

LASER-WAVELENGTH DEPENDENCE OF LASER-PRODUCED-PLASMA EUV EMISSION

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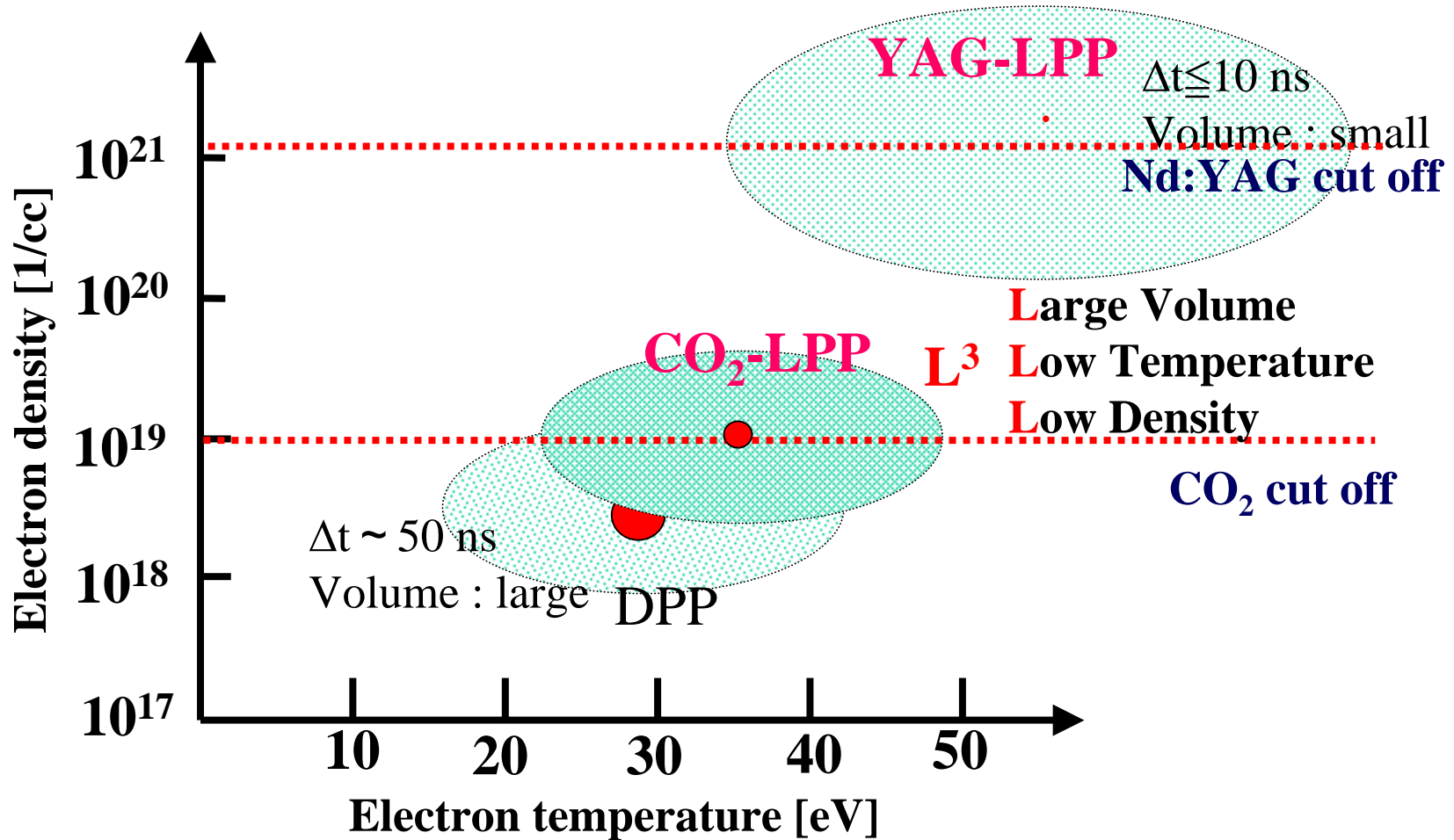
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Abstract

In the development of extreme ultra-violet (EUV) lithography source using laser-produced-plasma (LPP), it is important to investigate the optimum wavelength of the driver laser to obtain the high conversion efficiency. We have proposed the EUV generation pumped by CO₂ laser-produced plasma. The CO₂ laser beam (4 J, 50 ns FWHM) was focused on a Xe gas target and a Xe cryogenic target, and the EUV energy was measured by a Flying Circus II detecting system. The EUV energy was 3 mJ/pulse and the conversion efficiency of 0.2 % per 2 π sr at 13.5 nm (2% B.W.) in maximum for Xe targets. This value is comparable to that of YAG laser-produced Xe plasma, indicating the potential scalability of the EUV light source using a CO₂ laser produced plasma. During this conference, we will present the emission characteristics from YAG- laser produced plasma under the same experimental setup to investigate the laser-wavelength dependence of the EUV emission in detail.

EUV Light Generation from CO₂-LPP

--comparison between YAG and CO₂--



Plasma Size and Wavelength

Mass limited target :debris-free

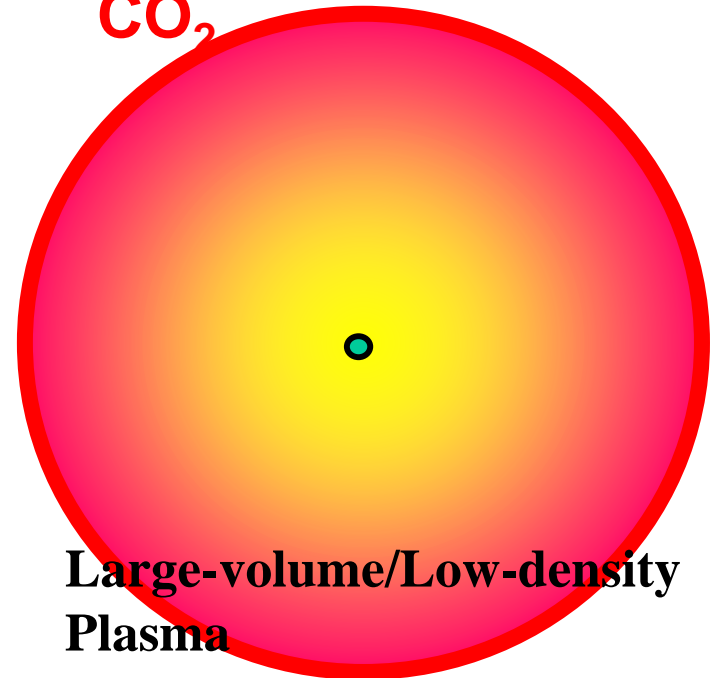
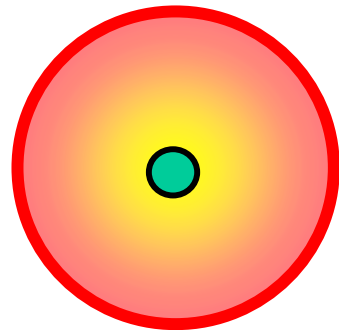
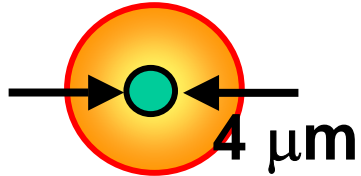
Provided that 3.3×10^{11} excited atoms @ 1 %

