# Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) for 

# Push-pull Type Alkoxy-wrapped $N$-annulated Perylenes for Dye- <br> <br> Sensitized Solar Cells 

 <br> <br> Sensitized Solar Cells}

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## 1. Synthetic procedures and characterization data

Compound 5. To the solution of compound 4 ( $892 \mathrm{mg}, 1.46 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in DCM ( 200 mL ) was slowly added NBS ( $260 \mathrm{mg}, 1.46 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in portion over half an hour at $0{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. The mixture was stirred at $0{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 30 min . The reaction mixture was quenched with water $(50 \mathrm{~mL})$. The organic layer was washed with water, and then washed with saturated brine and dried over anhydrous $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the crude product was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, hexanes : $\mathrm{DCM}=$ $6: 1)$ to give compound 5 as a yellow solid ( $705 \mathrm{mg}, 70 \%$ ). ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}, 300 \mathrm{MHz}\right.$ ): $\delta \mathrm{ppm}=8.65-8.70(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.34(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.13(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), \quad 7.80-7.91$ $(\mathrm{m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 7.56(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 6.63(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.91(\mathrm{t}, J=6.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 2.51(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H})$, $1.32-1.37(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 0.97-1.03(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 0.82-0.87(\mathrm{~m}, 16 \mathrm{H}), 0.72(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}, 75 \mathrm{MHz}\right): \delta \mathrm{ppm}=155.77,139.69,133.43,132.66,130.74,130.08$, 129.06, 128.22, 125.32, 125.21, 124.75, 124.71, 124.59, 124.54, 123.59, 121.11, 120.77, $119.28,117.46,117.29,116.99,115.49,113.73,106.75,69.04,31.50,28.97,28.93,28.89$, 25.73, 22.45, 22.38, 13.93. HR-MS (APCI, $m / z$ ): calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{43} \mathrm{H}_{49} \mathrm{BrNO}_{2}$ ([M+1]), 690.2941 ; found, 690.2940 (error: -0.2 ppm).

Compound 6. To a solution of $5(69 \mathrm{mg}, 0.1 \mathrm{mmol})$ in DCM ( 10 mL ) was added several drops of trifluoroacetic acid under argon atmosphere at room temperature. After the mixture was stirred for 10 minutes, $N$-iodosuccinimide ( $22.4 \mathrm{mg}, 0.1 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was added into the mixture. After stirring for half an hour, the mixture was poured into water. The aqueous layer was extracted with DCM, and the combined organic phase was washed with saturated brine and dried over anhydrous $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$. The solvent was removed under reduced vacuum and the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, DCM: hexane $=1: 6)$ to afford 6 as an yellow solid ( $49 \mathrm{mg}, 60 \%$ ). ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}, 300\right.$ $\mathrm{MHz}): \delta \mathrm{ppm}=8.67-8.71(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.36(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.25(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H})$, $8.15(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.85-7.92(\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 6.63(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.95(\mathrm{t}, J=6.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 2.51(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 1.36-$ $1.41(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 0.82-1.00(\mathrm{~m}, 20 \mathrm{H}), 0.70(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}, 75 \mathrm{MHz}\right)$ : $\delta \mathrm{ppm}=155.58,140.03,133.59,132.76,130.45,130.25,130.13,129.36,128.21,126.17$, $125.69,125.44,125.15,124.34,123.87,121.61,121.51,119.32,117.91,117.75,116.84$, 113.04, 106.51, 92.09, 69.02, 31.51, 29.05, 28.97, 28.89, 25.81, 22.44, 22.42, 13.92. HRMS (APCI, $m / z$ ): calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{43} \mathrm{H}_{48} \mathrm{BrINO}_{2}$ ([M+1]), 816.1908; found, 816.1891 (error: 2.0 ppm ).

