## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

## Betanin dye extracted from ayrampo (Opuntia soehrensii) seeds to develop dye-sensitized solar cells

Heather V. Flint<sup>a</sup>, Harry Anderson Rivera Tito<sup>b</sup>, Richard D. James<sup>a</sup>, Fabio Cucinotta<sup>a</sup>, Elizabeth Gibson<sup>a</sup> and María Esther Quintana Caceda<sup>b</sup> \*

<sup>a</sup> Energy Materials Laboratory, School of Natural and Environmental Science, Newcastle University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE1 7RU, UK.

e-mail: elizabeth.gibson@newcastle.ac.uk

<sup>b</sup> Center for the Development of Advanced Materials and Nanotechnology, National University of Engineering, Av. Tupac Amaru 210, Lima 25, Peru.

\*e-mail: mquintana@uni.edu



Fig. **S1** (a) Normalized excitation and emission spectra for **AY2** ( $\lambda_{em}$  = 470 nm,  $\lambda_{ex}$  = 380 nm) (solid and dotted black line) and **AY3** ( $\lambda_{em}$  = 600 nm,  $\lambda_{ex}$  = 450 nm) (solid and dotted gray line) in water. (b) Decay of the emission from the yellow band solution probed at 375 nm.

Table **S1**. Table of calculated principle electronic transitions and associated wavelengths and oscillator strengths within the betanin derivative.

Excited State	Transition	Contribution (%)	Absorbance /nm	Energy / eV	Oscillator strength
1	HOMO to LUMO	100	532	2.3302	1.1172
2	HOMO-1 to LUMO	98	447	2.7717	0.0645
	HOMO-3 to LUMO	2			
3	HOMO-2 to LUMO	100	430	2.8838	0.0054



Fig. S2 Plot of current density against voltage for illuminated devices containing AY1 (purple) and AY2 (light purple).



Fig. S3 Plots of current density against voltage for devices containing (a) citric acid stabilized AY1, (b) non-stabilized AY1, (c) N719 dye, (d) AY2 tested repeatedly over several days.