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[54] **AZO DYES FOR THERMOTRANSFER PRINTING**

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Related U.S. Patent Documents

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[30] **Foreign Application Priority Data**

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[51] **Int. Cl.**[6] **B41M 5/035;** B41M 5/38

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **503/227;** 428/195; 428/913; 428/914

[58] **Field of Search** 8/471; 428/195, 913, 428/914; 503/227

[56] **References Cited**

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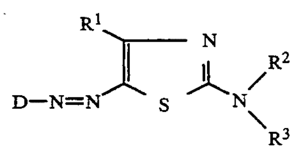
[57] **ABSTRACT**

Azo dyes useful for thermotransfer printing have the formula



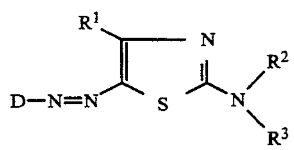
I

3 Claims, No Drawings

AZO DYES FOR THERMOTRANSFER PRINTING

Matter enclosed in heavy brackets [ ] appears in the original patent but forms no part of this reissue specification; matter printed in italics indicates the additions made by reissue.

The present invention relates to the use in thermotransfer printing of azo dyes of the formula I



I

where the substituents have the following meaning:

R^1 is hydrogen;

C_1–C_{15}-alkyl which may be substituted by phenyl or phenoxy;

cyclohexyl which may be substituted by C_1–C_5-alkyl, C_1–C_5-alkoxy or halogen:

phenyl which may be substituted by C_1–C_5-alkyl, C_1—C_5-alkoxy, sulfonamido or halogen;

thienyl which may be C_1—C_5-alkyl- or halogen-substituted, furanyl or pyridyl;

a radical of the formula II

$$[\text{—W—O}]_n\text{—}R^4 \qquad \text{II}$$

where

W is identical or different C_2–C_6-alkylene,

n is from 1 to 6 and

R^4 is C_1–C_4-alkyl or a phenyl or benzyl group which may both be substituted by C_1–C_4-alkyl or C_1–C_4-alkoxy;

R^2 and R^3 are each hydrogen;

alkyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, alkanoyloxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonyloxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, haloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl or cyanoalkyl, which may each contain up to 15 carbon atoms and be substituted by phenyl, C_1–C_4-alkylphenyl, C_1–C_4-alkoxyphenyl, halophenyl, benzyloxy, C_1–C_4-alkylbenzyloxy, C_1–C_4-alkoxybenzyloxy, halogenzyloxy, halogen, hydroxyl or by cyano; cyclohexyl which may be substituted by C_1**14** C_{15}-alkyl, C_1–C_{15}-alkoxy or halogen;

phenyl which may be substituted by C_1–C_{15}-alkyl, C_1–C_{15}-alkoxy, benzyloxy or halogen; a radical of the abovementioned formula II; and

is the radical of a diazo component III

$$D\text{—}NH_2 \qquad \text{III}$$

and specifically to a process for transferring these azo dyes by diffusion from a transfer to a plastic-coated substrate with the aid of a thermal printing head.

The technique of thermotransfer printing is common knowledge; suitable heat sources besides lasers and IR lamps are in particular thermal printing heads capable of emitting short heat pulses lasting fractions of a second.

In this preferred embodiment of thermotransfer printing, a transfer sheet which contains the transfer dye together with one or more binders, a support material and possibly further assistants such as release agents or crystallization inhibitors is heated from the back with the thermal printing head, causing the dye to migrate out of the transfer sheet and to diffuse into the surface coating of the substrate, for example into the plastic coat of a coated sheet of paper.

The essential advantage of this process is that the amount of dye to be transferred (and hence the color gradation) can be controlled in a specific manner via the amount of energy supplied to the thermal printing head.

Thermal transfer printing is in general carried out using the three subtractive primaries yellow, magenta and cyan (with or without black), and the dyes used must have the following properties to ensure optimal color recording: ready thermal transferability, little tendency to migrate within or out of the surface coating of the receiving medium at room temperature, high thermal and photochemical stability, and also resistance to moisture and chemicals, no tendency to crystallize on storage of the transfer sheet, a suitable hue for subtractive color the transfer sheet, a suitable hue for subtractive color mixing, a high molar absorption coefficient, and ready industrial availability.

It is very difficult to meet all these requirements at one and the same time. In particular, the magenta dyes used to date have not been fully satisfactory. This is also true for example of the azo dyes described, and recommended for thermal transfer, in U.S. Pat. No. 4,764,178, which resemble the azo dyes I and have coupling components based on aniline, tetrahydroquinoline, aminoquinoline or julolidine.

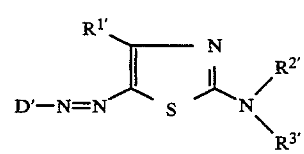
The azo dyes I themselves are known per se or obtainable by known methods, for example as described in earlier German Patent Application P 38 33 443.7, O. Annen et al., Rev. Prog. Coloration 17 (1987), 72–85, or M. A. Weaver and L. Shuttleworth, Dyes and Pigments 3 (1982), 81–121.

It is an object of the present invention to find suitable red and blue dyes for thermotransfer printing which come closer to the required property profile than the prior art dyes.

We have found that this object is achieved by the azo dyes I defined at the beginning.

We have also found a process for transferring azo dyes by diffusion from a transfer to a plastic-coated substrate with the aid of a thermal printing head, which comprises using for this purpose a transfer on which are situated one or more of the azo dyes I defined at the beginning.

We have further found preferred embodiments of this process, which comprise using dyes of the formula Ia



Ia

where the substituents have the following meanings:

$R^{1'}$ is C_1–C_8-alkyl which may be substituted by phenyl or cyclohexyl;

phenyl which may be substituted by C_1–C_4-alkyl, C_1–C_4-alkoxy or chlorine;

thienyl;

a radical of the formula IIa

$[-(CH_2)_3-O]_p+(CH_2)_2-O]_q-R^{31}$ IIa

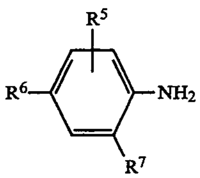
where p is 0 or 1, q is from 1 to 4, and $R^{4'}$ is C_1–C_4-alkyl, phenyl or benzyl;

$R^{2'}$ and $R^{3'}$ are each C_1–C_{12}-alkyl, C_1–C_{10}-alkoxy or C_1–C_{10}-cyanoalkyl or a radical of the abovementioned formula IIa; and

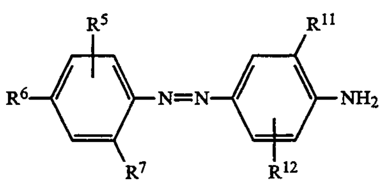
D' is the radical of a diazo compound III of the aniline, phenylazoaniline, aminothiophene, phenylazoaminothiophene, aminothazole, phenylazoaminothiazole, aminoisothiazole, aminobenzisothiazole, aminothiadiazole, aminoisothiadiazole, aminooxazole, aminooxadiazole, aminodiazole, aminotriazole or aminopyrrole series.

Preferred diazo components III are:

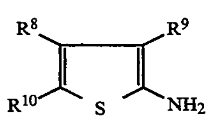
aniline derivatives of the formula IIIa


IIIa

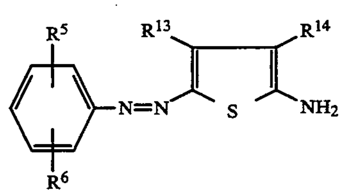
phenylazoaniline derivatives of the formula IIIb


IIIb

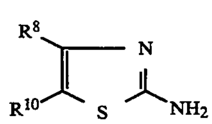
aminothiphene derivatives of the formula IIIc


IIIc

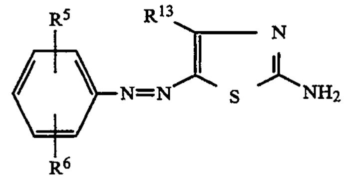
phenylazoaminothiophene derivatives of the formula IIId


IIId

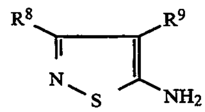
Aminothiazole derivatives of the formula IIIe


IIIe

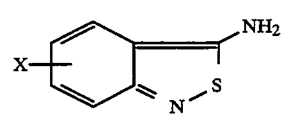
phenylazoaminothiazole derivatives of the formula IIIf

