# **Supporting Information**

An Ultra-High Yield of Spherical K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> Red Phosphor and its Application in Ultra-Wide-Color-Gamut Liquid Crystal Displays *Hong Ming*,<sup>*a,c</sup></sup> <i>Lili Liu*,<sup>*a,c*</sup> *Shengan He*,<sup>*a,c*</sup> *Jiaqing Peng*,<sup>*a,c*</sup> *Fu Du*,<sup>*a,c*</sup> *Junxiang Fu*,<sup>*a,c*</sup> *Fengli*</sup>

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## **1. Experimental Section**

#### 1.1 Raw materials

All reagents and materials including KMnO<sub>4</sub> (A.R.), H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (30 wt.%), KHF<sub>2</sub> (99.5%), Sc<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (99.99%), NaF (99.99%), HF (48 wt.%), Acetic Acid (HAc), acetone (A.R.) and absolute alcohol (A.R.) were used as purchased without further purification. KHF<sub>2</sub>, NaF, HF and Sc<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> were supplied by Shanghai Aladdin Biochemical Technology Co., Ltd (China), while other materials (*e.g.*, KMnO<sub>4</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) were purchased from Guangdong Xilong Scientific Co., Ltd (China). Cs<sub>4</sub>PbBr<sub>6</sub>/CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> nanocomposites (CPB-NCs) and β-Sialon:Eu<sup>2+</sup> phosphors were supplied by Beijing Nakamura-Yuji Science and Technology Co., Ltd (China), while CaAlSiN<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>2+</sup> phosphors were purchased from Shandong Yantai SHIELD Advanced Materials Co., Ltd (China). To ensure safety, it is necessary to equip some safeguard requirements (such as patch, glove, fume hoods, *etc.*) during the whole synthesis process.

### 1.2 Synthesis of K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup>

The K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> phosphor was prepared through a simple co-precipitation method according to the schematically illustrated experimental process described in Figure S1. Take K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:2%Mn<sup>4+</sup> for example. The pre-set Mn<sup>4+</sup> source K<sub>2</sub>MnF<sub>6</sub> was obtained according to our previous work.<sup>1</sup> 4 mmol Sc<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (0.5516 g) was weighed and added into a 25 mL Teflon beaker containing 10 ml HF solution, after vigorous magnetic stirring for 30 min, 0.16 mmol K<sub>2</sub>MnF<sub>6</sub> (0.0395 g) was put into the above solution and continue stirring for 5 min until completely dissolved. Then, 8 mmol NaF (0.3359 g) and 112 mmol KHF<sub>2</sub> (8.7472 g) were added into the above mixture solution, the mixed solution was kept stirring for further 30 min. After that, the Teflon beaker was quickly put into ice-water bath for 2 h, with the aim of avoiding the valence state change of Mn<sup>4+</sup> and reducing the volatilization of poisonous HF. The resulting pale-yellow powder product was collected and washed several times with HAc and acetone, then oven-dried at 70 °C for 3 h under a vacuum environment to obtain the final product. As shown in Figure S1a and S1b, the final obtained powders are pale

yellow and they emit an intensive red emission light under the irradiation of blue light. In order to investigate the effect of molar ratio of KHF<sub>2</sub> to  $Sc_2O_3$  on the resulting products, a series of  $K_2NaScF_6:Mn^{4+}$  samples were obtained by the same procedure according to the synthetic parameters described in Table S1. Besides, different concentrations of  $Mn^{4+}$  doped  $K_2NaScF_6$  samples were also synthesized using the same method except for different molar ratios of  $Sc_2O_3$  to  $K_2MnF_6$  (Table S2).



**Figure S1.** Synthesis schematic diagram for the synthesis of red phosphor  $K_2NaScF_6:Mn^{4+}$  from  $Sc_2O_3$ ,  $K_2MnF_6$ , NaF and KHF<sub>2</sub> in HF solution, and digital photographs of the powders under (a) the natural light and (b) the blue light irradiation, respectively.

