

## Supplementary Information

### **Functional up-converting $\text{SrTiO}_3\text{:Er}^{3+}/\text{Yb}^{3+}$ nanoparticles, structural features, particle size colour tuning and *in vitro* RBC cytotoxicity**

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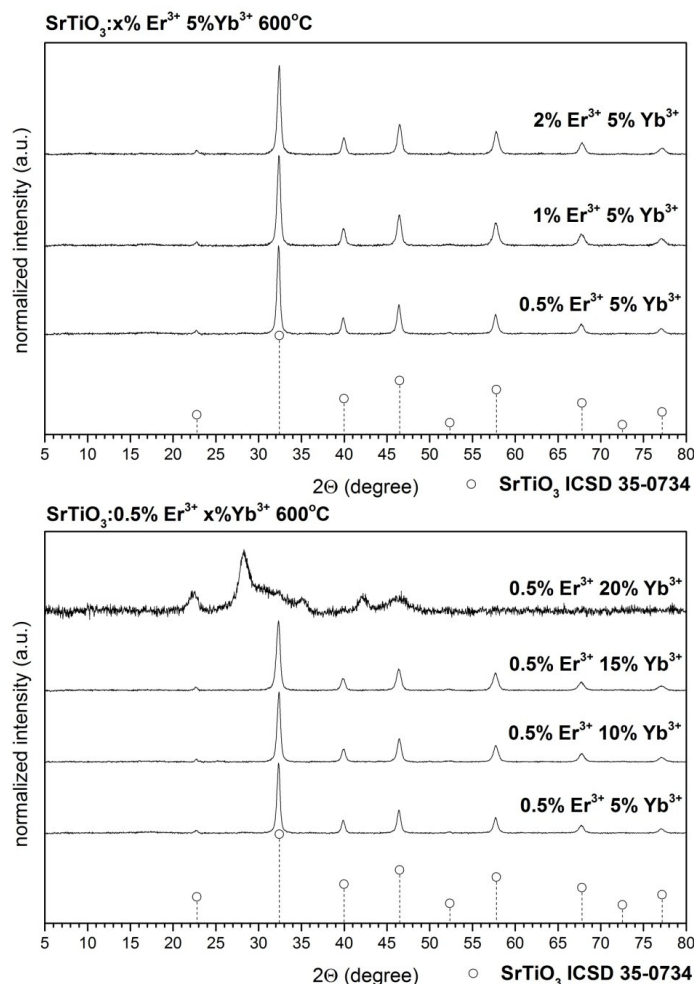


Fig. 1s. Effect of  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  (upper) and  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  (bottom) concentration on crystal structure of the  $\text{SrTiO}_3$  heated at  $600^\circ\text{C}$ .

