Supporting Information

Microwave-Assisted Synthesis of Azacoumarin Fluorophores and the Fluorescence Characterization

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I. Determining Fluorescent Quantum Yield

The fluorescent quantum yield (QY) was measured relative to quinine sulfate (QY = 0.577) as a reference compound. The fluorescent spectra of samples were measured in PBS (2 μ M) at 350 nm exciting-wavelength. Gain and slit bandwidths were applied for these samples, and these QY were calculated as equation,

$$QY = QY_{ref} \frac{\eta^2}{\eta^2_{ref}} \frac{I}{A} \frac{A_{ref}}{I_{ref}}$$

where QY_{ref} was the quantum yields of quinine sulfate, η was the refractive index of the solvent, *I* was the integrated fluorescence intensity and *A* was the absorbance at 350 nm excitation wavelength. The concentration of samples should be sufficiently diluted not to occur concentration quenching. Take into consideration inner filter effect the absorbance at 350 nm was kept in under 0.035.

II. Calculating the saturated concentration of compounds

Saturated solution in PBS was prepared by sonicating the solid compound for 30 min at 20 $^{\circ}$ C. After we ensure that the solid was left in the solution, we filtrate the suspension to give the PBS saturated solution. The saturated concentration was determined from standard curves created by related peak area (detect at 340 nm) against known concentration of compounds in PBS.

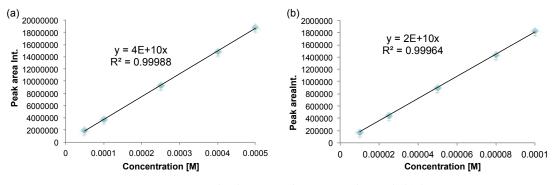


Figure S1. Standard curve of (a) 8-aza-hc and (b) hc.

Table S1. Saturated concentration (C_s) of 8-aza-hc and hc in PBS was calculated from each standard curve.

compd	Peak area	$C_s[\mu M]$
8-aza-hc	214615200	5365
hc	12537714	627

III. Determination of the pKa value

The McIlvain buffer with a buffer capacity from pH 2.2 to 8.0 was used as solvent. The acidity of the sample solution was adjusted with addition of 10 μ L of 2 M NaOH aq. and sequentially measured the pH values by a pH meter and the absorbance spectrum. The p K_a value was estimated from the titration curves of absorbance at 350 nm against pH value.

