Supporting Information.

A Quick Responsive Fluorogenic pH Probe for Ovarian Tumor Imaging

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Preparation of dye CypH-1 4-(dimethylamino)phenol



4-Aminophenol hydrochloride (1.33 g, 9.14 mmol) was dissolved in methanol/formaldehyde (30 ml/9 ml) at 0 °C. Sodium borohydride (3.50 g, 93 mmol) was added to the reaction solution slowly. The solution was stirred for one more hour, and then water (30 ml) was added. The reaction product was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 X), and washed with brine. The combined organic layers were dried over sodium sulfate. After concentration, the residue was purified by silica gel column, eluted with hexane and ethyl acetate (2/1) to give 780 mg of crystal solid, yield (62.4%). TLC: hexane/acetate=1/1, R_f=0.4. ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, MeOD): 6.80 (2H, d, J=6.9Hz), 6.71(2H, d, J=6.9Hz), 2.79 (6H, S). MS:138 (M⁺+H). Reference: JACS 2011, 133, 16970-6.

CypH-1

$$\begin{array}{c} & & & \\ &$$

4-(Dimethylamino)phenol (57mg, 0.42mmol) in DMF (5 ml) was reacted with sodium hydride (17 mg) at RT for 15min. IR-775 (100 mg, 0.19 mmol, Aldrich, Dye content ~90%) was added slowly and stirred at RT overnight. The reaction was extracted with dichloromethane (DCM), and washed with brine. The product in DCM layer was purified by silica gel column using DCM/MeOH (MeOH 0-10%) as an elution solvent. The yield is 57 mg, 48 %. TLC: DCM/MeOH=10/1, R_f =0.25. ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): 7.87 (2H, d, J=14.1 Hz), 7.71 (2H, d, J=7.8 Hz), 7.41-7.35 (2H, m), 7.31 (2H, d, J=6.3 Hz), 7.25 (2H, d, J=7.5Hz), 7.21-7.16 (2H, m), 7.09 (2H, d, J=7.8 Hz), 6.00 (2H, d, J=14.1 Hz), 3.58 (6H, s), 3.13 (6H, s), 2.75-2.65 (4H, m), 2.05-2.00 (2H,m), 1.36 (12H, s). ¹³C-NMR (125MHz, MeOD): 172.77, 163.72, 158.83, 142.55, 141.99, 140.78, 139.21, 128.72, 125.44, 122.28, 122.08, 116.23, 110.26, 100.12, 49.02, 45.67, 31.22, 27.63, 24.18, 20.92. MS: 584 (M⁺).

Reference: Bioconjugate Chem. 2011, 22, 2227-36.

Spectra of 4-(dimethylamino)phenol





Spectra of CypH-1

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Fig S-1. Normalized absorption (blue) and emission (red) spectra of CypH-1 at pH=4 PBS buffer, $Ex_{max} = 760 \text{ nm}$; $Em_{max} = 777 \text{ nm}$.



Fig S-2. Quantum yield measurement using indocyanine green in DMSO as a reference (Φ =0.106) following a published protocol (Pure Appl. Chem., 2011, 83, 12, 2213–2228). $\Phi_{pH4.0} = \Phi_{Standard}[G_{radx}/G_{rads}][\eta_{H2O}/\eta_{DMSO}]^2 = 0.106[4 \times 108/5 \times 108][1.33/1.479]^2 = 0.06857$ $\Phi_{pH7.4} = \Phi_{Standard}[G_{radx}/G_{rads}][\eta_{H2O}/\eta_{DMSO}]^2 = 0.106[0.1 \times 108/5 \times 108][1.33/1.479]^2 = 0.001714$

LogP measurement

Standard curve preparation. CypH-1 stock solution $(200\mu g/ml)$ was prepared in MeOH/H2O (1/3), then diluted to 100, 50, 10, 5 and $1\mu g/ml$ with pure water for a standard curve. The peak area at each concentration was determined using a reverse phase C18 column, (Phenomenex luna, 150X4.60 mm, 5μ m) with mobile phase A: 0.1% TFA aqueous solution and mobile phase B: 0.1% TFA acetonitrile. The detector was set at 760 nm.



Fig S-3. The standard curve of CypH-1

		Peak area	Average Peak	Concentration
			area (5 μ L)	$(\mu g/ml)$
In octanol (injection 5 μ L)	1	159.7		
	2	154.3	156.03	113.24
	3	154.1		
In pH=7.4 PBS buffer (injection 40 µL)	1	1.2		
	2	1.4	1.27/8 = 0.1588	0.42
	3	1.2		

$$\begin{split} Y &= 1.3816X-0.4191 \\ C_{(octanol)} &= (156.03+0.4191)/1.3816 = 113.24 \,\mu\,g/ml \\ C_{(water)} &= (0.1588+0.4191)/1.3816 = 0.42 \mu\,g/ml \\ P &= C_{(octanol)}/C_{(water)} = 113.24/0.42 = 269 \\ logP &= log[C_{(octanol)}/C_{(water)}] = 2.43 \end{split}$$