

Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry
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Construction of Photoswitchable Rotaxanes and Catenanes Containing Dithienylethene Fragments

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1. Crystal structure and crystal data of 4

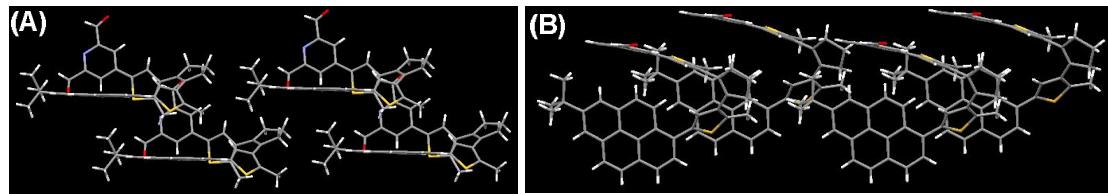


Figure S1. Packing diagram of dialdehyde 4. (A) Viewed from the side. (B) Viewed from the top.

Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinement parameters for the dithienylethene 4.

Compound	4
Empirical formula	C ₄₂ H ₃₅ NO ₂ S ₂
Formula weight	649.83
Temperature	298(2) K
Wavelength	0.71073 Å
Crystal system	Triclinic
Space group	P-1
a (Å)	7.9698(13)
b (Å)	11.8816(19)
c (Å)	18.669(3)
α (deg)	92.975(2)
β (deg)	96.585(2)
γ (deg)	104.742(2)
Volume(Å ⁻³)	1692.3(5)
Z	2
Density (calculated)	1.275 Mg/m ³
Absorption coefficient	0.195 mm ⁻¹
F(000)	684
Crystal size	0.15 × 0.12 × 0.10 mm ³
Theta range for data collection	11.10 to 25.50°.
Index ranges	-9≤h≤9, -14≤k≤14, -22≤l≤22
Reflections collected	11037
Independent reflections	6221 [R(int) = 0.0252]

Completeness to theta = 26.00	98.7 %
Absorption correction	None
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F ²
Data / restraints / parameters	6221 / 36 / 460
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.085
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0475, wR2 = 0.1466
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0593, wR2 = 0.1770
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.295 and -0.290 e. \AA^{-3}

2. Partial ^1H NMR spectra

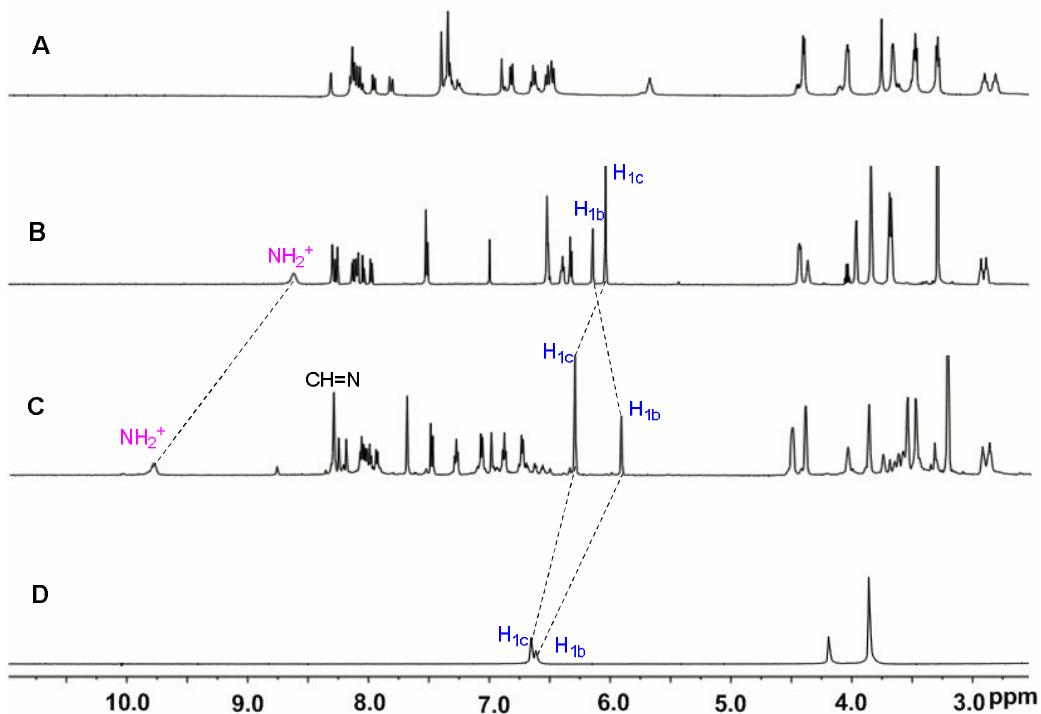


Figure S2. Partial ^1H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CD_3CN , 298 K) of **15** (A); **16** (B); clipping reaction mixture (dynamic imine of **16**) (C); and **5** (D).

