Supporting information for

Frank–Kasper Phases in Charge Transfer Complexes Enable Tunable

Photoelectronic Properties

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Materials. All chemicals were purchased from Aladdin and all solvents from Aldrich. All chemicals and solvents were used without further purification. Silica gel 60 (200- 300 mesh ASTM) and silica gel 60 glass thin-layer chromatography were used for the purification and identification of the reaction, respectively.

Characterization. Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) was carried out on a Shimadzu FTIR-8400 spectrometer using KBr pellets. Raman spectra (Raman) were obtained on Renishaw in Via using a wavelength of 758 nm. Ultraviolet-visible (UV-vis) absorption spectra were measured on UV-2501 absorption spectrometer using thin film. 1H-NMR were recorded by a Bruker NMR spectrometer (DMX 300 MHz) in CDCl3, and chemical shifts were given as units of measurement and expressed in parts per million $(δ)$ with tetramethylsilane (TMS) as a reference. Multiplicities of peaks are expressed as $s =$ singlet, $d =$ doublet, $t =$ triplet, $m =$ multiplet. Mass spectrometry (MS) was measured by Fourier Transform Ion Cyclotron Resonance Mass Spectrometer. The thermal properties were characterized using differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) on a Netzsch DSC 200. The first heating cycles were neglected to exclude influences of thermal history. The optical properties were characterized by a Polarizing Optical Microscope (POM) on a Leica DM4500P with a Linkam TMS94 hot stage. The LC textures were obtained during the cooling process at 10° C/min from its isotropic phase. Structural character rations of samples were characterized by 1D wide-angle X-ray diffraction (1D WAXD) through a Bruker D8 Advance diffractometer equipped with a variable temperature controller, and two-dimensional wide-angle X-ray diffraction (2DXRD) using a 40KV FL tube asthe X-ray source (Cu Ka). The morphologies were investigated by Transmission Electron Microscope TEM (FEI Tecnai G2 20

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1. Syntheses and molecular schemes

Scheme S1. Synthesis routes of Charge transfer complexes discotic liquid crystal molecule

Preparation of 1,2-bis(pentyloxy)benzene (1)

Add catechol (60g), potassium iodide (245g), and potassium carbonate (13.63g) to the acetone/ethanol mixed solution (100ml/200ml), stir for one hour, slowly add bromon-pentane (245g). After heating and refluxing for 24 hours, it is purified by chromatography to obtain a transparent liquid (yield 87%). ¹H-NMR δ (ppm) (300 MHz, CDCl3): 6.90 (s, 4 H), 4.02-3.98 (t, 4 H), 1.88-1.79 (m, 4 H), 1.44-1.35 (m, 8 H), 0.95-0.91 (d, 6 H).

Preparation of 2,3,6,7,10,11-hexakis(pentyloxy)triphenylene (2)

Add 1,2-bis(pentyloxy)benzene (40g) to anhydrous dichloromethane (160ml), stir mechanically for half an hour and then slowly add ferric chloride (120g). After reacting at room temperature for 3 hours, it was purified by column chromatography to obtain a white solid (yield 77%). ¹H-NMR δ (ppm) (300 MHz, CDCl3): 7.83(s, 6 H), 4.25 (t, 12 H), 1.99 (t, 12 H), 1.60-1.49 (m, 24 H), 0.99 (t, 18 H).

Preparation of 4,4'-dipentoxybiphenyl (3).

4,4'-dihydroxybiphenyl (97.8g), $K_2CO_3(240g)$, KI (9.7g) and hexadecyl trimethyl ammonium bromide (9.7g) were added to ethanol/acetone (300ml/100ml) solvent and the mixture was stirred under reflux. After one hour, n-pentane bromide (225.6g) was added and the [compound](http://www.baidu.com/link?url=fOGY8Txpkht9b6-ZSD9mo0gjTqKlQZAdbZZoOOBOrzRNMI2eDkqSvnx1caM7hwbqfH3goxkp_1jKriAoj8H_xT_fCSf4BX9XDOcX65pzPEO) was refluxed for another 24h. Once the reaction was complete, the product was washed in ice water, then filtered and recrystallized to obtain white scales solid (yield 97%). ¹H-NMR δ (ppm) (300 MHz, CDCl3): 7.46–7.49 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 4H), 6.94–6.97 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 4H), 3.97–4.02 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 4H), 1.77–1.86 (m, 4H),1.35–1.52 (m, 8H), 0.93–0.97 (t, 6H).

