

1. TENSORIAL ASPECTS OF PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

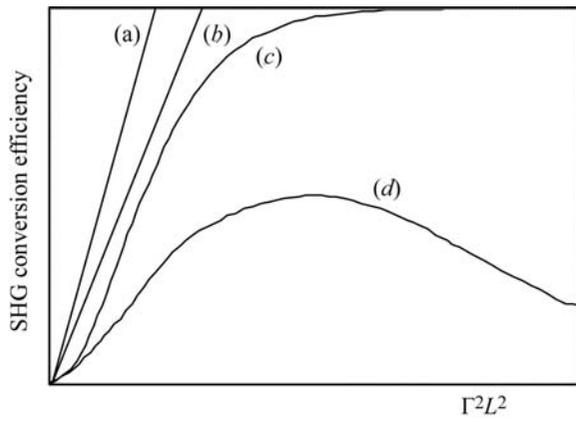


Fig. 1.7.3.15. Schematic SHG conversion efficiency for different situations of pump depletion and dephasing. (a) No depletion, no dephasing, $\eta = \Gamma^2 L^2$; (b) no depletion with constant dephasing δ , $\eta = \Gamma^2 L^2 \sin^2 c^2 \delta$; (c) depletion without dephasing, $\eta = \tanh^2(\Gamma L)$; (d) depletion and dephasing, $\eta = \eta_m \text{sn}^2(\Gamma L/v_b, v_b')$.

intensities of the two fundamental beams $I_1^\omega(X, Y, 0)$ and $I_2^\omega(X, Y, 0)$, which are not necessarily equal, are taken into account (Eimerl, 1987): the \tanh^2 function is valid only if perfect phase matching is achieved and if $I_1^\omega(X, Y, 0) = I_2^\omega(X, Y, 0)$, these conditions being never satisfied in real cases.

The situations described above are summarized in Fig. 1.7.3.15.

We give the example of type-II SHG experiments performed with a 10 Hz injection-seeded single-longitudinal-mode ($N = 1$) 1064 nm Nd:YAG (Spectra-Physics DCR-2A-10) laser equipped with super Gaussian mirrors; the pulse is 10 ns in duration and is near a Gaussian single-transverse mode, the beam radius is 4 mm, non-focused and polarized at $\pi/4$ to the principal axes of a 10 mm long KTP crystal ($L\delta\theta = 15$ mrad cm, $L\delta\varphi = 100$ mrad cm). The fundamental energy increases from 78 mJ (62 MW cm $^{-2}$) to 590 mJ (470 MW cm $^{-2}$), which corresponds to the damage of the exit surface of the crystal; for each experiment, the crystal was rotated in order to obtain the maximum conversion efficiency. The peak power SHG conversion efficiency is estimated from the measured energy conversion efficiency multiplied by the ratio between the fundamental and harmonic pulse duration ($\tau_\omega/\tau_{2\omega} = 2^{1/2}$). It increases from 50% at 63 MW cm $^{-2}$ to a maximum value of 85% at 200 MW cm $^{-2}$ and decreases for higher intensities, reaching 50% at 470 MW cm $^{-2}$ (Boulanger, Fejer *et al.*, 1994).

The integration of the intensity profiles (1.7.3.58) and (1.7.3.60) is obvious in the case of incident fundamental beams with a flat energy distribution (1.7.3.36). In this case, the fundamental and harmonic beams inside the crystal have the same profile and radius as the incident beam. Thus the powers are obtained from formulae (1.7.3.58) and (1.7.3.60) by expressing the intensity and electric field modulus as a function of the power, which is given by (1.7.3.38) with $m = 1$.

For a Gaussian incident fundamental beam, (1.7.3.37), the fundamental and harmonic beams are not Gaussian (Eckardt & Reintjes, 1984; Pliszka & Banerjee, 1993).

All the previous intensities are the peak values in the case of pulsed beams. The relation between average and peak powers, and then SHG efficiencies, is much more complicated than the ratio $\tau^{2\omega}/\tau^\omega$ of the undepleted case.

