

## Supporting Information

### Novel Programmable Functional Polyimides: Preparation, Demonstrating Mechanism of CT Induced Memory, and Ambipolar Electrochromic Behavior

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#### List of Contents for Supplementary Material:

<b>Table S1.</b> Inherent Viscosities and Molecular Weights of polyimides .....	<u>SI-2</u>
<b>Table S2.</b> Solubility Behavior.....	<u>SI-3</u>
<b>Table S3.</b> Thermal Properties of <b>9Ph-</b> Series Polyimides .....	<u>SI-4</u>
<b>Figure S1.</b> <sup>1</sup> H NMR spectra of polyimide <b>9Ph-6FDA</b> in DMSO- <i>d</i> <sub>6</sub> .....	<u>SI-5</u>
<b>Figure S2.</b> IR spectrum of polyimide <b>9Ph-DSPI</b> film .....	<u>SI-6</u>
<b>Figure S3.</b> TGA thermograms of <b>9Ph-</b> series polyimides .....	<u>SI-7</u>
<b>Figure S4.</b> UV-visible absorption spectra of <b>9Ph-</b> series polyimides .....	<u>SI-8</u>
<b>Figure S5.</b> Current-voltage characteristics of the ITO/polyimide/Al memory device. (a) 3Ph-ODPI (b) 3Ph-6FPI (c) 3Ph-DSPI (d) 3Ph-PMPI (e) 3Ph-NPPI .....	<u>SI-9</u>
<b>Figure S6.</b> Calculated molecular orbitals and corresponding energy levels of the basic units for 3Ph-6FPI, 6Ph-6FPI, and <b>9Ph-6FPI</b> .....	<u>SI-10</u>
<b>Figure S7.</b> Energy levels of polyimides from gaussian simulation.....	<u>SI-11</u>
<b>Figure S8.</b> Calculation of optical switching time at the applied potential and current-time curves of polyimide <b>9Ph-PMPI</b> thin film.....	<u>SI-12</u>
<b>Figure S9.</b> Absorbance change of polyimide <b>9Ph-PMPI</b> thin film on the ITO-coated glass substrate with a cycle time of 30 s monitored at the given wavelength.....	<u>SI-13</u>
<b>Figure S10.</b> Potential step transmittance change of a single-layer flexible ITO-coated PEN EC device, using polyimide <b>9Ph-PMPI</b> as active layer .....	<u>SI-14</u>

**Table S1.** Inherent Viscosity and Molecular Weights of Polyimides

polymer	$\eta_{inh}^{a)}$ (dL/g)	$M_w^{c)}$	$M_n^{c)}$	PDI <sup>d)</sup>	DP <sup>e)</sup>
<b>9Ph-ODPI</b>	0.27	135,400	56,600	2.38	48
<b>9Ph-6FPI</b>	0.43	161,800	83,500	1.94	64
<b>9Ph-DSPI</b>	0.31	148,300	69,700	2.13	57
<b>9Ph-PMPI</b>	0.30 <sup>b)</sup>	135,400	67,901	1.99	63

<sup>a)</sup> Measured at a polymer concentration of 0.5 g/dL in DMAc at 30 °C.

<sup>b)</sup> Measured at a polymer concentration of 0.5 g/dL in H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> at 30 °C.

<sup>c)</sup> Calibrated with polystyrene standards, using NMP as the eluent at a constant flow rate of 0.5 mL/min at 40 °C.

<sup>d)</sup> Polydispersity Index ( $M_w/M_n$ ).

<sup>e)</sup> Degree of Polymerization.

**Table S2.** Solubility Behavior

Code	Solubility in various Solvent <sup>a)</sup>						
	NMP	DMAc	DMF	DMSO	<i>m</i> -Cresol	THF	CHCl <sub>3</sub>
<b>9Ph-ODPI</b>	++	+	+ -	+ -	+	+	++
<b>9Ph-6FPI</b>	++	++	+	+ -	+	++	++
<b>9Ph-DSPI</b>	++	++	+	+ -	++	++	++
<b>9Ph-PMPI</b>	+ -	+ -	+ -	+ -	+ -	+ -	+ -

<sup>a)</sup> The solubility was determined with a 10 mg sample in 1 mL of a solvent. ++, soluble at room temperature; +, soluble on heating at 70°C-80°C; + -, partially soluble or swelling; -, insoluble even on heating.

