

Supporting Information

Simultaneously Excited Downshifting/Upconversion Luminescence from Lanthanide-Doped Core-Shell Lead-Free Perovskite Nanocrystals for Encryption and Data Storage

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Section S1. Optical properties of undoped, Bi³⁺ doped and Yb³⁺, Er³⁺ co-doped Cs₂AgInCl₆ NCs

As seen in Figure S5, the pristine Cs₂AgInCl₆ NCs are characterized by a strong PL excitation (PLE) peak at around 360 nm, due to surface-related sub-band gap states or defects,¹ which is related to a broad PL band peaked at 550 nm corresponding to white light emission. As can be seen from Figure S5b, Cs₂AgInCl₆ NCs have a strong absorbance under shorter wavelength irradiation (< 350 nm), and the direct band-gap value is 4.34 eV according to the Tauc plot (Figure S6a).

As seen Figure S7a, the incorporation of Bi³⁺ in Cs₂AgInCl₆ NCs significantly changes the optical absorption and the broadband visible emission. Under 370 nm excitation, the Cs₂AgInCl₆:Bi NCs exhibit a broad orange emission band at around 635 nm. This broadband STEs emission may derive from the large exciton binding energy caused by the Jahn-Teller distortion of the linked AgCl₆-BiCl₆ octahedron.² As the doping concentration is increased, the PL intensity reaches a maximum at 2% of Bi³⁺ (PLQY = 4.2%), then subsequently declines as a result of concentration quenching. In addition, the spectra show distinct red-shifted emission and excitation, which may be due to the variation in the edge structure of Cs₂AgInCl₆ NCs via Bi³⁺

doping.³ The red-shift in the emission of Cs₂AgInCl₆:Bi NCs can also be observed from the CIE diagram (Figure S7b and Table S3). Two broad excitation bands appear in the PLE spectra, which are centered at 320 nm and 370 nm (Figure S7a), in agreement with the absorption spectrum shown in Figure S5b. The excitation band at 320 nm corresponds to the sub-band gap shallow trap state, and the other band at 370 nm matches the spin-allowed $^1S_0 \rightarrow ^3P_1$ transition of Bi³⁺.⁴ The bandgap value of 2%Bi NCs is indicated in Figure S6b, according to its Tauc plot. The incorporation of Bi³⁺ into Cs₂AgInCl₆ DP reshapes the band structure and leads to the characteristics of indirect band gap, due to the variation in the conduction band minimum.⁴ We also performed PL decay measurements on Cs₂AgInCl₆ and 2%Bi NCs to illustrate the origins of the emission (Figure S7c and S7d). The retrieved average lifetimes (τ_{avg}) of Cs₂AgInCl₆ and 2%Bi NCs are 4.34 ns and 195.64 ns, respectively. Figure S7e shows the energy level diagram of Bi³⁺, which can be excited from the 1S_0 level to 1P_1 level or 3P_n level ($n = 0, 1, 2$). The possible PL mechanism of Bi³⁺ centers in the Cs₂AgInCl₆:Bi NCs is proposed in Figure 3c. Bi³⁺ can absorb 370 nm photons and is photoexcited to 3P_1 and 1P_1 levels, then the 1P_1 level relaxes to the 3P_1 level, subsequently transferring the energy to the STE state and leading to the observation of orange light emission.

