

Flavin-induced charge separation in transmembrane model peptides

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Supporting Information

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1. Materials and methods

All chemicals were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, Merck, ABCR, TCI or Alfa Aesar. If not mentioned otherwise, the chemicals were used as received. Used solvents had at least quality level *pro analysi*. Dry solvents for synthesis were purchased from Acros Organics and stored under argon. For HPLC (high performance liquid chromatography) purification used organic solvents (Biosolve or Acros Organics) were HPLC grade and ultrapure water was used (prepared by using a Millipore-Q8 system, Merck).

For peptide synthesis, fluorenylmethoxycarbonyl (=Fmoc)-protected amino acids and the used coupling reagents (listed below) were purchased from Iris Biotech or Novabiochem. UV-grade chloroform and methanol for circular dichroism (CD) and oriented circular dichroism (OCD) sample preparation were obtained from VWR International. The lipid (1-palmitoyl-2-oleoyl-*sn*-glycero-3-phosphocholine, POPC) was purchased from Avanti Polar Lipids and used without further purification.

The high-resolution mass spectra for synthetic compounds were recorded at a Finnigan MAT95 and either probed using EI (electron impact ionization) or FAB (fast atom bombardement).

UV-Vis absorption measurements were performed on a Lambda 750 UV/Vis spectrometer (Perkin Elmer) equipped with a PTP-6+6 peltier system (Perkin Elmer) and a Corio™ CD thermostat from Julabo. The used parameters were: spectral bandwidth: 2.0 nm, average time: 0.10 s, data interval: 1.0 nm, lamp change over 319.2 nm and 20°C.

Fluorescence spectra were recorded on a Fluoromax-4 (Jobin Yvon - HORIBA) equipped with a Haake AC200 thermostat from Thermo Scientific. The spectra were recorded using FluorEssence v3.5 software and baseline corrected against Raman backscattering. The used parameters were: increment: 1.00 nm, increment time: 0.2 s, integration time: 0.10 s, slits: 4 nm (or less) and 20°C.

Fluorescence quantum yield measurements were performed on a Quantaurus QY C11347 instrument (Hamamatsu).

Transient absorption spectra were acquired using a home-built system by splitting an 800 nm beam (Astrella, Coherent, 1 kHz 35 fs, 7 μ J) into pump and probe pulses. The pump pulses (400 nm, 2 μ J) were generated by frequency doubling via BBO-crystal. Excitation energy was controlled by aligning the BBO-angle. A modification of the setup allowed the generation of the third harmonic (267 nm) by sum frequency mixing of the 400 nm and 800 nm pulses. Before passing the sample, every second pulse was blocked via an optical chopper (Thorlabs) Probe pulses (white light continuum, 350 – 750 nm) were generated by irradiating a CaF₂ crystal after passing a computer-controlled delay stage (Thorlabs). A small fraction of the with light beam was directed into a reference camera (linescan Series2000, 512 pixels, Si detector, Entwicklungsbüro Stresing), to acquire a better signal noise ratio. Pump and probe pulses were overlapped in a cuvette (Starna cuvette, suprasil quartz, optical path length of 1 mm, continuously stirred using a miniaturized magnetic bar). After passing the sample, the white light was recorded by the main camera (same type as above). Data were processed with an in-house written LabView program for data recording and correction of the group velocity mismatch. A Matlab program was used to retrieve decay-associated difference spectra (DADS) by convoluting the sum of two exponentials with the instrument response function.

CD spectra were recorded on a J-815 spectropolarimeter (Jasco). Measurements were performed in 1 mm quartz glass cells (Suprasil) in a range of 260 to 185 nm at 0.1 nm intervals. Spectra were recorded at 25°C using a water-thermostated rectangular cell holder. The average of three accumulations at a scan-rate of 10 nm/min, 8 s response time and 1 nm bandwidth were corrected for the baseline of the corresponding peptide-free sample. Afterwards, the CD data were processed with a smoothing method (see Jasco Spectra Analysis software). To finalize, the spectra got calculated to mean residue ellipticities by the known concentration of each peptide.

OCD experiments were performed using an OCD-cell built in the Ulrich group, which is computer controlled and can be integrated in a J-810 spectropolarimeter (Jasco).^[3] The OCD spectra were recorded every 45° of rotation of the cell at eight different angles at 25°C to provide a minimization of spectral artefacts.^[3] Each spectra got referenced by subtracting the background signal which includes a sample only containing the used lipid.

To prepare the isotropic (in solution) CD samples, each peptide was dissolved with a final concentration of 0.1 mg/mL in MeCN/H₂O. Proteoliposomes (large unilamellar vesicles, LUV)

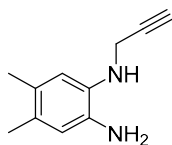
were prepared by cosolubilisation of POPC and the EGFR TM-derived peptides in a CHCl₃/MeOH (1:1) mixture with a peptide-to-lipid ratio of 1:50 (mol:mol). After removing the solvents under a gentle stream of nitrogen the samples were further dried for at least 3 h under reduced pressure. Subsequently, the lipid/peptide cake was hydrated by dispersing in 250 µL PBS buffer (phosphate buffered saline, pH 7.2), yielding a peptide at a final concentration of 0.04 mM. The dispersions got homogenized by 10 freeze-thaw cycles to hydrate and to form stable suspensions of multilamellar vesicles. Unilamellar vesicles were formed by hand extrusion (Mini-Extruder, Avanti Polar Lipids) over a polycarbonate membrane with pores of 0.1 µm diameter (Avanti Polar Lipids).

For OCD measurements, the oriented samples of EGFR_{wt}-EGFR_{F16} in POPC bilayers with P/L ratios of 1:50 (mol:mol) were prepared from solutions in CHCl₃/MeOH. A 70 µL aliquot of each sample containing a maximum of 0.1 mg lipid was deposited on a quartz glass plate with a 20 mm diameter. The CHCl₃/MeOH solution was allowed to dry in a gentle stream of air until the sample appeared completely dry. Afterwards, the samples were re-hydrated overnight (at least 8 h) at 30°C in the OCD sample cell. The saturated K₂SO₄ salt solution (300–500 mL) at the bottom of the cell maintained a humidity of about ~98%.

2. Synthetic procedures

All compounds and solvents were used without any further purification unless mentioned otherwise. Reaction progress was controlled by thin layer chromatography (TLC) using silica gel aluminium plates (Merck, silica gel 60, thickness 0.2 mm, F₂₅₄ or for reversed phase analysis Merck, silica gel 60 RP-18, thickness 0.2 mm, F_{254S}). Analysis was performed by irradiation with UV light (λ_{exc} = 254 nm or 366 nm) or by staining with ninhydrin solution. The crude reaction mixtures got purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel 60 (Merck, 230-400 mesh) or by automated column chromatography at a IntelliFlash 310 (Varian) using Biotage SNAP Cartridge KP-C18-HS (60g) reversed phase columns. Each compound got analyzed by NMR spectroscopy at a Bruker Avance 500 spectrometer using the Bruker Ascend 500 spectrometer hardware. ¹H-NMR (500 MHz) and ¹³C-NMR (126 MHz) measurements were performed either in DMSO-d₆ or CDCl₃ and the resulting spectra were calibrated respective to the solvent signal (δ = 2.50 ppm (¹H) and δ = 39.52 ppm (¹³C) for DMSO-d₆ or 7.260 ppm (¹H) and δ = 77.160 ppm (¹³C) for CDCl₃). The spectra were reported in part per million (ppm). Coupling constants (J) are given in Hertz (Hz) and the multiplicity of the signals is given as followed: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, br s = broad singlet, dt (doublet of triplets), td (triplet of doublets).

Compound 2



$C_{11}H_{14}N_2$
Exakte Masse: 174,12

The synthetic route for compound **2** is derived from the literature.^[4]

2.50 g 4,5-dimethylbenzene-1,2-diamine (0.018 mol, 1.00 equiv.) and 2.79 g K_2CO_3 (0.018 mol, 1.10 equiv.) were added to 100 mL tetrahydrofurane. Afterwards 1.97 mL 3-bromopropine (0.018 mol, 1.00 equiv.) were added dropwise to the reaction mixture. After stirring for 24 h about 100 mL saturated sodium chloride solution were added. And the mixture was extracted three times with ethyl acetate. After drying over sodium sulfate and removing the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude product got purified by silica gel column chromatography using ethyl acetate (17-33 %) in hexane. The product was isolated in 44 % yield as red-brown oil (1.41 g, 0.008 mol).

TLC (Hexane, 16 % EtOAc): $R_f = 0.22$.

1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ (ppm) = 2,17 (s, 3H, C- CH_3); 2.22 (s, 3H, C- CH_3); 2.28 (t, $J^4 = 2.33$ Hz, $\equiv CH$); 3.38 (s, 2H, NH_2); 3.91 (d, 2H, $J^4 = 2.40$ Hz, $-CH_2-$); 6.56 (s, 1H, aryl-H); 6.59 (s, 1H, aryl-H).

^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ (ppm) = 18.97 (CH_3); 19.34 (CH_3); 34.37 ($-CH_2-$), 71.52 ($\equiv CH$); 81.66 ($CH_2-C\equiv CH$); 115.45 (aryl-C); 118.55 (aryl-C); 127.89 (CH_3-); 133.04 (C-N); 133.90 (C-N).

HRMS-FAB (m/z): calcd for $C_{11}H_{14}N_2$ [M^+]: 174.1157; found [M^+]: 174.1158.

