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### H-Rubies, a New Family of Red Emitting Fluorescent pH sensors for Living Cells

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# **Supplementary information**

Spectral and physico-chemical properties, absorption and emission spectra at different pH, pKa titration curves and metal sensitivities of H-Rubies

| State                               | $\lambda_{abs}(nm)$ | λ <sub>em</sub> (nm) | pK <sub>a</sub>  | ε<br>(M <sup>-1</sup> cm <sup>-1</sup> ) | Φ                        | $\Phi_{ m ON}/\Phi_{ m OFF}$ | Dynamic<br>Intensity |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------|--|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| ON <sup>a</sup><br>OFF <sup>b</sup> | 583<br>584          | 609<br>608           | N/A <sup>c</sup> | 63403<br>N/A°                            | 0.40<br>N/A <sup>c</sup> | N/A <sup>c</sup>             | N/A <sup>c</sup>     |
| <sup>a</sup> Proto                  | nated form:         | рН 4                 |                  | 1011                                     | 10/11                    |                              |                      |
| <sup>b</sup> Depro                  | otonated form       | n: pH 10             |                  |  |                          |                              |                      |
| ° Not fo                            | ound to be a        | pH probe             |                  |  |                          |                              |                      |

Imidazole





Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.



## HR-mOH

0.00

400

500

600

Wavelength (nm)

![](_page_2_Figure_3.jpeg)

.03

0.09 11.02 12.03 13.10

700

650

600

Wavelength [nm]

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

0 545

700

![](_page_3_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Right: Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

| HK-U |
|------|
|------|

| State   | $\lambda_{abs}(nm)$ | λ <sub>em</sub> (nm) | pK <sub>a</sub>              | е<br>(M <sup>-1</sup> cm <sup>-1</sup> ) | Φ                        | $\Phi_{ m ON}/\Phi_{ m OFF}$ | Dynamic<br>Intensity |
|---|---------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|--|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| ON <sup>a</sup><br>OFF <sup>b</sup>   | 579<br>544          | 601<br>599           | 6.17 ± 0.10                  | 48432<br>33146                           | 0.47<br>N/A <sup>c</sup> | -                            | 753                  |
| <sup>a</sup> Protonated form: pH 4<br><sup>b</sup> Deprotonated form: pH 10 |                     |                      | <sup>c</sup> Non-fluorescent |  |                          |                              |                      |

![](_page_4_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_4_Figure_3.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

![](_page_5_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Right: Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

![](_page_6_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_6_Figure_1.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

OH

Br

![](_page_7_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Right: Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

| III PIC |
|---------|
|---------|

| State   | $\lambda_{abs}(nm)$     | $\lambda_{em} \left( nm  ight)$ | pK <sub>a</sub>             | ε<br>(M <sup>-1</sup> cm <sup>-1</sup> ) | Φ                        | $\Phi_{ m ON}/\Phi_{ m OFF}$ | Dynamic<br>Intensity |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| ON <sup>a</sup><br>OFF <sup>b</sup>   | 574<br>N/A <sup>c</sup> | 597<br>598                      | 8.75 ± 0.16                 | 52000<br>N/A <sup>c</sup>                | 0.09<br>N/A <sup>d</sup> | -                            | 955                  |
| <sup>a</sup> Protonated form: pH 4<br><sup>b</sup> Deprotonated form: pH 10<br><sup>c</sup> Poor solubility |                         |                                 | <sup>d</sup> Non-fluorescen | t  |                          |                              |                      |

![](_page_8_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_8_Figure_3.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

![](_page_9_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Right: Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

![](_page_10_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

#### **HR-OMe**

![](_page_11_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Right: Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

| HR- | <b>pOH</b> |
|-----|------------|
|     |            |

0.00

400

500

.