Here, in order to broaden the excitation wavelength range of Cs₂AgInCl₆ NCs, we introduced Yb³⁺ and Er³⁺ into Cs₂AgInCl₆ NCs to achieve visible upconversion emission under NIR excitation and enrich the PL properties of DP. As seen from Figure S8a, under 980 nm excitation, Yb³⁺-Er³⁺ co-doped Cs₂AgInCl₆ display

narrowband visible emission centered at 526 nm, 552 nm, and 665 nm, corresponding to ${}^2\text{H}_{11/2} \rightarrow {}^4\text{I}_{15/2}$, ${}^4\text{S}_{3/2} \rightarrow {}^4\text{I}_{15/2}$ and ${}^4\text{F}_{9/2} \rightarrow {}^4\text{I}_{15/2}$ transitions of Er^{3+} , respectively. The possible upconversion mechanism is illustrated in Figure S8d. Under 980 nm light, Yb^{3+} , which has a 10 times larger absorption cross-section than erbium, is first photoexcited from the ${}^2\text{F}_{7/2}$ to the ${}^2\text{F}_{5/2}$ level. Then the $\text{Er}^{3+} {}^4\text{I}_{11/2}$ energy level becomes populated by energy transfer favored by the energy match with the ${}^2\text{F}_{5/2}$ energy level of Yb^{3+} , while Yb^{3+} depopulates from the ${}^2\text{F}_{5/2}$ excited state to ${}^2\text{F}_{7/2}$ ground state. As the $\text{Er}^{3+} {}^4\text{I}_{11/2}$ level is relatively long-lived, further photoexcitation can lead to the population of the upper ${}^4\text{F}_{7/2}$ level, which will then relax to the lower energy levels ${}^2\text{H}_{11/2}$, ${}^4\text{S}_{3/2}$ and ${}^4\text{F}_{9/2}$. Eventually Er^{3+} will return to the ground state ${}^4\text{I}_{15/2}$ by radiative relaxation resulting in green and red emissions. With the increase of Er^{3+} doping concentration, the upconversion intensity of 20%Yb, 7%Er NCs reaches a maximum and subsequently decreases (Figure S8a and S8b). As the excitation wavelength is increased from 280 to 370 nm, the broadband STEs emission of the DP host, centered at around 590 nm is revealed via the PL spectra of 20%Yb, 7%Er NCs (Figure S9a). Compared with the pristine nanocrystals, the co-doped NCs exhibit red-shifted emission, which may be attributed to the lattice distortion caused by the doping of Yb^{3+} and Er^{3+} . In agreement, the band gap value of 20%Yb, 7%Er NCs as estimated from its Tauc plot (Figure S6c), is reduced to 4.24 eV.⁵ The observed emission average lifetime is 4.45 ns, which is consistent with the value measured for the undoped NCs (Figure S8c). When illuminated under 365 nm laser, white light is emitted from the Yb^{3+} - Er^{3+} co-doped NCs (Figure S9b).

