responses of N-CBT ( $5\ \mu\text{M}$ ) toward different concentrations of  $\text{ONOO}^-$  ( $0$ - $20\ \mu\text{M}$ ). (b) The linear relationship between fluorescence intensity and  $\text{ONOO}^-$  added in the range of  $1$ - $14\ \mu\text{M}$ ; (c) The fluorescence responses of N-CBT ( $5\ \mu\text{M}$ ) toward different concentrations of  $\text{ONOO}^-$  ( $25$ - $50\ \mu\text{M}$ ). (d) The linear relationship between fluorescence intensity and  $\text{ONOO}^-$  added in the range of  $25$ - $50\ \mu\text{M}$ ; the solvent is a mixture of ethanol and PBS ( $5:5$ , v/v, pH  $7.4$ ),  $\lambda_{ex}=405\ \text{nm}$ , slit widths are

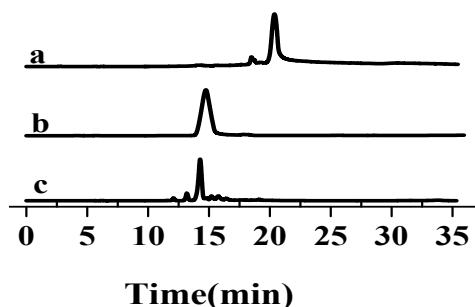
set at 5.0 nm, cuvette width is 1cm.

### 6. Reaction time of N-CBT to ONOO<sup>-</sup>.



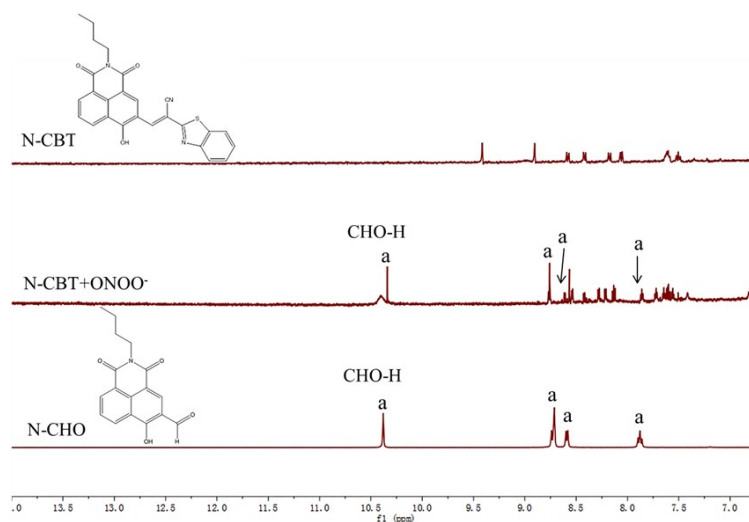
**Fig S3** The fluorescence intensity of N-CBT (5  $\mu$ M) after the addition of ONOO<sup>-</sup> (50  $\mu$ M) after different reaction time in a mixture of ethanol and PBS (5:5, v/v, pH =7.4).  $\lambda_{ex}$  =405 nm, slit widths are set at 5.0 nm.

### 7. HPLC chromatogram of N-CBT, N-CHO and N-CBT with ONOO<sup>-</sup>.



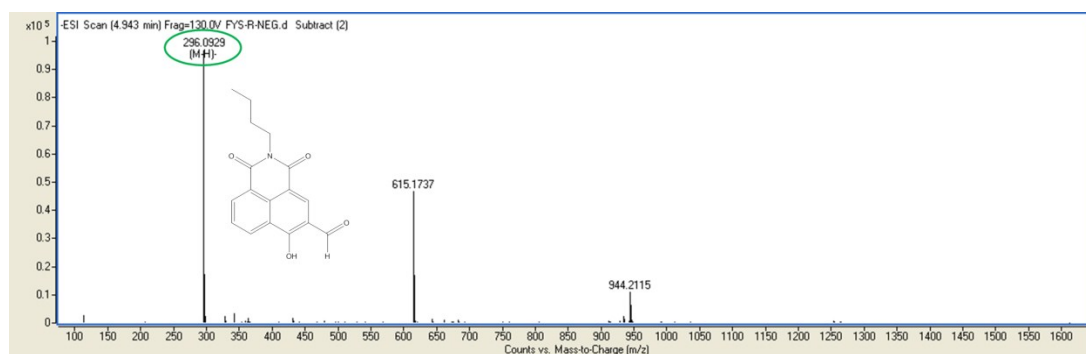
**Fig S4** HPLC chromatogram of (a) N-CBT, (b) N-CHO and (c) N-CBT with ONOO<sup>-</sup>.

