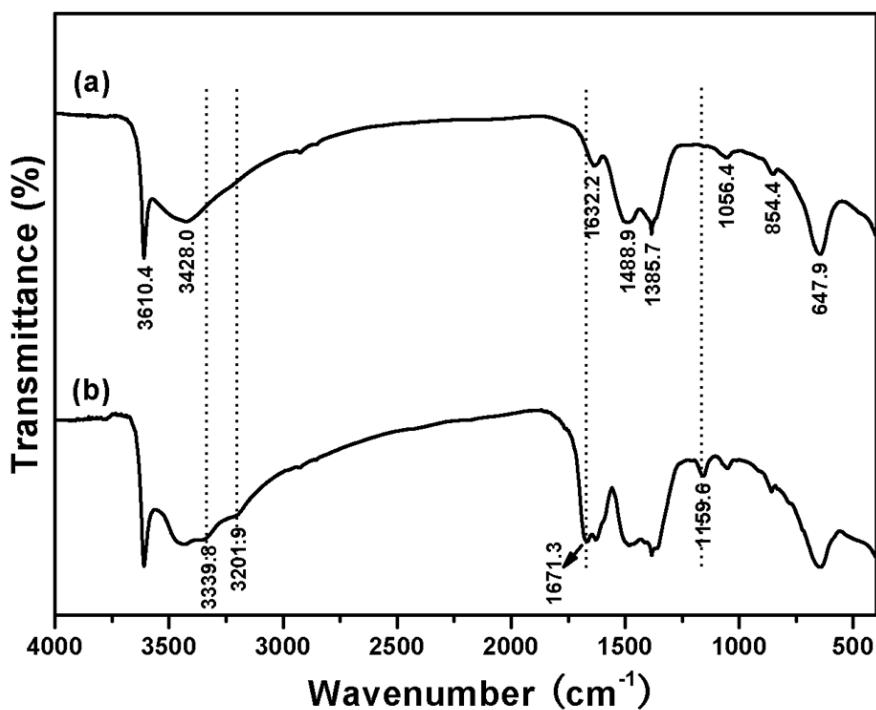


## **Electronic supplementary information**

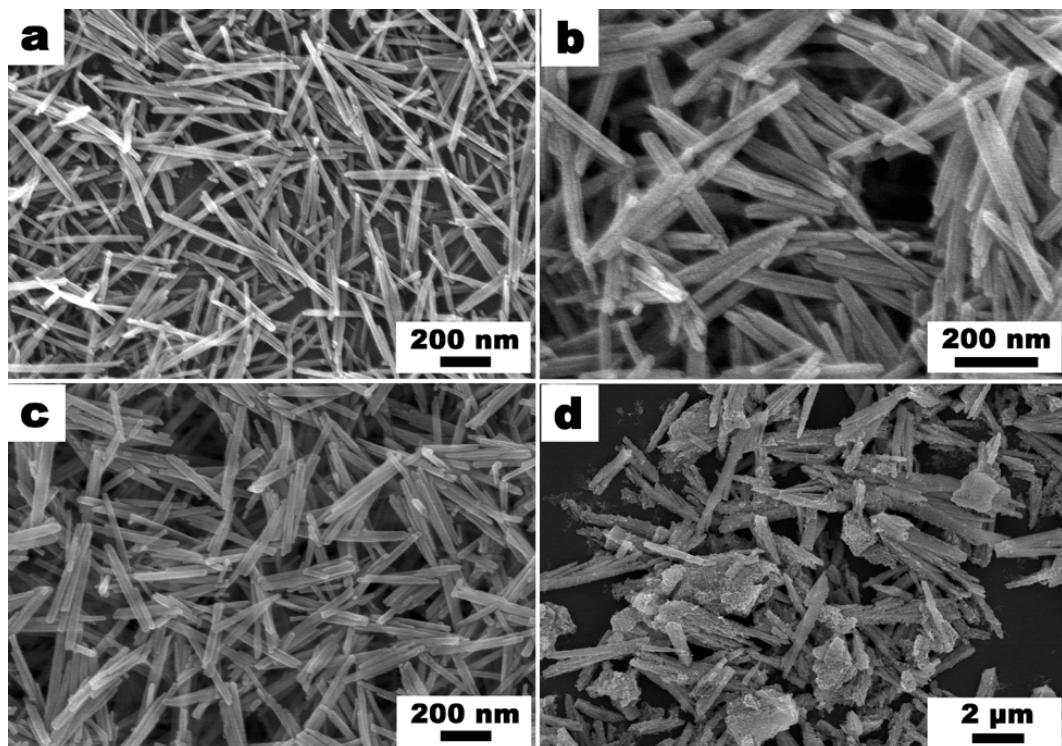
### **Facile Synthesis, Growth Mechanism and Luminescence Properties of Uniform La(OH)<sub>3</sub>: Ho<sup>3+</sup>- /Yb<sup>3+</sup> and La<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>: Ho<sup>3+</sup>- /Yb<sup>3+</sup> Nanorods**

