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Magnesium porphyrazine with peripheral methyl (3,5-dibromophenylmethyl)amino groups – synthesis and optical properties

Dedicated to the memory of Professor Franciszek Sączewski

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Abstract: Novel magnesium(II) porphyrazine with peripheral methyl(3,5-dibromophenylmethyl)amine groups was synthesized in a multi-step procedure starting from commercially available diaminomaleonitrile. All intermediates and the final macrocycle were characterized using UV–Vis, FT-IR, MS and various NMR techniques. The absorption and emission properties of the macrocycle were evaluated in *N,N*-dimethylformamide, dimethyl sulfoxide, and dichloromethane. The potential photosensitizing activity was evaluated by assessing the ability of the macrocycle to generate singlet oxygen in dimethyl sulfoxide and *N,N*-dimethylformamide.

Keywords: aminoporphyrazine; diaminomaleonitrile; Linstead macrocyclization; NMR; singlet oxygen

Introduction

In recent years, diaminomaleonitrile (DAMN) and its derivatives have been applied in the synthesis of many heterocyclic compounds, including imidazoles, pyrazines,

pyrimidines, purines, azepines, pyrroles, oxazoles, nucleosides as well as porphyrazine macrocycles [1-10]. At present, after many years of research, porphyrazines (Pzs) substituted with nitrogen atoms in the β positions or having rings bound to both β, β positions form a distinct class of novel macrocycles (aminoporphyrazines), along with other porphyrazines substituted with sulphur, oxygen, alkyl or aryl residues [11-14]. Aminoporphyrazines reveal coordination properties due to the presence of metal ion binding sites in the macrocyclic core and the periphery. Due to interesting optical and electrochemical properties, they have been widely researched for many potential applications in nanotechnology, materials and medicinal chemistry [11, 15, 16]. Lately, our group has studied porphyrazines substituted in the periphery with methyl(3-pyridylmethyl)amino, 2,5-dimethylpyrrolyl substituents, dimethylamino, 2,5-dimethylpyrrol-1-yl, 2,5-dithienylpyrrol-1-yl, 2,5-di(biphenyl-4-yl)pyrrol-1-yl and 2-(1-adamantyl)-5-phenylpyrrol-1-yl moieties [17-23]. Moreover, an earlier developed alkylation path [1,4,15] leading to tetraalkylated diaminomaleonitrile substrates for Pzs synthesis has been explored [6]. The reactivity of therein described dialkylated diaminomaleonitrile representative, 2,3-bis[(3-pyridylmethyl)amino]-2(*Z*)-butene-1,4-dinitrile, has been analyzed by using X-ray and DFT studies. Tetraalkylated DAMN, 2,3-bis[methyl(3-pyridylmethyl)amino]-2(*Z*)-butene-1,4-dinitrile, has been applied in the synthesis of tribenzoporphyrazine with methyl(3-pyridylmethyl)amino groups which was additionally subjected to solvatochromic and metallation studies.

Herein we report the synthesis and characterization of porphyrazine bearing peripheral methyl(3,5-dibromophenylmethyl)amine groups in the periphery. This study is an extension of our previous report [6] on the unusual reactivity and applications of diaminomaleonitrile in the synthesis of porphyrazine systems. The aminoporphyrazines and *seco*-dimethylaminoporphyrazines have been extensively

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studied as photosensitizers in the photodynamic therapy of cancer and as robust catalysts for highly efficient endoperoxide synthesis [11,16]. In our current study, we attempted to design a new porphyrazine which could be of potential value as a building block for novel electronic and optical materials as well as a catalyst or sensor for technology and medicine. Further studies of novel DAMN derivatives seem to be worthy due to the possibilities of the discovery of potential biologically active compounds.

