

## Supporting Information

### **Water-Soluble BODIPY-Conjugated Glycopolymer as Fluorescent Probe for Live Cell Imaging**

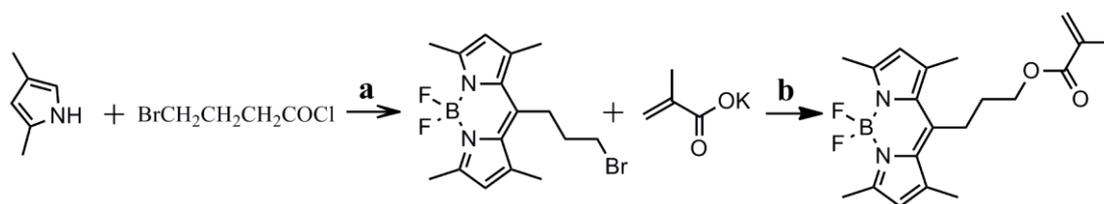
Zhentan Lu, Lin Mei, Xinge Zhang\*, Yanan Wang, Yu Zhao, Chaoxing Li\*

Key Laboratory of Functional Polymer Materials Ministry of Education, Institute of Polymer  
Chemistry, Nankai University, 94# Weijin Road, Tianjin 300071

E-mail: zhangxinge@nankai.edu.cn (Xinge Zhang); lcx@nankai.edu.cn (Chaoxing Li).

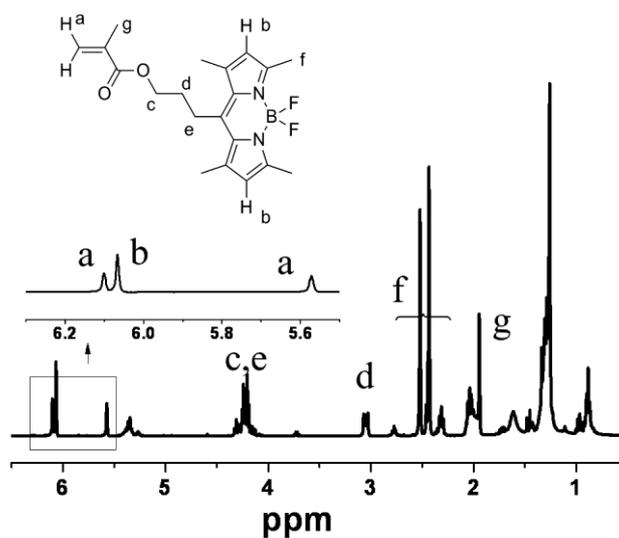
1. Synthesis of BODIPYMA (**Scheme S1, Figures S1, S2 and S3**).
2. Synthesis of AcGEMA (**Scheme S2, Figures S4 and S5**).
3. The time-dependence of polymerization time and  $\ln(M_0/M)$  (**Figure S6**).
4. The content of BODIPYMA in copolymer (**Figure S7**).
5. GPC profile of p(AcGEMA-*co*-BODIPYMA) (**Figure S8**).
6.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of p(AcGEMA-*co*-BODIPYMA) (**Figure S9**).
7.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of p(GEMA-*co*-BODIPYMA) (**Figures S10 and S11**).
8. Synthesis of p(HEMA-*co*-BODIPYMA) (**Scheme S3, Figures S12 and S13**).
9. Cytotoxicity of p(HEMA-*co*-BODIPYMA) and BODIPYMA (Figures S14 and S15).

