

# $\text{Ln}_2\text{GeB}_2\text{O}_8$ (Ln = Nd, Sm-Tb): A Series of Luminescent Lanthanide(III) Borogermanates with a Layered Structure

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## Supporting information

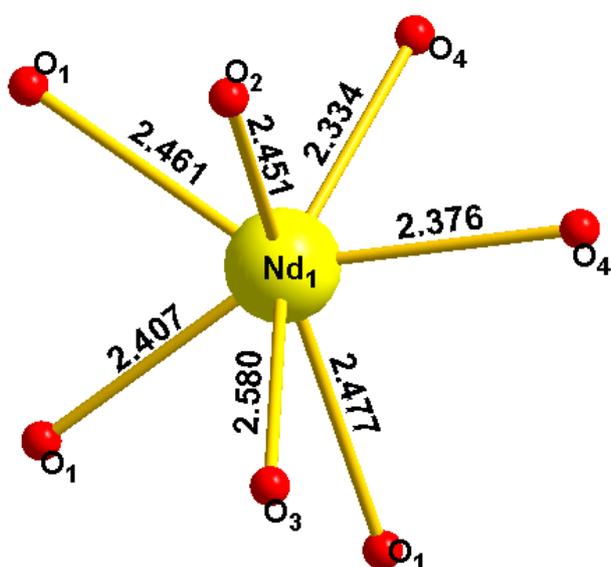
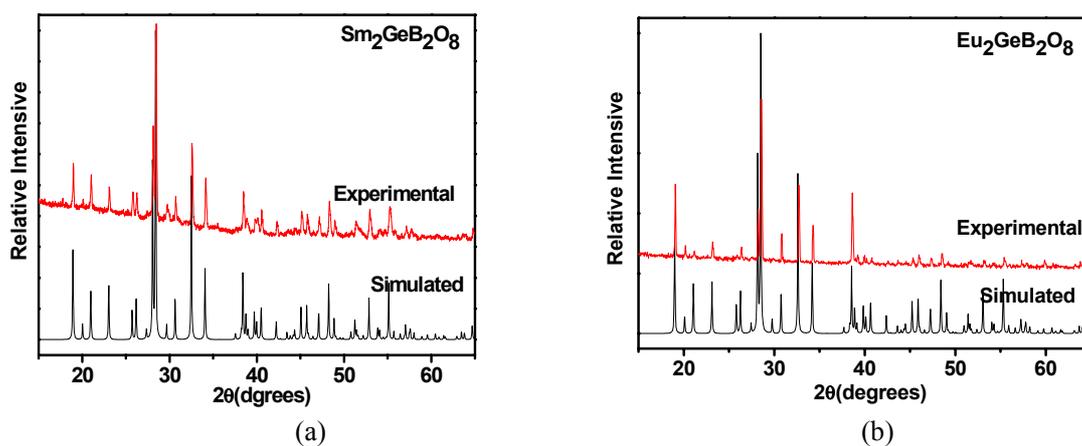


Figure S1. The coordinate environment of Nd(III) ion in  $\text{Nd}_2\text{GeB}_2\text{O}_8$ .



