Gamma-Neutron Ceramic Scintillator Properties

GLuGAG

Transparent Optical Ceramic

High Density

Coincidence Timing

The Science Behind the Technology



Gamma-Neutron Ceramic Scintillation Detector







1" x 1"x 0.25" GLuGAG - Pulse Height Analysis

GLuGAG

 $(Gd,Lu)_3(Ga,Al)_5O_{12}$:Ce (GLuGAG) is a gamma-ray scintillator from the garnet family. It has high light yield and density, good energy resolution, fast response, and good coincident timing resolution. These properties make it a very promising scintillator for high energy radiography and Position Emission Tomography (PET) applications.

High-energy radiography (in MeV range) requires high stopping power defined by high density and effective Z. GLuGAG offers a good combination of stopping power and light yield making it an excellent alternative for CsI(TI), CdWO₄ and PbWO₄. Its low afterglow allows for high repetition rates.

Fast ounting and positron emission tomography (PET) are additional applications for GLuGAG. High light yield combined with fast decay time can produce sub-nanosecond timing resolution, currently benchmarked at approximately 500 ps (FWHM) using a PMT (improved results are expected utilizing red-sensitive SiPMs).

GLuGAG also can be used for neutron detection, as ^{nat}Gd has a high cross-section for thermal neutron absorption (48,890 barns). Thermal neutron capture generates a peak in the pulse height spectrum at ~70 keV. Thin layers of GLuGAG can be also be used for thermal neutron imaging.

GLuGAG is a stable and non-hygroscopic material. Its cubic crystal structure enables fabrication of large, uniform Transparent Optical Ceramic specimens. Current configurations include 1"x 1" right cylinders, 2.5" disks, 2"x 2"x 1.5" cuboid samples and arrays of different sizes for various applications.

| Material | (Gd,Lu) ₃ (Ga,Al) ₅ O ₁₂ :Ce |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Melting Point | 1930°C |
| Density | 6.8 g/cm ³ |
| Crystal Structure | Cubic |
| Water Solubility | Insoluable |
| Emission Spectral Range | 450-750 nm |
| Peak Scintillation Wavelength | 545nm |

| Decay Constants (Ce3+) | .75 ns, 190 ns, 1300 ns |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Scintillation Light Yield | 50,000 ph/MeV |
| GEE for Thermal Neutrons | 71 KeV |
| X-ray Absorption Coef. at 100 KeV | 12.6 cm ⁻¹ |
| X-ray Absorption Coef. at 662 KeV | 0.07 cm ⁻¹ |
| Radiation Length | 1.26 cm |
| Refractive Index | 1.81±0.02 @480 nm |

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