Crystal growth, optical and scintillation properties of (La,Gd)₂Si₂O₇:Tb crystals

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Cerium-activated gadolinium pyrosilicate-based crystals are among the brightest and fastest oxide scintillators [1,2]. Recently, the scintillation efficiency of gadolinium pyrosilicate upon activation with Tb³⁺ has been demonstrated, and the light output of 90,000 photons/MeV was achieved [3]. The production of bulk crystals of gadolinium pyrosilicate is limited by incongruent melting [4], whereas partial replacement of Gd³⁺ by larger lanthanide ions this matrix provides congruent melting compositions [5].

This report presents the studies of (La,Gd)₂Si₂O₇:Tb crystals with different La/Gd ratios grown by the Czochralski method from W crucibles in a reducing CO atmosphere (Fig. 1). The optical and scintillation properties of these materials were comprehensively studied.

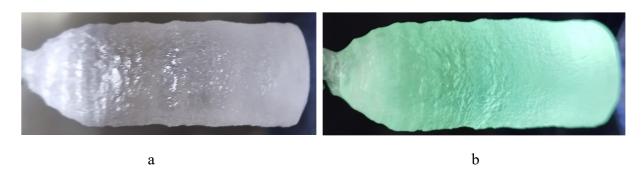


Figure $1 - (La,Gd)_2Si_2O_7$: Tb: a - in daylight, b - under UV irradiation

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