### 8. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum comparison of N-CBT, N-CBT with ONOO<sup>-</sup> and N-CHO



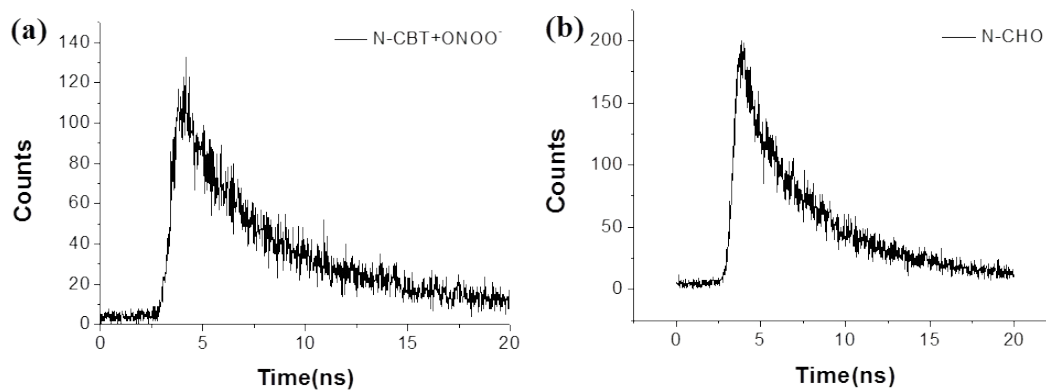
**Fig S5**  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectrum comparison of N-CBT, N-CBT with  $\text{ONOO}^-$  and N-CHO in  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$

### 9. HR MS of the reaction mixture of N-CBT with $\text{ONOO}^-$



**Fig S6** High resolution mass spectrum of N-CBT with  $\text{ONOO}^-$

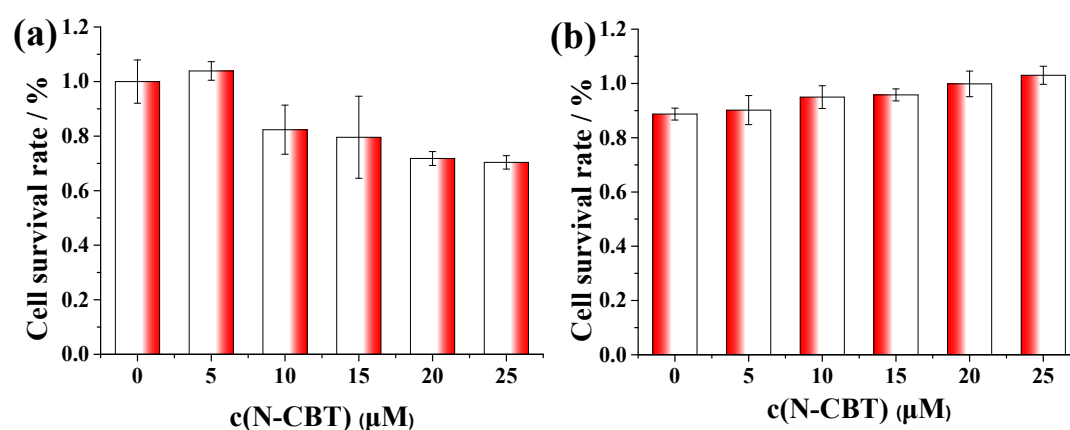
### 10. Determination of fluorescence lifetime of N-CBT with $\text{ONOO}^-$ and N-CHO