Section S2. Supplementary Figures and Tables

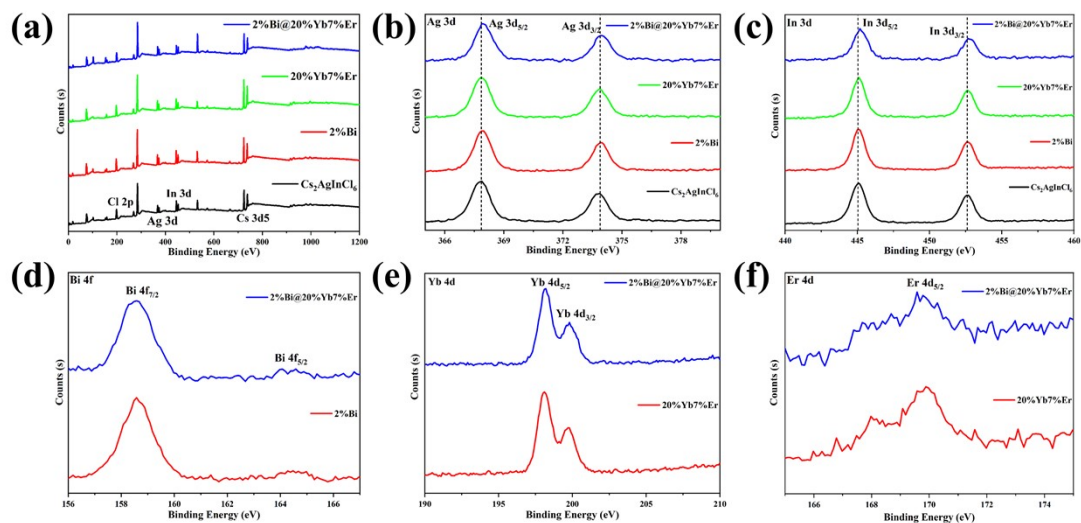


Figure S1. (a) Survey XPS spectra for $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$, 2%B i, 20%Yb, 7%Er, 2%B i@20%Yb, 7%Er; High-resolution XPS spectra of (b) Ag 3d, (c) In 3d, (d) Bi 4f, (e) Yb 4d and (f) Er 4d, respectively.

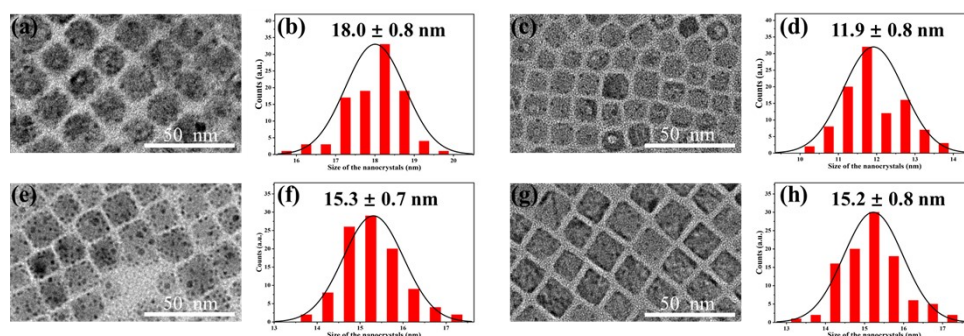


Figure S2. Size distribution estimated from TEM image of double perovskite nanocrystals. (a, b) $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$; (c, d) 2%B i; (e, f) 20%Yb, 7%Er; (g, h) 2%B i@20%Yb, 7%Er.

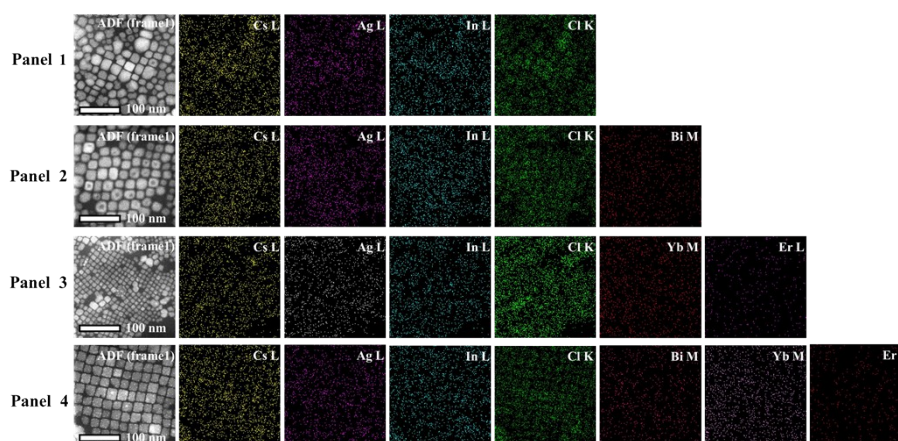


Figure S3. TEM-EDS mapping images. Panel 1: $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$; Panel 2: 2%B i; Panel 3:

20%Yb, 7%Er and Panel 4: 2%Bi@20%Yb, 7%Er.

