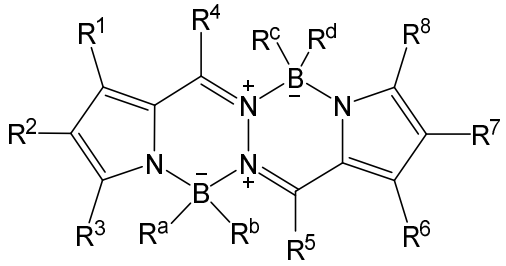
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of Formula (I):



(I), a salt or a mesomeric form thereof,

wherein each of R^1, R^2, R^3, R^6, R^7 and R^8 is independently H, unsubstituted or substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, unsubstituted or substituted C_2-C_6 alkenyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_2-C_6 alkynyl, C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, C_1-C_6 haloalkoxy, C_1-C_6 hydroxyalkyl, (C_1-C_6 alkoxy)(C_1-C_6 alkyl), unsubstituted or substituted amino, halo, cyano, carboxyl, hydroxy, nitro, sulfonyl, sulfino, sulfo, sulfonate, S-sulfonamido, N-sulfonamido, –C(=O)NR^9R^{10}, –X–R^{11}, unsubstituted or substituted C_3-C_{10} carbocyclyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_6-C_{10} aryl, unsubstituted or substituted 5 to 10 membered heteroaryl, or unsubstituted or substituted 3 to 10 membered heterocyclyl;

each of R^4 and R^5 is independently H, unsubstituted or substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_3-C_{10} carbocyclyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_6-C_{10} aryl, unsubstituted or substituted 5 to 10 membered heteroaryl, or unsubstituted or substituted 3 to 10 membered heterocyclyl;

each of R^9 and R^{10} is independently H, or unsubstituted or substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl;

X is –O–, –S–, –CH=CH– or –C≡C–;

each of R^{11} is independently unsubstituted or substituted C_3-C_{10} carbocyclyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_6-C_{10} aryl, unsubstituted or substituted 5 to 10 membered heteroaryl, or unsubstituted or substituted 3 to 10 membered heterocyclyl;

each of R^a, R^b, R^c and R^d is independently halo, cyano, unsubstituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, C_1-C_6 haloalkoxy, unsubstituted or substituted C_6-C_{10} aryl, unsubstituted or substituted C_6-C_{10} aryloxy, or –OC(=O)R^{12};

R^{12} is unsubstituted or substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_2-C_6 alkenyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_6-C_{10} aryl, or unsubstituted or substituted 5 to 10 membered heteroaryl;

alternatively, when both R^a and R^b are $–OC(=O)R^{12}$, the two R^{12} together with the atoms to which they are attached form an unsubstituted or substituted 6 to 10 membered heterocyclyl;

alternatively, when both R^c and R^d are $–OC(=O)R^{12}$, the two R^{12} together with the atoms to which they are attached form an unsubstituted or substituted 6 to 10 membered heterocyclyl; and

provided that at least one of R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7 and R^8 comprises a carboxyl group.

2. The compound of claim 1, wherein each of R^1, R^2 and R^3 is H or unsubstituted C_1-C_6 alkyl.

3. The compound of claim 1, wherein two of R^1, R^2 and R^3 are H or unsubstituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, and one of R^1, R^2 and R^3 is halo, carboxyl, $–C(=O)NR^9R^{10}$, C_1-C_6 alkyl substituted with carboxyl, carboxylate, sulfo or sulfonate, unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted 5 to 6 membered heteroaryl, or unsubstituted or substituted 5 to 6 membered heterocyclyl.

4. The compound of claim 4, wherein R^1 and R^2 are H, R^3 is phenyl optionally substituted with carboxyl, or R^1 and R^3 are H, R^2 is phenyl optionally substituted with carboxyl.

