

Shining light on the dark side of imaging: Excited state absorption enhancement of a bis-styryl BODIPY photoacoustic contrast agent

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Supporting Information

| Contents | Page |
|--|-------------|
| Molecular structures of BODIPY, (MeOPh)2BODIPY, CurcuminBF2, Cy3 and Crystal violet | S2 |
| Spectral measurements and data | S2 |
| UV/Vis electronic absorption spectra | S3 |
| Fluorescence emission spectra | S3 |
| Computational analysis of BODIPY, (MeOPh)2BODIPY, CurcuminBF2, Cy3 and Crystal violet | S4 |
| Photoacoustic Z-scan (PAZ) experimental details | S4 - S5 |
| Linear photoacoustic emission of crystal violet vs. optical density | S5 |
| Optical Z-scan absorption profiles of BODIPY, (MeOPh)2BODIPY, CurcuminBF2, Cy3 and Crystal violet | S6 |
| PAZ-scan emission profiles of BODIPY, (MeOPh)2BODIPY, CurcuminBF2, Cy3 and Crystal violet | S6 |
| Correlated photoacoustic and fluorescence emission as a function of laser fluence | S7 |
| Quenching data with 1.0 M 2,4-dinitrochlorobenzene (DNCB) | S8 - S12 |
| Photoacoustic tomography (PAT) experimental details | S13 |
| Photoacoustic tomography of dyes recorded in acetonitrile (optical density = 0.3) at a laser fluence of 20 mJ cm ⁻² ($\lambda_{exc} = 532$ nm) | S13 |
| DFT cartesian coordinates | S14 - S21 |

Materials

BODIPY ¹, (MeOPh)2BODIPY ² and CurcuminBF₂ ³ were prepared according to their literature procedures. Crystal violet chloride salt was purchased from Sigma Aldrich and recrystallized from an aqueous solution with NH₄PF₆.

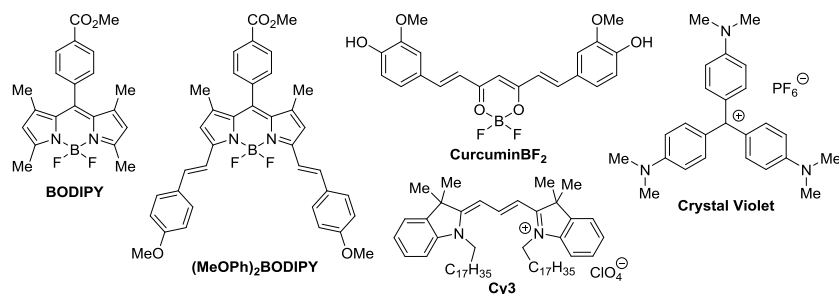


Figure S1. Molecular structures of BODIPY, (MeOPh)₂BODIPY, CurcuminBF₂, Cy3 and Crystal violet.

Spectral measurements and data

UV/Vis spectra were measured in spectroscopic grade acetonitrile (Sigma-Aldrich) at room temperature on an Agilent 8452 spectrophotometer using a 1 cm quartz cell. A 9:1 acetonitrile:dichloromethane mixture was required for UV/Vis (and photoacoustic) measurements of (MeOPh)₂BODIPY to prevent precipitation. Steady state and time-resolved fluorescence measurements were carried out on a Photon Technology International Quantmaster 40 & 25 fluorimeter at room temperature. Fluorescence quantum yields for all samples (Φ_{fl}) were calculated by the optically dilute technique in neat acetonitrile solutions at $\lambda_{exc} = 390$ nm with fluorescein (in 0.1 M aqueous NaOH, $\Phi_{ref} = 0.925$)⁴ as the actinometer for all samples except Cy3 which was calculated at $\lambda_{exc} = 480$ nm, using with Rhodamine 6G as the actinometer ($\Phi_{ref} = 0.94$)⁵, according to eq. 1.

$$\Phi_{fl} = \left(\frac{A_{ref}}{A_s}\right) \left(\frac{I_{ref}}{I_s}\right) \left(\frac{\eta_{ref}}{\eta_s}\right)^2 \Phi_{ref} \quad (1)$$

The subscript “s” refers to the sample and the subscript “ref” to the reference sample, A is the absorbance at the excitation wavelength, I is the integrated emission area, and η is the solvent refractive index. Excitation and emission slits were both set at 2 nm. Fluorescence lifetimes (${}^1\tau$) were recorded at room temperature at the emission maximum following LED excitation at 456 nm (BODIPY, CurcuminBF₂) or 572 nm [(MeO₂Ph)₂BODIPY, Cy3]. The radiative rate constant (k_r) and non-radiative rate constant (k_{nr}) were both calculated from ${}^1\tau$ and Φ_{fl} by using eqs 2-5.

$${}^1\tau = \frac{1}{(k_r + k_{nr})} \quad (2)$$

$$\Phi_{fl} = \frac{k_r}{(k_r + k_{nr})} \quad (3)$$

$$k_r = \frac{\Phi_{fl}}{{}^1\tau} \quad (4)$$

$$k_{nr} = \frac{(1 - \Phi_{fl})}{{}^1\tau} \quad (5)$$

Table S1. Summary of electronic absorption and fluorescence emission data for all samples in acetonitrile.

| | UV/Vis (λ_{max} , nm) ($\epsilon \times 10^4 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$) | Stokes shift (cm^{-1}) | Fluorescence emission (λ_{max} , nm) | ${}^1\tau$ (ns) | k_r (s^{-1}) | k_{nr} (s^{-1}) | Φ_{fl} |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| BODIPY | 310 (0.48), 364 (0.34), 500 (5.45) | 392 | 510 | 1.98 | 1.55×10^8 | 3.51×10^8 | 0.306 |
| (MeOPh) ₂ BODIPY ^a | 318 (0.93), 368 (2.70), 590 (1.54), 640 (4.34) | 813 | 654 | 5.41 | 1.33×10^8 | 5.19×10^7 | 0.719 |
| CurcuminBF ₂ | 499 (9.44) | 3 322 | 591 | 0.72 | 6.67×10^7 | 1.32×10^9 | 0.048 |
| Cy3 | 517 (7.56), 548 (12.59) | 517 | 564 | 0.28 | 8.93×10^7 | 3.48×10^9 | 0.025 |
| Crystal violet | 589 (6.29) | ~ | ~ | ~ | ~ | ~ | 0.00 |

^a a 9:1 acetonitrile:dichloromethane mixture was required for UV/Vis measurements of (MeOPh)₂BODIPY

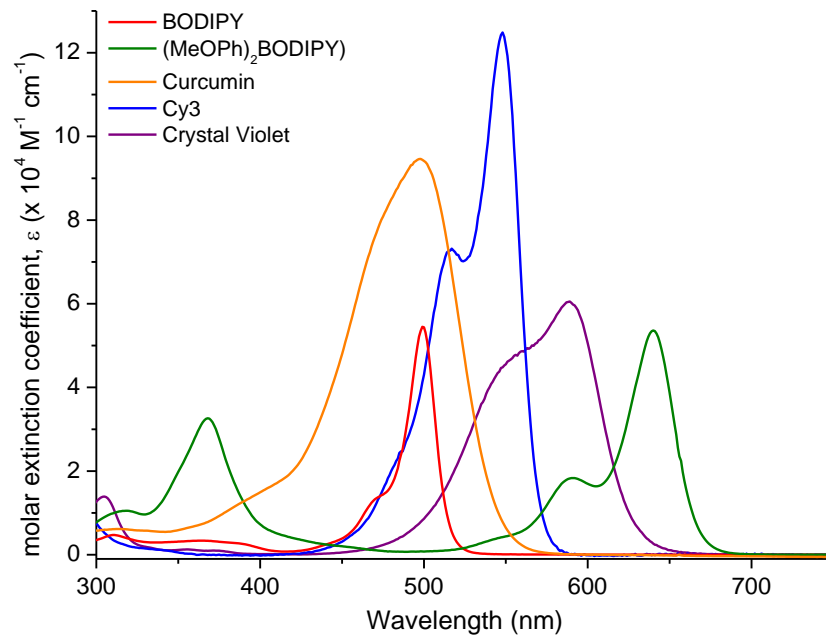


Figure S2. Electronic absorption spectra vs. molar extinction coefficient (ϵ , $M^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$) of all samples recorded in acetonitrile at room temperature including crystal violet.

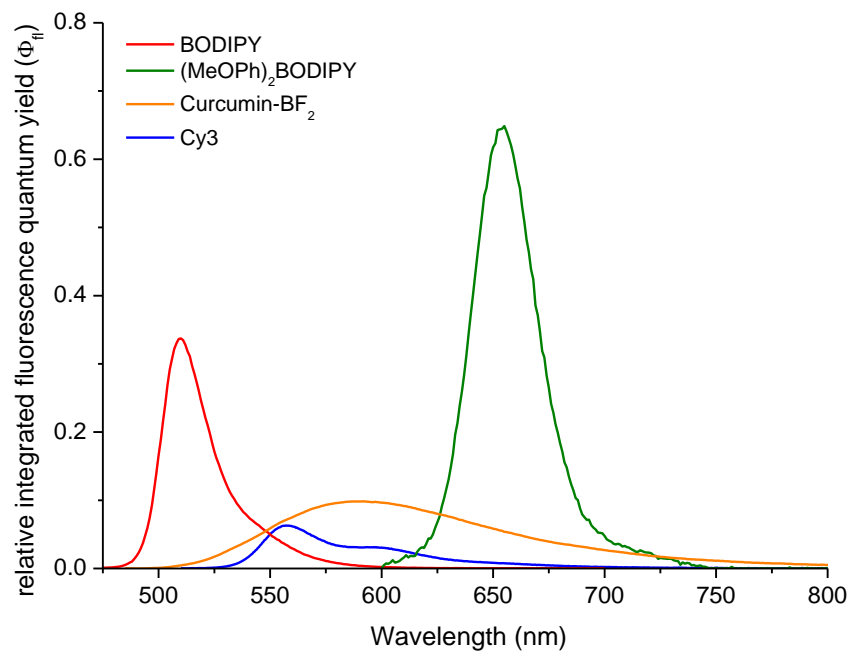


Figure S3. Fluorescence emission spectra of all samples recorded in acetonitrile. Integrated spectral areas for each sample are correlated with their respective quantum yields presented Table S1.

