## **Supporting Information**

## Molecular Design of Bioorthogonal Probes and Imaging Reagents Derived from Photofunctional Transition Metal Complexes

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Complex	Solvent	$\lambda_{ m em}/ m nm$	$ au_{ m o}/\mu{ m s}$	$arPsi_{ m em}$	$I/I_{o}^{a}$	Ref.
<b>1a</b> <sup>b</sup>	CH <sub>3</sub> OH	610	0.091	0.020	_	1
<b>1b</b> <sup>b</sup>	CH <sub>3</sub> OH	551 sh, 595	0.16	0.031	_	1
$\mathbf{1c}^{b}$	CH <sub>3</sub> OH	514 sh, 553	1.78 (43%), 0.48 (57%)	0.20	_	1
$2\mathbf{a}^{c}$	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	545	1.24	0.11	_	2
<b>2b</b> <sup>c</sup>	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	485 sh, 512	4.57	0.03	_	2
$2c^{c}$	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	556	4.20	0.09	_	2
$\mathbf{3a}^d$	Buffer <sup>e</sup>	605	0.74	0.05	_	3
$\mathbf{3b}^d$	Buffer <sup>e</sup>	598	0.81	0.07	_	3
<b>4a</b> <sup>c</sup>	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	523	1.80	0.003	181.1	4
<b>4b</b> <sup>c</sup>	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	548	4.21	0.020	15.6	4
<b>5</b> a <sup>c</sup>	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	523	1.70	0.003	145.1	4
<b>5</b> b <sup><i>c</i></sup>	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	556	4.21	0.022	8.0	4
<b>6a</b> <sup>c</sup>	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	528	1.75	0.011	95.5	4
<b>6b</b> <sup>c</sup>	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	546	6.08	0.021	35.3	4
$\mathbf{7a}^{b}$	Buffer <sup>f</sup>	520	0.86	0.006	25.7	5
$\mathbf{7b}^b$	Buffer <sup>f</sup>	523 (max), 561, 604 sh	2.57	0.009	19.5	5
$\mathbf{7c}^b$	Buffer <sup>f</sup>	593 (max), 644, 705 sh	2.90	0.004	121.9	5
$\mathbf{7d}^b$	Buffer <sup>f</sup>	650	0.07	< 0.001	79.9	5
<b>8a</b> <sup>b</sup>	Buffer <sup>f</sup>	456, 488 sh, 550 (max)	0.31	0.0023	36.6	6
$\mathbf{8b}^b$	Buffer <sup>f</sup>	484, 513 (max)	1.17	0.0001	96.1	6
<b>8c</b> <sup>b</sup>	Buffer <sup>f</sup>	592	0.24	0.0025	23.1	6

**Table S1.** Photophysical data of various complexes in degassed solutions at 298 K.

<b>9a</b> <sup>b</sup>	Buffer <sup>f</sup>	579	0.12	0.0006	60.5	7
<b>9b</b> <sup>b</sup>	Buffer <sup>f</sup>	557, 595 sh	2.13	0.014	28.8	7
<b>9c</b> <sup>b</sup>	Buffer <sup>f</sup>	652	0.03	0.0002	135.0	7
<b>10a</b> <sup>d</sup>	Buffer <sup>g</sup>	611	0.641	0.004	9.53	8
<b>10b</b> <sup>d</sup>	Buffer <sup>g</sup>	650	0.523	0.003	7.10	8
<b>10c</b> <sup><i>d</i></sup>	Buffer <sup>g</sup>	602	1.030	0.006	10.24	8
$\mathbf{10d}^d$	Buffer <sup>g</sup>	619	2.836	0.018	5.77	8
<b>10e</b> <sup><i>d</i></sup>	Buffer <sup>e</sup>	610	0.685	0.006	3.89	8
<b>11a</b> <sup>b</sup>	Buffer <sup>h</sup>	526	0.36	0.15	1.1	9
<b>11b</b> <sup>b</sup>	Buffer <sup>h</sup>	588	0.11	0.027	7.9	9
<b>11c</b> <sup>b</sup>	Buffer <sup>h</sup>	656	0.03	0.0030	2.5	9

<sup>*a*</sup>  $I_0$  and I are the emission intensities of the complexes in the absence and presence of bicyclo[6.1.0]non-4-yn-9-ylmethanol (BCN-OH) in aerated solutions. Readers are refered to the original references for more details of the reaction conditions. <sup>*b*</sup> Excitation at 350 nm. <sup>*c*</sup> Excitation at 355 nm. <sup>*d*</sup> Excitation at 455 nm. <sup>*e*</sup> Potassium phosphate buffer (50 mM, pH 7.4)/CH<sub>3</sub>OH (4:1, v/v). <sup>*f*</sup> Potassium phosphate buffer (50 mM, pH 7.4)/CH<sub>3</sub>OH (7:3, v/v). <sup>*g*</sup> Potassium phosphate buffer (50 mM, pH 7.4)/DMSO (9:1, v/v). <sup>*h*</sup> Potassium phosphate buffer (50 mM, pH 7.4)/DMSO (7:3, v/v).

**Scheme S1.** Strain-promoted alkyne–azide cycloaddition (SPAAC) reaction of an azide with a strained alkyne to afford a triazole derivative.

 $\xrightarrow{R^2} \xrightarrow{R^1} \underset{N}{\overset{N}{\underset{N}}} \underset{N}{\overset{N}{\underset{N}}} \underset{R^2}{\overset{R^2}}$ N=N=N -R<sup>1′</sup>

**Scheme S2.** Inverse Electron-Demand Diels–Alder (IEDDA) cycloaddition reactions of 1,2,4,5-tetrazine with an alkene and alkyne to afford a dihydropyridazine and pyridazine derivative, respectively.



**Scheme S3.** Strain-promoted alkyne–nitrone cycloaddition (SPANC) reaction of a nitrone with a strained alkyne to afford an isoxazoline derivative.

 $\xrightarrow{R_3} R^2 - N \xrightarrow{R_1} R^3$ R<sup>1</sup> R<sup>2</sup>

**Scheme S4.** Strain-promoted sydnone–alkyne cycloaddition (SPSAC) reaction of a sydnone with a strained alkyne to afford a pyrazole derivative.

CO<sub>2</sub> R<sup>1</sup>-N R1-R<sup>3</sup>

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