

## Electronic supplementary Information for:

### Remarkable fluorescence enhancement of benzo[g]chromen-2-ones induced by hydrogen-bonding interactions with protic solvents

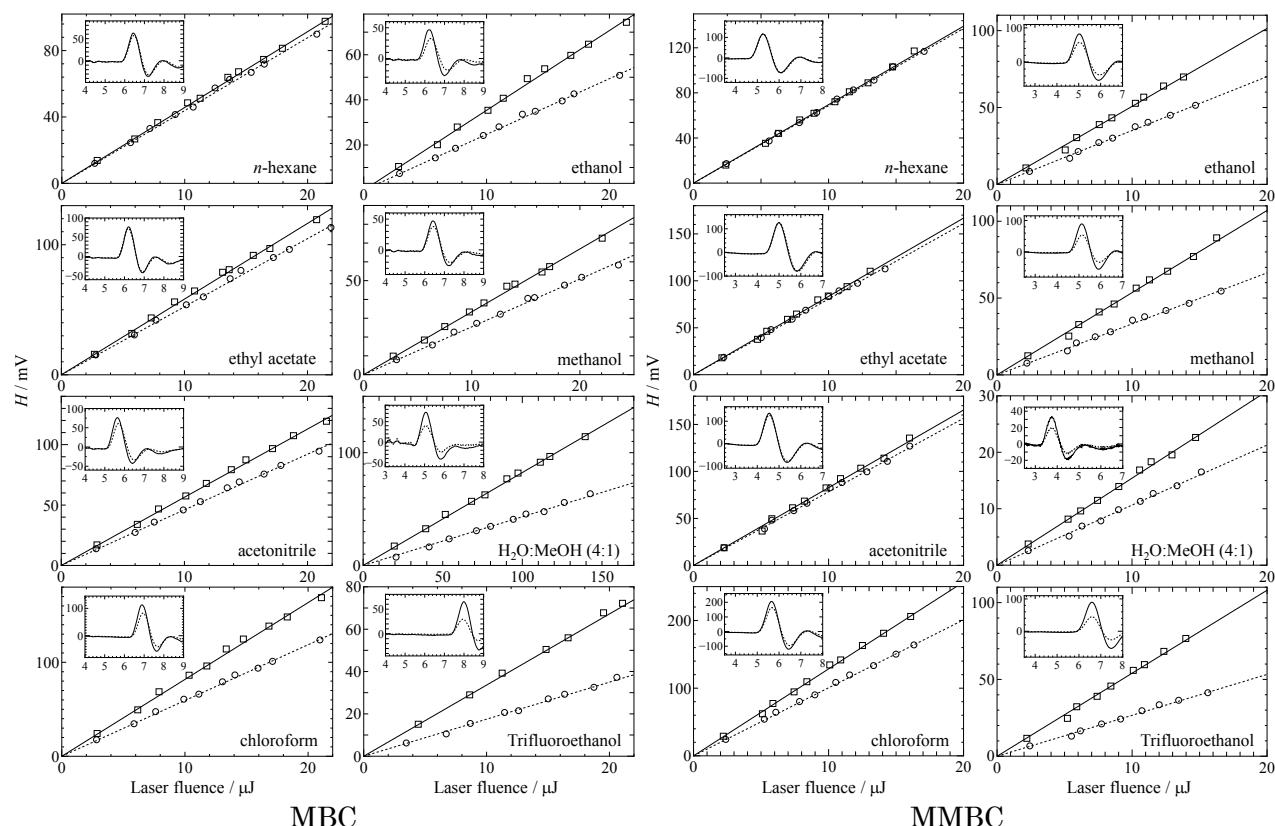
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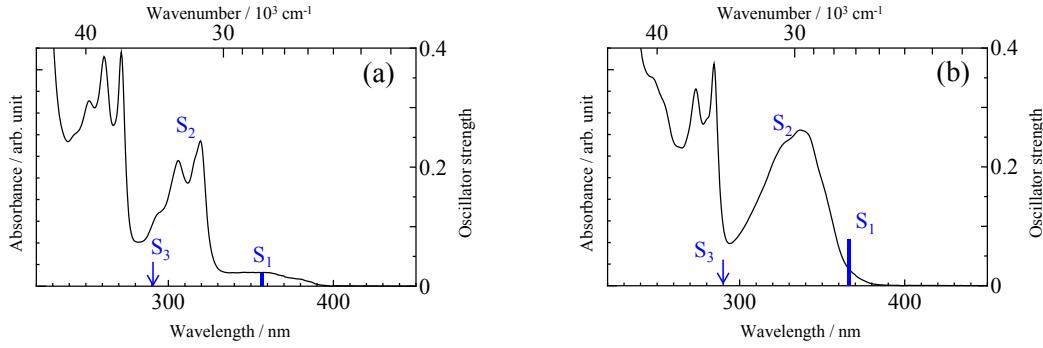
