

# Photoluminescence of Antimony-Germanate Glass Nanocomposites

Jacek ŻMOJDA<sup>1</sup>, Marcin KOCHANOWICZ<sup>1</sup>, Piotr MILUSKI<sup>1</sup>, Wojciech PISARSKI<sup>2</sup>, Joanna PISARSKA<sup>2</sup>,  
Maurizio FERRARI<sup>4,5</sup>, Giancarlo RIGHINI<sup>5,6</sup>, Renata JADACH<sup>3</sup>, Dominik DOROSZ<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Bialystok University of Technology, Wiejska 45D Street, 15-351 Bialystok, Poland

<sup>2</sup> Institute of Chemistry, University of Silesia, Szkolna 9, 40-007 Katowice, Poland

<sup>3</sup> AGH University of Science and Technology, 30 Mickiewicza Av., 30-059 Krakow, Poland

<sup>4</sup> IFN - CNR CSMFO Lab. and FBK, Via alla Cascata 56/C Povo, 38123 Trento, Italy.

<sup>5</sup> Enrico Fermi Centre, Piazza del Viminale 1, 00184 Roma, Italy.

<sup>6</sup> MipLAB. IFAC - CNR, Via Madonna del Piano 10, 50019 Sesto Fiorentino, Italy.



Scienze fisiche e tecnologie della materia



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# Photonics Bialystok Research Group

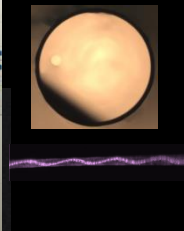
## RE - doped optical fibres, photonics materials

Dominik Dorosz, PhD, DSc, Assoc. Prof.

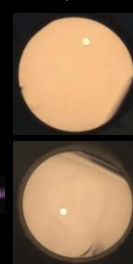
- Marcin Kochanowicz, PhD - optical fiber technology
- Jacek Źmojda, PhD - active optical glasses
- Piotr Miluski, PhD - active glasses and polymers in sensors
- PhD students



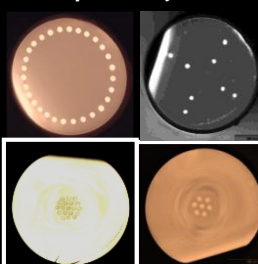
Helical core optical fibres



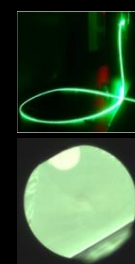
1,8-21  $\mu\text{m}$  ASE fibres



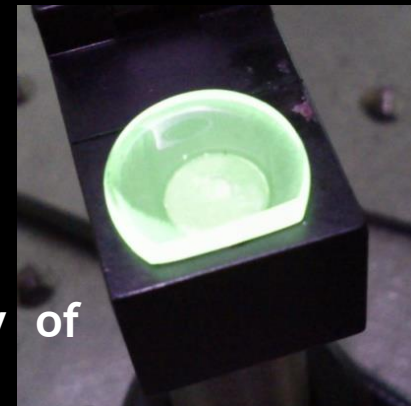
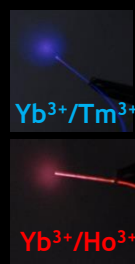
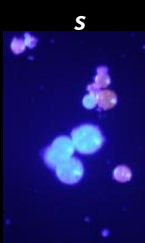
Multicore supermode optical fibers



Upconversion optical fibre



Polymer microbeads



Laboratory of Optical Fiber Technology Bialystok University of Technology  
e - mail: [opticalfibers@we.pb.edu.pl](mailto:opticalfibers@we.pb.edu.pl)



# Outline

**Antimony-germanate** glass, glass-ceramics and glass nanocomposites

The ways of **excitation energy transfer** in glassy nanocomposites

**Experiment** - focus on optical and basic material properties of glass nanocomposite:

- effect of **Ag doping**
- effect of **thermal treatment**
- effect of **glass modification**

Conclusions and perspectives

# SGS glass: $(50-x)\text{Sb}_2\text{O}_3 - x\text{GeO}_2 - 50\text{SiO}_2$

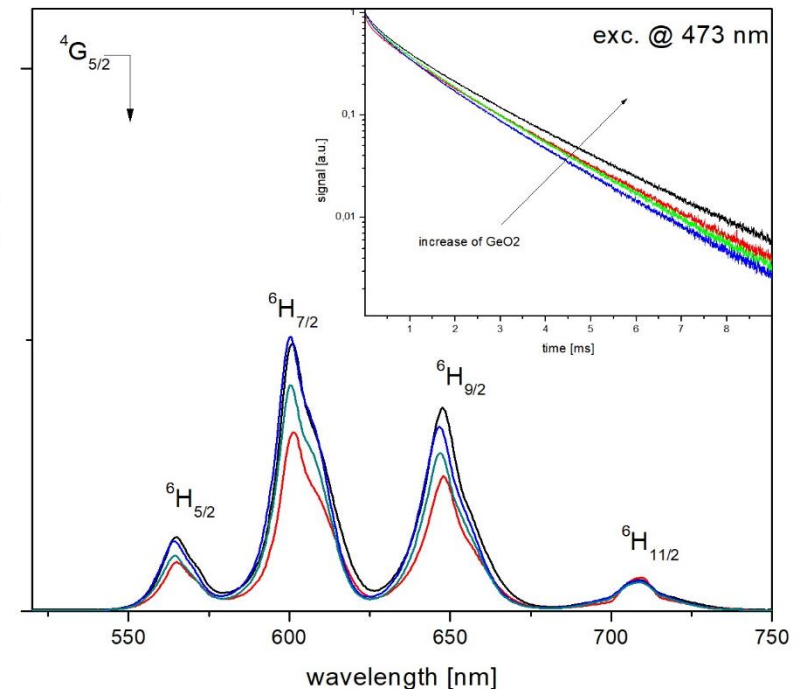
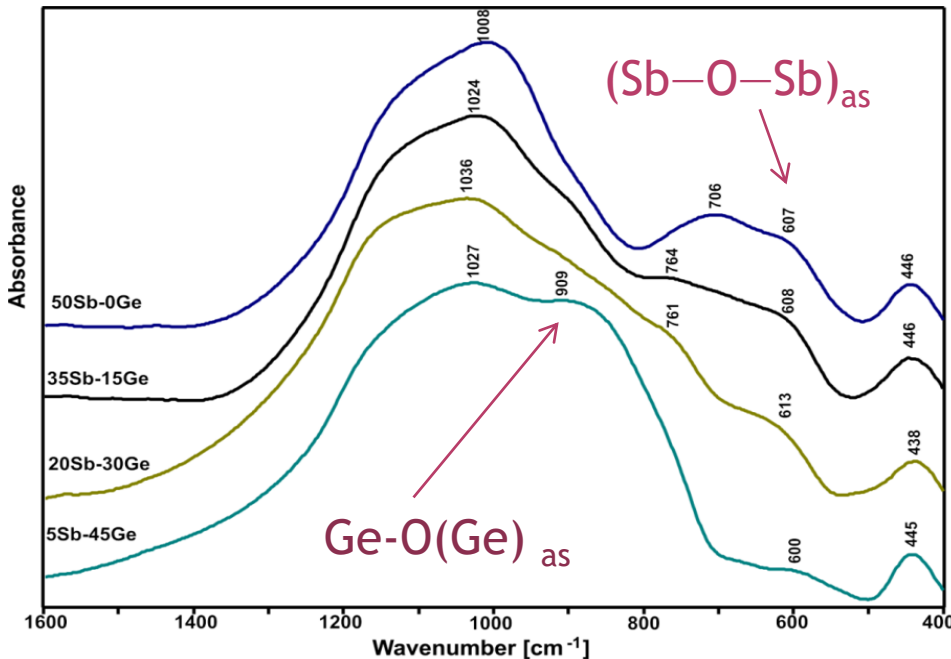
PARAMETER	VALUE
Refractive index $n$ (@632.8 nm)	1.62 – 1.73
Mass density $\rho$ [g/cm <sup>3</sup> ]	3.35 – 3.66
Transmission window [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	0.35 – 3.5
Transformation temperature [ $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ]	432 - 552
Thermal stability factor $\Delta T$ [ $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ]	<b>168 - 235</b>
Maximum phonon energy [ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ]	1007

## Advantages:

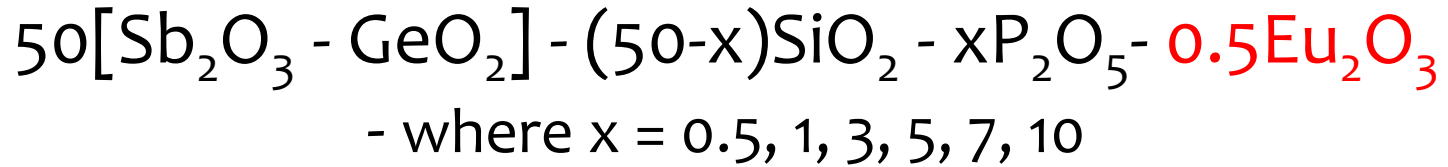
- high thermal stability
- high solubility of RE ions
- efficient energy transfer

