## **Supplementary Material**

## New boron-based coumarin fluorophores for bioimaging applications

Anita Marfavi<sup>A,B</sup>, Jia Hao Yeo<sup>A</sup>, Kathryn G. Leslie<sup>A</sup>, Elizabeth J. New<sup>A,B,C</sup> and Louis M. Rendina<sup>A,B,\*</sup>

<sup>A</sup>School of Chemistry, The University of Sydney, Sydney, NSW 2006, Australia

<sup>B</sup>The University of Sydney Nano Institute, Sydney, NSW 2006, Australia

<sup>C</sup>Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Innovations in Peptide and Protein Science, The University of Sydney, Sydney, NSW 2006, Australia

## **Confocal Microscopy**



**Figure S1:** Confocal microscopy images of A549 cells treated with (a) **HCoBA** (10  $\mu$ M, 20 min), (b) **HCpBA** (10  $\mu$ M, 20 min), (c) **ICPh** (10  $\mu$ M, 20 min), and (d) **ICCb** (10  $\mu$ M, 20 min), showing coumarin fluorescence ( $\lambda_{ex} = 458$  nm,  $\lambda_{em} = 468$ -568 nm). Scale bar represents 30  $\mu$ m.



**Figure S2.** Confocal microscopy images of A549 cells treated with Nile Red (50  $\mu$ M, 20 min) and (a) **HCoBA** (10  $\mu$ M, 20 min), (b) **HCmBA** (10  $\mu$ M, 20 min), or (c) **HCpBA** (10  $\mu$ M, 20 min), showing (i) Nile Red fluorescence ( $\lambda_{ex} = 561 \text{ nm}, \lambda_{em} = 571 \text{ - } 700 \text{ nm}$ ), (ii) coumarin fluorescence ( $\lambda_{ex} = 458 \text{ nm}, \lambda_{em} = 468 \text{ - } 568 \text{ nm}$ ), and (iii) overlay of (i) and (ii). Pearson's correlation coefficient for treatment with Nile Red are: **HCoBA** (R = 0.27 ± 0.03), **HCmBA** (R = 0.34 ± 0.04), and **HCpBA** (R = 0.40 ± 0.03). Scale bar represents 30  $\mu$ m.



**Figure S3.** Confocal microscopy images of A549 cells treated with MitoTracker Red CMXRos (100 nM, 20 min) and (a) **HCoBA** (10  $\mu$ M, 20 min), (b) **HCmBA** (10  $\mu$ M, 20 min), or (c) **HCpBA** (10  $\mu$ M, 20 min), showing (i) MitoTracker Red CMXRos fluorescence ( $\lambda_{ex} = 561 \text{ nm}, \lambda_{em} = 570 \text{ - } 767 \text{ nm}$ ), (ii) coumarin fluorescence ( $\lambda_{ex} = 458 \text{ nm}, \lambda_{em} = 468 \text{ - } 568 \text{ nm}$ ), and (iii) overlay of (i) and (ii). Pearson's correlation coefficient for treatment with MitoTracker Red CMXRos are: **HCoBA** (R = 0.22), **HCmBA** (R = 0.17), and **HCpBA** (R = 0.55). Scale bar represents 40  $\mu$ m.



**Figure S4.** Confocal microscopy images of A549 cells treated with LysoTracker Red DND-99 (50 nM, 20 min) and (a) **HCoBA** (10  $\mu$ M, 20 min), (b) **HCmBA** (10  $\mu$ M, 20 min), or (c) **HCpBA** (10  $\mu$ M, 20 min), showing (i) LysoTracker Red DND-99 fluorescence ( $\lambda_{ex} = 561 \text{ nm}, \lambda_{em} = 568 - 701 \text{ nm}$ ), (ii) coumarin fluorescence ( $\lambda_{ex} = 458 \text{ nm}, \lambda_{em} = 468 - 568 \text{ nm}$ ), and (iii) overlay of (i) and (ii). NB: Row c shows some evidence of probe precipitation. Pearson's correlation coefficient for treatment with LysoTracker Red DND-99 are: **HCoBA** (R = 0.30 ± 0.06), **HCmBA** (R = 0.33 ± 0.03), and **HCpBA** (R = 0.39 ± 0.04). Scale bar represents 40  $\mu$ m.



**Figure S5:** Confocal microscopy images of DLD-1 cells transfected with mCherry-ER and treated with (a) **HCoBA** (10  $\mu$ M, 20 min), (b) **HCmBA** (10  $\mu$ M, 20 min), (c) **HCpBA** (10  $\mu$ M, 20 min), (d) **HCCb** (10  $\mu$ M, 20 min), or (e) **ICCb** (10  $\mu$ M, 20 min), showing (i) mCherry-ER fluorescence ( $\lambda_{ex} = 561 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{em} = 581 \text{ - } 653 \text{ nm}$ ), (ii) coumarin fluorescence ( $\lambda_{ex} = 458 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{em} = 468 \text{ - } 568 \text{ nm}$ ), and (iii) overlay of (i) and (ii). Pearson's correlation coefficients observed: **HCoBA** (R = 0.67 ± 0.03), **HCmBA** (0.60 ± 0.07), **HCpBA** (R = 0.73 ± 0.07), **HCCb** (R = 0.47 ± 0.03), and **ICCb** (R = 0.41 ± 0.05). Scale bar represents 20  $\mu$ m.

**Fluorescence Spectroscopy** 



**Figure S6:** Excitation (blue) and emission (orange) spectra for the boron-based coumarins: (a) **HCoBA** (1  $\mu$ M,  $\lambda_{ex} = 433$  nm), (b) **HCmBA** (1  $\mu$ M,  $\lambda_{ex} = 433$  nm), (c) **HCpBA** (1  $\mu$ M,  $\lambda_{ex} = 435$  nm), (d) **HCCb** (1  $\mu$ M,  $\lambda_{ex} = 425$  nm), (e) **ICCb** (1  $\mu$ M,  $\lambda_{ex} = 465$  nm).

## NMR and MS Spectra of Novel Compounds



Figure S7.2: <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of HCoBA in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>.



Figure S7.3: MALDI-TOF mass spectrum of HCoBA.





Figure S8.2: <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of HCmBA in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>.

![](_page_8_Figure_2.jpeg)

Figure S8.3: MALDI-TOF mass spectrum of HCmBA.

![](_page_9_Figure_0.jpeg)

Figure S9.2: <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of HCpBA in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>.

![](_page_10_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_10_Figure_1.jpeg)

Figure S10.1: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of HCCb in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>

![](_page_11_Figure_0.jpeg)

Figure S10.2: <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of HCCb in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

![](_page_11_Figure_2.jpeg)

Figure S10.3: MALDI-TOF mass spectrum of HCCb.

![](_page_12_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_12_Figure_1.jpeg)

Figure S11.2: <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of ICCb in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

![](_page_13_Figure_0.jpeg)

Figure S11.3: APCI mass spectrum of ICCb.