## 1. Synthesis of BODIPYMA

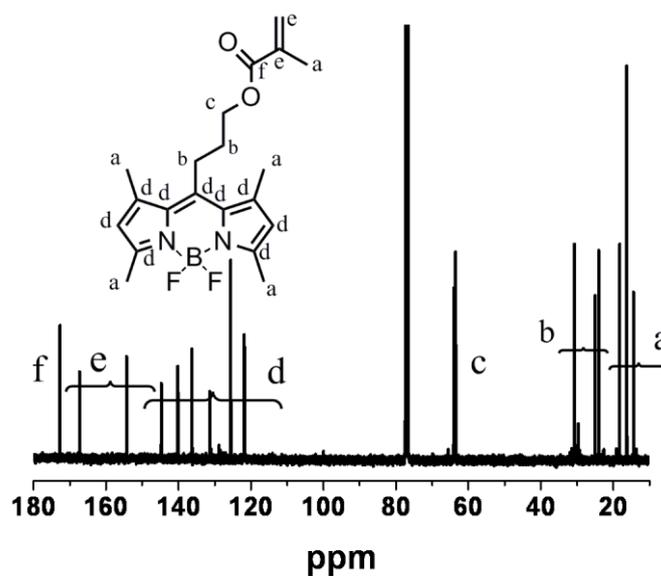


**Scheme S1.** Synthesis of BODIPYMA. Conditions: a) DCM,  $\text{N}_2$ ,  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$ ,  $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{Et}_2\text{O}$ ,

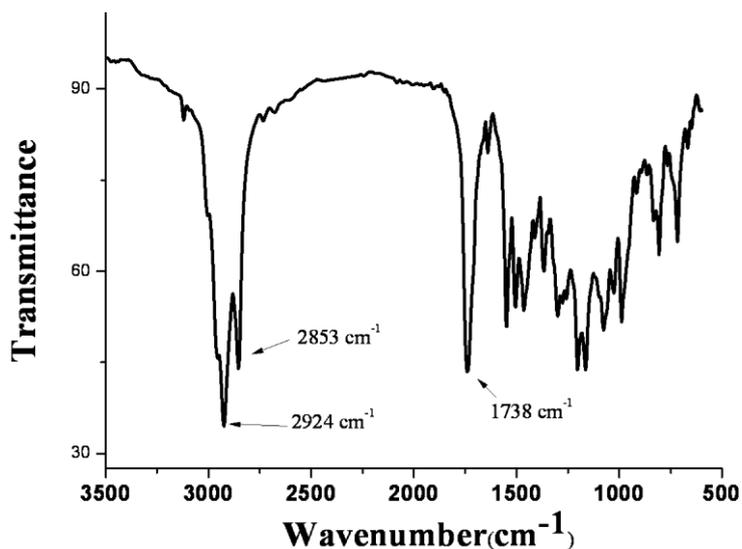
room temperature; b) DMF,  $\text{N}_2$ , tetrabutylammonium bromide,  $60^\circ\text{C}$ , 16 h.



**Figure S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of BODIPYMA ( $\text{CDCl}_3$  as solvent).



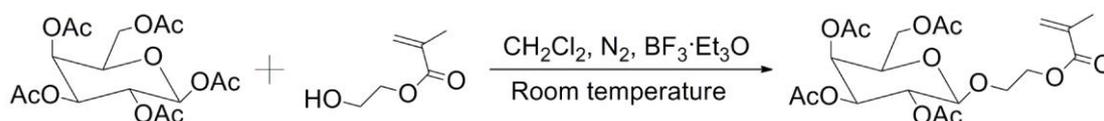
**Figure S2.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of BODIPYMA ( $\text{CDCl}_3$  as solvent).



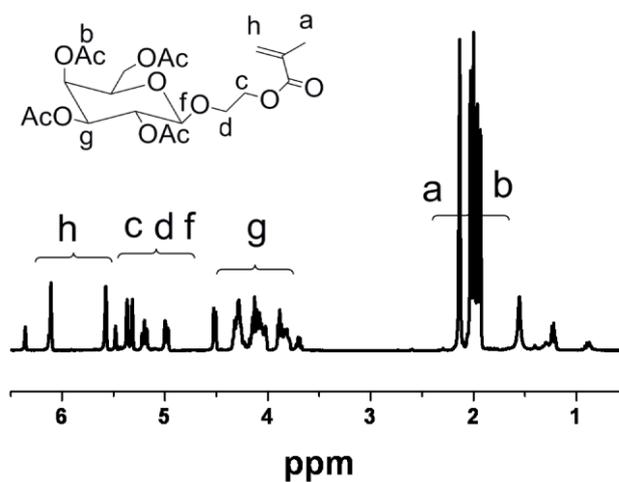
**Figure S3.** FT-IR spectrum of BODIPYMA.