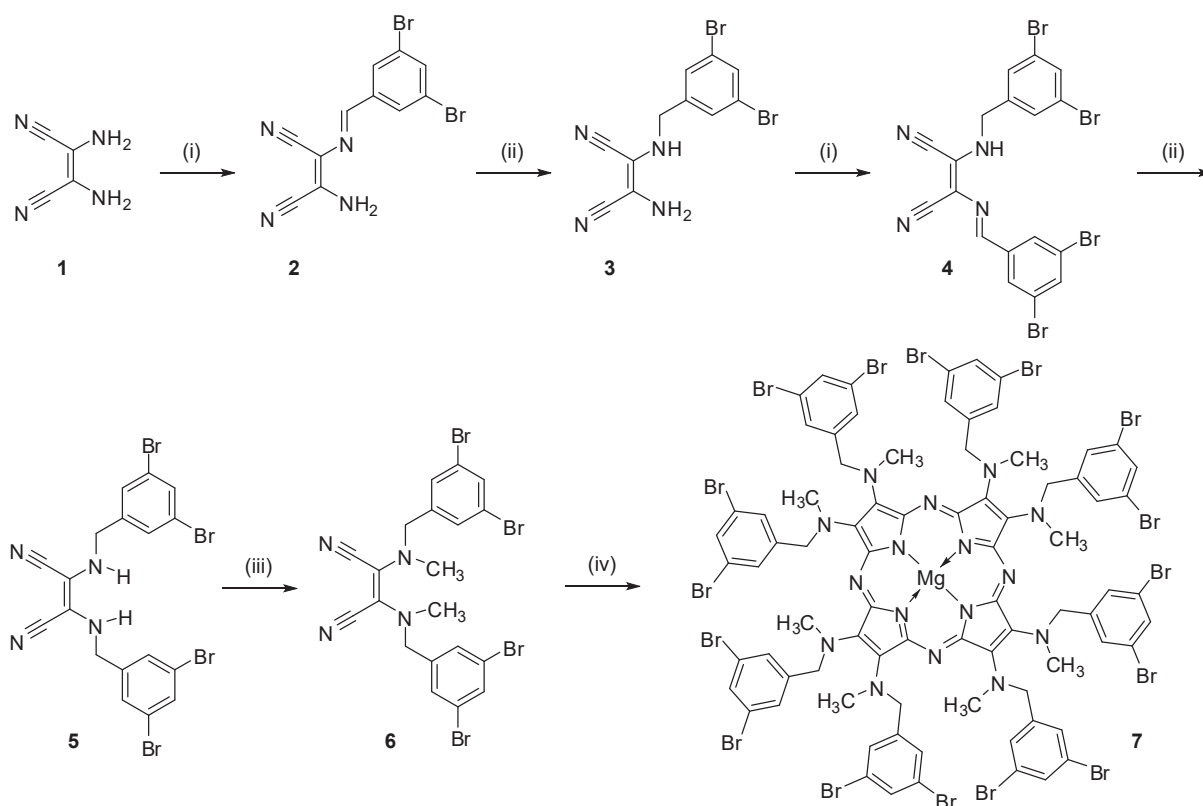
Results and discussion

Synthesis and characterization

Maleonitrile derivative **6** was obtained in a multi-step procedure starting from a commercially available diaminomaleonitrile (**1**) adapting the conditions reported by Begland et al. [1], Beall et al. [15] and Fuchter et al. [4]. Sequential double-reductive alkylation of **1** was employed to yield the intermediate products 2-amino-3-[(3,5-dibromophenylmethylidene)amino]-2(Z)-butene-1,4-dinitrile (**2**), 2-amino-3-[(3,5-dibromophenylmethyl)amino]-2(Z)-butene-1,4-dinitrile (**3**), 2-[(3,5-dibromophenylmethyl)

