

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### **Caged vanilloid ligands for activation of TRPV1 receptors by 1- and 2-photon excitation<sup>†</sup>**

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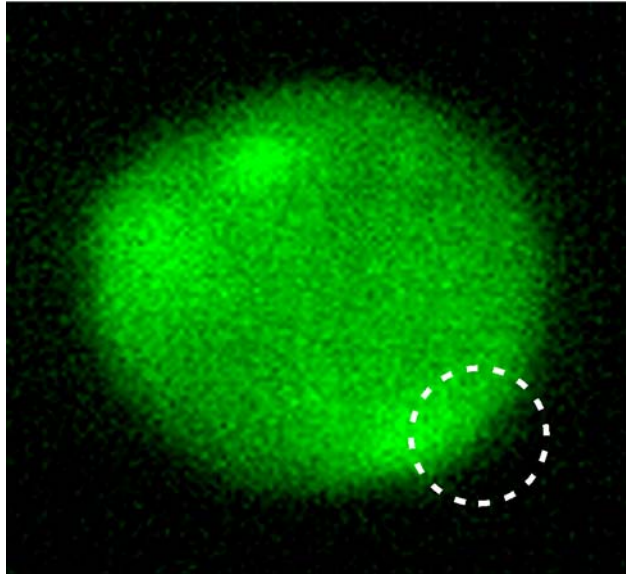
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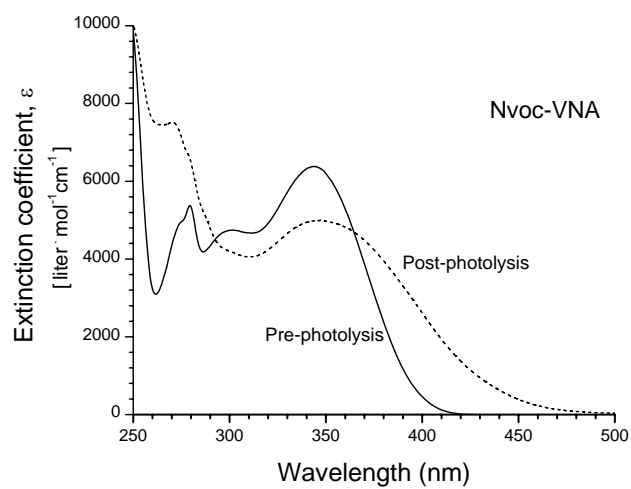
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**Supplemental Figure 1. Experimental configuration for focal photolysis in a neuron**



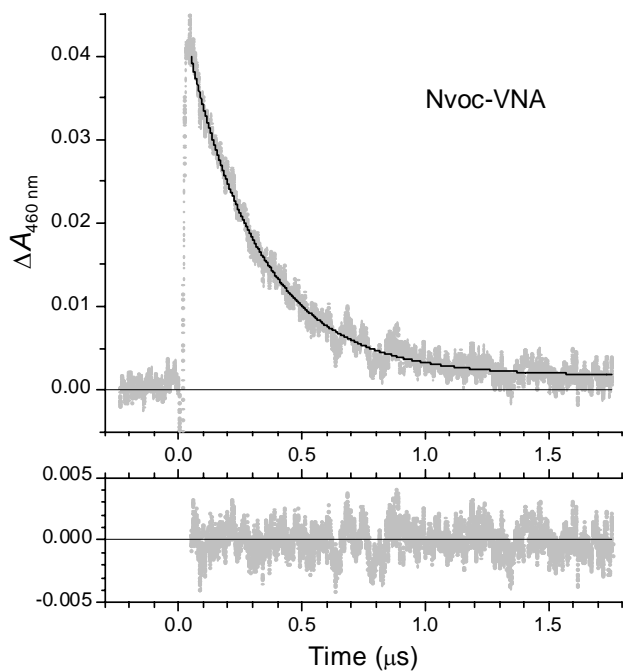
Optical section through the center (widest part) of a rat nodose neuron loaded with fluo-3 indicator through a whole-cell patch pipette. The photolysis spot (10- $\mu\text{m}$  diameter, outlined by white circle) was positioned so that less than half of the spot overlapped with the cell. This was to ensure that photolysis occurred only in a small region of the neuron near the cell surface. Focal photolysis and imaging were performed on a Zeiss 5 Live microscope.

## Supplemental Figure 2. UV-visible absorption spectrum of Nvoc-VNA



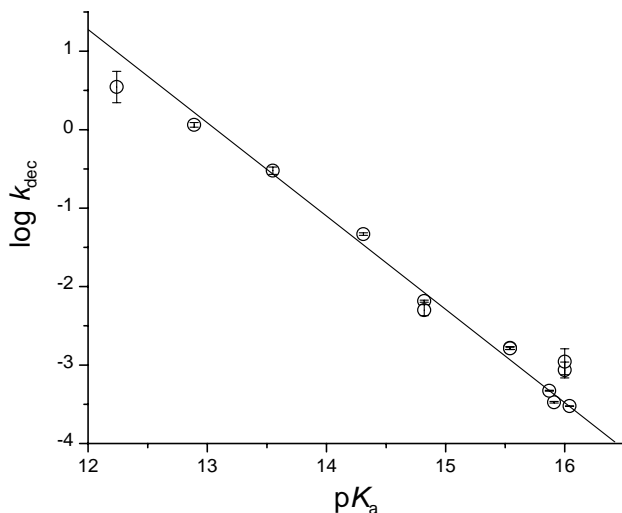
The solid and dashed spectra were acquired, respectively, before and after photolysis for 4 min with 225 mW of the UV emission from an argon ion laser.

**Supplemental Figure 3. Transient absorbance spectral changes following laser flash photolysis of Nvoc-VNA.**

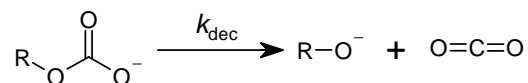


The absorbance at 460 nm of a solution of Nvoc-VNA in acetonitrile was monitored. At time zero, an 8.6-ns, 200-mJ pulse of 355-nm light was delivered to the sample. In the upper panel, gray points are experimental data (average of 5 replicates), and the solid black curve is the nonlinear least-squares single-exponential fit to the data. The exponential time constant was  $\tau = 0.297 \pm 0.001 \mu\text{s}$ . The residuals of the least-squares fit are shown in the lower panel.

**Supplemental Figure 4. Relationship between monocarbonate ester decarboxylation kinetics and acidity of the parent alcohol.**



Linear least-squares analysis of kinetic data for monocarbonate ester decarboxylation:



where  $k_{\text{dec}}$  is the unimolecular rate constant for decarboxylation, and  $\text{p}K_{\text{a}}$  values are for the hydroxyl group of the parent alcohol R-OH. The data of Sauers et al. (1975) used in the analysis were derived from the following parent alcohols: methanol, ethanol, 2-chloroethanol, 2,2-dichloroethanol, 2,2,2-trichloroethanol, 2-methoxyethanol, *n*-propanol, *i*-propanol, propargyl alcohol, and *t*-butanol. Where  $k_{\text{dec}}$  was determined by two independent methods, both values were included in the analysis. Experimental uncertainties were used as weights. The analysis yielded the relation  $\log k_{\text{dec}} = m\text{p}K_{\text{a}} + b$ , where  $m = -1.189 \pm 0.006$ , and  $b = 15.55 \pm 0.09$ .