# ELECTRONIC SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR

# Semiconducting Liquid Crystalline Dispersions with Precisely Adjustable Band Gaps and Polarized Photoluminescence

Tingting Zhou,<sup>1,2</sup> Penghao Guo,<sup>1,2</sup> Xuelian Jiang,<sup>1,2</sup> Hongbo Zhao,<sup>1,2</sup> Qing Zhang,<sup>3</sup> Pei-Xi Wang<sup>1,2\*</sup> <sup>1</sup> School of Nano-Tech and Nano-Bionics, University of Science and Technology of China, 96 Jinzhai Road, Hefei, Anhui, 230026, P. R. China <sup>2</sup> i-Lab, Suzhou Institute of Nano-Tech and Nano-Bionics of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, 398 Ruoshui Road, Suzhou Industrial Park, Suzhou, Jiangsu, 215123, P. R. China <sup>3</sup> NANO-X Vacuum Interconnected Nanotech Workstation, Suzhou Institute of Nano-Tech and Nano-Bionics of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, 385 Ruoshui Road, Suzhou Industrial Park, Suzhou, Jiangsu, 215123, P. R. China \*Correspondence: pxwang2020@sinano.ac.cn

#### **EXPERIMENTAL METHODS**

### Materials

Hydrochloric acid (37 wt.% in water, Sigma-Aldrich), hydrobromic acid (48 wt.% in water, Sigma-Aldrich), hydroiodic acid (57 wt.% in water, Sigma-Aldrich), manganese(II) acetate tetrahydrate (99%, Sigma-Aldrich), lead(II) oxide (99%, Sigma-Aldrich), n-butylamine (99.5%, Sigma-Aldrich), 2-phenylethylamine (99%, Sigma-Aldrich), phenylmethylamine (99%, Sigma-Aldrich), [(4-fluorophenyl)methyl]amine (97%, Sigma-Aldrich), [(4-chlorophenyl)methyl]amine (98%, Sigma-Aldrich), N,N-dimethylformamide (anhydrous, 99.8 %, Sigma-Aldrich), cis-9-octadecenoic acid (oleic acid; > 99.0 %, Sigma-Aldrich), cis-1-amino-9-octadecene (oleylamine; > 98.0 %, Sigma-Aldrich), chlorobenzene (anhydrous, 99.8 %, Sigma-Aldrich), and cyclohexane (anhydrous, 99.5 %, Sigma-Aldrich) were used as received.

#### Characterization

Photoluminescence emission spectroscopy was conducted on a Hitachi F-4600 Fluorescence Spectrophotometer and the perovskite liquid crystalline dispersions were sealed in quartz cuvettes with an optical path length of 1 mm. Field emission scanning electron spectroscopy was performed on a Hitachi Regulus 8230 Ultra-high Resolution Scanning Electron Microscope. Atomic force microscopy was conducted on a Bruker Dimension Icon Atomic Force Microscope with ScanAsyst. Samples for SEM and AFM observations were prepared by spin-coating the colloidal lyotropic liquid crystalline dispersions of perovskite nanoplatelets (about 100 mg per mL in chlorobenzene) onto flat silicon (111) surfaces at a spinning speed of 6000 revolutions per minute for 60 seconds followed by thermal annealing at 373 K for 10 minutes. Excess surfactants on the samples were removed by immersion in a large volume (50 mL) of cyclohexane for about 30 minutes then dried in a nitrogen or argon atmosphere. Powder X-ray diffraction patterns were collected on a Bruker D8 ADVANCE Diffractometer using copper K-alpha radiation (with a wavelength of 0.15406 nm). Polarized optical microscopy images were obtained from a BM2100POL Polarized Optical Microscope.

