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## Supporting information

Thermal-induced reversible solid-state transformation of novel *s*-indacene 1,3,5,7-tetraone derivatives

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## **Experimental Section:**

## Preparation of 2,6-di(thiophen-2-yl)-s-indacene-1,5-dione-3,7-diol (DTID-diol)

The mixture of pyromellitic anhydride (4.36 g, 20 mmol) and 2-thienyl-acetic acid (7.10 g, 50 mmol), anhydrous sodium acetate (0.82 g, 10 mmol) and 20 ml of 1-methyl-2-pyrrolidone (NMP) was stirred and heated at 205 °C under nitrogen atmosphere for 3 hours. After cooled down to room temperature, the formed solid was filtered off and wash with ethanol and then dried. The solid mixture without further purification was directly used in next step. (3.5g, 46%). MS (FD) m/z: 378.00 (M<sup>+</sup>).

The dried solid was added into a sodium methoxide solution (methanol (25 ml) with sodium (1.0 g)) and heated to 60 °C with stirring for 15 min. After cooling down to room temperature, 100 ml water was added into the solution. Then the solution was filtered and the

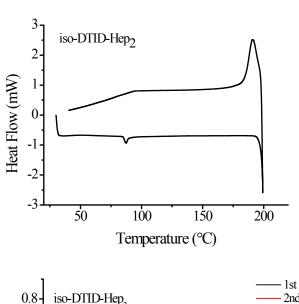
filtrate was acidified by diluted HCl solution. The formed solid was collected and washed with water, dried under vacuum (DTID-diol) (3.0 g).  $^{1}$ H NMR (DMSO- $d_{6}$ , 600 MHz): 7.59 (s, 2H), 7.34 (s, 2H), 7.22 (s, 2H), 6.99 (t, J = 3.8 Hz, 2H). MS (FD) m/z: 378.00 (M<sup>+</sup>) [cal. 378.00].

Preparation of 2,6-di(thiophen-2-yl)-s-indacene-1,5-dione-3,7-diyl diheptanoate (DTID-Hep<sub>2</sub>) and 3,5-dioxo-2,6-di(thiophen-2-yl)-3,5-dihydro-s-indacene-1,7-diyl diheptanoate (iso-DTID-Hep<sub>2</sub>)

To a solution of 2,6-di(thiophen-2-yl)-s-indacene-1,5-dione-3,7-diol (1.0g, 2.56 mmol) in THF (50 mL), heptanoic acid (0.72g, 5.56 mmol), N,N'-dicyclohexyylcarbodiimide (1.2 g, 5.82 mmol) and one drop of DMF was added. The solution was stirred at room temperature for 24 hours and the solid formed was filtered, and the filtrate was dried, followed purification by silica chromoatography to afford a dark blue solid (DTID-Hep<sub>2</sub>) (DCM/Hexane:3/7) (0.28 g, 18%). mp: 176-179 °C.  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 600MHz): 7.83 (d, J = 3.7 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (t, J = 4.4 Hz, 2H), 7.04 (s, 2H), 2.79 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 2.03 – 1.78 (m, 4H), 1.47 (dd, J = 14.6, 6.8 Hz, 4H), 1.43 – 1.32 (m, 8H), 1.01 – 0.88 (m, 6H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 150MHz): 190.70, 169.27, 159.61, 141.93, 134.53, 129.91, 128.16, 127.59, 127.55, 117.02, 113.65, 34.29, 31.35, 28.76, 24.56, 22.45, 14.00. MS (FD) m/z: 602.15 (M+) [cal. 602.18].

An isomer of the product with two ester side chains syn to each other (dark brown solid) was also obtained (iso-DTID-Hep<sub>2</sub>) (0.29 g, 19%), mp: 195-197 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 600MHz): 7.88 (d, J = 3.7 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (s, 1H), 7.45 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (t, J = 4.4 Hz,

2H), 6.50 (s, 1H), 2.78 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 1.95 – 1.78 (m,4H), 1.47 (dd, J = 14.5, 6.7 Hz, 4H), 1.42-1.32 (m, 8H), 0.99 – 0.87 (m, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 150MHz): 189.80, 169.37, 157.73, 147.22, 129.96, 129.94, 128.89, 128.22, 127.68, 118.68, 116.45, 111.14, 34.32, 31.38, 28.79, 24.68, 22.46, 14.00. MS (FD) m/z: 602.16 (M<sup>+</sup>) [cal. 602.18].