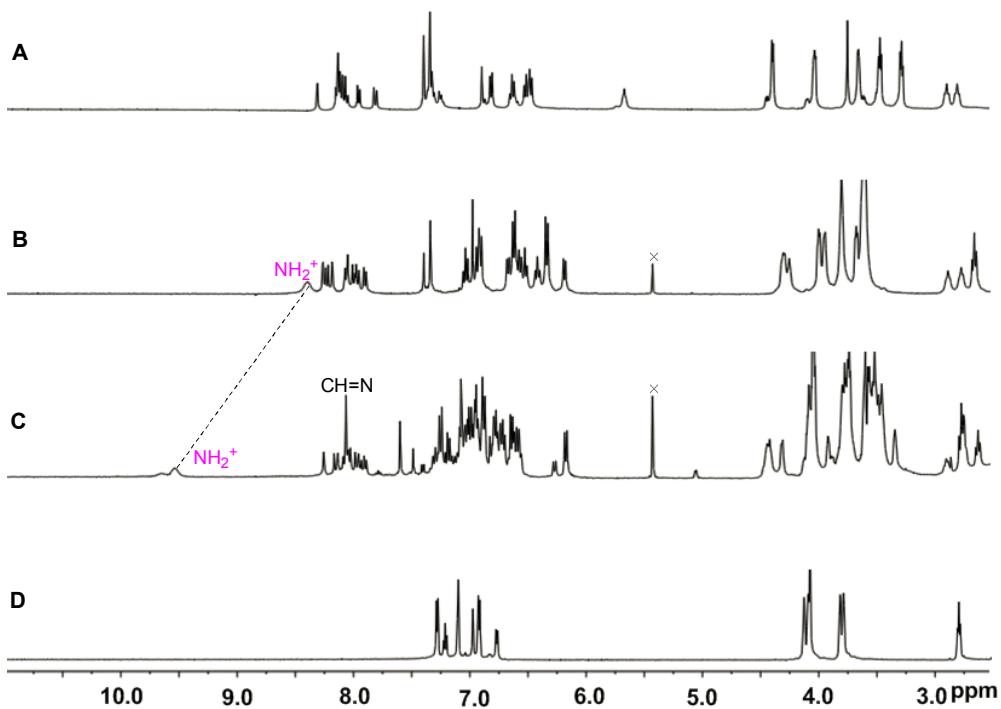


Figure S3. Partial ^1H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CD_3CN , 298 K) of **15** (A); **19** (B); clipping reaction mixture (dynamic imine of **19**) (C); **8** (D).

