

# Supplementary Materials: Novel NBN-embedded Polymers and Their Application as Fluorescent Probes in Fe<sup>3+</sup> and Cr<sup>3+</sup> Detection

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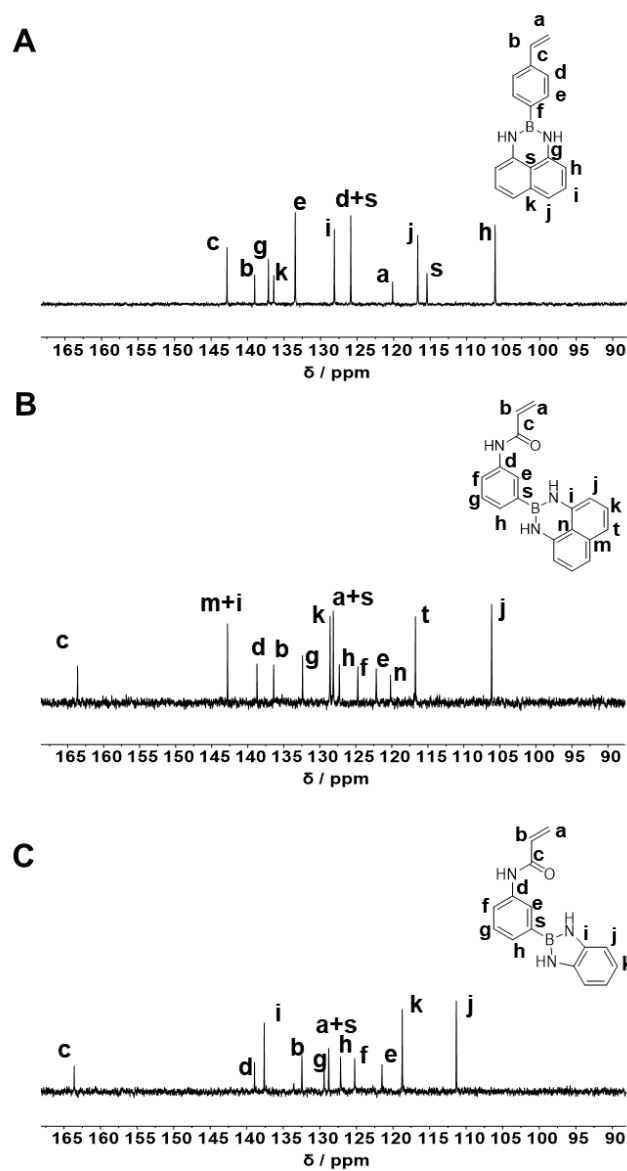
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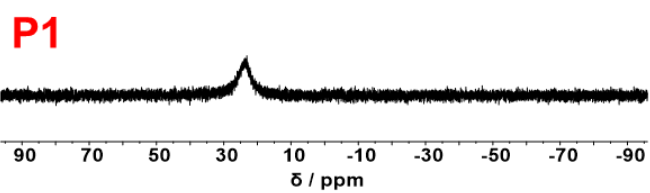
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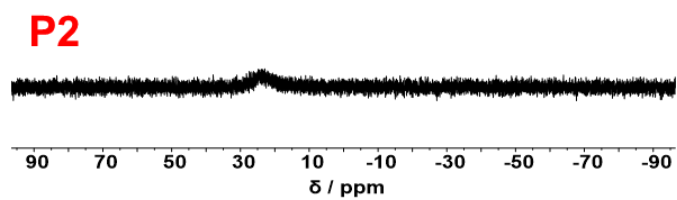


