

## Characterization of a P-Type Photomechanical Molecular Crystal Based on the E→Z Photoisomerization of 9-Divinylanthracene Malonitrile

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**Figure S1.** IR spectrum of (E)-9DVAM over KBr

**Figure S2.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR of (E)-9DVAM in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

**Figure S3.** IR spectrum of (Z)-9DVAM over KBr

**Figure S4.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR of (Z)-9DVAM with 5% E-9DVAM isomer in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

**Table S1.** Crystal data and structure refinement for (E)-9DVAM, and conditions to prepare single crystal

**Figure S5.** UV-Vis spectra of (E)-9DVAM in different solvents, color = solvent

**Figure S6.** The absorption spectra of (E)-9DVAM in THF

**Figure S7.** Fluorescence lifetime data and the corresponding emission spectra of (E)-9DVAM in different wavelength ranges

**Figure S8.** UV-Vis absorption spectra of (E)-9DVAM as a solid-state crystalline thin film and in solution with THF as the solvent

**Figure S9.** UV-Vis absorption spectra of (Z)-9DVAM as a solid-state crystalline thin film and in solution with THF as the solvent

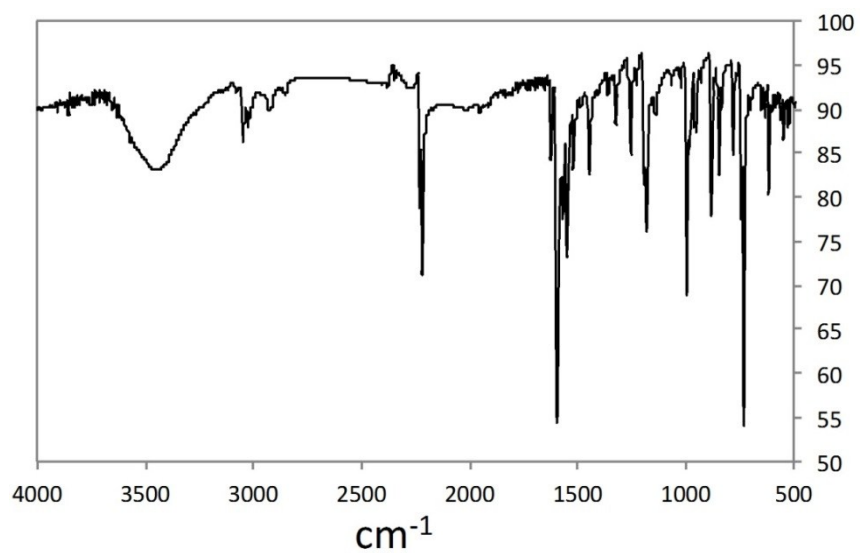
**Figure S10.** HPLC analysis of (E)-9DVAM photoproducts after photolysis in solution

**Figure S11.** HPLC analysis of photoproducts from photolysis of crystalline (E)-9DVAM

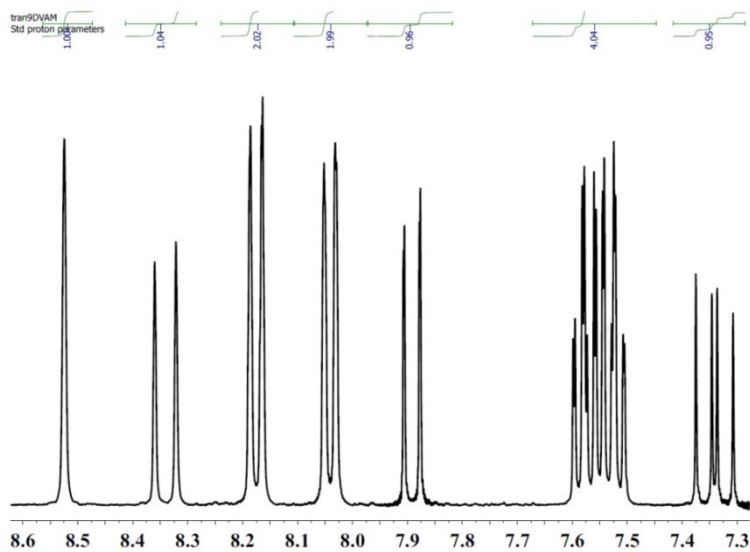
**Figure S12.** Optical microscopy images of (E)-9DVAM microribbon actuating between UV (365 nm) and visible light (535 nm)

