# Blue Fluorescent Dye-Protein Complexes Based on Fluorogenic Cyanine Dyes and Single Chain Antibody Fragments

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# **Supplemental Information**

# 1. Dye Synthesis (See Chart S1 for structures and Schemes S1-S3 for reaction sequences.)

Synthetic procedures are described below. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance DMX-500 NMR spectrometer operating at 500.13 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H and 125.76 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C. Standard Bruker software was used. Due to low solubility of Dye 3, data for <sup>13</sup>CNMR were obtained indirectly by collecting a HMBC experiment (Figures S2a-S2d). Samples were dissolved in CD<sub>3</sub>OD except when stated otherwise. Chemical shifts are given in ppm ( $\delta$ ) downfield from TMS internal standard. Mass spectra were run in a Thermo-Fisher LCQ ESI/APCI Ion Trap working in positive or negative ion mode. Structures and reaction schemes follow the procedures.

# Synthesis of 3-[2-(methylthio)-1,3-benzothiazol-3-ium-3-yl]propane-1-sulfonate (1)

A mixture of 2-(methylthio)-1,3-benzothiazole, (546.2 mg, 3.0 mmol) and propanesultone (410.7 mg, 3.4 mmol) in 2 mL of DMF was heated overnight in an oil bath at  $115^{\circ}$ C. The reaction mixture was cooled at room temperature, washed several times with ethyl ether and dried to give **1** (742 mg, 81% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  8.23 (1H, brd, J = 8.8 Hz), 8.20 (1H, brd, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.84 (1H, ddd, J = 8.8; 8.7; 1.6 Hz), 7.71 (1H, ddd, J = 8.7; 8.4; 1.0 Hz), 3.12 (3H, s), 2.99 (2H, t, J = 6.8 Hz), 2.37 (2H, quint, J = 7.0 Hz).

#### Synthesis of 2,3-dimethyl-benzoxazol-3-ium *p*-toluensulfonate (2)

In a round bottom flask, 2-methylbenzoxazole (1.00 g, 7.5 mmol) was mixed with methyl *p*-toluenesulfonate (1.11 g, 6.0 mmol) and heated at 110  $^{\circ}$ C for 3 hours. The solid mixture was triturated and washed five times with ethyl ether to afford solid product **2** (1.29 g, yield 67%); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  7.94 (2H, m), 7.75 (2H, m), 7.61 (2H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 7.17 (2H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 4.10 (3H, s), 3.06 (3H, s), 2.33 (3H, s).

#### Synthesis of OTB-SO<sub>3</sub> cyanine dye (3)

A mixture of salts **1** (30 mg, 0.1 mmol) and **2** (28 mg, 0.09 mmol) in 2 mL of absolute ethanol was added with triethylamine (20  $\mu$ L, 0.14 mmol) and refluxed for 3 hours. After cooling, the reaction mixture was added with ethyl ether to precipitate dye **3** that was separated by vacuum filtration (4.5 mg, 12% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  8.11 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.3; 0.9 Hz), 7.91 (1H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.81 (1H, d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.72 (1H, d, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 7.63 (1H, ddd, *J* = 8.4; 7.2; 0.9 Hz), 7.54 (1H, td, *J* = 7.7; 1.0 Hz), 7.46 (1H, brt, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 7.45 (1H, td, *J* = 8.0; 1.0 Hz), 6.76 (1H, s), 4.76 (2H, brt, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 3.91 (3H, s), 2.67 (2H, m), 2.13 (2H, m); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  163.2, 162.2, 146.7, 140.3, 132.0, 128.5, 126.6, 125.8, 125.2, 125.2, 123.5, 113.8, 111.8, 111.2, 70.6, 47.6, 45.5, 31.2, 23.7. ESI-MS (positive mode) *m/z* 403.2 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>, calculated 403.1.