**Figure S1.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of NBN-doped monomers: (A) M1, (B) M2 and (C) M3.

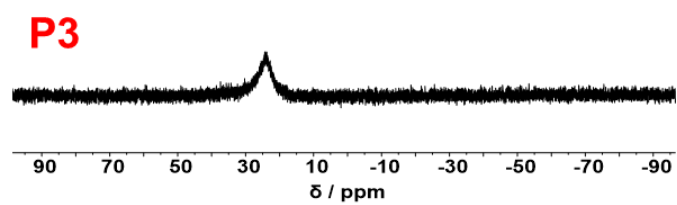
**A**



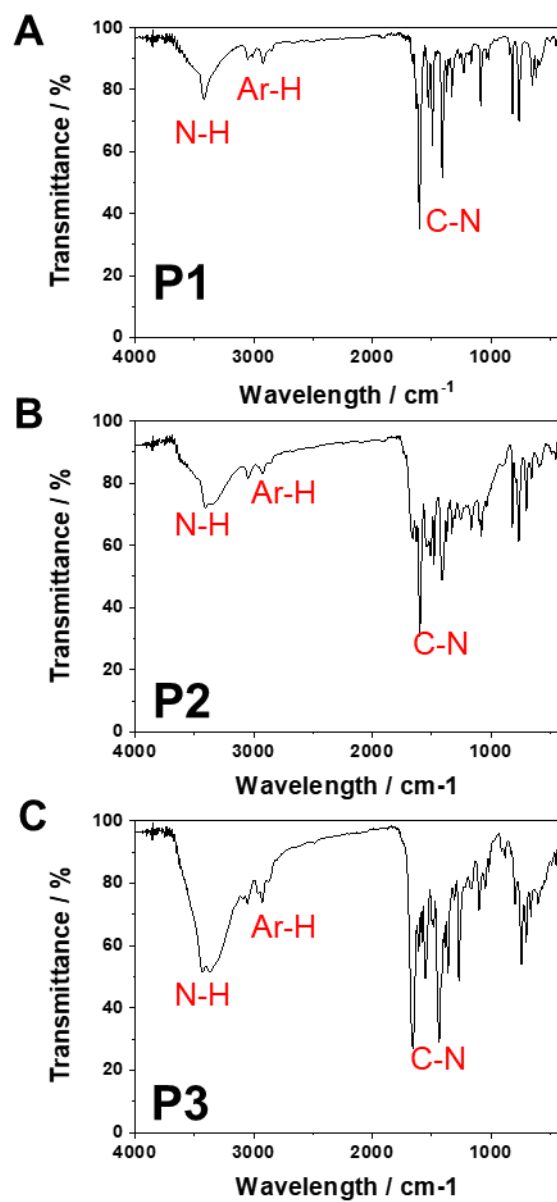
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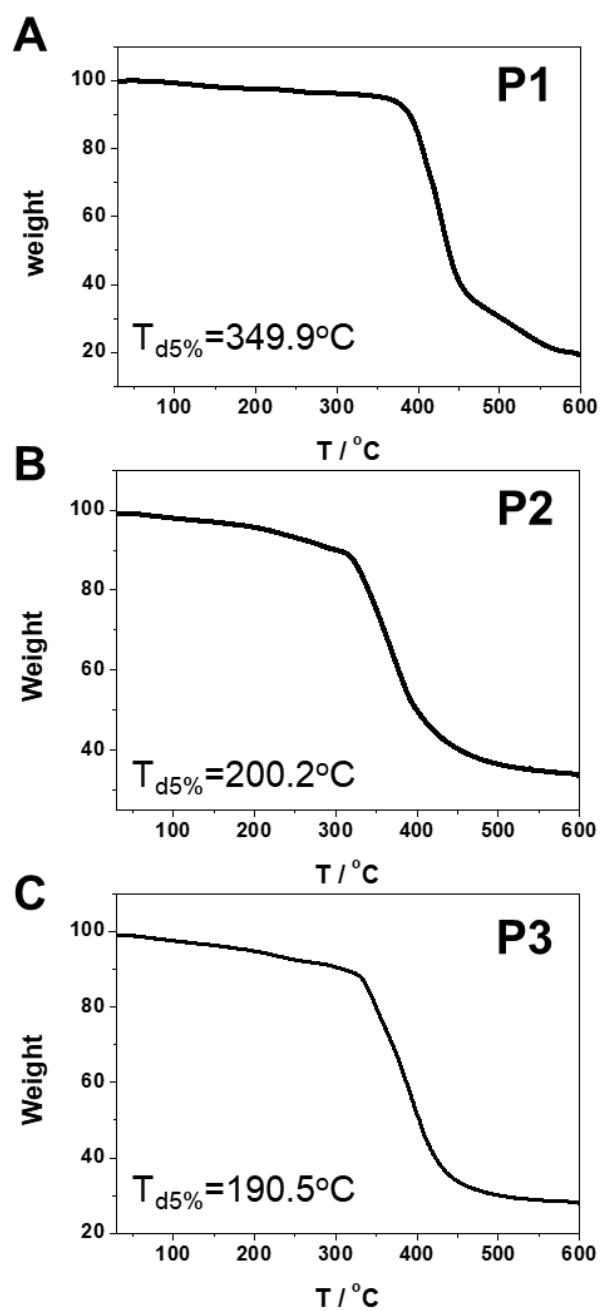
**C**



