

Supplementary Information for

γ -Glutamyltranspeptidase and pH based “AND” logic gate fluorescence probe for orthotopic breast tumor imaging

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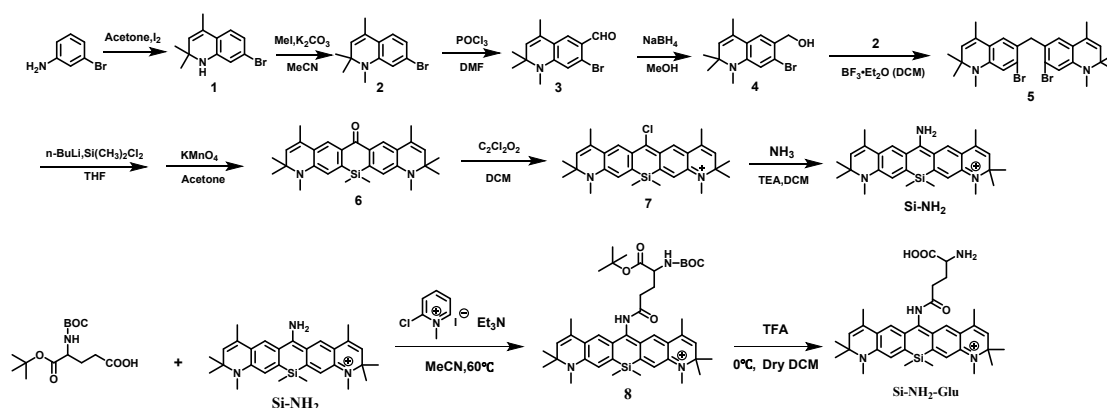
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1. Synthesis of Si-NH₂-Glu



Scheme S1. Synthesis of Si-NH₂-Glu

Intermediates **1** to **5** were synthesized according to literature procedures.¹

Synthesis of **6**

To a 50 mL well-dried two necked bottle flushed with argon, compound **5** (970 mg, 1.79 mmol) and dry THF (20 mL) were added. The solution was cooled to -78 °C, *n*-BuLi (2.5 M in *n*-hexane, 1.50 mL, 3.94 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 2h. Dichlorodimethylsilane (0.24 mL, 1.97 mmol) was added dropwise at -78 °C for 30 min and the reaction mixture was slowly warmed to room temperature. After stirred overnight, the mixture was extracted with DCM and concentrated under vacuum. The solid was dissolved in acetone, stirred at -5 °C for 10 min, then Potassium permanganate (848 mg, 5.37 mmol) was slowly added to the solution. After stirred at room temperature for 4h, the solution was treated with Celite to remove Manganese dioxide then concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (DCM: MeOH) to afford compound **6** (245 mg, 30%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.18 (s, 2H), 6.56 (s, 2H), 5.32 (s, 2H), 2.94 (s, 6H), 2.07 (s, 6H), 1.37 (s, 12H), 0.45 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 185.3, 146.9, 140.8, 129.9, 129.8, 128.2, 124.9, 123.4, 112.5, 57.3, 31.2, 28.8, 18.9, -0.9.

Synthesis of **7**

The compound **6** (183 mg, 0.4 mmol) was dissolved in dry DCM and the Oxalyl chloride (0.34 mL, 4.0 mmol) was dripped into the solution, then stirred at 45 °C for 1h. After concentrated under vacuum, the crude product was used in the next step without further purification.

Synthesis of **8**

To a 50 mL well-dried flask, Boc-L-glutamic acid 1-tert-butyl ester (30 mg, 0.09853 mmol), Triethylamine (0.15 mL), 2-Chloro-1-methylpyridinium iodide (25.17 mg, 0.09853 mmol) and acetonitrile (20 mL) were added then stirred at room temperature for 30 min. The Si-NH₂ was added to the mixture and stirred at 60 °C overnight. The residue, concentrated under vacuum, was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (DCM: MeOH) to afford compound **8** (66.7 mg, 76%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65 (s, 2H), 6.57 (s, 2H), 5.29 (s, 2H), 5.09 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 4.09 – 4.01 (m, 1H), 2.89 (s, 6H), 2.34 (ddd, *J* = 21.0, 10.8, 5.4 Hz, 2H), 1.97 (s, 6H), 1.37 (s, 9H), 1.34 (s, 12H), 1.33 (s, 9H), 0.44 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.9, 171.3, 156.8, 152.0,

150.8, 132.2, 129.6, 127.3, 126.5, 124.4, 120.8, 61.7, 53.1, 33.3, 32.5, 29.1, 27.0, 18.4, -1.3.

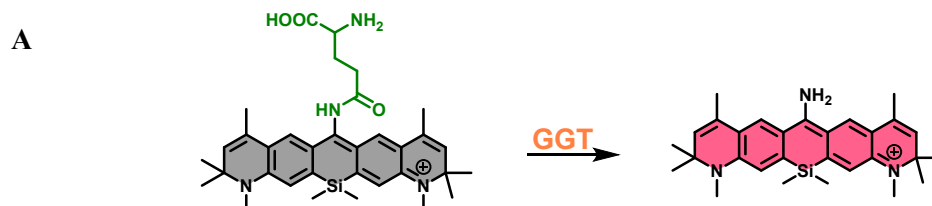
Synthesis of compound Si-NH₂

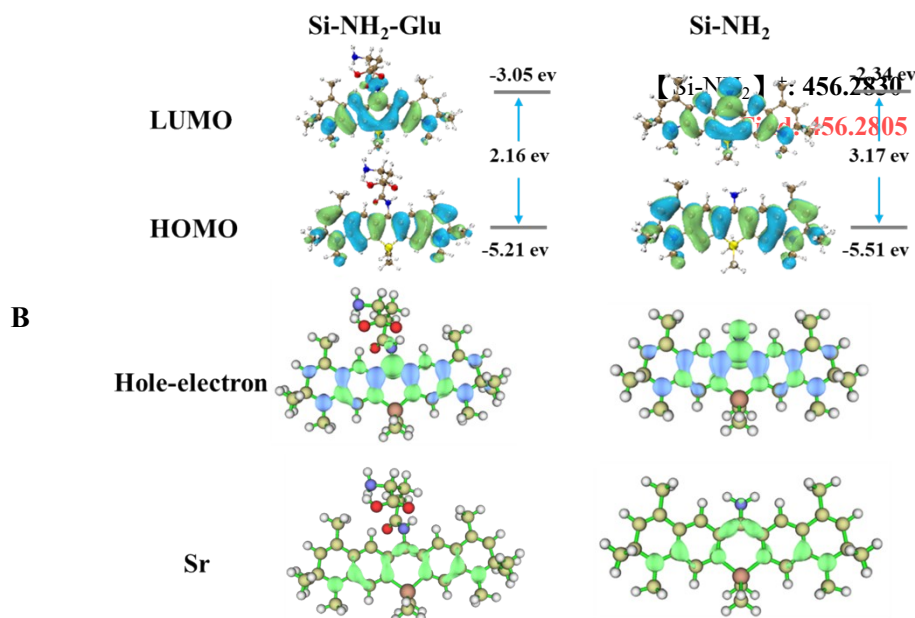
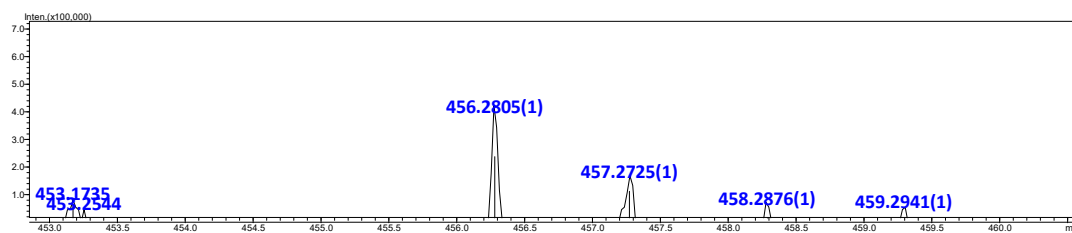
Compound 7 (0.4 mmol) and Triethylamine (1 mL) were dissolved in dry DCM, and NH₃ (in dioxane, 0.4M, 11 mL) was added. The product, concentrated under vacuum, was pure enough to be used directly in the next step. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.00 (s, 2H), 6.58 (s, 2H), 5.32 (s, 2H), 2.95 (s, 6H), 2.17 (s, 6H), 1.39 (s, 12H), 0.41 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.2, 148.3, 142.5, 130.1, 127.9, 124.1, 123.8, 121.4, 113.8, 58.1, 31.4, 29.2, 19.4, -1.4. ESI (+)-HRMS (m/z): [M]⁺calcd. for: 456.2830, found: 456.2829