**Table S3.** Thermal Properties of **9Ph-** Series Polyimides

Polymer <sup>a)</sup>	$T_g$ [°C] <sup>b)</sup>	$T_d^5$ [°C] <sup>c)</sup>		$T_d^{10}$ [°C] <sup>c)</sup>		$R_{w800}$ [%] <sup>d)</sup>	LOI <sup>e)</sup>
		N <sub>2</sub>	Air	N <sub>2</sub>	Air		
<b>9Ph-ODPI</b>	241	455	435	485	485	63	43
<b>9Ph-6FPI</b>	252	455	455	500	495	59	41
<b>9Ph-DSPI</b>	247	455	450	505	485	61	42
<b>9Ph-PMPI</b>	265	460	460	495	495	66	44

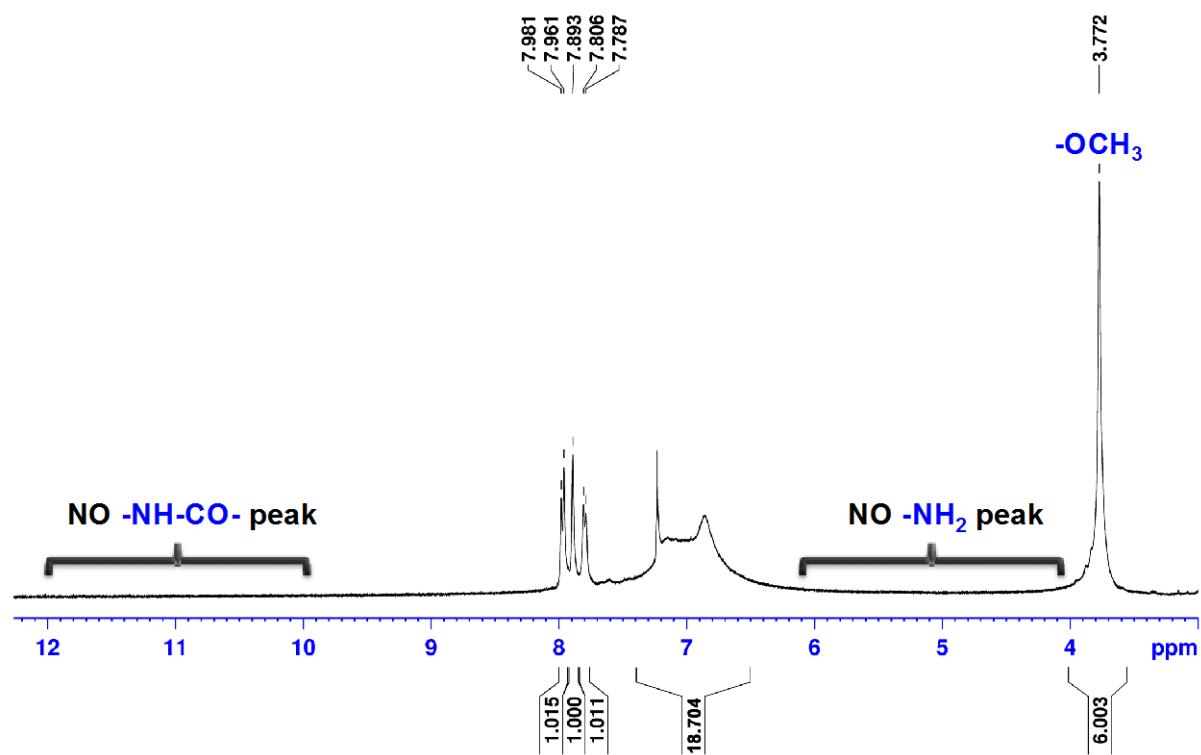
<sup>a)</sup> The polymer film samples were heated at 300 °C for 1 h prior to all the thermal analyses.

<sup>b)</sup> Midpoint temperature of baseline shift on the second DSC heating trace (rate: 20 °C /min) of the sample after quenching from 400 °C to 50 °C (rate: 200 °C /min) in nitrogen.

