

# Synthesis and Characterisation of $\text{Na}_2\text{Ba}_{1-x}\text{Eu}_x\text{Mg}(\text{PO}_4)_2$

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**Abstract:** The  $\text{Na}_2\text{Ba}_{1-x}\text{Eu}_x\text{Mg}(\text{PO}_4)_2$  ( $x=0, 1\%, 3\%$  and  $5\%$ ) compound was prepared by high temperature solid state reaction method. The X-ray crystallographic studies were carried out using diffraction at  $30^\circ\text{C}$  in two theta range of  $10-80^\circ$ . The crystal structure of the sample is rhombohedral and the space group is  $P-3m1$ . The pure  $\text{Na}_2\text{BaMg}(\text{PO}_4)_2$  doped with Europium form samples with good density and well defined morphology. Increase in doping leads to decreasing the grain size. FT-IR spectra of the samples are studied in the wavelength region of  $250-4000\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Impedance and dielectric measurements are undertaken. Photoluminescence europium doped samples are studied.

**Keywords:** Impedance, dielectric, FTIR, Photoluminescence

## 1. Introduction

The Phosphate compounds are multifunctional materials [1]. These materials have ability to convert voltage into light and their functionality as light emitting diodes are exploited to an advantage. They have high quantum efficiency, long life time, high energy efficiency, high stability and are eco-friendly [2]. Rare earth doped phosphate compounds have also become important due to their possible application for sensors and batteries [3]. Phosphate compounds are used as phosphors in fluorescent lamps for their low cost, easy synthesis methods and high chemical stability [4, 5].

In  $\text{Na}_2\text{BaMg}(\text{PO}_4)_2$  compounds doped with  $\text{Ce}^{+3}$ ,  $\text{Mn}^{+2}$  doping ions can change the color tone of emitted radiation gradually with the control of Mn content and finally reach red region [4].  $\text{Na}_2\text{BaMg}(\text{PO}_4)_2$ : Sr material was studied for the photoluminescence with the europium doping showed that the trivalent europium can replace for both the strontium and magnesium. The effect of europium on the blue emission is reported. [5, 6]. Among doped  $\text{Na}_2\text{BaMg}(\text{PO}_4)_2$  based compounds,  $\text{Mn}^{+2}$  doped compound showed a weak red emission by low wave length excitation.  $\text{Ce}^{3+}$  doped sample showed strong near-UV radiation with UV light.  $\text{Eu}^{2+}$  or  $\text{Ce}^{3+}$  co-doping has resulted in resonance effects from  $\text{Eu}^{2+}$  or  $\text{Ce}^{3+}$  to  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  [7], Luminescence properties are investigated with blue light excitation, which can be used in LED Chips [8],  $\text{Na}_2\text{BaMg}(\text{PO}_4)_2$ :  $\text{Tb}^{+3}$ ,  $\text{Eu}^{+2}$  samples show blue and green emissions [8-10].

$\text{Eu}^{+3}$  ion has a transitions from  $^5\text{D}_0$  level and next lower  $^7\text{F}_6$  level [12, 13] and will give red line. In this present work  $\text{Eu}^{+3}$  ions are doped into  $\text{Na}_2\text{BaMg}(\text{PO}_4)_2$ . These sodium phosphate materials are synthesized by solid state method. Compound synthesized has composition  $\text{Na}_2\text{Ba}_{1-x}\text{Eu}_x(\text{PO}_4)_2$  with  $X=0$  (NMBMP),  $1\%$  (NMBMP1),  $3\%$  (NMBMP3),  $5\%$  (NMBMP5). The samples are characterized by X-ray diffraction (XRD), Scanning electron microscopy (SEM), Energy dispersion spectroscopy (EDS). The Fourier Transform Infrared spectroscopy (FTIR), dielectric spectroscopy and luminescence emission studies are undertaken.

## 2. Experimental

The  $\text{Na}_2\text{Ba}_{1-x}\text{Eu}_x\text{Mg}(\text{PO}_4)_2$  (where  $x=0, 1\%, 3\%$  and  $5\%$ -abbreviated as NBMP, NBMP1, NBMP3 and NBMP5 respectively) were prepared using high temperature solid state method. The raw materials  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ ,  $\text{Ba}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{MgO}$ ,  $\text{NH}_4\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4$ , and  $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$  were weighed in Stoichiometric ratio. The powders were mixed uniformly and ground thoroughly using mortar and pestle and ethanol solvent was used during grinding for ensuring the homogeneous mixing of powders. The mixtures were taken in ceramic crucibles and calcined at temperature  $800^\circ\text{C}$  for 3 hours. The samples were heated at  $5^\circ\text{C}/\text{Min}$  temperature rate. Calcined powder was compacted (applied pressure of  $4.9\text{MPa}$ ) into circular disks of  $10\text{mm}$  diameter and  $2\text{mm}$  thickness, with polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) binder. The circular disk were sintered for 3 hours at  $850^\circ\text{C}$  depending on samples.

XRD studies of the samples were carried out by with Rigaku-Miniflex-600 instrument with  $\text{CuK}\alpha$  radiation with speed of  $2^\circ/\text{min}$  from  $10^\circ$  to  $80^\circ$ . The densities of the sintered samples were measured using first principles (Archimedes). The weight in air and weight in Xylene (density of xylene =  $0.87\text{ gr}/\text{cm}^3$ ) are used. FTIR Spectra of the samples were recorded at room temperature using a "BRUKER OPTICS-Model TENSOR-27" in spectral range of  $7500-370\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The morphological studies of the samples were studied using "Carl Zeiss EVO 18 Scanning Electronic Microscope" (SEM). The EDS spectra were recorded with "Oxford EDAX system". The impedance and dielectric studies are undertaken on circular pellets of the samples using AUTOLAB PG STAT 30 low frequency impedance analyzer. In  $100\text{ Hz} - 1\text{ MHz}$  and  $30$  to  $500^\circ\text{C}$  range. The circular disks are painted with silver paste to serve as electrodes. The corrected excitation and emission spectra of samples scanned with Shimadzu - RF 6000 Spectro fluorimeter.