**Table S1.** Schemes of different molecular ratios of  $KHF_2$  to  $Sc_2O_3$  for the synthesis of  $K_2NaScF_6:Mn^{4+}$  phosphor and nominal doping amount of  $Mn^{4+}$  as well as the actual doping amount of  $Mn^{4+}$  from ICP-AES test results.

samples	K : Sc	nominal doping amount of Mn4+	actual doping amount of Mn4+		
	(Molar ratio)	(mol%)	(mol%)		
1	6:1	3	0.92		
2	10 : 1	3	1.45		
3	14 : 1	3	2.21		
4	18:1	3	1.26		
5	22 : 1	3	1.06		
6	26 : 1	3	0.89		
7	30 : 1	3	0.72		

**Table S2.** Schemes of different molecular ratios of  $Sc_2O_3$  to  $K_2MnF_6$  for the synthesis of  $K_2NaScF_6:Mn^{4+}$ 

samples	Sc : Mn (Molar ratio)	actual doping amount of Mn4+ (mol%)
1	100 : 0.5	0.51
2	100 : 1	0.98
3	100 : 2	1.94
4	100 : 4	3.52
5	100 : 6	5.09
6	100 : 8	6.93

phosphor and actual doping amount of  $\mathrm{Mn}^{4+}$  from ICP-AES test results.

#### **1.3 Fabrication of LED devices**

The green emitters ( $\beta$ -Sialon:Eu<sup>2+</sup> phosphors or CPB-NCs), red emitters (as-synthesized K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> phosphors), and blue-emitting InGaN chips (~455 nm, 0.5 W) were used to fabricate pc-WLEDs. These emitters were mixed with epoxy resin thoroughly. The mass ratio of  $\beta$ -Sialon:Eu<sup>2+</sup>, K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> to epoxy resin is 1:4:10 while the mass ratio of the CPB-NCs, K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> to epoxy resin is 1:4:10 while the mass ratio of the CPB-NCs, K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> to epoxy resin is 1:3:10. The pc-WLEDs were obtained by coating epoxy resin mixture on the surface of chips and then dried at 150 °C (423 K) for 1 h.

#### **1.4 Characterization**

The phase purity of the as-synthesized sample examined by the X-ray powder diffraction (XRD) method on a BRUKER D8 ADVANCED type powder X-ray diffractometer with Cu K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 1.5418$  Å), performing at 40 kV and 40 mA from 10° to 90° with a scanning step size of 0.02° at 4° min<sup>-1</sup>. High-angular resolution synchrotron X-ray powder diffraction data were recorded at the BL44B2 beamline of Spring-8 synchrotron radiation facility (Japan) using a constant wavelength of 0.50026 Å and a large Debye-Scherrer camera at room temperature and using a constant wavelength of 0.45 Å. The Rietveld refinement was conducted on the General Structure Analysis System (GSAS) program.<sup>2</sup> Microstructure observations and analyses were performed by using a MIRA3 LMH (TESCAN) scanning electron microscope (SEM) equipped with the energy-dispersive X-ray spectrum (EDS), and a JEOL-2010 transmission electron microscope (TEM). Compositional analyses were verified by an ICP-AES (Optima 8300, PerkinElmer). The XPS spectrum was recorded on a scanning X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy microprobe system (XPS, Phi5000 Versaprobe- II, Ulvac-Phi). Diffuse refection spectra (DRS) of the powder samples were measured on a UV-vis-NIR spectrophotometer (Perkin Elmer, Lambda 950) attached to an integral sphere and using barium sulfate as a standard reference. The photoluminescence excitation (PLE), photoluminescence (PL) spectra, quantum yield (QY) and luminescence decay curves were measured at room temperature by an Edinburgh Instruments FLS980 fluorescence spectrometer, a 450 W xenon lamp was used as the light source. In order to investigate the temperature dependence of the PL properties, the phosphors were placed in a temperature-controlled copper cylinder, and measuring temperature was increased from 300 to 450 K. For low temperature spectra measurement, the phosphors were placed in a closed cycle liquid-helium cooling cryostat, and measurements were performed in the temperature range of 20-300 K. The optical properties, including the luminescent spectrum, luminous efficacy (LE), CRI, CCT, and Commission Internationale de L'Eclairage (CIE) chromaticity coordinates of the LEDs, were measured by a HAAS-2000 (Everfine, China) light and radiation measuring instrument with a photoelectricity test system.

