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Data Article

Synthesis of cyanopyridine based conjugated polymer



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ARTICLE INFO

Article history: Received 5 October 2015 Received in revised form 29 February 2016 Accepted 5 April 2016 Available online 11 April 2016

ABSTRACT

This data file contains the detailed synthetic procedure for the synthesis of two new cyanopyridine based conjugated polymer **P1** and **P2** along with the synthesis of its monomers. The synthesised polymers can be used for electroluminescence and photovoltaic (PV) application. The physical data of the polymers are provided in this data file along with the morphological data of the polymer thin films. The data provided here are in association with the research article entitled 'Cyanopyridine based conjugated polymer-synthesis and characterisation' (Hemavathi et al., 2015) [3].

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Specifications Table

Subject areaChemistryMore specific subject areaSynthesis of conjugated polymersType of dataGraph, imageHow data wasNMR, UV-vis, CV, AFMacquiredSupplement

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http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2016.04.007

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| Data format | Analyzed |
|--------------------|--|
| Experimental | The materials required for polymer synthesis are either synthesized according to |
| factors | available standard procedure or directly procured |
| Experimental | The synthesized compounds are analyzed for their chemical, photophysical, |
| features | thermal, and electrochemical properties. |
| Data source | Bangalore, India |
| location | |
| Data accessibility | Data are provided with this article |

Value of the data

- The data presented here is essentially aimed at reproducing the synthetic route of the new conjugated cyanopyridine based polymer.
- The data provides an opportunity to synthesis derivatives of the cyanopyridine based polymers.
- The data provided here will be a reference value for the comparison new experimental data for the synthesis of conjugated polymers.

1. Data

The NMR data was obtained at 400 MHz with Jeol AV-III400 (L) spectrometer using deuterated CDCl₃ or DMSO- d_6 as solvents. The chemical shift (δ) is represented with part per million (ppm). The UV–vis and photoluminescence data were obtained for polymer solution in CHCl₃. The energy levels were investigated with Electrochemical (CV). The AFM data were obtained with Bruker Instrument for the polymer thin film.

2. Experimental design, materials and methods

The polymers were designed to be synthesised with Heck polymerisation technique. The synthesised polymers were after purification were analysed for chemical, photophysical, electrochemical and thermal properties. The reagents and organic solvents were procured from Spectrochem, and used as received without much purification. Compounds **2** and **3** were procured from Spectrochem and compound **1** was synthesised according to the literature [1].

2.1. Synthesis of monomers and polymers

2.1.1. Synthesis of 1,3-Bis(4-bromophenyl)prop-2-en-1-one (4)

The compound **4** was synthesised through Claisen–Schmidth reaction from 4-bromobenzaldehyde (compound **2**) and 4-bromoacetophenone (compound **3**) Schemes 1–5).

Compound **2**, (2 g, 10.8 mmol) and compound **3**, (2.15 g, 10.8 mmol) were dissolved in 15 mL ethanol. Aqueous solution of potassium hydroxide (3.24 mmol) prepared by dissolving 0.72 g in 2 ml of water was added with constant stirring, and kept the reaction on for 8 h at room temperature. The



Scheme 1. Synthesis of compound 4.



Scheme 5. Synthesis of compound M3.

product obtained as precipitate in the reaction mixture was filtered and washed with 10 mL ethanol to remove the impurities. The compound is then recrystallised from 1:1 ratio of ethanol and chloroform mixture to obtain a pale yellow product **4** (3.722 g, 94%). Melting point, T_m =186.57 °C. ATR-IR (cm⁻¹): 810, 998, 1180, 1595, 1654. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, d/ppm): 7.43 (S, 1H), 7.49 (d, J=1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, J=2 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, J=2 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, J=2 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, J=2 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, J=2 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.88 (d, J=2 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, J=2 Hz, 1H). ESI-MS/MS (C₁₅H₁₀Br₂O), [M+Na]⁺: calcd, 389.05; found, 389.2.