Synthesis of compound Si-NH₂-Glu

Compound 8 (20 mg) was dissolved in dry DCM (1.5 mL), then trifluoroacetic acid (0.1 mL) was dripped into the solution and stirred at 0 °C overnight. The mixture was concentrated under vacuum to get the pure product **Si-NH₂-Glu**. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.55 (s, 2H), 7.14 (s, 2H), 5.63 (s, 2H), 4.12 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 3.29 (s, 6H), 2.99 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.03 (s, 6H), 1.52 (s, 12H), 0.55 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 174.5, 171.3, 156.8, 152.0, 150.8, 132.2, 129.6, 127.3, 126.5, 124.4, 120.8, 61.7, 53.6, 33.3, 32.5, 29.1, 27.0, 18.4, -1.3. ESI (+)-HRMS (m/z): [M]⁺calcd. for: 585.3255, found: 585.3260

2. Mechanism investigation





ESI+ **C**

	D index	Sr	EDI
Si-NH ₂ -Glu	0.225 Angstrom	0.678 a.u.	7.48
Si-NH ₂	0.578 Angstrom	0.616 a.u.	8.40

D index: The distance between the hole and the electron's center of mass

Sr: The function of the overlap between electron and hole distributions. The larger the index is, the higher the overlap degree of hole and electron is. The smaller the value, the more significant the hole and electron separation.

EDI (electron delocalization index): The smaller the value, the higher the degree of electron delocalization, that is, the more uniform the distribution^{2, 3}

$$D \text{ index} = \sqrt{(X_{ele} - X_{hole})^2 + (Y_{ele} - Y_{hole})^2 + (Z_{ele} - Z_{hole})^2}$$

$$Sr \text{ index} = \sqrt{\rho^{hole}(r)\rho^{ele}(r)dr}$$

$$EDI = 100 \times \sqrt{\int [\rho^{ele}(r)]^2 dr}$$

Figure S1. (A) Mass spectra of **Si-NH₂-Glu** with GGT, (B) The HOMO/LUOM orbits, the hole-electron overlap and Sr function acquired by optimizing ground-state and excited-state geometries at the B3LYP/6-31G** and CAM-B3LYP/6-31G(d) TD levels, respectively. (C) the summarizing of relevant parameter.

3. Spectrum

Figure S2. (A) Normalized absorption spectra of Si-NH₂-Glu (10 μM) and Si-NH₂-Glu (10 μM) reacting with GGT (1.5 U/mL) in PBS (pH 7.4). (B) Absorbance spectra of Si-NH₂-Glu (10 μM) after incubating with GGT (0 - 2 U/mL) for 2h. (C/D) Absorbance (744 nm/515 nm) values dependent on GGT concentration. All experiments were conducted in PBS, pH 7.4, at 37 °C.

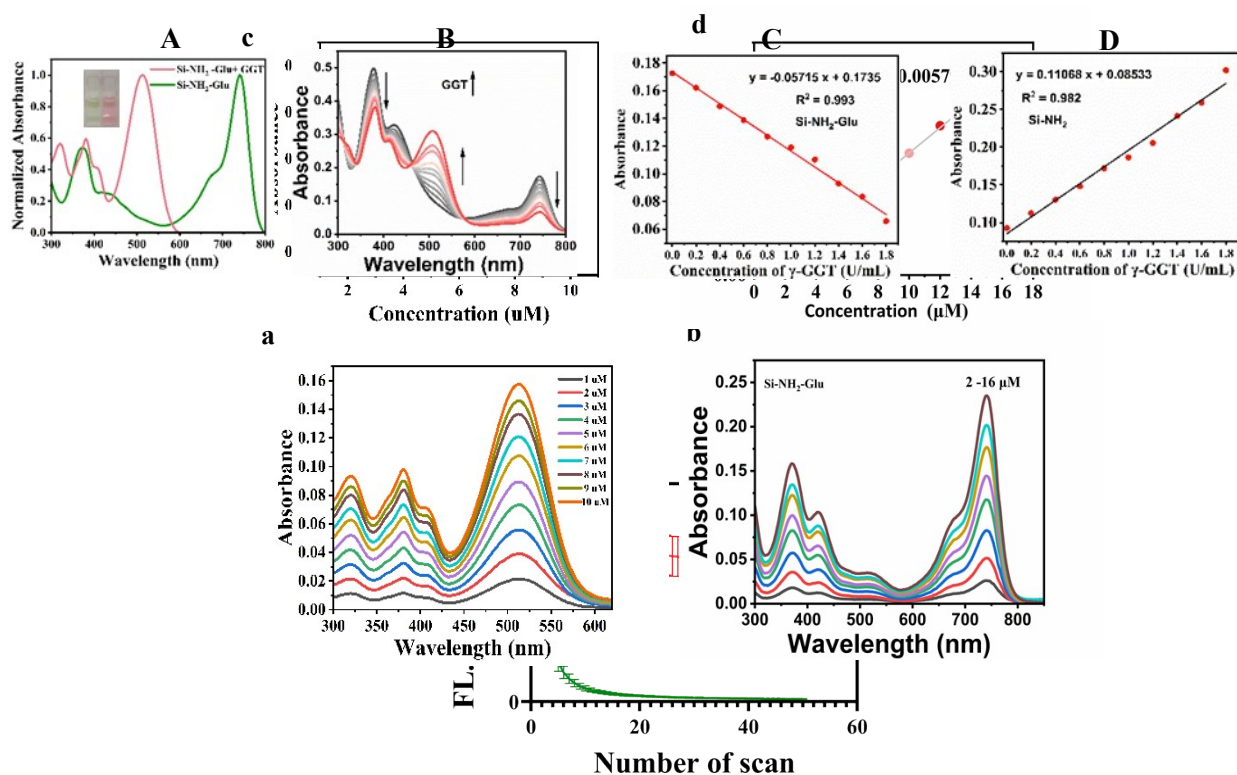


Figure S3. (a/b) UV spectra of Si-NH₂ / Si-NH₂-Glu at different concentrations in PBS. (c/d) Absorption-concentration curve of Si-NH₂ / Si-NH₂-Glu in PBS.

