

Electronic Supplementary Information

The Photobioelectrochemical Activity of Thylakoid Bioanodes is Increased *via* Photocurrent Generation and Improved Contacts by Membrane-Intercalating Conjugated Oligoelectrolytes

Nathan D. Kirchhofer,^{§,a} Michelle A. Rasmussen,^{§,b} Frederick W. Dahlquist,^c Shelley D. Minter,^{*b} and Guillermo C. Bazan^{*a,c}

^a Materials Department, University of California, Santa Barbara, California, CA 93106, USA.

^b Department of Chemistry, University of Utah, 315 S 1400 E Rm 2020, Salt Lake City, UT 84112, USA. E-mail: minter@chem.utah.edu; Tel: +1-801-587-8325

^c Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106, USA. E-mail: bazan@chem.ucsb.edu; Tel: +1- 805-893-5538

[§] These authors contributed equally to this work.

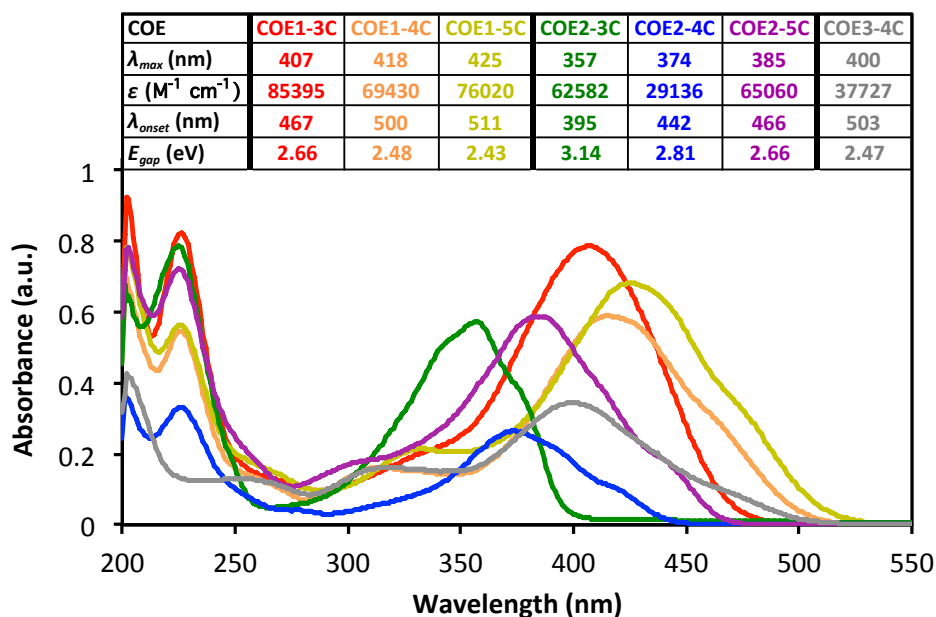


Fig. S1. Aqueous UV-vis absorbance spectra and optoelectronic properties of all seven COE molecules. Note the red-shifted spectra of COE-1 type molecules relative to COE-2 type.^{1,2} [COE] = 9 μ M in 100 mM, pH = 7.4 phosphate buffer. (Table, inset) A summary of the absorbance maxima (λ_{max}), extinction coefficient at λ_{max} (ϵ), absorbance onset (λ_{onset}), and optical gap (E_{gap}) for each of the COEs is displayed. Note that these spectra are not normalized, so ϵ is correlated to the peak height at λ_{max} .

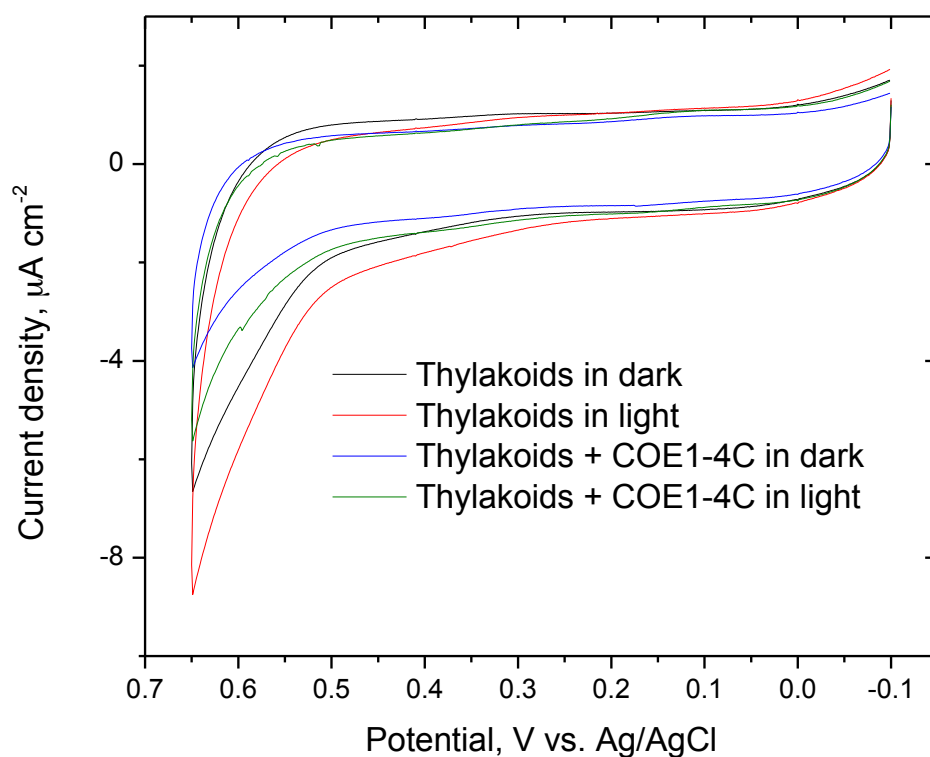


Fig. S2. Representative dark and light CV of thylakoid and thylakoid/COE electrodes. Buffer was 100 mM, pH 7.4 phosphate; scan rate = 10 mV/s.

