

Supporting Information for:

Synthesis and evaluation of photostable cyanine-styryl dyes as fluorescent DNA staining agents

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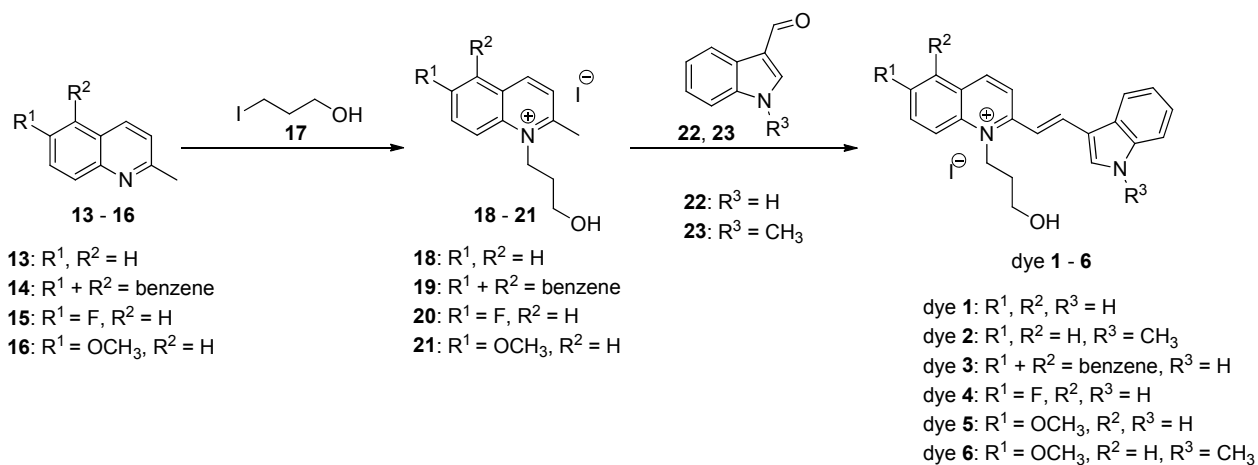
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2. Materials and methods:

Chemicals and dry solvents were purchased from *Aldrich*, *ABCR* and *VWR* were used without further purification unless otherwise mentioned. Unmodified DNA strands were obtained from *Metabion*. TLC was performed on ALUGRAM Sil G/UV₂₅₄ 0,20 nm silica gel 60 mit F254 from *Macherey-Nagel GmbH & Co. KG*. Spectroscopic measurements were recorded in NaP_i buffer solution (10 mM, pH = 7) with 250 mM NaCl using quartz glass cuvettes (10 mm). Absorption spectra were recorded with a *Varian Cary 100* spectrometer equipped with a 6x6 cell changer unit at 20 °C. Fluorescence was measured with a *Jobin–Yvon Fluoromax 3* fluorimeter with a step width of 1 nm and an integration time of 0.2 s. All spectra were recorded at 20 °C and with an excitation and emission band pass of 3 nm and are corrected for Raman emission from the buffer solution. ESI mass spectra were measured in the central analytical facility of the Institute of Organic Chemistry of the University of Regensburg with a *ThermoQuest Finnigan TSQ 7000* in negative and positive ionization mode. The determination of FAB mass spectra was executed by the Institute of Organic Chemistry of the KIT using a *Finnigan MAT95* in positive ionization mode. NMR spectra were recorded on a *Bruker B-ACS-60*, *Bruker Avance DRX 400* and a *Bruker Avance DRX 500* spectrometer in deuterated solvents (¹H at 300, 400 or 500 MHz, ¹³C at 75, 100 or 125 MHz). Chemical shifts are given in ppm relative to TMS. IR spectra recording were performed by the Institute of Organic Chemistry of the KIT with a *Bruker IFS88*. Quantum yields were determined with *Quantaaurus QY C11347* of *Hamamatsu*. The photoproducts were purified with a Reversed Phase *Supelcosil™* LC-C18 column (250 x 4,6 mm, 5 μm) on a *Shimadzu* HPLC system (autosampler SIL-10AD, pump LC-10AT, controller SCL-10A, diode array detector SPD-M10A). Nano-ESI measurements of the primary photoproducts were performed with a *LTQ Orbitrap XL* mass spectrometer that comprises an electrospray ion source (ESI) from (*Thermo Fisher*).

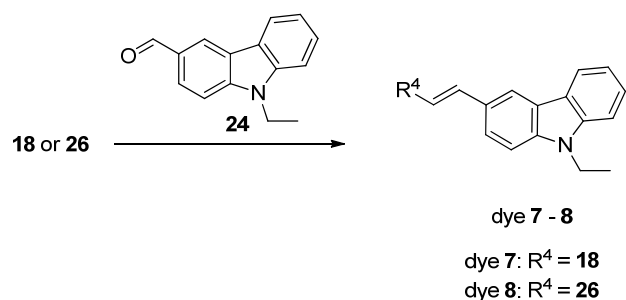
3. Schematic synthesis of the dyes:

3.1 Dyes 1 – 6:



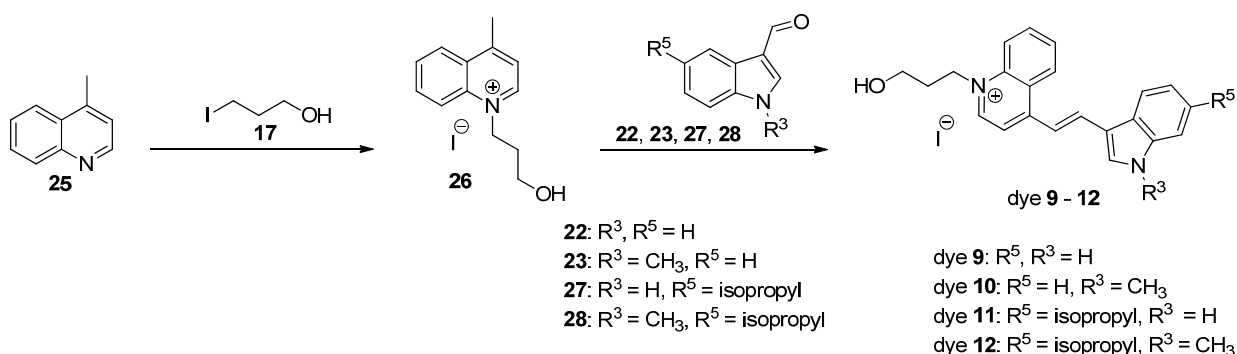
Scheme S1: Synthesis of the dyes 1 – 6.

3.2 Dyes 7 and 8:



Scheme S2: Synthesis of the dyes 7 and 8.

3.3 Dyes 9 – 12:

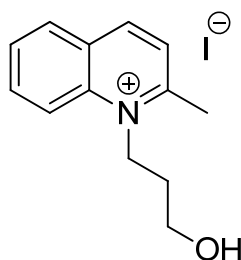


Scheme S3: Synthesis of the dyes 9 - 12.

4. Synthesis:

4.1 Synthesis of compound 18:

1-(3-hydroxypropyl)-2-methylquinolinium



Under argon, a mixture of 2-methylquinoline (**13**, 0.72 g, 0.67 mL, 5.0 mmol) and 3-iodo-1-propanol* (**17**, 0.72 mL, 1.40 g, 7.5 mmol) in 3 mL 1,4-dioxane was stirred in a headspace vial at 101°C for 19 h. After cooling to room temperature 5 mL diethyl ether were added and after precipitation the product was collected and washed three times with diethyl ether. Drying under reduced pressure yields a light gray solid (67 %).

* Please note: It is crucial to use fresh 3-iodo-1-propanol (e.g. via Finkelstein-reaction of 3-chloro-1-propanol and NaI in acetone).

IR (DRIFT): $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹) = 3381 (s), 2931 (m), 2877 (m), 1351 (m), 1057 (m).

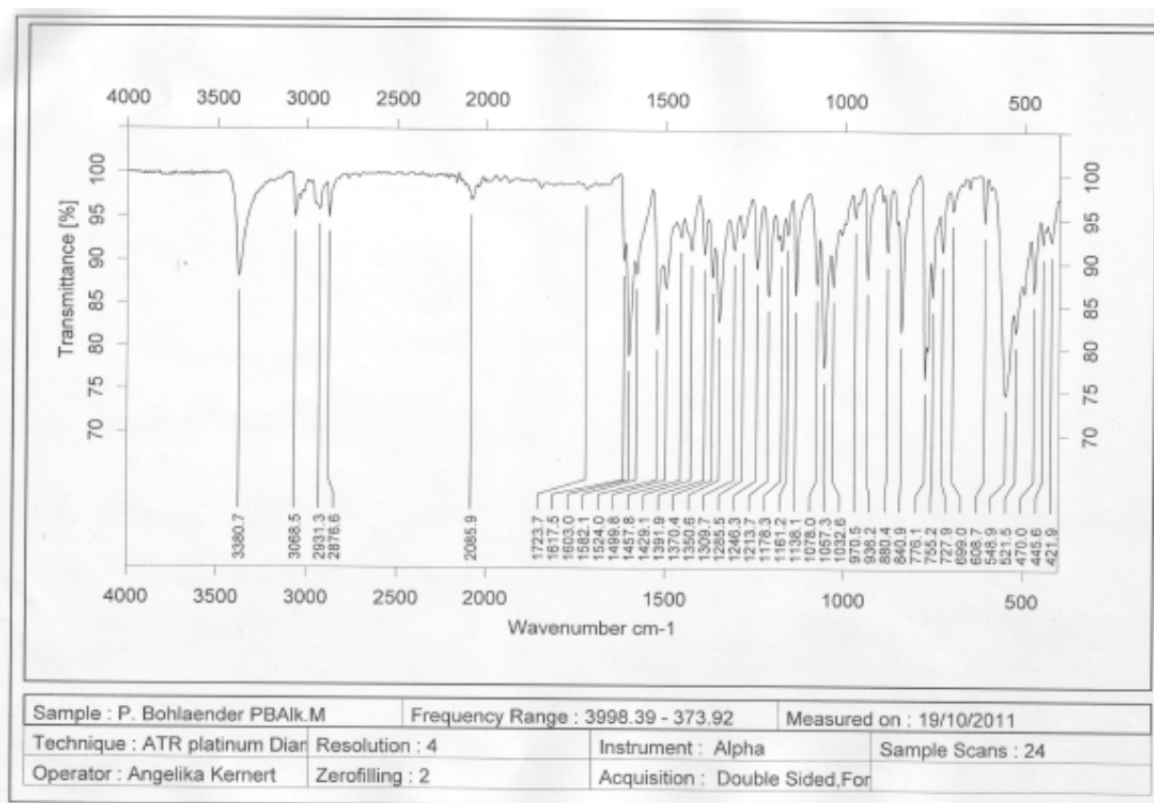
¹H-NMR (300MHz; DMSO-d₆):

δ (ppm) = 1.98 – 2.16 (m, 2H), 3.13 (s, 3H), 3.63 (t, J = 5.3 Hz, 2H), 4.81 – 5.13 (m, 3H), 7.99 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 8.23 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.41 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.60 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 9.11 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H).

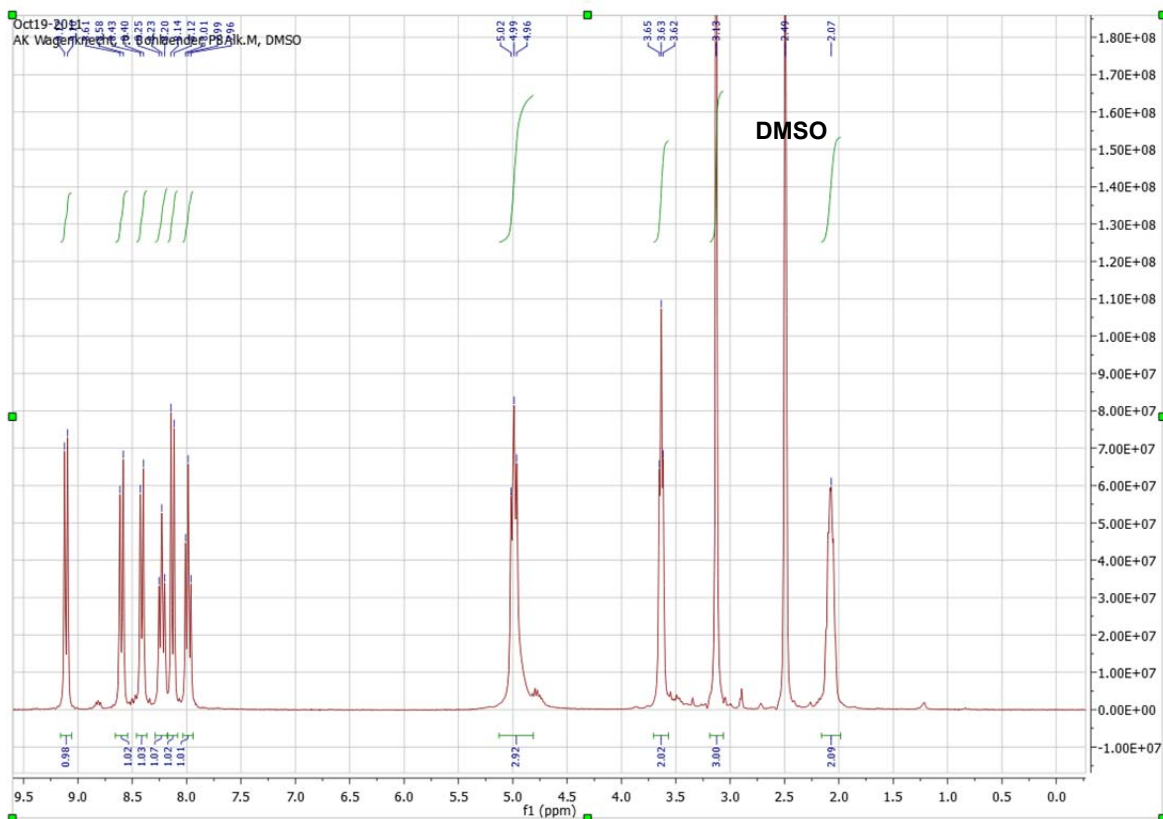
¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆):

δ (ppm) = 22.5, 31.1, 49.3, 57.5, 118.8, 125.5, 128.2, 129.0, 130.6, 135.2, 138.3, 145.6, 160.8.

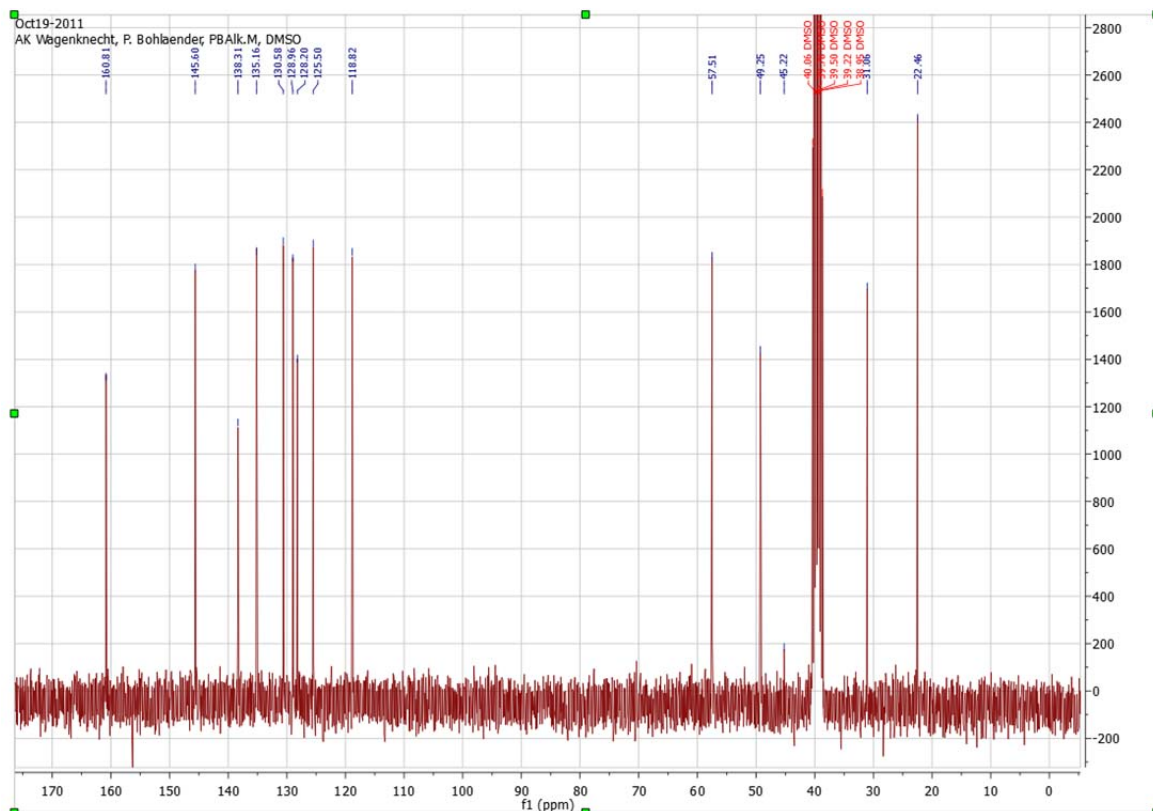
MS (ESI) m/z (%): calculated for C₁₃H₁₆NO: 202.1, found: 201.8 (100 %) (M⁺)



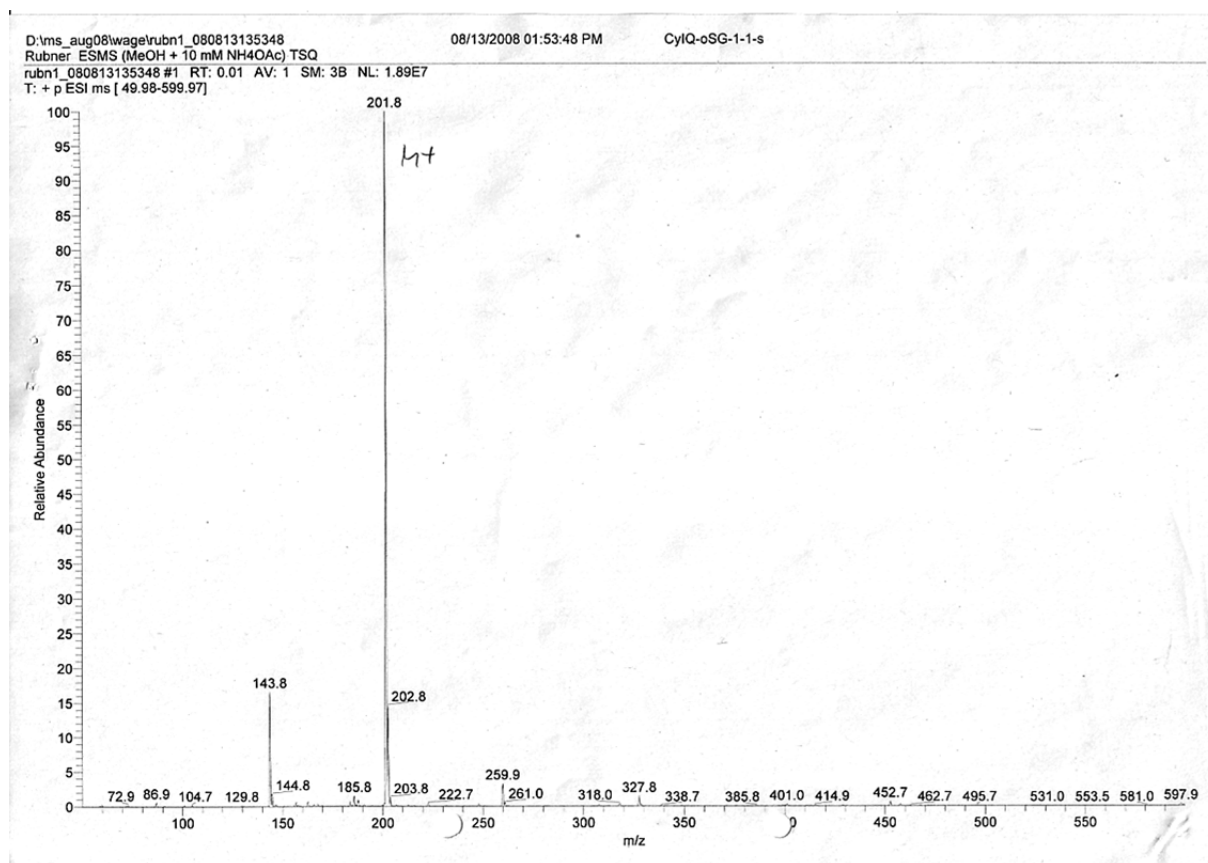
Scheme S4: IR of compound 18.



Scheme S5: ¹H-NMR of compound 18.



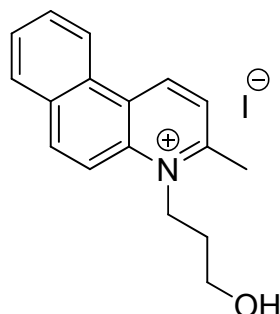
Scheme S6: ^{13}C -NMR of compound **18**.



Scheme S7: MS (ESI) of compound **18**.

4.2 Synthesis of compound 19:

4-(3-hydroxypropyl)-3-methylbenzo[f]quinolin-4-ium iodide



Under argon, a mixture of 3-methylbenzo-5,6-quinoline (**14**, 0.97 g, 5.0 mmol) and 3-iodo-1-propanol* (**17**, 1.44 mL, 2.80 g, 15.0 mmol) in 5 mL 1,4-dioxane was stirred in a headspace vial at 101°C for 68 h. After cooling to room temperature 5 mL diethyl ether were added and after precipitation the crude product was collected and washed three times with diethyl ether. In the next step the crude product was recrystallized out of methanol and diethyl ether. The purified product was collected, washed three times with diethyl ether, dried under reduced pressure and yielded as a light grey solid (69 %).

* Please note: It is crucial to use fresh 3-iodo-1-propanol (e.g. via Finkelstein-reaction of 3-chloro-1-propanol and NaI in acetone).

IR (DRIFT): $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹) = 3334 (s), 2869 (m), 1599 (m), 1337 (m), 1056 (m).

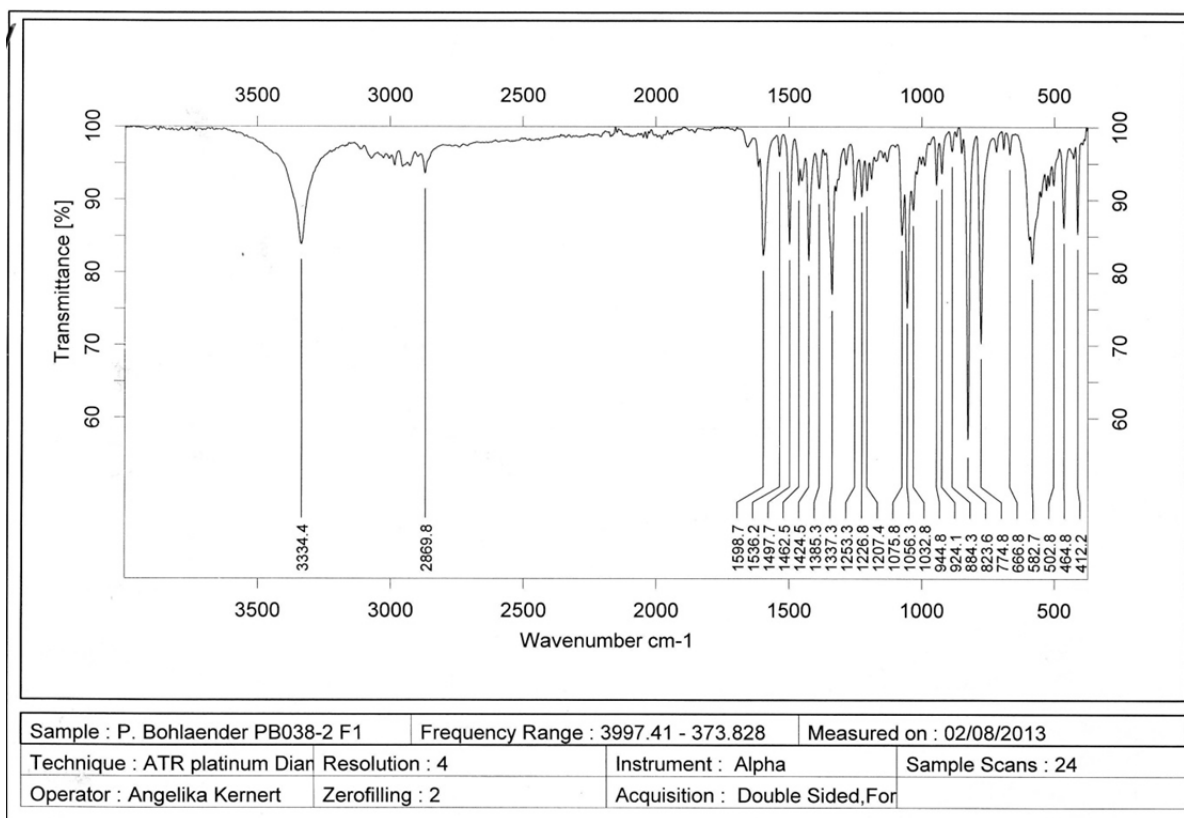
¹H-NMR (300MHz; DMSO-d₆):

δ (ppm) = 2.00 – 2.20 (m, 2H), 3.16 (s, 3H), 3.49 – 3.79 (m, 2H), 4.19 (s, 1H), 4.71 – 5.26 (s, 2H), 7.86 – 8.03 (m, 2H), 8.16 – 8.39 (m, 2H), 8.41 – 8.82 (m, 2H), 9.06 (d, J = 8.5, 1H), 9.94 (d, J = 9.1, 1H).

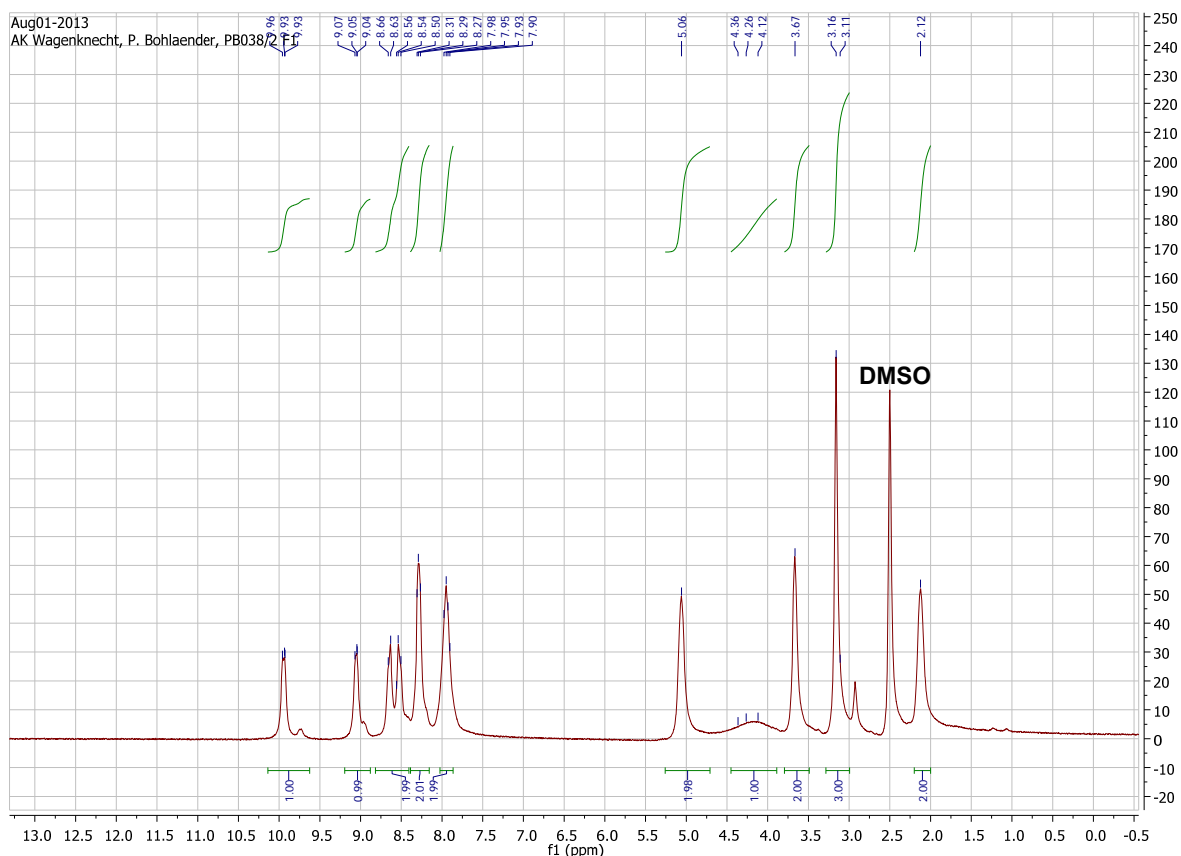
¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆):

δ (ppm) = 22.0, 31.4, 49.8, 57.5, 116.3, 123.9, 125.8, 126.4, 129.1, 129.5, 129.8, 130.4, 134.2, 137.1, 139.4, 140.0, 157.9.

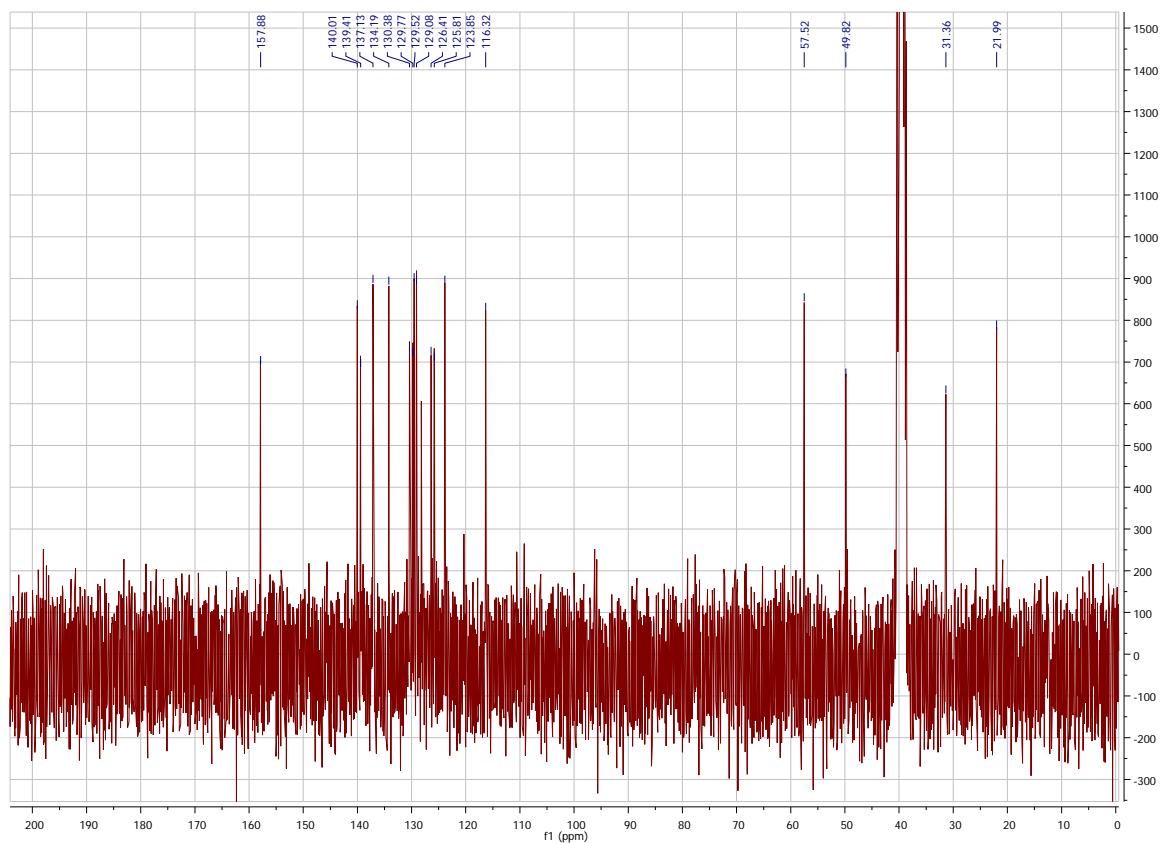
MS (FAB) m/z (%): 252.2 (100) [M+].



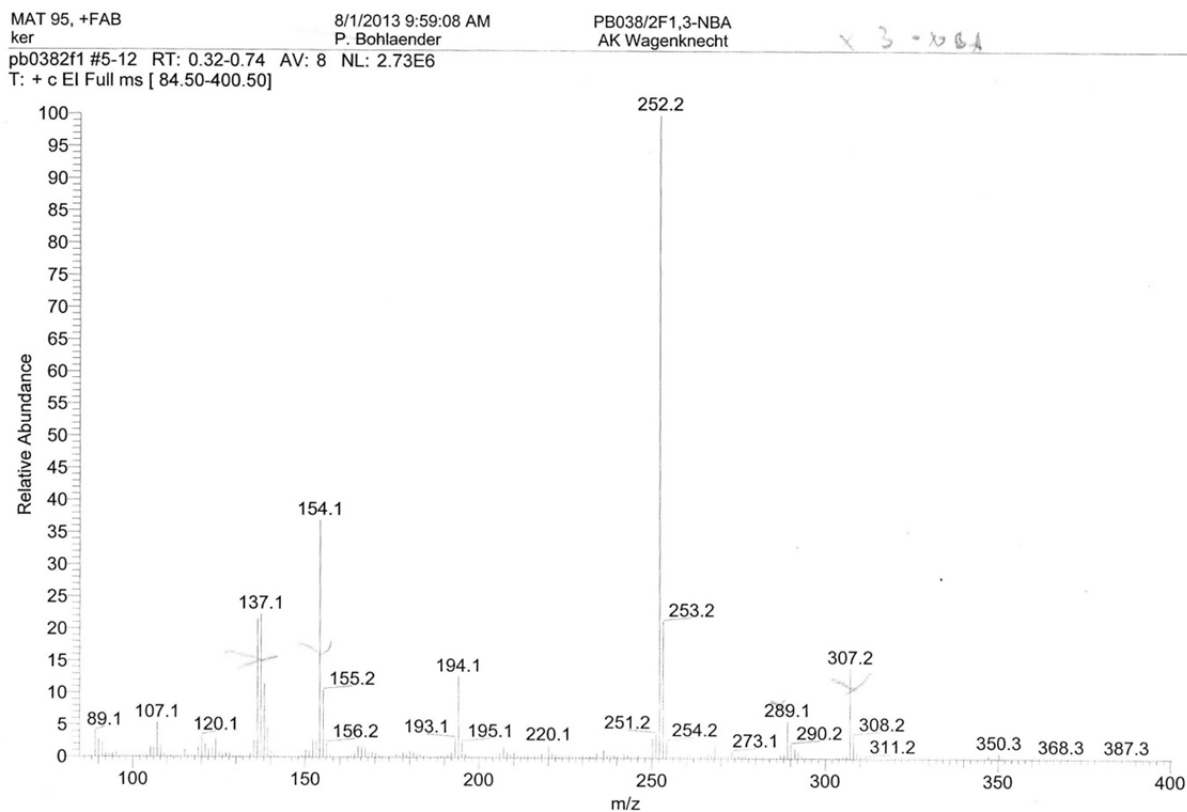
Scheme S8: IR of compound 19.



Scheme S9: ¹H-NMR of compound 19.



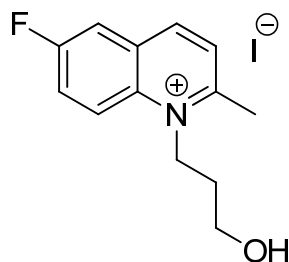
Scheme S10: ^{13}C -NMR of compound **19**.



Scheme S11: MS (FAB) of compound **19**.

4.3 Synthesis of compound 20:

6-fluoro-1-(3-hydroxypropyl)-2-methylquinolin-1-ium iodide



Under argon, a mixture of 6-fluoro-2-methylquinoline (**15**, 0.81 g, 0.68 mL, 5.0 mmol) and 3-iodo-1-propanol* (**17**, 1.44 mL, 2.80 g, 15.0 mmol) in 3 mL 1,4-dioxane was stirred in a headspace vial at 101°C for 29 h. After cooling to room temperature 5 mL diethyl ether were added and after precipitation the crude product was collected and washed three times with diethyl ether. In the next step the crude product was recrystallized out of methanol and diethyl ether. The purified product was collected, washed three times with diethyl ether, dried under reduced pressure and yielded as a light green solid (55 %).

* Please note: It is crucial to use fresh 3-iodo-1-propanol (e.g. via Finkelstein-reaction of 3-chloro-1-propanol and NaI in acetone).

IR (DRIFT): $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹) = 3346 (s), 2927 (w), 2878 (w), 1374 (w), 1052 (m).

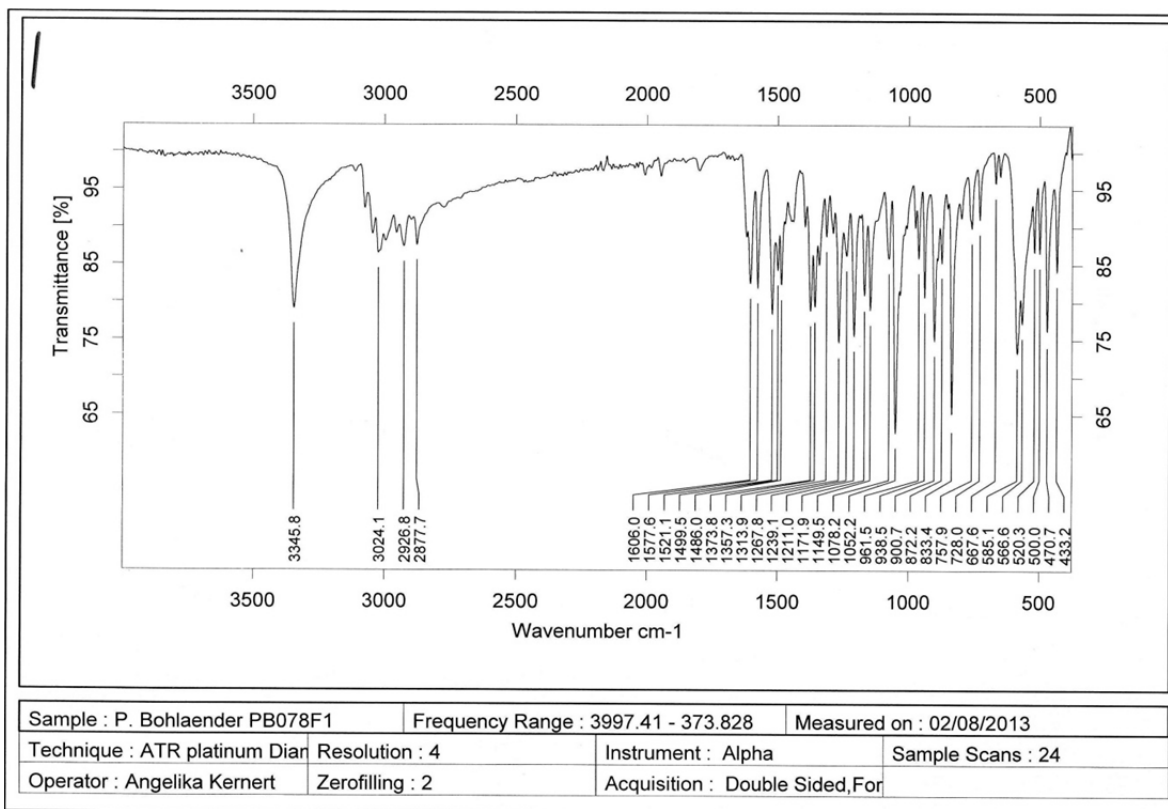
¹H-NMR (300MHz; DMSO-d₆):

δ (ppm) = 2.00 – 2.17 (m, 2H), 3.13 (s, 3H), 3.63 (t, J = 5.6, 2H), 4.51 (s, 1H), 5.00 (t, J = 7.9, 2H), 8.13 – 8.23 (m, 2H), 8.29 (dd, J = 8.3, 3.0, 1H), 8.70 (dd, J = 9.8, 4.4, 1H), 9.05 (d, J = 8.7, 1H).

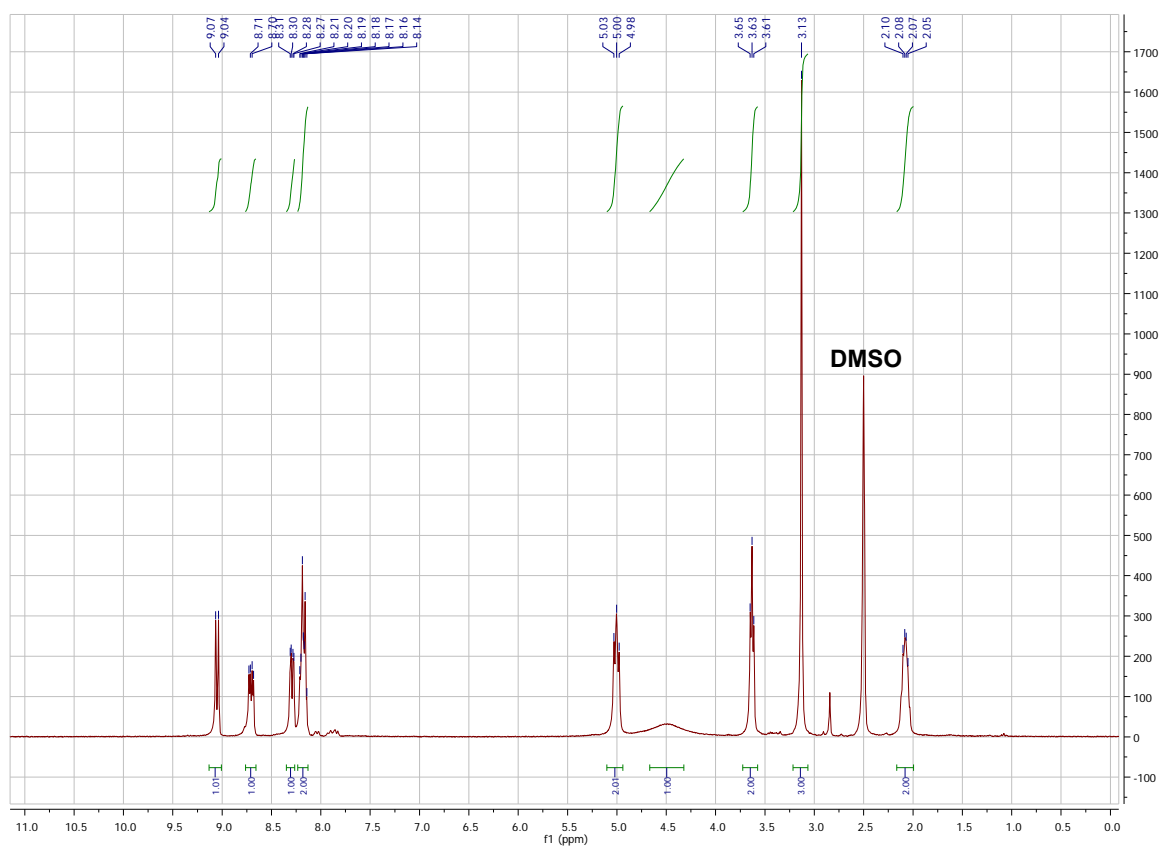
¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆):

δ (ppm) = 22.5, 31.1, 49.7, 57.5, 113.8, 122.4, 124.6, 126.6, 129.7, 129.8, 135.2, 144.8, 160.7.

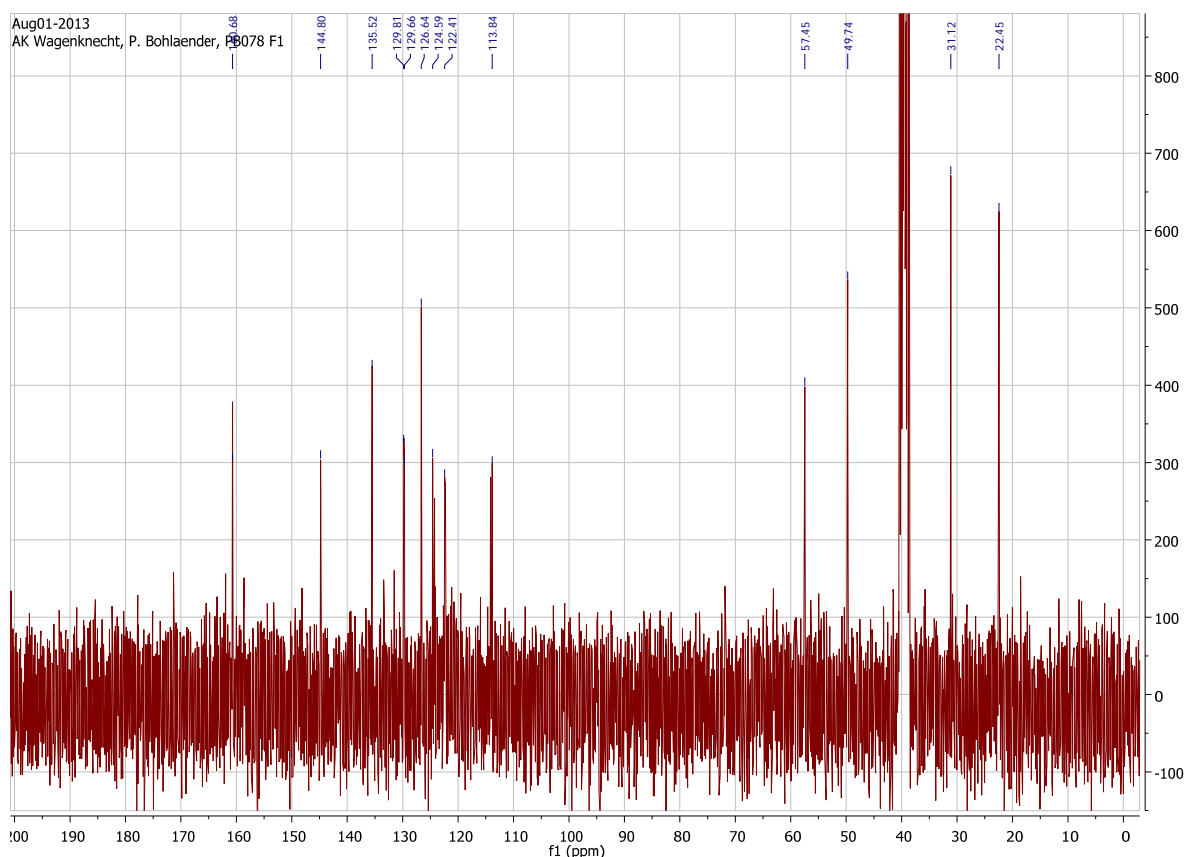
MS (FAB) m/z (%): 220.1 (100) [M⁺].



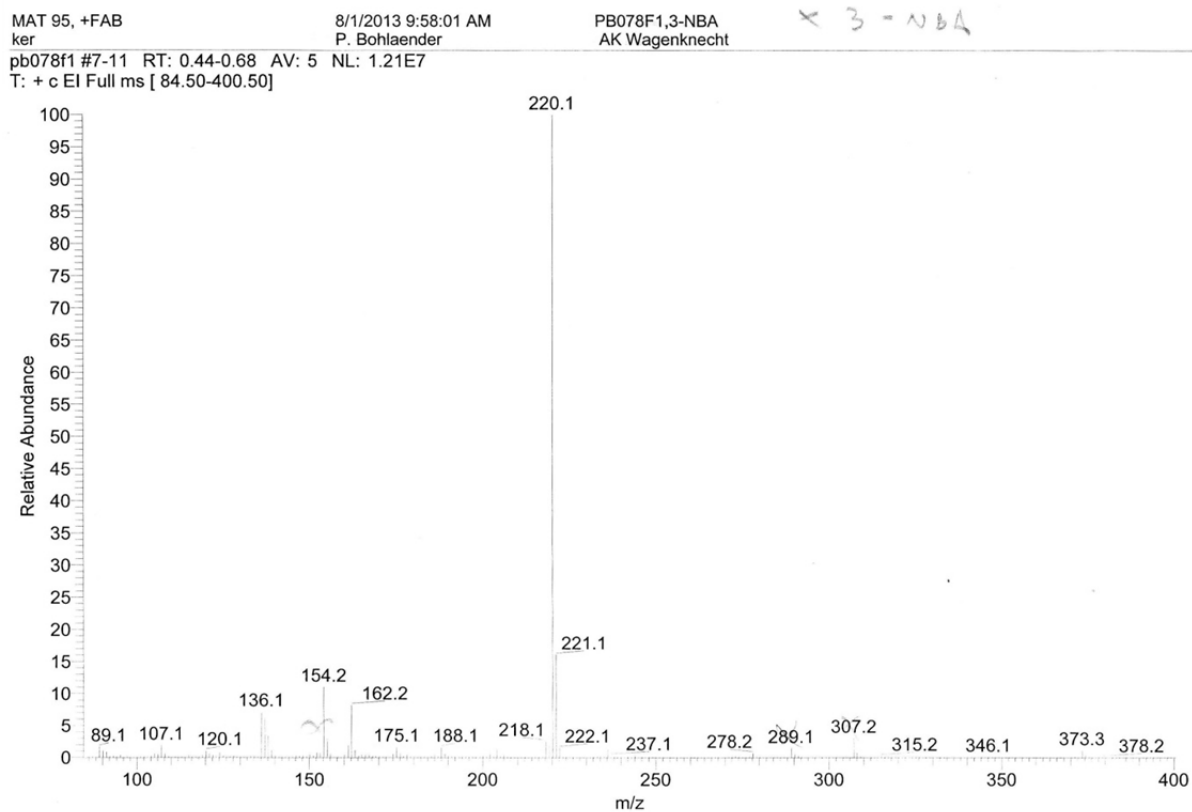
Scheme S12: IR of compound 20.



Scheme S13: ¹H-NMR of compound 20.



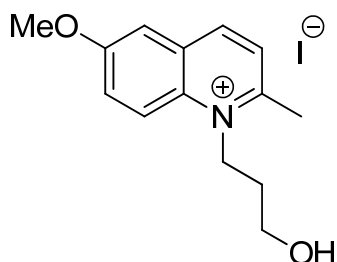
Scheme S14: ^{13}C -NMR of compound **20**.



Scheme S15: MS (FAB) of compound **20**.

4.4 Synthesis of compound 21:

1-(3-hydroxypropyl)-6-methoxy-2-methylquinolin-1-ium iodide



Under argon, a mixture of 6-methoxyquinaldine (**16**, 0.87 g, 5.0 mmol) and 3-iodo-1-propanol* (**17**, 1.44 mL, 2.80 g, 15.0 mmol) in 3 mL 1,4-dioxane was stirred in a headspace vial at 101°C for 18 h. After cooling to room temperature the mixture was stirred for another hour. In the next step the crude product was collected, washed three times with diethyl ether and was recrystallized out of methanol and isopropanol. The purified product was collected, washed three times with diethyl ether, dried under reduced pressure and was yielded as light yellow solid (60 %).

* Please note: It is crucial to use fresh 3-iodo-1-propanol (e.g. via Finkelstein-reaction of 3-chloro-1-propanol and NaI in acetone).

IR (DRIFT): $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹) = 3299 (s), 2928 (w), 2865 (w), 1389 (m), 1064 (m).

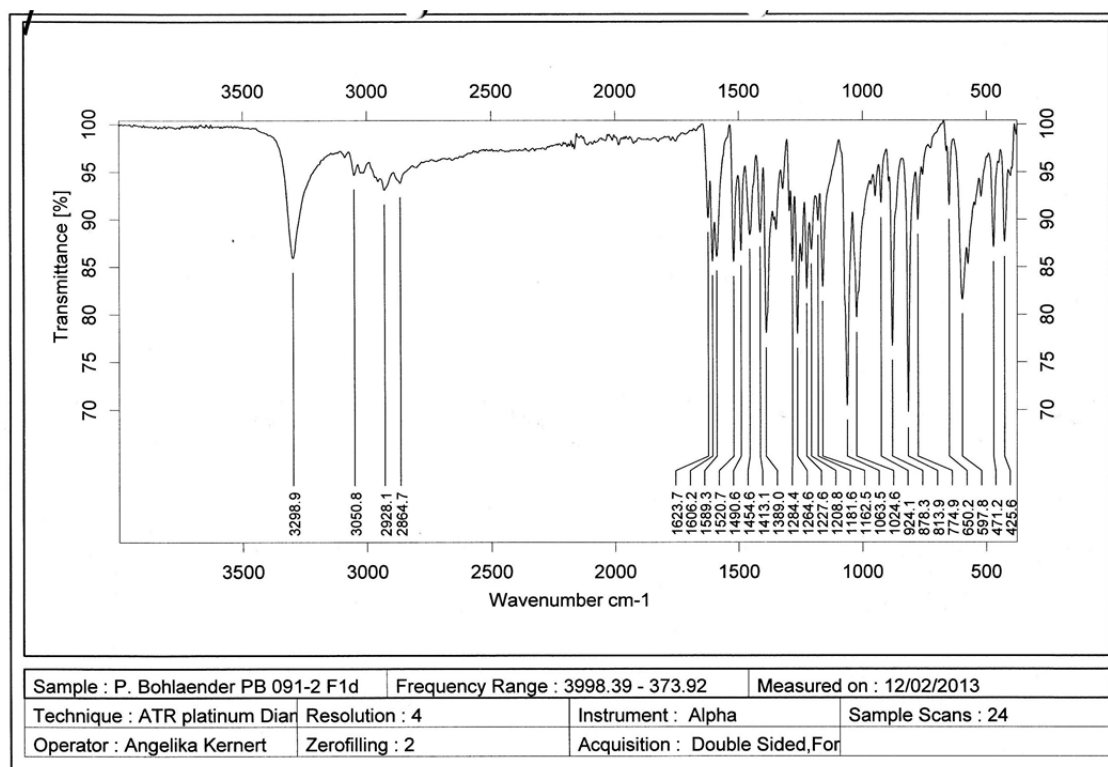
¹H-NMR (400MHz; DMSO-d₆):

δ (ppm) = 1.99 – 2.10 (m, 2H), 3.07 (s, 3H), 3.62 (t, J = 5.4 Hz, 2H), 3.99 (s, 3H), 4.81 – 5.01 (m, 3H), 7.78 – 7.89 (m, 2H), 8.06 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 8.52 (d, J = 10.1 Hz, 1H), 8.95 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H).

