



## Flexible polyphosphazene nanocomposite films: Enhancing stability and luminescence of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> perovskite nanocrystals

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### ABSTRACT

Polyphosphazene with phenoxy or 4-ester phenoxy as pendent groups are demonstrated as both ligands and host matrices for CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> perovskite nanocrystals (NCs). These polymers produced flexible nanocomposite films with excellent NCs dispersion, optical transparency and stability in various extreme conditions. Both films remained stable even after 30 days of air storage. CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>/poly[bis(phenoxy phosphazene)] (PBPP) delivered better air and light stability, and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>/poly[bis(4-esterphenoxy phosphazene)] (PBEP) exhibited superior water and heat resistance. CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>/PBEP showed a greater increase in fluorescence intensity under 365 nm UV light and demonstrated a 10% luminescence increase after 96 h of water immersion and even at high temperature (150 °C). These findings thus provide new insight into flexible luminescent CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> films with high stability in optoelectronic applications.

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The term “quantum dots (QD)” applicable in the semiconductor nanocrystals that features the size on the order of excitonic Bohr radius [1,2]. QDs [3,4] have gained much attention in the fields of solar cells, laser photon detectors, and light-emitting diodes (LEDs), by virtue of their excellent photoluminescence quantum yields (PLQY) and narrow emission bandgap. During the past several years, lead halide perovskite quantum dots (PQDs) with a general formula of ABX<sub>3</sub> (where A = Cs, methylamine; B = Pb, Sn; X = Cl, Br, I) were extensively explored due to their tunable and efficient photoluminescence (PL) properties [5–9]. Unfortunately, these nanocrystals are highly unstable under environmental conditions, such as humidity, UV radiation, oxygen, heat, and polar solvent, which largely restrict their usage in long-term applications on industrial scale [10,11].

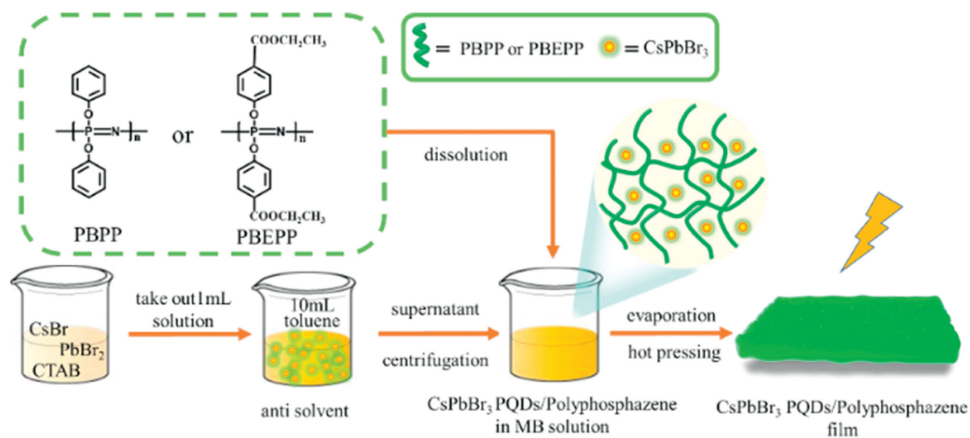
A number of strategies have been employed to boost the stability of PQDs, including ion doping [12], surface passivation [13], coating [14], and the addition of organic polymers [15–17]. Surface passivation is considered as a highly effective technique for achieving improved stability. Aggregation can be prevented effectively by introducing hydrophobic organic ligands, and defects on

the surface of PQDs can be effectively passivated. In a recent study, Qiu *et al.* used a wide range of aromatic carboxylic acids as ligands for CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs [18]. These PQDs displayed minimal reduction of photoluminescence intensity at ambient conditions and maintained their stability up to 100 h. Another strategy involves polymeric encapsulation of PQDs, by using polymethylmethacrylate (PMMA), polystyrene (PS) and ethylene vinyl acetate (EVA), which can improve their water resistance, mechanical performance and luminescent properties. Furthermore, to achieve stabilization of PQDs, polymer matrices must possess comprehensive properties, such as high transparency, excellent hydrophobicity, high thermal stability, and UV resistance.

