# **Supplementary Information**

for

# Peripherally ethynylated carbazole-based core-modified porphyrins

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#### Instrumentation and materials

<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were taken on a JEOL ECA-500 spectrometer, and chemical shifts were reported as the delta scale in ppm as internal reference ( $\delta$  = 7.260 for <sup>1</sup>H NMR, 77.00 for <sup>13</sup>C NMR, for CDCl<sub>3</sub>). UV/Vis/NIR absorption spectra were recorded on a JASCO V-650 spectrometer or on a JASCO V-570 spectrometer. Fluorescence spectra were recorded on a JASCO FP-777W spectrometer and relative fluorescence quantum yields were determined with the reference value of **1a** (0.274 in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>). High resolution ESI-TOF mass spectra and MALDI-TOF mass spectra were taken on a Bruker microTOF. Redox potentials were measured by cyclic voltammetry method and differential pulse voltammetry method on an ALS electrochemical analyzer model 6102B. X-ray data were taken on a Rigaku-Raxis imaging plate system. Recycling preparative GPC-HPLC was carried out on JAI LC-9225NEXT using preparative JAIGEL-1H, and 2H. Unless otherwise noted, materials obtained from commercial suppliers were used without further purification. Dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and toluene was distilled from CaH<sub>2</sub>.

# **Experimental section**

# $\beta$ -Tetrabrominated thiophene-bridged carbazole dimer (2)

To a  $CH_2Cl_2$  (50 mL) solution of **1a** (78.4 mg, 109 µmol) was added *N*-bromosuccinimide (97.0 mg, 545 µmol) and the resulting solution was stirred for 2 h. The mixture was passed through a silica gel column with  $CH_2Cl_2$ , and the solvent was evaporated, to give **2** (99.0 mg, 95.7 µmol, 88%).



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 9.47$  (s, 2H, NH), 8.20 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 4H, carbazole-H), 7.99 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 4H, carbazole-H), and 1.56 ppm (s, 36H, *t*Bu); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 143.13$ , 136.32, 133.82, 125.00, 124.20, 117.91, 114.84, 114.65, 35.04, and 31.98 ppm; HR-ESI-MS: m/z = 1032.9702. calcd for C<sub>48</sub>H<sub>45</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>4</sub>: 1032.9728 [(M–H)<sup>–</sup>]; Mp: > 300 °C; UV/Vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{max}$  ( $\varepsilon$ ) = 318 (31900) and 394 nm (18300 mol<sup>-1</sup>dm<sup>3</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>).

# $\beta$ -Tetraethynylated thiophene-bridged carbazole dimer (3a)

A dry toluene (5.0 mL) solution of **2** (151 mg, 146  $\mu$ mol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, (50.5 mg, 43.7  $\mu$ mol), and tributyl(trimethylsilylethynyl)tin (336 mg, 868  $\mu$ mol) was degassed. The mixture was stirred for 16 h at reflux under Ar. After the solvent was evaporated, the residue was separated over a silica gel column with dichloromethane/hexane as an eluent to give **3a** (130 mg, 118  $\mu$ mol, 81%).



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 9.63 (s, 2H, NH), 8.21 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 4H, carbazole-H), 8.15 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 4H, carbazole-H), 1.54 (s, 36H, *t*-Bu), and 0.25 ppm (s, 36H, TMS); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 143.06, 140.04, 135.86, 124.23, 124.09, 123.49, 117.69, 115.30, 99.61, 98.55, 35.14, 32.13, and 0.23 ppm; HR-ESI-MS: *m*/*z* = 1101.4871. calcd for C<sub>68</sub>H<sub>81</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>4</sub>: 1101.4924 [(M–H)<sup>–</sup>]; Mp: > 300 °C; UV/Vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{max}$  ( $\varepsilon$ ) = 296 (52600), 331 (35700), and 414 nm (18700 mol<sup>-1</sup>dm<sup>3</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>); Fluorescence (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $\lambda_{ex}$  = 360 nm);  $\lambda_{max}$  = 452 nm,  $\Phi_{\rm F}$  = 0.0713.

