

Supporting Information

Development of a Reversible Fluorescent Probe for Reactive Sulfur Species, Sulfane Sulfur, and its Biological Application

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Synthetic materials and instrumentation. General chemicals were of the best grade available, supplied by Tokyo Chemical Industries, Wako Pure Chemical, Aldrich Chemical Co., Kanto Chemical Co., Alfa Aesar, Watanabe Chemical Industries, Dojindo and Invitrogen Corp., and were used without further purification. All solvents were used after appropriate distillation or purification. NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL JNM-LA300 instrument at 300 MHz for ^1H NMR and at 75 MHz for ^{13}C NMR or JEOL JNM-AL400 instrument at 400 MHz for ^1H NMR and at 100 MHz for ^{13}C NMR. Mass spectra (ESI^+ or ESI^-) were measured with a JEOL JMS-T100LC AccuTOF for ESI. HPLC analyses were performed on an Inertsil ODS-3 (4.6 \times 250 mm) column (GL Sciences Inc.) using a HPLC system composed of a pump (PU-2080, JASCO) and a detector (MD-2018 or FP-2025, JASCO). UPLC-MS analyses were performed on an BEH C18 1.7 μm (2.1 \times 50 mm) column (ACQUITY UPLC®) using a UPLC system composed of a pump (Acquity UPLC H class, Waters), and a detector (Acquity UPLC and Acquity QDa, Waters). Preparative HPLC was performed on an Inertsil ODS-3 (10 \times 250 mm) column (GL Sciences Inc.) using a HPLC system composed of a pump (PU-2080, JASCO) and a detector (MD-2015 or FP-2025, JASCO) or a HPLC system composed of a pump (PU-2086, JASCO) and a detector (MD-2018, JASCO). pH was measured with a F-52 pH meter (HORIBA) electrode.

UV-visible and fluorescence spectra measurements. UV-visible spectra were obtained on a spectrometer (UV-1650, Shimadzu, Japan). Fluorescence spectroscopic studies were performed on a fluorescence spectrometer (F-4500, Hitachi, Japan). The slit width was 5.0 nm for both excitation and emission. The photomultiplier voltage was 700 V. All experiments were carried out at room temperature. Dyes were dissolved in DMSO to obtain stock solutions. Conditions for Figure 3a and 3b: Fluorescence intensity of SSip-1 was measured in 100 mM sodium phosphate buffer (pH 7.4) containing 0.1% DMSO as a cosolvent and 1 mg/mL BSA.

Determination of relative fluorescence quantum yields. For determination of the relative fluorescence quantum efficiency (Φ_{f}) of SSip-1, fluorescein in 0.1 N NaOH aq. ($\Phi_{\text{f}} = 0.85$) was used as a standard.^{S1} Values were calculated by use of the following equation.

$$\Phi_{\text{x}}/\Phi_{\text{std}} = [A_{\text{std}}/A_{\text{x}}][n_{\text{x}}^2/n_{\text{std}}^2][D_{\text{x}}/D_{\text{std}}]$$

std: standard x: sample

A: absorbance at the excitation wavelength

n: refractive index

D: area under the fluorescence spectra on an energy scale

Since the absorbance and fluorescence spectra of two dyes, fluorescein and 2-thio RB, could not be separated, we calculated the apparent fluorescence quantum efficiency by using the following values:

A: absorbance at the excitation wavelength (470 nm)

D: area under the fluorescence spectra on an energy scale (480 nm-670 nm)

Determination of detection limit. The detection limit of SSip-1 was calculated according to the following equation: $3\sigma/S$, in which σ is the standard deviation of blank measurements, $n = 3$, and S is the slope of the regression equation according to Figure 3a.

Cell lines and culture conditions. A549 cells were purchased from RIKEN Bioresource Center cell bank (Tsukuba, Japan). Cells were cultured in DMEM (Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium) (Gibco 11885), containing 10% fetal bovine albumin (Invitrogen) and 1% penicillin streptomycin (Invitrogen). Cells were maintained at 37 °C under an atmosphere of 5% CO₂ in air.

Fluorescence confocal microscopy. A549 cells seeded on Lab-Tek®II Chambered #1.5 German Coverglass System 8 chambers were washed with 200 µL of Hanks' Balanced Salt Solution (HBSS), then incubated for 1 h at 37 °C in 200 µL DMEM (Gibco 21063) containing 10 µM SSip-1 DA, 0.1% DMSO and 0.03% Pluronic as a cosolvent. After incubation, cells were washed with HBSS, and 200 µL DMEM (Gibco 21063) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine albumin and 1% penicillin streptomycin was added to the cells. Fluorescence images were captured using a Leica Application Suite Advanced Fluorescence (LAS-AF) with a TCS SP5 and a 63× objective lens. The light source was an argon laser. The excitation wavelength was 488 nm and the emission wavelengths were 500-540 nm for fluorescein (PMT; Gain:1000) and 590-650 nm for 2-thio RB (HyD; gain: 100).

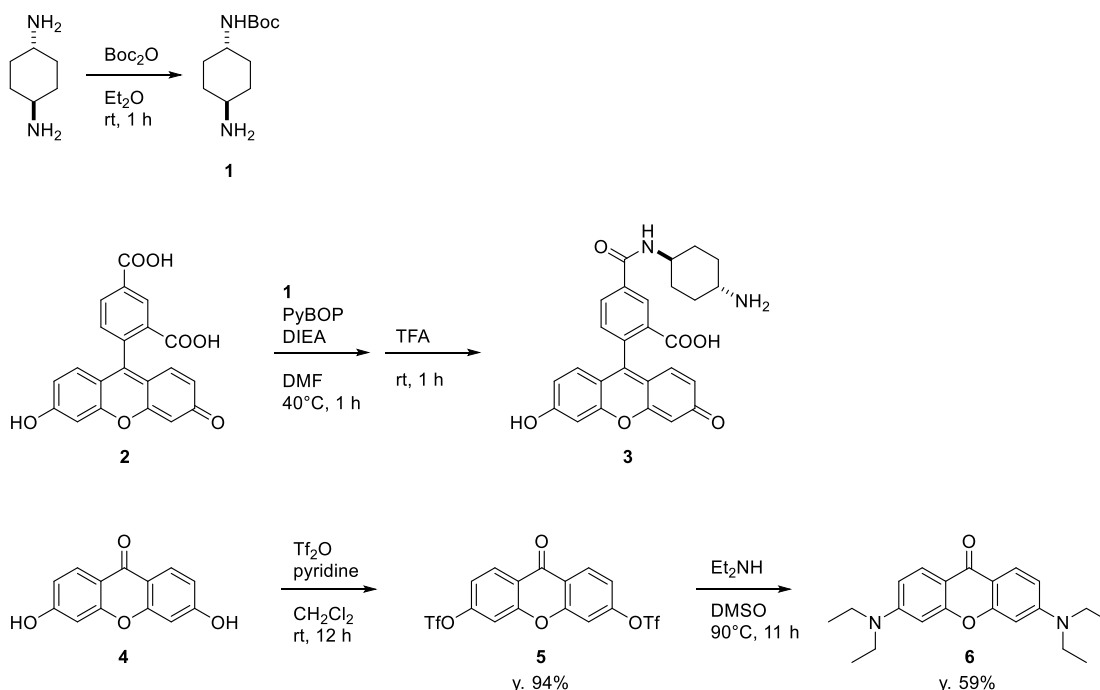
Primary culture of hippocampal astrocytes. All the animal procedures were approved by the Animal Care and Use Committee of The National Institute of Neuroscience (NCNP). Hippocampi were dissected from embryonic day 17 Sprague-Dawley rats (CLEA Japan, Tokyo, Japan). After the meninges were removed, the hippocampal tissues were incubated with 0.25% trypsin (Sigma-Aldrich, St Louis, MO, USA) and 0.1% DNase (Sigma-Aldrich) in Ca²⁺/Mg²⁺-free phosphate-buffered saline for 15 min at 37°C. Cells were dispersed by gentle pipetting, suspended in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (DMEM) supplemented with 5% fetal bovine serum and 5% horse serum, 100 U/ml penicillin and 100 µg/ml streptomycin, and seeded onto poly-D-lysine-coated coverslips at a density of 5×10^4 cells/cm². The cells were

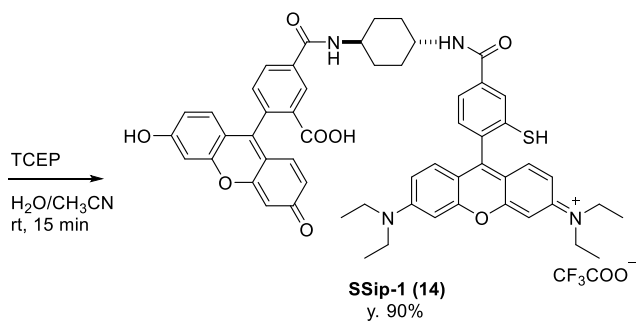
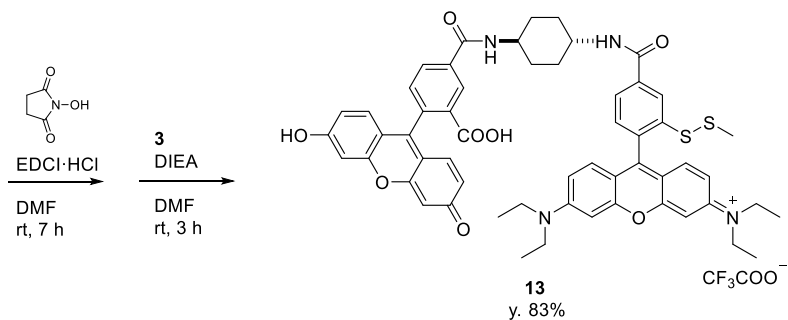
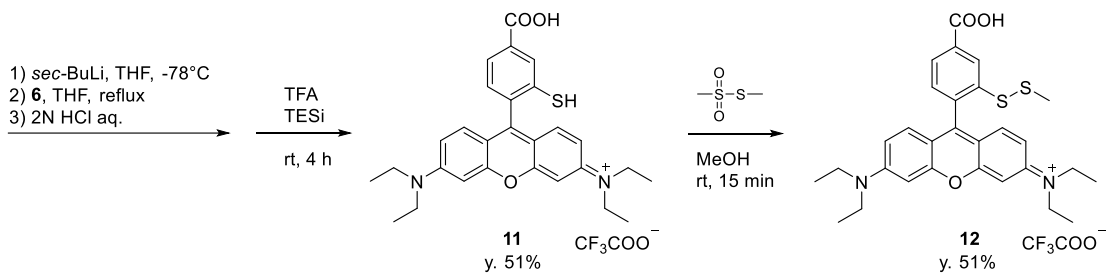
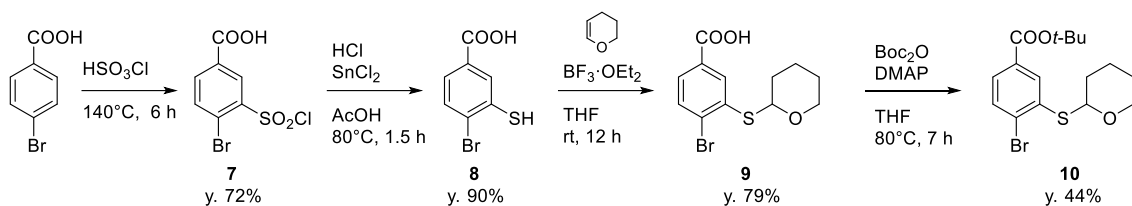
cultured in a humidified atmosphere of 10% CO₂ and 90% air at 37°C for 14 days. Half of the culture medium was changed twice a week.

Imaging of intracellular calcium and polysulfide. Fluo-4 AM (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA) and SSip-1 DA were diluted in balanced salt solution (BSS; mM): 137 NaCl, 5.4 KCl, 0.8 MgCl₂, 1.8 CaCl₂, 10 glucose, 10 HEPES (pH 7.3 with NaOH). Cultured astrocytes were loaded with 2 μM Fluo-4 AM (0.02% Cremophor EL) or 10 μM SSip-1 DA (0.03% Pluronic F-127) for 30 min at room temperature or 60 min at 37°C, respectively. Incubation was continued in BSS for 15 min at room temperature, then cells placed on a coverslip, which was mounted on an upright microscope (DM LFS, Leica, Heidelberg, Germany) and continuously superfused with BSS at a rate of 1 ml/min. Fluorescence was detected every 5 s through a bandpass filter with excitation at 480/40 nm and emission at 527/30 nm. Fluorescence images were acquired using Aquacosmos 2.6 software (Hamamatsu Photonics, Shizuoka, Japan).

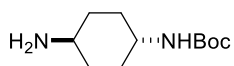
Synthesis and Characterization of Compounds

Scheme S1. Synthetic scheme for SSip-1



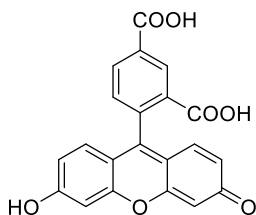


Synthesis of compound 1



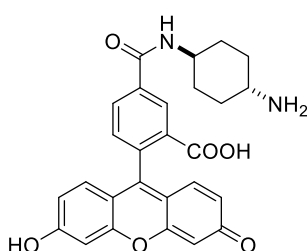
This compound was synthesized according to reference S2.

Synthesis of 5-carboxy fluorescein (2)



This compound was synthesized according to reference S3.

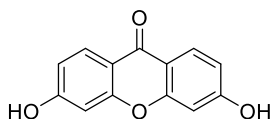
Synthesis of compound 3



To a solution of compound **2** (147 mg, 0.391 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (3.0 mL), compound **1** (167 mg, 0.782 mmol), *O*-(7-azabenzotriazol-1-yl)-*N,N,N',N'*-tetramethyluronium hexafluorophosphate (HATU, 163 mg, 0.430 mmol) and *N,N*-diisopropylethylamine (252 mg, 340 μ L, 1.95 mmol) were added. The mixture was stirred at 40°C for 1 h. The product was collected by filtration, and then washed with 1 N HCl aq. and H₂O. The resulting residue was dissolved in trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) (3.0 mL) and the solution was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. TFA was evaporated off, and the resulting residue was purified by HPLC (eluent, a 25-min linear gradient, from 25% to 70% eluent B; flow rate, 5.0 ml/min; eluent A (H₂O containing 0.1% TFA) and eluent B (CH₃CN with 20% H₂O containing 0.1% TFA)) to afford compound **3** (63.0 mg, 0.133 mmol, 34% yield) as a yellow solid.