**Guogang Li, Chunxia Li, Zhenhe Xu, Ziyong Cheng, and Jun Lin\***

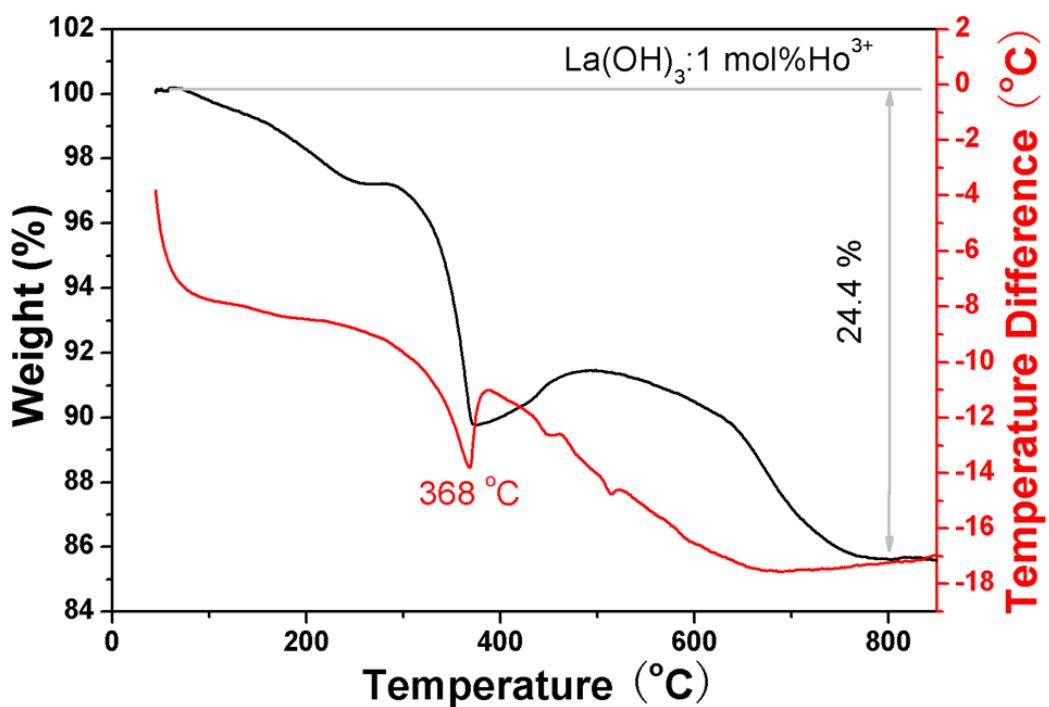
*State Key Laboratory of Rare Earth Resource Utilization, Changchun Institute of Applied Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Changchun 130022, Graduate University of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100049, P. R. China.*



