

Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

A novel reversible fluorescent probe for the highly sensitive detection of nitro and peroxide organic explosives using electrospun BaWO₄ nanofibers

Gibin George,^a Caressia S. Edwards,^a Jacob I. Hayes,^a Lei Yu,^b Sivasankara Rao Ede,^a Jianguo Wen,^b Zhiping Luo^{*a}

^a Department of Chemistry, Physics and Material Science, Fayetteville State University, Fayetteville, NC 28301, USA

^b Centre for Nanoscale Materials, Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, IL 60439, USA

**Corresponding author: E-mail: zluo@uncfsu.edu*

Results

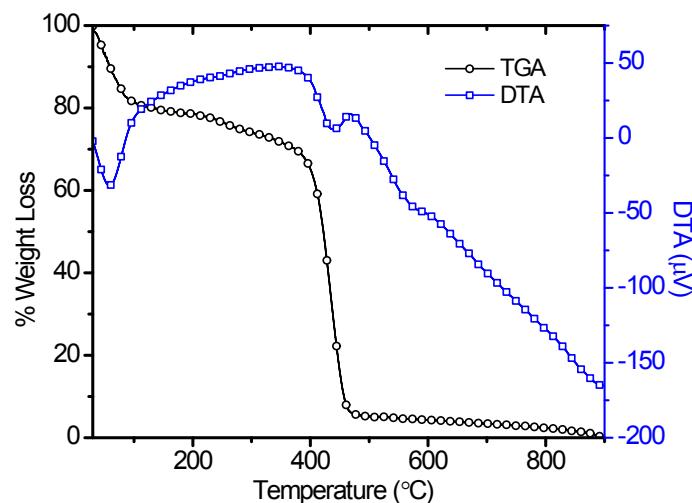


Fig. S1. Thermogravimetric analysis of PVP/Ba(Ac)₂/AMT composite nanofibers.