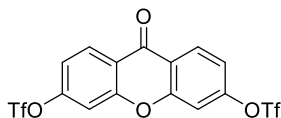
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 1.55-1.58 (4H, m), 2.13-2.16 (4H, m), 3.13-3.16 (1H, m), 3.92-3.95 (1H, m), 6.57 (2H, dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz), 6.63 (2H, d, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 6.73 (2H, d, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 7.32 (1H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 8.19 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.5 Hz), 8.43 (1H, d, *J* = 1.5 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 29.2, 29.7, 47.5, 48.6, 102.2, 109.0, 112.6, 123.2, 124.1, 126.4, 129.0, 134.7, 136.3, 151.8, 154.6, 157.9, 158.2, 159.6, 163.9, 168.1; HRMS (ESI⁺): Calcd for [M+H]⁺, 473.1713, Found, 473.1686 (−2.7 mmu).

Synthesis of compound 4



This compound was synthesized according to reference S4

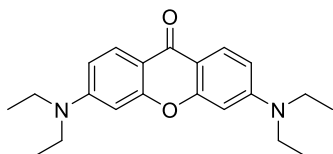
Synthesis of compound 5



To a solution of compound **4** (2.28 g, 10.0 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (50 mL), pyridine (7.90 g, 8.1 mL, 100 mmol) was slowly added at 0°C. The mixture was stirred at 0°C for 10 min, then trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (8.46 g, 5.0 mL, 30.0 mmol) was slowly added at 0°C. The mixture was warmed to room temperature, then stirred for 12 h, and H₂O was added to it. The organic layer was washed with H₂O, 1 N HCl aq. and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄ and evaporated to dryness. The resulting residue was recrystallized from CH₂Cl₂/hexane to afford compound **5** (4.60 g, 9.35 mmol, 94% yield) as a colorless solid.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.36 (2H, dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz), 7.50 (2H, d, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 8.45 (2H, d, *J* = 8.8 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 111.4, 113.9, 117.1, 118.2, 120.3, 121.4, 123.5, 129.6, 153.4, 156.6, 174.5.

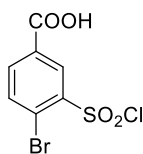
Synthesis of 3,6-bis(diethylamino)xanthone (6)



To a solution of compound **5** (880 mg, 1.80 mmol) in DMSO (5.0 mL), diethylamine (1.31 g, 1.9 mL, 18.0 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at 90°C for 11 h, then cooled to room temperature, and H₂O was added to it. The mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The organic layer was washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄ and evaporated to dryness. The resulting residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, 1% MeOH/CH₂Cl₂) to afford compound **6** (356 mg, 1.05 mmol, 59% yield) as a yellowish solid.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.22 (12H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 3.43 (8H, q, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 6.44 (2H, d, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 6.63 (2H, dd, *J* = 9.3, 2.4 Hz), 8.09 (2H, d, *J* = 9.3 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 12.5, 44.6, 96.3, 108.5, 111.5, 127.7, 152.0, 158.4, 174.7; HRMS (ESI⁺): Calcd for [M+H]⁺, 339.2073, Found, 339.2028 (−4.5 mmu).

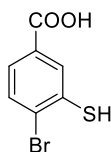
Synthesis of 4-bromo-3-chlorosulfonylbenzoic acid (7)



To 4-bromobenzoic acid (6.01 g, 29.8 mmol), chlorosulfonic acid (15 mL) was slowly added at 0°C. The solution was warmed to 140°C, then stirred for 6 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and poured slowly into iced H₂O. The mixture was extracted with AcOEt. The organic layer was washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄ and evaporated to dryness. The resulting residue was washed with CH₂Cl₂ to afford compound **7** (6.32 g, 21.3 mmol, 72% yield) as a colorless solid.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, acetone-*d*₆): δ 8.23 (1H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 8.33 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.0 Hz), 8.74 (1H, d, *J* = 2.0 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, acetone-*d*₆): δ 125.8, 132.1, 132.2, 137.8, 138.4, 143.8, 165.0; HRMS (ESI⁻): Calcd for [M-H]⁻, 298.8604, Found, 298.8589 (-1.5 mmu).

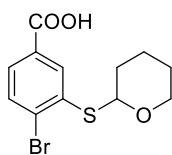
Synthesis of 4-bromo-3-mercaptobenzoic acid (8)



To a solution of compound **7** (5.00 g, 16.7 mmol) in AcOH (50 mL), SnCl₂·2H₂O (22.5 g, 100 mmol) in 10 N HCl aq. (25 mL) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred at 80°C for 1.5 h, then cooled to room temperature. The product was collected by filtration, washed with H₂O and dried *in vacuo*, affording compound **8** (3.50 g, 15.1 mmol, 90% yield) as a yellowish solid.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, acetone-*d*₆): δ 5.04 (1H, s), 7.66 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.0 Hz), 7.72 (1H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 8.14 (1H, d, *J* = 2.0 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, acetone-*d*₆): δ 126.7, 128.2, 131.3, 131.5, 134.0, 136.7, 166.5; HRMS (ESI⁻): Calcd for [M-H]⁻, 232.9095, Found, 232.9139 (+4.4 mmu).

Synthesis of 4-bromo-3-(tetrahydropyran-2-ylthio)benzoic acid (9)

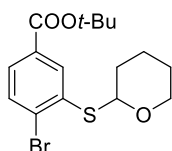


To a solution of compound **8** (3.00 g, 12.9 mmol) and 3,4-dihydro-2H-pyran (2.17 g, 2.3 mL, 25.9 mmol) in THF (50 mL), boron trifluoride-ethyl ether complex (1.84 g, 1.6 mL, 12.9

mmol) was slowly added at 0°C. The mixture was warmed to room temperature, then stirred for 12 h, and sat. NaHCO₃ aq. (30 mL) was added to it. This mixture was extracted with AcOEt. The aqueous layer was acidified with 2 N HCl aq. and then extracted with AcOEt. The combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄ and evaporated to dryness. The resulting residue was roughly purified by column chromatography (silica gel, 1:1 to 1:4 hexane/AcOEt). The residue was recrystallized from CH₂Cl₂/hexane to afford the pure compound **9** (3.23 g, 10.3 mmol, 79% yield) as a colorless solid.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.66-1.78 (3H, m), 1.90-1.99 (2H, m), 2.10-2.14 (1H, m), 3.68-3.73 (1H, m), 4.15-4.21 (1H, m), 5.48-5.49 (1H, m), 7.64 (1H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 7.73 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.0 Hz), 8.29 (1H, d, *J* = 2.0 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 21.2, 25.4, 31.1, 64.1, 83.7, 128.2, 129.1, 129.8, 130.9, 133.0, 138.7, 171.0; HRMS (ESI⁻): Calcd for [M-H]⁻, 314.9691, Found, 314.9724 (+3.3 mmu).

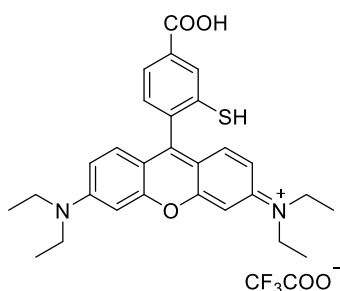
Synthesis of *tert*-butyl 4-bromo-3-(tetrahydropyran-2-ylthio)benzoate (**10**)



To a solution of compound **9** (2.50 g, 7.94 mmol) in THF (80 mL), 4-dimethylaminopyridine (194 mg, 1.59 mmol) and di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate (3.46 g, 3.7 mL, 15.9 mmol) were added. The mixture was warmed to 80°C, then stirred for 7 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and H₂O was added to it. Stirring was continued for 30 min, and then the mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The organic layer was washed with sat. NaHCO₃ aq., sat. NH₄Cl aq. and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄ and evaporated to dryness. The resulting residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, 1:1 to 2:3 hexane/CH₂Cl₂) to afford compound **10** (1.30 g, 3.49 mmol, 44% yield) as a colorless oil.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.58 (9H, s), 1.66-1.69 (3H, m), 1.90-1.95 (2H, m), 2.06-2.09 (1H, m), 3.66-3.69 (1H, m), 4.16-4.19 (1H, m), 5.36-5.37 (1H, m), 7.57 (1H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 7.62 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.0 Hz), 8.19 (1H, d, *J* = 2.0 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 21.6, 25.3, 28.1, 31.1, 64.7, 81.4, 83.8, 127.7, 128.3, 130.6, 131.7, 132.5, 137.9, 164.7; HRMS (ESI⁺): Calcd for [M+Na]⁺, 395.0293, Found, 395.0266 (-2.7 mmu).

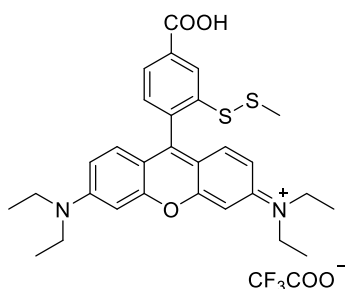
Synthesis of compound 11



To a flame-dried flask flushed with argon, compound **10** (660 mg, 1.78 mmol) and anhydrous THF (20 mL) were added. The solution was cooled to -78°C , and 1 M *sec*-BuLi (1.60 mL, 1.60 mmol) was slowly added. The mixture was stirred at -78°C for 20 min, and a solution of compound **6** (60 mg, 0.178 mmol) in anhydrous THF (10 mL) was slowly added. The mixture was warmed to 70°C , and stirred for 3 h. It was cooled to room temperature and then 2 N HCl aq. (20 mL) was added to it. Stirring was continued for 20 min, and then the mixture was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The organic layer was washed with brine, dried over Na_2SO_4 and evaporated to dryness. The resulting residue was partially purified by column chromatography (silica gel, 0% to 10% MeOH/ CH_2Cl_2). The partially purified compound and triethylsilane (100 μL) were dissolved in trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) (5.0 mL) and the solution was stirred for 4 h. The mixture was evaporated to dryness. The resulting residue was purified by HPLC (eluent, a 20-min linear gradient, from 50% to 100% eluent B; flow rate, 5.0 ml/min; eluent A (H_2O containing 0.1% TFA) and eluent B (CH_3CN with 20% H_2O containing 0.1% TFA)) to afford compound **11** (52.9 mg, 90.0 μmol , 51% yield) as a red solid.

^1H NMR (300 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 1.22 (12H, t, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 3.61 (8H, q, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 6.91 (2H, d, $J = 2.2$ Hz), 7.00 (2H, dd, $J = 9.5, 2.2$ Hz), 7.09 (2H, d, $J = 9.5$ Hz), 7.32 (1H, d, $J = 8.1$ Hz), 7.93 (1H, dd, $J = 8.1, 1.5$ Hz), 8.19 (1H, d, $J = 1.5$ Hz); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 12.8, 47.0, 97.6, 114.1, 115.9, 127.7, 131.4, 132.4, 132.6, 134.3, 134.6, 136.4, 155.9, 157.4, 159.6, 168.3; HRMS (ESI^+): Calcd for $[\text{M}-\text{CF}_3\text{COO}]^+$, 475.2055, Found, 475.2033 (-2.2 mmu).

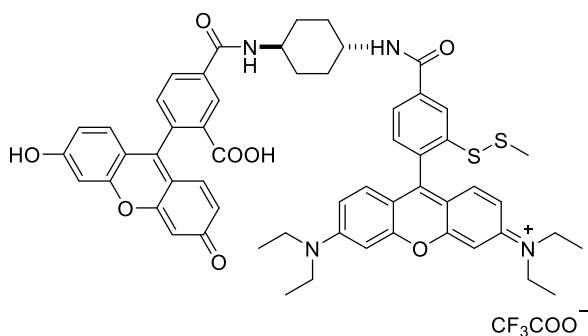
Synthesis of compound 12



To a solution of *S*-methyl methanethiosulfonate (140 mg, 0.10 mL, 1.11 mmol) in methanol (2.0 mL), compound **11** (52.9 mg, 90.0 μ mol) in methanol (3 mL) was slowly added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 15 min and then evaporated to dryness. The resulting residue was purified by HPLC (eluent, a 20-min linear gradient, from 50% to 100% eluent B; flow rate, 5.0 ml/min; eluent A (H₂O containing 0.1% TFA) and eluent B (CH₃CN with 20% H₂O containing 0.1% TFA)) to afford compound **12** (23.7 mg, 45.5 μ mol, 51% yield) as a red solid.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 1.32 (12H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 2.38 (3H, s), 3.70 (8H, q, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 7.01 (2H, d, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 7.08 (2H, dd, *J* = 9.3, 2.4 Hz), 7.15 (2H, d, *J* = 9.3 Hz), 7.47 (1H, d, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 8.15 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.5 Hz), 8.71 (1H, d, *J* = 1.5 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 12.8, 23.2, 47.0, 97.6, 114.4, 115.9, 129.4, 130.1, 131.6, 132.4, 134.8, 136.9, 138.7, 155.1, 157.5, 159.4, 168.3; HRMS (ESI⁺): Calcd for [M-CF₃COO]⁺, 521.1933, Found, 521.1890 (-4.3 mmu).

