

*AB INITIO CALCULATION OF THE ELECTRONIC TRANSITIONS OF Er<sup>3+</sup> DOPED INTO GaN*

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As a potential application in optical communications, the 1.54  $\mu\text{m}$  photoluminescence ( $^4I_{13/2} \rightarrow ^4I_{15/2}$  intra-4f shell emissions) of Er<sup>3+</sup> doped in the semiconductor GaN has been studied extensively since 1983. Few *ab initio* calculations touched this system before because of the difficulties dealing with the large number of electrons and the significant relativistic effects related to Er<sup>3+</sup>. Based on relativistic effective core potentials, spin-orbit configuration interaction calculations have been performed on this system. The study of the wave function character and energy of both the ground and excited states of ErN<sub>4</sub><sup>9-</sup> plus the computation of the transition moments between the states gives a better understanding of the experimental results.