

## Supplementary Information

# Target-selective and fluorescent “switch-on” protein labeling by $6\pi$ -azaelectrocyclization

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**General Procedures.** All commercially available reagents were used without further purification. Dichloromethane were refluxed over and distilled from  $\text{CaH}_2$ . Anhydrous DMF was purchased from Aldrich, and anhydrous THF was purchased from Kanto Chemicals, Tokyo. Preparative separation was usually performed by column chromatography on silica gel (FUJI silysia LTD, BW-200 and BW-300) and by thin layer chromatography on silica gel (Merck, 20 x 20 cm, Silica gel 60 F<sub>254</sub>, 1 mm).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra was recorded on a JEOL JNM-LA 500 spectrometer and chemical shifts were represented as  $\delta$ -values relative to the internal standard TMS. MALDI-TOF-mass spectra were measured on PerSeptive Biosystems, Voyager RP-DE/H and SHIMADZU AXIMA-CFR mass spectrometers equipped with a nitrogen laser ( $\lambda = 337$  nm). UV-vis spectra were recorded on a JASCO V-530 spectrophotometer and reported as  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  [nm] ( $\epsilon_{\text{max}}$ [Lmol<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>]). Fluorescence emission spectra were measured either on a JASCO FP-6500 spectrofluorometer.

**2-{2-[4-[4-(Dimethylamino)phenylazo]benzoyl]aminoethoxy}ethyl (E,E)-4-tertButyldiphenylsilanylhydroxy-2-(6-aminostyryl)but-2-enoate (3).** To a solution of **2** (30 mg, 40  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (3.0 mL) was added TFA (750  $\mu\text{L}$ ) at 0 °C and the mixture was stirred at this temperature for 20 min. The solution was neutralized with 1 N aqueous NaOH (3.0 mL) and extracted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . The organic layers were combined, washed with brine, dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtrated, and concentrated *in vacuo* to give the crude diamine, which was subjected to the acylation without further purification.

To a solution of the diamine (35% out of the crude products obtained above (14  $\mu\text{mol}$ )) in dry  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (1.0 mL) was added 4-[4-(dimethylamino)phenylazo]benzoic acid succinimidyl ester (5.2 mg, 14  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) at room temperature and stirred overnight at this temperature. After the solution was concentrated *in vacuo*, the residue was purified by preparative TLC on silica gel (60% ethyl acetate in hexane) to give **3** as a bright red solid (7.2 mg, 62 % for 2 steps); MALDI-TOF-MS  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{47}\text{H}_{53}\text{N}_5\text{O}_5\text{Si}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ )<sup>+</sup> 818.4, found 818.3; HRESI-MS  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{47}\text{H}_{53}\text{N}_5\text{O}_5\text{Si}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ )<sup>+</sup> 818.3705, found 818.3687; IR (neat,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3355, 2927, 2855, 1713, 1601, 1517;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.87 (d, 2H,  $J = 9.2$  Hz), 7.85 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.6$  Hz), 7.81 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.7$  Hz), 7.66 (m, 4H), 7.41-7.30 (m, 6H), 7.08 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.5$  Hz), 6.79 (t, 1H,  $J = 5.8$  Hz), 6.75 (d, 2H,  $J = 9.2$  Hz), 6.60 (d, 1H,  $J = 16.4$  Hz), 6.54 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.5$  Hz), 6.46 (d, 1H,  $J = 16.5$  Hz), 4.52 (d, 2H,  $J = 5.9$  Hz), 4.40 (t, 2H,  $J = 4.7$  Hz), 3.80 (t, 2H,  $J = 4.7$  Hz), 3.70 (t, 2H,  $J = 4.4$  Hz), 3.69 (t, 2H,  $J = 4.4$  Hz), 3.10 (s, 6H), 1.05 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  167.2, 167.0, 155.0, 152.8, 146.6, 143.8, 140.2, 135.6, 135.5, 133.3, 130.3, 129.8, 129.6, 128.0, 127.9, 127.8, 127.7, 122.2, 115.0, 111.5, 69.9, 69.2, 63.7, 61.3, 40.3, 39.9, 26.8, 26.8.