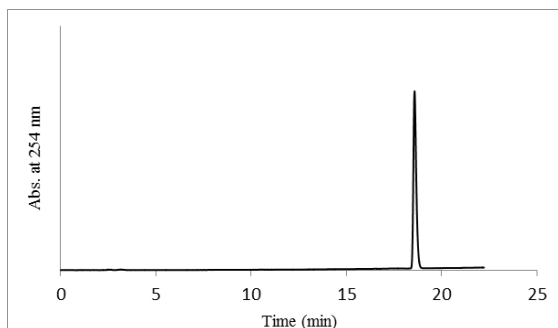
Synthesis of compound 13



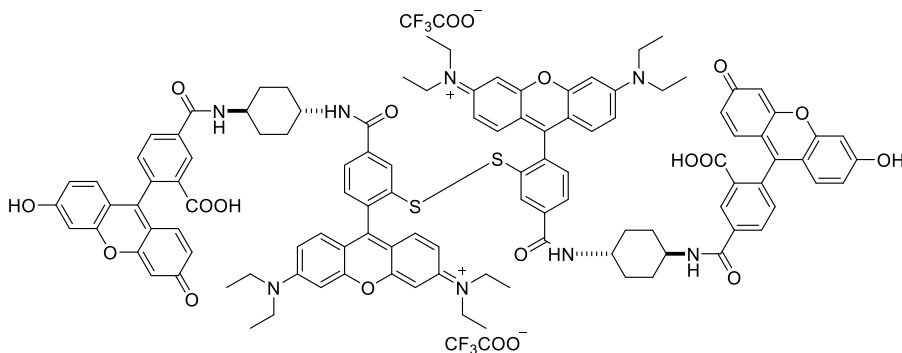
To a solution of compound **12** (11.9 mg, 22.7 μ mol) in anhydrous DMF (4.0 mL), *N*-hydroxysuccinimide (26.1 mg, 0.227 mmol) and 1-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride (21.8 mg, 0.114 mmol) were added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 7 h, then acidified with 0.1 N HCl aq., and extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The organic layer was washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄ and evaporated to dryness. The resulting residue was partially purified by HPLC (eluent, a 15-min linear gradient from 25% to 100% solvent B; flow rate, 5.0 ml/min; eluent A (H₂O containing 0.1% TFA) and eluent B (CH₃CN with 20% H₂O containing 0.1% TFA)). To a solution of the partially purified compound and compound **3** (16.1 mg, 34.1 μ mol) in anhydrous DMF (2.0 mL), *N,N*-diisopropylethylamine (29.4 mg, 40 μ L, 0.228 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3 h, then 1% TFA aq. was added to it. The resulting mixture was purified by HPLC (eluent, a 20-min linear gradient, from 50% to 100% eluent B; flow rate, 5.0

ml/min; eluent A (H₂O containing 0.1% TFA) and eluent B (CH₃CN with 20% H₂O containing 0.1% TFA)) to afford compound **13** (18.3 mg, 18.8 μmol, 83% yield) as a red solid.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 1.31 (12H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 1.69-1.72 (4H, m), 2.18-2.20 (4H, m), 2.36 (3H, s), 3.68 (8H, q, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 4.07-4.09 (2H, br m), 6.53 (2H, dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz), 6.62 (2H, d, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 6.71 (2H, d, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 6.98 (2H, d, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 7.05 (2H, dd, *J* = 9.8, 2.4 Hz), 7.13 (2H, d, *J* = 9.8 Hz), 7.30 (1H, d, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 7.41 (1H, d, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 7.97 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.5 Hz), 8.23 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.5 Hz), 8.48 (1H, d, *J* = 1.5 Hz), 8.54 (1H, d, *J* = 1.5 Hz); HRMS (ESI⁺): Calcd for [M-CF₃COO]⁺, 975.3461, Found, 975.3444 (-1.7 mmu). HPLC analysis: retention time, 18.6 min (eluent, a 20-min linear gradient, from 50% to 100% eluent B; eluent A (H₂O containing 0.1% TFA) and eluent B (CH₃CN with 20% H₂O containing 0.1% TFA); flow rate: 1.0 mL/min; detection wavelength, 254 nm).

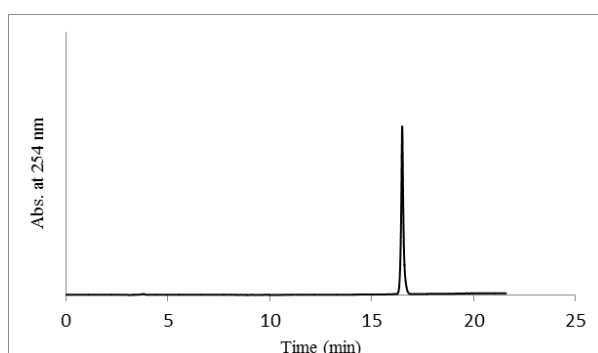


Synthesis of SSip-1 (**14**)

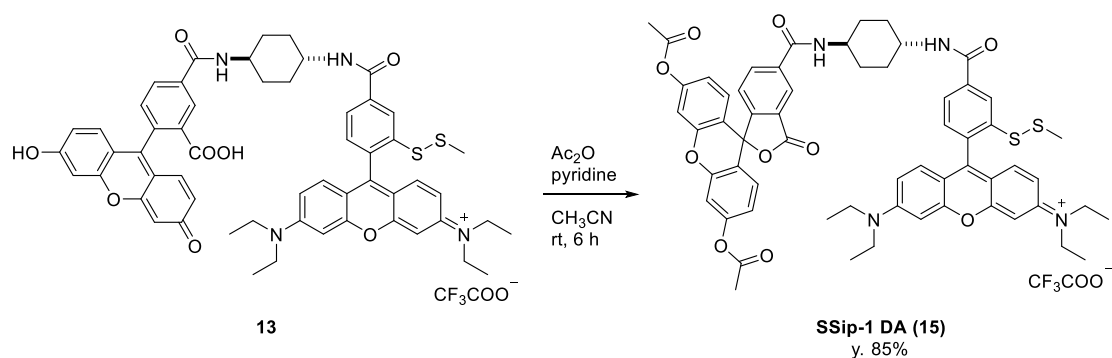


To a solution of compound **13** (3.0 mg, 3.08 μmol) in CH₃CN (1.0 mL) and H₂O (1.0 mL), tris(2-carboxyethyl)phosphine hydrochloride (1.0 mg, 3.86 μmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 15 min, and then purified by HPLC (eluent, a 20-min linear gradient, from 50% to 100% eluent B; flow rate, 5.0 ml/min; eluent A (H₂O containing 0.1% TFA) and eluent B (CH₃CN with 20% H₂O containing 0.1% TFA)) to afford SSip-1 (**14**) (2.6 mg, 1.40 μmol, 91% yield) as a red solid. This compound was readily oxidized, and was isolated as a dimer (see the above chemical structure).

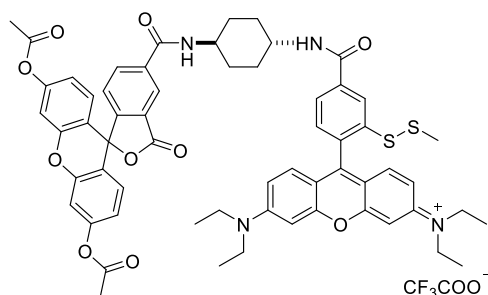
^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 1.32 (12H, t, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 1.69-1.71 (4H, m), 2.15-2.23 (4H, m), 3.69 (8H, q, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 4.07-4.10 (2H, br m), 6.47 (2H, dd, $J = 8.8, 2.4$ Hz), 6.54 (2H, d, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 6.68 (2H, d, $J = 2.4$ Hz), 6.83 (2H, d, $J = 9.3$ Hz), 6.92 (2H, dd, $J = 9.3, 2.4$ Hz), 6.97 (2H, d, $J = 2.4$ Hz), 7.25 (1H, d, $J = 7.8$ Hz), 7.40 (1H, d, $J = 8.3$ Hz), 8.04 (1H, dd, $J = 7.8, 1.5$ Hz), 8.20 (1H, dd, $J = 8.3, 1.5$ Hz), 8.33 (1H, d, $J = 1.5$ Hz), 8.47 (1H, d, $J = 1.5$ Hz); HRMS (ESI $^+$): Calcd for $[\text{M}-2\text{CF}_3\text{COO}]^{2+}$, 1857.7045, Found, 1857.7065 (+2.0 mmu). HPLC analysis: retention time, 16.4 min (eluent, a 15-min linear gradient, from 25% to 100% eluent B; eluent A (H_2O containing 0.1% TFA) and eluent B (CH_3CN with 20% H_2O containing 0.1% TFA); flow rate: 1.0 mL/min; detection wavelength, 254 nm).



Scheme S2. Synthetic scheme for SSip-1 DA



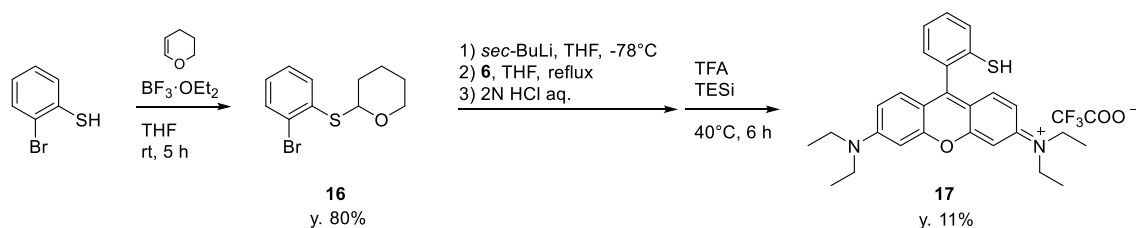
Synthesis of SSip-1 DA (15)



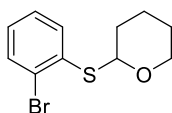
To a solution of compound **13** (15.0 mg, 15.4 μ mol) in anhydrous CH₃CN (4.0 mL), acetic anhydride (31.4 mg, 29 μ L, 0.308 mmol) and pyridine (24.3 mg, 25 μ L, 0.308 mmol) were added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 6 h and then evaporated to dryness. The resulting residue was purified by HPLC (eluent, a 15-min linear gradient, from 50% to 100% eluent B; flow rate, 5.0 ml/min; eluent A (H₂O containing 0.1% TFA) and eluent B (CH₃CN with 20% H₂O containing 0.1% TFA)) to afford SSip-1 DA (**15**) (13.8 mg, 13.0 μ mol, 85% yield) as a red solid.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 1.31 (12H, t, J = 7.1 Hz), 1.65-1.68 (4H, m), 2.16-2.19 (4H, m), 2.29 (6H, s), 2.37 (3H, s), 3.69 (8H, q, J = 7.1 Hz), 4.03-4.06 (2H, br m), 6.88-6.90 (4H, m), 7.00 (2H, d, J = 2.0 Hz), 7.06 (2H, dd, J = 9.3, 2.0 Hz), 7.14 (2H, d, J = 9.3 Hz), 7.19 (2H, d, J = 2.0 Hz), 7.35 (1H, d, J = 8.3 Hz), 7.44 (1H, d, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.97 (1H, dd, J = 7.8, 1.5 Hz), 8.24 (1H, dd, J = 8.3, 1.5 Hz), 8.49 (1H, d, J = 1.5 Hz), 8.54 (1H, d, J = 1.5 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 12.8, 20.9, 23.3, 32.3, 47.0, 50.2, 83.3, 97.6, 111.7, 114.5, 115.9, 117.2, 119.4, 125.2, 125.5, 127.2, 127.7, 128.7, 130.0, 131.5, 132.4, 135.8, 136.0, 138.6, 138.7, 138.7, 152.8, 154.1, 155.3, 156.5, 157.5, 159.4, 167.6, 168.2, 170.0, 170.5; HRMS (ESI⁺): Calcd for [M-CF₃COO]⁺, 1059.3673, Found, 1059.3628 (-4.5 mmu).

Scheme S3. Synthetic scheme for 2-thio Rhodamine B (2-thio RB)



Synthesis of 2-(bromophenyl-2-thioyl)tetrahydro-2H-pyran (16)

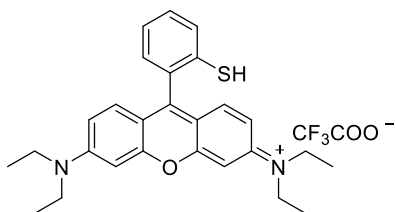


To a solution of 2-bromobenzenethiol (1.00 g, 0.62 mL, 5.29 mmol) and 3,4-dihydro-2H-pyran (890 mg, 0.96 mL, 10.6 mmol) in THF (15 mL), boron trifluoride-ethyl ether complex (750 mg, 0.67 mL, 5.29 mmol) was slowly added at 0°C. The mixture was warmed to room temperature, then stirred for 5 h, and sat. NaHCO₃ aq. (15 mL) was added to it. The mixture was extracted with AcOEt. The organic layer was washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄ and evaporated to dryness. The resulting residue was purified by column

chromatography (silica gel, 1:0 to 1:1 hexane/CH₂Cl₂) to afford compound **16** (1.16 g, 4.25 mmol, 80% yield) as a colorless oil.

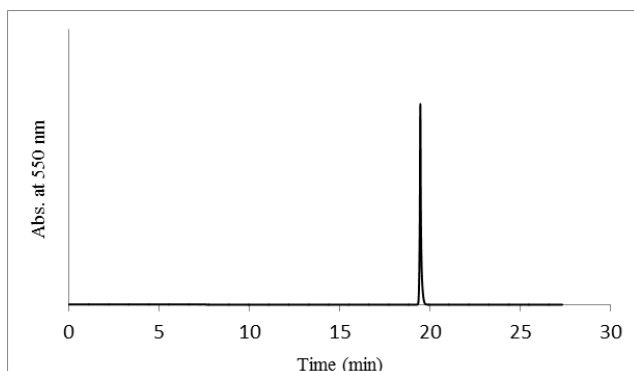
¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.62-1.74 (3H, m), 1.86-1.96 (2H, m), 2.07-2.14 (1H, m), 3.59-3.66 (1H, m), 4.13-4.21 (1H, m), 5.37-5.38 (1H, m), 7.04 (1H, td, *J* = 7.7, 1.5 Hz), 7.26 (1H, td, *J* = 7.7, 1.5 Hz), 7.53 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.5 Hz), 7.59 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.5 Hz); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 21.8, 25.9, 31.7, 64.6, 84.2, 124.0, 127.5, 128.3, 130.4, 133.1, 138.0.

Synthesis of 2-thio RB (**17**)

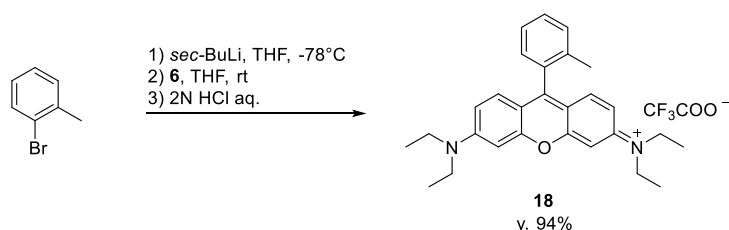


To a flame-dried flask flushed with argon, compound **16** (243 mg, 0.89 mmol) and anhydrous THF (10 mL) were added. The solution was cooled to -78°C , and 1 M *sec*-BuLi (0.80 mL, 0.80 mmol) was slowly added. The mixture was stirred at -78°C for 20 min, and a solution of compound **6** (30 mg, 0.089 mmol) in anhydrous THF (5 mL) was slowly added. The mixture was warmed to 70°C , then stirred for 2 h. It was cooled to room temperature and 2 N HCl aq. (20 mL) was added to it. The mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The organic layer was washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄ and evaporated to dryness. The resulting residue and triethylsilane (100 μL) were dissolved in trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) (3.0 mL). The solution was stirred at 40°C for 4 h and cooled to room temperature. The mixture was evaporated to dryness. The resulting residue was purified by HPLC (eluent, a 15-min linear gradient, from 25% to 100% eluent B; flow rate, 5.0 ml/min; eluent A (H₂O containing 0.1% TFA) and eluent B (CH₃CN with 20% H₂O containing 0.1% TFA)) to afford compound **17** (4.1 mg, 9.5 μmol , 11% yield) as a red solid.

