

US006972421B2

(12) United States Patent

Melnychuk et al.

(10) Patent No.: US 6,972,421 B2

(45) **Date of Patent: Dec. 6, 2005**

(54) EXTREME ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT SOURCE

(75) Inventors: Stephan T. Melnychuk, Carlsbad, CA
(US); William N. Partlo, Poway, CA
(US); Igor V. Fomenkov, San Diego,
CA (US); I. Roger Oliver, San Diego,
CA (US); Richard M. Ness, San Diego,
CA (US); Norbert Bowering, San
Diego, CA (US); Oleh Khodykin, San
Diego, CA (US); Curtis L. Rettig,
Vista, CA (US); Gerry M.
Blumenstock, San Diego, CA (US);
Timothy S. Dyer, Oceanside, CA (US);
Rodney D. Simmons, San Diego, CA
(US); Jerzy R. Hoffman, Escondido,
CA (US); R. Mark Johnson, Ramona,
CA (US)

(73) Assignee: Cymer, Inc., San Diego, CA (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 107 days.

Appl. No.: 10/409,254

(22) Filed: Apr. 8, 2003

(21)

(65) Prior Publication Data

US 2004/0108473 A1 Jun. 10, 2004

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation-in-part of application No. 10/384,967, filed on Mar. 8, 2003, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 10/189,824, filed on Jul. 3, 2002, now Pat. No. 6,815, 700, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 10/120,655, filed on Apr. 10, 2002, now Pat. No. 6,744,060, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 09/875, 719, filed on Jun. 6, 2001, now Pat. No. 6,586,757, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 09/875,721, filed on Jun. 6, 2001, now Pat. No. 6,566,668, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 09/696,084, filed on Oct. 16, 2000, now Pat. No. 6,566,667, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 09/590,962, filed on Jun. 9, 2000, now abandoned.

(60)	Provisional application No. 60/422,808, filed on Oct. 31,
	2002, and provisional application No. 60/419,805, filed on
	Oct. 18, 2002.

(51)	Int. Cl. ⁷	H01J 35/20
(52)	U.S. Cl	250/504 R ; 250/493.1;
		378/119
(58)	Field of Search	250/504 R, 493.1;
		378/119; 372/5, 87

(56) References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

2,759,106 3,150,483 3,232,046	A	9/1964	Wolter	60/35.5				
(Continued)								

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Apruzese, J.P., "X-Ray Laser Research Using Z Pinches," Am. Inst. of Phys. 399-403, (1994).

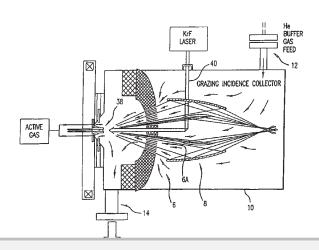
(Continued)

Primary Examiner—Kiet T. Nguyen (74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—William C. Cray; Cymar, Inc.

(57) ABSTRACT

The present invention provides a reliable, high-repetition rate, production line compatible high energy photon source. A very hot plasma containing an active material is produced in vacuum chamber. The active material is an atomic element having an emission line within a desired extreme ultraviolet (EUV) range. A pulse power source comprising a charging capacitor and a magnetic compression circuit comprising a pulse transformer, provides electrical pulses having sufficient energy and electrical potential sufficient to produce the EUV light at an intermediate focus at rates in excess of 5 Watts. In preferred embodiments designed by Applicants in-band, EUV light energy at the intermediate focus is 45 Watts extendable to 105.8 Watts.

