

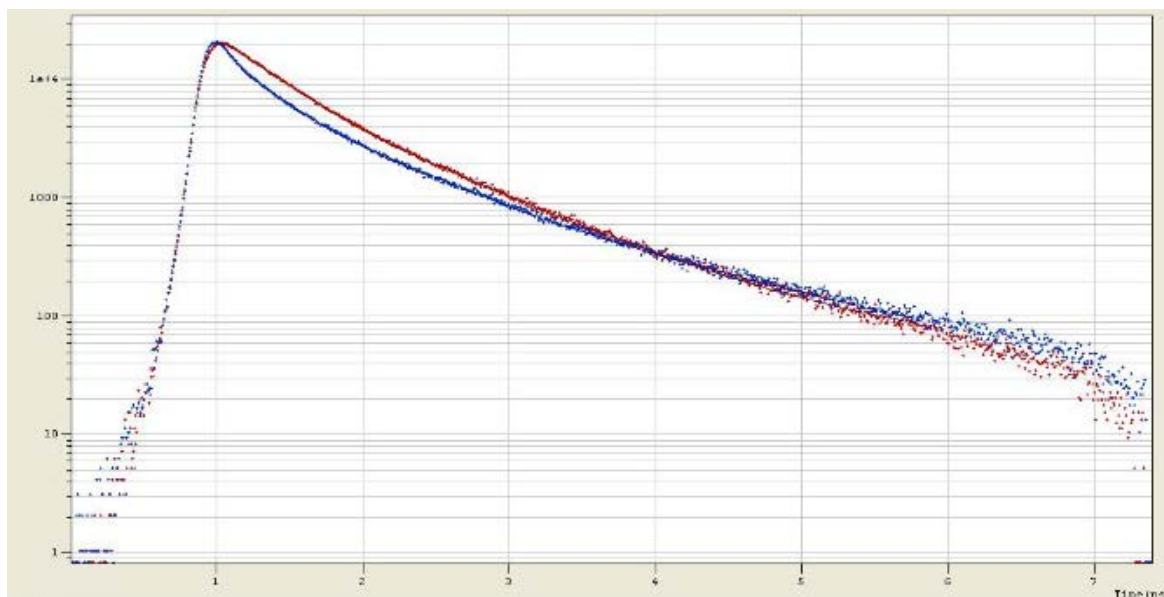
## SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

### **Excitonic Processes in a Conjugated Polyelectrolyte Complex**

David T. Nitneth,<sup>A</sup> James A. Hutchison,<sup>A</sup> Kenneth P. Ghiggino<sup>A,B</sup>

<sup>A</sup>ARC Centre of Excellence in Exciton Science, School of Chemistry  
University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Vic. 3010, Australia.

<sup>B</sup>Corresponding author. Email: ghiggino@unimelb.edu.au



**Figure S1.** Fluorescence decay data and fits for DPS-PPV ( $4 \times 10^{-7}$  M) in aqueous solution without (blue) and with (red) 10 mol equivalent PVA.

Decay curves were not single-exponential. While no particular kinetic model is assigned since there is likely multiple emitting environments and energy transfer dynamics operative, the profiles could be fitted using a sum of exponentials, viz.  $y = B_1 e^{-\frac{t}{\tau_1}} + B_2 e^{-\frac{t}{\tau_2}}$ , where  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau_2$  are the excited state lifetimes. The fractional contribution ( $f_1$ ) of component with lifetime  $\tau_1$  to the overall fluorescence decay is given by:

$$f_1 = \frac{B_1 e^{-\frac{t}{\tau_1}}}{B_1 e^{-\frac{t}{\tau_1}} + B_2 e^{-\frac{t}{\tau_2}}}$$

The average fluorescence decay time was then calculated from the following equation:

