## **Electronic Supplementary Information for**

## Surfactant-free Sacrificial template synthesis of submicrometer-sized YVO<sub>4</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup> hierarchical hollow spheres with tunable textual parameters and luminescent properties

Xiaoyan Yang,<sup>a</sup> Ye Zhang,<sup>a</sup> Lin Xu,<sup>a</sup> Zheng Zhai,<sup>a,b</sup> Mingzhen Li,<sup>a</sup> Meng Li,<sup>c</sup> Xiaolin Liu,<sup>a</sup> Wenhua Hou\*<sup>a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Key Laboratory of Mesoscopic Chemistry of MOE, School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Nanjing University, Nanjing 210093, P. R. China <sup>b</sup>Nanjing University-Yangzhou Institute of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Yangzhou 211400, P. R. China <sup>c</sup>College of Sciences, Nanjing University of Technology, Nanjing 210009, P. R. China

\* Corresponding author. E-mail: <u>whou@nju.edu.cn</u>

Electronic Supplementary Information, Table S1. Textual parameters of  $YVO_4$ : Eu<sup>3+</sup> spheres obtained with different amounts of  $NH_4VO_3$ .

Sample No.	Amount of NH <sub>4</sub> VO <sub>3</sub>	Outer diameter $D_{out}$	Inner diameter D <sub>in</sub>	Shell thickness R <sub>shell</sub>	Thickness of interior shell <i>R</i> <sub>in-shell</sub>	Thickness of exterior shell <i>R</i> <sub>ex-shell</sub>
	$(n_{\mathrm{Y}}:n_{\mathrm{V}})$	/nm	/nm	/nm	/nm	/nm
S1	0.07 g (1:1)	~580	~440	~70		
S2	0.35 g (1:5)	~560	~400	~80	~ 50 <sup>°</sup>	~30 <sup>c</sup>
<b>S</b> 3	0.70 g (1:10)	580-630	350-400	110-115	50-65	50-60
S4	1.40 g (1:20)	~570	~270	~150	~100	~50
S5 <sup>a</sup>	0.07 g (1:1)	~570	~450	~60		
S6 <sup>b</sup>	0.70 g (1:10)	~530	~470	~30		

Note: <sup>a</sup> obtained via acid erosion with 0.05 M HNO<sub>3</sub>. <sup>b</sup> obtained via acid erosion with 0.15 M HNO<sub>3</sub>. <sup>c</sup> some of spheres have

double shells.



Electronic Supplementary Information, Figure S1. SAED pattern of the shell for sample S1.



Electronic Supplementary Information, Figure S2. TEM images of YVO<sub>4</sub>:Eu<sup>3+</sup> hollow spheres (a) S5, (b) S6

and (c) S4.