Formation of disulphide linkages restricts intramolecular motions of fluorophore: Detection of molecular oxygen in food package

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1. General characterization

All reactants and reagents were commercially available and were used without further purification unless otherwise indicated. Solvents used were purified and dried by standard methods. The structures of the compounds were determined by 1D and 2D NMR spectrometry and other spectroscopic techniques. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded with 400 MHz JEOL and 500 MHz Bruker instruments. Chemical shifts are reported as δ values relative to an internal reference of tetramethylsilane (TMS) for ¹H NMR and the solvent peak in the case of ¹³C NMR. The spectroscopic-grade solvents for the spectroscopic experiments were free from any fluorescent impurity. Double-distilled water was used for the spectroscopy experiments. UV-vis spectra were recorded with a Cary 60 UV-vis spectrophotometer. Fluorescence measurements were carried out with a JASCO FP-8500 Fluorescence Spectrometer (Xe-150 W, 200 - 750 nm. Fluorescence lifetime measurements were carried out by the method of time-correlated single-photon counting (TCSPC) using a picoseconds spectrofluorimeter from Horiba JobinYvon IBH equipped with a FluoroHub single photon counting controller, Fluoro3PS precision photomultiplier power supply, and FC-MCP-50SC MCP-PMT detection unit. The 402 nm laser head was used as the excitation source. Molecular weights and molecular weight distributions (dispersity (D)) of polymers were determined by Waters ACQUITY Advanced Polymer Chromatography (APC). MS data were obtained from an Acquity ultraperformance liquid chromatography (LC)-MS. Reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) using Merck plates (TLC Silica Gel 60 F254). Developed TLC plates were visualized with UV light (254 nm). Silica gel (100-200 mesh, Merck) was used for column chromatography. Yields refer to the chromatographically and spectroscopically pure compounds.

2. Experimental details

2.1 Synthetic procedures

Scheme S1. Chemical structures and synthetic route .



The starting material 1,1,2,2-tetrakis(4-(bromomethyl)phenyl)ethene was prepared following the literature.¹

S,S',S'',S'''-((ethene-1,1,2,2-tetrayltetrakis(benzene-4,1-diyl)) tetrakis(methylene)) tetraethenethioate (2)

Potassium thioacetate (0.132 g, 0.5822 mmol) and 1,1,2,2-tetrakis(4-(bromomethyl)phenyl)ethene (0.1 g, 0.142 mmol) were dissolved in 15 mL of dichloromethane and was subsequently stirred for 6h at 40 °C. The volatiles were removed by rotary-evaporation at 35 °C. The crude product was washed with water and NaHCO₃ saturated solution and redissolved in dichloromethane, then, dried over sodium sulphate. The column chromatography performed using ethyl acetate/hexane (30:70, v/v) afforded **2** (0.076 g, 78%) as a white solid. mp 356–358 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.34 (s, 3H), 4.03 (s, 2H), 6.89 (d, 2H, J = 7.8 Hz), 6.99 (d, 2H, J = 8.1 Hz). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 30.3, 33.2, 128.1, 131.4, 135.5, 140.2, 141.4, 198.1.

(Ethene-1,1,2,2-tetrayltetrakis(benzene-4,1-diyl))tetramethanethiol (1)

K₂CO₃ (0.097 g, 0.701 mmol) was added to compound **2** (0.1 g, 0.146 mmol) in 1:1 EtOAc/MeOH (6 mL) and the mixture was stirred for 8 h at 25 °C. After concentration, the residue was diluted with dichloromethane (10 mL) and H₂O (5 mL). The organic layer was dried over sodium sulphate. Column chromatography performed using ethyl acetate/hexane (20:80, v/v) afforded **1** (0.04 g, 53%) as a yellow solid. mp 345–347 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.71 (t, 4H, J = 7.64 Hz), 3.67 (d, 8H, J = 7.64 Hz), 6.95 (d, 8H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.06 (d, 8H, J = 8.4 Hz). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 33.3, 128.6, 131.6, 136.2, 140.6, 143.2. ESI-MS (m/z): Calcd. for C₃₀H₂₈S₄ [M+NH4]⁺ 534.1418, found 534.1417. Anal. Calcd. for C₃₀H₂₈S₄: C, 69.72; H, 5.46; S, 24.81, found: C, 69.68; H, 5.43; S, 24.78.

