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(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **YEDA RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CO. LTD.** [IL/IL]; at the Weizmann Institute of Science, P.O. BOX 95, 76100 Rehovot (IL).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: **SCHERZ, Avigdor** [IL/IL]; 4 Tor Ha'aviv Street, 76329 Rehovot (IL). **BRANDIS, Alexander** [IL/IL]; 9/3 Ehad Ha'am Street, 76261 Rehovot (IL). **SALOMON, Yoram** [IL/IL]; 43B Gordon Street, 76287 Rehovot (IL). **EREN, Doron** [IL/IL]; 121 Shikun Banim, 76870 Netaim (IL). **COHEN, Avraham** [IL/IL]; 16/5 Fischman Maimon Street, 64236 Tel Aviv (IL).

(74) Agent: **BEN-AMI, Paulina**; Ben-Ami & Associates, P.O. BOX 94, 76100 Rehovot (IL).

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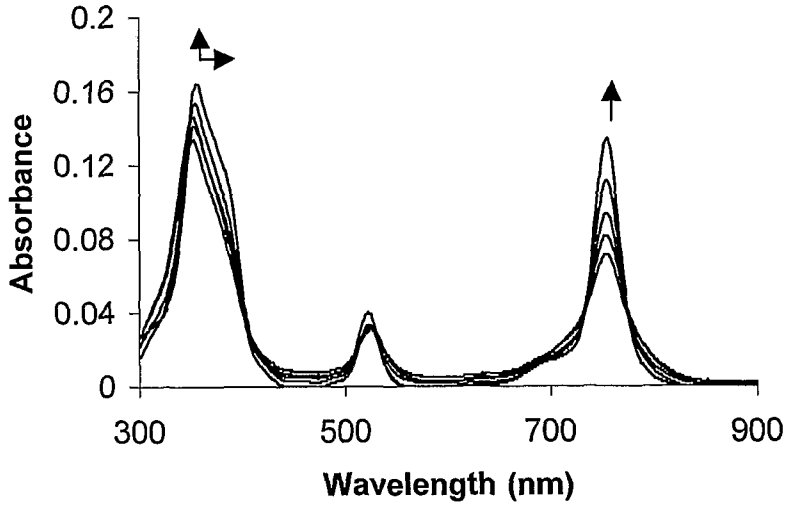
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(54) Title: CATIONIC BACTERIOCHLOROPHYLL DERIVATIVES AND USES THEREOF



(57) Abstract: The invention provides cationic tetracyclic and pentacyclic bacteriochlorophyll derivatives (Bchls) containing at least one positively charged group and/or at least one basic group that is converted to a positively charged group under physiological conditions, preferably Bchls having an onium group derived from a N-containing aliphatic or heterocyclic radical such as ammonium, guanidinium, imidazolium, pyridinium, and the like or a phosphonium, arsonium, oxonium, sulfonium, selenonium, telluronium, stibonium, or bismuthonium group, or a basic group that is converted to such onium groups under physiological conditions, said groups being bound to one or more of the positions 17^3, 13^3 and 3^2 of the Bchl molecule by ester or amide bond. The Bchls are useful for photodynamic therapy and diagnosis.

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