Computational Analysis

All calculations were carried out using density functional theory (DFT) with the B3LYP functional as implemented in the Spartan '14 program. The 6-311+g** basis set was used for all C, H, N, O and F atoms.^{6,7} Geometry optimization and subsequent single point energy calculations were carried out using a dichloromethane SM8 solvent model.⁸ A vibrational frequency analysis was first carried out in the geometry optimization experiment in order to eliminate virtual transitions and confirm a global minimum energy was achieved in the chosen solvent model. Subsequently single point time-dependent density functional theory (TDDFT) was conducted to identify possible electronic transitions.⁹ Trends in the UV/Vis absorption spectra can be better understood by analysis of the frontier orbitals and their respective energies. The lower electronegativity of the diaza ring system in BODIPY is responsible for destabilization of its HOMO level relative to the β -diketonate ring system in curcuminBF₂. The *para*-methoxyphenyl bis-styryl functionality destabilizes the HOMO level of (MeOPh)₂BODIPY which is responsible for its red shifted absorption maximum relative to the simple BODIPY reference.

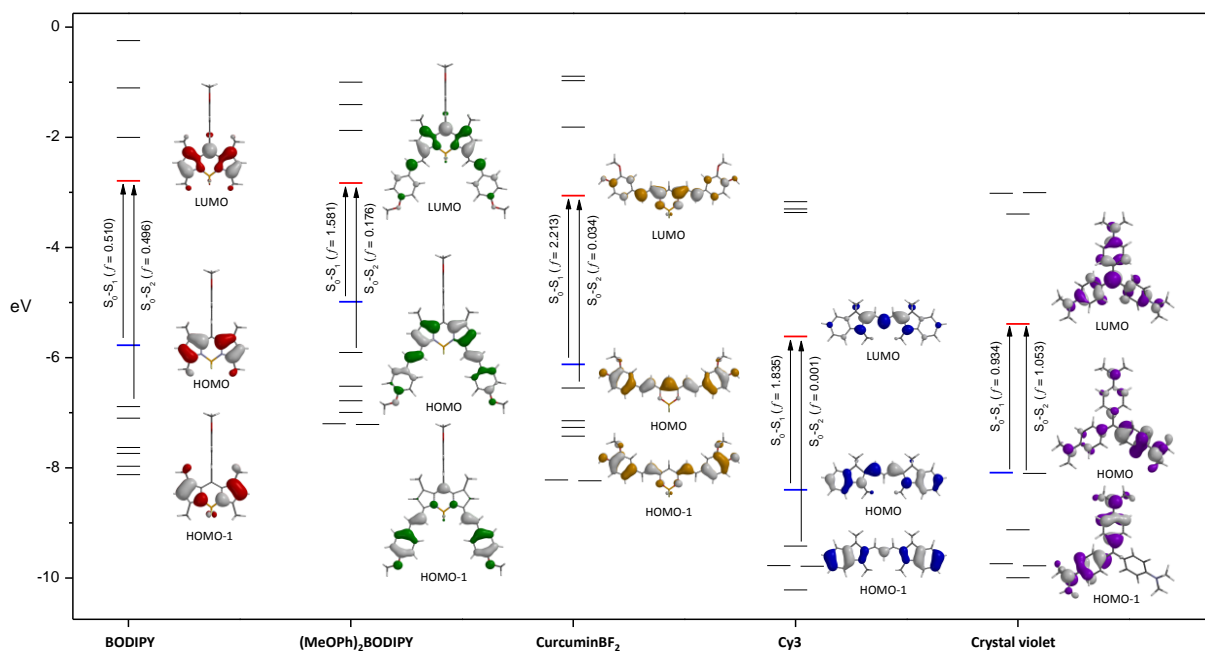
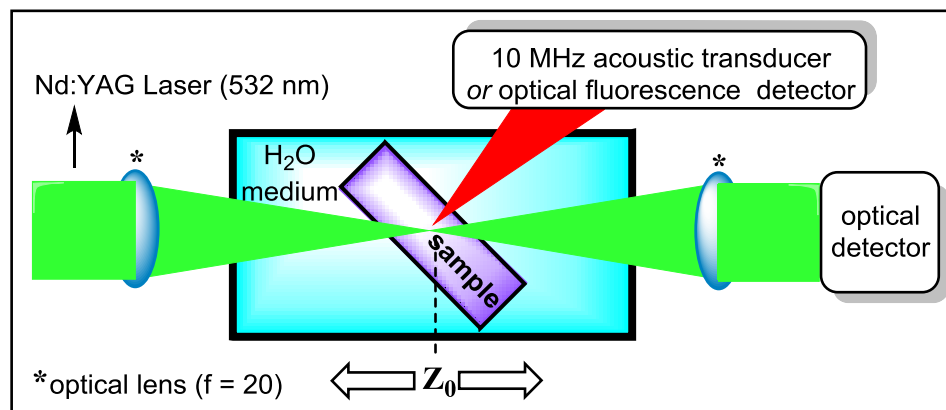


Figure S4. Molecular orbital energy diagram as calculated by density functional theory using the B3LYP functional with a 6-311+g** basis set and an acetonitrile SM8 solvent model. The HOMO, HOMO-1 and LUMO images are included as they contribute to the $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$ and $S_0 \rightarrow S_2$ electronic transitions (illustrated) for all dyes.

PAZ-scan experimental details

For PAZ-scan measurements a 2.0 mm path length quartz cell was placed at a 45⁰ angle with respect to the incident laser beam (effective path length = 2.83 mm). A custom made sample cell housing unit was used wherein the quartz cell is placed and is filled with water for acoustic signal transmission. Samples were dissolved in spectroscopic grade acetonitrile having a linear absorption coefficient (α) of 345 m⁻¹ at the laser excitation wavelength 532 nm (optical density = 0.3). A 9:1 acetonitrile:dichloromethane mixture was required for (MeOPh)₂BODIPY alone to prevent precipitation during data collection. The output of a frequency doubled Nd:YAG laser (Continuum Minilite II, 532 nm, pulse width ~3 ns) was focused onto the sample using a 18 cm focal length lens. The sample was mounted on an automated translation stage (Thorlabs NRT 150) and moved horizontally along the Z direction through the focal point of the beam. Each Z-scan experiment took roughly 7 minutes in total. Samples were translated along the Z-axis over 15 cm in steps of 5 mm. At each position the photoacoustic and optical signals were recorded by averaging the response of 20 laser pulses (@ 10 Hz = 2 sec. duration). UV/Vis absorption spectra were recorded before and after each Z-scan experiment to ensure the stability of the sample. No degradation was observed under these experimental conditions for the series of dyes presented. Each experiment was repeated 3 times with freshly prepared sample to check for reproducibility. The beam waist (x_0) at focal plane was estimated to be 70 \pm 5 μ m. The energy incident on the sample was controlled by the combination of a half-wave plate and a linear polarizer. The incident laser energy before the focusing lens

was 65 μJ . At the focal point the sample experiences optimum pump intensity, which decreases gradually on either side of the focus as the sample is translated along the Z axis. As the fluence of incident light changes, the optical transmittance varies according to the sample's nonlinear electronic absorption properties. PA + optical and fluorescence + optical Z-scan experiments were conducted separately, both experiments having in common the optical response to allow correlation of both PA and fluorescence data collected during both Z-scan experiments. Fluorescence data was collected using an Ocean Optics fiber spectrometer USB2000 probe. The PA emission was collected using a 10 MHz, 1 inch focal length water immersion ultrasonic transducer (Olympus NDT U8517074). Importantly, the linear response of the optical detector as well as the ultrasound transducer were verified by measuring the transmittance and the corresponding generated PA response as a function of crystal violet concentration in acetonitrile (optical density from 0 to 1) at 532 nm (Figure S5). A correlation better than $R^2 = 0.99$ was obtained for transmittance measurements when a neutral density filter of OD 1 was placed in front of the detector (Newport 818 series photodiode sensor with a 3 OD filter; data not shown) while the PA signal showed excellent linearity (Fig. S5). Crystal violet was chosen as our calibration standard due to its linear photoacoustic response with respect to laser fluence (Figure S5).



Scheme S1. Experimental setup for fluorescence and photoacoustic optical Z-Scan experiments.

