



Novel Ultrafast $\text{Lu}_2\text{O}_3:\text{Yb}$ Ceramics for Future HEP Applications

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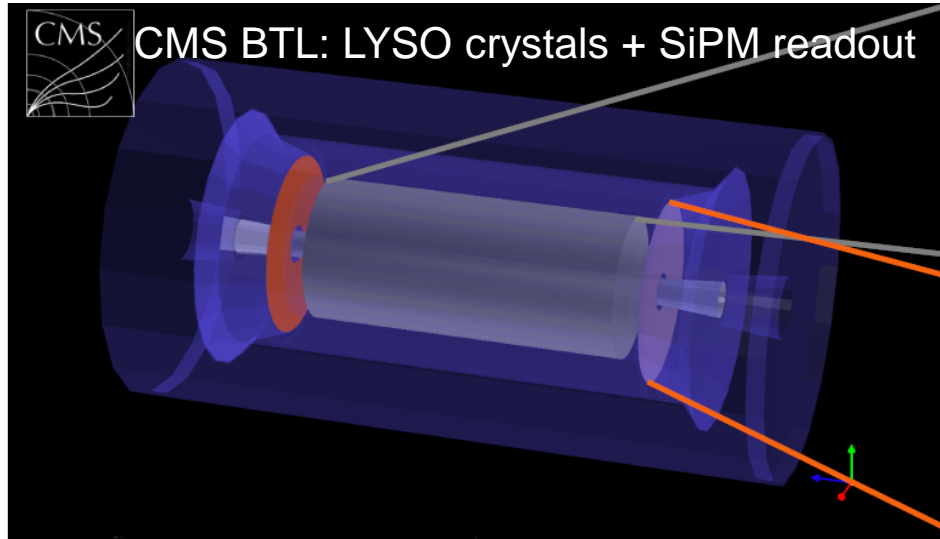
Presented in the CALOR 2022 Conference, University of Sussex, UK



Application of Ultrafast Crystals

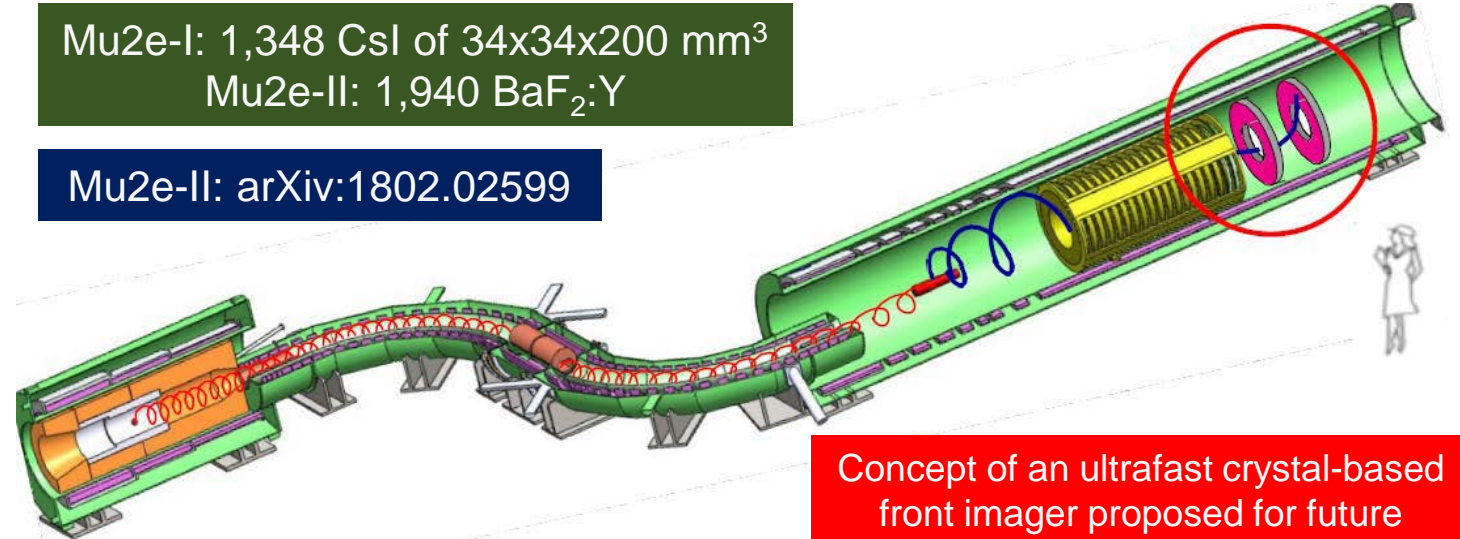


Figures of merit for TOF: light yield in the 1st ns & the ratio between fast and total



Mu2e-I: 1,348 CsI of 34x34x200 mm³
 Mu2e-II: 1,940 BaF₂:Y

Mu2e-II: arXiv:1802.02599

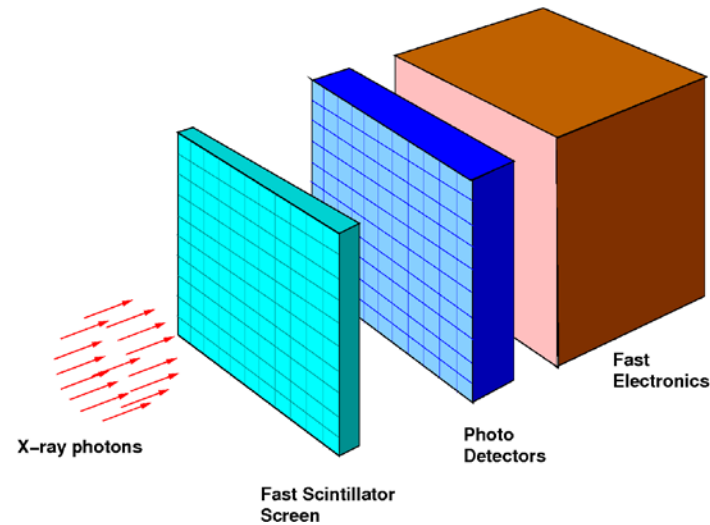


Concept of an ultrafast crystal-based front imager proposed for future Free-Electron Laser facilities

GHz Hard X-ray Imaging for Free-Electron Lasers

Fast frame rate & hard x-ray require ultrafast crystals

Performance	Type I imager	Type II imager
X-ray energy	up to 30 keV	42-126 keV
Frame-rate/inter-frame time	0.5 GHz / 2 ns	3 GHz / 300 ps
Number of frames per burst	≥ 10	10 - 30
X-ray detection efficiency	above 50%	above 80%
Pixel size/pitch	≤ 300 μm	< 300 μm
Dynamic range	10 ³ X-ray Photons/pixel/frame	≥ 10 ⁴ X-ray Photons/pixel/frame
Pixel format	64 × 64 ^a (scalable to 1 Mpix)	1 Mpix

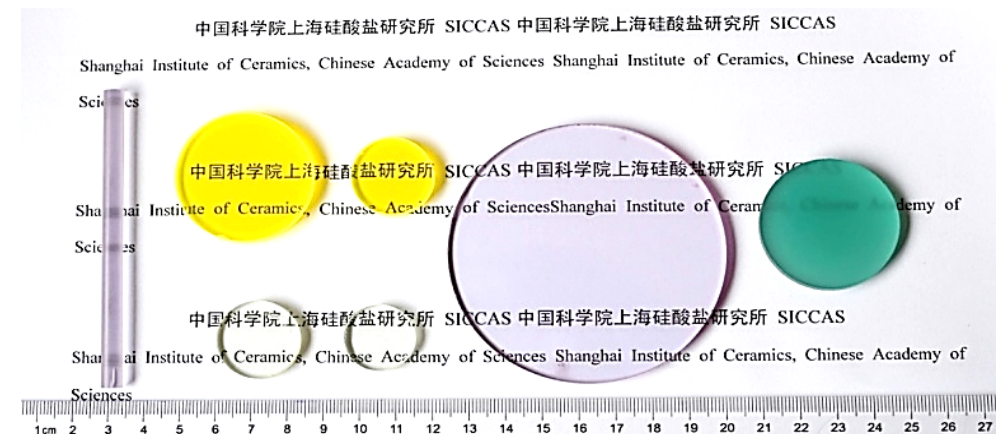
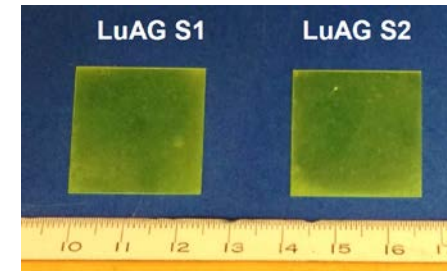