## Disadvantages:

- possibility of phase separation

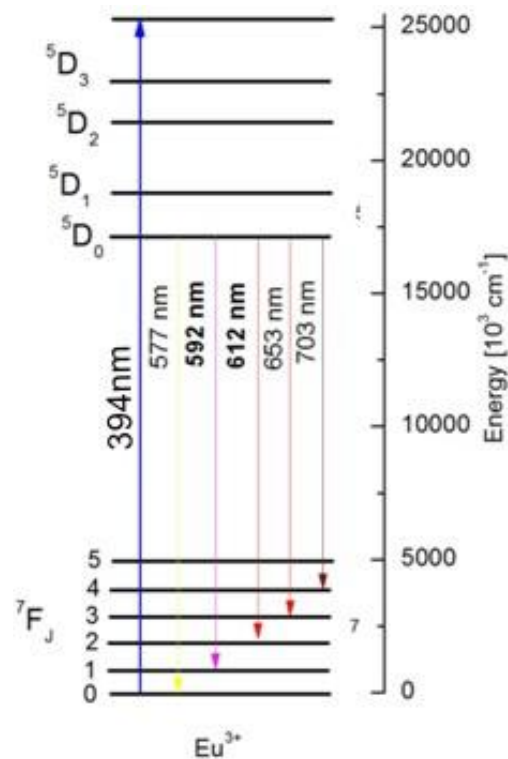
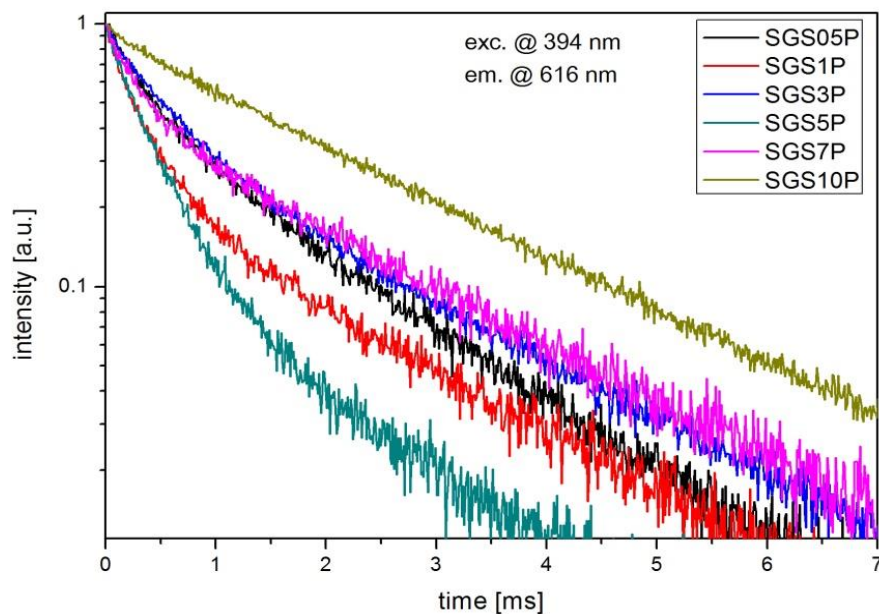
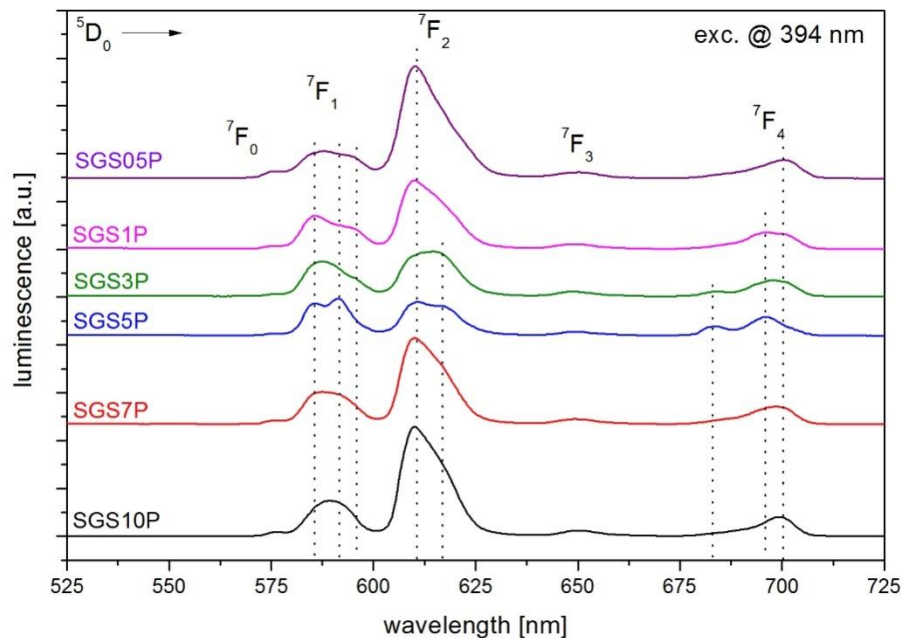


# ANTIMONY-GERMANATE GLASS-CERAMICS



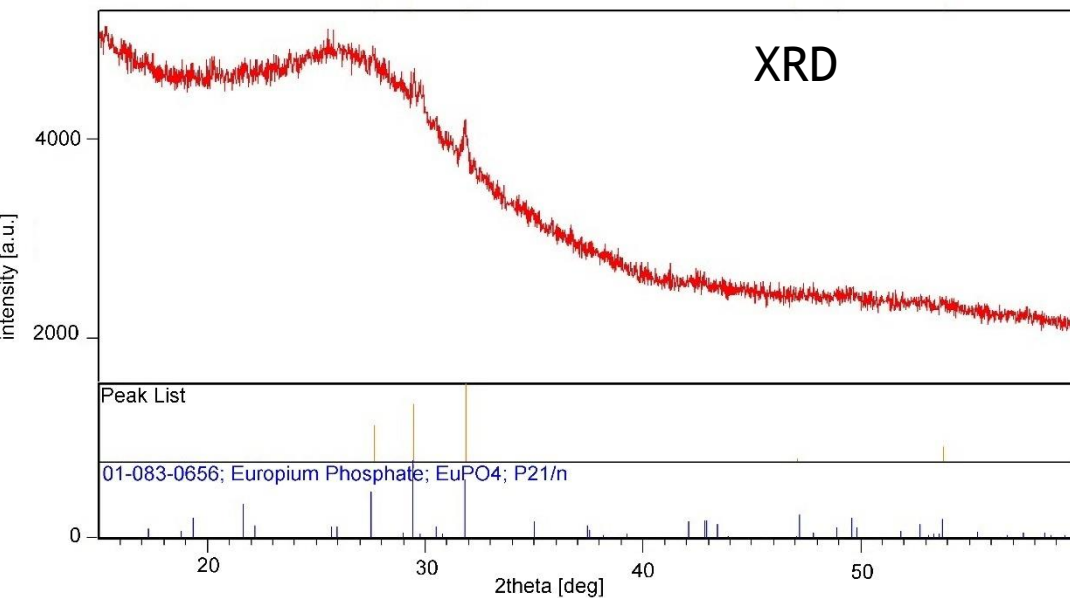


# SGSxP: $\text{Sb}_2\text{O}_3$ - $\text{GeO}_2$ - $(50-x)\text{SiO}_2$ - $x\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$ - $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$



Glass	$\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$ [mol. %]	$R=7F_2/7F_1$	LT [ms]
SGS05P	0.5	4.24	1.29
SGS1P	1	2.02	1.29
SGS3P	3	1.27	1.86
SGS5P	5	0.92	0.83
SGS7P	7	2.66	1.72
SGS10P	10	3.03	1.99

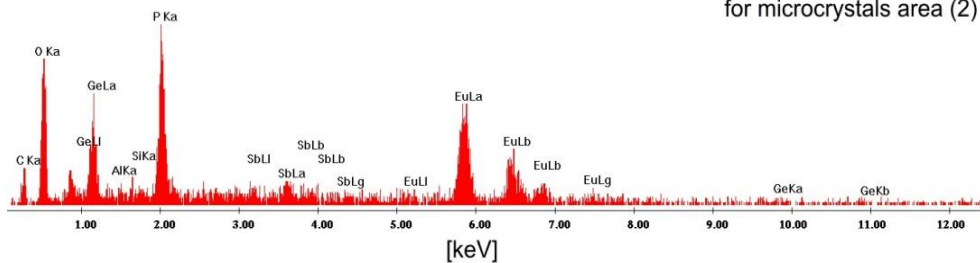
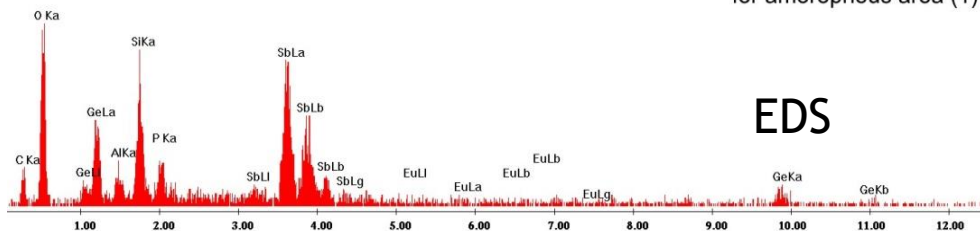
# Structural properties of SGSxP