## 3. Results and Discussion

The XRD of  $\text{Na}_2\text{Ba}_{1-x}\text{Eu}_x\text{Mg}(\text{PO}_4)_2$  ( $x=0, 1\%, 3\%$ , and  $5\%$ ) are shown in Figure 1 (a). These results are compared with ICSD card number # 42 4073 and matched well. Structure of samples is rhombohedral, with space group:

p-3m1, Lattice parameter of the samples calculated by using POWD software and observed  $a=5.3040\text{\AA}$ ,  $c=6.9860\text{\AA}$  for NBMP samples [9]. Increasing the concentration of  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  resulted in maximum intensity peak shift to higher  $2\theta$  values as shown in Fig.1 (b). This is

because the ionic radius of  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$   $0.97\text{\AA}$  than that of  $\text{Ba}^{2+}$  is  $1.38\text{\AA}$  and smaller  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  should lead to a decrease in the unit cell volume indicating that  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  ions were successfully doped in the Ba site in  $\text{Na}_2\text{BaMg}(\text{PO}_4)_2$  lattice structure [14-15].

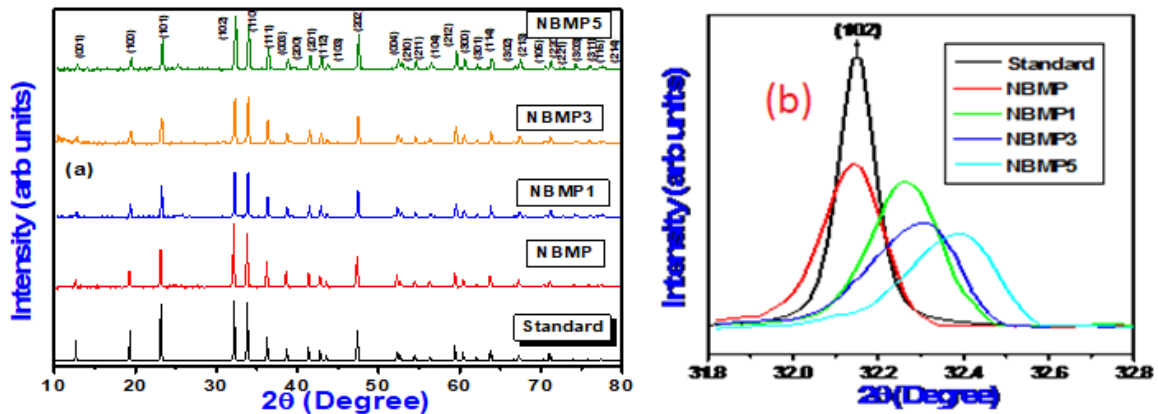


Figure 1 (a): XRD of the NBMP, NBMP1, NBMP3 and NBMP5, (b) shifting of peaks to right side

Table 1 also Shows Density of  $\text{Na}_2\text{Ba}_{1-x}\text{Eu}_x\text{Mg}(\text{PO}_4)_2$  ( $X=0, 1\%, 3\%, 5\%$ ) samples. From the table it can be concluded that the all the samples have high relative density of more than 90%. This means less porosity. This is also confirmed from SEM images. Density of NBMP is less than NBMP1 due the increasing the doping

concentration of Eu density also increasing except NBMP3. Figure 2 shows the microstructure of the samples recorded at magnification 25kX at 10kV. All grains are in spherical shape. The doping concentration of Eu increases the grain size is decreasing. These results are summarized in Table 2.

Table 1: Structural parameters of NBMP, NBMP1, NBMP3 and NBMP5 samples

Samples Nemonic and x value	a Å	b Å	c Å	c/a Å	Volume Å <sup>3</sup>	Experimental Density	Theoretical Density	Relative Density (%)
NBMP	5.304	5.304	6.986	1.317	170.203	4.136	3.878	92
NBMP1	5.299	5.299	6.984	1.317	169.911	4.233	3.874	95
NBMP3	5.296	5.296	6.984	1.318	169.696	4.139	3.858	93
NBMP5	5.285	5.285	6.969	1.318	168.582	4.231	3.862	95

Table 2: Grain size of NBMP, NBMP1, NBMP3 and NBMP5 samples

Samples	Grain size (µm)	Crystallite size (nm)
NBMP	2.47	81.66
NBMP1	3.48	44.07
NBMP3	0.95	37.03
NBMP5	0.82	37.58