Why Scintillating Ceramics



- **Ceramics provide a cost-effective solution for future HEP experiments.**
 - Simple production technology;
 - High raw material usage;
 - Minimum after-growth mechanical processing.
- **Unlike single crystal, ceramic fabrication does not require melting raw material.**
 - Lower sintering temperature;
 - Dopants distribute homogeneously without segregation process;
 - Can be made into complex structure.





Cubic Structure Ceramics can be Transparent

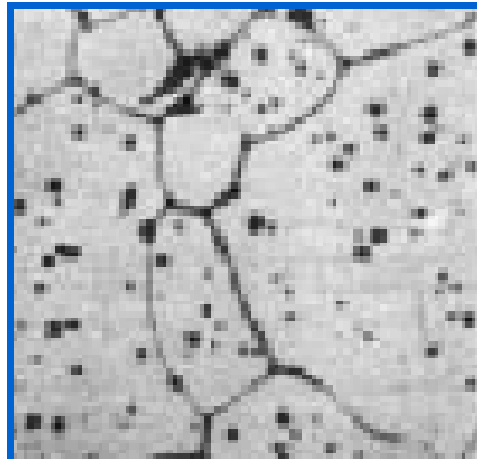


Material	Form ^a	Crystal system ^b	Transparency	Density (g/cm ³)
Y _{1.34} Gd _{0.6} Eu _{0.06} O ₃	C	C	Transparent	5.92
Gd ₂ O ₂ S:Pr,Ce,F	C	H	Translucent	7.34
Gd ₃ Ga ₅ O ₁₂ :Cr,Ce	C	C	Transparent	7.09
BaHfO ₃ :Ce	C	C	Opaque	8.35

Cost-effective transparent ceramics are pursued by industry

Crystal system: C = cubic; H = hexagonal; M = monoclinic.

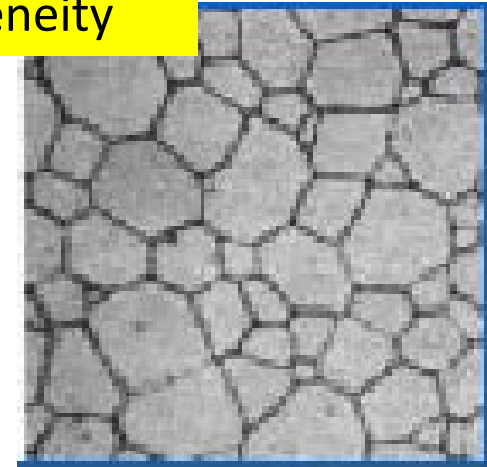
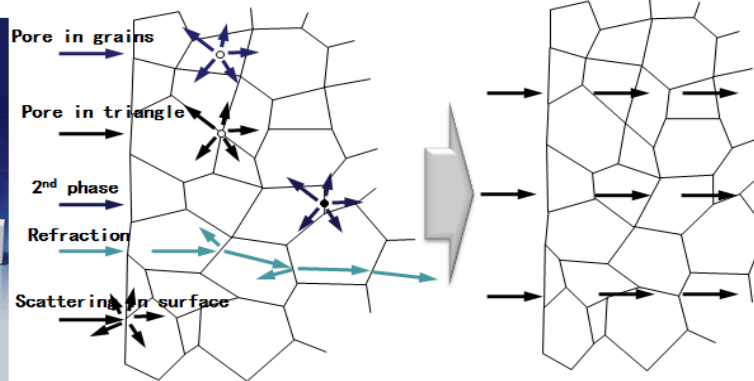
Ann. Rev. Mater. Sci. 1997. 27:69–88



Incident light

Anisotropy

Homogeneity



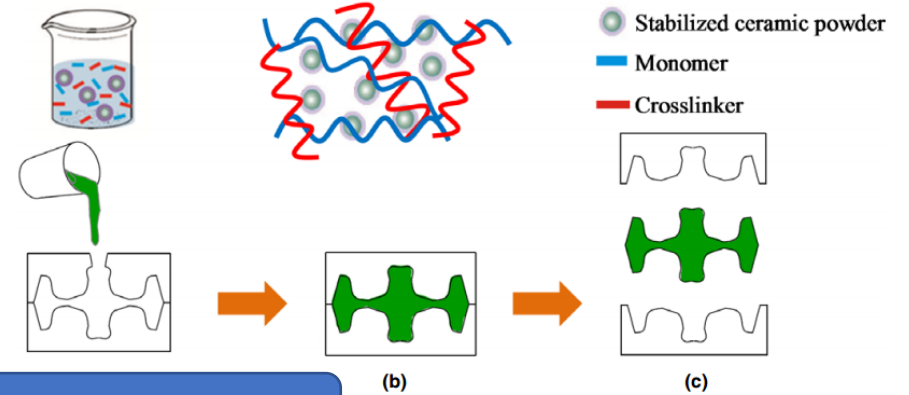
Opaque or translucent

Transparent

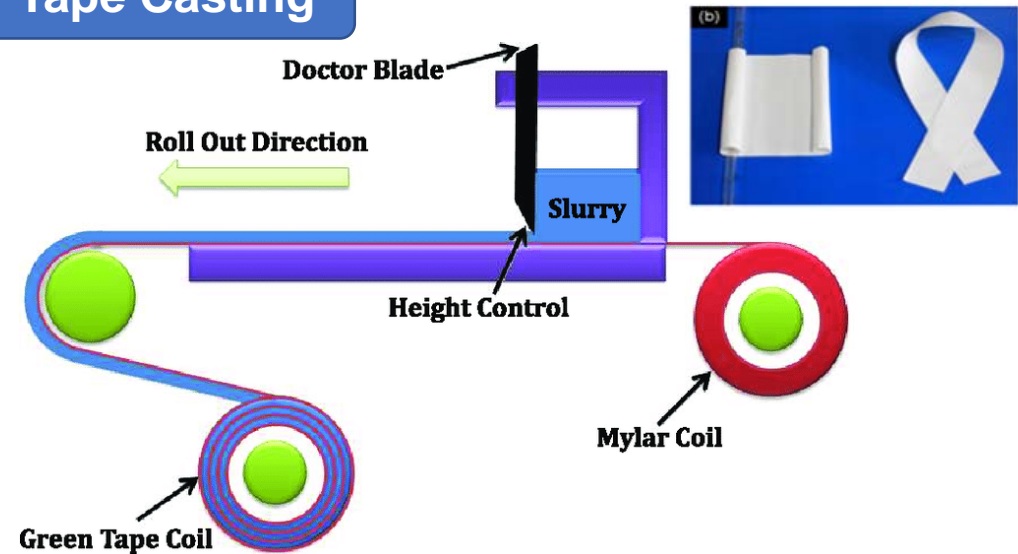
Ceramic Fabrication Process



Slip Casting



Tape Casting



Complex structure (rod, dome, sandwich etc.) can be fabricated with minimum after-growth processing

