Supplementary information

Y-shaped Meal-Free D- π -(A)₂ Sensitizers for High-Performance Dye-Sensitized Solar Cells

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Fig. S1 Cyclic voltammograms of DA dyes recorded in THF.



Fig. S2 Schematic division and dihedral angles of molecules.





Fig. S3 Selected frontier orbitals of the dyes.



Fig. S4 Plot of the difference in the Mulliken charges between the ground and the excited states.



Fig. S5 Plot of the percentage increments of the device performance parameters after addition of CDCA.

Table S1. Calculated lower-lying transitions of the dyes.^a

Dye	State	Excitation ^a	$\begin{array}{c} \lambda_{cal,} \\ eV \end{array}$	f^{b}	Δ (Mulliken charge), ^c e	f×∆q	Dye	State	Excitation ^a	$\begin{array}{c} \lambda_{cal,} \\ eV \end{array}$	f^{b}	Δ (Mulliken charge), ^{<i>c</i>} e	f×∆q
DA1	S ₁	H → L (99%)	1.86	0.22	Am: 0.53 Ph: 0.27 T1: -0.02 T: -0.15 T': -0.22 Ac: -0.17 Ac': -0.24	-0.04 -0.05	DA2	S ₁	H → L (99%)	1.73	0.25	Am: 0.45 Ph: 0.25 T1: 0.15 T2: -0.07 T: -0.18 T': -0.19 Ac: -0.19	-0.05 -0.05
	S ₂	H → L1 (97%)	2.29	0.24	Am: 0.49 Ph: 0.24 T1: 0.08 T: -0.14 T': -0.19 Ac: -0.21 Ac': -0.26	-0.05 -0.06		S ₂	H → L1 (96%)	2.15	0.25	Ac: -0.21 Am: 0.40 Ph: 0.23 T1: 0.14 T2: 0.04 T: -0.12 T': -0.22 Ac: -0.17 Ac: -0.30	-0.04 -0.08
	S ₃	H1 → L (98%)	2.60	0.66	Am: 0.17 Ph: 0.04 T1: 0.10 T: 0.01 T': -0.07 Ac: -0.09 Ac': -0.16	-0.06 -0.10		S ₃	H1 → L (97%)	2.37	0.53	Am: 0.24 Ph: 0.05 T1: 0.14 T2: 0.11 T: -0.06 T': -0.16 Ac: -0.13 Ac': -0.20	-0.07 -0.11
DA3	S ₁	H → L (99%)	1.90	0.24	Am: 0.42 Ph: 0.24 T1: 0.17 T2: -0.02 Ph: -0.16 Ph': -0.17 Ac: -0.24 Ac': -0.25	-0.06 -0.06	DA4	S ₁	H → L (99%)	1.73	0.23	Am': 0.54 Ph: 0.23 T1: 0.11 T2: -0.06 Ph: -0.19 Ph': -0.14 Ac: -0.28 Ac': -0.21	-0.06 -0.05
	S ₂	H → L1 (98%)	2.19	0.28	Am: 0.41 Ph: 0.23 T1: 0.16 T2: 0.06 Ph: -0.11 Ph': -0.18 Ac: -0.23 Ac': -0.35	-0.06 -0.10		S ₂	H → L1 (99%)	2.03	0.19	Am': 0.52 Ph: 0.23 T1: 0.12 T2: 0.03 Ph: -0.10 Ph': -0.20 Ac: -0.20 Ac': -0.39	-0.04 -0.07
	S ₃	H1 → L (97%)	2.56	0.34	Am: 0.29 Ph: 0.06 T1: 0.17 T2: 0.18 Ph: -0.08 Ph': -0.16 Ac: -0.19 Ac': -0.26	-0.07 -0.09		S ₃	H1 → L (97%)	2.46	0.40	Am': 0.25 Ph: 0.06 T1: 0.23 T2: 0.17 Ph: -0.11 Ph': -0.14 Ac: -0.23 Ac': -0.23	-0.09 -0.09
DA5	$\overline{\mathbf{S}_1}$	H → L (99%)	1.91	0.34	Cbz: 0.42 T1: 0.29 T2: 0.03 T: -0.13 T': -0.21 Ac: -0.16 Ac': -0.24	-0.05 -0.08	S1	$\overline{\mathbf{S}_1}$	H → L (99%)	2.03	0.88	Am: 0.40 Ph: 0.22 T1: 0.09 T2: -0.10 T3: -0.28 Ac: -0.33	-0.29
	S ₂	$\begin{array}{c} H \rightarrow L1 \\ (95\%) \end{array}$	2.33	0.35	Cbz: 0.37 T1: 0.25 T2: 0.13	-0.06 -0.09		S ₂	$H1 \rightarrow L$ (93%) $H \rightarrow L1$	2.63	0.93	Am: 0.28 Ph: 0.04 T1: 0.05	-0.24

		T: -0.11			(6%)		T2: 0.04	
		T': -0.20					T3: -0.16	
		Ac: -0.18					Ac: -0.25	
		Ac': -0.27						
S_3	$\mathrm{H1} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}$	2.53 0.40 Cbz: 0.50	-0.06	S_3	$H2 \rightarrow L$	2.98 0.28	Am: 0.34	-0.05
	(97%)	T1: 0.03	-0.07		(8%)		Ph: 0.07	
		T2: 0.01			$H1 \rightarrow L$		T1: -0.08	
		T: -0.09			(5%)		T2: -0.08	
		T': -0.12			$H \rightarrow L1$		T3: -0.09	
		Ac: -0.15			(85%)		Ac: -0.17	
		Ac': -0.17						

^{*a*} Results are based on gas-phase TD-DFT calculation. ^{*b*} H = HOMO, L = LUMO, H1 = The next highest occupied molecular orbital, or HOMO – 1, H2 = HOMO – 2, L1 = LUMO + 1, L2 = LUMO + 2. In parentheses is the population of a pair of MO excitations. ^{*c*} Oscillator strength. ^{*d*} The difference of the Mulliken charge between the ground state and excited state.





