2.2 NMR spectra



Figure S1. ¹H-NMR spectrum of compound 2







Figure S3. ¹H-NMR spectrum of compound 1



Figure S4. ¹³C-NMR spectrum of compound 1



Figure S5. Electronic absorption and emission spectra ($\lambda_{ex} = 320$ nm, excitation and emission slit width 5/5) of compound **1** (10 μ M) in THF media at 25 °C.



Figure S6. Emission spectra of compound **1** in THF–H₂O mixtures with different water fractions (f_w) .



Figure S7. Plot of fluorescence intensity ($\lambda_{\text{emission}} = 485 \text{ nm}$) of **1** versus composition of THF/water mixture. Insert: Photographs of the solutions or suspensions of the molecules of **1** in THF/water mixtures with different volumetric fractions of water (f_w , vol%) under 366 nm light.

3. Determination of quantum yield²

The quantum yields (φ) of the compound **1** and polymer were calculated by comparing their integrated fluorescence intensities (excitation at 350 nm) and the absorbance values at 350 nm with those of quinine sulfate. Quinine sulfate ($\varphi_s = 0.54$) was dissolved in 0.1M H₂SO₄ (refractive index: 1.33) and the compound **1** and polymer were dissolved in THF (refractive index: 1.407). The integrated fluorescence intensity is the area under the fluorescence curve in the wavelength range from 365 to 680 nm.

Relative quantum yield was calculated from the equation below:

$$\Phi_F = \Phi_S \cdot \frac{A_S}{A_U} \cdot \frac{F_U}{F_S} \cdot \frac{\eta_U^2}{\eta_S^2}$$

Where ϕ_s is the quantum yield of the standard, A is the absorbance at the excitation wavelength (subscript S for standard* and U for unknown), F is the area under the emission spectra and η is the refractive index of the solvent.



Figure S8. Changes in the emission spectra of compound 1 (10 μ M) (λ_{ex} : 320 nm, slit: 5/5); Insert: visual change under 366 nm light in THF media at 25 °C upon addition with H₂O₂ (10 μ M).



Figure S9. Changes in the emission spectra of compound **1** (10 μ M) (λ_{ex} : 320 nm, slit: 5/5); Insert: visual change under 366 nm light in THF media at 25 °C upon addition with I₂ (10 μ M).



Figure S10. Changes in the emission spectra of polymer **1**' (10 μ M) (λ_{ex} : 320 nm, slit: 5/5) studies for establishing the reversibility in binding of **1**' to NaBH₄ in THF media upon addition of 0-35 equivalents of BH₄ at 25 °C; Insert: visual changes under 366 nm UV light in THF media at 25 °C upon addition with BH₄⁻.



Figure S11. Relative fluorescence intensity vs. partial pressure of oxygen for compound 1 (10 μ M) in THF media at 25 °C after 300 min.

4. Fluorescence lifetime analyses

The data in Fig. 3B was fitted with a biexponential decay equation:

 $I = \alpha_1 e_2^{-\frac{t}{\tau_1}} + \alpha_2 e^{-\frac{t}{\tau_2}}$ The average lifetime $<\tau>$ is given by: $\langle \tau \rangle = \frac{\alpha_1 \tau_1^2 + \alpha_2 \tau_2^2}{\alpha_1 \tau_1 + \alpha_2 \tau_2}$

The TCSPC data has been presented in Fig. 3B (Main text).