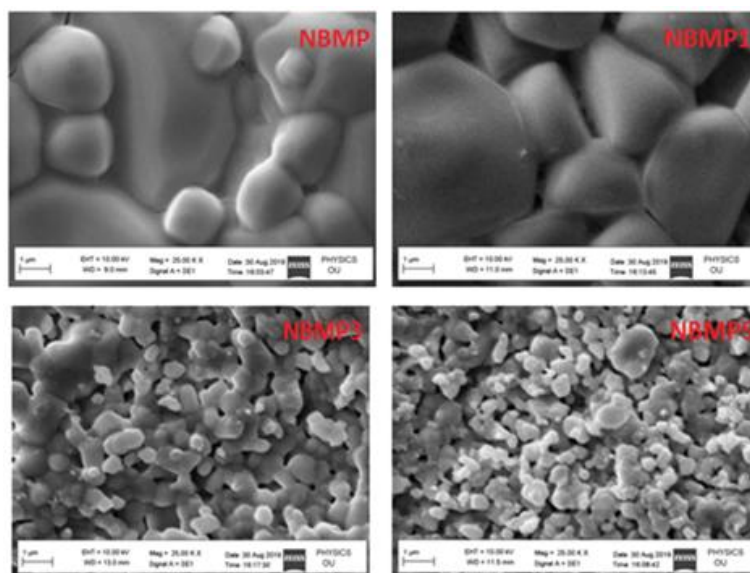


Figure 2: Show SEM images of NBMP, NBMP1, NBMP3 and NBMP5 samples

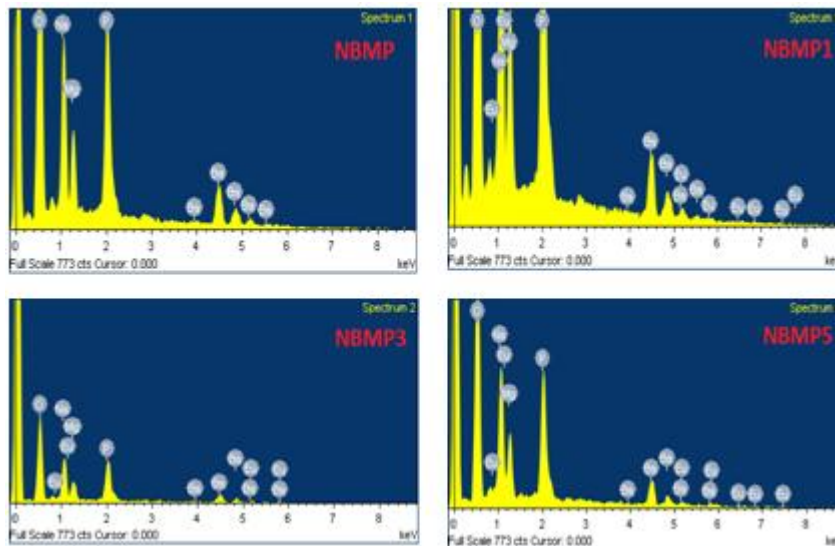


Figure 3: Shows energy dispersive spectra (EDS) of NBMP, NBMP1, NBMP3 and NBMP5 samples

Table 3: EDS data of the NBMP, NBMP1, NBMP3, and NBMP5

			Elements					
			Na	Ba	Eu	Mg	P	O
NBMP	Theoretical	Atomic%	11.57	34.54	-	6.11	15.58	32.19
		Weight%	14.29	7.14	-	7.14	14.29	57.14
	Experimental	Atomic%	10.48	37.48	-	5.11	15.40	31.54
		Weight%	13.38	8.01	-	6.16	14.59	57.86
NBMP1	Theoretical	Atomic%	11.60	33.60	0.77	6.13	15.62	32.28
		Weight%	14.28	6.92	0.14	7.14	14.28	57.14
	Experimental	Atomic%	11.68	30.51	1.62	5.58	15.64	34.98
		Weight%	13.79	6.07	0.29	6.27	13.79	59.71
NBMP3	Theoretical	Atomic%	11.66	31.69	2.31	6.16	15.71	32.46
		Weight%	14.28	6.50	0.43	7.14	14.28	57.14
	Experimental	Atomic%	12.09	33.72	0.82	5.28	15.52	32.56
		Weight%	14.90	6.95	0.15	6.15	14.19	57.65
NBMP5	Theoretical	Atomic%	11.73	29.77	3.88	6.19	15.80	32.64
		Weight%	14.28	6.07	0.72	7.14	14.28	57.14
	Experimental	Atomic%	10.43	32.84	6.20	5.51	13.93	31.09
		Weight%	13.53	7.13	1.22	6.75	13.41	57.96

The EDS spectra of NBMP, NBMP1, NBMP3, and NBMP5 samples shows the presence of Na, Ba, Eu, Mg, P, and O in the desired proportion in the sample. Table 3 shows that the theoretical and experimental atomic and weight percentages in of all elements present in NBMP, NBMP1, NBMP3 and NBMP5. From EDS spectra and table 3 it is concluded that in all the samples the elements are present in desired proportion. Absence of additional peaks shows that impurities are absent in the sample.

Transmission versus wave number of FT-IR of NBMP, NBMP1, NBMP3 and NBMP5 in the wave number region of 250-4000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  is shown in the figure 4. The peaks at 327, 582, 738, 1035 and 1084  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  are due to of stretching of P-O-P bonds (symmetric and asymmetric), while P-O-P bending vibrations are observed in the range of 250-600  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The absorption in 3000-3700  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  is due to stretching vibration of OH, which belongs to absorbed water on the surface of sample from air [4, 16]. In NBMP5 samples the characteristic peaks of  $\text{PO}_3^{4-}$  ion are seen in the range at 940-1120  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and at 560-650  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  [17].

