Electronic Supporting Information (ESI)

Tunable solid state emission of novel V-shaped fluorophores by subtle structure modification: polymorphism, mechanofluorochromism and micro-fabrication

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Materials and instruments

All the reagents were analytically pure and some chemicals were further purified by recrystallization or distillation. Melting points were determined by an OptiMelt automated melting point system. The ¹H NMR (400 MHz) and ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectra were obtained on a Bruker Avance II DMX 400 spectrometer with CDCl₃or DMSO-d₆ as the solvent. The absorption spectra were measured on a Shimadzu UV 2501(PC)S UV–Vis spectrometer, and the fluorescence spectra were acquired on a Perkin-Elmer LS55 spectrophotometer. The quantum yields were measured with quinine sulfate in 0.1 M sulfuric acid solution (Φ_f =0.55) as the reference and the solid-state quantum yields were gained by an integral sphere. The mass spectrum was recorded on a HP 1110 mass spectrometer. The powder X-ray diffraction patterns were recorded on DX2700 with Cu-K_a radiation operating at 40 kV and 40 mA by a 0.3°/min scanning rate. Dynamic light scattering is carried out on a Beckman Coulter particle analyzer with 50 µM aggregate in MeCN/H₂O mixture (5 : 95, v/v) at 25 °C.

Synthetic procedures



At room temperature and N₂ flux, the solution of *N*, *N*-dimethyl-4-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)aniline (12 mmol, 2.95 g) in dioxane/H₂O (4:1, v/v, 20 mL) was injected into the mixture of 2-bromobenzaldehyde (10 mmol, 1.83 g), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.5 mmol, 0.577 g) and CsCO₃(15 mmol, 2.89 g) in dioxane/H₂O (4:1, v/v, 30 mL). The resulted mixture was heated at 100°C for 24 h and then cooled to room temperature. After filtration, the filtrate was diluted with water and extracted by CH₂Cl₂ (2×15 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. After the removal of solvent, the residue was purified on a silica gel column chromatography.

4'-(dimethylamino)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde: 88% yield; m.p. 77.4-79.3°C; ¹H NMR(400MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.93(s, 6H), 6.71(d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.17(d, *J*=8.0Hz, 2H), 7.31-7.37(m, 2H), 7.50(t, *J*=7.6Hz, 1H), 7.79(d, *J*=8.0Hz, 1H), 9.94(s, 1H); ¹³C NMR(100MHz, CDCl₃) δ 40.58, 112.05, 126.63, 127.54, 130.63, 131.10, 133.42, 133.61, 146.30, 150.26, 193.54; EI-MS (70eV) *m/z* (%) 225(M⁺, 100), 196(45), 182(29), 167(12), 152(49), 141(13), 128(17), 115(17), 69(23), 51 (25), 42(47).



At room temperature, the solution of 2-aminothiophenol (12 mmol, 1.5 g) in DMSO (10 mL) was added into the solution of 4'-(dimethylamino)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (10 mmol, 2.25 g) in DMSO (10 ML) and the resulted solution was heated at 80 °C open to the air overnight and then cooled to room temperature. The solution was diluted with water and extracted by CH_2Cl_2 (2×15 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 . After the removal of solvent, the residue was purified on a silica gel column chromatography to produce V_1 .

2'-(benzo[d]thiazol-2-yl)-N,N-dimethyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-amine (V₁): 64% yield; m.p. 125.1-126.3°C; ¹H NMR(400MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.97(s, 6H), 6.69(d, *J*=8 Hz, 2H), 7.18(d, *J*=8 Hz, 2H), 7.29(t, *J*=8 Hz, 1H), 7.39-7.50(m, 4H), 7.71(d, *J*=8 Hz, 1H), 8.05-8.08(m, 2H); ¹³C NMR(100MHz, CDCl₃) δ40.39, 112.09, 121.38, 123.08, 124.67, 125.68, 126.92, 127.66, 129.97, 130.33, 130.85, 130.98, 132.53, 136.85, 142.01, 150.05, 152.74, 168.54; EI-MS (70eV) *m/z* (%) 330(M⁺,100), 313(22), 286(13).

