

XV J. A. Swieca School and SPSAS Nanophotonics- Campinas July, 2016

High-order nonlinearities in disordered media

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Universidade Federal de Pernambuco, Recife, Brasil

Third lecture:

Multiphoton absorption and stimulated emission in
random media.

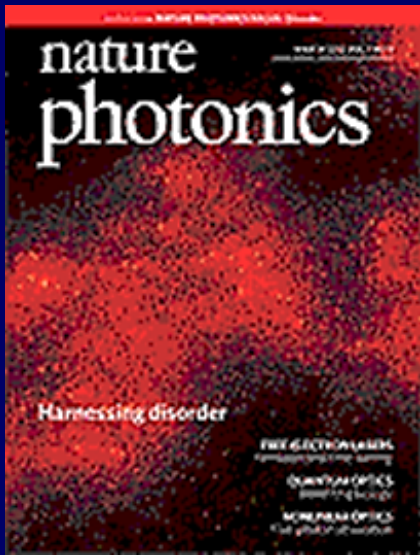
Disordered Photonics

Disordered structures that strongly scatter light

Anderson localization of light and other transport phenomena

Imaging through scattering media.

Optical nonlinearities.



March 2013

Random lasers



Measurements of nonlinear refractive index in scattering media

Prathyush Samineni,¹ Zachary Perret,¹ Warren S. Warren,² and Martin C. Fischer^{1,*}

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**Martin.Fischer@duke.edu*

Abstract: We have recently developed a spectral re-shaping technique to simultaneously measure nonlinear refractive index and nonlinear absorption. In this technique, the information about the nonlinearities is encoded in the frequency domain, rather than in the spatial domain as in the conventional Z-scan method. Here we show that frequency encoding is much more robust with respect to scattering. We compare spectral re-shaping and Z-scan measurements in a highly scattering environment and show that reliable spectral re-shaping measurements can be performed even in a regime that precludes standard Z-scans.

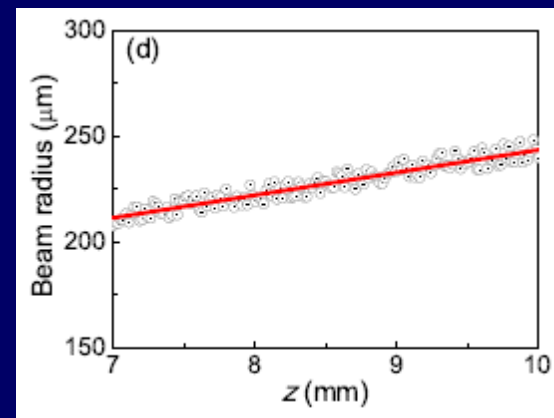
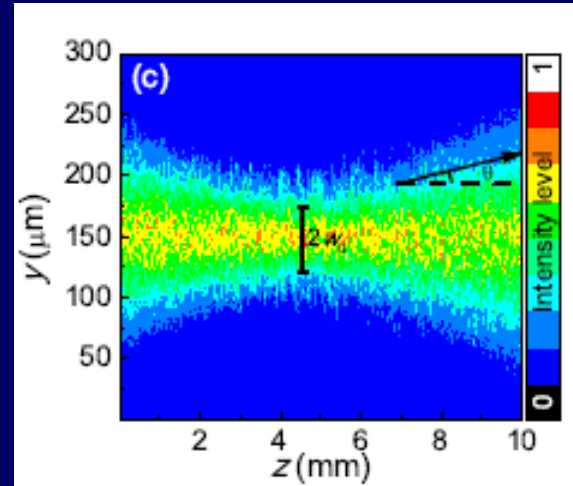
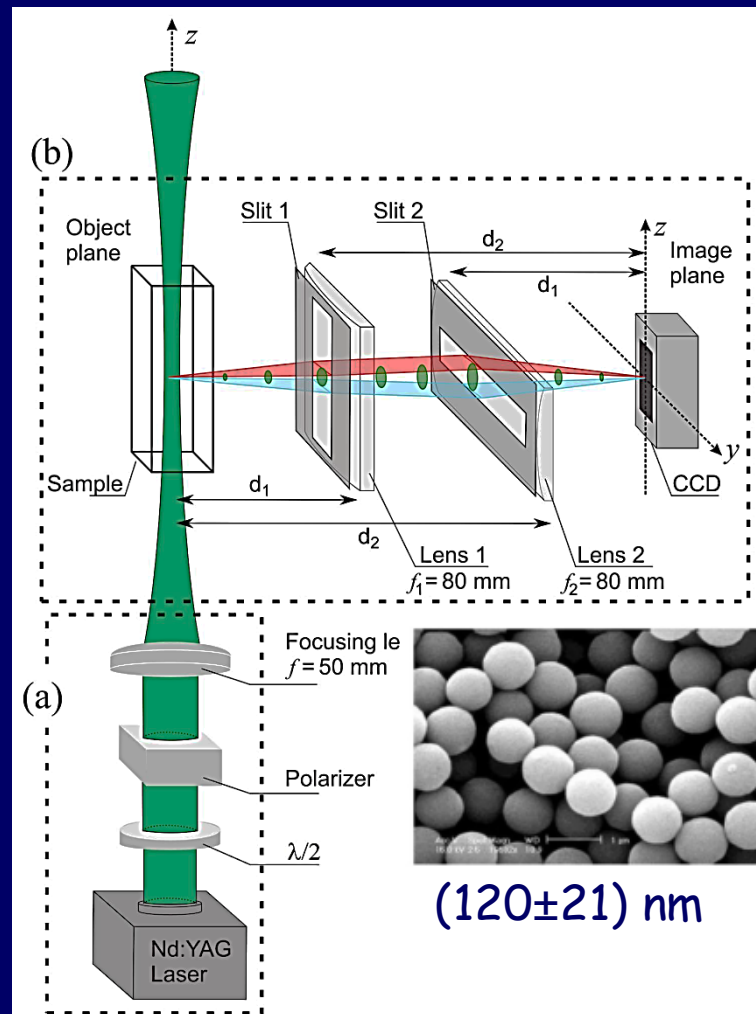
Opt. Express 18 (2010) 12727

Laser with rep. rate: 20 kHz

Pulses with amplitude modulated at 5 kHz

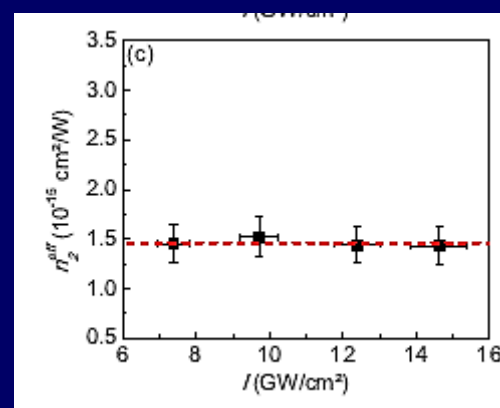
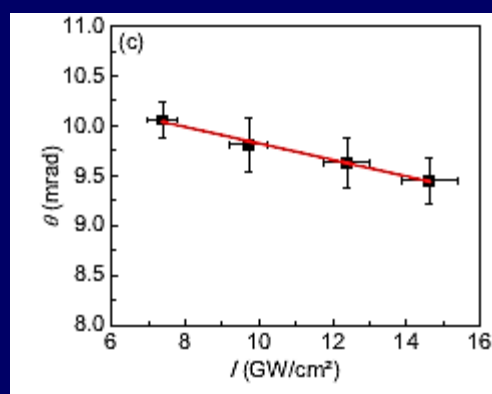
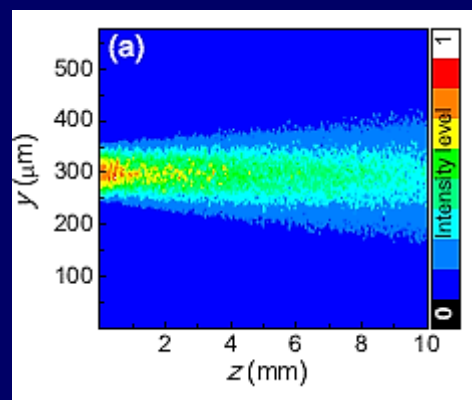
Scattered Light Imaging Method - SLIM

Silica NPs + ethanol + acetone



Silica NPs + ethanol +acetone

Avg. diameter = (120±21) nm



$$\frac{1}{f_{eff}} = \frac{a\lambda M^2}{4\pi n_2^{eff} I_0} J$$

$$\frac{\theta_{NL}(z)}{\theta_0(z)} = 1 - \frac{z}{f_{eff}} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{z^2}{f_{eff}^2}\right)$$

$$a=6.4 \quad J \approx \pi/4$$

Table 1. Characteristics of the samples.

| Parameters | Sample A | Sample B | Sample C | Sample D |
|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| $f(\times 10^{-4})$ | 0.045 | 2.25 | 2.7 | 4.05 |
| $V_{acetone}$ | 99% | 50% | 40% | 10% |
| $n_2^{eff} (\times 10^{-15} \text{ cm}^2/\text{W})$ | 2.38 | 1.58 | 1.42 | 0.93 |

