Modulating the pH Dependent Photophysical Properties of Green Fluorescent Protein

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Supporting Information



Figure S1. Room temperature fluorescence spectra of wt-sfGFP (A) as a function of pH in the 490 - 630 nm region with an excitation wavelength of 489 nm. wt-sfGFP (10 μ M) was dissolved in 50 mM potassium phosphate buffers with pH values ranging from 3.50 - 10.00. The pH dependence of the fluorescence intensity of wt-sfGFP measured at 511 nm (open squares, B) was fit (solid curve) to Eqn. (1) to yield a pK_a of 5.18 ± 0.03 of the phenolic hydrogen of tyrosine at site 66 in the protein.



Figure S2. Refinement of mNO₂Y incorporated chromophore. **a.**) Electron density for the chromophore directly following initial refinement after molecular replacement, but before the atoms in the chromophore were added to the model (atoms are included here for context). $2F_o$ - F_c map (1.0 σ) in blue, +3.0 σ F_o - F_c density in green, and -3.0 σ F_o - F_c density in red. **b.**) Electron density (same maps as in **a**) of the Y66mNO₂Y-sfGFP structure after the wt-sfGFP chromophore atoms were added to the model. c) Final refined structure of mNO₂Y chromophore in Y66mNO₂Y-sfGFP structure (PDB ID 9c74).



Figure S3. Alignment of the cyclized chromophores of Y66mNO₂Y-sfGFP (carbons in orange) and wt-sfGFP (2B3P, carbons in yellow). a. Top view of chromophore, b. Side view of chromophore with a view down the phenol O-C bond, illustrating the 14° rotation of the mNO₂Y ring out of plane with the 5-membered ring of the chromophore.



Figure S4. ESI-Q-TOF MS of Y66mNO₂Y-sfGFP illustrates the successful incorporation of mNO_2Y at site 66 in the protein.