

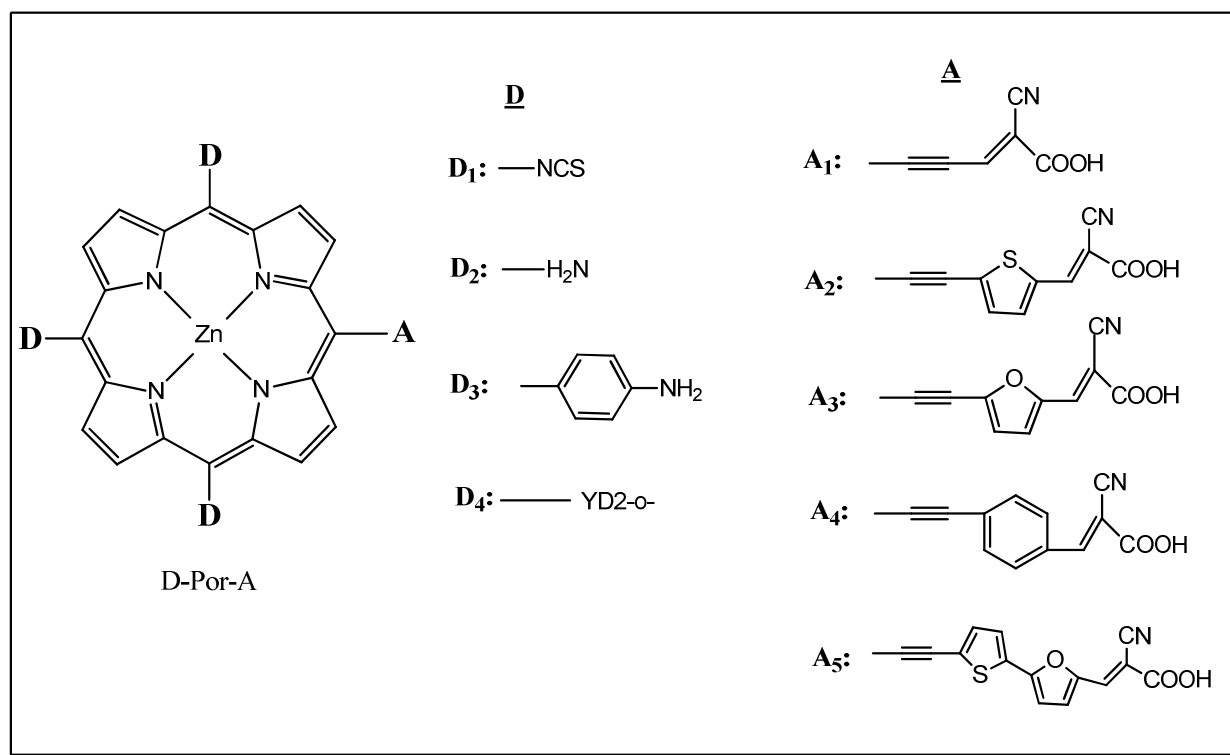
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## **Supporting Information**

### **Molecular Design of Porphyrins for Dye-Sensitized Solar Cells: A DFT/TDDFT Study**

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**Scheme S1.** Structure of porphyrin with different donors(D) and acceptors(A).

**Table S1.** Molecular orbital energy levels (eV) for all the investigated porphyrin dyes calculated at CAM-B3LYP level of theory.

| <b>System</b> | <b>HOMO</b> | <b>LUMO</b> | <b>HOMO-LUMO gap</b> |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|
| Dye 1         | -5.626      | -1.649      | 3.977                |
| Dye 2         | -5.227      | -1.637      | 3.590                |
| Dye 3         | -5.163      | -1.504      | 3.659                |
| Dye 4         | -5.052      | -1.457      | 3.595                |
| Dye 5         | -5.590      | -1.637      | 3.953                |
| Yd2-o-C8      | -5.639      | -1.523      | 4.116                |

**Table S2.** The absorption energy of reference dye (YD2-o-C8) calculated at different DFT methods.

| Methods          | Basis set Combination                                      | Absorption Energy(nm) |              |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
|                  |                                                            | Q band                | B band       |
| B3LYP            | 6-31G(d)                                                   | 613.4                 | 423.2        |
|                  | <b>6-31G(d)<sup>†</sup></b>                                | <b>642.6</b>          | <b>437.2</b> |
| CAM-B3LYP        | 6-31G(d)                                                   | 586.4                 | 384.8        |
|                  | 6-311G(d)                                                  | 606.3                 | 389.8        |
|                  | 6-311+G(d)                                                 | 599.1                 | 393.3        |
|                  | LANL2DZ for Zn, and 6-311G(d) for other atoms              | 597.6                 | 388.9        |
|                  | LANL2DZ for Zn, and 6-311+G(d) for other atoms             | 588.8                 | 381.3        |
| BHandHLYP        | LANL2DZ for Zn, and 6-31+G(d) for other atoms <sup>†</sup> | 568.6                 | 399.9        |
|                  | LANL2DZ for Zn, and 6-31G(d) for other atoms <sup>†</sup>  | 559.2                 | 392.5        |
|                  | 6-31+G(d)                                                  | 570.1                 | 384.2        |
|                  | LANL2DZ for Zn, and 6-31G(d) for other atoms               | 570.3                 | 380.2        |
|                  | LANL2DZ for Zn, and 6-31+G(d) for other atoms              | 580.9                 | 387.4        |
|                  | LANL2DZ for Zn, and 6-311+G(d) for other atoms             | 568.7                 | 377.1        |
| M062X            | 6-31G(d) <sup>†</sup>                                      | 566.3                 | 391.3        |
|                  | 6-31G(d)                                                   | 555.5                 | 378.2        |
| M06HF            | 6-31G(d) <sup>†</sup>                                      | 580.3                 | 370.1        |
|                  | 6-31G(d)                                                   | 573.1                 | 372.3        |
| Exp <sup>a</sup> |                                                            | 645                   | 448          |

