

## Broadband orange phosphor by energy transfer between $Ce^{3+}$ and $Mn^{2+}$ in $Ca_3Al_2Ge_3O_{12}$ garnet host.

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### Streszczenie

$Ca_3Al_2Ge_3O_{12}$  phosphors, singly doped with  $Ce^{3+}$  and co-doped with  $Mn^{2+}$ , were synthesized by the solid-state reaction in ammonia atmosphere at 1200 °C using  $Li_2CO_3$  as a flux. The band gap energy of the host was determined to be 3.7 eV. In these phosphors,  $Ce^{3+}$  ions exclusively occupy the  $Ca^{2+}$  site, while  $Mn^{2+}$  ions occupy both the  $Ca^{2+}$  and  $Al^{3+}$  sites. Under 420 nm excitation, the  $Ce^{3+}:Ca_3Al_2Ge_3O_{12}$  phosphor emits bluish-green light from  $Ce^{3+}$  (470 nm) with a Stokes shift established at 2280  $cm^{-1}$ . The  $Ce^{3+}/Mn^{2+}:Ca_3Al_2Ge_3O_{12}$  phosphor excited at 420 nm emits orange light (580 nm) from  $Mn^{2+}$  in the  $Ca^{2+}$  site due to the  $Ce^{3+} \rightarrow Mn^{2+}$  energy transfer almost exclusively to this site.  $Ce^{3+}$  emission in the co-doped phosphor is very weak, even for relatively small concentrations (1%) of  $Mn^{2+}$ . For  $Mn^{2+}$  concentration of 5% it disappears almost completely. Luminescence quantum yields of these phosphors amount to 24% and 20% in the case of  $Ce^{3+}:Ca_3Al_2Ge_3O_{12}$  and  $Ce^{3+}/Mn^{2+}:Ca_3Al_2Ge_3O_{12}$ , respectively. The critical distance for  $Ce^{3+} \rightarrow Mn^{2+}$  energy transfer was calculated to be 6.2 Å and the efficiency of the energy transfer was estimated as 88%. These parameters suggest a non-uniform distribution of doped ions and the formation of Ce-Mn clusters.

### Słowa kluczowe

$Ca_3Al_2Ge_3O_{12}$  garnet phosphor, melamine as reducing agent, photoluminescence, Ce/Mn energy transfer, Phosphor for w-LED, Cluster luminescence

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