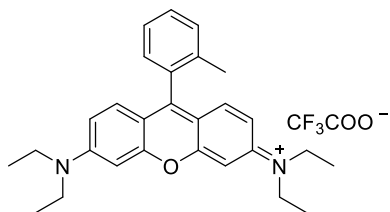
¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 1.32 (12H, t, *J* = 7.0 Hz), 3.70 (8H, q, *J* = 7.0 Hz), 7.00 (2H, d, *J* = 2.2 Hz), 7.09 (2H, dd, *J* = 9.5, 2.2 Hz), 7.21 (2H, d, *J* = 9.5 Hz), 7.28 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.5 Hz), 7.43 (1H, td, *J* = 7.7, 1.5 Hz), 7.52 (1H, td, *J* = 7.7, 1.5 Hz), 7.65 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.5 Hz); HRMS (ESI⁺): Calcd for [M-CF₃COO]⁺, 431.2157, Found, 431.2154 (-0.3 mmu). HPLC analysis: retention time, 19.5 min (eluent, a 15-min linear gradient, from 50% to 100% eluent B; eluent A (H₂O containing 0.1% TFA) and eluent B (CH₃CN with 20% H₂O containing 0.1% TFA); flow rate: 1.0 mL/min; detection wavelength, 550 nm).



Scheme S4. Synthetic scheme for 2-Me Rhodamine B (RB)



Synthesis of 2-Me RB (**18**)

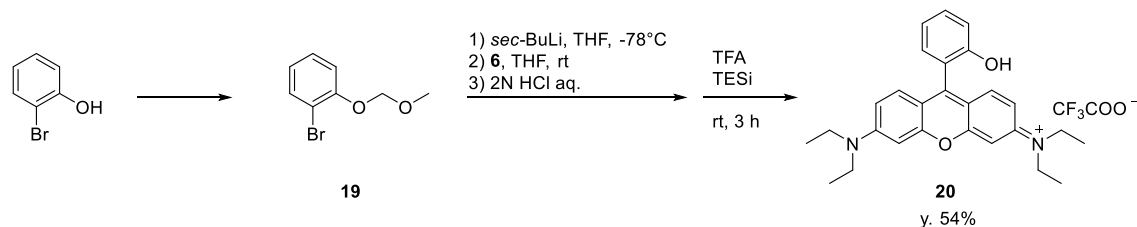


To a flame-dried flask flushed with argon, 2-bromotoluene (152 mg, 0.89 mmol) and anhydrous THF (10 mL) were added. The solution was cooled to -78°C , and 1 M *sec*-BuLi (0.80 mL, 0.80 mmol) was slowly added. The mixture was stirred at -78°C for 20 min, and a solution of compound **6** (30 mg, 0.089 mmol) in anhydrous THF (5 mL) was slowly added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h, and 2 N HCl aq. (20 mL) was added to it. The mixture was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The organic layer was washed with brine, dried over Na_2SO_4 and evaporated to dryness. The resulting residue was purified by HPLC (eluent, a 15-min linear gradient, from 25% to 100% eluent B; flow rate, 5.0 ml/min; eluent A (H_2O containing 0.1% TFA) and eluent B (CH_3CN with 20% H_2O containing 0.1% TFA)) to afford compound **18** (33.5 mg, 81.1 μmol , 94% yield) as a red solid.

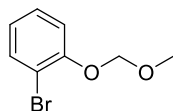
^1H NMR (300 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 1.32 (12H, t, $J = 7.0$ Hz), 2.07 (1H, s), 3.70 (8H, q, $J = 7.0$ Hz), 7.00 (2H, d, $J = 2.2$ Hz), 7.08 (2H, dd, $J = 9.5, 2.2$ Hz), 7.19 (2H, d, $J = 9.5$ Hz), 7.25 (1H, m), 7.50 (3H, m); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 12.8, 19.6, 46.7, 97.4, 114.7, 115.7, 127.3, 130.1,

131.2, 131.8, 132.7, 133.2, 137.3, 157.3, 159.1, 159.5; HRMS (ESI⁺): Calcd for [M-CF₃COO]⁺, 413.2593, Found, 413.2571 (-2.2 mmu).

Scheme S5. Synthetic scheme for 2-OH Rhodamine B (RB)

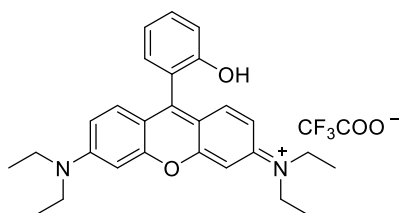


Synthesis of 1-bromo-2-methoxymethoxybenzene (19)



This compound was synthesized according to reference S5.

Synthesis of 2-OH RB (20)

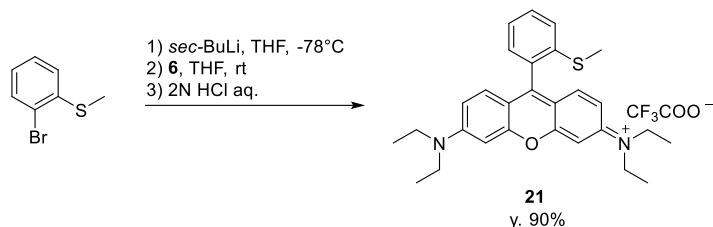


To a flame-dried flask flushed with argon, compound **19** (193 mg, 0.89 mmol) and anhydrous THF (10 mL) were added. The solution was cooled to -78°C, and 1 M *sec*-BuLi (0.80 mL, 0.80 mmol) was slowly added. The mixture was stirred at -78°C for 20 min, and a solution of compound **6** (30 mg, 0.089 mmol) in anhydrous THF (5 mL) was slowly added. Stirring was continued at room temperature for 2 h, and then 2 N HCl aq. (20 mL) was added. The mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The organic layer was washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄ and evaporated to dryness. The resulting residue was purified by HPLC (eluent, a 15-min linear gradient, from 25% to 100% eluent B; flow rate, 5.0 ml/min; eluent A (H₂O containing 0.1% TFA) and eluent B (CH₃CN with 20% H₂O containing 0.1% TFA)) to afford compound **20** (20.0 mg, 48.1 μmol, 54% yield) as a red solid.

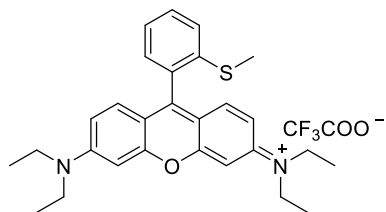
¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 1.28 (12H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 3.63 (8H, q, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 6.91 (2H, d, *J* = 2.2 Hz), 7.02 (2H, dd, *J* = 9.5, 2.2 Hz), 7.09 (2H, m), 7.19 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.5 Hz), 7.37

(2H, d, $J = 9.5$ Hz), 7.48 (1H, td, $J = 7.7, 1.5$ Hz); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 12.8, 46.7, 97.1, 115.0, 115.2, 117.3, 120.4, 120.7, 131.8, 132.9, 133.3, 156.1, 157.1, 157.8, 159.5; HRMS (ESI^+): Calcd for $[\text{M}-\text{CF}_3\text{COO}]^+$, 415.2386, Found, 415.2366 (-2.0 mmu).

Scheme S6. Synthetic scheme for 2-SMe Rhodamine B (RB)



Synthesis of 2-SMe RB (21)



To a flame-dried flask flushed with argon, 2-bromothioanisole (181 mg, 0.89 mmol) and anhydrous THF (10 mL) were added. The solution was cooled to -78°C , and 1 M *sec*-BuLi (0.80 mL, 0.80 mmol) was slowly added. The mixture was stirred at -78°C for 20 min, and a solution of compound **6** (30 mg, 0.089 mmol) in anhydrous THF (5 mL) was slowly added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h, and 2 N HCl aq. (20 mL) was added to it. This mixture was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The organic layer was washed with brine, dried over Na_2SO_4 and evaporated to dryness. The resulting residue was purified by HPLC (eluent, a 15-min linear gradient, from 25% to 100% eluent B; flow rate, 5.0 ml/min; eluent A (H_2O containing 0.1% TFA) and eluent B (CH_3CN with 20% H_2O containing 0.1% TFA)) to afford compound **21** (35.6 mg, 80.1 μmol , 90% yield) as a red solid.

^1H NMR (300 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 1.31 (12H, t, $J = 7.2$ Hz), 2.41 (3H, s), 3.69 (8H, q, $J = 7.2$ Hz), 6.98 (2H, d, $J = 2.2$ Hz), 7.05 (2H, dd, $J = 9.5, 2.2$ Hz), 7.19 (2H, m), 7.26 (1H, m), 7.44 (1H, td, $J = 7.3, 1.5$ Hz), 7.60 (1H, dd, $J = 7.3, 1.5$ Hz), 7.65 (1H, td, $J = 7.3, 1.5$ Hz); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 12.8, 16.0, 46.8, 97.4, 114.7, 115.5, 126.4, 127.8, 130.6, 131.9, 132.7, 135.6, 139.4, 157.3, 157.6, 159.5; HRMS (ESI^+): Calcd for $[\text{M}-\text{CF}_3\text{COO}]^+$, 445.2314, Found, 445.2281 (-3.3 mmu).

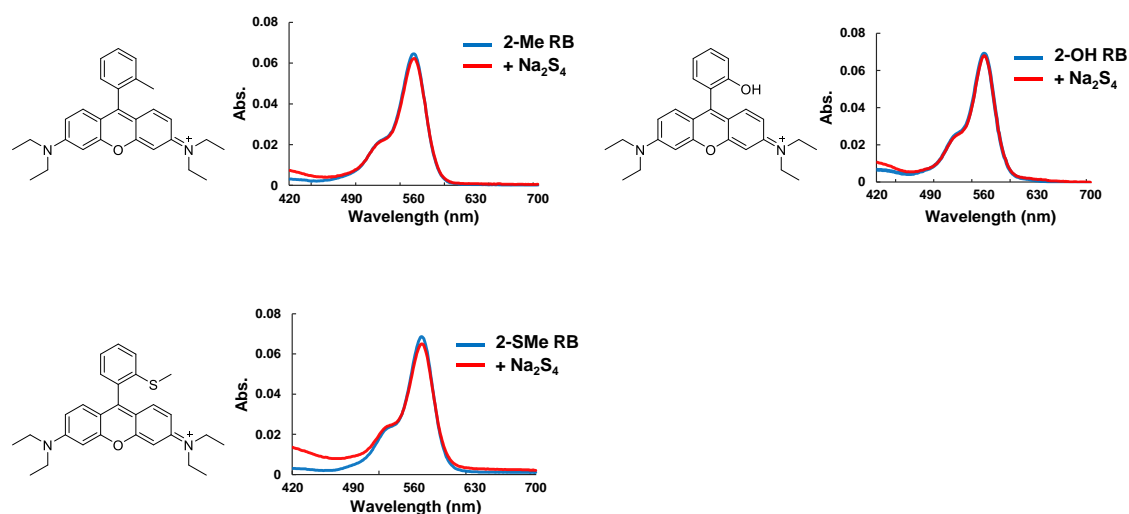


Figure S1. Absorption spectra of 1 μM 2-Me RB, 2-OH RB and 2-SMe RB measured in 100 mM sodium phosphate buffer (pH 7.4) with 100 μM GSH before (blue) and after (red) addition of 50 μM Na_2S_4 , containing 0.1% DMSO and 1 mg/mL BSA as a cosolvent. None of the compounds showed a change of absorption spectrum after addition of Na_2S_4 .

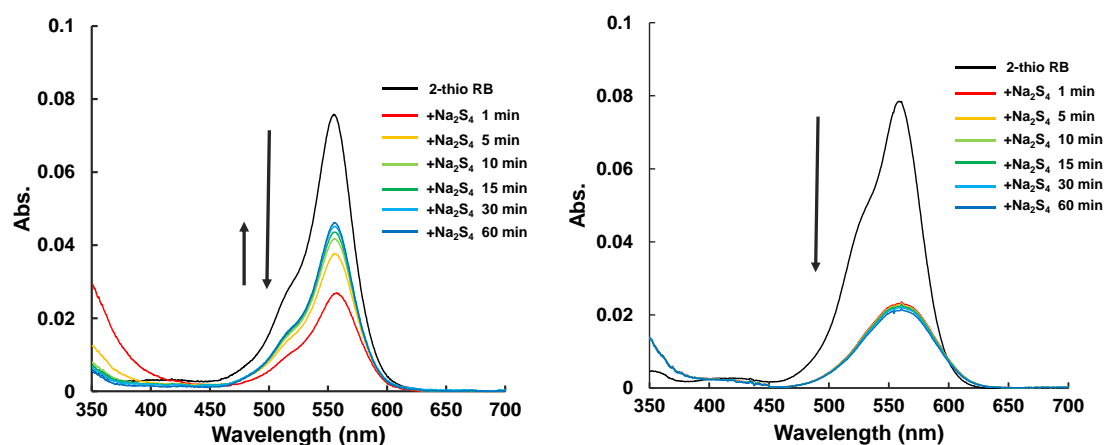


Figure S2. Absorption spectra of 1 μM 2-thio RB measured in 100 mM sodium phosphate buffer (pH 7.4) in the presence (left) and in the absence (right) of 5 mM GSH after addition of 50 μM Na_2S_4 , containing 0.1% DMSO and 1 mg/mL BSA as a cosolvent. The absorbance of 2-thio RB in the presence of 5 mM GSH was strongly decreased 1 min after addition of 50 μM Na_2S_4 (black to red), and then subsequently recovered slowly (red (1 min after addition of 50 μM Na_2S_4) to yellow (5 min after addition of 50 μM Na_2S_4) to blue (60 min after addition of 50 μM Na_2S_4)).

The absorption of 2-thiol RB recovered to only half of the original level in the presence of 5 mM GSH, while SSip-1 showed 80 to 90% recovery. We consider that two factors may contribute to this difference of the recovery rate, i.e., hydrophilicity and stability of the spirocyclized form.

i) Since the spirocyclized form of 2-thio RB is thought to be highly hydrophobic, some of the compound may be precipitated. On the other hand, SSip-1 has a fluorescein moiety, which is relatively highly water-soluble.

ii) We also think that the spirocyclized form of SSip-1 is less stable than that of 2-thio RB, because the absorbance decrease of SSip-1 was less than that of 2-thio RB upon addition of 50 μM Na_2S_4 .