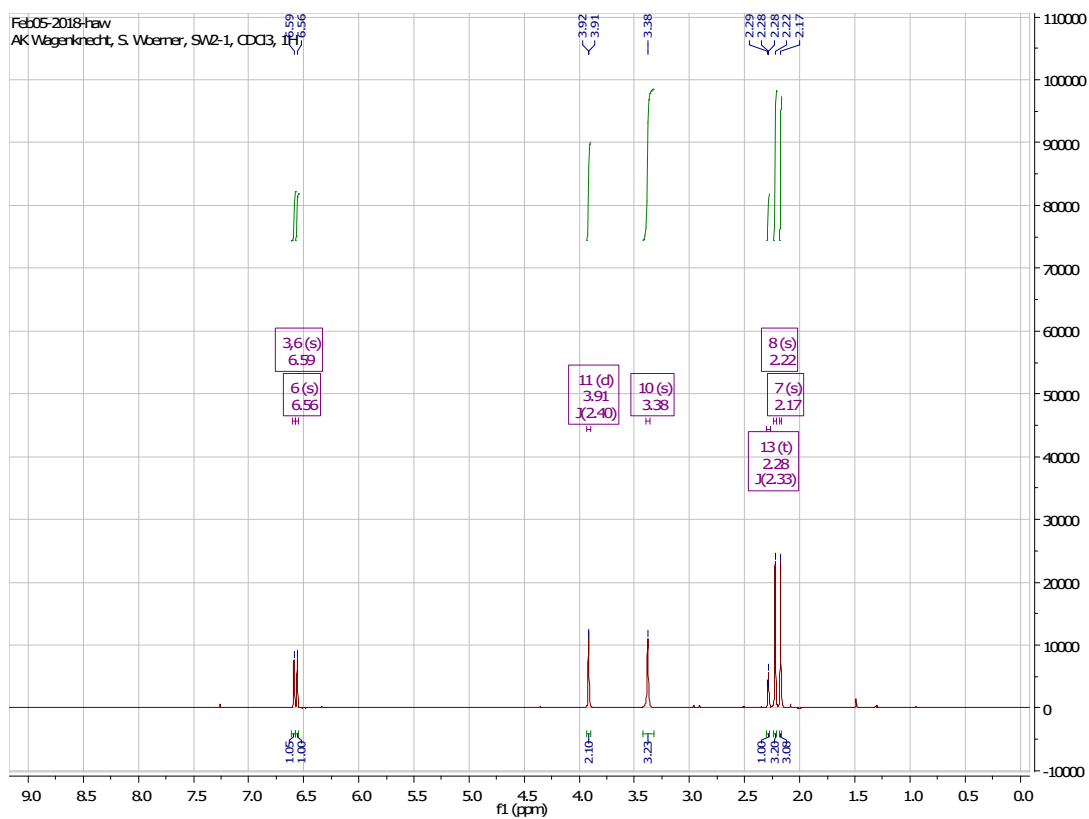


Figure S1: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) of 2.

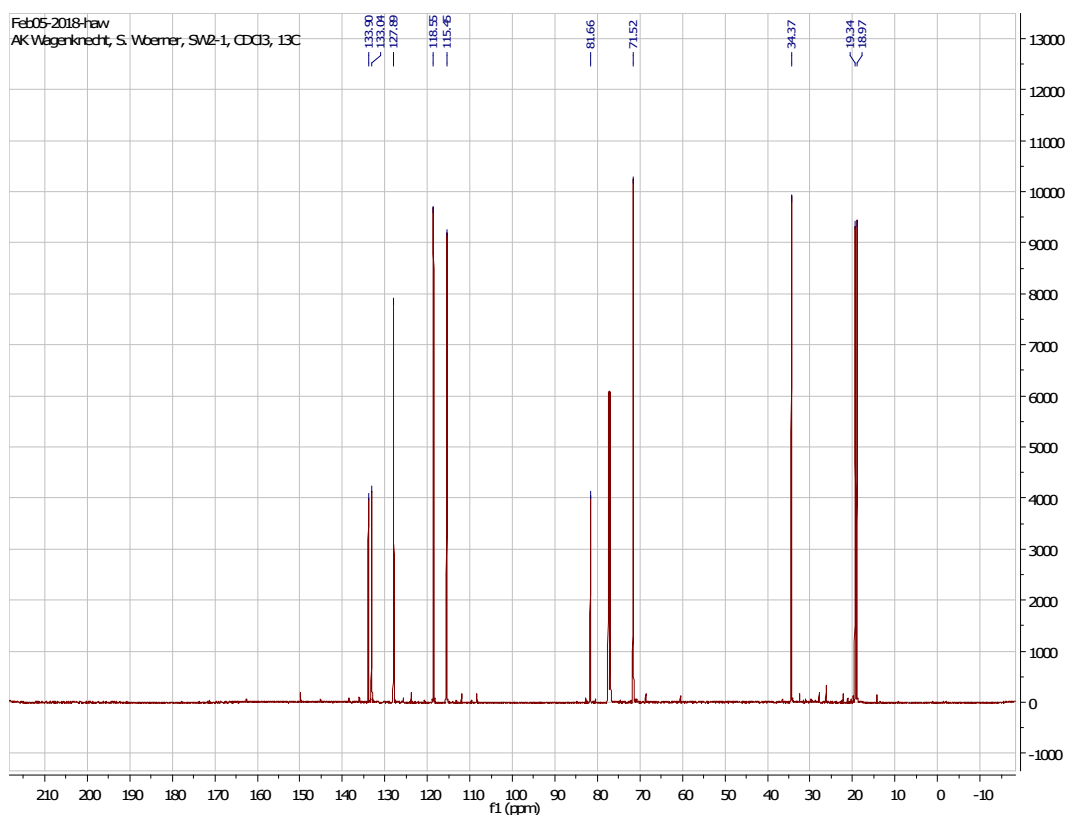
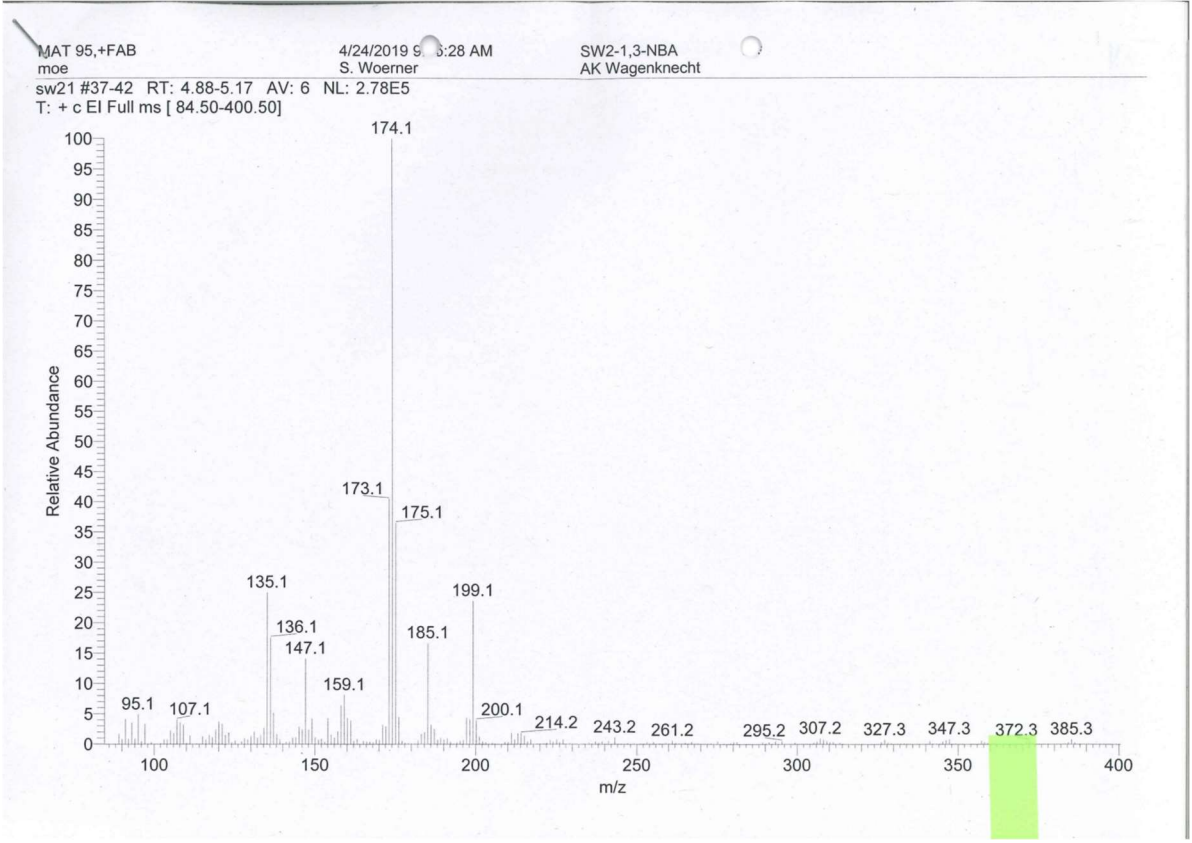


Figure S2: ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) of 2.



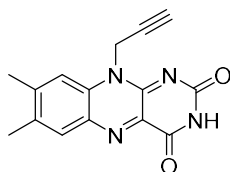
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T: + c EI Full ms [84.48-400.48]
m/z= 174.0931-174.1468

m/z	Intensity	Relative	Theo. Mass	Delta (mmu)	Composition
174.1158	254591.0	100.00	174.1157	0.09	C ₁₁ H ₁₄ N ₂

Figure S3: HRMS-FAB of 2.

Compound 3



$C_{15}H_{12}N_4O_2$
Exakte Masse: 280,10

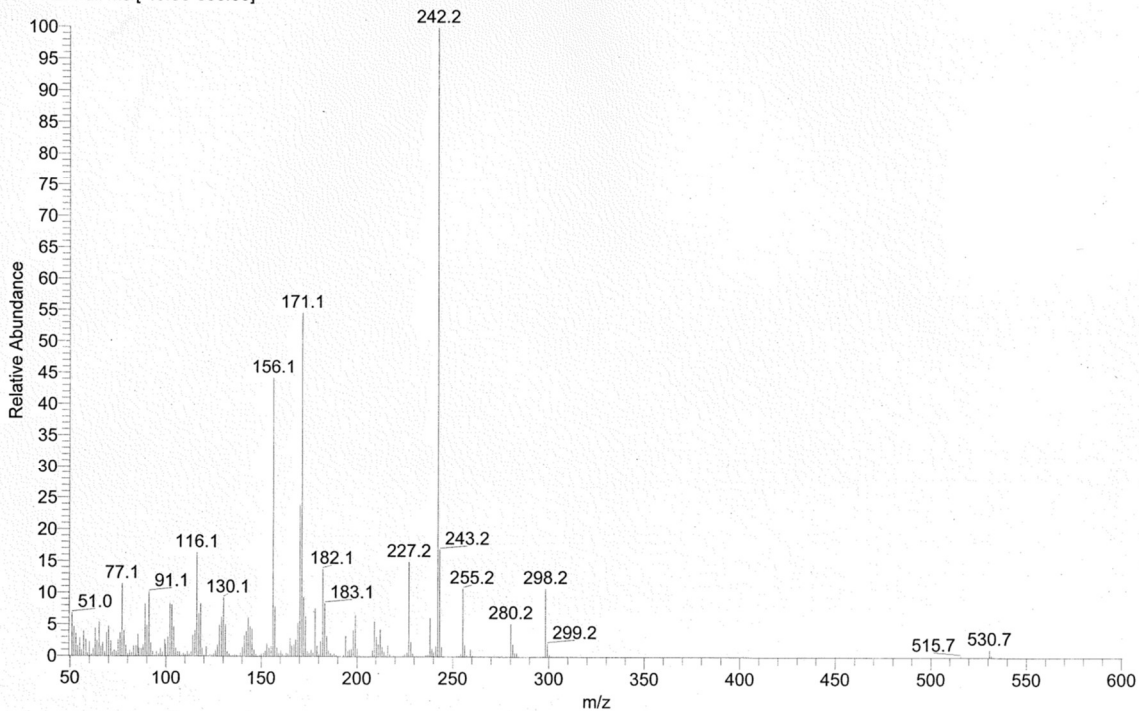
1.41 g **2** (0.0081 mol, 1.00 equiv.), 1.62 g alloxan monohydrate (0.010 mol, 1.25 equiv.) and 1.13 g boron trioxide (0.016 mol, 2.00 equiv.) were combined in 50 mL acetic acid (96%) and stirred over night at 60°C. The solid product got filtered and kindly washed with water. After drying the product was obtained as yellow solid in 79% yield (1.79 g, 0.006 mol).

