

OPTICS: OPTical IBS Coatings for Swiss research



Thomas Südmeyer

Time/Frequency Laboratory, Physics Institute, University of Neuchatel

Workshop on Optical Coatings for Laser Applications, June 11, 2015, Buchs



Laboratoire Temps – Fréquence (LTF)

The Time/Frequency Laboratory at the University of Neuchâtel



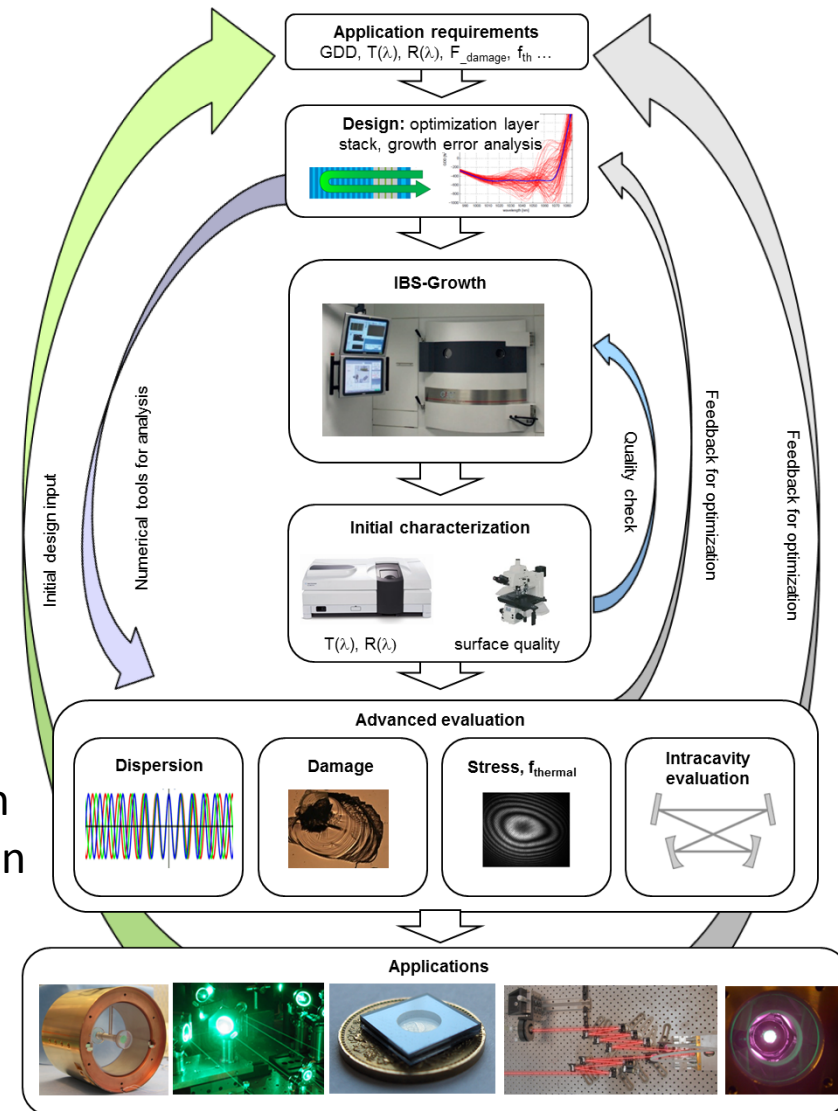
Time, light, extreme precision



OPTICS: OPTical IBS Coatings for Swiss research

Target: develop new IBS solutions for research

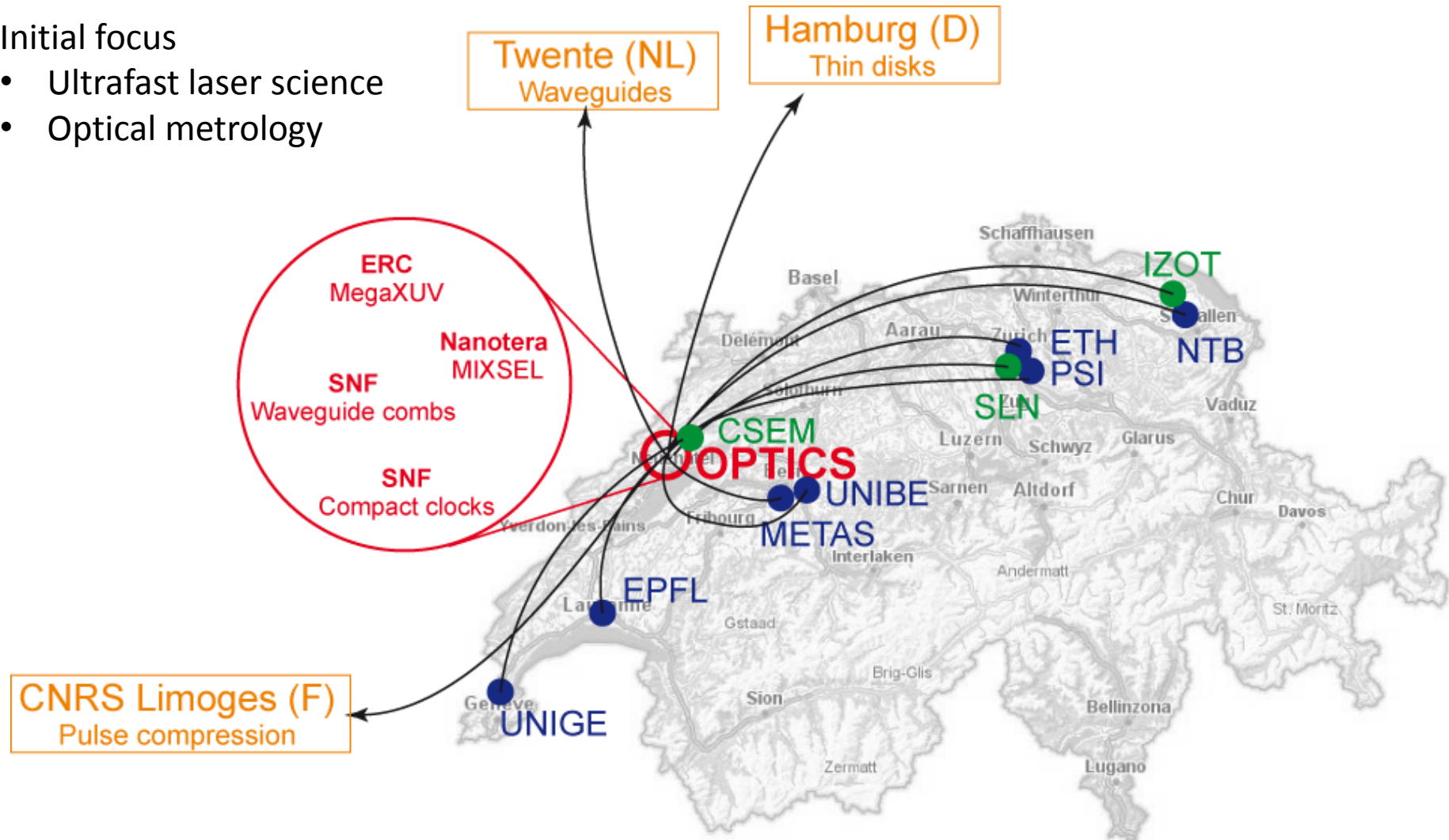
- IBS optimization with coating vendors
 - specific research solutions: low priority
 - time-consuming
 - expensive
 - growth parameters might vary
- OPTICS: provide fast development cycle
 - Analysis of application requirements
 - Optimized layer design
 - Growth on dedicated IBS machine
 - Full characterization
 - Immediate feedback to design & growth according to the needs of the application



OPTICS: OPTical IBS Coatings for Swiss research

Initial focus

- Ultrafast laser science
- Optical metrology



Overview

Introduction

Ultrafast lasers

Ultrafast high power lasers and challenges for dielectric coatings

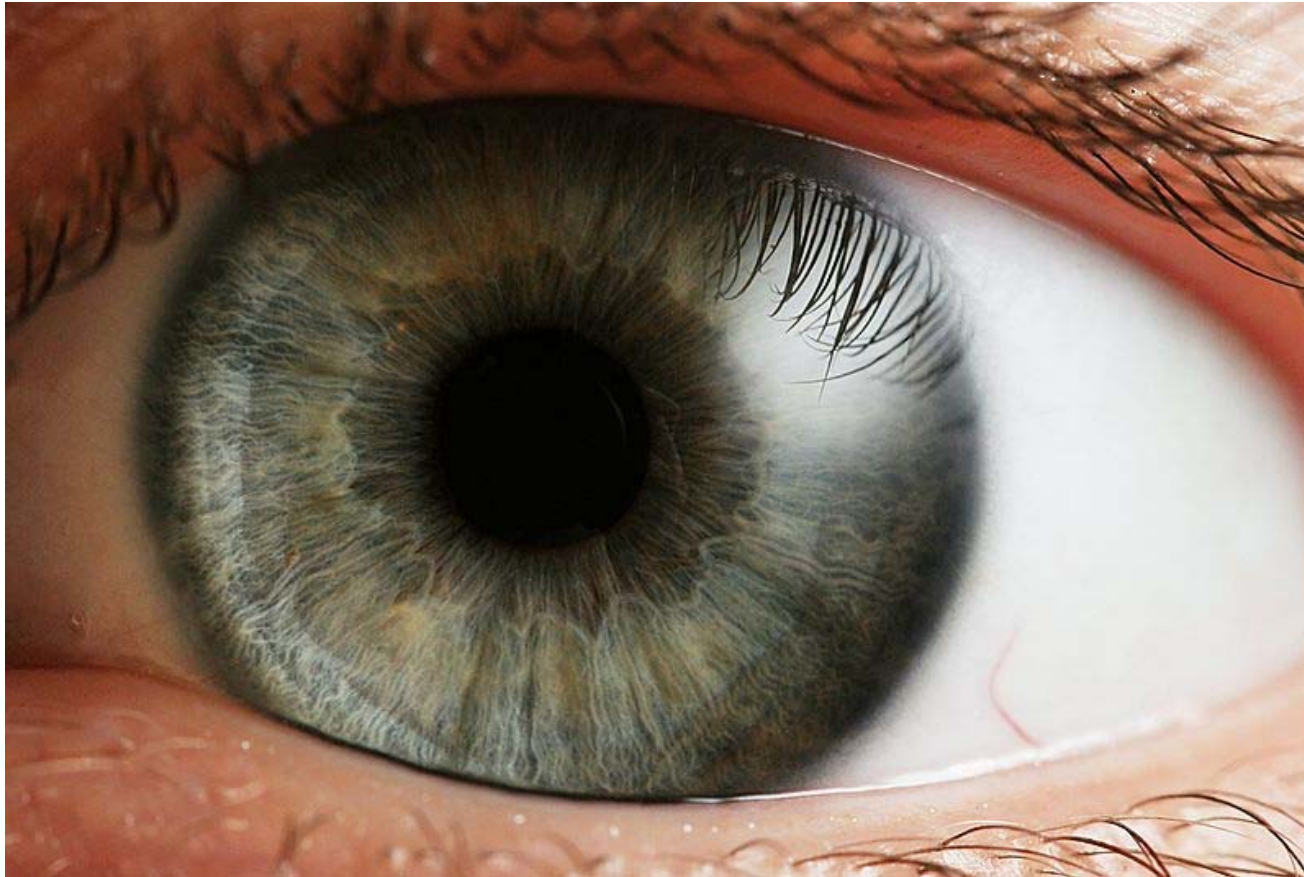
Analogies: MBE growth optimization at ETH

OPTICS: status and next steps

What is ULTRAFAST?



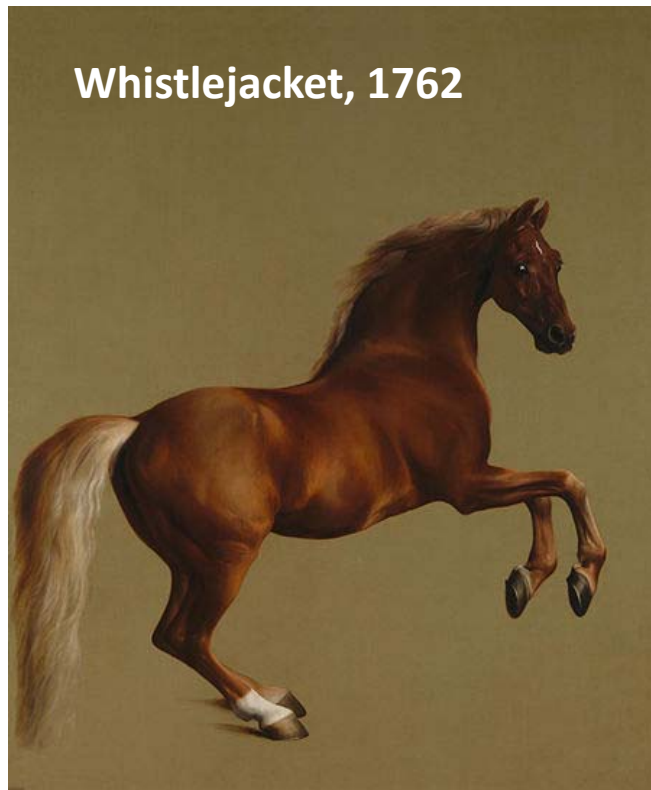
Resolving fast events



Cinema: time between images $\frac{1}{24 \text{ Hz}} = 42 \text{ ms}$

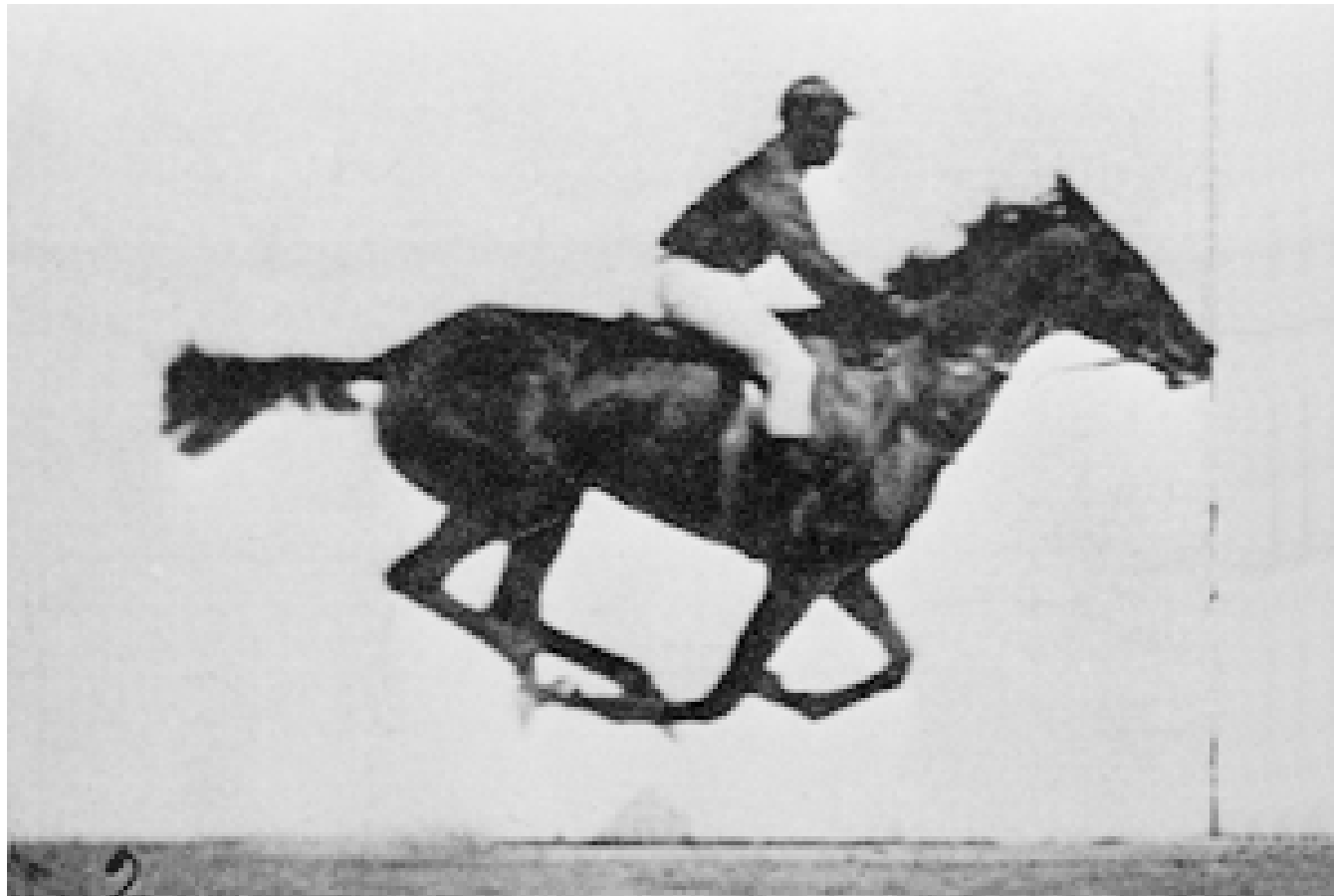
The horse in motion

George Stubbs (1724-1806): English painter, best known for his paintings of horses.



Fast mechanical shutter photography

E. Muybridge in 1878:
understand horse gallop using fast photography in the ms-domain



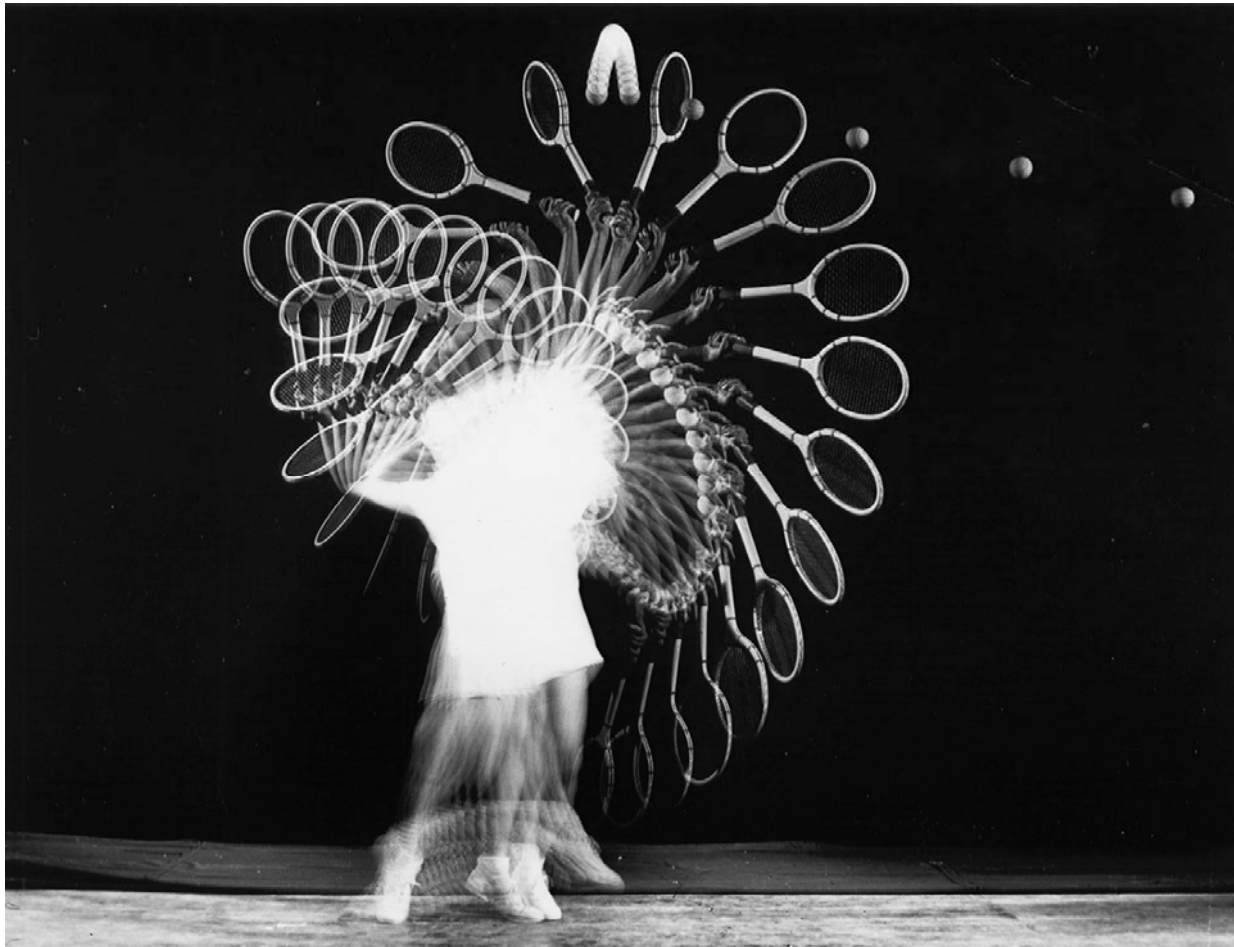
Fast flash photography

Harold E. Edgerton (1903-1990):
understand fast processes using flash light (limited by duration of flashes to μs -domain)