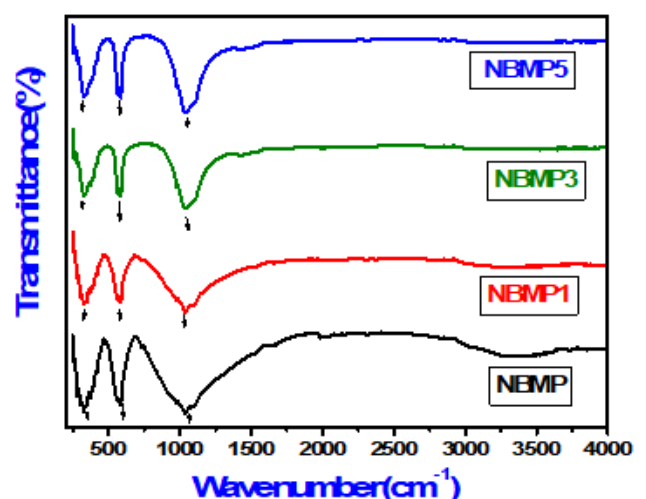


Figure 4: FTIR spectrum of NBMP, NBMP1, NBMP3 and NBMP5 samples

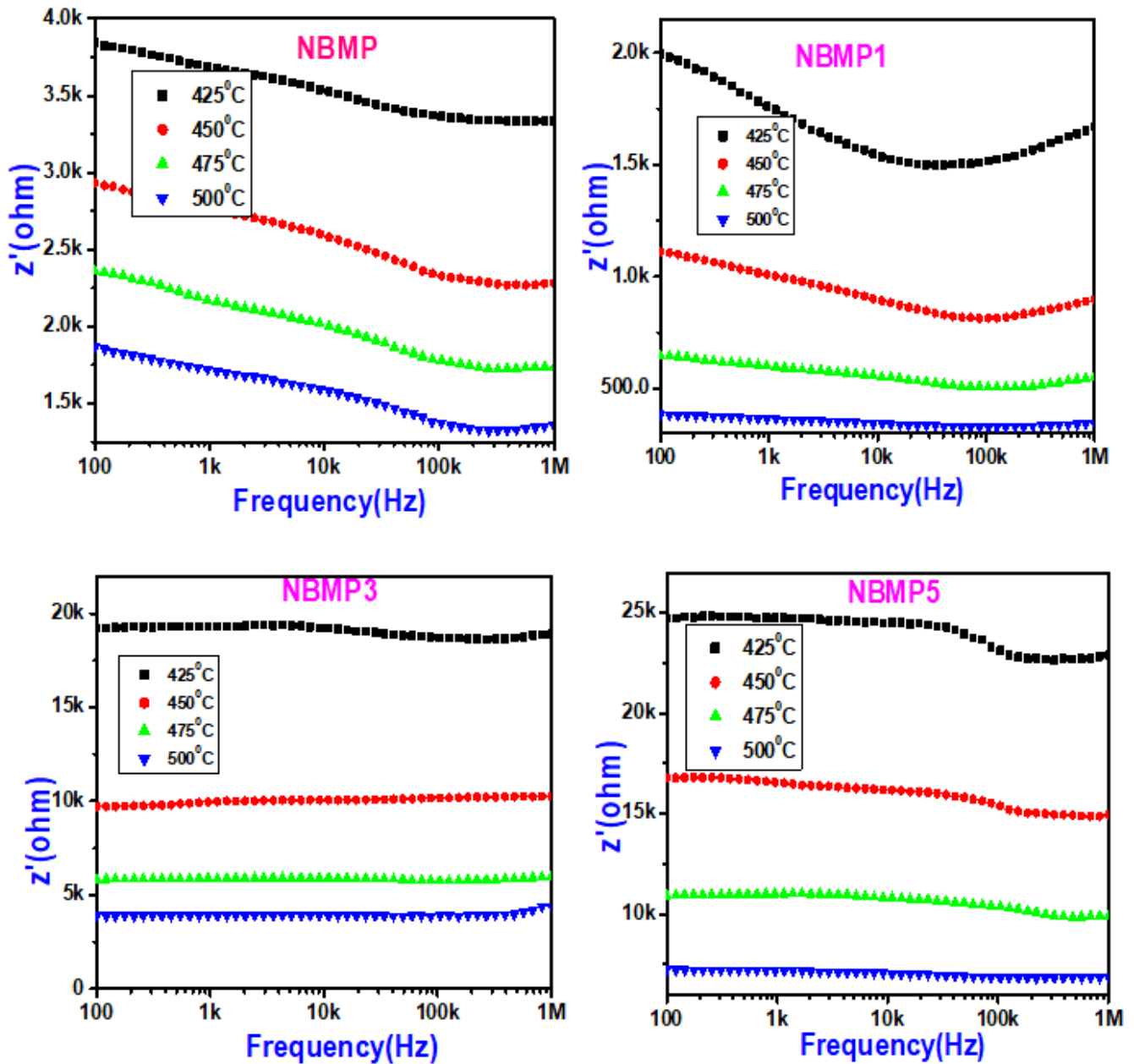


Figure 5:  $Z'$  versus frequency of the NBMP, NBMP1, NBMP3 and NBMP5 samples

Figure 5 represent the variation of real part of impedance  $Z'$  with frequency for  $\text{Na}_2\text{Ba}_{1-x}\text{Eu}_x\text{Mg}(\text{P}_2\text{O}_8)$  samples with different compositions. For these samples, the  $Z'$  is decreases monotonically with increasing temperature, these graphs shows an almost independent of frequency due to their insulating nature at higher temperature [18]. It

shows low resistance values in these higher temperature region and the conductivity of the NBMP1 sample is lower than the other samples and NBMP5 showed high resistance values as compared with the other sample due to increasing the  $\text{Eu}^{+3}$  ion doping concentration [19].

