

# Literature Report

**Reporter: Zhou Xuelian**

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## FLUORESCENT PROTEINS

# Electrostatic control of photoisomerization pathways in proteins

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## Steven G. Boxer

June 2000 to present

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September 1982 to August 1986

December 1976 to August 1982

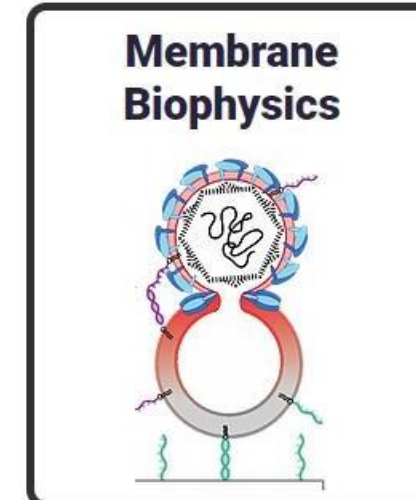
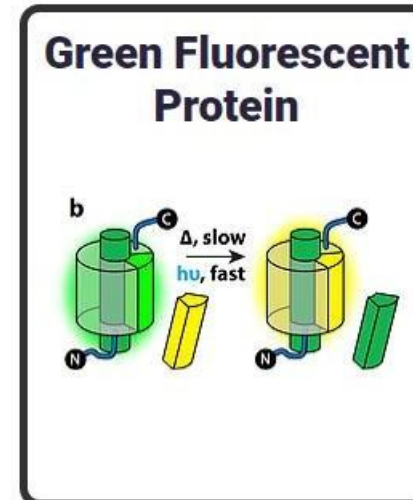
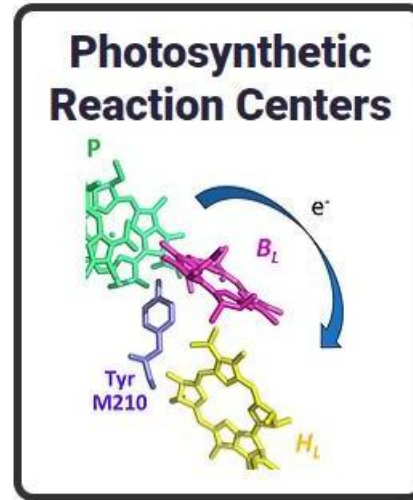
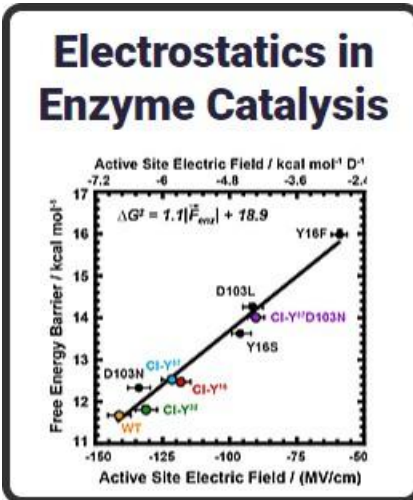
Camille Dreyfus Distinguished Professor of Chemistry