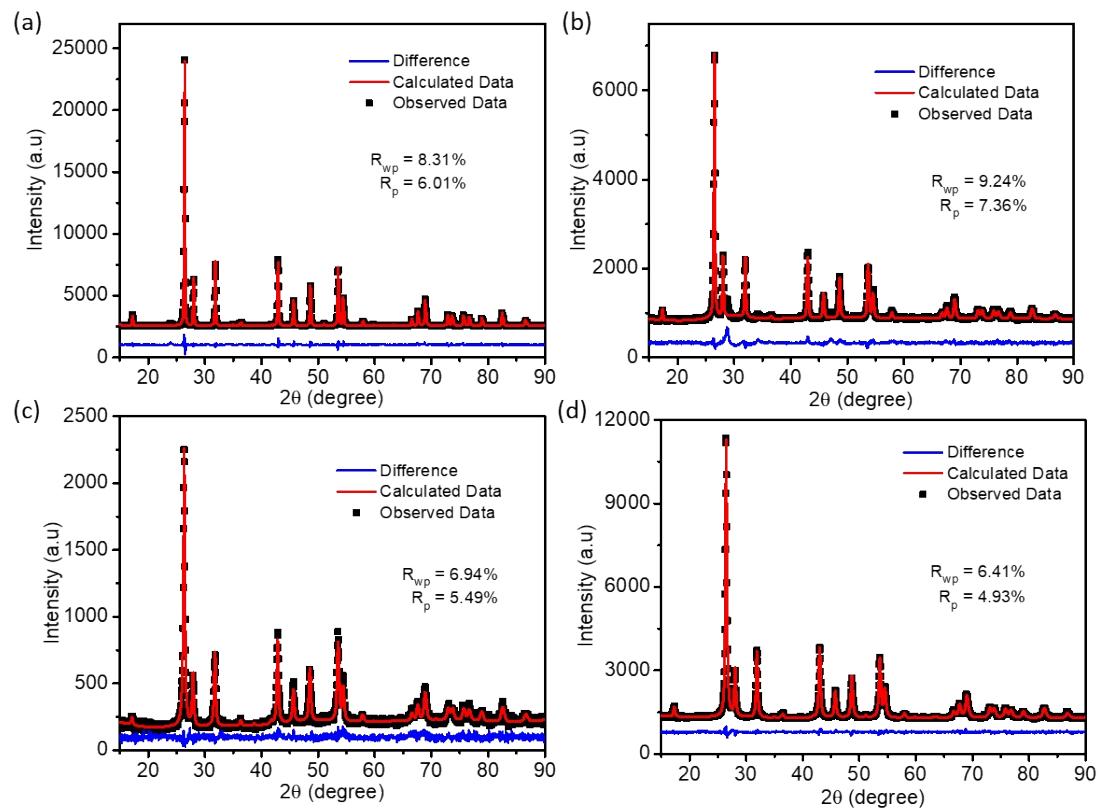


Fig. S2. Rietveld refined XRD patterns of (a) BaWO_4 , (b) $\text{BaWO}_4\text{:5Tb}$, (c) $\text{BaWO}_4\text{:5Eu}$, and (d) $\text{BaWO}_4\text{:5Tb-5Eu}$ nanofibers.

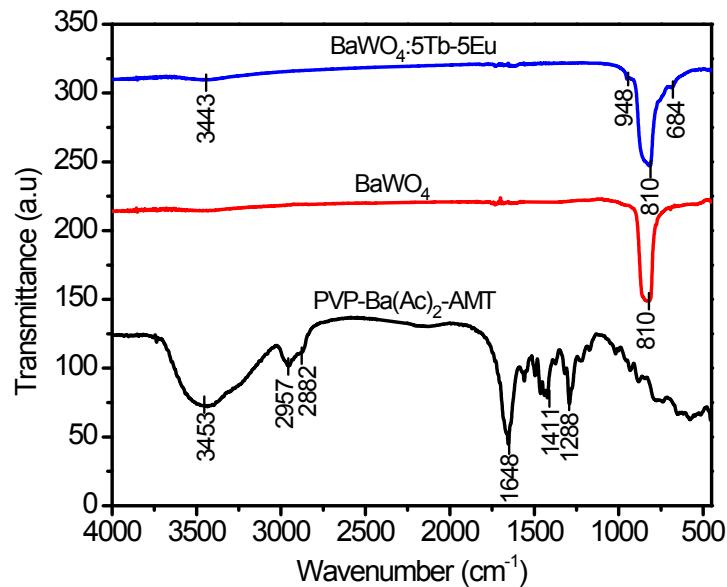


Fig. S3. FTIR spectra comparing the nanofibers before and after calcination.

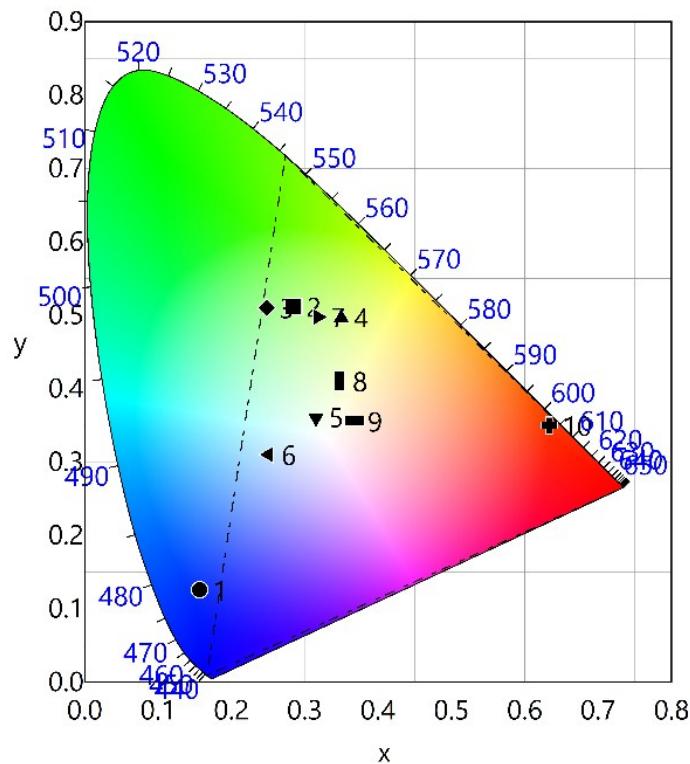


Fig. S4. CIE diagram corresponding to the PL emission of BaWO_4 nanofiber phosphors.

