

Effect of Mo co-doping on scintillation properties of Ce:Gd₃(Ga, Al)₅O₁₂ single crystal scintillators with various Al-to-Ga ratios

IMR, Tohoku Univ.¹, NICHe, Tohoku Univ.², C&A Corp.³

○Kyoung Jin Kim¹, Kei Kamada^{2,3}, Masao Yoshino¹, Yasuhiro Shoji³, Vladimir V. Kochurikhin³,
Akihiro Yamaji¹, Satoshi Toyoda², Hiroki Sato², Shunsuke Kurosawa², Yuui Yokota²,
Yuji Ohashi², Akira Yoshikawa^{1,2,3}
E-mail: kjkim72@imr.tohoku.ac.jp

The Cerium doped Gadolinium Aluminum Gallium Garnet (Ce:Gd₃(Ga,Al)₅O₁₂, Ce:GAGG) presented by Kamada et al. [1] is the most attractive scintillator material from the point of view of light output, decay time, energy resolution, density and absence of intrinsic radioactivity [2]. Many studies have been continued on the effects of rare earth doping and/or co-doping with various cations in GAGG crystal structure, multicomponent garnet based on Y₃Al₅O₁₂ (YAG) crystal with an admixture of Ga and Gd, to improve its properties. It was reported that the scintillation properties of Ce:GAGG are dependent on the ratio of Ga to Al [3,4].

In this study, the performance of Mo co-doped Ce0.5%:Gd₃Ga_xAl_{5-x}O₁₂ single crystal scintillators with different ratio of Al and Ga (x=2.4, 2.7, 3.0) was investigated. All these crystals were prepared by the micro-pulling down (μ -PD) method with a wide concentration range of the Mo co-dopant. We have investigated the relationship between the effect of reducing Ga content in Ce:GAGG and the effect of co-doping with Mo ion in Ce:GAGG. The scintillation properties of the grown crystals such as light yield and scintillation decay time and non-proportionality in scintillation response were evaluated. Light output was increased in a sample with the small amount of Mo concentration and maximum light output of 112% compared to the non co-doped Ce:GAGG was obtained in the Mo 300 ppm co-doped crystal with x=3.0. The scintillation decay was also accelerated to 57.2 ns by Mo 500 ppm co-doping with x=3.0. The Mo co-doped crystals with x=3.0 showed a higher light yield and faster decay time than those with x=2.4 and 2.7.

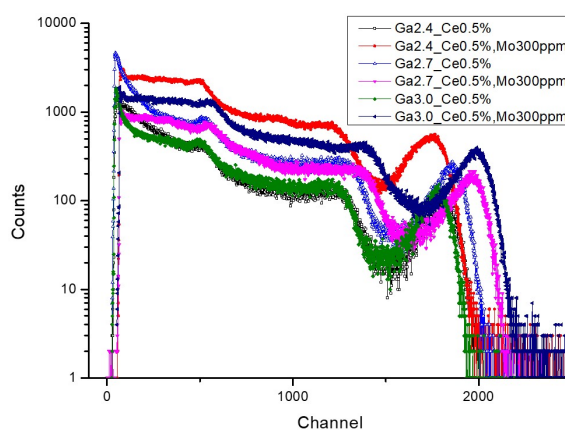


Fig. 1. Energy spectra of 662 keV γ -rays from a ¹³⁷Cs source measured with Mo co-doped and non co-doped Ce:GAGG crystals with different ratio of Al and Ga.

References

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