

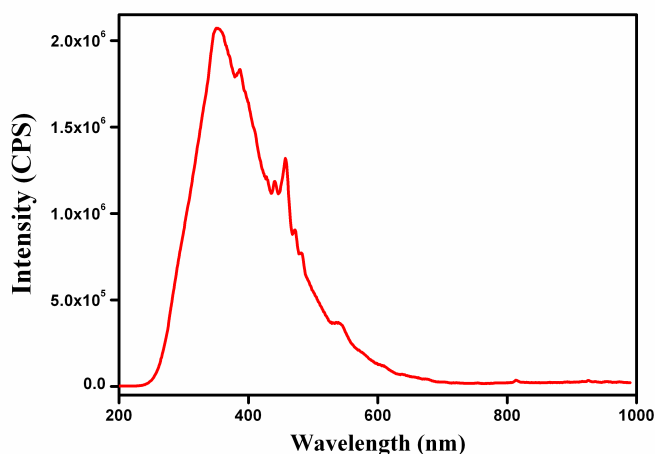
# Strong Red Emission of Pure $Y_2O_3$ Nanoparticles from Oxygen Related Defects

## Supporting Information

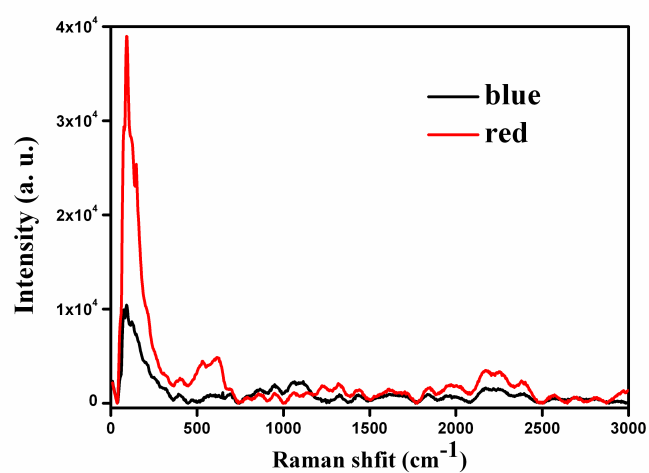
### Experimental Section

In our experiment, 20 mmol  $Y_2O_3$  (Sigma-Aldrich, 99.99%) was dissolved in dilute  $HNO_3$  (1 mol/L) with adding a suitable amount of hexamethylenetetramine (HMT, 5.0 ~ 10.0 g) under vigorous stirring condition, and the solution was then kept at room temperature for 3 h. Afterwards, the precipitation was filtered, washed with distilled water several times, and dried at 60 °C for 8 h in air to yield the fresh sample of  $(Y(OH)_3$  NPs). The white powder,  $Y(OH)_3$  NPs, was finally calcined at 600°C in air for 4 h to obtain the  $Y_2O_3$  NPs with strong red emission. To obtain  $Y_2O_3$  NPs sample with weak red emission, the calcination was carried out at 400 or 900 °C for 6 h.

20 mmol  $Y_2O_3$  (Sigma-Aldrich, 99.99%) was dissolved in dilute  $HNO_3$  (1 mol/L) with adding a suitable amount of glucose (2.0 ~ 4.0 g) under vigorous stirring condition, and the solution was then kept at room temperature for 10 h. Afterwards, the precipitation was filtered, washed with distilled water several times, and dried at 60 °C for 8 h in air to yield the fresh sample of  $(Y(OH)_3$  NPs). The white powder,  $Y(OH)_3$  NPs, was finally calcined at 500°C in air for 4 h to obtain the  $Y_2O_3$  NPs with blue emission.



**Figure S1.** The excitation spectrum of  $Y_2O_3$  NPs with strong red emission.



**Figure S2.** Raman spectra of Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> NPs with strong red emission and blue emission (red and black lines, respectively).