

Carbostyryl Derivatives as Antenna Molecules for Luminescent Lanthanide Chelates

Pinghua Ge[†] and Paul R. Selvin^{*†‡}

Department of Physics and Center for Biophysics and Computational Biology, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois 61801. Received April 6, 2004; Revised Manuscript Received June 18, 2004

Luminescent lanthanide complexes consisting of a lanthanide-binding chelate and organic-based antenna molecule have unusual emission properties, including millisecond excited state lifetimes and sharply spiked spectra, compared to standard organic fluorophores. We have previously used carbostyryl (cs124, 7-amino-4-methyl-2(1*H*)-quinolinone) as an antenna molecule (Li and Selvin, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 1995) attached to a polyaminocarboxylate chelate such as DTPA. Here, we report the chelate syntheses of DTPA conjugated with cs124 derivatives substituted on the 1-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, and 8-position. Among them, the DTPA chelate of cs124-6-SO₃H has similar lifetime and brightness for both Tb³⁺ and Eu³⁺ compared to the corresponding DTPA–cs124 complexes, yet it is significantly more soluble in water. The Tb³⁺ complex of DTPA–cs124-8-CH₃ has significantly longer lifetime compared to DTPA–cs124 (1.74 vs 1.5 ms), indicating higher lanthanide quantum yield resulting from the elimination of back emission energy transfer from Tb³⁺ to the antenna molecule. Thiol-reactive forms of chelates were made for coupling to proteins. These lanthanide complexes are anticipated to be useful in a variety of fluorescence-based bioassays.

INTRODUCTION

Carbostyryl (cs124, 7-amino-4-methyl-2(1*H*)-quinolinone) and its derivatives have been used as antenna molecules to absorb light and to transfer excitation energy to lanthanide ions, which significantly increases the fluorescence efficiency of lanthanides (1–4). To achieve this energy transfer, cs124 or its derivatives are attached to a chelate backbone (such as diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid, DTPA), which is the site that ligates lanthanide ions. If placed in close range, energy transfer from cs124 (or derivatives) to lanthanide ions is achieved. The chelate backbone site can be further attached to either a thiol-reactive or amine-reactive group for attachment to biomolecules such as DNA and proteins. The advantages of such fluorescence complexes include high solubility in aqueous solution, long fluorescence lifetime (milliseconds), high quantum yields, large Stokes shifts, and sharply spiked emission spectra. These properties make lanthanide complexes attractive probes for fluorescence studies of biomolecules. Such complexes have been used in energy transfer experiments on the muscle protein myosin (5–8) and on ion channels (9).

Most of these lanthanide chelates have used carbostyryl as the sensitizer (10–14). Rarely, a carbostyryl derivative was used as a sensitizer (15). Because of complex photophysics, the mechanisms of energy transfer from sensitizer to lanthanides have not been fully understood (16–19). Therefore, it is difficult to rationally design the structures of carbostyryl-based lanthanide sensitizers. Given the versatile synthetic possibilities of modifying the cs124 structure (Figure 1), it is interesting to explore

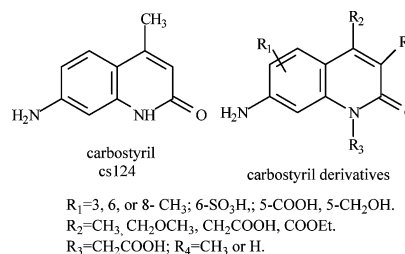


Figure 1. Structures of carbostyryl and its derivatives.

how the structural modification can effect the chemical, physical, and photophysical properties of lanthanide chelates. We report the syntheses of new lanthanide chelates with carbostyryl derivatives with substitutes on the 1-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, and 8-position as sensitizer, their photophysical properties, and their reactivity to biomolecules.

EXPERIMENTAL METHODS

Chemicals and Materials. The following were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich: diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid dianhydride (caDTPA), 3'-aminoacetanilide, 2,4-diaminobenzenesulfonic acid, 3,5-diaminobenzyl alcohol dihydrochloride, ethylenediamine (EDA), anhydrous dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO, in sure seal bottle), and triethylamine (for reaction). DMSO and triethylamine were dried over activated molecular sieves before use. Glacial acetic acid, methanol, and triethylamine (for making triethylammonium acetate (TEAA) buffer) were purchased from Fisher Scientific. β -Maleimidopropionic acid hydrazide·TFA (EMPH·TFA) and *N*-hydroxysuccinimidyl bromoacetate were purchased from Molecular Biosciences (Boulder, CO). *N*-(ϵ -Maleimidocaproic acid) hydrazide (EMCH) was purchased from Pierce (Rockford, IL). Maltose binding protein (MBP) was a gift from Panvera Inc. (Madison, WI). Distilled and deionized (18 M Ω cm⁻¹) water was used throughout. All glassware was washed

* To whom correspondence should be addressed. Address: Department of Physics, 1110 W. Green Street, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL 61801. Phone: (217) 244-3371. Fax: (217) 244-7559. E-mail: selvin@uiuc.edu.

[†] Department of Physics.

[‡] Center for Biophysics and Computational Biology.