Figure S4. Fluorescence intensities of Si-NH₂ (2 μM) and Lysotracker Green (2 μM) in 4T-1 cells continuously irradiated by 100% laser of 543 nm and 488 nm respectively. Green channel: $\lambda_{ex} = 488$ nm, $\lambda_{em} = 521$ nm. Red channel: $\lambda_{ex} = 543$ nm, $\lambda_{em} = 654$ nm

	λ_{ab} (nm)	λ_{em} (nm)	ϵ (M ⁻¹ cm ⁻¹)	Φ (%)				
				MeOH	DMSO	PBS pH 7.4	PBS pH 3.0	PBS pH 9.0
Si-NH ₂ -Glu	744	774	1.5×10^4	4.8	10.66	2.17	2.35	< 0.01
Si-NH ₂	515	654	2.6×10^4	52.53	72.7	23.4	12.4	5.4

Table 1. Photophysical properties of Si-NH₂-Glu and Si-NH₂.

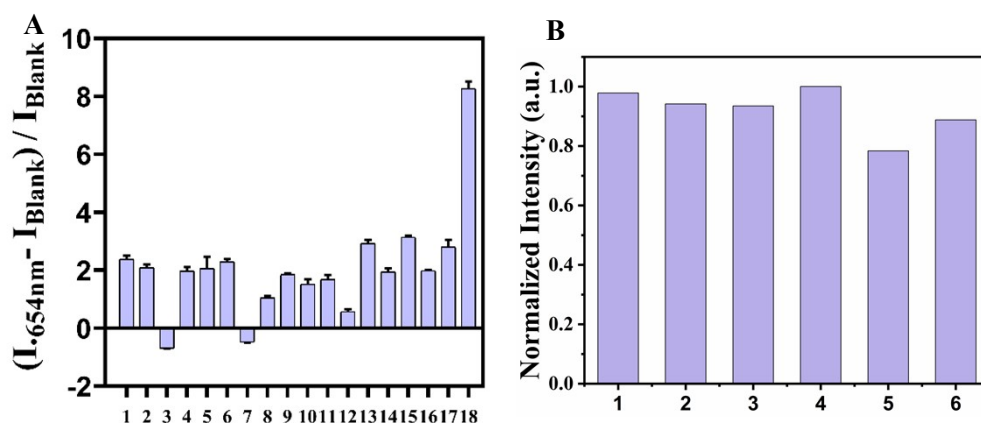
4. Limit of detection (LOD)

Limit of Detection (LOD) = $3 \times S.D./m$

$$= 3 \times 0.10176 / 5.93901$$

$$= 0.0514 \text{ U/mL}$$

S.D.: the standard deviation of blank measurements, $n = 13$,
 m: the slope of the linear equation



5. Selectivity of Si-NH₂-Glu

Figure S5. (A) Fluorescence response of Si-NH₂-Glu (10 μM in PBS) to various analytes, and the solution was incubated for 4 h. 1: blank, 2-6: Ca^{2+} , Cu^{2+} , Fe^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , Zn^{2+} (100 μM), 7-11: $^1\text{O}_2$, ClO^- , H_2O_2 , $\cdot\text{OH}$, ONOO^- (100 μM), 12: GSH (1.0 mM), 13: Hcy (100 μM), 14-17: β -Gal, MAO-A, NQO1, NTR (1 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$), 18: γ -GGT (0.1 U/mL). (B) Normalized fluorescence intensity (at 654 nm) of 10 μM Si-NH₂-Glu in phosphate buffer solution (50 mM, pH 7.4) to diverse other enzymes. 1, GGT (0.5 U/mL); 2. GGT + MAO-A (0.5 U/mL, 1 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$); 3. GGT + NTR (0.5 U/mL, 1 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$); 4. GGT + CTSB (0.5 U/mL, 1 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$); 5. GGT + AChE (0.5 U/mL, 50 U/mL). $\lambda_{\text{ex/em}} = 515/654$ nm.

6. Cell viability

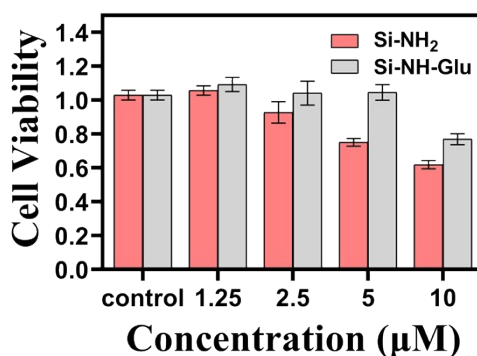


Figure S6. Cellular toxicity assay for Si-NH₂-Glu and Si-NH₂ (1.25-10 μM , 24 h), conducted using CCK-8 (Cell Counting Kit-8) toward 4T-1 cell line.

7. GGT inhibition experiment

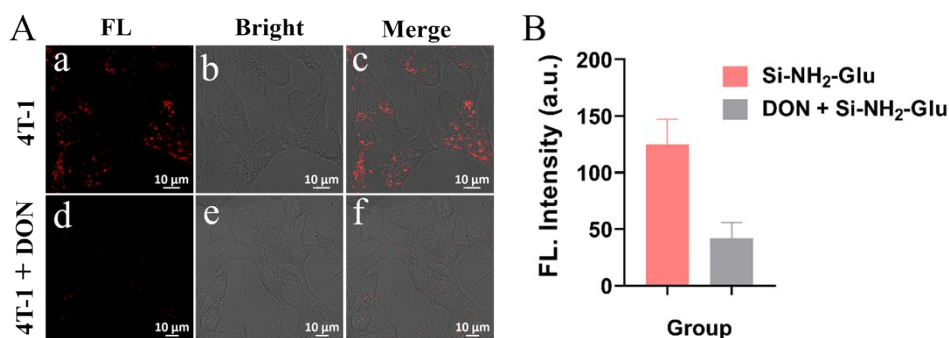


Figure S7. (A) 4T-1 cells treated with $\text{Si-NH}_2\text{-Glu}$ ($2 \mu\text{M}$) for 30 min (a-c). 4T-1 cells pre-treated with a GGT inhibitor (DON, 1 mM) for 60 min (d-f), and then loaded with $\text{Si-NH}_2\text{-Glu}$ ($2 \mu\text{M}$) for 30 min at 37°C . (B) Fluorescence intensity of (a) and (d). Scale bars, $10 \mu\text{m}$. $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 543 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 600\text{--}700 \text{ nm}$.