# 2. Results and discussion

## Method for calculating the synthetic yield of K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> phosphor

The procedure (described in part 1.2 of Supporting Information) of K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> samples synthesized with different molar ratio of KHF<sub>2</sub> to Sc<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (Table S1) was repeated three times. Take the final yield of K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> synthesized with a K/Sc molar ratio of 6 : 1 as an example. The three measured values of synthetic yield for K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> synthesized at a K/Sc molar ratio of 6 : 1 were denoted as  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$  and  $M_3$ , respectively. The final yield value (M) for the K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> sample synthesized with a K/Sc molar ratio of 6 : 1 is determined as follow:  $M = \frac{M_1 + M_2 + M_3}{3}$ All samples were weighed after drying at 150 °C for 8 h in a vacuum oven. The final yields of K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> synthesized with different K/Sc molar ratio were

determined by the same procedure.

**Table S3.** Rietveld refinement parameters of conventional X-ray and synchrotron radiation X-ray di  $\Box$  raction profiles of K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub> and K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:2%Mn<sup>4+</sup>, respectively. The numbers in parentheses are the estimated standard deviations of the last significant figure.

Formula	$K_2NaScF_6$	$K_2NaScF_6:2\%Mn^{4+}$
T/K	298	298
symmetry	cubic	cubic
space group	Fm3m	Fm3m
a, b, c/Å	8.47418(7)	8.43877(6)
β/degree	90	90
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	608.545(15)	600.950(12)
Ζ	4	4
20-interval/degree	5-120	2-33
Rwp	8.55	5.88
Rp	6.56	4.03
$\chi^2$	1.276	1.096

**Table S4.** Structural parameters of  $K_2NaScF_6$  as obtained from the Rietveld refinement of conventional Xray di  $\Box$  raction at room temperature. The numbers in parentheses are the estimated standard deviations of the last significant figure.

Atom	Site	x	У	Ζ	Occ.	$U_{iso}({ m \AA}^2)$
K	8c	0.25	0.25	0.25	1	0.0440(4)
Na	4b	0.50	0.50	0.50	1	0.0330(9)
Sc	4a	0	0	0	1	0.0272(5)
F	24e	0.2341(8)	0	0	1	0.0566(6)

**Table S5.** Structural parameters of  $K_2NaScF_6$ :2%Mn<sup>4+</sup> as obtained from the combined Rietveld refinement of conventional X-ray and synchrotron radiation X-ray di  $\Box$  raction at room temperature. The numbers in parentheses are the estimated standard deviations of the last significant figure.

Atom	Site	x	у	Ζ	Occ.	$U_{iso}({ m \AA}^2)$
K	8c	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.9957(6)	0.0258(6)
Na	4b	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.9858(7)	0.0084(7)
Sc	4a	0	0	0	0.9816(3)	0.0066(8)
F	24e	0.2339(7)	0	0	1.0000(0)	0.0330(9)
Mn	4a	0	0	0	0.0183(7)	0.0064(3)

Formula	Standard enthalpy of formation* ( ${}^{\Delta H_f^{\theta}}$ , kJ/mol)	Ref.
$K_2NaScF_6$	-3397.6	3
$K_2NaGaF_6$	-2793.6	3
$K_2SiF_6$	-2807	4
Rb <sub>2</sub> SiF <sub>6</sub>	-2838	4
$Cs_2SiF_6$	-2801	4
(NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SiF <sub>6</sub>	-2681	4
K <sub>2</sub> GeF <sub>6</sub>	-2600±8	4
K <sub>2</sub> NiF <sub>6</sub>	-2021±12	4

Table S6. Standard enthalpy of formation of K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub> and some typical fluorides.