Random Lasers

- **Introduction** - short history + comments on light propagation in scattering media + potential applications
- **Examples and applications**
 - Stokes and anti-Stokes lasers
 - Multicolor emission from RLs

RLs: lasers without mirrors

No optical cavity

The optical feedback is due to light scattering in a disordered medium, and the interference of the scattered light gives rise to resonant modes at particular frequencies

RL can be implemented in 1D, 2D and 3D geometries depending on the scattering medium: optical waveguide, membrane, or colloids and aggregates/powders

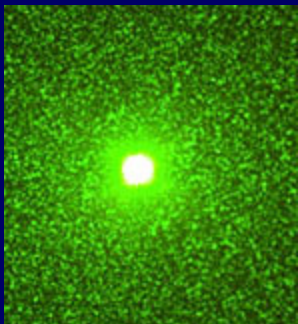
Conventional laser

Narrow linewidth

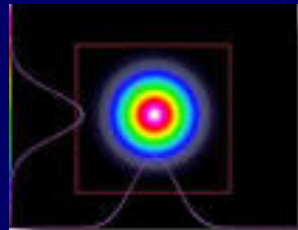
Long coherence time

Large spatial coherence

Directionality



Speckle



Beam
profile

Random laser

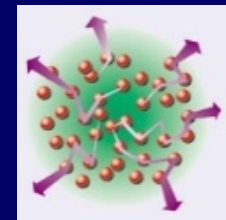
Large linewidth

Short coherence time

Small spatial coherence

No directionality

No
speckle



"photon bomb"
or
"laser paint"

Old history

Ambartsumyan, Basov, Kryukov, Lethokov

Laser with nonresonant feedback

JETP Lett. 1966

Lethokov: proposal of scattering with "negative absorption"
to describe emissions from astrophysical molecular clouds

Sov. Phys. JETP 1967

Lawandy, Balachandran, Gomes, Sauvain

Laser action in strong scattering media

Nature 1994

Wiersma

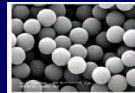
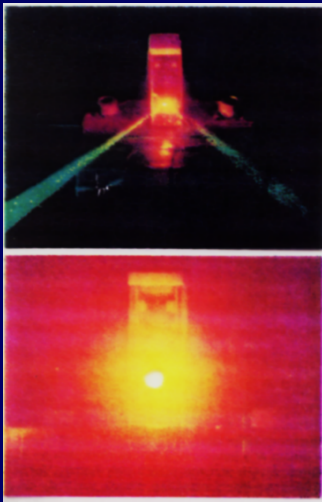
Random Lasers?

Nature 1995

Random laser

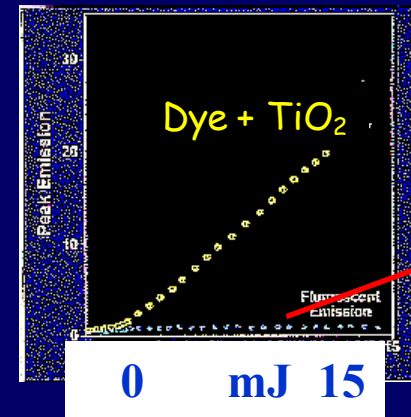
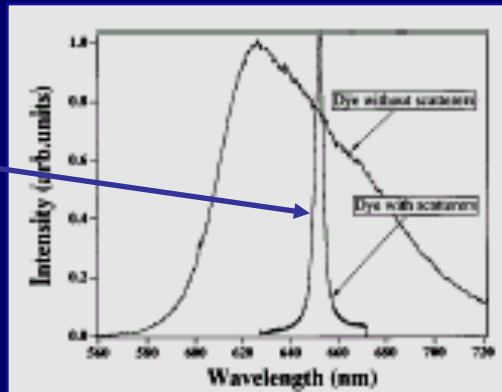
Lawandy et al. Nature 1994

Photons follow random pathways due to reflections by TiO_2 NPs



Rh: $2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$ $10^{11} \text{ particles / cm}^3$
 Mean free path: $120 \mu\text{m}$ @ 532 nm
 $140 \mu\text{m}$ @ 650 nm

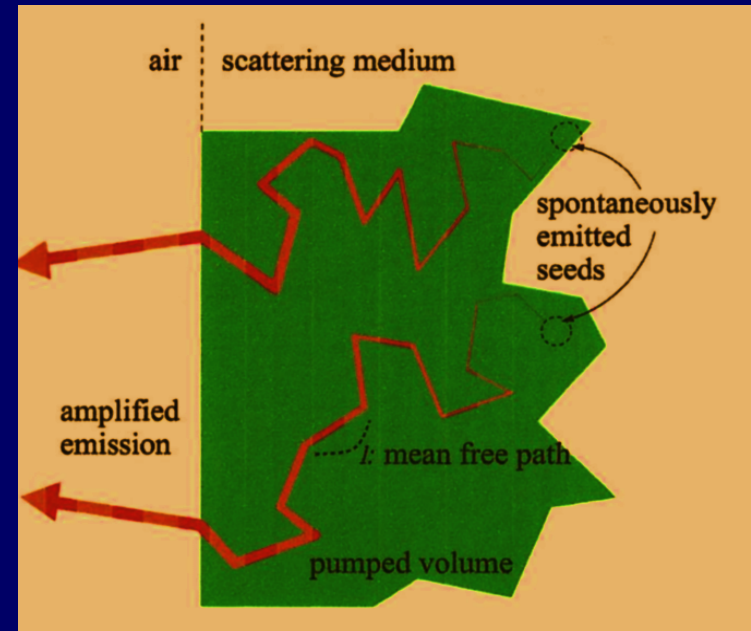
Intensity
 $\div 100$



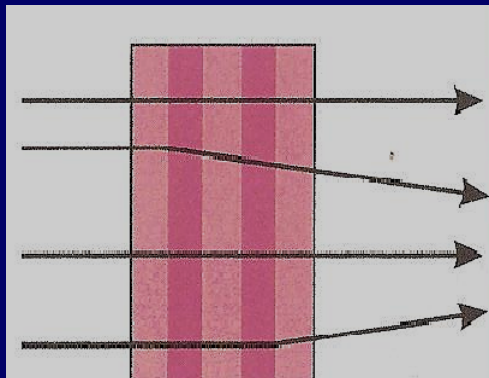
Only
 dye

Multiple light scattering is essential

Light follows a random pathway through the excited volume

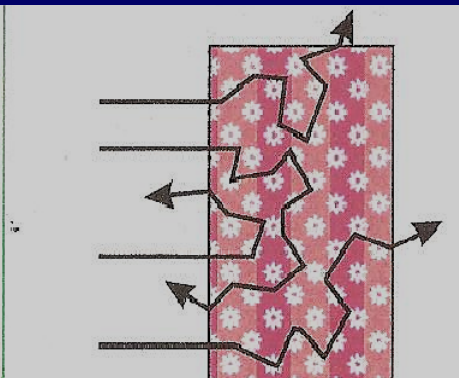


mean free path larger than the sample volume



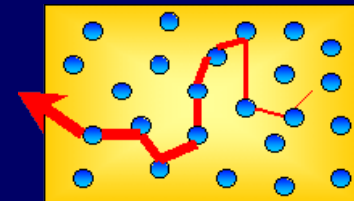
Balistic propagation

mean free path smaller than the sample dimension



Diffusion

Incoherent feedback



Coherent feedback



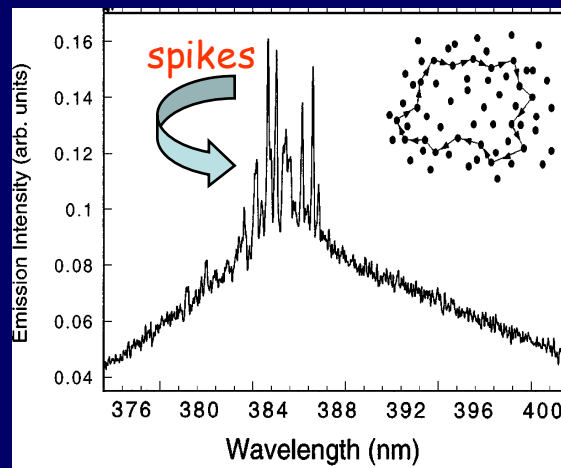
"Optical cavities" $n\lambda/2=L$

First observation of RL with coherent feedback

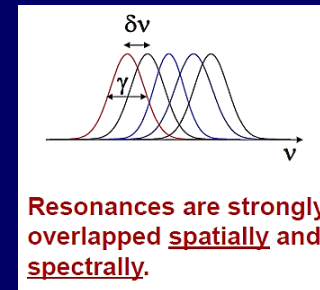
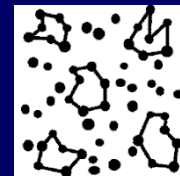
H. Cao et al. PRL 82 (1999) 2278

