

SYNTHESIS AND CHARACTERIZATION OF
AZOBENZENE BASED COMPOUNDS FOR
THEIR PHOTO-INDUCED EFFECTS

YUVARAJ A. R.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA PAHANG

SYNTHESIS AND CHARACTERIZATION OF AZOBENZENE BASED
COMPOUNDS FOR THEIR PHOTO-INDUCED EFFECTS

YUVARAJ A. R.

Thesis submitted in fulfilment of the requirements
for the award of the degree of
Doctor of Philosophy in Advanced Materials

Faculty of Industrial Sciences and Technology
UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA PAHANG

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Date :

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LIST OF SYMBOLS

α	alpha
β	beta
δ	chemical shift
Cr	crystalline
$^{\circ}\text{C}$	degree centigrade
Equi	equivalence
ν	frequency
g	gram
Hz	hertz
H	hour
I	isotropic
K	kilo
L	litre
λ_{max}	maximum wavelength
MHz	mega hertz
μm	micrometre
mg	milligram
mL	millilitre
mmol	millimole
mW	milliwatt
mol	mole
mol L^{-1}	mole per litre
nm	nanometre
N	nematic
N	normality/normal
cm^{-1}	per centimetre
%	percentage
sec	second
cm^2	square of centimetre
λ	wavelength

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Me ₂ CO	acetone
Ar	aromatic
¹³ C NMR	carbon nuclear magnetic resonance
CHCl ₃	chloroform
CE	conversion efficiency
<i>J</i>	coupling constant
(CD ₃) ₂ CO	deuterated acetone
CDCl ₃	deuterated chloroform
DMSO-d ₆	deuterated dimethyl sulphoxide
CH ₂ Cl ₂	dichloromethane
DCC	dicyclohexyl carbamide
DSC	differential scanning calorimetry
DMAP	dimethyl aminopyridine
d	doublet
dd	doublet of doublet
EtOH	ethanol
EtOAc	ethyl acetate
FAB+	fabrication plus
HCl	hydrochloric acid
H-bond	hydrogen bond
ITO	indium tin oxide
IR	infrared
MS	mass spectra
m/z	mass to charge ratio
MLC 6873-100	merck liquid crystal-commercial
MeOH	methanol
M ⁺	molecular ion
m	multiplet
<i>pet</i>	petroleum
POM	polarizing optical microscope
KBr	potassium bromide

pH	power of hydrogen
^1H NMR	proton nuclear magnetic resonance
R_f	retention factor
SiO_2	silica gel
s	singlet
NaOH	sodium hydroxide
TLC	thin layer chromatography
t	triplet
UV	ultraviolet
Vis	visible
XRD	X-ray diffraction

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ABSTRACT

Photonics, in which photo-induced effect can be controlled by light as stimulus has attracted a lot of attentions due to their variety of applications ranging from photonic industries to electronic computer technologies. Among them, optical storage system is a unique subject in which light illumination can alter the molecular structure drastically. These tuning structural property relations are extremely important to fabricate the optical storage devices. Although various light sensitive azobenzene derivatives are available in literature, no detail investigation has been carried out in terms of their controllable photo-induced effects with respect to structure-property relationship. Organic synthesis is a perfect tool, which can manipulate the molecular structure easily to get the desired compounds of azobenzene derivatives by incorporating several functional groups in the molecular architecture. This study gives an idea about the molecular structure and functional groups in azobenzene compounds to vary the time duration of photo-induced effects. Then, evaluated the photo-induced effects and liquid crystalline properties of the synthesized azobenzene compounds such as amides, aliphatic/aromatic spacers, phenol/anisol, fluorine with esters, isoflavones, halogens and siloxanes. The variation observed in the photo-induced effects of the respective compounds in terms of physical and chemical properties such as hydrogen bonding, electron withdrawing effect, hyper conjugation, flexibility, polarity, molecular symmetry, asymmetric effect, photo-crosslinking and electropositive nature. Particularly, amides, aliphatic/aromatic spacers, phenol/anisol, fluorine substituted esters, halogens and siloxane substituted azobenzene derivatives showed long duration of thermal back relaxation due to the action of hydrogen bonding effect, flexibility, polarity, molecular symmetry, photo-crosslinking and electropositive nature. These compounds with long duration of thermal back relaxation are suitable for optical storage technology. On the other hand, isoflavone based azobenzene compounds showed fast photo-response, due to the presence of asymmetric effect in the molecular system. Hence, these isoflavone based azobenzene derivatives are useful to fabricate molecular switches. However, other light sensitive compounds such as, chalcones, stilbenes and imines exhibited lack of photo-induced effects compare to azobenzene compounds. Tacitly, chalcones, stilbenes and imine did not show interesting photo-induced effects as compared to azobenzene compounds. Thus, azobenzene derivatives with various molecular structures and functional groups are suitable to evaluate the photo-induced effects. Also, azobenzene compounds are suitable for optical storage device fabrication. Nevertheless, amides, aliphatic/aromatic spacers, fluorine substituted esters and halogens substituted azobenzene derivatives were liquid crystals. Particularly, these compounds showed nematic and smectic liquid crystal phases. But, chalcones, stilbenes and imine derivatives did not showed liquid crystallinity. The optical storage device was fabricated using **20a**, azobenzene compound substituted by olefinic group. The resolution and sharp edges of the letters and pattern, which are stored in the fabricated optical storage device, are showing the novelty of this work. Thus, azobenzene derivatives can be extensively useful for photo-induced optical storage technology.