Compound 7. To a suspended solution of $\mathbf{6}$ ( $82 \mathrm{mg}, 0.1 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), 4-ethylnyl- $N, N$-bis (4(hexyloxy)phenyl)aniline (2, $37 \quad \mathrm{mg}$, 0.08 mmol ), and tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium ( $5.5 \mathrm{mg}, 0.005 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in THF ( 10 mL ) was added $\mathrm{CuI}(2 \mathrm{mg}, 0.01 \mathrm{mmol})$, triethylamine ( 2 ml ) under argon. The reaction mixture was stirred at $70{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 24 h . The crude compound was extracted into ethyl acetate, washed with brine and water, and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. After removing solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel,

DCM : hexanes $=1: 4)$ to yield a dark yellow solid $\left(52 \mathrm{mg}, 45 \%\right.$ yield). ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right.$, $500 \mathrm{MHz}): \delta \mathrm{ppm}=8.69-8.72(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.56(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.34(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H})$, 7.88-7.92 (m, 3H), $7.80(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.45(\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.46(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.10(\mathrm{~d}, J=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $4 \mathrm{H}), 6.92(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 6.86(\mathrm{~d}, J=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 6.63(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.96(\mathrm{t}, J=6.5 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $4 \mathrm{H}), 3.92(\mathrm{t}, J=6.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 2.50(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 1.75-1.82(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.45-1.49(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.35-$ $1.38(\mathrm{~m}, 12 \mathrm{H}), 0.95-1.00(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 0.81-0.94(\mathrm{~m}, 22 \mathrm{H}), 0.66(\mathrm{t}, J=6.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}, 125 \mathrm{MHz}\right): \delta \mathrm{ppm}=155.82,155.77,148.59,140.17,139.91,139.62,133.62$, $132.75,132.28,130.56,130.16,129.76,128.24,126.96,125.39,125.09,124.89$, 124.55, 124.49 , 124.01, 121.39, 121.28, 119.46, 119.19, 119.15, 117.75, 117.56, 117.37, 117.20, $115.35,114.78,113.29,106.63,93.78,86.41,69.03,68.28,31.60,31.52,29,69,29.32$, 29,01, 28.93, 28.89, 25.79, 25.76, 22.61, 22.43, 22.39, 14.02, 13.94. HR-MS (APCI, $m / z$ ): calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{75} \mathrm{H}_{86} \mathrm{BrN}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}([\mathrm{M}+1]), 1157.5765$; found, 1157.5757 (error: -0.7 ppm ).

Compound 10. A 100 mL Schlenk flask was charged with 7 ( $115 \mathrm{mg}, 0.1 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), pinacolborane ( $63 \mathrm{mg}, 0.5 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), triethylamine ( $102 \mathrm{mg}, 1.0 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), $\mathrm{PdCl}_{2}\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}\right)_{2}(4 \mathrm{mg}$, 0.005 mmol ) and 1,2 -dichloroethane ( 10 mL ) under argon. The reaction mixture was stirred at $90{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ overnight. After removal of the solvent, the crude compound was extracted into ethyl acetate, washed with brine and water, and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. The starting material 7 was almost gone, so the residue was used for next step without purification. To the suspension of the residue, 9 ( $58 \mathrm{mg}, 0.12 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), and tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium ( $11.6 \mathrm{mg}, 0.01 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in toluene ( 5 mL ) was added potassium carbonate aqueous solution ( $2 \mathrm{M}, 0.4 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) under argon. The reaction mixture was refluxed for 24 h and then water ( 5 mL ) added. The crude compound was extracted with ethyl acetate three times, followed by washing with brine and water, and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. After removing solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, ethyl acetate : hexanes $=1$ : 50) to yield a viscous red oil ( $72 \mathrm{mg}, 50 \%$ yield over two steps). ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}, 300\right.$ $\mathrm{MHz}): \delta \mathrm{ppm}=9.85(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.72-8.74(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.56(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.46(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.0$ $\mathrm{Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.93(\mathrm{t}, J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.87(\mathrm{t}, \mathrm{J}=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.81(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.73(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.61$ (s, 1H), $7.44(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.32(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.09(\mathrm{~d}, J=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 6.92(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.5$ $\mathrm{Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 6.86(\mathrm{~d}, J=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 6.64(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.90-3.96(\mathrm{~m}, 8 \mathrm{H}), 2.49(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 1.94-1.98$ $(\mathrm{m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.77-1.81(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.45-1.49(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.35-1.40(\mathrm{~m}, 14 \mathrm{H}), 1.10-1.23(\mathrm{~m}, 14 \mathrm{H})$, $1.08-1.11(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 0.76-0.95(\mathrm{~m}, 36 \mathrm{H}), 0.65(\mathrm{t}, J=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}, 125\right.$ $\mathrm{MHz}): \delta \mathrm{ppm}=182.47,163.02,157.40,155.85,155.82,149.42,148.62,148.40,142.86$, $140.18,139.87,134.59,133.56,133.29,132.31,130.89,130.57,129.80,128.95,127.83$, $127.06,126.99,125.13,124.94,124.47,124.21,123.78,121.70,121.25,121.20,119.47$, $119.16,118.15,117.83,117.56,117.01,115.37,114.79,113.44,106.70,93.96,88.46$, 69.06, 68.31, 54.22, 37.74, 31.63, 31.51, 29.71, 29.6, 29.33, 29.04, 29.00, 28.89, 25.81, 25.77, 24.71, 22.62, 22.59, 22.43, 22.41, 14.04, 13.94. HR-MS (APCI, $m / z$ ): calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{97} \mathrm{H}_{115} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{5} \mathrm{~S}_{2}([\mathrm{M}+1]), 1451.8242$; found, 1451.8238 (error: -0.3 ppm).

