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## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

# An Allylated Firefly Luciferin Analogue with Luciferase Specific Response in Living Cells

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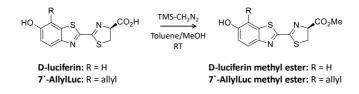
#### 1. Materials and Methods

#### **General Experimental Procedures**

Reagents were purchased from Wako Pure Chemical, Tokyo Chemical Industries and Aldrich Chemical Company and were used without further purification. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra were obtained on JEOL JNM AL-400, JEOL JNM ECX-400, and JEOL JNM- $\alpha$ 400 spectrometers in CD<sub>3</sub>OD solution using tetramethylsilane as an internal standard. Reference values for residual solvents were taken as  $\delta = 3.30$  (CD<sub>3</sub>OD) ppm for <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and  $\delta = 49.00$  (CD<sub>3</sub>OD) ppm for <sup>13</sup>C-NMR. Coupling constants (*J*) are given in Hz and are uncorrected. High-resolution mass spectra were obtained on a Waters LCT Premier XE (ESI) instrument. For preparative and analytical TLC, silica gel plates (Kieselgel 60 F254, E. Merck AG, Germany) were used, with UV light (254 nm ) and ninhydrin visualization of spots. For column chromatography, Kanto Chemical Silica 60N (spherical, neutral, 63-210 µm) was used. All reactions were carried out under an inert (Ar or N<sub>2</sub>) atmosphere unless stated otherwise.

#### Chemiluminescence Spectra

The chemiluminescence emission from the luciferin methyl esters with t-BuOK in DMSO was measured on an AB-2270 luminometer. A solution of the luciferin methyl ester (2.5 mM) in DMSO (200  $\mu$ L) was placed in a polystyrene tube. This solution was treated with t-BuOK (250 mM) in DMSO (40  $\mu$ L), which was injected with a syringe, to initiate the chemiluminescence reaction. The emission spectra were measured on an AB-1850 spectrophotometer for 180 s (slit width: 1.0 mm; exposure time: 180 s) with final concentrations of 1.25 mM (substrate) and 125 mM (t-BuOK). The luciferin methyl esters were prepared as previously reported.<sup>1</sup>



#### Absorbance and Fluorescence Spectra

D-luciferin and 7'-AllylLuc (5  $\mu$ M) were dissolved in 0.1 M GTA buffer (pH 8.0) and absorbance and fluorescence spectra were obtained using a VARIOSKAN FLASH (Thermo Scientific, USA) microplate reader with the excitation light and excitation/emission slit widths set to 330 nm and 1 nm, respectively. Spectral data were recorded at 25 °C in a 96-well microplate over the wavelength range of 300-800 nm.

The composition of GTA buffer is 3,3-dimethylglutaric acid, tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane, 2-amino-2-methyl-1,3-propanediol, and pH was adjusted with 1M HCl or 1M NaOH solution.

#### **Bioluminescence Emission Spectra**

All bioluminescence emission spectra with luciferases were recorded on an integrating spherebased multichannel spectrometer equipped with a liquid N<sub>2</sub>-cooled CCD detector as described previously.<sup>2</sup> The absolute spectral sensitivity was calibrated with a spectral irradiance standard lamp. Bioluminescence reactions were carried out at ambient temperature in 10  $\mu$ L of reaction cocktail containing substrates and luciferase. Reactions were initiated by injection of 90  $\mu$ L of ATP-Mg<sup>2+</sup> solution (3 mM ATP-2Na, 8 mM MgSO<sub>4</sub>·7H<sub>2</sub>O in 0.1 M GTA buffer).