# $\beta$ -Tetraethynylated thiophene-bridged carbazole dimer (3b)

To a dry  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 mL) solution of **3a** (18.9 mg, 17.1 µmol) was added  $MnO_2$  (590 mg) and resulting suspension was stirred. After 14 h,  $MnO_2$  (914 mg) was added and the mixture was stirred for further 5 h. The



mixture was then passed through a pad of celite. Evaporation of the solvent provided **8** (18.6 mg, 16.9 µmol, 99%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 10.48$  (s, 4H, carbazole-H), 8.65 (s, 4H, carbazole-H), 1.79 (s, 36H, *t*Bu), and 0.55 ppm (s, 36H, TMS); The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum couldn't detect peaks due to poor solubility; MALDI-TOF-MS: m/z = 1099.12. calcd for C<sub>68</sub>H<sub>79</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>4</sub>: 1099.48 [(M–H)<sup>-</sup>]; Mp: > 300 °C; UV/Vis/NIR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{max}$  ( $\varepsilon$ ) = 319 (40600), 359 (34000), 393 (35500), 484 (28500), 877 (36200), 939 (26400), 976 (23100), and 1083 nm (72600 mol<sup>-1</sup>dm<sup>3</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>).

# 3,6-Dibromo-1,8-diiodocarbazole (4)





for 17 h at 90°C under Ar. After cooling to rt, water was added and resulting suspension was filtered, washed well with water and hexane to provided crude **4** (2.76 mg, 4.78 mmol, 76%). This product was used for next step without purification due to low solubility.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 8.09$  (s, 1H, NH), 8.03 (s, 2H, carbazole-H), and 7.91 ppm (s, 2H, carbazole-H); The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum couldn't detect peaks due to poor solubility; MALDI-TOF-MS: m/z = 576.58. calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>5</sub>NBr<sub>2</sub>I<sub>2</sub>: 576.69 [M<sup>+</sup>]; Mp: 225–227 °C; UV/Vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{max}$  ( $\varepsilon$ ) = 295 (12900), 303 (18700), 344 (4990) and 359 nm (5580 mol<sup>-1</sup>dm<sup>3</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>).

# 3,6-Dibromo-1,8-bis(trimethylsilylethynyl)carbazole (5)



A flask containing 4 (2.76 mg, 4.78 mmol), CuI (33.8 mg, 178  $\mu mol)$ , and

 $PdCl_2(PPh_3)_2$  (68.5 mg, 97.6 µmol) was purged with Ar, and then charged with anhydrous THF (24 mL) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (6 mL). After this solution was degassed, trimethylsilylacetylene (4.0 mL. 28 mmol)

was added and the mixture was stirred for 19 h at room temperature. After the solvents were evaporated, the residue was separated over a silica gel column with  $CH_2Cl_2$ /hexane to give **5** (1.88 mg, 3.64 mmol, 76%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 8.50$  (s, 1H, NH), 8.06 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 2H, carbazole-H), 7.66 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 2H, carbazole-H), 0.34 ppm (s, 18H, TMS); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 139.03$ , 131.88, 123.90, 123.33, 112.16, 107.64, 101.32, 98.73, and 0.02 ppm; MALDI-TOF-MS: m/z = 516.96. calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NBr<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>: 516.97 [M<sup>+</sup>]; Mp: 183–185 °C; UV/Vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{max}$  ( $\varepsilon$ ) = 309 (22800), 319 (22100), 366 (7450), and 379 nm (9000 mol<sup>-1</sup>dm<sup>3</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>).

# 3,6-Bis(triisopropylsilylethynyl)-1,8-bis(trimethylsilylethynyl)carbazole (6)

A dry toluene (30 mL) solution of **5** (1.32 g, 2.55 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, (27.4 mg, 23.7  $\mu$ mol), and tributyl(triisopropylsilylethynyl)tin<sup>[S1]</sup> (2.59 g, 5.50 mmol) was degassed. The mixture was stirred for overnight at reflux under



