

**Table S1.** GCaMP2 mutants produced to increase GCaMP2 monomer:dimer ratio.

| GCaMP2 mutant <sup>a</sup>    | Fluorescent colonies/CFE <sup>b</sup> | Less dimer than T116V <sup>c</sup> | $\Delta F/F_0$ |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| T116V (gfp T203V)             | Yes                                   | -                                  | $8.4 \pm 0.54$ |
| A349R (cam A46R)              | No                                    | Not tested                         | Not tested     |
| T196R, Y197N (gfp T38R, Y39N) | Yes                                   | No                                 | Not tested     |
| T196E, Y197N (gfp T38E, Y39N) | Yes                                   | No                                 | Not tested     |
| F136E (gfp F223E)             | Yes                                   | No                                 | Not tested     |
| F136R (gfp F223R)             | Yes                                   | Yes                                | $4.4 \pm 0.37$ |
| G87R (gfp G174R)              | Yes                                   | Yes                                | $8.6 \pm 0.32$ |
| G87E (gfp G174E)              | Yes                                   | Yes                                | Not tested     |
| R81E (gfp R168E)              | Yes                                   | Yes                                | $6.2 \pm 0.16$ |
| R389E (cam R86E)              | Yes                                   | Yes                                | $8.8 \pm 0.8$  |
| K378W (cam K75W)              | Yes                                   | Yes                                | $8.4 \pm 0.23$ |
| V89E (gfp V176E)              | Yes                                   | No                                 | Not tested     |
| D305R (cam D2R)               | Yes                                   | No                                 | Not tested     |

<sup>a</sup>All GCaMP2 mutants also contain the GCaMP2 brightness-enhancing mutation T116V (gfp T203V) (L. Tian *et al.*, in preparation). For clarity, numbering of all residues according to the published EGFP, Calmodulin and M13 peptide sequence is given in parentheses. “gfp” indicates that the mutation is present in the cpEGFP domain, “cam” indicates that the mutation is present in the calmodulin domain, and “linker” indicates a mutation in the cpEGFP-CaM linker. <sup>b</sup>Fluorescence of colonies and CFE was visualized using a Safe Imager blue light transilluminator (Invitrogen, USA). <sup>c</sup>The monomer:dimer ratio was qualitatively visualized by SEC analysis (Figure S4).