**Fig S7** Fluorescence decay curves of (a)N-CBT with ONOO<sup>-</sup> and (b)N-CHO in DCM ( $\lambda_{ex}$ =350nm)

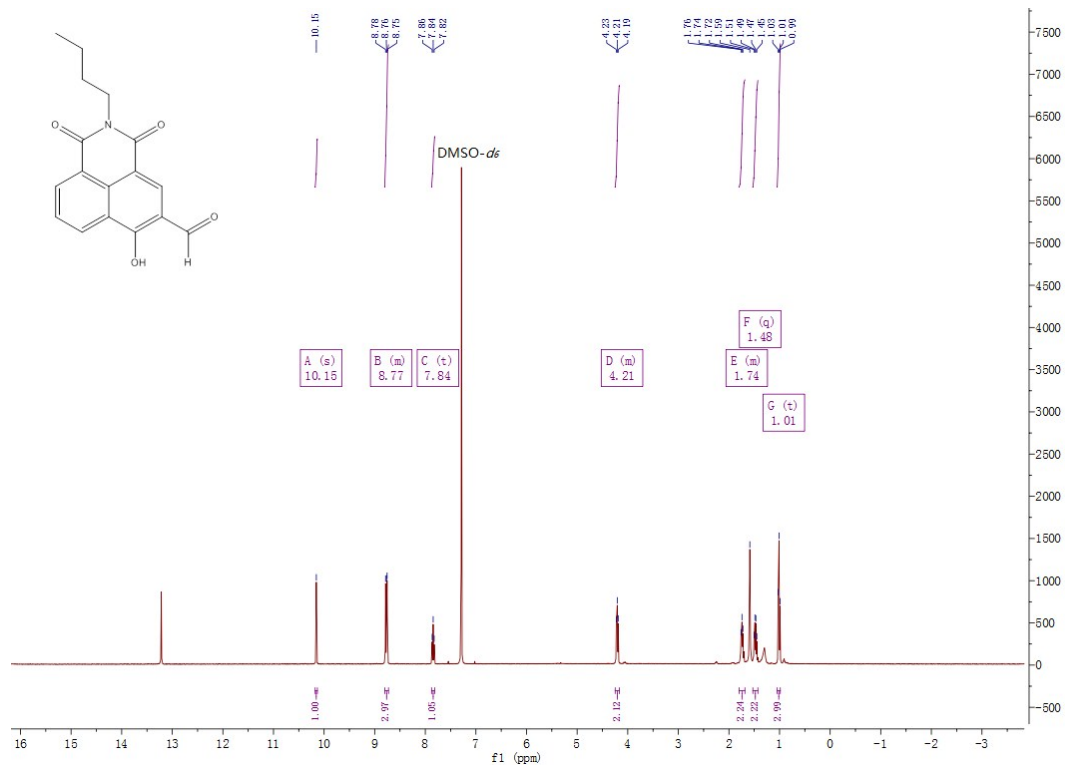
## 11. MTT assay

HeLa cells/macrophages were cultured in culture media (DMEM) in an atmosphere of 5% CO<sub>2</sub> and 95% air at 37 °C. The cells were seeded into 96-well plates at a density of  $5 \times 10^3$  cells per well in culture media, then 0, 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25  $\mu$ M N-CBT were added, respectively. Next, the cells were incubated at 37 °C in an atmosphere of 5% CO<sub>2</sub> and 95% air for 24 h. Finally, 10  $\mu$ L 3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide (MTT, 5 mg/mL) was added and were cultured for another 3 h, respectively. Then 100 $\mu$ L DMSO added to each well and measured at 570nm at microplate reader (Bio-rad 680).