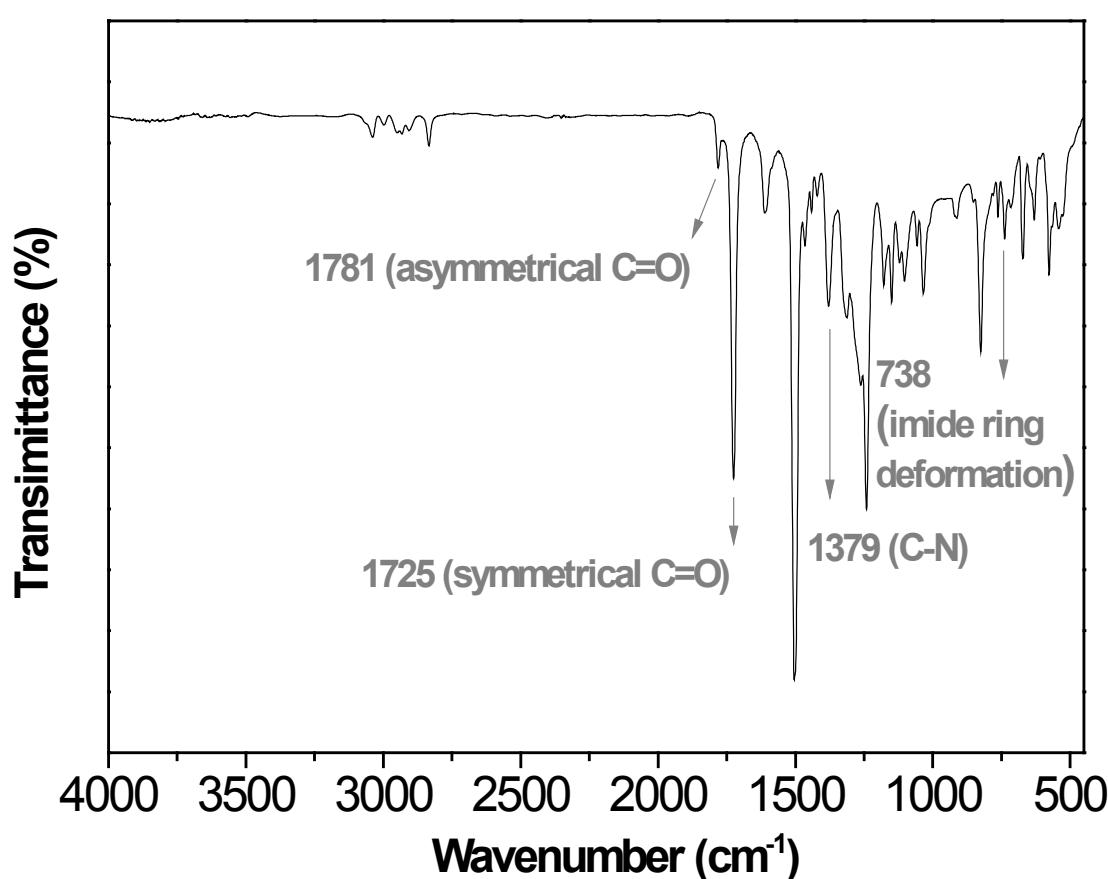
<sup>c)</sup> Temperature at which 5 % and 10% weight loss occurred, respectively, recorded by TGA at a heating rate of 20 °C/min and a gas flow rate of 20 cm<sup>3</sup>/min.

<sup>d)</sup> Residual weight percentages at 800 °C under nitrogen flow.

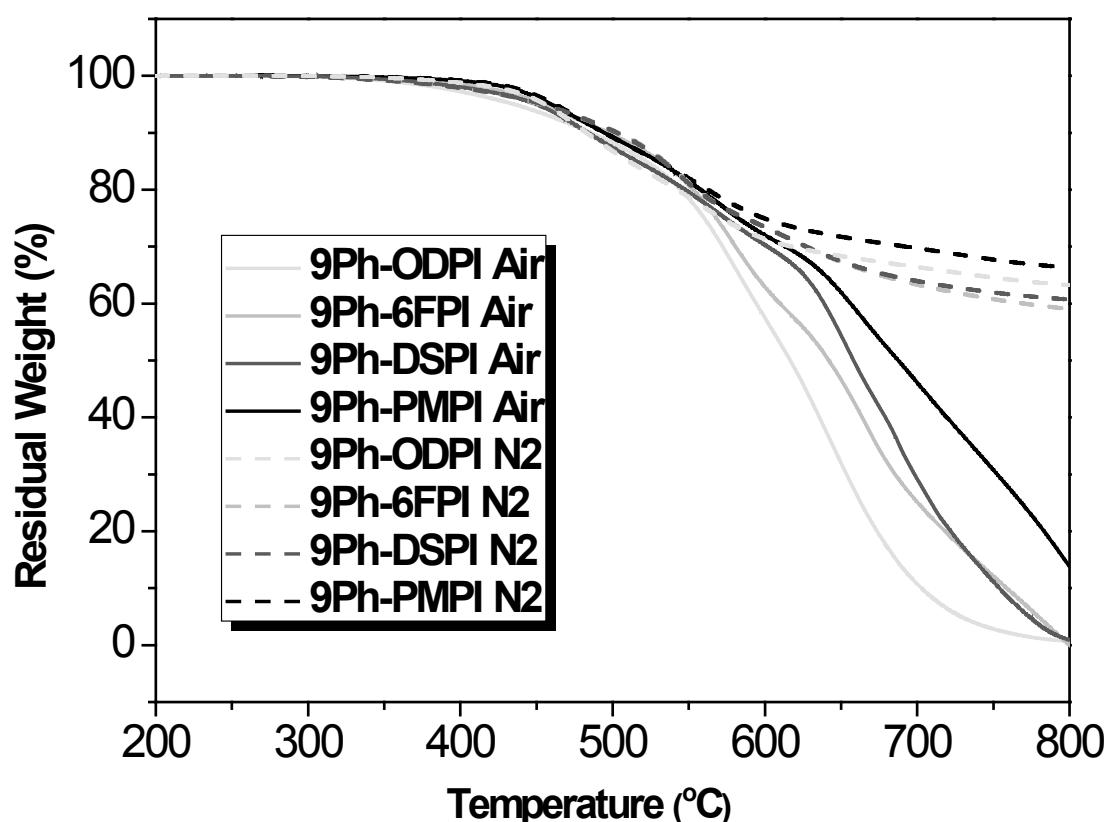
<sup>e)</sup> LOI = Limiting Oxygen Index = 17.5+0.4 $R_{w800}$