\*: The enthalpies of formation  $\Delta H_f^{\theta}$  were calculated by the same means of the Born-Fajans-Haber thermochemical cycle:<sup>3,4</sup>

where  $A_xMF_6$  represents fluorides (A = K, Na, Rb, Cs or NH<sub>4</sub>; x = 2, M = Si, Ge, Zr, Ti, Sn or Ni; x = 3, M = Al, Ga, In or Sc), (c) represents crystalline state, (g) represents gaseous state, (ss) indicates standard state and the  $U_{POT}(A_xMF_6)$  represents lattice energies of fluorides.

F1-	Experimental solubility values	Solubility values found in the	Ref.	
Formula	(g/100 ml H <sub>2</sub> O), 25 °C *	literature (g/100 ml H <sub>2</sub> O)		
K <sub>2</sub> NaScF <sub>6</sub>	0.034		This work	
$K_3ScF_6$	0.210			
K <sub>2</sub> TiF <sub>6</sub>	1.294			
Na <sub>2</sub> TiF <sub>6</sub>	7.303			
(NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> TiF	20.004			
6	29.004			
K <sub>2</sub> SiF <sub>6</sub>	0.266	0.121 (17 °C)	5	
Na <sub>2</sub> SiF <sub>6</sub>	0.993	0.715 (20 °C)	5	
(NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SiF <sub>6</sub>	26.795	21.556 (20 °C)	5	
K <sub>3</sub> AlF <sub>6</sub>	0.292			
Na <sub>3</sub> AlF <sub>6</sub>	0.913			

**Table S7.** Solubilities of K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub> and some typical fluorides.

\*: Experimental solubility values of fluorides in the above table were calculated roughly by using the following procedure. The saturated solution was prepared by adding an excess of a single fluoride (m<sub>1</sub>) in the deionized water (100 ml) and maintained at 25 °C for 1 week to reach the equilibrium of solubility. Then, the residue was collected by using the centrifuge reweighed (m<sub>2</sub>) after drying at 150 °C for 8 h in a vacuum oven. The dissolved part of the fluoride was not collected by the centrifuge, so its solubility value can be calculated as follow:  $S_n = m_1 - m_2$ . This procedure was repeated three times for each fluoride and the solubility values were denoted as  $S_1$ ,  $S_2$  and  $S_3$ , respectively. The final solubility value for each fluoride is determined as follow:  $S = \frac{S_1 + S_2 + S_3}{3}$ . The results are very approach to the reported results.

Phosphors		CCT(K) = LE(lm/W)		Color gamut in CIE 1931		Daf
Green	Red	ССТ (К)	LE (IM/W)	NSTC (%)	Rec. 2020 (%)	Kel.
С	CFL			75.0		6
RG	B LED			105.0		6
$\beta$ -sialon:Eu <sup>2+</sup>	CaAlSiN <sub>3</sub> :Eu <sup>2+</sup>	8620	38 (20 mA)	82.1		7
YA	G:Ce <sup>3+</sup>	8000	105 (60 mA)	67.9		6
YAG:Ce <sup>3+</sup>		4950	59	68.3		7
$\beta$ -sialon:Eu <sup>2+</sup>	$K_2SiF_6:Mn^{4+}$	8611	94 (120 mA)	85.9		8
CsPbBr <sub>3</sub>	$K_2SiF_6:Mn^{4+}$			102.0		9
$\beta$ -sialon:Eu <sup>2+</sup>	K <sub>2</sub> NbF <sub>7</sub> :Mn <sup>4+</sup>	11338	94.68 (120 mA)	86.7		10
CsPbBr <sub>3</sub> QDs	$Na_2WO_2F_4:Mn^{4+}$	12123		107.1		11
$\beta$ -sialon:Eu <sup>2+</sup>	$Cs_2SiF_6:Mn^{4+}$	6880	133	84.7		12
		5000		107.0	05.1	this
β-sialon:Eu <sup>2+</sup>	K <sub>2</sub> NaScF <sub>6</sub> :Mn <sup>4+</sup>	3980	67.65 (20 mA)	127.3	95.1	work
CDD NC		2050				this
CPB-NCS	K <sub>2</sub> NaScF <sub>6</sub> :Mn <sup>4+</sup>	3939	56.29 (20 mA)	129.5	96./	work

 Table S8. Photoelectric parameters of pc-WLEDs for LCD backlights.