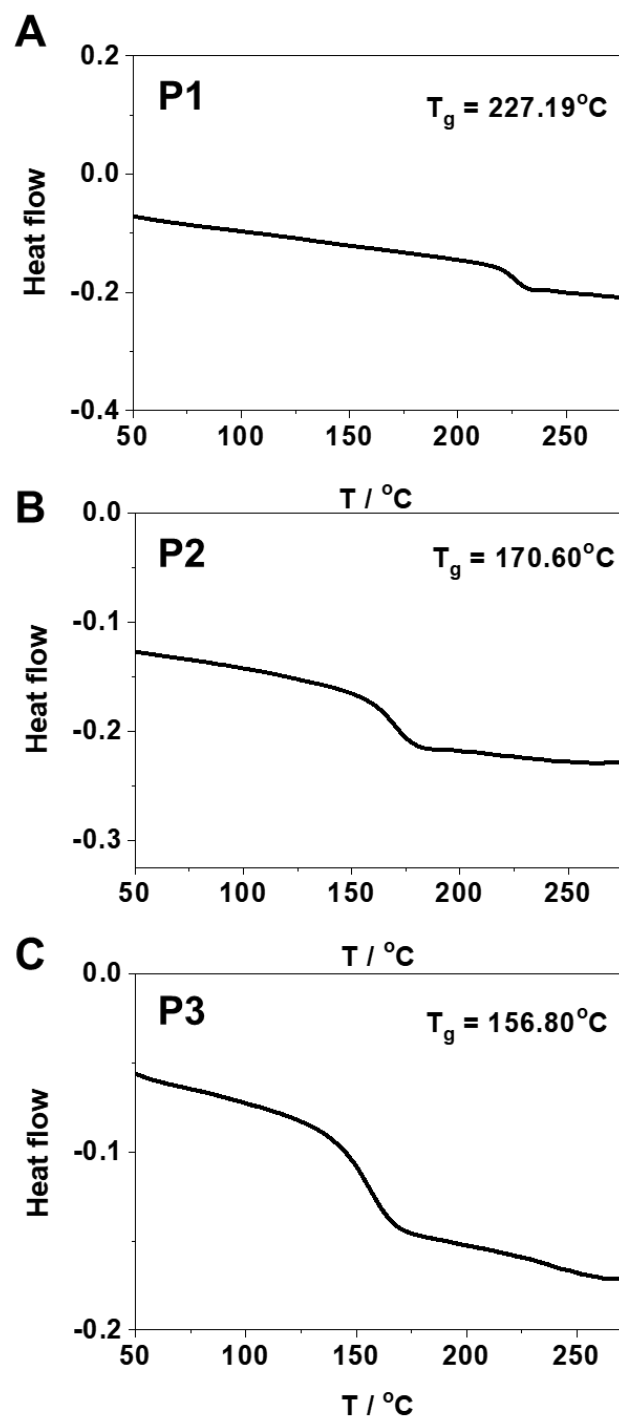
**Figure S2.**  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR of NBN-embedded polymers: (A) P1, (B) P2 and (C) P3.



