



## Supporting Information

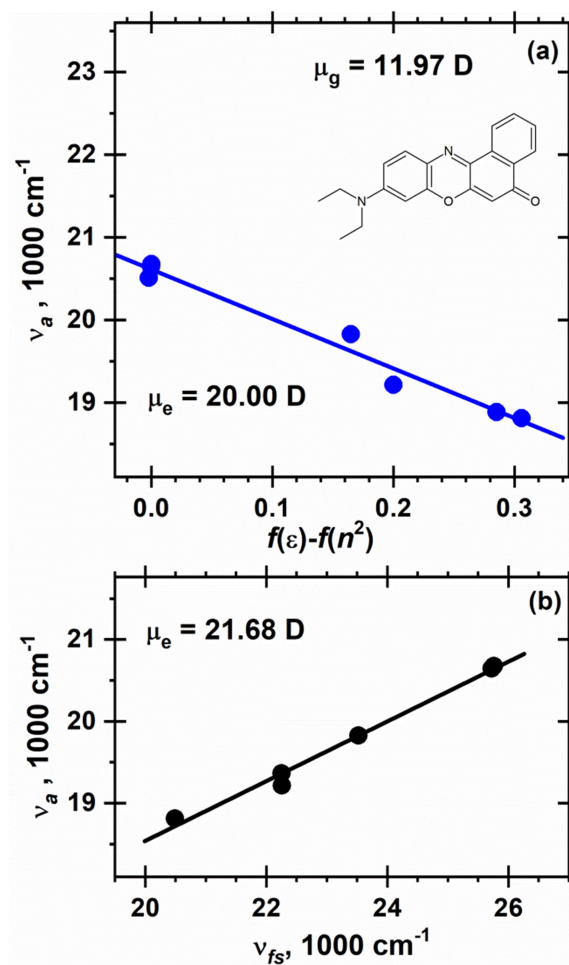
for

### Probing of local polarity in poly(methyl methacrylate) with the charge transfer transition in Nile red

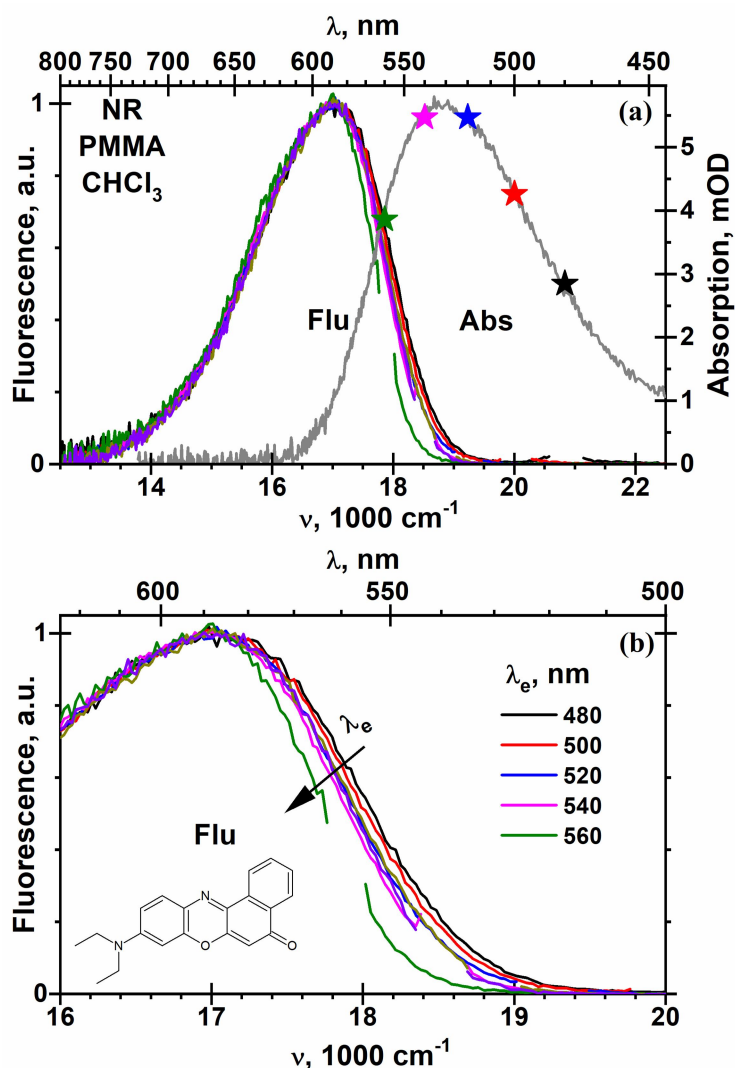
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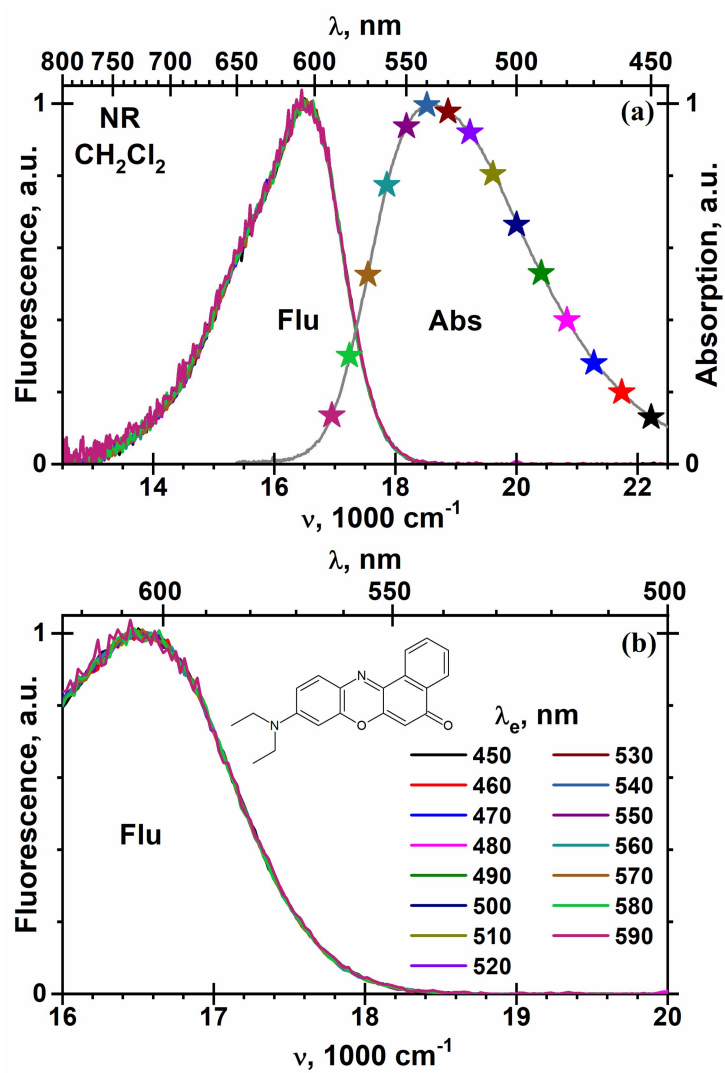
### Solvatochromic plots and fluorescence spectra of NR