### **Bioluminescence intensities and Kinetic Reaction Analysis**

Kinetic reaction analysis was performed with a custom-built luminometer equipped with a Hamamatsu H11890-01 photomultiplier tube (PMT). Bioluminescence reactions were carried out at ambient temperature in reaction cocktails containing 10 µL of 10-200 µM luciferin and 10 µL of 10 µg/mL luciferase. The reaction was initiated by injection of 80 µL of ATP-Mg<sup>2+</sup> solution (3 mM ATP-2Na, 8 mM MgSO<sub>4</sub>·7H<sub>2</sub>O in 0.1 M GTA buffer, pH 8.0). The relative light intensity was collected immediately and integrated over 10 s. The values of Michaelis-Menten constants  $K_{\rm m}$  and maximum velocities  $V_{\rm max}$  were determined by Lineweaver-Burk plots.

## **Determination of Quantum Yields**<sup>2, 3</sup>

The custom-built luminometer equipped with the Hamamatsu H11890-01 PMT was used to determine the bioluminescence quantum yield values. The absolute responsivity of the luminometer was calibrated with an integrating sphere-based multichannel spectrometer equipped with a liquid  $N_2$ -cooled CCD detector and was determined from linear fittings of the plots of the relative count value measured by the luminometer and the absolute value measure by the integrating sphere. The time-integrated total number of photons emitted in the bioluminescence

reaction was measured using the calibrated luminometer. The reaction was initiated by injection of 200  $\mu$ L of ATP-Mg<sup>2+</sup> solution (3 mM ATP-2Na, 8 mM MgSO<sub>4</sub>·7H<sub>2</sub>O in 0.1 M GTA buffer, pH 8.0) to the mixed solution of 10  $\mu$ L of 10 nM luciferin solution and 10  $\mu$ L of 1.0 mg/mL luciferase solution in a test tube, which was placed in advance into the luminometer. The reaction was monitored until the light-emitting reaction was complete. The quantum yield values were calculated from the obtained total number of photons and that of the luciferin molecules.

#### **Plasmid Construction**

For expression in mammalian cells, the genes of Fluc, Eluc, SLG, SLO, and SLR were cloned into pcDNA 3.1/V5-His A vector (Invitrogen, USA) using standard molecular biology techniques as follows. The gene of Fluc was amplified by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) from pGL4.13 (Promega, USA) using primers 5'- ATGCAAGCTTGCCACCATGGAAGATGCCAAAAAC-3' and 5'- GCATCTCGAGCACGGCGATCTTGCC-3'. The gene of Eluc was amplified by PCR 5'from using primers pEluc-test (Toyobo, Japan) ATGCAAGCTTGCCACCATGGAGAGAGAGAGAGA3' and 5'-GCATCTCGAGCAGCTTAGAAGCCTT-3'. The gene of SLG was amplified by PCR from pSLG-SV40 5'-(Toyobo, Japan) using primers ATGCAAGCTTGCCACCATGGCTAACGAGATCATC-3' and 5'-GCATCTCGAGCAGCTTGGACTTCTT-3'. The gene of SLO was amplified by PCR from pSLO-SV40 5'-(Toyobo, Japan) using primers ATGCAAGCTTGCCACCATGGCTAACGAGATCATC-3' and 5'-GCATCTCGAGCAGCTTGGACTTCTT-3'. The gene of SLR was amplified by PCR from 5'pSLR-SV40 (Toyobo, Japan) using primers ATGCAAGCTTGCCACCATGGAAGAAGAAGAACATC-3' and 5'-GCATCTCGAGCAGCTTGGACTTGGC-3'. All the PCR-amplified fragments were digested with Hind III and Xho I and subsequently ligated into pcDNA 3.1/V5-His A. The sequences of the amplified regions were confirmed by DNA sequencing (Eurofins Genomics, Japan). All the expression plasmids were purified using a QIAGEN plasmid kit (Qiagen, USA).

#### Cell Culture and Plasmid Transfection

COS-7 cells were cultured in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (Sigma, USA) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (Gibco, USA), 100 U/mL penicillin and 100  $\mu$ g/mL streptomycin (Gibco, USA) at 37°C in 5% CO<sub>2</sub>. The day before plasmid transfection, cells were plated onto

black 96-well plates (Greiner, Austria) at a density of 10,000 cells per well. Plasmid transfection was performed using Lipofectamine 3000 (Life Technologies, USA) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Forty-eight hours after plasmid transfection, live cell bioluminescence assays were performed.

