

Using Red-Emitting Ca2Si5N8Eu2+ Phosphor for Improving Color Uniformity and Color Quality Scale of the in-cup Packaging MCW-LEDs

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Abstract: Light emitting diodes (LEDs) are commonly used in general lighting applications due to their rapidly improving efficiency, long-life, compact, low power consumption, and high climate resistance. In this paper, the Red-Emitting Ca₂Si₅N₈Eu²⁺ Phosphor was investigated like an innovative approach for improvement on the color uniformity and Color Quality Scale (CQS) of 8500 K, 7700K, 7000 K multi-chip white LED lamps (MCW-LEDs) with the in-cup packaging. The influence of the Red-Emitting Ca₂Si₅N₈Eu²⁺ Phosphor concentration on the color uniformity and the CQS is simulated, analyzed, and investigated with using Mat lab and LightTools software. The research results indicated that the color uniformity and the CQS were crucially affected by the Red-Emitting Ca₂Si₅N₈Eu²⁺ Phosphor concentration. This paper provided an important recommendation for selecting and developing the phosphor materials for the in-cup packaging MCW-LEDs manufacturing in the near future.

Keywords: the Red-Emitting Ca₂Si₅N₈Eu²⁺ Phosphor; MCW-LEDs; Color Quality Scale; the color uniformity

Introduction

In the last four decades, light emitting diodes (LEDs) with compound semiconductor technology had a rapid development trend. Since the first red LEDs that was invented by Holonyak and Bevacqua in 1962 [1], considerable efforts have been put into the study to obtain brighter LEDs. In the decades that followed, LEDs were used extensively in digital displays and signaling applications. However, only around 1995 high brightness and blue LEDs were developed, which made it possible to use LEDs for general lighting. Nowadays, MCW-LEDs have attracted considerable attention from both manufacturers and consumers of the general lightings due to its excellent properties for lighting, including high brightness, low power consumption, long lifetime, fast response as well as climate impact resistance [2]. LEDs have a narrow emission spectrum. In a popular way, there are three different approaches which can be used for generating white light based on LEDs. In the first method, the white light is getting by mixing reds, greens, and blues, i.e. redgreen—blue (RGB) LEDs. By using an ultraviolet (UV) LED to stimulate RGB phosphors in the second method, and by using a blue-emitting diode that excites a yellow-emitting phosphor embedded in the epoxy dome; the combination of blue and yellow light makes a white-emitting LED) in the third one. The last method is widely used in general lighting applications for white LEDs because of its simple procedure [3-7].

Nowadays, the improvement of optical properties of WLEDs is main direction research in optoelectronics. Up to date, many studies focused on improving optical properties of WLEDs by controlling geometry, thickness, concentration, and packaging of the yellow-emitting phosphor in the phosphor compounding of WLEDs [8-14]. In another way, some researchers just concentrated on adding SiO₂ to control and enhance the optical properties of WLEDs [15, 16]. Previous studies showed that in this way the optical properties of WLEDs could be improved significantly. These studies just focused on single chip WLEDs with the low correlated temperature or only control one of three optical properties of WLEDs (the color correlated temperature deviation (D-CCT), CRI and

luminous efficacy). However, far too little attention has been paid to improving the optical properties of the high color temperature MCW-LEDs yet. This research could fully fill the remaining gap.