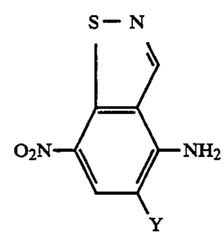

IIIf

aminoisothiazole derivatives of the formula IIIg

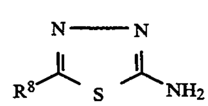

IIIg

aminobenzisothiazole derivatives of the formulae IIIh and IIIi

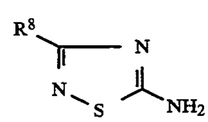

IIIh


IIj

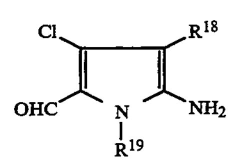
aminothiadiazole derivatives of the formula IIIk


IIIk

aminothiadiazole derivatives of the formula IIIl


IIIl

aminopyrrole derivatives of the formula IIIm


IIIm

Here the substituents have the following meanings:

R^5, R^6 and R^7 are each hydrogen, chlorine, bromine, nitro or cyano; alkyl alkoxyalkyl, alkanoyloxalkyl or alkoxycarbonylalkyl, which may each contain up to 10 carbon atoms;

a radical of the formula II;

a radical of the formula $-CO-OR^{15}$, $-CO-NR^{15}R^{16}$, $-SO-OR^{15}$, $-SO_2-OR^{15}$ or $-SO_2-NR^{15}R^{16}$ in which

R^{15} and R^{16} are each alkyl or alkoxyalkyl which may each contain up to 10 carbon atoms, and

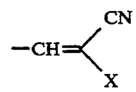
R^{16} may also be hydrogen;

R^5 may also be oxadiazole substituted in the 3-position by C_1-C_8 -alkoxy;

R^6 may also be a radical of the formula —CO—R^{17} or —CO—OR^{17} where

R^{17} is phenyl which may be substituted by C_1-C_8-alkyl;

a radical of the formula IV



IV

where

X is cyano, —CO—OR^{15} or —CO—$NR^{15}R^{16}$;

R^8 is hydrogen, chlorine, cyano or thiocyanato, alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio or alkoxyalkyl which may each contain up to 10 carbon atoms; 2-(C_1-C_2-alkoxycarbonyl-)ethylthio; 2-(pyrrolid-1-yl)ethyl; C_5-C_6-cycloalkyl or -cycloalkylthio; phenyl which may be substituted by C_1-C_4-alkyl, C_1-C_4-alkoxy, benzyloxy or phenylthio; Ar-C_1-C_4-alkythio; Ar-C_1-C_4-alkoxy or Ar-C_1-C_4-alkylthio;

thienyl or pyridyl which may each be substituted by C_1-C_4-alkyl;

a radical of the formula II;

a radical of the formula —CO—OR^{15}, —CO—$NR^{15}R^{16}$, —SO—OR^{15} or —SO_2—OR^{15};

R^9 is hydrogen, chlorine, bromine, nitro, cyano, thiocyanato or phenyl; or a radical of the formula —CO—OR^{15} or —CO—$NR^{15}R^{16}$;

R^{10} is hydrogen, chlorine, bromine, nitro, cyano or formyl; a radical of the formula —CO—OR^{15} or —CO—$NR^{15}R^{16}$; or a radical of the formula IV

R^{11} and R^{12} are each hydrogen, chlorine, bromine, nitro or cyano; C_1-C_4-alkyl or C_1-C_4-alkoxy; or a radical of the formula —CO—OR^{15} or —CO—$NR^{15}R^{16}$;

R^{13} is hydrogen, chlorine, bromine or C_1-C_4-alkyl;

R^{14} is hydrogen or cyano; or a radical of the formula —CO—OR^{15} or —CO—$NR^{15}R^{16}$;

R^{18} is cyano or formamido;

R^{19} is methyl or phenyl;

X is hydrogen, chlorine or nitro; and

Y is hydrogen or cyano.

Suitable alkyl R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7, R^8, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{13}, R^{15} or R^{16} is in particular methyl, ethyl, propyl, ispropyl or butyl, but also isobutyl, sec.-butyl or tert.-butyl.

R^1, R^2, R^3, R^5, R^6, R^7, R^8, R^{15} *and* $R16$ may each also be for example pentyl, isopentyl, neopentyl, tert.-pentyl, hexyl, 2-methylpentyl, heptyl, octyl, 2-ethylhexyl, mixed isooctyl isomer and cyclohexyl.

R^1, R^2, R^3, R^5, R^6, R^7, R^8, R^{15} and R^{16} may each also be for example nonyl, decyl, mixed isononyl isomer or mixed isodecyl isomer.

Other possible meanings for R^1, R^2 and R^3 include undecyl, dodecyl, tridecyl, mixed isotridecyl isomer, tetradecyl and pentadecyl and for R^2 and R^3 additionally hexadecyl, heptadecyl, octadecyl, nonadecyl and eicosyl.

Alkyls R^2 and R^3 may each also be substituted by phenyl; specific examples, where Ph=phenyl, are:

—CH_2—Ph, —$CH(CH_3)$—Ph, —$(CH_2)_2$—Ph,
—$(CH_2)_4$—$CH(CH_3)$—Ph—3—CH_3,
—$(CH_2)_3$—$CH(C_4H_9)$—Ph—3—CH_3,
—$(CH_2)_6$—Ph—4—O—CH_3.
—$CH(C_2H_5)$—$(CH_2)_3$—Ph—3—O—C_2H_5 and
—$CH(C_2H_5)$—$(CH_2)_3$—Ph—3—Cl.

It is also possible to use for example the following halo, hydroxyl and cyanoalkyl groups as R^2 or R^3:

—$(CH_2)_5$—Cl, —$CH(C_4H_9)$—$(CH_2)_3$—Cl or —$(CH_2)_4$—CF_3;
—$(CH_2)_2$—$CH(CH_3)$—OH. —$(CH_2)_2$—$CH(C_4H_9)$—OH oder $CH(C_2H_5)$—$(CH_2)_9$—OH:
—$(CH_2)_2$—CN, —$(CH_2)_3$—CN, —CH_2—$CH(CH_3)$—$CH(C_2H_5)$—CN, —$(CH_2)_6$—$CH(C_2H_6)$—CN and
—$(CH_2)_3$—$CH(CH_3)$—$(CH_2)_2$—$CH(CH_3)$—CN.

When R^1, R^2, R^3, R^5, R^6, R^7, R^{15} or R^{16} is alkoxyalkyl of preferred formula II, suitable W is for example 1,2- and 1,3-propylene, 1,2-, 1,3-, 1,4- and 2,3-butylene, pentamethylene, hexamethylene and 2-methylpentamethylene, but in particular ethylene, and R^4 is in particular methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl and also benzyl and phenyl which may each be substituted by methyl(oxy), ethyl(oxy), propyl(oxy) or butyl(oxy). Particularly preferred II is for example:

—$(CH_2)_2$—O—CH_3, —$(CH_2)_2$—O—C_2H_5, —$(CH_2)_2$—O—C_3H_7, —$(CH_2)_2$—O—C_4H_9,
—$(CH_2)_2$—O—CH_2—$CH(CH_3)$—CH_3,
—$(CH_2)_2$—O—Ph, —$(CH_2)_2$—O—CH_2—Ph,
—$[(CH_2)_2$—$O]_2$—CH_3, —$[(CH_2)_2$—$O]_2$—C_2H_5,
—$[(CH_2)_2$—$O]_2$—Ph,
—$[(CH_2)_2$—$O]_2$—Ph—4—O—C_4H_9,
—$[(CH_2)_2$—$O]_3$—C_4H_9, —$[(CH_2)_2$—$O]_3$—Ph,
—$[(CH_2)_2$—$O]_3$—Ph—3—C_4H_9,
—$[(CH_2)_2$—$O]_4$—CH_3,
—$(CH_2)_3$—O—$(CH_2)_2$—O—CH_3, —$(CH_2)_3$—O—$(CH_2)_2$—O—C_2H_5,
—$(CH_2)_3$—O—$(CH_2)_2$—O—Ph, —$(CH_2)_3$—O—$[(CH_2)_2$—$O]_2$—CH_3 and
—$(CH_2)_3$—O—$[(CH_2)_2$—$O]_2$—C_2H_5.

