Supporting Information

A diminutive modification in arylamine electron donors: synthesis, photophysics and solvatochromic analysis – towards the understanding of dye sensitized solar cell performances

Venkatesan Srinivasan,¹ Murugesan Panneer,² Madhavan Jaccob,² Nagaraj Pavithra,³ Sambandam Anandan,³ Arunkumar Kathiravan^{1*}

¹ National Centre for Ultrafast Processes, University of Madras, Taramani Campus, Chennai – 600 113, Tamil Nadu, India

² Department of Chemistry, Loyola College, Chennai – 600 034, Tamil Nadu, India

³ Nanomaterials and Solar Energy Conversion Laboratory, Department of Chemistry, National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli - 620 015, Tamil Nadu, India



Scheme S1: Synthetic route of Arylamine dyes

Synthesis of [5-(4-Diphenylamino-benzaldene)-4-oxo-2-thioxo-thiozolidin-3-yl]-acetic acid (TRA):

A mixture of 4-(Diphenylamino) benzaldehyde (0.39 g, 1.46 mmol), 4-oxo-2-thioxo-3thiozolidinyl acetic acid (0.41 g, 2.19 mmol), acetic acid (5 mL) and ammonium acetate (4 mg) was stirred at reflux 12 h. The resultant mixture was poured into ice-cold water to give a Orange colour precipitate. This was filtered, washed thoroughly with water and then dried. The crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography using chloroform-methanol (v/v: 10: 0.5) to obtain a red solid. Yield: 53.1%. MP: > 200°C. **IR (cm⁻¹) :** 1723 (-C=O-), 1702 (-C=O-), 1571 (-C=C-). ¹**H NMR:** (DMSO-d₆, 400 MHz) δ ppm: 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.51-7.53 (d, J = 8 Hz, 2H, Aromatic), 7.38-7.42 (t, J = 16 Hz, 4H, aromatic), 7.18-7.23 (m, 6H, Aromatic), 6.89-6.91 (d, J=8Hz, 2H), 4.70 (s, 2H, CH₂COOH). ¹³C **NMR:** (DMSO-d₆, 100 MHz) δ ppm: 193.35, 167.84, 166.93, 150.66, 145.98, 134.47, 133.34, 130.49, 126.68, 125.85, 124.96, 119.76, 117.66, 45.48. MS-EI: (m/z) calcd for C₂₄H₁₈N₂O₃S₂: 446.08, Found: 446.09.

Synthesis of [5-(4-Carbazol-9-yl-benzylidene)-4-oxo-2-thioxo-thiazolidin-3-yl]-acetic acid (CRA):

A mixture of N-(4-Formyl phenyl) carbazole (0.40 g, 1.47 mmol), 4-oxo-2-thioxo-3thiozolidinyl acetic acid (0.42 g, 2.20 mmol), acetic acid (5 mL) and ammonium acetate (4 mg) was stirred at reflux 12 h. The resultant mixture was poured into ice-cold water to give a yellow colour precipitate. This was filtered, washed thoroughly with water and then dried. The crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography using chloroform-methanol (v/v: 10 : 0.5) to obtain a red solid. **Yield**: 74.99%. **Melting point :** > 200°C. **IR (cm⁻¹):** 1746 (-C=O-), 1703 (-C=O-), 1583 (-C=C-). ¹**H NMR :** (DMSO-d₆, 400 MHz) δ ppm: 13.50 (br s, 1H, COOH), 8.26-8.28 (d,2H,J=8Hz,Aromatic), 7.97-8.00 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, aromatic), 7.87-7.89 (d, J = 8 Hz, 2H, aromatic), 7.53-7.55 (d, J = 8Hz, 2H, aromatic), 7.45-7.49 (m, 2H),7.32-7.35 (m,2H,Aromatic), 4.79 (s,2H,CH₂COOH). ¹³C **NMR:**(DMSOd₆, 100MHz) δ ppm:193.54, 167.78, 166.89, 139.97, 139.6, 133.49, 133.13, 131.92, 127.54, 126.98, 123.65, 122.57, 121.18, 121.13, 110.37, 45.57. MS-EI :(m/z) calcd for C₂₄H₁₆N₂O₃S₂: 444.06, Found: 444.11.

