## Supplementary Information

## Formation of a Eu(III) borate solid species from a weak Eu(III) borate complex in aqueous solution

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Fig. S1:	Decay curves of the europium luminescence during the formation progress of
	the Eu(III) borate solid species for a solution containing 3·10 <sup>-5</sup> M Eu(III), c <sub>B,total</sub>
	= 0.7 M, <i>I</i> = 0.1 M, pH 6

- Fig. S2: Progress of the luminescence lifetime  $\tau$  of europium during the Eu(III) borate solid formation for solutions containing 3·10<sup>-5</sup> M Eu(III),  $c_{B,total} = 0.2 M \dots 0.7$ M, I = 0.1 M, pH 6
- Fig. S3:Powder X-ray diffraction pattern of the solid Eu(III) borate (black graph); X-<br/>ray diffraction pattern of the sodium pentaborate phase (Na2[B5O8(OH)]·H2O)<br/>described by Menchetti et al.<sup>i</sup> (main diffraction peaks are shown as grey<br/>vertical lines)
- Fig. S4:Content of different Eu(III) solid species in dependence on the excitation<br/>wavelength  $\lambda_{ex}$  determined with the PARAFAC



Fig. S1: Decay curves of the europium luminescence during the formation progress of the Eu(III) borate solid species for a solution containing  $3 \cdot 10^{-5}$  M Eu(III),  $c_{B,total} = 0.7$  M, I = 0.1 M, pH 6



Fig. S2: Progress of the luminescence emission lifetime  $\tau$  of europium during the Eu(III) borate solid formation for solutions containing 3-10<sup>-5</sup> M Eu(III),  $c_{\text{B,total}} = 0.2 \text{ M} \dots 0.7 \text{ M}$ , I = 0.1 M, pH 6



Fig. S3: Powder X-ray diffraction pattern of the solid Eu(III) borate (black graph); X-ray diffraction pattern of the sodium pentaborate phase (Na<sub>2</sub>[B<sub>5</sub>O<sub>8</sub>(OH)]·H<sub>2</sub>O) described by Menchetti et al.<sup>i</sup> (main diffraction peaks are shown as grey vertical lines)



Fig. S4: Content of different Eu(III) solid species in dependence on the excitation wavelength  $\lambda_{ex}$  determined with the PARAFAC

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>i</sup> S. Menchetti, C. Sabelli, A. Stoppioni, and R. Trosti-Ferroni, *Neues Jahrb. Mineral. Abh.*, 1983, 148, 163–180.