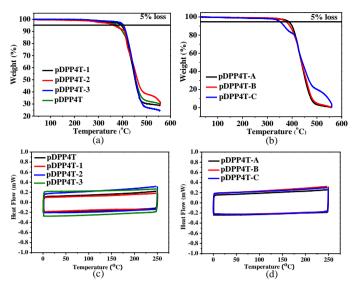
# Significant Improvement of Semiconducting Performance of the Diketopyrrolopyrrole-Quaterthiophene Conjugated Polymer through Side-Chain Engineering via Hydrogen-Bonding

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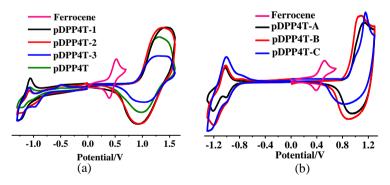
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**1.** Thermogravimetric Analysis (TGA) and Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC) Curves



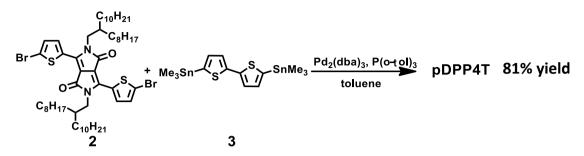
**Figure S1**. (a-b) TGA curves of **pDPP4T-1**, **pDPP4T-2**, **pDPP4T-3**, **pDPP4T**, **pDPP4T-A**, **pDPP4T-B** and **pDPP4T-C**: heating rate: 10 °C/min. From 25 °C to 550 °C under nitrogen atmosphere; (c-d) DSC curves (endo up) of **pDPP4T-1**, **pDPP4T-2**, **pDPP4T-3**, **pDPP4T**, **pDPP4T-A**, **pDPP4T-B** and **pDPP4T-C** recorded at a heating and cooling rate (0-250 °C) of 10 °C/min under nitrogen.

2. Cyclic Voltammograms

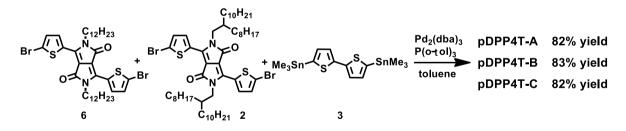


**Figure S2.** Cyclic voltammograms of **pDPP4T-1**, **pDPP4T-2**, **pDPP4T-3**, **pDPP4T**, **pDPP4T-A**, **pDPP4T-B** and **pDPP4T-C** films at a scan rate of 100 mVs<sup>-1</sup>. Pt was used as working electrode and counter electrode and Ag/AgCl (saturated KCl) as reference electrode; n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> (0.1 M) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN as supporting electrolyte. For calibration, the redox potential of ferrocene/ferrocenium (Fc/Fc<sup>+</sup>) was measured under the same conditions.

**3.** Synthesis and Characterization of pDPP4T, pDPP4T-A, pDPP4T-B and pDPP4T-C



*Synthesis of pDPP4T.* Compound 2 (101.9 mg, 0.10 mmol), compound 3 (49.2 mg, 0.10 mmol),  $P(o-tol)_3$  (4.9 mg, 0.016mmol) and  $Pd_2(dba)_3$  (1.8 mg, 0.0020 mmol) were used. The purified polymer was collected to give deep green solid (83.3 mg, 81% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- $d_2$ , 100 °C):  $\delta$  8.98-8.92 (m, br, 2H), 7.31-6.94 (m, br, 6H), 4.09-4.02 (m, br, 4H), 2.18-2.03 (m, br, 10H), 1.30 (s, 56H),0.92 (s, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, solid):  $\delta$  160.09, 140.33, 136.05, 128.04, 123.69, 107.94, 45.24, 38.36, 32.08, 30.09, 23.05, 14.41;  $M_w/M_n$  (GPC) = 40.2/18.8 kg mol<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. calcd for (C<sub>62</sub>H<sub>90</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>4</sub>)<sub>n</sub>: C, 72.75; H, 8.86; N, 2.74; S, 12.53. Found: C, 72.50; H, 8.92; N, 2.78; S, 12.39.



