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Title:	Efficient electron transporting and panchromatic absorbing FRET cassettes based on aza-BODIPY and perylenediimide towards multiple metal FRET-Off sensing and ratiometric temperature sensing
Authors:	Rani, Kavita (/jspui/browse?type=author&value=Rani%2C+Kavita) Pandey, Upendra K. (/jspui/browse?type=author&value=Pandey%2C+Upendra+K.) Sengupta, Sanchita (/jspui/browse?type=author&value=Sengupta%2C+Sanchita)
Keywords:	FRET perylene diimide
Issue Date:	2021
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Citation:	Journal of Materials Chemistry C, 9(13), 4607–4618.
Abstract:	Multichromophoric triads 1 and 2 based on aza-BODIPY as the central chromophore and bay-substituted (tetrachloro- and tetraphenoxy-)perylene diimides (PDI) as peripheral chromophores have been designed and synthesized that are panchromatic absorbers and near infrared (NIR) emitters. Both triads 1 and 2 exhibited ~99% Förster resonance energy transfer (FRET) from the peripheral PDIs to central aza-BODIPY. The excitation energy transfer from PDI to aza-BODIPY was studied via steady state emission, fluorescence quantum yield, time resolved fluorescence emission and theoretical calculations. These studies revealed quantitative singlet excitation energy transfer efficiencies for 1 and 2. Electrochemical studies revealed the strong electron deficient character of these triads and thus electron mobilities of these triads were measured using space charge limited current (SCLC) method. Triads 1 and 2 exhibited appreciable electron mobilities of $2.44 \pm 1.70 \times 10^{-3} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ V}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ and $4.00 \pm 1.50 \times 10^{-3} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ V}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ respectively, an order of magnitude higher mobility than aza-BODIPY based small molecules reported in the literature. Leveraging upon the dual emission behaviour of these triads, ratiometric FRET sensing as well as ratiometric temperature sensing behaviour were investigated via steady state absorption and fluorescence measurements. Triads 1 and 2 showed remarkable ratiometric FRET-off sensing where the addition of metals such as Co^{2+} and Fe^{3+} led to near-quantitative FRET off for both the triads. Triads 1 and 2 also serve as efficient ratiometric temperature sensors with positive temperature coefficients and small temperature sensitivities of $\sim 0.29\% \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ and $\sim 0.14\% \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ respectively that suggest the possibility of precise physiological temperature measurements using these triads.
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