Supporting Information for

Quantitative Understanding of Energy Transfer between Fluorescent Proteins Connected via Flexible Peptide Linkers

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Figure S1. Vector map of pET28-CLY9, indicating the open reading frame of CLY9 and various other features.

| | | Me | etGlySerSer <u>HisH</u> | <u>isHisHisHisHi</u> |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| TCTAGAAATAAT | TTTGTTTAACTTTAAGA | AGGAGATATACTA | GGGCAGCAGC CATC | ATCATCATCATCA |
| Xba I | | sta | art | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| sSerSerGlyLe | uValProArqGlySerH | lisMetValSerLy: | GlyGluGluLeuPh | eThrGlyValVal |
| CAGCAGCGGCCT | GGTGCCGCGCGGCAGCC | ATATGGTGAGCAA | GGCGAGGAGCTGTT | CACCGGGGTGGTG |
| | | | | |
| ProIleLeuVal | GluLeuAspGlvAspVa | lAsnGlvHisLvs | PheSerValSerGlv | GluGlvGluGlvA |
| CCCATCCTGGTC | GAGCTGGACGGCGACGT | AAACGGCCACAAG | TCAGCGTGTCCGGC | GAGGGCGAGGGCG |
| | | | | |
| spAlaThrTyrG | lyLysLeuThrLeuLys | PheIleCysThrT | nrGlyLysLeuProV | alProTrpProTh |
| ATGCCACCTACG | GCAAGCTGACCCTGAAG | TTCATCTGCACCA | CCGGCAAGCTGCCCG | TGCCCTGGCCCAC |
| | | | | |
| rLeuValThrTh | rLeuThrTrpGlyValG | lnCysPheSerArd | TyrProAspHisMe | tLysGlnHisAsp |
| CCTCGTGACCAC | CCTGACCTGGGGGCGTGC | CAGTGCTTCAGCCG | CTACCCCGACCACAT | GAAGCAGCACGAC |
| | | | | |
| PhePheLysSer | AlaMetProGluGlvTv | rValGlnGluArq | ChrllePhePheLvs | AspAspGlyAsnT |
| TTCTTCAAGTCC | GCCATGCCCGAAGGCTA | CGTCCAGGAGCGC | ACCATCTTCTTCAAG | GACGACGGCAACT |
| | | | | |
| yrLysThrArqA | laGluValLysPheGlu | GlyAspThrLeuVa | alAsnArgIleGluL | euLysGlyIleAs |
| ACAAGACCCGCG | CCGAGGTGAAGTTCGAG | GGCGACACCCTGG | 'GAACCGCATCGAGC' | TGAAGGGCATCGA |
| | | | | |
| pPheLysGluAs [.] | pGlyAsnIleLeuGlyH | lisLysLeuGluTy: | AsnTyrIleSerHi | sAsnValTyrIle |
| CTTCAAGGAGGA | CGGCAACATCCTGGGGC | CACAAGCTGGAGTA | CAACTACATCAGCCA | CAACGTCTATATC |
| | | | | |
| ThrAlaAspLys | GlnLysAsnGlyIleLy | sAlaAsnPheLys | [leArgHisAsnIle | GluAspGlySerV |
| ACCGCCGACAAG | CAGAAGAACGGCATCAA | GGCCAACTTCAAG | ATCCGCCACAACATC | GAGGACGGCAGCG |
| | | | | |
| alGlnLeuAlaA | spHisTyrGlnGlnAsr | ThrProIleGlyA | spGlyProValLeuL | euProAspAsnHi |
| TGCAGCTCGCCG. | ACCACTACCAGCAGAAC | CACCCCCATCGGCG | ACGGCCCCGTGCTGC' | TGCCCGACAACCA |
| | | | | |
| sTyrLeuSerTh | rGlnSerAlaLeuSerI | ysAspProAsnGl | lLysArqAspHisMe | tValLeuLeuGlu |
| CTACCTGAGCAC | CCAGTCCGCCCTGAGCA | AAGACCCCAACGA | GAAGCGCGATCACAT | GGTCCTGCTGGAG |
| | | | | |
| PheValThrAla | <u>AlaGlyIleThrLeuGl</u> | yMetAspGluLeu | [yrLysSerGlyIle] | ArqGlyGlySerG |
| TTCGTGACCGCC | GCCGGGATCACTCTCGG | CATGGACGAGCTG | TACAAGTCCGGAATT | CGTGGTGGATCCG |
| | | | EcoR | I BamH I |
| lyGlySerGlyG | lySerGlyGlySerGly | GlySerGlyGlySe | erGlyGlySerGlyG | lySerGlyGlySe |
| GTGGATCAGGTG | GATCCGGTGGTAGTGGI | GGATCCGGAGGTT | CTGGTGGATCCGGTG | GTTCAGGTGGATC |
| В | amH I | BamH I | BamH I | BamH |
| | | | | |
| rGlyGlySerGl | yG1ySerG1yG1ySerG | GiyGiySerGlyGly | /SerGlyGlySerGl | yGlySerGlyGly |
| CGGTGGATCTGG | TGGATCCGGTGGTAGTG | GTGGATCCGGTGG | ATCTGGTGGATCCGG' | TGGTAGTGGTGGA |
| I | BamH I | BamH I | BamH I | Bam |
| | | | | |
| SerGlyGlySer' | ThrMetValSerLysG1 | yGluGluLeuPhe | ThrGlyValValPro | IleLeuValGluL |
| TCCGGAGGTAGC. | ACCATGGTGAGCAAGGG | CGAGGAGCTGTTC | ACCGGGGGTGGTGCCC | ATCCTGGTCGAGC |
| ΗI | NCO I | | | |