Background: $\text{Lu}_2\text{O}_3:\text{Yb}$ Ceramics

2005—1st report on $\text{Lu}_2\text{O}_3:\text{Yb}$ ceramics

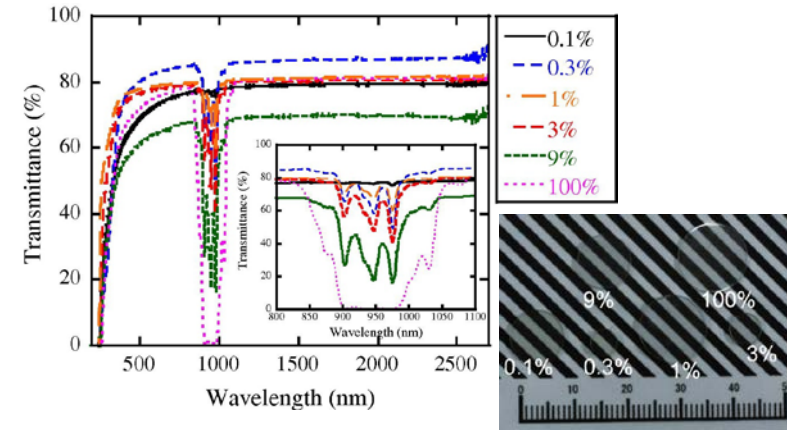
- Takaichi K et al., *phys. stat. sol. (a)* 202, R1-R3 (2005)

2011— $\text{Lu}_2\text{O}_3:\text{Yb}$ ceramics fabricated by hot-pressing method

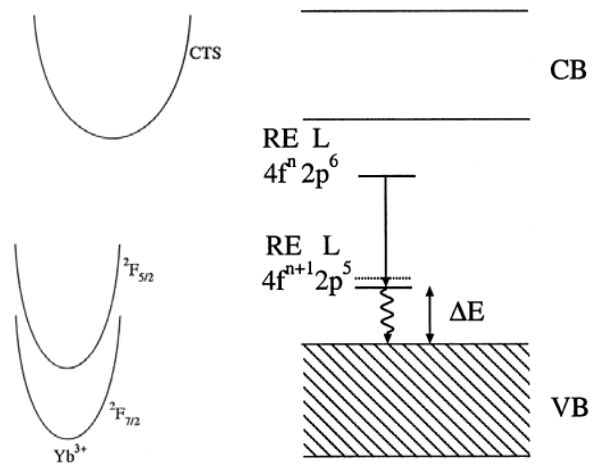
- Sanghera J et al., *Opt. Mater.* 33, 670-674 (2011)

2014— $\text{Lu}_2\text{O}_3:\text{Yb}$ ceramics as a heavy and ultrafast scintillator

- Yanagida T et al., *Opt. Mater.* 36, 1044-1048 (2014)

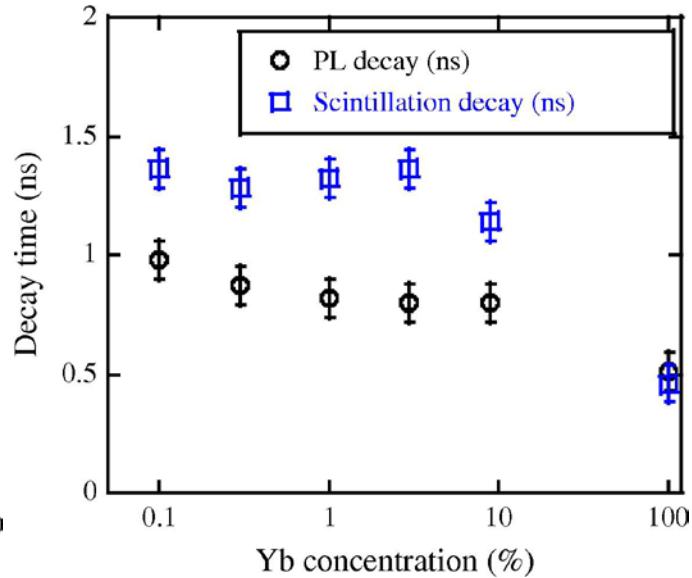
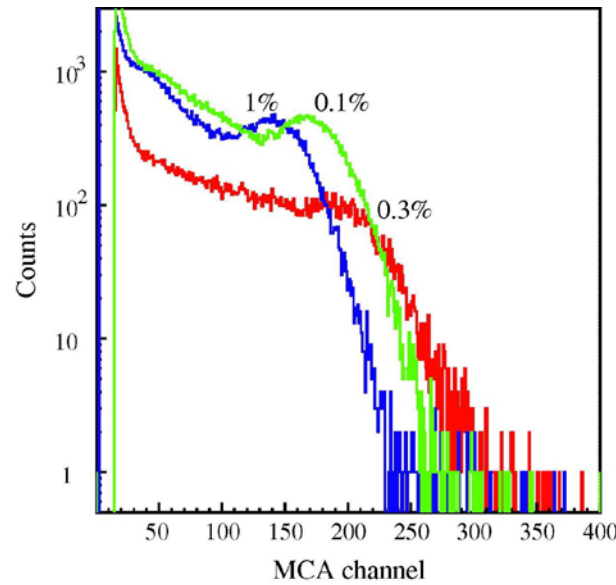


Excellent optical quality approaches theoretical transmittance observed in $\text{Lu}_2\text{O}_3:\text{Yb}$ ceramic samples



Yb^{3+} charge transfer luminescence and thermal quenching mechanism

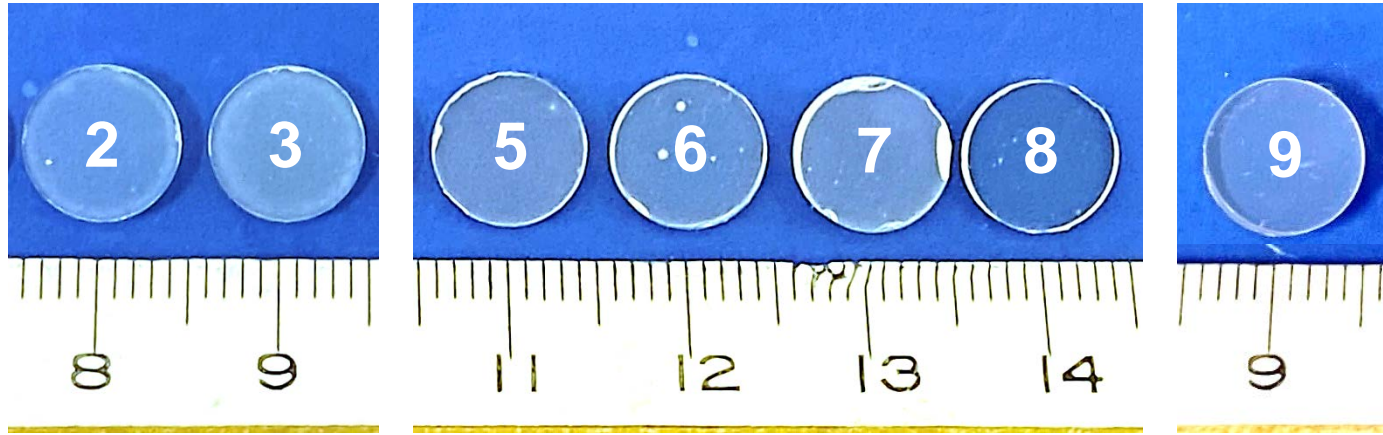
van Pietersen L et al., *J. Lumin.* 91, 177-193 (2000)



Because of the thermal quenching nature of Yb^{3+} and CT luminescence light yield of 500 ph/MeV and decay time of ~ 1 ns were observed



RMD Lu₂O₃:Yb Ceramic Samples



ID	Dimension (mm ³)	Composition
RMD-2	Φ9×1.5	Lu ₂ O ₃
RMD-3	Φ9×1	Lu ₂ O ₃
RMD-5	Φ9×1.5	(Lu,Y) ₂ O ₃
RMD-6	Φ9×1.5	(Lu,Y) ₂ O ₃
RMD-7	Φ9×2	Lu ₂ O ₃
RMD-8	Φ9×1	(Lu,Y) ₂ O ₃
RMD-9	Φ9×2	(Lu,Y) ₂ O ₃