Synthesis of pDPP4T-A. Compound 6 (2.6 mg, 0.0033 mmol), compound 2 (101.9 mg, 0.10 mmol), compound 3 (50.7 mg, 0.10 mmol),  $P(o-tol)_3$  (5.0 mg, 0.016 mmol) and  $Pd_2(dba)_3$  (1.9 mg, 0.0021 mmol) were used. The purified polymer was collected to give deep green solid (86.7 mg, 82% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- $d_2$ , 100 °C):  $\delta$  8.85 (s, br, 2H), 7.07-6.91 (m, br, 6H), 4.09 (s, br, 4H), 2.25-2.08 (m, br, 10H),

1.67-1.32 (m, br, 56H), 0.93 (s, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, solid):  $\delta$  160.91, 140.94, 137.32, 129.00, 124.76, 108.64, 45.08, 38.79, 37.63, 32.66, 30.58, 23.56, 14.88.  $M_w/M_n$  (GPC) = 211.6/74.0 kg mol<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. calcd. for (C<sub>1936</sub>H<sub>2878</sub>N<sub>62</sub>O<sub>62</sub>S<sub>124</sub>)<sub>n</sub>: C, 72.69; H, 9.07; N, 2.71; S, 12.43. Found: C, 72.27; H, 8.57; N, 2.82; S, 12.51.

*Synthesis of pDPP4T-B.* Compound **6** (4.0 mg, 0.0050 mmol), compound **2** (101.9 mg, 0.10 mmol), compound **3** (51.8 mg, 0.11 mmol),  $P(o-tol)_3$  (5.1 mg, 0.017 mmol) and  $Pd_2(dba)_3$  (1.9 mg, 0.0021 mmol) were used. The purified polymer was collected to give deep green solid (88.7 mg, 83% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- $d_2$ , 100 °C):  $\delta$  8.89 (s, br, 2H), 7.08-6.93 (m, br, 6H), 4.09 (s, br, 4H), 2.25-2.07 (m, br, 10H), 1.69-1.32 (m, br, 56H), 0.93 (s, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, solid):  $\delta$  160.87, 141.25, 136.74, 128.59, 124.29, 108.37, 45.46, 38.73, 32.67, 30.72, 23.62, 14.94.  $M_w/M_n$  (GPC) = 190.9/91.5 kg mol<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. calcd. for (C<sub>1306</sub>H<sub>1938</sub>N<sub>42</sub>O<sub>42</sub>S<sub>84</sub>)<sub>n</sub>: C, 72.64; H, 9.05; N, 2.72; S, 12.47. Found: C, 71.89; H, 8.68; N, 2.80; S, 12.49.

*Synthesis of pDPP4T-C.* Compound **6** (8.0 mg, 0.010 mmol), compound **2** (101.9 mg, 0.10 mmol), compound **3** (54.1 mg, 0.11 mmol),  $P(o-tol)_3$  (5.4 mg, 0.018mmol) and  $Pd_2(dba)_3$  (2.0 mg, 0.0022 mmol) were used. The purified polymer was collected to give deep green solid (92.2 mg, 82% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- $d_2$ , 100 °C):  $\delta$  8.99-8.90 (m, br, 2H), 7.14-6.97 (m, br, 6H), 4.11-4.00 (s, br, 4H), 2.10-2.06 (m, br, 10H), 1.47-1.33 (m, br, 56H), 0.92 (s, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, solid):  $\delta$  160.21, 140.49, 136.35, 128.20, 123.69, 108.09, 45.09, 38.55, 31.93, 30.14, 23.05, 14.39.  $M_w/M_n$ 

 $(GPC) = 207.8/94.6 \text{ kg mol}^{-1}$ . Anal. calcd. for  $(C_{666}H_{958}N_{22}O_{22}S_{44})_n$ : C, 72.48; H, 8.75; N,

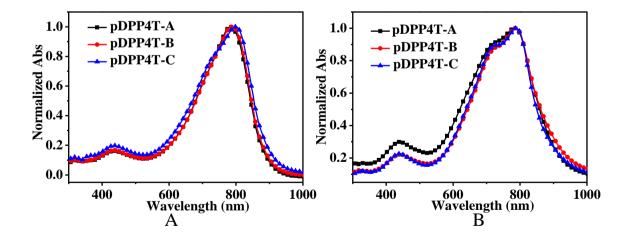
2.79; S, 12.78. Found: C, 72.46; H, 8.75; N, 2.50; S, 12.88.

4. HOMO/LUMO Energies and Band Gaps of pDPP4T-A, pDPP4T-B and pDPP4T-C

Table S1. Absorption, Onset Redox Potentials, HOMO/LUMO Energies and Band Gaps of pDPP4T-A, pDPP4T-B and pDPP4T-C.

| polymer  | $\lambda_{\max}^{a}$ (nm)<br>( $\varepsilon_{\max}$ , M <sup>-1</sup> cm <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>b</sup> |         | $E_{\rm redl}^{\rm onset}$ |       | $E_{\rm oxl}^{\rm onset}$<br>(V) <sup>c</sup> |       | U          | $E_{\rm g}^{\rm opt}$ |
|----------|---|---------|----------------------------|-------|---|-------|------------|-----------------------|
|          | solution  | film    | (V) <sup>3</sup>           | (ev)* | $(\mathbf{v})^{s}$                            | (ev)* | $(ev)^{r}$ | (ev)                  |
| pDPP4T-A | 784(80000)  | 726,784 | -1.28                      | -3.52 | 0.47  | -5.27 | 1.75       | 1.33                  |
| pDPP4T-B | 788(82000)  | 726,790 | -1.26                      | -3.54 | 0.46  | -5.26 | 1.71       | 1.32                  |
| pDPP4T-C | 800(83000)  | 726,790 | -1.26                      | -3.54 | 0.46  | -5.26 | 1.72       | 1.32                  |