amino]-3-[(3,5-dibromophenylmethylidene)amino]-2(Z)-butene-1,4-dinitrile (**4**) and 2,3-bis[(3,5-dibromophenylmethyl)amino]-2(Z)-butene-1,4-dinitrile (**5**). Our previous study on the alkylation reaction with dimethyl sulfate of dialkylated diaminomaleonitrile substrates, indicated the prevalence of the alkylation reaction after treating dialkylated derivative as disodium salt with dimethyl sulfate at lower temperatures, whereas at higher temperatures the alkylating agent acted as a hydride anion acceptor, which favored the elimination reaction to imine 2-[(3-pyridylmethyl)amino]-3-[(3-pyridylmethylidene)amino]-2(Z)-butene-1,4-dinitrile with 45% yield [6]. To avoid this unwelcome process in our study, the alkylation reaction of dialkylated derivative **5** to tetraalkylated derivative **6** was performed in DMF with methyl iodide (in the presence of cesium carbonate as a base at 40°C for 24 h) by adapting the procedure of Fuchter et al. [4]. Maleonitrile **6** was used in the Linstead macrocyclization reaction [26] with magnesium *n*-butanolate in *n*-butanol to give porphyrazine **7** in moderate 37% overall yield (Scheme 1).

The structural analysis of porphyrazine **7** was undertaken using 1D ^1H and ^{13}C NMR and a range of 2D NMR experiments (COSY, HSQC and HMBC). Detailed analysis of NMR spectra is presented in Figure 1 and in Table 1. The ^1H - ^1H



Scheme 1 Reagents and conditions: (i) 3,5-dibromobenzaldehyde, methanol, TFA, rt, 30 min; (ii) sodium borohydride, methanol, rt, 30 min; (iii) methyl iodide, DMF, cesium carbonate, 40°C, 24 h; (iv) $\text{Mg}(\text{O}-n\text{Bu})_2$, *n*BuOH, reflux, 20 h

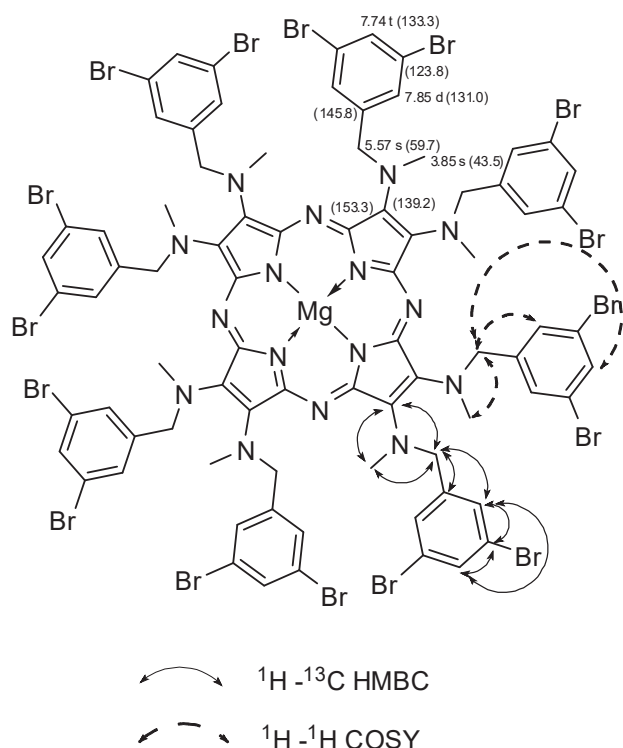


Figure 1 NMR data of **7**: ^1H and ^{13}C chemical shift values and key correlations observed in NMR spectra. Dotted lines: ^1H - ^1H COSY; Continuous arrows: ^1H - ^{13}C HMBC.

Table 1 ^1H and ^{13}C NMR data obtained for **7** including key correlations determined from ^1H - ^{13}C HSQC and ^1H - ^{13}C HMBC spectra.