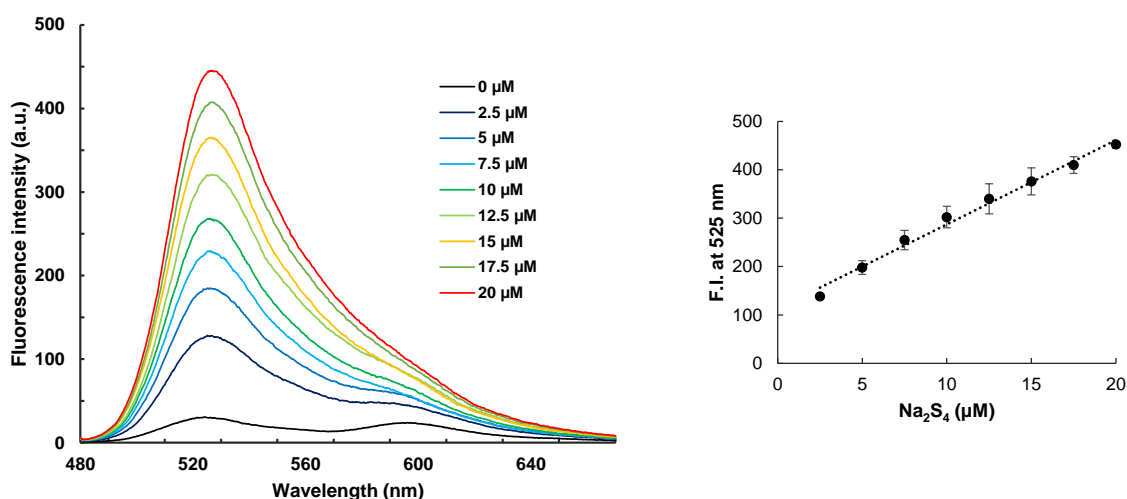


Figure S3. Fluorescence spectra of SSip-1 (1 μM) upon addition of various concentrations of Na_2S_4 (0, 2.5, 5, 7.5, 10, 12.5, 15, 17.5, 20 μM) in the presence of 5 mM GSH, measured in 100 mM sodium phosphate buffer (pH 7.4) containing 0.1% DMSO as a cosolvent and 1 mg/mL BSA. Spectra were measured 1 min after addition of Na_2S_4 .

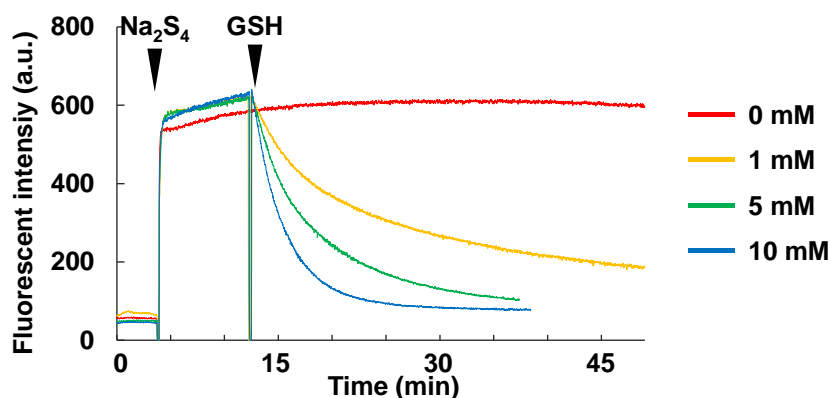


Figure S4. Fluorescence intensity change of SSip-1 (1 μM) after addition of 50 μM Na_2S_4 , followed by addition of various concentrations of GSH (0, 1, 5, 10 mM). The fluorescence intensity change at 525 nm of the reaction mixture was monitored in 100 mM sodium phosphate buffer (pH 7.4) containing 0.1% DMSO as a cosolvent and 1 mg/mL BSA. $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 470$ nm. The fluorescence decrease was dependent upon the amount of added GSH.

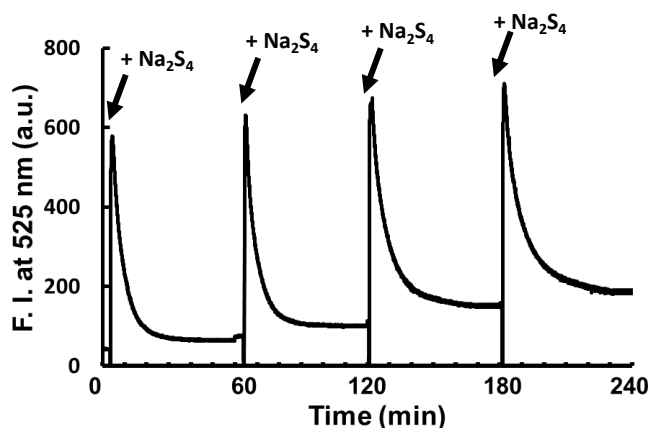


Figure S5. Fluorescence intensity changes of SSip-1 after repeated addition (four times) of 50 μM Na_2S_4 at 1 h intervals in the presence of 5 mM GSH. The fluorescence intensity (525 nm) of the reaction mixture of 1 μM SSip-1, 5 mM GSH and 50–200 μM Na_2S_4 was monitored in 100 mM sodium phosphate buffer (pH 7.4) containing 0.1% DMSO as a cosolvent and 1 mg/mL BSA. $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 470$ nm.

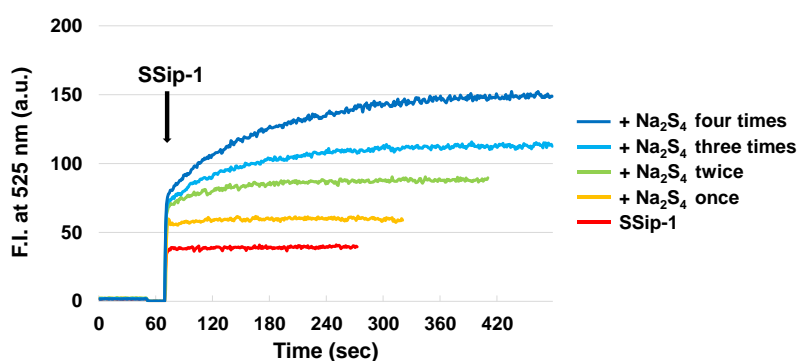


Figure S6. Fluorescence intensity change of SSip-1 after 0 to 4 additions of 50 μM Na_2S_4 to a solution containing 5 mM GSH. The fluorescence intensity change at 525 nm of the reaction mixture of 1 μM SSip-1, 5 mM GSH and 50–200 μM Na_2S_4 was monitored in 100 mM sodium phosphate buffer (pH 7.4) containing 0.1% DMSO as a cosolvent and 1 mg/mL BSA. $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 470$ nm. Detailed protocol: We first added 50 μM Na_2S_4 to the reaction mixture (5 mM GSH in 100

mM sodium phosphate buffer) and left the mixture for 60 min. This procedure (Na_2S_4 addition and 60-min waiting time) was repeated from 1 to 4 times (once: $+\text{Na}_2\text{S}_4$ once (orange); twice: $+\text{Na}_2\text{S}_4$ twice (green); 3 times: $+\text{Na}_2\text{S}_4$ three times (blue); 4 times: $+\text{Na}_2\text{S}_4$ four times (dark blue)). The red line indicates the fluorescence change of 1 μM SSip-1 in 100 mM sodium phosphate buffer (5 mM GSH) without Na_2S_4 addition. Then, 1 μM SSip-1 was added to the mixture and the fluorescence intensity change (525 nm) was measured. The fluorescence intensity increase was dependent on the number of Na_2S_4 additions (see the above graph).

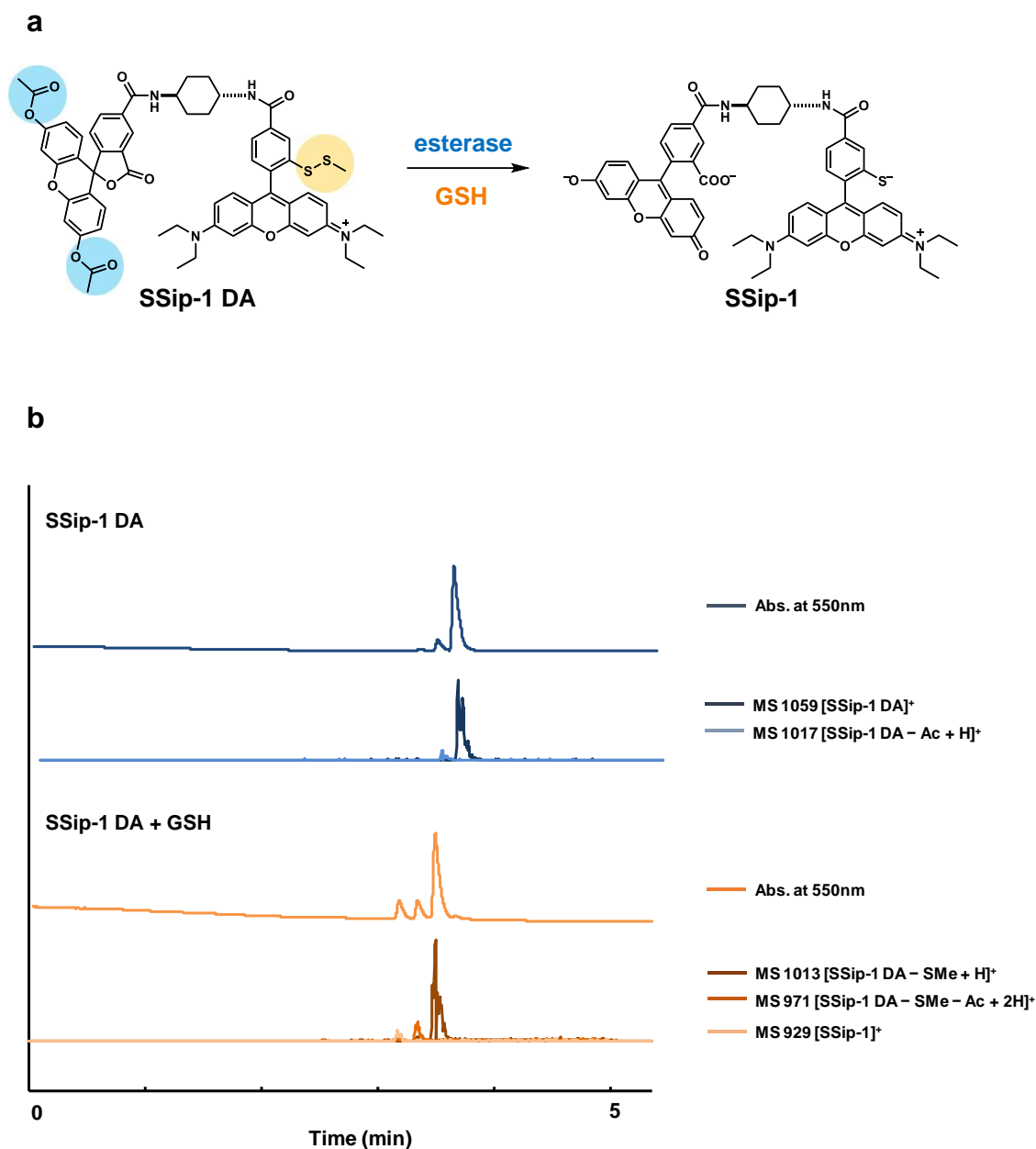


Figure S7. (a) Chemical structure of SSip-1 DA. SSip-1 DA permeates the cell membrane owing to its high lipophilicity, and is converted to SSip-1 by intracellular esterases and reductive conditions (probably mainly related to GSH). SSip-1, produced from SSip-1 DA, stays inside the cell owing to its hydrophilicity. (b) UPLC-MS charts of the reaction mixture of 10 μ M SSip-1 DA in 100 mM sodium phosphate buffer containing 0.1% DMSO before (blue) and 60 min after (orange) addition of 5 mM GSH. UPLC condition: (eluent, a 3.5 min linear gradient, from 5% to 95% eluent B; eluent A (H₂O containing 0.1% formic acid) and eluent B (CH₃CN with 20% H₂O containing 0.1% formic acid); detection wavelength, 550 nm).

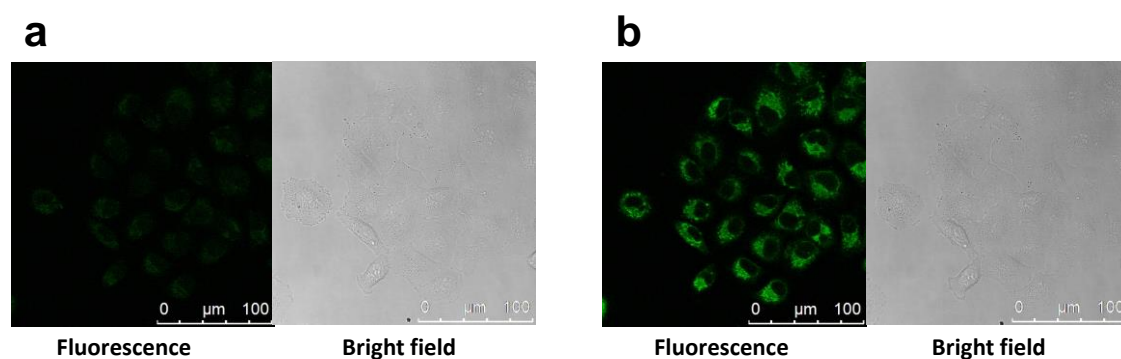


Figure S8. Fluorescence confocal microscopy images of live A549 cells loaded with SSip-1 DA. (a) Cells were incubated with 10 μM SSip-1 DA in DMEM containing 0.1% DMSO for 1 h, then washed with HBSS and placed in fresh DMEM. (b) 10 μM Na_2S_4 was added to the extracellular medium and the cells were incubated for 1 min.

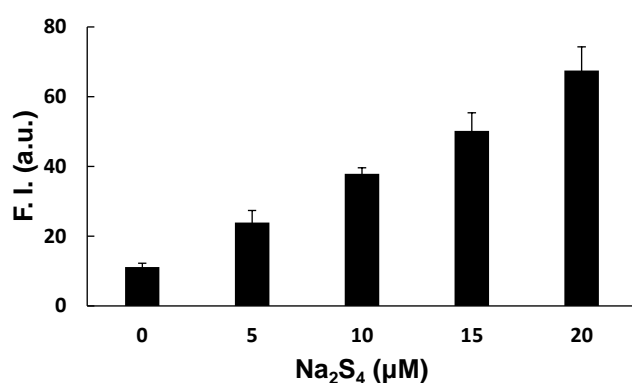


Figure S9. Average fluorescence intensity (F.I.) in fluorescence images 1 min after addition of 0, 5, 10, 15, 20 μM Na_2S_4 in DMEM. Cells were incubated with 10 μM SSip-1 DA containing 0.03% Pluronic F-127 and 0.1% DMSO as a cosolvent for 1 hour. Error bars are \pm S.D.

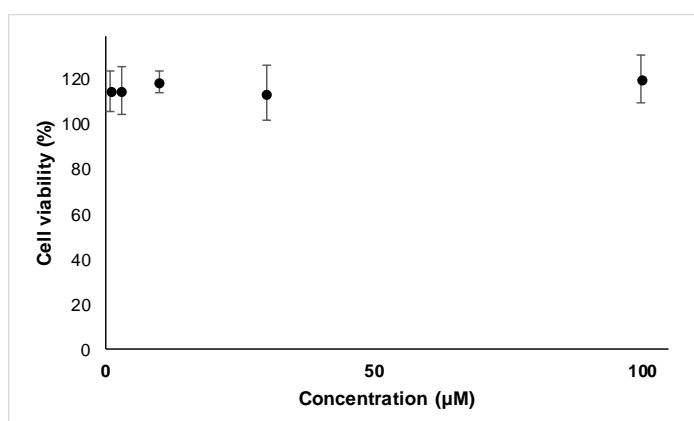


Figure S10. Cytotoxicity of SSip-1 DA to A549 cells. A549 cells were incubated with the indicated concentrations of SSip-1 DA for 3 hours at 37°C under 5% CO₂, and the viability was measured by using CCK-8 assay. Data represent mean ±S.D. from a single experiment (n = 5).