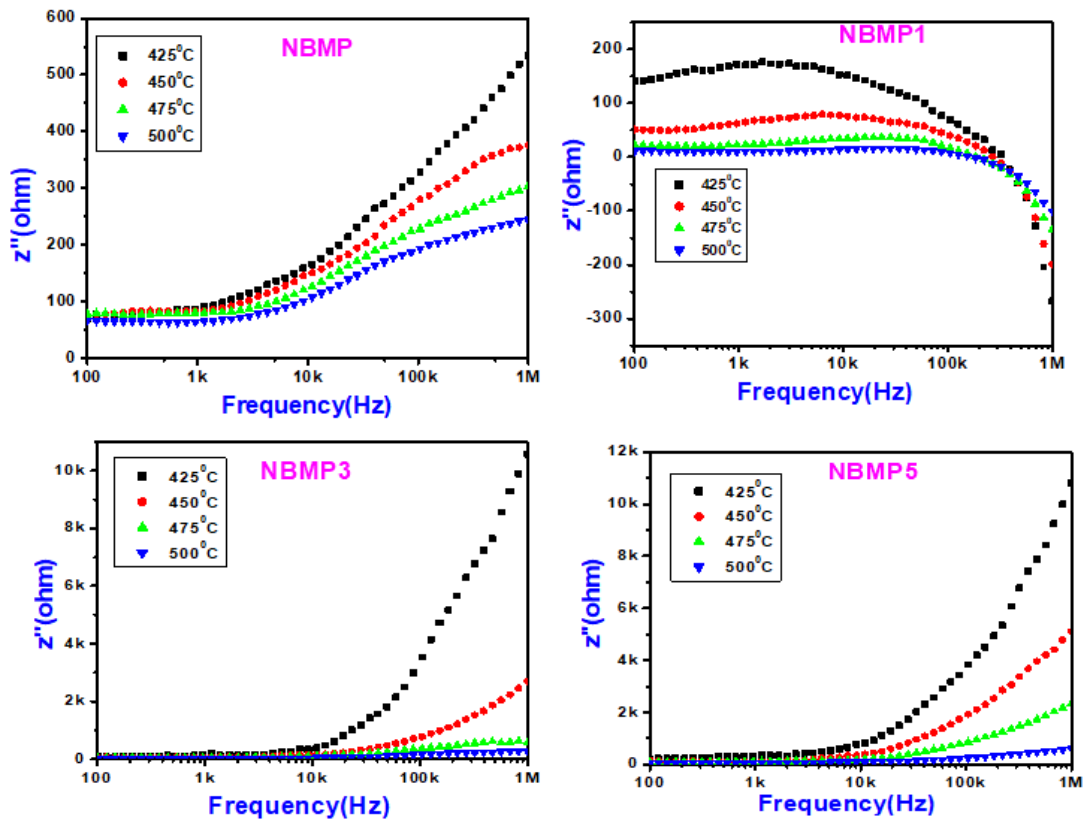


Figure 6:  $Z''$  versus frequency plots of the NBMP, NBMP1, NBMP3 and NBMP5 samples

Figure 6 shows  $Z''$  versus frequency at temperatures indicated for  $\text{Na}_2\text{Ba}_{1-x}\text{Eu}_x\text{Mg}(\text{P}_2\text{O}_8)$  compounds. At lower frequencies (Below 10kHz) all the temperature curves are very close to each other (almost merged) and at higher frequencies (above 10kHz) the temperature curves get

separated and exhibit tendency of going to a peak. By increasing the temperature imaginary part of impedance ( $Z''$ ) is increasing for all samples. NBMP1 samples showed slightly different behavior [20].

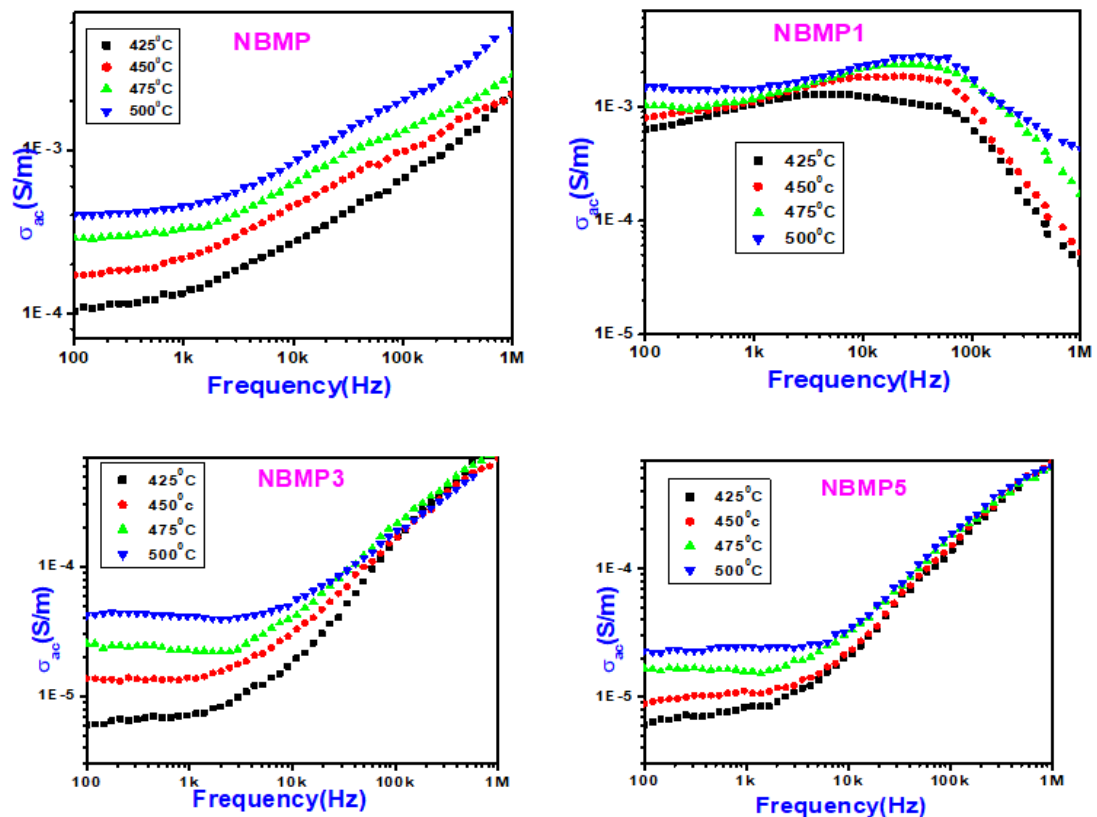


Figure 7: Conductivity variation with frequency of the NBMP, NBMP1, NBMP3 and NBMP5 samples

Conductivity variation of the samples at various temperatures is in figure 7. The AC Conductivity of the system depends on the reactive nature of the sample and the curves show dispersion found for an electrically conducting system. The conductivity curves of all temperatures merge above 100 KHz. At a given temperature, the conductivity decreases with decreasing frequency and its extrapolation gives  $\sigma_{dc}$  the conductivity due to the long range translational motion of the charge

carriers. The frequency dependent conductivity indicates the presence of space charge polarization in the samples. The activation energies for conductivity are calculated using Arrhenius equation from the plot shown in figure 8 and the values are tabulated in table 4. The activation energies are functions of concentration and frequency. This confirms that the hopping conduction mechanism is dominant in the sample. The DC Conductivity activation energies are also listed in table 4 [21-23].