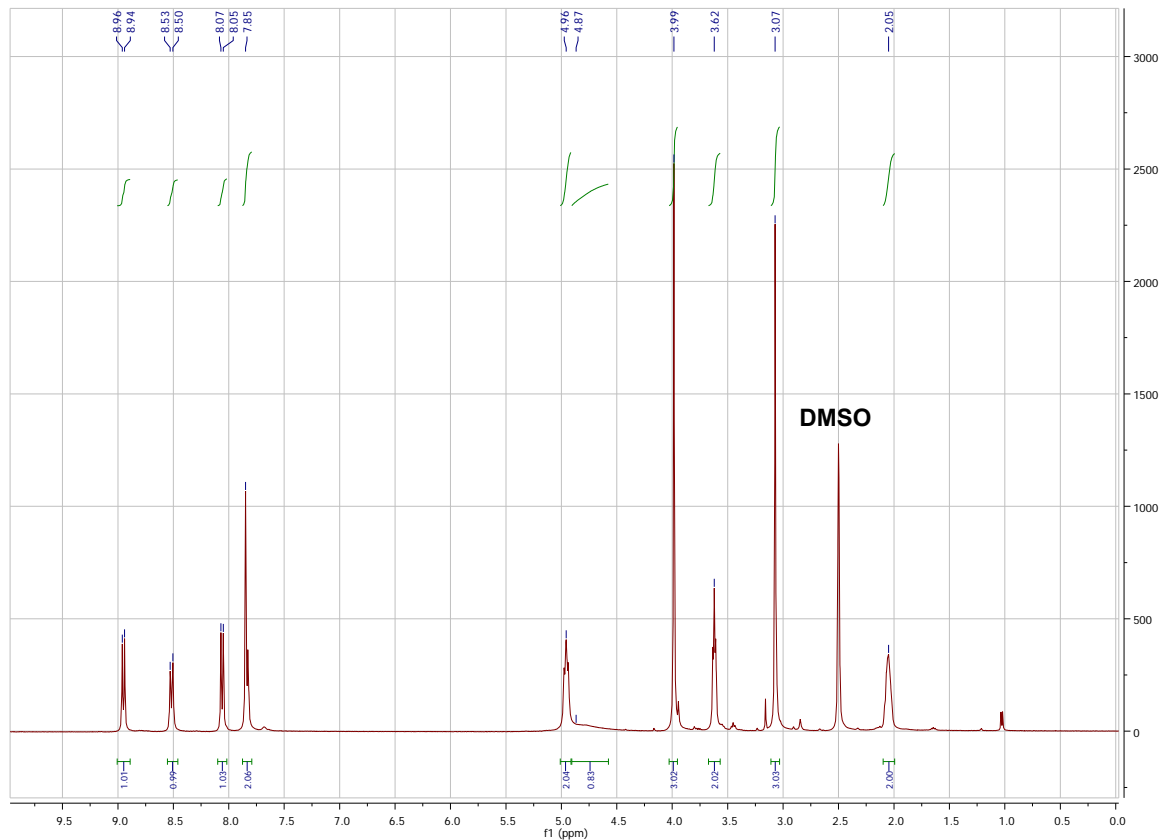
¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆):

δ (ppm) = 22.0, 31.3, 40.1, 49.3, 56.3, 108.5, 120.6, 125.8, 126.7, 130.2, 133.9, 144.1, 157.6, 158.5.

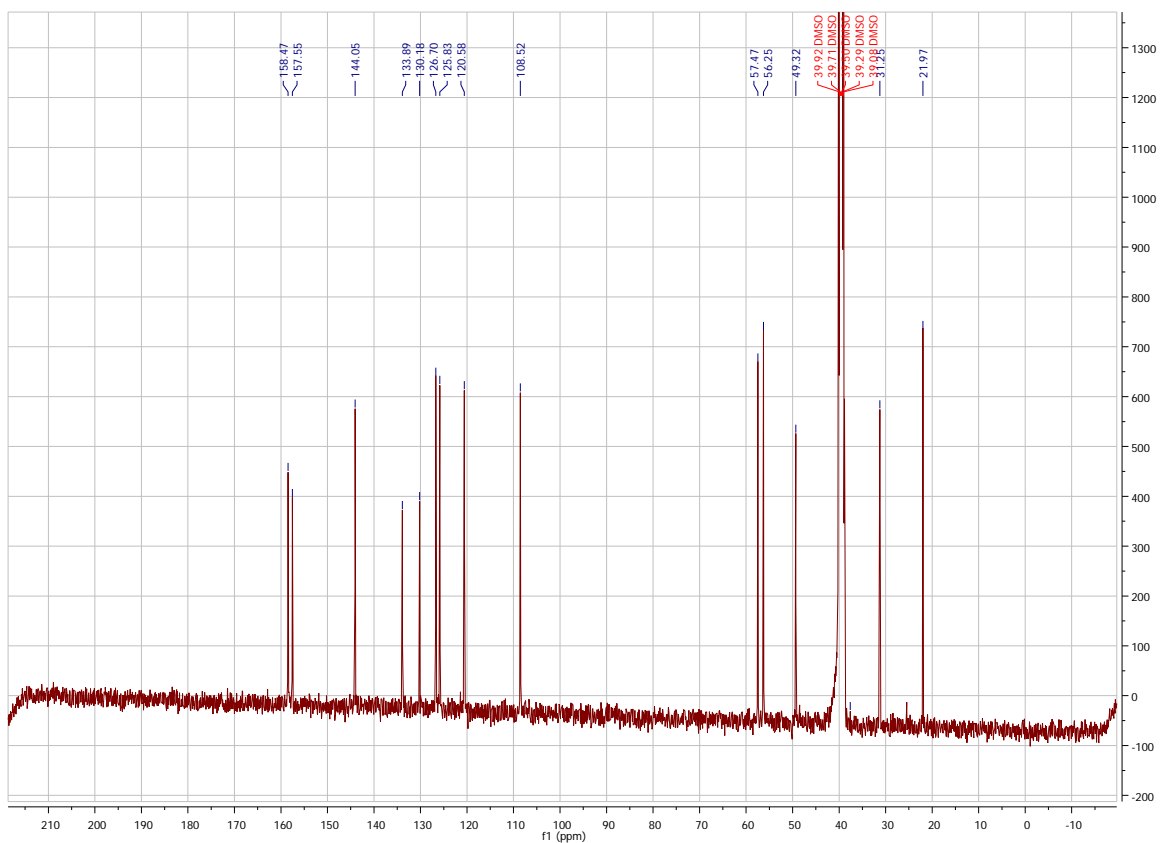
MS (FAB) m/z (%): 232.2 (21) [M⁺], 137.1 (100), 90.1 (27).



Scheme S17: IR of compound **21**.



Scheme S18: ¹H-NMR of compound **21**.

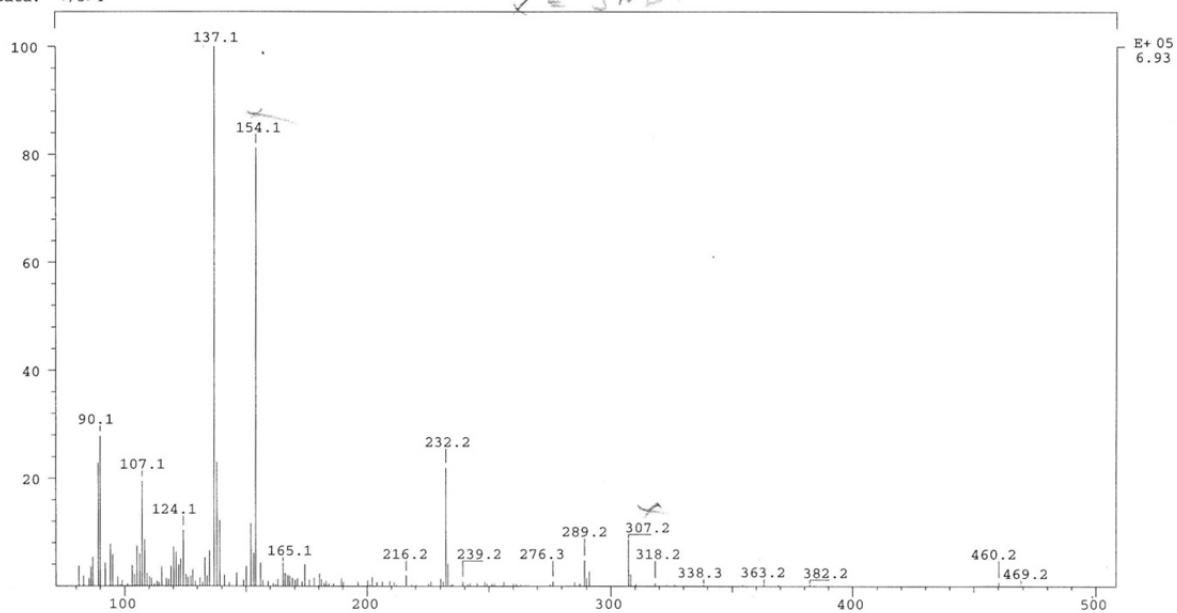


Scheme S19: ^{13}C -NMR of compound **21**.

SPEC: pb09
Samp: PB091/2 F1d ,3-NBA
Comm: MAT 95, +FAB
Mode: EI +VE +LMR BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM
Oper: Ro Client: AK Wagenknecht
Base: 137.1 Inten: 693194
Norm: 137.1 RIC: 3900581
Peak: 1507.00 mmu
Data: +/3>4

12-Feb-13 REG: 00:17.2 #9
Start: 09:41:54 8
Study: P. Bohlaender
Inlet:
Masses: 80 > 500
#peaks: 137

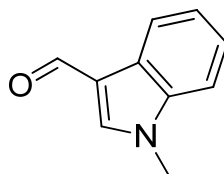
x = 3 NBA



Scheme S20: MS (FAB) of compound **21**.

4.5 Synthesis of compound 23:

1-methyl-1H-indole-3-carbaldehyde



Under argon, a mixture of indole-3-carbaldehyde (**22**, 1.45 g, 10.0 mmol), K_2CO_3 (1.52 g, 11.1 mmol) and dimethylcarbonate (2.70 g, 2.53 mL, 30.0 mmol) in 10 mL dimethylformamide was stirred at 130°C for 19 h. After cooling to room temperature the mixture was poured on 100 g ice. The aqueous phase was extracted two times with 100 mL ethyl acetate. The organic phase was washed two times with 150 mL water, dried with Na_2SO_4 and the solvent was removed at 50°C and reduced pressure. The product crystallized over night out of the residual light orange oil. The precipitation was collected and washed three times with hexane. Drying under reduced pressure yields a light orange solid (89 %).

TLC (dichloromethane : methanol = 9 : 1): R_f = 0.71.

IR (DRIFT): $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm^{-1}) = 2802 (w), 1638 (m), 1466 (m), 1072 (m), 743 (s).

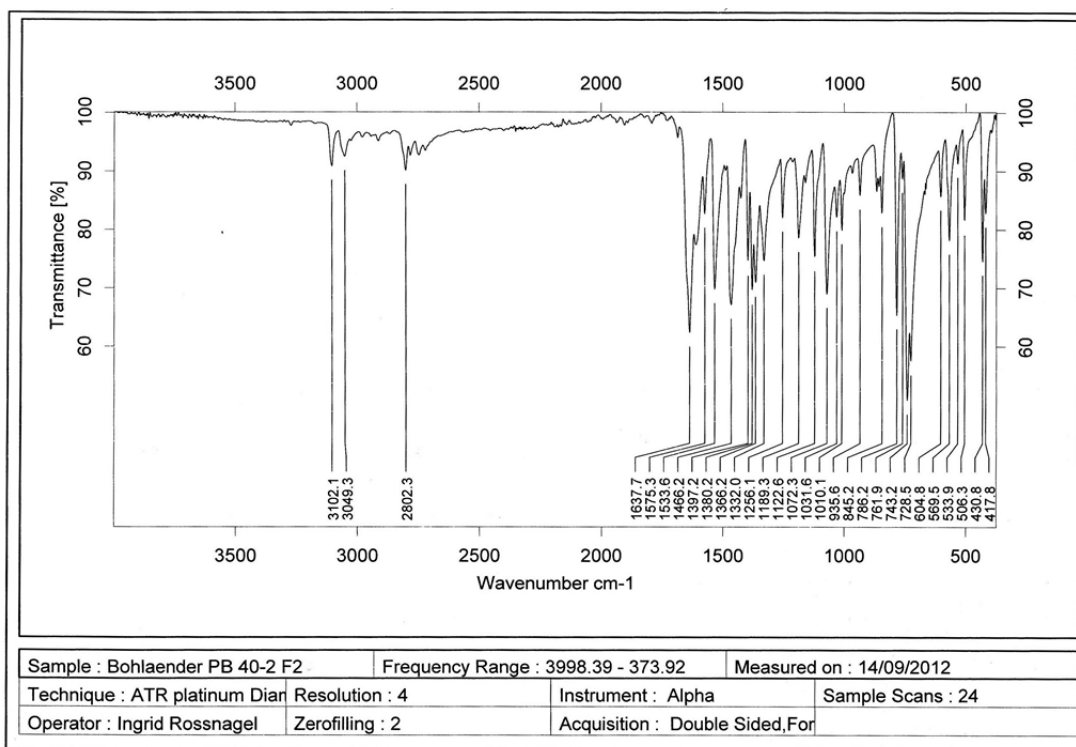
1H -NMR (300MHz; DMSO- d_6):

δ (ppm) = 3.88 (s, 3H), 7.20 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.57 (d, J = 8.0, 1H), 8.10 (d, J = 7.1, 1H), 8.26 (s, 1H), 9.89 (s, 1H).

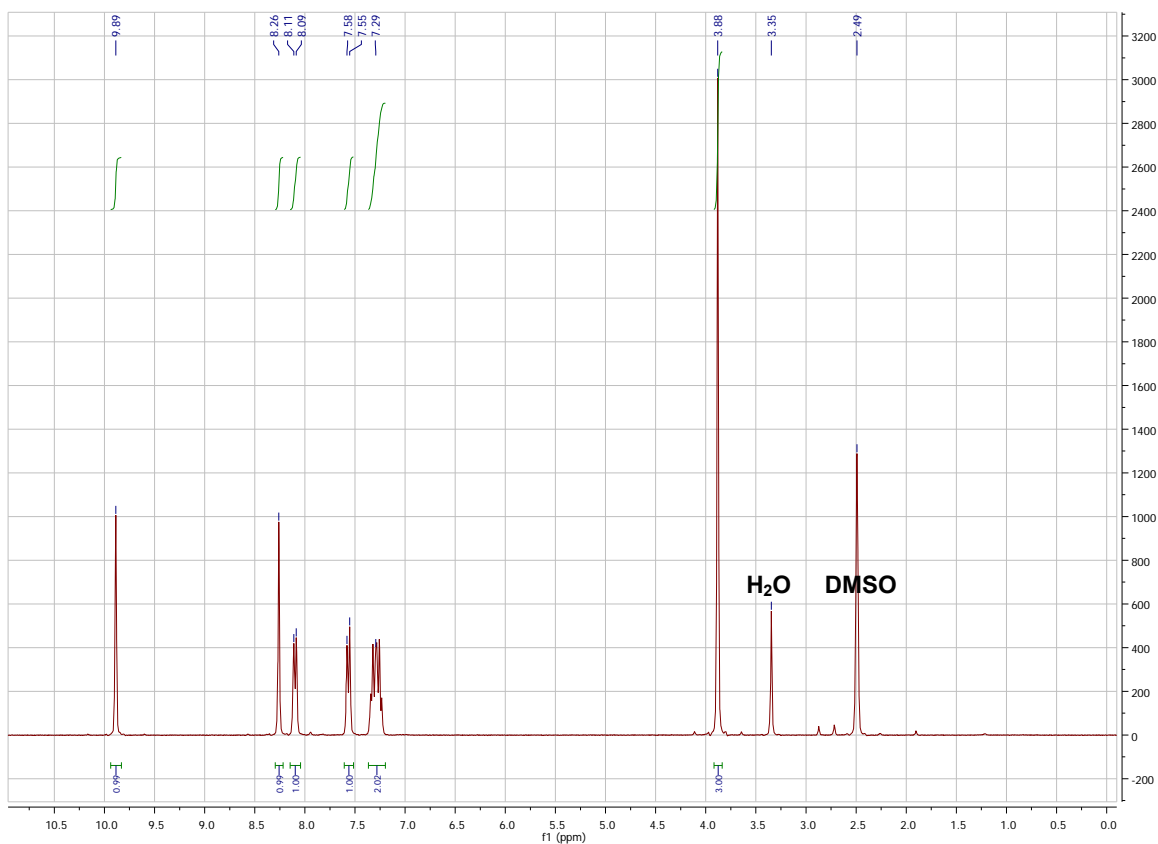
^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6):

δ (ppm) = 33.3, 110.9, 116.9, 120.9, 122.4, 123.4, 124.5, 137.7, 141.5, 184.3.

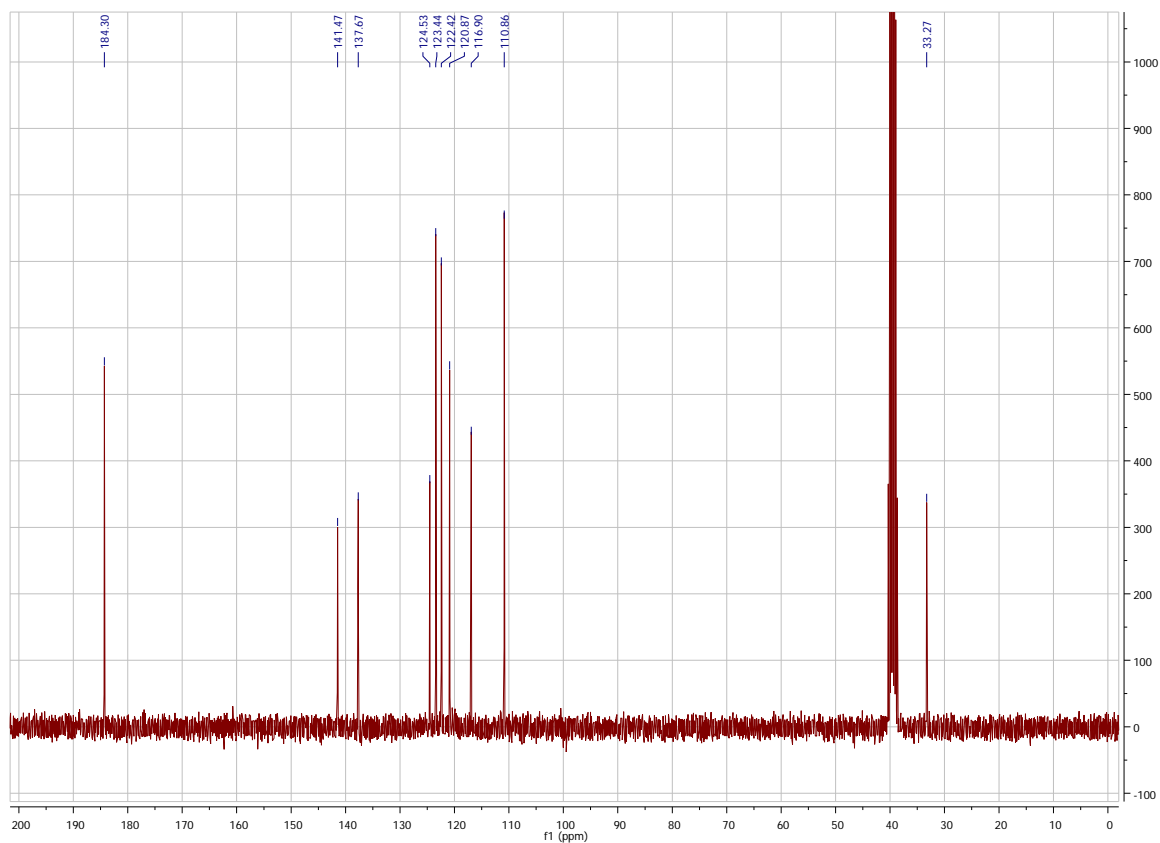
MS (FAB) m/z (%): 160.5 (100) [M+1].



Scheme S21: IR of compound 23.

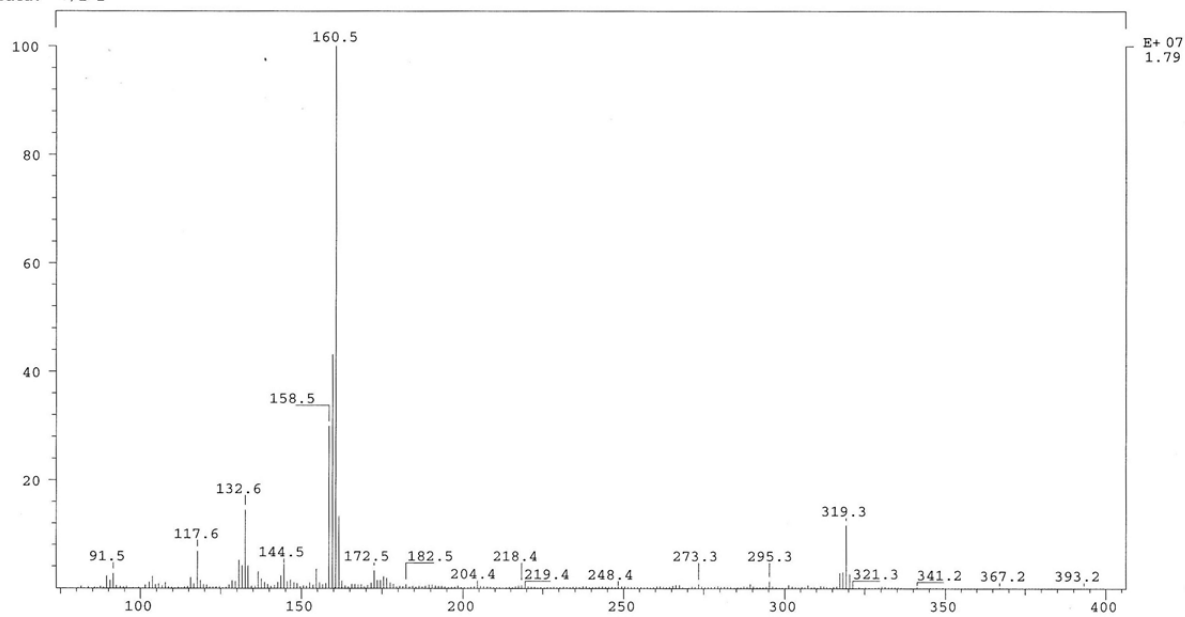


Scheme S22: ¹H-NMR of compound 23.



Scheme S23: ^{13}C -NMR of compound **23**.

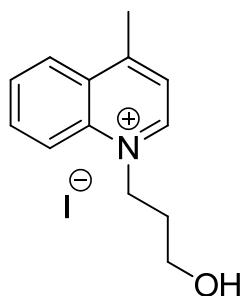
SPEC: pb402f2 13-Sep-12 REG : 00:08.8 #9
Samp: PB-4072 F2, 3-NBA Start : 13:54:29 6
Comm: MAT 95, +FAB
Mode: EI +VE +LMR BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM Study : P. Bohlaender
Oper: Ro Client: AK Wagenknecht Inlet :
Base: 160.5 Inten : 17869322 Masses : 80 > 400
Norm: 160.5 RIC : 64994166 #peaks: 319
Peak: 1000.00 mmu
Data: +/->2



Scheme S24: MS (FAB) of compound **23**.

4.6 Synthesis of compound 26:

1-(3-hydroxypropyl)-4-methylquinolin-1-ium iodide



Under argon, a mixture of 4-methylquinoline (**25**, 0.72 g, 0.67 mL, 5.0 mmol) and 3-iodo-1-propanol* (**17**, 0.72 mL, 1.40 g, 7.5 mmol) in 3 mL 1,4-dioxane was stirred in a headspace vial at 101°C for 2 h. After cooling to room temperature 5 mL diethyl ether were added and after precipitation the product was collected and washed three times with diethyl ether. Drying under reduced pressure yields a yellow solid (95 %).

* Please note: It is crucial to use fresh 3-iodo-1-propanol (e.g. via Finkelstein-reaction of 3-chloro-1-propanol and NaI in acetone).

IR (DRIFT): $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹) = 3351 (s), 2934 (m), 2867 (m), 1366 (w), 1060 (m).

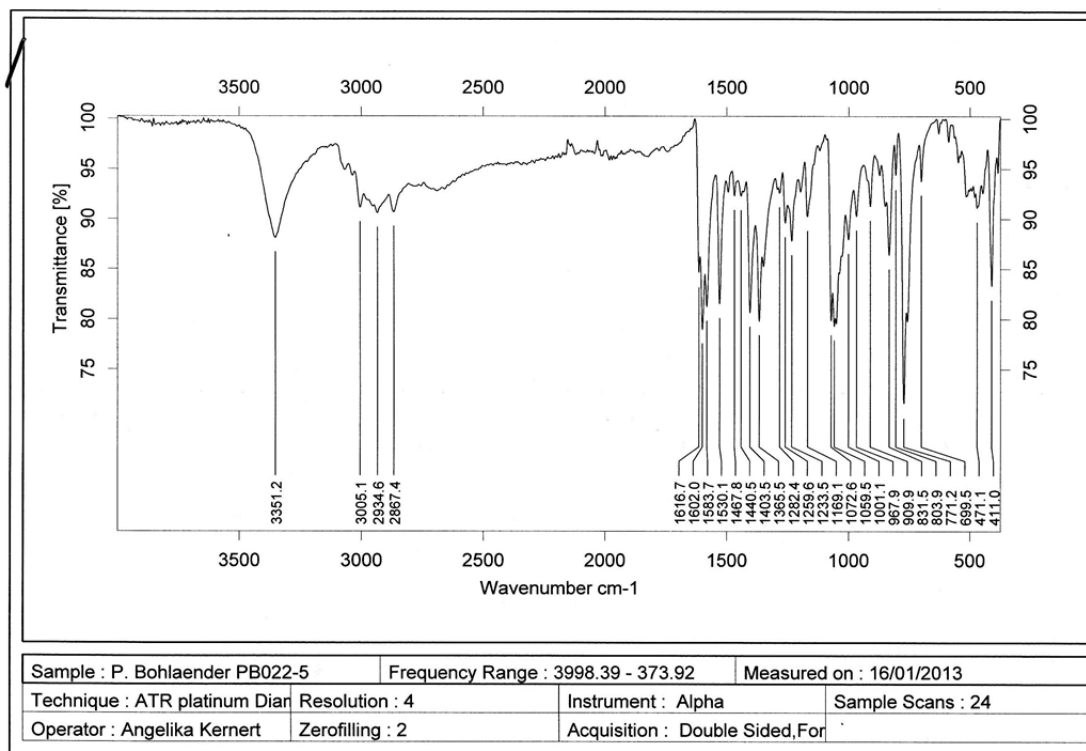
¹H-NMR (300MHz; DMSO-d₆):

δ (ppm) = 2.11 (t, J = 6.5, 2H), 3.00 (s, 3H), 3.52 (t, J = 5.7, 2H), 4.56 (s, 1H), 5.07 (t, J = 7.2, 2H), 8.01 – 8.09 (m, 2H), 8.21 – 8.31 (m, 1H), 8.50 – 8.61 (m, 2H), 9.39 (d, J = 6.0, 1H).

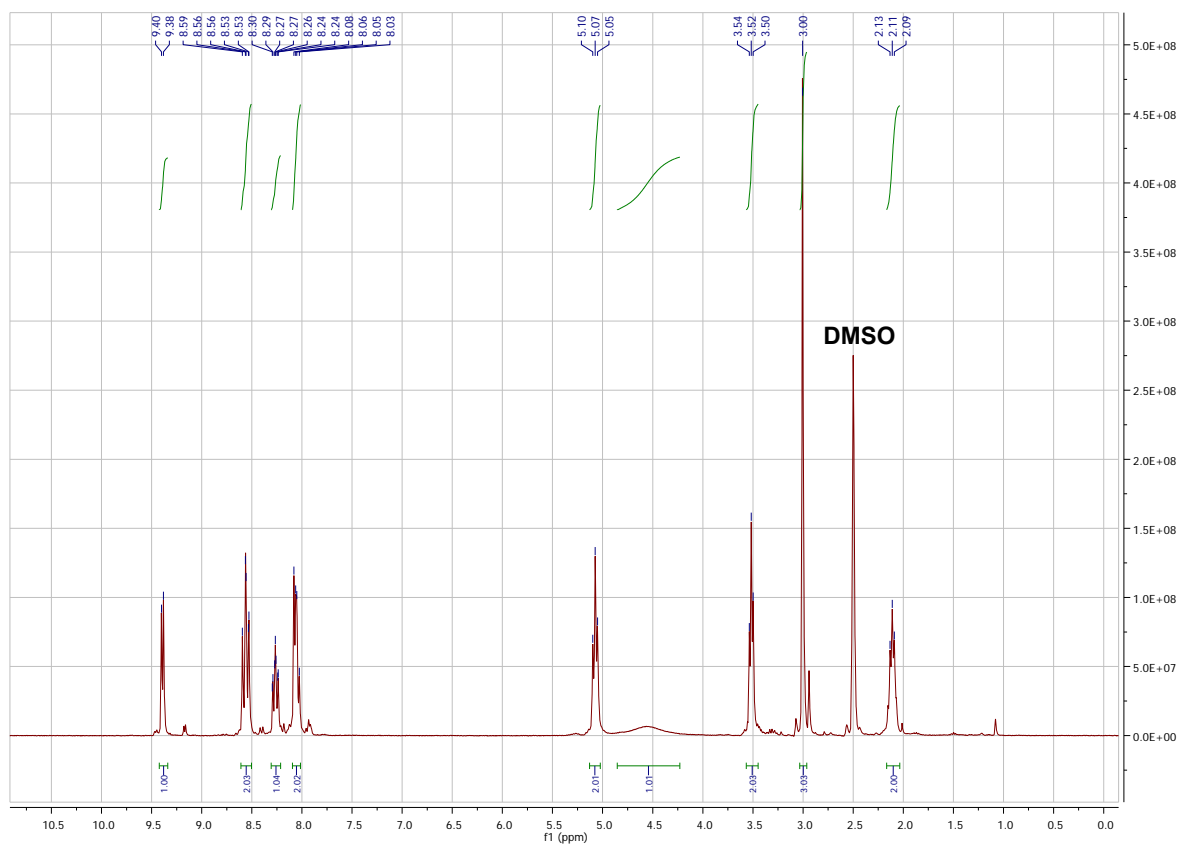
¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆):

δ (ppm) = 19.7, 32.0, 54.8, 57.4, 119.3, 122.6, 127.2, 128.9, 129.5, 135.0, 136.7, 148.7, 158.5.

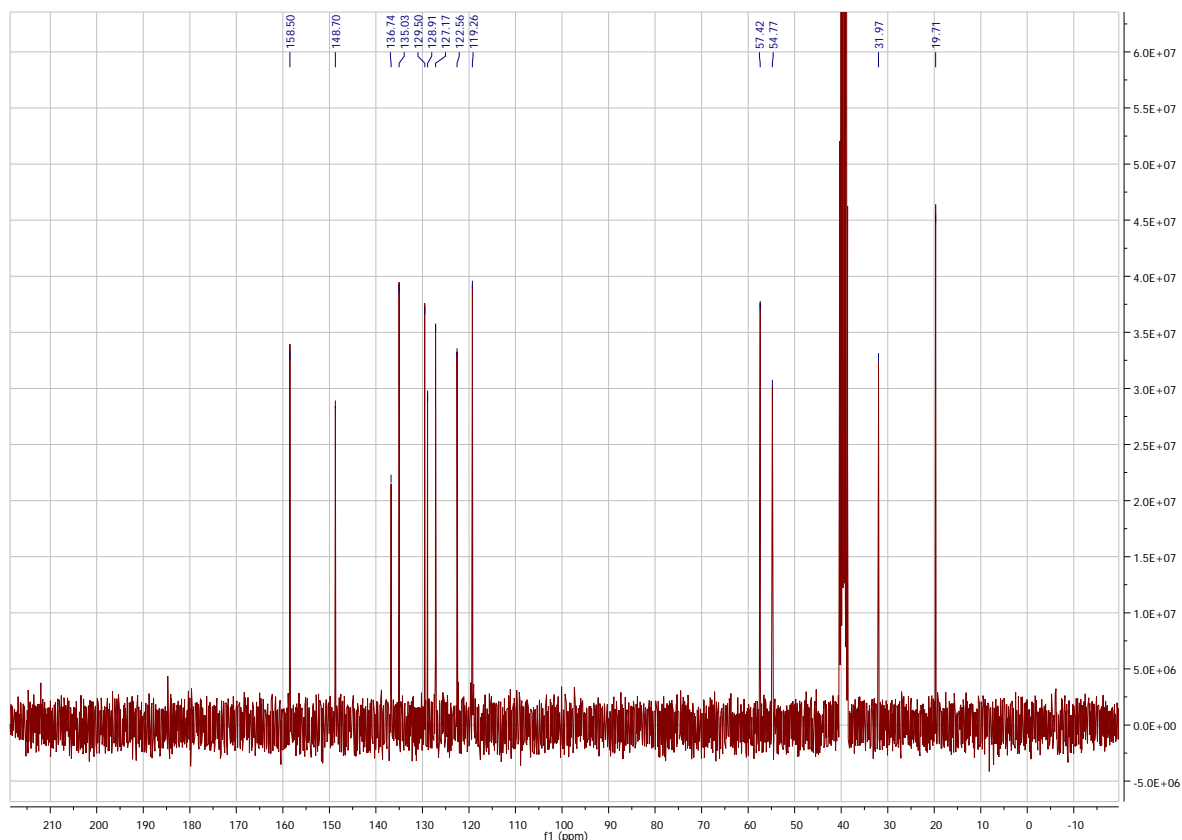
MS (FAB) m/z (%): 202.3 (100) [M].



Scheme S25: IR of compound 26.

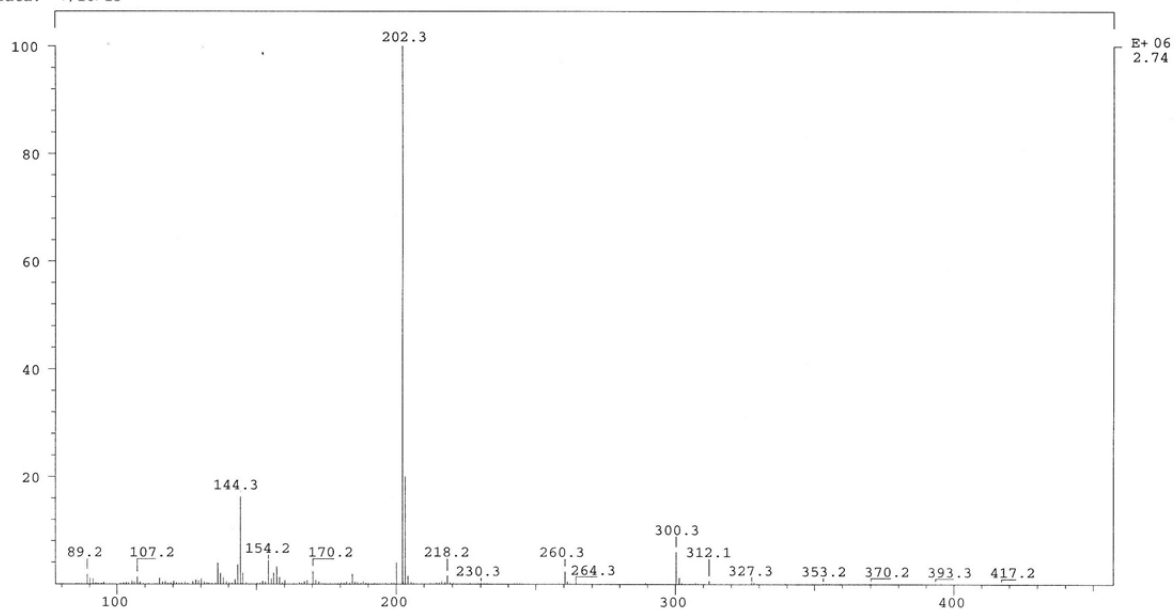


Scheme S26: ¹H-NMR of compound 26.



Scheme S27: ^{13}C -NMR of compound **26**.

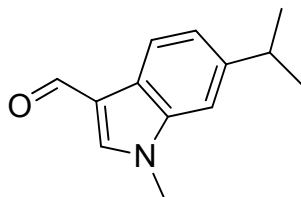
SPEC: pb0225 15-Jan-13 REG : 01:34.7 #9
Samp: PB022/5,3-NBA Start : 14:02:25 22
Comm: MAT 95, +FAB
Mode: EI +VE +LMR BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM Study : P. Bohlaender
Oper: ker Client: AK Wagenknecht Inlet :
Base: 202.3 Inten : 2743684 Masses: 85 > 450
Norm: 202.3 RIC : 7167896 #peaks: 282
Peak: 1000.00 mmu
Data: +/10>13



Scheme S28: MS (FAB) of compound **26**.

4.7 Synthesis of compound 28:

6-isopropyl-1-methyl-1H-indole-3-carbaldehyde



Under argon, a mixture of 6-isopropylindole-3-carbaldehyde (**27**, 0.94 g, 5.0 mmol), K_2CO_3 (0.76 g, 5.5 mmol) and dimethylcarbonate (1.35 g, 1.26 mL, 15.0 mmol) in 5 mL dimethylformamide was stirred at 130°C for 19 h. After cooling to room temperature the mixture was poured on 100 g ice. The aqueous phase was extracted three times with 100 mL ethyl acetate. The organic phase was washed two times with 150 mL water, dried with Na_2SO_4 and the solvent was removed at 50°C and reduced pressure. The product crystallized out of the residual yellow. The precipitation was collected and washed three times with hexane. Drying under reduced pressure yields a yellow solid (85 %).

TLC (dichloromethane : methanol = 9 : 1): R_f = 0.74.

IR (DRIFT): $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm^{-1}) = 2955 (m), 2883 (m), 1643 (s), 1399 (m), 1066 (m), 814 (s).

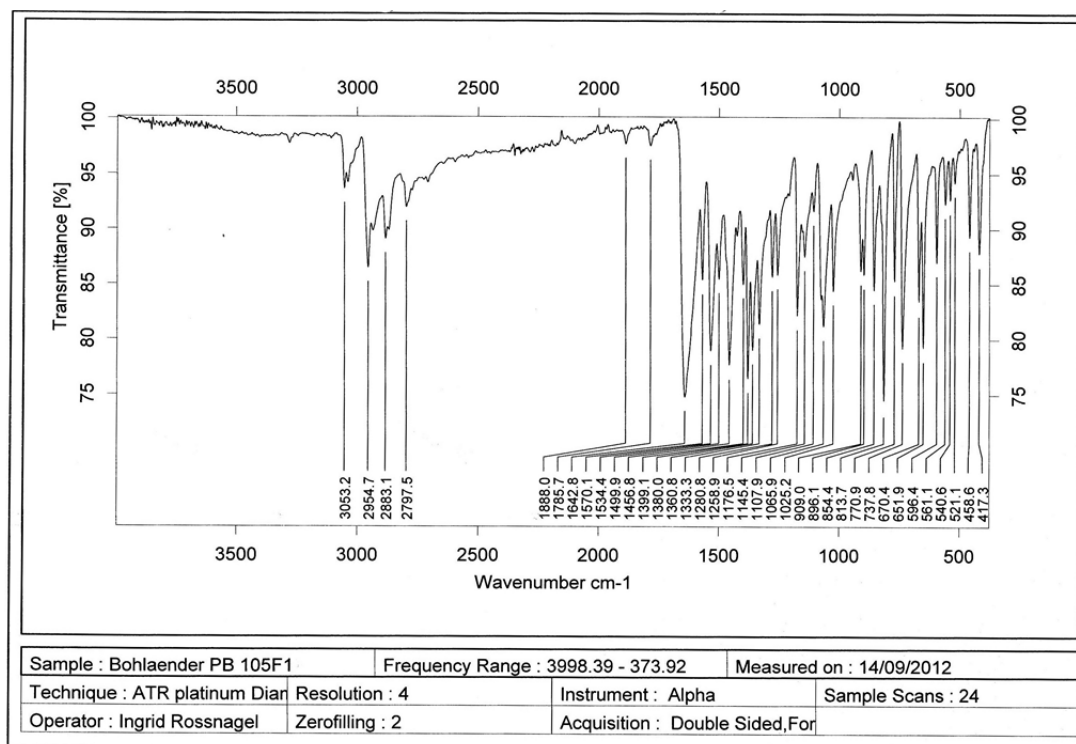
1H -NMR (300MHz; $DMSO-d_6$):

δ (ppm) = 1.25 (s, 3H), 1.28 (s, 3H), 3.02 (p, J = 6.9, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 7.17 (dd, J = 8.2, 1.5, 1H), 7.40 (s, 1H), 7.99 (d, J = 8.2, 1H), 8.19 (d, J = 1.5, 1H), 9.85 (s, 1H).

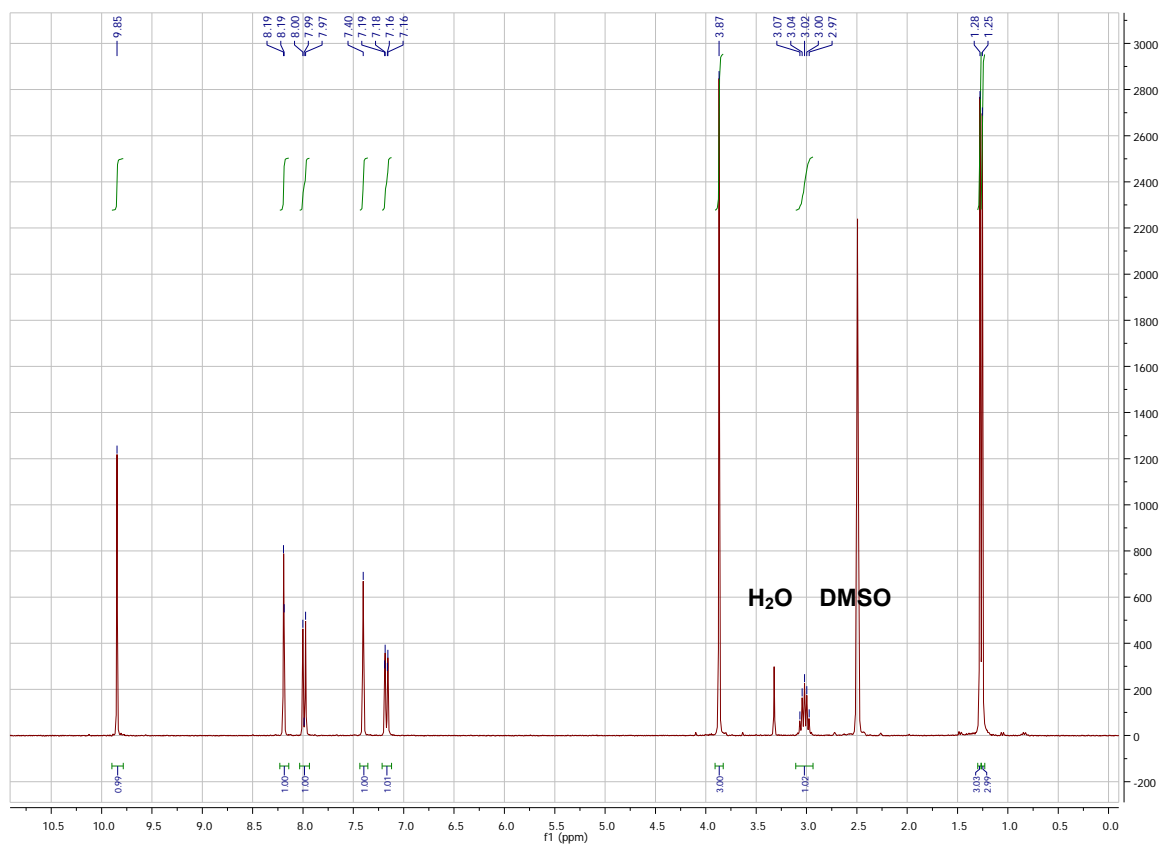
^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, $DMSO-d_6$):

δ (ppm) = 24.3, 33.2, 33.8, 108.0, 116.8, 120.7, 121.5, 122.7, 138.0, 141.3, 144.3, 184.1.

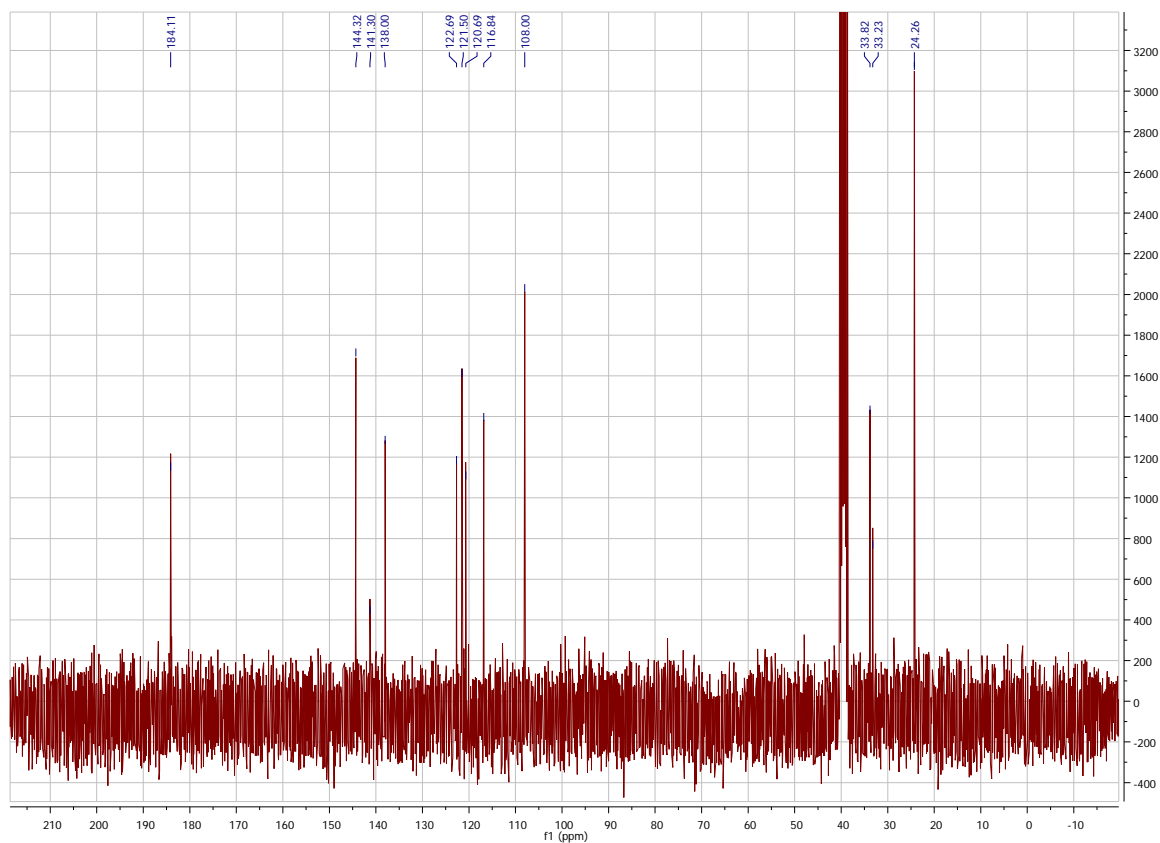
MS (FAB) m/z (%): 202.5 (100) [M+1].



Scheme S29: IR of compound 28.



Scheme S30: ¹H-NMR of compound 28.

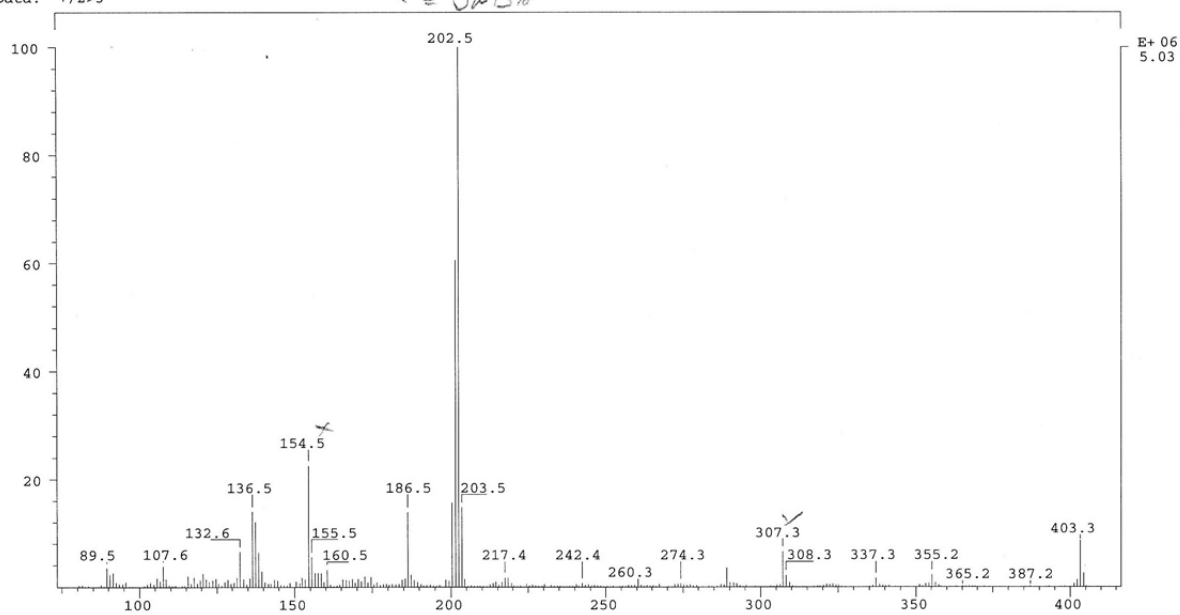


Scheme S31: ^{13}C -NMR of compound **28**.

SPEC: pb105f1
Samp: PB-105-F1-3-NBA
Comm: MAT 95, +FAB
Mode: EI +VE +LMR BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM
Oper: Ro Client: AK Wagenknecht
Base: 202.5 Inten: 5030431
Norm: 202.5 RIC: 22554987
Peak: 1000.00 mmu
Data: +/2>3

13-Sep-12 REG: 00:14.7 #9
Start: 14:02:18 4
Study: P. Bohlaender
Inlet:
Masses: 80 > 410
#peaks: 288

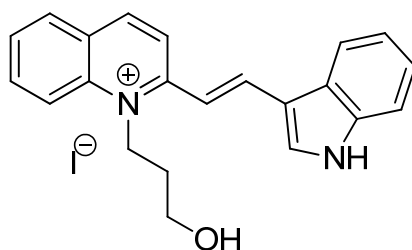
✓ = 04/3/12



Scheme S32: MS (FAB) of compound **28**.

4.8 Synthesis of dye 1:

(E)-2-(2-(1H-indol-3-yl)vinyl)-1-(3-hydroxypropyl)quinolinium iodide



Under argon, **18** (9.93 g, 30.2 mmol) was dissolved in EtOH and stirred under reflux for 10 minutes. Then piperidine (6.6 mL, 66.4 mmol) was added dropwise and the reaction mixture was stirred under reflux. After 30 minutes (color changes to purple red) 1*H*-indole-3-carbaldehyde (**22**) (13.14 g, 90.5 mol) dissolved in EtOH was added and the reaction mixture was stirred under reflux overnight and then cooled to room temperature. The product was collected and washed three times with diethyl ether as a dark red solid (87 %).

IR (DRIFT): $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹) = 3347 (m), 1593 (m), 1569 (m), 1510 (m), 1347 (w), 1316 (w), 1048 (m).

¹H-NMR (300MHz; DMSO-d₆):

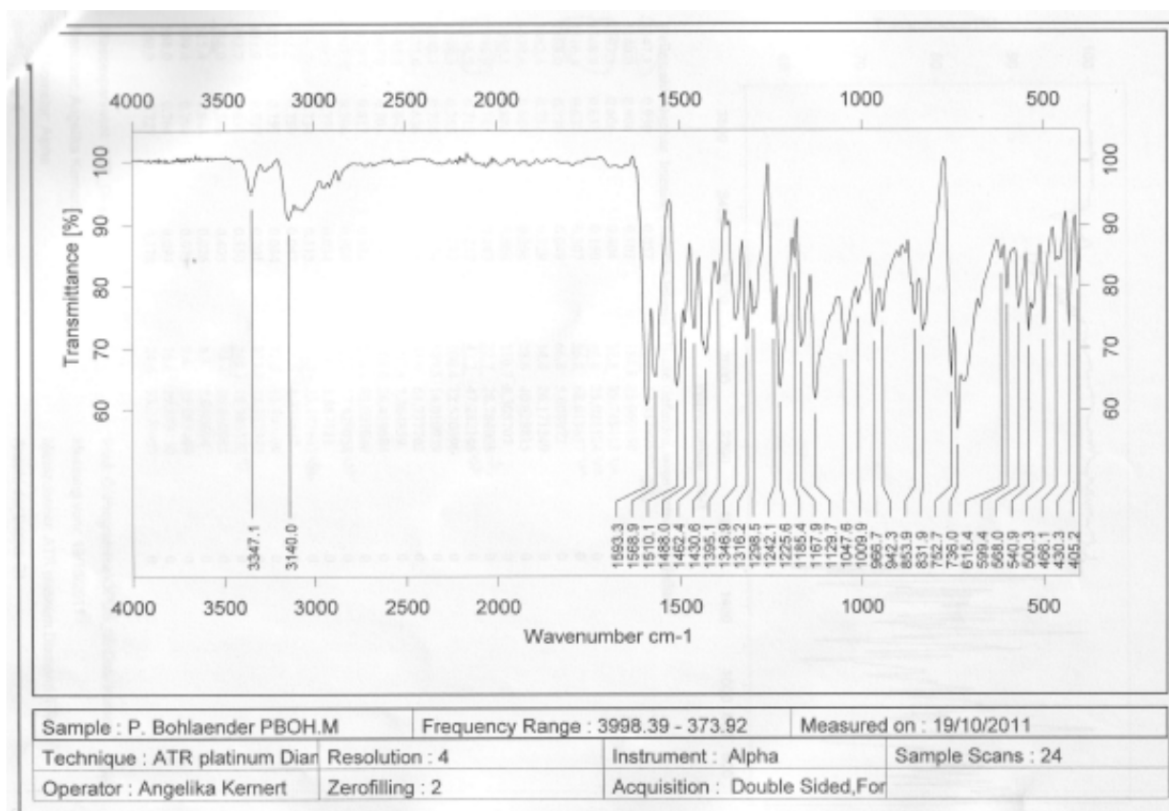
δ (ppm) = 2.06 - 2.23 (m, 2H), 3.69 - 3.81 (m, 2H), 4.93 - 5.08 (m, 2H), 5.20 - 5.32 (m, 1H), 7.23-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.50-7.63 (m, 2H), 7.83 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 8.00-8.12 (m, 1H), 8.19 - 8.33 (m, 3H), 8.46 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 8.60 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 8.69 (d, J = 15.3 Hz, 1H), 8.80 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 12.32 (s, 1H).

¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆):

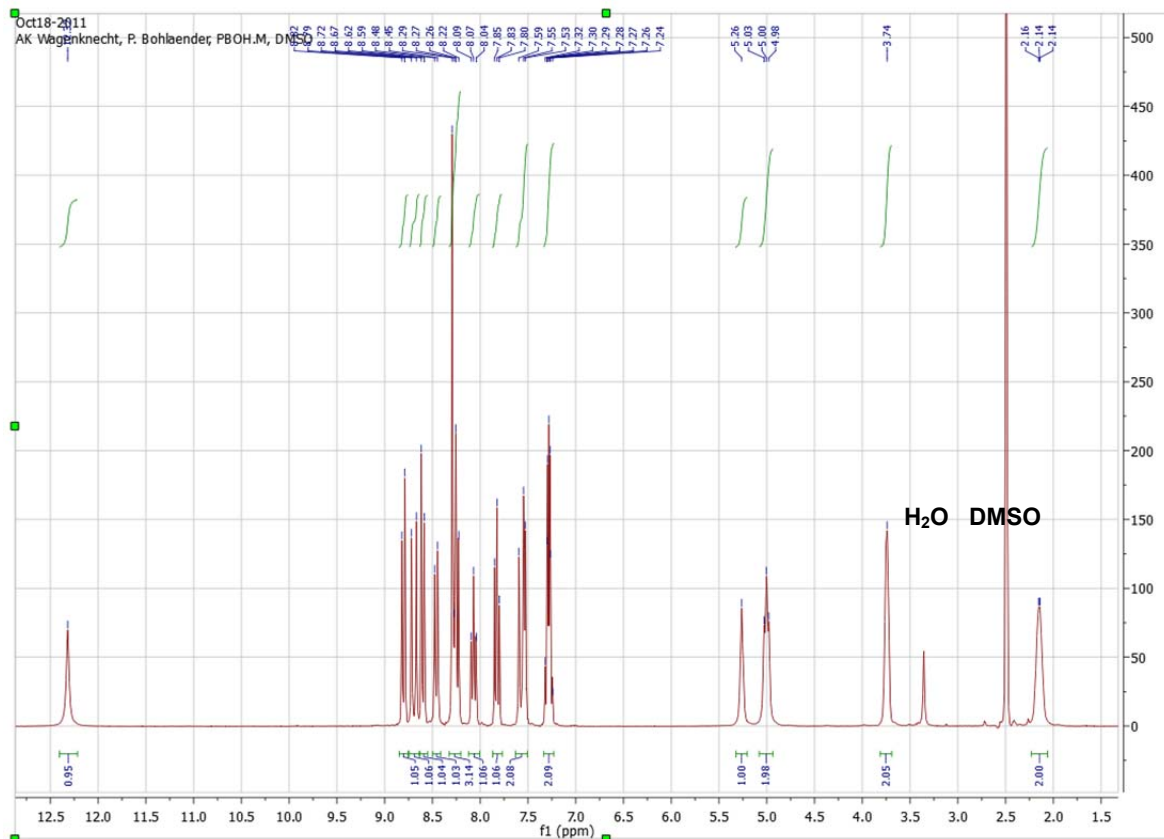
δ (ppm) = 31.1, 47.6, 57.5, 110.3, 112.8, 114.7, 118.4, 119.8, 120.6, 122.0, 123.5, 124.9, 126.8, 127.9, 130.0, 134.2, 135.2, 137.6, 138.3, 141.8, 143.6, 156.0.

MS (FAB) m/z (%): 329.2 (59) [M⁺].

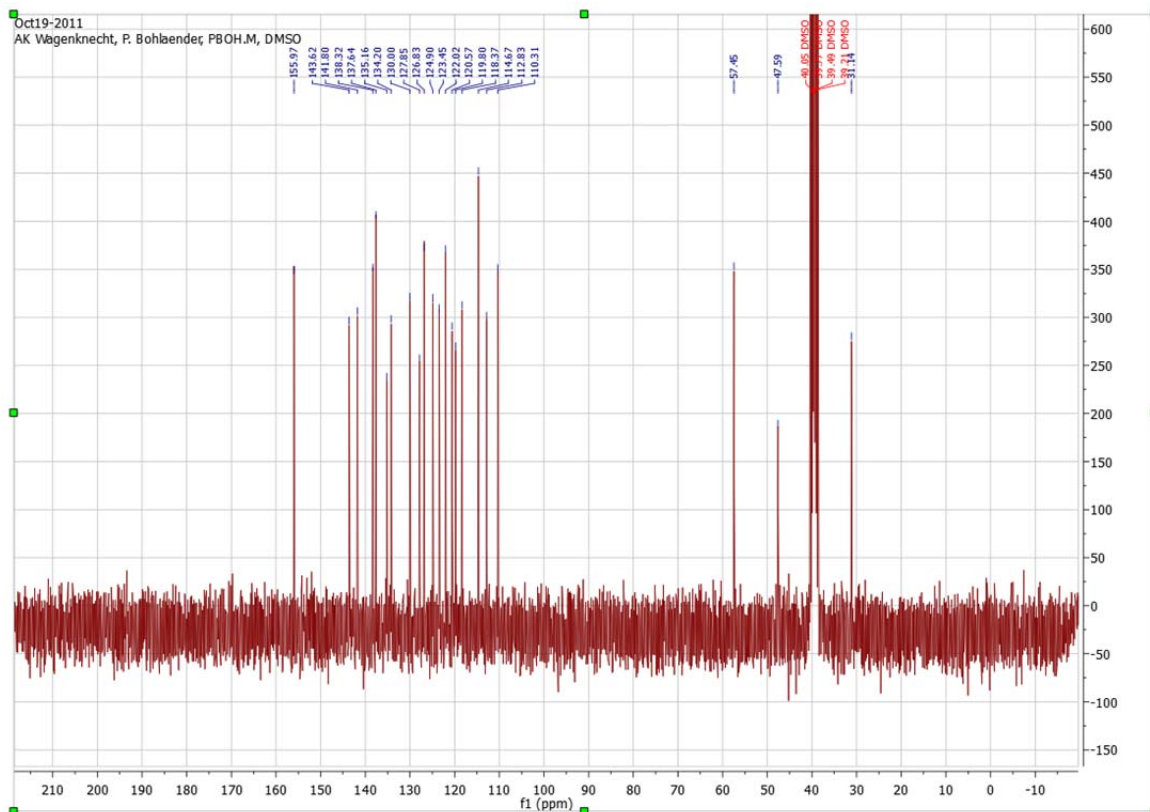
HR-MS (FAB) m/z : calculated for C₂₂H₂₁N₂O [M⁺]: 329.1648, found: 329.1656.



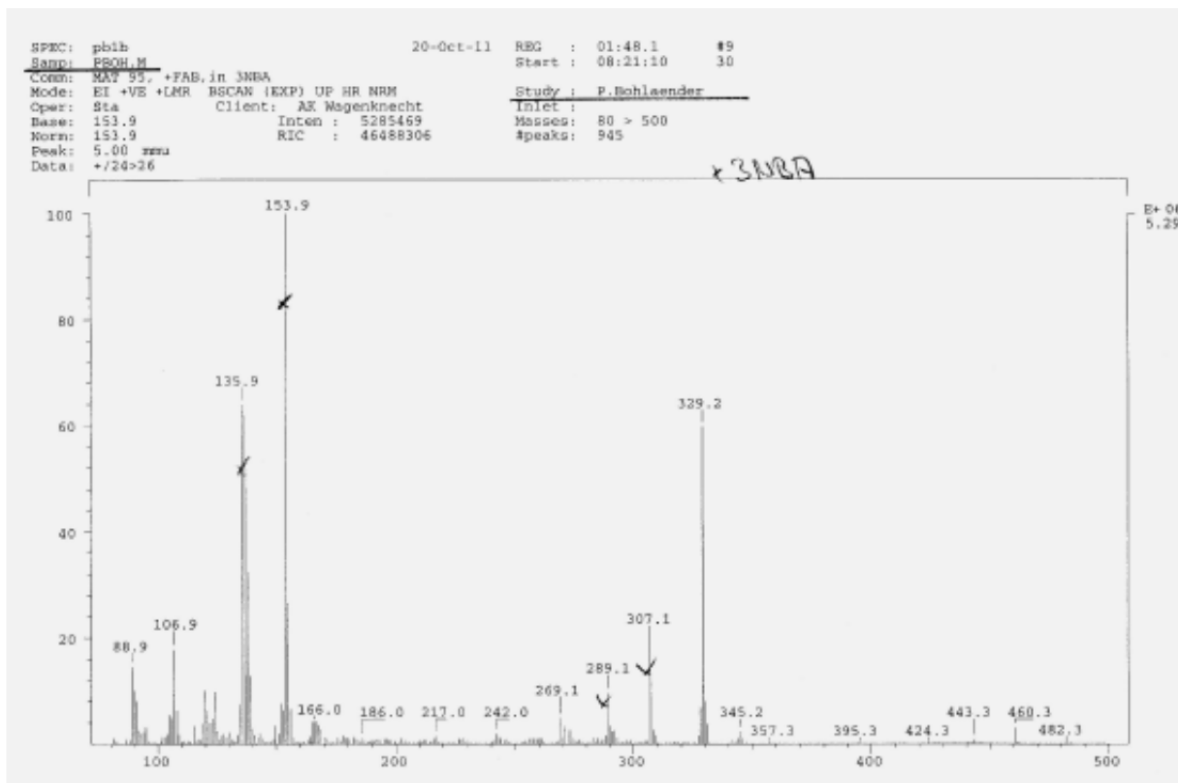
Scheme S33: IR of dye 1.



Scheme S34: ¹H-NMR of dye 1.



Scheme S35: ^{13}C -NMR of dye 1.



Scheme S36: MS (FAB) of dye 1.

```
LIST: pblb-c2          20-Oct-11  Elapse: 00:20.2    3
Samp: PBOH.M          Start : 08:21:10    30
Comm: MAT 95, +FAB, in 3NBA
Mode: EI +VE +LMR  BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM      Study : P.Bohlaender
Oper: Sta          Client: AK Magenknecht      Inlet :
Lint: ( 30 ) C .H 4.N .
      ( 329 ) C22.H21.N2.O
Peak: 5.00 m/z      R+D: -0.5 > 65.0
Data: CMASS : converted

          14701          (amu)
Mass Intensity %RA Flags Delta R+D Composition
329.1656 1470158 100.00 # -0.2 13.5 C22.H21.N2.O
```

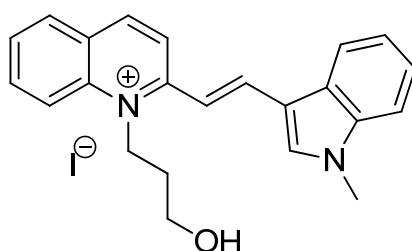
Scheme S37: HR-MS (FAB) of dye 1.

Erwartete Ergebnisse:	
57,91 %C	4,64 %H 6,14 %N
Gefundene Ergebnisse:	
Einwaage:	
1,817 mg	57,81 %C 4,45 %H 5,86 %N %S
1,836 mg	57,92 %C 4,48 %H 5,94 %N %S
mg	%C %H %N %S
mg	%C %H %N %S
mg	%C %H %N %S
Durchgeführt: <i>FD</i>	

Scheme S38: Elementary analysis of dye 1.

4.9 Synthesis of dye 2:

(E)-1-(3-hydroxypropyl)-2-(2-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)vinyl)quinolin-1-ium iodide



Under argon, to a solution of **18** (0.33 g, 1.0 mmol) and **23** (0.34 g, 2.1 mmol) in 12 mL ethanol piperidine (0.19 g, 0.22 mL, 2.2 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred in a headspace vial at 80°C for 19 h. After cooling to room temperature and precipitation the product was collected and washed three times with diethyl ether. A second product fraction can be obtained from the mother liquor. The product was dried under reduced pressure and yielded as a red solid (68 %).

TLC (2-butanol : water : acetic acid = 80 : 15 : 5): $R_f = 0.13$.

IR (DRIFT): $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm^{-1}) = 3334 (m), 1593 (m), 1568 (m), 1516 (m), 1353 (w), 1314 (w), 1073 (m).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (300MHz; DMSO-d_6):

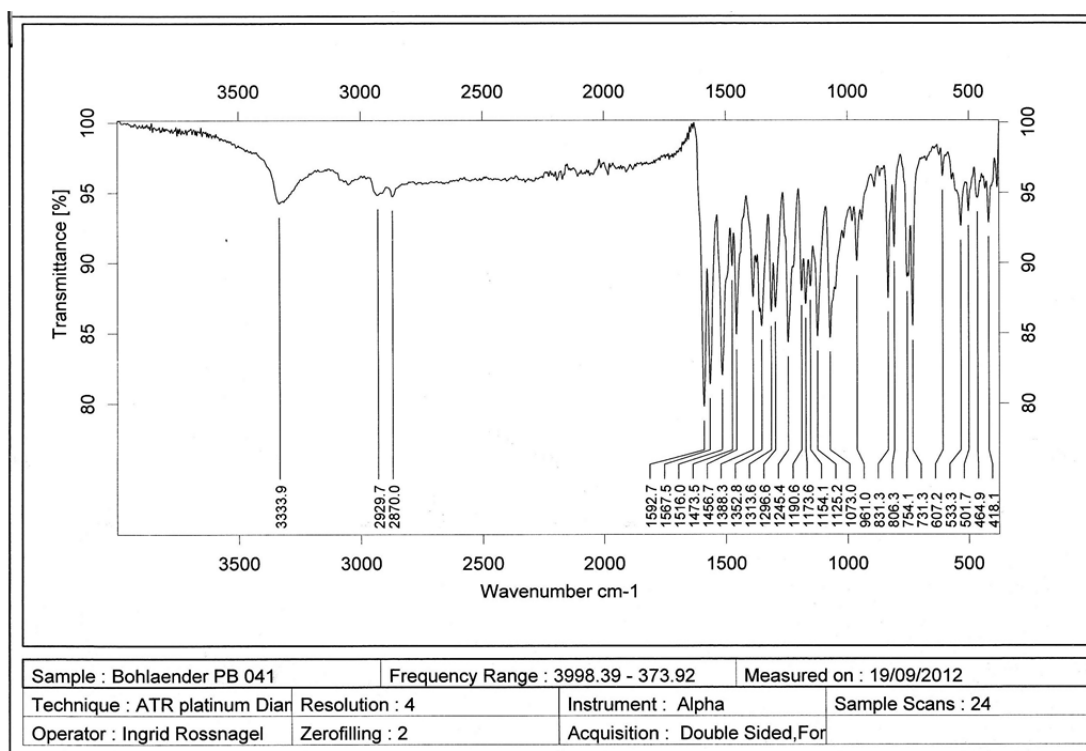
δ (ppm) = 2.08 – 2.25 (m, 2H), 3.70 – 3.82 (m, 2H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 5.01 (t, $J = 7.6$, 2H), 5.27 (t, $J = 4.6$, 1H), 7.29 – 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.52 – 7.68 (m, 2H), 7.84 (t, $J = 7.5$, 1H), 8.08 (t, $J = 7.9$, 1H), 8.20 – 8.34 (m, 3H), 8.46 (d, $J = 9.0$, 1H), 8.59 – 8.73 (m, 2H), 8.81 (d, $J = 9.1$, 1H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (75 MHz, DMSO-d_6):

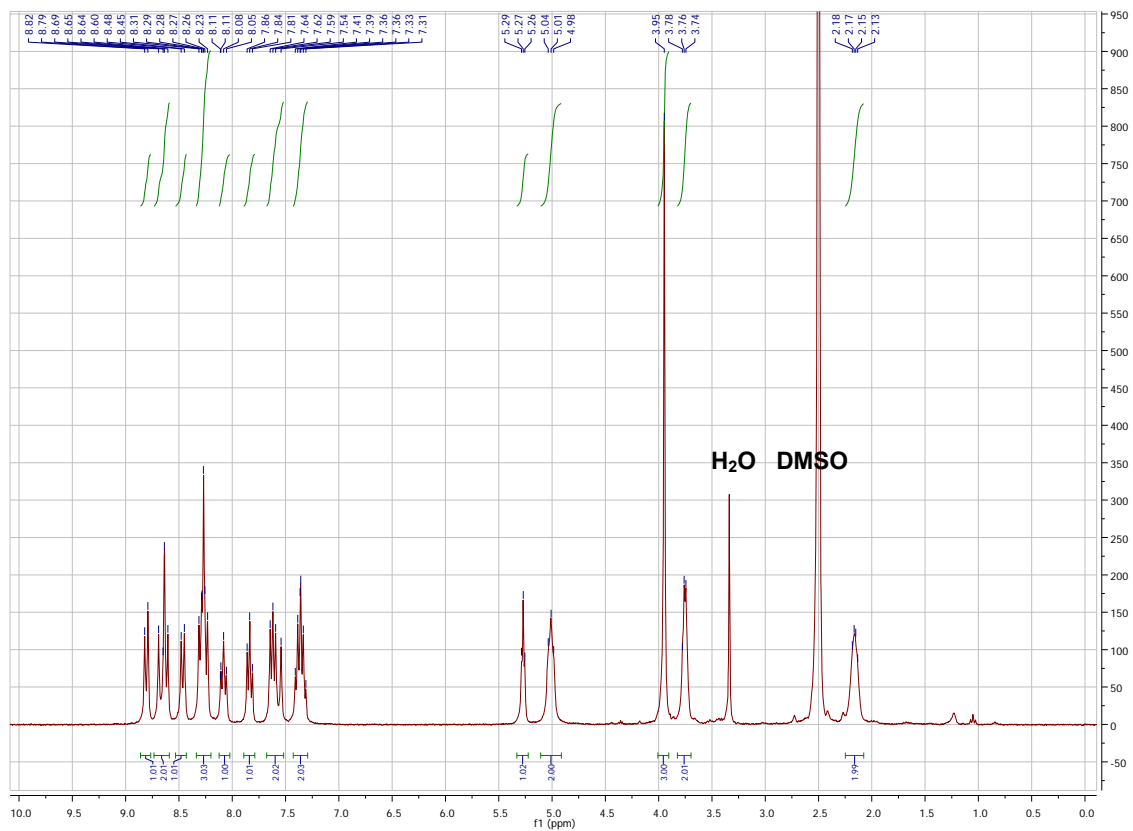
δ (ppm) = 31.1, 33.5, 47.6, 57.4, 111.3, 113.7, 118.4, 119.8, 120.7, 122.4, 123.5, 125.4, 126.9, 127.9, 130.0, 134.2, 138.2, 138.4, 141.8, 143.0, 155.9.

MS (FAB) m/z (%): 343.2 (50) $[\text{M}^+]$, 137.5 (61).

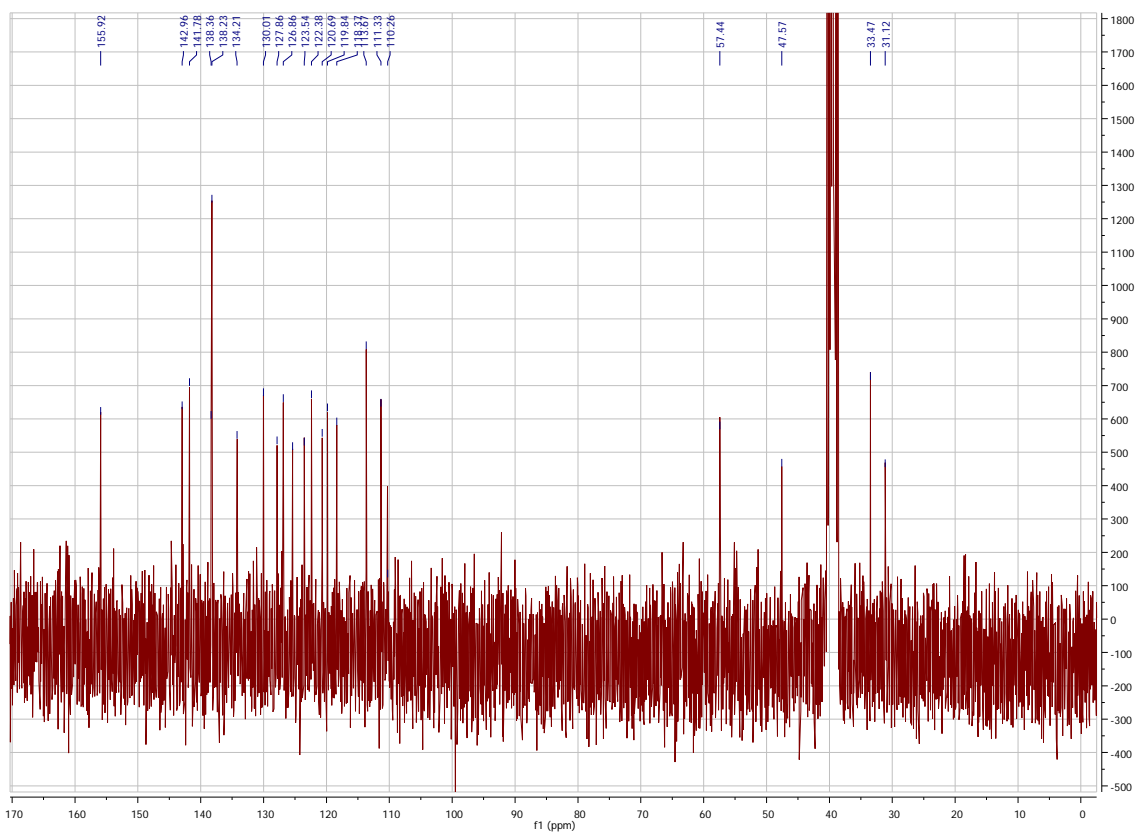
HR-MS (FAB) m/z : calculated for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ $[\text{M}^+]$: 343.1810, found: 343.1808.



Scheme S39: IR of dye 2.

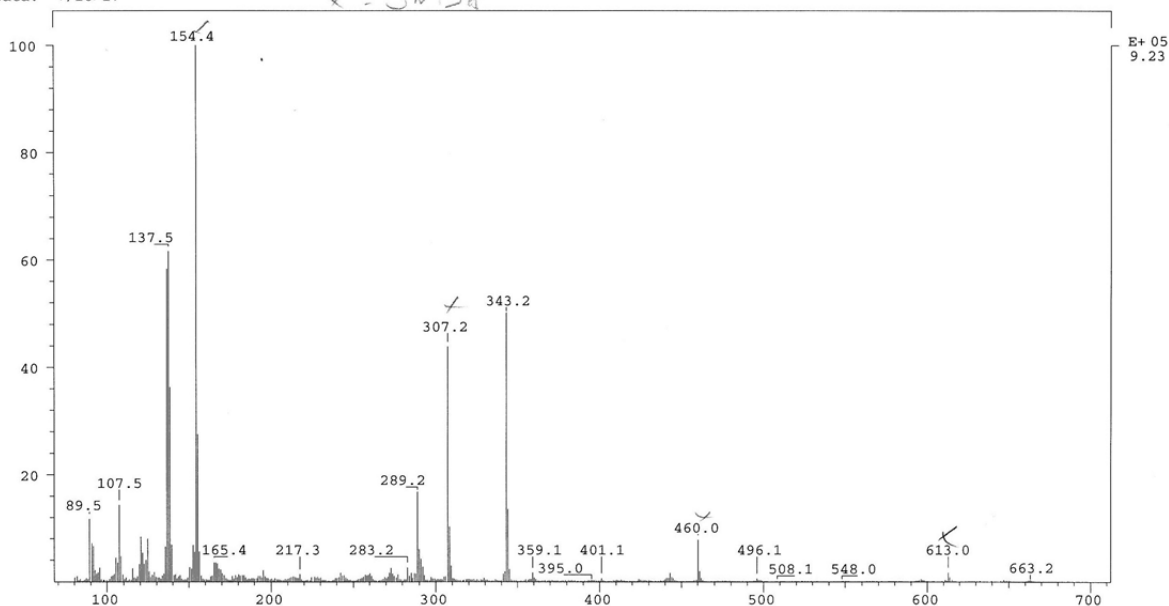


Scheme S40: $^1\text{H-NMR}$ of dye 2.



Scheme S41: $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ of dye 2.

SPEC: pb041 14-Sep-12 REG : 01:25.3 #9
 Samp: PB041,3-NBA Start : 10:01:29 18
 Comm: MAT 95, +FAB
 Mode: EI +VE +LMR BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM Study: P. Bohlaender
 Oper: Ro Client: AK Wagenknecht Inlet :
 Base: 154.4 Inten : 922925 Masses: 80 > 700
 Norm: 154.4 RIC : 7310019 #peaks: 601
 Peak: 1000.00 mmu
 Data: +/-16>17



Scheme S42: MS (FAB) of dye 2.

LIST: pb041-c5 14-Sep-12 Elapse: 01:10.6 13
 Samp: PB041,3-NBA Start : 10:01:29 18
 Comm: MAT 95, +FAB
 Mode: EI +VE +LMR BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM Study : P. Bohlaender
 Oper: Ro Client: AK Wagenknecht Inlet :
 Limt: (28) C 2.H 4. .
 : (343) C23.H23.O.N2
 Peak: 1000.00 mmu R+D: -0.5 > 65.0
 Data: CMASS : converted

Mass	Intensity	%RA	Flags	Delta	R+D	Composition
343.1808	445470	55.07	F#	0.2	13.5	C23.H23.O.N2

Scheme S43: HR-MS (FAB) of dye 2.

Summenformel: $C_{23}H_{23}N_2O$

Berechnet: N: 5,36% C: 58,78% H: 4,33% S: O: 3,40% I: 26,38%

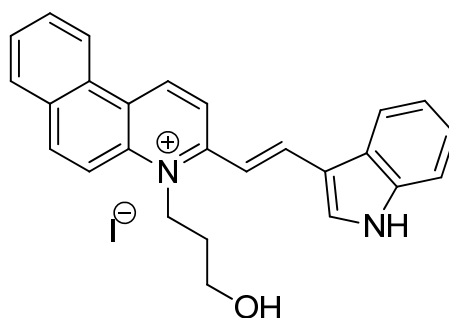
Gefunden: N: 5,69 C: 58,13 H: 4,33 S:

Gefunden: N: 5,80 C: 58,15 H: 4,31 S:

Scheme S44: Elementary analysis of dye 2.

4.10 Synthesis of dye 3:

(E)-3-(2-(1H-indol-3-yl)vinyl)-4-(3-hydroxypropyl)benzo[f]quinolin-4-ium iodide



Under argon, to a solution of **19** (0.38 g, 1.0 mmol) and **22** (0.44 g, 3.0 mmol) in 15 mL ethanol piperidine (0.19 g, 0.22 mL, 2.2 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred in a headspace vial at 80°C for 19 h. After cooling to room temperature and precipitation the crude product was collected and washed three times with diethyl ether. A second crude product fraction can be obtained from the mother liquor. In the next step the crude product was recrystallized out of methanol and diethyl ether. The purified product was collected, washed three times with diethyl ether, dried under reduced pressure and yielded as a orange solid (60 %).

TLC (2-butanol : water : acetic acid = 80 : 15 : 5): $R_f = 0.32$.

IR (DRIFT): $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹) = 3337 (w), 2929 (w), 2876 (w), 1594 (s), 1571 (s), 1340 (w), 1312 (w), 1049 (m).

¹H-NMR (300MHz; DMSO-d₆):

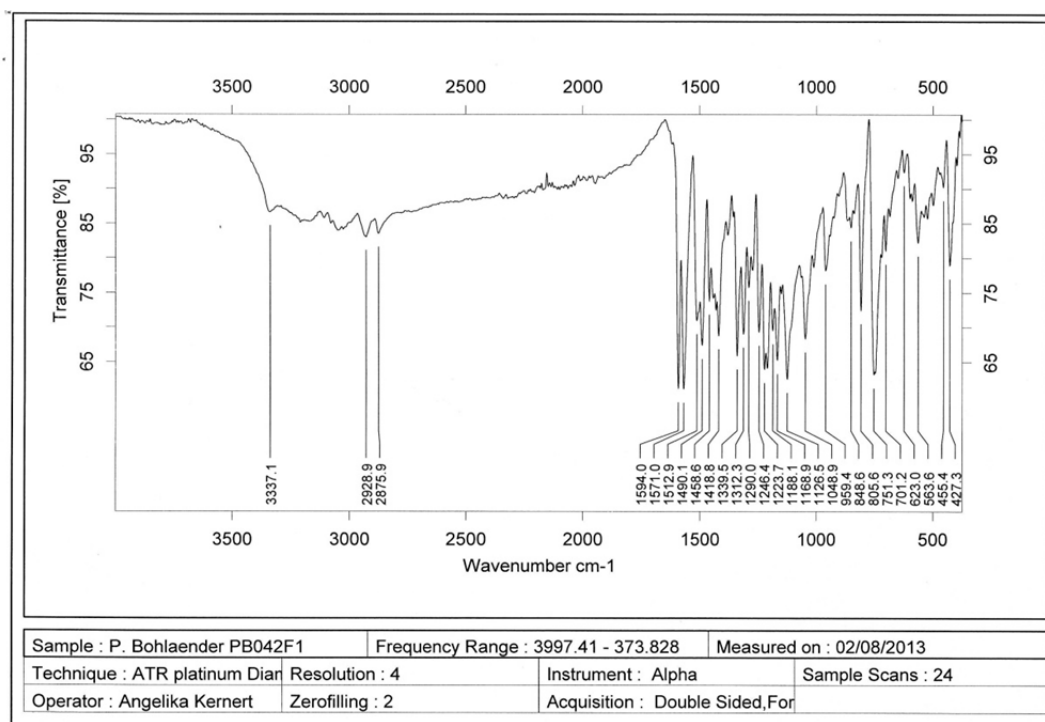
δ (ppm) = 2.11 – 2.31 (m, 2H), 3.71 – 3.87 (m, 2H), 4.96 – 5.19 (m, 2H), 5.28 (s, 1H), 7.20 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.46 – 7.61 (m, 2H), 7.80 – 7.96 (m, 2H), 8.18 – 8.32 (m, 3H), 8.24 – 8.73 m, 4H), 9.02 (d, $J = 7.7$, 1H), 9.63 (d, $J = 8.5$, 1H), 12.20 (s, 1H).

¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆):

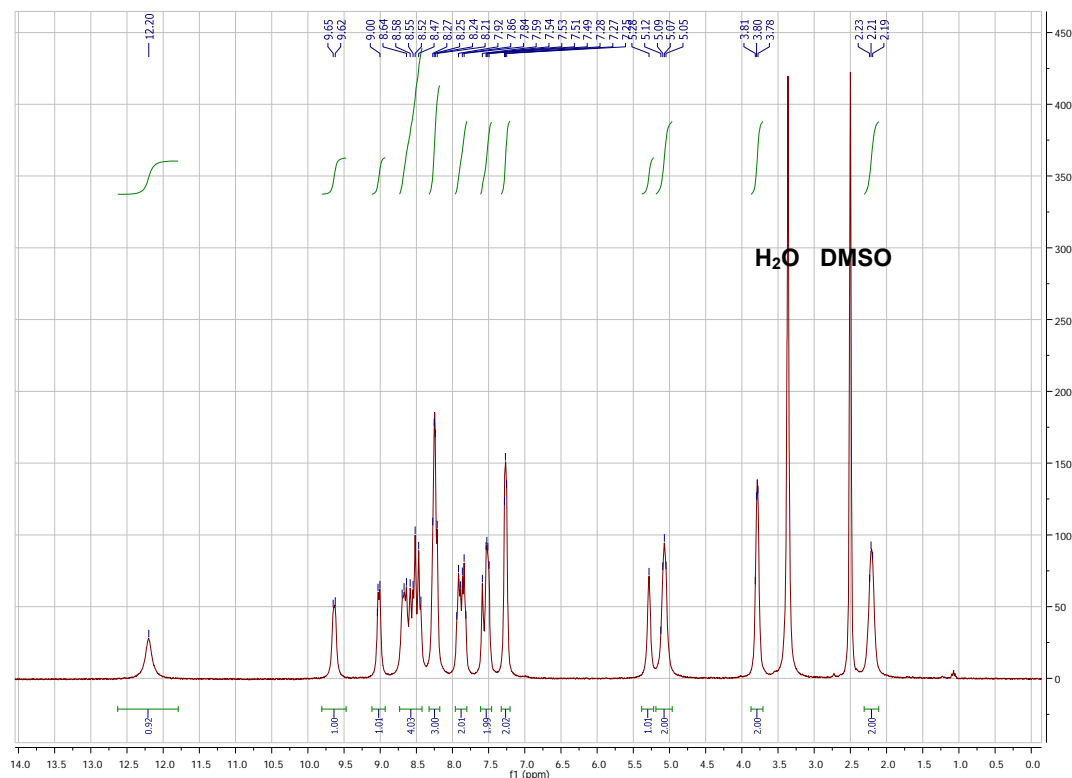
δ (ppm) = 31.4, 48.5, 57.5, 99.5, 110.3, 112.7, 114.4, 116.3, 120.4, 120.5, 121.8, 123.2, 123.7, 124.3, 124.9, 128.3, 128.9, 129.3, 130.2, 134.3, 136.0, 136.9, 137.5, 138.9, 142.0, 154.5.

MS (FAB) m/z (%): 379.3 (100) [M+].

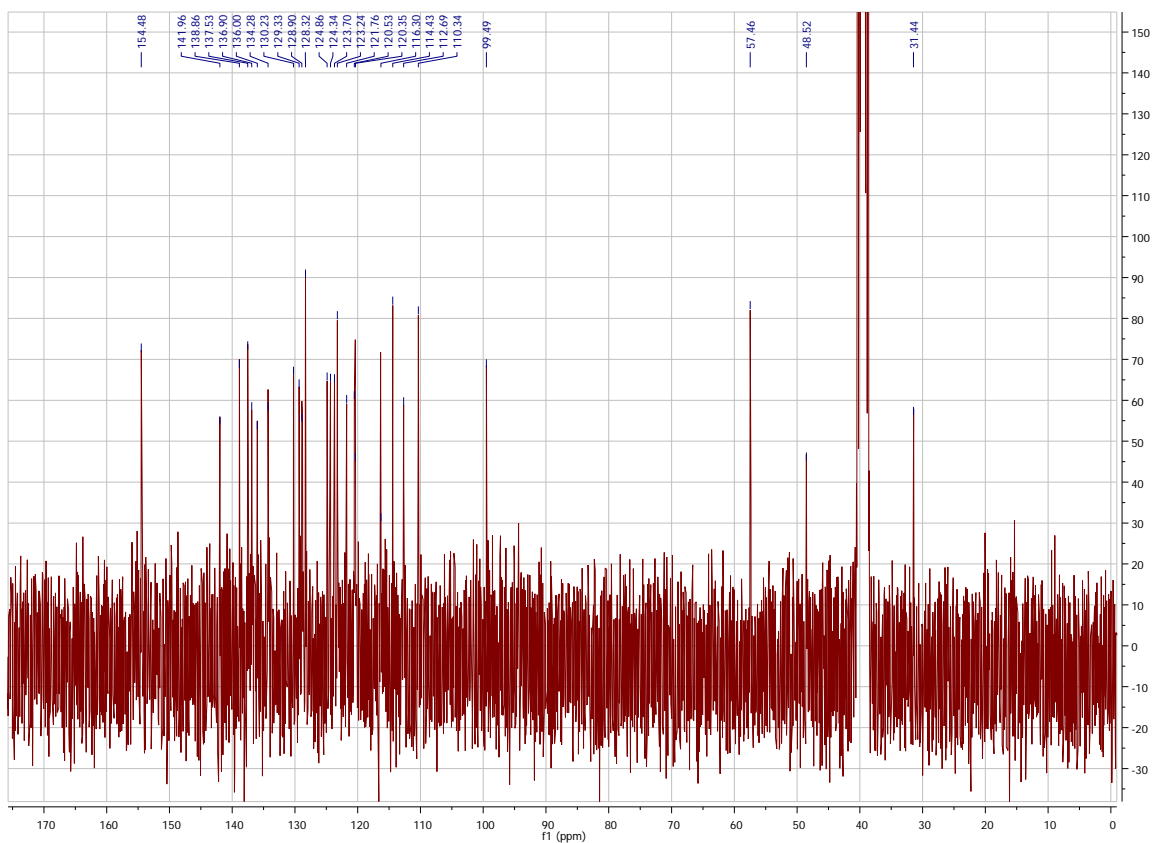
HR-MS (FAB) m/z: calculated for C₂₆H₂₃N₂O [M+]: 379.1805, found: 379.1806.



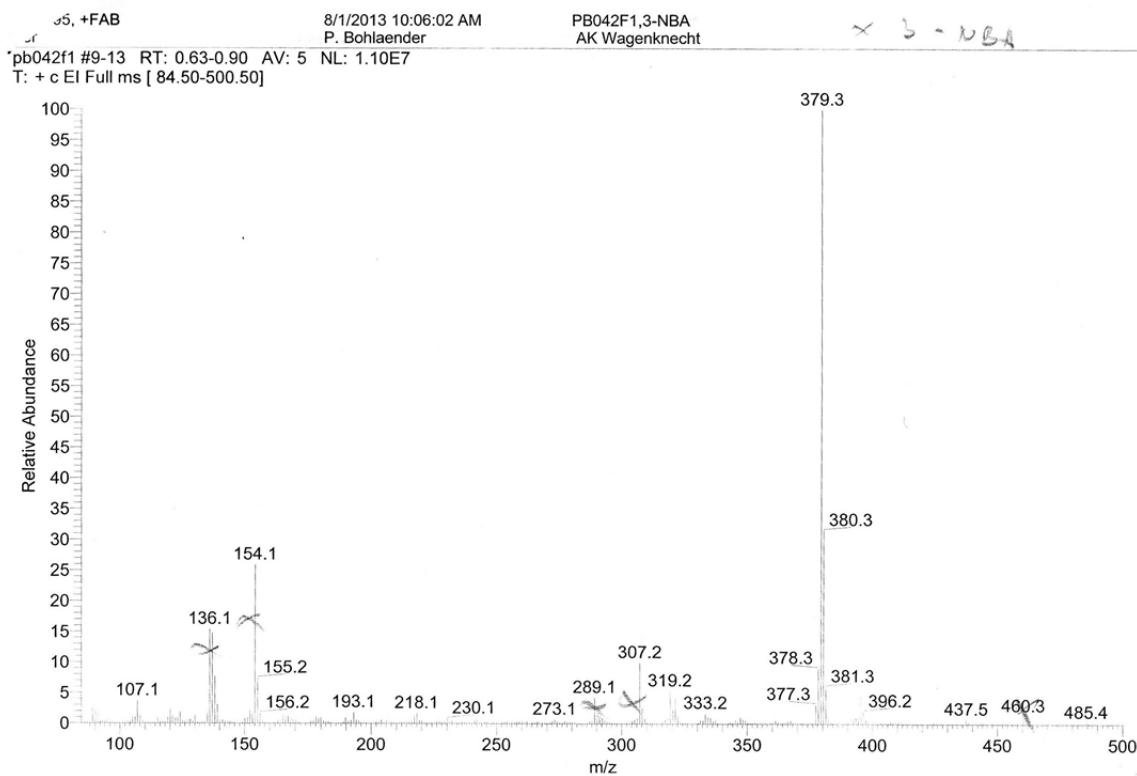
Scheme S45: IR of dye **3**.



Scheme S46: ¹H-NMR of dye **3**.



Scheme S47: ^{13}C -NMR of dye **3**.



Scheme S48: MS (FAB) of dye **3**.

pb042f1-c6#8 RT: 0.56

T: + c EI Full ms [84.42-500.42]

m/z= 379.0608-379.2939

m/z	Intensity	Relative	Theo. Mass	Delta (mmu)	Composition
379.1806	9324288.0	100.00	379.1805	0.15	C ₂₆ H ₂₃ O ₁ N ₂

Scheme S49: HR-MS (FAB) of dye **3**.

Summenformel: C₂₆H₂₃NO₂

Berechnet: N: 5,53% C: 64,67% H: 4,58% S: O: 3,16% I: 25,06%

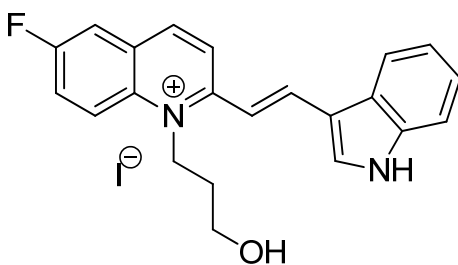
Gefunden: N: 5,81 C: 62,55 H: 4,68 S:

Gefunden: N: 5,75 C: 62,51 H: 4,66 S:

Scheme S50: Elementary analysis of dye **3**.

4.11 Synthesis of dye **4**:

(E)-2-(2-(1H-indol-3-yl)vinyl)-6-fluoro-1-(3-hydroxypropyl)quinolin-1-ium iodide



Under argon, to a solution of **20** (0.35 g, 1.0 mmol) and **22** (0.44 g, 3.0 mmol) in 13 mL ethanol piperidine (0.19 g, 0.22 mL, 2.2 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred in a headspace vial at 80°C for 17 h. After cooling to room temperature and precipitation the crude product was collected and washed three times with diethyl ether. In the next step the crude product was recrystallized out of methanol, acetone and diethyl ether. The purified product was collected, washed

three times with diethyl ether, dried under reduced pressure and yielded as a dark orange solid (57 %).

TLC (2-butanol : water : acetic acid = 80 : 15 : 5): $R_f = 0.34$.

IR (DRIFT): $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm^{-1}) = 1593 (m), 1567 (s), 1511 (m), 1349 (w), 1226 (m), 1130 (m), 1047 (w).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (300MHz; DMSO-d_6):

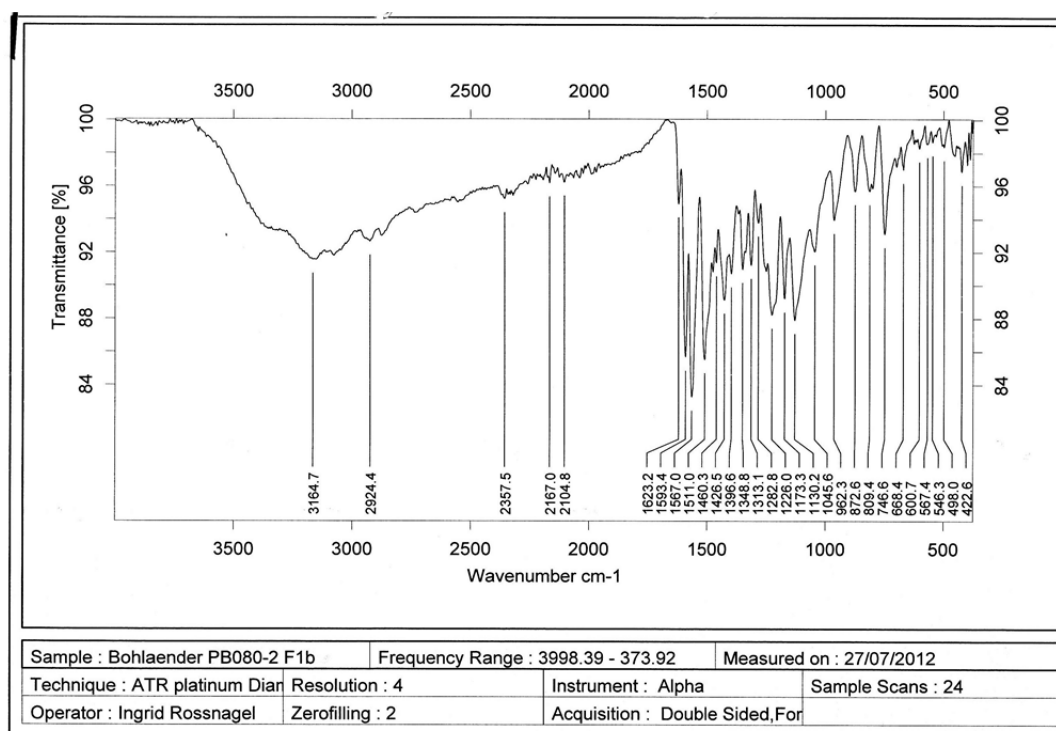
δ (ppm) = 2.04 – 2.24 (m, 2H), 3.64 – 3.83 (m, 2H), 4.87 – 5.13 (m, 2H), 5.26 (s, 1H), 7.21 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.46 – 7.63 (m, 2H), 7.92 – 8.04 (m, 1H), 8.10 (d, $J = 8.3$, 1H), 8.22 – 8.38 (m, 2H), 8.48 – 8.58 (m, 1H), 8.61 – 8.80 (m, 3H), 12.34 (s, 1H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (75 MHz, DMSO-d_6):

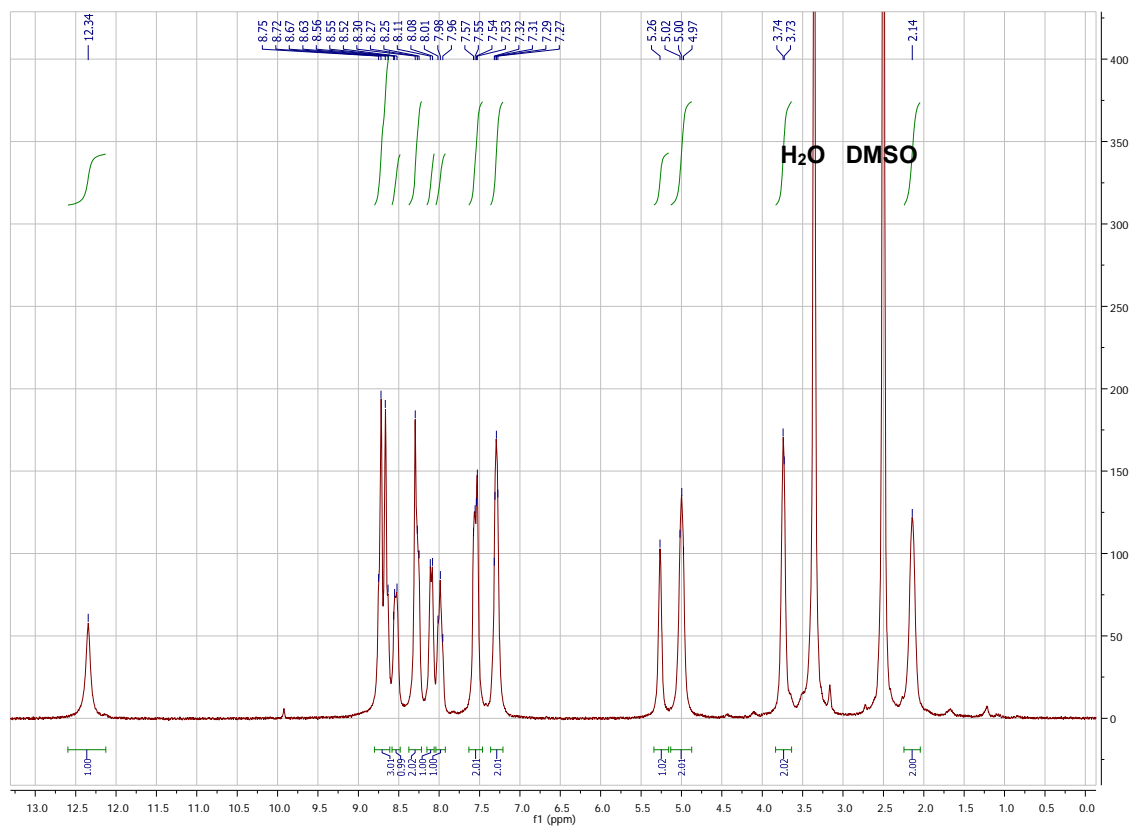
δ (ppm) = 31.1, 47.9, 57.4, 110.1, 112.9, 113.7, 114.0, 114.7, 120.6, 121.0, 121.6, 121.5, 122.1, 123.0, 123.5, 124.9, 128.2, 135.4, 137.7, 140.9, 143.9, 155.7.

MS (FAB) m/z (%): 347.1 (18) $[\text{M}^+]$, 137.5 (61).

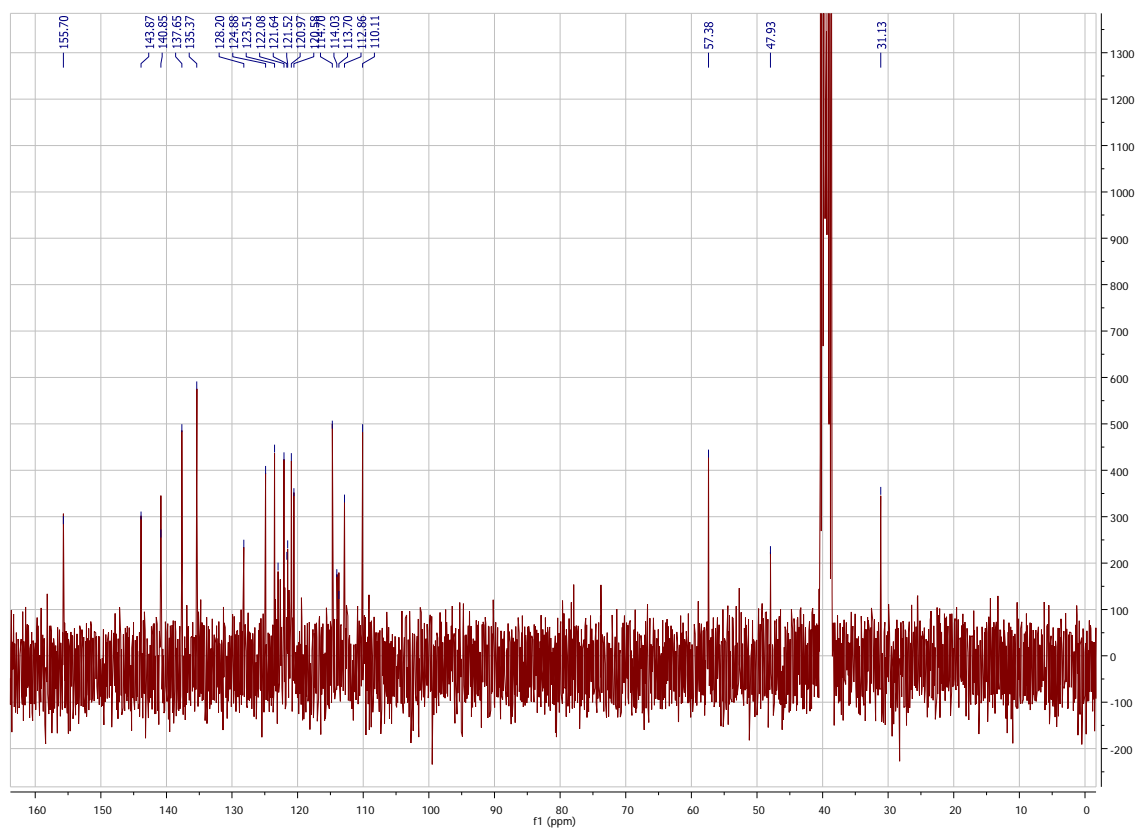
HR-MS (FAB) m/z : calculated for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{20}\text{FN}_2\text{O}$ $[\text{M}^+]$: 347.1560, found: 347.1562.



Scheme S51: IR of dye 4.

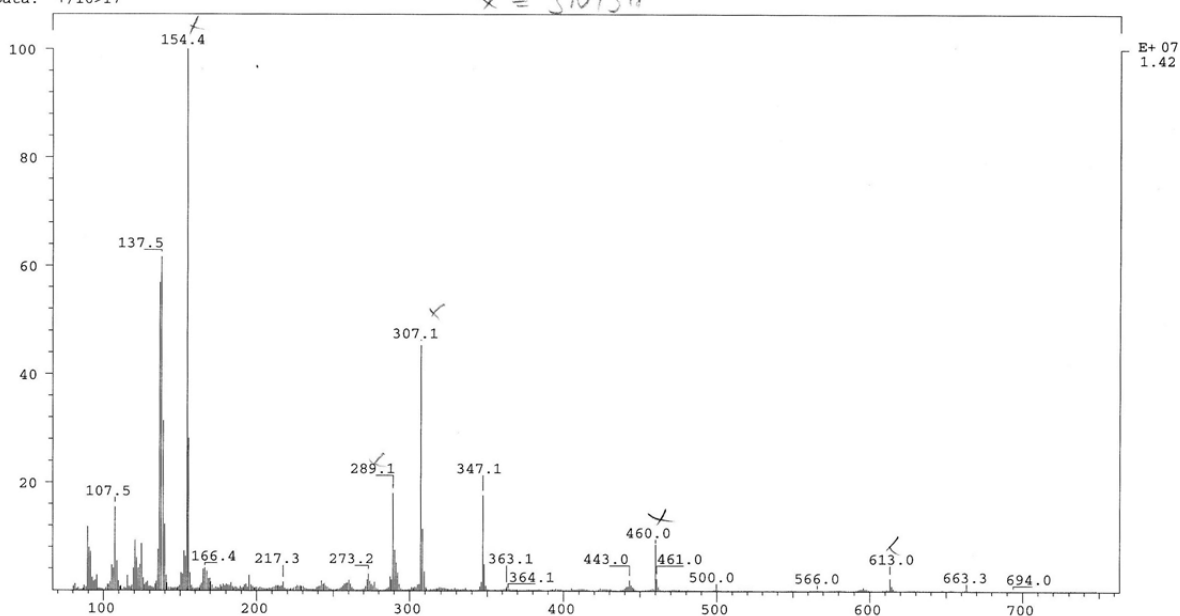


Scheme S52: $^1\text{H-NMR}$ of dye **4**.