δ_{H} (ppm)	Multiplicity ($J_{\text{H-H}}$ in Hz)	^1H - ^{13}C HSQC δ (ppm)	^1H - ^{13}C HMBC δ (ppm)			^1H - ^1H COSY δ (ppm)
3.85	s	43.5	139.2	59.7		5.57
5.57	s	59.7	145.8	139.2	131.0 43.5	7.85 3.85
7.74	t (2)	133.3	131.0	123.8		5.57
7.85	d (2)	131.0	133.3	123.8	59.7	5.57

Quaternary carbon atoms: 123.8, 139.2, 145.8, 153.3 ppm

COSY and ^1H - ^{13}C HMBC experiments turned out particularly useful to elucidate the structure of porphyrizine **7**. The signals at 5.57 ppm were assigned to NCH_2 hydrogen atoms of methyl(3,5-dibromophenylmethyl)amino substituent due to the long-range correlations to protons at C2' (7.85 ppm) and C4' (7.74 ppm) of the 3,5-dibromophenyl fragment via 4J and 6J couplings, respectively, and correlations to the macrocyclic core C2, C3 carbons at 139.2 ppm. Other useful correlations within the methyl(3,5-dibromophenylmethyl)amino group were observed interchangeably between NCH_2 at 5.57 ppm/59.7 ppm and NCH_3 at 3.85 ppm/43.5 ppm protons/carbons, respectively. The ^1H - ^1H COSY spectra

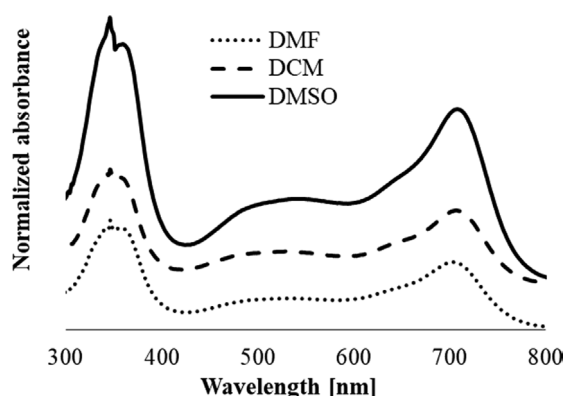


Figure 2 Normalized absorption spectra of **7** in selected organic solvents.

of **7** revealed substantial cross-ring long-range coupling between H-2/H-6 and H-4 within methyl(3,5-dibromophenylmethyl)amino group, which were confirmed by 4J proton-proton meta-coupling of 2 Hz in the ^1H NMR.

HPLC analysis confirmed the purity of the macrocyclic compound **7** at a level above 95% (see Supplementary Information).

Optical studies

The electronic absorption spectra of porphyrizine **7** were recorded in dimethylformamide (DMF), dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO) and dichloromethane (DCM) (Figure 2). Two characteristic bands, a broad intense Soret band with maximum absorption at 346 nm and a Q-band with λ_{max} in the range of 704-708 nm are observed. Also, in the UV-Vis spectra recorded in all solvents a wide, flat absorption band at about 500-550 nm is present. The $n\text{-}\pi^*$ transitions are the result of the donation of a lone pair of electrons present on the external nitrogens to the macrocyclic ring [11]. Emission measurements carried out in both DMF and DMSO solutions do not indicate the ability of **7** to fluorescence.

The potential photosensitizing activity of **7** was determined by measuring its ability to generate singlet oxygen as a result of the interaction between the activated photosensitizer and triplet oxygen. DPBF was used as a chemical quencher, which undergoes a cycloaddition reaction with singlet oxygen to produce endoperoxide. Solutions containing **7** or ZnPc (as a reference) in a mixture with DPBF in DMF or DMSO were irradiated with monochromatic light of wavelengths adjusted to the Q-band maxima [14, 27]. In DMF, upon interaction with singlet oxygen, DPBF is oxidized and decomposed which is manifested in the UV-Vis spectrum as a decrease in the absorbance at 417 nm (Figure 3a). However, the calculated singlet oxygen quantum yield (Φ_{Δ}) is low