In this paper, the red-emitting Ca₂Si₅N₈Eu²⁺ phosphor [17, 18] is proposed to improve the optical properties (color quality scale (CQS) and color uniformity) of the in-cup package multichip WLEDs (MCW-LEDs) with the high CCT at 7000K, 7700K, and 8500K. The research results, using the simulation package Light Tool and Mat lab software based on the Lambert-Beer law and Mie theory, demonstrated that concentration of the redemitting Ca₂Si₅N₈Eu²⁺ phosphor had significant impact on the color uniformity (D-CCT) and CQS of the in-cup packaging MCW-LEDs. The overall structure of the study takes the form of three segments. In the first segment, the MCW-LEDs physical model having average CCT of 8500 K, 7700 K, and 7000 K is conducted by the commercial Light Tools software. Secondly, by varying concentration of the red-emitting Ca₂Si₅N₈Eu²⁺ phosphor particles, the D-CCT and CQS calculated, analyzed and investigated. Finally, according to the results, the Beer-Lambert law, and Mie theory, the effect of the red-emitting Ca₂Si₅N₈Eu²⁺ phosphor particles on CQS and D-CCT of MCW-LEDs is discussed and demonstrated totally. From the results, the red-emitting Ca₂Si₅N₈Eu²⁺ phosphor could be prospective approach for MCW-LEDs improvement in the near future.

Optical and Simulation Model MCW-LEDs

The simulations were carried out using the commercial software package LightTools. The simulation comprise the setup of the conformal phosphor package with average CCT of 8500 K, 7000 K, and 5600 K. We use the real-world model of MCW-LEDs (Fig. 1(a)) to guarantee that our simulation results reflect precisely the impact of our considered parameter (concentration of the

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red-emitting Ca₂Si₅N₈Eu²⁺ phosphor) and are not biased by other factors such as LED's wavelength, waveform, light intensity, and operating temperature. This model possesses the best optical-thermal stability, hence, can minimize the variations caused by uninterested parameters. Secondly, we set the depth, the inner and outer radius of the reflector to 2.07 mm, 8 mm and 9.85 mm, respectively. Nine LED chips are covered with fixed thickness of 0.08 mm and 2.07 mm. Each blue chip has a dimension of 1.14 mm by 0.15mm, the radiant flux of 1.16 W, and the peak wavelength of 453 nm. Fig. 1(b) shows that the phosphor layer of the in-cup phosphor packaging is coated conformally on 9 LEDs. These phosphor layers consist of the yellow-emitting YAG:Ce and the redemitting Ca₂Si₅N₈Eu²⁺ phosphors particles and the silicone glue, which respectively have the refractive indices of 1.83, 1.93 and 1.50. Also, the average radius of YAG:Ce phosphor particles are set to 7.25 µm for all packages, a value of real particle size. On purpose to make the color of MCW-LEDs produce the same when the concentration of the red-emitting Ca₂Si₅N₈Eu²⁺ phosphor varies, the yellowemitting YAG:Ce phosphor concentration should be inversely changed to provide same CCT value. The weight percentage of the MCW-LEDs phosphor layers can be expressed as the below equation:

$$\sum W_{pl} = W_{Yellow phosphor} + W_{silicone} + W_{Red phosphor} = 100\%$$

Here the W_{silicone}, W_{Yellow phosphor} and W_{Red phosphor} are in turn the weight percentage of the silicone glue, the yellow-emitting YAG: Ce phosphor and the red-emitting CeTb phosphors [22].

Results and Discussion

In this segment, the color correlated temperature deviation (D-CCT) and the CQS of the in-cup packaging 8500K, 7700 K, and 7000 K MCW-LEDs are calculated and obtained by using the commercial software Light Tools. In this simulation, the concentration of the red-emitting Ca₂Si₅N₈Eu²⁺ phosphor varied continuously from 0% to 0.32 %. From the simulation results, the corresponding values of D-CCT are calculated and indicated in Fig. 2. As shown in Fig, 2, the D-CCT had a slight decrease when the concentration of the red-emitting Ca₂Si₅N₈Eu²⁺ phosphor varied from 0% to 0.24%. After that, the D-CCT of the MCW-LEDs increased while the red-emitting Ca₂Si₅N₈Eu²⁺ phosphor changed to 0.32%. The most interesting aspect of this graph is the lowest value of the D-CCT is obtained at 0.16-0.24% concentration of the red-emitting Ca₂Si₅N₈Eu²⁺ phosphor. On the other way, Fig. 3 shows the CQS of the conformal packaging MCW-LEDs while the concentration of the red phosphor changed from 0% to 0.32%. It can be indicated that the CQS grows with the concentration red phosphor in the range from 0% to nearly 0.32%. The highest CQS is obtained with the red weight vary from 0.16% to 0.24%. In Fig. 3, the CQS could be obtained highest value near 72. From the results, the CQS of high CCT MCW-LEDs can be controlled by adding red-emitting phosphor in phosphor compound and varying its concentration. The best value of the D-CCT and CQS can be obtained when the concentration of the redemitting $Ca_2Si_5N_8Eu^{2+}$ phosphor is nearly 0.24%.