| State                               | $\lambda_{abs}(nm)$   | $\lambda_{em} (nm)$ | pK <sub>a</sub> | $\frac{\epsilon}{(M^{-1} cm^{-1})}$ | Φ   | $\Phi_{ m ON}/\Phi_{ m OFF}$ | Dynamic<br>Intensity |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|----------------------|
| ON <sup>a</sup><br>OFF <sup>b</sup> | 576<br>579            | 597<br>598          | 8.97 ± 0.0      | 05 61528<br>34458                   | 0.55<br>0.06  | 9                            | 34                   |
| <sup>a</sup> Proto                  | nated form:           | pH 4                |                 |                                     |   |                              |                      |
| <sup>b</sup> Depro                  | tonated forn          | n: pH 10            |                 |                                     |   |                              |                      |
|                                     | 0.2                   | 25 -                |                 |                                     | pH<br>2.98 — 7.49 —<br>4.00 — 8.01 —<br>4.61 — 9.02 —<br>5.06 — 10.01 — | -                            | 4000 -               |
|                                     | 0.1<br>sq<br>V<br>0.1 | 15-                 |                 |                                     | 5.51 — 10.98 —<br>5.99 — 12.02 —<br>6.52 — 13.00 —<br>6.99 —            | -<br>-<br>- In               | -<br>-<br>-          |
|                                     | 0.0                   | )5 -                |                 |                                     |   |                              |                      |

600

Wavelength (nm)

![](_page_12_Figure_2.jpeg)

7.49 8.01 9.02

700

рΗ

2.98

650

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

700

1000

0 545

600

Wavelength [nm]

![](_page_13_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Right: Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

| HR-oOH |   |
|--------|---|
|        | - |

| State                              | $\lambda_{abs}(nm)$ | $\lambda_{em} \left( nm  ight)$ | pK <sub>a</sub> | ε<br>(M <sup>-1</sup> cm <sup>-1</sup> ) | Φ    | $\Phi_{ m ON}/\Phi_{ m OFF}$ | Dynamic<br>Intensity |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|--|------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| ON <sup>a</sup>                    | 581                 | 603                             | $0.69 \pm 0.17$ | 79073                                    | 0.75 | 2                            | 966                  |
| $\mathrm{OFF}^{\mathrm{b}}$        | 576                 | 603                             | $9.08 \pm 0.17$ | 49872                                    | 0.27 | 3                            | 800                  |
| <sup>a</sup> Protonated form: pH 4 |                     |                                 |                 |  |      |                              |                      |
| <sup>b</sup> Depro                 | tonated form        | n: pH 10                        |                 |  |      |                              |                      |
|                                    |                     |                                 |                 |  |      |                              |                      |
|                                    |                     | 0.30                            |                 |  |      |                              | 5000                 |

![](_page_14_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Figure_3.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

![](_page_15_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Right: Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

![](_page_16_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

![](_page_17_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Right: Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

![](_page_18_Figure_1.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

![](_page_19_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Right: Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

![](_page_20_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Figure_1.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

![](_page_21_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Right: Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

| Pi | p- | Al | ky | /ne |
|----|----|----|----|-----|
|    | -  |    | _  |     |

| State   | $\lambda_{abs}(nm)$ | λ <sub>em</sub> (nm) | pK <sub>a</sub> | ε<br>(M <sup>-1</sup> cm <sup>-1</sup> ) | Φ            | $\Phi_{ m ON}/\Phi_{ m OFF}$ | Dynamic<br>Intensity |
|---|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------|--|--------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| ON <sup>a</sup><br>OFF <sup>b</sup>   | 577<br>579          | 600<br>602           | $4.95 \pm 0.09$ | 95685<br>28554                           | 0.34<br>0.15 | 2                            | 3                    |
| <sup>a</sup> Protonated form: pH 4<br><sup>b</sup> Deprotonated form: pH 10 |                     |                      |                 |  |              |                              |                      |
|   |                     | 03-                  |                 | A  | p            | 22                           | 200                  |

![](_page_22_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Figure_3.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

![](_page_23_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Right: Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