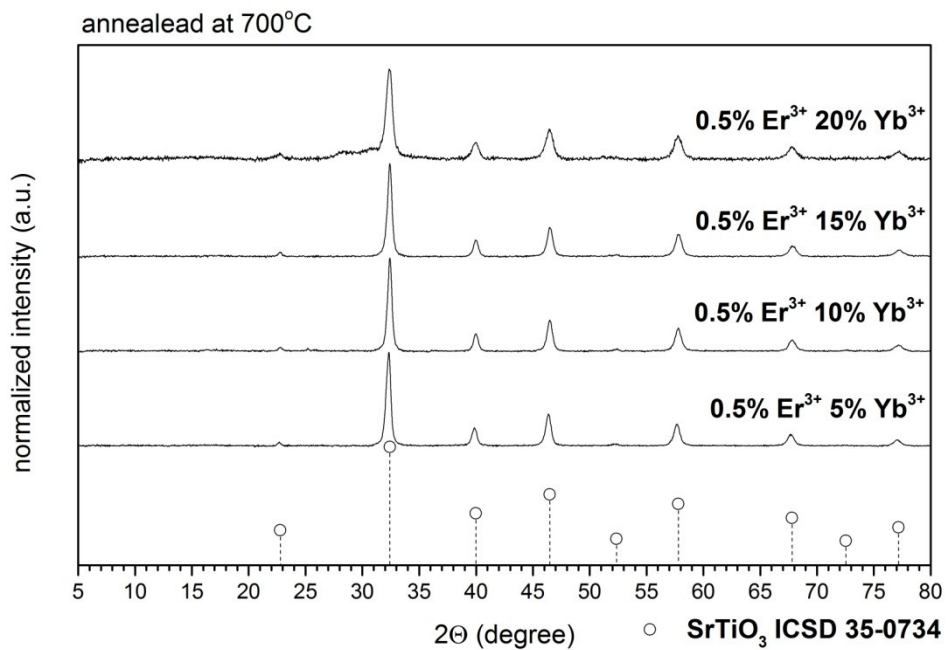


Fig. 2s. Compare with sample containing 20 mol% of Yb<sup>3+</sup> heat treated at 600°C with 20 mol% Yb<sup>3+</sup> sample at 700°C.

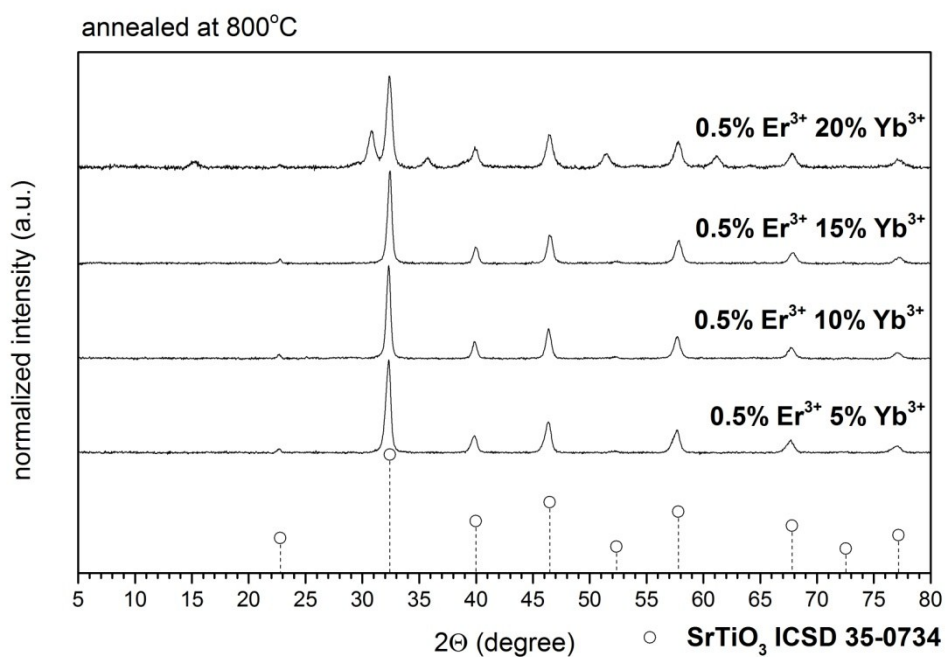


Fig. 3s. Note phase separation of the SrTiO<sub>3</sub> above 20 mol% of Yb<sup>3+</sup> at 800°C.