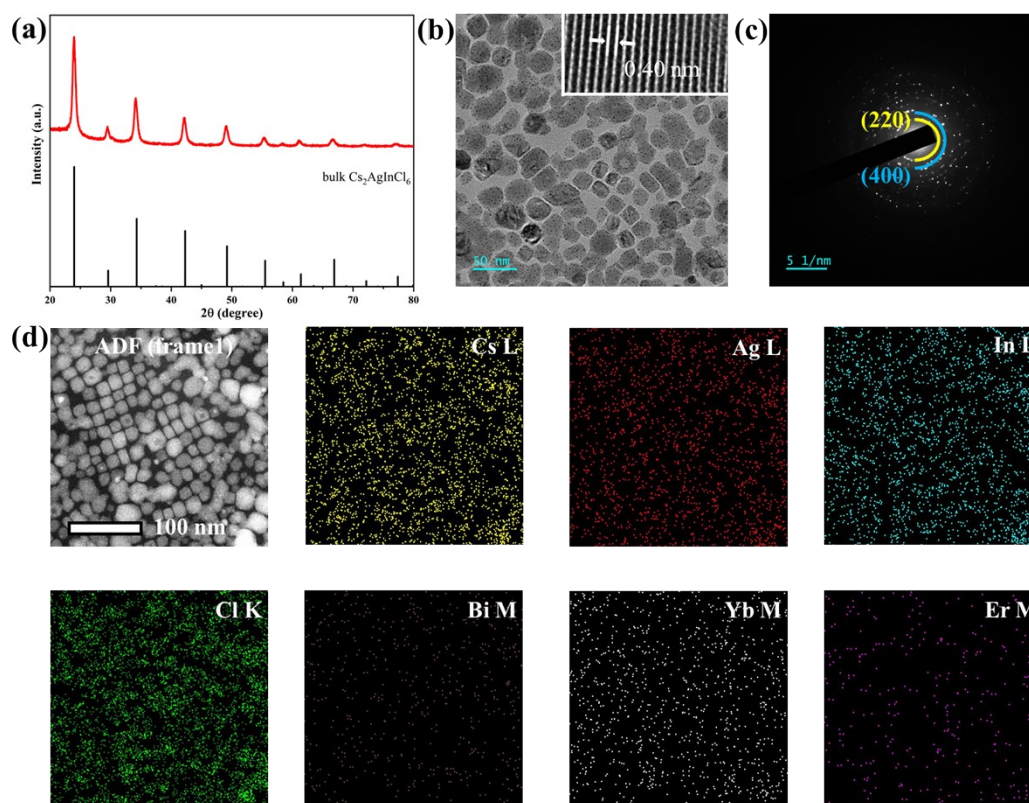


Figure S4. XRD pattern and TEM images of the mixture of 2%Bi and 20%Yb, 7%Er. (a) XRD pattern; (b) TEM and HRTEM images; (c) the corresponding SAED patterns; (d) TEM-EDS mapping images.

