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Synthesis of 5-Methoxyninhydrin Analog as a Possible Fingerprint Detection Agent

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Poster Presentation 37

**SYNTHESIS OF 5-METHOXYNINHYDRIN ANALOG
AS A POSSIBLE FINGERPRINT DETECTION AGENT**

Darin R. Skutt and Forrest J. Frank*, Department of Chemistry, IWU

In this high tech age of DNA fingerprinting, the latent (invisible) fingerprint remains the most highly regarded type of criminal evidence. Investigators want to find the best way to develop these latent fingerprints. One such developing agent is 5-methoxyninhydrin (I). When this reagent reacts with fingerprints and is sprayed with zinc chloride solution, the resulting complex fluoresces under laser light. The recently discovered compound DFO (II) reacts with fingerprints and fluoresces without zinc chloride. We are combining the structures of these two reagents into structure III. Will this new reagent (III) fluoresce stronger and without the need of the zinc chloride solution?