#### Live Cell Bioluminescence Assays

Transfected COS-7 cells were washed with HBSS once. For live cell assays, the cells in 96-well plates were incubated with 100  $\mu$ L of luciferin in HBSS. Live cell bioluminescence assays were performed using a microplate luminometer (Centro XS3 LB960; Berthold Technologies, Germany) without filter. Imaging of cells was performed by using an *in vivo* imaging system (Lumazone FA, SHOSIN EM CORPORATION, Japan) equipped with EM-CCD (Electron Multiplying Charge Coupled Device, Nippon Roper) as a detector without emission filter. For this purpose, the cells were plated in 24-well plates. The light emission 5 min after incubation of luciferin (500  $\mu$ M) was integrated. Exposure time = 10 s.

### Cytotoxicity Assay

The cytotoxicity of 7'-AllylLuc on COS-7 cells was evaluated by the MTT assay. The cells were seeded in 96-well plates at a density of 10,000 cells per well and cultured for 48 h in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (Sigma, USA) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (Gibco, USA), 100 U/mL penicillin and 100  $\mu$ g/mL streptomycin (Gibco, USA) at 37°C in 5% CO<sub>2</sub>. The cultured cells were then exposed to 7'-AllylLuc in DMEM with 10% FBS at 37°C for 24 h in a 5% CO<sub>2</sub> incubator. Subsequently, MTT in PBS (-) was added to each well (finally diluted to 500  $\mu$ g/mL). After an additional 4 h incubation, the medium was removed and washed with 200  $\mu$ L of PBS (-). Then, 200  $\mu$ L of acidified isopropanol (0.04 mol/L HCl) was added to each well. The culture plates were shaken for 10 min on an oscillator. The absorbance at 570 nm was measured with a hybrid multi-mode microplate reader. The relative percentage of cell survival was calculated based on the 100% arbitrary absorbance obtained for the blank control. Reported values represent the mean s.e.m. of 4 replicates on the same plate.

#### 2. Synthesis Procedure

#### 2-Cyano-6-hydroxybenzothiazole (2)

Pyridine hydrochloride (excess) and **1** (1.18 g, 6.22 mmol) were combined in a flask and stirred at 180 °C for 2h. The resulting brown residue was suspended in ethyl acetate and washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> aq., H<sub>2</sub>O, and brine. The organic layers were combined, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (ethyl acetate/*n*-hexane = 1/3) to give **2** (839.3 mg, 77%) as a pale yellow solid. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  7.98 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (dd, *J* = 2.4, 8.8 Hz, 1H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  160.3, 147.3, 139.0, 133.9, 126.6, 119.6, 114.3, 107.0 ppm; HRMS (ESI<sup>-</sup>) Calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OS [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 174.9966, Found: 174.9971.

#### 6-Allyloxy-2-cyanobenzothiazole (3)

A solution of **2** (429.3 mg, 2.44 mmol) and allyl bromide (0.60 mL, 7.09 mmol) in DMF (5 mL) was treated with K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (368.1 mg, 2.66 mmol) and stirred at r.t. for 20 h. The reaction mixture was then added into water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic layers were combined, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (ethyl acetate/*n*-hexane = 1/5) to give **3** (504.9 mg, 96%) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  8.05 (d, *J* = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (dd, *J* = 2.4, 9.3 Hz, 1H), 6.10 (tdd, 1H), 5.45 (ddd, *J* = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 5.31 (ddd, *J* = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 4.67 (td, *J* = 9.3 Hz, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  160.9, 148.1, 138.9, 135.0, 134.0, 126.4, 120.1, 118.3, 114.2, 105.6, 70.5 ppm; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) Calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>9</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OS [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 217.0436, Found: 217.0458.