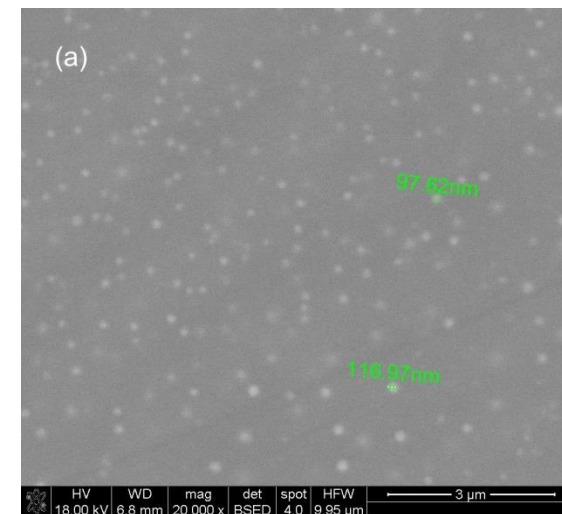
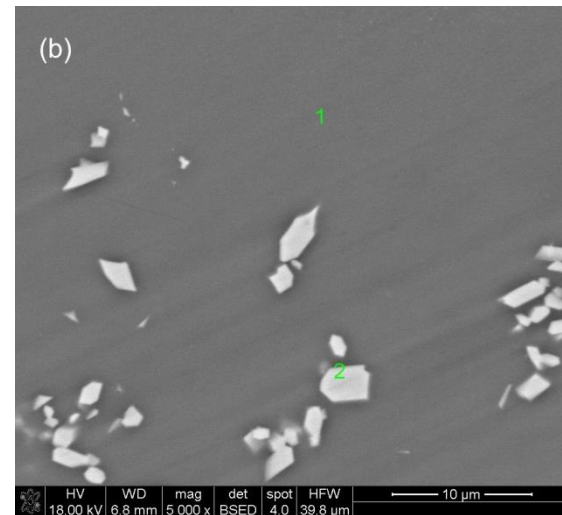
for amorphous area (1)

**EDS**

for microcrystals area (2)



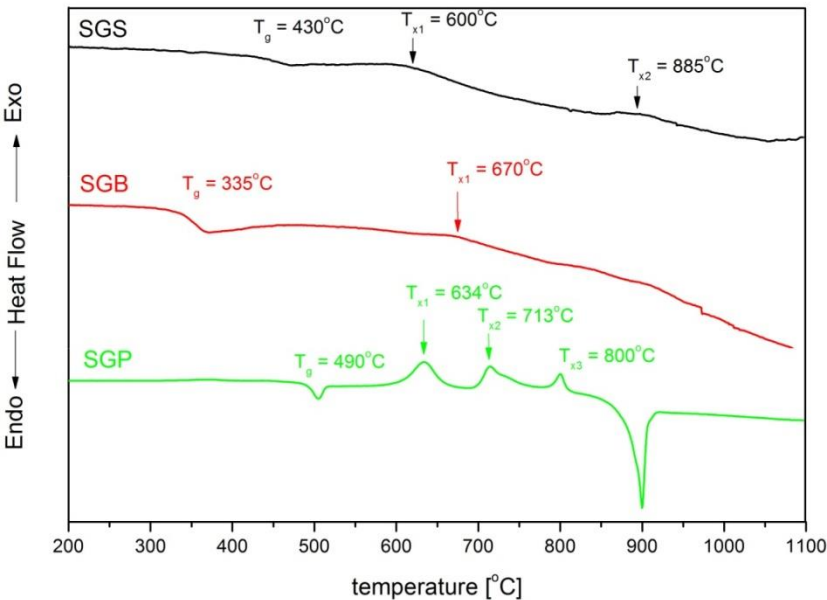
**SEM**



# Effect of modification of glass by high-phonon modifiers - $\text{SiO}_2$ , $\text{B}_2\text{O}_3$ and $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$

## SGX glasses:

- **SGS** 50[ $\text{Sb}_2\text{O}_3$ - $\text{GeO}_2$ ] - 50 $\text{SiO}_2$
- **SGB** 50[ $\text{Sb}_2\text{O}_3$ - $\text{GeO}_2$ ] - 50 $\text{B}_2\text{O}_3$
- **SGP** 50[ $\text{Sb}_2\text{O}_3$ - $\text{GeO}_2$ ] - 50 $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$

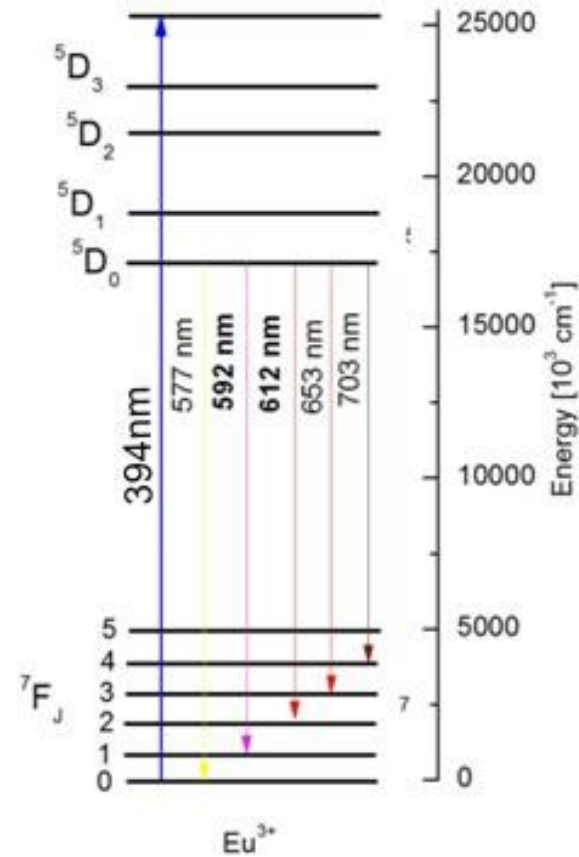
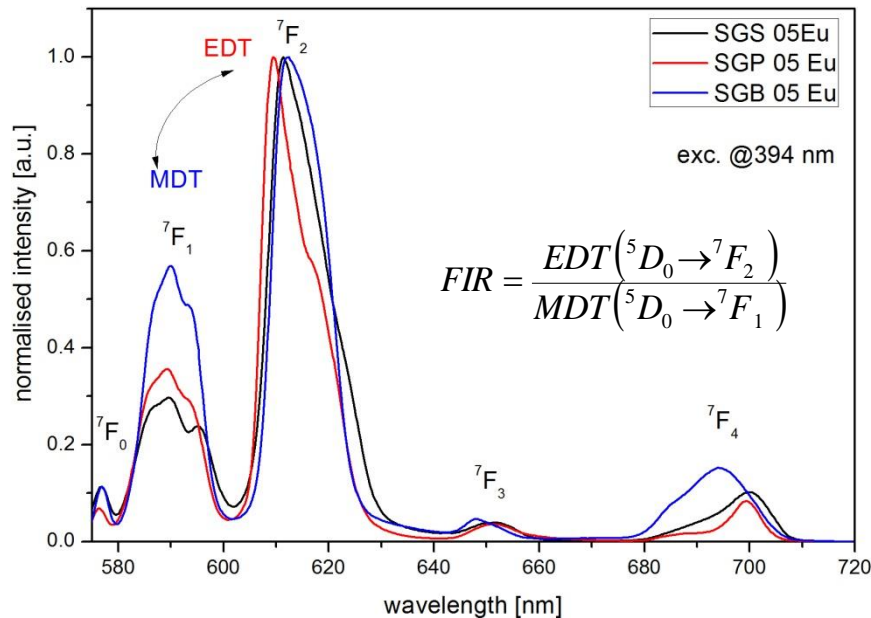
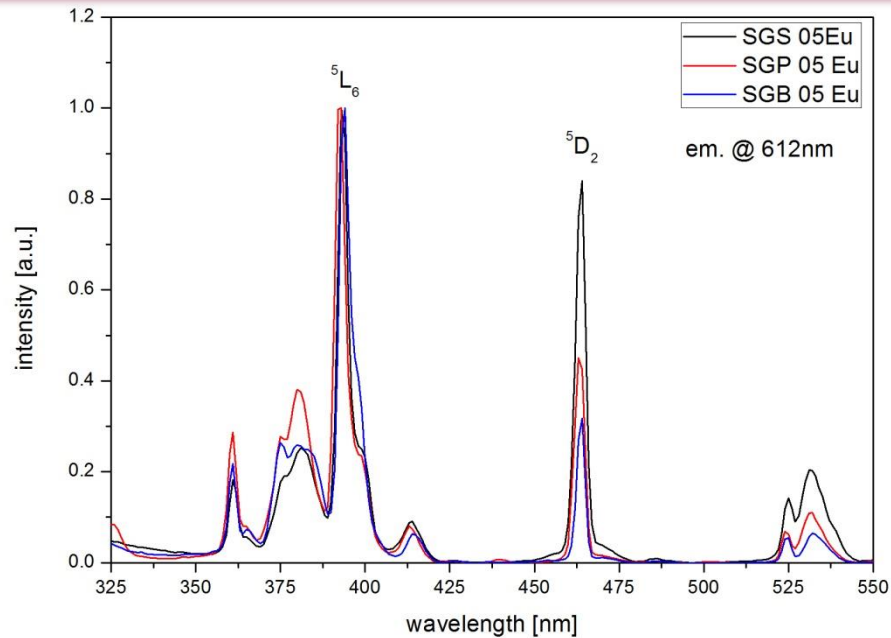


Parameter	SGS	SGB	SGP
$T_g$ [°C]	430	335	490
$T_{x1}$ [°C]	600	670	634
$\Delta T$ [°C]	230	335	144

DSC curves of SGX glasses



# SGX glasses doped with $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$



SGX	Asymmetry ratio
SGS	4.8
<b>SGB</b>	<b>2.2</b>
SGP	3.6

# Surface Plasmon Resonance

There are four main ways to obtain enhancement or quenching of luminescence signal in glassy nanocomposites:

- Energy transfer from surface of metal NPs to RE ions (plasmonic effect) - strongly depends on material ( $n$ ), size and shape of nanoparticles and their content
- Direct energy transfer between metal NPs and RE ions - depends on size of NPs
- Re-absorption process by NPs observed in energy transfer between RE ions and metal NPs
- Migration of excitation energy between RE ions

Green - enhancement

Red - quenching

# Experimental

Glasses SGS\_AgRE:  $\text{Sb}_2\text{O}_3$  -  $\text{GeO}_2$  -  $\text{SiO}_2$  -  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  -  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}$   
co-doped with  $x\text{Ag}^+/\text{Eu}^{3+}$

## Step 1:

all samples doped with  $0.2\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$  and  $x\text{AgNO}_3$

Melting at  $1450^\circ\text{C}$  by 30min

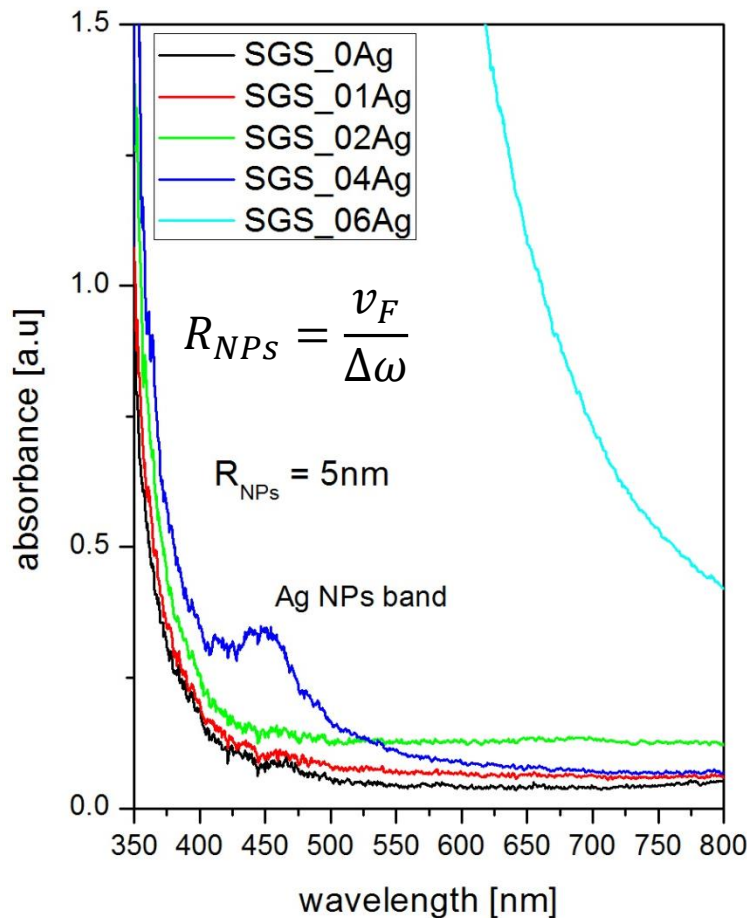
Annealing at  $400^\circ\text{C}$  by 2h and slowly cooling by 12h

# Optical characterization

Step 1:

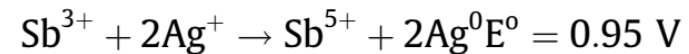


SGSxAg glasses before heat-treatment process

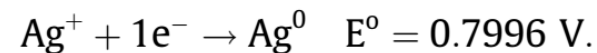
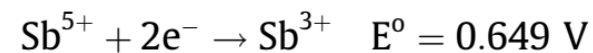


Absorbance spectra of SGSxAg glasses modified by different content of  $\text{AgNO}_3$

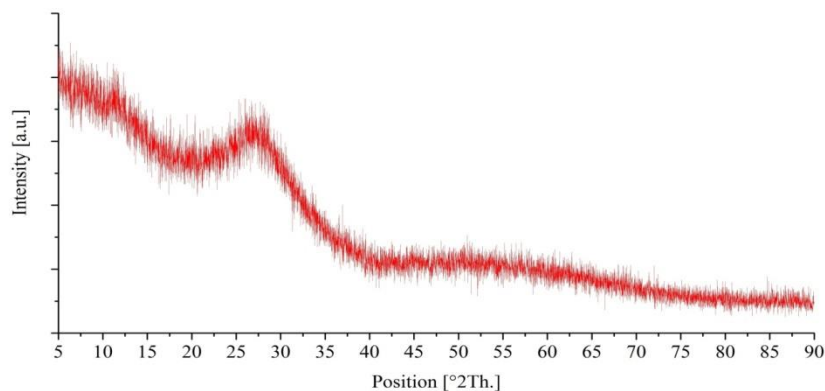
Redox potential



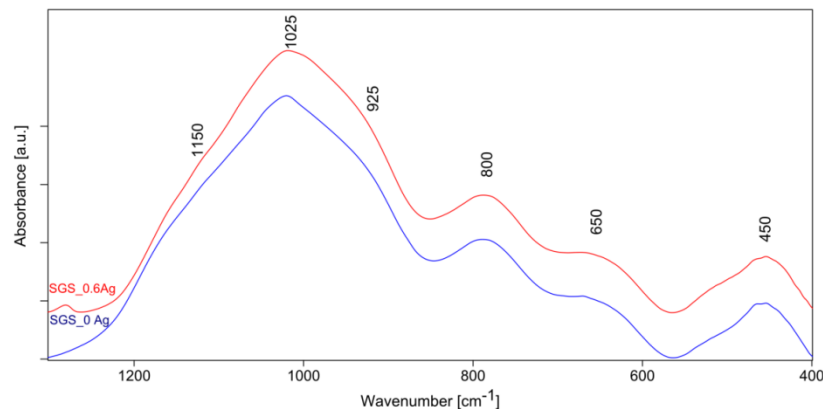
where



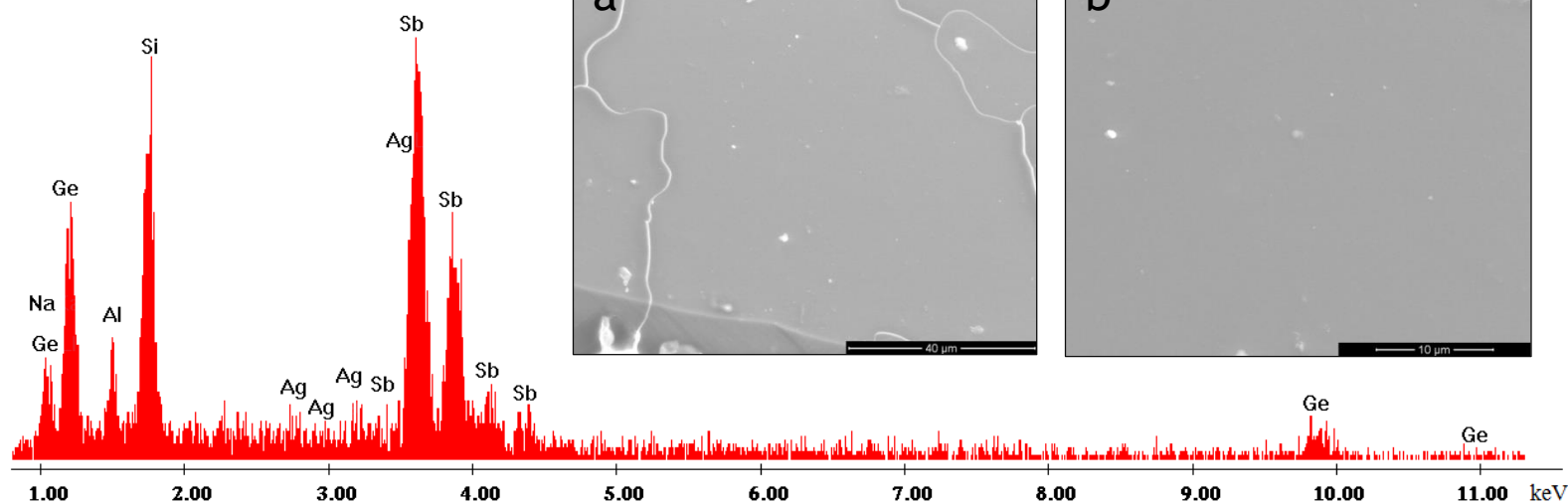
# Structural and material properties



XRD diffractogram of SGS\_o6Ag glass sample.