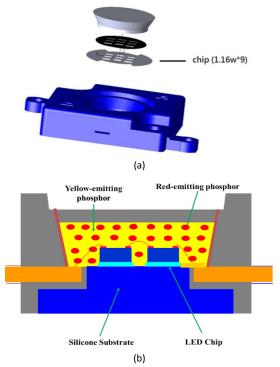


Figure 1. (a) The MCW-LED product of the Siliconware Precision Industries Co., Ltd., Taiwan, (b), Illustration of MCW-LEDs with the conformal phosphor package.

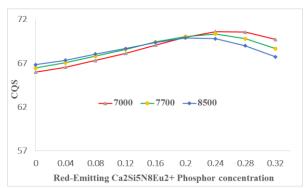


Figure 2. The color quality scale (CQS) at average CCTs of 8500 K, 7700 K, and 7000K.

The influence of the concentration of the redemitting $Ca_2Si_5N_8Eu^{2+}$ phosphor on the color uniformity (D-CCT) and the CQS can be demonstrated by using Mie theory [19]. Here, we can apply Mie-scattering theory [20, 21], the scattering coefficient $\mu_{sca}(\lambda)$, anisotropy factor $g(\lambda)$, and reduced scattering coefficient $\delta_{sca}(\lambda)$ can be computed by the below expressions (1), (2), and (3) [22]:

$$\mu_{sca}(\lambda) = \int N(r)C_{sca}(\lambda, r)dr \tag{1}$$

$$g(\lambda) = 2\pi \int_{-1}^{1} p(\theta, \lambda, r) f(r) \cos \theta d \cos \theta dr \qquad (2)$$

$$\delta_{sca} = \mu_{sca} (1 - g) \tag{3}$$

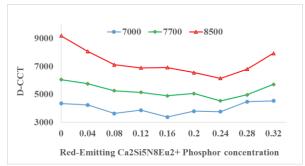


Figure 3. The D-CCT at average CCTs of 8500 K, 7700 K, and 7000K.

Where N(r) is the density distribution of diffusional particles (per cubic millimeter),

 C_{sca} is the scattering cross sections (per square millimeter),

 $p(\vartheta,\lambda,r)$ is the phase function,

 λ is the wavelength of the incident light (nanometers),

r is the radius of particles (micrometers),

 ϑ is the scattering angle (degree),

f(r) is the size distribution function of the diffusers in the phosphor layer.

$$f(r) = f_{dif}(r) + f_{phos}(r) \tag{4}$$

$$N(r) = N_{dif}(r) + N_{phos}(r)$$

$$= K_N \cdot [f_{dif}(r) + f_{phos}(r)]$$
(5)

 $N_{dif}(r)$ is the diffusive particle number density, $N_{phos}(r)$. Is the phosphor particle number density, $f_{dif}(r)$ and $f_{phos}(r)$ are the size distribution function data of the diffusor and phosphor particle,

 K_N is the number of the unit diffusor for one diffuser concentration and K_N can be obtained by:

$$c = K_N \int M(r) dr \tag{6}$$

Where M(r) is the mass distribution (milligrams) of the unit diffusor. Below equation can calculate M(r):

$$M(r) = \frac{4}{3} \pi r^{3} [\rho_{dif} f_{dif}(r) + \rho_{phos} f_{phos}(r)]$$
 (7)



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 $\rho_{diff}(r)$ and $\rho_{phos}(r)$ are the density of diffuser and phosphor crystal.

