## **Supporting Information**

Percolation limited emission intensity from up-converting NaYF<sub>4</sub>:Yb<sup>3+</sup>, Er<sup>3+</sup> nanocrystals – – a single nanocrystal optical study

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Figure S1. TEM images, size distributions, and mean particle diameters of core NaYF<sub>4</sub>:Yb(X%), Er(2%) nanocrystals with different Yb<sup>3+</sup> concentrations.



Figure S2. TEM images, size distributions, and mean particle diameters of core-shell  $NaYF_4$ : Yb(X%), Er(2%) nanocrystals with different Yb<sup>3+</sup> concentrations.



Figure S3. Luminescence decay curves of core and core-shell NaYF<sub>4</sub>:Yb<sup>3+</sup>(X%),  $Er^{3+}(2\%)$  nanocrystals with different Yb<sup>3+</sup> concentrations; emissions at (a) 545 and (b) 650 nm; excitation at 978 nm, 20 Hz, 7 ns pulse.