

## Electronic Supplementary Information

### Three polymorphs of one luminogen: How the molecular packing affects the RTP and AIE properties?

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**Figure S19** The molecular structure, mechanoluminescence (ML) phenomenon and the crystal analyses of polymorphs for  $TMPE$ —the different packing modes with different intermolecular interactions, led to the different ML property.

**Figure S20** The molecular structure, mechanoluminescence (ML) phenomenon and the crystal analyses of polymorphs for  $C2$ —the different packing modes with excimer or not, led to the different PL emissions.

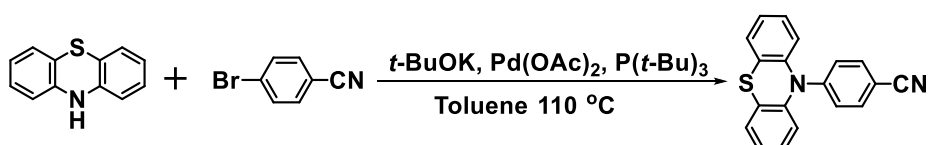
## 1. General Information

### Characterization

$^1H$  NMR and  $^{13}C$  NMR spectra were recorded on a 400 MHz Bruker Ascend spectrometer using  $CDCl_3$  as solvent. Mass spectra were conducted on a ZAB 3F-HF mass spectrophotometer. Elemental analyses of carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen and sulfur were measured on a Perkin-Elmer microanalyzer. UV-vis spectra were performed on a Shimadzu UV-2550. Photoluminescence spectra at room temperature and 77K were performed on a Hitachi F-4600 fluorescence spectrophotometer. Photoluminescence quantum yields were determined with a Hamamatsu C11347 Quantaaurus-QY absolute quantum yield spectrometer. Fluorescence lifetimes were determined with a Hamamatsu C11367-11 Quantaaurus-Tau time-resolved spectrometer. The powder X-ray diffraction patterns were recorded by Bruker D8 Advance at a scan rate of  $8^\circ (2\theta)/min$  (scan range:  $5-50^\circ$ ). The single-crystal X-ray diffraction data were collected in a Bruker APEX-II CCD diffractometer.

The Gaussian 09 program was utilized to perform the TD-DFT calculations. The ground state ( $S_0$ ) geometries were obtained from the single crystal structures and no further geometry optimization was conducted in order to maintain the specific molecular configurations. The vertical excitation energies of the  $n$ -th singlet ( $S_n$ ) and  $n$ -th triplet states ( $T_n$ ) were obtained on the corresponding ground state structures using the TD-b3lyp/6-31g\*. The transition dipole moments were calculated through the same method. Kohn-Sham frontier orbital analyses and spin density distributions were obtained in order to elucidate the mechanisms of possible singlet-triplet intersystem crossings (ISC).

## Synthesis

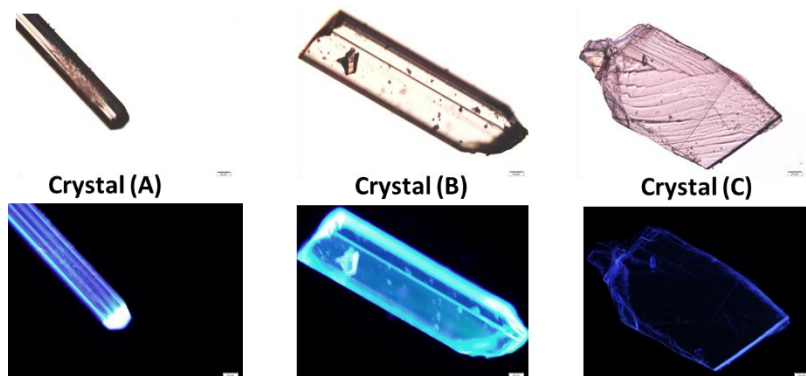


**Scheme S1** The synthetic route of CzS-CN.

**CzS-CN:** Phenothiazine (1.99 g, 10 mmol), 4-Bromobenzonitrile (1.82 g, 10 mol), potassium tert-butoxide (1.68 g, 15 mmol), palladium acetate (0.11 g, 0.5 mmol) and tri-tert-butylphosphine solution (0.5 mL, 0.25 mmol) were dissolved in toluene (100 mL) in a Schlenk tube. The resultant mixture was refluxed for 12 hours under argon, then extracted with dichloromethane. The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and concentrated by rotary evaporation. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel using petroleum ether/dichloromethane (3:1 v/v) as eluent to afford a white solid in a yield of 70%.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): (ppm): 7.43-7.49 (m, 4H), 7.28-7.32 (m, 4H), 7.19-7.23 (m, 2H), 7.05-7.08 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 148.9, 140.8, 133.5, 133.1, 128.9, 127.4, 127.3, 126.2, 126.0, 119.5, 116.5. MS (EI),  $m/z$ : 300.03 ( $[\text{M}^+]$ ), calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{S}$ , 300.07. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{S}$ : C, 75.97; H, 4.03; N, 9.33; S 10.67. Found: C, 76.21; H, 3.93; N, 9.29; S, 10.65.