**Table S2.** Primers used for mutagenesis of GCaMP2.

| GCaMP2 mutation                   | Primer  |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| T116V (gfp T203V)                 | FW 5'-GACAACCACTACCTGAGCGTGCAGTCCAAACTTCGAAAAG-3'<br>RV 5'-CTTTCGAAAAGTTGGACTGCACGCTCAGGTAGTGGTTGTGTC-3'                    |
| A349R (cam A46R) <sup>a</sup>     | RV 5'-GATCATGTCTCGAGCTCGCGTTCTGTGGGGTTCTG-3'  |
| T196R,Y197N (gfp T38R,Y39N)       | RV 5'-CTTCAGGGTCAGCTTGCCGTTGCGGGCATCGCCCTCACC-3'  |
| T196E,Y197N (gfp T38E,Y39N)       | RV 5'-CTTCAGGGTCAGCTTGCCGTTCTCGGCATCGCCCTCACC-3'  |
| F136E (gfp F223E)                 | RV 5'-CCCGCGGGCGGTACCTCTCCAGCAGGACCATGTG-3'   |
| F136R (gfp F223R)                 | FW 5'-CACATGGTCTGCTGGAGCGGGTGACCGCCCGGGG-3'<br>RV 5'-CCCGCGGGCGGTACCGCTCCAGCAGGACCATGTG-3'                                  |
| G87R (gfp G174R)                  | FW 5'-CACAACATCGAGGACCGCGCGTGCAGCTCGCC-3'<br>RV 5'-GGCGAGCTGCACGCCGCGTCTCGATGTTGTG-3'                                       |
| G87E (gfp G174E)                  | RV 5'-GGCGAGCTGCACGCCCTCGTCTCGATGTTGTG-3'   |
| R81E (gfp R168E)                  | FW 5'-CAAGGGCAACTTCAAGATCGAACACAACATCGAGGACGGC-3'<br>RV 5'-GCCGTCCTCGATGTTGTGTTTCGATCTTGAAGTTCGCCTTG-3'                     |
| R389E (cam R86E)                  | FW 5'-GACAGTGAAGAAGAAATTGAGGAAGCCTTCCGCGTGTGTTGATAAGGATGGC-3'<br>RV 5'-GCCATCCTTATCAACACCGCGGAAGGCTTCTCAATTTCTTCTCACTGTC-3' |
| K378W (cam K75W)                  | FW 5'-ACAATGATGGCAAGATGGATGAAAGACACAGACAGT-3'<br>RV 5'-ACTGTCTGTGTCCTTTCATCCATCTTGCCATCATTGT-3'                             |
| V89E (gfp V176E)                  | RV 5'-GTAGTGGTAGGCGAGCTGCTCGCCCGCTCCTCGAT-3'  |
| D305R (cam D2R)                   | RV 5'-CTGCTTTCAGTCAGTTGGCGACGCGTGTGTTACTC-3'  |
| T303W (linker)                    | FW 5'-CACAAGCTGGAGTACAACCTGGCGTGACCAACTGACTGAAG-3'<br>RV 5'-CTTCAGTCAGTTGGTACCGCAGTTGTACTCCAGCTTGTG-3'                      |
| T303Y (linker)                    | FW 5'-CACAAGCTGGAGTACAACATATCGTGACCAACTGACTGAAG-3'<br>RV 5'-CTTCAGTCAGTTGGTACCGATAGTTGTACTCCAGCTTGTG-3'                     |
| T303R (linker)                    | FW 5'-CACAAGCTGGAGTACAACCGCCGTGACCAACTGACTGAAG-3'<br>RV 5'-CTTCAGTCAGTTGGTACCGCGGTTGTACTCCAGCTTGTG-3'                       |
| D381W (cam D78W)                  | FW 5'-GATGGCAAGAAAAATGAAATGGACAGACAGTGAAGAAGAAATTAG-3'<br>RV 5'-CTAATTTCTTCTTCACTGTCTGTCCATTTTCATTTTCTTGCCATC-3'            |
| D381Y (cam D78Y)                  | FW 5'-GATGGCAAGAAAAATGAAATACACAGACAGTGAAGAAGAAATTAG-3'<br>RV 5'-CTAATTTCTTCTTCACTGTCTGTGTAATTTTCATTTTCTTGCCATC-3'           |
| D381R (cam D78R)                  | FW 5'-GATGGCAAGAAAAATGAAACGCACAGACAGTGAAGAAGAAATTAG-3'<br>RV 5'-CTAATTTCTTCTTCACTGTCTGTGCGTTTCATTTTCTTGCCATC-3'             |
| R377W (cam R74W)                  | FW 5'-GTTCTGACAATGATGGCATGAAAAATGAAAGACACAGAC-3'<br>RV 5'-GTCTGTGCTTTCATTTTCCATGCCATCATTTGTCCAGAAC-3'                       |
