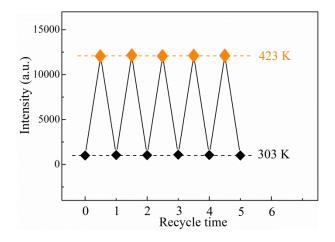
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## **Supporting Information**

## Size-dependent Abnormal Thermo-enhanced Luminescence of Ytterbium Doped Nanoparticles

Xiangshui Cui<sup>ab</sup>, Yao Cheng\*<sup>a</sup>, Hang Lin<sup>a</sup>, Feng Huang<sup>a</sup> and Yuansheng Wang\*<sup>a</sup>

## **Supporting Figures**

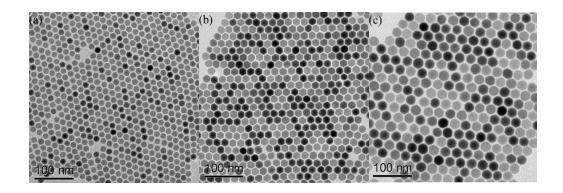


**Figure S1**. Cycle mesurements of abnormal thermo-enhanced UCL of NaGdF<sub>4</sub>:Yb $^{3+}$ /Eu $^{3+}$  (20/10 mol %) LNPs with size of 10 nm.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Key Laboratory of Design and Assembly of Functional Nanostructures, Fujian Institute of Research on the Structure of Matter, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Fuzhou, Fujian, 350002, P. R. China.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, 100049, P. R. China.

<sup>\*</sup> Corresponding authors. E-mail addresses: chengyao@fjirsm.ac.cn; yswang@fjirsm.ac.cn.



**Figure S2**. TEM micrographs of the NaGdF<sub>4</sub>:  $Yb^{3+}/Eu^{3+}$  (20/10 mol %) LNPs with different sizes of (a) 15 nm, (b) 20 nm, and (c) 25 nm.

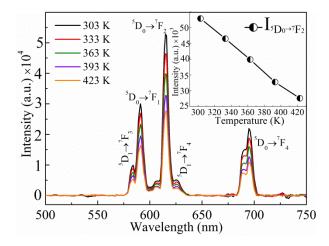
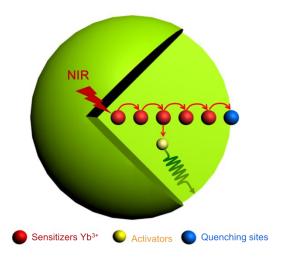
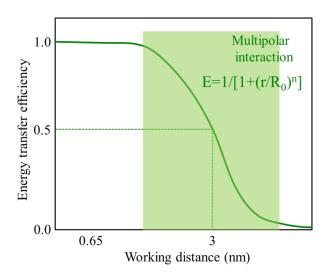


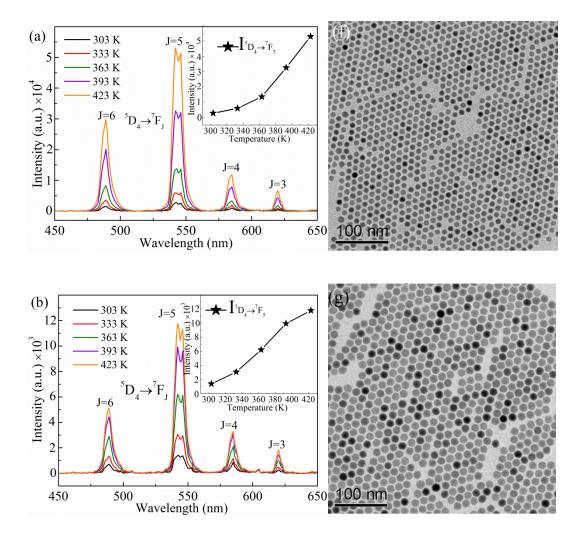
Figure S3. Temperature-dependent UCL emission spectra ( $\lambda_{ex}$ =980 nm) of the bulk (>50 nm) NaGdF<sub>4</sub>:Yb<sup>3+</sup>/Eu<sup>3+</sup> (20/10 mol %) materials.