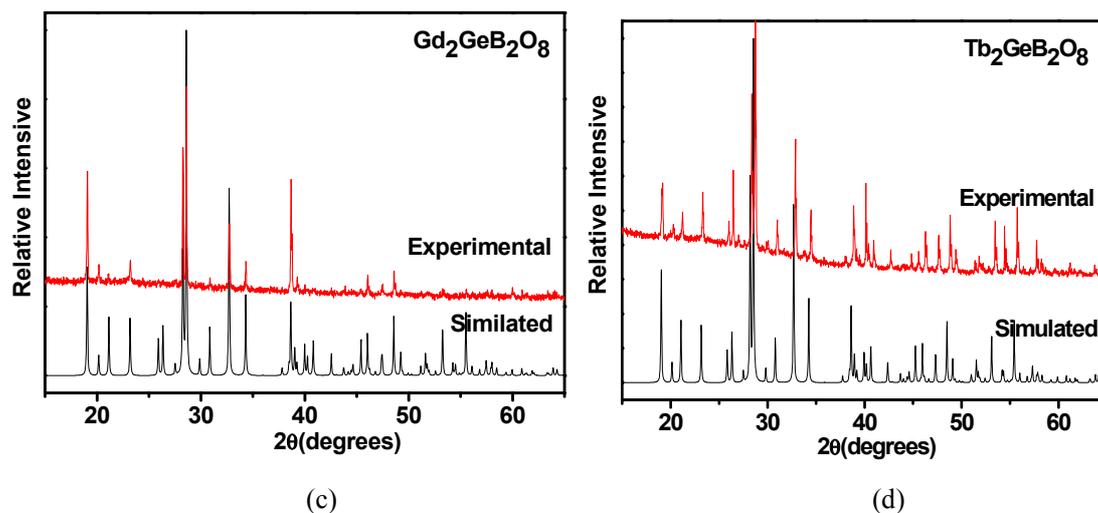


Figure S2. Simulated and experimental X-ray powder diffraction patterns for (a)  $\text{Sm}_2\text{GeB}_2\text{O}_8$ , (b)  $\text{Eu}_2\text{GeB}_2\text{O}_8$ , (c)  $\text{Gd}_2\text{GeB}_2\text{O}_8$  and (d)  $\text{Tb}_2\text{GeB}_2\text{O}_8$ .

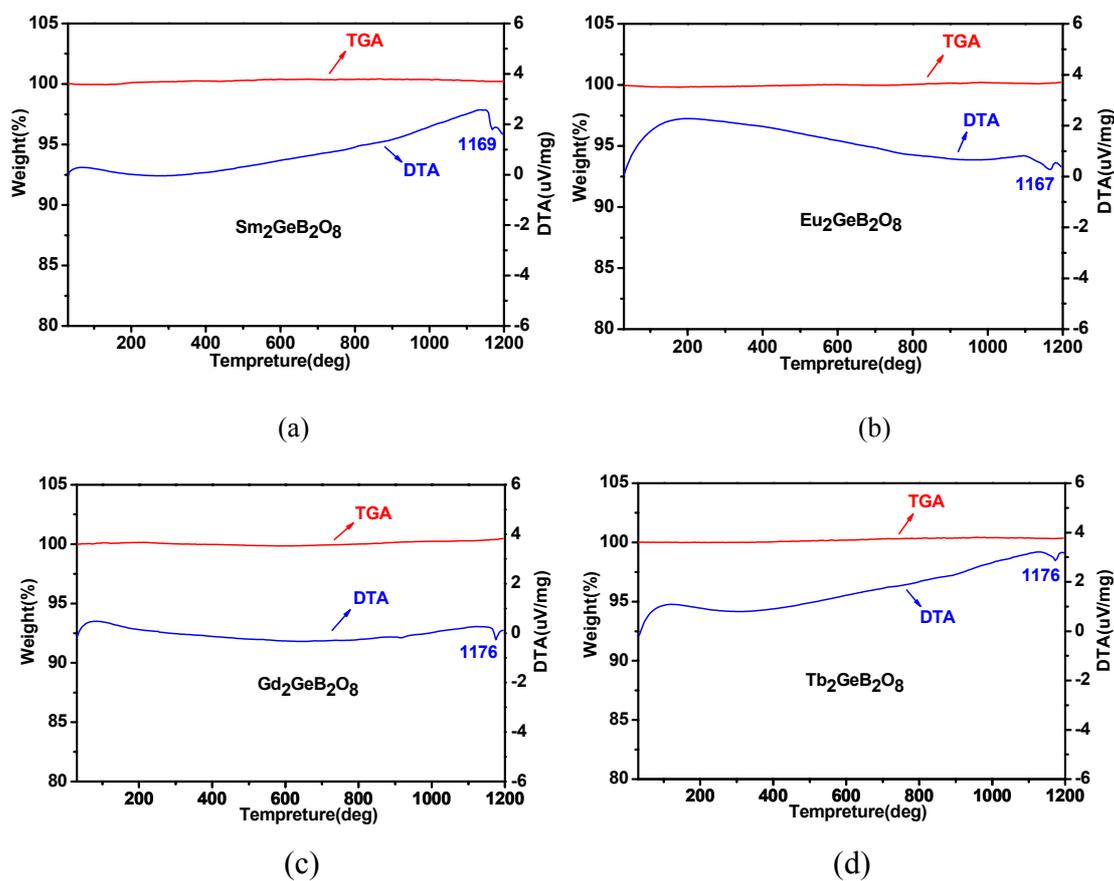


Figure S3. TGA and DTA diagrams for (a)  $\text{Nd}_2\text{GeB}_2\text{O}_8$ , (b)  $\text{Sm}_2\text{GeB}_2\text{O}_8$ , (c)  $\text{Eu}_2\text{GeB}_2\text{O}_8$  and (d)  $\text{Tb}_2\text{GeB}_2\text{O}_8$ .

