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Supporting Information for

Diarylethene-based conjugated polymer networks for ultrafast photochromic films

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Fig. S2 ¹³C NMR spectrum of DEA-CHO.



Fig. S3 FT-IR spectrum of DEA-CHO.



Fig. S4 Synthesis of MC.



Fig. S5 ¹H NMR spectrum of MC.



Fig. S6 ¹³C NMR spectrum of MC.



Fig. S7 FT-IR spectrum of MC.



Fig. S8 Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) patterns of MC.



Fig. S9 PXRD patterns of (a) DPP-1 and (b) DPP-2.



Fig. S10 N_2 adsorption/desorption isotherms of (a) DPP-1 and (b) DPP-2.



Fig. S11 TGA profiles of (a) DPP-1 and (b) DPP-2 under N_2 atmosphere.

| Entry | Solvent combination and ratio | Catalyst | Temperat ure (°C) | Reaction time (days) | XRD results |
|-------|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| - | | 3~6 M HOAc | | | |
| 1 | Mesitylene/Dioxane=10:0~0:10 | or 0.06-0.15 | 120~180 | 5~7 | amorphous |
| | | mmol TsOH | | | |
| | | 3~6 M HOAc | | | |
| 2 | Mesitylene/EtOH=10:0~0:10 | or 0.06-0.15 | 120~180 | 5~7 | amorphous |
| | | mmol TsOH | | | |
| | | 3~6 M HOAc | | | |
| 3 | Mesitylene/MeOH=10:0~0:10 | or 0.06-0.15 | 120~180 | 5~7 | amorphous |
| | | mmol TsOH | | | |
| | | 3~6 M HOAc | | | |
| 4 | Mesitylene/o-DCB=10:0~0:10 | or 0.06-0.15 | 120~180 | 5~7 | amorphous |
| | | mmol TsOH | | | |
| | | 3~6 M HOAc | | | |
| 5 | o-DCB/BuOH=10:0~0:10 | or 0.06-0.15 | 120~180 | 5~7 | amorphous |
| | | mmol TsOH | | | |
| | | 3~6 M HOAc | | | |
| 6 | o-DCB/EtOH=10:0~0:10 | or 0.06-0.15 | 120~180 | 5~7 | amorphous |
| | | mmol TsOH | | | |
| | | 3~6 M HOAc | | | |
| 7 | DMAC/Mesitylene=10:0~0:10 | or 0.06-0.15 | 120~180 | 5~7 | amorphous |
| | | mmol TsOH | | | |
| | | 3~6 M HOAc | | | |
| 8 | DMAC/Dioxane=10:0~0:10 | or 0.06-0.15 | 120~180 | 5~7 | amorphous |
| | | mmol TsOH | | | |
| | | 3~6 M HOAc | | | |
| 9 | DMAC/o-DCB=10:0~0:10 | or 0.06-0.15 | 120~180 | 5~7 | amorphous |
| | | mmol TsOH | | | |

Table S1 Screening of synthesis conditions of DPP-1 and DPP-2.

We have made a lot of efforts to test a serious of reaction conditions through controlling the solvents composition and ratio range, catalyst, reaction temperature and reaction time. Detailed conditions are as follows. The total amount of solvent was 2 mL, and solvent ratio included 10:0, 9:1, 7:1, 5:1, 3:1, 1:1, 1:3, 1:5, 1:7, 1:9, 0:10. For catalyst, the total amount of HOAc catalyst was 0.2 mL, and concentration included 3, 4, 5, 6 M; the amount of TsOH included 0.06, 0.09, 0.12, 0.15 mmol. Temperature included 120, 140, 160, 180 °C. Reaction time included 5, 6, 7 days. However, the experiment results were disappointing, and the products checked by the XRD all shown amorphous structure. The screening of the reaction conditions was based on whether the product could undergo photochromism and photochromic properties. For **DPP-1**, the optimum reaction conditions were mesitylene/dioxane = $5:1, 3 \text{ M} \text{ HOAc}, 120 \,^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 5 days. For **DPP-2**, the optimum reaction conditions were o-DCB/EtOH = $1:3, 0.12 \text{ mmol} \text{ TsOH}, 120 \,^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 5 days.



Fig. S12 FT-IR spectra of **DPP-1**: pristine (black); treated in 6 M HCl solution for 5 days (red); treated in 6 M NaOH solution for 5 days (blue).



Fig. S13 FT-IR spectra of **DPP-2**: pristine (black); treated in 6 M HCl solution for 5 days (red); treated in 6 M NaOH solution for 5 days (blue).



Fig. S14 (a) Molecular structures of the open and closed forms of DEA-CHO. (b) Time-dependent UV-vis-NIR absorption spectra of DEA-CHO upon irradiation with UV light ($\lambda = 365$ nm).