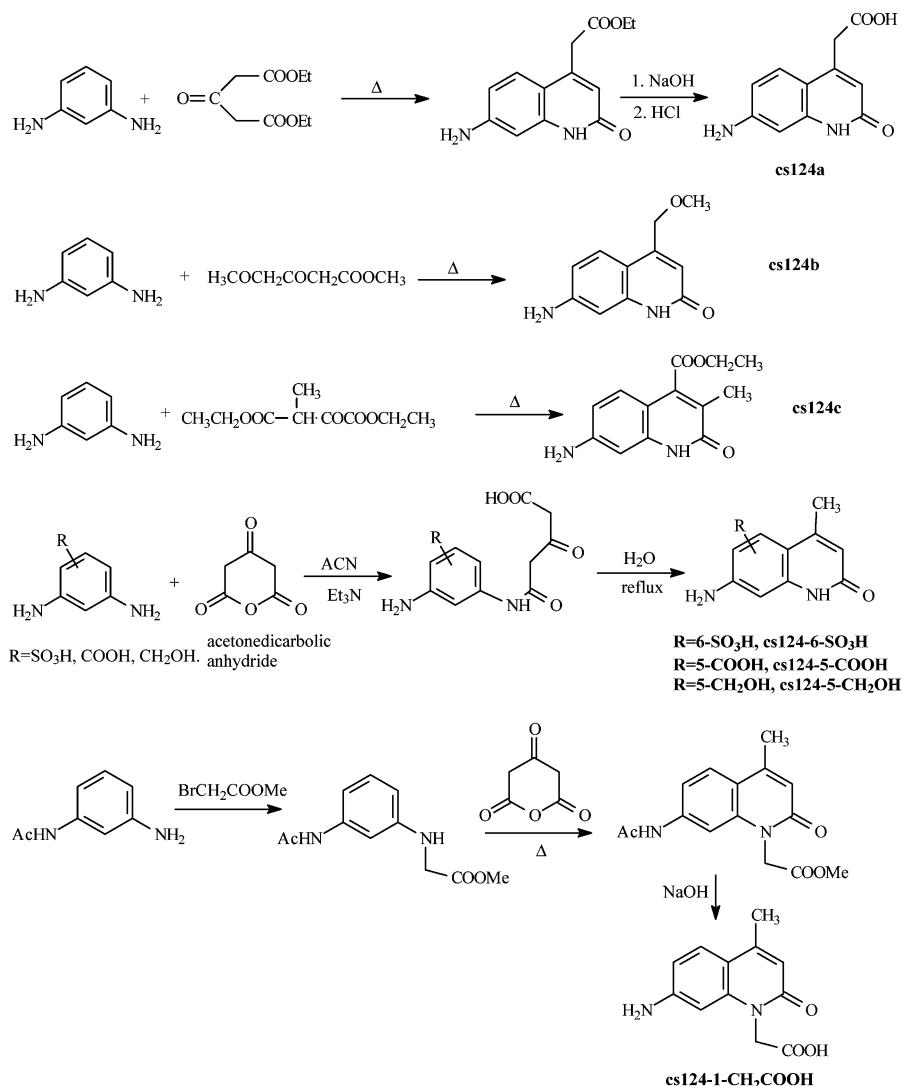


Figure 2. Syntheses and structures of 7-aminoquinolinone derivatives.

with a mixed acid solution and thoroughly rinsed with deionized, distilled water. All plastic labware was purchased from Bio-rad (metal-free). All chemicals were of the purest grade available.

Acetonedicarboxylic anhydride was synthesized according to published method (20). 7-Amino-4,8-dimethyl-2-(1*H*)-quinolinone (carbostyryl 124-8-methyl, cs124-8-CH₃) was purchased from SPECS & BioSPECS (Rijswijk, The Netherlands). The syntheses of 7-amino-4,6-dimethyl-2-(1*H*)-quinolinone (carbostyryl 124-6-methyl, cs124-6-CH₃) and 7-amino-4-methyl-6-sulfonic acid-2-(1*H*)-quinolinone (carbostyryl 124-6-SO₃H, cs124-6-SO₃H) had been reported (21). In this report, a different synthetic method for cs124-6-SO₃H was used.

Purification. Reverse-phase high-performance liquid chromatography was performed at room temperature on a Waters model 600 system with a Dynamax 60 Å C₁₈ column (10 or 25 mm i.d. × 250 mm, Rainin, at 8 mL/min, respectively) using a linear gradient (solvent A = 0.1 M triethylammonium acetate (TEAA), pH 6.5; solvent B = methanol or acetonitrile) over 40 min. The eluted fractions were monitored with a UV detector at a wavelength of 328 nm.

Spectroscopy. NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Unity 400 spectrometer. Time-resolved and gated luminescence measurements were made on a laboratory-built spectrometer described previously, employing a 5

ns excitation pulse at 337 nm followed by time-resolved detection of lanthanide emission (22).

