

## Electronic Supplementary Information

# Photoreversible negative photochromism in N-(3,5-dichlorosalicylidene)-1-aminopyrene

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### General procedures

The NMR spectrum in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  was obtained on a Bruker AC 300 MHz spectrometer at 25 °C. Chemical shifts are reported with reference to  $\text{SiMe}_4$ . Elemental analysis was performed on a Perkin Elmer 2400 CHN microanalyser. Diffuse reflectance spectra were obtained with a Varian Cary 5E spectrometer using polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) as a reference. The solid-state emission spectrum was obtained with a Fluorolog-3 (Jobin-Yvon-Spex Company) spectrometer. Kubelka Munk and emission spectra were normalized to allow meaningful comparisons. Light irradiations were carried out with a LOT-ORIEL 200 W high-pressure mercury Arc lamp (LSN261) equipped with suitable filters.

### Synthesis of *N*-(3,5-dichlorosalicylidene)-1-aminopyrene (**1**)

A solution of 1-aminopyrene (0.5 mmol, 0.109 g) dissolved in ethanol (20 mL) was added to a solution of 3,5-dichlorosalicylaldehyde (0.55 mmol, 0.105 g) in the same solvent (10 mL). The resulting dark red solution was stirred for 30 min and, afterwards, heated at reflux for 2 h. It was then allowed to cool to room temperature to give red plates, which were filtered, washed with ethanol (10 mL) and *n*-hexane ( $3 \times 50$  mL), and dried under vacuum.

Yield: 0.168 g (86%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta = 7.39$  (d,  $^4J_{\text{H,H}} = 2.6$  Hz, 1H, 4-H,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_2$ ), 7.52 (d,  $^4J_{\text{H,H}} = 2.6$  Hz, 1H, 6-H,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_2$ ), 7.82 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.6$  Hz, 1H, pyrene), 8.01–8.10 (m, 3H, pyrene), 8.13–8.26 (m, 4H, pyrene), 8.49 (d,  $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.6$  Hz, 1H, pyrene), 8.79 (s, 1H, CHN), 14.67 (s, 1H, OH) ppm. Anal. Calc. for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{13}\text{Cl}_2\text{NO}$  (390.27): C 70.79, H 3.36, N 3.59. Found: C 70.93, H 3.42, N 3.66.

### X-Ray crystallography

The X-ray data for **1** were collected at 173(2) K on a STOE IPDS-II diffractometer with graphite-monochromatised Mo-K $\alpha$  radiation generated by a fine-focus X-ray tube operated at 50 kV and 40 mA. The reflections of the images were indexed, integrated and scaled using the X-Area data reduction package.<sup>1</sup> Data were corrected for absorption using the PLATON program.<sup>2</sup> The structures were solved by direct methods

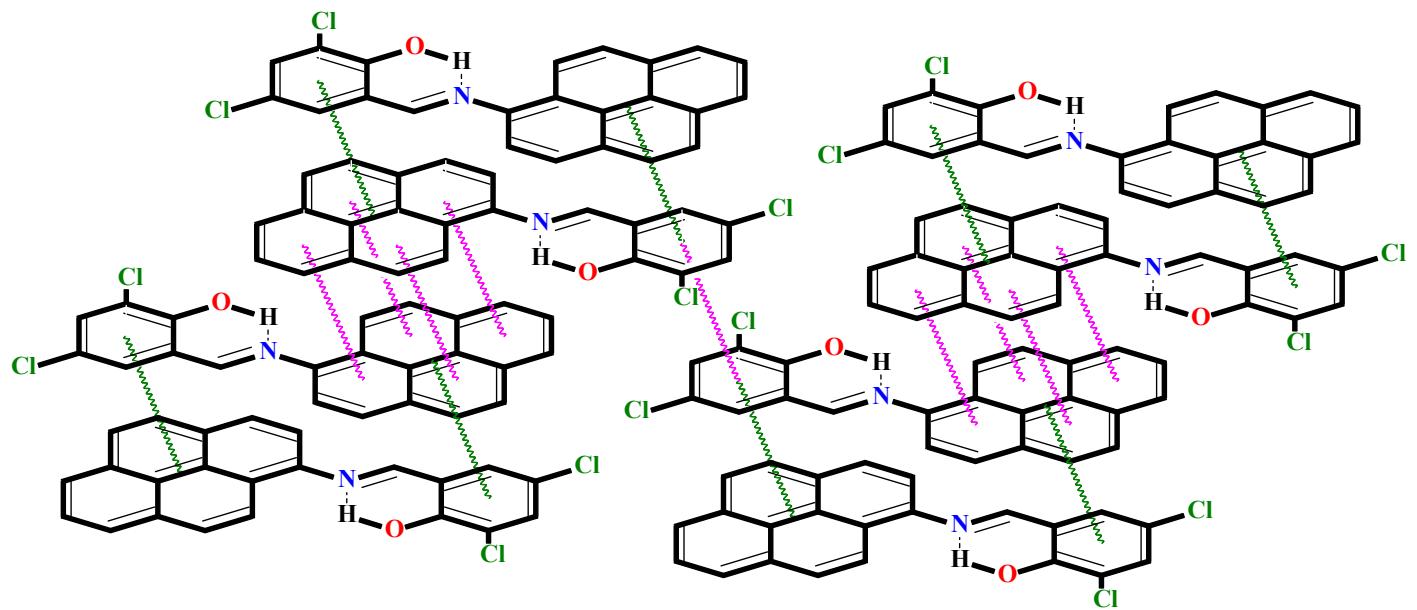
using the SHELXS-97 program<sup>3</sup> and refined first isotropically and then anisotropically using SHELXL-97.<sup>3</sup> Hydrogen atoms were revealed from  $\Delta\rho$  maps and those bonded to C were refined using appropriate riding models. Figures were generated using the program Mercury.<sup>4</sup>

