Dithienopyran-based donor-acceptor copolymers with enhanced thermal stability and charge carrier mobility

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We investigate the electrical and thermal properties of dithienopyran (DTP)-based copolymers prepared with various electron-deficient (as electron acceptor) or electronrich (as electron donor) moieties. With electron-deficient units such as 2,1,3-benzothiadiazole (BT) and 5-fluoro-2,1,3-benzothiadiazole (FBT), DTP-based donor-acceptor (D-A) copolymers showed remarkably enhanced charge carrier mobility and thermal stability in the wider range of processing temperatures compared to those of donor-donor (D-D) copolymers prepared with electron-rich 2,2'-bithiophene (T2) and 1,2-di(thiophen-2-yl)ethane (TVT) units. Such enhanced charge carrier mobility and thermal stability of the D-A copolymers are attributed to the electronic structures and higher crystallinity retained in the wide range of processing temperatures (25 - 300 C)confirmed by the ultraviolet-visible absorption spectroscopy and two-dimensional grazing-incidence wide angle X-ray diffraction results, respectively. These results demonstrate that D-A configuration is a promising molecular framework for realization of thermally-stable OFET-based plastic electronics.