Syntheses of cs124 Derivatives (Figure 2). *Synthesis of 7-Amino-1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-4-quinoline Acetic Acid (cs124a).* 1,3-Diaminobenzene (200 mg, 1.85 mmol) was mixed with diethyl 1,3-acetonedicarboxylate (410 mg, 2.03 mmol). The mixture was heated at ~160 °C for 24 h under N₂. A brown solid formed at the end. The solid was refluxed with acetone for 1 h. After the mixture was cooled to room temperature, the insoluble material was collected by filtration and washed with acetone. The collected solid was stirred with 5 mL of 10% NaOH for 5 h. Most of the solid dissolved. HCl and acetic acid were used to adjust the pH to ~9. The solution was filtered through Celite. The filtrate was subjected to HPLC purification with a 20–40% linear gradient of MeOH/TEAA. The peak with the retention time of 12 min was collected. The solvent was removed to afford 7-amino-1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-4-quinoline acetic acid (trace amount, yield <1%). MS, *m/z*: 217 (*M*⁻ - 1, ESI). ¹H NMR (ppm, DMSO-*d*₆): 11.13 (s, 1H), 7.42 (d, 1H), 6.39 (d, 1H), 6.34 (s, 1H), 5.87 (s, 1H), 5.65 (s, br, 2H), 3.32 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (ppm, DMSO-*d*₆): 171.72, 162.27, 151.06, 145.19, 141.00, 125.58, 116.11, 114.56, 110.51, 109.80, 96.74.

7-Amino-4-(methoxymethyl)-2(1H)-quinolinone (cs124b). 1,3-Diaminobenzene (200 mg, 1.85 mmol) was mixed with

methyl 4-methoxyacetoacetate (297 mg, 2.03 mmol). The mixture was heated at $\sim 160^\circ\text{C}$ for 24 h under N_2 , after which a brownish solid formed. The solid was washed with acetone and collected by filtration. The solid was further purified by recrystallization in EtOH to afford a pale-yellow solid, cs124b (232 mg, 69% yield). MS, m/z : 205 ($\text{M}^+ + 1$, ESI). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$: C, 64.69; H, 5.92; N, 13.72. Found: C, 63.43; H, 5.93; N, 13.41. ^1H NMR (ppm, DMSO- d_6): 11.24 (s, 1H), 7.29 (d, 1H), 6.42 (d, 1H), 6.36 (s, 1H), 6.06 (s, 1H), 5.76 (s, 2H), 4.51 (s, 2H), 3.33 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (ppm, DMSO- d_6): 162.35, 151.05, 147.25, 141.05, 124.96, 112.70, 110.46, 108.06, 96.78, 70.46, 57.99.

7-Amino-1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-3-methyl-4-quinoline Carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (cs124c). 1,3-Diaminobenzene (350 mg, 3.24 mmol) was mixed with diethyl oxalpropionate (719 mg, 3.56 mmol). The mixture was heated at $\sim 160^\circ\text{C}$ for 24 h under N_2 . A brownish solid formed and was dissolved in boiling ethyl acetate. The hot solution was cooled in an ice bath, causing yellow crystals to form. The solid was collected by filtration and further purified by passing through a silica gel column with ethyl acetate as the eluent to afford a yellow compound, cs124c (464 mg, 58% yield). MS, m/z : 247 ($\text{M}^+ + 1$, ESI). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$: C, 63.40; H, 5.73; N, 11.38. Found: C, 63.15; H, 5.80; N, 11.07. ^1H NMR (ppm, acetone- d_6): 10.85 (s, br, 1H), 7.13 (d, 1H), 6.60 (s, 1H), 6.57 (d, 1H), 5.38 (s, br, 2H), 4.47 (q, 2H), 2.03 (s, 3H), 1.40 (t, 3H).

General Procedure for the Syntheses of cs124-6-SO₃H, cs124-5-COOH, and cs124-5-CH₂OH. To a suspension of substituted diaminobenzene dihydrochloride in anhydrous acetonitrile, 1 equiv of Et_3N was added at 0°C under N_2 . The mixture was stirred for 30 min. Acetonedicarboxylic anhydride, 1.2 equiv, was added to the above mixture. The reaction mixture was stirred for 8 h during which the temperature was warmed to room temperature. The organic solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in H_2O . NaHCO_3 was added until no CO_2 bubbles were released. The aqueous solution was refluxed under N_2 for 36 h. The solution was acidified with HCl and acetic acid to pH ~ 3 –4. Precipitates formed during this process. The solution was allowed to stay overnight to complete the crystallization process. The solid was collected and further purified by recrystallization in ethanol.

cs124-6-SO₃H: yellow solid, 55% yield. MS, m/z : 253 ($\text{M}^- - 1$, ESI). ^1H NMR (ppm, DMSO- d_6): 11.16 (s, 1H), 7.73 (s, 1H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 5.95 (s, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H).

cs124-5-COOH: white solid, 26% yield. MS, m/z : 219 ($\text{M}^+ + 1$, FAB). ^1H NMR (ppm, DMSO- d_6): 11.29 (s, 1H), 6.39 (s, 2H), 5.96 (s, 1H), 5.90 (s, 2H), 2.28 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (ppm, DMSO- d_6): 172.08, 161.61, 149.79, 147.12, 141.68, 117.00, 109.82, 106.02, 97.56, 20.53.

cs124-5-CH₂OH: white solid, 18% yield. MS, m/z : 205 ($\text{M}^+ + 1$, FAB). ^1H NMR (ppm, DMSO- d_6): 11.15 (s, 1H), 6.58 (s, 1H), 6.30 (s, 1H), 5.88 (s, 1H), 5.73 (s, 2H), 3.34 (s, 2H), 2.54 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (ppm, DMSO- d_6): 161.59, 149.88, 149.36, 142.65, 141.05, 116.60, 112.64, 108.76, 96.65, 63.28, 23.42.