Further preferred groups II are for example:

—$(CH_2)_3$—O—CH_3, —$(CH_2)_3$—O—C_2H_5, —$(CH_2)_3$—O—C_3H_7, —$(CH_2)_3$—O—C_4H_9,
—$(CH_2)_3$—O—Ph, —$[(CH_2)_3$—$O]_2$—CH_3, —$[(CH_2)_3$—O—$]_2$'C_2H_5,
—CH_2—$CH(CH_3)$—O—CH_3, —CH_2—$CH(CH_3)$—O—C_2H_5, —CH_2—$CH(CH_3)$—O—C_3H_7,
—CH_2—$CH(CH_3)$—O—C_4H_9, —CH_2—$CH(CH_3)$—O—Ph,
—$(CH_2)_4$—O—CXH_3, —$(CH_2)_4$—O—C_2H_5, —$(CH_2)_4$—O—C_4H_9,
—$(CH_2)_4$—O—CH_2—$CH(C_2H_5)$—C_4H_9, —$(CH_2)_4$—O—Ph,
—$(CH_2)_4$—O—CH_2—Ph—2—O—C_2H_5, —$(CH_2)_4$—O—C_6H_{10}—2—C_2H_5,
—$[(CH_2)_4$—$O]_2$—CH_3, —$[(CH_2)_4$—$O]_2$—C_2H_5,
—$[(CH_2)_2$—$CH(CH_3)$—$O]_2$—C_2H_5,
—$(CH_2)_5$—O—CH_3, —$(CH_2)_5$—O—C_2H_5, —$(CH_2)_5$—O—C_3H_7, —$(CH_2)_5$—O—Ph,
—$CH_2)_2$—$CH(C_2H_5)$—O—CH_2—Ph—3—O—C_4H_9,
—$(CH_2)_2$—$CH(C_2H_5)$—O—CH_2—Ph—3—Cl,
—$(CH_2)_6$—O—C_4H_9, —$(CH_2)_6$—O—Ph—4—O—C_4H_9, —$(CH_2)_3$—$CH(CH_3)$—$CH(CH_3)$—CH_2—O—C_4H_9,
—$(CH_2)_3$—O—$(CH_2)_4$—O—CH_3, —$(CH_2)_3$—O—$(CH_2)_4$—O—C_2H_5,
—$(CH_2)_4$—O—$(CH_2)_3$—O—CH_3 and —$(CH_2)_4$—O—$(CH_2)_3$—O—C_2H_5.

Suitable alkoxyalkyl also includes for example:

—$(CH_2)_8$—O—CH_3, —$(CH_2)_8$—O—C_4H_9, —$(CH_2)_8$—O—CH_2—Ph—3—C_2H_5,

—$(CH_2)_4$—CH(Cl)—$(CH_2)_3$—O—CH_2—Ph—3—CH_3 and
—$(CH_2)_3$—CH(C_4H_9)—O—CH_2—Ph—3—CH_3.

Of the above-recited alkoxyalkyl groups, those which contain up to 8 carbon atoms are also suitable for use as R^8 and those having up to 12 carbon atoms are also suitable for use as R^{15} and R^{16}.

Preferred alkoxy R^2, R^3, R^8, R^{11} or R^{12} is for example methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, isopropoxy, butoxy, isobutoxy or sec.-butoxy.

R^8 and especially R^2 and R^3 may each also be for example pentyloxy, isopentyloxy, neopentyloxy, hexyloxy, oxtyloxy or 2-ethylhexyloxy.

R^2 and R^3 may each in addition be for example nonyloxy or decyloxy but also undecyloxy, dodecyloxy, tridecyloxy, tetradecyioxy or pentadecyloxy.

R^8 may also be alkylthio, such as preferably methylthio, ethylthio or 2-cyanoethylthio, but also propylthio, isopropylthio, butylthio, pentylthio, hexylthio, heptythio, octylthio, 2-ethylhexylthio, 2-ethoxycarbonylethylthio or in particular 2-methoxycarbonylthio.

Suitable alkanoyloxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonyloxyalkyl or alkoxycarbonylalkyl R^2 or R^3 is for example:
—$CH_2)_2$—O—CO—CXH_3,
—$(CH_2)_3$—O—CO—$(CH_2)_7$—CH_3,
—$(CH_2)_2$—O—CO—$(CH_2)_3$—PH-2—O—CH_3,
—CH(CH_2—Ph—3—CH_3)—O—CO—C_4H_9 and
—$(CH_2)_4$—O—CO—$(CH_2)_4$—CH(C_2H_5)—OH;
—$(CH_2)_2$—O—CO—O—CH_3,
—$(CH_2)_3$—O—CO—O—$(CH_2))_7$—CH_3,
—CH(C_2H_5)—CH_2—O—CO—O—C_4H_9,
—$(CH_2)_4$—O—CO—O—$(CH_2)_2$—CH(CH_3)—O—Ph—3—CH_3 and
—$(CH_2)_5$—O—CO—O—$(CH_2)_5$—CN;
—$(CH_2)_2$—CO—O—CH_3,
—$(CH_2)_3$—CO—O—C_4H_9,
—$(CH_2)_3$—CH(CH_3)—CH_2—CO—O—C_4H_9,
—$(CH_2)_3$—CH(C_4H_9)—CH_2—CO—O—C_2H_5,
—$(CH_2)_2$—CO—O—$(CH_2)_5$—Ph,
—$(CH_2)_4$—CO—O—$(CH_2)_4$—Ph-4C_4H_9,
—$(CH_2)_3$—CO—O—$(CH_2)_4$—O—Ph-3—O—CH_3,
—$(CH_2)_2$—CH(CH_2OH)—$(CH_2)_2$—CO—O—C_2H_5,
—CH(C_2H_5)—CH_2—CO—O—$CH_2)_4$—OH and
—$(CH_2)_3$—CO—O—$(CH_2)_6$—CN.

Phenyl and cyclohexyl which may each be present as R^1, R^2 or R^3 are for example: —Ph, —Ph—3—CH_3, —Ph—4—$(CH_2)_{10}$—CH_3, —Ph—3—$(CH_2)_5$—CH(CH_3)—CH_3, Ph—4—O—C_4H_9, —Ph—4—$(CH_2)_5$—CH(C_2H_5)—CH_3, —Ph—4—)—CH_2—Ph or —Ph—4—Cl and also in the case of R^1 in particular —Ph—3—SO_2—N(CH_3)—CH_3 or, Ph—3—SO_2—N—($(CH_2)_2$—O—CH_3)—$(CH_2)_2$—O—CH_3; —C_6H_{10}—4—CH_3, —C_6H_{10}—4—$C_{10}H_{21}$, —C_6H_{10}—3—O—C_4H_9, —C_6H_{10}—3—O—$(CH_2)_4$—CH(C_2H_5)—CH_3 or —C_6H_{10}—4—Cl.

Where R^5, R^6, R^7, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, R^{11}, R^{12} or R^{14} is a group of the formula —CO—OR^{15} or —CO—$NR^{15}R^{16}$, particularly suitable instanccs thereof are
—CO—O—CH^3, —CO—O—C_2H_5, —CO—O—C_3H_7, —CO—O—C_4H_9, —CO—N(CH_3)—CH_3 and —CO—N(C_2H_5)—C_2H_5, but also for example —CO—O—C_5H_{11}, —CO—O—C_6H_{13}, —CO—n(C_3H_7)—C_3H_7 and —CO—n(C_4H_9.

Groups of the formula —SO—OR^{15} or —SO_2—OR^{15}, which may each be used as R^5, R^6, R^7 or R^8 are For example:
—SO—O—CH_3, —SO—O—C_2H_5, —SO—O—C_3H_7, —SO_2—O—CH_3, —SO_2—O—C_2H_5, —SO_2—O—C_3H_7.

R^5, R^6 and R^7 may each also be groups of the formula —SO_2—$NR^{15}R^{16}$, in particular —SO_2—N(CH_3)—CH_3, —SO_2—N($(CH_2)_2$—O—CH_3)—$(CH_2)_2$—O—CH_3, but also for example —SO_2—N(C_2H_5)—C_2H_5 or —SO_2—N(C_3H_7)—C_3H_7.

R^6 and R^{10} may each also be groups of the formula IV, such as —CH=C(CN)—CN, —CH=C(CN)—CO—O—CH_3, —CH=C(CN)—CO—O—C_2H_5. —CH=C(CN)—CO—O—C_3H_7, —CH=—C(CN)—CO—O—C_4H_9, —CH=C(CN)—N(CH_3)—CH_3 or —CH=C(CN)—N(C_2H_5)—C_2H_5.

Of the aforementioned radicals, R^1 is particularly preferably C_1–C_8alkyl, especially methyl or isopropyl, cyclohexyl, phenyl, which may also be methoxy-, sulfonamido- or chlorine-substituted, or benzyl. Preferred R^{12} further includes 3-thienyl and especially 2-thienyl. 3-furanyl and especially 2-furanyl, and also 2-pyridyl, 4-pyridyl and especially 3-pyridyl.

Preferred alkyl R^2 or R^3 is of up to 12 carbon atoms, especially methyl, ethyl or propyl, preferred cyanoalkyl and alkoxy R^2 or R^3 is of up to 10 carbon atoms. Particularly preferred R^2 and R^3 each has the formula IIa with methyl or ethyl as $R^{4'}$.

