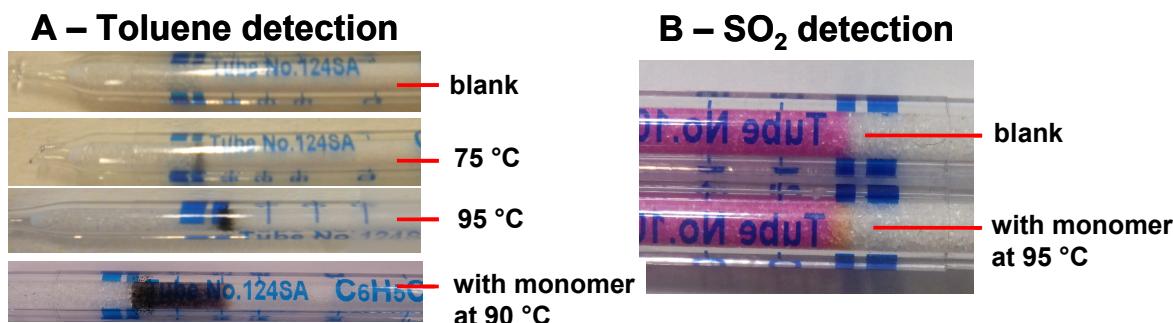


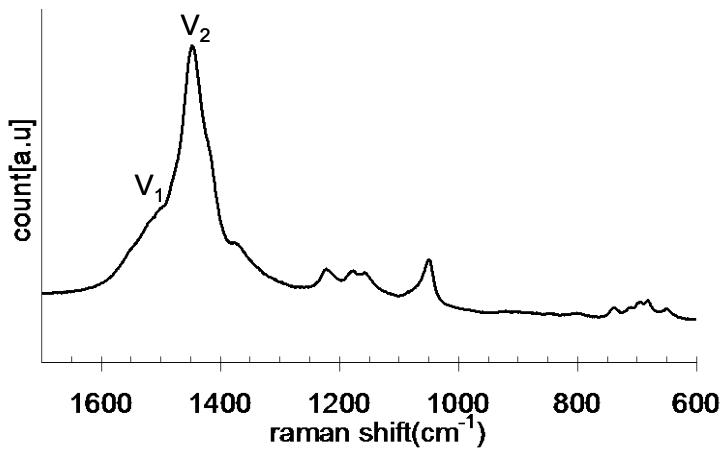
## Supplementary Information for

### A novel route for polymerisation of thiophene based conducting polymers using trace-free oxidants

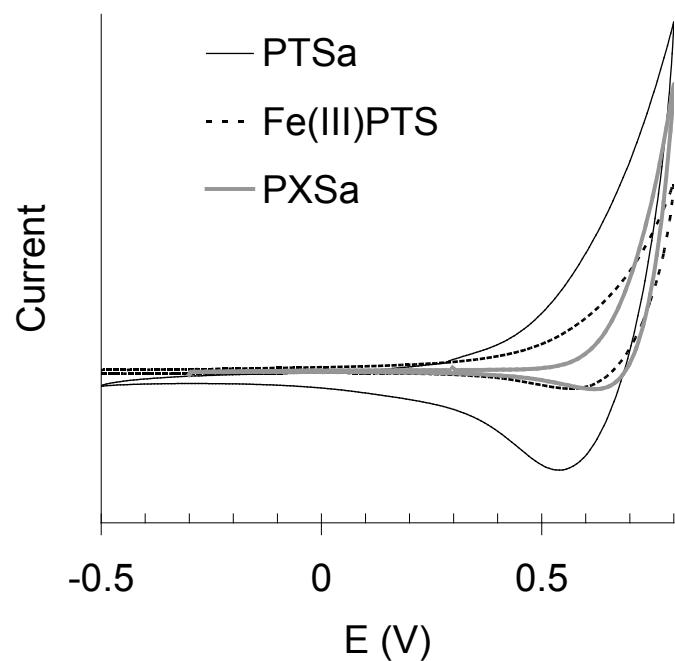
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**Figure S1** Kitagawa gas detectors from the chamber containing p-Toluene Sulphonic Acid (PTSa): A) for Toluene detection at 75 °C and 95 °C for one hour without monomer and at 90 °C with bithiophene monomer in the chamber after one hour and B) for SO<sub>2</sub> detection at 95 °C with monomer in the chamber after one hour.

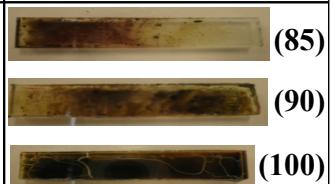


**Figure S2** Raman shift of PTTh sample prepared using PTSa at 100 °C for 6 hours



**Figure S3** Cyclic voltammograms of PBTh sample prepared using PTSa at 90 °C, Fe(III) PTS at 70 °C and PXSa at 70 °C, scanned in 0.1M tetrabutylammonium hexafluorophosphate in propylene carbonate in nitrogen glove box.

**Table S1** PBTh films polymerised from different sulphur containing acids

| Sulphur Containing Acid                | Structure | Tm (°C) | Washed films (polymerised temperature °C)  |
|--|-----------|---------|--|
| p-toluenesulfonic acid (PTSa)          |           | 105     | <br>(85)<br>(90)<br>(100)  |
| p-xylene-2-sulfonic acid (PXSa)        |           | 86      | <br>(80)<br>(70)<br>(60)   |
| 2,4,6-trimethylbenzene-1-sulfonic acid |           | 75      | <br>(70)<br>(65)<br>(60)  |
| Chlorobenzene-Sulfonic Acid            |           | 102     | <br>(90)<br>(80)<br>(70) |