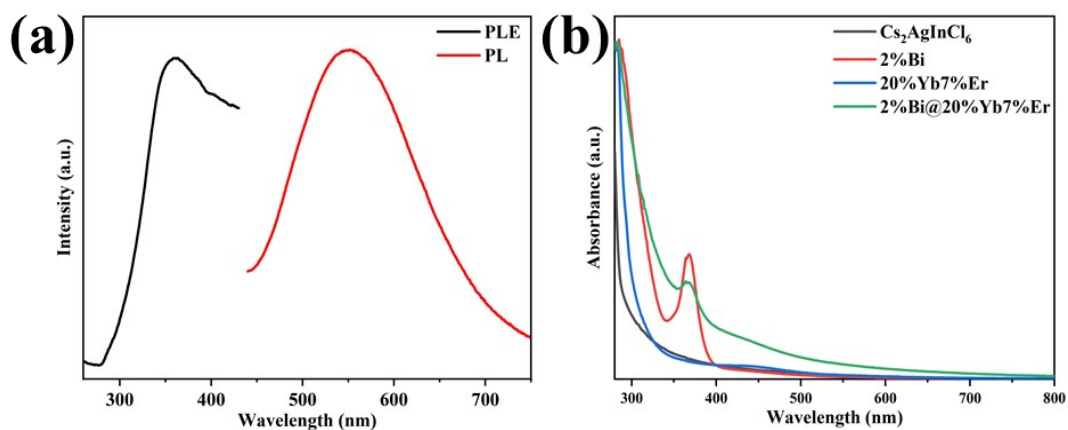


Figure S5. (a) PLE ($\lambda_{em} = 550$ nm) and PL ($\lambda_{ex} = 360$ nm) spectra of $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$ NCs dispersed in cyclohexane; (b) UV-visible absorption spectra of $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$, 2%Bi, 20%Yb, 7%Er, 2%Bi@20%Yb, 7%Er NCs dispersed in cyclohexane.

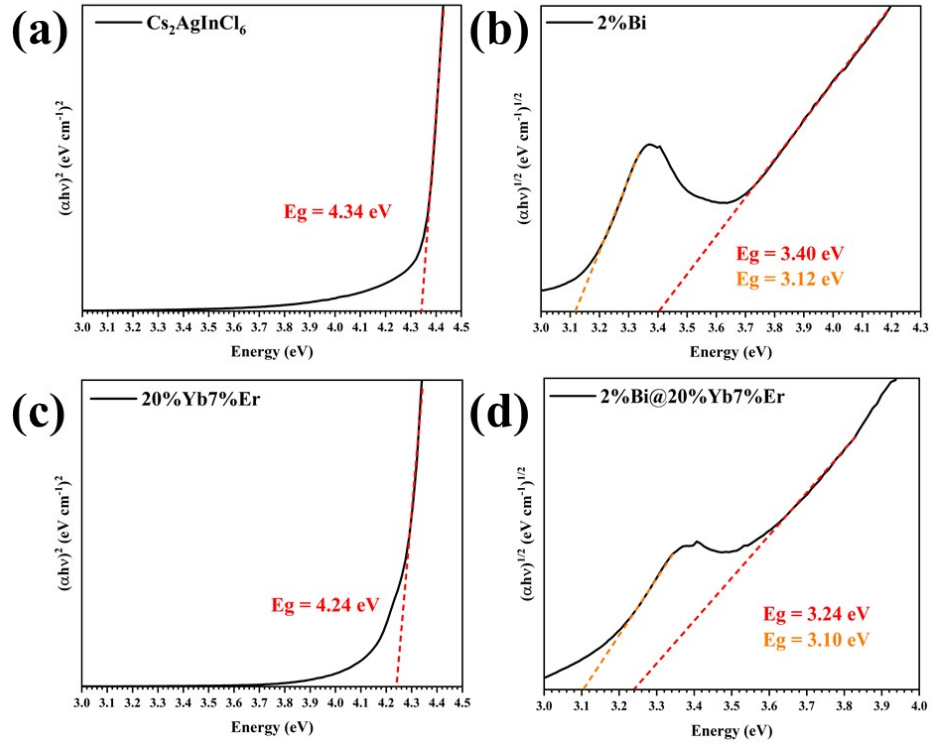


Figure S6. $(\alpha h\nu)^2-h\nu$ plots of (a) $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$, (b) 2%Bi, (c) 20%Yb, 7%Er, (d) 2%Bi@20%Yb, 7%Er NCs. The value of the optical band gap can be derived from the extrapolation to $\alpha = 0$.