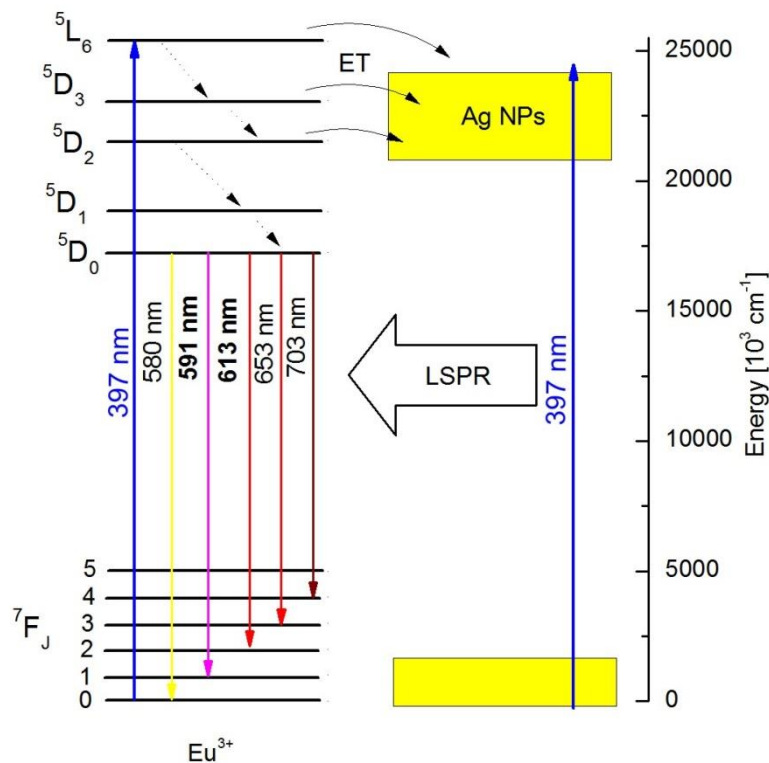
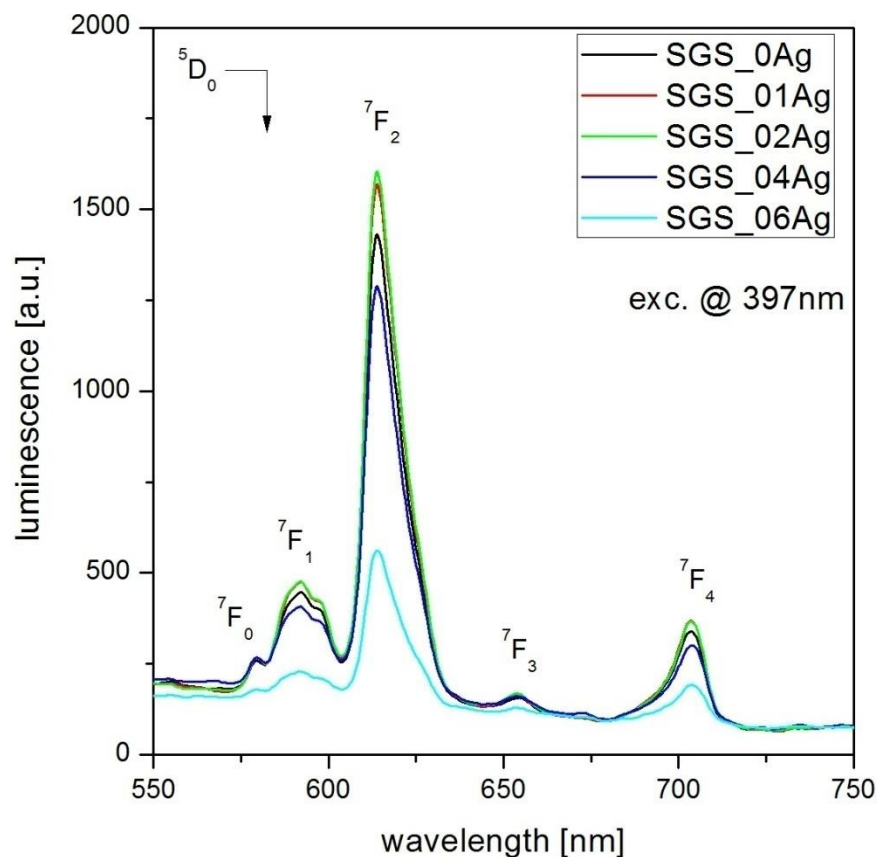
MIR spectra of SGS\_oAg and SGS\_o6Ag glass sample.



EDS analysis of SGS\_o6Ag glass sample. (inset) SEM pictures of SGS\_o6Ag glass sample (a – picture with magnification of 2 000x, b – picture with magnification of 5 000x).

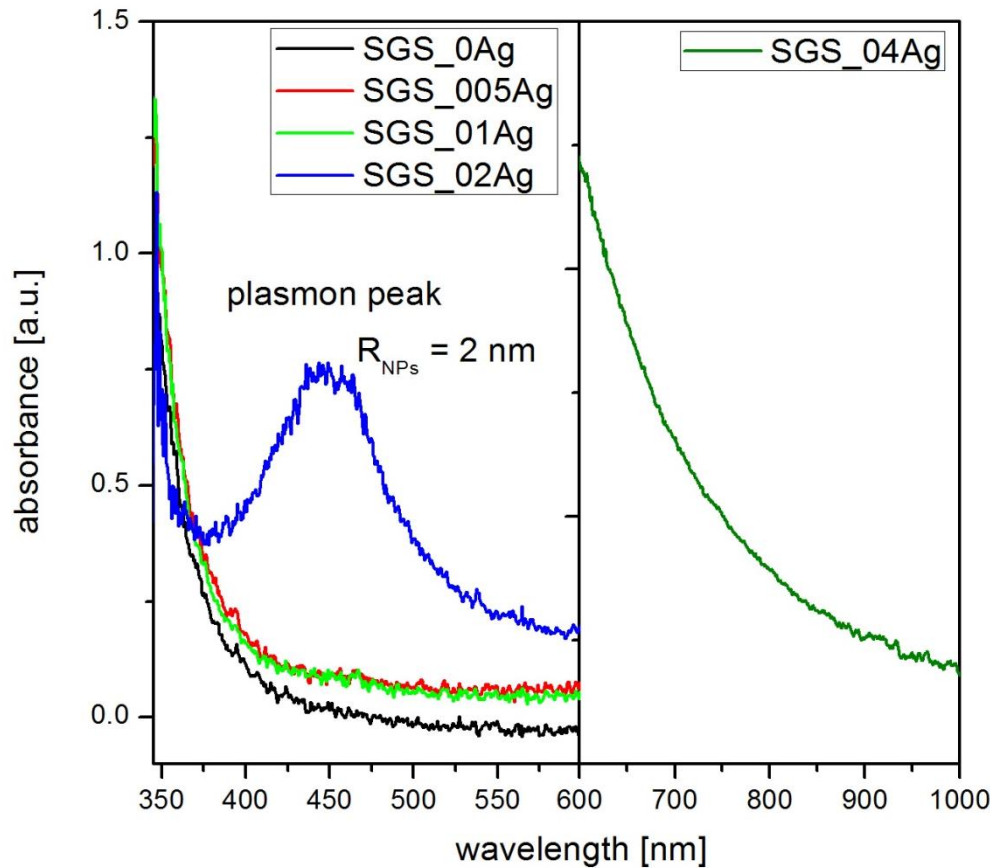


# Luminescence vs Ag content

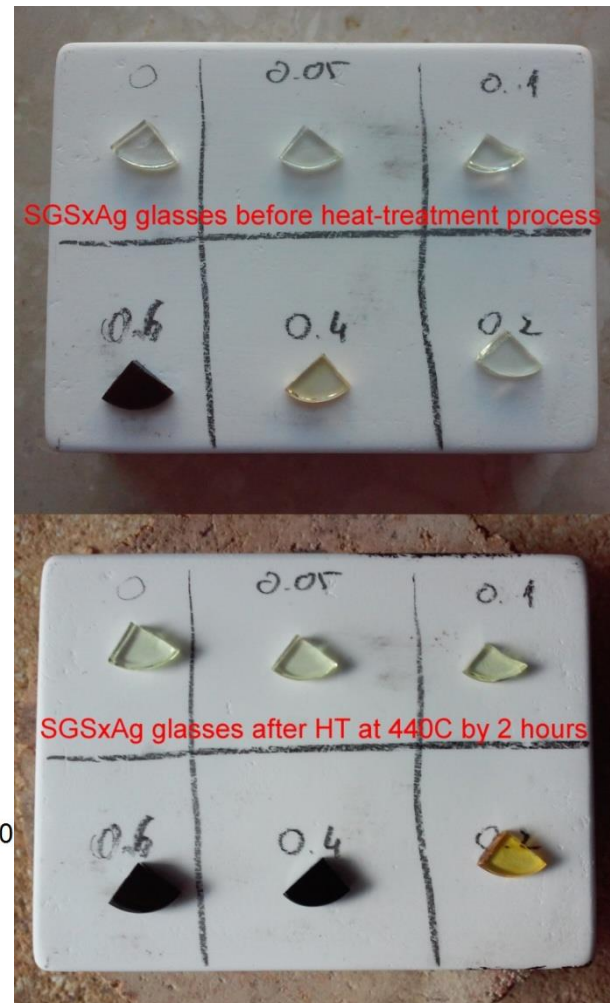


Luminescence spectra of **SGS** glasses with different content of  $\text{AgNO}_3$  excited under 397 nm.  
(right) Simplified energy diagram with possible transition mechanisms.

