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## Data Article

# Data on the porphyrin effect and influence of dopant ions on *Thaumatococcus daniellii* dye as sensitizer in dye-sensitized solar cells

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## ABSTRACT

In this work, data on the effect of porphyrin characteristic of UV/VIS absorption of *Thaumatococcus daniellii* (*T. daniellii*) dye-sensitized solar cells sensitized with different electrolytes were presented. The influence of dopants from 1 g/100 ml electrolyte: distilled water and applied time difference of 3 min is observed on the photovoltaic characteristics and performance of the deposited thin film. The output efficiency and incident photon to conversion efficiency of *T. daniellii* dye-sensitized solar cells was acquired and could be further used as a model for designing dye-sensitized solar models as substitute for silicon solar cells

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## Specifications table

|                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Subject area               | Materials Science          |
| More specific subject area | Dye-sensitized solar cells |
| Type of data               | Table, image               |

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|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| How data was acquired | The photovoltaic characterization took place under 1.5 standard condition of air mass. The volume of four different electrolytes was constant and introduction of the ions was by use of a 21 G × 1.5 in. hypodermic needle in-between two transparent conducting slides. Doctor blade application of photoanode was employed with high temperature sintering at 450 °C in an autoclave. The thin film depth was measured using a profilometer. The photovoltaic value was obtained from parallel connection of each doped dye-sensitized solar cell with a variable resistor and a digital multimeter. |
| Data format           | Raw, Analyzed   |
| Experimental factors  | The weight of <i>T. daniellii</i> dye was measured appropriately and volume of electrolyte in distilled water was obtained before the injection was done and required data acquired.  |
| Experimental features | The thin film depositions were performed on an active area of 6.25 cm <sup>2</sup> and temperature of 38 °C. The effect of ionic dopant difference on the photovoltaic properties of the <i>T. daniellii</i> solar cells and porphyrin characteristic absorbance was acquired, at a current density interval of 3 min for determining the potential difference for different loads. The irradiance of Ota in Nigeria as it influences the crop of sunlight harvested and roughness factor of the dye was put into consideration.  |
| Data source location  | Renewable Energy Research Laboratory, Department of Physics, Covenant University, Ota, Ogun State, Nigeria  |
| Data accessibility    | Data are available within this article  |

### Value of the data

- The given data will demonstrate to authors in materials science with specialization in dye-sensitized solar cells the correlation between influence of ionic dopant on reaction kinematics and photovoltaic performance of *Thaumatococcus daniellii* (*T. daniellii*) dye-sensitized solar cells.
- The data obtained for the mercury ion dopant can be used as material for theoretical simulation for higher efficiency dye-sensitized solar cells.
- The data can be used to illustrate the relationship between UV/VIS absorbance characteristic as it affects the photovoltaic characterization of *T. daniellii* dye sensitized solar cells.
- The data could be used for investigating the progression of porphyrin efficiency in dye-sensitized solar cells relative to that of a solar simulator.
- The data obtained can be used in investigating the porphyrin behaviour of *T. daniellii* dye in reaction to different dopants in an electrolyte, dye cocktails with synthesized dyes or other N3 or N719 dyes relating to their kinematics and photovoltaic characteristics.

## 1. Data

The data generated from the experiment are on variation of ion dopants in dye-sensitized solar cells. The ionic deposition was performed at 8.5 mm width depth and a temperature of 38 °C. The data acquired from UV/VIS spectroscopic analysis of *Thaumatococcus daniellii* (*T. daniellii*) is presented in Fig. 1. The absorbance of *T. daniellii* reveals strong absorbance in solet and Q bands respectively. The significance of this is that the crop of sunlight harvested is larger across the electromagnetic spectrum which agrees with other research work [1,2]. The influence of different chromophores on absorbance were considered as shown in Table 1 and each photovoltaic result is compared with others as representative data for better precision as shown in Fig. 2. This enquiry was considered necessary

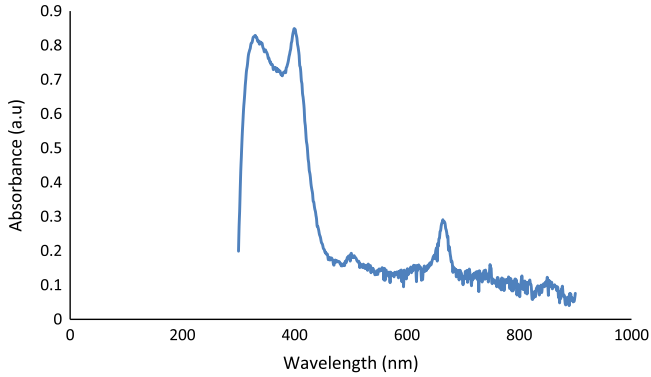


Fig. 1. UV/VIS of *T. daniellii* dye.