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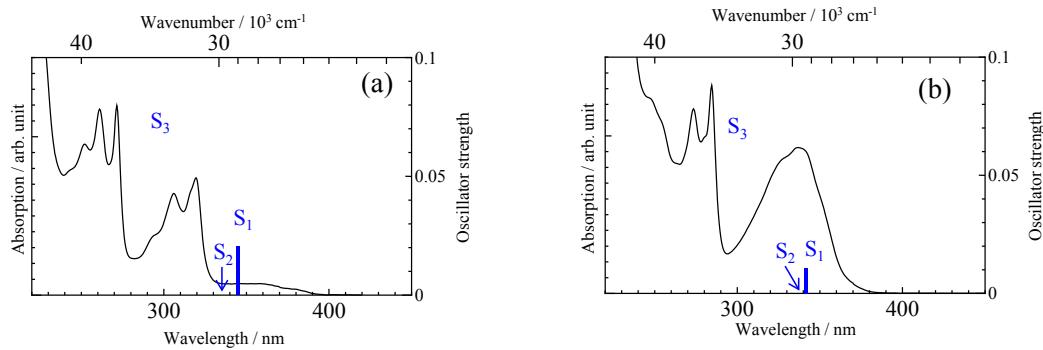
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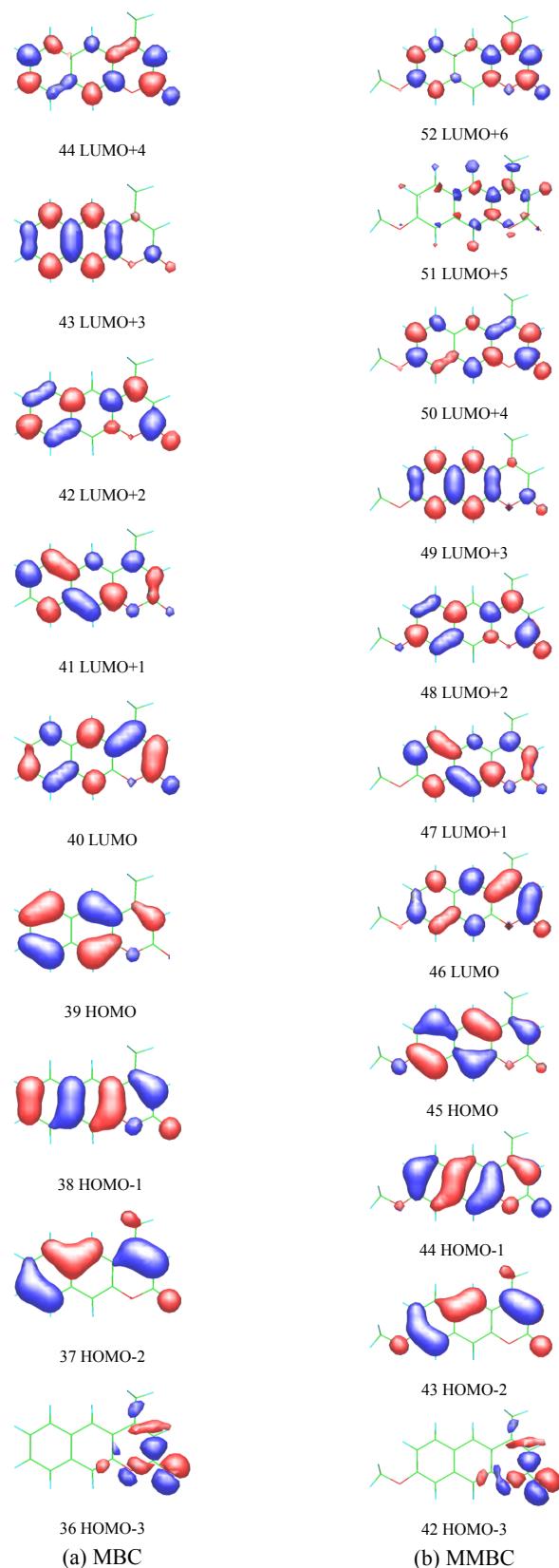
**Fig. S1** Laser energy dependence of the PA signal amplitudes of MBC and MMBC in selected solvents at 293K. The PA signals are displayed in the inset.