At 0°C and N₂ flux, *t*-BuOK (10mmol, 1.12 g) was added into 2-methylbenzo[d]thiazolyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (10 mmol, 4.90 g) in dried THF (20 mL), the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The solution of compound 4'-(dimethylamino)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (10 mmol, 2.25 g)in dried THF (15 mL) was injected into the above mixture. The resulted mixture was kept at the same temperature for 1 h and stirred at room temperature overnight. After poured into water, the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (2×15 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. After the removal of solvent, the residue was purified on a silica gel column chromatography to produce V_2 .

(*E*)-2'-(2-(benzo[*d*]thiazol-2-yl)vinyl)-N,N-dimethyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-amine(V₂):73% yield; m.p. 114.9-116.3°C; ¹H NMR(400MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.03(s, 6H), 6.83(d, *J*=8.8Hz, 2H), 7.29-7.47(m, 8H), 7.62(d, *J*=16Hz, 1H), 7.78(m, 2H), 7.98(d, *J*=8.0Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃) δ 40.51, 112.13, 121.38, 121.70, 122.57, 122.86, 123.61, 125.19, 126.15, 126.45, 126.85, 129.16, 130.34, 130.83, 133.34, 134.30, 138.21, 142.32, 153.88, 167.89; EI-MS (70eV) *m/z* (%) 356(M⁺, 57), 310(11), 236(22), 221(100), 178(24), 108(12), 69(21), 42(12).



At room temperature and N₂ flux, the solution of 2-bromobenzaldehyde (10 mmol, 1.83 g) in acetonitrile (10 mL) was injected into the mixture of Pd(OAc)₂ (0.5 mmol, 0.112 g), K₂CO₃ (12 mmol, 1.66 g), 4dimethylaminostyrene (12 mmol, 1.76 g) and *n*-tetrabutylammonium bromide (30 mmol, 9.63 g) in acetonitrile (15 mL). The resulted mixture was stirred and refluxed for overnight. After cooled to the room temperature, the mixture was filtrated and the filtrate was diluted with water. The extracted EtOAc layers (2×15 mL) were combined and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. After the removal of solvent, the residue was purified on a silica gel column chromatography.

(*E*)-2-(4-(dimethylamino)styryl)benzaldehyde: 81% yield;m.p. 115.5-117°C;¹H NMR(400MHz, CDCl₃) δ2.99(s, 6H), 6.72(d, *J*=8 Hz, 2H), 7.00(d, *J*=16 Hz, 1H), 7.35(t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.46(d, *J*=8 Hz, 2H), 7.53(t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.69(d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.83(d, *J*=8 Hz, 1H), 10.34(s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃) δ40.45, 112.38, 119.72, 126.66, 126.76, 128.20, 131.74, 132.48, 133.61, 134.48, 141.06, 150.49, 192.73; EI-MS (70eV) *m/z* (%)251(M⁺, 100), 222(78), 207(33), 178(46), 165(12).



At room temperature, the solution of 2-aminothiophenol (12 mmol, 1.5 g) in DMSO (10 mL) was added into the solution of (*E*)-2-[4-(dimethylamino)styryl]benzaldehyde (10 mmol, 2.51 g) in DMSO (10 ML) and the resulted solution was heated at 80 °C open to the air overnight and then cooled to room temperature. The solution was diluted with water and extracted by CH_2Cl_2 (2×15 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 . After the removal of solvent, the residue was purified on a silica gel column chromatography to produce V_3 .