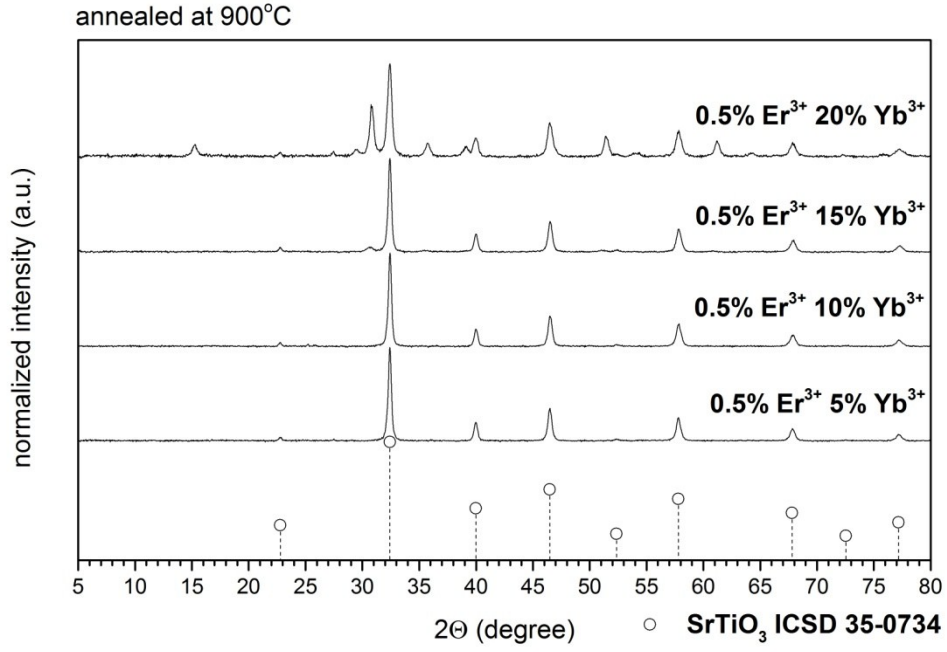


Fig. 4s. Note phase separation of the  $\text{SrTiO}_3$  with different content of  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  above 15 mol% at 900°C.

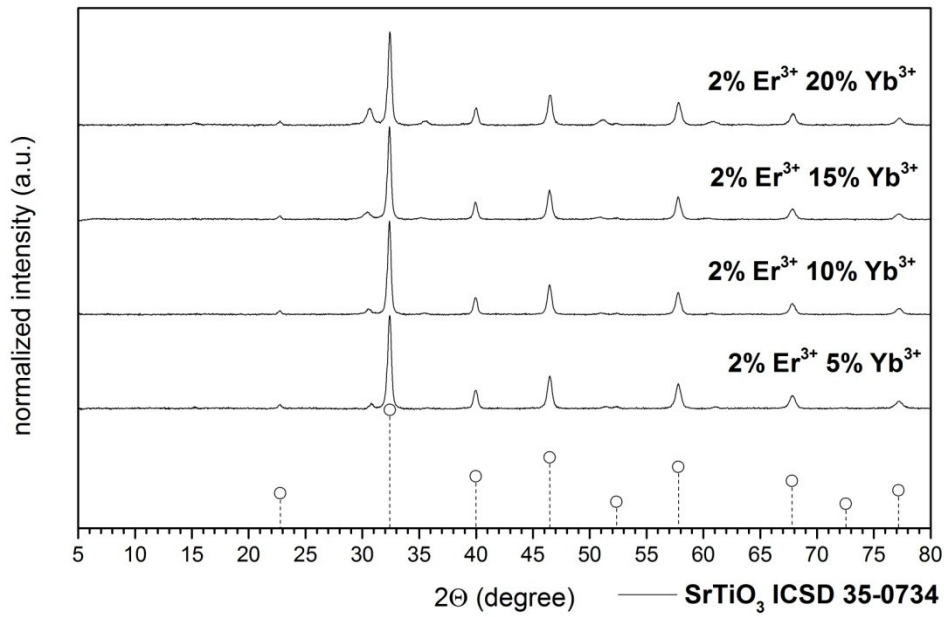


Fig. 5s. Note phase separation of the  $\text{SrTiO}_3$  with 2 mol% of  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  and different content of  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  samples heated at 900°C.