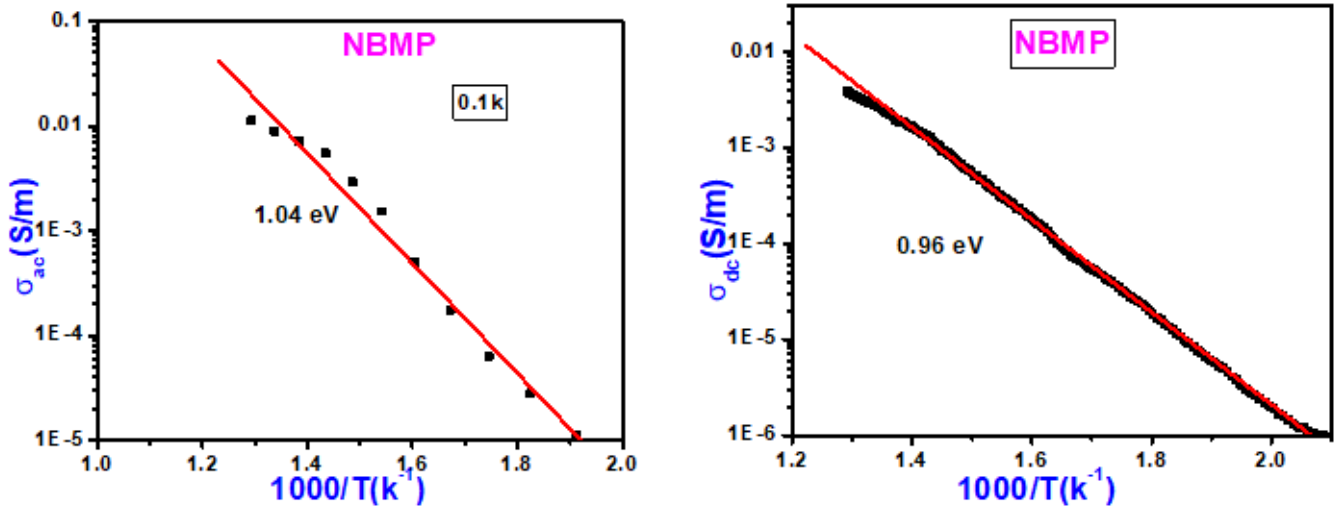


Figure 8: AC and DC conductivity variation with inverse of temperature of the NBMP for sample

Table 4: Activation energies (AC and DC) of the NBMP, NBMP1, NBMP3 and NBMP5 samples

Sample	AC (eV)			DC (eV)
	0.1KHz	0.5KHz	1KHz	
NBMP	1.04	1.03	1.03	0.96
NBMP1	1.23	1.22	1.20	1.30
NBMP3	0.95	0.94	0.92	1.05
NBMP5	0.74	0.54	0.46	1.19

Figure 9 shows the real part of dielectric constant as a function of frequency at different temperature. It is clear from these figures that the dielectric constant is low at high frequency and high at higher temperatures. The larger dielectric constant at higher temperature is due to the orientational polarization which is due to the thermal motion of molecules. “When the temperature is increased

the orientation of dipoles is facilitated and this increases the value of orientational polarization, which leads to increase the dielectric constant with temperature” [23-26]. The dielectric behavior of the present samples in the low frequency region is due to orientational polarization and interfacial polarization [27-28].

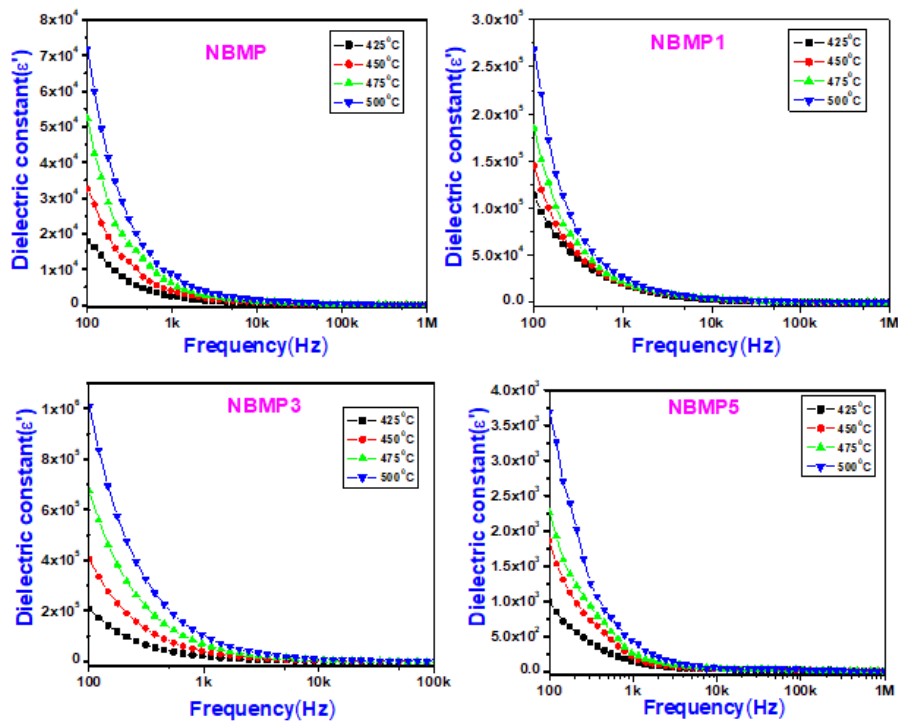


Figure 9: Dielectric Constant ( $\epsilon'$ ) Vs frequency of the NBMP, NBMP1, NBMP3 and NBMP5 samples

Figure 10 shows dielectric loss versus temperatures for all compounds. The dielectric loss is due to the polarization processes which are temperature dependent. Dielectric loss varies linearly with temperature. The dielectric losses are due to various charge transportation mechanisms. The loss due to conduction is due to the migration of ions over large distances. The energy lost per cycle is proportional to  $\sigma \epsilon / \omega$ . The dielectric loss at low frequency is due to various polarization processes that are active. At higher temperatures the conductivity is large due to thermal activation.

The  $\tan \delta$  is high at low frequencies and higher temperatures. This is due to the presence of various polarizations and defects in the samples [29-30]. The presence of associated charges can result in peaks in these curves. The peaks of loss tangent shift with a thermally controlled mechanism. The present samples show the hopping mechanism of electrical conductivity with which thermally activated [31].