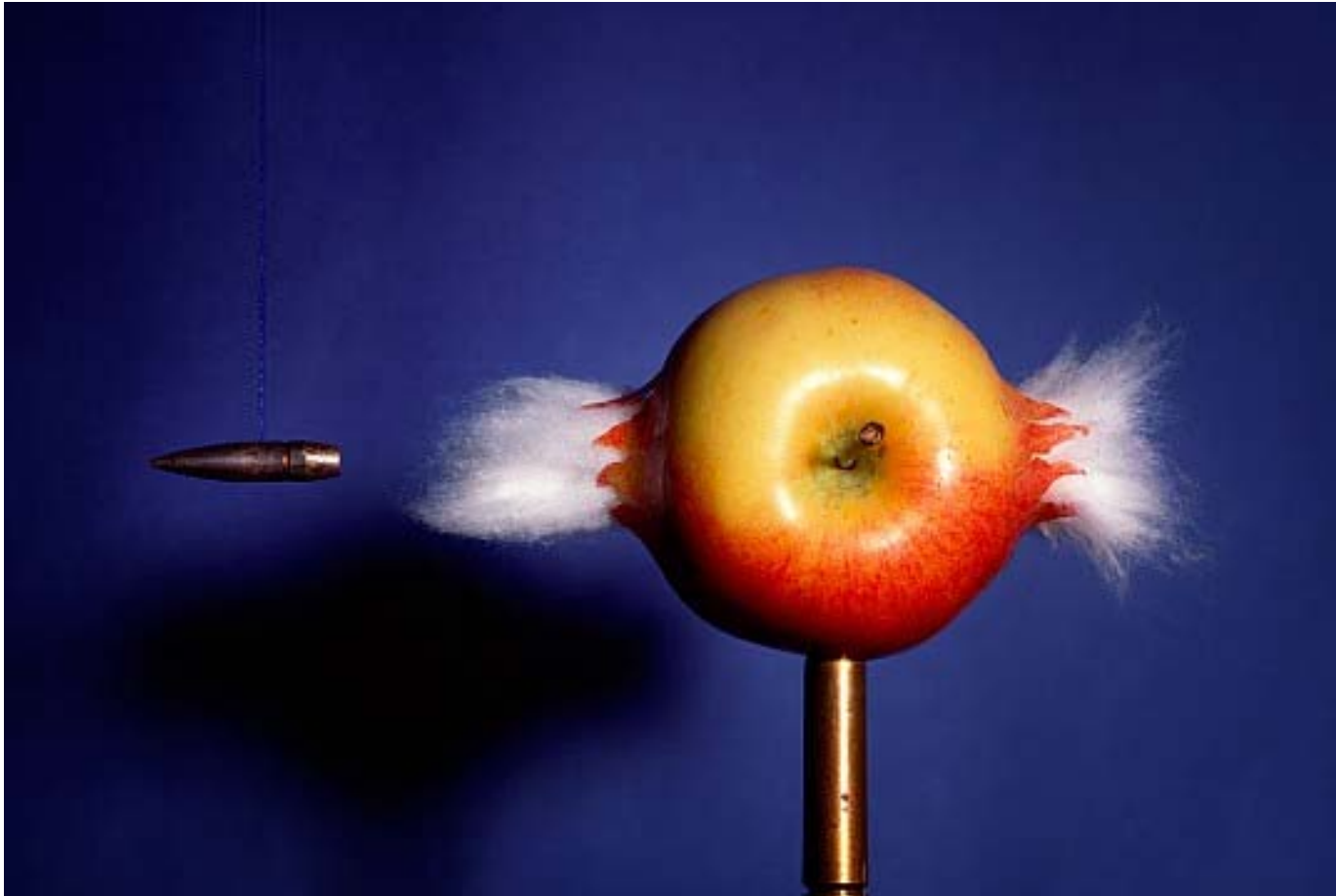
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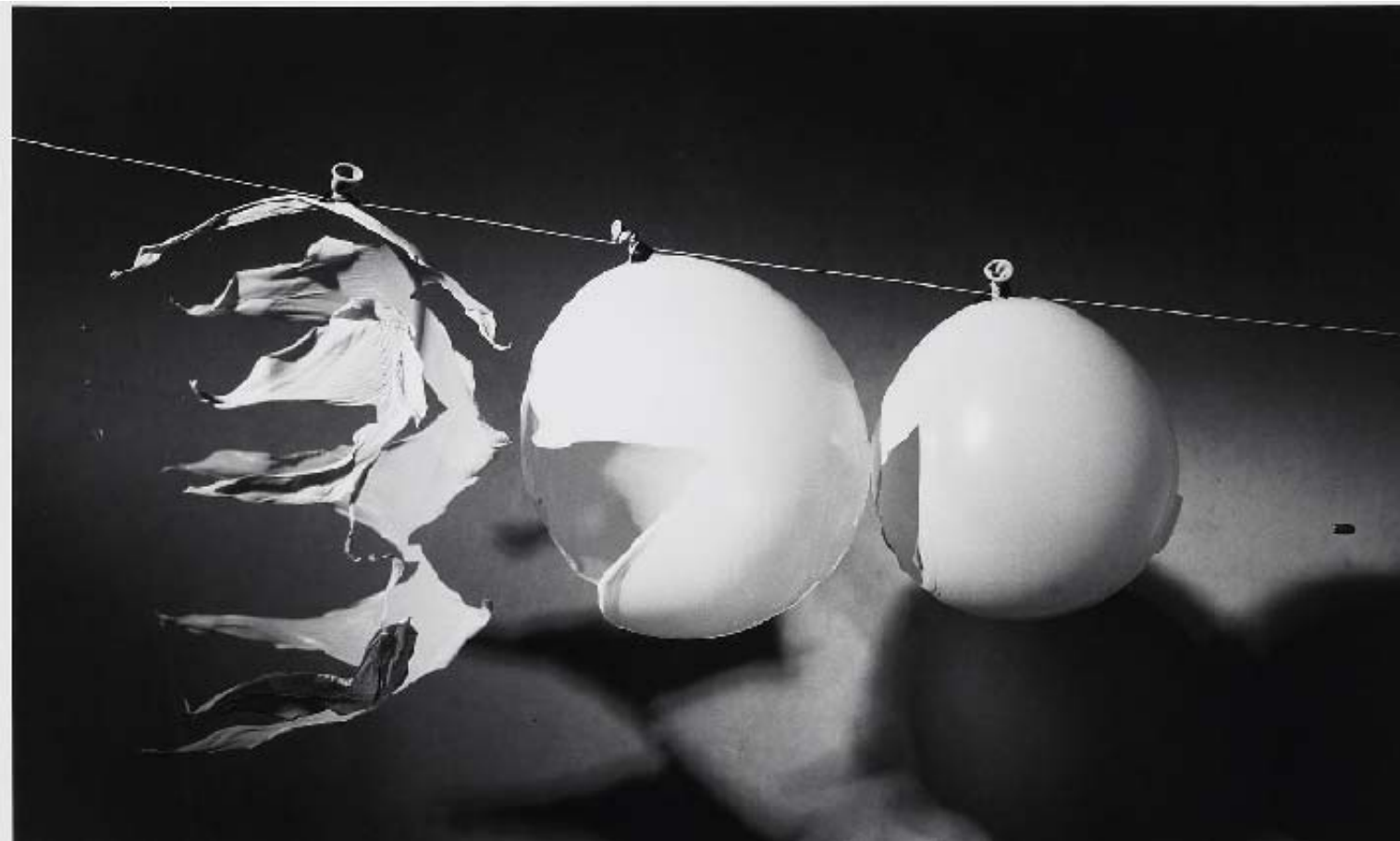
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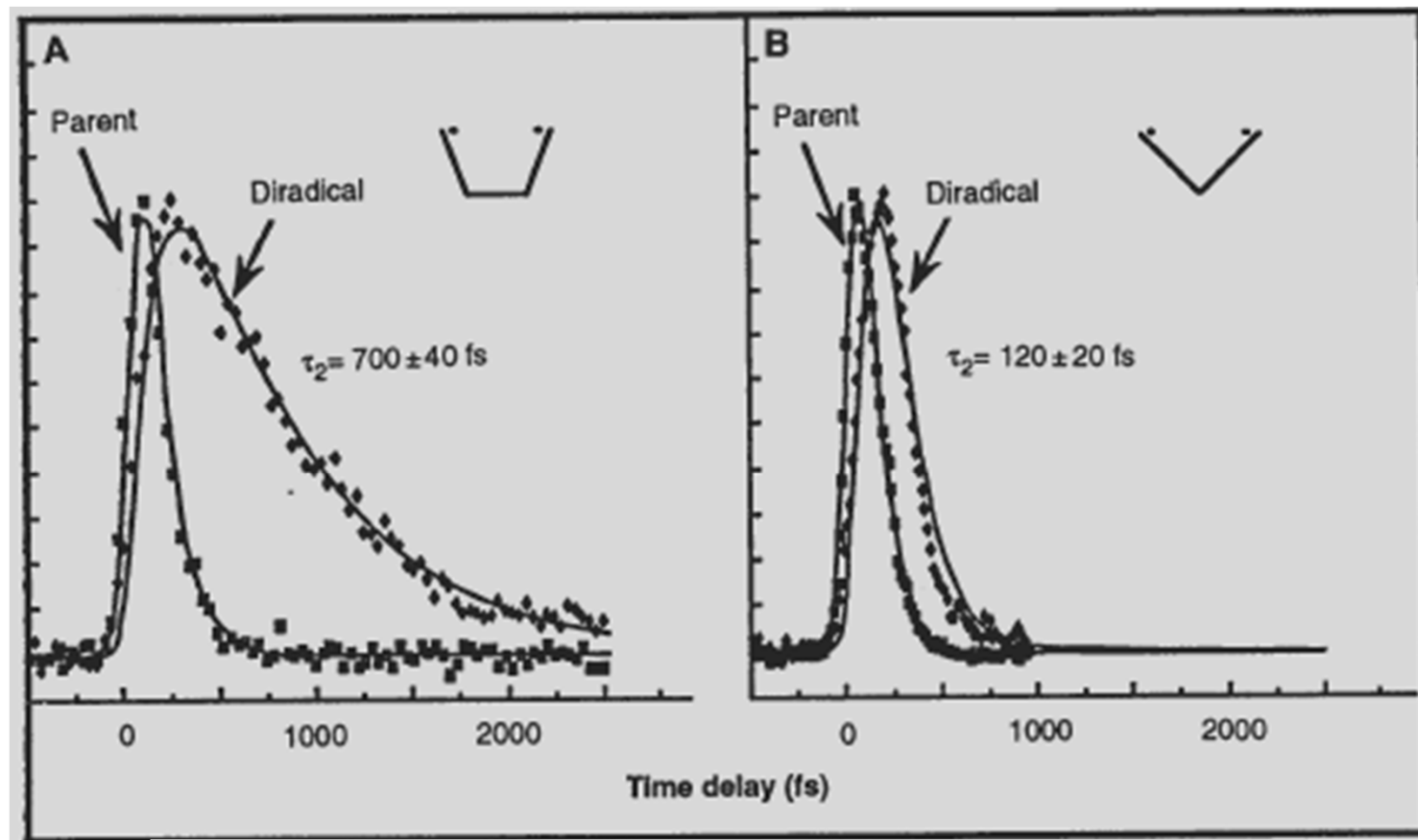
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Femtochemistry by A. H. Zewail in 1994

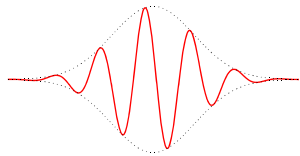
A. H. Zewail in 1994:
 understand transition states in chemical reactions using fs-pulses



SCIENCE • VOL. 266 • 25 NOVEMBER 1994

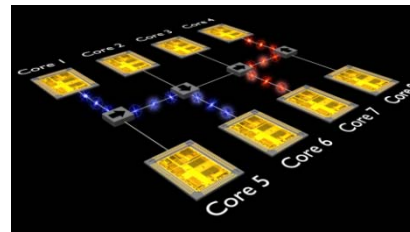
Ultrafast laser pulses

Access ultrashort time scales

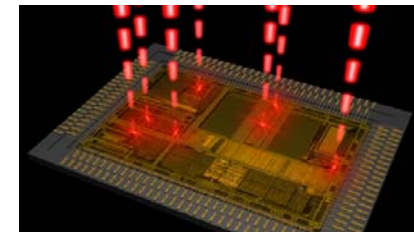


Observe and use fast dynamics

- understand chemical reaction dynamics
- fast communication
- ...



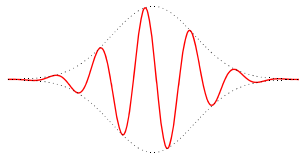
interconnects



optical clocking

Ultrafast laser pulses

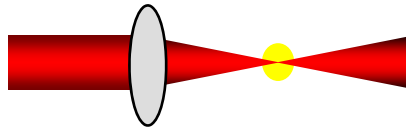
Access ultrashort time scales



Observe and use fast dynamics

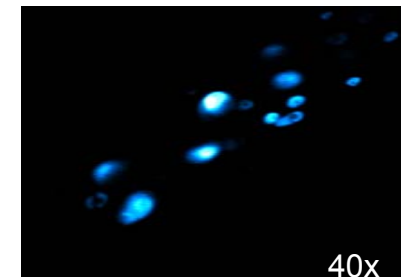
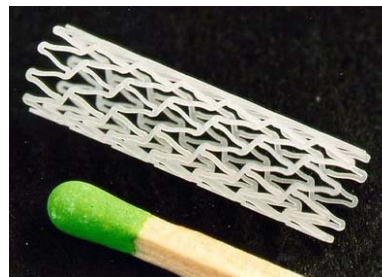
- understand chemical reaction dynamics
- fast communication
- ...

Concentrate in time and space



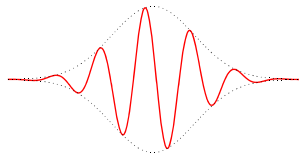
Achieve extremely high intensities

- material processing, eye surgery, ...
- biomedical imaging,
- high field science, ...



Ultrafast laser pulses

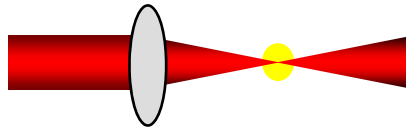
Access ultrashort time scales



Observe and use fast dynamics

- understand chemical reaction dynamics
- fast communication
- ...

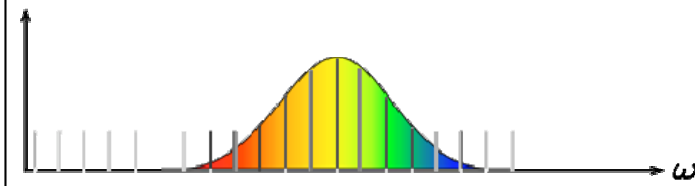
Concentrate in time and space



Achieve extremely high intensities

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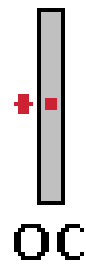
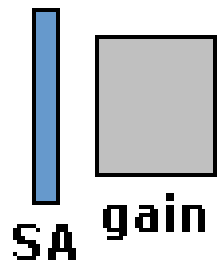
Broad optical spectrum



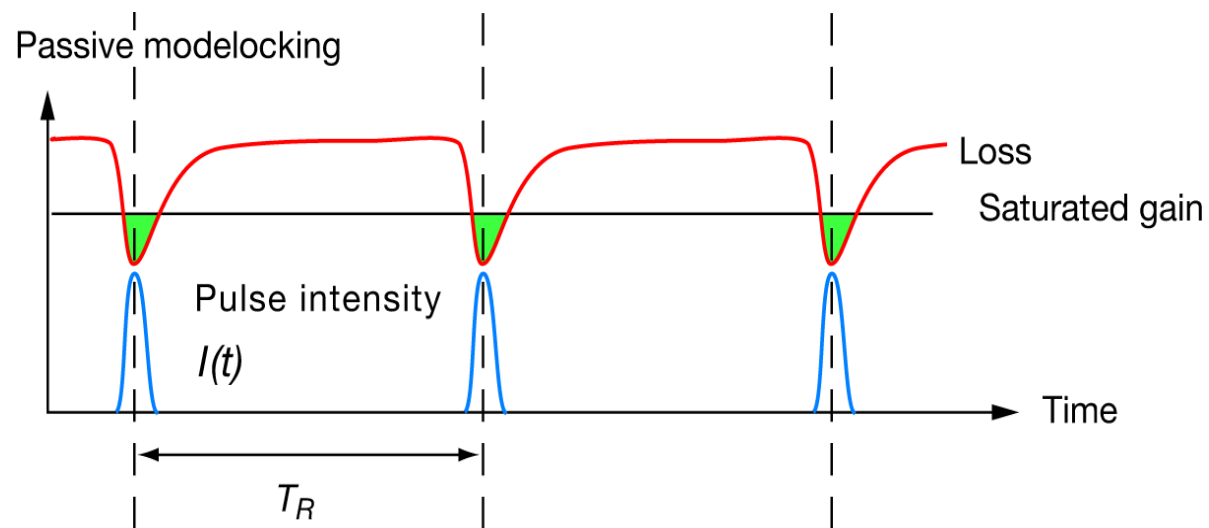
Generate ultrastable frequency combs

- high precision spectroscopy
- optical clocks
- ...

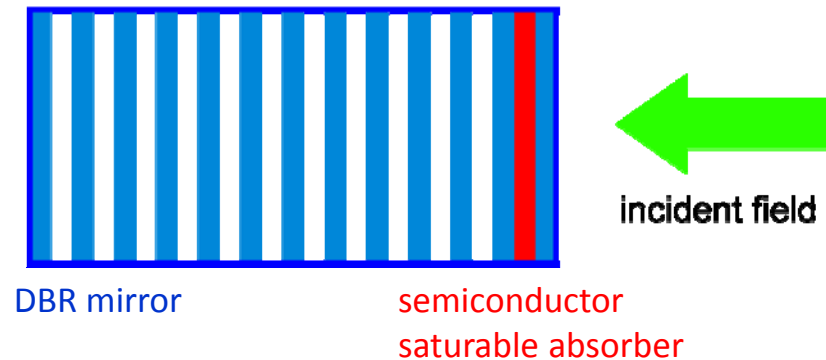
Generation of ultrashort pulses: passive modelocking



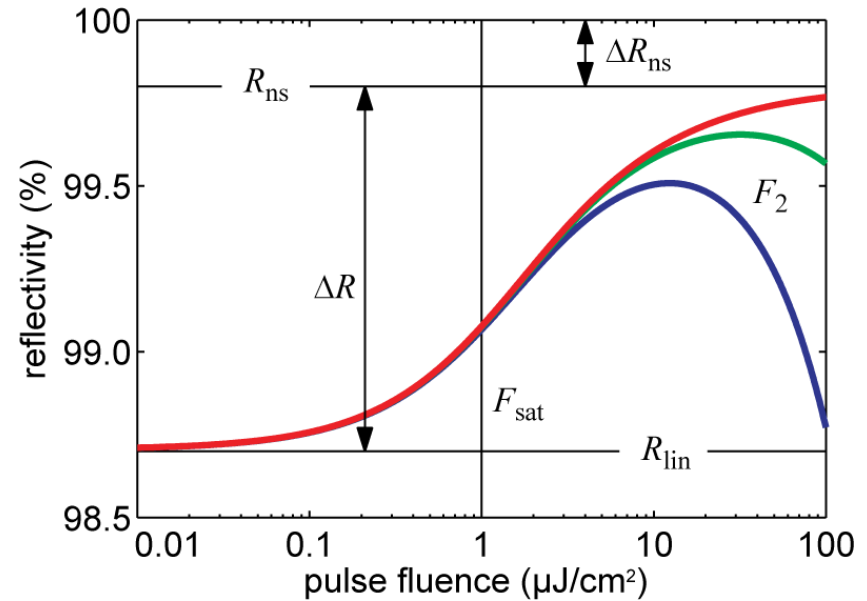
Animation: http://www.rp-photonics.com/mode_locking.html



SESAM (Semiconductor Saturable Absorber Mirror)



- Semiconductor absorber
 - typically QW or QD layer(s)
 - number of layers
 - growth temperature
 - material composition, ...
- Integration in mirror structure
 - field strength in absorber
 - dispersion
 - reflectivity, OC, ...



- Key parameters
 - saturation fluence F_{sat}
 - modulation depth ΔR
 - nonsaturable losses ΔR_{ns}
 - roll-over F_2
 - recovery time τ

U. Keller, et al., *IEEE J. Sel. Top. Quant.* **2**, 435 (1996)

Overview

Introduction

Ultrafast lasers

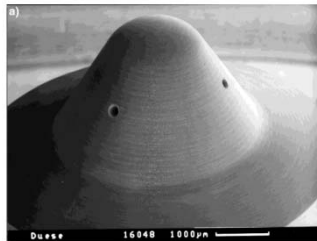
Ultrafast high power lasers and challenges for dielectric coatings

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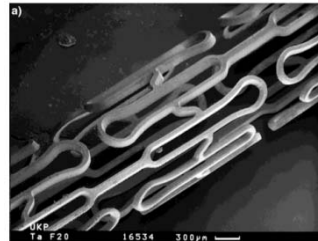
Applications for high power ultrafast sources

Industry: High-precision, high-speed micromachining



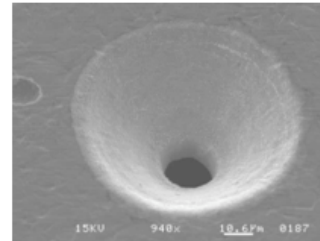
Fuel injection nozzles

Profeta et al., *Industrial Laser Solutions*, 2004



Stents

Nolte, et al., *Adv. Eng. Mater.* 2, 2000



Inkjet nozzles

Liu, et al., *Proc. SPIE*, Vol. 5713, 2005

Required

- High $E_p > 10 \mu\text{J}$
- High $P_{pk} > 10 \text{ MW}$

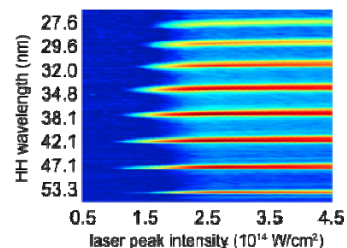
Wanted

- High f_{rep} (MHz)

High average power

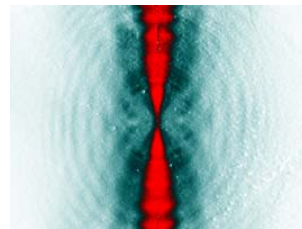
➔ $P_{av} = E_p \cdot f_{rep}$

Science: Strong-field physics applications



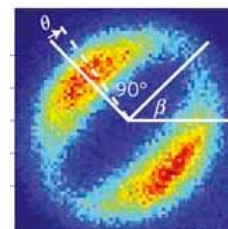
HHG

T. Augustine, et al., *PRA* 80, 033817 (2009)



Spectroscopy

T. Südmeyer, et al., *Nat. Phot.* 2, 599 (2008)



Attosecond science

A. Pfeiffer et al., *Nat. Phys.* 8, 76 (2012)

Required

- High $I_{peak} > 10^{14} \text{ W/cm}^2$
- Short pulses $t_p < 100 \text{ fs}$

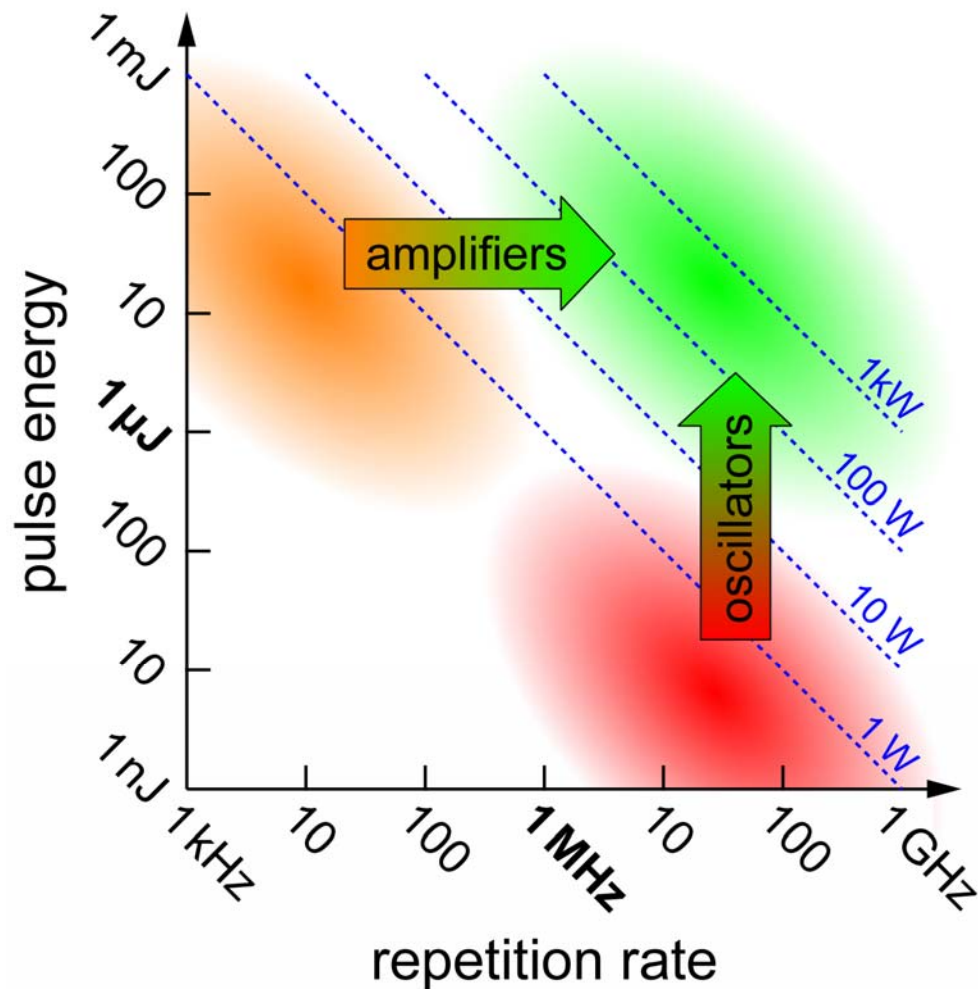
Wanted

- High f_{rep} (MHz)

High average power

➔ $P_{av} = E_p \cdot f_{rep}$

Frontier: average power and pulse energy

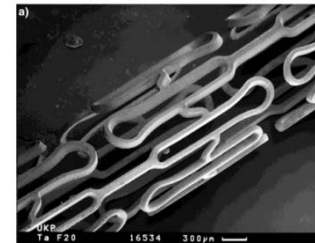


T. Südmeyer, et al., "Femtosecond laser oscillators for high-field science", *Nature Photonics* **2**, 559 (2008)

High energy and MHz

► Industrial applications

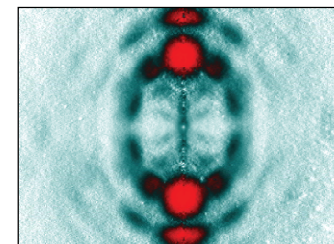
- increase throughput,
- reduce costs per item, ...



Nolte, et al., *Adv. Eng. Mater.* **2**, 2000

► Scientific applications

- reduce measurement time,
- increase signal-to-noise,
- MHz XUV sources, ...



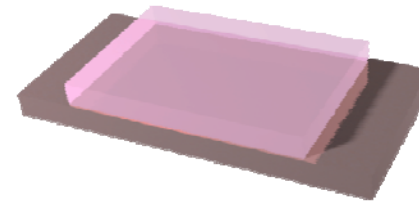
High average power ultrafast sources

Key for high average power: heat removal

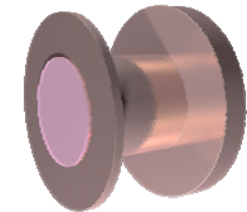
- Optimization of surface-to-volume ratio for efficient cooling



✓ Fiber



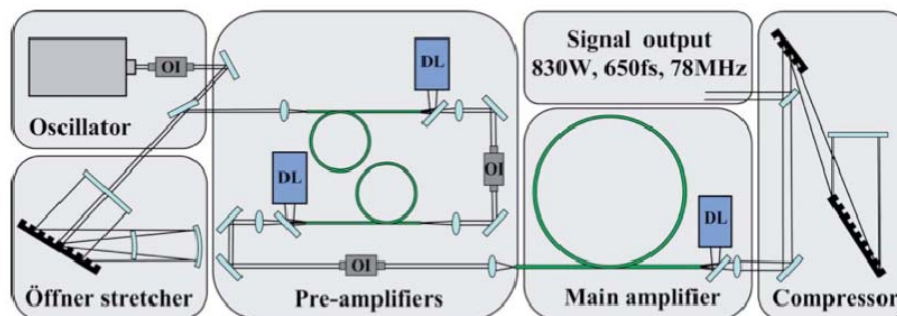
✓ Slab



✓ Thin disk

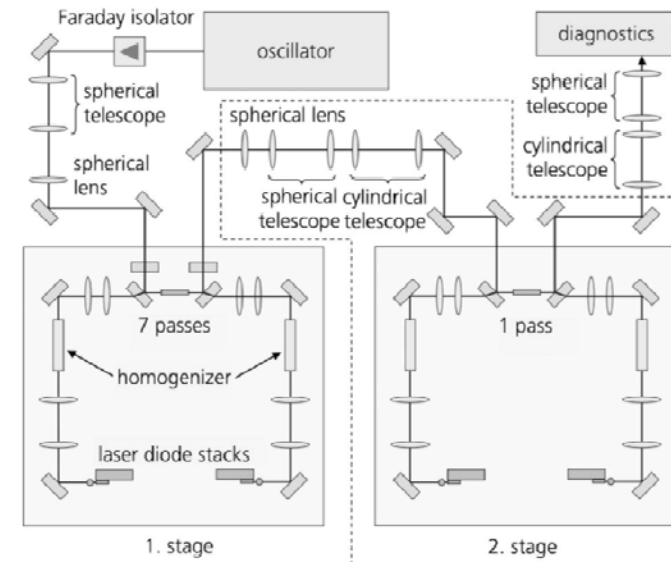
Key for ultrafast: reduce nonlinearities