QB4. To a suspended solution of $1(77 \mathrm{mg}, 0.1 \mathrm{mmol})$, 4-ethylnyl- $N, N$-bis(4(hexyloxy)phenyl)aniline ( $\mathbf{2}, 56 \mathrm{mg}, 0.12 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), 4-ethylnylbenzoic acid ( $\mathbf{3}, 18 \mathrm{mg}$, 0.12 mmol ), triethylamine ( 2 ml ) and tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium ( 5.5 mg , 0.005 mmol ) in THF ( 10 mL ) was added $\mathrm{CuI}(2 \mathrm{mg}, 0.01 \mathrm{mmol})$ under argon. The reaction mixture was stirred at $70{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 24 h . The crude compound was extracted into ethyl acetate, washed with brine and water, then acidified with 2 M hydrochloric acid aqueous solution ( 3 mL ) and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. After removing solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was purified by flash chromatography with chloroform and methanol/chloroform ( $1 / 10, \mathrm{v} / \mathrm{v}$ ) in turn as the eluent to yield a dark red powder $(37 \mathrm{mg}, 30 \%) .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR (THF-d $\left.8,500 \mathrm{MHz}\right): \delta \mathrm{ppm}=8.80(\mathrm{~d}, J=6.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H})$, 8.57 (t, $J=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}$ ), 8.08 (d, $J=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.89-7.94(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.84(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.75$ $(\mathrm{m}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 7.43(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.07(\mathrm{~d}, J=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), \quad 6.88(\mathrm{~m}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 6.79(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H})$, 3.93-3.98 (m, 8H), 2.51 ( $\mathrm{s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 1.75-1.79(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.48-1.51(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.29-1.37(\mathrm{~m}$, $12 \mathrm{H}), 0.78-0.96(\mathrm{~m}, 26 \mathrm{H}), 0.64(\mathrm{t}, J=7.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}, 125 \mathrm{MHz}\right): \delta \mathrm{ppm}$ $=163.51,155.94,155.83,148.63,140.12,139.98,134.02,133.19,132.30,131.35$, 130.68 , $130.16,129.75,129.64,126.99,125.38,124.17,123.89,121.42,121.26,120.16$, $119.40,118.94,118.85,118.16,117.73,115.34,114.64,113.35,106.75,94.20,88.42$, 69.07, 68.28, 31.60, 31.53, 29.69, 29.00, 28.92, 25.81, 25.75, 22.61, 22.43, 22.41, 14.03, 13.93. HR-MS (APCI, m/z): calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{84} \mathrm{H}_{91} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{6}([\mathrm{M}+1])$, 1223.6872; found, 1223.6881 (error: +0.8 ppm ). Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{84} \mathrm{H}_{90} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{6}$ : C, 82.45 ; H, 7.41; N, 2.29\%. Found: C, 82.43; H, 7.44; N, 2.26\%.