**Figure S13.** Optical microscopy images of (E)-9DVAM microcrystals actuating between UV (365 nm) and visible light (535 nm)

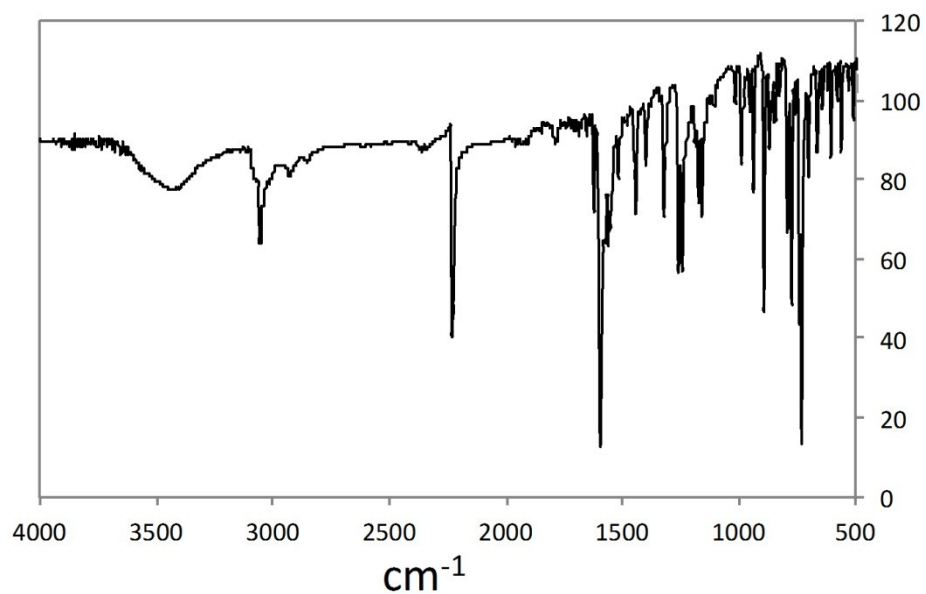
**Figure S14.** Powder X-ray diffraction patterns of (E)-9DVAM nanorods



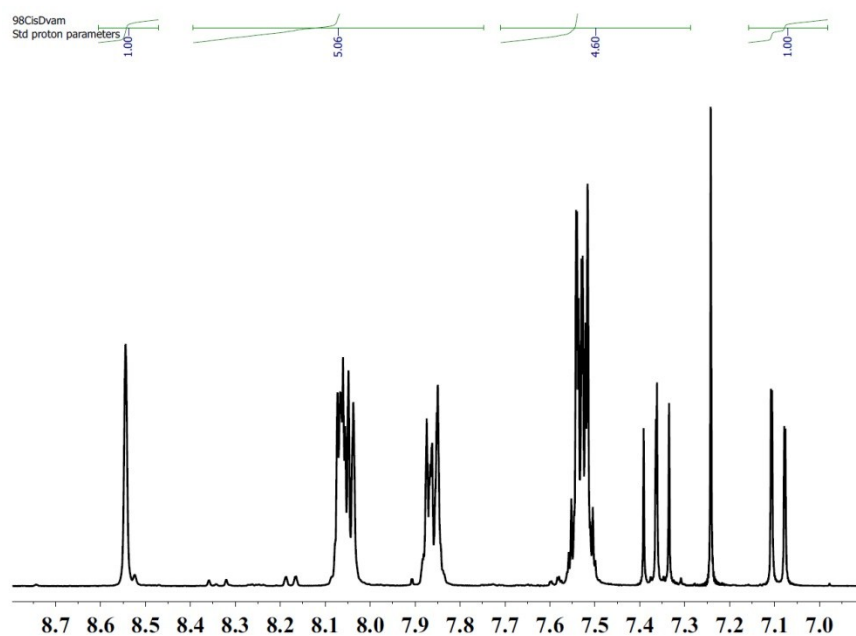
**Figure S1.** IR spectrum of (E)-9DVAM over KBr



