Supporting Information (SI)

Light/Temperature- Enhanced Emission Characterstic of Malononitrile-Containing Hexaphenyl-1,3-Butadiene Derivatives: the Hotter, the Brighter

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1.1 Instrumentations and Methods

The UV-vis spectra were recorded on a TU-1901 UV-Vis spectrophotometer (Beijing Purkinje General Instrument Co., Ltd.). Photoluminescence (PL) spectra were collected on a Hitachi F-7000 fluorescence spectrophotometer at room temperature. X-ray crystal structure analyses were measured on Bruker-AXS SMART APEX2 CCD diffractometer. Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) was performed using monochromatized Cu-Ka (1 ¼ 1.54,178 Å) incident radiation with a Shimadzu XRD-6000 instrument operating at 40 kV voltage and 50 mA current.

The synthetic routes and characterization of HPB-CN was given and analyzed in previous research^{[S1].} Characterization of HPB-CN include 1H-NMR spectra, 13C-NMR spectra, MS data and IR were not repeat here.

1.2 Crystal data

Crystal data for HPB-CN: C_{48} H₃₀ N₄; Formula weight: 662.76; monoclinic; P21/c; a=14.768(16), b=15.377(17), c=16.689(18) Å; $\alpha/^{\circ}$ =90.00°, $\beta/^{\circ}$ =90°, $\gamma/^{\circ}$ =90.0; V=3790(7) Å³; Z=4; ρ_{calc} =1.162 Mg/m³; μ =0.069 mm⁻¹; F(000)= 1384; T= 100.7 K; 20= 1.801 to 25.906°; 3638 independent reflections (Rint=0.1052); GOF on F₂= 0.943; R₁ = 0.1352, wR₂ = 0.1904 (all data); Δe 0.201 and -0.196 e.Å⁻³

CCDC 1535584 of HPB-CN contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via <u>www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif</u>.



Scheme S1. Photocyclization route of HPB-CN.



Figure S1 Molecular packing patterns of HPB-CN in the crystalline state, determined by single-crystal X-ray crystallography



Figure S2. Pictures of filter paper strips before and after treatments (Heating at 90 °C

for 20 min).





Figure S3. PL spectra of filter paper strips at 20, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 70, 90, 110 and 130 °C for 30 min.



Figure S4 XRD patterns of HPB-CN powder and filter paper strips.



Figure S5 SEM of original HPB-CN powder (A), dropped on filter paper strips before

(B) and after (C), (D) treatment (UV and Heating at 90 °C for 20 min)



Figure S6 XRD patterns of HPB-CN dropped on (A) filter paper strip; (B) cotton-

linen cloth; (C) polyester fabrics; (D) filter paper strip after quenching.^[S2]

Figure S7 ¹H-NMR spectra of powder, solution and filter paper strips of HPB-CN

under UV light for 3 hours.

Figure S8 (A) PL spectra of HPB-CN in mixture of water and THF after UV light for 3 hours; (B) T% spectra of HPB-CN in mixture of water and THF after UV light for 3 hours. [HPB-CN] = 1×10^{-4} M, $\lambda_{ex} = 410$ nm

Figure S9 PL spectra of HPB-CN in mixture of water and THF before and after UV

light for 3 hours

Figure S10 PL spectra of photocyclization filter paper strips at (A) 20 °C (B) 70 °C and (C) Correlation between the net change in PL intensity I/I_0 for 30 min.

Figure S11 PL spectra of HPB-CN after UV light for 20 min.

Figure S12 Fluorescence intensity of filter paper strips exposed to UV light with

interval exposed time (A) per 20 min (B) per 2 min (C) per 1 min

Figure S13. B3LYP/6-31G (d) calculated molecular orbital amplitude plots of HOMO and LUMO level of HPB-CN before and after photocyclization.

- L. W. Kong, Y. H. Zhang, H. L. Mao, X. L. Pan, Y. Tian, Z. L. Tian, X. K. Zeng, J. B. Shi, B. Tong and Y. P. Dong, *Faraday Discuss.*, 2017, **196**, 101-111.
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