<sup>*a*</sup> Absorption maxima in CHCl<sub>3</sub> solution  $(1.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M} \text{ for each polymer})$  and the spin-coated thin film; <sup>*b*</sup> Molar extinction coefficient ( $\varepsilon_{\text{max}}$ , M<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>); <sup>*c*</sup> Onset potentials (V vs Fc/Fc<sup>+</sup>) for reduction ( $E_{\text{redl}}^{\text{onset}}$ ) and oxidation ( $E_{\text{oxl}}^{\text{onset}}$ ); <sup>*d*</sup> Estimated with the following equation:  $E_{\text{HOMO}} = -(E_{\text{oxl}}^{\text{onset}} + 4.8) \text{ eV}, E_{\text{LUMO}} = -(E_{\text{redl}}^{\text{onset}} + 4.8) \text{ eV}; ^{$ *e* $}$  Based on redox potentials; <sup>*f*</sup> Based on the absorption spectral data.



**Figure S3.** Normalized UV-vis absorption spectra of **pDPP4T-A**, **pDPP4T-B** and **pDPP4T-C** in CHCl<sub>3</sub>  $(1.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M})$  (A) and their thin films (B).

#### 5. Fabrication of FET Devices

Solutions of conjugated polymers were prepared by dissolving the copolymers in chloroform at a concentration of 7.0 mg/mL except pDPP4T-C (3.0 mg/mL in 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane). The typical polymer film thickness (around 40-45 nm) was measured on profilometer (Ambios Tech. XP-2). Bottom-Gate/Bottom-Contact FETs were fabricated. A heavily doped *n*-type Si wafer and a layer of dry oxidized SiO<sub>2</sub> (300 nm, with roughness lower than 0.1 nm and capacitance of 11 nF cm<sup>-2</sup>) were used as a gate electrode and gate dielectric layer, respectively. The drain-source (D-S) gold contacts (28 nm) were fabricated by photo-lithography. The substrates were first cleaned by sonication in acetone and water for 5.0 min and immersed in Piranha solution (2:1 mixture of sulfuric acid and 30% hydrogen peroxide) for 20 min. This was followed by rinsing with deionized water and isopropyl alcohol for several times, and it was blow-dried with nitrogen. Then, the surface was modified with *n*-octadecyltrichlorosilane (OTS). After that, the substrates were cleaned in *n*-hexane, CHCl<sub>3</sub> and isopropyl alcohol. The films of conjugated polymers were fabricated by spin-coating their solutions at 3000 rpm. The annealing process was carried out in vacuum for 1.0 h at each temperature.

The bottom-gate/top-contact devices with fabricated similarly except Au source/drain electrodes (50 nm) were deposited via thermal vacuum evaporation through a shadow mask after spin coating the semiconductor solution and then annealed at different temperatures in vacuum for 1.0 h. Field-effect characteristics of the devices were determined in nitrogen using a Keithley 4200 SCS semiconductor parameter analyzer.

Linear mobility was calculated according to the equation below:

$$I_{\rm DS} = (W/L)C_{\rm i}\mu(V_{\rm GS} - V_{\rm Th})V_{\rm DS} \quad V_{\rm DS} << V_{\rm GS} - V_{\rm Th}$$
(1)

The mobility of the OFETs in the saturation region was extracted from the following equation:

$$I_{DS} = \frac{W}{2L} \mu C_i (V_{GS} - V_{Th})^2$$
(2)

Where  $I_{DS}$  is the drain electrode collected current; *L* and *W* are the channel length and width, respectively;  $\mu$  is the mobility of the device;  $C_i$  is the capacitance per unit area of the gate dielectric layer;  $V_{GS}$  is the gate voltage, and  $V_{Th}$  is the threshold voltage. The  $V_{Th}$  of the device was determined by extrapolating the  $(I_{DS,sat})^{1/2}$  vs.  $V_{GS}$  plot to  $I_{DS} = 0$ .

