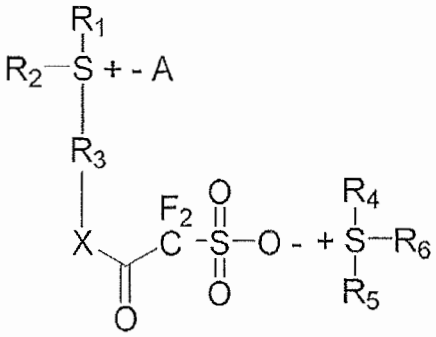
In order to achieve the objects described above, according to an aspect of the present invention, there is provided a sulfonium compound represented by the following formula (1):

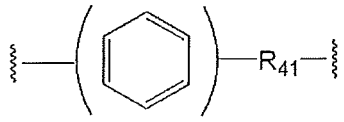
[Chemical Formula 1]



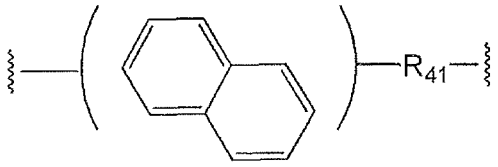
wherein in the formula (1), X represents an electron donor group; R_1 and R_2 each independently represent any one selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group, an aryl group, a heteroalkyl group, a heterocycloalkyl group and a heteroaryl group; R_1 and R_2 may be joined, together with the sulfur atom to which R_1 is bonded, to form a heterocycloalkyl group having 2 to 7 carbon atoms; R_4 to R_6 each independently represent any one selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group, an aryl group, a heteroalkyl group, a heterocycloalkyl group and a heteroaryl group; R_4 and R_5 may be joined, together with the sulfur atom to which R_4 is bonded, to form a heterocycloalkyl group having 2 to 7 carbon atoms; R_3 represents any one selected from the group consisting of a cyclic alkenediyl group, a heterocyclic alkenediyl group, an arylene group and a heteroarylene group; and -A represents an anion.

The anion -A may be any one selected from the group consisting of a sulfonate anion, an imide anion, a methide anion, a halogenated alkyl anion, a carboxylate anion~~, an iodonium anion~~ and a sulfonylimide anion.

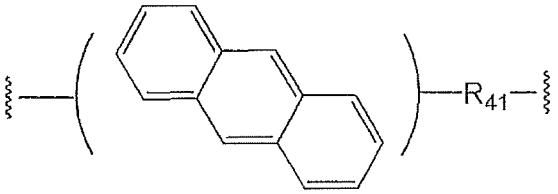
The anion -A may be any one selected from the group consisting of anions



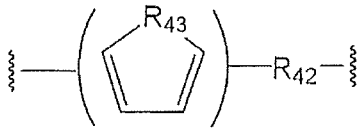
[Chemical Formula 4-2]



[Chemical Formula 4-3]



[Chemical Formula 4-4]



wherein in the formulas (4-1) to (4-4), R_{41} represents any one selected from the group consisting of -O-, -S- and -O-$(CH_2)_n$-O- (wherein n represents an integer from 1 to 5); R_{42} represents any one selected from the group consisting of -$(CH_2)_n$-S- (wherein n represents an integer from 1 to 5) and -$(CH_2)_n$-O- (wherein n represents an integer from 1 to 5); and R_{43} represents any one selected from the group consisting of -CH_2-, -O- and -S-.

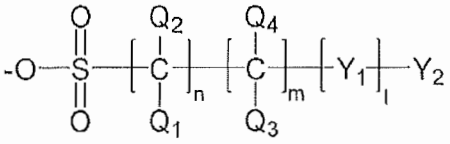
In the formula (1), -A represents an anion.

The anion -A may be any one selected from the group consisting of a sulfonate anion, an imide anion, a methide anion, a halogenated alkyl anion, a carboxylate anion~~, an~~

~~iodonium anion,~~ and a sulfonylimide anion.

The anion -A may be any one selected from the group consisting of anions represented by the following formulas (1-1), (1-2) and (1-3):

[Chemical Formula 1-1]



wherein in the formula (1-1), Q_1, Q_2, Q_3 and Q_4 each independently represent any one selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, and an alkyl group; and may be each independently any one selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, and an alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbon atoms.

In the formula (1-1), Y_1 represents any one selected from the group consisting of an alkanediyl, an alkenediyl, NR', S, O, CO and combinations thereof, and R' represents any one selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom and an alkyl group. Furthermore, Y_1 may be any one selected from the group consisting of an alkanediyl having 2 to 20 carbon atoms, an alkenediyl having 2 to 20 carbon atoms, NR', S, O, CO and combinations thereof (wherein R' represents any one selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom and an alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbon atoms).

In the formula (1-1), Y_2 represents any one selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group, a heterocycloalkyl group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group, a heteroalkyl group, an allyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, a haloalkyl group and an alkylsulfonyl group, and Y_2 may be any one selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, a cycloalkyl group having 3 to 20 carbon atoms, a heterocycloalkyl group having 3 to 20 carbon atoms, an aryl group having 6 to 20 carbon atoms, a heteroaryl group having 5 to