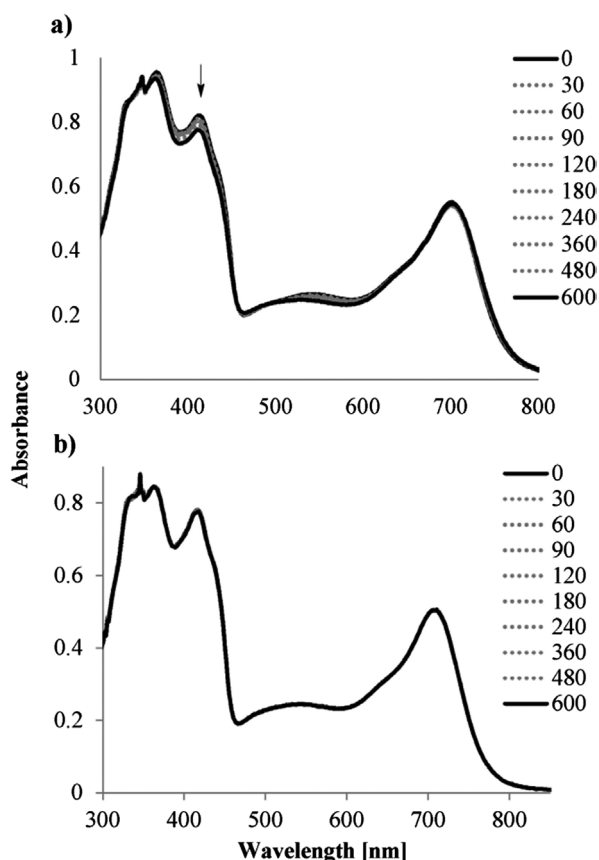


Figure 3 Changes in the UV-Vis spectra during irradiation of **7** and DPBF in DMF (a) and DMSO (b).

and does not exceed the value of 0.01. When DMSO is used as a solvent, no significant changes in the UV-Vis absorption spectra of porphyrzine are observed, upon exposure to radiation (Fig. 3b). The facts that the fluorescence emission is not observed as well as the values of singlet oxygen generation are very low, indicate that both fluorescence is not the main radiative deactivation pathway to the ground state as well as the triplet state population is not significant enough. It is known that the more significant the population of the first triplet state is, the higher the probability of the energy transfer from the photosensitizer to the oxygen with the consequent production of singlet oxygen is observed [28]. Usually, the presence of heavy atoms, such as bromine atoms, increases the efficiency of intersystem crossing to the triplet state and yields of singlet oxygen generation. In the studied process another independent pathway for the deactivation of sensitized excited states that competes with energy transfer to O_2 seems to take place. Possibly, vibrational relaxation which is a nonradiative deactivation process to the ground state mediated by the collisions between the chromophore and its surrounding environment cannot be excluded following the Jablonski

diagram. Such molecules can be further studied regarding photoacoustic imaging/spectroscopy [29].

Conclusions

Novel magnesium(II) porphyrzine with peripheral methyl(3,5-dibromophenylmethyl)amine groups was synthesized in a multi-step procedure starting from commercially available diaminomaleonitrile. All intermediates and the final macrocycle were characterized using UV-Vis, FT-IR, MS MALDI, and various NMR techniques. Also, the optical absorption and emission properties of novel macrocycle were studied. The potential photosensitizing activity of the macrocycle was evaluated by measuring its ability to generate singlet oxygen. Lack of fluorescence and very low values of singlet oxygen generation efficiency below 1% in dimethyl sulfoxide and dimethylformamide indicate the participation of other processes following the Jablonski diagram. The interpretation of the results could take into account the deactivation of sensitized excited states competing with the relaxation of a molecule. It could result in the emission of a photon (fluorescence), and an energy transfer via intersystem crossing to O_2 . The vibrational relaxation which is a nonradiative deactivation process to the ground state mediated by the collisions between the chromophore and its surrounding environment cannot be excluded. Nevertheless, in such case very advanced photoacoustic imaging/spectroscopy processes should be studied to check the potential utility of a novel molecule in light-based thermal therapies. Another possible application of the novel molecule concerns catalysis, analytical and materials chemistry. For example Ivanova et al. have so far performed a study on structurally similar octa(4-bromophenyl)porphyrzine indicating its complexation properties with Cd^{2+} cations in DMSO at 298 K [30].

