

## Supporting Information

# Controlling the Triplet Dynamics for Efficient Room Temperature Phosphorescence by Molecular Engineering

Ramar Arumugam,<sup>a</sup> Akkarakkaran Thayyil Muhammed Munthasir,<sup>b</sup> Pagidi Sudhakar,<sup>c</sup> Niharika Pradhan,<sup>d</sup> Gobbilla Sai Kumar,<sup>a</sup> Sambit Pradhan,<sup>b</sup> Venugopal Rao Soma,<sup>d</sup> Pakkirisamy Thilagar\*<sup>b</sup> and Vadapalli Chandrasekhar\*<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Hyderabad 500046, India.

<sup>b</sup> Department of Inorganic and Physical Chemistry, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore 560012, India.

<sup>c</sup> Department of Chemistry, Indian Institute of Technology Tirupati, Tirupati 517619, India

<sup>d</sup> School of Physics and DIA-CoE (formerly ACRHEM), University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad 500046, India.

### Table of Contents

1	General experimental procedure	S2
2	Synthesis details	S3
3	Structural characterizations	S5-S14
4	Single crystal X-ray diffraction data	S15
5	Photophysical and theoretical data	S16-65
6	References	S66

## 1. General experimental procedures

### 1.1. Materials

All reactions were performed under an inert argon atmosphere using standard Schlenk techniques. [1] Starting materials such as *n*-butyl lithium (2.5 M in hexane), 1,4-dibromonaphthalene, 1-bromo-4-methoxynaphthalene, BBr<sub>3</sub> (2.5 M in *n*-hexane), Sodium azide, Copper(I) iodide, L-proline, and dimesitylboron fluoride, were obtained and used as received. Tetrahydrofuran, *n*-hexane, *n*-pentane, diethyl ether, and DCM were dried and distilled by standard procedures. [2]

### 1.2. Methods

Multi-nuclear NMR (<sup>1</sup>H, <sup>11</sup>B, and <sup>13</sup>C) spectra were recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> and DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> at 25 °C on a Bruker Avance 400 MHz/300 MHz NMR spectrometer operating at a frequency of 300 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>11</sup>B for 128 MHz, and <sup>13</sup>C for 75 MHz. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were referenced to TMS (0.00 ppm) as an internal standard. Chemical shift multiplicities are reported as singlet (s), doublet (d), triplet (t), and multiplet (m). <sup>13</sup>C resonances were referenced to the CDCl<sub>3</sub> signal at ~77.67 ppm. <sup>11</sup>B NMR chemical shift values were referenced to the external standard boron signal of BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O. The ESI (HR-MS) mass spectra were recorded on a Bruker maXis mass spectrometer. Electronic absorption spectra, fluorescence emission spectra, and time-resolved fluorescence (TRF) decay measurements were recorded on a SHIMADAZU UV-2600 spectrophotometer and FLS-980 EDINBURGH spectrometer, respectively. Time-gated emission spectra were recorded using the same FLS 980 fluorimeter by excitation source of a pulsed microsecond flash lamp (μF1) with a pulse width of 1.1 μs. Temperature-dependent emission studies were also performed using the same instrument with the help of an OXFORD cryostat. All compound solutions for spectral measurements were prepared using anhydrous spectrophotometric grade solvents and standard volumetric glassware. Quartz cuvettes with sealing screw caps were used for the solution state spectral measurements. The intensity data of crystals **NB-Br**, **NB-OMe**, **NB-OH**, **NH<sub>2</sub>**, and **NB-COOH** were collected on an XtaLAB AFC12 (RINC) [λ(Mo Kα) = 0.71073 Å] (Rigaku Oxford Diffraction, 2017) diffractometer. The data were integrated using CrysAlisPro 1.171.39.29d software. [3a,c] The structures were solved by direct methods using SHELXS-97 and refined using the SHELXL-2018/3 program (within the WinGX program package) [3b], and non-H atoms were refined anisotropically. The CCDC numbers **NB-Br**, **NB-OMe**, **NB-OH**, **NH<sub>2</sub>**, and **NB-COOH** are 2291486 and 2487699-2487702, respectively. Density functional theory (DFT) calculations

were done using B3LYP functional with 6-31G(d) basis set as incorporated in the Gaussian 09 package for all the atoms. <sup>[4]</sup> The optimized structures and the frontier molecular orbitals (FMOs) were viewed using Gaussview 5.0. SOC calculations were done by ORCA 5.0 software, using B3LYP functional with a 6-31G (d, p) basis set. RP-HPLC analysis was performed on a Shimadzu HPLC system using a C18 column. The mobile phase consisted of water (A) and acetonitrile (B). The gradient method was as follows: solvent B was increased from 50% to 100% over 0.01–5.0 minutes, followed by 100% B from 5.0 to 20.0 minutes. The flow rate was maintained at 1.0 mL/min, the injection volume was 20  $\mu$ L and detection was carried out at 254 nm. The compounds were dissolved in methanol prior to injection.

### Synthesis of NB-Br

The precursor (4-bromonaphthalen-1-yl)dimesitylborane (**NB-Br**) was synthesised using a modified literature protocol <sup>5</sup>. Yield: 90%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.21 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.23-7.16 (m, 2H), 6.70 (s, 4H), 2.21 (s, 6H), 1.85 (s, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 140.60, 139.31, 137.01, 134.12, 131.61, 129.88, 128.51, 128.42, 128.15, 127.57, 127.37, 127.18, 127.02, 23.18, 21.31; <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 75.60; ESI (HR-MS). Calculated for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>28</sub>BBr [M + H]: m/z 455.1546, found: m/z 455.35.

### Synthesis of NB-OMe

To a solution of 1-bromo-4-methoxynaphthalene (500 mg, 2.11 mmol) in dry Et<sub>2</sub>O (15 mL) at –78 °C under N<sub>2</sub>, <sup>n</sup>BuLi (2.5 M in hexane, 1.06 mL, 2.65 mmol) was added dropwise and stirred for 30 minutes. Dimesitylboron fluoride (565 mg, 2.11 mmol) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (5 mL) was then added, and the mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred overnight. The reaction was quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, extracted with DCM, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated. Purification by silica gel column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc, 98:2) yielded the product **NB-OMe** as a colourless solid. Yield: 90%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.33 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.28 (m, 1H), 6.82 (s, 4H), 4.07 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 6H), 2.00 (s, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 158.71, 158.71, 158.71, 143.71, 140.53, 138.47, 137.59, 138.47, 137.59, 138.47, 137.59, 136.98, 128.26, 127.52, 126.77, 126.77, 126.77, 126.77, 125.40, 125.18, 125.18,

122.07, 122.07, 122.07, 103.44, 55.48, 23.07, 21.27;  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) 71.30; ESI (HR-MS). Calculated for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{31}\text{BO}$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ :  $m/z$  407.2546, found:  $m/z$  407.2504

### Synthesis of NB-OH

To a solution of **NB-OMe** (500 mg, 1.20 mmol) in dry DCM (10 mL) at 0 °C under  $\text{N}_2$ ,  $\text{BBr}_3$  (2.5 M in n-hexane, 1.2 mL, 3.0 mmol) was added dropwise. The mixture was stirred at rt for 12 h, then quenched with ice water. The organic layer was separated, dried ( $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ ), and concentrated. Purification by column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc, 95:5) afforded **NB-OH** as a colourless solid. Yield: 50%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.21 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.25 (t, 2H and  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ), 6.77 (s, 4H), 6.73 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 5.47 (s, 1H), 2.29 (s, 6H), 1.95 (s, 12H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) 154.89, 143.65, 140.56, 138.56, 137.97, 136.66, 128.28, 127.70, 126.92, 125.26, 124.11, 121.72, 108.36, 23.08, 21.26;  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) 71.34; ESI (HR-MS). Calcd for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{29}\text{BO}$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ :  $m/z$  393.2390 Found:  $m/z$  393.2348.

### Synthesis of NB-NH<sub>2</sub>

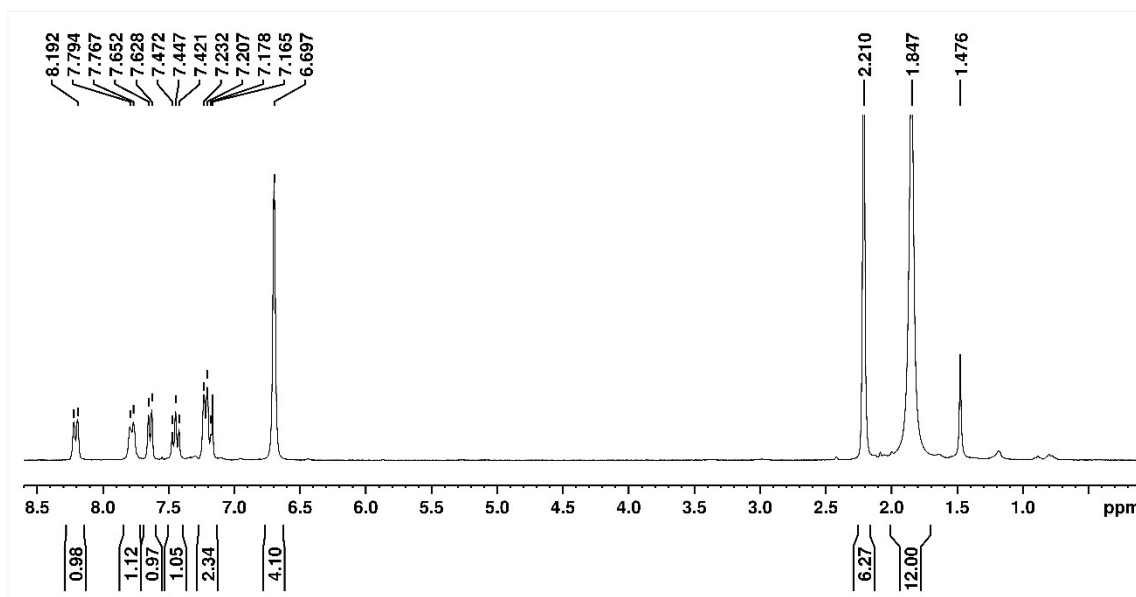
A mixture of (4-bromonaphthalen-1-yl)dimesitylborane (**NB-Br**) (184 mg, 4.04 mmol),  $\text{CuI}$  (77 mg, 4.04 mmol),  $\text{NaN}_3$  (58 mg, 8.92 mmol), and L-proline (61 mg, 5.30 mmol) was stirred in dry DMSO (5 mL) at 100 °C under nitrogen for 12 h. After completion (monitored by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with water, and extracted with DCM (3  $\times$  15 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification by column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc) afforded the desired amine product  $\text{NH}_2$  as a brown-colored solid. Yield: 20%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.91-7.77 (m, 2H), 7.42-7.21 (m, 3H), 6.76 (s, 6H), 6.68 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.48 (s, 2H), 2.29 (s, 6H), 1.95 (s, 12H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) 146.26, 140.57, 138.14, 138.04, 137.96, 128.61, 128.16, 126.33, 124.81, 122.87, 120.55, 23.08, 21.23;  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) 70.58; ESI (HR-MS). Calcd for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{30}\text{BN}$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ :  $m/z$  392.2550 Found:  $m/z$  392.2586.

### Synthesis of NB-COOH

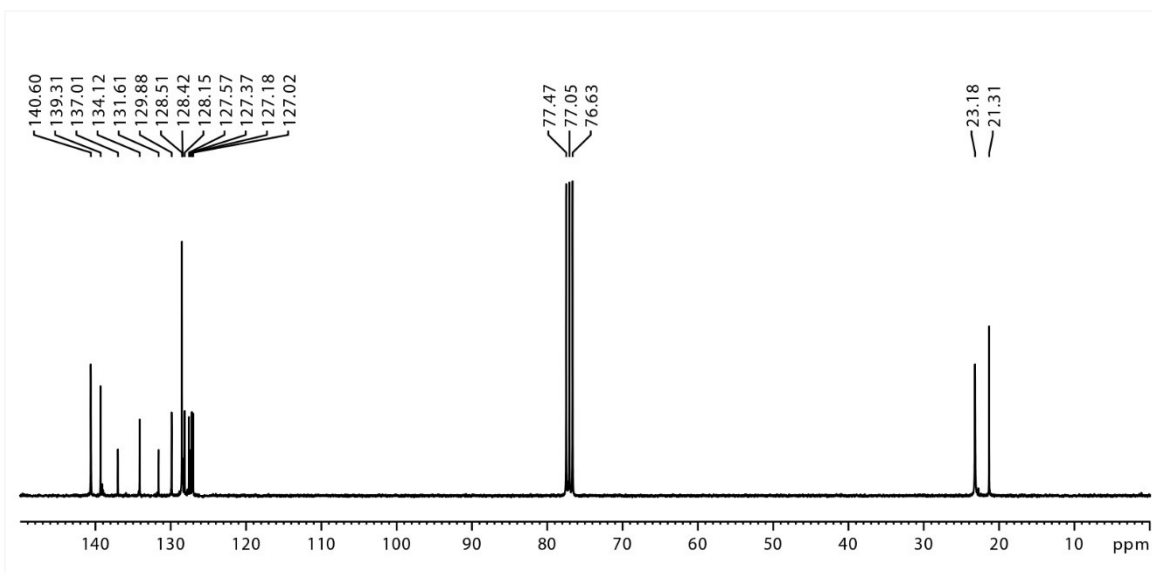
To a solution of (4-bromonaphthalen-1-yl)dimesitylborane (**NB-Br**) (500 mg, 1.01 mmol) in dry THF (10 mL) at -78 °C under  $\text{N}_2$ , *n*-butyllithium (2.5 M in hexane, 0.5 mL, 1.31 mmol) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 30 min, then bubbled with dry  $\text{CO}_2$  gas for 15 min. The reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature and quenched with dilute HCl

(10 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc ( $3 \times 15$  mL), and the combined organic layers were dried ( $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ ), filtered, and concentrated. Purification by column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc) afforded the **NB-COOH** product as a colourless solid. Yield: 70%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.79 (d,  $J= 8.7$  Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d,  $J= 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d,  $J= 8.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.57 (t,  $J= 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.40- 7.32 (m, 2H), 6.80 (s, 4H), 2.24 (s, 6H), 1.86 (s, 12H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) 169.30,152.70, 143.31,140.31, 139.58, 135.78, 131.94, 131.56, 128.93, 128.09, 127.71, 126.87,126.56, 23.10, 21.31;  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) 75.41; ESI (HR-MS). Calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{29}\text{BO}_2$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ] $^+$ :  $m/z$  421.2339 Found:  $m/z$  421.2375.

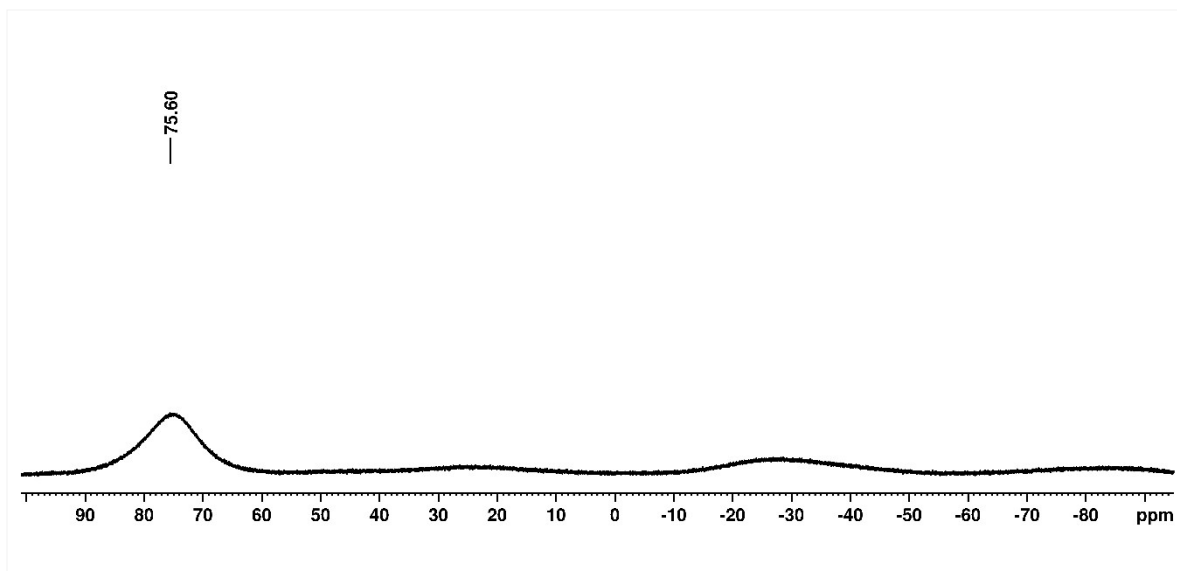
### 3. Structural characterization



**Figure S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **NB-Br** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



**Figure S2.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **NB-Br** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



**Figure S3.**  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR spectrum of **NB-Br** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

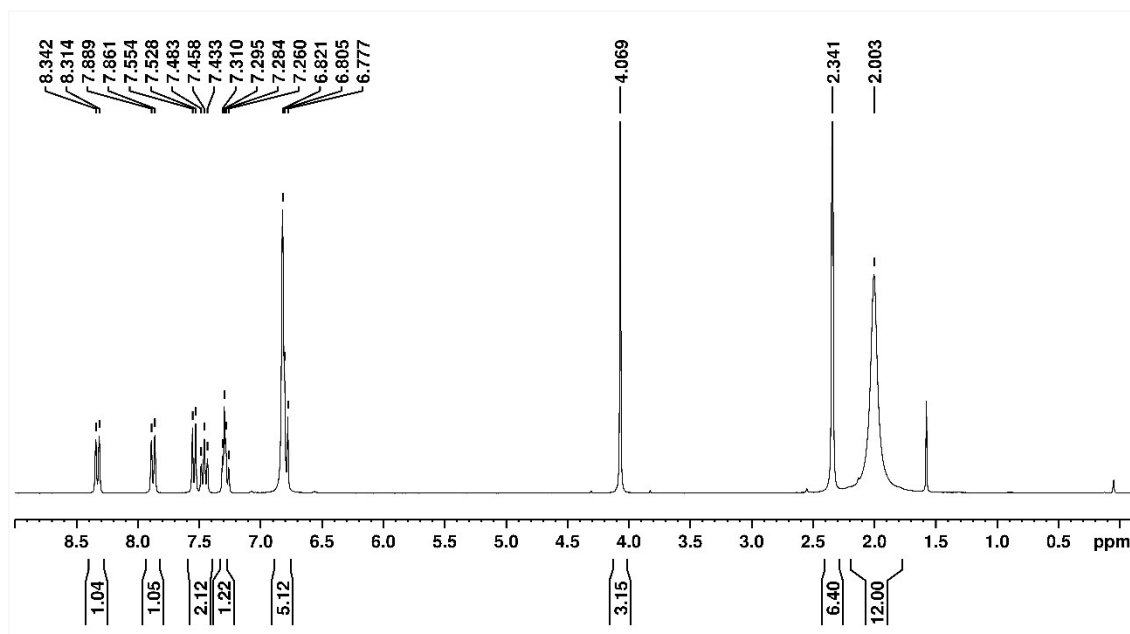


Figure S4.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of NB-OMe in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

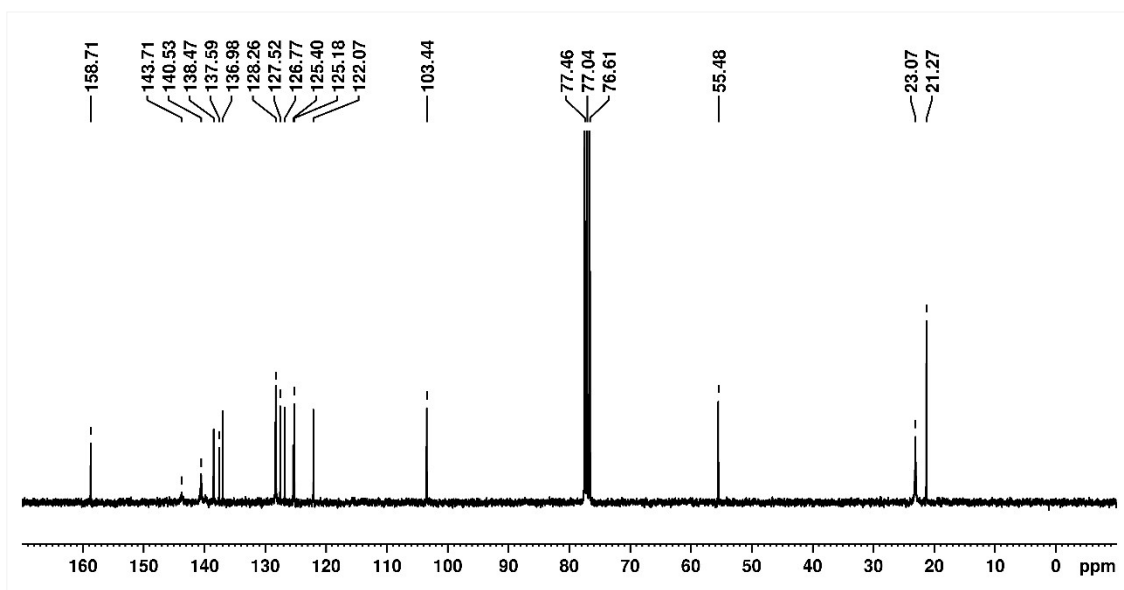
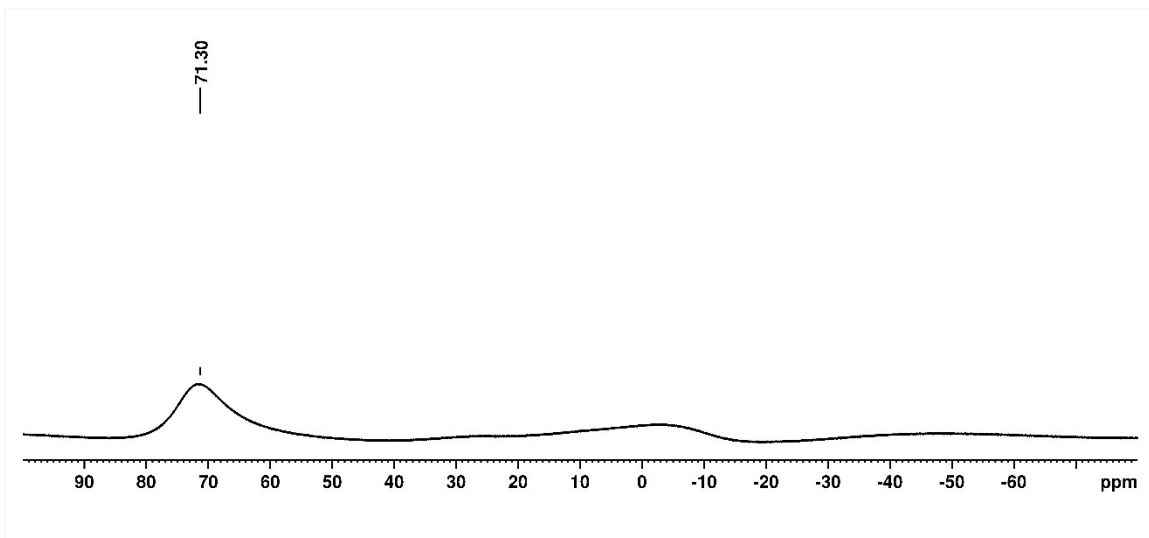
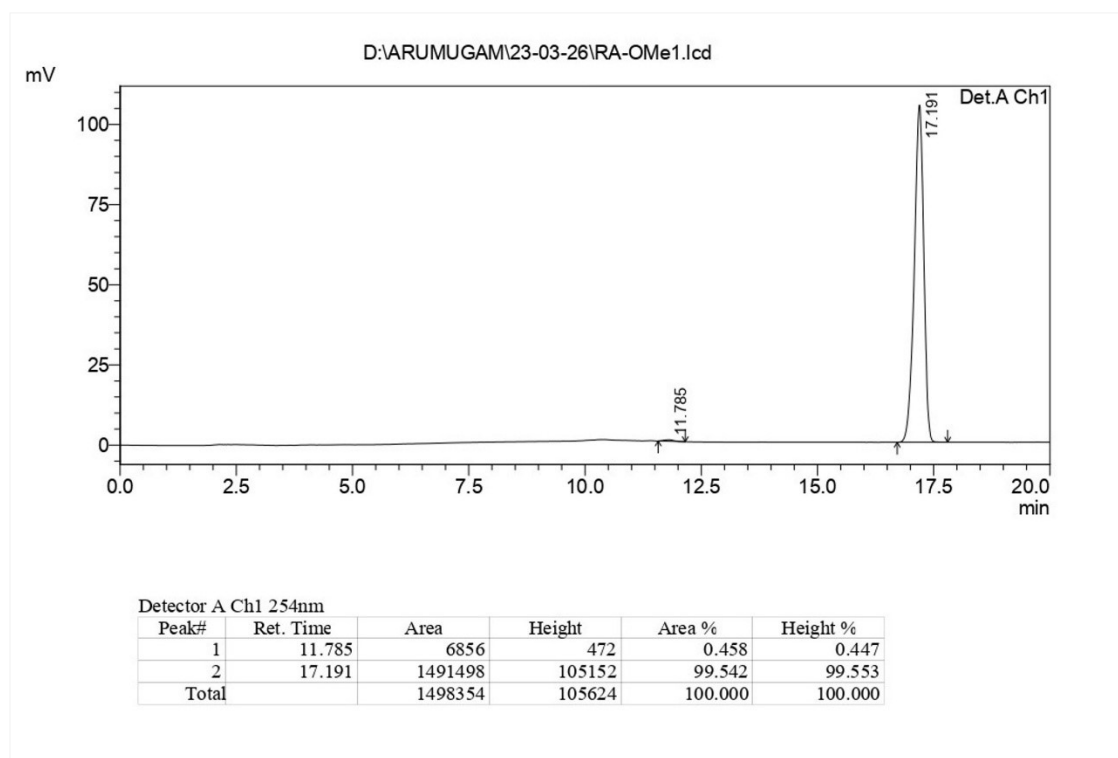


Figure S5.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of NB-OMe in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



**Figure S6.**  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR spectrum of NB-OMe in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



**Figure S7.** HPLC trace report of NB-OMe

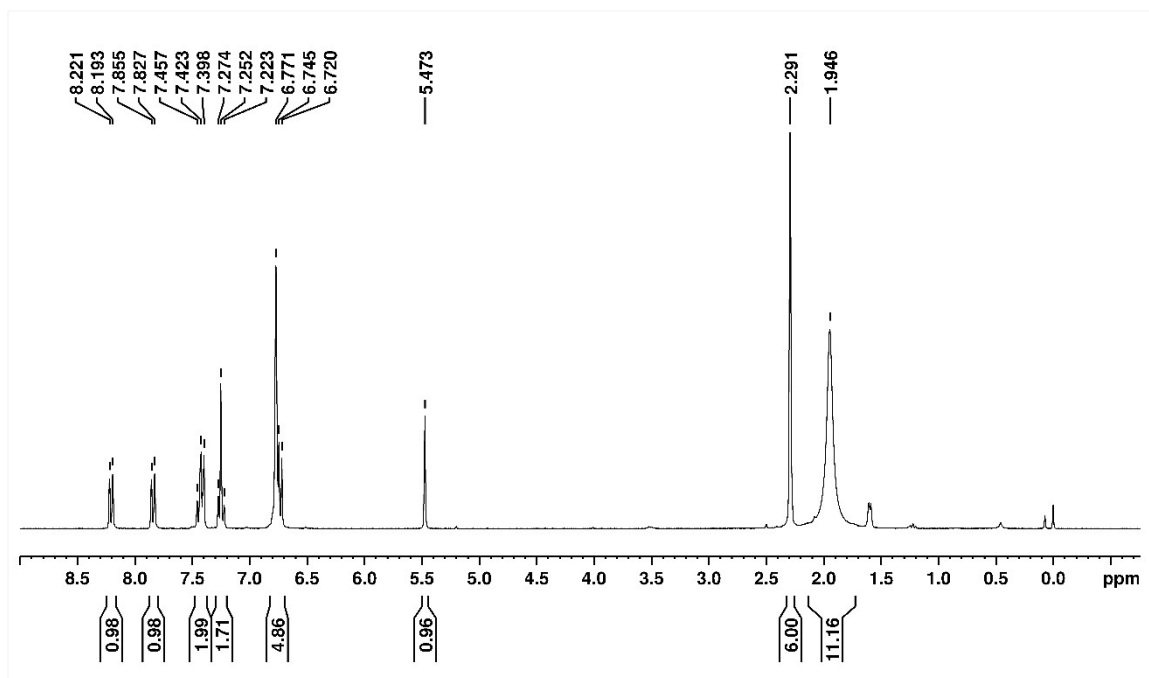


Figure S8.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of NB-OH in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

