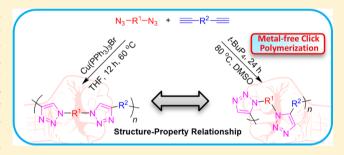
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# Phosphazene Base-Mediated Azide—Alkyne Click Polymerization toward 1,5-Regioregular Polytriazoles

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Supporting Information

ABSTRACT: Cu(I)-catalyzed azide—alkyne click polymerization has become a powerful tool for the construction of 1,4regioregular polytriazoles (PTAs). However, the polymerization toward the synthesis of 1,5-regioregular PTAs has been rarely reported, and the structure-property relationship between 1,5- and 1,4-regioregular PTAs needs to be studied further. In this work, an efficient superbase of phosphazene base (t-BuP<sub>4</sub>)-mediated azide—alkyne click polymerization was developed, and soluble and thermally stable 1,5regioregular PTAs with high molecular weights (Mw up to 26 600) were generated in high yields (up to 99%). The



relationship between the regiostructures and the thermal stability, light refractivity, photophysical properties, electrochemical behaviors of PTAs was investigated, and the results indicate that the 1,4-regioregular PTA exhibits better conjugation and planarity than that of the 1,5-regioregular one. Thus, this work not only develops a powerful t-BuP<sub>4</sub>-mediated azide—alkyne click polymerization for the preparation of 1,5-regioregular PTAs but also provides a platform for investigating the structureproperty relationship of PTAs, which will guide the design of new PTAs for diverse applications.

# INTRODUCTION

The exploration of facile and effective polymerization is of utmost importance for polymer science. 1-6 Generally, new polymerizations are developed based on the elegant organic reactions that enjoy the features of high efficiency, regioselectivity, tolerance toward functionality, wide scope of monomers, mild reaction conditions, and so on. The click reactions well meet these criteria, $^{7-13}$  and some of them have been developed into efficient click polymerizations. Thereinto, the Cu(I)-catalyzed azide-alkyne click polymerization (AACP) is the representative, from which plenteous linear and hyperbranched 1,4-regioregular polytriazoles (PTAs) with advanced properties have been produced. 14-28 Notably, the Ru(II)-catalyzed AACP that readily furnishes 1,5-regioregular PTAs has also been established in our groups.<sup>24</sup>

Although the transition-metal-catalyzed click polymerizations are powerful, they also suffer from notable disadvantages. For example, some organometallic catalysts such as Ru(II) complexes are expensive and cytotoxic. 30,31 Moreover, the metallic residues are difficult to sweep away totally from the polymeric products, which might deteriorate the optoelectrical properties of products and cause cytotoxicity in biologic applications.<sup>32</sup> In addition, several resultant polymers generated by Cu(I)-catalyzed AACPs encounter the solubility problem due to the coordination of copper ions with the formed triazoles.<sup>33</sup> Therefore, minimal use or no use of the transition-metal catalyst in the click polymerization is highly desired.

To solve aforementioned problems, our research groups have developed the supported Cu(I), such as CuI@A-21 and CuI@PS-Phen-catalyzed AACPs and metal-free click polymerizations (MFCPs). 32,34-46 However, these AACPs still have plenty of room to improve. For example, the polymeric products yielded from the supported Cu(I)-catalyzed AACPs still suffer from the copper residue problem, although their amount is greatly decreased. For MFCPs, the activated monomers are indispensable, and the regioregularities of the resultant PTAs are hard to reach 100%. Moreover, the MFCPs for the preparation of 1,5-regioregular PTAs are quite limited. Among the scanty reports, such polymers could be synthesized via a tetramethylammonium hydroxide (NMe<sub>4</sub>OH)-mediated click polymerization of aromatic diynes and aromatic diazides. 47 It should be noted that NMe<sub>4</sub>OH is inconvenient for use because it is stored as a 25 wt % aqueous solution. Because the formed hydrophobic polymer is incompatible with

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water, the solubility of polymers will be deteriorated to some extent.

