

# **Doping $ns^2$ -Ions and Lanthanide Ions in Metal-Halide Perovskites: Visible to Short-Wave Infrared Emission**

विद्या वाचस्पति की उपाधि की अपेक्षाओं की आंशिक पूर्ति में प्रस्तुत  
शोध प्रबंध

A thesis submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements of the  
degree of Doctor of Philosophy

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भारतीय विज्ञान शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान पुणे  
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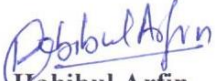
*This thesis is dedicated to*  
*My parents, Teachers and Friends*  
*without whom none of my success would be possible.*



## **Declaration**

I declare that this written submission represents my ideas in my own words and wherever other's ideas have been included, I have adequately cited and referenced the original sources. I also declare that I have adhered to all principles of academic honesty and integrity and have not misrepresented, fabricated or falsified any idea/ data/ fact/ source in my submission. I understand that violation of the above will be cause for disciplinary action by the Institute and can also evoke penal action from the sources which have thus not been properly cited or from whom proper permission has not been taken when needed.

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## Certificate

I certify that the work incorporated in the thesis entitles “**Doping ns<sup>2</sup>-Ions and Lanthanide Ions in Metal-Halide Perovskites: Visible to Short-Wave Infrared Emission**” submitted by **Mr. Habibul Arfin** was carried out by the candidate, under my supervision. The work presented here or any part of it has not been included in any other thesis submitted previously. For the award of any degree or diploma from any other university or institution. For the completion of the thesis, a few results are taken from collaborators after their permission and are clearly mentioned in the thesis.

**Date: 31-08-2023**

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## *List of Abbreviations*

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- 0D:** Zero dimensional
- 3D:** Three dimensional
- CBM:** Conduction band maximum
- CIE:** International commission on illumination
- EDS:** Energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy
- FA:** Formamidinium
- FESEM:** Field emission scanning electron microscopy
- FRET:** Förster resonance energy transfer
- FWHM:** Full width at half maximum
- EXAFS:** Extended X-ray absorption fine structure
- HOMO:** Highest occupied molecular orbital
- ICP-AES:** Inductively coupled plasma atomic emission spectroscopy
- ICP-MS:** Inductively coupled plasma mass spectroscopy
- IRF:** Instrument response function
- LED:** Light-emitting diode
- LUMO:** Lowest unoccupied molecular orbital
- MA:** Methylammonium
- NP:** Nanoparticles
- Pc-LED:** Phosphor converted LED
- PL:** Photoluminescence
- PLE:** Photoluminescence excitation
- PLQY:** Photoluminescence quantum yield
- PMT:** Photomultiplier tube
- PMMA:** poly (methyl methacrylate)
- PXRD:** Powder X-ray diffraction

## *List of Abbreviations*

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**RES:** Relaxed excited state

**STE:** Self-trapped exciton

**SWIR:** Short-wave infrared

**TCSPC:** Time-correlated single-photon counting

**TGA:** Thermogravimetric analysis

**VBM:** Valance band maximum

**UV:** Ultraviolet

## Synopsis

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Lead halide perovskites are being extensively explored in recent times for their promising optoelectronic properties. However, lead toxicity and structural stability impose some limitations for their wide spread commercial applications. Lead free halide double perovskites are proposed as alternatives to lead halide perovskites. But the lead free halide double perovskites lack the interesting semiconducting and optical properties of lead based perovskites. Interestingly, the halide double perovskites have intriguing structural properties such as octahedral sites and compositional tunability, that can make double perovskites a promising class of host materials for doping luminescent centers. Lanthanide ions with narrow emission feature are promising emitters, especially for short-wave infrared emission (900-1700 nm). We realized that  $\text{In}^{3+}$  ions in  $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$  double perovskite have similar ionic radii and oxidation state compared to lanthanide ions, and therefore,  $\text{Er}^{3+}$ - and  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$  are prepared emitting 1540 and 990 nm radiation, respectively. However, the samples required to be excited at wavelength below 350 nm. The large energy difference between excitation and emission causes a large energy loss, even for an ideal luminescence efficiency. This thesis explores the potential of halide double perovskites to host lanthanide luminescent centers and reduces the energy difference between the excitation and emission by codoping  $ns^2$ -ions like  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ .

Another related lead free system is  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  vacancy ordered perovskite, that has electronically isolated  $[\text{SnCl}_6]^{2-}$  octahedral. Doping  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  in  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  provides opportunity to study the optical properties of luminescent centers in isolated octahedrons unlike the corner shared octahedrons in double perovskites. With the help of temperature dependent photoluminescence spectroscopy, we find the mechanistic origin of excitation and emission processes in  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - and  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ .

The thesis has five chapters. A brief discussion about all the chapters are given below.

### Chapter 1: Introduction

This chapter introduces the fundamental ideas used in the research and the motivation behind the work presented in this thesis. It starts by briefly explaining the perovskite structure. It then discusses the promise of lead halide perovskites for optoelectronic applications. Due to concerns about lead toxicity, the focus shifts to lead-free halide perovskites. The potential of lead-free halide double perovskite structure is highlighted as a suitable host for doping various types of luminescent centers. Luminescent centers such as lanthanide ions ( $\text{Er}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$ ) and  $ns^2$ -ions ( $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ ) are doped. The nature of electron transitions of these luminescent

centers, are explained. The chapter concludes by outlining the scope of the thesis. This involves addressing challenges related to lanthanide doping into halide perovskites, and the propose solution involving the codoping of  $ns^2$ -ions to mitigate these challenges.

### **Chapter 2: Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> Codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> Double Perovskite: Visible to Short-Wave Infrared Emitters**

Lanthanide ions ( $Ln^{3+} = Er^{3+}, Yb^{3+}$ ) doped in Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> require high energy excitation ( $>3.45$  eV) which causes large energy gap between excitation and emission, leading to an energy loss. To address the issue, this chapter introduces the idea of codoping Bi<sup>3+</sup> and Ln<sup>3+</sup> in halide perovskites. A synthesis methodology is developed to codoped Bi<sup>3+</sup> and Ln<sup>3+</sup> ions into Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> double perovskite. The resulting products are rigorously examined using powder X-ray diffraction, energy dispersive spectroscopy and inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry to ensure their composition and phase purity. The optical absorption and emission properties of the Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Ln<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> are systematically investigated to elucidate the distinct contributions of the various ions. Bi<sup>3+</sup> doping notably decreases the excitation energy, enabling the material to excite with 370 nm light. Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> emits 1540 nm radiation due to f-electrons of Er<sup>3+</sup>, which is useful for efficient optical communication with minimal losses. We extended this strategy for another lanthanide, Yb<sup>3+</sup>, forming Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> codoped samples, emitting at 994 nm.

### **Chapter 3: Short Wave Infrared Emissions from Te<sup>4+</sup>-Ln<sup>3+</sup> (Ln: Er, Yb) Codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub> Double Perovskites**

Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Ln<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> sample that we discussed in the previous chapter, photodegrade on ultraviolet (UV) light excitation. Ag<sup>+</sup> present in the host might be the possible reason because Ag<sup>+</sup> is known to get reduce under UV light. This issue is addressed by replacing Ag<sup>+</sup> with Na<sup>+</sup>. Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub> double perovskite is environmentally benign and its wide band gap ( $\sim 5.1$  eV) makes it photo-inactive and photo-stable in the UV, visible, and short-wave infrared (SWIR) region. Ln<sup>3+</sup> (Er<sup>3+</sup> and Yb<sup>3+</sup>) doping in Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub> is achieved to obtain SWIR radiation at 1540 nm (0.81 eV) and 994 nm (1.247 eV). But the host has large band gap ( $\sim 5.1$  eV) so the required excitation energy is high ( $> 5.1$  eV). The large Stokes shift for the excitation and SWIR emission reduces the power conversion efficiency. In this chapter we introduce the Te<sup>4+</sup>-Ln<sup>3+</sup> codoping in Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub>. The synthesis procedure is developed and the samples are thoroughly characterized. Te<sup>4+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped sample absorbs at the sub-band gap level around 3.1 eV (400 nm), because of  $5s^2 \rightarrow 5s^15p^1$  electronic transitions. In the codoped samples, Er<sup>3+</sup>

emissions are obtained by 400 nm excitation of  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ . Temperature (8 – 300 K) dependent photoluminescence excitation, emission, and lifetime measurements are carried out to reveal the mechanism of these energy transfer processes. The codoping is also demonstrated for  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ . Finally, we fabricated a simple phosphor converted light emitting diode (pc-LED) emitting SWIR radiation.

### **Chapter 4A: Origin of Luminescence in $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ - and $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -Doped $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ 0D Perovskites: Excited State Relaxation and Spin-Orbit Coupling**

Vacancy ordered perovskites ( $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ ) with isolated octahedrons provide opportunity to study the optical properties of luminescent centers ( $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ ) in isolated octahedrons.  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  host is non-luminescent and have absorption below 350 nm. So, the host optical properties do not interfere with that of luminescent centers ( $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ ). In  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped and  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ , the outermost s-electrons ( $ns^2$ ) of respective ions are responsible for both light absorption ( $ns^2$  to  $ns^1np^1$ ) and emission ( $ns^1np^1$  to  $ns^2$ ). We observed that at cryogenic temperatures,  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  shows two emission peaks, but  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  shows only one emission peak. Why so? In this chapter we address the question. Temperature dependent photoluminescence emission and excitation spectra are utilized to reveal the origin of luminescence in both  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ - and  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ . For  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  dopant, the combination of Jahn-Teller distortion and spin-orbit coupling gives rise to two minima in the relaxed excited state  ${}^3\text{T}_{1u}^*$ , resulting into two emission peaks. Whereas for  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  dopant, the spin-orbit coupling significantly dominates over the Jahn-Teller splitting yielding a single minimum in relaxed excited state  ${}^3\text{T}_{1u}^*$ , and therefore, a single emission peak.

### **Chapter 4B: Optical Properties of $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ codoped $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ Vacancy Ordered 0D Perovskites**

$\text{Bi}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoping in  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ , and their effect on optical properties of each other, have not been studied well. In this chapter, we compare the optical properties  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoped system, with that of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped and  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ . The codoped samples show dual emission feature, a combination of 450 nm blue light emission because of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  doping and 650 nm red light emission because of  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  doping. Overall, we find that the optical emission and excitation properties of the codoped samples largely the addition of those optical properties in  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped and  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ .

**Chapter 5: Thesis Summary and Future Outlook**

In this section, we summarized the work presented in this thesis and highlight the major findings. Based on our findings and current literature a future research outlook is also provided.



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## **Chapter 1**

### **Introduction**

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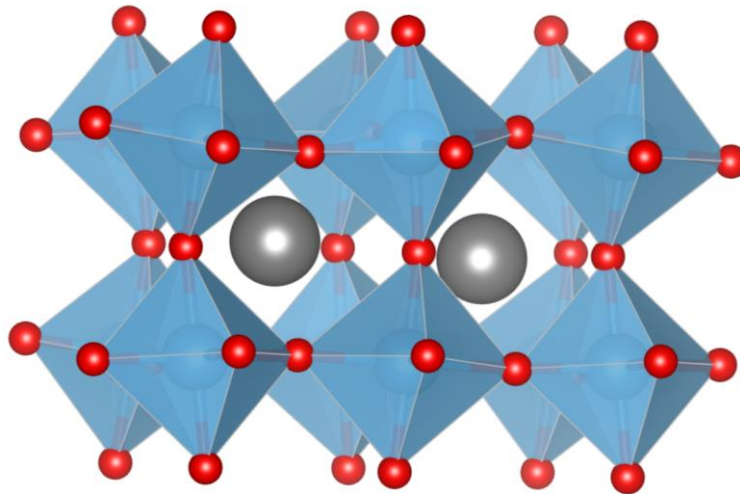
Part of the discussion in this chapter is inspired from the following article:

**Arfin, H.;** Kshirsagar, A. S.; Kaur, J.; Mondal, B.; Xia, Z.; Chakraborty, S.; Nag, A. ns<sup>2</sup> Electron (Bi<sup>3+</sup> and Sb<sup>3+</sup>) Doping in Lead-Free Metal Halide Perovskite Derivatives. *Chem. Mater.* **2020**, *32*, 10255-10267 (perspective).



## 1.1 Perovskite

The term "perovskite" is given to mineral  $\text{CaTiO}_3$ , after the Russian mineralogist Lev Perovski.<sup>1</sup> After the invention of X-ray crystallography, it is found that the crystal structure of  $\text{CaTiO}_3$  is quite common and formed by a large number of compounds with variety of cation and anions.<sup>2-6</sup> Nowadays, "perovskite" generally refers to the crystal structure of  $\text{CaTiO}_3$  with the chemical formula  $\text{ABX}_3$ , where A and B represent cations and X denotes an anion. For instance, in  $\text{CaTiO}_3$ , there are two cations:  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$ , along with the anion  $\text{O}^{2-}$ . In the perovskite structure, the smaller cation ( $\text{Ti}^{4+}$  or B) forms octahedra with the anions ( $\text{O}^{2-}$  or X). These octahedrons are corner-shared with the neighboring octahedra in all three dimensions, creating cuboctahedra voids which are occupied by larger cations ( $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  or A), as shown in Figure 1.1. For a crystal system to be called perovskite, it should have close structural resemblance with  $\text{CaTiO}_3$  and also composition similar to the generic formula of  $\text{ABX}_3$ .



**Figure 1.1:** Crystal structure of  $\text{CaTiO}_3$  (ICSD 16688), or general perovskite structure with  $\text{ABX}_3$  unit cell formula. The gray color sphere represents the A-site cation  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , sky blue sphere represents B-site cation  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$ , which form octahedron with six anions X ( $\text{O}^{2-}$ , red spheres).

Victor Moritz Goldschmidt studied number of perovskite system and found that the formation of perovskite structure is dependent on the ionic radius of the ions.<sup>2, 7</sup> The ability of a set of ions A, B, and X to form the  $\text{ABX}_3$  perovskite structure can be predicted by using the Goldschmidt tolerance factor (t). The relation between (t) and ionic radii is:

$$\text{Goldschmidt tolerance factor (t)} = \frac{r_A + r_X}{\sqrt{2}(r_B + r_X)} \quad (1)$$

were,  $r_A$  represents the ionic radius of the larger cation,  $r_B$  is the ionic radius of the smaller cation, and  $r_X$  is the ionic radius of the anion. For a stable cubic perovskite structure, the value of "t" should fall within the range of 0.81 to 1.11.<sup>8</sup> Any changes in the values of A, B, or X will influence the distortion of the crystal structure, its stability, and all other properties.

Perovskite crystal structures are found in numerous oxide and halide compounds. These can be broadly categorized into two groups: oxide perovskites and halide perovskites. Oxide perovskites have been extensively studied for various applications since the last century. They exhibit characteristics like high-temperature superconductivity, ferroic properties, magnetoresistance, and are also used in fuel cell and battery electrode materials<sup>9</sup>, heterogeneous catalysis<sup>10</sup>, and more.<sup>11</sup>

Halide perovskites, although known since the late 18th century, weren't explored significantly until the late 19th century. The electronic and optical potential of halide perovskites began to capture the interest of materials researchers in the early 20th century. Since then, the exploration of halide perovskites has grown exponentially, especially in terms of their optoelectronic properties.<sup>12</sup>

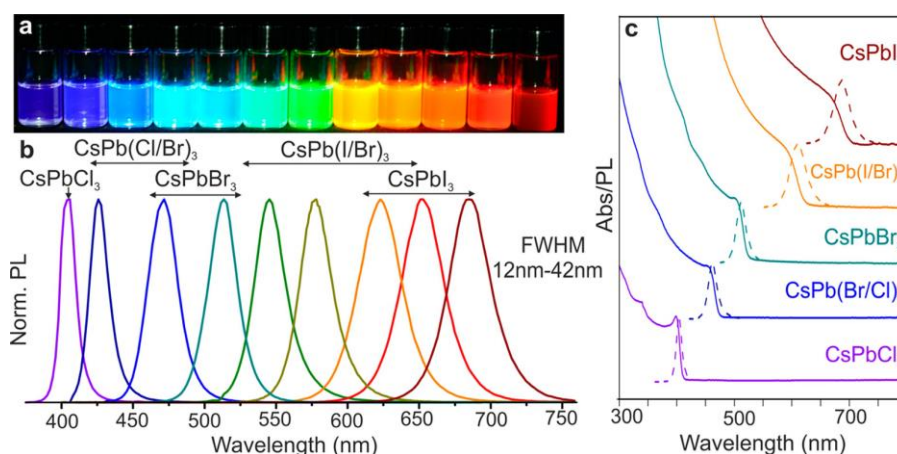
## **1.2 Lead Halide Perovskites**

Lead halide perovskites are one of the most studied halide perovskites.<sup>12</sup> Lead halide perovskites are represented by the formula  $APbX_3$ , where A stands for certain positively charged particles like  $Cs^+$ ,  $Rb^+$ ,  $MA^+$  (MA: methylammonium),  $FA^+$  (FA: formamidinium) and X represents negatively charged particles known as halides, such as  $Cl^-$ ,  $Br^-$ , or  $I^-$ . In the structure of perovskites, the lead and halide components come together to form octahedra, while the "A" anion fit into the space created by the octahedron corner sharing, similar to how it's shown in Figure 1.1.

Halide perovskites are easier to synthesize, modify and have promising semiconductor properties compare to oxide perovskites. The easy synthesis has greatly contributed to the rapid advancement of this field.<sup>13-14</sup> Lead halide perovskites have some impressive characteristics, for example, large absorption coefficient (order of  $10^5 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) which allow a small amount of material to absorb the visible light efficiently.<sup>15-16</sup> Lead halide perovskites have reasonable charge carrier good charge mobility which allow efficient photovoltaic devices.<sup>17</sup> Facile halide exchange allow tunable optical absorption and emission properties.<sup>14, 17</sup>



These favorable properties have enabled to fabricate highly efficient solar cells that have power conversion efficiency close to 25.73%.<sup>18</sup> Achieving this level of efficiency in such a short time is remarkable compared to the decades it took for traditional silicon-based solar cells to reach the same level.<sup>19</sup> These lead halide perovskites also demonstrate high photoluminescence (PL) quantum yield with narrow emission feature, which is desirable for creating high-quality displays. Significant efforts are now being made to make these materials suitable for commercial applications. The synthesis of nanocrystals was a major advancement for these materials.<sup>20-22</sup> Nanocrystals show tunable, narrow emission properties as shown in Figure 1.2. These materials possess defect tolerant nature, enabling good optical properties to be achieved with relatively little effort. Nanocrystals have enabled the stabilization of CsPbI<sub>3</sub> cubic phase that is not naturally stable in bulk crystals.<sup>23-25</sup>

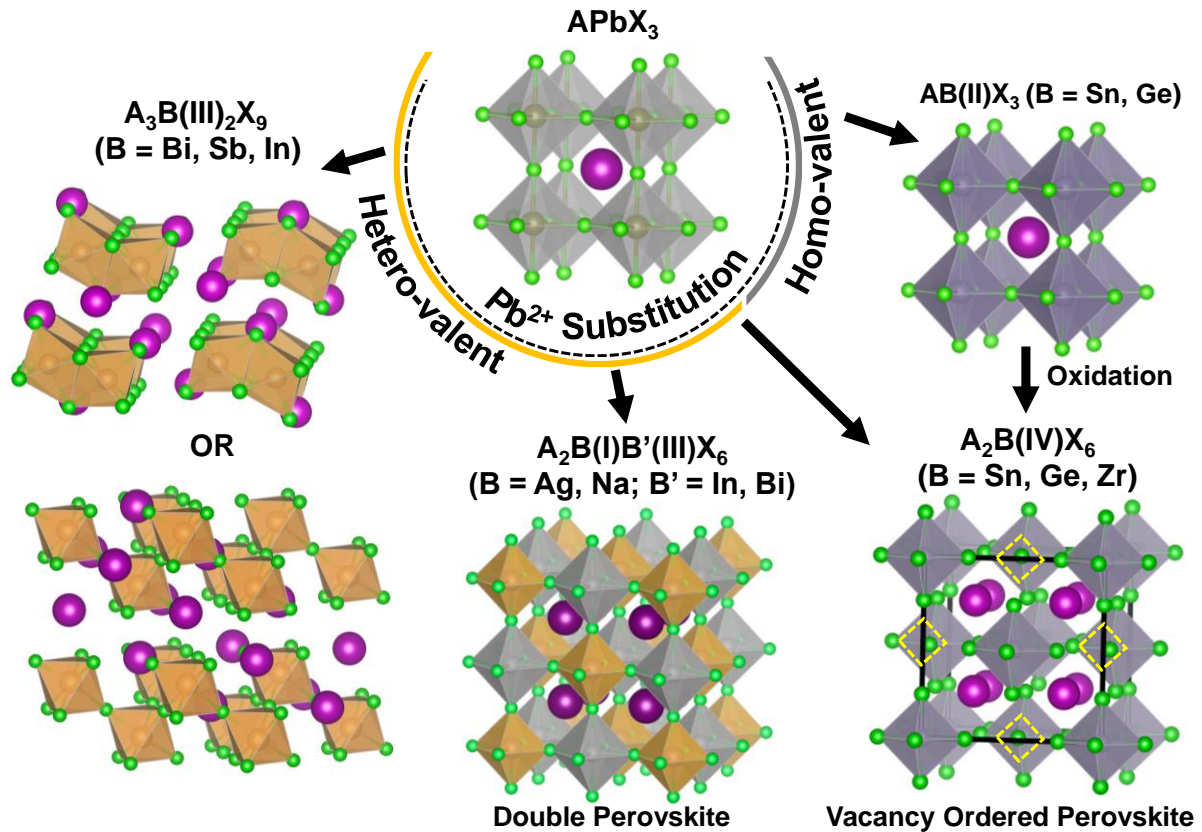


**Figure 1.2:** (a) Digital image of colloidal CsPbX<sub>3</sub> NCs (X = Cl, Br, I), under 365 nm UV light excitation. (b) The emissions are size- and composition-tunable covering the entire visible spectral region with narrow and bright emission as shown. (c) Halide dependent absorption and emission spectra. Adapted from reference<sup>21</sup> with permission. Copyright © 2015, American Chemical Society.

Lead halide perovskites have shown promising optical and photovoltaic properties but these have two major issues.<sup>26</sup> Firstly, the toxic nature of lead poses a problem, and secondly, these materials are vulnerable to moisture and have high solubility in water. This solubility is a concern for the environment because these materials can dissolve in water and harm living organisms. The main reason for their toxicity lies in the presence of Pb<sup>2+</sup> ions, which can mimic essential ions like Ca<sup>2+</sup>, Fe<sup>2+</sup>, and Zn<sup>2+</sup> in biological systems. Lead toxicity can lead to various health issues such as neurological disorders, high blood pressure, kidney damage, and anemia.<sup>27</sup> Researchers are exploring different chemical and physical methods to tackle these challenges. One approach involves the enclosing the material within a protective layer to prevent lead exposure to the environment. This is done by creating core-shell type structure on

individual particle or encapsulating the complete device structure in insulating, stable protective layer.<sup>27</sup> Another approach is to substitute the lead component with less toxic elements, while still maintaining the perovskite structure and properties.

### 1.3 Lead Free Halide Perovskites



**Figure 1.3:** Schematics show the lead halide perovskite crystal structure and few possible derivative structures which are obtained on  $Pb^{2+}$  substitution with homo-valent and hetero-valent ions. In the chemical formula, A represents the monovalent cation such as  $Cs^+$ ,  $Rb^+$  (dark magenta color spheres in the structures); B represents the ions which replaces the  $Pb^{2+}$  ion and form octahedron with six halides ( $X = Cl, Br, I$ ; green spheres). The substitutions give rise to perovskite, non-perovskite, double perovskite and vacancy ordered perovskite structure. The yellow squares in the vacancy ordered perovskite structure highlight the vacant octahedral sites.

There are efforts being made to make lead halide perovskite stable by compositional tunability like impurity ion doping, but the expected wide spread application still can cause huge problem. To address the toxicity problem caused by  $Pb^{2+}$ , researchers are looking for alternative materials that are environmentally friendly and don't contain lead (Figure 1.3). To find such material, one strategy is to replace  $Pb^{2+}$  with ions that have similar properties, such promising candidates can be found in the periodic table. We have learnt that the elements within the same group in the periodic table share similar chemical characteristics. Pb, Sn and Ge are in the

same group so, potential candidates to replace  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$ .  $\text{Sn}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Ge}^{2+}$  can form perovskite structures and exhibit properties similar to lead perovskites, such as a direct band gap, good absorption coefficient, and tunable emission.<sup>28</sup> However, the stability of  $\text{Sn}^{2+}$ - or  $\text{Ge}^{2+}$ -based perovskites is compromised by the ease of oxidation to corresponding tetra-valent cations.<sup>29-30</sup> This oxidation process dissociates the perovskite structure, leading to deterioration of optical properties and charge transport.

Another approach is to replace  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  by hetero-valent substitution. There are many possibilities in this substitution such as, substitution by mono-valent, tri-valent, tetra-valent ion or a pair of two ions. Many of these substituted structures do not form perovskite structure or perovskite similar structure. Here, we will discuss the Pb-free system with vacancy ordered and double perovskite structure. If we replace two  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  cations by a tetra-valent cation ( $\text{Sn}^{4+}$ ,  $\text{Zr}^{4+}$ ,  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$ ), then the alternative metal octahedron sites will be vacant as shown in the bottom right panel in Figure 1.3. Each octahedron will be isolated. This type of structures is often termed as vacancy ordered perovskite structure (Figure 1.3). The case of double perovskite structure will be discussed in the following sub-section.

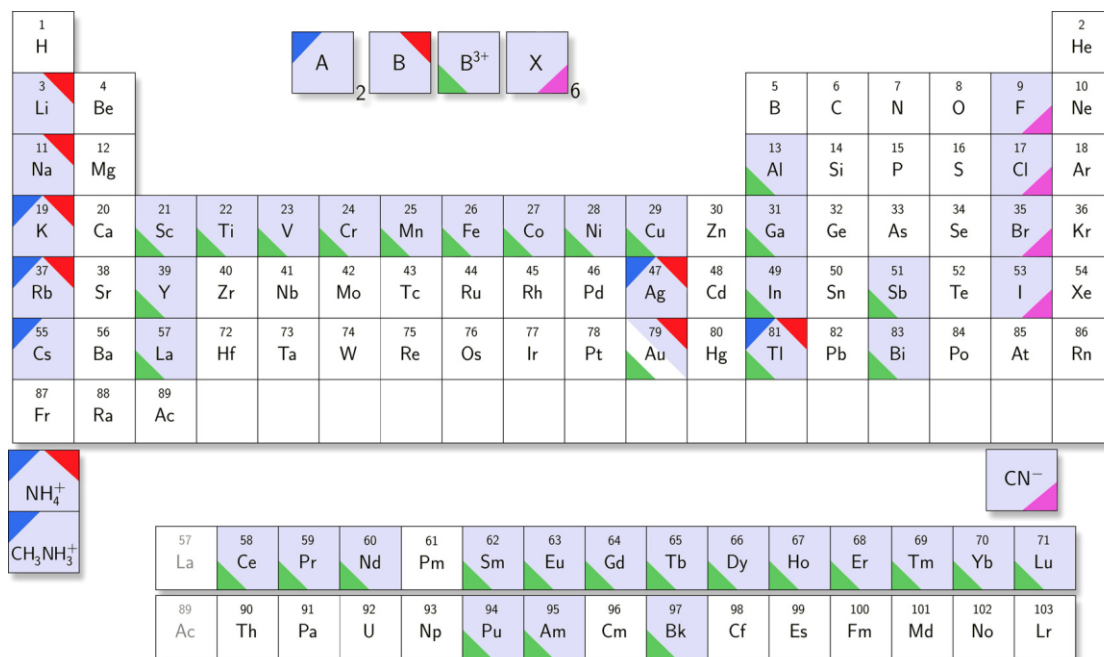
#### **1.4 Lead Free Halide Double Perovskites**

Halide double perovskites are being explored as a more environmentally friendly substitute for lead perovskites.<sup>31-33</sup> These double perovskites are formed by replacing two lead ions with a combination of monovalent and trivalent ions, see Figure 1.3.<sup>33</sup> These ions occupy alternate octahedral positions within the crystal lattice, maintaining the 3D perovskite structure. The term "double perovskite" is used because of the involvement of two types of cations in creating the octahedral network. A similar chemical composition,  $\text{K}_2\text{NaAlF}_6$  was known as far back as the 19th century and is called "Elpasolite".<sup>34-35</sup> The crystal structure of  $\text{K}_2\text{NaAlF}_6$  was first solved in 1932,<sup>36</sup> and similar compositions with the same structure were subsequently called elpasolites. Because of popularity of perovskite and crystal similarity, elpasolites are rebranded as double perovskite.

In recent years, both theoretical and experimental studies have been conducted to investigate the potential of halide double perovskites as lead-free photovoltaic materials and light emitter.<sup>37-40</sup> Double perovskites consist of monovalent and trivalent metal centers, allowing for a wide range of compositions. Theoretical predictions have identified hundreds of possible compositions based on thermodynamic stability and structural parameters.<sup>37, 39</sup> While many

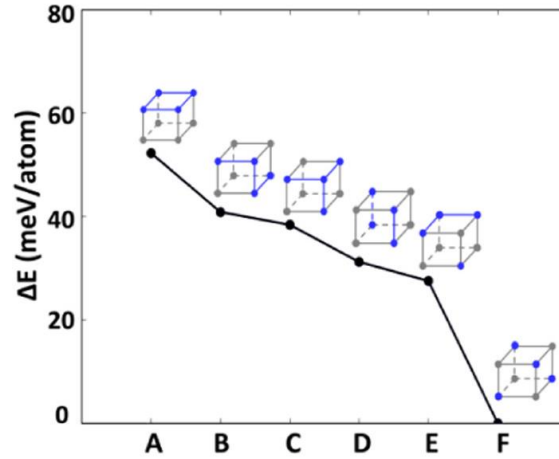
**Chapter 1**  
**Introduction**

compositions have been achieved experimentally, there are still numerous compositions that remained unexplored. Figure 1.4 show the elements highlighted in light blue color from which at least one double perovskite is experimentally reported. The colored triangles at the corners of each square indicates the role of ion in a double perovskite composition as indicated on top the of periodic table.



**Figure 1.4:** The stoichiometric chemical composition of a double perovskite is shown on top with color coding. The blue highlighted elements have at least one experimentally reported double perovskite composition. The triangle at the corner of the highlighted elements identifies the contribution to double perovskite composition. Adapted from reference<sup>41</sup> with permission. Copyright © 2016, American Chemical Society.

A double perovskite composition, represented as  $A_2B^I B^{III} X_6$ , comprises two types of octahedral metal centers,  $[BX_6]^{5-}$  and  $[BX_6]^{3-}$ . These two metal centers can be arranged in six different ways within a  $2 \times 2 \times 2$  supercell, as depicted in Figure 1.5. Theoretical calculations for the  $Cs_2AgBiCl_6$  composition suggest that the alternative arrangement of monovalent and trivalent metal halide octahedra yields the lowest total energy, primarily due to minimized electrostatic energy in this configuration. This arrangement of alternating monovalent and trivalent metal octahedra is also observed experimentally, resulting in the standard double perovskite structure. Similarly, the formation of other compositions, such as  $Cs_2AgInCl_6$ , is observed experimentally. The energy differences between different octahedral arrangements are small, as shown in Figure 1.5, suggesting that other arrangements could also be obtained in certain synthesis conditions with distinct optical properties. This area remains unexplored and could potentially reveal interesting properties.



**Figure 1.5:** Cubes show possible arrangements of  $[\text{AgCl}_6]^{5-}$  (gray dot) and  $[\text{BiCl}_6]^{3-}$  (blue dot) motif in  $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgBiCl}_6$ . These arrangements have different total energy. The difference in total energy ( $\Delta E$ ) of various arrangements (A, B, C, D, E and F) with the most stable arrangement (F) is plotted. Adapted from reference<sup>42</sup> with permission. Copyright © 2017, American Chemical Society.

The structural stability of a double perovskite composition can be predicted by using the following (2) and (3) empirical relations. These relations were established for perovskites<sup>8</sup> but later extended to double perovskite as well.

$$\text{Goldschmidt tolerance factor (t)} = \frac{r_{A^+} + r_{X^-}}{\sqrt{2} \left( \frac{r_{B^+} + r_{B^{3+}}}{2} + r_{X^-} \right)} \quad (2)$$

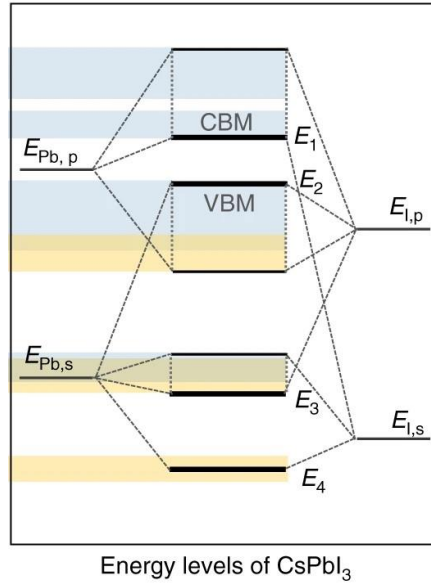
And

$$\text{Octahedral factor (}\mu\text{)} = \frac{r_{B^+} + r_{B^{3+}}}{2r_{X^-}} \quad (3)$$

Where,  $r_A$ ,  $r_B$ ,  $r_{B'}$ , and  $r_X$  are the ionic radii of  $A^+$ ,  $B^+$ ,  $B^{3+}$  and  $X^-$  ions, respectively. From the existing halide perovskite statistics, it is found that the perovskite structure is possible if  $0.44 < \mu < 0.90$  and  $0.81 < t < 1.11$  are satisfied.<sup>42</sup>

### 1.5 Valence and Conduction Band Edges of Halide Double Perovskites

We first discuss the valence band maxima (VBM) and conduction band minima (CBM) of lead halide perovskite like  $\text{CsPbI}_3$ . The VBM has contribution of  $6s^2$  of  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  and halide  $np^5$  ( $6p^5$  for I) orbital, and the CBM has contribution of  $6p$  orbital of  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  (Figure 1.6).<sup>43</sup> Both VBM and CBM are antibonding in nature. This antibonding nature of band edges play important role in defect tolerant nature of lead halide perovskites.



**Figure 1.6:** Energy level diagram of CsPbI<sub>3</sub>. Adapted from reference<sup>43</sup> with permission. Copyright © 2019, The Author(s).

**Table 1.1:** Possible combination of B<sup>+</sup> and B<sup>3+</sup> metal centers to form a double perovskite structure. Adapted from reference<sup>44</sup> with permission. Copyright © 2017, American Chemical Society.

		B <sup>3+</sup>	Group 3	Group 13	Group 15
			Sc, Y	Al, Ga, In(3+), Tl(3+)	Sb(3+), Bi (3+)
B <sup>+</sup>	Group 1	Na, K, Rb, Cs	Direct <i>(All forbidden)</i>	Direct <i>(All forbidden)</i>	Mostly Direct <i>(Weak transition)</i>
	Group 11	Cu, Ag, Au	Indirect	Direct <i>(partial forbidden)</i>	Indirect
	Group 13	In(1+), Tl(1+)	Direct <i>(Weak transition)</i>	Indirect	Direct <i>(Strong transition)</i>

When we replace Pb<sup>2+</sup> by a pair of monovalent and trivalent cations, the cations could be of various nature like they may have s<sup>2</sup> electron in the valence shell (e.g., In<sup>+</sup>, Tl<sup>+</sup>, Sb<sup>3+</sup>, Bi<sup>3+</sup>) similar to Pb<sup>2+</sup>. Or, have empty valence s and p orbital like (Na<sup>+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>, Rb<sup>+</sup>, In<sup>3+</sup>). Or have s and d electrons (Ag<sup>+</sup>). Depending on the nature of cations, the possible halide double perovskites could be divided broadly into nine categories (as shown in Table 1), which affect their band structure and electronic properties. Yan and coworkers calculated band structure of these compositions at Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof (PBE) level.<sup>44</sup> For group 1 and group 3 or 13 composition the band gap is found to be direct with even parity. So, the electronic transitions

between the band edge are forbidden at all k points. The set of group 11 and group 13 cation for example  $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$ , the VBM derived from Ag 4d and Cl 3p orbital and CBM is derived from In 5s orbital. It has a direct band gap at  $\Gamma$  point but the parity of VBM and CBM is same at this point. Leading to parity forbidden transition from valence band to conduction band at the  $\Gamma$  point. The conduction band parity changes with k, at different k, the transition is allowed. For group 1 and group 13, for example  $\text{Cs}_2\text{KBiCl}_6$ , the band gap is direct but the transition dipole is small. Similar is the case for the group 13 and group 3 composition. For the composition of group 13 and group 15, the band gap found to be direct and have good transition dipole. But experimentally synthesizing this composition are difficult because of the possible oxidation of  $\text{In}^+$  to  $\text{In}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Tl}^+$  is toxic.

From the above discussion it is clear that group 11 and group 13 containing compositions are stable have direct band gap. So, in Chapter 2 we have taken  $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$  as our host material. All the halide double perovskites which are experimentally reported show poor emission property because of forbidden or indirect band gap nature.<sup>31-33,37,45</sup> At the same time these have good structural properties such as octahedral site which is preferred by a number of luminescent centers and compositional flexibility which allow to incorporate luminescent centers in these positions. When I started working there were few reports on the doping in halide double perovskites.<sup>38, 46-48</sup> Seeing the potential of halide perovskites to host different luminescent centers, the exploration and understanding of luminescent center doping in halide double perovskite to improve/impart desired optical functionalities became a major goal of this thesis work.

## **1.6 Luminescent Centers**

As the name suggest, the centers or site, such as ions, atoms, group of atoms, defect or charge which show luminescence property is known as luminescent centers.<sup>49-50</sup> When the luminescence centers are incorporated in an inert host lattice, the luminescence property of the crystal or material is mainly governed by the luminescence center. Phosphors containing the luminescent centers dominate the current lighting industry. For example, many of the currently used white light emitting diodes (LEDs) have a InGaN chips (which emit blue light around 450 nm) coated with  $\text{Eu}^{2+}$  doped  $\text{SrSi}_2\text{O}_2\text{N}_2$ <sup>51-52</sup> (green emitter) and  $\text{Eu}^{2+}$  doped  $\text{Sr}_2\text{Si}_5\text{N}_8$ <sup>53</sup> (red emitter) phosphors. Such applications make luminescent centers an important class of material for research and development.

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The luminescent centers are of various kinds and can be classified on different basis.<sup>50</sup> On the basis of physical state of luminescent center, one can divide them in F-center (defect and charge), ion, cluster and molecular luminescent center. F-center (F stand for farbe which means color) are formed when the anion vacancy in the crystal is occupied by one or more unpaired electrons. For example, when alkali halides are expose to high energy X-rays, this gives rise to halide vacancy occupied by electron and as a result these alkali halides show new absorption and emission property.<sup>54-55</sup> In a crystal multiple atoms can interact to each other, often form cluster and show luminescent property.<sup>56</sup>  $\pi$ -conjugated organic molecules also show luminescence properties and can be regarded as luminescent centers.<sup>57</sup> These luminescent centers are not further discussed in this thesis. The other set of luminescent centers such as ions or atoms can be incorporated intentionally with control and hugely utilized in light emitting phosphors that are currently being used in LEDs.

Ion luminescent centers can be classified in the following categories (Table 1.2) based on the nature of the electronic transitions they undergo. These are briefly mentioned below.

(1) Ions with  $s^2-s^1p^1$  electronic transition: Ions possessing an  $s^2$  electron in their valence shell orbital show optical properties arising from electronic transitions between  $s^2$  and  $s^1p^1$  states. A more detailed discussion of this category is presented in the subsequent section.

(2) Ions with d-d electronic transition: Transition metal ions with partially filled d-orbitals show optical properties originating from electronic transitions within the d-orbitals various energy configuration (states). Examples are  $Mn^{2+}$ ,  $Cr^{3+}$  and other transition metal ions.

(3) Ions with  $3d^{10}-3d^94s^1$  type electronic transition: Transition metal ions with fully filled d-orbitals, such as  $Cu^+$ ,  $Ag^+$ , and  $Au^+$ , show optical properties due to  $3d^{10}$  to  $3d^94s^1$  type electronic transitions. The s-orbitals and d-orbitals lies at the valence shell, which results in a pronounced sensitivity to the crystal field, leading to broad optical absorption and emission features.

(4) Ions with f-f electronic transition: Lanthanide ions bearing unpaired f-electrons undergo f to f electronic transitions. These f-orbitals are situated under the valence shell and are less influenced by the crystal field. Consequently, these transitions yield well-defined, narrow emission features. This category will be discussed in greater detail in subsequent section.



(5) Ions with  $4f^n-4f^{(n-1)}5d^1$  electronic transition: Certain lanthanide ions exhibit  $4f^n$  to  $4f^{(n-1)}5d^1$  transitions, involving both f- and d-orbitals. These transitions show broader emission features attributed to the engagement of d-orbitals.

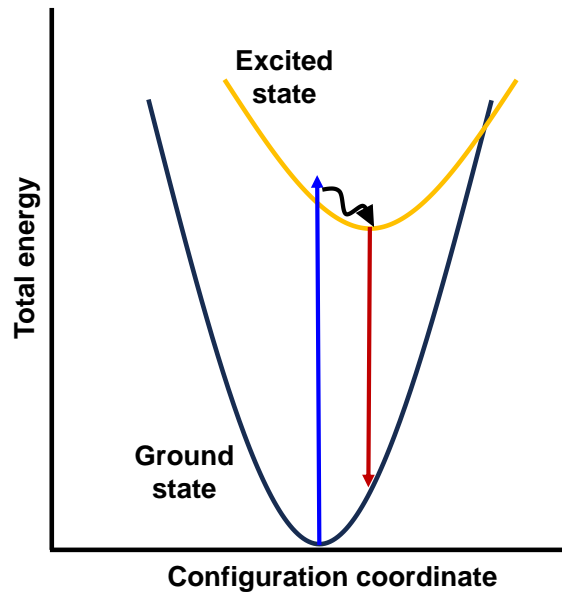
The subsequent sections will discuss the optical characteristics of two categories (1 and 4) of luminescent centers used in this thesis.

**Table 1.2:** Category of ion luminescent centers based on the type of electronic transitions they undergo.

S. No.	Transitions	Luminescent centers
1	$ns^2 - ns^1np^1$	$Ga^+, In^+, Tl^+, Ge^{2+}, Sn^{2+}, Pb^{2+}, Sb^{3+}, Bi^{3+}, Te^{4+}, Cu^-, Ag^-, Au^-$
2	d - d	Transition metal ions (e.g., $Mn^+, Cr^{3+}, Mn^{4+}$ )
3	$3d^{10} - 3d^9 4s^1$	$Cu^+, Ag^+, Au^+$
4	f - f	Lanthanides and actinides ions
5	$4f^n - 4f^{(n-1)} 5d^1$	$Ce^{3+}, Pr^{3+}, Sm^{2+}, Eu^{2+}, Tm^{2+}, Yb^{2+}$

In ion luminescent centers the charge carriers are mostly localized on the luminescent centers and their optical properties can be explained by a localized model, often by configuration coordinate model. Simple diatomic model is the basis of configuration coordinate model. In the diatomic model, the total energy of the system varies with internuclear distance. And, for polyatomic molecules, huge number of coordinates are needed for similar presentation. These coordinates are approximated by a single configuration coordinate in one dimensional configuration coordinate model as shown in Figure 1.7.<sup>50</sup> In configuration coordinate model only the luminescent ion and the nearest neighbors are considered for simplicity. By considering so, the set of ions can be treated as molecule and the large number of lattice vibration can be approximated by a set of normal coordinates, known as configuration coordinate. This model can qualitatively explain a number of observations such as Stokes shift, absorption or emission bandwidth and temperature dependence. As shown in Figure 1.7, absorption happens following the Frank-Condon principle. After excitation, the charge carrier

undergoes in non-radiative relaxation followed by emission from the lowest excited state to ground state.