8. Co-localization experiment

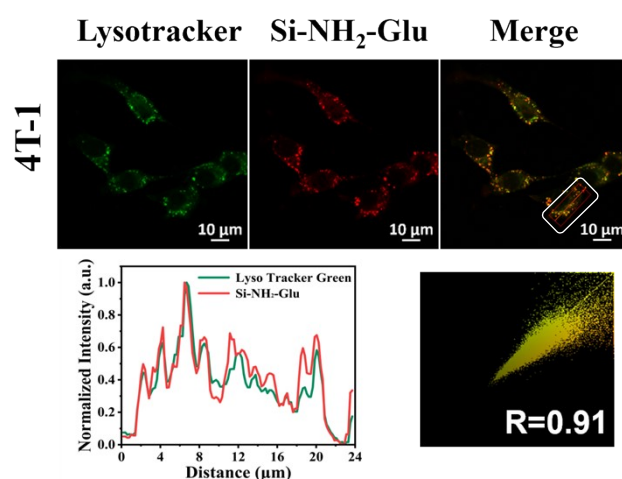


Figure S8. Confocal laser scanning microscopic images of 4T-1 cells treated with $2 \mu\text{M}$ $\text{Si-NH}_2\text{-Glu}$ and $1 \mu\text{M}$ Lysotracker Green for 30 min, at 37°C . Green channel: $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 488 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 490\text{--}530 \text{ nm}$. Red channel: $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 543 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 600\text{--}700 \text{ nm}$. Scale bar: $10 \mu\text{m}$.

9. 3D 4T-1 cell imaging

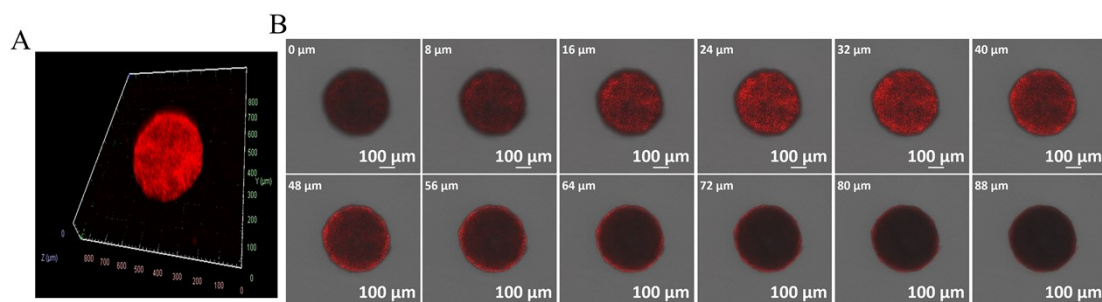


Figure S9. (A) Z-scan images of whole 3D tumor spheroids incubated with **Si-NH₂-Glu** (5 μ M) for 12 h at 37°C. (B) Z-scan images of every 4 μ m section from top to bottom. The image in figure (A) and (B) was taken using a 10 \times objective lens. $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 543$ nm, $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 600\text{--}700$ nm. Scale bar=100 μ m.

10. Establishment Mouse Tumor Model

15-20g Balb/c mice aged 4-6 weeks were purchased from Chengdu Senwell Experimental Company (Chengdu, China). 100 μ L of 4T-1 cell suspension (1×10^6 cells) were subcutaneous injected into each mouse to establish the tumor models. ⁴ The animal experiments were carried out according to the protocol approved by the Ministry of Health in the People's Republic of PR China and were approved by Ethical Committees of West China School of Stomatology, Sichuan University (KS2022234).

11. Fluorescence imaging of orthotopic breast tumor mouse models

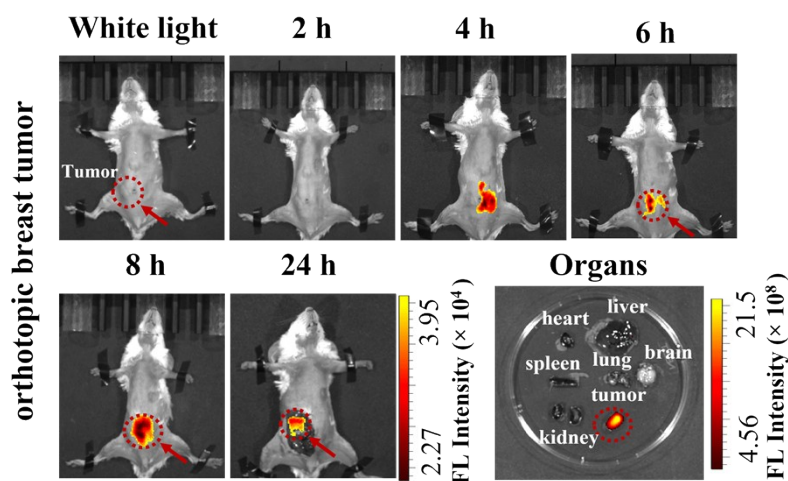


Figure S10. Fluorescence imaging of orthotopic breast tumor mouse models. Representative white light and fluorescence images of the mouse after being given an intravenous injection of 100 μ M **Si-NH₂-Glu** in 100 μ L saline solution. The separated organs and tumor from sacrificed orthotopic tumor mouse model.