Synthesis of cs124-1-CH₂COOH. 3'-Aminoacetanilide (500 mg, 3.33 mmol) was added to the aqueous solution containing 300 mg (3.57 mmol) of NaHCO_3 . Methyl bromoacetate (560 mg, 3.66 mmol) was added to the mixture. The reaction mixture was refluxed for 4 h. The solution was cooled to room temperature and stirred overnight. The white solid of *N*-(3'-aminophenyl)glycine methyl ester was formed during the process. The solid was collected by filtration and dried. This solid was used for the next step without further purification.

The synthesized *N*-(3'-aminophenyl)glycine methyl ester (300 mg, 1.35 mmol) was mixed with acetonedicarboxylic anhydride (200 mg, 1.56 mmol) under N_2 . The mixture was heated at $\sim 160^\circ\text{C}$ for 24 h. The resulting deep-red solid was mixed with 3 mL of acetone. The mixture was refluxed for 30 min, then cooled to 0°C . A precipitate formed during this process and was collected by filtration and washed with cold acetone to yield pale-reddish solid. The solid was further purified by recrystallization in EtOH to afford white 7-acetamide-cs124-1- $\text{CH}_2\text{COOCH}_3$ (152 mg, 39% yield). MS, m/z : 289 ($\text{M}^+ + 1$, FAB).

The obtained 7-acetamide-cs124-1- $\text{CH}_2\text{COOCH}_3$ was stirred in 10% NaOH for 8 h under N_2 . A clear solution was formed. The solution was acidified with dilute HCl to pH ~ 3 –4. A white precipitate formed during the process. The precipitate was collected and washed with H_2O . The solid was further purified by recrystallization in EtOH to afford 7-amino-*N*-(acetic acid)-2-quinolinone (47 mg, 37% yield). MS, m/z : 231 ($\text{M}^- - 1$, ESI). ^1H NMR (ppm, DMSO- d_6): 7.43 (d, 1H), 6.51 (d, 1H), 6.31 (s, 1H), 6.09 (s, 1H), 5.86 (s, br, 2H), 4.78 (s, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (ppm, DMSO- d_6): 169.85, 161.28, 151.66, 147.50, 141.11, 126.65, 113.51, 110.94, 109.90, 96.54, 43.07, 18.59.

Syntheses of DTPA-Based Lanthanide Chelates (Figure 3). *General Procedure for the Syntheses of Lanthanide Chelates from cs124 Derivatives*. An amount of 1 equiv of DTPA dianhydride was dissolved in a mixture of DMSO and 5 equiv of Et_3N under N_2 . An amount of 0.7 equiv of cs124 derivative dissolved in DMSO was added slowly to the above solution with vigorous stirring. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. The solution was saved for the following steps.

If non-thiol-reactive chelates were to be synthesized, the above solution was quenched by addition of acetic acid and 0.1 M TEAA buffer (pH 6.5). The products were purified by reverse-phase HPLC with a linear gradient (typically 20–40% MeOH/TEAA, pH 6.5, over 40 min). The yield varies from $\sim 20\%$ to $\sim 50\%$, as judged from the HPLC profiles (Table 1).

If the maleimide form of thiol-reactive chelates were to be synthesized, the above solution was transferred rapidly to a DMSO solution containing 1.3 equiv of EMPH-TFA (or EMCH) under N_2 . The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 h. Acetic acid and 0.1 M TEAA (pH 6.5) were added to quench the reaction. The product was purified by reverse-phase HPLC with a linear gradient (typically 20–40% MeOH/TEAA, pH 6.5, over 40 min). The yield varies from $\sim 15\%$ to 40%, as judged from the HPLC profiles (Table 2).

DTPA-cs124-8- CH_3 -EDA-Br was prepared with a procedure similar to that used for DTPA-cs124-EDA-Br (1). DTPA dianhydride was reacted with cs124-8- CH_3 and EDA sequentially. The intermediate compound, DTPA-cs124-8- CH_3 -EDA, was purified by HPLC. The pH of the concentrated aqueous solution of DTPA-cs124-8- CH_3 -EDA was adjusted to ~ 8.5 by addition of Et_3N . *N*-Hydroxysuccinimidyl bromoacetate (3 equiv) was added to the solution. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. The product, DTPA-cs124-8- CH_3 -EDA-Br, was purified by HPLC.

Addition of Metals. TbCl_3 or EuCl_3 was added to the chelate in a 1:2 molar ratio usually at >0.5 mM concentration at pH 6–7, usually in 0.1 M TEAA, pH 6.5 buffer, and allowed to stand for 30 min at room temperature before use.