QB5. To a suspended solution of $7(58 \mathrm{mg}, 0.05 \mathrm{mmol})$, compound $\mathbf{8}(17 \mathrm{mg}, 0.06 \mathrm{mmol})$, triethylamine ( 2 ml ) and tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium ( $5.5 \mathrm{mg}, 0.005 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in THF ( 10 mL ) was added CuI ( $2 \mathrm{mg}, 0.01 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) under argon. The reaction mixture was stirred at $70{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 24 h . The crude compound was extracted into ethyl acetate, washed with brine and water, then acidified with 2 M hydrochloric acid aqueous solution ( 3 mL ) and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. After removing solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was purified by flash chromatography with chloroform and methanol/chloroform ( $1 / 10, \mathrm{v} / \mathrm{v}$ ) in turn as the eluent to yield a dark red powder ( 23.7 mg , $35 \%) .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR (THF-d8, 500 MHz$): \delta \mathrm{ppm}=8.94(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.1-8.85(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H})$, $8.56(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.17-8.23(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 7.92-8.06(\mathrm{~m}, 5 \mathrm{H}), 7.76(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.17(\mathrm{~d}, J=$ $8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}$ ), 7.08 (d, $J=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}$ ), $6.88(\mathrm{~m}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 6.81(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.94-4.00(\mathrm{~m}, 8 \mathrm{H}), 2.53$ $(\mathrm{s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 1.75-1.79(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.43-1.51(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.36-1.38(\mathrm{~m}, 12 \mathrm{H}), 0.91-0.94(\mathrm{~m}, 18 \mathrm{H})$, $0.79-0.81(\mathrm{~m}, 8 \mathrm{H}), 0.56-0.61(\mathrm{t}, J=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}, 125 \mathrm{MHz}\right): \delta \mathrm{ppm}=$ $169.02,156.08,155.88,149.02,140.16,140.04,134.24,132.33,131.65,130.50,129.28$, 128.48, 127.01, 125.63, 127.01, 125.63, 125.21, 124.22, 121.46, 121.32, 120.24, 119.43, $119.14,118.92,117.83,115.39,114.46,106.83,94.32,85.54,69.14,68.31,31.93,31.62$, $31.54,29.70,29.36,29.34,29.01,28.95,28.93,25.81,25.77,22.69,22.62,22.42,14.10$, 14.03, 13.92. HR-MS (APCI, m/z): calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{90} \mathrm{H}_{93} \mathrm{~N}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{6} \mathrm{~S}([\mathrm{M}+1]), 1357.6810$; found,
1357.6818 (error: +0.6 ppm ). Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{90} \mathrm{H}_{92} \mathrm{~N}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{6} \mathrm{~S}: \mathrm{C}, 79.61 ; \mathrm{H}, 6.83 ; \mathrm{N}, 4.13 \%$. Found: C, 79.64; H, 6.85; N, 4.15\%.

