Abstract Submitted for the TSF10 Meeting of The American Physical Society

## Synthesis,

Morphology, and Optical Characterization of Nanocrystalline  $\mathbf{Er}^{3+}:\mathbf{Y}_2\mathbf{O}_3^1$ SREERENJINI CHANDRA, FRANCIS LEONARD DEEPAK, JOHN B. GRU-BER, DHIRAJ K. SARDAR, UTSA — We describe a methodology to synthesize trivalent erbium doped yttrium oxide ( $\mathbf{Er}^{3+}:\mathbf{Y}_2\mathbf{O}_3$ ) nanoparticles having an average diameter of about 25 nm. The room-temperature absorption spectrum obtained between 400 and 900 nm wavelength range and the fluorescence spectra of the  $\mathbf{Er}^{3+}$  $(4f^{11}) \ ^2H(2)_{11/2} + ^4S_{3/2} \rightarrow \ ^4I_{15/2}$  and  $^4F_{9/2} \rightarrow \ ^4I_{15/2}$  transitions were analyzed in detail. The lifetimes for the  $^2H(2)_{11/2} + ^4S_{3/2}$  and  $^4F_{9/2}$  metastable states have been measured and investigated the effect of  $\mathbf{Er}^{3+}$  concentrations and particle size on the emission intensity and decay times. The detailed structural and optical analyses suggest that the nanoparticles of  $\mathbf{Er}^{3+}:\mathbf{Y}_2\mathbf{O}_3$  have potential applications in diverse fields of photonics including laser systems and optical communication devices.

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