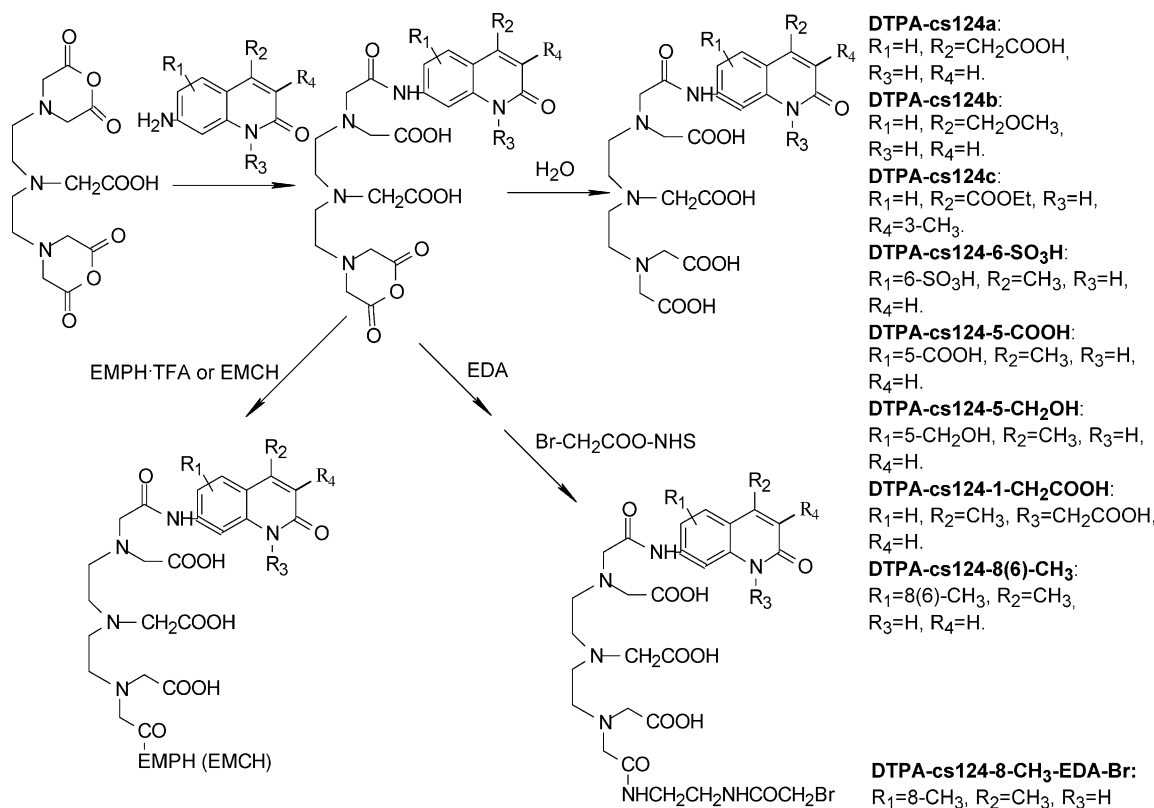


Figure 3. Syntheses of lanthanide chelates from cs124 derivatives.

Table 1. Non-Thiol Reactive Lanthanide Chelates

non-thiol-reactive DTPA chelates	linear gradients	retention time (min)	yield (%)	ESI-MS, M ⁻ - 1 (m/z)
DTPA-cs124a	20–40% MeOH/TEAA	13.5	20	592
DTPA-cs124b	20–40% MeOH/TEAA	19	50	578
DTPA-cs124c	30–50% MeOH/TEAA	30.5	36	620
DTPA-cs124-6-SO ₃ H	30–50% MeOH/TEAA	13.5	20	628
DTPA-cs124-5-COOH	20–40% MeOH/TEAA	15.0	40	592
DTPA-cs124-5-CH ₂ OH	30–50% MeOH/TEAA	13.0	20	578
DTPA-cs124-1-CH ₂ COOH	30–50% MeOH/TEAA	13.5	40	606
DTPA-cs124-8-CH ₃	30–50% MeOH/TEAA	13.4	30	562
DTPA-cs124-6-CH ₃	20–40% MeOH/TEAA	17.2	40	562

Table 2. Thiol-Reactive Lanthanide Chelates

thiol-reactive chelates	linear gradients	retention time (min)	yield (%)	ESI-MS, M ⁻ - 1 (m/z)
DTPA-cs124a-EMPH	20–40% MeOH/TEAA	20.6	25	757
DTPA-cs124-6-SO ₃ H-EMCH	30–50% MeOH/TEAA	19.5	40	835
DTPA-cs124-8-CH ₃ -EMCH	30–50% MeOH/TEAA	27.0	20	769
DTPA-cs124-8-CH ₃ -EDA-Br	30–50% MeOH/TEAA	21.5	95	725
DTPA-cs124-6-CH ₃ -EMCH	30–50% MeOH/TEAA	26.2	15	769
DTPA-cs124-5-CH ₂ OH-EMPH	30–50% MeOH/TEAA	18.3	15	743
DTPA-cs124-1-CH ₂ COOH-EMPH	30–50% MeOH/TEAA	16.5	30	771

Coupling to Biomolecules. The labeling conditions for conjugation to muscle protein (S1 fragment of smooth muscle myosin containing a single cysteine at position 208) have been described previously (5, 11). The procedure for labeling Shaker K⁺ ion channels in *Xenopus* oocytes has also been published (9). The maleimide chelates were coupled to muscle protein or to maltose binding protein (MBP, a 65 kDa protein containing a single cysteine) at a typical ratio of 10:1 with a protein concentration of ~15 μM. The coupling reaction was carried out on ice overnight in 20 mM 3-(*N*-morpholino)propanesulfonic acid, pH 7.0, 5 mM MgCl₂. The excess lanthanide chelates were removed by passing the reaction mixture through a Sephadex G-50 size-exclusion column.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Syntheses. The key step in synthesizing carbostyryl and its derivatives is the formation of the 2-quinolinone ring. 1,3-Diaminobenzene and its derivatives reacted with β-diketone compounds to form intermediate β-diketone amido compounds, which further underwent ring closure to form the products. The compounds cs124a, cs124b, and cs124c were synthesized by reacting 1,3-diaminobenzene with the corresponding β-diketone esters at high temperature (usually > 150 °C). A good yield was obtained for cs124b and cs124c, but a trace amount of cs124a was isolated after hydrolysis. The vast undesired byproducts were not identified.

