Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Journal of Materials Chemistry C. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2015

# **Electronic Supplementary Information**

# Effects of the Benzoxazole Group on Green Fluorescent Protein Crystal Structure and Solid State Photophysics

Abdelhamid Ghodbane, W. Brett Fellows, Jack Bright, Debashree Ghosh, Laren M. Tolbert, Suzanne Fery-Forgues<sup>\*</sup> and Kyril M. Solntsev<sup>\*</sup>

#### Contents

Numbering of the atoms for NMR characterization (Figure S1)	2
<sup>1</sup> H NMR data of N-[4-(1,3-benzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]methylidene-alkylamines	2
Crystal data of compounds 1-4 (Table S1)	3
Molecular views of compounds 1-4 (Figure S2).	4-5
Scheme of synthesis (Figure S3)	6
UV-vis absorption spectra of compounds 1-4 in ethanol (Figure S4)	7
Fluorescence excitation and emission spectra of compounds 1-4 in ethanol (Figure S5)	7
Solid-state spectroscopic characteristics of compounds 1-4 (Table S2)	7
Steady-state fluorescence and absorbance spectra for 1 in solution (Figure S6)	8
Steady-state fluorescence and absorbance spectra for 2 in solution (Figure S7)	9
Steady-state fluorescence and absorbance spectra for <b>3</b> in solution (Figure S8)	10
Steady-state fluorescence and absorbance spectra for 4 in solution (Figure S9)	11
Molecular arrangement in the crystal cell for compounds 1-4 (Figure S10)	12



Figure S1. Numbering of the atoms for NMR characterization.

## <sup>1</sup>H NMR data of N-[4-(1,3-benzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]methylidene-alkylamines

## N-[4-(1,3-benzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]methylidene-methylamine (5).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.34 (s, 1H, N=CH), 8.28 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 9 Hz, 2H, H<sub>2</sub>, and H<sub>6</sub>), 7.84 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 9 Hz, 2H, H<sub>3</sub>, and H<sub>5</sub>), 7.76 (m, 1H, H<sub>7</sub>), 7.58 (m, 1H, H<sub>4</sub>), 7.34 (m, 2H, H<sub>5</sub> and H<sub>6</sub>), 3.22 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

## N-[4-(1,3-benzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]methylidenebutylamine (6)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.30 (s, 1H, N=CH), 8.28 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 9 Hz, 2H, H<sub>2</sub>, and H<sub>6</sub>), 7.86 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 9 Hz, 2H, H<sub>3</sub>, and H<sub>5</sub>), 7.75 (m, 1H, H<sub>7</sub>), 7.58 (m, 1H, H<sub>4</sub>), 7.34 (m, 2H, H<sub>5</sub> and H<sub>6</sub>), 3.64 (t, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H, N-CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.64 (m, 2H, N-CH<sub>2</sub>-C<u>H<sub>2</sub>), 1.42 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.00 (t, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).</u>

#### N-[4-(1,3-benzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]methylidenepentylamine (7)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.32 (s, 1H, N=CH), 8.29 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 9 Hz, 2H, H<sub>2</sub>, and H<sub>6</sub>), 7.86 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 9 Hz, 2H, H<sub>3</sub>, and H<sub>5</sub>), 7.75 (m, 1H, H<sub>7</sub>), 7.57 (m, 1H, H<sub>4</sub>), 7.34 (m, 2H, H<sub>5</sub> and H<sub>6</sub>), 3.63 (t, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, N-CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.67 (m, 2H, N-CH<sub>2</sub>-C<u>H<sub>2</sub>), 1.36 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.94 (t, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH<sub>2</sub>-C<u>H<sub>3</sub>).</u></u>

# N-[4-(1,3-benzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]methylidenedodecylamine (8)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.31 (s, 1H, N=CH), 8.29 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 9 Hz, 2H, H<sub>2</sub>, and H<sub>6</sub>), 7.86 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 9 Hz, 2H, H<sub>3</sub>, and H<sub>5</sub>), 7.76 (m, 1H, H<sub>7</sub>), 7.57 (m, 1H, H<sub>4</sub>), 7.35 (m, 2H, H<sub>5</sub> and H<sub>6</sub>), 3.67 (t, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H, N-CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.67 (m, 2H, N-CH<sub>2</sub>-C<u>H<sub>2</sub></u>), 1.34 (m, 18H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.91 (t, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