In comparison with traditional polymers with carbon backbones, polyphosphazenes are comprised of a versatile family of polymer built on –[P=N]– [19] backbones owing to high reactivity, which can be linked to a wide range of side chains [20,21]. This leads to the product with a similarly diverse range of physical and chemical properties. Polyphosphazenes have excellent thermal stability, high chain flexibility, high refractive index, flame retardant, biocompatible and optical transparency, which make them suitable to be applied in the fields of biomedical engineering, energy generation and storage, and aerospace materials [22–26]. The nitrogen element [27] in backbone and the functional group at the side group exhibit coordination inter-

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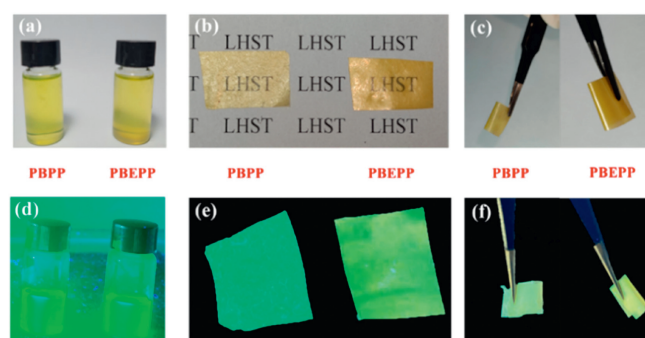
**Scheme 1.** Schematic illustration of preparation of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>/polyphosphazene thin films.

actions with the metal nanoparticle and prevent their agglomeration. Poly(bis(phenoxy)phosphazene) (PBPP) [28] is a type of high-performance organic materials with excellent light stability, thermal stability, hydrophobicity and barrier properties. Simultaneously, poly(bis(4-esterphenoxy)phosphazene) (PBEPP) [29] not only exhibits high light and chemical stability, but also can enhance the interface bonding strength between the metal ions and polyphosphazenes. Our group previous research has shown that some polyphosphazenes with aromatic side groups own higher fluorescence performance as well, which demonstrate the combination of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs and polyphosphazenes matrices may lead to a synergistic effect with enhanced luminescence. They both own conjugated structures that favor the charge transport, and the additional electron-withdrawing groups (like ester-phenoxy) can also tailor the electronic structures and energy levels [30].

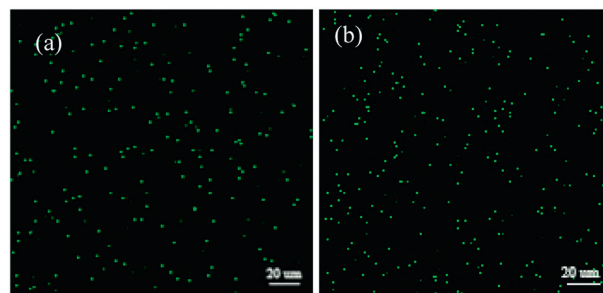
In this work, we highlight the use of linear polyphosphazenes as both ligand and encapsulation material for PQDs. By utilizing coordinating groups like main-chain nitrogen and side-chain oxygen, the surface defects of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> can be passivated effectively. The PQDs were uniformly dispersed within the polymer matrix. As a result, CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBEPP flexible composite thin films were successfully fabricated (Scheme 1). These films demonstrated exceptional resistance abilities to a wide range of environments, such as water, UV light, high temperature and oxygen. Furthermore, the performance of two different phenoxy side group on PQDs was conducted. The high-performance composite thin films with remarkable transparency and flexibility in this study has strong applied potential in the field of luminescence and optoelectronics.

Fig. 1a shows the toluene solutions of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP under sunlight, showing the uniform dispersion of PQDs in the polymer solution. These solutions remain clear and transparent, and exhibit significant fluorescence intensity under 365 nm UV light irradiation (Fig. 1d). The CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP films, which are prepared through the film casting method, display transparency after the solvent is evaporated at 75 °C. When exposed to ultraviolet light, they emit bright green light (Figs. 1b and e). This result proved that there is no phase separation between CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs and polyphosphazenes, and the structure of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs is not destroyed, during the heating and film formation processes, which can be further confirmed by the confocal fluorescence microscopy results (Fig. 2). The prepared polymer films also exhibit high flexibility and can be bent for many times (Figs. 1c, e and f), making them suitable for further processing and utilization.

The XRD patterns (Fig. 3) of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs shows three distinct peaks at approximately 15.1°, 21.5° and 30.5°, which can be



**Fig. 1.** Photographs of (a, d) CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP-toluene and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP-toluene. (b, e) CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP thin films. (c, f) CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP thin films after bending. (a-c) Under daylight and (d-f) under UV (365 nm) light, respectively.