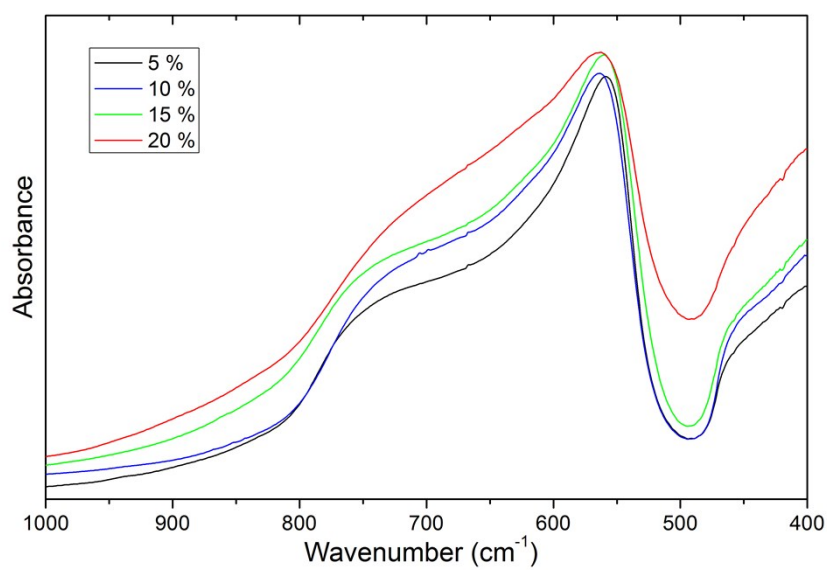


Fig. 6s. Mid-IR spectra of SrTiO<sub>3</sub> doped with 5, 10, 15 and 20 % of Yb<sup>3+</sup> and 0.5 % of Er<sup>3+</sup> annealed at 800 °C.

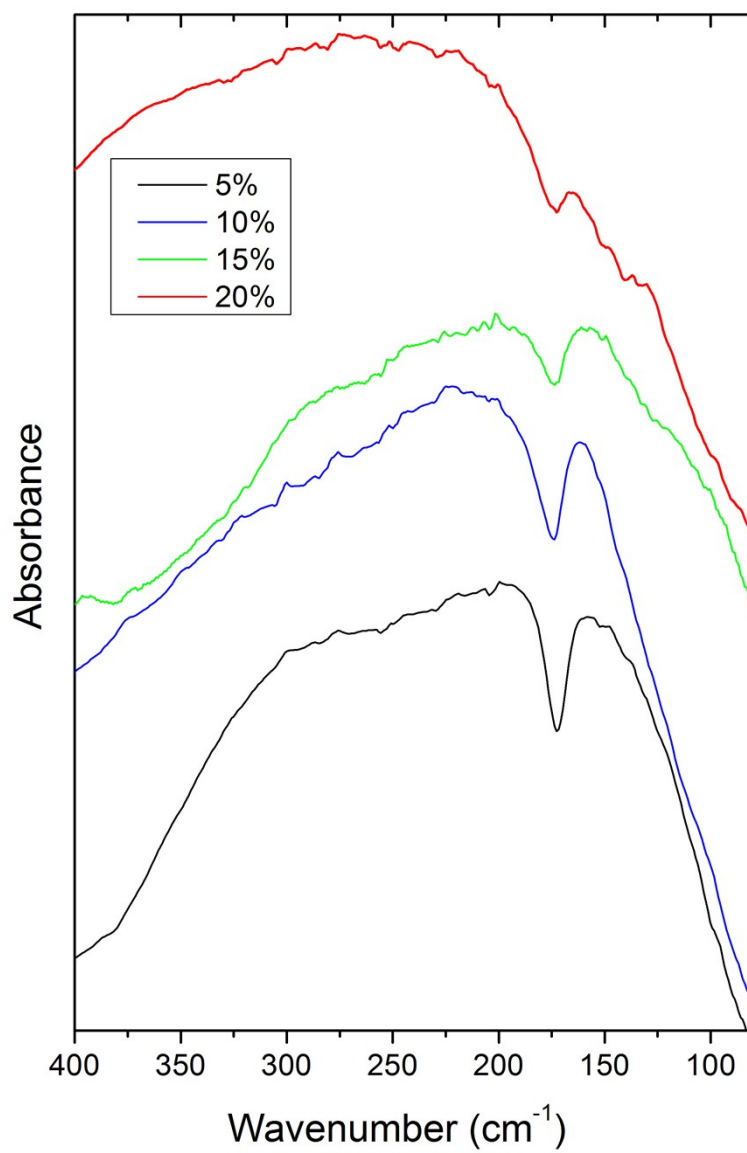


Fig. 7s. Far-IR spectra of SrTiO<sub>3</sub> doped with 5, 10, 15 and 20 % of Yb<sup>3+</sup> and 0.5 % of Er<sup>3+</sup> annealed at 800 °C.