The contact resistance was determined in the following way (a. Luan, S.; Neudeck, G. W. *J. Appl. Phys.* **1992**, *72*, 766; b. Lefenfeld, M.; Blanchet, G.; Rogers, J. A. *Adv. Mater.* **2003**, *15*, 1188.). For a BGBC FET, the ON resistance,  $R_{ON}$ , in the linear operation regime (source-drain voltage << gate voltage), can be expressed as follows:

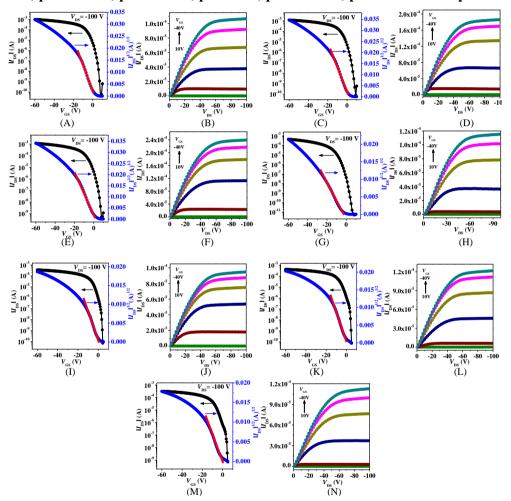
$$R_{\rm on} = \frac{\partial V_{\rm DS}}{\partial I_{\rm DS}} \int_{V_{\rm DS} \to 0}^{V_{\rm GS}} = R_{ch} + R_p = \frac{L}{W\mu_i C_i (V_{GS} - V_{\rm Th})} + R_p \qquad (3)$$

where  $R_{ch}$  is the channel resistance,  $R_p$  is the parasitic resistance, and  $V_{GS}$  is the gate voltage. The parasitic resistance,  $R_p$ , which is associated with the contacts between *S-D* electrode and semiconductor layer, can be extracted by measuring the ON resistance,  $R_{ON}$ , from the linear region of the FET output characteristics. We got a plot of  $R_{ON}$  as a function of *L* at the gate voltage of -30 V, and found that the relationship of  $R_{ON}$  vs *L* gives straight lines, indicating that the ON resistance is well expressed by Eq. (3). By extrapolating the relationship of  $R_{ON}$  vs *L* to L= 0, the contact resistance values can be determined. The contact resistances for BGBC devices with thin films of pDPP4T-1, pDPP4T-2,

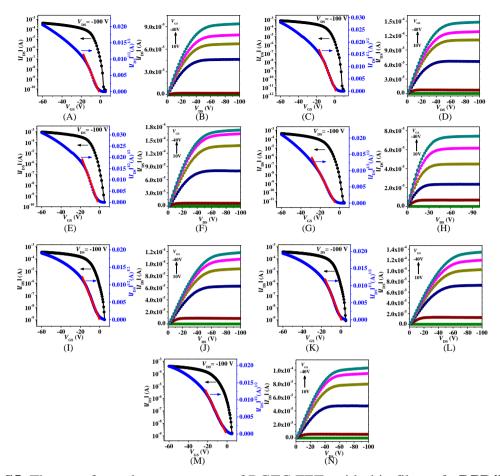
pDPP4T-3, pDPP4T, pDPP4T-A, pDPP4T-B and pDPP4T-C were determined to be

0.82 MΩ, 0.21 MΩ, 0.11 MΩ, 1.40 MΩ, 0.71 MΩ, 0.53 MΩ and 0.52 MΩ, respectively.

6. Transfer and Output Curves of BGBC and BGTC Devices with Thin Films of pDPP4T-1, pDPP4T-2, pDPP4T-3, pDPP4T, pDPP4T-A, pDPP4T-B and pDPP4T-C



**Figure S4.** The transfer and output curves of BGBC FETs with thin films of **pDPP4T-1** (A, B), **pDPP4T-2** (C, D), **pDPP4T-3** (E, F), **pDPP4T** (G, H), **pDPP4T-A** (I, J), **pDPP4T-B** (K, L) and **pDPP4T-C** (M, N) after thermal annealing at 100 °C; the channel width (*W*) and length (*L*) were 1440  $\mu$ m and 50  $\mu$ m, respectively.



**Figure S5.** The transfer and output curves of BGTC FETs with thin films of **pDPP4T-1** (A, B), **pDPP4T-2** (C, D), **pDPP4T-3** (E, F), **pDPP4T** (G, H), **pDPP4T-A** (I, J), **pDPP4T-B** (K, L) and **pDPP4T-C** (M, N) after thermal annealing at 100 °C; the channel width (*W*) and length (*L*) were 3000  $\mu$ m and 100  $\mu$ m, respectively.

