

# Supporting Information

for

## Aggregation-Induced Emission Enhancement Characteristics of Naphthalimide Derivatives and their Applications in Cell Imaging

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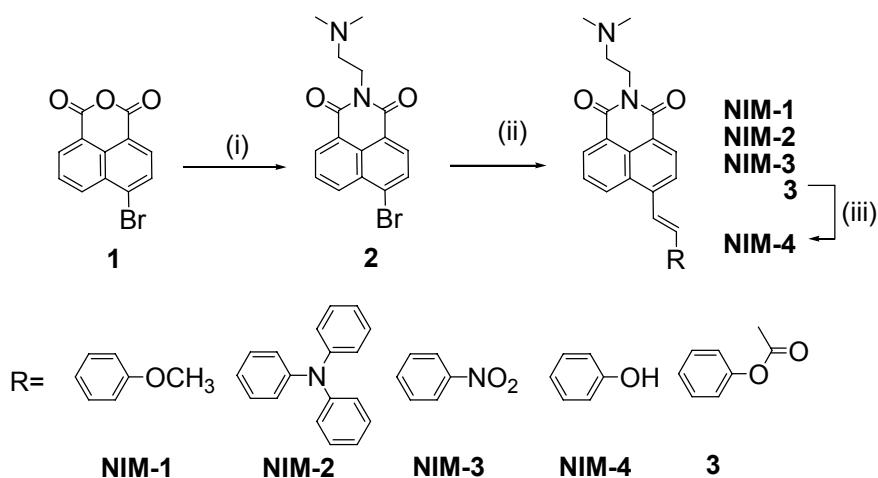
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**General procedure for the synthesis of naphthalimide derivatives (Scheme 1).**

Synthesis of the naphthalimide derivatives is shown in Scheme 1. The first stage of the reaction, in which commercial starting material 4-bromo-1,8-naphthalic anhydride was reacted with the RNH<sub>2</sub>, was performed conveniently in ethanol under room temperature. Next, the samples were subjected to the Heck coupling reaction with 4-methoxystyrene, 4-N, N-diphenylaminostyrene, 4-nitrostyrene or 4-acetoxyxystyrene under catalyst Pd (OAc)<sub>2</sub>.



**Scheme 1.** Reagents and conditions: (i) N, N-dimethylethane-1, 2-diamine, EtOH, r.t. 24hr; (ii) Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> / (o-tol)<sub>3</sub>P, 4-methoxystyrene (NIM-1), 4-(N, N-diphenylamino)styrene (NIM-2), 4-nitrostyrene (NIM-3) or 4-acetoxyxystyrene (compound 3), Et<sub>3</sub>N/MeCN, N<sub>2</sub>, reflux, 48hr. (iii) KOH/MeOH, reflux, 2hr; then HCl.

**4.6.1. 2-(6-bromo-1, 3-dioxo-1*H*-benzo[*de*] isoquinolin-2(3*H*)-yl)-N, N-dimethyl ethanamine (compound 2):**

4-Bromo-1, 8-naphthalic anhydride (10 mmole) and N, N-dimethylethane-1, 2-diamine (12 mmole) was stirred in ethanol solution (20 mL) under room temperature for 12h. The system was filtered to remove the excess N, N-dimethylethane-1, 2-diamine and the collected precipitate was crystallized from acetone/ethanol to get white solid (yield: 60%). Data for **2**: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (400Hz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ): δ(ppm)= 8.647 (d, *J*=8Hz, 1H), 8.560(d, *J*=8Hz, 1H), 8.405 (d, *J*=8Hz, 1H), 8.033 (d, *J*=8Hz, 1H), 7.839 (t, *J*=8Hz, 1H), 4.315 (t, *J*=8Hz, 2H), 2.647 (t, *J*=8Hz, 2H), 8.647 (s, 6H).

4.6.2. *2-(6-(4-methoxystyryl)-1,3-dioxo-1*H*-benzo[*d*] isoquinolin-2(3*H*)-yl)-N, N-dimethyl ethanamine (**NIM-1**):*

Compound **2** (5 mmole) was added into to a high pressure bottle containing the a mixture of palladium (II) acetate (8 mg, Strem) and tri-*o*-tolyl phosphine (80 mg, Aldrich), then to which was added the solvent pair (triethylamine 5 ml / acetonitrile 15 ml) and 4-methoxystyrene (7 mmole, Acros). The bottle was then sealed after bubbling with nitrogen for 10 min. After keeping the system under ~105°C for two days, the system was cooled to room temperature and then extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> / H<sub>2</sub>O twice. The organic layer was then dried by with MgSO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated in vacuum. The residue was subjected to chromatography on a silica gel by using Acetone / Hexane (1/1, R<sub>f</sub> = 0.4). The deep-yellow solid was then obtained by recrystallizing with Acetone / Hexane (yield: 50%). Data for **NIM-1**: <sup>1</sup>HNMR(400Hz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ): δ=8.609(m, 3H; naphthalene H), 7.966 (d, *J*= 7.6 Hz, 1H; naphthalene H), 7.769 (t, *J*=7.6Hz, 1H; naphthalene H), 7.741 (d, *J*=16.2 Hz, 1H; vinyl H), 7.582 (d, *J*=8.4 Hz, 2H; Ar H), 7.301 (d, *J*=16.2 Hz, 1H; vinyl H), 6.964 (d, *J*=8.4 Hz, 2H; Ar H), 4.389 (t, *J*=6.8 Hz, 2H; ethylene H), 3.870 (s, 3H; OCH<sub>3</sub> H), 2.827 (d, *J*=6.8Hz, 2H; ethylene H), 15 2.492 (s, 6H; dimethylamine H). HRMS (ESI, *m/z*): [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 400.1786; found, 400.2878. Anal. calcd for For C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>: C, 74.98; H, 6.04; N, 7.00; found, C, 74.31; H, 6.09; N, 6.91.