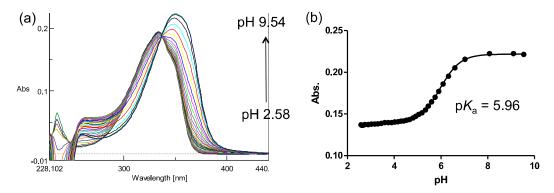
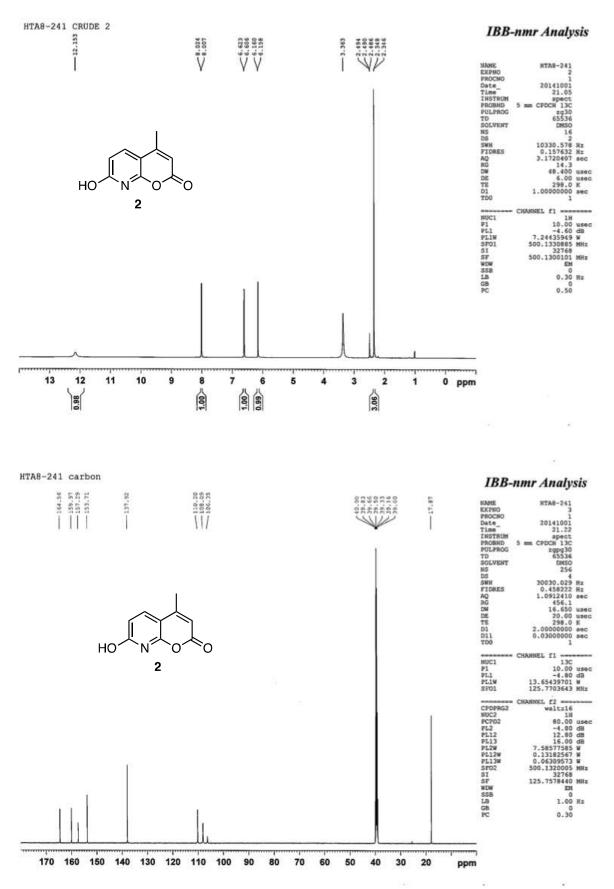
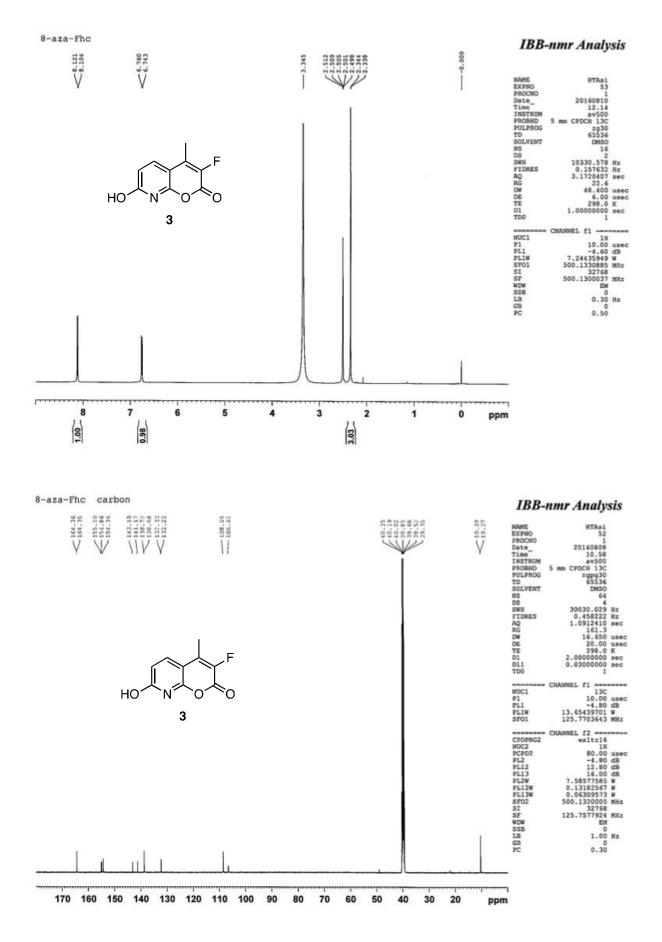
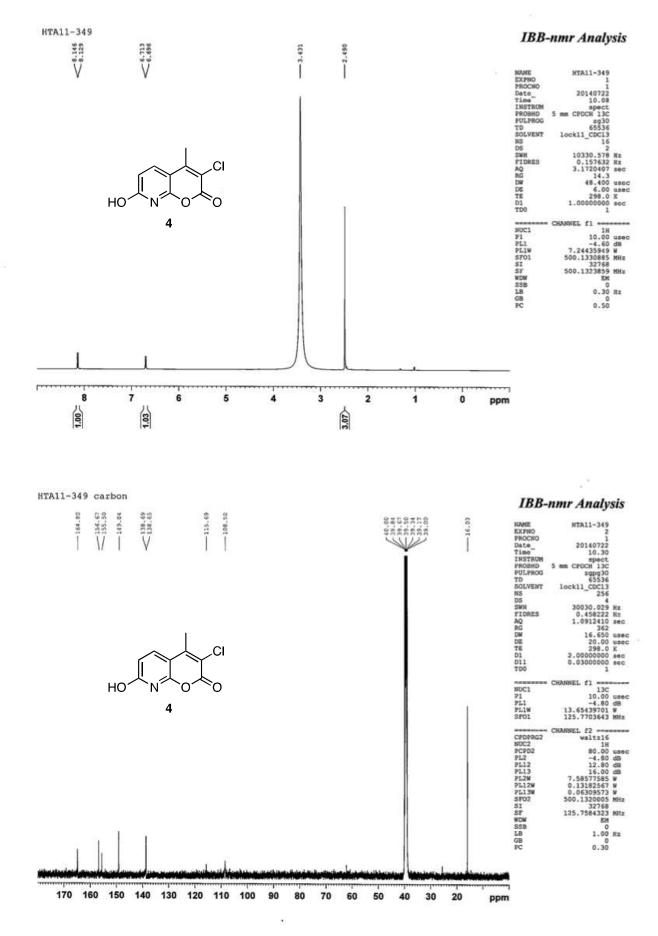


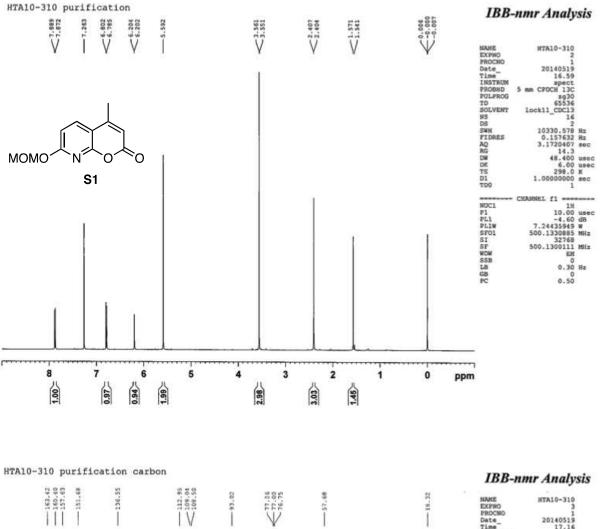
Figure S2. (a) the absorption spectra of 8-aza-hc aginst the pH values. (b) plot of pH to absorbance.