- Operation at reduced peak intensity
- Reduced interaction volume



✓ Chirped pulse amplification (CPA) : 830 W, 640 fs

T. Eidam, et al., *Optics Letters* 35, 94-96 (2010)



✓ Innoslab : 1.1 kW, 615 fs

P. Russbueldt, et al., *Opt. Letters* 35, 4169-4171 (2010)

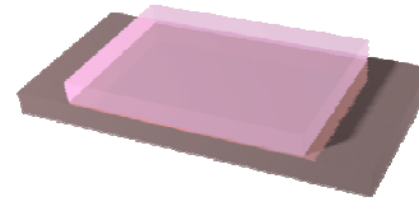
High average power ultrafast sources

Key for high average power: heat removal

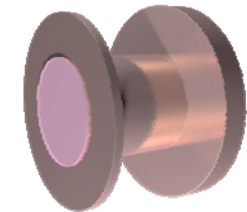
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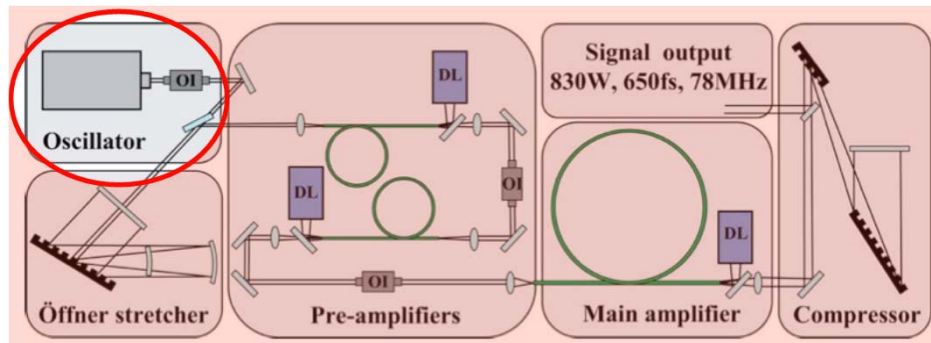
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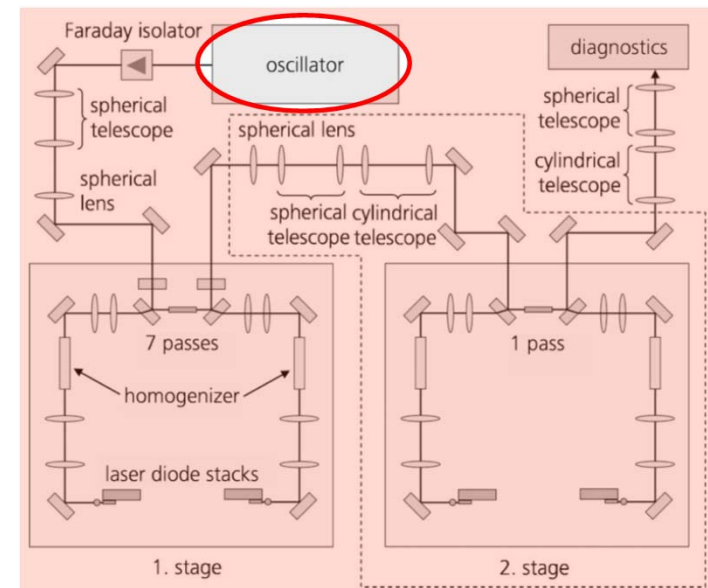
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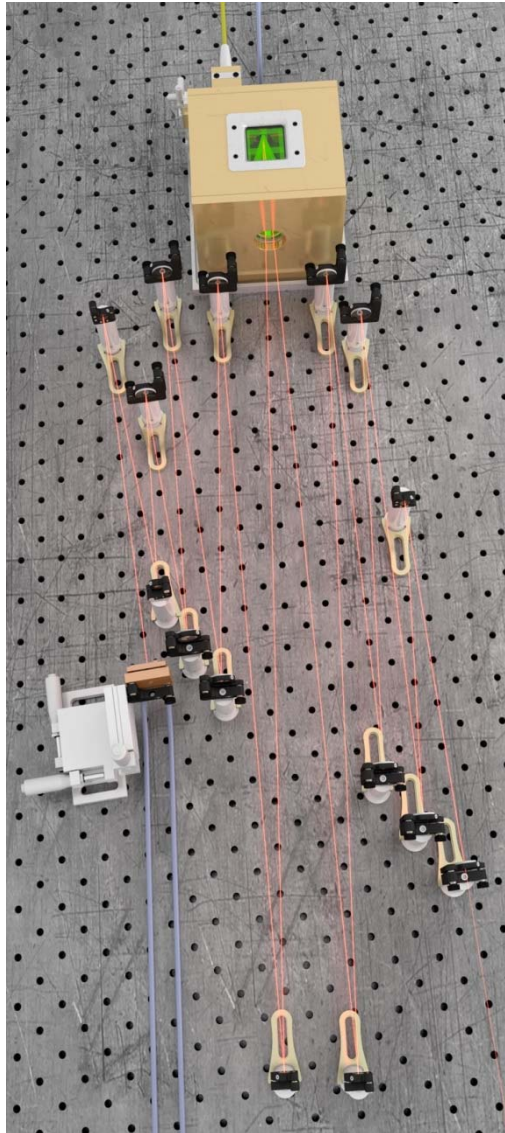
T. Eidam, et al., *Optics Letters* 35, 94-96 (2010)



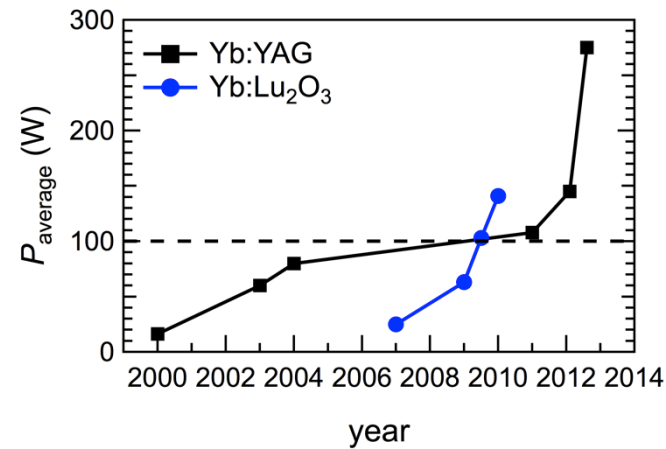
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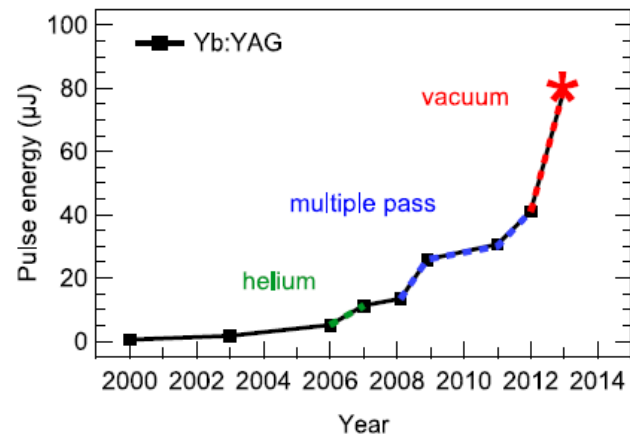
SESAM Modelocked Thin Disk Lasers



Highest average powers and highest energies
of any ultrafast oscillator technology



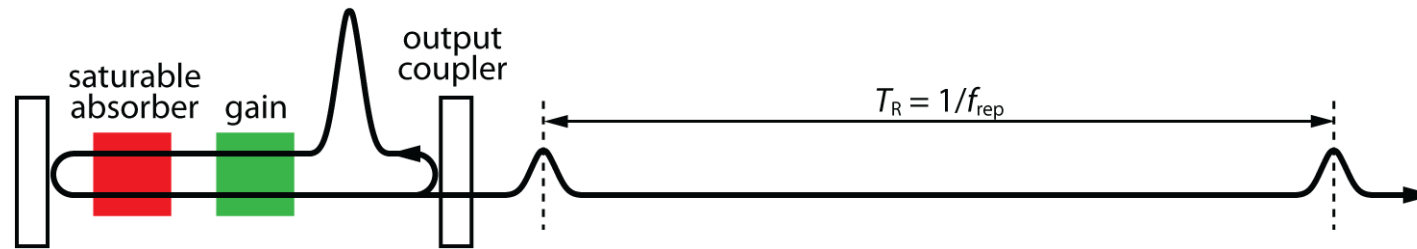
$E_p = 17 \mu\text{J}$
 $P_{av} = 275 \text{ W}$
 $\tau_p = 583 \text{ fs}$
 $f_{rep} = 16.3 \text{ MHz}$



$E_p = 80 \mu\text{J}$
 $\tau_p = 1.07 \text{ ps}$
 $f_{rep} = 3 \text{ MHz}$
 $P_{av} = 242 \text{ W}$

C.J. Saraceno, et al., *Optics Express* **20**, 23535 (2012)

Challenges for high power operation



saturable
absorber

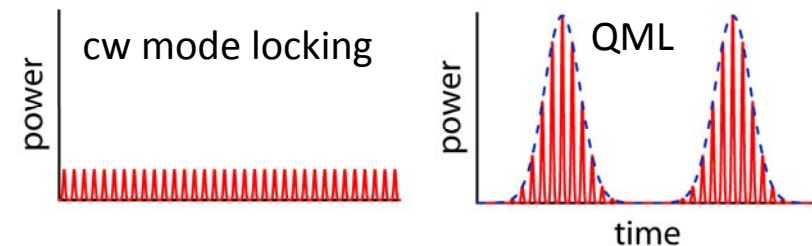
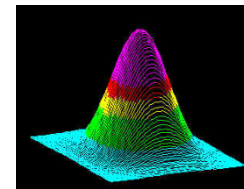


reduced losses for
pulsed operation

$$E_P = P_{avg} \cdot T_R$$

Challenges

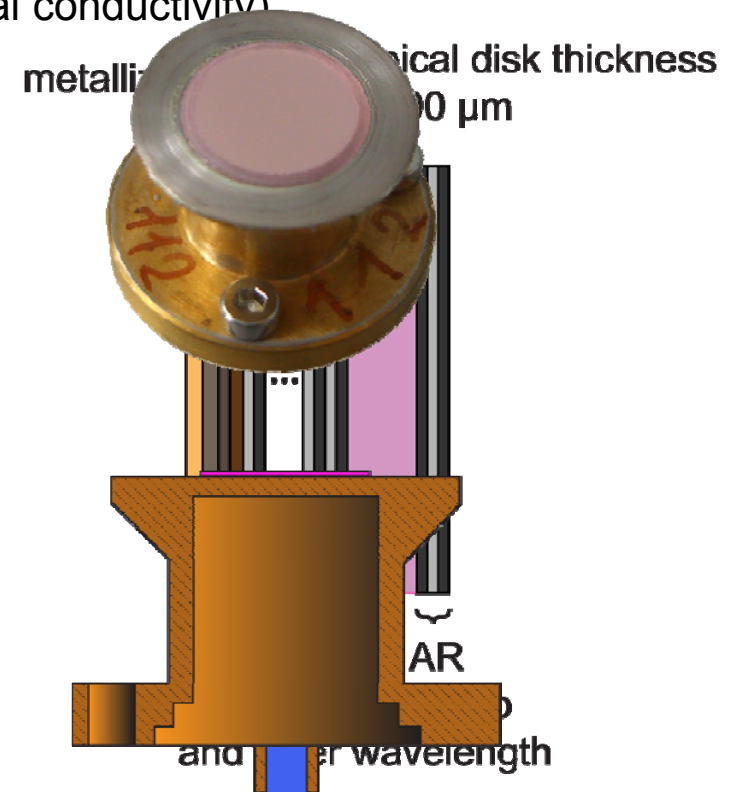
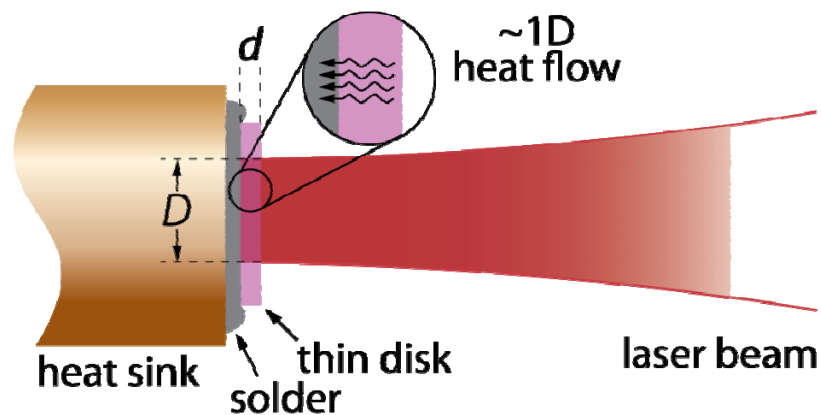
- TEM₀₀ operation at high average power
 - efficient heat removal
 - suitable cavity design
 - suitable broadband gain material
 - **high damage threshold optics**
- Pulse formation
 - sustain high intracavity intensities
 - avoid mode locking instabilities



Thin disk laser

Challenge: Fundamental mode operation despite high thermal load

- Suitable gain material (good optical quality, high thermal conductivity)
- Suitable gain geometry (efficient heat removal)



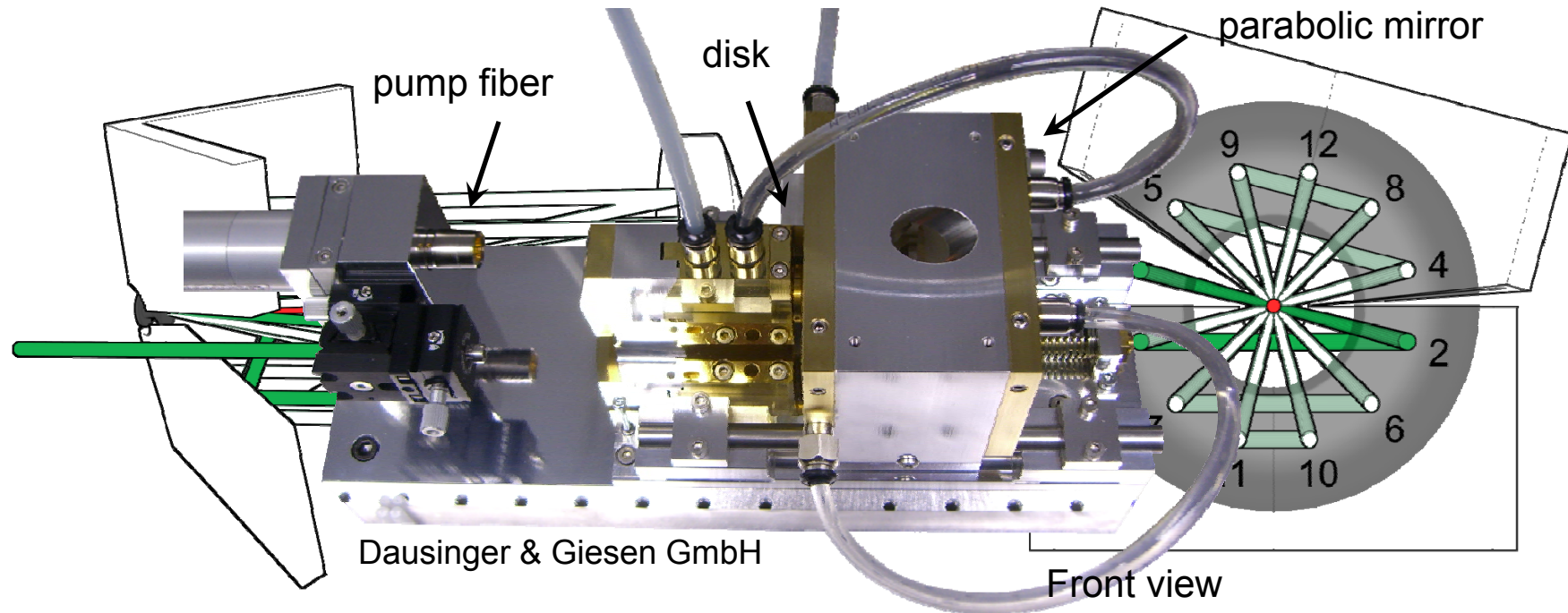
Thin disk laser

A. Giesen, et al., *Appl. Phys. B* **58**, 365 (1994)

- Efficient heat removal through back side
- Power scalable by increase of mode diameter D (constant intensities)
- 1D longitudinal heat flow → reduced thermal lensing

Thin disk laser

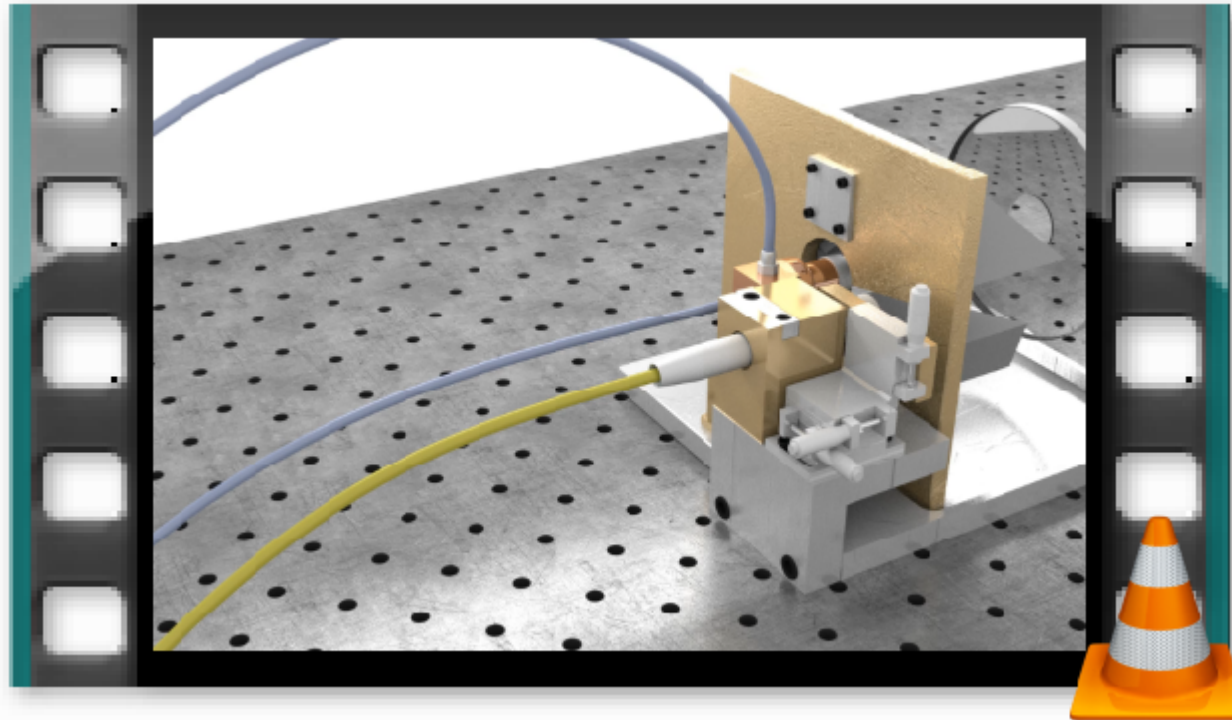
Multi-pass pumping scheme for efficient absorption



Pump module

- Typical single-pass absorption 8% - 15%
- Pump module with up to 32 passes available (here 24 passes)
- Typical over 98% of absorbed pump light
- Homogeneous pump light distribution
- Low demand on pump brightness (pump diameters of mm-cm)

Modelocked thin disk laser



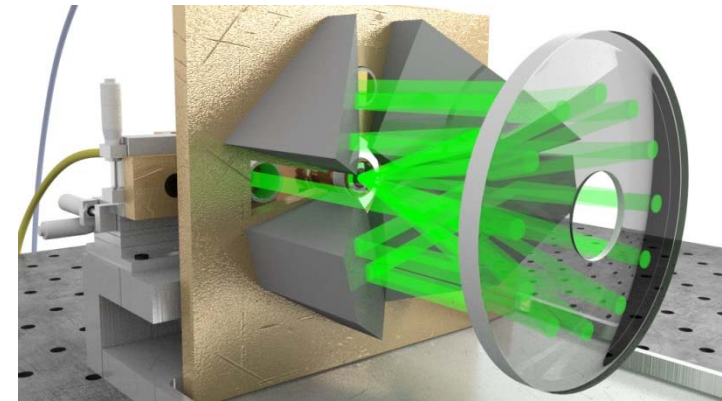
Animation by Martin Hoffmann

High-power modelocking: challenges

Challenge 1: TEM₀₀ operation at high average power

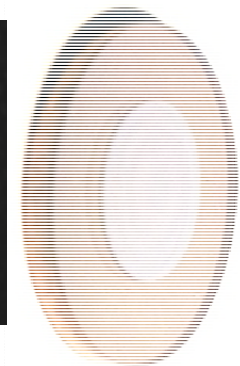
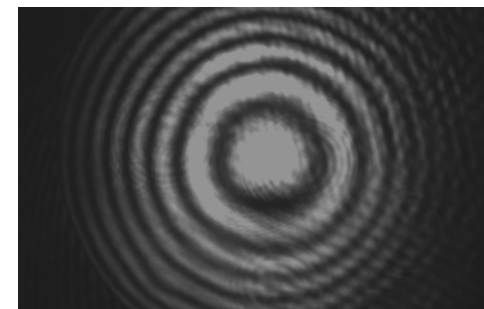
- efficient heat removal:
 - material properties: thermo-mechanical and spectroscopic properties
 - disk quality: thickness, diameter
 - contacting
- suitable cavity design
- **optics with high damage threshold**

C. R. E. Baer, et al., *Optics Express* **20**, 7054-7065 (2012)



Yb:YAG: the standard thin disk material

- large disks on diamond with excellent quality commercially available
- 500 W fundamental transverse mode ($M^2 < 1.1$) demonstrated^{#1}
- 1.1 kW nearly fundamental mode ($M^2 < 1.5$)^{#2}



- ✓ < 100 μm thick
- ✓ glued on water cooled diamond

^{#1} A.Killi, et al., *Proceedings of the SPIE, Volume 7193*, 2009

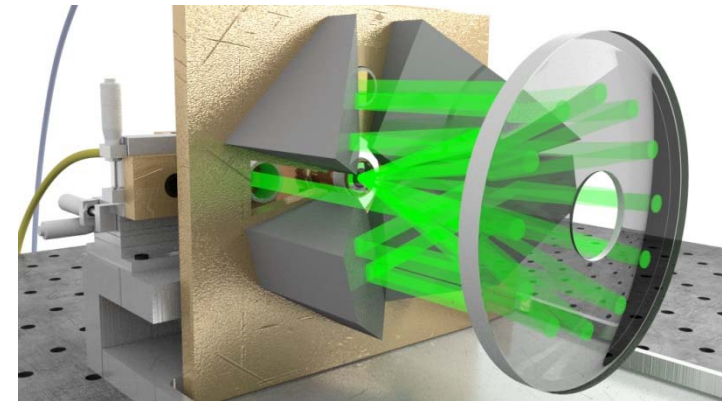
^{#2} Peng, et. al., *Opt. Lett* **38**, 10, pp. 1709-1711, 2013

High-power modelocking: challenges

Challenge 1: TEM₀₀ operation at high average power

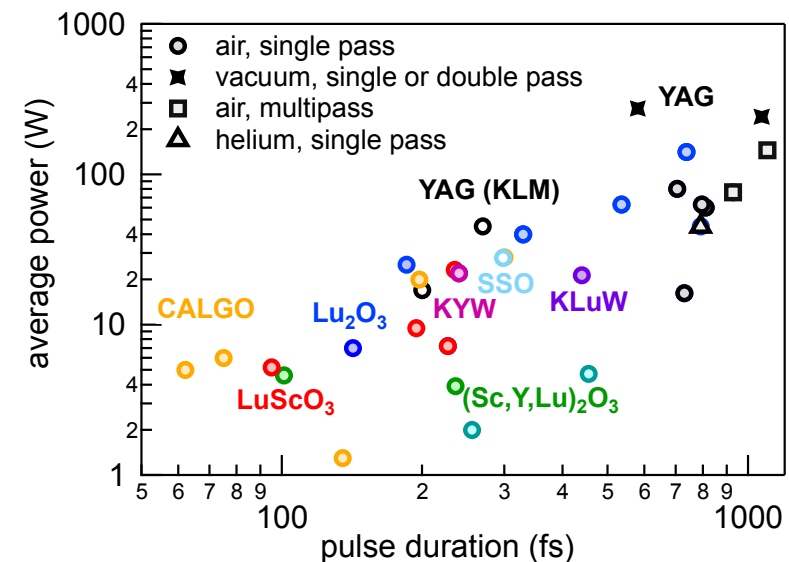
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C. R. E. Baer, et al., *Optics Express* **20**, 7054-7065 (2012)

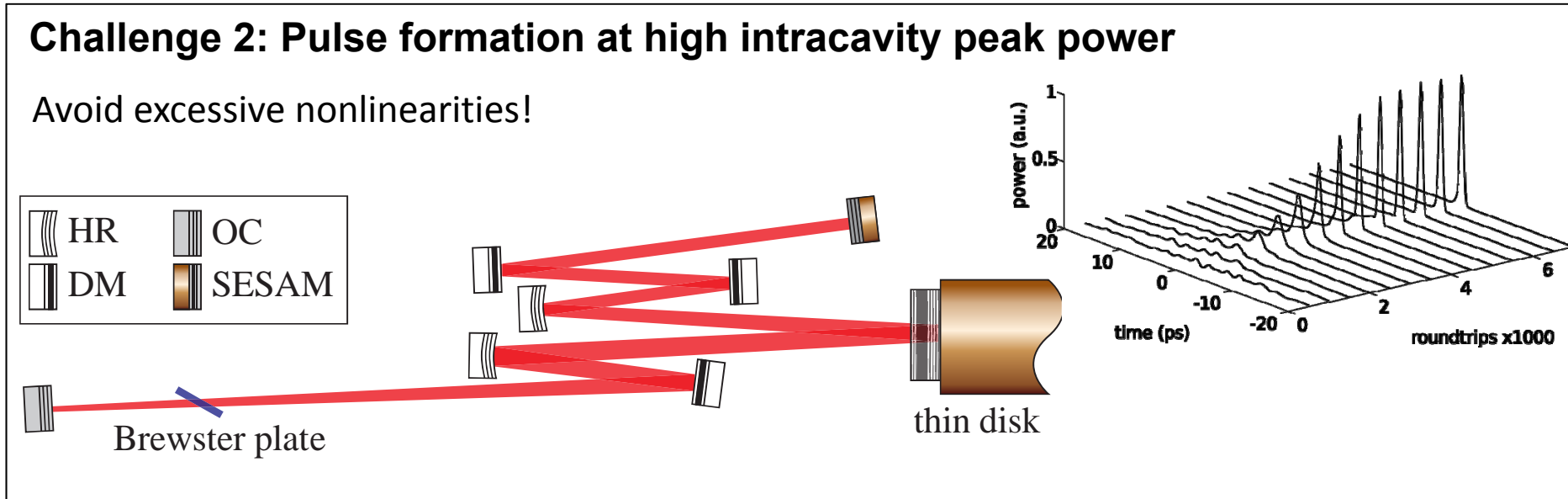


Many other promising materials currently being investigated!

