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Absorption and site-selective laser spectroscopy of $\text{BaF}_2\text{:Nd}^{3+}$ single crystals

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Abstract content
 (Max 300 words)

Spectroscopic studies of Nd^{3+} ions in BaF_2 single crystals have been carried out in order to determine the optical properties of the material. A single Nd^{3+} - F^{3-} center is dominant for dopant concentrations of up to 0.1%; this homogeneity makes the material attractive as a potential laser medium. Crystal-field energy levels for several Nd^{3+} multiplets deduced from optical absorption, direct fluorescence and upconversion fluorescence spectra obtained at 10 K will be presented and energy exchange mechanisms proposed.

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