ABSTRAK

Fotonik, merupakan photo-induced yang dapat dikawal dengan menggunakan rangsangan daripada cahaya telah menarik banyak perhatian kerana aplikasinya yang sangat meluas dalam industri fotonik hinggalah kepada teknologi komputer. Peranti simpanan optikal merupakan sistem yang sangat unik dimana pencahayaan iluminasi boleh mengubah struktur molekul secara drastik. Sifat pengubahsuaian ciri-ciri struktur adalah sangat penting untuk menghasilkan peranti simpanan optik. Walaupun banyak derivatif azobenzena yang sensitif terhadap cahaya telah dilaporkan, tetapi tiada kajian yang terperinci dijalankan dari segi kebolehan mengawal kesan photo-induced berkenaan dengan hubungan sifat struktur. Sintesis organik adalah cara yang terbaik dimana cara ini dapat memanipulasi struktur molekular dengan mudah untuk mendapatkan produk derivatif azobenzena yang diinginkan dengan menggabungkan beberapa kumpulan berfungsi. Kajian ini memberikan idea mengenai struktur molekular dan kumpulan berfungsi di dalam sebatian azobenzena untuk mengubah tempoh masa kesan photo-induced. Kemudian penilaian kesan photo-induced dan sifat-sifat kristal cecair telah dibuat terhadap sebatian azobenzena yang telah disintesis seperti amida, spacer aromatik/alifatik, fenol/anisol, florin dengan ester, isoflavon, halogen dan siloksan. Kepelbagaian yang diperhatikan pada kesan photo-induced diterangkan dengan ciri-ciri fizikal dan kimia pada setiap sebatian. Sifat-sifat fizikal dan kimia tersebut adalah kesan daripada ikatan hidrogen, kesan elektron penarik balik, hyper conjugation, fleksibiliti, kepolaran, molekular simetri, kesan asimetrik, photo-crosslinking dan sifat elektropositif. Terutamanya bagi amida, spacer alifatik/aromatik, fenol/anisol, florin pengganti ester, halogen dan siloksan pengganti derivatif azobenzena menunjukkan jangka masa yang lama untuk keadaan terma rehat berbalik disebabkan oleh kesan ikatan hidrogen, fleksibiliti, kepolaran, molekular simetri, photo-crosslinking dan sifat elektropositif. Sebatian dengan keadaan terma rehat berbalik yang panjang sesuai untuk teknologi simpanan optik. Sebaliknya, isoflavon berasaskan sebatian azobenzena menunjukkan tindak balas cahaya yang cepat disebabkan kehadiran kesan asimetrik di dalam sistem molekular. Oleh itu, isoflavon berasaskan derivatif azobenzena adalah berguna untuk menyediakan molecular switches. Bagaimanapun, sebatian lain yang sensitif terhadap cahaya seperti calkon, stilben dan imina disintesis untuk membandingkan kesan photo-induced dengan sebatian azobenzena. Jelas dilihat calkon, stilben dan imina tidak menunjukkan kesan photo-induced yang menarik jika dibandingkan dengan sebatian azobenzena. Oleh itu, derivatif azobenzena dengan pelbagai struktur molekular dan kumpulan berfungsi adalah sesuai untuk menilai kesan photo-induced. Selain itu sebatian azobenzena adalah sesuai untuk menghasilkan peranti simpanan optik. Namun, amida, spacer alifatik/aromatik florin pengganti ester dan halogen menunjukkan fasa kristal cecair nematik dan smektik. Tetapi calkon, stilben dan imina tidak menunjukkan kristal cecair. Peranti simpanan optik dihasil menggunakan sebatian azobenzena **20a**, diganti dengan kumpulan olefin. Resolusi dan sisi yang tajam pada huruf dan corak yang mana disimpan dalam peranti simpanan optik yang dihasil menunjukkan keaslian pada kajian ini. Kesimpulannya, derivatif azobenzena boleh digunakan secara meluas untuk teknologi photo-induced simpanan optikal.

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