<sup>†</sup>Performed in THF medium, <sup>a</sup> Taken from Ref.<sup>1</sup>

**Table S3.** The calculated absorption energies ( $\lambda$ ), oscillator strengths ( $f$ ) and electronic transition configurations for the selected porphyrin sensitizers and reference dyes (YD2-o-C8 and N3) calculated at TDB3LYP/6-31G\* in THF.

| System   | $\lambda(\text{nm})$ | $f$  | MO Character                                                         |
|----------|----------------------|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Dye 1    | 680.8                | 1.10 | H-0->L+0(92%)                                                        |
|          | 565.0                | 0.13 | H-0->L+1(59%) H-2->L+0(28%)                                          |
|          | 550.0                | 0.16 | H-2->L+0(59%) H-0->L+1(25%) H-1->L+2(8%) H-2->L+1(6%)                |
|          | 514.0                | 0.11 | H-1->L+0(55%) H-0->L+2(26%) H-1->L+1(10%) H-2->L+2(8%)               |
|          | 475.2                | 0.69 | H-2->L+1(47%) H-1->L+2(27%) H-2->L+0(11%) H-3->L+0(11%)              |
|          | 453.3                | 0.51 | H-3->L+0(47%) H-2->L+1(34%) H-1->L+2(12%)                            |
|          | 423.3                | 0.60 | H-1->L+1(43%) H-2->L+2(25%) H-0->L+2(16%) H-3->L+2(8%)               |
|          | 396.2                | 0.14 | H-3->L+0(33%) H-1->L+2(24%) H-3->L+1(13%) H-7->L+0(6%)               |
|          |                      |      | H-0->L+1(6%) H-2->L+1(5%)                                            |
|          | 387.3                | 0.22 | H-0->L+3(53%) H-3->L+1(40%)                                          |
|          | 367.4                | 0.15 | H-3->L+1(34%) H-0->L+3(31%) H-10->L+0(10%) H-1->L+2(10%)             |
|          | 365.7                | 0.13 | H-3->L+2(27%) H-9->L+0(24%) H-11->L+0(14%) H-7->L+2(9%)              |
| Dye 2    |                      |      | H-9->L+1(7%) H-6->L+2(5%)                                            |
|          | 783.8                | 1.36 | H-0->L+0(100%)                                                       |
|          | 584.2                | 0.10 | H-0->L+2(80%) H-1->L+0(13%) H-1->L+1(6%)                             |
|          | 479.5                | 0.15 | H-1->L+0(86%) H-0->L+2(11%)                                          |
|          | 418.1                | 0.82 | H-2->L+0(78%) H-0->L+3(11%) H-1->L+2(9%)                             |
|          | 385.6                | 0.24 | H-1->L+1(63%) H-3->L+0(31%)                                          |
|          | 381.8                | 0.34 | H-3->L+0(53%) H-1->L+1(27%) H-5->L+0(6%)                             |
| Dye 3    | 368.7                | 0.48 | H-1->L+2(65%) H-2->L+0(+11%) H-0->L+1(5%)                            |
|          | 772.3                | 1.31 | H-0->L+0(100%)                                                       |
|          | 400.1                | 0.92 | H-2->L+0(63%) H-0->L+3(23%) H-1->L+2(11%)                            |
|          | 391.4                | 0.10 | H-0->L+3(62%) H-1->L+2(24%) H-2->L+0(8%)                             |
|          | 383.1                | 0.47 | H-1->L+1(87%) H-0->L+2(6%) H-3->L+0(5%)                              |
|          | 374.3                | 0.14 | H-3->L+0(85%)                                                        |
| Dye 4    | 363.3                | 0.28 | H-1->L+2(37%) H-4->L+0(20%) H-2->L+0(+16%) H-5->L+0(7%)              |
|          | 839.3                | 1.10 | H-0->L+0(100%)                                                       |
|          | 644.2                | 0.20 | H-0->L+1(94%)                                                        |
|          | 594.2                | 0.13 | H-0->L+2(86%) H-1->L+1(9%) H-1->L+0(5%)                              |
|          | 472.3                | 0.09 | H-1->L+0(94%) H-0->L+2(5%)                                           |
|          | 463                  | 0.89 | H-2->L+0(61%) H-0->L+3(34%)                                          |
|          | 396.9                | 0.46 | H-1->L+1(85%) H-0->L+2(8%) H-2->L+2(5%)                              |
|          | 391.9                | 0.10 | H-2->L+1(78%) H-1->L+2(12%) H-2->L+1(5%)                             |
|          | 384.6                | 0.13 | H-0->L+4(61%) H-1->L+2(29%)                                          |
|          | 365.3                | 0.12 | H-2->L+2(54%) H-3->L+0(38%)                                          |
|          | 361.7                | 0.20 | H-1->L+2(30%) H-5->L+0(23%) H-0->L+4(17%) H-5->L+1(10%)              |
|          |                      |      | H-4->L+0(8%)                                                         |
| Dye 5    | 353.9                | 0.17 | H-4->L+0(79%)                                                        |
|          | 684.3                | 1.21 | H-0->L+0(96%)                                                        |
|          | 507.3                | 0.21 | H-1->L+0(62%) H-0->L+2(22%) H-1->L+1(15%)                            |
|          | 493.3                | 0.20 | H-2->L+0(82%) H-4->L+0(7%) H-2->L+1(6%)                              |
|          | 492.3                | 0.14 | H-3->L+0(83%) H-4->L+0(8%) H-3->L+1(6%)                              |
|          | 485.3                | 0.37 | H-4->L+0(78%) H-2->L+0(8%) H-3->L+0(6%)                              |
|          | 446.3                | 0.82 | H-5->L+0(40%) H-1->L+2(40%) H-5->L+1(5%) H-0->L+1(5%)                |
|          | 436.5                | 0.79 | H-1->L+1(44%) H-2->L+2(23%) H-0->L+2(+11%) H-4->L+2(9%)              |
|          |                      |      | H-5->L+2(6%)                                                         |
|          | 357.5                | 0.13 | H-8->L+0(48%) H-5->L+1(18%) -8->L+1(9%) H-0->L+3(7%)                 |
| Yd2-o-C8 | 353.1                | 0.27 | H-5->L+2(54%) H-6->L+2(18%) H-7->L+0(12%)                            |
|          | 642.6                | 0.51 | H-0->L+0(90%) H-1->L+1(7%)                                           |
|          | 492.3                | 0.14 | H-2->L+1(49%) H-1->L+0(31%) H-0->L+1(20%)                            |
|          | 437.2                | 1.67 | H-1->L+1(50%) H-0->L+2(29%) H-2->L+0(9%) H-0->L+0(8%)                |
|          | 425.5                | 0.18 | H-3->L+0(42%) H-4->L+0(31%) H-2->L+1(13%) H-1->L+0(8%)               |
|          | 422.2                | 0.56 | H-2->L+1(34%) H-1->L+0(23%) H-4->L+0(19%) H-0->L+1(10%) H-3->L+0(8%) |
|          | 406.2                | 0.27 | H-0->L+2(63%) H-1->L+1(16%) H-7->L+0(6%) H-8->L+0(6%)                |
|          | 365.7                | 0.11 | H-1->L+2(69%) H-10->L+0(19%) H-7->L+1(+6%)                           |