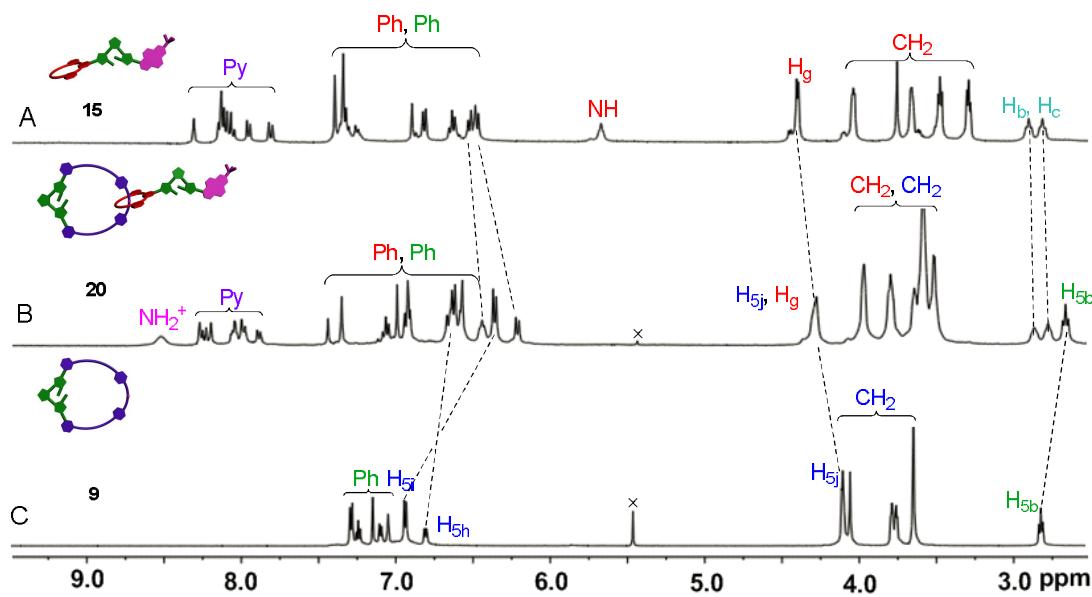
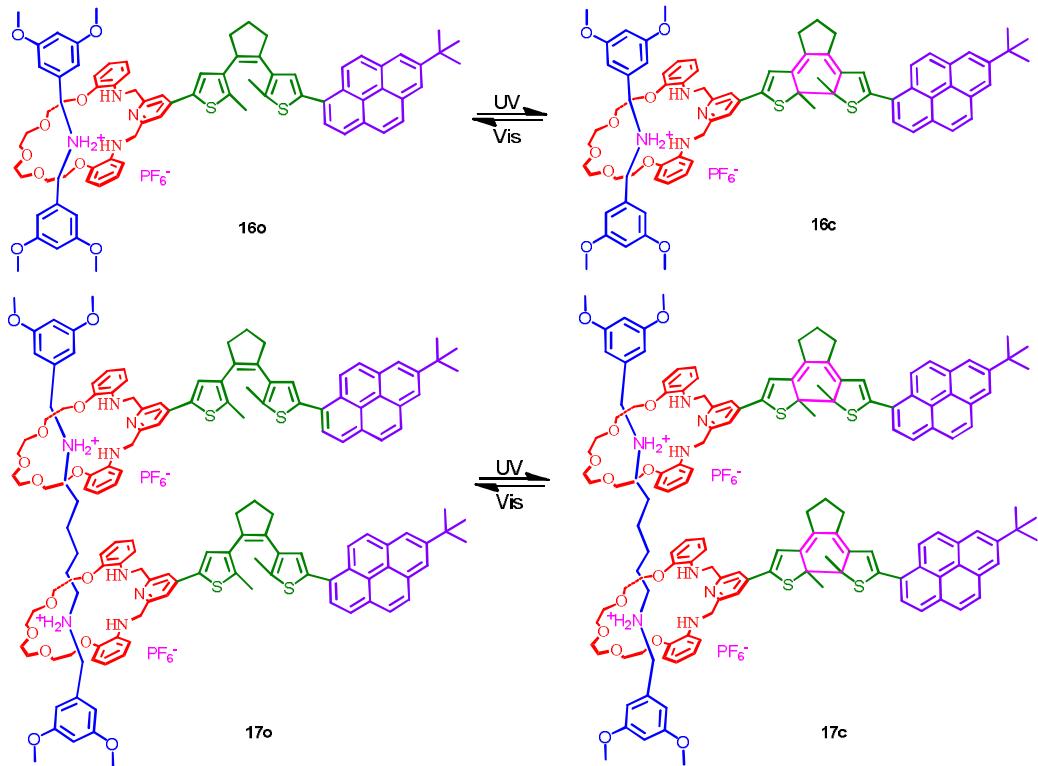


Figure S4. Partial ^1H NMR spectra (400 MHz, CD_3CN , 298 K) of **15** (A); **20** (B); **9** (C).

3. Photochromic reaction and photochromic parameters

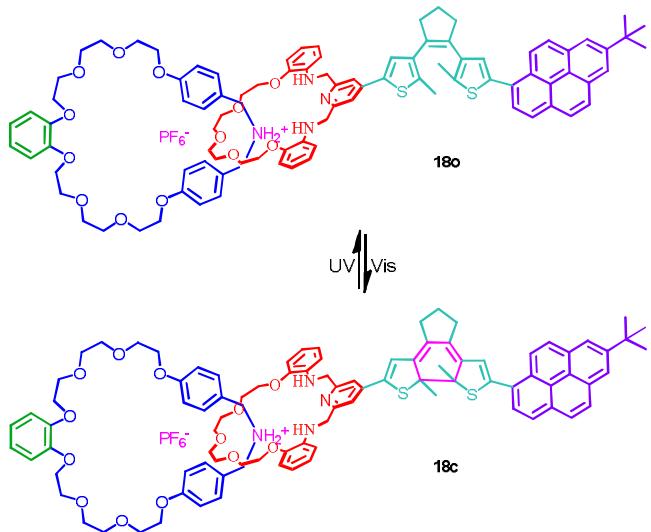


Scheme S1. Photochromic reaction of [2]rotaxane **16** and [3]rotaxane **17**.

