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Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) for

pH-sensitive perylene tetra-(alkoxycarbonyl) probes for live cell

imaging

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General Experimental Section

All chemicals and solvents were of analytical grade, obtained from commercial sources and used without further purification. ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR were recorded on a Bruker 300 MHz spectrometer (Bruker, Germany) in the solvent CDCl₃ with tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal standard. Infrared spectra were obtained through TENSOR27 Fourier transform FT-IR spectrophotometer (Bruker, Germany). Mass spectra data were taken on a Finnigan ESI instrument (Thermo, America). Absorption spectra were measured on a CARY50 UV-vis spectrophotometer (Varian, America). Fluorescence spectra measurements were performed on an FL4500 PC fluorescence spectrophotometer (Hitachi, Japan). Fluorescent images were taken on a BH2 fluorescence microscope (Olympus, Japan). The pH values were measured with a PB-10 pH meter (Beijing Sartorius Device Works, Beijing, China).

Characteristic Data

3,4,9,10-Tetra (n-butoxyloxycarbonyl) perylene (PTBAC).

Yield: 4.58g (70%). Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl3) δ : 8.08 (d, J=7.9Hz, 4H), 7.93 (d, J=7.9Hz, 4H), 4.39 (d, 8H), 1.87 (m, 8H), 1.59 (m, 8H), 1.02 (m, 12H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ : 168.51, 132.78, 130.35, 130.26, 128.81, 126.62, 121.26, 65.29, 53.39, 30.68, 19.28, 13.78. FT-IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): v = 2952, 2868, 2109, 1893, 1714, 1584, 1511, 1469, 1405, 1266, 1164, 1128, 1097, 1032, 939, 890, 841, 803, 743, 588, 507, 436. MALDI-TOF MS: calcd 652.3; found, 652.3046 (M + Na⁺). Elemental analysis: Calculated for C₄₀H₄₄O₈ C 73.60, H 6.79, O 19.61%; found C 73.48, H 6.43, O 19.82%.

1-nitro-perylene-3,4,9,10-tetra (n-butoxyloxycarbonyl) perylene (NPTBAC).



Yield: 0.9g (86%). Red solid. ¹H-NMR(300 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ =8.40 (s, 1H), 8.37 (m, 2H), 8.26 (d, 1H), 8.14 (d, 1H, J=6 Hz), 7.97 (d, 1H, J=6 Hz), 7.93 (d, 1H, J=9 Hz), 4.37 (m, 8H), 1.82 (m, 8H), 1.55 (m, 8H), 1.03 (m, 12H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ : 168.06, 167.86, 167.79, 166.60, 146.32, 133.91, 132.53, 131.96, 131.61, 130.83, 130.51, 130.38, 130.00, 129.15, 128.73, 128.48, 127.92, 127.40, 126.63, 125.62, 123.13, 122.61, 66.02, 65.64, 65.58, 30.60, 19.23, 13.74. FT-IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): v = 2959, 2871, 1711, 1589, 1529, 1460, 1394, 1353, 1274, 1249, 1163, 1108, 1062, 1021, 959, 899, 846, 801, 736, 702, 604, 506, 434. MALDI-TOF MS: calcd 697.29; found, 697.2913 (M + Na⁺). Elemental analysis: Calculated for C₄₀H₄₃NO₁₀ C 68.85, H 6.21, N 2.01, O 22.93%; found C 68.75, H 6.33, O 2.04, O 22.87%.

1- hydroxyl-3,4;9,10-tetra(n-butoxyloxycarbonyl) perylene (HPTBAC).



Yield: 52 mg (79%). Red solid. ¹H-NMR (CHCl₃, TMS, ppm): δ = 10.67 (s, 1H), 9.34 (d, 1H), 8.25 (d, 1H), 7.99-7.95 (m, 3H), 7.84 (d, 1H), 7.82 (s, 1H), 4.23-4.17(m, 8H), 2.62-2.39(m, 8H), 1.71-1.64(m, 8H), 1.44-1.34(m, 12H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ = 168.78, 167.80, 167.71, 157.31, 144.10, 133.47, 132.33, 131.95, 131.82, 129.85,

129.30, 128.61, 127.65, 127.40, 126.34, 125.87, 125.64, 122.24, 120.78, 113.56, 80.00, 65.35, 65.27, 65.21, 30.66, 30.58, 19.25, 13.77. FT-IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): v = 2957, 2928, 2870, 1708, 1588, 1514, 1460, 1406, 1344, 1271, 1196, 1160, 1063, 1024, 961, 939, 896, 837, 801, 750, 707, 580, 507, 438. MALDI-TOF MS: calcd 667.3; found, 667.29 (M + Na⁺). Elemental analysis: Calculated for C₄₀H₄₄O₉ C 71.84, H 6.63, O 21.53%; found C 71.76, H 6.25, O 21.61%.

Copies of (1H & 13C) NMR, FTIR and MS Spectra



¹H-NMR spectrum of PTBAC.



¹³C -NMR spectrum of PTBAC.



¹H-NMR spectrum of NPTBAC.



¹³C -NMR spectrum of NPTBAC.



FTIR spectrum of NPTBAC.



S8







MS Spectra of PTBAC, NPTBAC and HPTBAC.

Cell cytotoxic effect of HPTBAC on Human Lung Cancer A549 Cells.



Cell cytotoxic effect of HPTBAC on Human Lung Cancer A549 Cells. 1, control; 2, 0.01 μ M; 3, 0.1 μ M; 4, 1 μ M; 5, 10 μ M; 6, 50 μ M. Data are expressed as mean values standard error of the mean of five independent experiments.