The peaks at 2853 and 2924 cm<sup>-1</sup> were assigned to C-H stretching vibrations of =CH<sub>2</sub>. The peak at 1738 cm<sup>-1</sup> represented C=O stretching vibrations. The result proved the introduction of methylacrylate unit.

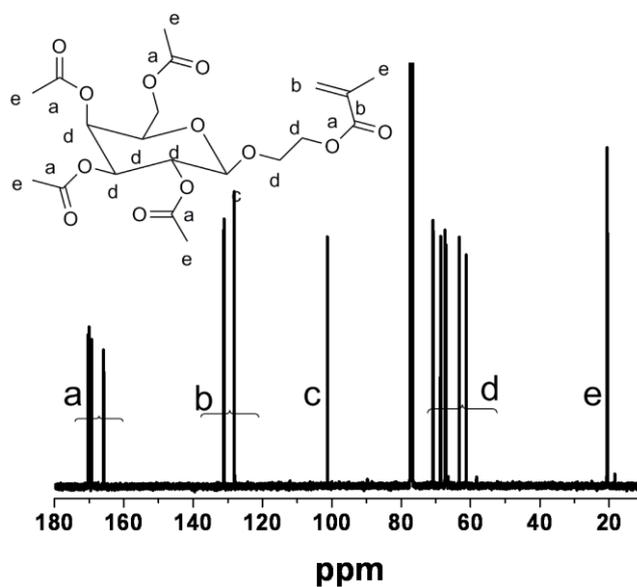
## 2. Synthesis of AcGEMA



**Scheme S2.** Synthesis of AcGEMA.

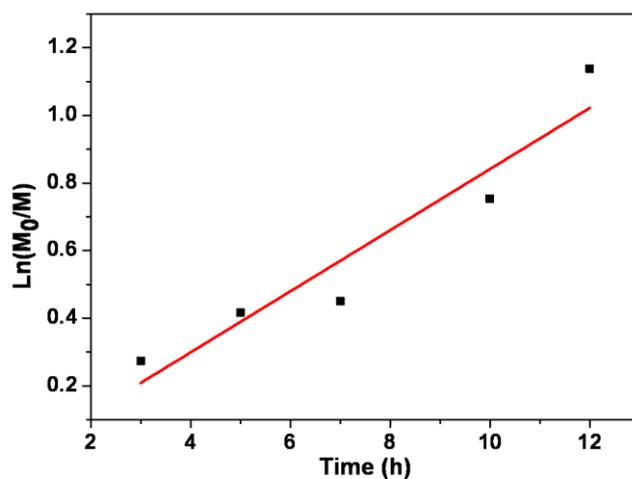


**Figure S4.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of AcGEMA (CDCl<sub>3</sub> as a solvent).



**Figure S5.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of AcGEMA ( $\text{CDCl}_3$  as a solvent).

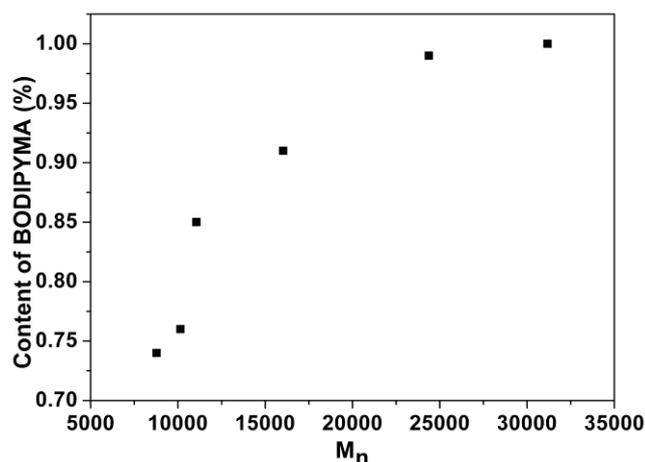
### 3. The time-dependence of polymerization time and $\text{Ln}(M_0/M)$



**Figure S6.** The time-dependence of polymerization time and  $\text{Ln}(M_0/M)$ .

The polymers showed a typical linear variation of  $\text{Ln}(M_0/M)$  with polymerization time, which was inherent in living free radical polymerizations. The intersection of the fitting straight line and the X axis was not at the origin, showing that the polymerization needed an induction period.