ZnO powder – grains diameter: 100 nm

Nd: YAG
355 nm



Constructive interference



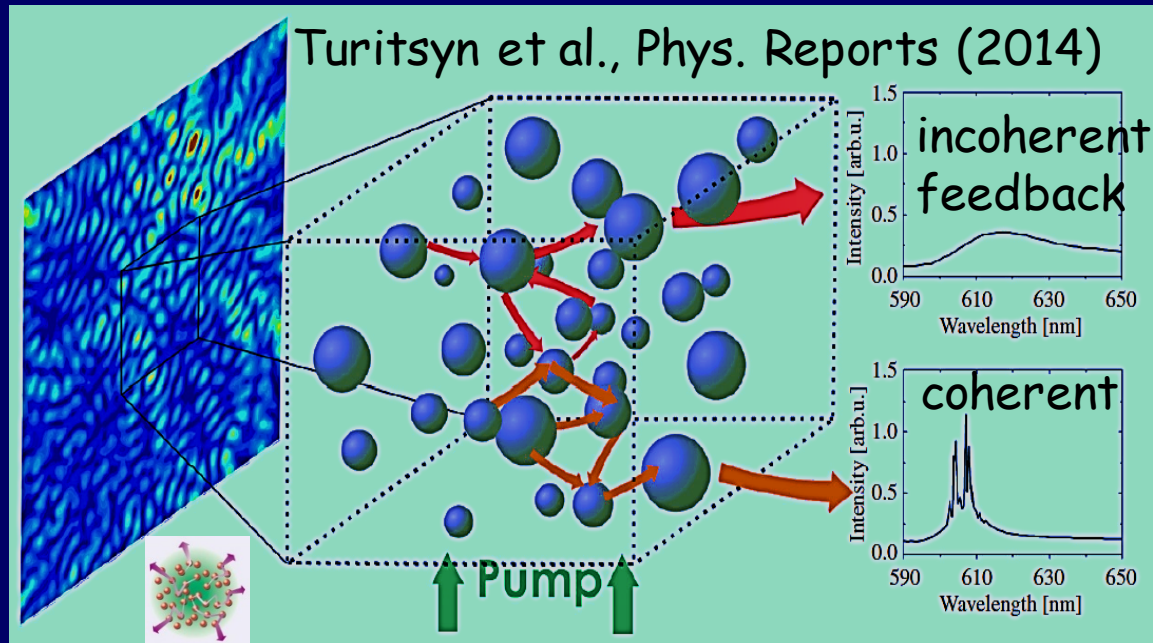
$$L = n \lambda / 2$$

analogous of ring cavity of conventional lasers

The direction of each mode is different

Co-existence of strongly and weakly localized random modes. Fallert et al. Nature Photon. (2009)

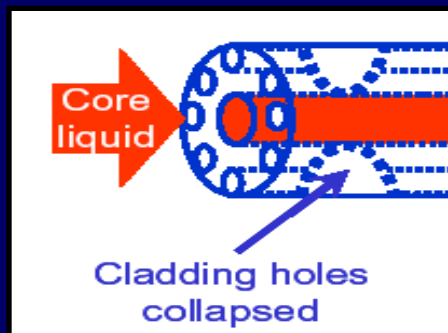
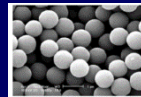
The mode-locking transition of random lasers. Leonetti et al. Nature Photon. (2011)



Directionality without mirrors?

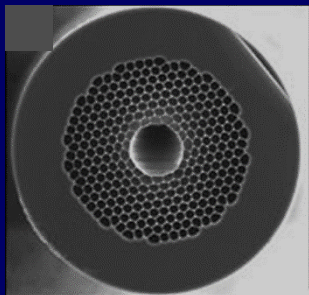
Random Fiber Laser

Christiano J. S. de Matos,^{1,*} Leonardo de S. Menezes,² Antônio M. Brito-Silva,³ M. A. Martinez Gámez,⁴
Anderson S. L. Gomes,² and Cid B. de Araújo²

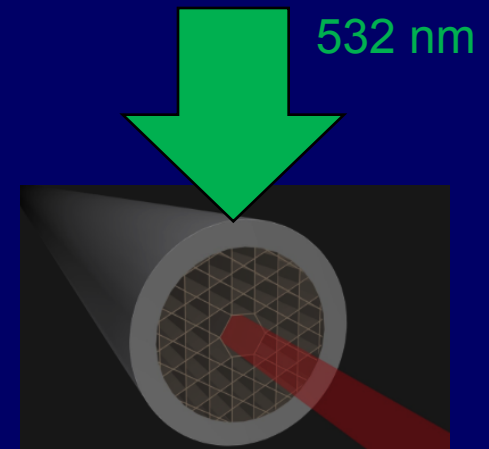


Rh 6G + TiO₂ NPs

Hollow fiber
10 μm - 3 μm



100 times
more efficient
than conventional RL

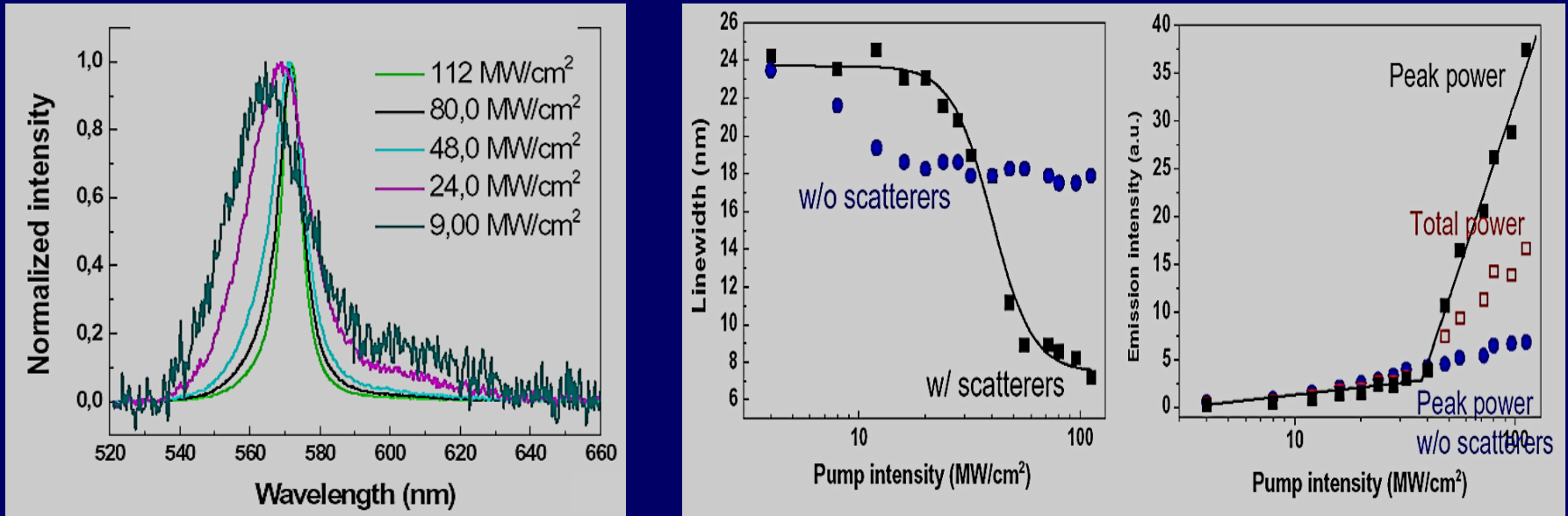


Feedback

Transverse: total internal reflection
Axial : multiple scattering

Random Fiber Laser

1D laser - Directional emission



$$\text{Figure of merit} = (I_{\text{thr}} \cdot \rho_{\text{dye}} \cdot \rho_{\text{scatt}})^{-1}$$

At least 100 times improvement with the Fiber Random Laser

de Matos, Menezes, Brito-Silva, Gamez, Gomes, de Araújo.
Phys. Rev. Lett. 99 (2007) 153903

Smirnov et al. - Modeling of spectral and statistical properties of a random distributed fiber laser *Opt. Express* 21 (2013) 21236

Turitsyn et al. - Random distributed feedback fibre lasers. *Phys. Reports* 542 (2014) 133

Tang et al. - A random Q-switched fiber laser
Sci. Reports 5 (2015) 9338

Churkin et al. - Wave kinetics of random fiber lasers
Nature Commun. 6 (2015) 6214

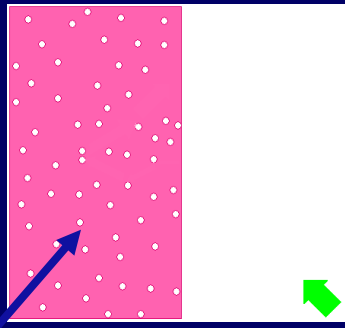
Churkin et al. - Recent advances in fundamental and applications of random fiber lasers *Adv. Opt. Photon.* 7 (2015) 516

Dependence of RL emission on silver nanoparticle density in PMMA films containing rhodamine 6G