QB6. To a stirred solution of $\mathbf{1 1}(43 \mathrm{mg}, 0.03 \mathrm{mmol})$ and cyanoacetic acid $(10 \mathrm{mg}, 0.12$ mmol ) in chloroform ( 5 mL ) was added piperidine ( $25 \mathrm{mg}, 0.3 \mathrm{mmol}$ ). The reaction mixture was refluxed under argon for 18 h and then acidified with 2 M hydrochloric acid aqueous solution ( 5 mL ). The crude product was extracted by chloroform, washed with water, and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. After removing solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was purified by flash column chromatography with chloroform and methanol/chloroform ( $1 / 10, \mathrm{v} / \mathrm{v}$ ) in turn as the eluent to yield a dark red powder ( 40 mg , $87 \%) .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR (THF-d $\left.8,500 \mathrm{MHz}\right): \delta \mathrm{ppm}=8.79$ (broad, 2 H ), $8.55(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.38(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H})$, $7.73-7.92(\mathrm{~m}, 5 \mathrm{H}), 7.49(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.44(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.07(\mathrm{~d}, J=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 6.88$ $(\mathrm{m}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 6.78(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.93-3.99(\mathrm{~m}, 8 \mathrm{H}), 2.49(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 2.05-2.07(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.75-1.79(\mathrm{~m}$, $4 \mathrm{H}), 1.46-1.51(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.22-1.41(\mathrm{~m}, 14 \mathrm{H}), 1.20-1.24(\mathrm{~m}, 14 \mathrm{H}), 1.09-1.11(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 0.79-$ $0.86(\mathrm{~m}, 36 \mathrm{H}), 0.64(\mathrm{t}, J=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (THF-d $\left.8,75 \mathrm{MHz}\right): \delta \mathrm{ppm}=161.49$, 156.21, 154.79, 154.38, 147.44, 138.60, 133.52, 132.13, 131.81, 130.63, 129.64, 129.38, $129.17,128.26,127.73,126.31,125.50,123.63,123.40,122.66,122.31,120.45,119.88$, $117.55,117.35,116.43,116.24,116.08,115.29,113.69,113.17,111.52,105.00,92.37$, $86.61,67.23,66.36,52.68,36.17,30.18,30.14,30.14,30.07,28.19,27.89,27.62,27.53$, 27.49, 24.42, 24.33, 21.13, 21.07, 20.92, 19.97, 11.98, 11.93. HR-MS (APCI, $m / z$ ): calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{100} \mathrm{H}_{116} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{6} \mathrm{~S}_{2}([\mathrm{M}+1])$, 1518.8300 ; found, 1518.8295 (error: - 0.4 ppm ). Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{100} \mathrm{H}_{115} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{6} \mathrm{~S}_{2}$ : C, 79.06; H, 7.63; N, 2.77\%. Found: C, 79.07; H, 7.66; N, 2.79\%.

## 2. Additional spectra



Fig. S1. The UV-Vis absorption spectra of QB4 (black), QB5 (red) and QB6 (blue) adsorbed on $\mathrm{TiO}_{2}$.


Fig. S2. Differential pulse voltammograms recorded in dry DCM with 0.1 M tetra-nbutylammonium hexafluorophosphate $\left(\mathrm{TBAPF}_{6}\right)$ as supporting electrolyte.

## 3. DFT Calculations

The geometries of QB4-QB6 were optimized using Gaussian 09 package, ${ }^{1}$ utilizing the B3LYP level of theory with basis set $6-31 G(d)$, in the gas phase. Excitation energy was computed using time dependent density functional theory (TDDFT) with 6-31G(d) basis set in the B3LYP optimized geometry. Molecular orbital contributions were determined using GaussSum 3.0 package. ${ }^{2}$ Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

Table S1. Optimized geometry, calculated HOMO and LUMO profiles and energy levels of QB4 (B3LYP/6-31G*).


Table S2. Optimized geometry, calculated HOMO and LUMO profiles and energy levels of QB5 (B3LYP/6-31G*).

| HOMO | HOMO-1 | LUMO | LUMO+1 | Optimized str. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |



Table S3. Optimized geometry, calculated HOMO and LUMO profiles and energy levels of QB6 (B3LYP/6-31G*).


