Supporting Information

A Dormant BODIPY-Acrolein Singlet Oxygen Photosensitizer Activated upon Adduct Formation with Cysteine Residues

Richard Lincoln, Antonius T. M. Van Kessel, Wenzhou Zhang, and Gonzalo Cosa*

Department of Chemistry and Quebec Center for Advanced Materials (QCAM/CQMF), McGill University, 801 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal, Quebec H3A 0B8, Canada.

*To whom correspondence should be addressed: **Phone:** 1 (514) 398-6932 **Fax:** 1 (514) 398-3797 **Email:** gonzalo.cosa@mcgill.ca

This section includes:

- Partition Coefficient Determination (Page S2)
- Table S1. Partition Coefficients of the BODIPY Dyes Measured by HPLC. (Page S2)
- **Figure S1.** TD-DFT-optimized geometries of **BromoAcroB** computed for S1 (left) and T1 (right) at the B3LYP/6-31G(d) with an applied polarizable continuum model solvation of acetonitrile. (Page S2)
- **Figure S2.** Pseudo first-order kinetic data of the consumption of dimethyl anthracene by photosensitized singlet oxygen by **Br₂BEt** and Rose Bengal. (Page S3)
- **Figure S3.** (A) Emission spectra of 1 µM solutions of **BromoAcroB** (blue triangles) and **Br₂BEt** (red circles) in acetonitrile. (B) Emission spectrum of **BromoAcroB** following activation by reaction with glutathione (GSH), catalyzed by glutathione-S-transferase (GST) in phosphate buffer saline. Right panels: Corresponding time-resolved emission decays and fittings. Instrument response is shown in gray. (Page S3)
- 2,6-Dibromo-8-(3-Oxoprop-1-en-1-yl)-1,3,5,7-Tetramethyl-Pyrromethene Fluoroborate (**BrAcroB**) ¹H NMR spectrum. (Page S4)
- 2,6-Dibromo-8-(3-Oxoprop-1-en-1-yl)-1,3,5,7-Tetramethyl-Pyrromethene Fluoroborate (**BrAcroB**) ¹³C NMR spectrum. (Page S5)
- 2,6-Dibromo-8-Ethyl-1,3,5,7-Tetramethyl-Pyrromethene Fluoroborate (**Br₂BEt**) ¹H NMR spectrum. (Page S6)
- 2,6-Dibromo-8-Ethyl-1,3,5,7-Tetramethyl-Pyrromethene Fluoroborate (**Br₂BEt**) ¹³C NMR spectrum. (Page S7)

Partition Coefficient Determination.

Partition coefficients of the BODIPY dyes were determined by the HPLC method.¹⁻³ An isocratic elution of water and acetonitrile (30:70) was used. The retention factor, k was determined from Equation S1 where t_R was the retention time of compound and t_0 was determined from injection of the unretained compound, formamide ($t_0 = ~0.14$ min). A standard curve was constructed according to Equation S2 from the following compounds: benzene (log P = 2.1), toluene (log P = 2.7), naphthalene (log P = 3.3), anthracene (log P = 4.4), pyrene (log P = 4.88), hexachlorobenzene (log P = 6.18) and 1,3,5-tri-*tert*-butylbenzne (log P = 7.6). A new standard curve was measured for each unknown sample. The average partition coefficients of the BODIPY dyes are given in Table S1, the errors correspond to the standard error of three triplicate measurements.

$$\boldsymbol{k} = (\boldsymbol{t}_R - \boldsymbol{t}_0)/\boldsymbol{t}_0 \tag{S1}$$

$$\log(k) = a * \log(P) + b$$
 (S2)

Table S1. Partition Coefficients of the BODIPY Dyes Measured by HPLC.

Compound	Log P
BromoAcroB	5.00 ± 0.03
Br ₂ BEt	6.48 ± 0.03
AcroB	2.83 ± 0.03
H ₂ BEt	4.01 ± 0.03



S₁ Optimized Geometry

T₁ Optimized Geometry

Figure S1. TD-DFT-optimized geometries of **BromoAcroB** computed for S1 (left) and T1 (right) at the B3LYP/6-31G(d) with an applied polarizable continuum model solvation of acetonitrile.



Figure S2. Pseudo first-order kinetic data of the consumption of dimethyl anthracene by photosensitized singlet oxygen by **Br₂BEt** and Rose Bengal ($\Phi_{\Delta} = 0.54$)⁴ in air equilibrated acetonitrile.⁵ Error bars correspond to the standard deviate of three samples.



Figure S3. (A) Emission spectra of 1 μ M solutions of **BromoAcroB** (blue triangles) and **Br₂BEt** (red circles) in acetonitrile. (B) Emission spectrum of **BromoAcroB** following activation by reaction with glutathione (GSH), catalyzed by glutathione-S-transferase (GST) in phosphate buffer saline. Right panels: Corresponding time-resolved emission decays and fittings. Instrument response is shown in gray.







S6



REFERENCES

- 1. R. Lincoln, L. E. Greene, W. Zhang, S. Louisia and G. Cosa, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2017, 139, 16273-16281.
- 2. A. Romieu, C. Massif, S. Rihn, G. Ulrich, R. Ziessel and P. Y. Renard, New J. Chem., 2013, 37, 1016-1027.
- 3. J. Sangster, J. Phys. Chem. Ref. Data, 1989, 18, 1111-1229.
- 4. F. Wilkinson, W. P. Helman and A. B. Ross, J. Phys. Chem. Ref. Data, 1993, 22, 113-262.
- 5. A. M. Durantini, L. E. Greene, R. Lincoln, S. R. Martinez and G. Cosa, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2016, **138**, 1215-1225.