



# 2024「中技社科技獎學金」

## 2024 CTCI Foundation Science and Technology Scholarship

### 境外生研究獎學金

#### Research Scholarship for International Graduate Students



## Dibenzofluoran-based NIR-IIa Pdots for Deep-tissue 3D Imaging

4<sup>th</sup> year Ph.D. Student

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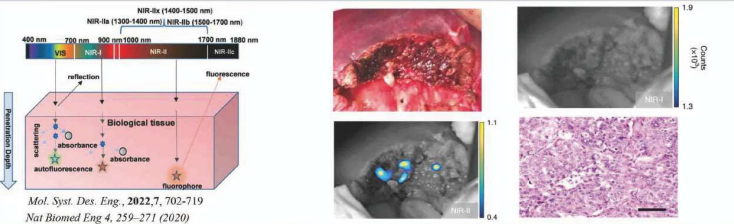
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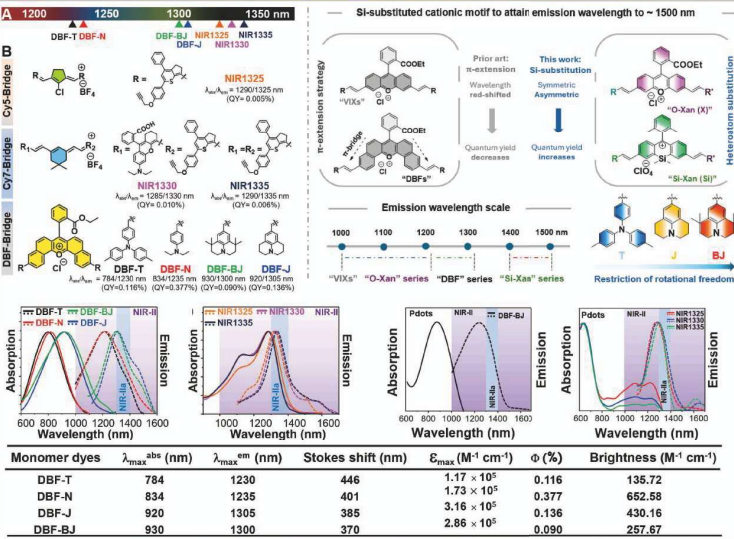
### Abstract

Emerging organic molecules with emissions in the second near-infrared (NIR-II) region are garnering significant attention. Unfortunately, achieving accountable organic emission intensity over the NIR-IIa (1300 nm) region faces challenges due to the intrinsic energy gap law. Up to the current stage, all reported organic NIR-IIa emitters belong to polymethine-based dyes with small Stokes shifts (<50 nm) and low quantum yield (QY; <0.015%). However, such polymethines have proved to cause self-absorption with constrained emission brightness, limiting advanced development in deep-tissue imaging. Here a new NIR-IIa scaffold based on rigid and highly conjugated dibenzofluoran core terminated by amino-containing moieties that reveal emission peaks of 1230-1305 nm is designed. The QY is at least 10 times higher than all synthesized or reported NIR-IIa polymethines with extraordinarily large Stokes shifts of 370-446 nm. DBF-BJ is further prepared as a polymer dot to demonstrate its *in vivo* 3D stereo imaging of mouse vasculature with a 1400 nm long-pass filter.