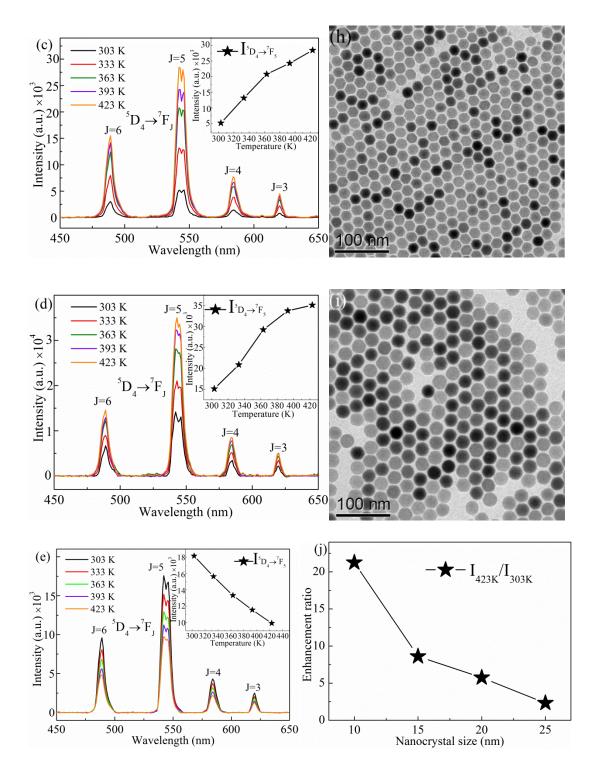


**Figure S4**. Schematic diagram of surface quenching based on the Yb<sup>3+</sup>-mediated energy migration.

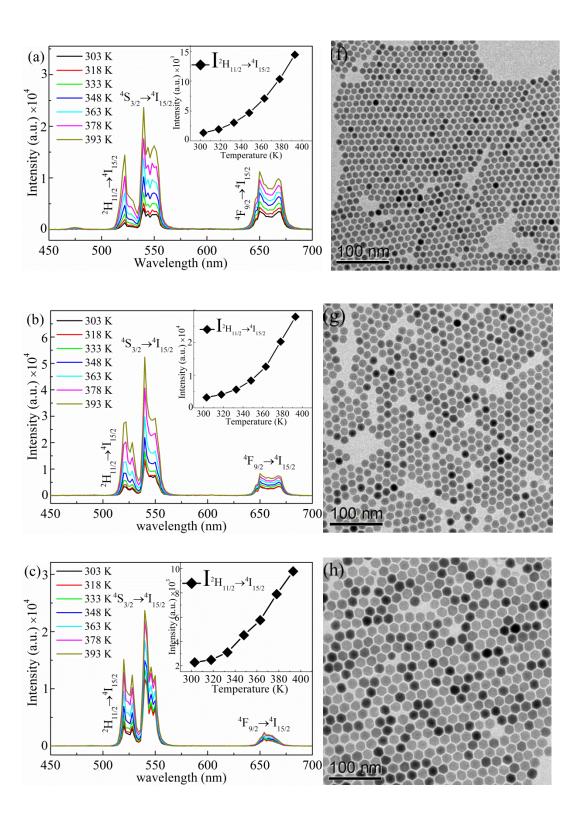


**Figure S5**. Schematic showing the influence of working distance on nonradiative energy transfer (multipolar interaction) efficiency. <sup>S1, S2,S3</sup>





**Figure S6**. Temperature-dependent UCL emission spectra ( $\lambda_{ex}$ =980 nm) of (a) 10 nm, (b) 15 nm, (c) 20 nm, (d) 25 nm, and (e) bulk NaGdF<sub>4</sub>: Yb<sup>3+</sup>/Tb<sup>3+</sup> (20/10 mol%) samples; (f-i) the corresponding TEM micrographs of the a-d samples. (j) Line chart of the integrated intensity ratio for the  ${}^5D_4 \rightarrow {}^7F_5$  transition ( $I_{423K}/I_{303K}$ ) against the nanocrystal size.



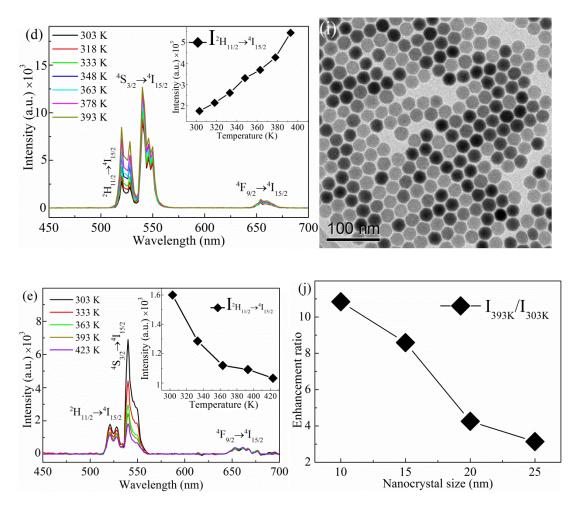
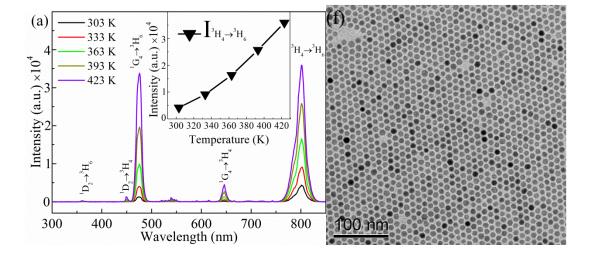
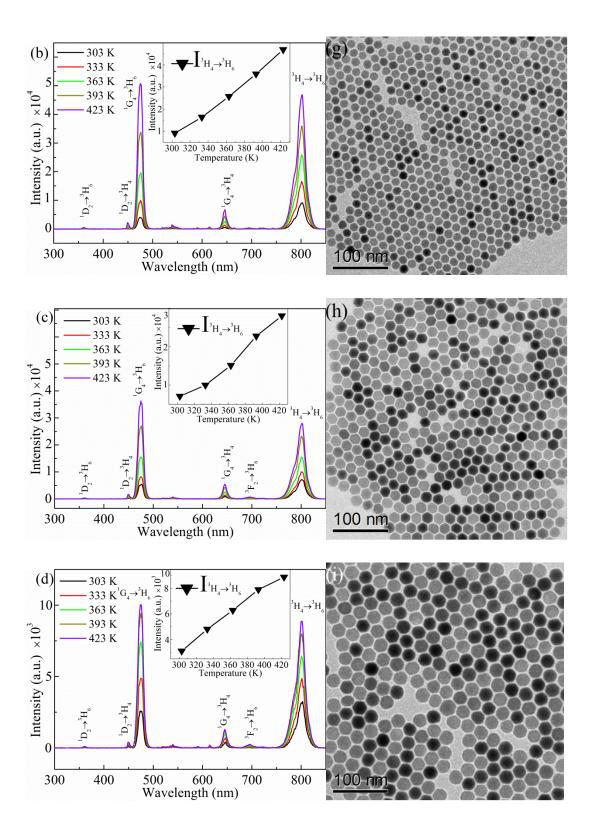