#### **Crystallographic data**

Compound	1	2	3	4
Empirical formula	$C_{19}H_{15}N_3O_2$	$C_{22}H_{21}N_3O_2$	$C_{23}H_{23}N_3O_2$	$C_{30}H_{37}N_3O_2$
Formula weight	317.34	359.42	373.44	471.63
Crystal system	Triclinic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic
Space group	P 1	$P2_1/c$	$P2_{l}/c$	$P2_{l}/c$
Unit cell dimensions				
<i>a</i> (Å)	7.558(2)	4.6778(5)	7.4065(3)	25.4404(9)
<i>b</i> (Å)	13.561(3)	34.671(4)	22.5576(7)	7.3304(3)
<i>c</i> (Å)	14.948(4)	11.6713(16)	12.0964(4)	13.9803(4)
α (°)	88.586(11)	90	90	90
β (°)	88.421(12)	101.338(6)	95.776(2)	98.0030(10)
γ (°)	89.548(11)	90	90	90
Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	1531.0(7)	1856.0(4)	2010.72(12)	2581.77(16)
Ζ	4	4	4	4
Crystal size (mm <sup>3</sup> )	$0.35 \times 0.04 \times 0.03$	$0.60 \times 0.03 \times 0.02$	$0.20\times0.15\times0.12$	$0.28\times0.18\times0.05$
Reflections collected	23625	29993	46734	31912
Independent reflections	4959	3626	8283	4855
$R_{\rm int}$	0.2019	0.1354	0.0529	0.0432
Parameters/Restraints	437/0	247/0	256/0	319/12
Final $R_1$ indice I>2 $\sigma$ (I)	0.1283	0.0562	0.0545	0.0396
wR2 all data	0.3620	0.1517	0.1570	0.0961
Largest diff. peak and	0.549 and -0.415	0.302 and -0.215	0.277 and -0.191	0.154 and -0.169
hole (e.Å <sup>-3</sup> )				
CCDC	1431493	1431494	1431495	1431496

 Table S1. Crystal data of compounds 1-4.













Figure S2. Molecular views of compounds 1-4. Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level. H atoms are omitted for clarity.



Figure S3. Scheme of synthesis.



Figure S4. UV-vis absorption spectra of compounds 1 (purple line), 2 (red line), 3 (blue line), and 4 (green line) in ethanol. Dye concentration around  $1.3 \times 10^{-5}$  M. Absorption maximum was 382 nm for 1 and 384 for the other compounds.



Figure S5. Normalized excitation ( $\lambda_{em} = 446 \text{ nm}$ ) and emission ( $\lambda_{ex} = 384 \text{ nm}$ ) spectra of compounds 1 (purple line), 2 (red line), 3 (blue line), and 4 (green line) in ethanol. Dye concentration around  $1.3 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$ .

	Solid state		
Compound	$\lambda_{\rm em}$ (nm)	$\Phi_P$	
1	450-490, 612	<10-3	
2	620	0.18	
3	616	0.16	
4	612	0.26	

**Table S2.** Solid-state spectroscopic characteristics of compounds 1-4. Maximum emission wavelength ( $\lambda_{em}$ ) and photoluminescence quantum yields ( $\Phi_P$ ). Excitation at 384 nm.



**Figure S6**: Steady-state fluorescence (left) and absorbance (bottom, black) spectra for **1** in solution. Also shown are the absorbance in the solid state (bottom, blue), the 3D solid state spectrum (center), and the excitation spectrum at 600 nm emission extracted from the 3D plot (bottom, red).



**Figure S7**: Steady-state fluorescence (left) and absorbance (bottom, black) spectra for **2** in solution. Also shown are the absorbance in the solid state (bottom, blue), the 3D solid state spectrum (center), and the excitation spectrum at 600 nm emission extracted from the 3D plot (bottom, red).



**Figure S8**: Steady-state fluorescence (left) and absorbance (bottom, black) spectra for **3** in solution. Also shown are the absorbance in the solid state (bottom, blue), the 3D solid state spectrum (center), and the excitation spectrum at 600 nm emission extracted from the 3D plot (bottom, red).



**Figure S9**: Steady-state fluorescence (left) and absorbance (bottom, black) spectra for **4** in solution. Also shown are the absorbance in the solid state (bottom, blue), the 3D solid state spectrum (center), and the excitation spectrum at 600 nm emission extracted from the 3D plot (bottom, red).



Figure S10. Molecular arrangement in the crystal cell for compounds 1 to 4.