Scheme S53: $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ of dye **4**.

SPEC: pb0802f1b 14-Sep-12 REG : 01:31.1 #9
 Samp: PB 080/2 F1b ,3-NBA Start : 13:42:58 17
 Comm: MAT 95, +FAB
 Mode: EI +VE +LMR BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM Study : P. Bohlaender
 Oper: Ro Client: AK Wagenknecht Inlet :
 Base: 154.4 Inten : 14221760 Masses: 80 > 750
 Norm: 154.4 RIC : 111009296 #peaks: 675
 Peak: 1000.00 mmu
 Data: +/16>17



Scheme S54: MS (FAB) of dye 4.

LIST: pb0802f1b-c5 14-Sep-12 Elapse: 01:36.2 17
 Samp: PB 080/2 F1b ,3-NBA Start : 13:42:58 17
 Comm: MAT 95, +FAB
 Mode: EI +VE +LMR BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM Study : P. Bohlaender
 Oper: Ro Client: AK Wagenknecht Inlet :
 Limt: (28) C 2.H 4. . .
 : (347) C22.H20.O.F.N2
 Peak: 1000.00 mmu R+D: -0.5 > 65.0
 Data: CMASS : converted

Mass	Intensity	%RA	Flags	Delta	R+D	Composition
347.1562	2541631	100.00	F#	-0.2	13.5	C22.H20.O.F.N2

Scheme S55: HR-MS (FAB) of dye 4.

Summenformel: $C_{22}H_{20}FNO_2$

Berechnet: N: 5,81% C: 55,71% H: 4,25% S: O: 2,27% I: 26,76%
 F: 4,01%

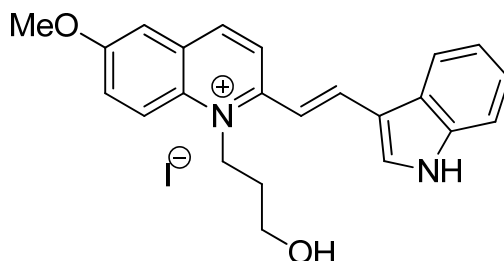
Gefunden: N: 5,41 C: 51,60 H: 4,51 S:

Gefunden: N: 5,40 C: 51,76 H: 4,30 S:

Scheme S56: Elementary analysis of dye 4.

4.12 Synthesis of dye 5:

(E)-2-(2-(1H-indol-3-yl)vinyl)-1-(3-hydroxypropyl)-6-methoxyquinolin-1-ium iodide



Under argon, to a solution of **21** (0.18 g, 0.5 mmol) and **22** (0.22 g, 1.5 mmol) in 7 mL ethanol piperidine (0.10 g, 0.11 mL, 1.1 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred in a headspace vial at 80°C for 19 h. The mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with 5 mL diethyl ether and after precipitation the product was collected and washed three times with diethyl ether. The product was dried under reduced pressure and yielded as an orange solid (66 %).

TLC (2-butanol : water : acetic acid = 80 : 15 : 5): $R_f = 0.30$.

IR (DRIFT): $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹) = 3375 (s), 1598 (s), 1572 (s), 1512 (m), 1352 (w), 1319 (w), 1020 (w).

¹H-NMR (300MHz; DMSO-d₆):

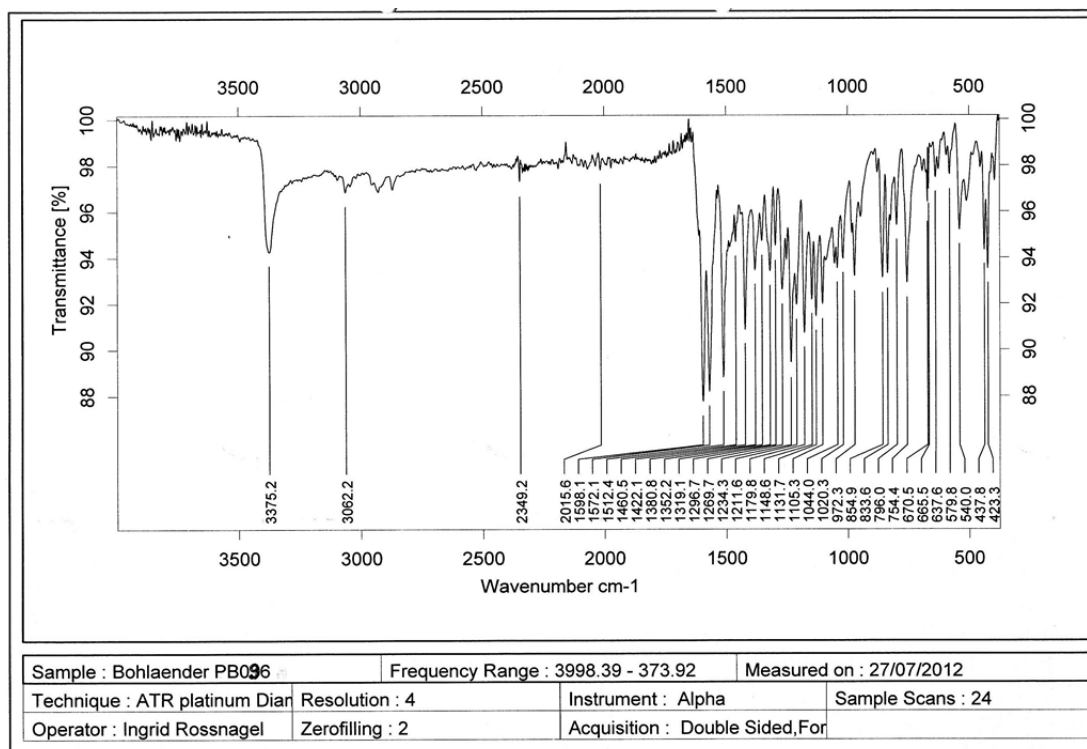
δ (ppm) = 2.05 – 2.24 (m, 2H), 3.62 – 3.80 (m, 2H), 3.97 (s, 3H), 4.88 - 5.13 (m, 2H), 5.15 – 5.34 (m, 1H), 7.21 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.48 – 7.66 (m, 2H), 7.64 – 7.78 (m, 2H), 8.25 (d, $J = 8.1$, 2H), 8.42 (d, $J = 9.7$, 1H), 8.57 (d, $J = 11.9$, 2H), 8.72 (d, $J = 9.0$, 1H), 12.21 (s, 1H).

¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆):

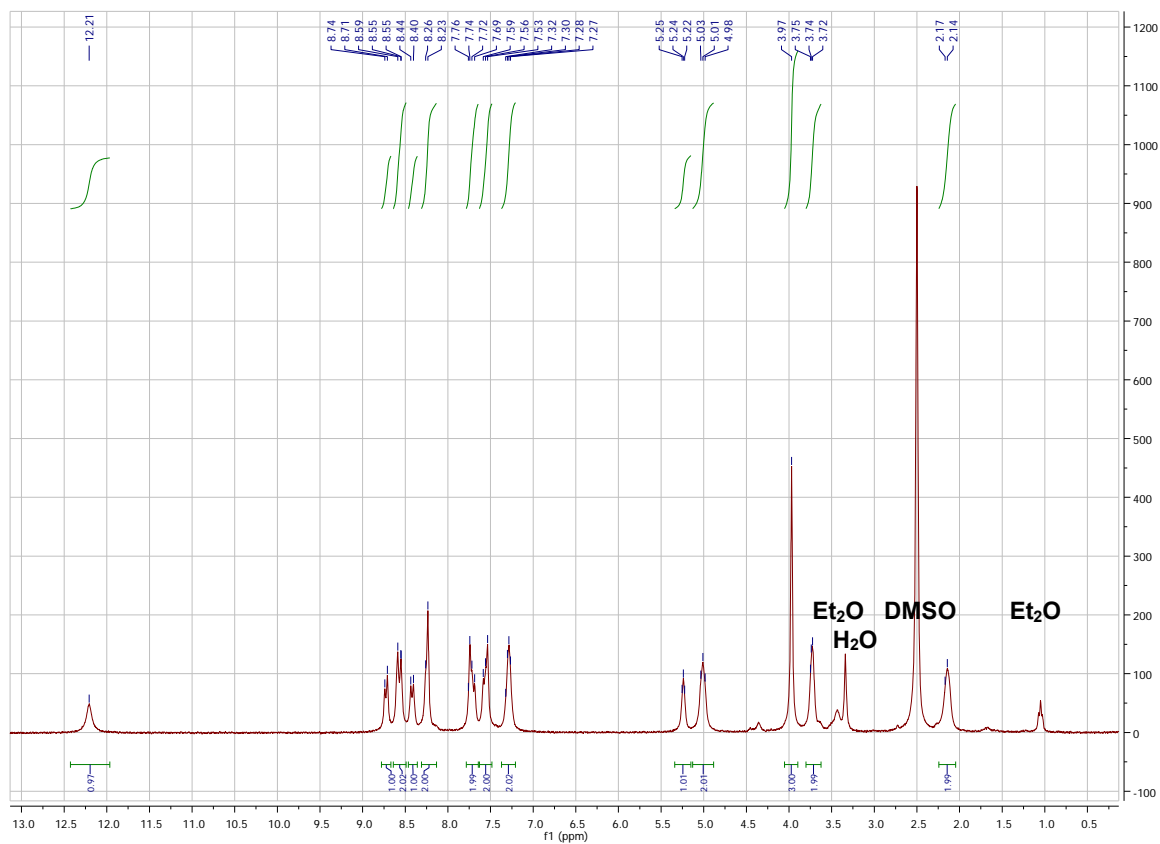
δ (ppm) = 31.4, 47.7, 56.1, 57.4, 109.1, 110.5, 112.7, 114.4, 120.2, 120.3, 120.5, 121.8, 123.3, 124.9, 128.7, 133.5, 134.2, 137.6, 140.9, 141.0, 153.7, 158.0.

MS (FAB) m/z (%): 359.1 (97) [M⁺], 136.4 (62).

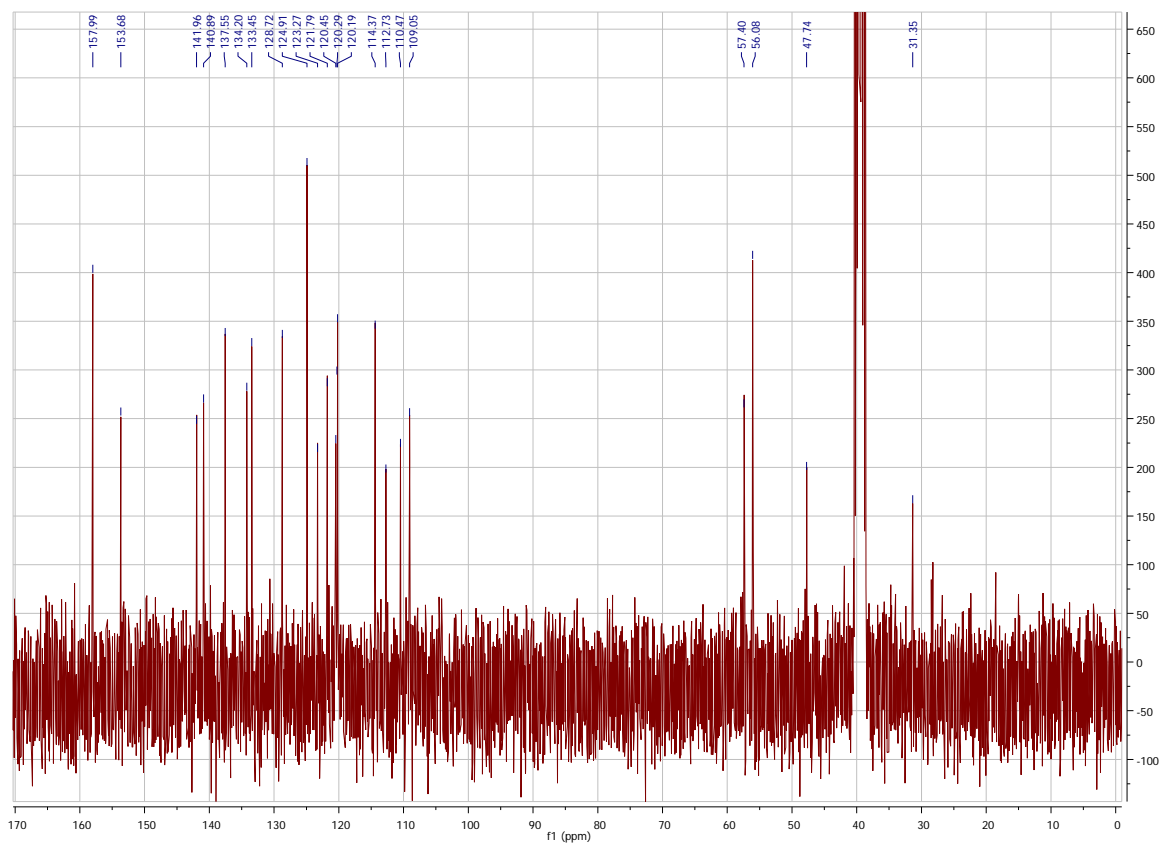
HR-MS (FAB) m/z : calculated for C₂₃H₂₃N₂O₂ [M⁺]: 359.1760, found: 359.1757.



Scheme S57: IR of dye 5.

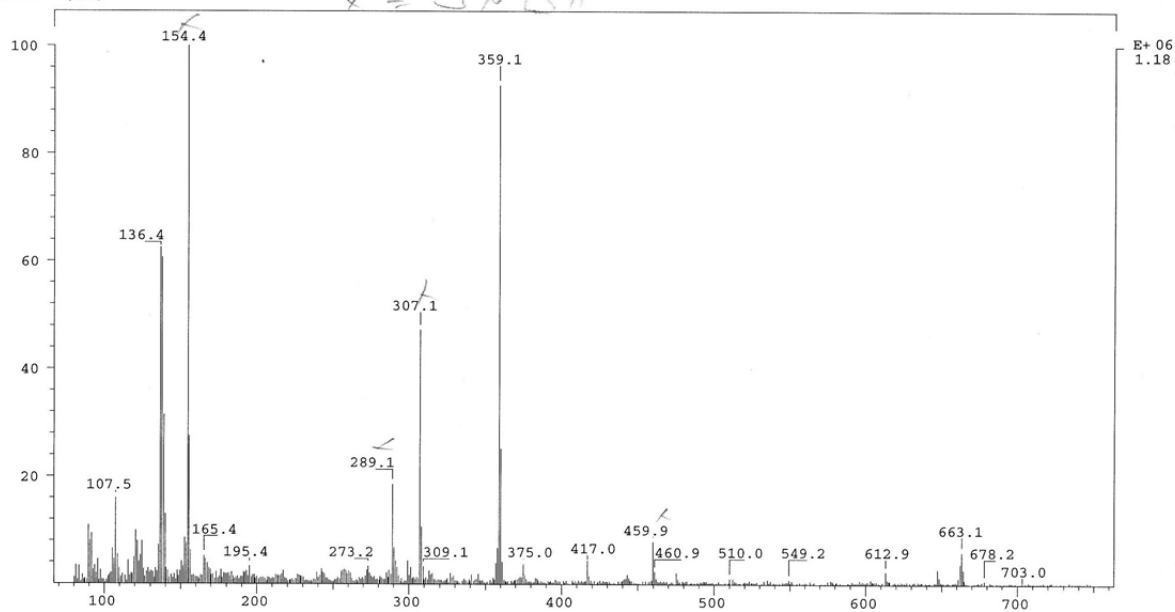


Scheme S58: ¹H-NMR of dye 5.



Scheme S59: ^{13}C -NMR of dye 5.

SPEC: pb096 14-Sep-12 REG : 00:17.9 #9
Samp: PB-096-3-NBA Start : 13:58:54 19
Comm: MAT 95, +FAB
Mode: EI +VE +LMR BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM Study: P. Bohlaender
Oper: Ro Client: AK Wagenknecht Inlet :
Base: 154.4 Inten : 1182579 Masses: 80 > 750
Norm: 154.4 RIC : 13725288 #peaks: 597
Peak: 1000.00 mmu
Data: +/2>3



Scheme S60: MS (FAB) of dye 5.

LIST: pb096-c2 14-Sep-12 Elapse: 01:27.9 16
Samp: PB 096 ,3-NBA Start : 13:58:54 19
Comm: MAT 95, +FAB
Mode: EI +VE +LMR BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM Study : P. Bohlaender
Oper: Ro Client: AK Wagenknecht Inlet :
Limt: (28) C 2.H 4.
: (359) C23.H23.N2.O2
Peak: 1000.00 mmu R+D: -0.5 > 65.0
Data: CMASS : converted

Mass	Intensity	%RA	Flags	Delta	R+D	Composition
359.1757	24537088	100.00	F#	0.3-13.5		C23.H23.N2.O2

Scheme S61: HR-MS (FAB) of dye **5**.

Summenformel: $C_{23}H_{23}N_2O_2$

Berechnet: N: 5,96% C: 56,80% H: 4,77% S: O: 6,58% I: 26,02%

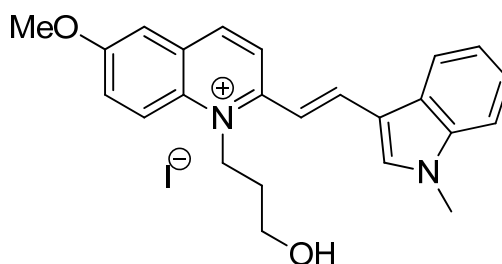
Gefunden: N: 5,37 C: 55,01 H: 4,73 S:

Gefunden: N: 5,32 C: 55,10 H: 4,75 S:

Scheme S62: Elementary analysis of dye **5**.

4.13 Synthesis of dye **6**:

(E)-1-(3-hydroxypropyl)-6-methoxy-2-(2-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)vinyl)quinolin-1-ium iodide



Under argon, to a solution of **21** (0.36 g, 1.0 mmol) and **23** (0.32 g, 2.0 mmol) in 13 mL ethanol piperidine (0.19 g, 0.22 mL, 2.2 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred in a headspace vial at 80°C for 19 h. After cooling to room temperature and precipitation the product was collected and washed three times with diethyl ether. A second product fraction can be obtained from the mother liquor.

The product was dried under reduced pressure and yielded as a orange solid (66 %).

TLC (2-butanol : water : acetic acid = 80 : 15 : 5): $R_f = 0.19$.

IR (DRIFT): $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm^{-1}) = 3392 (m), 1595 (m), 1568 (m), 1513 (m), 1350 (w), 1319 (w), 1072 (m).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (300MHz; DMSO-d_6):

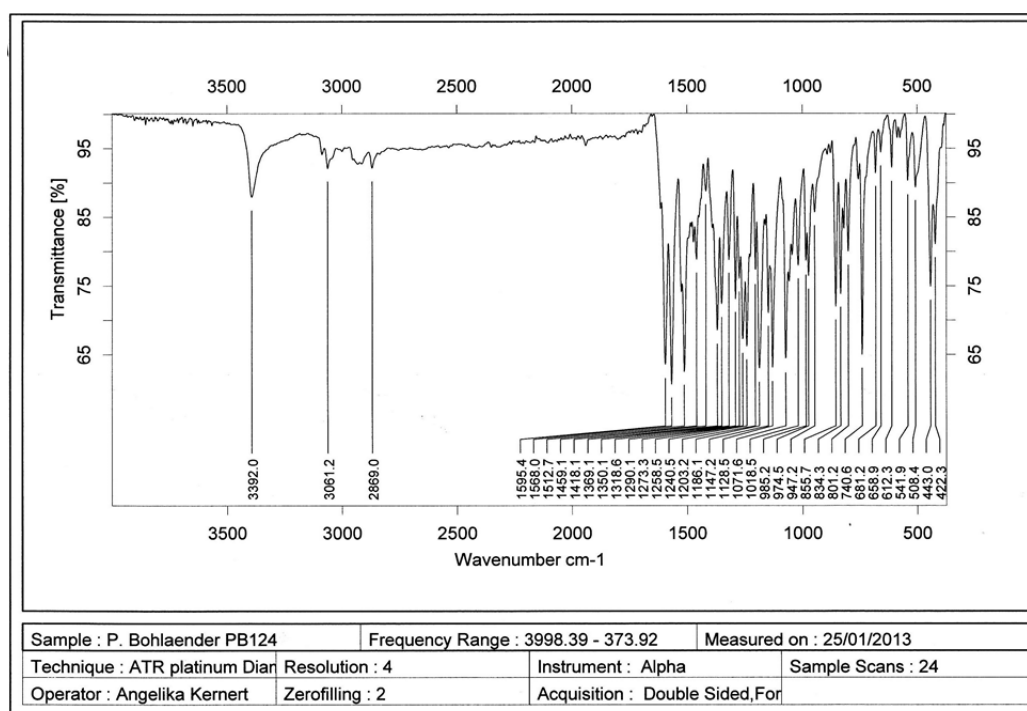
δ (ppm) = 2.03 – 2.19 (m, 2H), 3.66 – 3.78 (m, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 3.96 (s, 3H), 4.91 – 5.05 (m, 2H), 5.26 (s, 1H), 7.33 (p, $J = 6.9$, 2H), 7.46 – 7.56 (m, 1H), 7.57 – 7.62 (m, 1H), 7.64 – 7.74 (m, 2H), 8.14 – 8.22 (m, 1H), 8.26 (d, $J = 7.4$, 1H), 8.35 – 8.44 (m, 1H), 8.48 – 8.60 (m, 2H), 8.65 – 8.73 (m, 1H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (75 MHz, DMSO-d_6):

δ (ppm) = 31.3, 33.4, 56.1, 57.4, 109.0, 110.4, 111.2, 113.4, 120.2, 120.3, 120.6, 123.3, 124.9, 125.3, 128.7, 133.4, 134.3, 137.4, 138.1, 140.8, 141.3, 153.6, 158.0.

MS (FAB) m/z (%): 373.3 (87) [M^+], 136.1 (75).

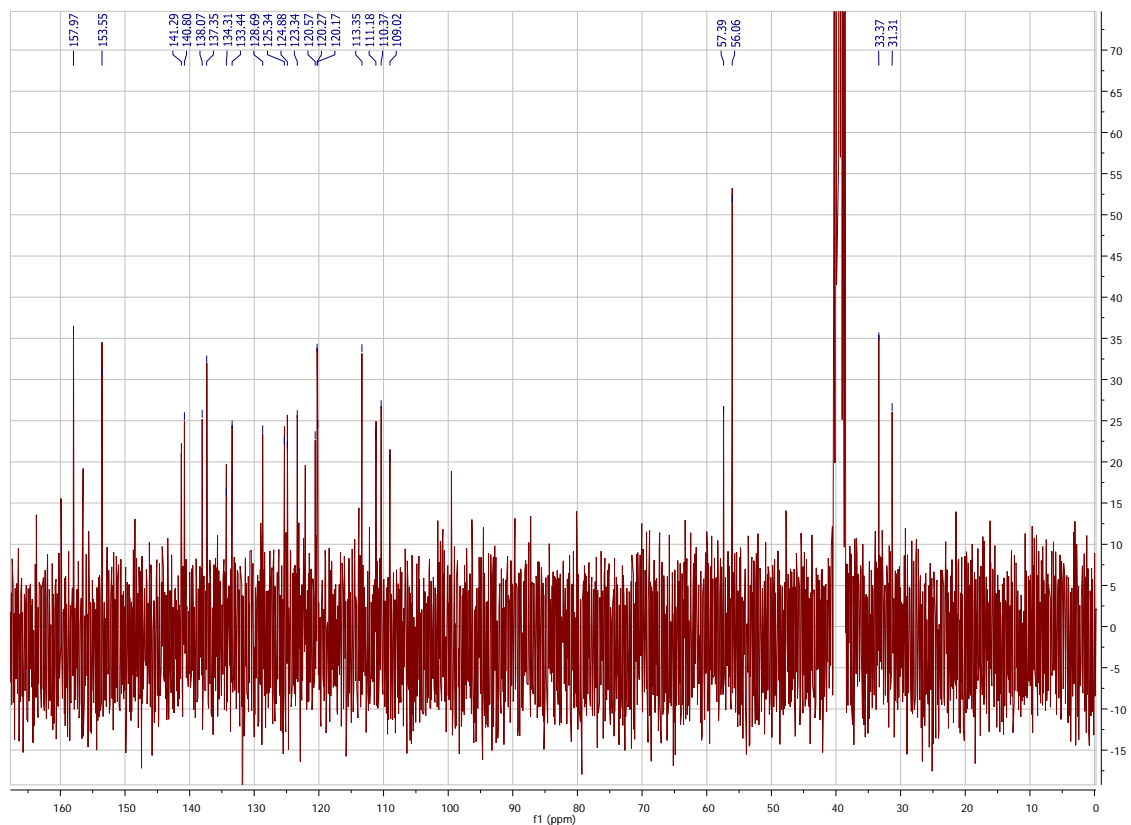
HR-MS (FAB) m/z : calculated for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ [M^+]: 373.1911, found: 373.1912.



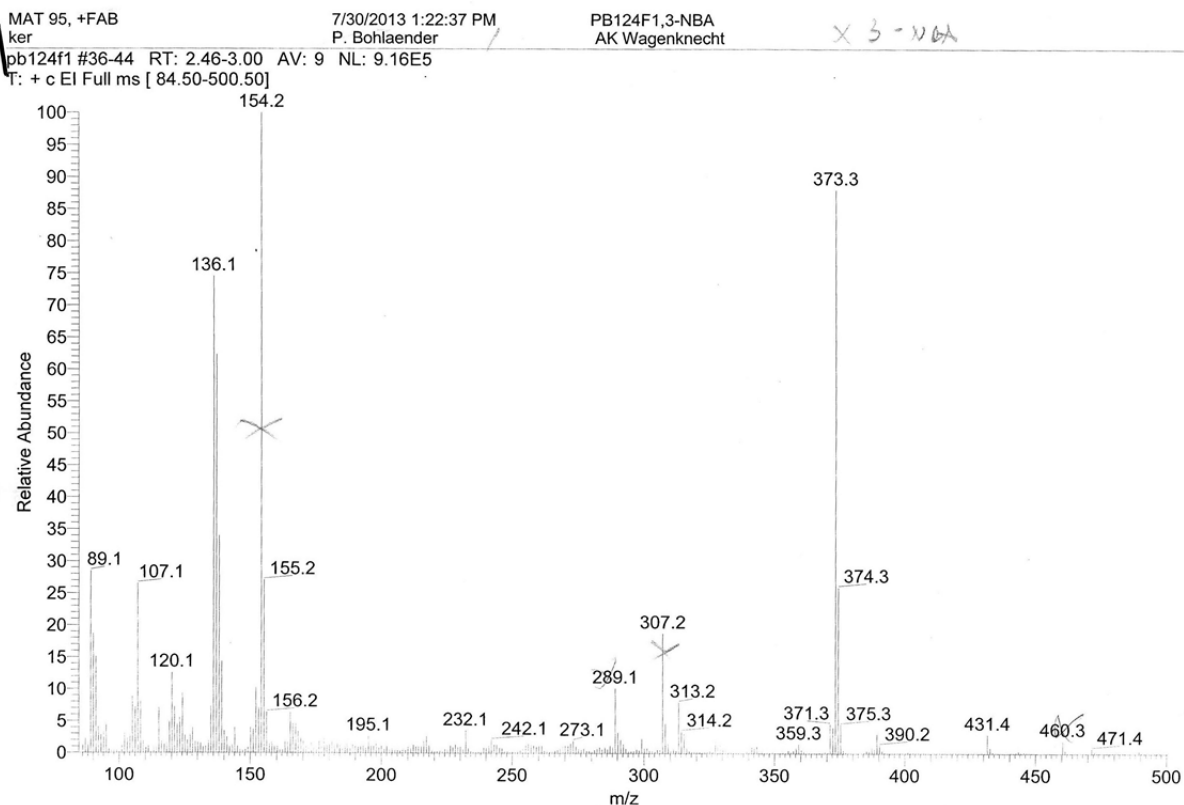
Scheme S63: IR of dye 6.



Scheme S64: $^1\text{H-NMR}$ of dye 6.



Scheme S65: $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ of dye 6.



Scheme S66: MS (FAB) of dye 6.

pb124f1-c2#36 RT: 2.46
 T: + c EI Full ms [84.42-500.42]
 m/z= 372.6764-373.7094

m/z	Intensity	Relative	Theo. Mass	Delta (mmu)	Composition
373.1912	1119868.0	100.00	373.1911	0.10	C ₂₄ H ₂₅ O ₂ N ₂

Scheme S67: HR-MS (FAB) of dye 6.

Substanzbezeichnung: PB 124 F1

Summenformel: C₂₄ H₂₅ N₂ O₂

Berechnet: N: 5,60% C: 57,61% H: 5,01% S: 0,640% I: 25,36%

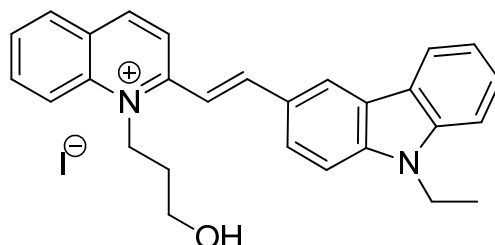
Gefunden: N: 5,40 C: 57,13 H: 5,00 S:

Gefunden: N: 5,48 C: 57,10 H: 4,99 S:

Scheme S68: Elementary analysis of dye 6.

4.14 Synthesis of dye 7:

(E)-2-(2-(9-ethyl-9H-carbazol-3-yl)vinyl)-1-(3-hydroxypropyl)quinolin-1-ium iodide



Under argon, to a solution of **18** (0.33 g, 1.0 mmol) and 9-ethyl-3-carbazolecarboxaldehyde (**24**) (0.67 g, 3.0 mmol) in 13 mL ethanol piperidine (0.38 g, 0.44 mL, 4.4 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred in a headspace vial at 80°C for 19 h. The mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with 5 mL diethyl ether and after precipitation the product was collected and washed three times with diethyl ether. A second product fraction can be obtained from the mother liquor. The product was dried under reduced pressure and yielded as a dark orange solid (59 %).

TLC (2-butanol : water : acetic acid = 80 : 15 : 5): R_f = 0.26.

IR (DRIFT): $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹) = 3275 (m), 1583 (s), 1568 (s), 1523 (w), 1379 (m), 1301 (w), 1056 (m).

¹H-NMR (500MHz; DMSO-d₆):

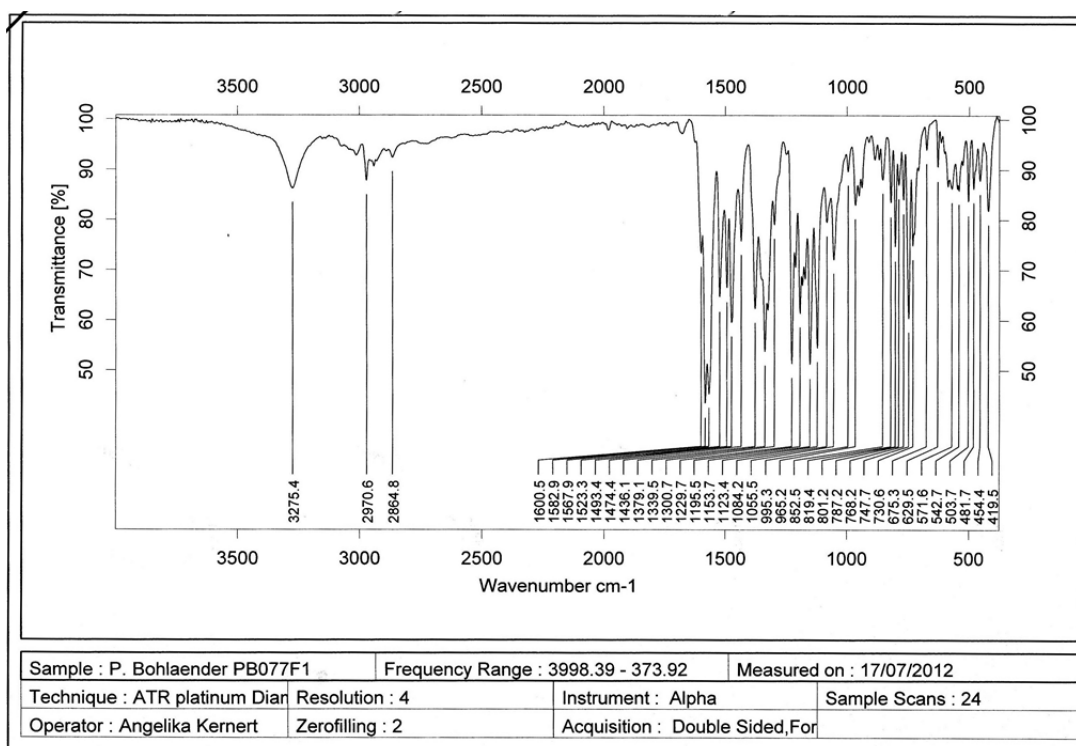
δ (ppm) = 1.35 (t, J = 7.2, 3H), 2.21 (t, J = 7.5, 2H), 3.76 (q, J = 5.1, 2H), 4.50 (q, J = 7.1, 2H), 5.13 (t, J = 8.0, 2H), 5.30 (t, J = 4.7, 1H), 7.32 (t, J = 7.4, 1H), 7.54 (t, J = 7.7, 1H), 7.68 (d, J = 8.2, 1H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.5, 1H), 7.90 (t, J = 7.5, 1H), 7.97 (d, J = 15.6, 1H), 8.05 – 8.10 (m, 1H), 8.14 (t, J = 7.9, 1H), 8.22 (d, J = 7.7, 1H), 8.30 (d, J = 8.0, 1H), 8.49 – 8.57 (m, 2H), 8.63 (d, J = 9.1, 1H), 8.78 (s, 1H), 8.96 (d, J = 8.9, 1H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (125 MHz, DMSO- d_6):

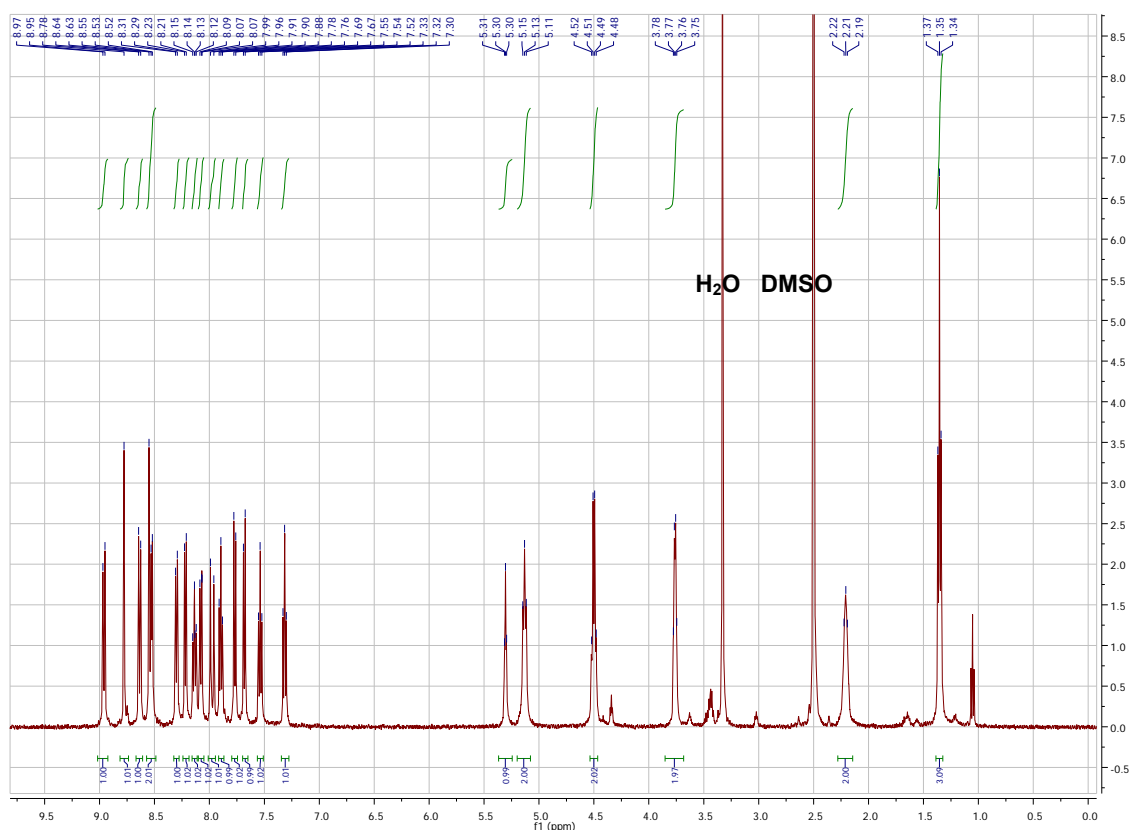
δ (ppm) = 14.3, 32.1, 37.8, 48.7, 58.0, 110.4, 110.5, 115.1, 119.2, 120.5, 121.1, 122.6, 122.8, 123.3, 126.6, 127.2, 128.1, 128.2, 129.0, 130.7, 135.2, 138.9, 140.7, 142.2, 143.8, 150.0, 156.2.

MS (FAB) m/z (%): 407.1 (13) $[\text{M}^+]$, 137.5 (61).

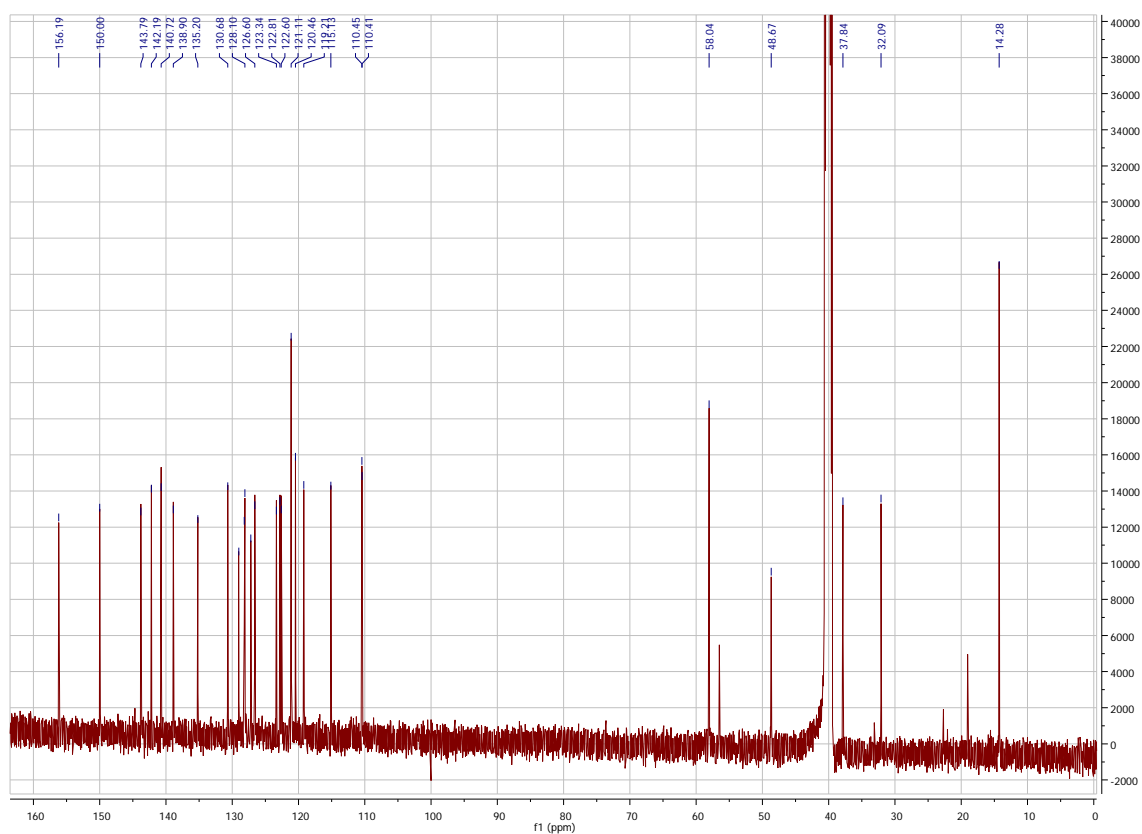
HR-MS (FAB) m/z : calculated for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{27}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ $[\text{M}^+]$: 407.2123, found: 407.2126.



Scheme S69: IR of dye 7.

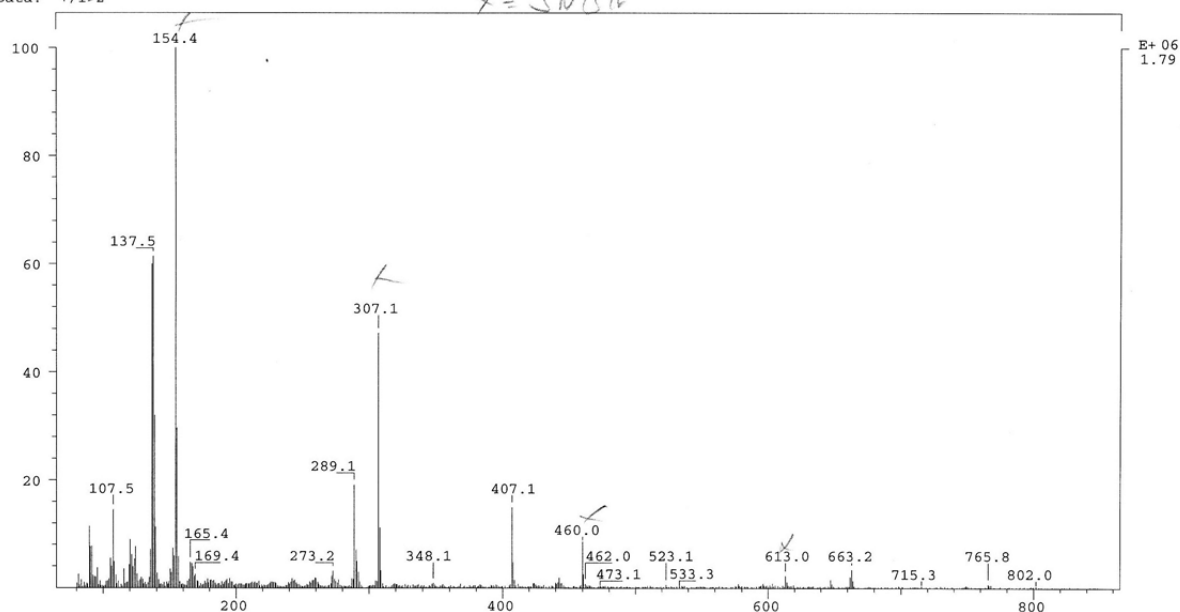


Scheme S70: $^1\text{H-NMR}$ of dye 7.



Scheme S71: $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ of dye 7.

SPEC: pb077 14-Sep-12 REG : 00:15.5 #9
 Samp: PB077,3-NBA Start : 11:01:25 20
 Comm: MAT 95, +FAB
 Mode: EI +VE +LMR BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM Study : P. Bohlaender
 Oper: Ro Client: AK Wagenknecht Inlet :
 Base: 154.4 Inten : 1785881 Masses: 80 > 850
 Norm: 154.4 RIC : 15469392 #peaks: 636
 Peak: 1000.00 mmu
 Data: +/-1>2



Scheme S72: MS (FAB) of dye 7.

LIST: pb077-c1 14-Sep-12 Elapse: 01:51.6 19
 Samp: PB077,3-NBA Start : 11:01:25 20
 Comm: MAT 95, +FAB
 Mode: EI +VE +LMR BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM Study : P. Bohlaender
 Oper: Ro Client: AK Wagenknecht Inlet :
 Limt: (28) C 2.H 4. .
 : (407) C28.H27.O.N2
 Peak: 1000.00 mmu R+D: -0.5 > 65.0
 Data: CMASS : converted

Mass	Intensity	%RA	Flags	Delta	R+D	Composition
407.2126	1113798	9.42	F#	-0.2	16.5	C28.H27.O.N2

Scheme S73: HR-MS (FAB) of dye 7.

Summenformel: $C_{28}H_{27}N_2O$

Berechnet: N: 5,24% C: 62,33% H: 5,05% S: O: 2,33% I: 23,95%

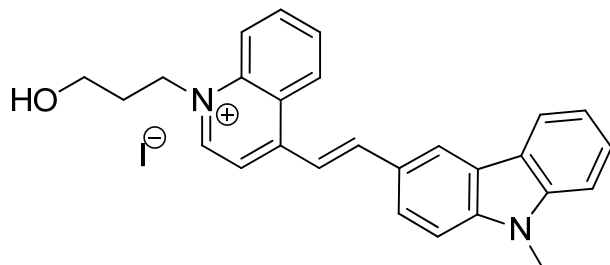
Gefunden: N: 4,94 C: 62,42 H: 5,21 S:

Gefunden: N: 5,12 C: 62,53 H: 5,21 S:

Scheme S74: Elementary analysis of dye 7.

4.15 Synthesis of dye 8:

(E)-4-(2-(9-ethyl-9H-carbazol-3-yl)vinyl)-1-(3-hydroxypropyl)quinolin-1-ium iodide



Under argon, to a solution of **26** (0.33 g, 1.0 mmol) and 9-ethyl-3-carbazolecarboxaldehyde (**24**) (0.67 g, 3.0 mmol) in 13 mL ethanol piperidine (0.38 g, 0.44 mL, 4.4 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred in a headspace vial at 80°C for 20 minutes. The mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with 30 mL diethyl ether and after precipitation the product was collected and washed three times with diethyl ether. The product was dried under reduced pressure and yielded as a dark red solid (89 %).

TLC (2-butanol : water : acetic acid = 80 : 15 : 5): $R_f = 0.21$.

IR (DRIFT): $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹) = 3335 (s), 1563 (m), 1530 (m), 1346 (w), 1328 (w), 1079 (m), 1048 (m).

¹H-NMR (500MHz; DMSO-d₆):

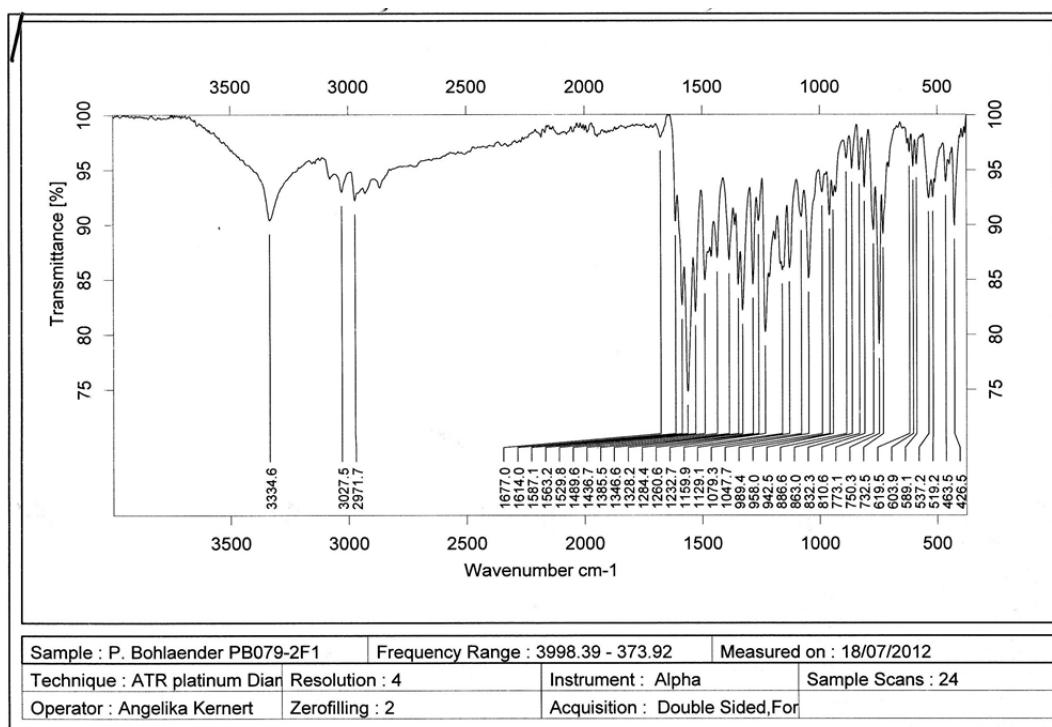
δ (ppm) = 1.36 (t, $J = 7.1$, 3H), 2.13 (t, $J = 6.8$, 2H), 3.56 (t, $J = 5.8$, 2H), 4.51 (q, $J = 7.1$, 2H), 4.82 (s, 1H), 5.00 (t, $J = 7.2$, 2H), 7.31 (t, $J = 7.4$, 1H), 7.53 (t, $J = 7.6$, 1H), 7.68 (d, $J = 8.1$, 1H), 7.76 (d, $J = 8.5$, 1H), 8.04 (t, $J = 7.7$, 1H), 8.13 (dd, $J = 8.6$, 1.8, 1H), 8.25 (dd, $J = 8.5$, 6.3, 2H), 8.35 (d, $J = 15.7$, 1H), 8.44 (d, $J = 15.8$, 1H), 8.49 (d, $J = 7.7$, 2H), 8.88 (s, 1H), 9.14 (d, $J = 8.5$, 1H), 9.28 (d, $J = 6.6$, 1H).

¹³C-NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d₆):

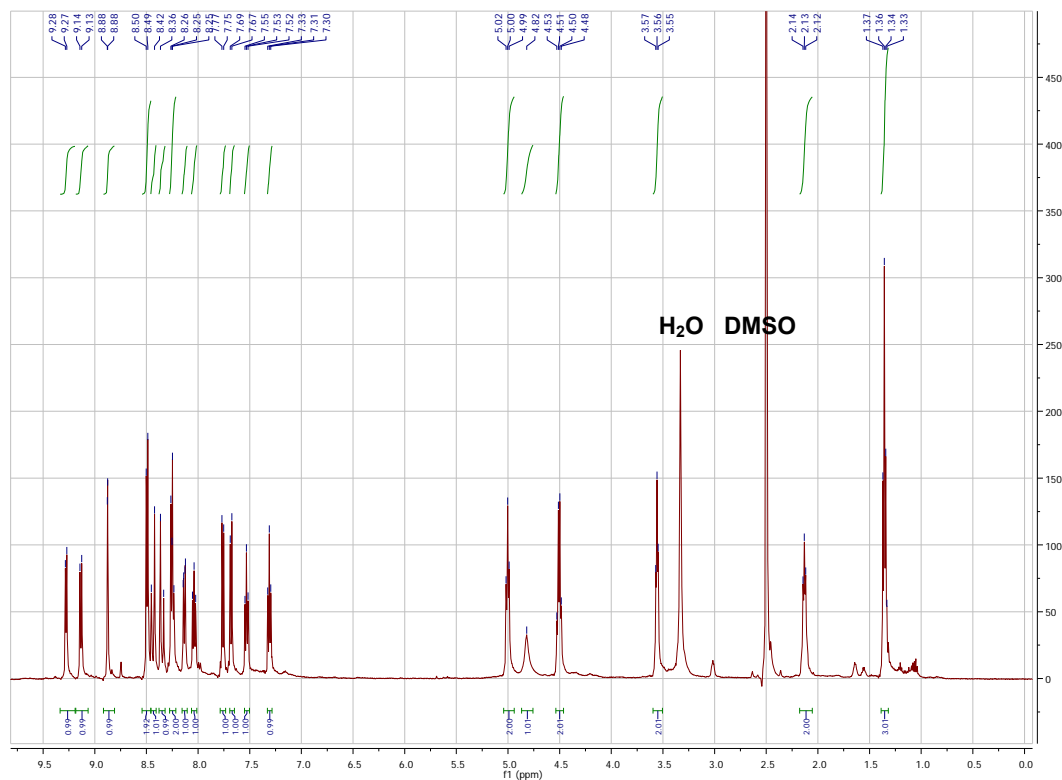
δ (ppm) = 14.3, 32.5, 37.8, 54.6, 58.0, 110.3, 110.5, 115.7, 116.7, 119.5, 120.3, 121.1, 122.4, 122.8, 123.4, 127.0, 127.2, 127.3, 128.1, 129.3, 135.4, 138.4, 140.7, 141.8, 145.6, 147.7, 153.7.

MS (FAB) m/z (%): 407.0 (72) [M+], 137.4 (100).