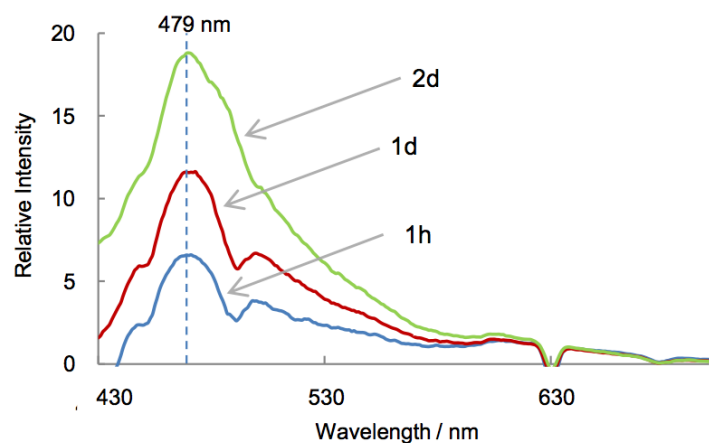
**2-{2-[4-[4-(Dimethylamino)phenylazo]benzoyl]aminoethoxy}ethyl (E,E)-4-tertButyldiphenylsilanylhydroxy-2-{6-[7-(diethylamino)coumarin-3-carboxamide]styryl}but-2-enoate.** To a solution of **3** (1.5 mg, 1.9  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) in dry DMF (500  $\mu\text{L}$ ) were added HATU (1.1 mg, 2.8  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) and 7-(dimethylamino)coumarin-3-carboxylic acid (590  $\mu\text{g}$ , 2.3  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) at room temperature. After the mixture was stirred at this temperature for 10 min, triethylamine (530 nL, 3.8  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) was added to this solution and stirred at room temperature overnight. The resulting mixture was concentrated *in vacuo* to give the crude product, which was directly purified by preparative TLC on silica gel (9 % MeOH in  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) to give the coupling product as a bright red solid (1.5 mg, 76 %): MALDI-TOF-MS  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{61}\text{H}_{66}\text{N}_6\text{O}_8\text{Si}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ )<sup>+</sup> 1061.5, found 1061.6; HRESI-MS  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{61}\text{H}_{66}\text{N}_6\text{O}_8\text{Si}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ )<sup>+</sup> 1061.4603, found 1061.4576; IR (neat,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3269, 2955, 2917, 2849, 1699, 1617, 1600, 1509;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  10.9 (s, 1H), 8.76 (s, 1H), 7.86 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.5$  Hz), 7.85 (d, 2H,  $J = 9.2$  Hz), 7.80 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.6$  Hz), 7.68-7.65 (m, 4H), 7.64 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.6$  Hz), 7.46 (d, 1H,  $J = 9.0$  Hz), 7.42-7.30 (m, 6H), 7.24 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.6$  Hz), 6.86 (t, 1H,  $J = 5.9$  Hz), 6.73 (d, 2H,  $J = 9.0$  Hz), 6.69 (d, 1H,  $J = 16.3$  Hz), 6.67 (dd, 1H,  $J = 2.5, 8.9$  Hz), 6.58 (d, 1H,  $J = 16.3$  Hz), 6.53 (d, 1H,  $J = 2.1$  Hz), 4.53 (d, 2H,  $J = 6.0$  Hz), 4.42 (t, 2H,  $J = 4.7$  Hz), 3.81 (t, 2H,  $J = 4.7$  Hz), 3.72 (t, 2H,  $J = 4.6$  Hz), 3.70 (t, 2H,  $J = 4.6$  Hz), 3.46 (q, 4H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.07 (s, 6H), 1.26 (t, 6H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 1.05 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): Due to

the multiple signals of rotamers, those of representative were shown here:  $\delta$  167.0, 166.9, 163.0, 160.9, 157.8, 155.0, 152.8, 152.7, 148.4, 143.8, 141.3, 138.3, 140.2, 135.6, 135.5, 134.4, 134.3, 133.2, 129.9, 128.8, 127.9, 127.8, 127.7, 127.4, 122.2, 120.3, 119.5, 111.5, 110.3, 110.2, 108.7, 96.7, 69.9, 69.2, 63.7, 61.3, 45.2, 40.2, 39.9, 26.8, 26.8, 12.5.