|    |                                                                                                 |                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|    | 363.6<br>336.8                                                                                  | 0.14<br>0.16                                                                         | H-10->L+0(74%) H-1->L+2(18%)<br>H-7->L+1(51%) H-8->L+1(20%) H-11->L+1(9%)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| N3 | 692.7<br>684.1<br>582.5<br>565.5<br>495.8<br>473.7<br>473.5<br>447.8<br>443.2<br>397.8<br>382.6 | 0.04<br>0.01<br>0.09<br>0.01<br>0.05<br>0.05<br>0.04<br>0.05<br>0.02<br>0.09<br>0.01 | H-0->L+0(95%)<br>H-0->L+1(90%) H-1->L+1(5%)<br>H-2->L+1(74%) H-1->L+0(21%)<br>H-2->L+0(44%) H-1->L+1(41%) H-0->L+3(7%) H-0->L+1(6%)<br>H-0->L+2(93%)<br>H-3->L+0(51%) H-0->L+3(39%)<br>H-3->L+1(95%)<br>H-1->L+2(80%) H-2->L+3(10%) H-0->L+4(7%)<br>H-2->L+3(81%) H-1->L+2(13%)<br>H-4->L+1(74%) H-5->L+0(20%)<br>H-3->L+2(90%) |

### Reference:

(1). Yella, A.; Lee, H. W.; Tsao, H. N.; Yi, C. Y.; Chandiran, A. K.; Nazeeruddin, M. K.; Diau, E. W. G.; Yeh, C. Y.; Zakeeruddin, S. M.; Gratzel, M. Porphyrin-Sensitized Solar Cells with Cobalt (II/III)-Based Redox Electrolyte Exceed 12 Percent Efficiency. *Science* **2011**, *334*, 629-634.