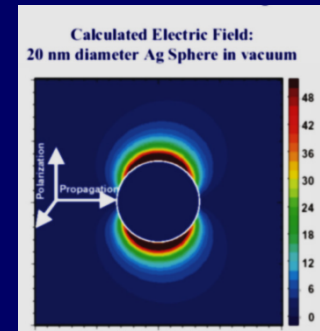
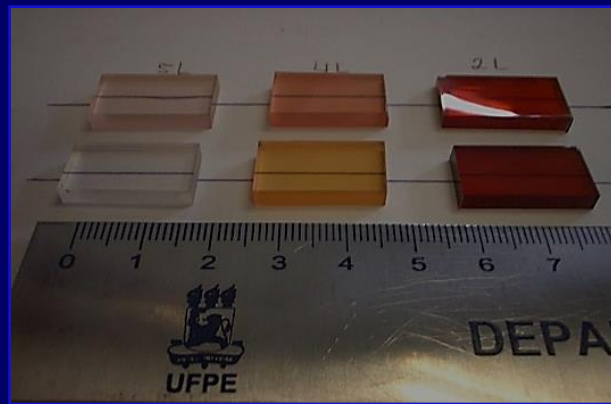
Polyester or PMMA with Ag NPs and Rh 6G

Brito-Silva et al. *Polymer Eng. & Science* 2350 (2010)

Rh6G



Nanoparticles

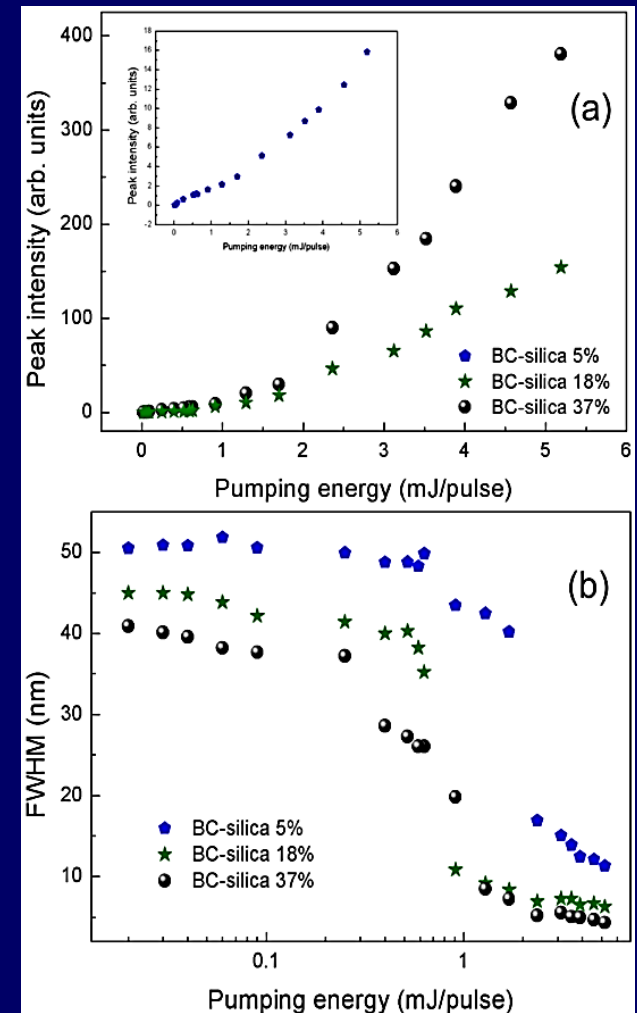
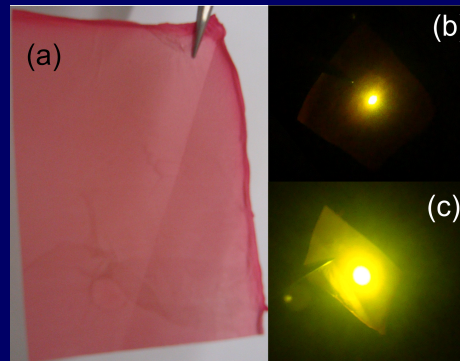
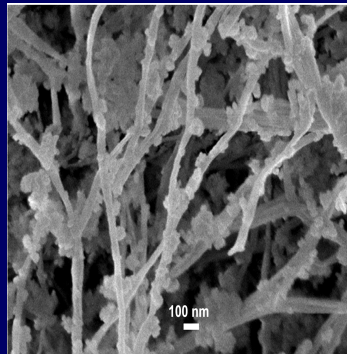


Dominguez, Maltez, Reis, Melo, de Araújo, Gomes
J. Opt. Soc. Am. B 28 (2011) 1118

Random laser action from flexible biocellulose-based device

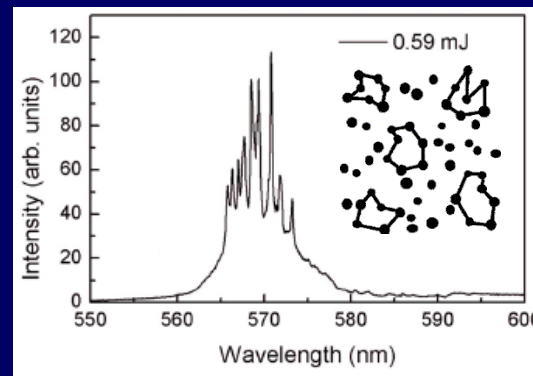
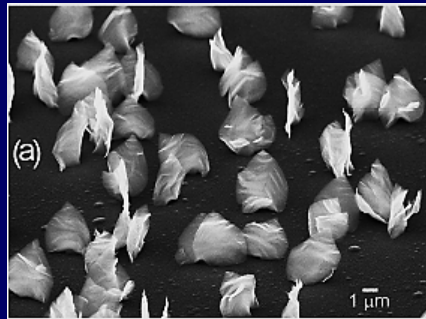
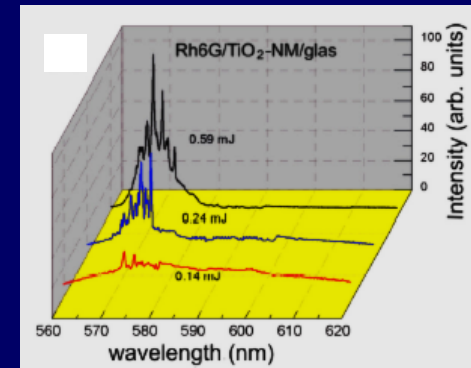
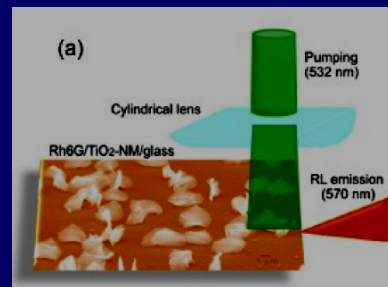
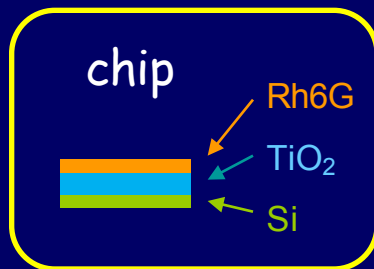
biocompatible - produced by the bacteria *Gluconacetobacter xylinus*

3D network composed of microfibrils having nanometric diameters.



Santos, Dominguez, Schiavon, Barud, de Melo, Ribeiro, Gomes, de Araújo. **J. Appl. Phys.** 115 (2014) 083108

Microchip RL based on a disordered TiO_2 nanomembranes arrangement



MOCVD technique

532 nm
5 ns, 5 Hz
Coherent feedback

Dominguez, Lacroute, Chaumont, Sacilotti, de Araújo, Gomes. *Optics Express* 20 (2012) 17381

Random Lasers

Can be implemented in 1D, 2D and 3D geometries in various scattering media: waveguides, membranes, colloids and powders

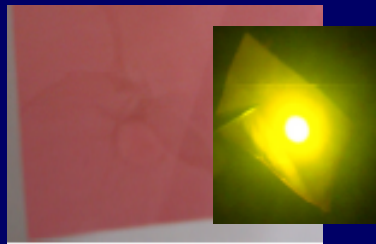
Colloids



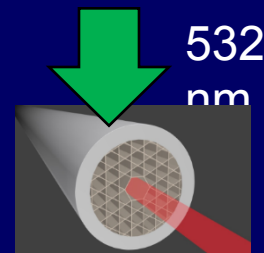
Powder



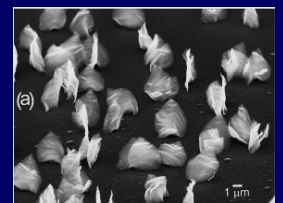
Membrane



Microstructured
Fibers



Chips



Cancerous tissue mapping from random lasing emission spectra

R C Polson and Z V Vardeny

Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT 84112, USA

Received 16 May 2009, accepted for publication 2 September 2009

Published 11 January 2010

Online at stacks.iop.org/JOpt/12/024010

Abstract

Random lasing emission spectra have been collected from both healthy and cancerous tissues. The two types of tissue with optical gain have different light scattering properties as obtained from an average power Fourier transform of their random lasing emission spectra. The difference in the power Fourier transform leads to a contrast between cancerous and benign tissues, which is utilized for tissue mapping of healthy and cancerous regions of patients.