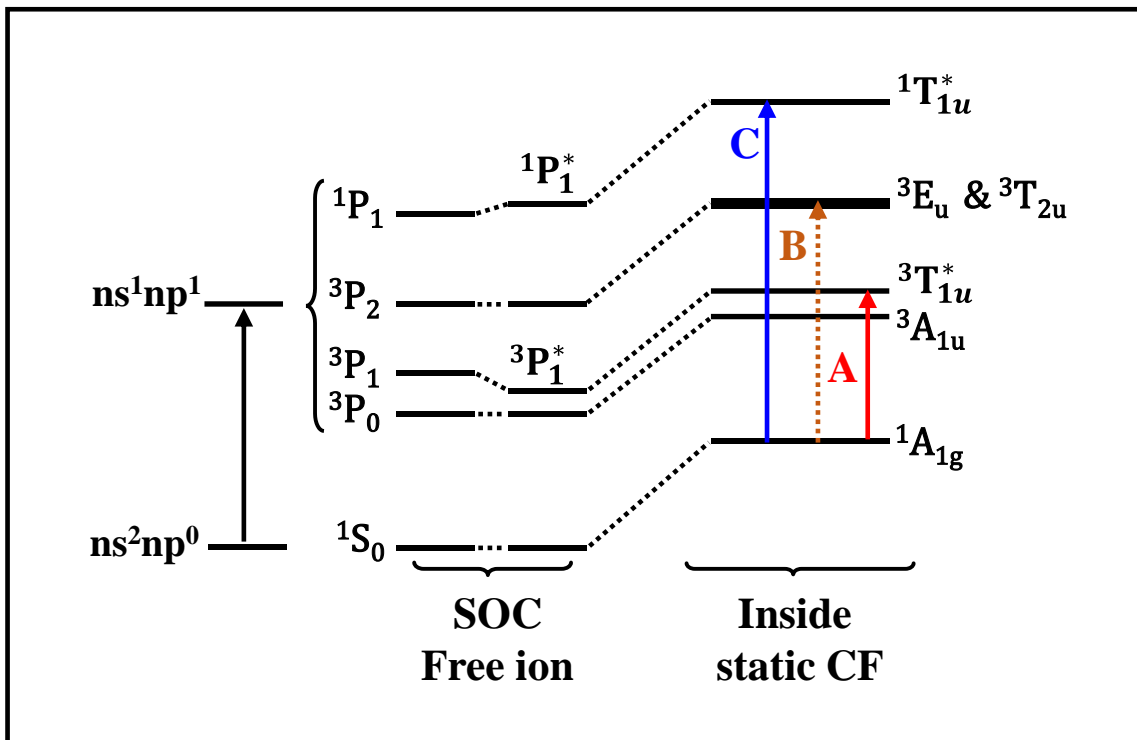
**Figure 1.7:** A schematic representation of configuration coordinate model. The blue solid line represents the absorption followed by the non-radiative relaxation (curvy line) and the red line represent the emission.

### 1.6.1 Luminescent Centers with $ns^2 - ns^1np^1$ Transitions ( $ns^2$ -ions)

$ns^2 \leftrightarrow ns^1np^1$  transitions are shown by the ions such as  $Tl^+$ ,  $Pb^{2+}$ ,  $Sb^{3+}$ ,  $Bi^{3+}$ ,  $Te^{4+}$ ,  $Ag^+$ ,  $Au^+$ ,  $Ga^+$ ,  $In^+$ ,  $Ge^{2+}$ ,  $Sn^{2+}$ ,  $Cu^+$  which have  $ns^2np^0$  valence shell electronic configuration.<sup>50, 58</sup> These ions are generally known as  $ns^2$  ions. To understand the optical absorption and emission properties of such ions we first need to understand energy level diagram of these ions. These energy levels almost completely explain the observed optical properties. So, let's start from a free isolated  $ns^2$ -ion in the ground state with  $ns^2np^0$  valence shell electronic configuration. When sufficient energy photon falls on these ions, one of the  $ns^2$  electron gets promoted to  $np$  orbital and form  $ns^1np^1$  state as shown in the left side of Figure 1.8. For  $ns^2np^0$  ground state, total orbital angular momentum ( $L$ ) = 0 and total spin angular momentum ( $S$ ) = 0 so the corresponding term is  $^1S_0$ . For  $ns^1np^1$  configuration,  $L = 1$ ,  $S = 0$  and 1 so the corresponding terms are  $^1P$  and  $^3P$ . Spin-orbit coupling (Russel-Saunders coupling) split the degenerate  $^3P_{0,1,2}$  states. The most of the  $ns^2$ -ions are heavier elements and have stronger spin-orbit coupling because spin orbit coupling is proportional to  $Z^4$ , where  $Z$  is effective nuclear charge. So, in  $ns^2$ -ions spin-orbit coupling ( $j-j$  coupling) becomes significant and leads to mixing of  $^1P_1$  and  $^3P_1$  states, as a result the  $^3P_1$  gets stabilize in energy and represented by  $^3P_1^*$  whereas  $^1P_1$

increase in energy and represented by  $^1P_1^*$ . Because of this mixing the spin forbidden  $^1S_0 \rightarrow ^3P_1$  transition becomes nearly allowed.

In  $ns^2$ -ion,  $^1S_0 \rightarrow ^3P_0$  transition is spin forbidden as well as  $\Delta J (0 \leftrightarrow 0)$  forbidden, where J is total angular momentum of electron.  $^1S_0 \rightarrow ^3P_1^*$  transition becomes nearly allowed because of  $^1P_1$  and  $^3P_1$  mixing.  $^1S_0 \rightarrow ^3P_2$  transition becomes partially allowed on coupling with lattice vibrations.  $^1S_0 \rightarrow ^1P_1$  transition is allowed. In the order of increasing energy, the possible transitions are  $^1S_0 \rightarrow ^3P_1^*$ ,  $^1S_0 \rightarrow ^3P_2$  and  $^1S_0 \rightarrow ^1P_1$ , which are also known as A- band, B-band and C-band transitions, respectively, as shown in Figure 1.8.

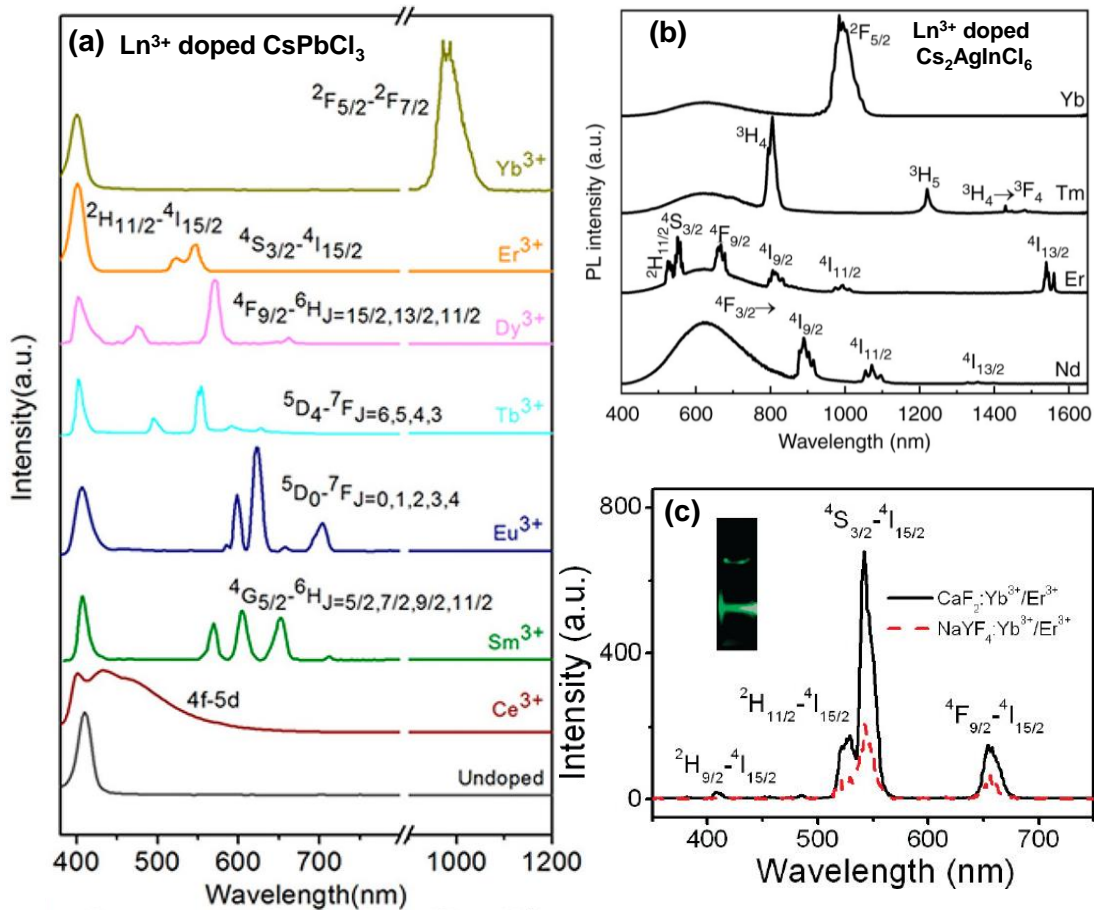


**Figure 1.8:** Schematic presentation of energy state and transitions in a  $ns^2$ -ion. The energy states are represented by the term symbols. At the right side, when the ion present in the crystal field, the energy states are represented in Mulliken symbols. SOC represent the spin-orbit coupling and CF represent the crystal field.

When the  $ns^2$ -ions are present in the crystal field, the energy of ground as well as excited state increases. In a cubic crystal field, the energy states are represented by Mulliken symbols.  $^1A_{1g}$ ,  $^3A_{1u}$ ,  $^3T_{1u}$ , ( $^3E_u + ^3T_{2u}$ ) and  $^1T_{1u}^*$  Mulliken notations are used corresponding to  $^1S_0$ ,  $^3P_0$ ,  $^3P_1^*$ ,  $^3P_2$  and  $^1P_1^*$  states, respectively.<sup>58</sup> Due to electron lattice interaction in the crystal, the absorption or emission bands gets broaden. In  $ns^2$ -ions, nucleus causes major splitting, so the effect of crystal field is minimum. So, when these ions are present in octahedral crystal field the trend of energy levels remains almost similar.

### 1.6.2 Luminescent Centers with f-f Electronic Transitions

f-f electronic transitions are shown by the lanthanide series ions which have unpaired 4f electrons such as  $\text{Pr}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Nd}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Pm}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Sm}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Gd}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Dy}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Ho}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Er}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Tm}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$ . Lanthanide series elements generally possess +3 oxidation state. The general electronic configuration can be written as  $[\text{Kr}] 4d^{10}4f^n5s^25p^66s^0$ . From electronic configuration, it is clear that the f-electrons lie inside the valence shell and does not participate in bonding. As a result, the f electronic levels are not much affected by host crystal field and show narrow emissions at fixed positions. For example, Figure 1.9a shows the emission spectra of lanthanide ions doped in  $\text{CsPbCl}_3$  nanocrystals.<sup>59</sup> The emission features are narrow. And, appear at similar energy if we doped the same lanthanide ion in different host material (Figure 19a, b, c). These emissions originate from the f-f electronic transition of a particular lanthanide ion.



**Figure 1.9:** (a) Emission spectra of  $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  doped  $\text{CsPbCl}_3$  nanocrystals. (b) Emission spectra of  $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$ . (c) Up-conversion emission spectrum of  $\text{Yb}^{3+}/\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{CaF}_2$ . The f-f electronic transitions correspond to emissions are shown in the Figures. Figure (a) is adapted from reference<sup>59</sup> with permission. Copyright © 2017, American Chemical Society. Figure (b) is adapted from reference<sup>60</sup> with permission. Copyright © 2022, The Author(a). Figure (c) is adapted from reference<sup>61</sup> with permission. Copyright © 2009, American Chemical Society.

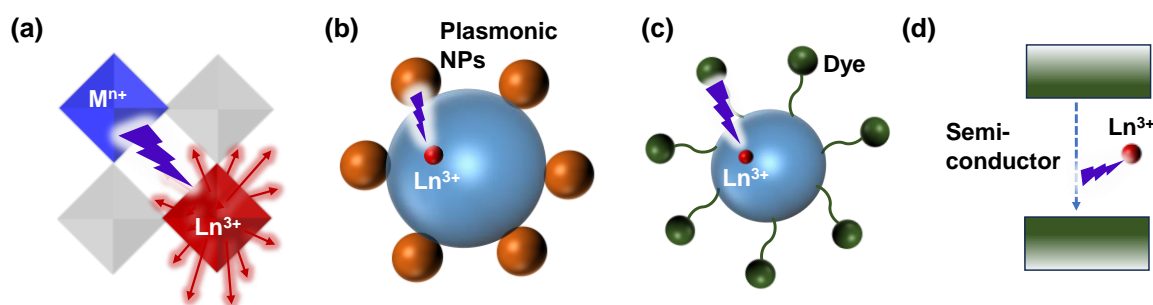
Lanthanide ions emit sharp narrow emission from blue visible to infrared region. Which make these lanthanides an important luminescent center. But lanthanides have poor absorption cross section because of parity forbidden f-f electronic transitions and most of the times these require a sensitizers or high intensity lasers for excitation.<sup>62</sup> A sensitizer is an ion or molecule which is capable of absorbing light and transferring the excitation energy to a nearby activator (emitter), and the activator emits its characteristic emission.<sup>50, 63</sup> The process of *activator* excitation by *sensitizer* is known as sensitization. For lanthanide sensitization the widely accepted energy transfer mechanism is Foster resonance energy transfer (FRET). For this to happen, the sensitizer and activator should be nearby and the absorption of activator should overlap with emission of sensitizer. The efficiency of this is proportional to  $r^{-6}$ . Where  $r$  is distance between sensitizer and activator.<sup>64</sup>

### **1.7 Strategies to Sensitize Lanthanide Luminescent Center**

Lanthanides have poor absorption cross section ( $10^{-21}$  -  $10^{-22}$   $\text{cm}^2$ ). Therefore, lanthanide sensitization is important to achieve intense lanthanide emission with normal excitation sources such as xenon lamp or LED chips. Different strategies are utilized to sensitize lanthanide ions as shown in Figure 1.10. Figure 1.10a shows that a good absorbing ion such as  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Mn}^{4+}$ ,  $\text{Cr}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Ce}^{3+}$  with absorption cross-section of  $10^{-20}$  -  $10^{-18}$   $\text{cm}^2$  are codoped with lanthanide.<sup>62, 65-70</sup> These ions absorb the excitation light and transfer energy non-radiatively to lanthanide, and lanthanide exhibit characteristic emissions. In this strategy the hosts are usually inert and do not show optical properties. This strategy is very versatile because multiple sensitizers and emitters can be simultaneously incorporated in the host, with desired optical absorption and emission properties. Because the two centers, sensitizer and emitter are present in the same crystal, the two centers are expected to be located nearby, and hence, the maximum energy transfer is expected. This strategy could be use in bulk as well as in nanocrystals.

Plasmonic nanoparticles (NPs) with absorption cross-section of  $10^{-13}$  -  $10^{-11}$   $\text{cm}^2$  are utilized to sensitize lanthanide doped or lanthanide-based nanocrystals (Figure 1.10b).<sup>62, 71-73</sup> In this case the energy transfer takes place from one material to  $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  in another material. Energy transfer to be efficient, maximum surface overlap should be there. Therefore, this method can be used effectively only in nanocrystals. Dyes with absorption cross-section  $10^{-17}$  -  $10^{-16}$   $\text{cm}^2$  have been demonstrated to sensitized lanthanide doped nanoparticles.<sup>62, 74-75</sup> In this case the organic dyes are attached to crystal surface (Figure 1.10c). So, this method is useful for nanocrystals. Conjugated organic molecules could be directly coordinate to lanthanide ions, and form

complexes. The system formed by this method has stability issue because of organic part. Also, lanthanide emission in the short-wave infrared region is quenched by these organic components. This issue will be discussed in detail in the next section. Semiconductors with good absorption cross section of  $10^{-13}$  -  $10^{-11}$   $\text{cm}^2$  are utilized to sensitize  $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  ions. Semiconductor NC could be attached to lanthanide doped NC for this purpose, similar to the case of plasmonic NP as shown in Figure 1.10b. Another approach is to dope the semiconductors with lanthanide ions. The semiconductor will absorb the excitation light and non-radiative transfer its energy to lanthanide ion as shown in the Figure 1.10d.



**Figure 1.10:** Schematic presentation of various lanthanide sensitization methods. (a) Good absorbing ions  $M^{n+}$  ( $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Cr}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Ce}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Mn}^{4+}$ ) are codoped with lanthanide ions ( $\text{Ln}^{3+}$ ). (b) Plasmonic nanoparticles (NPs) are attached to the surface of  $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  doped nanocrystals. (c) Dye molecules are attached to  $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  doped nanocrystals. (d)  $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  are doped in semiconductor nanocrystals.

Traditional semiconductors like CdSe, GaAs, Si, InP have tetrahedral coordination, whereas the large lanthanide ions prefer octahedral or higher coordination sites; This mismatch makes lanthanide ion doping difficult in semiconductors.<sup>76-77</sup> Lead halide perovskite with octahedral site have been doped with lanthanide ions but lead toxicity is a major concern for their application.<sup>59, 78-79</sup> Lead free double perovskites with octahedral sites are promising host for lanthanides. But, unlike lead perovskite, these are insulators with higher band gaps. Chapter 2 and 3 of this thesis explore the possibility of lanthanide doping in lead-free halide double perovskite and the modulation of excitation energy.

## 1.8 Applications of Lanthanide Ion Emission

Lanthanides have been utilized in commercial light emitting materials and lasers.<sup>80</sup> For example,  $\text{YVO}_4:\text{Eu}^{3+}$  is the first lanthanide-based phosphor introduced in 1965.<sup>81</sup> Since then the lanthanide doped phosphor have been hugely explored. Currently, various lanthanide doped

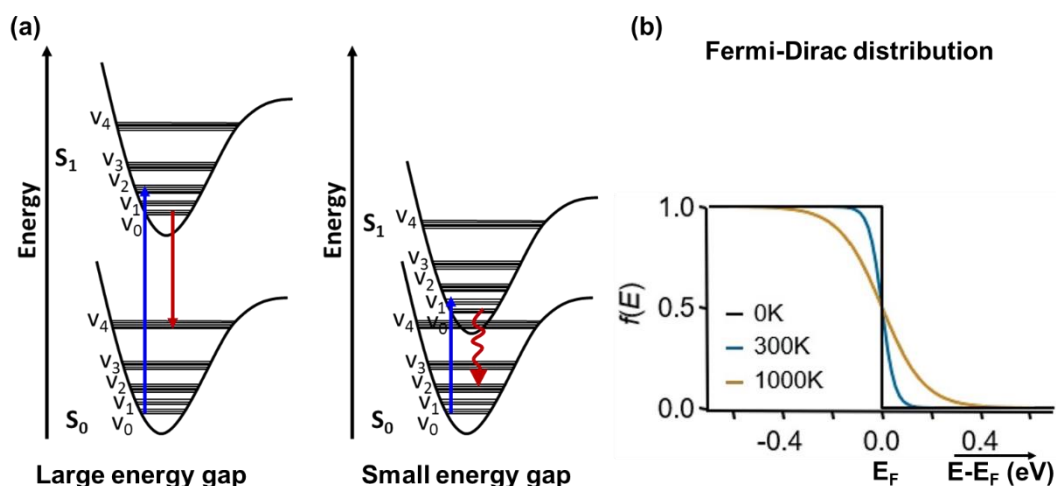
phosphor is commercially used.  $Tb^{3+}$  doped  $Y_3Al_5O_{12}$  (YAG) is used as green phosphor in cathode ray tube display.  $CaAlSiN_3:Eu^{2+}$  and  $Sr[Mg_3SiN_4]:Eu^{2+}$  are used as red phosphor in LEDs.<sup>82</sup> Lanthanide also found widespread application in lasers. Nd doped YAG laser one of the most commonly used laser.<sup>80</sup> Few of the lanthanide emits in the shortwave infrared region. For example,  $Er^{3+}$  emit strongly 1540 nm radiation, which fall in the biological transparent window and found application in biological deep tissue imaging, it also falls in the fused silica transparency window and used in optical telecommunication.

### **1.9 Short-wave Infrared Emissions are Difficult to Obtain; Why?**

Electromagnetic waves of 900-1700 nm wavelength are known as short-wave infrared (SWIR) waves. SWIR emissions fall in the overlapping region of both the lower energy end electronic transition and the vibrational overtone transition. The SWIR emissions, which falls in the energy range 1.38-0.73 eV, are generated by electronic transition between ground state and excited state. So, the required energy gap between ground state and excited state is small. But moving from visible emission to SWIR emission, as the energy gap between ground state and excited state decreases, the emission efficiency decreases. This could be understood by following explanations.

In organic emitters, dye molecules, the emission originates due to electronic transition from lowest unoccupied molecular orbital (LUMO) to highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO). As the energy gap between LUMO and HOMO decreases, the overlap between ground state and excited state increases<sup>83</sup>, and the charge carrier in the excited state (LUMO) with the help of vibrational state may non-radiatively relax to ground state (HOMO) as shown in Figure 1.11a.

In the case of inorganic semiconductors, the emission originates due to electronic transition from conduction band minima (CBM) to valence band maxima (VBM). The Fermi-Dirac distribution gives the distribution of electron between valence band and conduction band. As the band gap narrows down, the CBM and VBM move closer to  $E_F$ . In such case, at any temperature the electron population in the conduction band becomes significant as shown in Figure 1.11b. This leads to decrease in the emission intensity or lower photoluminescent quantum yield in small band gap semiconductors. So, organic dye and inorganic semiconductor both show decreased emission efficiency for SWIR emission because of the respective reasons mentioned here.



**Figure 1.11:** (a) Schematic presentation of ground ( $S_0$ ) and first excited state ( $S_1$ ) of a dye molecule with vibrational levels. The absorption is shown by the blue straight line and emission by red straight line. In the small energy gap case, the relaxation is non radiative and shown by red curvy arrow. (b) Fermi-Dirac distribution of electrons at different temperature for a semiconductor.  $f(E)$  is the probability that the electron will have energy  $E$ ,  $E_F$  is Fermi energy and  $T$  is temperature. Figure (b) is adapted from reference<sup>84</sup> with permission. Copyright © 2023, The Author(s).

If the emitting material contains hetero-atom bond such as C-X, H-X ( $X = N, H, O, S, Cl, Br, I$ ), in such case the anharmonicity in the vibration will be large and the vibrational overtone will be significant. These vibrational overtone falls in the range SWIR. For example, the fundamental vibrational frequency of  $\nu(\text{O-H})$  is  $3600 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (2777 nm) and the vibrational overtone has the  $7199 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (1389 nm) energy, which falls in SWIR range. So, the surrounding elements containing C-X or H-X bonds have ability to absorb the SWIR emission. The organic molecules contain plenty of such bond and because of this, organic semiconductors or organic-lanthanide complex are not that successful SWIR emitter. Inorganic semiconductors are free from this external factor and may play a major role. But semiconductors need to have small band gap in SWIR range with minimum defects. Currently, PbS, PbSe, HgTe nanocrystal based materials are being used to get SWIR emission. Also InAs nanocrystals being explored for SWIR emission but still the synthesis requires harsh condition and high-quality nanocrystal synthesis is a challenge. On the other hand, the lanthanide  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  emit SWIR emission from f-f electronic transition. If we could incorporate lanthanide in a host, we obtain the SWIR emission. This make  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  doping important to obtain SWIR emission.

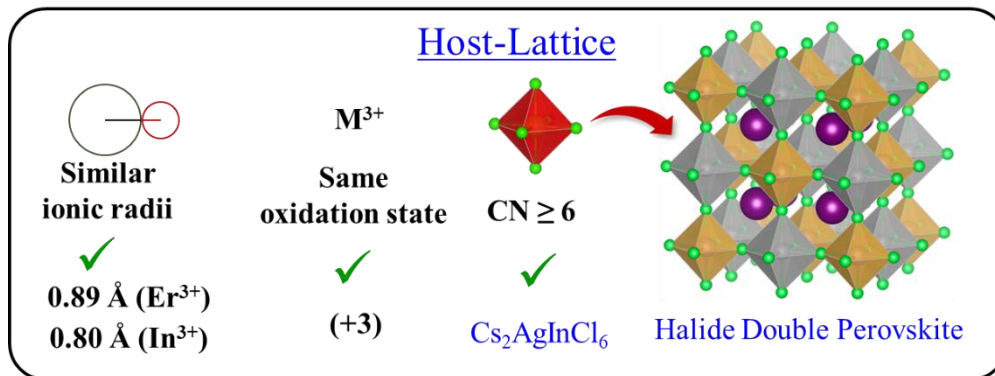
### 1.10 Scope of this Thesis

Lead-free halide perovskites contain octahedral sites, which are preferred by various luminescent centers. This intrinsic characteristic presents an opportunity to incorporate



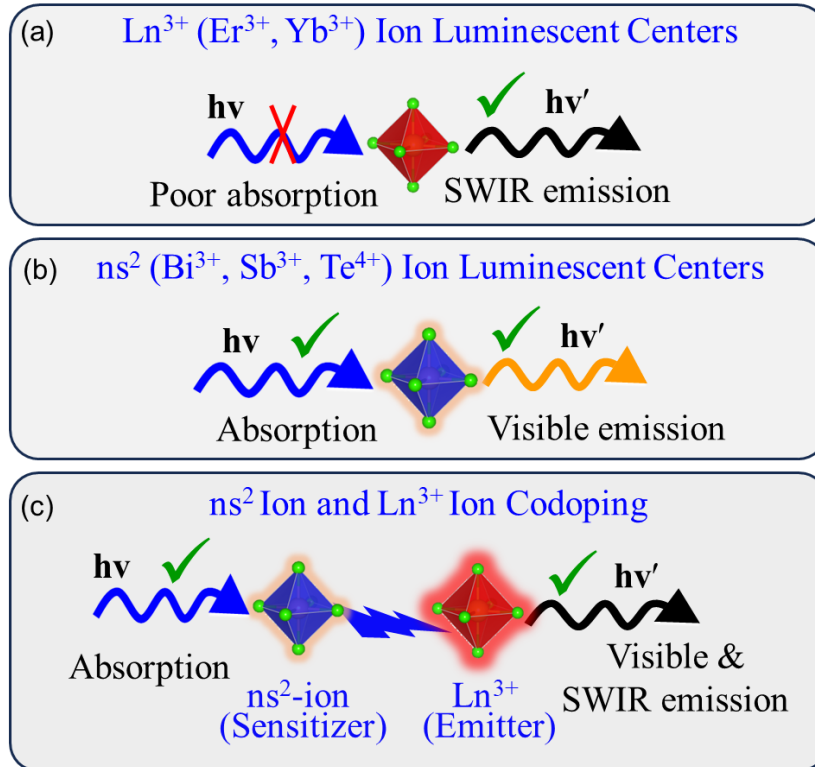
luminescent centers, such as lanthanide ions and  $ns^2$ -ions. These dopants hold the potential to tune the optical functionalities of lead-free perovskite materials. This thesis explores the potential of doping lanthanide ions ( $Er^{3+}$ ,  $Yb^{3+}$ ) and  $ns^2$ -ions ( $Bi^{3+}$ ,  $Sb^{3+}$ ,  $Te^{4+}$ ) in lead free halide perovskites. Through this study, we aim to understand and impart novel luminescent properties of doped lead-free halide perovskites. This comprehensive study includes material design, thorough characterization, and an in-depth exploration of the photophysical properties.

First of all, an appropriate halide perovskite host lattice is chosen for the incorporation of luminescent lanthanide dopants in the lattice. Lanthanides prefer coordination number  $\geq 6$  and usually exists in +3 oxidation state. Halide double perovskites, such as  $Cs_2AgInCl_6$ , has  $In^{3+}$  in octahedral environment, and therefore, can be a suitable host for lanthanide doping (Figure 1.13a).<sup>85-87</sup> When, we started this work, there were only two reports of lanthanide ion doping in the halide double perovskites.<sup>88-89</sup> The potential of halide perovskites to host lanthanide ions, and the scientific curiosity on how the optical properties will manifest after the doping, lead us to study lanthanide doping in halide perovskites.



**Figure 1.13:** Structural and compositional parameters of halide double perovskites suitable for lanthanide doping.

Lanthanide ion doped in halide double perovskite ( $Cs_2AgInCl_6$ ) require higher energy excitation ( $> 3.54$  eV) and have large energy difference between excitation and emission which causes huge energy loss. Also, the available efficient excitation sources, UV LED chips, like GaN emit at 365 nm (3.40 eV) or at higher wavelength. So, there is need to reduce the excitation energy.



**Figure 1.14:** Schematic presentation of absorption and emission in (a) lanthanide ion ( $\text{Ln}^{3+}$ ), (b)  $\text{ns}^2$  ion, and (c)  $\text{ns}^2$  ion- $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  codoped double perovskites. Octahedrons represent the dopant sites, where each dopant is bonded to six halide ions (green spheres).

Lanthanide ion emits distinct narrow emissions from f-f electronic transitions, which are parity forbidden in nature. One can observe emission from lanthanide but with long lifetime. Because f-f transitions are forbidden, lanthanide show poor optical absorption (Figure 1.14a), and lanthanides does not introduce any absorption feature to host material. To address this issue, we introduce the concept of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  ( $\text{ns}^2$ -ion) and lanthanide ion ( $\text{Er}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$ ) codoping in  $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$  in the Chapter 2 of this thesis. The  $\text{ns}^2$ -ion with nearly allowed  $^1\text{S}_0 \rightarrow ^3\text{P}_1^*$  transition could effectively absorb light and introduce new lower-energy sub-bandgap absorption feature. The absorption is followed by  $^3\text{P}_1^* \rightarrow ^1\text{S}_0$  transition related emission as shown in Figure 1.14b. When we codope  $\text{ns}^2$ -ion with lanthanide ion, the  $\text{ns}^2$ -ion absorbs the light, and then non-radiatively transfer its energy to lanthanide ion. Subsequently, the lanthanide ion emits the characteristic narrow emission (Figure 1.14c). Different choices of double perovskite hosts, and doping with  $\text{ns}^2$ -ions and lanthanide ions have been explored in Chapter 2-3. Temperature (7 K - 300 K) dependent PL, PL excitation and PL lifetime measurements are carried out to elucidate the photo-excitation and emission processes. Phosphor converted LEDs are assembled to demonstrate the applicability of the codoping.

Doping ns<sup>2</sup>-ions not only act as a sensitizer for lanthanides. The ns<sup>2</sup>-ion dopants themselves show interesting emission properties. PL of ns<sup>2</sup>-ion doped in alkali halides have been studied extensively in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>58, 90-91</sup> There has been correlation established in different ns<sup>2</sup>-ions, their emissions and the host materials. We found that the Sb<sup>3+</sup> and Bi<sup>3+</sup> doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> 0D perovskites emit orange and blue color emission and these emissions are expected to originate from the <sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub>\* → <sup>1</sup>S<sub>0</sub> transition of respective ions. But at low temperature the Sb<sup>3+</sup> doped sample show dual emission feature where the Bi<sup>3+</sup> doped sample show single emission feature at all temperature. Chapter 4 of this thesis discusses the origin of this contrasting emission features.

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## Chapter 2

### **Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> Codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> Double Perovskite: Visible to Short-Wave Infrared Emitters**

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The work presented in this chapter is published in the following article:

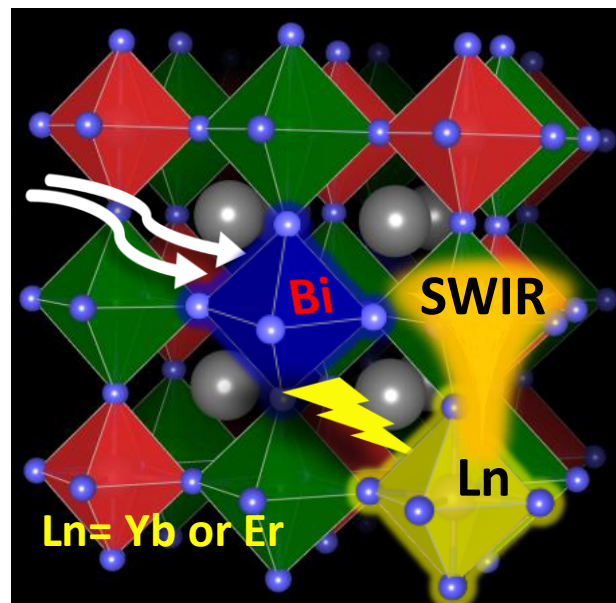
**Arfin, H.;** Kaur, J.; Sheikh, T.; Chakraborty, S.; Nag, A., Bi<sup>3+</sup> -Er<sup>3+</sup> and Bi<sup>3+</sup> -Yb<sup>3+</sup> Codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> Double Perovskite Near-Infrared Emitters. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2020**, *59*, 11307-11311.

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**Abstract**

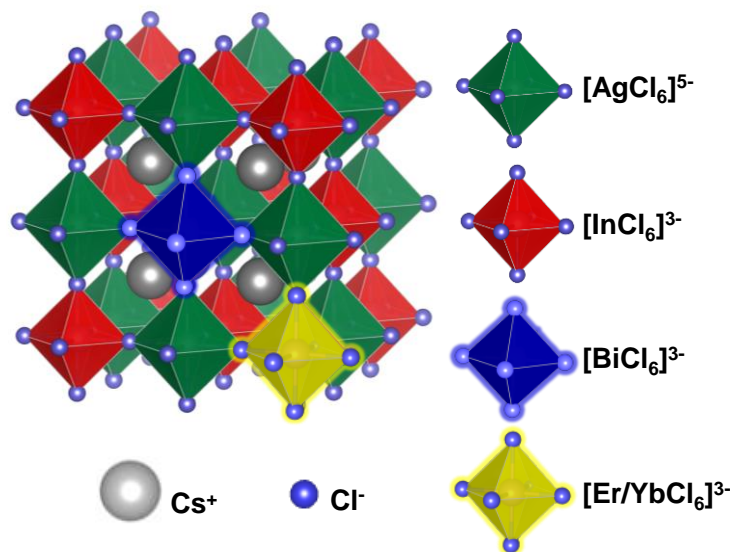
Bi<sup>3+</sup> and lanthanide ions have been codoped in metal oxides as optical sensitizers and emitters. But such codoping is not known in typical semiconductors such as Si, GaAs, and CdSe. Metal halide perovskite with coordination number 6 provides an opportunity to codope Bi<sup>3+</sup> and lanthanide ions. Codoping of Bi<sup>3+</sup> and Ln<sup>3+</sup> (Ln = Er and Yb) in Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> double perovskite is presented here. Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> shows Er<sup>3+</sup> f-electron emission at 1540 nm (suitable for low-loss optical communication). Bi<sup>3+</sup> codoping decreases the excitation (absorption) energy, such that the samples can be excited with ca. 370 nm light. At that excitation, Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> shows ca. 45 times higher emission intensity compared to the Er<sup>3+</sup> doped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>. Similar results are also observed in Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> codoped sample emitting at 994 nm. Temperature-dependent (5.7 K to 423 K) photoluminescence is used to understand the optical sensitization and emission processes.

**Graphical Abstract**

## 2.1 Introduction

Lead halide perovskites have emerged as an important class of semiconductor.<sup>1-9</sup> In these perovskites, the Pb site has a coordination number of 6, unlike traditional semiconductors including Si, GaAs, CdSe, CuZnSnS<sub>4</sub>, which possess coordination number = 4 for metal sites. This octahedral site in perovskites is suitable for incorporation of lanthanide dopants, since lanthanides prefer coordination number  $\geq 6$ .<sup>10-14</sup> Such lanthanide doping resulted into interesting optical properties in the visible and infrared region, including efficient quantum cutting phenomenon achieving photoluminescence (PL) quantum yield close to 200% for Yb *f*-electron emission.<sup>15</sup>

Despite several advantages, major issues with these lead halide perovskites remain their poor stability and toxicity. There are various attempts being made to discover Pb-free metal halide perovskites with efficient optical and optoelectronic properties.<sup>16-20</sup> In this category, double perovskites, such as Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> are emerging, because double perovskites retain the 3D perovskite structure similar to Pb-halide perovskites.<sup>21-29</sup> But the problem with metal halide double perovskites is wide or indirect band gap, limiting their optical and optoelectronic properties in the visible and infrared region. To address this issue, new light emission channel in double perovskites were first introduced with Mn<sup>2+</sup> doping, and then by doping lanthanides like Yb<sup>3+</sup> and Er<sup>3+</sup>.<sup>30-34</sup> But the excitation energy is too high (< 350 nm) and is not suitable for excitation with commercial UV light-emitting diodes (LEDs) that typically produce light  $\geq 365$  nm. Another interesting development is doping Bi<sup>3+</sup> in Cs<sub>2</sub>Ag<sub>1-x</sub>Na<sub>x</sub>InCl<sub>6</sub>, tailoring both absorption and broad-band visible-light emission.<sup>35-37</sup>



**Figure 2.1:** Schematics of Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup>/ Yb<sup>3+</sup> codoping in Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> lattice.

To date, near infrared emission from Ln<sup>3+</sup> (Ln = Er or Yb) doped double perovskites remains weak in intensity, along with having very high excitation energy (< 350 nm).<sup>32-33</sup> To overcome these problems, we introduce herein the idea of codoping Bi<sup>3+</sup> and Ln<sup>3+</sup> into the lattice of Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> (see Figure 2.1). Bi<sup>3+</sup> codoping introduces new energy states giving rise to new optical absorption channel at a lower energy compared to band gap of undoped sample. This absorbed energy is then efficiently transferred to Er<sup>3+</sup> or Yb<sup>3+</sup> f-electrons promoting the short-wave infrared (SWIR) dopant emissions. Note that the Er<sup>3+</sup> emission at 1540 nm is suitable for low-loss optical telecommunication.

## 2.2 Experimental Section

### 2.2.1 Chemicals

Cesium chloride (CsCl, 99.9%), indium (III) chloride (InCl<sub>3</sub>, anhydrous powder, ≥99.999%), silver chloride (AgCl, 99.999%), erbium chloride hexahydrate (ErCl<sub>3</sub>.6H<sub>2</sub>O, 99.995%), ytterbium chloride hexahydrate (YbCl<sub>3</sub>.6H<sub>2</sub>O, 99.9%), hydrochloric acid (HCl, 37 wt %, 99.99%) are purchased from Sigma Aldrich Chemicals. All the chemicals are used without any further purification.

### 2.2.2 Synthesis of Er<sup>3+</sup> Doped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>

Er<sup>3+</sup> doped microcrystals are synthesized by modifying the synthesis method for undoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> microcrystals, reported by Volonakis *et. al.*<sup>23</sup> In a typical synthesis of 0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> (with respect to concentration of In<sup>3+</sup>) doped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>, 0.25 mmol of InCl<sub>3</sub>, 0.25 mmol of AgCl<sub>3</sub> and a very high (0.75 mmol) precursor concentration of ErCl<sub>3</sub>.6H<sub>2</sub>O are taken in a vial with 2 mL HCl. The reaction mixture is then kept at 80 °C in an oil bath with vigorous stirring until all the precursors get dissolved. Then 0.5 mmol of CsCl is added to the reaction mixture, which immediately leads to precipitation of microcrystals. The reaction is continued for another 20 minute to make sure that it is complete. The obtained precipitates are filtered out, washed three times with ethanol, dried in an oven at 100 °C and then stored in a glass vial under ambient conditions for further characterization.

### 2.2.3 Synthesis of Yb<sup>3+</sup> Doped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>

The synthesis procedure is very much similar to that for Er<sup>3+</sup> doped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> discussed above. The only difference is the use of YbCl<sub>3</sub>.6H<sub>2</sub>O precursor instead of ErCl<sub>3</sub>.6H<sub>2</sub>O. For

1.2% Yb<sup>3+</sup> doping (with respect to concentration of In<sup>3+</sup>) in the product, 0.25 mmol of YbCl<sub>3</sub>.6H<sub>2</sub>O precursor is added.

#### **2.2.4 Synthesis of Bi<sup>3+</sup> Doped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>**

The synthesis procedure is very much similar to that for Er<sup>3+</sup> doped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> discussed above. The only difference is the use of BiCl<sub>3</sub> (0.0012 mmol) precursor instead of ErCl<sub>3</sub>.6H<sub>2</sub>O.

#### **2.2.5 Synthesis of Bi<sup>3+</sup> -Er<sup>3+</sup> Codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>**

The synthesis procedure is very much similar to that for Er<sup>3+</sup> doped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> discussed above. The only difference is the use of BiCl<sub>3</sub> (0.0012 mmol) precursor in addition to different amounts of ErCl<sub>3</sub>.6H<sub>2</sub>O. See Table 2.1 and 2.2 for the details of precursor concentrations and Er<sup>3+</sup> percentages in the product.

#### **2.2.6 Synthesis of Bi<sup>3+</sup> -Yb<sup>3+</sup> Codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>**

The synthesis procedure is very much similar to that for Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> discussed above. The only difference is the use of YbCl<sub>3</sub>.6H<sub>2</sub>O precursor instead of ErCl<sub>3</sub>.6H<sub>2</sub>O. See Table 2.1 and 2.2 for the details of precursor concentrations and Yb<sup>3+</sup> percentages in the product.

#### **2.2.7 Coating Commercial UV LED with Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>**

We have made down conversion light emitting diodes (LEDs) by coating our Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> on a commercial UV LED. The UV LED emits 360 to 385 nm light, which is suitable for excitation of our sample. To make the coating on UV LED, Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> sample is mixed with 10 weight % of poly (methyl methacrylate) (PMMA) in toluene. Then the mixture is drop casted on top of the UV LEDs. The LEDs are powered by 3.2 V, 30 mA source.

#### **2.2.8 Characterization**

Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) patterns are recorded using a Bruker D8 Advance X-ray diffraction machine equipped with Cu K $\alpha$  (1.54 Å) radiation. A Zeiss Ultra Plus instrument is used for field emission scanning electron microscopy (FESEM) imaging and energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS). The obtained results from EDS elemental analysis support the stoichiometric ratio of Cs, Ag, In and Cl with Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> composition. For all sample the dopant (Er<sup>3+</sup>, Yb<sup>3+</sup> and Bi<sup>3+</sup>) concentrations determined by EDS analysis is not consistent



because of the low (~1%) concentration of dopants. For elemental analysis of the Er<sup>3+</sup>, Yb<sup>3+</sup>, Bi<sup>3+</sup> and In<sup>3+</sup>, inductively coupled plasma mass spectroscopy (ICP–MS) is carried out by using a quadrupole-ICP–MS (Thermo iCAP-Q) spectrometer. The dopant percentages are presented with respect to concentration of In in the sample. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) data are recorded using a Perkin-Elmer STA 6000 instrument. The samples are heated in the range 30–800 °C at the heating rate of 10 °C per minute, under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere.

Diffused reflectance spectra of microcrystalline powders in the UV–visible–NIR region are recorded using a Shimadzu UV-3600 plus UV–vis–NIR spectrophotometer. Then Kubelka-Munk transformation<sup>38-39</sup> is used for the analysis of diffuse reflectance spectra. It relates the reflectance data with absorption coefficient as in equation (1):

$$F(R) = \alpha/s = (1-R)^2/2R \quad (1)$$

where  $F(R)$  is the Kubelka-Munk function,  $R$  is reflectance,  $\alpha$  is absorption coefficient and  $s$  is the scattering factor. For photoluminescence (PL) measurements, powder samples are hold between two quartz sample holders. Steady-state PL, PL Excitation (PLE), and PL decay dynamics (time-correlated single photon counting) are measured using Edinburgh FLS980 Instrument. The samples are excited at 360 nm wavelength using xenon lamp for steady state PL and PLE measurements. A microsecond flash lamp is used to excite samples with 360 nm radiation to monitor the PL decay dynamics in the SWIR region. PL decay are fitted by mono- and bi- exponential decay functions as mentioned wherever used. Temperature dependent PL, PLE and PL decay dynamics are studied in the same Edinburgh FLS980 Instrument coupled with a cryostat. The powder samples are placed between two sapphire substrates and fix in a gold coated copper sample holder. The sample holder is fixed in a closed cycle He cryostat (Advanced Research Systems) attached with Lake Shore 335 temperature controller to achieve the desired temperatures in the range of 8 - 300 K.