	Lu ₂ O ₃	LYSO	BaF ₂	LuAG
Density (g/cm ³)	9.42	7.4	4.89	6.76
Melting points (°C)	2490	2050	1280	2060
X ₀ (cm)	0.81	1.14	2.03	1.45
R _M (cm)	1.72	2.07	3.1	2.15
λ ₁ (cm)	18.1	20.9	30.7	20.6
Z _{eff}	68.0	64.8	51.6	60.3
dE/dX (MeV/cm)	11.6	9.55	6.52	9.22

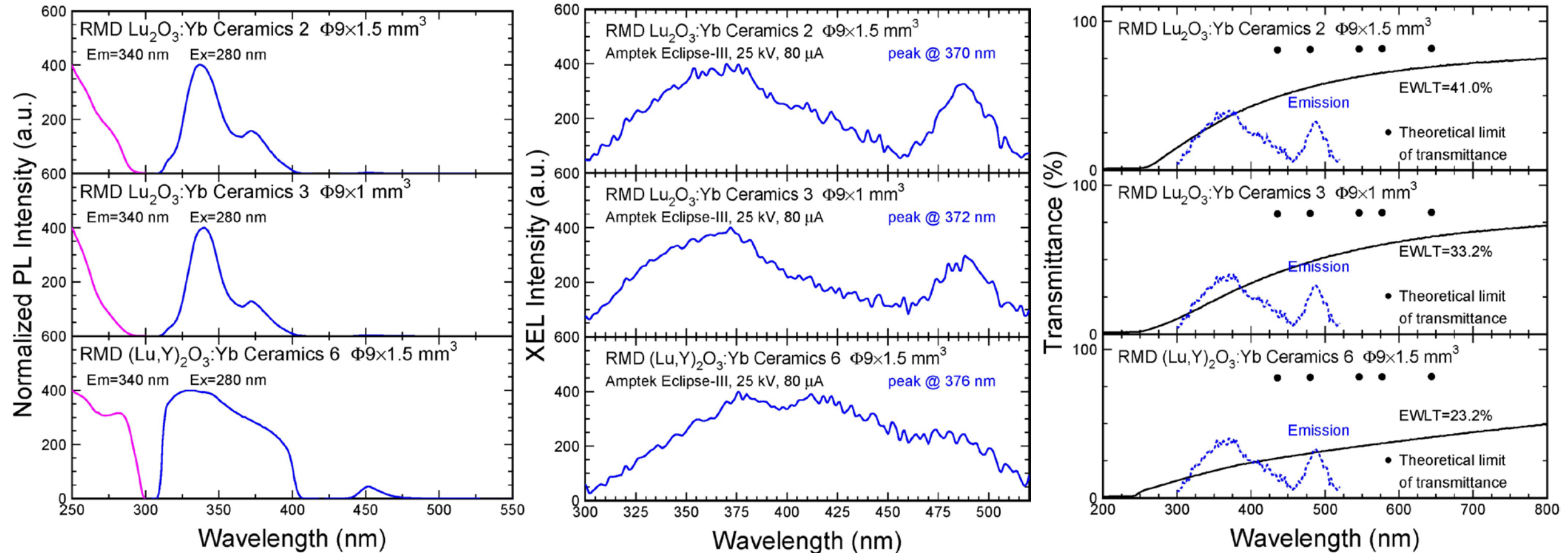
Lu₂O₃:Yb is attractive to the HEP community: high density, ultrafast decay and large dE/dX. Single crystal growth is an expensive process due to its very high melting point. Ceramics are a promising approach.



Emission and Transmittance



Photo-luminescence and X-ray excited luminescence peaked at ~340 nm and ~370 nm (Lu,Y)₂O₃:Yb sample 6 show poor transmittance, probably due to increased scattering

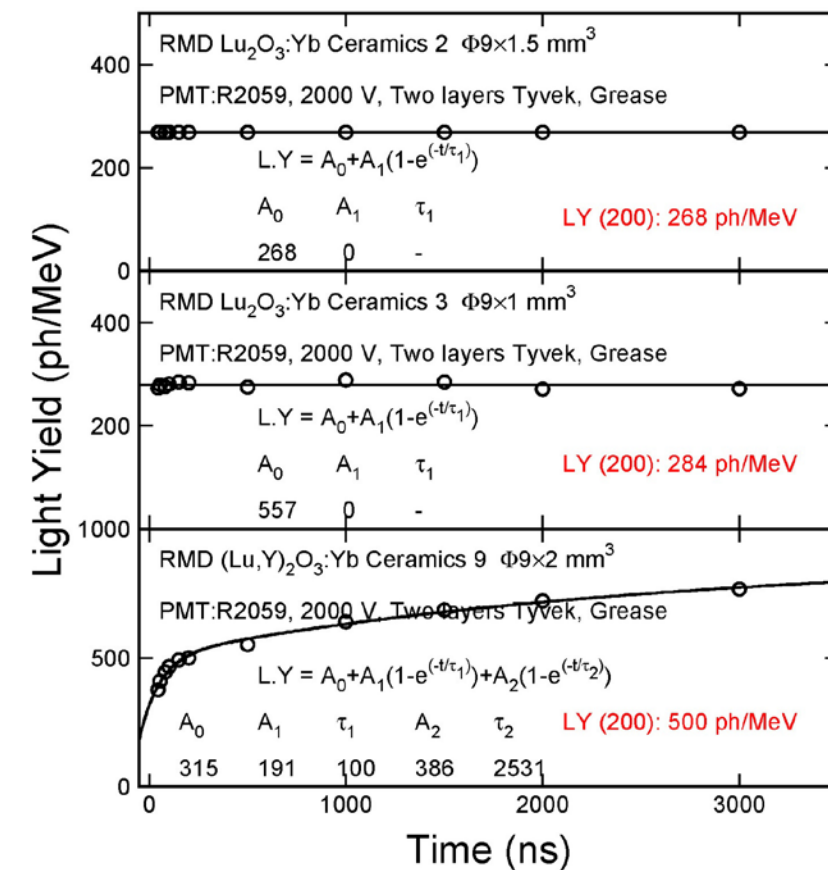
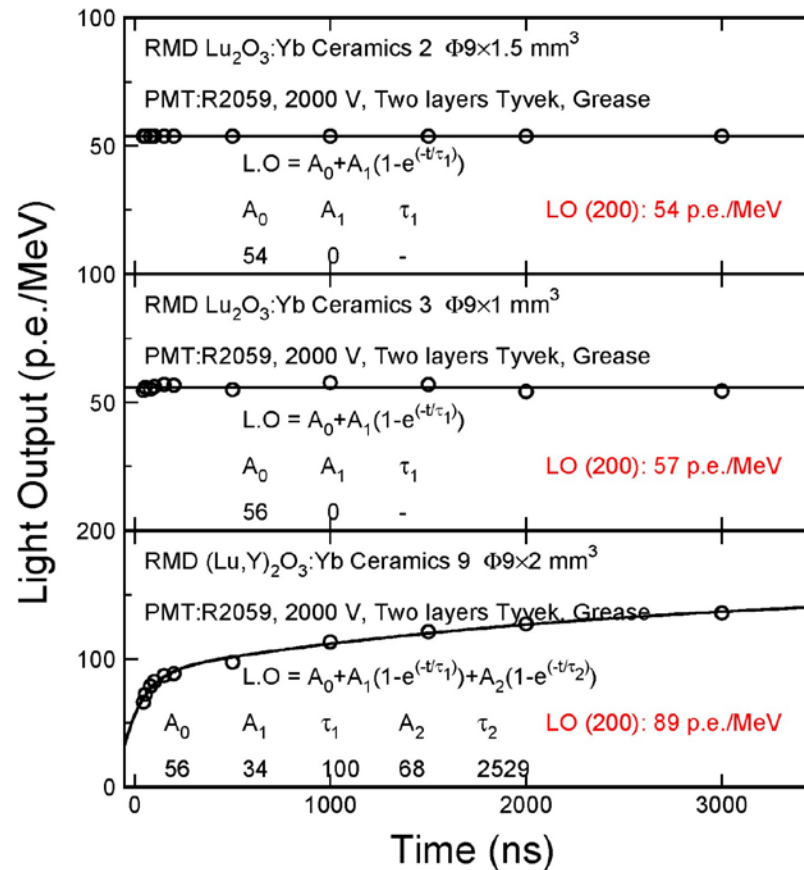
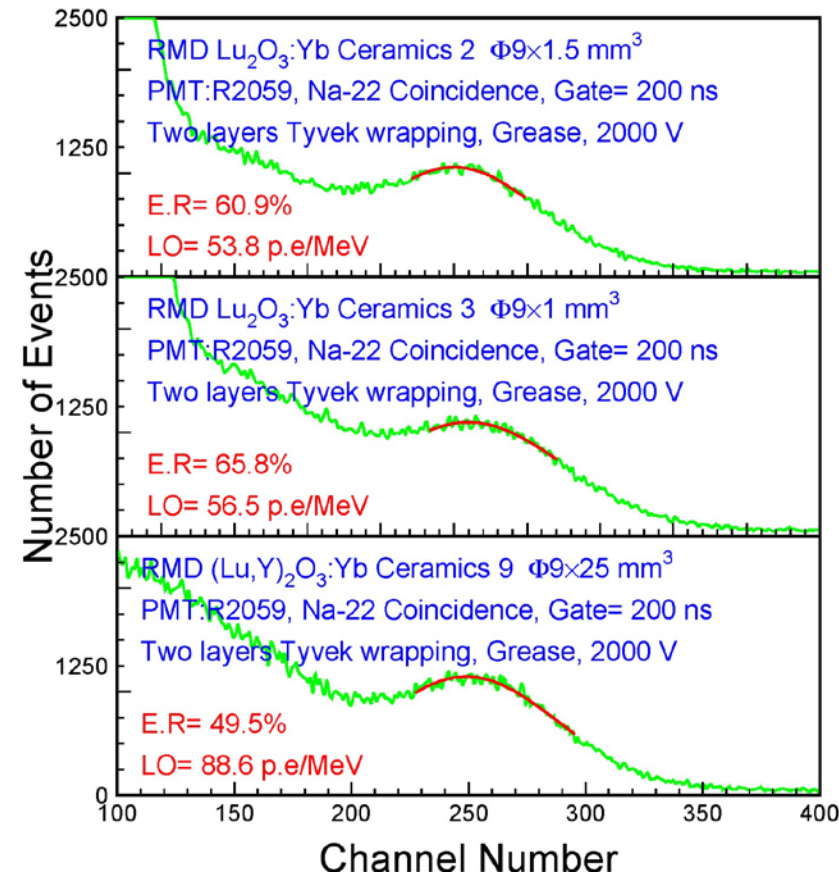