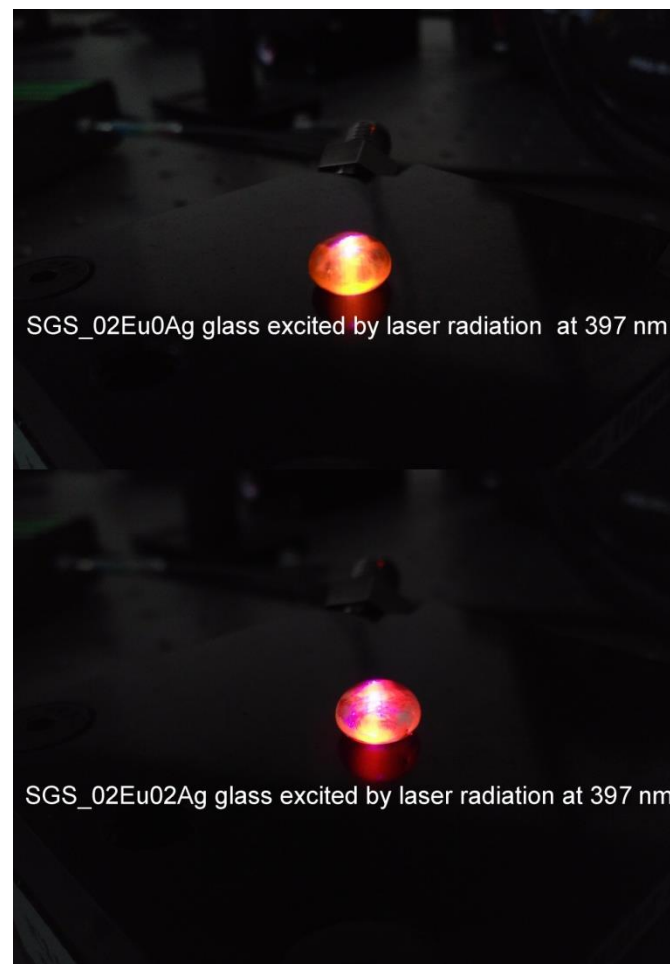
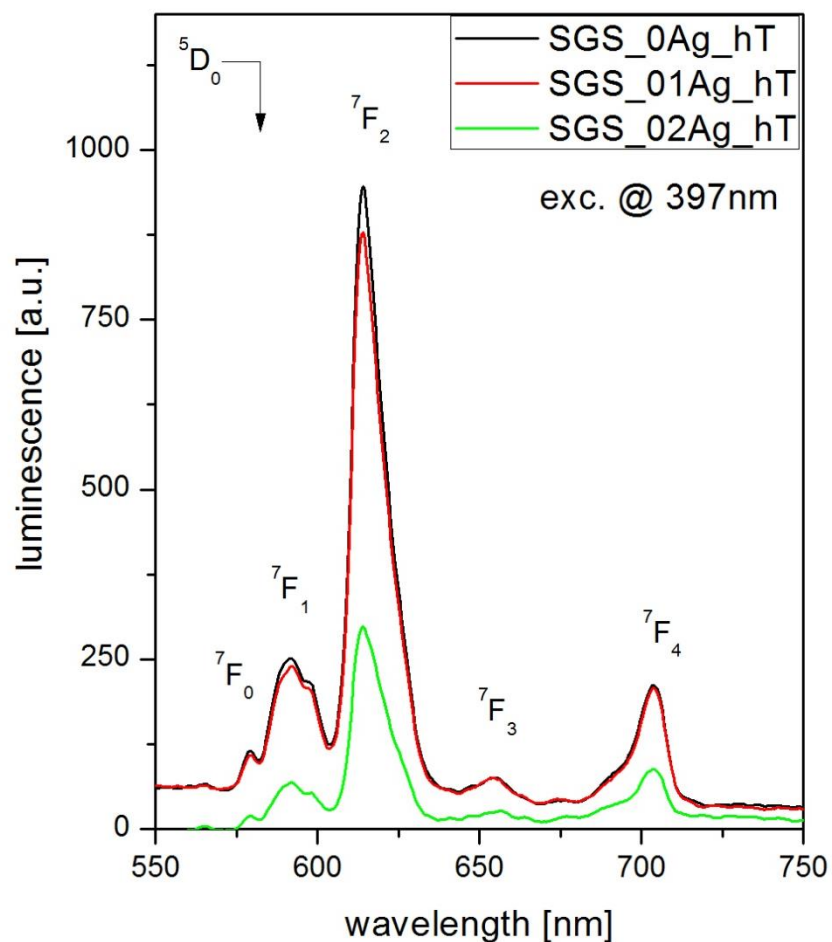
# Effect of heat-treatment



Absorbance spectra of SGSxAg glasses after heat-treatment process @ 440C by 2 hours



# Luminescence after HT



Luminescence spectra of **SGS** glasses with different content of  $\text{AgNO}_3$  excited under **397 nm** after heat-treatment process at **440C** by **2 hours**

# Experimental

Glasses SGS\_xAgRE:  $\text{Sb}_2\text{O}_3$  -  $\text{GeO}_2$  -  $\text{SiO}_2$  -  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  -  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}$   
co-doped with  $x\text{Ag}^+/\text{Eu}^{3+}$

## Step 1:

all samples doped with  $0.2\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$  and  $x\text{AgNO}_3$

Melting at  $1450^\circ\text{C}$  by 30min

Annealing at  $400^\circ\text{C}$  by 2h and slowly cooling by 12h

## Step 2:

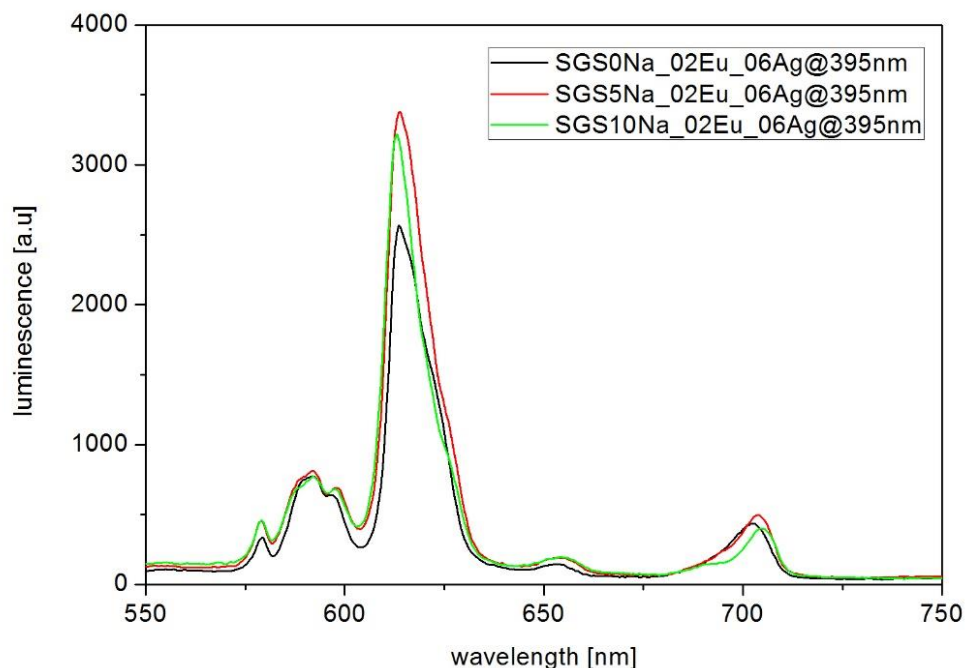
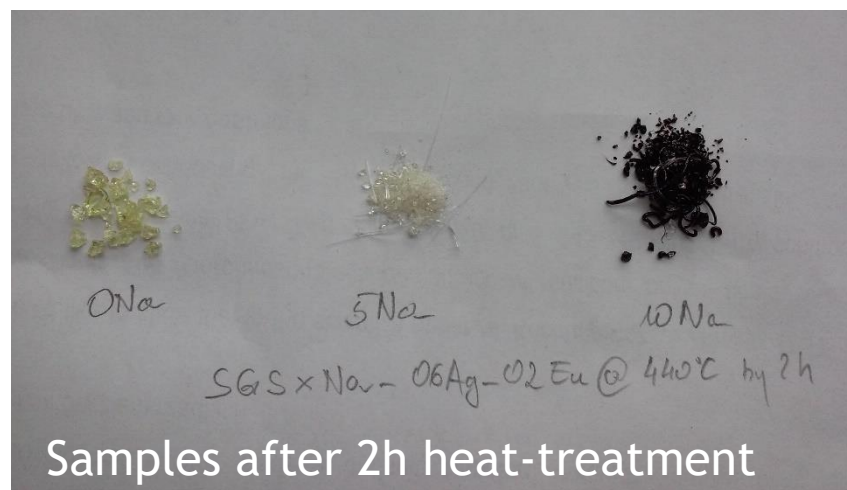
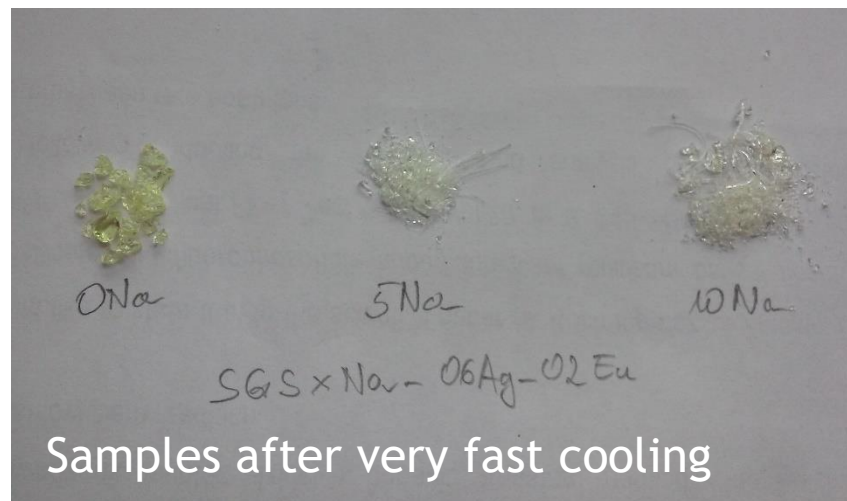
only SGSxNa\_06Ag02Eu

Melting at  $1450^\circ\text{C}$  by 30min

Very fast water cooling without annealing

# Minimalisation of thermochemical reduction process by glass modification - perspectives for nanocomposite optical fiber

