

Figure 1: Experimental (-o-) and refined (—) XAFS spectra recorded at Lu  $L_{III}$  edge for  $Lu_2O_3$  (a) and at Eu  $L_{III}$  edge for  $Eu_2O_3$  (b).



Figure 2 : Experimental (-o-) and refined (—) XAFS signal of LSO recorded at Lu L<sub>III</sub> edge (a) and experimental (-o-) and refined (—) imaginary part of the Fourier transform F(R) (b).



Figure 3: Fourier transform modulus at Lu  $L_{\rm III}$  edge of LSO sample. Distances are not corrected for phase shift.



Figure 4: Fourier transform modulus at Eu  $L_{III}$  edge for LSO:Eu<sup>3+</sup> 5 %. Distances not corrected from phase shift.



Figure 5: Decay curves recorded after selective excitation in A<sub>1</sub> (a), A<sub>2</sub> (b) and B (c) and monitored at maximum emission wavelength. All decays have been fitted with a single exponential (solid line) and time constants are given on the graphs.