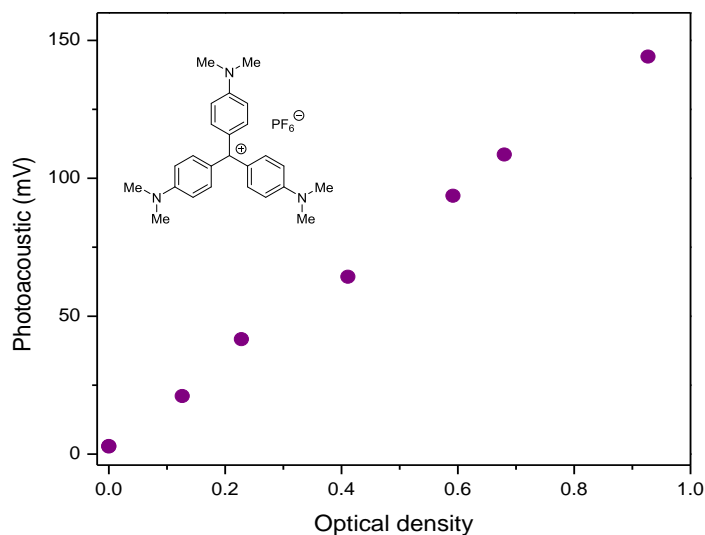


Figure S5. Photoacoustic response as a function of optical density for crystal violet in acetonitrile (laser fluence of 540 mJ cm^{-2}).

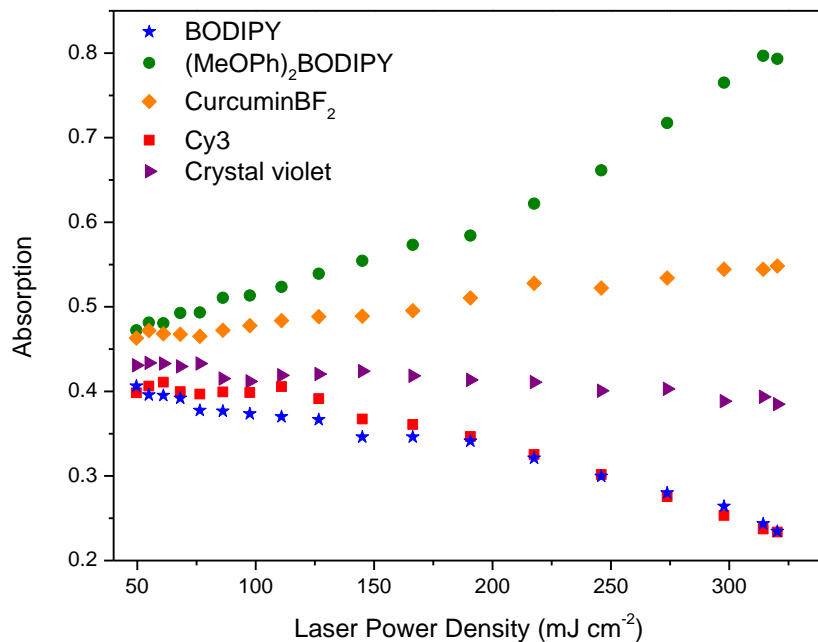


Figure S6. Optical absorption profiles of BODIPY, (MeOPh)₂BODIPY, CurcuminBF₂, Cy3 and Crystal violet with respect to laser fluence at $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 532$ nm. Recorded by the optical Z-scan method as described above. All samples were prepared with an identical optical density of 0.3 in acetonitrile apart from (MeOPh)₂BODIPY which was prepared in 9:1 v/v acetonitrile:dichloromethane. The corresponding PA data is plotted in Figure S7 below.

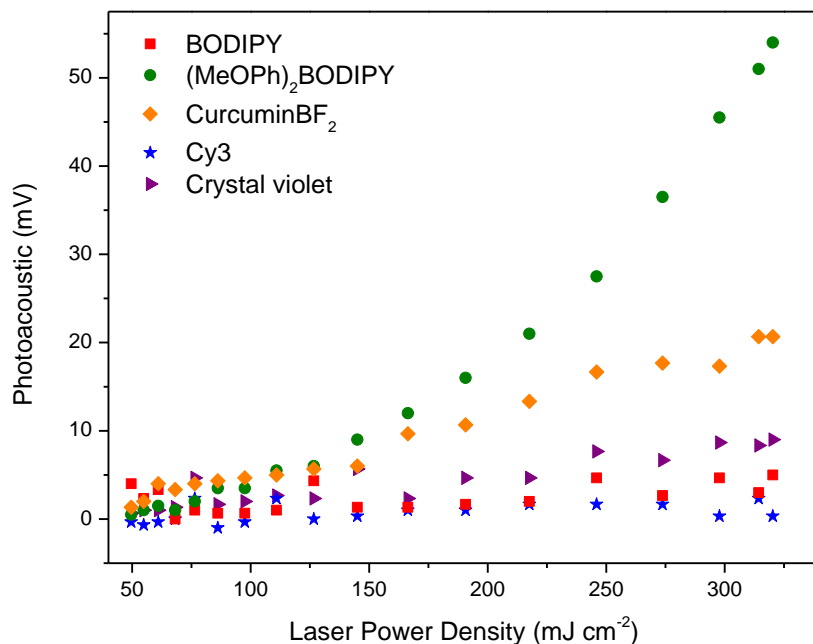


Figure S7. Photoacoustic emission profiles of BODIPY, (MeOPh)₂BODIPY, CurcuminBF₂, Cy3 and Crystal violet with respect to laser fluence at $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 532$ nm. Recorded by the photoacoustic Z-scan method as described above. All samples were prepared with an identical optical density of 0.3 in acetonitrile apart from (MeOPh)₂BODIPY which was prepared in 9:1 v/v acetonitrile:dichloromethane. The corresponding optical data is plotted in Figure S6 above.

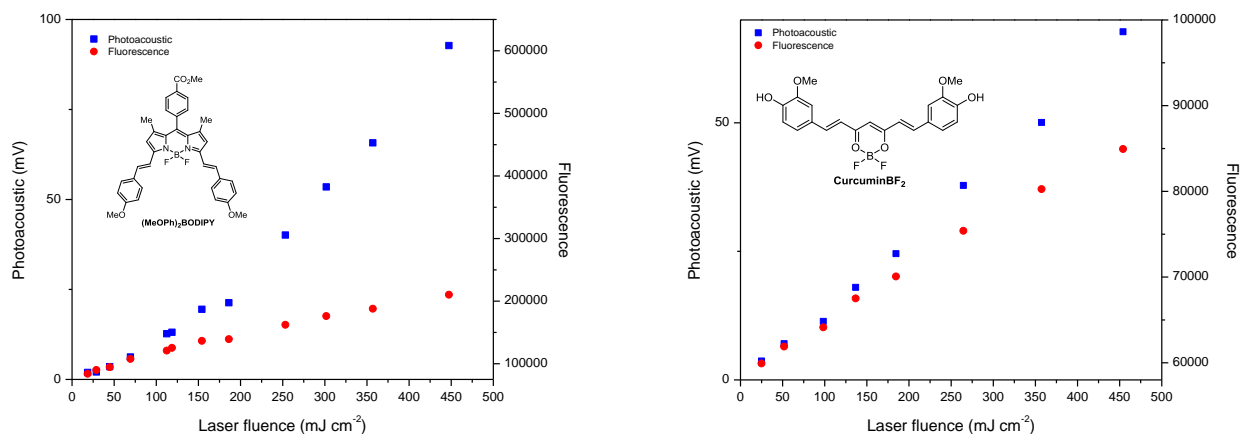


Figure S8. Photoacoustic and fluorescence emission from (MeOPh)₂BODIPY (left) and CurcuminBF₂ (right) as a function of laser fluence. At low laser fluence (< 50 mJ cm⁻²) both the fluorescence and photoacoustic response increase in a concerted fashion with laser fluence as the concentration of S₁ excited states increases. At increased laser fluence (> 200 mJ cm⁻²) S₁→S_n excited state absorption gives rise to an enhanced S₀←S_n photoacoustic signal with a correlated saturation S₁ states available for fluorescence decay.

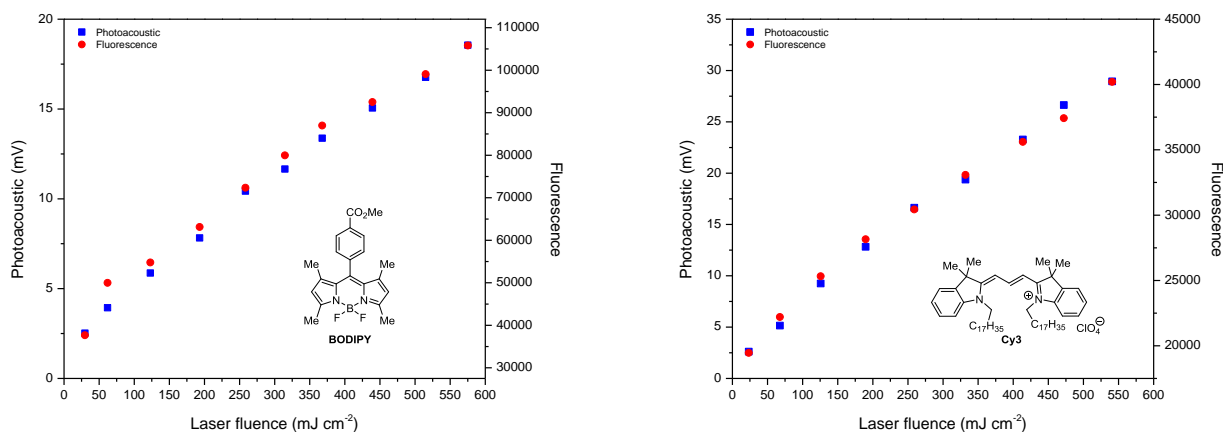


Figure S9. Correlated photoacoustic and fluorescence emission from BODIPY (left) and Cy3 (right) as a function of laser fluence. Both fluorescence and photoacoustic response increase in a concerted fashion with laser fluence as the concentration of S₁ excited states increases with laser fluence. Both dyes display ground state bleaching (Fig. S6) giving rise to a slight plateauing of the slope at high laser fluence.