## Cultivation of single crystal

Needle-like crystal (A) was cultured from the dichloromethane, methanol and ethyl acetate mixture with respective fractions about 5: 4.5: 0.5; block-like crystal (B) was from pure dichloromethane solution while flake-like crystal (C) from the dichloromethane, hexane and methanol mixture with respective fractions about 5: 4.5: 0.5.

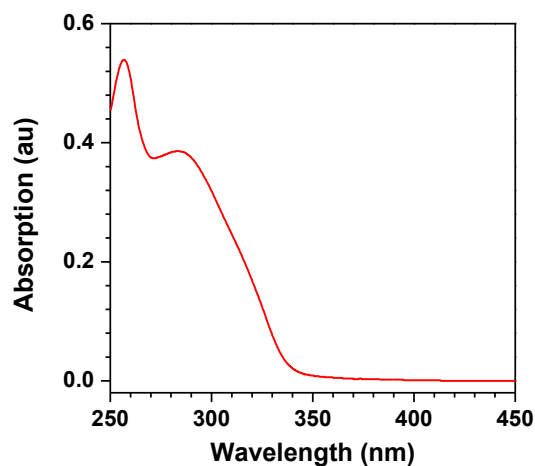


**Figure S1** The pictures of the three polymorphs under daylight (upper) and UV-irradiation (down) taken by optic microscope Leica M123.

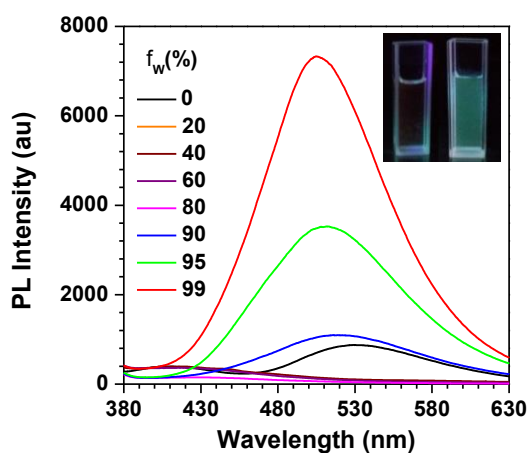
**Table S1** The photophysical data of CzS-CN in different states.

| Compound | State       | $\Phi_{\text{PL}}$ (%) | $\lambda_{\text{F}}$ (nm) | $\tau_{\text{F}}$ (ns) | $\lambda_{\text{P}}$ (nm) | $\tau_{\text{P}}$ (ms) | $\alpha_{\text{AEE}}^{\text{a}}$ |
|----------|-------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|
|          | THF         | 2.1                    | 529                       | /                      | /                         | /                      | /                                |
|          | Crystal A   | 22.6                   | 410                       | 1.32                   | 521                       | 226                    | 10.8                             |
|          | Crystal B   | 17.8                   | 430                       | 2.95                   | 516                       | 41                     | 8.5                              |
| CzS-CN   | Crystal C   | 6.9                    | 380                       | 0.94                   | 539                       | 32                     | 3.3                              |
|          | As prepared | 20.9                   | 430                       | 3.09                   | 508                       | 43                     | 10.0                             |
|          | ground      | 23.6                   | 497                       | /                      | 503                       | 11                     | 11.2                             |
|          | Fumed       | 27.2                   | 440, 497                  | /                      | 505                       | 14                     | 13.0                             |

[a] These data were calculated through the formula  $\alpha_{\text{AEE}} = \Phi_{\text{solid,PL}} / \Phi_{\text{THF,PL}}$



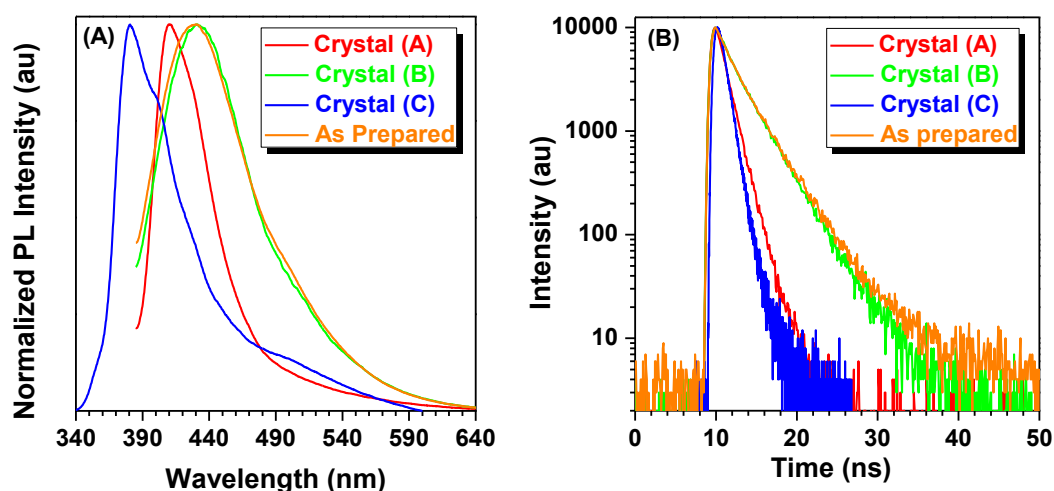
**Figure S2** The UV-visible spectrum of the dilute THF solution for CzS-CN (concentration  $\approx 10 \mu\text{M}$ ).