Compounds cs124-6-SO₃H, cs124-5-COOH, cs124-5-CH₂OH, and cs124-1-CH₂COOH were synthesized with

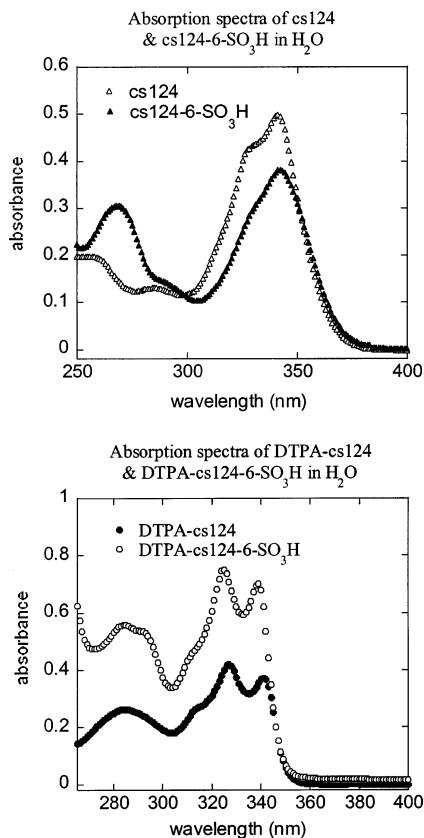


Figure 4. Comparison of the absorption spectra of cs124 and cs124-6-SO₃H and their lanthanide chelates.

a modified method. 1,3-Diaminobenzene derivatives were reacted with 1 equiv of acetonedicarboxylic anhydride at room temperature. The intermediates formed were then refluxed under milder conditions (100 °C) to undergo ring closure. The -COOH group in the intermediates from acetonedicarboxylic anhydride was easily lost to produce the 4-CH₃ group. The advantage of this method is that it does not require as high a temperature as the synthesis using β -diketone esters. This is especially important when the 1,3-diaminobenzene derivatives are not thermally stable. We note that acetonedicarboxylic anhydride had been used to synthesize quinolinone acetic acid compound (20). Our efforts in using this method to synthesize cs124a showed that mainly the -COOH depleted product, cs124, was formed.

The luminescent lanthanide chelates were synthesized in a way similar to that in previously reported work (10, 11, 14). DTPA dianhydride was reacted with cs124 derivatives to form monoanhydride intermediates (Figure 3). These intermediates can be either hydrolyzed or reacted with EMPH (or EMCH) to form thiol-reactive maleimide chelates. The chelates were purified by reverse-phase linear gradient HPLC. The syntheses are straightforward, and the yields are satisfactory.

Absorption Spectra. All of the synthesized cs124 derivatives and their DTPA lanthanide chelates exhibit similar or almost identical absorption spectra to those of cs124 and its DTPA lanthanide chelate. As an example, the UV-vis spectra of cs124-6-SO₃H and DTPA-cs124-6-SO₃H were compared to that of cs124 and DTPA-cs124 (Figure 4).

These absorption spectra were taken in aqueous media. Both of the absorption spectra of free cs124 and cs124-6-SO₃H exhibit the most intense absorption at 342 nm. A shoulder peak appears at ~326 nm. After the coupling

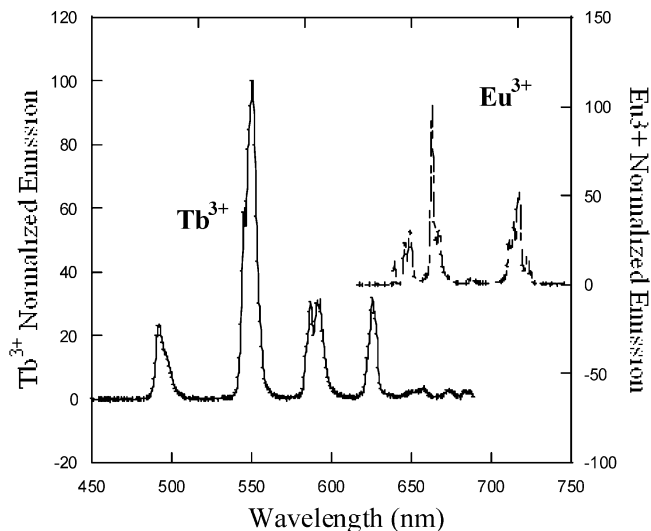


Figure 5. Normalized Tb³⁺ and Eu³⁺ emission spectra in DTPA-cs124-6-SO₃H in 0.1 M TEAA, pH 6.5, at a concentration of 1 μ M. Tb³⁺ and Eu³⁺ display their characteristic sharply spiked spectra. Pulsed excitation was at 40 Hz, 3.5 μ J/pulse for Eu³⁺, 3.0 μ J/pulse for Tb³⁺. The integration time is 1 s for Tb³⁺ and 10 s for Eu³⁺.

to DTPA, these two absorption peaks are well resolved, and the absorption at ~326 nm becomes the most intense peak. These are the characteristic features of carbostyryl and its DTPA lanthanide chelates. Such features were also observed for all cs124 derivatives and their lanthanide chelates.