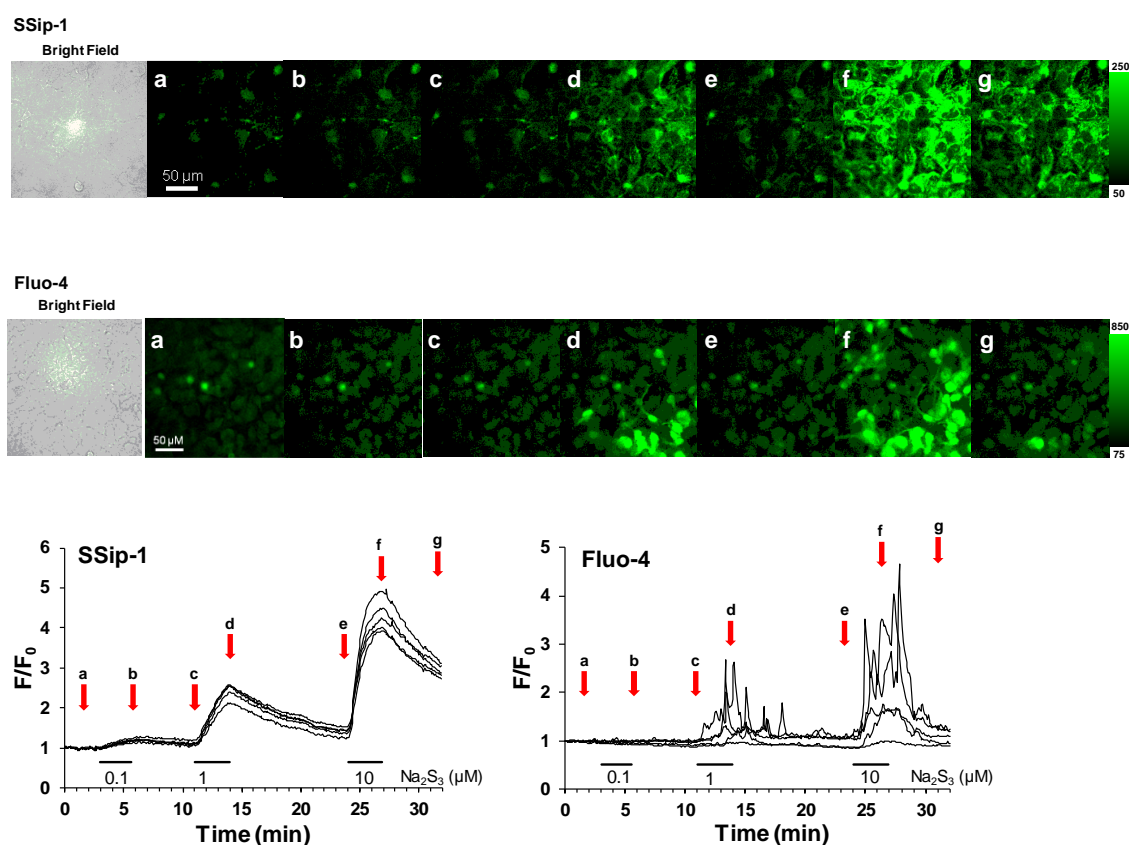
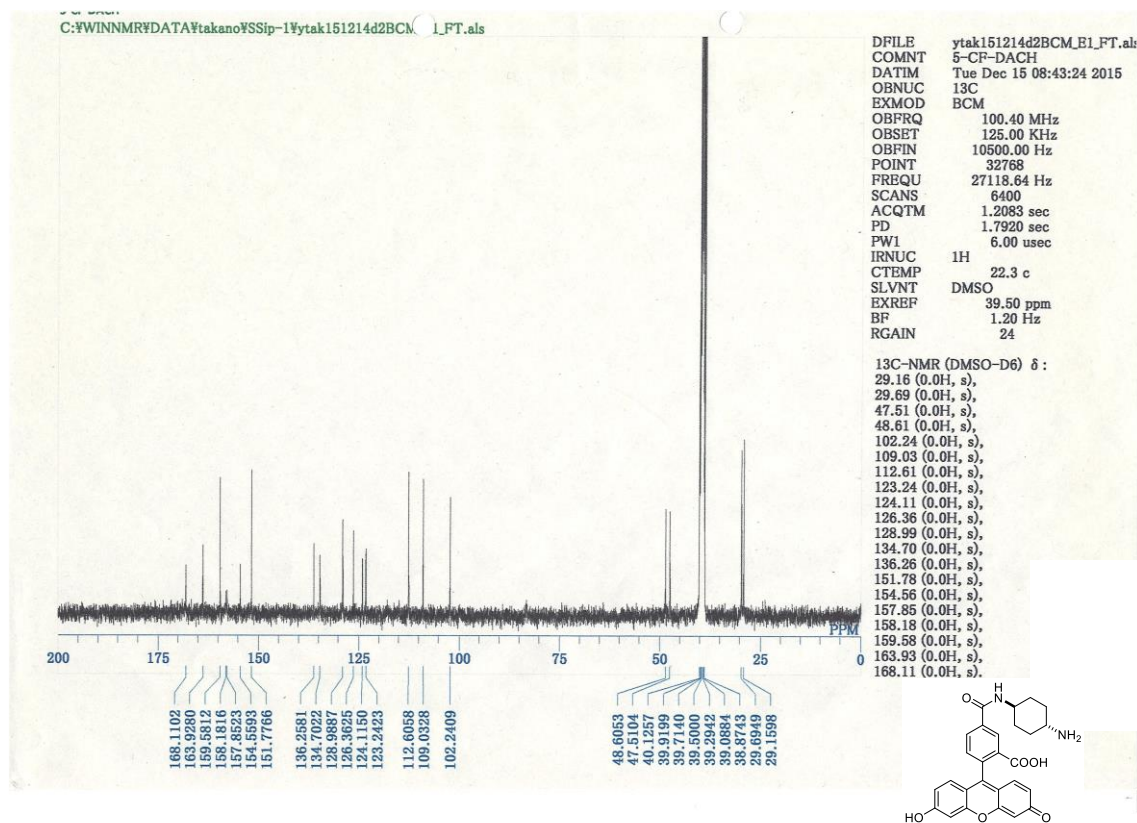
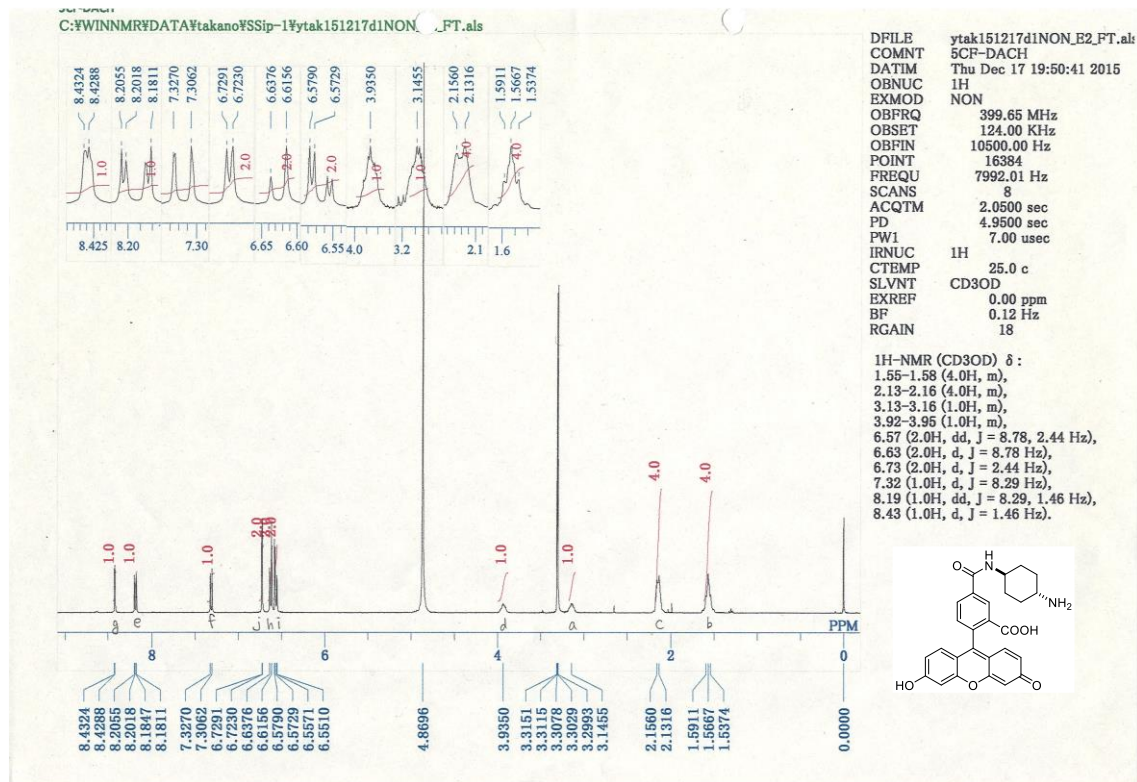
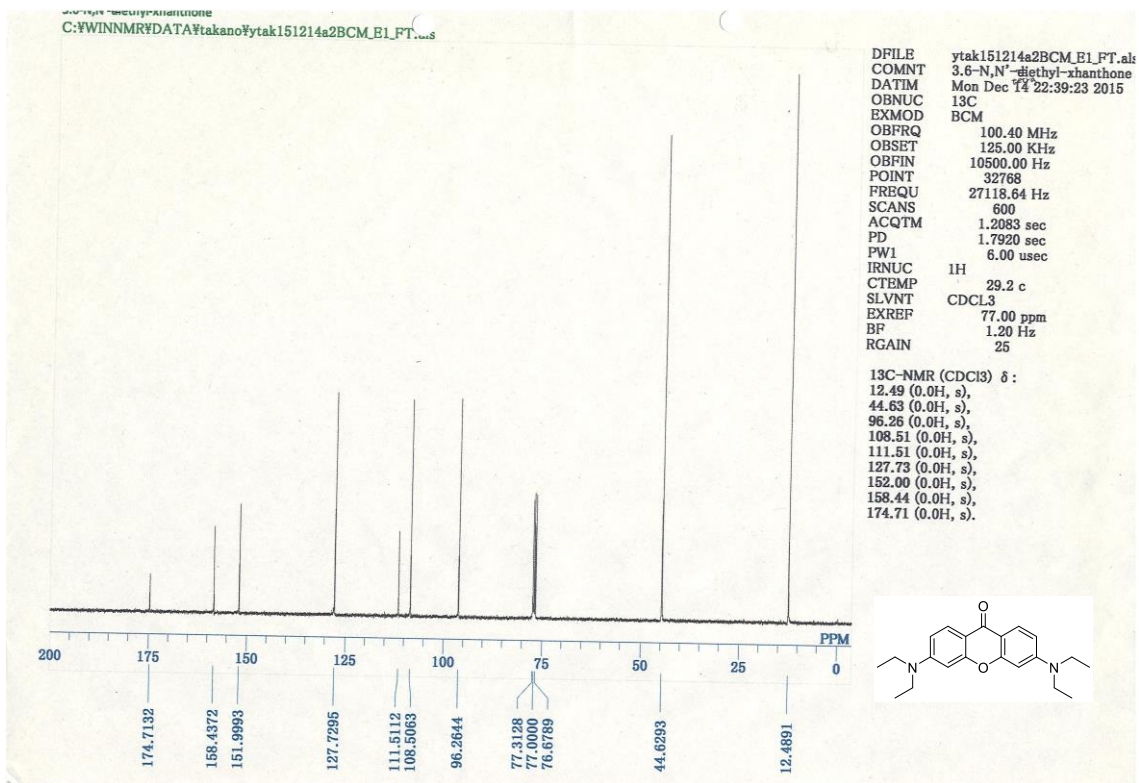
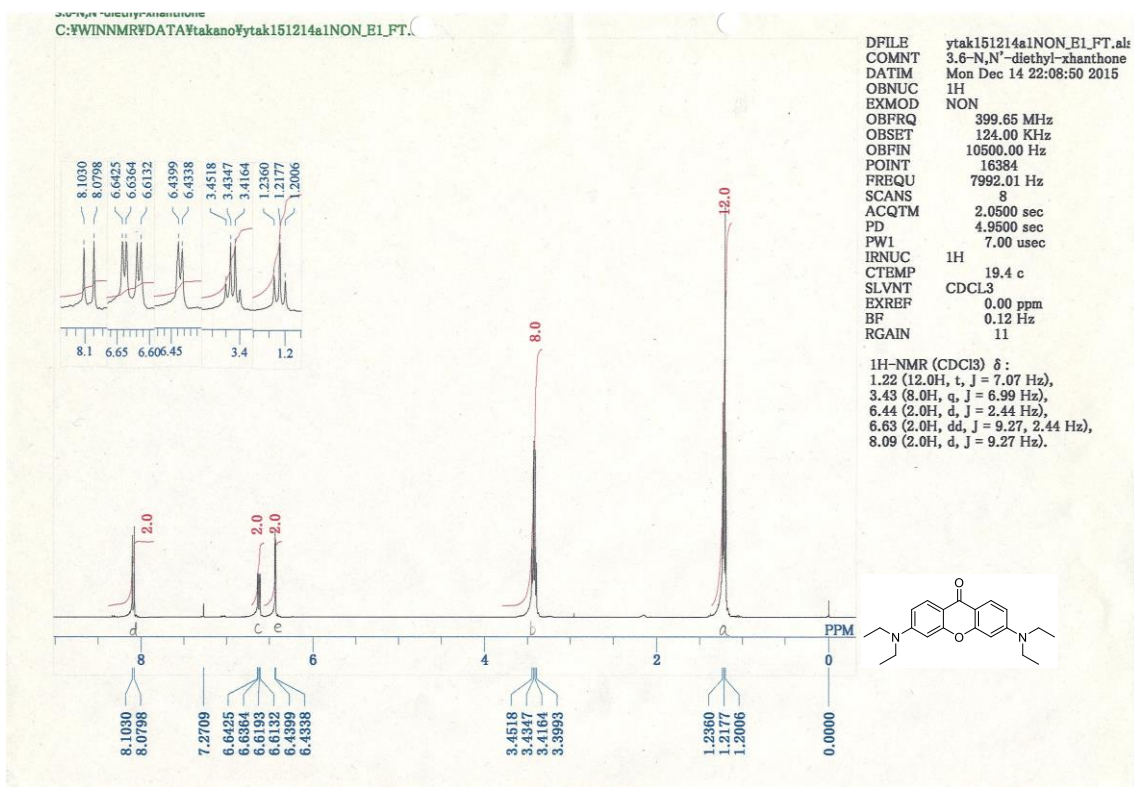
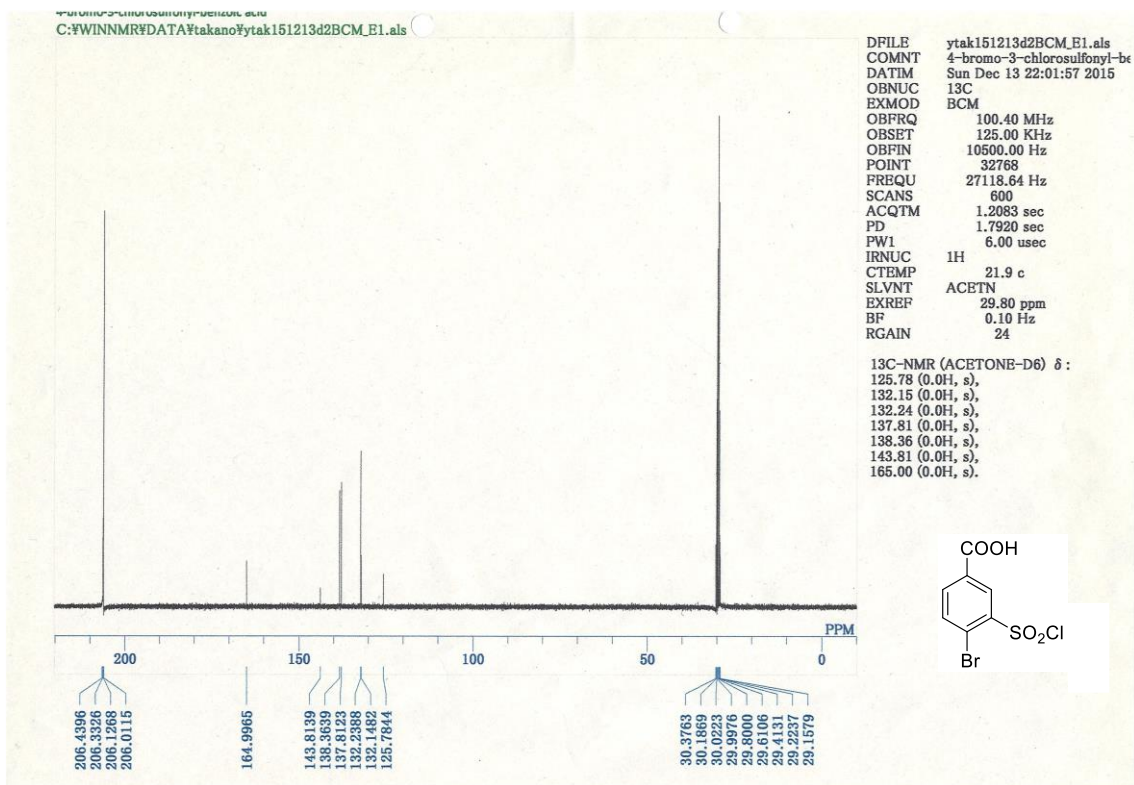
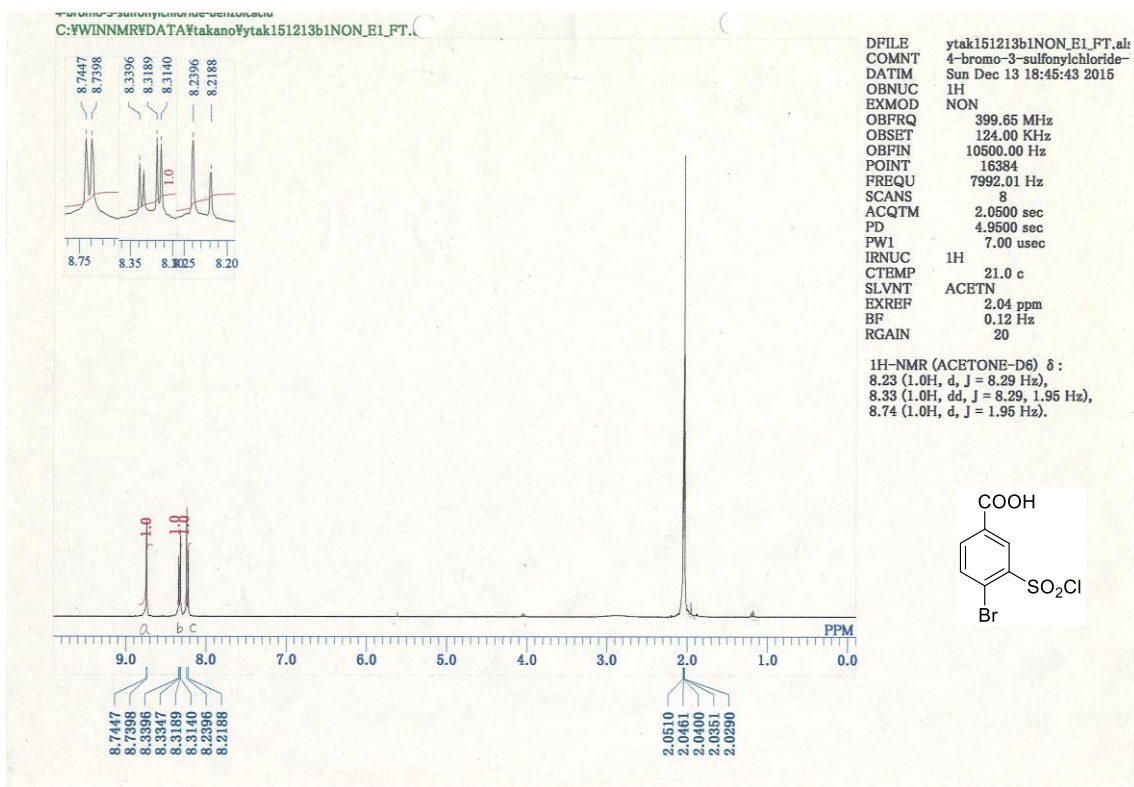