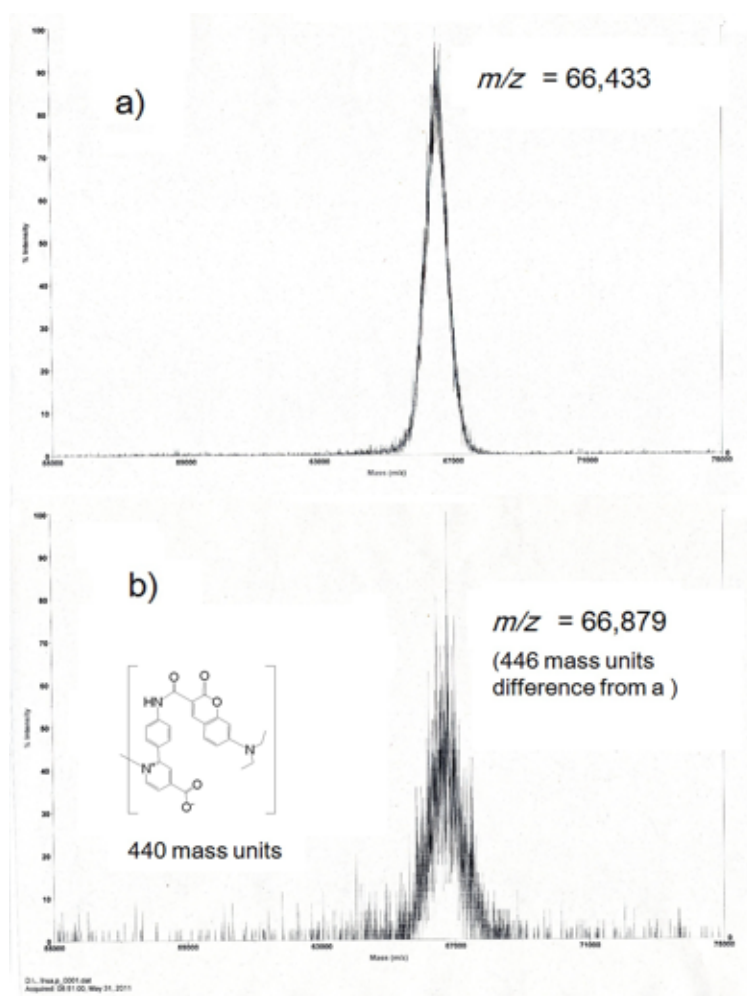
**2-{2-[4-[4-(Dimethylamino)phenylazo]benzoyl]aminoethoxy}ethyl (E,E)-2-{6-[7-(Diethylamino)coumarin-3-carboxamide]styryl}-4-hydroxybut-2-enoate (4).** To a solution of the coupling product obtained above (1.5 mg, 1.4  $\mu$ mol) in THF (500  $\mu$ L) were added acetic acid (1.0 M in THF, 1.4  $\mu$ L, 1.4  $\mu$ mol) and TBAF (1.0 M in THF, 1.4  $\mu$ L, 1.4  $\mu$ mol) at 0 °C. After the resulting mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 2 h, the mixture was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>. The organic layers were combined, washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtrated, and concentrated *in vacuo* to give the crude product, which was rapidly purified by preparative TLC on silica gel (9 % MeOH in CHCl<sub>3</sub>) to give the corresponding allyl alcohol **4** as a bright red solid (1.0 mg, 87 %): MALDI-TOF-MS *m/z* calcd for C<sub>45</sub>H<sub>48</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (M+Na)<sup>+</sup> 823.4, found 823.7; HRESI-MS *m/z* calcd for C<sub>45</sub>H<sub>48</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (M+Na)<sup>+</sup> 823.3425, found 823.3428; IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2956, 2924, 2853, 1720, 1690, 1602, 1540; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.8 (s, 1H), 8.76 (s, 1H), 7.85 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 7.84 (d, 2H, *J* = 9.2 Hz), 7.80 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 7.64 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 7.46 (d, 1H, *J* = 9.1 Hz), 7.32 (2H, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 6.76 (t, 1H, *J* = 6.0 Hz), 6.73 (d, 2H, *J* = 9.0 Hz), 6.70 (d, 1H, *J* = 16.3 Hz), 6.66 (dd, 1H, *J* = 2.3, 8.5 Hz), 6.61 (d, 1H, *J* = 16.4 Hz), 6.54 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 4.44 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 4.41 (t, 2H, *J* = 4.5 Hz), 3.82 (t, 2H, *J* = 4.4 Hz), 3.76 (t, 2H, *J* = 5.0 Hz), 3.68 (t, 2H, *J* = 5.2 Hz), 3.48 (q, 4H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 3.04 (s, 6H), 1.26 (t, 6H, *J* = 7.2 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): Due to the multiple signals of rotamers, those of representative were shown here:  $\delta$  167.8, 167.3, 166.8, 163.0, 160.9, 157.8, 155.1, 152.8, 152.8, 148.3, 143.7, 141.3, 138.4, 134.6, 130.99, 130.14, 128.8, 127.9, 127.4, 125.5, 124.4, 122.28, 120.32, 119.3, 111.5, 110.2, 108.7, 96.7, 69.9, 69.0, 64.0, 59.8, 45.2, 40.2, 38.2, 12.5.