**Figure S2.**  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  of (E)-9DVAM in  $\text{CDCl}_3$   $\delta$  (ppm): 7.30-7.48 (dd, 1H), 7.50-7.69 (m, 4H), 7.87-7.91 (d, 1H), 8.03-8.05 (d, 2H), 8.16-8.19 (d, 2H), 8.32-8.36 (d, 1H), 8.52 (s 1H)



**Figure S3.** IR spectrum of (Z)-9DVAM over KBr



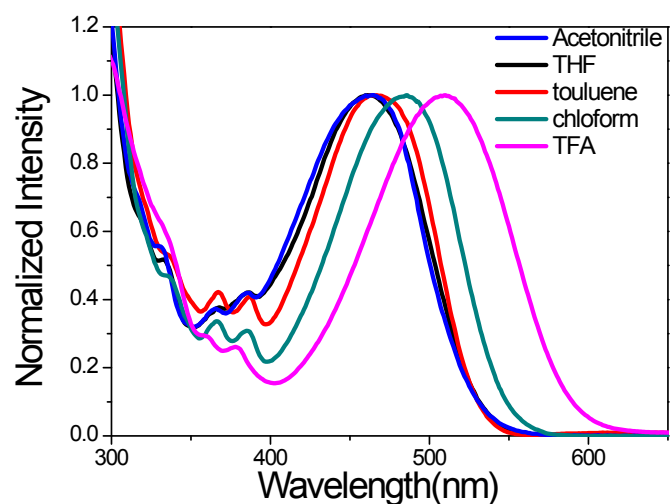
**Figure S4.**  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  of (Z)-9DVAM with 5% E-9DVAM isomer in  $\text{CDCl}_3$   $\delta$  (ppm): 7.07-7.15 (d, 1H), 7.35-7.39 (t, H), 7.50-7.55 (m, 5H), 7.85-7.89 (m, 2H), 8.04-8.09 (m, 2H), 8.55 (s, 1H)

**Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinement for (E)-9DVAM**

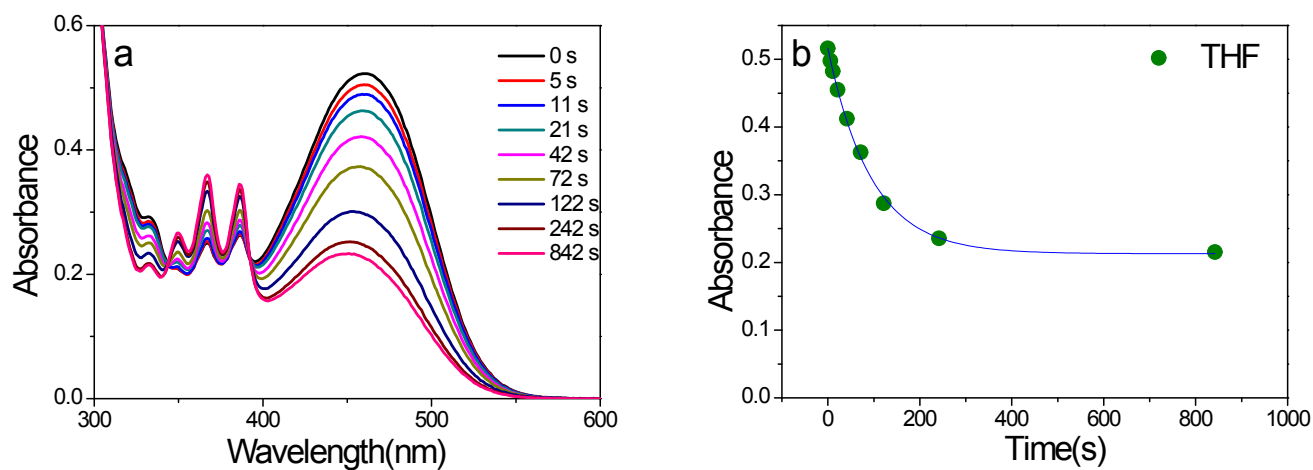
Empirical formula	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub>	
Formula weight	280.32	
Temperature	100(2) K	
Wavelength	0.71073 Å	
Crystal system	Monoclinic	
Space group	P 21/n (#14)	
Unit cell dimensions	a = 19.293(3) Å	α = 90°.
	b = 4.0674(7) Å	β = 118.107(3)°.
	c = 20.370(4) Å	γ = 90°.
Volume	1410.0(4) Å <sup>3</sup>	
Z	4	
Density (calculated)	1.321 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>	
Absorption coefficient	0.078 mm <sup>-1</sup>	
F(000)	584	
Crystal size	0.587 x 0.072 x 0.010 mm <sup>3</sup>	
Theta range for data collection	1.999 to 25.342°.	
Index ranges	-23 ≤ h ≤ 23, -4 ≤ k ≤ 4, -24 ≤ l ≤ 24	
Reflections collected	23666	
Independent reflections	2577 [R(int) = 0.0795]	
Completeness to theta = 25.242°	99.9 %	
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents	
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>	
Data / restraints / parameters	2577 / 0 / 199	
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.024	
Final R indices [I > 2σ(I)]	R1 = 0.0519, wR2 = 0.1248	
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0809, wR2 = 0.1413	
Extinction coefficient	n/a	
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.243 and -0.218 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>	