## 7-Allyl-2-cyano-6-hydroxybenzothiazole (4)

**3** (504.9 mg, 2.34 mmol) was heated at 180 °C under an Ar atmosphere for 1h. The residue was dissolved and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic layers were combined, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (ethyl acetate/*n*-hexane = 1/10) to give **4** (304.0 mg, 95% (b.r.s.m.)) as a white solid. The remaining starting material (**3**) (183.96 mg, 36%) was recovered as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  8.05 (d, *J* = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (dd, *J* = 2.4, 9.3 Hz, 1H), 6.10 (tdd, 1H), 5.45 (ddd, *J* = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 5.31 (ddd, *J* = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 4.67 (td, *J* = 9.3 Hz, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  156.9, 147.2,

139.2, 134.7, 133.8, 124.6, 119.2, 119.0, 117.2, 114.3, 34.7 ppm; HRMS (ESI<sup>-</sup>) Calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>7</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OS [M-H]<sup>-</sup>: 215.0279, Found: 215.0266.

# (S)-2-(7-allyl-6-hydroxybenzo[d]thiazol-2-yl)-4,5-dihydrothiazole-4-carboxylic acid (7`-AllylLuc)

<sup>HO</sup> $(+)_{N}$   $(+)_{N}$ 

The optical purity was determined by CSP HPLC analysis (Chiracel OZ-RH, eluent: 10-90%  $H_2O/CH_3CN$ , flow 0.3 mL/min) > 99 % ee [tr (minor) = 16.4 min, tr (major) = 19.1 min].

## methyl (S)-2-(7-allyl-6-hydroxybenzo[d]thiazol-2-yl)-4,5-dihydrothiazole-4-carboxylate

(7`-AllylLuc methyl ester)

To a solution of **7** • **AllylLuc** (22.8 mg, 71.1 µmol) in Toluene/MeOH (7.0 mL, v/v=1:7) was added TMSCH<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub> (130 µL, *ca*. 0.6 M solution in hexane) at r.t., and the reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h. After concentration *in vacuo*, the crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (methanol/chloroform = 1/9) to give **7** • **AllylLuc methyl ester** (23.4 mg, 99%) as a pale yellow solid. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  7.77 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 5.97•5.87 (m, 1H), 5.41 (t, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 5.08 (ddd, *J* = 2.0, 10.4, 17.2 Hz, 2H), 3.96 (s, 3H), 3.78 (dd, *J* = 1.6, 6.4 Hz, 2H), 3.31 (m, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  172.2, 168.0, 158.3, 155.7, 148.1, 139.5, 135.1, 123.9, 119.5, 117.7, 116.7, 79.3, 53.2, 35.7, 34.8 ppm; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 335.0519, Found: 335.0524.

The optical purity was not determined.

# **Supplemental Figures**

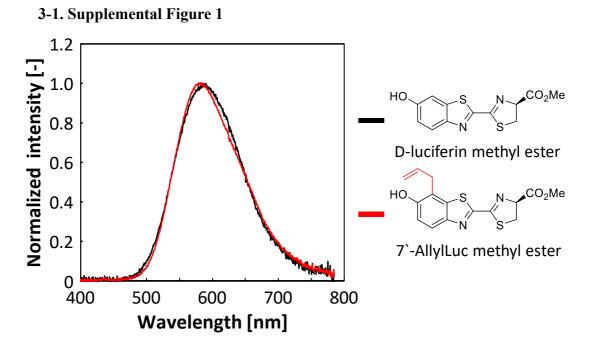


Figure S1. Chemiluminescence spectra of D-luciferin methyl ester (black) and 7`-AllylLuc methyl ester (red) with t-BuOK in DMSO.