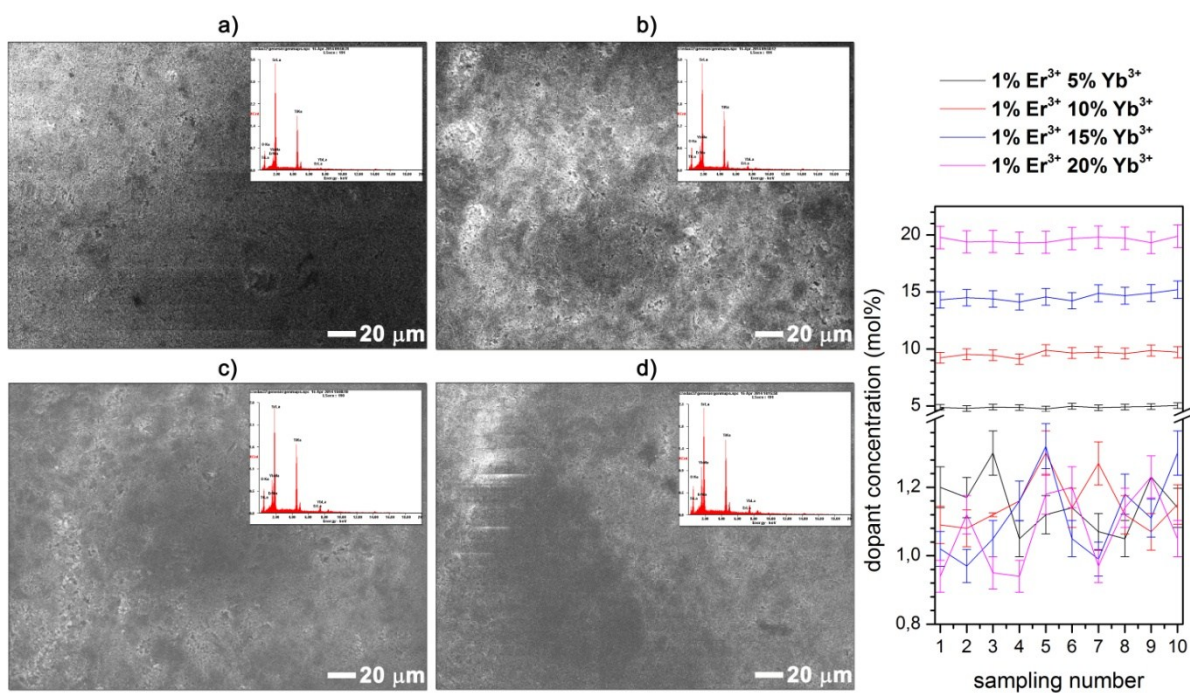


Fig. 8s. SEM-EDX analysis of the  $\text{SrTiO}_3$  1%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  / x%  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  nanoparticles sintered at 600°C.

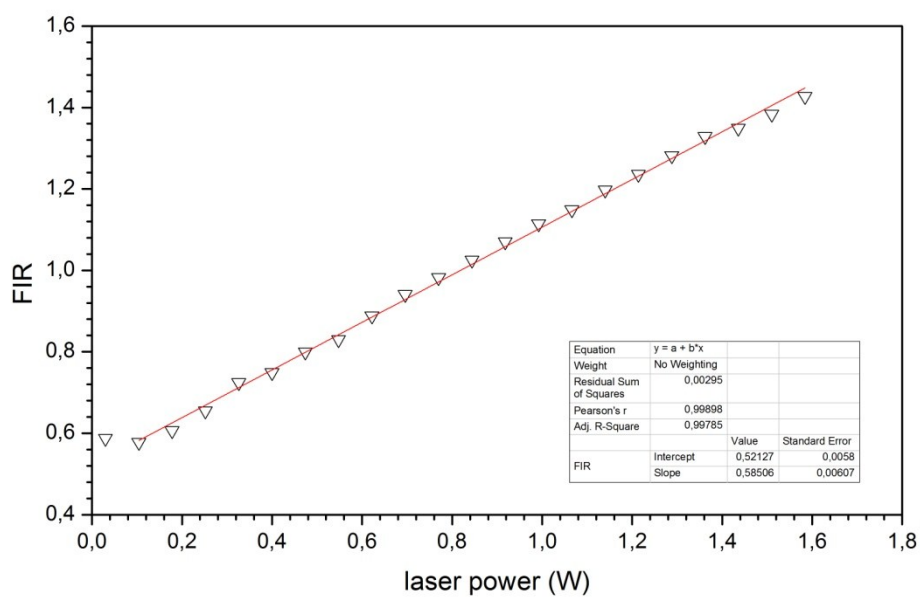


Fig. 9s. Calibration curve FIR vs. pump power.