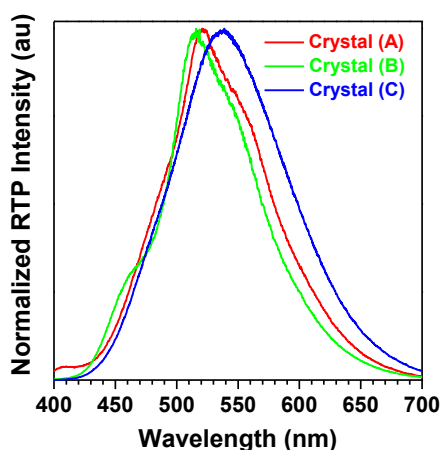
**Figure S3** The PL spectra of CzS-CN in the mixtures of THF/water with different water fractions (concentration  $\approx 10 \mu\text{M}$ ).

**Table S2** Structural data of CzS-CN for crystal (A), crystal (B) and crystal (C).

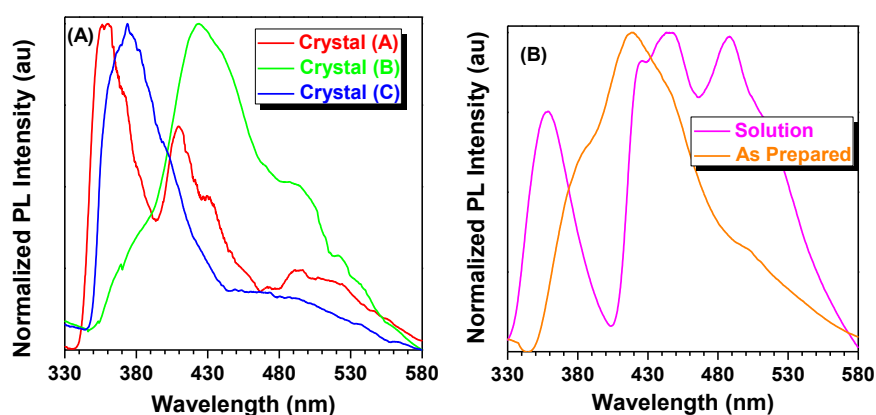
| Name                           | Crystal (A)                                      | Crystal (B)   | Crystal (C)   |
|--------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Formula                        | $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{S}$   | $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{S}$                  | $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{S}$        |
| Wavelength ( $\text{\AA}$ )    | 0.71073  | 0.71073   | 0.71073   |
| Space Group                    | P 21/c   | P-1   | P 21/C  |
| Cell Lengths ( $\text{\AA}$ )  | a=12.3262(17)<br>b=12.5229(18)<br>c=9.8675(14)   | a=10.3472(10)<br>b=12.6805(12)<br>c=12.7346(12)                 | a=16.315(5)<br>b=12.408(4)<br>c=7.380(2)              |
| Cell Angles ( $^\circ$ )       | $\alpha=90$<br>$\beta=107.314(2)$<br>$\gamma=90$ | $\alpha=91.281(1)$<br>$\beta=109.390(1)$<br>$\gamma=111.059(1)$ | $\alpha=90.00$<br>$\beta=94.840(5)$<br>$\gamma=90.00$ |
| Cell Volume ( $\text{\AA}^3$ ) | 1454.1(4)  | 1451.7(2)   | 1488.7 (8)  |
| Z                              | 4  | 4   | 4   |
| Density ( $\text{g/cm}^3$ )    | 1.372  | 1.374   | 1.340   |
| F(000)                         | 624.0  | 624.0   | 624.0   |
| CCDC Number                    | 1555300  | 1555301   | 1555302   |



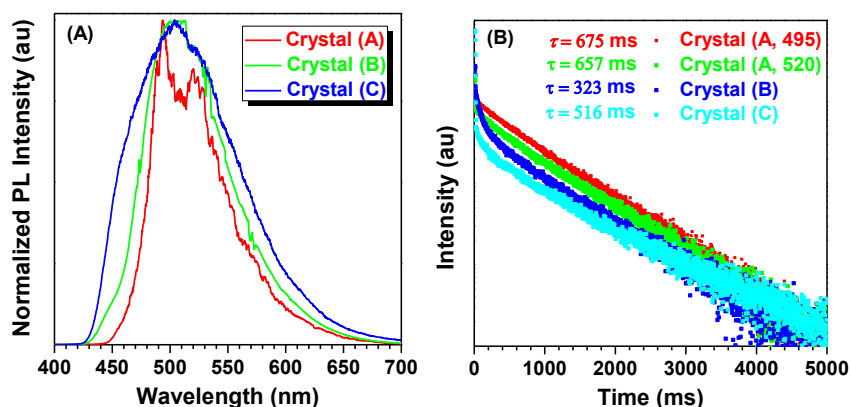
**Figure S4 (A)** The normalized PL spectra of CzS-CN in crystal (A), crystal (B), crystal (C) and as prepared powder; **(B)** The fluorescence decay of CzS-CN in crystal (A), crystal (B), crystal (C) and as prepared powder.



