### **Supporting information for**

# **Alignment of supramolecular J-aggregates based on uracil-functionalized BODIPY dye for polarized photoluminescence**

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## **Table of Contents**



### <span id="page-2-0"></span>**1. General methods**

**Chemicals and Reagents:** All the chemicals were commercially available and used without further purification unless otherwise stated. Anhydrous dichloromethane (DCM) was distilled over CaH<sub>2</sub> and THF was distill over sodium and stored under Argon. Products were purified by column chromatography with silica gel (300-400 mesh).

**NMR spectroscopy:** <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AVANCE III HD (400 MHz) spectrometer using tetramethylsilane (TMS) as internal standard. Multiplicities for proton signals are abbreviated as *s, d, t, q, p* and *m* for singlet, doublet, triplet, quartet, pentet and multiplet, respectively.

**Mass spectrometry:** Mass spectra were measured on a Bruker Daltonics Autoflex tof/tof III.

**UV/Vis spectroscopy:** UV/Vis absorption spectra were recorded on an Agilent Technologies Cary 300 UV/Vis spectrophotometer equipped with a SPV 1×1 temperature controller. The solvents for spectroscopic studies were spectroscopic grade. The spectra were recorded in quartz cuvettes and the extinction coefficients *ε* was calculated according to Lambert-Beer's law.

**Fluorescence spectroscopy:** The steady state and time-resolved fluorescence spectra were measured on Edinburgh FLS980 spectrofluorometer. All the fluorescence spectra were corrected. Fluorescence quantum yields were determined on a Hamamatsu C11347-12 Quantaurus-QY Absolute PL quantum yield spectrometer. Fluorescence polarization measurement was performed on the Edinburgh FLS980 spectrofluorometer equipped with linear polarizers in incident light path and detection light path. For the excitation polarization measurement, a polarizer was placed in the excitation light path while the emission polarizer was removed. The excitation polarizer can be rotated to be parallel or perpendicular to the ground. On the contrary, the polarized photoluminescence was measured by exciting the thin film of **1** with unpolarized light and detecting the fluorescence at different positions of emission polarizer. The emission polarizer can also be rotated to have different angles with respect to the ground. The rubbed thin film of **1** on quartz wafer was placed on a specimen holder in spectrofluorometer with rubbing direction perpendicular to the ground. Time-resolved fluorescence decay spectra were measured on the Edinburgh FLS980 spectrofluorometer equipped with an nF920 Nanosecond Flashlamp as light source. The fluorescence decay were measured at a pulse width < 1ns and repetition rate of 10 MHz.

**Transmission electron microscopy:** Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) measurements were performed on a Hitachi HT7700 transmission electron microscope, operating at an acceleration voltage of 80 kV. For the observation of aggregates, 400-mesh copper grids coated with carbon was dipped in a drop of sample solution of dye **1**. About 2 min after the deposition, the grid was placed on filter paper to remove solvent. Staining was performed by a drop of uranyl acetate aqueous solution (0.5 % wt) onto the copper grid. After 1 min, the liquid on the grid was removed with filter paper.

**Atomic force microscopy:** AFM measurements were performed under ambient conditions using an NT-MDT NTEGRA spectra system operating in tapping mode. Silicon cantilevers with a resonance frequency of ~300 kHz were used. The sample for AFM observation was prepared by drop-casting the MCH solution of dye **1** on mica surface and evaporating the solvent.

**Preparation of J-aggregate solution and aligned thin film of dye 1:** The powder of dye **1** (3.4 mg) was placed in a volumetric flask (100 mL) followed by addition of *ca.* 80 mL MCH. Then the flask was disposed with ultrasonic bath (180 W) for 30 min until the dye **1** was completely dissolved and a blue solution was obtained. Further adding MCH to 100 mL gave the stock solution of J-aggregates of 1 ( $c = 2.5 \times 10^{-5}$  M). The formation of J-aggregates was confirmed by UV/Vis absorption spectra. The dye 1 solution in MCH  $(c = 2.5 \times 10^{-5}$  M) was firstly spin-casted on quartz wafer. After evaporating the solvent, a thin film of solid **1** was formed on the surface of quartz wafer. Then the thin film was rubbed using a commercial buffing machine with a friction cylinder rotating at rate of 2000 rpm, while the quartz wafer deposited with **1** thin film was translated laterally at a rate of 10 mm/s. The friction cylinder was wrapped with polyacrylonitrile fibrous cloth. This operation follows the common friction method as employed in previous publications.[1] The rubbed film was used for fluorescence polarization measurements.