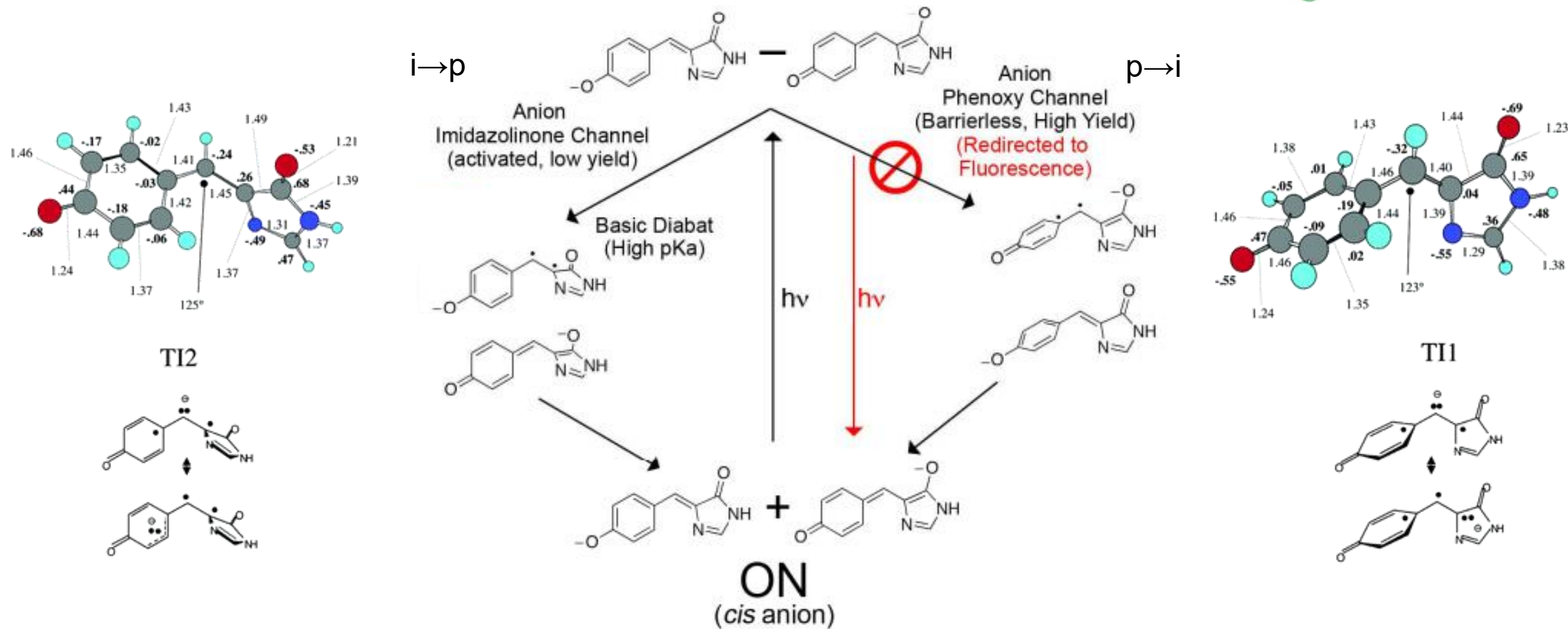
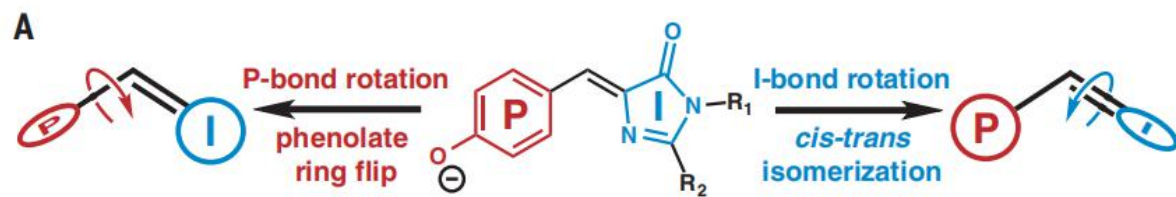
Chair, Stanford Biophysics Program

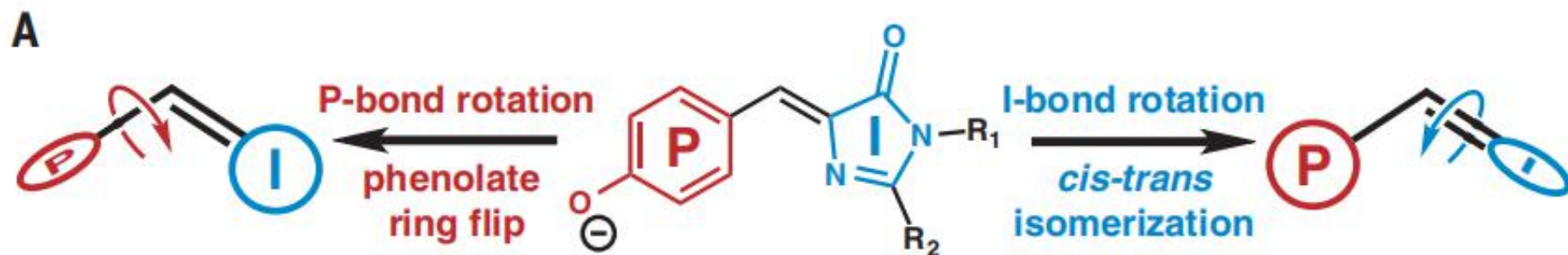
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Associate Professor of Chemistry, Stanford University