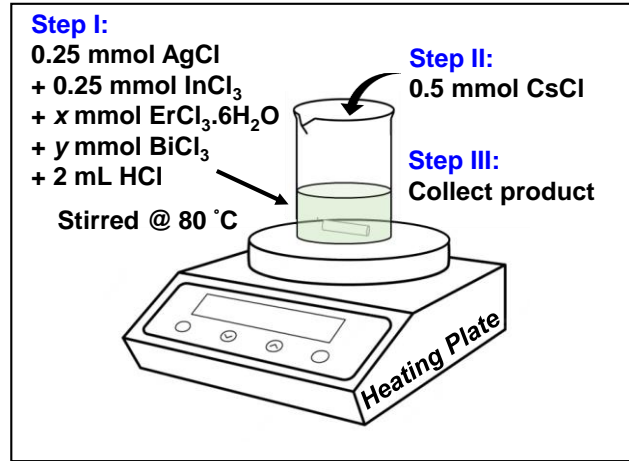
### **2.2.9 Methodology to Compare the PL Intensity**

For comparison of PL intensity, 5 wt% of the powder sample was thoroughly mixed with BaSO<sub>4</sub> powder. BaSO<sub>4</sub> does not interfere with excitation and near infrared emission of the sample. So, the role of BaSO<sub>4</sub> is to dilute the sample, similar to a solvent in a colloidal dispersion. For every measurement, equal amount mixed (sample + BaSO<sub>4</sub>) powder is taken in a quartz sample holder which has a definite size groove in it and PL spectra are recorded at multiple spots of the mixed powder. Then the average out spectra are used for comparison.

## 2.3 Results and Discussion

### 2.3.1 Synthesis and Characterization of Undoped/ Doped/ Codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>

The synthesis methodology for codoping is developed by modifying the synthesis of undoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> reported by Volonakis et al.<sup>23</sup> (see the experimental section for detail). Schematic in Figure 2.2 shows the synthesis protocol.



**Figure 2.2:** Schematic of synthesis Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>.

Elemental analysis by EDS is presented in Table 2.1. The dopant concentrations are too small to get a reliable value by EDS. Therefore, EDS data mainly verify the composition of Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> host. Dopant percentages are determined by ICP-MS and presented in Table 2.2. Together, EDS and ICP-MS data provide the complete elemental analysis. In spite of using

**Table 2.1:** EDS data of Er<sup>3+</sup>-doped, Yb<sup>3+</sup>-doped, Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped, Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> products.

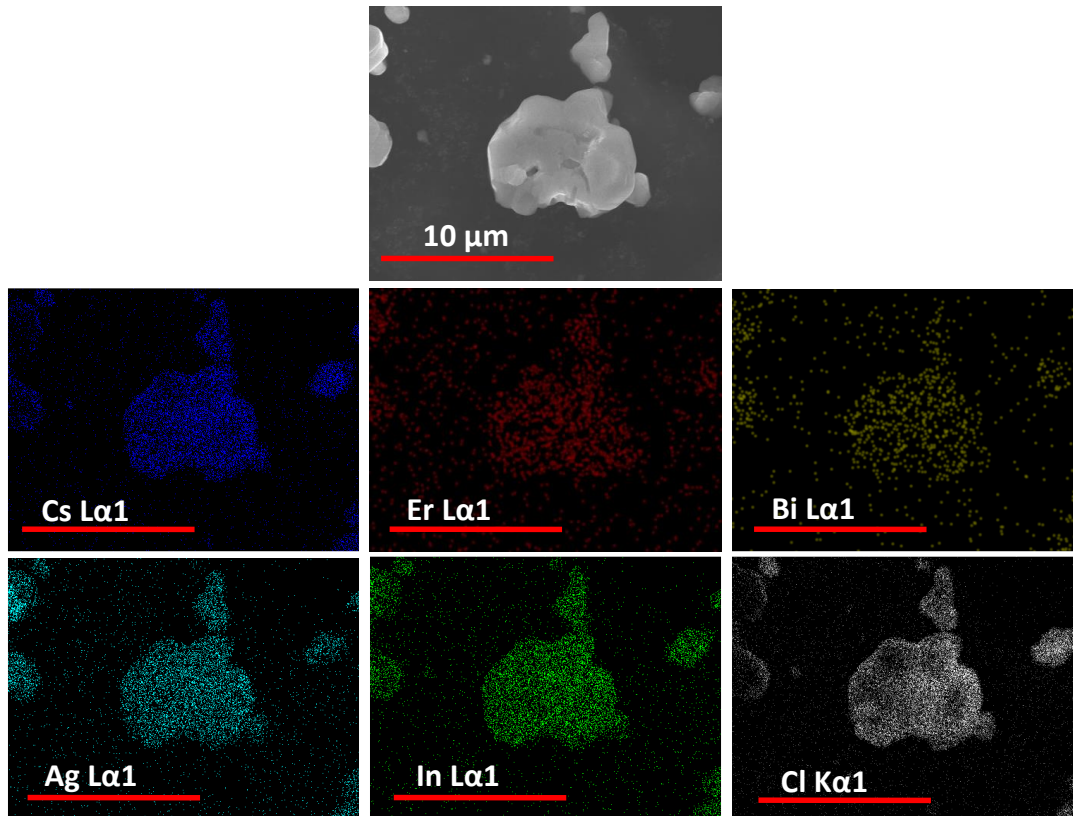
Sample Code	Cs : Ag : In : Cl (molar ratio)
0.9% Bi <sup>3+</sup> -doped Cs <sub>2</sub> AgInCl <sub>6</sub>	2.1 : 1.0 : 1.0 : 6.3
0.5% Er <sup>3+</sup> -doped Cs <sub>2</sub> AgInCl <sub>6</sub>	2.4 : 1.0 : 1.1 : 6.7
0.8% Bi <sup>3+</sup> -0.1% Er <sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs <sub>2</sub> AgInCl <sub>6</sub>	2.0 : 1.0 : 1.1 : 6.2
0.6% Bi <sup>3+</sup> - 0.3% Er <sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs <sub>2</sub> AgInCl <sub>6</sub>	2.2 : 1.0 : 1.1 : 6.5
1.1% Bi <sup>3+</sup> - 0.5% Er <sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs <sub>2</sub> AgInCl <sub>6</sub>	2.1 : 1.0 : 1.1 : 6.4
1.2% Yb <sup>3+</sup> -doped Cs <sub>2</sub> AgInCl <sub>6</sub>	1.9 : 1.0 : 1.0 : 6.3
0.6% Bi <sup>3+</sup> - 1.1% Yb <sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs <sub>2</sub> AgInCl <sub>6</sub>	2.0 : 1.0 : 1.0 : 6.3

high amounts of Ln<sup>3+</sup> precursors, only a small fraction of Ln<sup>3+</sup> ions are present in the product. Better understanding of doping mechanism might increase the efficiency of Ln<sup>3+</sup> doping. In difference, doping/codoping of Bi<sup>3+</sup> is efficient. EDS elemental mapping data in Figure 2.3 suggest homogenous distribution of elements throughout the sample.

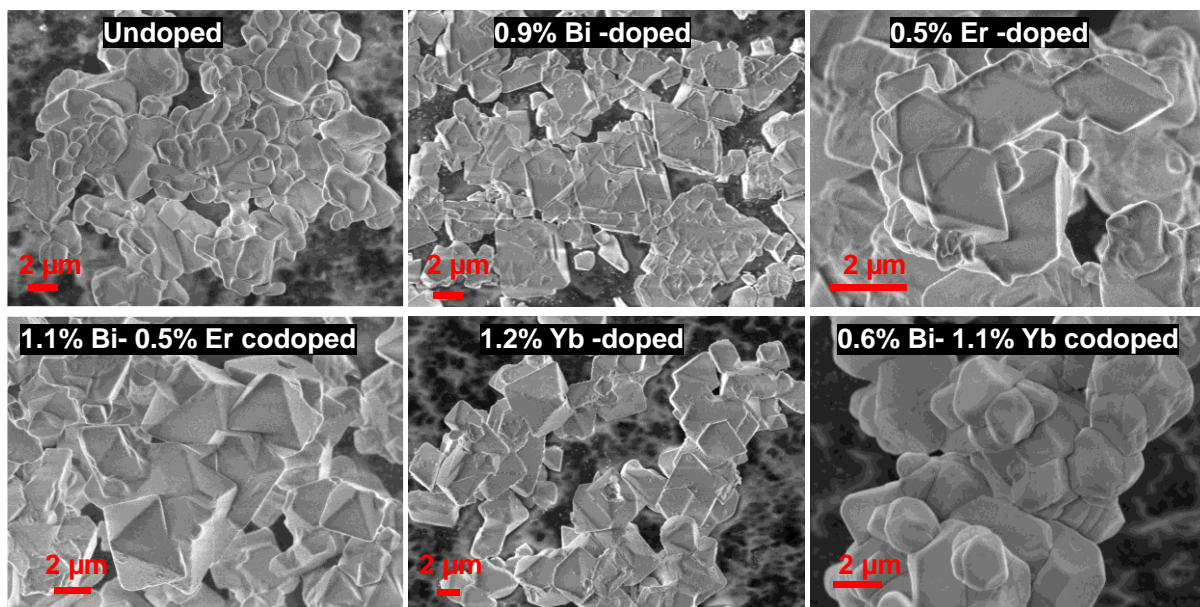
**Table 2.2:** Comparisons of dopant concentrations obtained from ICP-MS analysis of the Er<sup>3+</sup>-doped, Yb<sup>3+</sup>-doped, Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped, Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> products. The molar concentration of Er<sup>3+</sup> ([Er]), Bi<sup>3+</sup> ([Bi]) and Yb<sup>3+</sup> ([Yb]) dopants are calculated with respect to that of In<sup>3+</sup> ([In]). For example, Er<sup>3+</sup> % = 100 × [Er]/[In]; Yb<sup>3+</sup> % = 100 × [Yb]/[In]; and Bi<sup>3+</sup> % = 100 × [Bi]/[In].

Sample Code	Precursor		Product (ICP-MS)	
	Er <sup>3+</sup> %	Bi <sup>3+</sup> %	Er <sup>3+</sup> %	Bi <sup>3+</sup> %
0.9% Bi <sup>3+</sup> -doped Cs <sub>2</sub> AgInCl <sub>6</sub>	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.9
0.5% Er <sup>3+</sup> -doped Cs <sub>2</sub> AgInCl <sub>6</sub>	150.0	0.0	0.5	0.0
0.8% Bi <sup>3+</sup> -0.1% Er <sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs <sub>2</sub> AgInCl <sub>6</sub>	35.0	0.5	0.1	0.8
0.6% Bi <sup>3+</sup> - 0.3% Er <sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs <sub>2</sub> AgInCl <sub>6</sub>	100.0	0.5	0.3	0.6
1.1% Bi <sup>3+</sup> - 0.5% Er <sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs <sub>2</sub> AgInCl <sub>6</sub>	150.0	0.5	0.5	1.1
Yb <sup>3+</sup> / Bi <sup>3+</sup> -Yb <sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs <sub>2</sub> AgInCl <sub>6</sub>				
Sample Code	Precursor		Product (ICP-MS)	
	Yb <sup>3+</sup> %	Bi <sup>3+</sup> %	Yb <sup>3+</sup> %	Bi <sup>3+</sup> %
1.2% Yb <sup>3+</sup> -doped Cs <sub>2</sub> AgInCl <sub>6</sub>	100.0	0.0	1.2	0.0
0.6% Bi <sup>3+</sup> - 1.1% Yb <sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs <sub>2</sub> AgInCl <sub>6</sub>	100.0	0.5	1.1	0.6

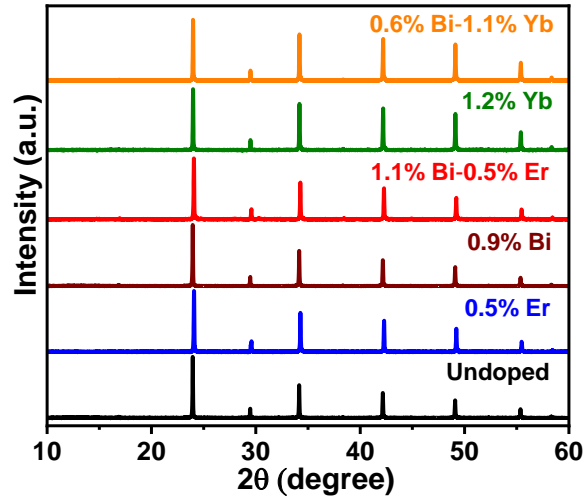
FESEM images in Figure 2.4 shows micrometer sized crystals. Comparison of PXRD patterns, shown in Figure 2.5, confirms that no impurity peak is observed in the codoped samples. All the samples show the PXRD peaks corresponding to Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> in cubic phase.<sup>40</sup> No clear shift in the PXRD peak positions is observed after doping Bi<sup>3+</sup> and Yb<sup>3+</sup>/ Er<sup>3+</sup>, probably because of the small amount of dopant ion incorporation and similar ionic radii of In<sup>3+</sup> (0.80 Å) with the dopants Yb<sup>3+</sup> (0.87 Å), Er<sup>3+</sup> (0.89 Å) and Bi<sup>3+</sup> (1.03 Å).



**Figure 2.3:** EDS elemental mapping data of 1.1% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>. Scale bar is 10 μm.

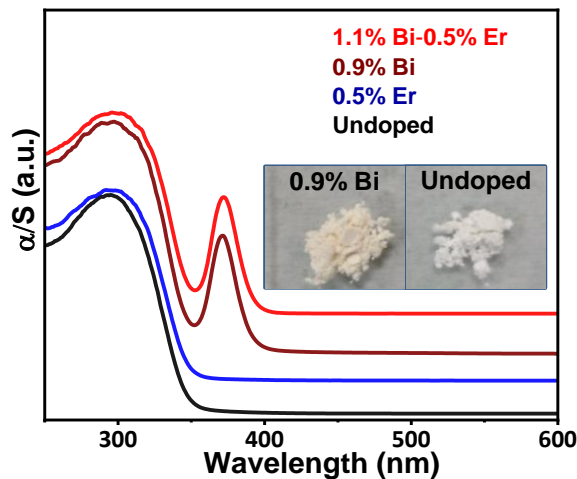


**Figure 2.4:** FESEM images of undoped, 0.9% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped, 0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup>-doped, 1.1% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped, 1.2% Yb<sup>3+</sup>-doped and 0.6% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-1.1% Yb<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> microcrystals.



**Figure 2.5:** PXRD of undoped, 0.9% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped, 0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup>-doped, 1.1% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped, 1.2% Yb<sup>3+</sup>-doped and 0.6% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-1.1% Yb<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>.

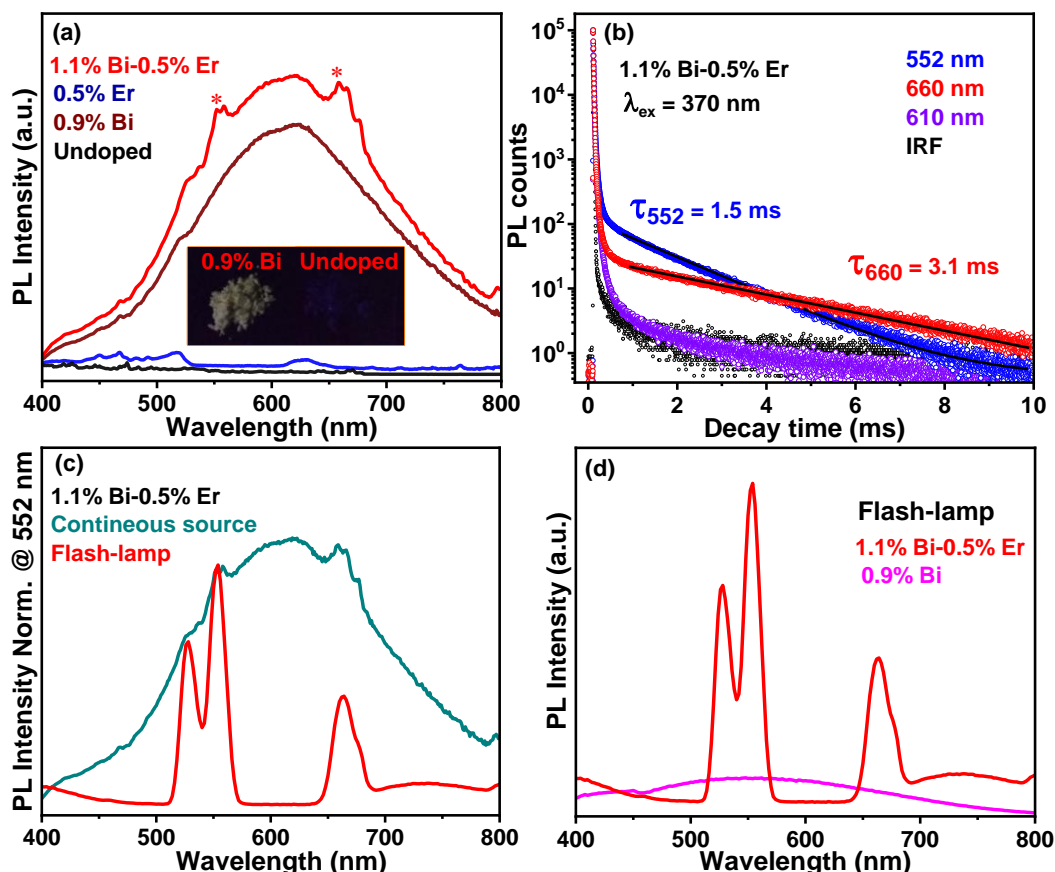
### 2.3.2 Optical Properties of Undoped, 0.9% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped, 0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup>-doped, 1.1% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>



**Figure 2.6:** UV-visible absorption spectra of undoped, 0.9% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped, 0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup>-doped and 1.1% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>. The absorption spectra are obtained through Kubelka–Munk transformation from the measured diffused reflectance spectra of powder samples, where  $\alpha$  is the absorption coefficient and  $S$  is the scattering coefficient. Absorption spectra are shifted along Y-axis for clear presentation. Insets are photographs of Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped and undoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> under visible light.

UV-visible absorption spectra (Figure 2.6) of undoped and Er<sup>3+</sup> doped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> are similar, with intense absorption below 350 nm. Interestingly, Bi<sup>3+</sup> doping gives rise to an intense new absorption with peak at 372 nm. This new absorption might arise due to <sup>1</sup>S<sub>0</sub> → <sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub>\* transition of Bi<sup>3+</sup>.<sup>36, 41</sup> This new absorption modifies the hue of the sample, making the Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped samples little yellowish white, compared to pure white color of samples without having Bi<sup>3+</sup> (see the

photographs in the inset of Figure 2.6). This modification of absorption spectrum with Bi<sup>3+</sup> doping/codoping is qualitatively different from prior reports of Mn<sup>2+</sup> and Ln<sup>3+</sup> doping, where only the emission spectra get modified.

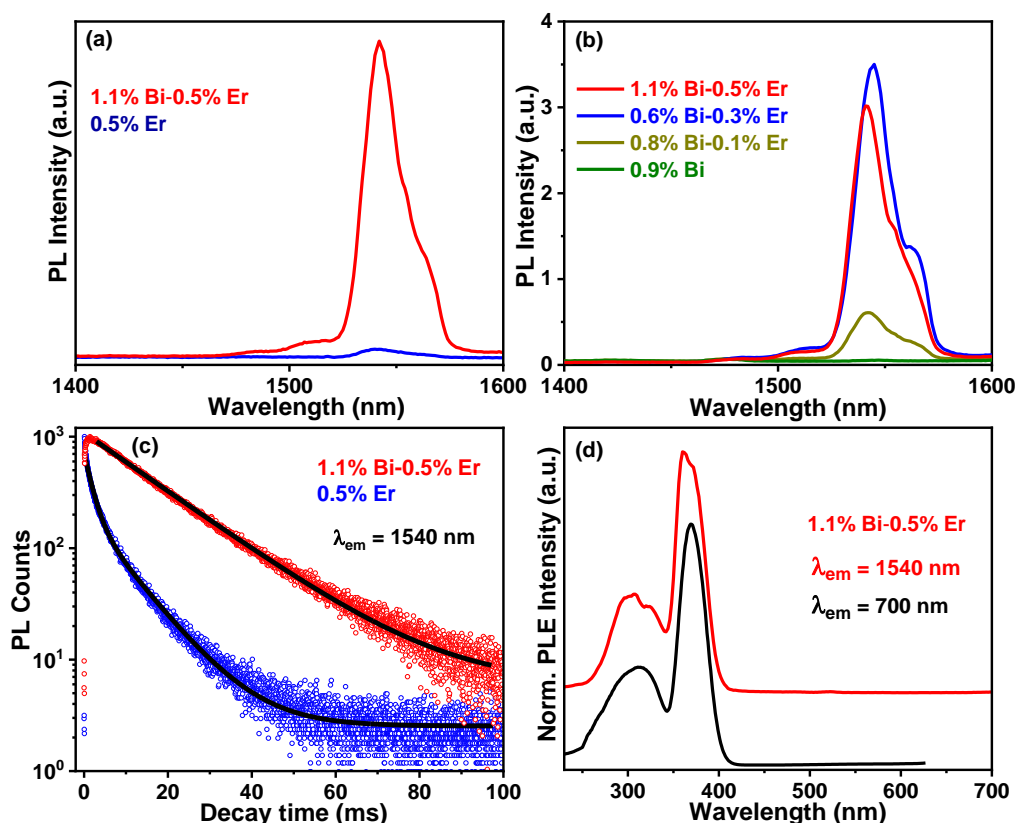


**Figure 2.7:** (a) PL spectra of undoped, 0.9% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped, 0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup>-doped and 1.1% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> in the visible region. (b) PL decay dynamics of 552 nm, 610 nm and 660 nm emission arising from 1.1% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> doped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>. (c) PL spectra of 1.1% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> excited with (excitation wavelength 360 nm) two different types of light sources, one continuous Xe-lamp and another flash-lamp (1.5-2.5  $\mu$ s band-width, and 100  $\mu$ s time delay). (d) PL spectra of 1.1% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> and 0.9% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> samples excited at 360 nm using a microsecond flash-lamp (1.5-2.5  $\mu$ s band-width, and 100  $\mu$ s time delay).

Figure 2.7a shows PL spectra of undoped, 0.9% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped, 0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup>-doped and 1.1% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> in visible. Bi<sup>3+</sup> doping/codoping gives rise to visible light emission (Figure 2.7a). 1.1% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped sample show sharp additional spectral features at 552 and 660 nm, indicated by \* marks in Figure 2.7a. Figure 2.7b show the PL decay of 1.1% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> sample at 552 nm, 610 nm and 660 nm. PL decay show sharp initial decay due to instrument response function. 552 nm and 660 nm emissions have long decay component. The long components are fitted with single exponential decay equation. 552 nm and 660 nm fitting results long PL lifetimes of 1.5 ms and 3.1 ms respectively. Whereas, the

*Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> Codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> Double Perovskite: Visible to Short-Wave Infrared Emitters*

PL decay at other positions of the broad spectrum, for example 610 nm, decay faster and falls in instrument response limit as shown in Figure 2.7b. PL spectra of 1.1% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> excited with two different types of light sources, one continuous Xe-lamp and another flash-lamp (1.5-2.5 μs band-width, and 100 μs time delay) are shown in Figure 2.7c. Since 552 nm and 660 nm peak originate from Er<sup>3+</sup> emission with long (ms) lifetimes, these peaks show higher relative intensity compared to the broad PL envelop, when measured using the microsecond flash-lamp compared to that measured using continuous Xe-lamp excitation. PL spectra of 1.1% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> and 0.9% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> samples excited using a microsecond flash-lamp are shown in Figure 2.7d. The 552 nm and 660 nm peak arise only in those samples that are doped with Er<sup>3+</sup>. Results shown in Figure 2.7b-d confirm that the 552 nm and 660 nm PL peak arise from *f-f* electronic transition of Er<sup>3+</sup> dopants. The features at 552 nm and 660 nm are attribute to <sup>4</sup>S<sub>3/2</sub>→<sup>4</sup>I<sub>15/2</sub> and <sup>4</sup>F<sub>9/2</sub>→<sup>4</sup>I<sub>15/2</sub> transitions of Er<sup>3+</sup> *f*-electrons.<sup>42</sup>



**Figure 2.8:** (a) SWIR PL spectra of 0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup>-doped and 1.1% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> at 370 nm excitation. (b) PL spectra of Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> microcrystals. (c) PL decay dynamics at 300 K for emission at 1540 nm arising from both Er<sup>3+</sup> doped and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>. Excitation was at 360 nm. (d) PL excitation (PLE) spectra of Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> with emission wavelengths at visible (700 nm) and near infrared (1540) region. PLE spectra in (d) are shifted vertically for clarity in presentation.

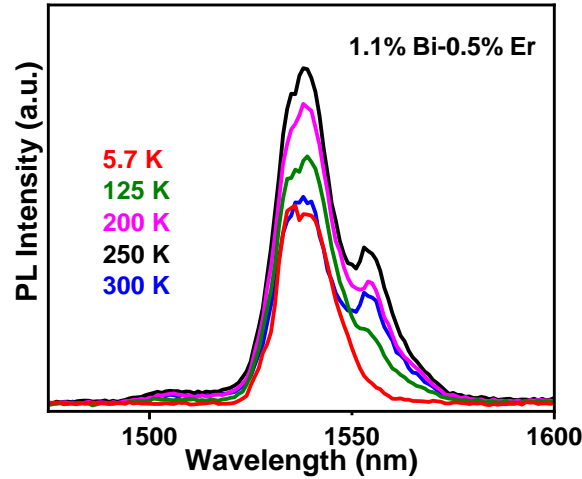
More importantly, Figure 2.8a-b show the emission in SWIR region. Figure 2.8a shows SWIR emission at 1540 nm, owing to  $^4I_{13/2} \rightarrow ^4I_{15/2}$  transitions of Er<sup>3+</sup> *f*-electron. The integrated intensity of this SWIR emission increases by ~45 times for Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped sample compared to only Er<sup>3+</sup>-doped sample, after excitation with 370 nm light. Detailed methodologies to compare the PL intensity of these two samples are given in experimental section. Figure 2.8b shows that the intensity of the 1540 nm SWIR emission increases systematically with increasing the concentration of Er<sup>3+</sup> in the Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped samples.

PL decay dynamics (Figure 2.8c) of Er<sup>3+</sup> emission at 1540 nm for Er<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> show bi-exponential decay with two long lifetime components of 1.1 ms and 7.5 ms with 64% and 36% contributions respectively. Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped sample shows a single exponential decay with lifetime 16.4 ms. The long ms-scale lifetime is because of Laporte forbidden  $^4I_{13/2} \rightarrow ^4I_{15/2}$  transitions. It has been seen in prior literature that if lanthanide ions are well incorporated inside the crystals, then their *f*-electron emissions have longer ms scale lifetime.<sup>43-44</sup> Whereas, if lanthanides ions experience a non-crystalline surrounding, then the PL lifetimes decreases to microseconds. Therefore, the single exponential decay with lifetime of 16.4 ms for our Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped sample, is an indication of Er<sup>3+</sup> doping into the host lattice. Compared to Er<sup>3+</sup>-doped sample, Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped sample exhibit a longer PL decay along with enhanced PL intensity. These preliminary results suggest, Bi<sup>3+</sup> probably improve the crystalline surrounding around the Er<sup>3+</sup> ions reducing the trap states.<sup>35</sup> To the best our knowledge, this is the first report of ms scale PL lifetime from any Er<sup>3+</sup> doped metal halide double perovskite systems. Note that the ms scale long lifetimes are desired for optical amplification. PL excitation (PLE) spectra (Figure 2.8d) corresponding to both broad visible light emission at 700 nm and the SWIR emission at 1540 nm for Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> agree with absorption spectrum (Figure 2.6) of the sample. Particularly, the new absorption at 372 nm, obtained after Bi<sup>3+</sup> codoping, efficiently results into the Er<sup>3+</sup> emission at 1540 nm.

### **2.3.3 Temperature Dependent PL of 1.1% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> Codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>**

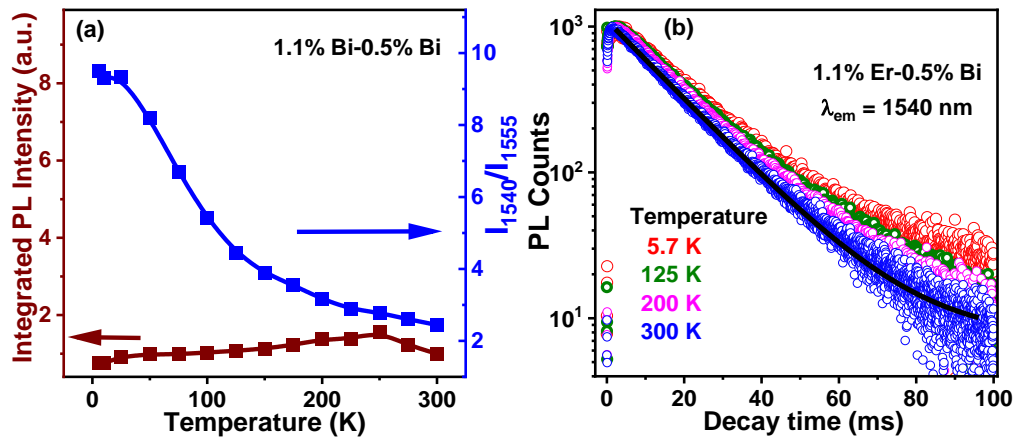
To understand the Er<sup>3+</sup> SWIR emission better, we carried out PL measurements of Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> at variable temperatures in the range 5.7 K to 300 K. Representative PL spectra in Figure 2.9 shows that at 300 K the PL spectrum shows multiple features with peaks at 1540 and 1555 nm along with a shoulder at around 1510 nm. Such multiple PL features arise due to crystal-field-split manifold of  $^4I_{13/2}$  and  $^4I_{15/2}$  states.<sup>45-46</sup> At lower temperatures, the PL





**Figure 2.9:** PL spectra of 1.1% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> measured at variable temperatures between 5.7 K to 300 K.

become more symmetric around 1538 nm peak. Intensity ratio of 1540 nm to 1555 nm ( $I_{1540}/I_{1555}$ ) increases monotonically with decreasing temperature (Figure 2.10a). Similar temperature-dependent Er<sup>3+</sup> emission was reported earlier from different Er<sup>3+</sup>-doped hosts,<sup>46</sup> and was attributed to population redistribution among crystal-field-split manifolds at different temperatures.



**Figure 2.10:** (a) Integrated PL intensity variation of 1.1% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> measured at variable temperatures between 5.7 K to 300 K.  $I_{1540}$  and  $I_{1555}$  in (a) are the peak intensities at 1540 nm and 1555 nm.

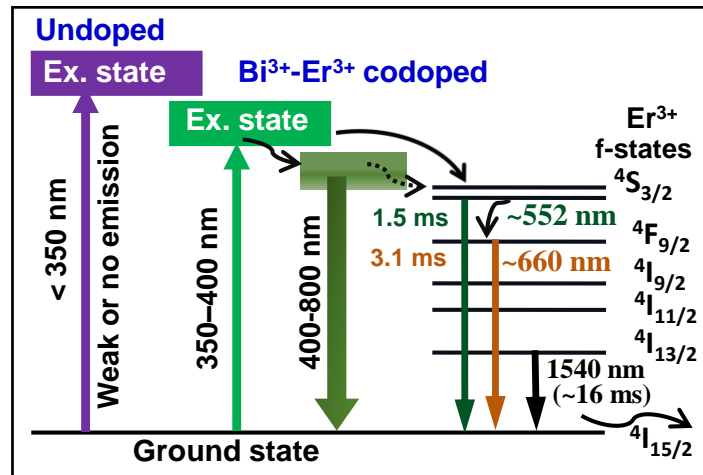
Interestingly, Figure 2.9 and 2.10a show that the integrated PL intensity does not change much throughout the temperature range of 5.7 K to 300 K, with maximum intensity at 250 K. Furthermore, Figure 2.10b shows that the PL lifetime of 1540 nm peak remains largely unchanged in the entire temperature range. This temperature-stable emission suggests that the 4f electrons of the Er<sup>3+</sup> ions are well screened from surrounding defect sites, via the closed

***Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> Codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> Double Perovskite: Visible to Short-Wave Infrared Emitters***

$5s^25p^6$  outer shell electrons of  $\text{Er}^{3+}$ . Such temperature stability is again desired for practical applications.

### 2.3.4 Absorption and Emission Processes in $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Er}^{3+}$ Codoped $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$

Schematics in Figure 2.11 describe the process of optical absorption and emission in  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$ .  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -codoping decreases the excitation energy to 350-400 nm range, which is suitable for excitation with commercial UV LED. The excitation energy is then transferred to states responsible for broad visible emission and  $\text{Er}^{3+}$   $f$ -electrons.  $\text{Er}^{3+}$   $f$ -electrons then de-excite via multiple transitions emitting light. Among them, the  ${}^4\text{I}_{13/2} \rightarrow {}^4\text{I}_{15/2}$  transitions emitting 1540 nm light is technologically very relevant for low-loss optical fiber communication. Codoping of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  drastically enhances the intensity of this 1540 nm  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  emission.  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  ions act as sensitizer for both the  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  SWIR emission and broad visible emission.

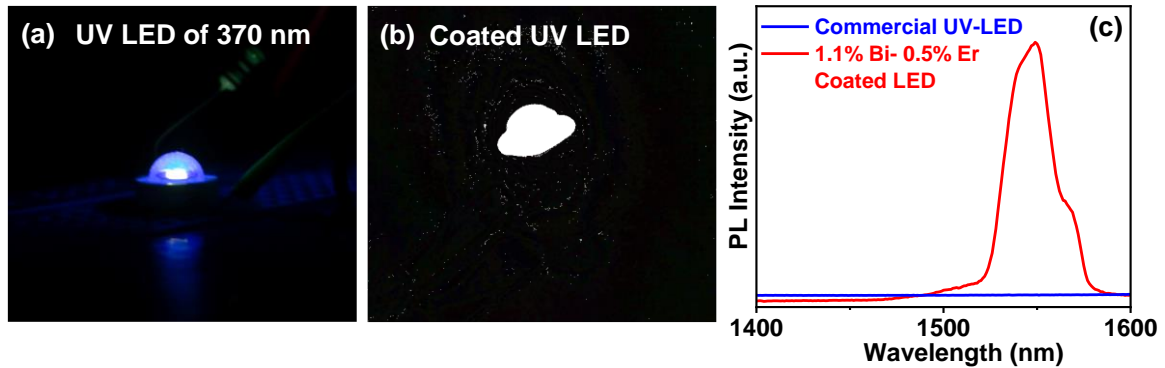


**Figure 2.11:** Schematics comparing optical absorption and emission processes in  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$  with that of undoped sample. Very weak or no emission is observed for undoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$ .

### 2.3.5 Phosphor Converted LED of 1.1% $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -0.5% $\text{Er}^{3+}$ Codoped $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$

We have assembled a phosphor-converted LED of 1.1%  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -0.5%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$  by coating on commercial 370 nm LED chip (detail procedure is described in experimental section). UV LED chip strongly emit 370 nm UV light and has weak tail blue emission as shown in Figure 2.12a. On coating 1.1%  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -0.5%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$  on LED, LED emits bright warm white light which is visible in digital image (Figure 2.12b). To show that This LED also emit SWIR emission, SWIR emission spectra is recorded in fluorescence

spectrometer. Figure 2.12c show the emission spectrum in SWIR region with characteristic 1540 nm Er<sup>3+</sup> emission.

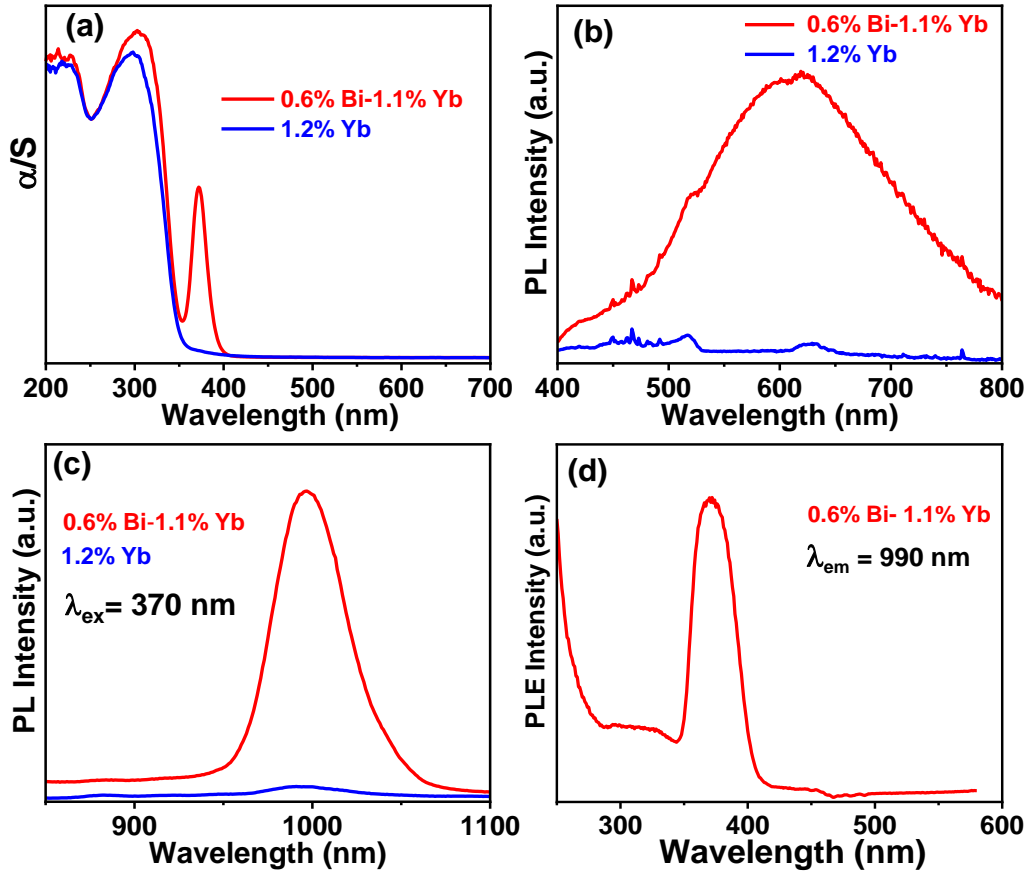


**Figure 2.12:** (a) Digital image of glowing 370 nm UV LED chip (b) Digital image of warm white light emitting 1.1% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> coated on 370 nm UV LED chip (c) SWIR Emission spectra of UV LED chip without coating and with 1.1% Bi<sup>3+</sup>-0.5% Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> coating.

The combination of Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> have been codoped earlier in metal oxide hosts like Gd<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.<sup>47</sup> To the best of our knowledge, in metal halide perovskite, this is the first report of codoping Bi<sup>3+</sup> and Ln<sup>3+</sup> ions. Compared to oxides, metal halides are expected to provide better semiconducting properties. Furthermore, the synthesis of our Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Ln<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> is very simple. These are moderate temperature (~80 °C) synthesis taking ~30 minute, unlike the typical high temperature (~1000 °C) solid state synthesis of oxides. To explore our codoping approach further, we have prepared Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>. Details of synthesis and characterization are given in experimental section. Results suggest formation of phase-pure Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>.

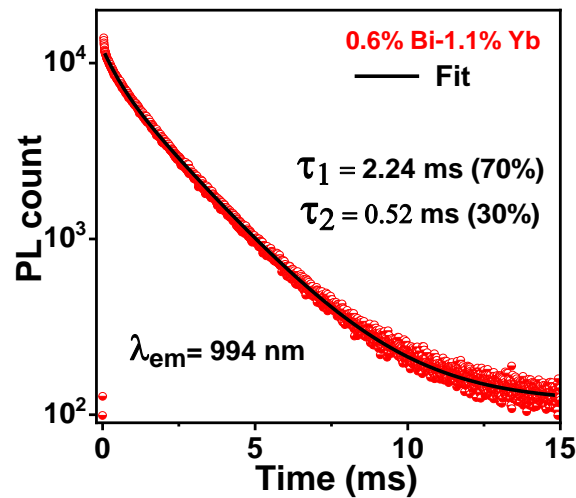
### 2.3.6 Optical Properties of Yb<sup>3+</sup> Doped and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> Codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>

UV-visible absorption spectra of Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> in Figure 2.13a shows Bi<sup>3+</sup> codoping gives rise to a new absorption peak at 372 nm, similar to the Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped samples. Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> codoped sample emit warm white light (Figure 2.13b) similar to Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>. The main difference between both series of samples arises in their SWIR emission. Figure 2.13c shows that both Yb<sup>3+</sup>-doped and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> exhibiting SWIR emission at 994 nm. The intensity of Yb<sup>3+</sup> emission increases by ~27 times for the Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> codoped sample compared to the Yb<sup>3+</sup> doped sample at 370 nm excitation wavelength. PL excitation spectrum for 990 nm emission is presented in Figure 2.13d. PL excitation spectrum matches with the absorption spectrum in Figure 2.13a, as well as with the



**Figure 2.13:** (a) UV-visible-near infrared absorption spectra of Yb<sup>3+</sup>-doped and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>, obtained from the corresponding diffused reflectance spectra, by Kubelka-Munk transformation.<sup>39</sup> (b) PL spectra (c) SWIR spectra of Yb<sup>3+</sup>-doped or Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> (d) PL excitation spectrum at 990 nm emission wavelength.

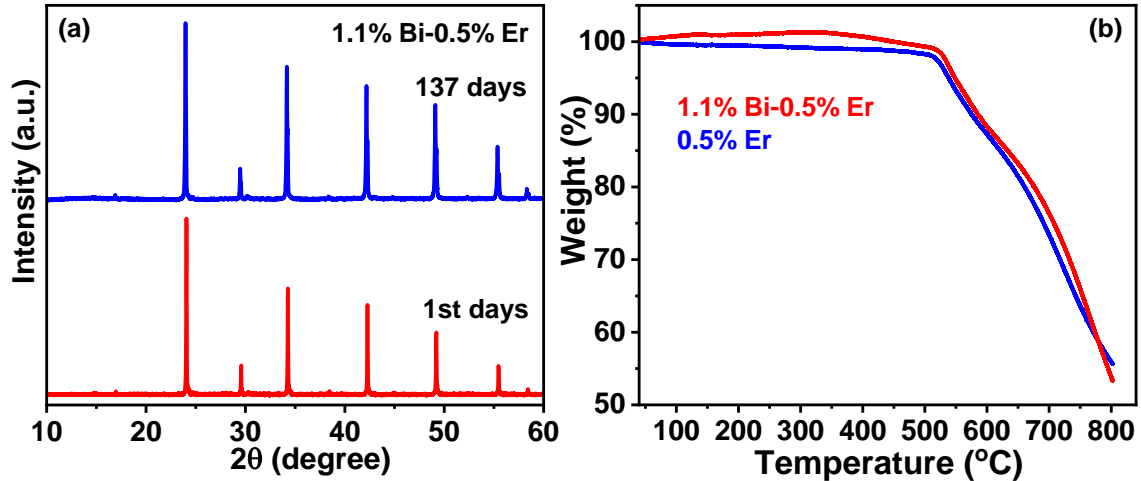
PL excitation spectrum of Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> (Figure 2.8d). Therefore, Bi<sup>3+</sup> codoping acts as sensitizers for both Er<sup>3+</sup> and Yb<sup>3+</sup> SWIR emission.



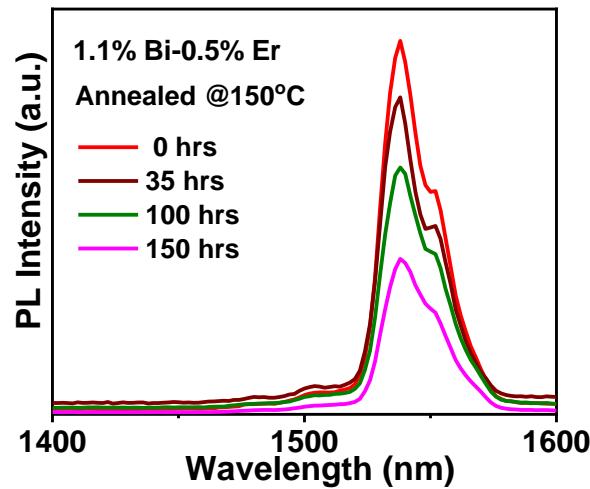
**Figure 2.14:** PL decay dynamics of Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> at 994 nm. The PL decay is fitted with bi-exponential function.

PL decay dynamics of the 994 nm emission is shown in Figure 2.14. PL decay is fitted with bi-exponential decay function. For 994 nm emission ms long PL lifetime is obtained, arising from Laporte forbidden  $^2F_{5/2} \rightarrow ^2F_{7/2}$  transitions of Yb<sup>3+</sup> *f*-electrons.

### 2.3.7 Structural Stability and Emission Stability



**Figure 2.15:** PXRD patterns of Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> after storing it in ambient conditions. (b) Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) data of Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> and Er<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>, measured under inert atmosphere.