2.1.2. Synthesis of 4,6-Bis(4-bromophenyl)-2-hydroxypyridine-3-carbonitrile (5)

Compound 5 was synthesised from one pot synthesis of compounds 2 and 3.

Compound **2**, 4-bromobenzaldehyde (2 g, 10.8 mmol) and compound **3**, 4-bromoacetophenone (2.15 g, 10.8 mmol) were dissolved in 35 mL of 1,4-dioxane. Ammonium acetate (6.6 g, 85.7 mmol) was added followed with 1.5 mL of ethyl cyanoacetate (12.9 mmol) with constant stirring and kept the reaction at 80 °C for 24 h. The reaction mixture was cooled and poured into 100 mL of distilled water and stirred for 10 min. The obtained precipitate was filtered and the filtrate was thoroughly washed with 1,4-dioxane to remove the impurity and dried to afford a white product **5** (1.66 g, 36%). Melting point, T_m =324.89 °C. ATR-IR (cm⁻¹): 810, 1004, 1230, 1495, 1635, 2219 (-CN). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, d/ppm): 3.56 (s, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J*=2 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d, *J*=2 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, *J*=2 Hz, 1H),

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7.75 (d, *J*=2 Hz, 2H), 7.77 (t, *J*=2 Hz, 2H), 7.79 (d, *J*=2 Hz, 1H). ESI-MS/MS (C₁₈H₁₀Br₂N₂O), [M+H]⁺: calcd, 431.09; found, 431.2.

2.1.3. Synthesis of 2-Methoxy-4,6-bis (4-vinylphenyl) pyridine-3-carbonitrile (M1)

Monomer **M1** was synthesised via Wittig reaction from compound **1** in presence of paraformaldehyde.

Compound **1** (1 g, 1.003 mmol) was dissolved in 8 mL *N*,*N*-dimethylfarmamide (DMF) and 67.90 mg of paraformaldehyde (2.204 mmol) was added and stirred the mixture. Further, sodium methoxide solution (prepared by adding 103 mg of sodium (4.904 mmol) in 4 mL of methanol) was added slowly into it with constant stirring and allowed to stand for 2 days at room temperature. The reaction mixture was poured into 30 mL of distilled water and the precipitate was filtered. The product was then sonicated with 15 mL of methanol for 10 min to remove the impurity and filtered and dried to afford bright yellow product **M1** (250 mg, 73%). Melting point, T_m =196.87 °C. ATR-IR (cm⁻¹): 1106, 1436, 1571, 1659, 2218 (-CN). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, d/ppm): 4.16 (m, *J*=5.2 Hz, 3H), 7.41 (m, *J*=7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (m, *J*=12 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (m, *J*=8 Hz, 2H), 7.82 (m, *J*=8.4 Hz, 5H), 7.91 (m, *J*=12 Hz, 2H), 8.33 (m, *J*=4.8 Hz, 2H). ESI-MS/MS (C₂₃H₁₈N₂O), [M+H]⁺: calcd, 339.40; found, 339.2.

2.1.4. Synthesis of 4,6-Bis(4-bromophenyl)-2-methoxypyridine-3-carbonitrile (M2)

Compound **4** was cyclised with malononitrile to obtain comonomer **M2**.

Compound **4** (3.5 g, 9.560 mmol) was dissolved in 5 mL of methanol and 15 mL of sodiummethoxide (190 mmol) solution (prepared by dissolving 4 g of sodium in 15 mL methanol) was added with constant stirring. 1 mL of malononitrile was added with a micro-syringe to the reaction mixture at room temperature with constant stirring and allowed the reaction for 8 h at room temperature. The product precipitates out from the reaction mixture and the precipitate was filtered and washed with methanol to remove the impurities and then dried to afford creamy yellow coloured product **M2** (2.008 g, 47%). Melting point, T_m =174.13 °C. ATR-IR (cm⁻¹): 817, 1005, 1366, 1539, 2217 (–CN). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, d/ppm): 3.30 (s, 3H), 7.52 (m, *J*=1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (m, *J*=2.8 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (m, *J*=2.8 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (m, *J*=1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (m, *J*=1.2 Hz, 2H). ESI-MS/MS (C₁₉H₁₂ Br₂N₂O), [M+CH3OH]⁺: calcd, 473.9; found, 473.0.