# **Under White Light**

# (CH<sub>3</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>PbBr<sub>4</sub>



 $(C_6H_5\text{-}CH_2\text{-}CH_2\text{-}NH_3)_2PbCl_4$ 



 $(C_6H_5\text{-}CH_2\text{-}CH_2\text{-}NH_3)_2PbBr_4$ 

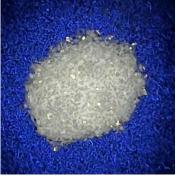


(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>PbI<sub>4</sub>

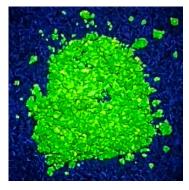


## Under 365-nm Ultraviolet Light

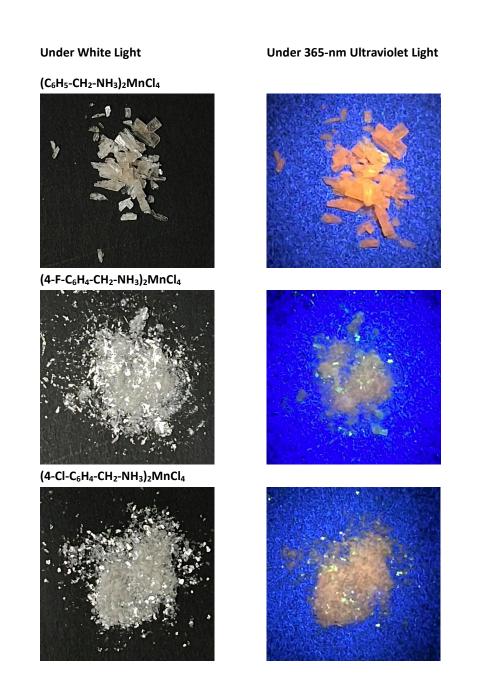




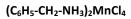


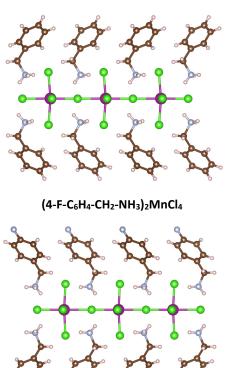


**Figure S1.** Photographs showing the synthesized two-dimensional organic-inorganic lead halide perovskite crystals of (CH<sub>3</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>PbBr<sub>4</sub>, (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>PbBr<sub>4</sub>, and (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>PbI<sub>4</sub>.

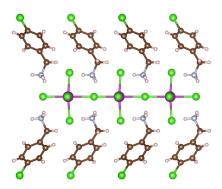


**Figure S2.** Photographs of the synthesized two-dimensional organic-inorganic manganese chloride perovskite crystals of  $(C_6H_5-CH_2-NH_3)_2MnCl_4$ ,  $(4-F-C_6H_4-CH_2-NH_3)_2MnCl_4$ , and  $(4-Cl-C_6H_4-CH_2-NH_3)_2MnCl_4$ , where photos in the left column were taken under white light, while photos in the right column were taken under ultraviolet light with a wavelength of 365 nanometers.

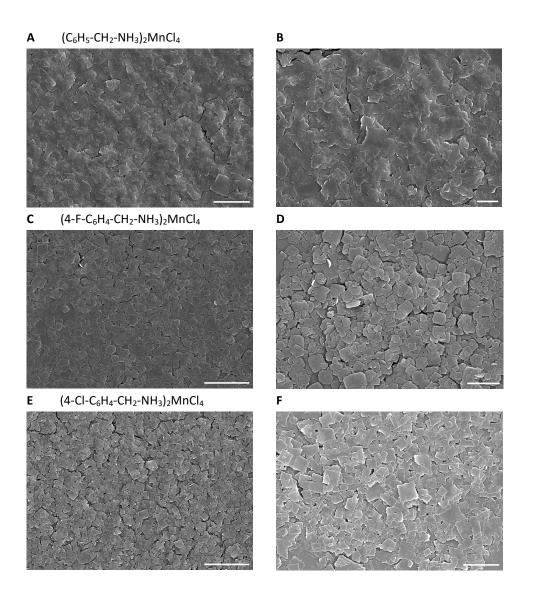




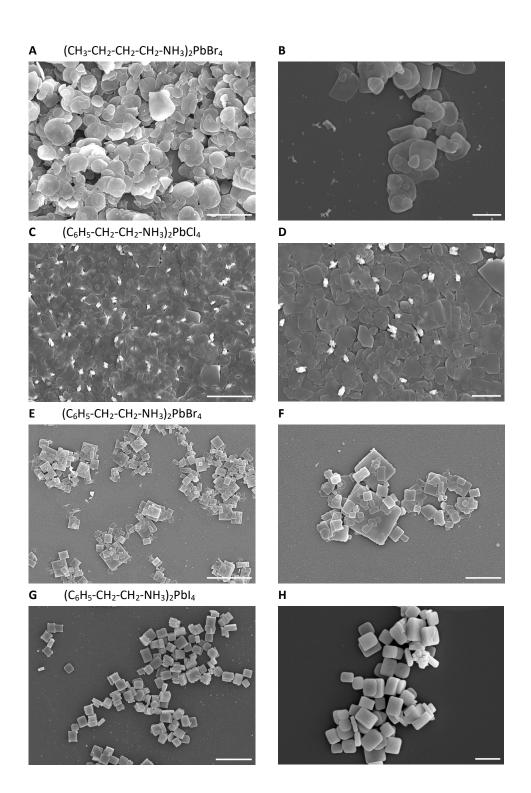
(4-Cl-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>MnCl<sub>4</sub>