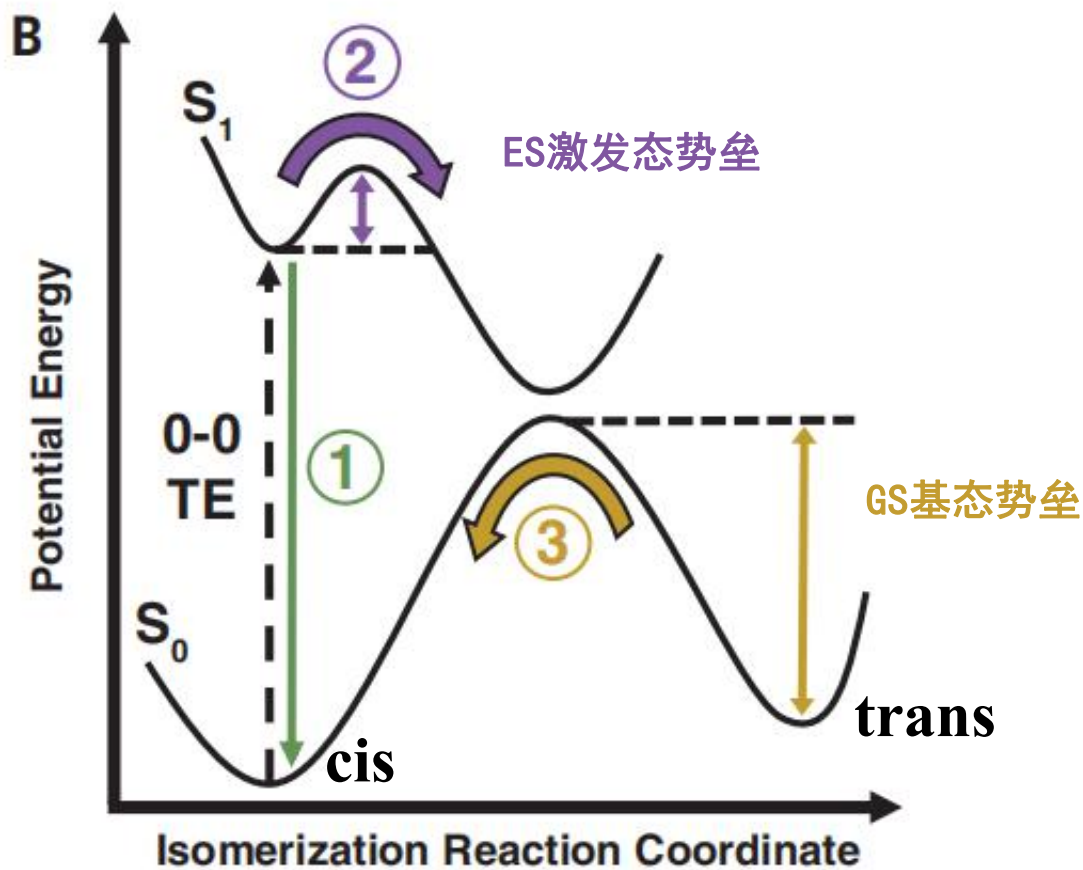
Assistant Professor of Chemistry, Stanford University

