



Fluorescence Sensing for Non-Invasive and Continuous Glucose Detection

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A photograph of the Dublin City University (DCU) campus at dusk. The image shows a modern building with large glass windows and illuminated interiors. In the foreground, there is a large, abstract sculpture made of vertical orange poles forming the letters 'DCU'. The sky is a clear blue.

American Advanced Materials Congress 2016

SFI **DCU** **UCC** **OÉ Gaillimh
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Overview



- **Background**
 - Diabetes – Side Effects
 - Monitoring Devices
- **Project Goal**
- **Boronic Acids (BAs) for Sugar Recognition**
- **Direct Sensing in Solution**
- **Indirect Sensing**
 - In Solution
 - In Ionogels
- **Conclusions**
- **Future Work**

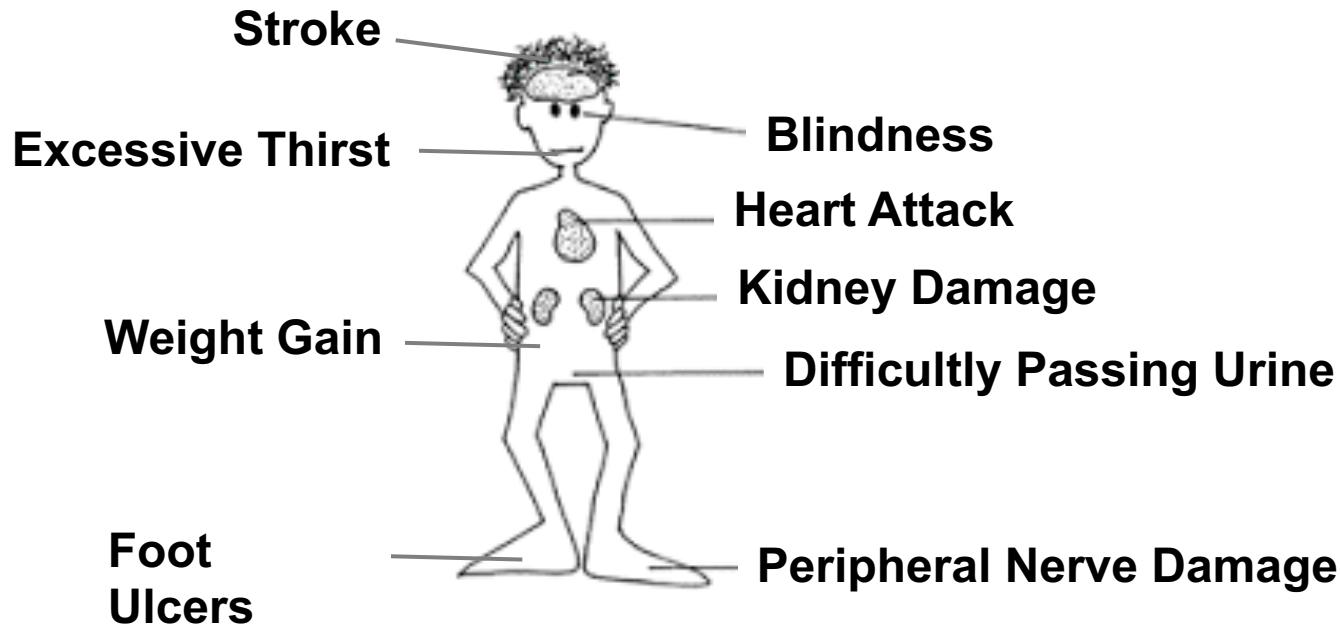




Importance of Saccharide Sensing



- Disease: Diabetes and the consequential side effects



- Monitoring glucose levels to prolong life expectancy
- Currently no noninvasive, continuous monitoring systems available
- Demonstrates a need for real-time, non-invasive monitoring



Current Monitoring Methods



Implanted Wearable Devices



Advantages:

- Real-time monitoring
- Continuous
- Coupled to insulin pump
- Elimates injections via syringe

Disadvantages:

- Invasive

Finger Pricking Method



Advantages:

- Minimally Invasive

Disadvantages:

- Not continuous
- Insulin injections required
- Miss episodes of hyper- and hypoglycaemia

<https://www.accu-chek.co.uk/gb/products/>



Contact Lenses – The Answer!



Electrochemical sensor in a wearable platform

Battery Powered



Interference from
Electroactive Species in
Ocular fluid



Use of Enzymes



Google

NOVARTIS

sfi DCU

H. Yao, et al, *Biosensors and Bioelectronics*, 2011, 26, 3290-3296
B.E. Watt, et al, *Toxicol. Rev.*, 2004, 23(1), 51-57

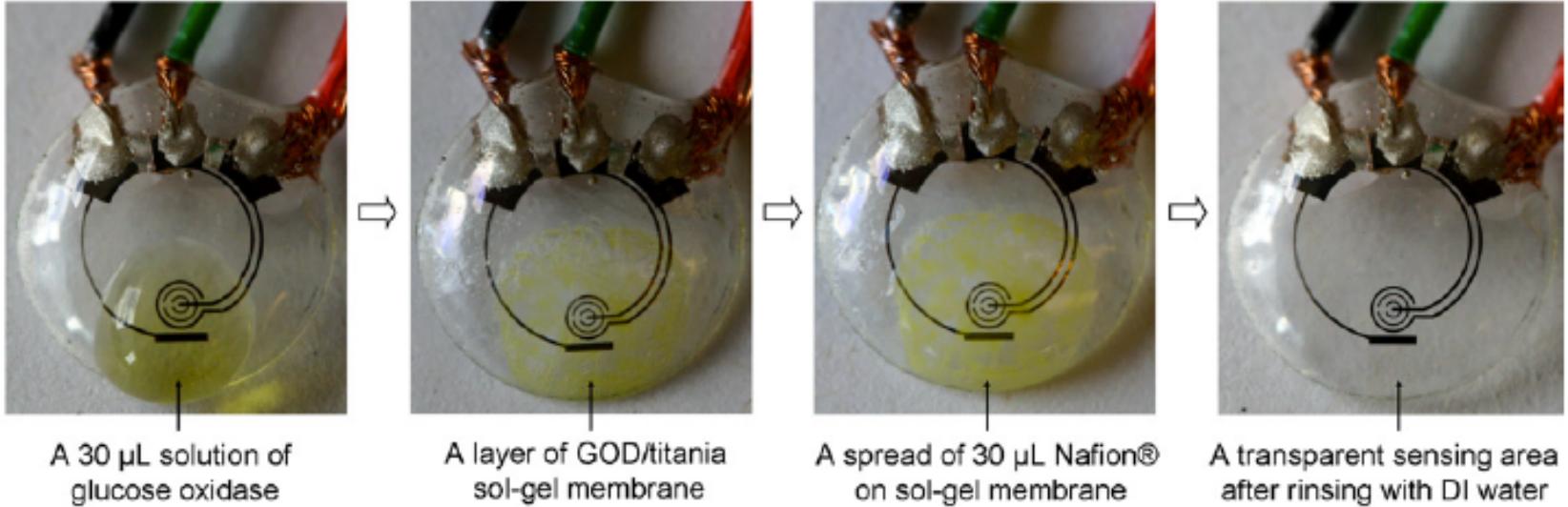
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Realistically....Not a Real Working Device

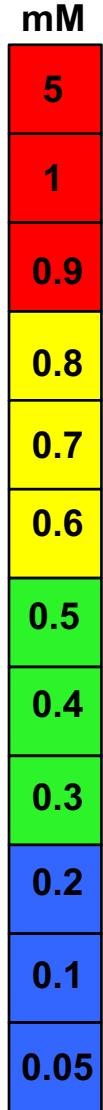
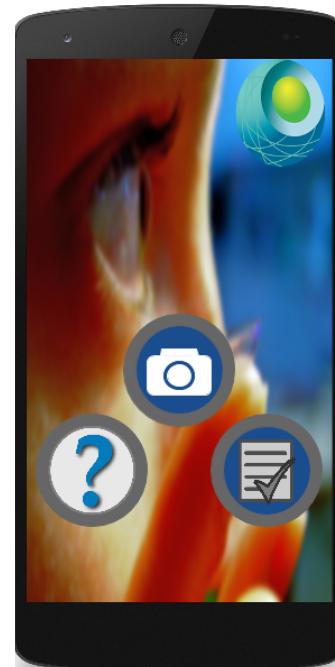
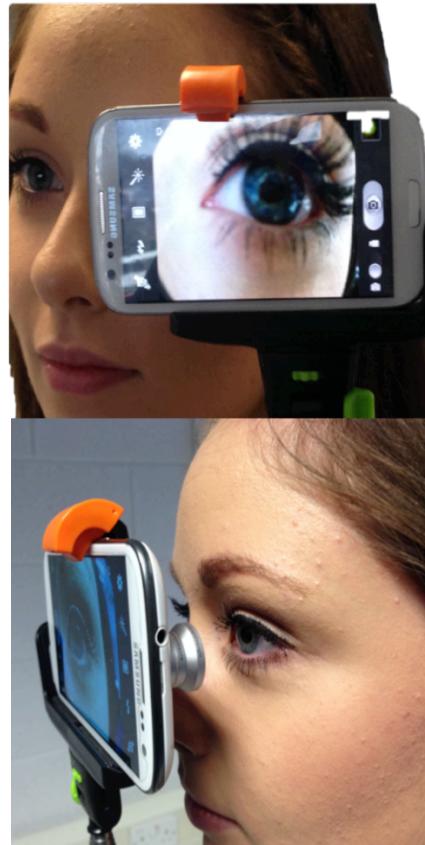


- Attached to a BASi Epsilon- EC Potentiostat +400 mV
- Sensing platform proposes glucose monitoring between 0.5-50 mM
- Ocular glucose range is 0.05-0.5 mM and up to 5 mM in diabetics
- Major shortcomings to meet immediate expectations

