# Supporting Information

# Improvement of D- $\pi$ -A organic dye-based dye-sensitized solar cell performance by simple triphenylamine donor substitutions on the $\pi$ linker of the dye

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# 1. Quantum chemical calculation results

**Table S1.** The optimized geometry parameters, dihedral angles (in degree), of the dyes computed at B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) level.



Dye	Dihedral angle (°) / intergroup						
	π 1-π2	π2-π3	π3-π4	π3-А			
T1	-24.30	10.75	-4.91	0.27			
Τ2	-24.30	16.01	-28.05	3.03			
Т3	-24.35	37.82	-29.94	3.69			
T4	-26.81	55.37	-30.71	3.37			
Note: $\pi 1$ = Triphenylamine, $\pi 2$ - $\pi 4$ = Thiophenes, and A = Cyanoacrylic acid							







**Figure S1.** HOMO and LUMO of the dyes calculated by B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) level.

Table S2. Excitation energy $(E_{ex})$ , oscillator strength (f) and transition composition of the dyes
calculated by TD-CAM-B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) in $CH_2Cl_2$ solvent.

Dyes	Transition	E <sub>ex</sub> ,	f	Composition
		eV (nm)		H=HOMO, L=LUMO,
T1	$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$	2.56 (485)	2.0919	0.53 (H→L)+0.40 (H-1→L)
	$S_0 \rightarrow S_3$	3.79 (327)	0.2045	0.40 (H→L)+0.26 (H-1→L+1)
	$S_0 \rightarrow S_4$	4.10 (302)	0.3119	0.38 (H-1→L+1)+0.33 (H→L+1)
T2	$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$	2.62 (473)	1.8779	0.53 (H→L)+0.36 (H-2→L)
	$S_0 \rightarrow S_2$	3.23 (384)	0.1609	0.64 (H-1→L)
	$S_0 \rightarrow S_3$	3.47 (357)	0.1672	$0.46 (H \rightarrow L+1) + 0.36 (H-2 \rightarrow L)$
	$S_0 \rightarrow S_5$	3.97 (312)	0.6677	$0.35 (H \rightarrow L+2) + 0.34 (H-1 \rightarrow L+1)$
Т3	$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$	2.62 (474)	1.3284	0.55 (H→L)+0.33 (H-3→L)
	$S_0 \rightarrow S_3$	3.41 (364)	0.5260	0.57 (H-2→L)+0.28 (H-3→L)
	$S_0 \rightarrow S_4$	3.49 (355)	0.1797	0.43 (H→L+1)+0.34 (H-3→L)
	$S_0 \rightarrow S_5$	3.76 (330)	0.3260	$0.35 (H \rightarrow L) + 0.32 (H \rightarrow L + 1)$
	$S_0 \rightarrow S_6$	3.96 (313)	1.1369	0.36 (H→L+2)
T4	$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$	2.75 (451)	1.1432	0.51 (H→L)+0.37 (H-4→L)
	$S_0 \rightarrow S_3$	3.40 (364)	0.2165	0.54 (H-1→L)+0.26 (H-2→L)
	$S_0 \rightarrow S_4$	3.50 (354)	0.4442	0.40 (H→L+1)+0.31 (H-4→L)
	$S_0 \rightarrow S_5$	3.57 (348)	0.4432	0.34 (H-2→L)+0.33 (H-3→L)
	$S_0 \rightarrow S_6$	3.77 (329)	0.3166	$0.34 (H \rightarrow L) + 0.31 (H \rightarrow L + 1)$
	$S_0 \rightarrow S_7$	3.96 (313)	1.2051	0.0.29 (H-2→L+1)+0.26 (H→L+2)
	$S_0 \rightarrow S_8$	4.02 (309)	0.1792	$0.32 (H-3 \rightarrow L+1)+0.24 (H \rightarrow L+3)$

# 2. Fluorescence property



Figure S2. Photoluminescence spectra of dyes T1-4 in  $CH_2Cl_2$  solution.



# 3. IMVS/IMPS plots

Figure S3 IMPS Nyquist plots of DSSCs based on dyes T1-T4 at different light intensities



Figure S4 IMVS Nyquist plots of DSSCs based on dyes T1-T4 at different light intensities











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180 160 140 120 100 80 60 40 20 ppm











**Compound T2** 



170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 ppm



**Compound T3** 



180 160 140 120 100 80 60 40 20 0 ppm



#### **Compound T4**