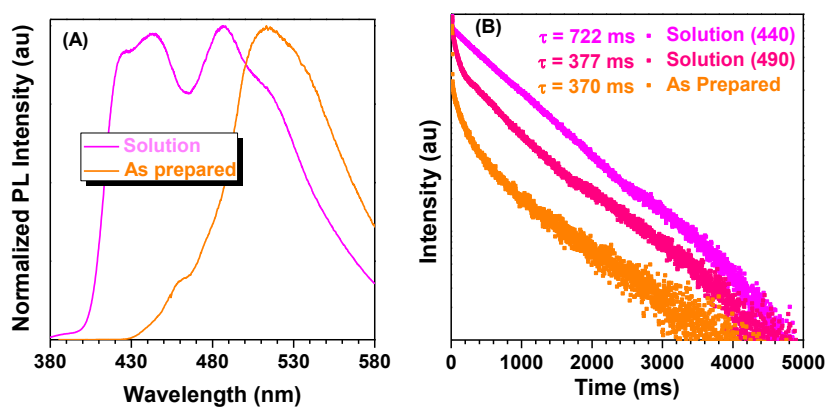
**Figure S5** The normalized room temperature phosphorescence spectra of CzS-CN for crystal (A), crystal (B) and crystal (C).



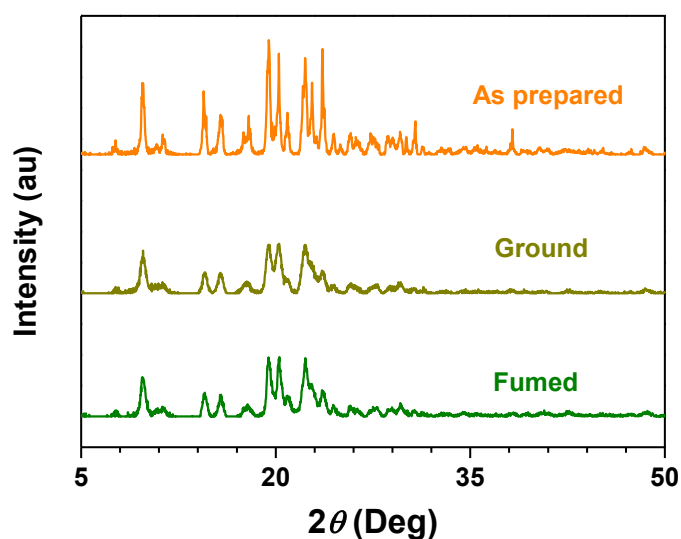
**Figure S6 (A)** The normalized PL emission spectra of CzS-CN for crystal (A), crystal (B) and crystal (C) at 77K; **(B)** The normalized PL emission spectra of CzS-CN for THF solution and as prepared powder at 77K.



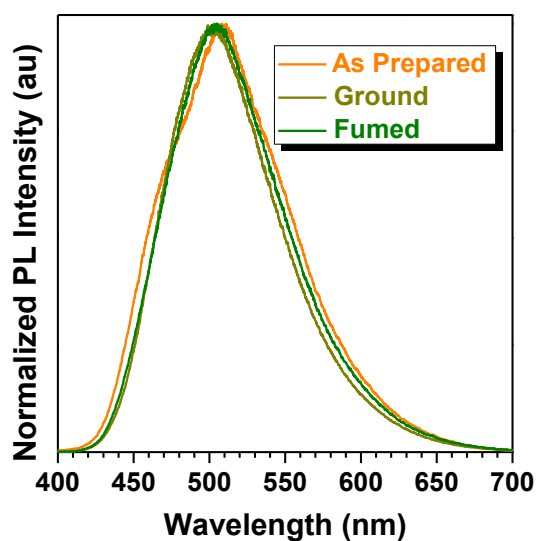
**Figure S7 (A)** The normalized phosphorescence spectra of CzS-CN for crystal (A), crystal (B) and crystal (C) at 77K; **(B)** The time-resolved PL-decay curves for phosphorescence at 77K in crystal (A), crystal (B) and crystal (C).