**Fig. 2.** Fluorescence images of (a) CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP and (b) CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP thin film.

attributed to the (100), (110) and (200) crystal planes, respectively. These peaks are consistent with the reference JCPDF No. 18-0364. Additionally, the composite films (CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP) also exhibit characteristic diffraction peaks from CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs. This indicates that the CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs have been successfully encapsulated in the polymer matrix, and their crystal structure remains intact without any damage.

In the FT-IR spectrum of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs (Fig. 4) [31], the peaks observed at around 2925 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 2847 cm<sup>-1</sup> are attributed to the symmetric and antisymmetric C-H stretching vibrations, respectively. For CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP, the spectra show prominent characteristic peaks of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs, indicating the successful embedding of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs into PBPP and PBEPP polymers. For the PBPP, the peak at 1200 cm<sup>-1</sup> is assigned to the -N=P- stretching vibration [32], while for the CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>

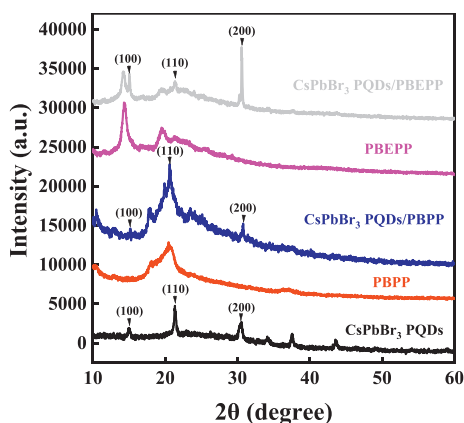


Fig. 3. XRD patterns of the PBPP, PEPP, pristine CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs, CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PEPP thin films.

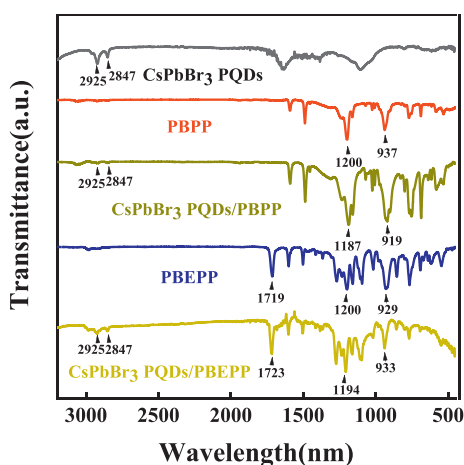


Fig. 4. FT-IR spectra of the PBPP, CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP, PEPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PEPP thin film.

PQDs/PBPP, a blue shift of the  $\text{-N=P-}$  stretching vibration is observed at  $1187\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Similarly, comparing the  $\text{-N=P-}$  stretching vibration peaks of PEPP [33] and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PEPP, a blue shift is also observed from  $1200\text{ cm}^{-1}$  towards  $1194\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . This is due to the coordination effect between the N/P of the polyphosphazenes backbone and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs. In the PBPP infrared spectrum, the peak at  $937\text{ cm}^{-1}$  is attributed to the stretching vibration of  $\text{-P-O-}$ , while in the CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP spectrum, this feature peak is blue-shifted to  $919\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Similarly, comparing PEPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PEPP, the  $\text{-P-O-}$  peak shifts from  $929\text{ cm}^{-1}$  to  $933\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , indicating the coordination effect between the oxygen in  $\text{-P-O-}$  and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs. In the FT-IR spectrum of PEPP, the peak at  $1719\text{ cm}^{-1}$  is assigned to the stretching vibration of  $\text{-C=O-}$ . In the CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PEPP spectrum, this peak is red-shifted to  $1723\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , which is attributed to the coordination between base the  $\text{-C=O-}$  in the side groups of PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs [34]. The strong interactions between polymers (PBPP or PEPP) and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs have effectively prevented the aggregation of PQDs in the polymer matrix and enabled their stable.