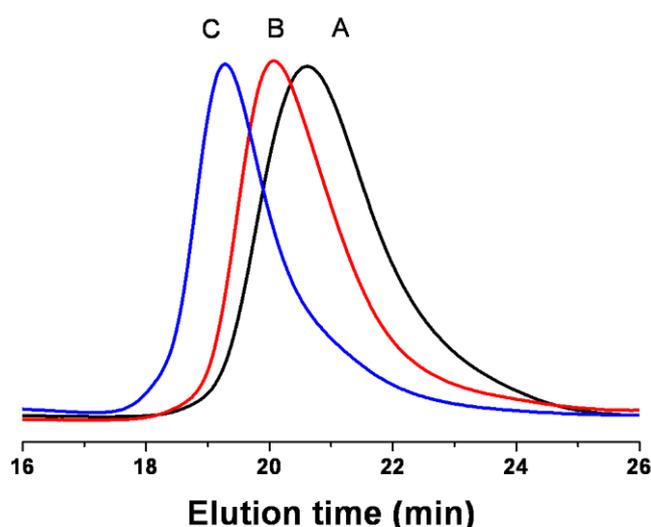
#### 4. The content of BODIPYMA in copolymer



**Figure S7.** The BODIPYMA content as a function of the molecular weight of copolymer.

The results in Figure S7 show that there was a positive correlation nonlinearly between the BODIPYMA content and the molecular weight of copolymer, and the content of BODIPYMA increased from 0.74% to 1% as the molecular weight enhanced from 8.8 to 31.2 kDa.

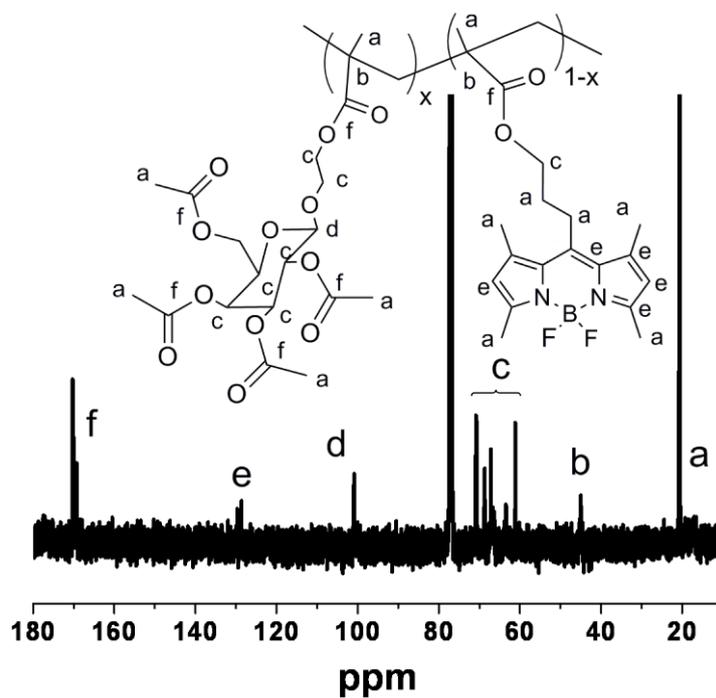
#### 5. GPC profiles of p(AcGEMA-*co*-BODIPYMA)



**Figure S8.** GPC profiles of p(AcGEMA-*co*-BODIPYMA): (A)  $M_n = 10.7$  kDa, PDI = 1.32; (B)  $M_n = 20.8$  kDa, PDI = 1.18; and (C)  $M_n = 31.2$  kDa, PDI = 1.13. THF as an