**Figure S3.** FT-TR spectra of NBN-embedded polymers: (A) P1, (B) P2 and (C) P3.

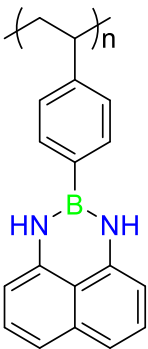
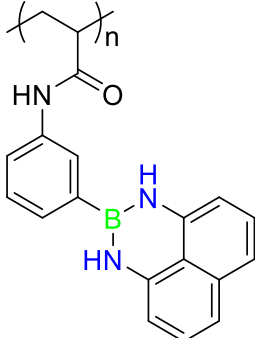
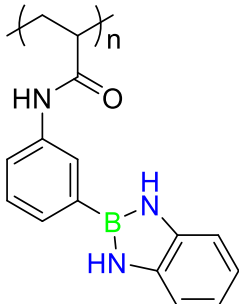


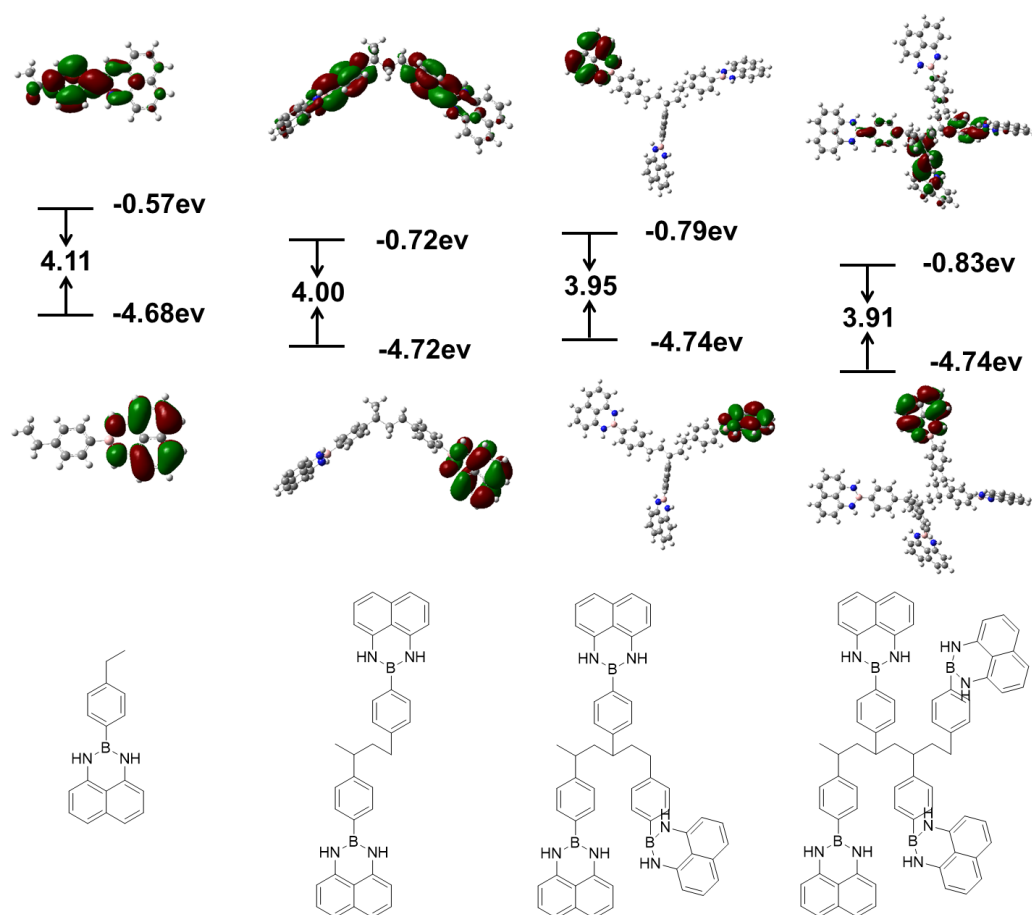
**Figure S4.** TGA curve of NBN-embedded polymers: (A) P1, (B) P2 and (C) P3.