- Yb: CALGO
 - >70% slope efficiency
 - 62 fs pulses
- Yb doped sesquioxides (Uni Hamburg)
- Etc...
- **Typical disk production cycle: >1 year**



High-power modelocking: challenges



- Soliton modelocking: balance **self-phase modulation** and **negative dispersion**
- Thin-disk geometry: excellent for low nonlinearities
- Avoid modelocking instabilities from **excessive nonlinearities** at very high intracavity levels
- Origin of nonlinearities: mostly air in resonator
- **Need dispersive optics: challenge at high power**

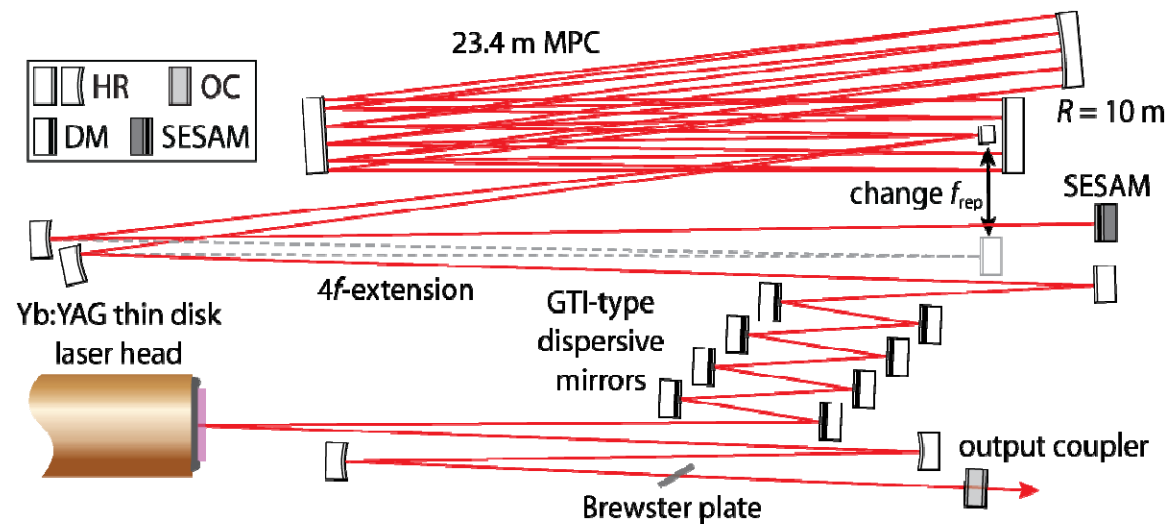
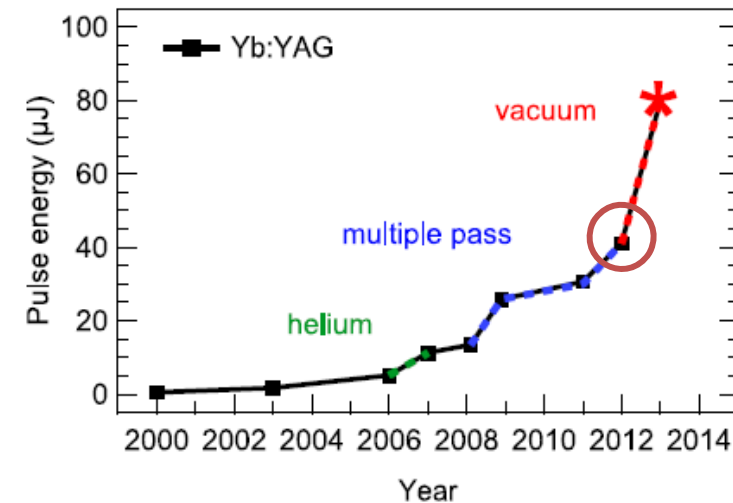
F. X. Kärtner and U. Keller, Opt. Lett. **20**(1), 16–18 (1995)
 R. Paschotta and U. Keller, Appl. Phys. B **73**(7), 653–662 (2001)

Harnessing intracavity nonlinearities

Helium flooding 45 W, 11 μJ , 790 fs

$$n_{2,\text{air}} \approx 3.10^{-23} \text{ m}^2/\text{W}$$

$$n_{2,\text{He}} \approx 8.10^{-26} \text{ m}^2/\text{W} (\approx 400 \text{ times lower})$$

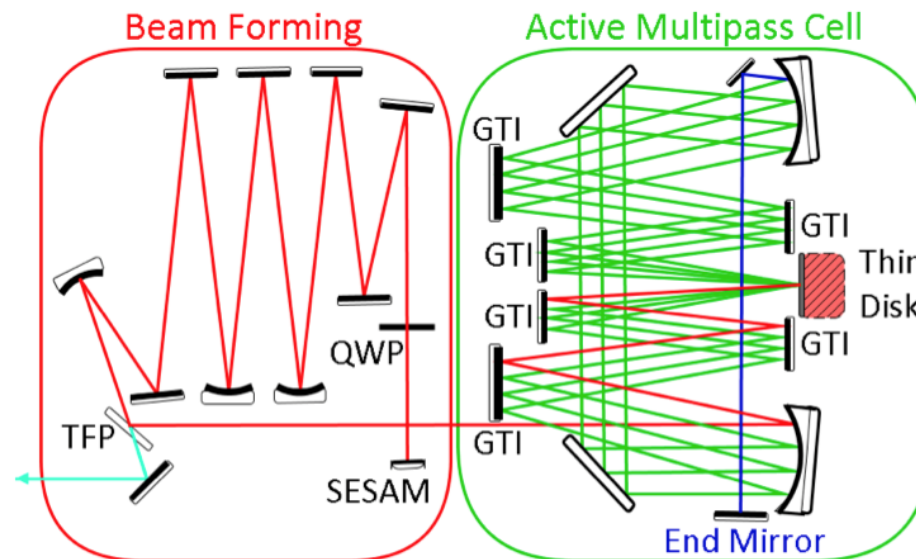
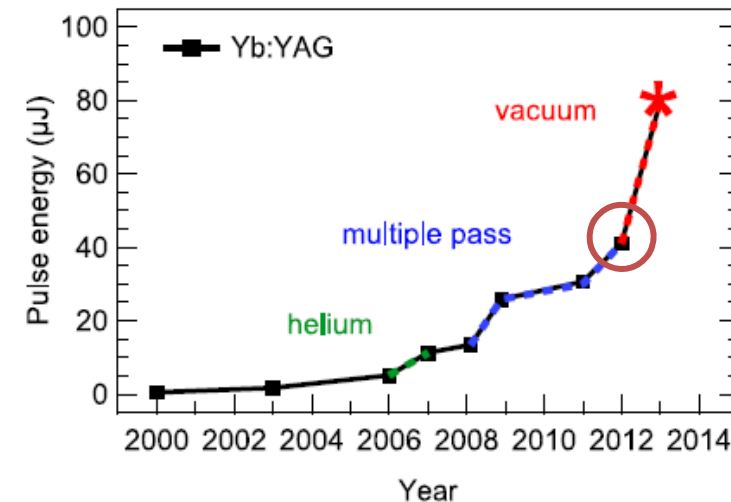


S. Marchese, et al., *Optics Express* **16**, 6397-6409 (2008)

Harnessing intracavity nonlinearities

Helium flooding 45 W, 11 μJ , 790 fs
Multiple passes 145 W, 41 μJ , 1.1 ps

- ↑ number of passes ↑ gain per roundtrip
- ✓ efficient laser operation at lower OC rate
- ✓ for a given output power: reduced nonlinearities



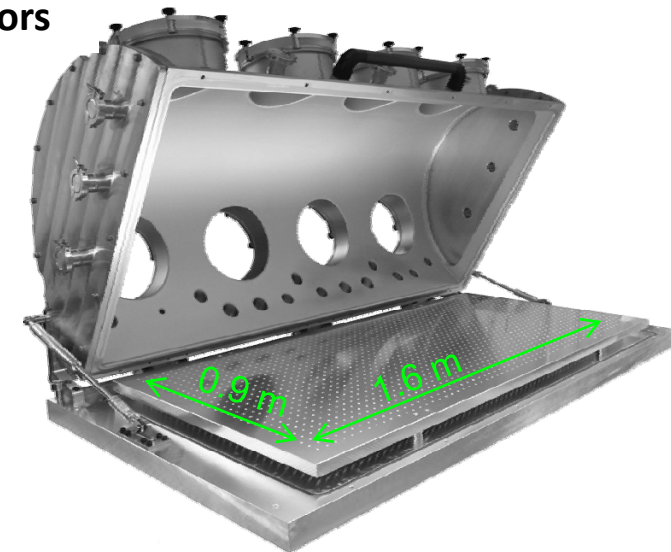
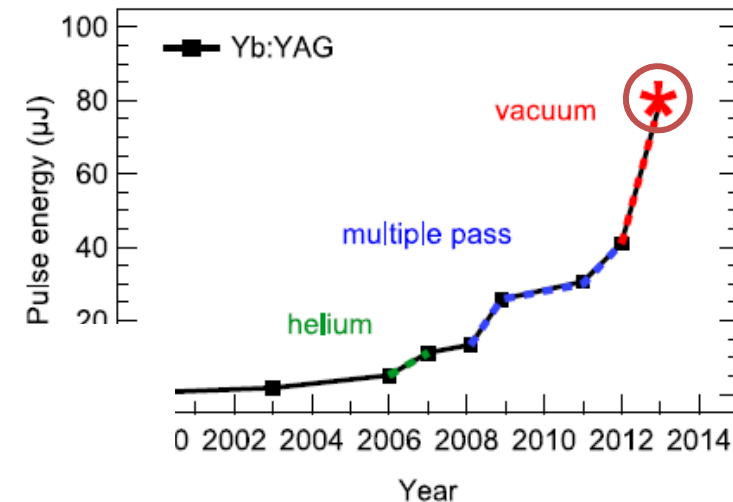
D. Bauer, et al., *Optics Express* **20**, 9698-9704 (2012)

Harnessing intracavity nonlinearities

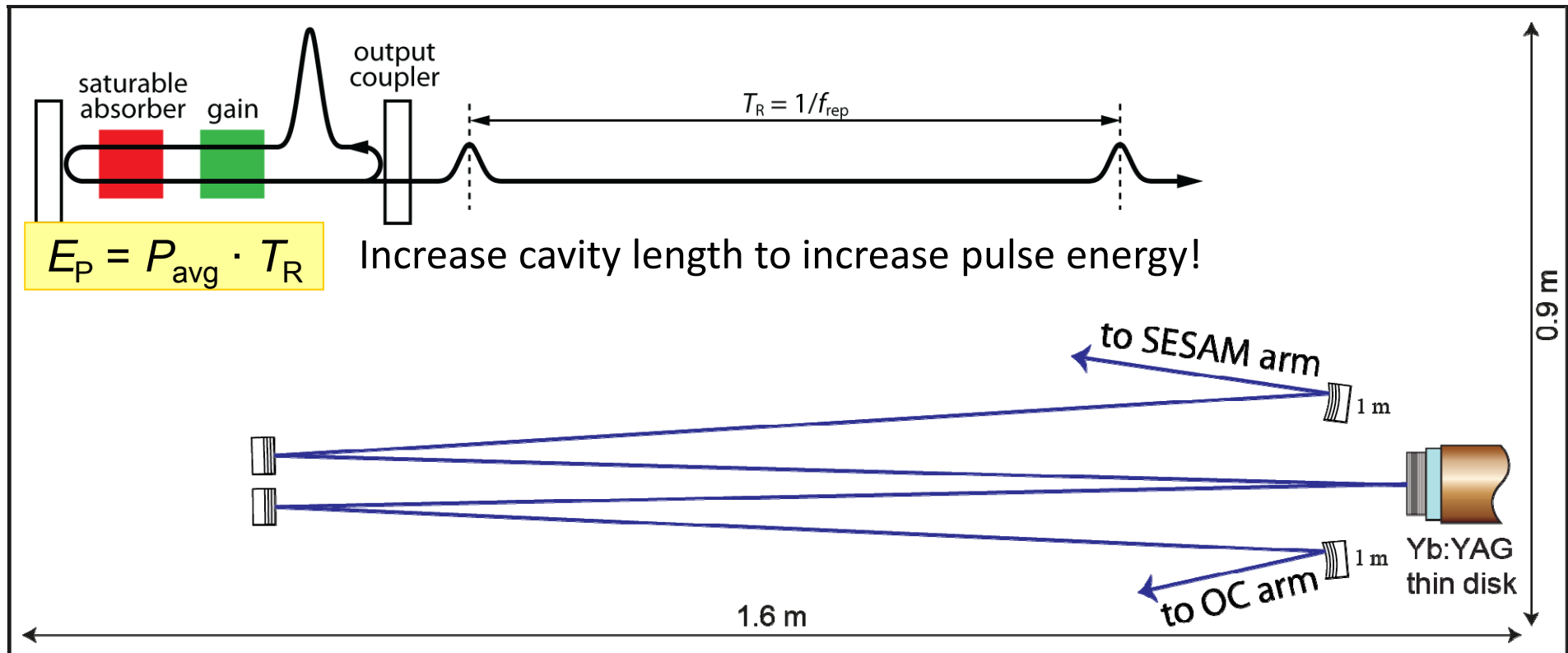
| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Helium flooding | 45 W, 11 μ J, 790 fs |
| Multiple passes | 145 W, 41 μ J, 1.1 ps |
| Vacuum | 275 W, 17 μ J, 580 fs |
| Vacuum | 240 W, 80 μJ, 1.07 ps |

- ✓ minimum nonlinearity:
higher intracavity peak power can be tolerated
- ✓ easy adjustment of SPM by adjusting pressure

Current limit: damage / thermal effects in dispersive mirrors

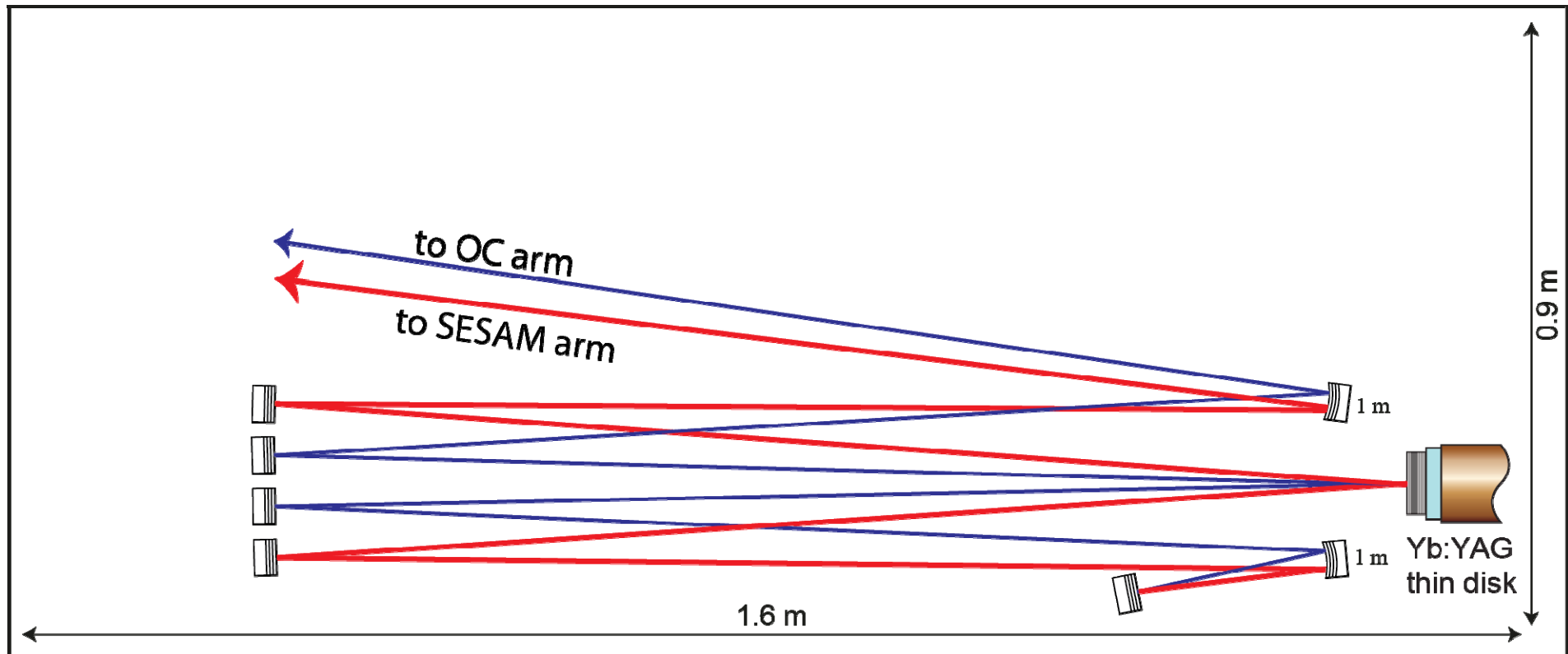


C.J. Saraceno, et al., *Optics Express* **20**, 23535 (2012)



First design (275 W modelocked laser):

- 17 MHz cavity with one double-pass through the disk
- OC rate used for modelocking experiments: 11%
- Problems with thermal effects in dispersive mirrors

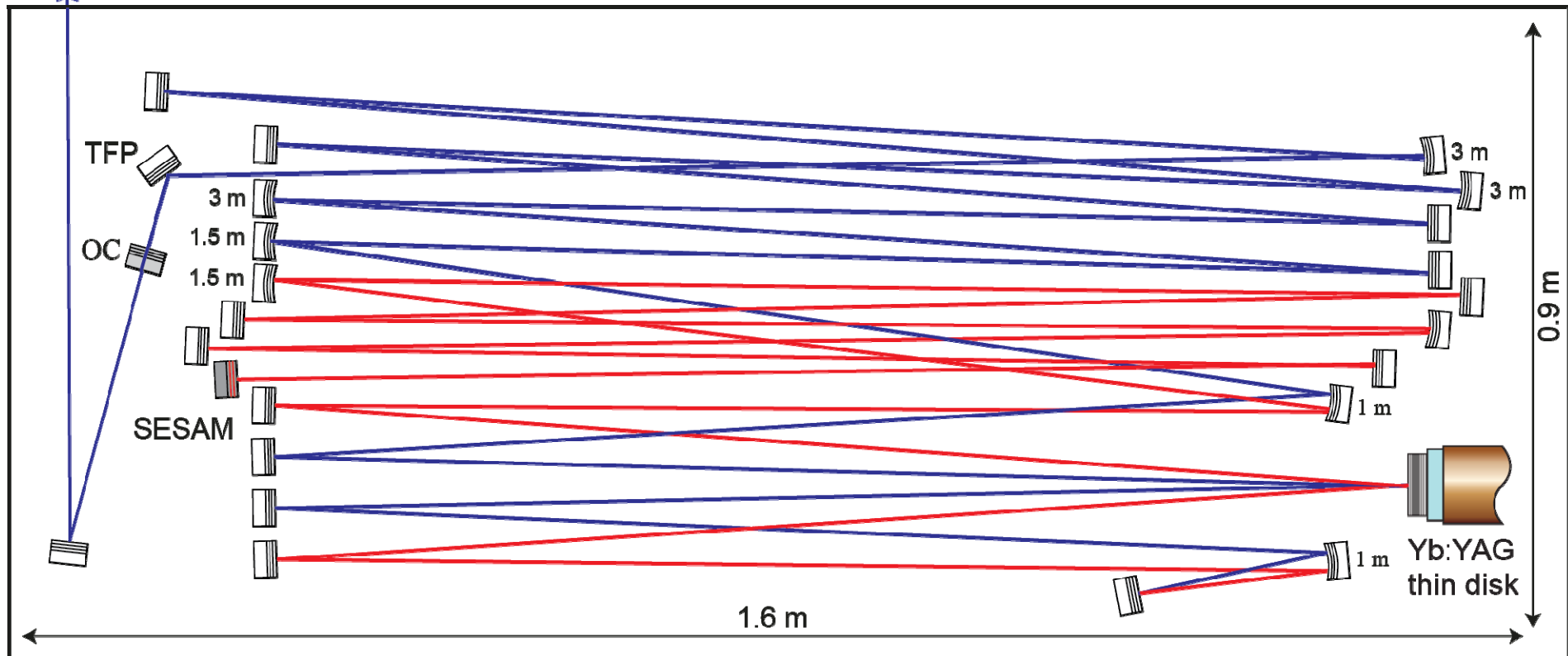


New cavity:

- ✓ **Two double-passes through the disk:** higher gain, efficient operation with higher T_{oc}
→ reduced intracavity power for lower thermal effects

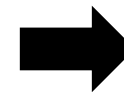
Energy scaling

to diagnostics



New cavity:

- ✓ Two double-passes through the disk
- ✓ Beam shaping
- ✓ Thin-film polarizer for polarization selection

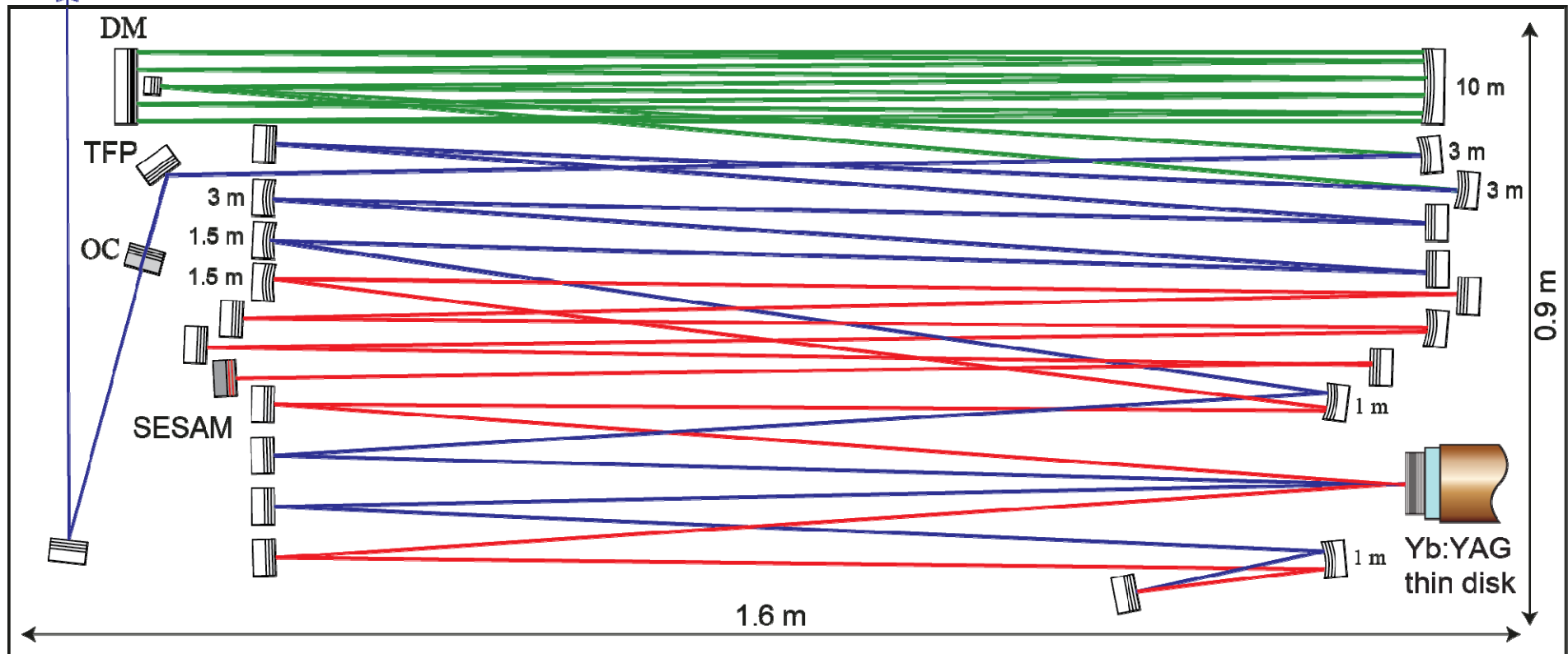


$$f_{\text{rep}} = 5.8 \text{ MHz}$$

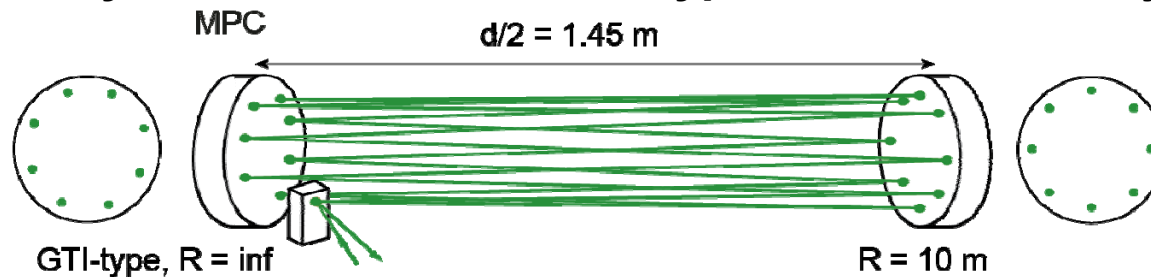
$$T_{\text{oc}} = 25 \%$$

Energy scaling

to diagnostics



Cavity extension with Herriott-type Multi-Pass Cavity (MPC):