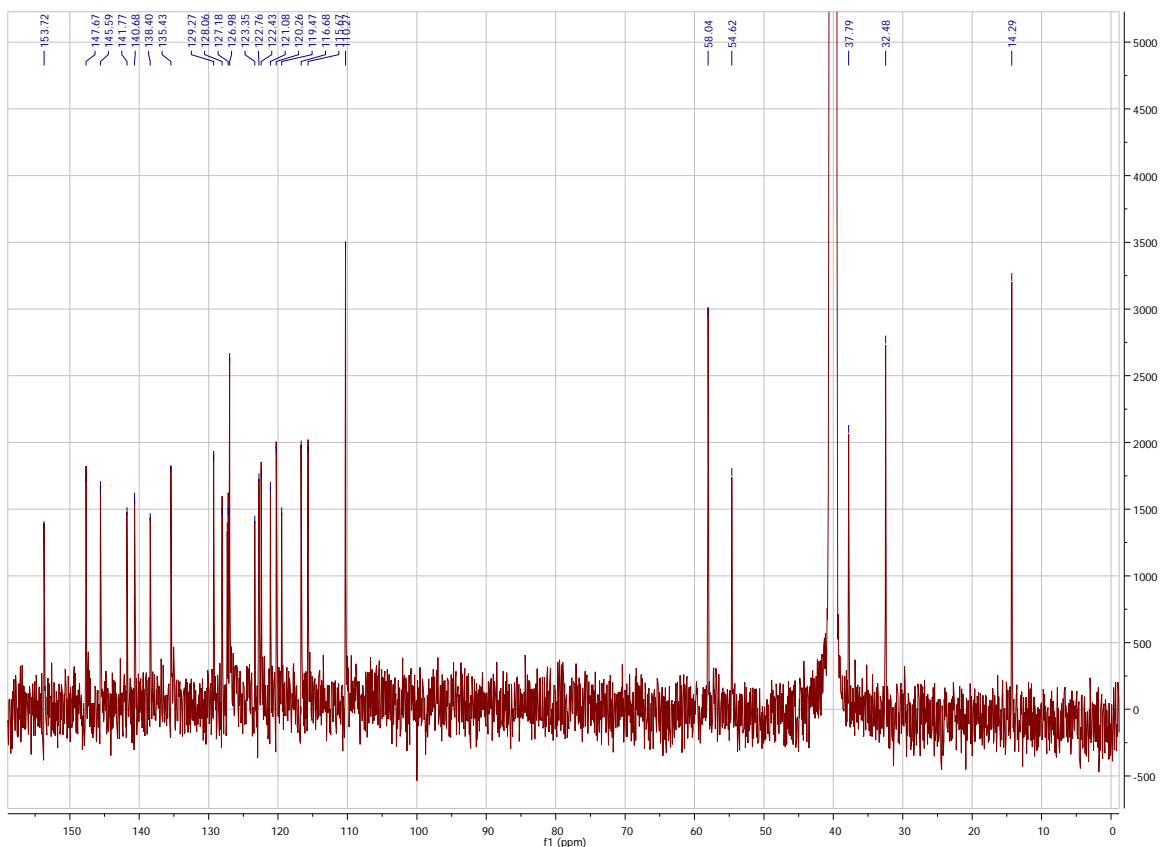
HR-MS (FAB) m/z: calculated for C₂₈H₂₇N₂O [M+]: 407.2123, found: 407.2121.



Scheme S75: IR of dye **8**.

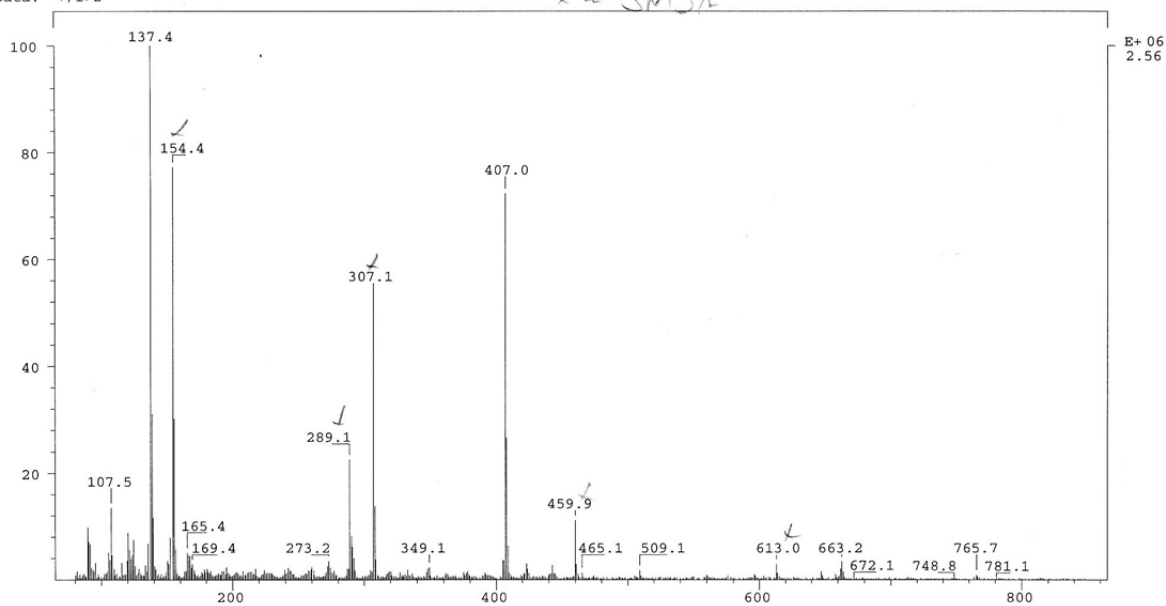


Scheme S76: ¹H-NMR of dye **8**.



Scheme S77: ^{13}C -NMR of dye 8.

SPEC: pb079 14-Sep-12 REG : 00:12.1 #9
Samp: PB079,3-NBA Start : 11:40:10 20
Comm: MAT 95, +FAB
Mode: EI +VE +LMR BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM Study : P. Bohlaender
Oper: Ro Client: AK Wagenknecht Inlet :
Base: 137.4 Inten: 2557095 Masses: 80 > 850
Norm: 137.4 RIC : 27562626 #peaks: 712
Peak: 1000.00 mmu
Data: +/1>2



Scheme S78: MS (FAB) of dye 8.

LIST: pb079-c7 14-Sep-12 Elapse: 00:38.8 6
Samp: PB079,3-NBA Start : 11:40:10 20
Comm: MAT 95, +FAB
Mode: EI +VE +LMR BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM Study : P. Bohlaender
Oper: Ro Client: AK Wagenknecht Inlet :
Limt: (28) C 2.H 4. .
: (407) C28.H27.O.N2
Peak: 1000.00 mmu R+D: -0.5 > 65.0
Data: CMASS : converted

Mass	Intensity	%RA	Flags	Delta	R+D	Composition
407.2121	6470478	48.12	F#	0.2	16.5	C28.H27.O.N2

Scheme S79: HR-MS (FAB) of dye **8**.

Summenformel: $C_{28}H_{27}NO$

Berechnet: N: 5,24% C: 62,32% H: 5,03% S: 0: 2,38% I: 23,95%

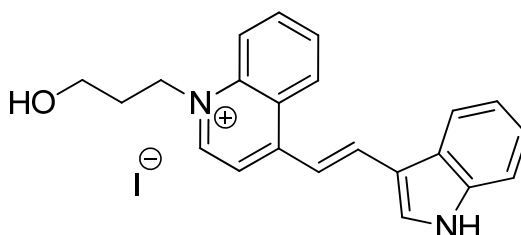
Gefunden: N: 5,18 C: 62,00 H: 5,27 S:

Gefunden: N: 5,13 C: 62,03 H: 5,25 S:

Scheme S80: Elementary analysis of dye **8**.

4.16 Synthesis of dye **9**:

(E)-4-(2-(1H-indol-3-yl)vinyl)-1-(3-hydroxypropyl)quinolin-1-ium iodide



Under argon, to a solution of **26** (0.33 g, 1.0 mmol) and **22** (0.44 g, 3.0 mmol) in 13 mL ethanol piperidine (0.19 g, 0.22 mL, 2.2 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred in a headspace vial at 80°C for 19 h. After cooling to room temperature and precipitation the product was collected and washed three times with diethyl ether. A second product fraction can be obtained from the mother liquor. The product was dried under reduced pressure and yielded as a red solid (87 %).

TLC (2-butanol : water : acetic acid = 80 : 15 : 5): $R_f = 0.18$.

IR (DRIFT): $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm^{-1}) = 3372 (m), 1584 (s), 1554 (s), 1510 (m), 1397 (m), 1311 (w), 1048 (w).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (300MHz; DMSO-d_6):

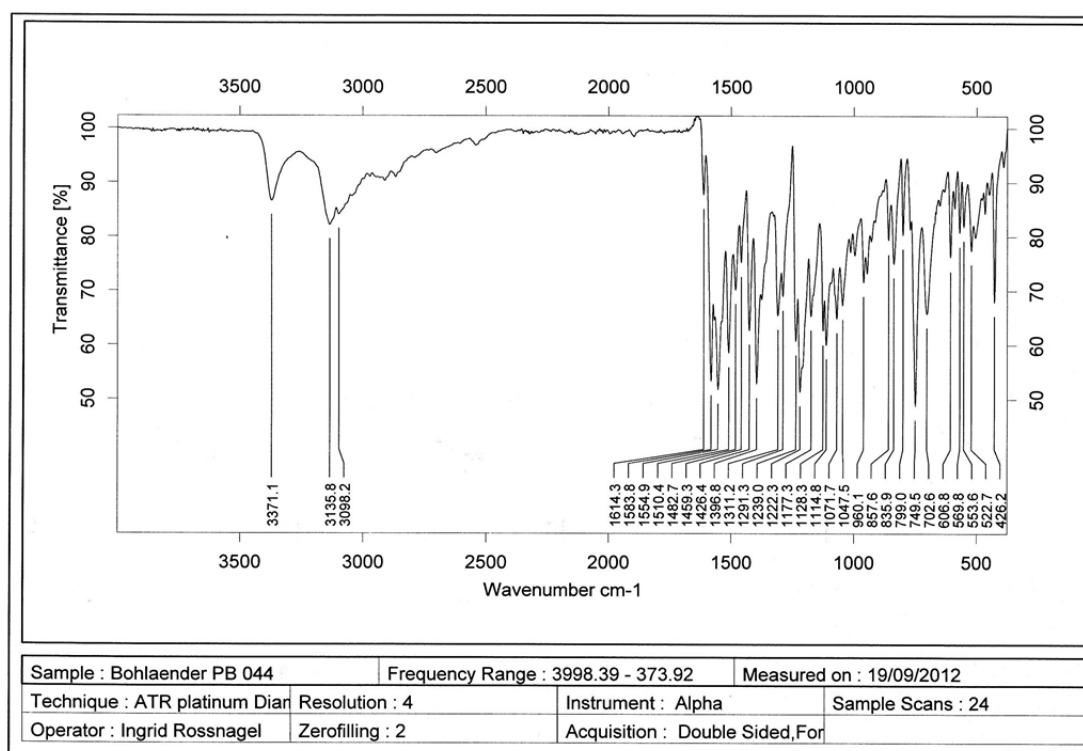
δ (ppm) = 2.10 (t, $J = 6.5$, 2H), 3.48 – 3.65 (m, 2H), 4.63 – 4.87 (m, 1H), 4.93 (t, $J = 7.1$, 2H), 7.24 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.50 – 7.61 (m, 1H), 7.93 – 8.07 (m, 2H), 8.15 – 8.30 (m, 2H), 8.33 – 8.48 (m, 3H), 8.59 (d, $J = 15.6$, 1H), 8.98 (d, $J = 8.6$, 1H), 9.11 (d, $J = 6.8$, 1H), 12.14 (s, 1H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (75 MHz, DMSO-d_6):

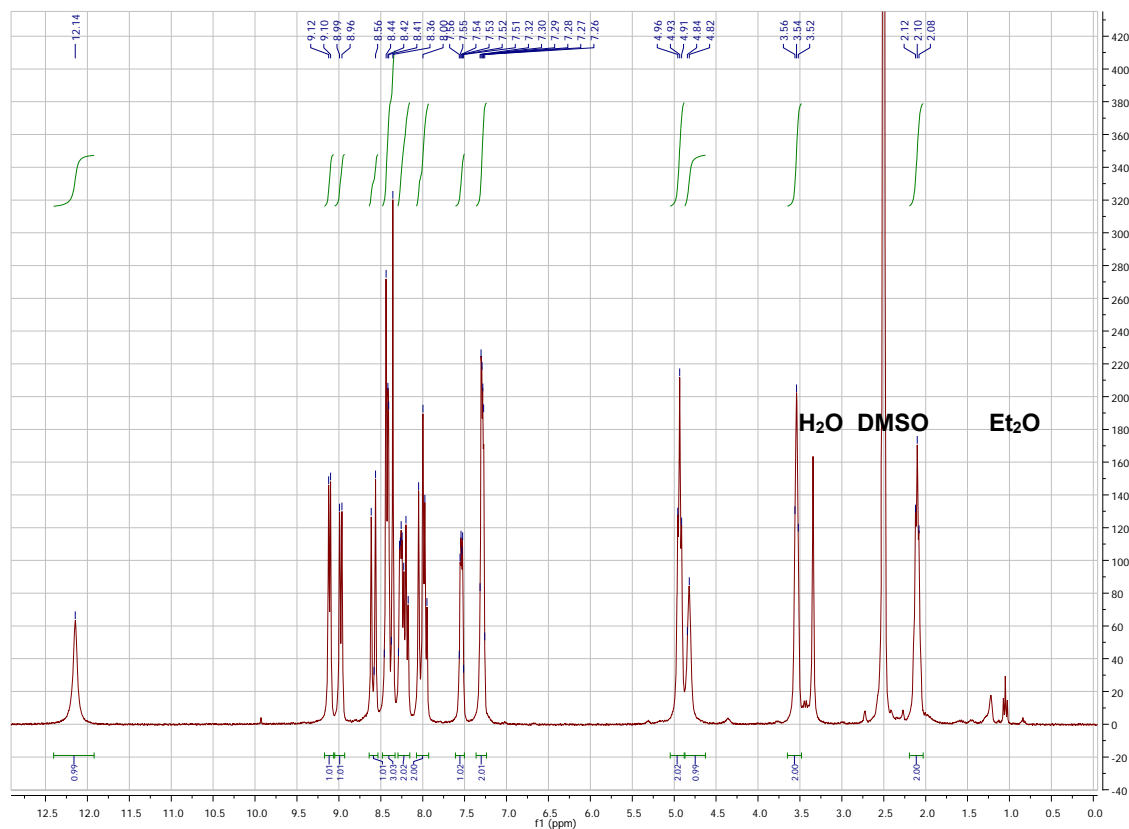
δ (ppm) = 31.9, 53.5, 57.5, 99.5, 112.7, 113.5, 114.6, 118.8, 120.3, 121.5, 123.1, 125.4, 125.7, 126.5, 128.4, 133.0, 134.6, 137.4, 137.9, 138.7, 146.2, 153.7.

MS (FAB) m/z (%): 329.2 (10) $[\text{M}^+]$, 137.5 (53).

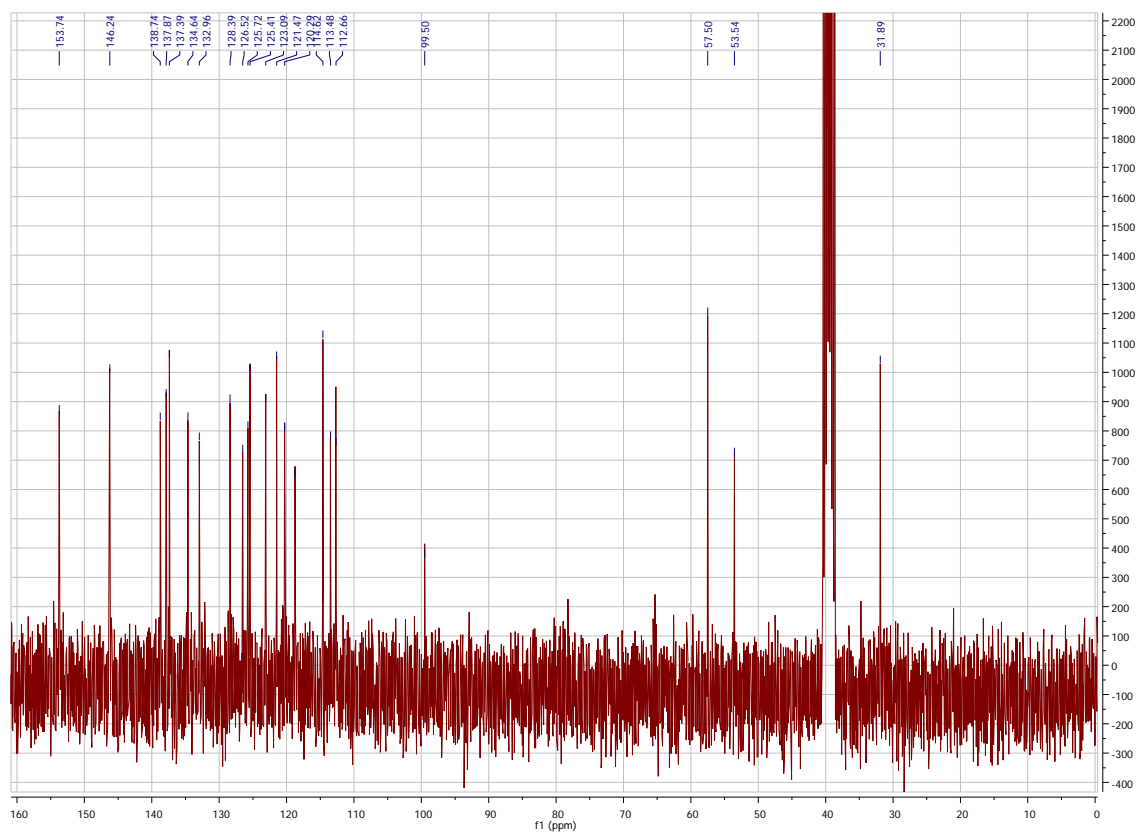
HR-MS (FAB) m/z : calculated for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ $[\text{M}^+]$: 329.1654, found: 329.1652.



Scheme S81: IR of dye 9.

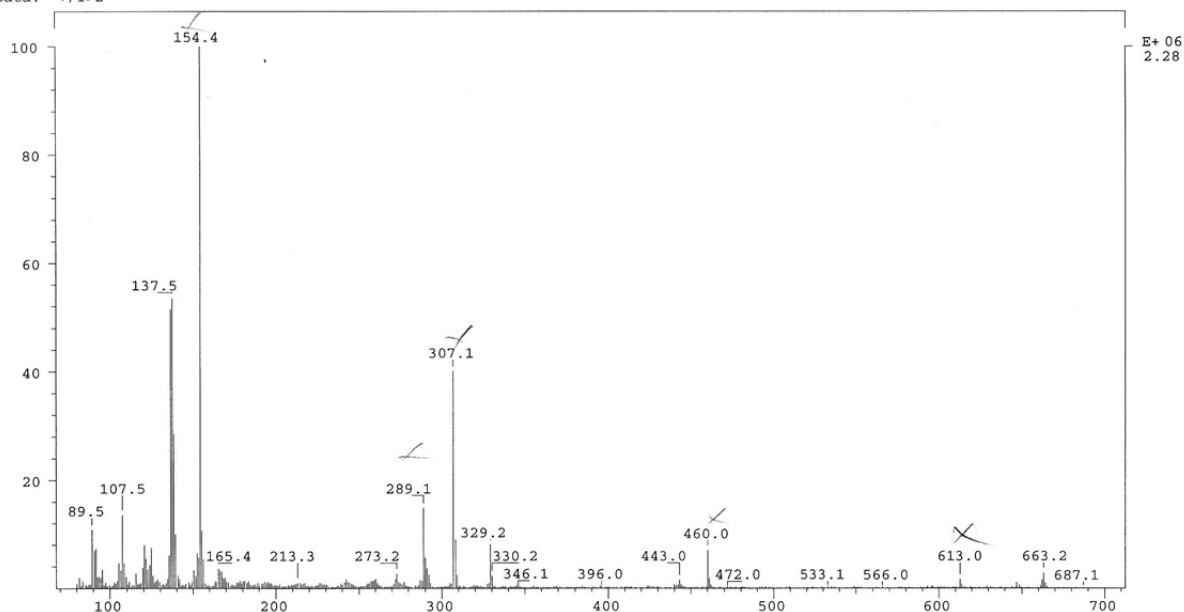


Scheme S82: $^1\text{H-NMR}$ of dye **9**.



Scheme S83: $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ of dye **9**.

SPEC: pb044 14-Sep-12 REG : 00:10.4 #9
 Samp: PB044,3-NBA Start : 10:37:38 22
 Comm: MAT 95, +FAB
 Mode: EI +VE +LMR BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM Study : P. Bohlaender
 Oper: Ro Client: AK Wagenknecht Inlet :
 Base: 154.4 Inten : 2281982 Masses: 80 > 700
 Norm: 154.4 RIC : 15719480 #peaks: 543
 Peak: 1000.00 mmu
 Data: +/->2



Scheme S84: MS (FAB) of dye 9.

LIST: pb044-c1 14-Sep-12 Elapse: 01:43.9 20
 Samp: PB044,3-NBA Start : 10:37:38 22
 Comm: MAT 95, +FAB
 Mode: EI +VE +LMR BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM Study : P. Bohlaender
 Oper: Ro Client: AK Wagenknecht Inlet :
 Limt: (28) C 2.H 4.
 : (329) C22.H21.O.N2
 Peak: 1000.00 mmu R+D: -0.5 > 65.0
 Data: CMASS : converted

Mass	Intensity	%RA	Flags	Delta	R+D	Composition
306692						(mmu)
329.1652	834913	13.61	#	0.2	13.5	C22.H21.O.N2

Scheme S85: HR-MS (FAB) of dye 9.

Summenformel: $C_{22}H_{21}N_2O$

Berechnet: N: 6,14% C: 57,81% H: 4,64% S: 0,351% I: 22,81%

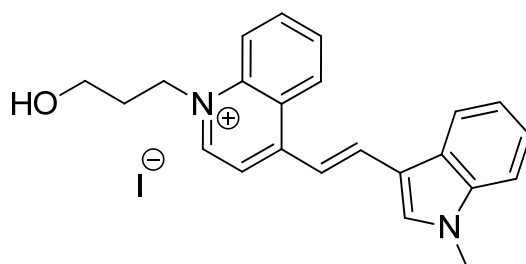
Gefunden: N: 6,12 C: 57,64 H: 4,68 S:

Gefunden: N: 5,99 C: 57,66 H: 4,67 S:

Scheme S86: Elementary analysis of dye 9.

4.17 Synthesis of dye 10:

(E)-1-(3-hydroxypropyl)-4-(2-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)vinyl)quinolin-1-ium iodide



Under argon, to a solution of **26** (0.33 g, 1.0 mmol) and **23** (0.34 g, 2.1 mmol) in 13 mL ethanol piperidine (0.19 g, 0.22 mL, 2.2 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred in a headspace vial at 80°C for 19 h. After cooling to room temperature and precipitation the product was collected and washed three times with diethyl ether. The product was dried under reduced pressure and yielded as a dark red solid (83 %).

TLC (2-butanol : water : acetic acid = 80 : 15 : 5): R_f = 0.29.

IR (DRIFT): $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹) = 3362 (m), 1585 (s), 1561 (m), 1519 (s), 1299 (w), 1225 (w), 1077 (m).

¹H-NMR (300MHz; DMSO-d₆):

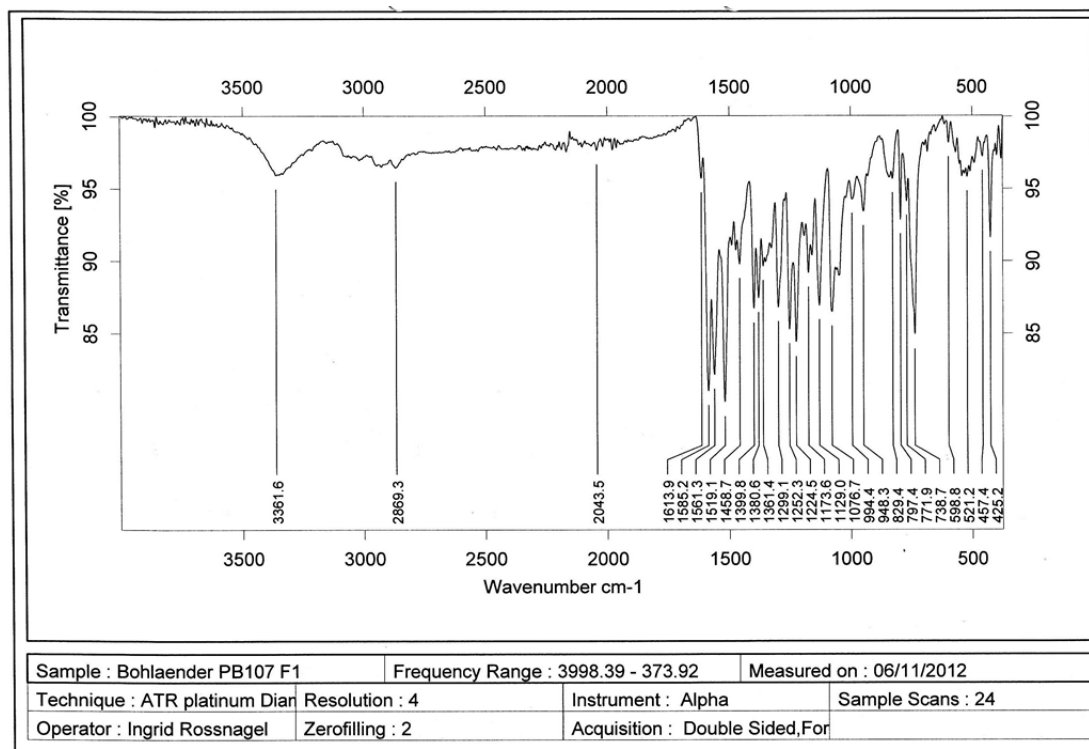
δ (ppm) = 2.09 (t, J = 6.6, 2H), 3.53 (q, J = 5.2, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 4.83 (t, J = 4.8, 1H), 4.92 (t, J = 7.0, 2H), 7.29 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.56 – 7.64 (m, 1H), 7.92 – 7.97 (m, 1H), 7.97 – 8.05 (m, 1H), 8.19 (t, J = 7.9, 1H), 8.23 – 8.29 (m, 1H), 8.33 (s, 1H), 8.37 – 8.45 (m, 2H), 8.54 (d, J = 15.7, 1H), 8.94 (d, J = 8.4, 1H), 9.08 (d, J = 6.6, 1H).

¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆):

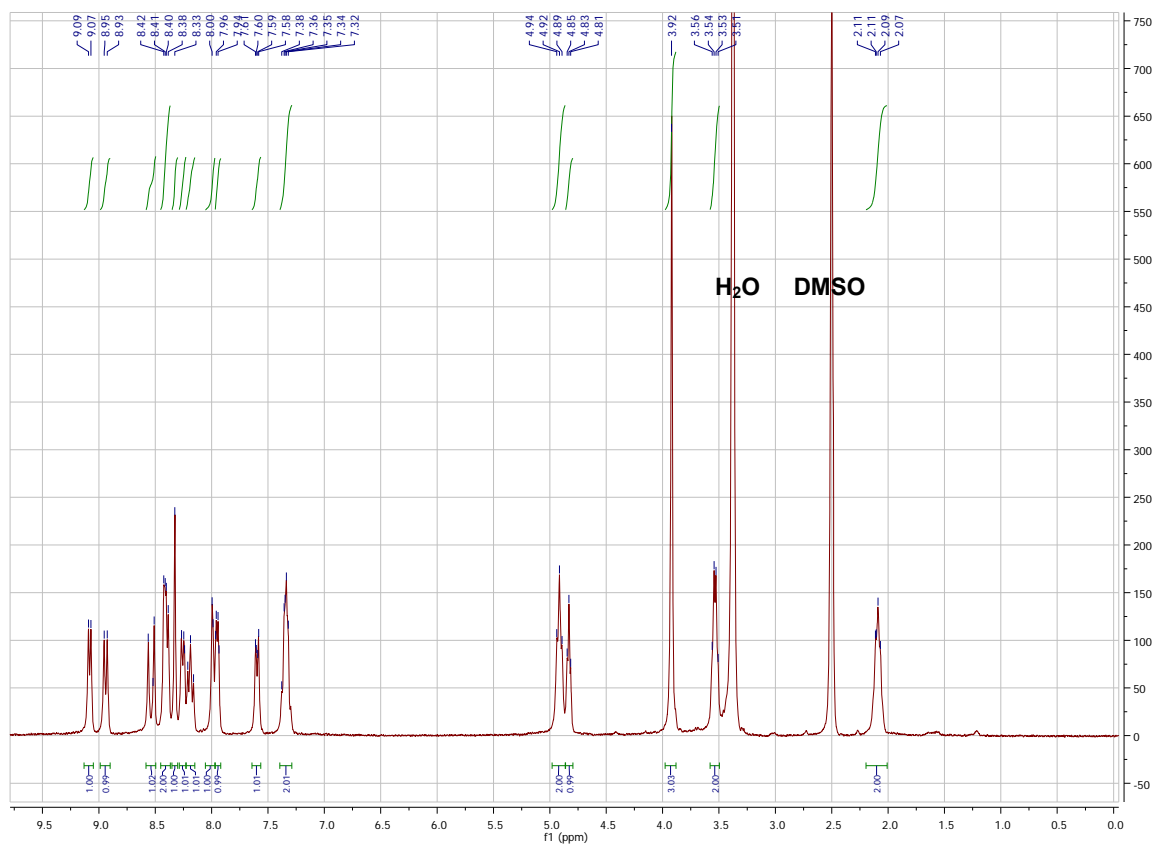
δ (ppm) = 31.9, 33.4, 53.5, 57.5, 111.1, 112.6, 113.4, 113.6, 118.7, 120.4, 121.8, 123.1, 125.7, 125.8, 126.4, 128.3, 134.6, 136.2, 137.8, 137.9, 138.1, 146.1, 153.5.

MS (FAB) m/z (%): 343.2 (100) [M⁺], 136.5 (27).

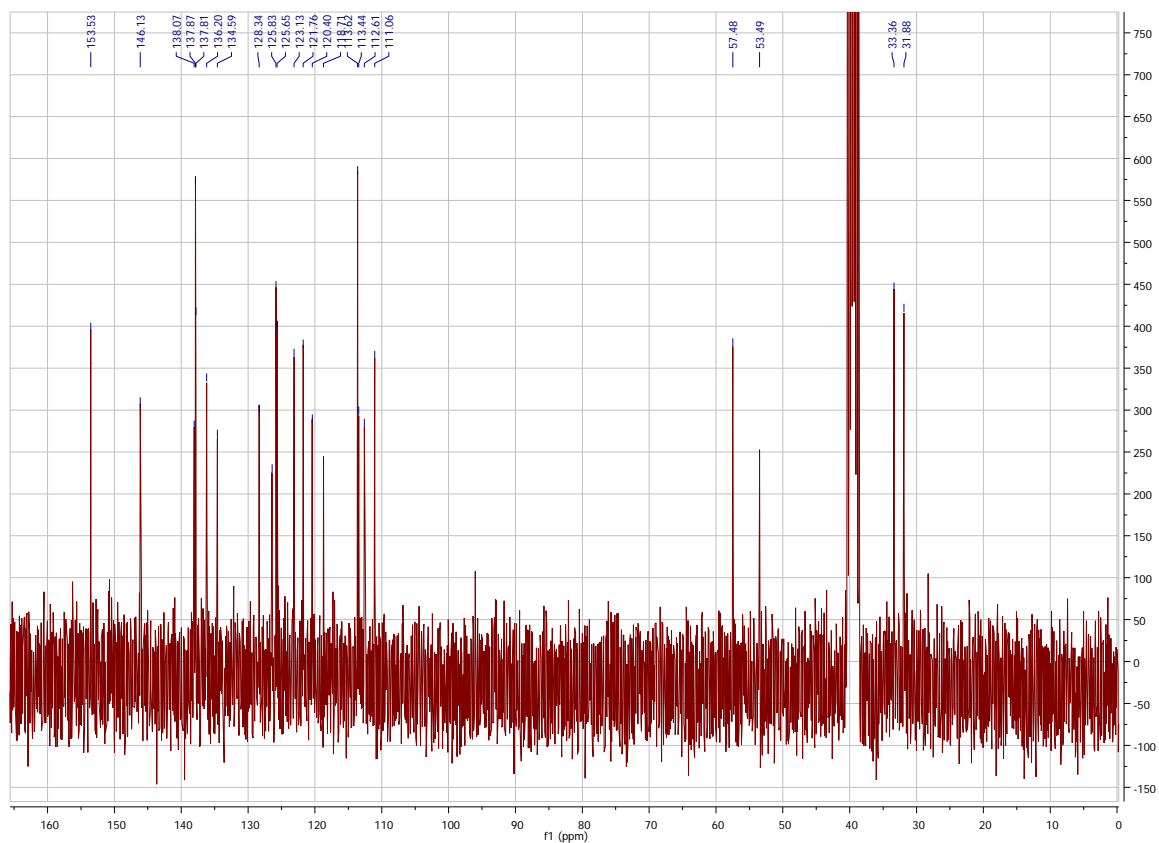
HR-MS (FAB) m/z : calculated for C₂₃H₂₃N₂O [M⁺]: 343.1810, found: 343.1808.



Scheme S87: IR of dye 10.



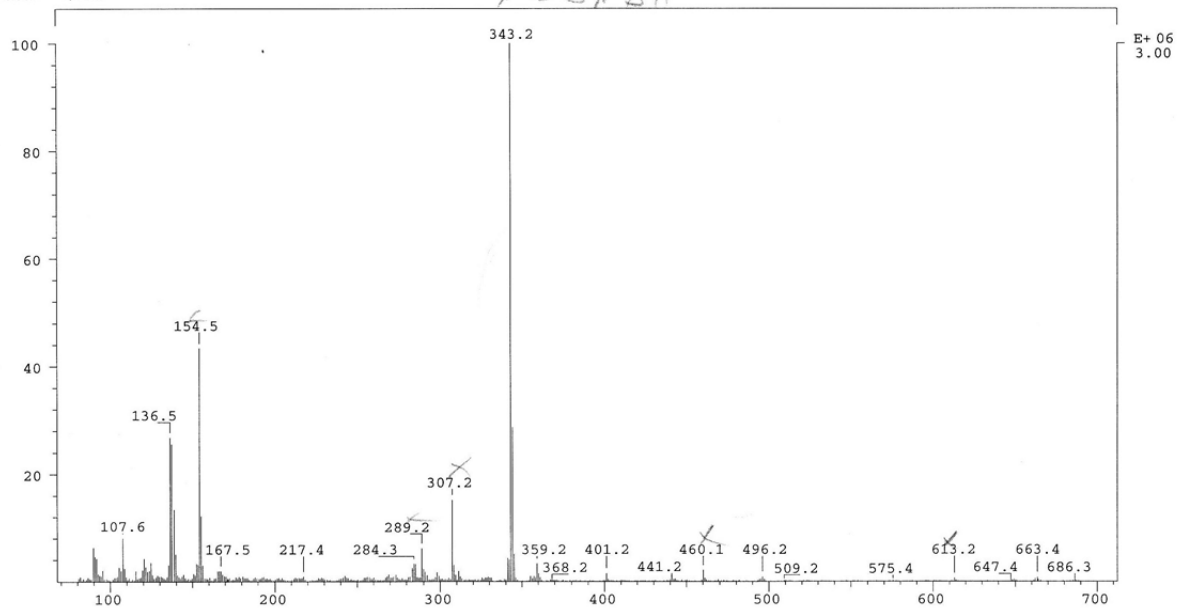
Scheme S88: ¹H-NMR of dye 10.



Scheme S89: ^{13}C -NMR of dye 10.

SPEC: pb107f1 05-Nov-12 REG : 00:37.7 #9
Samp: PB 107 F1 / 3NBA Start : 15:02:08 27
Comm: MAT 95, +FAB
Mode: EI +VE +LMR BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM Study: Bohlaender
Oper: Ro Client: AK Wagenknecht Inlet :
Base: 343.2 Inten : 2997696 Masses: 80 > 700
Norm: 343.2 RIC : 16091492 #peaks: 542
Peak: 1000.00 mmu
Data: +/6.7

y = 31/34



Scheme S90: MS (FAB) of dye 10.

LIST: pb107f1-c5 05-Nov-12 Elapse: 00:52.5 9
Samp: PB 107 F1 /3NBA Start : 15:02:08 27
Comm: MAT 95, +FAB
Mode: EI +VE +LMR BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM Study : Bohlaender
Oper: Ro Client: AK Wagenknecht Inlet :
Limt: (28) C 2.H 4. .
: (343) C23.H23.O.N2
Peak: 1000.00 mmu R+D: -0.5 > 65.0
Data: CMASS : converted

Mass	Intensity	%RA	Flags	Delta	R+D	Composition
343.1808	4100825	100.00	F#	0.2	13.5	C23.H23.O.N2

Scheme S91: HR-MS (FAB) of dye **10**.

Summenformel: $C_{23}H_{23}IN_2O$

Berechnet: N: 5,36% C: 57,72% H: 4,35% S: 0,340% I: 20,52%

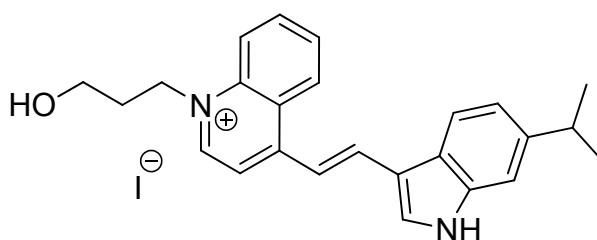
Gefunden: N: 5,83 C: 57,76 H: 5,07 S:

Gefunden: N: 5,71 C: 57,69 H: 5,03 S:

Scheme S92: Elementary analysis of dye **10**.

4.18 Synthesis of dye **11**:

(E)-1-(3-hydroxypropyl)-4-(2-(6-isopropyl-1H-indol-3-yl)vinyl)quinolin-1-ium iodide



Under argon, to a solution of **26** (0.33 g, 1.0 mmol) and 6-isopropylindole-3-carboxaldehyde (**27**) (0.37 g, 2.0 mmol) in 10 mL ethanol piperidine (0.19 g, 0.22 mL, 2.2 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred in a headspace vial at 80°C for 3 h. After cooling to room temperature and precipitation the product was collected and washed three times with diethyl ether. The product was dried under reduced pressure and yielded as a black red solid (67 %).

TLC (2-butanol : water : acetic acid = 80 : 15 : 5): $R_f = 0.21$.

IR (DRIFT): $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm^{-1}) = 2953 (w), 2864 (w), 1583 (s), 1556 (s), 1516 (m), 1397 (m), 1218 (m), 1044 (w).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (300MHz; DMSO-d_6):

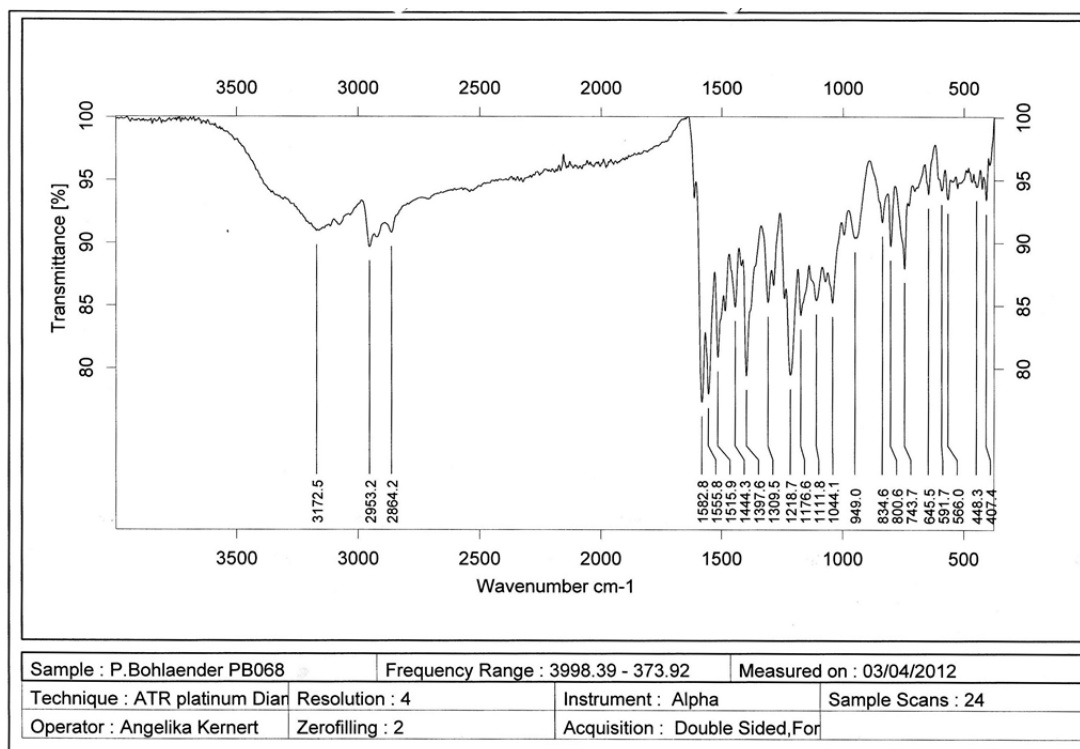
δ (ppm) = 1.27 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 2.02 – 2.18 (m, 2H), 3.03 (q, $J = 6.8$, 1H), 3.48 – 3.61 (m, 2H), 4.82 (t, $J = 4.8$, 1H), 4.93 (t, $J = 7.2$, 2H), 7.20 (d, $J = 8.4$, 1H), 7.36 (s, 1H), 7.92 – 8.07 (m, 2H), 8.11 – 8.24 (m, 2H), 8.28 (s, 1H), 8.37 – 8.48 (m, 2H), 8.56 (d, $J = 15.4$, 1H), 8.96 (d, $J = 8.7$, 1H), 9.09 (d, $J = 6.8$, 1H), 12.05 (s, 1H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (75 MHz, DMSO-d_6):

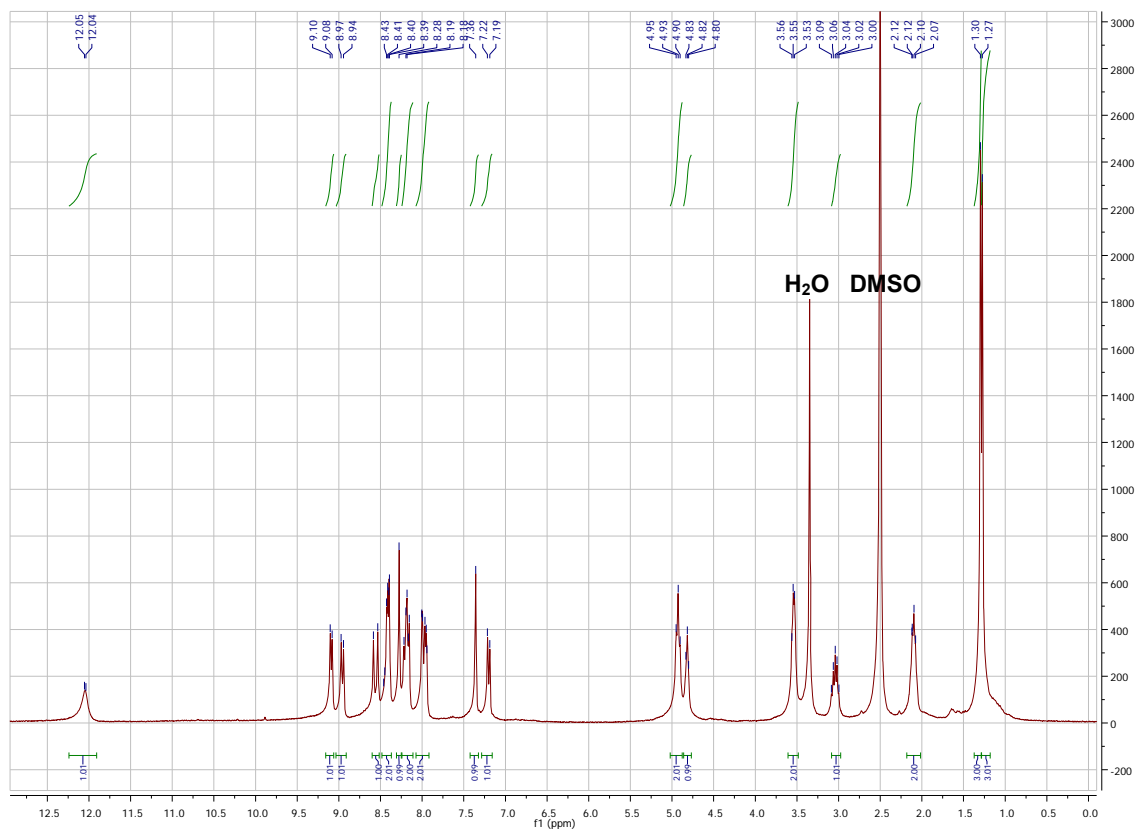
δ (ppm) = 24.3, 31.9, 33.5, 53.5, 57.5, 109.6, 112.4, 113.3, 114.6, 118.7, 120.2, 120.7, 123.5, 125.7, 126.5, 128.4, 133.0, 134.6, 137.8, 137.9, 139.0, 143.9, 146.1, 153.7.

MS (FAB) m/z (%): 371.2 (58) $[\text{M}^+]$, 137.5 (61).

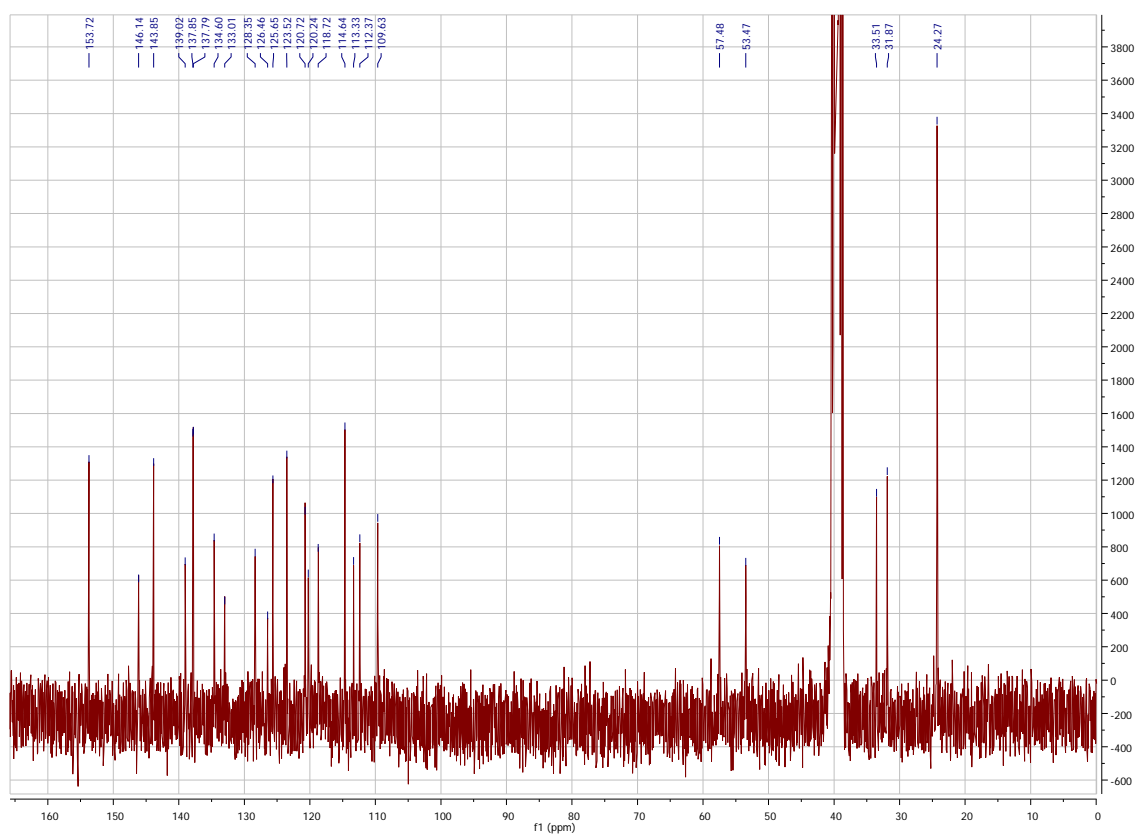
HR-MS (FAB) m/z : calculated for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{27}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ $[\text{M}^+]$: 371.2123, found: 371.2126.



Scheme S93: IR of dye 11.

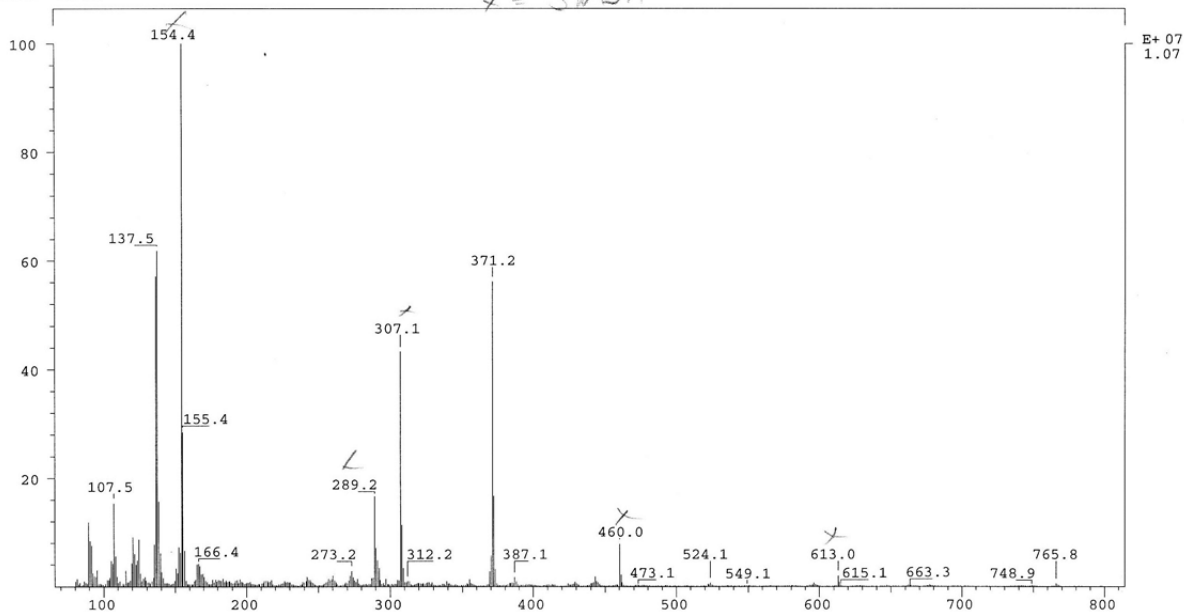


Scheme S94: $^1\text{H-NMR}$ of dye 11.



Scheme S95: $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ of dye 11.

SPEC: pb068a 14-Sep-12 REG : 00:18.6 #9
 Samp: PB068,3-NBA Start : 10:51:16 22
 Comm: MAT 95, +FAB
 Mode: EI +VE +LMR BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM Study : P. Bohlaender
 Oper: Ro Client: AK Wagenknecht Inlet :
 Base: 154.4 Inten : 10653014 Masses: 80 > 800
 Norm: 154.4 RIC : 93096750 #peaks: 719
 Peak: 1000.00 mmu
 Data: +/2>3



Scheme S96: MS (FAB) of dye 11.

LIST: pb068a-c3 14-Sep-12 Elapse: 00:18.6 2
 Samp: PB068,3-NBA Start : 10:51:16 22
 Comm: MAT 95, +FAB
 Mode: EI +VE +LMR BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM Study : P. Bohlaender
 Oper: Ro Client: AK Wagenknecht Inlet :
 Limt: (28) C 2.H 4.
 : (371) C25.H27.O.N2
 Peak: 1000.00 mmu R+D: -0.5 > 65.0
 Data: CMASS : converted

Mass	Intensity	%RA	Flags	Delta	R+D	Composition
371.2126	5950893	56.60	F#	-0.2	13.5	C25.H27.O.N2

Scheme S97: HR-MS (FAB) of dye 11.

Summenformel: $C_{25}H_{27}N_2O$

Berechnet: N: 5,62% C: 69,25% H: 5,46% S: 0,321% I: 20,46%

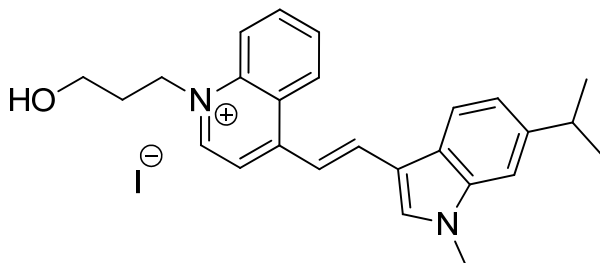
Gefunden: N: 5,32 C: 58,00 H: 5,48 S:

Gefunden: N: 5,42 C: 58,11 H: 5,48 S:

Scheme S98: Elementary analysis of dye 11.

4.19 Synthesis of dye 12:

(E)-1-(3-hydroxypropyl)-4-(2-(6-isopropyl-1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)vinyl)quinolin-1-ium iodide



Under argon, to a solution of **26** (0.33 g, 1.0 mmol) and **28** (0.40 g, 2.0 mmol) in 10 mL ethanol piperidine (0.19 g, 0.22 mL, 2.2 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred in a headspace vial at 80°C for 19 h. The mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with 5 mL diethyl ether and after precipitation the product was collected and washed three times with diethyl ether. The product was dried under reduced pressure and yielded as a black red solid (78 %).

TLC (2-butanol : water : acetic acid = 80 : 15 : 5): R_f = 0.26.

IR (DRIFT): $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹) = 3297 (m), 2922 (w), 2871 (w), 1577 (m), 1550 (m), 1520 (s), 1221 (m), 1069 (m).