**Figure S5.** DSC curves of NBN-doped polymers: (A) P1, (B) P2 and (C) P3.

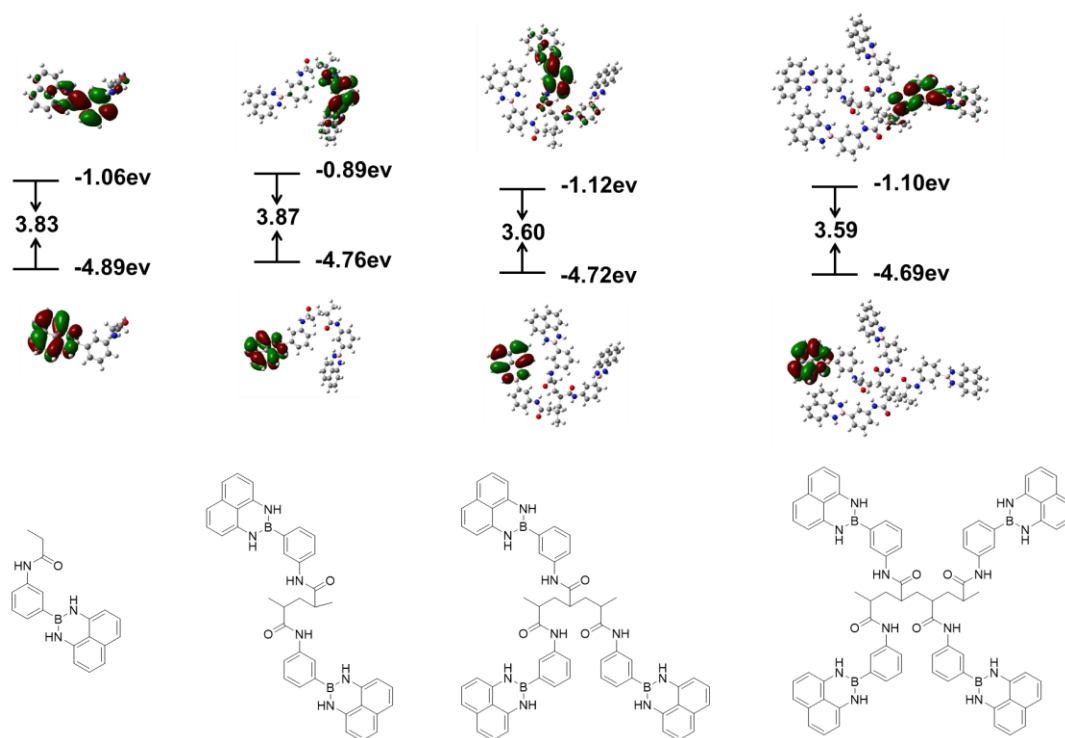
**Table S1.** The  $E_g$  with different DP of NBN-embedded polymers.

	<b><math>E_g</math> (eV) n=1</b>	<b><math>E_g</math> (eV) n=2</b>	<b><math>E_g</math> (eV) n=3</b>	<b><math>E_g</math> (eV) n=4</b>
	<b>4.11</b>	<b>4.11</b>	<b>3.95</b>	<b>3.91</b>
	<b>3.83</b>	<b>3.87</b>	<b>3.60</b>	<b>3.59</b>
	<b>4.67</b>	<b>3.98</b>	<b>3.55</b>	<b>3.54</b>