Step2: Water cooling without annealing





# Experimental

Glasses SGB\_AgRE:  $\text{Sb}_2\text{O}_3$  -  $\text{GeO}_2$  -  $(1-x)\text{B}_2\text{O}_3$  -  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  -  $x\text{Na}_2\text{O}$   
co-doped with  $0.6\text{Ag}^+/0.2\text{Eu}^{3+}$

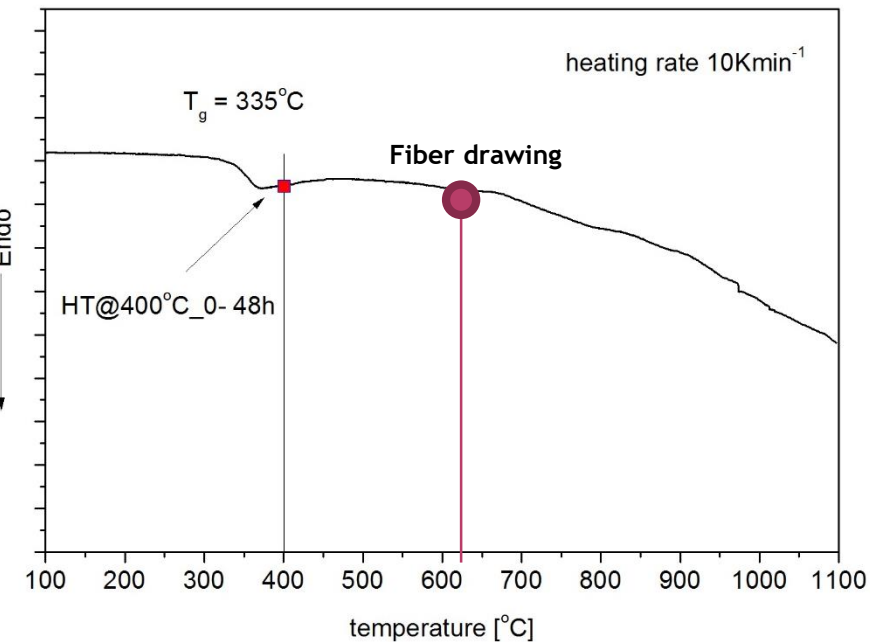
Melting  
 $1150^\circ\text{C}$

Annealing  
 $300^\circ\text{C}$

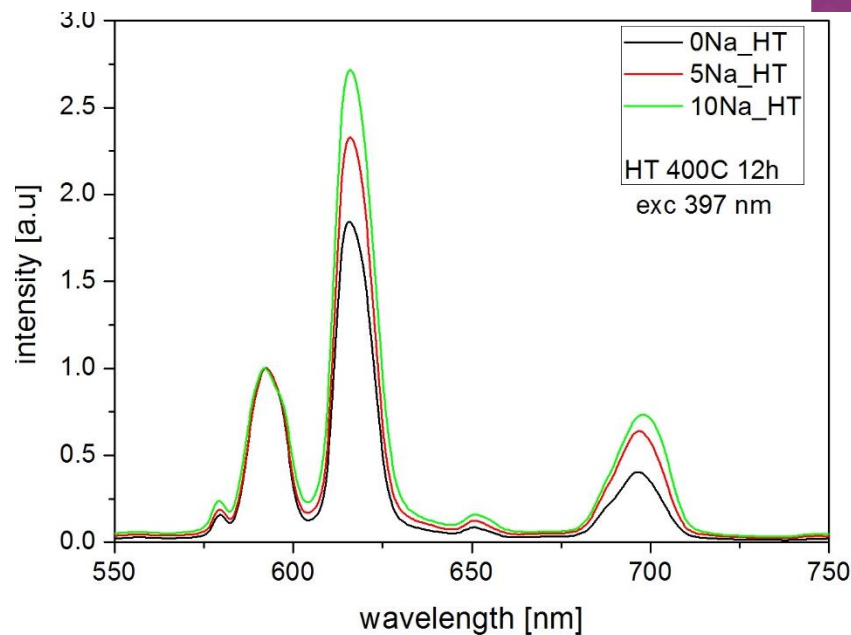
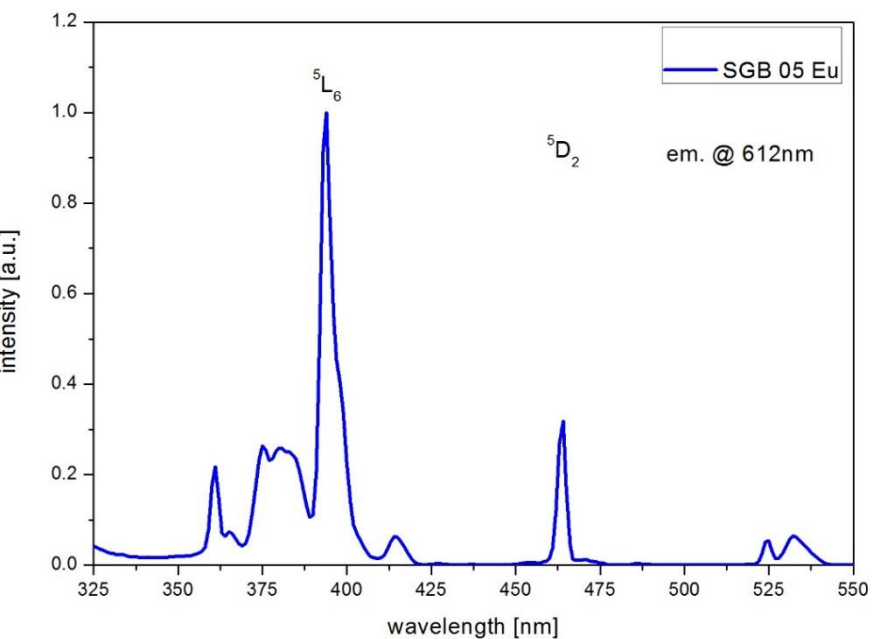
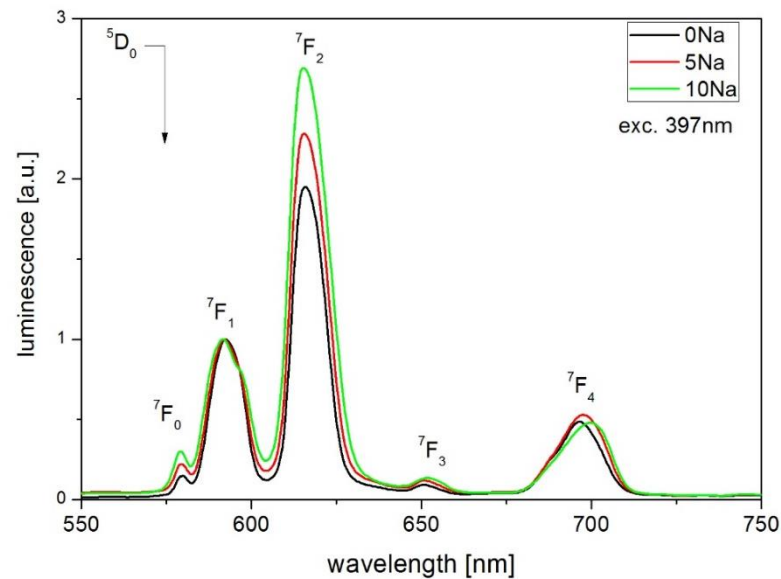
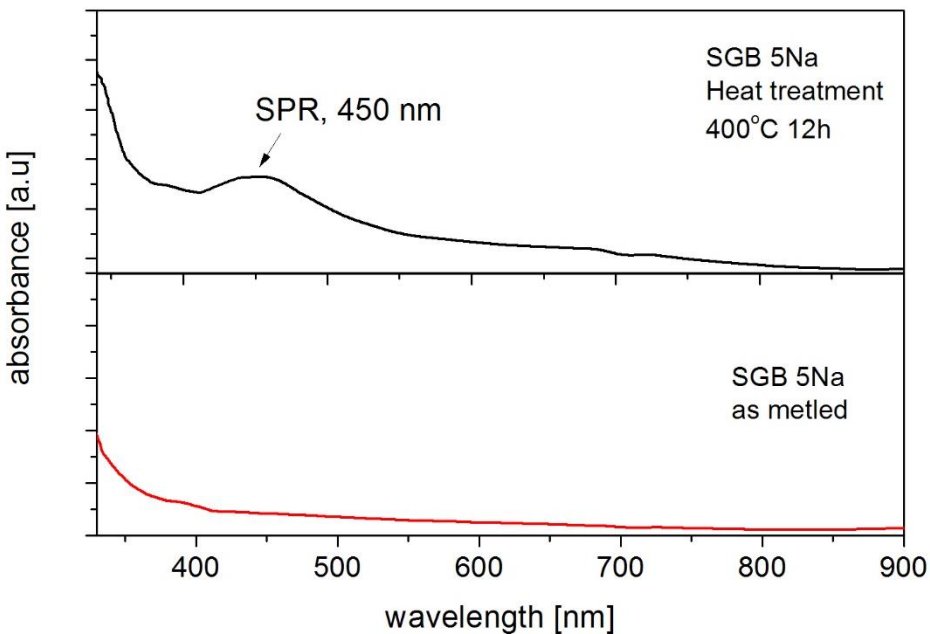
Heat treatment  
 $400^\circ\text{C}$   
12-48h