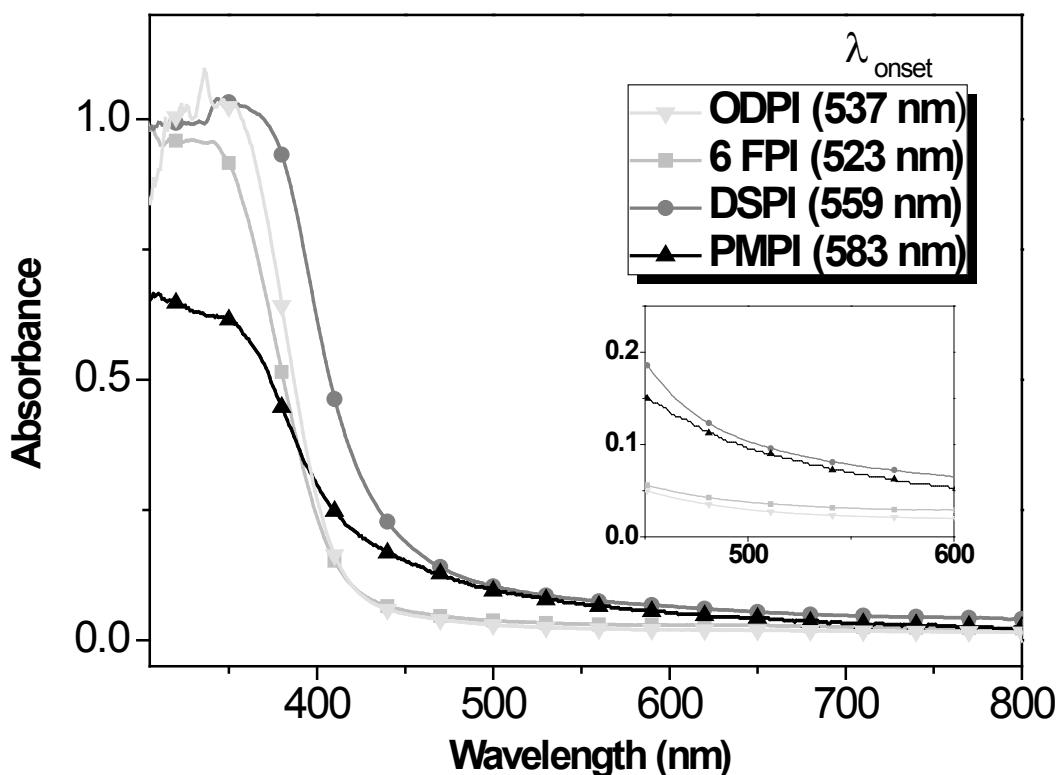
**Figure S1.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polyimide **9Ph-6FDA** in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>.