**Figure S3.** Crystal structures (obtained by single-crystal X-ray diffraction analysis) of perovskites  $(C_6H_5-CH_2-NH_3)_2MnCl_4$ ,  $(4-F-C_6H_4-CH_2-NH_3)_2MnCl_4$ .



**Figure S4.** Scanning electron microscopy images showing plate-shaped colloidal nanocrystals of (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>MnCl<sub>4</sub> (**A**,**B**), (4-F-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>MnCl<sub>4</sub> (**C**,**D**), and (4-Cl-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>MnCl<sub>4</sub> (**E**,**F**). Scale bars: 5 μm (**A**,**C**,**E**), 2 μm (**B**,**D**,**F**).



**Figure S5.** Scanning electron microscopy images of the colloidal nanoparticles of (CH<sub>3</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>PbBr<sub>4</sub> (**A**,**B**), (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>PbCl<sub>4</sub> (**C**,**D**), (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>PbBr<sub>4</sub> (**E**,**F**), and (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>PbI<sub>4</sub> (**G**,**H**). Scale bars: 5 μm (**A**,**C**,**E**,**G**), 2 μm (**B**,**D**,**F**,**H**).

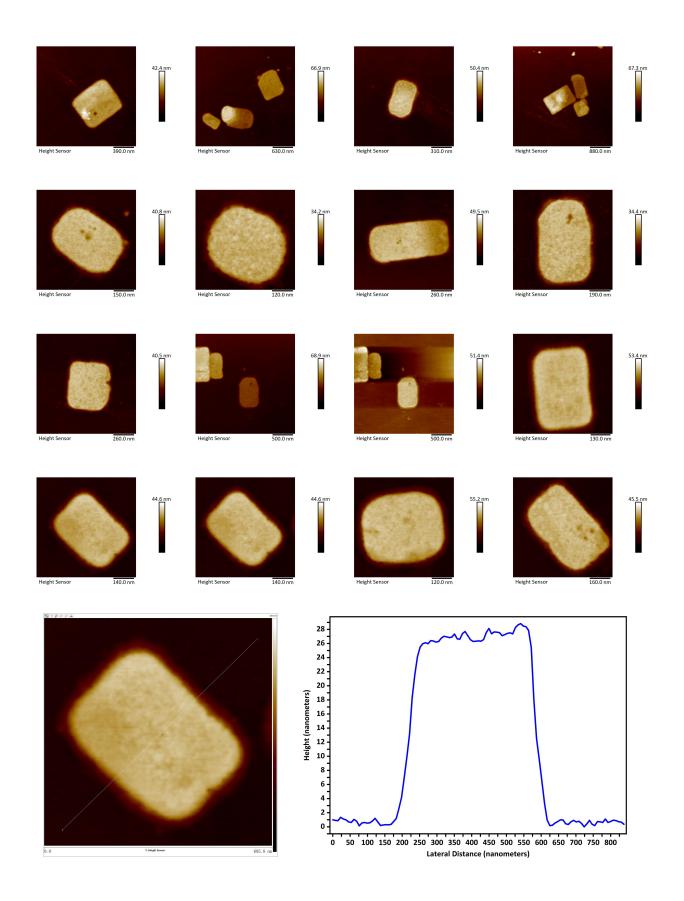
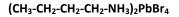
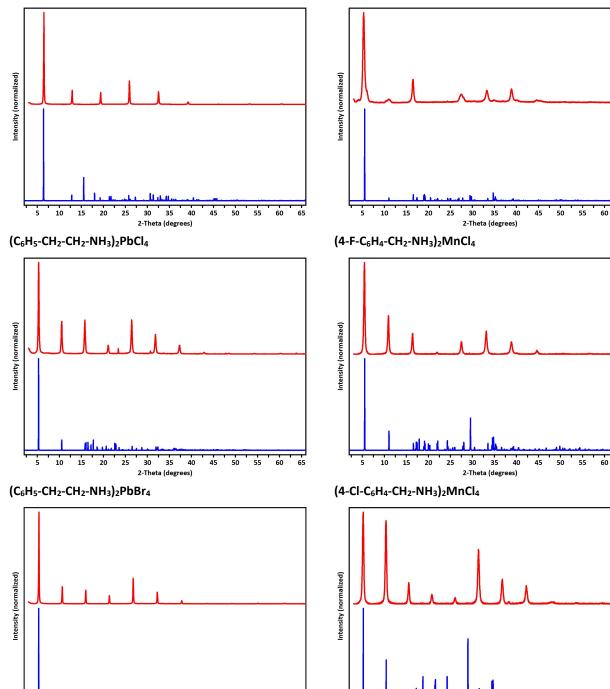