¹H-NMR (300MHz; DMSO-d₆):

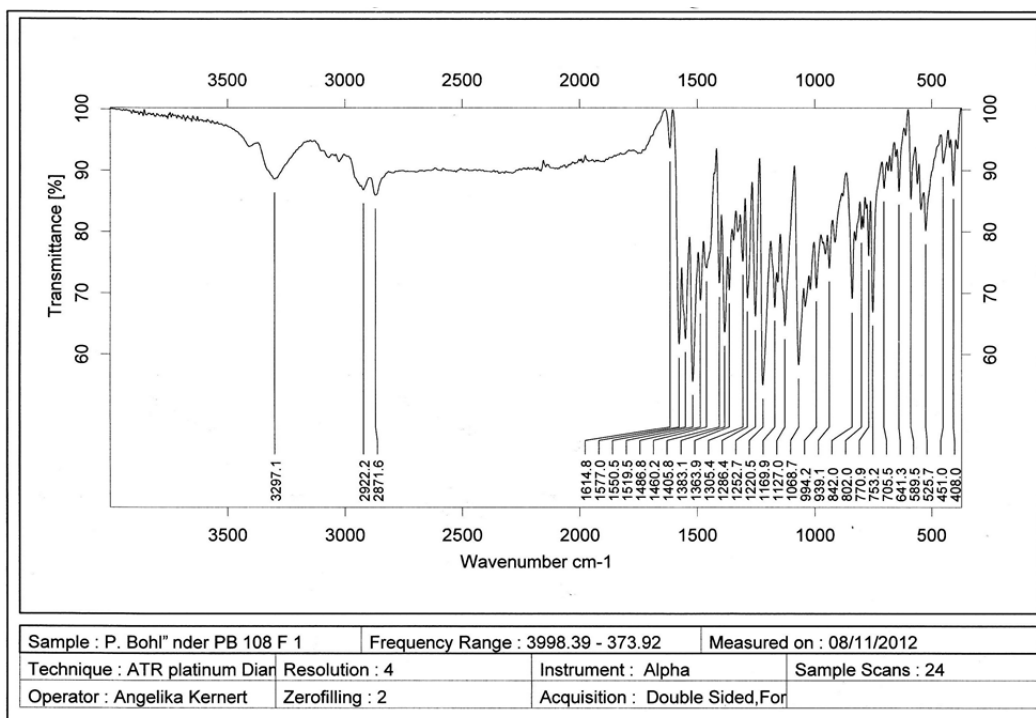
δ (ppm) = 1.30 (s, 3H), 1.32 (s, 3H), 1.98 – 2.16 (m, 2H), 3.06 (q, J = 6.4, 5.8, 1H), 3.53 (q, J = 5.3, 2H), 3.91 (s, 1H), 4.82 (t, J = 4.8, 1H), 4.90 (t, J = 7.2, 2H), 7.24 (d, J = 8.0, 1H), 7.44 (s, 1H), 7.87 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 8.11 – 8.22 (m, 2H), 8.25 (s, 1H), 8.33 – 8.45 (m, 2H), 8.51 (d, J = 15.5, 1H), 8.93 (d, J = 8.3, 1H), 9.07 (d, J = 6.7, 1H).

¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆):

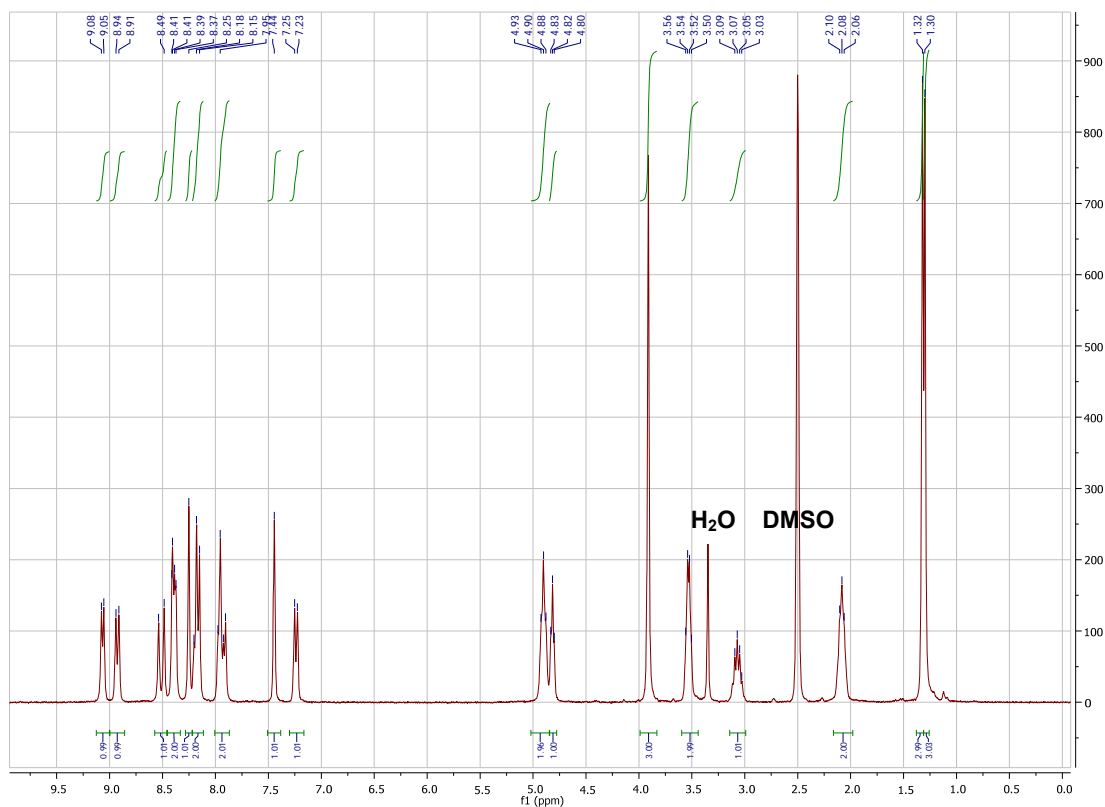
δ (ppm) = 18.5, 24.3, 31.9, 33.3, 33.8, 57.5, 108.3, 112.3, 113.3, 113.7, 118.7, 120.4, 120.9, 124.0, 125.6, 126.4, 128.3, 134.6, 136.3, 137.8, 138.3, 138.4, 144.1, 146.0, 153.5.

MS (FAB) m/z (%): 385.2 (100) [M⁺].

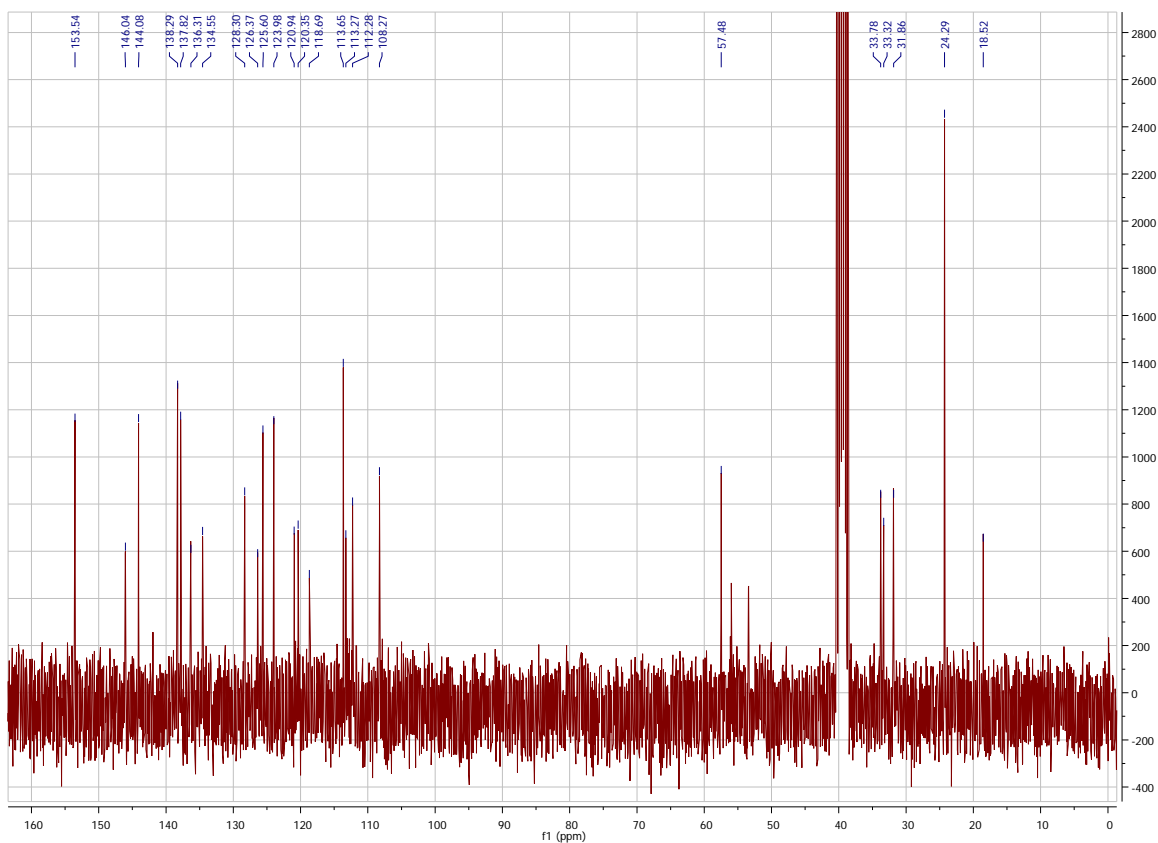
HR-MS (FAB) m/z: calculated for C₂₆H₂₉N₂O [M⁺]: 385.2280, found: 385.2278.



Scheme S99: IR of dye 12.

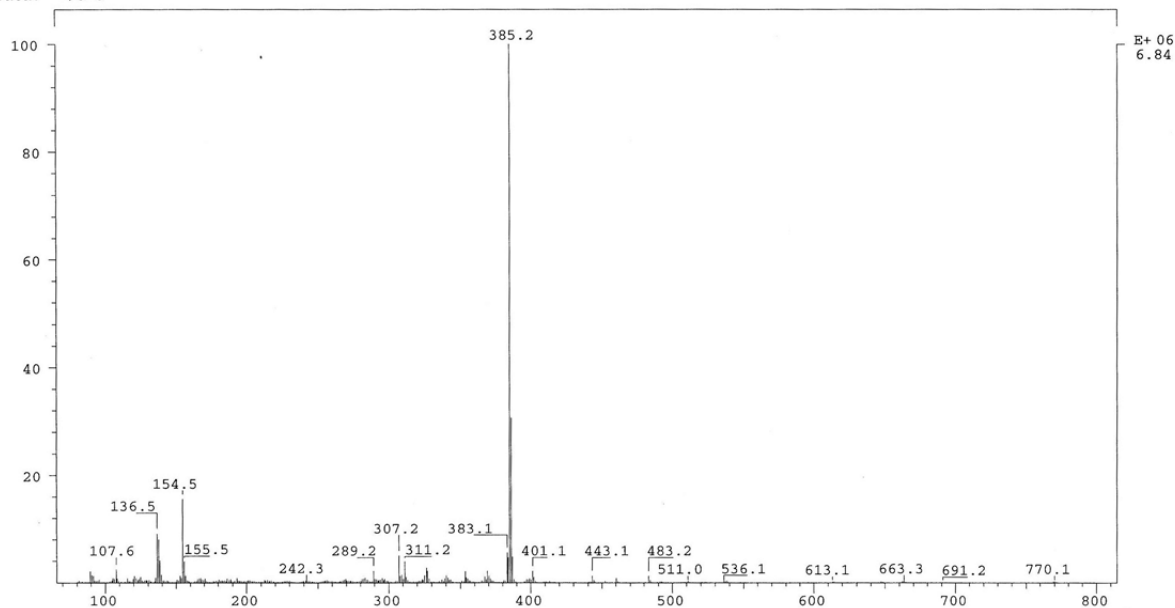


Scheme S100: ¹H-NMR of dye 12.



Scheme S101: ^{13}C -NMR of dye **12**.

SPEC: pb108f1 05-Nov-12 REG : 00:32.1 #9
Samp: PB 108 F1 /3NBA Start : 16:07:36 26
Comm: MAT 95, +FAB
Mode: EI +VE +LMR BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM Study: Bohlaender
Oper: Re Client: AK Wagenknecht Inlet:
Base: 385.2 Inten : 6840636 Masses: 80 > 800
Norm: 385.2 RIC : 23352693 #peaks: 631
Peak: 1000.00 mmu
Data: +/5>6



Scheme S102: MS (FAB) of dye **12**.

LIST: pb108f1-c4 05-Nov-12 Elapse: 01:34.6 17
Samp: PB 108 F1 /3NBA Start : 16:07:36 26
Comm: MAT 95, +FAB
Mode: EI +VE +LMR BSCAN (EXP) UP HR NRM Study : Bohlaender
Oper: Ro Client: AK Wagenknecht Inlet :
Limt: (28) C 2.H 4. .
: (385) C26.H29.O.N2
Peak: 1000.00 mmu R+D: -0.5 > 65.0
Data: CMASS : converted

5167907 (mmu)
Mass Intensity %RA Flags Delta R+D Composition
385.2278 6010369 100.00 F# 0.2 13.5 C26.H29.O.N2

Scheme S103: HR-MS (FAB) of dye **12**.

Summenformel: $C_{26}H_{29}N_2O$

Berechnet: N: 5,47% C: 60,34% H: 5,10% S: 0,31% I: 24,77%

Gefunden: N: 5,14 C: 60,16 H: 5,87 S:

Gefunden: N: 5,16 C: 60,18 H: 5,86 S:

Scheme S104: Elementary analysis of dye **12**.

5. Titration experiments:

In a quartz glass cuvette a solution of 10 μM dye*, 10 mM NaP_i (pH = 7), 250 mM NaCl and ethanol (2 %) was stepwise (10, 20 or 40 μL) added with a titration solution out of 40 μM dsDNA 1, 10 μM dye*, 10 mM NaP_i buffer (pH = 7) 250 mM NaCl and ethanol (2 %). After every step the absorption and fluorescence spectra (slit = 3 nm) of the mixed sample solution were measured.

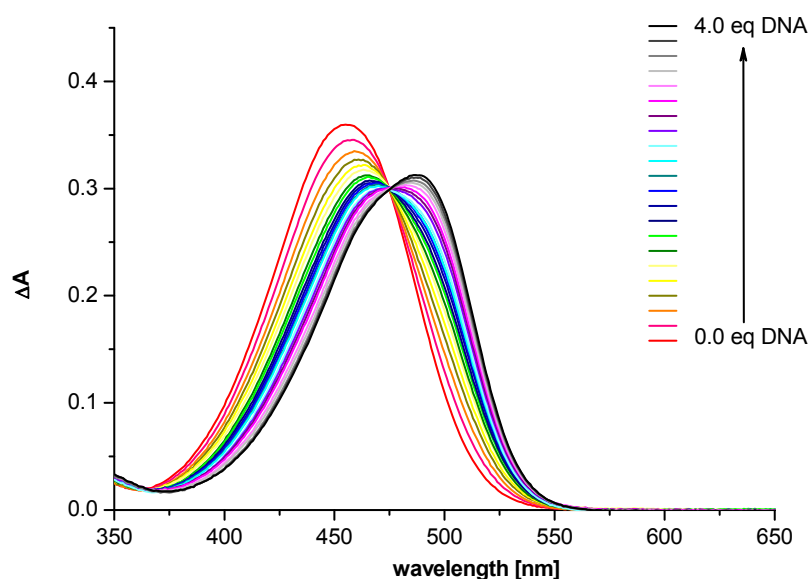
*The preparation of a 50 μM dye solution is described in chapter 8. Extinction coefficient. The solution was diluted to get the required concentration of the dye and ethanol.

5'-TCA-GTG-ATC-TAG-ACT-GC-3'

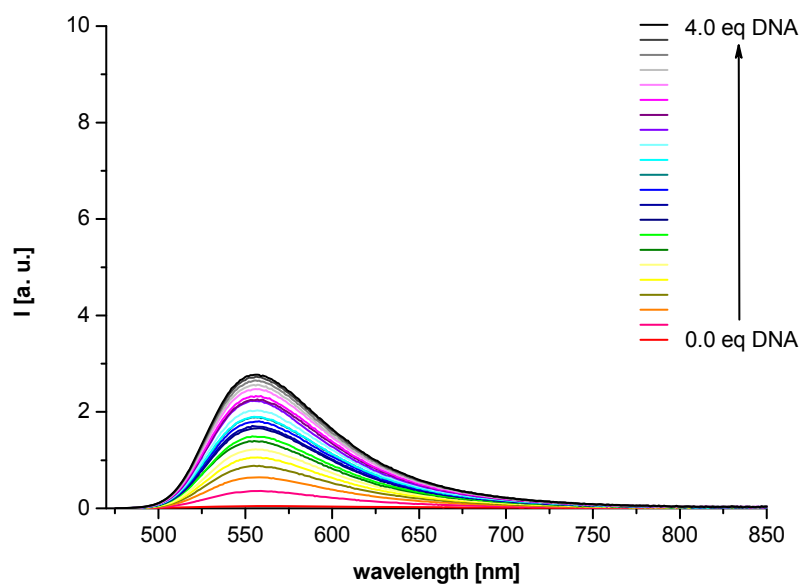
3'-AGT-CAC-TAG-ATC-TGA-CG-5'

Scheme S105: Sequence of dsDNA 1.

5.1 Titration of dye 1:

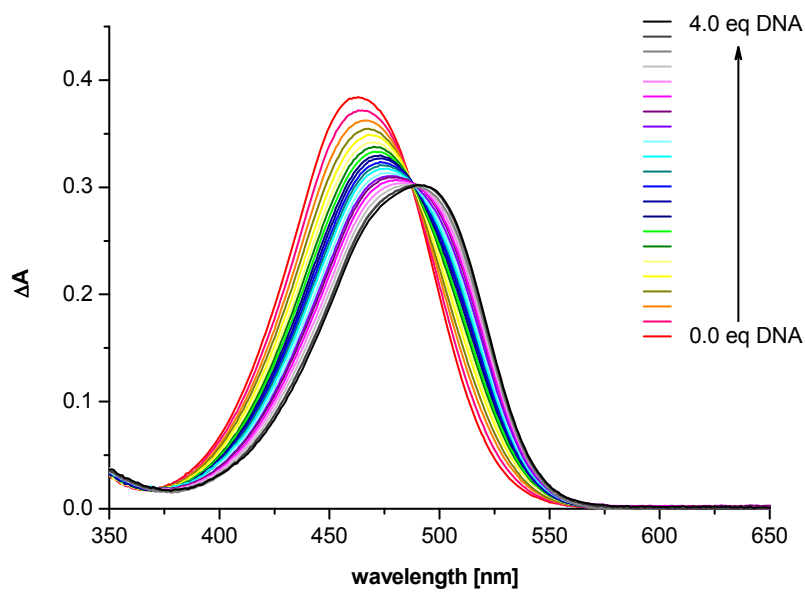


Scheme S106: Absorption spectra of dye 1, $\lambda_{\text{abs., max.}} = 455 \text{ nm} - 489 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{shift}} = 34 \text{ nm}$.

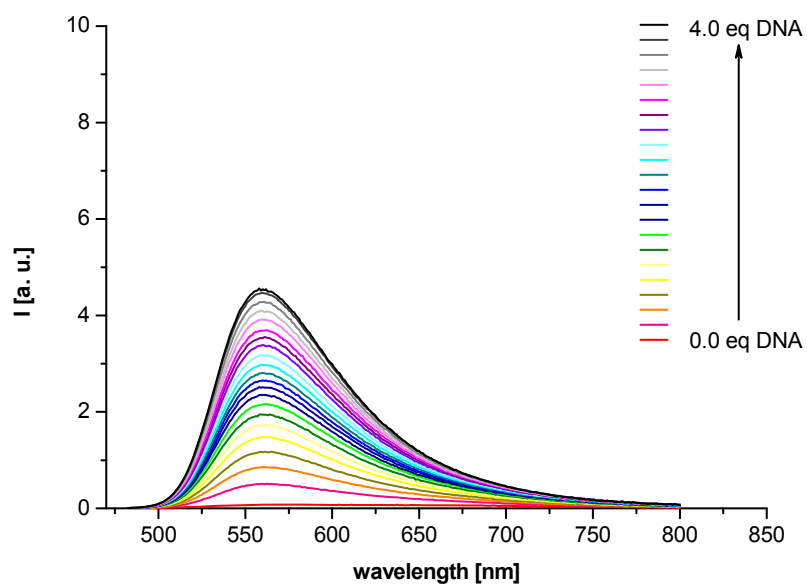


Scheme S107: Fluorescence spectra of dye 1, $\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 460 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 556 \text{ nm}$.

5.2 Titration of dye 2:

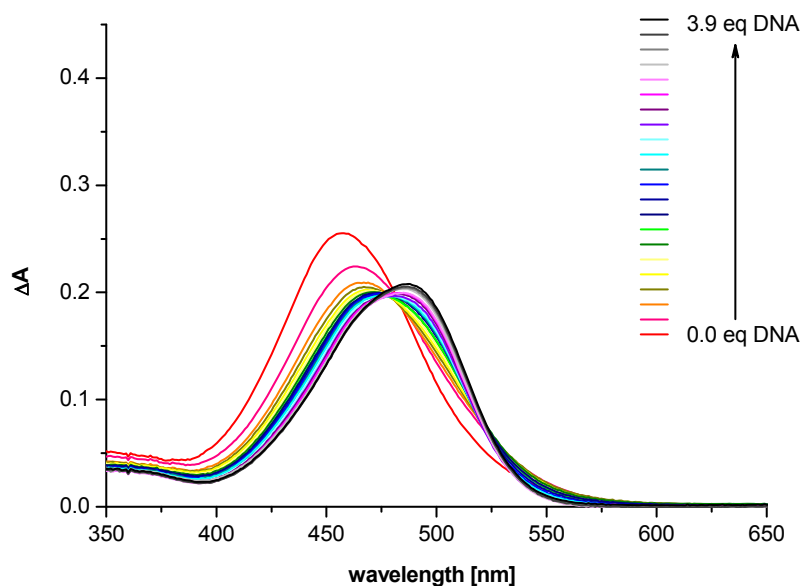


Scheme S108: Absorption spectra of dye 2, $\lambda_{\text{abs., max.}} = 463 \text{ nm} - 493 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{shift}} = 30 \text{ nm}$.

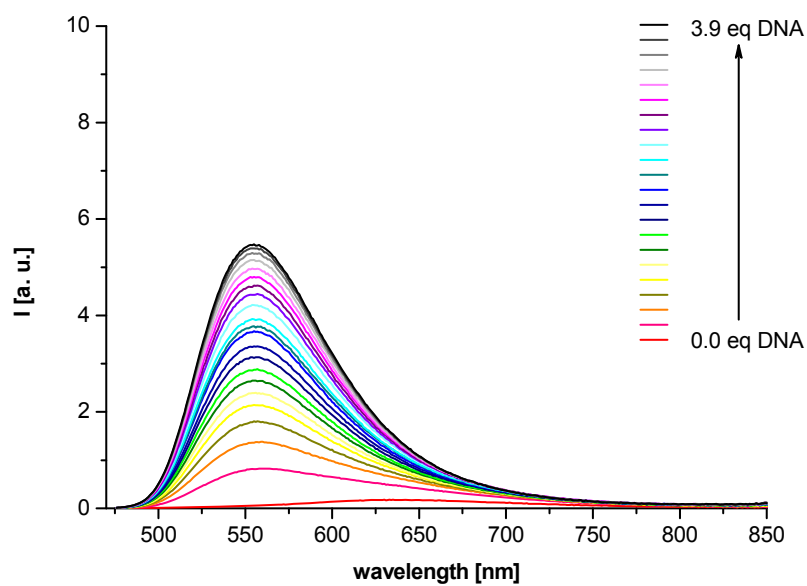


Scheme S109: Fluorescence spectra of dye **2**, $\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 467 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 560 \text{ nm}$.

5.3 Titration of dye **3**:

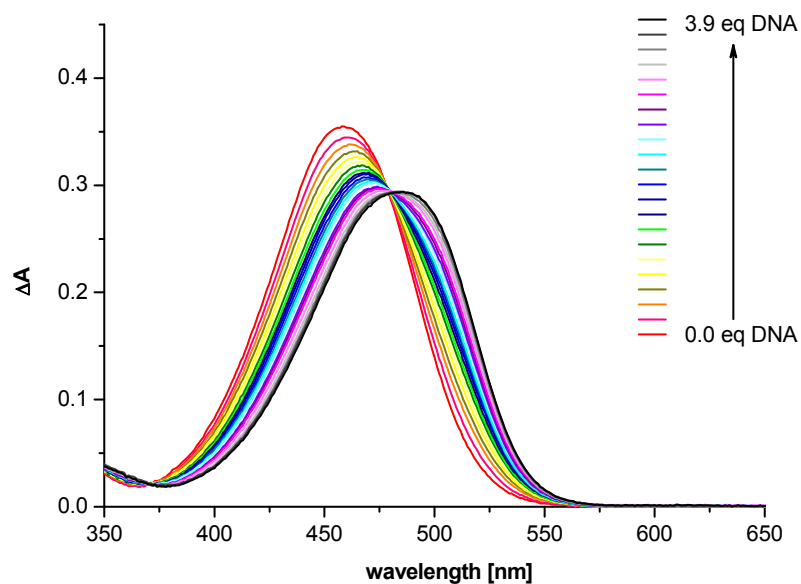


Scheme S110: Absorption spectra of dye **3**, $\lambda_{\text{abs., max.}} = 458 \text{ nm} - 487 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{shift}} = 29 \text{ nm}$.

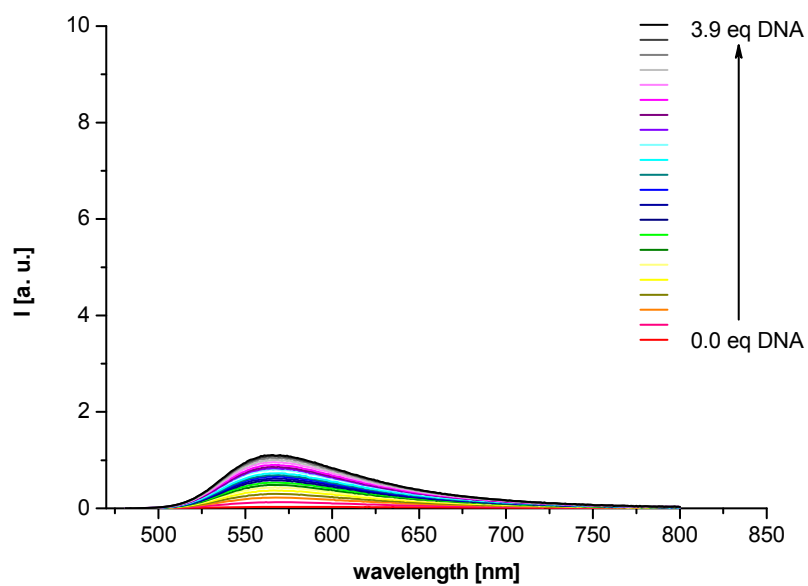


Scheme S111: Fluorescence spectra of dye 3, $\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 461 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 555 \text{ nm}$.

5.4 Titration of dye 4:

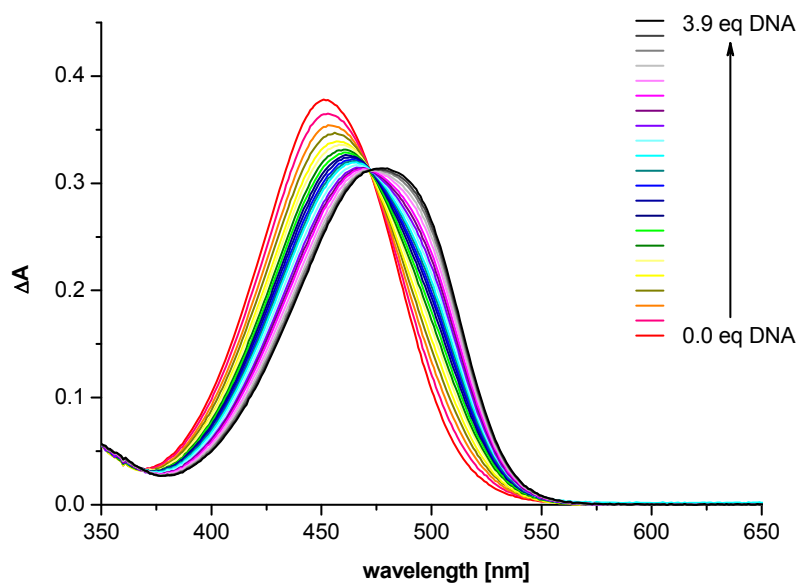


Scheme S112: Absorption spectra of dye 4, $\lambda_{\text{abs., max.}} = 458 \text{ nm} - 486 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{shift}} = 28 \text{ nm}$.

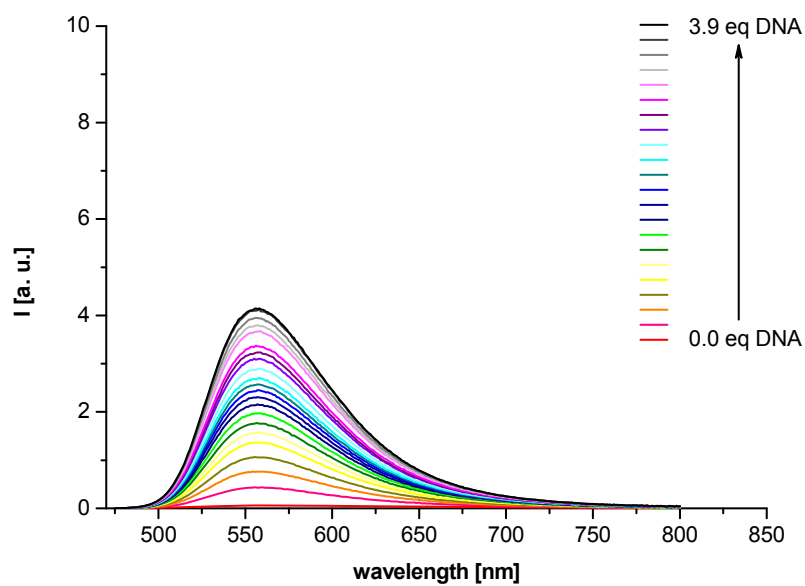


Scheme S113: Fluorescence spectra of dye **4**, $\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 466 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 568 \text{ nm}$.

5.5 Titration of dye **5**:

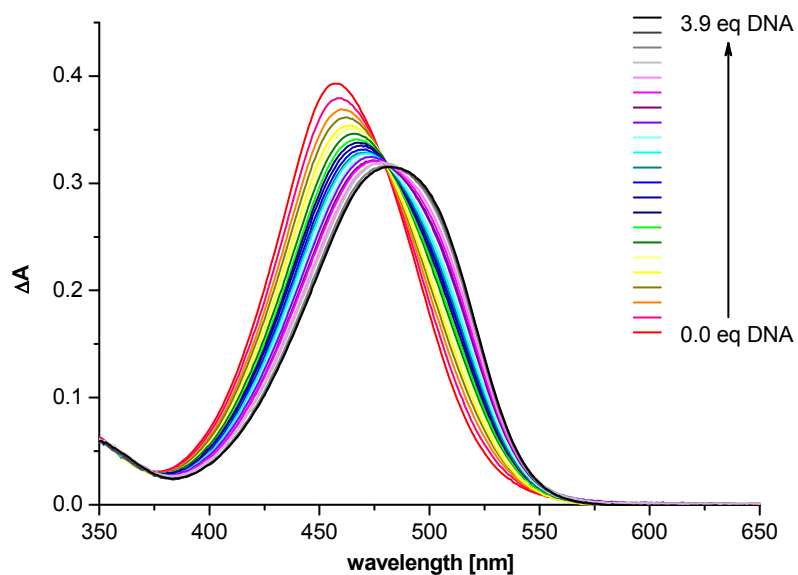


Scheme S114: Absorption spectra of dye **5**, $\lambda_{\text{abs., max.}} = 451 \text{ nm} - 480 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{shift}} = 29 \text{ nm}$.

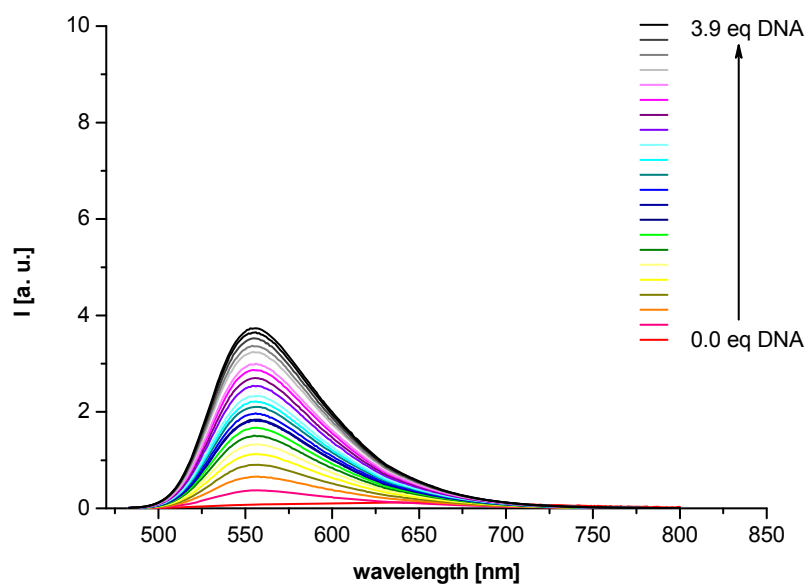


Scheme S115: Fluorescence spectra of dye **5**, $\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 460 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 558 \text{ nm}$.

5.6 Titration of dye **6**:

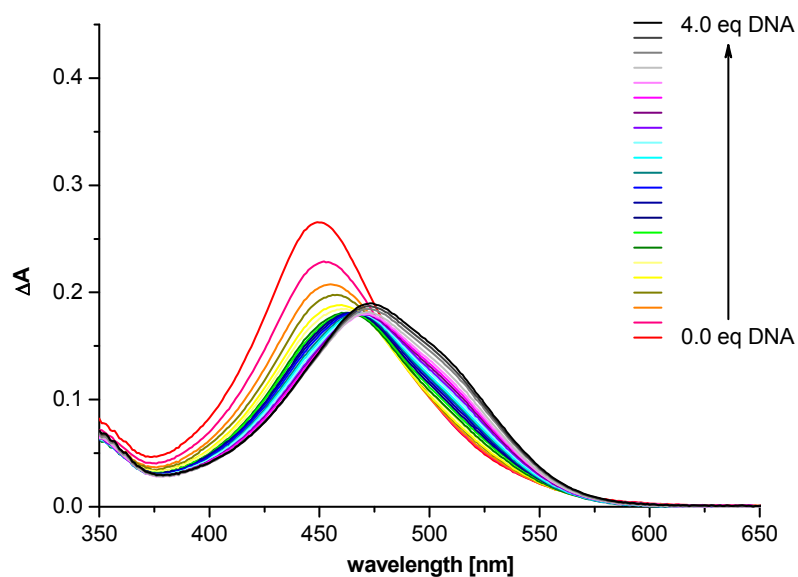


Scheme S116: Absorption spectra of dye **6**, $\lambda_{\text{abs., max.}} = 457 \text{ nm} - 481 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{shift}} = 24 \text{ nm}$.

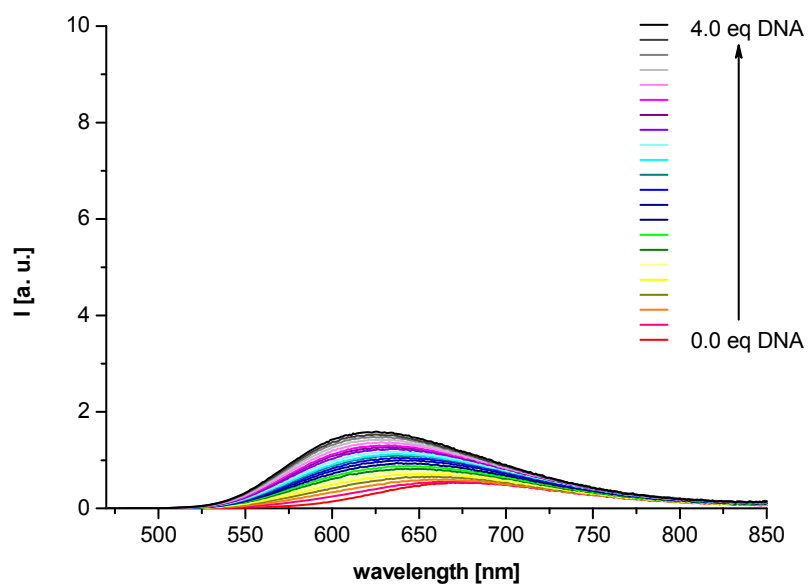


Scheme S117: Fluorescence spectra of dye **6**, $\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 468 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 556 \text{ nm}$.

5.7 Titration of dye 7:

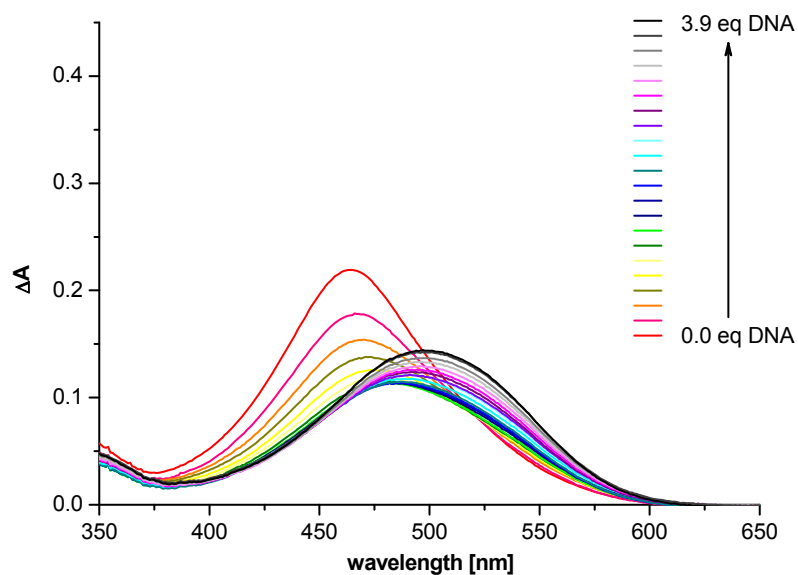


Scheme S118: Absorption spectra of dye **7**, $\lambda_{\text{abs., max.}} = 449 \text{ nm} - 473 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{shift}} = 24 \text{ nm}$.

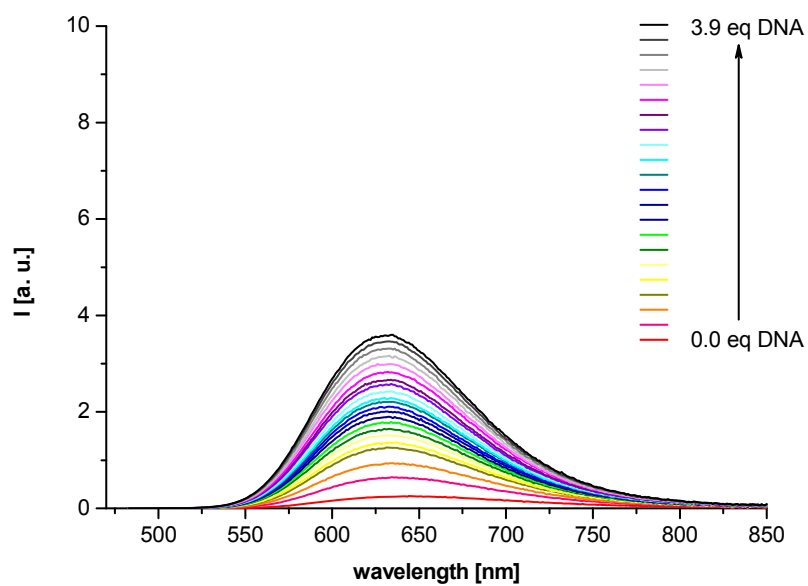


Scheme S119: Fluorescence spectra of dye 7, $\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 455 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 625 \text{ nm}$.

5.8 Titration of dye 8:

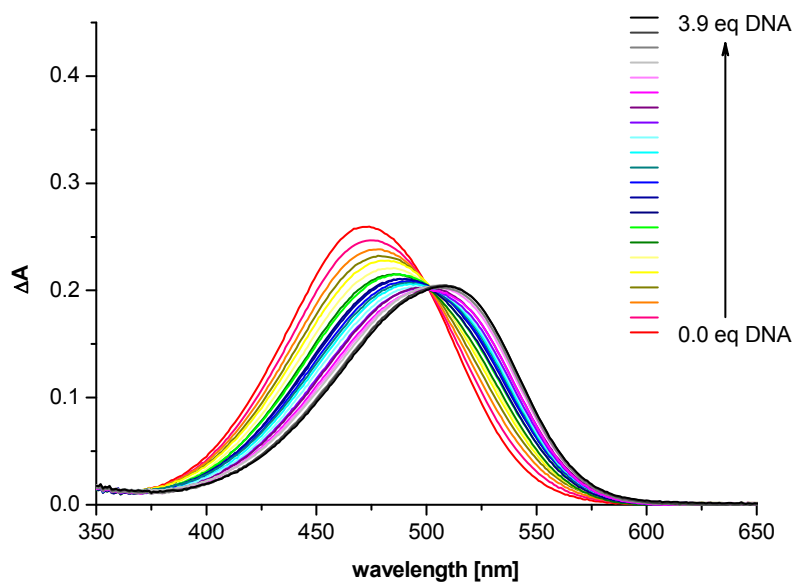


Scheme S120: Absorption spectra of dye 8, $\lambda_{\text{abs., max.}} = 464 \text{ nm} - 501 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{shift}} = 37 \text{ nm}$.

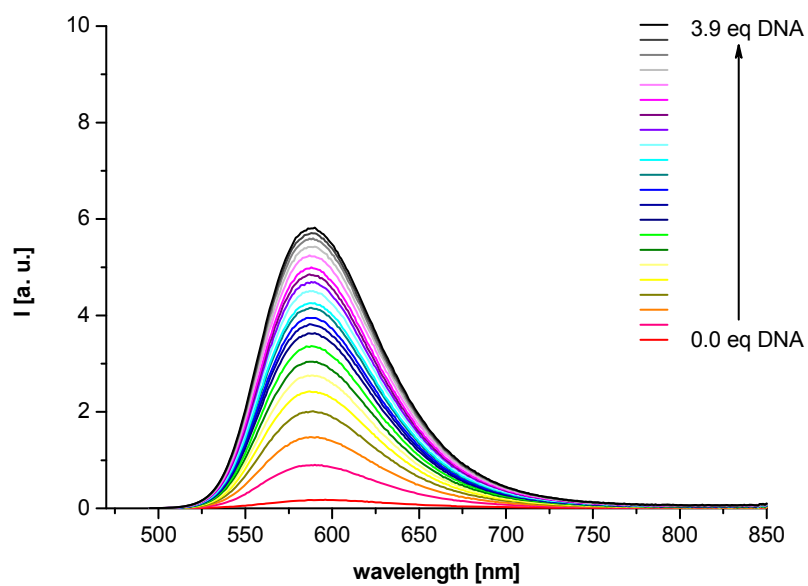


Scheme S121: Fluorescence spectra of dye **8**, $\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 468 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 632 \text{ nm}$.

5.9 Titration of dye **9**:

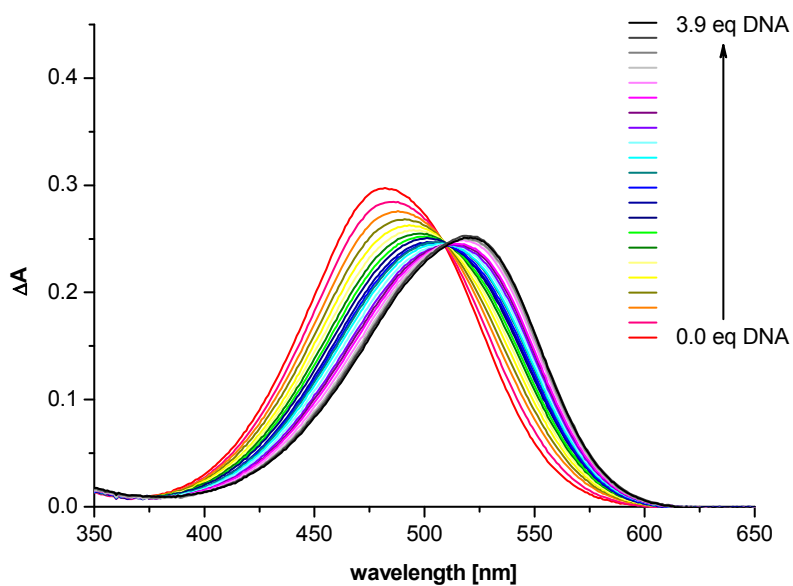


Scheme S122: Absorption spectra of dye **9**, $\lambda_{\text{abs., max.}} = 473 \text{ nm} - 509 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{shift}} = 36 \text{ nm}$.

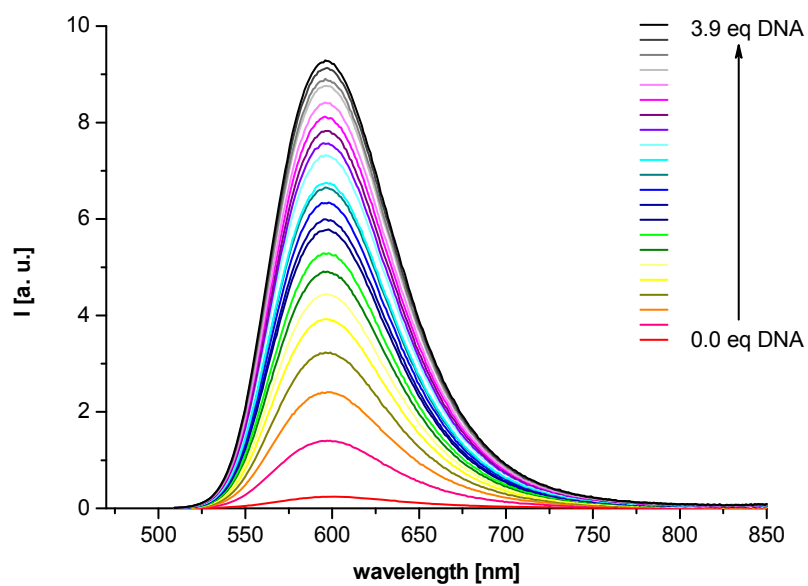


Scheme S123: Fluorescence spectra of dye **9**, $\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 480 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 590 \text{ nm}$.

5.10 Titration of dye **10**:

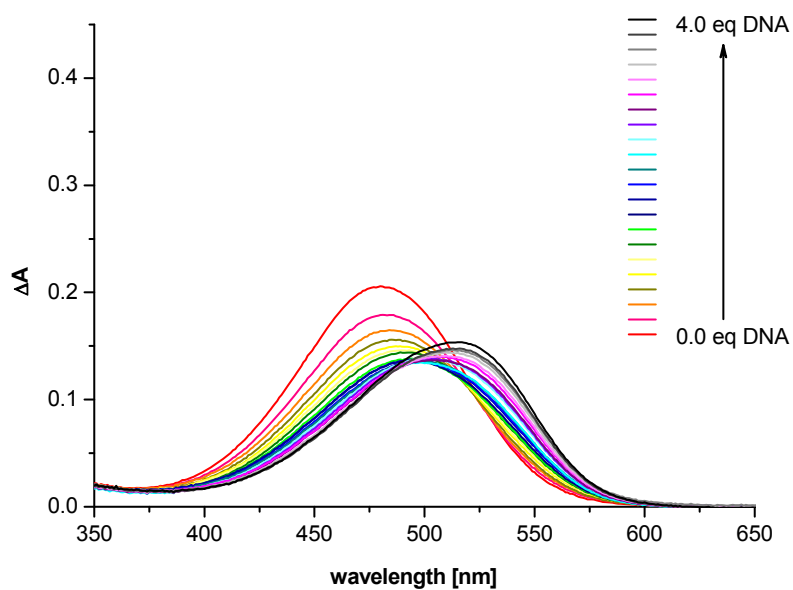


Scheme S124: Absorption spectra of dye **10**, $\lambda_{\text{abs., max.}} = 482 \text{ nm} - 521 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{shift}} = 39 \text{ nm}$.

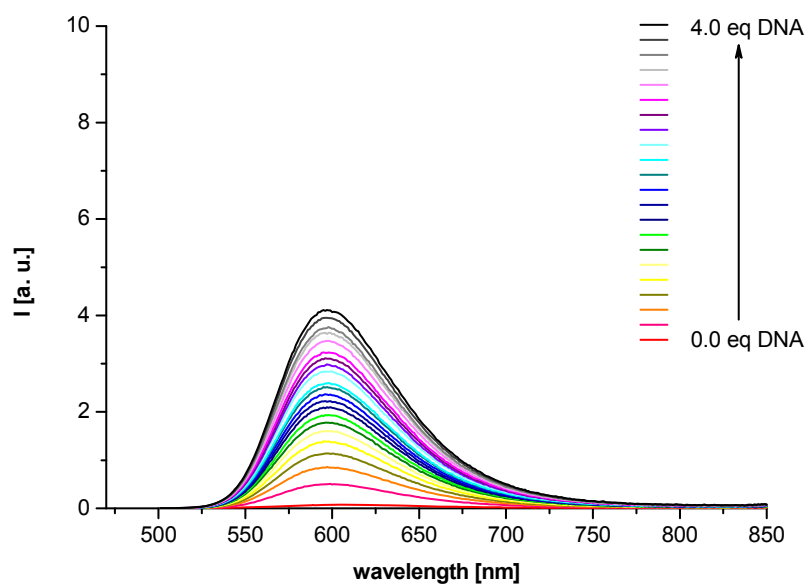


Scheme S125: Fluorescence spectra of dye **10**, $\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 494 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 596 \text{ nm}$.

5.11 Titration of dye **11**:

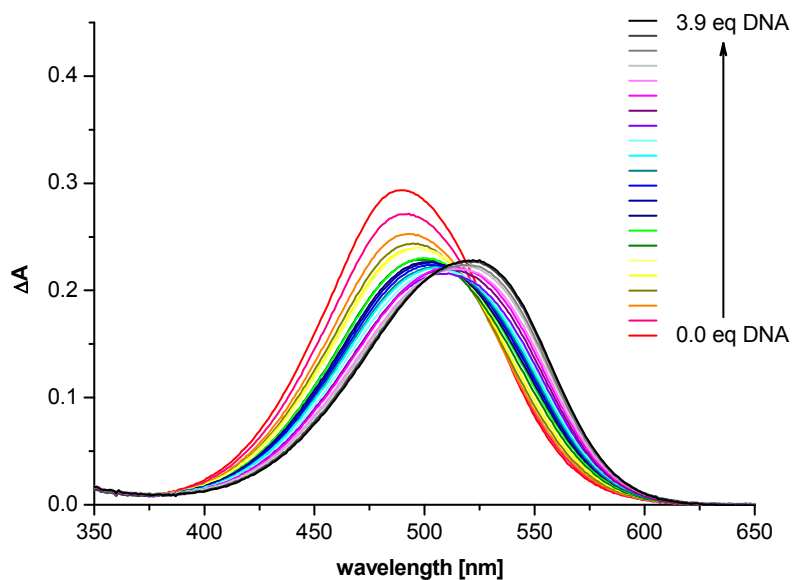


Scheme S126: Absorption spectra of dye **11**, $\lambda_{\text{abs., max.}} = 480 \text{ nm} - 515 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{shift}} = 35 \text{ nm}$.

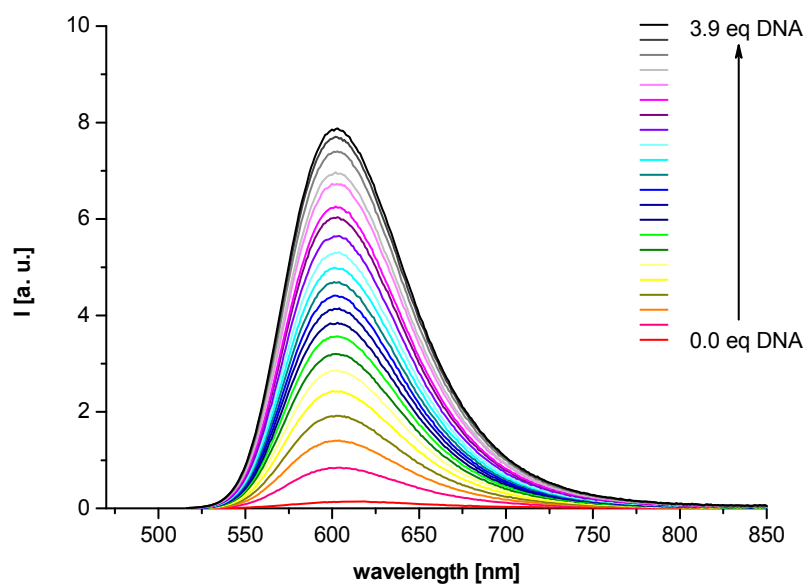


Scheme S127: Fluorescence spectra of dye **11**, $\lambda_{exc.} = 486$ nm, $\lambda_{em., max.} = 598$ nm.