## <span id="page-4-0"></span>**2. Synthesis and characterization of BODIPY dye 1**



**Scheme S1.** Synthetic route of BODIPY dye 1. Reagents and conditions: (i) 2.4-dimethylpyrrole, CF<sub>3</sub>COOH, CH- $2\text{Cl}_2$ , DDQ, r.t., 2 h; ii) BF<sub>3</sub>•Et<sub>2</sub>O, triethylamine, r.t., 30%; (iii) I<sub>2</sub>, HIO<sub>3</sub>, EtOH, H<sub>2</sub>O, 6 h, 72%; (iv) Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, CuI, Et<sub>3</sub>N, 6 h, 57% - 60%.

**Compound 4:** 3.4.5-Tris(dodecyloxy)benzaldehyde<sup>[2]</sup> (compound 5) (1.3 g, 2.0 mmol) and 2.4dimethylpyrrole  $(0.4 \text{ mL}, 4.0 \text{ mmol})$  were dissolved in anhydrous CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (30 mL) under Ar. After stirring for 15 min, 0.036 mL TFA was added and the reaction was continued at room temperature for about 2 h. After the complete consumption of compound **5** (monitored by TLC), DDQ (8.5 mmol, 2.0 g) was added into the reaction mixture. After stirring for 2 h, triethylamine (10.0 mL, 57 mmol) and  $BF_3$ ·Et<sub>2</sub>O (10.0 mL, 79 mmol) were added subsequently. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 h. Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel,  $CH_2Cl_2/n$ -hexane = 1/1, v/v) to give an orangecolored viscous substance (0.53 g, 30%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300K, TMS): δ = 6.47 (s, 2H), 5.99 (s, 2H), 3.96 (qd, J = 19.54), 2.55 (s, 6H), 1.87-1.70 (m, 6H), 1.53 (s, 6H), 1.49-1.39 (m, 6H), 1.26 (m, 48H), 0.89 (m, 9H).

**Compound** 3: A mixture of compound  $4(877.15 \text{ mg}, 1.0 \text{ mmol})$  and  $I_2(317.5 \text{ mg}, 2.5 \text{ mmol})$ dissolved in  $C_2H_5OH$  (20 mL) was stirred at room temperature, a concentrated aqueous solution of HIO<sub>3</sub> (352mg, 2 mmol) was added dropwisely to reaction system. The reaction was carried out at  $60^{\circ}$ C for 4 h. The residue obtained after the removal of the solvent by rotary evaporation was extracted with ethyl acetate and washed with saturated solution of Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (3 × 20 mL) and water (3  $\times$  30 ml), then dried with anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated in vacuum. The crude product was further purified using column chromatography (silica gel,  $CH_2Cl_2/Hexane = 1/2$ , v/v) to afford 3  $(812.9 \text{ mg}, 72\% \text{ yield})$ . <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm):  $\delta$  = 6.42 (s, 2H), 4.03 (t, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H),

3.91 (t, *J* = 8 Hz, 4H), 2.64 (s, 6H), 1.80-1.75 (m, 6H), 1.55 (d, *J* = 4 Hz, 10H), 1.49-1,41 (m, 4H), 1.30-1.26 (m, 46H), 0.89-0.86 (m, 9H).