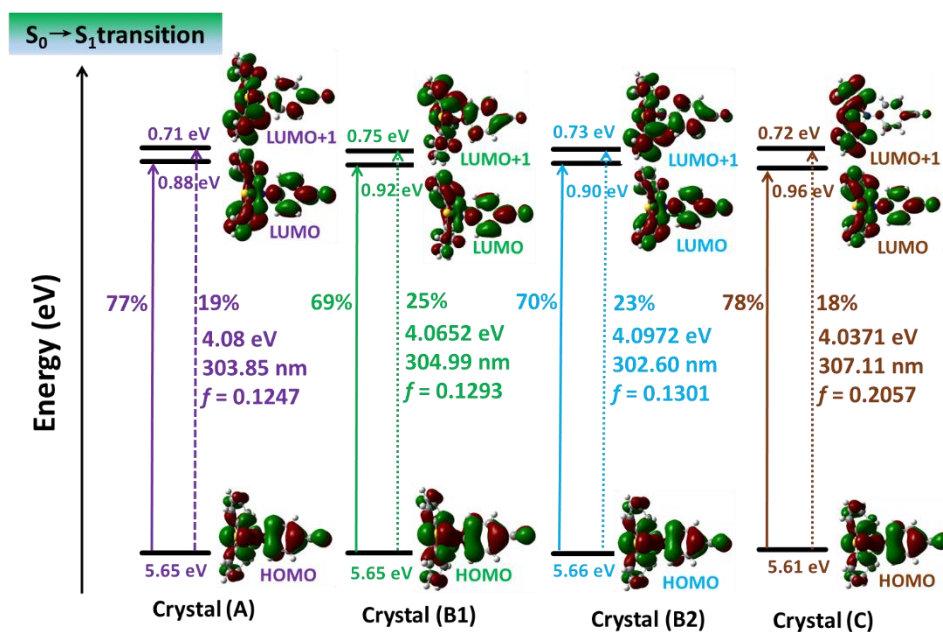
**Figure S8 (A)** The normalized phosphorescence spectra of CzS-CN for THF solution and as prepared powder at 77K; **(B)** The time-resolved PL-decay curves for phosphorescence at 77K in THF solution and as prepared powder.



**Figure S9** The PXR D patterns for CzS-CN in as prepared, ground and fumed powder.



**Figure S10** The normalized room temperature phosphorescence spectra for CzS-CN in as prepared, ground and fumed powder.



**Figure S11** Energy diagrams and the frontier orbitals contributions of CzS-CN in different crystals and their energy transitions for  $S_0$  to  $S_1$  state estimated by TD-DFT calculations at the b3lyp/6-31g\* level.



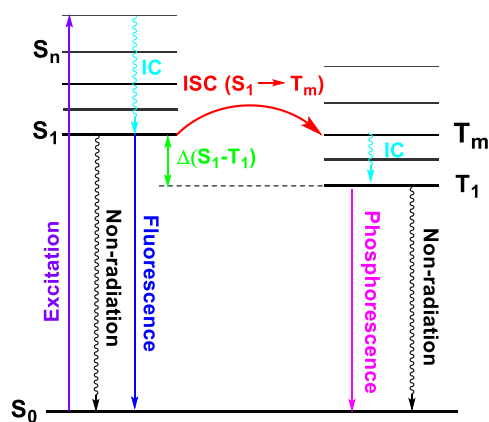
**Table S3** The excitation energy, oscillator strength and orbital assignment of CzS-CN in the first three excited singlet states evaluated by the TD-DFT (b3lyp/6-31g\*) calculation.

|                           | transition                     | excitation energy | Absorption[nm]<br>(oscillator strength) | Assignments  |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|---|--|
| Crystal (A)               | S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>1</sub> | 4.08 eV           | 303.85 (0.1247)                         | H→L (76.7%), H→L+1 (19.0%)   |
|                           | S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>2</sub> | 4.19 eV           | 295.75 (0.0041)                         | H→L+1 (6.7%), H→L+2 (82.1%),<br>H→L+3 (7.7%)                                 |
|                           | S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>3</sub> | 4.30 eV           | 288.60 (0.0497)                         | H→L (4.2%), H→L+1 (26.7%)<br>H→L+3 (61.9%)                                   |
| Crystal (B <sub>1</sub> ) | S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>1</sub> | 4.07 eV           | 304.99 (0.1293)                         | H→L (68.6%), H→L+1 (25.3%)<br>H→L+2 (2.8%)                                   |
|                           | S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>2</sub> | 4.17 eV           | 297.01 (0.0112)                         | H→L (2.2%), H→L+1 (24.9%), H<br>→L+2 (61.4%), H→L+3 (8.3%)                   |
|                           | S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>3</sub> | 4.28 eV           | 289.83 (0.0693)                         | H→L (7.3%), H→L+1 (22.2%), H<br>→L+3 (65.1%)                                 |
| Crystal (B <sub>2</sub> ) | S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>1</sub> | 4.10 eV           | 302.60 (0.1301)                         | H→L (69.9%), H→L+1 (23.2%),<br>H→L+2 (3.0%)                                  |
|                           | S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>2</sub> | 4.19 eV           | 296.05 (0.0057)                         | H→L+1 (9.9%), H→L+2 (77.4%),<br>H→L+3 (9.8%)                                 |
|                           | S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>3</sub> | 4.29 eV           | 289.06 (0.0803)                         | H→L (9.2%), H→L+1 (36.3%), H<br>→L+3 (48.9%)                                 |
| Crystal (C)               | S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>1</sub> | 4.04 eV           | 307.11 (0.2057)                         | H→L (77.7%), H→L+1 (18.2%),<br>H→L+4 (2.3%)                                  |
|                           | S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>2</sub> | 4.23 eV           | 292.92 (0.0870)                         | H→L (8.7%), H→L+1 (38.3%), H<br>→L+2 (30.9%), H→L+3 (15.2%),<br>H→L+4 (2.8%) |
|                           | S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>3</sub> | 4.26 eV           | 291.38 (0.0768)                         | H→L (6.5%), H→L+1 (36.0%), H<br>→L+2 (43.8%), H→L+3 (8.1%),<br>H→L+4 (2.0%)  |