5.12 Titration of dye **12**:

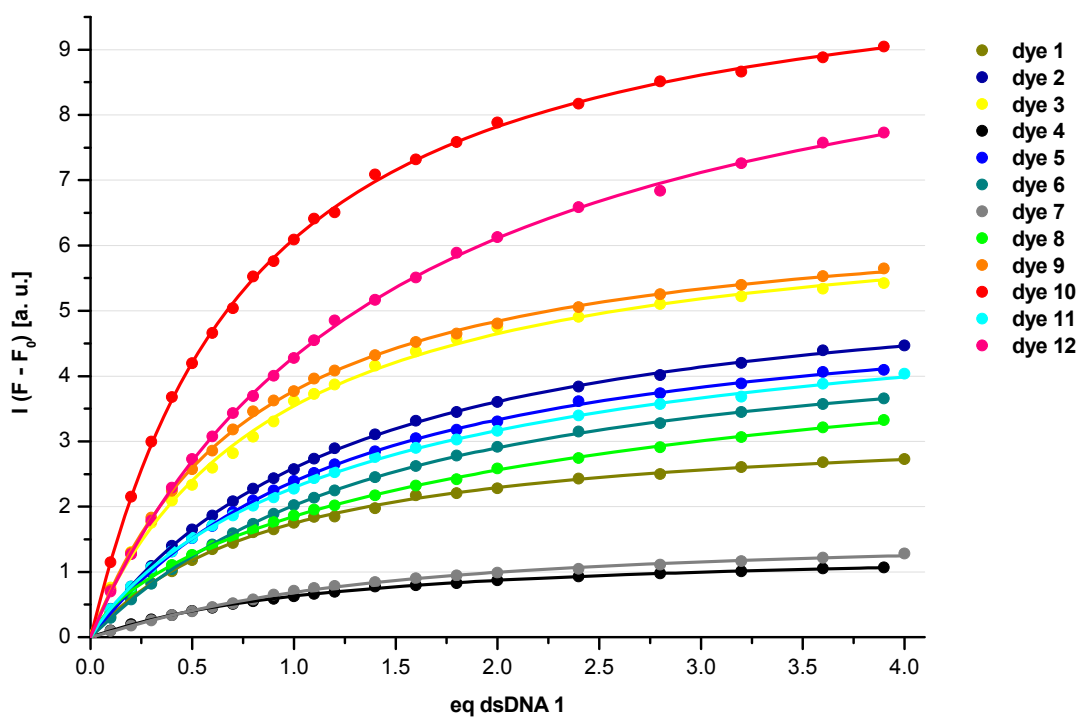


Scheme S128: Absorption spectra of dye **12**, $\lambda_{abs., max.} = 490$ nm – 522 nm, $\lambda_{shift} = 32$ nm.



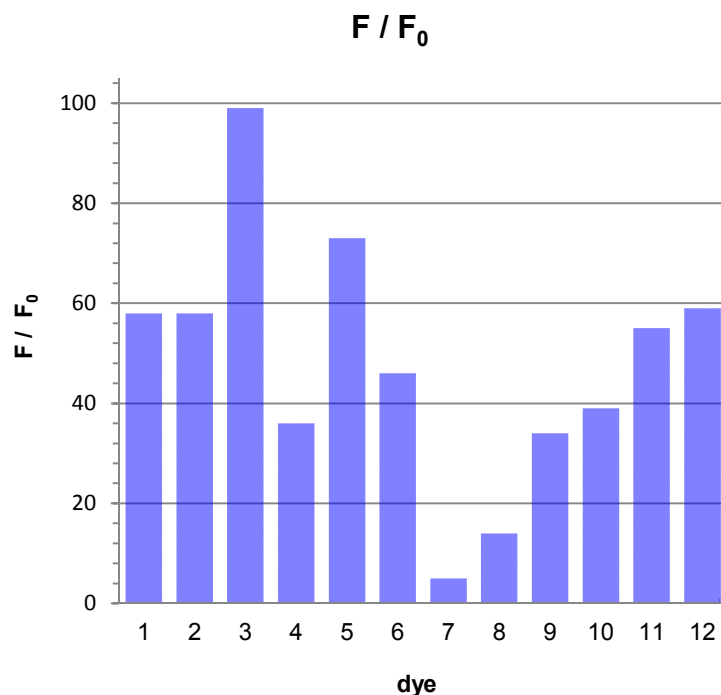
Scheme S129: Fluorescence spectra of dye 12, $\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 501$ nm, $\lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 602$ nm.

5.13 Comparison of the fluorescence intensity enhancement:



Scheme S130: Fluorescence intensity enhancement $I(F - F_0)$ of the dyes 1 – 12.

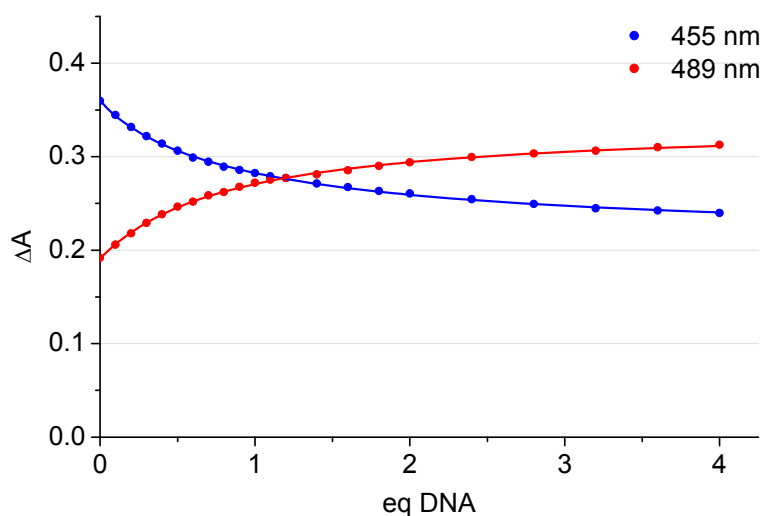
dye	F / F_0
1	58
2	58
3	99
4	36
5	73
6	46
7	5
8	14
9	34
10	39
11	55
12	59



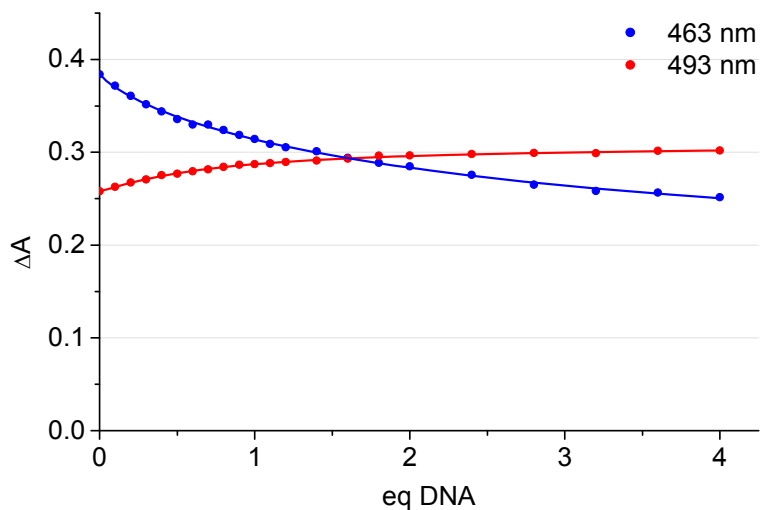
Scheme S131: Fluorescence intensity enhancement I (F / F_0) of the dyes 1 – 12.

5.14 Absorption change in the course of titration experiment:

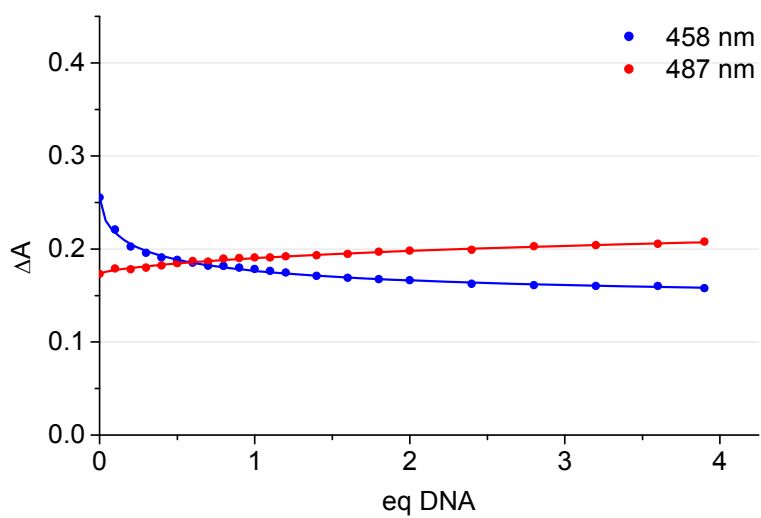
The following Schemes illustrate the absorption progress during titration at two different wavelengths, respectively. The blue dots display the absorption change at $\lambda_{\text{abs., max}}$ of the unbound dye. The absorption at $\lambda_{\text{abs., max}}$ of the bound dye is represented by red dots.



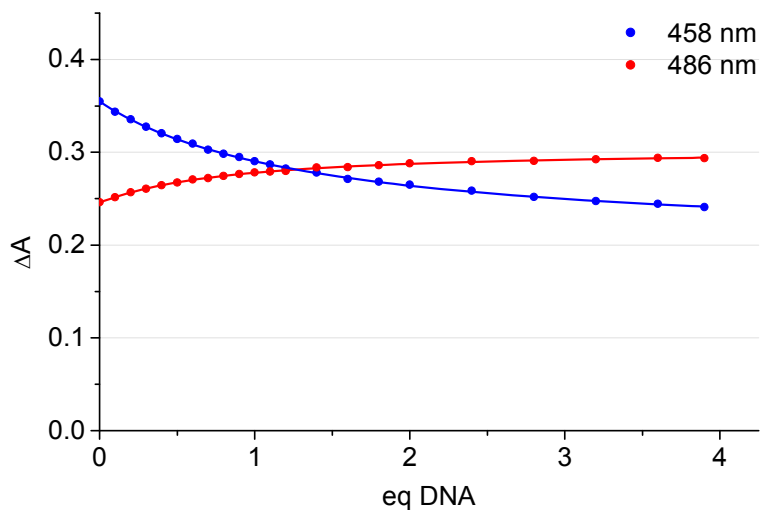
Scheme S132: Absorption change of dye 1 at 455 nm and 489 nm.



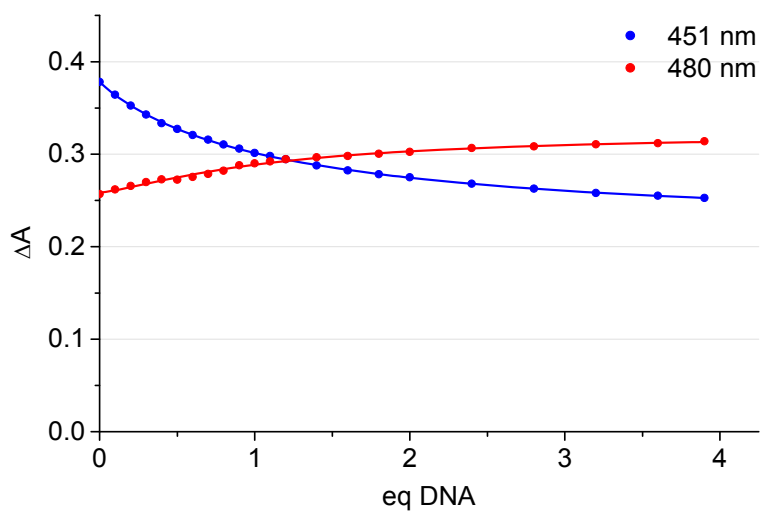
Scheme S133: Absorption change of dye **2** at 463 nm and 493 nm.



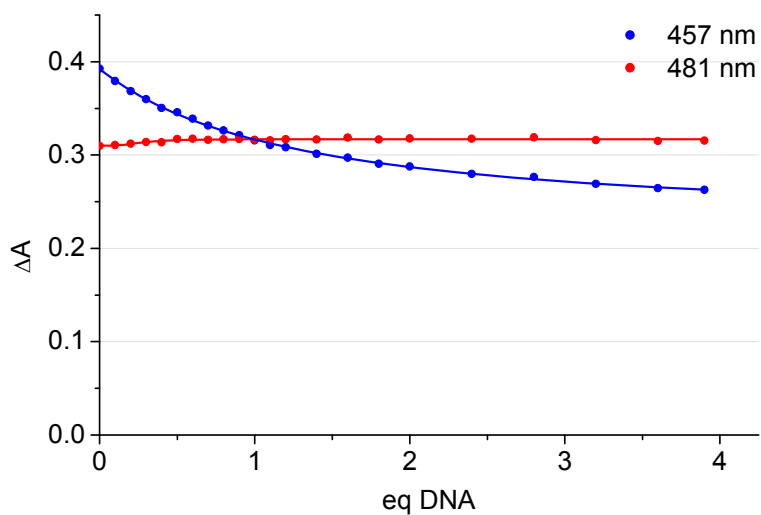
Scheme S134: Absorption change of dye **3** at 458 nm and 487 nm.



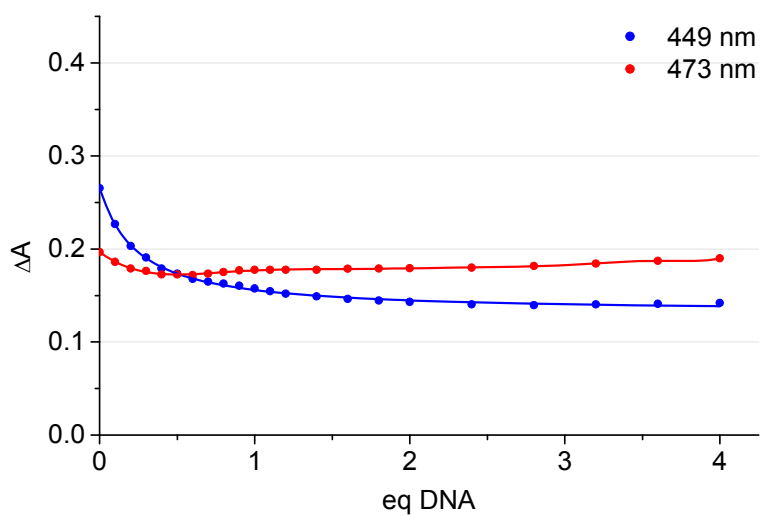
Scheme S135: Absorption change of dye **4** at 458 nm and 486 nm.



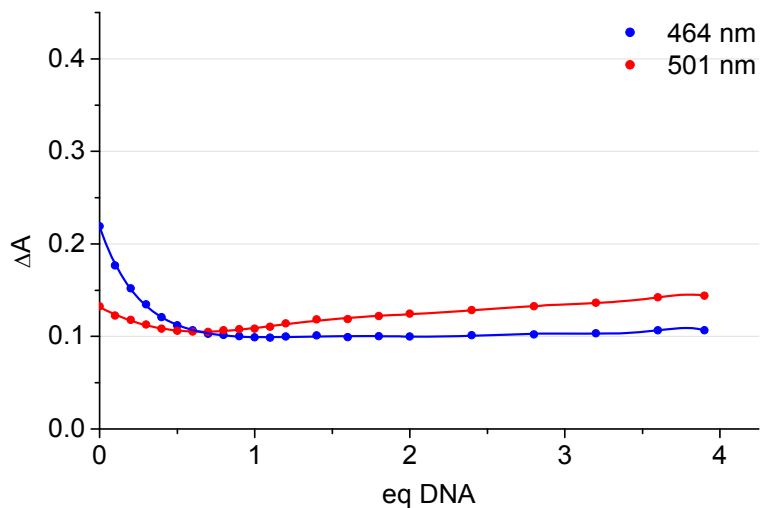
Scheme S136: Absorption change of dye **5** at 451 nm and 480 nm.



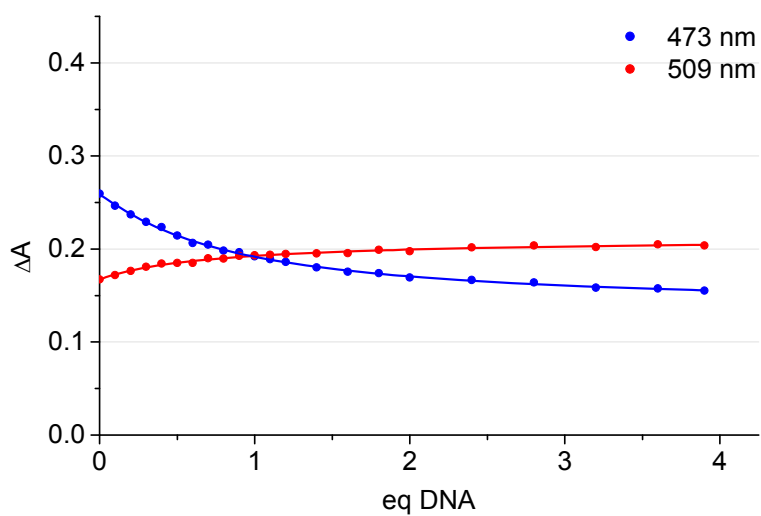
Scheme S137: Absorption change of dye **6** at 457 nm and 481 nm.



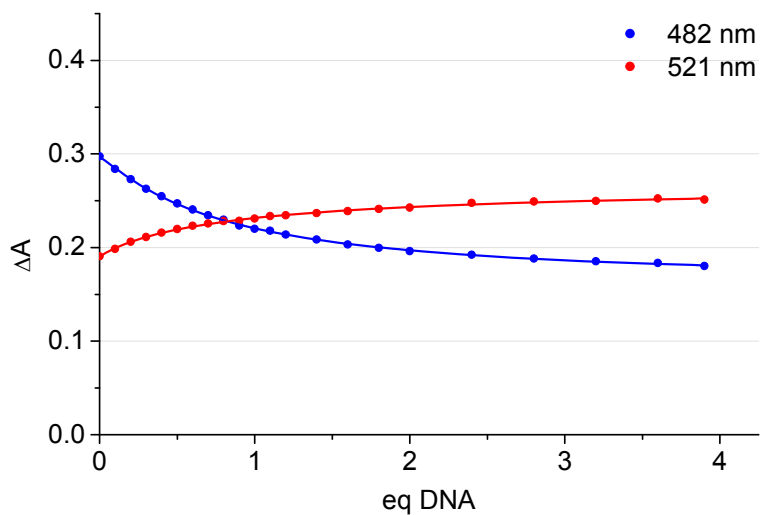
Scheme S138: Absorption change of dye **7** at 449 nm and 473 nm.



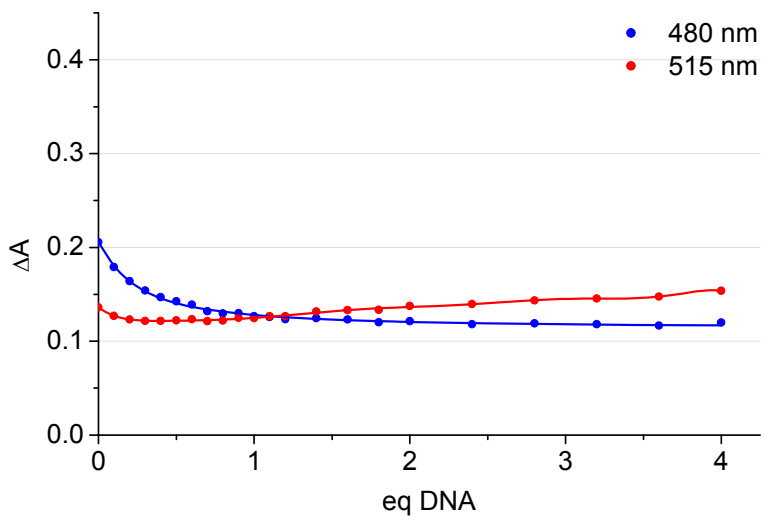
Scheme S139: Absorption change of dye **8** at 464 nm and 501 nm.



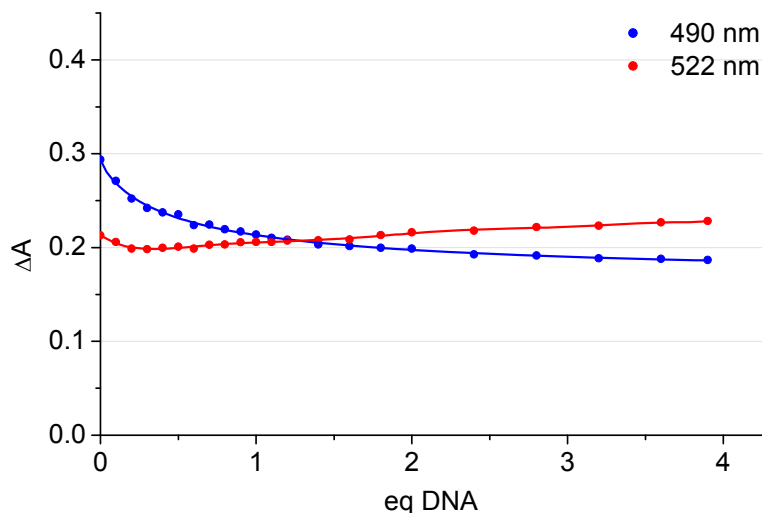
Scheme S140: Absorption change of dye **9** at 473 nm and 509 nm.



Scheme S141: Absorption change of dye **10** at 482 nm and 521 nm.



Scheme S142: Absorption change of dye **11** at 480 nm and 515 nm.



Scheme S143: Absorption change of dye **12** at 490 nm and 522 nm.

5.15 Determination of the binding constants (dyes with DNA)

According to the literature the binding constant K and the binding-site size n were obtained by calculation of the titration absorption data with *Scatchard* plot and fitting by use of the *Levenberg-Marquardt* algorithm (see Equation 1).^[1,2,3] The *Scatchard* plots are shown in Schemes S144 to S155. Binding constants K and parameters n (in base pairs, bp) of dye **1** to **12** are summarized subsequently.

$$\frac{r}{[L_f]} = K \cdot (1 - n \cdot r) \cdot \left(\frac{1 - n \cdot r}{1 - (n-1) \cdot r} \right)^{n-1} \quad \text{Equation 1}$$

r = binding density $[L_f]$ = concentration of unbound dye
 K = binding constant n = binding-site size in base pairs

$$r = \frac{[L_b]}{[S_0]} \quad \text{Equation 2}$$

$[L_b]$ = concentration of bound dye (achieved by UV/Vis data)

$[S_0]$ = concentration of available binding-sites

According to *McGhee* and *Hippel*:

$$[L_f] = [L_0] - [L_b] \quad \text{Equation 3}$$

$[L_0]$ = entire dye concentration

$$SF = \frac{A_f - A}{A_f - A_b} \quad \text{Equation 4}$$

SF = saturation fraction

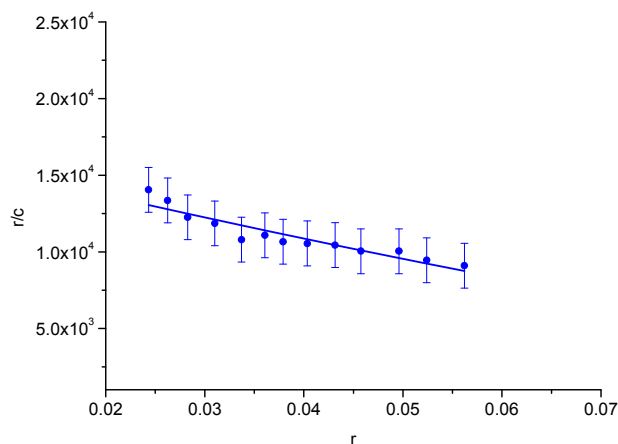
A = Absorption of related titration step

A_f = Absorption of unbound dye

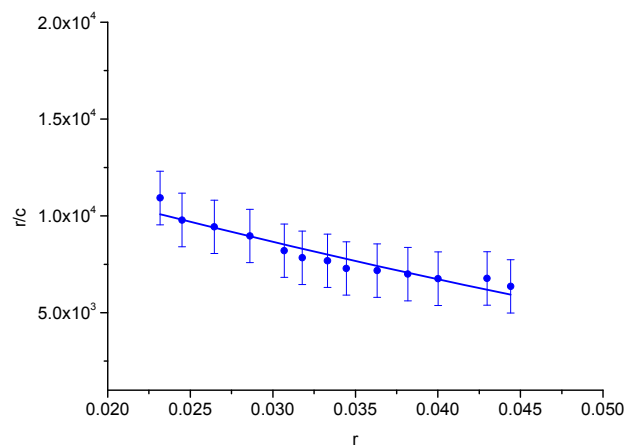
A_b = Absorption of bound dye

$$[L_b] = [L_0] \cdot SF \quad \text{Equation 5}$$

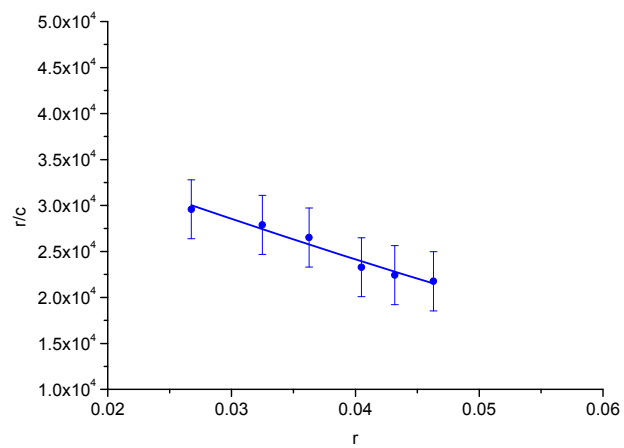
A plot of $r / [L_f]$ as a function of r leads to the *Scatchard* chart. K and n can be obtained by non-linear curve fitting with *Levenberg-Marquardt* algorithm (Equation 1).



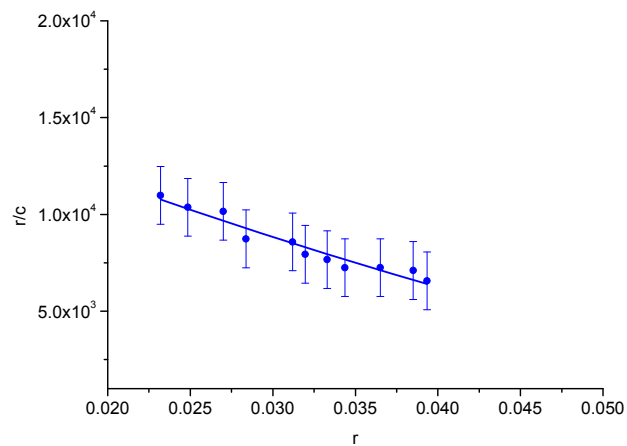
Scheme S144: *Scatchard* plot of the titration of dye 1 with DNA.



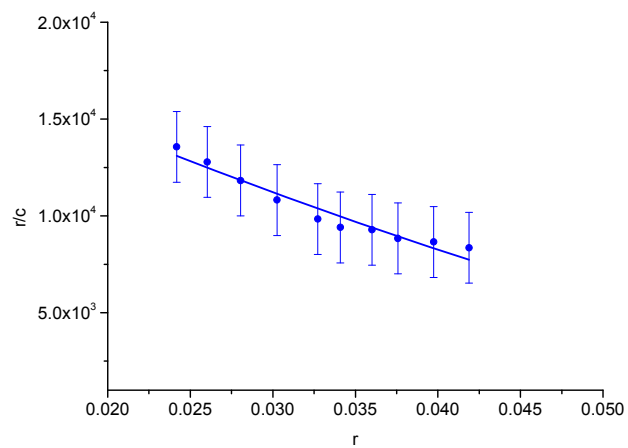
Scheme S145: *Scatchard* plot of the titration of dye 2 with DNA.



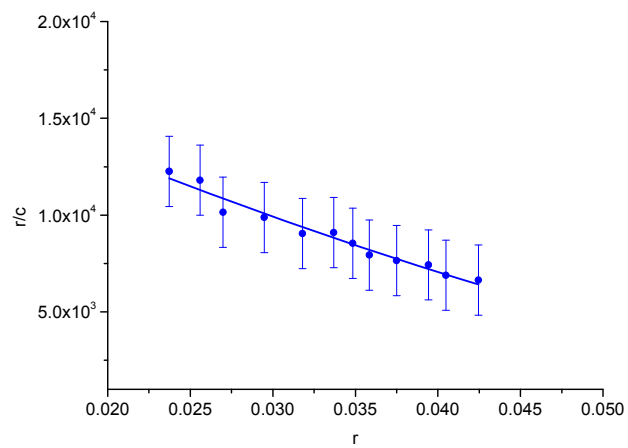
Scheme S146: *Scatchard* plot of the titration of dye 3 with DNA.



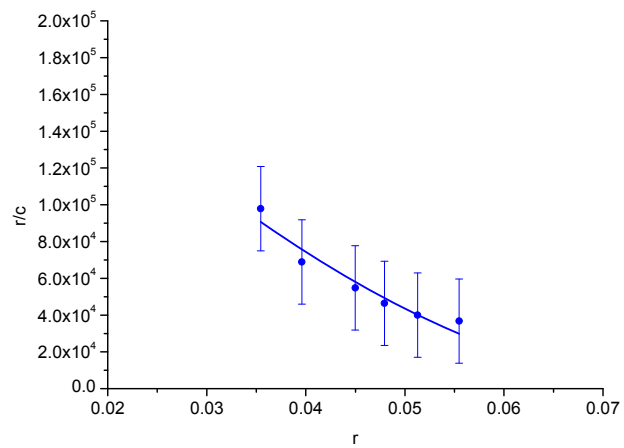
Scheme S147: *Scatchard* plot of the titration of dye 4 with DNA.



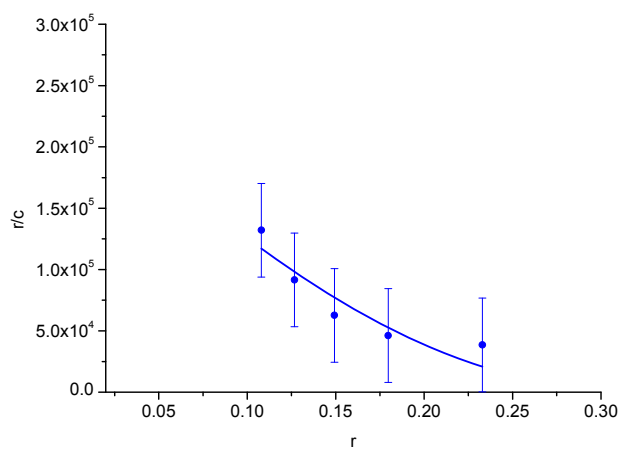
Scheme S148: *Scatchard* plot of the titration of dye **5** with DNA.



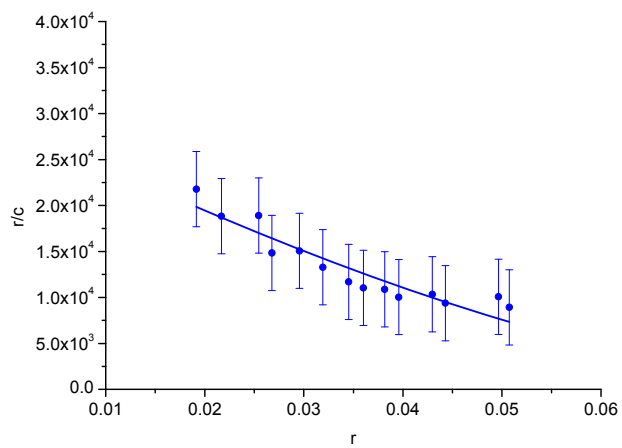
Scheme S149: *Scatchard* plot of the titration of dye **6** with DNA.



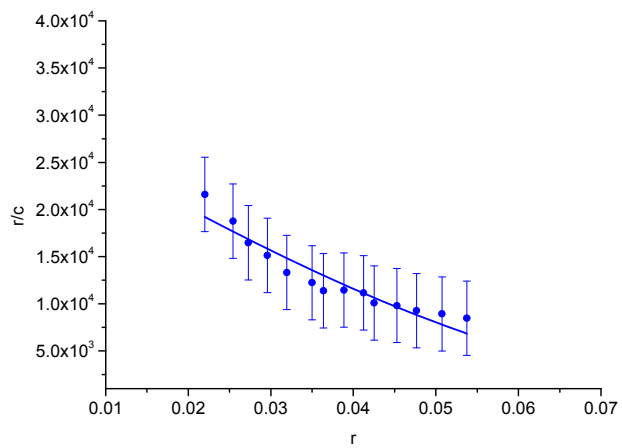
Scheme S150: *Scatchard* plot of the titration of dye **7** with DNA.



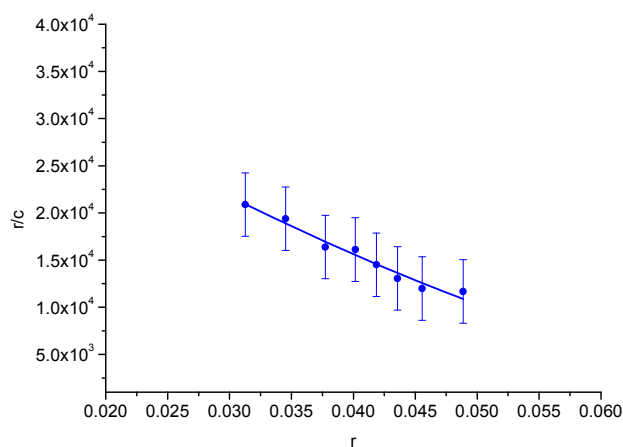
Scheme S151: *Scatchard* plot of the titration of dye **8** with DNA.



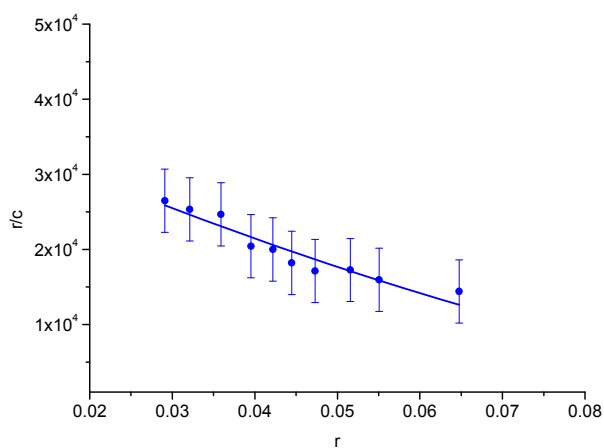
Scheme S152: *Scatchard* plot of the titration of dye **9** with DNA.



Scheme S153: *Scatchard* plot of the titration of dye **10** with DNA.



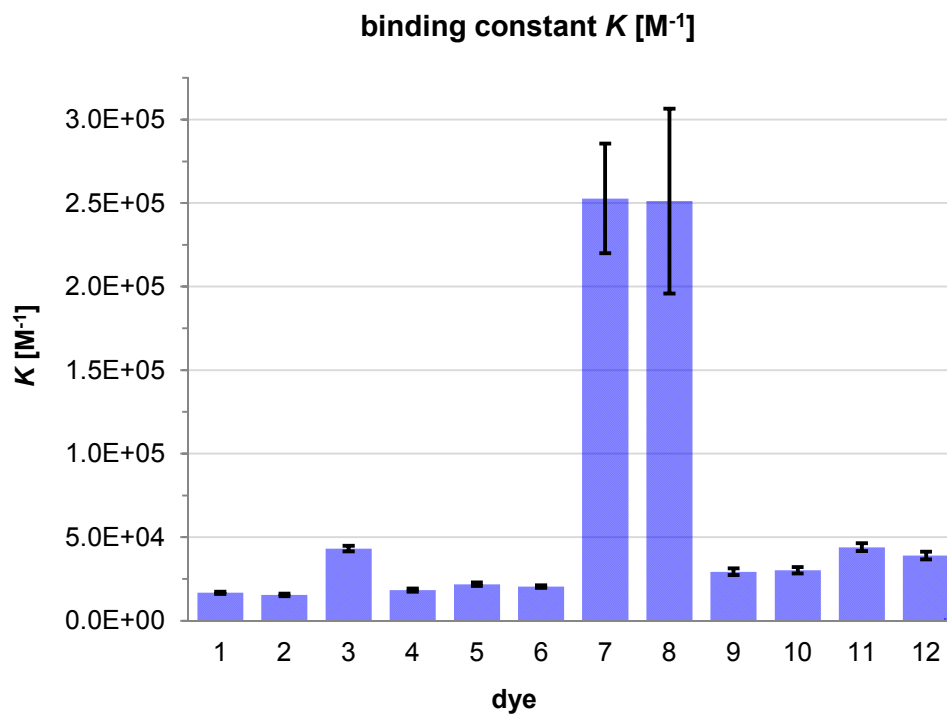
Scheme S154: Scatchard plot of the titration of dye **11** with DNA.



Scheme S155: Scatchard plot of the titration of dye **12** with DNA.

dye	K [M^{-1}]	ΔK [M^{-1}]	n [bp]	Δn
1	1.7E+04	6.9E+02	4.7	0.4
2	1.5E+04	7.6E+02	7.9	0.5
3	4.3E+04	1.8E+03	6.0	0.4
4	1.8E+04	9.1E+02	9.5	0.5
5	2.2E+04	1.1E+03	8.9	0.4
6	2.0E+04	8.0E+02	9.4	0.3
7	2.5E+05	3.3E+04	10.4	0.6
8	2.5E+05	5.5E+04	2.8	0.4
9	2.9E+04	2.0E+03	8.9	0.6
10	3.0E+04	1.9E+03	8.8	0.5
11	4.4E+04	2.4E+03	9.3	0.3
12	3.9E+04	2.3E+03	6.1	0.4

Table S1: Binding constant K and binding-site size n of dye **1-12**.



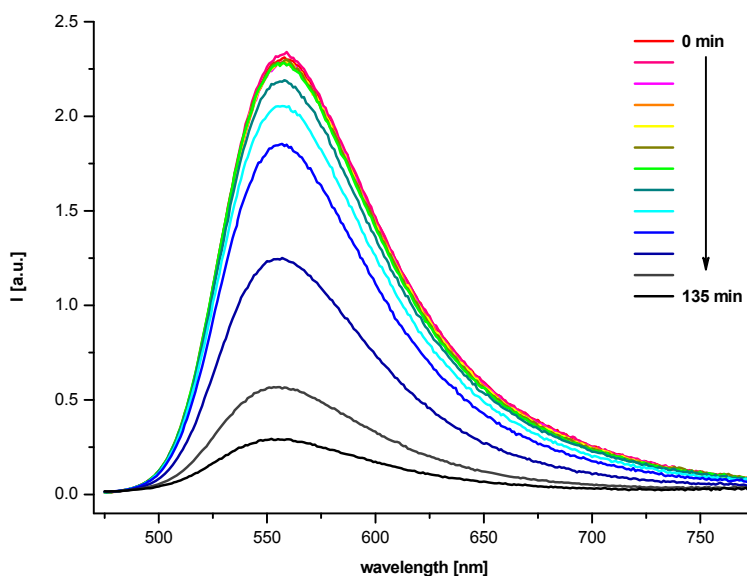
Scheme S156: Comparison of binding constants K of dye 1- 12.

6. Photostability:

The photostability of the dyes **1** – **12** was observed by the loss of fluorescence intensity in the presence of dsDNA **1** (10 μM dye*, 2.5 μM dsDNA **1**, 10 mM NaP_i (pH = 7), 250 mM NaCl and 5 % ethanol). The solution was irradiated with a 75 W Xe-arc lamp equipped with a 305 nm cutoff filter to avoid excitation of the DNA components. The fluorescence intensity was recorded at 20 °C after mixing the irradiated sample solution (slit = 4 nm).

*The preparation of a 50 μM dye solution is described in chapter 8. Extinction coefficient. The solution was diluted to get the required concentration of the dye and ethanol.

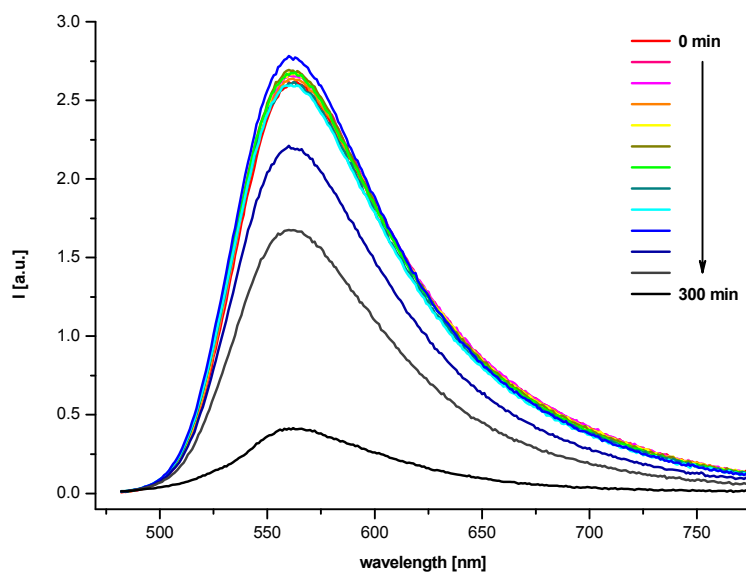
6.1 Photostability of dye 1:



Scheme S157: Fluorescence spectra of the photodegradation of dye **1**,

$$\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 460 \text{ nm}, \lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 559 \text{ nm}, t_{1/2} = 90 \text{ min.}$$

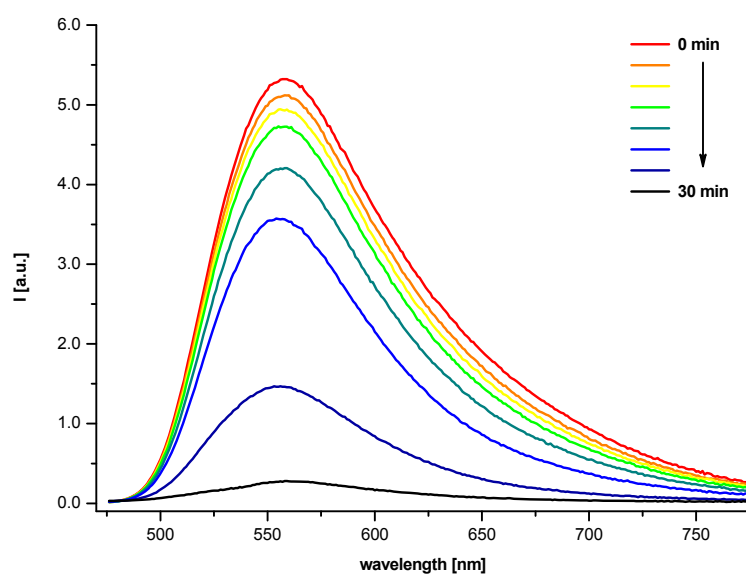
6.2 Photostability of dye 2:



Scheme S158: Fluorescence spectra of the photodegradation of dye 2,

$$\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 467 \text{ nm}, \lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 563 \text{ nm}, t_{1/2} = 205 \text{ min.}$$

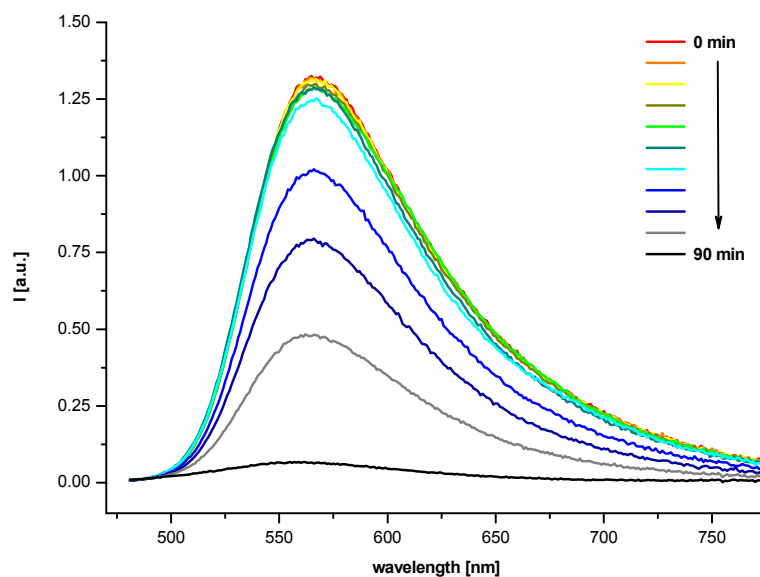
6.3 Photostability of dye 3:



Scheme S159: Fluorescence spectra of the photodegradation of dye 3,

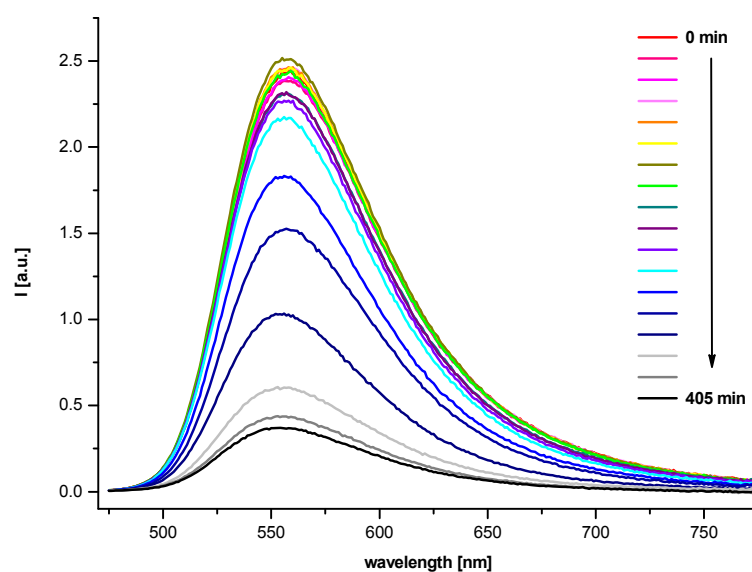
$$\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 461 \text{ nm}, \lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 558 \text{ nm}, t_{1/2} = 13 \text{ min.}$$

6.4 Photostability of dye 4:



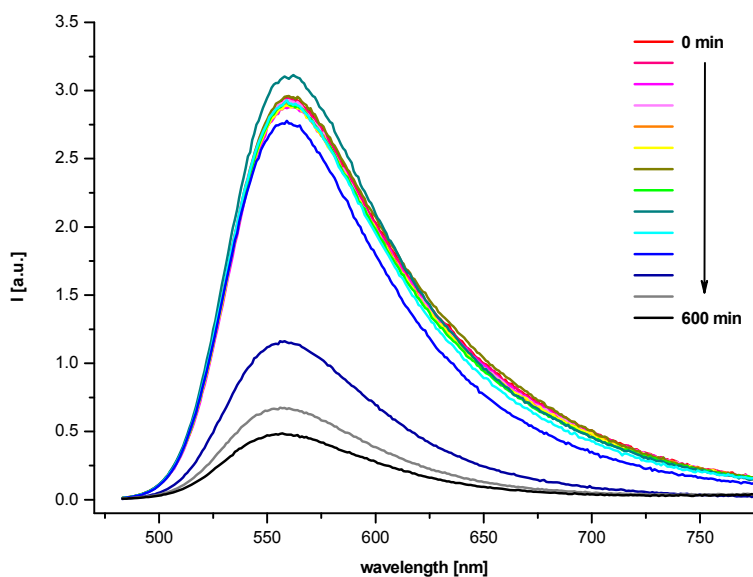
Scheme S160: Fluorescence spectra of the photodegradation of dye **4**,
 $\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 466 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 566 \text{ nm}$, $t_{1/2} = 50 \text{ min}$.

6.5 Photostability of dye 5:



Scheme S161: Fluorescence spectra of the photodegradation of dye **5**,
 $\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 460 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 558 \text{ nm}$, $t_{1/2} = 264 \text{ min}$.

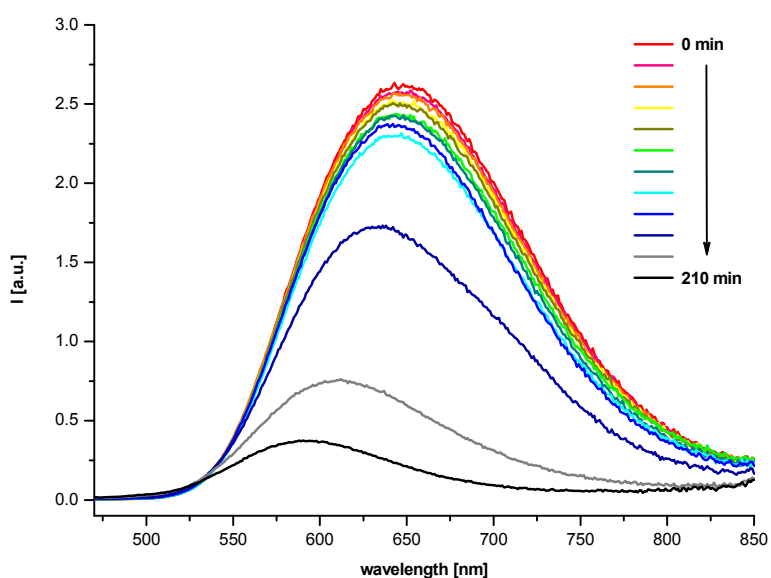
6.6 Photostability of dye 6:



Scheme S162: Fluorescence spectra of the photodegradation of dye 6,

$\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 468 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 559 \text{ nm}$, $t_{1/2} = 425 \text{ min}$.

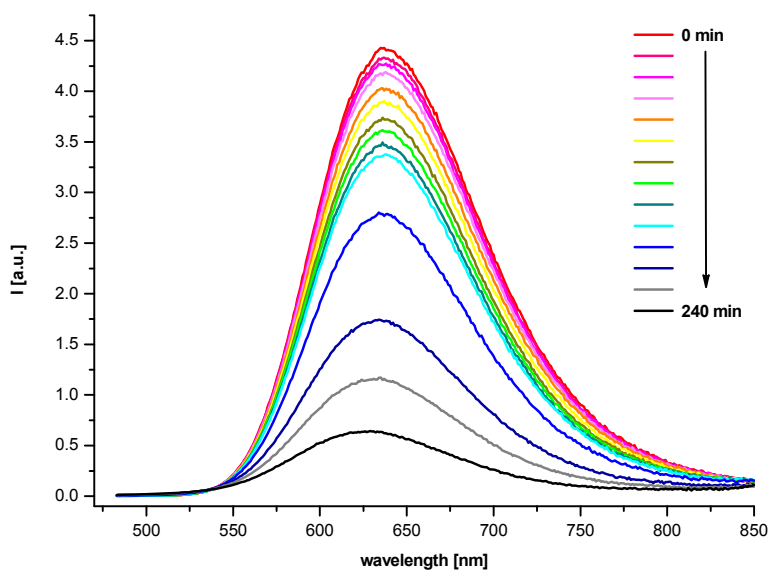
6.7 Photostability of dye 7:



Scheme S163: Fluorescence spectra of the photodegradation of dye 7,

$\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 455 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 648 \text{ nm}$, $t_{1/2} = 130 \text{ min}$.

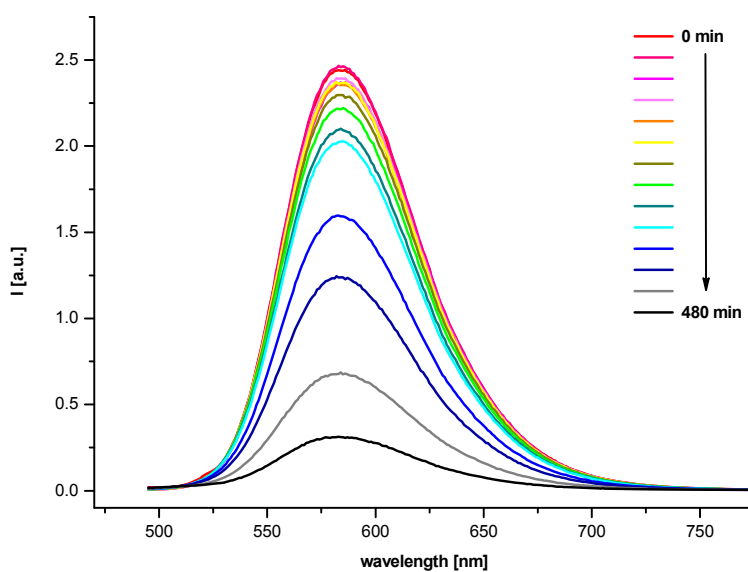
6.8 Photostability of dye 8:



Scheme S164: Fluorescence spectra of the photodegradation of dye **8**,

$\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 468 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 637 \text{ nm}$, $t_{1/2} = 134 \text{ min}$.

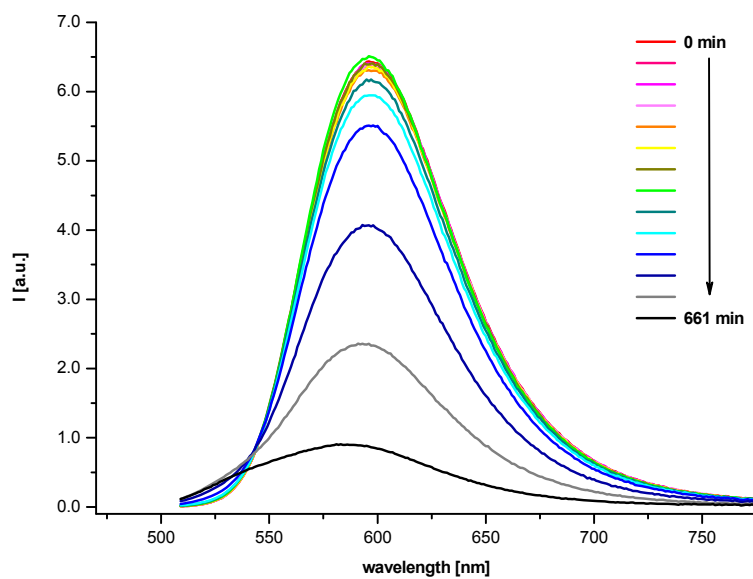
6.9 Photostability of dye 9:



Scheme S165: Fluorescence spectra of the photodegradation of dye **9**,

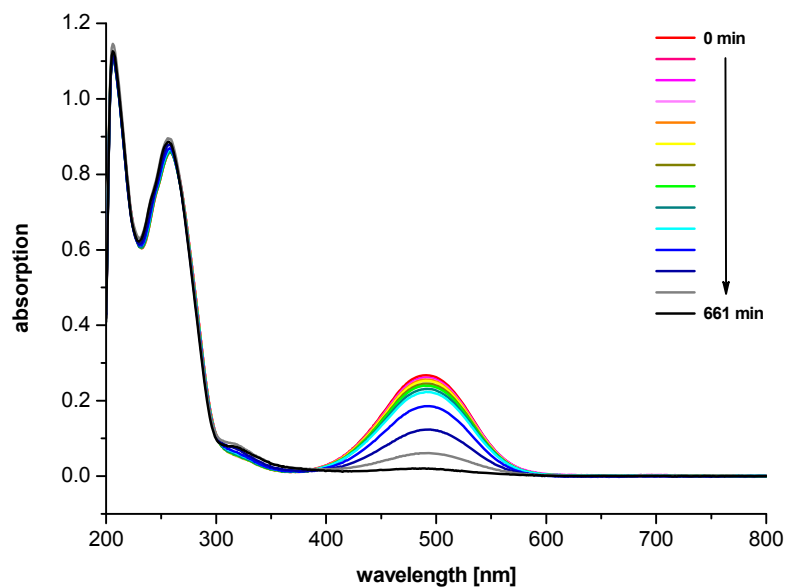
$\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 480 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 583 \text{ nm}$, $t_{1/2} = 186 \text{ min}$.