Of the above-recited diazo components D-NH_2, the following are particularly preferred:

aniline derivatives IIIa having the above-defined meanings of R^5, R^6 and R^7

aminothiophene derivatives IIIc having the following meanings for R^8, R^9 and R^{10}:

R^8 is hydrogen or chlorine; alkyl, alkoxy or alkoxyalkyl, which may each contain up to 8 carbon atoms; phenyl which may be C_1–C_4-alkyl- or C_1–C_4-alkoxy-substituted, or benzyl; or a radical of the formula —CO—OR^{15};

R^9 is cyano or a radical of the formula —CO—OR^{15} or else —CO—$NR^{15}R^{16}$; and

R^{10} is cyano, nitro, formyl or a radical of the formula IV

aminothiazole derivatives IIIe having the following meanings for R^8 and R^{10}:

R^8 is hydrogen, chlorine, C_1**14** C_8-alkyl, phenyl which may be C_1–C_4-alkyl- or C_1–C_4-alkoxy-substituted, benzyl, or a radical of the formula —CO—OR^{15}; and

R^{10} is cyano, nitro, formyl or a radical of the formula —CO—OR^{15}

aminoisothiazole derivatives IIIg having the following meanings for R^8 and R^9:

R^8 is chlorine, alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio or alkoxyalkyl which may each contain up to 8 carbon atoms, phenyl which may be C_1–C_4-alkyl- or C_1–C_4-alkoxy-substituted, benzyl or benzyloxy, and

R^9 is cyano, nitro or a radical of the formula —CO—OR^{15}

aminothiadiazole derivatives IIIk and aminoisothiadiazole derivatives IIIl having the following meaning for R^8:

R^8 is hydrogen, chlorine, cyano, thiocyanato, or alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio or alkoxyalkyl, which may each contain up to 8 carbon atoms, 2-(C_1–C_2-alkoxycarbonyl)ethylthio, phenyl which may be C_1–C_4-alkyl- or C_1–C_4-alkoxy-substituted, benzyl, benzyloxy, or a radical of the formula —CO—OR^{15}, —SO—OR^{15} or —SO_2—OR^{15}.

The dyes I to be used according to the present invention are notable for the following properties compared with prior art red and blue thermotransfer printing dyes having aniline-based coupling components: readier thermal transferability, improved migration properties in the receiving medium at room temperature, higher thermal stability, higher lightfastness, better resistance to moisture and chemicals. better solubility in printing ink preparation, higher color strength. and readier industrial accessability.

In addition, the azo dyes I exhibit a distinctly better purity of hue, in particular in mixtures of dyes, and produce improved black prints.

The transfer sheets required as dye donors for the thermotransfer printing process according to the present invention are prepared as follows. The azo dyes I are incorporated in an organic solvent, such as isobutanol, methyl ethyl ketone, methylene chloride, chlorobenzene, toluene, tetrahydrofuran or a mixture thereof, together with one or more binders and possibly further assistants such as release agents or crystallization inhibitors to form a printing ink in which the dyes are preferably present in a molecularly dispersed, i.e. dissolved, form. The printing ink is then applied to an inert support and dried.

Suitable binders for the use of the azo dyes I according to the present invention are all materials which are soluble in organic solvents and which are known to be suitable for thermotransfer printing, e.g. cellulose derivatives such as methylcellulose, hydroxypropylcellulose, cellulose acetate or cellulose acetobutyrate, but in particular ethylcellulose and ethylhydroxyethylcellulose, starch, alginates, alkyd resins and vinyl resins such as polyvinyl alcohol or polyvinylpyrrolidone but in particular polyvinyl acetate and polyvinyl butyrate. It is also possible to use polymers and copolymers of acrylates and derivatives thereof, such as polyacrylic acid, polymethyl methacrylate or styrene/acrylate copolymers, polyester resins, polyamide resins, polyurethane resins or natural resins such as gum arabic.

It is frequently advisable to use mixtures of these binders, for example mixtures of ethylcellulose and polyvinyl butyrate in a weight ratio of 2:1.

The weight ratio of binder to dye is in general from 8:1 to 1:1, preferably from 5:1 to 2:1.

Suitable assistants are for example release agents based on perfiuofinated alkylsulfonamidoalkyl esters or silicones as described in EP-A-127,092 and EP-A-192,435, and in particular organic additives which stop the transfer dyes from crystallizing out in the course of storage or heating of the inked ribbon, for example cholesterol or vanillin.

Inert support materials are for example tissue, blotting or parchment paper and films made of heat resistant plastics such as polyesters, polyamides or polyimides, which films may also be metal coated.

The inert support may additionally be coated on the side facing the thermal printing head with a lubricant in order that adhesion of the thermal printing head to the support material may be prevented. Suitable lubricants are for example silicones or polyurethanes as described in EP-A-216,483.

The thickness of the dye transfer is in general from 3 to 30 μm, preferably from 5 to 10 μm.

The substrate to be printed, e.g. paper, must in turn be coated with a plastic which receives the dye during the printing process. It is preferable to use for this purpose polymeric materials whose glass transition temperatures T_g are within the range from 50° to 100° C.: e.g. polycarbonates and polyesters. Details may be found in EP-A-227,094, EP-A-133,012, EP-A-133,011, JP-A-199,997/1986 or JP-A-283,595/1986.

The process according to the present invention is carried out using a thermal printing head which is heatable to above 300° C., so thai dye transfer takes not more than 15 msec.

EXAMPLES

First, transfer sheets (donors) were produced from a polyester sheet from 6 to 10 μm in thickness coated with an approximately 5 μm thick transfer layer of a binder B which in each case contained about 0.25 g of azo dye I. The weight ratio of binder to dye was in each case 4:1, unless otherwise stated in the Tables below.

The substrate (receiver) to be printed was paper about 120 μm in thickness which had been coated with a layer of plastic 8 μm in thickness (Hitachi Color Video Print Paper).

Donor and receiver were placed on top of one another with the coated fronts next to each other, then wrapped in aluminum foil and heated between two hotplates at 70°-80° C. for 2 minutes. This operation was repeated three times with similar samples at a temperature within the range from 80° to 120° C., the temperature being increased each time.

The amount of dye diffusing into the plastics layer of the receiver in the course of transfer is proportional to the optical density determined photometrically as absorbance A after each heating phase at the abovementioned temperatures.

The plot of the logarithm of the measured absorbances A against the corresponding reciprocal of the absolute temperature is a straight line from whose slope it is possible to calculate the activation energy ΔE_λ for the transfer experiment:

$$\Delta E_T = 2.3 \cdot R \cdot \frac{\Delta \log A}{\Delta [1/T]} \quad R\text{: general gas constant}$$

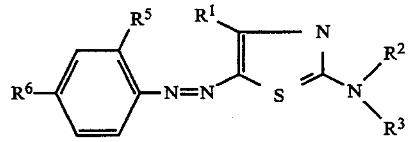
From the plot it is additionally possible to discern the temperature T* at which the absorbance attains the value 1, i.e. at which the transmitted light intensity is one tenth of the incident light intensity. The lower the temperature T*, the better the thermal transferability of the particular dye.

The Tables which follow list the azo dyes I which were studied in respect of their thermal transfer characteristics together with their absorption maxima λ_{max} [nm]. The λ_{max} values were measured in methylene chloride or the stated solvent.

In addition, they list the particular binder B used employing the following abbreviations: EC=ethylcellulose, PVB=polyvinyl butyrate, MIX=EC:PVB=2:1, and VY=nylon.

If the abovementioned parameters R* [°C.] and ΔE, [kJ/mol] were measured, the values found are likewise stated.