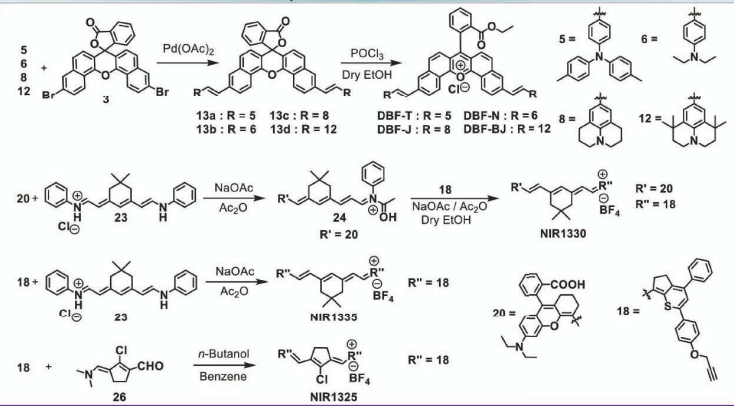
### NIR-II Fluorescence-Guided Surgery



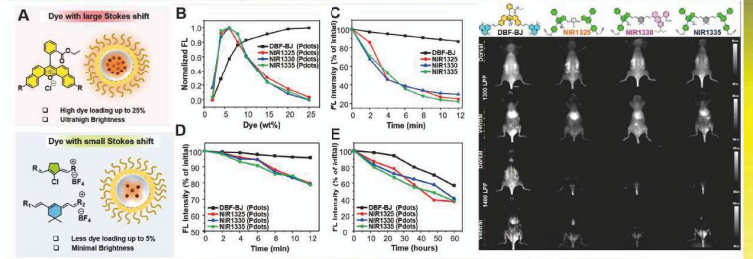
### Molecular Design & Optical Properties of NIR-IIa Pdots



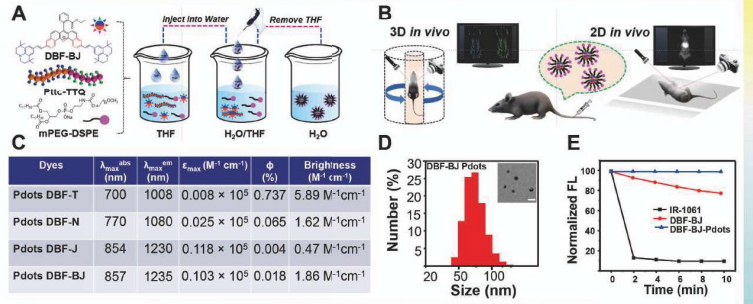
### Synthetic Procedures



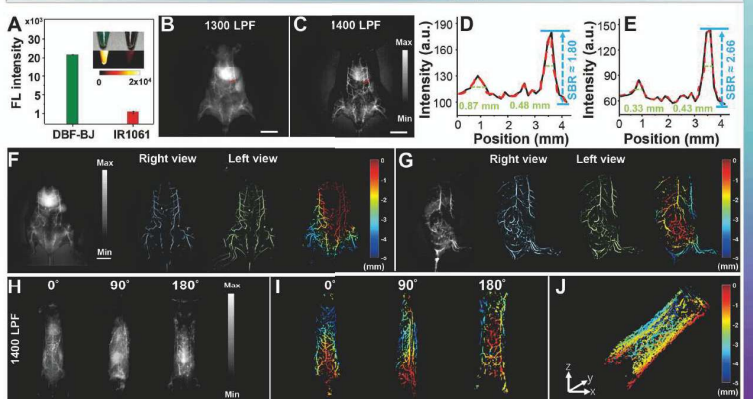
### Comparison between DBF vs NIR Pdots



### Preparation of NIR-IIa Pdots



### 3D In Vivo Mice Imaging



### Conclusion & Publications

- We presented a novel design strategy for Organic fluorophore to attain NIR-IIa or NIR-IIb emission >1500 nm.
- We presented how an asymmetric framework offers the best trade-off between emission wavelength and quantum yield.
- Pdots were applied in high-contrast NIR-IIa vascular imaging, along with a 3D blood vessel enhancement for acquiring high-resolution 3D tumor and blood vessel images.

[1] Chowdhury, P.; Lu, Z.-Y.; Su, S.-P.; Liu, M.-H.; Lin, C.-Y.; Wang, M.-W.; Luo, Y.-C.; Lee, Y.-J.; Chiang, H. K.; and Chan, Y.-H. "Ultrabright Dibenzofluoran-Based Polymer Dots with NIR-II Emission Maxima and Unusual Large Stokes Shifts for 3D Rotational Stereo Imaging". *Adv. Healthcare Mater.* 2024, 2406066.