Figure S6. Atomic force microscopy images and height profiles showing lateral dimensions and thicknesses of different  $(C_6H_5-CH_2-CH_2-NH_3)_2PbBr_4$  perovskite nanoplatelets.





(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>MnCl<sub>4</sub>

65

65

65

60

**Figure S7.** Powder X-ray diffraction patterns obtained by experimental measurements of spin-coated and dried thin films of colloidal liquid crystalline dispersions of perovskite nanoplatelets (upper red curves) and by simulations based on corresponding single-crystal X-ray diffraction data (lower blue curves).

10

15 20 25 30

5

35 40

2-Theta (degrees)

45 50 55

65

45 50 55 60

35 40

2-Theta (degrees)

30

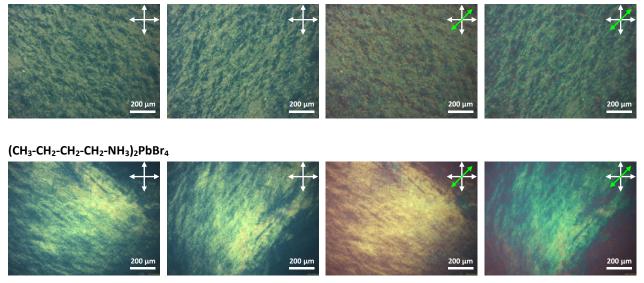
10

15 20

5

25

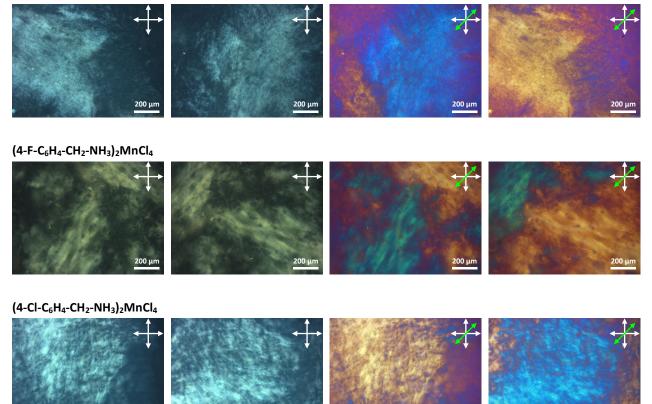
(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>PbCl<sub>4</sub>



**Figure S8.** Polarized optical microscopy images showing the liquid crystalline phases formed by colloidal nanoplatelets of two-dimensional lead(II) halide perovskites. These samples were observed between two perpendicularly oriented linear polarizers (the left two columns) and with a 530-nm full-wavelength retardation plate (the right two columns).