2.1.5. Synthesis of 4, 6-Bis (4-bromophenyl)-2-(octyloxy) pyridine-3-carbonitrile (M3)

Alkylation of Compound 4 with 1-bromooctane affords monomer M3.

Compound **5** (0.33 g, 0.767 mmol) was dissolved in 8 mL of DMF. 1-bromooctane (0.15 mL, 0.777 mmol) was then added, followed by 148 mg of potassium carbonate (1.072 mmol) and the



Scheme 6. Synthesis of polymers P1 and P2.

reaction mixture was stirred at 90 °C for overnight. The reaction mixture was cooled and poured into ice cold water with constant stirring. The obtained precipitate was filtered, washed with water and dried to obtain creamy yellow product **M3** (280 mg, 75%). Melting point, T_m =79.16 °C. ATR-IR (cm⁻¹): 820, 998, 1348, 1540, 2219 (–CN), 2918. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, d/ppm): 0.88 (t, *J*=4.8 Hz, 3 H), 1.29 (m, *J*=6.4 Hz, 4H), 1.39 (m, *J*=4 Hz, 4H), 1.519 (m, *J*=7.2 Hz, 4H), 1.89 (m, *J*=6.8 Hz, 2H), 4.576 (t, *J*=6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (s, 1H) 7.52 (d, *J*=6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (d, *J*=2 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d, *J*=2 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J*=2 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J*=2 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, *J*=2 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d, *J*=2 Hz, 1H). ESI-MS/MS (C26H26Br2N2O), [M+H]⁺: calcd, 543.31; found, 543.1.

2.2. Synthesis of polymers P1 and P2

Synthetic route for the preparation of copolymer P1 and P2 is shown in Scheme 6.

Polymer **P1** was synthesised from the reaction of the monomer **M2** with monomer **M1** under nitrogen atmosphere via Heck coupling reaction. The monomers, **M1** (0.1 g, 0.295 mmol) and **M2** (0.1312 g, 0.297 mmol) were dissolved in 8 mL DMF and 7 mL triethylamine (TEA) solvents and stirred purged with nitrogen gas for 15 min. To this, triphenylphosphine (250 mg, 0.953 mmol) was added and again purged with nitrogen gas for 10 min. Further, catalytic amount (0.1 eq.) of palladium (II) acetate (Pd(OAc)₂) was added to the reaction mixture under inert atmosphere and stirred at 120 °C for 2 days. The reaction mixture was cooled and poured into a beaker containing 40 mL methanol and the obtained precipitate was filtered. The crude polymer was then dissolved in chloroform and undissolved impurities are removed by filtration. The polymer was then precipitated in methanol and washed with acetone (to remove oligomers) to afford dark yellow product **P1** (0.099 g, 53%). ATR-IR (cm⁻¹): 696, 826, 963 (*trans*-vinylene), 1008, 1360, 1589, 2222 (–CN). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, d/ ppm): 4.24 (b, 3H), 7.26 (b, 2H), 7.54 (b, 4H), 7.69 (b, 5H), 8.13 (b, 2H).