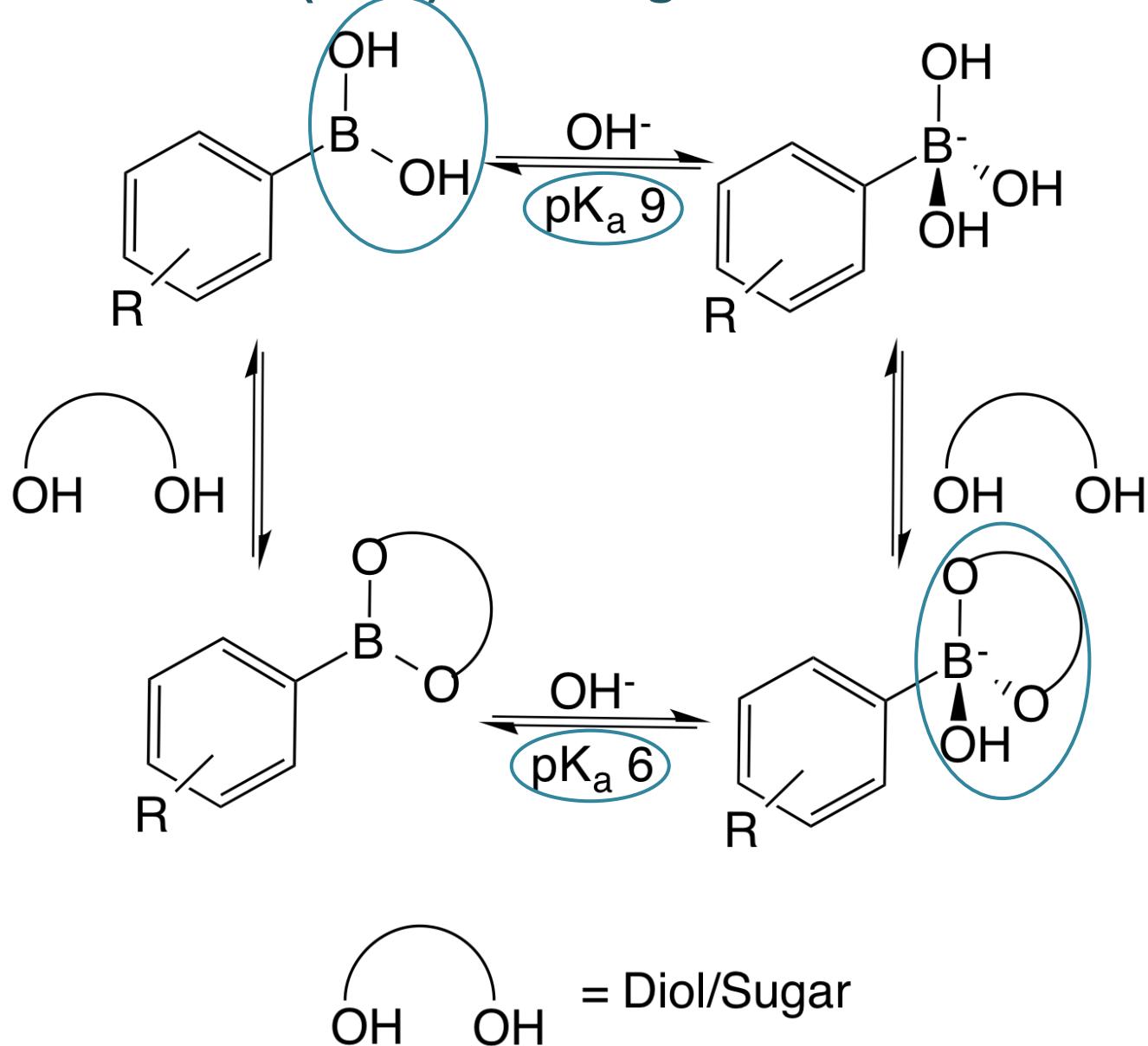
H. Yao, et al, *Biosensors and Bioelectronics*, 2011, 26, 3290-3296



The Solution!



Boronic Acids (BAs) and Sugars

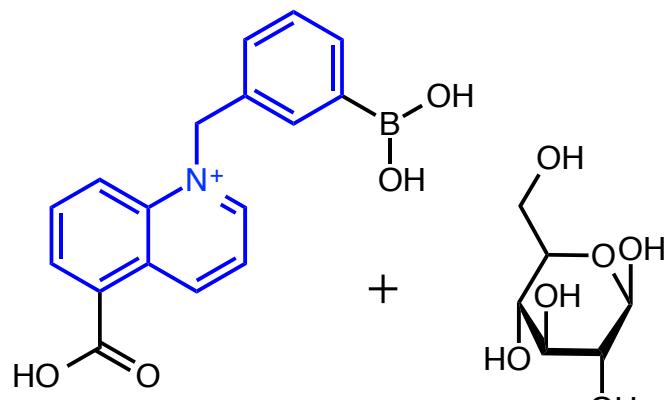




Direct vs. Indirect Sensing



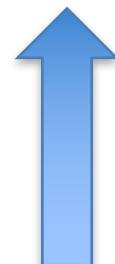
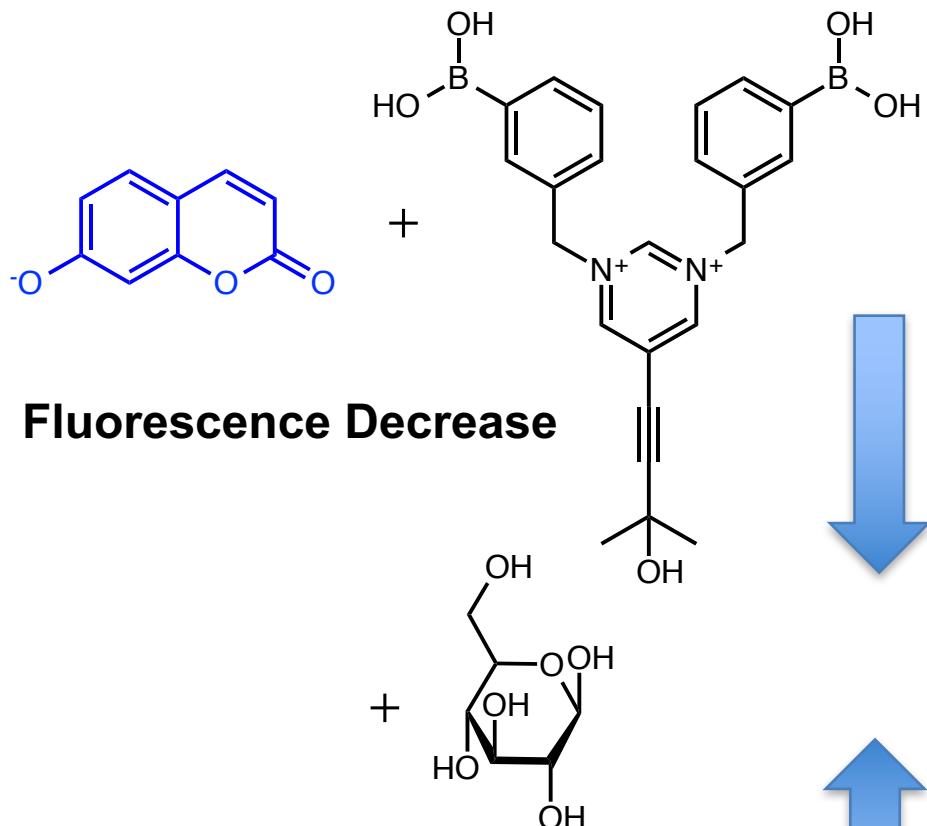
Direct Sensing