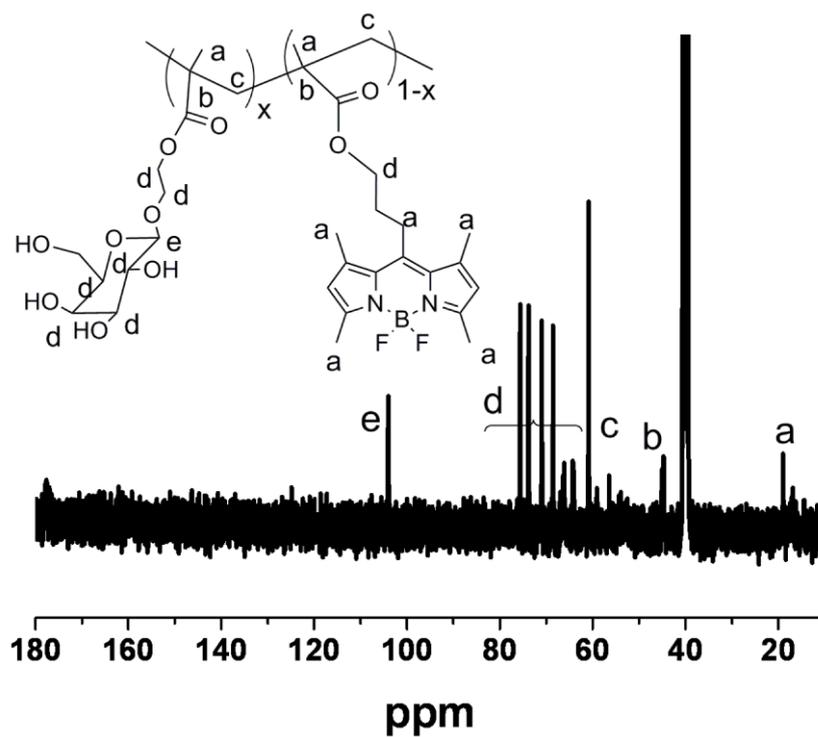
eluent and polystyrene as a calibration standard.

### 6. $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectrum of p(AcGEMA-co-BODIPYMA)

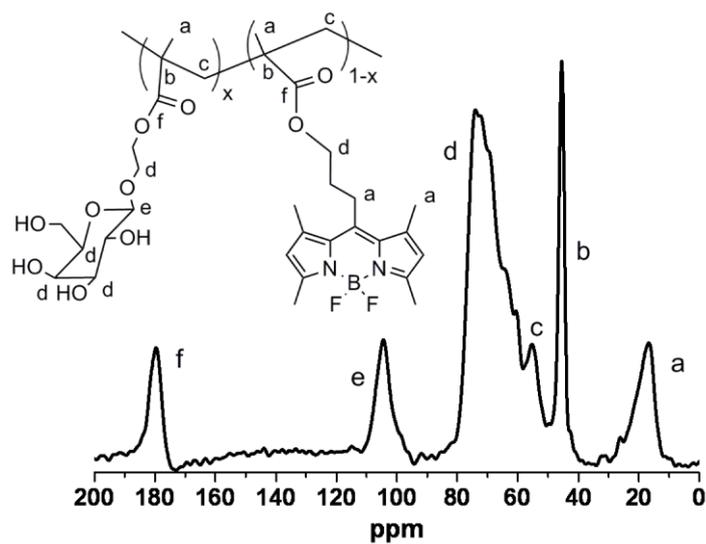


**Figure S9.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of p(AcGEMA-co-BODIPYMA) ( $\text{CD}_3\text{Cl}$  as solvent).

