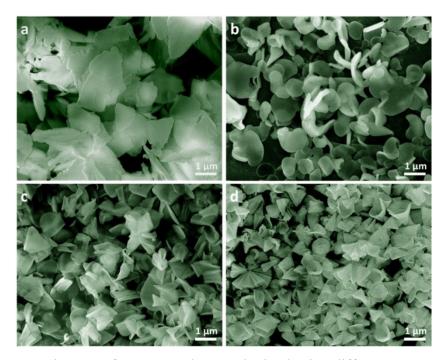
## Supporting Information

Layered Rare-earth Hydroxide Nanocones with Facile Host
Composition Modification and Anion-exchange Feature: Topotactic
Transformation into Oxide Nanocones for Upconversion

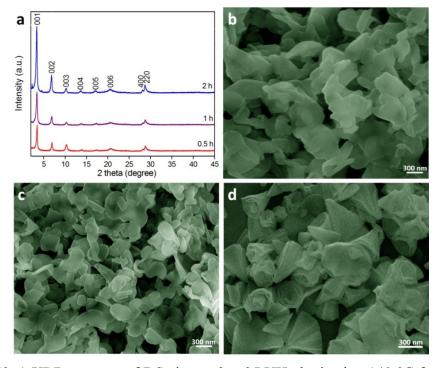
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**Figure S1** SEM images of as-prepared LYH obtained using different amounts of surfactants. (a) 0 mmol SDS; (b) 0.605 mmol SDS; (c) 1.21 mmol SDS; (d) 2.42 mmol SDS.



**Figure S2** a) XRD patterns of DS<sup>-</sup>-intercalated LYH obtained at 140 °C for different time. SEM images of as-prepared LYH obtained at 140 °C for different time: b) 0.5 h; c) 1 h; d) 2 h.

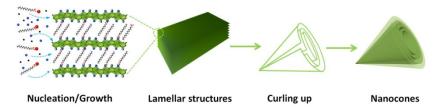
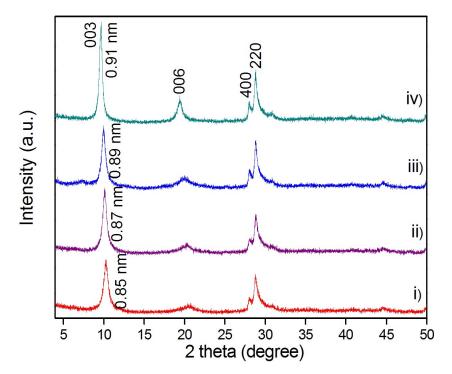
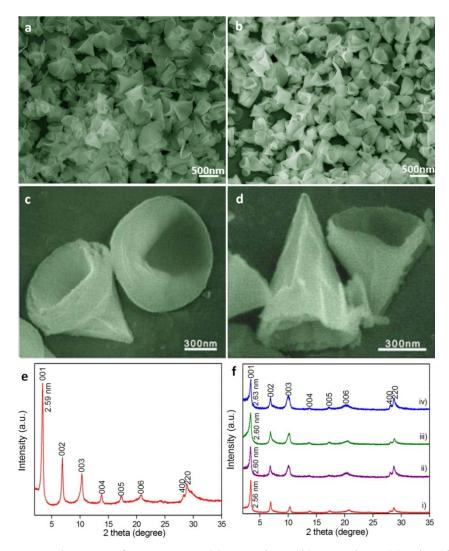


Figure S3 Schematic illustration of the formation mechanism of LYH NCs.



**Figure S4** XRD patterns of LYH NCs in NaNO<sub>3</sub> solution with different relative humidity: i) 34 %, ii) 56 %, iii) 81 %, iv) 100 %.



**Figure S5** SEM images of LRH NCs: (a)  $Y_{0.8}Tb_{0.2}$ ; (b)  $Y_{0.6}Tb_{0.4}$ ; (c) Tb; (d) Er. (e) XRD pattern of layered Er hydroxide. (f) XRD patterns of layered Y-Er-Yb hydroxide at various ratios: i)  $Y_{0.99}Er_{0.01}$ ; ii)  $Y_{0.98}Er_{0.01}Yb_{0.01}$ ; iii)  $Y_{0.94}Er_{0.01}Yb_{0.05}$ ; iv)  $Y_{0.89}Er_{0.01}Yb_{0.10}$ .

**Table S1.** The elements of Y, Yb and Er analyzed by ICP-OES.

Samples designed (mol%)	Elements	Y	Yb	Er
Y <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> :1%Yb/1%Er (98, 1, 1)	Measured (wt. %)	70.4	1.74	1.17
	Analyzed (mol%)	98.3	0.92	0.88
Y <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> :5%Yb/1%Er (94, 5, 1)	Measured (wt. %)	63.9	8.31	1.15
	Analyzed (mol%)	92.9	6.1	1
Y <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> :10%Yb/1%Er (89, 10, 1)	Measured (wt. %)	59.1	14.6	1.35
	Analyzed (mol%)	87.8	11.1	1.1