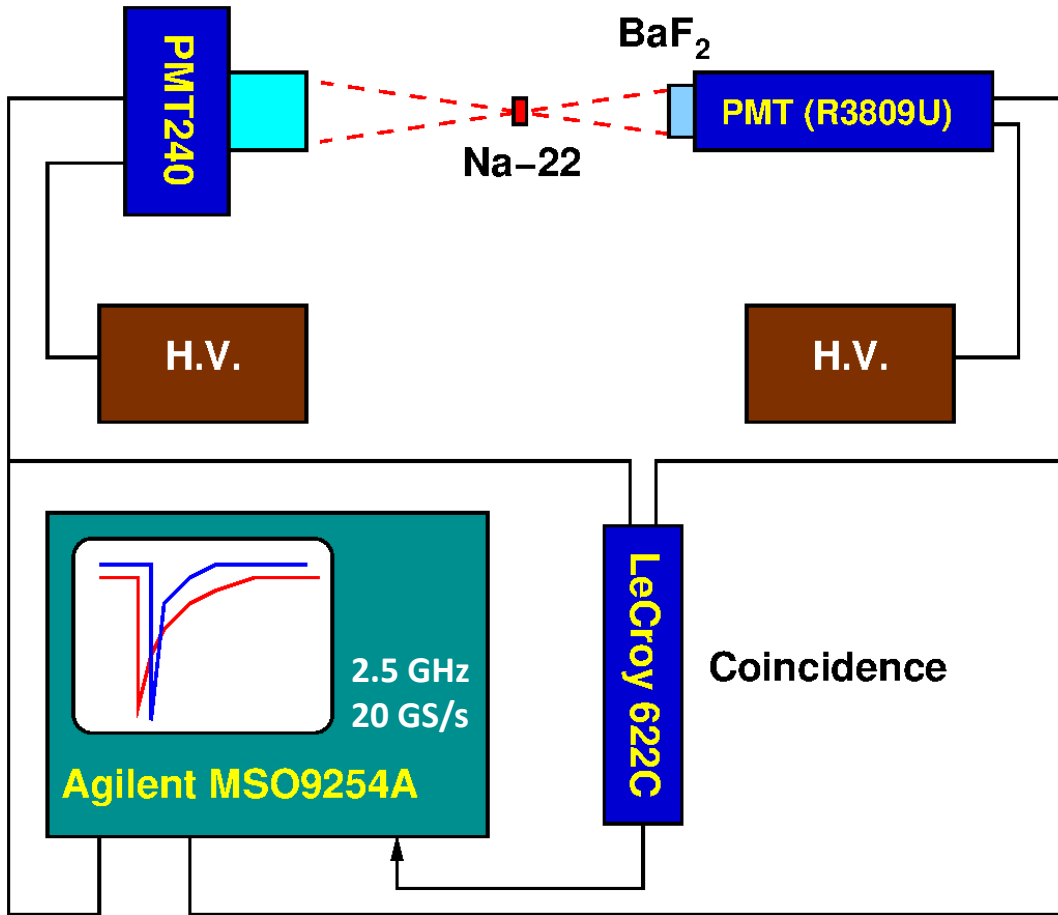


Light Output/Yield: $\text{Lu}_2\text{O}_3:\text{Yb}$ Ceramics



Light yield calculated by taking QE/PDE out of the measured light output
 $\text{Lu}_2\text{O}_3:\text{Yb}$ shows light yield up to 280 ph/MeV with negligible slow component
 Y admixture increases light output, but introduces slow light of ~ 100 and $\sim 2,500$ ns





Fitting:

$$V = A(e^{-\frac{t}{\tau_d}} - e^{-\frac{t}{\tau_r}}) + B$$

A: amplitude,

B: background noise

or slow component,

τ_r : rise time,

τ_d : decay time.