Compared with ionic NMe<sub>4</sub>OH, the uncharged organic phosphazene superbase, particularly t-BuP4, has some remarkable virtues, such as highly enhanced basicity, good solubility in nonpolar solvents, hyposensitivity to oxygen and moisture, and excellent thermal stability.<sup>48</sup> Thus, this superbase often serves as catalyst for the construction of multifarious copolymers via ring-opening polymerizations. <sup>49–53</sup> According to the hypothetic mechanism of acetylide nucleophile attacking terminal nitrogen of azide, 54 t-BuP4 might be able to mediate the azide-alkyne polymerization to generate 1,5-regioregular PTAs. Indeed, after systematical optimization of the polymerization conditions, soluble and thermally stable 1,5-regioregular PTAs with high molecular weights were obtained in high yields by the t-BuP<sub>4</sub>-mediated AACP, which enriches the family of click polymerization. Moreover, according to our previous study, the variation in the regioregularities of PTA will lead to difference in its properties. 25,55 We thus further investigated the structure-property relationship of the resultant 1,5-regioregular PTAs with their 1,4-regioregular counterpart, which was prepared by the typical Cu(I)-catalyzed AACP using the same diyne and diazide monomers. The results show that 1,5- and 1,4-regioregular PTAs show distinct difference in the thermal stability, refractive index, and photophysical and electrochemical properties.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**Click Polymerization.** To establish this new phosphazene base of *t*-BuP<sub>4</sub>-mediated AACP, we systematically optimized the reaction conditions using **1a** and **2a** as model monomers under nitrogen (Scheme 1). First, the effect of *t*-BuP<sub>4</sub> amount

Scheme 1. t-BuP<sub>4</sub>-Mediated Click Polymerizations of Diazides 1 and Diynes 2

$$N_3 - R^1 - N_3 + R^2 - R^2$$

on the polymerization was investigated (Table 1). The weight-average molecular weight ( $M_{\rm w}$ ) values and yields of the products enhanced gradually when the concentration of  $t\text{-BuP}_4$  increased from 10 to 50 mol %. Further increasing the loading amount of  $t\text{-BuP}_4$  had a little effect on  $M_{\rm w}$  and yield of the product. Hence, we fixed the  $t\text{-BuP}_4$  concentration to 50 mol % for the optimal quantity. It is worth noting that the phosphazene base could be removed from the product during the precipitation process.

Table 1. Effect of t-BuP<sub>4</sub> Concentration on the Click Polymerization of 1a and 2a<sup>a</sup>

entry	t-BuP <sub>4</sub> (mol %)	yield (%)	$M_{\rm w}^{b}$	$\overline{D}^{b}$
1	75	71	4700	1.21
2	50	73	5300	1.16
3	25	13	3800	1.30
4	10	2	2400	1.11

<sup>a</sup>Carried out in DMSO at 25 °C under nitrogen for 24 h at a monomer concentration of 0.05 M. <sup>b</sup>Estimated by APC using THF as an eluant on the basis of polystyrene (PS) calibration;  $M_{\rm w}$  = weight-average molecular weight; polydispersity index (D) =  $M_{\rm w}/M_{\rm n}$ ;  $M_{\rm n}$  = number-average molecular weight.

Next, the effect of reaction temperature on the click polymerization was studied, and the results are summarized in Table 2. With the increase of temperature from 25 to 80  $^{\circ}$ C,

Table 2. Effect of Reaction Temperature on the Click Polymerization of 1a and 2a<sup>a</sup>

entry	T (°C)	yield (%)	$M_{\rm w}^{b}$	$D^b$
1 <sup>c</sup>	25	73	5300	1.16
2	60	96	6900	1.41
3	80	98	7500	1.40
4	100	97	5100	1.33

<sup>a</sup>Carried out in DMSO for 24 h under nitrogen at a monomer concentration of 0.05 M,  $[t\text{-BuP}_4]/[1a] = 0.5$ . <sup>b</sup>Estimated by APC using THF as an eluant on the basis of PS calibration;  $M_w$  = weight-average molecular weight;  $D = M_w/M_n$ ;  $M_n$  = number-average molecular weight. <sup>c</sup>Data taken from Table 1, entry 2.

the  $M_{\rm w}$  and polydispersity indices (D) and yields of products increased. A polymer with a  $M_{\rm w}$  of 7500 and a D of 1.40 could be obtained in 98% yield when the temperature was 80 °C. However,  $M_{\rm w}$  decreased with further elevation of the reaction temperature. Thus, 80 °C was chosen as the optimal temperature.