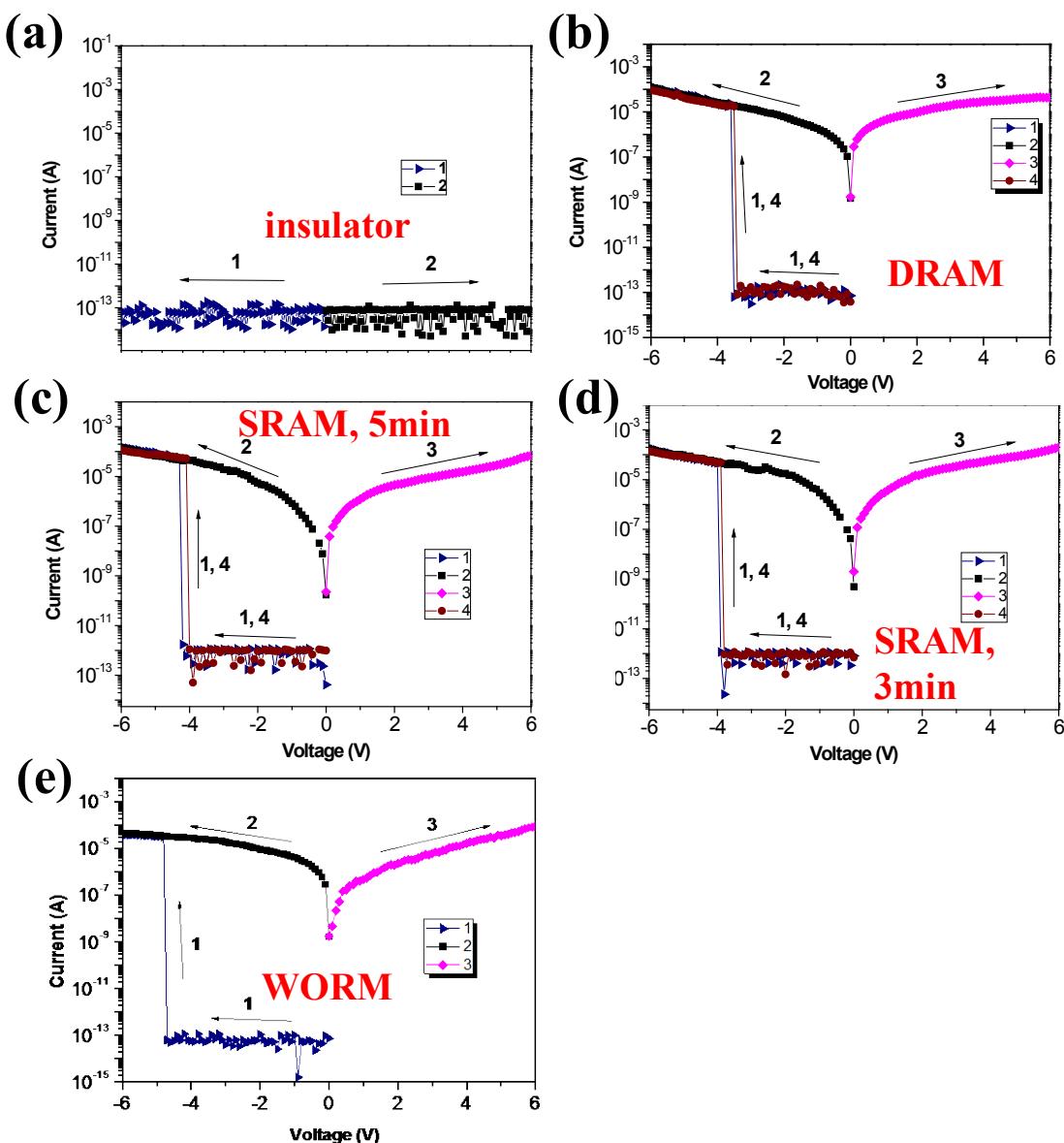
**Figure S2.** IR spectrum of polyimide **9Ph-DSPI** film.