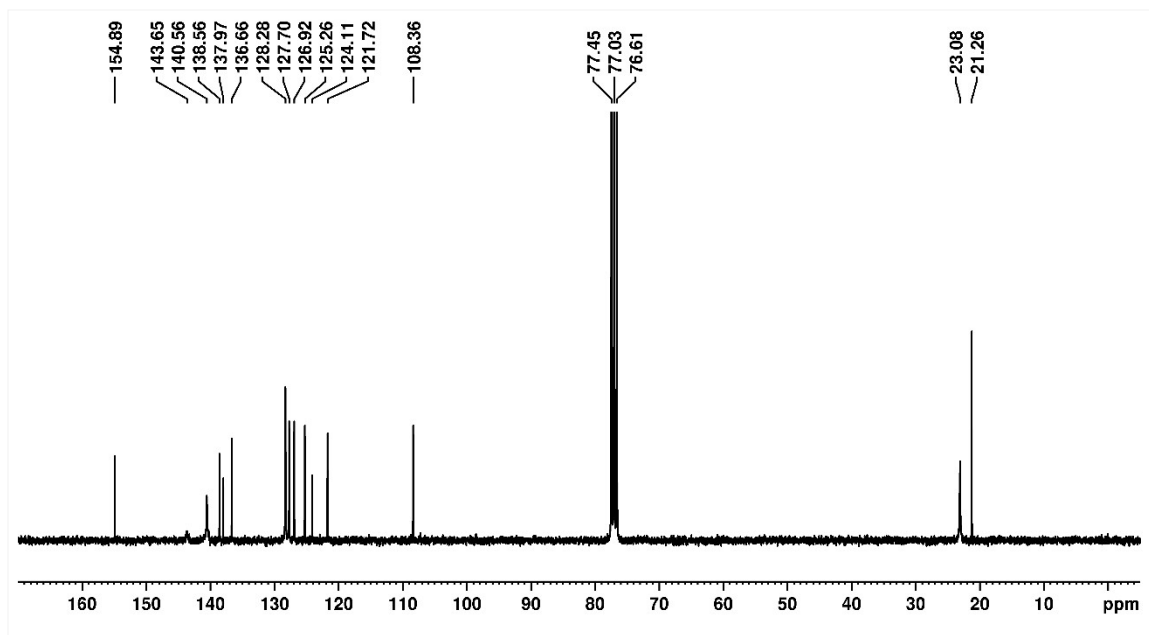
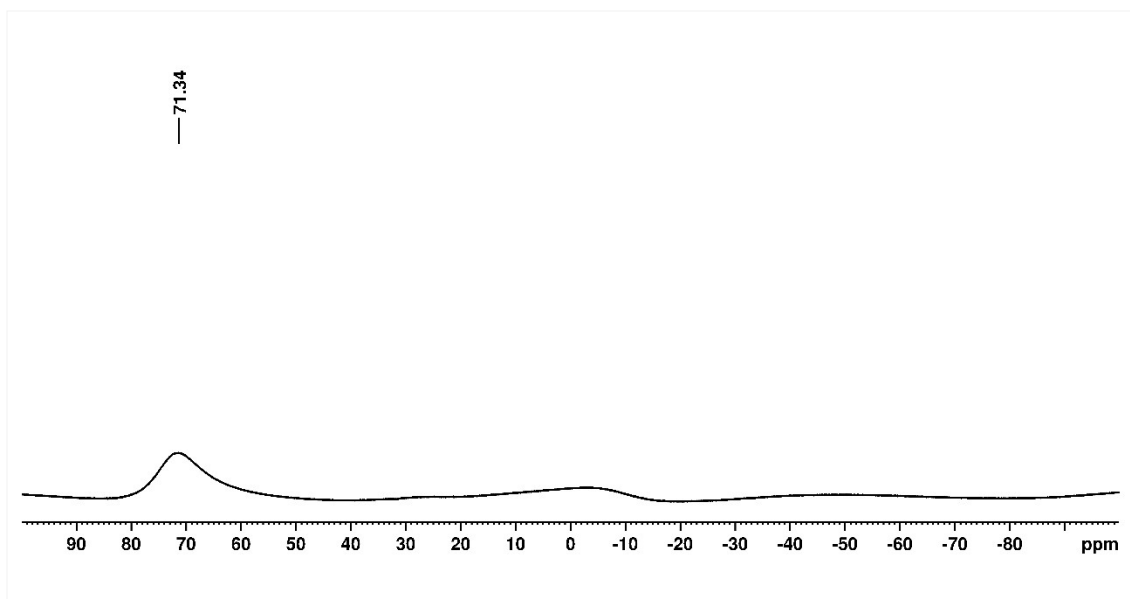
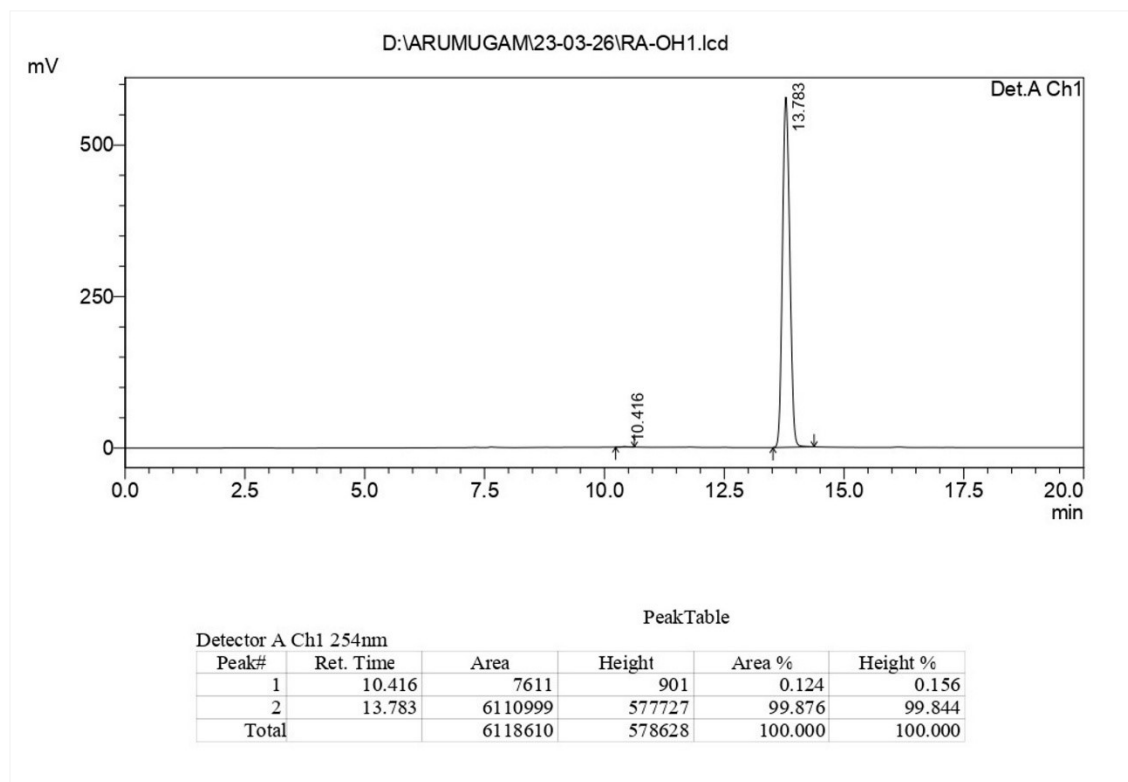


Figure S9.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of NB-OH in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



**Figure S10.**  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR spectrum of **NB-OH** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



**Figure S11.** HPLC trace report of **NB-OH**

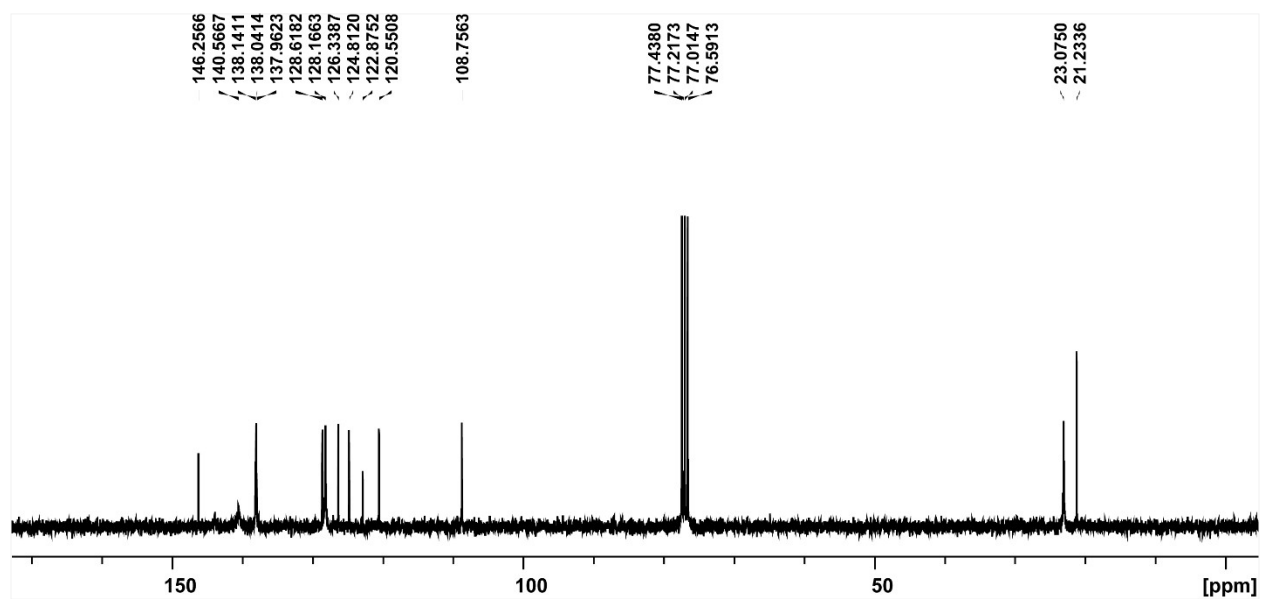
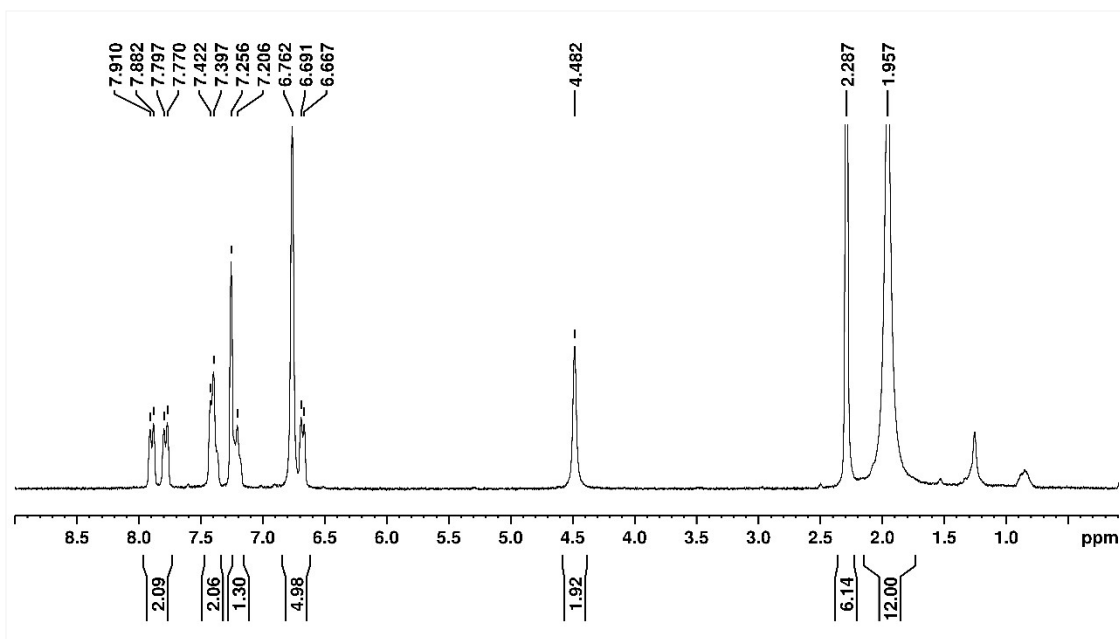
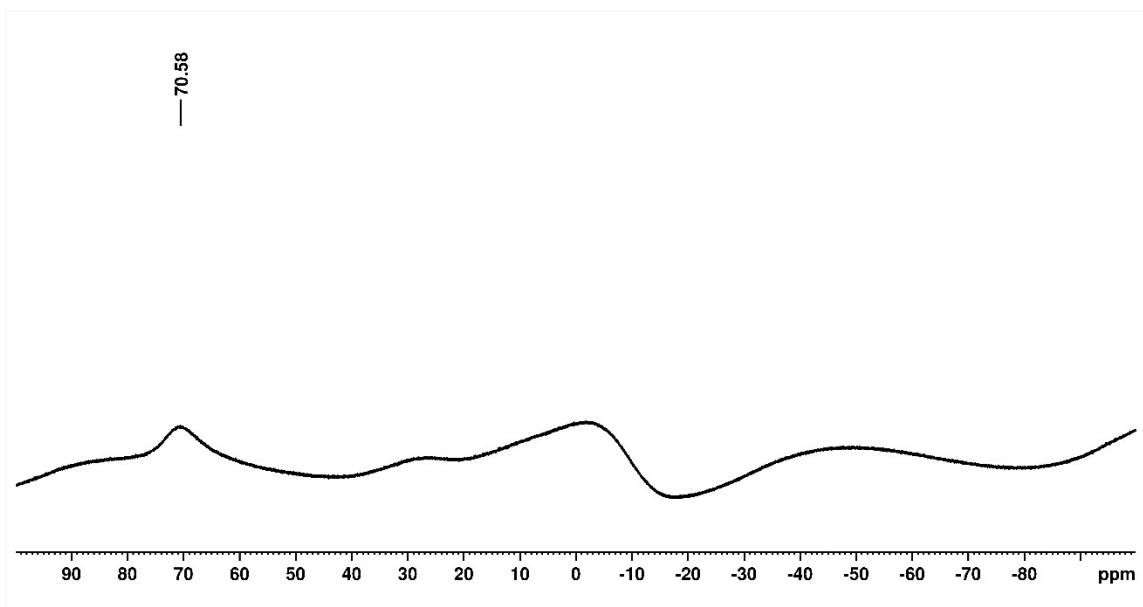
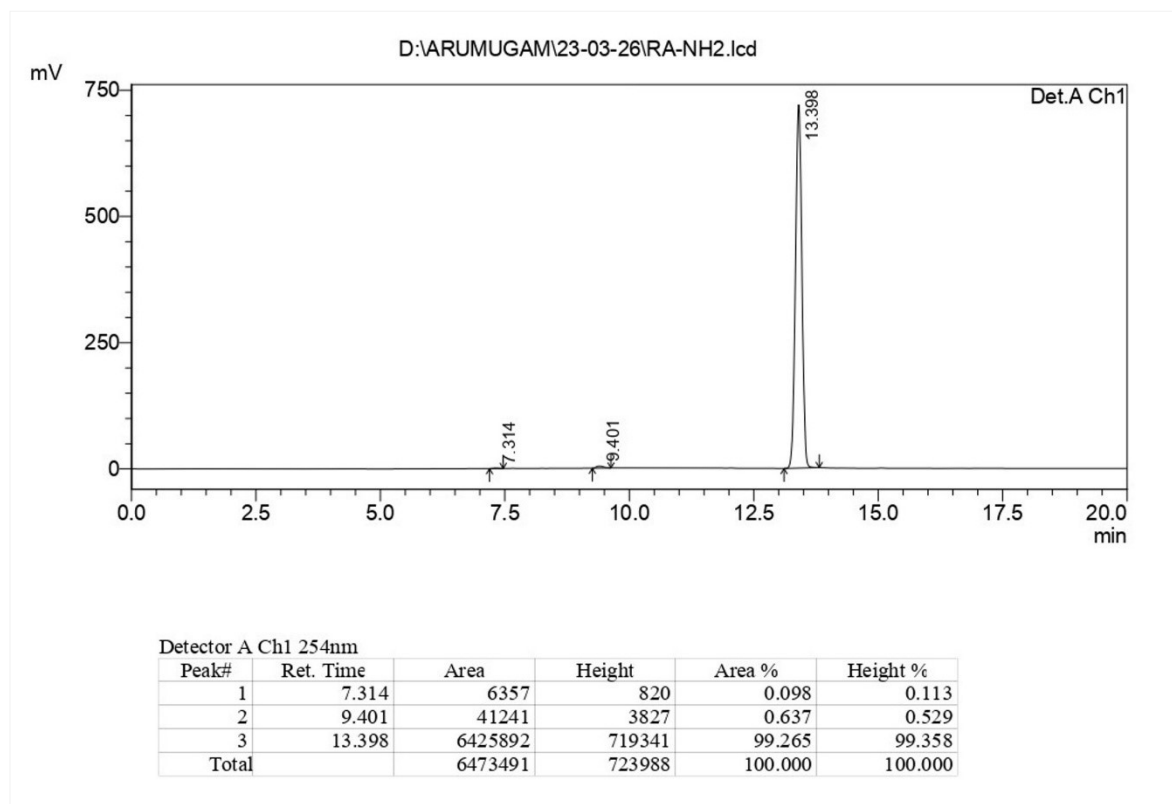


Figure S12.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of NB-NH<sub>2</sub> in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

Figure S13.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of NB-NH<sub>2</sub> in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S14.**  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR spectrum of  $\text{NB-NH}_2$  in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ . The additional peaks and irregular baseline are due to the nmr tube used, even though it is a quartz tube.<sup>8</sup>



**Figure S15.** HPLC trace report of  $\text{NB-NH}_2$

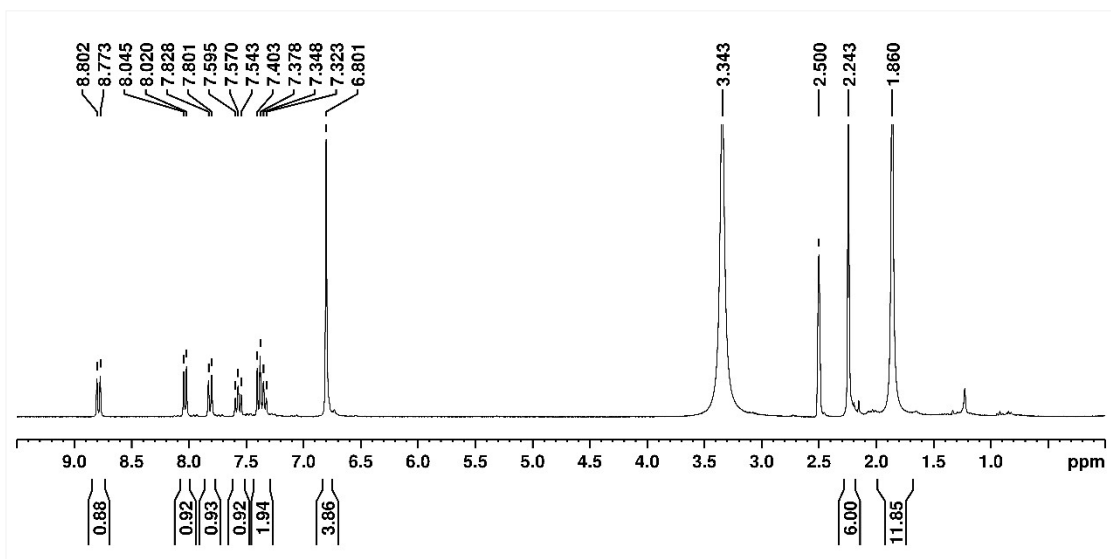


Figure S16.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of NB-COOH in DMSO- $d_6$ .

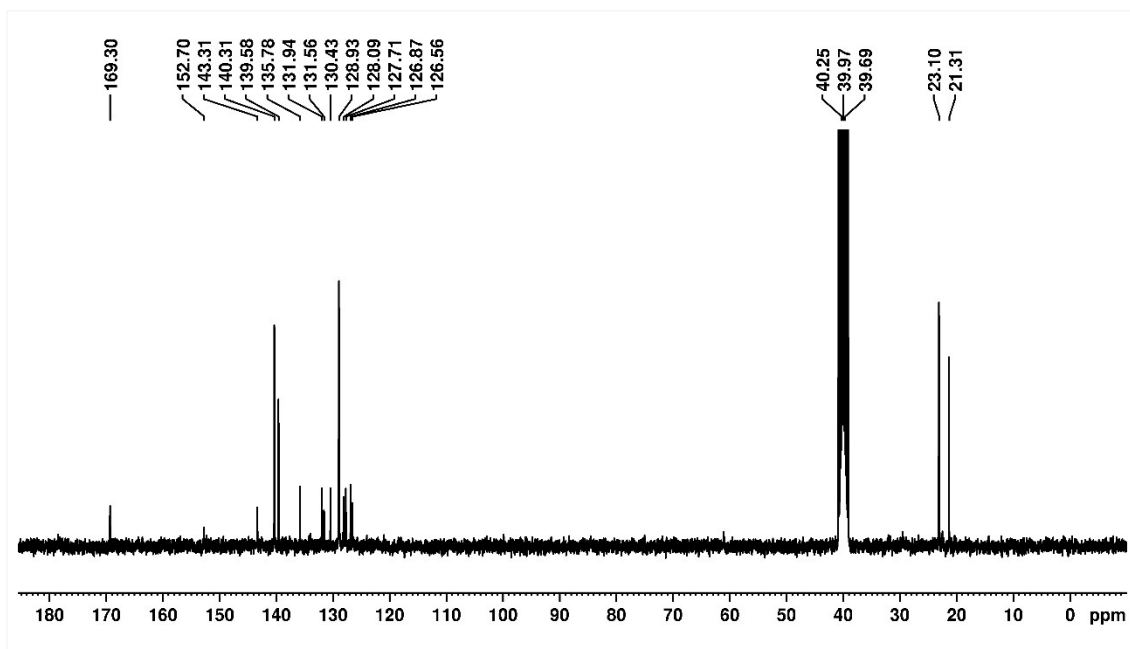
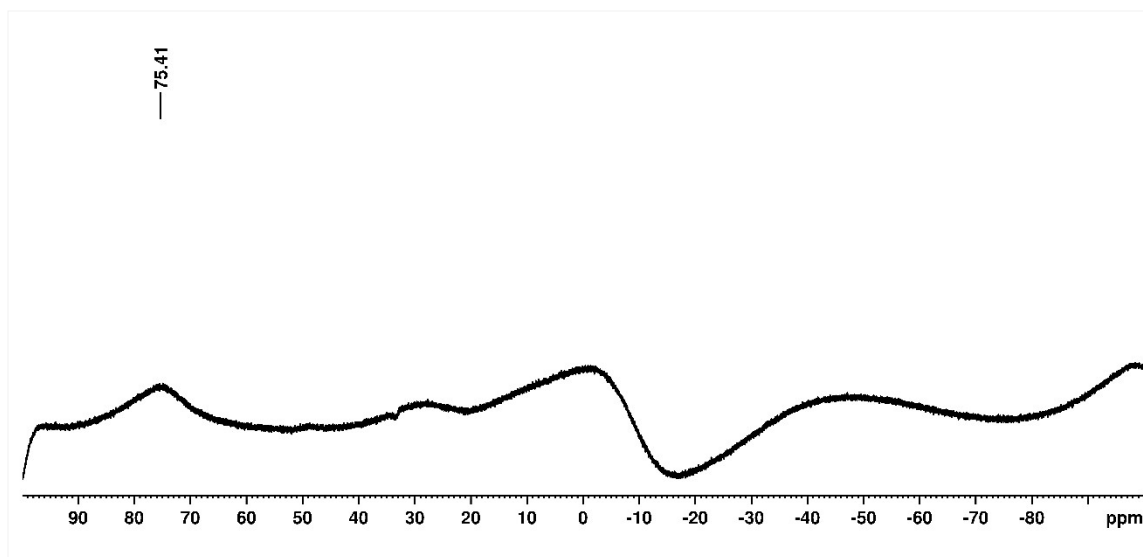


Figure S17.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of NB-COOH in DMSO- $d_6$ .



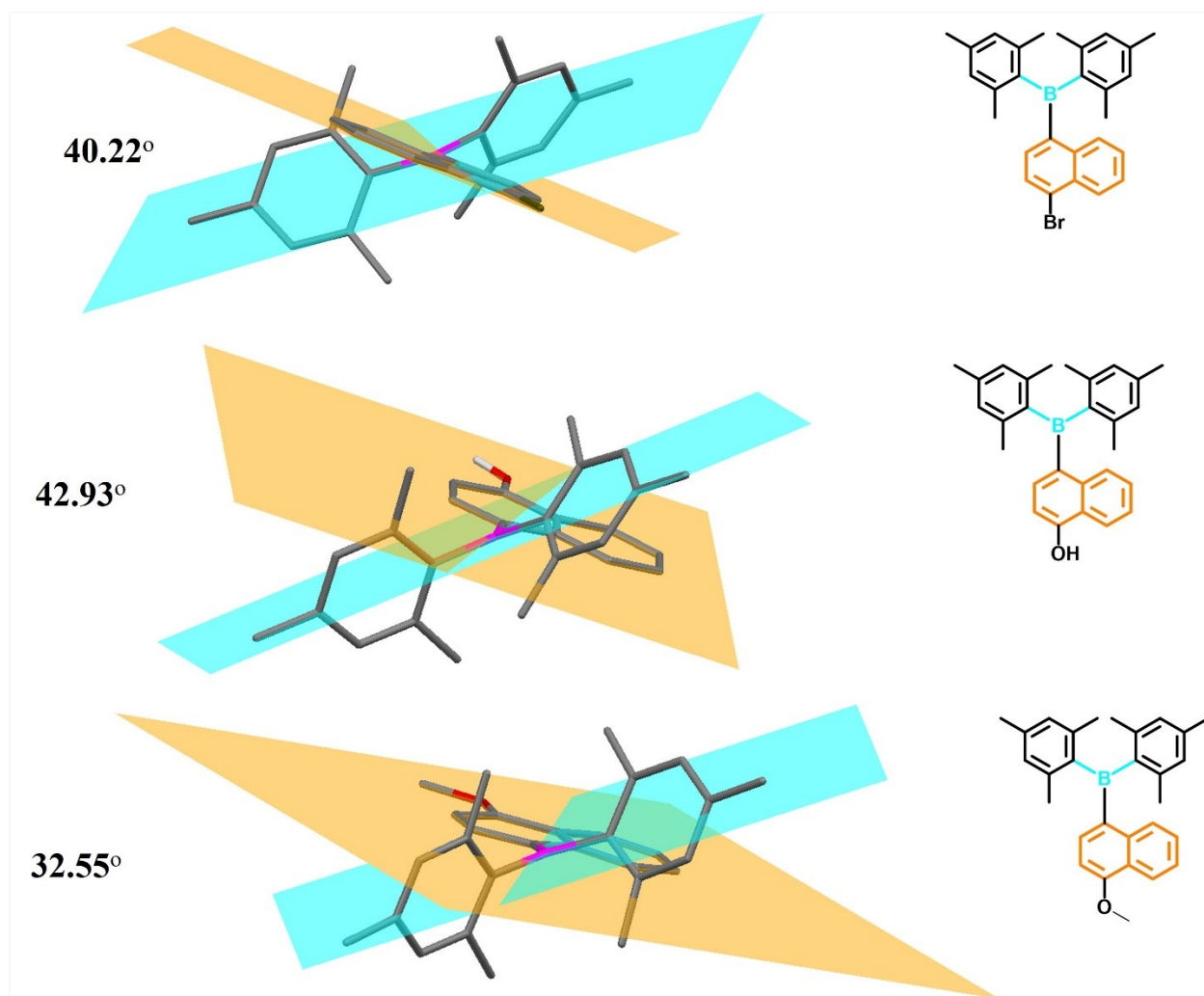
**Figure S18.**  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR spectrum of NB-COOH in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ . The additional peaks and irregular baseline are due to the nmr tube used, even though it is a quartz tube.<sup>8</sup>

## 4. Single-crystal X-ray diffraction Studies

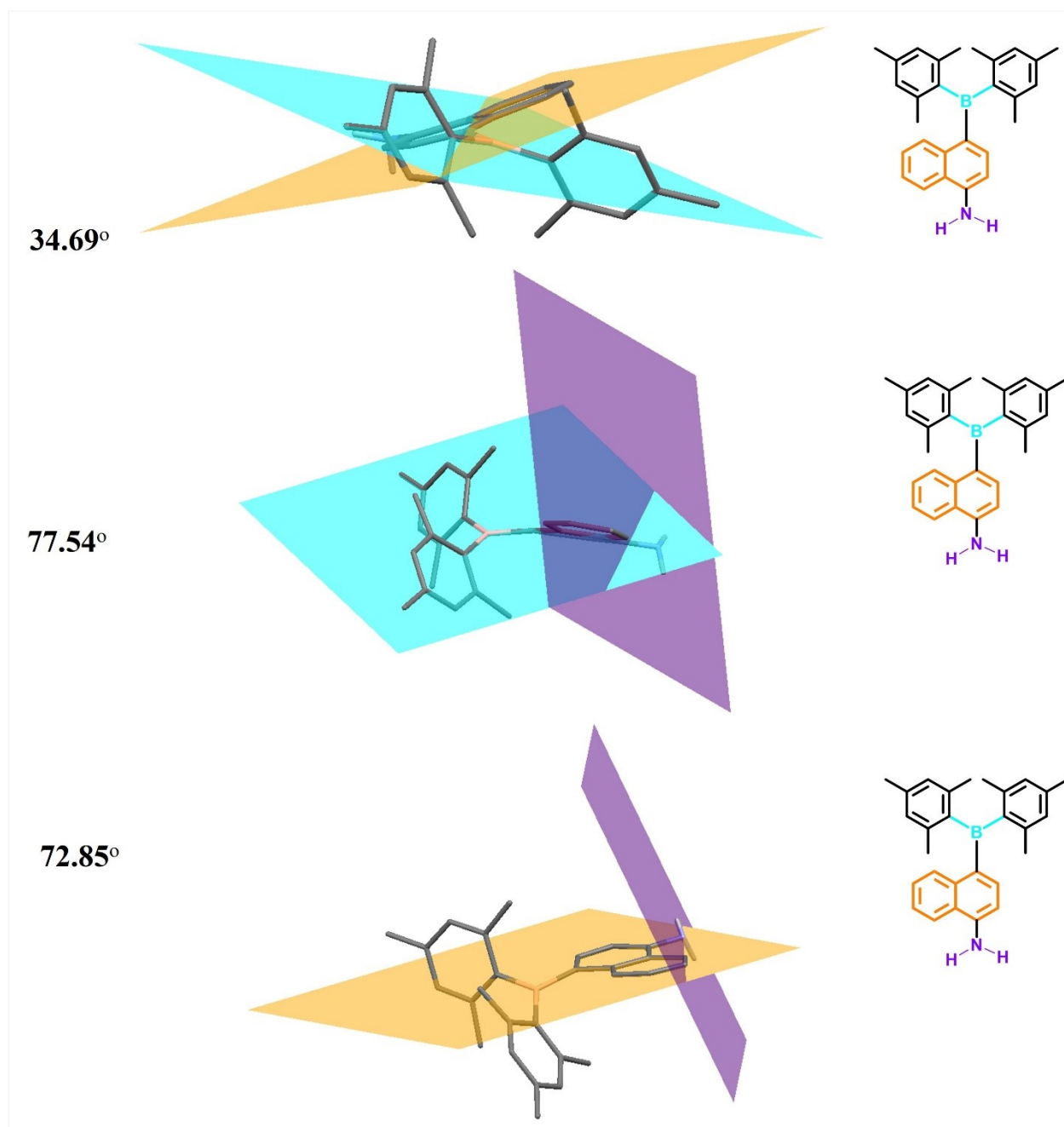
**Table S1:** Crystallographic data and refinement parameters for compounds.