$C_{23}H_{13}Cl_2NO$ ,  $M_r = 355.80$  g mol<sup>-1</sup>, triclinic, space group  $P\bar{1}$ ,  $a = 7.8740(13)$ ,  $b = 8.3670(14)$ ,  $c = 13.195(2)$  Å,  $\alpha = 91.615(14)$ ,  $\beta = 103.438(13)$ ,  $\gamma = 90.080(14)^\circ$ ,  $V = 845.1(2)$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $Z = 2$ ,  $\rho = 1.534$  g cm<sup>-3</sup>,  $\mu(\text{Mo-K}\alpha) = 0.398$  mm<sup>-1</sup>, reflections: 8702 collected, 3157 unique,  $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0948$ ,  $R_1(\text{all}) = 0.0613$ ,  $wR_2(\text{all}) = 0.1249$ .

CCDC 978838 contains the supplementary crystallographic data. These data can be obtained free of charge via <http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/conts/retrieving.html>, or from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK; fax: (+44) 1223-336-033; or e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk.

## References

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**Chart S1** Simplified line diagram of  $\pi\cdots\pi$  stacking interactions in the crystal structure of **1**. The head-to-head and head-to-tail interactions are shown in pink and green, respectively.

**Table S3** Selected bond lengths ( $\text{\AA}$ ) and bond angles ( $^\circ$ ) for **1**

<i>Bond lengths</i>					
Cl(1)–C(23)	1.729(2)	C(5)–C(6)	1.433(3)	C(13)–C(14)	1.400(3)
Cl(2)–C(25)	1.740(2)	C(6)–C(7)	1.400(3)	C(13)–C(17)	1.432(3)
O(1)–C(22)	1.337(3)	C(6)–C(16)	1.423(3)	C(14)–C(15)	1.375(3)
N(1)–C(1)	1.284(3)	C(7)–C(8)	1.389(4)	C(16)–C(17)	1.427(3)
N(1)–C(2)	1.412(3)	C(8)–C(9)	1.381(3)	C(21)–C(22)	1.417(3)
C(1)–C(21)	1.454(3)	C(9)–C(10)	1.403(3)	C(21)–C(26)	1.403(3)
C(2)–C(3)	1.412(3)	C(10)–C(11)	1.439(3)	C(22)–C(23)	1.393(3)
C(2)–C(15)	1.403(3)	C(10)–C(16)	1.416(3)	C(23)–C(24)	1.381(3)
C(3)–C(4)	1.434(3)	C(11)–C(12)	1.355(3)	C(24)–C(25)	1.392(3)
C(3)–C(17)	1.417(3)	C(12)–C(13)	1.423(3)	C(25)–C(26)	1.369(3)
C(4)–C(5)	1.353(3)				
<i>Bond angles</i>					
C(1)–N(1)–C(2)	121.82(18)	C(6)–C(16)–C(17)	119.5(2)	C(14)–C(15)–C(2)	120.8(2)
N(1)–C(1)–C(21)	120.99(19)	C(7)–C(6)–C(5)	123.0(2)	C(15)–C(2)–C(3)	119.7(2)
C(3)–C(2)–N(1)	117.38(17)	C(7)–C(6)–C(16)	118.8(2)	C(15)–C(14)–C(13)	121.81(18)
C(15)–C(2)–N(1)	122.71(19)	C(8)–C(7)–C(6)	120.9(2)	C(16)–C(6)–C(5)	118.3(2)
O(1)–C(22)–C(23)	120.18(19)	C(8)–C(9)–C(10)	120.9(2)	C(16)–C(10)–C(11)	119.2(2)
O(1)–C(22)–C(21)	121.7(2)	C(9)–C(8)–C(7)	120.4(2)	C(16)–C(17)–C(13)	118.9(2)
C(22)–C(23)–Cl(1)	119.26(17)	C(9)–C(10)–C(11)	121.9(2)	C(17)–C(3)–C(4)	118.3(2)
C(24)–C(23)–Cl(1)	118.63(17)	C(9)–C(10)–C(16)	119.0(2)	C(22)–C(21)–C(1)	120.8(2)
C(24)–C(25)–Cl(2)	118.75(18)	C(10)–C(16)–C(6)	120.0(2)	C(23)–C(22)–C(21)	118.1(2)
C(26)–C(25)–Cl(2)	120.15(17)	C(10)–C(16)–C(17)	120.51(18)	C(23)–C(24)–C(25)	118.9(2)
C(2)–C(3)–C(4)	122.5(2)	C(11)–C(12)–C(13)	122.30(19)	C(24)–C(23)–C(22)	122.09(19)
C(2)–C(3)–C(17)	119.17(18)	C(12)–C(11)–C(10)	120.2(2)	C(25)–C(26)–C(21)	120.25(19)
C(3)–C(17)–C(13)	120.5(2)	C(12)–C(13)–C(17)	119.0(2)	C(26)–C(21)–C(1)	119.59(19)
C(3)–C(17)–C(16)	120.65(18)	C(14)–C(13)–C(12)	123.06(18)	C(26)–C(21)–C(22)	119.6(2)
C(4)–C(5)–C(6)	122.05(19)	C(14)–C(13)–C(17)	118.0(2)	C(26)–C(25)–C(24)	121.1(2)
C(5)–C(4)–C(3)	121.0(2)				
<i>Torsion angles</i>					
C(1)–N(1)–C(2)–C(3)	160.6(2)	C(1)–N(1)–C(2)–C(15)	-24.6(3)		