Table 1  
Data showing Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) of *T. daniellii* dye.

| Absorption peak (cm) <sup>-1</sup>   | Type of bond                     | Assignment                  |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. 505.37; 584.45  | Bromoalkanes                     | Medium to strong appearance |
| 2. 684.75; 738.76; 837.13  | C-X                              | Weak to medium appearance   |
| 3. 790.84; 833.28  | S-OR                             | Strong appearance           |
| 4. 970.23; 1041.6; 1097.53; 1192.05; 1240.27                                       | P-OR esters and P=O              | Strong appearance           |
| 5. 1300.07; 1377.22; 1452.45; 1637.62; 1741.78; 2362.88; 2729.37; 2854.74; 2926.11 | Carboxylic acids and derivatives | Strong appearance           |
| 6. 3439.19   | Amines in dilute solution        | Weak appearance             |

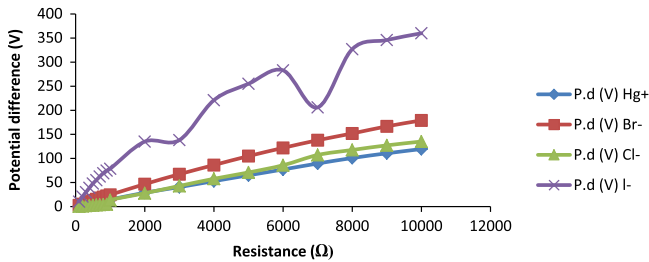


Fig. 2. Variation of potential difference and effect of dopants on resistance.

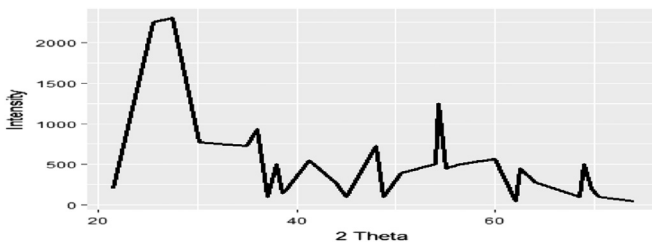


Fig. 3. Theoretical simulation of efficient charge transport pathway.

because of the low output performance of liquid electrolyte dye-sensitized solar cells to obtain the required data for theoretical simulation presented in Fig. 3.

## 2. Experimental design, materials and methods

*T. daniellii* dye was extracted from 4000 ml of its methanolic solution with 200 g of *T. daniellii* leaves commercially bought from a vegetable market in Nigeria. Phytochemical screening revealed a chromophore rich compound in carbohydrate, tannin, saponin, flavonoid, steroid, alkaloid and cardiac glycoside. The pathway used for charge transport is the porphyrin-flavonolic pathway in which the flavonoid attaches itself to *T. daniellii* moiety to elongate the molecule and aid absorption of photons of light within the visible spectrum as illustrated by Table 1 [2]. Indium doped tin oxide conducting glass of dimension (2.5 cm × 2.5 cm × 0.01 cm) was sourced and sectioned into (1.5 cm × 1.20 cm × 0.01 cm) as active area of exposure to sunlight served as the photoanode. The photoanode comprised of a uniform blend of TiO<sub>2</sub> Degussa and conc. HNO<sub>3</sub> applied on the active area. The counter electrode made by soot coated epitaxial layers on indium doped tin oxide from a naked Bunsen flame in a simulated vacuum. The slides were of surface resistivity 10 Ω/m<sup>2</sup>. Initial surface preparation was performed by demarcating the ITO using masking tape on an active surface area of 3.14 m<sup>2</sup> as described in our previous studies [3–5]. Each 0.1 g of dye extract was grown on the photoanode by inserting the ITO vertically in the dye solution. Thus, the dye soaked into the TiO<sub>2</sub> framework via capillary action. The set-up was allowed to dry before the two electrodes were coupled together with binder clips. 1 ml of potassium bromate, potassium chloride, mercury chloride and potassium iodide were dissolved in deionized water to give the aqueous electrolyte solution [6–11]. The doped specimens were obtained from injecting the middle of the sandwich of electrodes with the resulting electrolytic solution. The result obtained from the photovoltaic characterization of the samples is shown in Table 2 as obtained from 3650 digital multimeter [12–15]. The duration of obtaining the photoelectric values was 3 min as described by [16–19]. X-ray diffraction (XRD) micrograph of *T. daniellii* was modelled with gg plots of Octave software to identify the best conduit for charge transport. The result of modelling is given by the efficient path shown in Fig. 3. The software program used to obtain the plot is accessible from the Appendix A. *I*–*V* plot of *T. daniellii* dye-sensitized solar cells is presented in Table 3. The photovoltaic characterization parameter for *T. daniellii* under the influence of dopants is as shown on Table 4 and illustrated by Fig. 4. The choice of electrolyte is due to

**Table 2**

Data showing potential difference of *T. daniellii* DSCs connected across various loads for different ion dopants in 3 min.