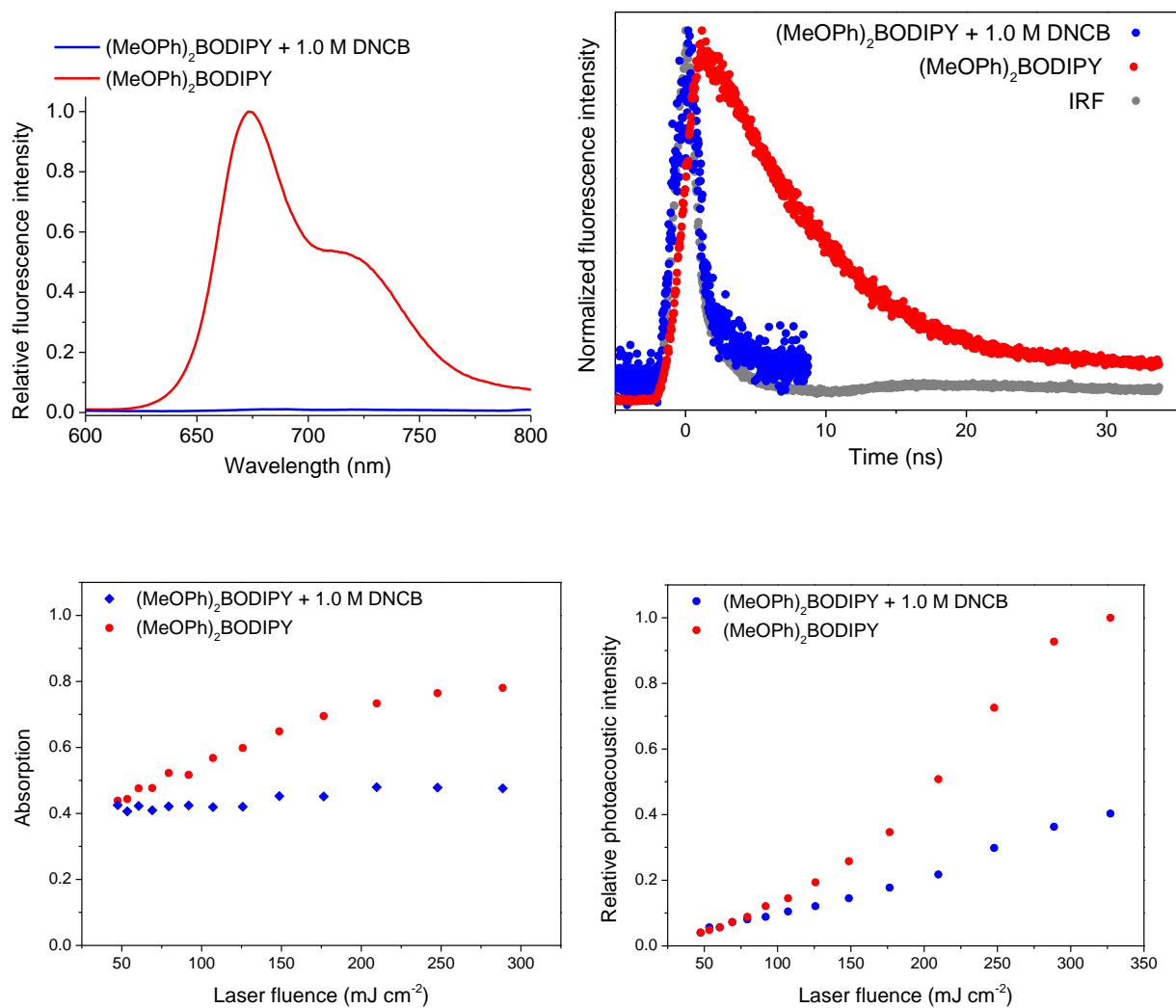


Figure S10. Quenching experiments for $(\text{MeOPh})_2\text{BODIPY}$ with and without 1.0 M 2,4-dinitrochlorobenzene (DNCB) sacrificial oxidant monitored by steady-state fluorescence (top-left), time-resolved fluorescence (top-right), optical Z-scan (bottom-left) and photoacoustic Z-scan (bottom-right).

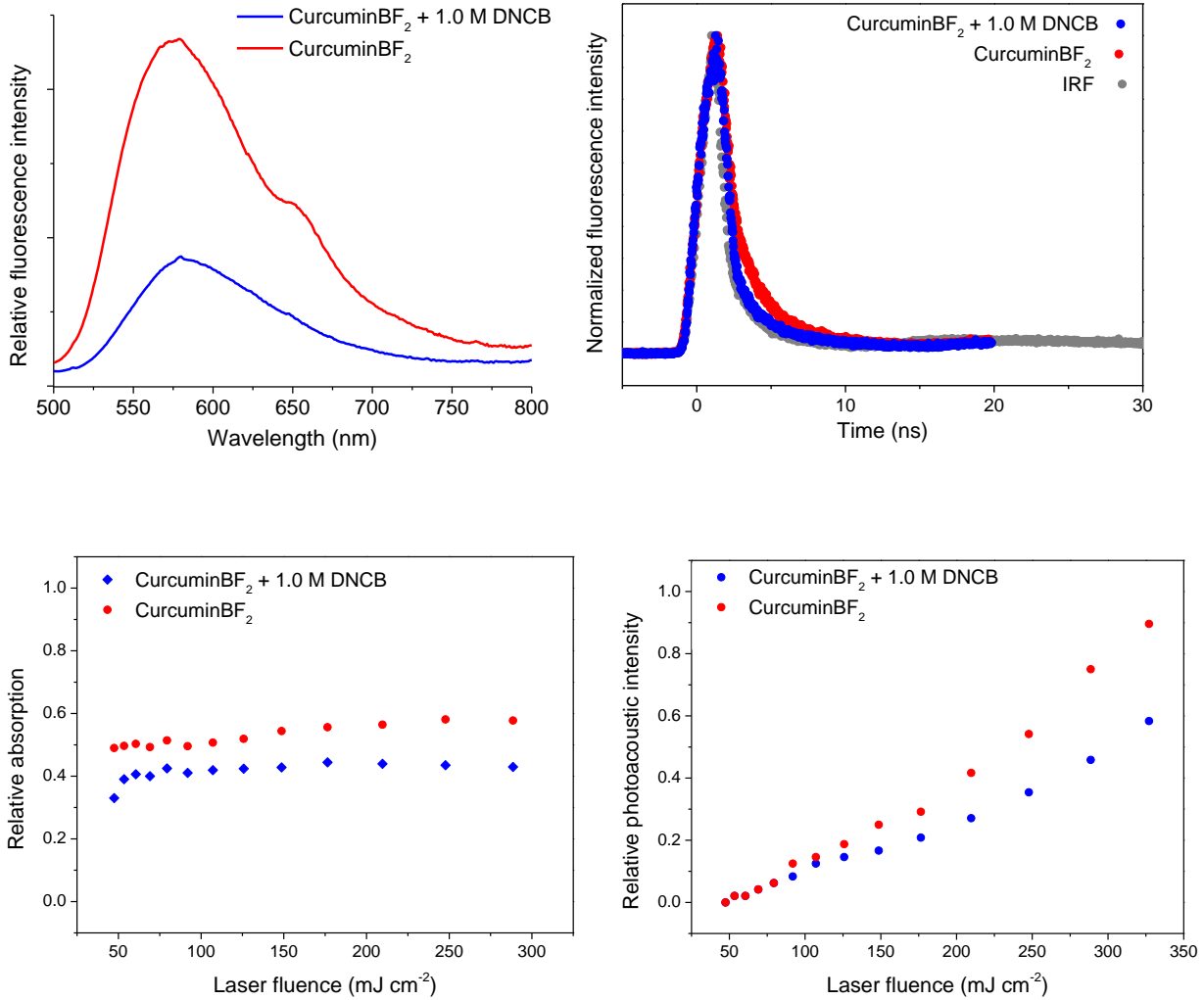


Figure S11. Quenching experiments for curcuminBF₂ with and without 1.0 M 2,4-dinitrochlorobenzene (DNCB) sacrificial oxidant monitored by steady-state fluorescence (top-left), time-resolved fluorescence (top-right), optical Z-scan (bottom-left) and photoacoustic Z-scan (bottom-right).