Figure S12. . The shift in the ¹³C NMR signals of compound 1 upon bubbling with air.

Carbon	$(\delta_{ ext{final}} - \delta_{ ext{initial}}) = \Delta \delta$	Remarks
а	4.6	Upfield
b	3	Upfield
с	1.2	Upfield
d	0.1	Upfield
e	-3	Downfield
f	0.9	Upfield

 Table S1 Delta shift value of ¹³C NMR for compound 1 and polymer 1'

5. Advanced Polymer Chromatography (APC)

Molecular weights and molecular weight distributions (dispersity (Đ)) of polymers were determined by Waters ACQUITY Advanced Polymer Chromatography (APC). The instrument contains a 1500 series HPLC pump, an ACQUITYTM refractive index (RI) detector, one ACQUITY APCTM XT $2002.5 \ \mu m \ (4.6 \times 7.5 \ mm)$ column in THF at 45 °C at 0.25 mL/min flow rate. Poly(methyl methacrylate) (PMMA) standards were used to calibrate the instrument.



Figure S13. SEM image of a dried sample of compound 1 (A) and polymer 1' (B).



Figure S14. The photographs of the paper-dots of 1 (see the main text) in sealed plastic bags under various ration of N_2 gas and atmospheric air after 2 days.



6. The limit of detection of oxygen in 24 h time scale upon exposure to O₂

Figure S15. A linear curve was obtained from these normalized fluorescence intensity data. The intercept on the x-axis was considered as the detection limit. Thus the value obtained for the partial pressure of oxygen was found to be 30.8 torr.

7. Toxicity studies with mammalian cells: J774A.1

J774A.1 (murine macrophage cell line from the National Centre for Cell Science, Pune, India) cells were grown in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (Gibco) supplemented with 2 mM L-glutamine, 100 μ g/ml penicillin, 100 μ g/ml streptomycin, and 10% heat-inactivated fetal bovine albumin (Gibco) at 37 °C in a humidified atmosphere containing 5% CO₂.

7.1 Analysis of cell viability after treatment with probe 1

The J774A.1 cells were treated with probe **1 at** different concentrations (0.1 μ M to 100 μ M) as indicated in the X-axis of Figure S16. Each of the sets of the cell line was treated with the various concentrations of **1** for 24 hours. Control experiments under identical conditions in the absence of probe **1** was also studied. Equal amount of the cells from the control, and the sample treated with probe **1** were incubated with 0.5 mg/ml MTT [3-(4, 5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyl tetrazolium bromide] (Invitrogen) for 2 h to allow formation of purple formazan. Then the cells were washed with phosphate-buffered saline (PBS) and harvested by centrifugation, and the cell pellet was dissolved in DMSO. The optical density (OD) of the solution was measured on a microplate reader (SpectraMax M2e; Molecular Devices) at a wavelength of 595 nm. Since the OD of formazan produced by the action of mitochondrial dehydrogenases of metabolically active cells correlates with the number of viable cells, the percentage of viability upon drug treatment was calculated using the formula ($OD_{treated}/OD_{control} \ge 100$).



Figure S16. Relative cell viability analysis of J774A.1 murine macrophage cell line in different treatments after incubated for 24 h (errors were estimated from the std.dev. of three independent trials).

8. SCXRD structure



Figure S17. SCXRD structures of compound 2.

Crystallographic Details

Single crystals of $C_{38}H_{36}O_4S_4$ (CCDC Number 1879842) was obtained by slow diffusion of CH₂Cl₂: hexane (1:1, v/v) solution. Suitable crystals for sample was selected on a SuperNova, Dual, Cu at zero, Eos diffractometer using graphite monochromatic Mo K α radiation (λ = 0.71073 Å). The crystals were kept at 100 K respectively during data collection. Using Olex³ the structures were solved with the Super flip⁴ structure solution program using Charge Flipping and refined with the ShelXL⁵ refinement package using Least Squares minimisation. All hydrogen atoms were added according to the riding model. Crystallographic parameters for compound **1** is given in the **Table S1**. Selected bond lengths and bond angles of compound **1** are given in the **Table S2** and **Table S3**.