**Table S2.** Hydrogen bond lengths ( $\text{\AA}$ ) and angles ( $^\circ$ ) for **1**

D–H···A	<i>d</i> (D–H)	<i>d</i> (H···A)	<i>d</i> (D···A)	$\angle$ (DHA)
O(1A)–H(1OA)···N(1A)	0.84(4)	1.77(3)	2.577(2)	159(3)

**Table S3.**  $\pi\cdots\pi$  bond lengths ( $\text{\AA}$ ) and angles ( $^\circ$ ) for **1<sup>a</sup>**

Cg( <i>I</i> )	Cg( <i>J</i> )	<i>d</i> [Cg( <i>I</i> )–Cg( <i>J</i> )]	$\alpha$	$\beta$
Cg(1)	Cg(1) <sup>#1</sup>	4.3405(16)	0.00	36.87
Cg(1)	Cg(1) <sup>#2</sup>	4.6370(16)	0.00	43.97
Cg(1)	Cg(2) <sup>#1</sup>	3.8427(16)	3.38	23.93
Cg(1)	Cg(2) <sup>#2</sup>	4.8675(17)	3.38	47.36
Cg(1)	Cg(3) <sup>#1</sup>	3.7798(15)	3.98	26.18
Cg(1)	Cg(4) <sup>#1</sup>	3.5778(15)	2.65	17.54
Cg(2)	Cg(1) <sup>#1</sup>	3.8428(16)	3.38	27.17
Cg(2)	Cg(1) <sup>#2</sup>	4.8674(17)	3.38	49.19
Cg(2)	Cg(2) <sup>#1</sup>	4.7646(16)	0.00	44.69
Cg(2)	Cg(4) <sup>#1</sup>	3.8347(15)	2.57	26.52
Cg(3)	Cg(1) <sup>#1</sup>	3.7799(15)	3.98	24.8
Cg(3)	Cg(5) <sup>#2</sup>	4.4971(16)	30.26	27.89
Cg(4)	Cg(1) <sup>#1</sup>	3.5778(15)	2.65	17.03
Cg(4)	Cg(2) <sup>#1</sup>	3.8347(15)	2.57	24.2
Cg(4)	Cg(4) <sup>#1</sup>	4.3353(15)	0.00	36.8
Cg(4)	Cg(5) <sup>#2</sup>	4.0737(15)	28.87	14.3
Cg(5)	Cg(3) <sup>#2</sup>	4.4971(16)	30.26	57.7
Cg(5)	Cg(4) <sup>#2</sup>	4.0737(15)	28.87	33.6
Cg(5)	Cg(5) <sup>#1</sup>	3.8615(15)	0.00	27.48

<sup>a</sup> Cg(*I*)–Cg(*J*): distance between ring centroids;  $\alpha$ : dihedral angle between planes Cg(*I*) and Cg(*J*);  $\beta$ : angle Cg(*I*) → Cg(*J*) vector and normal to plane *I*. Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: #1  $1 - x, -y, 1 - z$ ; #2  $1 - x, 1 - y, 1 - z$ ; Cg(1): C(2)–C(3)–C(17)–C(13)–C(14)–C(15), Cg(2): C(3)–C(4)–C(5)–C(6)–C(16)–C(17), Cg(3): C(6)–C(7)–C(8)–C(9)–C(10)–C(16), Cg(4): C(10)–C(11)–C(12)–C(13)–C(17)–C(16), Cg(5): C(21)–C(22)–C(23)–C(24)–C(25)–C(26).