RP-TLC (H_2O , 33 % MeCN): $R_f = 0.14$.

Due the bad solubility of compound **3** no significant NMR spectrum could be received.

HRMS-EI (m/z): calcd for $C_{15}H_{12}N_4O_2$ [M^+]: 280.0960; found [M^+]: 280.0962.

MAT 95,+EI,Que 110,dir offen 11/19/2018 01:24 PM SW2-2
 moe S. Woerner AK Wagenknecht
 sw22_181119160124 #1-3 RT: 0.13-0.31 AV: 3 NL: 2.52E6
 T: + c EI Full ms [49.50-600.50]



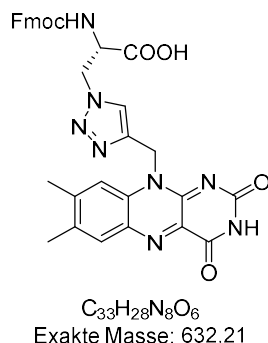
11/19/2018 4:04:29 PM

sw22_181119160124-c1#15 RT: 1.81
 T: + c EI Full ms [49.50-600.50]
 m/z= 280.0194-280.1805

m/z	Intensity	Relative	Theo. Mass	Delta (mmu)	Composition
280.0962	126701.0	100.00	280.0960	0.20	C ₁₅ H ₁₂ O ₂ N ₄

Figure S4: HRMS-EI of 3.

Compound 1



To a suspension of 0.50 g **3** (0.0018 mol, 1.00 equiv.) in 30 mL dry *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) 0.106 g sodium ascorbate (0.00053 mol, 0.30 equiv.), 1.70 g Tris((1-benzyl-4-triazolyl)methyl)amine (0.003 mol, 0.60 equiv.) and 0.199 g $[Cu(CH_3CN)_4]PF_6$ (0.00054 mol, 0.30 equiv.) were added under argon atmosphere. 0.629 g Fmoc-protected β -azido-L-alanine (0.0018 mol, 1.00 equiv.) dissolved in 2 mL dry DMF were added dropwise and the reaction mixture was stirred over night at room temperature. Afterwards, the reaction mixture was evaporated under reduced pressure and the crude product purified by reversed phase C18-silica gel column chromatography using acetonitrile 30-60% in water. Product **1** got isolated as yellow, fluorescent solid (0.78 g, 0.0012 mol, 70 %).

RP-TLC (H_2O , 33 % MeCN): $R_f = 0.37$.

1H NMR (500 MHz, $DMSO-d_6$): δ (ppm) = 2.30 (s, 3H, Flavin-Me); 2.40 (s, 3H, Flavin-Me) 4.13 (m, 3H, Fmoc-CH-CH₂); 4.49 (m, 1H, α -CH); 4.55 (m, 1H, β -CH); 4.73 (dd, 1H, $J^3 = 4.29$ Hz, $J^2 = 13.78$ Hz, β -CH); 5.87 (s, 2H, -CH₂-N); 7.30 (m, 2H, Fmoc-H); 7.33 (m, 2H, Fmoc-H); 7.38 (m, 2H, Fmoc-H); 7.59 (d, 2H, $J^3 = 7.49$ Hz); 7.85 (m, 5H, aryl-CH, aryl-CH, CH-N, NHCO; Fmoc-H); 11.40 (bs, 1H, Fmoc-NH).

^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, $DMSO-d_6$): δ (ppm) = 18.8 (Flavin-Me-C); 20.8 (Flavin-Me-C); 39.4 (-CH₂-); 46.1 (Fmoc-CH); 49.6 (β -C); 54.0 (α -C); 65.8 (Fmoc-CH); 116.6 (aryl-C); 120.1 (CH-N); 125.0 (Fmoc-C); 127.1 (Fmoc-C); 127.7 (Fmoc-C); 128.0 (Fmoc-C); 130.5 (aryl-C); 131.0 (quart-C); 133.7 (quart-C); 135.7 (quart-C); 135.9 (quart-C); 137.3 (quart-C); 140.6 (quart-C); 140.9 (quart-

C); 143.6 (quart-C); 143.7 (quart-C); 146.4 (quart-C); 150.1 (quart-C); 155.6 (quart-C); 155.8 (quart-C); 159.9 (quart-C); 170.7 (quart-C).

HRMS-FAB (m/z): calcd for C₃₃H₂₉N₈O₆ [M+H⁺]: 633.2210; found [M+H⁺]: 633.2209.

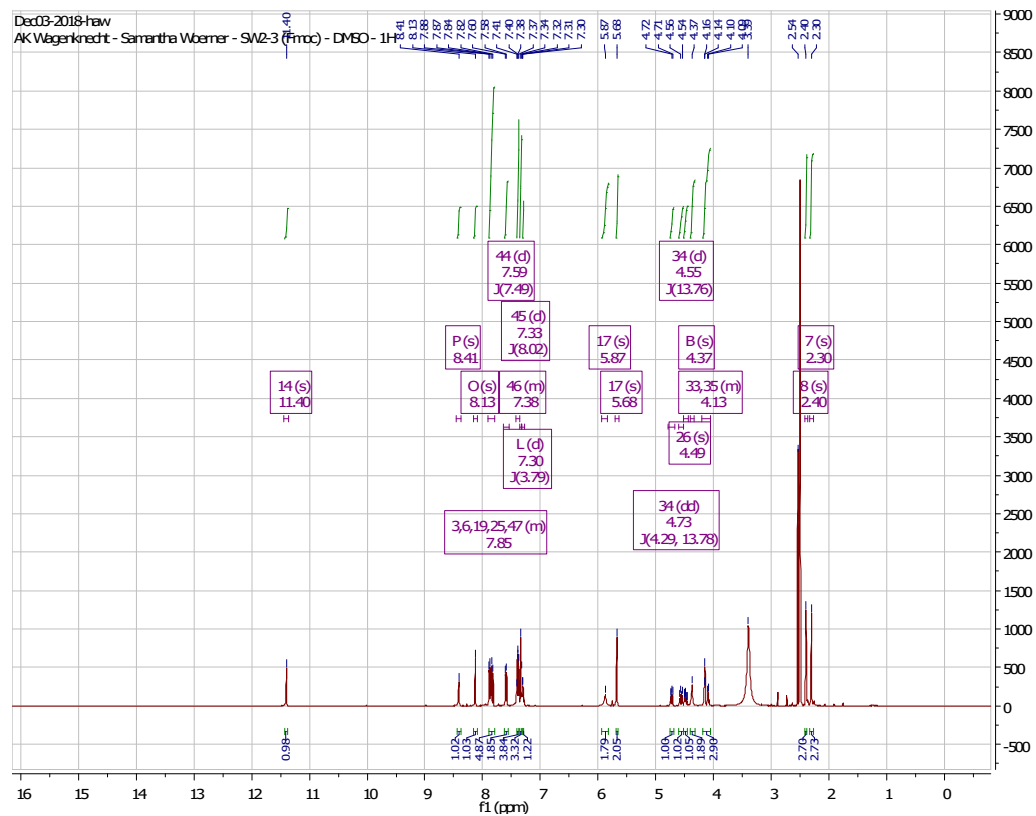


Figure S5. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) of **1**.