Compounds	NB-Br	NB-OMe	NB-OH	NB-NH <sub>2</sub>	NB-COOH
Empirical formula	C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>28</sub> B Br	C <sub>29</sub> H <sub>31</sub> B O	C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>29</sub> B O [+ solvent]	C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>30</sub> B N	C <sub>29</sub> H <sub>29</sub> B O <sub>2</sub>
FW	455.21	406.35	392.32	391.34	420.33
T (K)	293 K	296 K	296 K	293 K	293 K
Crystal system	triclinic	orthorhombic	triclinic	monoclinic	triclinic
Space group	<i>P</i> - <i>1</i>	<i>P</i> <i>b</i> <i>c</i> <i>a</i>	<i>P</i> - <i>1</i>	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> / <i>n</i>	<i>P</i> - <i>1</i>
<i>a</i> /Å	8.9277(7)	30.875(2)	8.7044(4)	8.3646(17)	8.3517(5)
<i>b</i> /Å	11.4441(7)	11.7008(7)	12.2005(5)	8.5059(17)	12.7415(5)
<i>c</i> /Å	12.0410(8)	12.4722(11)	13.3275(5)	32.466(3)	13.5443(6)
$\alpha$ /deg	78.049(5)	90	79.280(4)	90	87.233(4)
$\beta$ /deg	85.965(6)	90	80.734(3)	90.079(12)	73.686(4)
$\gamma$ /deg	67.940(6)	90	86.814(4)	90	83.611(4)
<i>V</i> /Å <sup>3</sup>	1115.41(14)	4505.7(6)	1372.03(10)	2309.9(7)	1374.45(12)
<i>Z</i>	2	8	2	4	2
$\rho_{\text{calcd}}$ (gcm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.355	1.198	0.950	1.125	1.016
$\mu$ (Mo K $\alpha$ ) (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	1.855	0.070	0.055	0.064	0.062
$\lambda$ Å	0.71073	0.71073	0.71073	0.71073	0.71073
F (000)	472.0	1744.0	420.0	840.0	448.0
Collected reflections	6097	2440	7483	2824	7517
Unique reflections	4565	2102	5799	1820	5415
Goodness of Fit (GOF) [F <sub>2</sub> ]	0.730	1.037	1.069	0.914	4.342
R1 [ <i>I</i> > 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> )] <sup>[a]</sup>	0.0539	0.0427	0.0544	0.0867	0.4507
wR2 [ <i>I</i> > 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> )] <sup>[b]</sup>	0.1500	0.1172	0.1717	0.2725	0.8231
CCDC Number	2487699	2487700	2487701	2291486	2487702

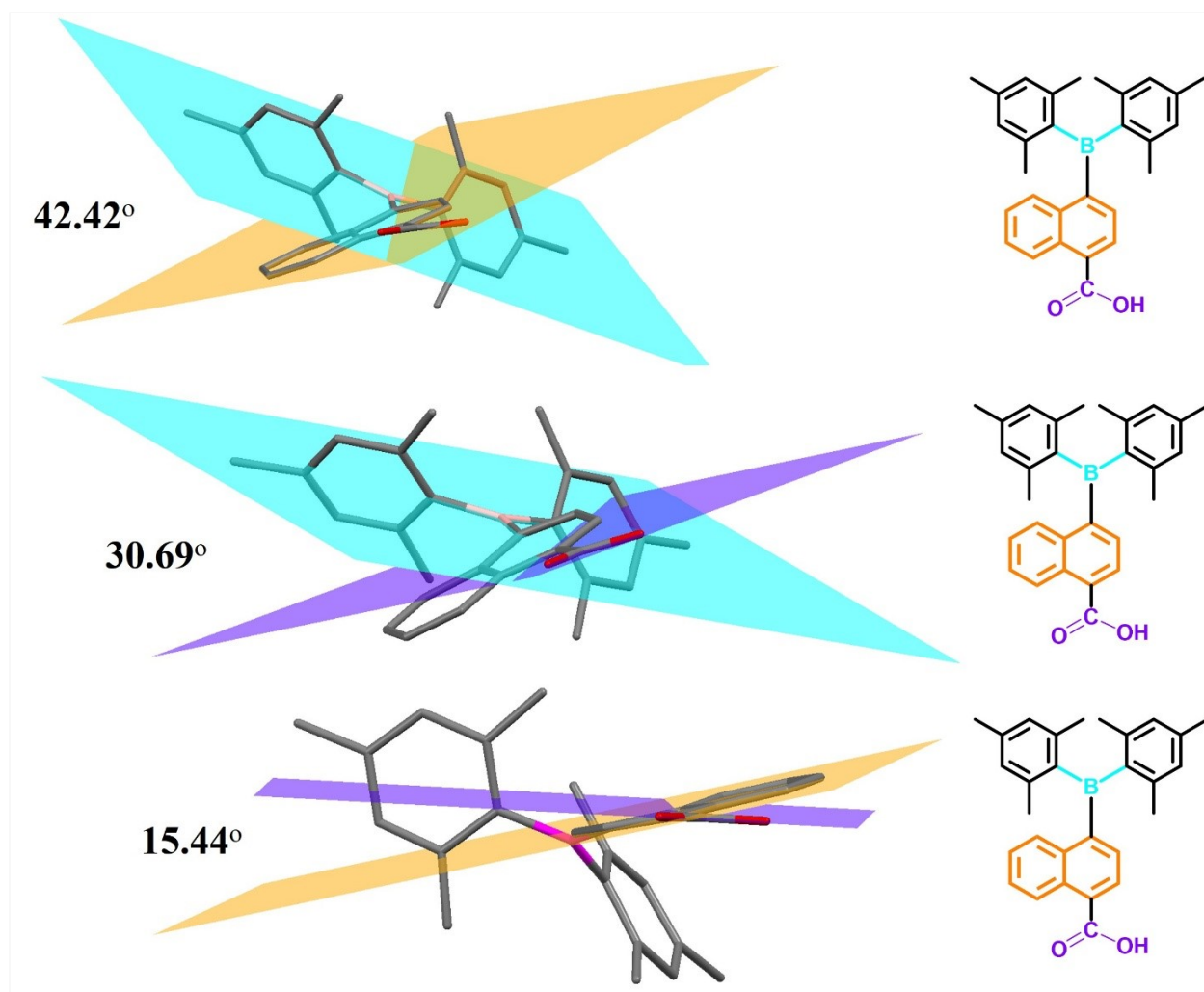
<sup>[a]</sup>  $R1 = \sum | |F_o| - |F_c| | / \sum |F_o|$ . <sup>[b]</sup>  $wR2 = [\sum \{w (F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2\} / \sum \{w (F_o^2)\}]^{1/2}$



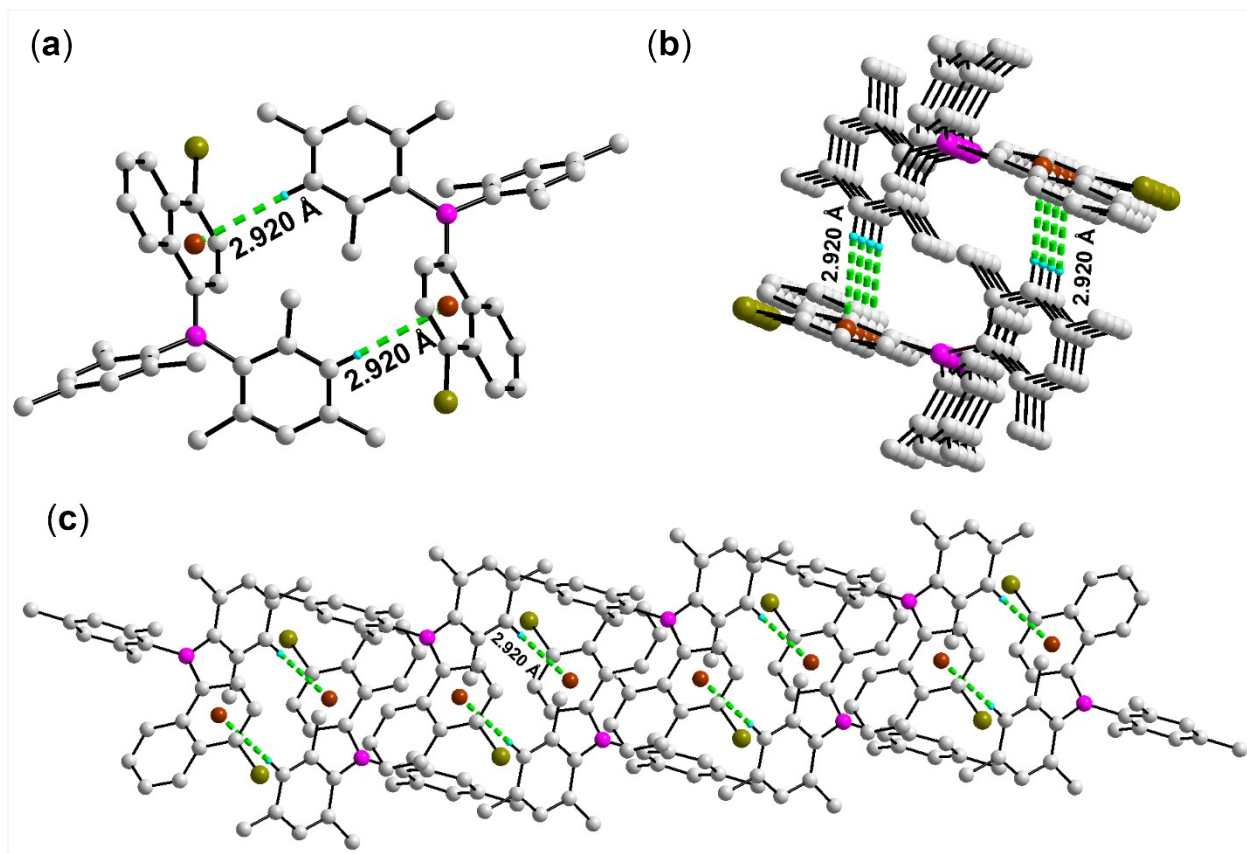
**Figure S19.** Dihedral angle ( $^\circ$ ) between the plane containing boron with carbons attached to B (cyan) and the mean plane containing all naphthalene carbon atoms (orange) [ $\theta_{\text{B-Nap}}$ ] on **NB-Br**, **NB-OH** and **NB-OMe**. [ Carbon: black, nitrogen: blue, boron: magenta, and hydrogen are omitted for clarity]. The angles mentioned in parentheses are obtained by subtracting the exact angle measured (from the crystal structure) from  $180^\circ$ .



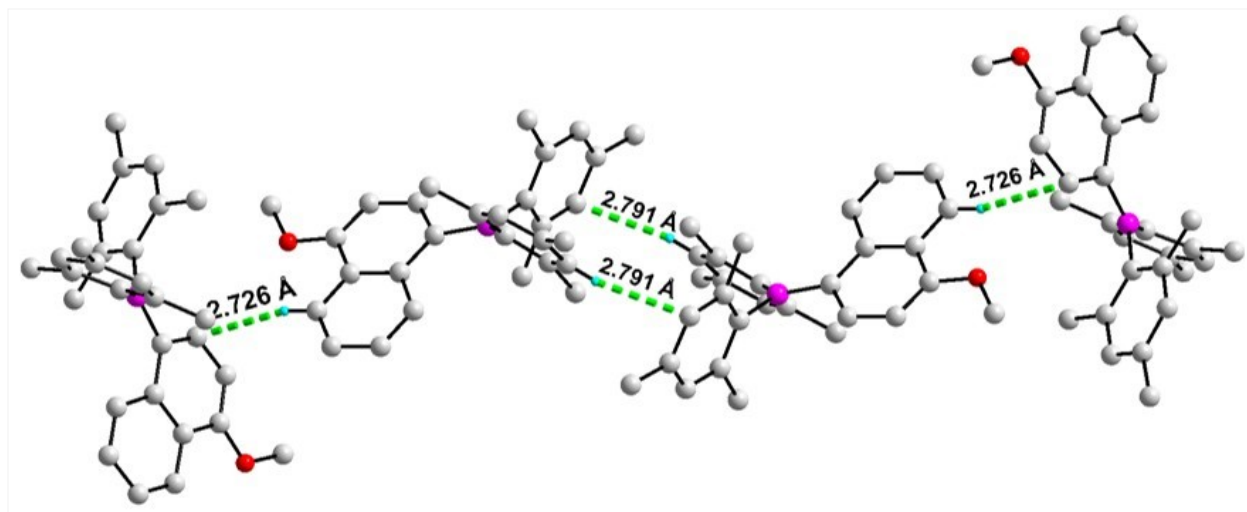
**Figure S20.** Dihedral angle ( $^{\circ}$ ) between the plane containing boron with carbons attached to B (cyan) and nitrogen with methyl carbon attached to N (magenta) [ $\theta_{B-N}$ ], [ $\theta_{B-Nap}$ ], and [ $\theta_{N-Nap}$ ] on **NB-NH<sub>2</sub>**. [Carbon: black, nitrogen: blue, boron: magenta, and hydrogen are omitted for clarity]. The angles mentioned in parentheses are obtained by subtracting the exact angle measured (from the crystal structure) from  $180^{\circ}$ .



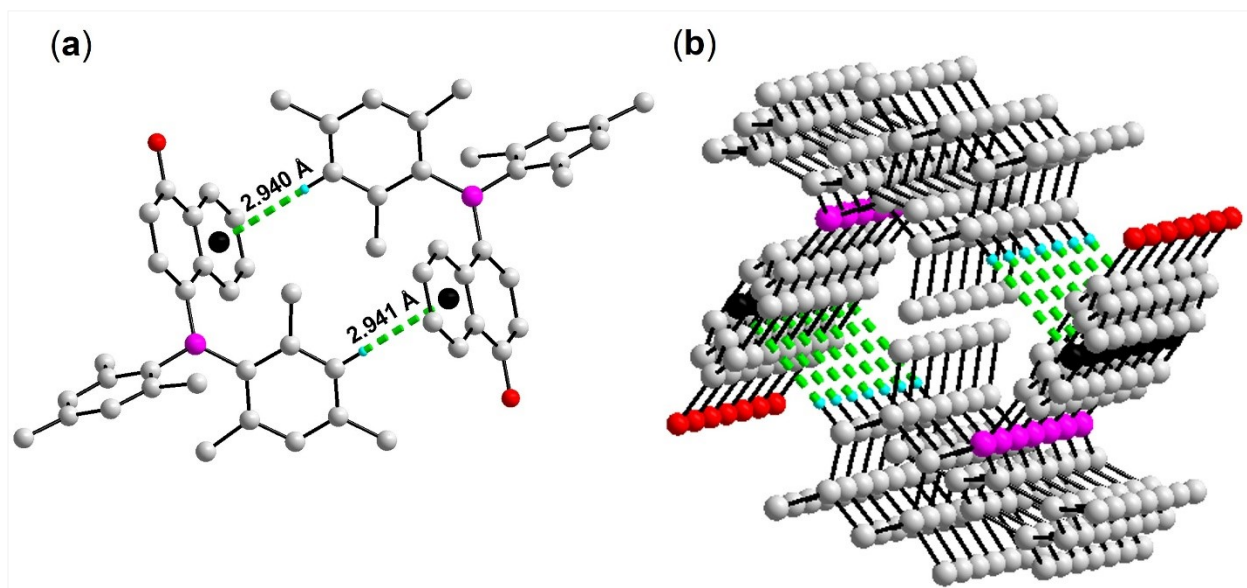
**Figure S21.** Dihedral angle ( $^{\circ}$ ) between the plane containing boron with carbons attached to B (cyan) and nitrogen with methyl carbon attached to N (magenta) [ $\theta_{B-N}$ ], [ $\theta_{B-Nap}$ ], and [ $\theta_{N-Nap}$ ] on **NB-COOH**. [Carbon: black, nitrogen: blue, boron: magenta, and hydrogen are omitted for clarity]. The angles mentioned in parentheses are obtained by subtracting the exact angle measured (from the crystal structure) from  $180^{\circ}$ .



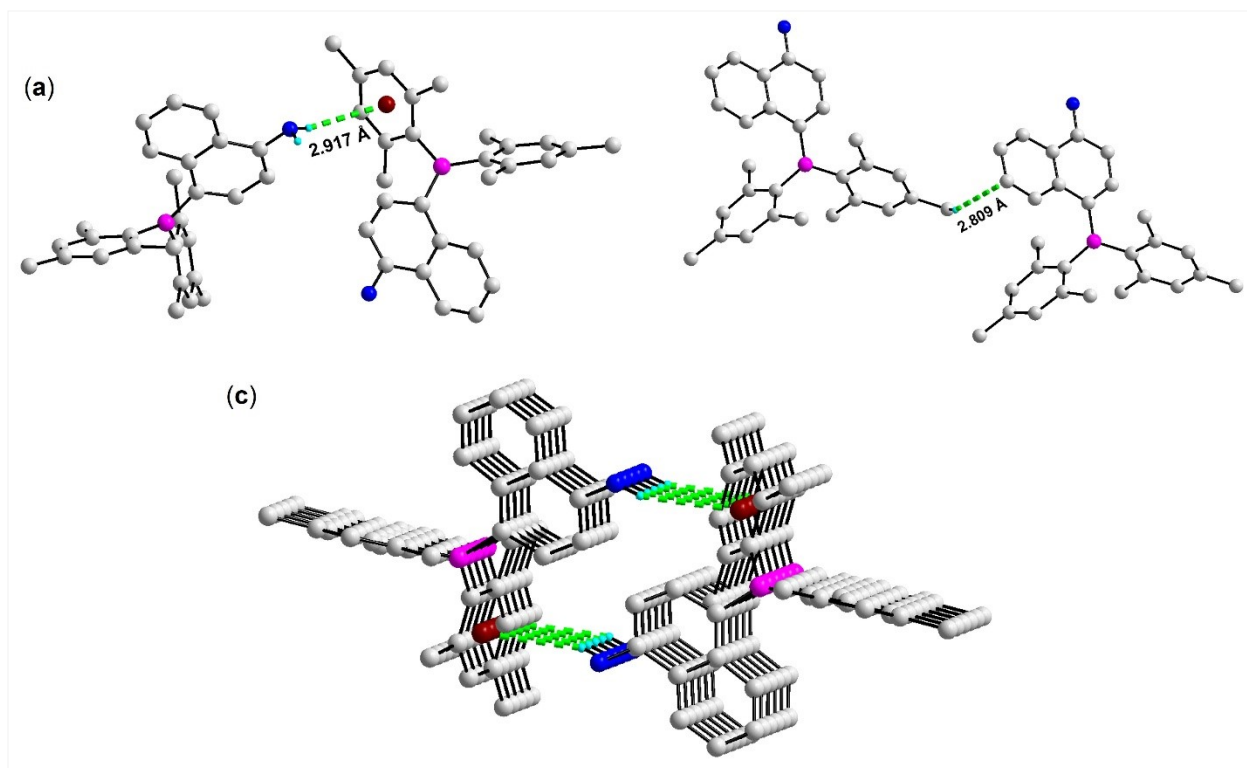
**Figure S22.** (a) Intermolecular interactions in **NB-Br** hold the molecule to form the crystal lattice. (b) The intramolecular interaction that forms the 3D chain. [Intermolecular C-H $\cdots$  $\pi$ Nap interaction between the mesityl hydrogen on one molecule with the  $\pi$  cloud of the naphthalene ring on the adjacent molecule (2.920 Å). (c) 1D chain. [Intermolecular C-H $\cdots$  $\pi$ Nap interaction between the mesityl hydrogen on one molecule with the  $\pi$  cloud of the naphthalene ring on the adjacent molecule (2.920 Å) Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Colour code: carbon (gray 50), and boron (pink).



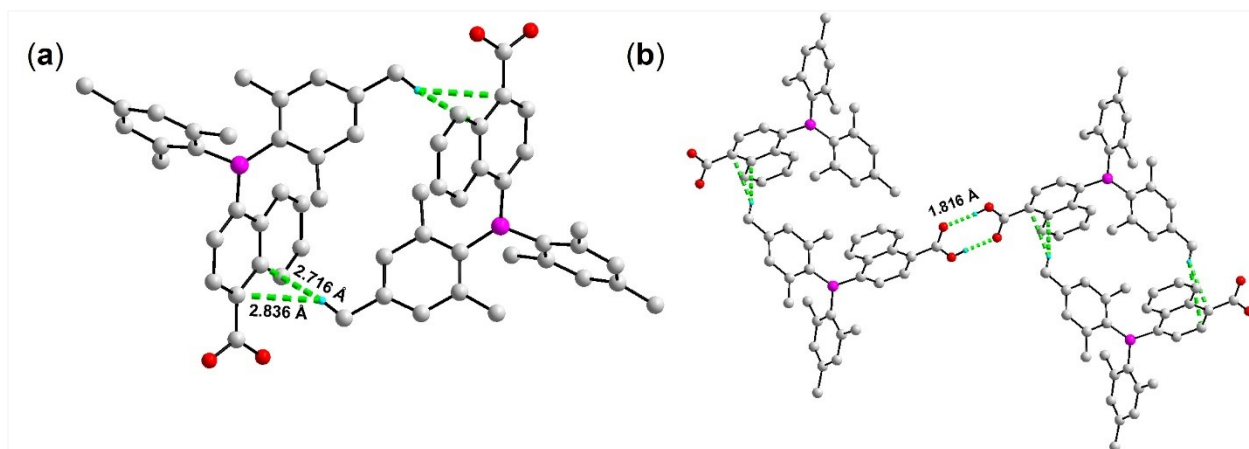
**Figure S23.** Crystal packing of NB-OMe highlighting intermolecular C–H···H–C interactions, including contacts between mesityl hydrogen atoms (2.791 Å) and between a naphthalene hydrogen and an adjacent carbon atom (2.726 Å).



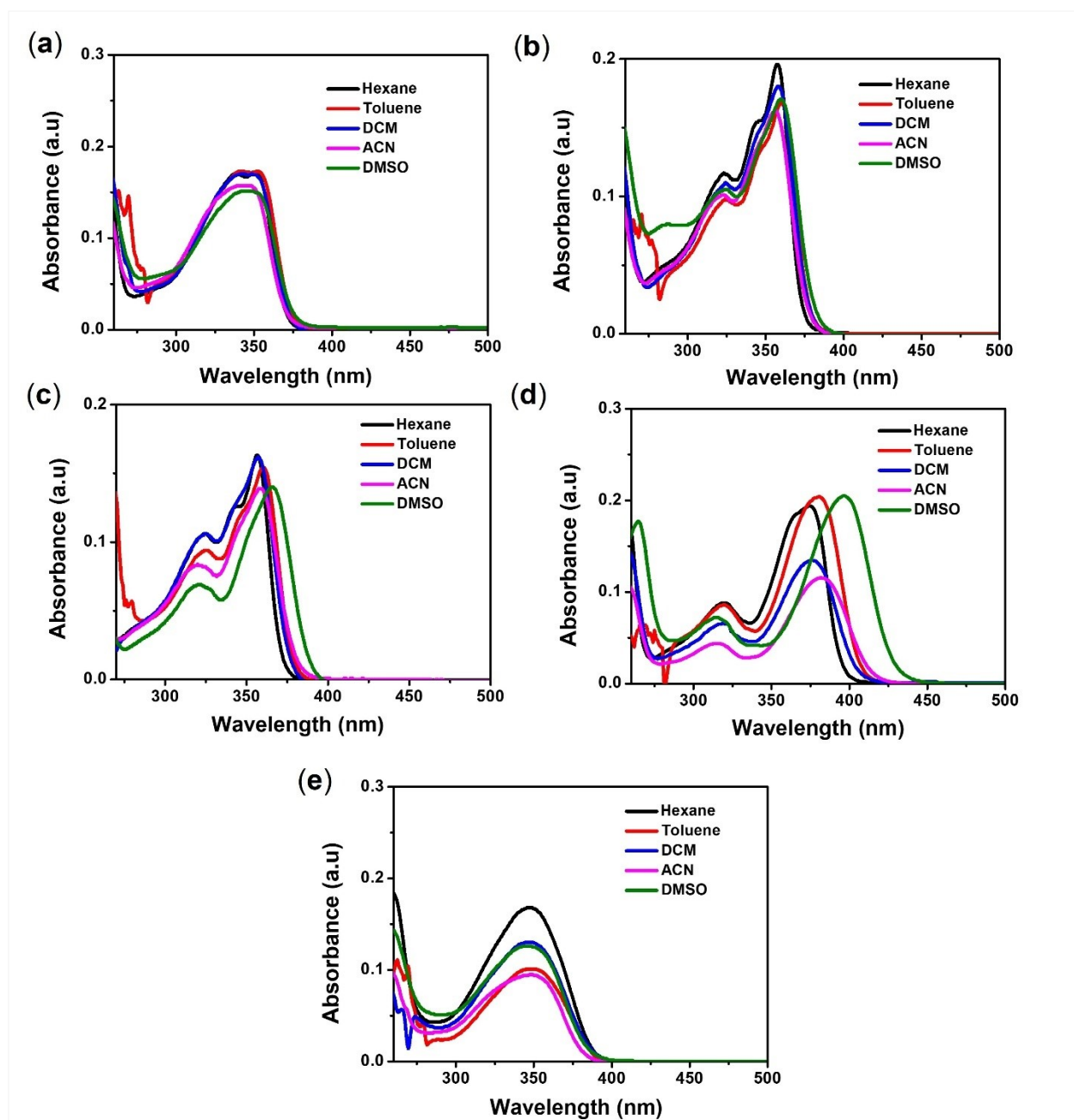
**Figure S24.** (a) Intermolecular interactions in NB-OH hold the molecule to form the crystal lattice. (b) The intramolecular interaction that forms the 3D chain. [Intermolecular C–H··· $\pi_{\text{Nap}}$  interaction between the mesityl hydrogen on one molecule with the  $\pi$  cloud of the naphthalene ring on the adjacent molecule (2.940 Å and 2.941 Å). Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Colour code: carbon (gray 50), oxygen (red), and boron (pink).



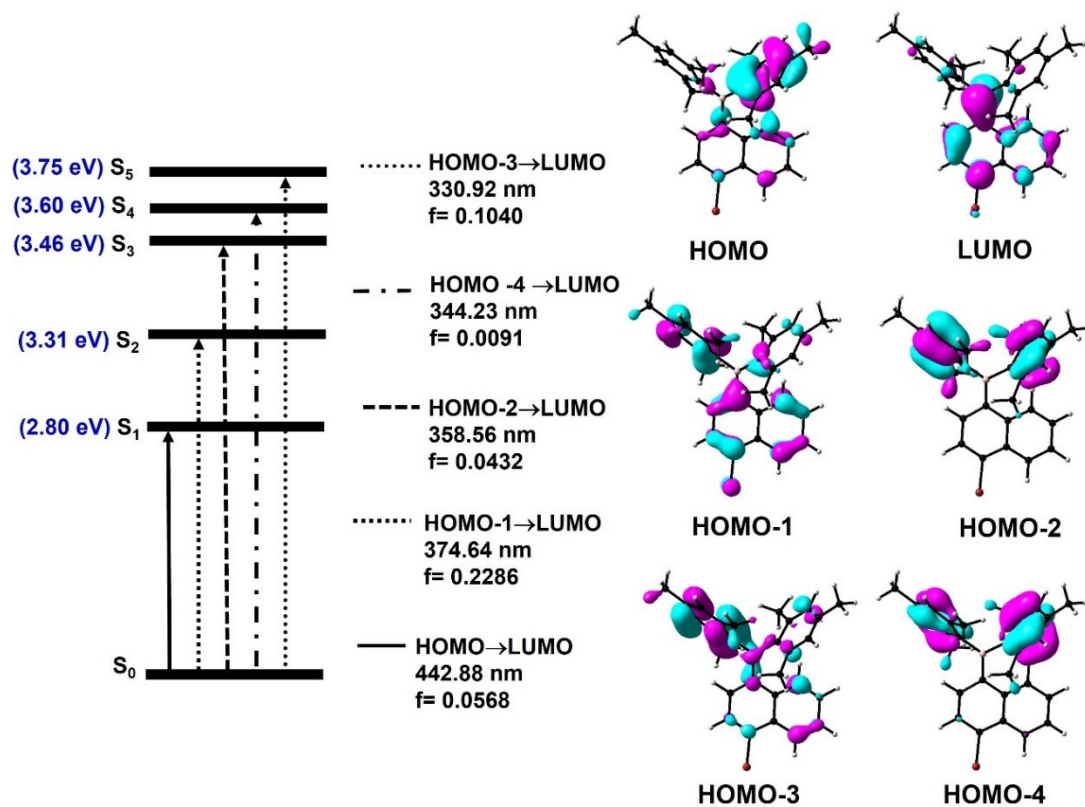
**Figure S25.** (a) Intermolecular interactions in NB-NH<sub>2</sub> hold the molecule to form the crystal lattice. (b) C-H...H-C interactions are observed, including contacts between mesityl hydrogen atoms (2.809 Å) and between a naphthalene carbon atom (c)The intramolecular interaction that forms the 3D chain. [Intermolecular N-H---π mesityl interaction between the NH<sub>2</sub> hydrogen on one molecule with the π cloud of the mesityl ring on the adjacent molecule (2.917 Å). Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Colour code: carbon (gray 50), boron (pink), and nitrogen (blue).



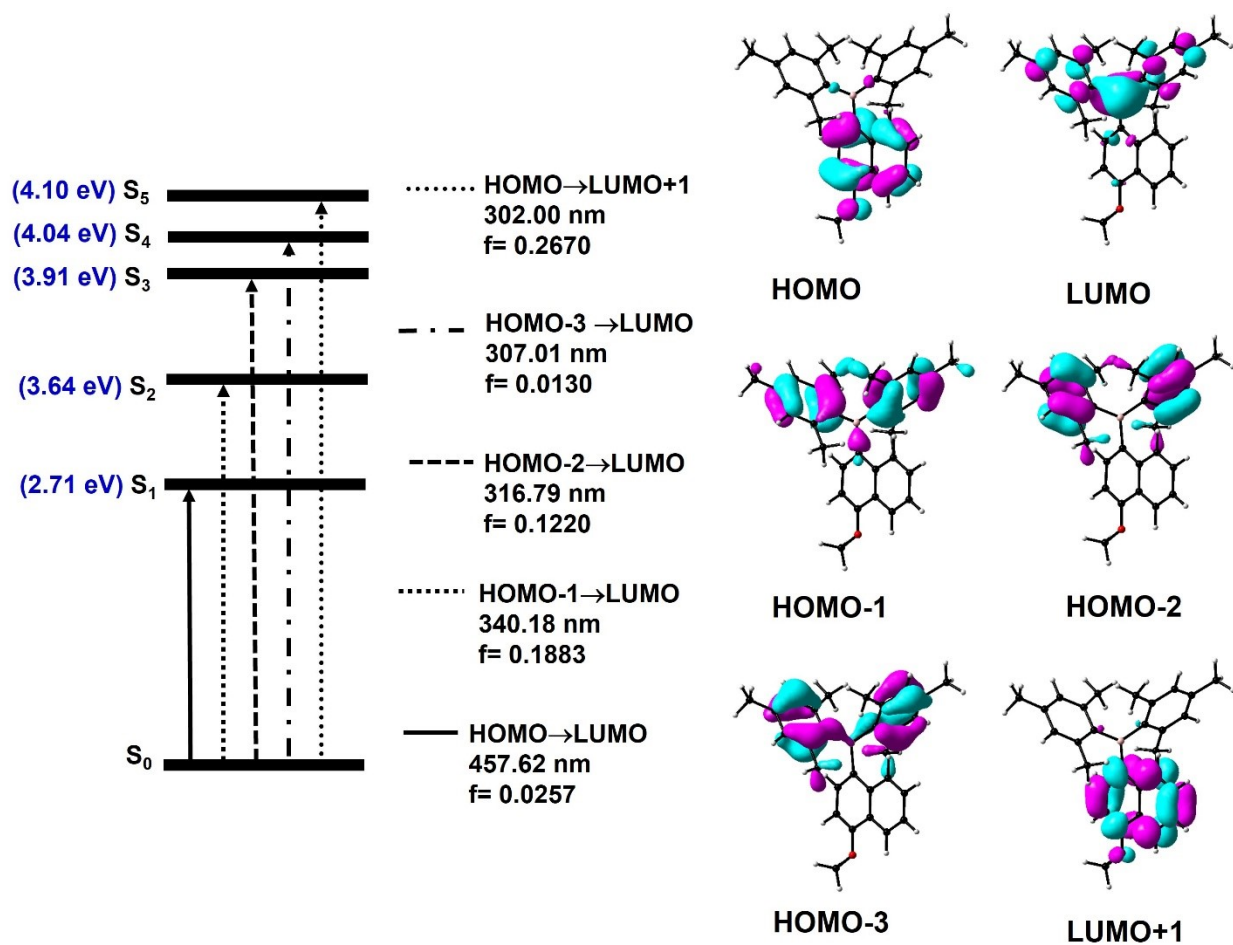
**Figure S26.** (a) Intramolecular interaction between the mesityl hydrogen and two carbon atoms of the naphthalene unit (C–H···H–C, 2.716 and 2.836 Å) observed in NB-COOH. (b) The intramolecular hydrogen bonding interaction O–H---O (1.816 Å) in NB-COOH. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Colour code: carbon (gray 50), oxygen (red) and boron (pink).



