Lipophilic carbocyanine fluorescent dyes for membrane labeling

**Product Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>cat.number</th>
<th>MW (g·mol⁻¹)</th>
<th>λ_exc, λ_em max. (nm)</th>
<th>Mol. abs. (M⁻¹·cm⁻¹)</th>
<th>Soluble in</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DiOC₃(3) [DiO]</td>
<td><strong>FP-46805A, 50 mg</strong></td>
<td>881.73</td>
<td>484 / 501</td>
<td>154 000</td>
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<td>DiOC₄(3)</td>
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<td>572.53</td>
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<td>DiOC₆(3)</td>
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<td>490 / 515</td>
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<td>SP-DiOC₆(3)</td>
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<td>1115.55</td>
<td>498 / 514</td>
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<td>5,5'-Ph2-DiOC₆(3)</td>
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<td>496 / 512</td>
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<td>DiIC₃(3)</td>
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<td>DiIC₅(5)</td>
<td><strong>FP-20920A, 100 mg</strong></td>
<td>432.25</td>
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<td>DiIC₇(7)</td>
<td><strong>FP-C86280, 100 mg</strong></td>
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<td>DiIC₉(3)</td>
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<td>DiIC₁₁(3)</td>
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<td>877.77</td>
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<td>148 000</td>
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<td>DiIC₁₂(3)</td>
<td><strong>FP-46746A, 100 mg</strong></td>
<td>877.77</td>
<td>548 / 566</td>
<td>148 000</td>
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FT-46804A
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<th>Product name</th>
<th>cat.number</th>
<th>MW (g·mol⁻¹)</th>
<th>λ&lt;sub&gt;exc&lt;/sub&gt; / λ&lt;sub&gt;em&lt;/sub&gt; max. (nm)</th>
<th>Mol. abs. (M⁻¹·cm⁻¹)</th>
<th>Soluble in</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DilC₁₈(3) [Dil]</strong> (*)</td>
<td>FT-46804A, 50 mg</td>
<td>933.88 / 4085-99-8</td>
<td>551 / 566</td>
<td>148 000</td>
<td>DMSO, EtOH, CH₃CN</td>
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<td><strong>Neuro-Dil</strong></td>
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<td><strong>6,6'-Ph₂-DilC₁₈(3)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>DilC₁₈(5) [DiD]</strong> 4-chlorobenzenesulfonate salt</td>
<td>FP-22574A, 50 mg</td>
<td>1052.1</td>
<td>644 / 663</td>
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<td><strong>DilC₁₈(5) oil [DiD]</strong> perchlorate</td>
<td>FP-929099, 10 mg</td>
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<td>644 / 665</td>
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<td><strong>DilC₁₈(5) oil [DiD]</strong> iodide</td>
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<td><strong>DilC₁₈(7) [DiR]</strong></td>
<td>FP-69084A, 25 mg</td>
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<td>748 / 780 (MetOH)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Neuro-DIO</strong>(**)</td>
<td>FP-AM331A, 25 mg</td>
<td>1086.11</td>
<td>484 / 501</td>
<td>270 000</td>
<td>DMSO / EtOH, Hexane, oil</td>
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<td><strong>Neuro-DIO</strong>(**)</td>
<td>FP-BA641A, 0.2 ml</td>
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<td>270 000</td>
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<td><strong>DiA</strong></td>
<td>FP-66096A, 25 mg</td>
<td>787.06</td>
<td>491 / 613</td>
<td>52 000 (MetOH)</td>
<td>DMSO and EtOH</td>
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<td><strong>DiB</strong></td>
<td>FP-YS2860, 10 mg</td>
<td>1074</td>
<td>353 / 442</td>
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<td>DMSO, DMF or EtOH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(*) DilC₁₈(3) solution is also available for microinjections: FP-AM328A (0.5 ml)
(**) Neuro-DIO also is available in solution for microinjections: FP-BA641A (0.2 ml)
FT-46804A
Storage: DiOC₆(3), DiOC₉(3), Dil, Neuro-Dil, Dilinoleyil Dil solid, DiA, DiB can be stored at +4°C. DiD, DiR and Neuro-DiO should be stored at –20°C. Keep in a closed container and protect from light.

Introduction

Carbocyanine dyes have hydrophilic/hydrophobic pattern, with strongest fluorescence when they are in membranes.