In order to further investigate the interactive mechanism between CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs with polymers, XPS analysis was performed on CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PEPP [31,34]. As shown in Fig. 5a, the high-resolution XPS spectrum of perovskite Br 3d can be deconvoluted into two peaks at  $68.74$  and  $67.64\text{ eV}$ , which can be assigned to Br  $3d_{5/2}$  and Br  $3d_{3/2}$ , respectively. However, in CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP, the corresponding binding energies of Br  $3d_{5/2}$  and  $3d_{3/2}$  are located at  $69.04\text{ eV}$  and  $67.94\text{ eV}$ , respectively. In

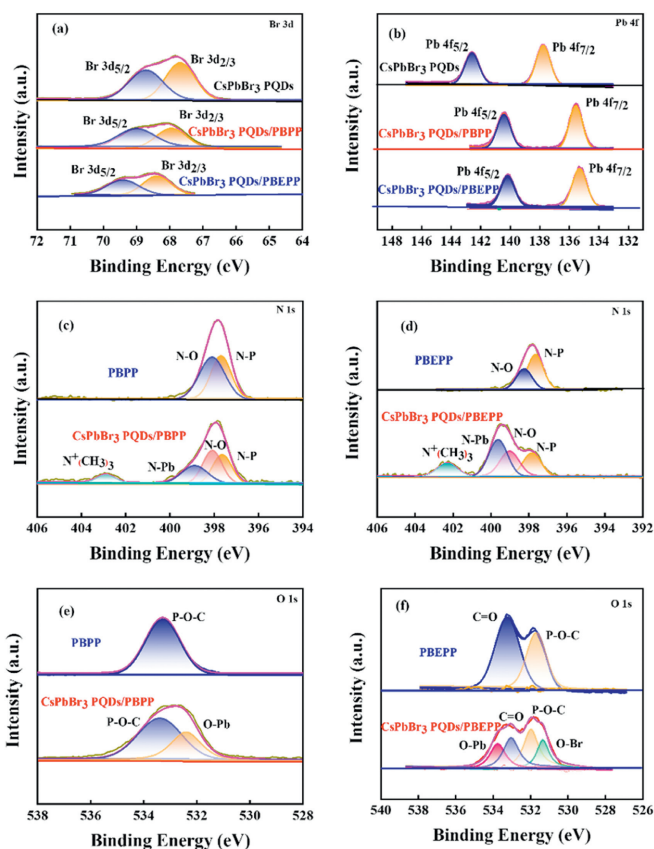


Fig. 5. (a) Br 3d and (b) Pb 4f XPS spectra of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>, CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PEPP thin film. (c, d) N 1s and (e, f) O 1s XPS spectra of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP and PBPP thin film, CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PEPP and PEPP thin film.

CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PEPP, the binding energies are  $69.45$  and  $68.35\text{ eV}$ , respectively, which have been shifted to higher field. The Pb 4f XPS spectra exhibits two peaks at  $142.64$  and  $137.84\text{ eV}$  corresponding to Pb  $4f_{5/2}$  and Pb  $4f_{7/2}$ , respectively (Fig. 5b). Similarly, in CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PEPP, they have undergone a shift towards lower field at  $140.44\text{ eV}$  ( $4f_{5/2}$ ),  $135.54\text{ eV}$  ( $4f_{7/2}$ ) and  $140.14\text{ eV}$  ( $4f_{5/2}$ ),  $135.34\text{ eV}$  ( $4f_{7/2}$ ), respectively. Based on the electron shielding effect, as the electron density increases around an atom, the binding energy decreases accordingly. These results confirm that the interaction between CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs with polymers has profound effect in electron environment around CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>, which leads to a decrease in the electron density of Pb and an increase in the electron density of Br. In addition, the side group structures of polymer have significant influence on the interaction between CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs with polyphosphazenes. Strong molecular interaction is distinguished CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs with PEPP from CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs with PBPP.

In the CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP, the N 1s spectrum (Fig. 5c) can be divided into four major peaks at  $397.65\text{ eV}$  (N=P),  $398.15\text{ eV}$  (N-Br),  $398.95\text{ eV}$  (N-Pb) and  $402.75\text{ eV}$  ( $\text{N}^+(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ). The O 1s spectrum (Fig. 5e) exhibits three peaks at  $533.15\text{ eV}$  (P-O),  $533.95\text{ eV}$  (O-Pb) and  $532.35\text{ eV}$  (O-Br). As displayed in Fig. 6, the results above indicate that there are hydrogen bond and coordination effect between Br/Pb from the PQDs and N/O in the main chain of the polyphosphazene [35]. This result is consistent with FT-IR spectra. Meanwhile, the N 1s and the O 1s spectra of the composite film shows the same binding energy of N=P and P-O-C with pure polymer, the chemical structure of polyphosphazenes in composite film does not change. Furthermore, similar behaviors are also observed in the O 1s and the N 1s spectra of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PEPP (Figs. 5d and f).