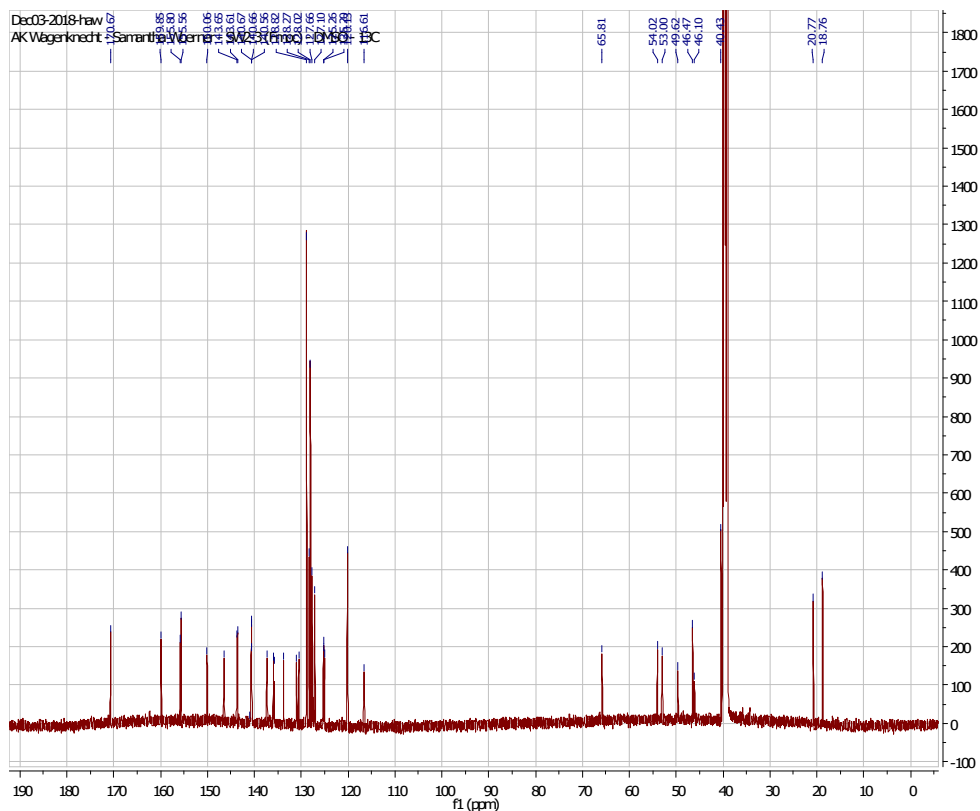
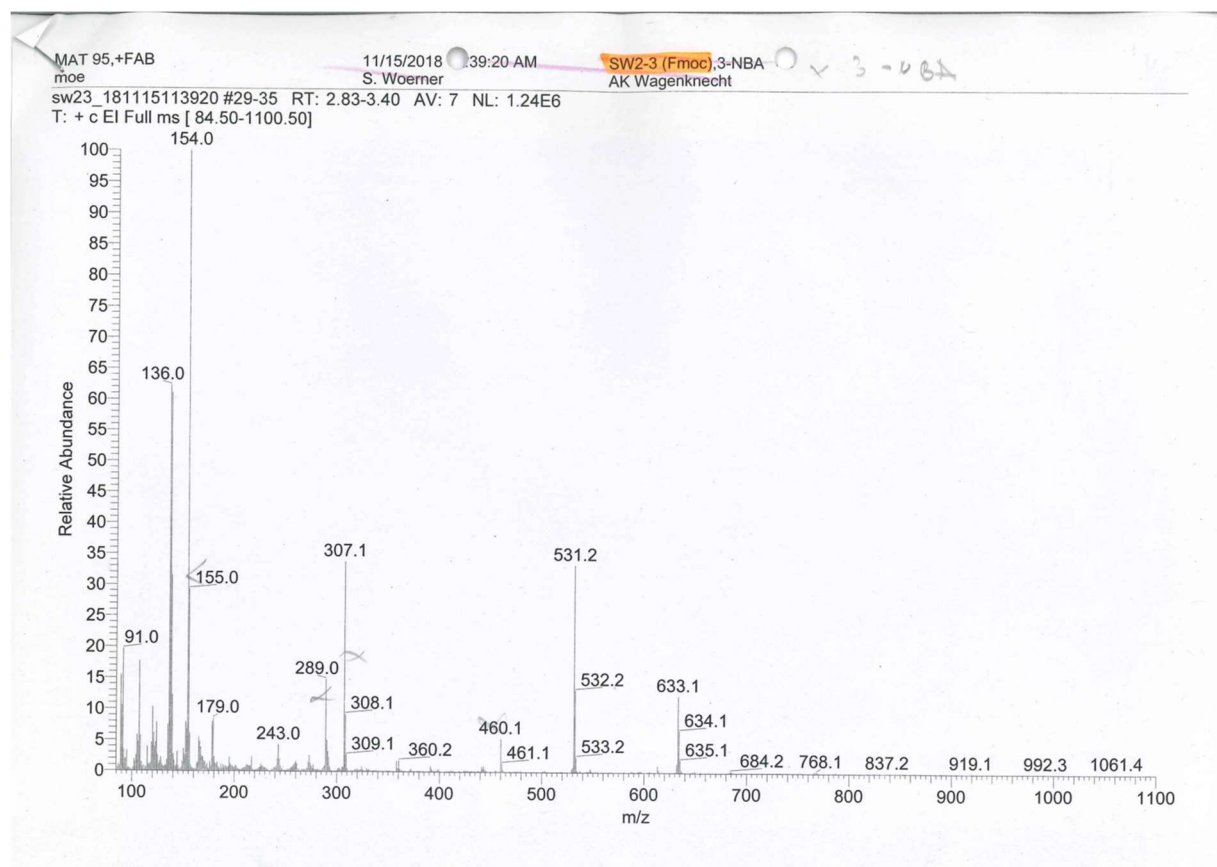


Figure S6: ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d_6) of **1**.



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sw23_181115113920-c4#35 RT: 3.40

T: + c EI Full ms [84.62-1100.62]

m/z= 633.1097-633.3288

m/z	Intensity	Relative	Theo. Mass	Delta (mmu)	Composition
633.2209	147753.0	100.00	633.2210	-0.12	C ₃₃ H ₂₉ O ₆ N ₈

Figure S7: HRMS-FAB of 1.

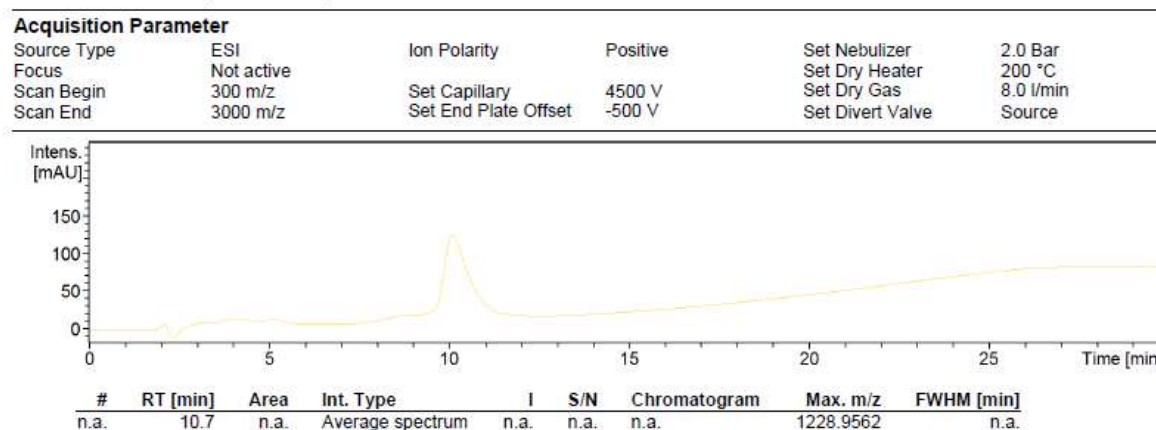
3. Peptide synthesis

Standard Fmoc-solid phase synthesis protocols were used^[1] and an automated Liberty blue microwave peptide synthesizer (CEM) was employed. The EGFR TM-derived peptides were synthesized from the C-terminus containing the 33 amino acids. As resin Fmoc-L-Valin-Wang (LL, 100-200 mesh) in an amount of 50 μmol was used. Building block **1** was coupled manually using the standard coupling strategy (1.20 equiv. HOBt*H₂O (1-hydroxybenzotriazole), 1.20 equiv. HBTU (2-(1*H*-benzotriazol-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium-hexafluorophosphat), 2.4 equiv. DIPEA (*N,N*-diisopropylethylamine)). Being confirmed of successful coupling, the Fmoc protection group got removed using 20% DIPEA in DMF. After cleaving the peptide from the resin (77.5% TFA (trifluoroacetate), 5% triisopropylsilane, 5% methylphenylsulfid, 5% phenol, 2.5% 1,2-ethanedithiole, 5% water) the peptides were purified using HPLC chromatography. Purification was performed using a C4 10 x 250 mm column (Grace Vydac), exploiting individually optimised water-acetonitrile gradients (typically, 30-80%B over 20 min for the separating part of the gradient) at 35°C with a flow of 7 mL/min. Both eluents were supplemented with 5 mM HCl for ion-pairing. Purified peptides got identified by an LC/MS system equipped with an upstream 1100 Series LC-system from Agilent using a C4 reverse phase column (4,6 x 250 mm, Grace Vydac) at 35°C and a flow rate of 0.3 mL/min hyphenated to an ESI micro-TOFQ III mass spectrometer from Bruker.

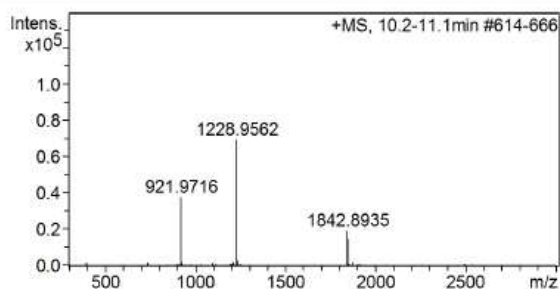
EGFR_{wt}

NH₂-GPKIPSIATGMV GALLLLLVVALGIGLFMRRRHIV-COOH

LC/MS (ESI) (m/z): calcd for EGFR_{wt} [M+H]⁺: 3683.6; [M+H]⁺/2: 1841.8; [M+H]⁺/3: 1227.9; [M+H]⁺/4: 920.9; found: [M+H]⁺/3: 1842.8935; [M+H]⁺/2: 1228.9562; [M+H]⁺/4: 921.9716.



+MS, 10.2-11.1min #614-666



#	m/z	Res.	S/N	I	I%	FWHM
1	921.7214	10000	84622.7	33530	48.6	0.0922
2	921.9716	10000	94846.6	37581	54.5	0.0922
3	922.2211	10000	75468.0	29902	43.4	0.0922
4	922.4707	10000	48568.8	19244	27.9	0.0922
5	1228.2886	10000	74897.9	29677	43.0	0.1228
6	1228.6225	10000	155430.0	61585	89.3	0.1229
7	1228.9562	10000	174047.1	68962	100.0	0.1229
8	1229.2899	10000	139269.3	55182	80.0	0.1229
9	1229.6236	10000	86060.7	34100	49.4	0.1230
10	1842.8935	10000	48207.1	19101	27.7	0.1843

Figure S8: LC/MS (ESI) of EGFR_{wt}.

EGFR_{FI}



LC/MS (ESI) (m/z): calcd for EGFR_{FI} [M⁺]: 3921; [M⁺]/2: 1960.5; [M⁺]/3: 1307; [M⁺]/4: 980.3;
 found: [M⁺]/2: 1961.69; [M⁺]/3: 1308.00; [M⁺]/4: 981.28.