After confirming the optimal temperature, we screened the reaction solvents. The experimental results showed that the  $M_{\rm w}$  values, yields and fraction of 1,5-regioisomer ( $F_{1,5}$ ) of PTAs produced in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) and dimethylformamide (DMF) are higher than those in 1,4-dioxane and toluene, indicating that high polar solvents facilitate this click polymerization (Table 3). Although  $M_{\rm w}$  of the polymer was little lower, slightly higher  $F_{1,5}$  and yield of the product could be obtained when the polymerization was performed in DMSO

Table 3. Effect of Solvent on the Click Polymerization of 1a and  $2a^a$ 

entry	solvent	yield (%)	$M_{ m w}^{b}$	$D^{b}$	$F_{1,5}^{c}$ (%)
1 <sup>d</sup>	DMSO	98	7500	1.40	89
2	DMF	96	9000	1.53	81
3	1,4-dioxane	44	2200	1.12	53
4	toluene	35	2300	1.14	57

"Carried out at 80 °C for 24 h under nitrogen at a monomer concentration of 0.05 M,  $[t\text{-BuP}_4]/[1a] = 0.5$ . Estimated by APC using THF as an eluant on the basis of PS calibration;  $M_{\rm w} =$  weight-average molecular weight;  $D = M_{\rm w}/M_{\rm n}$ ;  $M_{\rm n} =$  number-average molecular weight. Fraction of the 1,5-regioisomer determined by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR.  $^d\text{Data}$  taken from Table 2, entry 3.

than in DMF. Thus, DMSO was adopted as the suitable solvent.

Furthermore, we followed the time course of the click polymerization. When the reaction time was prolonged from 6 to 24 h,  $M_{\rm w}$  of polymers increased gradually, while their yields remained roughly constant (Table 4). Further extending the reaction time caused slight decrease in  $M_{\rm w}$  of the product. Therefore, 24 h was used for further polymerization.

Table 4. Time Course of the Click Polymerization of 1a and 2a<sup>a</sup>

entry	t (h)	yield (%)	$M_{ m w}^{b}$	$D^{b}$
1	6	98	4700	1.36
2	12	96	4900	1.41
3	18	95	5300	1.36
4 <sup>c</sup>	24	98	7500	1.40
5	30	96	5100	1.38

"Carried out in DMSO at 80 °C under nitrogen at a monomer concentration of 0.05 M,  $[t\text{-BuP}_4]/[1a] = 0.5$ . Estimated by APC using THF as an eluant on the basis of PS calibration;  $M_{\rm w} =$  weight-average molecular weight;  $D = M_{\rm w}/M_{\rm n}$ ;  $M_{\rm n} =$  number-average molecular weight. Data taken from Table 3, entry 1.

Afterward, the effect of the generation of the phosphazene base on the polymerization results was examined. Generally, the higher generation of the phosphazene base corresponds to the stronger basicity. <sup>44</sup> As shown in Table 5, the  $M_{\rm w}$  values and

Table 5. Effect of the Generation of the Phosphazene Base on the Click Polymerization of 1a and 2a<sup>a</sup>

entry	organic base	yield (%)	$M_{\rm w}^{b}$	$D^{b}$
1	$t$ -BuP $_1$	trace	1400	1.12
2	$t$ -Bu $P_2$	86	3300	1.24
3 <sup>c</sup>	$t ext{-BuP}_4$	98	7500	1.40

"Carried out in DMSO at 80 °C under nitrogen for 24 h at a monomer concentration of 0.05 M, [phosphazene base]/[1a] = 0.5. b Estimated by APC using THF as an eluant on the basis of PS calibration;  $M_{\rm w}$  = weight-average molecular weight;  $D = M_{\rm w}/M_{\rm n}$ ;  $M_{\rm n}$  = number-average molecular weight. Data taken from Table 4, entry 4.

yields of PTAs greatly increased when the generation of the phosphazene base enhanced, suggesting that the basicity of the phosphazene base has a significant influence on the click polymerization. Therefore, we kept using t-BuP $_4$  as the polymerization base.

At last, we monitored the monomer concentration. With the increase of monomer concentration from 0.05 to 0.20 M, the  $M_{\rm w}$  and D values of the products progressively increased (Table 6). Further enhancement of the monomer concentration to 0.25 M helped less in increasing  $M_{\rm w}$  and yield of the product. Hence, 0.20 M was chosen as the suitable monomer concentration.