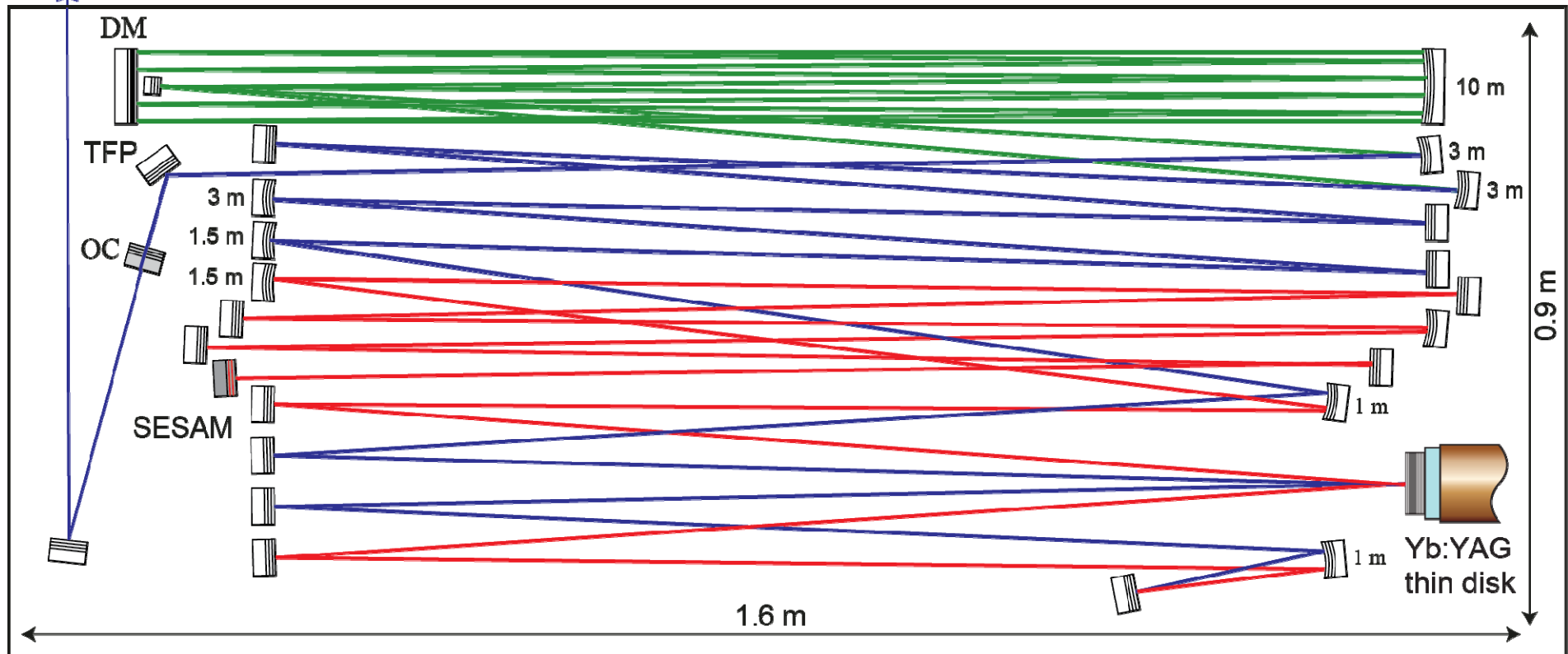
MPC-length

$$D = n \cdot d = 23.4 \text{ m}$$

D. Herriott, et al., *Appl. Opt.* 3, 523 (1964)

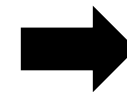
Energy scaling

to diagnostics



New cavity:

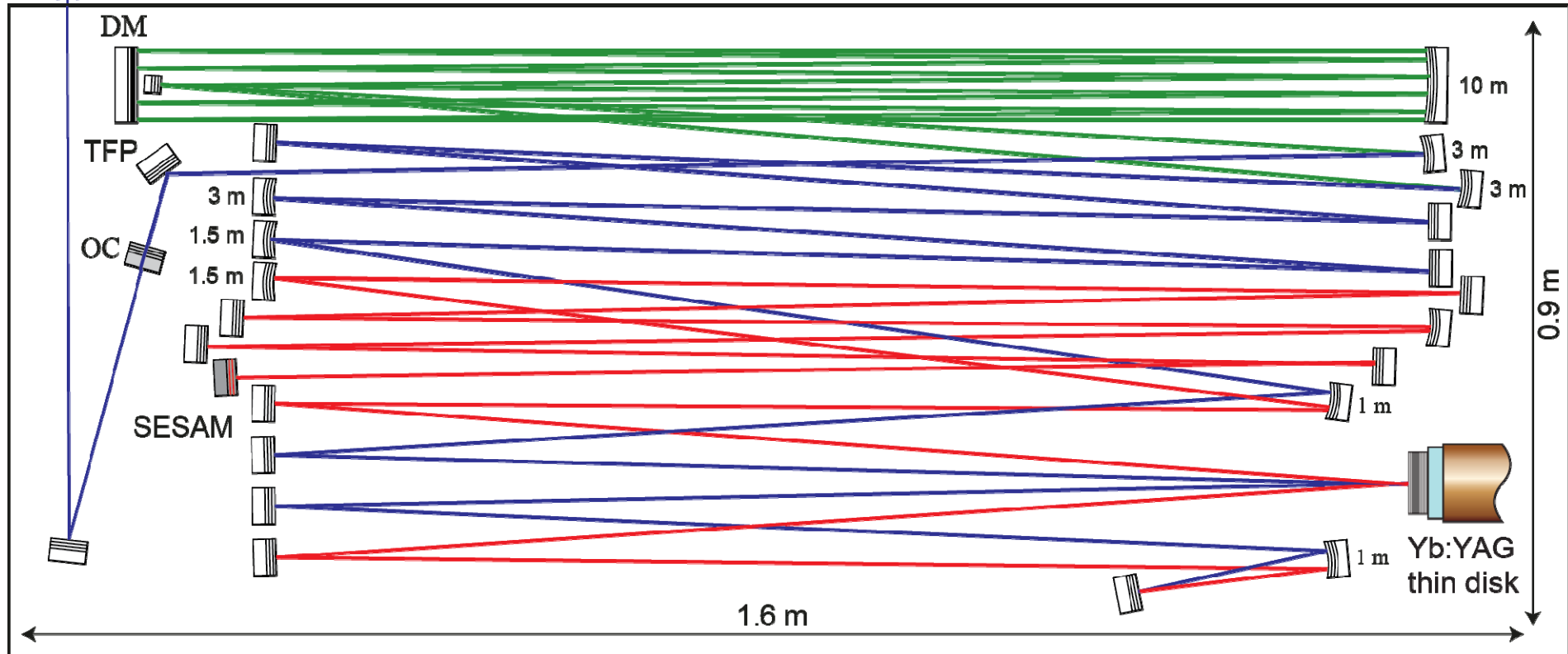
- ✓ Two double-passes through the disk
- ✓ Thin-film polarizer for polarization selection
- ✓ Herriott-type multipass cell (10 m mirror)



- ✓ $f_{\text{rep}} = 3 \text{ MHz}$
- ✓ $T_{\text{oc}} = 25 \%$
- ✓ 300 W single fundamental mode

Energy scaling

to diagnostics



Soliton modelocking:

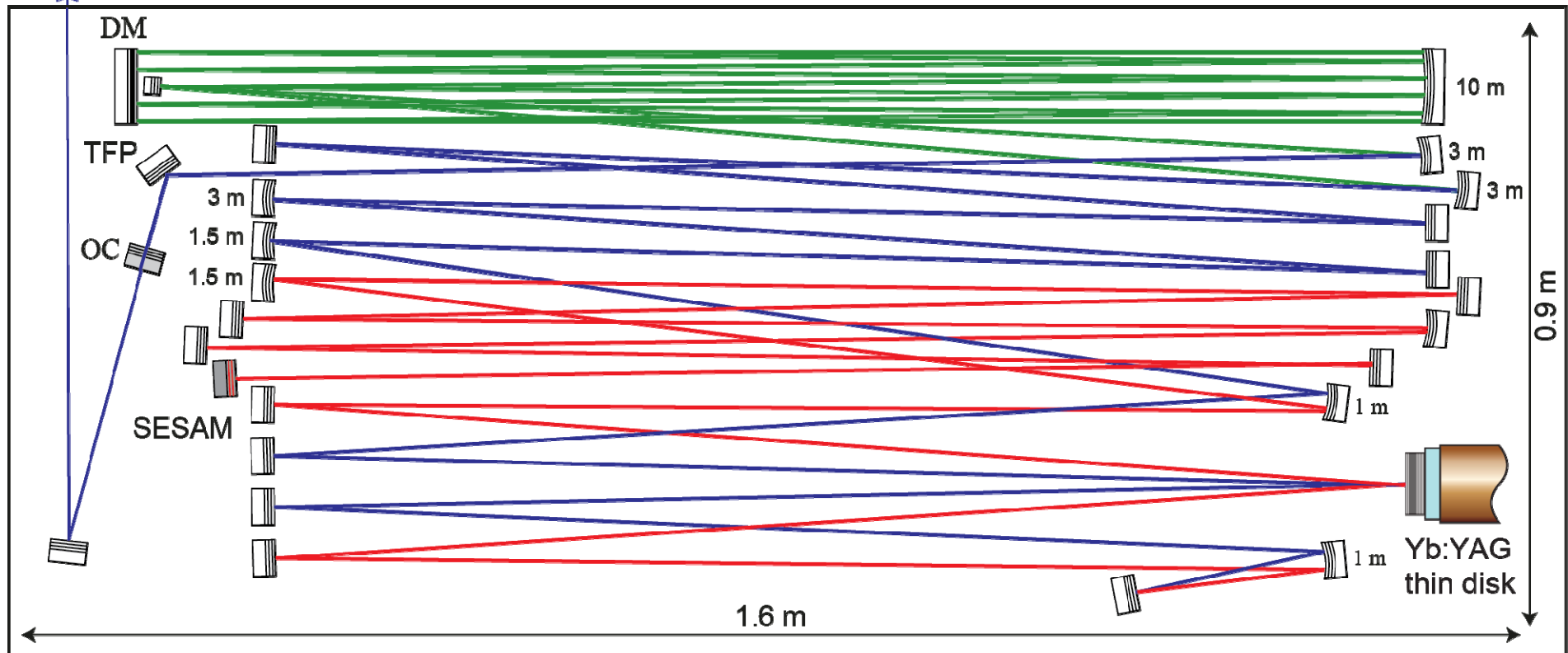
Self-phase modulation (remaining atmosphere at ≈ 1 mbar)
 $390 \mu\text{rad}/\text{MW}$



Negative dispersion (GTI-type mirrors)
 $\text{GDD} = -28000 \text{ fs}^2$ per roundtrip

Energy scaling

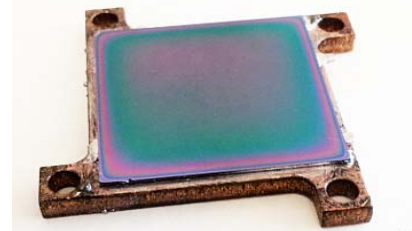
to diagnostics



SESAM with multiple QW and dielectric topcoating for high damage threshold^{#1}

| | | | |
|-------------------|---|-----|---------------------------|
| - F_{sat} | = | 120 | $\mu\text{J}/\text{cm}^2$ |
| - ΔR | = | 1.1 | % |
| - ΔR_{ns} | = | 0.1 | % |

FIRST | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Center for Micro- and Nanoscience

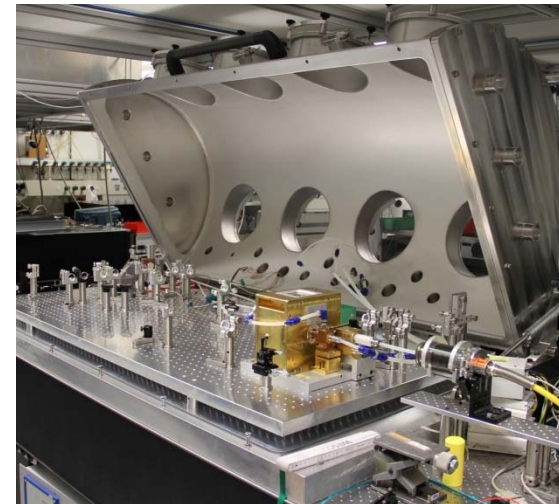
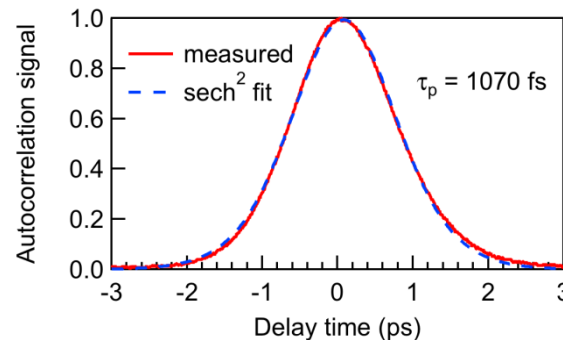
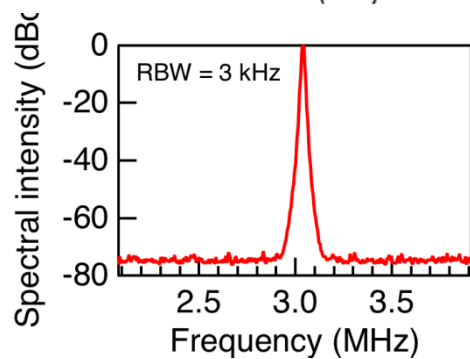
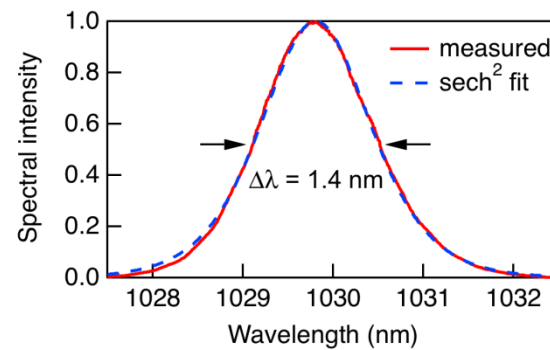
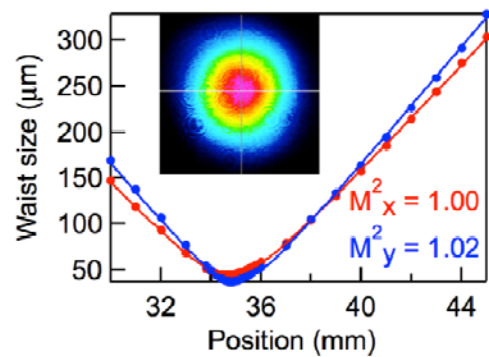


^{#1} C.J. Saraceno, et al., *IEEE JSTQE*, vol 18, no.1, pp 29-41 (2012)

Results

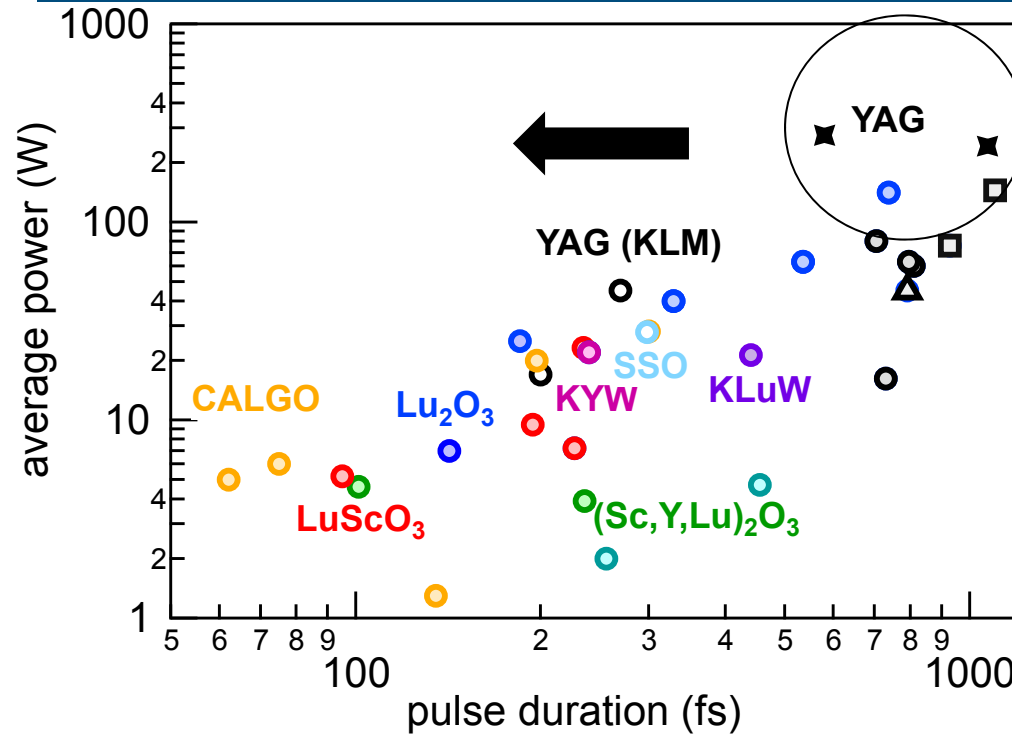
| | | | | | |
|------------|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---|---------|
| P_{avg} | = | 242 W | τ_p | = | 1070 fs |
| P_{pump} | = | 790 W | η_{opt} | = | 30 % |
| f_{rep} | = | 3.03 MHz | M^2 | < | 1.05 |
| E_p | = | 80 μJ | $\tau_p \cdot \Delta\nu$ | = | 0.39 |
| P_{pk} | = | 66 MW | (ideal: 0.315) | | |

→ Highest pulse energy from any ultrafast oscillator
 → **Challenge: need better dispersive mirrors**



*C. Saraceno, F. Emaury, C. Schriber,
 M. Hoffmann, M. Golling,
 T. Südmeyer, U. Keller,
 Optics Letters, 39, 9 (2014)*

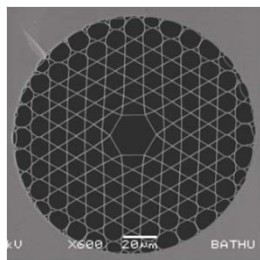
Pulse compression



| | Yb:YAG | Yb:YAG |
|----------|------------|------------|
| P_{av} | 275 W | 242 W |
| τ_p | 583 fs | 1.07 ps |
| E_p | 17 μ J | 80 μ J |
| P_p | 25 MW | 66 MW |

For most targeted scientific applications

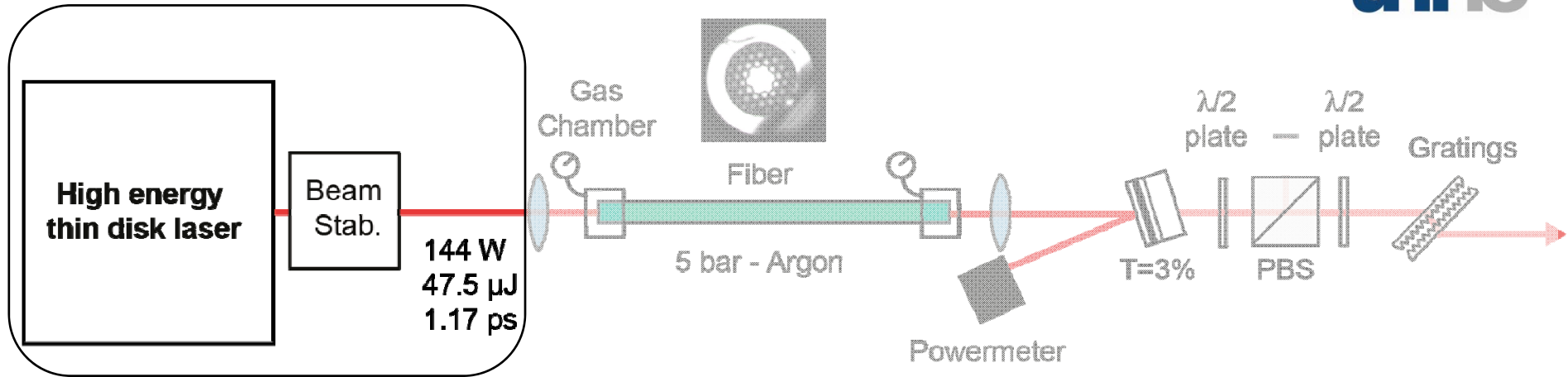
→ **Shorter pulses < 100 fs are required**



Compression in gas-filled HC-PCF

- ✓ Compression of few μ J level pulses to sub-50 fs at 4 MHz
F. Emaury et al, Optics Express 21, 4986 (2013)
- ✓ Compression/transmission of mJ level pulses at 1 kHz
C. Fourcade Dutin et al, Postdeadline Paper CTh5C.7 CLEO US 2013
- ✓ **Compression of 40 μ J level pulses at 3 MHz (100 W)**

Pulse compression



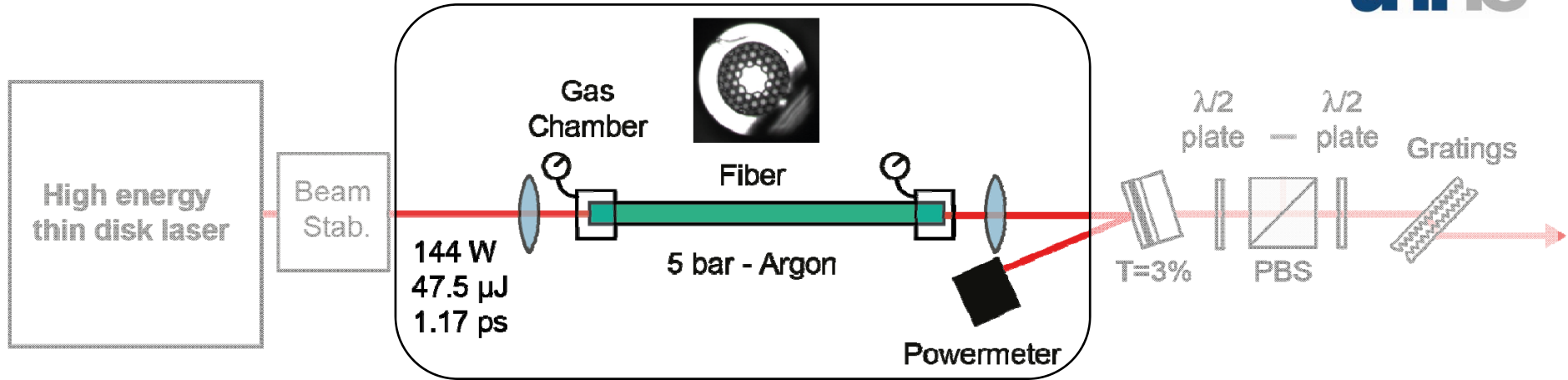
Available at fiber launch:

$$P_{av} = 150 \text{ W}$$

$$E_p = 50 \mu\text{J}$$

$$f_{rep} = 3 \text{ MHz}$$

$$\tau_p = 1.1 \text{ ps}$$

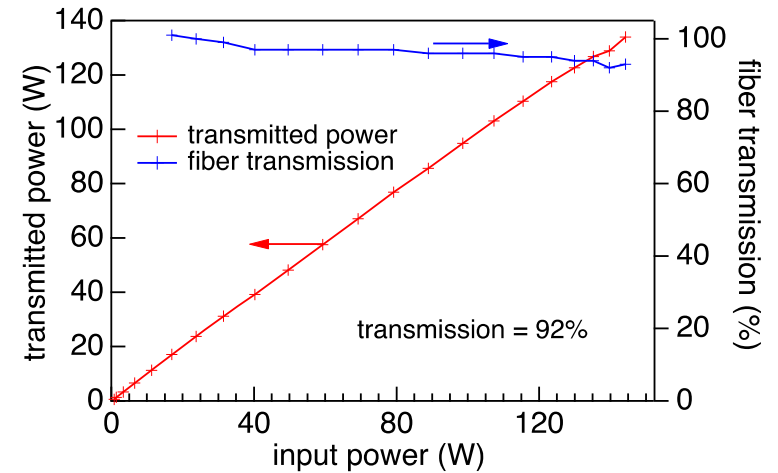


Available at fiber launch:

$P_{av} = 150 \text{ W}$
 $E_p = 50 \mu\text{J}$
 $f_{rep} = 3 \text{ MHz}$
 $\tau_p = 1.1 \text{ ps}$

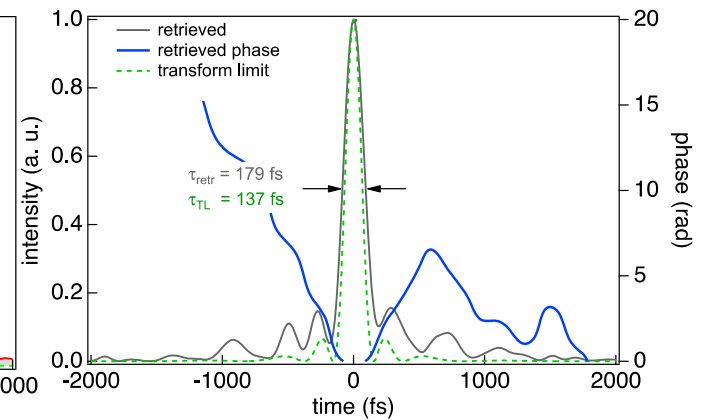
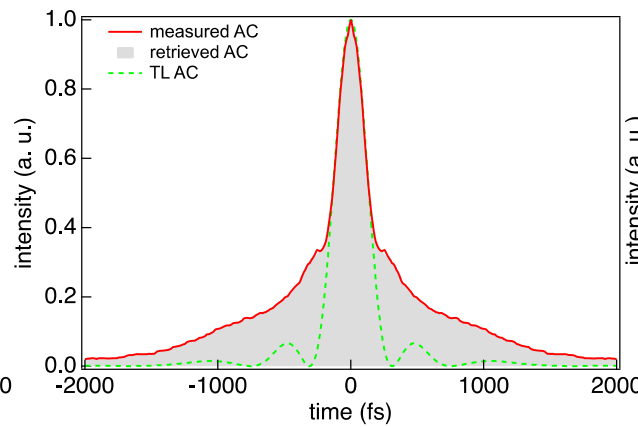
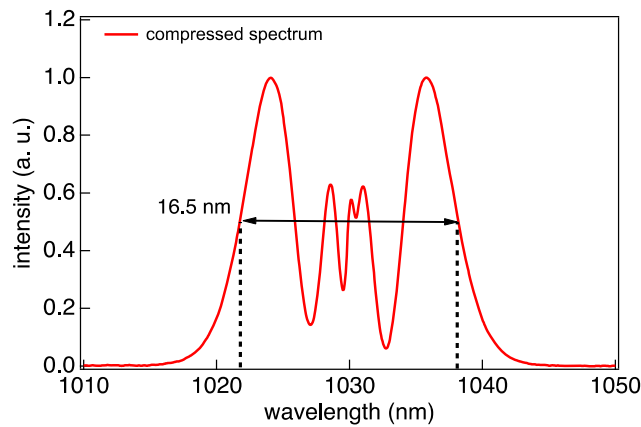
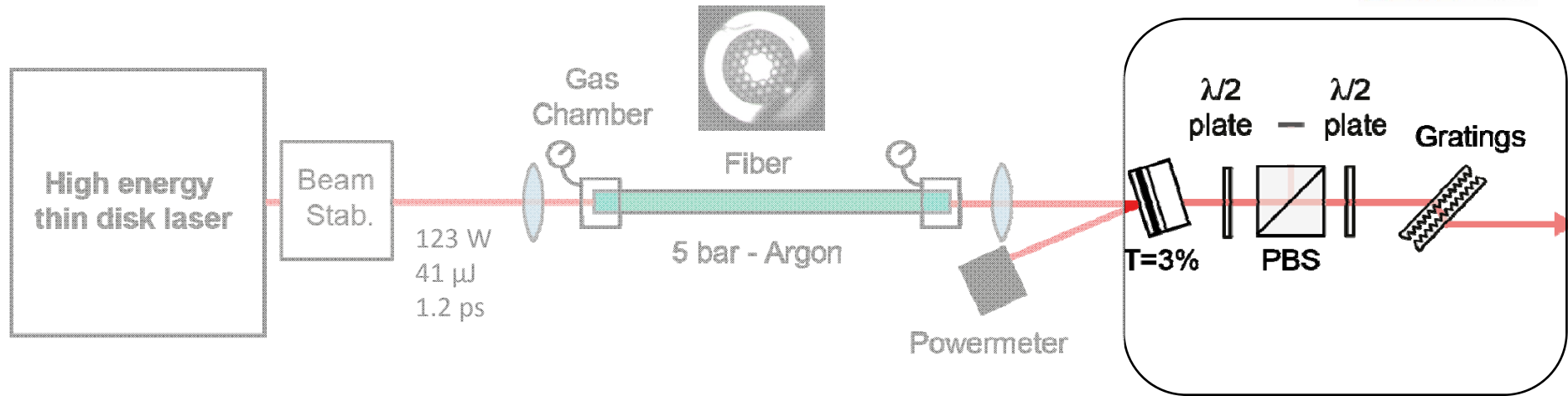
Fiber:

- Kagome-type HC-PCF 7-cell hypocycloid core
- MFD $\approx 30 \mu\text{m}$
- Ar-filled: 5 bar
- Length = 67 cm



- ✓ Transmission 92% at maximum power
- ✓ 134 W out for 144 W launched: highest value through Kagome

Pulse compression



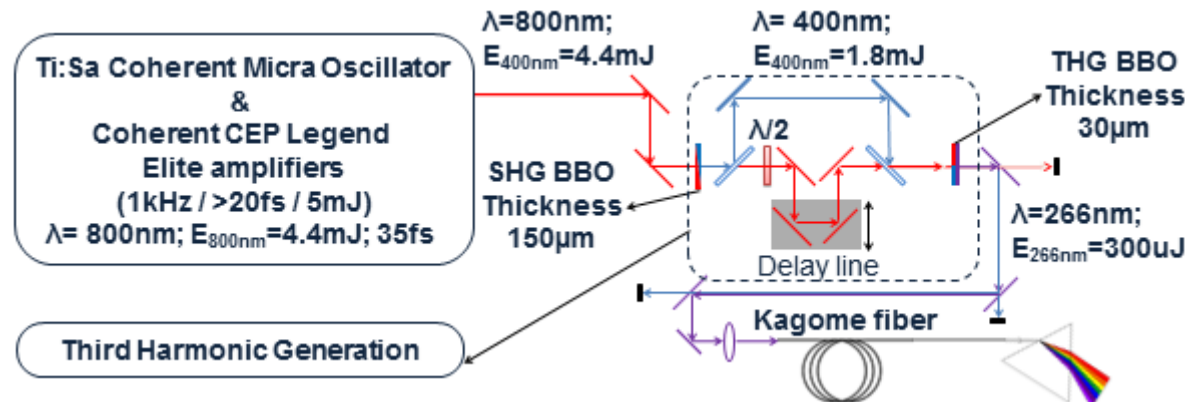
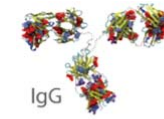
- ✓ Compression with 80% total power efficiency
- ✓ Output: 100 W compressed to sub-200 fs

Shorter pulses: need optimized dispersive mirrors for compression

Beam transmission and spectral broadening of deep-UV fs pulses in Kagome-type hollow-core photonic crystal fibers

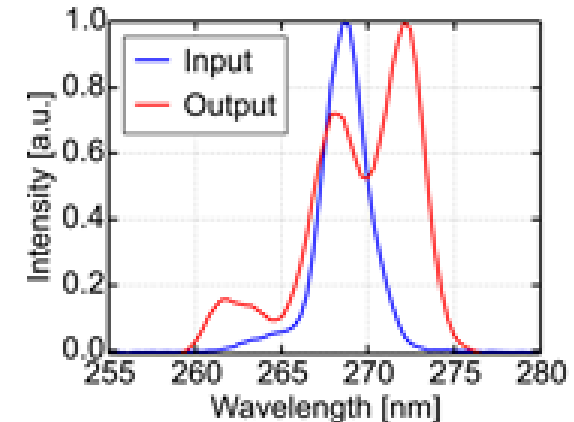
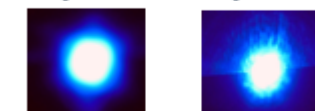
Target: ultrashort deep UV pulses

for time resolved optical and photo-electron spectroscopy

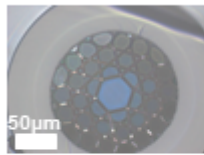


Third Harmonic Generation

Output mode profile:



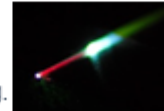
UV Kagome HC PC Fiber



Picture of the front and face of the fiber.

| No | Core diameter in/out (µm) | Outer diameter (µm) | UV test Loss (dB/m @ 355nm) |
|----|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | 44/52 | 400 | 0.654 |
| 2 | 21/25 | 140 | 1.703 |

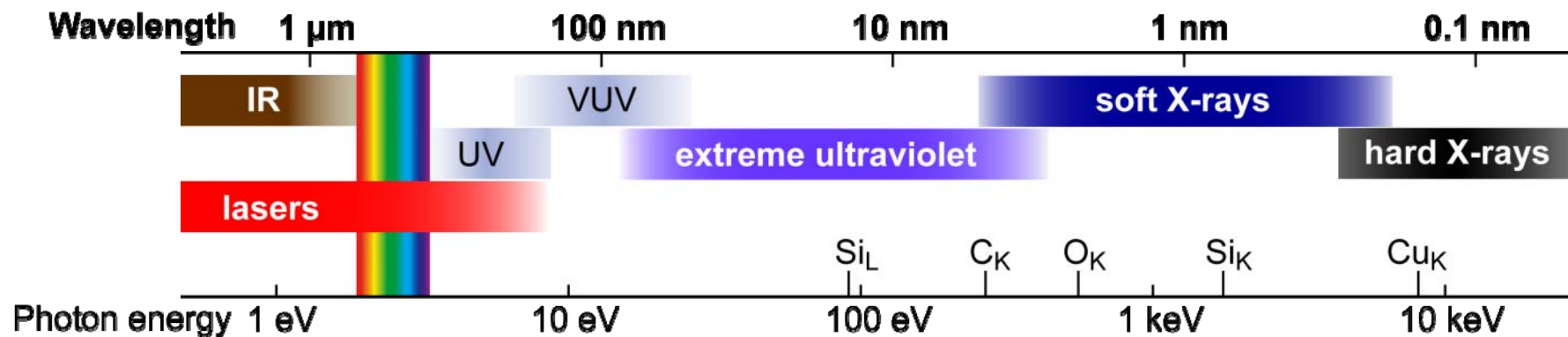
Picture of the illuminated fiber; red: stripped cladding, white/green: coating.



Compression of broadened pulses: **need dispersive mirrors in DUV**

How to generate coherent XUV light?

- Observe smaller features
- Write smaller patterns
- Understand dynamics in nanostructures
- Elemental sensitivity (core level e^-)
- Frequency combs in the VUV/XUV

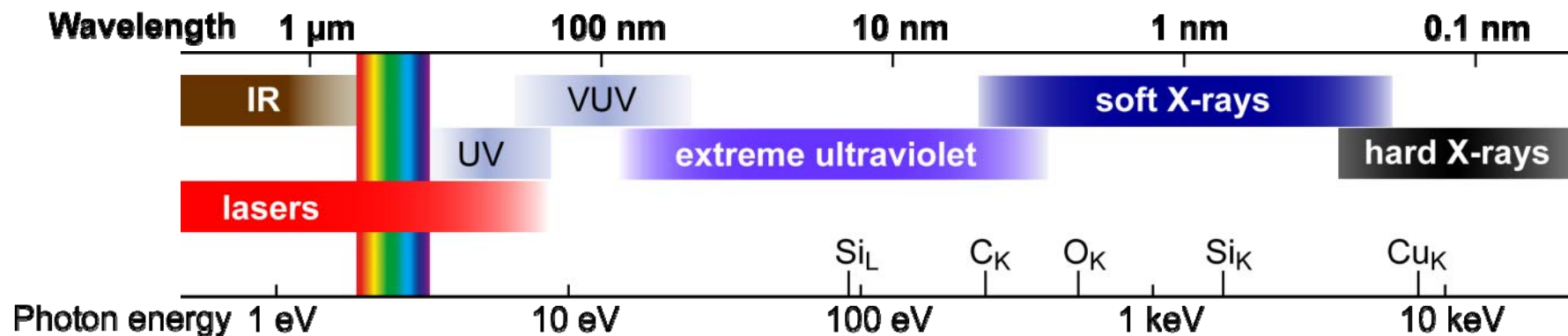


How to generate coherent XUV light?

- Observe smaller features
- Write smaller patterns
- Understand dynamics in nanostructures
- Elemental sensitivity (core level e^-)
- Frequency combs in the VUV/XUV

Accelerator-based light sources

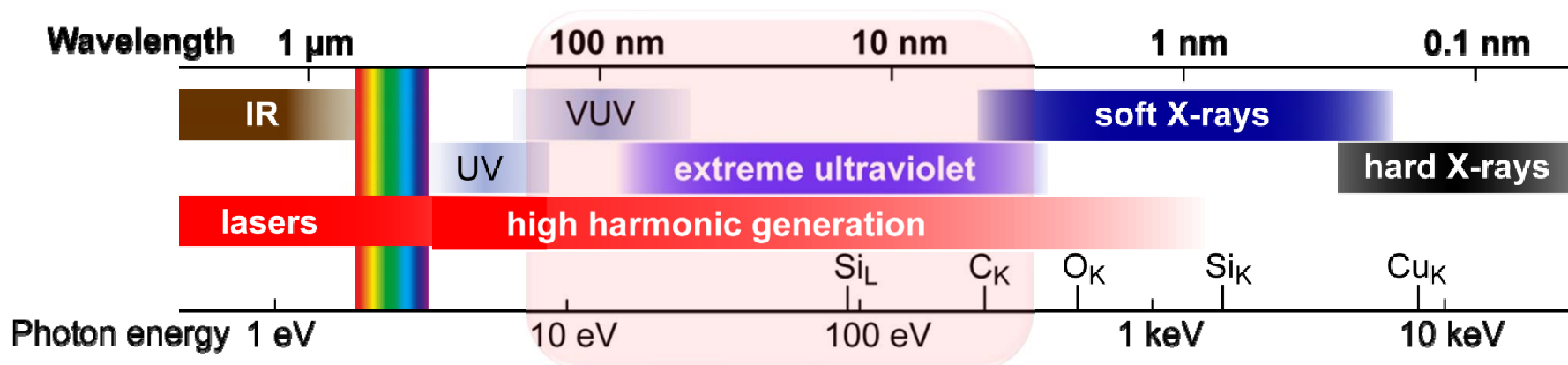
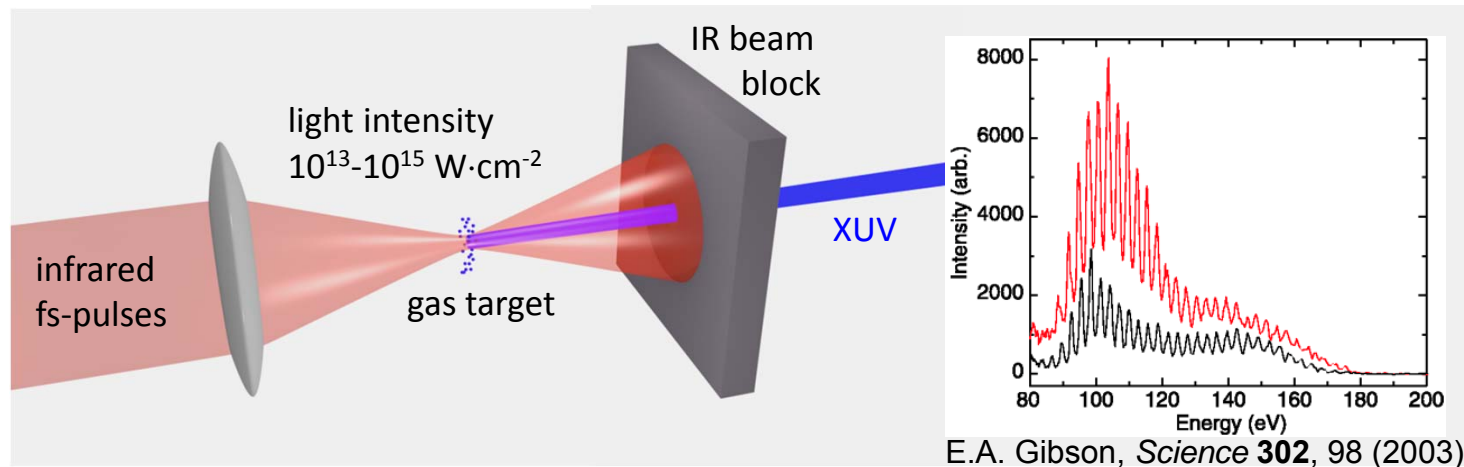
- extremely bright, widely tunable
- but: large, expensive, limited access



HHG: bringing coherent XUV light to the lab

Extreme nonlinear up-conversion of IR fs-pulses in gas target

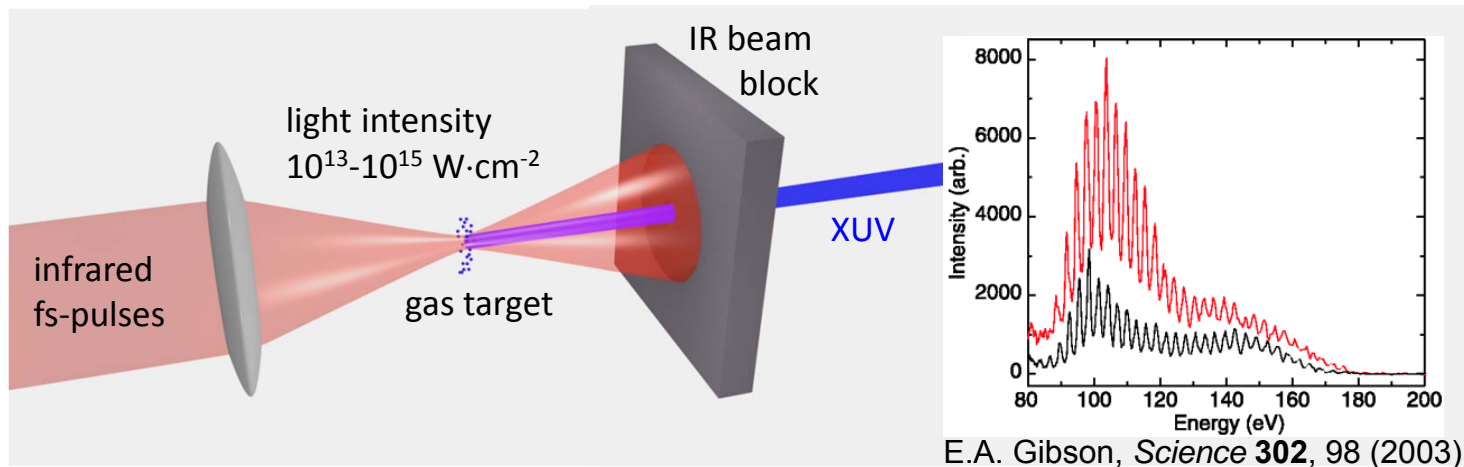
- broad range of coherent UV-XUV radiation
- attosecond duration



HHG: bringing coherent XUV light to the lab

Extreme nonlinear up-conversion of IR fs-pulses in gas target

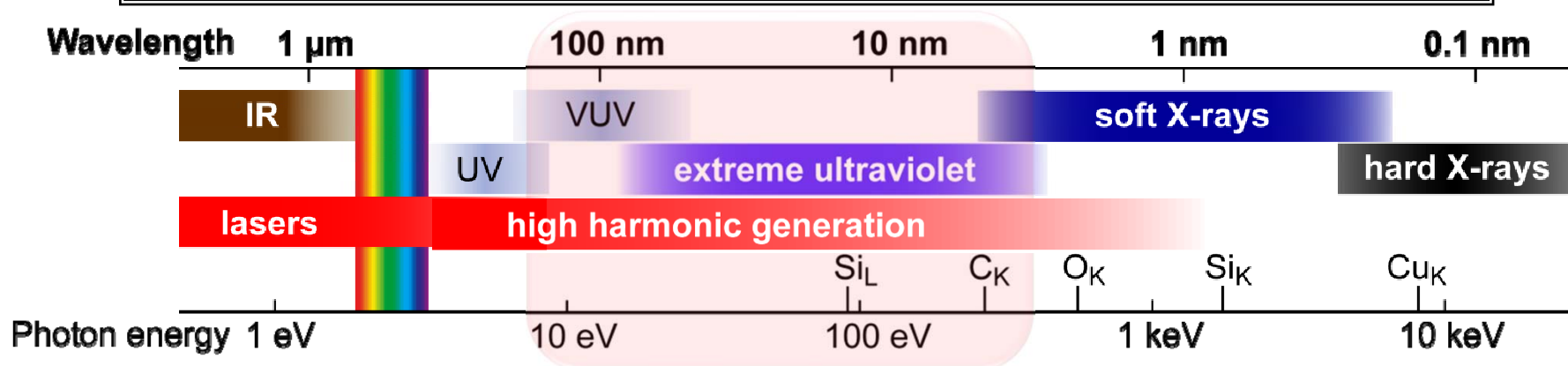
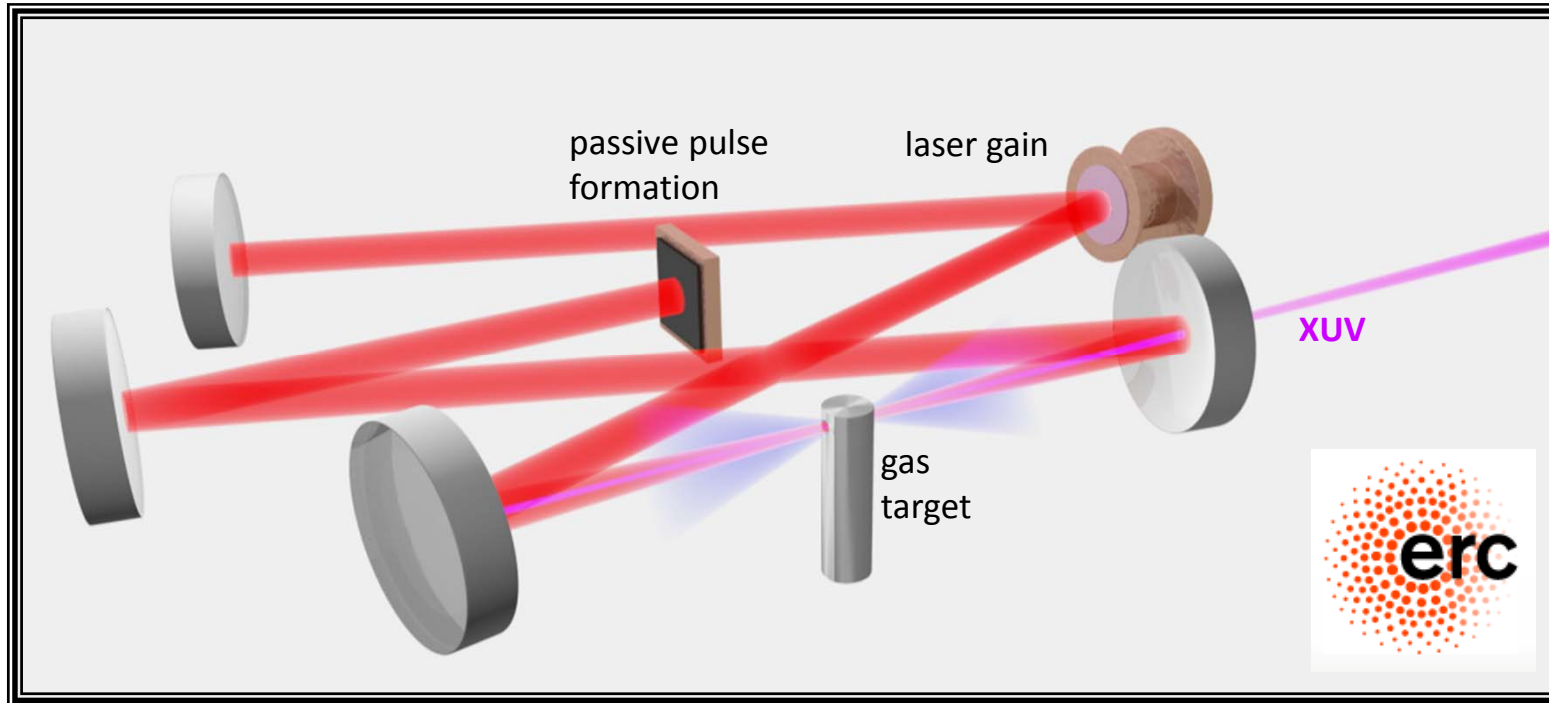
- broad range of coherent UV-XUV radiation
- attosecond duration



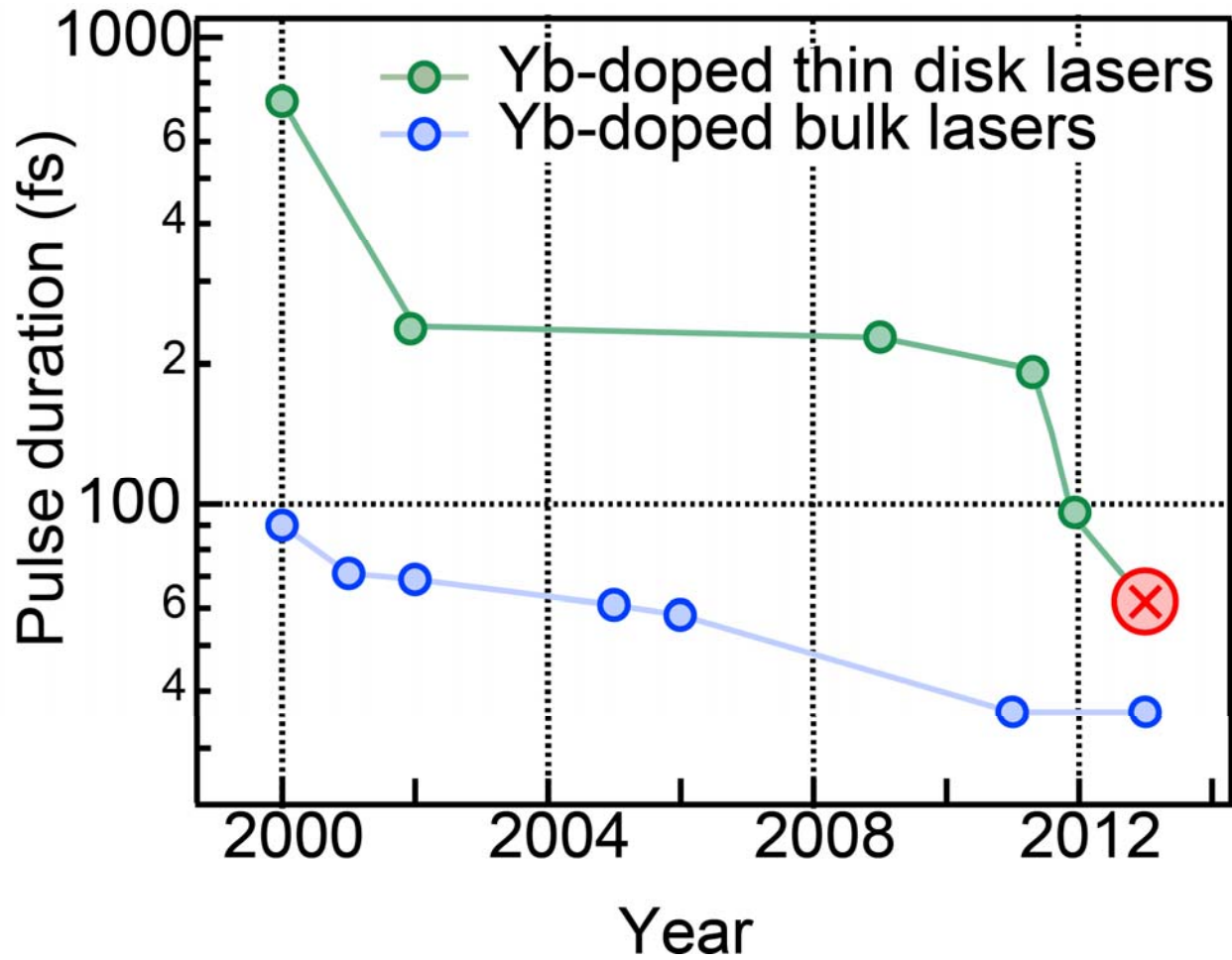
Limitations

- conversion efficiency 10^{-8} to 10^{-6}
 - typical fs-amplifier: 10 W, 1 kHz
- ⇒ **flux too low for many applications**
 ⇒ **kHz repetition rate:
 no frequency combs, limited usefulness**