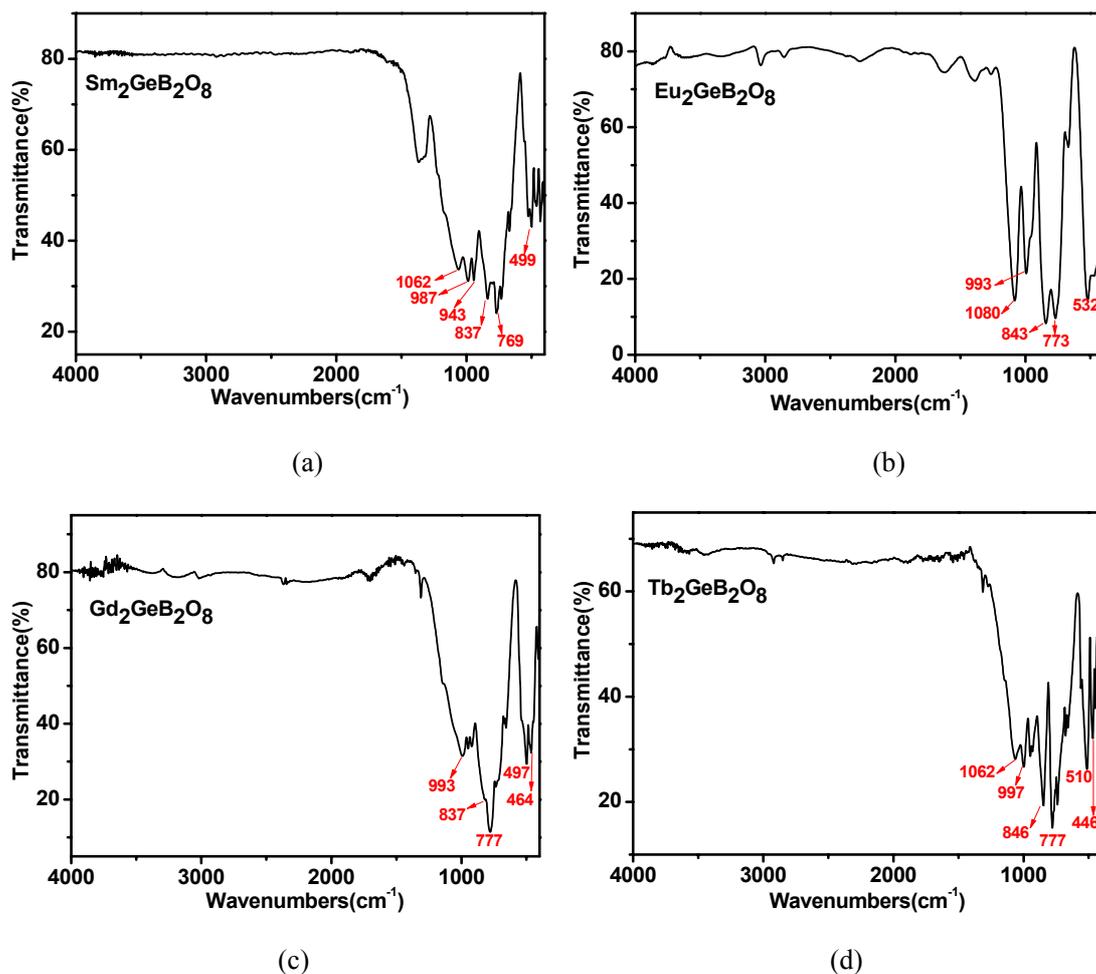
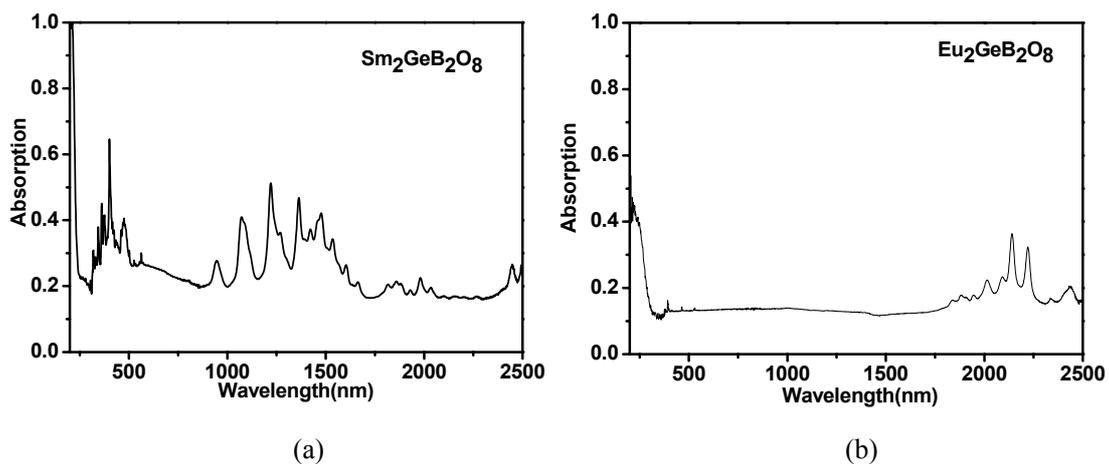