By using these optimized conditions, we polymerized other diynes and diazides to test the universality and robustness of this superbase-mediated click polymerization (Table 7). All polymerizations propagated smoothly, and soluble polymers with high  $M_{\rm w}$  (up to 26 600) and high regioregularities ( $F_{1,5}$  in the range of 87–100%) were produced in excellent yields (up to 99%). These results manifest the universality of this powerful and efficient click polymerization. Furthermore, the resultant polymers are also thermally stable, and the temper-

Table 6. Effect of Monomer Concentration on the Click Polymerization of 1a and 2a<sup>a</sup>

entry	C (M)	yield (%)	$M_{ m w}^{b}$	$D^{b}$
1 <sup>c</sup>	0.05	98	7500	1.40
2	0.15	98	8300	1.42
3	0.20	95	9200	1.50
4	0.25	94	9100	1.56

"Carried out in DMSO at 80 °C under nitrogen for 24 h,  $[t\text{-BuP}_4]/[1a] = 0.5$ . "Estimated by APC using THF as an eluant on the basis of PS calibration;  $M_{\rm w}=$  weight-average molecular weight;  $D=M_{\rm w}/M_{\rm n}$ ;  $M_{\rm n}=$  number-average molecular weight. "Data taken from Table 5, entry 3.

Table 7. Click Polymerization of Diazides 1 and Diynes 2<sup>a</sup>

polymer	monomer	yield (%)	$M_{ m w}^{b}$	$\overline{D}^{b}$	$F_{1,5}^{c}$ (%)
$PI^d$	1a + 2a	95	9200	1.50	90
PII	1a + 2b	98	9300	1.42	100
PIII	1a + 2c	94	20 800	2.21	91
PIV	1b + 2a	97	9600	1.44	87
PV	1b + 2b	99	12 000	1.43	100
PVI	1b + 2c	98	26 600	2.04	100

"Carried out in DMSO at 80 °C under nitrogen for 24 h at a monomer concentration of 0.20 M,  $[t\text{-BuP}_4]/[1] = 0.5$ . "Estimated by APC using THF as an eluant on the basis of PS calibration;  $M_{\rm w}=$  weight-average molecular weight;  $D=M_{\rm w}/M_{\rm n}$ ;  $M_{\rm n}=$  number-average molecular weight. Fraction of the 1,5-regioisomer determined by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR.  $^d\text{Data}$  taken from Table 6, entry 3.

atures of theirr 5% weight loss are higher than 305  $^{\circ}$ C (Figure S1).

**Structure Characterization.** Benefited from the excellent solubility of the resultant polymers, their structures were characterized by spectroscopy techniques. The Fourier transform infrared (FT-IR) spectra of PI as well as its monomers 1a and 2a are shown in Figure 1 as an example. The stretching

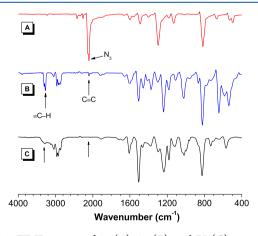
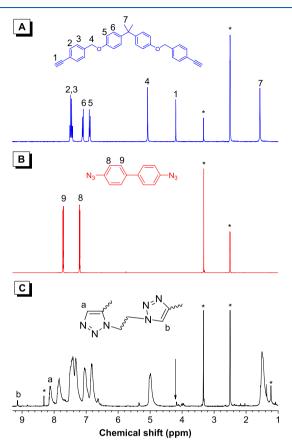


Figure 1. FT-IR spectra of 1a (A), 2a (B), and PI (C).

vibration of  $-N_3$  of 1a was peaked at 2101 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and C $\equiv$ C and  $\equiv$ C-H vibration bands of 2a appeared at 2107 and 3270 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. All these characteristic peaks in the spectrum of PI became very weak or almost vanished, suggesting that most of ethynyl and azide groups have been consumed. Similar results were observed in the FT-IR spectra of PII-PVI (Figures S2-S6).

The nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy could provide more detail information about the structures of PTAs.

Owing to the NMR spectra of 1,5-regioregular PTAs that enjoy higher resolution in DMSO- $d_6$  than that in CDCl<sub>3</sub>, <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of PI–PVI were measured in DMSO- $d_6$ . <sup>29</sup> Figure 2 shows the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of PI as well as its



**Figure 2.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of **2a** (A), **1a** (B), and PI (C) in DMSO- $d_6$ . The solvent peaks are marked with asterisks.

