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## BaLiF3: Ni<sup>2+</sup> Spectroscopic Analysis of Laser Capabilities

Evely Martins, Nilson Dias Vieira Junior and Sonia Licia Baldochi

Instituto de Pesquisas Energéticas e Nucleares Caixa Postal 11049 - 05422-970 -São Paulo -Brazil

The properties of transition metal ions in insulating matrices have received renewed interest in recent years mainly as an outcome of their potential usefulness for construction of vibronic solid state lasers. Ions with the configuration 3d provide particularly appropriate such candidates since in this case the  ${}^3T_2$  state approaches or fall below the  ${}^3A_2$  state and gives rise to broad vibronic emission.

Host materials doped with Ni<sup>2+</sup> in octahedral sites show a vibronically broadened emission band in the near infrared around 1,5 μm, with is useful for tunable solid state lasers. Although Ni<sup>2+</sup> in this symmetry is being investigated since 1963 [L.F.Johnson et all, Phys. Rev. Lett., 11,318(1963)], CW-operation at room temperature has not yet been achieved. We have investigated the spectroscopic properties of new Ni<sup>2+</sup> doped perovskite, BaLiF<sub>3</sub>, as potential new laser materials.

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