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GWU-Lasertechnik

## Neodymium Doped Yttrium Aluminum Garnet (Nd:YAG) Crystal

### Introduction

Nd:YAG is the earliest and most famous laser host crystal. Since it combines great advantages in many basic properties, Nd:YAG is the ubiquitous presence for near-infrared solid-state lasers and their frequency-doubler, tripler, and higher order multiplier.

## Advantages Of Nd:YAG

- High gain
- Low threshold
- High efficiency
- Low loss at  $1.06 \,\mu m$
- · Good thermal conductivity and thermal shock characteristics
- Mechanical strength
- High optical quality
- Material characteristics that allow for various modes of operation (CW, pulsed, Q-switched, mode locked)

#### **Basic Properties**

| Crystal Structure:                        | Cubic                                   |  |
|---|---|--|
| Lattice Constant:                         | 12.01 Å                                 |  |
| Melting Point:                            | 1970°C                                  |  |
| Density:                                  | 4.5g/cm <sup>3</sup>                    |  |
| Reflective Index:                         | 1.82                                    |  |
| Thermal Expansion Coefficient:            | 7.8x10 <sup>-6</sup> /K <111>, 0-250 °C |  |
| Thermal Conductivity (W/m/K):             | 14, 20°C<br>10.5, 100°C                 |  |
| Mohs Hardness:                            | 8.5                                     |  |
| Stimulated Emission Cross Section:        | 2.8x10 <sup>-19</sup> cm <sup>-2</sup>  |  |
| Relaxation Time of Terminal Lasing Level: | 30 ns                                   |  |
| Radiative Lifetime:                       | 550 μs                                  |  |
| Spontaneous Fluorescence:                 | 230 µs                                  |  |
| Linewidth:                                | 0.6 nm                                  |  |
| Loss Coefficient:                         | 0.003 cm <sup>-1</sup> @1064nm          |  |

## Specifications of Nd:YAG crystal from CASTECH

- Dimention: size up to dia.15x180mm and maximum diameter of dia.40mmx2mm
- Nd Dopant Level: 0.3~2.0(±0.1)atm%
- Diameter tolerance: ±0.05mm
- Length tolerance: ±0.5mm
- Perpendicularity: < 5 arc minutes
- Parallelism: <10 arc seconds
- Wavefront distortion:  $\lambda/8$
- Flatness:  $\lambda/10$
- Scratch/Dig: 10/5 @MIL-PRF-13830B
- Chamfer: 0.1mmx45°
- HR-Coating: R>99.8%@1064nm and R<5%@808nm
- AR-Coating (Single layer MgF2): R<0.25%@1064nm
- Other HR coatings, such as HR@1064/532 nm, HR@946 nm, HR@1319 nm and other wavelengths are also available.
- Damage Threshold: >500MW/cm<sup>2</sup>

| Optical Parameter of Nd:YAG crystal |                   |                    |                       |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Diameter (mm)                       | Standard grade    | Excellence grade   | Superexcellence grade |
| φ3-6.35                             | ≤0.5 fringes/inch | ≤0.25 fringes/inch | ≤0.1 fringes/inch     |
|                                     | ≥25dB             | ≥28dB              | ≥30dB                 |
| φ7-10                               | ≤0.7 fringes/inch | ≤0.4 fringes/inch  | ≤0.16 fringes/inch    |
|                                     | ≥22dB             | ≥25dB              | ≥28dB                 |
| φ11-13                              | ≤1 fringes/inch   | ≤0.6 fringes/inch  | ≤0.2 fringes/inch     |
|                                     | ≥20dB             | ≥23dB              | ≥26dB                 |
| φ14-16                              | ≤1.2 fringes/inch | ≤0.8 fringes/inch  | ≤0.25 fringes/inch    |
|                                     | ≥18dB             | ≥20dB              | ≥23dB                 |

Higher grade or specific Nd:YAG rods or slabs, and Nd:YAG rods for 946 nm and 1319 nm lasers can be provided. Er:YAG, Yb:YAG and other ion doped YAG crystals are also available upon request.



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