Keywords: random lasing, cancerous tissue mapping, data processing, Fourier transform

Detection of nanoscale structural changes in bone using random lasers

Qinghai Song,¹ Zhengbin Xu,¹ Seung Ho Choi,¹ Xuanhao Sun,¹ Shumin Xiao,² Ozan Akkus¹, and Young L. Kim^{1,*}

¹Weldon School of Biomedical Engineering, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907

²School of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Birck Nanotechnology Center, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907

*youngkim@purdue.edu

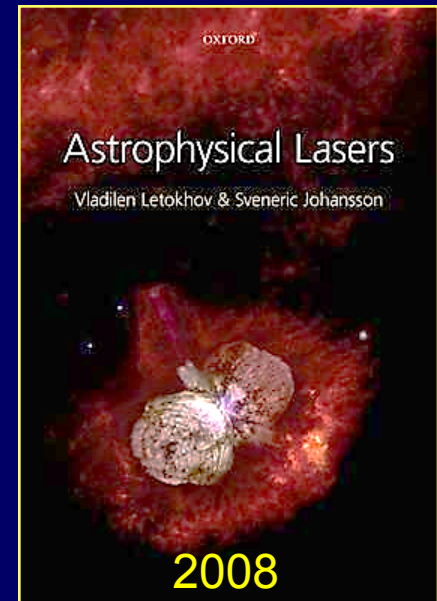
Abstract: We demonstrate that the unique characteristics of random lasing in bone can be used to assess nanoscale structural alterations as a mechanical or structural biosensor, given that bone is a partially disordered biological nanostructure. In this proof-of-concept study, we conduct photoluminescence experiments on cortical bone specimens that are loaded in tension under mechanical testing. The ultra-high sensitivity, the large detection area, and the simple detection scheme of random lasers allow us to detect prefailure damage in bone at very small strains before any microscale damage occurs. Random laser-based biosensors could potentially open a new possibility for highly sensitive detection of nanoscale structural and mechanical alterations prior to overt microscale changes in hard tissue and biomaterials.

Biomedical Optics Express
1 (2010) 1401

New Astronomy Reviews 51, 443 (2007)

Astrophysical lasers and nonlinear optical effects in space

S. Johansson ^{a,*}, V.S. Letokhov ^{a,b}



A random laser could happen naturally in space

nature
physics

LETTERS

PUBLISHED ONLINE: 5 MAY 2013 | DOI: 10.1038/NPHYS2614

A cold-atom random laser

Q. Baudouin, N. Mercadier[†], V. Guarrera[†], W. Guerin and R. Kaiser[★]

Prior 1994 – Theoretical Proposal and Experimental demonstrations with MICRON SIZED Nd powders (solid state)

1994 – 250nm TiO₂/Dye colloid (Nature milestone paper) +

1995/7 – Bio-tissue; polymeric gain media; solid state

1998/2000 – ZnO Nanopowders; opal photonic crystals;

2001/3 – pi-conjugated polymers; temperature control; liquid crystals; plasmonic effect for directionality

2004/6 – Human Tissues+dye; organic/inorganic; silver nanoparticles

2007/9 – Random Fiber Lasers; DNA; mid-infrared; one & two photon GaAs;

2010/14 – colloidal QD; plasmonically controlled core-shell; UV UC in Nd; Mode-locking; cicada wings; Cold Atom; TiO₂ nanomembranes; 3-photons in ZnO and colloids

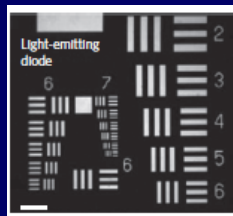
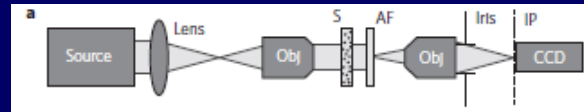
Speckle-free laser imaging using random laser illumination

Brandon Redding, Michael A. Choma & Hui Cao

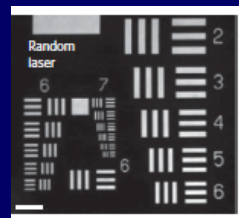
Many imaging applications require increasingly bright illumination sources, motivating the replacement of conventional thermal light sources with light emitting diodes (LEDs), superluminescent diodes (SLDs) and lasers. Despite their brightness, lasers and SLDs are poorly suited for full-field imaging applications because their high spatial coherence leads to coherent artifacts known as speckle that corrupt image formation^{1,2}. We recently demonstrated that random lasers can be engineered to provide low spatial coherence³. Here, we exploit the low spatial coherence of specifically-designed random lasers to perform speckle-free full-field imaging in the setting of significant optical scattering. We quantitatively demonstrate that images generated with random laser illumination exhibit higher resolution than images generated with spatially coherent illumination. By providing intense laser illumination without the drawback of coherent artifacts, random lasers are well suited for a host of full-field imaging applications from full-field microscopy⁴ to digital light projector systems⁵.

Speckle-free laser imaging using random laser illumination

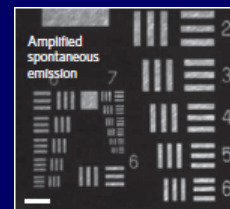
Cao et al. Nature Photon. 6 (2012) 355



LED



RL



ASE

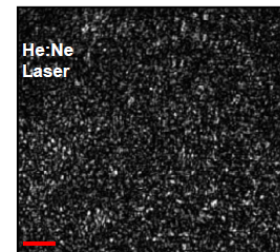
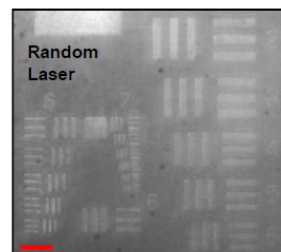
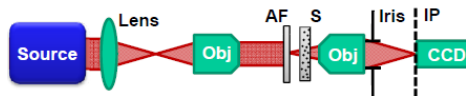


Broadband
laser



Narrowband
laser

Speckle-free Laser Imaging



Some review articles

Wiersma - Review article: *The physics and applications of random lasers* *Nature Phys.* 4 (2008) 359

Turitsyn et al. - *Random distributed feedback fibre lasers* *Phys. Reports* 542 (2014) 133

Churkin et al. - Recent advances in fundamental and applications of random fiber lasers *Adv. Opt. Photon.* 7 (2015) 516

Sebbah et al. - *Breakthrough in Photonics 2014: Random Lasers.* *IEEE Photonics Journal* 7 (2015) 0700207

Luan, Gu, Gomes, Yong, Wen, Prasad. *Lasing in nanocomposites random media.* *Nano Today* 10 (2015) 168

Multiphoton absorption in Random Lasers

RL wavelength is shorter than
the excitation wavelength

Anti-Stokes RLs

$\chi^{(3)}$ and $\chi^{(5)}$ effects

Direct three-photon excitation of upconversion random laser emission in a weakly scattering organic colloidal system

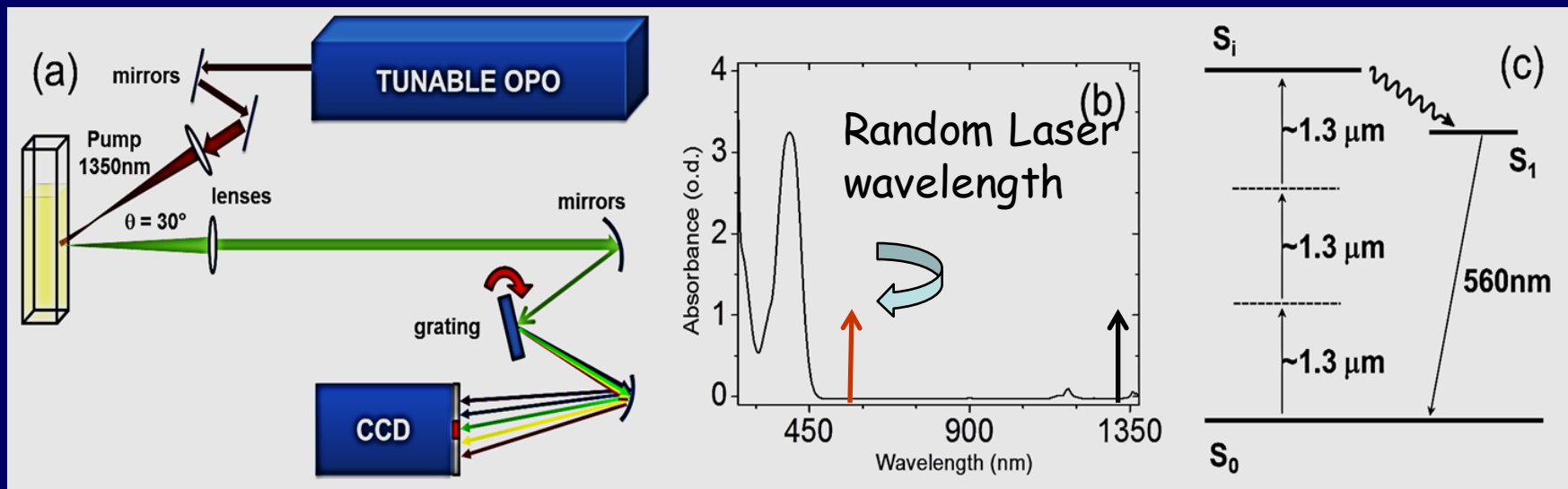
Anderson S. L. Gomes,¹ Mariana T. Carvalho,¹ Christian T. Dominguez,^{1,3} Cid B. de Araújo,¹ and Paras N. Prasad²

¹Department of Physics, Universidade Federal de Pernambuco, 50670-901 Recife, PE, Brazil