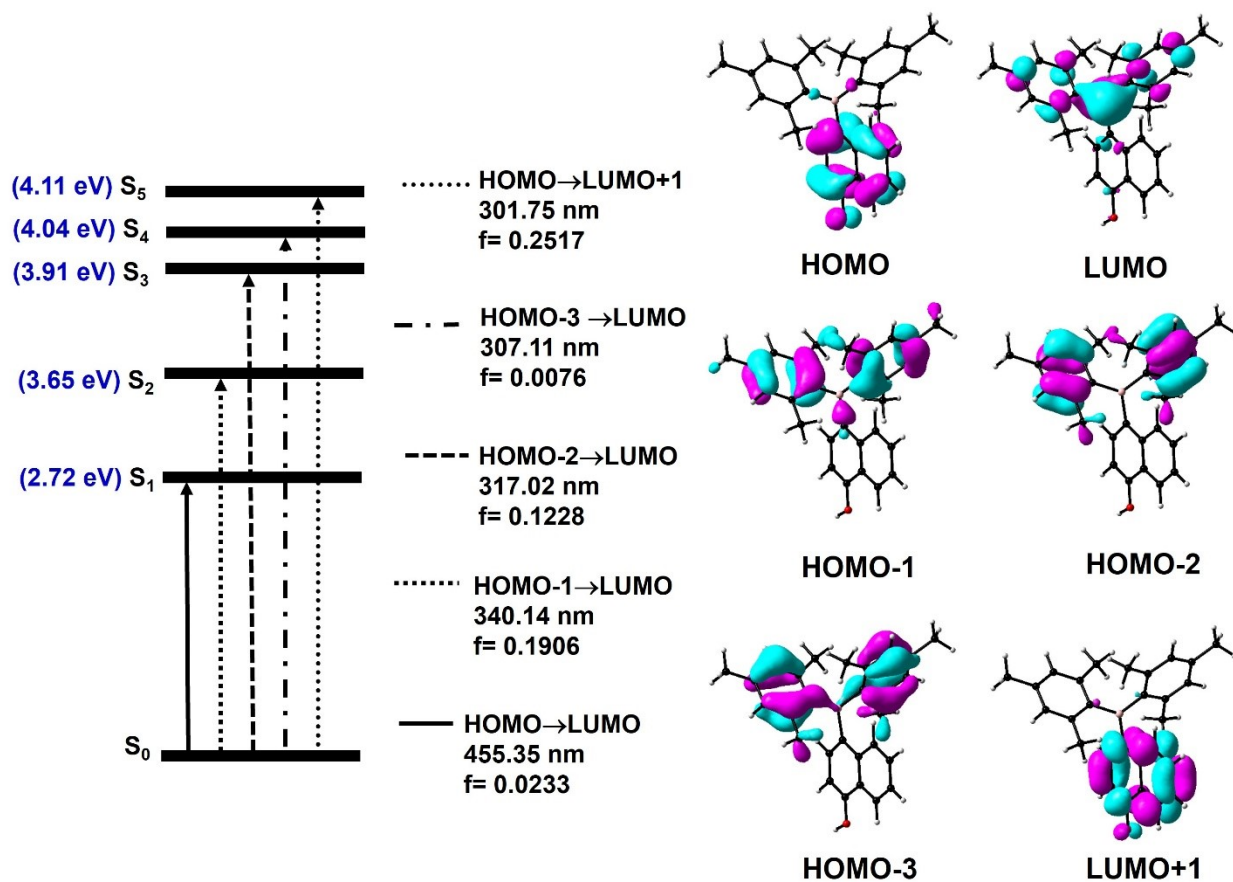
**Figure S27.** Solvent-dependent absorption spectra for (a) NB-Br (b) NB-OMe, (c) NB-OH (d) NB-NH<sub>2</sub>, and (e) NB-COOH (conc 10<sup>-5</sup> M)



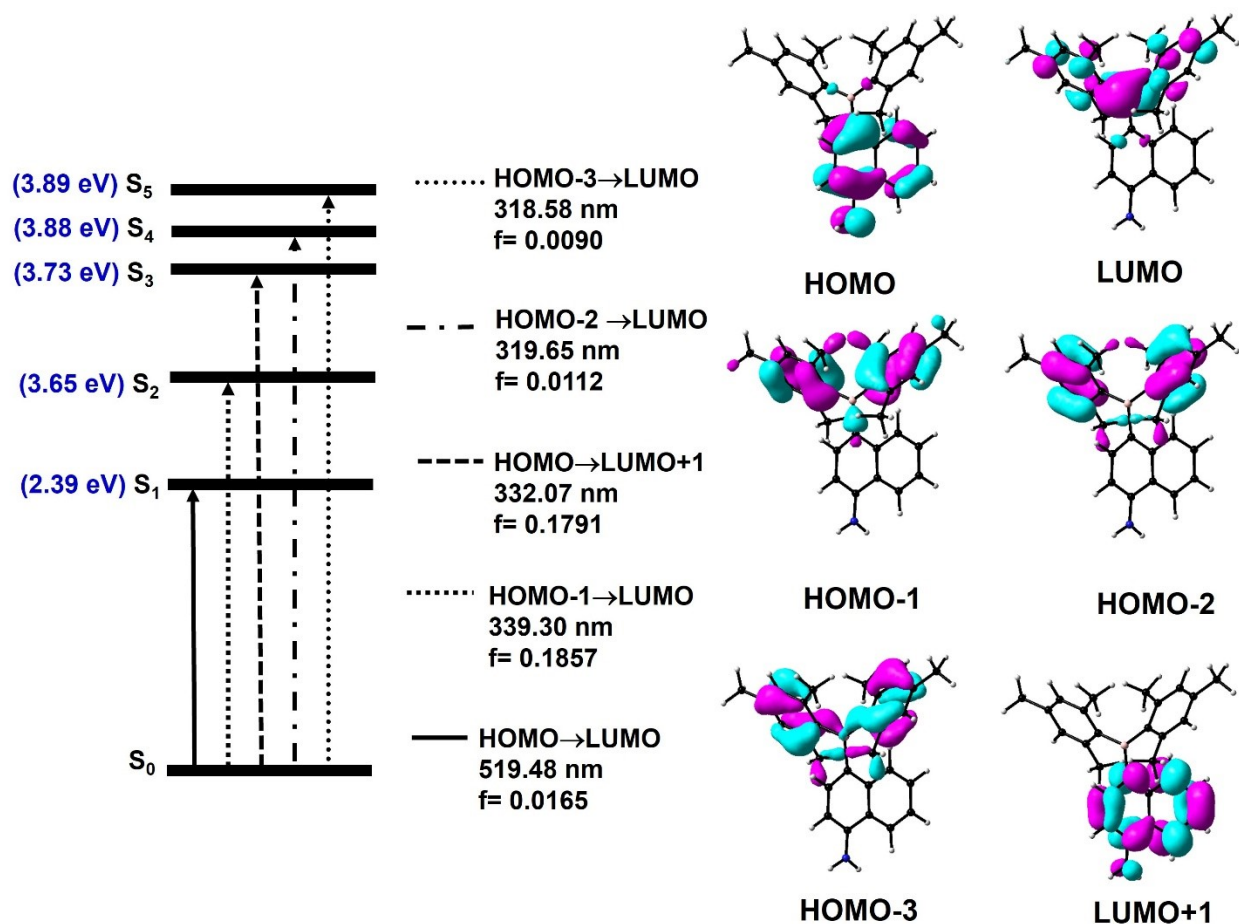
**Figure S28.** (a) Singlet energy level diagram, vertical transition involving the first five singlet states, and (b) molecular orbitals involved in the transitions calculated through TD-DFT calculation using PBE0/6-31G (d,p) level of theory for NB-Br.



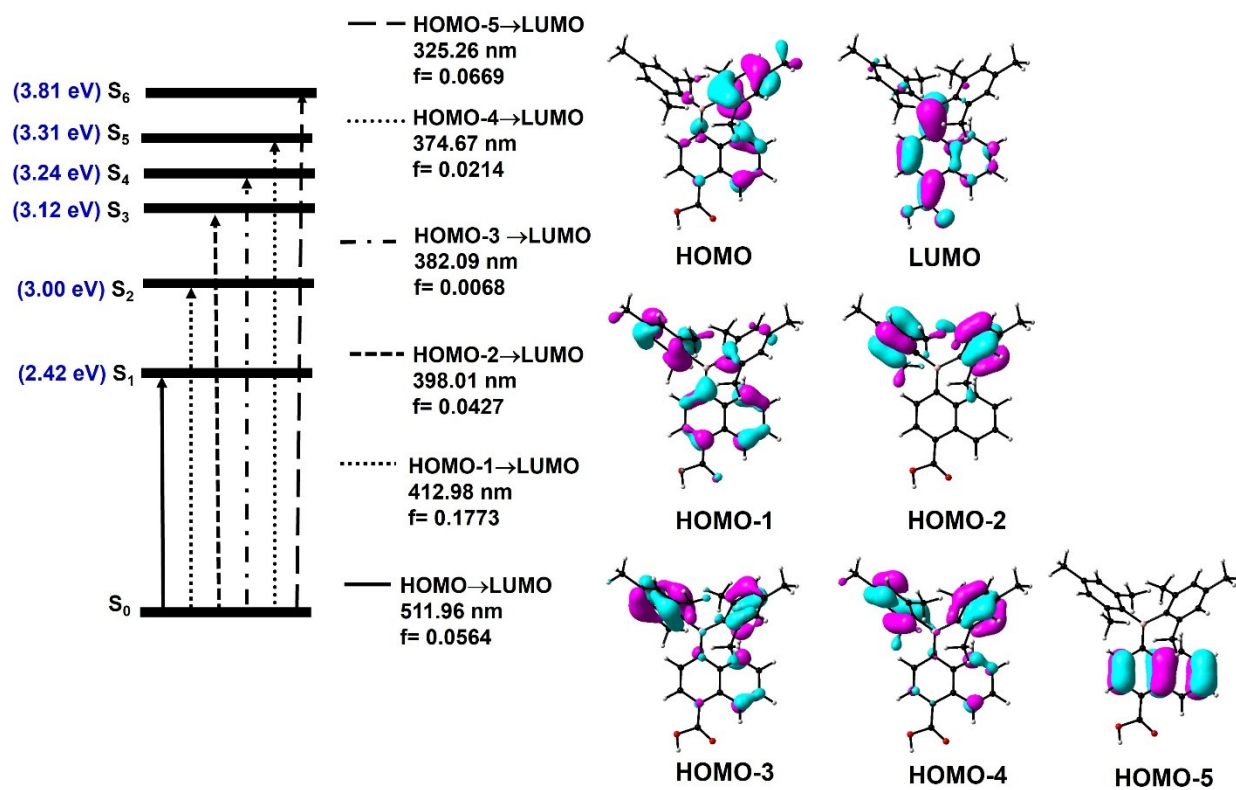
**Figure S29.** (a) Singlet energy level diagram, vertical transition involving first five singlet states, and (b) molecular orbitals involved in the transitions calculated through TD-DFT calculation using PBE0/6-31G (d,p) level of theory for NB-OMe.



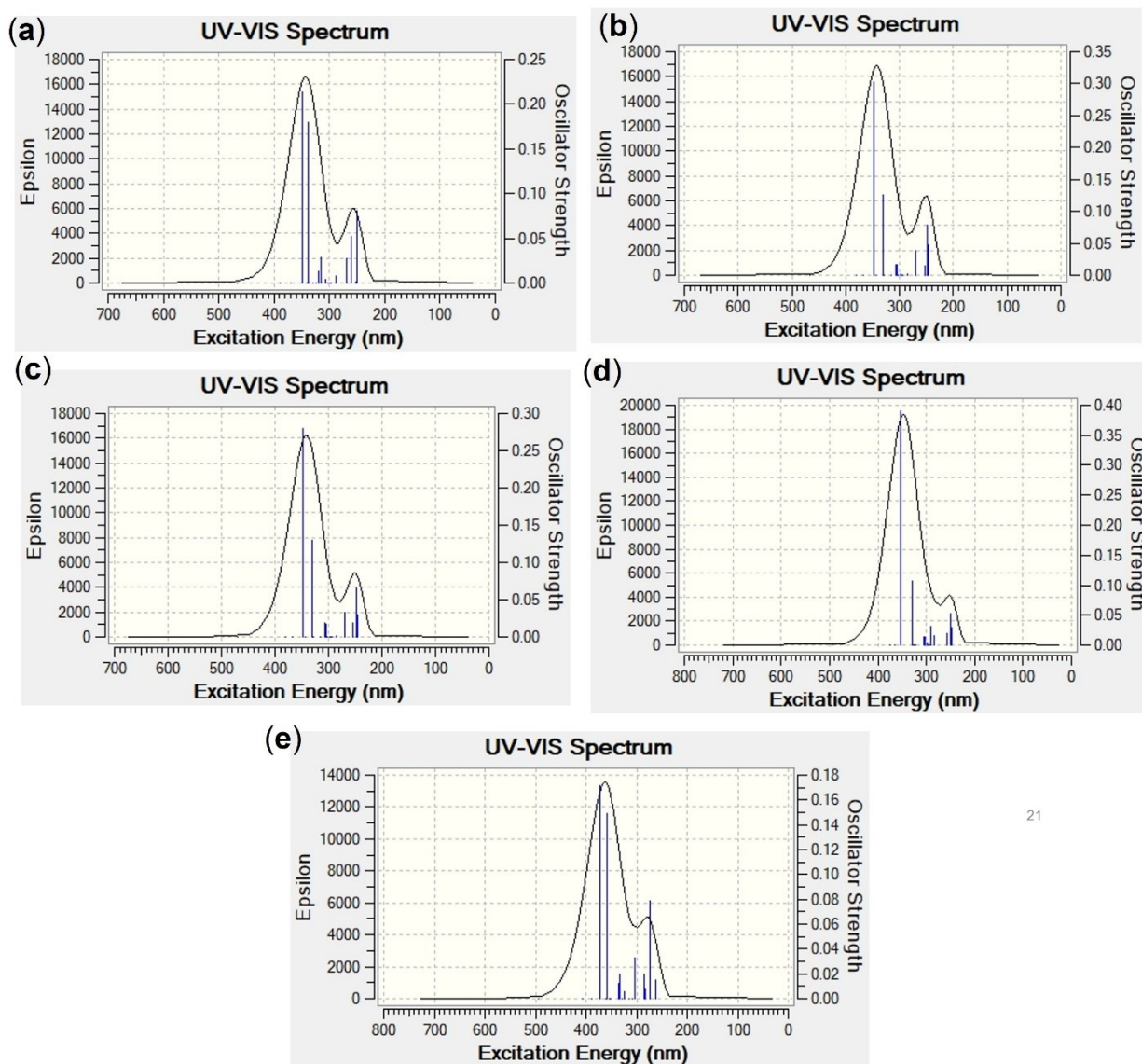
**Figure S30.** (a) Singlet energy level diagram, vertical transition involving first five singlet states, and (b) molecular orbitals involved in the transitions calculated through TD-DFT calculation using PBE0/6-31G (d,p) level of theory for NB-OH.



**Figure S31.** (a) Singlet energy level diagram, vertical transition involving first five singlet states, and (b) molecular orbitals involved in the transitions calculated through TD-DFT calculation using PBE0/6-31G (d,p) level of theory for NB-NH<sub>2</sub>.



**Figure S32.** (a) Singlet energy level diagram, vertical transition involving first six singlet states, and (b) molecular orbitals involved in the transitions calculated through TD-DFT calculation using PBE0/6-31G (d,p) level of theory for NB-COOH



21

**Figure S33.** Theoretical UV-visible absorption spectra for (a) **NB-Br**, (b) **NB-OMe**, (c) **NB-OH**, (d) **NB-NH<sub>2</sub>** and (e) **NB-COOH** through TD-DFT calculation using 6-31G (d, p)/B3LYP level of theory.

**Table S2:** Summary of computed singlet vertical transitions involved in **NB-Br** through TD-DFT calculation using PBE0/6-31G (d,p) level of theory.

Transitions	E (eV)	$\lambda$ (nm)	$f$	Dominant transitions (%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>1</sub>	2.7995	442.88	0.0568	HOMO →LUMO (45.9)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>2</sub>	3.3095	374.64	0.2286	HOMO-1 →LUMO (35.7)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>3</sub>	3.4578	358.56	0.0432	HOMO-2 →LUMO (45.4)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>4</sub>	3.6018	344.23	0.0091	HOMO-4 →LUMO (32.9)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>5</sub>	3.7466	330.92	0.1040	HOMO-3 →LUMO (25.2)

**Table S3:** Summary of computed singlet vertical transitions involved in **NB-OCH<sub>3</sub>** through TD-DFT calculation using PBE0/6-31G (d,p) level of theory.

Transitions	E (eV)	$\lambda$ (nm)	$f$	Dominant transitions (%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>1</sub>	2.7093	457.62	0.0257	HOMO →LUMO (48.9)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>2</sub>	3.6446	340.18	0.1883	HOMO-1 →LUMO(46.9)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>3</sub>	3.9137	326.79	0.1220	HOMO-2 →LUMO (46.5)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>4</sub>	4.0384	307.01	0.0130	HOMO-3 →LUMO (38.5)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>5</sub>	4.1054	302.00	0.2670	HOMO →LUMO+1 (31.6)

**Table S4:** Summary of computed singlet vertical transitions involved in **NB-OH** through TD-DFT calculation using PBE0/6-31G (d,p) level of theory.

Transitions	E (eV)	$\lambda$ (nm)	$f$	Dominant transitions (%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>1</sub>	2.7228	455.35	0.0233	HOMO →LUMO (48.9)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>2</sub>	3.6451	340.14	0.1906	HOMO-1 →LUMO (46.8)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>3</sub>	3.9109	317.02	0.1228	HOMO-2 →LUMO (46.5)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>4</sub>	4.0371	307.11	0.0076	HOMO-3 →LUMO (39.4)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>5</sub>	4.1089	301.75	0.2517	HOMO →LUMO+1 (32.6)

**Table S5:** Summary of computed singlet vertical transitions involved in **NB-NH<sub>2</sub>** through TD-DFT calculation using PBE0/6-31G (d,p)level of theory.

Transitions	E (eV)	$\lambda$ (nm)	$f$	Dominant transitions (%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>1</sub>	2.3867	519.48	0.0165	HOMO →LUMO (49.2)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>2</sub>	3.6542	339.30	0.1857	HOMO-1 →LUMO (46.8)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>3</sub>	3.7337	332.07	0.1791	HOMO→LUMO+1 (44.0)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>4</sub>	3.8787	319.65	0.0112	HOMO-2→LUMO (46.5)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>5</sub>	3.8918	318.58	0.0090	HOMO-3 →LUMO (39.2)

**Table S6:** Summary of computed singlet vertical transitions involved in **NB-COOH** through TD-DFT calculation using PBE0/6-31G (d,p)level of theory.

Transitions	E (eV)	$\lambda$ (nm)	$f$	Dominant transitions (%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>1</sub>	2.4217	511.96	0.0564	HOMO →LUMO (47.3)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>2</sub>	3.0022	412.98	0.1773	HOMO-1 →LUMO (39.5)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>3</sub>	3.1151	398.01	0.0427	HOMO-2 →LUMO (44.8)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>4</sub>	3.2449	382.09	0.0068	HOMO-4 →LUMO (19.9) HOMO-3 →LUMO (29.2)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>5</sub>	3.3092	374.67	0.0214	HOMO-4 →LUMO (26.8) HOMO-3 →LUMO (17.1)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>6</sub>	3.8118	325.26	0.0669	HOMO-5 →LUMO (41.7)

**Table S7:** Lifetime decay kinetics for **NB-Br, NB-OMe, NB-OH, NB-NH<sub>2</sub>, and NB-COOH** in toluene (Con 10<sup>-5</sup>M).

compound	$\lambda_{\text{ex}}$ (nm)	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$ (nm)	$\tau_1$ [ns] (A1 [%])	$\tau_2$ [ns] (A2 [%])	$\tau_{\text{av}}$ [ns]	PLQY	$K_r$ (x10 <sup>7</sup> S <sup>-1</sup> )	$K_{\text{nr}}$ (x10 <sup>8</sup> S <sup>-1</sup> )
NB-Br	330	400	2.98 (57.82)	7.02 (42.18)	4.67	2.75	0.58	2.08
NB-OMe	330	400	1.86 (87.89)	8.32 (12.11)	2.63	23.08	8.77	2.92
NB-OH	330	398	1.67 (96.07)	11.26 (3.93)	2.07	26.02	12.5	3.57
NB-NH <sub>2</sub>	375	445	4.81 (100)	-	4.81	32.64	6.8	1.40
NB-COOH	347	445	4.13 (97.63)	22.39 (2.37)	4.49	36.23	8.1	1.42

$\lambda_{\text{ex}}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{em}}$  = excitation and emission wavelength,  $\tau$  = fluorescence lifetime, A= amplitude of intensity,  $\tau_{\text{av}}$  =average fluorescence lifetime,  $\Phi_{\text{PL}}$  = total absolute photoluminescence quantum yield,  $k_r$  = radiative rate constant of fluorescence =  $\Phi_{\text{PL}} / \tau_{\text{FL}}$ ,  $k_{\text{nr}}$  = non-radiative rate constant from singlet state  $(1 - \Phi_{\text{PL}}) / \tau_{\text{av}}$ .

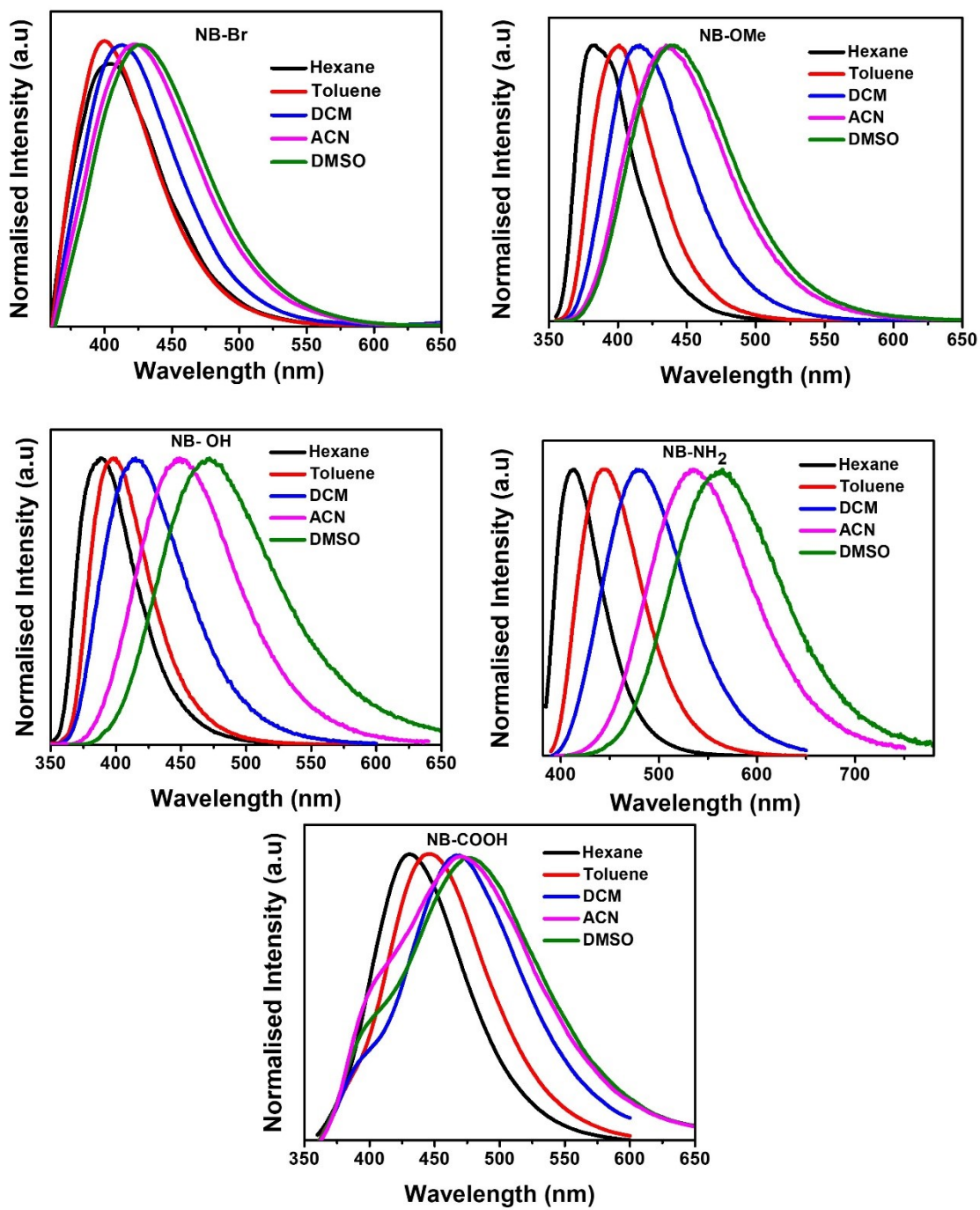
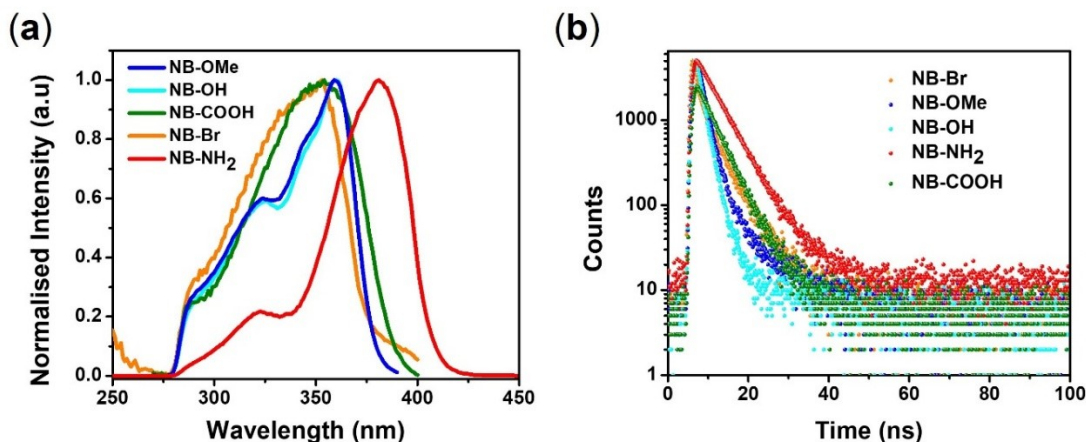
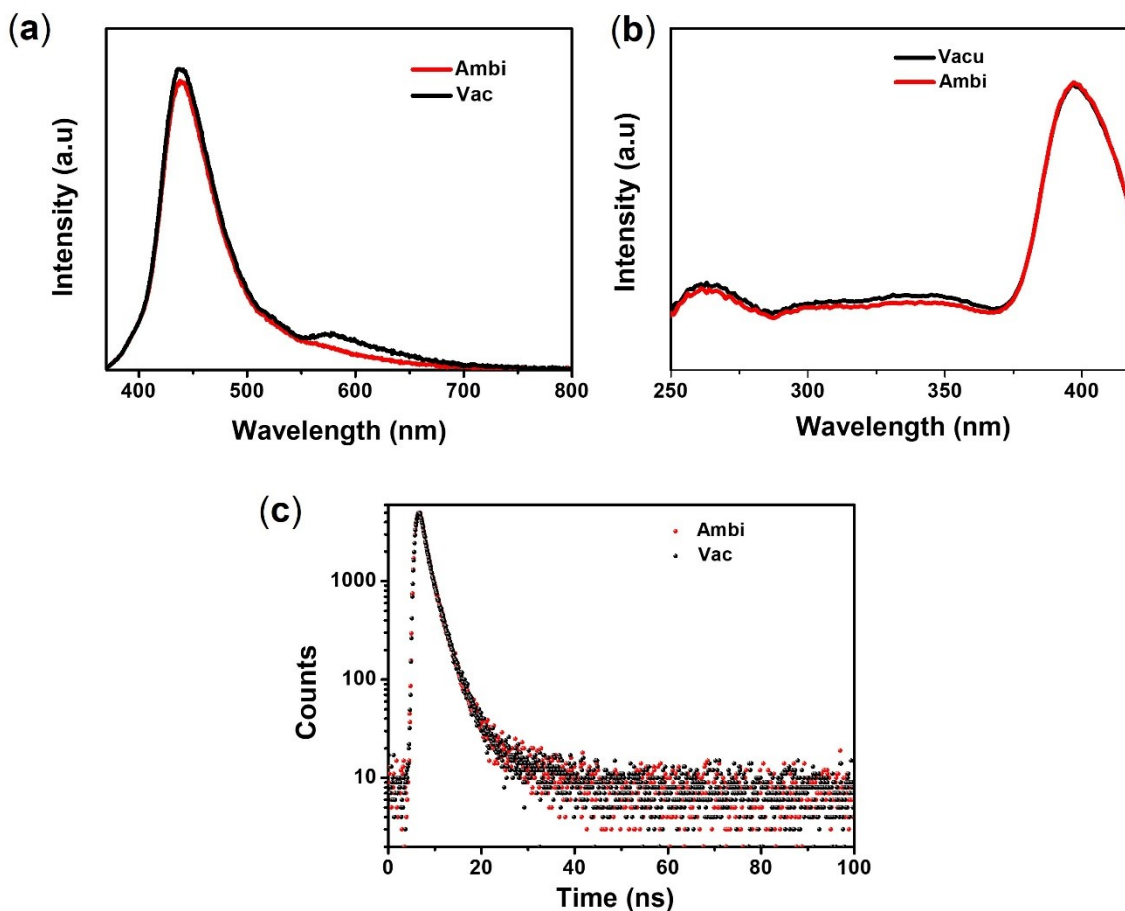