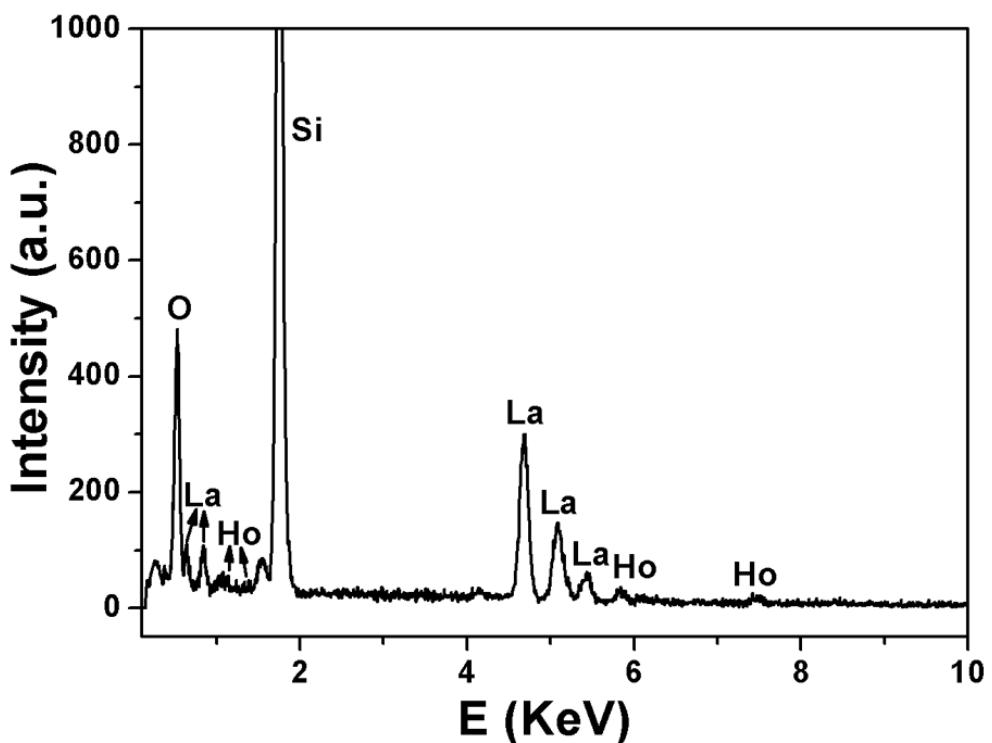
**Figure S1.** FT-IR spectra of the as-prepared  $\text{La(OH)}_3$  (a) **P1** and (b) **P5** samples.



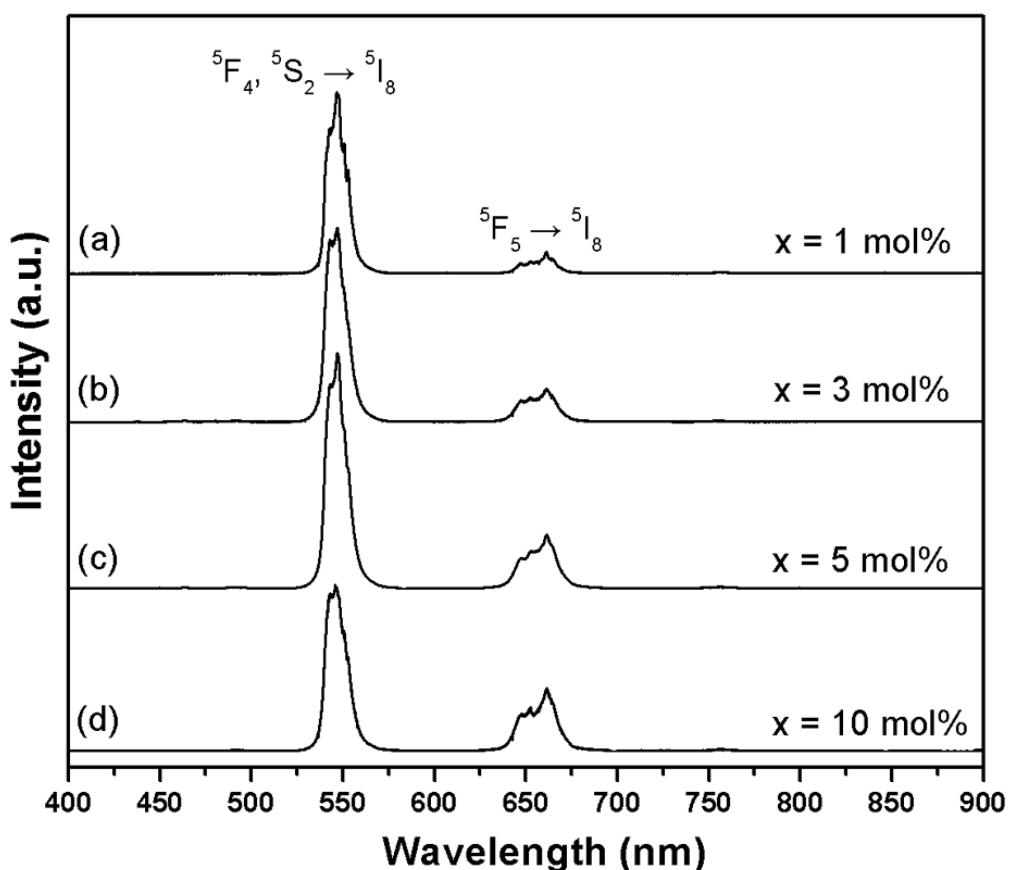
**Figure S2.** SEM images of  $\text{La}(\text{OH})_3$  samples prepared at homogeneous precipitation condition at 90 °C without urea (a, b) and with urea (c, d), respectively. The pH value of the initial solution are adjusted to 12 by  $\text{NH}_3\text{-H}_2\text{O}$  (25 wt-%) (a, c) and  $\text{NaOH}$  (2 M). (b, d). The samples shown in a-d are noted as **P1**, **P6**, **P3**, and **P7**, respectively.