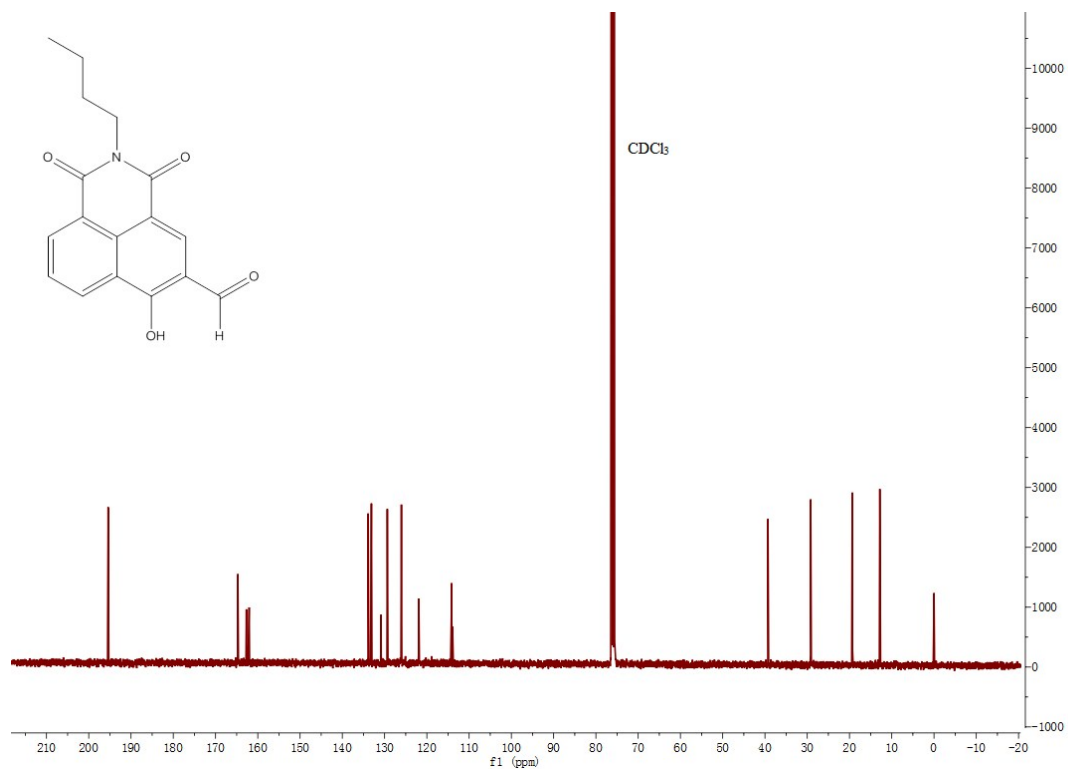


**Fig S8** The cytotoxicity of different concentrations of the N-CBT (0, 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25  $\mu$ M) in HeLa cells (a) and macrophages (b).