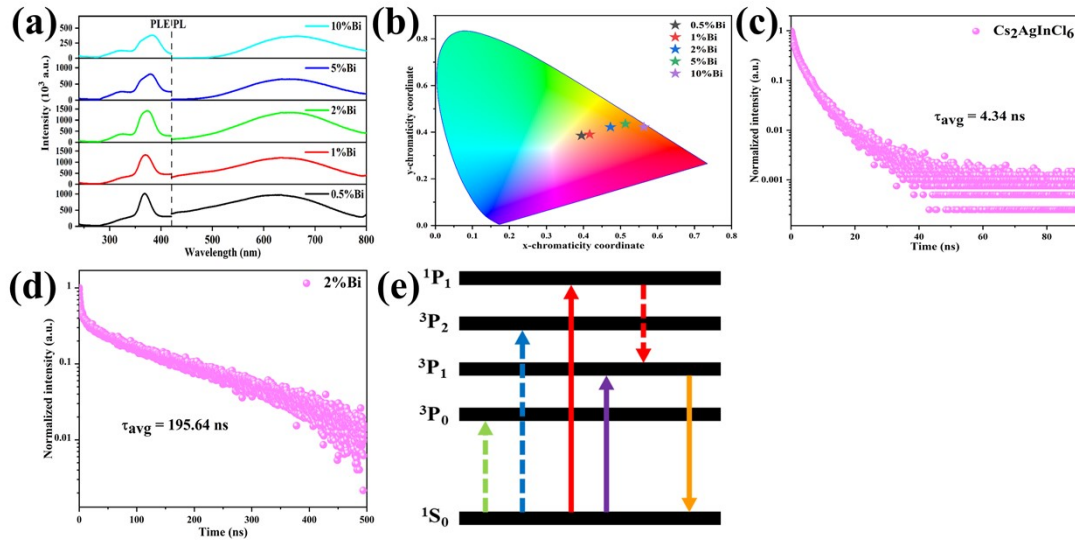


Figure S7. (a) PL ($\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 370 \text{ nm}$) and PLE ($\lambda_{\text{em}} = 635 \text{ nm}$) spectra of $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6:x\%\text{Bi}$ ($x = 0.5, 1, 2, 5, 10$); (b) the corresponding Commission International de l'Eclairage (CIE) coordinates diagram; (c) PL decay curve of $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$ emission at 550 nm under 375 nm excitation; (d) PL decay curve of 2%Bi emission at 635 nm under 375 nm excitation; (e) energy level diagram of Bi^{3+} .

