

Supporting Information

Tailoring light emission properties, optoelectronic and
optothermal responses from rare earth-doped bismuth
oxide for multifunctional light shielding, temperature
sensing and photodetector

Liumin Fan^a, Yang Li^{a,b,*}, Xiaohui Lin^a, Junhao Peng^a, Guifang Ju^a, Shaoan
Zhang^{a,d}, Li Chen^a, Fupo He^c, Yihua Hu^{a,*}

^a School of Physics and Optoelectronic Engineering, Guangdong University of Technology, Guangzhou 510006, China.

^b State Key Laboratory of Luminescent Materials and Devices, South China University of Technology, Guangzhou 510640, China.

^c School of Electromechanical Engineering, Guangdong University of Technology, Guangzhou 510006, China.

^d Guangzhou Maritime University, Guangzhou 510006, China.

Corresponding authors: huyh@gdut.edu.cn; lychris@sina.com

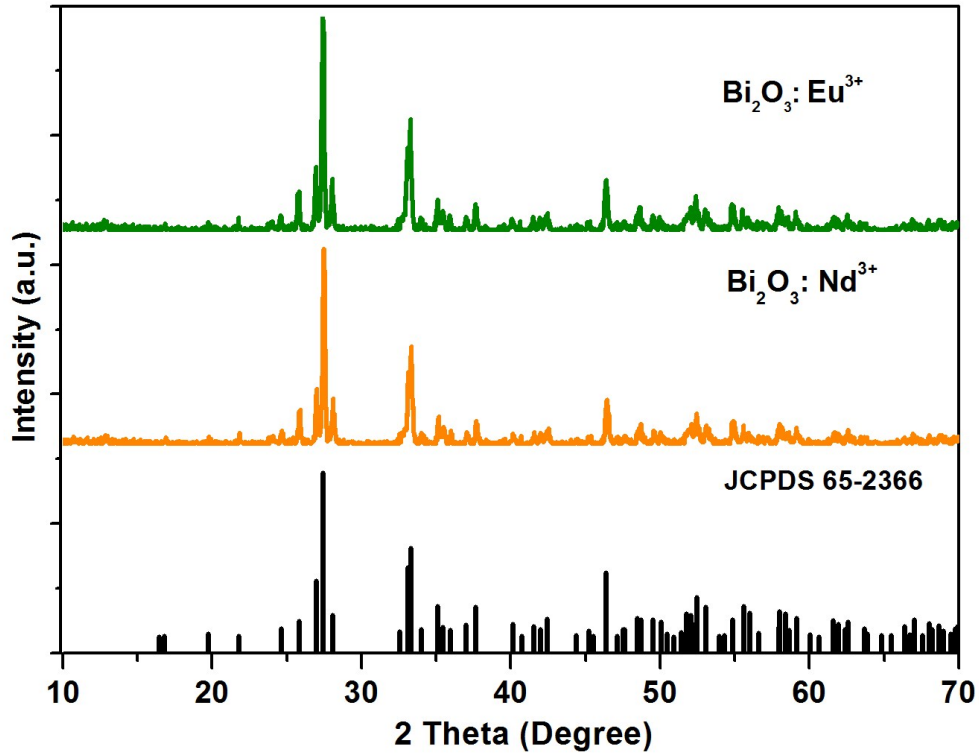


Figure S1: The XRD patterns of Bi_2O_3 and $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3: \text{Re}^{3+}$ ($\text{Re}^{3+} = \text{Nd}^{3+}, \text{Eu}^{3+}$) with PDF card of Bi_2O_3 .

The phases of the as prepared are first explored by XRD analysis and the results are shown in Figure S1. The acquired XRD pattern of $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3: \text{Re}^{3+}$ ($\text{Re}^{3+} = \text{Nd}^{3+}, \text{Eu}^{3+}$) are similar to that of the pure Bi_2O_3 and all the diffraction peaks of pure Bi_2O_3 and $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3: \text{Re}^{3+}$ ($\text{Re}^{3+} = \text{Nd}^{3+}, \text{Eu}^{3+}$) sample are well indexed to JCPDS no. 65–2366. Further, no other impurity phases are observed in pure Bi_2O_3 and $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3: \text{Re}^{3+}$ ($\text{Re}^{3+} = \text{Nd}^{3+}, \text{Eu}^{3+}$) samples, indicating that the pure $\alpha\text{-Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ are successfully synthesized as host material and the dopants had no significant influence on the hosts' lattice.