5. The compound of claim 1, wherein two of R^1, R^2 and R^3 are H or unsubstituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, and one of R^1, R^2 and R^3 is $–X–R^{11}$, and wherein X is –O–, –S– or –C≡C–.

6. The compound of claim 5, wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently H or unsubstituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, and R^3 is $–X–R^{11}$, or wherein R^1 and R^3 are independently H or unsubstituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, and R^2 is $–X–R^{11}$.

7. The compound of claim 5, wherein R^{11} is phenyl, 5 or 6 membered heterocyclyl, or 5 or 6 membered heteroaryl, each either unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halo, unsubstituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, C_1-C_6 haloalkoxy, carboxyl, carboxylate, sulfo, sulfonate, or $–C(O)NR^{13}R^{14}$, and wherein

each R^{13} and R^{14} is independently H, unsubstituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, or C_1-C_6 alkyl substituted with carboxyl, carboxylate, sulfo or sulfonate.

8. The compound of claim 7, wherein R^{11} is phenyl, either unsubstituted or substituted with halo, methoxy, carboxyl, or –C(O)NHR^{14}, wherein R^{14} is C_1-C_6 alkyl substituted with carboxyl, carboxylate, sulfo or sulfonate.

9. The compound of claim 1, wherein each of R^6, R^7 and R^8 is independently H or unsubstituted C_1-C_6 alkyl.

10. The compound of claim 1, wherein two of R^6, R^7 and R^8 are H or unsubstituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, and one of R^6, R^7 and R^8 is halo, carboxyl, –C(=O)NR^{9}R^{10}, C_1-C_6 alkyl substituted with carboxyl, carboxylate, sulfo or sulfonate, unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted 5 to 6 membered heteroaryl, or unsubstituted or substituted 5 to 6 membered heterocyclyl.

11. The compound of claim 10, wherein R^6 and R^7 are H, and R^8 is phenyl optionally substituted with carboxyl, or R^6 and R^8 are H, and R^7 is phenyl optionally substituted with carboxyl.

12. The compound of claim 1, wherein two of R^6, R^7 and R^8 are H or unsubstituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, and one of R^6, R^7 and R^8 is –X–R^{11}, and wherein X is –O–, –S– or –C≡C–.

13. The compound of claim 12, wherein R^6 and R^7 and independently H or unsubstituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, and R^8 is –X–R^{11}, or wherein R^6 and R^8 and independently H or unsubstituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, and R^7 is –X–R^{11}.

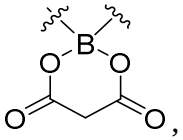
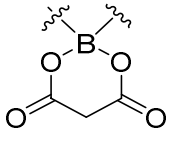
14. The compound of claim 12, wherein R^{11} is phenyl, 5 or 6 membered heterocyclyl, or 5 or 6 membered heteroaryl, each either unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halo, unsubstituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, C_1-C_6 haloalkoxy, carboxyl, carboxylate, sulfo, sulfonate, or –C(O)NR^{13}R^{14}.

15. The compound of claim 14, wherein R^{11} is phenyl, either unsubstituted or substituted with halo, methoxy, carboxyl, or –C(O)NHR^{14}, wherein R^{14} is C_1-C_6 alkyl substituted with carboxyl, carboxylate, sulfo or sulfonate.

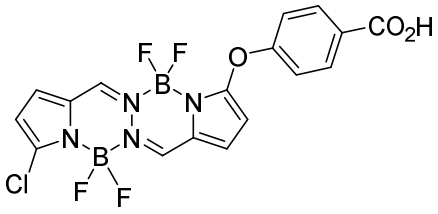
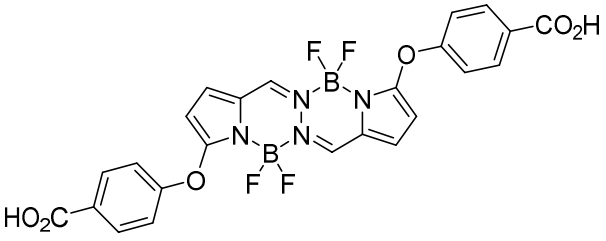
16. The compound of claim 1, wherein each of R^4 and R^5 is H.