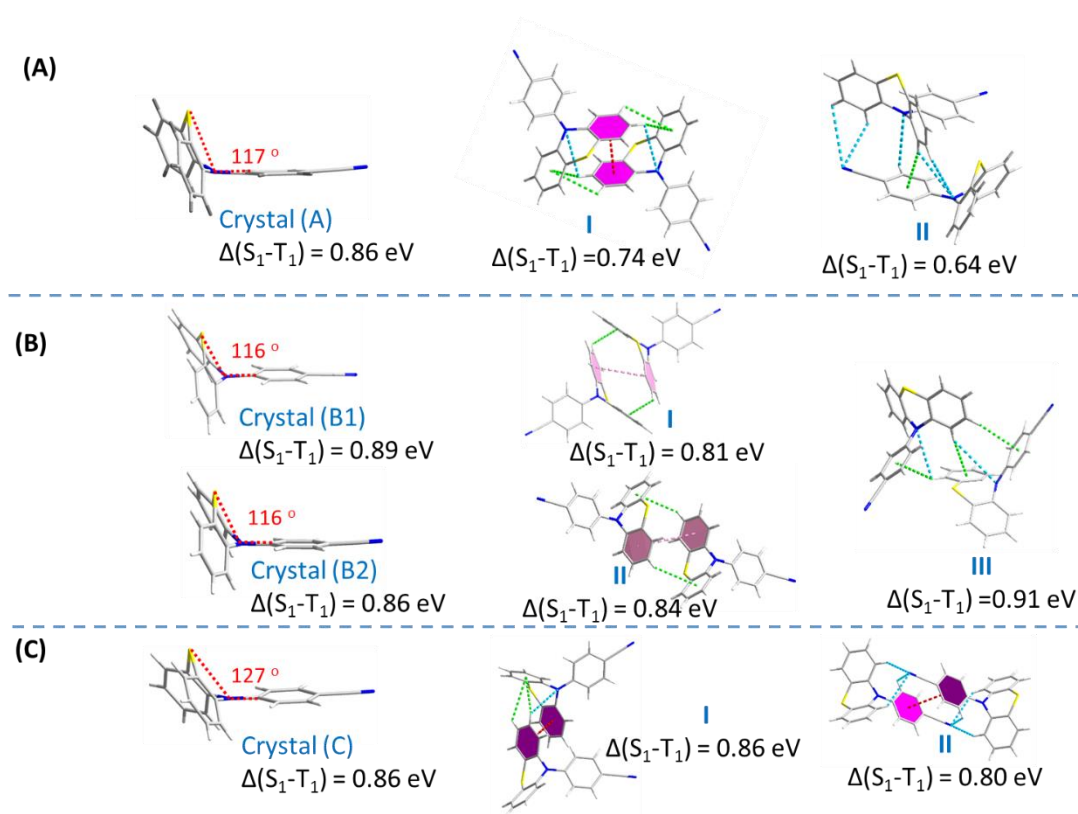
**Table S4** The energy levels and gaps between S<sub>1</sub> and T<sub>1</sub> states for the isolated and coupled units in three polymorphs from the TD-DFT calculation.

|             |               | S <sub>1</sub> | T <sub>1</sub> | Δ(S <sub>1</sub> -T <sub>1</sub> ) |
|-------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| Crystal (A) | Isolated      | 4.0805         | 3.2163         | 0.8642                             |
|             | Coupled I     | 3.9540         | 3.2130         | 0.7410                             |
|             | Coupled II    | 3.8275         | 3.1894         | 0.6381                             |
| Crystal (B) | Isolated (B1) | 4.0652         | 3.1788         | 0.8864                             |
|             | Isolated (B2) | 4.0972         | 3.2405         | 0.8567                             |
|             | Coupled I     | 4.0528         | 3.2409         | 0.8119                             |
|             | Coupled II    | 4.0157         | 3.1798         | 0.8357                             |
|             | Coupled III   | 4.0822         | 3.1723         | 0.9099                             |

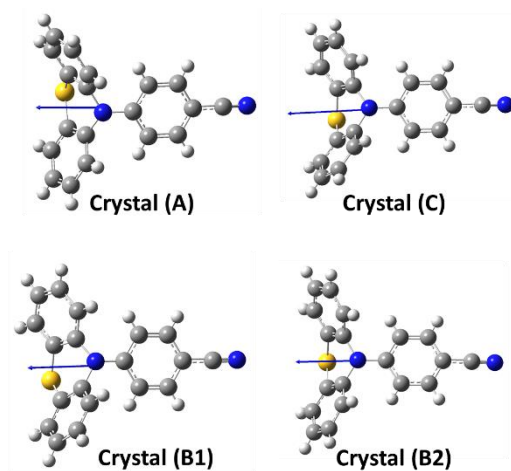
| Crystal (C) | Isolated   | 4.0371 | 3.1802 | 0.8569 |
|-------------|------------|--------|--------|--------|
|             | Coupled I  | 3.9987 | 3.1405 | 0.8582 |
|             | Coupled II | 3.9722 | 3.1720 | 0.8002 |