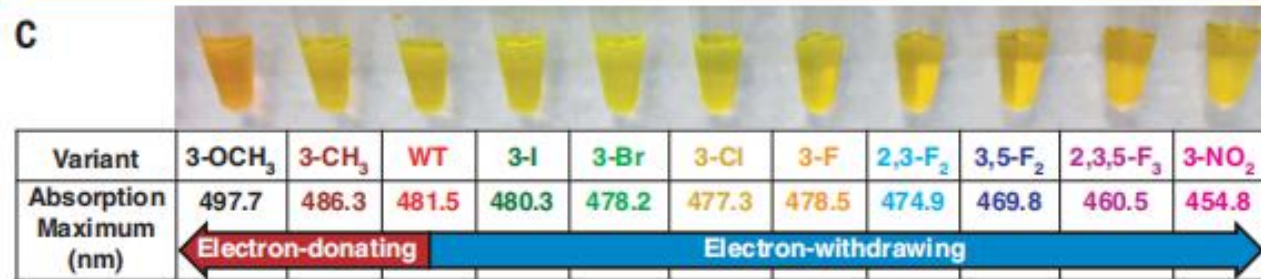
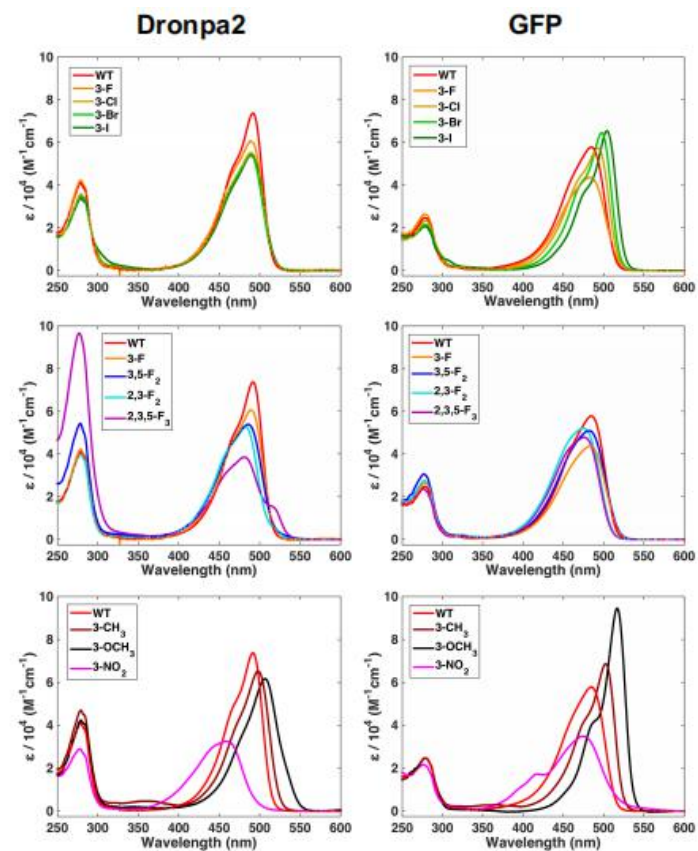