12. Hematoxylin-eosin (HE) staining for organs and tumor

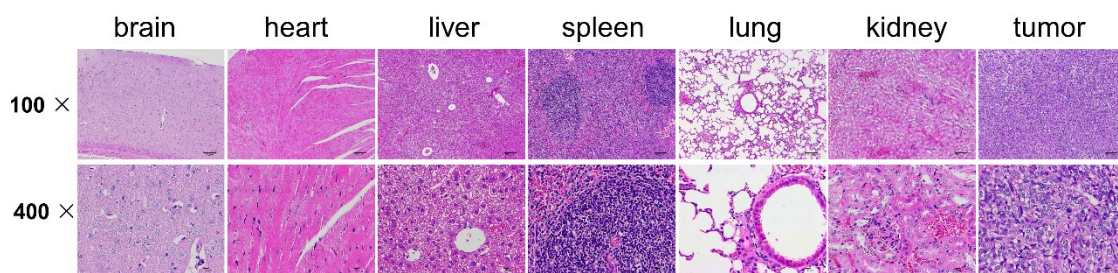
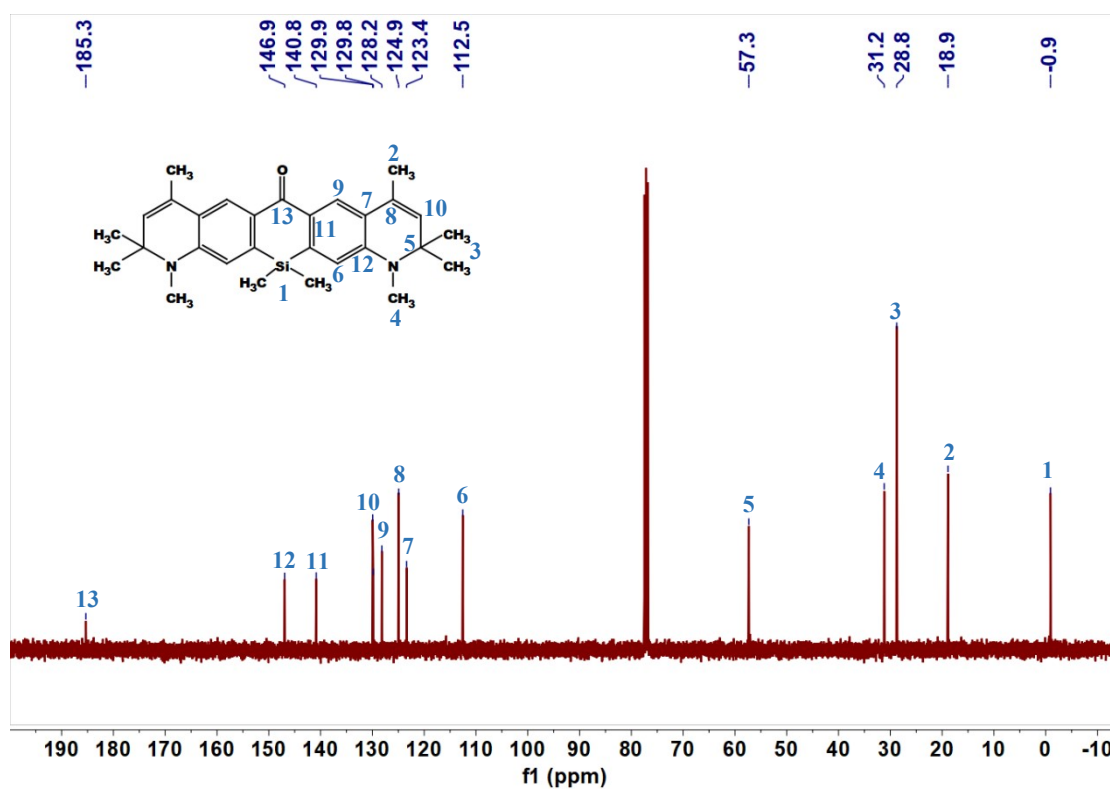
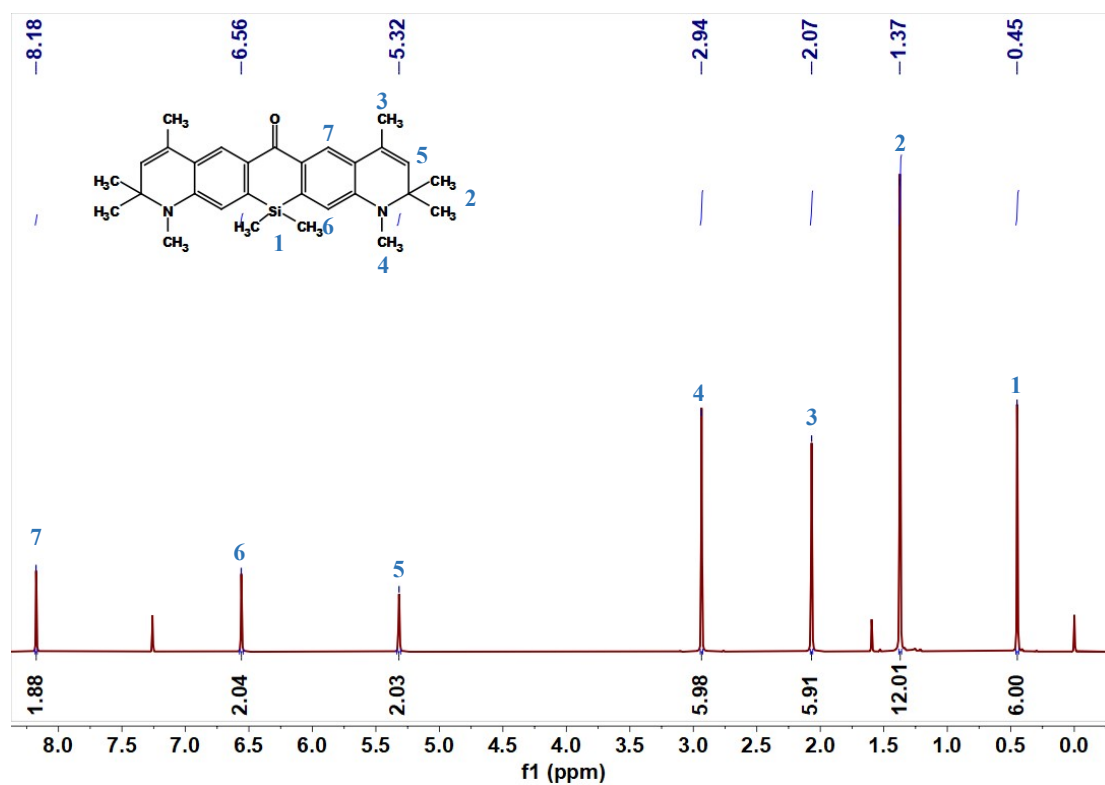


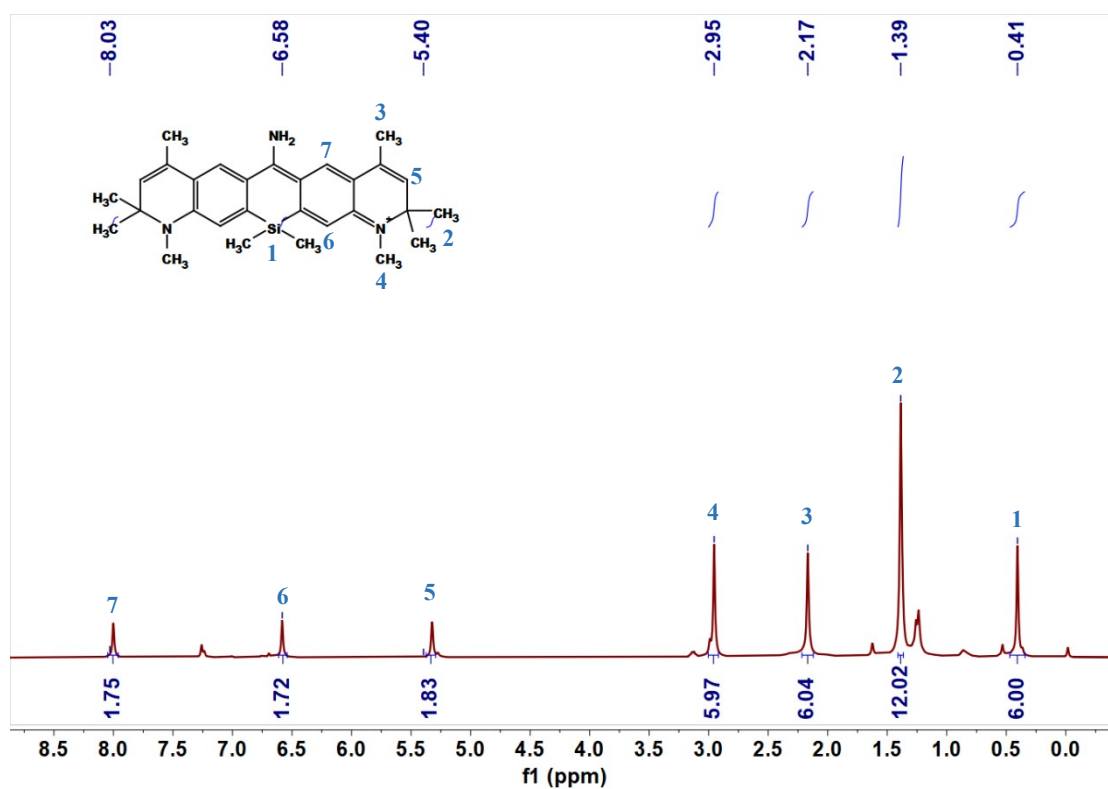
Figure S11. In the organ tissue sections of mice, the nuclei are clearly visible; the cytoplasm and nuclei are in sharp contrast; and there is no obvious change in the tissue morphology, which proves that the probe has good biocompatibility. A small amount of tumor cell necrosis was seen in the tumor tissue; and the necrotic area accounted for less than 5% of the total tumor tissue area. In the tumor growth area, the tumor cells are arranged irregularly; the cytoplasm of the tumor cells is abundant; the nucleus has atypia; and pathological mitoses can be seen.