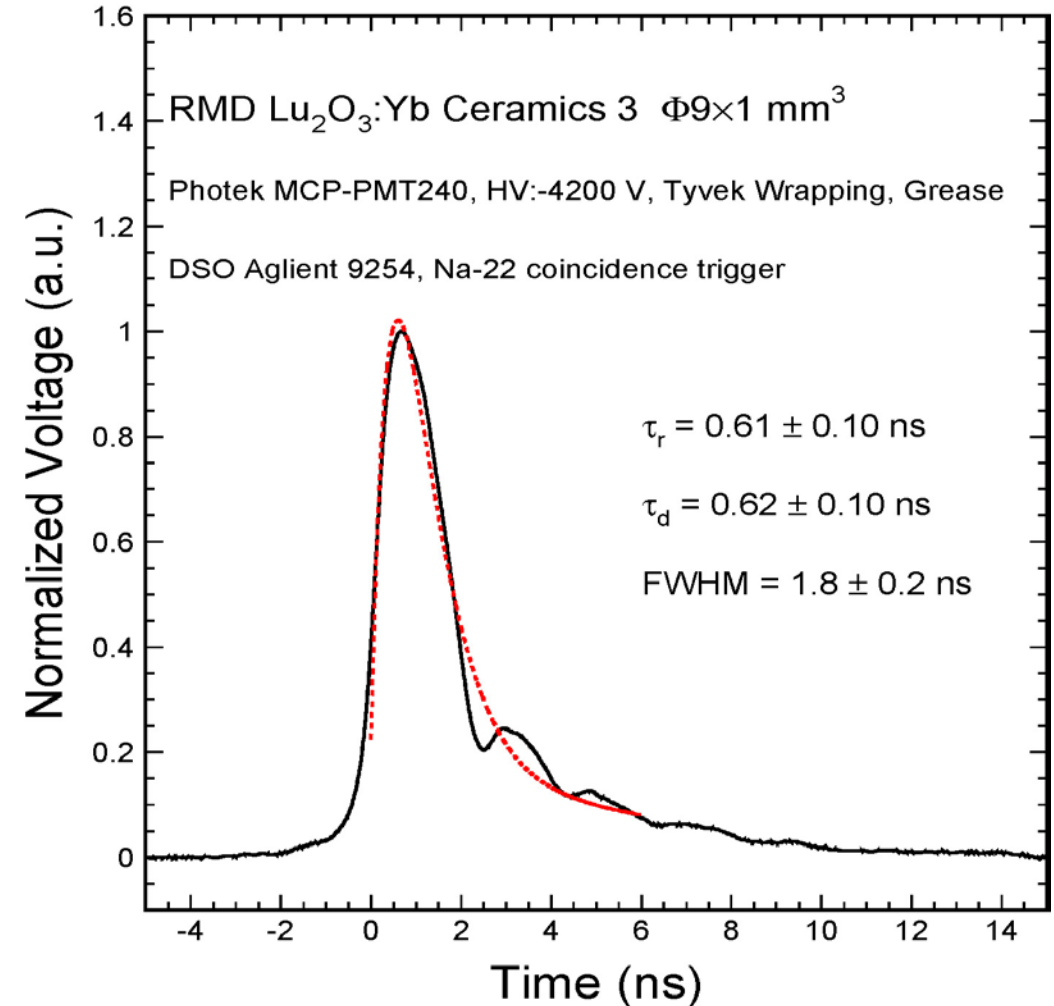
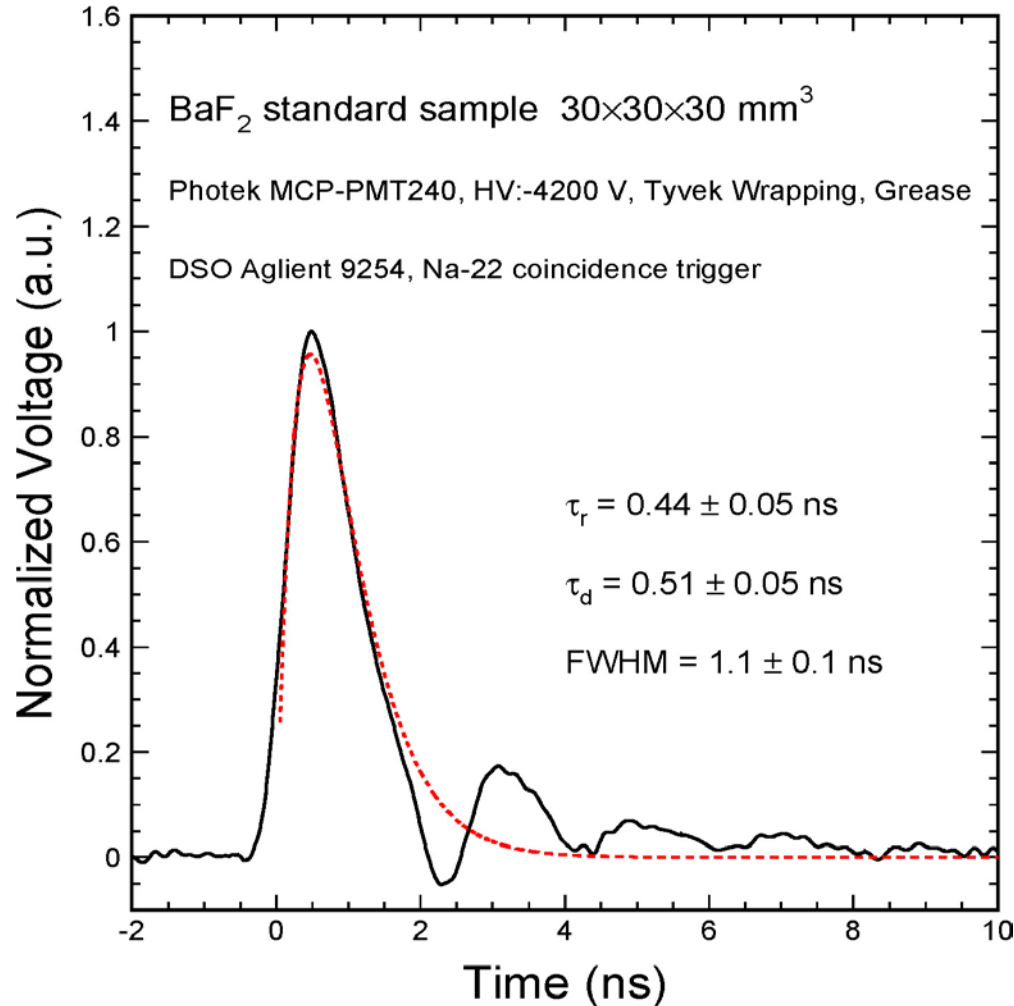
Rise, decay and FWHM obtained by fitting pulse shape responding to ^{22}Na



Decay Time: BaF_2 and $\text{Lu}_2\text{O}_3:\text{Yb}$



Decay time of 0.5 and 0.6 ns observed for a BaF_2 crystal and RMD $\text{Lu}_2\text{O}_3:\text{Yb-3}$