Figure 2a, S2 shows the calculated band structure of Bi_2O_3 and $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3: \text{Sm}^{3+}$, respectively. Structure relaxations and properties calculations are performed using density functional theory (DFT)¹ within the generalized gradient approximation (GGA)² as implemented in the VASP code³. Energy convergence precision and the plane wave kinetic energy cutoff are set to 10^{-5} eV and 500eV. We sample the Brillouin zone with uniform Γ -centered meshes of $2\pi \cdot 0.05 \text{ \AA}^{-1}(4 \times 3 \times 3)$ for structure relaxations and $2\pi \cdot 0.03 \text{ \AA}^{-1}(7 \times 5 \times 5)$ for properties calculations. The band-gap energy of $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3: \text{Sm}^{3+}$ is obtained (1.6 eV, Figure S2) through the theoretical calculation. And,

the experimental diffuse reflectance of the $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3: \text{Sm}^{3+}$ sample is turned into a Kubelka–Munk function $F(R)$ in Figure S3. As an approximation, we can read the value of band-gap energy in $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3: \text{Sm}^{3+}$ sample is 2.42 eV. Analogously, the experimental value of band-gap energy of Bi_2O_3 sample is in agreement with our theoretical calculation.

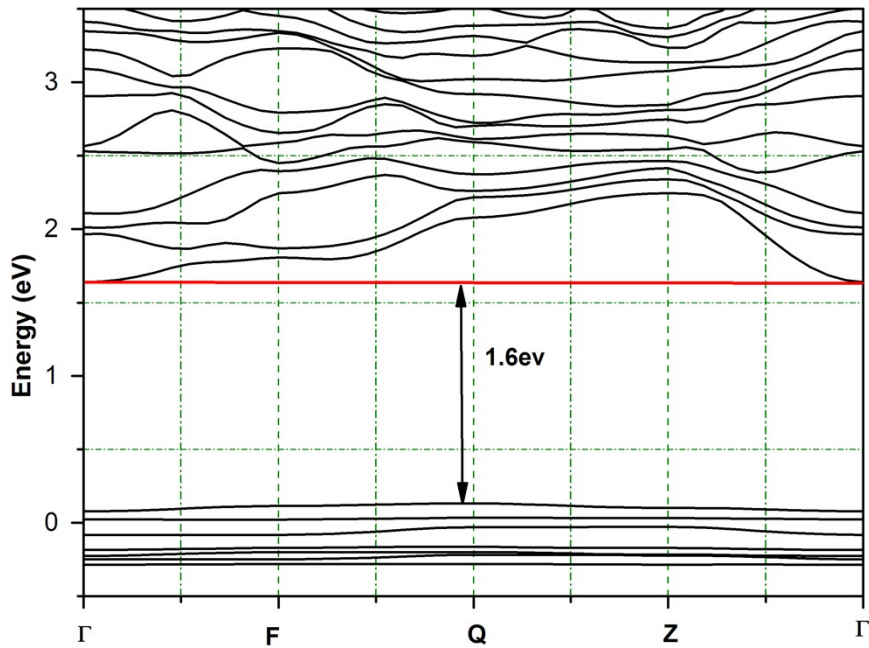


Figure S2: The Calculated band structure for $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3: \text{Sm}^{3+}$.