Experimental

All reactions were conducted in oven-dried glassware under argon using a Radleys Heat-On heating system. Solvents and all reagents were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. All solvents were removed by rotary evaporation at or below 50 °C. Dry flash column chromatography was carried out on Merck silica gel 60, particle size 40 - 63 μm , reverse phase Fluka C18 silica gel 90. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on silica gel Merck Kieselgel 60 F₂₅₄ plates and Merck Kieselgel RP-18 60 F₂₅₄s visualized with UV (λ_{max} 254 or 365 nm). UV-Vis spectra were recorded on a

Hitachi UV/VIS U-1900 and Shimadzu PC-160 spectrophotometers. FT-IR spectra were recorded using IRAffinity-1 spectrometer (Shimadzu, Japan) in KBr pellets. Melting points were obtained on a Stuart Bibby apparatus and are uncorrected. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were acquired on an Agilent DD2 800 spectrometer at 298 K. The ^1H and ^{13}C resonances were unambiguously assigned based on ^1H , ^{13}C , ^1H - ^1H COSY, ^1H - ^{13}C HSQC, and ^1H - ^{13}C HMBC experiments. Mass spectra (MS ES, HRMS ES, MALDI TOF) were carried out by the Advanced Chemical Equipment and Instrumentation Facility at the Faculty of Chemistry and the Wielkopolska Center for Advanced Technologies at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań.

2-Amino-3-[(3,5-dibromophenylmethylidene)amino]-2(Z)-butene-1,4-dinitrile (2)

Diaminomaleonitrile (1.00 g, 9.25 mmol) and 3,5-dibromobenzaldehyde (2.44 g, 9.25 mmol) were dissolved in methanol (35 mL) and the solution was treated with a catalytic amount of trifluoroacetic acid. When the yellow solid appeared after 30 min, the mixture was filtered to give yellow product **2**; yield 2.38 g (86%); mp 209–211°C; R_f (CH_2Cl_2) 0.43; UV-Vis (CH_2Cl_2): λ_{max} , nm (log ϵ) 363 (4.45), 264 (4.51), 233 (4.30); IR: ν 3328, 2210, 1617, 1378, 975 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ_{H} , ppm 7.89 (t, 4J = 2 Hz, 1H, C3-ArH), 8.20 (s, 1H, N=C-H), 8.27 (s, 2H, NH_2), 8.30 (d, 4J = 2 Hz, 2H, C1-ArH); ^{13}C NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ_{C} 151.6, 139.4, 135.3, 130.3, 128.3, 122.9, 114.1, 113.5, 101.7. ESI-HRMS. Calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_7\text{Br}_2\text{N}_4$, $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: m/z 352.9032. Found: m/z 352.9025.

2-Amino-3-[(3,5-dibromophenylmethyl)amino]-2(Z)-butene-1,4-dinitrile (3)

Compound **2** (1.00 g, 2.45 mmol) was suspended in methanol (60 mL). Next, sodium borohydride (0.37 g, 9.8 mmol) was added in a few portions until the solid dissolved, and the mixture was stirred for 15 min at room temperature. Then, the mixture was poured on crushed ice with water and the resultant yellow solid precipitate was filtered and purified via column chromatography (CH_2Cl_2 : CH_3OH , 50:1) to give yellow solid; yield 2.62 g (95%); mp 194–196 °C; R_f (CH_2Cl_2) 0.21. UV-Vis (CH_2Cl_2): λ_{max} , nm (log ϵ) 304 (4.35), 231 (4.16); IR: ν 3336, 2209, 1560, 1368, 1252, 844 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ_{H} 4.22 (d, 3J = 6 Hz, 2H, CH_2), 5.61 (t, 3J = 6 Hz, 1H, NH), 5.83 (s, 2H, NH_2), 7.53 (d, 4J = 2 Hz, 2H, C1-ArH), 7.75 (t, 4J = 2 Hz, 1H, C3-ArH); ^{13}C NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ_{C} 144.2, 132.1, 129.2, 122.5, 116.3, 115.6, 106.4, 109.9, 47.7. ESI-HRMS. Calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_9\text{Br}_2\text{N}_4$, $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: m/z 354.9188. Found: m/z 354.9173.