**Crystal Growth Conditions**

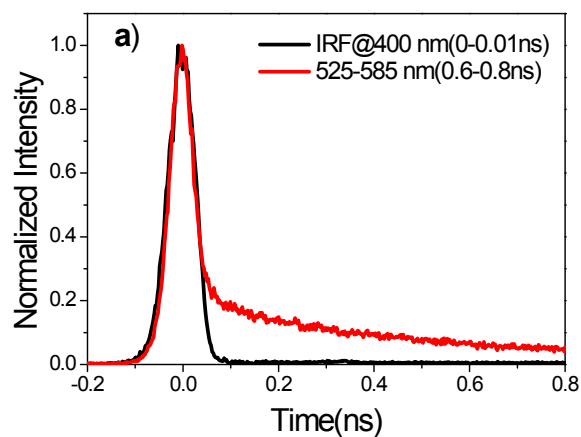
To grow large single crystals for x-ray structure determination, (E)-DVAM (5 mg) was spread inside a small aluminum weighing pan and placed inside a vacuum drying vessel. A 1 cm diameter glass cylinder was placed surrounding the (E)-9DVAM powder. The vessel was heated to 200 °C under reduced pressure (20 mbar). The (E)-9DVAM quickly sublimates and deposits on the surface of the glass cylinders as large X-ray quality crystals. A sample of these sublimed crystals was analyzed by HPLC to confirm purity and that no decomposition had taken place.



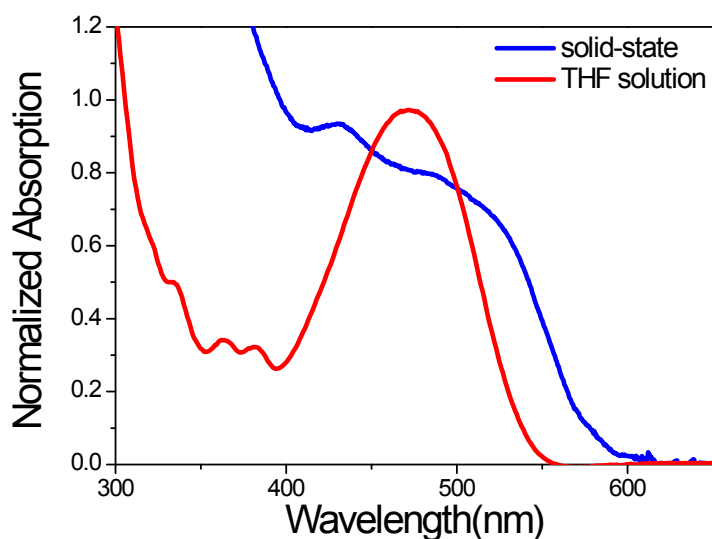
**Figure S5.** UV-Vis spectra of (E)-9DVAM in different solvents.