# Spectroscopic properties of OTB-SO<sub>3</sub>(3)

The UV-vis spectra of dye **3** shows  $\lambda_{max}$  400 nm in 10 mM sodium phosphate buffer with 100 mM NaCl (pH 7);  $\varepsilon_{max}$  = 92,400 M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>. In the presence of 100 µM CT-DNA in buffer the spectral profile does not show significant differences indicating weak or no interaction with nucleic acids. This is further confirmed by fluorescence spectroscopy in the presence of 100 µM CT DNA where excitation at  $\lambda_{max}$  = 400 nm shows negligible fluorescence emission;  $\Phi_f$  (CT-DNA) /  $\Phi_f$  (buffer) = 2.3. A large fluorescence increase is observed when the dye is dissolved in 90% glycerol and excited at 380 nm,  $\lambda_{em}$  = 421 nm;  $\Phi_f$  (90% glycerol) /  $\Phi_f$  (buffer) = 56 at *ca*. 20 °C (Figure 2).

#### Synthesis of 5-*tert*-butyl-1,3-benzoxazole-2(3*H*)-thione (4)

In a 250 mL round bottom flask, 2-amino-4-*tert*-butylphenol (2.0 g, 12.1 mmol) was dissolved in 12 mL of dry DMF. Carbon disulfide (0.73 mL, 12.1 mmol) was added followed by 60% sodium hydride in mineral oil (0.93 g, ~23 mmol) previously washed with hexane; the powder is added stepwise. After the bubbling stopped, the mixture was left to stir at  $115^{\circ}$ C for 90 min under nitrogen. Color changes were observed during the reaction; the excess NaH was quenched by adding glacial acetic acid. The mixture was diluted with water and extracted with DCM three times; the organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated under vacuum to give an off white powdery solid of 5-*tert*-butyl-1,3-benzoxazole-2(3*H*)-

thione (**4**, 2.3 g, yield 92%), <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 10.60 (1H, brs, N<u>H</u>), 7.22 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.7; 1.8 Hz), 7.18 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.7; 0.8 Hz), 7.12 (1H, *J* = 1.8; 0.8 Hz), 1.27 (9H, s).

### Synthesis of 5-tert-butyl-2-(methylthio)-1,3-benzoxazole (5)

Compound **4** (1.0 g, 4.8 mmol) was reacted with iodomethane (0.624 mL, 10 mmol) and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (140 mg, 1 mmol) at room temperature overnight. The product was extracted by partitioning the reaction mixture between DCM and water. The organic phase was dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and the solvent evaporated under vacuum to give 5-*tert*-butyl-2-(methylthio)-1,3-benzoxazole (**5**) (0.98 g, 92% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  7.74 (1H, d, *J* = 2.1 Hz), 7.22 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.5; 2.1 Hz), 7.01 (1H, d, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 2.26 (3H, s), 1.30 (9H, s).

#### Synthesis of 5-tert-butyl-3-methyl-2-(methylthio)-1,3-benzoxazol-3-ium p-toluensulfonate (6)

Compound **5** (1.0 g, 4.5 mmol) was reacted with methyl *p*-toluenesulfonate (1.0 g, 5.4 mmol) at 110 °C overnight. After cooling, ethyl ether was added and the precipitate was filtered out. Several purification methods led to decomposition of the product. A small portion was purified by RPC18 column eluting with water. The solvent was evaporated under vacuum and product (**6**) was dried in a dessicator (106 mg collected, 91.4% purity); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  7.99 (1H, brs), 7.88 (2H, brs), 7.67 (2H, d, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 7.22 (2H, d, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 4.15 (3H, s), 3.08 (3H, s), 2.38 (3H, s), 1.47 (9H, s).

# Synthesis of dye *t*-butyl-OTB-CO<sub>2</sub>(8)

Salt **6** (30 mg, 0.07 mmol) and 6-(2-methyl-1,3-benzothiazol-3-ium-3-yl)hexanoate (**7**) (26 mg, 0.10 mmol) were dissolved in 2 mL of absolute ethanol and added with triethylamine (20  $\mu$ L, 0.14 mmol). The mixture was heated with a heat gun for a few seconds until a yellow color appeared. When the heat was removed a precipitate formed. The mixture was cooled, left standing for 1 h and washed with ethyl ether (3x 2mL). The yellow solid was filtered and dried in a dissecator overnight, resulting in t-butyl-OTV-CO<sub>2</sub> dye (**8**) showed to be pure by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and HPLC analysis (24 mg, 64% yield). M.p. =264-266 °C (dec.), <sup>-1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  7.94 (1H, d, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 7.74 (1H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.67-7.61 (3H, m), 7.54 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.6; 2.0 Hz), 7.47 (1H, ddd, *J* = 8.2, 7.6, 0.8 Hz), 6.10 (1H, s), 4.53 (2H, t, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 3.88 (3H, s), 2.27 (2H, t, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 1.95 (2H, quint, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 1.72 (quint, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 1.57 (2H, m), 1.43 (9H, s); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  178.4, 163.8, 162.4, 150.7, 144.8, 140.1, 131.2, 128.0, 125.7, 125.0, 122.4, 122.3, 113.1, 109.9, 107.7, 68.9, 46.2, 35.2, 34.9, 30.6, 29.4, 26.6, 25.9, 24.9. ESI-MS (positive mode) *m/z* 451.3 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>, calculated 451.2.