monomers 1a and 2a as a representative example. The ethynyl proton of 2a resonating at  $\delta$  4.20 became much weaker in the spectrum of PI. Furthermore, new peaks corresponding to 1,4- and 1,5-regioisomeric triazoles appeared at  $\delta$  9.15 and 8.12, respectively. The fraction of 1,5-regioisomer of PI was thus calculated to be 90% from the integrals. Similar results were obtained in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of PII–PVI (Figures S7–S11). It should be noted that  $F_{1,5}$  values of other PTAs are higher than 87%, and only the resonant protons of 1,5-regioisomers were recorded in PII, PV, and PVI, demonstrating that this click polymerization could furnish products with high regioregularities.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra further confirmed the occurrence of the click polymerization and the structures of the resultant polymers. Compared with monomer 2a, the ethynyl carbon of  $\equiv$ C− and  $\equiv$ CH resonated at  $\delta$  83.77 and 81.33 in the spectrum of PI, respectively, which became much weaker (Figure S12). Similar results were obtained in the <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of PII−PVI (Figures S13−S17). These analysis results suggest that efficient and regioselective *t*-BuP<sub>4</sub>-mediated AACP has been successfully established.

Structure—Property Relationship Investigation. To figure out the structure—property relationship of PTAs with different regioregularities, 1,5-regioregular PTA PVI' and 1,4-regioregular one PVII (Scheme 2) with a  $M_{\rm w}$  of 13 800 and

Scheme 2. Cu(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>Br-Catalyzed Click Polymerization of Diazide 1b and Diyne 2c

10 500 were synthesized by the *t*-BuP<sub>4</sub>-mediated and Cu-(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>Br-catalyzed click polymerizations of **1b** and **2c** under their optimal conditions, respectively. Their structures were fully characterized by the FT-IR and <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectroscopy methods, and satisfactory results were obtained (Figures S18–S23). The thermal property investigation (Figure S24) and refractive index measurement (Figure S25) of PVI' and PVII show a similar trend with our reported conclusions that the thermal decomposion temperature, glass transition temperature, and refractive index values of 1,4-regioregular PTA are higher than that of the 1,5-regioregular one. <sup>56</sup>

Because the resultant PTAs contain the fluorenyl moiety, we thus studied their photophysical properties. The absorption spectra of PVI' and PVII in tetrahydrofuran (THF) with a concentration of 10<sup>-5</sup> M are illustrated in Figure 3A. The absorption maxima of PVII was recorded at 332 nm, which is 8 nm red-shifted in comparison with that of PVI' (324 nm). Moreover, the spectrum of PVII showed shoulder peaks at 343 nm, while no such fine structural absorption was observed in the spectrum of PVI'. The results indicate that PVII possesses a better conjugated and planar conformation and stronger noncovalent interactions of polymer chains than those of PVI'. 57-59 More obvious difference of the absorption spectra of PVI' and PVII could be observed in their aggregate states upon addition of poor solvent of water into their THF solutions. As shown in Figure 3B,C, increasing the water fraction impacted a negligible effect on the absorption spectra of PVI', while a notable change was found in that of PVII. Furthermore, with increasing water fraction, the shoulder peak in the spectrum of PVII gradually intensified and red-shifted probably because its planar structure, might facilitate the strong intermolecular interaction upon aggregation. A similar phenomenon could be observed in the densification processes (Figure S26A).

To further exemplify the different aggregation features of PVI' and PVII, their photoluminescence (PL) spectra and absolute fluorescence quantum yields  $(\Phi_F)$  in THF/water mixtures with different water fractions were measured. As can be seen from Figure 4, the THF solution of PVII emitted strongly with a  $\Phi_{\rm F}$  value of 41.6%. However, it decreased dramatically with addition of water, demonstrative of a typical aggregation-caused quenching effect. The  $\Phi_F$  value of PVI' in THF solution was measured to be only 12.6%. Upon increasing the water content, its descending degree of  $\Phi_{\rm F}$ was much lower than that of PVII. Similar results were perceived in their densification courses (Figure S26B,C). These behaviors might ascribe to the difference in their structural conformations, <sup>29</sup> suggestive of the stronger  $\pi$ – $\pi$ stacking interaction of the planar conjugated backbone of PVII.

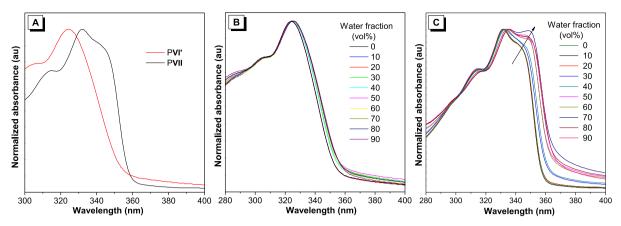


Figure 3. UV—vis absorption spectra of PVI' and PVII in THF solutions (A), PVI' (B), and PVII (C) in THF/water mixtures with different water fractions, polymer concentration:  $10^{-5}$  M.