**2-{2-[4-[4-(Dimethylamino)phenylazo]benzoyl]aminoethoxy}ethyl (E,E)-4-Oxo-2-{6-[7-(diethylamino)coumarin-3-carboxamide]styryl}but-2-enoate (1).** To a solution of the allyl alcohol **4** obtained above (1.0 mg, 1.25  $\mu$ mol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mL) was added IBX-polystyrene (38 mg, 38  $\mu$ mol) and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 20 min. The solution was filtered and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* to give **1** as a bright red solid (1.0 mg, quant), being pure enough used for subsequent labeling studies after the rapid MS analysis: MALDI-TOF-MS *m/z* calcd for C<sub>45</sub>H<sub>46</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 799.3, found 799.8; HRESI-MS *m/z* calcd for C<sub>45</sub>H<sub>46</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (M+Na)<sup>+</sup> 821.3274, found 821.3310; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.98 (s, 1H), 10.14 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 8.77 (s, 1H), 7.87 (m, 2H), 7.85 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.82 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.75 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 7.47 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 7.33 (1H, *J* = 5.6 Hz), 7.30 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 7.08 (d, 1H, *J* = 15.4 Hz), 6.78 (d, 1H, *J* = 16.1 Hz), 6.74 (d, 2H, *J* = 9.0 Hz), 6.57 (dd, 1H, *J* = 2.3, 8.5 Hz), 6.54 (s, 1H), 4.49 (t, 2H, *J* = 4.4 Hz), 3.82 (t, 2H, *J* = 4.3 Hz), 3.76 (t, 2H, *J* = 5.0 Hz), 3.68 (t, 2H, *J* = 5.2 Hz), 3.48 (q, 4H, *J* = 7.0 Hz), 3.07 (s, 6H), 1.26 (t, 6H, *J* = 7.2 Hz).

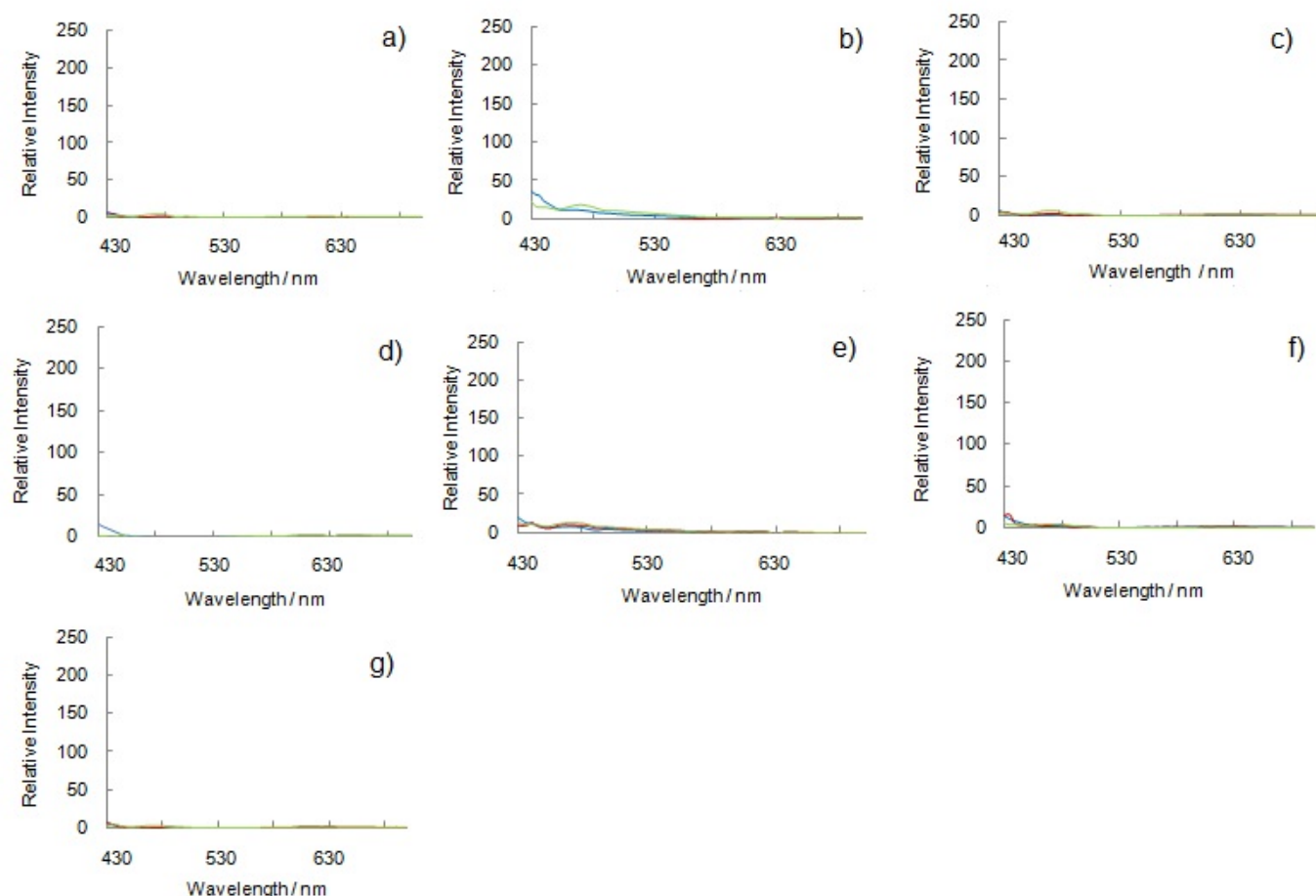
**“Switch-On” HSA labeling by the probe 1:** To a mixture of HSA, phospholipase A<sub>2</sub>, TGF-β<sub>3</sub>, orosomucoid, anti-Tau antibody, somatostatin, neurotensin, and ACTH dissolved in 1.35 mL of 0.1 M phosphate buffer (each of  $1.0 \times 10^{-8}$  M, pH 7.4) was added a  $1.0 \times 10^{-6}$  M solution of **1** in 0.1 M phosphate buffer (150 μL), and the mixture was incubated at 25 °C. The final concentrations of each proteins/peptides and **1** were  $1.0 \times 10^{-8}$  M and  $1.0 \times 10^{-7}$  M, respectively. The solution was then directly analyzed by fluorescence spectrometer (excitation of 7-diethylaminocoumarin excitation at 420 nm) and/or HPLC.