**Fig. S2** Absorption spectra of (a) MBC and (b) MMBC in *n*-hexane and wavelengths and oscillator strengths (blue line) of  $S_1$ ,  $S_2$  and  $S_3$  states calculated with the TD-B3LYP // B3LYP method using the 6-31G (d,p) basis set. Arrows in figures show the calculated wavelengths for the  $S_3$  ( $n,\pi^*$ ) state.



**Fig. S3** Absorption spectra of (a) MBC and (b) MMBC in *n*-hexane and wavelengths and oscillator strengths (blue line) of  $S_1$ ,  $S_2$  and  $S_3$  states calculated with the INDO/S-CI method. Arrows in figures show the calculated wavelength for the  $S_2$  ( $n,\pi^*$ ) state.



**Fig. S4** HOMO and LUMO orbitals for (a) MBC and (b) MMBC calculated with the INDO/S-CI method.

**Table S1** Excitation energies ( $\Delta E$ ), wavelengths ( $\lambda$ ), and oscillator strengths ( $f$ ) of MBC and MMBCcalculated with TD-BLYP/6-31G (d,p)//B3LYP/6-31G (d,p) basis set.

Compound	State	$\Delta E$ (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )	$\lambda$ (nm)	$f$	Transition	
MBC	$S_1$	290.5	411.7	0.0124	55 → 56	0.6795
					55 → 57	-0.1150
	$S_2$	329.2	363.2	0.0000	53 → 56	0.7063
	$S_3$	353.7	338.1	0.1997	52 → 56	-0.1002
					54 → 56	0.6275
					55 → 57	-0.1693
					55 → 58	-0.2272
MMBC	$S_1$	274.0	436.5	0.0398	62 → 64	-0.1509
					63 → 64	0.6682
					63 → 65	-0.1088
	$S_2$	306.5	390.2	0.0004	61 → 64	0.7050
	$S_3$	324.7	368.3	0.2043	60 → 64	-0.1235
					62 → 64	0.6266
					63 → 64	0.1441
					63 → 65	0.2023
					63 → 66	0.1482

### Synthesis of 6,7,8,9-tetrahydro-4-methyl-2H-benzo[g]chromen-2-one

4,5,6,7-Tetrahydro-2-naphthol (4.5 g, 30 mmol) and ethyl acetoacetate (6 ml, 40 mmol) were mixed and  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  (Conc. 30 ml) was dropped slowly to the mixture at room temperature. The mixture was stirred for 17h. Then, the reaction mixture was poured into water (300 ml) and the reaction products were precipitated. The products were filtrated and recrystallized from ethanol. The residue was chromatographed on a silica gel using ethyl acetate as an eluent to afford 6,7,8,9-tetrahydro-4-methyl-2H-benzo[g]chromen-2-one (4.5 g, 21 mmol, 70%) ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  7.45 (s, 1H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 6.23 (s, 1H), 2.82-2.80 (m, 4H), 2.40 (s, 4H), 1.77-1.73 (quin, 4H,  $J$  = 3 Hz).

### Synthesis of 4-methyl-2H-benzo[g]chromen-2-one (MBC)

6,7,8,9-Tetrahydro-4-methyl-2H-benzo[g]chromen-2-one (2.14 g, 10 mmol), benzoyl peroxide (2.0 g, 8.3 mmol) and *N*-bromosuccinimide (3.8 g, 21 mmol) were dissolved in  $\text{CCl}_4$  (150 ml) at 20 °C. After 1h, potassium acetate (30 g, 0.3 mol) and glacial acetic acid (10 g, 0.1 mol) were add into the solution, and stirred for 5h. Then, the reaction mixture was poured into water (200 ml) and the reaction products were extracted with  $\text{CHCl}_3$  (150 ml). The organic layer was washed with water (100 ml), dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure. The residue was chromatographed on a silica gel using acetyl acetate as an eluent to afford 4-methyl-2H-benzo[g]chromen-2-one (510 mg, 2.5 mmol, 25%) ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.10 (s, 1H), 7.96-7.93 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 9 Hz), 7.89-7.86 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 9 Hz), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.60-7.55 (t, 1H,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz), 7.52-7.47 (t, 1H,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz), 6.36 (s, 1H), 2.57 (s, 3H).