Table S4. TD-DFT (B3LYP/6-31G*) calculated energies, oscillator strength $(f)$ and compositions of major electronic transitions of QB4.

| Energy ( $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ ) | Wavelength (nm) | $f$ | Major contributions |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 17703.18544 | 564.8700927 | 1.6204 | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO (99\%) |
| 21583.5456 | 463.3159067 | 0.2077 | $\mathrm{H}-1 \rightarrow$ LUMO (98\%) |
| 22794.99872 | 438.6927204 | 0.0288 | $\mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+1$ (95\%) |
| 24639.60144 | 405.8507206 | 0.0744 | $\mathrm{H}-2 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}$ (91\%) |
| 26442.26304 | 378.1824568 | 0.4494 | HOMO $\rightarrow$ L+2 (91\%) |
| 26890.7104 | 371.8756348 | 0.0161 | $\mathrm{H}-1 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+1$ (91\%) |
| 28410.26944 | 351.9853981 | 0.012 | $\mathrm{H}-1 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+3$ (12\%), $\mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+3$ (84\%) |
| 28803.06416 | 347.1852836 | 0.0778 | $\mathrm{H}-4 \rightarrow$ LUMO (28\%), H-3 $\rightarrow$ LUMO (57\%) |
| 29033.74032 | 344.4268596 | 0.119 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { H-5 } \rightarrow \text { LUMO (22\%), H-4 } \rightarrow \text { LUMO ( } 45 \% \text { ), H- } \\ & 3 \rightarrow \text { LUMO ( } 25 \% \text { ) } \end{aligned}$ |
| 29182.14736 | 342.6752623 | 0.1264 | $\mathrm{H}-5 \rightarrow$ LUMO (75\%), H-4 $\rightarrow$ LUMO (14\%) |
| 29506.38448 | 338.909703 | 0.0016 | $\mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+4$ (82\%) |
| 30218.57696 | 330.9222672 | 0.0557 | $\mathrm{H}-2 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+1$ (61\%), $\mathrm{H}-1 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+2$ (15\%) |
| 30602.49952 | 326.7706938 | 0.0368 | $\mathrm{H}-7 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(24 \%), \mathrm{H}-1 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+2$ (48\%) |
| 30788.00832 | 324.8017831 | 0.0123 | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{H}-7 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(55 \%), \mathrm{H}-2 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+1(22 \%), \mathrm{H}- \\ & 1 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+2(13 \%) \end{aligned}$ |
| 31211.45232 | 320.3952158 | 0.0127 | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{H}-1 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+2(13 \%), \mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+5(22 \%), \\ & \mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+6(36 \%) \end{aligned}$ |
| 31665.5456 | 315.8006537 | 0.0812 | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{H}-6 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(14 \%), \mathrm{H}-1 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+7 \text { (10\%), } \\ & \mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+7(72 \%) \end{aligned}$ |
| 32037.36976 | 312.1354866 | 0.0008 | $\mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+5$ (61\%), $\mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+6$ (28\%) |
| 32125.2848 | 311.2812871 | 0.0285 | $\mathrm{H}-6 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}$ (82\%), $\mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+7$ (12\%) |
| 32268.04592 | 309.9041084 | 0.0012 | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{H}-8 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(40 \%), \mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+6 \text { (13\%), } \\ & \mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+10(19 \%) \end{aligned}$ |
| 32531.79104 | 307.3916216 | 0.0337 | $\mathrm{H}-1 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+3$ (12\%), $\mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+8$ (20\%), |



Fig. S3. UV-Vis spectrum and calculated stick spectrum for QB4.

Table S5. TD-DFT (B3LYP/6-31G*) calculated energies, oscillator strength $(f)$ and compositions of major electronic transitions of QB5.