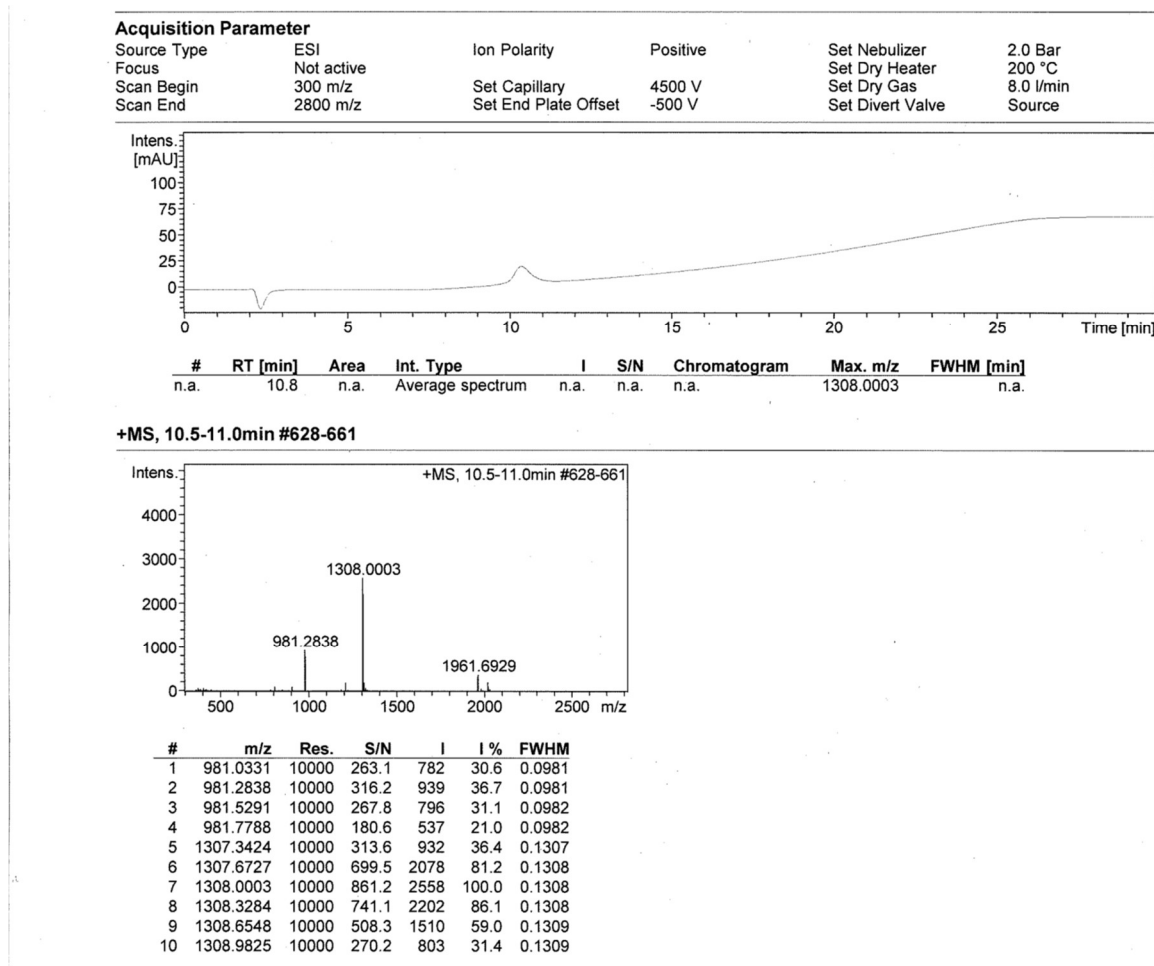


Figure S9: LC/MS (ESI) of EGFR_{FI}.

EGFR_{F1}

NH₂-**1**-KIPS-W-ATGMVG-W-LLLLLV-W-ALGIGL-Y-MRRRHIV-COOH

LC/MS (ESI) (m/z): calcd for EGFR_{F1} [M⁺]: 4213; [M⁺]/2: 2106.5; [M⁺]/3: 1404.3; [M⁺]/4: 1053.3;
found: [M⁺]/2: 2107.26; [M⁺]/3: 1405.24; [M⁺]/4: 1053.83.

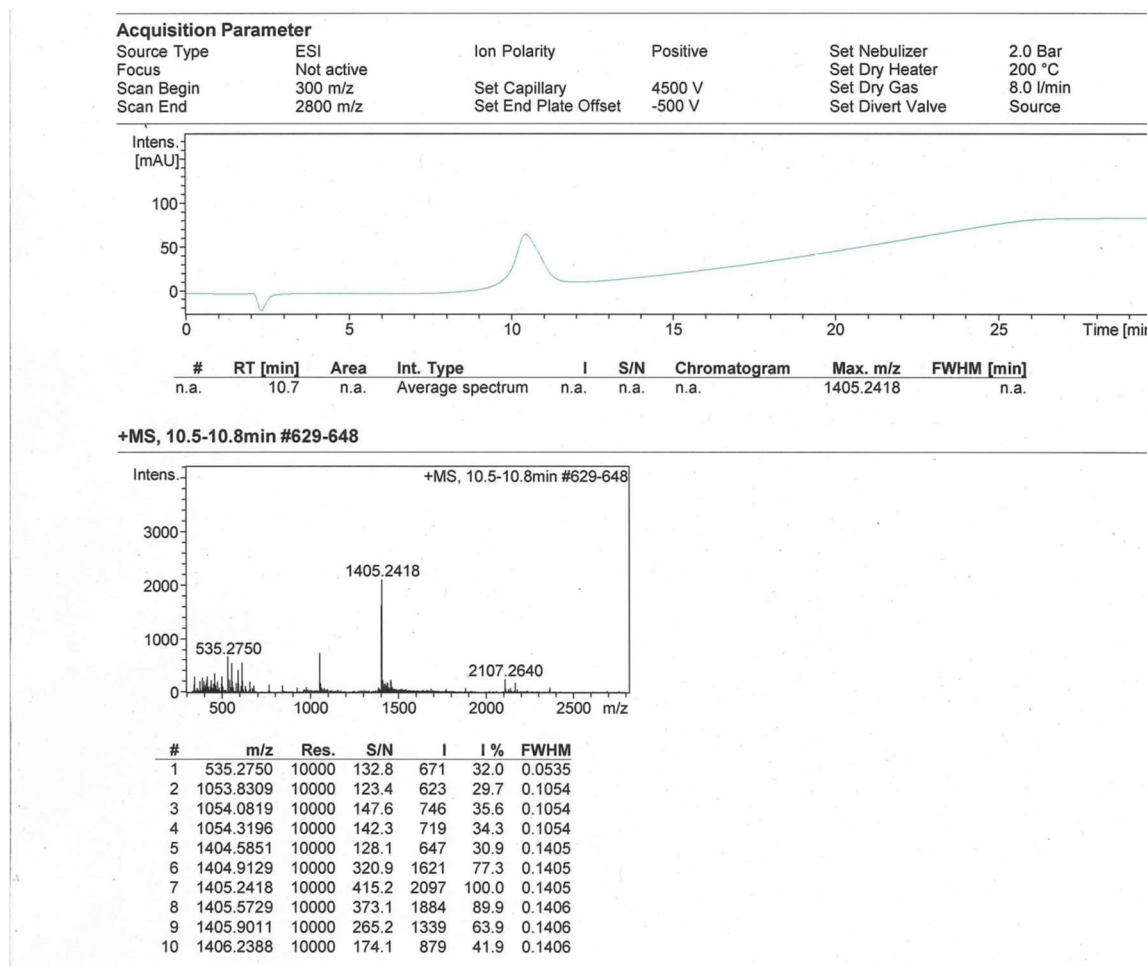


Figure S10: LC/MS (ESI) of EGFR_{F1}.

EGFR_{F12}

NH₂-**1**-K-W-PSIATG-W-VGALLL-W-LVVALGIGL-Y-MRRRHIV-COOH

LC/MS (ESI) (m/z): calcd for EGFR_{F12} [M⁺]: 4138.6; [M⁺]/2: 2069.3; [M⁺]/3: 1379.5; [M⁺]/4: 1034.7; found: [M⁺]/2: 2070.17; [M⁺]/3: 1380.31.

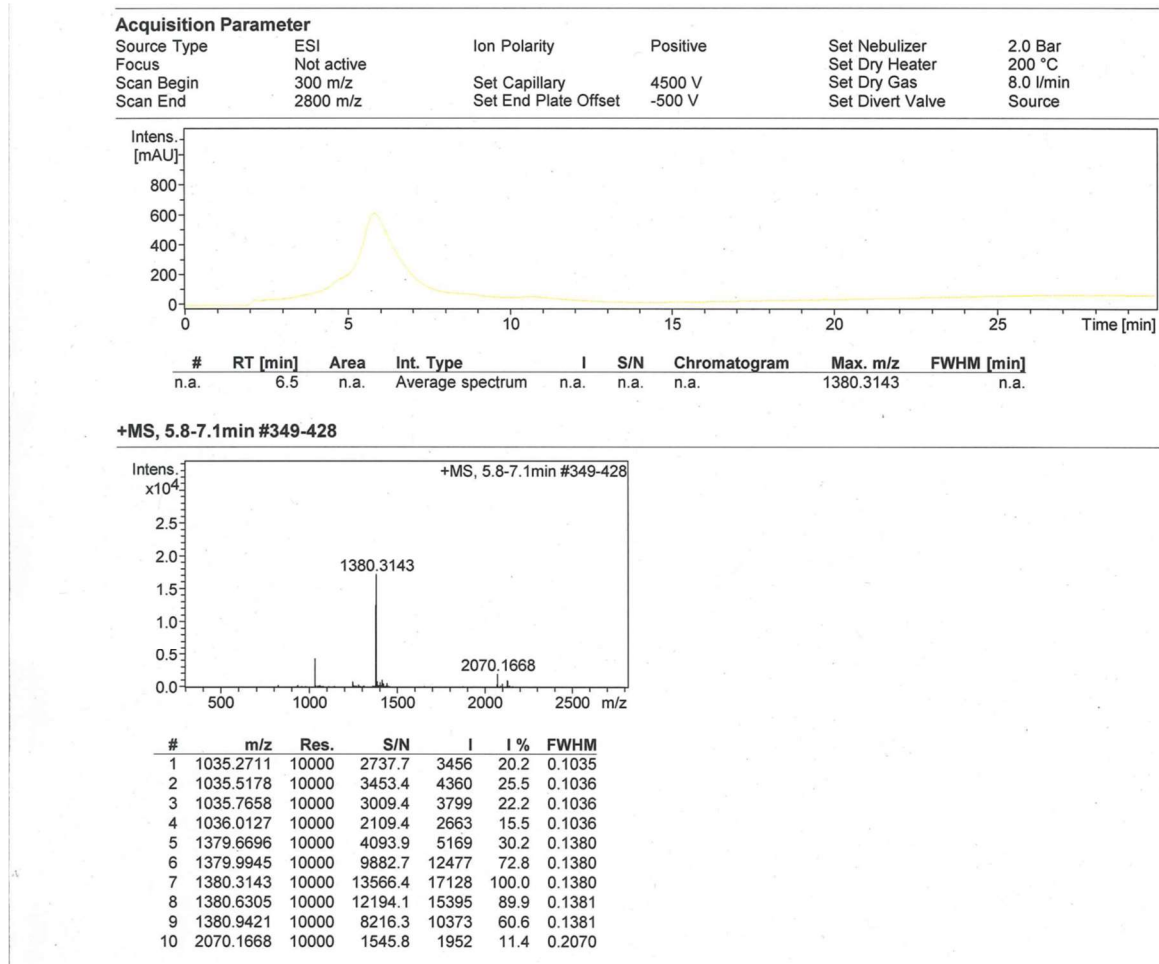


Figure S11: LC/MS (ESI) of EGFR_{F12}.