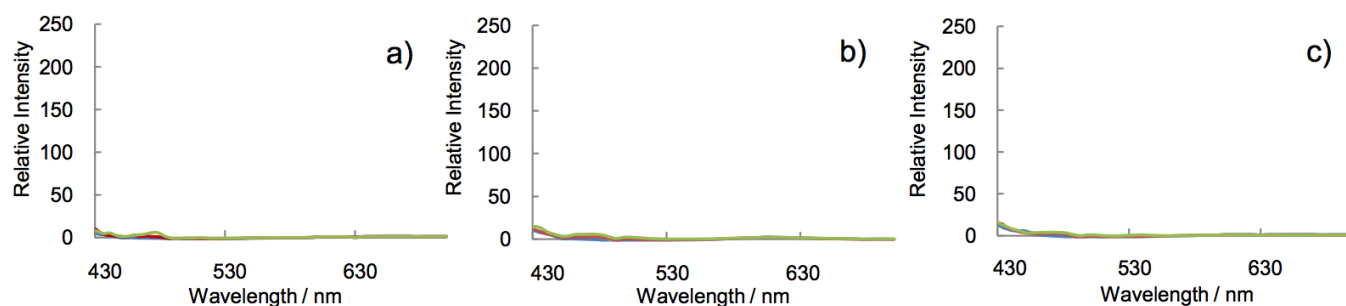
**Fig. S-1** Fluorescence spectrum of HSA after treatment with probe **1**. Both incubation and fluorescence analysis were performed at  $1.0 \times 10^{-9}$  M for HSA and  $1.0 \times 10^{-8}$  M for probe **1** in PBS at room temperature (excitation at 420 nm).



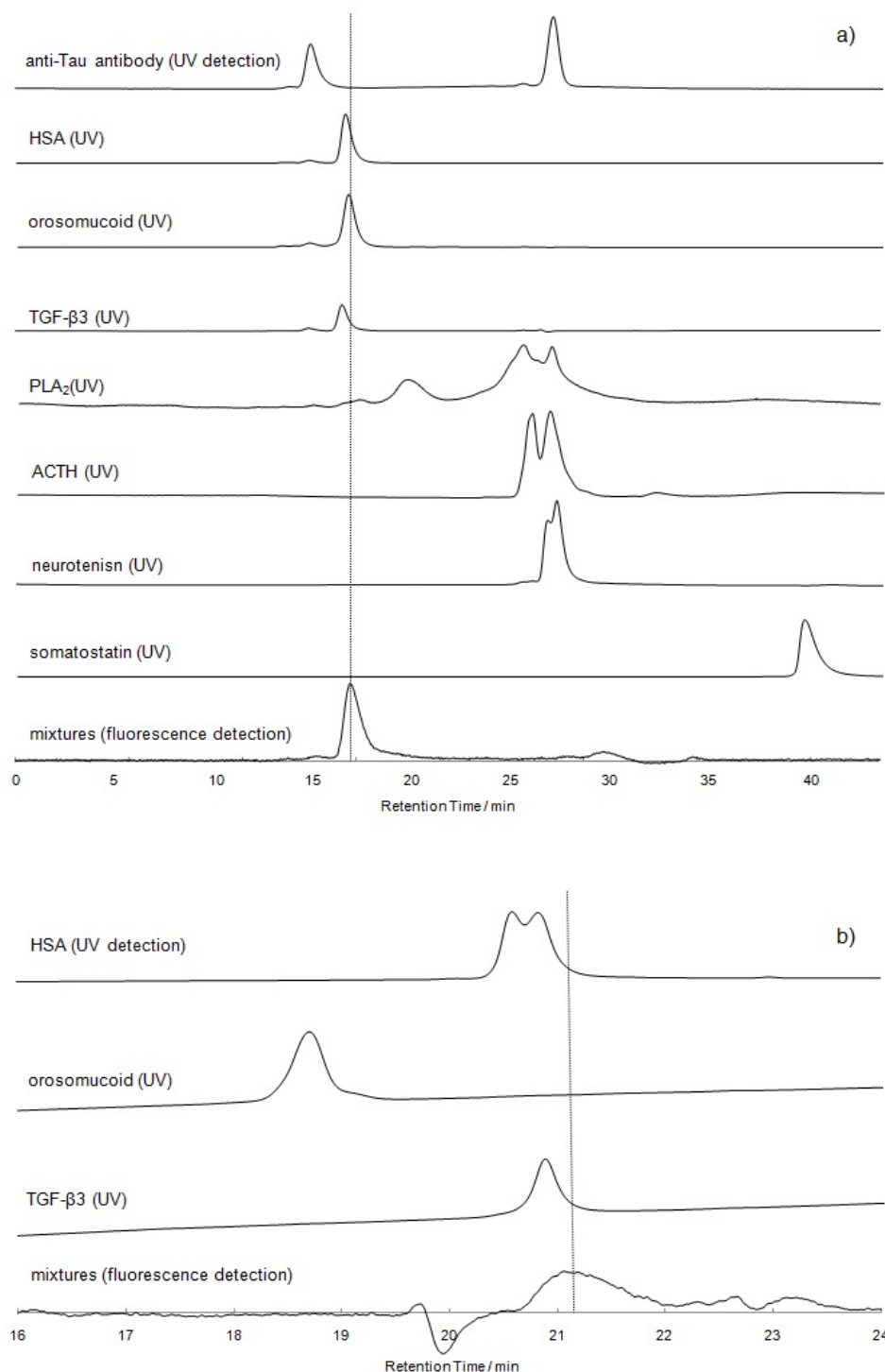
**Fig. S-2** MALDI-TOF-MS of (a) HSA ( $m/z$  calcd for  $(M+H)^+$  66,473) and (b) HSA labeled by **1** (twitter ion form).