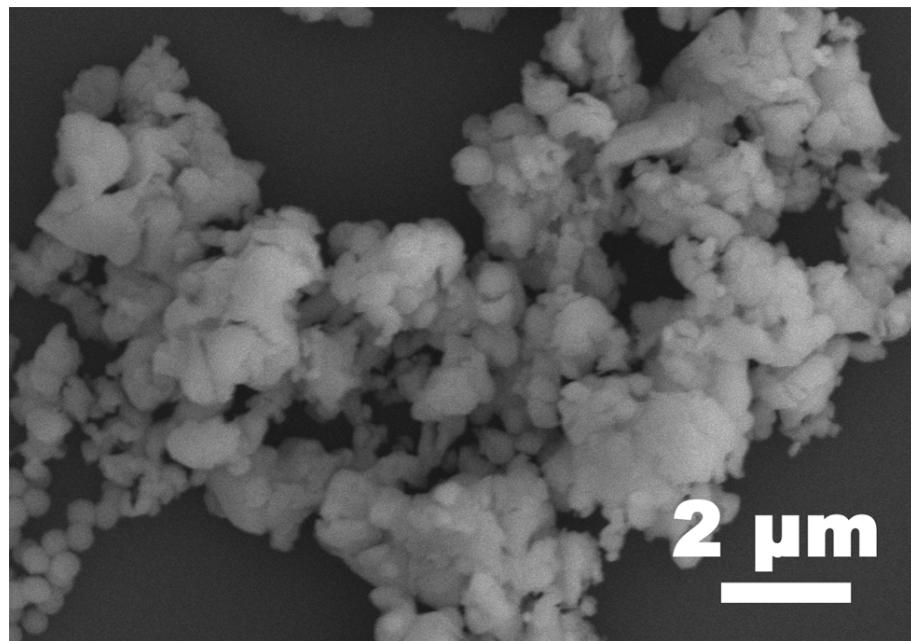
**Figure S3.** TG-DTA curves of  $\text{La}(\text{OH})_3:1 \text{ mol\% Ho}^{3+}$  sample prepared by homogeneous precipitation reaction at 90 °C.



**Figure S4.** The EDX spectrum of  $\text{La}_2\text{O}_3$ :1 mol%  $\text{Ho}^{3+}$  sample calcined at 800 °C.



**Figure S5.** Upconversion emission spectra of  $\text{La}_2\text{O}_3$  samples co-doped with  $\text{Ho}^{3+}/\text{Yb}^{3+}$  (a) 1 mol%  $\text{Ho}^{3+}/1$  mol%  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$ , (b) 1 mol%  $\text{Ho}^{3+}/3$  mol%  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$ , (c) 1 mol%  $\text{Ho}^{3+}/5$  mol%  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$ , (d) 1 mol%  $\text{Ho}^{3+}/10$  mol%  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$ .



**Figure S6.** The SEM image of La<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:1 mol% Ho<sup>3+</sup> bulk sample prepared by solid state reaction and annealed at 800 °C.