They are used in living and fixed tissues and cells. These dyes insert into the membrane, and diffuse rapidly, staining the entire cell surface. They allow the synaptic terminals tracing in a single motor unit.

DiI and DiO are also efficient postmortem neuronal tracers and used in neuroanatomy and visual science (Lukas 1998)

They can be combined together according to the spectre below, showing normalized fluorescence spectra in membranes.

DiIC(3) and DiOC(3) are respectively compatible with rhodamine (TRITC) filter and fluorescein (FITC) filter.

DiOC₆(3) is a fluorescent probe for measuring membrane potential.

DiOC₆(3) [DIO] (3,3'-dioctadecylxocarbocyanine, perchlorate) is a widely used fluorescent membrane dye. However, DiO has been fluorescent emission and the lateral diffusion rate on the membranes is generally slower than that of DiI. DiO and DiI are often used together in dual color studies. Please also see our Neuro-DiO, which has improved property over DiO.

DiOC₉(3) (3,3'-ditetradecyloxcarbocyanine, hydroxyethanesulfonate) is a derivative of DiOC₁₈(3) [DiO] but is more soluble in aqueous buffer. Staining is accomplished by simple incubation of cells in the buffer containing the dye.

SP-DiOC₆(3) is a lipophilic sulfonated carbocyanine tracer probe.

DiIC₁₁(3) [Dil] (1,1'-dioctadecyl-3,3',3',3'-tetramethylindocarbocyanine perchlorate) is a widely used carbocyanine membrane dye that labels cell membranes by inserting its two long (C₁₈ carbon) hydrocarbon chains into the lipid bilayers. It is the most standard lipophilic dye for ER, Golgi studies. Particularly, it has been extensively used for the anterograde and retrograde labeling of neurons. The intense fluorescence and high photostability of the dye make it possible to visualize the fine structures (axons and dendrites) of the neurons. Also, because of its low toxicity and the tendency to give highly stable cell labeling, the dye has been generally used for long term cell tracing of cells both in cultures and in living embryos or animals. The dye is usually applied to cells either from an ethanol solution (for cells in cultures) or directly from the dye crystals (for neurons in tissues, for example). Dil emits its fluorescence in the orange red region and it can be used with standard fluoresceinand rhodamine optical filter, and combined to the green fluorescent dye DiO (FP-46805) for dual color studies.

DiOC₆(3) is a cell-permeant, green-fluorescent, lipophilic dye that is selective for the mitochondria of live cells, when used at low concentrations. At higher concentrations, the dye may be used to stain other internal membranes, such as the endoplasmic reticulum.

Neuro-Dil and Neuro-DiO are derivatives respectively of Dil and DiO. They have better solubility and do not form aggregates, which tend to quench the fluorescence. Also, they diffuse faster than Dil and DiO on cell membranes and also may result in a more stable labeling.

DiIC₆(3), DiIC₉(3) and DiIC₇(7) are potential-sensitive probes.
DiIC<sub>18</sub>(5) [DiD] (1,1’-dioctadecyl-3,3,3’,3’-tetramethylindodicarbocyanine, 4-chlorobenzenesulfonate salt) is similar to DiIC<sub>18</sub>(3), but excitable with longer wavelength than carbocyanines (He-Ne laser). It is usefull when significant intrinsic fluorescence is observed with DiI or DiO.

DiIC<sub>18</sub>(7) [DiR] (1,1’-dioctadecyltetramethyl indotricarbocyanine Iodide) is lipophilic carbocyanine similar to DiI and DiO with near IR absorption and emission, allowing lowering the level of autofluorescence. It can be used in multicolor detection, combined to DiD (FP-22574A), DiI (FP-46804A) and Neuro-DiO (FP-AM330A).

6,6'-Ph2-DiIC<sub>18</sub>(3) is a cationic membrane probe.

DiA (4-(4-dihexadecylaminostyryl)-N-methylpyridinium iodide), a fluorescent carbocyanine dye, insert in membrane and commonly used for neuronal membrane tracing by diffusion (it diffuses faster than DiO). It is used in aldehyde-fixed tissue. It has very broad emission spectrum and can be detected with green, orange or even red filters. It is combined notably DilC18(3) for 2 colors staining.