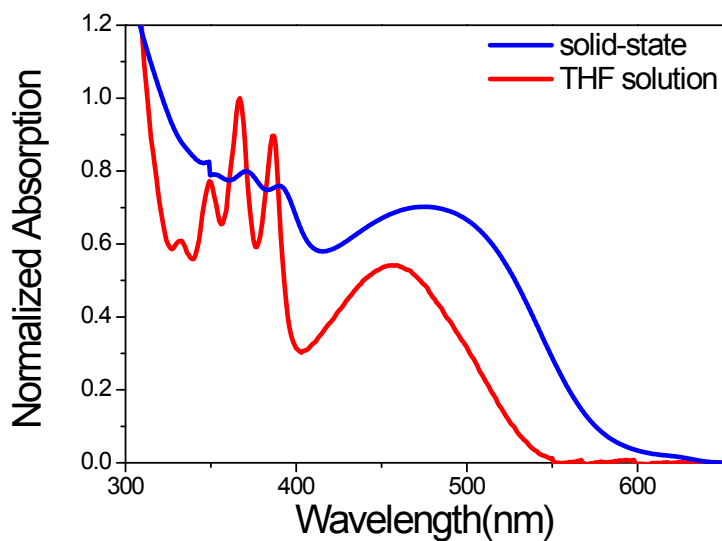
**Figure S6.** (a) The absorption spectrum of (E)-9DVAM in THF under 532 nm laser (Power = 1.91 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>). Isosbestic points are at 343 nm and 392 nm. (b) The absorption of (E)-9DVAM at 462 nm in THF with the increasing of 532 nm laser irradiation. The data points are fit to the exponential in equation  $A(462nm, t) = A_0 e^{-k_{abs}t} + A_{pss}$  and the analysis follows that in Hanson et al., *Photochem. Photobio. Sci.* **2015**, *14*, 1607–1616.



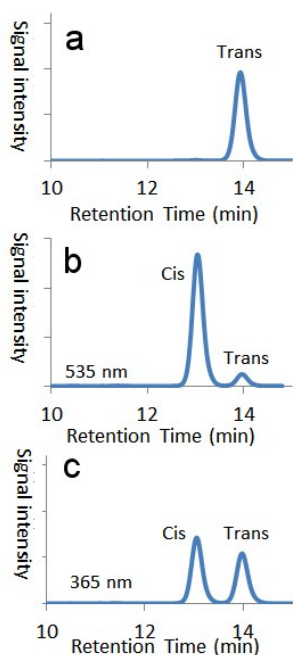
**Figure S7.** (a) Fluorescence lifetime data for (E)-9DVAM (red) overlaid with the instrument response function (black). 80% of the signal decays within the 30 ps time-response of the streak camera. The long-lived (~1 ns) component is due to a residual impurity centered at 450 nm that slightly overlaps the emission centered at ~550 nm. Time-resolved fluorescence lifetime data were collected using a Hamamatsu C4334 Streakscope. The E-9DVAM sample was dissolved in THF ( $\sim 1.0 \times 10^{-4}$  M). The excitation source was a 200 fs pulse centered at 400 nm, derived from frequency doubling the 800 nm output of a Coherent Libra MaiTai Ti: sapphire laser system at 1 kHz.



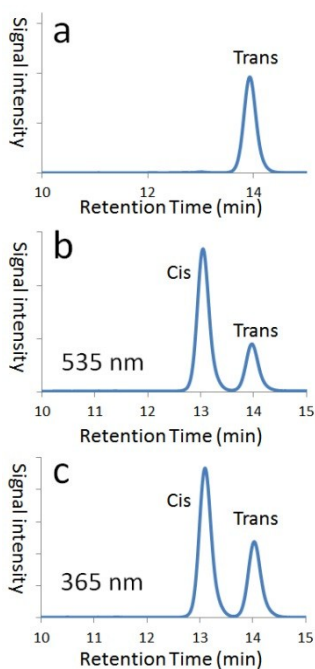
**Figure S8.** UV-Vis absorption spectra of (E)-9DVAM as a solid-state crystalline thin film and in solution with THF as the solvent. 1.5 mg solid of (E)-9DVAM was dissolved in 300  $\mu$ L methylene chloride, then evaporated on a glass slide. During the evaporation period of solvent, 200  $\mu$ L more methylene chloride was deposited onto the glass slide to get high quality solid-state thin film for UV-Vis absorption spectrum.