EGFR_{F13}

NH₂-**1**-K-W-PSIATG-W-VGALLL-W-LVVALG-W-GL-Y-MRRRHIV-COOH

LC/MS (ESI) (m/z): calcd for EGFR_{F13} [M⁺]: 4211.6; [M⁺]/2: 2105.8; [M⁺]/3: 1403.9; [M⁺]/4: 1052.9; found: [M⁺]/2: 2106.66; [M⁺]/3: 1404.85.

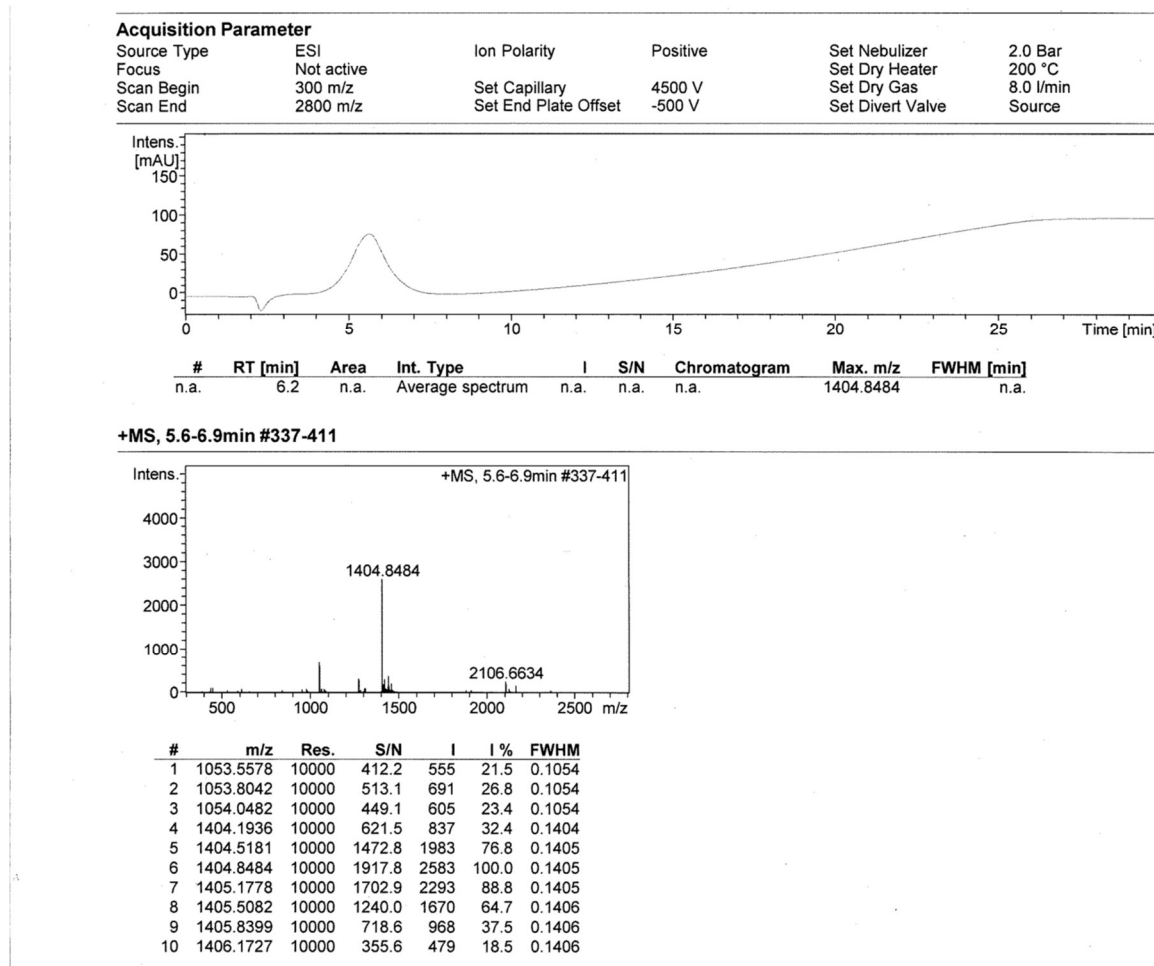


Figure S12: LC/MS (ESI) of EGFR_{F13}.

EGFR_{F14}

NH₂-1-K-W-PSI-W-TGM-W-GAL-W-LLL-W-VAL-W-IGL-Y-MRRRHIV-COOH

LC/MS (ESI) (m/z): calcd for EGFR_{F14} [M⁺]: 4502; [M⁺]/2: 2251; [M⁺]/3: 1500; [M⁺]/4: 1125;

found: [M⁺]/2: 2251.64; [M⁺]/3: 1501.50; [M⁺]/4: 1126.50.

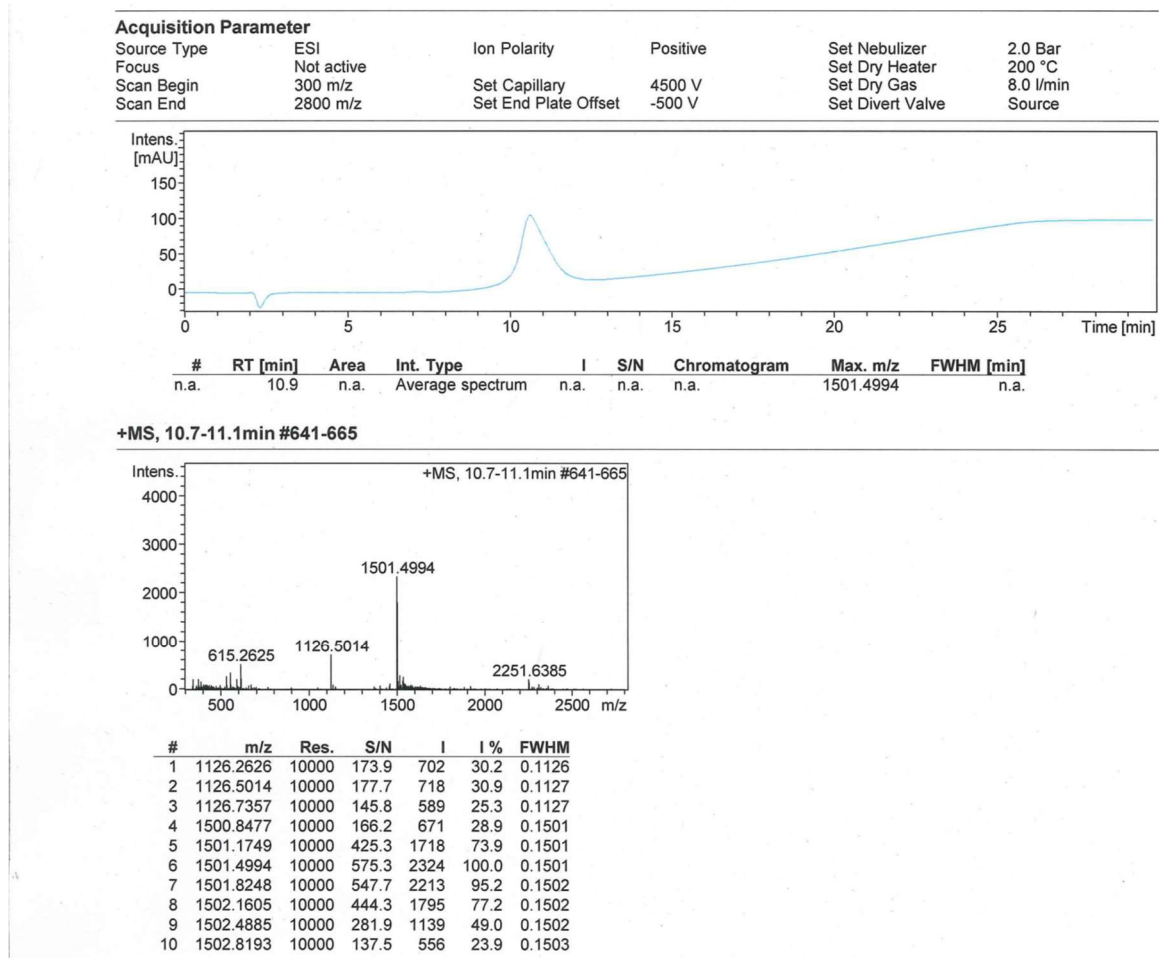


Figure S13: LC/MS (ESI) of EGFR_{F14}.

EGFR_{F15}

NH₂-1-K-W-PS-W-ATG-W-VG-W-LLL-W-LV-W-ALG-W-GL-Y-MRRRHIV-COOH

LC/MS (ESI) (m/z): calcd for EGFR_{F15} [M⁺]: 4486; [M⁺]/2: 2243; [M⁺]/3: 1495; [M⁺]/4: 1121;

found: [M⁺]/2: 2244.24; [M⁺]/3: 1496.54; [M⁺]/4: 1122.55.

