## **Supporting Information**

Three New Metastable Polymorphs of 1-(9-Anthryl)-2-(1naphthyl)ethylene and the Polymorph-Dependent Phase Transition and Fluorescence Change Property

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<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were conducted on a Bruker Avance 400 spectrometer. Differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) analyses were measured on Netzsch DSC 200F3 or Netzsch DSC 214 Polyma instrument. Thermogravimetric (TG) analyses were measured on a Netzsch5 instrument, in a flowing nitrogen atmosphere and with a 15 °C min<sup>-1</sup> to 450 °C. Single-crystal X-ray diffraction measurements were measured on a Bruker D8 Venture diffractometer with Ga K<sub>a</sub> radiation ( $\lambda = 1.34139$  Å). The absorption correction was applied using SADABS program.<sup>1</sup> The structure was solved by direct method and refined by a full-matrix least-squares technique on  $F^2$  using SHELXL-97 programs.<sup>2,3</sup> CCDC-1818417 (**ANE-e**) contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) investigations were carried out on a D8 Focus diffractometer equipped with Cu K<sub>a</sub> radiation ( $\lambda =$ 1.5406 Å) using a XRD silicon holder. Profile fitting analyses were performed using TOPAS software.

All calculations were performed with the program package Gaussian  $09.^4$  The ground-state (S<sub>0</sub>) geometry was optimized in the gas phase using density functional theory (DFT) at the B3LYP/6-31G(d) level. Using the optimized ground-state geometry as initial structure, the first excited-state (S<sub>1</sub>) geometry was optimized

using time-dependent density functional theory (TD-DFT) at the B3LYP/6-31G(d) level. No symmetry constraint was used during the geometry optimization. Frequency calculations were performed on all minima to check the absence of negative frequency.



Figure S1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of ANE-d in CDCl<sub>3</sub> solution.





**Figure S2.** Photographs of **ANE** crystals grown from ethyl ether solution in a conical flask and the PXRD patterns of crystals in different part of the container. For comparison, the calculated diffraction spectra of **ANE-a** and **ANE-b** are also present.

As can be seen from the PXRD result, crystals from parts A and B are polymorph **ANE-e**. Crystals from part C are polymorph **ANE-a**. Crystals from part D are a mixture of polymorphs **ANE-a** and **ANE-b**. The diffraction peaks labelled with \* correspond to **ANE-b**.



Figure S3. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of ANE-e in CDCl<sub>3</sub> solution.



**Figure S4.** Photographs of **ANE** crystals grown from ethyl ether solution in pearshaped flask and centrifuge tube. The PXRD patterns of crystals in different part of the container were measured. All the XRD patterns are in good agreement with **ANE-e**.



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Figure S5. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of ANE-f in CDCl<sub>3</sub> solution.

Table S1.	The	fluorescence	lifetimes	of ANE-d,	ANE-e,	and A	NE-f.

Compound	Lifetime(ns)		
ANE-d	0.91(61%), 3.26(39%)		
ANE-e	1.19(60%), 3.86(40%)		
ANE-f	1.36(41%), 3.07(59%)		



**Figure S6.** The calculated molecular structures of **ANE** in ground (upper) and first excited (lower) states.



**Figure S7.** Profile fitting of the PXRD pattern of **ANE-d** sample after organic solvent vapour fuming.



Figure S8. (a) XRD patterns of ANE-d sample with different treatment. The diffraction peaks labelled with \* belong to ANE-b. The diffraction peaks labelled with # correspond to ANE-c. (b) Profile fitting of the PXRD pattern of ANE-d ground sample after  $CH_2Cl_2$  fuming.



Figure S9. The change of XRD patterns with temperature upon heating ANE-d powder.



Figure S10. Profile fitting of the PXRD pattern of ANE-d sample after annealing at 90

° C (a) and 150 ° C (b), respectively.



Figure S11. TG curves of ANE-d. The heating rate is 15 °C/min.



Figure S12. The change of PXRD pattern with temperature upon heating ANE-f sample.



**Figure S13.** DSC and TG curves of **ANE-f**. The heating rate is 3 °C/min for DSC and 15 °C/min for TG measurement.



**Figure S14.** PXRD patterns of the seventeen batches of **ANE-e** crystal samples after treating with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> vapour: (a) five batches of samples transform to **ANE-a**, (b) nine batches of samples convert to a mixture of **ANE-a** and **ANE-b**, and (c) three batches of samples transform to **ANE-b**. For comparison, the calculated diffraction spectra of **ANE-a** and **ANE-b** are also present.



**Figure S15.** PXRD pattern change with time for as-grown **ANE-e** crystals during  $CH_2Cl_2$  vapour-mediated polymorphic transformation. For comparison, the calculated diffraction spectrum of **ANE-a** is present.