**Fig S2.** The conventional X-ray Rietveld refinement patterns of K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>. The experimental data for refinement was collected by the Bruker D8 Advanced type powder X-ray diffractometer.



Fig S3. XPS spectrum of  $K_2NaScF_6:Mn^{4+}$ . the inset is the magnification of the dot square (Mn<sup>4+</sup> part).



**Fig S4.** (a) PL spectra (under 468 nm excitation), (b) normalized integrated intensity, (c) normalized PL spectra and (d) the relative ZPL intensity of  $K_2NaScF_6:Mn^{4+}$  samples prepared using different molar ratio of K to Sc (K : Sc = 6 : 1, 10 : 1, 14 : 1, 18 : 1, 22 : 1, 26 : 1 and 30 : 1) in HF solution. All synthetic parameters were kept constant except for the examined variables.

In order to check the relationship between PL intensity and the molar ratio of K to Sc, the emission spectra of K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> samples synthesized with different molar ratios of K to Sc (K : Sc = 6 : 1, 10 : 1, 14 : 1, 18 : 1, 22 : 1, 26 : 1 and 30 : 1) are depicted in Figure S4a. Under 468 nm excitation, their PL spectra are almost identical except for the emission intensity. As shown, all the PL spectra consists of seven sharp emission peaks centered at 598, 609, 614, 622, 630, 634, 647 nm, corresponding to the transitions of anti-Stokes  $v_3(t_{1u})$ ,  $v_4(t_{1u})$ ,  $v_6(t_{2u})$ , zero phonon line (ZPL) and Stokes  $v_6(t_{2u})$ ,  $v_4(t_{1u})$  and  $v_3(t_{1u})$  vibronic modes of Mn<sup>4+</sup>:<sup>2</sup>E $\rightarrow$ <sup>4</sup>A<sub>2</sub>, respectively.<sup>13</sup> Meanwhile, It is obviously seen in Figure S4b, the PL intensity of K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> firstly increases with an increasing of the molar ratios of K to Sc and reaches a maximum