Ar. After the solvent was evaporated, the residue was separated over a silica gel column with dichloromethane/hexane as an eluent and recycling GPC to give **6** (954 mg, 1.33 mmol, 52%) as yellow oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 8.61$  (s, 1H, NH), 8.14 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 2H, carbazole-H), 7.70 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 2H, carbazole-H), 1.17 (s, 42H, TIPS), and 0.35 ppm (s, 18H, TMS); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 140.09$ , 133.25, 125.22, 122.71, 115.48, 106.94, 106.23, 100.32, 99.42, 88.94, 18.73, 11.37, and 0.04 ppm; MALDI-TOF-MS: m/z = 719.53. calcd for C<sub>44</sub>H<sub>65</sub>NSi<sub>4</sub>: 719.42 [M<sup>+</sup>]; Mp: 210–212 °C; UV/Vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{max}$  ( $\varepsilon$ ) = 315 (40000), 321 (39700), 364 (8600), and 381 nm (9220 mol<sup>-1</sup>dm<sup>3</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>).

#### 1,8-Diethynyl-3,6-bis(triisopropylsilylethynyl)carbazole (7)

Tetrabutylammonium fluoride (3.4 mL, 1.0 M in THF, 3.4 mmol) was added to the  $CH_2Cl_2$  (20 mL) solution of **6** (954 mg, 1.33 mmol) and stirred for 5 min. The



mixture was passed through a silica gel column with  $CH_2Cl_2$ , and solvent was evaporated, which provided 7 (645 mg, 1.12 mmol, 84%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 8.63$  (s, 1H, NH), 8.17 (s, 2H, carbazole-H), 7.73 (s, 2H, carbazole-H), 3.49 (s, 2H, C=CH), 1.18 ppm (s, 42H, TIPS); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 140.22$ , 133.86, 125.43, 122.78, 115.63, 106.74, 105.11, 89.24, 82.68, 78.60, 18.73, 11.38 78.95 ppm; MALDI-TOF-MS: m/z = 576.27. calcd for C<sub>38</sub>H<sub>50</sub>NSi<sub>2</sub>: 576.35 [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>]; Mp: 158–160 °C; UV/Vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{max}$  ( $\varepsilon$ ) = 308 (41600), 316 (44900), 360 (5540), and 377 nm (5600 mol<sup>-1</sup>dm<sup>3</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>).

#### Tetrakis(triisopropylsilylethynyl)-substituted butadiyne-bridged carbazole dimer (8)

To a pyridine (60 mL) suspension of  $Cu(OAc)_2 \cdot H_2O$  (1.52 g, 7.60 mmol) was added dropwise a toluene (200 mL) solution of 7 (585 mg, 1.02 mmol) for 3 h, and the mixture was stirred for further 3.5 days



under air. After the solvents were evaporated, the residue was separated over a silica gel column with CHCl<sub>3</sub> and GPC to give **8** (157 mg, 137 µmol, 27%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 9.48 (s, 2H, NH), 8.11 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 4H, carbazole-H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 4H, carbazole-H), 1.19 ppm (s, 84H, TIPS); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 142.18, 131.81, 126.19, 122.73, 115.91, 106.50, 104.71, 89.59, 79.62, 79.49, 18.75, and 11.38 ppm; HR-ESI-MS: *m/z* = 1146.6409. calcd for C<sub>76</sub>H<sub>93</sub>N<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>4</sub>: 1146.6453 [(M–H)<sup>-</sup>]; Mp: 260–270 °C (decomp.); UV/Vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{max}$  ( $\varepsilon$ ) =

300 (104000), 325 (98200) and 429 nm (60200 mol<sup>-1</sup>dm<sup>3</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>); Fluorescence (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $\lambda_{ex} = 360$  nm);  $\lambda_{max} = 436$  nm,  $\Phi_F = 0.975$ .

# Tetrakis(triisopropylsilylethynyl)-substituted thiophene-bridged carbazole dimer (9a)

A *p*-xylene/2-methoxyethanol (10.0 mL/10.0 mL) solution of **8** (157 mg, 137  $\mu$ mol) and Na<sub>2</sub>S•9H<sub>2</sub>O (604 mg, 2.52 mmol) was heated refluxed for 14 h under Ar. The mixture was diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, washed with water, and passed through a silica gel column with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.