### 7. $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra of p(GEMA-co-BODIPYMA)

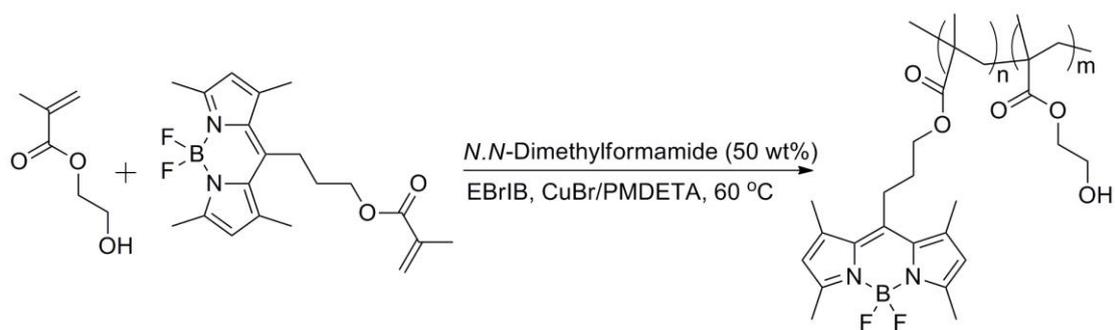


**Figure S10.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of p(GEMA-co-BODIPYMA) (DMSO as solvent).

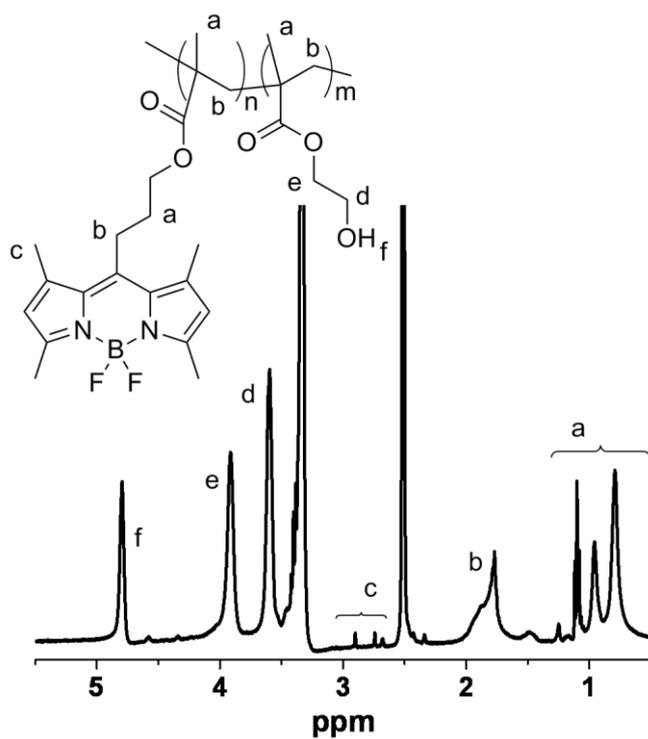


**Figure S11.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of p(GEMA-co-BODIPYMA) in solid.

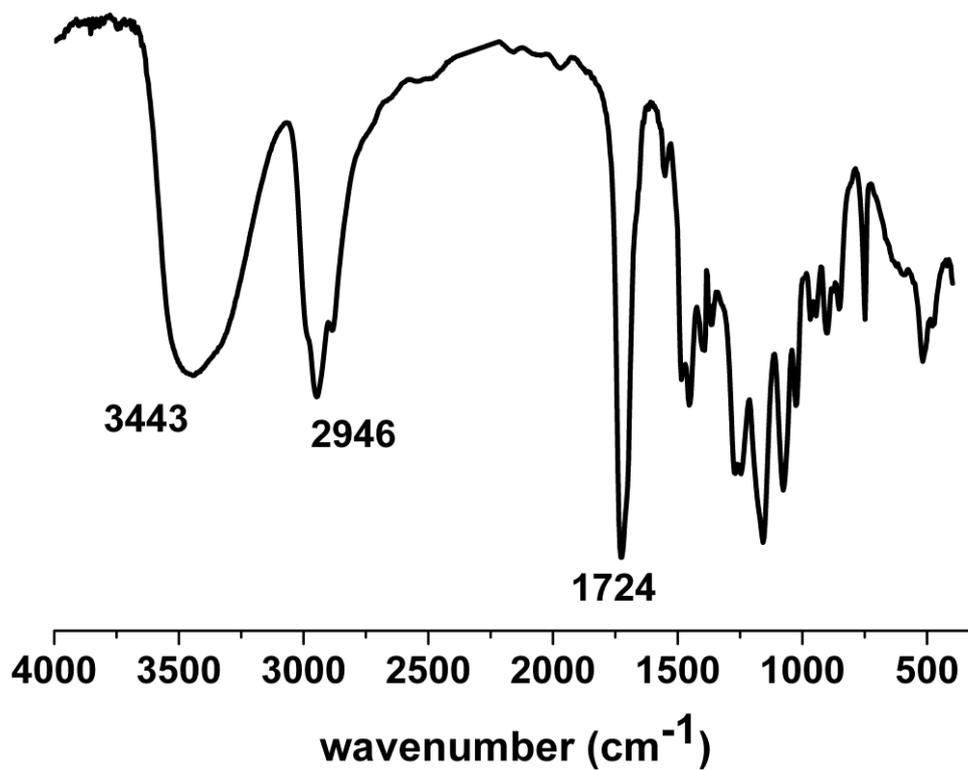
## 8. Synthesis of of p(HEMA-co-BODIPYMA)