# Spectroscopic properties of *t*-butyl-OTB-CO<sub>2</sub>dye (8)

The UV-vis spectra of dye **8** shows a  $\lambda_{max}$  = 404 nm in 10 mM sodium phosphate buffer, 100 mM sodium chloride, pH 7;  $\varepsilon_{max}$  = 81,000 M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup> in methanol. The dye shows very low fluorescence in buffer or in presence of DNA,  $\Phi_f$  (CT-DNA) /  $\Phi_f$  (buffer) = 5. When it is placed in a viscous medium its fluorescence increases considerably;  $\lambda_{em}$  = 429 nm,  $\Phi_f$  (90% glycerol) /  $\Phi_f$  (buffer) = 52 at *ca*. 20 °C.

# Synthesis of dye t-butyl-OTB-SO<sub>3</sub> (10)

To a mixture of **6** (36 mg, 0.10 mmol) and 3-(2-methyl-1,3-benzothiazol-3-ium-3-yl)propane-1-sulfonate (**9**) (27 mg, 0.10 mmol) in absolute ethanol (4 mL), triethylamine (20  $\mu$ L, 0.27 mmol) was added. A precipitate started to form immediately; after 2 min, the solid is filtered and washed with cold ethanol and dried under the hood (26.8 mg, 58% yield). M.p. = 368-371 °C (dec.), <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  7.93 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.0, 0.7 Hz), 7.79 (1H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 7.66-7.59 (3H, m), 7.53 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.6; 2.0 Hz), 7.45 (1H, dt, *J* = 8.0, 0.8 Hz), 6.52 (1H, s), 4.76 (2H, brt, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 3.90 (3H, s), 3.04 (2H, m), 2.34 (2H, m), 1.43 (9H, s); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  165.1, 163.9, 152.1, 146.4, 141.4, 132.7, 129.4, 127.2, 126.3, 123.8, 123.6, 114.2, 111.3, 109.2, 70.93, 48.5 (obscured by solvent peak), 46.2, 36.4, 32.0, 31.2, 23.8. ESI-MS (positive mode) *m/z* 459.3 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>, calculated 459.1.

# Spectroscopic properties of *t*-butyl-OTB-SO<sub>3</sub> dye (10)

The UV-vis spectra of dye **10** shows a  $\lambda_{max}$  = 402 nm in 10 mM sodium phosphate buffer, 100 mM sodium chloride, pH 7;  $\varepsilon_{max}$  = 78,000 M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup> in methanol. The dye shows very low fluorescence in buffer or in presence of DNA,  $\Phi_f$  (CT-DNA) /  $\Phi_f$  (buffer) = 4. In a viscous medium its fluorescence increases considerably;  $\lambda_{em}$  = 425 nm,  $\Phi_f$  (90% glycerol) /  $\Phi_f$  (buffer) = 46 at *ca.* 20 °C.

# Chart S1: Structures described in synthesis



# Synthesis schemes:

Scheme S1. Synthesis of intermediates 4 to 6



# Scheme S2. Synthesis of *t*-butyl-OTB-CO<sub>2</sub> dye (8)



Scheme S3. Synthesis of *t*-butyl-OTB-SO<sub>3</sub> dye (10)



# NMR Spectra:



Figure S1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of Dye 3 OTB-SO<sub>3</sub> (500 MHz, in DMSD-*d*<sub>6</sub>).



Figure S2a. Proton and carbon NMR assignments for dye 3 OTB-SO<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S2b. COSY spectra for dye 3 OTB-SO $_3$ .