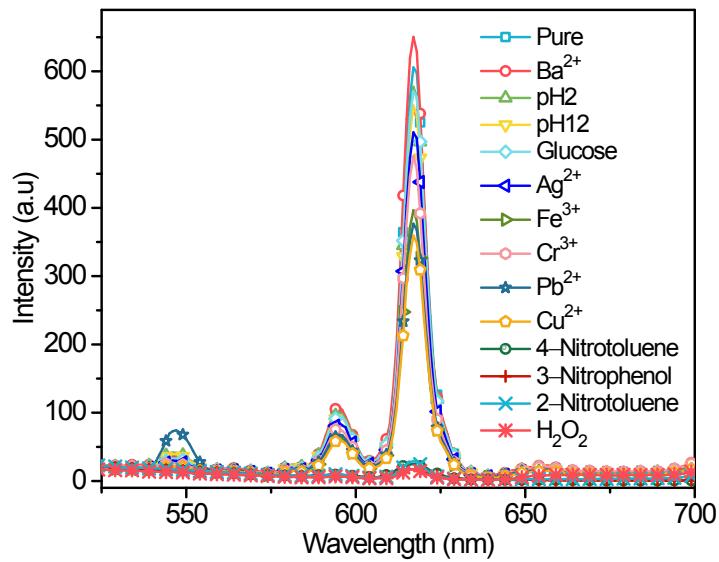


Fig. S5. PL spectra of the $\text{BaWO}_4:5\text{Tb}-5\text{Eu}$ nanofiber dispersion in water, in the presence of different analytes.

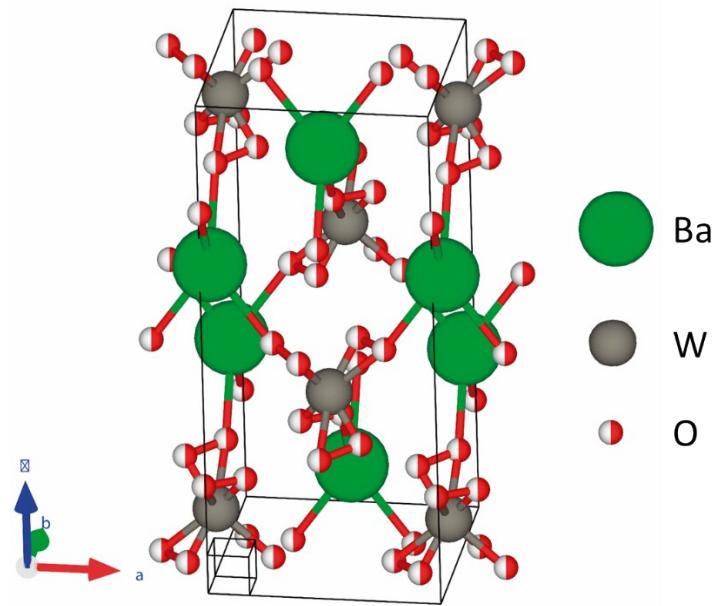


Fig. S6. Crystal Structure of BaWO_4 .