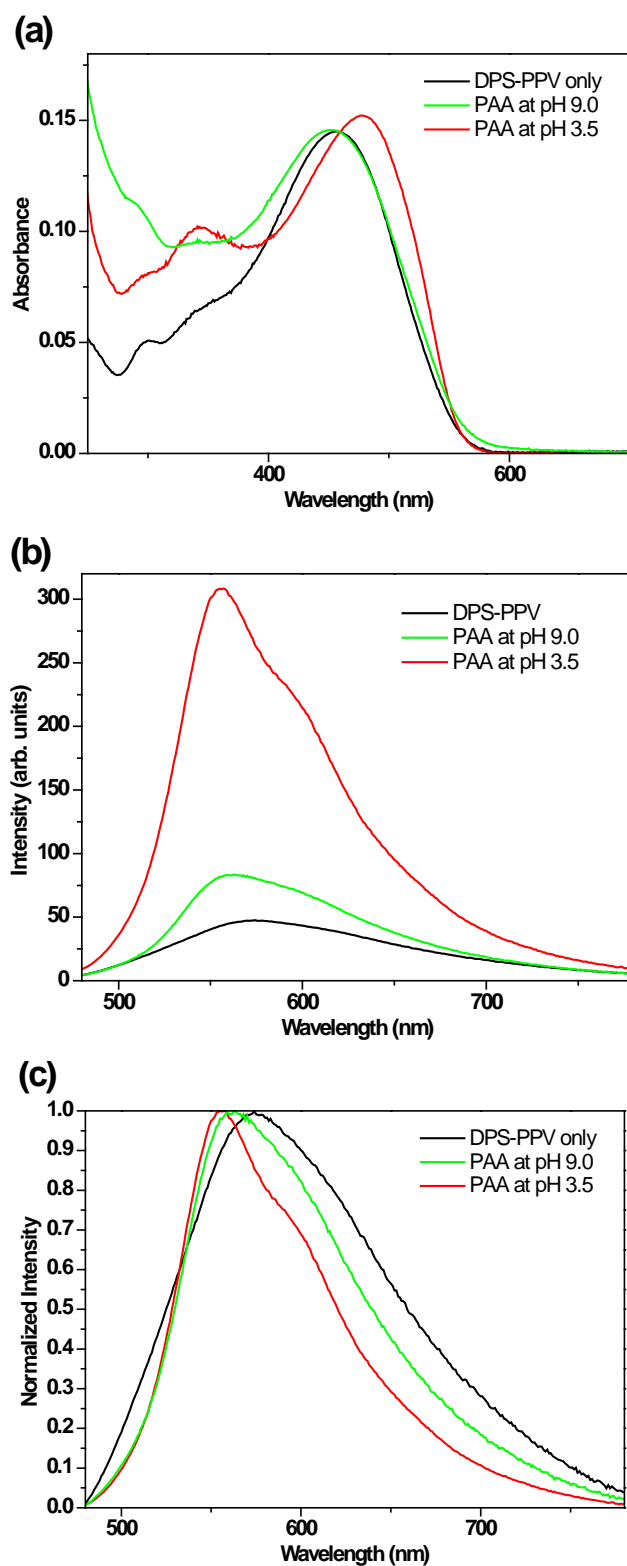
$$\tau_{average} = f_1 \tau_1 + f_2 \tau_2$$

Fitting parameters for fluorescence decay of DPS-PPV in water

Decay component	$B_i$	Fractional Contribution (%)	Excited state lifetime (ns)
1	0.0522	40.352	0.188
2	0.0168	59.648	0.866
$\tau_{average}$	-	-	0.59

Fitting parameters for fluorescence decay curve of DPS-PPV:PVA in water

Decay component	$B_i$	Fractional Contribution (%)	Excited state lifetime (ns)
1	0.0832	69.076	0.413
2	0.0143	30.924	1.076
$\tau_{average}$	-	-	0.62



**Figure S2.** Absorbance (a) and absolute (b) and normalised (c) fluorescence spectra for DPS-PPV ( $4.0 \times 10^{-7}$  M) in water, and in water with 1 mg/ml poly(acrylic acid) (PAA) at pH 9.0 and 3.5 (ex. 455 nm).