Figure S2c. HSQC spectra for dye 3 OTB-SO<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S2d. HMBC spectra for dye 3 OTB-SO<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of dye 8 *t*-butyl-OTB-CO<sub>2</sub> (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)



Figure S4. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of dye 8 t-butyl-OTB-CO<sub>2</sub> (125 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)

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Figure S5. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of dye 10 *t*-butyl-OTB-SO<sub>3</sub> (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)

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Figure S6. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of dye 10 t-butyl-OTB-SO<sub>3</sub> (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)



# UV-vis Spectra of OTB Dyes in Methanol

Figure S7. UV-vis spectra recorded of fluorogenic cyanine dyes in methanol.

Analytical HPLC of Dye 3 (OTB-SO<sub>3</sub>)



Figure S8. HPLC data for dye 3 OTB-SO<sub>3</sub>.

# Analytical HPLC of Dye 8 (t-Bu-OTB-CO<sub>2</sub>)



Figure S9. HPLC data for dye 8 t-Bu-OTB-CO<sub>2</sub>.

Analytical HPLC of Dye 10 (t-Bu-OTB-SO<sub>3</sub>)



Figure S10. HPLC data for dye 10 t-Bu-OTB-SO<sub>3</sub>.

# 2. Flow Cytometry Data



**Figure S11.** Data from five sequential rounds of flow cytometry of yeast-displayed library sorted for activation of OTB-SO<sub>3</sub> fluorescence. Violet signal is on the x-axis; induction measured by labeling with c-myc epitope tag and Alexa 488 antibody is on the y-axis.

#### Flow Cytometry Methodology

The naïve yeast library was sorted directly on the flow cytometer, in a marked departure from previous methods. In the past, our Center had selected scFvs capable of activating fluorogenic dyes by first conducting two rounds of Magnetic-Activated Cell Sorting (MACS), followed by several rounds of flow cytometry. In the magnetic sorts, a bitotinylated version of the dye is attached to magnetic beads coated with either streptavidin or anti-biotin antibody. Yeast cells with scFvs expressed on their surface are then passed through a column containing the beads; only cells expressing scFvs that bind the target dye remain in the column. Although this method worked well, it required additional time and expense for the magnetic sorts. We also encountered problems with contamination by other yeast strains during MACS. By skipping the magnetic sorting step, we were able to avoid these difficulties and did not need to synthesize biotinylated OTB-SO<sub>3</sub>.

#### 3. Protein Sequences (Molecular Weights and $\varepsilon_{280}$ values)

# A5 (25,737 kDa, $\varepsilon_{280}$ = 43,010 M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>)

QVQLVESEGGLVQPGESLRLSCAASGFTFSGSWMAWVRQPPGKGLEWV AELQPDGSGKYYVDSVKGRFTISRDNAKNSLYLQMNNLKADDTAIYYCA RDPSFGAFDYWGQGTLVTVSSGILGSGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGSQSALTQP ASVSGSPGQSITISCTGTSSDVGGYNYVSWYQQHPGKAPKLMISDVTKR PSGVPDRFSGSKSGNTASLTISGLQTEDEADYYCSSFTSTSSVIFGGGTK VTVLS

### A6 (26,823 kDa, $\varepsilon_{280} = 51,260 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ )

QVQLQQSGPGLVKPSQTLSLTCAISGDSVSSNSAVWNWIRQSPSRGLE WLGRTYYRSKWNNHYAESVKSRITINPDTSKNQVVLTMSNMDPLDTATY YCALSYSSSPNDYWGQGILVTVSSGSASAPTGILGSGGGGGGGGGGGGG GGSEIVMTQSPATLSLSPGERATLSCRASQSVSSYLAWYQQKPGQAPRL LIYDASNRATGIPARFSGSGSGTDFTLTISSLEPEDFAVYYCQQYGSLGT FGQGTKVDIKS

### B11 (26,400 kDa, $\varepsilon_{280} = 52,540 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ )

QVQLQQSGPGLVKPSQTLSLTCAISGDSVSSNSAAWNWIRQSPSRGFE WLGRTYYRSKWFYDYAVSVKSRITINPDTSTNQISLQLNSVTPEDTAVYY CSRGRGVYYFDYWDQGTLVTVSSGILGSGGGGSGGGGGGGGGGGGGSEIVMT QSPGTLSLSPGESATLSCRASRSVSGNLAWYQQKPGQPPRLLIYGASTR ATGIPARFSGSGSGTEFTLTISSLQSEDFAVYYCQQYNNLGTFGQGTKLE IKS

