

Structural relationships on conductivities of ortho-hydroxyazo dyes

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Abstract

The solid film conductivities of 23 H/K acid azo dyes and three metallised azo dyes were measured at 25°C and 60°C respectively. The data show that the solid conductivities of these ortho-hydroxyazo dyes are determined and controlled by the extent of the intramolecular and intermolecular conjugation. It is concluded that the conductivity properties of organic materials can be improved by optimizing the positions of electron donors and acceptor substituents. © 1998 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

Keywords: Conductivity; Solid film; Azo dyes

1. Introduction

The study of organic materials for their electrical behaviour is now a dynamic field of research and activity has increased step by step in the recent past, since a number of applications [1] can be foreseen. The mode of conduction is based on delocalization of π -electrons and the excitation of an electron from the highest filled π -MOs to the lowest unfilled MOs (LUMO). Radiation can stimulate the creation of new donor levels or of reasonable number of free electrons [2], and the resistivity, as well as the thermal activation energy, decrease with increasing degree of conjugation of the dyes [3], where the degree of conjugation corresponds to the wavelength of the absorption

maximum of the dye. In addition, steric effect and geometrical charge [4] influence the conductivity of an organic molecule, as well as high pressures and shear [5] and can significantly increase the conductivity; σ - and π -electron effects of coordination play an important role in the mechanism of conductivity, as does the intermolecular conjugation for the combined action of high pressure and shear in a substance with a developed system of conjugated bonds. The conjugative effect has some significant influence on electrical conductivity [6] and non-linear optical properties [7], but experimental data on this subject are very scant. The work described here measures the solid conductivities of 23 H/K acid azo dyes and three metallised azo dyes at 25°C and 60°C, and such an investigation of the structural effect on the conductivities should be a guide for the synthesis of new functional materials.

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2. Experimental

2.1. *Ortho-hydroxyazo dyes*

Twenty-three H/K acid azo dyes were synthesized and their structures confirmed by ^1H NMR (Table 1) three metal complexes of ortho-hydroxyazo dyes (Table 2) were supplied by BASF.

The sample tablets were formed by a tablet press under 20 MPa, and both sides of the tablets were silvered. To minimize the solvent and water content, the tablets were dried at 120°C for 24 h.

2.2. Apparatus

A. C. conductivity measurements from 20 Hz to 1 MHz were carried out using two polished silver

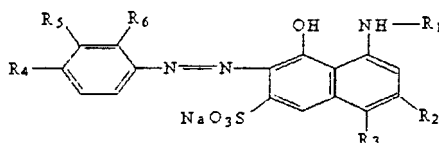
electrodes and were made with an HP 4284 Recession LCR Meter. The conductivities were obtained by processing the high frequency data with a computer.

3. Results and discussion

The conductivities at 25°C and 60°C are shown in Tables 1 and 2. The results in Table 1 show that D-13, D-25 and D-16 have higher conductivities which indicates that the intramolecular bifurcated hydrogen bond [8,9] of *o*-nitro or *o*-sulfo oxygen to hydroxy hydrogen gives rise to strong overlap of the molecular orbitals. Moreover, the intramolecular hydrogen bonds play an important role in keeping the molecular planar [10], which

Table 1

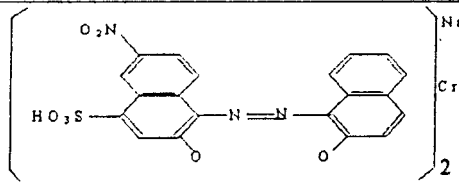
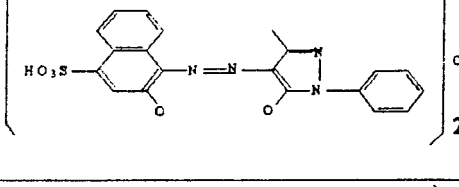
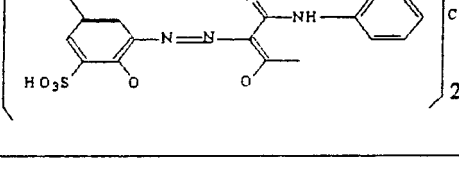
Structural formulae of H/K acid azo-dyes and their conductivities (G: S/cm) at 25 and 60°C, respectively