XeCl

Nd:YAG

CO₂

Sn: $3 \times 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-3}$



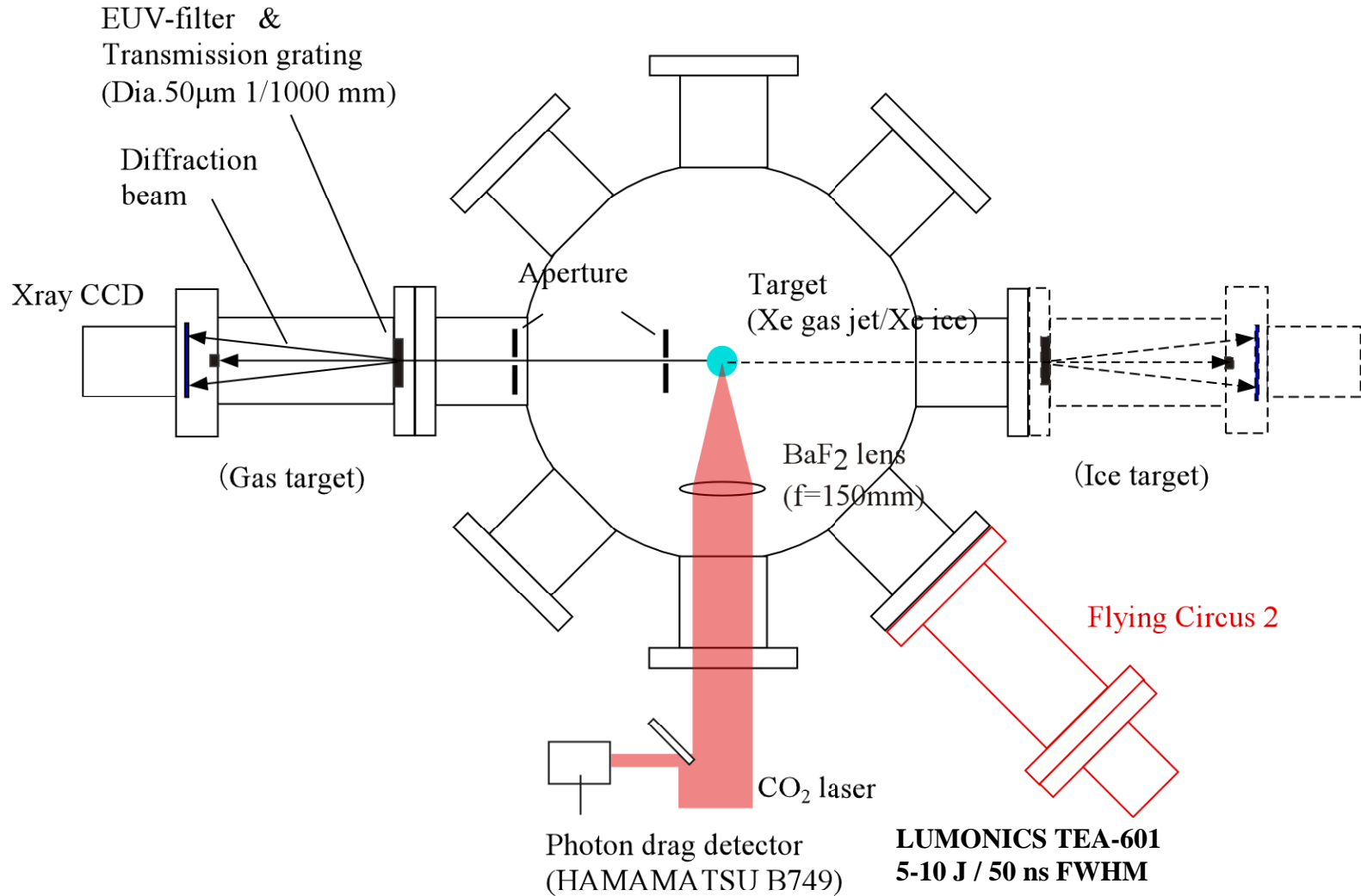
Small-volume/High-density
Plasma

Large-volume/Low-density
Plasma

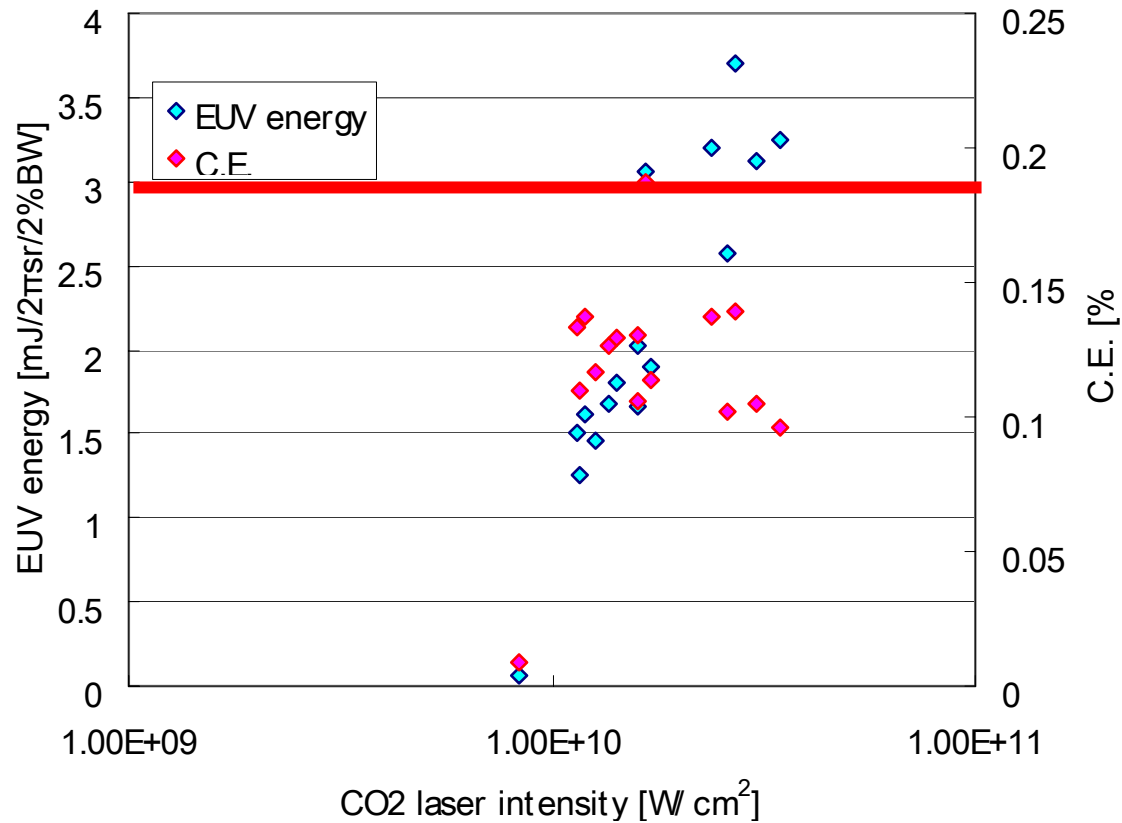
Short-pulse pumping

Long-pulse pumping

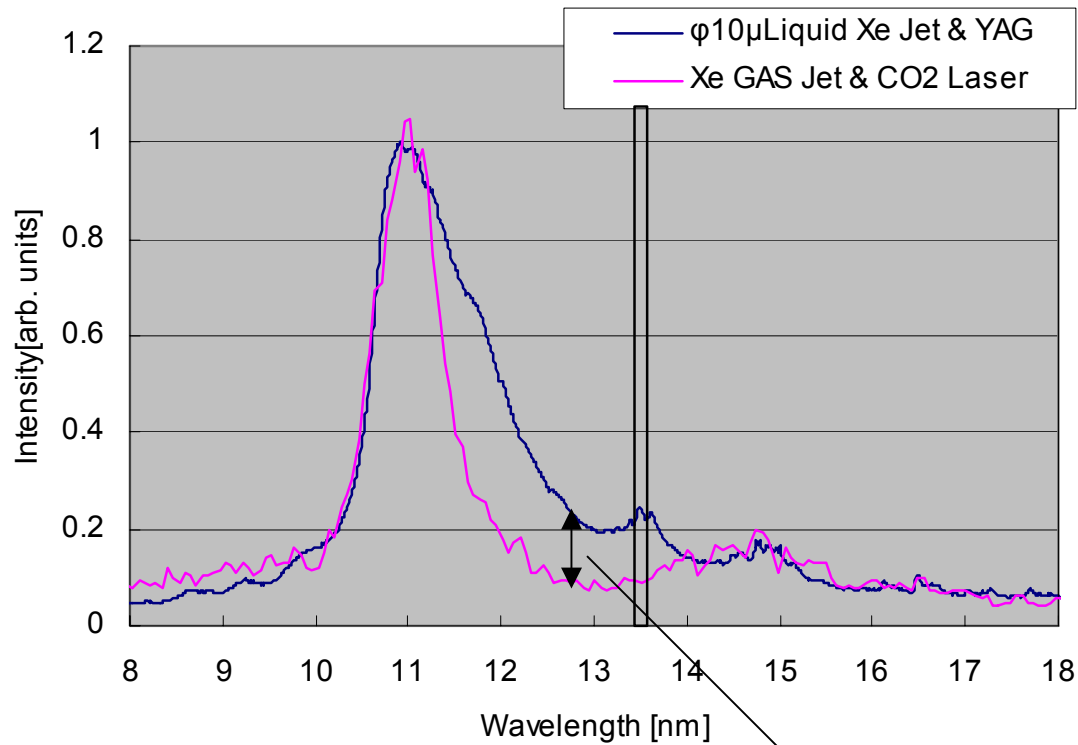
EUV Generation from Xe Target : Experimental Setup



Xe Gas Target - EUV In-band Energy & C.E.

