Solid-State Luminescence of Fluorenone Grafted onto Cellulose Aldehyde Backbone Using Different Organic Amine Spacers

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Abstract : The present work describes the preparation, characterization, and luminescence of a series of fluorenone (FL) based luminophores grafted onto modified cellulose microfibers. The FL is condensed onto cellulose aldehyde using three diamine spacers (H_2N-NH_2 , $H_2N(CH_2)_2NH_2$ and $H_2N(CH_2)_3NH_2$) to afford Cell=Spacer=FL. The obtained products were characterized by spectroscopic (FT-IR, UV-Vis), thermal gravimetric analysis (TGA), and microscopic (Optical, SEM) techniques. The UV-Vis spectra of the FL=N(CH₂)_xNH₂ (x = 0, 2, 3) moieties show that they are transparent in the 375-800 nm region while they exhibit intense absorption band below 350 nm attributed to $n-\pi^*$ and $\pi-\pi^*$ transitions. The solid-state photoluminescence (PLs-s) of the cold-pressed pellets of the FL=N(CH₂)_xNH₂ and Cell=Spacer=FL placed in a quartz cuvette show strong emission in the 500-550 nm region upon irradiation with Xe lamp light (λ ex = 320 nm). The PLs-s green emission of the grafted Cell=Spacer=FL was evaluated relative to that of the FL-based precursor. These grafted conjugated products have the potential to be used as analyte sensors for typical nitroaromatics/aromatic amines and be further extended to immunoassay studies for aromatic amino acids such as phenylalanine and histidine.

Keywords: luminescence, cellulose, fluorenone, grafting, solid state

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