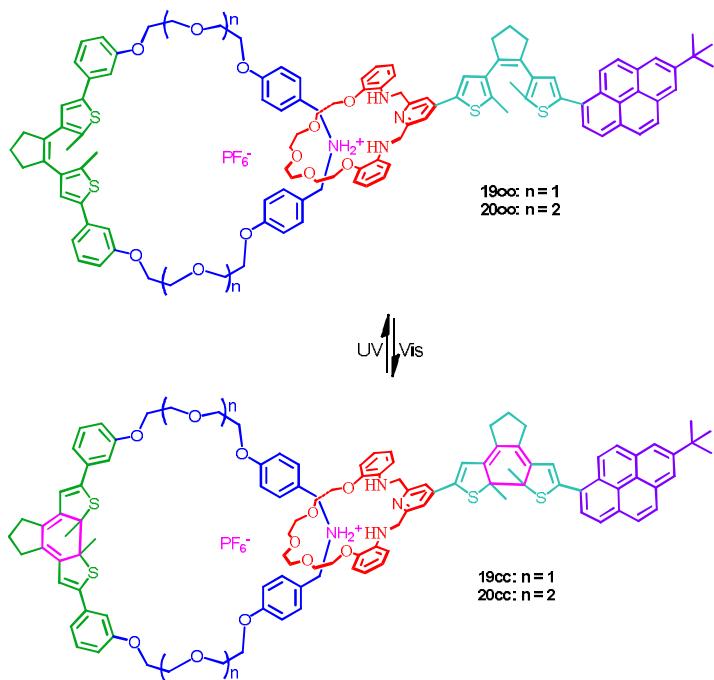
Table S2. Photochromic parameters of **15**, **16** and **17** in CH₃CN (2.0 × 10⁻⁵ mol/L).

Compounds	$\lambda_{\max}/\text{nm}^{\text{a}}$	$\lambda_{\max}/\text{nm}^{\text{b}}$	Φ^{c}	
	($\varepsilon \times 10^{-4}$) (Open)	($\varepsilon \times 10^{-4}$) (PSS)	$\phi_{\text{o-c}} (\lambda/\text{nm})$	$\phi_{\text{c-o}} (\lambda/\text{nm})$
15	244 (6.02), 282 (3.29), 346 (1.95)	546 (1.20)	0.105	0.0053
16	240 (7.58), 282 (4.75), 346 (2.81)	552 (1.78)	0.131	0.0072
17	240 (14.59), 282 (8.84), 346 (5.31)	552 (2.70)	0.052	0.0032

a Absorption maxima of open-ring isomers. b Absorption maxima of closed-ring isomers. c Quantum yields of open-ring ($\phi_{\text{c-o}}$) and closed-ring isomers ($\phi_{\text{o-c}}$), respectively.



Scheme S2. Photochromic reaction of the monoswitchable [2]catenane **18**.



Scheme S3. Photochromic reaction of the disswitchable [2]catenanes **19** and **20**.

Table S3. Photochromic parameters of **18**, **19** and **20** in CH₃CN (2.0 × 10⁻⁵ mol/L).

Compounds	$\lambda_{\text{max}}/\text{nm}^{\text{a}}$	$\lambda_{\text{max}}/\text{nm}^{\text{b}}$	Φ^{c}	
	($\varepsilon \times 10^{-4}$)	($\varepsilon \times 10^{-4}$)	$\phi_{\text{o-c}} (\lambda/\text{nm})$	$\phi_{\text{c-o}} (\lambda/\text{nm})$
	(Open)	(PSS)		
18	236 (8.63), 278 (4.73), 346 (2.69)	550 (1.78)	0.090 (528)	0.0075 (278)
19	236(15.83), 280(10.29)	546 (3.55)	0.140 (546)	0.0051 (280)
20	234(13.37), 280 (8.88)	544 (3.37)	0.173 (544)	0.0068 (280)

a Absorption maxima of open-ring isomers. b Absorption maxima of closed-ring isomers. c Quantum yields of open-ring ($\phi_{\text{o-c}}$) and closed-ring isomers ($\phi_{\text{c-o}}$), respectively.

4. Fluorescence spectra of 18, 19 and 20

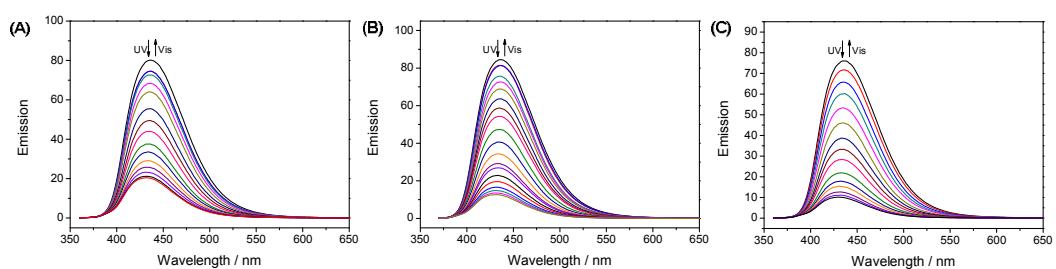


Figure S5. Emission intensity changes of **18** (A), **19** (B) and **20** (C) with 254 nm UV and >402 nm Vis light irradiation in CH_3CN (2.0×10^{-5} mol/L) ($\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 346$ nm).

4. Appendix: NMR and Mass spectra