# **3-2. Supplemental Figure 2**

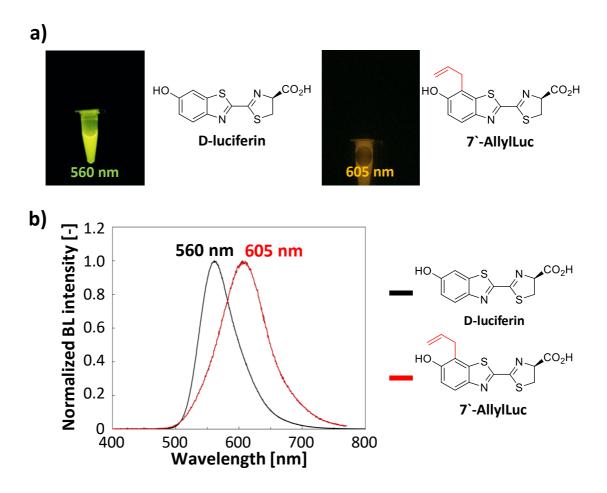


Figure S2. Fluc-catalyzed bioluminescence emission of D-luciferin and 7'-AllylLuc: a) bioluminescence images of D-luciferin and 7'-AllylLuc incubated with high concentrations of Fluc (1.0  $\mu$ g/mL), b) bioluminescence emission spectra for D-luciferin and 7'-AllylLuc.

# **3-3.** Supplemental Figure 3

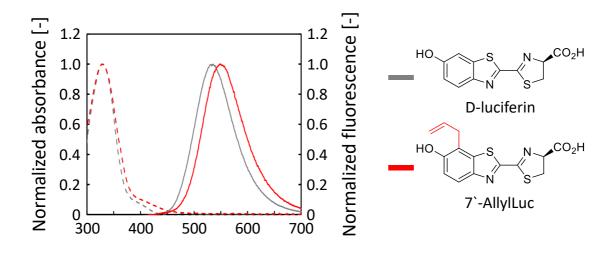


Figure S3. Absorbance (dotted line) and fluorescence (solid line) spectra of D-luciferin (black) and 7`-AllylLuc (red) recorded at pH 8.0 in 0.1M GTA buffer; excited at 330 nm.

# 3-4. Supplemental Figure 4

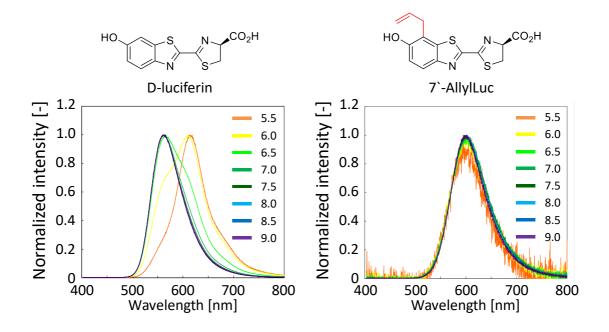


Figure S4. Bioluminescence spectra of D-luciferin and 7<sup>-</sup>AllylLuc with Fluc at various pH values. It is widely known that the luminescence color of D-luciferin in combination with Fluc changes from green to red with increasing pH values.<sup>4</sup> In contrast, the luminescence color of 7<sup>-</sup>AllylLuc remains unaffected by pH changes.