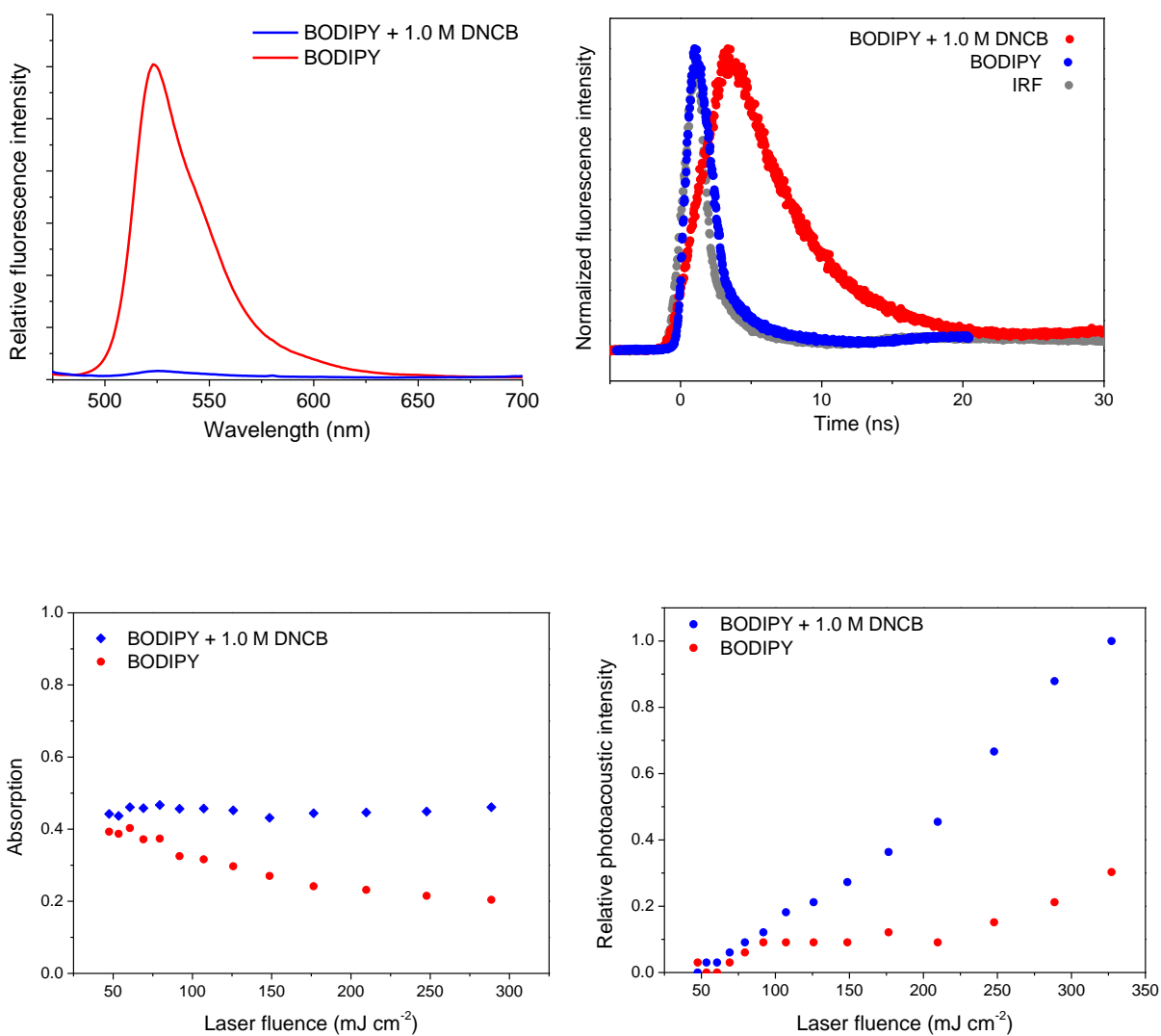


Figure S12. Quenching experiments for BODIPY with and without 1.0 M 2,4-dinitrochlorobenzene (DNCB) sacrificial oxidant monitored by steady-state fluorescence (top-left), time-resolved fluorescence (top-right), optical Z-scan (bottom-left) and photoacoustic Z-scan (bottom-right).

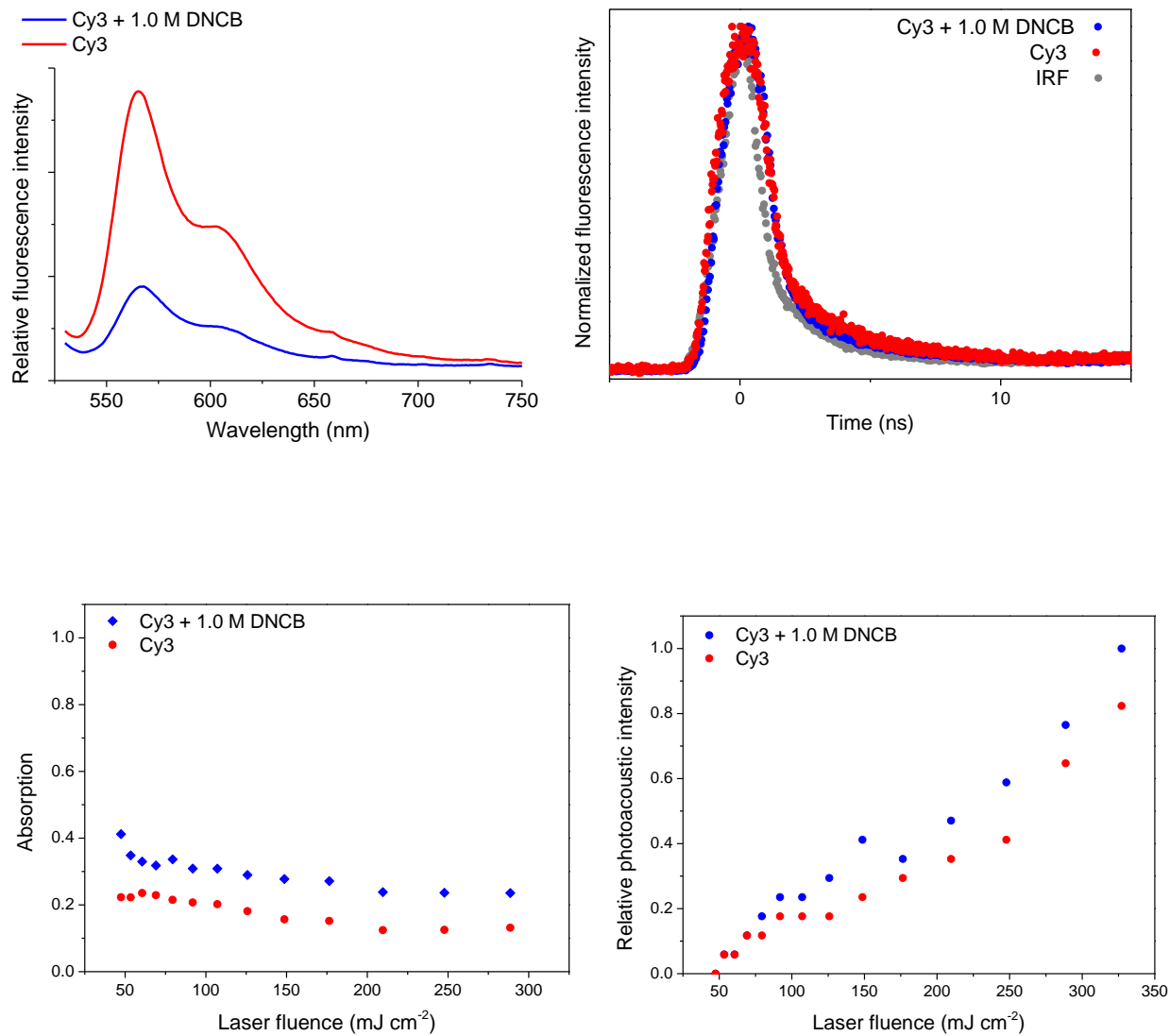


Figure S13. Quenching experiments for Cy3 with and without 1.0 M 2,4-dinitrochlorobenzene (DNCB) sacrificial oxidant monitored by steady-state fluorescence (top-left), time-resolved fluorescence (top-right), optical Z-scan (bottom-left) and photoacoustic Z-scan (bottom-right).

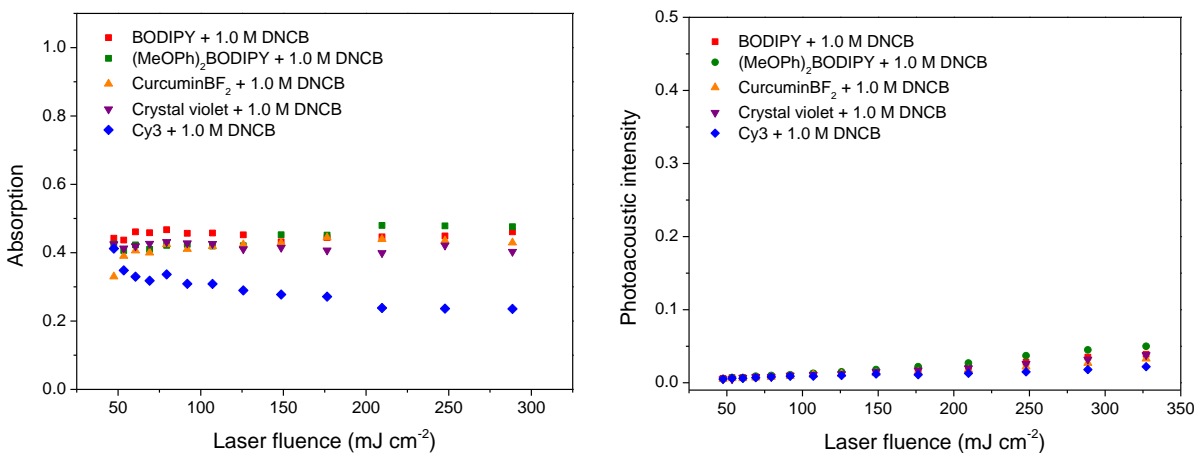


Figure S14. Overlay of quenching experiments all dyes with 1.0 M 2,4-dinitrochlorobenzene (DNCB) sacrificial oxidant monitored optical Z-scan (left) and photoacoustic Z-scan (right). Quenching of all dyes results in saturable absorber behavior similar to crystal violet with a short-lived excited state, negligible excited-state absorption and dramatically reduced photoacoustic signal. Cy3 still displays ground state bleaching in the optical Z-scan experiment as its excited state is already short lived resulting in inefficient quenching by DNCB.