TABLE 1



IIIa

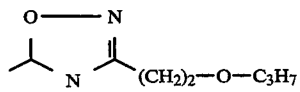
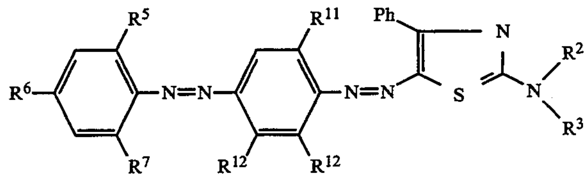
Ex	R^1	R^2	R^3	R^5	R^6	λ_{max}[nm]	B	T*[°C.]	ΔE_T[kJ/mol]
1	—Ph	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	—CN	—H	494	EC	104	42
2	—Ph	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2		$-NO_2$	544	MS	90	71

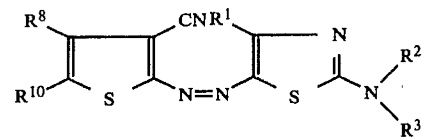
TABLE 2



IIIb

Ex.	R^2	R^3	R^5	R^6	R^7	R^{11}	R^{12}	$R^{12'}$	λ_{max}[nm]	B	T*[°C.]	ΔE_T[kJ/mol]
3	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	—Cl	—CN	—Cl	$-O-CH_3$	—H	$O-CH_3$	584	EC	96	84
4	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	—H	—H	—H	—Br	—H	—H	538	MS	97	76
5	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	—H	—H	—H	—Br	—Br	—H	492	EC	106	84

TABLE 3

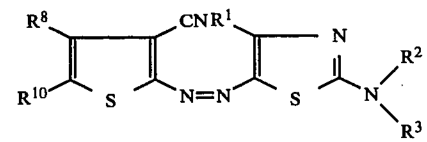


IIIc

Ex.	R^1	R^2	R^3	R^8	R^{10}	λ_{max}[nm]	B	T*[°C.]	ΔE_T[kJ/mol]
6	Cyclohexyl	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-CH_3$	$-CN$	550	MIX	90	65
7	Cyclohexyl	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-CH_3$	$-CO-O-CH_3$	545^a	—	—	—
8	Cyclohexyl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-CH_3$	$-CO-O-CH_3$	544^a	—	—	—
9	Cyclohexyl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-Cl$	$-CO-H$	580^a	MIX	90	88
							VY	90	58
10	Cyclohexyl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-Cl$	$-CH=C(CN)-COO_4H_9$	625	VY	99	54
11	Cyclohexyl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-CH_3$	$-CN$	551	MIX	92	77
12	Cyclohexyl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-Cl$	$-CO-H$	572	MIX	92	66
							VY	86	40
13	$-CH(CH_3)-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-CH_3$	$-CN$	547	EC	90	88
14	$-CH(CH_3)-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-Cl$	$-CO-H$	572	MIX	90	50
15	$-CH(CH_3)-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-CH_3$	$-CN$	547	—	—	—
16	$-CH(CH_3)-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-CO-O-C_2H_5$	$-CO-O-C_2H_5$	542	VY	135	50
17	$-CH(C_2H_5)-C_4H_9$	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-Cl$	$-CH=C(CN)-COOC_4H_9$	608	MIX	90**	59
18	$-Ph$	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-H$	$-NO_2$	623	—	—	—
19	$-Ph$	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-Cl$	$-Br$	559	—	—	—
20	$-Ph$	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-Cl$	$-CO-H$	602	—	—	—
21	$-Ph$	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-CH_3$	$-CO-O-C_2H_5$	569	EC	132	64
22	$-Ph$	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-O-C_2H_5$	$-CO-H$	598	—	—	—
23	$-Ph$	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-CO-O-C_2H_5$	$-CO-O-C_2H_5$	573	VY	100	52
24	$-Ph$	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-Cl$	$-CO-H$	574	VY	81	23
25	$-Ph$	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-CH_3$	$-CO-O-CH_3$	576^a	—	—	—
26	$-Ph$	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-Cl$	$-CO-H$	606^a	—	—	—
27	$-Ph$	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_3H_7$	$-CH_3$	$-CN$	582^a	MIX	91	64
28	$-Ph$	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_3H_7$	$-Cl$	$-CO-H$	633	MIX	91	60
29	$-Ph$	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-C_2H_5$	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	$-Cl$	$-CH=C(CN)-COOC_4H_9$	644	EC	130	76
30	$-Ph$	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-C_2H_5$	$-C_2H_5$	$-Cl$	$-CO-H$	601	EC*	94	73
31	$-Ph$	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-C_2H_5$	$-C_2H_5$	$-Cl$	$-CH=C(CN)-COOC_4H_9$	653	MIX	106	46
32	$-Ph$	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-C_2H_5$	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	$-Cl$	$-CH=C(CN)-COOC_4H_9$	648	MIX	122	67
33	$-Ph$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-CH_3$	$-CN$	581^a	—	—	—
34	$-Ph$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-CH_3$	$-CN$	583^a	—	—	—
35	$-Ph$	$-CH_2-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-CH_3$	$-CO-O-C_2H_5$	575^a	—	—	—
36	$-Ph$	$-CH_2-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-CH_3$	$-CO-O-CH_3$	575^a	—	—	—
37	$-Ph$	$-CH_2-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-C_2H_5$	$-C_2H_5$	$-CH_3$	$-CO-O-C_2H_5$	575^a	—	—	—
38	$-Ph\text{-}4\text{-}O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-CO-O-C_2H_5$	$-CO-O-C_2H_5$	591	EC	120	50
39	$-Ph\text{-}3\text{-}SO_2-N(CH_3)_2$	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-Cl$	$-CO-H$	595	—	—	—
40	$-Ph\text{-}3\text{-}SO_2-N(CH_3)_2$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-Cl$	$-CO-H$	596	—	—	—
41	$-Ph\text{-}3\text{-}SO_2-N[(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3]_2$	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-CH_3$	$-CO-O-CH_3$	586	—	—	—
42	$-CH_2-Ph$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-CH_3$	$-CO-O-CH_3$	540^a	VY	94	51
43	$-CH_2-O-Ph$	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-CH_3$	$-CN$	543^a	MIX	88	72
44	Thien-3-yl	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-CH_3$	$-CO-O-CH_3$	582^a	—	—	—
45	Thien-2-yl	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-CO-O-C_4H_9$	$-CO-O-C_4H_9$	600	MIX	94	80
46	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-CH_3$	$-CO-O-C_2H_5$	597^a	—	—	—

TABLE 3-continued

IIIc

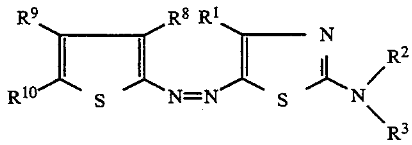


Ex.	R^1	R^2	R^3	R^8	R^{10}	λ_{max}[nm]	B	T*[°C.]	ΔE_T[kJ/mol]
47	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-CH_3$	$-CN$	599	—	—	—
48	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-CH_3$	$-CO-O-CH_3$	589	—	—	—
49	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-Cl$	$-CO-H$	631	—	—	—
50	Thien-3-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-CH_3$	$-CO-O-CH_3$	583[a]	—	—	—
51	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-CH_3$	$-CO-O-C_2H_5$	598[a]	—	—	—
52	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-Cl$	$-CO-H$	638[a]	—	—	—
53	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-(CH_2)$hd 2$-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-CH_3$	$-CO-O-CH_3$	599[a]	—	—	—
54	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-(CH_2)$hd 2$-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-Cl$	$-CO-O-H$	639[a]	—	—	—
55	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-(CH_2)$hd 2$-O-CH_3$	$-C_3H_7$	$-Cl$	$-CO-O-H$	636	MIX	91	59
56	Thien-3-yl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-(CH_2)$hd 2$-O-CH_3$	$-C_3H_7$	$-Cl$	$-CO-O-H$	619[a]	—	—	—
57	Furan-2-yl	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-CH_3$	$-CN$	605[a]	—	—	—
58	Furan-2-yl	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-CH_3$	$-CO-O-CH_3$	596[a]	—	—	—
59	Furan-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-CH_3$	$-CO-O-CH_3$	594[a]	—	—	—
60	Furan-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_3H_7$	$-Cl$	$-CO-H$	635[a]	—	—	—
61	Pyrid-3-yl	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-Cl$	$-CO-H$	599[a]	—	—	—

[a] solvent 9:1 dimethylformamide/glacial acetic acid
*weight ratio of binder:dye - 2:1

TABLE 3a

IIIc

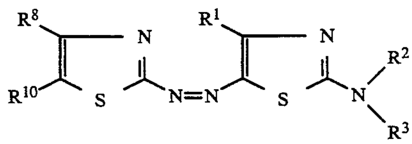


Ex.	R^1	R^2	R^3	R^8	R^9	R^{10}	λ_{max} [nm]	B	T* °C.]	ΔE_T [kJ/mol]
62	—Ph	$—CH_2—[(CH_2)_2—O]_2—CH_3$	$—C_2H_5$	—Cl	$—CO—O—CH_3$	—CO—H	598[a]	—	—	—
63	Thien-2-yl	$—(CH_2)_3—O—CH_3$	$—C_2H_5$	$—CH_3$	$—CO—O—CH_3$	—CN	577	VY	82	32
64	Thien-2-yl	$—(CH_2)_3—O—CH_3$	$—C_2H_5$	—Cl	$—CO—O—CH_3$	—CO—H	611[a]	—	—	—
65	—Ph	$—(CH_2)_3—O—CH_3$	R^2	$—CH_3$	$—CO—O—C_2H_5$	—CN	562[a]	—	—	—
66	—Ph	$—(CH_2)_3—O—CH_3$	$—C_3H_7$	$—CH_3$	$—CO—O—C_2H_5$	—CN	589[a]	—	—	—
67	$—Ph-4-O—CH_3$	$—(CH_2)_3—O—CH_3$	R^2	$—CH_3$	$—CO—O—C_2H_5$	—CN	567	VY	107	59
68	Thien-2-yl	$—CH_2—[(CH_2)_2—O]_2—CH_3$	$—C_2H_5$	$—CH_3$	$—CO—O—C_2H_5$	—CN	577	VY	105	45