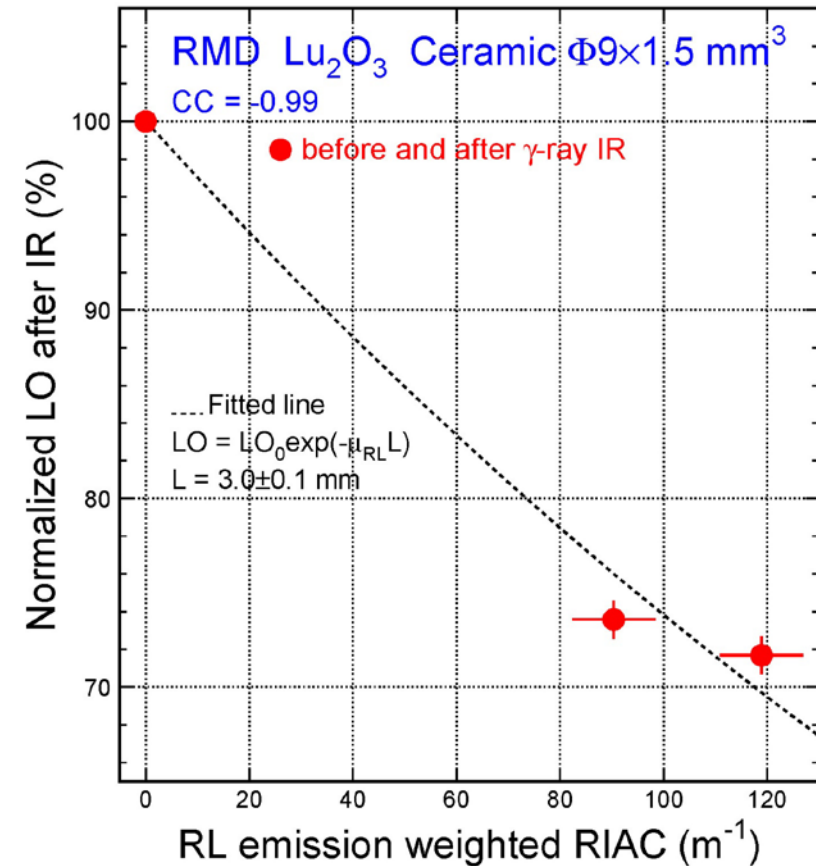
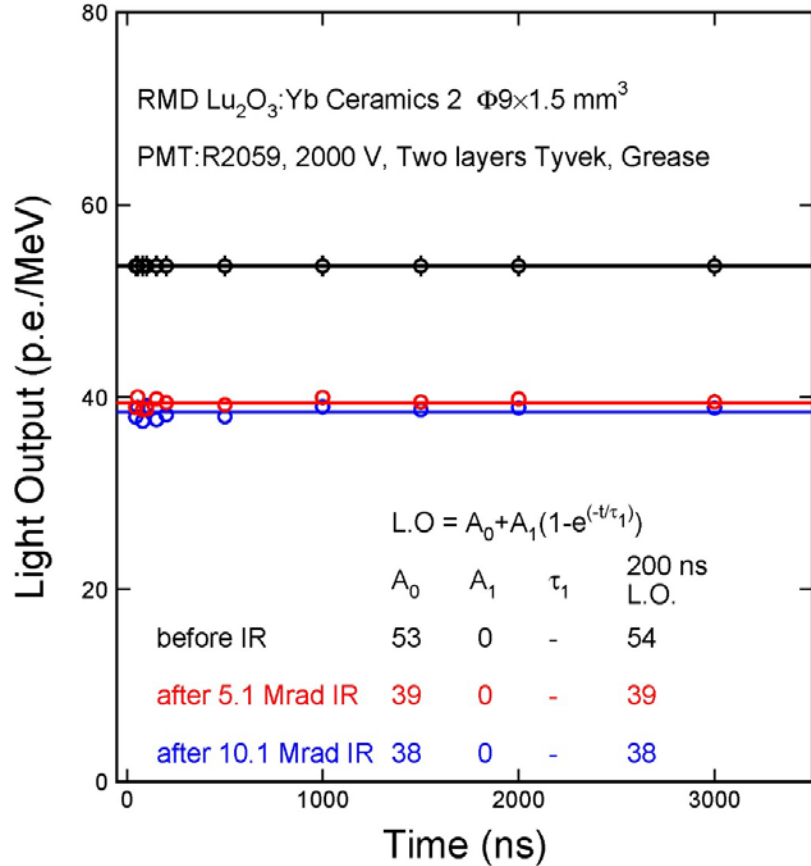
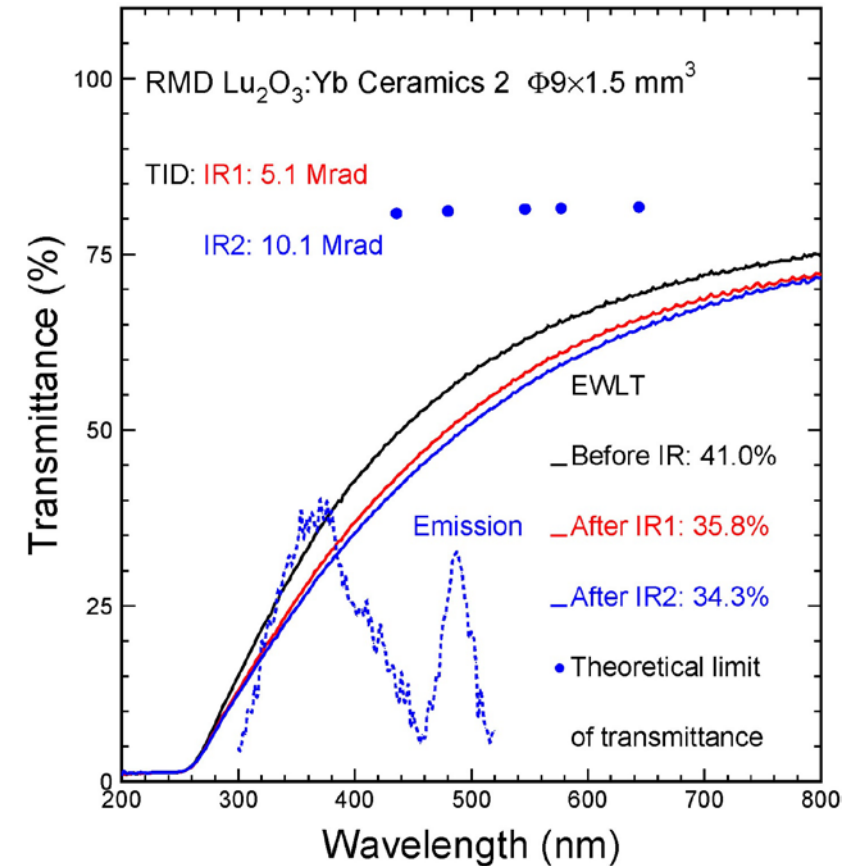