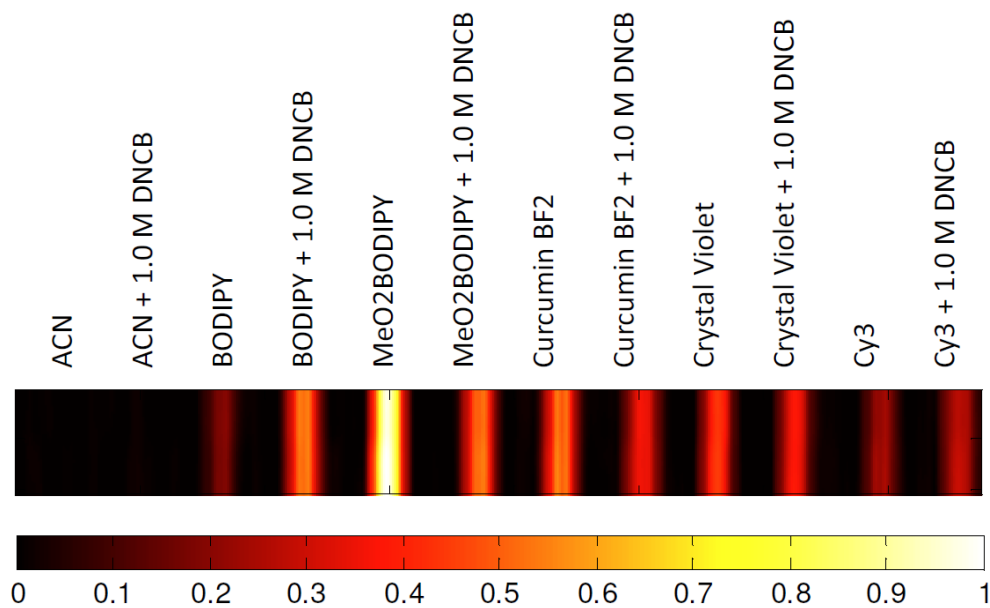
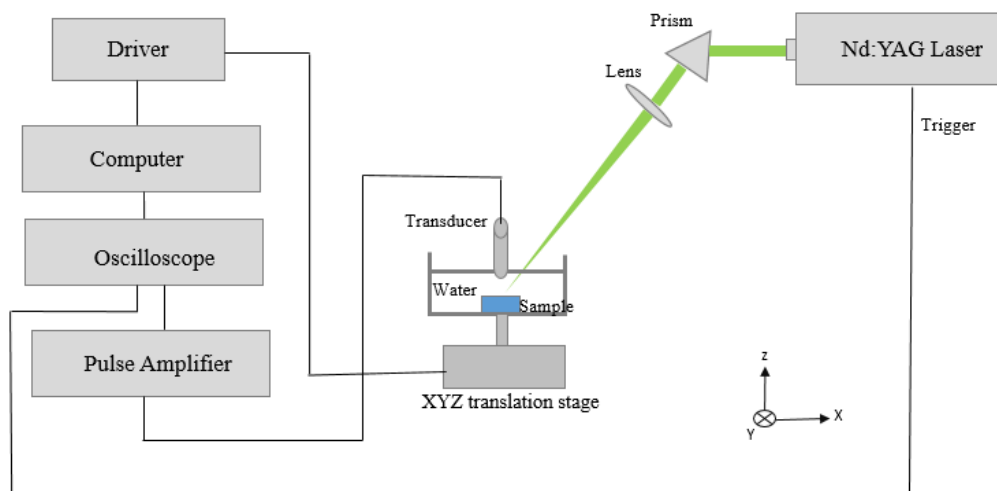


Figure S15. PAT image of all dyes with and without 1.0 M 2,4-dinitrochlorobenzene (DNCB) sacrificial oxidant recorded at a laser fluence of 366 mJ cm^{-2} ($\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 532 \text{ nm}$; dimension = $26.40 \text{ mm} \times 6.65 \text{ mm}$). The color scale represents the normalized acoustic intensity.

Photoacoustic tomography (PAT) experimental details

A schematic of the PAT experimental setup is depicted in Scheme S2. The output of a frequency doubled Nd:YAG laser is directed onto a prism which allows the laser beam to focus on the sample at a 45° angle using a 10 cm confocal lens. The sample

is placed in a cell housing unit which is filled with water for acoustic signal coupling. A 10 MHz water immersion unfocused transducer (Olympus V311-SU) is placed directly above the sample. The sample is mounted on an automated XYZ translation stage (Thorlabs NRT 100) and moved along the x and y directions in discrete steps to perform a 2D raster scan. The PA signal is collected by the transducer and then amplified using a pulse amplifier that is fed to a Lecroy Wavepro oscilloscope for display and data collection. Sample scanning and data collection are both controlled by a Labview routine. By collecting data points along the XY plane a maximum intensity projection (MIP) is obtained by taking the absolute value of the Hilbert transform of the acquired signal via MATLAB. The MIP image is the map of optical absorption of the sample. The lateral resolution of the PAT system is dictated by the laser beam size which was estimated to be $70 \pm 5 \mu\text{m}$. Samples were prepared in spectroscopic grade acetonitrile using the same 2 mm path length cuvette as for PAZ sample preparation where a linear absorption coefficient (α) of 345 m^{-1} at the laser excitation wavelength 532 nm (optical density = 0.3) was chosen for consistency. Again, a 9:1 v/v acetonitrile:dichloromethane mixture was required for (MeOPh)₂BODIPY alone to prevent precipitation during data collection. The dye solutions were loaded into 1 mm path length borosilicate tubes and then placed parallel in the Y direction at the bottom of the cell housing unit.



Scheme S2. Experimental setup of the photoacoustic tomography (PAT) apparatus.

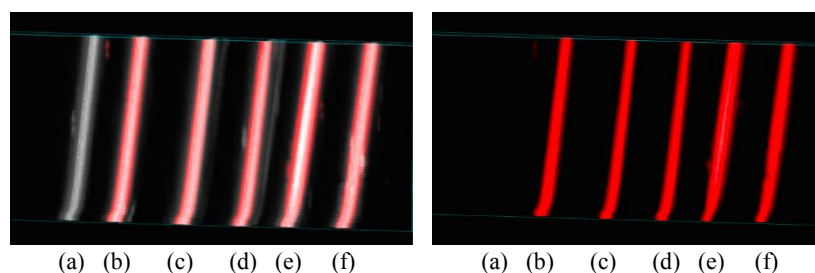


Figure S16. Photoacoustic tomography of dyes recorded in acetonitrile (optical density = 0.3) at a laser fluence of 20 mJ cm^{-2} ($\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 532 \text{ nm}$) on a commercial Vevo LAZR Photoacoustics system. The left image includes a superposition of the ultrasound image showing the sample tube compartments whereas the right image includes the pure PA signal. Sample legend is (a) acetonitrile blank (b) BODIPY (v) (MeOPh)₂BODIPY (c) CurcuminBF₂ (d) Crystal violet (e) Cy3.

Table S2. Cartesian coordinates of geometry optimized structure for BODIPY.

| | | x | y | z |
|----|---|----------|----------|----------|
| 1 | C | 3.12109 | 2.503528 | 0.328872 |
| 2 | C | 2.003826 | 3.353749 | 0.210722 |
| 3 | C | 0.859934 | 2.572483 | 0.11626 |
| 4 | H | 2.044755 | 4.432989 | 0.197154 |
| 5 | C | -0.52803 | 3.123408 | -0.02092 |
| 6 | H | -1.00936 | 2.801642 | -0.94734 |
| 7 | H | -1.17877 | 2.813743 | 0.800176 |
| 8 | H | -0.48885 | 4.214449 | -0.02411 |
| 9 | C | 1.305749 | 1.21053 | 0.177852 |
| 10 | N | 2.70052 | 1.225295 | 0.307531 |
| 11 | C | 0.612338 | -0.00751 | 0.133297 |
| 12 | C | 1.286901 | -1.2347 | 0.207367 |
| 13 | C | 0.819912 | -2.5905 | 0.178014 |
| 14 | N | 2.681435 | -1.26828 | 0.336722 |
| 15 | C | 1.951463 | -3.38728 | 0.290131 |
| 16 | C | 3.082001 | -2.55215 | 0.387908 |
| 17 | C | -0.57701 | -3.12212 | 0.056611 |
| 18 | H | -1.06462 | -2.79503 | -0.86447 |
| 19 | H | -1.21361 | -2.80181 | 0.88488 |
| 20 | H | -0.55343 | -4.21361 | 0.055716 |
| 21 | H | 1.975084 | -4.46705 | 0.302396 |
| 22 | B | 3.609619 | -0.02726 | 0.434829 |
| 23 | F | 4.556053 | -0.04588 | -0.60179 |
| 24 | F | 4.26943 | -0.0178 | 1.674456 |
| 25 | C | -0.87677 | 0.003069 | 0.012642 |
| 26 | C | -3.67186 | 0.02833 | -0.20041 |
| 27 | C | -1.67441 | 0.016171 | 1.162238 |
| 28 | C | -1.49108 | 0.001379 | -1.24354 |
| 29 | C | -2.87786 | 0.013947 | -1.35215 |
| 30 | C | -3.05982 | 0.028831 | 1.057446 |
| 31 | H | -1.20466 | 0.017222 | 2.139245 |
| 32 | H | -3.34801 | 0.013127 | -2.32658 |
| 33 | H | -0.87841 | -0.00949 | -2.13804 |
| 34 | H | -3.68428 | 0.039868 | 1.942429 |
| 35 | C | -5.16272 | 0.044704 | -0.25672 |
| 36 | O | -5.8826 | 0.055693 | 0.715377 |
| 37 | O | -5.63169 | 0.046489 | -1.52258 |
| 38 | C | 4.509623 | -2.9604 | 0.5283 |
| 39 | C | 4.554642 | 2.893316 | 0.461351 |
| 40 | H | 4.588246 | -4.04779 | 0.549032 |

| | | | | |
|----|---|----------|----------|----------|
| 41 | H | 5.107482 | -2.57402 | -0.30085 |
| 42 | H | 4.940933 | -2.55416 | 1.446929 |
| 43 | H | 5.148952 | 2.471941 | -0.35317 |
| 44 | H | 4.976587 | 2.509651 | 1.393975 |
| 45 | H | 4.649927 | 3.979461 | 0.448609 |
| 46 | C | -7.06445 | 0.062558 | -1.66145 |
| 47 | H | -7.48128 | 0.957276 | -1.19721 |
| 48 | H | -7.25143 | 0.062861 | -2.73298 |
| 49 | H | -7.50149 | -0.82089 | -1.19416 |