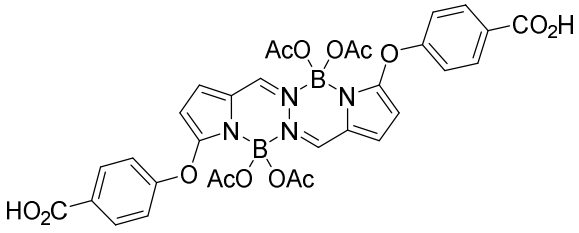
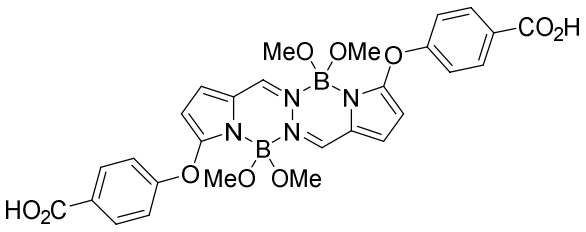
17. The compound of claim 1, wherein each of R^a, [[and]] R^b, R^c and R^d is independently fluoro, cyano, methyl, trifluoromethyl, methoxy, or –OC(=O)R^{12}, wherein R^{12} is unsubstituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, unsubstituted C_2-C_6 alkenyl, or unsubstituted phenyl.

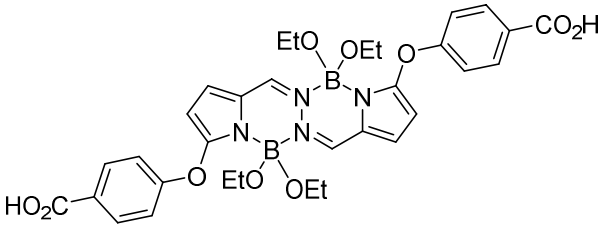
18. The compound of claim 17, wherein each of R^a, R^b, R^c and R^d is fluoro, methyl, trifluoromethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, –OAc (–OC(=O)CH_3), –OC(=O)$CH{=}CH_2$ or –OC(=O)Ph.

19. The compound of claim 1, wherein both R^a and R^b are –OC(=O)R^{12}, and the two R^{12} together with the atoms to which they are attached form a 6 membered heterocyclyl having the structure , or both R^c and R^d are –OC(=O)R^{12}, and the two R^{12} together with the atoms to which they are attached form a 6 membered heterocyclyl having the structure ,.

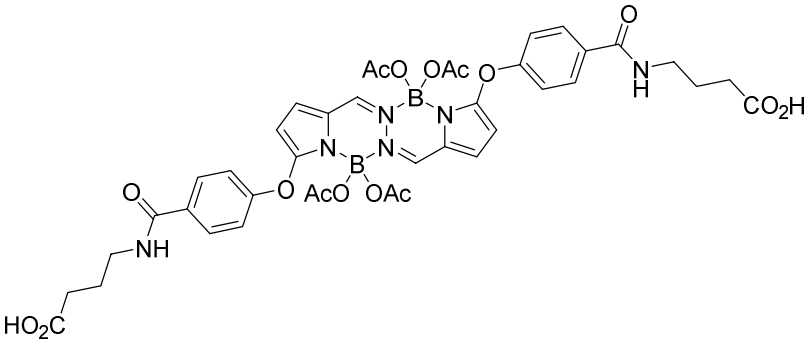
20. The compound of claim 1, selected from the group consisting of:

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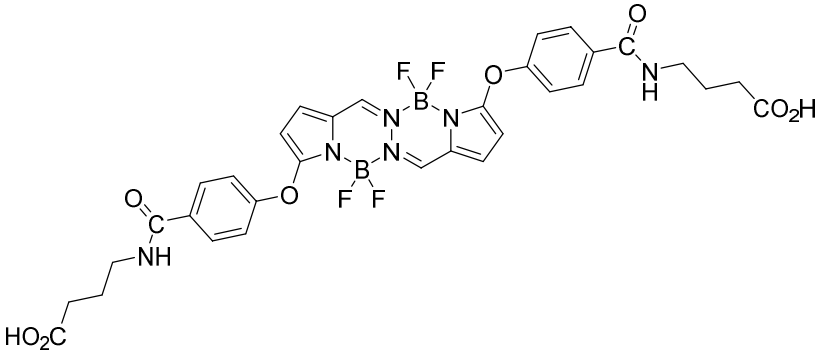
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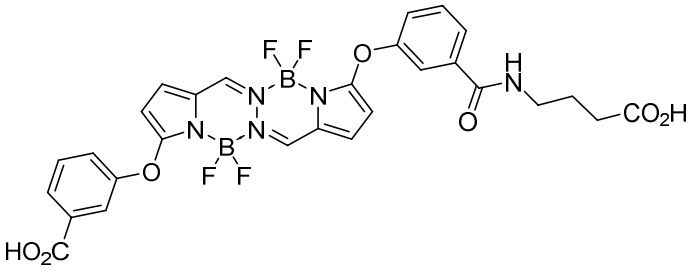
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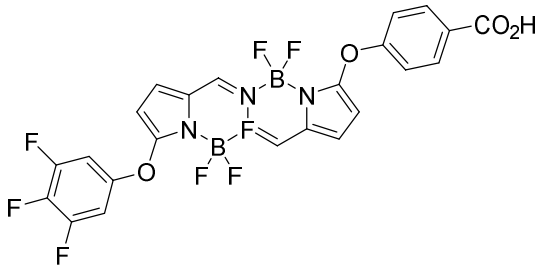
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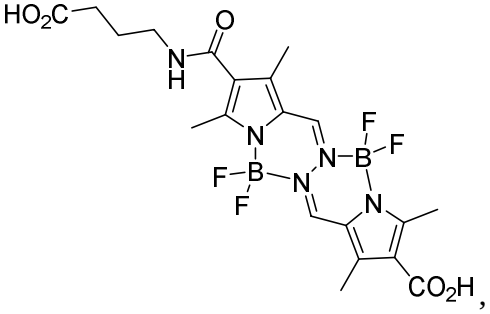
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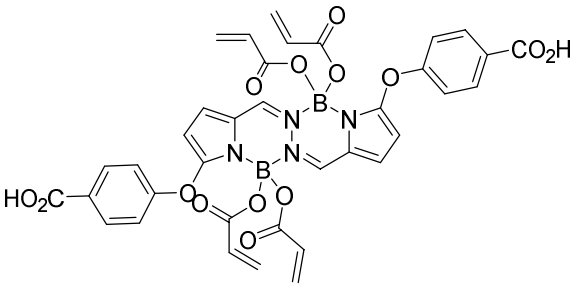
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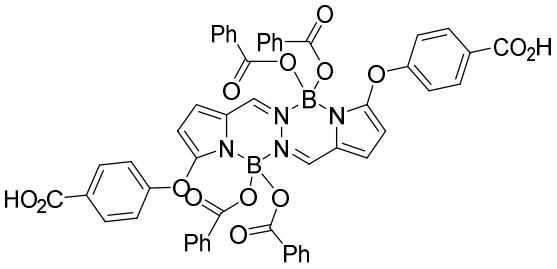