After the solvent was evaporated, the residue was purified by recycling GPC to give 9a (68.2 mg, 56.1  $\mu$ mol, 41%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 10.47$  (s, 2H, NH), 8.25 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 4H, carbazole-H), 7.87 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 4H, carbazole-H), 7.46 (s, 4H, thiophene- $\beta$ ), and 1.21 ppm (s, 84H, TIPS); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 138.45$ , 136.80, 128.10, 127.19, 124.95, 123.72, 117.53, 116.04, 107.49, 89.13, 18.81, and 11.46 ppm; HR-ESI-MS: m/z = 1214.6260. calcd for C<sub>76</sub>H<sub>97</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>4</sub>: 1214.6207 [(M–H)<sup>–</sup>]; Mp: > 300 °C; UV/Vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{max}$  ( $\varepsilon$ ) = 315 (83600) and 410 nm (23600 mol<sup>-1</sup>dm<sup>3</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>); Fluorescence (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $\lambda_{ex} = 360$  nm);  $\lambda_{max} = 442$  nm,  $\Phi_{F} = 0.522$ .

# Tetrakis(triisopropylsilylethynyl)-substituted thiophene bridged carbazole dimer (9b)

To a dry  $CH_2Cl_2$  (20 mL) solution of **9a** (23.9 mg, 19.7 µmol) was added  $MnO_2$  (418 mg) and resulting suspension was stirred. After 14 h,  $MnO_2$  (918 mg) was added and the mixture was stirred for further 9 h. the mixture was then passed through a pad of celite. Evaporation of the solvent provided **9b** (19.4 mg, 16.0 µmol, 81%).



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 9.08 (s, 4H, carbazole-H), 8.97 (s, 4H, carbazole-H), 8.42 (s, 4H, thiophene- $\beta$ ), and 1.21 ppm (s, 84H, TIPS); The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum couldn't detect peaks due to poor solubility;

MALDI-TOF-MS: m/z = 1213.85. calcd for C<sub>76</sub>H<sub>96</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>4</sub>: 1213.61 [M<sup>+</sup>]; Mp: > 300 °C; UV/Vis/NIR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{max}$  ( $\varepsilon$ ) = 329 (53500), 361 (59300), 395 (40000), 925 (52100), 998 (38200), and 1110 nm (59300 mol<sup>-1</sup>dm<sup>3</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>).









**Fig. S4**  $^{1}$ H NMR spectrum of **4** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>





















**Fig. S11** Cyclic and differential pulse voltammograms of (a) **1b**, (b) **3b**, and (c) **9b** (solvent:  $CH_2Cl_2$  supporting electrolyte:  $Bu_4NPF_6$  (0.10 M), counter electrode: Pt, reference electrode:  $Ag/Ag^+$ , scan rate: 0.05 V/s).



**Fig. S12** NICS(0) values at the selected points of (a) **3b** and (b) **9b** calculated at B3LYP/6-31G<sup>\*</sup> level using Gaussian 09 package<sup>[S2-4]</sup>





S20

#### X-ray crystal structure

Single crystals of **3a** suitable for X-ray crystal analysis were obtained by slow diffusion of methanol into a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution of **3a**. X-ray data of **3a** at 93 K were taken on Rigaku-Raxis-RAPID imaging plate system with Cu-K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda$ = 1.54187 Å) and graphite monochromator. Structure was processed by CrystalStructure and then refined by YADOKARI. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically and the hydrogen atoms were calculated in ideal positions. The solvent molecules contained in the lattice were severely disordered for **3a**. The contribution to the scattering arising from the presence of the disordered solvents in the crystals was removed by use of the utility SQUEEZE in the PLATON software package: (a) A. L. Spek, *PLATON, A Multipurpose Crystallographic Tool*; Utrecht, The Netherlands, 2005; (b) P. van der Sluis, A. L. Spek, *Acta Crystallogr. Sect. A*, 1990, **46**, 194.

The following serious alerts were generated due to the rotation of *t*-butyl and trimethylsilyl groups.

Large Non-Solvent H Ueq(max)/Ueq(min) ... 10.0 Ratio

**Fig. S13** X-ray crystal structure of **3a**: (a) top view and (b) side view. Hydrogen atoms except for NH protons are omitted for clarity. The selected bond distances(Å) and angle(°) are shown. The thermal ellipsoids were at 50% probability level.



#### References

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