78 Claims, 50 Drawing Sheets





U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

2.270.474		10/10/	P. I. (0/202
3,279,176	A	10/1966	Boden 60/202
3,746,870	A	7/1973	Demarest
3,960,473	A	6/1976	Harris
3,961,197	A	6/1976	Dawson 250/493
3,969,628	A	7/1976	Roberts et al 250/402
4,042,848	A	8/1977	Lee
4,088,966	A	5/1978	Samis 313/231.5
4,143,275	A	3/1979	Mallozzi et al 250/503
4,162,160	Α	7/1979	Witter 75/246
4,203,393	Α	5/1980	Giardini 123/30
4,364,342	A	12/1982	Asik
4,369,758	A	1/1983	Endo 123/620
4,504,964	A	3/1985	Cartz et al 378/119
4,507,588	A	3/1985	Asmussen et al 315/39
4,536,884	A	8/1985	Weiss et al 378/119
4,538,291	Α	8/1985	Iwamatsu 378/119
4,561,406	A	12/1985	Ward 123/536
4,596,030	A	6/1986	Herziger et al 378/119
4,618,971	A	10/1986	Weiss et al 378/34
4,626,193	A	12/1986	Gann 431/71
4,633,492	Α	12/1986	Weiss et al 378/119
4,635,282	A	1/1987	Okada et al 378/34
4,751,723	Α	6/1988	Gupta et al 378/119
4,752,946	A	6/1988	Gupta et al
4,774,914	A	10/1988	Ward 123/162
4,837,794	A	6/1989	Riordan et al 378/119
4,928,020	A	5/1990	Birx et al 307/106
5,023,897	A	6/1991	Neff et al 378/122
5,027,076	A	6/1991	Horsley et al
5,102,776	A	4/1992	Hammer et al 430/311
5,126,638	A	6/1992	Dethlefsen
5,142,166	A	8/1992	Birx 307/419
5,175,755	A	12/1992	Kumakhov
5,313,481	A	5/1994	Cook et al
5,411,224	A	5/1995	Dearman et al 244/53
5,448,580	A	9/1995	Birx et al
5,504,795	A	4/1996	McGeoch
5,729,562	A	3/1998	Birx et al
5,763,930	A	6/1998	Partlo
5,866,871	A	2/1999	Birx
5,936,988	A	8/1999	Partlo et al
5,963,616	A	10/1999	Silfvast et al
6,031,241	A	2/2000	Silfvast et al
6,039,850	A	3/2000	Schulz
6,051,841	A	4/2000	Partlo
6,064,072	A	5/2000	Partlo et al
	B1	1/2001	Birx
6,172,324			
6,195,272	B1	2/2001	Pascente
6,566,667	B1	5/2003	Partlo et al
6,566,668	B2 B2 *	5/2003	Rauch et al
6,567,499		5/2003	McGeoch
6,586,757	B2	7/2003	Melnychuk et al 250/504
2001/0055364	A1	12/2001	Kandaka et al
2002/0100882	A1	8/2002	Partlo et al
2002/0168049	A1	11/2002	Schriever et al 378/119
2003/0068012	A1	4/2003	Ahmad et al 378/119

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Bollanti, et al., "Compact Three Electrodes Excimer Laser IANUS for a POPA Optical System," *SPIE Proc.* (2206)144–153, (1994).

Bollanti, et al., "Ianus, the three-electrode excimer laser," *App. Phys. B (Laser & Optics)* 66(4):401–406, (1998). Choi, et al., "A 10¹³ A/s High Energy Density Micro

Choi, et al., "A 10¹³ A/s High Energy Density Micro Discharge Radiation Source," *B. Radiation Characteristics*, p. 287–290.

Fomenkov, et al., "Characterization of a 13.5nm Source for EUV Lithography based on a Dense Plasma Focus and Lithium Emission," Sematech Intl. Workshop on EUV Lithography (Oct. 1999).

Hansson, et al., "Xenon liquid jet laser-plasma source for EUV lithography," Emerging Lithographic Technologies IV, *Proc. Of SPIE*, vol. 3997:729–732 (2000).

Kato, Yasuo, "Electrode Lifetimes in a Plasma Focus Soft X-Ray Source," *J. Appl. Phys.* (33) Pt. 1, No. 8:4742–4744 (1991).

Kato, et al., "Plasma focus x-ray source for lithography," Am. Vac. Sci. Tech. B., 6(1): 195-198 (1988).

Lebert, et al., "Soft x-ray emission of laser-produced plasmas using a low-debris cryogenic nitrogen target," *J.* App. Phys., 84(6):3419–3421 (1998).

Lebert, et al., "A gas discharge based radiation source for EUV-lithography," Intl. Conf. Micro and Nano-Engineering 98 (Sep. 2–24, 1998) Leuven. Belgium.

Lebert, et al., "Investigation of pinch plasmas with plasma parameters promising ASE," Inst. Phys. Conf. Ser No. 125: Section 9, pp. 411–415 (1992) Schiersee, Germany.

Lee, Ja H., "Production of dense plasmas in hypocyloidal pinch apparatus," *The Phys. Of Fluids*, 20(2):313–321 (1977).

Lewis, Ciaran L.S., "Status of Collision-Pumped X-ray Lasers," *Am Inst. Phys.* pp. 9–16 (1994).