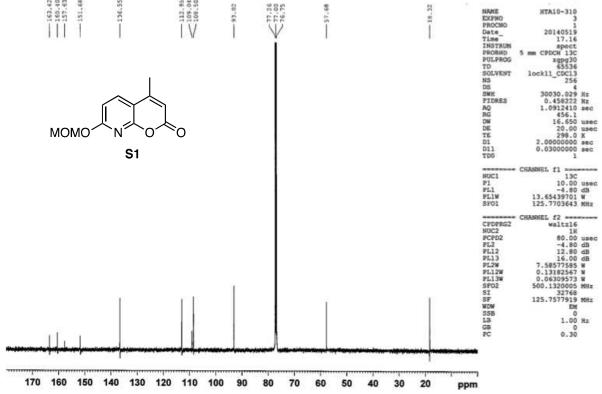


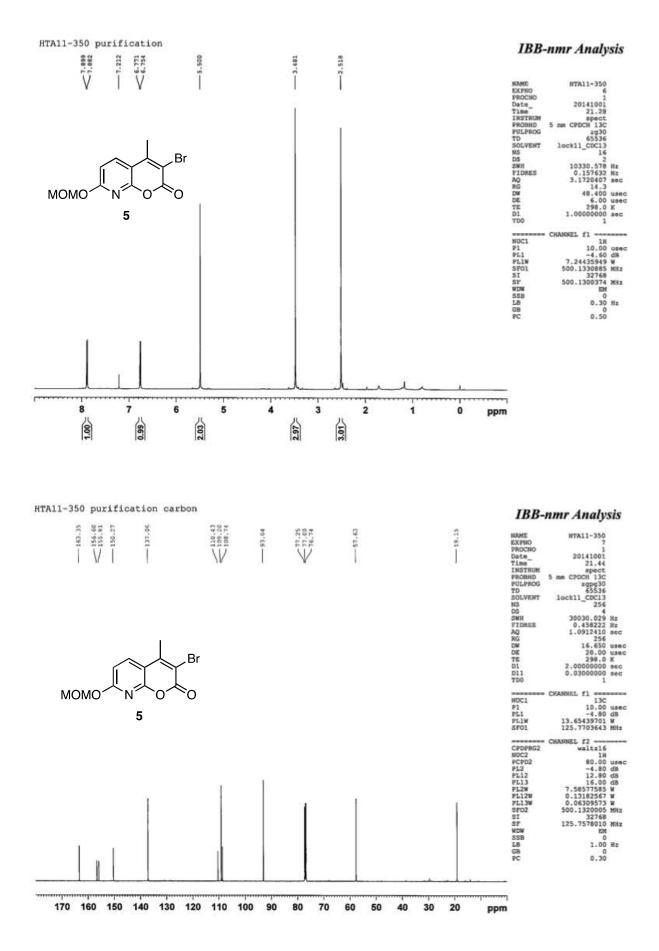


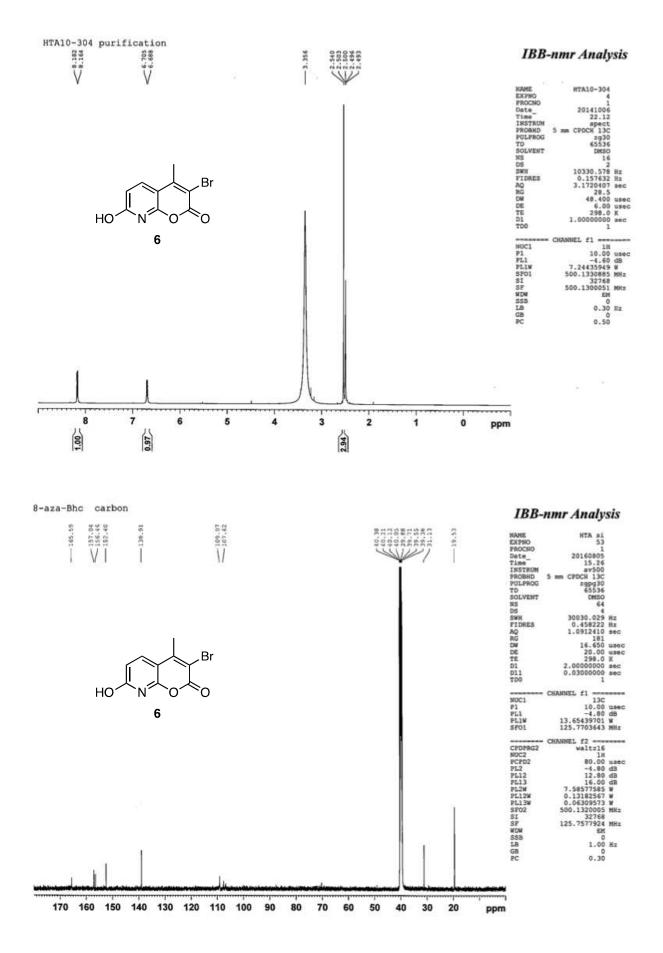


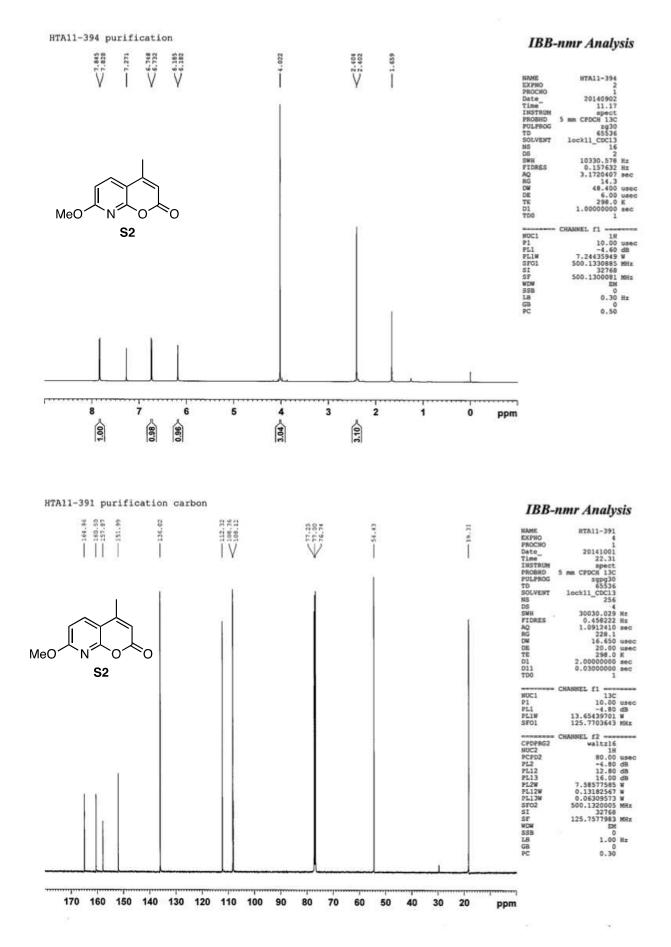