**Figure S9.** UV-Vis absorption spectra of (Z)-9DVAM solid-state crystalline thin film (blue line) and in solution with THF as the solvent (red line). The crystalline thin film of (Z)-9DVAM was prepared by depositing a solution of (Z)-9DVAM (1.5 mg) in 400  $\mu$ L methylene chloride on a clean glass slide and allowing the solvent to slowly evaporate.

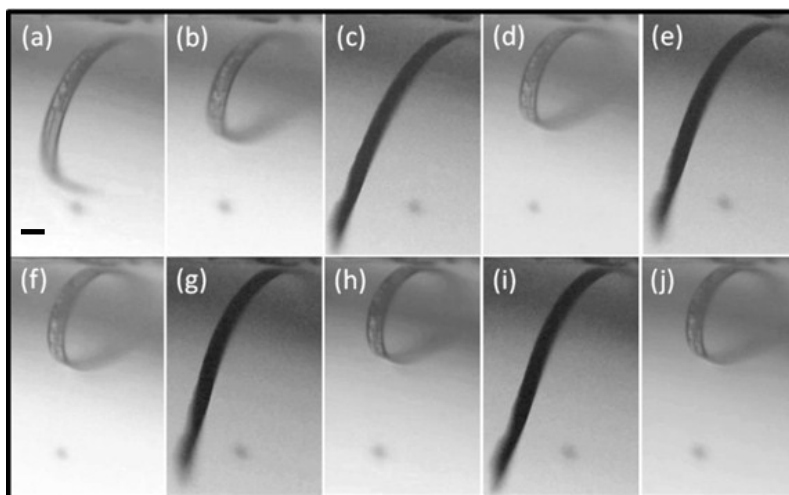


**Figure S10.** HPLC analysis of solution photolysis products from (E)-9DVAM: **(a)** pure (E)-9DVAM in acetonitrile (100%); **(b)** (E)-9DVAM in acetonitrile after 10 min photolysis with 535 nm (91% (Z)-9DVAM, 9% (E)-9DVAM); **(c)** Solution (b) after photolysis with 365 nm, which leads to 55% (Z)-9DVAM versus 45% (E)-9DVAM). The mobile phase was 60% CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 40% water, pH = 2.5, Flow rate = 1.5 mL/min, Detector = 260 nm.

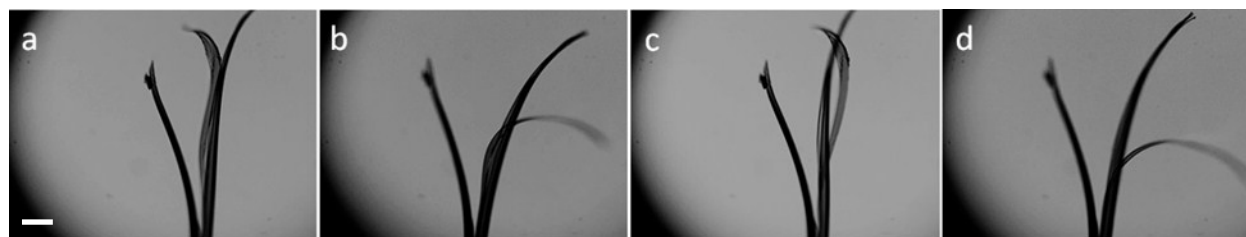


**Figure S11.** HPLC analysis of crystalline (E)-9DVAM photolysis products: **(a)** Pure (E)-9DVAM (100%); **(b)** (E)-9DVAM crystals after photolysis using 535 nm (75% (Z)-9DVAM, 25% (E)-9DVAM); **(c)** Sample (b) after photolysis with 365 nm (65% (Z)-9DVAM, 35% (E)-9DVAM). The mobile phase is 60% CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 40% water, pH = 2.5, Flow rate = 1.5 mL/min, Detector = 260 nm.