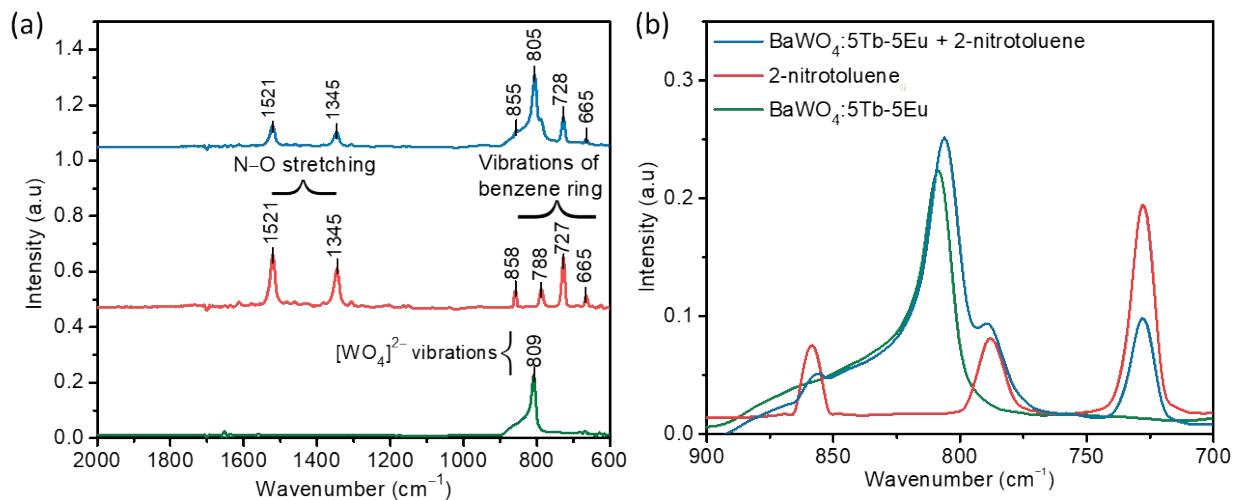


Fig. S7. FTIR spectra of $\text{BaWO}_4:5\text{Tb}-5\text{Eu}$ nanofibers in the presence and absence of 2-nitrotoluene, and (b) is the magnified view of (a).

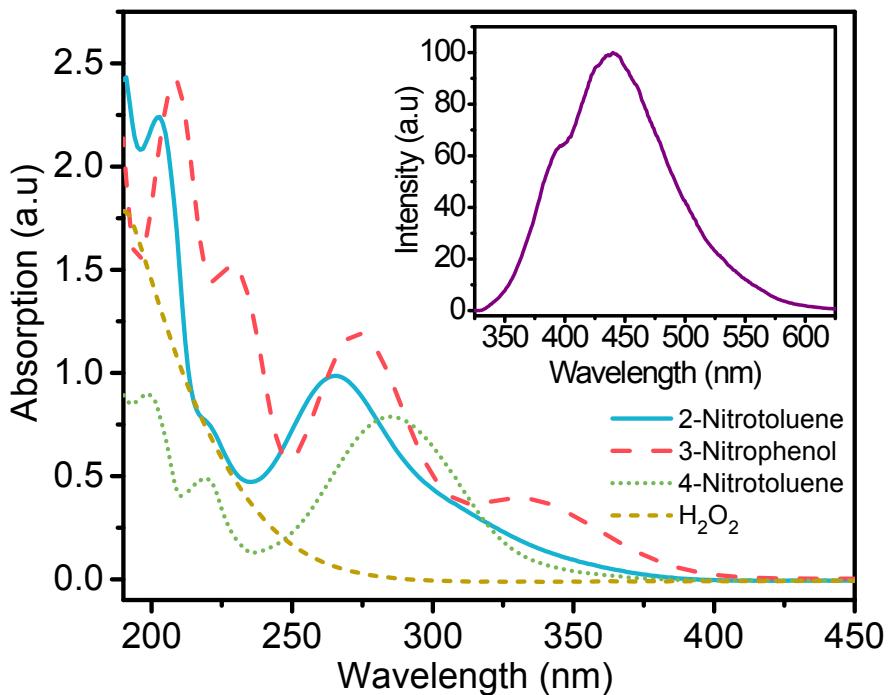


Fig. S8. The comparison of UV spectra of the analytes in water with the emission spectra of the pure BaWO₄ nanofibers in the solid state (in the inset).