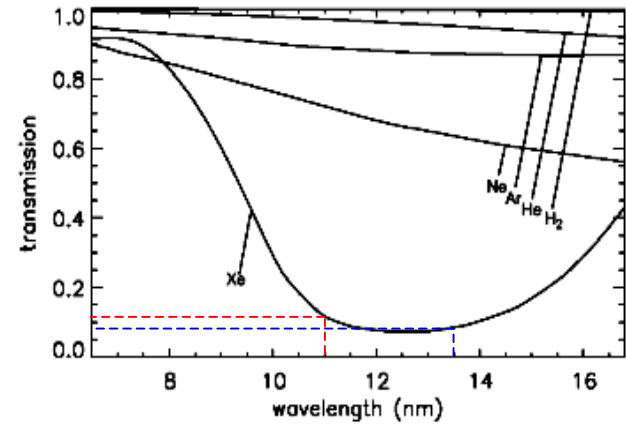


EUV Spectrum from Xe Gas-jet Target

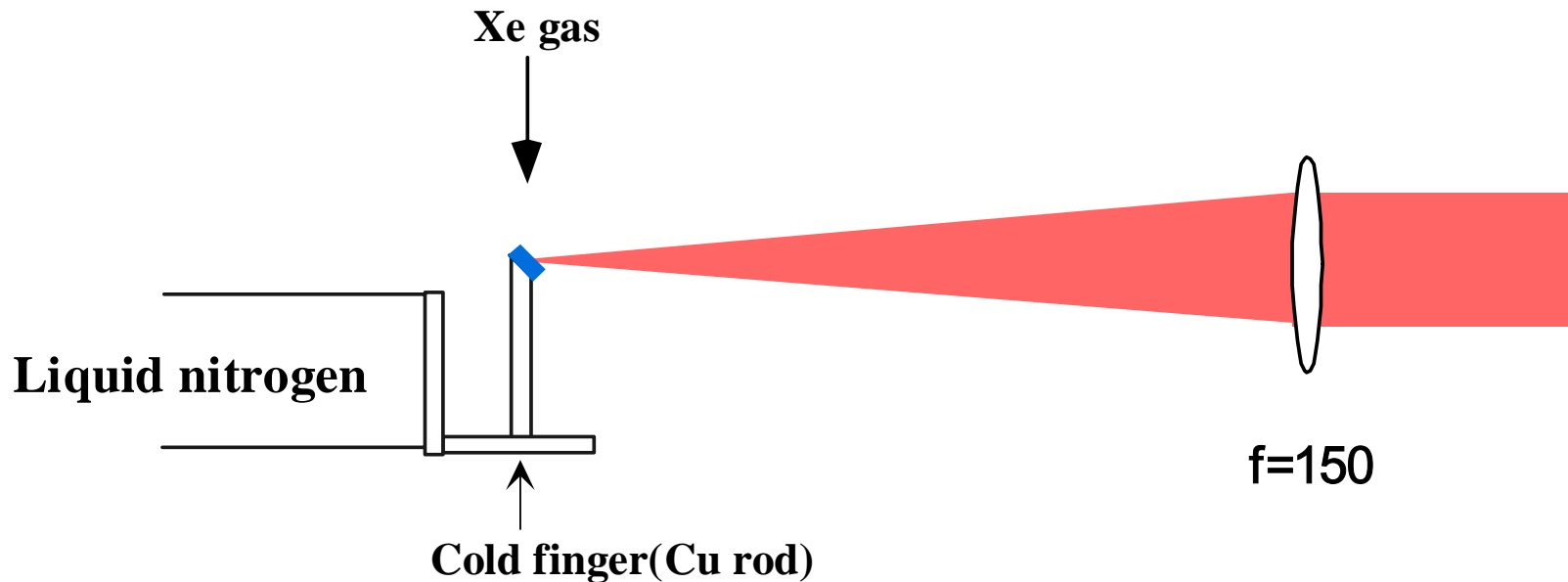


Absorption by Xe atoms

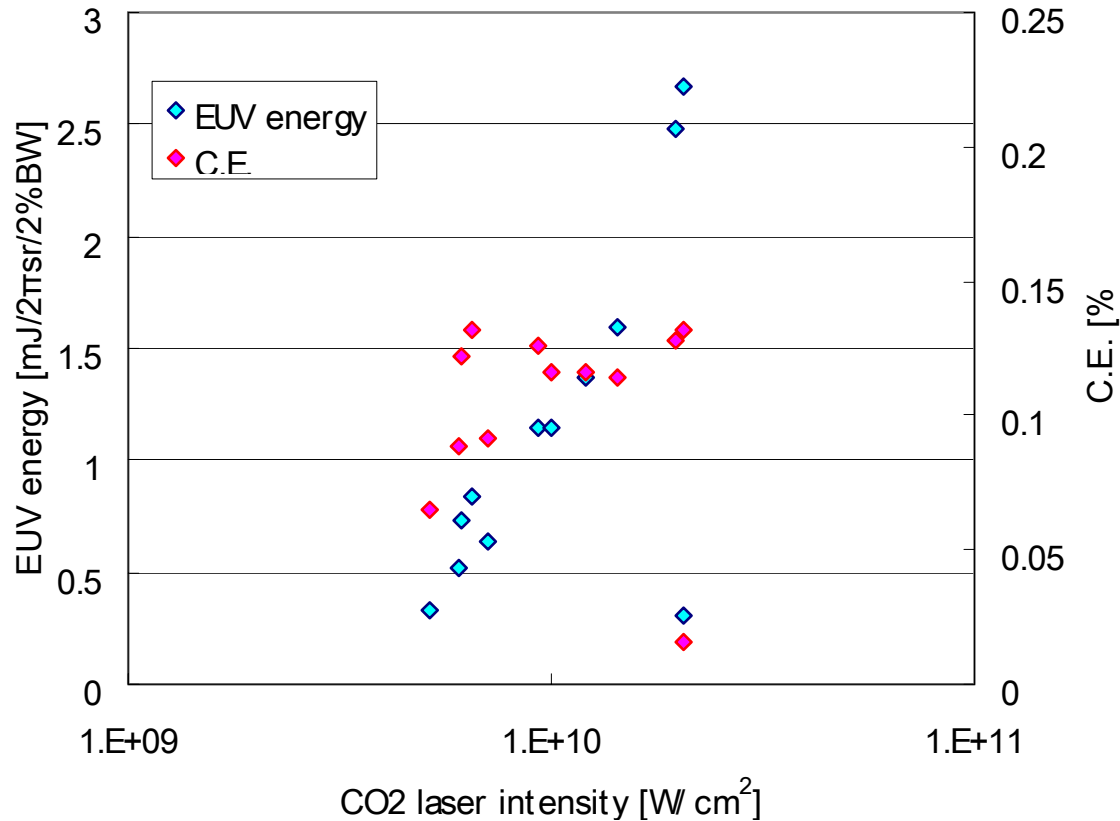
Transmission curves of Xe, H₂, He, Ar, and Ne