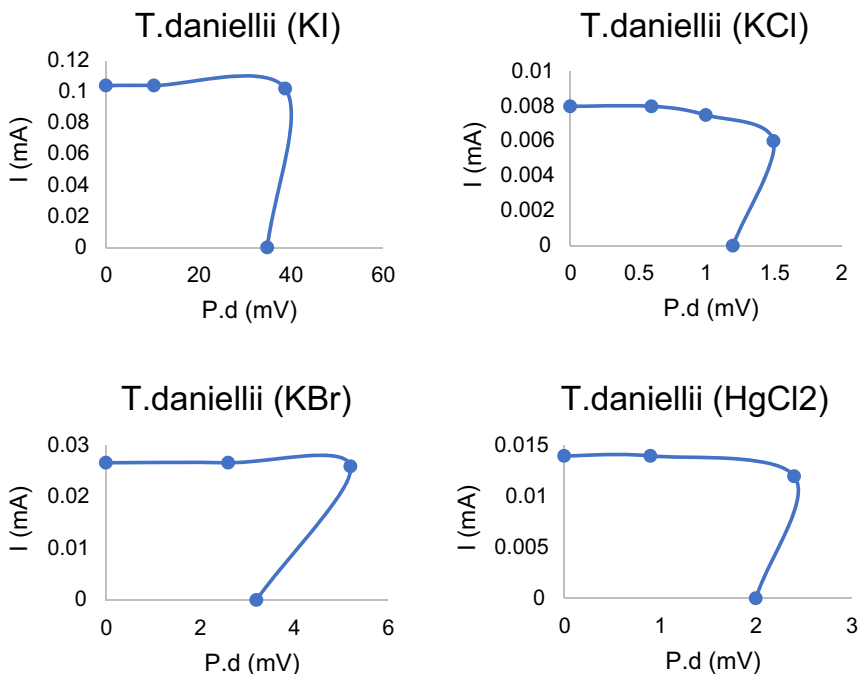
| Resistance (Ω) | P.d (mV) Hg <sup>+</sup> | Br <sup>-</sup> | Cl <sup>-</sup> | I <sup>-</sup> |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 100            | 0.9                      | 2.6             | 0.6             | 10.4           |
| 200            | 2.4                      | 5.2             | 1.2             | 20.8           |
| 300            | 3.8                      | 8.0             | 1.8             | 29.9           |
| 400            | 5.6                      | 10.4            | 2.4             | 38.9           |
| 500            | 7.1                      | 12.8            | 2.9             | 47.8           |
| 600            | 8.7                      | 15.3            | 3.4             | 55.0           |
| 700            | 10.2                     | 17.9            | 3.9             | 62.5           |
| 800            | 11.8                     | 20.0            | 4.3             | 69.4           |
| 900            | 13.3                     | 22.2            | 4.6             | 74.8           |
| 1000           | 14.7                     | 24.5            | 13.5            | 78.5           |
| 2000           | 28.8                     | 46.7            | 27.8            | 135.0          |
| 3000           | 40.5                     | 67.3            | 42.9            | 138.1          |
| 4000           | 52.9                     | 86.3            | 57.8            | 221.0          |
| 5000           | 65.0                     | 104.9           | 70.9            | 255.0          |
| 6000           | 77.1                     | 121.9           | 85.9            | 283.0          |
| 7000           | 89.5                     | 137.9           | 107.2           | 206.0          |
| 8000           | 100.9                    | 151.9           | 117.6           | 327.0          |
| 9000           | 110.7                    | 166.7           | 127.2           | 346.0          |
| 10,000         | 119.5                    | 179.0           | 135.1           | 360.0          |