²Institute for Lasers, Photonics and Biophotonics - University at Buffalo, The State University of New York, Buffalo, New York 14260-3000, USA

³Laboratório de Óptica Biomédica e Imagem, Universidade Federal de Pernambuco 50740-530, Recife, PE, Brazil

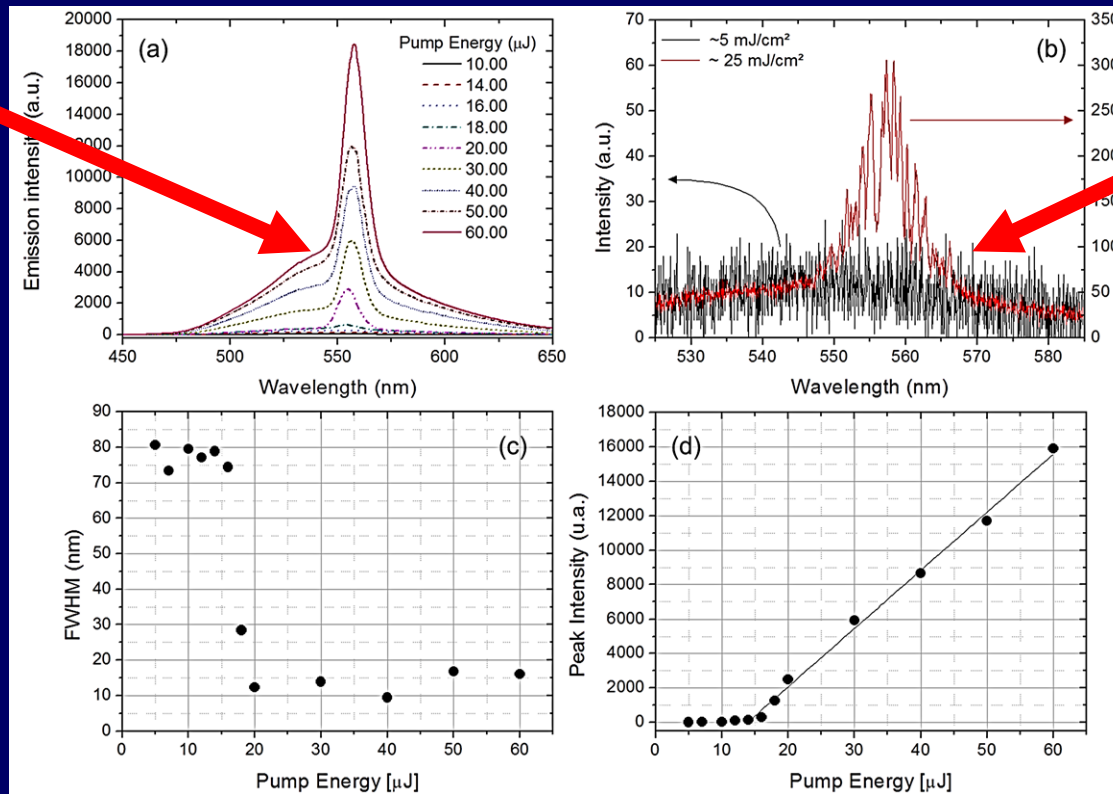
Opt. Express 22 (2014) 14305



Dye: APSS in DMSO

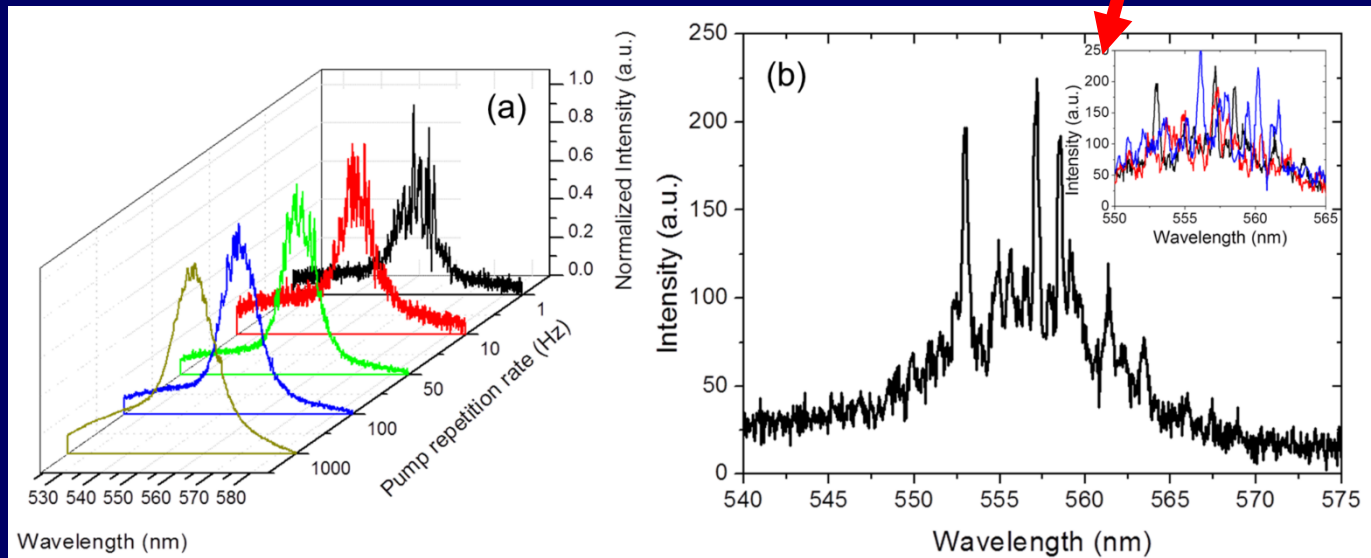
TiO₂ NPs dia:250 nm $2 \times 10^9/\text{cm}^3$

1 kHz



Single shot

Spectral profile
versus
repetition rate



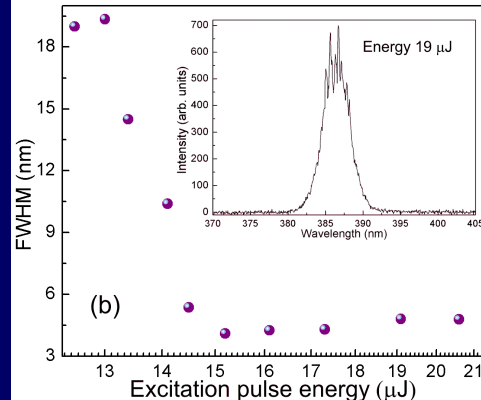
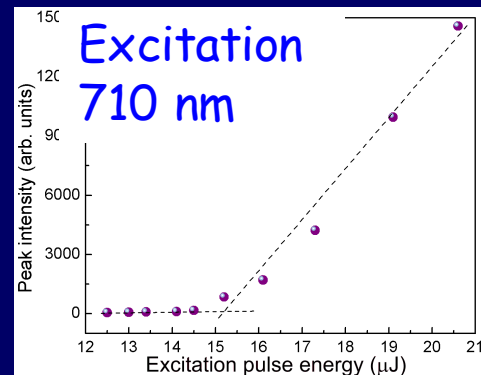
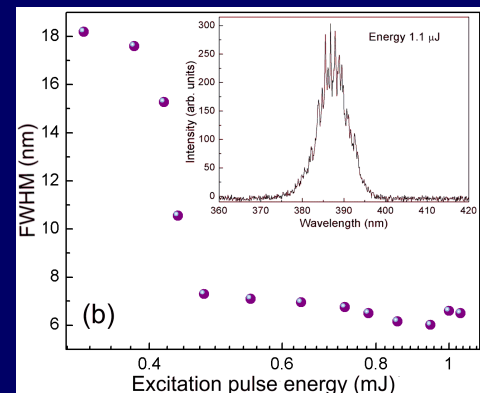
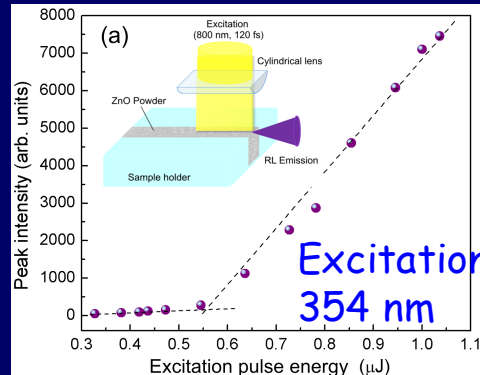
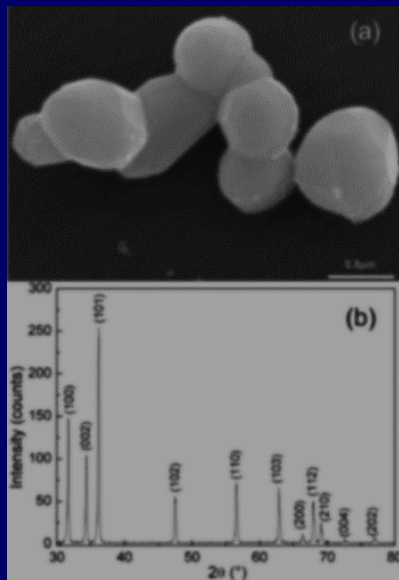