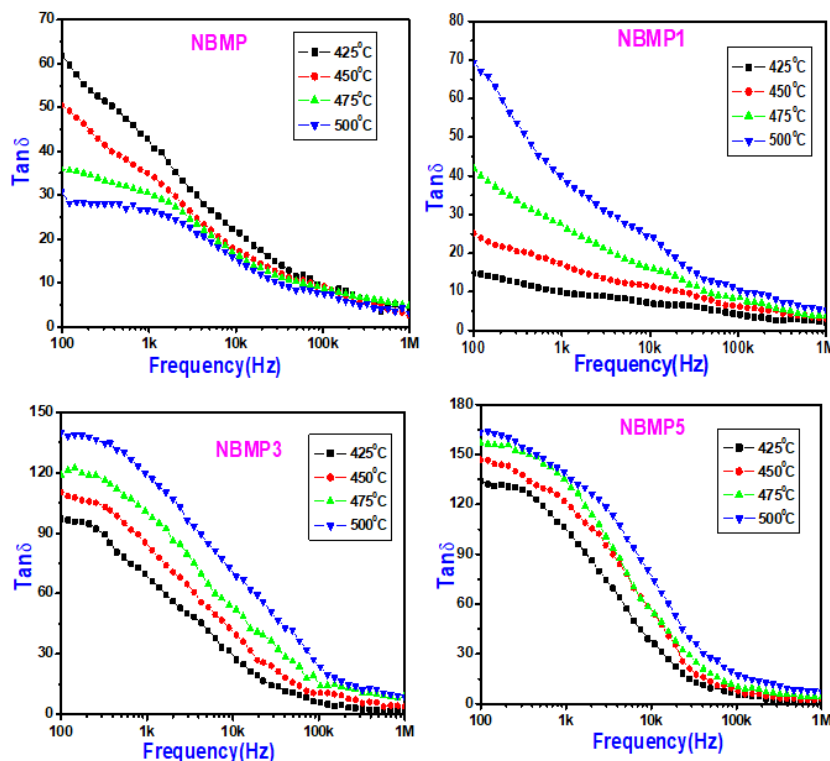


Figure 10: Dielectric loss tangent Vs frequency of the NBMP, NBMP1, NBMP3 and NBMP5 samples

Fig11. (a) Shows the broad band ranging (200-400nm) with a maximum at 396 nm are charge transfer band (CTB) transition from the 2p orbital of the  $O^{2-}$  to the 4f orbital of the  $Eu^{+3}$ . The dominant sharp lines in wavelength region of 300-550nm are from the f-f transitions within  $4f^9$  configuration of  $E^{+3}$  ion. The broad excitation band observed may be attributed to the transition from the fully filled 2p orbital of  $O^{2-}$  ions to the partially filled 4f orbital's of  $Eu^{+3}$  and may exhibit excitation peaks due to the transitions  $7F_0 \rightarrow 5H_6$  at 297nm,  $7F_0 \rightarrow 5H_3$  at 318 nm,  $7F_0 \rightarrow 5D_4$  at 362 nm,  $7F_0 \rightarrow 5L_7$  at 383 nm,  $7F_0 \rightarrow 5L_6$  at 396nm respectively. The emission spectrum under the excitation at 396 nm is shown in Fig5. (b). The spectra consist of a number of sharp lines ranging from 400 to 800 nm. Many Emission peaks  $5D_0 \rightarrow 7F_1$  at 594 nm,  $5D_0 \rightarrow 7F_2$  at 615nm,  $5D_0 \rightarrow 7F_3$  at 654 nm,  $5D_0 \rightarrow 7F_4$  at 687 nm,  $5D_0 \rightarrow 7F_4$  at 699 nm respectively. The intensity of the  $5D_0 \rightarrow 7F_1$  is higher than the intensities of the  $5D_0 \rightarrow 7F_4$  transition. The PL

spectrum Fig5. (b) consist of major line emission at 594nm and minor emission at 654nm, Which can be attributed to the  $5D_0 \rightarrow 7F_1$  and  $5D_0 \rightarrow 7F_4$  transition of  $Eu^{+3}$ , respectively. The emission spectra are dominant by the transition of  $5D_0 \rightarrow 7F_1$ . The strongest emission peak is located at 594 nm, which indicates that the  $Eu^{+3}$  ion occupy inversion symmetry sites in the lattice. According to the Judd-Ofelt theory, the magnetic dipole transition is permitted. The emission spectra are from the different  $Eu^{+3}$  concentrations as indicated. Fig11. (b) shows that the intensity increased with concentration from 0.01 to 0.05 mol% of  $Eu^{+3}$  and it decreased peak slightly when the concentration was increased. The red emission at 612 nm is an electric dipole transition, while the emission range at 594 nm is a typical magnetic dipole transition. When  $Eu^{+3}$  ion is the lattice of inversion symmetry Centre.  $5D_0 \rightarrow 7F_1$  magnetic dipole transition Orange-Red light emission will be dominant [1, 12, 33, 34]. Increase in  $Eu^{+3}$  doping concentration results in decreasing peak intensity [32].