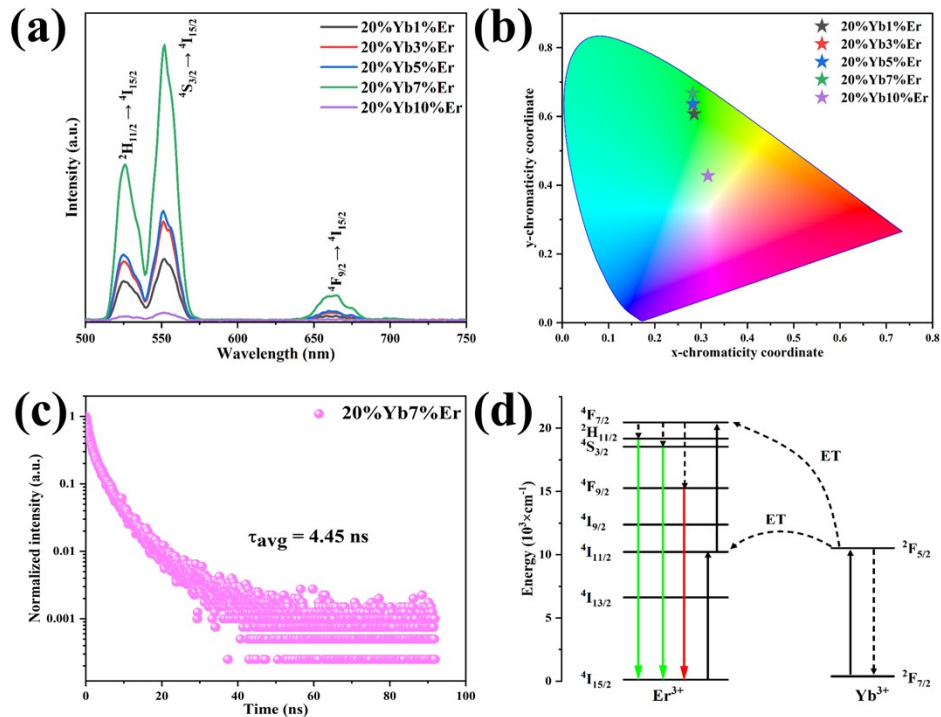


Figure S8. (a) PL ($\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 980 \text{ nm}$) spectra of $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6\text{:}20\%\text{Yb}, y\%\text{Er}$ ($y = 1, 3, 5, 7, 10$); (b) the corresponding CIE coordinates image; (c) PL decay curve of 20%Yb, 7%Er emission at 550 nm under 375 nm excitation; (d) schematic diagram of energy-transfer mechanism in $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6\text{:Yb, Er}$ NCs.

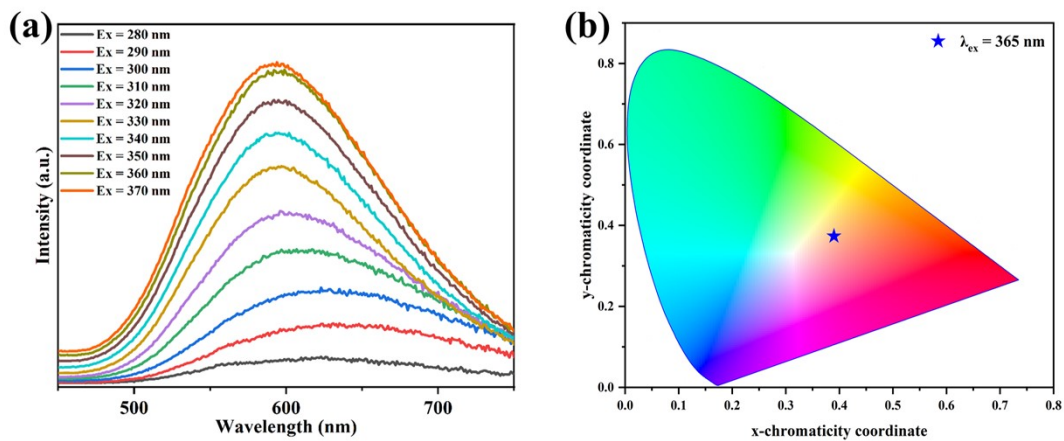


Figure S9. (a) the PL spectra of 20%Yb, 7%Er NCs excited at different wavelengths; (b) the CIE coordinates image of 20%Yb, 7%Er NCs under the excitation of 365 nm.