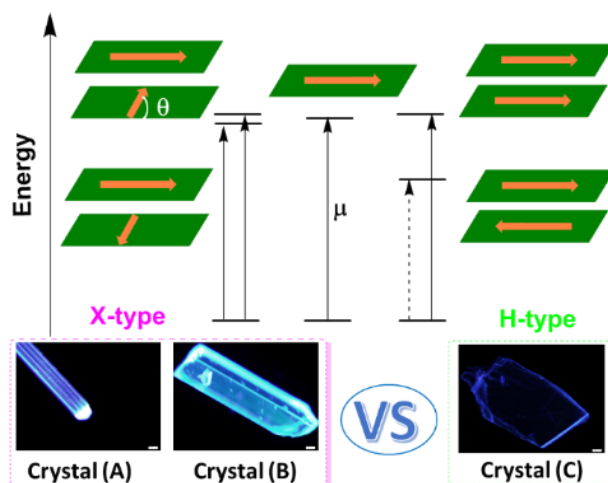
**Figure S12** The general diagram for the PL process.



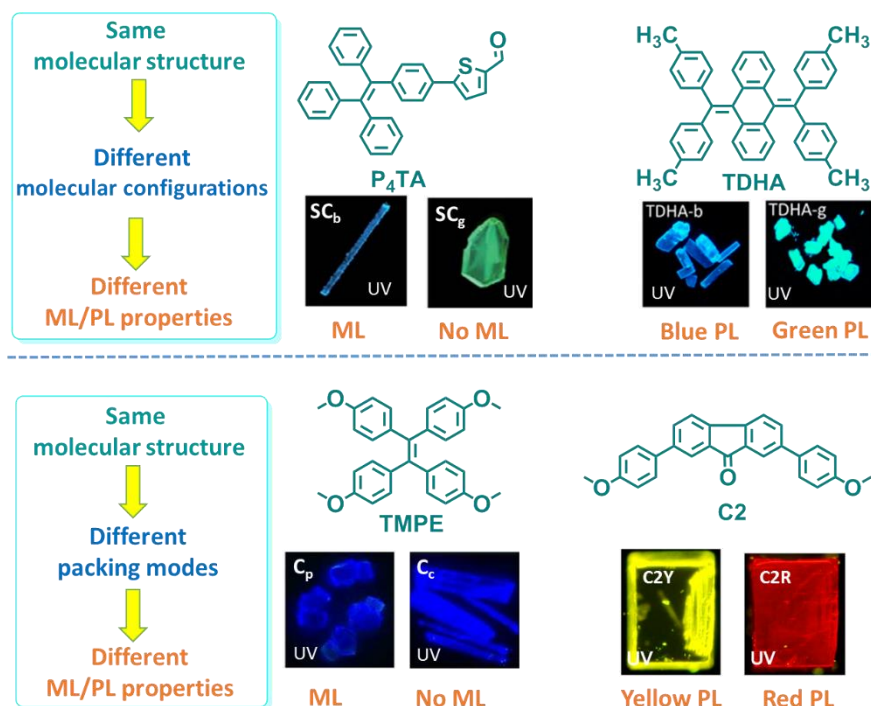
**Figure S13** The molecular structures and the respective energy gaps between  $S_1$  and  $T_1$  states for the isolated and coupled units in three polymorphs.



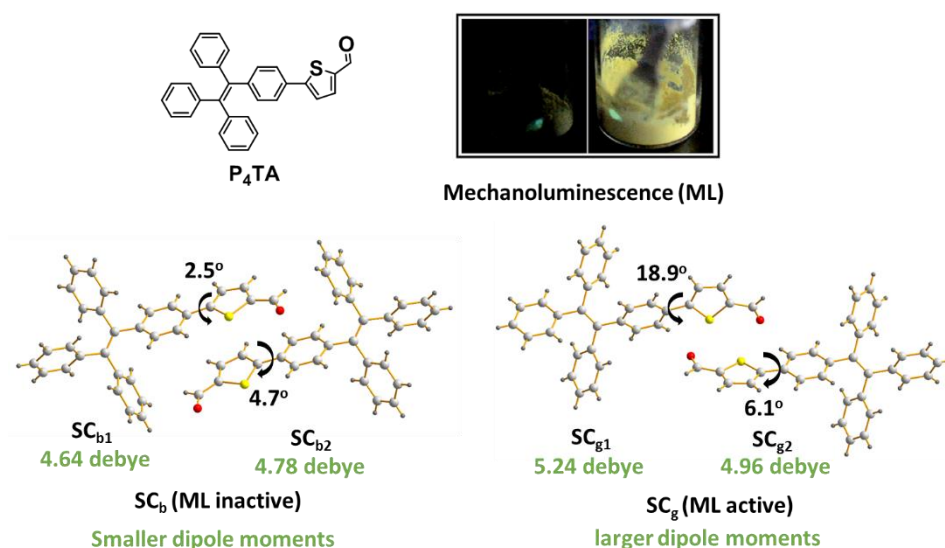
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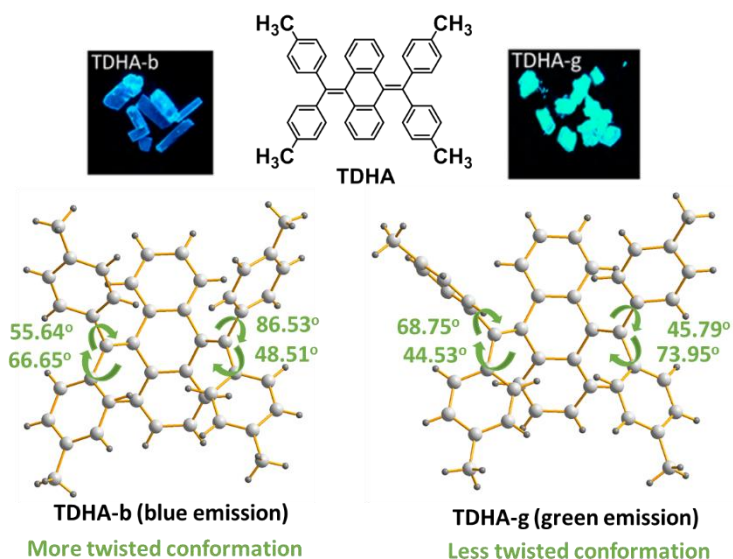
**Figure S15** Splitting of the optically allowed transitions of X-type coupled units, isolated molecule and H-type coupled units (upper); the images of the three polymorphs under UV-irradiation taken by optic microscope Leica M123 (down).