**Figure 2.16:** PL spectra of Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> heated after drop casting the sample on a glass slide. The sample was heated using hot plate in ambient conditions for many hours. The sample retains its PL to good extent. But after a prolonged heating, black spots start to appear.

We have also studied the sample stability. In ambient conditions the powder sample is stable over many months (Figure 2.15a). Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) data (Figure 2.15b) does not show any weight loss of Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> up to 509 °C. The sample also

retains a reasonably high fraction of its PL intensity after heating at 150 °C for about 150 h (Figure 2.16). After a prolonged heating at 150 °C or with continuous irradiation of UV light, some parts of the sample start to appear black.

## 2.4 Conclusion

In conclusion, we have prepared Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Ln<sup>3+</sup> (Ln = Er and Yb) codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>. The design of codoping system was based on our intention to modify both the optical absorption and emission spectra of the host. Bi<sup>3+</sup> codoping gives rise to new absorption channel at 372 nm, which is suitable for excitation with commercial UV LEDs. The energy is then transferred to Er<sup>3+</sup> and Yb<sup>3+</sup> *f*-electrons, which de-excite by emitting light at 1540 and 994 nm respectively. Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> codoped samples show ~45 and ~27 times more intense SWIR emission after excitation at 370 nm, compared to Er<sup>3+</sup> doped and Yb<sup>3+</sup> doped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> samples, respectively. Such strategies imparting optical functionalities into metal halide double perovskites might lead future applications such as optical fiber communication, SWIR LEDs, and SWIR sensors.

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## Chapter 3

### **Short Wave Infrared Emissions from $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Ln}^{3+}$ (Ln: Er, Yb) Codoped $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ Double Perovskites**

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**Arfin, H.\***; Rathod, R.; Sundarnath, S. A.; Santra, P. K.; Nag, A.\* Short Wave Infrared Emissions from  $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Ln}^{3+}$  (Ln: Er, Yb) Codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  Double Perovskites. *Chem. Mater.* **2023**, DOI: 10.1021/acs.chemmater.3c01413

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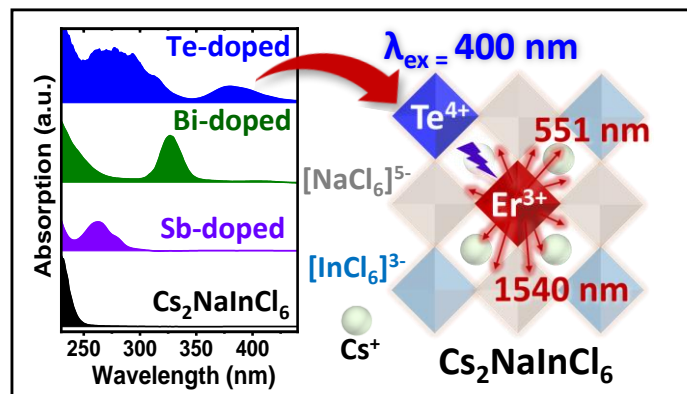
#### **Declaration:**

Extended X-ray absorption fine structure (EXAFS) analysis is performed by Ms. Radha Rathod, Dr. Pralay K. Santra (CeNS Bangalore) and Dr. K. R. Priolkar (Goa University, Goa). Mr. Sajid Saikia significantly helped with EXAFS sample preparation and measurements.



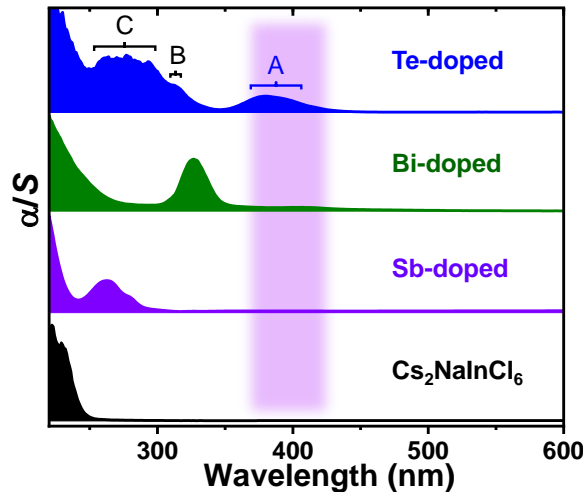
**Abstract**

$\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  double perovskite is environmentally benign and its wide band gap ( $\sim 5.1$  eV) makes it photo-inactive and photo-stable in the ultraviolet, visible, and short-wave infrared (SWIR) region. Interestingly, the octahedrally coordinated  $\text{In}^{3+}$  lattice site is suitable for doping lanthanide ions like  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$ , that can emit SWIR radiation at 1540 nm (0.81 eV) and 994 nm (1.247 eV), respectively. But the optical excitation of lanthanides is Laporte forbidden, and the host require excitation energy  $> 5.1$  eV. The large Stokes shift for the excitation and SWIR emission reduces the power conversion efficiency. Here, we codoped  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  with  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  or  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  into  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ . The  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  absorbs at the sub-band gap level around 3.1 eV (400 nm), because of  $5s^2 \rightarrow 5s^15p^1$  electronic transitions. Then the excited  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  transfers its energy non-radiatively to  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  or  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  codopant. The de-excitation of  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  or  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  through  $f-f$  electronic transitions emit SWIR radiation at 1540 and 994 nm, respectively, along with weak visible light emissions. Temperature (8 – 300 K) dependent photoluminescence excitation, emission, and lifetime measurements reveal the mechanism of these energy transfer processes. Finally, we fabricated a simple phosphor converted light emitting diode (pc-LED) emitting SWIR radiation.

**Graphical Abstract**

### 3.1 Introduction

Halide double perovskites like  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  is environmentally benign with a wide band gap of  $\sim 5.1$  eV (243 nm).<sup>1-2</sup> Because of the wide band gap,  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  does not interact with most part of UV-visible radiation, making them photo-stable. Importantly, ions like  $\text{In}^{3+}$  has an octahedral coordination, and therefore, big lanthanide ions can be doped in  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ .<sup>3-5</sup> Lanthanide ions like  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  can emit short-wave infrared (SWIR) radiations,<sup>6</sup> that are important for optical fiber communication, security cameras, food processing and storing, bio-imaging and so on.<sup>7-12</sup> This SWIR radiations are due to  $f$ - $f$  electronic transitions of the lanthanide ions. But the optical excitation of the same  $f$ -electrons is Laporte forbidden.<sup>13</sup> One solution to this problem is to codope lanthanides with another dopant that can absorb light. Here we codoped  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  and  $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  ( $\text{Ln} = \text{Er}, \text{Yb}$ ) into  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ .



**Figure 3.1:** UV-visible absorbance spectra of undoped,  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped,  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped and  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ . Absorption is recorded by diffuse reflectance spectroscopy and absorbance spectra are calculated using Kubelka-Munk transformation<sup>14</sup> of diffuse reflectance data. Where  $\alpha$  is absorption coefficient and  $S$  is scattering factor. Lavender colored highlighted part shows the overlap of emission from commercially available 398 nm LED chip, with the absorption of different doped samples.

Similar strategies of  $\text{Sb}^{3+}\text{-Ln}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Bi}^{3+}\text{-Ln}^{3+}$  codoping in metal halide double perovskites have been reported earlier.<sup>15-19</sup> The  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  ions have two electrons in the outer most  $s$ -orbital ( $ns^2$ ), and can absorb UV lights owing to  $ns^2 \rightarrow ns^1np^1$  transitions.<sup>20-28</sup> As shown in Figure 3.1,  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  doping in  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  introduce new absorption peaks at 263 (weak absorption at 335 nm as well) and 327 nm respectively, below the band gap of the host.<sup>29-31</sup> This sub-band gap level absorptions reduces the input excitation energy of  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  by 1.4 and 1.3 eV, respectively, compared to the host band gap. Also, the host does not get

excited in the optical excitation process, increasing its photo-stability. But still in a system like Sb<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub>, the energy difference between Sb<sup>3+</sup> absorption and SWIR Er<sup>3+</sup> emission is large (2.9 eV), causing huge non-radiative loss of the input energy. Therefore, it still remains an important material design challenge to reduce the Stokes shift between the excitation (in UV range) and the SWIR emission, in order to improve the power conversion efficiency of such SWIR emitters. This issue has motivated us to explore Te<sup>4+</sup>-Ln<sup>3+</sup>-codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub> double perovskites, since Te<sup>4+</sup> are known to show  $ns^2 \rightarrow ns^1np^1$  transitions, perhaps, at a lower energy compared to both Bi<sup>3+</sup> and Sb<sup>3+</sup>, as shown in Figure 3.1.

## 3.2 Experimental Section

### 3.2.1 Chemicals

Cesium chloride (CsCl, 99.9%), indium (III) chloride (InCl<sub>3</sub>, anhydrous powder, ≥99.999%), sodium chloride (NaCl, 99.999%), erbium chloride hexahydrate (ErCl<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O, 99.995%), ytterbium chloride hexahydrate (YbCl<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O, 99.9%), tellurium chloride (TeCl<sub>4</sub>, 99%) hydrochloric acid (HCl, 37 %) are purchased from Sigma Aldrich Chemicals. Isopropanol (≥ 99.80%) is purchased from Rankem. All the chemicals are used without any further purification.

### 3.2.2 Synthesis of Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub>

Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub> microcrystals are synthesized by modifying the hydrothermal synthesis method reported by Zeng et al.<sup>32</sup> In a typical synthesis, 2 mmol CsCl, 1 mmol NaCl and 1 mmol InCl<sub>3</sub> are taken in a 25 mL teflon autoclave with 10 mL HCl. The hydrothermal autoclave is heated to 180 °C for 12 h. Then it is allowed to cool down to room temperature naturally. The obtained crystals are washed with isopropanol, dried in vacuum and stored in a glass vial under ambient conditions for further characterization.

### 3.2.3 Synthesis of Te<sup>4+</sup> Doped Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub>

The synthesis methodology for Te<sup>4+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub> is very similar to that of the undoped Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub>. In addition to other precursors, 0.5% of TeCl<sub>4</sub> (mol %, with respect to InCl<sub>3</sub>) is added.

### 3.2.4 Synthesis of Er<sup>3+</sup> Doped and Te<sup>4+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> Codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub>

The Er<sup>3+</sup>-doped and series of Te<sup>4+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub> are also prepared following the similar synthesis protocol that of undoped Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub>. In addition to other precursors, TeCl<sub>4</sub> and ErCl<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O

precursors are added. The Te<sup>4+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codopants are optimized by using different amount of precursor concentrations, as tabulated in Table 3.1.

### 3.2.5 Synthesis Te<sup>4+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> Codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub>

The Te<sup>4+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub> are prepared by following the similar synthesis protocol that of undoped Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub>. In addition to other precursors, TeCl<sub>4</sub> and YbCl<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O precursors are added as tabulated in Table 3.1.

**3.2.6 Phosphor Converted LED (pc-LED) Fabrication:** 10 mg of poly(methyl methacrylate) and 90 mg of 1.7% Te<sup>4+</sup>- 5.9% Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped compound are mixed with 100 μL toluene in a vial and stirred at 70 °C. After 20 min of stirring, a slurry is obtained. Which is then coated on a 398 nm LED chip. The coated LED is dried under IR lamp in vacuum. The pc-LED is placed inside the Edinburgh FLS980 spectrometer for the emission spectra measurement while the power is supplied by a Keithley 2450 source meter.

### 3.2.7 Characterization

Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) patterns are recorded using a Bruker D8 Advance X-ray diffraction machine equipped with Cu Kα (1.54 Å) radiation. A Zeiss Ultra Plus instrument is used for field emission scanning electron microscopy (FESEM) imaging and energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS). The obtained results from EDS elemental analysis support the stoichiometric ratio of Cs, Na, In and Cl with Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub> composition. Elemental analysis by employing inductively coupled plasma mass spectroscopy (ICP-MS) using a quadrupole-ICP-MS (Thermo iCAP-Q) spectrometer provided estimation of dopant concentrations.

### 3.2.8 Extended X-ray Absorption Fine Structure (EXAFS) Measurement

EXAFS measurements are performed at Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron (DESY), Petra III P64 beamline at Hamburg, Germany.<sup>33</sup> Measurements of In K edge, Te K edge and Er L<sub>3</sub> edge at ambient atmosphere are performed in fluorescence mode. Due to the small dopant percentage, the pellets are made of pure samples without adding boron nitride. The EXAFS data are processed using Athena software, which is a part of the Demeter 0.9.26 software suite<sup>34</sup>, following the standard background subtraction procedure. We have carried out the fitting of the EXAFS data using Artemis software in the radial (R) space.

### 3.2.9 Optical Properties

Diffused reflectance spectra of microcrystalline powders in the UV-visible-NIR region are recorded using a Shimadzu UV-3600 plus UV-Vis-NIR spectrophotometer. Then Kubelka-Munk



## Chapter 3

### *Short Wave Infrared Emissions from $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Ln}^{3+}$ (Ln: Er, Yb) Codoped $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ Double Perovskites*

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transformation is used for the analysis of diffuse reflectance spectra. It relates the reflectance data with absorption coefficient as shown in equation (1):

$$F(R) = \alpha/S = (1-R)^2/2R \quad (1)$$

where  $F(R)$  is the Kubelka-Munk function,  $R$  is reflectance,  $\alpha$  is absorption coefficient and  $S$  is the scattering factor.<sup>14</sup> For photoluminescence (PL) measurements, powder samples are taken in a holder having a groove of fix dimension to insure that the sample amount remains similar in all measurements. Steady-state PL, PL Excitation (PLE), and PL decay dynamics (time-correlated single photon counting) are measured using Edinburgh FLS980 Instrument. The samples are excited by xenon lamp for steady state PL and PLE measurements, unless otherwise mentioned. A microsecond flash lamp is used for excitation to monitor the PL decay dynamics in millisecond (ms) range. Temperature dependent PL, PLE and PL decay dynamics are studied in the same Edinburgh FLS980 Instrument coupled with a cryostat. The powder samples are placed between two sapphire substrates and fix in a gold coated copper sample holder. The sample holder is fixed in a closed cycle He cryostat (Advanced Research Systems) attached with Lake Shore 335 temperature controller to achieve the desired temperatures in the range of 8 - 300 K. Experimental PL decay profiles are fitted with exponential decay functions shown in equations (2):

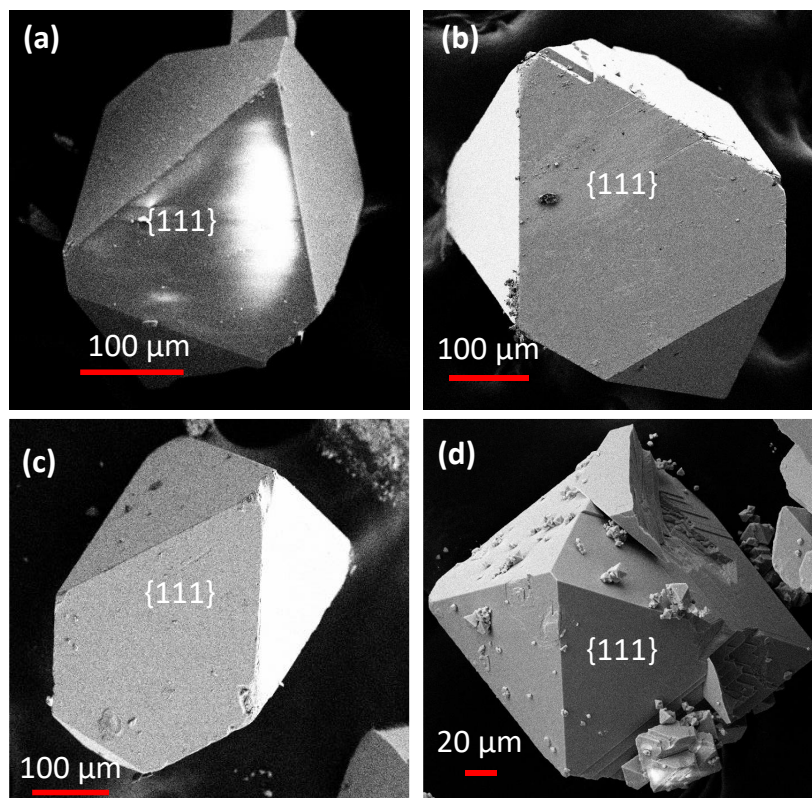
$$I_t = I_0 + \sum_{i=1}^2 A_i e^{-\frac{t}{\tau_i}} \quad (2)$$

Where,  $I_t$  is the PL counts at any time  $t$ ,  $I_0$  is the offset, and  $\tau_i$  is the PL lifetime with contribution  $A_i$ .

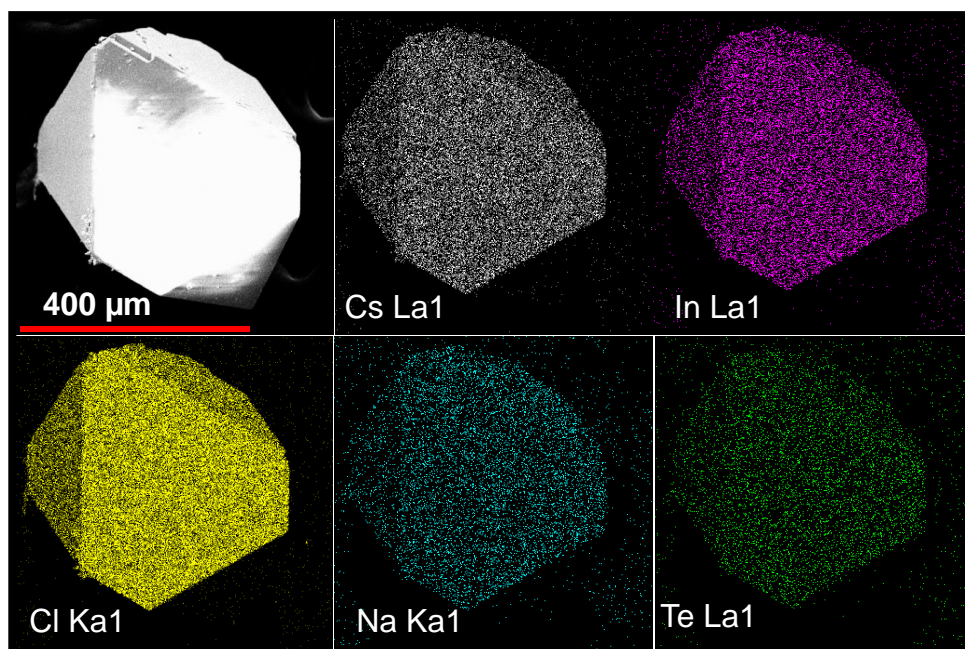
### **3.3 Results and Discussion**

#### **3.3.1 Synthesis and Characterization**

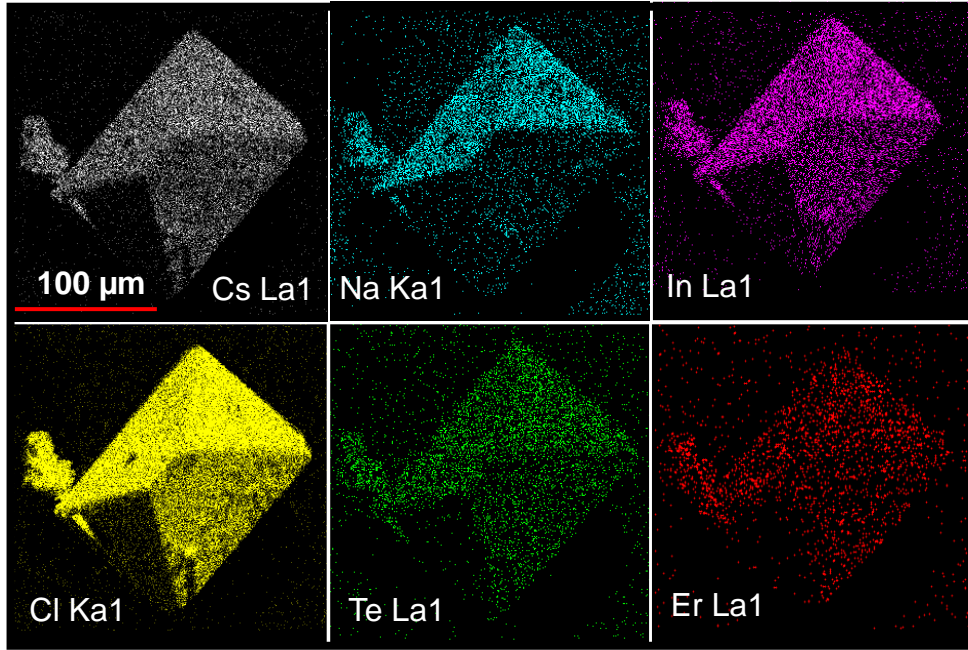
We have prepared undoped,  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped,  $\text{Er}^{3+}$ -doped and  $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  using hydrothermal reactions. FESEM images in Figure 3.2 show all four kinds of samples have octahedron morphology, similar to a prior report<sup>18</sup> of  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ . The crystals are 100-300  $\mu\text{m}$  in size. Figure 3.3 show EDS elemental mapping of 3.6%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ . Homogenous distribution of all the ions including  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  dopant is observed throughout the crystal. Figure 3.4 show EDS elemental mapping of 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  crystal. Homogenous distribution of all the ions throughout the crystals is observed, suggesting the desired  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doping or  $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Er}^{3+}$  codoping in the respective crystals.



**Figure 3.2:** FESEM images of (a) undoped, (b) 3.6%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped, (c) 6.7%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$ -doped, and (d) 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ . Nearly octahedron morphology with dominant  $\{111\}$  facets is observed.



**Figure 3.3:** EDS elemental mapping of 3.6%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ .



**Figure 3.4:** EDS elemental mapping of 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ .

**Table 3.1:** EDS data of undoped, 3.6%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped, 6.7%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$ -doped and  $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ .

Sr. No.	Molar ratio of elements in the precursor	Atomic ratio of elements in the product (from EDS) #	Sample code
	Cs: Na: In: Cl: Te: Er	Cs: Na: In: Cl	
1.	2.00: 1.00: 1.00: x*: 0.00: 0.00	1.93: 0.98: 1.02: 6.13	undoped
2.	2.00: 1.00: 1.00: x*: 0.005: 0.00	1.88: 1.10: 0.96: 6.06	3.6% $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped
3.	2.00: 1.00: 1.00: x*: 0.00: 1.00	1.86: 0.95: 1.01: 6.16	6.7% $\text{Er}^{3+}$ -doped
$\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Er}^{3+}$ codoped			
4.	2.00: 1.00: 1.00: x*: 0.05: 1.00	1.92: 1.02: 0.93: 6.06	5.9% $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -3.2% $\text{Er}^{3+}$ codoped
5.	2.00: 1.00: 1.00: x*: 0.01: 1.00	1.84: 1.13: 0.93: 6.04	1.8% $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -3.9% $\text{Er}^{3+}$ codoped
6.	2.00: 1.00: 1.00: x*: 0.005: 1.00	1.89: 0.99: 0.93: 6.13	1.7% $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -5.9% $\text{Er}^{3+}$ codoped

x\*: Shows that the  $\text{Cl}^-$  ions are present in excess in the precursor because  $\text{HCl}$  is used as solvent.

#: The dopant concentrations are small to get a consistent EDS data for dopants. Therefore, EDS data mainly verify the composition of the  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  host. Together, EDS and ICP-MS data provide the complete elemental analysis. ICP-MS data is used to label the compounds.

Elemental ratio of Cs:Na:In:Cl, obtained from EDS (Table 3.1), agrees with the host compositions  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ . But the dopant concentrations are small for a consistent quantitative

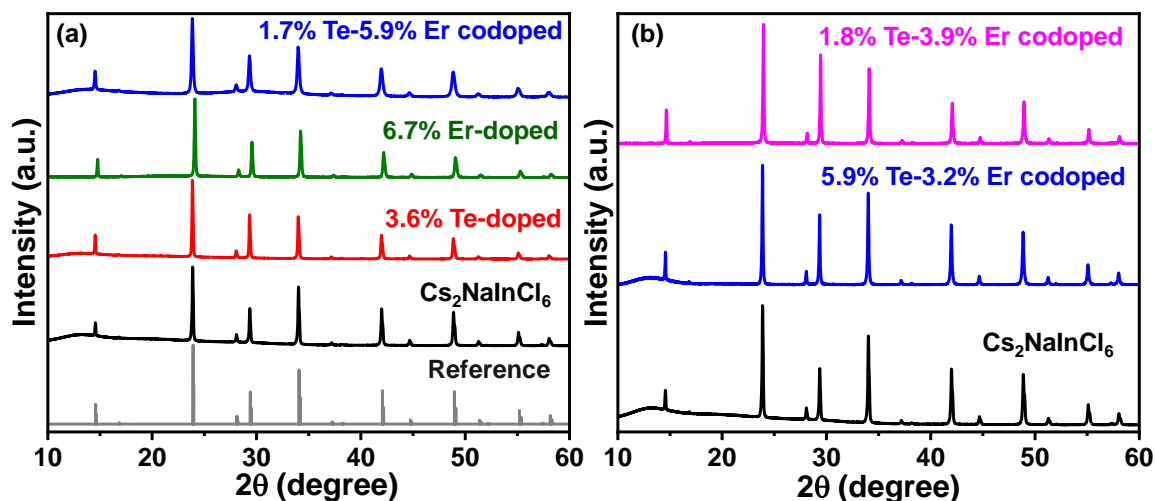
estimation using EDS. So, we mainly rely on ICP-MS method for estimating the dopant concentrations, as shown in Table 3.2. ICP-MS data show that the Te<sup>4+</sup> doping is facile whereas the Er<sup>3+</sup> doping is difficult. Similar poor efficacy of lanthanide doping in such halide perovskites has been observed in prior reports as well.<sup>14,18</sup> It is to be noted that all the dopant percentages mentioned here are the ones obtained from ICP-MS data, and the dopant % is calculated with respect to concentration of In<sup>3+</sup> ions in the samples.

**Table 3.2:** ICP-MS data of 3.6% Te<sup>4+</sup>-doped, 6.7% Er<sup>3+</sup>-doped and Te<sup>4+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub> products. dopant % =  $\frac{[dopant]}{[In]} \times 100$ . Where, [dopant] and [In] are molar concentrations of dopant and indium.

Sr. No.	Molar % of elements in the precursor		Molar % of elements in the product		Sample code
	Te % = $\frac{[Te]}{[In]} \times 100$	Er % = $\frac{[Er]}{[In]} \times 100$	Te % = $\frac{[Te]}{[In]} \times 100$	Er % = $\frac{[Er]}{[In]} \times 100$	
1.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Undoped
2.	0.5	0.0	3.6	0.0	3.6% Te <sup>4+</sup> -doped
3.	0.0	100.0	0.0	6.7	6.7% Er <sup>3+</sup> -doped
Te <sup>4+</sup> -Er <sup>3+</sup> codoped					
4.	5.0	100	5.9	3.2	5.9% Te <sup>4+</sup> -3.2% Er <sup>3+</sup> codoped
5.	1.0	100	1.8	3.9	1.8% Te <sup>4+</sup> -3.9% Er <sup>3+</sup> codoped
6.	0.5	100	1.7	5.9	1.7% Te <sup>4+</sup> -5.9% Er <sup>3+</sup> codoped
Te <sup>4+</sup> -Yb <sup>3+</sup> codoped					
	Te % = $\frac{[Te]}{[In]} \times 100$	Yb % = $\frac{[Yb]}{[In]} \times 100$	Te % = $\frac{[Te]}{[In]} \times 100$	Yb % = $\frac{[Yb]}{[In]} \times 100$	Sample code
7.	0.5	100	0.4	9.0	Te <sup>4+</sup> -Yb <sup>3+</sup> codoped

Powder XRD patterns of the samples are shown in Figure 3.5a. The pattern for the undoped sample matches well with the reference data of cubic phase of Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub> in *Fm* $\bar{3}$ *m* space group, similar to a prior report<sup>35</sup>. The 3.6% Te<sup>4+</sup>-doped, 6.7% Er<sup>3+</sup>-doped and 1.7% Te<sup>4+</sup>- 5.9% Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped samples also crystallizes in the same phase, without forming any crystalline impurity. The concentrations of Te<sup>4+</sup> and Er<sup>3+</sup> (Table 3.2) in the codoped samples have been varied, and in all the cases similar phase-pure XRD patterns are observed, as shown in Figure 3.5b. Table 3.3 shows that both the Te-Cl (2.54 Å) and Er-Cl (2.62 Å) bond lengths are

relatively smaller compared to that of Cs-Cl (3.72 Å) and Na-Cl (2.75 Å), in similar perovskite systems. But Te-Cl and Er-Cl bond lengths are comparable to that of In-Cl (2.50 Å).<sup>35-38</sup> This similarity of bond lengths along the similar oxidation states of  $\text{In}^{3+}$  with  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ , suggest that dopants are expected to occupy the  $\text{In}^{3+}$  sites in the host lattice. It is to be noted that  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doping is an heterovalent one, so it might give rise to cation vacancies and/or interstitial anions to maintain the charge neutrality of the samples.



**Figure 3.5:** (a) EDS elemental mapping of 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ . (b) Powder XRD patterns of undoped, 3.6%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped, 6.7%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$ -doped and 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ . Reference pattern (ICSD: 132718) of  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  in cubic phase with space group  $\text{Fm}\bar{3}\text{m}$  is also plotted for a comparison.

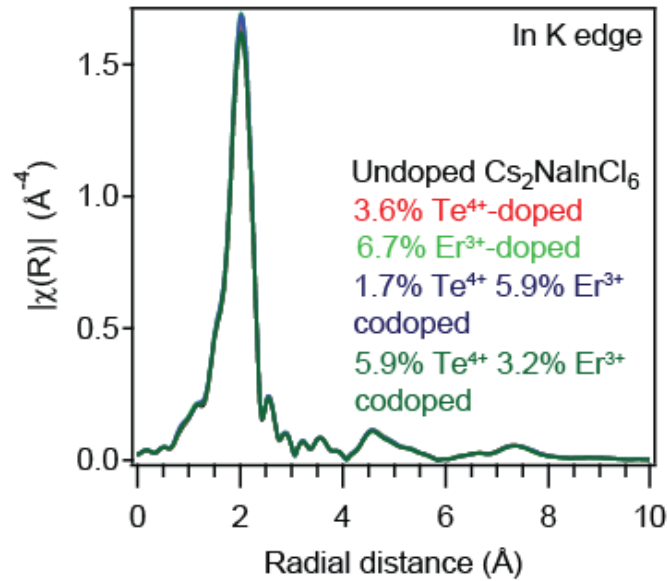
**Table 3.3:** Metal Halide bond-length values in perovskite like structure. The values are obtained from reported single crystal data.

Bond	Bond Length (Å)	Compound
Te-Cl	2.5358	$\text{Cs}_2\text{TeCl}_6$ (0D, 293 K) <sup>38-39</sup>
In-Cl	2.500	$\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ (3D, 305 K) <sup>37</sup>
Na-Cl	2.754	
Cs-Cl	3.718	
Er-Cl	2.62 ( $\pm$ 0.2)	$\text{Cs}_2\text{NaErCl}_6$ <sup>36, 40</sup> (ICSD 50361)

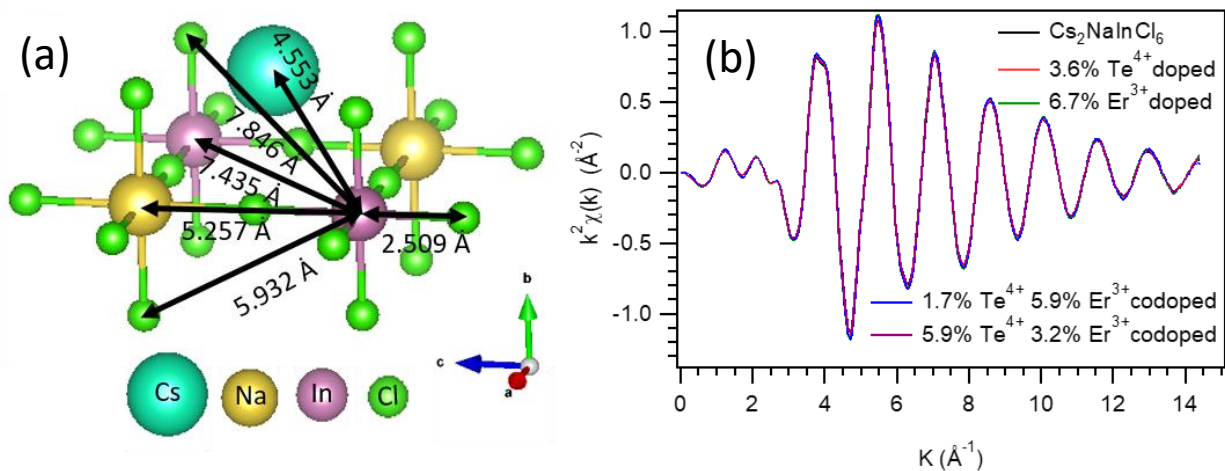
### 3.3.2 EXAFS Study to Find the Local Environment of Atoms

The local environment of host lattice atoms and dopants is investigated by EXAFS.<sup>16, 41-42</sup> The R-space data (Fourier transformed over a range of 3 to 12.5 Å) of the In K edges for the undoped and doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  are shown in Figure 3.6. There is hardly any change observed in the In K edge oscillations. Multi-shell fitting of In K edge of doped and undoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$

crystals are performed to derive the bond length and disorder in the lattice from the R-space data over a range of 1 to 8.0 Å considering six scattering paths, as shown in Figure 3.7a. We could consider the large range of R-space in fitting due to the good quality of the EXAFS signal as shown in Figure 3.7b. The fitting parameters derived from the analysis are shown in Table 3.4 and Figure 3.8a-e. Negligible variation in the disorder (Debye-Waller factor) of the local atomic structure of In suggests no change in the local atomic structure of the  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  lattice due to doping.



**Figure 3.6:** Comparison of In K edge EXAFS R-space plots for undoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ , 3.6%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped, 6.7%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$ -doped, 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped, and 5.9%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 3.2%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  crystals showing no significant change in local environment of In due to doping.

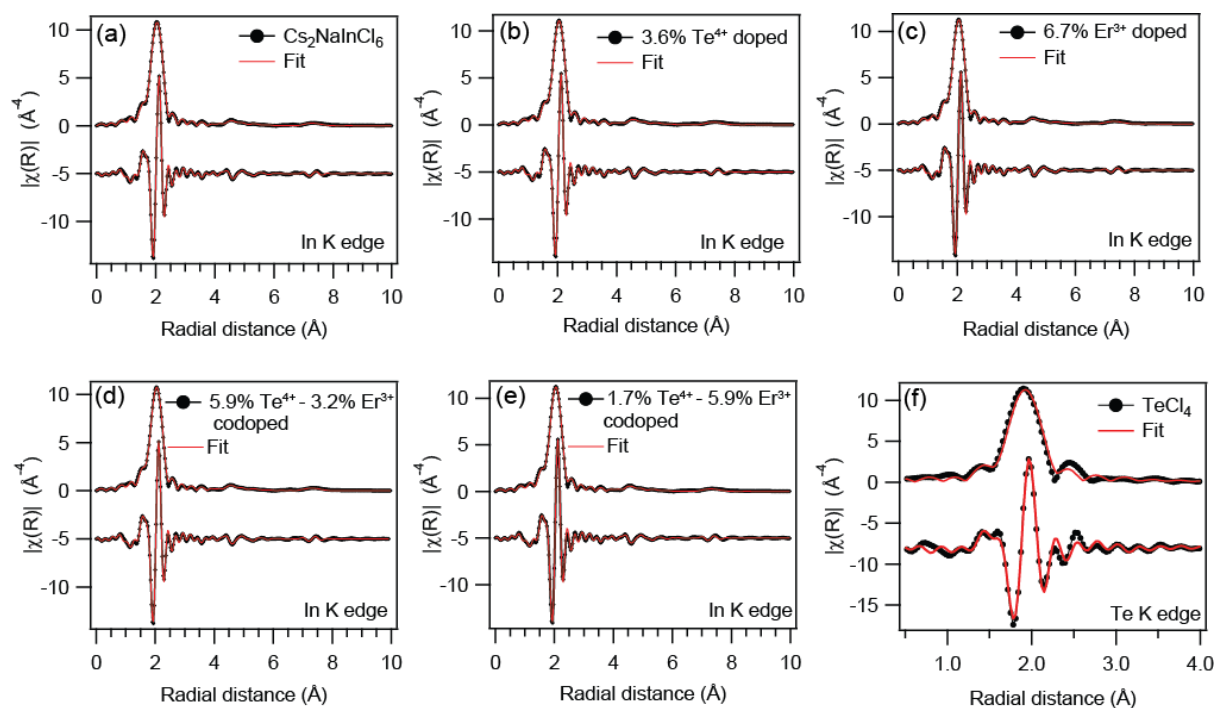


**Figure 3.7:** (a) Possible scattering paths from In atom in the crystal structure of  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  crystals considered in Feff calculations for modelling EXAFS data. (b) In K edge EXAFS data for doped and undoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  crystals in k-space.

**Short Wave Infrared Emissions from  $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Ln}^{3+}$  ( $\text{Ln}$ : Er, Yb) Codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  Double Perovskites**

**Table 3.4.** EXAFS multi-shell fitting of In K edge of undoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ .  $S_0^2 = 0.77$ , R factor = 0.0061, Fourier transform range of 1 to 8.0 Å. The coordination number of each path is considered to be constant from the crystal structure file reported in reference [S<sup>35</sup>]. The initial fit is performed by guessing all the parameters ( $\Delta r$ ,  $\Delta E_0$ ,  $\sigma^2$ ). For the final fitting R ( $R = R_{\text{eff}} \pm \Delta r$ ) and  $\Delta E_0$  are kept fixed to determine accurate values of disorder  $\sigma^2$

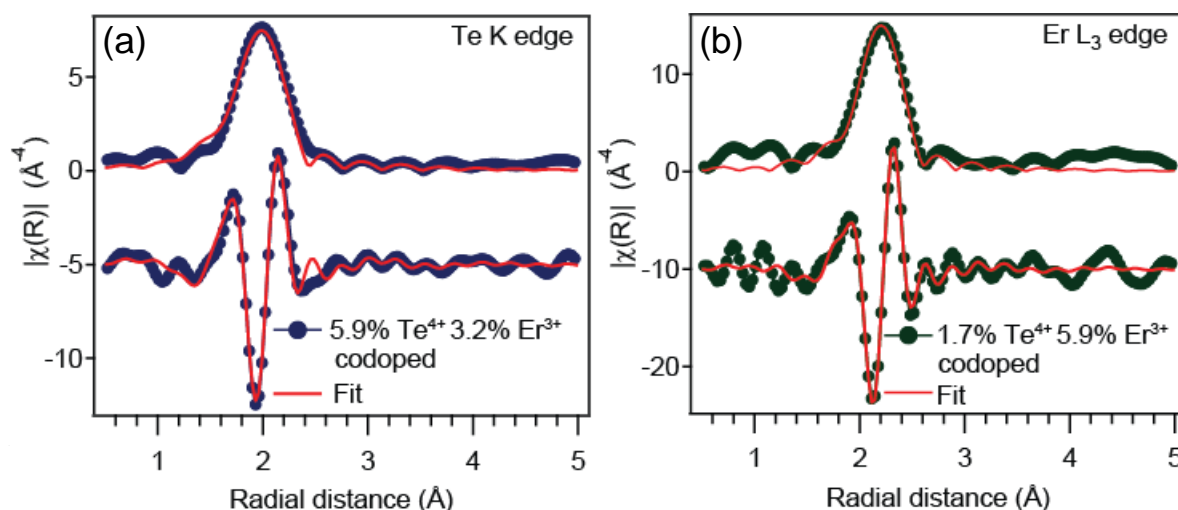
In K-edge Scattering paths	CN (fixed)	R (Å) (fixed)	$\sigma^2$ (Å <sup>2</sup> )	$\Delta E_0$ (eV) (fixed)
In-Cl <sub>3,1</sub>	6	2.508	0.005 ± 0.0001	4.226
In-Cs <sub>2,1</sub>	8	4.383	0.035 ± 0.0070	4.226
In-Cl <sub>3,1</sub> -Na-Cl <sub>3,1</sub> -In	6	5.141	0.028 ± 0.0036	4.226
In-Cl <sub>3,2</sub>	24	5.967	0.032 ± 0.0078	4.226
In-In <sub>1,1</sub>	12	7.451	0.018 ± 0.0089	4.226
In-Cl <sub>3,3</sub>	24	7.864	0.016 ± 0.0063	4.226



**Figure 3.8:** In K edge EXAFS data with fitting of magnitude of FT signal (top plot) and real part of (bottom plot) R space for (a) undoped, (b) 3.6%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  -doped, (c) 6.7 %  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  -doped, (d) 5.9%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 3.2%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped, and (e) 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  crystals. (f) Te K edge EXAFS data with QFS fitting in R space for  $\text{TeCl}_4$ .

To check the local atomic structure around the dopants, we collected Te K edge EXAFS spectra of 5.9%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 3.2%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  crystals and Er L<sub>3</sub> edge EXAFS spectra of 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -5.9 %  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  crystals and analyzed using the quick first shell (QFS) fitting method as shown in Figure 3.9 (a, b). For samples with lower dopant concentrations, we

could not obtain good-quality EXAFS data from the dopant edges. We fitted four parameters, namely coordination number (CN), bond length (R), disorder/Debye-Waller factor ( $\sigma^2$ ), and  $E_0$  shift ( $\Delta E_0$ ), without any constraints or correlations. Our analysis revealed that the coordination numbers for the Te K edge and Er  $L_3$  edge are  $6.0 \pm 0.5$  and  $6.0 \pm 0.3$ , respectively, suggesting the formation of  $\text{TeCl}_6$  and  $\text{ErCl}_6$  octahedra, probably within the  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  lattice. Furthermore, the measured Te-Cl and Er-Cl bond lengths obtained from QFS were  $2.513 \pm 0.004 \text{ \AA}$  and  $2.608 \pm 0.003 \text{ \AA}$ , respectively. These values are found to be similar to the reported bond lengths of Te-Cl ( $2.536 \text{ \AA}$ ) and Er-Cl ( $2.621 \text{ \AA}$ ) for pure compositions of  $\text{Cs}_2\text{TeCl}_6$  and  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaErCl}_6$ .<sup>16, 36, 38</sup> We also collected and analyzed Te K edge EXAFS spectra of the  $\text{TeCl}_4$  precursor (see Figure 3.8f). The fitting parameters show the coordination number of Te is  $3.507 \pm 0.630$  and the Te-Cl bond length of  $2.351 \pm 0.0063 \text{ \AA}$  in  $\text{TeCl}_4$  (see Table). These results again suggest the absence of  $\text{TeCl}_4$  impurities in our codoped sample (Figure 3.5a).



**Figure 3.9:** (a) Te K edge EXAFS data fitting in R-space for 5.9%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 3.2%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  crystals. (b) Er  $L_3$  edge EXAFS data fitting in R-space for 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  crystals.

**Table 3.5.** Te K edge EXAFS quick first shell (QFS) fitting parameters for  $\text{TeCl}_4$  reference sample ( $S_0^2 = 0.99$ , R factor = 0.020)

Scattering path	CN	R ( $\text{\AA}$ )	$\sigma^2$ ( $\text{\AA}^2$ )	$\Delta E_0$ (eV)
Te-Cl	$3.507 \pm 0.630$	$2.351 \pm 0.0063$	$0.004 \pm 0.0018$	$15.193 \pm 2.0596$

If  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  or  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  replaces  $\text{Na}^+$  site, then one would expect a significant change in the disorder of the In-Cl-Na-Cl-In bond length in In K edge EXAFS of  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  lattice after doping. We



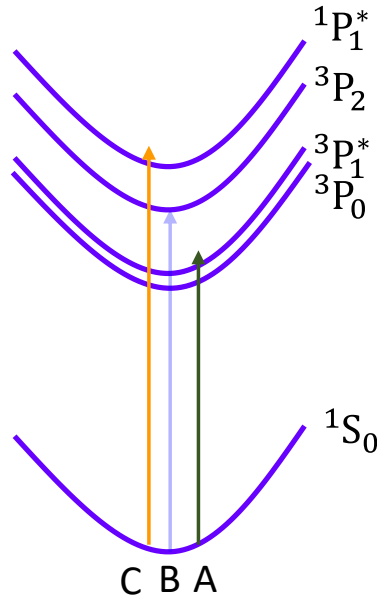
have not observed any such change in the disorder of In-Cl-Na-Cl-In bond length in  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  after doping, as shown in Table 3.6. Overall, the EXAFS results suggest that  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  and  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  ions replace octahedral  $\text{In}^{3+}$  sites in the  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  crystals after doping.

