

## Supporting information for

# Enhanced Gas Separation Properties of Tröger's Base Polymer Membranes Derived from Pure Triptycene Diamine Regioisomers

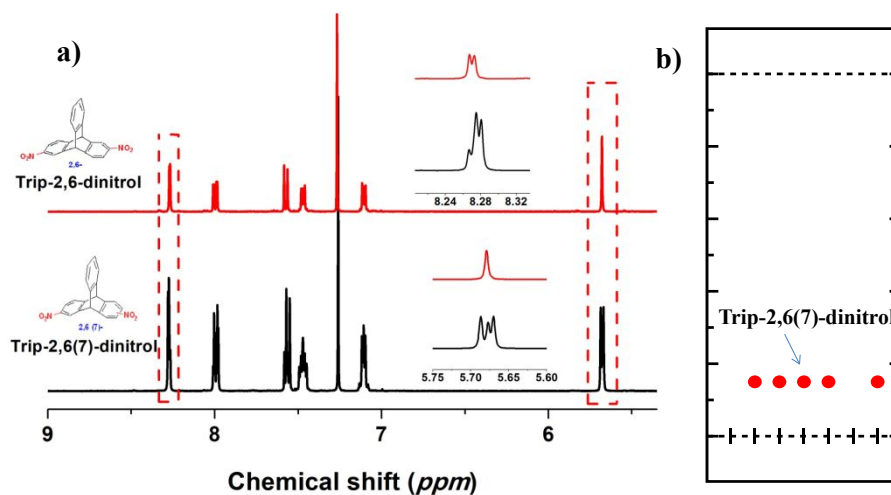
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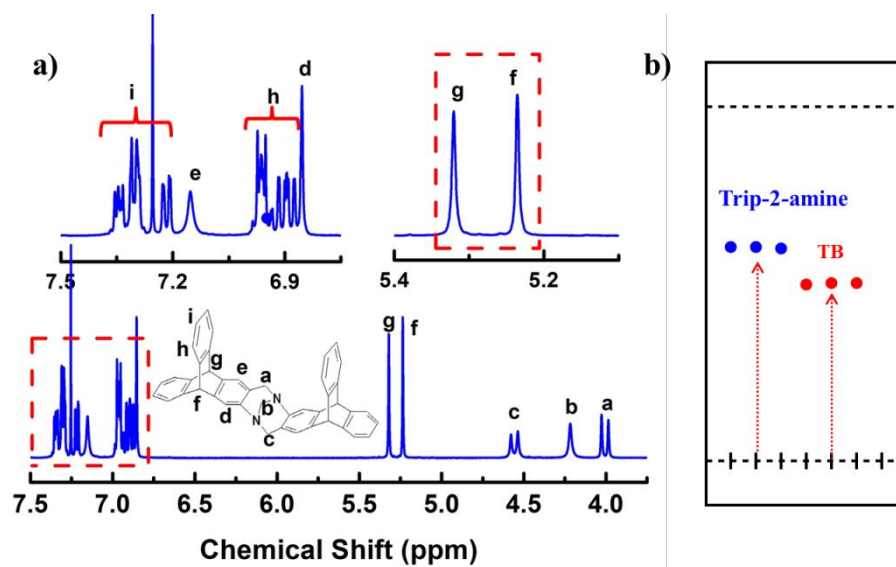
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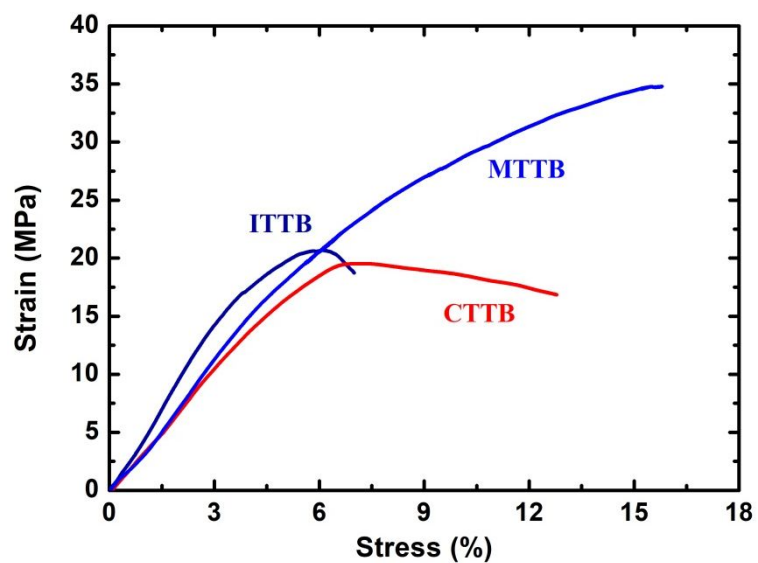
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**Figure S1.** a) NMR spectra of Trip-2,6-dinitrol and mixture of Trip-2,6(7)-dinitrol, the bridge head proton  $\sim 5.7$  ppm and proton in the ortho position of nitro group  $\sim 8.28$  ppm was highlighted on the magnified NMR spectra; b) Thin layer chromatography (TLC) point of Trip- 2,6(7)-dinitrol mixed compound, the eluent is dichloromethane/petroleum ether =1/3,  $R_f = 0.15$ .



