## Photochromism and electrochemistry of a dithienylcyclopentene

## electroactive polymer

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## **Electronic Supplementary Information**



Figure S 1 Left) Conversion of **20** to **2c** by irradiation at  $\lambda_{exc}$  365 nm in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Right) sequential irradiation of **20** at 365 nm to form **2c** followed by irradiation at >450 nm to reform **2o** over three cycles.



Figure S 2 Absorption and fluorescence spectra of **20** in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.  $\lambda_{exc} = 362$  nm



Figure S 3 Top: poly-2c electrochemical deposition on an ITO electrode by cyclic voltammetry (Scan rate, 0.5 V s<sup>-1</sup> during repetitive cycles between 0-1.6 V vs SCE) and bottom: increase in current at 0.3 V vs SCE with number of cycles.



Figure S 4 Cyclic voltammetry (0.5 V s<sup>-1</sup>) of poly-2c deposited on a glassy carbon electrode potentiostatically at 1.55 V for 60 s (black) and 120 s (red).



Figure S 5 Electropolymerization of **20** as a function of switching potential in 0.5 V increments between 1.35 and 1.6 V, at a GC electrode in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (0.1 M TBAClO<sub>4</sub>) at 0.75 V s<sup>-1</sup>. Left: Cyclic voltammograms of the 25<sup>th</sup> cycle measured for different maximum anodic potentials, right: change in faradic current of  $E_{p,a1}$  of poly-2c.



Figure S 6 Cyclic voltammetry of left: 2c and right: poly-2c in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (scan rate 0.5 V s<sup>-1</sup>, 0.1 M TBAPF<sub>6</sub>).



Figure S 7 Left: Clean (thin line) and poly-**2c** modified (thick line) glassy carbon electrode in an electrolyte solution (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/TBAClO<sub>4</sub>) containing decamethylferrocene. centre: Clean (dotted line) and poly-**2c** modified (solid line) glassy carbon electrode in an electrolyte solution (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/TBAClO<sub>4</sub>) containing ~ 1 mM [Ru(II)(4,7-diphenyl-1,10-phenanthroline)<sub>3</sub>](PF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (scan rate 0.5 V s<sup>-1</sup>). Right: poly-**2c** modified (solid line) glassy carbon electrode in an electrolyte solution (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/TBAClO<sub>4</sub>) containing ~ 1 mM [Ru(II)(4,7-diphenyl-1,10-phenanthroline)<sub>3</sub>](PF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (scan rate 0.5 V s<sup>-1</sup>). Right: poly-**2c** modified (solid line) glassy carbon electrode in an electrolyte solution (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/TBAClO<sub>4</sub>) containing ~ 1 mM perylene (scan rate 0.1 V s<sup>-1</sup>).

## Atomic force microscopy



Figure S 8 AFM (intermittent contact mode, in air) of poly-2c on ITO. a) 4.5  $\mu$ m x 4.5  $\mu$ m. The RMS roughness of this area is 2.6 nm. b) 1.7 $\mu$ m x 1.7  $\mu$ m.

Photo- and electrochemical switching of Poly-2c



Figure S 9 Visible absorption spectrum of poly-2c on an ITO electrode before (solid line) and after (dotted line) irradiation with visible light (> 420 nm) to form poly-2o and after subsequent electrochemical ring closure to reform poly-2c.



Figure S10 Cyclic voltammetry (a) (15 cycles) of a Poly-2c modified GC electrode in DCM (0.1 M TBAPF<sub>6</sub>) at 0.05 V s<sup>-1</sup>. (b) over a wider potential window after (a). Note that although the electrode remains modified by the polymer cyclic voltammetry at > 0.5 V s<sup>-1</sup> leads to irreversible loss of the redox response of poly-2c.



Figure S11 Cyclic voltammetry (a) 2c in DCM (0.1 M TBAPF<sub>6</sub>) at 0.5 V s<sup>-1</sup> with a GC working electrode and (b) over a wider potential window showing electropolymerisation.



Figure S12 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of open (20) and at PSS (2c) at 365 nm in CDCl<sub>3</sub>. The PSS is >90% by integration.