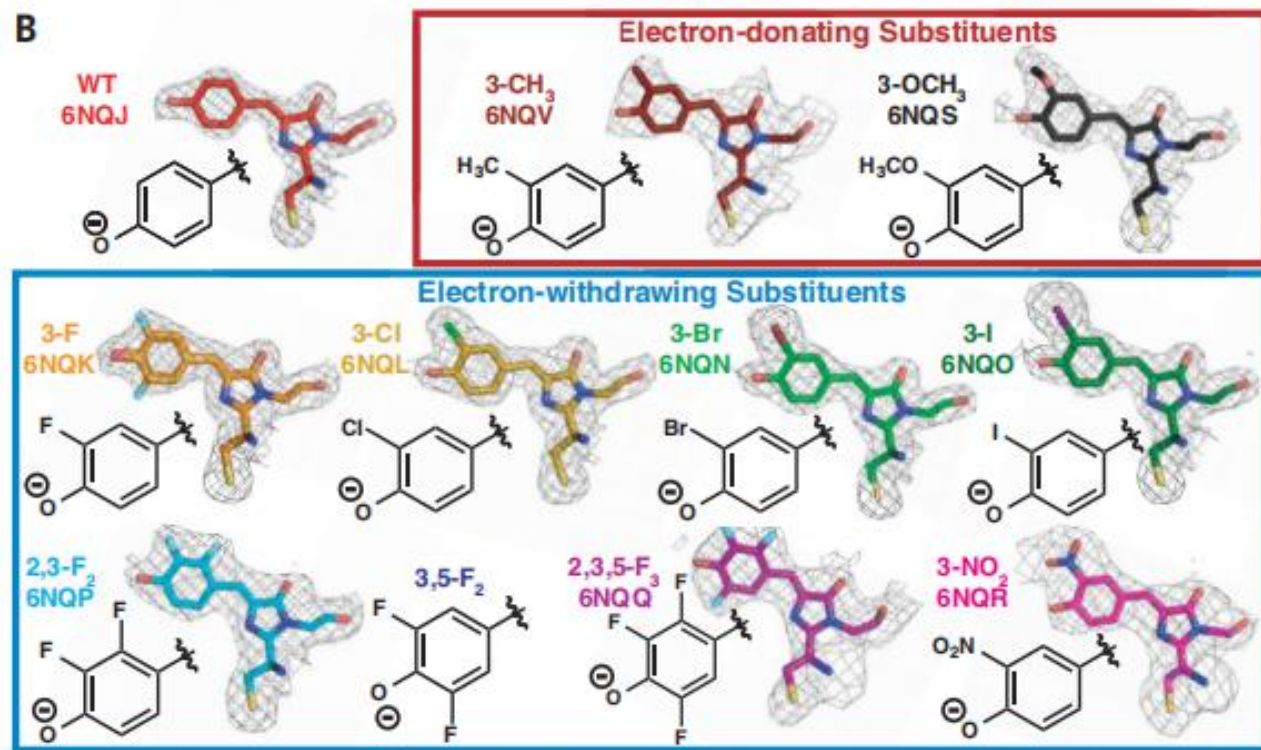
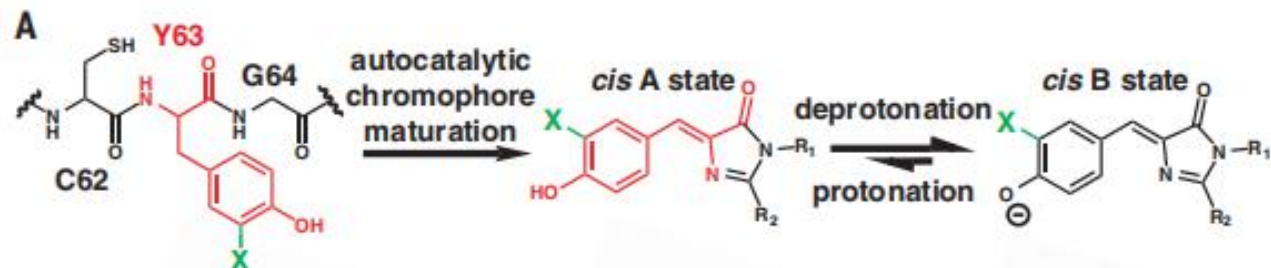