Emission Spectroscopy of Lanthanide Complexes.

All the Tb³⁺ and Eu³⁺ complexes exhibit their characteristic sharply spiked emission spectra as demonstrated by their DTPA-cs124-6-SO₃H complexes (Figure 5). Table 3 lists the excited-state lifetimes of Tb³⁺ and Eu³⁺ measured for their complexes with the chelates. Table 4 lists the excited state lifetimes of Tb³⁺ and Eu³⁺ measured for their complexes with the chelates labeled to proteins (smooth muscle myosin, maltose binding protein (MBP), and *Xenopus* oocytes). Generally, the Tb³⁺ and Eu³⁺ complexes of these chelates have emission brightness comparable to that of the benchmark chelate, DTPA-cs124. By introduction of hydrophilic groups to the sensitizers, the chelates derived from cs124a, cs124-6-SO₃H, cs124-5-COOH, cs124-5-CH₂OH, and cs124-1-CH₂COOH possess increased solubility in water, especially in the case of cs124-6-SO₃H. Although they show emission brightness comparable to that of the reference complex, DTPA-cs124, they often have shorter lifetimes. Contrary to this trend, Tb³⁺-DTPA-cs124-6-SO₃H shows a slightly longer lifetime, and its brightness is about 62% that of Tb³⁺-DTPA-cs124. Clearly, the introduction of 6-SO₃H on cs124 has no dramatic effect on the emission properties of its lanthanide complex.

The Tb³⁺ complexes with the chelates of 6- or 8-CH₃ cs124 derivatives, especially the 8-CH₃ derivative, have longer lifetimes than DTPA-cs124 (1.74 vs 1.53 ms). This suggests that a higher lanthanide quantum yield was achieved in these complexes. Increased lanthanide quantum yield could result from either a decrease in solvent quenching or a decrease in energy back transfer to the antenna. We measured the number of solvent molecules coordinated to the lanthanide ion in Tb³⁺-DTPA-cs124-8-CH₃ using the method of Horrocks and Sudnick (23). Lifetimes of Tb³⁺-DTPA-cs124 and Tb³⁺-DTPA-cs124-8-CH₃ were measured in both H₂O and D₂O (Table 5). For both molecules, 1.1 H₂O molecules coordinated to

Table 3. Brightness and Lifetimes of Tb³⁺ and Eu³⁺ Complexes of DTPA-cs124 Derivative Chelates

chelate	relative brightness (%)	lifetimes (ms)
Complexes with Tb ³⁺		
DTPA-cs124 (benchmark)	100	1.53
DTPA-cs124-6-SO ₃ H	62	1.58
DTPA-cs124-6-SO ₃ H-EMCH	72	1.86 76%; 0.44 24%
DTPA-cs124-8-CH ₃	80	1.74
DTPA-cs124-8-CH ₃ -EMCH	58	2.16 82%; 0.92 18%
DTPA-cs124-8-CH ₃ -EDA-Br	64	1.68
DTPA-cs124-5-CH ₂ OH	79	0.93 45%; 0.65 55%
DTPA-cs124-5-CH ₂ OH-EMPH	37	0.82 85%; 0.37 15%
DTPA-cs124-5-COOH	36	0.82 24%; 0.50 76%
DTPA-cs124-6-CH ₃	87	1.63
DTPA-cs124-6-CH ₃ -EMCH	4	1.85 59%; 0.25 41%
DTPA-cs124a	80	1.38
DTPA-cs124b	100	1.09
DTPA-cs124c	N/A	N/A
DTPA-cs124-1-CH ₂ COOH	77	1.29
DTPA-cs124-1-CH ₂ COOH-EMCH	20	1.43 74%; 0.41 26%
Complexes with Eu ³⁺		
DTPA-cs124 ("benchmark")	100	0.61
DTPA-cs124-6-SO ₃ H	77	0.605
DTPA-cs124-6-SO ₃ H-EMCH	22	0.42 76%; 0.14 24%
DTPA-cs124-8-CH ₃	100	0.603
DTPA-cs124-8-CH ₃ -EMCH	26	0.57 60%; 0.12 40%
DTPA-cs124-8-CH ₃ -EDA-Br	43	0.60
DTPA-cs124-5-CH ₂ OH	38	0.64 68%; 0.41 32%
DTPA-cs124-5-CH ₂ OH-EMPH	34	0.55 75%; 0.11 25%
DTPA-cs124-5-COOH	75	0.60
DTPA-cs124-6-CH ₃	60	0.605
DTPA-cs124-6-CH ₃ -EMCH	N/A	N/A
DTPA-cs124a	52	0.60
DTPA-cs124b	173	0.60
DTPA-cs124c	152	0.53
DTPA-cs124-1-CH ₂ COOH	100	0.60
DTPA-cs124-1-CH ₂ COOH-EMCH	10	0.44 68%; 0.11 32%

Tb³⁺, demonstrating that there is no difference in solvent quenching. Clearly, the higher quantum yield is achieved from the decrease of energy back transfer from excited Tb³⁺ to cs124-8-CH₃. Such lanthanide to ligands back energy transfer has been observed for other lanthanide complexes (24).

