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 ${\rm Dy}^{3+}$ -,  ${\rm Tb}^{3+}$ -, and  ${\rm Eu}^{3+}$ -activated NaCa\_4(BO\_3)\_3 phosphors for lighting based on near ultraviolet light emitting diodes

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# Dy<sup>3+</sup>-, Tb<sup>3+</sup>-, and Eu<sup>3+</sup>-activated NaCa<sub>4</sub>(BO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> phosphors for lighting based on near ultraviolet light emitting diodes

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#### ABSTRACT

A variety of Dy<sup>3+</sup>-, Tb<sup>3+</sup>- and Eu<sup>3+</sup>-singly or doubly or triply activated NaCa<sub>4</sub>(BO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> phosphors for light emitting diodes applications were synthesized via a high temperature solid state reaction technique under an ambient atmosphere. These phosphors were studied by X-ray diffraction, scanning electron microscopy, photoluminescence excitation and emission spectra, Commission International de l'Eclairage chromaticity coordinates, and correlated color temperatures. The emission colors of Dy<sup>3+</sup>-, Tb<sup>3+</sup>-, and Eu<sup>3+</sup>-doped phosphors can be successfully tuned from green to yellow and then to white by appropriately changing the Tb<sup>3+</sup> content and the excitation wavelengths. The correlated color temperatures can also be tailored from cold color to warm color. Furthermore, the energy transfer process from Dy<sup>3+</sup> to Tb<sup>3+</sup> in the Dy<sup>3+</sup>/Tb<sup>3+</sup> codoped phosphors exists, which is discussed based on the luminescence spectra and energy level diagram analysis. The NaCa<sub>4</sub>(BO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>:Dy<sup>3+</sup>, Tb<sup>3+</sup>, Eu<sup>3+</sup> phosphors reported here demonstrate promising applications in the fields of near ultraviolet based light emitting diodes.

Keywords: Phosphor; Light emitting diode; Luminescence; Energy transfer

### 1. Introduction

Nowadays, white light emitting diodes (W-LEDs) as green illumination technology have aroused increasing attentions due to their superior advantages of environmental friendliness, long

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