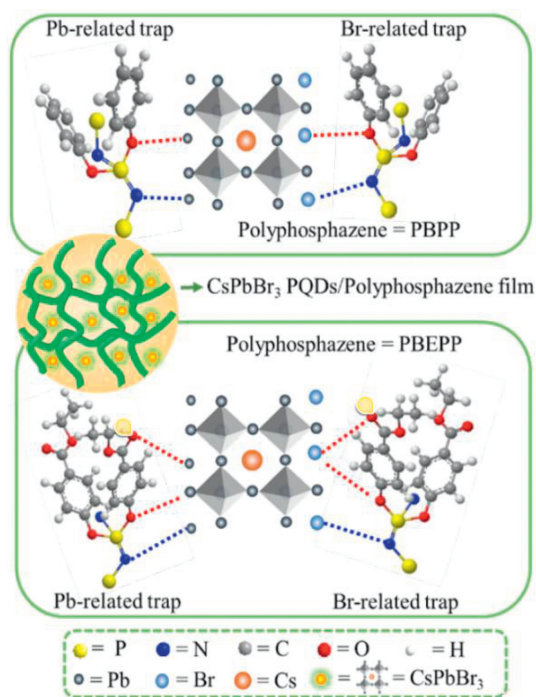


Fig. 6. Schematic illustration of the interactions between PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs, PBEP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs.

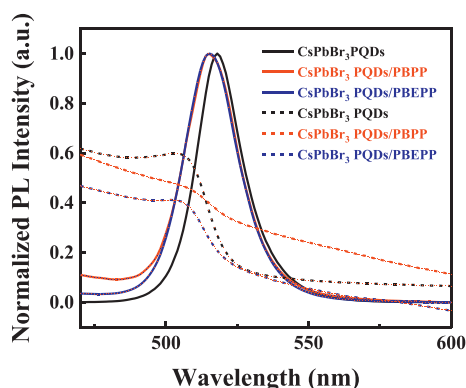


Fig. 7. PL and UV absorption spectra of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs, CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBEP thin film.

Fig. 7 shows the UV absorption and photoluminescence (PL) spectra of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs, CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBPP, and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBEP. The intrinsic emission peak of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs appears at 518 nm as green fluorescence. However, upon the location of PBPP and PBEP matrix, the emission peak has shifted to 515 nm. The UV absorption peaks of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs, CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBPP, and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBEP are observed at 508, 506 and 506 nm, respectively. Therefore, the introduction of polyphosphazenes results in a slight blue shift in both emission and absorption wavelengths of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs. The decrease in emission wavelength indicates a smaller size of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs, which further explains that the steric effect related to substituents of polyphosphazenes and the interaction between Br/Pb and N/O together to inhibit the aggregation of the QDs.

To further investigate the impact of the interaction between CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> and polyphosphazenes with different side-group structures on the excited state properties, the photoluminescence (PL) decay lifetime of different samples was measured using a time-resolved PL apparatus, and the charge recombination dynamics of

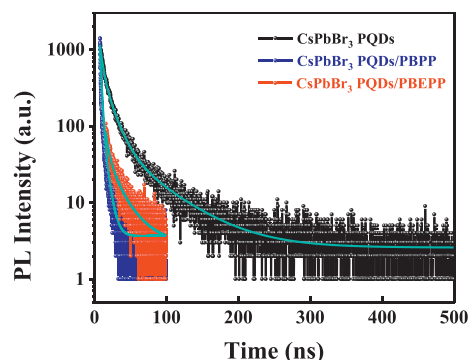


Fig. 8. PL lifetime curves of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>, CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBEP.

Table 1

PL lifetime and fitted values of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs, CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBEP.