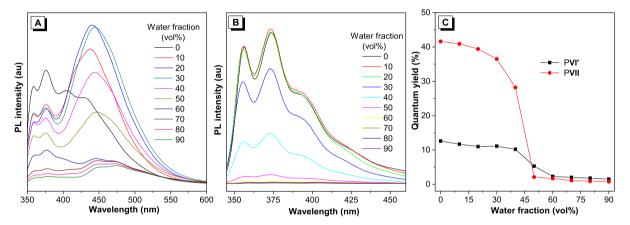
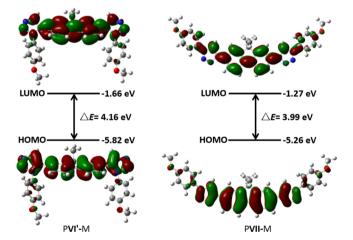


Figure 4. PL spectra of PVI' (A) and PVII (B) in THF/water mixtures with different water fractions; concentration:  $10^{-5}$  M; excitation wavelengths: 324 nm for PVI' and 332 nm for PVII. (C) Plots of PL quantum yields vs water fraction in THF/water mixtures with different water fractions.

To gain a deep insight into the structures of PVI' and PVII, their geometries and spatial distributions of the highest occupied molecular orbitals (HOMOs) and the lowest unoccupied molecular orbitals (LUMOs) were calculated by employing the density functional theory method at the B3LYP/6-31G(d) level. To simplify the calculation, onerepeating units, namely, PVI'-M and PVII-M were used. As illustrated in Figure 5, PVI'-M adopts a twisted conformation, whereas PVII-M is more planar. Moreover, the HOMOs and LUMOs of PVI'-M and PVII-M are mostly located at fluorenyl and triazole rings. Twisted conformation of PVI' weakens the electronic coupling between the polymer chains, which is unfavorable for the  $\pi$ -electron delocalization. Moreover, a slight narrower energy band gap of PVII-M (3.99 eV) than that of PVI'-M (4.16 eV) indicates the extended conjugation in the repeating units of PVII (Figure S27). Notably, the calculation was further confirmed by the electrochemical property measurement. As shown in Figure S28, the oxidation onset potentials ( $E_{\text{onset}}^{\text{ox}}$ ) of PVI' and PVII were recorded to be 1.89 and 1.40 V by cyclic voltammetry, respectively.

# CONCLUSIONS

In summary, a new and efficient phosphazene base-mediated click polymerization of diynes and diazides was successfully developed, and soluble and thermally stable 1,5-regioregular PTAs with high  $M_{\rm w}$  were obtained in high yields. Although 1,4-



**Figure 5.** Calculated molecular conformation and orbital amplitude plots and energy levels of HOMOs and LUMOs of PVI'-M and PVII-M.

and 1,5-regioregular PTAs possess similar composition, their properties are quite different. The former possesses higher thermal stability and refractive indices than those of the latter. Moreover, they also show remarkable difference in the photophysical properties owing to their different structural conformations. The twisted structure of 1,5-regioregular PTA shows poorer conjugation and lower  $\Phi_{\rm F}$  in solution than those

of the planar 1,4-regioregular one. Thus, this work not only provides a new method for the construction of 1,5-regioregular PTAs but also offers a deeper insight into the structure—property relationship of PTAs, which will further guide the design of triazole-based functional materials.

#### **■ EXPERIMENTAL SECTION**

**Materials.** Phosphazene bases  $(t\text{-BuP}_1, t\text{-BuP}_2, \text{ and } t\text{-BuP}_4)$  and  $\text{Cu}(\text{PPh}_3)_3\text{Br}$  were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich and used as received without further purification. THF and toluene were distilled under nitrogen at normal pressure from sodium benzophenone ketyl immediately prior to use. DMSO, DMF, and 1,4-dioxane were of extra-dry grade.