## 12. The characterization data of N-CBT.



**Figure S9**  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  of N-CHO



**Figure S10**  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  of N-CHO



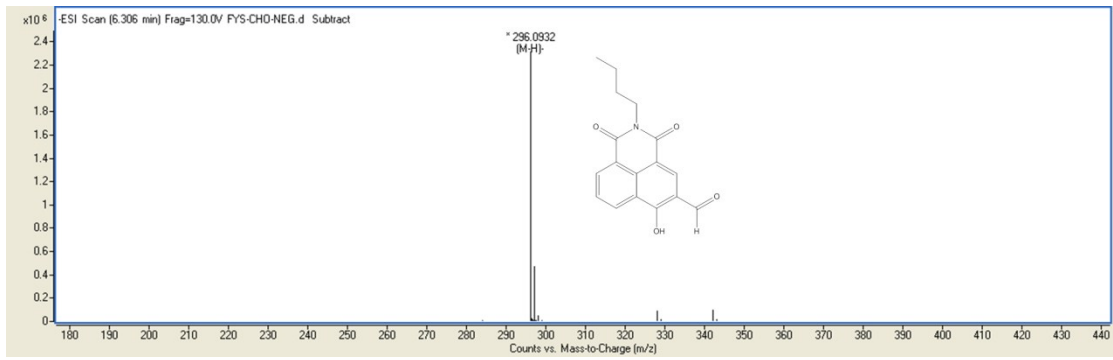


Figure S11 High resolution mass spectrum of N-CHO