2-[(3,5-Dibromophenylmethyl)amino]-3-[(3,5-dibromophenylmethylidene)amino]-2(Z)-butene-1,4-dinitrile (4)

A solution of **4** (2.50 g, 7.00 mmol) and 3,5-dibromobenzaldehyde (2.20 g, 8.40 mmol) in methanol (60 mL) was treated with a catalytic amount of trifluoroacetic acid. When the yellow solid precipitated after 30 min, the mixture was filtered off to give a yellow solid of **4**; yield 2.31 g (55%); mp 185–187°C; R_f (CH_2Cl_2) 0.73. UV-Vis (CH_2Cl_2): λ_{max} , nm (log ϵ) 383 (4.47), 268 (4.22), 233 (4.31); IR: ν 3067, 2190, 1560, 1240, 951 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ_{H} 4.66 (d, 3J = 5 Hz, 2H, CH_2), 7.60 (d, 4J = 2 Hz, 2H, CH_2 -C1-ArH), 7.79 (t, 4J = 2 Hz, 1H, N=CH-C3-ArH), 7.93 (t, 4J = 2 Hz, 1H, CH_2 -C3-ArH), 7.99 (d, 4J = 2 Hz, 1H, NH), 8.28 (s, 2H, N=CH-C1-ArH), 8.84 (s, 1H, N=CH); ^{13}C NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ_{C} 153.0, 142.9, 139.2, 135.6, 132.5, 130.4, 129.5, 129.1, 123.0, 122.7, 122.6, 113.4, 103.3, 48.0. ESI-HRMS. Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{11}\text{Br}_4\text{N}_4$, $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: m/z 598.7711. Found: m/z 598.7709.

2,3-Bis[(3,5-dibromophenylmethyl)amino]-2(Z)-butene-1,4-dinitrile (5)

A suspension of **4** (2.00 g, 3.30 mmol) in methanol (100 mL) was treated with sodium borohydride (0.50 g, 13.3 mmol) in few portions until the solid dissolved and the mixture was stirred for 15 min at room temperature. Then, the mixture was poured on crushed ice with water and the resultant yellow solid was filtered and purified via column chromatography (CH_2Cl_2 : CH_3OH , 20:1); yield 1.95 g (98%); mp 210–212°C; R_f (CH_2Cl_2) 0.58. UV-Vis (CH_2Cl_2): λ_{max} , nm (log ϵ) 382 (4.43), 268 (4.18), 233 (4.40); IR: ν 3067, 2923, 2232, 1576, 1420, 1233, 854, 743 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ_{H} 4.30 (d, 4J = 2 Hz, 4H, CH_2), 6.07 (t, 3J = 6 Hz, 2H, NH), 7.53 (d, 4J = 2 Hz, 4H, C1-ArH), 7.76 (t, 4J = 2 Hz, 2H, C3-ArH); ^{13}C NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ_{C} 143.9, 132.3, 129.3, 122.6, 115.1, 109.9, 47.6. ESI-HRMS. Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{13}\text{Br}_4\text{N}_4$, $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: m/z 600.7868. Found: m/z 600.7865.

2,3-Bis[methyl(3,5-dibromophenylmethyl)amino]-2(Z)-butene-1,4-dinitrile (6)

