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## Crystal growth, optical characterisation and laser operation of $\text{Yb}^{3+}$ in monoclinic double tungstates

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*Crystal growth, optical characterisation and laser operation of  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  in monoclinic double tungstates*

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This Thesis discusses a specific group of materials, the monoclinic potassium rare-earth double tungstates ( $\text{KRE}(\text{WO}_4)_2$ ) un-doped and doped with lanthanide ( $\text{Ln}^{3+}$ ) ions. The study concerns the crystal growth, the optical characterisation and the laser operation of  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  in the stoichiometric  $\text{KYb}(\text{WO}_4)_2$  and  $\text{KLu}(\text{WO}_4)_2$  single crystals. The results obtained within this thesis show the huge potential of diode-pumped solid-state lasers for compact, reliable and powerful sources of coherent radiation around  $1\mu\text{m}$ .

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