13. NMR Data

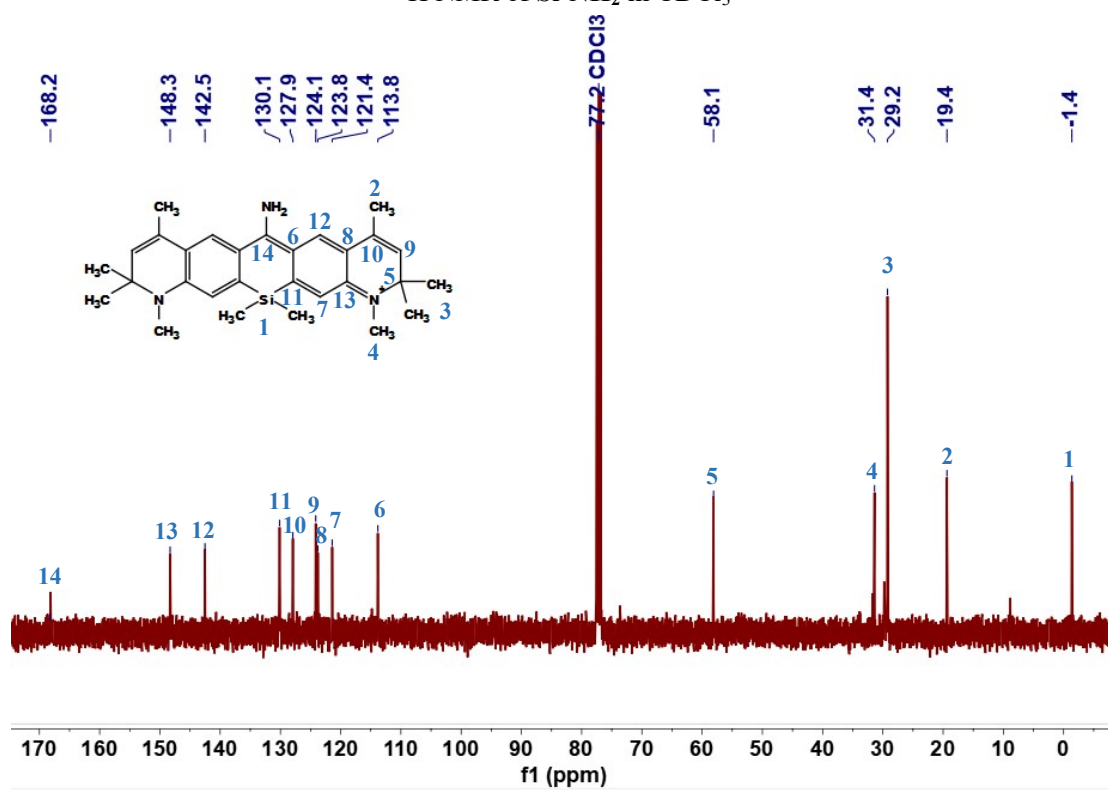


¹H NMR of Compound 6 in CDCl₃

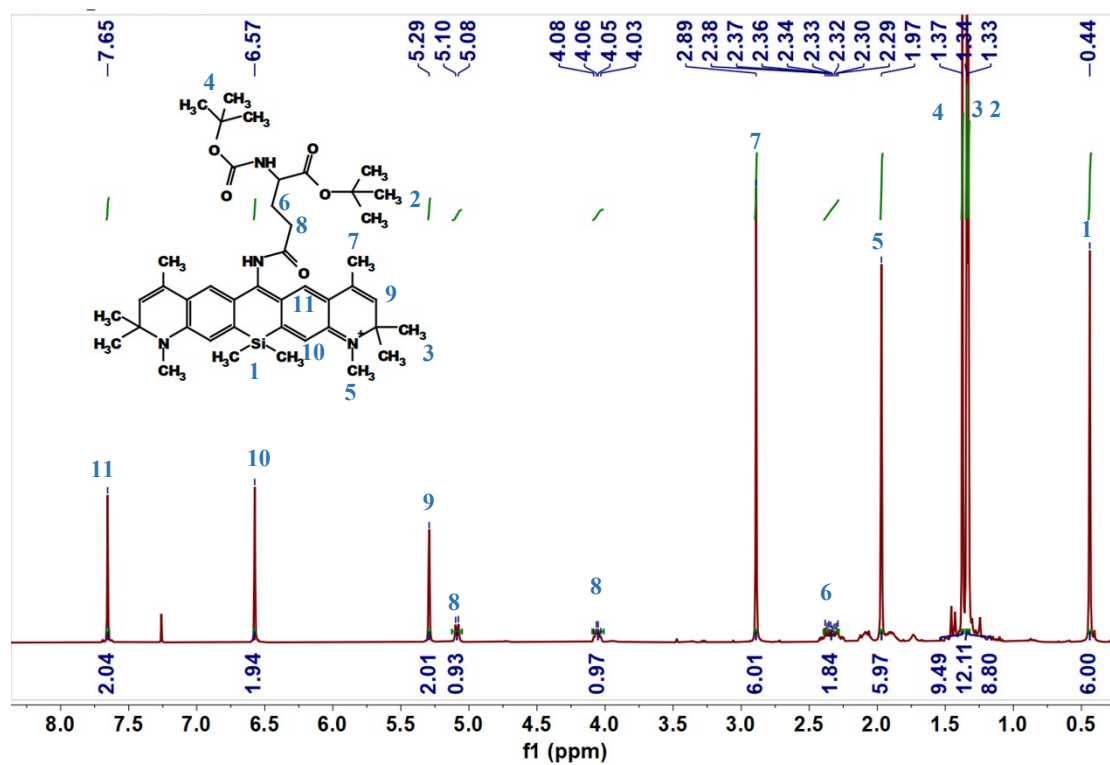
¹³C NMR of Compound 6 in CDCl₃



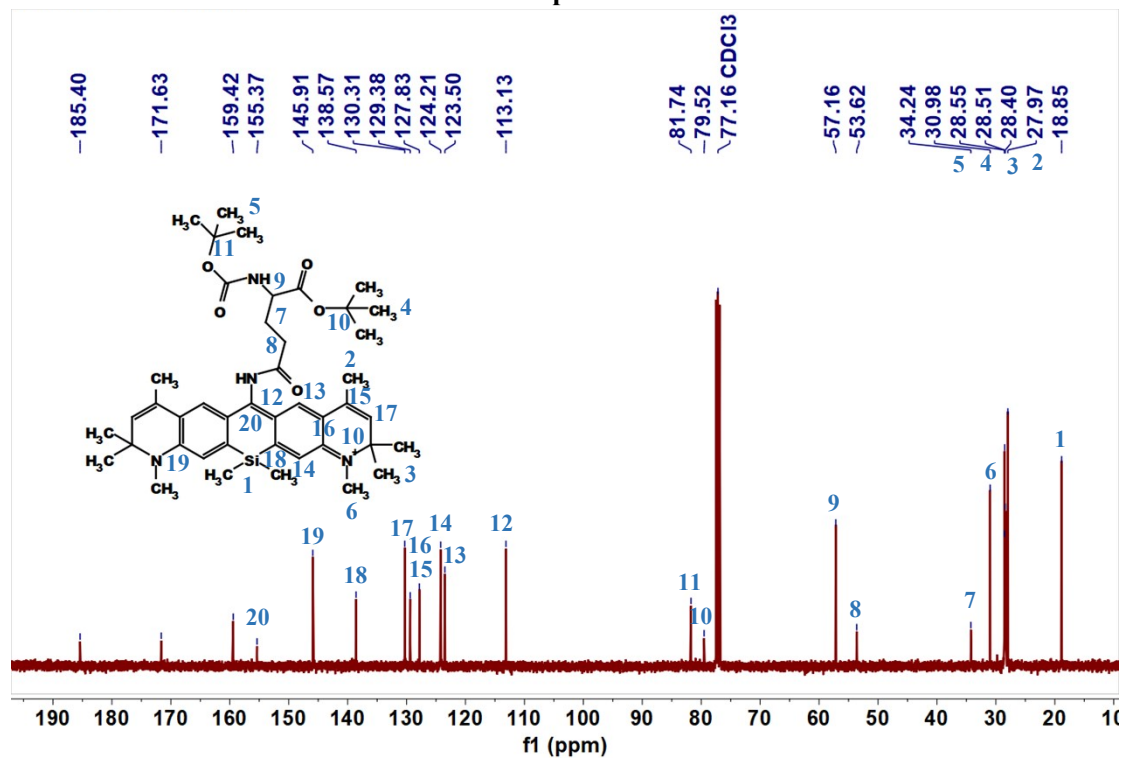