**Compound 1:** Copper(I) iodide  $(0.02 \text{ mmol}, 3.8 \text{ mg})$ , Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>  $(0.02 \text{ mmol}, 23 \text{ mg})$  and 6-ethynyl-1-n-octyluracil (0.4 mmol, 99.6 mg) were added to compound **3** (0.2 mmol, 225.8 mg) under inert atmosphere. Triethylamine (5 mL) was added to this mixture via a syringe. After reacting for 6h at 80 °C (oil bath), the completion of the reaction was monitored by TLC. The reaction was quenched by addition of water (20 mL). The product was extracted with diethyl ether  $(3\times40 \text{ mL})$ . The combined organic layers were then washed with  $H_2O$  (3×40 mL) and dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel with methanol/dichloromethane (1:30, v/v) as eluent. Dye **1** (156.1 mg, 60% yield) was recrystallized from hexane and obtained as purple crystals. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm):  $\delta$  = 8.03 (s, 2H), 7.42 (s, 2H), 6.44 (s, 2H), 4.01 (t, *J* = 4 Hz, 2H), 3.91 (t, *J* = 4 Hz, 4H), 3.74 (t, *J* = 8 Hz, 4H), 2.67 (s, 6H), 1.81-1.77 (m, 6H), 1.75-1.71 (m, 4H), 1.66 (s, 6H), 1.54 (s, 8H), 1.45-1.26 (m, 66H ), 0.89-0.86 (m, 15H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl3, ppm): *δ* = 161.05, 154.37, 149.42, 145.70, 128.75, 106.12, 100.29, 86.66, 77.22, 73.86, 69.59, 49.38, 31.93, 31.70, 30.33, 29.78, 29.71, 29.66, 29.62, 29.42, 29.36, 29.15, 29.08, 26.38, 26.16, 26.06, 22.69, 22.58, 14.11, 14.04, 13.75, 13.44. MS (MALDI-TOF): calculated for  $C_{83}H_{128}BF_2N_6O_7$ ,  $[M + H]^+$  = 1370.994 m/z, found 1371.121 m/z. Elemental analysis: Anal. calcd for  $C_{83}H_{128}BF_2N_6O_7$ : C 72.78 %, H 9.35%, N 6.14%; found: C 72.42%, H 9.45%, N 5.98%. UV/Vis (CHCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 559 \text{ nm}, \varepsilon = 8.3 \times 10^4 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; Fluorescence (CHCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\lambda_{\text{Em}}$  = 578 nm.





**Figure S2.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra (101 MHz, CDCl3) of BODIPY dye **1**



**Figure S3.** Mass spectrum (MALDI-TOF) of BODIPY dye **1**

#### <span id="page-8-0"></span>**3. Studies on supramolecular polymerization of dye 1**

#### <span id="page-8-1"></span>**3.1 Temperature-dependent UV/Vis absorption spectroscopic study**

The molar fraction of aggregated molecules  $(a_{\text{agg}})$  in solution can be estimated from the UV/Vis absorption spectra based on the assumption that the dye molecules are completely accommodated in aggregates ( $\alpha_{\text{agg}} = 1$ ) at lowest temperature (or highest concentration) while they exist as monomers  $(\alpha_{\text{mon}} = 1)$  at highest temperature (or lowest concentration). The absorption at a certain wavelength can be considered as summing the absorptions of monomers and aggregates (Eq. S1). Because the summation of the fractions of monomer and aggregated molecules equals unity (Eq. S2), the fraction of aggregated molecules can be calculated by solving the equations set of Eq. S1 and S2.

$$
\varepsilon(559nm) = \varepsilon_{\text{mon}}(559nm)\alpha_{\text{mon}} + \varepsilon_{\text{agg}}(559nm)\alpha_{\text{agg}}
$$
 S1  

$$
\alpha_{\text{mon}} + \alpha_{\text{agg}} = 1
$$
 S2

Temperature-dependent aggregation process can be fitted by the nucleation-elongation model proposed by Meijer et al.[3] In the elongation regime, the fraction of aggregated molecules *α*agg is given by Eq. S3, in which the  $\Delta H_e$  is the molar enthalpy release due to noncovalent interactions during elongation,  $T_e$  is the critical elongation temperature,  $\alpha_{sat}$  is a parameter introduced to ensure that  $\alpha_{\text{agg}}/\alpha_{\text{sat}}$  does not exceed unity.