**Directions for use**

**Handling and Storage**

Dialkylcarbocyanine dye is dissolved in DMF or ethanol at 1 mM or approximately 1mg/mL to make a stock solution. These dyes are generally thermally stable. To facilitate the dissolution, the dyes can be put in a warm bath. It is a good idea to filter the highly clark colored solution through a 0.2 or 0.45 µm membrane filter to ensure a clear solution. The solution thus prepared should be stored at room temperature and protect from light. To avoid dye re-precipitation, do not store the stock solution at below room temperature. The stock solutions must be examined for crystal formation. If crystals are noted, the solution should be warmed (at 37°C or a higher temperature) or sonicated to redissolve the crystals.

Some dyes are available in solution. It is used for microinjections in the place of crystalline dye. The made solution in DMF is sonicated, centrifugated or filtrated to remove undissolved dye crystals.

**Guidelines for use – on cells suspension**

This procedure may serve as a reference for the use of following products: DiI, DiD, DiOC14(3), DiR, Neuro-DiI and Neuro-DiO. Optimization procedure may be necessary for each specific dye and cell type. For optimal staining, prepare cells at a density of ~ 1 x 10^6/mL in a serum-free culture medium. If possible, use a single cell suspension for uniform cell staining. Divalent cations such as Ca<sup>2+</sup> and Mg<sup>2+</sup> may promote dye precipitation. Therefore, for best result, we recommend the use of Dulbecco’ s PBS (Ca<sup>2+</sup> and Mg<sup>2+</sup> free) for the staining. Serum proteins and lipids should be removed from the medium because they may bind the dyes and reduce the effective dye concentration.

1- Add the dye stock solution to the cell suspension to achieve a final dye concentration of ~5 µM, or approximately 5 µg/uL, corresponding to a 200x dilution. Mix well by gentle pipeting.
2- Incubate at +37°C. Incubation time may vary from a few minutes to 20 min, depending on the cell types.
3- Separate the stained cells from the staining solution by centrifugation at +37 °C at 1500 rpm for a few minutes.
4- Remove the supernatant and resuspend the cells in fresh medium at +37 °C.
5- Wash the cells at least two more times according to steps 3 and 4.
6- Let the stained cells equilibrate for 10-15 min prior to fluorescence measurement.
7- Samples may be fixed with 2% paraformaldehyde and should be stable for up to 3 weeks.

**Guidelines for use – on fixed tissue (Pavlidis, 2003)**

1- Tissue is fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde in 0.1M phosphate buffer, pH7.4 at room temperature.
2- Incubation of the dye can be at +4°C or room temperature.

Note: higher temperature could be increase transcellular labeling.
Permeabilizing reagents, detergents and high concentration of organic solvents may cause the degradation of labeling. Tissue stained with dye can be sectioned by cryostat or vibratome methods. But be careful to the possible bad resolution of Dil labeling.

Related products

- FP Membrane Markers (FPMM 1-43, 4-64, 2-10, 1-44, 1-84, 5-95; Synaptracer™)

References

Dil, DiO

Diinoxylen Dil Solid


DiOC(3) - Saumet A. et al.: Type 3/repeat/C-terminal domain of thrombospondin-1 triggers caspase-independent cell death through CD47/3 in promyelocytic leukemia NB4 cells, Blood 10:1182 (2005)
- „... was assessed using the 3,3’ dihexyloxacarbocyanine iodide (DiOC 6 (3)) lipophilic cationic fluorochrome (20 nM, Interchim, Montlucon, France). ... “


DiOC(3) [DiO]

DiIC(3)

DiIC(3)

DiIC(3)

[Dil]
FT-46804A


**Δ-Dil**

**[Dil]** and **[DiR]**
- **Honig, M.**, et al., « Fluorescent carbocyanine dyes allow living neurons of identified origin to be studied in long-term cultures », *J. Cell Biol.*, 103, 171 (1986) Article

**[DiO]c(3)** and **[DiR]**
- **Shahrokh Z.**, et al., « Distance between skeletal protein 4.1 and the erythrocyte membrane bilayer measured by resonance energy transfer », *J. Biol. Chem.*, 266, 12082 (1991) Article

**[DD] and [DiR]**

**[DA]**
- **Garel S.**, et al., « Molecular regionalization of the neocortex is disrupted in Fg8 hypomorphic mutants », *Development*, 130, 1903 (2003) Article

**Ordering information**

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