![](_page_24_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

![](_page_25_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Right: Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

| П | D | Г   | 5 | ۸ |
|---|---|-----|---|---|
| п | K | - [ | 1 | A |

![](_page_26_Figure_1.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

![](_page_27_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Right: Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

| 1 | L | Г | )  |    | 1 |
|---|---|---|----|----|---|
|   | Π | Г | ۲. | ·F | L |

| State                       | $\lambda_{abs}(nm)$ | $\lambda_{em} (nm)$ | рК <sub>а</sub> | ε<br>(M <sup>-1</sup> cm <sup>-1</sup> ) | Φ    | $\Phi_{ m ON}/\Phi_{ m OFF}$ | Dynamic<br>Intensity |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--|------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| ON <sup>a</sup>             | 574                 | 600                 |                 | 18421                                    | 0.09 | 6                            | 6                    |
| $\mathrm{OFF}^{\mathrm{b}}$ | 534                 | 598                 | $5.33 \pm 0.13$ | 38042                                    | 0.02 |                              |                      |
| <sup>a</sup> Protor         | nated form:         | pH 4                |                 |  |      |                              |                      |
| <sup>b</sup> Depro          | tonated form        | n: pH 10            |                 |  |      |                              |                      |

![](_page_28_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Figure_3.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

![](_page_29_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Right: Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

![](_page_30_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_30_Figure_1.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

![](_page_31_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Right: Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

| H | <b>R-</b> / | <u> </u> |
|---|-------------|----------|
| - |             |          |

![](_page_32_Figure_1.jpeg)

СООН

700

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

![](_page_33_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Right: Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

. .

![](_page_34_Figure_1.jpeg)

он о

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

![](_page_35_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

![](_page_36_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Figure_1.jpeg)

он о

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

![](_page_37_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Right: Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

| <u>HR-CysA</u>      |  |   |   |  |  |
|---------------------|--|---|---|--|--|
| $\lambda_{abs}(nm)$ | λ <sub>em</sub> (nm)                       | рК <sub>а</sub>   | ε<br>(M <sup>-1</sup> cm <sup>-1</sup> )  |  |  |
| 577                 | 602  | N/A   | 49000   |  |  |
|                     | <u>ysA</u><br>λ <sub>abs</sub> (nm)<br>577 | <b>ySA</b><br>λ <sub>abs</sub> (nm) λ <sub>em</sub> (nm)<br>577 602 | $\frac{\lambda_{abs}(nm)  \lambda_{em}(nm) \qquad pK_a}{577 \qquad 602 \qquad N/A}$ |  |  |

597

123000

<sup>a</sup> Protonated form: pH 4

572

OFF<sup>b</sup>

<sup>b</sup> Deprotonated form: pH 10

![](_page_38_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Figure_4.jpeg)

 $\Phi_{\rm ON}/\Phi_{\rm OFF}$ 

N/A

Φ

0.09

0.014

Dynamic

Intensity

N/A

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

![](_page_39_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Right: Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

![](_page_40_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_40_Figure_1.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

![](_page_41_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Right: Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

![](_page_42_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

![](_page_43_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Right: Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

![](_page_44_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_44_Figure_1.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

![](_page_45_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Right: Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

![](_page_46_Figure_1.jpeg)

NHFmoc

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

![](_page_47_Figure_0.jpeg)

Left: Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which  $pK_a$  values were calculated. Right: Fluorescence intensities of the probe (5  $\mu$ M) to a range of metal ions in a MOPS buffer (MOPS 30 mM, KCl 100 mM, pH 7.2). The concentration of cations is  $10^{-3}$  M.

![](_page_48_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### HR-PN<sub>3</sub> Dextran 40,000 conjugate

Left: Dependence of absorption on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Right: Dependence of fluorescence intensity on pH in a MOPS buffered aqueous solution. Excitation at 535 nm.

![](_page_49_Figure_0.jpeg)

Dependence of fluorescence enhancement on pH. Curve fitting was based on a modified Hill equation from which pK<sub>a</sub> values were calculated.