**Fig. S-3** Fluorescence spectra of various protein and peptide solutions after treatment with probe **1**. Both incubation and fluorescence analysis were performed at  $1.0 \times 10^{-8}$  M for proteins and/or peptides, and at  $1.0 \times 10^{-7}$  M for probe **1** in PBS at room temperature (excitation at 420 nm). (a) bovine pancreatic phospholipase A<sub>2</sub>, (b) TGF-b3, (c) orosomucoid, (d) anti-Tau antibody, (e) somatostatin, (f) neurotensin, (g) ACTH. Blue: 1 h; red: 1 d; green; 2 d after incubation.

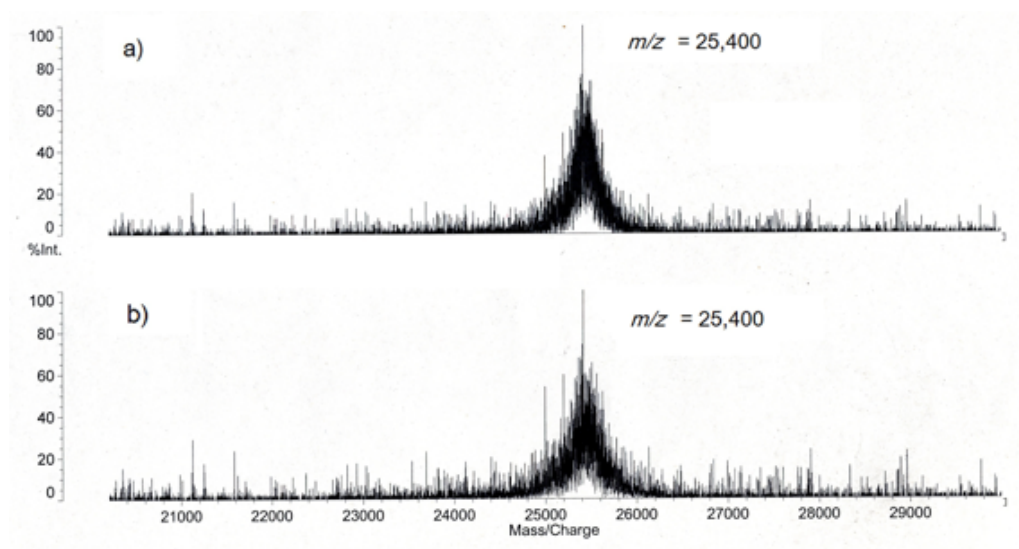


**Fig. S-4** Fluorescence spectra of (a) somatostatin, (b) neurotensin, and (c) ACTH after treatment with probe **1**. Incubation was performed at  $1.0 \times 10^{-6}$  M for peptides and  $1.0 \times 10^{-7}$  M for **1** in PBS at room temperature. Fluorescence spectra were recorded after 1h (blue), 1d (red) and 2d (green) incubation (excitation at 420 nm).