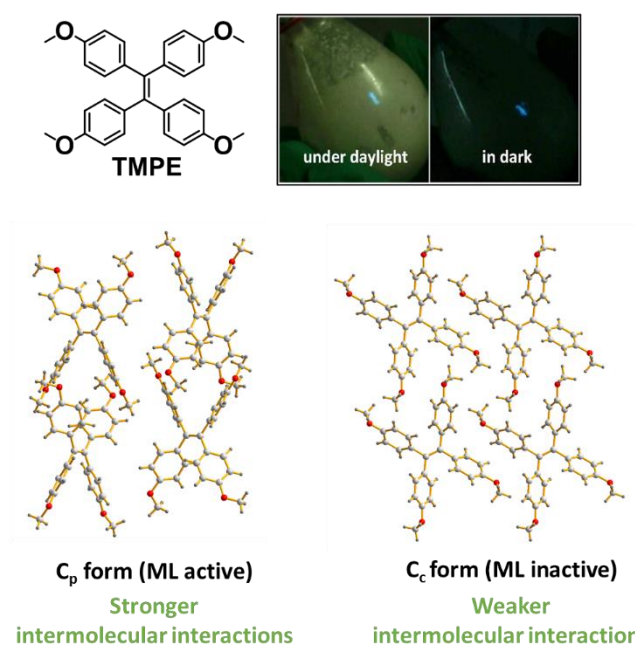
**Figure S16** Examples for some polymorphs with diverse emissive properties: For compounds P<sub>4</sub>TA and TDHA (upper), the different molecular configurations in polymorphs are mainly responsible for their changed mechanoluminescence (ML)/photoluminescence (PL) properties while for compounds TMPE and C2 (down), the different packing modes in polymorphs should be the main reason.



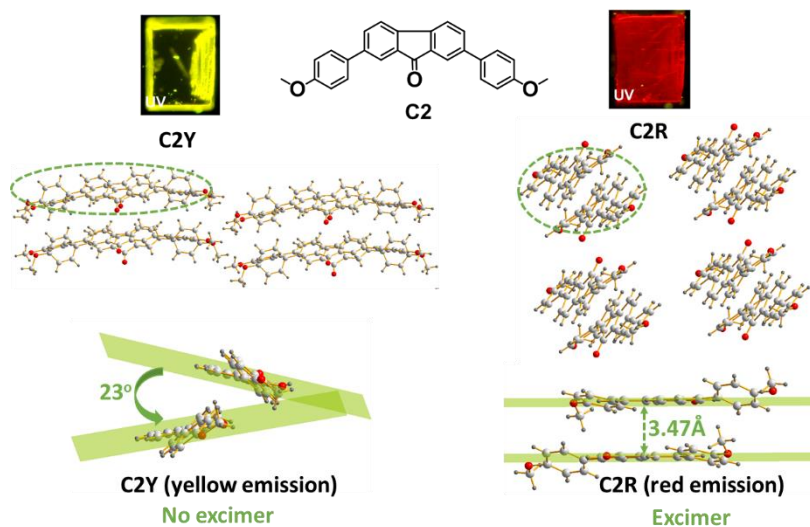
**Figure S17** The molecular structure, mechanoluminescence (ML) phenomenon and the crystal analyses of polymorphs for P<sub>4</sub>TA—the different molecular configurations with different dipole moments, led to the different ML property.



**Figure S18** The molecular structure, PL emissive pictures and the crystal analyses of polymorphs for TDHA—the different molecular configurations with different torsion angles, led to the different PL emissions.



**Figure S19** The molecular structure, mechanoluminescence (ML) phenomenon and the crystal analyses of polymorphs for TMPE—the different packing modes with different intermolecular interactions, led to the different ML property.



**Figure S20** The molecular structure, mechanoluminescence (ML) phenomenon and the crystal analyses of polymorphs for C2—the different packing modes with excimer or not, led to the different PL emissions.