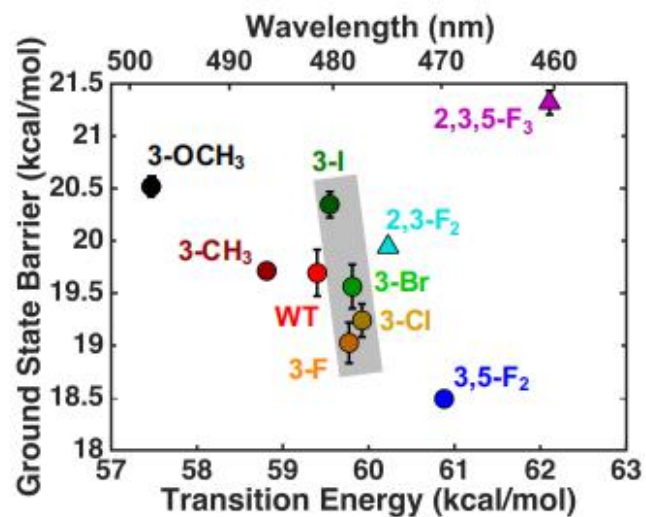
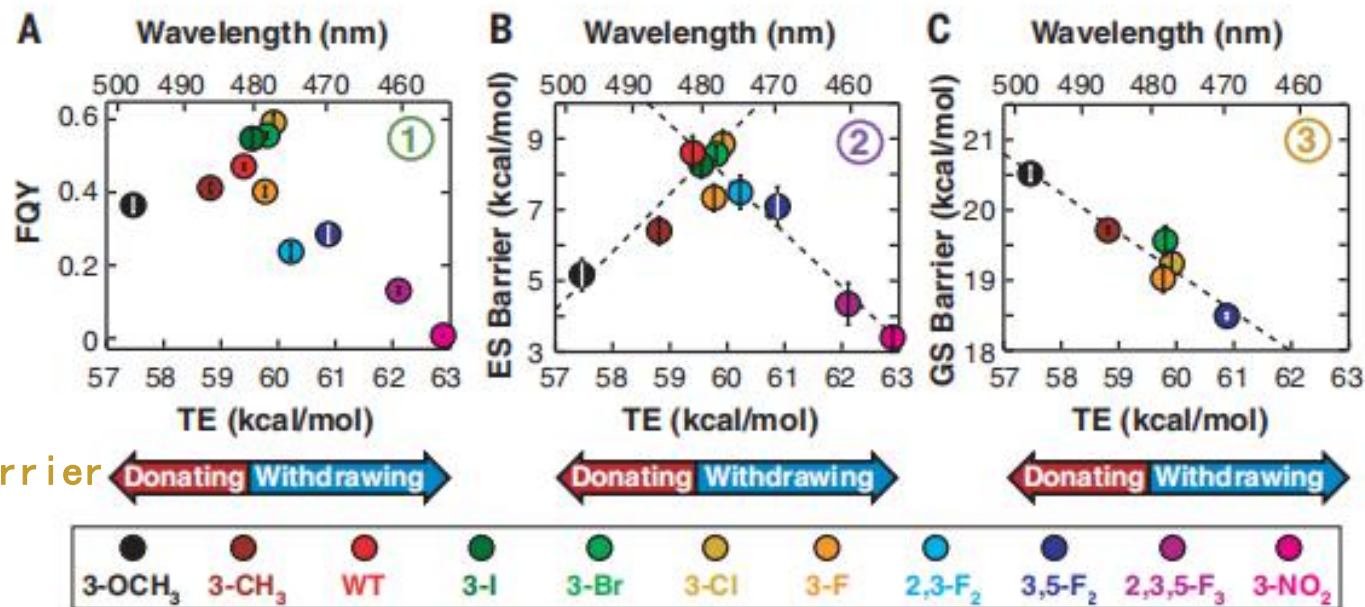
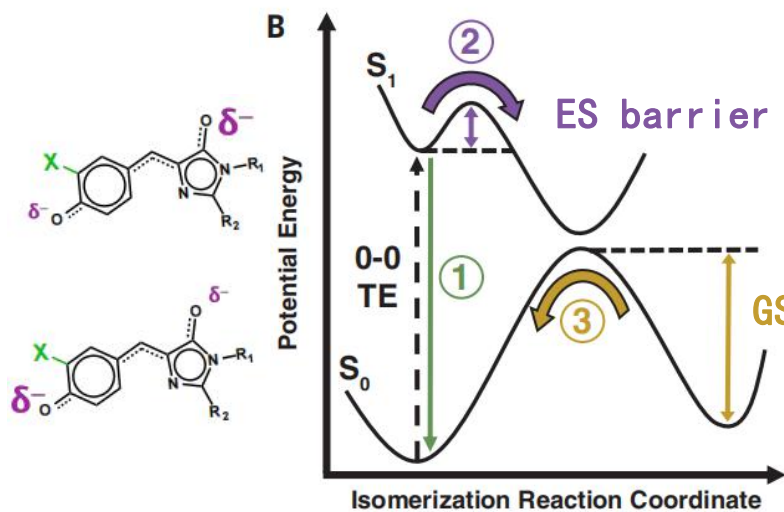