#### D10 (26,320 kDa, $\varepsilon_{280} = 51,260 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ )

QVQLQQSGPGLVKPSQTLSLTCAISGDSVSSNSVAWNWMRQSPSRGLE WLGRTYYRSKWFYDYAVSVKGRISINPDTSKNQFSLQLNSINPDDTAVYY CARGAAVDGFDYWGQGTLVTVSSGILGSGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGG QSPATLSVSPGERATLSCRASQSVSSYLAWYQQKPGQAPRLLIYDASSR AAGLSDRFSGSGSGTDFTLTISRLEPEDVAVYYCQQYFRSGTFGQGTKV EIKS

### H10 (26,277 kDa, $\varepsilon_{280} = 47,420 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ )

QVQLQQSGPGLVKPSQTLSVTCVISGDSVSSNSAVWNWIRQSPSGGLE WLGRIYYRSRWFFDYAESVKGRITINPDTSKNQFSLQLNSVTPEDTAMYY CTRDGDLGLDTLDVWGQGTMVTVSSGILGSGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGG LTQSPATLSLSPGERATLSCRASQFVSNSLAWYQQKPGQAPRLLIYDAS TRATGIPARFSGSGSATDFTLTISRLEPEDFAVYYCQQYGGTFGGGTKLE IKS

### J10 (26,273 kDa, $\varepsilon_{280}$ = 41,730 M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>)

QVQLVQSGAEVKRPGSSVKVSCKASGGAFSSSANSWVRQAPGQGLEW MGGIIPVFGTPNYAQKFQGRVTITADESTRTTYMELSSLRSEDTAVYYCA RVLGSGIDLTGYIDLWGRGTLVTVSSGILGSGGGGSGGGGSGGGDSEIV LTQSPATLSVSPGERATLSCRASQSVDNKLAWYQQKPGQAPRLLIYGAS TRATGIPARFSGGGSGTEFTLTISGLQSEDFAVYYCQQYTDRPSWTFGQ GTKVEIKS



# 4. Fluorescence Spectroscopy of DNA-Binding Fluorogens

# 5. Absorbance Spectra of FAP-Bound Fluorogens





6. Temperature Dependence of H10-OTB-SO<sub>3</sub> Emission Spectrum



# 7. pH-Dependence of H10-OTB-SO3 Emission Spectrum

The pH sensitivity of the H10 fluoromodule was examined in a variety of buffers. In order to encompass the pH range where the protein is expected to maintain a stable structure, pH values ranging from 4 to 9 were used. It was necessary to vary the type and concentrations of salts present in the buffers to ensure that they were effective in the desired pH range (10 mM NaAc pH = 4.0, 10 mM NaAc pH = 4.5, PBS pH = 7.4, or 10 mM Na<sub>2</sub>B<sub>4</sub>O<sub>7</sub>/ 1 M NaCl pH= 9).



# 8. K<sub>d</sub> Determinations

Soluble Protein. Figures S9-S13 show data from fluorescence titrations of dye into solutions containing either soluble scFv (black) or buffer (red). Samples were excited at 380 nm, and emission was monitored at 435 nm except for DIR (Figure S14), which was excited at 580 nm and emission monitored at 651 nm.











Yeast Displayed Protein. Figures S15-S19 show data from fluorescence titrations of dye into solutions containing induced yeast (black), uninduced yeast (red), and buffer (blue). Samples were excited at 401 nm and emission was monitored at 435 nm except for DIR (Figure S19), which was excited at 602 nm and emission monitored at 644 nm.













**Figure S27.** Relative fluorescence spectra were measured for 200 nM OTB and 1  $\mu$ M soluble FAP. Samples were excited at 370 nm and spectra were divided by the value of the buffer spectrum at 423 nm to give the relative fluorescence values.

# 9. Microscopy Images



**Figure S28.** Overlay of fluorescence and differential contrast images of J10 cells labeled with 200 nM DIR (red) and OTB-SO<sub>3</sub> (blue), along with the merged fluorescence signal from both dyes (purple).



**Figure S29.** Overlay of fluorescence and differential contrast images of H10 cells labeled with OTB-SO<sub>3</sub> (blue) and H6-MG cells labeled with MG-2p (red).