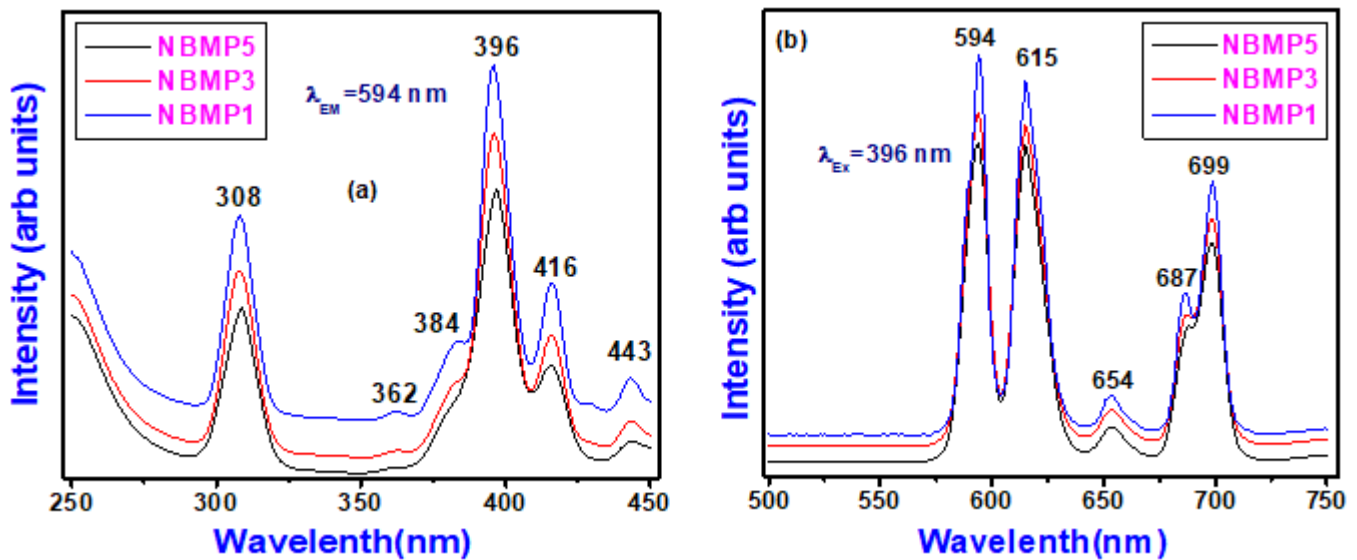
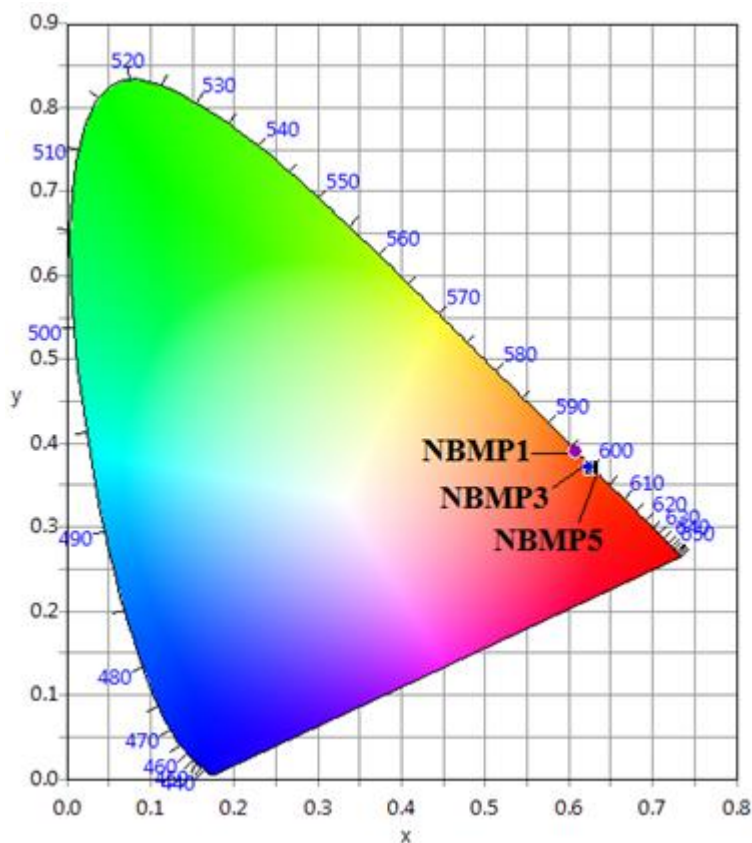


Figure 11: (a) Excitation and (b) Emission spectra of NBMP1, NBMP3 and NBMP5

NBMP1, NBMP3 and NBMP5 samples (0.6080, 0.3898), (0.6272, 0.3702), (0.6239, 0.3718) respectively. The Color coordinates of (X= 0.01, 0.03, 0.05) move to Orange –Red region with varying Eu concentration. The investigate the performance of  $Na_2Ba_{1-x}Eu_xMg(PO_4)_2$  phosphors on colour luminescent emission, the colour coordinates were estimated using CIE 1931 system. Figure 16. shows the chromaticity coordinates calculated. NBMP5 with

concentration Eu doped more suitable to emit the red luminescence at 612nm. Favorable for construction red component of WLED's in solid state lighting application. Table 5 color purity is  $Eu^{+3}$  doping concentration increase to increased. Additionally color correlated Temperature (CCT) values fall in the range 1700-2000k for different excitation wavelengths [14, 15, 35].





**Figure 12:** The color spectra chromaticity diagram of NBMP1, NBMP3 and NBMP5 phosphors

**Table 5:** CIE Chromaticity co-ordinates, color purity and color correlated temperature (CCT) of NBMP1, NBMP3 and NBMP5 samples

Sample	X	Y	Color Purity %	CCT (k)
NBMP1	0.6080	0.3898	83.44	1741
NBMP3	0.6272	0.3702	87.46	1966
NBMP5	0.6239	0.3718	86.65	1926

#### 4. Conclusions

The  $\text{Na}_2\text{Ba}_{1-x}\text{Eu}_x\text{Mg}(\text{PO}_4)_2$  (where  $x=0, 0.01, 0.03,$  and  $0.05$ ) are synthesized using solid state sintering method. The samples have rhombohedral structure, with space group:  $p\text{-}3m1$  and Lattice parameter varied slightly with the variation of europium concentration. FTIR shows symmetric and symmetric stretch of P-O-P bonds and also bending vibrations. Vibrations corresponding to characteristic peaks of  $\text{PO}_3^{4-}$  are also observed. The samples show frequency and temperature dependent dielectric properties which vary with composition. Excitation with 256 nm light gives emission peaks due to the transition  $5D_0 \rightarrow 7F_1$  at 589 nm,  $5D_0 \rightarrow 7F_2$  at 612nm,  $5D_0 \rightarrow 7F_3$  at 651 nm,  $5D_0 \rightarrow 7F_4$  at 684 nm,  $5D_0 \rightarrow 7F_4$  at 696 nm respectively. The samples show orange red emissions.

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