Preparation of 3,3′-diiodo-4,4′-dipentyloxybiphenylene (4).

The deionized water (30ml), trichloromethane (70ml), glacial acetic acid (100g), iodine(21g), iodic acid (8.87g) and 4,4-dipentyloxybipheny-lene (32.6) were mixed by stirring. Then the concentrated sulfuric acid (3.8g) was added and the mixture was heated with stirring at 85℃ for 24h. When the reaction was complete, chloroform (140ml) and deionized water (60ml) were mixed into the reactant and magnetically stirred for 10 min. The organic layer was extracted twice with saturated $Na₂SO₃$ solution and washed with deionized water. After that, the organic layer was dried by sodium carbonate, filtered, evaporated, vacuum dried, and recrystallized to produce white crystals (yield 94.6%). ¹H-NMR δ (ppm) (300 MHz, CDCl3): 7.93 (d, 2H), 7.41– 7.44 (d, 2H), 6.82–6.84 (d, 2H), 4.02–4.06 (t, 4H), 1.82–1.91 (m, 4H), 1.36–1.55 (m, 8H), 0.94–0.99 (t, ,6H).

Preparation of 3,3′-dihydroxy-4,4′-dipentyloxybiphenylene (5).

PEG-400 (240ml), deionized water (60ml), KOH (130g) and 3, 3-diiodine-4,4 dipentyloxybiphenylene (28.9g) were mixed and stirred for 30 min and then CuI (9g) was added carefully. The mixture was heated to 140°C with nitrogen protection. The heating was stopped after 36 h, and the reactants were acidified with hydrochloric acid when the temperature fell to room temperature. After 36 hours, the reactants were cooled to room temperature and hydrochloric acid (1mol/L) was added to acidify the solution (PH=2). After that, the solution was extracted several times with ethyl acetate, followed by rotary evaporation drying, vacuum drying, column chromatography successively, and recrystallization to obtain white needle crystal (yield 50%).¹H-NMR δ (ppm) (300 MHz, CDCl3): 7.15 (s, 2H), 7.01– 7.04 (d, 2H), 6.87– 6.89 (d, 2H), 5.68 (s, 2H), 4.05–4.10 (t, 4H), 1.80–1.87(m, 4H), 1.37–1.45 (m, 8H), 0.93– 0.98 (t, 6H).

Preparation of 3,3′-diisopropyl-4,4′-dipentyloxybiphenylene (6).

3,3'-dihydroxy-4,4'-dipentyloxybiphenylene (6g), $K_2CO_3(13.5g)$, KI (1.08g) and cetyltrimethylammonium bromide were added to ethanol/acetone (75ml/75ml) solvent. Then the mixture was heated to 65℃ with nitrogen protection for 24 h. When the reaction was complete, the product was successively filtered, cyclically steamed, dried, column chromatography and recrystallized to obtain a white scaly solid (yield 80%).¹H-NMR δ (ppm) (300 MHz, CDCl3): 7.10–7.12 (d, 4H), 6.92–6.95 (d, 2H),4.49– 4.57 (m, 2H), 4.00–4.05 (t, 4H),1.80–1.89 (m, 4H), 1.42–1.53 (m, 20H), 0.93–0.97(t, 6H).

Preparation of 3,6-dihydroxy-2,7,10,11-tetrapentyloxytriphenylene (7).

3,3-diisopropyl-4,4-dipentyloxybenzene (13.3g), 1,2-dipentyloxybenzene (11.3g) and dichloromethane (160ml) were mixed and stirred under nitrogen protection. After 30 min, anhydrous ferric chloride was added slowly and reacted at room temperature for 12-24 hours. When the reaction was complete, the reactants were poured into 150 ml cool methanol carefully. The mixture was concentrated at room temperature and filtered. The filter cake was purified by columnar chromatography (silica, $CH_2Cl_2/$ Ethyl acetate (80:1) to give the final white product (yield 60%). ¹H-NMR δ (ppm) (300 MHz, CDCl3): 7.94 (s, 2H), 7.81(s, 2H), 7.76 (s, 2H), 5.86 (s, 2H), 4.21–4.30 (t, 8H), 1.91–1.98 (m, 8H), 1.43–1.59 (m, 16H), 0.96–1.00 (t, 12H).

Preparation of 3,6-diacetoxy-2,7,10,11-tetrapentyloxytriphenylene (8).

3,6-dihydroxy-2,7,10,11-tetrapentyloxytriphenylene (0.5g), dichloromethane(30ml), glacial acetic acid(0.5ml) and DMAP (18.28) were mixed under nitrogen protection and stirred at 40℃ for reflux. After 10-15 min, DCC was added and reacted for 24 hours. When the reaction was complete, the compound was processed by column chromatography and recrystallization to obtain the target product (yield 65%). ¹H-NMR δ (ppm) (300 MHz, CDCl3): 8.03(s, 2H,), 7.84 (s, 4H), 4.22 (m, 8H), 2.39 (m, 6H), 1.911(m, 8H,), 1.49 (m, 16H), 1.00 (t, 12H).

Preparation of 2,4,7-trinitro-9-fluorenone (9).

Deionized water(20ml), 9-fluorenone(18g) are mixed and stirred and heated to 80 \degree C, then a mixture of concentrated sulfuric acid and concentrated nitric acid is added drop by drop (made by mixing concentrated sulfuric acid with the mass fraction of 96% and concentrated nitric acid with the mass fraction of 95% in accordance by the volume ratio of 1:1). After the dripping, a reflux reaction was conducted for 2h and heating was stopped. Then the reactants were cooled to room temperature and quenched by the reaction by adding 200ml water to them. After that, the reactants were successively washed by drainage, dried, and recrystallized to obtain the yellow solid (yield 85%).¹H-NMR δ (ppm) (300 MHz, CDCl3): 9.04(s, 1H), 8.84(s, 1H), 8.68(s, 1H), 8.57(d, 1H), 8.39(d, 1H).

Synthesis of CT complexes (10,11).

The CT complexes were prepared by mixing the saturated solution of 2,3,6,7,10,11 hexakis(pentyloxy) triphenylene and 3,6-dicarbyl-2,7,10,11tetrapentyloxytriphenylene with saturated of $2,4,7$ -trinitro-9-fluorenone in CHCl₃. After the saturated solutions of the two compounds were mixed with TNF, the colors of the solutions changed to black and red, respectively. After a while, black and red precipitates separate. The precipitate was filtered off and washed several times with small amounts of CHCl₃.

2. FT-IR spectroscopy, Raman spectroscopy, ¹H NMR and MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry

Figure S1. 1 H-NMR spectrum of CT complexes

Table S1. Summary of 1H-NMR chemical shifts of CTC_{TP-TNF.}

Sample	PPm					
				4		ь
ТP	7.84	4.25	1.99	1.60	1.49	0.99
$CTCTP-TNF$	7.72	4.14	1.85	$\overline{}$	1.39	0.88

Table S2. Summary of ¹H-NMR chemical shifts of CTC_{TPF-TNF}.

Figure S3. ¹H-NMR spectrum of compound TPE

Figure S4. ¹H-NMR spectrum of compound TNF

Figure S5. ¹H-NMR spectrum of complex CTC_{TP-TNF}

Figure S7. ¹³C-NMR spectrum of compound TP

Figure S8. ¹³C-NMR spectrum of compound TPE

Figure S9. ¹³C-NMR spectrum of compound TNF

Figure S11. ¹³C-NMR spectrum of compound CTC_{TPE-TNF}

 $\frac{\text{M}\text{ eas. m}\text{ /}\text{z}}{688.397226\text{ }1042445608\text{ }}\text{ }}\text{ }}{688.397226\text{ }100.000\text{ }688.396970\text{ }}\text{ } \frac{\text{m}\text{ /z}}{2}\text{ } \frac{\text{erf}\text{ppm}\text{ J}\text{ M}\text{ can erf}\text{ppm}\text{ J}\text{ m}\text{ S}\text{ ign a} }{0.4\text{ }10.4\text{ }15.5\text{ }0.01\text{ }688.39726\text{ }100.0$

Figure S13. MALDI-TOF mass spectra of compound TPE

Figure S14. MALDI-TOF mass spectra of compound TNF

Figure S15. ESI mass spectrum of complex CTC_{TP-TNF}

Table S3. Summary of FT-IR spectra of compounds.

Table S4. Summary of Raman spectra of compounds

Bond	Frequency (cm-1)			
Sample	$C = C$	$C = O$	$C-NO2$	
TP	1614			
TPE	1614			
TNF	1606	1737	1362	
$CTCTP-TNF$	1605		1357	
$CTCTPE-TNF$	1601	1735	1381	

3. TGA, DSC, Temperature-dependent FT-IR spectra, POM diagrams, 1D WAXD, 2DXRD patterns

Figure S18. DSC of all molecules

Table S5. Summary of DSC results of all molecules and Charge transfer complexes

Iso= isotropic phase; Col^h = hexagonal columnar phase; A15= Frank−Kasper A15 phase; BCC= body-centered cubic; DG=double-gyroid phase; Cr=crystalline phase.

Figure S19. Temperature-dependent FT-IR spectra CTCs

The stability of the charge-transfer interaction was demonstrated by the temperaturedependent FT-IR spectroscopy study. As shown in Fig. S18, the intensities of C=O and $NO₂$ bands decreased and were accompanied by larger chemical shifts when the temperature was reached the melting temperature. This proved that CTCs were stable over the previous temperature range.

Table S6. Summary of Temperature-dependent FTIR spectra of CTC_{TP-TNF}

Temperature		Bond	Frequency $(cm-1)$				
			$C = O$	NO ₂	NO ₂	$C-O-C$	$C-O-C$
	30°		1731	1509	1339	1266	1035
	150°C		1734	1504	1338	1264	1033
	260°C		1709	1508	٠	1261	1039
	350°C		1702	1511	٠	1260	1039

Thermal properties and phase behaviors of TP and TPE

TP showed two endothermic peaks at 68.5℃ (37.66J/g) and 123℃ (10.41J/g) during the second heating and two exothermic peaks at 120° °C (-10.41J/g) and 45.8[°]C (-40.53J/g) during the first cooling. Nevertheless, TPE as well as showed two endothermic peaks at 135℃ (6.659J/g) and 172℃ (6.373J/g) during the heating, two exothermic peaks at 167.5℃ (-25.65J/g) and 123℃ (-4.535J/g) during the first cooling. TP and TPE (Fig. 13 a-f) observed by POM showed a focal conic fan texture, which was recognized as the classical hexagonal columnar phase (Col_b) phase. The difference was that TP eventually crystallizes at 45.8℃, while 36TPE retains the same liquid crystal texture at room temperature. 1D WAXD data of TP and TPE were obtained during the first cooling. For TP, at 115°C, the diffraction peaks in the range of 2θ = 5-20° can be indexed to (100), (200), (210) with the reciprocal 1/d-spacing ratios 1: $\sqrt{4}$: √7 which were attributed to hexagonal packing. At 40℃, the 1D WAXD data showed crystalline characteristics. 1D WAXD patterns of TPE obtained at 160°C, 126°C and 40℃ showed sharp diffraction peaks in the range of 2θ = 5-20°, indexed as (100), (200), (210), (300), (310) with the reciprocal 1/d-spacing ratios 1: √4: √7: √9: √13 which were confirmed to hexagonal packing. The acceptor molecule (TNF) showed crystal characteristics, with an endothermic peak at 177°C (68.08 J/g) during heating and an exothermic peak at 123℃ (-49.58 J/g) during cooling.