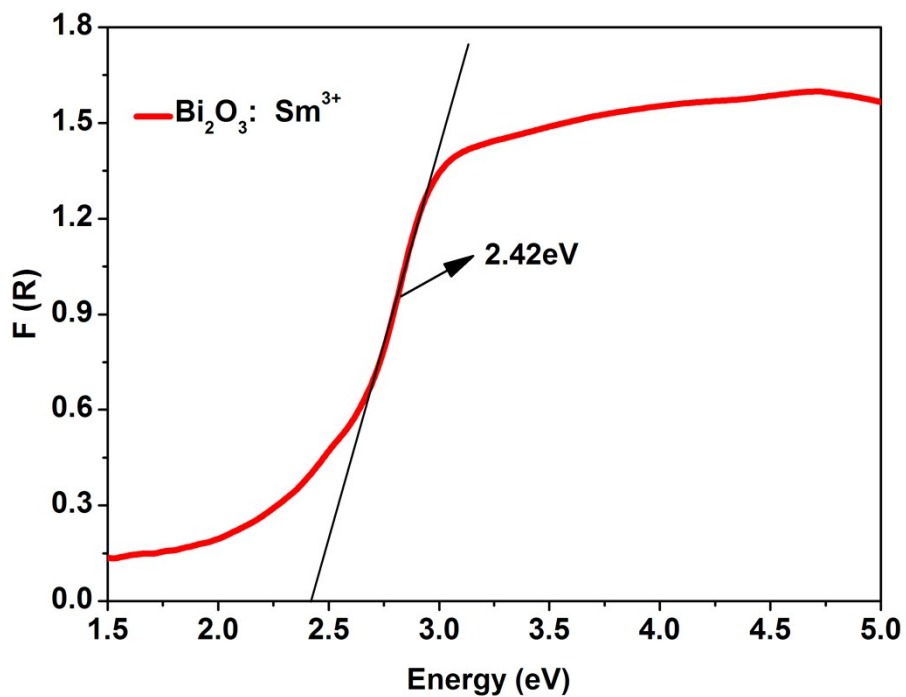


Figure S3: Experimental diffuse reflectance is turned into a Kubelka–Munk function $F(R)$. $(h\nu F(R))^{1/2} - h\nu$ plot of the of the $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3: \text{Sm}^{3+}$. The bandgap energy is estimated from the intercept of a fitted straight line (black).

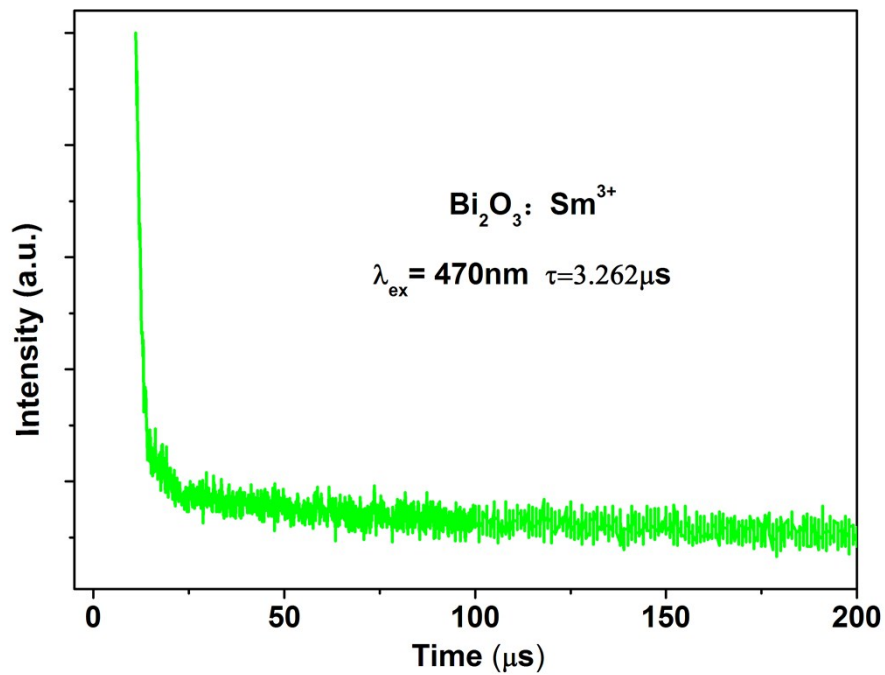


Figure S4: Decay curves of $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3: \text{Sm}^{3+}$ phosphor (excited at 470 nm, and monitored at 653nm).