Fluorescence Decrease



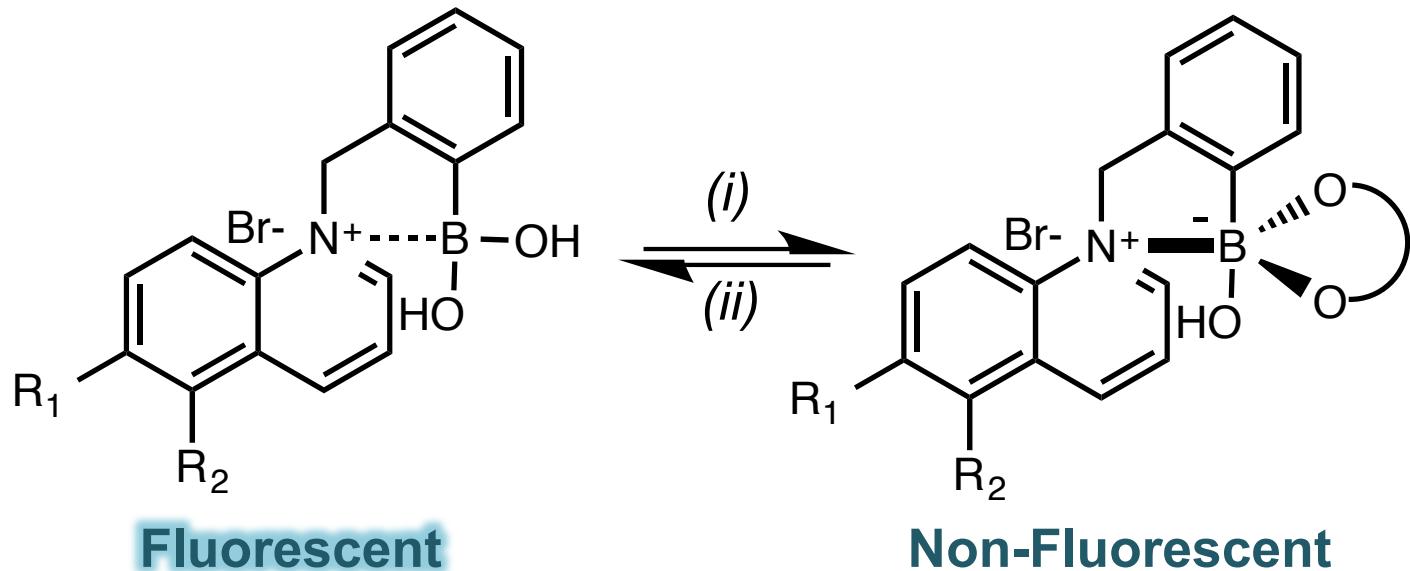
Indirect Sensing



Fluorophore



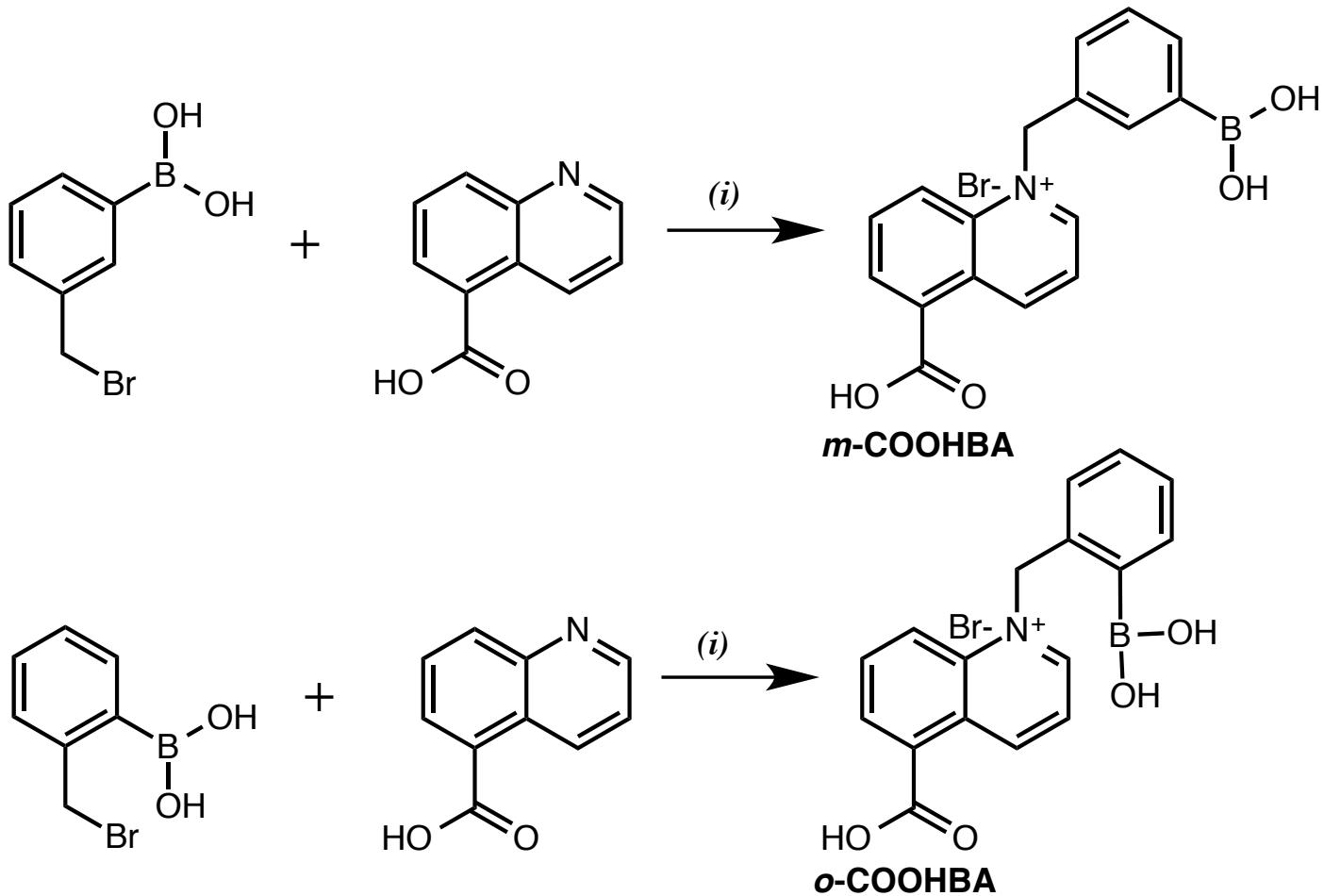
Direct Sensing



- (i) *Addition of OH^- ions/glucose*
- (ii) *Addition of water/removal of glucose*



Synthesis of COOHBA Sensors

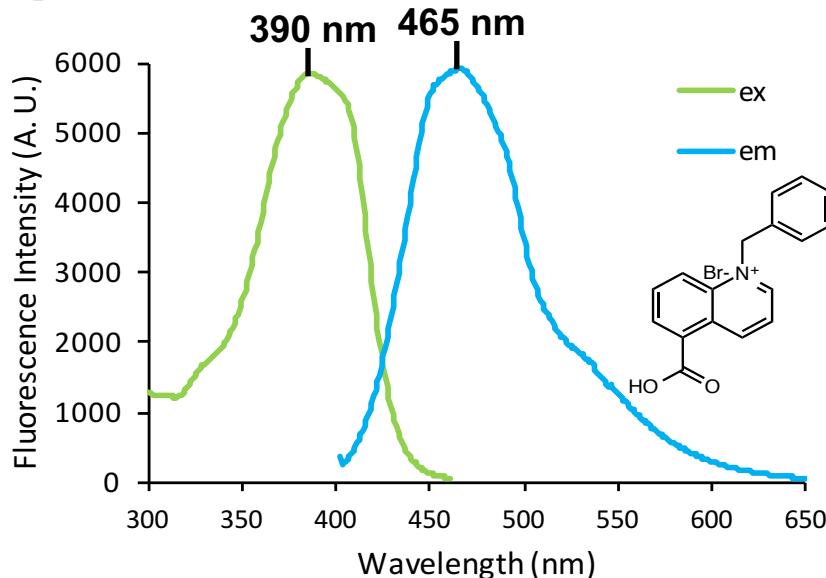


(i) Anhydrous dimethylformamide, N₂, 80 °C for 48h.

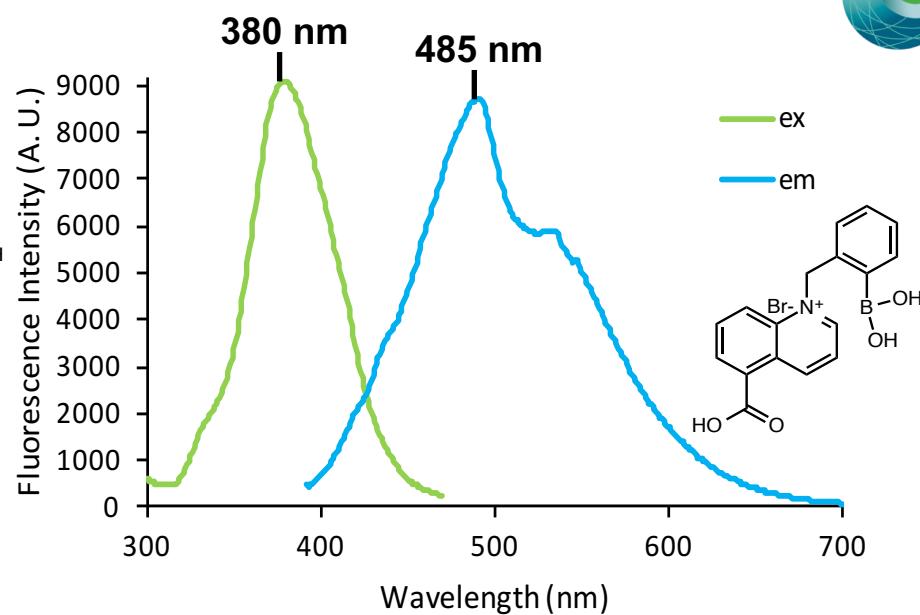
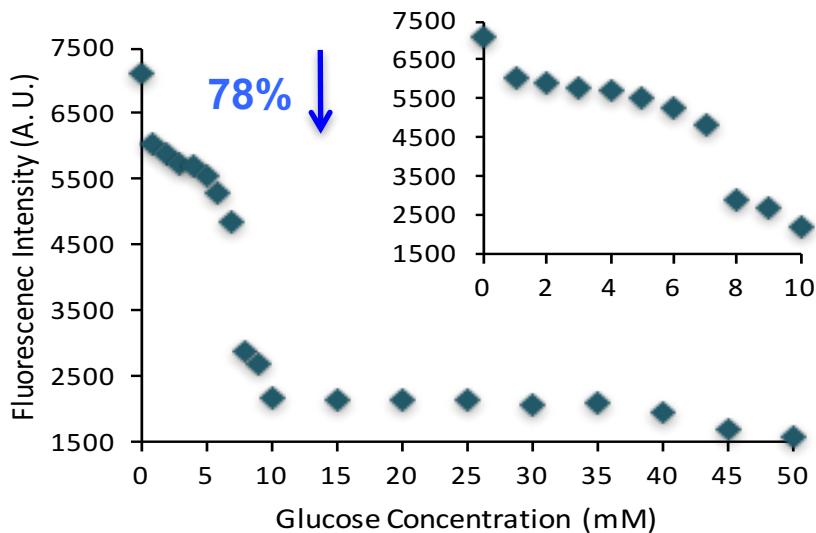
Successful synthesis of novel BA sensors were confirmed by NMR.



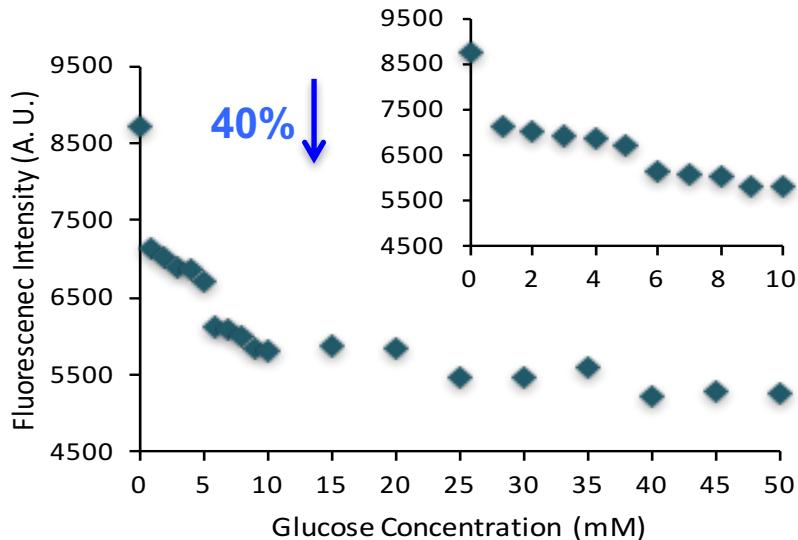
Fluorescence Results



*Excitation and emission spectrum of *m*-COOHBA 0.5 mM in pH 7.4 phosphate buffer.*