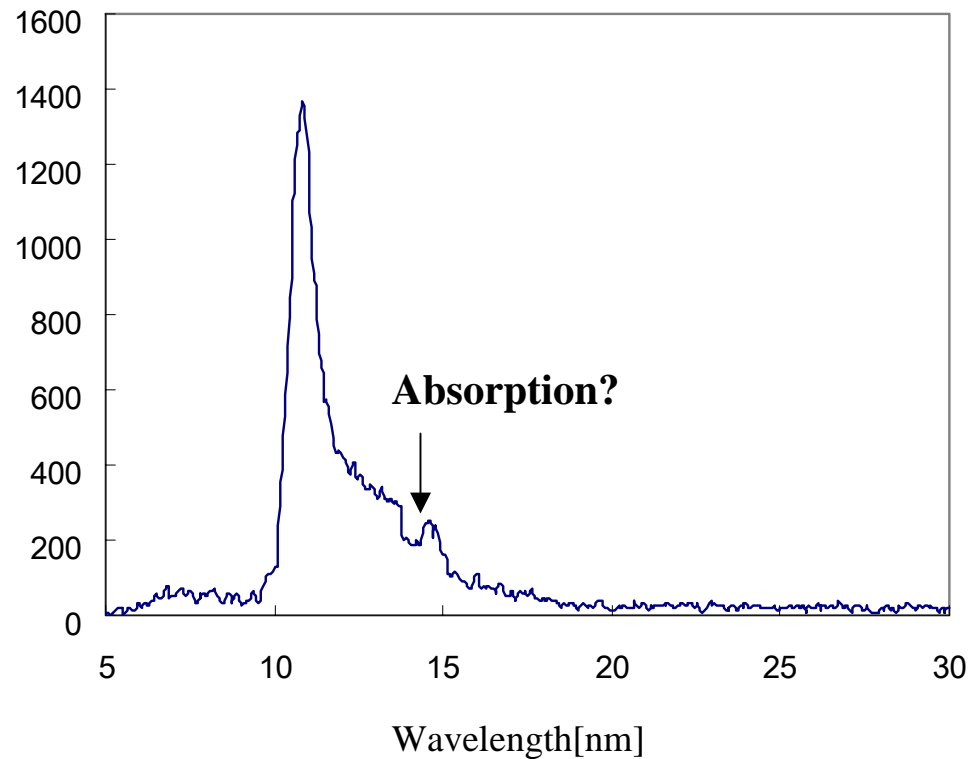
Xe Ice Target



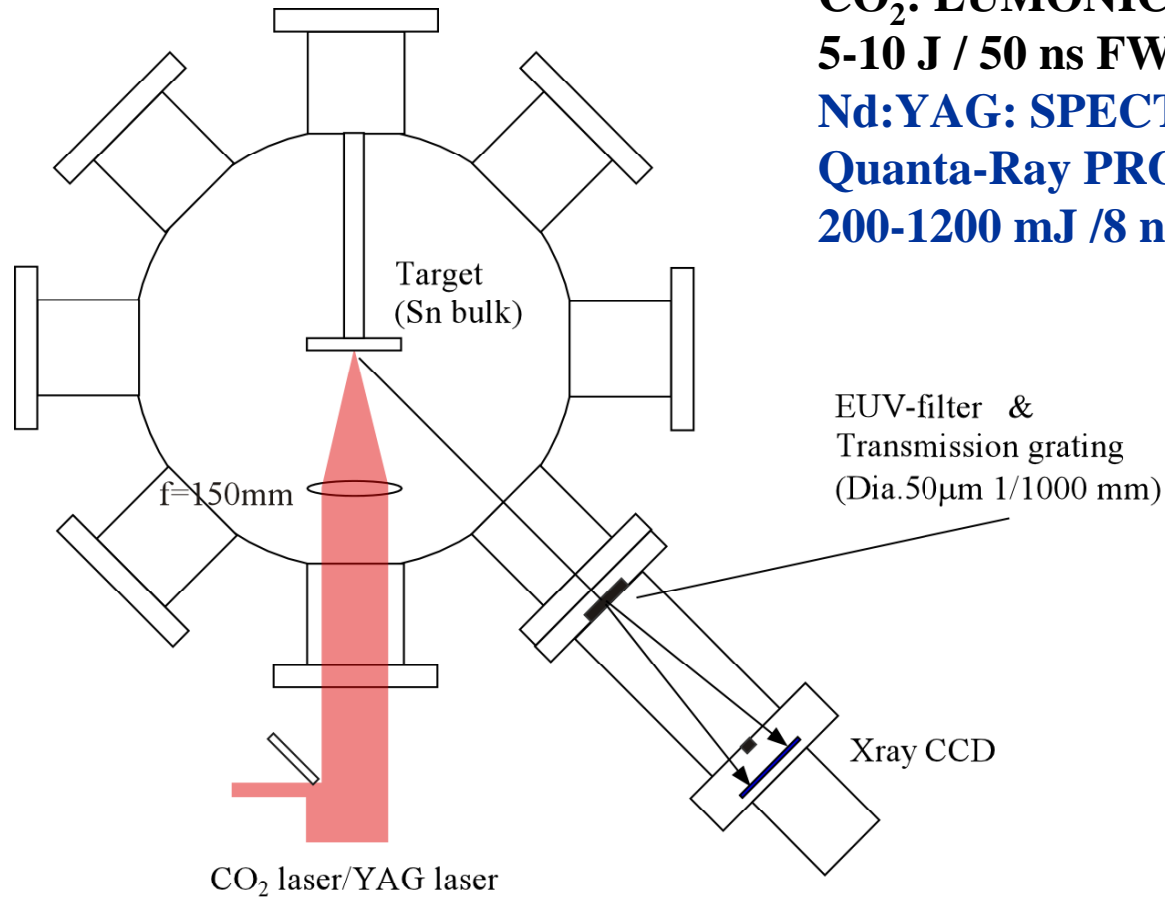
Xe Ice Target - EUV In-band energy & C.E. -