| Energy $\left(\mathbf{c m}^{-1}\right)$ | Wavelength $(\mathbf{n m})$ | $\boldsymbol{f}$ | Major contributions |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- |
| 12867.05168 | 777.1788168 | 0.7871 | $\mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow$ LUMO $(99 \%)$ |
| 16704.66416 | 598.6352018 | 0.0871 | $\mathrm{H}-1 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(98 \%)$ |
| 19064.65872 | 524.5307638 | 1.2649 | $\mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+1(96 \%)$ |
| 20543.0832 | 486.7818478 | 0.0127 | $\mathrm{H}-2 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(98 \%)$ |
| 22358.64976 | 447.2541995 | 0.0505 | $\mathrm{H}-3 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(57 \%), \mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+2(34 \%)$ |
| 22896.62528 | 436.7455849 | 0.1381 | $\mathrm{H}-1 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+1(69 \%), \mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+2(22 \%)$ |
| 23470.08944 | 426.0742178 | 0.023 | $\mathrm{H}-3 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(26 \%), \mathrm{H}-1 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+1(25 \%)$, |
| 24656.5392 | 405.5719223 | 0.0431 | $\mathrm{H}-4 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+2(41 \%)$ |
| 25218.71152 | 396.5309644 | 0.0002 | $\mathrm{H}-5 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(91 \%)$ |
| 26059.9536 | 383.7305374 | 0.0718 | $\mathrm{H}-2 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+1(75 \%), \mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+3(15 \%)$ |
| 26660.03424 | 375.0932917 | 0.463 | $\mathrm{H}-2 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+1(12 \%), \mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+3(72 \%)$ |
| 27081.05856 | 369.2617841 | 0.0337 | $\mathrm{H}-1 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+2(92 \%)$ |
| 27223.81968 | 367.3253833 | 0.0015 | $\mathrm{H}-7 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(94 \%)$ |
| 27657.74896 | 361.5623243 | 0.0006 | $\mathrm{H}-6 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(100 \%)$ |
| 28140.8784 | 355.3549345 | 0.0238 | $\mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+4(65 \%)$ |
| 28469.14832 | 351.2574345 | 0.0135 | $\mathrm{H}-1 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+5(13 \%), \mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+5(83 \%)$ |
| 28807.09696 | 347.13668 | 0.0117 | $\mathrm{H}-8 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(71 \%), \mathrm{H}-3 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+1(17 \%)$ |

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28949.85808 345.4248367 0.0197 H-8 }->\mathrm{ LUMO (15%), H-3 }->\textrm{L}+1(62%
29478.15488 339.2342581 0.0047 H-9->LUMO (46%), HOMO }->\mathrm{ L+7 (28%)
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$29816.10352 \quad 335.38923 \quad 0.0305 \quad \mathrm{H}-9 \rightarrow$ LUMO (19\%), HOMO $\rightarrow$ L+7 (55\%)


Fig. S4. UV-Vis spectrum and calculated stick spectrum for QB5.

Table S6. TD-DFT (B3LYP/6-31G*) calculated energies, oscillator strength $(f)$ and compositions of major electronic transitions of QB6.

| Energy $\left(\mathbf{c m}^{-1}\right)$ | Wavelength $(\mathbf{n m})$ | $\boldsymbol{f}$ | Major contributions |
| ---: | ---: | :--- | :--- |
| 14048.66208 | 711.8115549 | 0.7166 | $\mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(99 \%)$ |
| 17972.57648 | 556.403252 | 0.3114 | $\mathrm{H}-1 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(97 \%)$ |
| 19202.58048 | 520.7633427 | 1.1229 | $\mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+1(91 \%)$ |
| 22163.46224 | 451.1930443 | 0.0601 | $\mathrm{H}-3 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(79 \%), \mathrm{H}-2 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(13 \%)$ |
|  |  |  | $\mathrm{H}-3 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(19 \%), \mathrm{H}-2 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(38 \%), \mathrm{H}-1 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+1$ |
| 22583.68 | 442.7976309 | 0.3385 | $(38 \%)$ |
| 23790.29376 | 420.3394923 | 0.1337 | $\mathrm{H}-2 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(39 \%), \mathrm{H}-1 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+1(53 \%)$ |
|  |  |  | $\mathrm{H}-4 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(46 \%), \mathrm{H}-2 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+1(11 \%), \mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+2$ |
| 25943.80896 | 385.4484134 | 0.0257 | $(23 \%), \mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+3(14 \%)$ |
| 26164.8064 | 382.1927763 | 0.0423 | $\mathrm{H}-4 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(43 \%), \mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+2(37 \%)$ |
| 26231.75088 | 381.217405 | 0.1818 | $\mathrm{H}-3 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+1(38 \%), \mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+3(42 \%)$ |
| 26712.46064 | 374.3571262 | 0.0003 | $\mathrm{H}-5 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(98 \%)$ |
|  |  |  | $\mathrm{H}-3 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+1(25 \%), \mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+2(26 \%), \mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+3$ |
| 26946.36304 | 371.1075957 | 0.408 | $(34 \%)$ |
| 27014.92064 | 370.1658107 | 0.0266 | $\mathrm{H}-3 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+1(19 \%), \mathrm{H}-2 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+1(66 \%)$ |