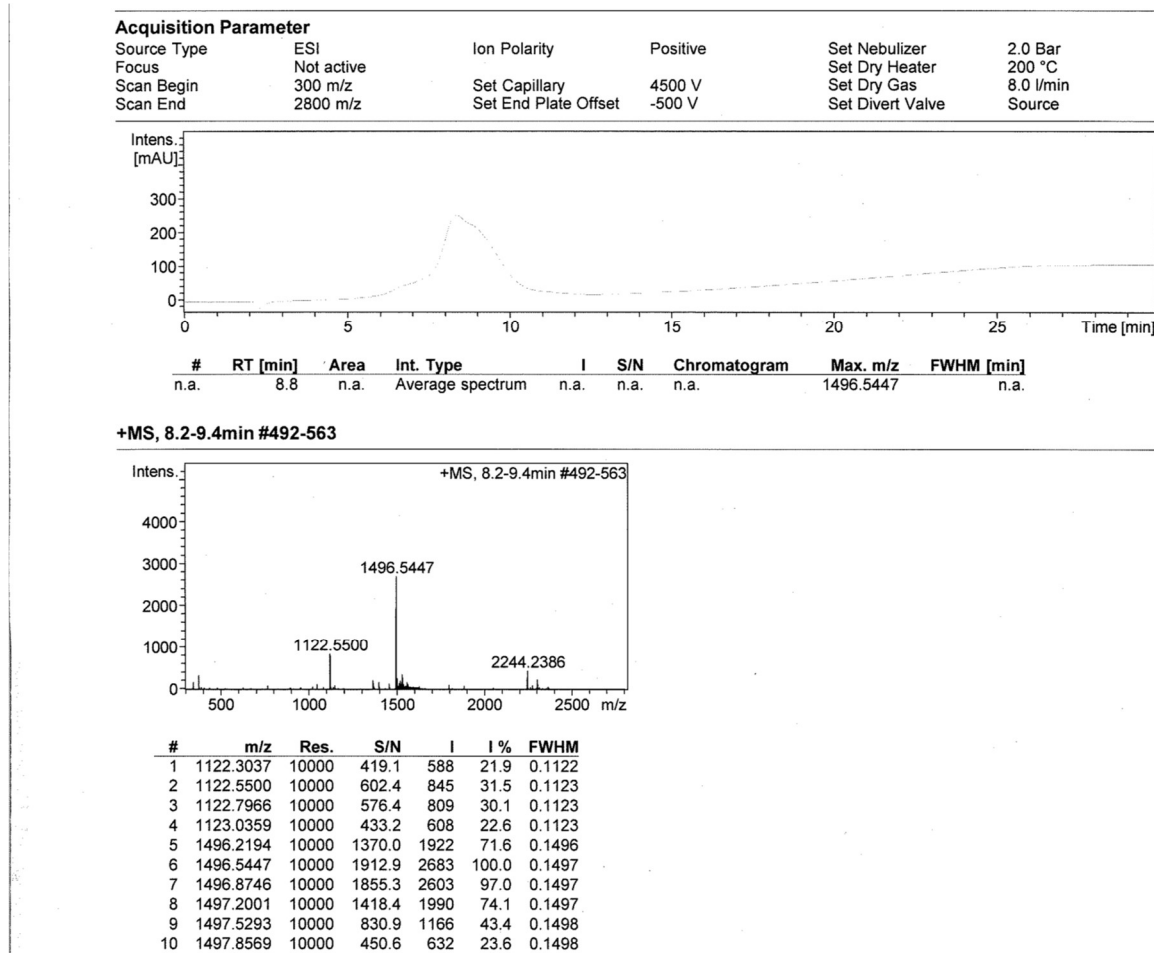


Figure S14: LC/MS (ESI) of EGFR_{F15}.

4. Spectroscopic data

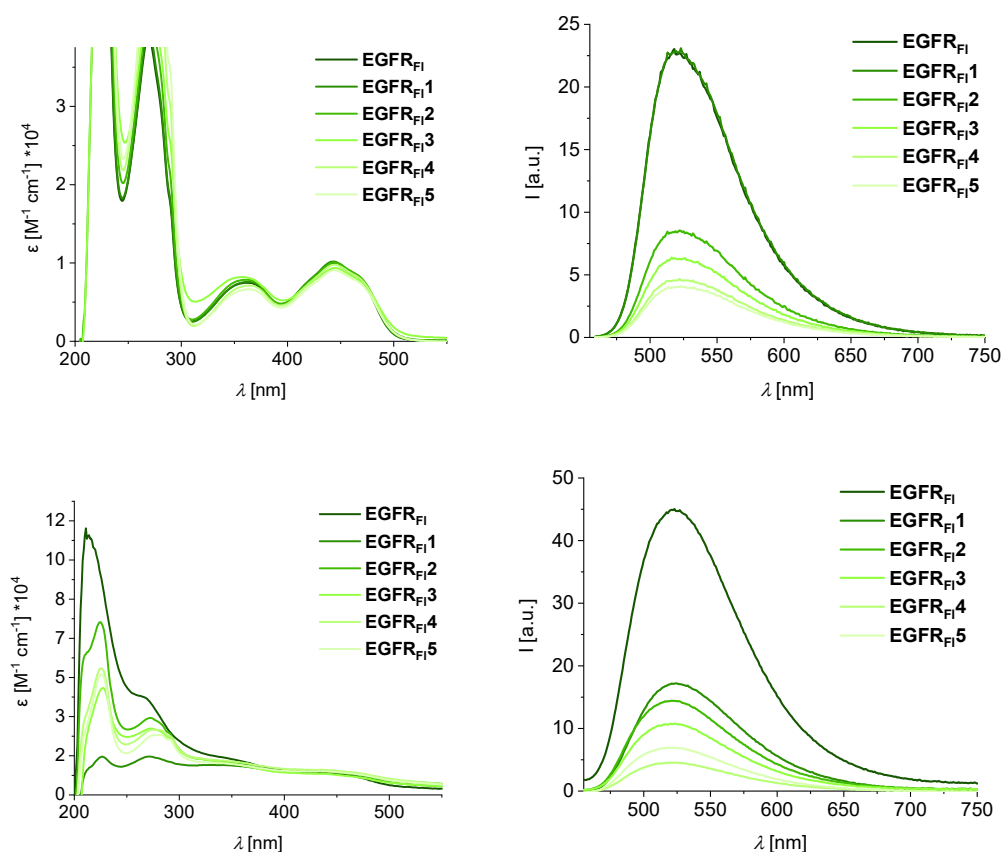


Figure S15: Absorption and fluorescence of *EGFR_{Fl}-EGFR_{Fl5}* in MeCN/H₂O 1:1 ($\lambda_{exc.} = 440$ nm; 0.04 mM) and POPC vesicle system ($\lambda_{exc.} = 440$ nm; 0.012 mM flavin).

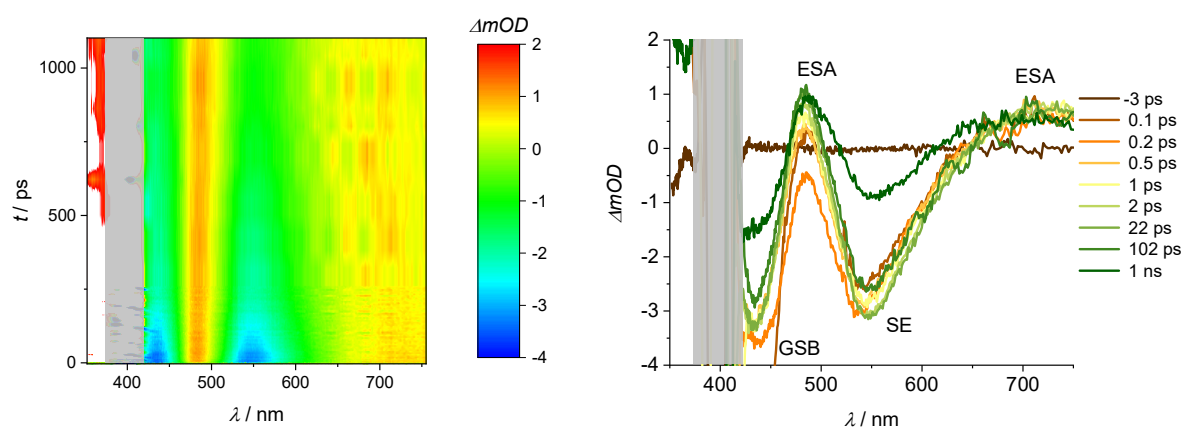


Figure S16: Contour plot of *EGFR_{Fl}* (left) and transient absorption spectra (right). $\lambda_{ex} = 400$ nm, $E = 2$ μ J, $OD_{400\text{ nm}} = 0.17$. GSB = ground state bleach, ESA = excited state absorption, SE = stimulated emission.

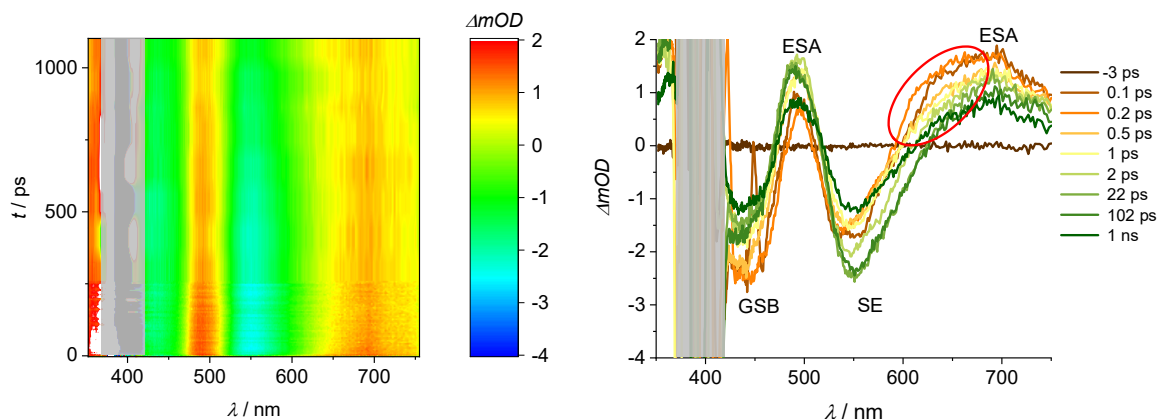


Figure S17: Contour plot of EGFR_{F12} (left) and transient absorption spectra (right). $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 400 \text{ nm}$, $E = 2 \mu\text{J}$, $OD_{400 \text{ nm}} = 0.34$. GSB = ground state bleach, ESA = excited state absorption, SE = stimulated emission. The red circle indicates the spectral region of interest that is similar in EGFR_{F12}-EGFR_{F15}, but does not exist in the reference system EGFR_{F1}.

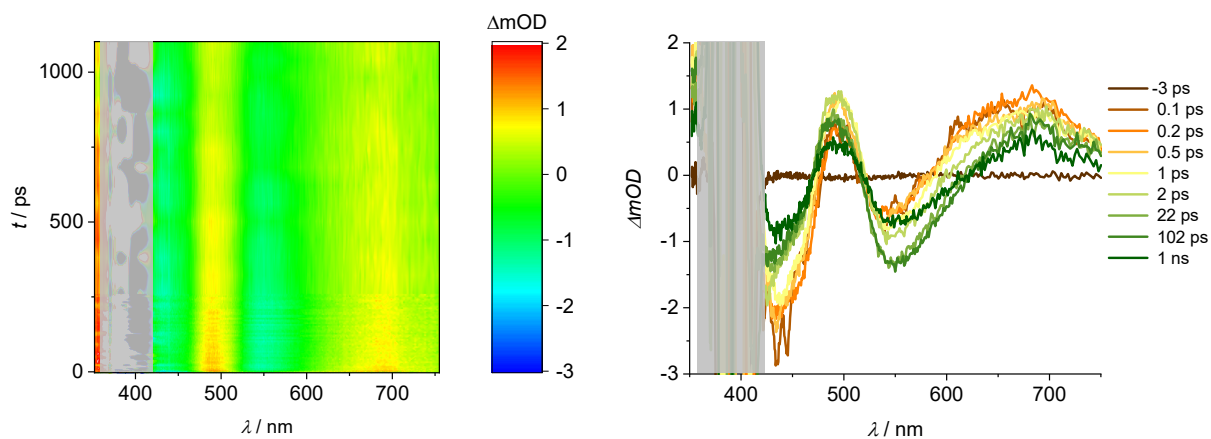


Figure S18: Contour plot of EGFR_{F13} (left) and transient absorption spectra (right). $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 400 \text{ nm}$, $E = 2 \mu\text{J}$, $OD_{400 \text{ nm}} = 0.23$.