## 3-5. Supplemental Figure 5

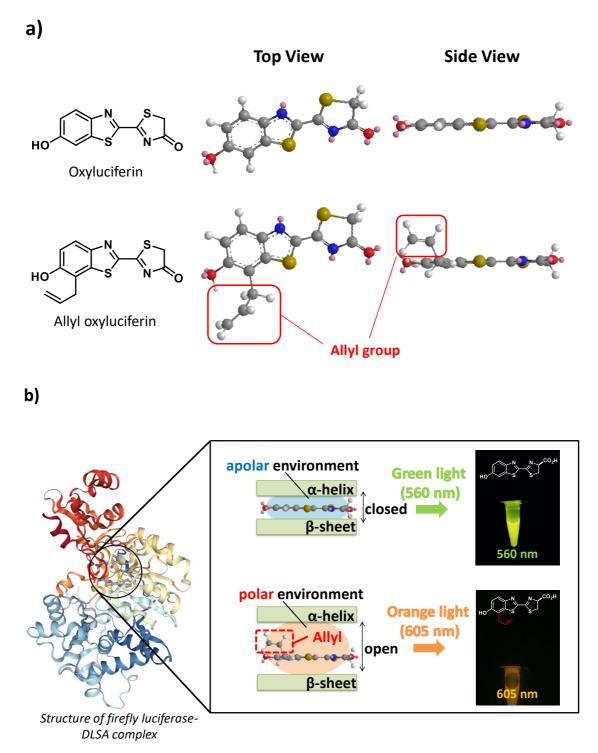


Figure S5. a) Molecular structures of oxyluciferin and ally-oxyluciferin calculated by MM2. The allyl group is not part of the planar luciferin structure. Color scheme: grey = carbon; white = hydrogen; red = oxygen; blue = nitrogen; yellow = sulfur; pink = lone pair. b) Schematic diagram of luciferase active site with 7'-AllylLuc.

#### 3-6. Supplemental Figure 6

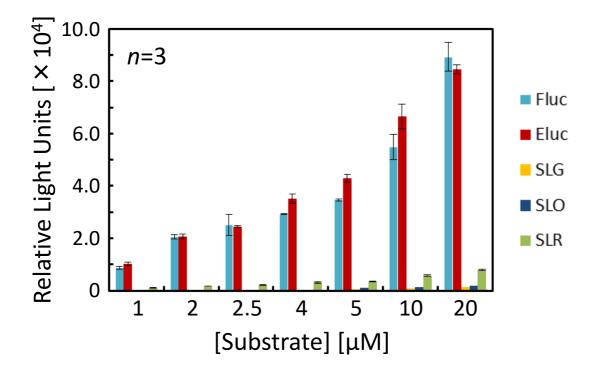


Figure S6. Initial bioluminescence intensity from 7'-AllylLuc with purified luciferases (1  $\mu$ g/mL) at various luciferin concentrations (1-20  $\mu$ M). Data were recorded immediately after addition of ATP-Mg<sup>2+</sup> solution. The initial luminescence intensity is defined as the peak intensity within the first 10 s of ATP-Mg<sup>2+</sup> solution addition. Error bars represent the standard deviation of 3 experiments.

#### 3-7. Supplemental Figure 7

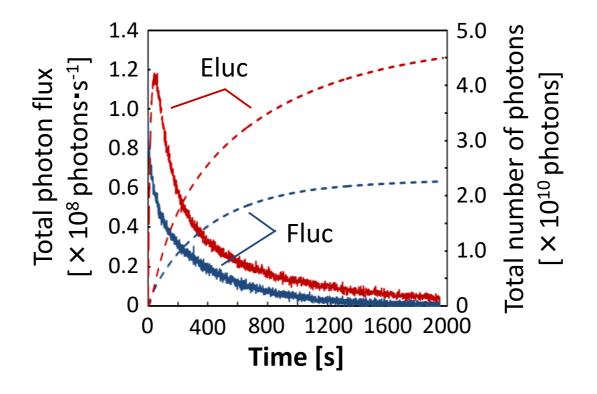


Figure S7. Temporal behavior of total photon flux (solid line, left-hand axis) and time-integrated total number of photons (dotted line, right-hand axis) for 7`-AllylLuc with Fluc or Eluc.

Substants	Bioluminescence quantum yield $\phi_{ m BL}$		
Substrate	Fluc	Eluc	
D-luciferin	$0.41 \pm 0.07$	0.61±0.08	
7`-AllylLuc	$0.043 \pm 0.007$	0.056±0.013	

Table S1. Bioluminescence quantum yields (n = 3)

# 3-8. Supplemental Figure 8

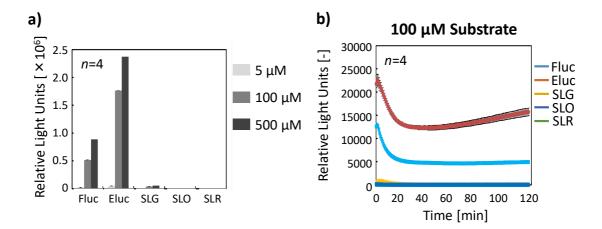


Figure S8. Light emission from luciferase-expressing COS-7 cells treated with D-luciferin: a) total intensities of dose-response emission, b) time courses at 100  $\mu$ M substrate. Error bars represent the standard deviation of 4 experiments.