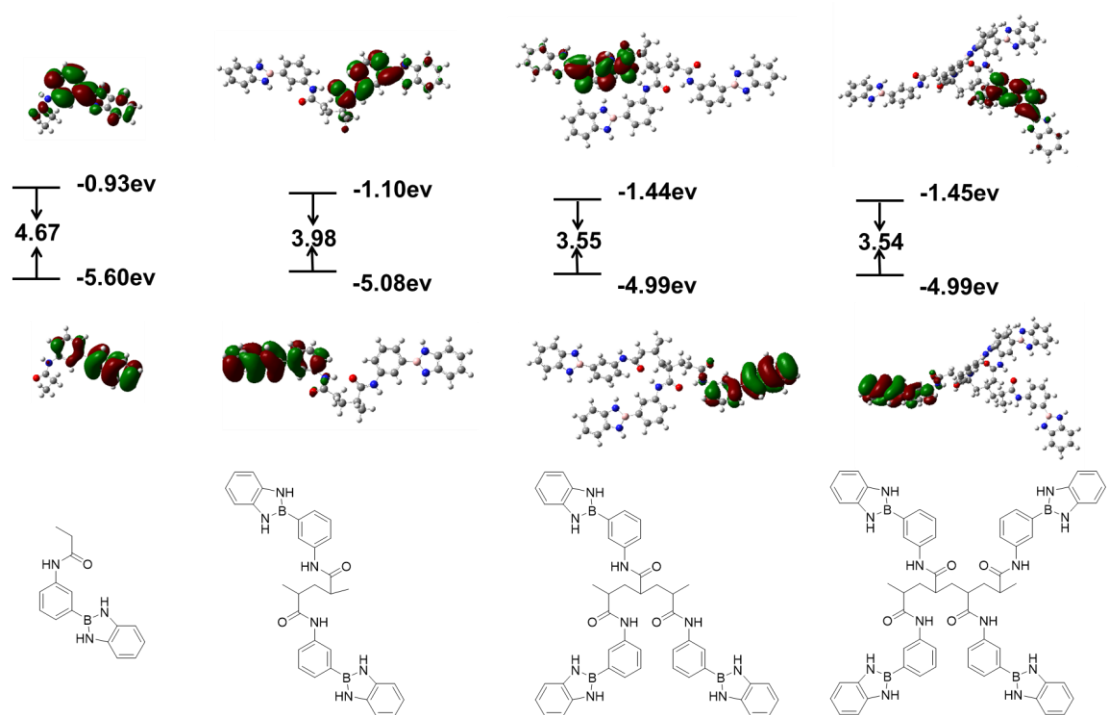


**Figure S6.** Electron cloud distributions and energy levels (eV) of P1 in the geometry-optimized S1 state calculated using the TD-DFT B3LYP/6-311G\*, Gaussian 09 program.





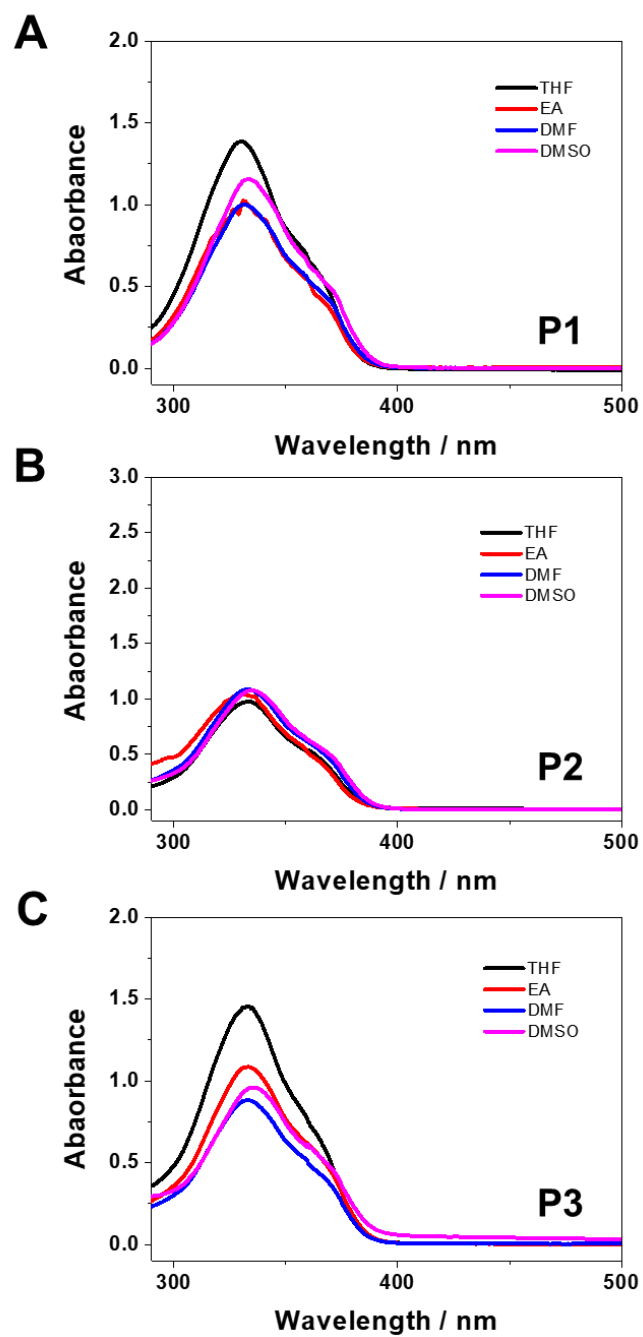
**Figure S7.** Electron cloud distributions and energy levels (eV) of P2 in the geometry-optimized S1 state calculated using the TD-DFT B3LYP/6-311G\*, Gaussian 09 program.



