**Supporting Information** 

Tip-Enhanced Upconversion Luminescence in Yb<sup>3+</sup>-Er<sup>3+</sup>

Codoped NaYF<sub>4</sub> Nanocrystals

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## Synthesis of the nanoparticles

According to Reference [1], the NaYF<sub>4</sub>:Yb<sup>3+</sup>/Er<sup>3+</sup> nanoparticles were synthesized by co-precipitation method. The procedure was as followed:

- a) 0.02 mL methanol and 0.78 mL of YCl<sub>3</sub> (1M), 1 mL of YbCl<sub>3</sub> (0.2 M), 0.2 mL of ErCl<sub>3</sub> (0.1 M) in methanol were added to a 50 mL flask. After homogeneous mixture by a magnetic stirring bar inside the flask, 3 mL oleic acid and 7 mL 1-octadecene were slowly added to the solution and heated the solution to 160 °C for 30 min. Then it was cooled down to room temperature.
- b) Subsequently, 1.4 mL methanol and 1.6 mL of NH<sub>4</sub>F (1M), 2 mL of NaOH (0.5M) in methanol were added slowly and the solution was stirred for 30 min. After evaporating the methanol completely, the solution was heated to 300 °C under argon for 1.5 h and cooled down to room temperature.
- c) With the addition of ethanol, the nanoparticles were precipitated. Then they were collected by centrifugation and washed with methanol and ethanol a few times, and finally re-dispersed in cyclohexane.

## References

[1] Wang, F.; Han, Y.; Lim, C. S.; Lu, Y.; Wang, J.; Xu, J.; Chen, H.; Zhang, C.; Hong, M.; Liu, X. Simultaneous phase and size control of upconversion nanocrystals through lanthanide doping. *Nature* **2010**, *463*, 1061-1065.