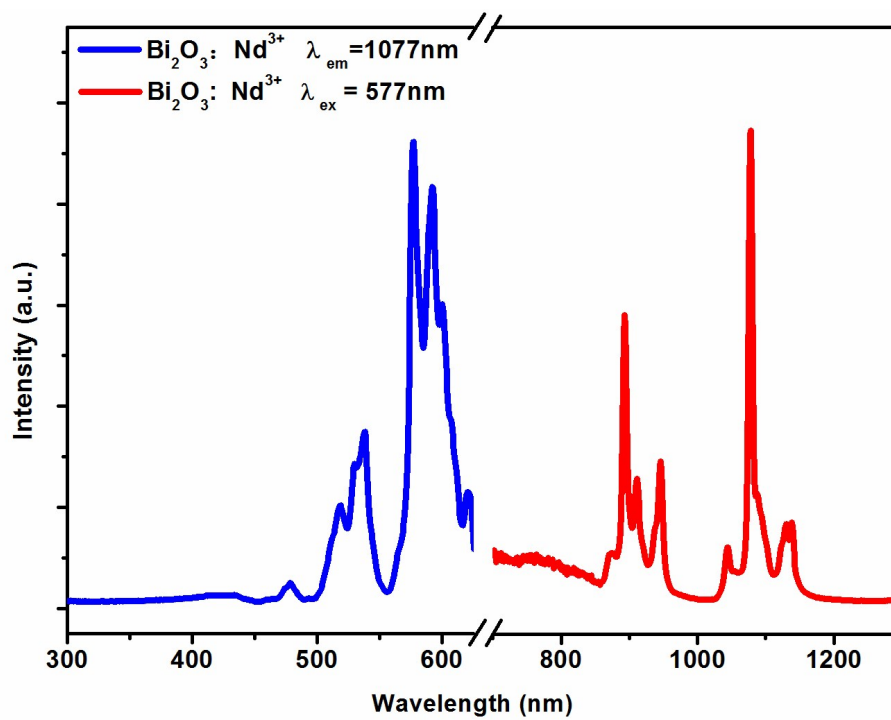


Figure S5: PLE (left) and PL (right) spectra of Bi₂O₃: Nd³⁺ phosphor.

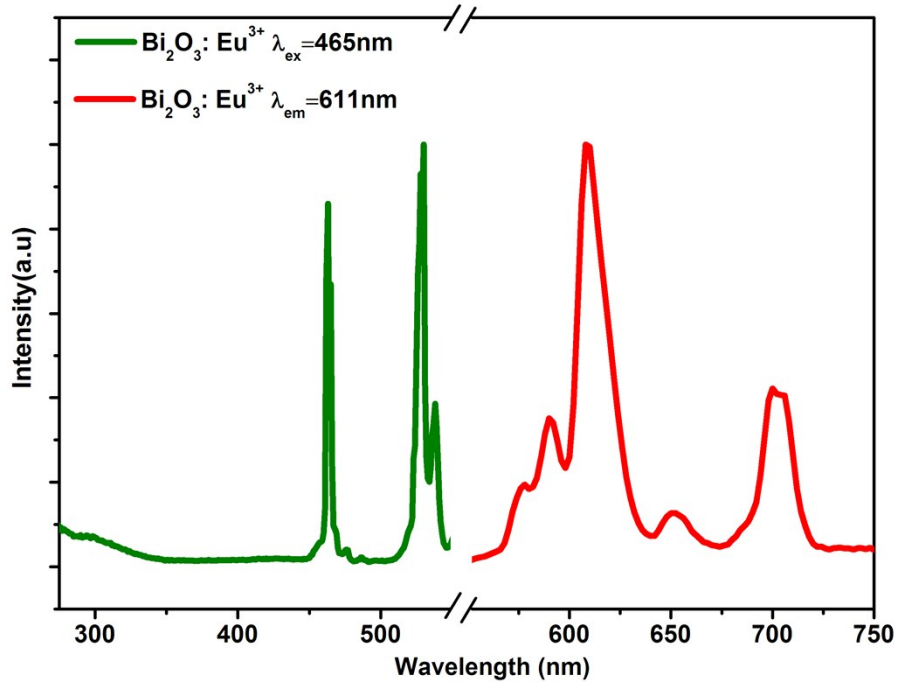


Figure S6. PLE (left) and PL (right) spectra of Bi₂O₃: Eu³⁺ phosphor.