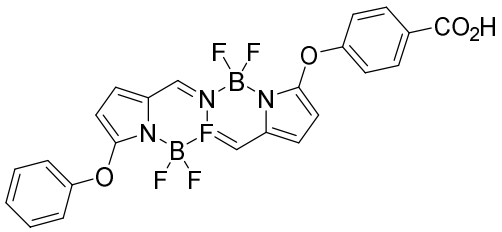
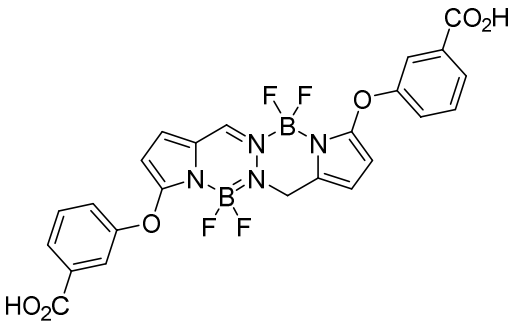
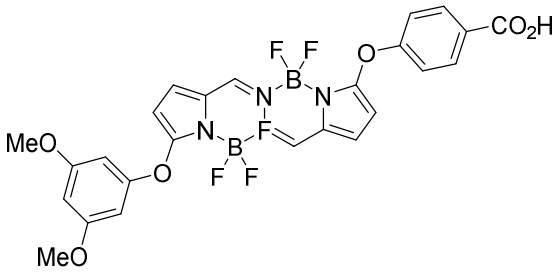
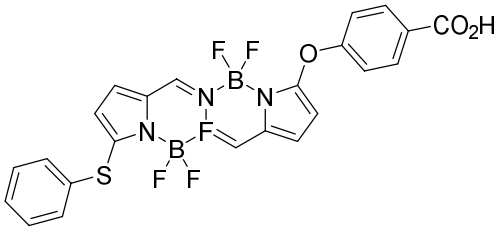
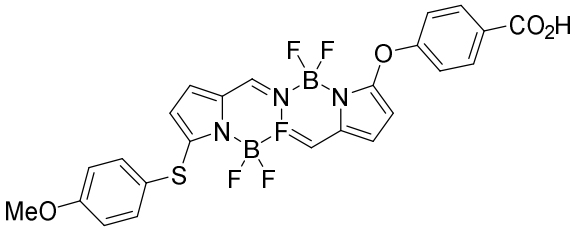
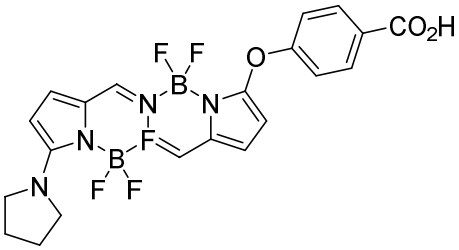
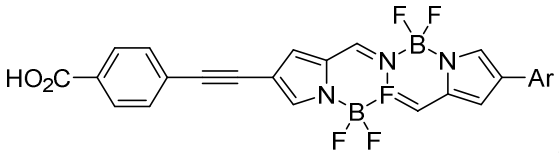
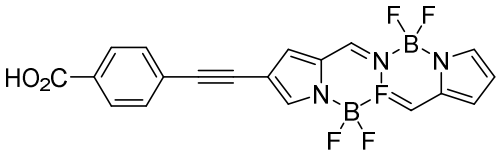
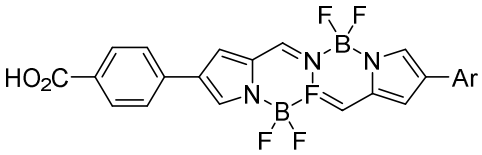
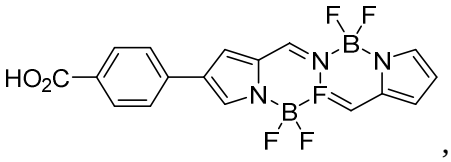
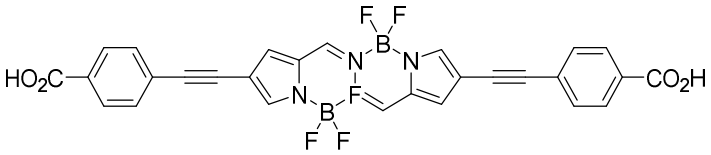
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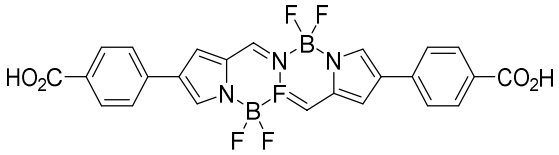