Table S2. Hole Mobilities ( $\mu_h$ ), Threshold Voltages ( $V_{Th}$ ) and  $I_{on}/I_{off}$  Ratios for BGTC FETs with thin films of pDPP4T-1, pDPP4T-2, pDPP4T-3, pDPP4T, pDPP4T-A, pDPP4T-B and pDPP4T-C after Annealing at 100 °C.

| -   | -      | Ũ  |                     |                        |
|-----|--------|--|---------------------|------------------------|
| pol | ymer   | $\mu_{\rm h}^{a}$ /cm <sup>2</sup> V <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> | $V_{ m Th, h}/ m V$ | $I_{ m on}/I_{ m off}$ |
| pDP | PP4T-1 | 4.8/4.4  | -3 - 10             | $10^6 - 10^7$          |
| pDP | PP4T-2 | 6.4/5.9  | 0 - 9               | $10^7 - 10^8$          |
| pDP | PP4T-3 | 8.8/7.1  | -5 - 10             | $10^6 - 10^7$          |
| pDP | P4T-A  | 3.7/3.1  | -5 - 8              | $10^5 - 10^6$          |
| pDP | PP4T-B | 4.1/3.5  | -4 - 9              | $10^5 - 10^6$          |
| pDP | P4T-C  | 2.6/2.1  | -3 - 10             | $10^5 - 10^6$          |
| pD  | PP4T   | 2.6/2.2  | -5 - 11             | $10^7 - 10^8$          |

<sup>a</sup> The mobilities were provided in "highest/average" form, and the performance data were obtained based on more than 10 different FETs.

#### 7. Devices Stability Data

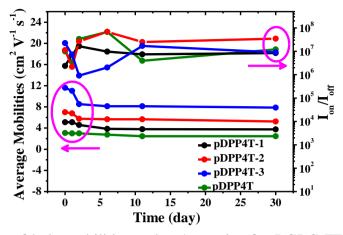
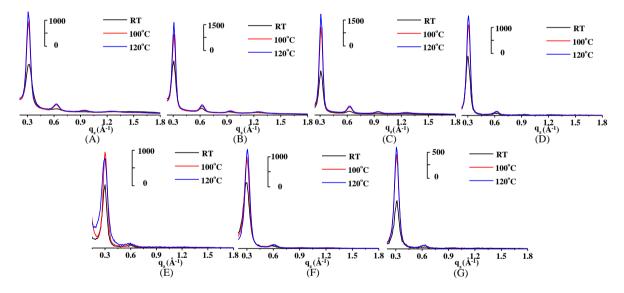
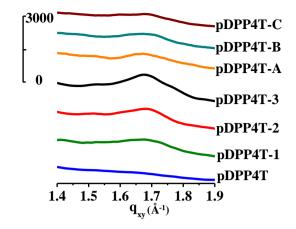


Figure S6. Variation of hole mobilities and  $I_{on}/I_{off}$  ratios for BGBC FETs of pDPP4T-1, pDPP4T-2, pDPP4T-3 and pDPP4T after being left in air for 30 days.

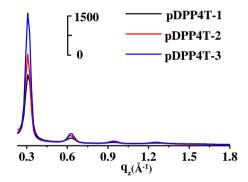
## 8. 1-D GIXRD Patterns



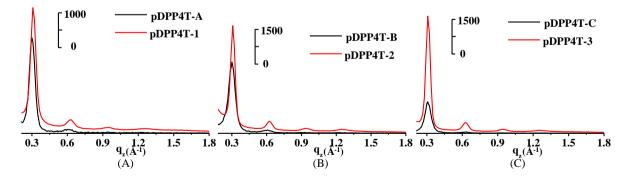
**Figure S7.** 1-D GIXRD patterns in the *out-of-plane* direction for **pDPP4T-1** (A), **pDPP4T-2** (B), **pDPP4T-3** (C), **pDPP4T** (D) and **pDPP4T-A** (E), **pDPP4T-B** (F) and **pDPP4T-C** (G) deposited on OTS-modified SiO<sub>2</sub>/Si substrates after thermal annealing at different temperatures.



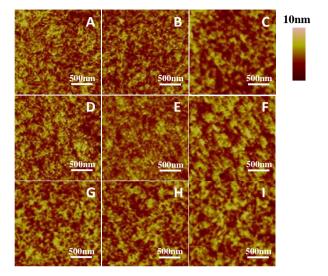
**Figure S8.** 1-D GIXRD patterns in the *in-plane* direction for **pDPP4T-1**, **pDPP4T-2**, **pDPP4T-3**, **pDPP4T**, **pDPP4T-A**, **pDPP4T-B**, and **pDPP4T-C** deposited on OTS-modified SiO<sub>2</sub>/Si substrates after thermal annealing at 100 °C.



**Figure S9.** 1-D *out-of-plane* X-ray diffraction patterns of **pDPP4T-1**, **pDPP4T-2** and **pDPP4T-3** after thermal annealing at 100 °C.



