

Abstract Submitted
for the MAR06 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Metal-metal nanolayered structures for generation of hard x-ray radiation PETER SHKOLNIKOV, ECE Department, SUNY at Stony Brook, ALEXANDER KAPLAN, ALEXANDER POKROVSKY, ECE Department, Johns Hopkins University — Our new research effort is aimed at developing a new X-ray source for medical applications, using low-energy electrons. Generation of intense narrow-band X-ray transition radiation (TR) by few-MeV electrons traversing solid multilayer structures, initially proposed for by us ~ 1 keV photons, changes dramatically at energies of interest to medicine, 30-50 keV, because of significant changes in dielectric constants. In particular, the choice of the materials for the multilayer target proposed by us for soft X-ray generation, is no longer applicable. In particular, our original approach was based on choosing a layer of a high- Z material as a “radiator” with a chosen K -shell transition, and the layer of low- Z material as a neutral “spacer.” However, in the 30-50 keV range, TR spectra with such pairs show a spectral *dip*, not a peak, at the chosen K -shell. Our new theoretical investigations have shown that the optimal spacer now, as a rule, should have higher Z than the radiator. One example of such combination is Mo/Ag; we predict that its X-ray TR spectrum contains a strong, 1% wide peak at the K-edge of Mo, ~ 20 KeV. We present our recent theoretical results of the subject, as well as our experimental results for the Mo/Ag target.

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Date submitted: 07 Dec 2005

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