¹H NMR of Si-NH₂ in CDCl₃



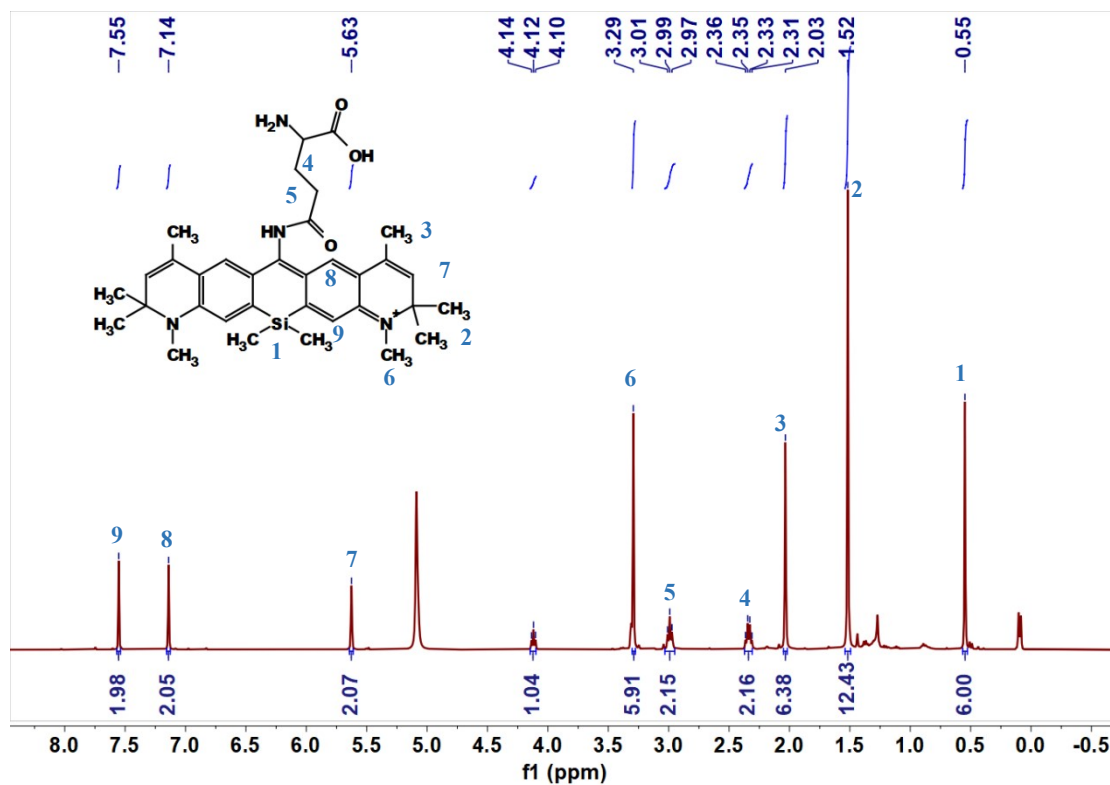
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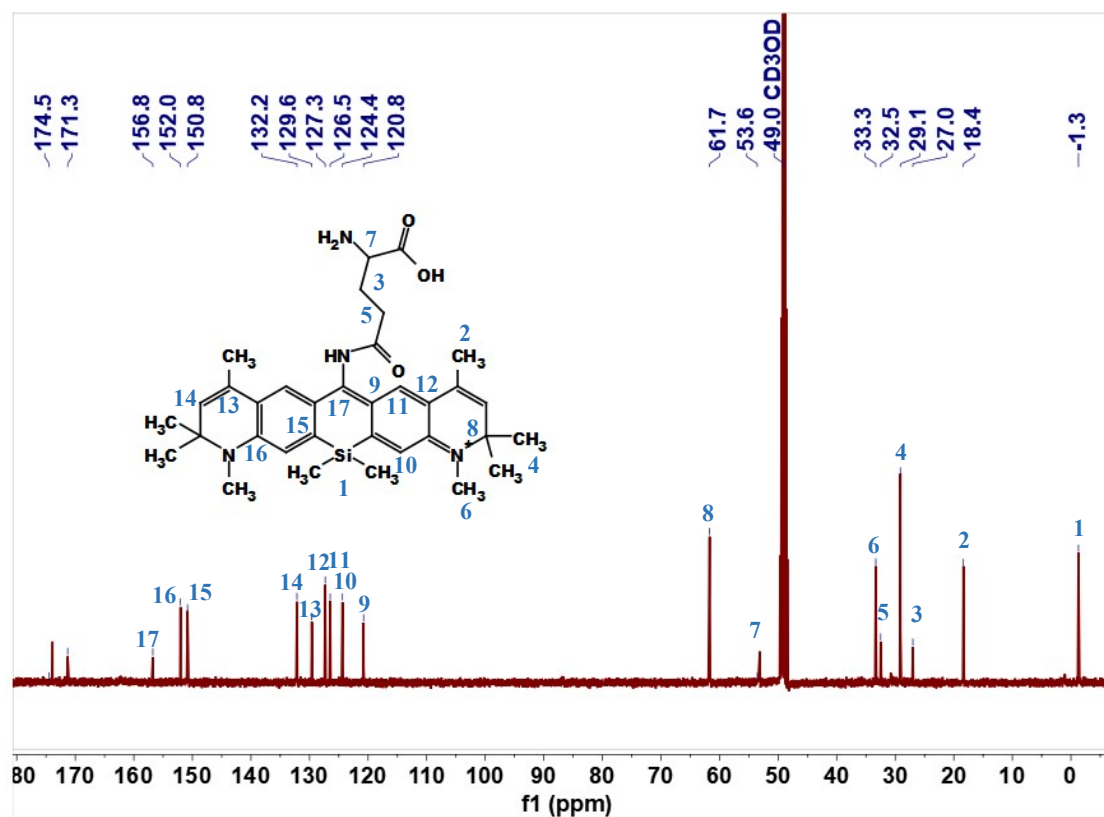
¹H NMR of compound 8 in CDCl₃