**Figure S10.** 1-D *out-of-plane* X-ray diffraction patterns of **pDPP4T-1** and **pDPP4T-A** (A), **pDPP4T-2** and **pDPP4T-B** (B) and **pDPP4T-3** and **pDPP4T-C** (C) after thermal annealing at 100 °C.

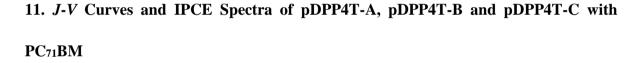


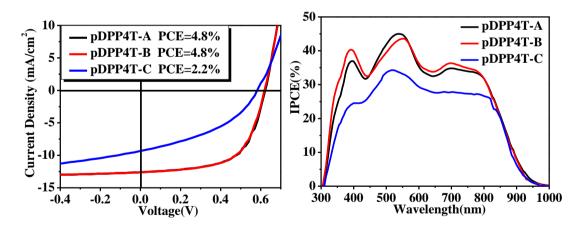
9. AFM Images of pDPP4T-A, pDPP4T-B and pDPP4T-C

**Figure S11.** AFM height images of thin films of **pDPP4T-A** (A, D, G), **pDPP4T-B** (B, E, H) and **pDPP4T-C** (C, F, I) deposited on OTS-modified SiO<sub>2</sub>/Si substrates at room temperature (*up*) and after thermal annealing at 100 °C (*middle*) and 120 °C (*down*).

### 10. Fabrication of Organic Photovoltaic Cells

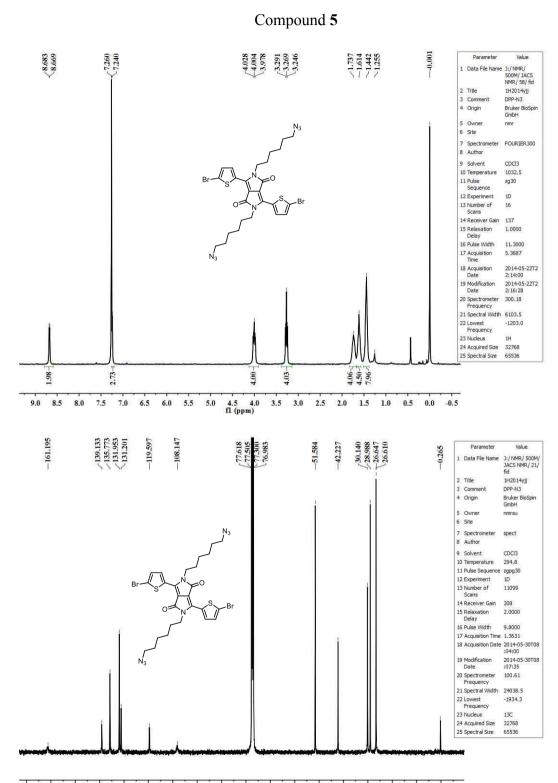
OPVs were fabricated with ITO as the positive electrode and Al as the negative electrode. The patterned indium tin oxide (ITO) glass (sheet resistance = 15 Ω/square) was precleaned in an ultrasonic bath in detergent, deionized water, acetone and isopropyl alcohol, then treated in an ultraviolet-ozone chamber (Jelight Company, USA) for 30 min. A thin layer (30 nm) of poly(3,4-ethylenedioxythi-ophene):poly(styrenesulfonate) (PEDOT:PSS, Baytron PVP AI 4083, Germany) was spin-coated onto the ITO glass and baked at 150 °C for 15 min. Blend solution were prepared in different solvents at a total concentration of 15-18 mg/ml (donor/acceptor weight ratio:1/2 or 1/1) and stirred 2 hours for complete dissolution. Then, the **pDPP4T**, **pDPP4T-1**, **pDPP4T-2**, **pDPP4T-3**, **pDPP4T-A**, **pDPP4T-B** and **pDPP4T-C**/PC<sub>71</sub>BM blend solution was spin-coated. The thickness (ca. 100-120 nm) of the active layer was measured using an Ambios Technology XP-2 profilometer. Ca (ca. 20 nm) and aluminum layer (ca. 70 nm) were then evaporated onto the surface of the active layer under vacuum (ca.  $10^{-5}$  Pa) to form the negative electrode respectively. The active area of the device was 5.0 mm<sup>2</sup>. The *J*–*V* curves were measured with a computer-controlled Keithley 236 Source Measure Unit. A xenon lamp coupled with AM 1.5 solar spectrum filters was used as the light source, and the optical power at the sample was 100 mW cm<sup>-2</sup>. The incident photon to converted current efficiency (IPCE) spectra were performed at Solar Cell Spectral Response Measurement System QE-R3011 (EnliTechnololy Co. Ltd).