A solution of **5** (1.00 g, 1.66 mmol) and methyl iodide (0.41 mL 6.64 mmol) in dry DMF (5 mL) was added over 1 h to a rapidly stirring suspension of cesium carbonate (1.62 g, 4.97 mmol) in dry DMF (7 mL). After the addition was completed, the mixture was heated to 40°C and stirred for 19 h. Then, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and poured onto ice with water and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The organic layers were combined and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified using column

chromatography ($\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2:\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$, 50:1) to give **6** as a yellow solid; yield 0.84 g (79%); mp 198–201°C; R_f (CH_2Cl_2) 0.6. UV-Vis (CH_2Cl_2): λ_{max} , nm (log ϵ) 316 (4.13), 233 (4.24); IR: ν 3337, 3071, 2921, 2185, 1560, 1424, 1201, 1103, 842, 743 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$): δ_{H} 2.70 (s, 6H, CH_3), 4.26 (s, 4H, CH_2), 7.43 (d, $^4J = 2$ Hz, 4H, C1-ArH), 7.76 (t, $^4J = 2$ Hz, 2H, C3-ArH). ^{13}C NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$): δ_{C} 144.3, 135.7, 133.1, 125.7, 120.0, 118.0, 59.2, 43.3. ESI-HRMS. Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{16}\text{Br}_4\text{N}_4\text{Na}$, $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$: m/z 654.7967. Found: m/z 654.7963. ESI-HRMS. Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{17}\text{Br}_4\text{N}_4$, $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: m/z 632.8147. Found: m/z 632.8143.

[2,3,7,8,12,13,17,18-Octakis(methyl(3,5-dibromophenylmethyl)amino)porphyrinato]-magnesium(II) (**7**)

A mixture of magnesium turnings (0.024 g, 0.39 mmol), a crystal of I_2 , and *n*-butanol (6 mL) was heated under reflux for 6 h, then cooled to room temperature, treated with the maleonitrile derivative **6** (0.249 g, 0.39 mmol) and heated under reflux for an additional 20 h. After cooling to room temperature, the dark blue mixture was filtered through Celite and concentrated. Column chromatography ($\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2:\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$, 50:1) of the residue furnished product **7** as a dark blue solid; yield 92 mg (37%); mp > 300°C; R_f ($\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2:\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ 100:1) 0.19. UV-Vis (CH_2Cl_2): λ_{max} , nm (log ϵ) 343 (5.04), 529 (4.53), 707 (4.87); IR: ν 3066, 2923, 1558, 1419, 1066, 845, 740 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (pyridine- d_5): δ_{H} 3.85 (s, 24H, $\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_2$), 5.57 (s, 16H, CH_2), 7.74 (t, $^4J = 2$ Hz, 8H, C3-ArH), 7.85 (d, $^4J = 2$ Hz, 16H, C1-ArH); ^{13}C NMR (pyridine- d_5): δ_{C} 153.3, 145.8, 139.2, 133.3, 131.0, 123.8 hidden, 59.7, 43.5. MS (MALDI). Calcd for $\text{C}_{80}\text{H}_{69}\text{Br}_{16}\text{MgN}_{16}$, $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: m/z 2536.2363. Found: m/z 2536.2368. HPLC purity is over 95% (see supplementary information).

Optical studies

All experiments have been performed at ambient temperature. UV-Vis spectra were recorded in the range of 200–900 nm using Shimadzu UV-160A and Jasco V-530 spectrophotometers. The quantum yields of singlet oxygen generation were determined in DMSO and DMF solutions (3.0 mL, no oxygen bubbled) using the relative method with zinc(II) phthalocyanine (ZnPc, Sigma–Aldrich) as a reference and 1,3-diphenylisobenzofuran (DPBF) as a chemical quencher according to the previously described procedure [24]. Solutions of **7** in DMF or DMSO (absorbance of the sensitizer ~ 0.5) in the presence of DPBF were irradiated in a 1-cm path-length quartz cell (3 mL) with monochromatic light by a 150 W high-pressure Xe lamp (Optel) through a monochromator M250/1200/U. The ZnPc solution was prepared analogously. The concentration of DPBF was set at

$\sim 3 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol L}^{-1}$ to avoid chain reactions induced by DPBF in the presence of singlet oxygen [25]. Light of two different wavelengths adjusted to the maximum of the Q-band region was used. The light intensity was set to 0.5 mW/cm² (Radiometer RD 0.2/2 with TD probe, Optel). Fluorescence measurements were performed using a Jasco 6200 spectrofluorometer.

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