Chemical formula	$C_{38}H_{36}O_4S_4$
M _r	684.91
Crystal system, space group	Monoclinic, $P2_1/n$
Temperature (K)	100
a, b, c (Å)	11.2605 (7), 28.0222 (14), 11.3063 (5)
β (°)	102.040 (5)
$V(Å^3)$	3489.2 (3)
Ζ	4
Radiation type	Μο Κα
$\mu (\mathrm{mm}^{-1})$	0.31
Crystal size (mm)	$0.36 \times 0.33 \times 0.26$
Data collection Diffractometer	SuperNova, Dual, Cu at zero, Eos
^T min ^{, T} max	0.711, 1.000
No. of measured, independent and	12229, 5886, 4863
observed $[I > 2\sigma(I)]$ reflections ^{<i>R</i>} int	0.042
$(\sin \theta / \lambda)_{\text{max}}$ (Å–1)	0.595
Refinement	
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)], wR(F^2), S$	0.108, 0.309, 1.06
No. of reflections	5886
No. of parameters	419
H-atom treatment	H-atom parameters constrained
	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.1629P)^2 + 14.4689P]$
	0
	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$\Delta \rho_{\text{max}}, \Delta \rho_{\text{min}} (e \text{ A}-3)$	2.70, -1.01

 Table S2. Crystallographic parameters and structure refinements for 1.

 Table S3. Bond Lengths (Å) for 2.

Number	Atom1	Atom2	Length
1	S001	C00M	1.770(6)
2	S001	C011	1.824(6)
3	S002	C012	1.813(6)
4	S002	C013	1.777(7)
5	S003	C014	1.849(7)
6	S003	C018	1.767(9)
7	S004	C015	1.760(9)
8	S004	C019	1.769(9)
9	O005	C00M	1.194(7)
10	O006	C013	1.156(9)
11	0007	C015	1.17(1)
12	C008	COOB	1.483(7)
13	C008	C00C	1.384(7)
14	C008	C00D	1.398(8)
15	C009	C00A	1.409(8)
16	C009	COOB	1.493(7)
17	C009	СООК	1.379(8)
18	C00A	H00A	0.93
19	C00A	C00J	1.383(8)
20	COOB	C00G	1.371(7)
21	C00C	H00C	0.929
22	C00C	COON	1.384(7)
23	C00D	H00D	0.93
24	C00D	C00U	1.376(8)
25	C00E	HOOE	0.93
26	COOE	C00F	1.405(7)
27	COOE	COOS	1.380(8)
28	C00F	C00G	1.478(8)
29	C00F	C00T	1.398(8)
30	C00G	C00H	1.501(7)
31	C00H	C00I	1.398(8)
32	C00H	COOP	1.397(9)
33	C00I	H00I	0.93
34	C00I	C00Q	1.394(8)
35	C00J	H00J	0.93
36	COOJ	C000	1.38(1)
37	СООК	НООК	0.93
38	СООК	COOR	1.387(8)
39	C00L	COON	1.382(9)