Instruments. The FT-IR spectra were collected on a Bruker Vector 22 spectrometer (KBr disks). The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were measured on a Bruker ADVANCE2B spectrometer in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> and CDCl<sub>3</sub> using tetramethylsilane (TMS,  $\delta = 0$ ) as internal reference. The weight- and number-average molecular weights ( $M_w$ and  $M_{\rm p}$ ) and polydispersity indices  $(D, M_{\rm w}/M_{\rm p})$  of the polymers were estimated by a Waters advanced polymer chromatography (APC) system equipped with a photodiode array detector, using monodisperse polystyrene as calibration and THF as an eluant at a flow rate of 0.5 mL/min. Thermogravimetric analysis measurements were carried out on PerkinElmer TGA 7 under dry nitrogen at a heating rate of 20 °C/min. Differential scanning calorimetry analysis was performed on a DSCAQ20 apparatus at a heating rate of 10 °C/min under dry nitrogen. UV-vis absorption spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu UV-2600 spectrophotometer. PL spectra were measured on a Horiba FluoroMax-4 spectrofluorometer. Absolute fluorescence quantum yields were recorded on a Hamamatsu absolute PL quantum yield spectrometer C11347 Quantaurus-QY. The fluorescence lifetime was determined by using the Quantaurus-Tau time-resolved spectrometer C11367 of Hamamatsu. The refractive index values were determined on a J.A. Woollam V-VASE variable angle ellipsometry measurement system. The polymer films were prepared by spin-coating on crystalline silicon with 1,2-dichloroethane as solvent. The Cauchy dispersion law was applied to analyze the polymer layers from the visible to the IR spectroscopy region. Cyclic voltammetry was carried out on a CHI610EA14297 electrochemical workstation with the platinum electrode and the saturated calomel electrode as the working electrode and the reference electrode, respectively, in dichloromethane solution with 0.1 M tetrabutylammonium hexafluorophosphate as the supporting electrolyte at a scan

**Polymerization.** Unless otherwise stated, all the polymerizations of diazides 1 and diynes 2 were conducted under nitrogen using standard Schlenk techniques. The typical experimental procedure for the click polymerization is given below.

Phosphazene Base-Mediated Click Polymerization. Diazide monomer 1a (23.6 mg, 0.1 mmol) and diyne monomer 2a (45.6 mg, 0.1 mmol) were added into a 10 mL Schlenk tube, after evacuating and refilling with nitrogen thrice; t-BuP<sub>4</sub> (62.5 μL, 0.05 mmol) and extra-dry DMSO (0.5 mL) were injected to dissolve the monomers. The mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 24 h. Afterward, the resulting solution was diluted with 50 mL of CHCl<sub>3</sub> and washed with water thrice. The organic phase was concentrated by a rotary evaporator under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with 5 mL CHCl<sub>3</sub> and added dropwise to 200 mL hexane through a cotton filter under stirring. The precipitates were filtered and washed with hexane several times and dried under vacuum at 40 °C to a constant weight.

*Characterization Data of PI.* A dark yellow powder was obtained in 95% yield.  $M_w$ : 9200; D: 1.50. FT-IR (KBr disk),  $\nu$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2930, 1604, 1507, 1237, 1180, 1018, 824. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ),  $\delta$  (TMS, ppm): 9.14 (the proton of 1,4-disubstituted triazole), 8.12 (the proton of 1,5-disubstituted triazole), 7.85–6.83 (Ar-H), 4.99 (C $H_2$ ), 1.49 (C $H_3$ ). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ),  $\delta$  (ppm): 156.4, 143.3, 139.9, 138.9, 137.8, 136.2, 133.7, 132.2, 129.1, 128.4, 127.8, 126.5, 125.9, 114.5, 69.1, 41.6, 30.9.

Characterization Data of PII. A yellow powder was obtained in 98% yield.  $M_{\rm w}$ : 9300; B: 1.42. FT-IR (KBr disk),  $\nu$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3047, 1605, 1498, 1234, 980, 826, 697.  $^{1}{\rm H}$  NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ),  $\delta$  (TMS, ppm): 7.98 (the proton of 1,5-disubstituted triazole), 7.76–6.83 (Ar-H).  $^{13}{\rm C}$  NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ),  $\delta$  (ppm): 144.1, 142.7, 140.9, 139.6, 137.6, 136.0, 133.6, 131.5, 131.0, 127.2, 126.3, 124.8, 114.3.