# 3-9. Supplemental Figure 9

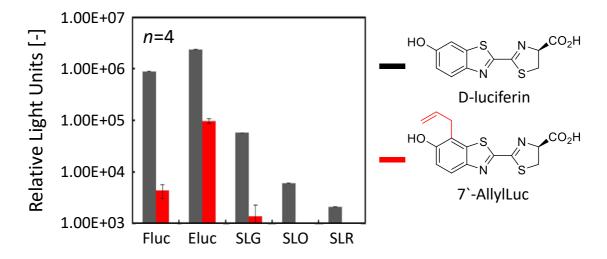


Figure S9. Light emission intensities from luciferase-expressing COS-7 cells treated with D-luciferin and 7'-AllylLuc at 500  $\mu$ M substrate. Error bars represent the standard deviation of 4 experiments.

3-10. Supplemental Figure 10

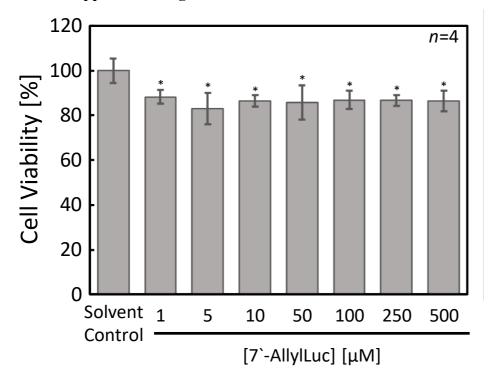
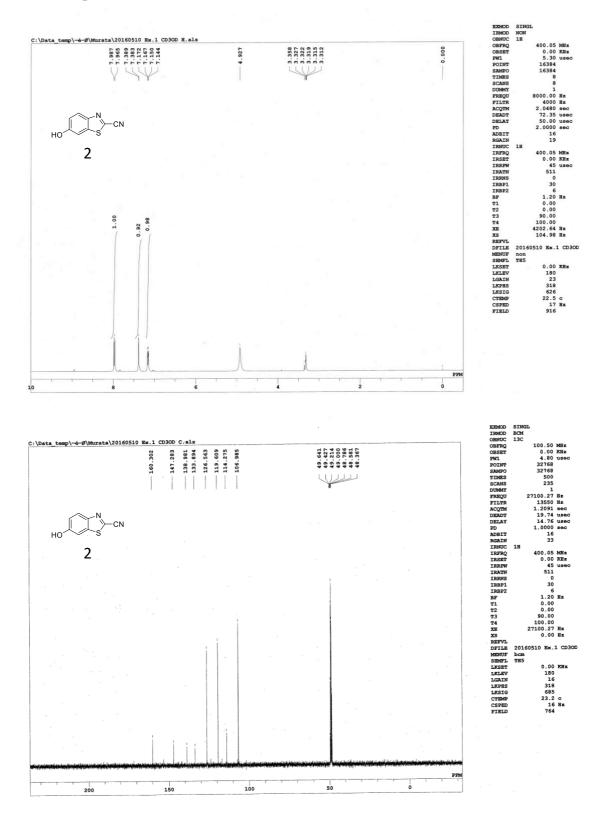