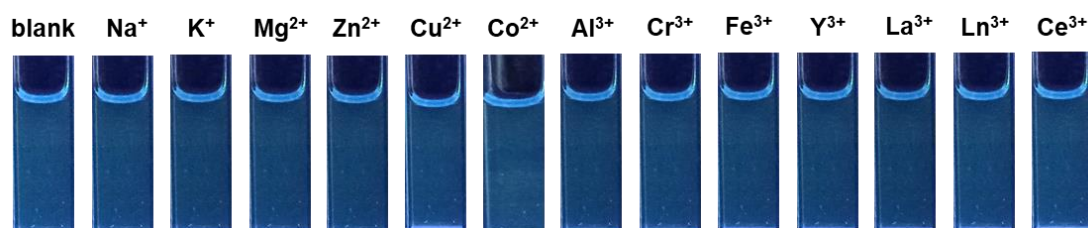
**Figure S8.** Electron cloud distributions and energy levels (eV) of P3 in the geometry-optimized S1 state calculated using the TD-DFT B3LYP/6-311G\*, Gaussian 09 program.

**Table S2.** Properties of three polymers in different solvents.

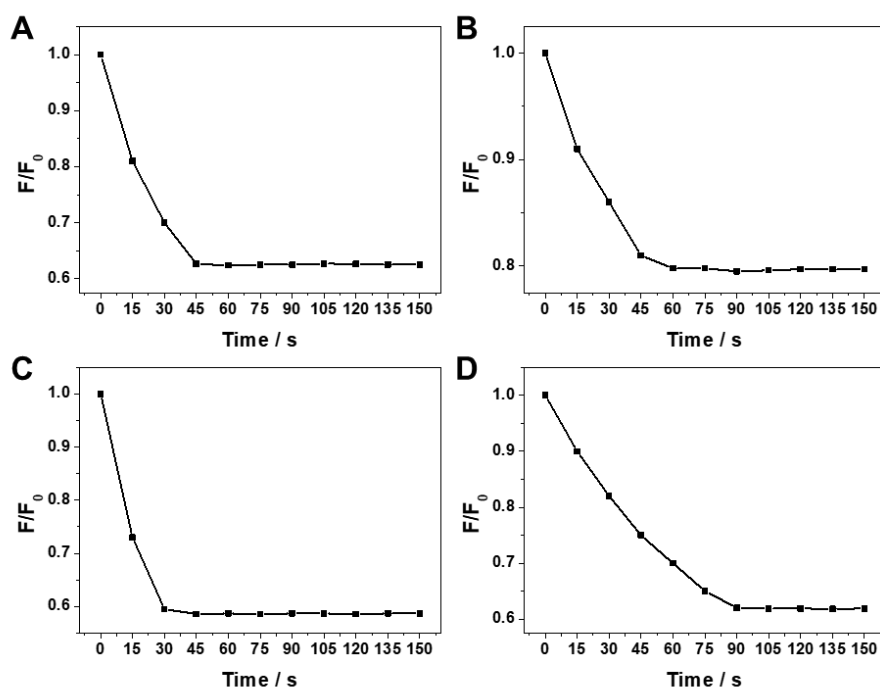
Polymer	Solvent	$\lambda_{\text{abs}}$ (nm)	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$ (nm)	Stokes shift (nm)	$\Phi_{\text{f}}$	$\epsilon$ (L.mol <sup>-1</sup> .cm <sup>-1</sup> )
P1	THF	329	457	128	0.19%	35357
	EA	330	460	130		33116
	DMF	331	472	141		32467
	DMSO	333	486	153	0.15%	37337
P2	THF	333	472	139	0.21%	28846
	EA	331	481	150		30949
	DMF	333	489	156		31850
	DMSO	335	492	157	0.19%	32451
P3	THF	332	405	75		41968
	EA	332	417	85		31259
	DMF	332	433	101	7.76%	25180
	DMSO	335	515	183	0.32%	27670



