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Dopant concentration dependent optical and X-Ray induced photoluminescence in  $Eu^{3+}$  doped  $La_2Zr_2O_7^1$  MADHAB POKHREL, Univ of Texas, Pan American, MIKHAIL BRIK, University of Tartu, YUANBING MAO, Univ of Texas, Pan American — Herein, we will be presenting the dopant (Eu) concentration dependent high density La<sub>2</sub>Zr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> nanoparticles for optical and Xray scintillation applications by use of X - ray diffraction, Raman, FTIR, scanning electron microscope (SEM), transmission electron microscopy (TEM), optically and X-ray excited photoluminescence (PL). Several theoretical methods have been used in order to investigate the structural, electronic, optical, elastic, dynamic properties of Eu doped  $La_2Zr_2O_7$ . It is observed that Eu:  $La_2Zr_2O_7$  shows an intense red luminescence under 258, 322, 394 and 465 nm excitation. The optical intensity of Eu:  $La_2Zr_2O_7$  depends on the dopant concentration of  $Eu^{3+}$ . Following high energy excitation with X-rays, Eu: La<sub>2</sub>Zr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> shows an atypical Eu PL response (scintillation) with a red emission. The intense color emission of Eu obtained under 258 nm excitation, the X-ray induced luminescence property along with reportedly high density of La<sub>2</sub>Zr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>, makes these nanomaterials attractive for optical and X-ray applications.

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