Dye	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	R ₅	R ₆	log G _{25°C}	log G _{60°C}
D-13	–COPh	–H	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–H	–SO ₃ Na	–5.115	–5.076
D-25	–COPh	–H	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–H	–NO ₂	–4.944	–4.594
D-16	–COCH ₃	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–H	–H	–NO ₂	–5.353	–5.139
D-21	–COPh	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–H	–H	–OCH ₃	–5.931	–5.621
D-9	–COCH ₃	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–H	–H	–OCH ₃	–6.447	–5.945
D-8	–COCH ₃	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–H	–H	–COPh	–6.595	–6.502
D-11	–SO ₂ Ph	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–H	–H	–H	–5.718	–5.683
D-30	–COCH ₃	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–COPhCl	–H	–H	–5.897	–6.694
D-19	–H	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–H	–H	–OCH ₃	–6.512	–5.970
D-1	–COPh	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–H	–H	–H	–5.987	–5.769
D-4	–COCH ₃	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–H	–H	–H	–5.997	–5.776
D-14	–COPh	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–H	–NHCOCH ₃	–H	–5.971	–5.625
D-29	–SO ₂ PhCH ₃	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–COPhCl	–H	–H	–5.888	–5.517
D-24	–H	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–NO ₂	–H	–NO ₂	–5.650	–5.557
D-5	–COCH ₃	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–NO ₂	–H	–H	–5.973	–5.868
D-20	–COCH ₃	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–OCH ₃	–H	–H	–5.571	–5.312
D-18	–COCH ₃	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–NO ₂	–5.960	–6.034
D-28	–COCH ₃	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–OPh	–H	–H	–6.281	–6.175
D-22	–H	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–OCH ₃	–H	–H	–6.221	–5.998
D-7	–COPh	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–H	–NO ₂	–H	–5.987	–5.937
D-17	–C ₂ H ₅	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–H	–H	–NO ₂	–6.485	–5.283
D-6	–COPh	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–H	–H	–NO ₂	–6.033	–5.866
D-3	–COPh	–SO ₃ Na	–H	–NO ₂	–H	–H	–6.797	–6.643

Table 2

Structural formulae of metallised azo dyes and their conductivities (G: S/cm) at 25 and 60°C, respectively

DYE	Structure Formula	$\log G_{25^\circ\text{C}}$	$\log G_{60^\circ\text{C}}$
Dye-1		-5.936	-5.868
Dye-2		-6.244	-6.127
Dye-3		-6.380	-6.344

affects and strengthens the polarizabilities of donor-acceptor-substituted π systems [11]. The 5-electron-acceptor (EA) sulfo group in the naphthalene nucleus decreases the density of the electron cloud in the coupling component, and strengthens the resonance between the donor and acceptor pairs of the molecules, and between the head and tail parts of the dimer [12], which leads to a better polarizability, and in turn results in a better conduction.

The effect of the polarization of π -electrons on the conductivity was examined with H acid azo dyes as shown in Figs. 1–4.

They have no permanent dipole moments and can only act through induced polarization, and conjugation involves the delocalization and polarization σ conjugated π -electrons. The polarized energy of π -electrons depends on structural features, e.g. the oscillator strengths and the conjugation length, which are controlled by the associated

effect of conjugated groups. When both terminal groups are combined in the same direction polarization, the conjugation stretched to both terminals. Large conjugated π systems are highly polarizable, so the conductivity of dyes D-21, D-11, D-14 and D-17 attains a high value. In a conjugated molecule, two (valence and conduction) bands are coupled with the frontier orbitals of the end groups (the donor and the acceptor, respectively), and the ground state then consists of hybridization of the valence band and the donor orbital. The excited state leading to charge transfer is expressed by a partially filled acceptor orbital hybridized with the conduction band. Suzuki et al. [13] had introduced a simple model to describe the above electronic structure of donor/conjugated-bridge/acceptor molecules, which interprets the intramolecular adiabatic charge transfer. In a conjugated molecule, in which the donor-donor