| euAspGlyAspValAsnGlyHisLysPheSerValSerGlyGluGlyGluGlyAspAlaThrTyrGlyLy |
|---|
| TGGACGGCGACGTAAACGGCCACAAGTTCAGCGTGTCCGGCGAGGGCGAGGCGATGCCACCTACGGCAA |
| $\verb+sLeuThrLeuLysPheIleCysThrThrGlyLysLeuProValProTrpProThrLeuValThrThrPhe+$ |
| GCTGACCCTGAAGTTCATCTGCACCACCGGCAAGCTGCCCGTGCCCTGGCCCACCCTCGTGACCACCTTC |
| ${\tt GlyTyrGlyLeuGlnCysPheAlaArqTyrProAspHisMetLysGlnHisAspPhePheLysSerAlaM}$ |
| GGCTACGGCCTGCAGTGCTTCGCCCGCTACCCCGACCACATGAAGCAGCACGACTTCTTCAAGTCCGCCA |
| $\verb+etProGluGlyTyrValGlnGluArqThrIlePhePheLysAspAspGlyAsnTyrLysThrArqAlaGl$ |
| TGCCCGAAGGCTACGTCCAGGAGCGCACCATCTTCTTCAAGGACGACGGCAACTACAAGACCCGCGCCGA |
| ${\tt uValLysPheGluGlyAspThrLeuValAsnArqIleGluLeuLysGlyIleAspPheLysGluAspGly}$ |
| GGTGAAGTTCGAGGGCGACACCCTGGTGAACCGCATCGAGCTGAAGGGCATCGACTTCAAGGAGGACGGC |
| ${\tt AsnIleLeuGlyHisLysLeuGluTyrAsnTyrAsnSerHisAsnValTyrIleMetAlaAspLysGlnL}$ |
| AACATCCTGGGGCACAAGCTGGAGTACAACTACAACAGCCACAACGTCTATATCATGGCCGACAAGCAGA |
| ysAsnGlyIleLysValAsnPheLysIleArqHisAsnIleGluAspGlySerValGlnLeuAlaAspHi |
| AGAACGGCATCAAGGTGAACTTCAAGATCCGCCACAACATCGAGGACGGCAGCGTGCAGCTCGCCGACCA |
| sTyrGlnGlnAsnThrProIleGlyAspGlyProValLeuLeuProAspAsnHisTyrLeuSerTyrGln |
| CTACCAGCAGAACACCCCCATCGGCGACGGCCCCGTGCTGCTGCCCGACAACCACTACCTGAGCTACCAG |
| SerAlaLeuSerLysAspProAsnGluLysArqAspHisMetValLeuLeuGluPheValThrAlaAlaG |
| TCCGCCCTGAGCAAAGACCCCCAACGAGAAGCGCGATCACATGGTCCTGCTGGAGTTCGTGACCGCCGCCG |
| lyIleThrLeuGlyMetAspGluLeuTyrLys*** |
| GGATCACTCTCGGCATGGACGAGCTGTACAAG TAA AGCGGCCGC |
| stop <i>Not</i> I |

Figure S2. The DNA sequence between the *Xba* I and *Not* I sites that differs from pET-28a(+) and the amino acid translation of the open reading frame of CLY9 are depicted below. Important features are underlined (His-tag, red; ECFP, blue; linker, green; EYFP, yellow).



Figure S3: Modeling the energy transfer efficiency for CLYx using the Gaussian chain model to describe the peptide linker. (A) Distribution functions showing the probability $P(r_e)$ for each end-to-end distance of the peptide linker for CLY1-9 calculated using the Gaussian chain model assuming a characteristic ratio of 2.3. (B) Plot showing the average energy transfer ($\langle E \rangle$, solid line) and the average interchromophore distance ($\langle r_c \rangle$, dashed line) as a function of r_e . (C) The contribution of each r_e to the overall energy transfer $\langle E \rangle_{ensemble}$, calculated by multiplying the probability of each r_e with the corresponding $\langle E \rangle$.