¹³C NMR of compound 8 in CDCl₃



¹H NMR of Si-NH₂-Glu in CD₃OD

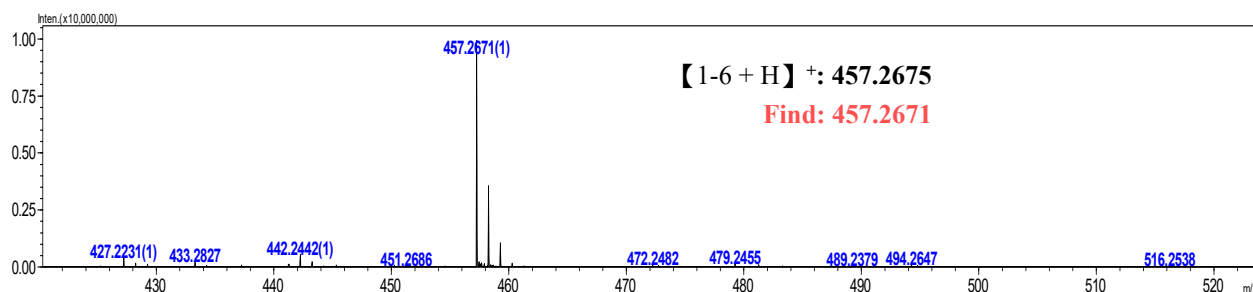


¹³C NMR of Si-NH₂-Glu in CD₃OD

14. ESI-MS Data

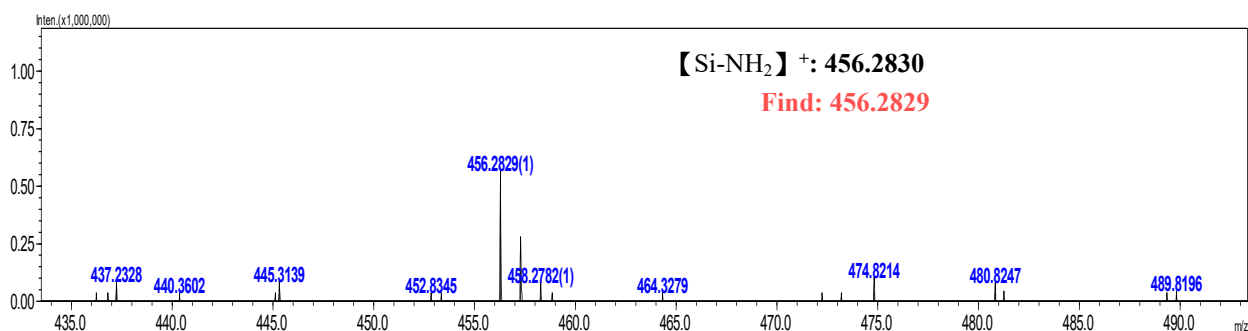
Compound 6

ESI+



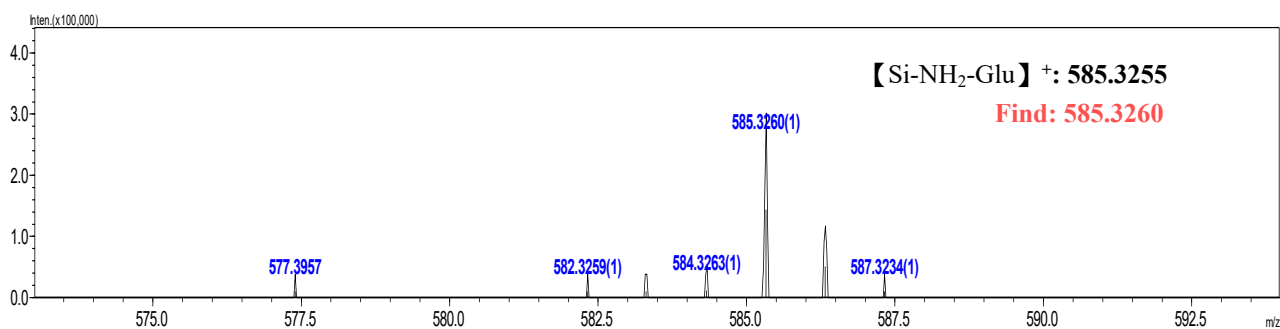
Si-NH₂

ESI+



SI-NH₂-Glu

ESI+



- 1 Y. Koide, Y. Urano, K. Hanaoka, W. Piao, M. Kusakabe, N. Saito, et al., Development of NIR Fluorescent Dyes Based on Si-rhodamine for in Vivo Imaging, *J.Am.Chem.Soc.*, 2012, **134**, 5029- 50312
- 2 T. Lu and F. J. Comput. Chem, 2012, **33**, 580-592.
- 3 Z. Liu, T. Lu and Q. Chen, *Carbon*, 2020, **165**, 461-467.
- 4 X.-Y. Ran, P. Chen, Y.-Z. Liu, L. Shi, X. Chen, Y.-H. Liu, H. Zhang, L.-N. Zhang, K. Li and X. Q. Yu, *Adv. Mater* (2023). DOI: 10.1002/adma.202210179.