Fiber Drawing  
 $630^\circ\text{C}$

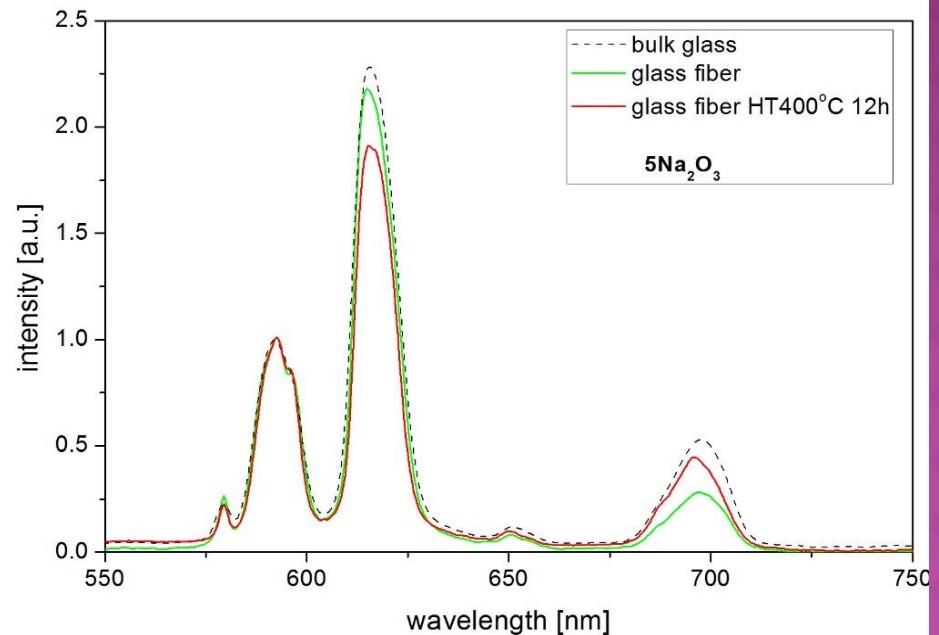
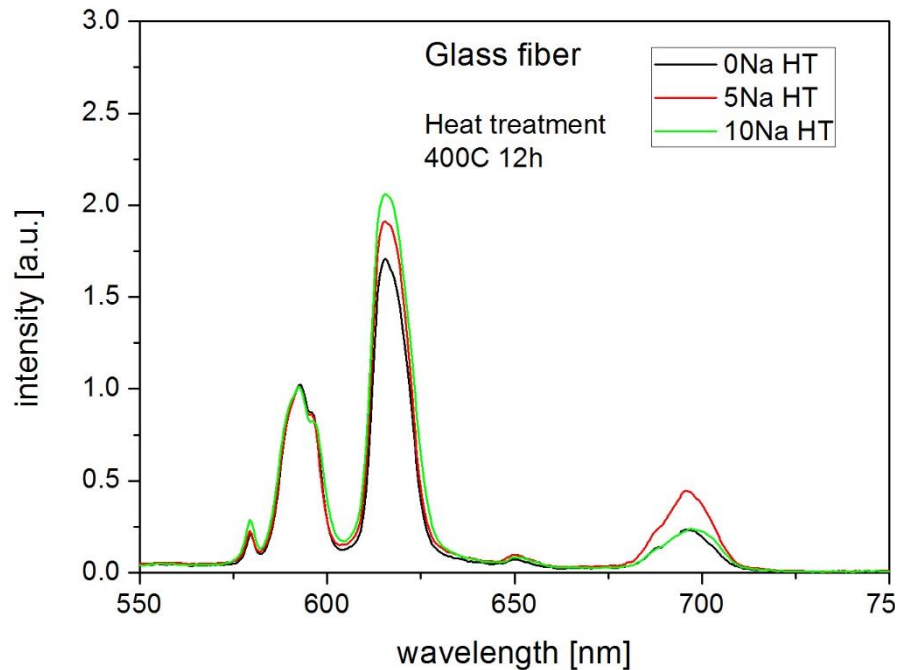
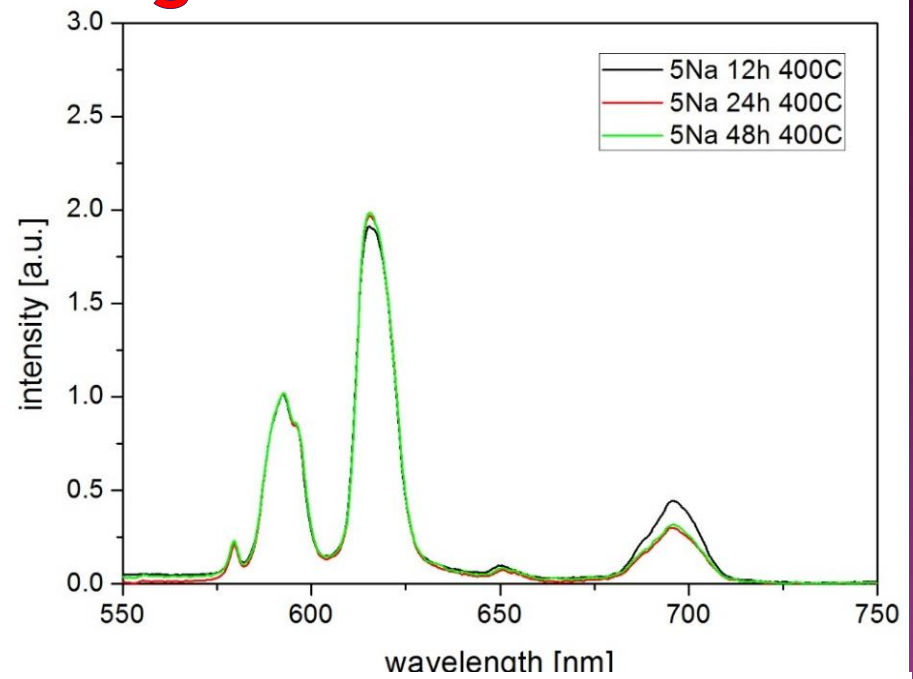
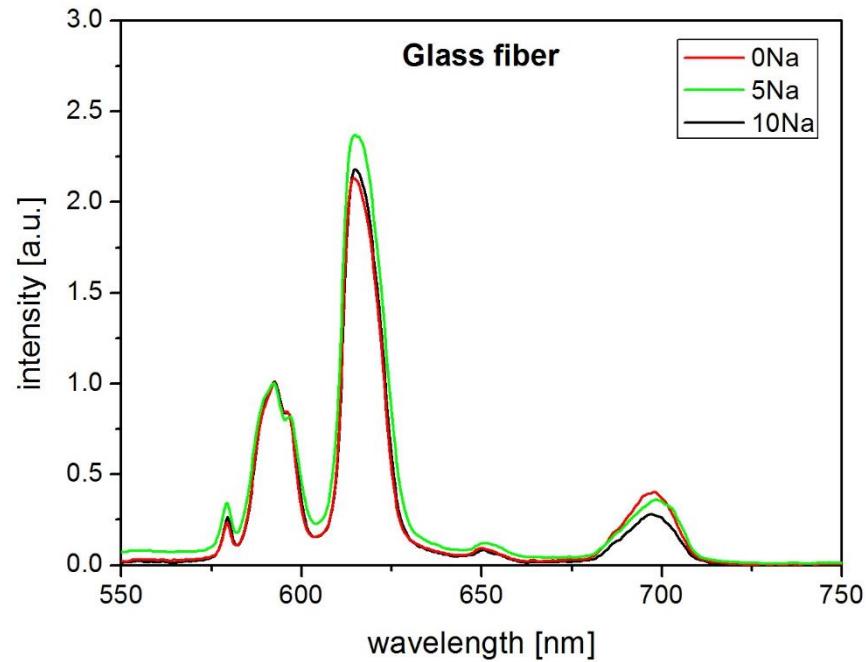
Heat treatment  
 $400^\circ\text{C}$   
12-48h



# Spectroscopic characterization of SGB\_06Ag02Eu Glasses



# Photoluminescence of SGB06Ag02Eu Glass Fiber



# Conclusions and perspectives

- Thermally stable glass  $\text{Sb}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{GeO}_2 + \text{SiO}_2 + \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{Na}_2\text{O}$  (SGS)
- Partial crystallisation effect in SGS glasses modified by P205 (up to 10mol%) directly in melt-quenching process (petrurgic method)
- Effect of Ag reduction during standard melt-quenching process (one-step method)
- Enhancement of luminescence signal at 613 nm ( $^5\text{D}_0 \rightarrow ^7\text{F}_2$ ) for laser excitation at 395 nm in glasses doped with 0.2AgNO<sub>3</sub>
- Modification of chemical composition of SGS glass to minimize thermochemical reaction of Ag ions (content of Na)
- Antimony - germanate - borate (SGB) glasses enables to fabricate optical fibers with SPR luminescence enhancement (Eu/Ag- nanoparticles)
- Construction and luminescence study of optical fibers co-doped with Ag/ Au nanoparticles and RE ions

# Acknowledgments

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- ◉ National Science Centre (Poland) „*New antimony glasses with mixed low, high - phonon energy for the construction of active optical fibers*” No. DEC-2012/07/B/ST8/04019, (2013-2016).
- ◉ National Science Centre (Poland) ” *Optical fibers doped with noble metal nanoparticles*” granted on the basis of the decision No. DEC-2016/21/D/ST7/03453 (2017-2019)
- ◉ The COST Action MP1401 “*Advanced fibre laser and coherent source as tools for society, manufacturing and life science*” is also acknowledged.



**Thank You For Your Attention**