Copolymer **P2** was synthesised from the reaction of the monomer M3 with monomer M1 under nitrogen atmosphere via Heck coupling reaction. The monomers, M1 (0.1 g, 0.295 mmol) and M3 (0.16 g, 0.295 mmol) were dissolved in 8 mL DMF and 7 mL triethylamine (TEA) solvents and stirred under nitrogen atmosphere for 15 min. To this, triphenylphosphine (250 mg, 0.953 mmol) was added and again purged with nitrogen gas for 10 min. Further, catalytic amount (0.1 eq.) of palladium (II) acetate $(Pd(OAc)_2)$ was added to the reaction mixture under inert atmosphere and stirred at 120 °C for 2 days. The reaction mixture was cooled and poured into a beaker containing 40 mL methanol and the obtained precipitate was filtered. The crude polymer was then dissolved in chloroform and undissolved impurities are removed by filtration. The polymer was then precipitated in methanol and



Fig. 1. Absorption spectra of P1 and P2 in solution.

washed with acetone (to remove oligomers) to afford dark yellow product **P2** (0.125 g, 57%). ATR-IR (cm⁻¹): 832, 966 (*trans*-vinylene), 1004, 1147, 1358, 1576, 2222 (–CN), 2946. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3, d/ppm): 0.88 (b, 3H), 1.31 (b, 10H), 1.91 (b, 2H), 4.24 (b, 3H), 4.61 (b, 2H), 7.27 (b, 6H), 7.54 (b, 4H), 7.71 (b, 8H), 8.15 (b, 4H). M_n =841,401 g/mol, M_w =941,465 g/mol, PDI= 1.12.

3. UV-visible spectroscopy

The UV-vis spectra were obtained using a Shimadzu UV-1800 spectrophotometer. A stock solution of 2 mg/mL of the polymer in CHCl₃ was prepared. 15 μ L of this stock solution was diluted with 3 mL of CHCl₃ for the analysis. The UV-vis spectra of polymers **P1** and **P2** in solution and film are depicted in Fig. 1.

4. Cyclic voltammetry

The CV was recorded for polymer coated on glassy carbon from chloroform solution (2 mg/ml) with Ag/AgCl as reference electrode and calibrated against Fc/Fc⁺ redox couple for which ionisation energy is taken to be 4.80 eV [2]. The LUMO of the polymers were calculated with $E_{LUMO} = -e$ (E_{red} +4.33) (ionisation potential for Fc/Fc⁺ measured was 0.47 V vs Ag/AgCl). The voltammograms for the polymers are as shown in Fig. 2.

5. Atomic force microscopy

Atomic force microscopy (AFM) imaging was performed under dry conditions at room temperature ($22 \pm 2 \circ C$) using MultiMode 8 AFM equipped with NanoScope V controller (Bruker, Santa Barbara, CA, USA). Si cantilevers (NSG 01, NT-MDT) with a typical radius of curvature of approximately 10 nm were used. The force constants of AFM probe in the range of 2.5–10 N/m and with resonance frequency in the range of 120–180 kHz. The scan rate used was 1 Hz. The samples for AFM measurements were prepared by drop-casting 30 μ L of MST samples onto a fleshly cleaved mica sheet and dried overnight under vacuum. Raw data were processed offline using Bruker's NanoScope Analysis software. Surface roughness was reported both in average roughness values. The AFM images of the polymers **P1** and **P2** are depicted in Figs. 3 and 4 respectively.



Fig. 2. Voltammograms of P1 and P2.



Fig. 3. AFM images of **P1** (a) height image, (b) phase image (c) corresponds to higher-magnification image and figure (d) is corresponding vertical height images with position of vertical height is marked in (c).



Fig. 4. AFM images of **P2** (a) height image, (b) phase image (c) corresponds to higher-magnification image and figure (d) is corresponding vertical height images with position of vertical height is marked in (c).

Acknowledgement

This research was supported by the Solar Energy Research Initiative (Project code: DST/TMC/SERI/ FR/201), Department of Science and Technology (DST), Govt. of India, New Delhi. Dr. Saju Pillai thank for the support of CSIR network projects (NWP IntelCoat and M2D) and DAE-BRNS grants. The authors are grateful to the NMR research centre and Solid State Chemistry Unit, IISc Bangalore for providing instrumental analyses.

Appendix A. Supplementary material

Supplementary data associated with this article can be found in the online version at http://dx.doi. org/10.1016/j.dib.2016.04.007.

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