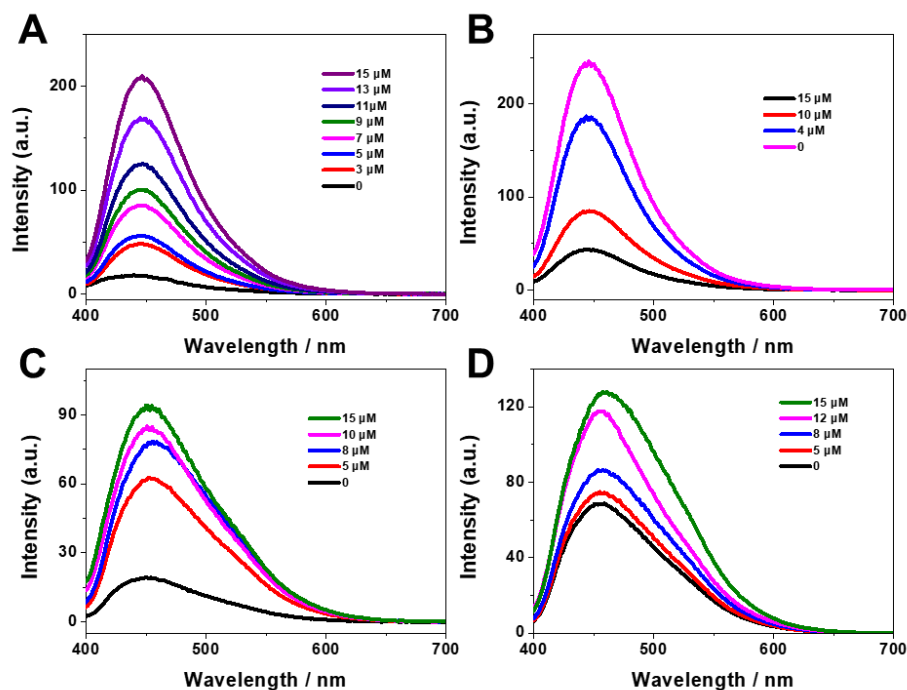
**Figure S9.** The absorption spectrum of NBN-embedded polymers in different solvents.



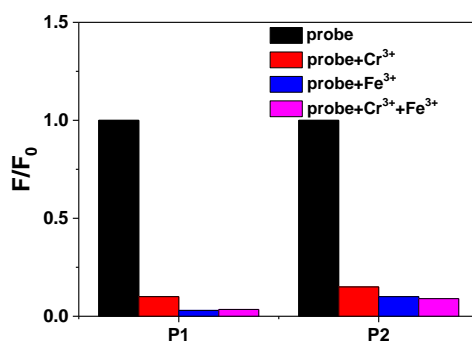
**Figure S10.** The fluorescence photos of P3 solution (0.1 mg/mL) with various metal ions ( $5.0 \times 10^{-5}$  mol/L) in THF by 365 nm UV lamp.



**Figure S11.** The response time of P1 for Fe<sup>3+</sup>(A), Cr<sup>3+</sup>(B) and P2 for Fe<sup>3+</sup>(C) and Cr<sup>3+</sup>(D) ( $C_{\text{polymer}} = 0.1$  mg/mL,  $C_{\text{ions}} = 5$   $\mu$ M,  $E_x = 370$  nm for P1,  $E_x = 375$  nm for P2).



**Figure S12.** Fluorescence spectra of polymer-ions systems with EDTA addition: (A) P1-Fe<sup>3+</sup>, (B) P1-Cr<sup>3+</sup>, (C) P2-Fe<sup>3+</sup> and (D) P2-Cr<sup>3+</sup> ( $C_{\text{polymer}} = 0.05 \text{ mg/mL}$ ,  $C_{\text{ions}} = 10 \text{ } \mu\text{M}$ ,  $E_x$  for P1 was 370 nm and  $E_x$  for P2 was 375 nm).



**Figure S13.** Fluorescence intensity evolution of probe P1 and probe P2 towards Cr<sup>3+</sup> cation, Fe<sup>3+</sup> cation and the mixture of Cr<sup>3+</sup> and Fe<sup>3+</sup> cations ( $C_{\text{polymer}} = 0.1 \text{ mg/mL}$ ,  $C_{\text{ions}} = 50 \text{ } \mu\text{M}$ ,  $E_x = 365 \text{ nm}$ ).