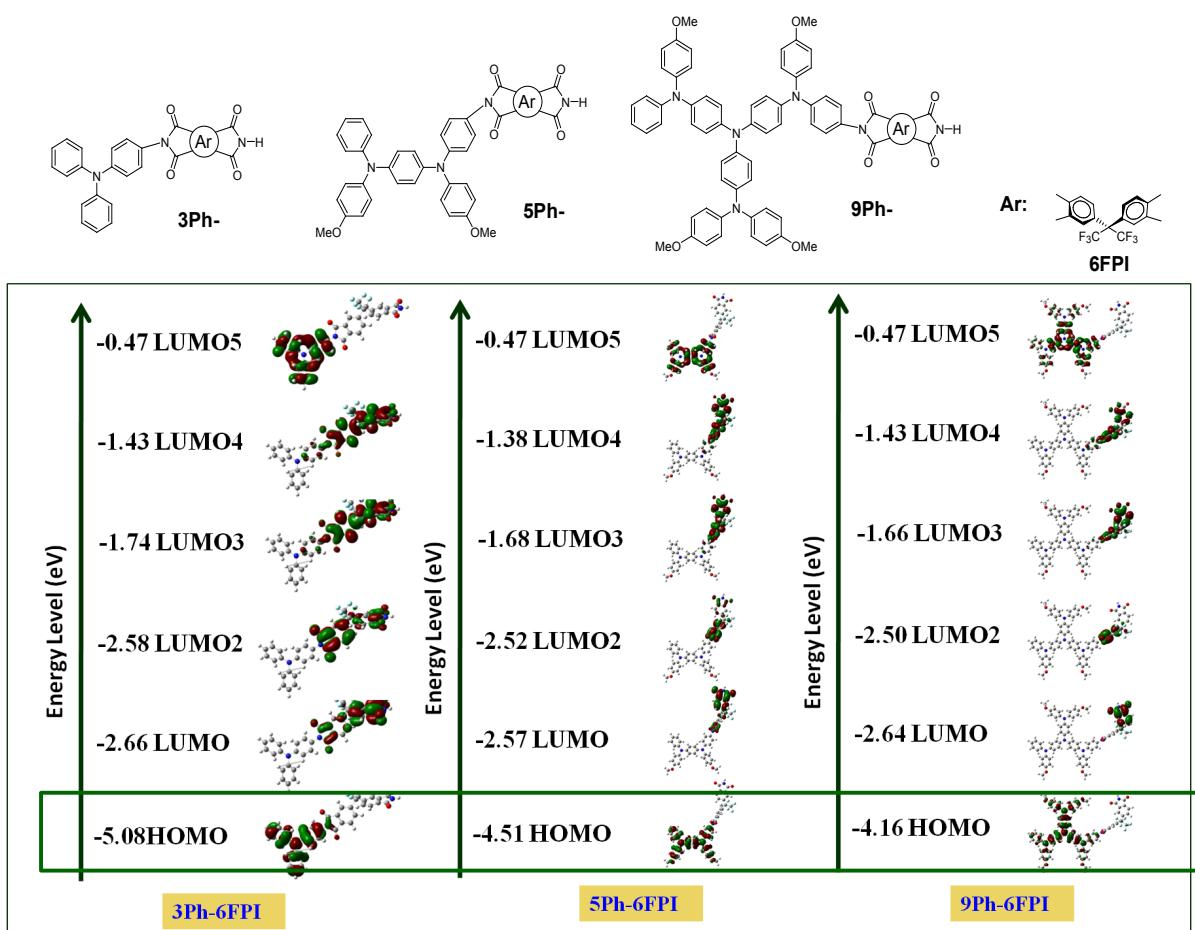
**Figure S3.** TGA thermograms of **9Ph-** series polyimides.



**Figure S4.** UV-visible absorption spectra of **9Ph-** series polyimides.



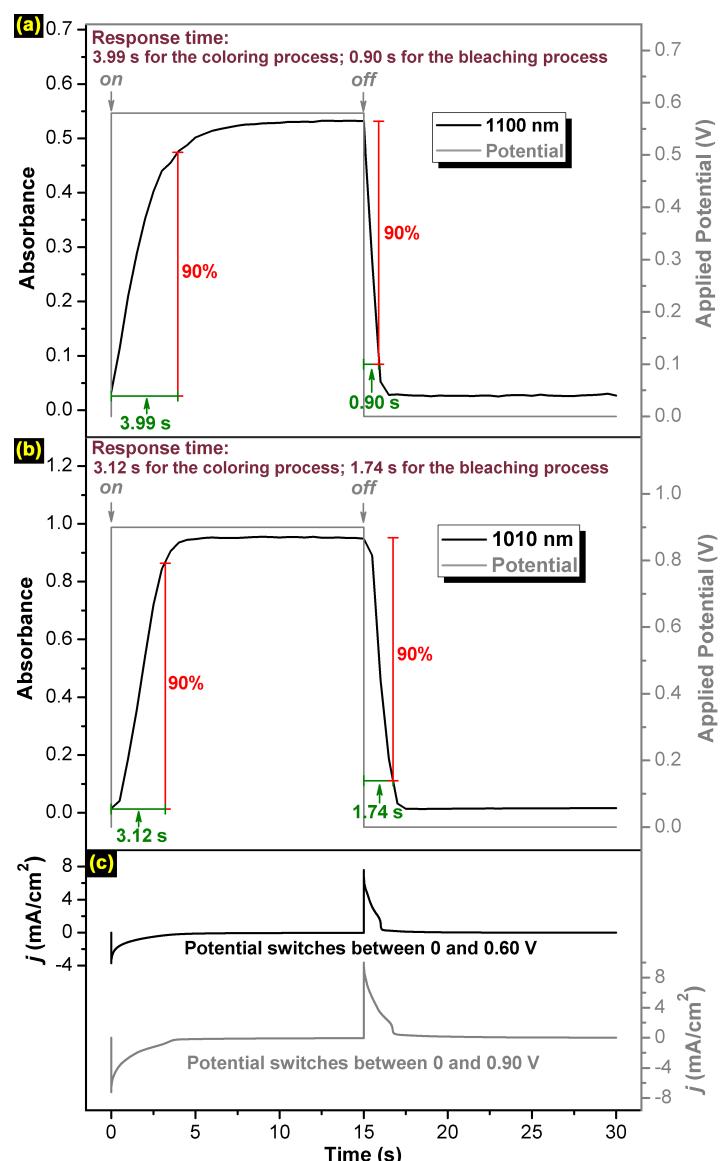
**Figure S5.** Current-voltage (I-V) characteristics of the ITO/polyimide ( $50 \pm 3$  nm)/Al memory devices. (a) 3Ph-ODPI (b) 3Ph-6FPI (c) 3Ph-DSPI (d) 3Ph-PMPI (e) 3Ph-NPPI.