**Fig. 1. Model for chromophore isomerization in FPs.** (A) Rotation can occur about either the P or I bond, leading to a P-ring flip or *cis-trans* isomerization, respectively.  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  represent residues Gly<sup>64</sup> and Cys<sup>62</sup>, respectively, which covalently link the chromophore to the rest of the FP (Fig. 2A). (B) General potential energy diagram along the isomerization reaction coordinate for a photoisomerizable chromophore. 0-0 TE represents the TE between the lowest vibrational state of the ground and excited electronic states. Three features studied in this work are emphasized: fluorescence (1, green), ES barrier crossing (2, purple), and GS barrier crossing (3, yellow).





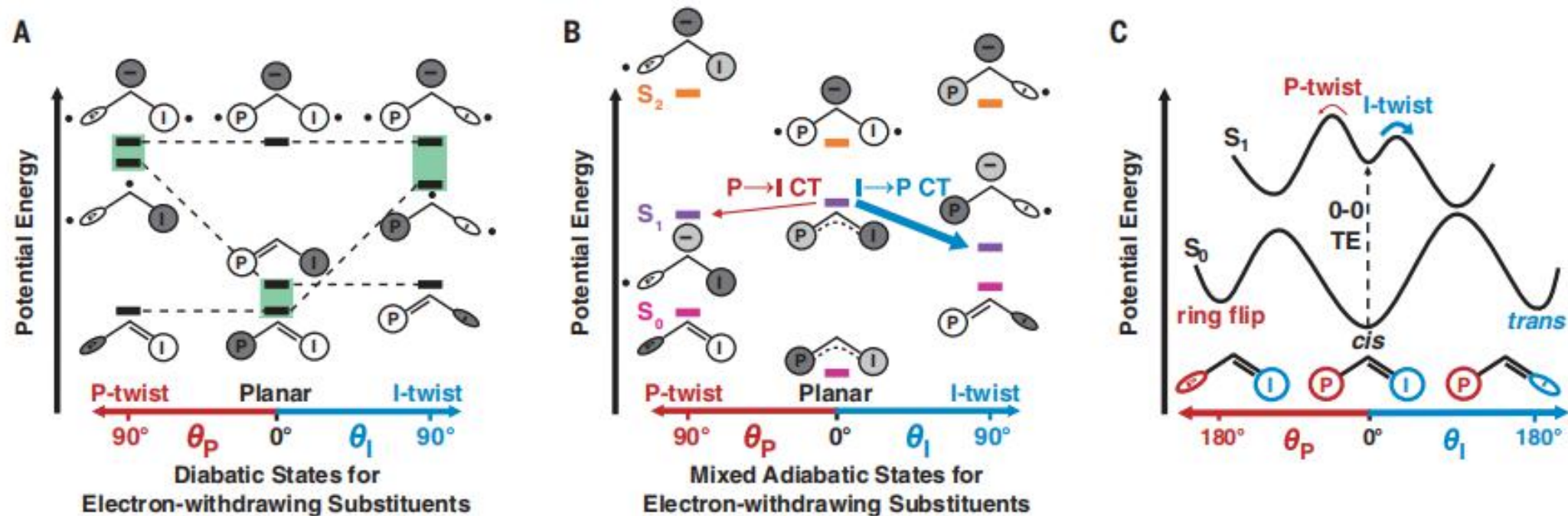


#### D Summary of ground and excited state properties of Dronpa2 amber suppression variants

Photophysical Process	Charge Transfer Extent <sup>a</sup>	Electron Flow	Sensitivity to Sterics
Excitation	+1 (by definition)	P → I	no
ES Barrier Crossing	Withdrawing	I → P	minimal
	Donating	P → I	minimal
GS Barrier Crossing	-0.6	I → P	yes

<sup>a</sup> Refers to the degree of charge transfer of a given process, determined by the slopes in B and C, compared to that of the excitation process

**Fig. 3. GS and ES properties of Dronpa2 amber suppression variants.** Circled numbers refer to processes depicted in Fig. 1B. **(A)** FQY versus TE and **(B)** ES energy barrier height versus TE both exhibit a peaked shape (see fig. S7 for comparable FQY results from GFP variants). Linear fits to the electron-donating and electron-withdrawing substituent data in **(B)** are shown as dashed lines with positive and negative slope, respectively. **(C)** Isosteric series of the GS energy barrier height plotted against TE, with a dashed line representing a linear fit. **(D)** Summary of GS and ES properties of Dronpa2 variants.



**Fig. 4. Allylic anion model of isomerization for a chromophore containing an electron-withdrawing substituent.** Shades of gray represent relative magnitude of negative charge localized to the methine bridge, P ring, or I ring, and dots represent unpaired electrons. The color scheme is equivalent to that in Fig. 1A. **(A)** Three diatomic states of the chromophore in planar, I-twisted, and P-twisted geometries, with energetic penalties required for breaking double bonds for rotation. Mixing of the coupled states (highlighted in green) leads to the adiabatic states shown in **(B)**. For variants with electron-withdrawing substituents, the I-twist pathway is more energetically downhill, and thus preferred, compared with the P-twist pathway. Electron-donating substituents would have the opposite energetic effect and favor the P-twist pathway (not shown for clarity). Although the relative energy levels of this allylic anion model are qualitative, they are consistent with high-level calculations on the free

chromophore at different bond rotation geometries (15). Negative charge transfer (CT) occurs from I to P for the I-twist pathway and from P to I for the P-twist pathway, which agrees with a Hammett analysis (supplementary text S3) and simulations of the free chromophore (5, 14). **(C)** Potential energy diagram for FP chromophore isomerization with two competing bond rotation pathways inspired by the mixed adiabatic states in **(B)**. The GS cis chromophore is excited from  $S_0$  to  $S_1$  and relaxes to an  $S_1$  local minimum (relaxation coordinate not shown) (13). From the  $S_1$  minimum, the chromophore rotates about either the P or the I bond, depending on the relative ES barrier heights of the competing processes. The diagram represents Dronpa2 variants with electron-withdrawing substituents; variants with electron-donating substituents would have an inverted barrier height ratio between the two competing twisting pathways.



**THANKS!**