Figure S7. Temperature-dependent UCL emission spectra ( $\lambda_{ex}$ =980 nm) of (a) 10 nm, (b) 15 nm, (c) 20 nm, (d) 25 nm, and (e) bulk NaGdF<sub>4</sub>:Yb<sup>3+</sup>/Er<sup>3+</sup> (20/0.5 mol%) samples; (f-i) the corresponding TEM micrographs of the a-d samples. (j) Line chart of the integrated intensity ratio for the  ${}^2H_{11/2} \rightarrow {}^4I_{15/2}$  transition ( $I_{393K}/I_{303K}$ ) against the nanocrystal size.





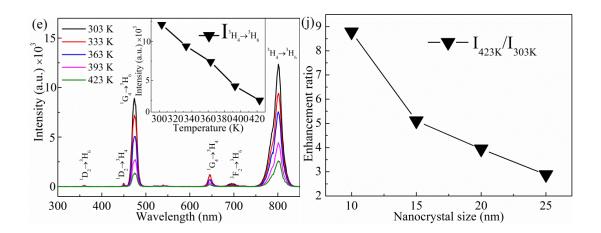
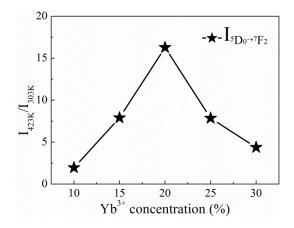
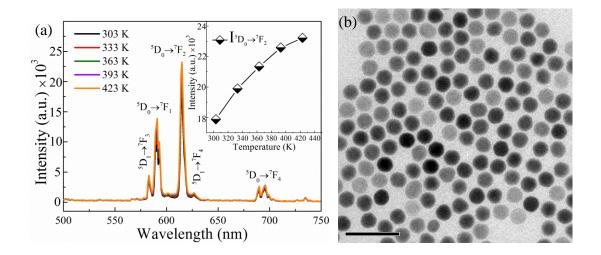


Figure S8. Temperature-dependent UCL emission spectra ( $\lambda_{ex}$ =980 nm) of (a) 10 nm, (b) 15 nm, (c) 20 nm, (d) 25 nm, and (e) bulk NaGdF<sub>4</sub>:Yb<sup>3+</sup>/Tm<sup>3+</sup> (20/0.2 mol%) samples; (f-i) the corresponding TEM micrograph of the a-d samples. (j) Line chart of the integrated intensity ratio for the  ${}^{3}H_{4} \rightarrow {}^{3}H_{6}$  transition ( $I_{423K}/I_{303K}$ ) against the nanocrystal size.



**Figure S9**. Plot of the intensity enhancement ratio of  ${}^5D_0 \rightarrow {}^7F_2$  transition ( $I_{423K}/I_{303K}$ ) against Yb<sup>3+</sup> doping concentration for the NaGdF<sub>4</sub>:xYb<sup>3+</sup>/10Eu<sup>3+</sup> (x=10, 15, 20, 25, 30 mol%) LNPs with size of 10 nm.



**Figure S10**. Temperature-dependent UCL emission spectra ( $\lambda_{ex}$ =980 nm) of core-shell NaGdF<sub>4</sub>:Yb<sup>3+</sup>/Eu<sup>3+</sup>@NaYF<sub>4</sub> LNPs with the core size of 10 nm (a); and the corresponding TEM micrographs (b).

## References

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- (S3) T. Ha, Th. Enderle, D. Ogletree, D. Chemla, P. Selvin, S. Weiss, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.*, 1996, **93**, 6264-6268.