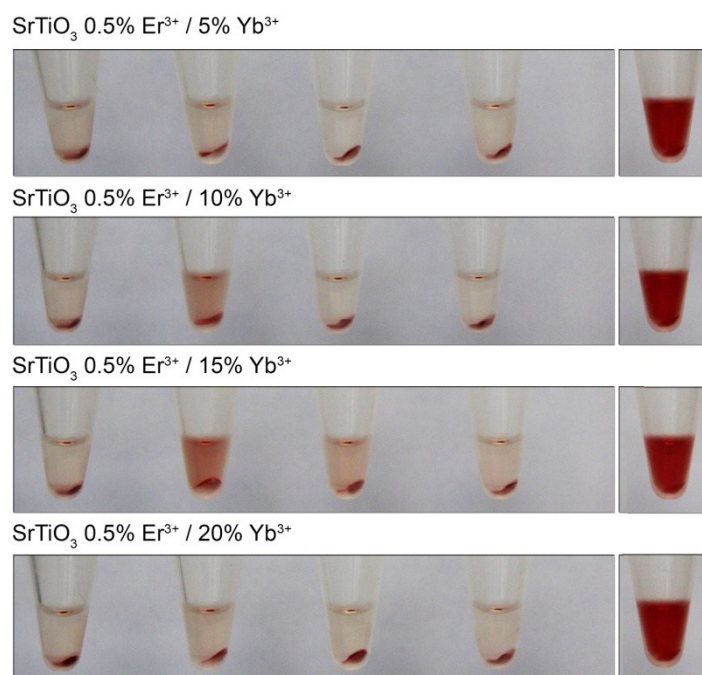


Fig. 10s. Hemolysis assay on human erythrocyte cells loaded with the SrTiO<sub>3</sub> 0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> / x% Yb<sup>3+</sup> nanoparticles annealed at 600°C (from left side: negative control (PBS), 1 mg/ml, 0.1 mg/ml, 0.01 mg/ml, positive control (100% hemolysis, distilled water)).

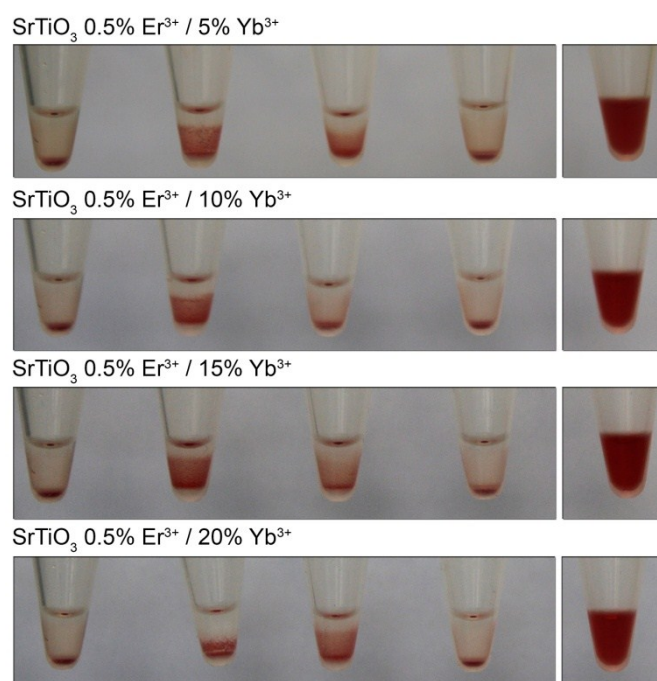


Fig. 11s. ESR of human erythrocyte cells loaded with the SrTiO<sub>3</sub> 0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> / x% Yb<sup>3+</sup> nanoparticles annealed at 600°C (from left side: negative control (PBS), 1 mg/ml, 0.1 mg/ml, 0.01 mg/ml, positive control (100% hemolysis, distilled water)).