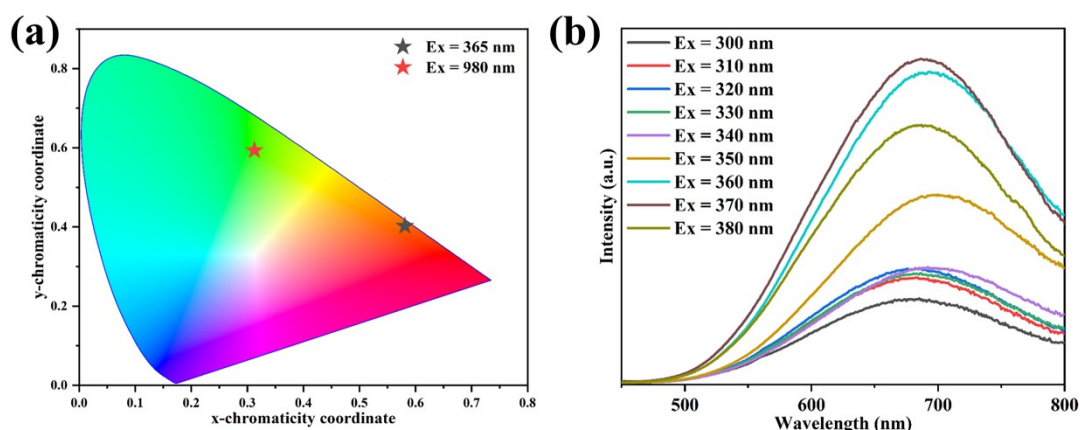


Figure S10. (a) CIE coordinates diagram for the emission under 365 nm and 980 nm illumination; (b) PL spectra of 2%Bi@20%Yb, 7%Er NCs at different excitation wavelengths. On increasing the excitation wavelength (Figure S10b), the broadband STEs emission centered at around 690 nm still dominates the spectrum while increasing in intensity, indicating that Bi³⁺-induced emission does not shift compared to vis emission from the matrix.

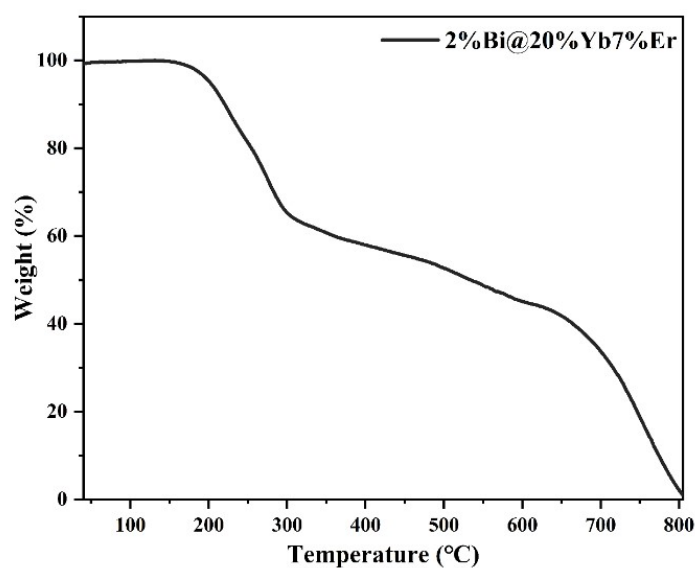


Figure S11. TG curve of 2%Bi@20%Yb, 7%Er NCs. TG measurement show that the weight loss at 300 °C is attributed to the evaporation of cyclohexane, DPE, OA, Olam⁶ and the core-shell DP structure decomposes around 600 °C.

Table S1. Structural parameters estimated from XRD patterns.

	Space group	Cell parameters(Å)	Cell volume(Å ³)	R ²
Cs ₂ AgInCl ₆	Fm-3m	a=10.474	1149.05	0.9590
2%Bi	Fm-3m	a=10.477	1150.03	0.9766
20%Yb, 7%Er	Fm-3m	a=10.518	1163.59	0.9292
2%Bi@20%Yb, 7%Er	Fm-3m	a=10.509	1160.60	0.9361

Table S2. ICP elemental analysis of Cs₂AgInCl₆, Cs₂AgInCl₆:2%Bi, Cs₂AgInCl₆:20%Yb, 7%Er, Cs₂AgInCl₆:2%Bi@Cs₂AgInCl₆:20%Yb, 7%Er NCs.

	Content ratio (Cs:In)	Content ratio (Bi:In)	Content ratio (Yb:In)	Content ratio (Er:In)
Cs ₂ AgInCl ₆	2.15	0	0	0
2%Bi	2.25	0.03	0	0
20%Yb, 7%Er	2.47	0	0.19	0.07
2%Bi@20%Yb, 7%Er	2.43	0.02	0.05	0.02

Table S3. CIE coordinates of Cs₂AgInCl₆:x%Bi NCs (x = 0.5, 1, 2, 5, 10).

	0.5%Bi	1%Bi	2%Bi	5%Bi	10%Bi
X	0.39	0.42	0.47	0.51	0.56
Y	0.39	0.39	0.42	0.44	0.42

Section S3. Supplementary References

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