Malmqvist, et al., "Liquid-jet target for laser-plasma soft x-ray generation," *Am. Inst. Phys.* 67(12):4150-4153 1996). Mather, et al., "Stability of the Dense Plasma Focus," *Phys. Of Fluids*, 12(11):2343-2347 (1969).

Mayo, et al., "A magnetized coaxial source facility for the generation of energic plasma flows," *Sci. Technol.* vol. 4:pp. 47–55 (1994).

Mayo, et al., "Initial Results on high enthalpy plasma generation in a magnetized coaxial source," *Fusion Tech* vol. 26:1221–1225 (1994).

Nilsen, et al., "Analysis of resonantly photopumped Na–Ne x–ray–laser scheme," *Am Phys. Soc.* 44(7):4591–4597 (1991).

Partlo, et al., "EUV (13.5nm) Light Generation Using a Dense Plasma Focus Device", *SPIE Proc, On Emergine Lithographic Technologies III*, vol. 3676, 846–858 (Mar. 1999).

Price, Robert H., "X-Ray Microscopy using Grazing Incidence Reflection Optics," *Am. Inst. Phys.*, pp. 189–199, (1981).

Qi, et al., "Fluorescence in Mg IX emission at 48.340 Å from Mg Pinch plasmas photopumped by Al XI Line radiation at 48.338 Å." The Am. Phys. Soc., 47(3):2253–2263 (Mar. 1993).

Scheuer, et al., "A Magnetically-Nozzled, Quasi-Steady, Multimegawatt, Coaxial Plasma Thruster," *IEEE: Transactions on Plasma Science*, 22(6) (Dec. 1994).

Schriever, et al., "Laser-produced lithium plasma as a narrow-band extended ultraviolet radiation source for photoelectron spectroscopy," App. Optics, 37(7):1243–1248, (Mar. 1998).

Schriever, et al., "Narrowband laser produced extreme ultraviolet sources adapted to silicon/molybdenum multilayer optics," J. of App. Phys., 83(9):4566–4571, (May 1998). Zombeck, M.V., "Astrophysical Observations with High



Choi et al., "Temporal development of hard and soft x-ray emission from a gas-puff Z pinch," Rev. Sci. Instrum. 57(8), pp. 2162–2164 (Aug. 1986).

Silfvast, et al., "High-power plasma discharge source at 13.5 nm and 11.4 nm for EUV lithography," *SPIE*, vol. 3676:272–275, (Mar. 1999).

Silfvast, et al., "Lithium hydride capillary discharge creates x-ray plasma at 13.5 namometers," *Laser Focus World*, p. 13. (Mar. 1997).

Wilhein, et al., "A slit grating spectrograph for quantitative soft x-ray spectroscopy," Am. Inst. Of Phys. Rev. of Sci. Instrum., 70(3):1694–1699, (Mar. 1999).

Wu, et al., "The vacuum Spark and Spherical Pinch X-ray/EUV Point Sources," *SPIE, Conf. On Emerging Tech.* III, Santa Clara, CA vol. 3676:410–420, (Mar. 1999).

Giordano and Letardi, "Magnetic pulse compressor for prepulse discharge in spiker–sustainer excitati technique for XeC1 lasers," Rev. Sci. Instrum 65(8), pp. 2475–2481 (Aug. 1994).

Jahn, Physics of Electric Propulsion, McGraw-Hill Book Company, (Series in Missile and Space U.S.A.), Chap. 9, "Unsteady Electromagnetic Acceleration," p. 257 (1968). Lebert et al, "Comparison of laser produced and gas discharge based EUV sources for different applications," *International Conference Micro- and Nano-Engineering 98*, Sep. 22–24, 1998, Leuven, Belgium, 6 pages.

Lowe, "Gas plasmas yield X rays for Lithography," Electronics, pp. 40–41 (Jan. 27, 1982).

Mather, "Formation of a High-Densty Deuterium Plasma Focus," The Physics of Fluids, 8(2), 366-377 (Feb. 1965).

Matthews and Cooper, "Plasma sources for x-ray lithography," SPIE, 333, Submicron Lithography, pp. 136–139 (1982).