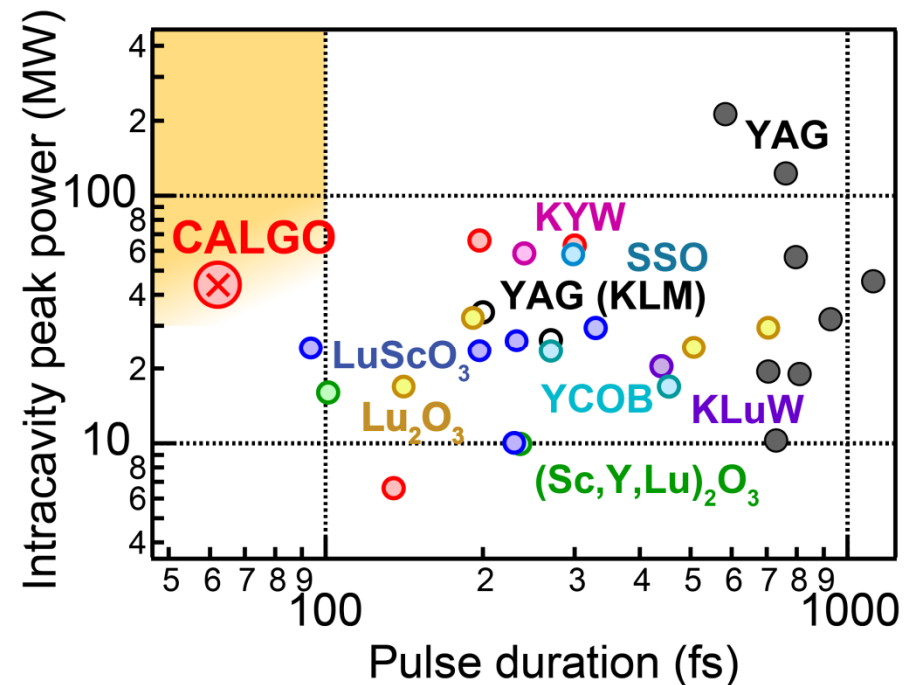
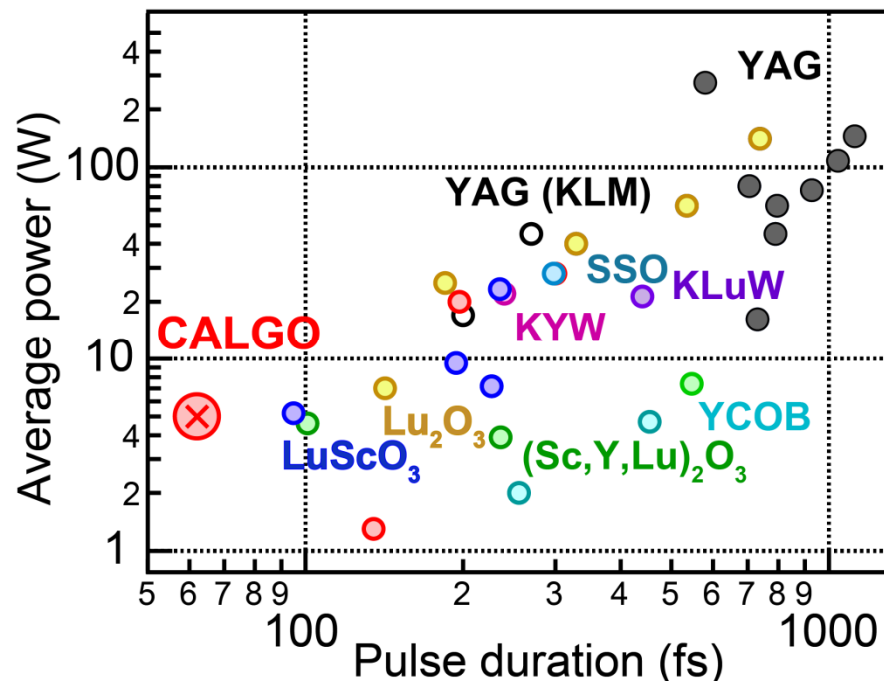
ERC MegaXUV: intra-laser high harmonic generation



Minimum pulse duration of Yb-doped bulk lasers and TDLs



Average power and intracavity peak power of ultrafast TDLs



- Ultrafast TDL are highly suitable for intra-laser nonlinear optics at extreme intensities
- Expect GW intracavity peak powers and mJ intracavity pulse energies
- **Need optimized dielectric coatings that can stand these extreme intensities**

Overview

Introduction

Ultrafast lasers

Ultrafast high power lasers and challenges for dielectric coatings

Analogies: MBE growth optimization at ETH

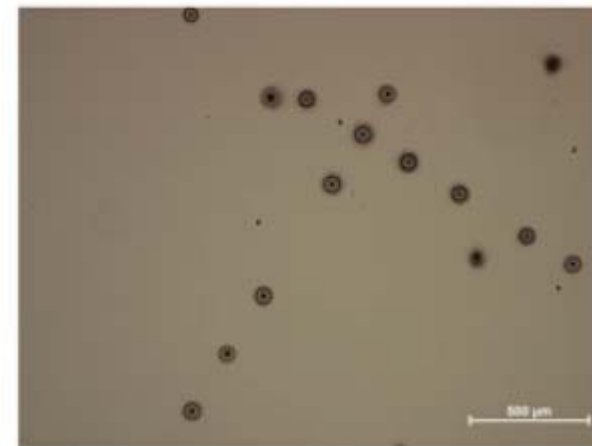
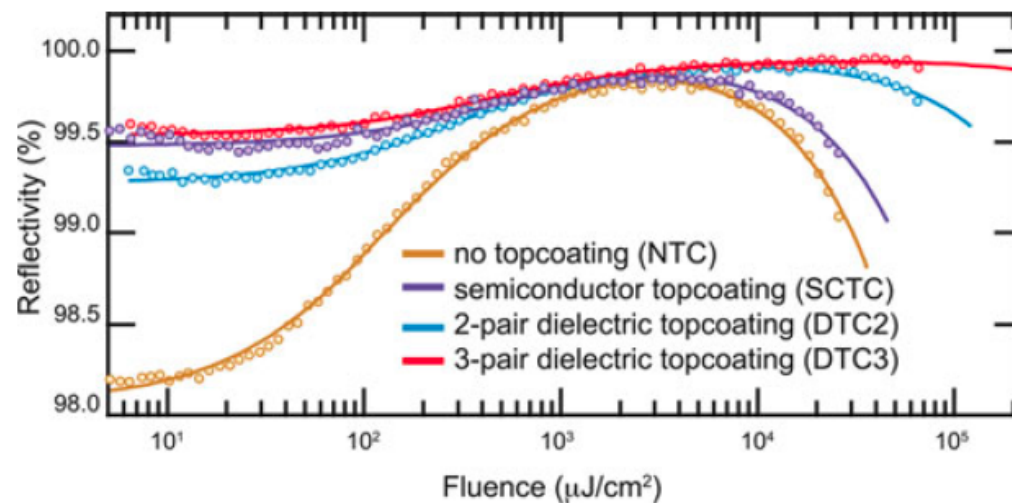
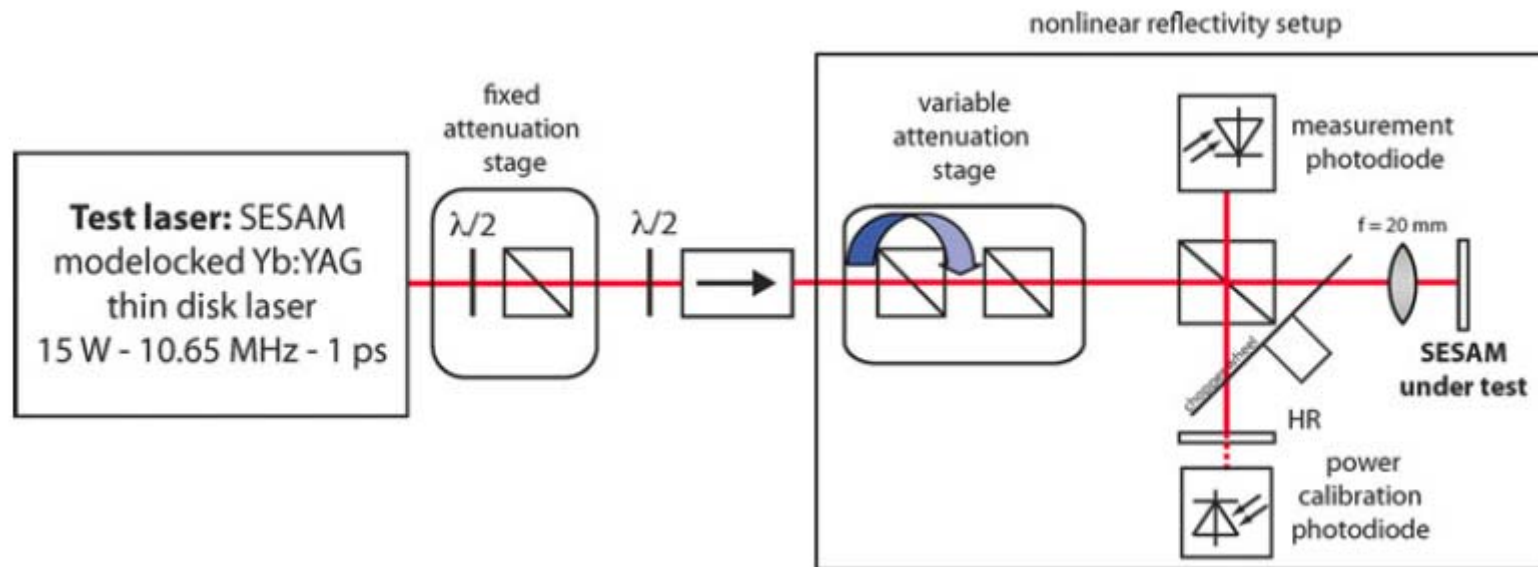
OPTICS: status and next steps

SESAMs for High-Power Oscillators: Design Guidelines and Damage Thresholds

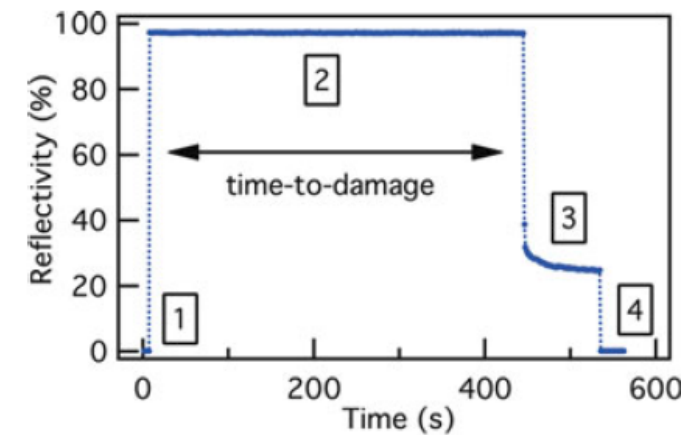
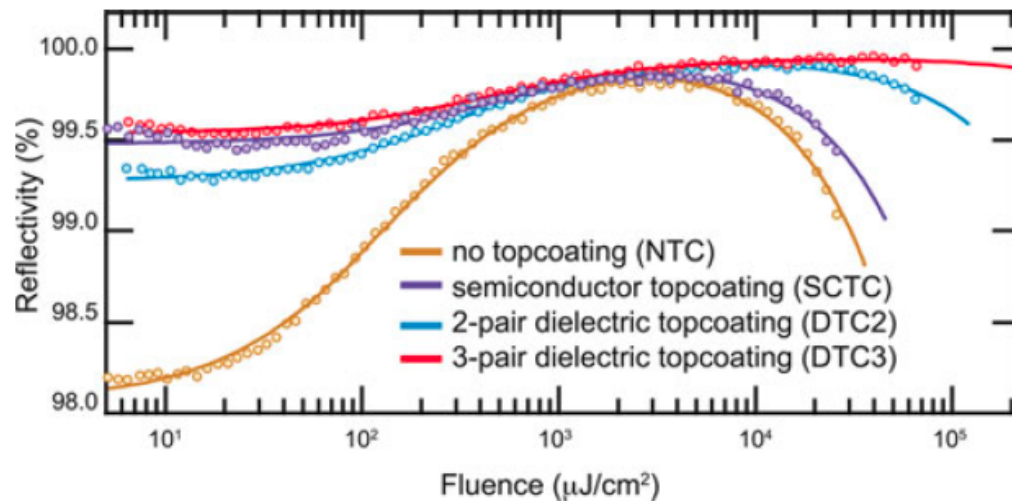
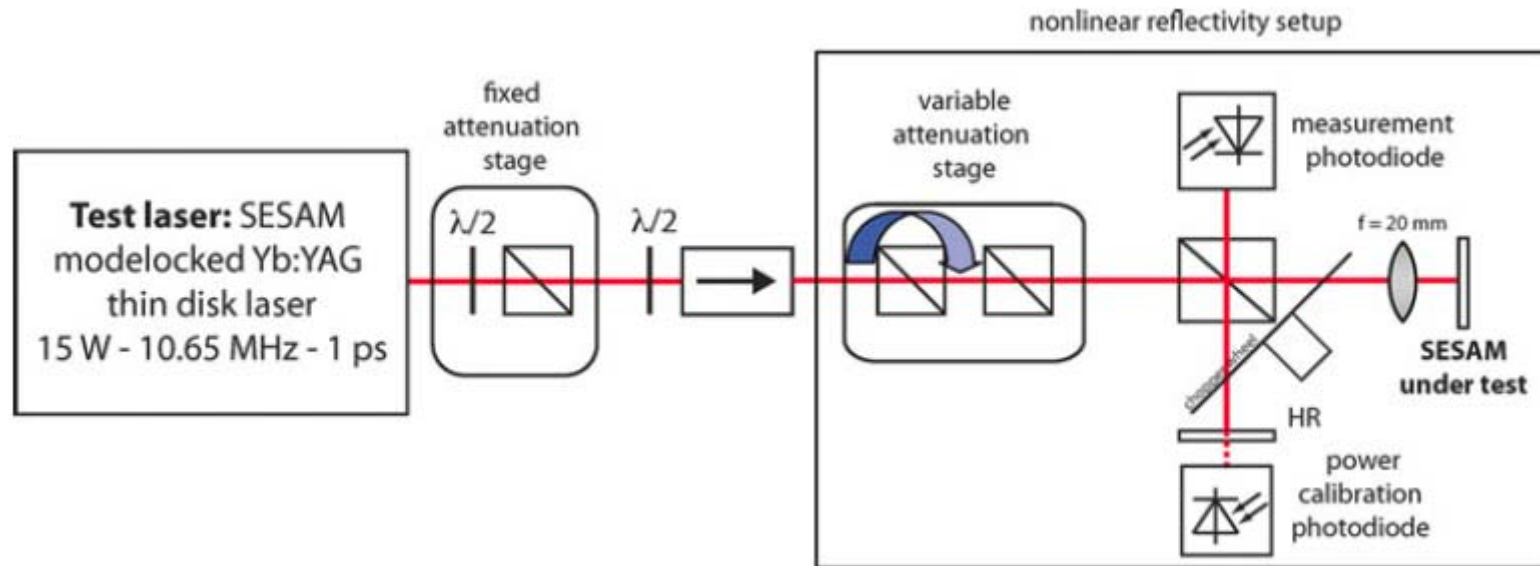
Clara J. Saraceno, Cinia Schriber, Mario Mangold, Martin Hoffmann, Oliver H. Heckl, Cyrill R. E. Baer, Matthias Golling, Thomas Südmeyer, and Ursula Keller

| Symbol | Yb:YAG [15] | Yb:YAG [7] | Yb:Lu ₂ O ₃ [6] |
|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Average output power | 45 W | 76 W | 140 W |
| Repetition rate | 4 MHz | 2.93 MHz | 60 MHz |
| Intra-cavity average power | 450 W | 97.4 W | 1.49 kW |
| Intra-cavity peak power | 125.7 MW | 31.5 MW | 29.8 MW |
| Output pulse energy | 11.3 μ J | 25.9 μJ | 2.35 μ J |
| Intra-cavity pulse energy | 113 μJ | 33.2 μ J | 25 μ J |
| Fluence on SESAM | \approx 5-7 mJ/cm² | \approx 4 mJ/cm ² | \approx 2 mJ/cm ² |
| Average intensity on SESAM | \approx 2.9 kW/cm ² | \approx 1.5 kW/cm ² | \approx 12 kW/cm² |
| Peak intensity on SESAM | \approx 16.5 GW/cm² | \approx 9.9 GW/cm ² | \approx 4.8 GW/cm ² |
| Saturation fluence F_{sat} of SESAM | 112.2 μJ/cm² | 61 μ J/cm ² | 61 μ J/cm ² |
| Saturation parameter S | \approx 50-60 | \approx 65 | \approx 33 |

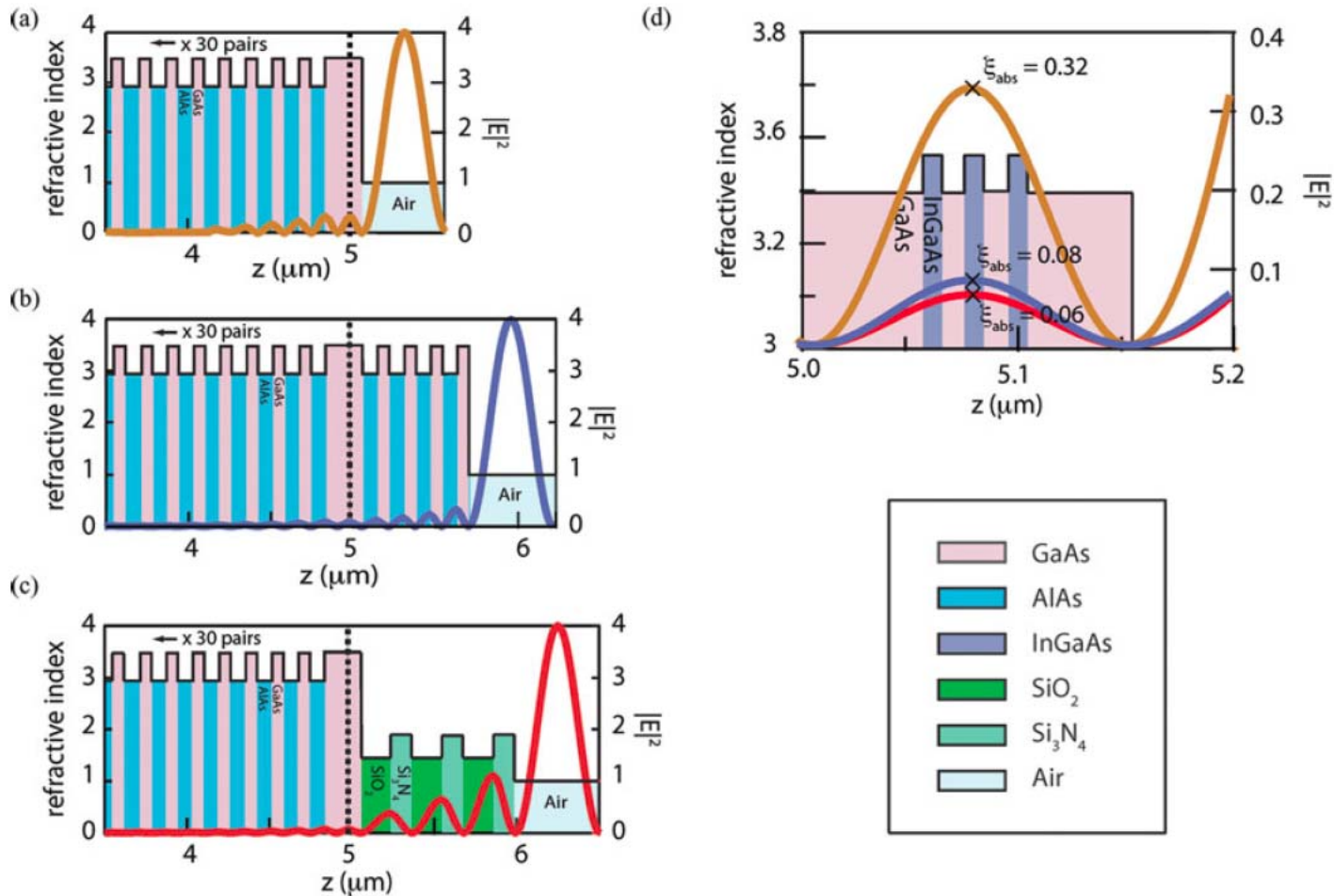
Optimization of SESAMs



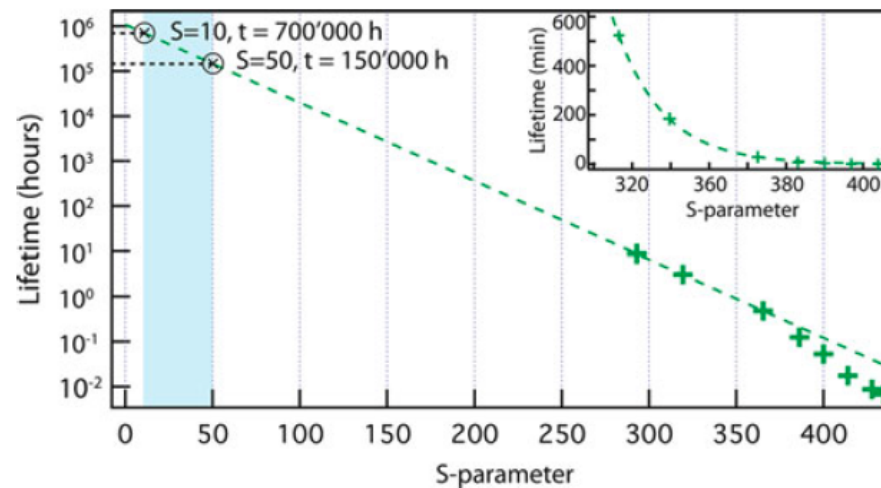
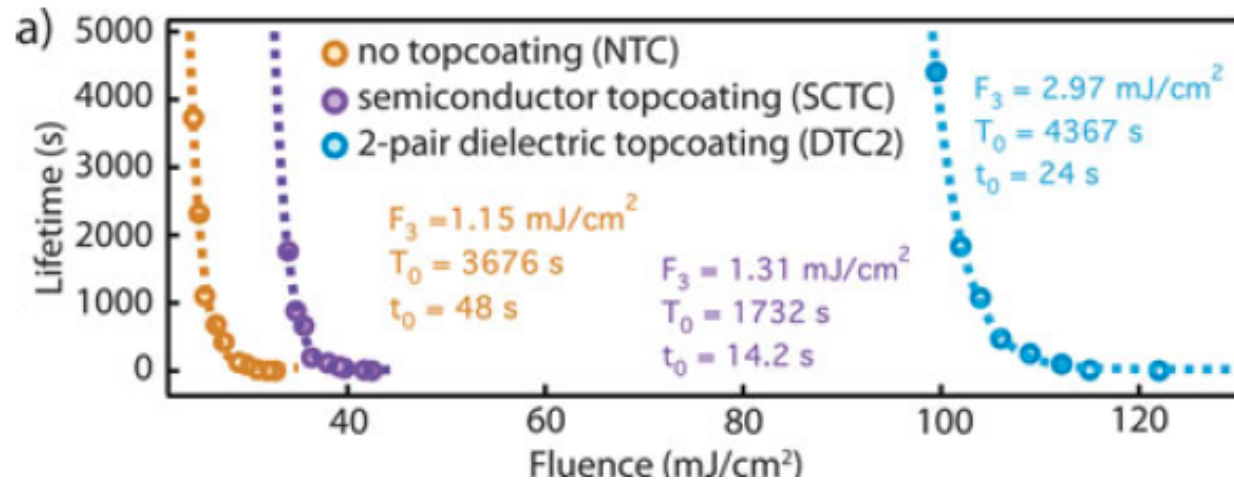
Optimization of SESAMs