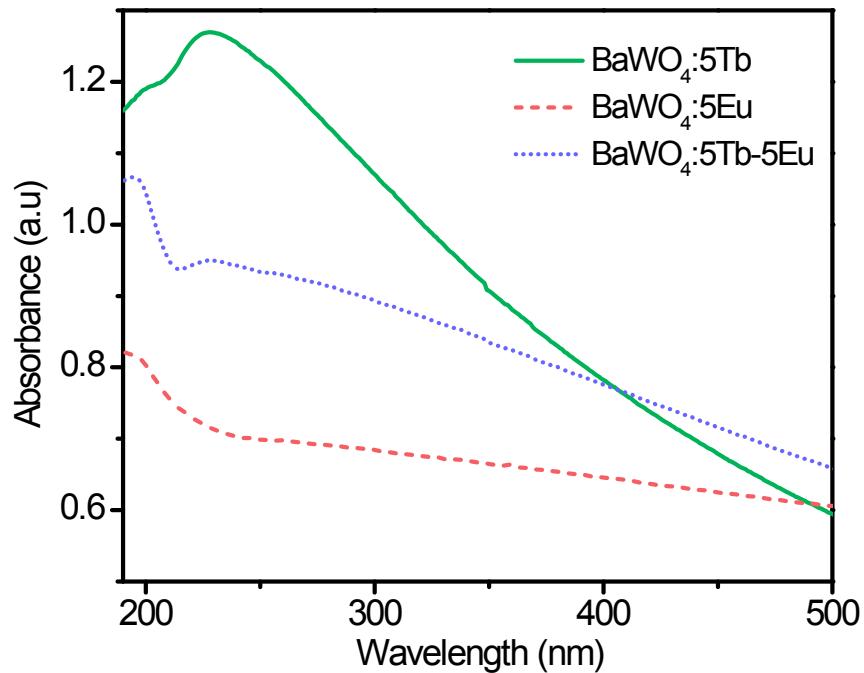


Fig. S9. The UV absorption spectra of RE³⁺ doped BaWO₄ nanofibers dispersed in water.