(*E*)-4-(2-(benzo[*d*]thiazol-2-yl)styryl)-N,N-dimethylaniline (V₃): 56% yield; m.p. 104.5-106.1°C; ¹H NMR(400MHz, CDCl₃) δ2.95(s, 6H), 6.68(d, *J*=8 Hz, 2H), 7.04(d, *J*=16 Hz, 1H), 7.32(t, *J*=8 Hz, 1H), 7.39(m, 3H), 7.45(t, *J*=8 Hz, 1H), 7.50(t, *J*=8 Hz, 1H), 7.59(d, *J*=16 Hz, 1H), 7.45(d, *J*=8 Hz, 1H), 7.84(d, *J*=8 Hz, 1H), 7.90(d, *J*=8 Hz, 1H), 8.14(d, *J*= 8Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃) δ 40.40, 112.34, 121.39, 122.46, 122.50, 123.43, 125.03, 125.80, 126.12, 126.63, 126.79, 128.00, 130.22, 130.64, 131.64, 131.95, 137.86, 150.23, 153.68, 167.58; EI-MS (70eV) *m/z* (%) 356(M⁺, 100), 339(16), 236(100),178(11).

At 0°C and N₂ flux, *t*-BuOK (10mmol, 1.12 g) was added into 2-methylbenzo[d]thiazolyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (10 mmol, 4.90 g) in dried THF (20 mL), the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The solution of compound (*E*)-2-[4-(dimethylamino)styryl]benzaldehyde (10 mmol, 2.51 g) in dried THF (15 mL) was injected into the above mixture. The resulted mixture was kept at the same temperature for 1 h and stirred at room temperature overnight. After poured into water, the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (2×15 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. After the removal of solvent, the residue was purified on a silica gel column chromatography to produce V_4 .

4-{(*E***)-2-[(***E***)-2-(benzo[***d***]thiazol-2-yl)vinyl]styryl}-N,N-dimethylaniline (V₄): 42% yield; m. p. 123.5-124.8°C; ¹H NMR(400MHz, CDCl₃) \delta 2.99(s, 6H), 6.73(d,** *J***= 8Hz, 2H), 6.94(d,** *J***=16 Hz, 1H), 7.24-7.38(m, 5H), 7.46(m, 3H), 7.58(d,** *J***= 8Hz, 1H), 7.63(d,** *J***= 8 Hz, 1H), 7.84(d,** *J***= 8 Hz, 1H), 7.94(d,** *J***=16 Hz, 1H), 8.00(d,** *J***=8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃) \delta 40.45, 112.43, 121.29, 121.50, 123.00, 123.71, 123.75, 125.32, 126.28, 126.85, 127.05, 127.89, 129.30, 132.92, 133.32, 134.39, 136.15, 136.20, 137.88, 150.90, 153.97, 167.37; EI-MS (70eV)** *m/z* **(%) 382 (M⁺, 100) , 370(11), 262(12), 247(82), 234(12), 202(10), 191(11), 134(36), 121(10).**