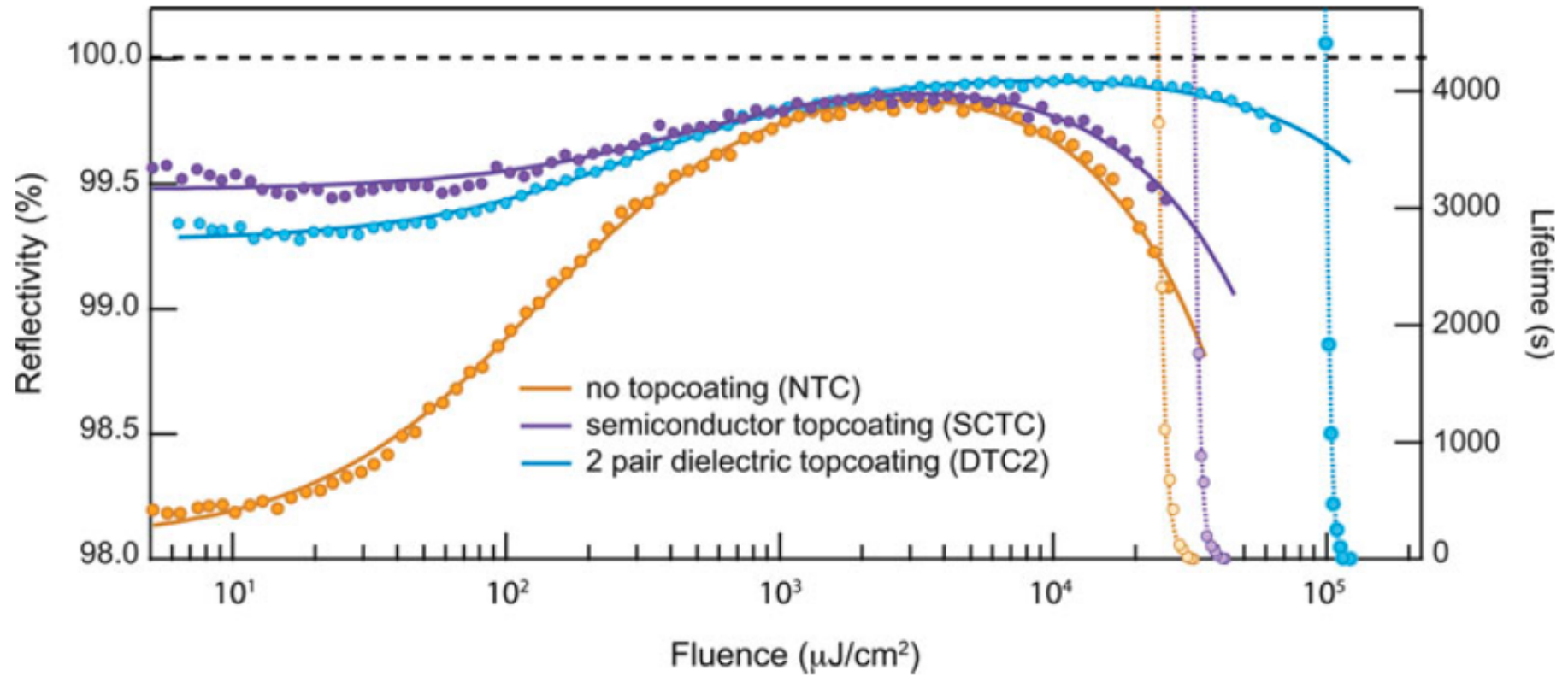
Optimization of SESAMs



Optimization of SESAMs



Optimization of SESAMs

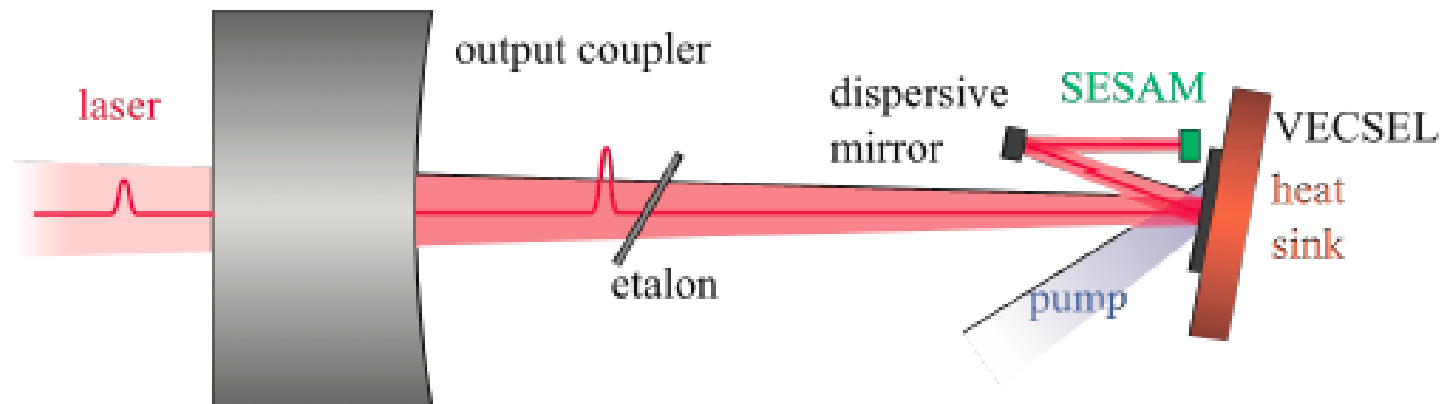


Optimization of VECSELs

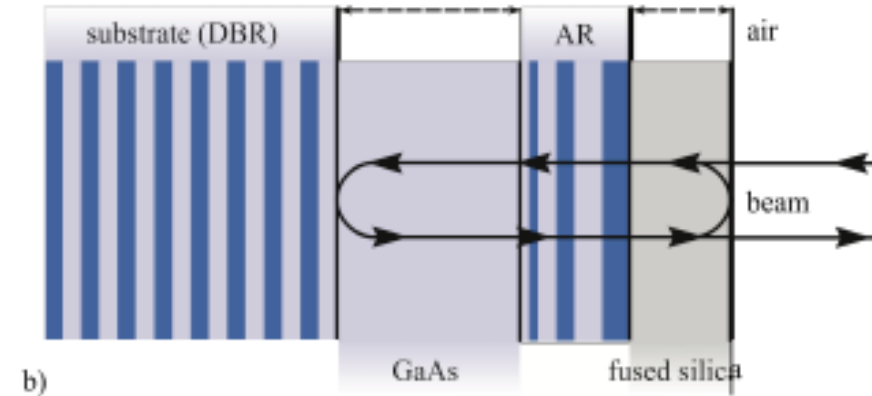
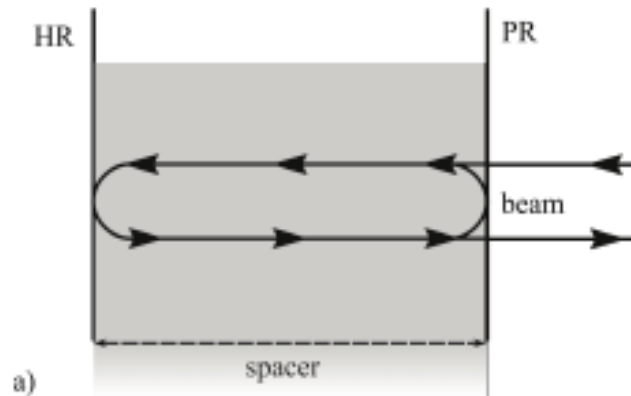
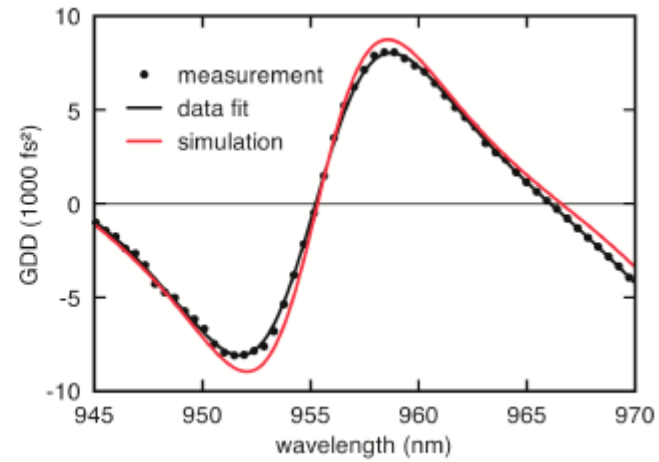
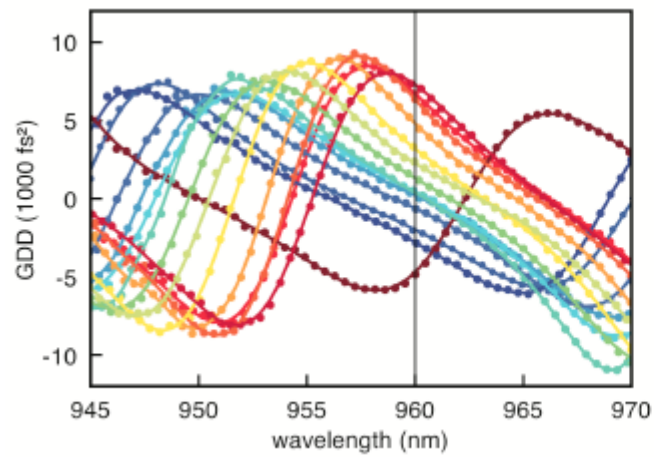
Experimental verification of soliton-like pulse-shaping mechanisms in passively mode-locked VECSELs

Martin Hoffmann^{*}, Oliver D. Sieber, Deran J. H. C. Maas, Valentin J. Wittwer,
Matthias Golling, Thomas Südmeyer, and Ursula Keller

#125661 - \$15.00 USD Received 18 Mar 2010; revised 22 Apr 2010; accepted 25 Apr 2010; published 29 Apr 2010
(C) 2010 OSA 10 May 2010 / Vol. 18, No. 10 / OPTICS EXPRESS 10143



Optimization of VECSELs



Optimization of VECSELs

Femtosecond high-power quantum dot vertical external cavity surface emitting laser

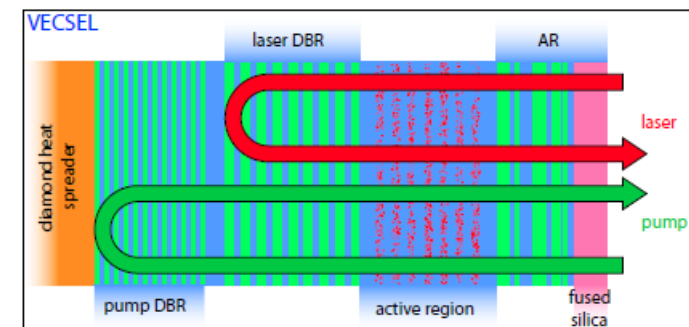
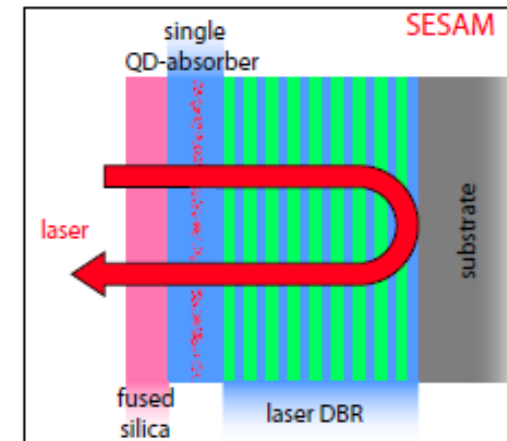
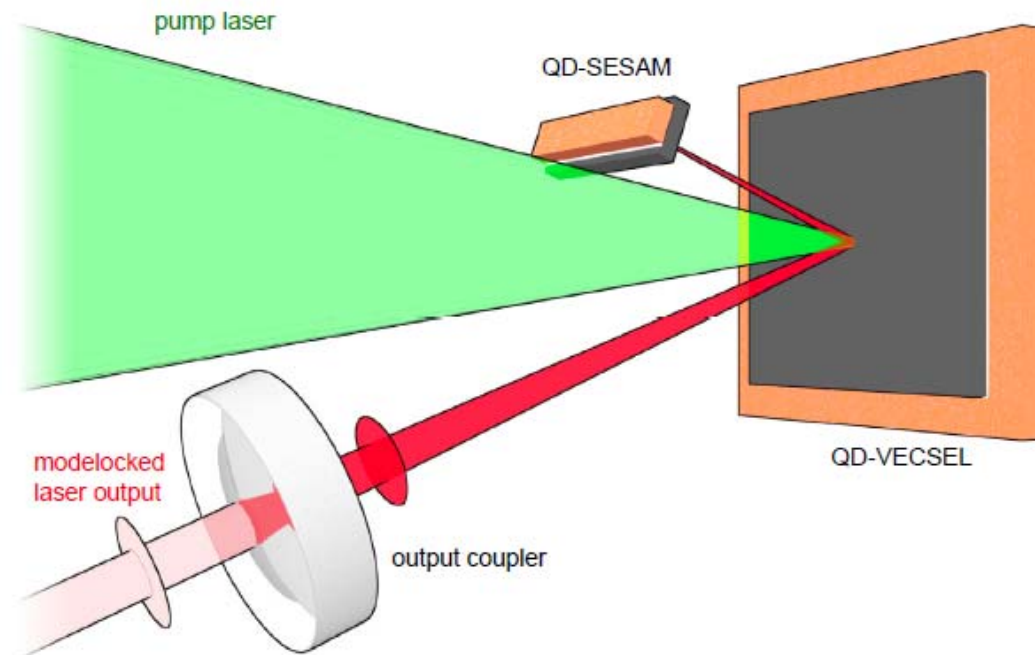
Martin Hoffmann,^{1*} Oliver D. Sieber,¹ Valentin J. Wittwer,¹ Igor L. Krestnikov,²
 Daniil A. Livshits,² Yohan Barbarin,¹ Thomas Südmeyer,¹ and Ursula Keller¹

¹Department of Physics, ETH Zurich, Wolfgang-Pauli-Strasse 16, 8093 Zurich, Switzerland

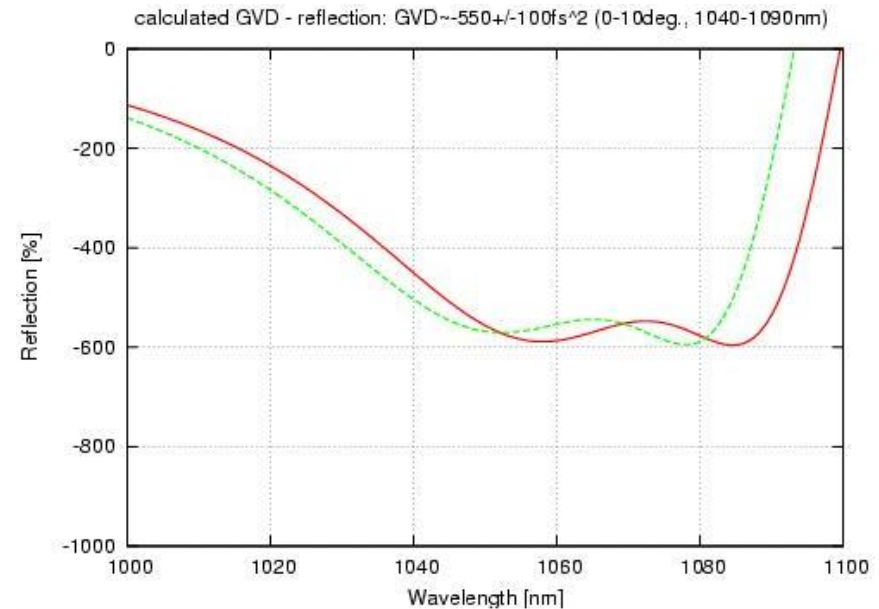
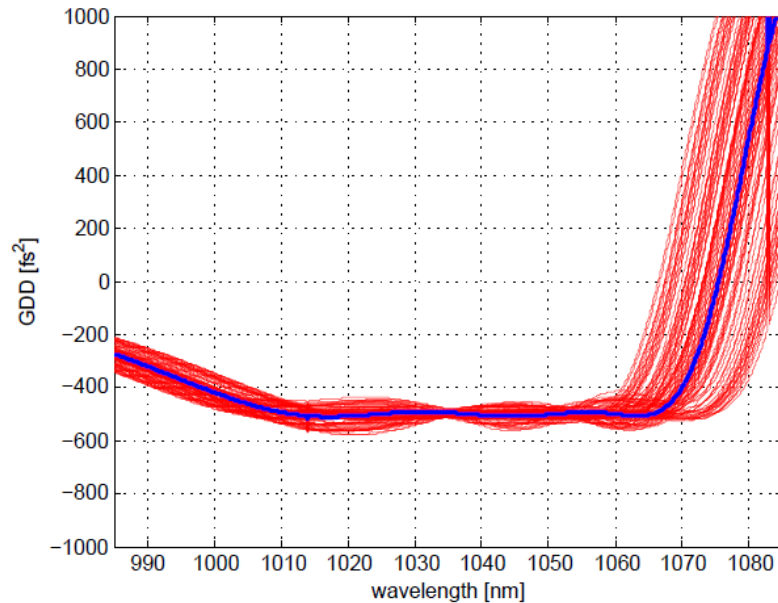
²Innolume GmbH, Konrad-Adenauer-Allee 11, 44263 Dortmund, Germany

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GTI mirror designs

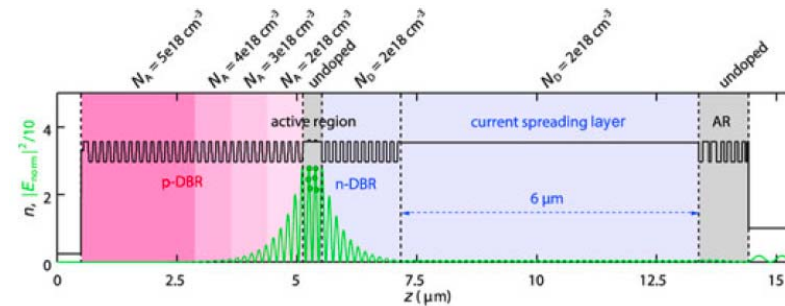
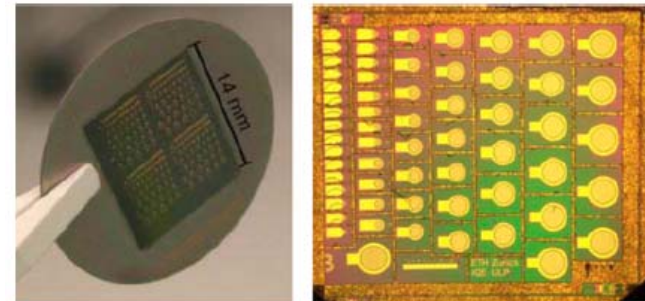
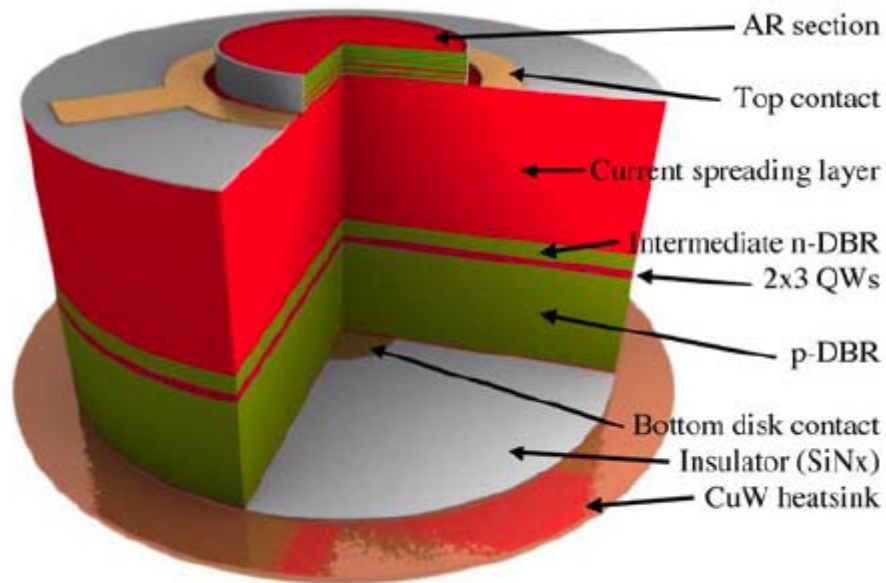


GDD of a dispersive mirror designed using Monte-Carlo optimizations

- Red curves: 1% error in the material calibration
- Covers >50 nm spectral width without significant variation
- Similar designs applied to MBE growth of VECSELs resulted in new records in the femtosecond regime

Electrically Pumped Vertical External Cavity Surface Emitting Lasers Suitable for Passive Modelocking

Yohan Barbarin, *Member, IEEE*, Martin Hoffmann, Wolfgang P. Pallmann, Imad Dahhan, Philipp Kreuter, Michael Miller, Johannes Baier, Holger Moench, Matthias Golling, Thomas Südmeyer, Bernd Witzigmann, *Member, IEEE*, and Ursula Keller



Overview

Introduction

Ultrafast lasers

Ultrafast high power lasers and challenges for dielectric coatings

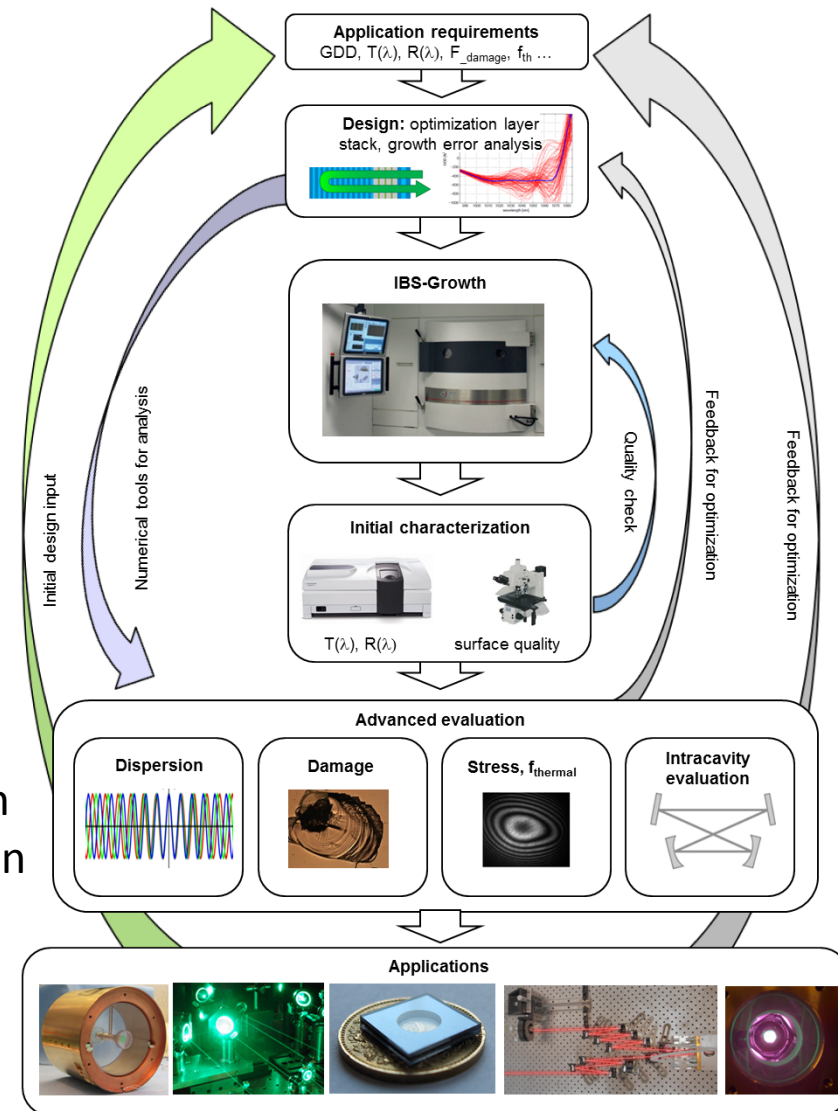
Analogies: MBE growth optimization at ETH

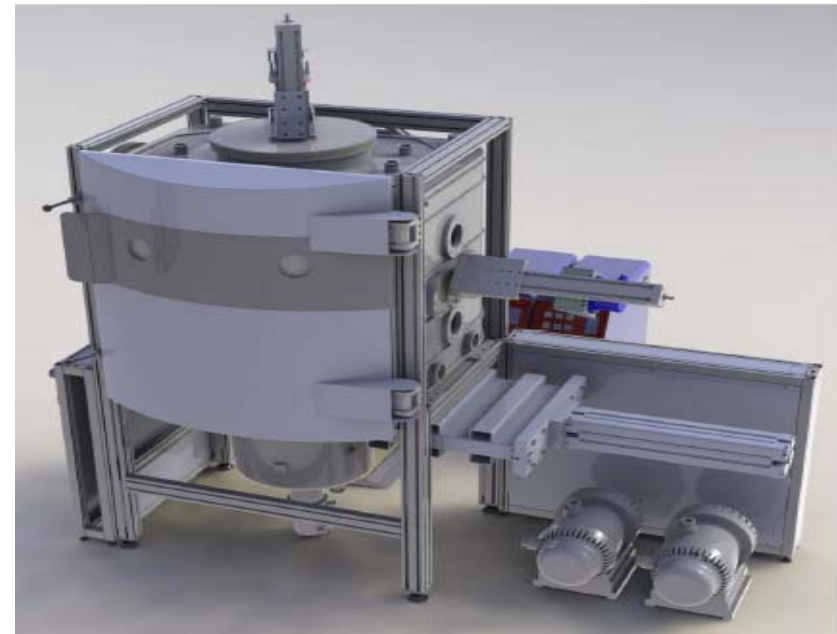
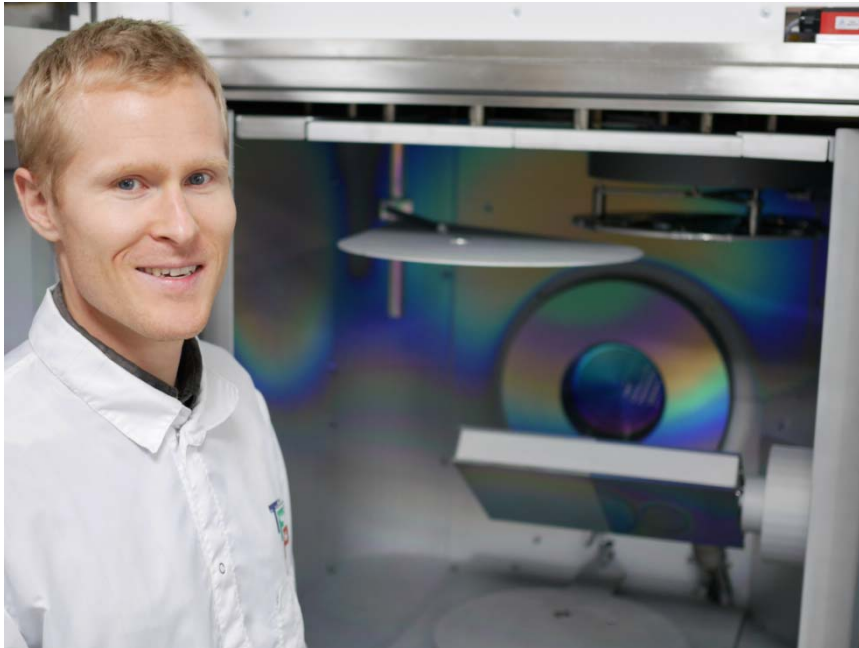
OPTICS: status and next steps

OPTICS: OPTical IBS Coatings for Swiss research

Target: develop new IBS solutions for research

- IBS optimization with coating vendors
 - specific research solutions: low priority
 - time-consuming
 - expensive
 - growth parameters might vary
- OPTICS: provide fast development cycle
 - Analysis of application requirements
 - Optimized layer design
 - Growth on dedicated IBS machine
 - Full characterization
 - Immediate feedback to design & growth according to the needs of the application





Acquired CEC Navigator 1100 from Cutting Edge Coatings (spin-off LZH)

- Ion Source Upgrade, assist source system
- Load-lock chamber, substrate heating, ...
- Monitor glass changer
- Material mixtures ($n_{\text{low}} \leq n_{\text{coating}} \leq n_{\text{high}}$)
- Machine fully installed and currently in process of calibration

Next targets



Next targets

- HR mirrors with high damage threshold for MHz fs high power operation
- Optimized dispersive mirrors at 1 μm with high damage threshold
- DUV dispersive mirrors
- Output couplers for VUV/XUV
- ...

Acknowledgments

