## Supporting Information

## Hierarchically Structured Photonic Crystals for Integrated Chemical Separation and Colorimetric Detection

Qianqian Fu, Biting Zhu and Jianping Ge\*

## **Supplementary Figures**



Figure S1. Ordered structure and optical signal of photonic crystal film. A) digital photo, b) top-view and d) cross-section SEM image and c) typical reflection spectrum of a green photonic crystal thin film composed of mesoporous  $SiO_2$  particles. SEM image shows that the thin film is composed of crystalline and amorphous stacking of m-SiO<sub>2</sub> particles due to the microscopic phase separation in its metastable precursor.



Figure S2. Three kinds of SiO<sub>2</sub> particles for fabrication of TLC plates. TEM image of a, b) dense SiO<sub>2</sub> nanoparticle, c, d) mesoporous SiO<sub>2</sub> nanoparticles and e, f) mesoporous SiO<sub>2</sub> gels for the preparation of TLC plates.



**Figure S3.** Optical microscope image of photonic crystal film a) before and b) after humidifying process in fabrication of TLC plate. c) top-view and d) cross-section SEM image of photonic crystal thin film prepared by mesoporous SiO2 nanoparticles.



**Figure S4.** a ,b) Time resolved reflection spectra and c) color change of photonic crystal film during the process of sample loading.



**Figure S5. Differential migration of 4-NP, 2-NBA and 4-t-BP.** Spatial resolved reflection spectra for the differential migration of 4-nitrophenol, 2-nitrobenzaldehye and 4-tert-butylphenol on photonic crystal TLC plate in 4 repeated test.



**Figure S6. Differential migration of t-BSA, DA and DT.** Spatial resolved reflection spectra for the differential migration of t-butylsufinamide, dodecylamide and dodecanethiol on photonic crystal TLC plate in 4 repeated test.



**Figure S7. Separation of 4-NP and 4-t-BP.** Spatial resolved reflection spectra for the separation of 4-nitrophenol and 4-t-butylphenol on photonic crystal TLC plate in 4 repeated test.



Figure S8. Distribution of cracks width in three PC plates. The cracks approximately perpendicular or parallel to the developing direction are defined as horizontal or vertical crack. a-c) Optical microscope images show that the crack enlarges as the humidity in humidifying step increases. d-i) Distributions of crack width suggest that  $d_h$  and  $d_v$  are close for PC-1 and PC-2, which have been treated in a relatively dry environment. (PC-1, RH = 30-40%; PC-2, RH = 50-60%). For PC-3, which is treated in a high humidity environment (PC-3, RH = 70-80%), the horizontal cracks become very large while the vertical cracks do not change too much.



**Figure S9. Similar migration in normal phase TLC but differential migration in reversed phase TLC.** Spatial resolved reflection spectra and digital photos for the similar migration of 4-bromoiodobenzene, p-methylbenzyl bromide and 2, 4-di-tert-butylphenol on normal phase PC TLC plate, but differential migration of these three compounds on reversed phase PC TLC plate.



**Figure S10. Separation of 4-BIB and 2, 4-dt-BP as well as dodecane and dodecanol by reversed phase PC-TLC.** Spatial resolved reflection spectra and digital photos for the separation of 4-bromoiodobenzene and 2, 4-di-tert-butylphenol as well as dodecane and dodecanol on reversed phase PC TLC plate.

## Supplementary Tables

**Table S1.** Quantitative results for the separation of 4-NP and 4-t-BP on PC plates with different crack widths.

	PC-1	PC-2	PC-3
	10-1	10-2	10-5
Crack Width (h)	4.06 μm	7.04 µm	22.4 µm
Crack Width (v)	3.75 µm	6.83 µm	3.80 µm
Thickness	12.7 μm	11.5 μm	11.7 μm
R <sub>f (NP)</sub>	0.2	0.34	0.45
R <sub>f (t-BP)</sub>	0.73	0.78	0.84
$R_{f(t\text{-}BP)}$ - $R_{f(NP)}$	0.53	0.44	0.39
Peak Width (NP)	0.35	0.29	0.38
Peak Width (t-BP)	0.45	0.26	0.33
Peak Height (NP)	46 nm	30 nm	18 nm
Peak Height (t-BP)	40 nm	29 nm	38 nm