when the molar ratio of K to Sc is 14:1, then monotonously decreases with further increasing the molar ratio of K to Sc. Thus, we believe that the optimal molar ratio of K to Sc for the preparation of K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> is 14 : 1 in the design without considering the synthetic yield. For further understand this phenomenon, the emission spectra of K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> obtained with different molar ratio of K to Sc were normalized and are shown in Figure S4c. The contour of spectra maintains unchanged except the ZPL. Figure S4d presents the change of relative ZPL intensity. The change trend of relative ZPL intensity is the same as the integrated emission intensity of  $K_2NaScF_6:Mn^{4+}$  prepared with different molar ratio of K to Sc. It is worth noting that the  $K_2NaScF_6:Mn^{4+}$  sample with stronger emission intensity provides a larger emission of ZPL. As a matter of fact, the emission intensity of ZPL is shown to be rigorously determined by the local symmetry of Mn<sup>4+</sup> surroundings, and the ZPL would be stronger as the lower symmetry of the substituted sites in host lattice.<sup>14</sup> In this system, Mn<sup>4+</sup> non-equivalently doped into the bigger Sc<sup>3+</sup> site, and the higher the doping content of Mn<sup>4+</sup>, the more serious the lattice distortion and the lower the symmetry of the substitution sites. Therefore, despite the fact that the molar ratio of  $K_2MnF_6$  to  $Sc_2O_3$  is fixed in our experiment, it can be reasonably concluded that the actual doping amount of Mn<sup>4+</sup> is different for the K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> samples synthesized with different molar ratios of K to Sc. To confirm whether the actual Mn<sup>4+</sup> doping amount of K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> samples show similar dependence,  $K_2NaScF_6:Mn^{4+}$  samples synthesized with different molar ratios of K to Sc were further studied by using the Inductively Coupled Plasma-Atomic Emission Spectrometry (ICP-AES) technology, as shown in Table S1. It is found that the dependence of the actual Mn<sup>4+</sup> doping amount of K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> samples on the molar ratios of K to Sc is perfectly consistent with that of the ZPL (Figure S4d) as well as the PL intensity (Figure S4b), suggesting that the dependence of PL intensity of K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> samples on the molar ratios of K to Sc is inherently due to the changing amount of activator, *i.e.*,  $Mn^{4+}$  ion, controlled by the amount of KHF<sub>2</sub>. The analytical results show that an appropriate increase in the amount of KHF<sub>2</sub> into the reaction system may enhance the effective Mn<sup>4+</sup> doping amount of  $K_2NaScF_6:Mn^{4+}$  phosphor. However, with further increasing the input amount of KHF<sub>2</sub>, the effective Mn<sup>4+</sup> doping amount tends to decrease gradually. A possible reason for this phenomenon is that excessive K<sup>+</sup> ions badly exacerbated the charge imbalance when the trivalent Sc<sup>3+</sup> ions were substituted by the tetravalent Mn<sup>4+</sup> ions.<sup>15</sup>



Fig S5. XRD patterns of K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup>samples doped with different content of Mn<sup>4+</sup>.



Fig S6. PL spectra (under 468 nm excitation) of  $K_2NaScF_6:Mn^{4+}$  and reference sample measured using an integrating sphere for quantum yield.

The QY of K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> phosphor was measured by using an integrating sphere coated with barium sulfate at room-temperature attached to the spectrophotometer. The IQY (symbolized as  $\eta_{int}$ ) can be calculated by using the following equation:<sup>10</sup>

$$\eta_{int} = \frac{\int L_s}{\int E_R - \int E_S}$$

where  $L_S$  represents the emission spectrum of the studied K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> phosphor, and  $E_S$  and  $E_R$  are the excitation spectra of the excitation light used for exciting the product and without the product in the integrating sphere, respectively.

The AE of the sample,  $\varepsilon_{abs}$ , can be calculated by the following expression:

$$\varepsilon_{abs} = \frac{E_R - E_S}{E_R}$$

thereupon, the EQY (symbolized as  $\eta_{ext}$ ) can be determined by the following equation:

 $\eta_{ext} = \varepsilon_{abs} \times \eta_{int}$ 



Fig S7. The relationship plot between log(I/x) versus log(x) for the K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> phosphor. (Note: x represents the doping content of Mn<sup>4+</sup>.)

To obtain a better understanding of the concentration quenching characteristics of  $K_2NaScF_6:Mn^{4+}$ phosphor, the critical distance  $R_c$  proposed by Blasse between the adjacent  $Mn^{4+}$  ions was estimated according to the following equation:<sup>16, 17</sup>

$$R_c \approx 2 \times \left(\frac{3V}{4\pi x_c N}\right)^{1/3}$$

in which  $x_c$  represents the critical concentration of Mn<sup>4+</sup> in the matrix, V is the unit cell volume and N represents the number of available sites that the activator can substitute in the host lattice. For the K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub> matrix, V = 608.545 Å<sup>3</sup>, N = 4 and the critical concentration  $x_c$  is 1.94 mol%. So, the critical distance ( $R_c$ ) for energy transfer is determined to be 24.65 Å. It is well known that the exchange interaction can only occur when the  $R_c$  is less than 5 Å. While, the calculated  $R_c$  is much bigger than 5 Å, implying that there is almost no exchange interaction in the energy transfer between Mn<sup>4+</sup> ions. Hence, the non-radiative energy transfer mechanism for Mn<sup>4+</sup> ions in K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub> matrix is considered to be the multipolar interaction. On the basis of the Dexter theory, the related type of the multipolar interaction can be determined by using the following equation:<sup>18, 19</sup>

