## **Supporting Information**

# Structure-property relationships of photoresponsive inhibitors of the kinesin motor

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#### 1. Mass spectra of azo-peptides



**Figure S1.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectrum of azo-peptide **2**: m/z = 1272.51 [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (calculated mass for the most abundant isotope: 1272.65)







**Figure S3.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectrum of azo-peptide **4**: m/z = 1047.59 [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (calculated mass for the most abundant isotope: 1047.50)



**Figure S4.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectrum of azo-peptide **5**: m/z = 976.36 [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (calculated mass for the most abundant isotope: 976.47)



**Figure S5.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectrum of azo-peptide **6**: m/z = 863.30 [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (calculated mass for the most abundant isotope: 863.38)



**Figure S6.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectrum of azo-peptide **7**: m/z = 1229.80 [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (calculated mass for the most abundant isotope: 1229.64)



**Figure S7.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectrum of azo-peptide **8**:  $m/z = 877.49 [M+H]^+$  (calculated mass for the most abundant isotope: 877.49), m/z = 556.34 [Pro-Lys-Ala-IIe-GIn+H]<sup>+</sup> and 322.15 [Azo-IIe]<sup>+</sup> (calculated mass for the fragments of the parent azo-peptide **8** cleaved at the amide linkage between the IIe and Pro : 556.34 and 322.15 respectively)



**Figure S8.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectrum of azo-peptide **9**:  $m/z = 806.42 [M+H]^+$  (calculated mass for the most abundant isotope: 806.45),  $m/z = 485.29 [Pro-Lys-Ala-IIe-Gly+H]^+$  and 322.15 [Azo-IIe]<sup>+</sup> (calculated mass for the fragments of the parent azo-peptide **9** cleaved at the amide linkage between the IIe and Pro : 485.30 and 322.15 respectively),  $m/z = 422.69 [M+H+K]^{2+}$  (calculated mass for the most abundant isotope: 422.77).



**Figure S9.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectrum of azo-peptide **10**: m/z = 877.49 [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (calculated mass for the most abundant isotope: 877.52)



**Figure S10.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectrum of azo-peptide **11**: m/z = 905.69 [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (calculated mass for the most abundant isotope: 905.53)



**Figure S11.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectrum of azo-peptide **12**: m/z = 1033.58 [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (calculated mass for the most abundant isotope: 1033.59)



**Figure S12.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectrum of azo-peptide **13**: m/z = 1061.60 [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (calculated mass for the most abundant isotope: 1061.63)



**Figure S13.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectrum of azo-peptide **14**:  $m/z = 935.66 [M+H]^+$  (calculated mass for the most abundant isotope: 935.54),  $m/z = 584.46 [Pro-Lys-Ala-IIe-Arg+H]^+$  and 352.21 [MeO-Azo-IIe]<sup>+</sup> (calculated mass for the fragments of the parent azo-peptide **14** cleaved at the amide linkage between the IIe and Pro : 584.38 and 352.16 respectively),  $m/z = 468.34 [M+2H]^{2+}$  (calculated mass for the most abundant isotope: 468.27 ).



**Figure S14.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectrum of azo-peptide **15**: m/z = 948.63 [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (calculated mass for the most abundant isotope: 948.57)



**Figure S15.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectrum of azo-peptide **16**: m/z = 949.45 [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (calculated mass for the most abundant isotope: 949.52)



**Figure S16.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectrum of azo-peptide **17**: m/z = 1091.70 [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (calculated mass for the most abundant isotope: 1091.64)

## 2. Purity of the azo-peptides by HPLC analysis

(a) azo-peptide **2** 











## (d) azo-peptide 5



## (e) azo-peptide 6



(f) azo-peptide 7



## (g) azo-peptide 8



## (h) azo-peptide 9







## (j) azo-peptide **11**











#### (m) azo-peptide 14







(o) azo-peptide 16







**Figure S17.** HPLC chromatograms are showing > 95% purity. Conditions of the RP-HPLC analysis; Column -  $5C_{18}$ -MS-II, 4.6×250 mm (Nacalai Tesque, Inc.); Eluent - CH<sub>3</sub>CN/H<sub>2</sub>O containing 0.1% TFA; Solvent gradient - 20 to 45% of acetonitrile in water for 1 h; Flow rate - 1 mL/min. Injection volume - 20 µL was used to analyze the purity of each azo-peptide.

#### 3. Photoisomerization of the azo-peptides:

Photoisomerization experiments of compounds 11, 14, 15, 16 were performed in BRB-80 buffer at 25 °C.



**Figure S18.** (a), (b), (c) and (d) are the UV-Vis absorption spectra of azo-peptides **11**, **14**, **15** and **16** respectively in BRB-80 buffer solution at 25 °C; before irradiation (black line), UV PSS (red line), Vis PSS (blue line). Inset of (a), (b), and (d): Absorbance changes at 325 nm, 357 nm and 331 nm respectively after the alternate irradiations of 365 and 436 nm for azo-peptides **11** and **16**, 365 and 510 nm for azo-peptide **14** for 10 cycles. Azo-peptide **15** was irradiated with 510 nm light.

#### 4. Thermal stability of the *cis* isomers:

Thermal stability studies of the cis isomers of azo-peptides 14 and 16 were performed in BRB-80 buffer at 25 °C.



**Figure S19.** UV-Vis absorption spectra of azo-peptides **14** and **16** showing their thermal stability in BRB-80 buffer solution are represented by (a) and (b) respectively after irradiating with 365 nm light up to their PSSs and then incubation in the dark at 25 °C.

#### 5. HPLC analysis on the conversion ratio from *trans* to *cis* and *cis* to *trans* forms:

The photo conversion ratio from *trans (E) to cis (Z) and cis (Z) to trans (E)* of the azo unit in azo-peptides **11**, **14** and **16** upon irradiation with 365 nm light and 436 nm or 510 nm light was measured with HPLC analyses. Conditions of the RP-HPLC analysis; Column -  $5C_{18}$ -MS-II,  $4.6 \times 250$  mm (Nacalai Tesque, Inc.); Eluent - CH<sub>3</sub>CN/H<sub>2</sub>O containing 0.1% TFA; Solvent gradient - 20 to 45% of acetonitrile in water for 1 h; Flow rate – 1 mL/min. Injection volume -20 µL was used to analyze the isomer ratio and the isosbestic point in this eluent condition (283 nm for **11**, 305 nm for **14**, 284 nm for **16**) was used as the monitoring wavelength.

#### (a) azo-peptide 11



#### (b) azo-peptide 14



#### (c) azo-peptide 16



**Figure S20.** HPLC chromatograms showing the *cis* (*Z*) and *trans* (*E*) isomer ratio at before irradiation, after 365 nm light irradiation at PSS and after 436 nm or 510 nm light irradiation at PSS.

6. Structural comparison between the *Drosophila melanogaster* kinesin-1 and human kinesin-1 motor domains



**Figure S21.** (a) Overlay of *Drosophila melanogaster* kiensin-1 (gray, PDB: 2Y65) and human kinesin motor domains (green, PDB: 1BG2). (b) Detailed similarity in critical amino acids for tail binding.

177Glu/170Glu

<sup>185</sup>Asp/<sup>178</sup>Glu<sup>137</sup>lle/<sup>130</sup>lle

<sup>23</sup>Phe/<sup>116</sup>Phe