**Fig. S-5** HPLC profiles of the individual proteins and peptides as well as their mixture after treatment with probe **1** for 2 days (reaction concentrations:  $1.0 \times 10^{-8}$  M for peptides and  $1.0 \times 10^{-7}$  M for **1** in PBS, detection: UV at 215 nm, excitation at 420 nm and emission at 480 nm). (a) Size-partitioning gel-filtration on HPLC (column: TSK-Gel G2000SW<sub>XL</sub>, 7.8 x 300 mm; eluent: 0.02 M PBS containing 0.3 M NaCl, pH 7.0 at rt; flow rate: 0.5 mL/min). Since the labeling of HSA, orosomucoid, or TGF-β3 could not be concluded, these three proteins were further analyzed by reverse phase HPLC. (b) Reverse phase HPLC (column: Nacalai Tesque Protein-R, 2.0 x 150 mm; MeCN in H<sub>2</sub>O containing 0.05% TFA (20-60% gradient over 20 min, 0.5 mL/min). Out of HSA and TGF-β3, TGF-β3 being treated with the probe **1** did not show any fluorescence (see Fig. S-3), hence the preferential labeling of HSA was concluded; the conclusion was also supported by the MALDI-TOF-MS of HSA and TGF-β3 treated by **1** (see Figs S-2 and S-6).





**Fig. S-6** MALDI-TOF-MS of (a) TGF- $\beta$ 3 ( $m/z$  calcd for  $(M+H)^+$  25,429) and (b) TGF- $\beta$ 3 treated by **1**.



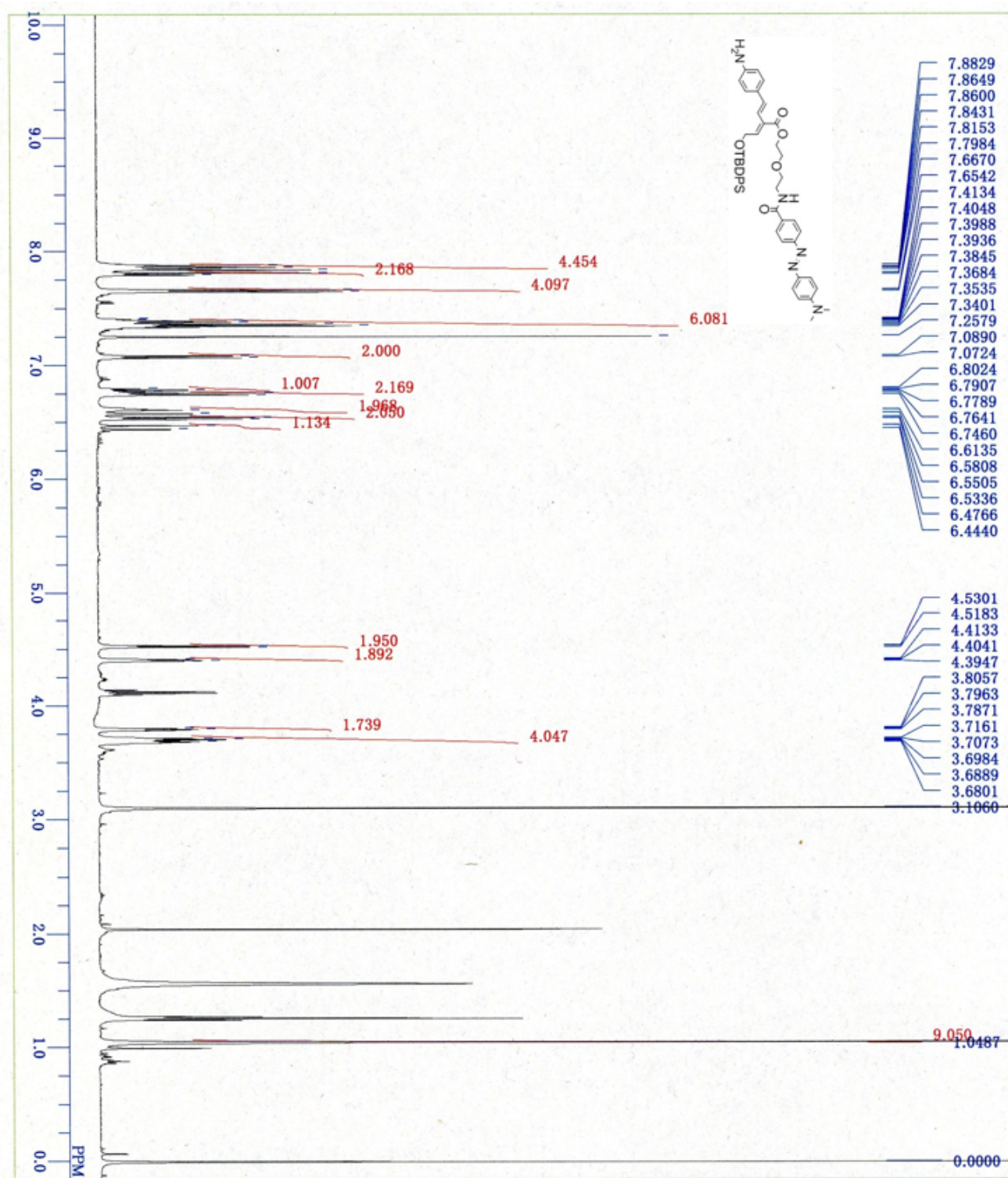
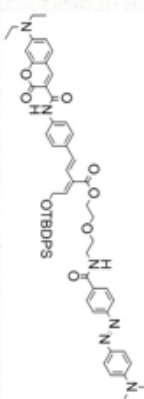