4.6.3. *2-(6-(N, N-diphenyl-4-aminostyryl)-1,3-dioxo-1*H*-benzo[*d*] isoquinolin-2 (3*H*)-yl)-N, N-dimethyl ethanamine (**NIM-2**):*

Similar procedure as NIM-1 with compound **2** (5mmole) and N, N-diphenyl-4-vinylbenzenamine (7mmole) were added. The impurity residue was purified with chromatographing on silica gel by Hexane / Acetone (2/1). The orange compound was obtained by recrystallizing with acetone / Hexane (yield: 35%). Data for **NIM-2** : <sup>1</sup>HNMR (400Hz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ): δ 8.622 (d, *J*= 7.2 Hz, 1H; naphthalene H), 8.570 (m, 2H; naphthalene H), 7.972 (d, *J*= 7.6 Hz, 1H; naphthalene H), 7.764 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H; naphthalene H), 7.758 (d, *J*=16.0Hz, 1H; vinyl H), 7.501 (d, *J*=8.4 Hz, 2H; triphenylamine H), 7.296 (m, 6H; triphenylamine H), 7.149 (d, *J*=8.4 Hz, 4H; triphenylamine H), 7.085 (m, 3H:

vinyl+triphenylamine H), 4.372 (t,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 2H; ethylene H), 2.759 (t,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 2H; ethylene H), 2.422 (s, 6H; dimethylamine H). HRMS (ESI,  $m/z$ ):  $[M+H]^+$  537.2416; found, 537.8551. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{36}H_{31}N_3O_2$  (**NIM-2•1H<sub>2</sub>O**:  $C_{36}H_{33}N_3O_3$ ): C, 80.42 (77.81); H, 5.81 (5.99); N, 7.82 (7.56); found, C, 77.74; H, 6.00; N, 7.55

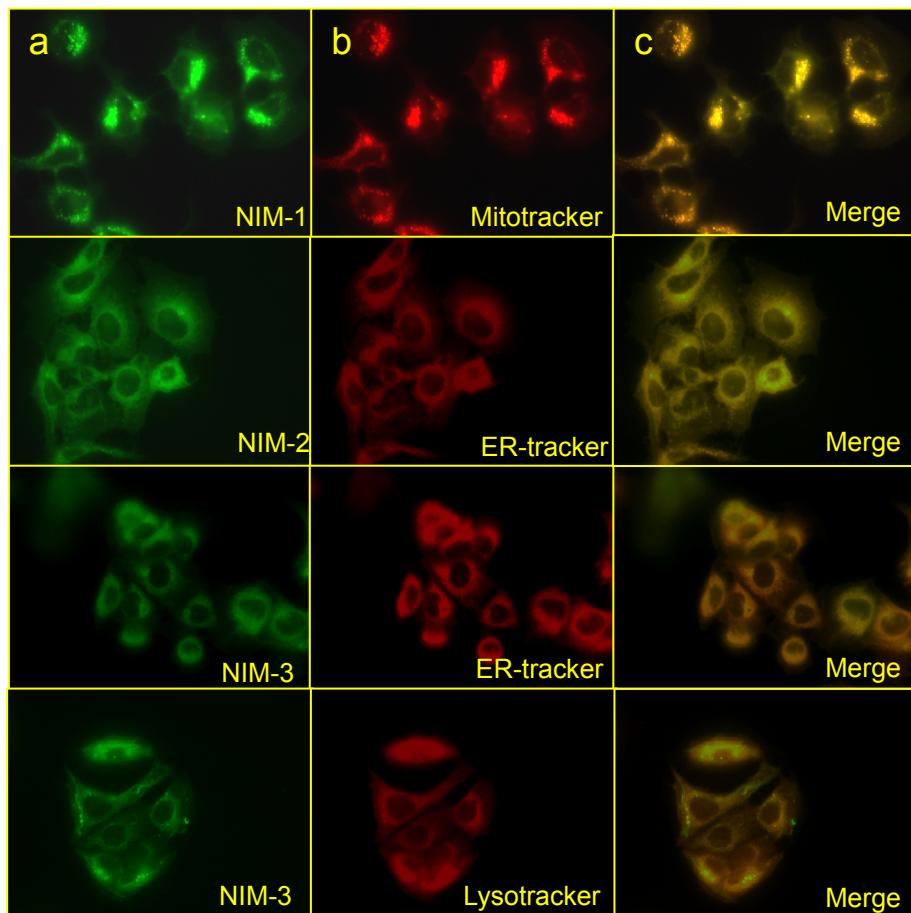
<sup>5</sup> 4.6.4. *2-(6-(4-nitrostyryl)-1,3-dioxo-1H-benzo[de] isoquinolin-2(3H)-yl)-N, N-dimethyl ethanamine (**NIM-3**)*:

A procedure similar to that used to prepare the **NIM-1** was employed; however, 1-nitro-4-vinylbenzene (7 mmole, Merck) was added and the residue was chromatographed on silica gel by Hexane /Acetone 2:1. This compound was recrystallized by using acetone / Hexane (Yield: 40%) with <sup>10</sup> deep-yellow powder. Data for this compound:  $^1\text{H}$ NMR (400Hz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$ ):  $\delta=8.661$  (d,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H; naphthalene H), 8.622 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H; naphthalene H), 8.561 (d,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 1H; naphthalene H), 8.305 (d,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 2H; Ar H), 8.054 (d,  $J=16.0$  Hz, 1H; vinyl H), 8.030 (d,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H; naphthalene H), 7.831 (t,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H; naphthalene H), 7.783 (d,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 2H; Ar H), 7.382 (d,  $J=16.0$  Hz, 1H; vinyl H), 4.349 (t,  $J=7.4$  Hz, 2H; ethylene H), 2.680 (d,  $J=7.4$  Hz, 2H; ethylene H), 2.368 (s, 6H; <sup>15</sup> dimethylamine H). HRMS (ESI,  $m/z$ ):  $[M+H]^+$  415.1532; found, 415.1690. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{24}H_{21}N_3O_4$ : C, 69.39, H, 5.10; N, 10.11; found: C, 69.29; H, 5.09; N, 10.09

<sup>4.6.5. 2-(6-(4-hydroxystyryl)-1,3-dioxo-1H-benzo[de] isoquinolin-2(3H)-yl)-N, N-dimethyl ethanamine (**NIM-4**)</sup>:

Similar synthesis and purify procedure as **NIM-1** while 4-acetoxy styrene (7mmole) were added. <sup>20</sup> The precursor *2-(6-(4-acetoxy styryl)-1, 3-dioxo-1H-benzo[de] isoquinolin-2(3H)-yl)-N, N-dimethyl ethanamine (**compound 3**)* was collected. Then the mixture was reflux under alkali solution and system was chromatographed on silica gel by Hexane / Acetone (1/1). The orange compound was obtained by recrystallizing with acetone / Hexane (yield: 40%). Data for **NIM-4**:  $^1\text{H}$ NMR (400Hz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ,  $\delta$ ): 9.840 (s, 1H; Ar OH), 8.954 (d,  $J=7.2$  Hz, 1H; naphthalene H), 8.510 (d,  $J=7.2$  Hz, 1H; naphthalene H), 8.432 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H; naphthalene H), 8.176 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H; naphthalene H), 7.971 (d,  $J=16.0$  Hz, <sup>25</sup> 8.432 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H; naphthalene H), 8.176 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H; naphthalene H), 7.971 (d,  $J=16.0$  Hz,

1H; vinyl H), 7.868 (t,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H; naphthalene H), 7.790 (d,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 2H; Ar H), 7.509 (d,  $J=16.0$  Hz, 1H; vinyl H), 6.832 (d,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 2H; Ar H), 4.145 (t,  $J=7.2$  Hz, 2H; ethylene H), 2.510 (t,  $J=7.2$  Hz, 2H; ethylene H), 2.203 (s, 6H; dimethylamine H). HRMS (ESI,  $m/z$ ):  $[M+H]^+$  386.1630; found, 387.1264. Anal. calcd for  $C_{24}H_{22}N_2O_3$  (**NIM-4•0.5H<sub>2</sub>O**:  $C_{24}H_{23}N_2O_{3.5}$ ): C, 74.59 (72.89); H, 5.74 (5.86); N, 7.25 (7.08); found: C, 72.64; H, 5.89; N, 7.05.



**Fig. S** Immunofluorescence staining: The intracellular localization images of 10  $\mu\text{M}$  NIM compounds under MCF-7 breast cancer cell. Cells were incubated first with compound for 4 hours, followed by 1  $\mu\text{M}$  organelle probes (MitoTracker® Red CMH2XRos, LysoTracker® Red DND-99, ER-Tracker™ Red BODIPY® TR for 30 min at 37 °C). The excitation source and detection were (a) for compound: light path through a 380/10 nm bp filter and emission was collected and filtered through a 450-nm lp filter. (b) For tracker red: light path through a 550/10 nm bp filter and emission was collected and filtered through a 590 nm lp filter. (c) Merge photos.