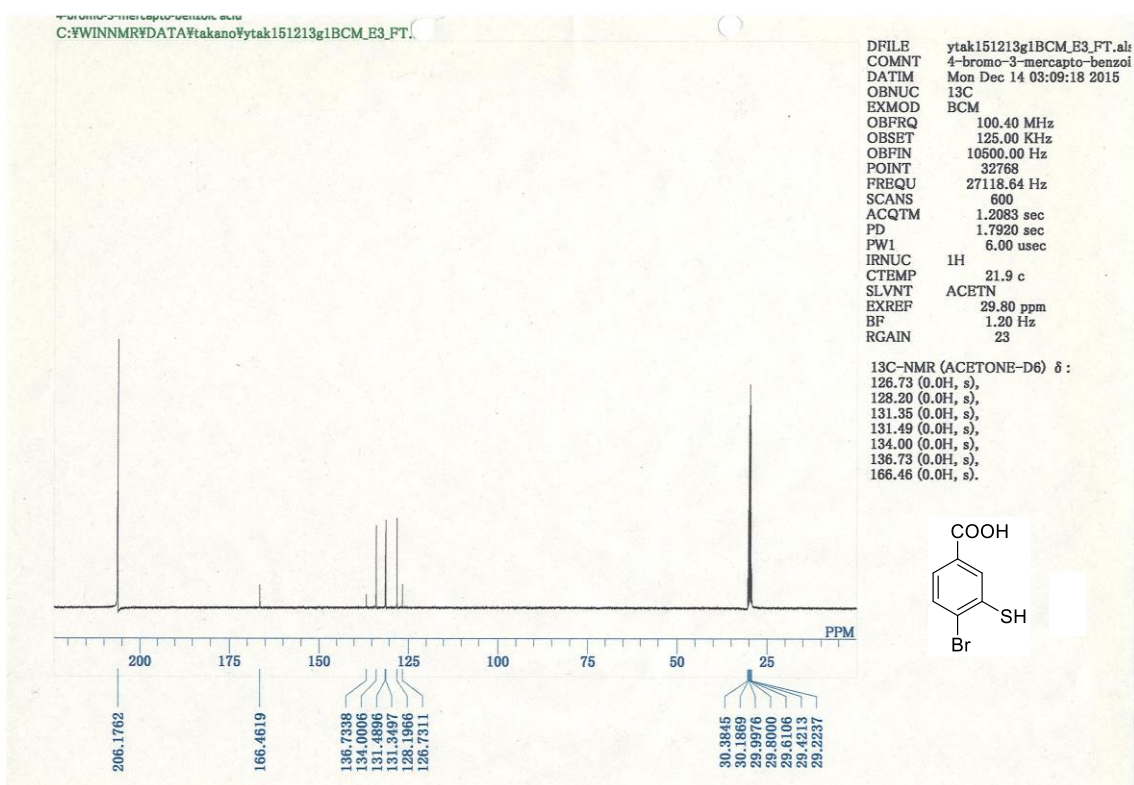
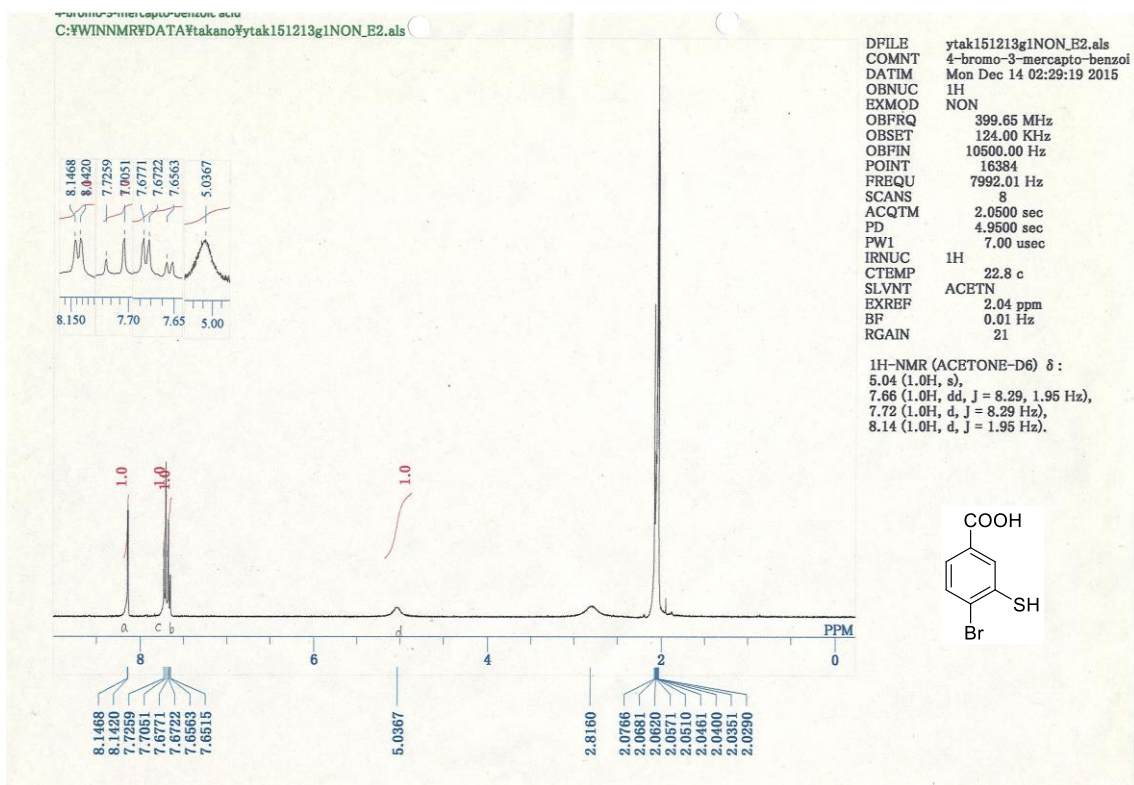
Figure S11. Fluorescence images of cultures of hippocampal astrocytes loaded with SSip-1 DA and Fluo-4.