Cite this: *Nanoscale*, 2015, 7, 317

Multi-photon excited coherent random laser emission in ZnO powders

Christian Tolentino Dominguez,^{*a,c} Maria de A. Gomes,^b Zélia S. Macedo,^b Cid B. de Araújo^c and Anderson S. L. Gomes^{*c}

ZnO grains

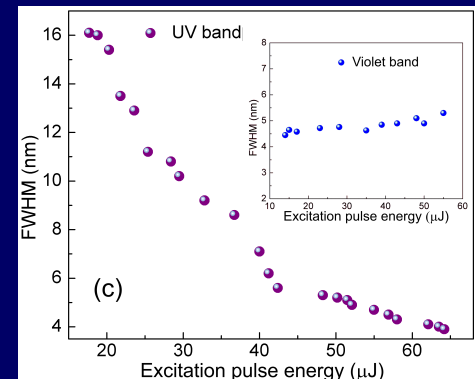
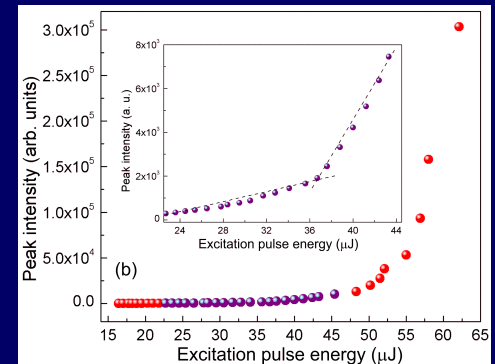
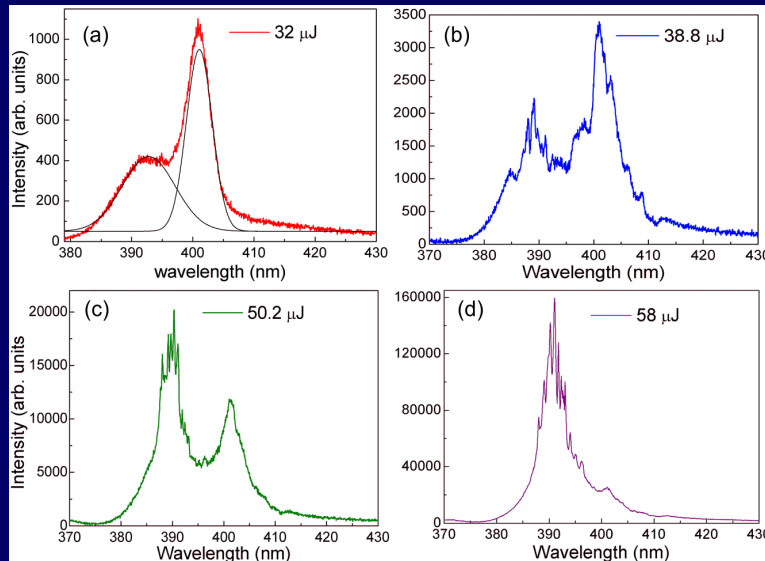


One-photon excitation

Two-photon excitation 29

Three - photon excitation

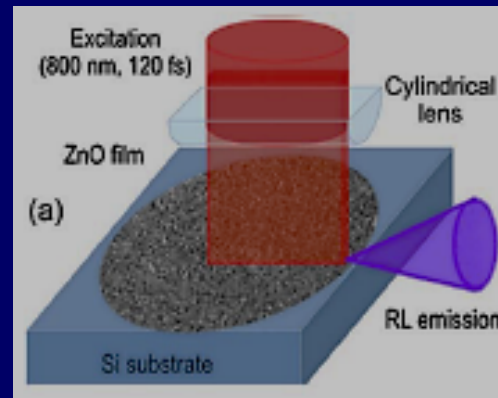
Excitation:
802 nm



Also ZnO films

Dominguez et al.

J. Opt. Soc. Am. B 31 (2014) 1975



Second-order parametric effects in Random Lasers

$$P = \epsilon_0 \chi^{(1)} E + \epsilon_0 [\chi^{(2)} E^2 + \chi^{(3)} E^3 + \chi^{(4)} E^4 \dots]$$

linear

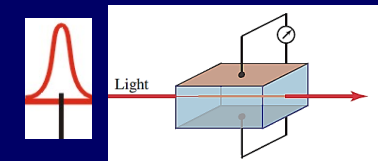
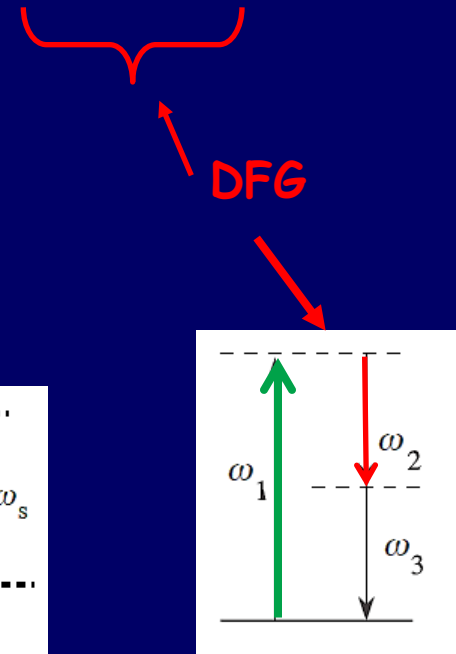
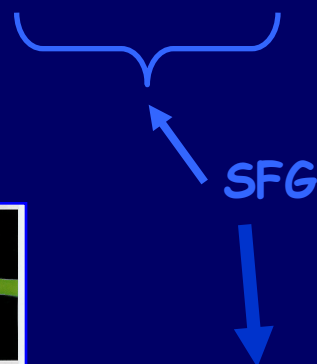
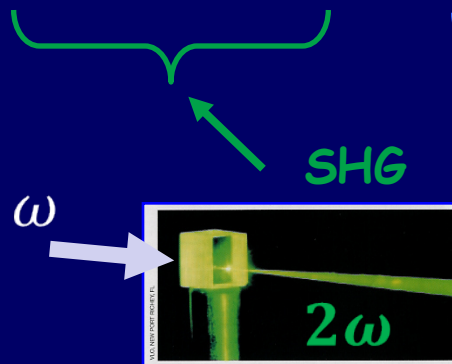
nonlinear

$\chi^{(2)}$ Second order polarization

$$P^{(2)} = \epsilon_0 \chi^{(2)} (E_1 \cos \omega_1 t + E_2 \cos \omega_2 t)^2 =$$

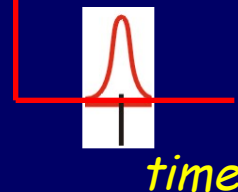
$$P_0^{(2)} + P_{2\omega_1}^{(2)} + P_{2\omega_2}^{(2)} + P_{\omega_1 + \omega_2}^{(2)} + P_{\omega_1 - \omega_2}^{(2)}$$

Optical rectification



Light pulse

Voltage



PAPER

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Cite this: *J. Mater. Chem. C*, 2015, 3, 11689

Structural and luminescence properties of $\text{Nd}^{3+}/\text{Yb}^{3+}$ codoped $\text{Al}_4\text{B}_2\text{O}_9$ nanocrystalline powders†

Lauro J. Q. Maia,^{*a} Fausto M. Faria Filho,^a Vladimir Jerez,^{bc} André L. Moura^{cd} and Cid B. de Araújo^c