Figure S4. The infrared spectra of (a)  $\text{Nd}_2\text{GeB}_2\text{O}_8$ , (b)  $\text{Sm}_2\text{GeB}_2\text{O}_8$ , (c)  $\text{Eu}_2\text{GeB}_2\text{O}_8$  and (d)  $\text{Tb}_2\text{GeB}_2\text{O}_8$ .



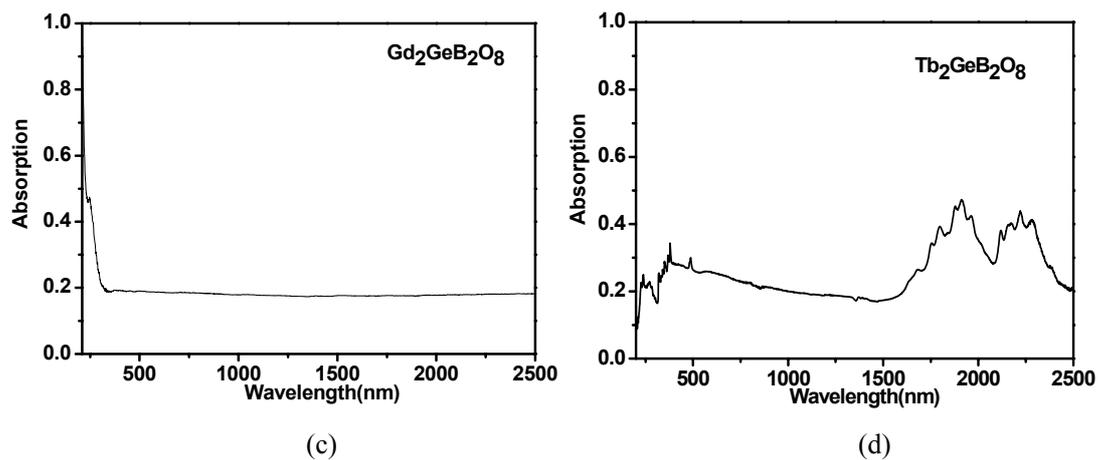


Figure S5. UV absorption spectra of (a)  $Nd_2GeB_2O_8$ , (b)  $Sm_2GeB_2O_8$ , (c)  $Eu_2GeB_2O_8$  and (d)  $Tb_2GeB_2O_8$ .