**Figure S2.** a) NMR spectra of model compound triptycene-TB, the bridge head protons  $\sim 5.3$  ppm and aromatic protons  $\sim 6.9$  to  $7.3$  ppm are highlighted in the magnified figure. b) TLC of the reaction with eluent of dichloromethane/ethyl acetate = 4/1;  $R_f = 0.5$  (red),  $R_f$  of the starting material is 0.6 (blue).

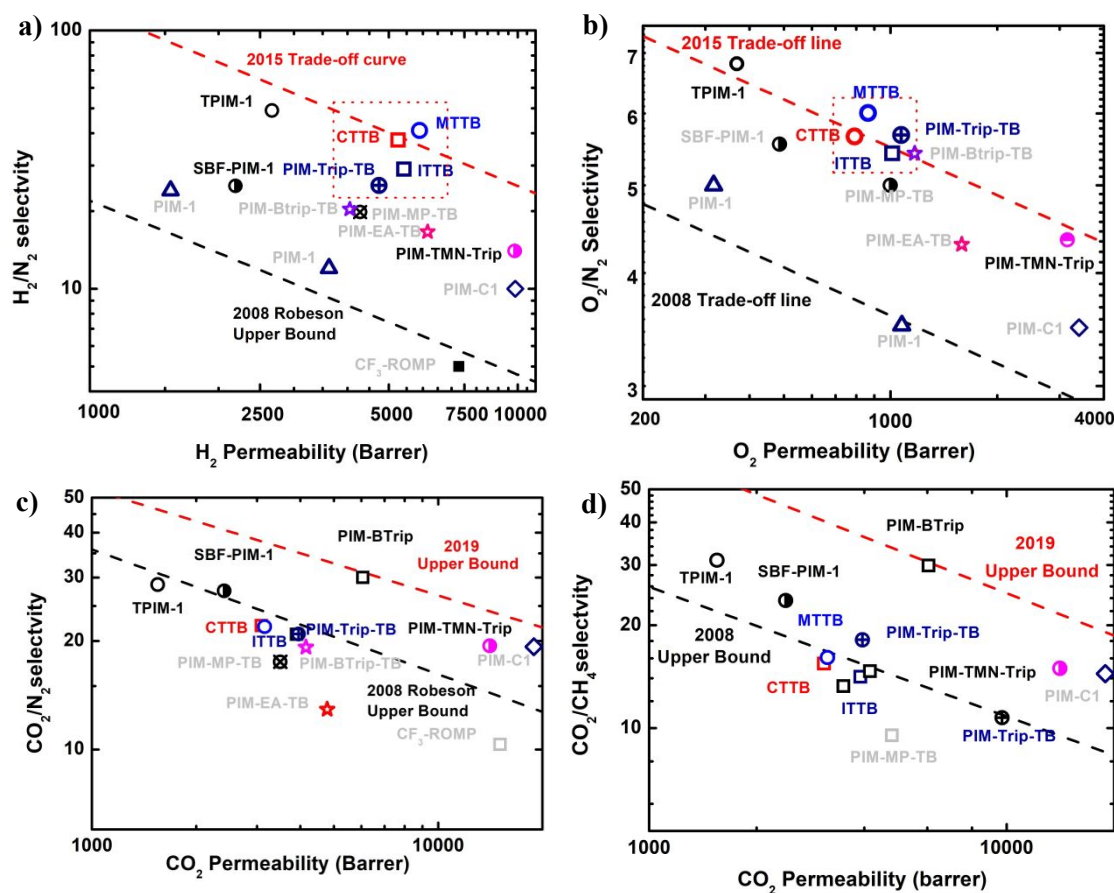


**Figure S3.** Stress-strain curves of CTTB, ITTB and MTTB, all polymers were fresh made by soaking in MeOH for 12 h and then air-dried for 3 days.

**Table S1.** Mechanical Properties of the ITTB, CTTB and MTTB Polymer Membranes

| Polymers | Young's Modulus (GPa) | Strain (Mpa) | Elongation at break % | yielding      |
|----------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| ITTB     | 0.50                  | 20           | 6%                    | Yes (at 5.8%) |
| CTTB     | 0.42                  | 18           | 13%                   | Yes (at 6.2%) |
| MTTB     | 0.44                  | 35           | 17%                   | No            |

Young's Modulus is obtained from the Stress-Strain curve in the strain range between 5 to 10 Mpa.

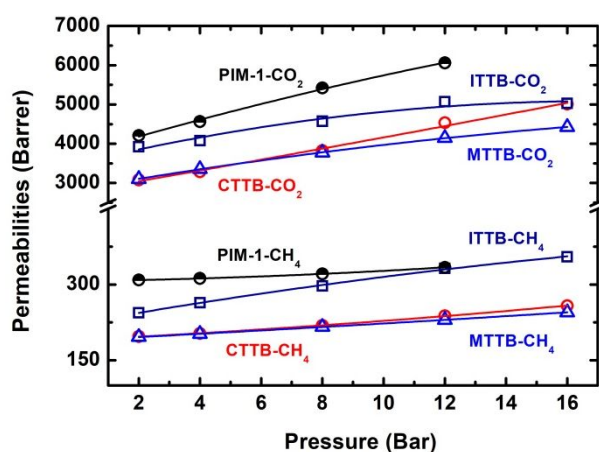


**Figure S4.**  $\text{H}_2/\text{N}_2$  (a) and  $\text{O}_2/\text{N}_2$  (b)  $\text{CO}_2/\text{N}_2$  (c) and  $\text{CO}_2/\text{CH}_4$  (d) separation performance of CTTB, MTTB, ITTB and some other reported polymers.

**Table S2.** Diffusivity and Solubility Coefficient of the Polymers Membranes

| Polymers          | Diffusion coefficient |              | Solubility coefficient |              | $D_{\text{O}_2}/D_{\text{N}_2}$ | $S_{\text{O}_2}/S_{\text{N}_2}$ |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------|------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
|                   | $\text{N}_2$          | $\text{O}_2$ | $\text{N}_2$           | $\text{O}_2$ |                                 |                                 |
| CTTB <sup>a</sup> | 20.5                  | 106          | 6.85                   | 7.49         | 5.17                            | 1.09                            |
| MTTB <sup>b</sup> | 20.1                  | 110          | 7.14                   | 7.87         | 5.47                            | 1.10                            |
| ITTB <sup>c</sup> | 22.4                  | 115          | 8.35                   | 8.8          | 5.13                            | 1.05                            |

<sup>a</sup>CTTB with the thickness of 54  $\mu\text{m}$ , fresh air-dried membrane. <sup>b</sup>MTTB with the thickness of 60  $\mu\text{m}$ , fresh air-dried membrane. <sup>c</sup>ITTB with the thickness of 54  $\mu\text{m}$ , fresh air-dried membranes.



**Figure S5:** Pressure dependence of CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> permeabilities for CTTB, MTTB, ITTB and PIM-1.

**Table S3.** CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> Pressure Dependence of CTTB, MTTB, ITTB and PIM-1

| Permeability (Barrer) |   | 2 Bar | 4 Bar | 8 Bar | 12 Bar | 16 Bar |
|-----------------------|---|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| CTTB                  | P <sub>CH<sub>4</sub></sub>                               | 197   | 203   | 219   | 238    | 258    |
|                       | P <sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub>                               | 3080  | 3284  | 3821  | 4535   | 5008   |
|                       | P <sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub> / P <sub>CH<sub>4</sub></sub> | 15.6  | 16.2  | 17.4  | 19.0   | 19.4   |
| MTTB                  | P <sub>CH<sub>4</sub></sub>                               | 196   | 202   | 216   | 230    | 245    |
|                       | P <sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub>                               | 3101  | 3356  | 3772  | 4146   | 4427   |
|                       | P <sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub> / P <sub>CH<sub>4</sub></sub> | 15.8  | 16.6  | 17.4  | 18.0   | 18.1   |
| ITTB                  | P <sub>CH<sub>4</sub></sub>                               | 244   | 264   | 297   | 332    | 355    |
|                       | P <sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub>                               | 3923  | 4078  | 4573  | 5074   | 5031   |
|                       | P <sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub> / P <sub>CH<sub>4</sub></sub> | 16.1  | 15.4  | 15.4  | 15.3   | 14.2   |
| PIM-1                 | P <sub>CH<sub>4</sub></sub>                               | 309   | 312   | 321   | 334    |        |
|                       | P <sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub>                               | 4208  | 4563  | 5421  | 6060   |        |
|                       | P <sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub> / P <sub>CH<sub>4</sub></sub> | 13.6  | 14.6  | 16.9  | 18.1   |        |

The thickness of the above membranes was ~ 60 μm and the polymer membranes were soaked in methanol for 12h and then air-dried for 3 days before testing.

**Table S4.** Activation Energy of the CTTB, MTTB and ITTB for O<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>.

| Polymer           |                | Slop  | R <sup>2</sup> | ΔE <sub>p</sub> (Kcal/mol) |
|-------------------|----------------|-------|----------------|----------------------------|
| CTTB <sup>a</sup> | O <sub>2</sub> | -0.94 | 0.975          | 0.0575                     |
|                   | N <sub>2</sub> | -1.33 | 0.973          | 0.0814                     |
| MTTB <sup>b</sup> | O <sub>2</sub> | -1.21 | 0.996          | 0.0740                     |
|                   | N <sub>2</sub> | -1.93 | 0.983          | 0.1181                     |
| ITTB <sup>c</sup> | O <sub>2</sub> | -0.66 | 0.997          | 0.0404                     |
|                   | N <sub>2</sub> | -0.84 | 0.998          | 0.0513                     |

<sup>a</sup>CTTB with the thickness of 54 μm, fresh air-dried membrane. <sup>b</sup>MTTB with the thickness of 60 μm, fresh air-dried membrane. <sup>c</sup>ITTB with the thickness of 54 μm, fresh air-dried membranes.