Table S3. Cartesian coordinates of geometry optimized structure for (MeOPh)₂BODIPY.

| | | x | y | z |
|----|---|----------|----------|----------|
| 1 | C | -0.17 | -0.0499 | 2.541616 |
| 2 | C | -1.31594 | -0.06468 | 3.378353 |
| 3 | C | -2.44513 | -0.07988 | 2.583889 |
| 4 | H | -1.30664 | -0.06532 | 4.457509 |
| 5 | C | -3.84778 | -0.09827 | 3.115725 |
| 6 | H | -4.42191 | 0.774314 | 2.795821 |
| 7 | H | -4.40212 | -0.98086 | 2.788866 |
| 8 | H | -3.82338 | -0.1023 | 4.207353 |
| 9 | C | -1.98062 | -0.07244 | 1.222151 |
| 10 | N | -0.58734 | -0.05382 | 1.249124 |
| 11 | C | -2.67071 | -0.08164 | 0.000024 |
| 12 | C | -1.98051 | -0.07247 | -1.22205 |
| 13 | C | -2.44502 | -0.07992 | -2.5838 |
| 14 | N | -0.58718 | -0.05396 | -1.24897 |
| 15 | C | -1.31583 | -0.0648 | -3.37825 |
| 16 | C | -0.1699 | -0.0501 | -2.5415 |
| 17 | C | -3.84766 | -0.09824 | -3.11566 |
| 18 | H | -4.42175 | 0.774372 | -2.79577 |
| 19 | H | -4.40205 | -0.98081 | -2.78883 |
| 20 | H | -3.82324 | -0.10227 | -4.20729 |
| 21 | H | -1.30653 | -0.06551 | -4.4574 |
| 22 | B | 0.334469 | -0.03373 | -7.7E-05 |
| 23 | F | 1.127547 | 1.127678 | -0.00015 |
| 24 | F | 1.17981 | -1.15788 | -0.00002 |
| 25 | C | -4.16431 | -0.10198 | -1.2E-05 |
| 26 | C | -6.97009 | -0.13794 | -3.7E-05 |
| 27 | C | -4.85885 | -1.31723 | -5.9E-05 |
| 28 | C | -4.88987 | 1.094037 | 0.000016 |
| 29 | C | -6.28082 | 1.079777 | 0.000001 |
| 30 | C | -6.24833 | -1.33617 | -7.1E-05 |

| | | | | |
|----|---|----------|----------|----------|
| 31 | H | -4.30464 | -2.24913 | -7.9E-05 |
| 32 | H | -6.83492 | 2.009217 | 0.000037 |
| 33 | H | -4.35977 | 2.039834 | 0.00006 |
| 34 | H | -6.79111 | -2.27349 | -9.7E-05 |
| 35 | C | -8.45915 | -0.21673 | 0.000008 |
| 36 | O | -9.09035 | -1.2489 | 0.00018 |
| 37 | O | -9.04032 | 1.002314 | -0.00011 |
| 38 | C | 1.222358 | -0.03493 | -2.90096 |
| 39 | C | 1.222269 | -0.03451 | 2.901004 |
| 40 | H | 1.919568 | -0.02568 | -2.07384 |
| 41 | H | 1.919445 | -0.0249 | 2.073859 |
| 42 | C | 1.678852 | -0.0354 | 4.174742 |
| 43 | H | 0.9557 | -0.04655 | 4.986574 |
| 44 | C | 3.070225 | -0.02491 | 4.601245 |
| 45 | C | 5.738023 | -0.01024 | 5.533834 |
| 46 | C | 3.369117 | -0.03055 | 5.971705 |
| 47 | C | 4.160056 | -0.01092 | 3.703086 |
| 48 | C | 5.46358 | -0.00382 | 4.156575 |
| 49 | C | 4.6794 | -0.02344 | 6.444721 |
| 50 | O | 7.055424 | -0.00328 | 5.875965 |
| 51 | C | 7.402453 | -0.00724 | 7.255218 |
| 52 | H | 7.031254 | -0.90745 | 7.756634 |
| 53 | H | 7.017068 | 0.881803 | 7.765854 |
| 54 | H | 8.490542 | 0.001428 | 7.28726 |
| 55 | H | 4.858871 | -0.02878 | 7.511301 |
| 56 | H | 2.555209 | -0.04124 | 6.689763 |
| 57 | H | 6.296674 | 0.006397 | 3.463908 |
| 58 | C | 1.678905 | -0.03559 | -4.17471 |
| 59 | H | 0.95573 | -0.04626 | -4.98652 |
| 60 | C | 3.070269 | -0.02538 | -4.60124 |
| 61 | C | 5.738051 | -0.01098 | -5.53387 |
| 62 | C | 4.160126 | -0.01268 | -3.70309 |
| 63 | C | 3.369126 | -0.02996 | -5.9717 |
| 64 | C | 4.679402 | -0.02295 | -6.44475 |
| 65 | C | 5.463642 | -0.00572 | -4.1566 |
| 66 | O | 7.055447 | -0.00423 | -5.87603 |
| 67 | C | 7.402442 | -0.00703 | -7.25529 |
| 68 | H | 2.555199 | -0.0397 | -6.68975 |
| 69 | H | 4.858846 | -0.02741 | -7.51133 |
| 70 | H | 3.981075 | -0.00877 | -2.63478 |
| 71 | H | 3.980973 | -0.00605 | 2.634785 |
| 72 | H | 6.296755 | 0.0035 | -3.46395 |
| 73 | H | 8.490533 | 0.001261 | -7.28735 |

| | | | | |
|----|---|----------|----------|----------|
| 74 | H | 7.030893 | -0.90663 | -7.75754 |
| 75 | H | 7.017379 | 0.882636 | -7.76509 |
| 76 | C | -10.4796 | 1.012181 | -4.3E-05 |
| 77 | H | -10.8636 | 0.510092 | 0.888912 |
| 78 | H | -10.7621 | 2.062643 | -6.2E-05 |
| 79 | H | -10.8637 | 0.510015 | -0.88893 |

Table S4. Cartesian coordinates of geometry optimized structure for CurcuminBF₂.

| | | | | |
|----|---|----------|----------|----------|
| 1 | C | 1.208992 | 0.91285 | -0.06945 |
| 2 | C | 0.000469 | 0.208904 | -0.13219 |
| 3 | C | -1.20844 | 0.912659 | -0.0757 |
| 4 | O | -1.23226 | 2.214388 | -0.04946 |
| 5 | C | 2.478319 | 0.213288 | -0.0023 |
| 6 | C | -2.47784 | 0.212887 | -0.01068 |
| 7 | C | -3.65933 | 0.871056 | 0.054717 |
| 8 | C | 3.659915 | 0.871412 | 0.061072 |
| 9 | C | -4.99375 | 0.300069 | 0.131565 |
| 10 | C | -7.62692 | -0.70718 | 0.299818 |
| 11 | C | -5.24505 | -1.0881 | 0.135036 |
| 12 | C | -6.0987 | 1.166845 | 0.199255 |
| 13 | C | -7.39525 | 0.670117 | 0.281223 |
| 14 | C | -6.53174 | -1.59873 | 0.214657 |
| 15 | C | 4.994409 | 0.300113 | 0.13472 |
| 16 | C | 7.62731 | -0.70813 | 0.297617 |
| 17 | C | 5.244892 | -1.08819 | 0.138114 |
| 18 | C | 6.099905 | 1.166465 | 0.19874 |
| 19 | C | 7.396473 | 0.669259 | 0.277622 |
| 20 | C | 6.531537 | -1.59921 | 0.215415 |
| 21 | O | 1.232372 | 2.214544 | -0.04036 |
| 22 | B | 0.000906 | 3.059735 | -0.29185 |
| 23 | F | 0.006426 | 3.451823 | -1.6059 |
| 24 | F | -0.00307 | 4.08968 | 0.602436 |
| 25 | H | -3.60886 | 1.958134 | 0.051579 |
| 26 | H | -2.42443 | -0.872 | -0.01329 |
| 27 | H | 0.00052 | -0.87348 | -0.14861 |
| 28 | H | 2.424777 | -0.8716 | -0.00419 |
| 29 | H | 3.60984 | 1.958495 | 0.057704 |
| 30 | H | 5.937495 | 2.240706 | 0.191568 |
| 31 | H | 8.241329 | 1.353136 | 0.337057 |
| 32 | H | 4.432393 | -1.80566 | 0.089404 |
| 33 | H | -5.93623 | 2.241024 | 0.192126 |
| 34 | H | -8.23951 | 1.354466 | 0.343912 |

| | | | | |
|----|---|----------|----------|----------|
| 35 | H | -4.43299 | -1.80595 | 0.084316 |
| 36 | O | -8.87379 | -1.24659 | 0.407956 |
| 37 | O | -6.70018 | -2.9571 | 0.285145 |
| 38 | O | 8.874028 | -1.24802 | 0.404827 |
| 39 | O | 6.700153 | -2.95756 | 0.287078 |
| 40 | H | -9.52322 | -0.52857 | 0.473406 |
| 41 | H | 9.523736 | -0.53023 | 0.469761 |
| 42 | C | -7.4037 | -3.56644 | -0.80296 |
| 43 | C | 7.396065 | -3.56844 | -0.80498 |
| 44 | H | -8.44592 | -3.23669 | -0.84415 |
| 45 | H | -6.90815 | -3.34642 | -1.75762 |
| 46 | H | -7.36648 | -4.64172 | -0.61595 |
| 47 | H | 7.373403 | -4.64242 | -0.60848 |
| 48 | H | 6.885522 | -3.36197 | -1.75481 |
| 49 | H | 8.433999 | -3.22783 | -0.86268 |