1.7.3.3.2.4. Resonant SHG

When the single-pass conversion efficiency SHG is too low, with c.w. lasers for example, it is possible to put the nonlinear crystal in a Fabry–Perot cavity external to the pump laser or directly inside the pump laser cavity, as shown in Figs. 1.7.3.6(b) and (c). The second solution, described later, is generally used because the available internal pump intensity is much larger.

We first recall some basic and simplified results of laser cavity theory without a nonlinear medium. We consider a laser in which one mirror is 100% reflecting and the second has a transmission T at the laser pulsation ω . The power within the cavity, $P_{\text{in}}(\omega)$, is evaluated at the steady state by setting the round-trip saturated gain of the laser equal to the sum of all the losses. The output laser cavity, $P_{\text{out}}(\omega)$, is given by (Siegman, 1986)

$$P_{\text{out}}(\omega) = TP_{\text{in}}(\omega)$$

with

$$P_{\text{in}}(\omega) = \frac{2g_o L' - (\gamma + T)}{2S(T + \gamma)}. \quad (1.7.3.62)$$

L' is the laser medium length, $g_o = \sigma N_o$ is the small-signal gain coefficient per unit length of laser medium, σ is the stimulated-emission cross section, N_o is the population inversion without oscillation, S is a saturation parameter characteristic of the nonlinearity of the laser transition, and $\gamma = \gamma_L = 2\alpha_L L' + \beta$ is the loss coefficient where α_L is the laser material absorption coefficient per unit length and β is another loss coefficient including absorption in the mirrors and scattering in both the laser medium and mirrors. For given g_o , S , α_L , β and L' , the output power reaches a maximum value for an optimal transmission coefficient T_{opt} defined by $[\partial P_{\text{out}}(\omega)/\partial T]_{T_{\text{opt}}} = 0$, which gives

$$T_{\text{opt}} = (2g_o L' \gamma)^{1/2} - \gamma. \quad (1.7.3.63)$$

The maximum output power is then given by

$$P_{\text{out}}^{\text{max}}(\omega) = (1/2S)[(2g_o L')^{1/2} - \gamma^{1/2}]^2. \quad (1.7.3.64)$$

In an intracavity SHG device, the two cavity mirrors are 100% reflecting at ω but one mirror is perfectly transmitting at 2ω . The presence of the nonlinear medium inside the cavity then leads to losses at ω equal to the round-trip-generated second harmonic (SH) power: half of the SH produced flows in the forward direction and half in the backward direction. Hence the highly transmitting mirror at 2ω is equivalent to a nonlinear transmission coefficient at ω which is equal to twice the single-pass SHG conversion efficiency η_{SHG} .

The fundamental power inside the cavity $P_{\text{in}}(\omega)$ is given at the steady state by setting, for a round trip, the saturated gain equal to the sum of the linear and nonlinear losses. $P_{\text{in}}(\omega)$ is then given by (1.7.3.62), where T and γ are (Geusic *et al.*, 1968; Smith, 1970)

$$T = 2\eta_{\text{SHG}} = [P_{\text{out}}(2\omega)/P_{\text{in}}(\omega)] \quad (1.7.3.65)$$

and

$$\gamma = \gamma_L + \gamma_{NL}. \quad (1.7.3.66)$$

η_{SHG} is the single-pass conversion efficiency. γ_L and γ_{NL} are the loss coefficients at ω of the laser medium and of the nonlinear crystal, respectively. L is the nonlinear medium length. The two faces of the nonlinear crystal are assumed to be antireflection-coated at ω .

In the undepleted pump approximation, the backward and forward power generated outside the nonlinear crystal at 2ω is

$$P_{\text{out}}(2\omega) = 2KP_{\text{in}}^2(\omega) \quad (1.7.3.67)$$

with

$$K = B(L^2/w_o^2) \sin^2(\Delta kL/2),$$

where

$$B = \frac{32\pi 2N - 1}{\epsilon_o c} \frac{d_{\text{eff}}^2}{N} \frac{T_3^{2\omega} T_1^\omega T_2^\omega}{\lambda_\omega^2 n_3^{2\omega} n_1^\omega n_2^\omega} \quad (\text{W}^{-1}).$$