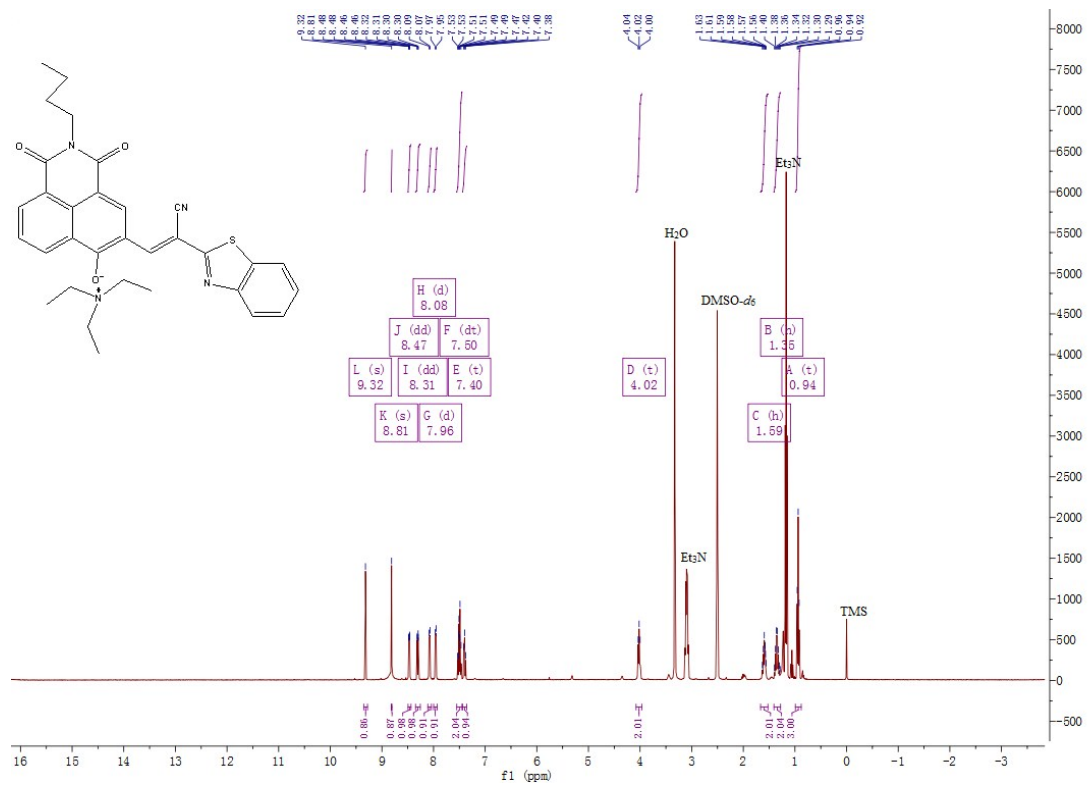
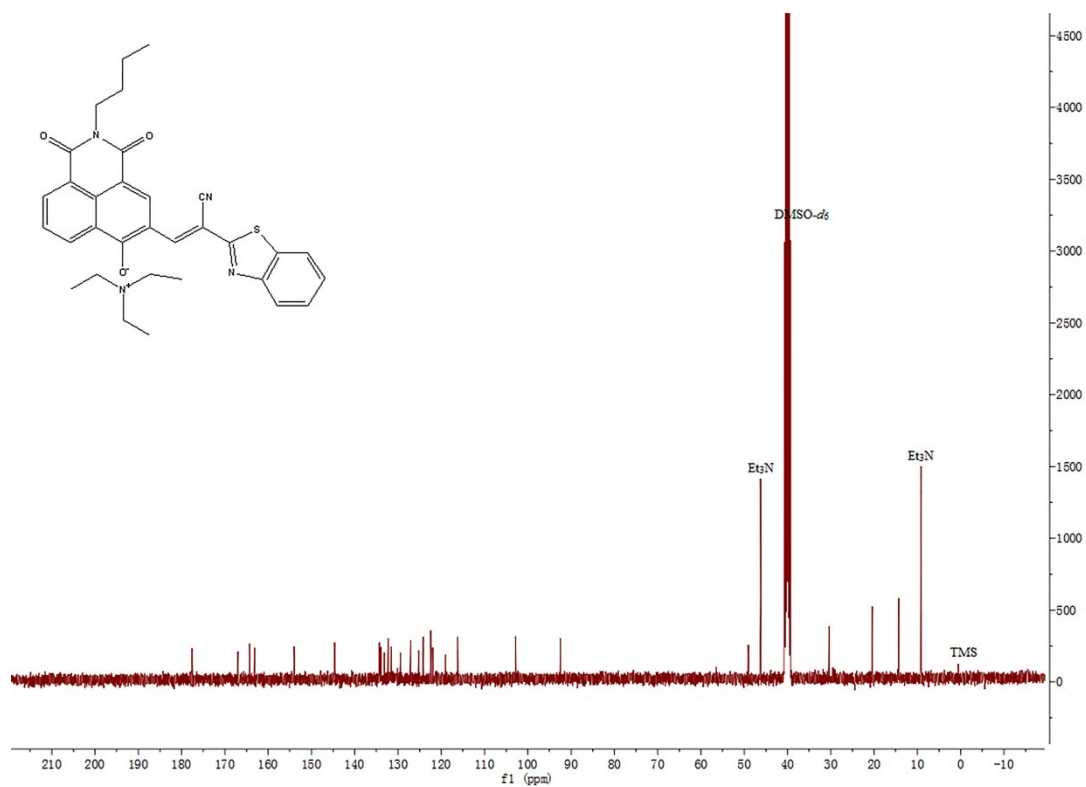
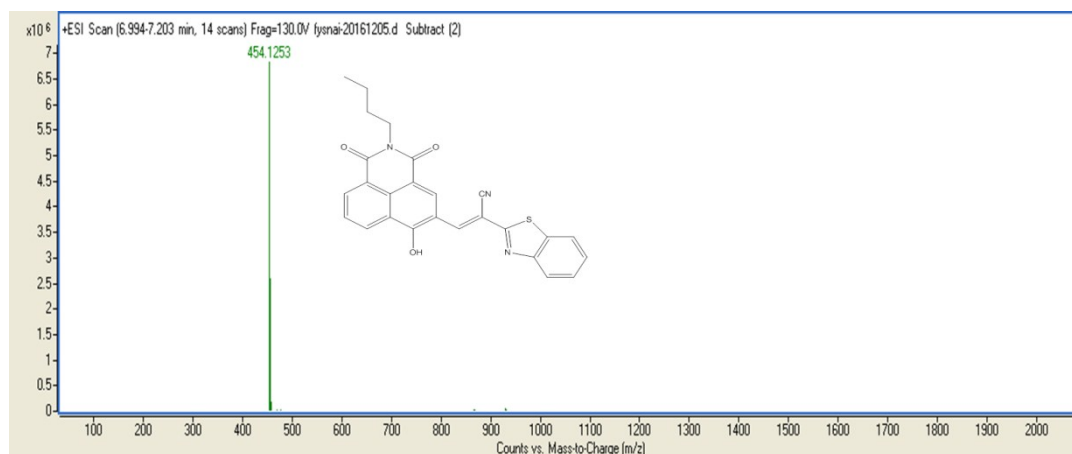


Figure S12 <sup>1</sup>H-NMR of N-CBT



**Figure S13**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR of N-CBT



**Figure S14** High resolution mass spectrum of N-CBT