**Scheme S3.** Scheme for the synthesis of p(HEMA-*co*-BODIPYMA).

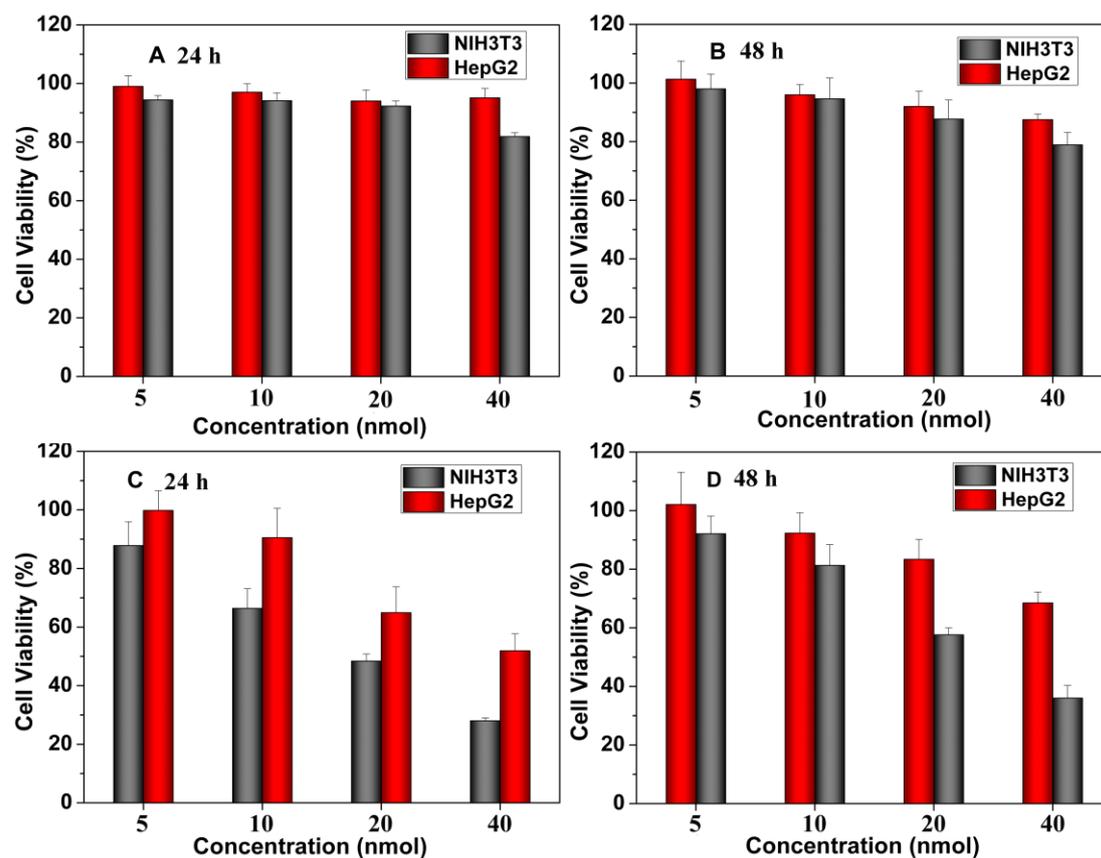


**Figure S12.**  $^1\text{H NMR}$  of p(HEMA-*co*-BODIPYMA) (DMSO as solvent).

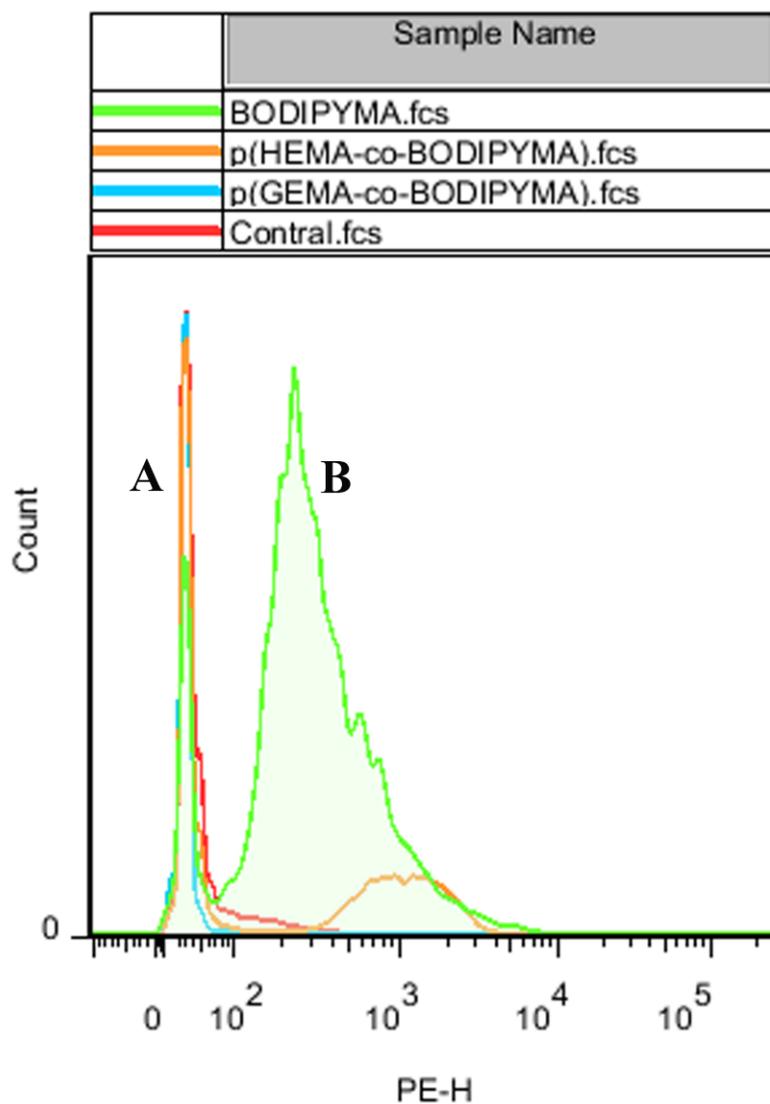


**Figure S13.** FT-IR spectrum of p(HEMA-*co*-BODIPYMA).

9. Cytotoxicity of p(HEMA-*co*-BODIPYMA) and BODIPYMA (Figures S14 and S14).



**Figures S14.** Cell viability of HepG2 and NIH3T3 cells after the treatment with the p(HEMA-co-BODIPYMA) and BODIPYMA. p(HEMA-co-BODIPYMA) (A and B); and BODIPYMA (C and D). Each value represents the mean  $\pm$  SD ( $n = 5$ ).



**Figure S15.** Histograms of ethidium bromide as an indicator of apoptosis in NIH3T3 cells treated with 40 nmol/ml of p(GEMA-co-BODIPYMA), p(HEMA-co-BODIPYMA) and BODIPYMA for 24 h, respectively. (A) viable cell population and (B) apoptotic cell population.