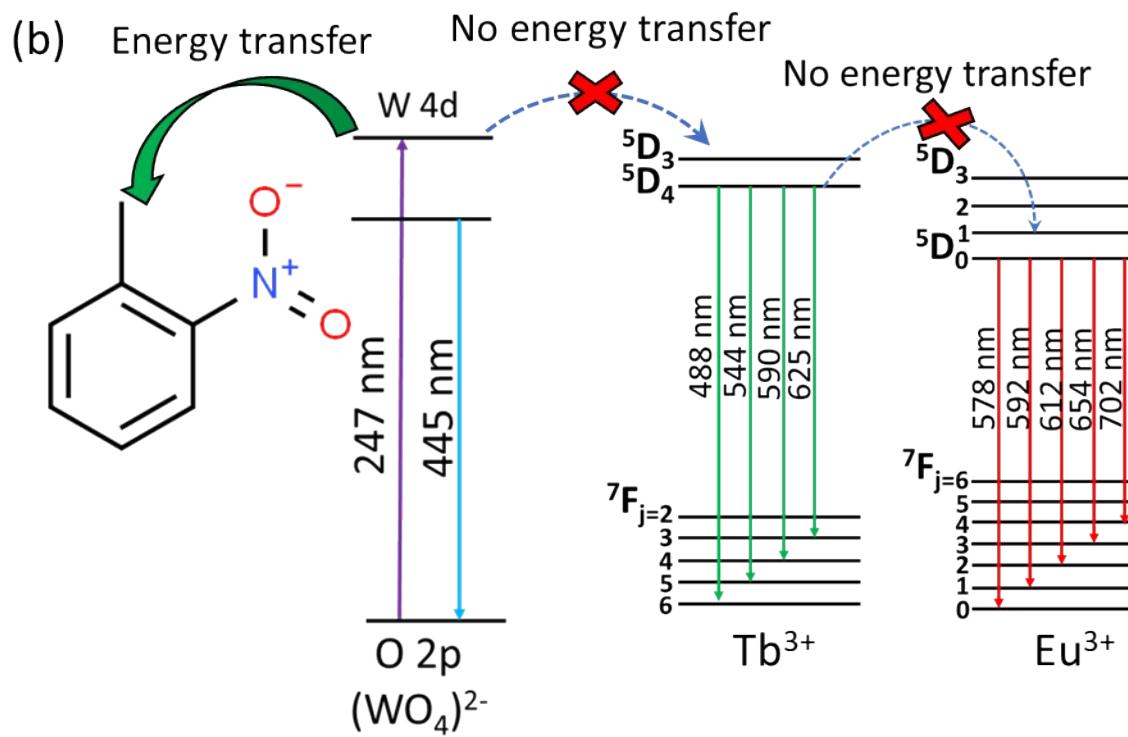
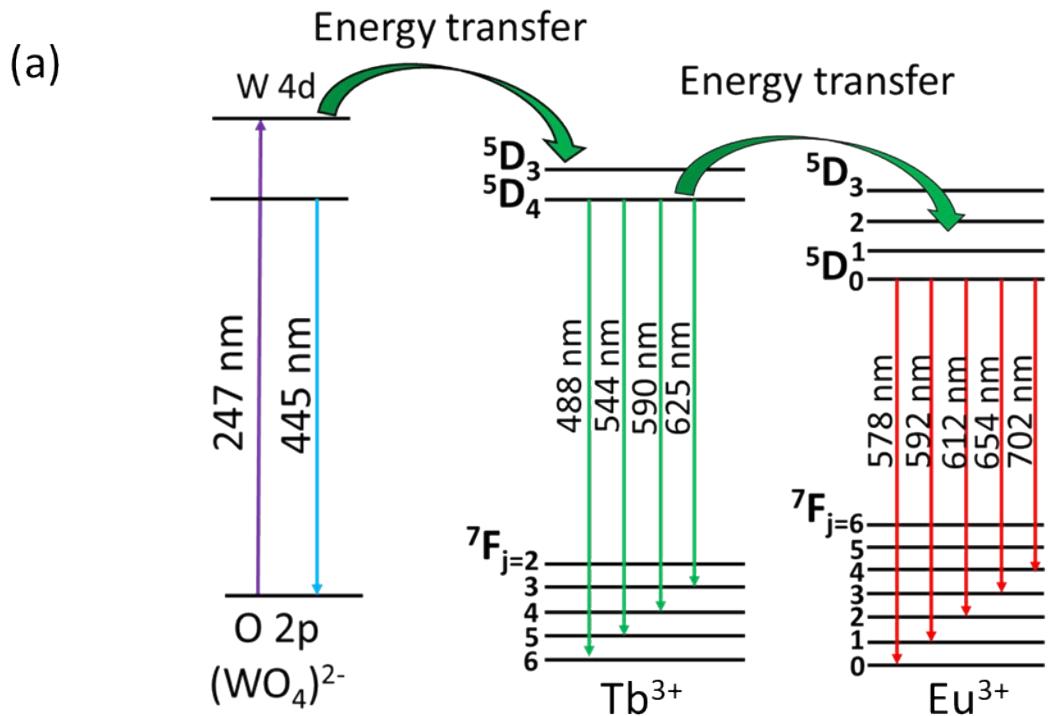


Fig. S10. Schematic of the energy-transfer mechanism in the (a) absence and (b) presence of 2-nitrotoluene, when BaWO₄:5Tb-5Eu nanofibers are used as a fluorescent probe.