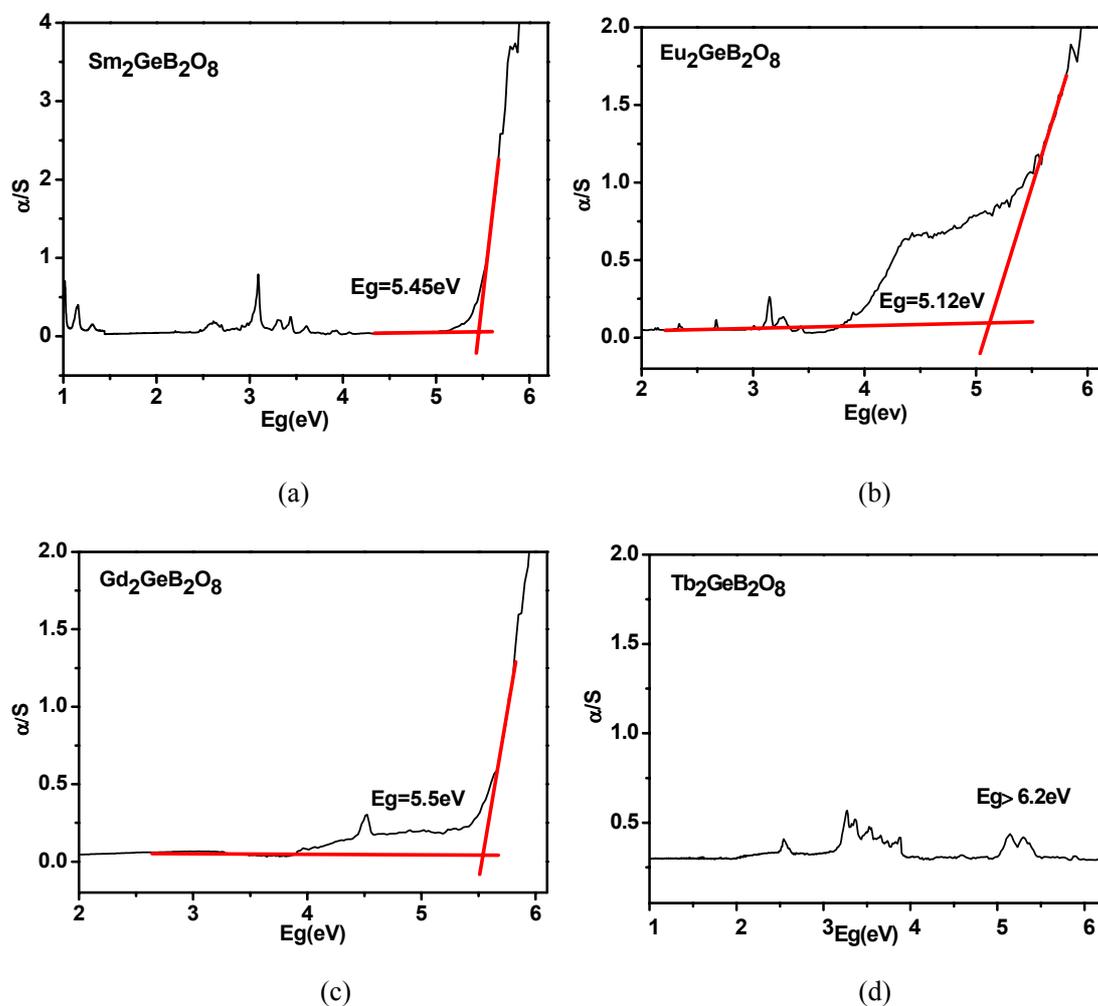


Figure S6. Optical diffuse reflectance spectra for (a)  $Sm_2GeB_2O_8$ , (b)  $Eu_2GeB_2O_8$ , (c)  $Gd_2GeB_2O_8$  and (d)  $Tb_2GeB_2O_8$ .

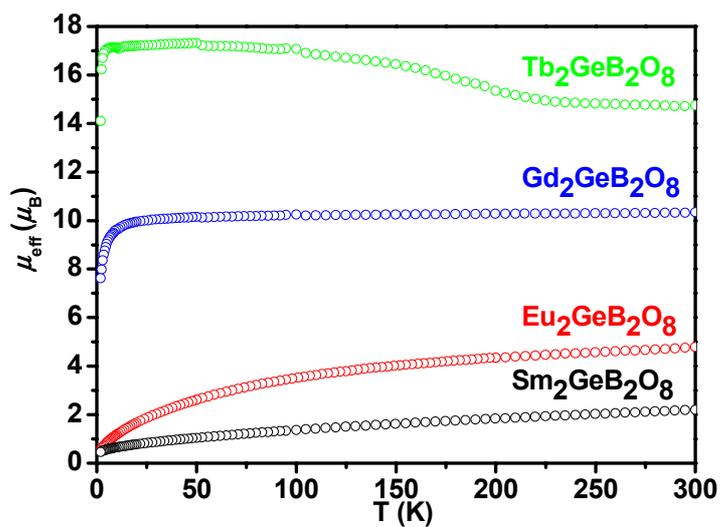


Figure S7.  $\mu_{\text{eff}}$  versus T plots for  $\text{Ln}_2\text{GeB}_2\text{O}_8$  (Ln = Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb).