

## Supporting Information

### Broad-band sensitized visible up-conversion in $\text{Y}_2\text{Mg}_3\text{Ge}_3\text{O}_{12}$ : $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ , $\text{Er}^{3+}$ , $\text{Nb}^{5+}$ phosphor

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The up-conversion (UC) emission spectra of  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  doped  $\text{YNbO}_4$ ,  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  doped  $\text{YNbO}_4$  and  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  co-doped  $\text{YNbO}_4$  samples under 1064 nm excitation.

As mentioned in the main text,  $\text{YNbO}_4$  impurity exists in the prepared of  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Ni}^{5+}$  tri-doped  $\text{Y}_2\text{Mg}_3\text{Ge}_3\text{O}_{12}$  sample. However, the presence of a small amount of impurity ( $\text{YNbO}_4$ ) did not affect the UC process of the samples. As shown in Fig. S1, the  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  doped  $\text{YNbO}_4$ ,  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  doped  $\text{YNbO}_4$  and  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  co-doped  $\text{YNbO}_4$  samples prepared by us have not exhibit UC emission under 1064 nm excitation. This indicates that the broadband  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  sensitized up-conversion of  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  observed in the manuscript occurs only in the  $\text{Y}_2\text{Mg}_3\text{Ge}_3\text{O}_{12}$  matrix.

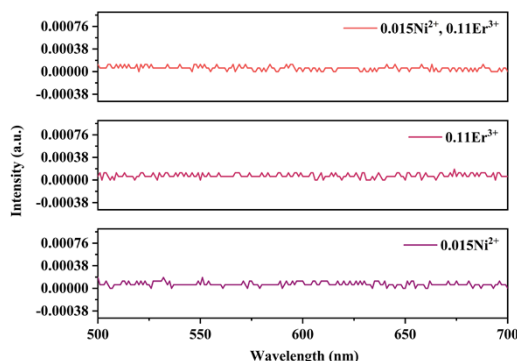


Figure S1. UC emission spectra of  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  doped  $\text{YNbO}_4$ ,  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  doped  $\text{YNbO}_4$  and  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  co-doped  $\text{YNbO}_4$  samples under 1064 nm excitation.