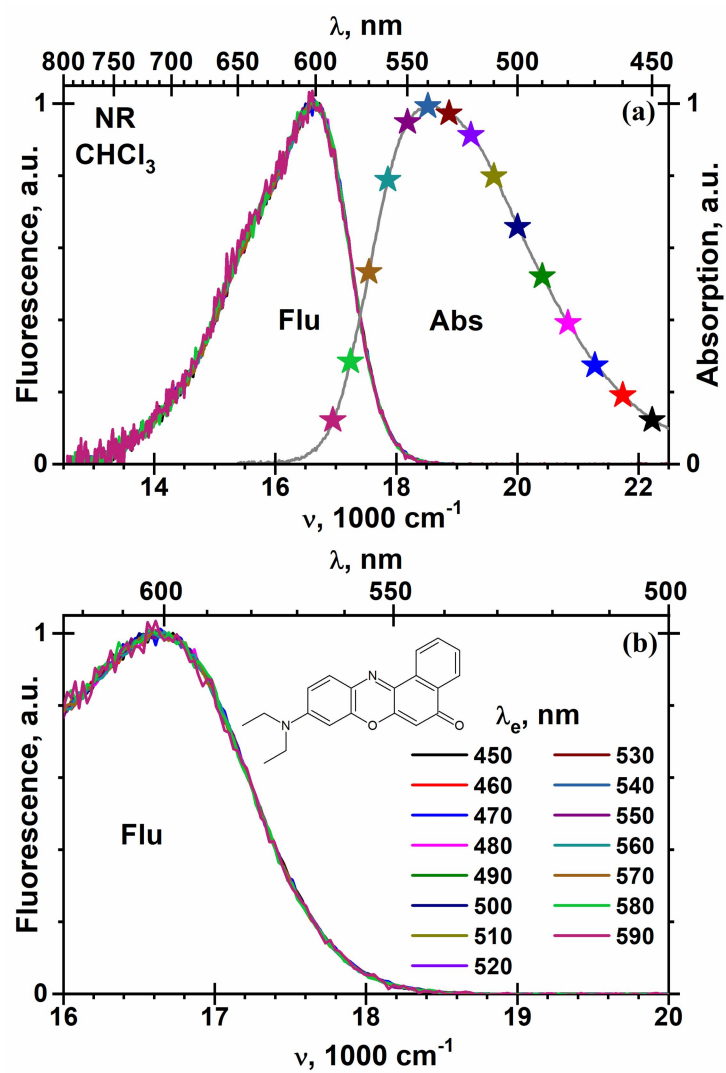
**Figure S1:** Solvatochromic plots of the absorption maxima ( $\nu_a$ ) of Nile red (NR) in a series of solvents against the Lippert solvent polarity function  $f(\epsilon) - f(n^2)$  at 25 °C (a) and against the fluorescence maxima ( $\nu_{fs}$ ) of the intramolecular charge-transfer band of 4-(diisopropylamino)benzonitrile (DIABN) at 25 °C. From the straight lines corresponding to equation (1) in panel (a) and equation (10) in panel (b) the excited state dipole moments  $\mu_e$  of  $20.00 \pm 0.51$  D (a) and of  $20.68 \pm 0.51$  D (b) are calculated, see Table 2. The experimental data for absorption maxima of Nile red were taken from [1]. The solvents ( $\nu_{fs}$  which is not shown in Table 1 is taken from [2-3]) are acetonitrile, acetone, ethyl acetate, 1,4-dioxane ( $22250 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), diethyl ether ( $23520 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), *n*-pentane ( $25760 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), *n*-hexane and cyclohexane displayed from the right to the left in (a) and from the left to the right in (b). The dielectric constants were taken from [4] and refractive indexes  $n$  from [5].