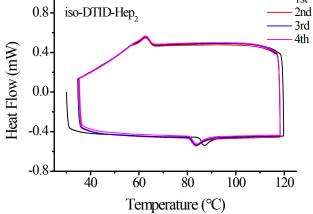


Figure S1. DSC data of iso-DTID-Hep<sub>2</sub>. (a) first cyclic scan, heating from 30 °C to 200 °C. (b) four cyclic scans, heating from 30 °C to 120 °C. Heating and cooling rate: 5 °C/min

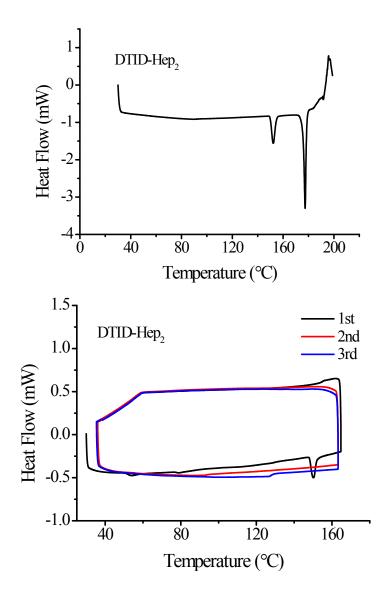


Figure S2. DSC data of DTID-Hep<sub>2</sub>. (a) first cyclic scan, heating from 30 °C to 200 °C. (b) three cyclic scans, heating from 30 °C to 165 °C. Heating and cooling rate: 5 °C/min

Table S1: Single-crystal X-ray diffraction data of DTID-Hep $_2$  and iso-DTID-Hep $_2$ 

	Space group	Cell lengths (Å)	Cell angles (°)	Cell volume (Å)	d π-π (Å)	R- factor
DTID-Hep <sub>2</sub> (Form1)	C2/c	a = 31.156(5) b = 6.3506(9) c = 18.772(3)	$\alpha = 90.00$ $\beta = 124.840(11)$ $\gamma = 90.00$	3048.44 (Z=4)	3.228	8.08%
DTID-Hep <sub>2</sub> (Form2)	P 2 <sub>1</sub> /c	a = 17.6560(14) b = 5.4631(5) c = 15.1854(12)	$\alpha = 90.00$ $\beta = 91.22$ $\gamma = 90.00$	1464.4 (Z=2)		5.18%
iso-DTID-Hep <sub>2</sub>	P 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2	a = 20.427 (18) b = 28.01(3) c = 5.260(5)	$\alpha = 90.00$ $\beta = 90.00$ $\gamma = 90.00$	3009.56 (Z = 4)	3.401	6.86%

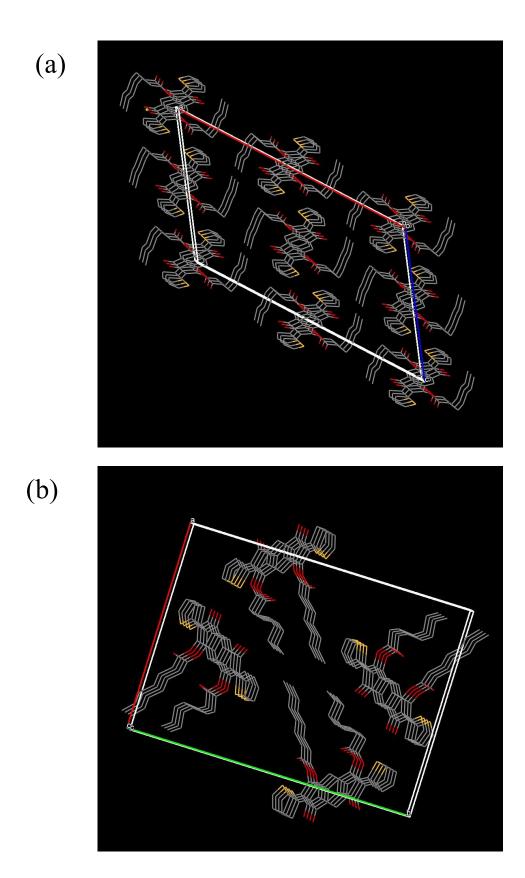
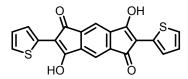


Figure S4. X-ray crystallographic packing of Form 2 of DTID-Hep<sub>2</sub> (a) and iso-DTID-Hep<sub>2</sub> (b).



FidFile: H1\_S2pul\_r71\_01
Pulse Sequence: PROTON (s2pul)
Solvent: dms0
Data collected on: Jan 17 2014

Temp. 25.0 C / 298.1 K
Sample #1, Operator: xshen
Relax. delay 1.08 sec
FW15s 45.0 degrees
CW15s 45.0 degrees
CW15s 45.0 degrees
CW15s 45.5 degree
CW15s 45.