Synthesis of [4-Oxo-5-(4-pyrrolidin-1-yl-benzylidene)-2-thioxo-thiazolidin-3-yl]-acetic acid (PyRA):

A mixture of 4-(1-Pyrrolidino) benzaldehyde (0.40 g, 2.29 mmol), 4-oxo-2-thioxo-3thiozolidinyl acetic acid (0.65 g, 3.44 mmol), acetic acid (5 mL) and ammonium acetate (4 mg) was stirred at reflux 12 h. The resultant mixture was poured into ice-cold water to give a Dark Red colour precipitate. This was filtered, washed thoroughly with water and then dried. The crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography using chloroform-methanol (v/v: 10: 0.5) to obtain a red solid. **Yield**: 72.1%. **Melting point**: > 200°C. **IR (cm⁻¹) :** 1699 (-C=O-), 1612 (-C=O-), 1561 (-C=C-). ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆, 400 MHz) δ ppm: 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.47-7.50 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H, aromatic), 6.68-6.70 (d, J = 8 Hz, 2H, aromatic), 4.70 (s, 2H, CH₂COOH), 1.96-1.99 (m, 6H) ¹³C NMR: (DMSO-d₆, 100MHz) δ ppm: 192.94, 167.94, 166.87, 150.08, 136.03,134.06, 119.87, 113.04, 113.01, 47.89, 45.50,25.37. MS-EI:(m/z) calcd for C₁₆H₁₆N₂O₃S₂: 348.06, Found: 348.08.



Figure S1: ¹H NMR spectrum of TRA in DMSO – d_6



Figure S2: ¹³C NMR spectrum of TRA in DMSO $- d_6$



Figure S3: ¹H NMR spectrum of CRA in DMSO – d_6



Figure S4: ¹³C NMR spectrum of CRA in DMSO $- d_6$



Figure S5: ¹H NMR spectrum of PyRA in DMSO – d_6



Figure S6: ¹³C NMR spectrum of PyRA in DMSO $- d_6$



Figure S7: Mass spectrum of TRA



Figure S8: Mass spectrum of CRA



Figure S9: Mass spectrum of PyRA



Figure S10: Normalized absorption spectra of TRA in various solvents



Figure S11: Normalized absorption spectra of CRA in various solvents



Figure S12: Normalized absorption spectra of PyRA in various solvents



Figure S13: Normalized fluorescence spectra of TRA in various solvents



Figure S14: Normalized fluorescence spectra of CRA in various solvents



Figure S15: Normalized fluorescence spectra of PyRA in various solvents



Figure S16: CV and DPV plots of arylamine dyes



Figure S17: Bode phase plots of TRA, CRA and PyRA devices.

| Solvents | Abs (nm) | | | Emi (nm) | | | $\Delta v (cm^{-1})$ | | | |
|----------|----------|-----|------|----------|-----|------|----------------------|------|------|--------|
| | TRA | CRA | PyRA | TRA | CRA | PyRA | TRA | CRA | PyRA | Δy |
| DMSO | 461 | 415 | 477 | 600 | 581 | 557 | 4950 | 6972 | 2967 | 0.2634 |
| ACN | 462 | 407 | 472 | 603 | 591 | 555 | 5210 | 7652 | 3213 | 0.3055 |
| DMF | 456 | 405 | 469 | 587 | 561 | 544 | 4865 | 7054 | 3006 | 0.2744 |
| МеОН | 456 | 402 | 466 | 587 | 543 | 550 | 4971 | 6487 | 3343 | 0.3086 |
| EtOH | 456 | 405 | 465 | 582 | 533 | 542 | 4670 | 5964 | 3009 | 0.2887 |
| Acetone | 463 | 409 | 472 | 600 | 578 | 550 | 4922 | 7266 | 3004 | 0.2843 |
| IPA | 458 | 407 | 460 | 571 | 543 | 516 | 4338 | 5913 | 2555 | 0.2721 |
| THF | 463 | 411 | 470 | 567 | 533 | 528 | 4054 | 5580 | 2408 | 0.2096 |
| EA | 458 | 408 | 465 | 560 | 531 | 529 | 4103 | 5748 | 2637 | 0.2010 |
| Toluene | 471 | 421 | 469 | 532 | 495 | 509 | 2434 | 3550 | 1675 | 0.0133 |
| Dioxane | 463 | 414 | 468 | 543 | 507 | 516 | 3296 | 4585 | 2545 | 0.0246 |
| DCM | 474 | 422 | 483 | 603 | 565 | 545 | 4513 | 5997 | 2355 | 0.2170 |

Table S1: Absorption maxima, emission maxima and Stokes' shift of dyes in various solvents