6.10 Photostability of dye 10:



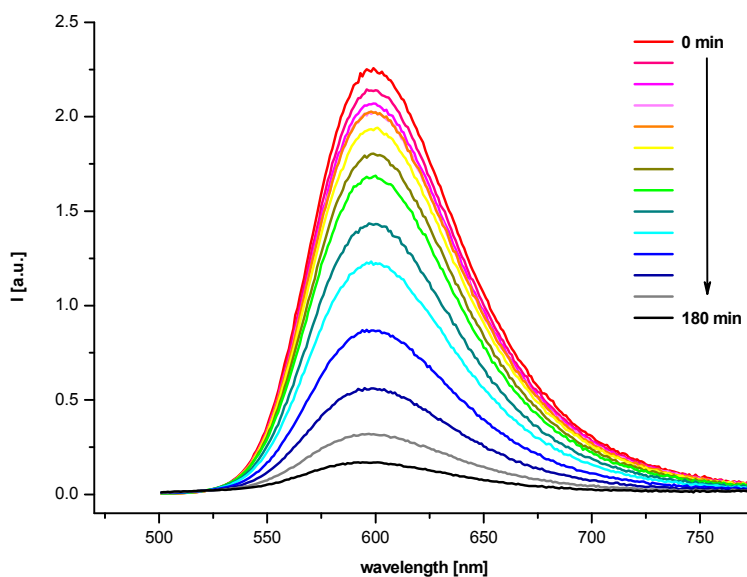
Scheme S166: Fluorescence spectra of the photodegradation of dye **10**,

$\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 494 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 596 \text{ nm}$, $t_{1/2} = 331 \text{ min}$.



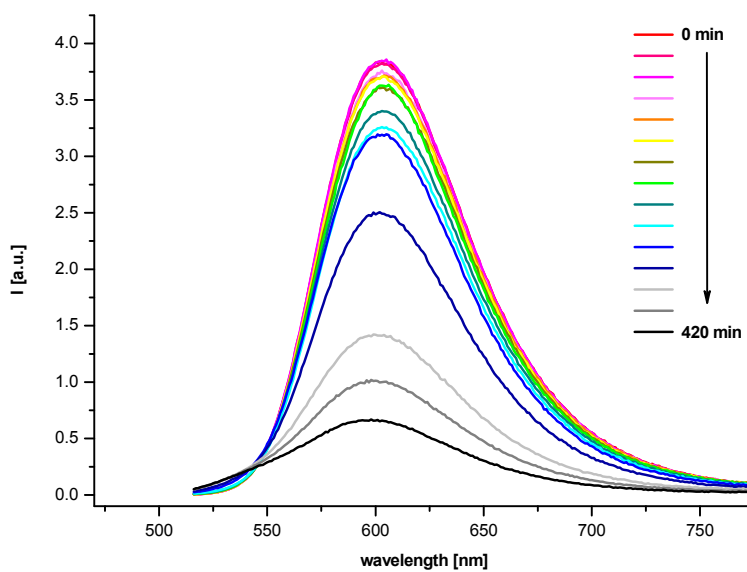
Scheme S167: Absorption spectra of the photodegradation of dye **10**.

6.11 Photostability of dye 11:



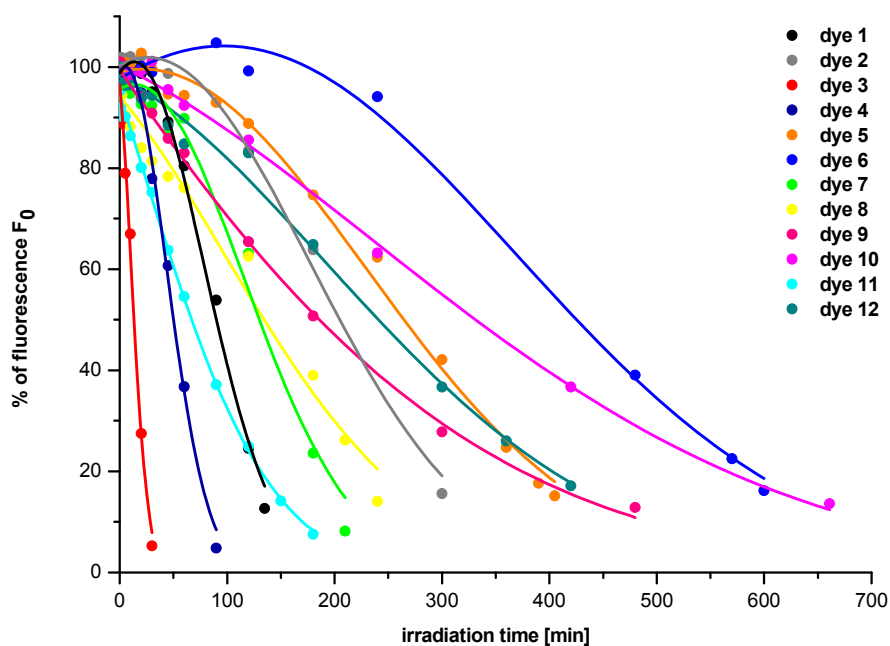
Scheme S168: Fluorescence spectra of the photodegradation of dye 11,
 $\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 486 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 600 \text{ nm}$, $t_{1/2} = 67 \text{ min}$.

6.12 Photostability of dye 12:



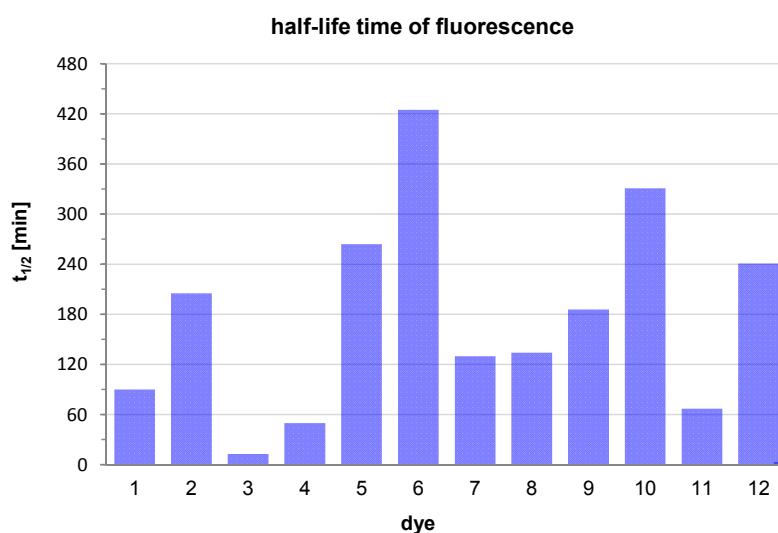
Scheme S169: Fluorescence spectra of the photodegradation of dye 12,
 $\lambda_{\text{exc.}} = 501 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{em., max.}} = 603 \text{ nm}$, $t_{1/2} = 241 \text{ min}$.

6.13 Comparison of the photostabilities and half-life times ($t_{1/2}$):



Scheme S170: Photostability of the dyes 1 – 12 (% of fluorescence intensity F_0).

dye	half-life time $t_{1/2}$ [min]
1	90
2	205
3	13
4	50
5	264
6	425
7	130
8	134
9	186
10	331
11	67
12	241



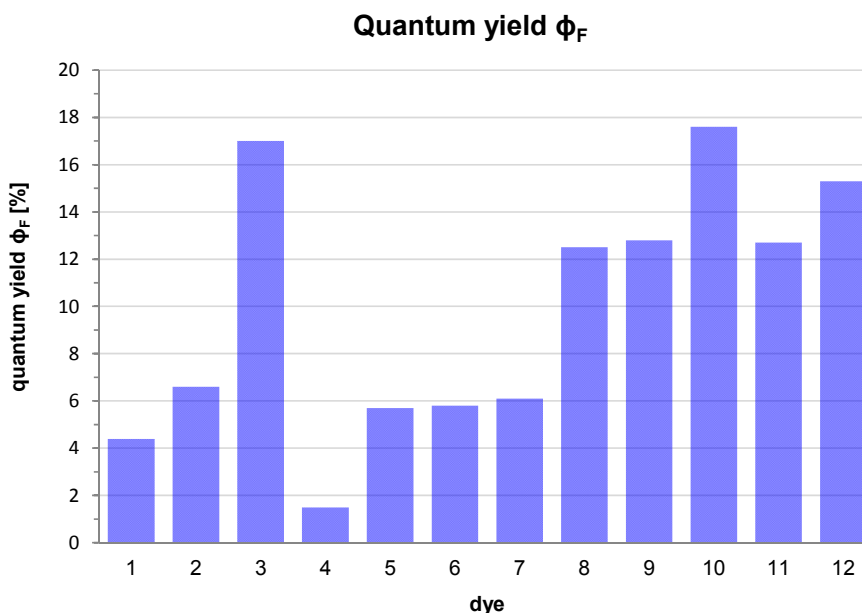
Scheme S171: Half-life time $t_{1/2}$ [min] of the dyes 1 – 12.

7. Quantum yield:

Quantum yields of the dyes **1** – **12** were determined in the presence of 4.0 equivalents dsDNA 1 to ensure that nearly all dye molecules are bound to DNA. The analyzed solutions consisted of 10 μM dye*, 20 μM dsDNA 1, 10 mM NaP_i buffer (pH = 7), 250 mM NaCl and 5 % ethanol. The excitation wavelength for quantum yield measurement was achieved by the most bathochromically shifted absorption maximum of afore performed titration experiment (at 4.0 equivalents dsDNA 1).

*The preparation of a 50 μM dye solution is described in chapter 8. Extinction coefficient. The solution was diluted to get the required concentration of the dye and ethanol.

dye	Φ_F [%]
1	4.4
2	6.6
3	17.0
4	1.5
5	5.7
6	5.8
7	6.1
8	12.5
9	12.8
10	17.6
11	12.7
12	15.3

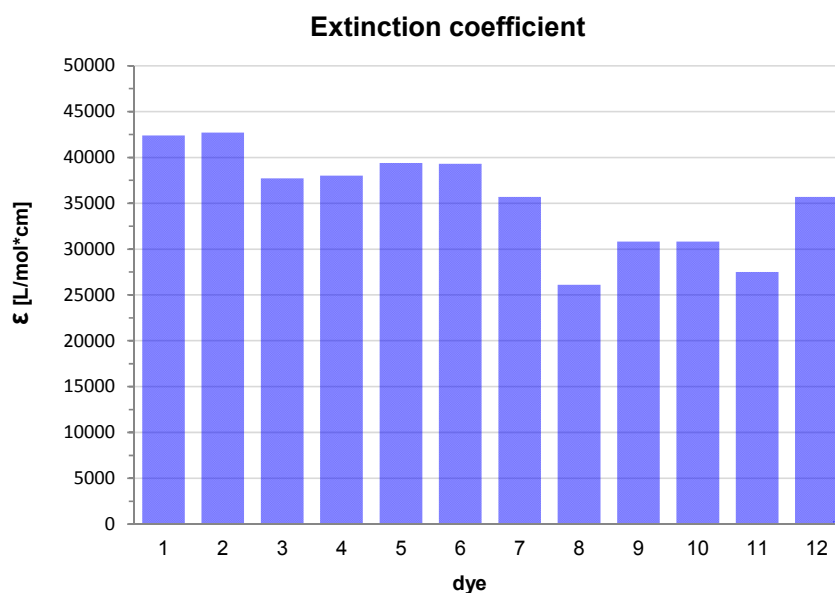


Scheme S172: Quantum yields Φ_F [%] of the dyes **1** – **12**.

8. Extinction coefficient:

Five variably concentrated dye solutions (10 to 60 μM) were prepared on purpose to determine the extinction coefficients of the dyes. The required amount of dye was weighed in 50 mL volumetric flasks, respectively. After adding 5 mL pure ethanol the mixture was treated 10 to 15 minutes in an ultrasonic bath to ensure that the dye was quantitatively solved. In the next step the solution was diluted with water to 50 mL. The achieved solutions (in 10 % ethanol) were thinned down (1:10) with 10 % ethanol to result in ten different dye concentrations. The absorption spectra of the dye solutions were recorded at 20 °C and the extinction coefficients of the dyes were calculated at their absorption maxima using the Lambert-Beer law.

dye	ϵ [L/mol*cm]
1	42400
2	42700
3	37700
4	38000
5	39400
6	39300
7	35700
8	26100
9	30800
10	30800
11	27500
12	35700



Scheme S173: Extinction coefficient ϵ [L/mol*cm] of the dyes 1 – 12.

9. Determination of the photoproducts:

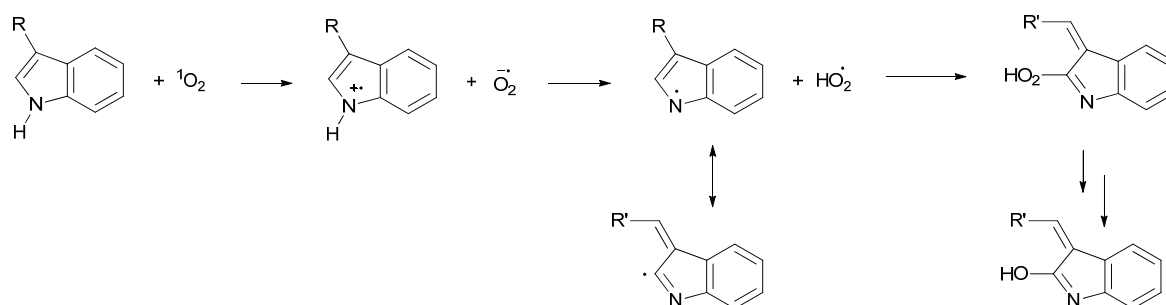
To obtain the primary photooxidation products of the dyes the photostability solutions (10 μM dye*, 2.5 μM dsDNA 1, 10 mM NaP_i (pH = 7), 250 mM NaCl and 5 % ethanol) were purified with HPLC with following conditions.

Flow rate: 1 mL / min	solvent A: 50 mM ammonium acetate buffer
	solvent B: acetonitrile
gradient:	0 min \rightarrow 0 % solvent B
	5 min \rightarrow 0 % solvent B
	40 min \rightarrow 50 % solvent B
	45 min \rightarrow 50 % solvent B
	45.1 min \rightarrow 95 % solvent B
	50 min \rightarrow 95 % solvent B
	50.1 min \rightarrow 0 % solvent B
	57 min \rightarrow 0 % solvent B

The photoproducts were collected, dried under vacuum, the remaining residue was diluted in acetonitrile : water = 7 : 3 and the gained solutions were analyzed with ESI-MS.

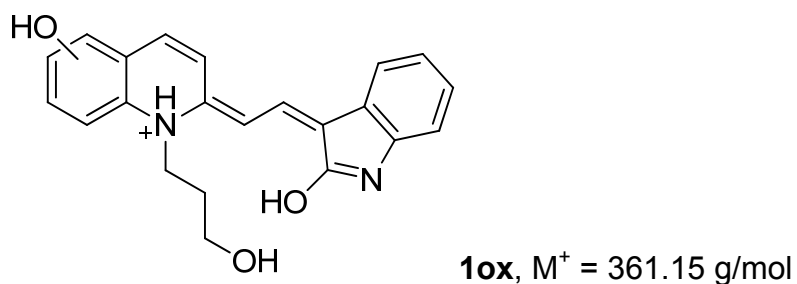
*The preparation of a 50 μM dye solution is described in chapter 8. Extinction coefficient. The solution was diluted to get the required concentration of the dye and ethanol.

9.1 Proposed photooxidation mechanism of the indole moiety:

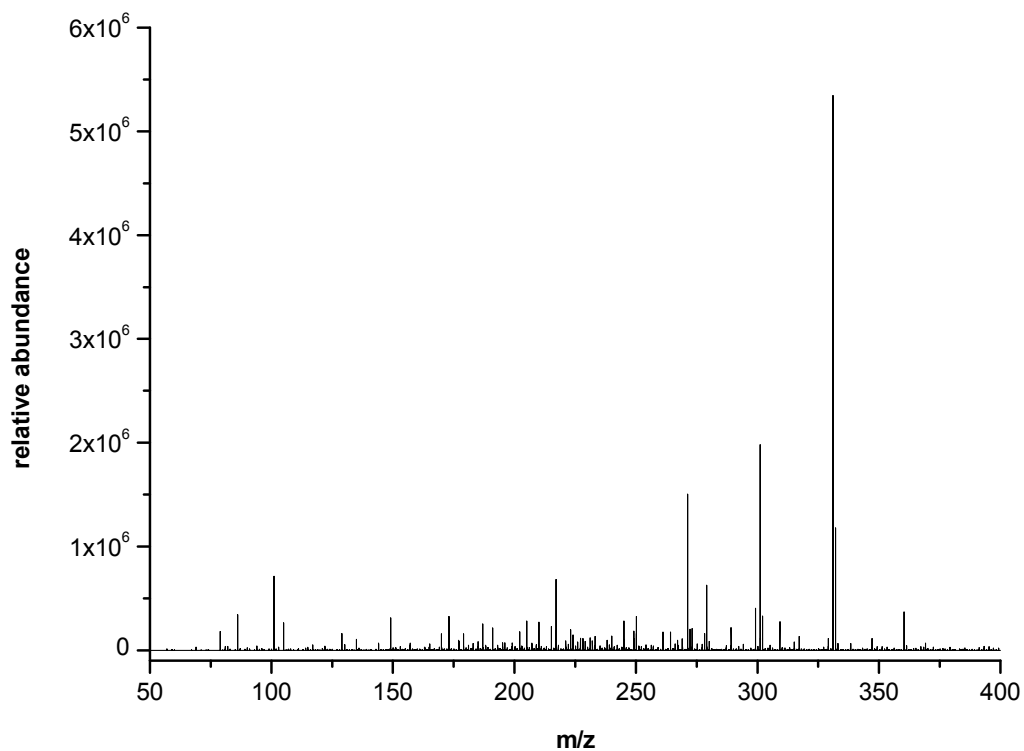


Scheme S174: Proposed photooxidation mechanism of the indole moiety.

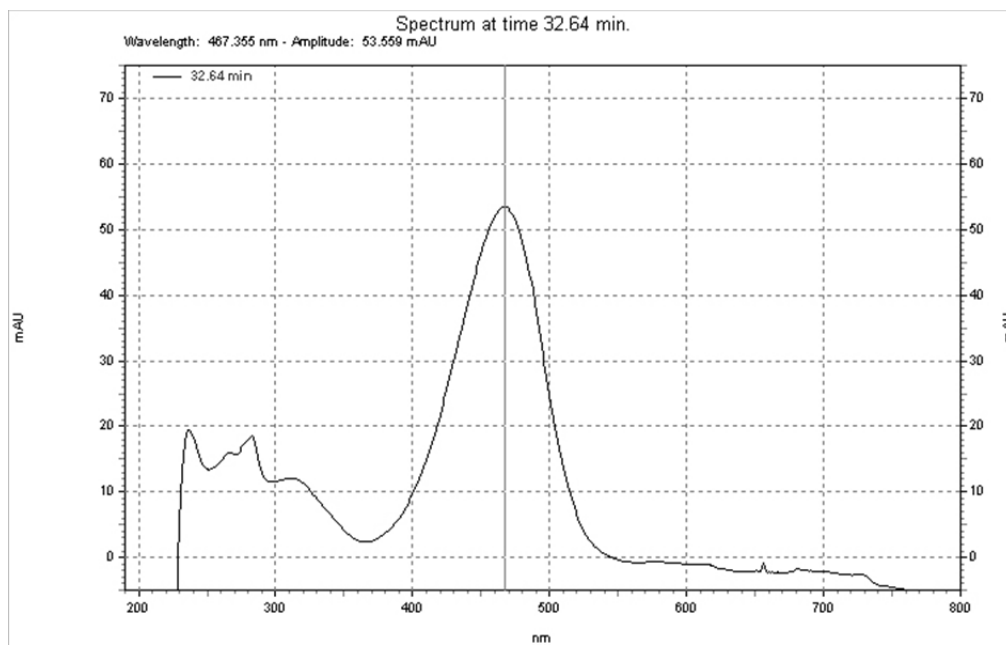
9.2 Primary photooxidation product of dye 1:



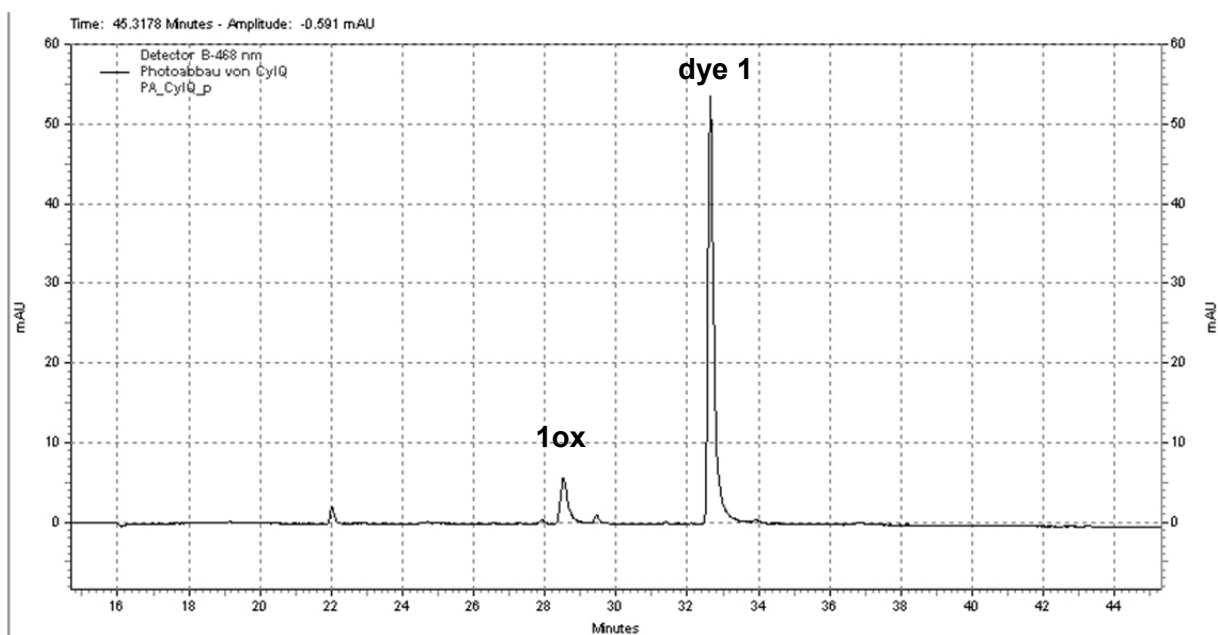
Scheme S175: Primary photooxidation product of dye 1, **1ox**.



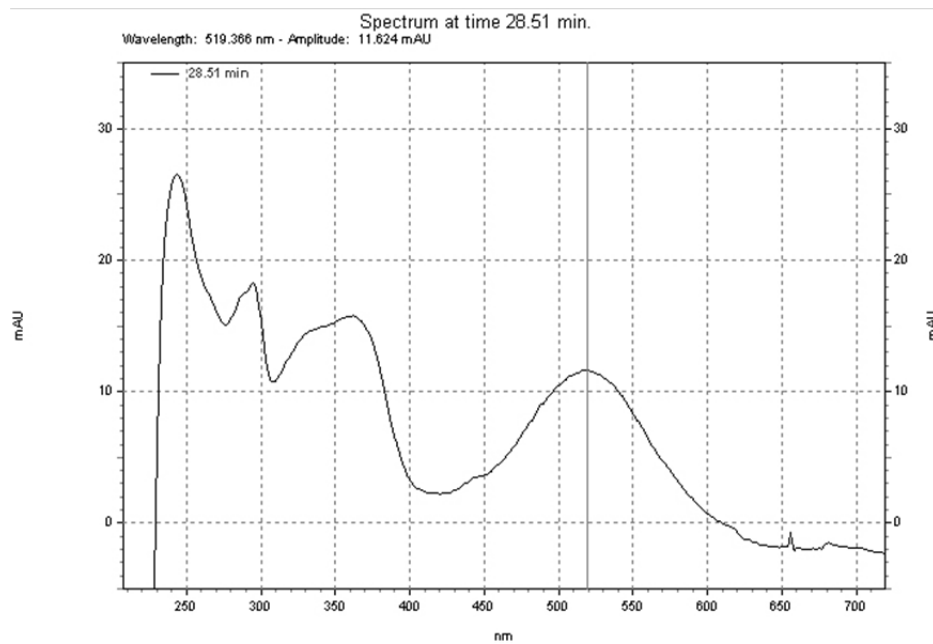
Scheme S176: ESI-MS spectrum of **1ox** (primary photooxidation product of dye 1).



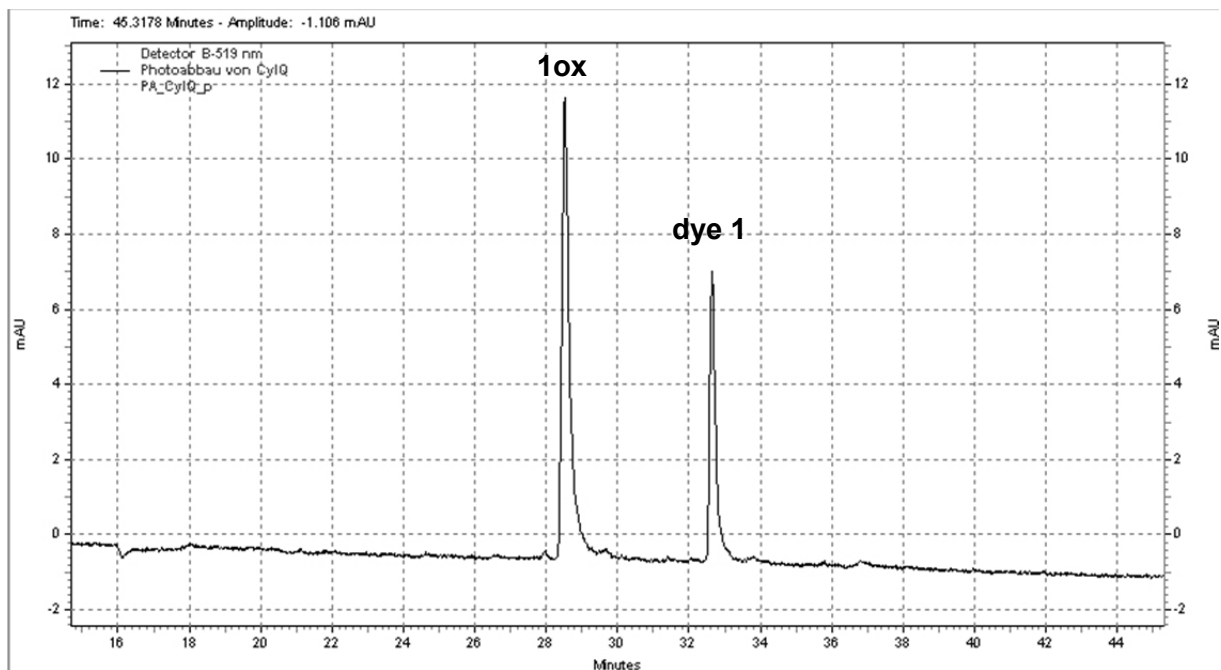
Scheme S177: Absorption spectrum of dye 1.



Scheme S178: HPLC chromatogram of dye 1 photoproducts purification at 468 nm (absorption maximum of dye 1).

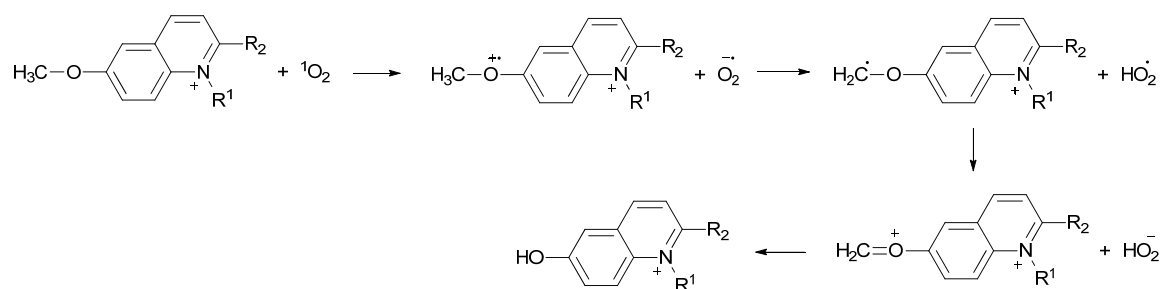


Scheme S179: Absorption spectrum of **1ox**.



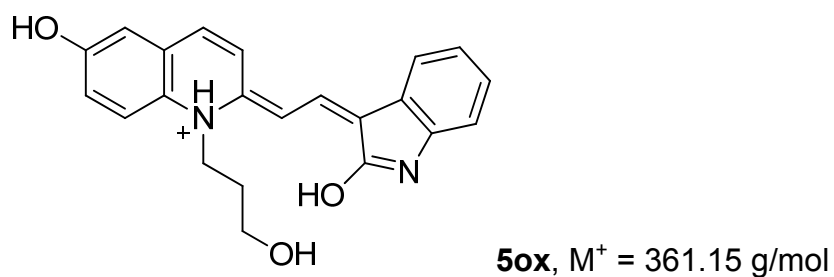
Scheme S180: HPLC chromatogram of dye 1 photoproducts purification at 519 nm (absorption maximum of **1ox**).

9.3 Proposed demethylation mechanism of dye 5:

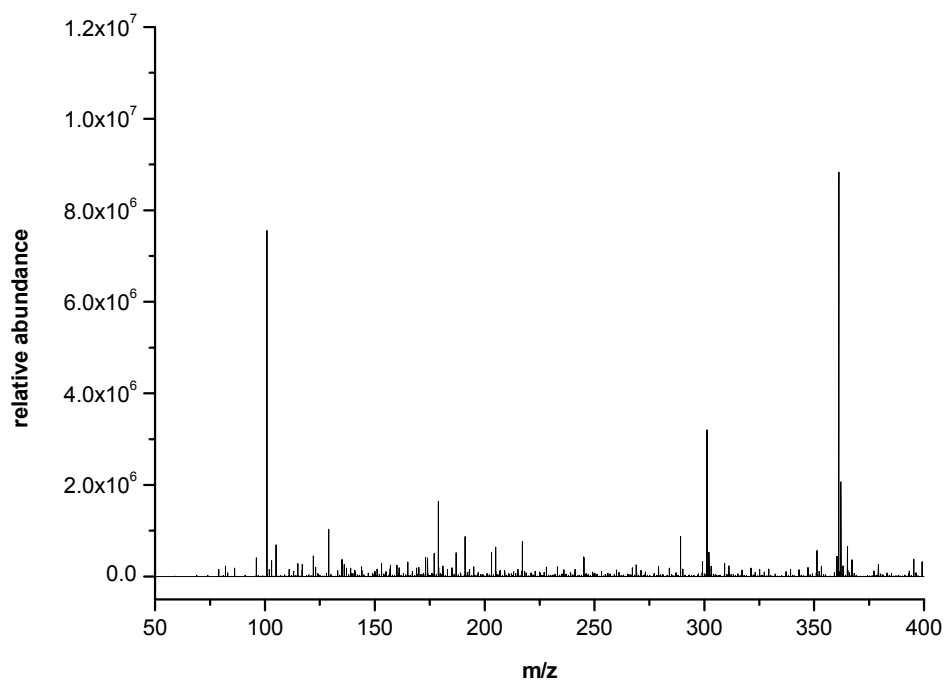


Scheme S181: Proposed demethylation mechanism of dye **5**.

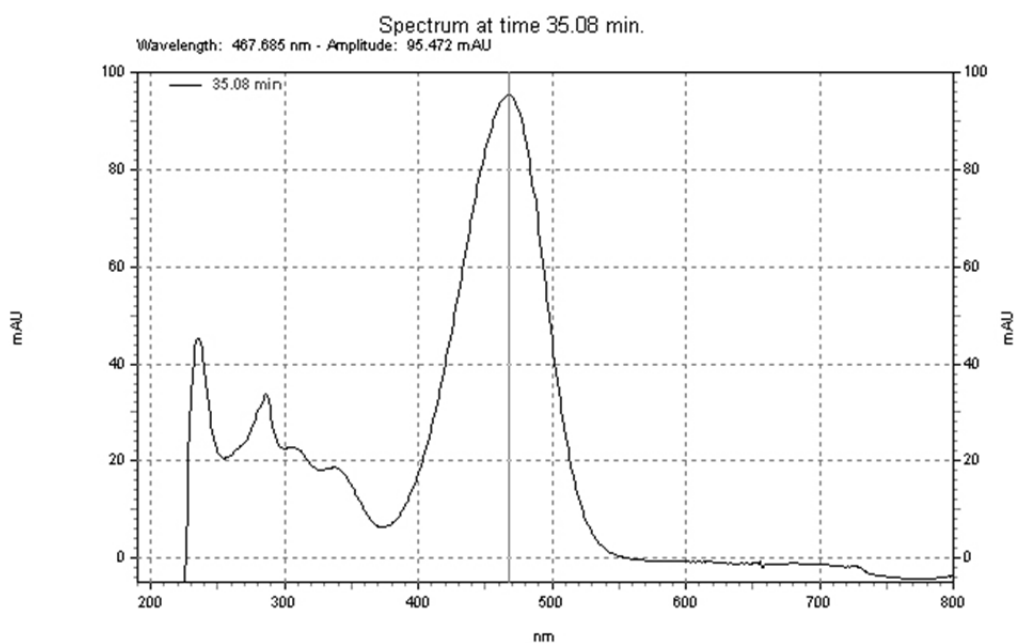
9.4 Primary photooxidation product of dye 5:



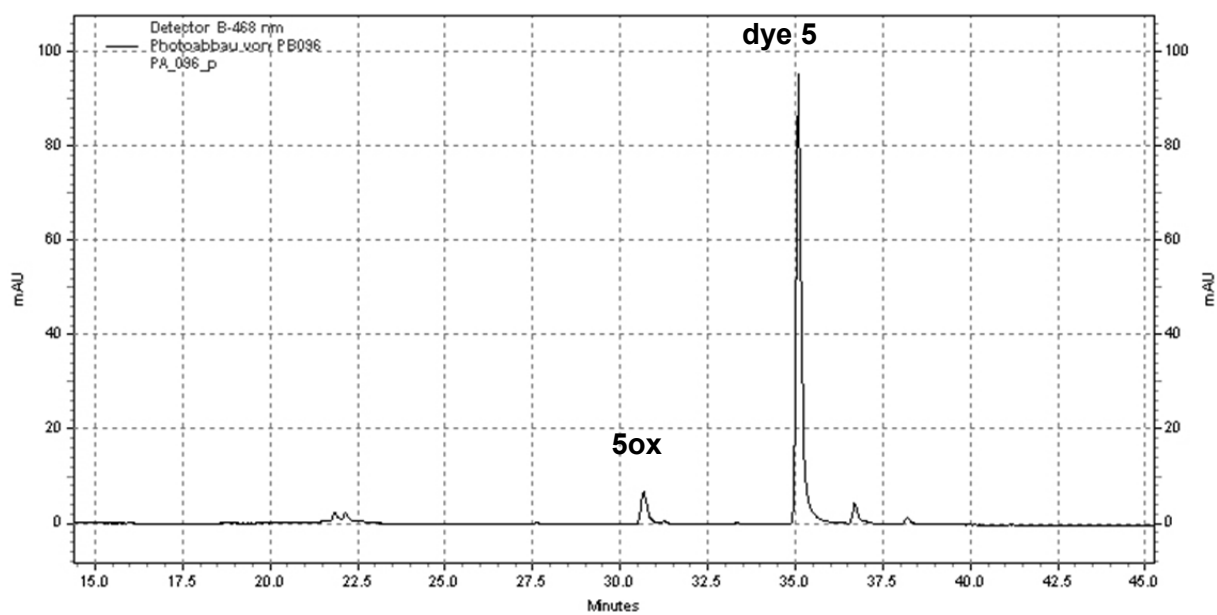
Scheme S182: Primary photooxidation product of dye **5**, **5ox**.



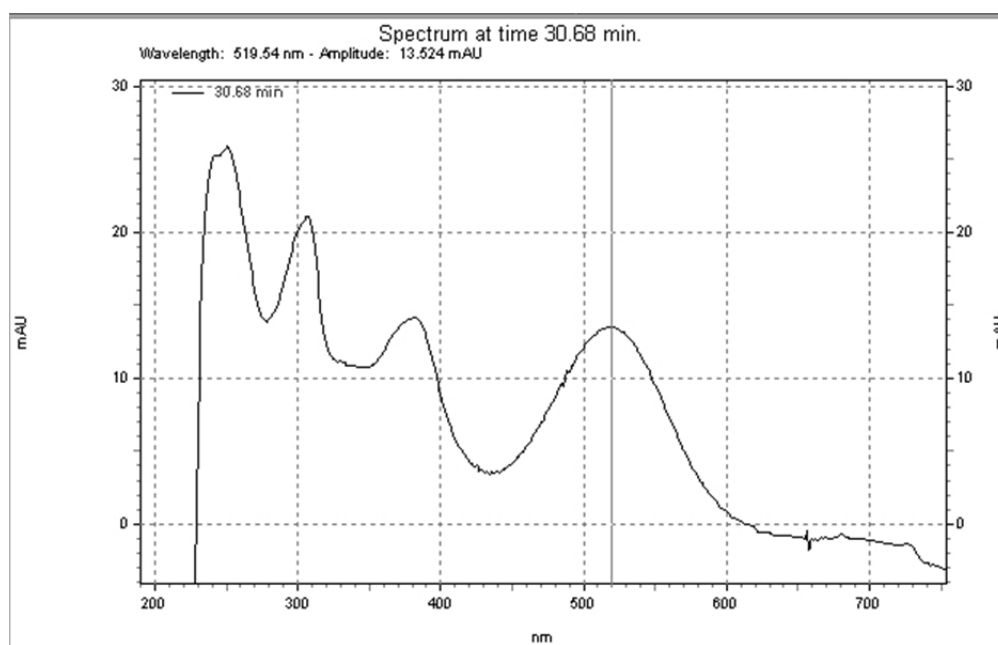
Scheme S183: ESI-MS spectrum of **5ox** (primary photooxidation product of dye **5**).



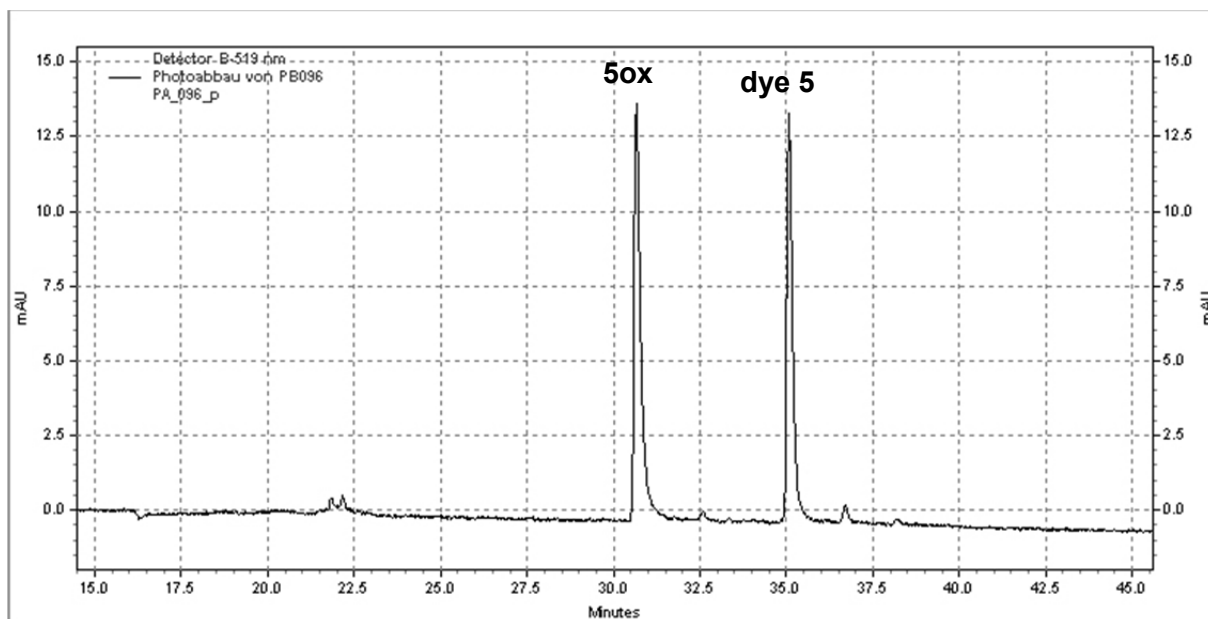
Scheme S184: Absorption spectrum of dye **5**.



Scheme S185: HPLC chromatogram of dye **5** photoproducts purification at 468 nm (absorption maximum of dye **5**).

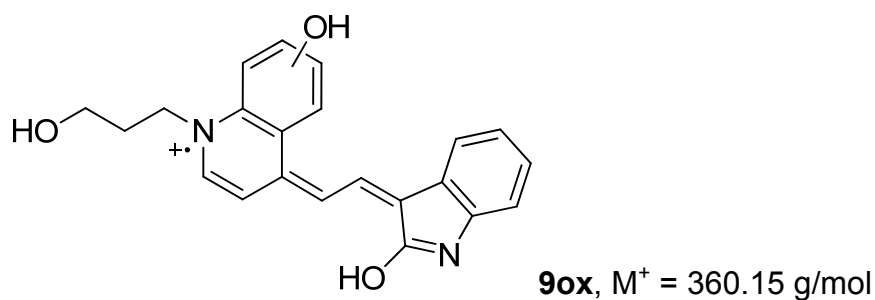


Scheme S186: Absorption spectrum of **5ox**.

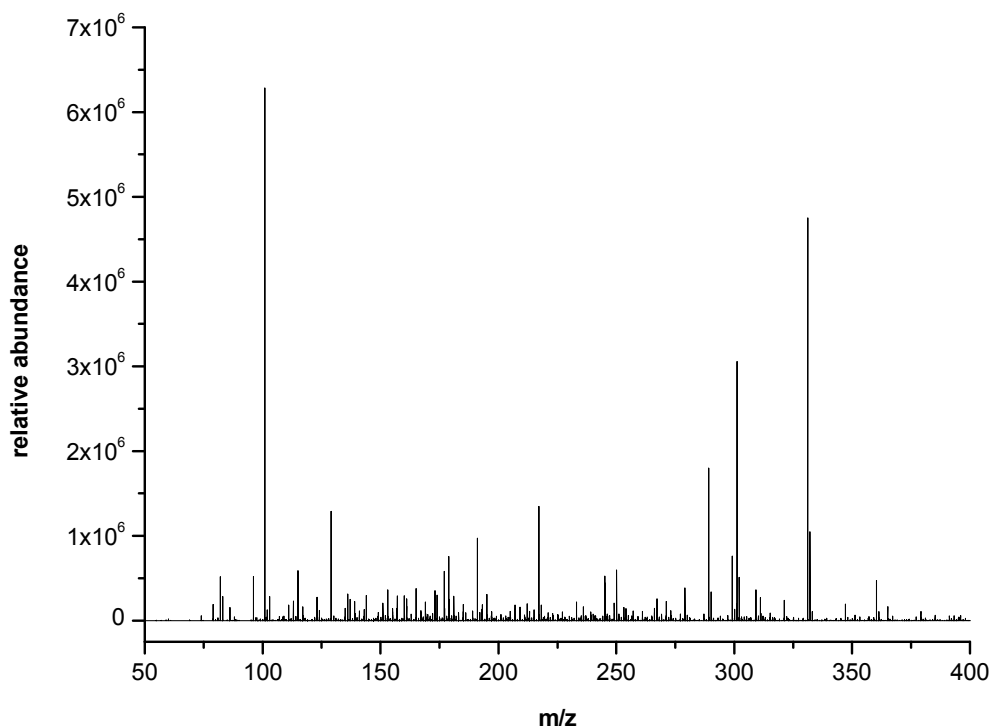


Scheme S187: HPLC chromatogram of dye **5** photoproducts purification at 519 nm (absorption maximum of **5ox**).

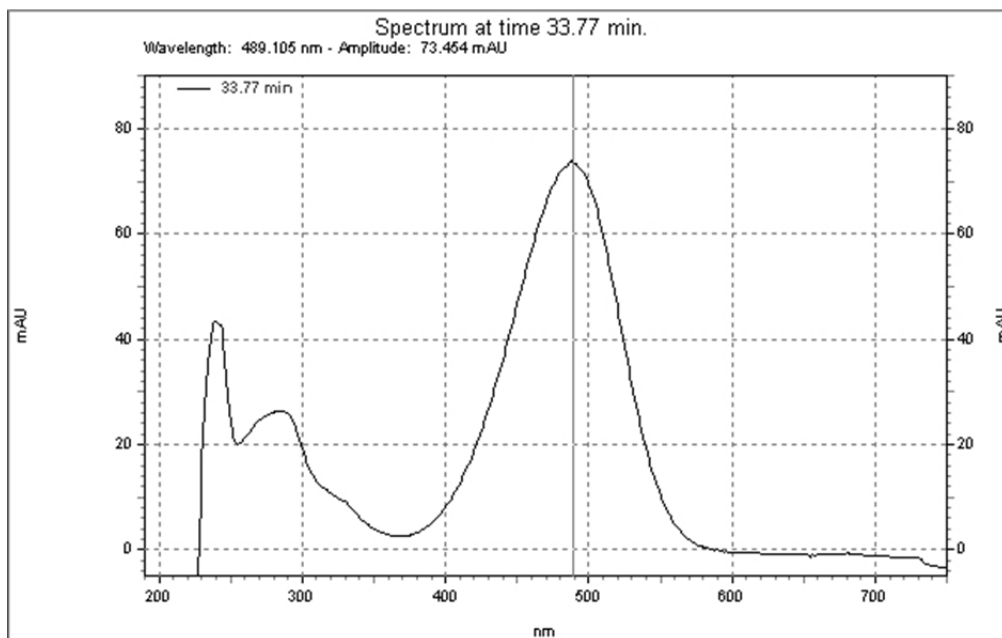
9.5 Primary photooxidation product of dye **9**:



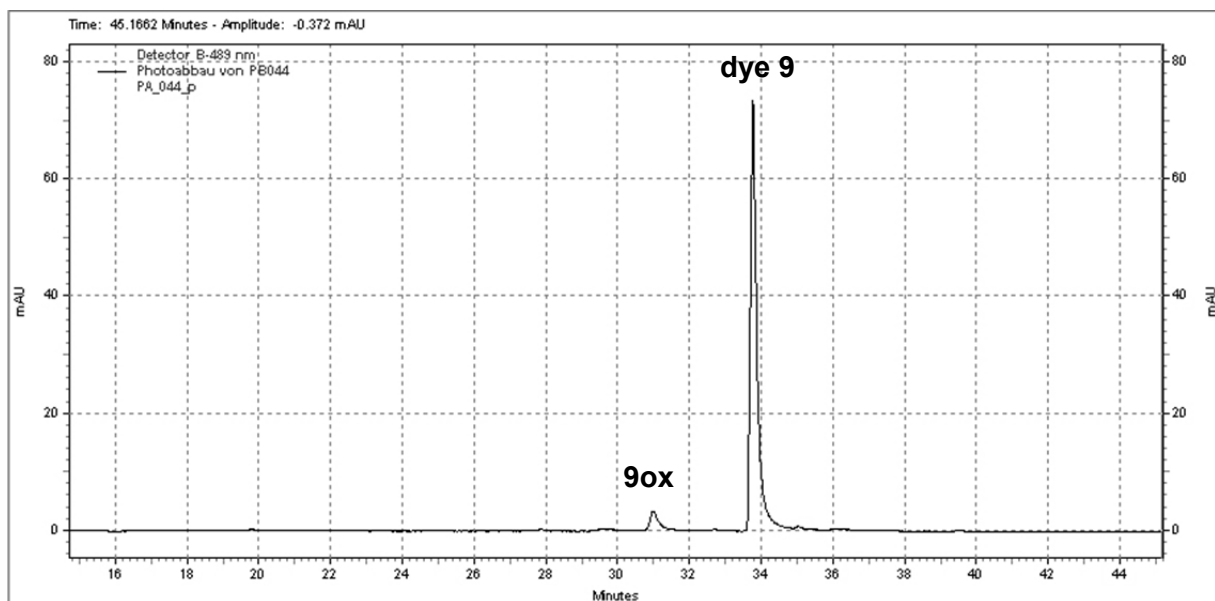
Scheme S188: Primary photooxidation product of dye **9**, **9ox**.



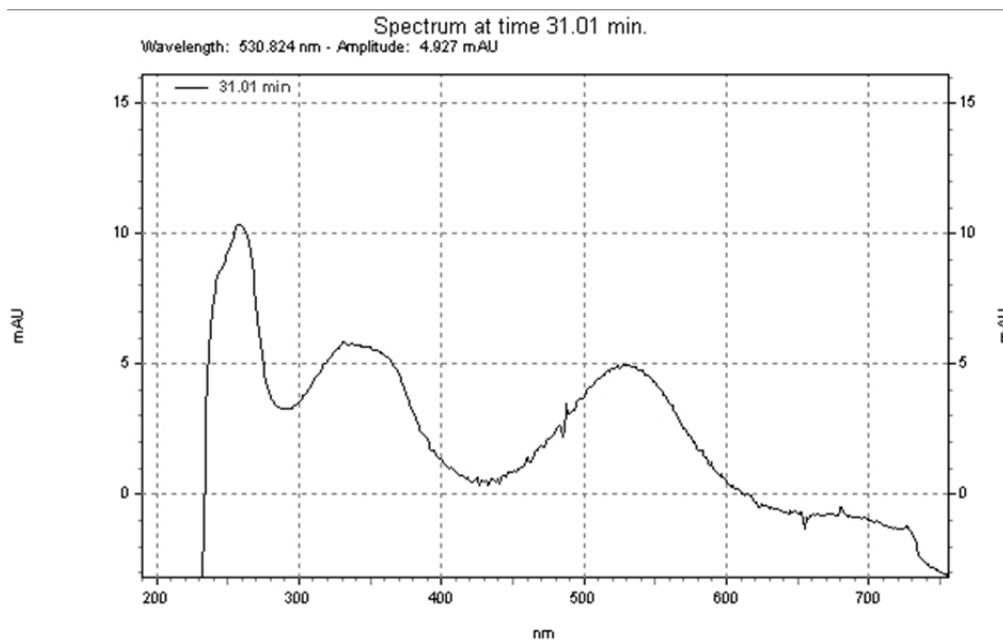
Scheme S189: ESI-MS spectrum of **9ox** (primary photooxidation product of dye **9**).



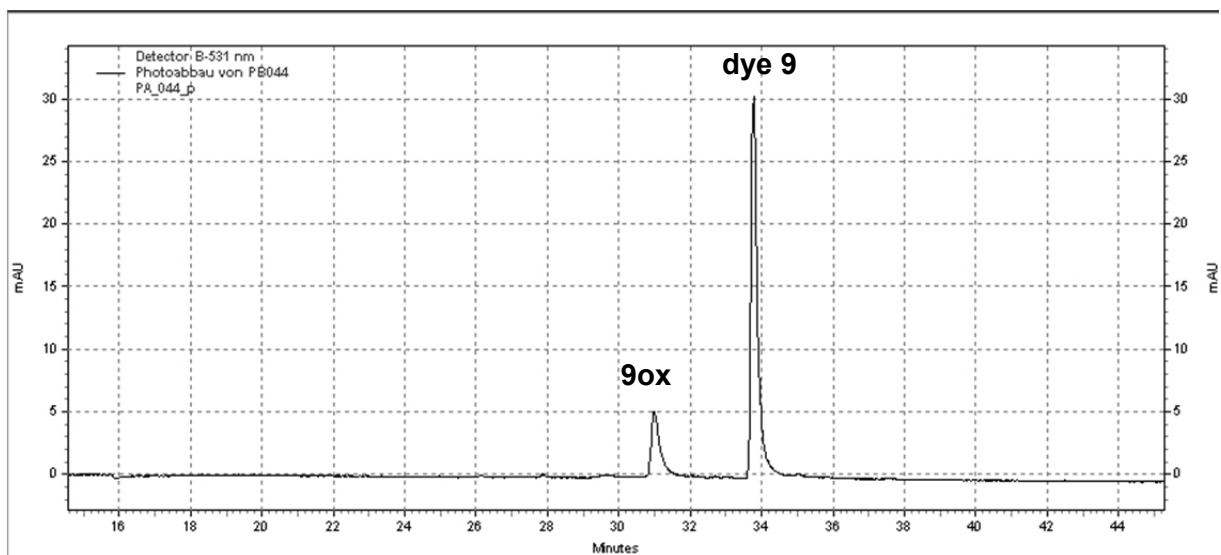
Scheme S190: Absorption spectrum of dye **9**.



Scheme S191: HPLC chromatogram of dye **9** photoproducts purification at 489 nm (absorption maximum of dye **9**).



Scheme S192: Absorption spectrum of **9ox**.



Scheme S193: HPLC chromatogram of dye **9** photoproducts purification at 531 nm (absorption maximum of **9ox**).

10. References:

- [1] G. Scatchard, *Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci.* **1949**, 51, 660-672.
- [2] J. D. McGhee, P. H. v. Hippel, *J. Mol. Biol.* **1974**, 86, 469-489.
- [3] A. Granzhan, H. Ihmels, G. Viola, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2007**, 129, 1254-1267.