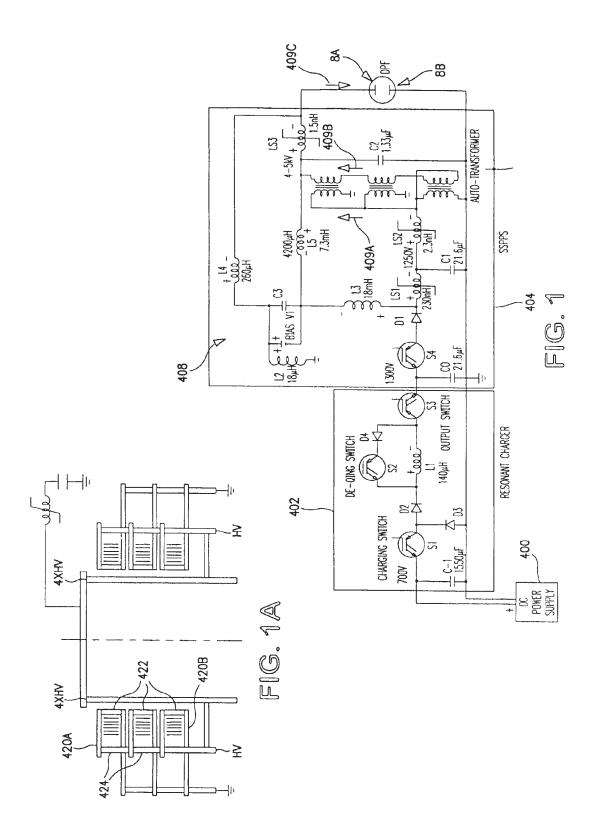
Pearlman and Riordan, "X-ray lithography using a pulsed plasma source," J. Vac. Sci. Technol, pp. 1190–1193 (Nov./Dec. 1981).

Shiloh et al., "Z Pinch of a Gas Jet," Physical Review Lett., 40(8), pp. 515-518 (Feb. 20, 1978).

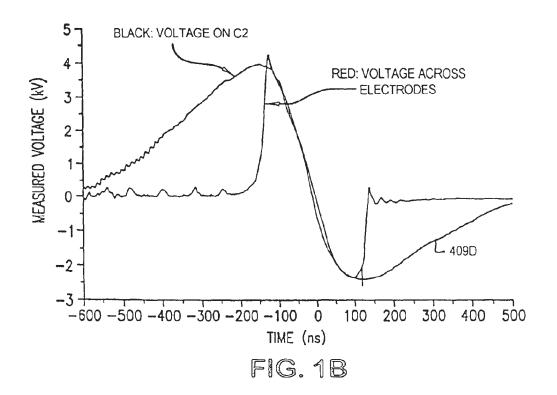
Stallings et al., "Imploding argon plasma experiments," Appl. Phys. Lett., 35(7), pp. 524–526 (Oct. 1, 1979).

* cited by examiner









0.7 -0.6 1300V OPERATION PHODO DIODE SIGNAL (V) 0.5 INTEGRAL = 3.1E-8 Vsec0.4 0.3 OUTPUT = $12.7 \text{mJ}/2 \pi$ 0.2 0.1 0.0 Ó 100 150 -50 50 TIME (ns) OUTPUT (11.4 nm) = $22 \,\text{mJ}/2 \,\pi$

FIG. 1C

DOCKET

Explore Litigation Insights



Docket Alarm provides insights to develop a more informed litigation strategy and the peace of mind of knowing you're on top of things.

Real-Time Litigation Alerts



Keep your litigation team up-to-date with **real-time** alerts and advanced team management tools built for the enterprise, all while greatly reducing PACER spend.

Our comprehensive service means we can handle Federal, State, and Administrative courts across the country.

Advanced Docket Research



With over 230 million records, Docket Alarm's cloud-native docket research platform finds what other services can't. Coverage includes Federal, State, plus PTAB, TTAB, ITC and NLRB decisions, all in one place.

Identify arguments that have been successful in the past with full text, pinpoint searching. Link to case law cited within any court document via Fastcase.

Analytics At Your Fingertips



Learn what happened the last time a particular judge, opposing counsel or company faced cases similar to yours.

Advanced out-of-the-box PTAB and TTAB analytics are always at your fingertips.

API

Docket Alarm offers a powerful API (application programming interface) to developers that want to integrate case filings into their apps.

LAW FIRMS

Build custom dashboards for your attorneys and clients with live data direct from the court.

Automate many repetitive legal tasks like conflict checks, document management, and marketing.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Litigation and bankruptcy checks for companies and debtors.

E-DISCOVERY AND LEGAL VENDORS

Sync your system to PACER to automate legal marketing.