EUV Spectrum from Xe Ice Target

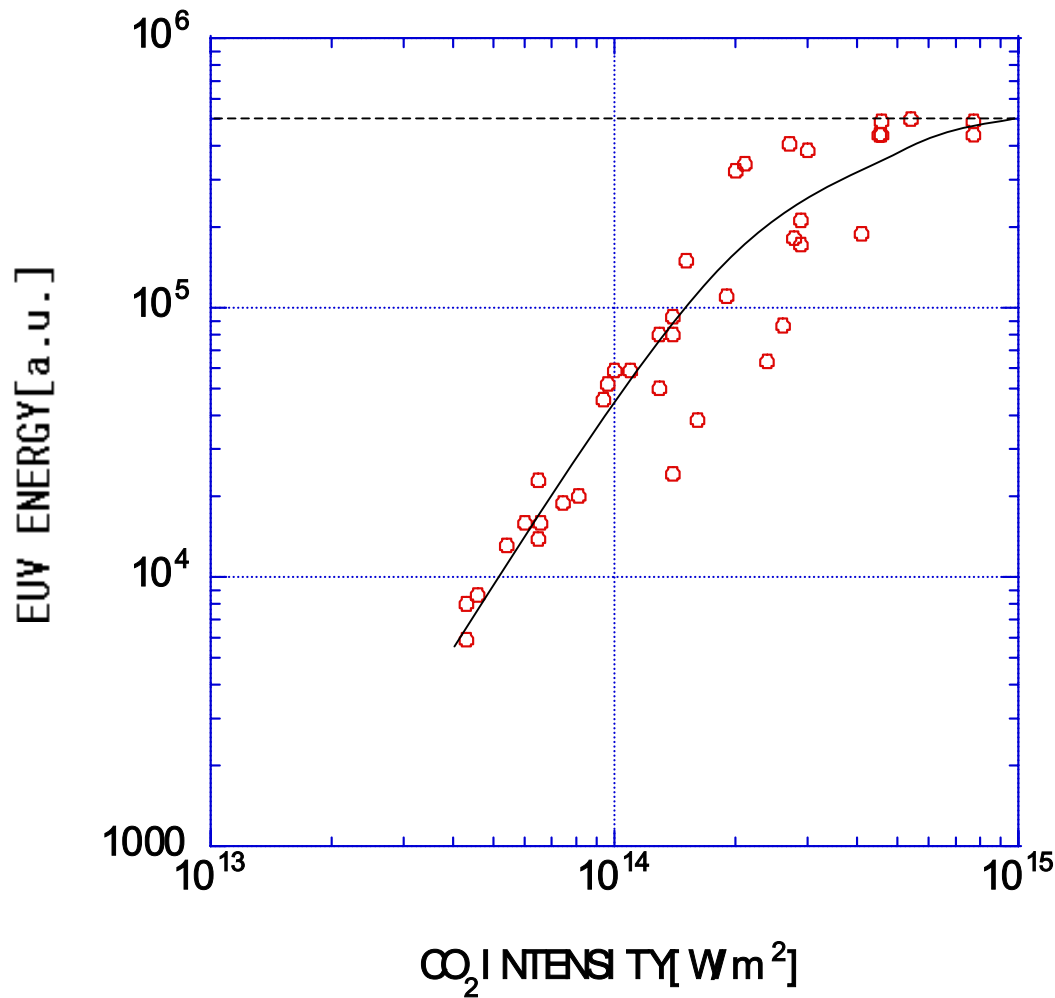


EUV Generation from Sn Target Pumped by CO₂/YAG Laser



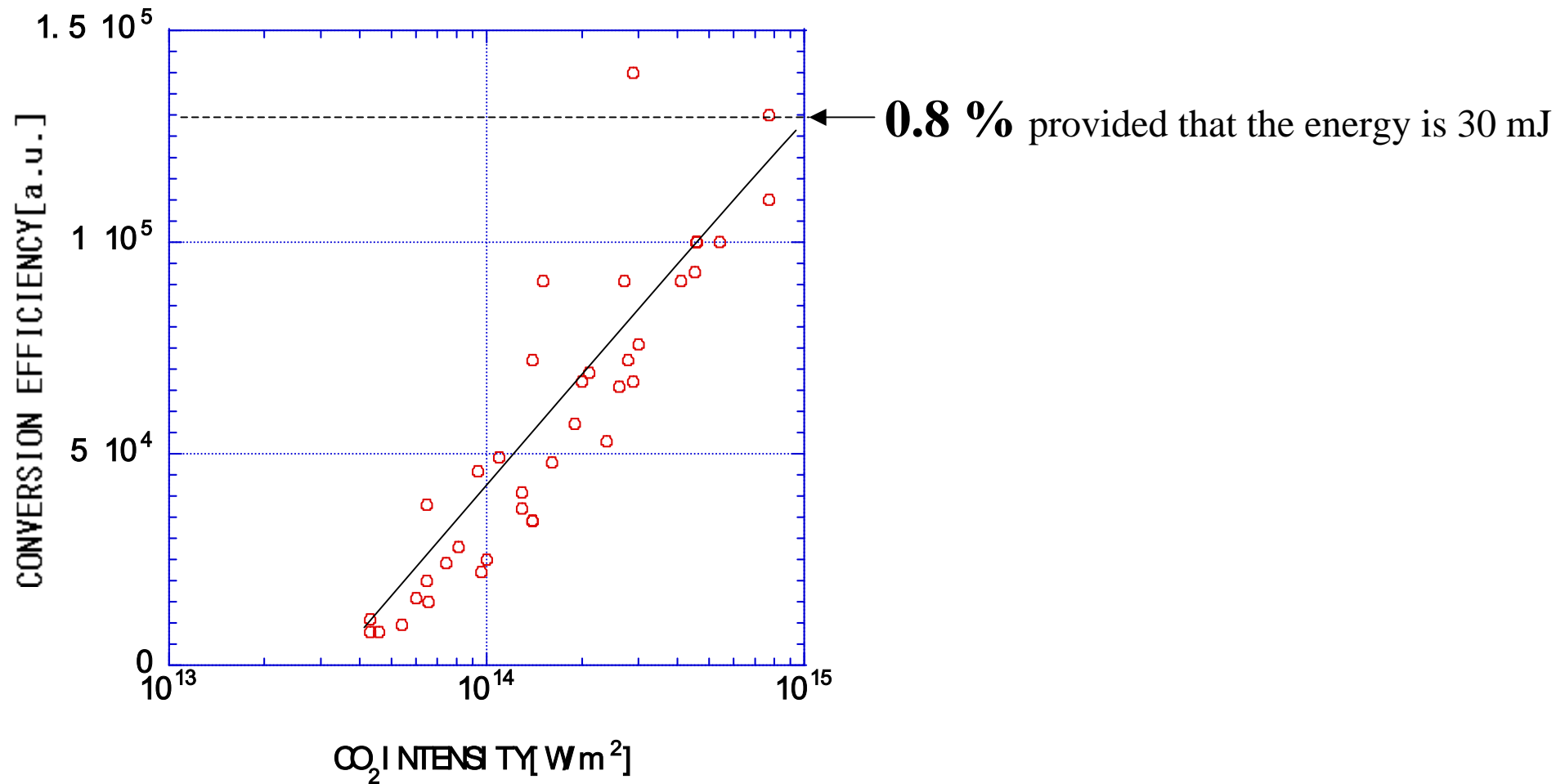
CO₂: LUMONICS TEA-601
5-10 J / 50 ns FWHM
Nd:YAG: SPECTRA-PHYSICS
Quanta-Ray PRO
200-1200 mJ / 8 ns FWHM