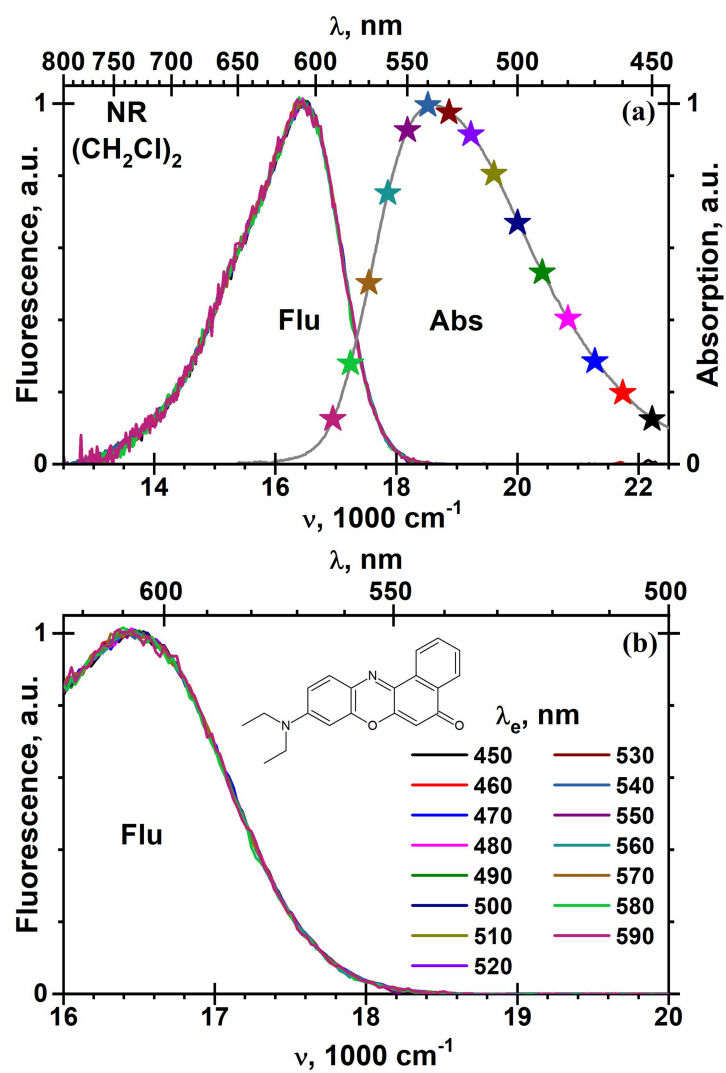
**Figure S2:** Absorption (a) and fluorescence (a, b) spectra of NR in 480 nm thin film of PMMA (molar mass 350 kg/mol) at different excitation wavelengths ( $\lambda_e$ ). The film was prepared by spin coating of PMMA solutions in chloroform ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) on the  $20 \times 20 \times 0.15 \text{ mm}^3$  glass doped with NR. The concentration of NR in the PMMA film of 3.2 mM was calculated from the optical density (panel (a)) and thickness of PMMA film with the molar extinction coefficient NR in 1,4-dioxane of  $38000 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1}$  [6]. The  $\lambda_e$  values are indicated with stars on the absorption spectrum in panel (a). The regions  $\lambda_e \pm 5 \text{ nm}$  in the fluorescence spectra (a, b) are not shown due to overlap with strong scattering excitation light.



**Figure S3:** Absorption (a) and fluorescence (a, b) spectra of NR in dichloromethane ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) at different excitation wavelength ( $\lambda_e$ ) at 25 °C. The  $\lambda_e$  values are indicated with stars on the absorption spectrum in panel (a).



**Figure S4:** Absorption (a) and fluorescence (a, b) spectra of NR in chloroform ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) at different excitation wavelengths ( $\lambda_e$ ) at 25 °C. The  $\lambda_e$  values are indicated with stars on the absorption spectrum in panel (a).



**Figure S5:** Absorption (a) and fluorescence (a, b) spectra of NR in 1,2-dichloroethane ((CH<sub>2</sub>Cl)<sub>2</sub>) at different excitation wavelengths ( $\lambda_e$ ) at 25 °C. The  $\lambda_e$  values are indicated with stars on the absorption spectrum in panel (a).

## References

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