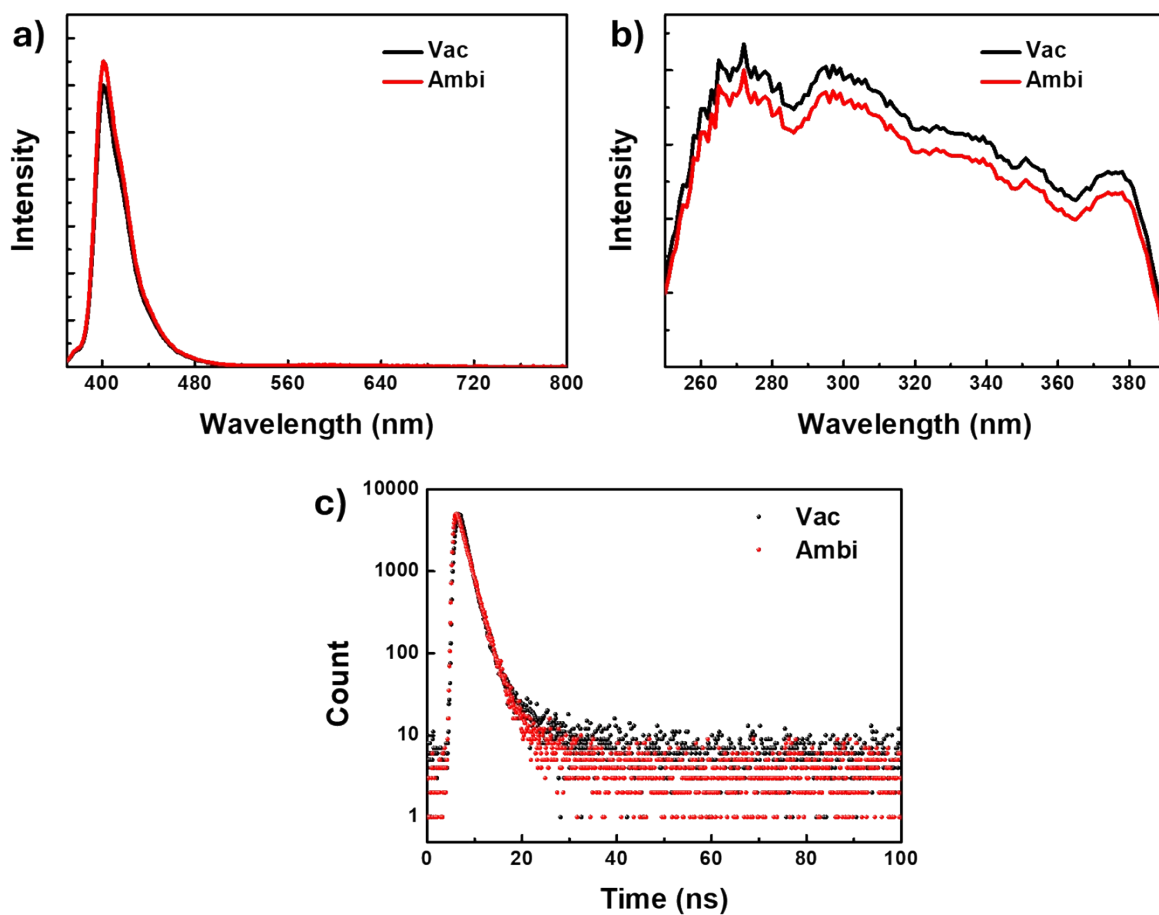
Figure S34. Solvent-dependent emission spectra for NB-Br, NB-OMe, NB-OH, NB-NH<sub>2</sub>, and NB-COOH (conc 10<sup>-5</sup> M)



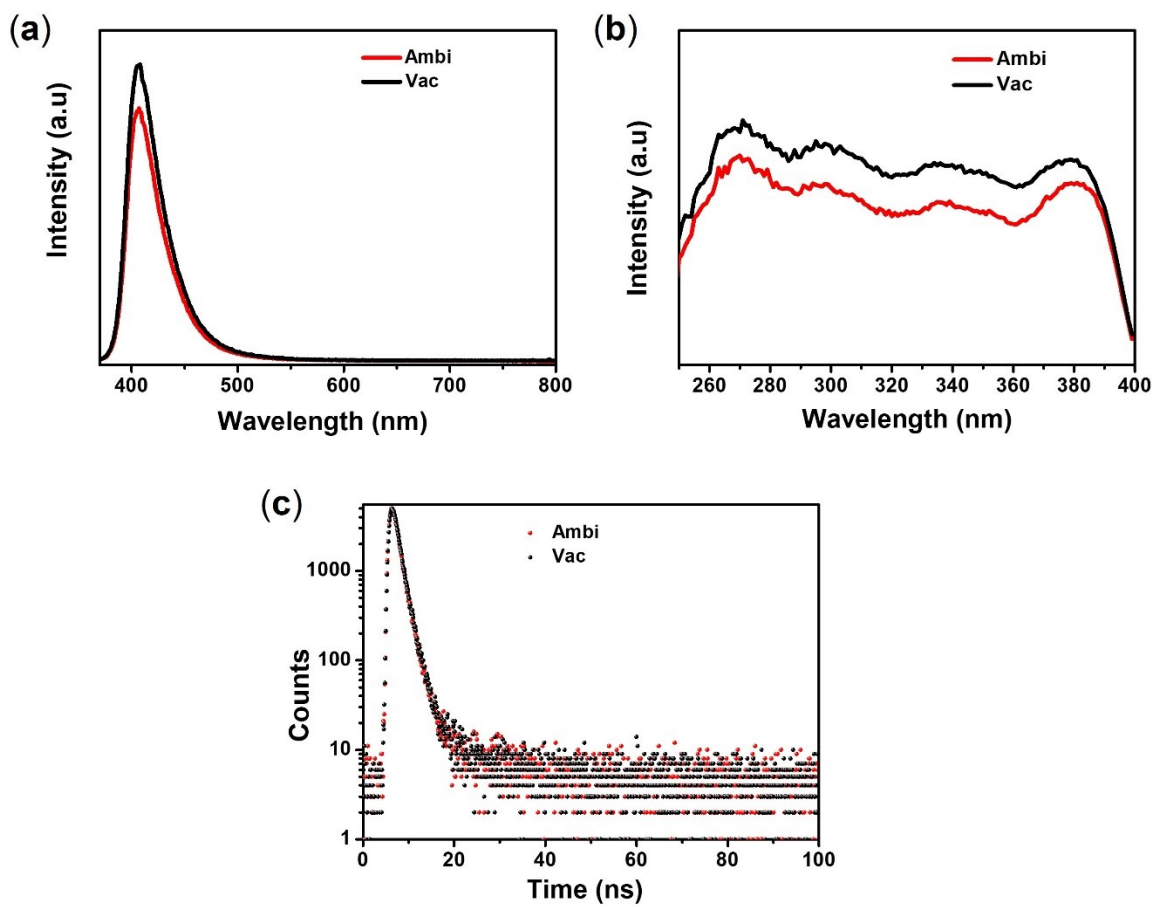
**Figure S35.** (a) Excitation spectra in toluene NB-Br, NB-OMe, NB-OH, NB-NH<sub>2</sub>, NB-COOH (conc 10<sup>-5</sup> M) (b) fluorescence decay curve for **NB-Br** [ $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 330 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 400 \text{ nm}$ ], **NB-Ome** [ $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 330 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 400 \text{ nm}$ ], **NB-OH** [ $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 330 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 398 \text{ nm}$ ], **NB-NH<sub>2</sub>** [ $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 375 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 445 \text{ nm}$ ], and **NB-COOH** [ $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 330 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 445 \text{ nm}$ ] in toluene (Conc = 10<sup>-5</sup>M)



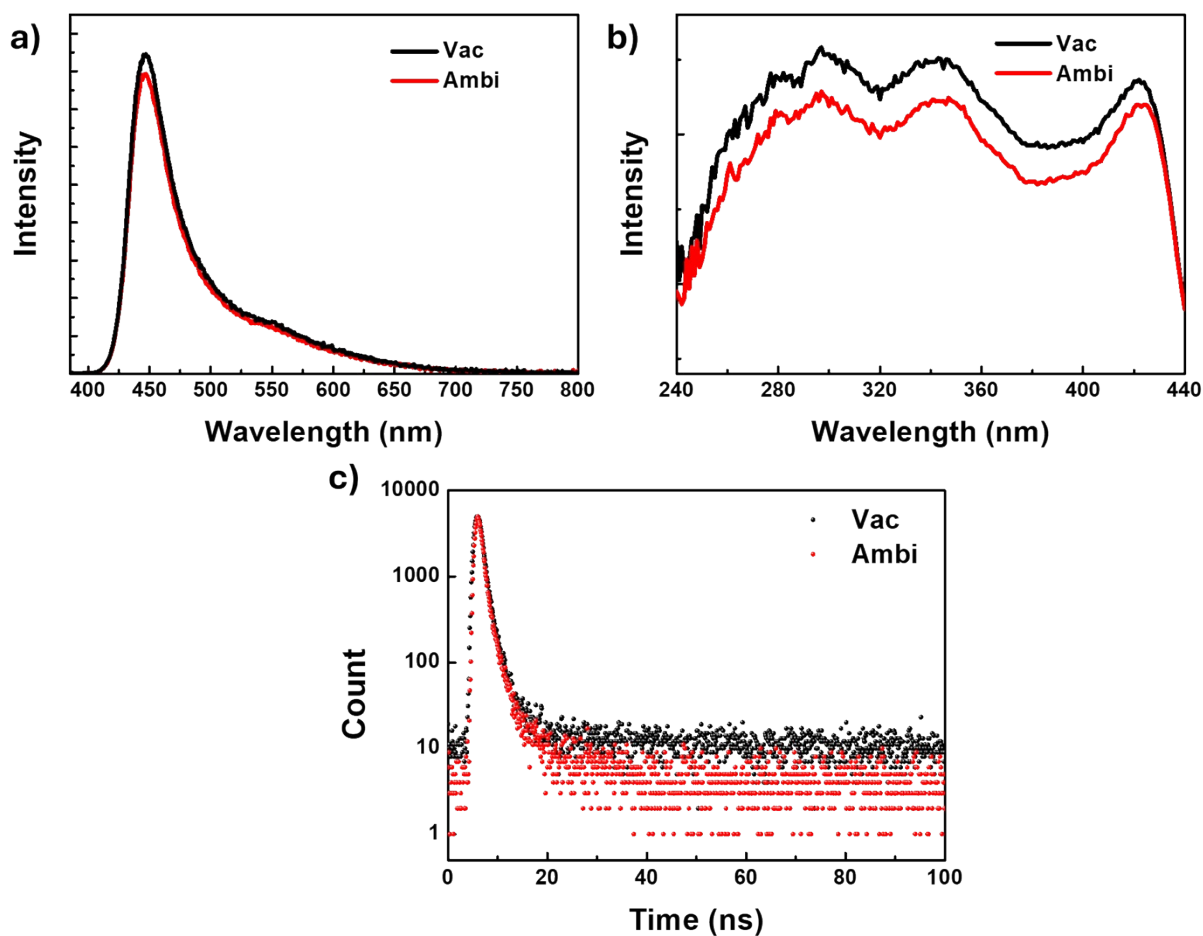
**Figure S36.** (a) Steady state FL spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 350 \text{ nm}$  (b), Excitation spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 430 \text{ nm}$  and (c) Fluorescence lifetime decay [ $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 350 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 430 \text{ nm}$ ] for **NB-Br** under vacuum and ambient conditions at 298 K.



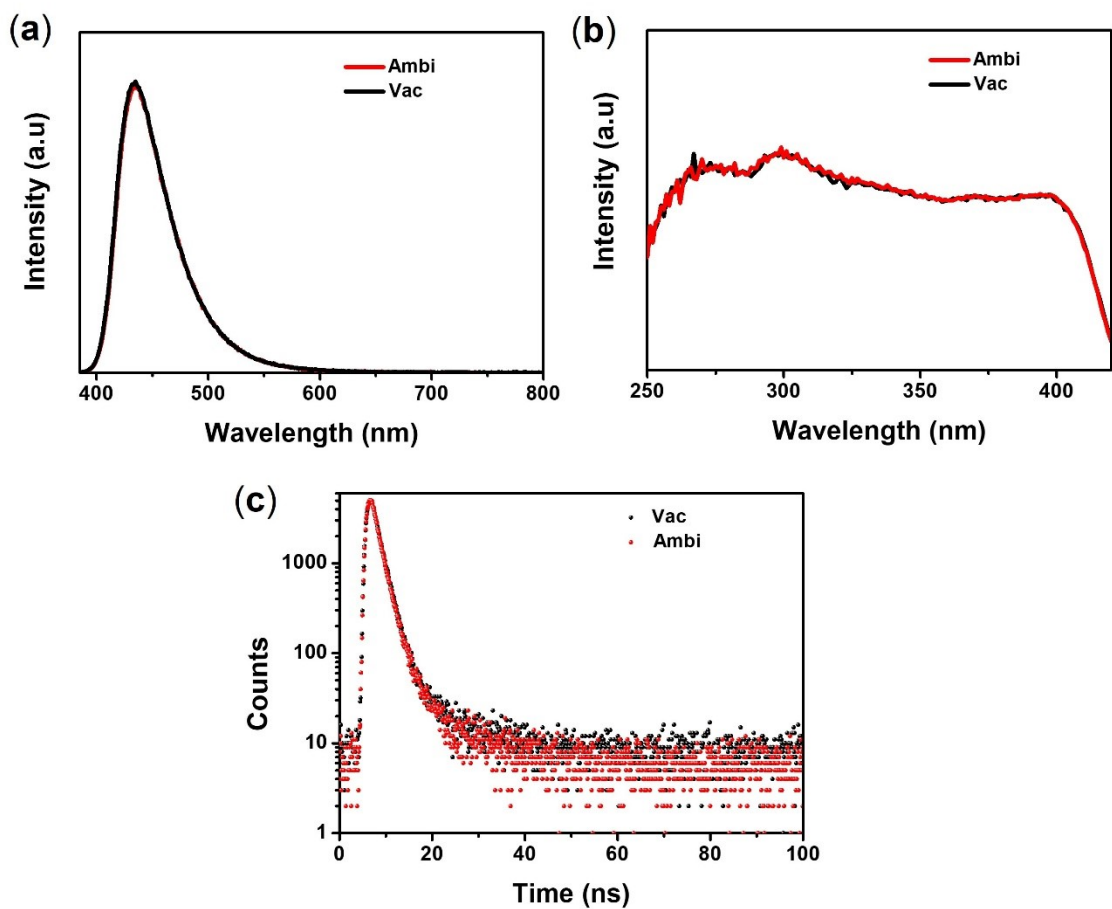
**Figure S37.** (a) Steady state FL spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 350$  nm (b) Excitation spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 401$  nm and (c) Fluorescence lifetime decay [ $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 350$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 401$  nm] for NB-OMe under vacuum and ambient conditions at 298 K.



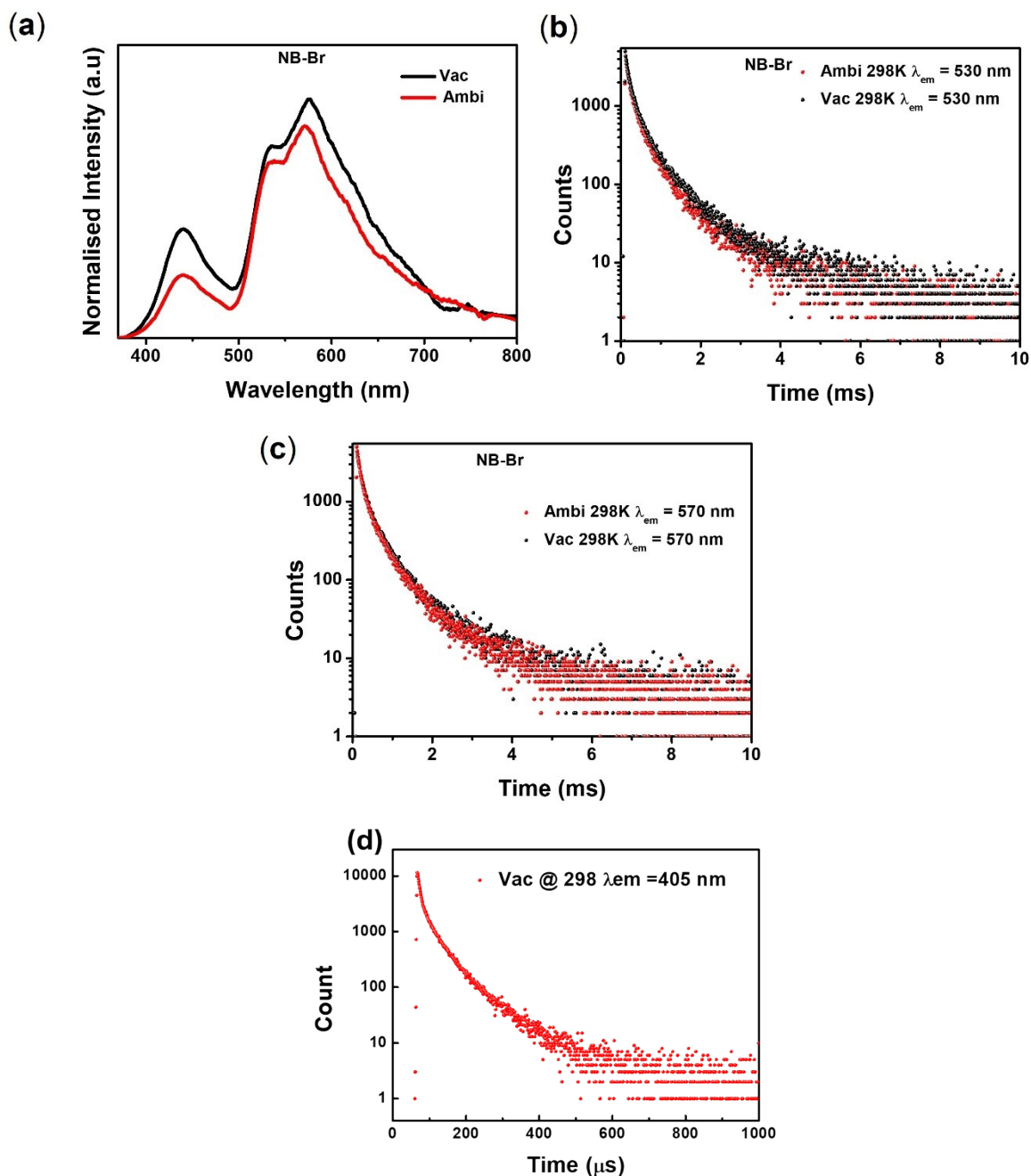
**Figure S38.** (a) Steady state FL spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 350 \text{ nm}$  (b) Excitation spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 405 \text{ nm}$  and (c) Fluorescence lifetime decay [ $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 350 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 401 \text{ nm}$ ] for **NB-OH** under vacuum and ambient conditions at 298 K.



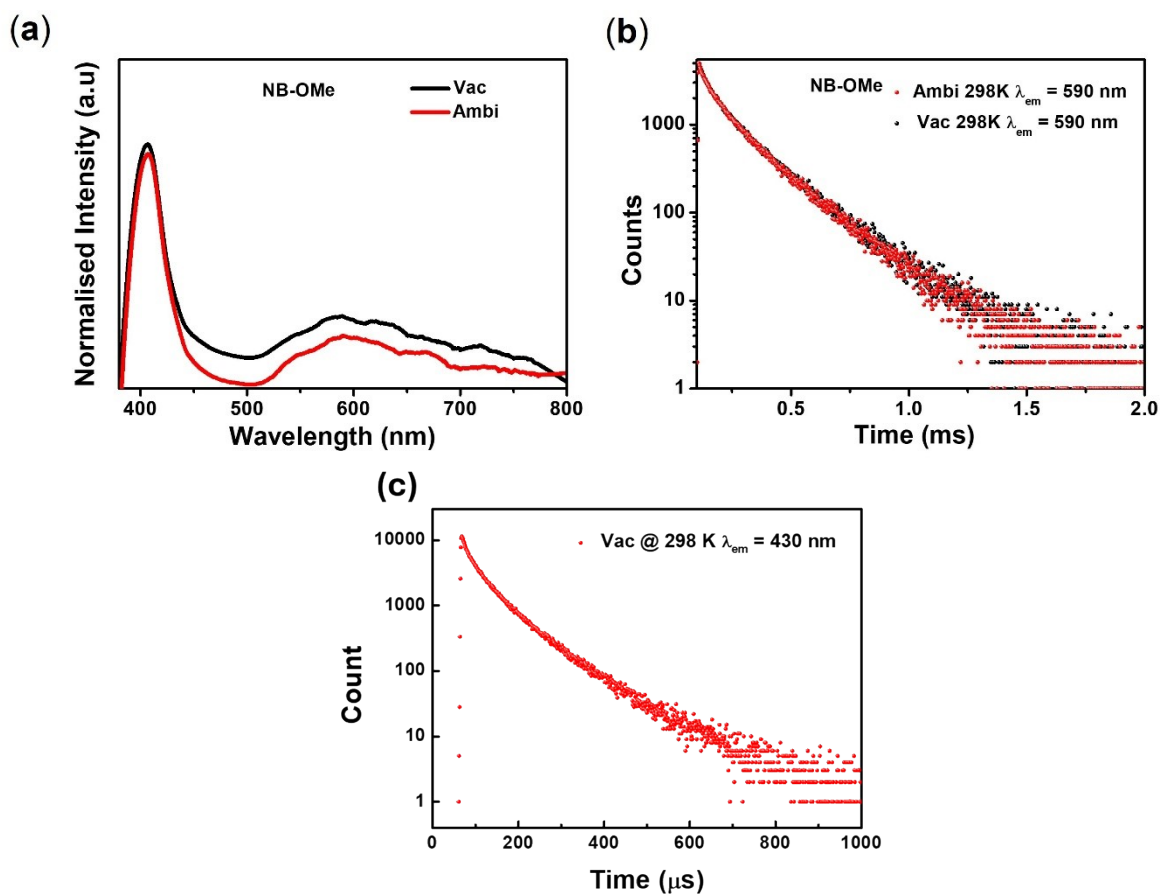
**Figure S39.** (a) Steady state FL spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 375$  nm (b) Excitation spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 447$  nm and (c) Fluorescence lifetime decay [ $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 375$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 447$  nm] for NB-NH<sub>2</sub> under vacuum and ambient condition at 298 K.



**Figure S40.** (a) Steady state FL spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 375$  nm (b) Excitation spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 434$  nm and (c) Fluorescence lifetime decay [ $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 375$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 434$  nm] for NB-COOH under vacuum and ambient condition at 298 K.



**Figure S41.** Time-gated PL spectra for (a) **NB-Br** and (b) and (c) Phosphorescence lifetime decay [ $\lambda_{ex} = 375$  nm and  $\lambda_{em} = 530$  nm, and 570 nm] and (d) delayed fluorescence decay [ $\lambda_{ex} = 375$  nm and  $\lambda_{ex} = 430$  nm] for **NB-Br** under vacuum [absence of oxygen] and ambient atmosphere [presence of oxygen] at 298 K in the solid state



**Figure S42.** Time-gated PL spectra for (a) **NB-OMe**, (b) Phosphorescence lifetime decay [ $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 375$  nm and  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 590$  nm] and (c) delayed fluorescence decay [ $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 375$  nm and  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 430$  nm] for **NB-OMe** under vacuum [absence of oxygen] and ambient atmosphere [presence of oxygen] at 298 K in the solid state.

**Table S8:** Fluorescence lifetime for **NB-OH**, **NB-NH<sub>2</sub>**, and **NB-COOH** under different atmospheric conditions and different temperatures, along with total PLQY under ambient conditions at 298 K.

Compound	$\lambda_{\text{ex}}$ (nm)	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$ (nm)	$\tau_{\text{av}}$ [FL]	$\Phi_{\text{PL}}$	$k_r$ ( $\times 10^7 \text{S}^{-1}$ )	$k_{\text{nr}}$ ( $\times 10^8 \text{S}^{-1}$ )
<b>NB-OH</b>	350	405	1.72	3.60	2.09	5.60
<b>NB-NH<sub>2</sub></b>	375	447	2.51	6.50	2.59	3.72
<b>NB-COOH</b>	375	434	2.40	7.88	3.28	3.84

$\lambda_{\text{ex}}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{em}}$  = excitation and emission wavelength,  $\tau$  = fluorescence lifetime,  $A$  = amplitude of intensity,  $\tau_{\text{av}}$  = average fluorescence lifetime,  $\Phi_{\text{PL}}$  = total absolute photoluminescence quantum yield,  $k_r$  = radiative rate constant of fluorescence =  $\Phi_{\text{PL}} / \tau_{\text{FL}}$ ,  $k_{\text{nr}}$  = non-radiative rate constant from singlet state  $(1 - \Phi_{\text{PL}}) / \tau_{\text{av}}$ .

**Table S9:** Delayed fluorescence (DF) and phosphorescence (PH) lifetime for **NB-Br** and **NB-OMe**, in solid state at 298 K.

	vacuum				Ambinet			
	$\lambda_{\text{ex}}$	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$	$\tau_1$ (A <sub>1</sub> %)	$\tau_2$ (A <sub>2</sub> %)	$\lambda_{\text{ex}}$	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$	$\tau_1$ (A <sub>1</sub> %)	$\tau_2$ (A <sub>2</sub> %)
<b>NB-Br</b>								
<b>DF</b>	350	430	103.59 $\mu\text{s}$ (51.87)	368.40 $\mu\text{s}$ (48.13)	350	430	-	-
<b>Ph</b>	350	530	212.83 $\mu\text{s}$ (52.96)	935.77 $\mu\text{s}$ (47.04)	375	530	199.54 $\mu\text{s}$ (55.11)	891.28 $\mu\text{s}$ (44.89)
		572	243.05 $\mu\text{s}$ (57.09)	1008.95 $\mu\text{s}$ (42.91)			572	227.41 $\mu\text{s}$ (56.22)
<b>NB-OMe</b>								
<b>DF</b>	350	403	32.61 $\mu\text{s}$ (42.22)	96.55 $\mu\text{s}$ (57.78)	350	403	-	-
<b>Ph</b>	350	590	63.97 $\mu\text{s}$ (28.63)	199.91 $\mu\text{s}$ (71.37)	375	590	57.31 $\mu\text{s}$ (26.11)	199.97 $\mu\text{s}$ (73.89)

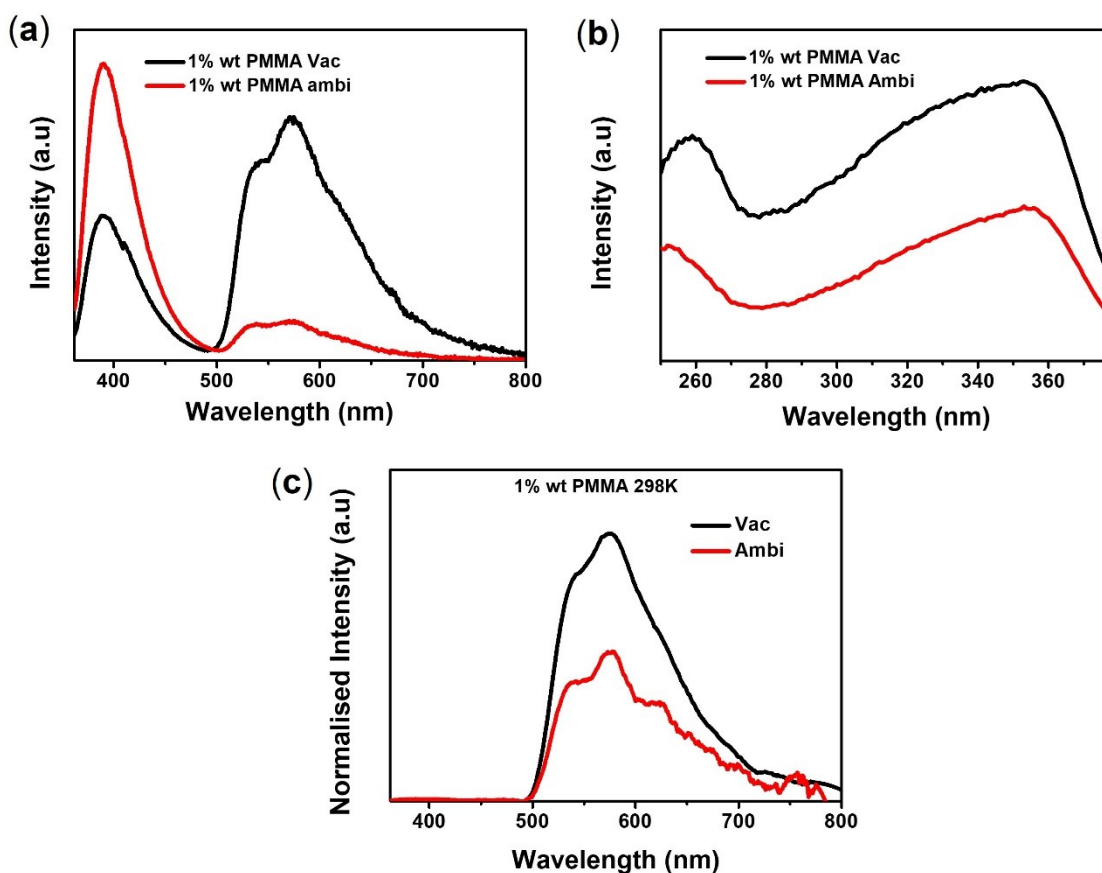
**Table S10:** Fluorescence decay kinetics for **NB-Br**, **NB-OMe** in the solid state

	Fluorescence lifetime (ns)									PLQY [%]	
	298 K (Vacuum)					298 K (Ambient)					
	$\lambda_{\text{ex}}$	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$	$\tau_1$ (A <sub>1</sub> %)	$\tau_2$ (A <sub>2</sub> %)		$\lambda_{\text{ex}}$	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$	$\tau_1$ (A <sub>1</sub> %)	$\tau_2$ (A <sub>2</sub> %)		
<b>NB-Br</b>											
<b>Solid</b>	350	430	1.82 (80.37)	6.19 (19.63)		350	430	1.61 (68.26)	4.38 (31.74)	2.09	
<b>NB-OMe</b>											
<b>Solid</b>	350	403	1.91 (96.37)	7.54 (3.63)		350	403	1.57 (89.61)	6.48 (10.39)	17.04	
<b>NB-OH</b>											
<b>Solid</b>	350	405	1.43 (94.24)	6.32 (5.76)		350	405	1.40 (94.98)	7.35 (5.02)	3.60	
<b>NB-NH<sub>2</sub></b>											
<b>Solid</b>	375	450	1.24 (77.95)	7.07 (22.05)		375	450	0.86 (76.75)	2.79 (23.25)	6.50	
<b>NB-COOH</b>											
<b>Solid</b>	375	430	1.79 (91.79)	9.48 (8.21)		375	430	1.70 (90.78)	7.40 (9.22)	7.88	

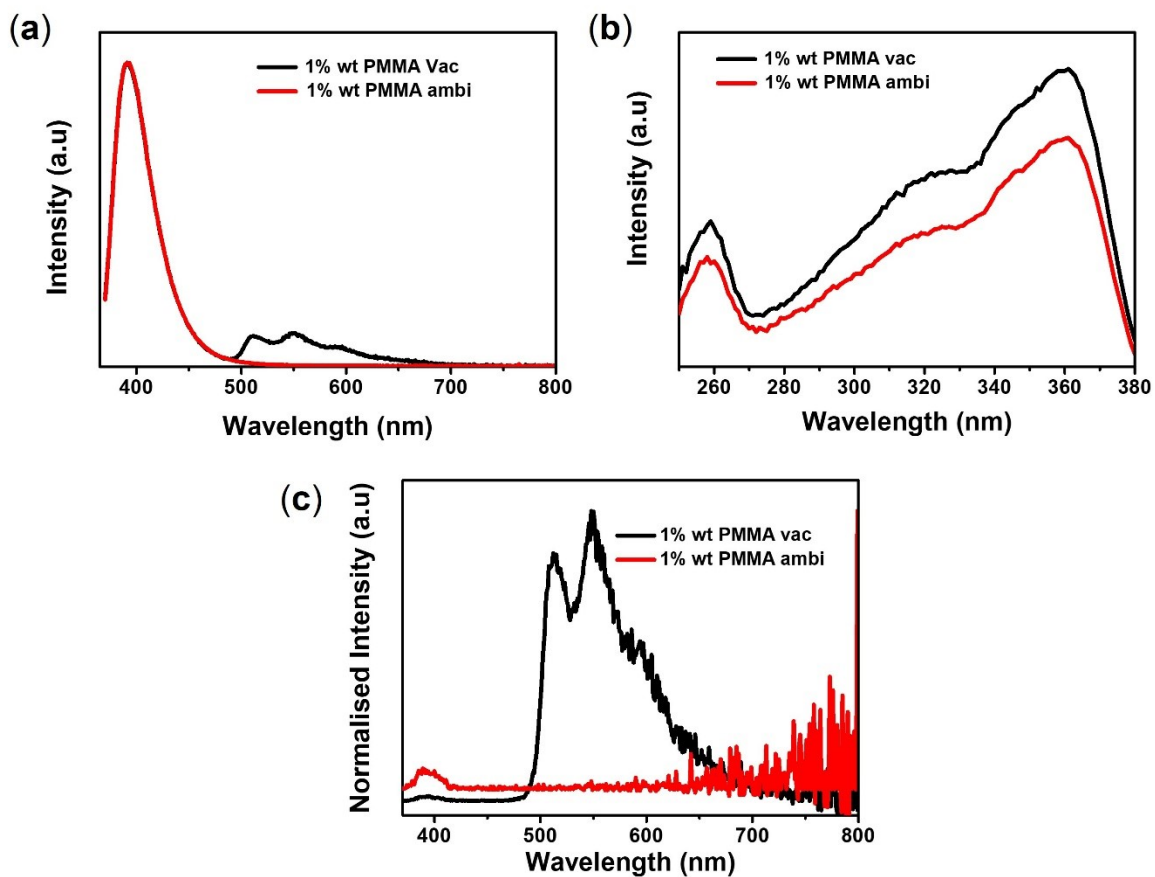
**Table S11:** Fluorescence and phosphorescence decay kinetics for **NB-Br**, **NB-OMe** in the solid state.