Figure S20. (a), (b) and (c) POM images of TPE; (d), (e) and (f) POM images of TP; (g) 1D WAXD pattern of TPE; (g) 1D WAXD pattern of TP.

6.57 w 210 6.51 TPE(40℃) 16.36 vs 100 16.36 Col_h(a=18.89Å)

> 6.39 m 210 6.18 5.46 m 300 5.45 4.67 m 310 4.54

Colh/p6mmm 8.24 m 200 8.18

4.23 m hc 3.67 w hπ

Table S8. Summary and detailed indexation of the complementary 1D WAXD data for the individual components

d_{obs}(Å)^a: experimentally measured spacings. I[%]^b: intensity of the reflection(vs: very strong, s: strong, m: medium, w: weak, vw: very weak). hkl^c: miller indices of the reflection. $d_{cal}(\AA)^d$ and Lattice parameters^e a: deduced from the following mathematical expression; d_{hkl} =1/(4(h²+k²+hk)/(3a)²)^{1/2} for the indexing Col_h lattices.

Figure S21. POM images and 1D WAXD pattern of CTC_{TP-TNF}.

Figure S22. POM images of CTC_{TPE-TNF} during the heating.

Figure S23. POM images of CTC_{TPE-TNF} during the cooling.

d_{obs}(Å)^a: experimentally measured spacings. I[%]^b: intensity of the reflection(vs: very strong, s: strong, m: medium, w: weak, vw: very weak). hkl^c: miller indices of the reflection. $d_{\rm cal}$ (Å) d and Lattice parameters $^{\rm e}$ $a=2\sqrt{3}/3\cdot d\cdot\sqrt{h^2+k^2+hk}$, $D_{col}=a$;

 $\mu = \sqrt{3}/2 \cdot (N_A \rho a^2 t / M_{wt}$ for the indexing Col_h lattices; $a = d_{100}$; $D = 2\sqrt[3]{3a^3}/8\pi$; $\mu = 1/2 \cdot (N_A \rho a^3 / M_{wt}$ for the indexing BCC lattices; $a = \sqrt{4}d_{200} + \sqrt{5}d_{210} + \sqrt{6}d_{211}/3$; $D = 2\sqrt[3]{3a^3}/32\pi$; $\mu = 1/8 \cdot (N_A \rho a^3 / M_{wt}$ for the indexing A15 lattices. (Where NA is Avogadro's number (6.022 × 1023 mol-1), ρ is the experimental density. (ca. $1. \pm 0.2$ g/cm3), M_{wt} is the theoretical average molecular weight, t is the distance between $π$ -π.

4. Self-assembly behavior of CTCs

Sample	Dipomoment (Total)	Dipomoment (X)	Dipomoment (Y)	Dipomoment (Z)
TP	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TPE	2.65	0.00	2.65	0.00
TNF	1.27	-0.22	1.18	-0.42
$CTCTP-TNF$	2.13	0.90	1.79	0.74
$CTCTPE-TNF$	4.61	3.11	0.88	-3.28

Table S10. dipole moments of all molecular

Figure S24. Schematic diagram of the CTC_{TP-TNF} hierarchical self-assembly mechanism

5 TOF: Mobility of CTCTPE-TNF as a function of temperature and double logarithmic plots of typical transient current

Figure S25. (a) Mobility of CTC_{TPE-TNF} as a function of temperature from 90°C to 20 °C; Double logarithmic plots of typical transient current I as a function of time t of CTC_{TPE-} TNF in an electric field of E = 2.2 $\times 10^4$ Vcm⁻¹ (c) hole mobility of CTCT_{PE-TNF}: μ_h = 3.13×10^{-4} cm²V⁻¹s⁻¹; b) electron mobility of CTC_{TPE-TNF}: $\mu_e = 3.71 \times 10^{-4}$ cm²V⁻¹s⁻¹.