[a]solvent 9:1 dimethylformamide/glacial acetic acid

TABLE 4

IIIe

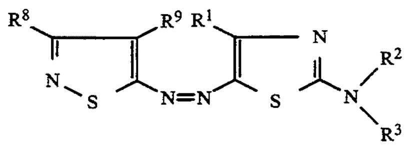


Ex.	R^1	R^2	R^3	R^8	R^{10}	λ_{max} [nm]	B	T* [°C.]	ΔE_T [kJ/mol]
69	—Ph	$—(CH_2)_2—CH_3$	R^2	—H	$—NO_2$	595[a]	—	—	—
70	—Ph	$—(CH_2)_2—CH_3$	R^2	—Cl	—CO—H	581	—	—	—
71	—Ph	$—(CH_2)_2—CH_3$	R^2	—Cl	$—CH=C(CN)—COOC_4H_9$	637	VY	130	52
72	Thien-3-yl	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	—Cl	$—CH=C(CN)—COOC_4H_9$	631	VY	125	67
73	Thien-2-yl	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	$—CO—O—CH_3$	—CN	581	—	—	—
74	Thien-2-yl	$—(CH_2)_2—O—CH_3$	R^2	—H	$—NO_2$	626	—	—	—
75	Thien-3-yl	$—(CH_2)_3—O—(CH_2)_2—O—CH_3$	$—C_3H_7$	—Cl	—CO—H	593	—	—	—

[a]solvent 9:1 dimethylformamide/glacial acetic acid

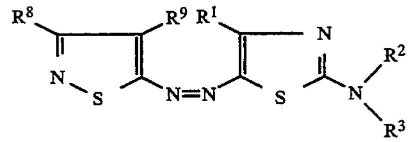
TABLE 5

IIIg



Ex.	R^1	R^2	R^3	R^8	R^9	λ_{max} [nm]	B	T* [°C.]	ΔE_T [kJ/mol]
76	$—CH(CH_3)—CH_3$	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	$—(CH_2)_2—O—CH_3$	—CN	522	EC*	63	69
77	Cyclohexyl	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	$—CH_3$	—CN	520	MIX	85	97
						526[a]	VY	75	34
78	Cyclohexyl	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	—Ph	—CN	529	VY	89	24
79	Cyclohexyl	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	$—(CH_2)_2—O—CH_3$	—CN	528[a]	—	—	—
80	Cyclohexyl	$—(CH_2)_2—O—CH_3$	R^2	$—CH_3$	—CN	521	VY	75	42
81	Cyclohexyl	$—(CH_2)_2—O—CH_3$	R^2	—Ph	—CN	524	MIX	100	80
82	Cyclohexyl	$—(CH_2)_3—O—CH_3$	$—C_2H_5$	$—CH_3$	—CN	523	VY	72	38
83	Cyclohexyl	$—(CH_2)_3—O—CH_3$	$—C_2H_5$	$—C_2H_5$	—CN	520	VY	75	37
84	Cyclohexyl	$—(CH_2)_3—O—CH_3$	$—C_2H_5$	—Ph	—CN	529	VY	84	44
85	Cyclohexyl	$—(CH_2)_3—O—CH_3$	$—C_2H_5$	$—(CH_2)_2—O—CH_3$	—CN	524	VY	72	33
86	Cyclohexyl	$—[(CH_2)_2—O]_2—CH_3$	R^2	Thien-2-yl	—CN	587[a]	—	—	—
87	Cyclohexyl	$—CH_2—[(CH_2)_2—O]_2—CH_3$	$—C_3H_7$	—Ph	—CN	531	VY	88	38
88	—Ph	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	$—(CH_2)_2—O—CH_3$	—CN	548	VY	89	53
89	—Ph	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	—Ph-4-S—Ph	—CN	556	EC	118	53
90	$—Ph-3-O—CH_3$	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	Thien-2-yl	—CN	572	—	—	—
91	$—Ph-3-SO_2—N(CH_3)_2$	$—(CH_2)_2—O—CH_3$	R^2	$—(CH_2)_3—O—CH_3$	—CN	548	EC*	89	32
92	$—CH_2—O—Ph$	$—(CH_2)_2—O—CH_3$	R^2	$—CH_3$	—CN	531[a]	—	—	—
93	Furan-2-yl	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	$—CH_3$	—CN	578[a]	—	—	—
94	Furan-2-yl	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	$—(CH_2)_2—O—CH_3$	—CN	578[a]	—	—	—

TABLE 5-continued

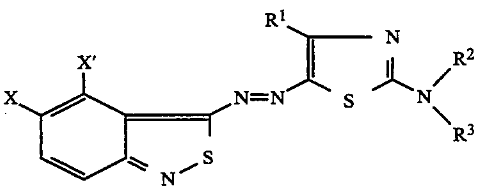


IIIg

Ex.	R^1	R^2	R^3	R^8	R^9	λ_{max} [nm]	B	T* [°C.]	ΔE_T [kJ/mol]
95	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-CH(CH_3)-CH_3$	$-CN$	579[a]	—	—	—
96	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-C_2H_5$	$-CN$	581[a]	—	—	—
97	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	$-C_3H_7$	$-C_2H_5$	$-CN$	581[a]	—	—	—
98	Thien-3-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-CH_3$	$-CN$	562[a]	—	—	—
99	Thien-2-yl	$-CH_2-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-C_2H_5$	$-CN$	582[a]	—	—	—
100	Thien-2-yl	$-CH_2-[CH_2)_2-O]_2-CH_3$	$-C_3H_7$	$-C_2H_5$	$-CN$	580[a]	—	—	—
101	$-CH(CH_3)-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-CH_3$	$-SCN$	512	EC	87	99
102	$-Ph$	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-CH_3$	$-SCN$	540	—	—	—
103	$-Ph$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-CH_3$	$-SCN$	538	EC	90	57
104	-Thien-2-yl	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-CH_3$	$-SCN$	562	EC	88	47

[a]solvent 9:1 dimethylformamide/glacial acetic acid
*weight ratio of binder:dye = 2:1

TABLE 6

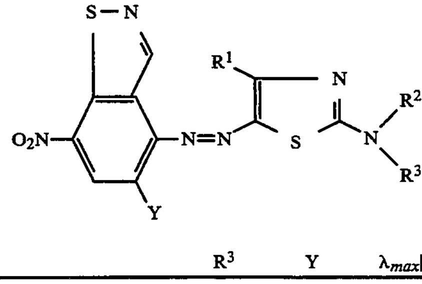


IIIh

Ex.	R^1	R^2	R^3	X	X'	λ_{max}[nm]
105	$-Ph$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-H$	$-H$	573[a]
106	$-Ph$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-Cl$	$-H$	579[a]
107	$-Ph$	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-H$	$-H$	574[a]
108	$-Ph$	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_3H_7$	$-NO_2$	$-H$	629[a]
109	$-Ph$-4-O$-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-Cl$	$-N$	594[a]
110	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-H$	$-H$	594[a]
111	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-Cl$	$-H$	602[a]
112	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-H$	$-H$	597[a]
113	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-Cl$	$-H$	605[a]
114	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-Cl$	$-H$	606[a]
115	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-H$	$-H$	598[a]
116	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_3H_7$	$-Cl$	$-H$	598[a]
117	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_3H_7$	$-H$	$-Cl$	606[a]

[a]solvent 9:1 dimethylformamide/glacial acetic acid

TABLE 7



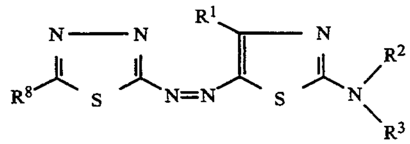
IIIi

Ex.	R^1	R^2	R^3	Y	λ_{max}[nm]	B	T*[°C.]	ΔE_T[kJ/mol]
118	$-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-CN$	591	EC*	130	44
119	$-Ph$	$-C_2H_5$	R^2	$-H$	583	—	—	—
120	$-Ph$	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_3H_7$	$-CN$	622[a]	—	—	—