| R377Y (cam R74Y)                  | FW 5'-GTTCTGACAATGATGGCATAAAAAATGAAAGACACAGAC-3'<br>RV 5'-GTCTGTGCTTTCATTTTGTATGCCATCATTTGTCCAGAAC-3'                       |
| K380W (cam K78W)                  | FW 5'-CAATGATGGCAAGAAAAATGTTGGACACAGACAGTGAAGAAG-3'<br>RV 5'-CTTCTTCACTGTCTGTGCCACATTTTCTTGCCATCATTG-3'                     |
| K380Y (cam K78Y)                  | FW 5'-CAATGATGGCAAGAAAAATGTACGACACAGACAGTGAAGAAG-3'<br>RV 5'-CTTCTTCACTGTCTGTGTCGTACATTTTCTTGCCATCATTG-3'                   |
| R81E (gfp R168E)                  | FW 5'-CAAGGGCAACTTCAAGATCGAACACAACATCGAGGACGGC-3'<br>RV 5'-GCCGTCCTCGATGTTGTGTTTCGATCTTGAAGTTCGCCTTG-3'                     |
| R81A (gfp R168A)                  | FW 5'-CAAGGGCAACTTCAAGATCGCCACAACATCGAGGACGGC-3'<br>RV 5'-GCCGTCCTCGATGTTGTGGCGCATTTGAAGTTCGCCTTG-3'                        |
| R81S (gfp R168S)                  | FW 5'-CAAGGGCAACTTCAAGATCGCCACAACATCGAGGACGGC-3'<br>RV 5'-GCCGTCCTCGATGTTGTGGCTGATCTTGAAGTTCGCCTTG-3'                       |
| A140W (gfp A227W)                 | FW 5'-CTGGAGTTCGTGACCGCCTGGGGATCACTCAGGATG-3'<br>RV 5'-CATGCCGAGAGTGTCCCCAGGGCGTCCAGAACTCCAG-3'                             |
| V219R (gfp V62R)                  | FW 5'-GTGCCCTGGCCACCCTCCGCAACCCTGACCTACGG-3'<br>RV 5'-CCGTAGGTCAGGGTGGTGGGAGGGTGGGCCAGGGCAC-3'                              |
| V219M (gfp V62M)                  | FW 5'-GTGCCCTGGCCACCCTCATGACCACCCTGACCTACGG-3'<br>RV 5'-CCGTAGGTCAGGGTGGTGCATGAGGGTGGGCCAGGGCAC-3'                          |
| L120R (gfp L207R)                 | FW 5'-CTGAGCGTGCAGTCCAAACGCTCGAAAGACCCCAACGAG-3'<br>RV 5'-CTCGTTGGGGTCTTTCGAGCGTTTGGACTGCACGCTCA-3'                         |
| L120Y (gfp L120Y)                 | FW 5'-CTGAGCGTGCAGTCCAAACTCGAAAGACCCCAACGAG-3'<br>RV 5'-CTCGTTGGGGTCTTTCGAGTATTGGACTGCACGCTCAG-3'                           |
| <b>8-fold EF-hand<sup>b</sup></b> |   |
| E334Q,T329G                       | FW 5'-GACAAGGACGGGGATGGGGGCATAACAACCAAGCAGCTG-3'<br>RV 5'-CAGCTGTGGTTGTTATGCCCCATCCCGCTCTTGTG-3'                            |
| D359G                             | FW 5'-GACATGATCAATGAAGTAGGGCGCCGACGTAATGGCAC-3'<br>RV 5'-GTGCCATTACCGTCGGCGCTACTTCATTGATCATGTG-3'                           |
| E370Q                             | FW 5'-GGCACAATCGACTTCCCTCAGTTCGACAATGATGGC-3'<br>RV 5'-GCCATCATTGTCAGGAACTGAGGGAAAGTCGATGTTGCC-3'                           |
| D396G                             | FW 5'-GAAGCGTCCGTGTGTTTGGCAAGGATGGCAATGGTAC-3'<br>RV 5'-GTAGCCATTGCCATCCTTGCACCAACACAGGAAACGCTTC-3'                         |
| E407Q                             | FW 5'-GGCTACATCAGTGCAGCACAGTTCGCCACGTGATGAC-3'<br>RV 5'-GTCATCAGTGGCGAAGCTGTGCTGCACTGATGTAGCC-3'                            |
| D432G                             | FW 5'-GAAATGATCAGGGAAAGCAGGCATCGATGGGGATGGTCAG-3'<br>RV 5'-CTGACCATCCCATCGATGCCTGTTCCCTGATCATTTTC-3'                        |
| E443Q                             | FW 5'-GGTCAGGTAAACTACGAAACAGTTTGTACAAATGATGACA-3'<br>RV 5'-CTGTATCATTTGTACAAACTGTTCTGATTTACTCGACC-3'                        |

