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Fabrication of zinc oxide microstructures and their properties<sup>1</sup> LATHA KUMARI, WENZHI LI, Florida International University, CHARLES H. VANNOY, ROGER M. LEBLANC, University of Miami, DEZHI WANG, Boston College, DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS, FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVER-SITY, MIAMI, FL 33199, USA TEAM, DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY, UNI-VERSITY OF MIAMI, CORAL GABLES, FL 33124, USA COLLABORATION, DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS, BOSTON COLLEGE, CHESTNUT HILL, MA 02467, USA COLLABORATION — The bitter-melon-like and prism-like zinc oxide (ZnO) microstructures have been synthesized by hydrothermal route. Besides these microstructures, the ZnO material also consists of spherical nanoparticles with narrow size distribution. The as-synthesized ZnO material depicts hexagonal crystal structure. An optical band gap of 2.95 eV is determined from the UV-vis absorption band edge. The prism-like ZnO microstructure shows an ultraviolet near-band-edge emission at about 3.27 eV (380 nm) at room temperature which can be assigned to the radiative annihilation of excitons. The wide-band gap oxide materials like ZnO with short-wavelength PL emission can find application in light emitting devices.

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