The PLE and PL spectra of Bi₂O₃: Re³⁺ (Re³⁺ =Nd³⁺, Eu³⁺) are shown in Figure S5, S6. From Figure S5, we can see that the PLE spectra of Bi₂O₃: Nd³⁺ contains a series of excitation monitored at 1077 nm peaks at 577 nm and 536 nm, which are assigned to the $^4I_{9/2} \rightarrow ^4G_{5/2}$, $^4I_{9/2} \rightarrow ^4G_{7/2}$ transitions of the Nd³⁺ ions, respectively. And, the emission spectra is constitute of many typical emission bands centered at 1077 nm and 890 nm under 577nm excitation, which can be ascribed to the electronic transitions of Nd³⁺ from $^4F_{3/2}$ to $^4I_{11/2}$, $^4H_{9/2}$, respectively. Furthermore, from Figure S6, we should note that the 465 nm and 529 nm excitation bands in Bi₂O₃: Eu³⁺ originate from the $^7F_0 \rightarrow ^5D_2$, $^7F_0 \rightarrow ^5D_1$ transition in PLE spectra. the band at 611 nm and 700 nm should be assigned to the $^5D_0 \rightarrow ^7F_2$, $^5D_0 \rightarrow ^7F_4$ transitions of Eu³⁺ ions in PL spectra. All the investigation about PL and PLE spectra can be well according with our theoretical conjecture.

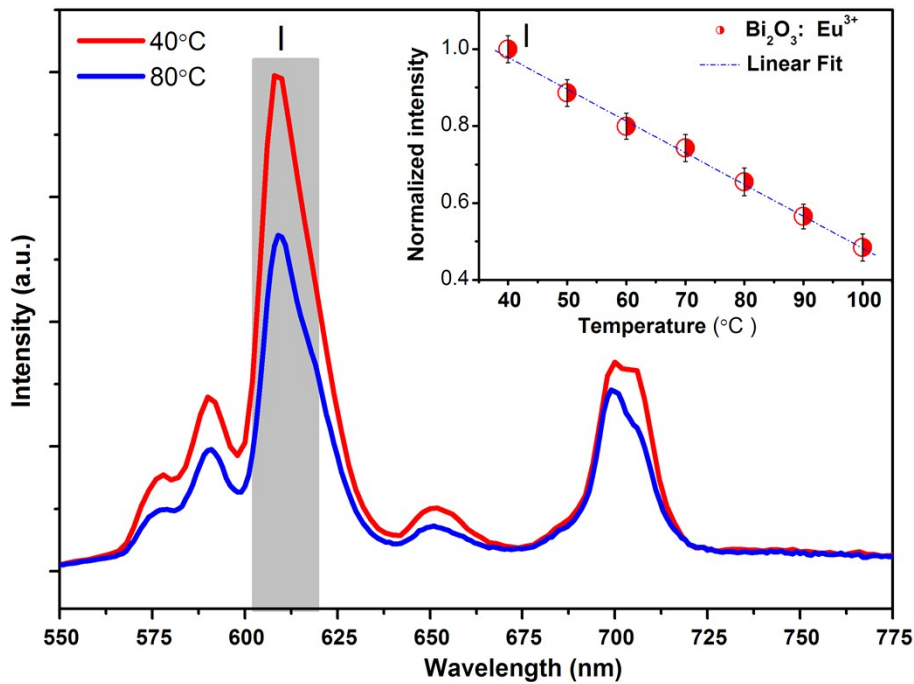


Figure S7: Temperature-dependent emission spectrum of $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3: \text{Eu}^{3+}$. The inset shows the variation of intensity (I) as a function of the temperature.