X-ray structure analysis

Single crystals of the title compounds grown in MeCN/EtOH were selected for the X-ray analysis. The diffraction data were collected on a Bruker CCD area-detector diffractometer equipped with a graphitemonochromated MoKa radiation (λ =0.71073 Å). The unit cell parameters were determined from a leastsquares refinement of the setting angles. The structure was solved by direct methods and refined on F² by the full-matrix least-squares methods with SHELXS-97. The refinement was carried out by full-matrix least squares method on the positional and anisotropic temperature parameters of the non-hydrogen atoms using SHELXL-97. All H atoms were placed in the idealized positions and constrained to ride on their parent atoms. Compound V₁: C₂₁H₁₈N₂S, M_w = 330.43, monoclinic, P 2₁/C space group, a = 6.1982(5) Å, b = 24.956(2) Å, c = 10.8550(9)Å, $\alpha = 90^{\circ}$, $\beta = 97.234(8)^{\circ}$, $\gamma = 90^{\circ}$, $D_{calcud} = 1.318$ g cm⁻³, Z = 4, F(000) = 696, $\mu = 0.198$ mm⁻¹, 3767 reflections were corrected, 3648 unique, $R_1 = 0.0456$, $wR_2 =$ 0.1268; Compound V₂: C₂₃ H₂₀N₂S, M_w= 356.47, monoclinic, P 2₁/C space group,a= 12.5537(8) Å, b = 6.3103(4) Å, c = 23.6534(17) Å, $\alpha = 90^{\circ}$, $\beta = 99.738(6)^{\circ}$, $\gamma = 90^{\circ}$, $D_{calcud} = 1.282$ g cm⁻³, Z = 4, F(000) = 1.282 g cm⁻³, Z = 1.282 g cm⁻³, Z = 1.282 g cm⁻³, Z = 1.282 g c 752, $\mu = 0.184 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, 3389 reflections were corrected, 3377 unique, $R_1 = 0.0437$, $wR_2 = 0.1125$; Compound V₃: C₂₃H₂₀N₂S, M_w = 356.47, monoclinic, P 2₁/C space group ,a = 12.0528(7) Å, b = 7.5440(3) Å, c = 40.438(2) Å, $\alpha = 90^{\circ}$, $\beta = 90.907(5)^{\circ}$, $\gamma = 90^{\circ}$, $D_{calcud} = 1.288$ g cm⁻³, Z = 8, F(000) = 1.2881504, μ = 0.185 mm⁻¹, 6724 reflections were corrected, 6696 unique, R_1 = 0.0549, wR_2 = 0.1334.Crystallographic data for compound V_1 (CCDC1551667), V_2 (CCDC1521255), V_3 (CCDC1551666) were deposited at CCDC center and can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data request/cif.



Fig.S1 Absorption (solid lines) and emission spectra (dash lines, λ_{ex} = 300 nm) of V₁ (20 µM) in different solvents



Fig. S2 Absorption (dash line) and emission spectra (solid line, λ_{ex} = 350 nm) of V₂ in different solvents



Fig.S3 Absorption (solid lines) and emission spectra (dash lines, λ_{ex} = 335 nm) of V₃ (20 μ M) in different solvents



Fig. S4 Absorption (solid lines) and emission spectra (dash lines, $\lambda_{ex} = 330$ nm) of V₄ in different solvents



Fig. S5 Emission spectra of V₂ (50 μ M) in MeCN with varied water fraction [*inserted*: (A) the fluorescence intensity of V₂ in MeCN with varied water fraction; (B) photos of V₂ in MeCNand MeCN/H₂O (v/v, 5:95) mixture]



Fig.S6 Dynamical light scattering measurement of V_4 (A) and V_2 (B) (50 μ M) in MeCN/H₂O (5:95, v/v) mixture



 2θ (degree) Fig. S7 PXRD patterns of V₃(Y) under different conditions



Fig. S8 Solid-state emission spectra of V₃(Y) under different conditions



Fig. S9 Solid-state emission spectra of $V_3(Y)_c$ and $V_3(G)$ under different conditions



Fig. S10 Thermal gravimetric curve of V₃(G)_c sample



Fig. S11 Differential scanning calorimetry curves of V₃(G)_c and V₃(Y)_c



Fig. S12 PXRD patterns of V₁ under different conditions





Fig. S14 PXRD patterns of V₄ under different conditions



Fig. S15 Solid-state emission spectra of V_1 under different conditions



Fig. S16 Solid-state emission spectra of V₂ under different conditions



Wavelength / nmFig.S17Solid-state emission spectra of V4 under different conditions



Fig. S18 Solid-state emission spectra of V₃(G) under different conditions



Fig. S19 PXRD patterns of V₃(G) under different conditions



Fig. S20 Solid-state emission spectra of $V_3(O)$ under different conditions



PXRD patterns of $V_3(O)$ under different conditions Fig. S21



Solid-state emission spectra of V_4 before and after grinding as well as those of the Fig. S22 ground sample for different time interval



Fig. S23 Molecular geometries of V_1 , V_2 and $V_3(Y)$ in crystalline phase (red data) and gas phase (green data)