**Table 3.6:** In k edge, EXAFS multi-shell fitting parameters of undoped and doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  crystals, showing the effect of doping on disorders of all bond distances ( $S_0^2 = 0.77$ )

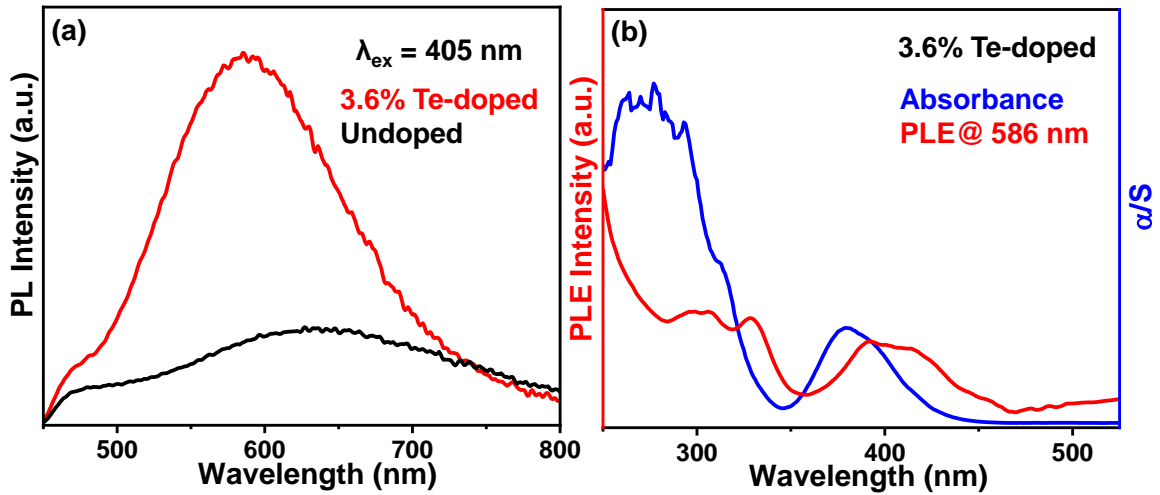
Sample	Variation in disorder with doping in $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$					
	In-Cl	In-Cs	In-Cl-Na-Cl-In	In-Cl <sub>3,2</sub>	In-In	In-Cl <sub>03,3</sub>
$\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$	0.0052 ± 0.0001	0.0347 ± 0.0082	0.0282 ± 0.0042	0.0327 ± 0.0083	0.0183 ± 0.0126	0.0166 ± 0.0083
3.6% Te doped	0.0050 ± 0.0001	0.0329 ± 0.0064	0.0278 ± 0.0036	0.0321 ± 0.0077	0.0183 ± 0.0091	0.0166 ± 0.0065
5.9% Te- 3.2% Er codoped	0.0052 ± 0.0001	0.0327 ± 0.0062	0.0286 ± 0.0037	0.0333 ± 0.0081	0.0197 ± 0.0110	0.0165 ± 0.0063
6.7% Er-doped	0.0049 ± 0.0001	0.0322 ± 0.0064	0.0271 ± 0.0036	0.0317 ± 0.0078	0.0191 ± 0.0107	0.0163 ± 0.0065
1.7% Te - 5.9% Er codoped	0.0049 ± 0.0001	0.0325 ± 0.0064	0.0278 ± 0.0037	0.0321 ± 0.0078	0.0187 ± 0.0100	0.0165 ± 0.0065

### 3.3.3 Optical Properties of $\text{Te}^{4+}$ Doped $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$

Figure 3.1 compares the UV-visible absorption spectra of the undoped and 3.6%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ . The undoped sample, has an absorption band edge at 243 nm, corresponding to the band gap of 5.1 eV, similar to prior reports.<sup>1</sup> After  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  doping, three new absorption bands appeared, which are indicated as A, B, and C bands, in Figure 3.1. In order to discuss the origin of these three bands, we need to consider the electronic configuration of  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ :  $[\text{Kr}]4d^{10}5s^2$ , where  $[\text{Kr}]$  indicates the electron configuration of Kr.  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  is known to absorb UV-visible light owing to the  $5s^2 \rightarrow 5s^15p^1$  electronic transitions.<sup>43</sup> The ground state  $5s^2$  has the term symbol  $^1S_0$ , and the excited state  $5s^15p^1$  can have term symbols of  $^3P_0$ ,  $^3P_1^*$ ,  $^3P_2$  and  $^1P_1^*$  as shown in Figure 3.10. The symbol “\*” represents the mixing of  $^3P_1$  and  $^1P_1$  states because of strong spin-orbit coupling. Consequently, transitions involving  $^1S_0$  and  $^3P_1^*$  becomes partially allowed. Three new absorption bands of 3.6%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  at 380 nm, 313 nm, and 275 nm are assigned to  $^1S_0 \rightarrow ^3P_1^*$  (A-band),  $^1S_0 \rightarrow ^3P_2$  (B-band) and  $^1S_0 \rightarrow ^1P_1^*$  (C-band) transitions of  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ , respectively. It is noteworthy that the A-band absorption at 380 nm is significantly red-shifted compared to that of  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ - or  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  (Figure 3.1).



**Figure 3.10:** Schematic presentation of  $5s^2 \rightarrow 5s^15p^1$  electronic transitions in  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  ion. A, B and C represent the electronic transitions named as A-band, B-band and C-band respectively.

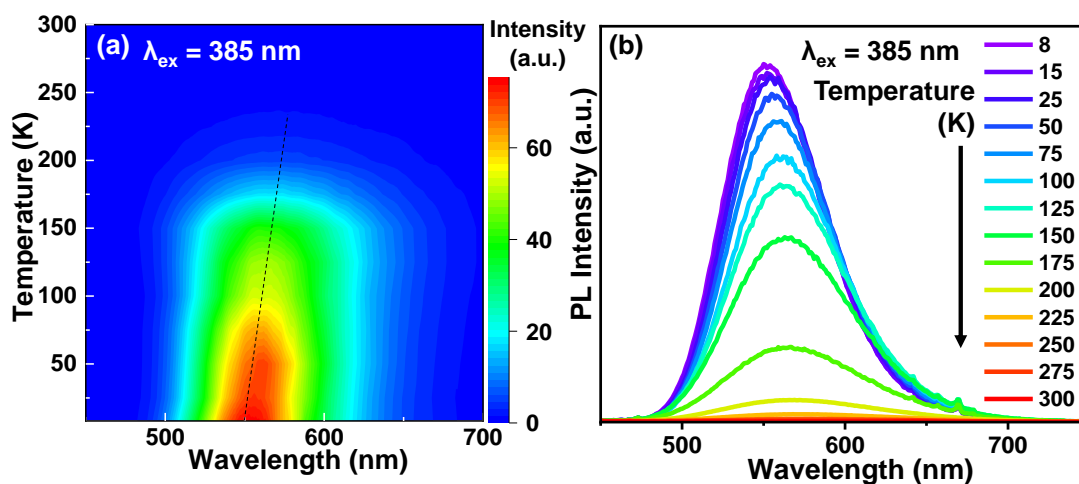


**Figure 3.11:** (a) PL spectra of undoped and 3.6%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ , excited with 405 nm pulse diode laser. (b) UV-visible absorption and PL excitation (PLE) spectra of 3.6%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ , measured at the emission wavelength 586 nm.

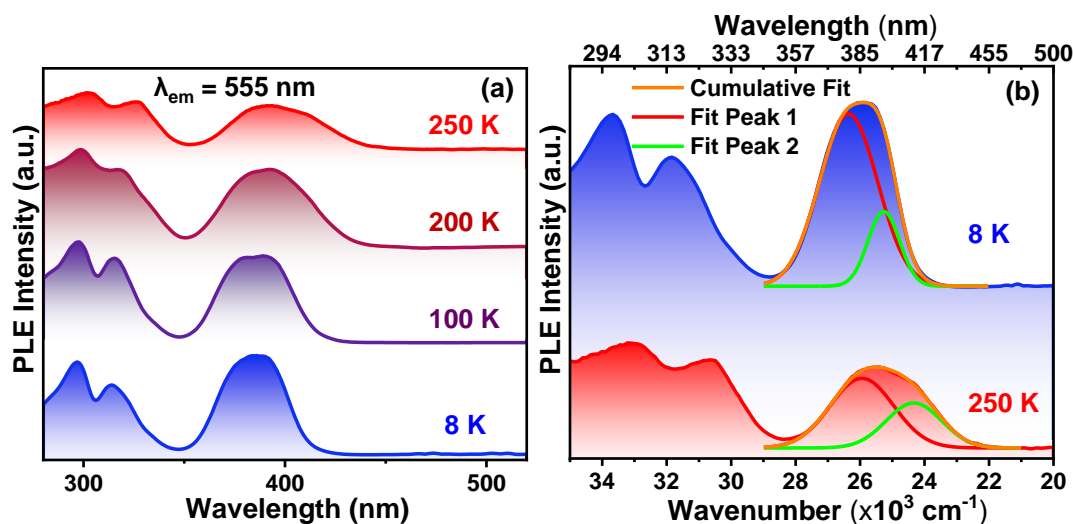
3.6%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  has a weak emission with peak at 586 nm and this emission is different from the host emission, as shown in Figure 3.11a. PL excitation (PLE) spectrum measured at the 586 nm emission shows features at 400 nm, 328 nm and 299 nm (Figure 3.11b). The PLE features agree reasonably well with the A-, B-, C-absorption bands, suggesting that the emission originates via excitation of  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  dopants. We note that similar excitation and emission data were also reported in  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{ZrCl}_6$ .<sup>44-45</sup> All these results suggest that the broad visible emission with peak at 586 nm appear because of de-excitation of  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  states, via  $3P_1^* \rightarrow 1S_0$  transition.

3.3.4 Temperature Dependent Photoluminescence of  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  Doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ 

To better understand the emission mechanism, temperature dependent PL are measured. The pseudo color contour map in Figure 3.12a and the corresponding spectra in Figure 3.12b show the  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  emission intensity increases systematically with decreasing the temperature, because of the suppression of non-radiative processes. The emission spectra narrow down with decrease in temperature. Also, there is a blue shift in PL peak position with decreasing temperature. The blue shift probably arises due to decrease in lattice parameters at lower temperature.



**Figure 3.12:** Temperature dependent (a) PL contour plot, and (b) PL spectra of 3.6%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  at 385 nm excitation.



**Figure 3.13:** Temperature dependent (a) PL excitation (PLE) spectra of 3.6%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ . (b) PL excitation (PLE) spectra at 250 K and 8 K. 26000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  excitation band (A-band) are fitted with two Gaussian peaks with the formula  $y = y_0 + (A/(w\sqrt{\pi/2}))e^{(-2((x-x_c)/w)^2)}$ . Where  $y$  is PL intensity,  $x$  is wavenumber in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ,  $x_c$  is peak position,  $w$  is FWHM and  $A$  is integrated area under the peak. Fitting parameters are presented in Table 3.7.

**Short Wave Infrared Emissions from  $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Ln}^{3+}$  (Ln: Er, Yb) Codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  Double Perovskites**

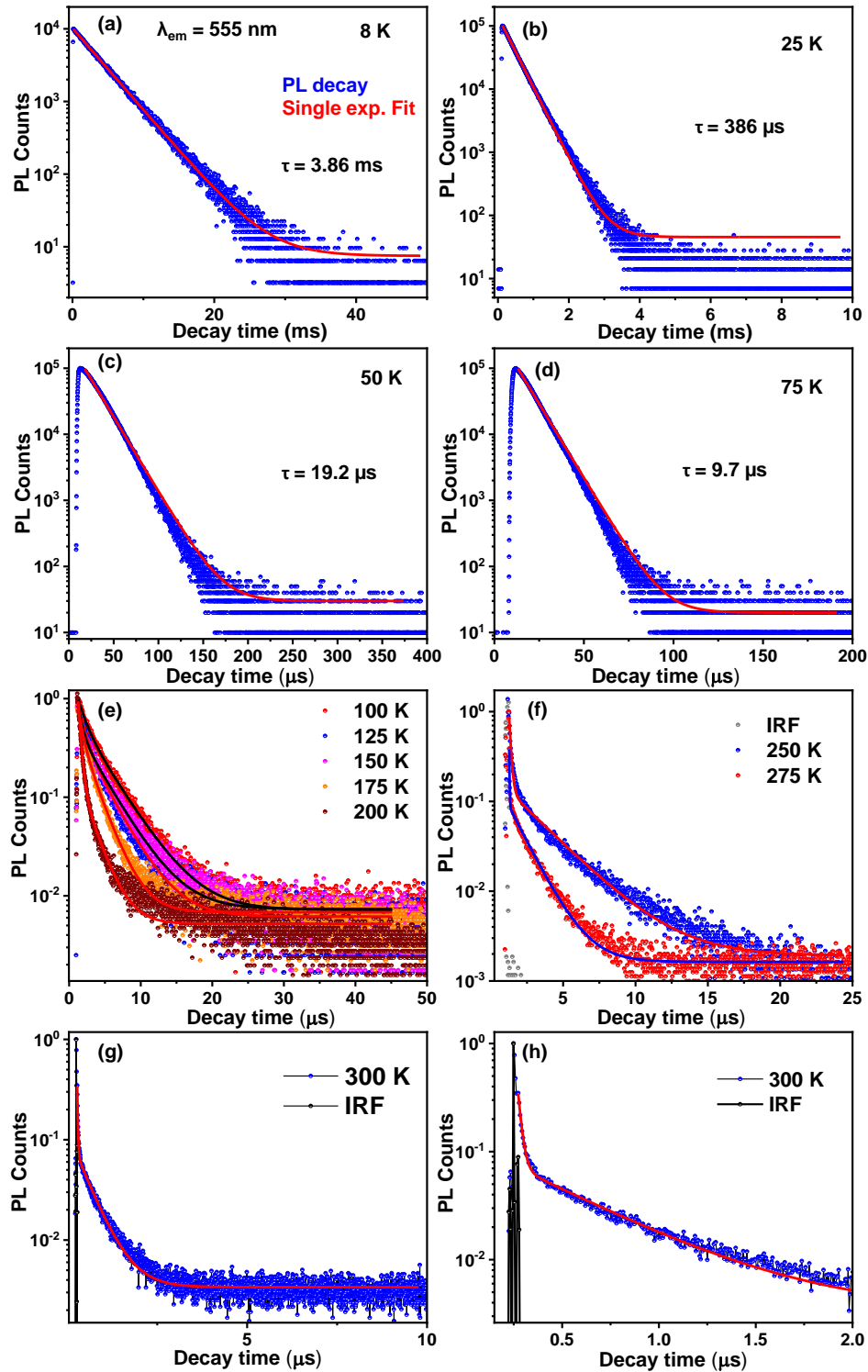
PL excitation spectrum is recorded to find the origin of the emission as shown in Figure 3.13a. PL excitation spectrum has three excitation bands similar to absorption spectrum in Figure 3.1. PL excitation band also slightly blue shifts and narrow down at low temperatures (Figure 3.13a). The excitation band around 400 nm appears to have two peaks, and can be deconvoluted in two Gaussian peaks, as shown in Figure 3.13b. The fitting parameters are presented in Table 3.7. The peak splitting decreases with decreasing temperature and possibly appear due to dynamical Jahn-Teller effect.<sup>44, 46</sup>

**Table 3.7:** Fitting parameters of around 400 nm excitation band.

Temperature		250 K	8 K
Peak 1	Peak center ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	25944	26357
	FWHM ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	1974	1806
Peak 2	Peak center ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	24331	25264
	FWHM ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	1716	983
Adj. R-Square		0.990	0.999

The PL decay profiles of the broad emission ( $\sim 555$  nm) of 3.6%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  at different temperatures are shown in Figure 3.14. At temperatures 8 - 75 K, the decay profiles are fitted using a single-exponential decay equation. The decay systematically become faster at higher temperatures, and above 75 K, the decay becomes bi-exponential. The best fit parameters are presented in Table 3.8. Figure 3.15 summarizes the temperature dependent change in the PL lifetime of 555 nm emission. At 8 K, the PL lifetime is as high as 3.86 ms. The PL lifetime drastically decreases to 9.66  $\mu\text{s}$  at 75 K. Such sudden change in PL lifetime can be explained by the separation of  $^3P_0$  and  $^3P_1^*$  states at low temperature (see Figure 3.10).  $^3P_0$  and  $^3P_1^*$  states are known to be thermally coupled at room temperature. But at very low temperatures,  $^3P_0$  and  $^3P_1^*$  energy separation increases and the population back transfer from  $^3P_0 \rightarrow ^3P_1^*$  state becomes in-efficient. This in-efficient back transfer results into spin-forbidden  $^3P_0 \rightarrow ^1S_0$  transition, with  $J$  remaining zero, which might drastically increase the PL lifetime at low temperature.<sup>46-48</sup> But the origin of such long lifetime needs further investigation. At temperatures above 200 K, PL lifetime and intensity, both decrease drastically because of the dominance of non-radiative decay channels.

*Short Wave Infrared Emissions from  $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Ln}^{3+}$  ( $\text{Ln: Er, Yb}$ ) Codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  Double Perovskites*

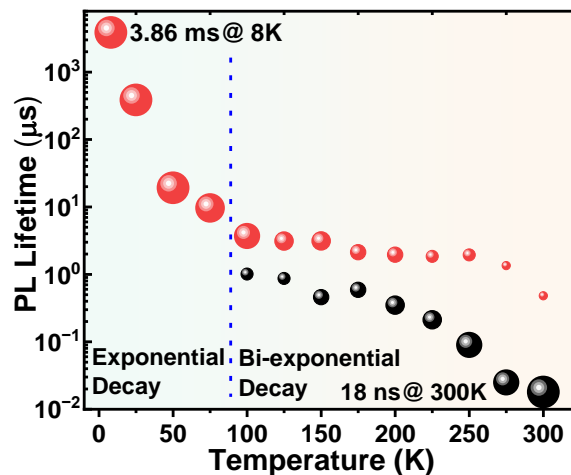


**Figure 3.14:** Temperature dependent PL decay profiles of 3.6%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  for 555 nm emission. (a-d) PL decay in the temperature range of 8 - 75 K are fitted with single-exponential decay. These are recorded with 385 nm excitation with microsecond flash lamp. (e-g) PL decay profiles in the temperature range of 100 - 300 K, and are fitted with a bi-exponential decay equation. 100 - 300 K PL decay profiles are recorded with 405 nm pulse diode laser at different repetition rates. (h) Enlarge view shows that the PL decay at 300 K is not overlapping with the instrument response function (IRF) of the instrument. The fitting parameters are given in Table 3.8.

*Short Wave Infrared Emissions from  $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Ln}^{3+}$  (Ln: Er, Yb) Codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  Double Perovskites*

**Table 3.8.** Fitting parameters of temperature dependent PL decay profiles (shown in Figure 3.12) of 555 nm emission of 3.6%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ .

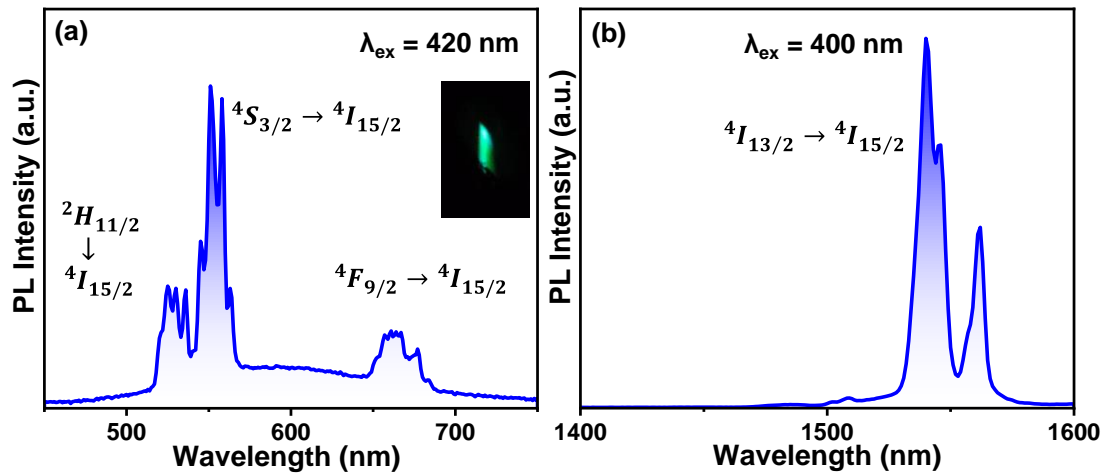
Temperature	$\tau_1(\mu\text{s})$	$A_1(\%)$	$\tau_2(\mu\text{s})$	$A_2(\%)$	R-squared (COD)
8 K	-	-	3860	100	0.999
25 K	-	-	386	100	0.999
50 K	-	-	19.2	100	0.997
75 K	-	-	9.66	100	0.998
100K	1.01	61.49	3.70	38.51	0.997
125K	0.87	74.05	3.12	25.95	0.997
150K	0.46	88.88	3.13	11.12	0.996
175K	0.59	80.41	2.13	19.59	0.997
200 K	0.35	99.08	1.96	0.92	0.998
225 K	0.212	97.91	1.853	2.09	0.993
250 K	0.09	100.00	1.94	0.00	0.988
275 K	0.025	100.00	1.35	0.00	0.988
300 K	0.018	100.00	0.48	0.00	0.995



**Figure 3.15:** Temperature dependent PL lifetime of 3.6%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ . The lifetimes (in  $\mu\text{s}$ ;  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 555 \text{ nm}$ ) are plotted in log scale versus temperature. Above 75 K, red and black spheres represent two lifetimes obtained by biexponential fit and the sphere size represents the relative contribution (approx.) of two lifetimes.

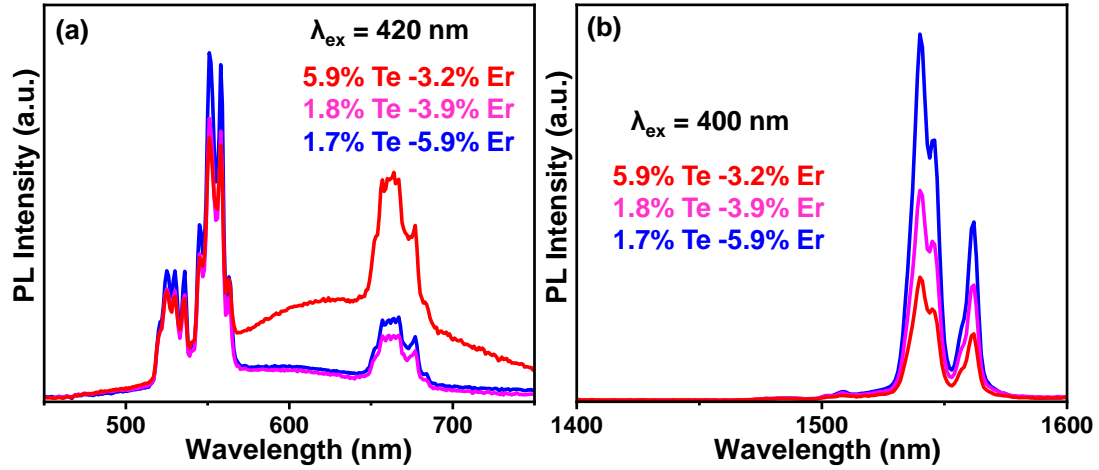
3.3.5 Optical Properties of  $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Er}^{3+}$  Codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ 

The PL spectra of 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped sample in the visible and SWIR range are shown in Figure 3.16a and b, respectively. Though the excitation at 420 nm implies excitation of  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  ion, the emission spectra are mainly dominated by  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  emission, at room temperature. In the visible range (Figure 3.16a), a broad  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  emission is also observed below the sharp  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  peaks. Inset in Figure 3.16a shows the digital image of 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped sample under 400 nm xenon lamp excitation. The emission appears greenish in color because of the dominance of  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  emission around 515 nm to 570 nm range. Based on prior literature, the sharp emission peaks at 525 nm, 551 nm, 660 nm and 1540 nm, are assigned to  ${}^2H_{11/2} \rightarrow {}^4I_{15/2}$ ,  ${}^4S_{3/2} \rightarrow {}^4I_{15/2}$ ,  ${}^4F_{9/2} \rightarrow {}^4I_{15/2}$  and  ${}^4I_{13/2} \rightarrow {}^4I_{15/2}$  transitions of  $\text{Er}^{3+}$ , respectively.<sup>13</sup> The SWIR emission at 1540 nm remains in main focus because of its relevance for applications including optical fiber communication.

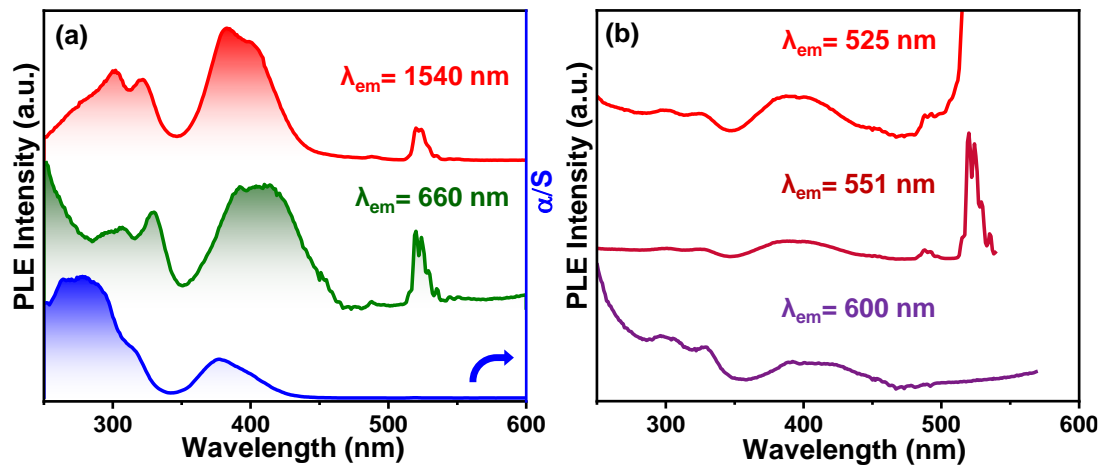


**Figure 3.16:** PL spectra of 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  in both (a) visible and (b) SWIR region. Inset of (a) shows the digital image of the sample under 400 nm excitation of xenon lamp.

The concentrations of both  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  and  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  in the codoped sample are also optimized to enhance the intensity of SWIR emission. Figure 3.17 shows that, 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped sample is the optimum one to show intense SWIR emission. The broad visible emission (of  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ ) increases on increasing the  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  precursor amount as shown in Figure 3.17a. We observed that the  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  doping percentage decreases on increasing the  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  precursor amount and vice versa as shown in Table 3.2.



**Figure 3.17:** PL spectra in the (a) visible and (b) SWIR region with different concentrations of dopants in the  $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ .

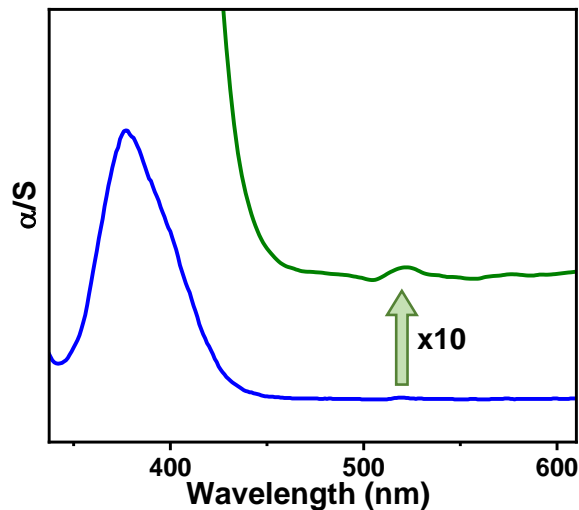


**Figure 3.18:** (a) and (b) Comparison of UV-visible absorption and PL excitation (PLE) spectra of 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ .

UV-visible absorption spectrum of 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  is shown in Figure 3.18a. The absorption features of the codoped sample are similar to that of  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped sample, suggesting that the  $5s^2 \rightarrow 5s^15p^1$  electronic transitions of  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  ions dominate the absorption spectrum. Expectedly, the Laporte forbidden  $\text{Er}^{3+}$   $f\text{-}f$  transitions are not observed in absorption spectrum. PLE spectra for  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  emissions at 660 nm and 1540 nm are shown in Figure 3.18a. PLE spectra of both  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  emissions are similar, and are dominated by  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  absorption below 450 nm. This finding confirms that the sample gets mainly excited via  $5s^2 \rightarrow 5s^15p^1$  transition of  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ , which non-radiatively transfers the excitation energy to  $\text{Er}^{3+}$ , and subsequent de-excitation of the  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  gives rise to the sharp emissions in the visible and SWIR range. Figure 3.18b shows that other  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  emissions at 525 nm and 551 nm, can also be excited via  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  ions. This interaction between  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  and  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  are possible only when the codopants are in close



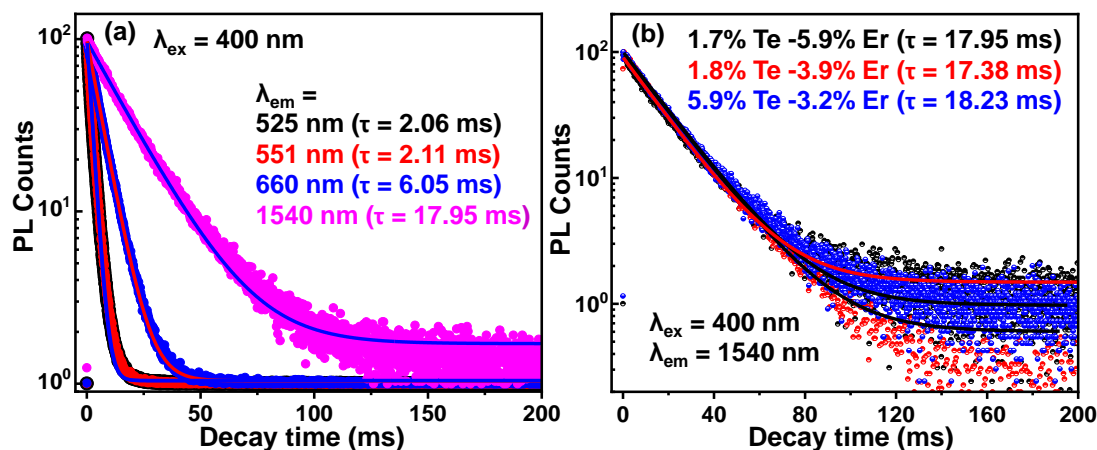
proximity, providing indirect evidence of successful codoping in our microcrystals. In addition to the broad  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  contribution in PLE, Figure 3.18a shows sharp PLE features at 522 nm, because of the  ${}^4I_{15/2} \rightarrow {}^2H_{11/2}$  transition of  $\text{Er}^{3+}$ . Optical absorption data in (Figure 3.19) shows a negligible absorption for the 522 nm excitation channel, compared to the broad  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  absorption below 450 nm. Therefore, the observation of significant PLE intensity at 522 nm in Figure 3.18a-b, suggests that the internal quantum efficiency of the  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  emissions at room temperature is higher when the  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  ions are directly excited at 522 nm, compared to excitation via  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  ions at  $<450$  nm. The broad background emission of  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  at  $\sim 600$  nm can be excited through  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  excitation, but the  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  excitation at 522 nm is insufficient to yield the broad emission (Figure 3.18b). Thus, in  $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  samples, strong optical excitation happens through only  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  dopant, whereas emission happens through both  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  and  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  dopants.



**Figure 3.19:** UV-visible absorption spectrum of 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ . The absorption spectrum is obtained from diffuse reflectance spectrum by Kubelka-Munk transformation.

PL decay profiles of  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  emissions at 525, 551, 660, and 1540 nm, after excitation at 400 nm ( $\text{Te}^{4+}$  excitation), are shown in Figure 3.20a. The decay at 525 and 551 nm are almost on top of each other, and at longer wavelengths, the decay becomes slower. The decay profiles can be fitted with single exponential decay functions. The obtained PL lifetimes are 2.06, 2.11, 6.05, and 17.95 ms at emission wavelengths 525, 551, 660, and 1540 nm, respectively. The long lifetime of  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  emissions signify the Laporte forbidden  $f\text{-}f$  transitions. We further note that a long ms lifetime indicates that the lanthanide ion is located in a well-defined crystalline lattice,

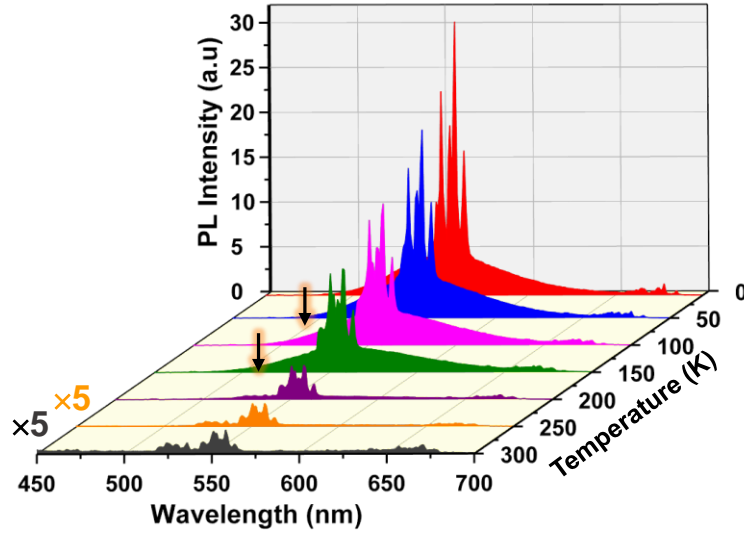
whereas, a non-crystalline surrounding with plenty of non-radiative decay channels reduces the lifetime to  $\mu\text{s}$  range.<sup>49-50</sup> All the  $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Er}^{3+}$  codoped samples with different dopant concentrations have similar PL lifetime of 1540 nm  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  emission reflecting isolated nature of inner core  $f\text{-}f$  electronic transition (Figure 3.20b).



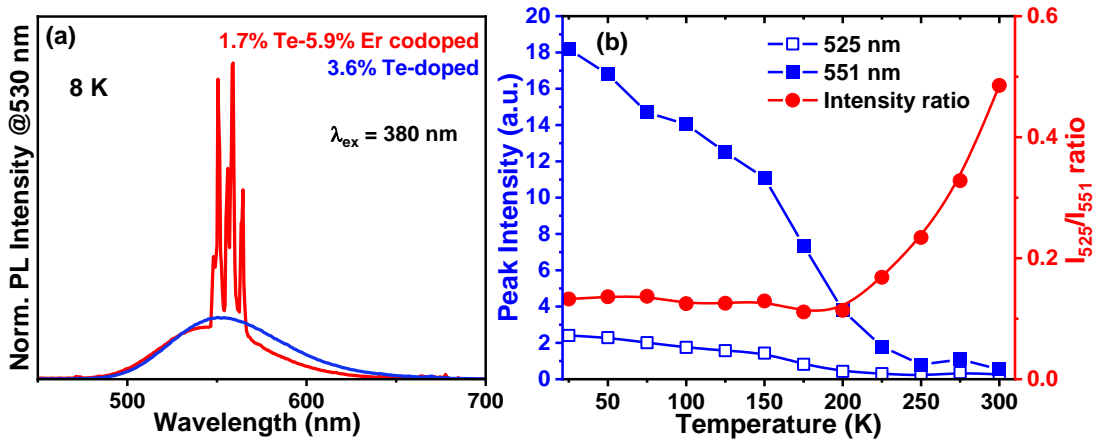
**Figure 3.20:** (a) PL decay of 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  at different emission wavelength. (b) PL decay of 1540 nm emission of  $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  with different dopant concentrations. Experimental PL decay profiles at different emission wavelengths of  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  emissions are fitted with single exponential decay equation. The symbols represent experimental data and the solid lines represent the fitting data. The obtained PL lifetimes are shown in the figure.

### 3.3.6 Temperature Dependent Optical Properties of $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Er}^{3+}$ Codoped $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$

Figure 3.21 shows the temperature (8 - 300 K) dependent PL spectra of 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  in the visible region. The PL intensity increases with decreasing temperature because of the suppression of non-radiative processes. At lower temperatures, the broad visible emission becomes relatively more prominent. Figure 3.22a shows that the broad emission for the  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped and  $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Er}^{3+}$  codoped samples at 8 K resembles each other. This broad emission in codoped and  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped samples originates from the de-excitation of  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  state via  ${}^3P_{0,1} \rightarrow {}^1S_0$  transition or related self-trap exciton (STE) emission. Interestingly, the  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  emission intensity at 525 nm diminishes, and 551 nm peak intensifies with decreasing temperature (Figure 3.22b). These peaks originate from  ${}^2H_{11/2}$ ,  ${}^2S_{3/2}$  states of  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  respectively, which are known to be thermally coupled states. The temperature dependent change in the relative intensity of these two peaks can be used for non-contact based temperature sensors as shown in Figure 3.22b.



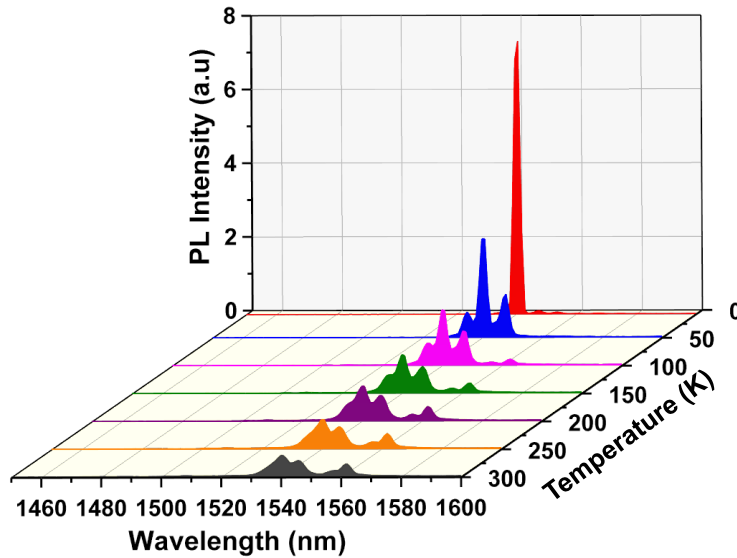
**Figure 3.21:** Temperature dependent (8 - 300 K) PL spectra of 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  in the (a) visible and (b) SWIR region. In (a), the intensity of 300 K and 250 K emission spectra are multiplied by 5, and the downward arrows indicate the decreasing intensity of 525 nm emission peak at lower temperatures.



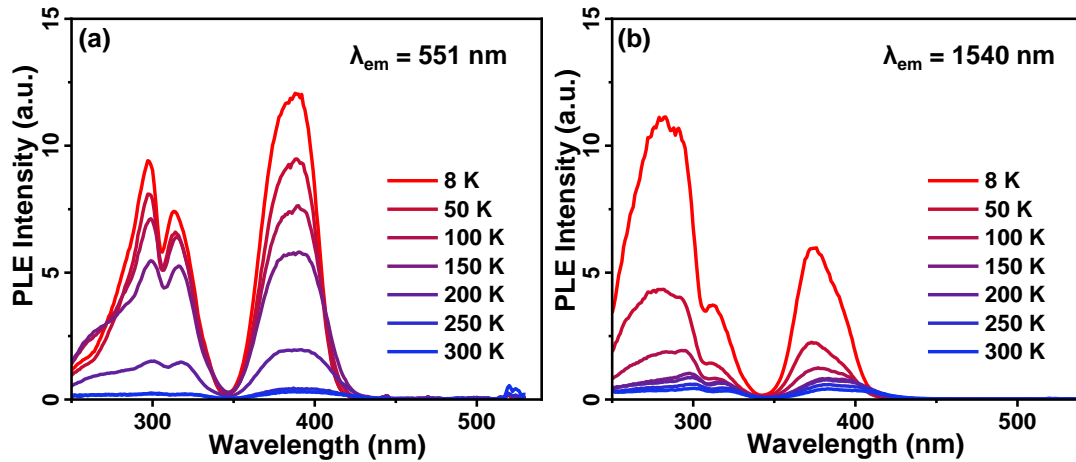
**Figure 3.22:** (a) PL spectra of 3.6%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped and 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  measured at 8 K. The PL intensity of both samples are normalized at 530 nm. (b) Change in PL peak intensity of 525 nm and 551 nm peaks, along with relative peak intensity ratio with temperature. The intensity ratio  $I_{525}/I_{551}$  changes almost linearly in the 200-300 K range.

Figure 3.23 show that the 1540 nm SWIR emission intensity also increases with decreasing temperature. Similar to visible range  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  emissions, the relative intensity of multiple SWIR emission peaks at 1540 nm also varies with temperature. In the crystal field of the host, the  $f$ -electronic states  $^4I_{13/2}$  and  $^4I_{15/2}$  split, leading to multiple fine structures in the PL emission around 1540 nm. A change in temperature changes the population distribution in those split energy levels, changing the relative intensity of the PL fine structure peaks. At 8 K, these peaks count down almost to a single narrow peak at 1540 nm, with full width at half maxima (FWHM) as small as 1.32 meV. Figure 3.24 reflects the increased intensity of the PL excitation spectra

for 551 nm and 1540 nm emissions. Overall, the PL excitation features remain similar throughout the temperature range with slight blue shift at lower temperatures.



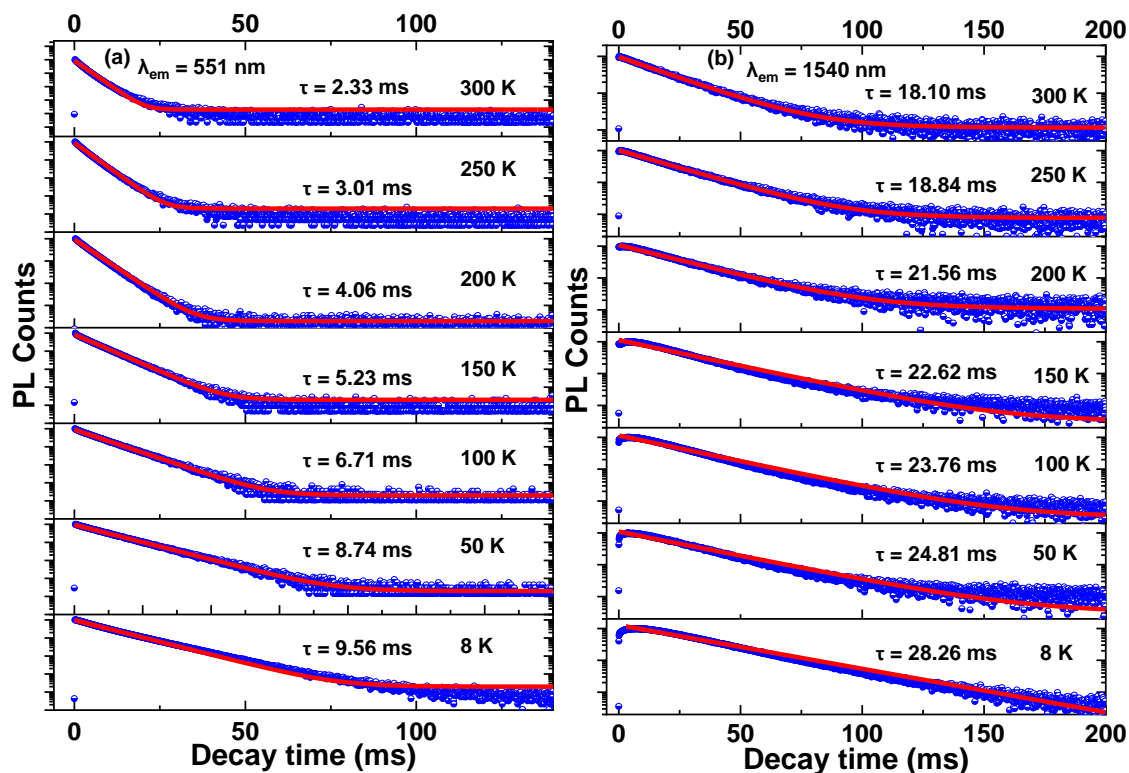
**Figure 3.23:** Temperature dependent (8 - 300 K) PL spectra of 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  in the SWIR region at 380 nm excitation.