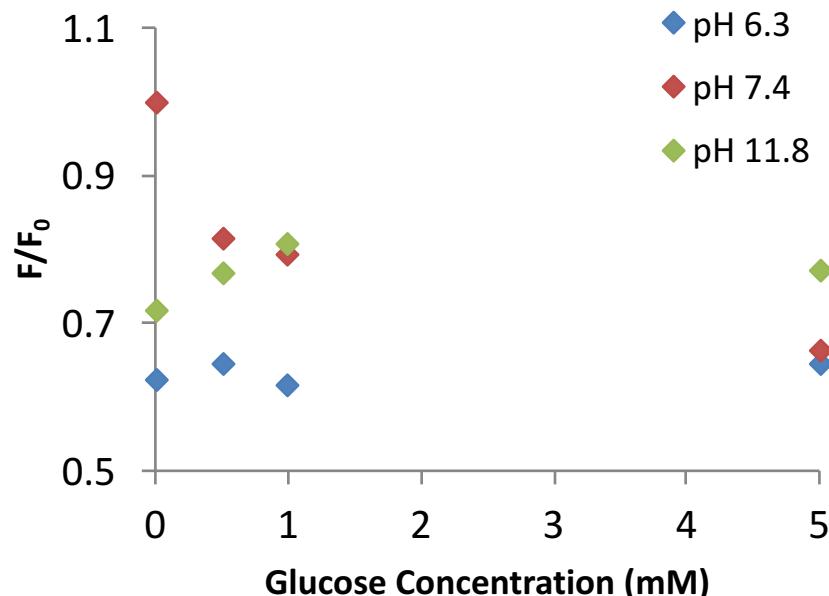
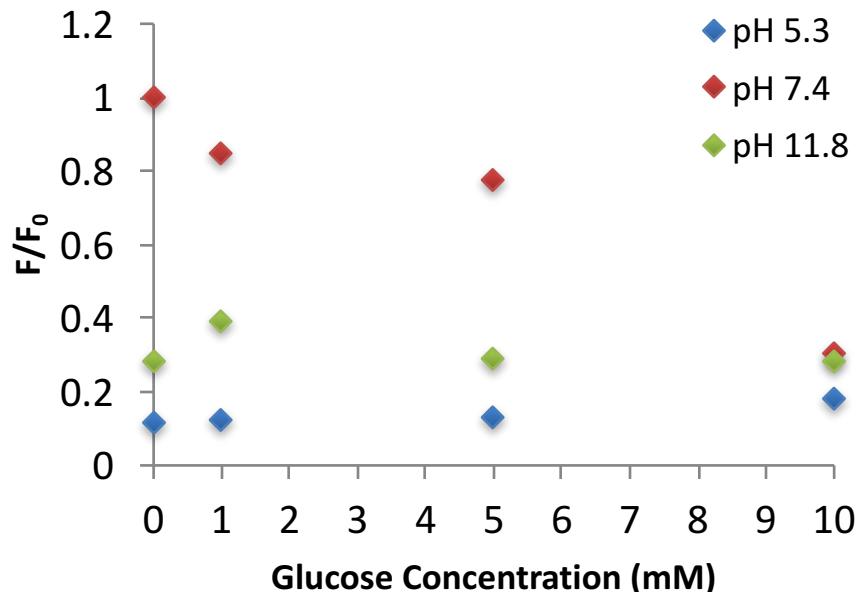


*Excitation and emission spectrum of *o*-COOHBA 0.5 mM in pH 7.4 phosphate buffer.*

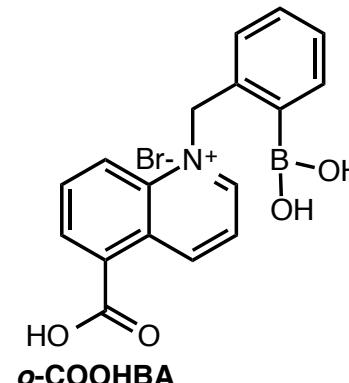
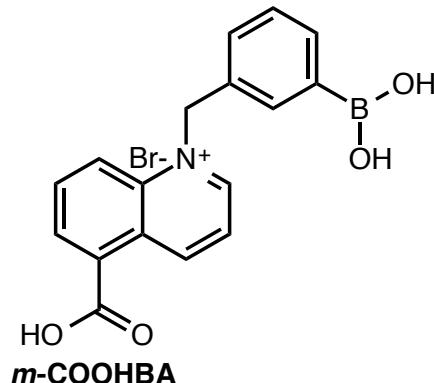




pK_a Investigation – Glucose Sensing pH Range



Glucose response for *m*-COOHBA and *o*-COOHBA (0.5 mM) in different pH buffer solutions ranging from pH 5-11.

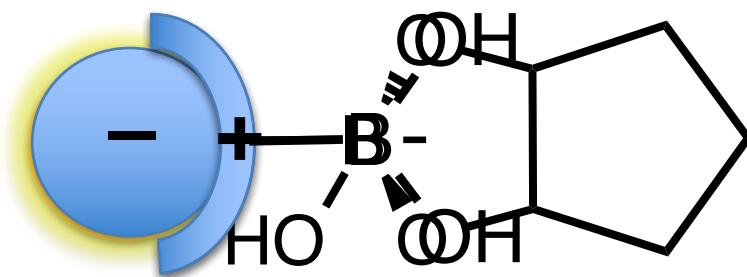




Indirect Sensing



Two-Component Sensing

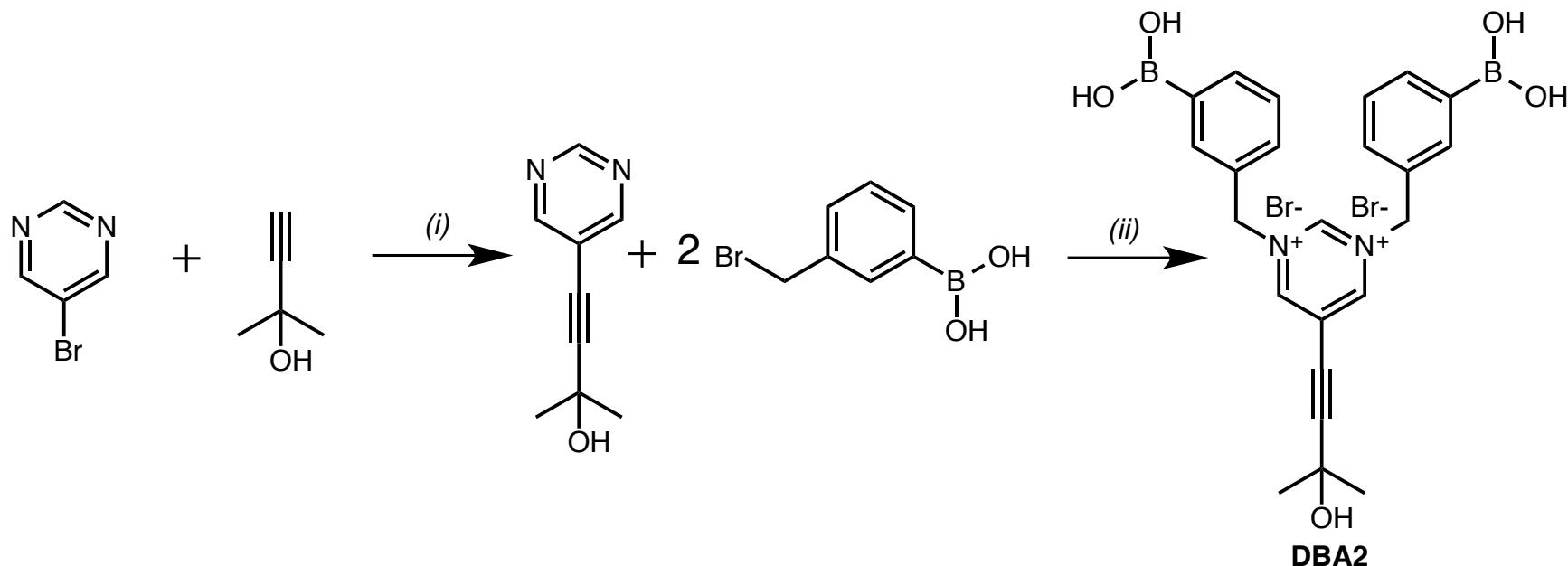




Indirect Sensing in Solution



Indirect Sensing in Solution – Sensor Synthesis

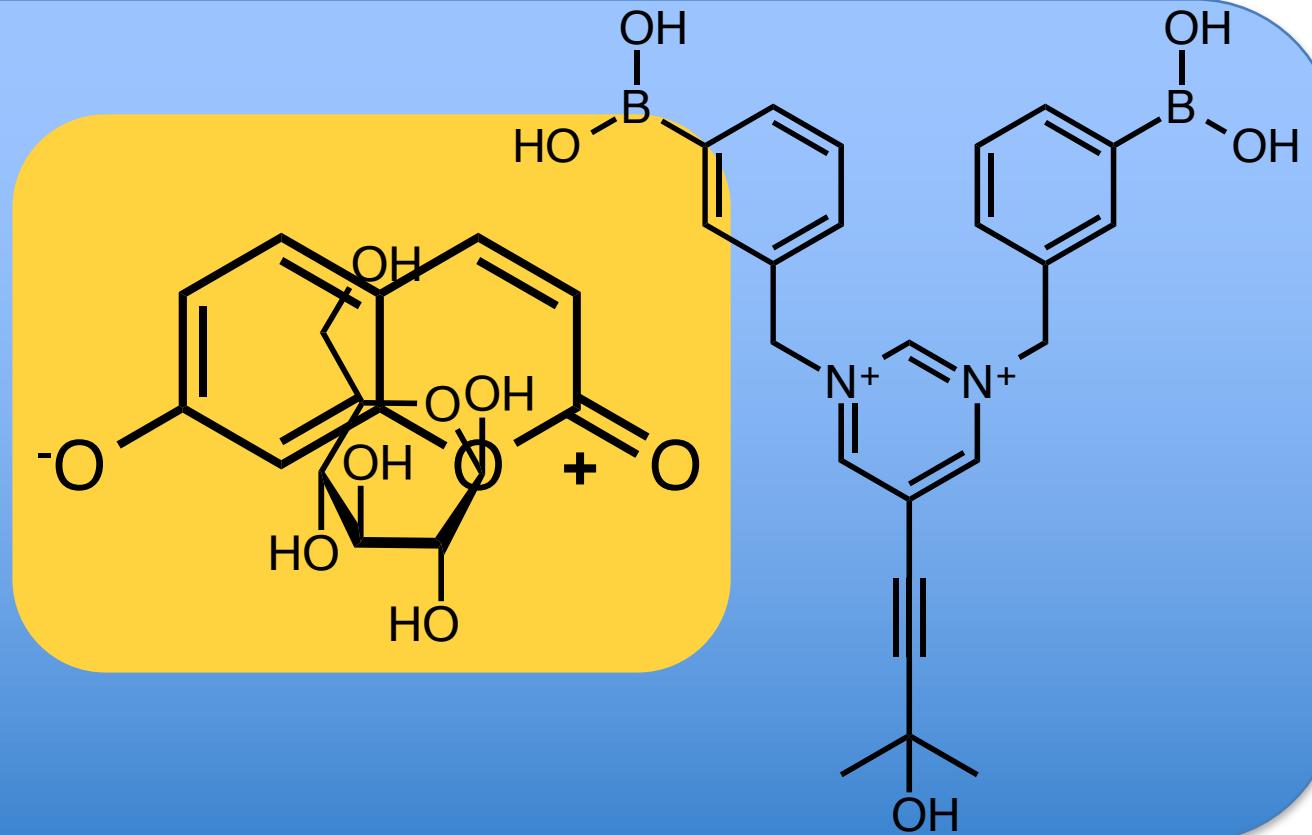


- (i) *PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂, Cul, diethylamine, Ar, stirred at RT for 24h (66%).*
(ii) *anhydrous tetrahydrofuran, N₂, reflux at 80 °C for 48h (21%).*

Successful product formation confirmed by NMR.