$$
\alpha_{agg} = \alpha_{sat} (1 - \exp\left[\frac{-\Delta H_e}{RT_e^2} (T - T_e)\right])
$$
 S3

At the temperatures above  $T<sub>e</sub>$  (nucleation regime), the fraction of aggregated molecules in the nucleation regime can be described as Eq.  $S4$ , in which  $K_a$  is the dimensionless equilibrium constant of the activation step at  $T_e$ . A higher degree of cooperativity is expressed in a smaller  $K_a$  value.

$$
\alpha_{agg} = K^{1/3} exp^{[i\omega]} [(2/3K^{-1/3} - 1)\frac{\Delta H_e}{RT_e^2} (T - T_e)]
$$
 S4

The plots of *α*agg versus temperature estimated from temperature-dependent UV/Vis absorption spectra of dye **1** was fitted with the above model and the thermodynamic parameters for the Jaggregation of dye **1** is summarized in Table S1. The experimental results for the heating process is shown in the main text. Fitting results for the cooling process (Figure S4) derived a critical temperature of 354 K (very close to the 355 K of the heating cycle), which indicated that the formation of J-aggregates is nearly reversible with very slight thermal hysteresis.



**Figure S4.** a) Temperature-dependent UV/Vis absorption spectra of BODIPY 1 in MCH ( $c_T = 3.0 \times 10^{-7}$  M) at a cooling rate of 0.5 K/min. The arrows indicate the spectra changing at 559 nm and 611 nm with decreasing temperature from 365 to 303 K; b) Plot of molar fraction of aggregated **1** as a function of temperature for heating and cooling processes and the fitting curves applying cooperative self-assembly model.

**Table S1**. The critical elongation temperature  $(T_e)$ , molar enthalpy  $(\Delta H_e)$  and dimensionless equilibrium constant  $(K_a)$  obtained from fitting of  $\alpha_{\text{agg}} - T$  plots for heating and cooling processes of J-aggregation of dye 1 at  $c_T = 3.0 \times 10^{-10}$ 

$\mathbf{v}$							
Process	$T_{\rm e}$ / K	$\Delta H_e$ / kJ mol <sup>-1</sup>	$K_{a}$				
Heating	355	$-70$	$1.4 \times 10^{-3}$				
Cooling	354	$-53$	$1.1 \times 10^{-3}$				

 $10-7 M$ 

#### <span id="page-10-0"></span>**3.2 Concentration-dependent UV/Vis absorption spectroscopic study**

Concentration-dependent aggregation process can be fitted by the Goldstein-Stryer model<sup>[4]</sup> which describes the cooperative supramolecular polymerization based on the assumption that the size of polymer changes only by monomer association and dissociation. A nucleation step (with equilibrium constant  $K_s$ ) is considered prior to the elongation (with equilibrium constant  $K_E$ ) of the aggregates. In the low concentration range ( $c_T < 1/K_E$ ), only oligomers with size smaller than *s* are formed which are in pre-equilibrium with monomers. Once the concentration exceeds  $1/K_{\text{E}}$ , elongated polymers are formed and the fraction of aggregated molecules (*α*agg) increases drastically with the increase of concentration. The relationship between dimensionless total concentration  $K_{E}c_T$ and monomer concentration  $K_{E}c_{M}$  can be described by Eq. S5, in which  $\sigma$  is the cooperativity factor defined as  $\sigma = K_s / K_E$ .

$$
K_{E}c_{T} = \frac{s(K_{E}c_{M})^{s} \sigma^{s-1}}{1 - K_{E}c_{M}} + \frac{(K_{E}c_{M})^{s+1} \sigma^{s-1}}{(1 - K_{E}c_{M})^{2}} + \frac{K_{E}c_{M}(s(\sigma K_{E}c_{M})^{s-1} - 1)}{\sigma K_{E}c_{M} - 1} - \frac{\sigma (K_{E}c_{M})^{2}((\sigma K_{E}c_{M})^{s-1} - 1)}{(\sigma K_{E}c_{M} - 1)^{2}}
$$
  