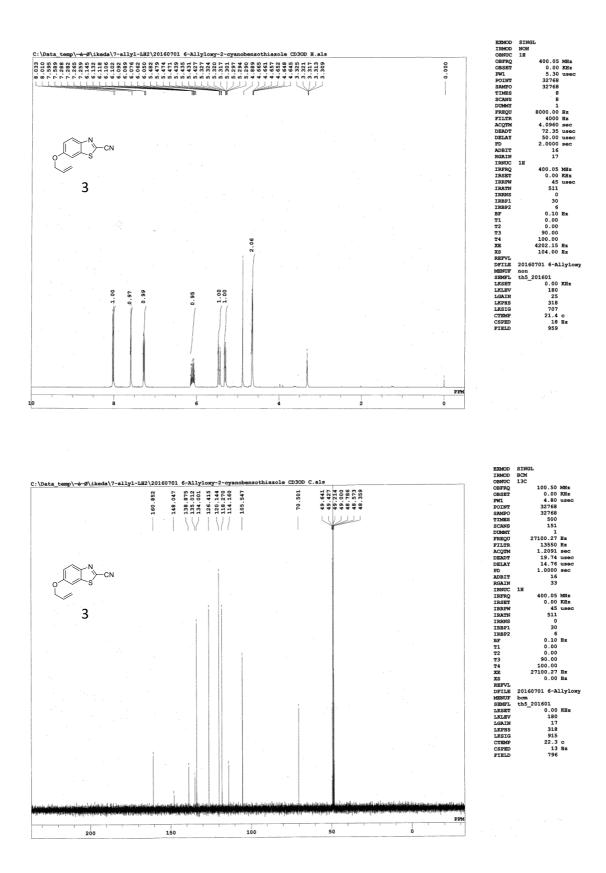
Figure S10. Cell viability evaluated by MTT assay. Cell viabilities were measured after 24 h treatment with 7'-AllylLuc at the indicated concentration. Error bars represent means  $\pm$  SEM (*n*=4). \*Not Significant (*t*-test)

#### **Supplementary References**

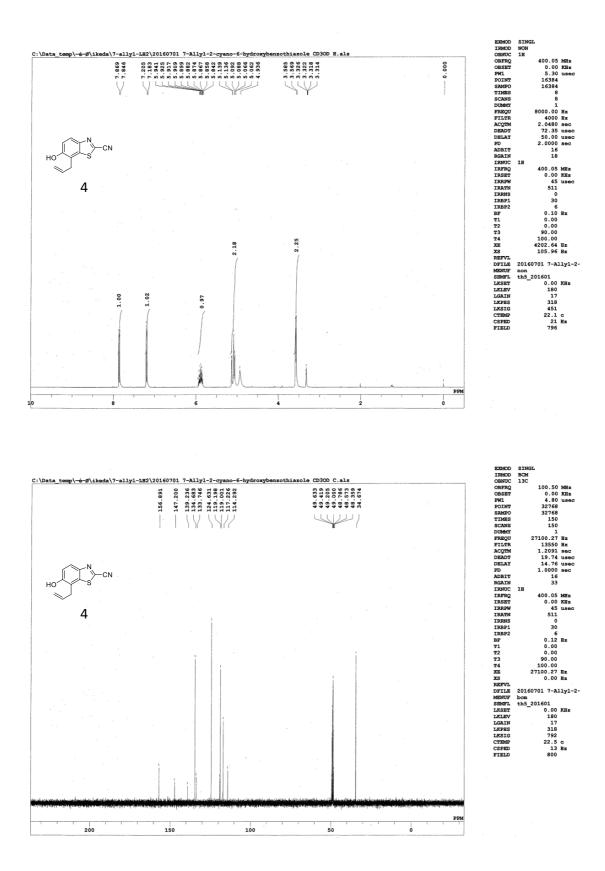
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- 3. K. Niwa, Y. Ichino and Y. Ohmiya, Quantum yield measurements of firefly bioluminescence reactions using commercial luminometer, *Chem. Lett.*, **2010**, *39*, 291-293.
- 4. Y. Ando, K. Niwa, N. Yamada, T. Enomoto, T. Irie, H. Kubota, Y. Ohmiya and H. Akiyama, Firefly bioluminescence quantum yield and colour change by pH-sensitive green emission, *Nat. Photonics*, 2008, 2, 44-47.

## 3. NMR spectra





S20



S21