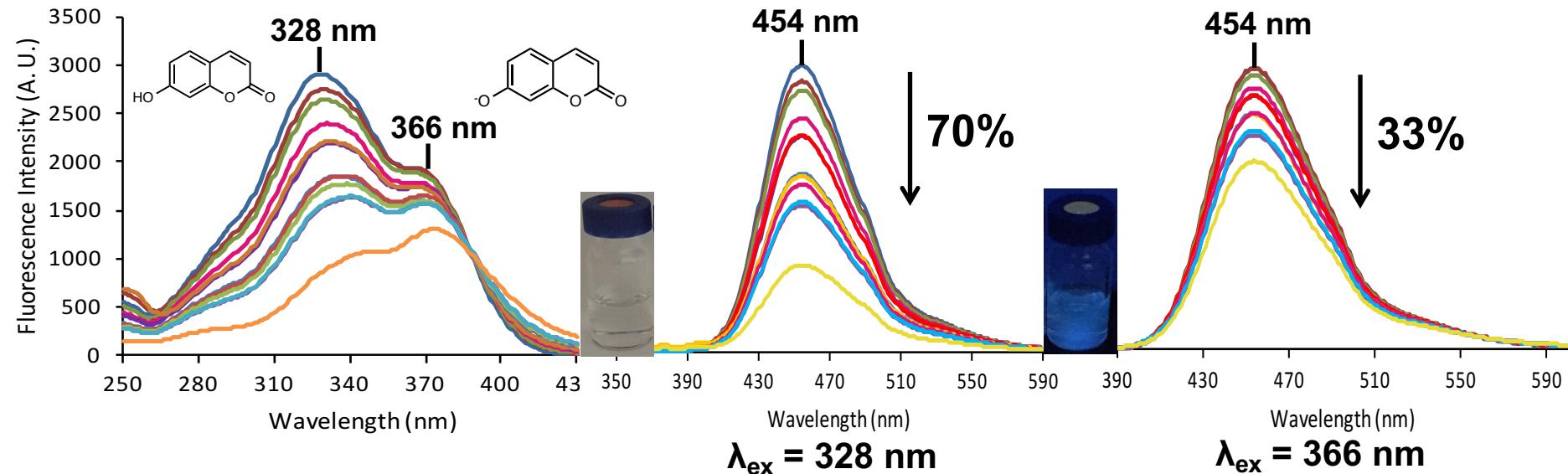
Two-Component Sensing



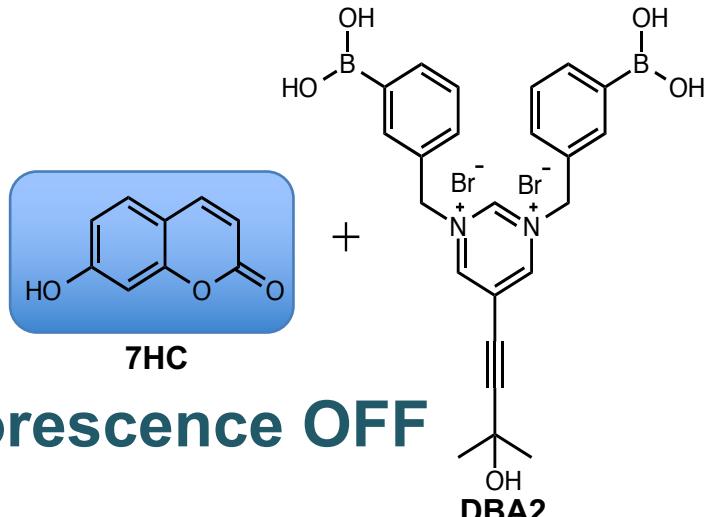
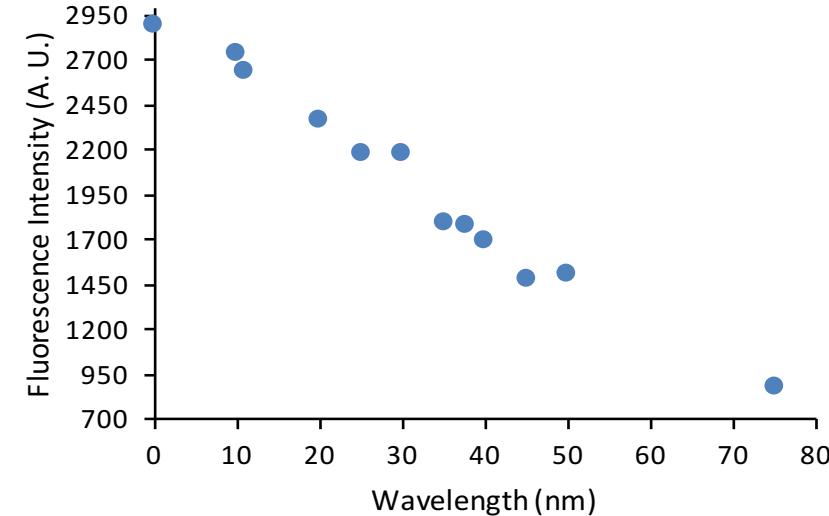
NonFluorescent



Two-Component Sensing in Solution – Fluorescence Quenching

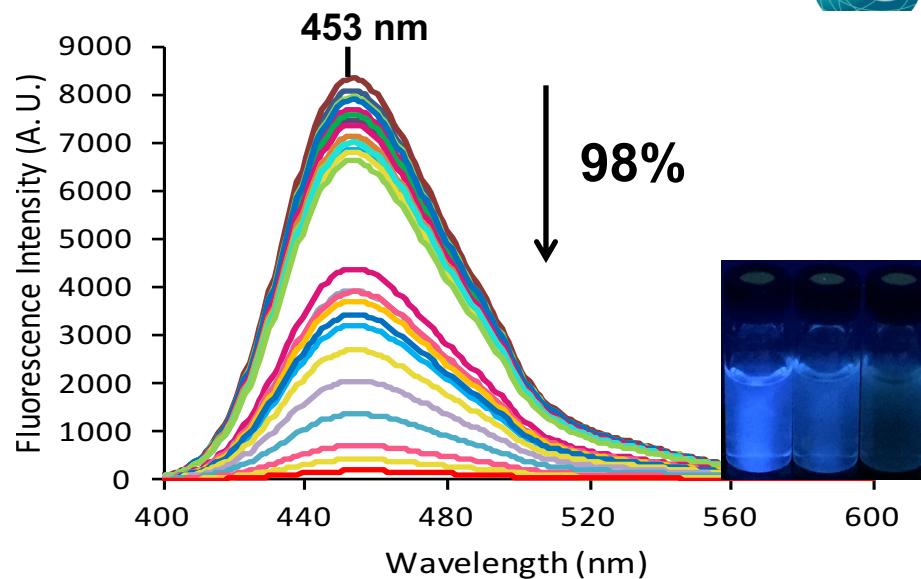
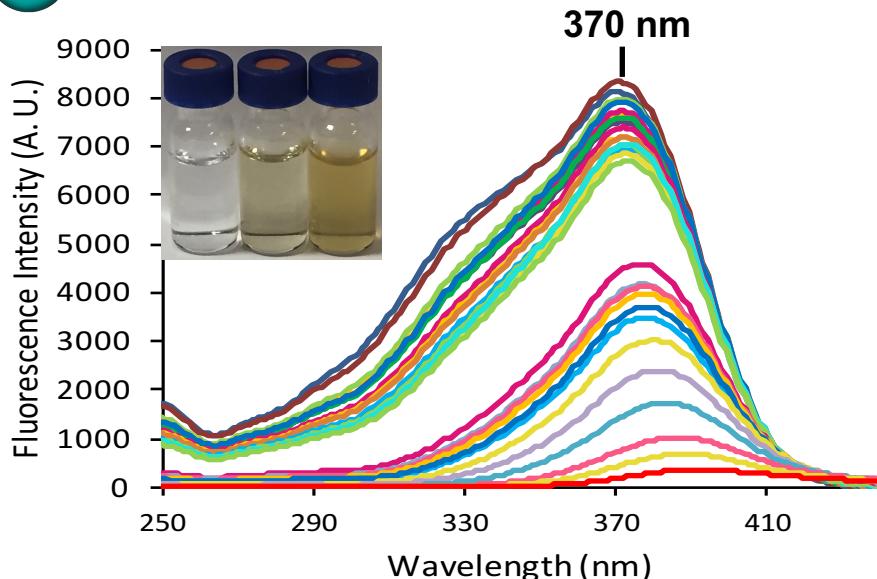


Excitation and emission spectra of 4 μM 7HC in pH 7.4 with minimal MeOH (40 μL) with increasing DBA2 concentrations up to 0.3 mM (75 eq.); Medium sensitivity; 2.5 nm bandwidth