EUV (@13.5 nm) Energy by CO₂ Laser

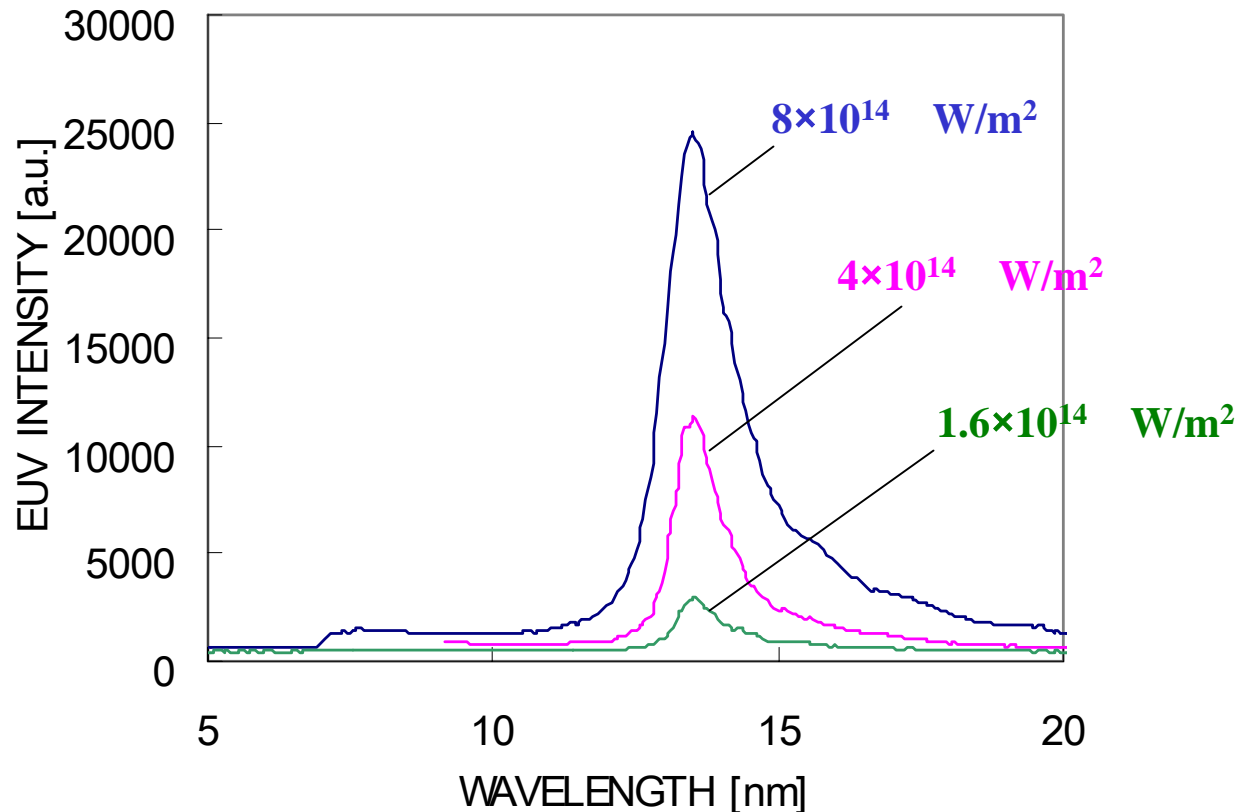


← **30 mJ** , provided that the EUV energy is 10 times larger than that of Xe target.