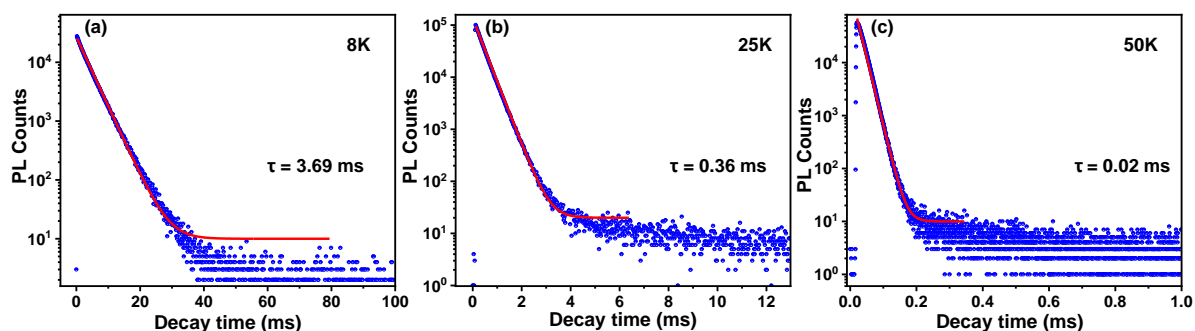
**Figure 3.24:** Temperature dependent PL excitation (PLE) spectra of 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  for (a) 551 nm and (b) 1540 nm emissions.

PL lifetimes of the 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped sample for  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  emissions at both 551 and 1540 nm increases with decreasing temperature, as shown in Figure 3.25. 1540 nm emission lifetime increases to 28.26 ms at 8 K from 18.10 ms at 300 K as shown in Figure 3.25a. Similarly, Figure 3.25b show that 551 nm emission lifetime increases to 9.56 ms at 8 K from 2.33 ms at 300 K. Also, Figure 3.26 shows that the PL lifetime of the broad  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  emission (at 600 nm) of the codoped sample increases drastically from 20  $\mu\text{s}$  at 50 K to 3.69 ms at 8 K, similar to that of the 3.6%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  (Figure 3.15).

*Short Wave Infrared Emissions from  $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Ln}^{3+}$  ( $\text{Ln: Er, Yb}$ ) Codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  Double Perovskites*



**Figure 3.25:** Temperature dependent PL decay of 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  for emission at (a) 551 nm, and (b) 1540 nm.  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 380$  nm in both cases. The blue circles represent the PL decay and red solid lines are the mono-exponential decay fitting.



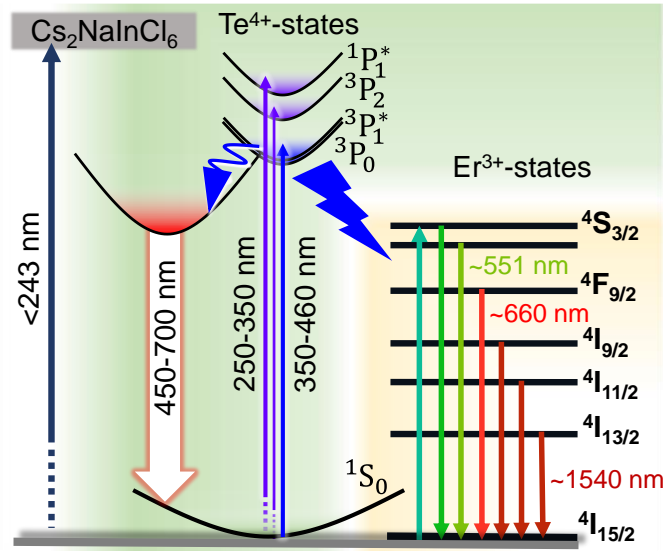
**Figure 3.26:** Temperature dependent PL decay of 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  for emission at 600 nm (broad  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  related emission) at  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 380$  nm. The blue circles represent the PL decay and red solid line is the fitting. The data are fitted with single exponential decay equation.

### 3.3.7 Excitation and Emission Processes in $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Er}^{3+}$ Codoped $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$

Finally, the excitation and emission processes have been schematically summarized Figure 3.27.  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  required high energy for excitation ( $> 5.1$  eV,  $< 243$  nm), and does not lead to emission. Higher energy excitations generally activate more non-radiative paths, which is detrimental for PL emission. Introduction of  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  dopant reduces the excitation energy to 2.70 eV or 460 nm. Then the excited  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  themselves can lead to a weak broad visible light emission,

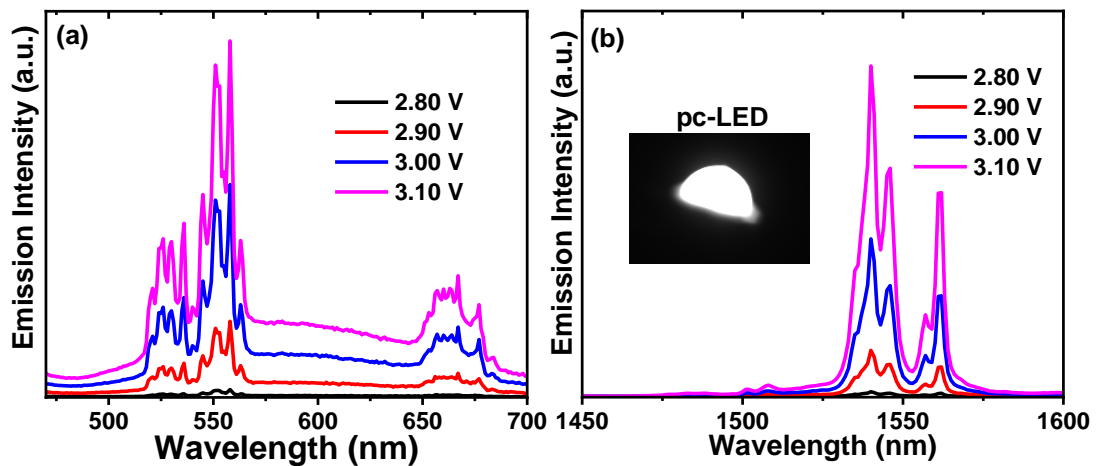
*Short Wave Infrared Emissions from Te<sup>4+</sup>-Ln<sup>3+</sup> (Ln: Er, Yb) Codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub> Double Perovskites*

or can transfer its energy non-radiatively to excite the Er<sup>3+</sup> codopant. After that the de-excitation of Er<sup>3+</sup> via characteristic *f-f* transitions leads to sharp emissions at 525 nm, 551 nm, 660 nm and 1540 nm. The Er<sup>3+</sup> ions can also be excited directly by absorption of 522 nm light because of  $^4I_{15/2} \rightarrow ^2H_{11/2}$  *f-f* transition. But the non-radiative excitation of Er<sup>3+</sup> ion through the optically excited Te<sup>4+</sup> ions is the significantly dominant pathway, compared to the direct optical excitation of Er<sup>3+</sup>.



**Figure 3.27:** Schematic representation of the excitation and emission processes of Te<sup>4+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub>.

### 3.3.8 Phosphor Converted LED of Te<sup>4+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> Codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub>

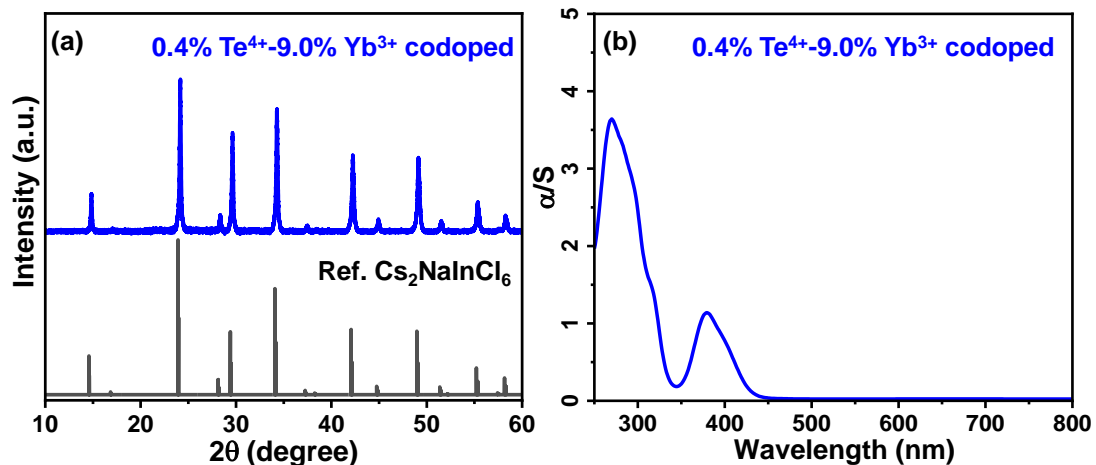


**Figure 3.28:** Emission spectra of 1.7% Te<sup>4+</sup>- 5.9% Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub> pc-LED in (a) visible and (b) SWIR region, for different operational voltages of the pc-LED. Inset in (b) shows the 1540 nm SWIR emission captured by using InGaAs camera working in the wavelength range of 950 – 1700 nm.

1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  is mixed with poly (methyl methacrylate) and coated on commercial LED chip. We used a 398 nm LED chip which does not have visible or SWIR radiation. Figure 3.28a-b show that the pc-LED emit visible and SWIR radiations, similar to the PL spectra of 1.7%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ - 5.9%  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  observed in Figure 3.16a-b. In the visible region, pc-LED emission contains both broad  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  emission and sharp  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  emissions at 525 nm, 551 nm and 660 nm. The SWIR emission of pc-LED shows the 1540 nm emission of  $\text{Er}^{3+}$ . Expectedly, the emission intensity increases with applied operational voltage of pc-LED because the 398 nm emission intensity of LED chip increases. The inset in Figure 3.28b shows the digital photograph of pc-LED with 3.1 V operational voltage, captured by InGaAs based NIR camera. The intensity captured here is because of the 1540 nm SWIR emission of the pc-LED.

### 3.3.9 $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Yb}^{3+}$ Codoped $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$

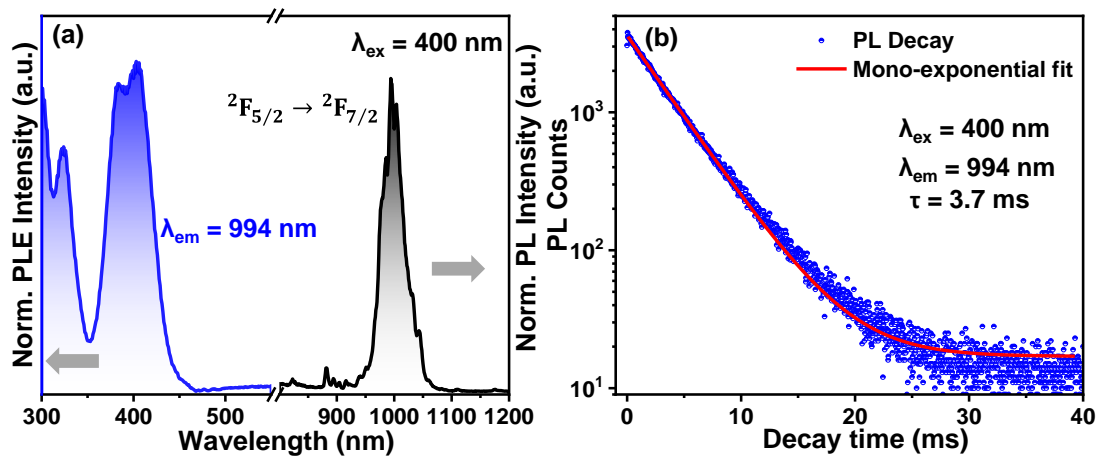
In order to generalize the  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  sensitization strategy for different lanthanides emitting SWIR radiations at different wavelengths, we also synthesized  $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Yb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ . Powder XRD in Figure 3.29a confirms that the codoped system forms the same cubic crystal structure  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ , without forming any crystalline impurity. Figure 3.29b shows the absorption spectrum of 0.4%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  - 9.0%  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  which is similar to 3.6%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  (Figure 3.1).



**Figure 3.29:** (a) Powder XRD pattern of 0.4%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  - 9.0%  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  compared with reference pattern of  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  (ICSD: 132718) in cubic phase with space group  $\text{Fm}\bar{3}\text{m}$ . (b) absorption spectrum of 0.4%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  - 9.0%  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ .

$\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Yb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  emits SWIR radiation at 994 nm (Figure 3.30a) because of the  ${}^2\text{F}_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^2\text{F}_{7/2}$   $f\text{-}f$  electronic transition of  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$ . Weak visible  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  emission also observed in

this codoped system similar to 3.6%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  (Figure 3.11a). The PL excitation spectrum in Figure 3.30a has an excitation band at 400 nm, which is assigned to  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  A-band transition (Figure 3.29b). So, the excitation spectrum confirms that the  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  emission is getting sensitized by the codopant  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ . PL lifetime of the 994 nm emission has been found to be 3.7 ms (Figure 3.30b). This long lifetime is because of the parity forbidden  $f\text{-}f$  transition of  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$ . Overall, the mechanism of excitation and emission processes in  $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Yb}^{3+}$  codoped sample is very similar to that in the  $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Er}^{3+}$  codoped sample. This generic approach of doping and codoping halide double perovskites with different kinds of metal ions can yield the desired light emission properties in visible and SWIR region.<sup>51-53</sup>



**Figure 3.28:** (a) PL (black) and PL excitation (blue) spectra of 0.4%  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  - 9.0%  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$ . (b) PL decay profile of the sample fitted with a mono-exponential decay function.

### 3.4 Conclusion

We have prepared  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped,  $\text{Er}^{3+}$ -doped, and  $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  microcrystals using a hydrothermal synthesis method. Elemental analysis, extended structural analysis, and local atomic structure determined by EXAFS suggest a homogenous doping throughout the crystals, where both the  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  and  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  dopants occupy the octahedral  $\text{In}^{3+}$  sites of the host. The  $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Er}^{3+}$  codoping lead to optical excitation *via*  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  ions, and subsequent emission mainly through the  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  ions.  $5s^2 \rightarrow 5s^15p^1$  electronic transitions of  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  gives three absorptions bands (A, B, and C) below the band gap energy of the host. Consequently, sub-band gap excitation around 380-450 nm is possible. Note that the obtained excitation energy of the  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  dopants is significantly lower than the  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  or  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  doped/codoped into similar halide perovskite systems. The excited  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  ions then can emit broad visible emission at 586 nm, or transfer its energy to the codopant  $\text{Er}^{3+}$ . Subsequently,  $\text{Te}^{4+}\text{-Er}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  show characteristic  $\text{Er}^{3+}$  emissions at 525 nm, 551 nm, 660 nm and 1540. The SWIR emission at 1540 nm is suitable



for low-loss optical fiber communication. The PL lifetime of this emission is found to be 18.10 ms at room temperature and systematically increases to 28.26 ms at 8 K. The long lifetime is because of the Laporte forbidden  $f-f$  transition. Temperature dependent PL measurements in the range of 8-300 K provided detailed insights on the excitation and emission processes of Te<sup>4+</sup>-doped, and Te<sup>4+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub>. Also, we prepared a pc-LED by coating our 1.7% Te<sup>4+</sup>- 5.9% Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub> sample on commercial 398 nm LED chip. The pc-LED shows both the visible and SWIR emissions at a relatively low onset potential ~2.8 eV. Then we extended the design principle, *i.e.*, excitation by Te<sup>4+</sup> and SWIR emission by Ln<sup>3+</sup> to Te<sup>4+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub> emitting at 994 nm. It appears that the design principle is a generic one for a series of Te<sup>4+</sup>-Ln<sup>3+</sup> codoped double perovskites, with choice of lanthanide ion deciding the emission wavelengths in both the visible and SWIR region.

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## **Chapter 4A**

### **Origin of Luminescence in Sb<sup>3+</sup>- and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> 0D Perovskites: Excited State Relaxation and Spin-Orbit Coupling**

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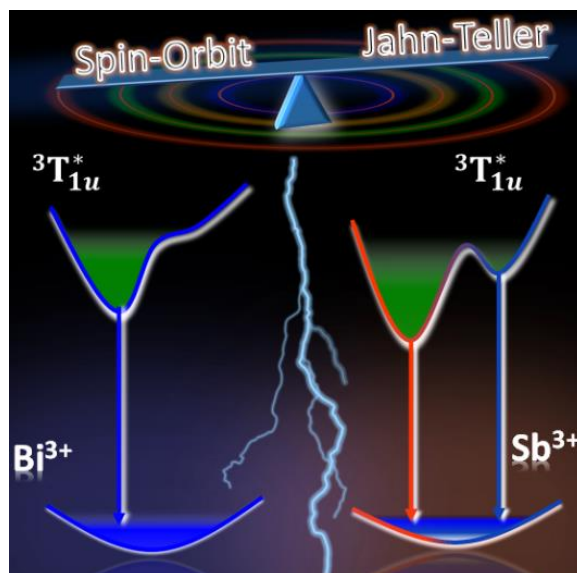




### Abstract

Sb<sup>3+</sup>- and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> zero-dimensional perovskites are emerging as stable and non-toxic phosphors for light emitting diodes. The outermost s-electrons (ns<sup>2</sup>) of the dopants are responsible for both light absorption (ns<sup>2</sup> to ns<sup>1</sup>np<sup>1</sup>) and emission (ns<sup>1</sup>np<sup>1</sup> to ns<sup>2</sup>). At cryogenic temperatures, Sb<sup>3+</sup> dopant shows two emission peaks, but Bi<sup>3+</sup> shows only one emission peak. Why so? Here we address such questions, revealing the origin of luminescence in Sb<sup>3+</sup>- and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>. We find that the emitting excited state ns<sup>1</sup>np<sup>1</sup> is a triplet state <sup>3</sup>T<sub>1u</sub><sup>\*</sup>. The notation “\*” implies spin-orbit coupling between <sup>3</sup>T<sub>1u</sub> and <sup>1</sup>T<sub>1u</sub> states. After light absorption, <sup>3</sup>T<sub>1u</sub><sup>\*</sup> is occupied with one electron, which then undergoes Jahn-Teller distortion yielding relaxed excited state (RES). For Sb<sup>3+</sup> dopant, the combination of Jahn-Teller distortion and spin-orbit coupling gives rise to two minima in RES <sup>3</sup>T<sub>1u</sub><sup>\*</sup>, resulting into two emission peaks. Whereas for Bi<sup>3+</sup> dopant, the spin-orbit coupling significantly dominates over the Jahn-Teller splitting yielding a single minimum in RES <sup>3</sup>T<sub>1u</sub><sup>\*</sup>, and therefore, a single emission peak.

### Graphical Abstract



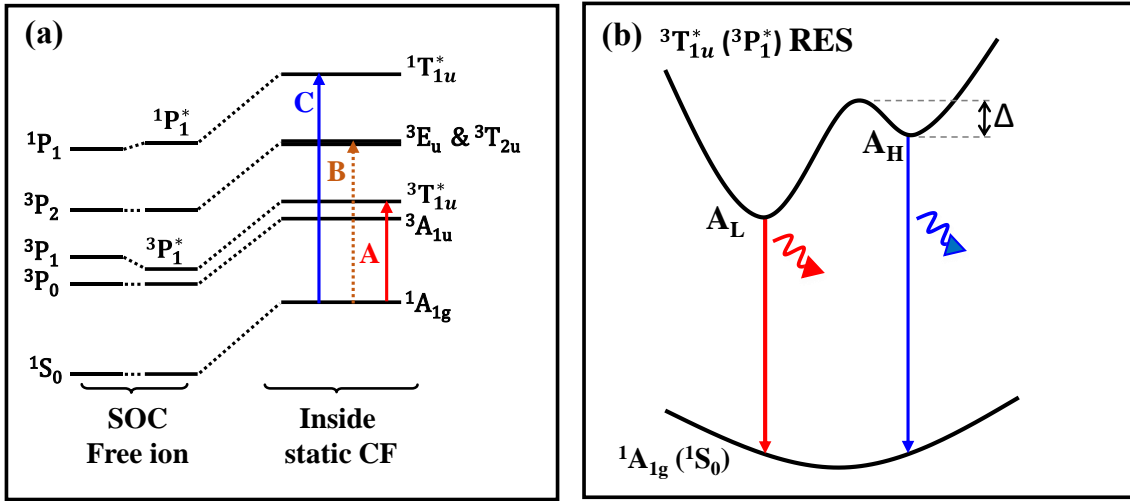
### 4A.1 Introduction

Zero dimensional perovskites like Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> are more stable and environmentally benign, compared to lead-halide perovskites.<sup>1-6</sup> But Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> does not show interesting optical or optoelectronic properties. To impart optical and optoelectronic functionality, ions like Sb<sup>3+</sup> and Bi<sup>3+</sup> with 5s<sup>2</sup> and 6s<sup>2</sup> outermost electronic configuration respectively, are doped into Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>.<sup>7</sup> Sb<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> has been reported to emit orange light with photoluminescence (PL) quantum yield (QY) 37%, and Bi<sup>3+</sup> doping resulted into blue light emission with QY 79%.<sup>8-10</sup> Such light emission from ns<sup>2</sup> electron doped perovskite systems might find potential applications as phosphor converted LED and X-ray scintillation.<sup>11-14</sup> But the mechanism of the light emission from Sb<sup>3+</sup>- and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> is not yet understood. Different parameters like spin-orbit coupling, Jahn-Teller distortion (electron-lattice coupling), and reduced symmetry of crystal field around the aliovalent dopants (Sb<sup>3+</sup> or Bi<sup>3+</sup> dopants replacing Sn<sup>4+</sup>), makes optical transitions complex.<sup>15</sup> In this chapter, we provide insights on the optical transitions in Sb<sup>3+</sup>- and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>.

Metal ions like In<sup>+</sup>, Ga<sup>+</sup>, Tl<sup>+</sup>, Ge<sup>2+</sup>, Sn<sup>2+</sup>, Pb<sup>2+</sup>, Sb<sup>3+</sup> and Bi<sup>3+</sup> have ns<sup>2</sup> electrons in the outermost orbitals, and often termed as ns<sup>2</sup>-ions. Owing to interesting optical absorption and emission properties, ns<sup>2</sup>-ions have been lattice-doped in a wide variety of hosts like alkali halides,<sup>15-20</sup> metal oxides<sup>21-23</sup> and zeolites<sup>24</sup>. The ground state of a ns<sup>2</sup>-ion is <sup>1</sup>S<sub>0</sub> and the excited states are <sup>1</sup>P<sub>1</sub> and <sup>3</sup>P<sub>n</sub> (n = 0, 1, 2), as shown in Figure 4A.1a. The diagonal matrix elements of spin-orbit coupling split <sup>3</sup>P into <sup>3</sup>P<sub>0</sub>, <sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub> and <sup>3</sup>P<sub>2</sub>. For metals with high atomic number Z, off-diagonal matrix elements of spin-orbit coupling lead to mixing of <sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub> and <sup>1</sup>P<sub>1</sub> states, yielding <sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub><sup>\*</sup> and <sup>1</sup>P<sub>1</sub><sup>\*</sup>. When the ns<sup>2</sup>-ion is incorporated in a cubic crystal field, <sup>1</sup>A<sub>1g</sub>, <sup>3</sup>A<sub>1u</sub>, <sup>3</sup>T<sub>1u</sub><sup>\*</sup>, (<sup>3</sup>E<sub>u</sub> + <sup>3</sup>T<sub>2u</sub>) and <sup>1</sup>T<sub>1u</sub><sup>\*</sup> Mulliken notations are used corresponding to <sup>1</sup>S<sub>0</sub>, <sup>3</sup>P<sub>0</sub>, <sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub><sup>\*</sup>, <sup>3</sup>P<sub>2</sub> and <sup>1</sup>P<sub>1</sub><sup>\*</sup> states (Figure 4A.1a), respectively.<sup>15</sup> The optical transition <sup>1</sup>A<sub>1g</sub> → <sup>3</sup>A<sub>1u</sub> is forbidden, <sup>1</sup>A<sub>1g</sub> → <sup>3</sup>T<sub>1u</sub><sup>\*</sup> (A-band) becomes partially allowed due to spin-orbit coupling, <sup>1</sup>A<sub>1g</sub> → (<sup>3</sup>E<sub>u</sub> + <sup>3</sup>T<sub>2u</sub>) (B-band) is forbidden but lattice vibrations can induce the transition, and <sup>1</sup>A<sub>1g</sub> → <sup>1</sup>T<sub>1u</sub><sup>\*</sup> (C-band) is allowed. For our Sb<sup>3+</sup>- and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>, replacing Sn<sup>4+</sup> with Sb<sup>3+</sup> or Bi<sup>3+</sup> is expected to give rise to a halide ion vacancy, distorting the crystal field around the dopant ions. Such distortion might fine-tune the energies of different states shown in Figure 4A.1a, but still, it serves as a good model to explain the optical properties. The A-band absorption is typically observed for Sb<sup>3+</sup>- and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped metal halide perovskites.<sup>14</sup> The higher energy C-

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band absorption has not been clearly observed for  $ns^2$ -doped perovskites, probably because of its overlap with inter-band (valance band to conduction band) transition of the host.



**Figure 4A.1:** (a) Schematic representation of  $ns^2$ -ion energy states as free ion and inside (host) static cubic field (CF). Spin-orbit coupling (SOC) splits the  $3P_n$  energy state and promotes mixing of  $3P_1$  and  $1P_1$  states. Mulliken notation is used to denote energy states inside static CF. A, B and C represent the optical absorption bands. (b) Schematic presentation of emission from  $3T_{1u}^*$  relaxed excited state (RES) to  $1A_{1g}$  ground state.  $A_L$  and  $A_H$  indicates the lower and higher energy minima of the RES.  $\Delta$  represents the energy barrier for population transfer from  $A_H$  to  $A_L$ .

We expect a stark difference between the A-band absorption ( $1A_{1g} \rightarrow 3T_{1u}^*$ ) and corresponding A-band emission ( $3T_{1u}^* \rightarrow 1A_{1g}$ ). The absorption (or excitation) occurs following the Frank-Condon approximation from ground state to an un-relaxed excited state  $3T_{1u}^*$ . The lattice does not get a chance to reorganize during the fast absorption process. But after excitation,  $3T_{1u}^*$  state undergo lattice reorganization (relaxation), before the occurrence of  $3T_{1u}^* \rightarrow 1A_{1g}$  light emission. Therefore, we need to consider a relaxed excited state (RES) of  $3T_{1u}^*$  for A-band light emission. RES of  $3T_{1u}^*$  can have two minima on adiabatic potential energy surface (APES) (Figure 4A.1b), depending on the contributions from Jahn-Teller and spin-orbit coupling.<sup>25-28</sup>

Our temperature dependent (300 to 5 K) PL experiments show that the two emission peaks of  $Sb^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2SnCl_6$  can be explained by the two minima of the same RES  $3T_{1u}^*$ . This finding is different from prior report, where both singlet  $1T_{1u}^*$  and triplet  $3T_{1u}^*$  excited states were invoked to explain the two emission peaks in similar metal halide perovskite systems.<sup>10, 13</sup> For  $ns^2$ -doped alkyl halide systems, Fukuda suggested that the shape of  $3T_{1u}^*$  RES, particularly the relative depth of two minima depends on the parameter,  $\frac{12\xi(1-\beta)}{b^2}$ , where  $\xi$  represents spin-

orbit interaction,  $\beta$  represents difference in ground state and excited state APES curvature and  $b^2$  represent electron-lattice interaction.<sup>25-26</sup> To verify such dependence in Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> perovskite host, we compared the PL of Sb<sup>3+</sup>- and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>. An increase in  $\xi$  for Bi<sup>3+</sup> dopant, significantly decreases the relative depth of one of the minima of <sup>3</sup>T<sub>1u</sub>\* RES, yielding a single emission peak.

## 4A.2 Experimental Section

### 4A.2.1 Chemicals

Cesium chloride (CsCl, 99.9 %), tin (II) chloride (SnCl<sub>2</sub>, anhydrous powder,  $\geq 99.99$  %), bismuth chloride (BiCl<sub>3</sub>, anhydrous powder, 99.998 %), antimony chloride (SbCl<sub>3</sub>, 99.95%) and hydrochloric acid (HCl, 37 wt %, 99.99%) are purchased from Sigma Aldrich Chemicals. All the chemicals are used without any further purification.

### 4A.2.2 Synthesis of Doped and Undoped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>

Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> microcrystals are synthesized by following the method reported by Tan et al.<sup>29</sup> For undoped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> synthesis, 189.6 mg (1 mmol) SnCl<sub>2</sub>, 336.72 mg (2 mmol) CsCl and 4 mL HCl are taken in a polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) hydrothermal autoclave. The hydrothermal autoclave is kept at 180 °C for 10 h, then cooled down to room temperature over a period of 20 h. White color crystals are formed. The crystals are filtered out, washed with ethanol and kept in vacuum for drying. The obtained sample powder is used for characterization and measurements.

For synthesis of Sb<sup>3+</sup>- and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>, required dopant precursors are added while maintaining the other precursors and procedure exactly same as the undoped sample. For Sb<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>, 22.6 mg SbCl<sub>3</sub> (~ 0.1 mmol) is added. For Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>, 31.18 mg (~ 0.1 mmol) BiCl<sub>3</sub> precursor is used. The used dopant percentage are close to optimized value reported in prior literature.<sup>29-30</sup> See Table 4A.2 for the details of dopant precursor concentrations and dopant percentages in the product.

### 4A.2.3 Characterization

Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) patterns are recorded using a Bruker D8 Advance X-ray diffraction machine equipped with Cu K $\alpha$  (1.54 Å) radiation. A Zeiss Ultra Plus instrument is used for field emission scanning electron microscopy (FESEM) imaging and energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS). For estimation of dopant (Sb and Bi) concentrations, inductively

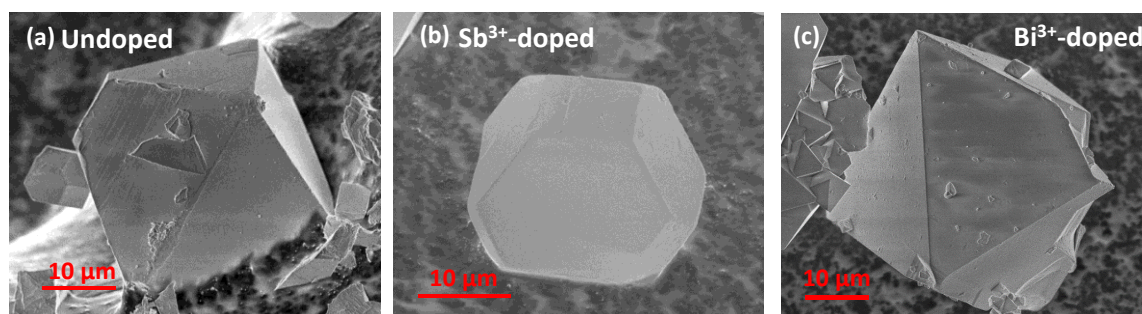
coupled plasma atomic emission spectroscopy (ICP–AES) is carried out by using a ARCOS, simultaneous ICP spectrometer (SPECTRO Analytical Instruments GmbH, Germany). Diffused reflectance spectra of microcrystalline powders in the UV–visible region are recorded using a Shimadzu UV-3600 plus UV–vis–NIR spectrophotometer. Then KubelkaMunk transformation<sup>31</sup> is used for the analysis of diffuse reflectance spectra. It relates the reflectance data with absorption coefficient as in equation (1):

$$F(R) = \alpha/S = (1-R)^2 / 2R \quad (1)$$

where  $F(R)$  is the Kubelka-Munk function,  $R$  is reflectance,  $\alpha$  is absorption coefficient and  $S$  is the scattering factor. Steady-state photoluminescence (PL), PL Excitation (PLE), and PL decay dynamics (time-correlated single photon counting) are measured using Edinburgh FLS980 Instrument. Xenon lamp is used for steady state PL and PLE measurements. 340 nm pulsed LED (pulse width is 790 ps) and 405 nm pulsed diode laser (pulse width is 60 ps) excitation sources are used for PL decay measurement. For temperature dependent PL measurements, the sample is kept between two quartz substrate and mounted on a gold-plated sample holder. The sample holder is placed in a closed cycle He cryostat (Advanced Research Systems) attached with a temperature controller (Lake Shore Cryotronics) to achieve the desired lower temperatures.

### 4A.3 Results and Discussion

#### 4A.3.1 Synthesis and Characterization of Undoped and Doped $Cs_2SnCl_6$



**Figure 4A.2:** FESEM images of (a) undoped (b)  $Sb^{3+}$ -doped and (c)  $Bi^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2SnCl_6$ .

We have synthesized undoped,  $Sb^{3+}$ -doped, and  $Bi^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2SnCl_6$  by following a prior report.<sup>8</sup> (see the experimental section for details). Field emission scanning electron microscopy (FESEM) show micrometer size crystals for all the samples (Figure 4A.2). Energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS) of all the samples show atomic ratio of Cs:Sn:Cl is close to 2:1:6

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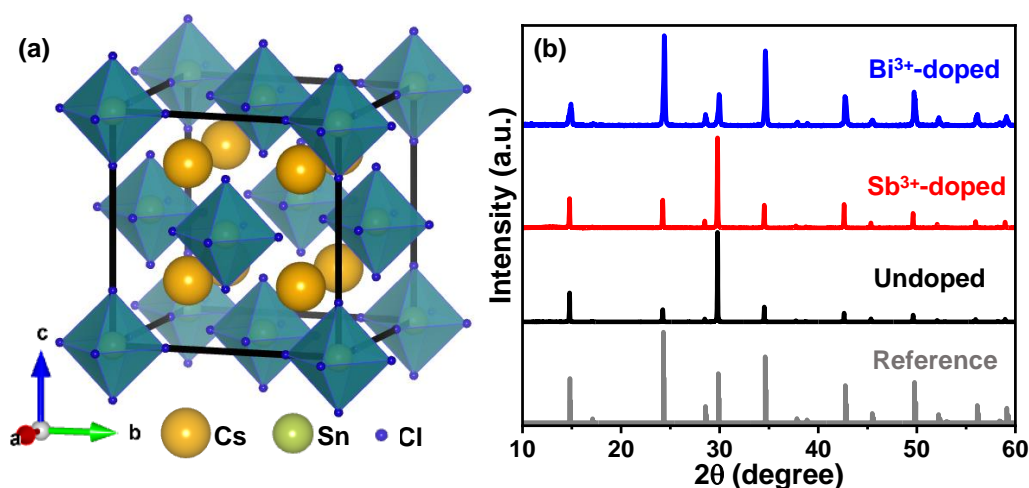
(see Table 4A.1), confirming the formation of  $Cs_2SnCl_6$ . The dopant concentration is determined by inductively coupled plasma atomic emission spectroscopy (ICP-AES). ICP-AES data in Table 4A.2 estimates a 1.8% Sb and 3.8% Bi (dopant % =  $100 \times [\text{dopant}] / ([\text{dopant}] + [\text{Sn}])$ ) in the product for the dopant precursor concentration of 9.0 %.

**Table 4A.1:** Elemental analysis obtained from EDS data of undoped,  $Sb^{3+}$ -doped and  $Bi^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2SnCl_6$ . EDS data shows that presence of Sb and Bi in the corresponding doped samples. But the dopant concentration is very small for a reliable quantitative estimation using EDS.

Sample	Cs	Sn	Cl
Undoped	2.0	1.0	6.2
$Sb^{3+}$ -doped	1.9	1.0	6.0
$Bi^{3+}$ -doped	2.1	1.0	6.2

**Table 4A.2:** Dopant precursor feeding concentration and ICP-AES determined dopant concentration in the product. Dopant % =  $100 \times [\text{dopant}] / ([\text{dopant}] + [\text{Sn}])$ .

Sample	Dopant % used in precursor	Dopant % in product (from ICP-AES)
$Sb^{3+}$ -doped $Cs_2SnCl_6$	9.0	1.8
$Bi^{3+}$ -doped $Cs_2SnCl_6$	9.0	3.8

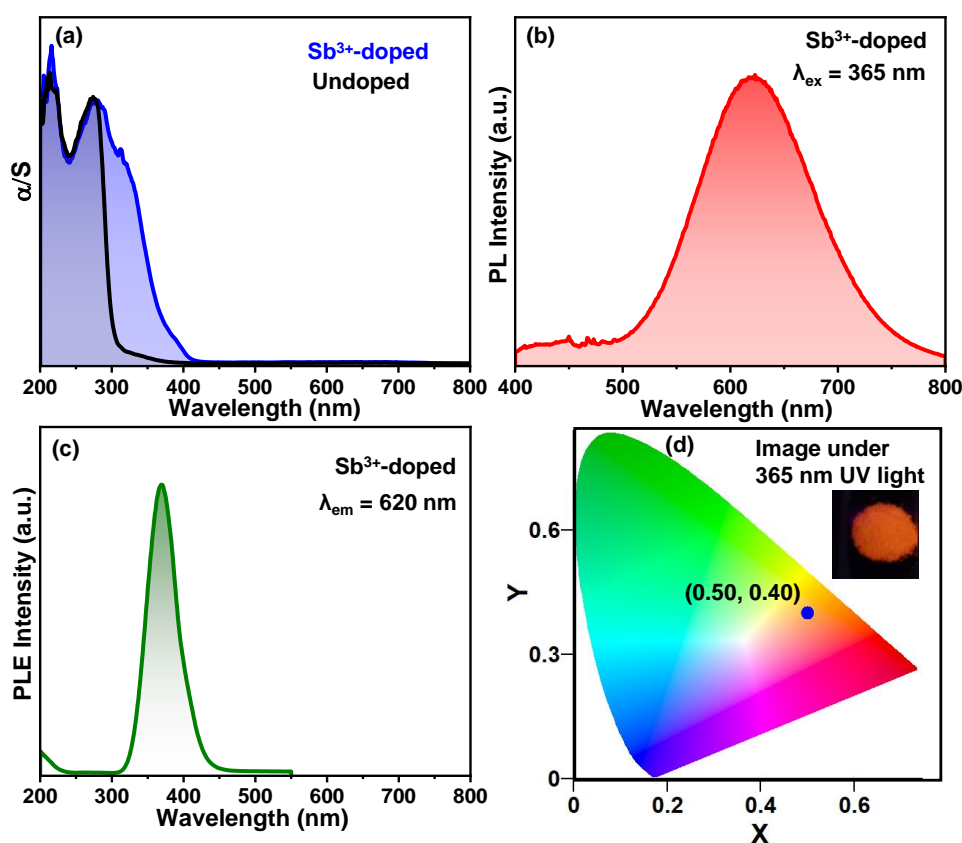


**Figure 4A.3:** (a) Schematics of crystal structure of  $Cs_2SnCl_6$ . The sizes of spheres representing the atoms are not according to relative size of atoms. (b) Powder XRD patterns of undoped,  $Sb^{3+}$ -doped and  $Bi^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2SnCl_6$  along with reference data (ICSD#9023) for cubic phase of  $Cs_2SnCl_6$ .

*Origin of Luminescence in Sb<sup>3+</sup>- and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> 0D Perovskites: Excited State Relaxation and Spin-Orbit Coupling*

Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> is known to form cubic vacancy ordered 0D perovskite structure in which each [SnCl<sub>6</sub>]<sup>2-</sup> octahedra are isolated, as shown by the schematic in Figure 4A.3a.<sup>8</sup> Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) patterns of undoped and Sb<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> match with the reference data (ICSD# 9023) of Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> with cubic space group Fm3m. The ionic radii of Sn<sup>4+</sup> and Sb<sup>3+</sup> in octahedral environment are 0.69 Å and 0.76 Å respectively.<sup>32-33</sup> Furthermore, the aliovalent substitution of Sn<sup>4+</sup> with Sb<sup>3+</sup> will lead to Cl<sup>-</sup> vacancy, maintaining the charge neutrality of the system. So, one would expect some shift in XRD peak positions after Sb<sup>3+</sup> doping. But the XRD data in Figure 3b do not show noticeable peak shift after Sb<sup>3+</sup> doping, because of small amount (1.8%) of doping.

#### 4A.3.2 Optical Properties of Sb<sup>3+</sup> Doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>

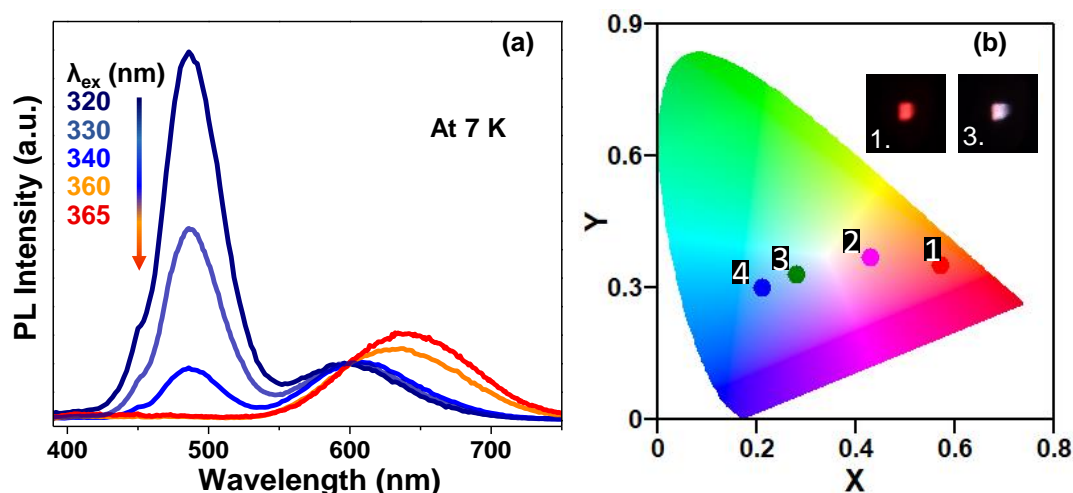


**Figure 4A.4:** (a) Optical absorption spectra of undoped and Sb<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>. Absorption spectra are obtained from Kubelka-Munk transformation of diffuse reflectance spectrum.<sup>31</sup>  $\alpha$  is absorption coefficient and S is a scattering factor. (b) PL ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 365$  nm) spectrum and (c) PL Excitation ( $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 620$  nm) spectrum of Sb<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>.

UV-visible absorption spectrum (Figure 4A.4a) of undoped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> shows a sharp absorption edge at ~314 nm, similar to a prior report.<sup>34</sup> Sb<sup>3+</sup> doping introduces new absorption features at longer wavelengths that can be assigned to A-band ( $^1A_{1g} \rightarrow ^3T_{1u}^*$ ) absorption of Sb<sup>3+</sup>-ion.<sup>10</sup>

Undoped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> is non-luminescent. Interestingly, Sb<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> shows a broad emission centered at 620 nm as shown in Figure 4A.4b. The full width at half maxima (FWHM) of the emission is 125 nm (0.40 eV). The PL excitation (PLE) spectrum for 620 nm emission is centered at 365 nm, and correspond to Sb<sup>3+</sup> related A-band absorption (Figure 4A.4c). Photograph of the sample under 365 nm UV light shows orange color emission, as shown in inset of Figure 4A.4d. The Commission Internationale de l'Eclairage (CIE) diagram (Figure 4A.4d) obtained from the PL spectrum in Figure 4A.4b also agree with the neon orange emission with coordinate (0.50, 0.40).

#### 4A.3.3 Temperature Dependent Optical Properties of Sb<sup>3+</sup> Doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>

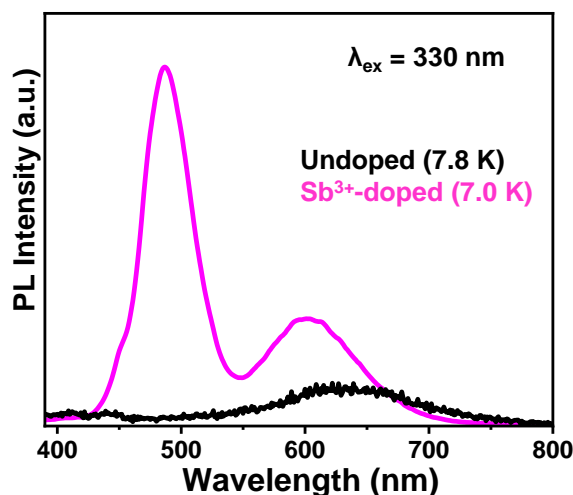


**Figure 4A.5:** (a) Excitation wavelength dependent emission spectra of Sb<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> at 7 K. Corresponding CIE diagram in (b). The points represent the coordinates of emission color on excitation at (1) 365 nm (2) 340 nm, (3) 330 nm and (4) 320 nm. Digital photographs in inset (b) show the emission from sample at 7 K at (1) 365 nm and (3) 330 nm excitation.

