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## Energy transfer from $\text{Ce}^{3+}$ to $\text{Tb}^{3+}$ in low quartz and amorphous $\text{SiO}_2$ hosts

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### Abstract content <br> &nbsp; (Max 300 words)

Low quartz and amorphous  $\text{Ce}^{3+}$ - $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  co-activated  $\text{SiO}_2$  phosphors were synthesized by a solution combustion using urea as a fuel. The objective of this study was to compare the efficiency of energy transfer from  $\text{Ce}^{3+}$  to  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  in low quartz and amorphous  $\text{SiO}_2$  hosts. The phosphors were annealed in a reducing atmosphere of 4%  $\text{H}_2$ /96% Ar mixture at an elevated temperature of 1000 deg:C for 2 hours. This was meant to reduce incidental presence of  $\text{Ce}^{4+}$  (non-luminescent) to a fully homogeneous distribution of  $\text{Ce}^{3+}$  ions in silica matrix. As confirmed by X-ray diffraction (XRD) data,  $\text{SiO}_2$  was produced as either low quartz or amorphous phase. The photoluminescence (PL) data showed that green emission of  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  at 543 nm was sensitized by  $\text{Ce}^{3+}$ , i.e. there was energy transfer from  $\text{Ce}^{3+}$  to  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  resulting in an improvement of the green line emission due to the  $5D_4 \rightarrow 7F_5$  transitions of  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  ions. Possible mechanism of UV down-converted green emission due to energy transfer from  $\text{Ce}^{3+}$  to  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  is discussed.

### Apply to be<br> consider for a student <br> &nbsp; award (Yes / No)?

Yes

### Level for award<br>&nbsp;(Hons, MSc, <br> &nbsp; PhD)?

PhD

### Main supervisor (name and email)<br>and his / her institution

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### Would you like to <br> submit a short paper <br> for the Conference <br> Proceedings (Yes / No)?

Yes

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