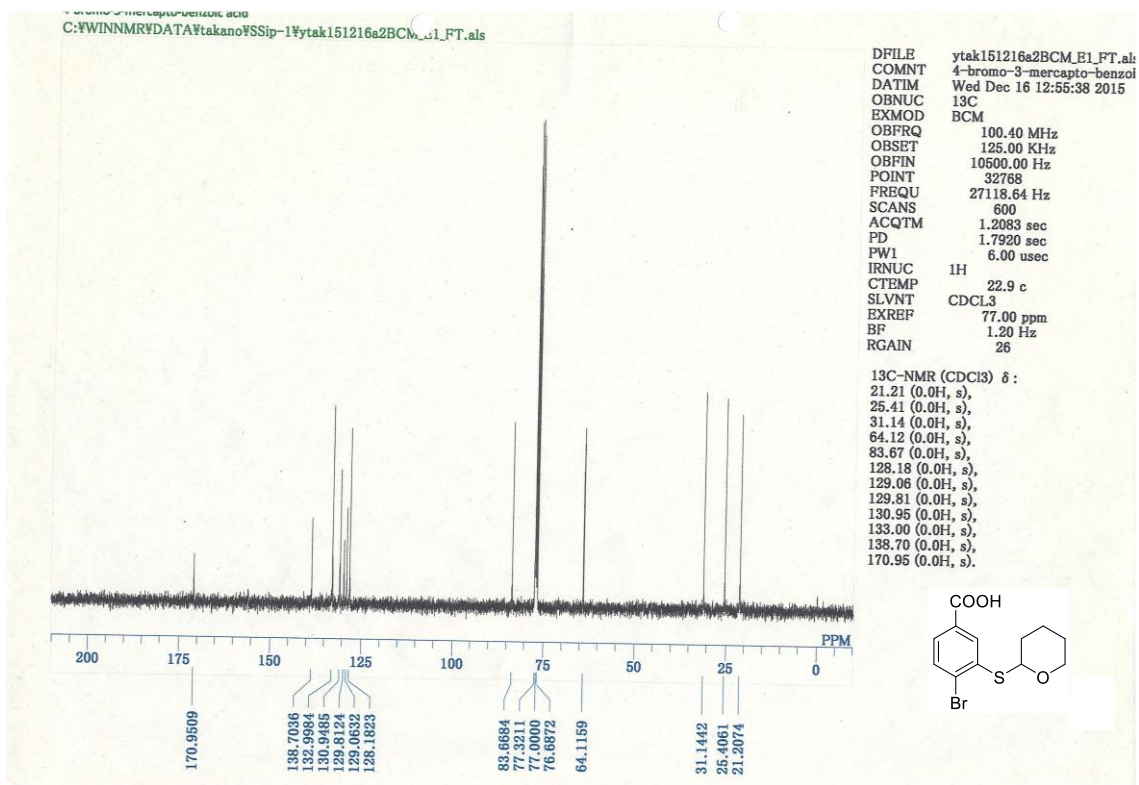
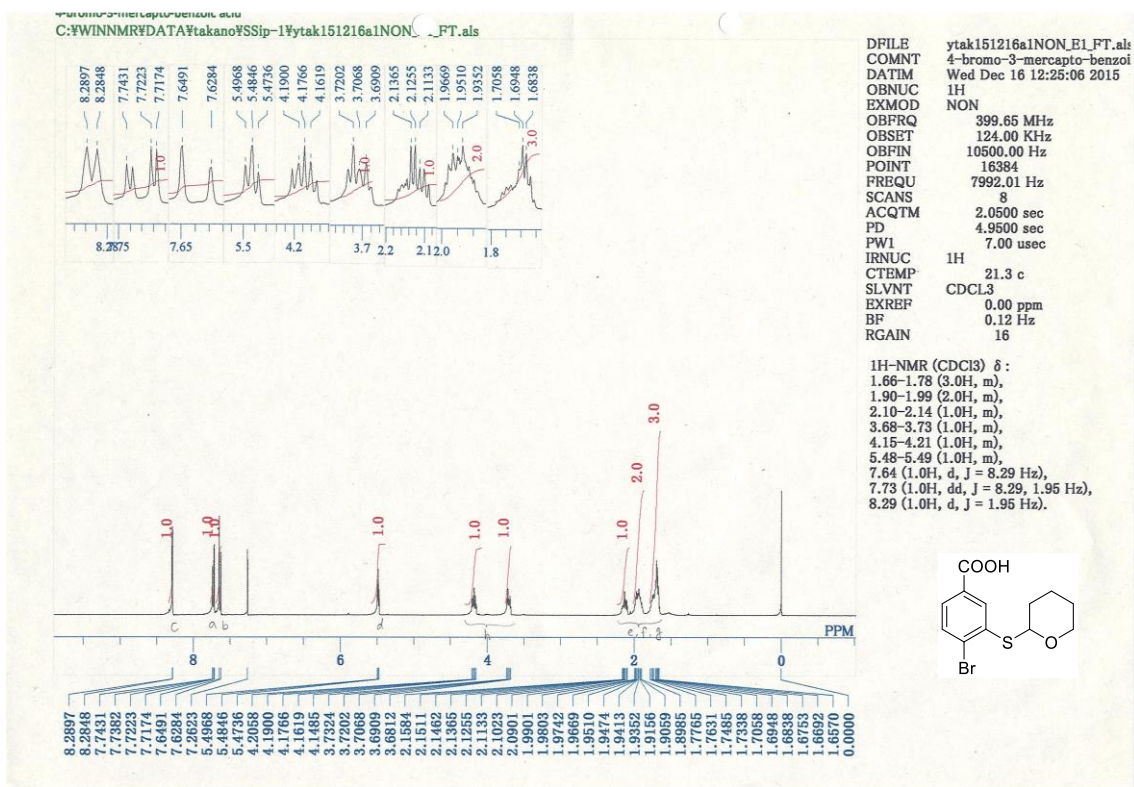
¹H and ¹³C NMR charts of new compounds.

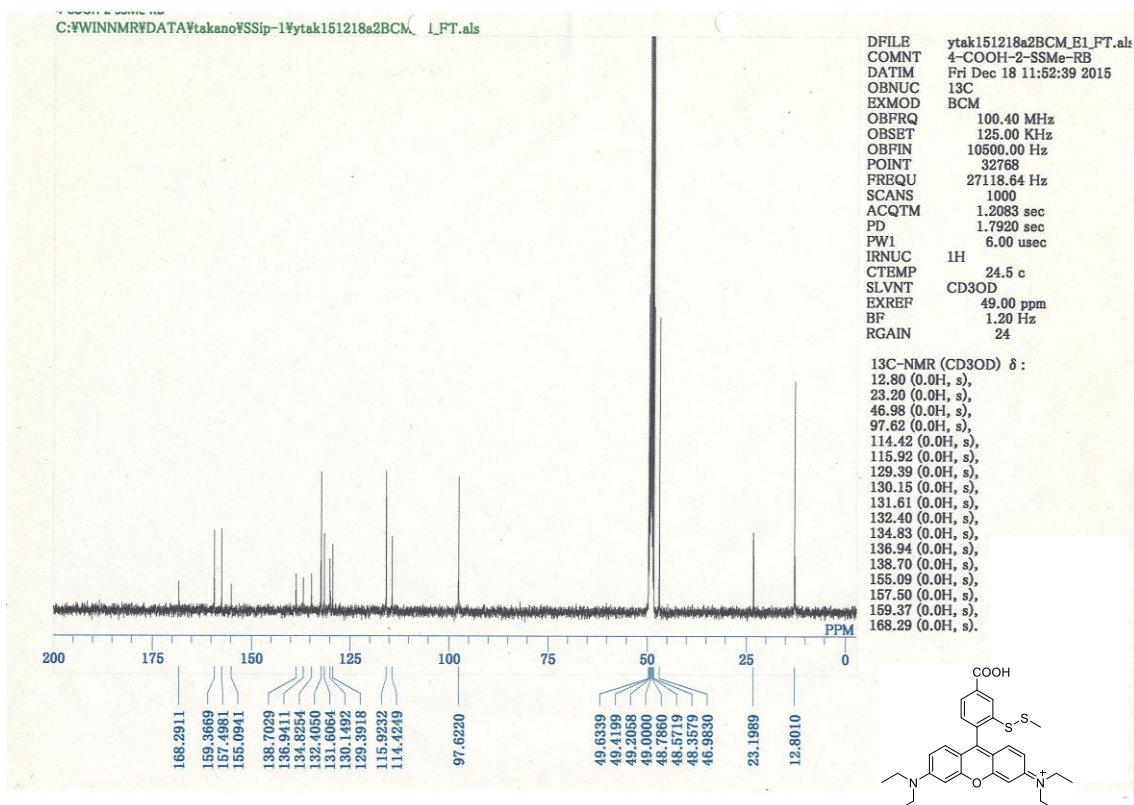
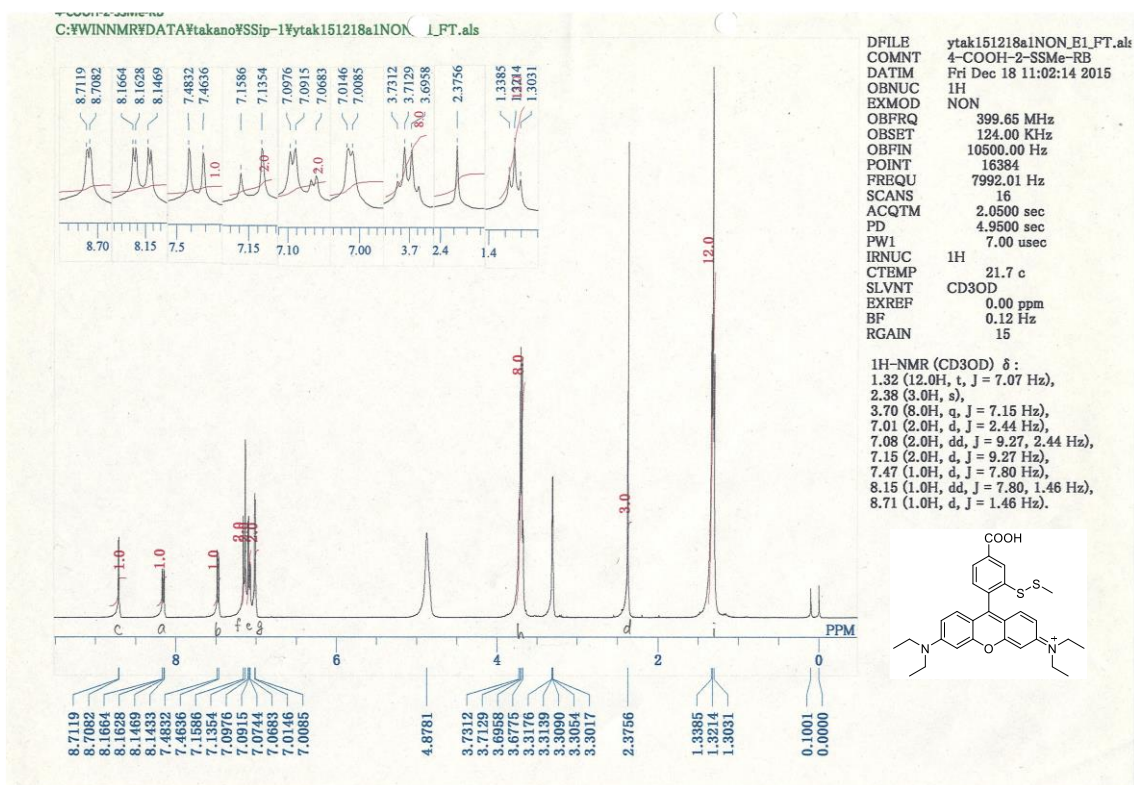


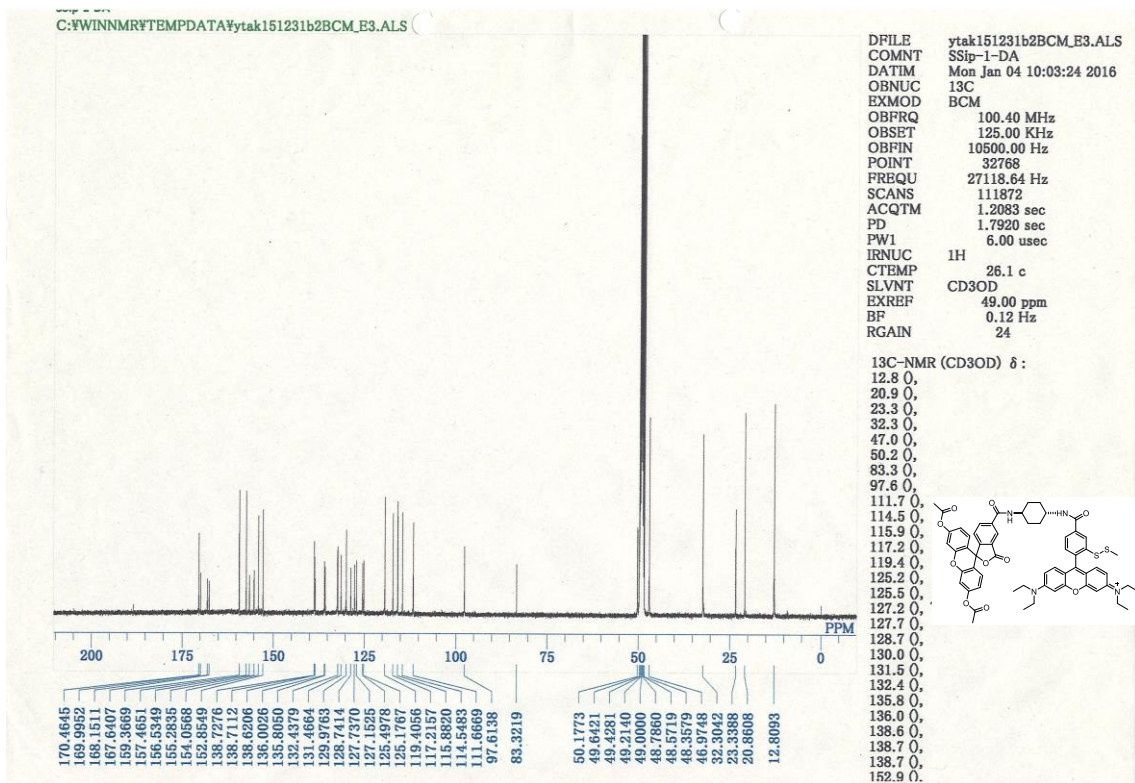
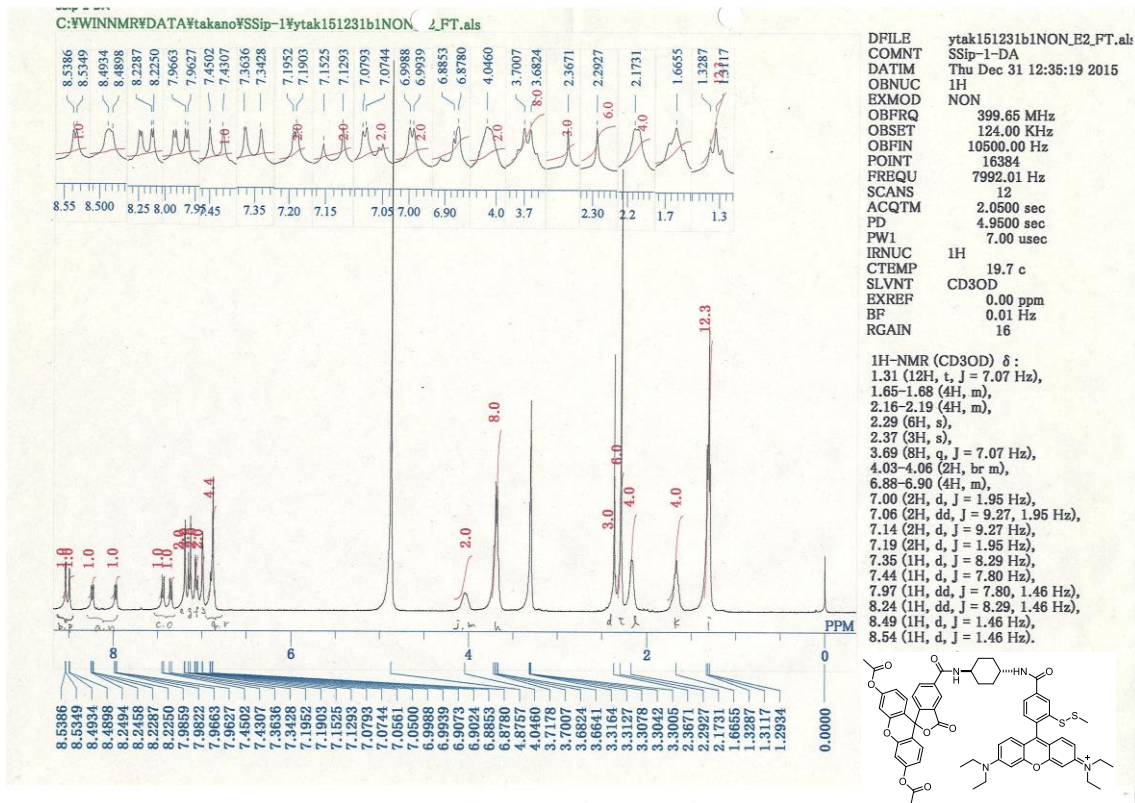












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