40	COOL	C00U	1.405(9)
41	COOL	C012	1.518(8)
42	C00M	C00Y	1.504(8)
43	COON	HOON	0.93
44	C000	COOR	1.384(9)
45	C000	C014	1.499(8)
46	COOP	HOOP	0.931
47	COOP	C00W	1.394(8)
48	C00Q	H00Q	0.93
49	C00Q	C00V	1.39(1)
50	COOR	HOOR	0.929
51	COOS	HOOS	0.929
52	COOS	C00Z	1.403(8)
53	C00T	HOOT	0.929
54	C00T	C010	1.378(8)
55	C00U	H00U	0.929
56	C00V	C00W	1.380(8)
57	C00V	C011	1.534(9)
58	C00W	H00W	0.929
59	O00X	C018	1.13(1)
60	C00Y	HOOB	0.961
61	C00Y	HOOF	0.96
62	C00Y	H00G	0.959
63	C00Z	C010	1.389(8)
64	C00Z	C019	1.52(1)
65	C010	H010	0.93
66	C011	H01A	0.97
67	C011	H01B	0.97
68	C012	H01C	0.971
69	C012	H01D	0.969
70	C013	C01A	1.48(1)
71	C014	H01E	0.97
72	C014	H01F	0.97
73	C015	C017	1.47(1)
74	C016	H01G	0.961
75	C016	H01H	0.96
76	C016	H01I	0.96
77	C016	C018	1.51(1)
78	C017	H01J	0.96
79	C017	H01K	0.96
80	C017	H01L	0.96
81	C019	H01M	0.97
82	C019	H01N	0.97
83	C01A	H010	0.96

84	C01A	H01P	0.96
85	C01A	H01Q	0.96

Table S4. Bond Angles (°) for 2.

Number	Atom1	Atom2	Atom3	Angle
1	C00M	S001	C011	100.0(3)
2	C012	S002	C013	101.4(3)
3	C014	S003	C018	98.3(4)
4	C015	S004	C019	103.5(4)
5	COOB	C008	C00C	118.7(5)
6	COOB	C008	C00D	124.0(5)
7	C00C	C008	C00D	117.2(5)
8	C00A	C009	COOB	118.5(5)
9	C00A	C009	СООК	118.4(5)
10	COOB	C009	СООК	123.1(5)
11	C009	C00A	H00A	120
12	C009	C00A	C00J	120.0(5)
13	H00A	C00A	C00J	120
14	C008	С00В	C009	113.2(4)
15	C008	C00B	C00G	124.3(5)
16	C009	C00B	C00G	122.5(5)
17	C008	C00C	H00C	118.9
18	C008	C00C	COON	122.1(5)
19	H00C	C00C	COON	119
20	C008	C00D	HOOD	119.1
21	C008	COOD	C00U	121.7(5)
22	H00D	C00D	C00U	119.2
23	HOOE	COOE	C00F	119.1
24	HOOE	COOE	COOS	118.9
25	C00F	COOE	COOS	121.9(5)
26	COOE	C00F	C00G	122.2(5)
27	COOE	C00F	C00T	116.4(5)
28	C00G	C00F	C00T	121.4(5)
29	COOB	C00G	C00F	123.4(5)
30	COOB	C00G	C00H	119.9(5)
31	C00F	C00G	C00H	116.6(4)
32	C00G	C00H	C00I	122.4(5)
33	C00G	C00H	COOP	120.0(5)
34	C00I	C00H	COOP	117.6(5)
35	C00H	C00I	H00I	119.6
36	C00H	C00I	C00Q	120.8(5)