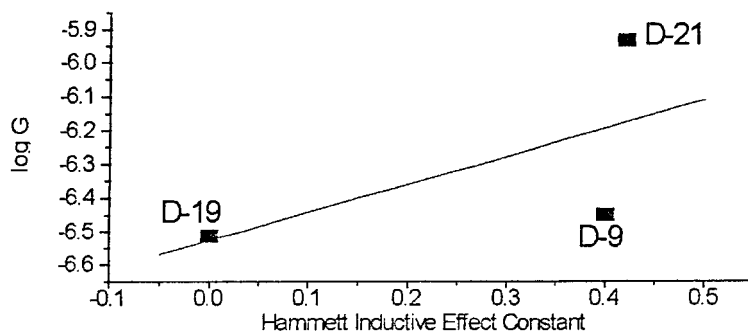


Fig. 1. Conductivities (G : S/cm) of H acid azo dyes with R_4 – R_5 =H and R_6 =–OCH₃ at 25°C vs Hammett inductive effect constant (σ_I) of substituents (R_1 =–H) coupled with the 8-amino-group on the naphthalene nucleus.

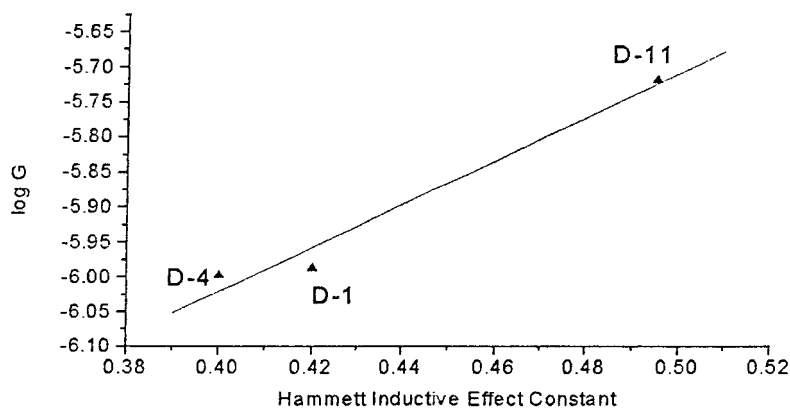


Fig. 2. Conductivities (G : S/cm) of H acid azo dyes with R_4 – R_6 =H at 25°C vs Hammett inductive effect constant σ_I of substituents (R_1 =–COPh) coupled with the 8-amino-group in naphthalene nucleus.

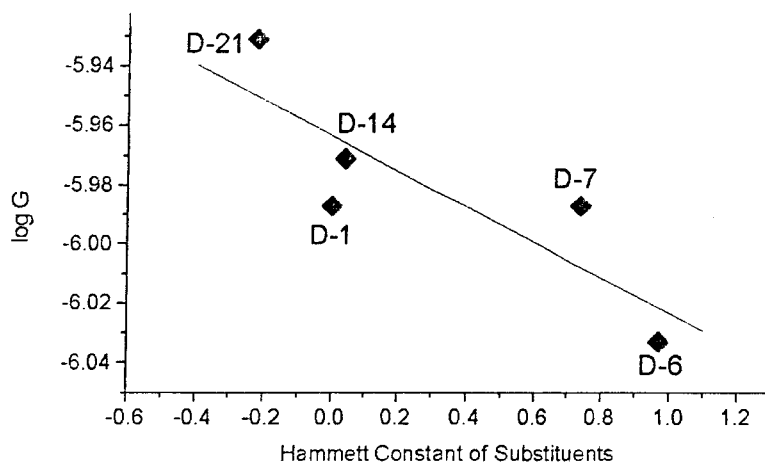


Fig. 3. Conductivities (G : S/cm) of H acid azo dyes with EA substituent, benzoyl–COPh, coupled with the 8-amino-group at 25°C vs the electronic effect of substituents in the diazo component.