Compound	$\lambda_{\text{ex}}$ (nm)	$\lambda_{\text{em}}^{\text{FL}}$ (nm)	$\lambda_{\text{em}}^{\text{PH}}$ (nm)	$\tau_{\text{av}}^{\text{FL}}$ (ns)	$\tau_{\text{av}}^{\text{PH}}$ ( $\mu\text{s}$ )	$\Phi_{\text{Total}}$ %	$\Phi_{\text{PH}}$ %	$k_{\text{r}}^{\text{FL}}$ ( $\times 10^7 \text{S}^{-1}$ )	$k_{\text{nr}}^{\text{FL}}$ ( $\text{S}^{-1}$ )	$k_{\text{r}}^{\text{PH}}$ ( $\text{S}^{-1}$ )	$k_{\text{nr}}^{\text{T}}$ ( $\times 10^2 \text{S}^{-1}$ )
<b>NB-Br</b>	350	430	530	2.69	552.6	2.10	0.54	0.59	3.64	9.2	1.8
<b>NB-OMe</b>	375	401	550	2.11	160.5	17.04	0.72	7.73	3.93	44.86	6.1

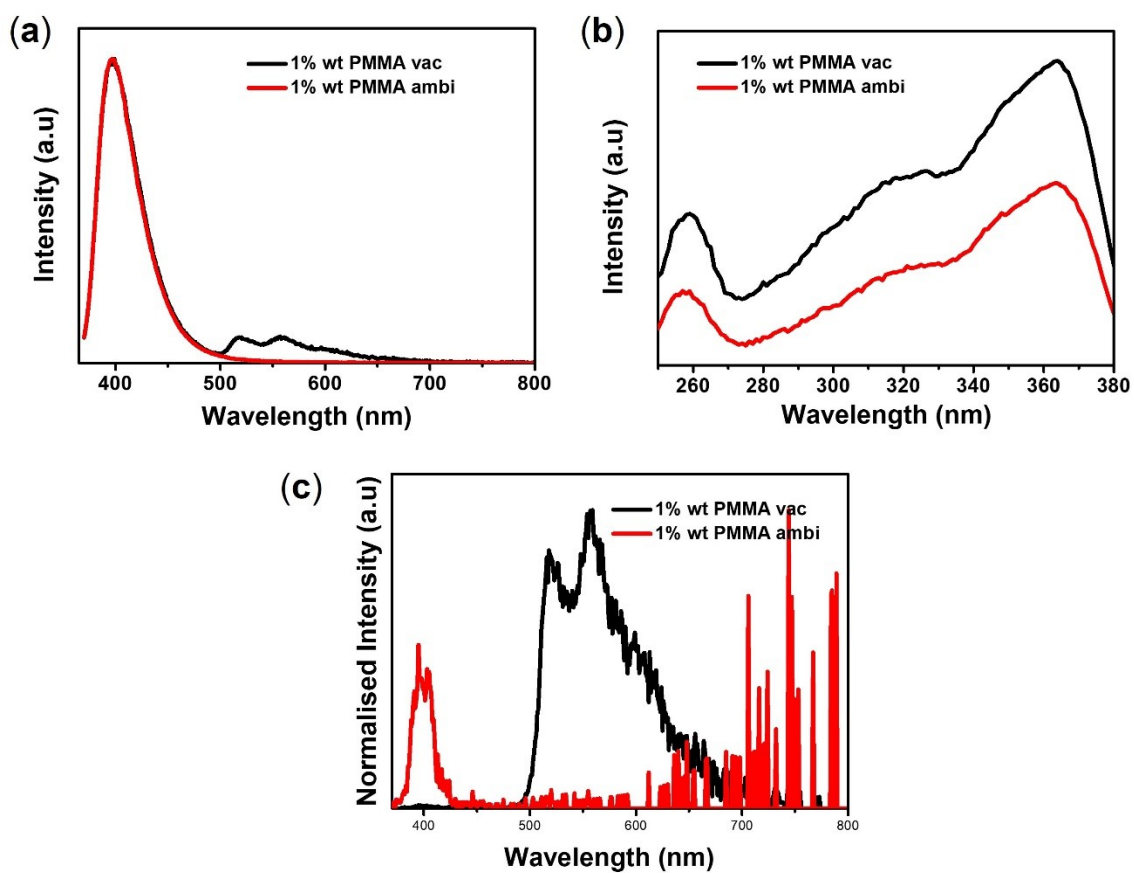
$\lambda_{\text{ex}}$  = excitation wavelength,  $\lambda_{\text{em}}^{\text{FL}}$   $\lambda_{\text{em}}^{\text{PH}}$  = fluorescence and phosphorescence emission wavelength,  $\tau_{\text{av}}^{\text{FL}}$ ,  $\tau_{\text{av}}^{\text{PH}}$  = average fluorescence and phosphorescence lifetime,  $\Phi_{\text{PL}}$  = total absolute photoluminescence quantum yield.  $\Phi_{\text{FL}}$ ,  $\Phi_{\text{PH}}$  = fluorescence and phosphorescence quantum yield,  $k_{\text{r}}^{\text{FL}}$  = radiative rate constant from singlet,  $k_{\text{nr}}^{\text{FL}}$  = non-radiative rate constant from singlet state.  $k_{\text{r}}^{\text{PH}}$  = radiative rate constant of phosphorescence,  $k_{\text{nr}}^{\text{PH}}$  = non-radiative rate constant from triplet state.  $k_{\text{r}}^{\text{FL}} = \Phi_{\text{FL}} / \tau_{\text{FL}}$ ,  $k_{\text{nr}}^{\text{FL}} = (1 - \Phi_{\text{FL}} - \Phi_{\text{PH}}) / \tau_{\text{av}}^{\text{FL}}$ ,  $k_{\text{r}}^{\text{PH}} = \Phi_{\text{PH}} / \tau_{\text{PH}}$ ,  $k_{\text{nr}}^{\text{PH}} = (1 - \Phi_{\text{PH}}) / \tau_{\text{av}}^{\text{PH}}$ .



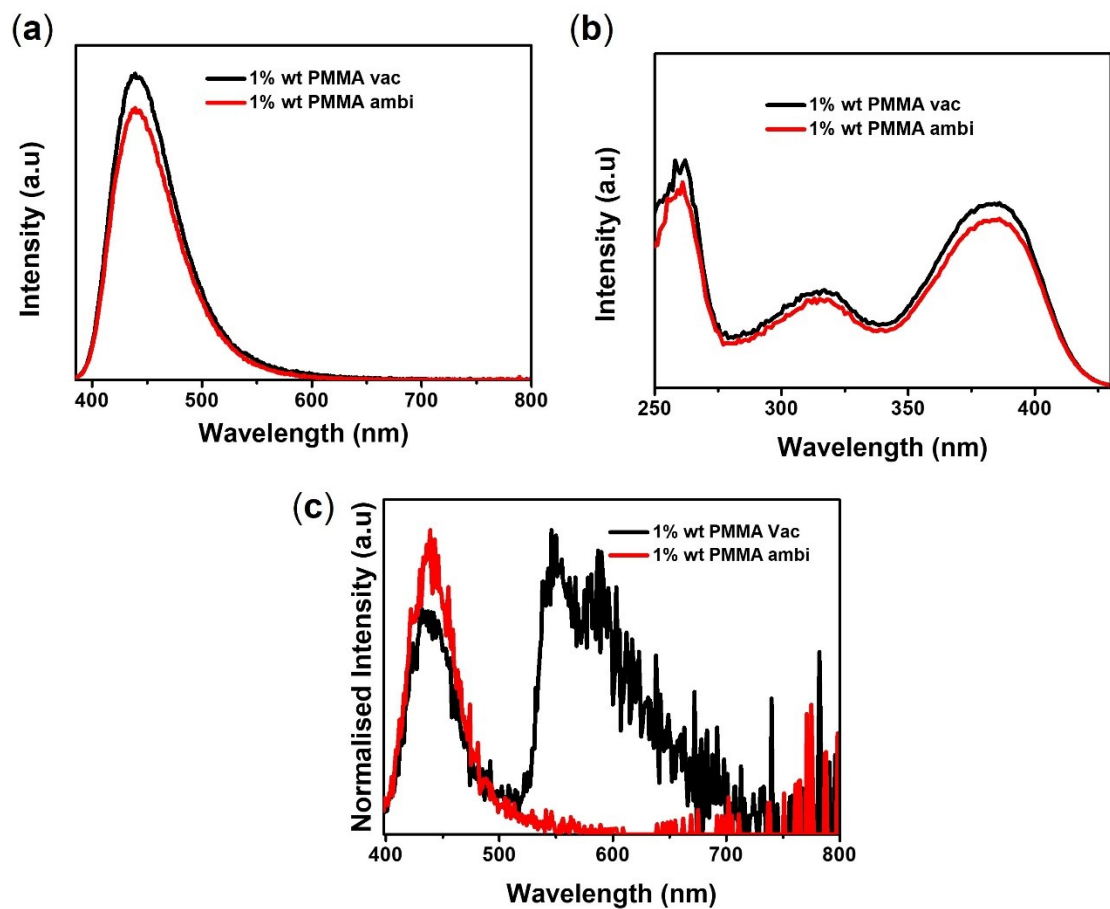
**Figure S43.** (a) PL spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 350$  nm (b) Excitation spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 390$  nm (c) Time gated [50 $\mu\text{s}$  delay] PL spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 350$  nm for **NB-Br** under vacuum (absence of oxygen) and ambient conditions (presence of oxygen).



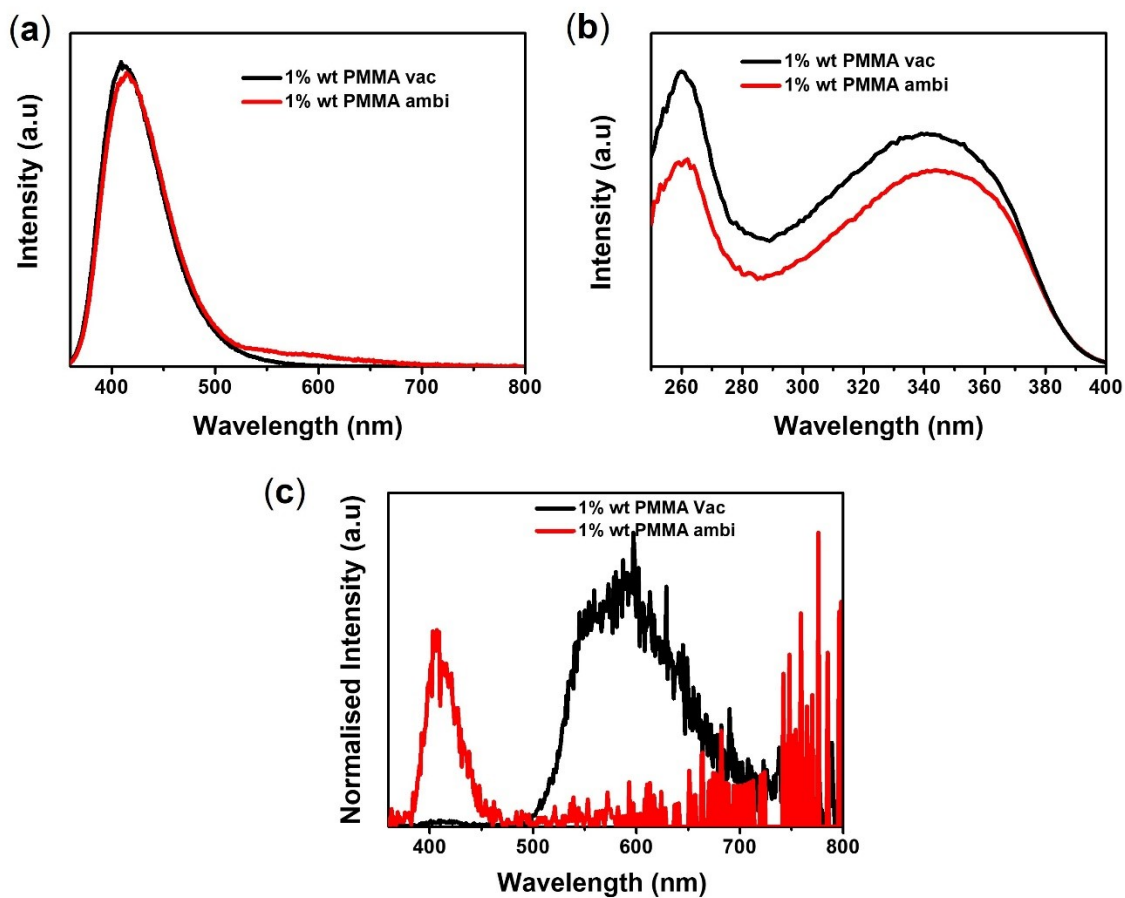
**Figure S44.** (a) PL spectra at  $\lambda_{ex} = 350$  nm, (b) Excitation spectra at  $\lambda_{em} = 390$  nm, (c) Time-gated [50  $\mu$ s delay] PL spectra at  $\lambda_{ex} = 350$  nm for NB-OMe under vacuum (absence of oxygen) and ambient conditions (presence of oxygen).



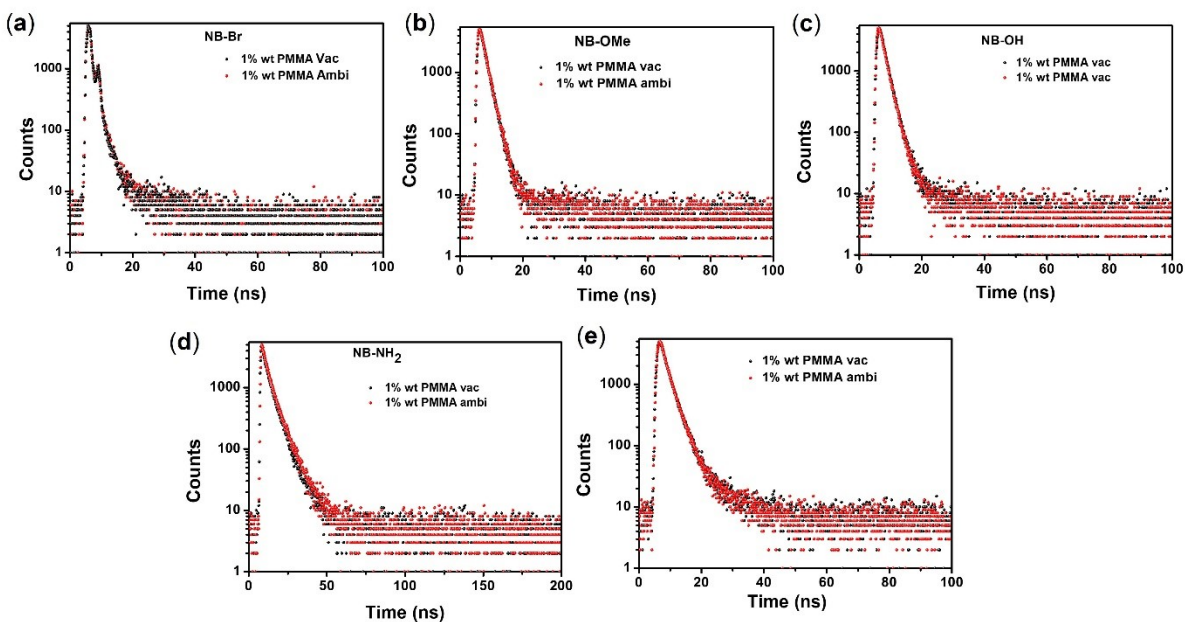
**Figure S45.** (a) PL spectra at  $\lambda_{ex} = 350$  nm (b) Excitation spectra at  $\lambda_{em} = 390$  nm (c) Time-gated [50  $\mu$ s delay] PL spectra at  $\lambda_{ex} = 350$  nm for NB-OH under vacuum (absence of oxygen) and ambient conditions (presence of oxygen).



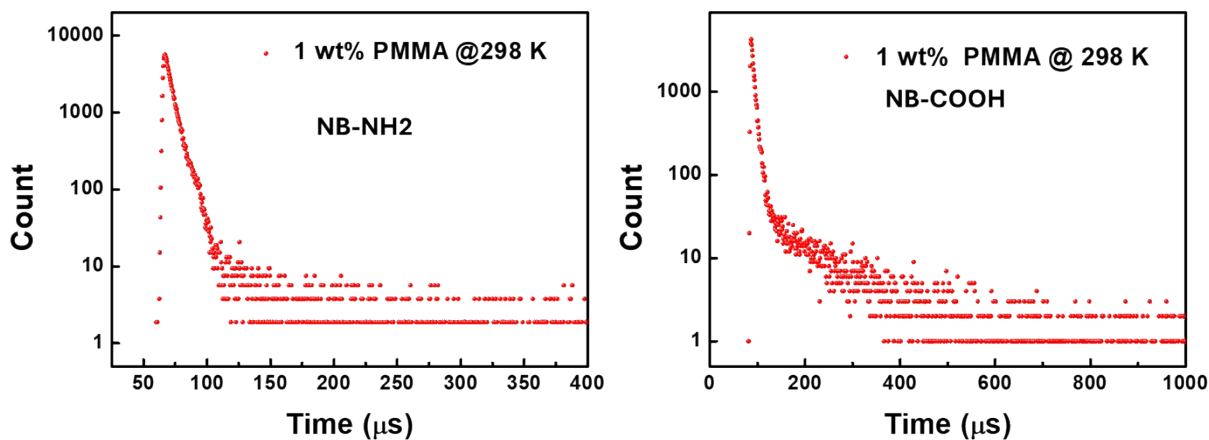
**Figure S46.** (a) PL spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 350 \text{ nm}$  (b) Excitation spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 450 \text{ nm}$ , (c) Time-gated [50  $\mu\text{s}$  delay] PL spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 350 \text{ nm}$  for NB-NH<sub>2</sub> under vacuum (absence of oxygen) and ambient conditions (presence of oxygen).



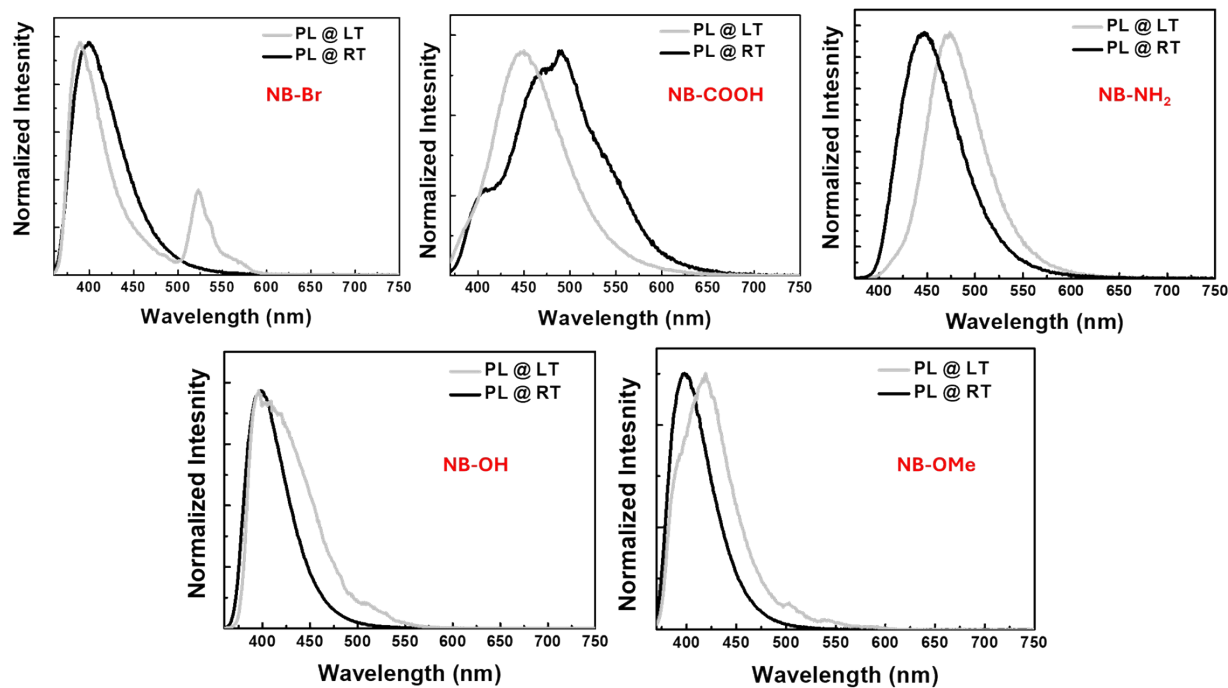
**Figure S47.** (a) PL spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 350$  nm (b) Excitation spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 450$  nm, (c) Time-gated [50  $\mu\text{s}$  delay] PL spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 350$  nm for NB-COOH under vacuum (absence of oxygen) and ambient conditions (presence of oxygen).



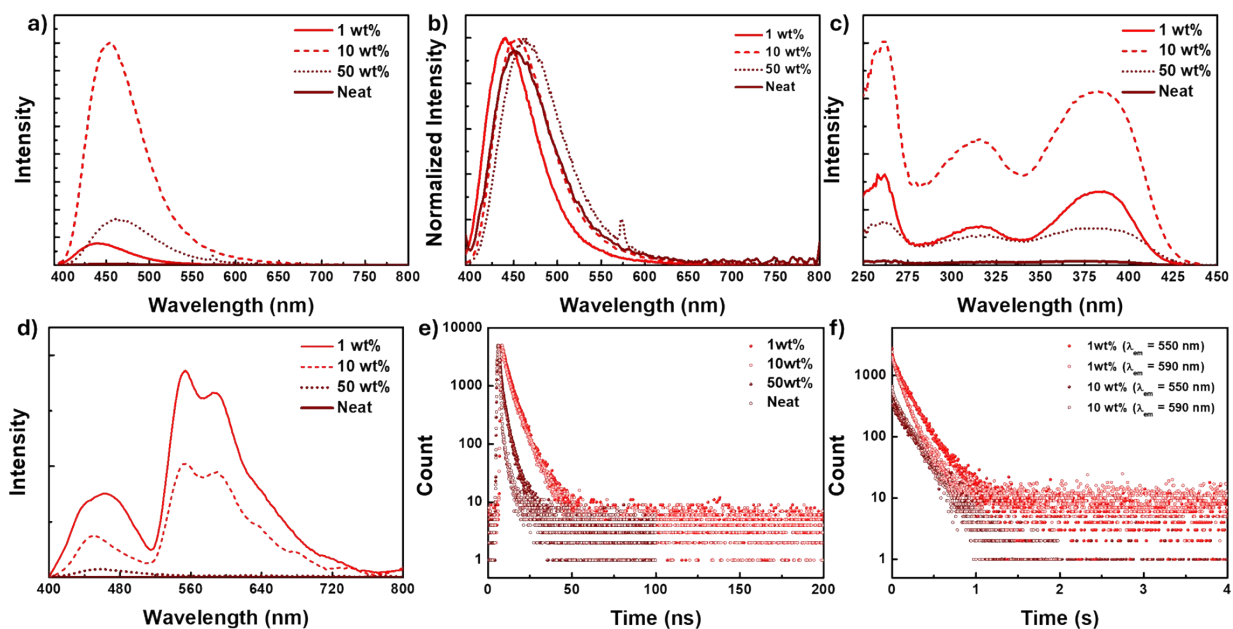
**Figure S48:** Fluorescence lifetime decay for **NB-Br** ( $\lambda_{em}=398$  nm), **NB-Ome** ( $\lambda_{em}=390$  nm), **NB-OH** ( $\lambda_{em}=397$  nm), **NB-NH<sub>2</sub>** ( $\lambda_{em}=440$ nm), and **NB-COOH** ( $\lambda_{em}=415$ nm) under different atmospheric conditions as a doped film on 1%wt PMMA matrix.



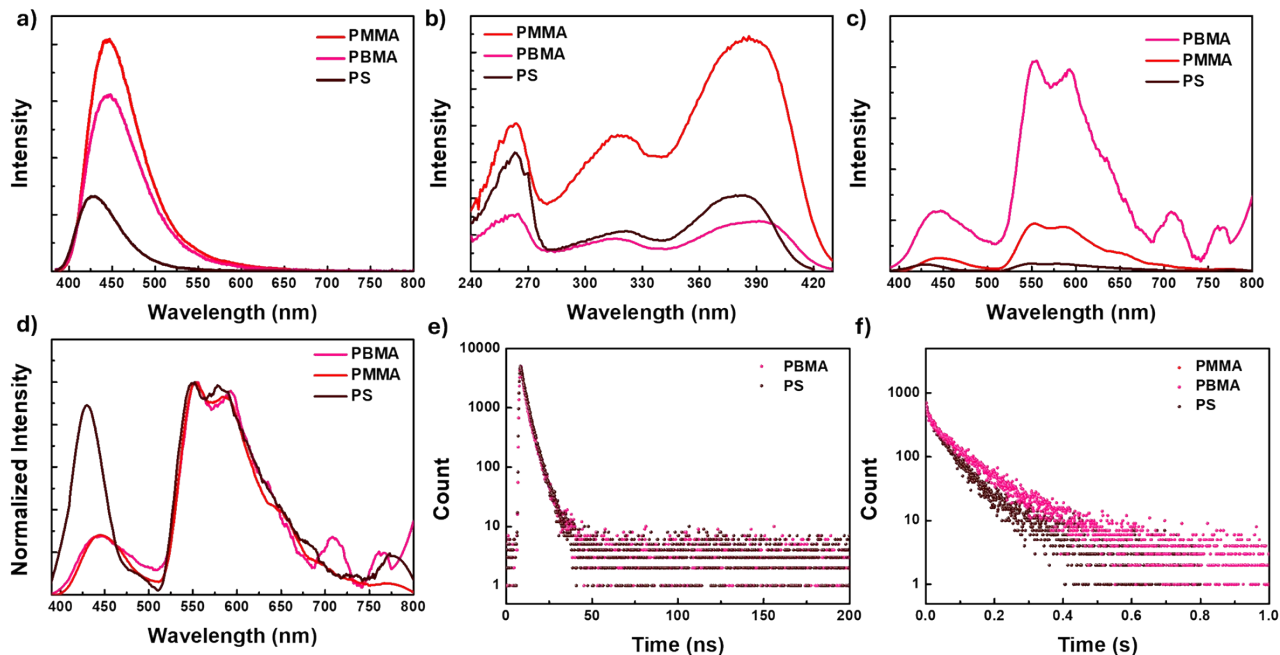
**Figure S49:** Delayed fluorescence lifetime decay for **NB-OH** ( $\lambda_{em}=397$  nm), **NB-NH<sub>2</sub>** ( $\lambda_{em}= 440$  nm), and **NB-COOH** ( $\lambda_{em}= 415$  nm) as a doped film on 1%wt PMMA matrix.



**Figure 50.** Photoluminescence (PL) spectra for NB-Br, NB-OMe, NB-OH, NB-NH<sub>2</sub>, and NB-COOH in toluene (conc 10<sup>-5</sup> M) at room temperature (RT, temperature = ~298 K) and low temperature (LT, temperature = ~77 K)



**Figure S51.** (a-d) Steady-state PL, excitation, and time-gated PL spectra of NB-NH<sub>2</sub> in PMMA at different doping concentrations, and (e, f) fluorescence and phosphorescence lifetime decays at 298 K under vacuum (in the absence of oxygen), all measured upon  $\lambda_{ex}=375$  nm.