[a]solvent 9:1 dimethylformamide glacial acetic acid
*weight ratio of binder:dye = 2.1

TABLE 8

IIIk

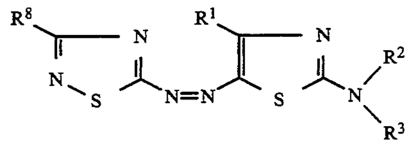


Ex.	R^1	R^2	R^3	R^8	λ_{max}[nm]	B	T*[°C.]	ΔE_T[kJ/mol]
121	—PH	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	—Ph	531	EC	94	68
122	—Ph	$—(CH_2)_2—O—CH_3$	R^2	—Ph	533[a]	—	—	—
123	Cyclohexyl	$—(CH_2)_2—O—CH_3$	R^2	—Ph	508[a]	—	—	—
124	Thien-2-yl	$—(CH_2)_2—O—CH_3$	R^2	—Ph	556[a]	—	—	—

[a]solvent 9:1 dimethylformamide/glacial acetic acid

TABLE 9

IIIl

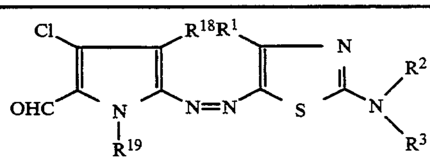


Ex.	R^1	R^2	R^3	R^8	λ_{max}[nm]	B	T*[°C.]	ΔE_T[kJ/mol]
125	—Ph	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	$—S—(CH_2)_2—CO—O—CH_3$	535	EC	110	72
126	—Ph	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	$—S—(CH_2)_2—CN$	536	EC	103	47
127	—Ph	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	$—S—CH_3$	533	—	—	—
128	—Ph	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	$—CH_3$	524	—	—	—
129	—Ph	$—(CH_2)_2—O—CH_3$	R^2	$—S—(CH_2)_2—CO—O—CH_3$	535	MIX	87	71
130	Cyclohexyl	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	$—S—(CH_2)_2—CO—O—CH_3$	519[a]	—	—	—
131	Cyclohexyl	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	$—S—CH_3$	518[a]	—	—	—
132	Thien-2-yl	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	$—S—(CH_2)_2—CO—O—CH_3$	558	VY	93	61
133	Thien-2-yl	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	$—S—(CH_2)_2—CN$	560	EC	105	42
134	Thien-2-yl	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	$—S—CH_3$	557	EC	126	62

[a]solvent 9:1 dimethylformamide/glacial acetic acid
*weight ratio of binder:dye = 2:1

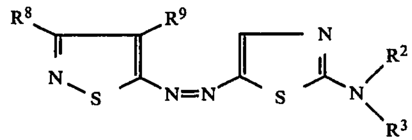
TABLE 10

IIIm



Ex.	R^1	R^2	R^3	R^{18}	R^{19}	λ_{max}[nm]	B	T*[°C.]	ΔE_T[kJ/mol]
135	—Ph	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	—CN	—Ph	567	MIX	106	37
136	Thien-2-yl	$—C_2H_5$	R^2	$—CO—NH_2$	$—CH_3$	573	—	—	—

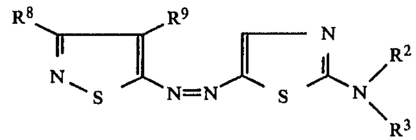
TABLE 11



IIIg

Ex.	R^1	R^2	R^3	R^8	R^9	Hue
137	—Ph	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-CH_3$	—H	red
138	—Ph	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-CH_3$	—Cl	red
139	—Ph	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-CH_3$	—Br	red
140	—Ph	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-CH_3$	—CN	violet
141	—Ph	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-CH_3$	—SCN	violet
142	—Ph	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-C_2H_5$	—CN	violet
143	—Ph	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-CH(CH_3)-CH_3$	—CN	violet
144	—Ph	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-(CH_2)_2-O-C_2H_5$	—CN	bluish red
145	—Ph	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-CH_3$	—SCN	violet
146	—Ph	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	—Ph	—CN	violet
147	—Ph	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	—CN	violet
148	—Ph	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	—CN	violet
149	—Ph	$-(CH_2)_3-O-C_2H_5$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	—CN	violet
150	—Ph	$-(CH_2)_3-O-C_2H_5$	$-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	—CN	violet
151	—Ph	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	—Ph	—CN	violet
152	—Ph	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	—Ph	—CN	violet
153	—Ph	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	—Ph	—CN	violet
154	—Ph	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-CH_3$	$-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	—CN	violet
155	—Ph	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	—CN	violet
156	—Ph	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-C_2H_5$	$-(CH_2)_3-CH_3$	$-CH_3Ph$	—CN	violet
157	—Ph	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_3-CH_3$	—Ph	—CN	violet
158	—Ph-4-Cl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	—CN	violet
159	—Ph-4-Cl	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	—CN	violet
160	—Ph-4-O—CH_3	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-CH_3$	—CN	violet
161	—Ph-4-O—CH_3	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	—CN	violet
162	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-CH_3$	—SCN	violet
163	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-CH_3$	—CN	reddish blue
164	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-C_2H_5$	—CN	reddish blue
165	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-C_3H_7$	—CN	reddish blue
166	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-CH(CH_3)-CH_3$	—CN	reddish blue
167	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	—CN	navy
168	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	R^2	$-(CH_2)_2-O-C_2H_5$	—CN	navy
169	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-CH_3$	—SCN	reddish blue
170	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	—Ph	—CN	reddish blue
171	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	—Ph	—SCN	reddish blue
172	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	—CN	navy
173	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-C_2H_5$	—CN	navy
174	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-C_2H_5$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	—CN	navy
175	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-C_2H_5$	Thien-2-yl	—CN	blue
176	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	—CN	navy
177	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-C_2H_5$	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	Thien-3-yl	—CN	blue
178	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-C_2H_5$	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	—CN	navy

TABLE 11-continued



IIIg

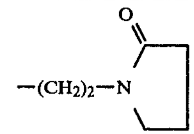
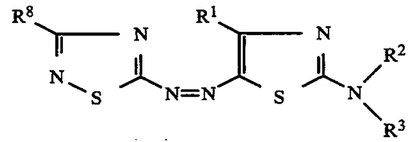
Ex.	R^1	R^2	R^3	R^8	R^9	Hue
179	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-C_2H_5$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$		$-CN$	reddish blue
180	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-C_2H_5$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-C_2H_5$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-CN$	navy
181	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-CH_3$	$-SCN$	bluish violet
182	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-Ph$	$-CN$	reddish blue
183	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-(CH_2)_2O-CH_3$	$-CN$	navy
184	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	Thien-2-yl	$-CN$	blue
185	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_3H_7$	$-CH(CH_3)-CH_3$	$-CN$	navy
186	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_3H_7$	$-Ph$	$-CN$	reddish blue
187	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_3H_7$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-CN$	navy
188	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-C_3H_7$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-C_2H_5$	$-CN$	navy
189	Thien-2-yl	$-(CH_2)_3-O-(CH_2)_2-O-C_2H_5$	$-C_2H_5$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-CN$	navy
190	Thien-2-yl	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	Thien-2-yl	$-CN$	reddish blue
191	Thien-2-yl	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	Thien-3-yl	$-CN$	blue
192	Thien-2-yl	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	$-Ph$	$-CN$	reddish blue
193	Thien-2-yl	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-CN$	navy
194	Thien-2-yl	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	Thien-3-yl	$-CN$	blue
195	Thien-2-yl	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-CH_3$	$-C_3H_7$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	$-CN$	navy
196	Thien-2-yl	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-C_2H_5$	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	$-Ph$	$-CN$	reddish blue
197	Thien-2-yl	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_2-C_2H_5$	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	Pyrid-3-yl	$-CN$	reddish blue
198	Thien-2-yl	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_3-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_3-O-CH_3$	$-Ph$	$-CN$	reddish blue
199	Thien-2-yl	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_3-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	Thien-2-yl	$-CN$	reddish blue
200	Thien-2-yl	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_3-CH_3$	$-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$	Thien-3-yl	$-CN$	reddish blue
201	Thien-2-yl	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_3-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	$-Ph$	$-CN$	reddish blue
202	Thien-2-yl	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_3-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	Thien-2-yl	$-CN$	blue
203	Thien-2-yl	$-[(CH_2)_2-O]_3-CH_3$	$-C_2H_5$	Thien-3-yl	$-CN$	blue