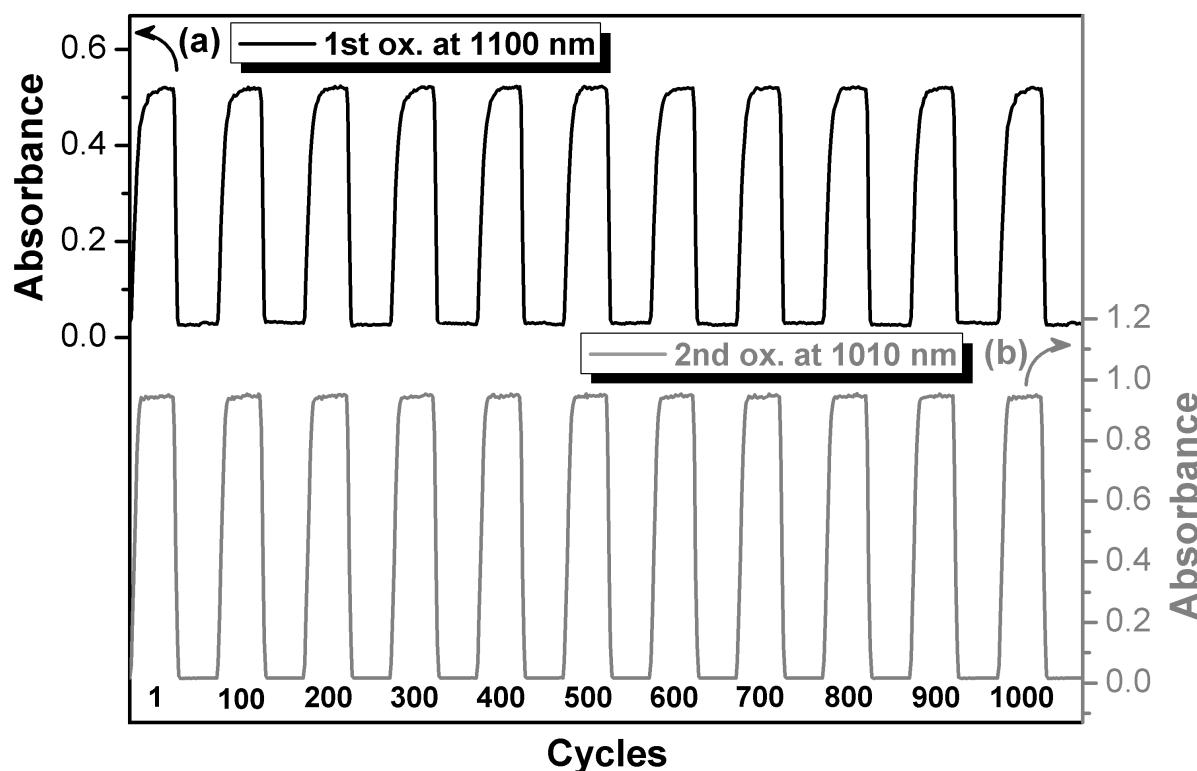
**Figure S6.** Calculated molecular orbitals and corresponding energy levels of the basic units for **3Ph-6FPI**, **5Ph-6FPI**, and **9Ph-6FPI**.

Polymer	HOMO (eV)	LUMO (eV)	$E_g$ (eV)
<b>3Ph-ODPI</b>	5.02	2.48	2.54
<b>3Ph-6FPI</b>	5.08	2.66	2.42
<b>3Ph-DSPI</b>	5.15	3.02	2.13
<b>3Ph-PMPI</b>	5.22	3.21	2.01
<b>3Ph-NPPI</b>	5.12	3.41	1.71
<b>5Ph-ODPI</b>	4.48	2.48	2.00
<b>5Ph-6FPI</b>	4.51	2.57	1.94
<b>5Ph-DSPI</b>	4.57	2.97	1.60
<b>5Ph-PMPI</b>	4.54	3.14	1.40
<b>5Ph-NPPI</b>	4.53	3.36	1.17
<b>9Ph-ODPI</b>	4.15	2.44	1.71
<b>9Ph-6FPI</b>	4.16	2.64	1.52
<b>9Ph-DSPI</b>	4.22	2.98	1.24
<b>9Ph-PMPI</b>	4.22	3.15	1.07