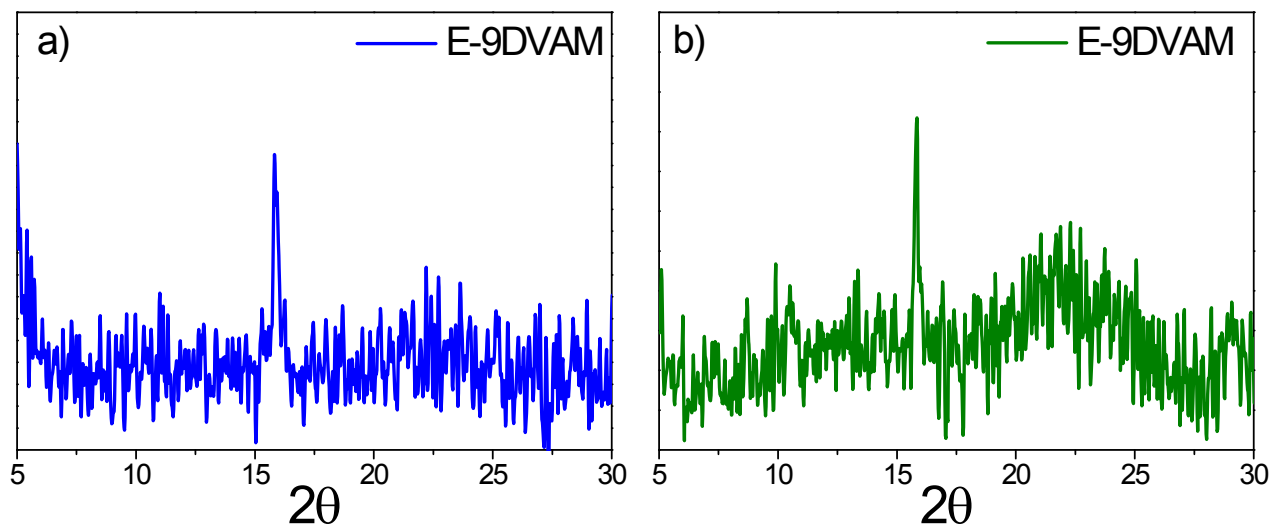




**Figure S12.** Sequential optical microscopy images of (a) Sublimed (E)-9DVAM microribbon inside of a glass tube, with one end attached to the glass tube; (b) after 535 nm irradiation, the ribbon bent slightly; (c) after 365 nm irradiation, the ribbon straightened; (d) after 535 nm irradiation, the ribbon bent again; (e) after 365 nm irradiation, the ribbon straightened; (f) after 535 nm irradiation, the ribbon bent; (g) after 365 nm irradiation, the ribbon straightened; (h) after 535 nm irradiation, the ribbon bent; (i) after 365 nm irradiation, the ribbon straightened; (j) after 535 nm irradiation, the ribbon bent. Scale bar = 35  $\mu\text{m}$ .



**Figure S13.** Optical microscopy images of a group of (E)-9DVAM microribbons actuating between UV and visible wavelength light: (a) before irradiation (b) after 535 nm light irradiation the ribbons bent away from the center; (c) after 365 nm irradiation the ribbons close up again ; (d) after 535 nm irradiation the ribbons bend away from the center. Scale bar = 120  $\mu\text{m}$ .



**Figure S14.** X-ray diffraction patterns of powders obtained by grinding up (E)-9DVAM nanowires (~200 nm in diameter) embedded in an Anodic Aluminum Oxide template (Andisc-13 from Whatman Inc). Panels (a) and (b) are two different experiments that both show the signature diffraction peak at approximately  $16^\circ$ , as well as weaker intensity features near  $11^\circ$ . Both features are also seen in the PXRD pattern of powdered crystalline (E)-9DVAM in Figure 5, confirming that the nanowires are crystalline. The broad feature between  $20^\circ$  and  $25^\circ$  is due to scattering by the amorphous alumina.