## High-contrast multi-surface imaging of latent fingerprints using color-tunable YOF:Tb<sup>3+</sup>, Eu<sup>3+</sup> ultrafine nanophosphors with high quantum yield

Sumedha Tamboli, Govind B. Nair\*, Robin E. Kroon, Lucas J. B. Erasmus, Hendrik C. Swart#

Department of Physics, University of the Free State, P. O. Box 339, Bloemfontein 9300, South Africa.

\*Corresponding author Email: govind1291@yahoo.com; Nair.GB@ufs.ac.za

<sup>#</sup>Corresponding author Email: <u>swarthc@ufs.ac.za</u>

## **Supporting Information**



Figure S1 FE-SEM images of: (a) YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, (b) YOF: 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup>, (c) YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.005 Eu<sup>3+</sup>, (d) YOF: 0.005 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup> nanophosphors.



Figure S2 Histograms showing the particle-size distribution of: (a) YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, (b) YOF: 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup>, (c) YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.005 Eu<sup>3+</sup>, (d) YOF: 0.005 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup> nanophosphors.



**Figure S3** EDS of: (a) YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, (b) YOF: 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup>, (c) YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.005 Eu<sup>3+</sup>, (d) YOF: 0.005 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup> nanophosphors.



**Figure S4** Elemental mapping of: (a) YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, (b) YOF: 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup>, (c) YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.005 Eu<sup>3+</sup>, (d) YOF: 0.005 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup> nanophosphors.



Figure S5 FTIR spectra for: (a) YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, (b) YOF: 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup>, (c) YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.005 Eu<sup>3+</sup>, (d) YOF: 0.005 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup> nanophosphors.



**Figure S6** Optical band gap obtained from the DRS for: (a) YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, (b) YOF: 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup>, (c) YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.005 Eu<sup>3+</sup>, (d) YOF: 0.005 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup> nanophosphors.



**Figure S7** High-resolution XPS spectra of different core levels of YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup> nanophosphors before and after sputtering.



**Figure S8** High-resolution XPS spectra of different core levels of YOF: 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup> nanophosphors before and after sputtering.



**Figure S9** High-resolution XPS spectra of different core levels of YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.005 Eu<sup>3+</sup> nanophosphors before and after sputtering.



**Figure S10** High-resolution XPS spectra of different core levels of YOF: 0.005 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup> nanophosphors before and after sputtering.



**Figure S11** High-resolution XPS curve fitting for the Y 3d signals obtained for: (a) YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, (b) YOF: 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup>, (c) YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.005 Eu<sup>3+</sup>, and (d) YOF: 0.005 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup> nanophosphors.



Figure S12 High-resolution XPS curve fitting for the F 1s signals obtained for: (a) YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, (b) YOF: 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup>, (c) YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.005 Eu<sup>3+</sup>, and (d) YOF: 0.005 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup> nanophosphors.



**Figure S13** High-resolution XPS curve fitting for the O 1s signals obtained for: (a) YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, (b) YOF: 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup>, (c) YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.005 Eu<sup>3+</sup>, and (d) YOF: 0.005 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup> nanophosphors.

Eu <sup>3+</sup>	X	У
0	0.2819	0.5395
0.001	0.2956	0.5349
0.002	0.3068	0.5281
0.005	0.3494	0.5104
0.01	0.4084	0.4866
0.02	0.4931	0.4438

**Table S1** CIE chromaticity coordinates of YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>,  $x Eu^{3+}$  ( $0 \le x \le 0.02$ )nanophosphors excited at 241 nm.

**Table S2** CIE chromaticity coordinates of YOF: y Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup> ( $0 \le y \le 0.02$ )nanophosphors excited at 241 nm.

Tb <sup>3+</sup>	X	У
0	0.6401	0.3465
0.001	0.5088	0.3482
0.002	0.4951	0.3552
0.005	0.4318	0.4215
0.01	0.4119	0.4855
0.02	0.4028	0.5286



**Figure S14** PLQY evaluation of: (a) YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, (b) YOF: 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup>, (c) YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.005 Eu<sup>3+</sup>, (d) YOF: 0.005 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.01 Eu<sup>3+</sup> nanophosphors.

**Table S3** Fitting parameters obtained for the PL decay curves of YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>,  $x \text{Eu}^{3+}$  ( $0 \le x \le 0.02$ ) nanophosphors excited at 241 nm and monitored at 543 nm.

Eu <sup>3+</sup>	Decay time τ (ms)
$\mathbf{x} = 0$	$2.05 \pm 0.003$
x = 0.001	$1.97 \pm 0.003$
x = 0.002	$1.92 \pm 0.003$
x = 0.005	$1.88 \pm 0.003$
x = 0.01	$1.77 \pm 0.003$
x = 0.02	$1.65 \pm 0.003$

Eu <sup>3+</sup>	Decay time τ (ms)
x = 0.001	$1.42 \pm 0.003$
x = 0.002	$1.50 \pm 0.003$
x = 0.005	$1.54 \pm 0.003$
x = 0.01	$1.59 \pm 0.003$
x = 0.02	$1.61 \pm 0.003$

**Table S4** Fitting parameters obtained for the PL decay curves of YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, x Eu<sup>3+</sup> ( $0 \le x \le 0.02$ ) nanophosphors excited at 241 nm and monitored at 610 nm.



Figure S15 Variation of energy transfer rate and efficiency of YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>,  $x \text{ Eu}^{3+}$  ( $0 \le x \le 0.02$ ) nanophosphors.



Figure S16 Bright-field image of LFP dusted with YOF: 0.01 Tb<sup>3+</sup>, 0.001 Eu<sup>3+</sup> nanophosphors captured under a fluorescent lamp.