Fig. S-7 <sup>1</sup>H NMR of 3 (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>).



**Fig. S-8**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of TBDPS-protected **4** (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ).



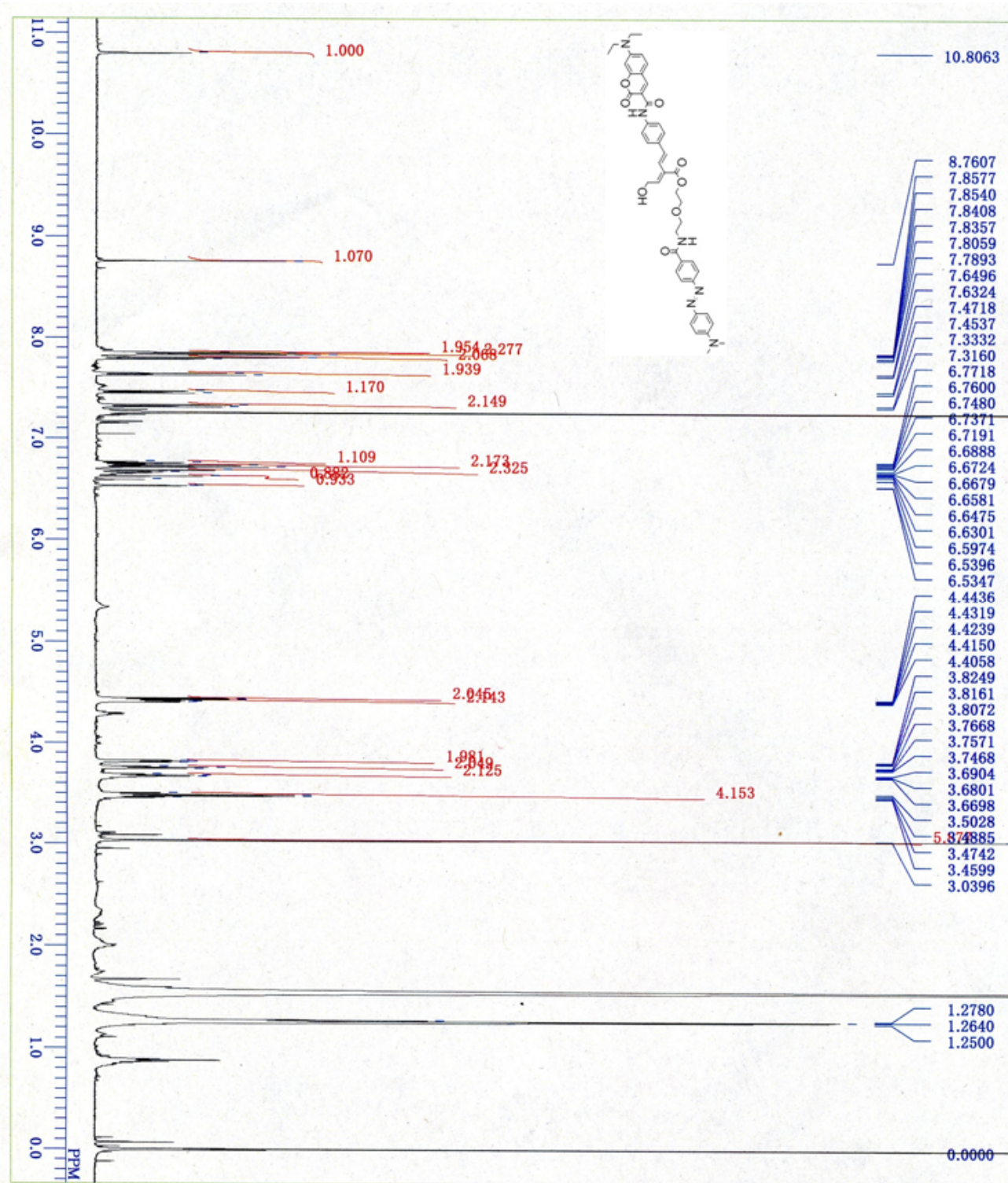


Fig. S-9 <sup>1</sup>H NMR of 4 (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>).