(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>MnCl<sub>4</sub>

200 µm

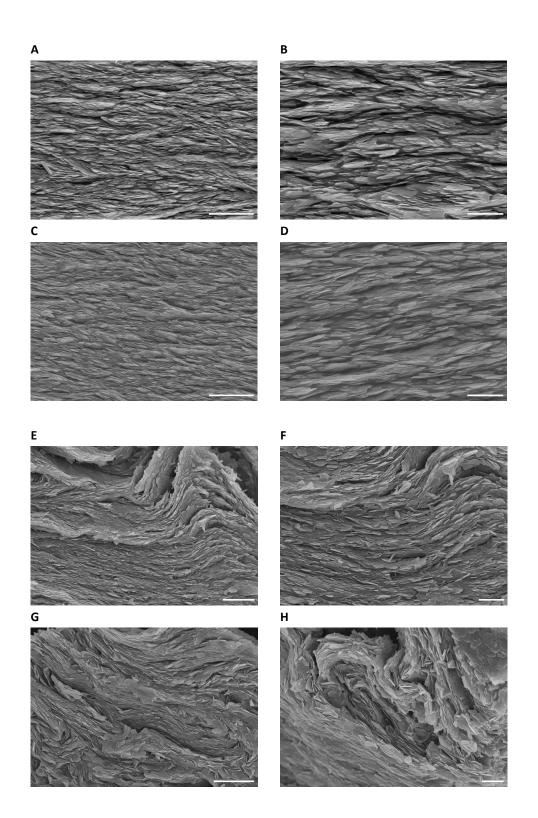


**Figure S9.** Polarized optical microscopy images showing the liquid crystalline phases formed by colloidal nanoplatelets of two-dimensional organic-inorganic manganese(II) chloride perovskites. In the left two columns, the samples were observed between two perpendicularly oriented linear polarizers; in the right two columns, a 530-nm full-wavelength retardation plate was inserted into the optical path.

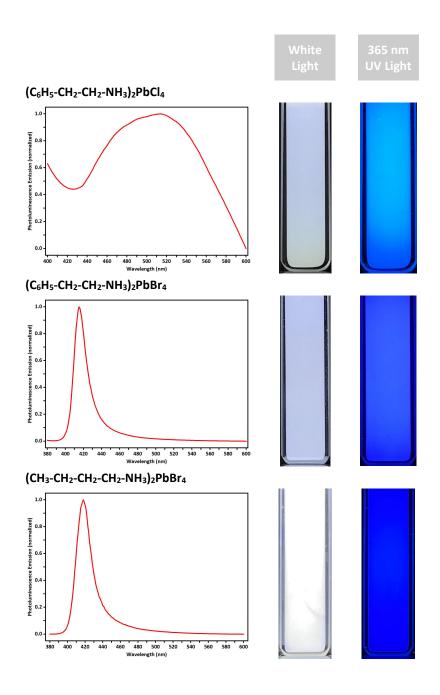
200 µm

200 µm

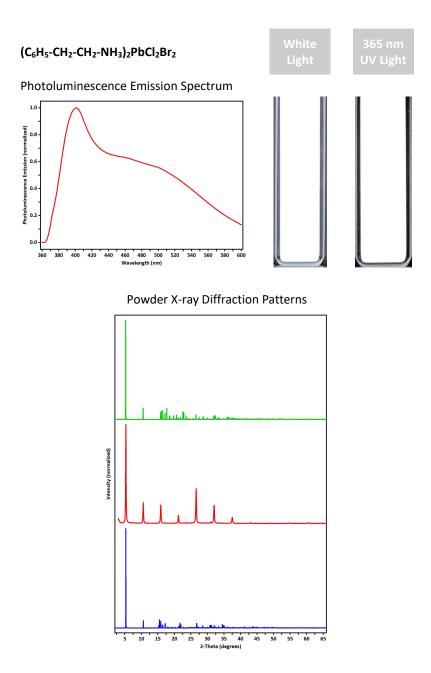
200 µn



**Figure S10.** Cross-sectional scanning electron microscopy images showing the discotic nematic liquid crystalline phases formed by colloidal nanoplatelets of  $(C_6H_5-CH_2-CH_2-NH_3)_2PbBr_4$  (**A-D**) and  $(4-F-C_6H_4-CH_2-NH_3)_2MnCl_4$  (**E-H**). Scale bars: 5 µm (**A**,**C**,**E**,**G**), 2 µm (**B**,**D**,**F**,**H**).



**Figure S11.** Photoluminescence emission spectra of the crystalline powders (red curves) and colloidal liquid crystalline dispersions (blue curves) of  $(C_6H_5-CH_2-CH_2-NH_3)_2PbCl_4$ ,  $(C_6H_5-CH_2-CH_2-NH_3)_2PbBr_4$ , and  $(CH_3-CH_2-CH_2-CH_2-NH_3)_2PbBr_4$ . Photographs of these liquid crystals (sealed in quartz cuvettes with an internal width of 10 mm and an optical path length of 0.5 mm, observed under white light and 365-nm ultraviolet light) are displayed next to the spectra plots.