37	H00I	C00I	C00Q	119.5
38	C00A	C00J	HOOJ	119.3
39	C00A	C00J	C00O	121.5(5)
40	H00J	C00J	C000	119.2
41	C009	СООК	НООК	119.7
42	C009	СООК	COOR	120.5(5)
43	H00K	СООК	COOR	119.7
44	C00N	COOL	C00U	118.8(6)
45	COON	COOL	C012	120.6(5)
46	C00U	COOL	C012	120.5(5)
47	S001	C00M	O005	122.1(5)
48	S001	C00M	C00Y	113.7(4)
49	O005	C00M	C00Y	124.2(5)
50	C00C	COON	COOL	120.2(5)
51	C00C	C00N	HOON	119.9
52	COOL	COON	HOON	119.9
53	C00J	C00O	COOR	118.2(6)
54	C00J	C00O	C014	121.2(6)
55	COOR	C00O	C014	120.6(6)
56	C00H	COOP	HOOP	119.5
57	C00H	COOP	C00W	120.9(5)
58	HOOP	COOP	C00W	119.5
59	C00I	C00Q	H00Q	119.5
60	C00I	C00Q	C00V	121.1(5)
61	H00Q	C00Q	C00V	119.4
62	СООК	COOR	C00O	121.4(5)
63	СООК	COOR	HOOR	119.3
64	C000	COOR	HOOR	119.3
65	COOE	COOS	HOOS	119.5
66	COOE	COOS	C00Z	120.9(5)
67	HOOS	COOS	C00Z	119.6
68	C00F	C00T	H00T	119.2
69	C00F	C00T	C010	121.5(6)
70	Н00Т	C00T	C010	119.2
71	C00D	C00U	COOL	120.0(6)
72	C00D	C00U	H00U	120
73	COOL	C00U	H00U	120
74	C00Q	C00V	C00W	118.1(6)
75	C00Q	C00V	C011	121.5(5)
76	C00W	C00V	C011	120.4(5)
77	COOP	C00W	C00V	121.3(6)
78	COOP	C00W	H00W	119.4
79	C00V	C00W	H00W	119.3
80	C00M	COOY	HOOB	109.5

81	C00M	COOY	HOOF	109.5
82	C00M	C00Y	H00G	109.5
83	HOOB	C00Y	HOOF	109.4
84	HOOB	C00Y	H00G	109.4
85	HOOF	C00Y	H00G	109.5
86	COOS	C00Z	C010	117.2(6)
87	COOS	C00Z	C019	119.7(6)
88	C010	C00Z	C019	122.9(6)
89	C00T	C010	C00Z	121.9(6)
90	C00T	C010	H010	119.1
91	C00Z	C010	H010	119
92	S001	C011	C00V	108.7(4)
93	S001	C011	H01A	109.9
94	S001	C011	H01B	110
95	C00V	C011	H01A	109.9
96	C00V	C011	H01B	110
97	H01A	C011	H01B	108.3
98	S002	C012	COOL	109.2(4)
99	S002	C012	H01C	109.8
100	S002	C012	H01D	109.8
101	COOL	C012	H01C	109.8
102	COOL	C012	H01D	109.9
103	H01C	C012	H01D	108.3
104	S002	C013	O006	121.8(6)
105	S002	C013	C01A	112.7(6)
106	O006	C013	C01A	125.4(8)
107	S003	C014	C00O	112.9(5)
108	S003	C014	H01E	109
109	S003	C014	H01F	109
110	C000	C014	H01E	109
111	C000	C014	H01F	109
112	H01E	C014	H01F	107.8
113	S004	C015	0007	121.5(7)
114	S004	C015	C017	113.3(6)
115	0007	C015	C017	125.0(8)
116	H01G	C016	H01H	109.4
117	H01G	C016	H01I	109.4
118	H01G	C016	C018	109.4
119	H01H	C016	H01I	109.5
120	H01H	C016	C018	109.5
121	H01I	C016	C018	109.6
122	C015	C017	H01J	109.4
123	C015	C017	H01K	109.5
124	C015	C017	H01L	109.5

125	H01J	C017	H01K	109.4
126	H01J	C017	H01L	109.5
127	H01K	C017	H01L	109.5
128	S003	C018	O00X	120.2(7)
129	S003	C018	C016	111.2(6)
130	O00X	C018	C016	128.6(8)
131	S004	C019	C00Z	114.2(6)
132	S004	C019	H01M	108.7
133	S004	C019	H01N	108.7
134	C00Z	C019	H01M	108.7
135	C00Z	C019	H01N	108.7
136	H01M	C019	H01N	107.7
137	C013	C01A	H01O	109.4
138	C013	C01A	H01P	109.4
139	C013	C01A	H01Q	109.5
140	H01O	C01A	H01P	109.5
141	H01O	C01A	H01Q	109.5
142	H01P	C01A	H01Q	109.5

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