To investigate the origin of emission, we compared PL at different temperatures. Figure 4A.5a shows the PL spectra of Sb<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> measured at 7 K, after excitation at different wavelengths. The PL spectra changes rather unusually with excitation wavelength. At lower excitation wavelengths (320-340 nm), two emission peaks appear at 490 nm and 600 nm. Whereas at relatively longer excitation wavelengths (> 350 nm), a single emission peak around 620 nm is observed. The intensity of PL peak at 490 nm decreases, and that of longer wavelength emission increases systematically with increasing the excitation wavelength. Consequently, different emission color is obtained at different excitation wavelengths, as shown by the CIE diagram and photographs of PL colors in Figure 4A.5b. The inset of Figure 4A.5b show the digital image of the sample at 7 K on 365 nm (1) and 330 nm (3) excitation.



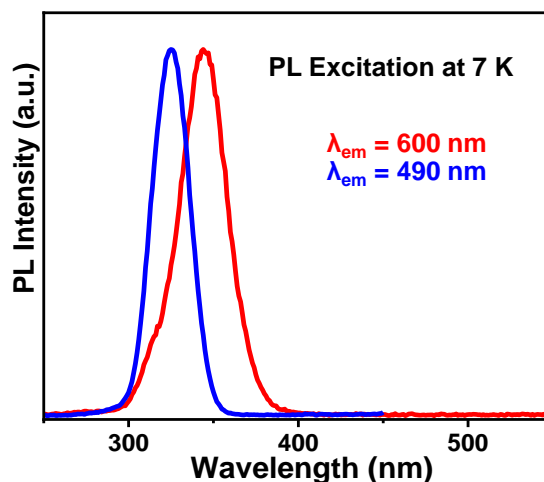
For comparison, Figure 4A.6 show the PL spectrum of undoped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> measured at 7.8 K. A very weak and broad emission with a peak at 640 nm is observed for the undoped sample after excitation at 330 nm. Therefore, the intense dual emission peaks at 490 nm and 600 nm observed for the Sb<sup>3+</sup>-doped sample (Figure 4A.5a) is attributed to the Sb<sup>3+</sup> dopants.



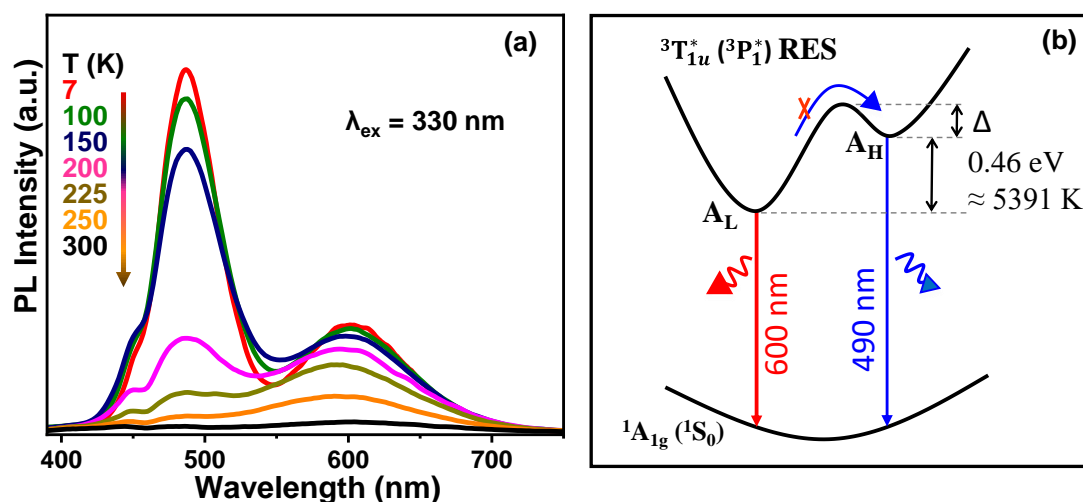
**Figure 4A.6:** Comparison of PL spectra of undoped and Sb<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> around 7 K.

Two emission peaks indicate two different emissive excited states. Does it mean that the two excitations, A-band and C-band, gives rise to the two emission peaks at longer and shorter wavelengths, respectively? To answer this question, we recorded the PLE spectra for the emissions, at 7 K. Figure 4A.7 shows that PLE peaks are centered at 325 nm (3.82 eV) and 345 nm (3.59 eV) for 490 nm and 600 nm emissions, respectively. The energy difference between these two PLE peaks is only 0.23 eV. It has been shown in prior literature that the difference between A-band and C-band absorption energy for Sb<sup>3+</sup>-doped KCl is ~1.6 eV.<sup>35</sup> Even the difference between A-band and weak B-band absorption energy for Sb<sup>3+</sup>-doped KCl is ~1.3 eV, and the energy differences between these absorption bands remains similar for the entire measured temperature range (15-297 K). Not only Sb<sup>3+</sup>-doped KCl, for a large number of combination of different ns<sup>2</sup> dopant ions and hosts, the energy difference between the A-band and its higher energy absorptions are found to be significantly larger than 1 eV.<sup>35</sup> Therefore, the observed two PLE peaks (Figure 4A.7), with a difference of only 0.23 eV, cannot be assigned to A-band and C-band (or B-band) excitations. Consequently, two emissions peaks (Figure 4A.5a) observed at 490 and ~600 nm cannot be assigned to singlet C-band emission (<sup>1</sup>T<sub>1u</sub><sup>\*</sup> → <sup>1</sup>A<sub>1g</sub>) and triplet A-band emission (<sup>3</sup>T<sub>1u</sub><sup>\*</sup> → <sup>1</sup>A<sub>1g</sub>). Instead, only the A-band excitation leading to the formation of RES <sup>3</sup>T<sub>1u</sub><sup>\*</sup> (Figure 4A.1b) giving two triplet emission minima, might explain the experimental results shown in Figure 4A.5a and 4A.7. Note that a similar RES

${}^3\text{T}_{1u}^*$  was previously utilized to explain the emission properties of  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped alkali halides single crystals.<sup>27</sup>



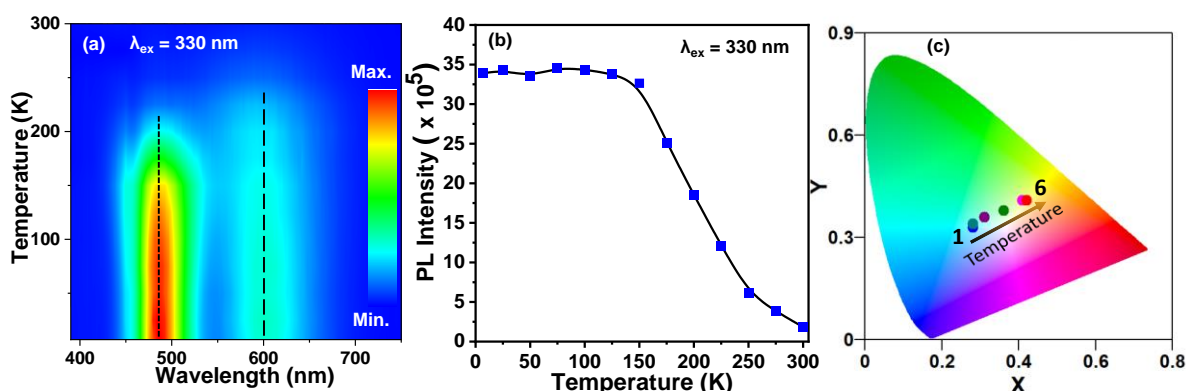
**Figure 4A.7:** Temperature dependent PL excitation spectra of  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  for 490 nm and 600 nm emissions at 7 K.



**Figure 4A.8:** Temperature dependent PL spectra of  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  at 330 nm excitation. (b) Schematic representation of two energy minima  $A_H$  and  $A_L$  of  ${}^3\text{P}_1^*$  RES of  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ . The difference between two emission energies is 0.46 eV. If we consider that both the emissions involve similar energies of  ${}^1\text{A}_{1g}$  state, then we can assume that the energy difference between  $A_H$  and  $A_L$  is 0.46. So, the barrier for back transfer of charge carriers from  $A_L$  to  $A_H$  is very high, around 0.46 eV ( $\approx 5391$  K) +  $\Delta$ . So,  $A_L$  to  $A_H$  back transfer is negligible in the temperature range of 7 K to 400 K.

To have more insights on the PL properties, Figure 4A.8a shows how the dual emission features with excitation at 330 nm, depend on temperature. PL emission intensity of the of the 490 nm emission decreases with increasing temperature. The decrease in 490 nm emission intensity is accompanied by an increased intensity of 600 nm emission. This temperature dependent correlation between the intensity of both emissions can again be explained by the RES

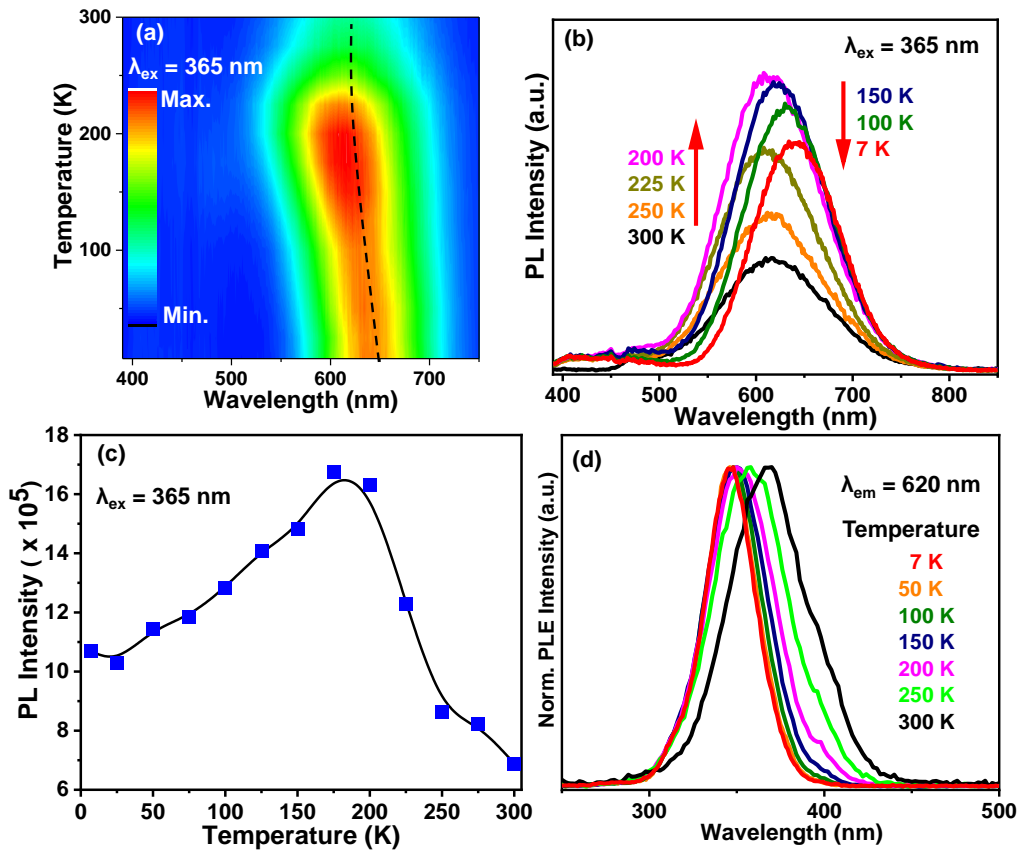
${}^3T_{1u}^*$  (Figure 4A.1b). There is an energy barrier “ $\Delta$ ” between the high-energy minimum ( $A_H$ ) and low-energy minimum ( $A_L$ ), as shown in Figure 4.1b. An increase in temperature provides thermal activation energy for electron transfer from  $A_H$  to  $A_L$ , overcoming the barrier  $\Delta$ . The magnitude of the barrier is small since we observe the 490 nm emission just below 250 K. This transfer of excited state population from  $A_H$  to  $A_L$  explains the decrease in PL intensity of high-energy peak at 490 nm, at the expense of increase in intensity of low-energy peak at 600 nm. However, the barrier for the back transfer of electrons from  $A_L$  to  $A_H$  is too high (Figure 4A.8b) to be observed in the measured temperature dependent PL.



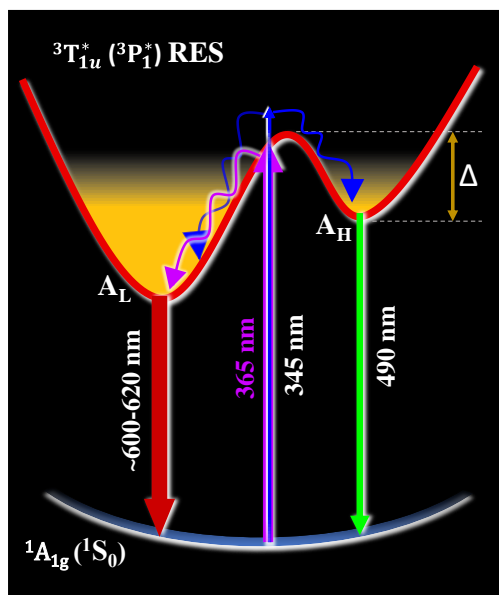
**Figure 4A.9:** (a) Temperature dependent Pseudo colormap of  $Sb^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2SnCl_6$  at 330 nm excitation. The black dash lines indicate the emission peak positions. (b) Temperature dependence of integrated emission intensity at 330 nm excitation. The blue squares are representing the experimental data and the black line is a guide to eye. (c) CIE diagram of temperature dependent emission at 330 nm wavelength excitation. The points (1 to 6) represent emission color at 7 K, 150 K, 175 K, 200 K, 225 K and 250 K respectively along the arrow.

Figure 4A.9a shows the pseudo colormap of the temperature dependent PL after excitation at 330 nm. The trends shown by the representative spectra in Figure 4A.8a, is maintained throughout all the temperatures as shown in the colormap. Overall, the peak positions of both emissions, and their FWHM, do not change much with measurement temperature. These are signatures of emissions from localized atom related states. The integrated intensity including both the emissions increases with decreasing temperature (see Figure 4A.9b) till  $\sim 150$  K, because of the suppression of non-radiative decay channels. At further lower temperatures, the intensity remains largely unchanged. Interestingly, since the intensity ratio between the two peaks changes with temperature, the overall emission color also changes with temperature. CIE diagram in Figure 4A.9c shows the temperature dependent color changes. Such ratiometric change in PL intensity and color change, might find significance in remote sensing of temperature.<sup>36</sup>

Figure 4A.10a shows the pseudo colormap of temperature dependent PL of  $Sb^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2SnCl_6$ , after excitation at 365 nm. Some of the representative spectra are also shown in Figure 4A.10b. A single-peak emission is observed at all temperatures. The peak position remains largely unchanged from 300 K to 200 K region, but further decrease in temperature to 7 K shows a small red-shift. The origin of this small red-shift at lower temperatures is not yet understood, but might be related to possible modification in local structure at lower temperatures. The PL remains broad (FWHM = 103 nm = 0.32 eV) even at 7 K, indicating localized or trapped emission center. Figure 4A.10c shows that the PL intensity increases with decreasing temperatures from 300 K to 200 K because of the suppression in thermal quenching. Further decrease in temperature slightly decreases the PL intensity. It is noteworthy that PL excitation edge blue-shifts with decrease in temperature (Figure 4A.10d). This blue-shift in PLE decreases the excitation by 365 nm light, which in turn results into the decrease in PL intensity (Figure 4A.10b) below 200 K.



**Figure 4A.10:** Temperature dependent emission of  $Sb^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2SnCl_6$  at 365 nm excitation (a) Pseudo colormap. The black dash line indicates the emission peak position. (b) emission spectrum (c) Temperature dependence of integrated emission intensity  $Sb^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2SnCl_6$  after excitation at 365 nm. The blue squares are representing the experimental data and the black line is a guide to eye. (d) Temperature dependent PL excitation (PLE) spectra of  $Sb^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2SnCl_6$  for 620 nm emission.



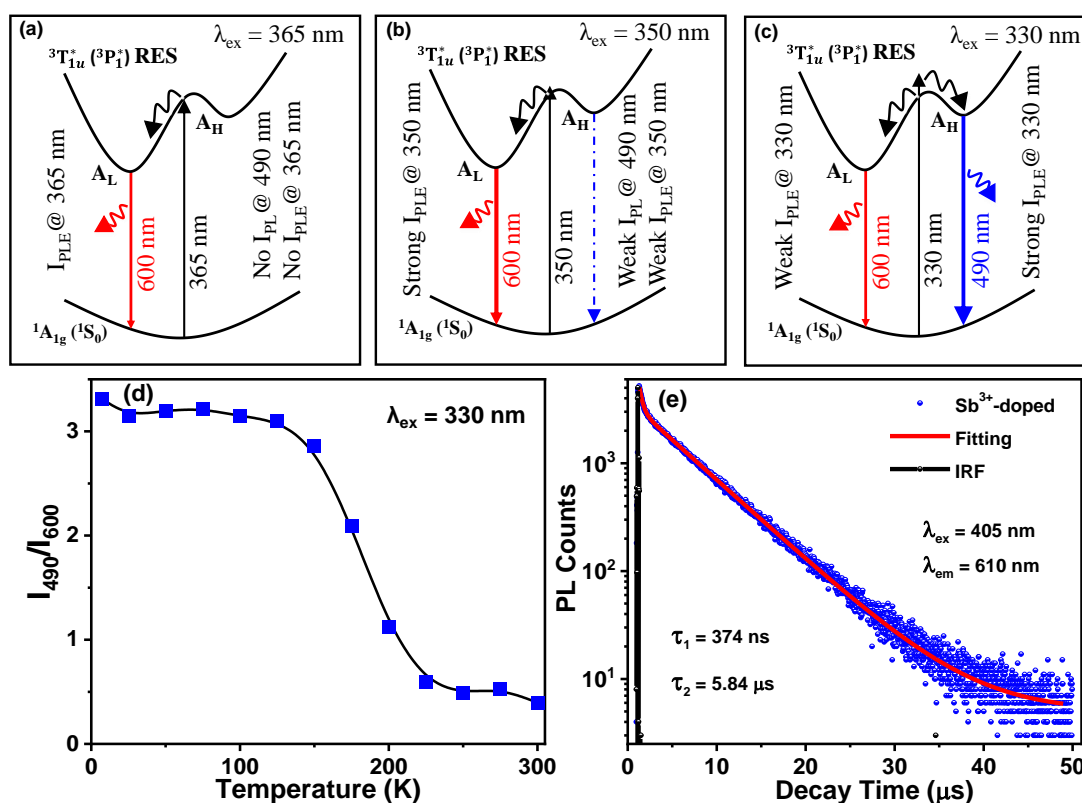
**Figure 4A.11:** Schematic representation of light emission mechanism of  $Sb^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2SnCl_6$ .

We summarize the excitation and emission process of  $Sb^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2SnCl_6$  using the schematic shown in Figure 4A.11. Excitation takes place corresponding to  $^1A_{1g} \rightarrow ^3T_{1u}^*$  transition (A-band). The singly occupied  $^3T_{1u}^*$  state then splits into two minima due to the combination of dynamic Jahn-Teller effect and spin-orbit coupling. The configuration coordinates of both the RES minima are far from the coordinate of the ground state minimum. Therefore, direct excitation from the ground state to the RES minima is not observed, following Frank-Condon principle. Instead, excitation happens at lower wavelengths (higher energies)  $\sim 365$  nm. The excited state population then non-radiatively transfers to the minimum  $A_L$ , emitting light with peak around 600-620 nm. At slightly lower excitation wavelengths  $\sim 345$  nm, the feasibility of transferring the excited state population to  $A_H$  minimum increases, sufficiently populating of both  $A_L$  and  $A_H$  minima. Consequently, two emission peaks around 490 and 600 nm are observed at 7 K. At different excitation wavelengths, the fraction of population is divided differently between  $A_L$  and  $A_H$ , as shown in Figure 4A.12a, b and c. Therefore, we observe a small difference in the PLE spectra for 490 and 600 nm emission (Figure 4A.7). As the temperature increases, the excited state population starts transferring from  $A_H$  to  $A_L$  minimum, overcoming the barrier  $\Delta$ . Consequently, the ratio  $I_{490}/I_{600}$  of emission intensity at 490 nm ( $I_{490}$ ) and 600 nm ( $I_{600}$ ) decreases (see Figure 4A.8a and Figure 4A.12d) with increasing temperature. Figure 4A.12e shows a bi-exponential PL decay for longer

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wavelength (600-620 nm) emission with lifetimes 374 ns (94.5% contribution) and 5.84  $\mu$ s (5.5% contribution). Jing et al. reported similar lifetime for 615 nm emission and 115 ns lifetime for 490 nm emission.<sup>10</sup> So both the emissions show long lifetimes ranging from hundreds of ns to microsecond, indicating the spin-forbidden nature of the transitions, which became partially allowed after the spin-orbit coupling. The difference in lifetime for both emissions is possibly due to difference in local structures at the RES minima  $A_H$  and  $A_L$ .<sup>25, 37-</sup>

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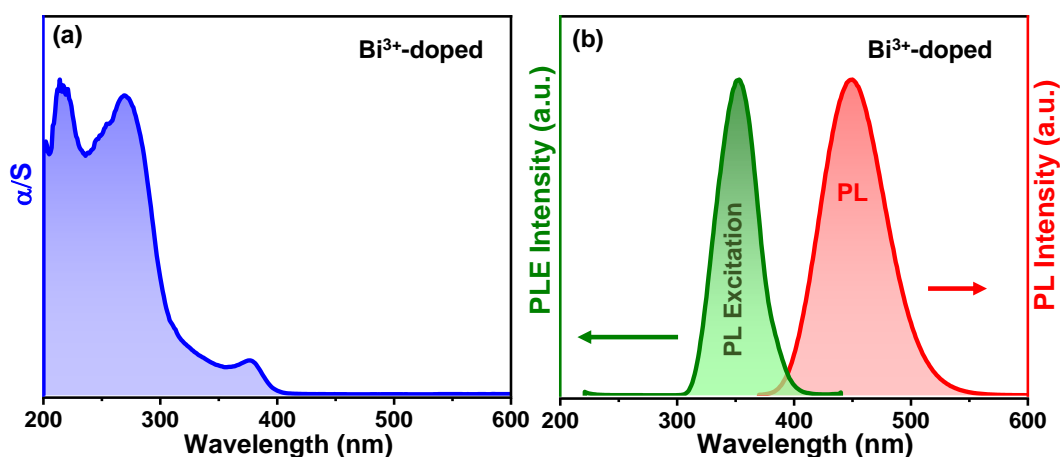


**Figure 4A.12:** Schematic presentations showing division of excited population between  $A_L$  and  $A_H$  minima, at three different representative excitation wavelengths (a) 365 nm (b) 350 nm (c) 330 nm, for  $Sb^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2SnCl_6$ .  $I_{PLE}$  and  $I_{PL}$  represent the PLE and PL intensity, respectively. The fraction of population distribution between  $A_L$  and  $A_H$  changes with excitation wavelengths, that explains the small difference in the observed (Figure 4A.7) PLE spectra for 490 nm and 600 nm emission. (d) Temperature dependence of  $I_{490}/I_{600}$  emission intensity ratio.  $I_{490}$  and  $I_{600}$  are emission intensity at 490 nm and 600 nm. The blue squares are representing the experimental data and the black line is a guide to eye. (e) PL decay of 610 nm emission of  $Sb^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2SnCl_6$  at room temperature. 405 nm pulsed diode laser (pulse width 60 ps) is used for excitation. The decay curve is fitted with bi-exponential decay function.

#### 4A.3.4 Optical Properties of $Bi^{3+}$ -doped $Cs_2SnCl_6$

Now to investigate the role of spin-orbit coupling,  $Bi^{3+}$  ion is doped instead of  $Sb^{3+}$  ion. Figure 4A.13a shows that  $Bi^{3+}$  doping introduces a sharp absorption feature at 375 nm. Similar

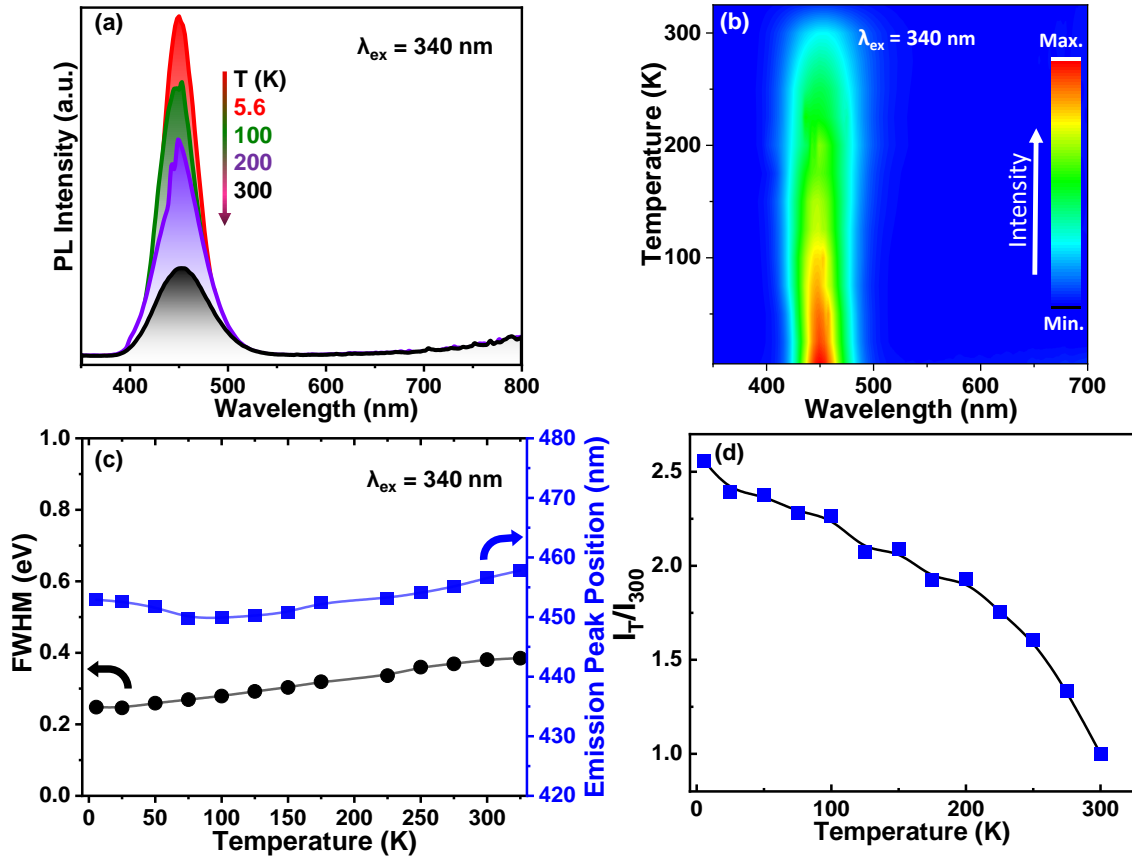
absorption feature with Bi<sup>3+</sup> doping is quite common with different metal halide perovskite host materials with very small amounts of dopants.<sup>39-40</sup> Therefore, such absorption feature is not characteristic of a particular host or defect bands in that host. Instead, we assign the new absorption feature to A-band ( $^1A_{1g} \rightarrow ^3T_{1u}^*$ ) transition of Bi<sup>3+</sup> ion. Stronger spin-orbit coupling in Bi<sup>3+</sup> ions is expected to make the transition more allowed compared to that of Sb<sup>3+</sup> ions. Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> emits blue light with a peak at 450 nm with FWHM of 63.7 nm (0.39 eV) as shown in Figure 4A.13b. The PLE spectrum for 450 nm emission is centered at 353 nm. The onset of PLE spectrum matches with the new absorption feature introduced due to Bi<sup>3+</sup> doping (Figure 4A.13b). So, the 450 nm emission peak originates due to A-band ( $^1A_{1g} \rightarrow ^3T_{1u}^*$ ) excitation of Bi<sup>3+</sup> dopants. Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>ZrCl<sub>6</sub> also show similar PLE.<sup>39</sup> So both the absorption and the PLE appear to originate from Bi<sup>3+</sup> states, without directly involving the conduction/valence band of the host.



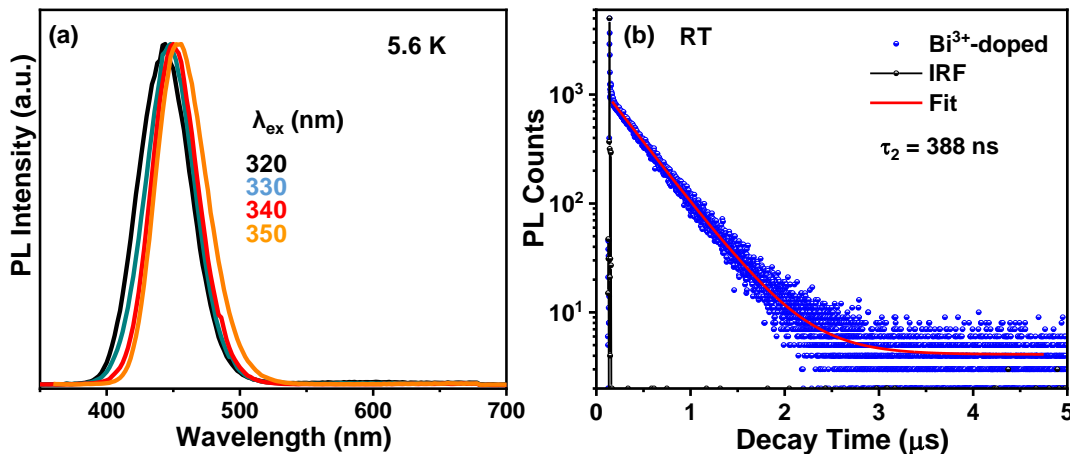
**Figure 4A.13:** Optical properties of Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>. (a) UV-visible absorption, PL ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 350$  nm) and PL Excitation ( $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 450$  nm) spectra at room temperature.  $\alpha$  and  $S$  are absorption coefficient and scattering factor respectively.  $\alpha/S$  is obtained by Kubelka-Munk transformation of diffuse reflectance spectra of powder sample. The arrows indicate towards the associated Y-axis.

Temperature dependent PL spectra in Figure 4A.14a show that the Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> exhibit a single emission peak at all temperatures in the range of 5.6 K to 300 K. Pseudo colormap in Figure 4A.14b also confirms that a single emission peak is observed at all the measured temperatures. The peak position and FWHM do not show significant changes with temperature (Figure 4A.14c), indicating such results are characteristics of localized emission. Expectedly, the PL intensity somewhat decreases with increasing temperature (Figure 4A.14d) due to non-radiative thermal quenching.

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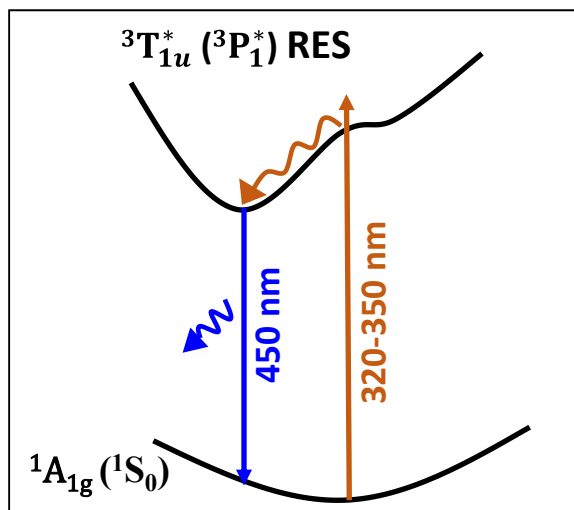


**Figure 4A.14:** (a) Temperature dependent PL spectra of  $Bi^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2SnCl_6$  at 340 nm excitation and corresponding contour plot in (b). (c) Emission peak position (blue squares) and emission full width at half maxima (FWHM, black circles) at 340 nm excitation. The square and circle symbols are experimental data and lines are a guide to eye. (d) The relative change in emission intensity with temperature.  $I_T$  and  $I_{300}$  are integrated PL intensity at a variable temperature  $T$  and 300 K, respectively. Blue squares represent the experimental data and black line is just guide to eye.



**Figure 4A.15:** (a) Excitation wavelength dependent PL excitation spectra of  $Bi^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2SnCl_6$ . (b) PL decay of 450 nm emission of  $Bi^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2SnCl_6$ .  $340 \pm 10$  nm pulsed LED (pulse width 790 ps) is used for excitation. The experimental decay curve is fitted with a mono-exponential decay function with lifetimes 388 ns are obtained.





**Figure 4A.16:** Proposed emission mechanism. Relaxed excited state (RES) emits single emission.

A variation in excitation wavelength also gives a single emission peak at 5.6 K, as shown in Figure 4A.15a. The emission peak slightly red-shifts with increasing excitation wavelengths. The 450 nm emission has a lifetime of 388 ns, as shown in Figure 4A.15b. Tan et al. also reported similar PL lifetime of 343.3 ns for the 450 nm emission.<sup>8</sup>

The observation of predominant single emission peak for  $Bi^{3+}$  dopant (Figure 4A.14a and 4A.15b) for all measured temperatures and excitation wavelengths is in stark difference with the observed two peaks for  $Sb^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2SnCl_6$  (Figure 4A.5a and 4A.8a). It was suggested earlier that for  $ns^2$  doped alkali halide systems, the RES can have single peak  ${}^3T_{1u}^*$  k for high values of  $\frac{12\xi(1-\beta)}{b^2}$ .<sup>25</sup> For both  $Sb^{3+}$ - and  $Bi^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2SnCl_6$ , the host remains the same suggesting similar values of  $\beta$  and  $b^2$  for both samples. But  $Bi^{3+}$  doping will have significantly higher value  $\xi$  (spin-orbit interaction), increasing  $\frac{12\xi(1-\beta)}{b^2}$ . This increase can lead to essentially a single minimum in the RES  ${}^3T_{1u}^*$  as shown in Figure 4A.16. Therefore, a single emission peak is observed for  $Bi^{3+}$  doping. Similar single emission peak at different temperatures and A-band excitation was also observed in  $Bi^{3+}$ - and  $Tl^{3+}$ -doped KCl, because of high value of  $\xi$  for both the dopants.<sup>25, 38, 41</sup>

#### 4A.4 Conclusion

In summary,  $Sb^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2SnCl_6$  show dual emission at low temperatures. The dual emission arises from the two minima on RES of  ${}^3T_{1u}^*$ , which exist due to moderate spin-orbit coupling

and Jahn-Teller interaction. The two minima on the RES termed as  $A_H$  (high energy) and  $A_L$  (low energy), and the 490 nm and 600 nm emissions are assigned to  $A_H \rightarrow {}^1A_{1g}$  and  $A_L \rightarrow {}^1A_{1g}$  transitions.  $Bi^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2SnCl_6$  shows single emission with a peak at 450 nm for the entire temperature range of 5.6-300 K range.  $Bi^{3+}$  has stronger spin-orbit coupling compare to  $Sb^{3+}$ , which causes one of the minima on RES collapses to saddle point and leads to single emission. The elucidation of the origin of light absorption and emission in  $Sb^{3+}$ - and  $Bi^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2SnCl_6$  will be in general helpful to understand the emission from  $ns^2$ -ion doped metal halide perovskite phosphor materials. A few aspects still require further exploration: (i) how anion vacancies alter the local structure around the aliovalent dopants  $Sb^{3+}$  and  $Bi^{3+}$ ? (ii) what are the symmetries of  $A_H$  and  $A_L$  minima in the RES  ${}^3T_{1u}^*$ ? Future experimental and theoretical works are required in this direction.

#### 4A.5 References

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## Chapter 4A

### *Origin of Luminescence in Sb<sup>3+</sup>- and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> 0D Perovskites: Excited State Relaxation and Spin-Orbit Coupling*

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## **Chapter 4B**

### **Optical Properties of Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Sb<sup>3+</sup> Codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> 0D Perovskite**

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A part of the work presented in this chapter is published in the following article:

**Arfin, H.;** Nag, A. Origin of Luminescence in Sb<sup>3+</sup>- and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> Perovskites: Excited State Relaxation and Spin–Orbit Coupling. *J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* **2021**, *12*, 10002–10008

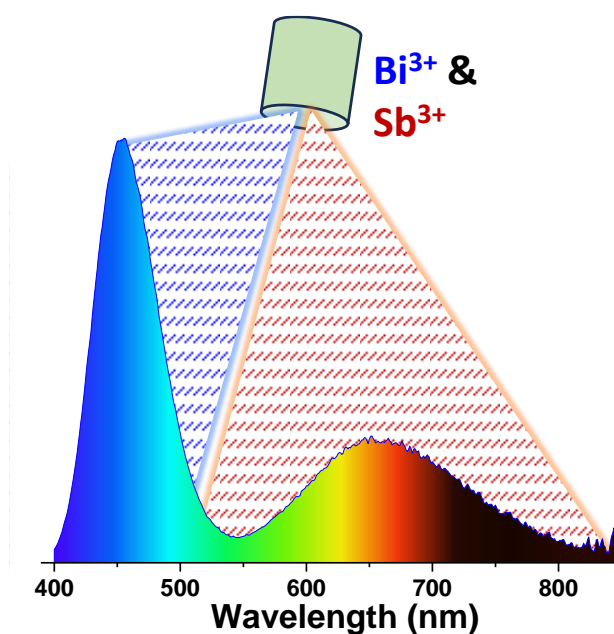
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**Abstract**

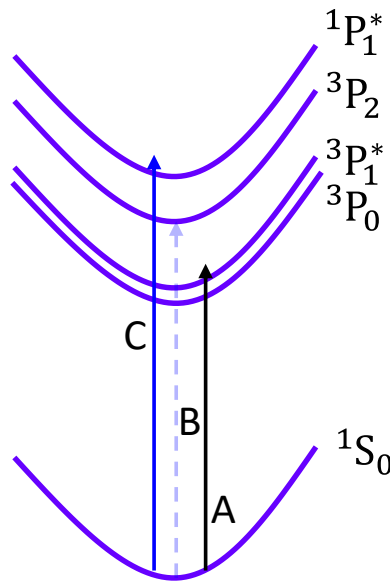
$\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped and  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  zero-dimensional perovskites exhibit strong blue and orange emissions respectively, making them promising phosphor material for light emitting diodes. The optical absorption and emission properties arise from  $ns^2$  to  $ns^1np^1$  excitation and  $ns^1np^1$  to  $ns^2$  deexcitation of isolated  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  ions. An intriguing query arises on how the optical properties of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  will vary, if we codope both in  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ . Our investigation reveals that the optical properties of each ion remain unperturbed upon codoping. This observation is attributed to the non-overlapping nature of emission of one ion to the absorption of another, thereby not facilitating the energy transfer. Also, confirming that the both the emission originates from isolated  $[\text{SbCl}_6]^{3-}$  or  $[\text{BiCl}_6]^{3-}$  octahedrons that are electrotonically separated from each other. Notably, the excitation spectra of both ions exhibit significant overlap, facilitating their simultaneous excitation through a single excitation source and giving rise to broad visible emission. This study sheds light on the codoping effects on the optical properties of isolated  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ , which will be helpful in developing phosphor materials containing these luminescent centers.

**Graphical Abstract**

### 4B.1 Introduction

Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> have high band gap (4.89 eV)<sup>1</sup> and inherent non-luminescent nature, presents a promising host material for investigating the optical characteristics of luminescent centers. Incorporation of luminescent ions into Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> has been achieved, resulting in intriguing optical functionalities.<sup>2-5</sup> Notably, Sb<sup>3+</sup>-doping in Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> induces orange emission with a photoluminescence quantum yield (PLQY) of 37%,<sup>3</sup> while Bi<sup>3+</sup> doping yields blue emission with 79% high PLQY<sup>2</sup>. Moreover, Te<sup>4+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> exhibits green-yellow emission with a PLQY of 42.4%.<sup>4</sup> These Sb<sup>3+</sup>, Bi<sup>3+</sup> and Te<sup>4+</sup> ion doped halide perovskites, hold potential for applications in phosphor-converted light emitting diodes (LEDs) and X-ray scintillators.<sup>6-9</sup> The observed optical absorption and emission properties of Bi<sup>3+</sup>, Sb<sup>3+</sup> and Te<sup>4+</sup> doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> arise from the ns<sup>2</sup> to ns<sup>1</sup>np<sup>1</sup> and ns<sup>1</sup>np<sup>1</sup> to ns<sup>2</sup> transitions, intrinsic to the respective ions.<sup>10</sup>

The ions Bi<sup>3+</sup>, Sb<sup>3+</sup> and Te<sup>4+</sup> hold two electrons in the valence ns<sup>2</sup> orbital (n is the principal quantum number). These ions exhibit nearly allowed ns<sup>2</sup> to ns<sup>1</sup>np<sup>1</sup> transitions because of strong spin-orbit coupling leading to reasonably strong absorption. Also, de-excitation leads to emission properties. Figure 4B.1 illustrates the transitions within a ns<sup>2</sup>-ion.



**Figure 4B.1:** Schematic presentation of energy states of ns<sup>2</sup>-ion in ground state and ns<sup>1</sup>np<sup>1</sup> excited states. The states are represented by the term-symbols. The “\*” represent the mixing of two states (<sup>1</sup>P<sub>1</sub> and <sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub>) due to spin-orbit coupling. The A, B and C indicate the electronic transition from ground state to excited states.

In their ground state, ns<sup>2</sup> ions are in a singlet configuration denoted by the term symbol <sup>1</sup>S<sub>0</sub>. Upon transition to the ns<sup>1</sup>np<sup>1</sup> excited state, singlet and triplet states are possible, which are represented by the term symbols <sup>3</sup>P<sub>(0,1,2)</sub> and <sup>1</sup>P<sub>1</sub>. Among these, the <sup>1</sup>S<sub>0</sub> → <sup>1</sup>P<sub>1</sub>\* transition is

allowed. Here, the “\*” represent the mixing of <sup>1</sup>P<sub>1</sub> and <sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub> states due to spin-orbit coupling. This mixing makes the spin forbidden <sup>1</sup>S<sub>0</sub> → <sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub><sup>\*</sup> transition nearly allowed. The <sup>1</sup>S<sub>0</sub> → <sup>3</sup>P<sub>2</sub> transition is spin forbidden but becomes partially allowed through coupling with lattice vibrations. On the other hand, the <sup>1</sup>S<sub>0</sub> → <sup>3</sup>P<sub>0</sub> transition is both spin-forbidden and J (0 to 0) forbidden, leading to its absence in the absorption spectrum. <sup>1</sup>S<sub>0</sub> to <sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub><sup>\*</sup>, <sup>3</sup>P<sub>2</sub> and <sup>1</sup>P<sub>1</sub><sup>\*</sup> transitions are also known as A-band, B-band and C-band transitions respectively. While in crystal field environments these states are typically represent using Mulliken symbols, we will use term symbols here for simplicity. These ions, owing to their ability to fine-tune optical absorption and emission properties, have been doped in alkali halides,<sup>10-15</sup> metal oxides<sup>16-18</sup> and zeolites<sup>19</sup>

These ions have also demonstrated proficiency in sensitizing lanthanide ions by codoping such as Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub>.<sup>20-21</sup> However, the exploration of codoping involving two ns<sup>2</sup> ions like Bi<sup>3+</sup>, Sb<sup>3+</sup> or Te<sup>4+</sup> ions have remained limited.<sup>22-23</sup> Investigations into the potential codoping effects on the optical absorption and emission properties of these ions are scarce. Recently, the codoping of Bi<sup>3+</sup> and Sb<sup>3+</sup> in Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub> has revealed an increased A-band splitting of Sb<sup>3+</sup>.<sup>24-26</sup> In this study, we delve into the photoluminescence properties of Bi<sup>3+</sup> and Sb<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>. The focus is on how codoping influences the optical properties of individual ions. By elucidating the interplay between these dopants, we aim to contribute to understanding of optical properties in codoped perovskite matrices.

## 4B.2 Experimental Section

### 4B.2.1 Chemicals

Cesium chloride (CsCl, 99.9 %), tin (II) chloride (SnCl<sub>2</sub>, anhydrous powder, ≥99.99 %), bismuth chloride (BiCl<sub>3</sub>, anhydrous powder, 99.998 %), antimony chloride (SbCl<sub>3</sub>, 99.95%) and hydrochloric acid (HCl, 37 wt %, 99.99%) are purchased from Sigma Aldrich Chemicals. All the chemicals are used without any further purification.