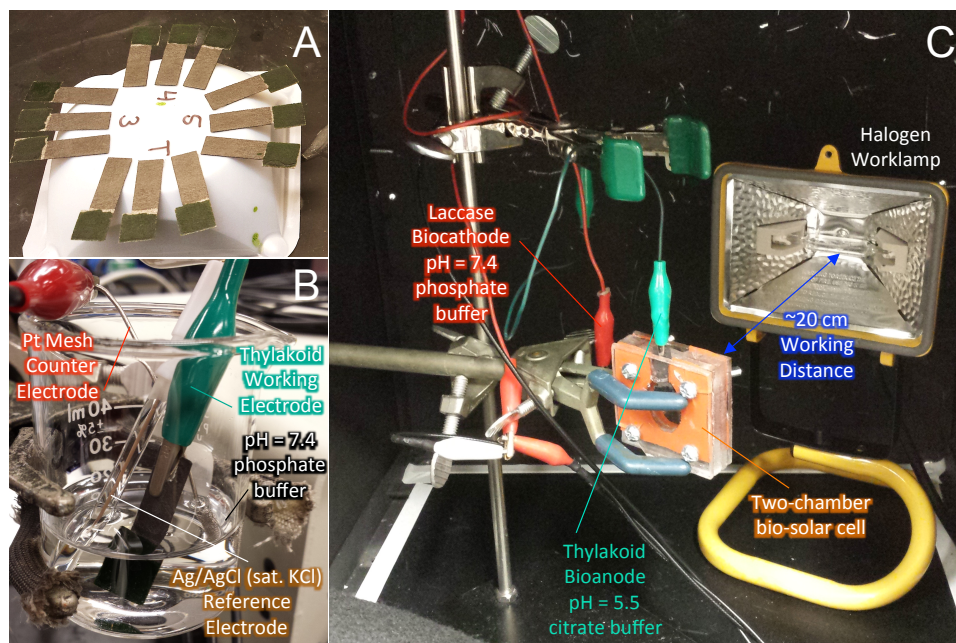


Fig. S3. Experimental Systems. (A) Drying working electrodes, constructed from 50 μL aliquots of thylakoids (unmodified and modified with COE1-3C, -4C, and -5C) drop cast on 1 cm $\times$ 1 cm Toray® carbon paper. This image was taken immediately prior to incubation with tetramethyl orthosilicate (silica layer deposition). (B) The three-electrode setup for electrochemical testing of the thylakoid and thylakoid/COE working electrodes. (C) The chamber used for light- and dark-current measurements of thylakoid and thylakoid/COE working electrodes during amperometry and bio-solar cell testing. A two-chamber solar cell device³ is pictured. The lamp is a 250 W halogen rated to 5200 lumens.

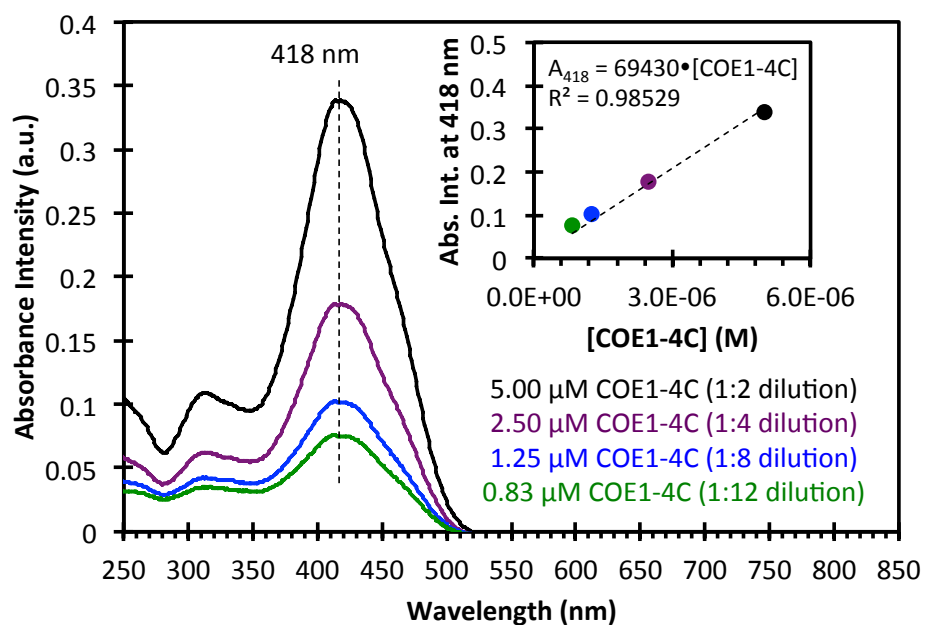


Fig. S4. Aqueous COE1-4C absorption concentration dependence. Solvent was 100 mM, pH = 7.4 phosphate buffer. The calibration curve (inset) at the absorbance maximum of 418 nm indicates an extinction coefficient of $69430 \text{ L mol}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$.

References

- 1 J. E. Coughlin, Z. B. Henson, G. C. Welch and G. C. Bazan, *Acc. Chem. Res.*, 2014, **47**, 257–70.
- 2 P. Beaujuge, C. Amb and J. R. Reynolds, *Acc. Chem. Res.*, 2010, **43**, 1396–1407.
- 3 M. Rasmussen, A. Shrier and S. D. Minteer, *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.*, 2013, **15**, 9062–5.