TABLE 12

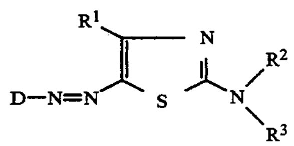


IIII

Ex.	R^1	R^2	R^3	R^8	Hue
204	—Ph	$—(CH_2)_2—O—CH_3$	R^2	$—S—CH_3$	reddish violet
205	—Ph	$—(CH_2)_3—O—CH_3$	$—(CH_2)_2—O—CH_3$	$—S—CH_3$	violet
206	—Ph	$—(CH_2)_3—O—CH_3$	$—C_2H_5$	$—S—(CH_2)_2—CO—O—CH_3$	violet
207	—Ph	$—[(CH_2)_2—O]_2—CH_3$	Ph	$—S—CH_3$	violet
208	—Ph	$—[(CH_2)_2—O]_2—C_2H_5$	Ph	$—S—CH_3$	violet
209	$—Ph\text{-}4\text{-}O—CH_3$	$—(CH_2)_3—O—CH_3$	$—(CH_2)_2O—CH_3$	$—S—CH_3$	violet
210	Thien-2-yl	$—(CH_2)_2—O—CH_3$	R^2	$—S—CH_3$	reddish blue
211	Thien-2-yl	$—(CH_2)_3—O—CH_3$	R^2	$—S—CH_3$	reddish blue
212	Thien-2-yl	$—(CH_2)_3—O—CH_3$	$—(CH_2)_2—O—CH_3$	$—S—C_2H_5$	reddish blue
213	Thien-2-yl	$—(CH_2)_3—O—CH_3$	$—(CH_2)_2—O—C_2H_5$	$—S—CH_3$	bluish violet
214	Thien-2-yl	$—(CH_2)_3—O—CH_3$	$—C_2H_5$	$—S—(CH_2)_2—CO—O—CH_3$	bluish violet
215	Thien-2-yl	$—(CH_2)_3—O—C_2H_5$	$—C_2H_5$	$—S—(CH_2)_2—CO—O—CH_3$	bluish violet
216	Thien-2-yl	$—[(CH_2)_2—O]_2—CH_3$	$—C_2H_5$	$—S—CH_3$	bluish violet
217	Thien-2-yl	$—[(CH_2)_2—O]_2—C_2H_5$	$—(CH_2)_3—O—CH_3$	$—S—CH_3$	bluish violet
218	Thien-2-yl	$—[(CH_2)_2—O]_2—C_2H_5$	$—C_2H_5$	$—S—CH_3$	bluish violet

We claim:

1. A process comprising printing a substrate by thermotransfer printing with a transfer dye which is an azo dye of the general formula I



I

in which the substituents have the following meanings:

R^1 is hydrogen;

C_1–C_{15}-alkyl, C_1–C_{15}-alkyl substituted by phenyl or phenoxy; cyclohexyl, cyclohexyl substituted by C_1–C_5-alkyl, C_1–C_5-alkoxy or halogen;

phenyl, phenyl substituted by C_1–C_5-alkyl, C_1–C_5-alkoxy, sulfonamido or halogen;

thienyl, thienyl substituted by C_1–C_5-alkyl or halogen; furanyl or pyridyl;

a radical of the formula II

$[—W—O]_n—R^4$ II

where

W is identical or different C_2–C_6-alkylene,

n is from 1 to 6 and

R^4 is C_1–C_4-alkyl, phenyl or benzyl; phenyl or benzyl substituted by C_1–C_4-alkyl or C_1–C_4-alkoxy;

R^2 and R^3 are each hydrogen;

alkyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, alkanoyloxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonyloxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, haloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl or cyanoalkyl, each containing up to 15 carbon atoms;

alkyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkanoyloxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonyloxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, haloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl or cyanoalkyl, each containing up to 15 carbon atoms, substituted by phenyl, C_1–C_4-alkylphenyl, C_1–C_4-alkoxyphenyl, halophenyl, benxyloxy, C_1–C_4-alkylbenzyloxy, C_1–C_4-alkoxybenzyloxy, halogenzyloxy, halogen, hydroxyl or by cyano;

cyclohexyl, cyclohexyl substituted by C_1–C_{15}-alkyl, C_1–C_{15}-alkoxy or halogen;

phenyl, phenyl substituted by C_1–C_{15}-alkyl, C_1–C_{15}-alkoxy, benzyloxy or halogen;

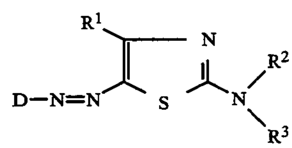
a radical of the above-mentioned formula II; and

D is the radical of a diazo component III.

$D—NH_2$ III

wherein D is the radical of a diazo component III of the aminothiophene, phenylazoaminothiophene, aminothiazole, phenylazoaminothiazole, aminoisothiazole, aminobenzisothiazole, aminothiadiazole, aminoisothiadiazole, aminooxazole, aminooxadiazole, aminodiazole, aminotriazole or aminopyrrole series.

2. A process comprising transferring an azo dye or dyes by diffusiton from a transfer to a plastic-coated substrate by means of a thermal printing head, wherein said azo dye or dyes is or are of the formula I



I

in which the substituents have the following meanings:

R^1 on is hydrogen;

C_1–C_{15}-alkyl, C_1–C_{15}-alkyl substituted by phenyl or phenoxy; cyclohexyl, cyclohexyl substituted by C_1–C_5-alkyl, C_1–C_5-alkoxy or halogen;

phenyl, phenyl substituted by C_1–C_5-alkyl, C_1–C_5-alkoxy, sulfonamido or halogen;

thienyl, thienyl substituted by C_1–C_5-alkyl or halogen; furanyl or pyridyl;

a radical of the formula II

$[—W—O]_n—R^4$ II

where

W is identical or different C_2–C_6-alkylene,

n is from 1 to 6 and

R^4 is C_1–C_4-alkyl, phenyl or benzyl; phenyl or benzyl substituted by C_1–C_4-alkyl or C_1–C_4-alkoxy;

R^2 and R^3 are each hydrogen;

alkyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, alkanoyloxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonyloxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, haloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl or cyanoalkyl, each containing up to 15 carbon atoms;

alkyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, alkanoyloxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonyloxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, haloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl or cyanoalkyl, each containing up to 15 carbon atoms, substituted by phenyl, C_1–C_4-alkylphenyl, C_1–C_4-alkoxyphenyl, halophenyl, benzyloxy, C_1–C_4-alkylbenzyloxy, C_1–C_4-alkoxybenzyloxy, halogenzyloxy, halogen, hydroxyl or by cyano;

cyclohexyl, cyclohexyl substituted by C_1–C_{15}-alkyl, C_1–C_{15}-alkoxy or halogen;

phenyl, phenyl substituted by C_1–C_5-alkyl, C_1–C_5-alkoxy, C_1–C_{15}-alkoxy, benzyloxy or halogen;

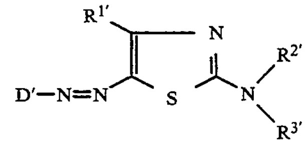
a radical of the above-mentioned formula II; and

D is the radical of a diazo component III

$$D-NH_2 \qquad III$$

wherein D is the radical of a diazo component III of the aminothiophene, phenylazominothiophene, aminothiazole, phenylazominothiazole, aminoisothiazole, aminobenzisothiazole, aminothiadiazole, aminoisothiadiazole, aminooxazole, aminooxadiazole, aminoidazole, aminotriazole or aminopyrrole series.

3. A process as claimed is claim 2, wherein the azo dye or dyes has the formula Ia



Ia

where the substituents have the following meanings:

R^1 is C_1**14** C_8-alkyl, C_1–C_8-alkyl substituted by phenyl or phenoxy;

cyclohexyl;

phenyl, phenyl substituted by C_1–C_4-alkyl, C_1–C_4-alkoxy or chlorine;

thienyl;

a radical of the formula IIa

$$[-(CH_2)_3-O]_p + (CH_2)_2-O]_q-R^4 \qquad IIa$$

where

p is 0 or 1, q is from 1 to 4, and

$R^{4'}$ is C_1–C_4-alkyl, phenyl or benzyl;

$R^{2'}$ and $R^{3'}$ are each C_1–C_{12}-alkyl, C_1–C_{10}-alkoxy or C_1–C_{10}-cyanoalklyl or a radical of the above-mentioned formula IIa; and

D' is the radical of a diazo component III of the **[**aniline, phenylazoaniline.**]** aminothiophene, phenylazoaminothiophene, aminothiazole, phenylazoaminothiazole, aminoisothiazole, aminobenzisothiazole, aminothiadiazle, aminooxadiazole, aminodiazole, aminotriazole or aminopyrrole series.

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