Characterization Data of PIII. A dark yellow powder was obtained in 94% yield.  $M_w$ : 20 800; B: 2.21. FT-IR (KBr disk),  $\nu$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2921, 2839, 1502, 1454, 1238, 823. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ),  $\delta$  (TMS, ppm): 9.14 (the proton of 1,4-disubstituted triazole), 8.14 (the proton of 1,5-disubstituted triazole), 7.99–6.82 (Ar-H), 1.55–0.22 (CH<sub>2</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ),  $\delta$  (ppm): 139.3, 138.1, 136.5, 134.0, 128.7, 125.8, 123.3, 121.6, 114.3, 54.9, 31.6, 29.1, 22.6, 13.9.

*Characterization Data of PIV.* A light yellow powder was obtained in 97% yield.  $M_{\rm w}$ : 9600; D: 1.44. FT-IR (KBr disk),  $\nu$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2929, 1605, 1506, 1241, 1018, 826. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ),  $\delta$  (TMS, ppm): 9.14 (the proton of 1,4-disubstituted triazole), 8.08 (the proton of 1,5-disubstituted triazole), 7.40–6.63 (Ar-H), 5.01 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.99 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.72–1.45 (CH<sub>2</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ),  $\delta$  (ppm): 159.7, 156.3, 143.2, 138.7, 137.8, 133.3, 129.4, 128.7, 128.0, 126.4, 115.6, 114.4, 69.0, 68.3, 41.9, 31.3, 29.1, 25.7.

Characterization Data of PV. A light yellow powder was obtained in 99% yield.  $M_{\rm w}$ : 12 000; B: 1.43. FT-IR (KBr disk),  $\nu$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2921, 1509, 1245, 834, 698. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ),  $\delta$  (TMS, ppm): 8.01 (the proton of 1,5-disubstituted triazole), 7.14–6.86 (Ar-H), 3.99 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.68–1.43 (CH<sub>2</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ),  $\delta$  (ppm): 159.6, 144.0, 142.9, 141.0, 137.5, 133.3, 131.2, 129.4, 128.3, 127.5, 125.0, 115.5, 68.4, 28.9, 25.8.

*Characterization Data of PVI*. A dark yellow powder was obtained in 98% yield.  $M_w$ : 26 600; B: 2.04. FT-IR (KBr disk),  $\nu$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2929, 2850, 1604, 1511, 1465, 1302, 1245, 1053, 829. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ),  $\delta$  (TMS, ppm): 8.13 (the proton of 1,5-disubstituted triazole), 7.87–6.93 (Ar-H), 3.94 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.71–0.18 (CH<sub>2</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ),  $\delta$  (ppm): 159.6, 150.7, 140.8, 138.1, 133.1, 129.9, 127.7, 125.9, 123.2, 121.5, 115.3, 114.4, 68.2, 31.6, 29.2, 25.7, 22.6, 14.5.

Cu(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>Br-Catalyzed AACP. Diazide monomer 1b (35.2 mg, 0.1 mmol), diyne monomer 2c (43.8 mg, 0.1 mmol), and Cu(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>Br (9.3 mg, 0.01 mmol) were added into a 10 mL Schlenk tube. After evacuating and refilling with nitrogen thrice, 2 mL freshly distilled THF was injected to dissolve the monomers. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 12 h. Afterward, the resulting solution was diluted with 5 mL THF and added dropwise to 200 mL hexane through a cotton filter under stirring. The precipitates were collected by filtration and washed with hexane several times and dried under vacuum at 40 °C to a constant weight.

*Characterization Data of PVII.* A yellow powder was obtained in 78% yield.  $M_w$ : 10 500; B: 1.29. FT-IR (KBr disk),  $\nu$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2929, 2847, 1513, 1459, 1252, 1039, 826. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta$  (TMS, ppm): 8.19 (the proton of 1,4-disubstituted triazole), 7.99–7.04 (Ar-H), 4.06 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.10–0.67 (CH<sub>2</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta$  (ppm): 159.4, 151.9, 148.8, 141.1, 130.6, 129.2, 124.7, 122.2, 120.2, 118.0, 115.5, 68.5, 55.7, 40.7, 31.9, 29.4, 30.0, 25.8, 22.8, 24.1, 14.2.

# ASSOCIATED CONTENT

### S Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge on the ACS Publications website at DOI: 10.1021/acs.macromol.9b00620.

Detailed synthetic routes to monomers 1 and 2; FT-IR and <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of 1, 2, and PI-PVII; and TGA curves, DSC curves, RI values, dihedral angles, and cyclic voltammograms of PVI' and PVII (PDF)

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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