| 28530.44688 | 350.5027468 | 0.0126 | $\mathrm{H}-1 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+4(12 \%), \mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+4(83 \%)$ |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- |
| 28701.4376 | 348.4146035 | 0.0011 | $\mathrm{H}-7 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(93 \%)$ |
| 28707.89008 | 348.3362926 | 0.001 | $\mathrm{H}-6 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(95 \%)$ |
| 29328.13472 | 340.9695194 | 0.0168 | $\mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+5(81 \%)$ |
| 30122.59632 | 331.976696 | 0.0066 | $\mathrm{H}-8 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(50 \%), \mathrm{H}-1 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+2(23 \%)$ |
| 30291.97392 | 330.120448 | 0.163 | $\mathrm{H}-4 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+1(17 \%), \mathrm{H}-1 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+3(60 \%)$ |
| 30499.25984 | 327.8768092 | 0.0006 | $\mathrm{H}-9 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(31 \%), \mathrm{H}-4 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+1(10 \%), \mathrm{H}-1 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+2(38 \%)$ |
| 30950.93344 | 323.0920327 | 0.013 | $\mathrm{H}-9 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}(26 \%), \mathrm{H}-4 \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+1(30 \%), \mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}+7$ |



Fig. S5. UV-Vis spectrum and calculated stick spectrum for QB6.

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## 4. Photovoltaic properties



(c)




Fig. S6. (a) IPCEs spectra and (b) Current-voltage characteristics (c) Open-circuit photovoltage plotted as a function of short-circuit photocurrent density. (d) Plots of opencircuit photovoltage versus extracted charge. (e) Plots of lifetime of photoinjected electrons in titania as a function extracted charge recorded for DSCs devices fabricated with the three dyes without the presence of CDCA.

## 5. Appendix: NMR and HR mass spectra of new compounds



Fig. S7. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum $\left(300 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$ of 5.


Fig. S8. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum $\left(75 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$ of $\mathbf{5}$.


Fig. S9. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum $\left(300 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$ of $\mathbf{6}$.


Fig. S10. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum ( $75 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) of $\mathbf{6}$.


Fig. S11. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum ( $500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) of 7 .


Fig. S12. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum $\left(125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$ of 7.


Fig. S13. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum ( $500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) of $\mathbf{1 0}$.


Fig. S14. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum ( $125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) of $\mathbf{1 0}$.


Fig. S15. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum ( 500 MHz , THF- $\mathrm{d}_{8}$ ) of QB4.


Fig. S16. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum ( $125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) of QB4.


Fig. $\mathbf{S 1 7}{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum ( $500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{THF}-\mathrm{d}_{8}$ ) of $\mathbf{Q B 5}$.


Fig. S18. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum ( $125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) of $\mathbf{Q B 5}$.


Fig. S19. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum ( 500 MHz , THF- $\mathrm{d}_{8}$ ) of QB6.


Fig. S20. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum ( 125 MHz , THF- $\mathrm{d}_{8}$ ) of QB6.


Fig. S21. HR mass spectrum (APCI) of compound 5.


Fig. S22. HR mass spectrum (APCI) of compound 6 .


Fig. S23. HR mass spectrum (APCI) of compound 7.


Fig. S24. HR mass spectrum (APCI) of compound 10.


Fig. S25. HR mass spectrum (APCI) of compound QB4.


Fig. S26. HR mass spectrum (APCI) of compound QB5.


Fig. S27. HR mass spectrum (APCI) of compound QB6.