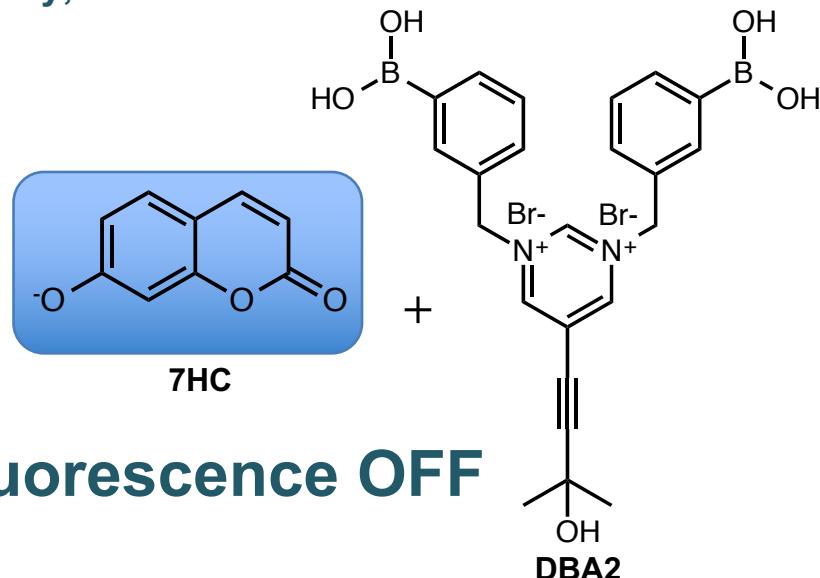
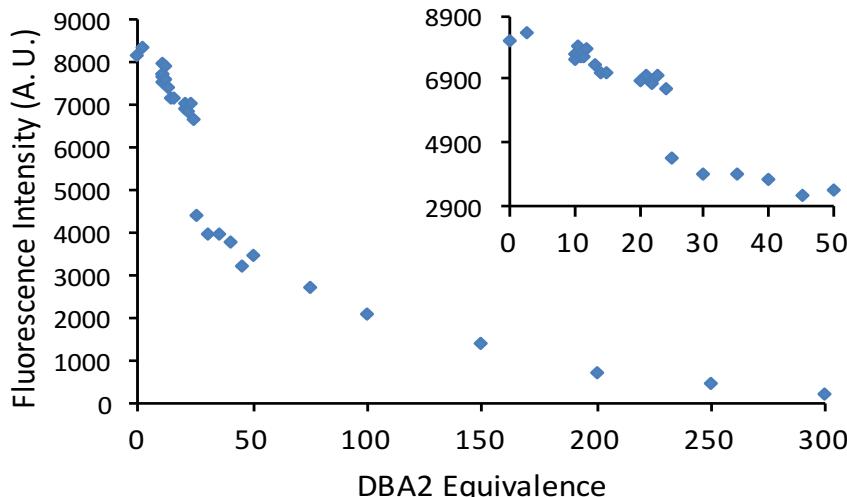




Two-Component Sensing in Solution – Fluorescence Quenching



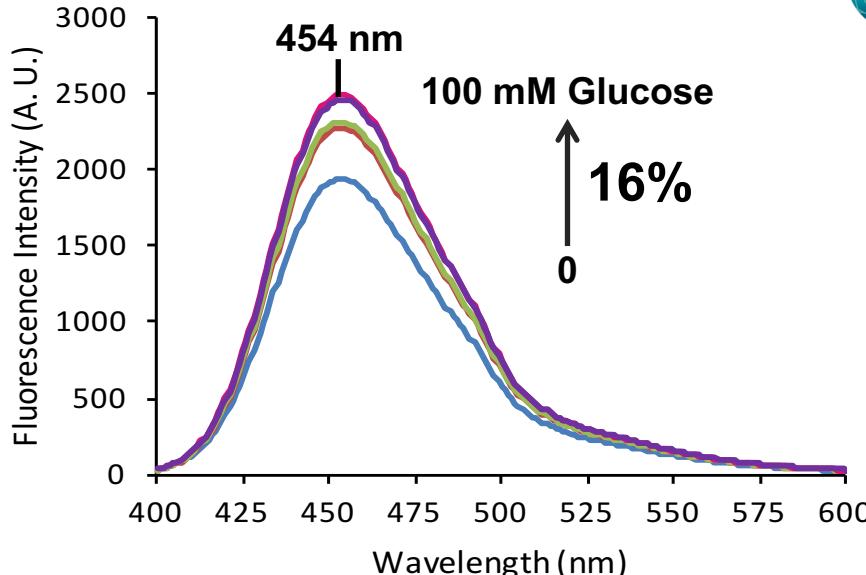
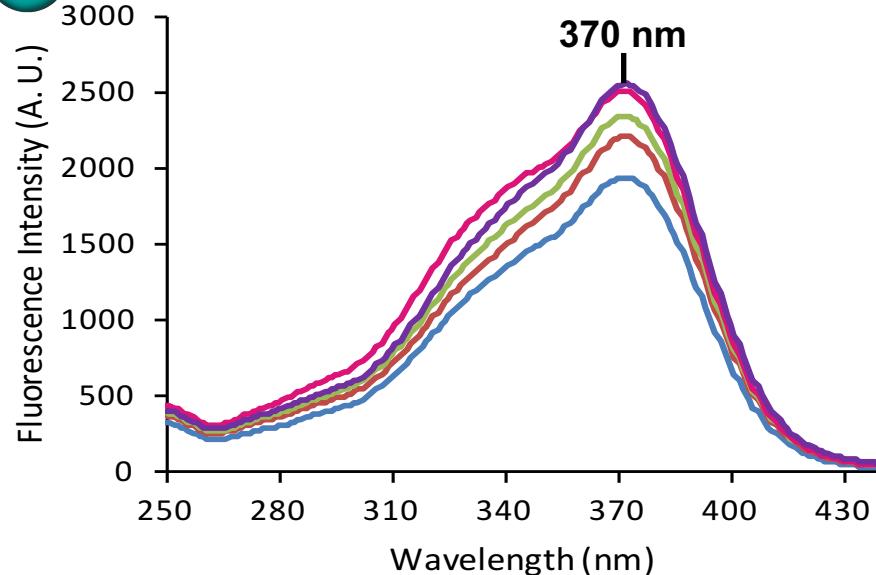
Excitation and emission spectra of 4 μ M 7HC in pH 7.4:MeOH (1:1) (pH 8.6) with increasing DBA2 concentrations up to 1.2 mM (300 eq.); Medium sensitivity; 2.5 nm bandwidth



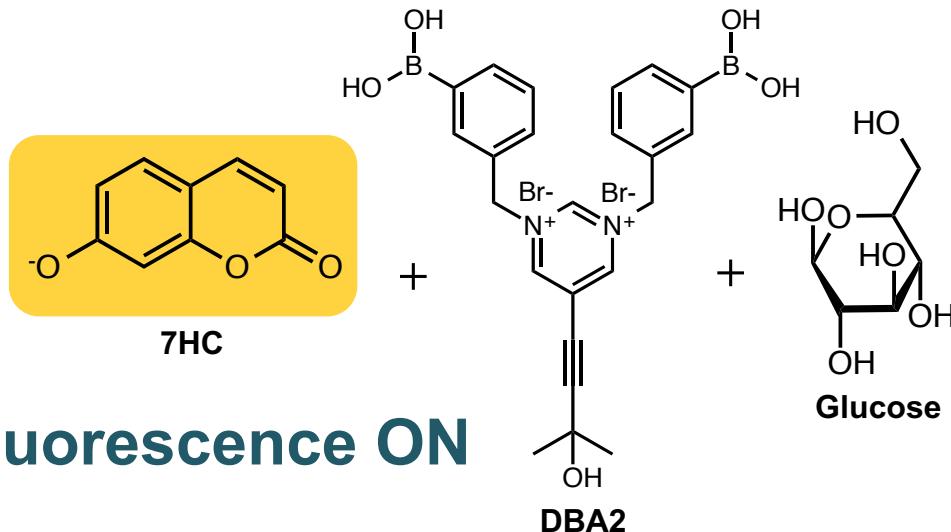
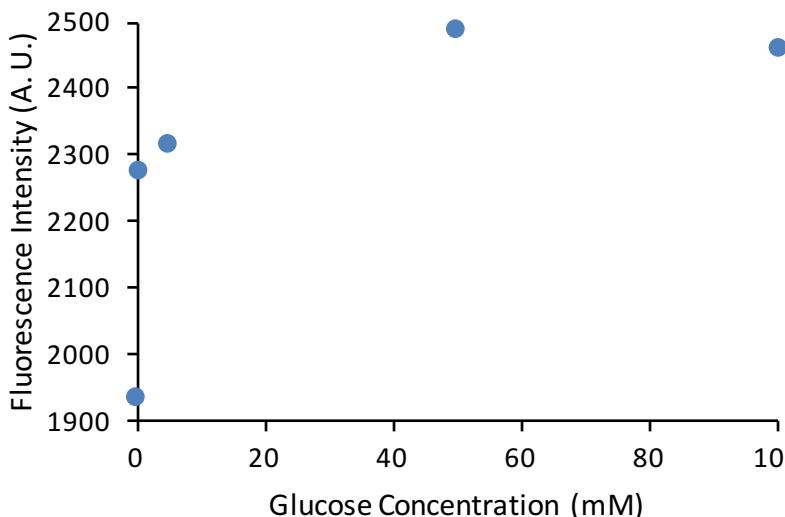
Fluorescence OFF



Two-Component Sensing in Solution – Fluorescence Recovery



Excitation and emission spectra of 7HC (4 μ M) and DBA2 (80 μ M) (1:20 eq.) in pH 7.4:MeOH (1:1) (pH 8.6) with increasing concentrations of glucose up to 100 mM; Medium sensitivity; 2.5 nm bandwidth