$$\frac{I}{x} = K \left[ 1 + \beta(x)^{\frac{\theta}{3}} \right]^{-1}$$

where *I* and *x* represent the integrated emission intensity and the concentration of activator that is no less than the  $x_c$ , respectively. *K* and  $\beta$  are constants. The  $\theta$  equals to 6, 8, and 10, corresponding to the dipole-dipole (d-d), dipole-quadrupole (d-q), and quadrupole-quadrupole (q-q) interaction, respectively. The above equation can be approximately deformalized as below:

$$\log\left(\frac{l}{x}\right) = -\frac{\theta}{3}\log x + A$$

as shown in Figure S7, the relationship of log(I/x) versus log(x) appears to be linear, possessing a slope (- $\theta/3$ ) of -1.90. The corresponding  $\theta$  is calculated to be 5.70 and close to 6. Thus, the concentration quenching of Mn<sup>4+</sup> in K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub> host lattice is mainly because of the dipole-dipole (d-d) interaction.



**Fig S8.** (a) Tanabe-Sugano energy-level diagram of  $Mn^{4+}$  in an octahedral crystal field. (b) Empirical linear relationship between the  $Mn^{4+}:^{2}E_{g}$  energy level and the nephelauxetic ratio  $\beta_{1}$ .

The effect of an octahedral environment on the energy levels of  $Mn^{4+} 3d^3$  can be well illustrated by the Tanabe-Sugano diagram, as show in Figure S8a. The crystal field strength  $D_q$  for  $Mn^{4+}$  ions in the K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub> matrix can be determined by the peak energy of  $Mn^{4+}:^4A_2 \rightarrow {}^4T_2$  (21368 cm<sup>-1</sup>) according to the following expression:<sup>20</sup>

$$D_q = \frac{E({}^4A_2 \to {}^4T_2)}{10}$$

The values of  $D_q$  is estimated to be ~2137 cm<sup>-1</sup>. On the basis of the difference of peak energy (5880 cm<sup>-1</sup>) between Mn<sup>4+</sup>:  ${}^{4}A_{2} \rightarrow {}^{4}T_{1}$  (27248 cm<sup>-1</sup>) and  ${}^{4}A_{2} \rightarrow {}^{4}T_{2}$  (21368 cm<sup>-1</sup>), the Racah parameter *B* can be determined as below:<sup>20</sup>

$$\frac{D_q}{B} = \frac{15(x-8)}{(x^2 - 10x)}$$

here, the definition of the parameter x is as follows:<sup>20</sup>

$$x = \frac{E({}^{4}A_{2} \rightarrow {}^{4}T_{1}) - E({}^{4}A_{2} \rightarrow {}^{4}T_{2})}{D_{q}}$$

The Racah parameter C is determined using the following formula:<sup>20</sup>

$$\frac{E(^{2}E \rightarrow ^{4}A_{2})}{B} = \frac{3.05C}{B} + 7.9 - \frac{1.8B}{D_{a}}$$

The estimated values of *B* and *C* for the K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> phosphor are ~541 cm<sup>-1</sup> and ~3950 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively, and consequently, the  $D_q/B$  equals to ~3.947, suggesting that Mn<sup>4+</sup> ions in K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub> host lattice suffer from a strong crystal field strength (Figure S8a).