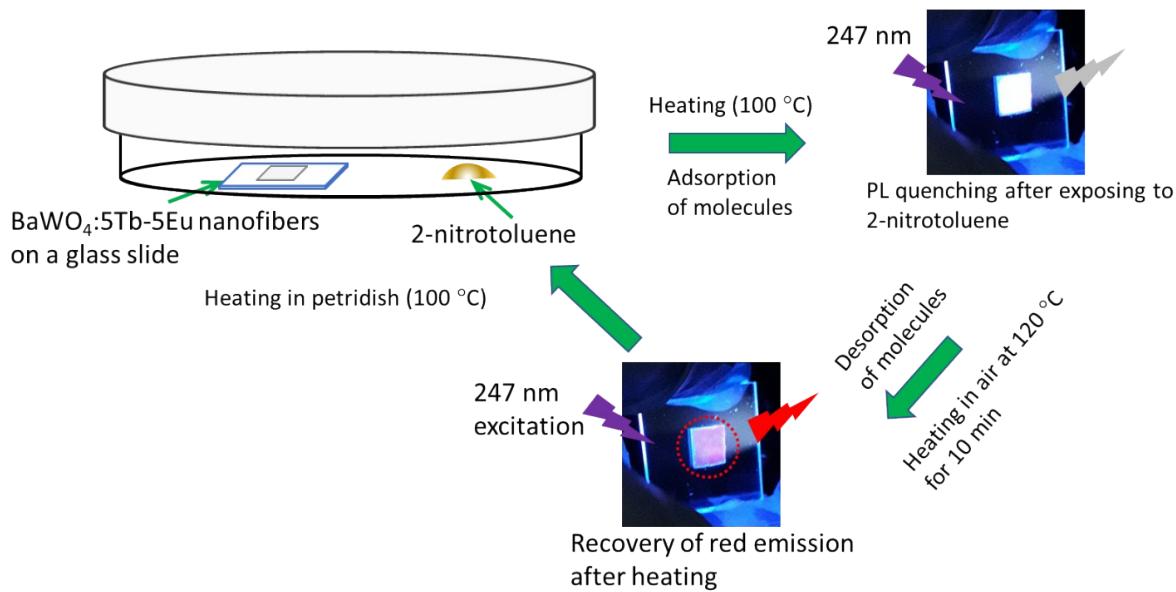


Fig. S11. Schematic representation for testing the cyclic recovery of PL emission from solid-state BaWO_4 :5Tb-5Eu nanofibers in the absence and presence 2-nitrotoluene vapor and the photographs display the emission from the nanofibers under 247 nm UV excitation in the presence and absence of 2-nitrotoluene during the cycle.

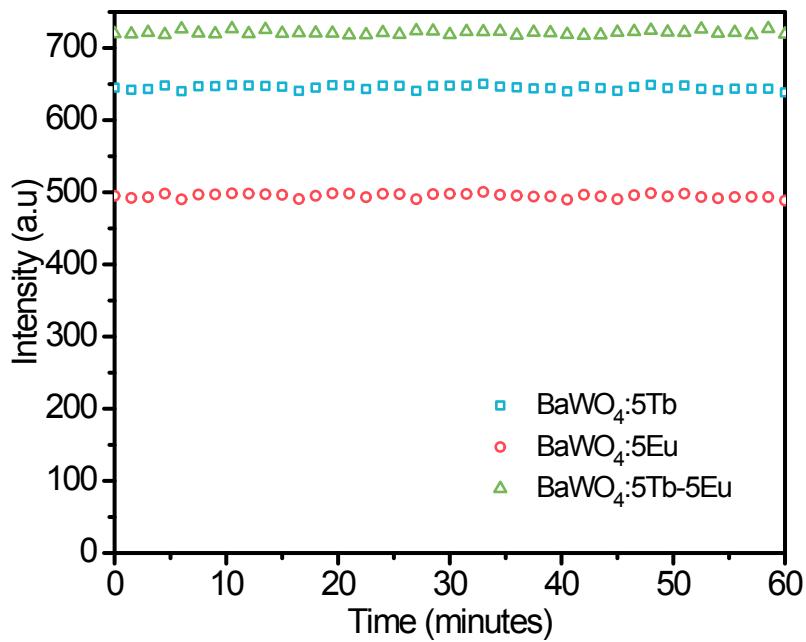


Fig. S12. The photobleaching studies on solid-state RE^{3+} doped BaWO_4 nanofibers.