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OPTICAL AND SPECTROSCOPIC PROPERTIES OF Sm₂O₃ DOPED CABAL

Brito, D.N.(1); De Queiroz, M.N.(1); Lima, A.O.(1); Gomes, J.F.(1); Barboza, M.J.(1); Steimacher, A.(1); Pedrochi, F.(1);

Universidade Federal do Maranhão(1); Universidade Federal do Maranhão(2); Universidade Federal do Maranhão(3); Universidade Federal do Maranhão(4); Universidade Federal do Maranhão(5); Universidade Federal do Maranhão(6); Universidade Federal do Maranhão(7);

Rare earth (RE) ions are present in most modern technology as active ions in many optical materials. RE-doped glasses are used in many optical devices because of abundant number of the absorption and emission bands arising from the transitions between the RE elements energy levels. The calcium borosilicate (CaBaI) glass is an important class of optical materials due to its many applications, among them the use as active media for solid state lasers. CaBaI glasses are chemically stable, easy glass formation, show excellent mechanical and thermal properties and wide range of transparency at wavelengths from visible to near infrared. Among trivalent RE ions, Sm³⁺ ion is one of the widely used ions with applications in high-density optical storage, LEDs and color display. Its emitting 4G_{5/2} level exhibits relatively high quantum efficiency and also shows different quenching emission channels, that can be used in new light sources, fluorescent displays devices, UV-sensor and visible lasers. CaBaI glass with composition of (25-x)CaO-50B₂O₃-15Al₂O₃-10CaF₂-xSm₂O₃ with samarium concentration varying from 0.5 to 7 wt% have been prepared by using melt-quenching method. The aim of this work were report the results of a study of CaBaI glasses doped with Sm₂O₃ up to 7 wt%. Results of refractive index, optical absorption, emission lifetime, luminescence at room temperature and luminescence varying the temperature are discussed in function of Sm₂O₃.