Sample	CsPbBr <sub>3</sub>	CsPbBr <sub>3</sub> /PBPP	CsPbBr <sub>3</sub> /PBEP
A1	0.28	0.35	0.21
A2	0.50	0.46	0.43
A3	0.22	0.19	0.37
$\tau_1$	2.81	0.47	0.63
$\tau_2$	12.24	2.66	3.46
$\tau_3$	55.93	12.58	16.95
$\tau_{avg}$	39.85	8.87	14.14

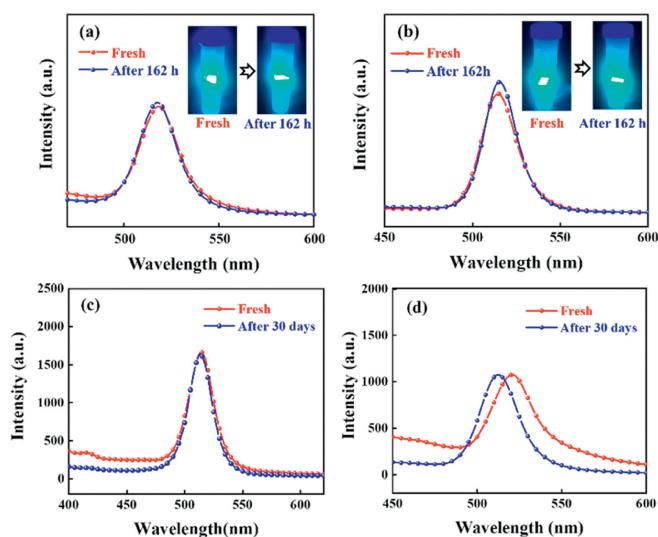
CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>, CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBEP were studied (Fig. 8). Three exponential decay functions were used to fit all the curves, and the average PL lifetime of the samples was calculated using Eqs. 1 and 2. The detailed values of  $\tau_1$ ,  $\tau_2$  and  $\tau_3$  are summarized in Table 1. The fastest lifetime ( $\tau_1$ ) corresponds to the inherent radiative constant from the singlet excited state. In contrast, the other lifetimes ( $\tau_2$  and  $\tau_3$ ) are related to long-lived luminescence due to the multiple trapping and detrapping of carriers at the shallow trap states.

$$I(t) = I_0 + A_1 \exp\left(-\frac{t}{\tau_1}\right) + A_2 \exp\left(-\frac{t}{\tau_2}\right) + A_3 \exp\left(-\frac{t}{\tau_3}\right) \quad (1)$$

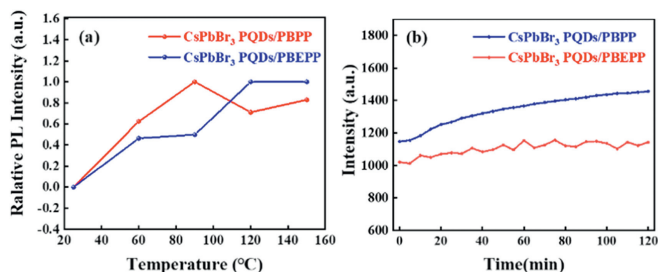
$$\tau_{avg} = \frac{A_1 \tau_1^2 + A_2 \tau_2^2 + A_3 \tau_3^2}{A_1 \tau_1 + A_2 \tau_2 + A_3 \tau_3} \quad (2)$$

We observed that the average PL lifetimes ( $\tau_{avg}$ ) of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBEP have decreased in comparison with the pristine CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs: The  $\tau_{avg}$  values of 8.87 ns and 14.14 ns are obtained in CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBEP, both of which are shorter than the  $\tau_{avg}$  of 39.85 ns in the pristine CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs. This result indicates that CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBEP composite films have a lower density of surface trap states and faster charge extraction rates compared to pristine CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs [36]. This suggests that polyphosphazenes can effectively passivate surface defects of the perovskite and reduce energy loss. The charge transfer rate of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBPP is higher than CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBEP, which is because PBEP can provide two coordination sites (phenoxy and ester). Therefore, the fluorescence lifetime of PBPP is shorter. These are consistent with the fact that the short-chain aromatic or conjugated ligands capped on QDs can facilitate exciton delocalization. Fig. 8 illustrates the interfacial structures of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs/PBEP, where PBPP or PBEP can suppress radiative recombination due to facilitation of migration and separation of photogenerated carriers.

The polyphosphazene matrix forms a dense protection layer on the surface of QDs, effectively inhibiting the interaction with surrounding environment and preventing structural damage. To evaluate the water resistance of the polyphosphazene-CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> QDs



**Fig. 9.** Long-term PL stability tests of (a) CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP and (b) CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP films after soaking in water for 0–162 h. (c) CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP and (d) CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP films PL spectra after keeping in the air for 0–30 days and their corresponding photographs under UV (365 nm) light.



**Fig. 10.** Long-term stability tests of the CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP thin film. (a) PL intensity under UV (365 nm) light at 25, 60, 90, 120 and 150 °C for 10 min. (b) PL intensity after keeping under 365 nm UV light for 2 h.

composite, the two samples have been dispersed in pure water directly for water stability testing. Periodic collection of the PL emissions of the two samples was conducted, and the spectra are shown in Figs. 9a and b. After immersing samples in water for 162 h, the fluorescence intensity of both samples has increased. In particular, CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP exhibited a more pronounced increase of 10%. This can be attributed to the hydrophilic ester groups of PBEPP, which act as sacrificial layers, preventing water penetration into the active layer. Moreover, trace amounts of water can passivate the surface traps of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs and enhance the fluorescence intensity. As displayed in Figs. 9c and d, it can be observed that the fluorescence intensity of both composite films has no decrease after 30 days in air. However, there is a blue shift in the emission peak of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP, which could be attributed to the weaker hydrophobicity of PBEPP compared to PBPP. Oxygen and water in the air can result in the structural changes in CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs, and thus leading to a blue shift of the emission peak.

CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs is regarded as an important material of light-emitting device, the structures are easily destroyed under high temperature conditions, which was an impediment to its application. Additionally, at higher temperatures, thermal stress amplifies the effects of oxygen, light, humidity and other environmental factors on CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs. The different composite films were kept at 25, 60, 90, 120 and 150 °C for 10 min and cooled down to room temperature. Then thermal stability of the film was tested. As shown in PL testing results (Fig. 10a), it can be seen that as

the temperature increases, the fluorescence intensity of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP exceeded the original fluorescence intensity. The fluorescence intensity of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP increased by up to 98% at 120 °C, and the fluorescence intensity of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP increased by up to 98% at 150 °C. This indicates that polyphosphazenes, as a polymer matrix, can improve the thermal stability of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs. The fluorescence enhancements of PBEPP are more outstanding at higher temperature. Such enhancement is related to the high charge transfer ability of the aryloxy group in polyphosphazenes, which effectively receives excitation energy from CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> and transfers it to polyphosphazenes. The interaction between the C=O group in PBEPP with CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> enhances the energy transfer mechanism above 120 °C, resulting in stronger fluorescence intensity. The poor photostability of PQDs also limits their practical applications in the optoelectronics field. Long-term exposure to UV light, PQDs can cause halide ion migration, which further leading to ligand dissociation and crystal regeneration. Fig. 10b shows the fluorescence intensity of both CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP gradually increases by 46.5% and 7%, respectively, upon 365 nm UV light irradiation for 2 h [37,38]. This can be attributed to the UV resistance characteristics of polyphosphazenes, which effectively protects CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>. The photoinduction effect enhances the passivation of trap states in polyphosphazene, which could suppress non-radiative recombination and quenching phenomena [37,38]. Due to the coordination structure between PBPP-CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> and PBEPP-CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>, CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP exhibits a stronger photoinduction effect on CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> compared to CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP.

In conclusion, by employing linear polyphosphazenes with phenoxy or 4-ester-phenoxy as pendent groups, we have successfully encapsulated CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs in flexible polymer films, namely CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP and CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP. These composite films exhibit excellent dispersion of PQDs, optical transparency and stability in various extreme conditions. The different coordinating groups provided by polyphosphazenes side group lead to various effects on the optical performance and stability of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs. CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP demonstrates excellent air and light stabilities, while CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP shows superior water and thermal resistances. Both composite films all maintain stable fluorescence after a 30-day air storage, but the emission wavelength of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP shifts towards the blue. Under UV (365 nm) light, the fluorescence intensity of both films is improved. CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP display a greater increase than CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP in fluorescence intensity. And CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP also shows a 10% increase in fluorescence intensity after 96 h of water immersion, while CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBPP remains stable. Moreover, under high temperature conditions, the fluorescence intensity of obtained composite film is stronger than room temperature, CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> PQDs/PBEPP showing a 98% increase at 150 °C. Therefore, these composite films demonstrate promising capabilities in preventing humidity, UV radiation, oxygen and heat, and holding a strong potential for photo functional and optical applications.

#### Declaration of competing interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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## Supplementary materials

Supplementary material associated with this article can be found, in the online version, at doi:10.1016/j.ccllet.2024.109795.

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