**Table 3**Data showing *T. daniellii*'s current-voltage parameters for four different electrolytes.

| Resistance ( $\Omega$ ) | HgCl <sub>2</sub> I (mA) | P.d (mV) | KBr I (mA) | P.d (mV) | KCl I (mA) | P.d (mV) | KI I (mA) | P.d (mV) |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------|------------|----------|------------|----------|-----------|----------|
| 100                     | 0.0                      | 0.0090   | 0.0        | 0.0260   | 0.0        | 0.0000   | 10.4      | 0.1040   |
| 200                     | 0.9                      | 0.0090   | 2.6        | 0.0260   | 0.6        | 0.0060   | 20.8      | 0.1040   |
| 300                     | 2.4                      | 0.0120   | 5.2        | 0.0267   | 1.2        | 0.0060   | 29.9      | 0.0997   |
| 400                     | 3.8                      | 0.0130   | 8.0        | 0.0260   | 1.8        | 0.0060   | 38.8      | 0.0970   |
| 500                     | 5.6                      | 0.0140   | 10.4       | 0.0256   | 2.4        | 0.0060   | 47.8      | 0.0956   |
| 600                     | 7.1                      | 0.0142   | 12.8       | 0.0255   | 2.9        | 0.0058   | 55.0      | 0.0917   |
| 700                     | 8.7                      | 0.0145   | 15.3       | 0.0256   | 3.4        | 0.0057   | 62.5      | 0.0893   |
| 800                     | 10.2                     | 0.0146   | 17.9       | 0.0250   | 3.9        | 0.0056   | 69.4      | 0.0868   |
| 900                     | 11.8                     | 0.0148   | 20.0       | 0.0247   | 4.3        | 0.0054   | 74.8      | 0.0831   |
| 1000                    | 13.3                     | 0.0148   | 22.2       | 0.0245   | 4.6        | 0.0051   | 78.5      | 0.0785   |
| 2000                    | 14.7                     | 0.0147   | 24.5       | 0.0234   | 13.5       | 0.0135   | 135.0     | 0.0675   |
| 3000                    | 28.8                     | 0.0144   | 46.7       | 0.0224   | 27.8       | 0.0139   | 138.1     | 0.0460   |
| 4000                    | 40.5                     | 0.0135   | 67.3       | 0.0216   | 42.9       | 0.0143   | 221.0     | 0.0553   |
| 5000                    | 52.9                     | 0.0132   | 86.3       | 0.0210   | 57.8       | 0.0145   | 255.0     | 0.0510   |
| 6000                    | 65.0                     | 0.0130   | 104.9      | 0.0203   | 70.9       | 0.0142   | 283.0     | 0.0472   |
| 7000                    | 77.1                     | 0.0129   | 121.9      | 0.0197   | 85.9       | 0.0143   | 206.0     | 0.0294   |
| 8000                    | 89.5                     | 0.0128   | 137.9      | 0.0190   | 107.2      | 0.0153   | 327.0     | 0.0409   |
| 9000                    | 100.9                    | 0.0126   | 151.9      | 0.0185   | 117.6      | 0.0147   | 346.0     | 0.0384   |
| 10,000                  | 110.7                    | 0.0123   | 166.7      | 0.0179   | 166.7      | 0.0179   | 360.0     | 0.0360   |
| $V_{oc}$                | 119.5                    | 0.0120   | 179        | 0        | 179        | 0        | 123.0     | 0.0000   |

**Table 4**Data showing the influence of ion dopants on *T. daniellii*'s photovoltaic parameters from four different electrolytes.

| Electrolyte       | $I_{sc}$ (mA) | $V_{oc}$ (mV) | Fill factor (%) | $P_{max}$ (W) | $\eta$ (%) | IPCE(%) $\times 10^{-3}$ |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|------------|--------------------------|
| KCl               | 0.006         | 120.8         | 2.5             | 1.819         | 0.01       | 0.010                    |
| HgCl <sub>2</sub> | 0.009         | 97.9          | 1.5             | 1.362         | 0.43       | 0.010                    |
| KBr               | 0.026         | 123.8         | 1.0             | 3.083         | 0.01       | 0.010                    |
| KI                | 0.102         | 302.0         | 0.3             | 9.110         | 0.03       | 0.003                    |

**Fig. 4.** I-V plots of *T. daniellii* with different electrolytic dopants.

a preliminary study from our previous work [20,21]. The efficiency ( $\eta$ ) and incident photon to conversion efficiency of *T. daniellii* DSCs were determined from Eqs. (1) and (2) respectively. This expresses the ratio of power output obtained from the DSC to the power input and quantum efficiency respectively expressed as a percentage.

$$\eta = \frac{V_{oc} I_{sc} f}{P_{in}} \quad (1)$$

$$IPCE = \frac{I_{sc} \times 1240}{P \times \lambda} \times 100 \quad (2)$$

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## Appendix A

### R Octave – gg plot.

```
R-Shining:
#populate data on excel.
#log data into R studio.
#Tools-Global-Appearance.
#xy plot (intensity~2theta, data= XRD).
#grid on.
x label ('theta').
y label ('f(x)=ef f').
#help(log).
Prod().
```

## Transparency document. Supporting information

Transparency data associated with this article can be found in the online version at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2018.09.017>.

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