<sup>a</sup>When only a single primer is given site-directed mutagenesis was performed by the method of Kunkel (Kunkel, T. A. (1985) *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* **82**(2), 488-492), otherwise the Quikchange kit was applied according to the manufacturer's instructions (Invitrogen, USA). <sup>b</sup>Primers for the 8-fold EF-hand GCaMP2 mutant are given separately, in GCaMP2 numbering.

**Table S3.** GCaMP2 mutants for GECI analysis

| GCaMP2 variant <sup>a</sup>     | $\Delta F/F_0$ | Optimal<br>$\lambda_{ex}/\lambda_{em}$ | Absorbance Apo <sup>a</sup><br>$\lambda_{prot}/\lambda_{deprot}$ | Absorbance Sat <sup>a</sup><br>$\lambda_{prot}/\lambda_{deprot}$ |
|---------------------------------|----------------|--|--|--|
| GCaMP2                          | 4.5 ± 0.43     | 488/512                                | 404/490  | N.D. <sup>b</sup> /488   |
| T116V (gfp T203V)               | 8.4 ± 0.54     | 498/515                                | 403/501  | 399/498  |
| <i>Solvent access mutations</i> |                |  |  |  |
| T303W (linker)                  | 4.2 ± 0.28     | 499/514                                | 398/499  | 396/499  |
| T303Y (linker)                  | 11.0 ± 0.98    | 498/515                                | 401/503  | 399/498  |
| T303R (linker)                  | 3.2 ± 0.41     | 498/515                                | 400/502  | 400/498  |
| D381W (cam D78W)                | 7.9 ± 0.78     | 498/514                                | 401/503  | 400/498  |
| D381Y (cam D78Y)                | 11.1 ± 0.69    | 498/515                                | 401/503  | 401/498  |
| D381R (cam D78R)                | 5.8 ± 0.39     | 498/515                                | 401/503  | 399/498  |
| R377W (cam R74W)                | 7.8 ± 1.26     | 498/515                                | 400/501  | 396/499  |
| R377Y (cam R74Y)                | 8.4 ± 0.62     | 498/515                                | 403/502  | 399/499  |
| K380W (cam K78W)                | 5.6 ± 0.57     | 499/515                                | 403/501  | 396/499  |
| K380Y (cam K78Y)                | 6.4 ± 0.08     | 498/515                                | 403/502  | 395/499  |
| <i>Interface mutations</i>      |                |  |  |  |
| R81E (gfp R168E)                | 6.5 ± 0.24     | 498/514                                | 400/501  | 395/499  |
| R81A (gfp R168A)                | 6.6 ± 0.67     | 499/514                                | 401/501  | 395/499  |
| R81S (gfp R168S)                | 9.0 ± 0.27     | 498/515                                | 400/500  | 398/499  |
| A140W (gfp A227W)               | 3.7 ± 0.05     | 498/514                                | 401/503  | 400/498  |
| <i>Inner barrel mutations</i>   |                |  |  |  |
| V219R (gfp V62R)                | 5.4 ± 0.30     | 490/510                                | 399/492  | 399/492  |
| V219M (gfp V62M)                | 8.5 ± 0.46     | 503/516                                | 400/500  | 395/500  |
| L120R (gfp L207R)               | 2.6 ± 0.15     | 495/514                                | 396/504  | 396/498  |
| L120Y (gfp L120Y)               | 6.5 ± 0.40     | 498/514                                | 400/500  | 396/497  |

<sup>a</sup>All GCaMP2 mutants also contain the GCaMP2 brightness-enhancing mutation T116V (gfp T203V) (L. Tian *et al.*, in preparation) as described in table 2. <sup>a</sup>Absorbance measured in presence and absence of calcium. Peak wavelengths for both protonated and deprotonated state are given. <sup>b</sup>Not determined due to peak convolution.