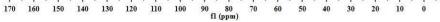




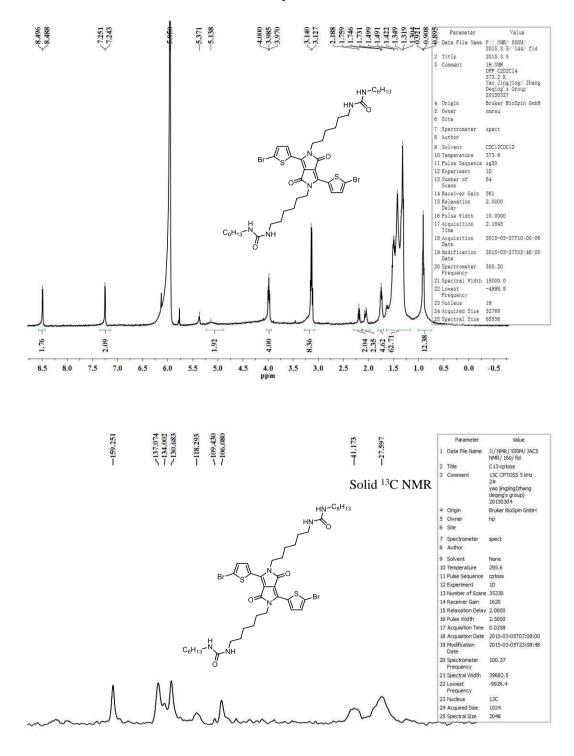
**Figure S12.** *J-V* curves (*left*) and IPCE spectra (*right*) of photovoltaic cells with the respective blend films of **pDPP4T-A**, **pDPP4T-B** and **pDPP4T-C** with PC<sub>71</sub>BM at 1:2 weight ratio under AM 1.5 illumination (100 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>).

#### 12. <sup>1</sup>HNMR and <sup>13</sup>CNMR Spectra



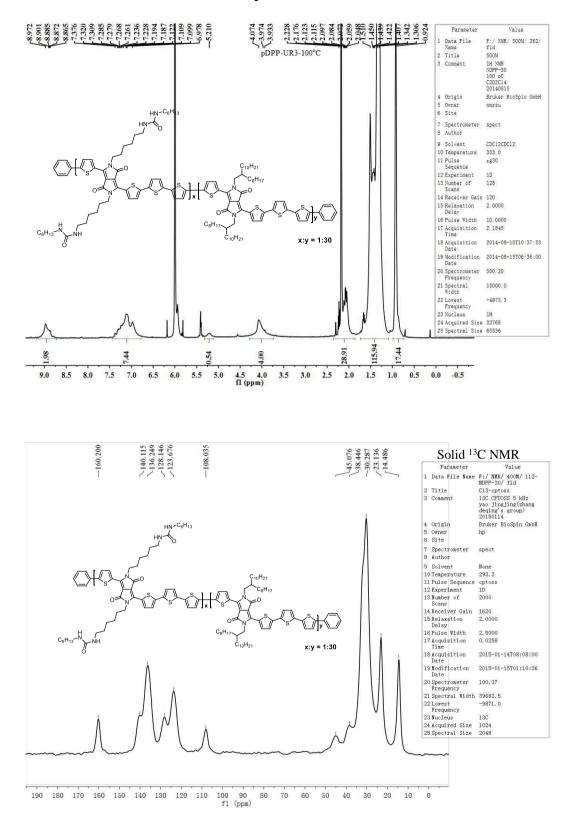


## Compound 1

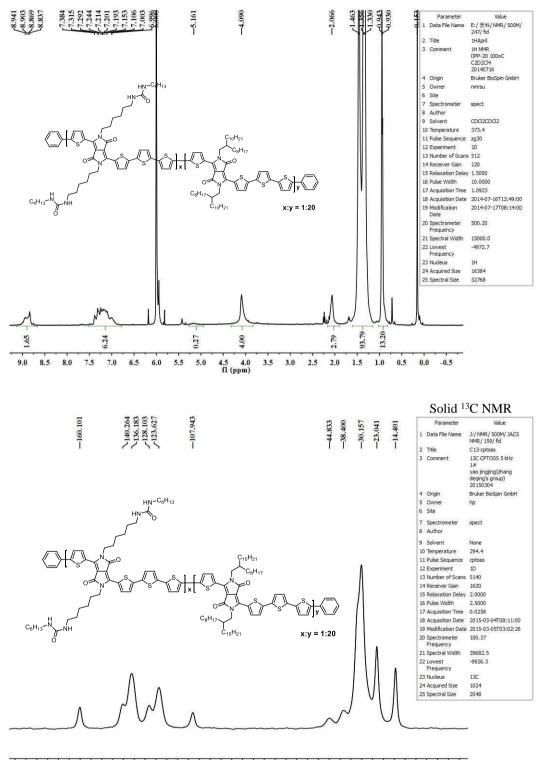


00 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 fl (ppm)