Table S5. Cartesian coordinates of geometry optimized structure for Crystal violet.

| | | x | y | z |
|----|---|----------|----------|----------|
| 1 | C | 2.190732 | -1.01222 | -0.65513 |
| 2 | C | 3.566034 | 1.010903 | 0.673203 |
| 3 | C | 1.443271 | 0 | -4.1E-05 |
| 4 | C | 3.566041 | -1.01092 | -0.67324 |
| 5 | C | 4.308935 | -2.5E-05 | 0.000007 |
| 6 | C | 2.190726 | 1.012217 | 0.655055 |
| 7 | C | 0 | 0 | -4.5E-05 |
| 8 | C | -0.72164 | -1.24991 | -4.1E-05 |
| 9 | C | -2.15449 | -3.73164 | 0.000007 |
| 10 | C | -0.21876 | -2.40333 | 0.655055 |
| 11 | C | -1.97197 | -1.39112 | -0.65513 |
| 12 | C | -2.65851 | -2.58282 | -0.67324 |
| 13 | C | -0.90755 | -3.59373 | 0.673203 |
| 14 | C | -0.72164 | 1.249909 | -4.1E-05 |
| 15 | C | -2.15445 | 3.731659 | 0.000007 |
| 16 | C | -1.97197 | 1.391116 | 0.655055 |
| 17 | C | -0.21876 | 2.403339 | -0.65513 |
| 18 | C | -0.90754 | 3.593744 | -0.67324 |
| 19 | C | -2.65849 | 2.582825 | 0.673203 |
| 20 | N | -2.83405 | -4.90863 | 0.000052 |
| 21 | N | 5.668025 | -4.1E-05 | 0.000052 |
| 22 | N | -2.83398 | 4.908674 | 0.000052 |
| 23 | C | -4.14645 | 5.011015 | 0.636184 |
| 24 | C | -2.26644 | 6.09648 | -0.63611 |

| | | | | |
|----|---|----------|----------|----------|
| 25 | C | 6.412889 | 1.08542 | 0.636184 |
| 26 | C | 6.412924 | -1.08545 | -0.63611 |
| 27 | C | -2.26644 | -6.09644 | 0.636184 |
| 28 | C | -4.14649 | -5.01103 | -0.63611 |
| 29 | H | -4.56293 | -5.99445 | -0.4319 |
| 30 | H | -4.83757 | -4.26245 | -0.23863 |
| 31 | H | -4.07996 | -4.88686 | -1.72236 |
| 32 | H | -2.91004 | -6.94876 | 0.432284 |
| 33 | H | -2.19186 | -5.97661 | 1.722398 |
| 34 | H | -1.27274 | -6.32079 | 0.238448 |
| 35 | H | -0.49579 | -4.42355 | 1.229539 |
| 36 | H | -3.58303 | -2.64115 | -1.22958 |
| 37 | H | -2.37519 | -0.55056 | -1.20633 |
| 38 | H | 0.710818 | -2.33225 | 1.206226 |
| 39 | H | 1.664392 | -1.7817 | -1.20633 |
| 40 | H | 4.078814 | -1.78242 | -1.22958 |
| 41 | H | 4.078804 | 1.782406 | 1.229539 |
| 42 | H | 1.664381 | 1.781713 | 1.206226 |
| 43 | H | 0.7108 | 2.332255 | -1.20633 |
| 44 | H | 7.472813 | -0.95438 | -0.4319 |
| 45 | H | 6.110173 | -2.05824 | -0.23863 |
| 46 | H | 6.272125 | -1.08992 | -1.72236 |
| 47 | H | 7.472823 | 0.954214 | 0.432284 |
| 48 | H | 6.271824 | 1.090092 | 1.722398 |
| 49 | H | 6.110335 | 2.058166 | 0.238448 |
| 50 | H | -0.49579 | 4.423567 | -1.22958 |
| 51 | H | -2.3752 | 0.55054 | 1.206226 |
| 52 | H | -3.58301 | 2.641145 | 1.229539 |
| 53 | H | -4.83759 | 4.262622 | 0.238448 |
| 54 | H | -4.07996 | 4.886512 | 1.722398 |
| 55 | H | -4.56279 | 5.994547 | 0.432284 |
| 56 | H | -2.90989 | 6.948838 | -0.4319 |
| 57 | H | -1.2726 | 6.320684 | -0.23863 |
| 58 | H | -2.19217 | 5.976778 | -1.72236 |

Table S6. Cartesian coordinates of geometry optimized structure for Cy3.

| | | x | y | z |
|---|---|----------|----------|-----------|
| 1 | C | 5.309714 | 0.000000 | 2.040153 |
| 2 | C | 6.265186 | 0.000000 | -0.621245 |
| 3 | C | 4.445522 | 0.000000 | 0.952044 |
| 4 | C | 6.680145 | 0.000000 | 1.768386 |
| 5 | C | 7.155488 | 0.000000 | 0.45723 |

| | | | | |
|----|---|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 6 | C | 4.903408 | 0.000000 | -0.363683 |
| 7 | N | 3.022054 | 0.000000 | 0.942189 |
| 8 | C | 2.539685 | 0.000000 | -0.318535 |
| 9 | C | 3.717473 | 0.000000 | -1.304856 |
| 10 | C | -5.30971 | 0.000000 | 2.040153 |
| 11 | C | -6.26519 | 0.000000 | -0.621245 |
| 12 | C | -4.44552 | 0.000000 | 0.952044 |
| 13 | C | -6.68015 | 0.000000 | 1.768386 |
| 14 | C | -7.15549 | 0.000000 | 0.45723 |
| 15 | C | -4.90341 | 0.000000 | -0.363683 |
| 16 | N | -3.02205 | 0.000000 | 0.942189 |
| 17 | C | -2.53969 | 0.000000 | -0.318535 |
| 18 | C | -3.71747 | 0.000000 | -1.304856 |
| 19 | C | 1.219396 | 0.000000 | -0.772546 |
| 20 | C | 0.000000 | 0.000000 | -0.089156 |
| 21 | C | -1.2194 | 0.000000 | -0.772546 |
| 22 | C | 3.696799 | -1.271312 | -2.185698 |
| 23 | C | 3.696799 | 1.271312 | -2.185698 |
| 24 | C | -3.6968 | -1.271312 | -2.185698 |
| 25 | C | -3.6968 | 1.271312 | -2.185698 |
| 26 | C | 2.227439 | 0.000000 | 2.161329 |
| 27 | C | -2.22744 | 0.000000 | 2.161329 |
| 28 | H | -4.96084 | 0.000000 | 3.065106 |
| 29 | H | -7.38157 | 0.000000 | 2.594016 |
| 30 | H | -8.22295 | 0.000000 | 0.273667 |
| 31 | H | -6.64134 | 0.000000 | -1.638256 |
| 32 | H | -3.70338 | -2.177417 | -1.576545 |
| 33 | H | -2.81523 | -1.292757 | -2.830116 |
| 34 | H | -4.58159 | -1.286718 | -2.825672 |
| 35 | H | -4.58159 | 1.286718 | -2.825672 |
| 36 | H | -2.81523 | 1.292757 | -2.830116 |
| 37 | H | 1.143387 | 0.000000 | -1.854584 |
| 38 | H | -1.14339 | 0.000000 | -1.854584 |
| 39 | H | 0.000000 | 0.000000 | 0.988892 |
| 40 | H | 1.602482 | 0.894644 | 2.209813 |
| 41 | H | 1.602482 | -0.894644 | 2.209813 |
| 42 | H | 2.890475 | 0.000000 | 3.021509 |
| 43 | H | -1.60248 | 0.894644 | 2.209813 |
| 44 | H | -1.60248 | -0.894644 | 2.209813 |
| 45 | H | -2.89048 | 0.000000 | 3.021509 |
| 46 | H | 7.381574 | 0.000000 | 2.594016 |
| 47 | H | 4.960838 | 0.000000 | 3.065106 |
| 48 | H | 8.222953 | 0.000000 | 0.273667 |

| | | | | |
|----|---|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 49 | H | 6.64134 | 0.000000 | -1.638256 |
| 50 | H | 4.581592 | -1.286718 | -2.825672 |
| 51 | H | 3.70338 | -2.177417 | -1.576545 |
| 52 | H | 2.815232 | -1.292757 | -2.830116 |
| 53 | H | 2.815232 | 1.292757 | -2.830116 |
| 54 | H | 3.70338 | 2.177417 | -1.576545 |
| 55 | H | 4.581592 | 1.286718 | -2.825672 |
| 56 | H | -3.70338 | 2.177417 | -1.576545 |

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