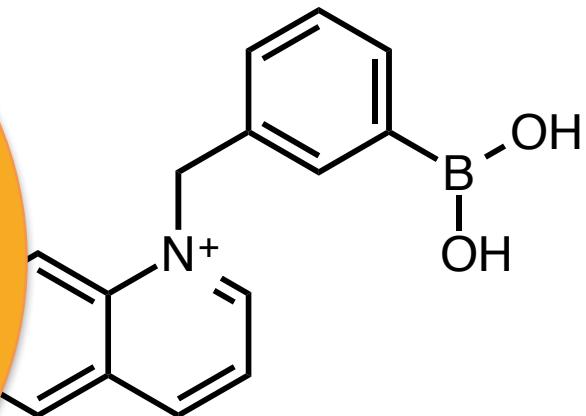
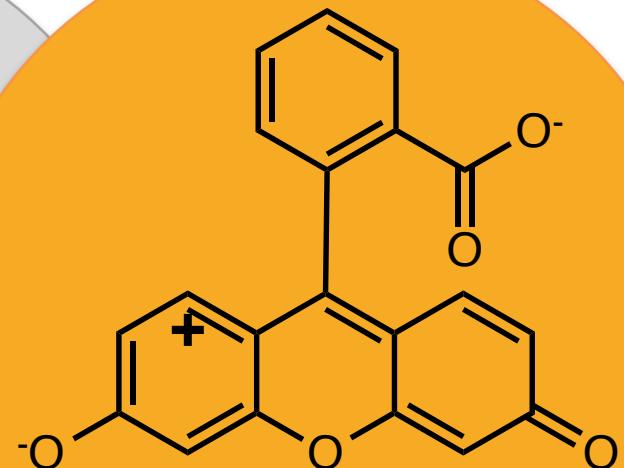




Indirect Sensing in ionogels



Two-Component Sensing in Ionogels



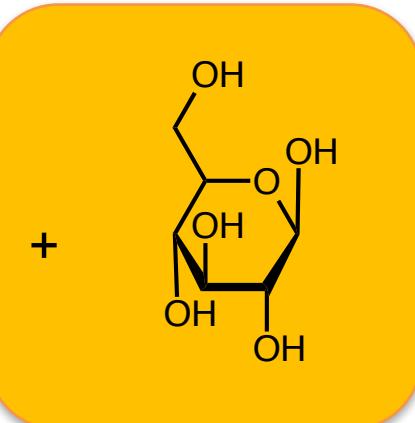
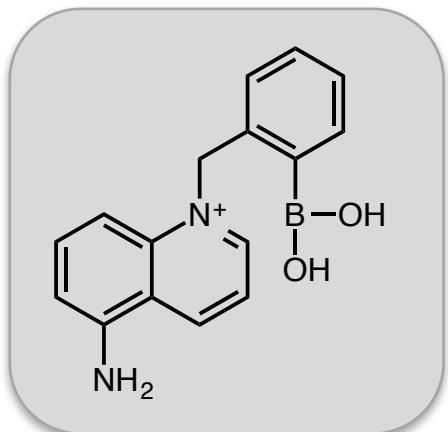
NonFluorescent



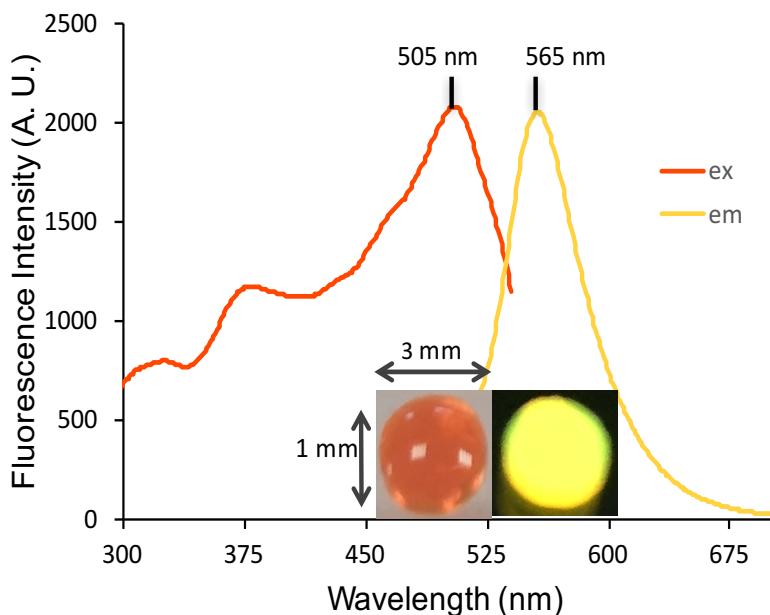
Two-Component Sensing in Ionogels – Fluorescence Quenching



+



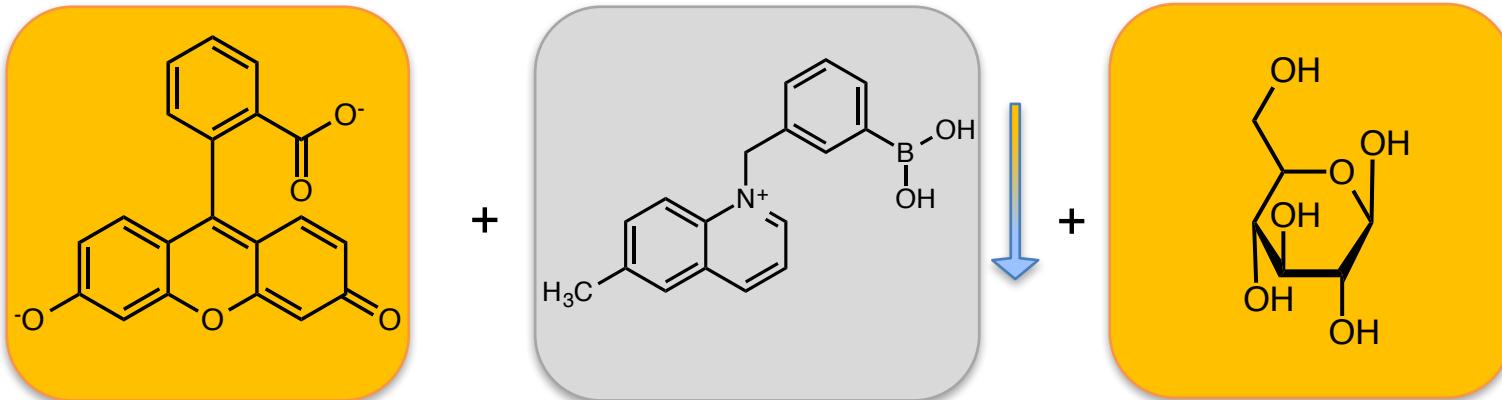
Components for Fluorescence
 Components for Fluorescence Quenching



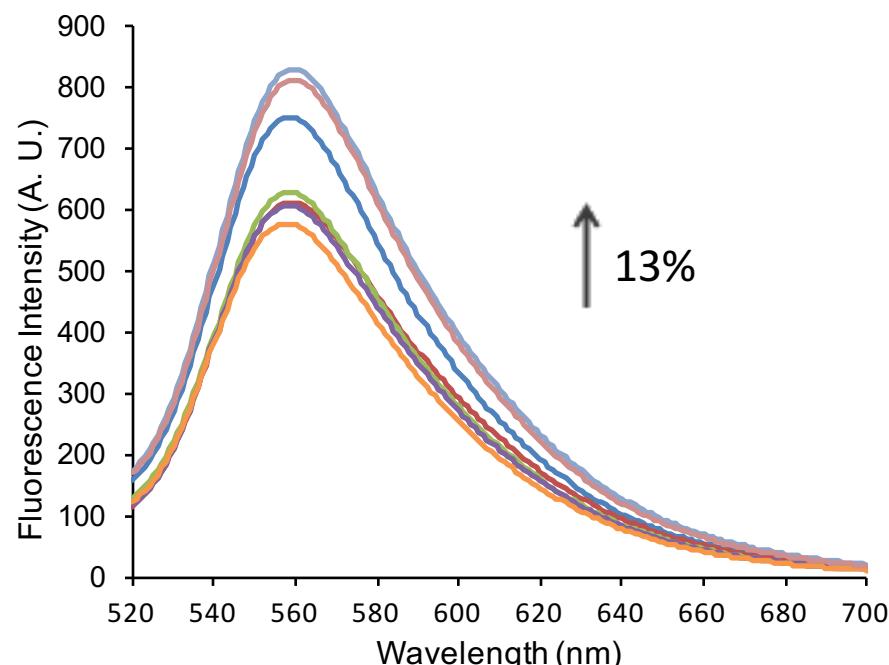
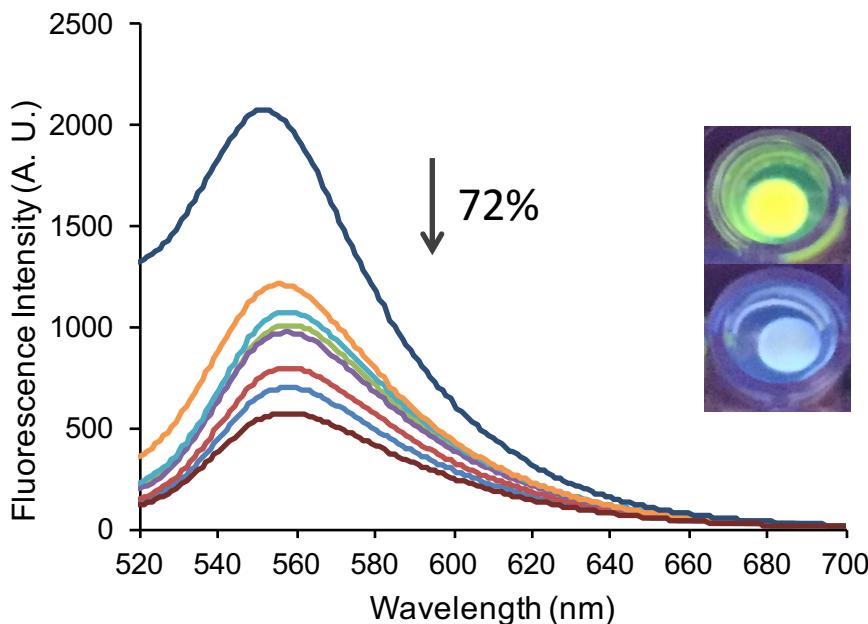
Emission spectrum of the fluorescein ionogel, when immersed in a BA (10 mM) solution and then in a glucose solution (10 mM) demonstrating an increase in fluorescence by 16%.



Two-Component Sensing in Ionogels



Components for Fluorescence
 Components for Fluorescence Quenching



Emission spectrum of the fluorescein ionogel, when immersed in a BA (10 mM) solution and then in a glucose solution (44 mM) demonstrating an increase in fluorescence to 40%.