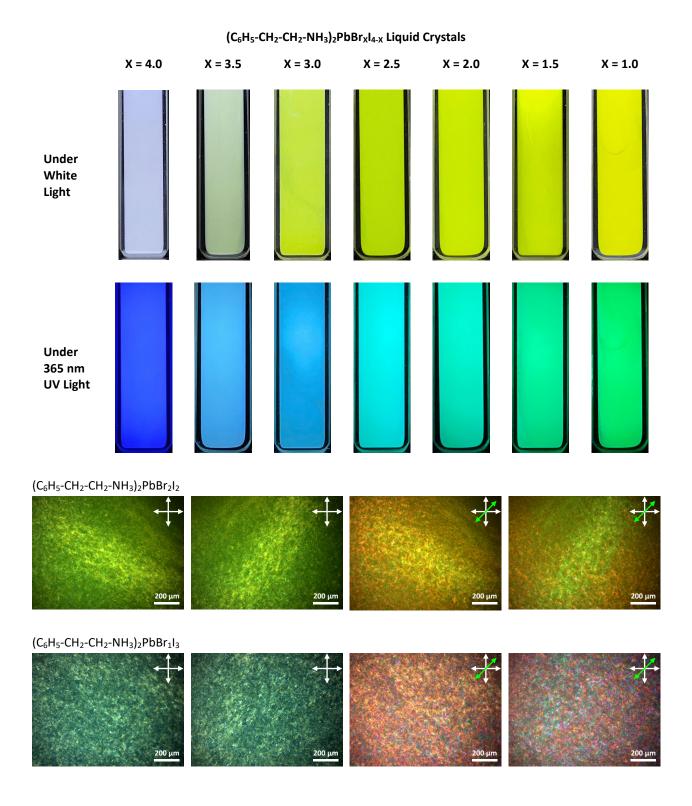


**Figure S12.** Additional data for liquid crystalline dispersions of (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>PbCl<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>2</sub> perovskite nanocrystals:

(1) Photoluminescence emission spectrum.

(2) Photographs. The liquid crystal was sealed in a quartz cuvette with an internal width of 10 mm and an optical path length of 0.5 mm. The photos were taken under white light and 365-nm ultraviolet light.

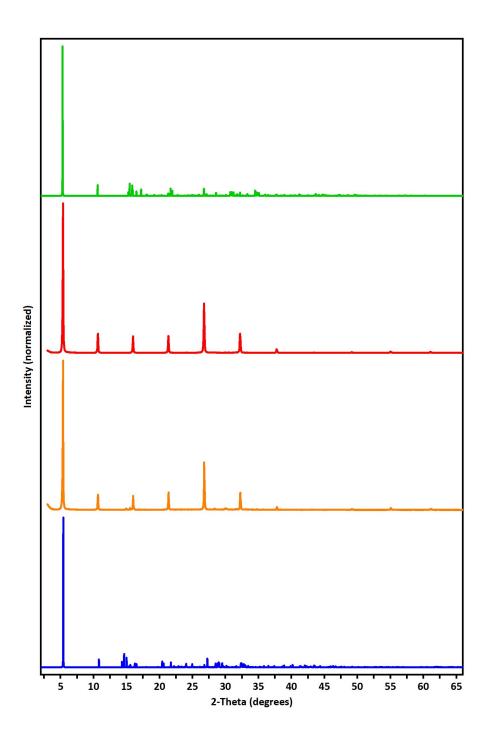
(3) Powder X-ray diffraction pattern of a spin-coated and dried film of the liquid crystal (middle red curve). Simulated PXRD patterns (based on single-crystal X-ray diffraction profiles) of  $(C_6H_5-CH_2-CH_2-NH_3)_2PbCl_4$  (upper green curve) and  $(C_6H_5-CH_2-CH_2-NH_3)_2PbBr_4$  (lower blue curve) are also displayed for comparison.



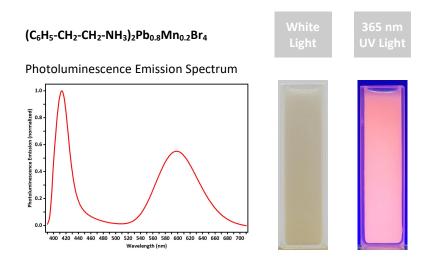
**Figure S13.** Additional data for (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>PbBr<sub>x</sub>I<sub>4-x</sub> liquid crystals:

(1) Photographs. The liquid crystal was sealed in a quartz cuvette with an internal width of 10 mm and an optical path length of 0.5 mm. The photos were taken under white light and 365-nm ultraviolet light.