SS5

Consequently,  $\alpha_{\text{agg}}$  can be calculated from Eq. S6.

$$
\alpha_{\text{agg}} = 1 - \alpha_{\text{mon}} = 1 - (K_{\text{E}}c_{\text{M}}) / (K_{\text{E}}c_{\text{T}})
$$

By calculating  $K_{E}c_{T}$  from the data of  $K_{E}c_{M}$  ( $K_{E}c_{M}$  < 1), the curve of  $a_{agg}$  versus  $K_{E}c_{T}$  can be drawn. The experimental data of *α*agg evaluated from UV/Vis spectra were collected and manually fitted with calculated curves for the optimal match. The fitting results and the derived parameters *s*, *σ* and  $K<sub>E</sub>$  are shown in Figure S4.

The concentration-dependent UV/Vis absorption spectroscopic experiments were performed at higher temperatures of 358, 363, and 368 K (Figure S5), because no disaggregation could be detected upon diluting the MCH solution to a concentration of  $1.0 \times 10^{-7}$  M at room temperature. By manually fitting the experimental data with Goldstein-Stryer model, the nucleus size *s* of 2 and cooperativity factor  $\sigma$  of 0.004 - 0.006 were obtained, along with the elongation equilibrium constants of  $K_{\rm E}$  at different temperatures (Table S2).

The standard enthalpy change  $(\Delta H^{\rm o})$  and standard entropy change  $(\Delta S^{\rm o})$  can be determined from the linear relationship in van't Hoff plot applying Eq.S7 in which *R* is the ideal gas constant.

$$
lnK_E = -\frac{\Delta H^O}{RT} + \frac{\Delta S^O}{R}
$$
 S7

The van't Hoff plot exhibits a good linear relationship between  $\ln K_E$  and  $1/T$  (Figure S5) from which the standard enthalpy ( $\Delta H^{\circ}$ ) and entropy ( $\Delta S^{\circ}$ ) were estimated to be -57 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> and -38 J mol<sup>-1</sup> K<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. As a consequence, the equilibrium constant of aggregation at room temperature can be derived as  $K_E(298K) = 9.80 \times 10^7 M^{-1}$  by extrapolation method.



**Figure S5** UV/Vis absorption spectra of BODIPY 1 in different concentrations of MCH solution (8.0  $\times$  10<sup>-6</sup> M to 2.5  $\times$  $10^{-7}$  M) at a) 358 K, b) 363 K, and c) 368 K; Insets: plots of molar fraction of aggregated molecules versus dimensionless concentration  $K_{E}c_T$  and fitting curves applying Goldstein-Stryer model. d) Natural logarithm of  $K_{E}$  (ln  $K_{E}$ ) as a function of reciprocal temperature (1/*T*) showing a linear relationship.

**Table S2**. Thermodynamic parameters for the J-aggregation of dye **1** obtained from fitting of concentration-dependent aggregation processes with Goldstein-Stryer model and analysis of van't Hoff plot.

T/K	S	$\sigma$	$K_{\rm N}$ / $10^3$ M <sup>-1</sup>	$K_{\rm E}$ / 10 <sup>6</sup> M <sup>-1</sup>
358		0.004	8.40	2.10
363		0.006	9.72	1.62
368		0.004	5.00	1.25

#### <span id="page-12-0"></span>**3.3 Fluorescence studies**



**Figure S6.** Normalized fluorescence spectra of 1 in MCH ( $c_T = 3.0 \times 10^{-7}$  M) at different temperatures ( $\lambda_{Ex} = 350$  nm). The arrows indicate the change of emission band with increasing temperature.



**Figure S7**. a) Fluorescence decay curves of monomer 1 in MCH measured at 40°C (collected emission wavelength  $λ_{Em}$  = 576 nm); Fluorescence decay curves of J-aggregates of 1 b) in MCH solution ( $\lambda_{Em}$  = 616 nm) and c) in rubbed thin film (*λ*Em = 612 nm). d) Fluorescence decay curves of J-aggregates of **1** collected at *λ*Em = 670 nm. All spectra were measured at excitation wavelength of  $\lambda_{Ex}$  = 350 nm.