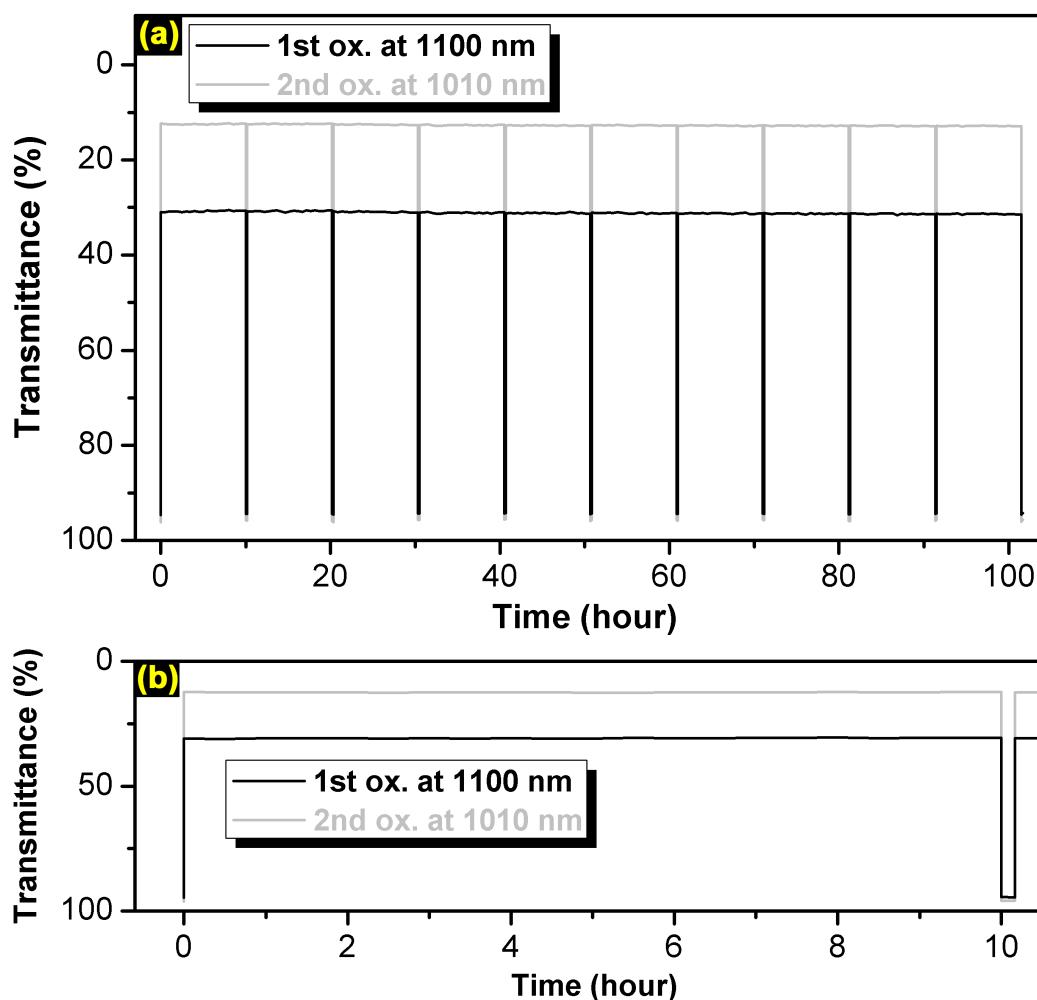
**Figure S7.** Energy levels of polyimides from gaussian simulation.



**Figure S8.** Calculation of optical switching time at (a) 1100 nm, (b) 1010 nm at the applied potential, and (c) current-time curves of polyimide **9Ph-PMPI** thin film ( $130\pm10$  nm in thickness) on the ITO-coated glass substrate.



**Figure S9.** Absorbance change between (a) 0 and 0.60 V and (b) 0 and 0.90 V (vs. Ag/AgCl) of polyimide **9Ph-PMPI** thin film ( $130\pm10$  nm in thickness) on the ITO-coated glass substrate (coated area:  $1.2\text{ cm} \times 0.5\text{ cm}$ ) in 0.1 M TBAP/CH<sub>3</sub>CN with a cycle time of 30 s monitored at the given wavelength.



**Figure S10.** Potential step transmittance change at 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> oxidized states for (a) continuous 10 cycling test and (b) 1 switching cycle of a single-layer flexible ITO-coated PEN EC device, using polyimide **9Ph-PMPI** ( $130\pm10$  nm in thickness) as active layer with a cycle time of 10 hour and 10 min for coloring and bleaching processes, respectively.