### 4B.2.2 Synthesis of Doped and Undoped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>

Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> microcrystals are synthesized by following the method reported by Tan et al.<sup>2</sup> 189.6 mg (1 mmol) SnCl<sub>2</sub>, 336.72 mg (2 mmol) CsCl and 4 mL HCl are taken in a polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) hydrothermal autoclave. The hydrothermal autoclave is kept at 180 °C for 10 h, then cooled down to room temperature over a period of 20 h. White color crystals are formed. The crystals are filtered out, washed with ethanol, and kept in vacuum for drying. The obtained sample powder is used for characterization and measurements.

For synthesis of Sb<sup>3+</sup> or Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>, required dopant precursors are added while maintaining the other precursors and procedure exactly same as the undoped sample. For Sb<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>, 22.6 mg SbCl<sub>3</sub> (~ 0.1 mmol) is added. For Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>, 31.18 mg (~ 0.1 mmol) BiCl<sub>3</sub> precursor is used. The used dopant percentage are close to optimized value reported in prior literature.<sup>2, 27</sup>

For Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Sb<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>, required precursors are added while maintaining the other precursors same as undoped sample. SbCl<sub>3</sub> (~ 0.05 mmol) and BiCl<sub>3</sub> (~ 0.01 mmol) is added with other precursors as mentioned for undoped sample. The hydrothermal autoclave kept at 180 °C for 10 h then cool down to room temperature naturally. The crystals are filtered out, washed with ethanol and kept in vacuum for drying. The obtained crystals are used for characterization and measurements. See Table 4A.2 for the details of dopant precursor concentrations and dopant percentages in the product.

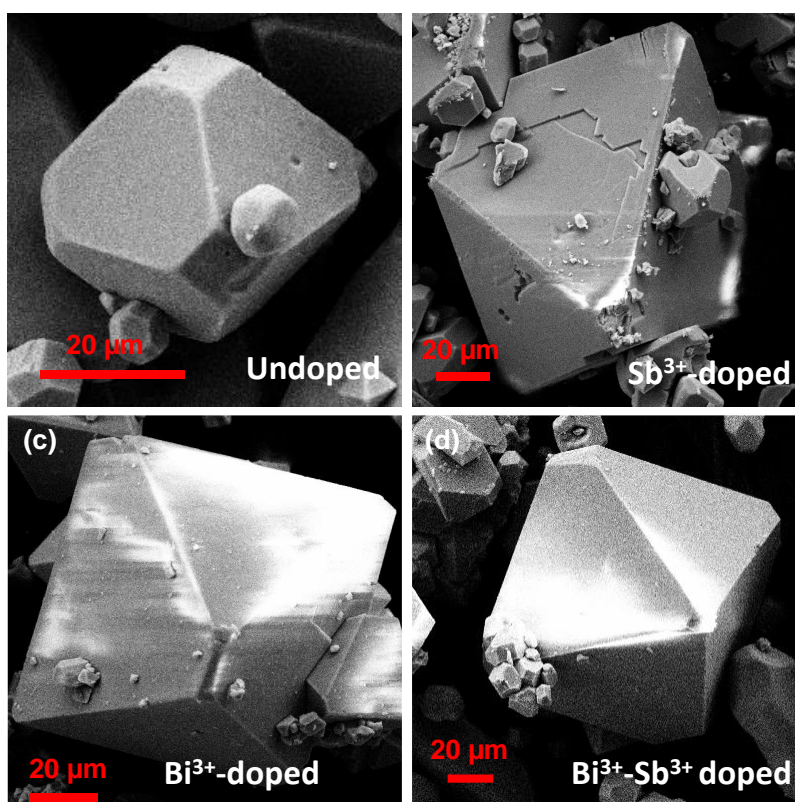
### 4B.2.3 Characterization

Powder X-ray diffraction (XRD) patterns are recorded using a Bruker D8 Advance X-ray diffraction machine equipped with Cu K $\alpha$  (1.54 Å) radiation. A Zeiss Ultra Plus instrument is used for field emission scanning electron microscopy (FESEM) imaging and energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS). Diffused reflectance spectra of microcrystalline powders in the UV–visible region are recorded using a Shimadzu UV-3600 plus UV–vis–NIR spectrophotometer. Then KubelkaMunk transformation<sup>28</sup> is used for the analysis of diffuse reflectance spectra. It relates the reflectance data with absorption coefficient as in equation (1):

$$F(R) = \alpha/S = (1-R)^2 / 2R \quad (1)$$

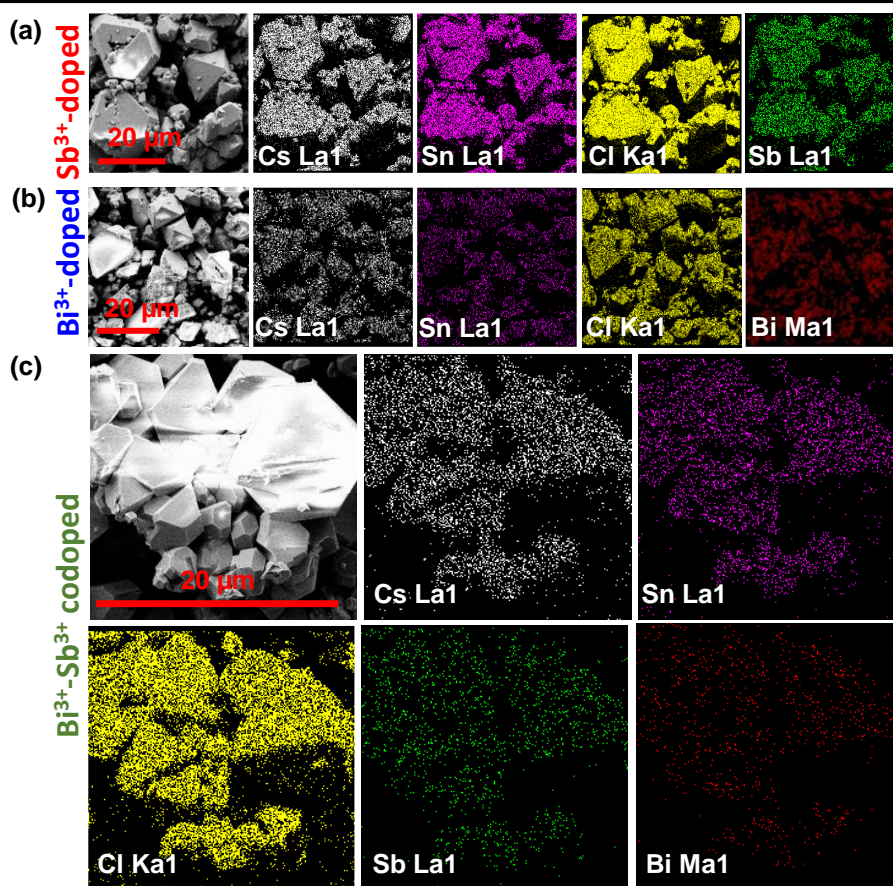
where F(R) is the Kubelka-Munk function, R is reflectance,  $\alpha$  is absorption coefficient and S is the scattering factor. Steady-state photoluminescence (PL), PL Excitation (PLE), and PL decay dynamics (time-correlated single photon counting) are measured using Edinburgh FLS980 Instrument. Xenon lamp is used for steady state PL and PLE measurements. 340 nm pulsed LED (pulse width is 790 ps) and 405 nm pulsed diode laser (pulse width is 60 ps) excitation sources are used for PL decay measurement. For temperature dependent PL measurements, the sample is kept between two quartz substrate and mounted on a gold-plated sample holder. The sample holder is placed in a closed cycle He cryostat (Advanced Research Systems) attached with a temperature controller (Lake Shore Cryotronics) to achieve the desired lower temperatures.

## 4B.3 Results and Discussion

4B.3.1 Synthesis and Characterization of Undoped, Doped and Codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ 

**Figure 4B.2:** FESEM images of (a) undoped, (b)  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped, (c)  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped and (d)  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ .

We have synthesized undoped,  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped,  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped and  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  by following a prior report.<sup>29</sup> Field emission scanning electron microscopy (FESEM) show micrometer size crystals for all the samples (Figure 4B.2). Energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS) of all the samples show atomic ratio of Cs:Sn:Cl is close to 2:1:6 (see Table 4B.1), confirming the formation of  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ . The dopant concentrations determined by energy dispersive spectroscopy (EDS) are shown in Table 4B.2. But we note that EDS is less sensitive for quantitative estimation of small dopant concentration. Figure 4B.3 show the EDS elemental mapping of doped samples. Homogeneous distribution of host elements Cs, Sn, Cl and the dopants are found throughout the crystal. Figure 4B.3a and 4.3b show the homogeneous distribution of Sb and Bi throughout the  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped and  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ , respectively. Homogeneous distribution of Bi and Sb in the codoped sample is also confirmed by the EDS elemental mapping, as shown in Figure 4B.3c. The homogenous distribution indicate that the elements are present in the crystal and not forming any separate phase.



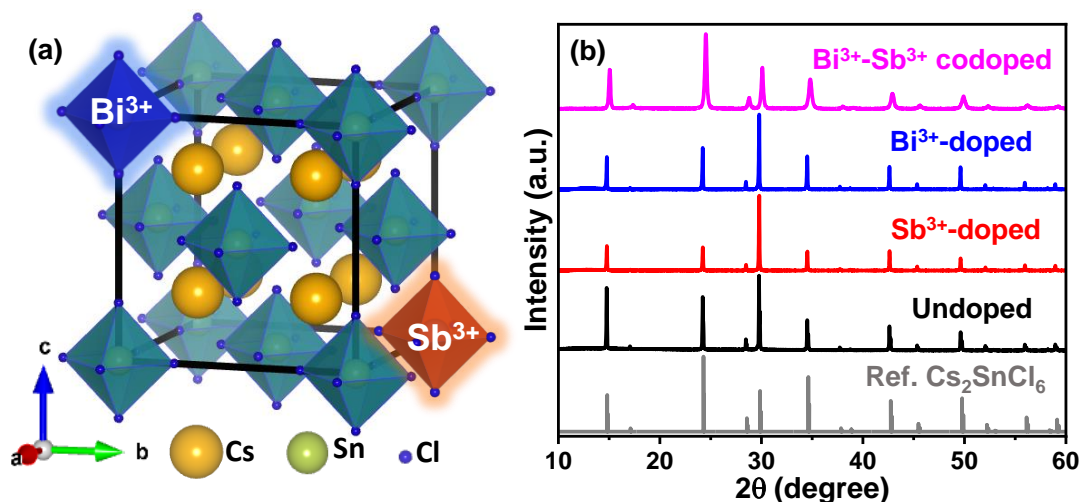
**Figure 4B.3:** EDS elemental mapping of (a)  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped, (c)  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped, and (d)  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ .

**Table 4B.1:** Elemental analysis obtained from EDS data of undoped,  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped and  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ . EDS data shows that presence of Sb and Bi in the corresponding doped samples.

Sample	Cs	Sn	Cl
Undoped	2.0	1.0	6.2
$\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped	2.0	1.0	6.3
$\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped	2.0	1.0	6.1
$\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ codoped	2.0	1.0	6.3

**Table 4B.2:** Dopant precursor feeding concentration and the determined dopant concentration by EDS in the product. Dopant % =  $100 \times [\text{dopant}] / ([\text{dopant}] + [\text{Sn}])$ .

Sample	Dopant % used in precursor	Dopant % in product (from EDS)
$\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped	9.0% $\text{Sb}^{3+}$	1.1% $\text{Sb}^{3+}$
$\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped	9.0% $\text{Bi}^{3+}$	5.4% $\text{Bi}^{3+}$
$\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ codoped	5.0% $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -1% $\text{Bi}^{3+}$	1.9% $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -1.5% $\text{Bi}^{3+}$



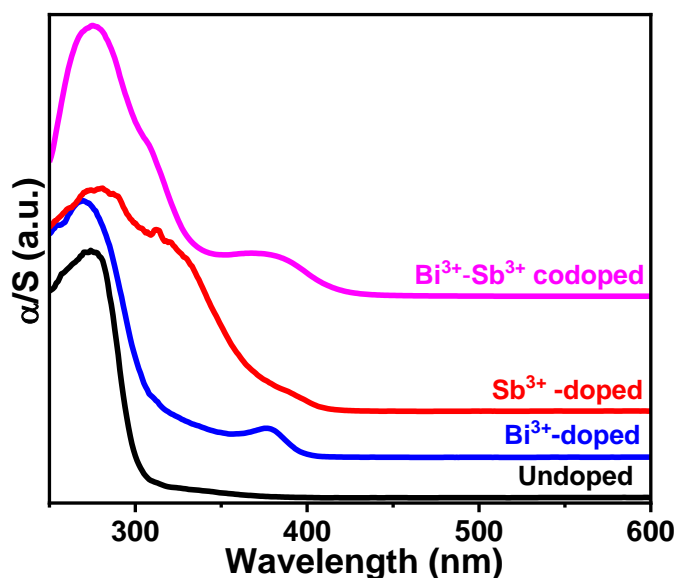
**Figure 4B.4:** (a) Schematics presentation of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoping in crystal structure of  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ . The sizes of blue spheres are reduced than their actual size for clarity in presentation. (b) Powder XRD patterns of undoped,  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped,  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped,  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ . The reference pattern of cubic phase  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  (ICSD#9023) is also shown.

$\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  adopts a cubic vacancy-ordered 0D perovskite structure, where  $[\text{SnCl}_6]^{2-}$  octahedra are electronically isolated from each other.<sup>29</sup> The dopants  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  are expected to occupy these octahedral positions as illustrated in Figure 4B.4a. Figure 4B.4b show the powder X-ray diffraction (XRD) patterns of undoped,  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped,  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped,  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ , which match well with the reference data (ICSD# 9023) of  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  with cubic space group  $\text{Fm}\bar{3}\text{m}$ . The ionic radii of  $\text{Sn}^{4+}$ ,  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  in octahedral environment are 0.69 Å, 1.03 Å and 0.76 Å, respectively.<sup>30-31</sup> As the metal center radii of  $\text{Sn}^{4+}$  and dopants are different so, one would expect shift in powder XRD peak positions after  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  or  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  doping. But the powder XRD pattern in Figure 4B.4b do not exhibit significant peak shift after doping, probably because of limited extent of doping. Also, because  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  are aliovalent to  $\text{Sn}^{4+}$ . So, doping of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  or  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  is expected to introduce halide vacancy for maintaining charge neutrality.

### 4B.3.2 Optical Properties of Doped $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$

The UV-visible absorption spectra of undoped and doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  samples are presented in Figure 4B.5. In the case of undoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ , a distinct absorption edge is observed around 300 nm, in accordance with prior reports.<sup>28,32-33</sup> Upon introducing  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  dopants, a novel absorption feature emerges at 370 nm. This new absorption peak is attributed to  $^1\text{S}_0 \rightarrow ^3\text{P}_1^*$  transition (A-band) of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ . Similarly,  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  doping leads to the appearance of additional absorption features at lower energy than the intrinsic absorption edge of the host  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ , as depicted in Figure 4B.5. These absorption features are ascribed to the  $^1\text{S}_0 \rightarrow ^3\text{P}_1^*$  transition (A-

band) associated with  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ .<sup>34</sup>  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  doping introduce sharp absorption feature compare to  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  doping. This could be related to stronger spin-orbit coupling in  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ , which make  $^1\text{S}_0 \rightarrow ^3\text{P}_1^*$  transition more allowed. The  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  show absorption feature which have combined features of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  as well as  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ , supporting that the codoping is achieved in the  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  system.

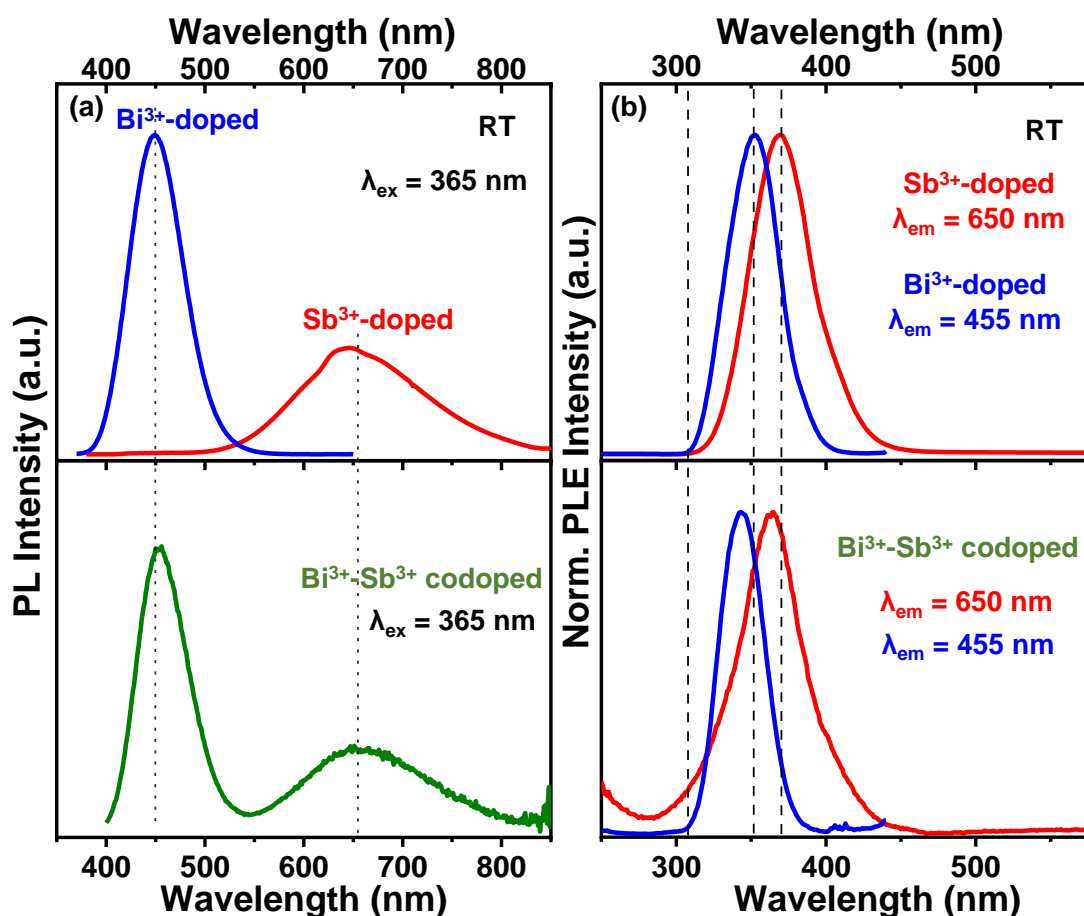


**Figure 4B.5:** (a) Optical absorption spectra of undoped,  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped,  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped and  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ . Absorption spectra are obtained from Kubelka-Munk transformation of diffuse reflectance spectrum  $\alpha$  is absorption coefficient and  $S$  is a scattering factor.

The undoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  is non-luminescent. However,  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  doping in  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  leads to the emergence of a distinct narrow blue emission peak centered at 450 nm, as shown in Figure 4B.6a. Similarly,  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  doping results in orange color emission peaking at 650 nm. Similar results are reported in the prior literature.<sup>33</sup> The origin of these emissions are debated<sup>2, 23, 33</sup> but most accepted view that these photoluminescence are stem from the  $^3\text{P}_1^* \rightarrow ^1\text{S}_0$  (A-band) transitions, inherent to the respective ions.<sup>33</sup> Upon  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoping in  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ , intriguing emission spectrum is obtained as shown in Figure 4B.6a. The codoped sample exhibits two emission peaks at 450 nm and 650 nm. Remarkably, the 450 nm emission coincides with the blue emission observed in  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ , while the broad 650 nm emission matches with the orange emission characteristic of  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ . The matching emission features of the codoped sample with individually doped  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  samples underscores that the dual emission features of codoped sample originates from the  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  or  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  isolated octahedral sites.



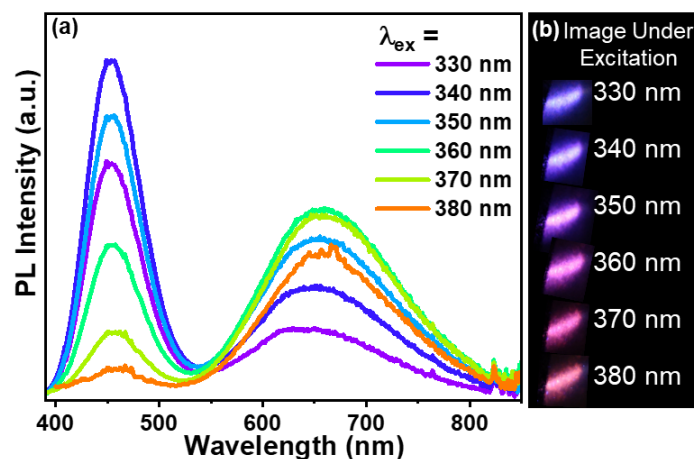
PL excitation spectra in Figure 4B.6b further supports these conclusions. The PL excitation spectrum of the codoped sample closely match with that of individually  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped or  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ . These properties imply a limited interaction between the codoped  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  centers. Nonetheless, a slight broadening in the PL excitation spectrum for the 650 nm emission in the codoped sample is observed. This broadening on the higher energy side is likely contributed by the excitation of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  center, as imply by the overlapping of PL excitation spectrum of spectrum of 450 nm emission ( $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped) and 650 nm emission ( $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoped) in Figure 4B.6b.



**Figure 4B.6:** (a) Photoluminescence (PL), and (b) PL excitation (PLE) spectra of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped,  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped and  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ .

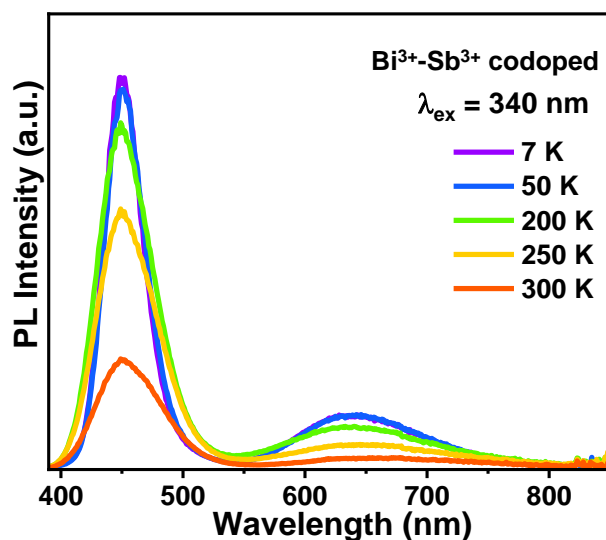
The PL excitation spectrum of codoped sample in Figure 4B.6b demonstrates a substantial overlap between the excitation spectra of 650 nm and 455 nm emission, intersecting at 352 nm. The substantial overlap points that both the luminescent centers ( $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ ) can be effectively excited by a single excitation source. At the same time, the PL excitation spectrum for the two emissions (455 nm and 650 nm) have non-overlapping part also (Figure 4B.6b). Which allow us to obtain excitation dependent emission spectra as shown in Figure 4B.7a. The

corresponding luminescence image under different excitation wavelength are shown in Figure 4B.7b. Such excitation dependent emitting sample might be useful in anti-counterfeiting application.<sup>25</sup>



**Figure 4B.7:** (a) Excitation dependent PL spectrum of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ . (b) Corresponding sample images under different excitation wavelengths.

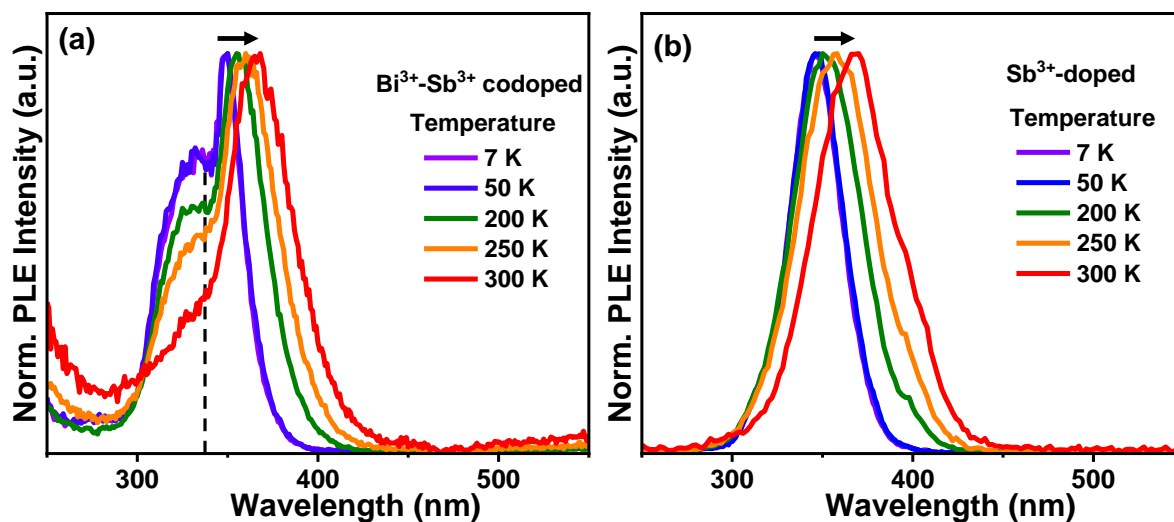
#### 4B.3.3 Temperature Dependent Optical Properties of Doped $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$



**Figure 4B.8:** (a) Temperature dependent emission spectra of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  at 340 nm wavelength excitation.

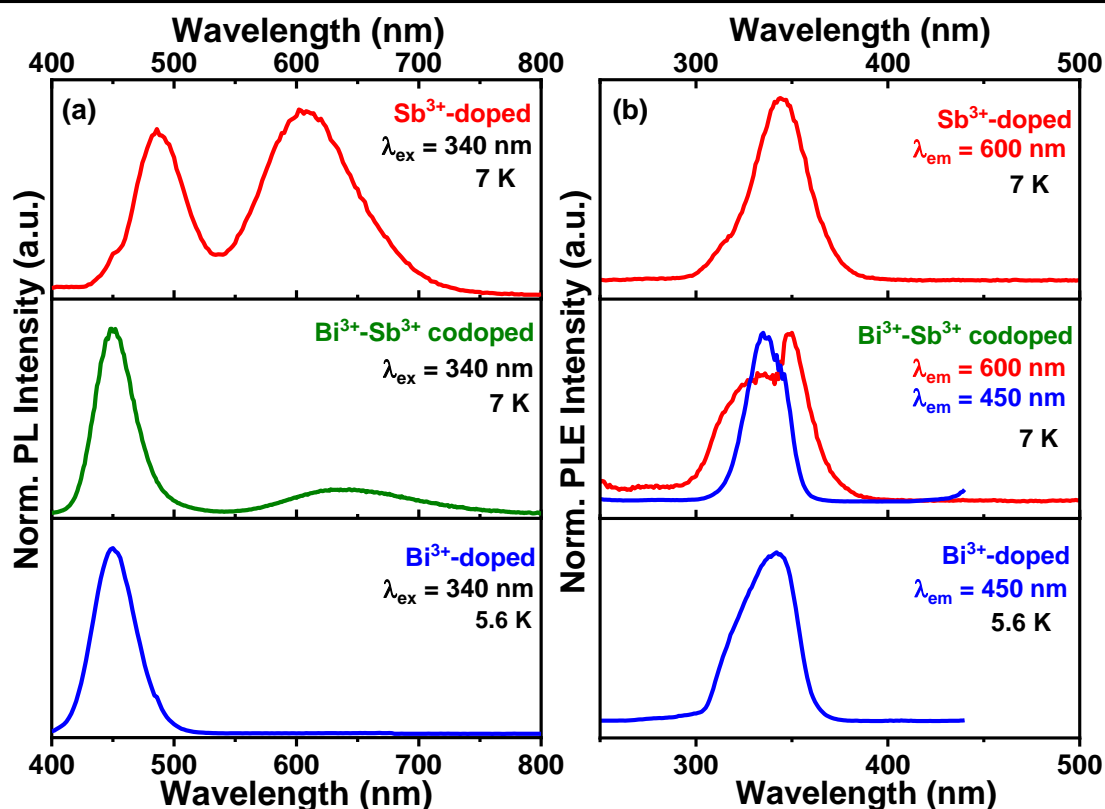
Temperature dependent photoluminescence studies are carried out to better understand the optical properties of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped,  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped and  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ . Temperature dependent photoluminescence spectra of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  are shown in Figure 4B.8. Interestingly, it shows dual emission feature and the emission intensity of both the emission increases on decreasing the temperature due to suppression of non-radiative processes.

The 650 nm emission attributed to  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ , exhibits a greater intensity increase (2.5 times) compared to the 450 nm emission (2.1 times) associated with  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ , between 7 K and 300 K. The greater intensity increase in 650 nm emission is also contributed by the shifting of PL excitation spectra at low temperatures as shown in Figure 4B.9a. Similar PL excitation peak shift is also observed in only  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  (Figure 4B.9b).



**Figure 4B.9:** Temperature dependent PL excitation (PLE) spectra of (a)  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  with emission at 600 nm and (b) for  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  with emission at 620 nm. The arrow indicates the shift in peak position with increasing temperature.

To find out any changes by codoping, we have compared the low temperature photoluminescence spectra of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped,  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped and  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  as shown in Figure 4B.10. At 7 K temperature, the  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoped sample continues to exhibit the dual emission feature similar to that observed at room temperature (as shown in Figure 4B.6a). Notably, the 450 nm emission peak aligns perfectly with the emission profile of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ . This indicates the absence of any changes in the emission states of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ , reaffirming the isolated nature of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  center within the  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ . Intriguingly, the broad visible emission peak at 650 nm in  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  closely matches the 620 nm emission of  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  (Figure 4B.10a). However, the feature corresponding to the 490 nm emission from  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped sample is not visible in the codoped sample. This is likely due to the relatively low intensity of the  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -related emission within the  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoped system.



**Figure 4B.10:** (a) PL spectrum (b) PL excitation spectrum of Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped, Sb<sup>3+</sup>-doped and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Sb<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> at cryogenic temperature.

To elucidate the excited states contributing to emissions, PL excitation spectra are recorded at cryogenic temperatures as shown in Figure 4B.10b. Remarkably, the PLE spectra for the two emission peaks (450 nm and 650 nm) in the Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Sb<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> closely resemble those of solely Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped or Sb<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>. Additionally, the PLE spectrum at 600 nm of codoped sample demonstrates a slight broadening when compared to the PLE spectrum of Sb<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> (Figure 4B.10b).

#### 4B.4 Conclusion

In summary, comparative temperature dependent PL and PL excitation study of Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped, Sb<sup>3+</sup>-doped and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Sb<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> indicate almost no perturbation to the optical properties of Bi<sup>3+</sup> or Sb<sup>3+</sup> dopants by codoping. Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Sb<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> show dual emission. The 450 nm emission of Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Sb<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> matches with the emission of Bi<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>. The emission is attributed to <sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub><sup>\*</sup> → <sup>1</sup>S<sub>0</sub> (A-band) transition of Bi<sup>3+</sup>. The 650 nm emission of Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Sb<sup>3+</sup> codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> matches well with the emission of Sb<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> and assigned to be assigned to <sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub><sup>\*</sup> → <sup>1</sup>S<sub>0</sub> (A-band) transition of Sb<sup>3+</sup>. The PL excitation spectra of both (450 nm and 650 nm) emissions of codoped sample also remain similar to that of Bi<sup>3+</sup>- or Sb<sup>3+</sup>-doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>. This unperturbed optical property of Bi<sup>3+</sup> and

Sb<sup>3+</sup> dopants in the codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub>, provides easy photoluminescence tunability by just varying the relative doping percentage of Bi<sup>3+</sup> and Sb<sup>3+</sup>.

#### 4B.5 References

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## **Chapter 5**

### **Thesis Summary and Future Outlook**



## 5.1 Thesis Summary

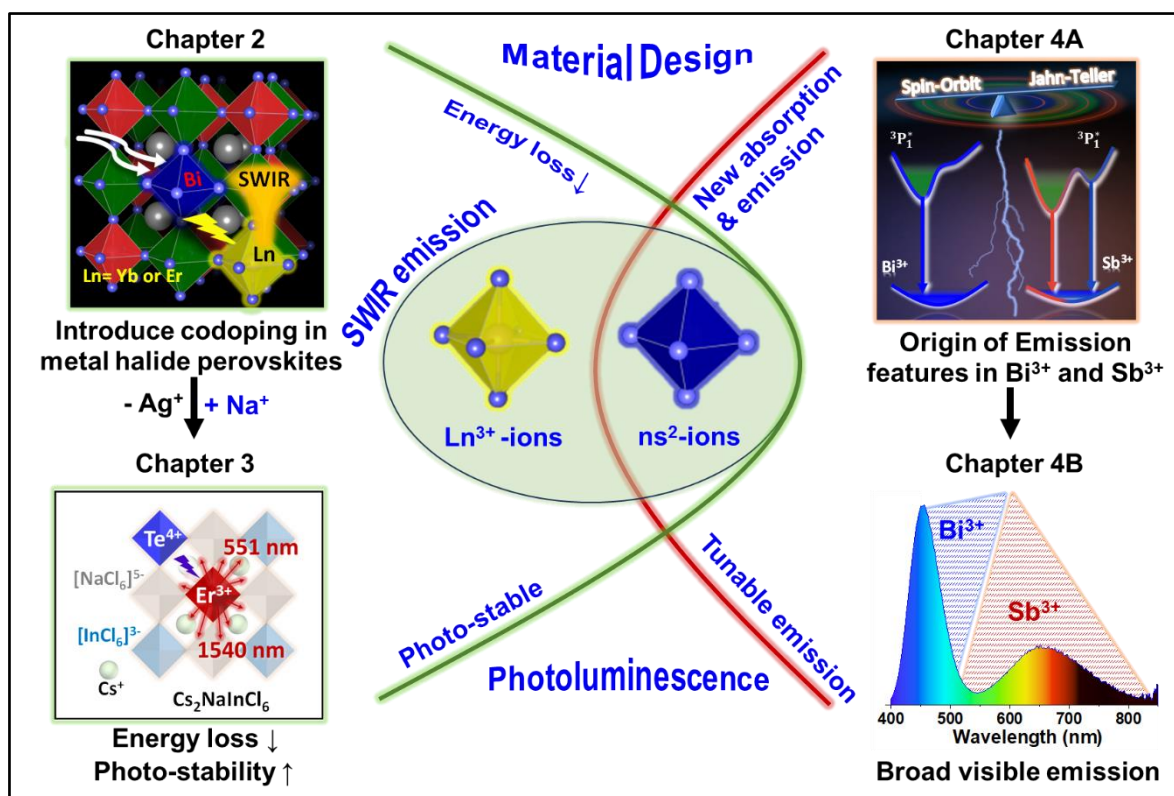
Lead free halide perovskites are being explored as environmentally benign alternative of lead halide perovskites, for optical and optoelectronic applications. Lead free halide perovskites have octahedral sites, which are preferred by large number of luminescent centers, making halide perovskites a potential class of host materials for doping luminescent centers. This thesis explores such halide perovskites to host luminescent centers with visible and short-wave infrared emission, and develop the synthesis and understanding of photophysical processes.

Halide double perovskites like  $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$  consist of alternative monovalent and trivalent metal octahedral sites. In this thesis, we utilized the compositional flexibility of halide double perovskites and made them luminescent in nature by incorporation of luminescent centers.  $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$  double perovskite with  $\text{In}^{3+}$  metal center ionic radii ( $r_{\text{In}^{3+}} = 0.80$ ) similar to that of the lanthanide ( $r_{\text{Er}^{3+}} = 0.89$ ,  $r_{\text{Yb}^{3+}} = 0.87$ ) is chosen as the host material for lanthanide doping.  $\text{Er}^{3+}$ - and  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$  emit short-wave infrared radiation with peaks at 1540 nm and 990 nm, respectively, which have technological importance. But these lanthanide doped systems need higher excitation energy ( $> 3.54$  eV, 350 nm). This large energy difference between excitation and emission causes a serious energy loss. To address this issue, we proposed the codoping of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  ion and lanthanide ion in  $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$ .  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  show nearly allowed  $^1\text{S}_0 \rightarrow ^3\text{P}_1^*$  transition and absorbs at the sub-band gap level, reducing the excitation energy to 3.35 eV (Figure 5.1). Now, the  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Er}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$  can be excited by 370 nm, reducing the energy gap between the excitation and lanthanide emission. This strategy has opened a plethora of possibilities of codoping luminescent centers in halide double perovskites to obtain desired optical excitation and emission properties.

The host  $\text{Cs}_2\text{AgInCl}_6$  has photostability issue due to presence of photosensitive  $\text{Ag}^+$ . So,  $\text{Ag}^+$  is replaced with  $\text{Na}^+$  and photostable  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  is obtained.  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  are separately doped in  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  to obtained suitable dopant for lower energy excitation, and found that the  $\text{Te}^{4+}$ -doped one absorbs at lowest energy of 3.1 eV (400 nm).  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  and  $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  ( $\text{Ln} = \text{Er}, \text{Yb}$ ) are codoped in  $\text{Cs}_2\text{NaInCl}_6$  to obtain the short-wave infrared emission of lanthanide via  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  excitation. The excited  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  ions non-radiatively transfer its energy to  $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  ( $\text{Ln} = \text{Er}, \text{Yb}$ ) and the excited lanthanide ions emit characteristic emission (Figure 5.1).

In another related work (chapter 4), we have prepared  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ -doped,  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ -doped, and  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ - $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  codoped  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  0D perovskites. On the basis of temperature dependent photoluminescence data, we find that the emitting  $^3\text{P}_1^*$  state in  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  has two minima which give rise to two

emissions at cryogenic temperatures. Whereas the stronger spin-orbit coupling in  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  leads to single minima in  $^3\text{P}_1^*$  state and give single emission feature at all temperatures (Figure 5.1). The absorption and emission originate from isolated  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  centers, which remain almost unperturbed by codoping. This allows us to obtain broad visible emission by codoping ( $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$ ) and obtain tunable emission by varying the relative doping percentage. An overall graphical summary is presented in Figure 5.1.



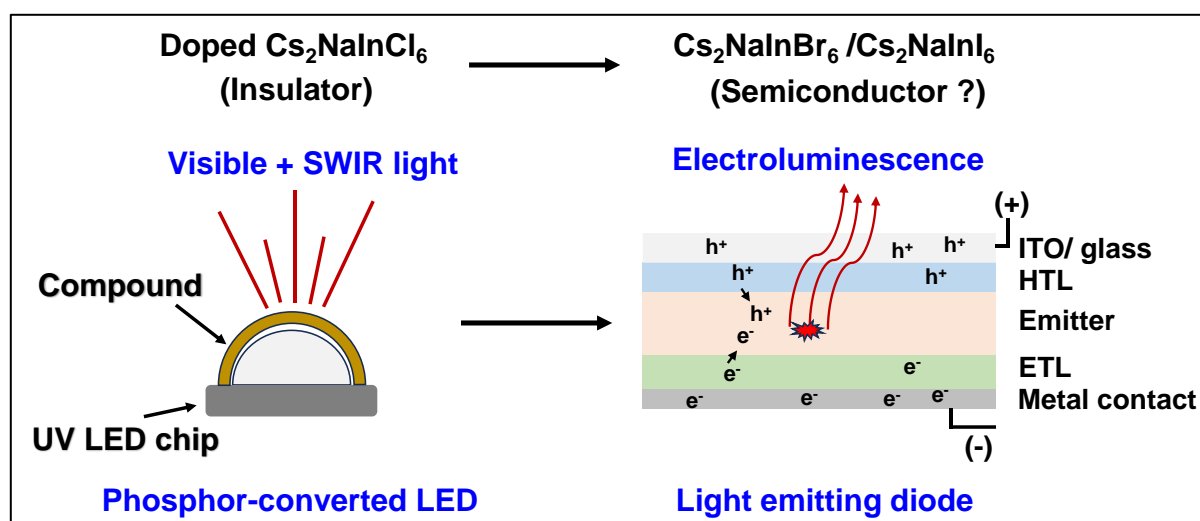
**Figure 5.1:** Graphical summary of this thesis. Lanthanide ion ( $\text{Ln}^{3+}$ ) and  $\text{ns}^2$ -ion doping are utilized to impart optical functionality in lead free halide perovskites. In chapter 2,  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  codoping is introduced to decrease the excitation energy and energy loss. Addressing photo-stability concerns, Chapter 3 presents the substitution of  $\text{Ag}^+$  with  $\text{Na}^+$ , alongside the exploration of  $\text{Te}^{4+}$  as a suitable sensitizer. Chapter 4A uncovers an intriguing correlation between the emissions of  $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ . In chapter 4b,  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ - $\text{Sb}^{3+}$  codoping is utilized to get broad visible emission.

## 5.2 Future Outlook

Lanthanide ions (e.g.,  $\text{Er}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$ ) emit technologically important short-wave infrared radiation.<sup>1-3</sup> Lanthanide ion doping is one of the ways to harness these emissions.<sup>4-5</sup> Lanthanide ion doping is mostly achieved in oxides and fluorides-based materials, whereas in halide (Cl, Br, I) based materials it is rare.<sup>6-8</sup> We could dope lanthanide ion in chloride-based halide double perovskites and achieved photoluminescence of lanthanides.<sup>9-10</sup> By coating material on

commercial UV LED chips, a phosphor converted LED is assembled which give visible as well as SWIR emission (Figure 5.2).

However, realizing electroluminescence from lanthanide-doped halide double perovskites poses significant challenges.<sup>11</sup> The obstacles are two-fold in achieving electroluminescence light-emitting diodes (LEDs) based on chloride-based halide double perovskites. Firstly, the formation of thin films in chloride-based systems is difficult. Secondly, the limited charge carrier mobility within these systems presents a substantial limitation.<sup>11</sup> The challenge of thin film fabrication can be overcome by employing colloidal nanocrystal synthesis techniques.<sup>12-14</sup> To address the charge mobility issue, a strategic approach involves substituting chlorine with its larger counterparts, bromine or iodine.<sup>15</sup> The bromine and iodine have  $4p^5$  and  $6p^5$  valence shell orbitals which are comparatively larger in size than  $3p^5$  orbital of chlorine. Consequently, a more favorable overlap between the metal center and halide orbitals is anticipated, which is expected to enhance charge carrier mobility within the system. The material could be explored to fabricate electroluminescence LEDs as schematically presented in Figure 5.2.



**Figure 5.2:** Schematic presentation of a phosphor-converted LED (left side) and electroluminescence LED (right side). In phosphor converted LED, doped phosphor material coated on the UV LED gets photo-excited by the UV lights emitted by the LED chip. The excited doped phosphor emits visible and SWIR light. A multilayer device consisting of appropriate emitter, hole transport layer (HTL), electron transport layer (HTL) and metal contacts need to be fabricated to obtain electroluminescence. When the potential applied to this device, electron and hole flow via contact layers and get combine in emitting layer and release photon.

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- **Arfin, H.;** Kaur, J.; Sheikh, T.; Chakraborty, S.; Nag, A., Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup> and Bi<sup>3+</sup>-Yb<sup>3+</sup> Codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>AgInCl<sub>6</sub> Double Perovskite Near-Infrared Emitters. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2020**, *59*, 11307-11311.
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### Not Included in the Thesis:

- Mir, W. J.; Sheikh, T.; **Arfin, H.;** Xia, Z. G.; Nag, A., Lanthanide Doping in Metal Halide Perovskite Nanocrystals: Spectral Shifting, Quantum Cutting and Optoelectronic Applications. *NPG Asia Mater.* **2020**, *12*, 9. (review article)
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## Design of Lead-Free Inorganic Halide Perovskites for Solar Cells via Cation-Transmutation



**Author:** Xin-Gang Zhao, Ji-Hui Yang, Yuhao Fu, et al

**Publication:** Journal of the American Chemical Society

**Publisher:** American Chemical Society

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**The Fermi energy as common parameter to describe charge compensation mechanisms: A path to Fermi level engineering of oxide electroceramics**

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## Origin of Luminescence in Sb<sup>3+</sup> - and Bi<sup>3+</sup> -Doped Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> Perovskites: Excited State Relaxation and Spin-Orbit Coupling



Author: Habibul Arfin, Angshuman Nag

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### Short-Wave Infrared Emissions from Te<sub>4</sub>-Ln<sub>3</sub> (Ln: Er, Yb)-Codoped Cs<sub>2</sub>NaInCl<sub>6</sub> Double Perovskites



Author: Habibul Arfin, Radha Rathod, Ajinkya Sundarnath Shingote, et al

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