**Figure S52.** (a-c) Steady-state PL, excitation, and time-gated PL spectra of NB-NH<sub>2</sub> at 1wt% doping concentrations in different polymer matrices and (d, e) fluorescence and phosphorescence lifetime decays at 298 K under vacuum (in the absence of oxygen), all measured upon  $\lambda_{\text{ex}}=375$  nm. [PMMA-poly(methyl methacrylate), PBMA poly(butyl methacrylate) and PS- polystyrene],

**Table S12:** Fluorescence and phosphorescence decay kinetics for NB-Br, NB-OMe in the 1wt% doped PMMA film state.

Compound	$\lambda_{\text{ex}}$ (nm)	$\lambda_{\text{em}}^{\text{FL}}$ (nm)	$\lambda_{\text{em}}^{\text{PH}}$ (nm)	$\tau_{\text{av}}^{\text{FL}}$ (ns)	$\tau_{\text{av}}^{\text{PH}}$ (ms)	$\Phi_{\text{Total}}$ %	$\Phi_{\text{PH}}$ %	$k_{\text{r}}^{\text{FL}}$ ( $\times 10^7 \text{S}^{-1}$ )	$k_{\text{nr}}^{\text{FL}}$ ( $\times 10^8 \text{S}^{-1}$ )	$k_{\text{r}}^{\text{PH}}$ ( $\text{S}^{-1}$ )	$k_{\text{nr}}^{\text{T}}$ ( $\times 10^2 \text{S}^{-1}$ )
NB-Br	350	398	570	2.03	4.52	7.50	5.73	0.87	4.55	12.67	2.08
NB-OMe	350	390	550	2.19	716.5	31.36	6.22	11.47	3.13	0.08	0.013
NB-OH	360	397	560	2.10	396.3	26.56	4.04	10.72	3.50	0.10	0.024
NB-NH <sub>2</sub>	380	440	550	5.26	186.0	79.18	9.62	13.22	0.40	0.52	0.048
NB-COOH	350	415	550	2.89	195.80	70.80	13.49	19.83	1.10	0.69	0.041

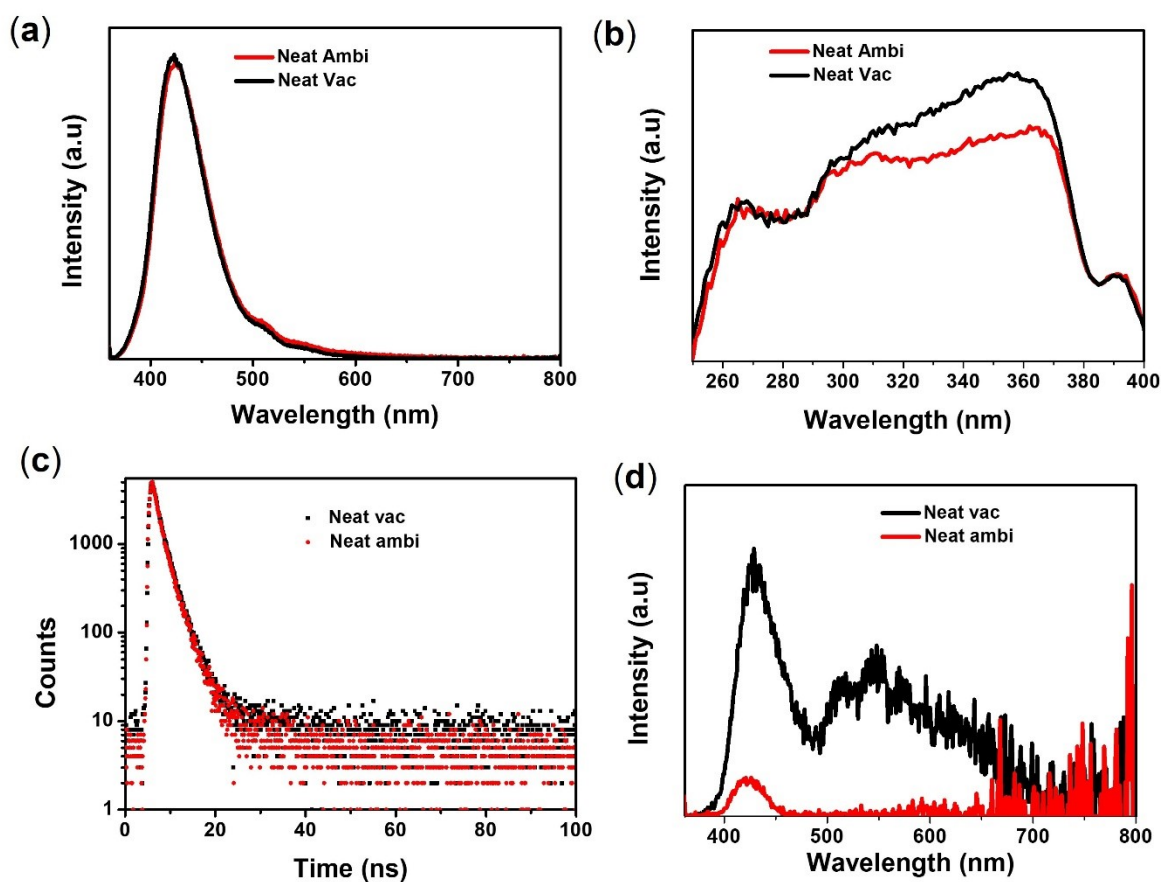
$\lambda_{\text{ex}}$  = excitation wavelength,  $\lambda_{\text{em}}^{\text{FL}}$   $\lambda_{\text{em}}^{\text{PH}}$  = fluorescence and phosphorescence emission wavelength,  $\tau_{\text{av}}^{\text{FL}}$ ,  $\tau_{\text{av}}^{\text{PH}}$  = average fluorescence and phosphorescence lifetime,  $\Phi_{\text{PL}}$  = total absolute photoluminescence quantum yield.  $\Phi_{\text{FL}}$ ,  $\Phi_{\text{PH}}$  = fluorescence and phosphorescence quantum yield,  $k_{\text{r}}^{\text{FL}}$  = radiative rate constant from singlet,  $k_{\text{nr}}^{\text{FL}}$  = non-radiative rate constant from singlet state.  $k_{\text{r}}^{\text{PH}}$  = radiative rate constant of phosphorescence,  $k_{\text{nr}}^{\text{PH}}$  = non-radiative rate constant from triplet state.  $k_{\text{r}}^{\text{FL}} = \Phi_{\text{FL}} / \tau_{\text{FL}}$ ,  $k_{\text{nr}}^{\text{FL}} = (1 - \Phi_{\text{FL}} - \Phi_{\text{PH}}) / \tau_{\text{av}}^{\text{FL}}$ ,  $k_{\text{r}}^{\text{PH}} = \Phi_{\text{PH}} / \tau_{\text{PH}}$ ,  $k_{\text{nr}}^{\text{PH}} = (1 - \Phi_{\text{PH}}) / \tau_{\text{av}}^{\text{PH}}$

**Table S13:** Fluorescence and phosphorescence lifetime for **NB-NH<sub>2</sub>**, in PMMA at different doping concentrations, 298 K under vacuum (in the absence of oxygen).

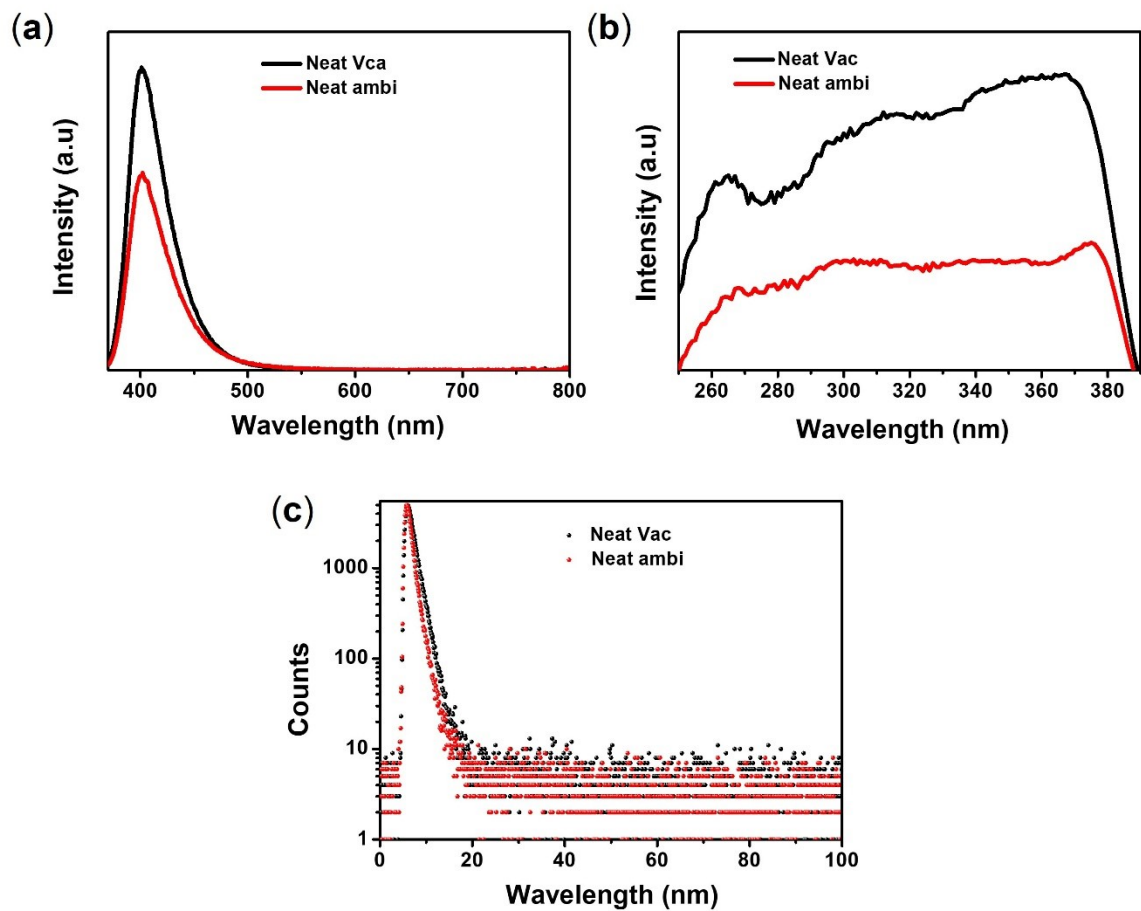
	Lifetime							
	Fluorescence (ns)				Phosphorescence ( $\mu$ s)			
	$\lambda_{\text{ex}}$	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$	$\tau_1$ (A <sub>1</sub> %)	$\tau_2$ (A <sub>2</sub> %)	$\lambda_{\text{ex}}$	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$	$\tau_1$ (A <sub>1</sub> %)	$\tau_2$ (A <sub>2</sub> %)
<b>1 wt%</b>	375	440	3.04 (48.39)	7.32 (51.61)	375	550	122.59 (50.33)	249.41 (49.67)
						585	85.65 (53.27)	189.90 (46.73)
<b>10 wt%</b>	375	450	1.91 (39.60)	6.23 (60.40)	375	550	28.71 (6.02)	205.15 (93.98)
						585	38.24 (12.01)	168.08 (87.89)
<b>50 wt%</b>	375	465	1.04 (62.31)	3.75 (37.69)	No RTP			
<b>Neat</b>	375	450	0.47 (74.76)	3.97 (25.24)	No RTP			

**Table S14:** Fluorescence and phosphorescence lifetime for **NB-NH<sub>2</sub>**, in 1wt% doping concentrations in different polymer matrices, 298 K under vacuum (in the absence of oxygen).

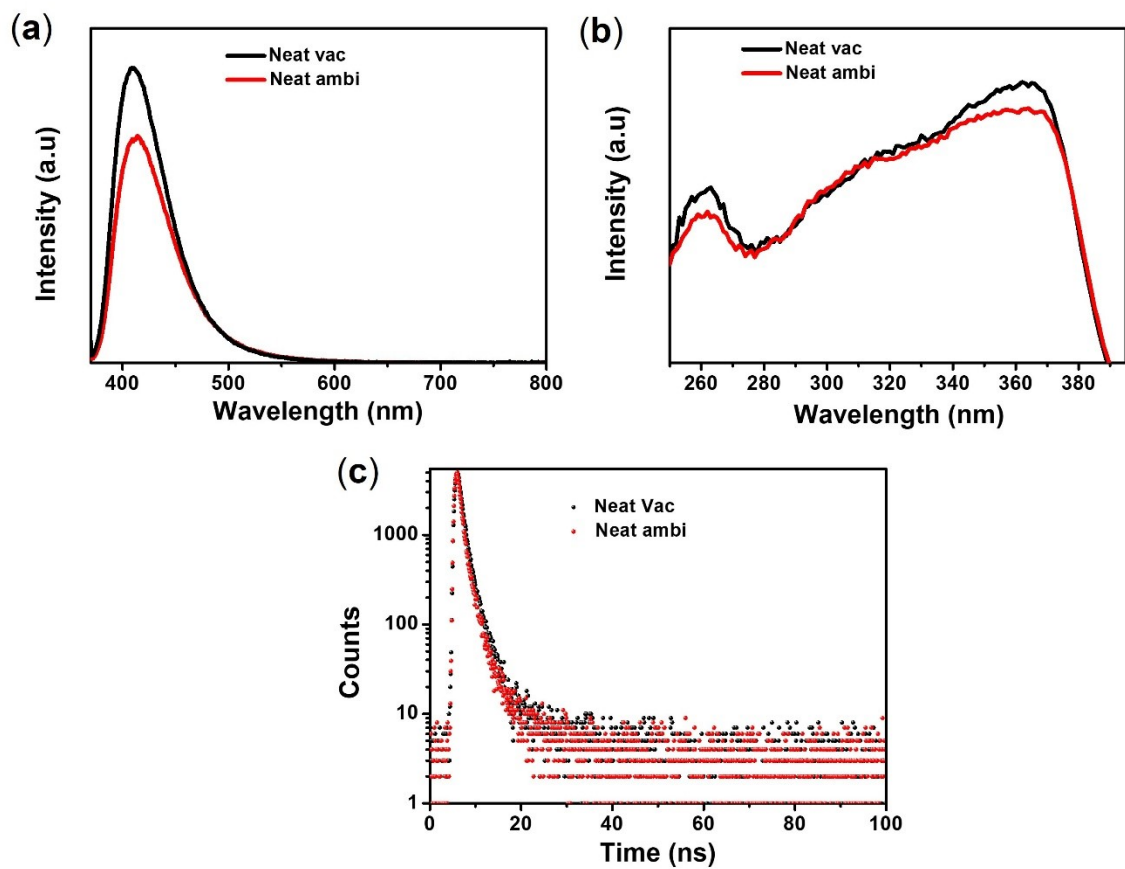
	Lifetime								$\Phi_{\text{PL}}$ [%]
	Fluorescence (ns)				Phosphorescence ( $\mu$ s)				
	$\lambda_{\text{ex}}$	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$	$\tau_1$ (A <sub>1</sub> %)	$\tau_2$ (A <sub>2</sub> %)	$\lambda_{\text{ex}}$	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$	$\tau_1$ (A <sub>1</sub> %)	$\tau_2$ (A <sub>2</sub> %)	
<b>PMMA</b>	375	440	3.04 (48.39)	7.32 (51.61)	375	550	122.59 (50.33)	249.41 (49.67)	
<b>PBMA</b>		445	1.78 (41.93)	5.02 (58.07)		550	16.7 (12.04)	107.59 (87.96)	16.2 %
<b>PS</b>	375	430	2.52 (61.63)	5.10 (38.37)	375	550	31.63 (41.39)	94.66 (58.61)	58.9 %



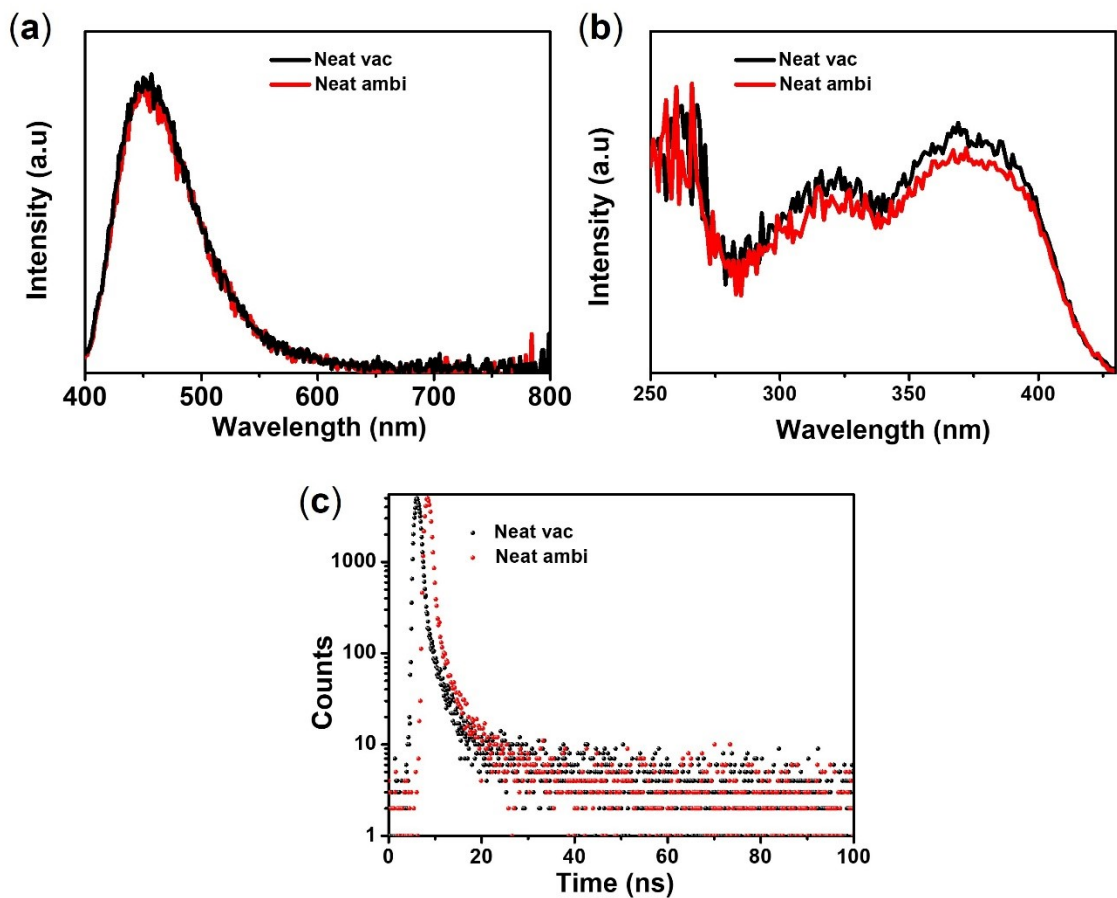
**Figure S53.** (a) PL spectra at  $\lambda_{ex} = 350$  nm (b) Excitation spectra at  $\lambda_{em} = 425$  nm, (c) Fluorescence lifetime decay for **NB-Br** ( $\lambda_{em} = 425$  nm), (d) Time gated [ $50\mu s$  delay] PL spectra at  $\lambda_{ex} = 350$  nm for **NB-Br** under vacuum (absence of oxygen) and ambient conditions (presence of oxygen).



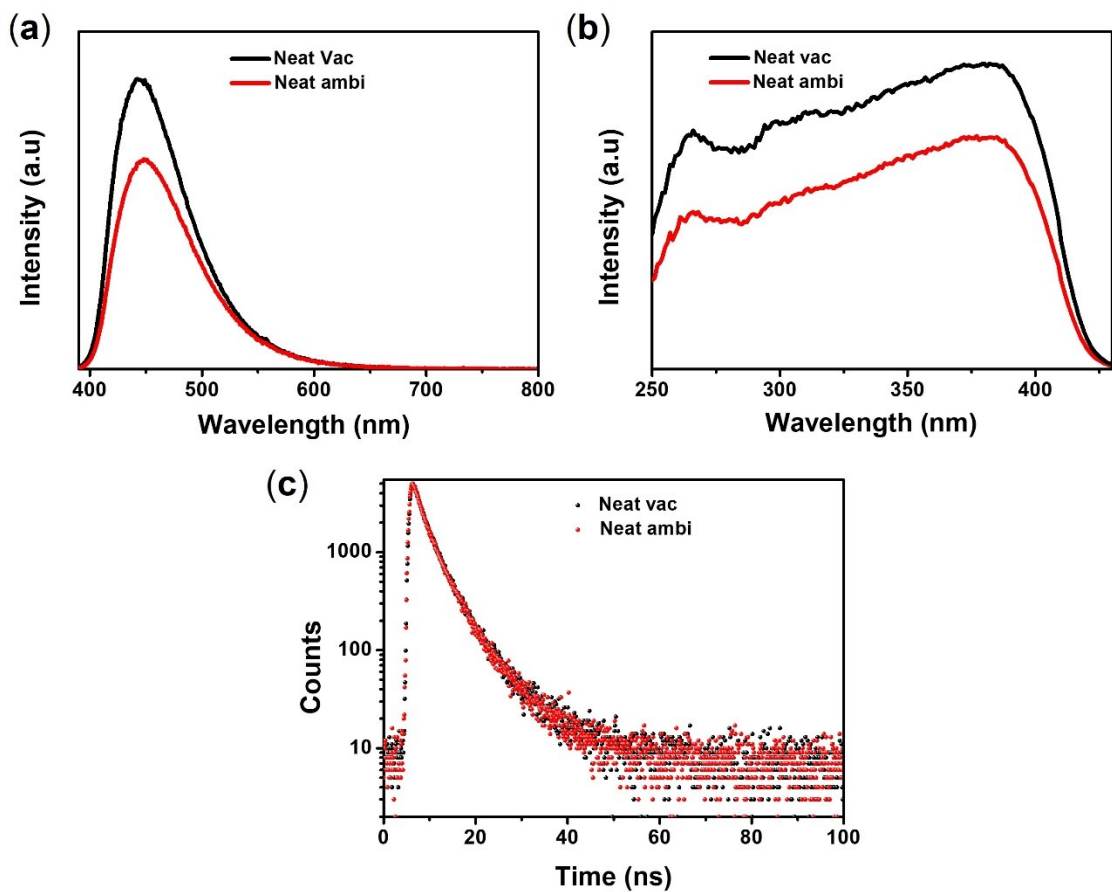
**Figure S54.** (a) PL spectra at  $\lambda_{ex} = 350$  nm (b) Excitation spectra at  $\lambda_{em} = 400$  nm (c) Fluorescence lifetime decay ( $\lambda_{em} = 400$  nm) for NB-OMe under vacuum (absence of oxygen) and ambient conditions (presence of oxygen).



**Figure S55.** (a) PL spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 350 \text{ nm}$  (b) Excitation spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 409 \text{ nm}$  (c) Fluorescence lifetime decay ( $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 400 \text{ nm}$ ) for NB-OH under vacuum (absence of oxygen) and ambient conditions (presence of oxygen).



**Figure S56.** (a) PL spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 375$  nm (b) Excitation spectra at  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 450$  nm (c) Fluorescence lifetime decay ( $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 450$  nm) for NB-NH2 under vacuum (absence of oxygen) and ambient conditions (presence of oxygen).

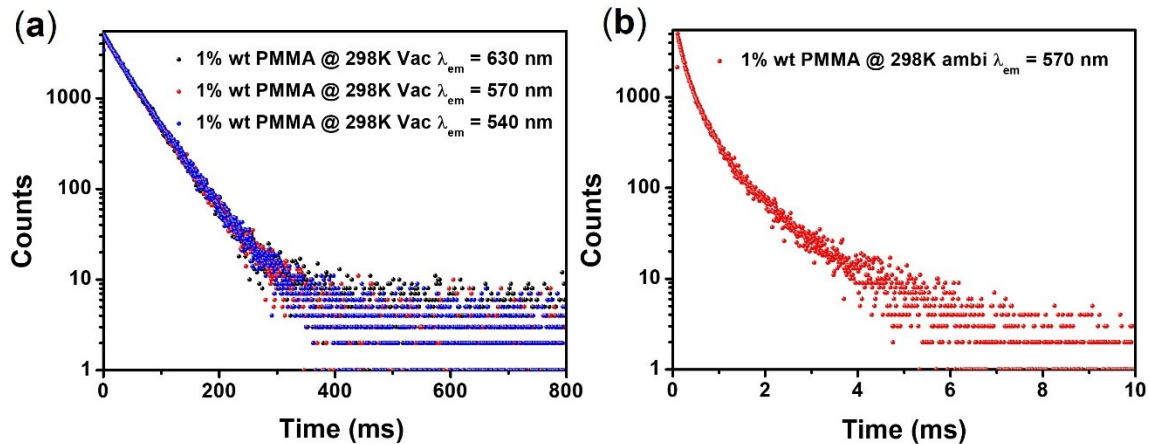


**Figure S57.** (a) PL spectra at  $\lambda_{ex} = 375$  nm (b) Excitation spectra at  $\lambda_{em} = 450$  nm, (c) Fluorescence lifetime decay ( $\lambda_{em} = 450$  nm) for NB-COOH under vacuum (absence of oxygen) and ambient conditions (presence of oxygen).

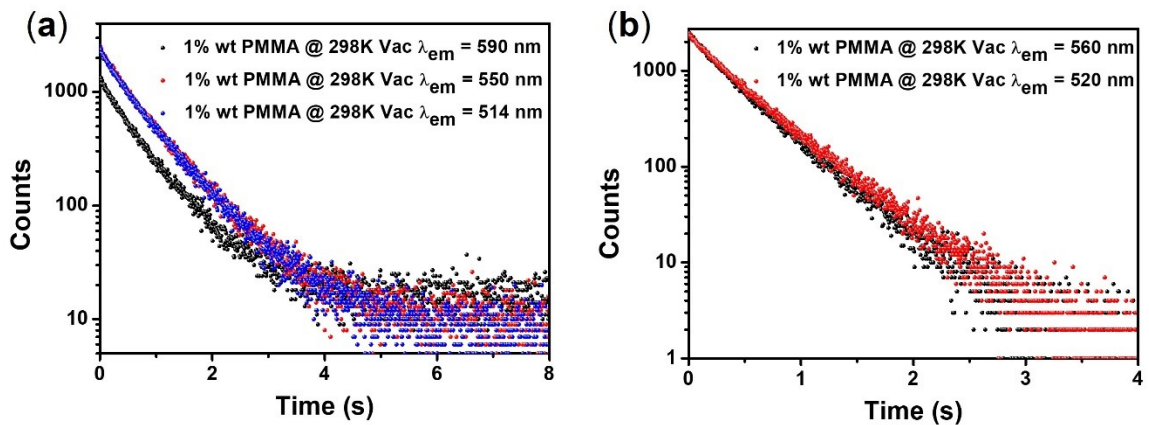
**Table S15:** Fluorescence lifetime for **NB-Br**, **NB-OMe**, **NB-OH**, **NB-NH<sub>2</sub>**, and **NB-COOH** under different atmospheric conditions along with total PLQY under ambient conditions at 298 K, as a doped film on PMMA matrix.

	Fluorescence lifetime (ns)								PLQY [%]
	298 K (Vaccum)				298 K (Ambient)				
	$\lambda_{\text{ex}}$	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$	$\tau_1$ (A <sub>1</sub> %)	$\tau_2$ (A <sub>2</sub> %)	$\lambda_{\text{ex}}$	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$	$\tau_1$ (A <sub>1</sub> %)	$\tau_2$ (A <sub>2</sub> %)	
<b>NB-Br</b>									
<b>Neat</b>	375	425	1.57 (64.28)	3.67 (35.72)	375	425	1.52 (62.62)	3.44 (37.38)	5.01
<b>1 wt% PMMA</b>		390	0.62 (56.20)	3.84 (43.80)		390	0.58 (49.58)	3.82 (50.42)	7.50
<b>NB-OMe</b>									
<b>Neat</b>	375	401	1.48 (98.32)	10.25 (1.68)	375	400	0.86 (72.25)	2.16 (27.75)	17.99
<b>1 wt% PMMA</b>		390	1.75 (97.40)	16.59 (2.60)		390	1.72 (97.51)	12.32 (2.49)	31.36
<b>NB-OH</b>									
<b>Neat</b>	375	409	0.99 (63.03)	3.17 (36.97)	375	413	0.89 (63.66)	3.15 (36.34)	11.05
<b>1 wt% PMMA</b>		397	1.81 (96.88)	11.12 (3.12)		397	1.78 (96.24)	8.38 (3.76)	26.56
<b>NB-NH<sub>2</sub></b>									
<b>Neat</b>	375	450	0.47 (74.76)	3.97 (25.24)	375	450	0.44 (66.47)	2.47 (24.88)	21.17
<b>1 wt% PMMA</b>		440	3.04 (48.39)	7.32 (51.61)	375	440	2.74 (44.68)	6.61 (55.32)	79.18
<b>NB-COOH</b>									
<b>Neat</b>	375	450	2.69 (60.19)	7.17 (39.81)	375	450	2.68 (64.03)	7.25 (35.97)	27.69
<b>1 wt% PMMA</b>		415	2.28 (88.28)	7.35 (11.72)		415	2.27 (89.31)	7.29 (10.69)	70.80

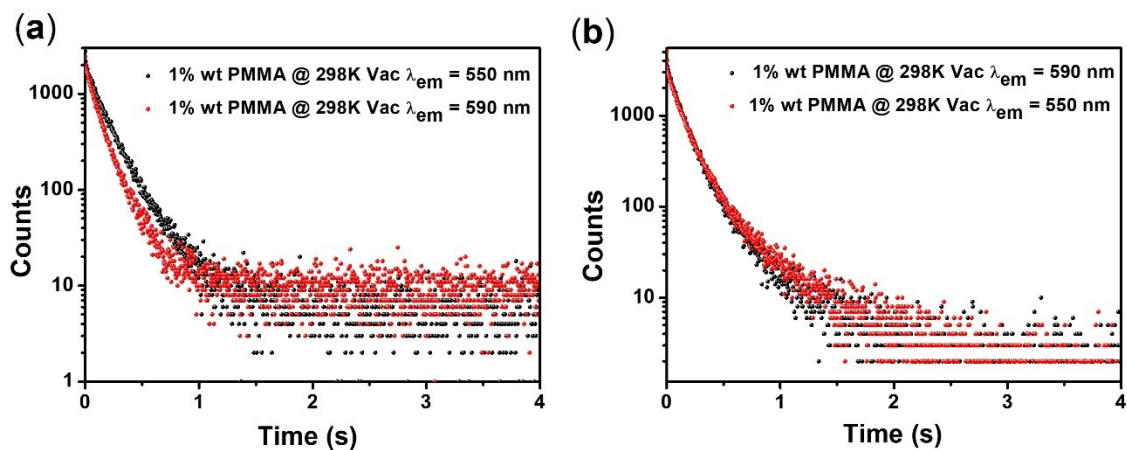
Nb: No phosphorescence bands were observed at 298 K for any of the compounds except **NB-Br**.



**Figure S58.** (a) Phosphorescence lifetime decay [ $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 375$  nm and  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 630$  nm, 570 nm and 540 nm] under vacuum [absence of oxygen] at 298 K for **NB-Br** doped in PMMA matrix (1 wt%) (b) Phosphorescence lifetime decay [ $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 375$  nm and  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 570$  nm] under ambient atmosphere at 298 K for **NB-Br** doped in PMMA matrix (1 wt%)



**Figure S59.** (a) Phosphorescence lifetime decay [ $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 375$  nm and  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 590$  nm, 550 nm and 514 nm] for **NB-OMe** under vacuum [absence of oxygen] and ambient atmosphere [presence of oxygen] at 298 K as a doped in PMMA matrix (1 wt%) (b) Phosphorescence lifetime decay [ $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 375$  nm and  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 560$  nm, and 520 nm] for **NB-OH** under vacuum [absence of oxygen] and ambient atmosphere [presence of oxygen] at 298 K as a doped in PMMA matrix (1 wt%) [ $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 380$  nm].