S6

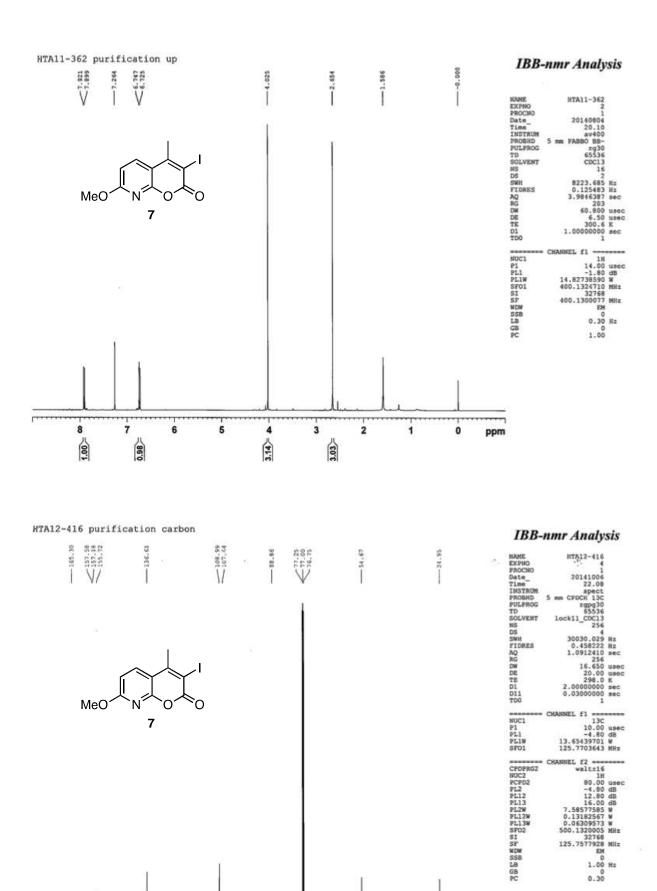














70 60 50 40

30 20

ppm

80

170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90

IBB-nmr Analysis