<b>Species</b>	$\Phi$ <sup>a</sup>	$\lambda_{\rm Em}$ <sup>b</sup> / nm	$\tau$ <sup>c</sup> /ns	$\tau_1^{\rm d}/\rm ns$	$\tau_2^{\rm d}/\text{ns}$	$e k_f / s^{-1}$	$f_{\rm m}/s^{-1}$
Monomers <sup>g</sup>	0.29	576	3.66	$3.48(98.54\%)$	$15.98(1.46\%)$	$7.92 \times 10^{7}$	$1.94 \times 10^8$
J-aggregates <sup>g</sup>	0.13	616	0.41 <sup>h</sup>	$0.23(95.35\%)$	$4.18(4.65\%)$	$3.17 \times 10^8$	$2.12 \times 10^{9}$
J-aggregates $\frac{g}{g}$	0.13	616	$0.59^{i}$	$0.23(89.84\%)$	$3.75(10.16\%)$		
Film	0.17	612	0.40	$0.22(95.43\%)$	4.16(4.57%)	$4.25 \times 10^8$	$2.07 \times 10^{9}$

**Table S3.** Photophysical parameters for monomers and J-aggregates of dye **1**.

<sup>a</sup> Fluorescence quantum yields.

<sup>b</sup> Wavelength of emission maximum.

<sup>c</sup> Averaged fluorescence lifetimes measured at excitation wavelength of  $\lambda_{Ex}$  = 350 nm.

<sup>d</sup> Components of bi-exponential fluorescence lifetimes and pre-exponential factors (in brackets).

 $e^{\theta}$  *k*<sub>f</sub> =  $\Phi$  / *τ*.

 $f k_{\text{nr}} = k_f * (1 / \Phi - 1).$ 

<sup>g</sup> Measured in MCH solutions.

h Monitored at  $\lambda$  = 616 nm.

<sup>i</sup> Monitored at  $\lambda$  = 670 nm.

## <span id="page-14-0"></span>**3.4 Studies on intermolecular H-bonding interactions**



**Figure S8.** Temperature-dependent <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of dye 1 in 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane-D<sub>2</sub> (TCE-D<sub>2</sub>) at a concentration of  $5 \times 10^{-3}$  M.



<span id="page-14-1"></span>**3.5 Morphological study**

**Figure S9**. TEM images of J-aggregates of 1 in MCH ( $c_T = 1.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M)

## <span id="page-15-0"></span>**3.6 Excitation polarization studies**



**Figure S10.** Excitation spectra ( $\lambda_{Em}$  = 618 nm) of rubbed 1 thin film by setting the excitation polarizer parallel (black) / perpendicular (red) to the rubbing direction of the film while removing emission polarizer out of the light path.

#### <span id="page-16-0"></span>**4. Calculation of the spectral shift applying Kasha's excitonic coupling theory**

The UV/Vis absorption spectroscopy showed a large bathochromic shift for the absorption band of J-aggregates comparing with the monomeric states of dye **1**. This significant spectral shift can be speculated to arise from the excitonic coupling between transition dipole moments of neighboring dye molecules stacking in a slipped fashion, which is described by Kasha's exciton model<sup>[5]</sup>. The transition dipole moment of the monomer can be calculated from integrating the reduced UV/Vis absorption spectra according to Eq. 8, in which *h* is the Planck's constant (6.626  $\times$  10<sup>-34</sup> Js), *c* the speed of light (2.998 × 10<sup>8</sup> m/s),  $\varepsilon_0$  the dielectric constant of vacuum (8.854 × 10<sup>-12</sup> F/m),  $\varepsilon(\tilde{v})$  the molar extinction coefficient at wavenumber of  $\tilde{v}$ , N<sub>A</sub> the Avogadro's number (6.022 × 10<sup>23</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>).

$$
|\mu_{eg}|^2 = \frac{3hc\epsilon_0 ln 10}{2\pi^2 N_A} \int_{\tilde{v}_1}^{\tilde{v}_2} \frac{\varepsilon(\tilde{v})}{\tilde{v}} d\tilde{v}
$$

As a result, the transition dipole moment was calculated as  $|\mu_{eg}| = 7.9$  D.