As is well-known, the <sup>2</sup>E energy level of Mn<sup>4+</sup> is almost unaffected by the crystal field while its position differs from host to host, which results in different emission wavelength of Mn<sup>4+</sup>:<sup>2</sup>E $\rightarrow$ <sup>4</sup>A<sub>2</sub> (16077 cm<sup>-1</sup>). The main cause of this change in energies of the transition (Mn<sup>4+</sup>:<sup>2</sup>E $\rightarrow$ <sup>4</sup>A<sub>2</sub>) is the nephelauxetic effect depending on the covalency of the metal-ligand chemical bond. To evaluate the covalent effect of Mn<sup>4+</sup> in the K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub> matrix, the nephelauxetic ratio  $\beta_1$  established by Brik et al. is calculated using the following equation:<sup>21</sup>

$$\beta_1 = \sqrt{(\frac{B}{B_0})^2 + (\frac{C}{C_0})^2}$$

where  $B_0$  (1160 cm<sup>-1</sup>) and  $C_0$  (4303 cm<sup>-1</sup>) are the Racah parameters of Mn<sup>4+</sup> ions (free state) in a crystal, respectively. For Mn<sup>4+</sup>-doped K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>, the  $\beta_1$  is determined to be ~1.0298, and the data point ( $\beta_1$ , E), as depicted in Figure S8b, follows the empirical line established by Brik and Srivastava well and approaches other points of fluorides.<sup>21</sup>



Fig S9. The luminescence decay curves of  $K_2NaScF_6:Mn^{4+}$  phosphor during the heating processes.



Fig S10. CIE chromaticity shifts (a) and CIE color coordinates (b) of  $K_2NaScF_6:Mn^{4+}$  and  $CaAlSiN_3:Eu^{2+}$  in the temperature region from 300 to 450 K.

The color stability was quantifiably evaluated by using the chromaticity shift ( $\Delta E$ ). The chromaticity shift ( $\Delta E$ ) of phosphors in the temperature range of 300-450 K can be calculated according to the following equation:<sup>22</sup>

$$\Delta E = \sqrt{(u_t - u_0)^2 + (v_t - v_0)^2 + (w_t - w_0)^2}$$

where u' = 4x/(3 - 2x + 12y), v' = 9y/(3 - 2x + 12y), and w' = 1 - u' - v'. u' and v' are the chromaticity coordinates in u'v' uniform color space, x and y are the chromaticity coordinates in CIE 1931 color space, 0 and t are the chromaticity shift at 300 K and a given temperature, respectively. As presented in Figure S10a, as the increase of temperature, the chromaticity shifts of K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> and CaAlSiN<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>2+</sup> (purchased from Yantai SHIELD Advanced Materials Co., Ltd.) both increases gradually, while the chromaticity shift of CaAlSiN<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>2+</sup> increases faster. At 450 K (175 °C), CaAlSiN<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>2+</sup> shows the chromaticity shift of ~  $36 \times 10^{-3}$ , which is more than twice that of K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> (~ $16 \times 10^{-3}$ ). Moreover, Figure S10b displays the temperature-dependent CIE color coordinates of K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> and CaAlSiN<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>2+</sup> phosphors in detail. With the temperature increases from 300 K to 450 K, the CIE color coordinate of K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> shifts from (0.6936, 0.3063) to (0.6880, 0.3121), and its luminescent color is still in the red region. By contrast, the CIE color coordinate of CaAlSiN<sub>3</sub>:Eu<sup>2+</sup> shifts from the red region (0.6405, 0.3589) to the orange region (0.6234, 0.3758). In summary, the K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> phosphor shows a preferable color stability with a slight chromaticity shift within the red region, which is mainly ascribed to the broadening and negligible shifting of the red line peaks of Mn<sup>4+</sup>.<sup>13</sup> These results further demonstrate that K<sub>2</sub>NaScF<sub>6</sub>:Mn<sup>4+</sup> is a potential red phosphor as the efficient red supplement for high-quality pc-WLEDs.



**Fig S11**. (a) Electroluminescence spectra of LED-2. (b) Transmittance spectrum of the commercial red, green, and blue color filters. (c), (d) and (e) are the corresponding EL spectra after filtering.



**Fig S12**. The CIE 1931 color coordinates corresponding to the constructed LED-2 (white triangles), the NTSC standard (black triangles) and the Rec. 2020 standard (blue triangles).

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