Radiation Hardness: $\text{Lu}_2\text{O}_3:\text{Yb}$ Ceramics

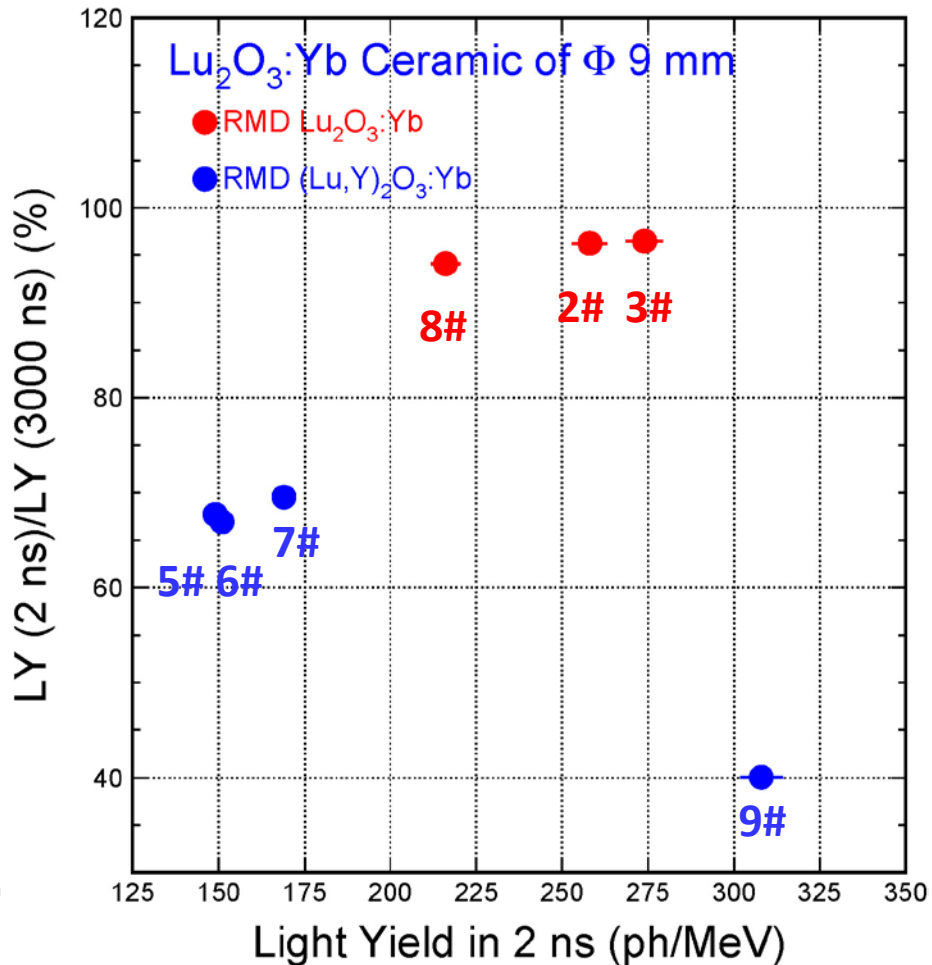
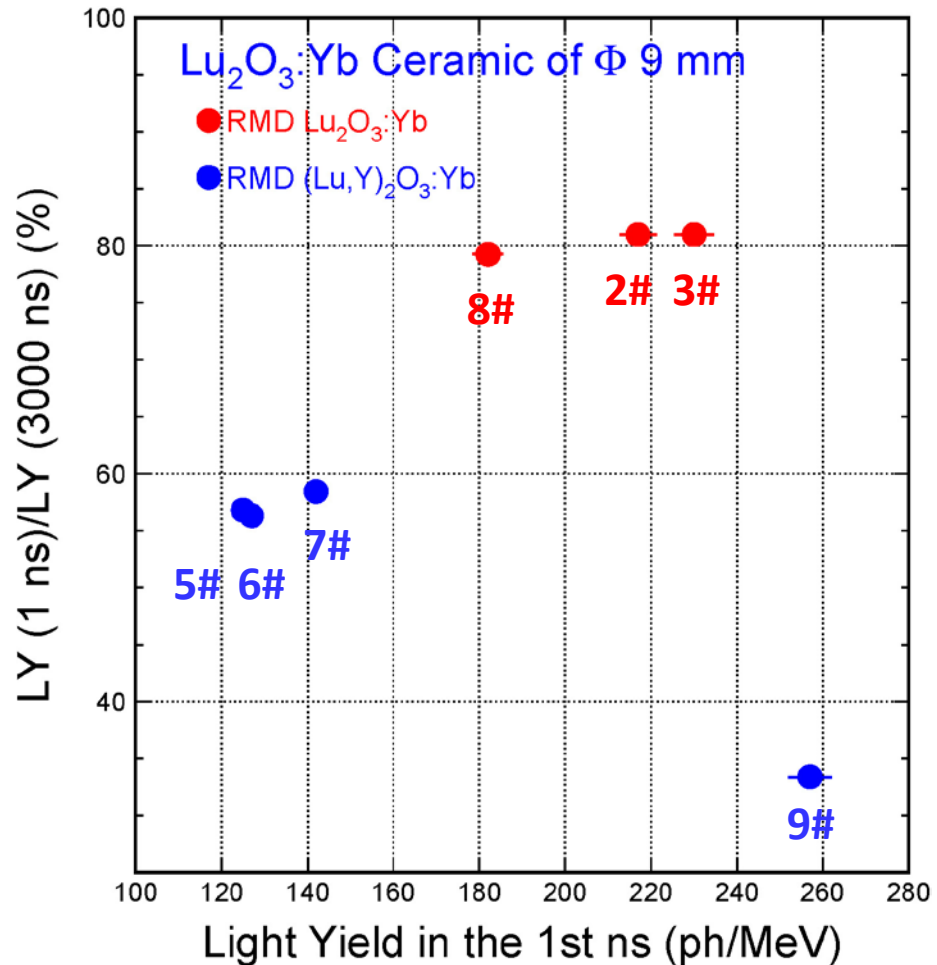


Damage appears saturated after 5.1 Mrad. Dose rate dependence under study
 Light output loss is due to induced absorption with a mean light path of 3 mm





Comparison: $\text{Lu}_2\text{O}_3:\text{Yb}$ vs. $(\text{Lu},\text{Y})_2\text{O}_3:\text{Yb}$



$\text{Lu}_2\text{O}_3:\text{Yb}$ shows higher ultrafast and lower slow light with the ratio between the light yield in the 1st and 2 ns to the light yield in 3,000 ns (U/T) exceeds 80% and 95% respectively

One $(\text{Lu},\text{Y})_2\text{O}_3:\text{Yb}$ sample shows the highest LY in the 1st ns, but also the lowest U/T ratio



Fast and **Ultrafast** Inorganic Scintillators



	BaF ₂	BaF ₂ :Y	ZnO:Ga	Lu ₂ O ₃ :Yb	YAP:Yb	YAG:Yb	β-Ga ₂ O ₃	PWO	LYSO:Ce	LuAG:Ce	YAP:Ce	GAGG:Ce	LuYAP:Ce	YSO:Ce
Density (g/cm ³)	4.89	4.89	5.67	9.42	5.35	4.56	5.94 ^[1]	8.28	7.4	6.76	5.35	6.5	7.2 ^f	4.44
Melting points (°C)	1280	1280	1975	2490	1870	1940	1725	1123	2050	2060	1870	1850	1930	2070
X ₀ (cm)	2.03	2.03	2.51	0.81	2.77	3.53	2.51	0.89	1.14	1.45	2.77	1.63	1.37	3.10
R _M (cm)	3.1	3.1	2.28	1.72	2.4	2.76	2.20	2.00	2.07	2.15	2.4	2.20	2.01	2.93
λ _l (cm)	30.7	30.7	22.2	18.1	22.4	25.2	20.9	20.7	20.9	20.6	22.4	21.5	19.5	27.8
Z _{eff}	51.6	51.6	27.7	68.0	31.9	30.0	28.1	74.5	64.8	60.3	31.9	51.8	58.6	33.3
dE/dX (MeV/cm)	6.52	6.52	8.42	11.6	8.05	7.01	8.82	10.1	9.55	9.22	8.05	8.96	9.82	6.57
λ _{peak} ^a (nm)	300 220	300 220	380	370	350	350	380	425 420	420	520	370	540	385	420
Refractive Index ^b	1.50	1.50	2.1	2.0	1.96	1.87	1.97	2.20	1.82	1.84	1.96	1.92	1.94	1.78
Normalized Light Yield ^{a,c}	42 4.8	1.7 4.8	6.6 ^d	0.95	0.19 ^d	0.36 ^d	6.5 0.5	1.6 0.4	100	35 ^e 48 ^e	9 32	115	16 15	80
Total Light yield (ph/MeV)	13,000	2,000	2,000 ^d	280	57 ^d	110 ^d	2,100	130	30,000	25,000 ^e	12,000	34,400	10,000	24,000
Decay time ^a (ns)	600 0.5	600 0.5	<1	0.6	1.5	4	148 6	30 10	40	820 50	191 25	53	1485 36	75
LY in 1 st ns (photons/MeV)	1200	1200	610 ^d	230	28 ^d	24 ^d	43	5.3	740	240	391	640	125	318
LY in 1 st ns / Total LY (%)	9.2	60	31	82	49	22	2.0	4.3	2.5	1.0	3.3	1.9	1.3	1.3
40 keV Att. Leng. (1/e, mm)	0.106	0.106	0.407	0.127	0.314	0.439	0.394	0.111	0.185	0.251	0.314	0.319	0.214	0.334



Summary



- Development of ultrafast heavy crystals with sub-nanosecond decay time is important to break the ps timing barrier for future HEP TOF system and ultrafast calorimetry, and for GHz hard X-ray imaging.
- All $\text{Lu}_2\text{O}_3:\text{Yb}$ samples show PL and XEL emission peaked at ~ 340 and ~ 370 nm.
- $\text{Lu}_2\text{O}_3:\text{Yb}$ ceramics show light yield up to 280 ph/MeV with negligible slow component. Mixing Lu_2O_3 with Y_2O_3 appears increase light yield in 200 ns to 500 ph/MeV with significant slow component of 100 and 2,500 ns decay time.
- Sub-nanosecond decay time of 0.6 ns was observed by using MCP-PMT.
- With high density, ultrafast decay time and high U/T ratio $\text{Lu}_2\text{O}_3:\text{Yb}$ ceramics is promising for future HEP TOF and calorimetry applications. RMD is continuing to optimize its composition to increase the ultrafast light with slow component under control.

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