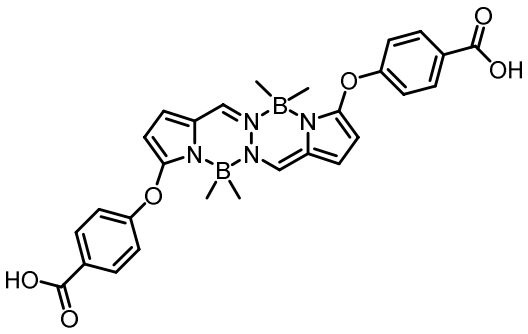
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, and salts and mesomeric forms thereof.

21. A nucleotide labeled with a compound according to claim 1, wherein the compound is attached to the nucleotide via a carboxyl group of the compound of Formula (I).

22. The labeled nucleotide of claim 21, further comprising a 3′ blocking group covalently attached to the ribose or deoxyribose sugar of the nucleotide.

23. An oligonucleotide or polynucleotide comprising the labeled nucleotide according to claim 21 incorporated thereto.

24. The oligonucleotide or polynucleotide of claim 23, wherein the oligonucleotide or polynucleotide is at least partially complementary and hybridized to a target polynucleotide immobilized on a surface of a solid support, and wherein the solid support comprises an array of a plurality of immobilized target polynucleotides.

25. A kit comprising a first type of labeled nucleotide according to claim 21.

26. The kit of claim 25, further comprising a second type of labeled nucleotide, wherein the second type of labeled nucleotide is labeled with a different compound than the first type of labeled nucleotide.

27. The kit of claim 26, further comprising a third type of nucleotide and a fourth type of nucleotide, wherein each of the second, third, and fourth types of nucleotides are labeled with a different compound, wherein each label has a distinct absorbance maximum that is distinguishable from the other labels.

28. The kit of claim 25, wherein the kit comprises four types of nucleotides, wherein a first type of nucleotide is a labeled nucleotide according to claim 30, a second type of nucleotide carries a second label, a third type of nucleotide carries a third label, and a fourth type of nucleotide is unlabeled (dark).

29. The kit of claim 25, wherein the kit comprises four types of nucleotides, wherein a first type of nucleotide is a labeled nucleotide according to claim 30, a second type of nucleotide carries a second label, a third type of nucleotide comprises a mixture of third type of nucleotides carry two labels, and a fourth type of nucleotide is unlabeled (dark).

30. A method of determining the sequences of a plurality of target polynucleotides, comprising:

(a) contacting a solid support with a solution comprising sequencing primers under hybridization conditions, wherein the solid support comprises a plurality of different target polynucleotides immobilized thereon; and the sequencing primers are complementary to at least a portion of the target polynucleotides;

(b) contacting the solid support with an aqueous solution comprising DNA polymerase and one or more of four different types of nucleotides under conditions suitable for DNA polymerase-mediated primer extension, wherein at least one type of nucleotide is a labeled nucleotide of claim 33, and wherein each of the one or more of four different types of nucleotides comprises a 3′ blocking group covalently attached to the deoxyribose sugar of the nucleotide;

(c) incorporating one type of nucleotides into the sequencing primers to produce extended copy polynucleotides;

(d) performing one or more fluorescent measurements of the extended copy polynucleotides;

(e) removing the 3′ blocking group from the nucleotides incorporated into the extended copy polynucleotides; and

(f) washing the solid support after the removing of the 3′ blocking group from the incorporated nucleotides.