Conclusions



Direct Sensing

- Increased glucose concentrations causes fluorescence quenching in BA.
- -COOH substituent is desired for future anchoring possibilities.

Indirect Sensing

In Solution

- Cationic BA derivative quenches fluorescence of anionic fluorophore and on glucose addition fluorescence can be restored.
- Two-Component Sensing depends on the pK_a of the fluorophore and hence, the pH of the buffer solution.

In Ionogels

- When Fluorescein is immobilised: fluorescence decreases in BA addition and is restored on glucose addition.
- Substituents attached to BA play a role in the quenching efficiency.
- Positioning of BA group in *ortho* or *meta* orientation play a role in fluorescence recovery.

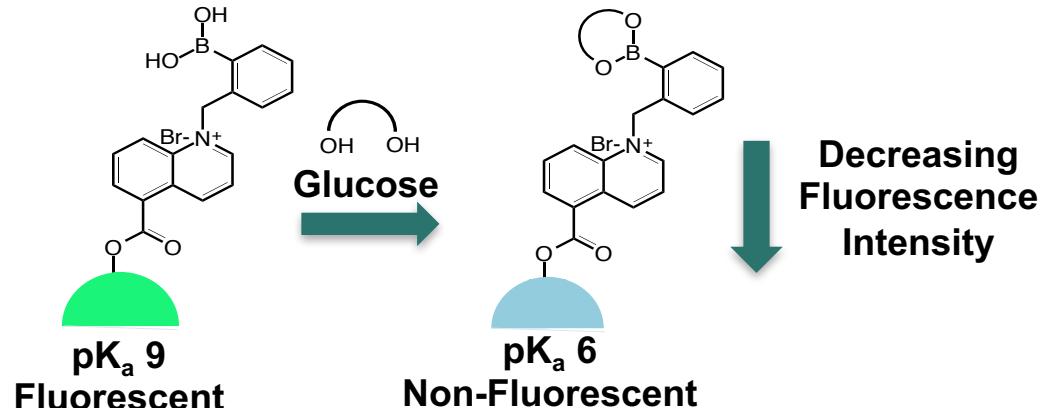


Future Work



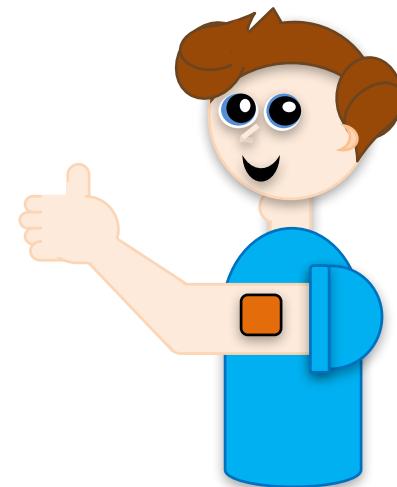
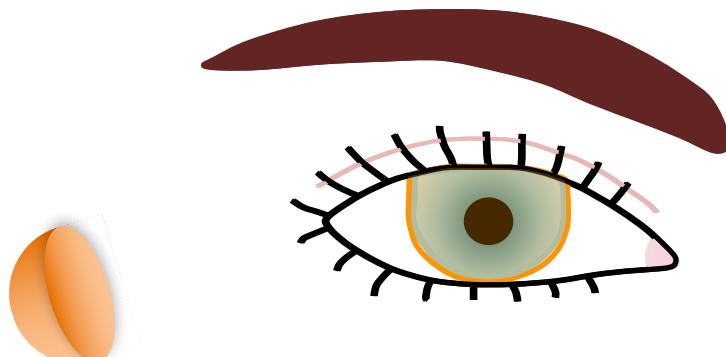
Direct Sensing

- Immobilisation of the COOHBA sensors on to a lens-like platform.



Indirect Sensing

- The incorporation of the two component sensing ionogels in to a sensing platform, such as a hydrogel patch or contact lens, to allow for non-invasive and continuous monitoring of glucose levels in diabetic patients.





Thanks to.....

- In particular Adam McColgan, Dr. Colm Delaney, Dr. Larisa Florea and Prof. Dermot Diamond.
- Alexandru Tudor, Jennifer Deignan, Wayne Francis, Aishling Dunne and Cristiane Daikuzono.
- Science Foundation Ireland & INSIGHT Centre (SFI/12/RC/2289).

Thank You for
Your Attention!



MASK
Project no: 269302
Materials and Advanced Sensor
Knowledge Exchange

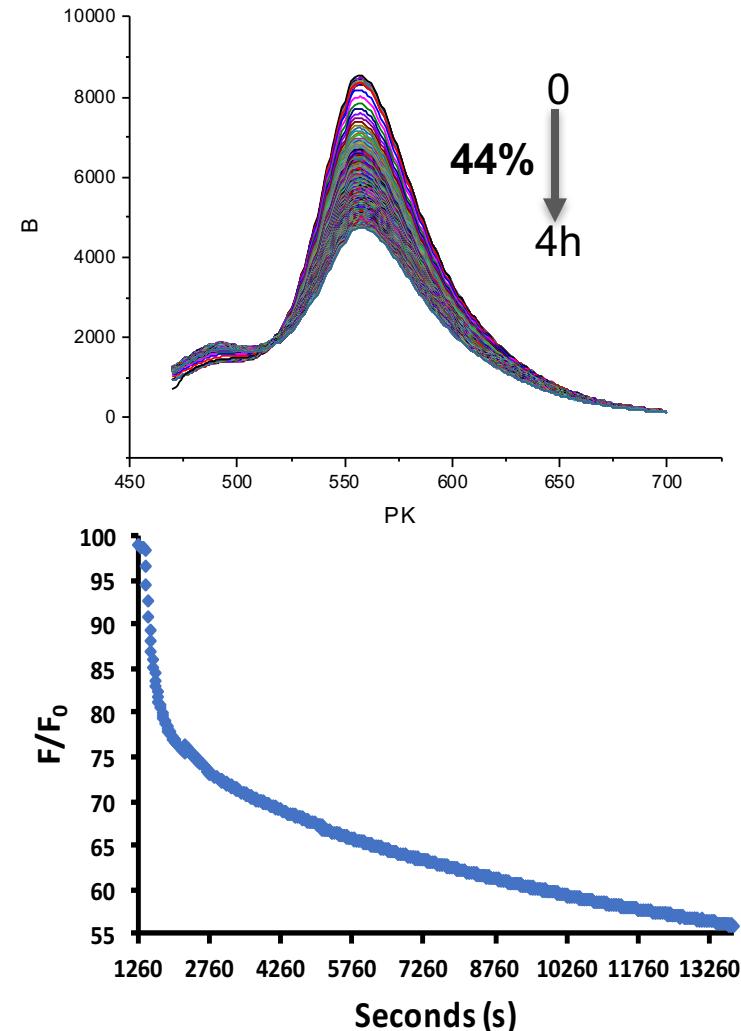
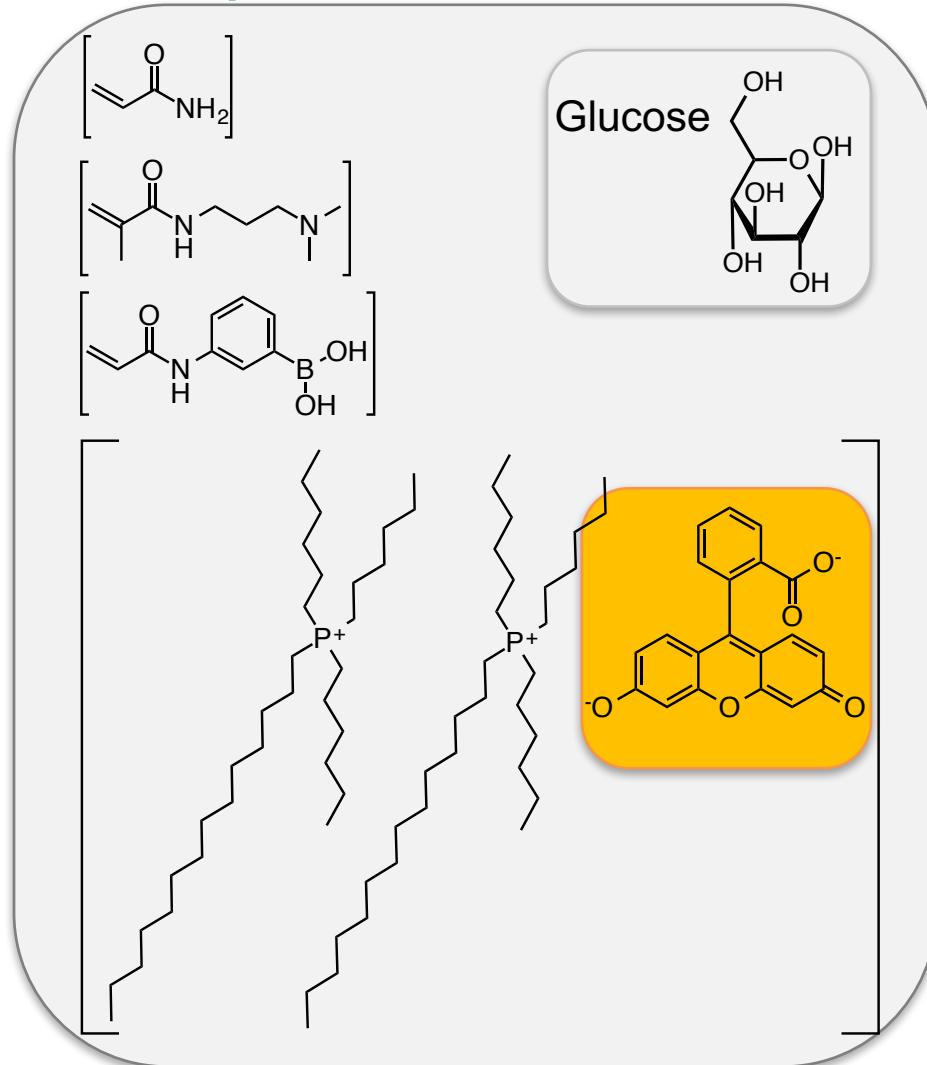




Two-Component Sensing in Ionogels



Fluorophore and BA immobilised inside non-fluorescent ionogel matrix



- Components for Fluorescence
- Components for Fluorescence Quenching