**Figure S16.** (a) PXRD patterns of **ANE-e** sample before and after lightly grinding. The as-grown crystal sample was ground directly on the XRD silicon holder. (b) PXRD pattern change with time for the lightly ground **ANE-e** sample during CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> vapour-mediated polymorphic transformation. For comparison, the calculated diffraction spectra of **ANE-a** and **ANE-b** are present. The characteristic diffraction peaks of **ANE-b** are labelled with \*.



**Figure S17.** Profile fitting of the PXRD pattern of lightly ground **ANE-e** sample before and after CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> fuming.



**Figure S18.** (a) The comparison of PXRD patterns of **ANE-e** sample before and after heavily grinding. The as-grown crystal sample was ground directly on the XRD silicon holder. (b) PXRD pattern change with time for heavily ground **ANE-e** sample during  $CH_2Cl_2$  vapour-mediated polymorphic transformation. For comparison, the calculated diffraction spectra of **ANE-a** and **ANE-b** are present. The characteristic diffraction peaks of **ANE-a** are labelled with #.



**Figure S19.** Profile fitting of the PXRD pattern of heavily ground **ANE-e** sample before and after CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> fuming.



**Figure S20.** (a) PXRD pattern changes for **ANE-e** as-grown and ground samples extracted from saturated ethyl ether solution at different period of time. For comparison, the calculated diffraction spectra of **ANE-a** and **ANE-b** are also present. (b) Profile fitting of the PXRD pattern of **ANE-e** ground sample after dipping in ethyl ether solution for 7 minutes.

This solvent-mediated polymorphic transformation of polymorph **ANE-e** was carried out in ethyl ether saturated solution. A small amount of as-grown and ground samples (about 5 mg) were respectively dipped in saturated ethyl ether solution, which was sealed in a plastic centrifuge tube (volume 2 mL). After a certain period of time, the solution was removed and the solid was immediately detected by XRD. The ground sample transforms to a mixture of **ANE-a** and **ANE-b** within 7 minutes, while no phase transition was detected for the as-grown sample. The latter finally transforms to polymorph **ANE-a** after dipping for another 15 minutes.



**Figure S21.** The change of XRD patterns with temperature upon heating **ANE-e** powder. The weak diffraction peaks at  $2\theta = 15.1$  and  $16.8^{\circ}$  (labeled with #) correspond to polymorph **ANE-b**.



**Figure S22.** Profile fitting of the PXRD pattern of as-prepared **ANE-e** sample and **ANE-e** samples after annealing at 140 °C and 150 °C, respectively.



**Figure S23.** DSC and TG curves of **ANE-e**. The heating rate is 3 °C/min for DSC and 15 °C/min for TG measurement.



**Figure S24.** The PXRD patterns of **ANE-e** crystals and its simulated diffractogram based on single-crystal structure.

Compound	ANE-a	ANE-e	ANE-b
CCDC number	885362	1818417	885363
Chemical formula	C26H18	C26H18	C13H9
Formula Mass	330.40	330.40 330.40	
Crystal system	Orthorhombic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic
$a/ m \AA$	5.5771(3)	9.7845(147)	12.5169(17)
$b/{ m \AA}$	12.0652(6)	5.5978(8)	6.1861(7)
$c/{ m \AA}$	25.9356(12)	32.633(5)	12.2167(18)
$\alpha/^{\circ}$	90	90.00	90
$eta/^{\circ}$	90	95.028(10)	110.239(15)
$\gamma/^{\circ}$	90	90.00	90
Unit cell volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	1745.18(15)	1780.5(4)	887.5(2)
Space group	$P2_{1}2_{1}2_{1}$	$P2_1$	$P2_{1}/c$
Temperature/K	293(2)	296(2)	293(2)
No. of formula units per unit cell, Z	4	4	4
No. of reflections measured	5686	43681	4208
No. of independent reflections	2083	6700	1815
$R_{\rm int}$	0.0393	0.2351	0.0212
Final $R_1$ values $(I > 2\sigma(I))$	0.0474	0.0799	0.0617
Final $wR(F^2)$ values $(I > 2\sigma(I))$	0.0858	0.1551	0.1420
Final $R_1$ values (all data)	0.0870	0.2605	0.1165
Final $wR(F^2)$ values (all data)	0.0995	0.2312	0.1743
Goodness of fit on $F^2$	0.980	0.960	1.037
Flack parameter	-	0(4)	-

 Table S2. The cell parameters of ANE-a, ANE-e, and ANE-b.



**Figure S25.** (a) The structures of two symmetry-independent molecules per asymmetric unit with thermal ellipsoids at the 50% probability level. (b) **ANE-e** molecules packing in the *ac* plane. The C–H··· $\pi$  interactions are labelled by blue dotted line. The distance unit is Å.

## **References:**

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