Fig. S15 (a) Molecular structures of the open and closed forms of MC. (b) Timedependent UV-vis-NIR absorption spectra of MC upon irradiation with UV light ($\lambda = 365$ nm).



Fig. S16 (a) XPS survey spectrum of DPP-1. (b) XPS survey spectrum of DPP-2.



Fig. S17 S 2p XPS spectrum of **DPP-2** before (a) and after (b) UV irradiation at 365 nm for 5 min.



Fig. S18 UV-vis-NIR absorption spectrum of PMMA.

| | DEA-CHO | MC |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Formula | $C_{17}H_{10}F_6O_2S_2$ | $C_{67}H_{48}C_{10}F_6N_2S_20.5(C_4H_8O)$ |
| Fw | 424.37 | 1095.24 |
| <i>T</i> (K) | 153 | 173 |
| λ (Å) | 0.71073 | 0.71073 |
| Crystal system | orthorhombic | monoclinic |
| Space group | Pbcn | C2/c |
| <i>a</i> (Å) | 12.065(3) | 39.4752(11) |
| <i>b</i> (Å) | 8.649(2) | 9.6754(3) |
| <i>c</i> (Å) | 16.450(4) | 28.3165(9) |
| α (°) | 90 | 90 |
| β (°) | 90 | 99.622(3) |
| γ (°) | 90 | 90 |
| $V(Å^3)$ | 1716.6(7) | 10663.0(6) |
| Z | 4 | 8 |
| D_{calc} (g/cm ³) | 1.642 | 1.364 |
| $\mu \ (\mathrm{mm}^{-1})$ | 0.382 | 0.169 |
| F (000) | 856 | 4560 |
| heta (°) | 2.5-25.5 | 2.3-27.0 |
| | $-10 \le h \le 14$ | -50≤ h ≤47 |
| index ranges | $-10 \le k \le 10$ | -12≤ k ≤12 |
| | - 19≤1≤12 | - 34≤1≤36 |
| reflections collected | 7129 | 53316 |
| GOF (F^2) | 1.034 | 1.079 |
| R_I^a , wR_2^b (I>2 σ (I)) | 0.0352, 0.0720 | 0.0531, 0.1526 |
| R_1^{a} , wR_2^{b} (all data) | 0.0620, 0.0823 | 0.0708, 0.1623 |

Table S2 Summary of crystallographic data for DEA-CHO and MC.

 $R_{I^{a}} = \Sigma ||F_{o}| - |F_{c}|| / \Sigma F_{o}|. \ w R_{2}{}^{b} = [\Sigma w (F_{o}{}^{2} - F_{c}{}^{2})^{2} / \Sigma w (F_{o}{}^{2})]^{1/2}$

| DEA-CHO | | | | | | |
|---------|-----------|---------|----------|--|--|--|
| S1-C5 | 1.721(3) | C4-C7 | 1.468(3) | | | |
| S1-C8 | 1.717(2) | C4-C4_a | 1.348(4) | | | |
| F1-C1 | 1.341(9) | C5-C6 | 1.365(3) | | | |
| F2-C1 | 1.357(9) | C5-C9 | 1.453(3) | | | |
| F3-C2 | 1.348(7) | C6-C7 | 1.418(3) | | | |
| F4-C2 | 1.339(10) | C7-C8 | 1.383(3) | | | |
| F5-C3 | 1.358(9) | C8-C10 | 1.496(3) | | | |
| F6-C3 | 1.356(8) | C1-C4_a | 1.527(7) | | | |
| O1-C9 | 1.211(3) | C2-C3 | 1.533(9) | | | |
| C1-C2 | 1.536(9) | C3-C4 | 1.482(7) | | | |
| | MC | | | | | |
| S1-C6 | 1.721(2) | C1-C2 | 1.342(3) | | | |
| S1-C9 | 1.715(2) | C2-C3 | 1.501(3) | | | |
| S2-C37 | 1.720(2) | C3-C4 | 1.541(4) | | | |
| S2-C40 | 1.717(2) | C4-C5 | 1.531(4) | | | |
| F1-C3 | 1.348(4) | C6-C7 | 1.363(3) | | | |
| F2-C3 | 1.351(4) | C7-C8 | 1.431(3) | | | |
| F3-C4 | 1.332(5) | C8-C9 | 1.370(3) | | | |
| F4-C4 | 1.338(4) | C11-C12 | 1.386(3) | | | |
| F5-C5 | 1.349(4) | C12-C13 | 1.384(3) | | | |
| F6-C5 | 1.370(4) | C13-C14 | 1.401(3) | | | |
| N1-C10 | 1.263(3) | C14-C17 | 1.549(2) | | | |
| N1-C11 | 1.425(2) | C17-C24 | 1.549(2) | | | |

Table S3 Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles $[\circ]$ for DEA-CHO and MC.

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms for DEA-CHO: a = 1-x, y, 3/2-z.