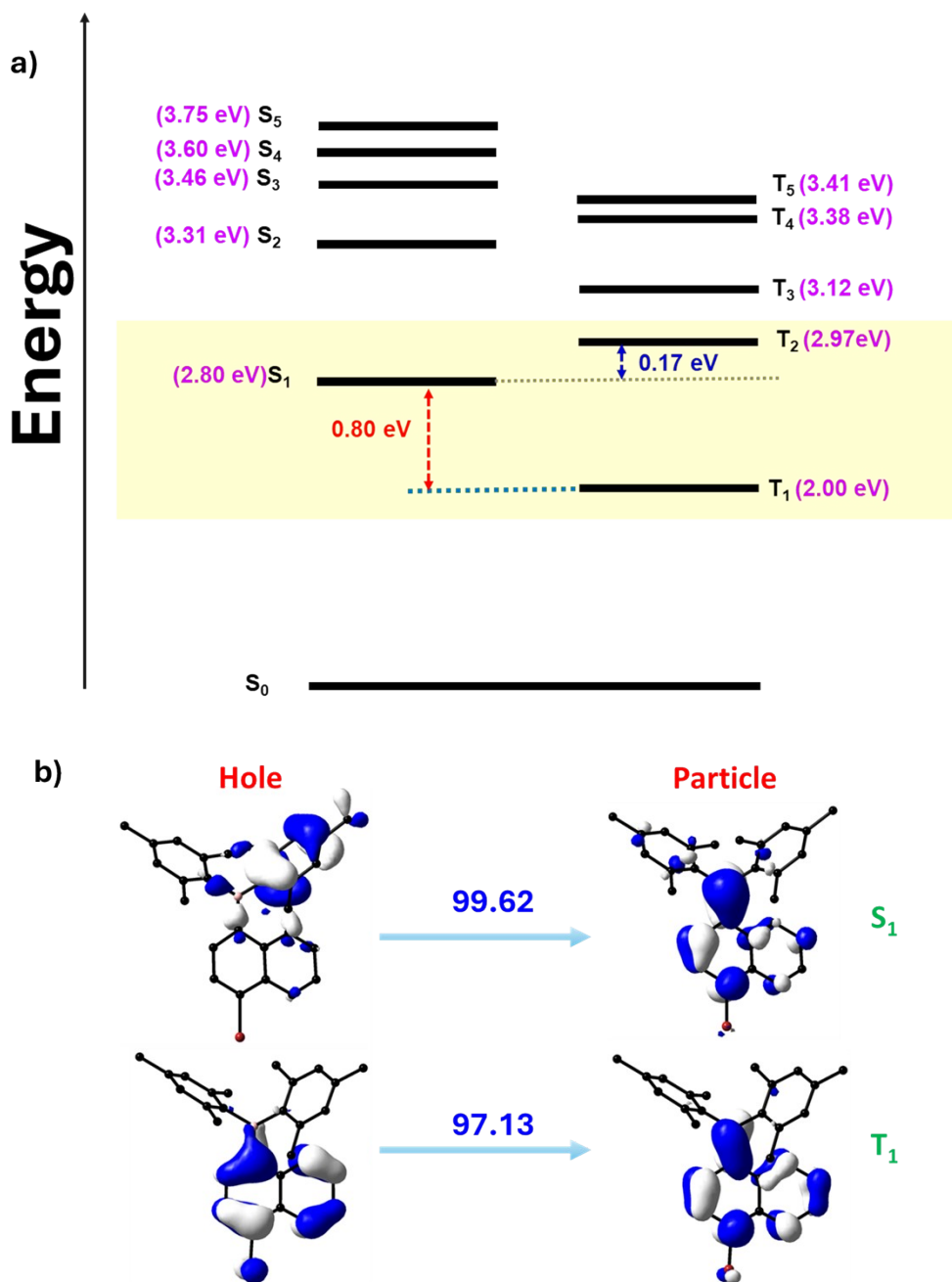


**Figure S60.** (a) Phosphorescence lifetime decay [ $\lambda_{ex} = 375$  nm and  $\lambda_{ex} = 590$  nm, and 550 nm] for **NB-NH<sub>2</sub>** under vacuum [absence of oxygen] and ambient atmosphere [presence of oxygen] at 298 K as a doped in PMMA matrix (1 wt%). (b) Phosphorescence lifetime decay [ $\lambda_{ex} = 375$  nm and  $\lambda_{ex} = 590$  nm, and 520 nm] for **NB-COOH** under vacuum [absence of oxygen] and ambient atmosphere [presence of oxygen] at 298 K as a doped in PMMA matrix (1 wt%).

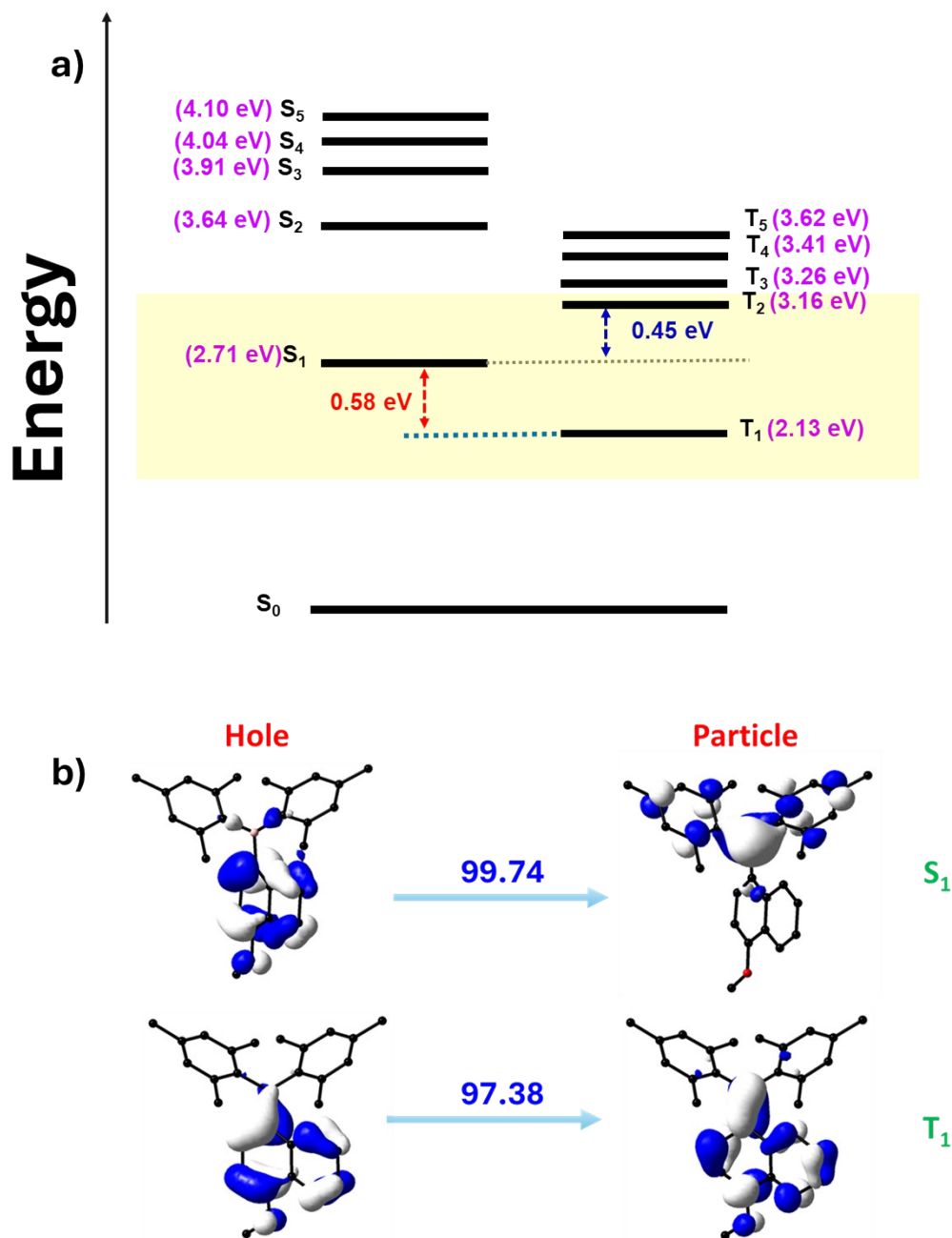
**Table S16:** Phosphorescence lifetime for **NB-Br**, **NB-OMe**, **NB-OH**, **NB-NH<sub>2</sub>**, and **NB-COOH** under different atmospheric conditions, along with total PLQY under ambient conditions at 298 K as a doped film on PMMA matrix

	Delayed lifetime							
	Delayed Fluorescence ( $\mu\text{s}$ )				Phosphorescence (ms)			
	$\lambda_{\text{ex}}$	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$	$\tau_1$ (A <sub>1</sub> %)	$\tau_2$ (A <sub>2</sub> %)	$\lambda_{\text{ex}}$	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$	$\tau_1$ (A <sub>1</sub> %)	$\tau_2$ (A <sub>2</sub> %)
<b>NB-Br</b>								
<b>1 wt% @ PMMA (vacuum)</b>	No delayed Fluorescence				375	540	3.33 (41.08)	5.35 (58.92)
						570	3.44 (45.04)	5.43 (54.96)
<b>1 wt% @ PMMA (ambinet)</b>	No delayed Fluorescence					540	0.20 (55.51)	0.89 (44.89)
						570	0.24 (57.09)	1.01 (42.91)
<b>Neat</b>	350	425	ND*		350	550	97.36 $\mu\text{s}$ (72.55)	926.38 $\mu\text{s}$ (27.45)
<b>NB-OMe</b>								
<b>1 wt% @ PMMA</b>	No delayed Fluorescence				375	517	419.71 (30.71)	862.16 (69.29)
						550	373.83 (23.69)	824.81 (76.31)
						603	390.14 (31.70)	800.43 (68.30)
<b>Neat</b>	No delayed component							
<b>NB-OH</b>								
<b>1 wt% @ PMMA</b>	No delayed Fluorescence				375	524	242.11 (20.71)	484.95 (79.29)
						560	206.20 (18.51)	440.96 (81.49)
<b>Neat</b>	No delayed component							
<b>NB-NH<sub>2</sub></b>								
<b>1 wt% @ PMMA</b>	375	440	3.66 (41.70)	7.86 (58.30)	375	550	122.59 (50.33)	249.41 (49.67)
						585	85.65 (53.27)	189.90 (46.73)
<b>Neat</b>	No delayed component							
<b>NB-COOH</b>								
<b>1 wt% @ PMMA</b>	375	415	5.99 (86.47)	94.65 (13.53)	375	550	117.56 (74.01)	418.74 (25.99)
						590	113.86 (76.97)	361.97 (23.03)
<b>Neat</b>	No delayed component							

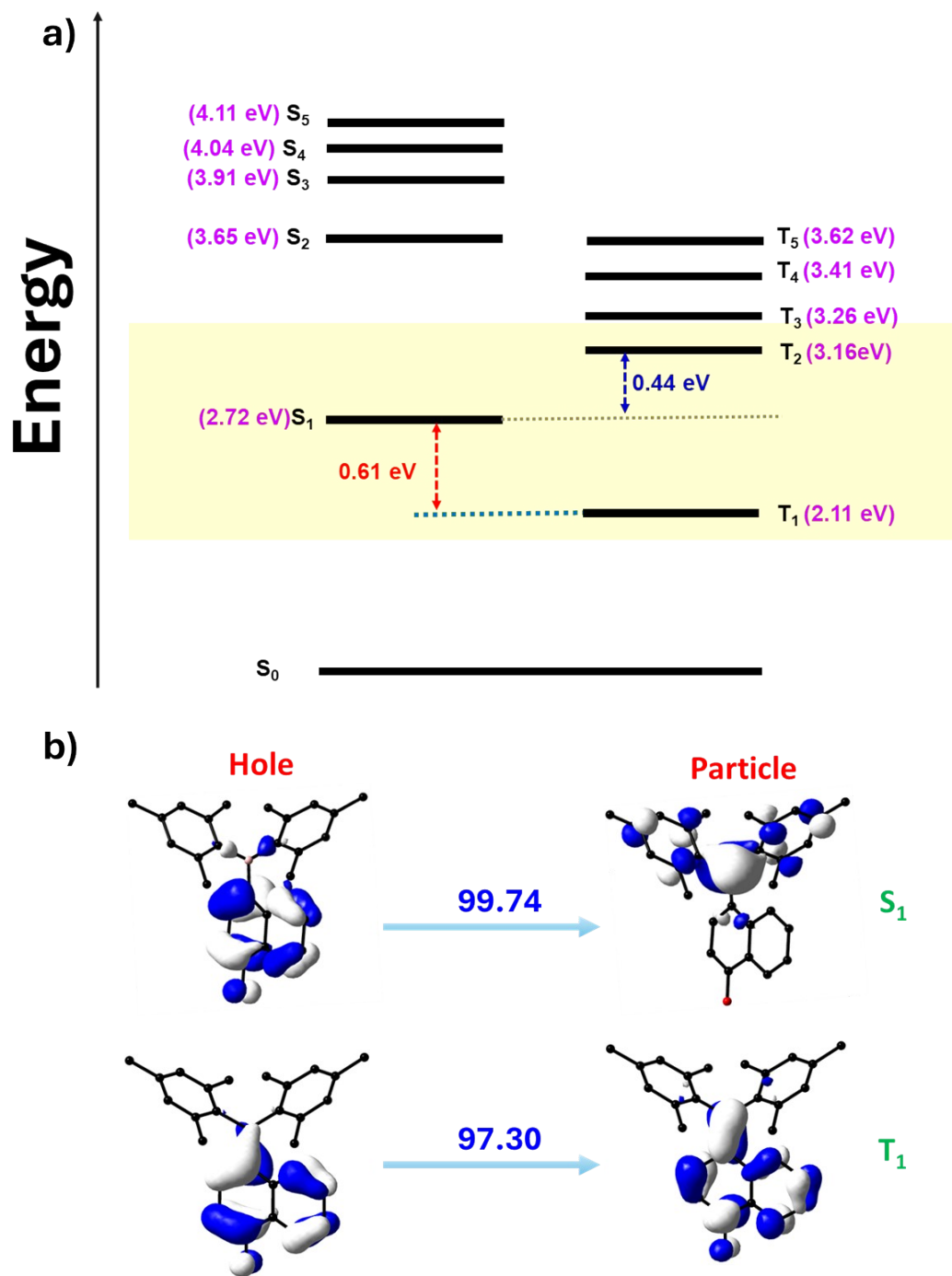
ND: Not detectable.



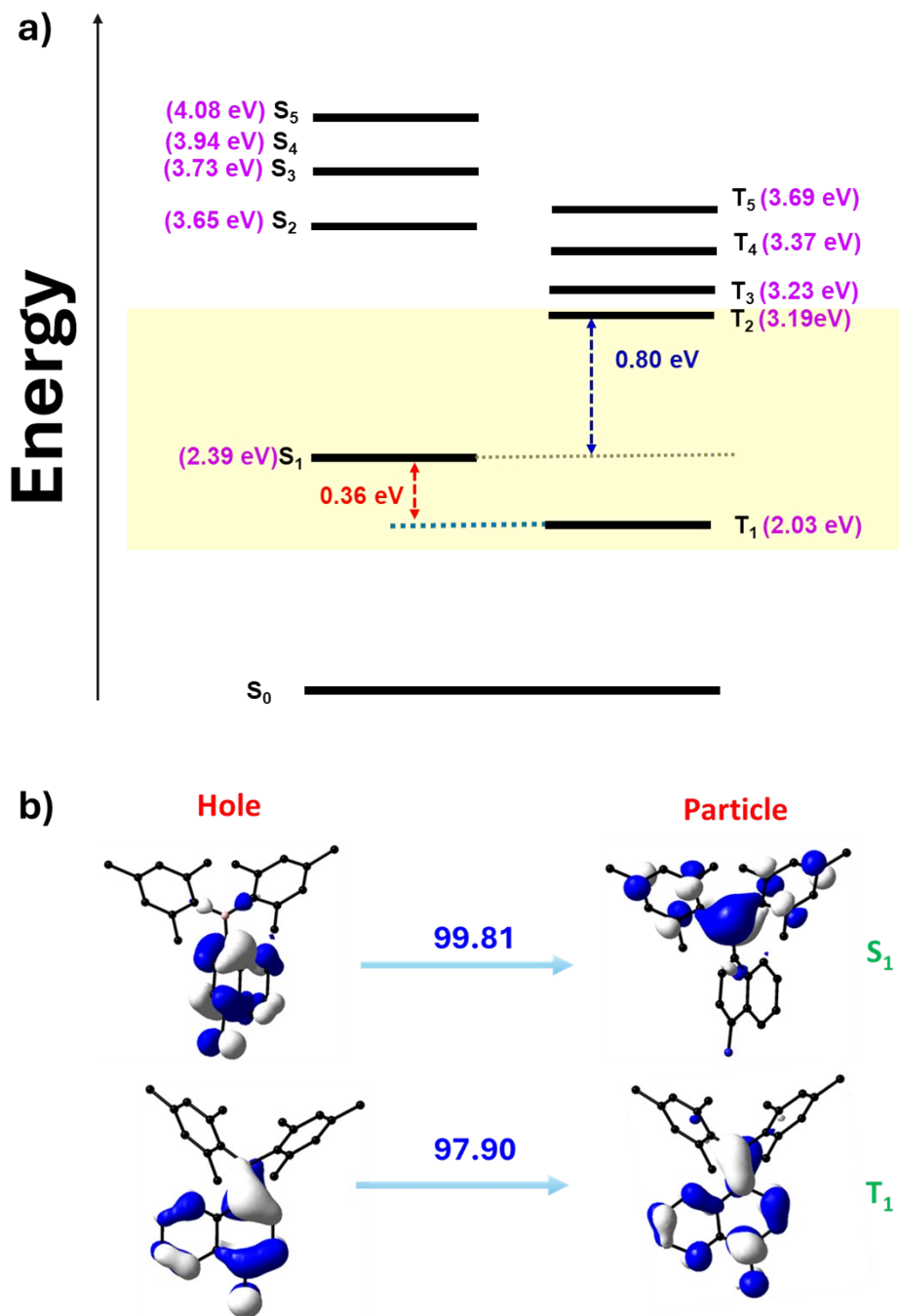
**Figure S61.** (a) Energy level diagram showing singlet-triplet energy gap, and possible ISC channel (b) Natural transition orbital (NTO's) for **NB-Br** [energy levels in the diagram are not up-to-scale, the most possible  $T_n$  state involved in spin-crossover according to the energy difference is highlighted in a yellow box]. (b) Natural transition orbital (NTO's) for **NB-Br**. The energy levels and NTO's are calculated from singlet and triplet vertical transitions through TD-DFT using 6-31G (d, p)/B3LYP level of theory.



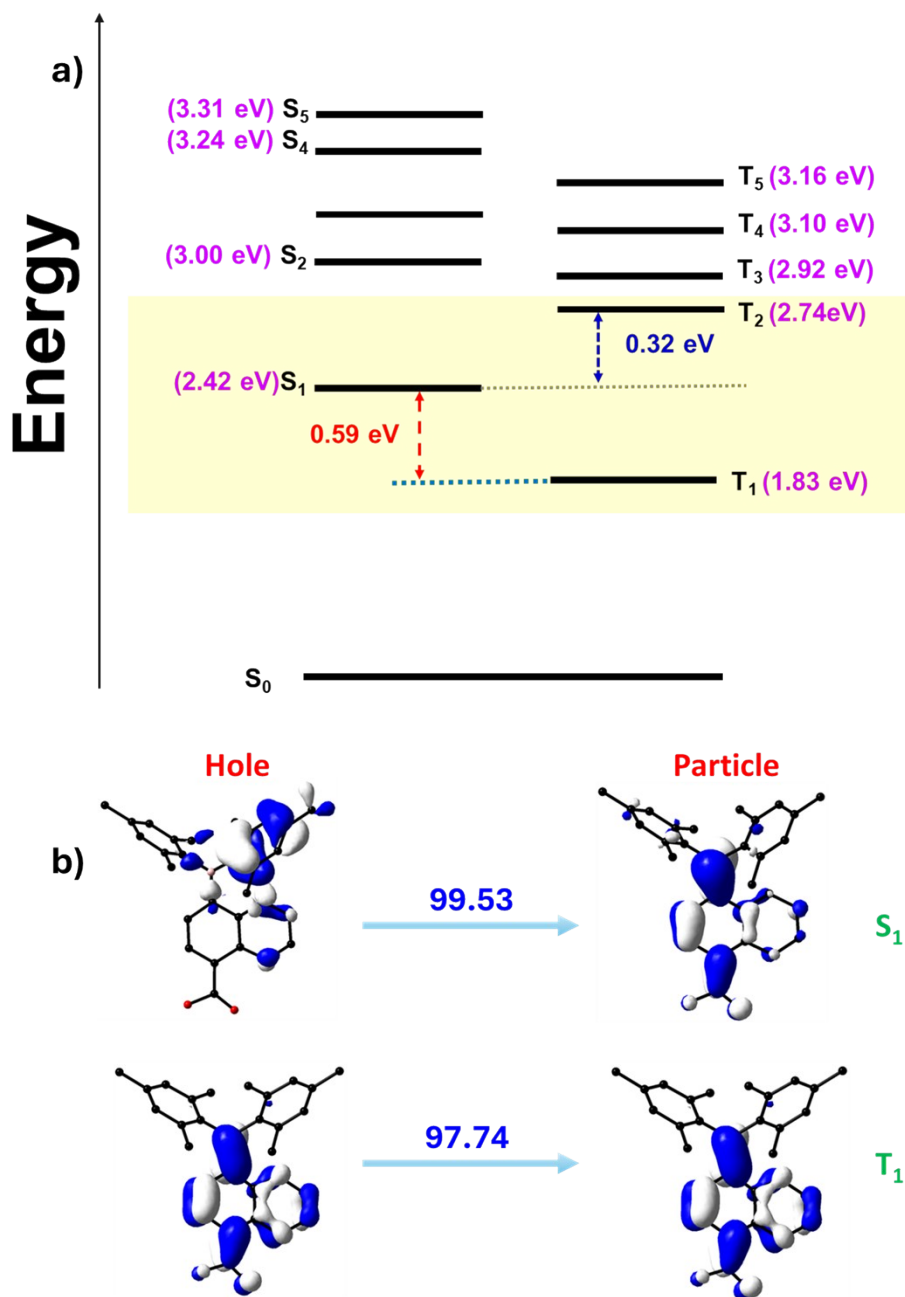
**Figure S62.** (a) Energy level diagram showing singlet-triplet energy gap, and possible ISC channel (b) Natural transition orbital (NTO's) for NB-OMe [energy levels in the diagram are not up-to-scale, the most possible  $T_n$  state involved in spin-crossover according to the energy difference is highlighted in a yellow box]. (b) Natural transition orbital (NTO's) for NB-OMe. The energy levels and NTO's are calculated from singlet and triplet vertical transitions through TD-DFT using 6-31G (d, p)/B3LYP level of theory.



**Figure S63.** (a) Energy level diagram showing singlet-triplet energy gap, and possible ISC channel (b) Natural transition orbital (NTO's) for **NB-OH** [energy levels in the diagram are not up-to-scale, the most possible  $T_n$  state involved in spin-crossover according to the energy difference is highlighted in a yellow box]. (b) Natural transition orbital (NTO's) for **NB-OH**. The energy levels and NTO's are calculated from singlet and triplet vertical transitions through TD-DFT using 6-31G (d, p)/B3LYP level of theory.



**Figure S64.** (a) Energy level diagram showing singlet-triplet energy gap, and possible ISC channel (b) Natural transition orbital (NTO's) for **NB-NH<sub>2</sub>** [energy levels in the diagram are not up-to-scale, the most possible  $T_n$  state involved in spin-crossover according to the energy difference is highlighted in a yellow box]. (b) Natural transition orbital (NTO's) for **NB-NH<sub>2</sub>**. The energy levels and NTO's are calculated from singlet and triplet vertical transitions through TD-DFT using 6-31G (d, p)/B3LYP level of theory

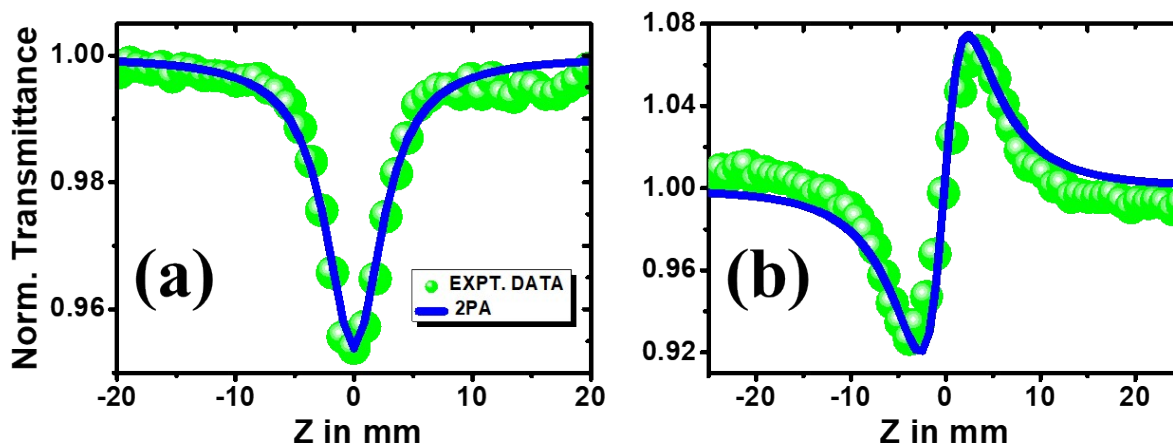


**Figure S65.** (a) Energy level diagram showing singlet-triplet energy gap, and possible ISC channel (b) Natural transition orbital (NTO's) for **NB-COOH** [energy levels in the diagram are not up-to-scale, the most possible  $T_n$  state involved in spin-crossover according to the energy difference is highlighted in a yellow box]. (b) Natural transition orbital (NTO's) for **NB-COOH**. The energy levels and NTO's are calculated from singlet and triplet vertical transitions through TD-DFT using 6-31G (d, p)/B3LYP level of theory

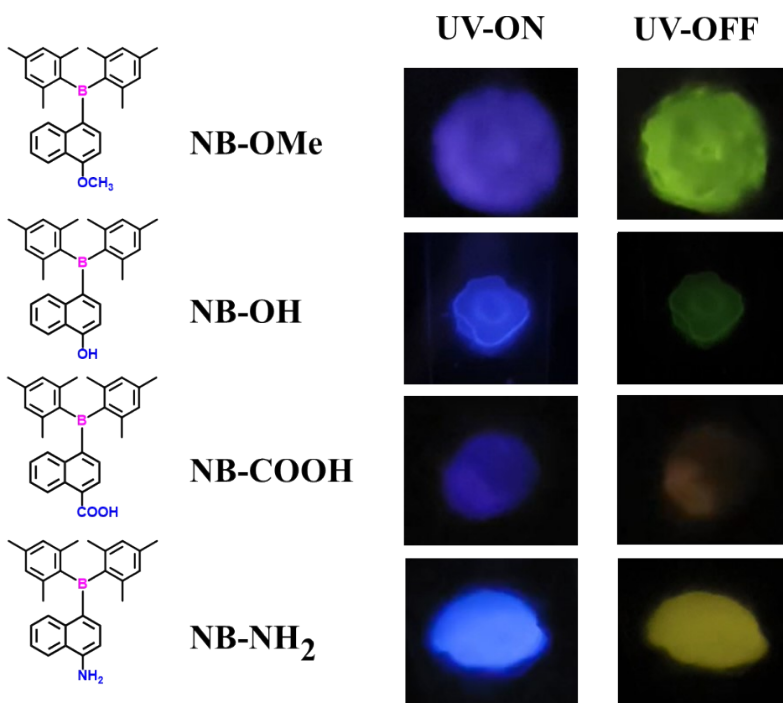
**Table S17:** List of spin-orbital coupling values for **NB-Br**, **NB-OMe**, **NB-OH**, **NB-NH<sub>2</sub>**, **NB-COOH** between different singlet and triplet energy levels obtained theoretically using B3LYP/6-

Transition	SOC (cm <sup>-1</sup> )				
	NB-Br	NB-OMe	NB-OH	NB-NH <sub>2</sub>	NB-COOH
S0→T1	6.0144	0.2529	0.2894	0.1954	0.2539
S0→T2	2.1673	0.5481	0.5488	0.5270	1.723
S0→T3	1.0616	0.3361	0.3672	0.4379	0.3885
S1→T1	5.3296	0.3832	0.4442	0.2519	0.7153
S1→T2	3.2884	1.1356	1.1531	1.0337	0.9039
S1→T3	1.6196	0.5741	0.6110	0.5233	0.9854
S1→T4	0.2930	0.0519	0.0412	0.1876	0.1236
S1→T5	0.3343	0.1268	0.1529	0.1630	0.2111

31G(d,p) level of theory



**Figure S66:** Femtosecond Z-Scan (a) open aperture and (b) close aperture plots of the solvent chloroform. Green circles demonstrate experimentally obtained data, and the blue line represents the theoretical fit to 2PA.



**Figure S67:** Photographs of PMMA (1 wt%) films containing NB-OMe, NB-OH, NB-COOH, and NB-NH<sub>2</sub> under UV light ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 365$  nm) and after turning off the UV source. NB-Br shows negligible phosphorescence and could not be captured.

## References

1. R. J. Errington, *Advanced practical inorganic and metal organic chemistry*, Blackie academic & professional, London, 1997.
2. W. F. Armarego and C. L. L. Chai, *Purification of laboratory chemicals*, Elsevier, UK, 2013.
3. (a) G. M. Sheldrick, *Crystal structure refinement with SHELXL*, *Acta Crystallogr., Sect. C: Struct. Chem.*, **2015**, 71, 3-8; (b) G. M. Sheldrick, *A short history of SHELX*, *Acta Crystallogr., Sect. A: Found. Crystallogr.*, **2008**, 64, 112; (c) A. L. Spek, *Single-crystal structure validation with the program PLATON*, *J. Appl. Crystallogr.*, **2003**, 36, 7; (d) G. M. Sheldrick, *Program for Crystal Structure Solution. SHELXS-97*, University of Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany, 1997.
4. a) Frisch, M. J.; Trucks, G. W.; Schlegel, H. B.; Scuseria, G. E.; Robb, M. A.; Cheeseman, J. R.; Scalmani, G.; Barone, V.; Mennucci, B.; Petersson, G. A., et al. *Gaussian 09*, Revision D.01, Gaussian, Inc., Wallingford CT, **2013**. b) Lee, C.; Yang, W.; Parr, R. G. *Development of the Colic-Salvetti Correlation-Energy Formula into a Functional of the Electron Density. Phys. Rev. B.*, **1988**, 37, 785-789.
5. Chen, J.-F.; Yin, X.; Zhang, K.; Zhao, Z.; Zhang, S.; Zhang, N.; Wang, N.; Chen, P. *Pillar[5]arene-Based Dual Chiral Organoboranes with Allowed Host Guest Chemistry and Circularly Polarized Luminescence. J. Org. Chem.* **2021**, 86, 12654.
6. Li, B., Gong, Y., Wang, L., Lin, H., Li, Q., Guo, F., Li, Z., Peng, Q., Shuai, Z., Zhao, L. and Zhang, Y., 2019. *Highly efficient organic room-temperature phosphorescent luminophores through tuning triplet states and spin-orbit coupling with incorporation of a secondary group. J. Phys. Chem. Lett.*, **2019**, 10(22), pp.7141.
7. Wei, J., Liu, C., Duan, J., Shao, A., Li, J., Li, J., Gu, W., Li, Z., Liu, S., Ma, Y. and Huang, W., 2023. *Conformation-dependent dynamic organic phosphorescence through thermal energy driven molecular rotations. Nat. Commun.*, **2023**, 14(1), p.627.
8. Wu, Z., Nitsch, J., Schuster, J., Friedrich, A., Edkins, K., Loebnitz, M., Dinkelbach, F., Stepanenko, V., Wgrthner, F., Marian, M. C., Ji, L., Marder, B. T., *Persistent Room Temperature Phosphorescence from Triarylboranes: A Combined Experimental and Theoretical Study. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2020**, 59, 17137.