Interestingly, the thiol-reactive (maleimide form) chelates with 6- or 8-CH₃ cs124 derivatives exhibit significantly different emission properties. The Tb³⁺ complexes of DTPA-cs124-8-CH₃-EMCH is about 60% as bright as Tb³⁺-DTPA-cs124 and is biexponential with an

~80% long lifetime component (2.16 ms) and a ~20% short lifetime component (0.92 ms). The Eu³⁺ complexes of DTPA-cs124-8-CH₃-EMCH is also biexponential with the brightness about 25% that of Eu³⁺-DTPA-cs124. In contrast, the Tb³⁺ complex of DTPA-cs124-6-CH₃-EMCH is only 4% as bright as Tb³⁺-DTPA-cs124 and is biexponential with a reduced population for the long lifetime component (1.85 59%, 0.25 41%). The Eu³⁺ complexes of DTPA-cs124-6-CH₃-EMCH is emission-silent.

The 3-CH₃ substituted chelate, DTPA-cs124c, is fluorescently effective only for Eu³⁺. With Tb³⁺, no emission was observed. This is consistent with our previous observation that with a substituent on the 3-position of cs124, its lanthanide chelate was fluorescent only for Eu³⁺ but not for Tb³⁺ (25).

In all cases, thiol-reactive chelates with the maleimide functional group are both biexponential and often dimmer compared to the benchmark chelate, DTPA-cs124. In contrast, DTPA-cs124-8-CH₃-EDA-Br is single exponential with both Tb³⁺ and Eu³⁺. The intensity is about half of that of DTPA-cs124. Its Tb³⁺ complex has a longer lifetime than that of Tb³⁺-DTPA-cs124 (1.68 vs 1.53 ms). After reaction to glutathione, the lifetimes remain single exponential and did not change.

The maleimide form of chelates have been successfully coupled to proteins and *Xenopus* oocytes cells. Both Tb³⁺ and Eu³⁺ complexes are biexponential. The Tb³⁺ complexes have a predominant long lifetime (> 1 ms) component. Among them, the long lifetime components of Tb³⁺-DTPA-cs124-8-CH₃-EMCH and Tb³⁺-DTPA-cs124-6-SO₃H-EMCH have lifetimes significantly longer than the reference, Tb³⁺-DTPA-cs124.

CONCLUSIONS

New light-harvesting quinolinone chromophors with the modification on the 1-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, and 8-position of cs124 have been synthesized. Generally, their lanthanide chelates have similar brightness and lifetimes to the reference compound, DTPA-cs124. The 6- or 8-methyl, especially 8-methyl, derived chelates have even longer lifetimes indicating higher lanthanide quantum yields. The 6-SO₃H derived chelate has similar luminescent properties to the reference compound while possessing dramatically increased water solubility. The thiol-reactive chelates made from these derivatives show promising physical and chemical properties.

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Table 4. Brightness and Lifetimes of Tb³⁺ and Eu³⁺ Complexes of Thiol-Reactive DTPA-cs124 Derivative Chelates Labeled to Proteins

chelate	protein	lifetimes (ms)
Complexes with Tb ³⁺		
DTPA-cs124-8-CH ₃ -EMCH	smooth muscle myosin HC208 ^a	2.19 77%; 1.21 23%
DTPA-cs124-6-SO ₃ H-EMCH	Shaker K ⁺ channels in oocyte cells ^b	2.17 93%; 0.63 7%
DTPA-cs124-5-CH ₂ OH-EMPH	MBP ^c	1.86 78%; 0.72 22%
DTPA-cs124-8-CH ₃ -EDA-Br	MBP ^c	0.97 79%; 0.36 21%
	glutathione ^d	1.67
Complexes with Eu ³⁺		
DTPA-cs124-8-CH ₃ -EMCH	smooth muscle myosin HC208 ^a	0.69 35%; 0.12 65%
DTPA-cs124-6-SO ₃ H-EMCH	MBP ^c	0.42 45%; 0.14 55%
DTPA-cs124-5-CH ₂ OH-EMPH	MBP ^c	0.63 40%; 0.19 60%
DTPA-cs124-8-CH ₃ -EDA-Br	glutathione ^d	0.59

^a Subfragment 1 (100 kDa) of smooth muscle myosin with a single cysteine at position 208 of the heavy chain. ^b Details of ion channel expression can be found in the following: Cha. (1999) *Nature* 402, 809-813. ^c Maltose binding protein. ^d Purified by HPLC after labeling.

Table 5. Lifetimes of Tb³⁺-DTPA-c124 and Tb³⁺-DTPA-c124-8-CH₃ Measured in H₂O and D₂O and the Number of H₂O Molecules Coordinated to Tb³⁺

compd	lifetimes		no. of H ₂ O
	H ₂ O (ms)	D ₂ O (ms)	
Tb ³⁺ -DTPA-c124	1.55	2.64	1.1
Tb ³⁺ -DTPA-c124-8-CH ₃	1.73	3.20	1.1

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