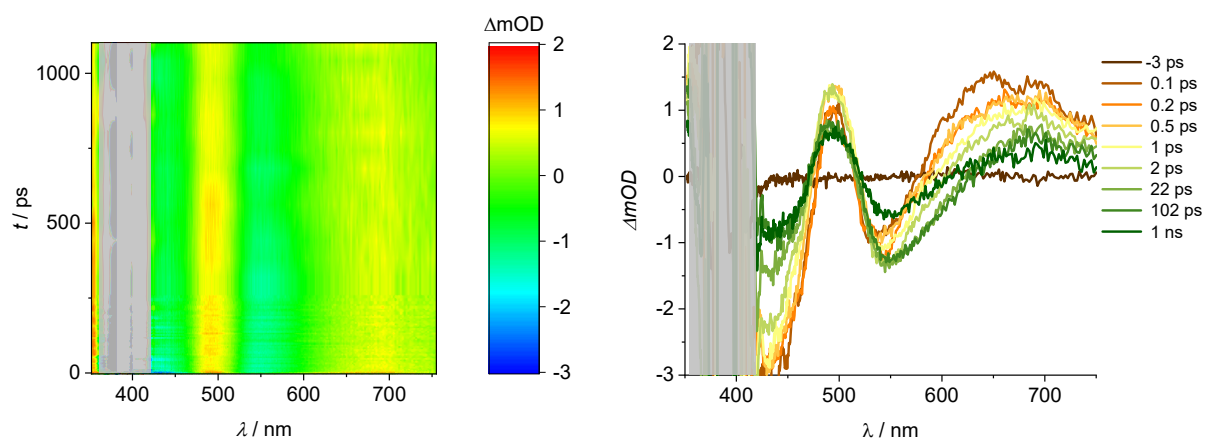


Figure S19: Contour plot of EGFR_{F14} (left) and transient absorption spectra (right). $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 400 \text{ nm}$, $E = 2 \mu\text{J}$, $OD_{400 \text{ nm}} = 0.29$.

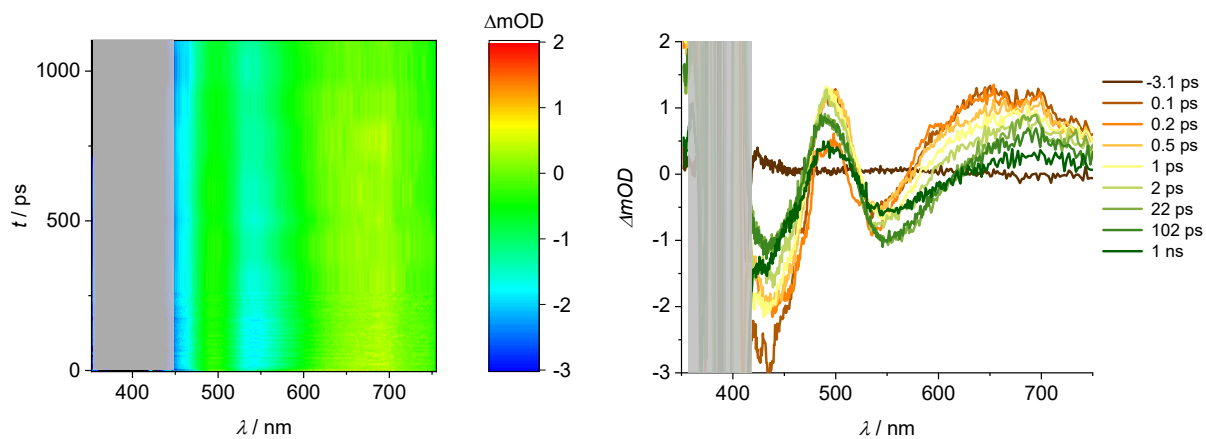


Figure S20: Contour plot of EGFR_{F15} (left) and transient absorption spectra (right). $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 400$ nm, $E = 2 \mu\text{J}$, $OD_{400 \text{ nm}} = 0.21$.

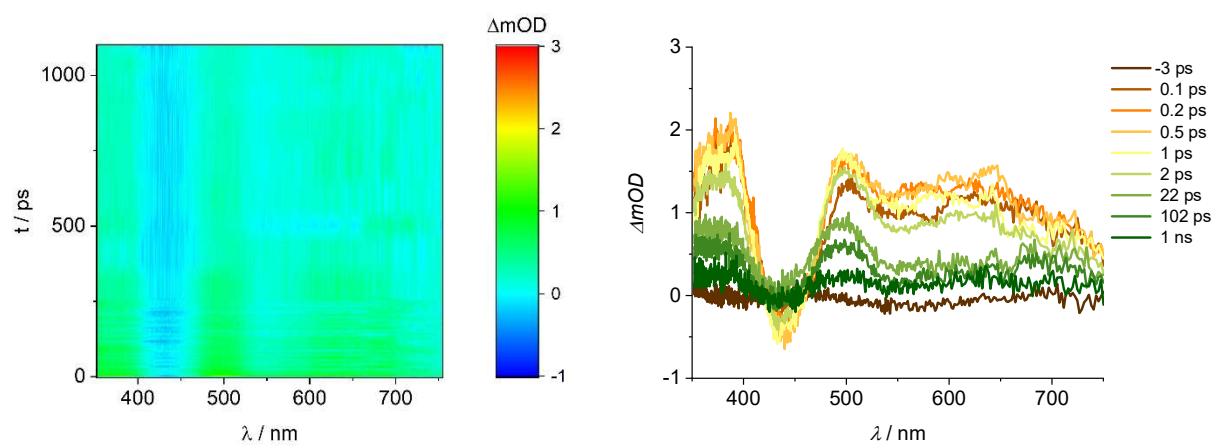


Figure S21: Contour plot of EGFR_{F15} (left) and transient absorption spectra (right). $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 267$ nm, $E = 0.5 \mu\text{J}$, $OD_{267 \text{ nm}} = 1.93$.

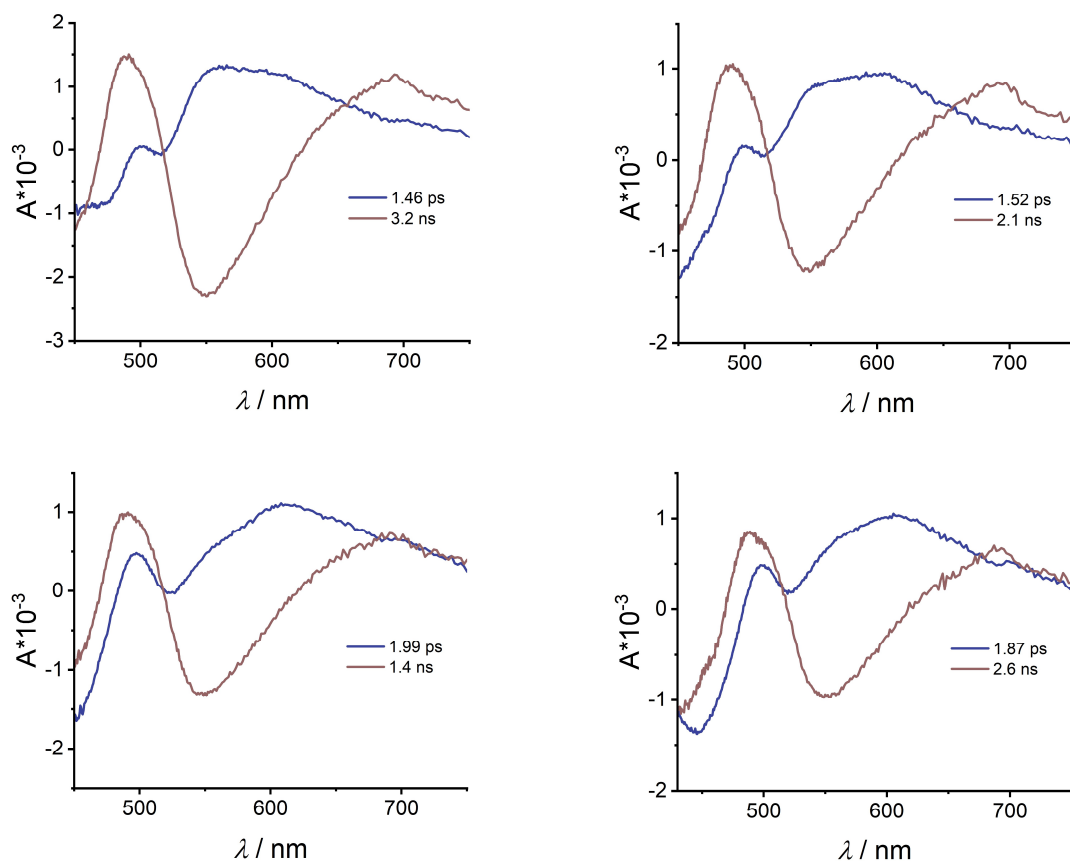


Figure S21: DADS (blue, brown) of EGFR_{FL2-5}.

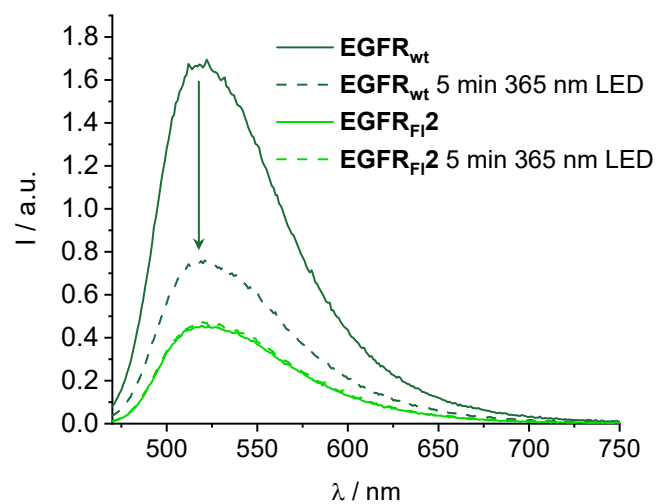


Figure S22. Fluorescence of EGFR_{wt} and EGFR_{FL2} (0.04 mM) in MeCN:H₂O (1:1) mixtures, $\lambda_{exc}=440$ nm, before and after irradiation by the 365 nm LED.

5. Literature

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