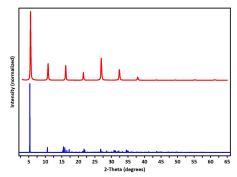
(2) Polarized optical microscopy images.



**Figure S14.** Powder X-ray diffraction patterns of spin-coated and dried films of colloidal liquid crystalline dispersions of  $(C_6H_5-CH_2-CH_2-NH_3)_2PbBr_2I_2$  (red-colored curve) and  $(C_6H_5-CH_2-CH_2-NH_3)_2PbBr_1I_3$  (orange-colored curve) perovskites. Simulated PXRD patterns (based on single-crystal X-ray diffraction profiles) of  $(C_6H_5-CH_2-CH_2-NH_3)_2PbBr_4$  (green-colored curve at the top) and  $(C_6H_5-CH_2-CH_2-NH_3)_2PbI_4$  (blue-colored curve at the bottom) are also displayed for comparison.



Powder X-ray Diffraction Patterns



Polarized Optical Microscopy Images

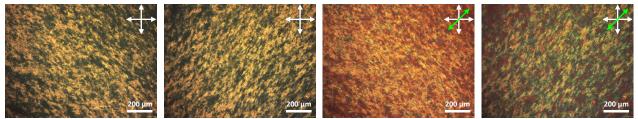


Figure S15. Additional data for (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Pb<sub>0.8</sub>Mn<sub>0.2</sub>Br<sub>4</sub> perovskite liquid crystals:

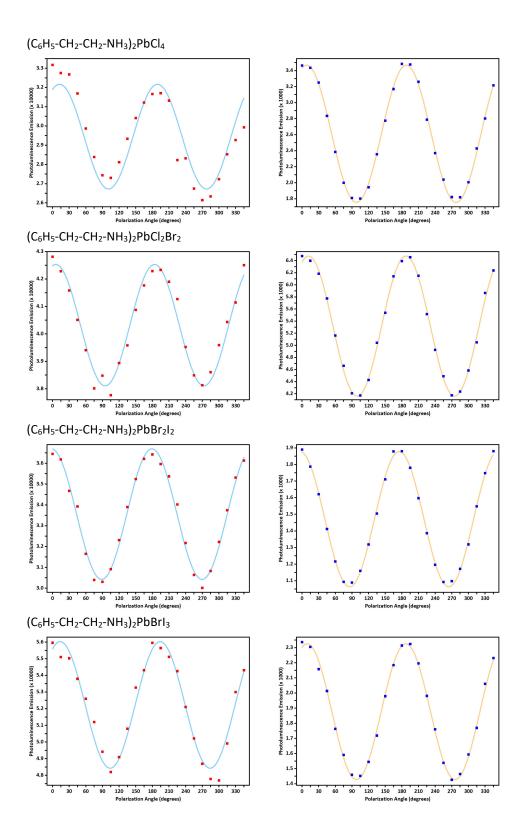
(1) Photoluminescence emission spectrum.

(2) Photographs. The liquid crystal was sealed in a quartz cuvette with an internal width of 10 mm and an optical path length of 0.5 mm. The photos were taken under white light and 365-nm ultraviolet light.

(3) Powder X-ray diffraction pattern of a spin-coated and dried film of the liquid crystal (red curve). The simulated

PXRD pattern (based on single-crystal XRD data) of (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>PbBr<sub>4</sub> (blue curve) is displayed for comparison.

(4) Polarized optical microscopy images.



**Figure S16.** Linearly polarized photoluminescence (the left column) and polarization-dependent light-responsiveness (the right column) of colloidal liquid crystalline dispersions of (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>PbCl<sub>4</sub>, (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>PbCl<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>, (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>PbBr<sub>2</sub>I<sub>2</sub>, and (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>PbBrI<sub>3</sub> perovskite nanoplatelets (from top to bottom).

 Table S1. Degree of polarization values of colloidal liquid crystalline dispersions of perovskite nanoplatelets.

	Polarized Photoluminescence Light Emission	Polarization-Dependent Light-Responsiveness
(C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -NH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> PbCl <sub>4</sub>	0.12	0.32
(C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -NH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> PbCl <sub>2</sub> Br <sub>2</sub>	0.06	0.22
(C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -NH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> PbBr <sub>2</sub> I <sub>2</sub>	0.10	0.27
(C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -NH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> PbBr <sub>1</sub> I <sub>3</sub>	0.08	0.24