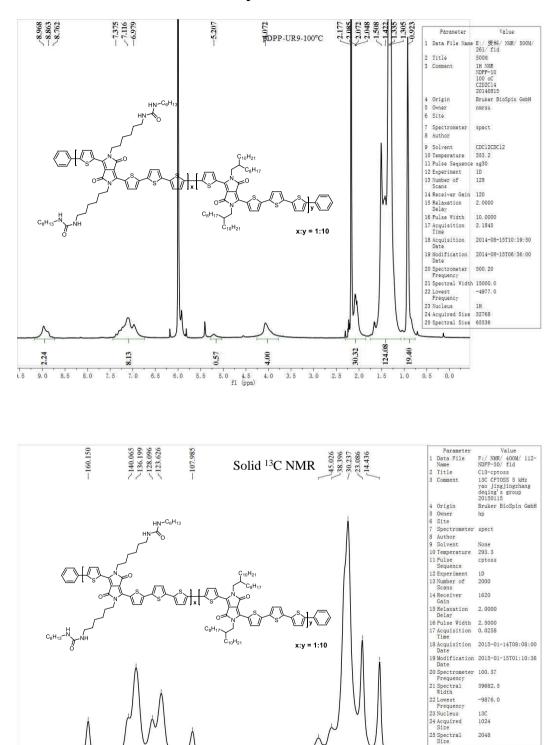


pDPP4T-2



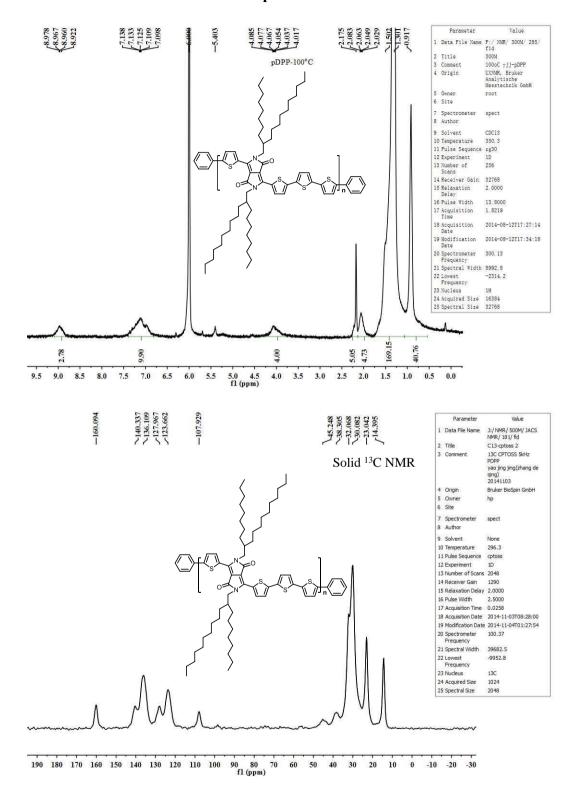
190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 fl (ppm)



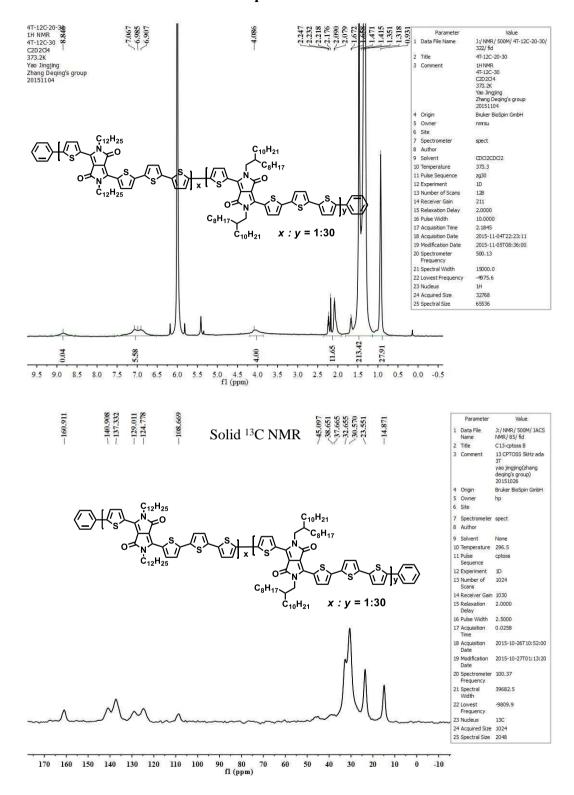


190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 f1 (ppm)

## pDPP4T



pDPP4T-A



pDPP4T-B