A monolog plot of the normalized PL emission intensity (I) at 611nm as a function of temperature in the range of 40–100°C is shown in Figure S7(a). We find that the luminescence intensity changes linearly with temperature with excellent temperature sensitivity ($0.8\% \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$).

The stable I - V curve of $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3: \text{Nd}^{3+}$ bias on 30 V is shown in Figure S8(a), which are excited with the light of different wavelength (254, 460 and 590 nm) under the same measurement condition. And, the peak of current sample at a bias of 30 V is plotted as a function of wavelength is shown as in Figure 5c. Further, the dark current ($\sim 0.205 \mu\text{A}$) is found to be lowest and an abrupt increase in the current is observed. Apparently, the current corresponding to 254, 460 and 590 nm wavelength reached ~ 0.254 , ~ 0.229 and $\sim 0.329 \mu\text{A}$.

The thermal sensitivity resulting from temperature dependence of the intensity can be calculated by

$$S = dI/dT \quad (1)$$

where S denotes the thermal sensitivity, I denotes the intensity of emission band at

653 nm and T denotes the temperature of the samples (°C).

Further, the thermal sensitivity resulting from spectra shift can be calculated by

$$S = d(\Delta\lambda)/dT \quad (2)$$

where S denotes the thermal sensitivity, $\Delta\lambda$ denotes the D-value of spectral shift (nm), T denotes the temperature of the samples (°C).

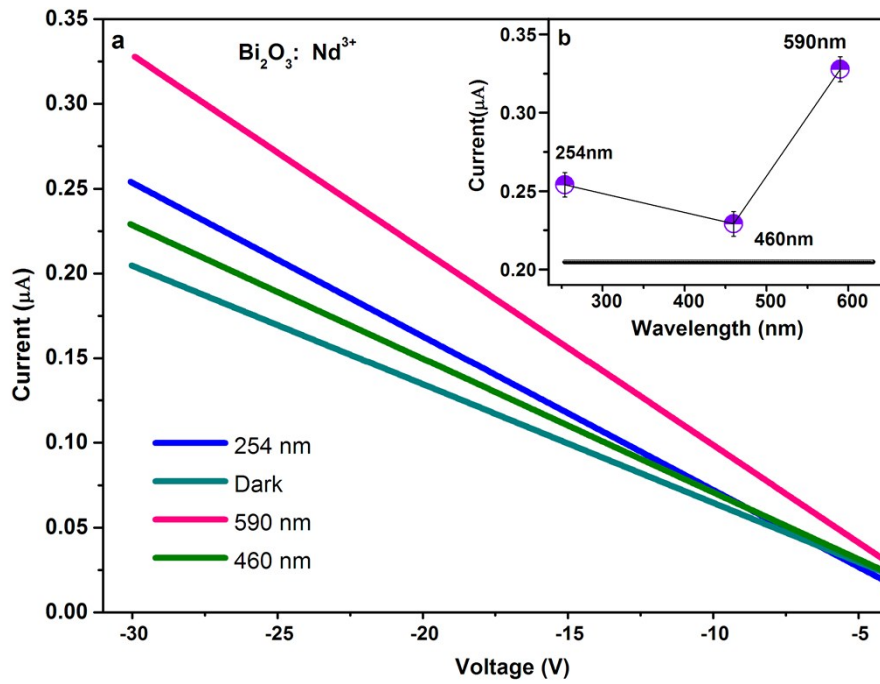


Figure S8: The optoelectronic performance of Bi₂O₃: Nd³⁺ phosphor (a) The current response under dark, 254, 460, and 590 nm excitation of Bi₂O₃: Nd³⁺. (b) The inset shows the variation of current with increasing illumination wavelength.

References

1. P. E. Blöchl, *Phys. Rev.*, 1994, B50, 17953–17979.
2. J. P. Perdew, K. Burke and M. Ernzerhof, *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 1996, 77, 3865–3868.
3. G. Kresse and J. Furthmüller, *Phys. Rev. B*, 1996, 54, 11169–11186.