In Mie theory, C_{sca} is calculated by:

$$C_{sca} = \frac{2\pi}{k^2} \sum_{0}^{\infty} (2n - 1)(|a_n|^2 + |b_n|^2)$$
 (8)

Where k is the wavenumber $(2\pi/\lambda)$,

 a_n and b_n are the expansion coefficients with even symmetry and odd symmetry, respectively. These coefficients can be calculated by below equations:

$$a_{n}(x,m) = \frac{\psi_{n}(mx)\psi_{n}(x) - m\psi_{n}(mx)\psi_{n}(x)}{\psi_{n}(mx)\xi_{n}(x) - m\psi_{n}(mx)\xi_{n}(x)}$$
(9)

$$a_{n}(x,m) = \frac{m\psi_{n}(mx)\psi_{n}(x) - \psi_{n}(mx)\psi_{n}(x)}{m\psi_{n}(mx)\xi_{n}(x) - \psi_{n}(mx)\xi_{n}(x)}$$
(10)

Where x is the size parameter (= k.r),

m is the refractive index of the scattering diffusive particles,

 $\psi_n(x)$ and $\xi_n(x)$ are the Riccati - Bessel function.

The extinction coefficient values of the red phosphor are verified for two distinct wavelengths, 555 nm and 453 nm, which are the emission peaks of the YAG:Ce phosphor and the LED chips, respectively. The variation of the mentioned parameters on the red phosphor concentration according to the above equations are displayed in Fig.4 (a)-(c) for 8500K, 7000 K and 5600 K respectively.

As displayed in Fig. 5, the scattering coefficients grew with increasing red phosphor concentration. It means that the white-light quality can be enhanced by controlling red phosphor concentration. The reduced scattering coefficient of red phosphor with wavelengths 453nm, 555nm and 680nm are approximate with each other (Fig 6). It indicated that the scattering stability of red phosphor is useful for controlling the color quality of MCW-LEDs. The results indicated that red phosphor particles had a significant advantage in producing blue light. The more the blue light emitted, the more the yellow ring phenomenon reduced. These calculations and analysis can clearly use to proving the results in Fig. 2 and Fig. 3 [22].

Conclusion

The purpose of the current study was to determine the influence of the red-emitting Ca₂Si₅N₈Eu²⁺ phosphor concentration on the color uniformity and the CQS of the in-cup packaging MCW-LEDs. The results of this investigation show that the concentration of the red

phosphor particles crucial influenced on the optical properties of the in-cup packaging MCW-LEDs. The both D-CCT and CQS can obtain the best value at the 0.24-0.28% concentration of the red-emitting Ca₂Si₅N₈Eu²⁺ phosphor. Further studies need to be carried out to validate the influence of the red-emitting Ca₂Si₅N₈Eu²⁺ phosphor size on the optical properties of the conformal packaging MCW-LEDs.

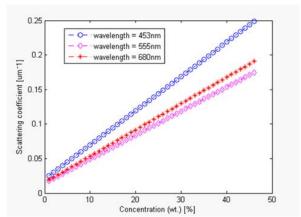


Figure 4. Scattering coefficients of Ca₂Si₅N₈Eu²⁺ in proportion to wavelengths of 453nm, 555nm, and 680nm.

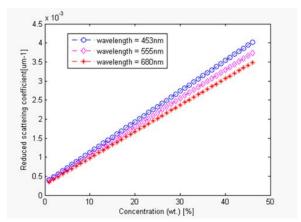


Figure 5. Reduced scattering coefficient of Ca₂Si₅N₈Eu²⁺ with wavelengths of 453nm, 555nm, and 680nm.

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