

Cyanines, also referred to as tetramethylindo(di)-carbocyanines are defined as “synthetic dyes with the general formula $R_2N[CH=CH]_nCH=N+R_2 \leftrightarrow R_2N+=CH[CH=CH]_nNR_2$ (n is a small number) in which the nitrogen and part of the conjugated chain usually form part of a heterocyclic system, such as imidazole, pyridine, pyrrole, quinoline and thiazole.” Cyanines are used in industry biotechnology (labeling, analysis, biomedical imaging).

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