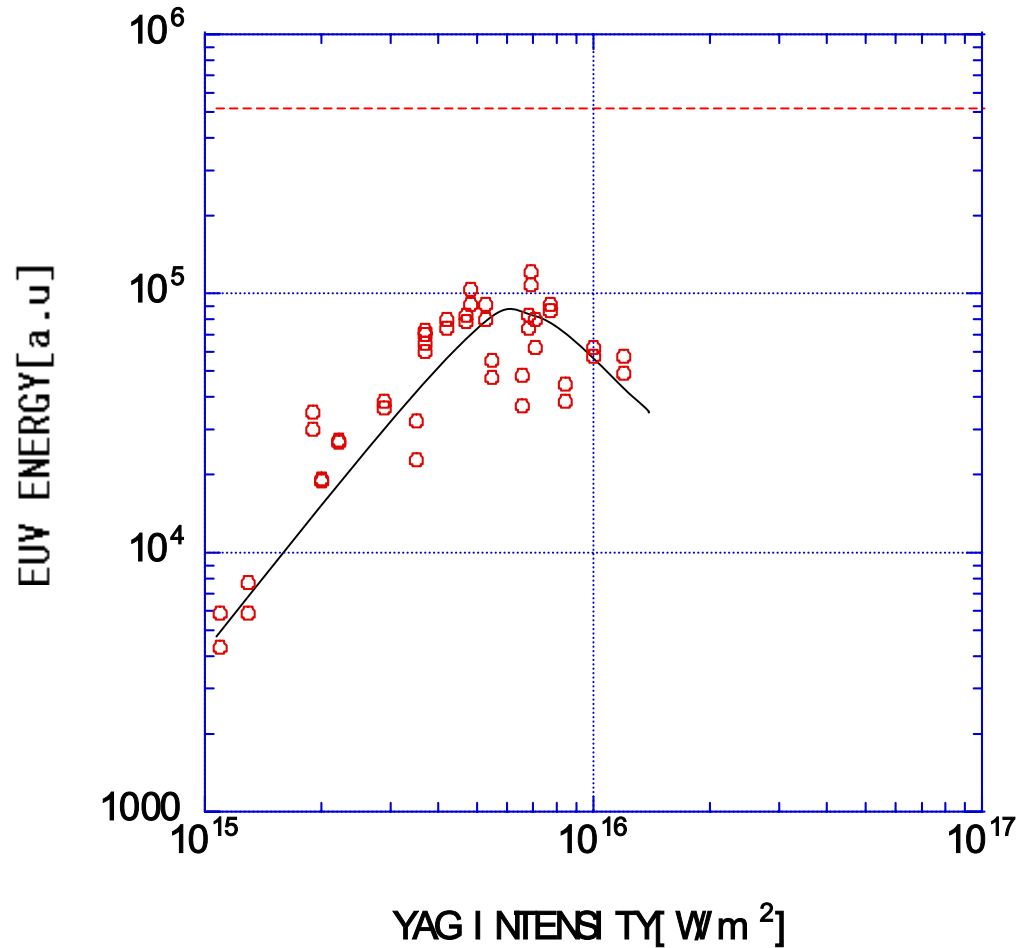
Conversion Efficiency by CO₂ Laser



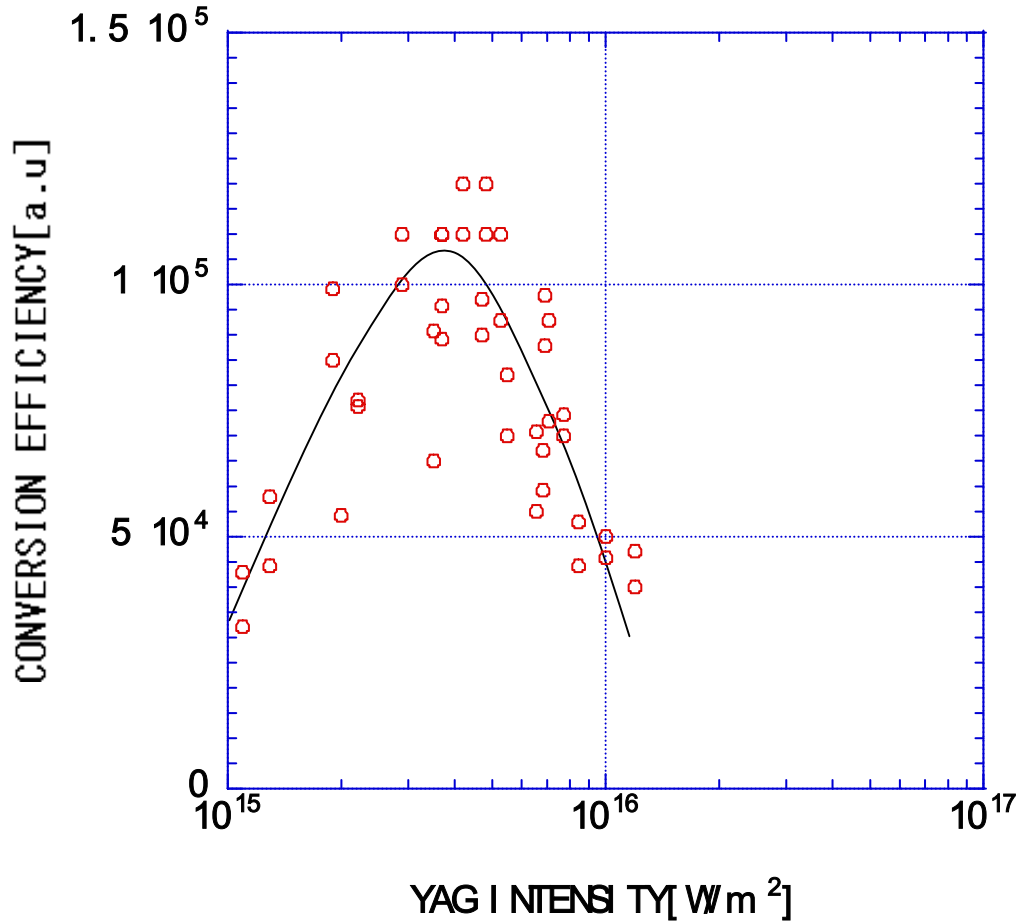
EUV Spectra of CO₂-LPP



EUV (@13.5 nm) Energy by YAG Laser



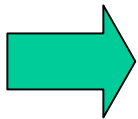
Conversion Efficiency by YAG Laser



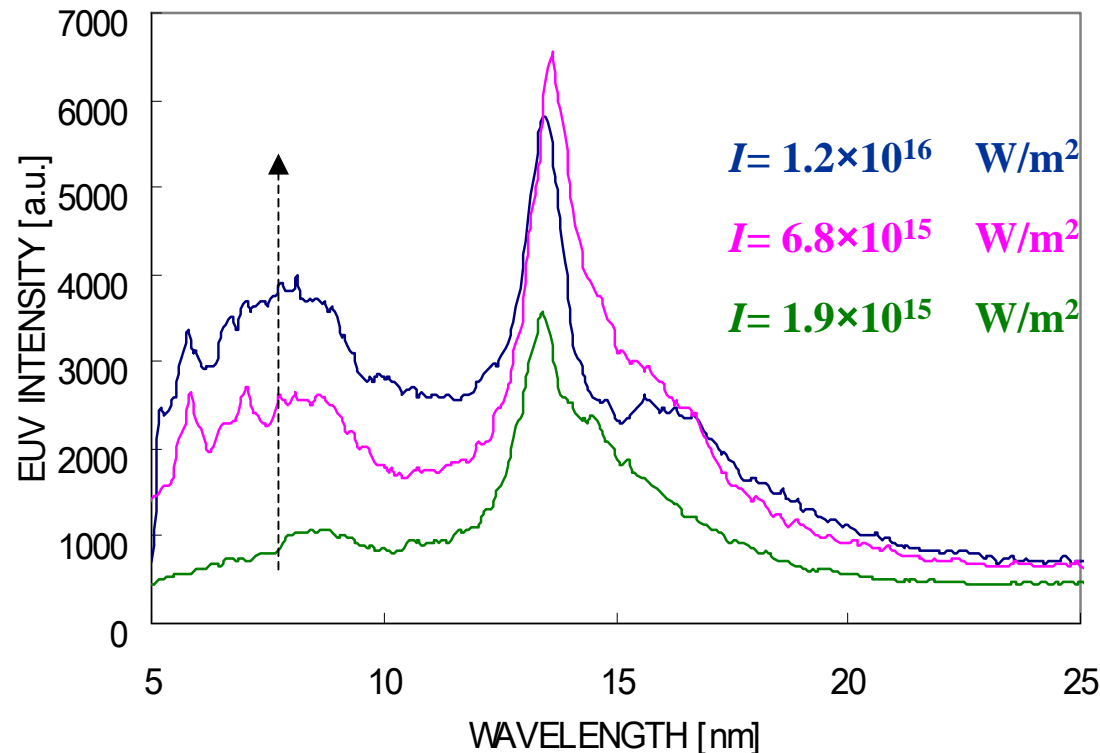
**Conversion efficiency decreases
in the input intensity more than
 5×10^{15} W/m^2**

EUV Spectra of YAG-LPP

Intensity at shorter wavelength increases with increase in the input intensity.



Input energy is transferred to higher excited levels?



Summary

For Xe target (gas-jet & ice)

We adopted a TEA-CO₂ laser as a driver laser.

An EUV output energy of more than 3 mJ and a conversion efficiency (C.E.) of 0.1-0.15 % per 2π sr at 13.5 nm.

For Sn (tin-bulk) target

A Nd:YAG laser and the TEA-CO₂ laser were used as the driver laser under the same experimental setup. In this experiment, the maximum C.E. of CO₂-LPP was almost same as that of YAG-LPP(~0.8%).

However, the characteristics of C.E. for the input power were quite different. The C.E. of CO₂-LPP might increase in the higher input power than that in this experiment.

Acknowledgement

We would like to thank Drs. T. Suganuma and G. Soumangne for their support in the experiments with a Flying Circus II. A part of this work was performed under the auspices of EUVA (Extreme Ultraviolet Lithography System Development Association).

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