The exciton splitting *J* caused by the interaction between parallel arranged neighboring molecules in aggregates can be calculated by Eq. S9, where  $r_{uv}$  is the distance between the centers of two neighboring molecules, *θ* the slip angle resulting from the translational offset of these two molecules.

$$
J = \frac{|\mu_{eg}|^2}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 r_{uv}^3} (1 - 3\cos^2\theta)
$$

Then the transition energy for aggregate can be expressed as Eq. S10,[6] in which Δ*E*mon is the transition energy for the isolated monomer,  $\Delta E_{vdW}$  is the difference in van der Waals interaction energy between ground state of a molecule and the excited state of its neighbor molecule, and *J*<sup>i</sup> represent the exciton splitting caused by interactions between neighboring molecules in aggregate.

$$
\Delta E_{\text{agg}} = \Delta E_{\text{mon}} + \Delta E_{\text{vdW}} + \Sigma J_{i}
$$

Thus the spectra shift Δ*ṽ*agg-mon of the aggregate absorption band with respect to the monomer absorption band can be estimated as Eq. S11.

$$
\Delta \tilde{v}_{\text{agg-mon}} = (\Delta E_{\text{agg}} - \Delta E_{\text{mon}}) / hc = \Delta E_{\text{vdW}} / hc + (\Sigma J_i) / hc.
$$
 S11

Since  $\Delta E_{\text{vdW}}$  is a negative value which cannot be determined, the evaluation of spectral shift can be simplified as:

$$
\Delta \tilde{v}_{\text{agg-mon}} < (\Sigma J_i) / hc. \tag{S12}
$$

By assuming that the  $\Sigma J_i$  is contributed by  $J_\pi$  (interaction between neighboring molecules in  $\pi$ - $\pi$ stacking direction) and  $J_H$  (interaction between neighboring molecules in H-bond direction),  $\Delta \tilde{v}_{\text{agg-mon}}$ can be evaluated by Eq. S13 for *m* nearest neighboring molecules in π−π stacking direction and *n* nearest neighboring molecules in H-bond direction.

$$
\Delta \tilde{v}_{\text{agg-mon}} < m \, J_{\text{\tiny R}} \, / \, \text{hc} + n \, J_{\text{H}} \, / \, \text{hc} \tag{S13}
$$

As a result, the spectral shift is determined by the values of distances between chromophore centers in H-bond direction ( $r_{\rm H}$ ) and  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking direction ( $r_{\pi}$ ) as well as the slip angles resulting from translational offset for two H-bonded molecules ( $\theta_H$ ) and two π-π stacked molecules ( $\theta_{\pi}$ ) with respect to the aggregation direction. When the values of distances were set as  $r_H = 2.4$  nm and  $r_\pi$  = 0.8 nm, and the slip angles were set as  $\theta_H = 10^{\circ}$  and  $\theta_{\pi} = 34^{\circ}$ , the exciton splitting for interactions in π−π stacking direction can be evaluated as *J*<sup>π</sup> / *hc* = -646 cm-1 , while that for interactions in H-bond direction is evaluated as  $J_H / hc = -42$  cm<sup>-1</sup>. Thus the calculation with Eq. S13 provides an estimated spectral shift of  $\Delta \tilde{v}_{\text{agg-mon}} \leq -1376 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  for brickwork arrangement ( $m = 2$ ,  $n = 2$ ) of dye molecules, in good agreement with experimental data of  $\Delta \tilde{v}_{exp}$  = -1496 cm<sup>-1</sup> obtained from UV/Vis measurements.

## <span id="page-18-0"></span>**5. References**

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