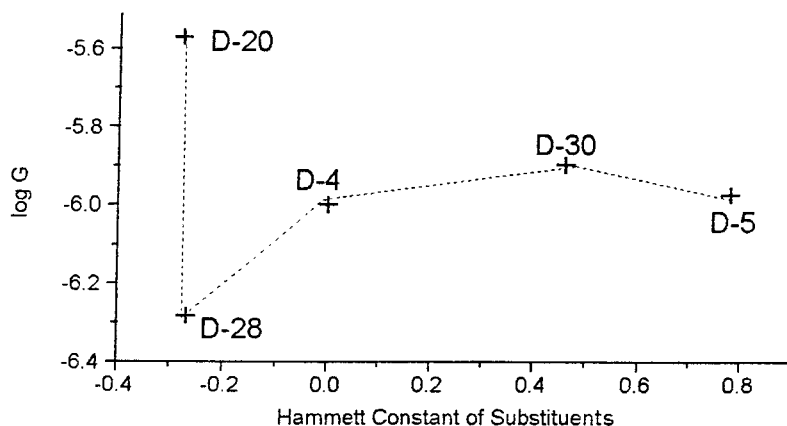


Fig. 4. Conductivities (G : S/cm) of H acid azo dyes with EA substituent, benzoyl- COCH_3 coupled with the 8-amino-group at 25°C and the electronic effect of substituents in the diazo component.

pairs and acceptor-acceptor pairs alternately appear in the chain, has a narrow energy gap of about 1.6 eV [14]. In Fig. 3, the strong EA substituent (benzoyl-COPh), coupled with the 8-amino-group lowers the density of the electronic cloud in the coupling component and therefore, electron-donor (ED) substituents in the diazo component promote conjugation. In contrast, when a strong ED group (e.g. $-\text{NH}_2$) is present in the naphthalene nucleus, the ED substituents in the diazo component are unfavourable for resonance of the conjugated pair; analogously, then insert insulators in the molecules and dimers of solid dye. Therefore, D-3, D-6, D-7, D-22 and D-18 are poorer conductors. Previous investigations [15] have showed that conjugation occurs when two general conditions are met viz. (i) there is a significant difference between the values of the dipole moments (and polarizabilities) in the first-excited single state, and (ii) push/pull groups should be present in the conjugation system.

The structure of the dye determines whether the conjugative effect occurs, and the intramolecular chemical environment can easily change the orientation of the electron migration in the conjugated pair of *o*-arylazonaphthols. Since the electronic effect of the acetyl substituent, (Fig. 4), is weaker than that of benzoyl it is unclear as to whether substituents in the diazo component contribute to the conjugate system of *o*-arylazonaphthols. It is

clear that the opposite direction of polarization shortens the length of the conjugation. A previous investigation [6] has shown that in fully conjugated systems ($\text{D}-\pi-\text{A}$) the degree of charge separation on excitation is estimated to be 30~40%, and when the conjugation was interrupted by inserting a saturated spacer in the middle of the bridge ($\text{D}-\pi-\text{A}$ molecules), the chance of the direct charge separation induced in the band maximum was decreased to 7~14%.

The concept of conjugation length plays an important role in theories of conductivity. The data of conductivity in Table 2 also shows that except for the strength of intramolecular and intermolecular conjugation, the length of the conjugation of azo dye molecules or the size of the conjugated π system, plays an important role in the polarizability of π electrons on the macroscopic conductivity of chromium or cobalt complexes of *ortho*-hydroxyazo dyes.

The metal-ligand bond may be one of a wide variety of types, depending on the nature of the ligand and of the metal ion leading to a large number of structural possibilities, but it is certain that the conjugated π systems include the atomic orbitals of the metal ion. The character of the associated effect of the oxygen atoms changes with the terminal group. So, in Dye-1, the polarization of the strong terminal electro-acceptor (EA), NO_2 , is in the same direction as that of the O -group

which donates electrons to the π -electron system. the strong conjugation between the donor and the acceptor residues increases the resonance energy in the molecules, and leads to a higher conductivity. Therefore, Dye-1 and Dye-2 have larger delocalised π bonds, and so have better conduction than Dye-3.

4. Conclusions

The conductivities of 23 H/K acid azo dyes and three metallised azo dyes were measured at 25°C and 60°C, respectively. The data show that the solid conductivities of the dyes are determined and controlled by the conjugative effect. It is concluded that the conductivity properties of organic materials can be improved by optimizing the substitution positions of pertinent electron donor and acceptor substituents.

Acknowledgements

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