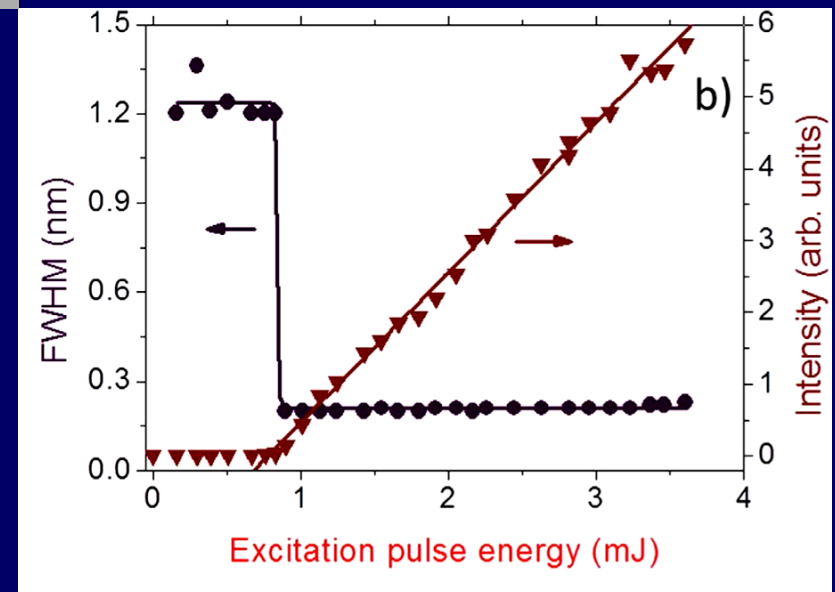
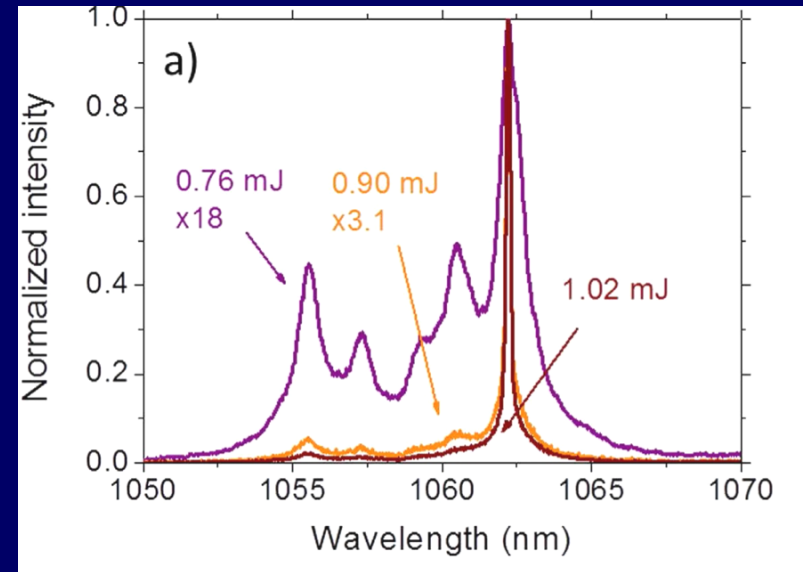
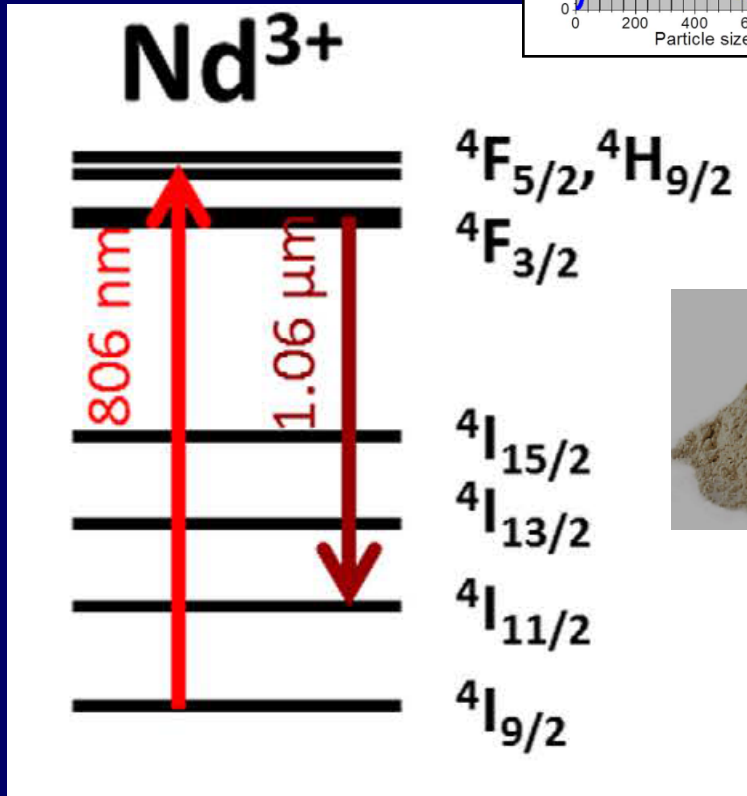
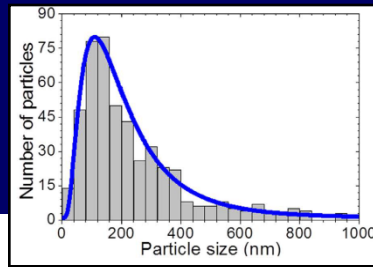
SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

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Multi-wavelength emission through self-induced second-order wave-mixing processes from a Nd^{3+} doped crystalline powder random laser

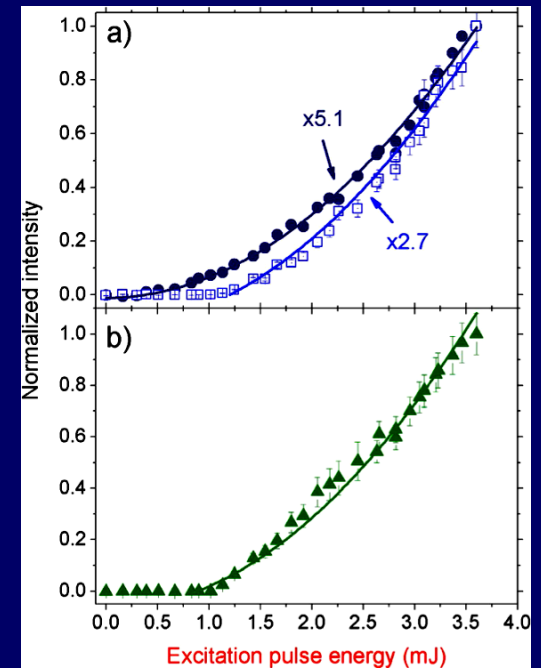
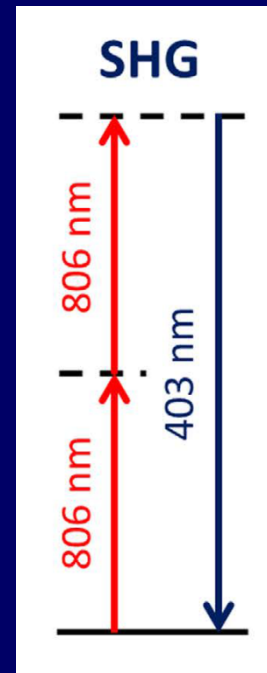
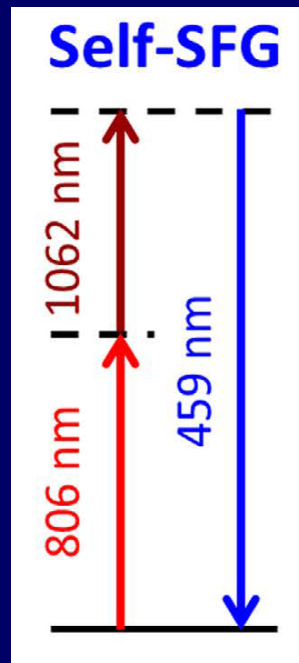
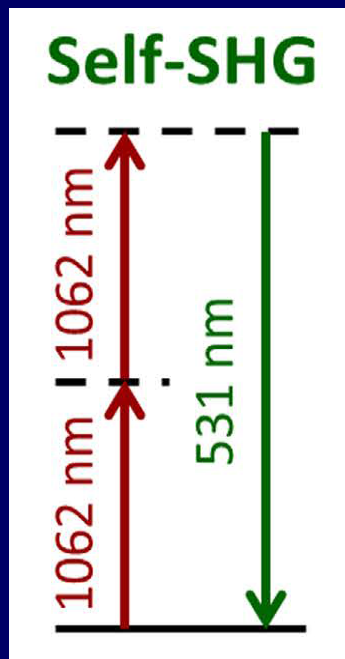
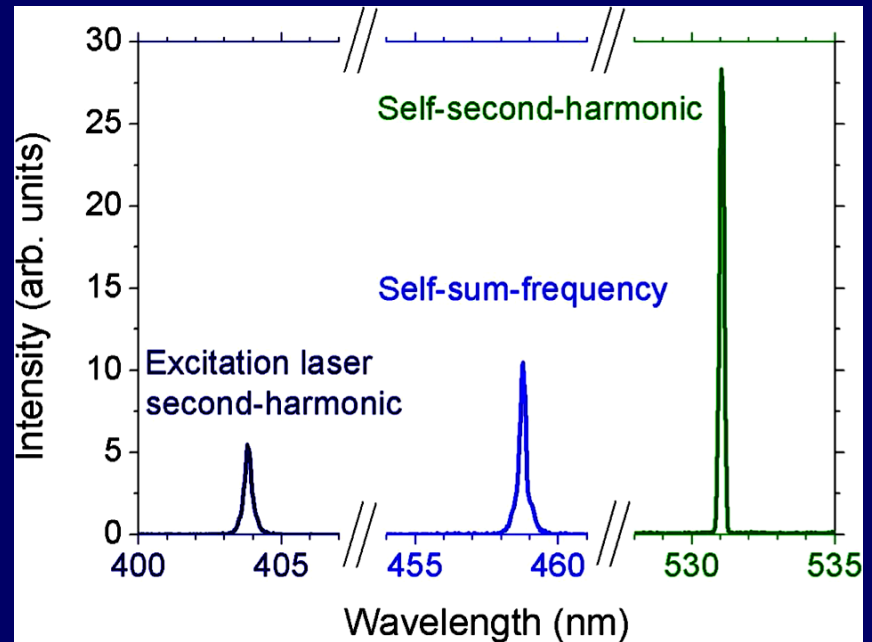
Received: 12 May 2015
Accepted: 07 August 2015
Published: 03 September 2015

André L. Moura^{1,2}, Vladimir Jerez^{2,3}, Lauro J. Q. Maia⁴, Anderson S. L. Gomes² & Cid B. de Araújo²



Stimulated emission + multiple
light scattering + second
harmonic generation + sum
frequency generation

Self-frequency conversion

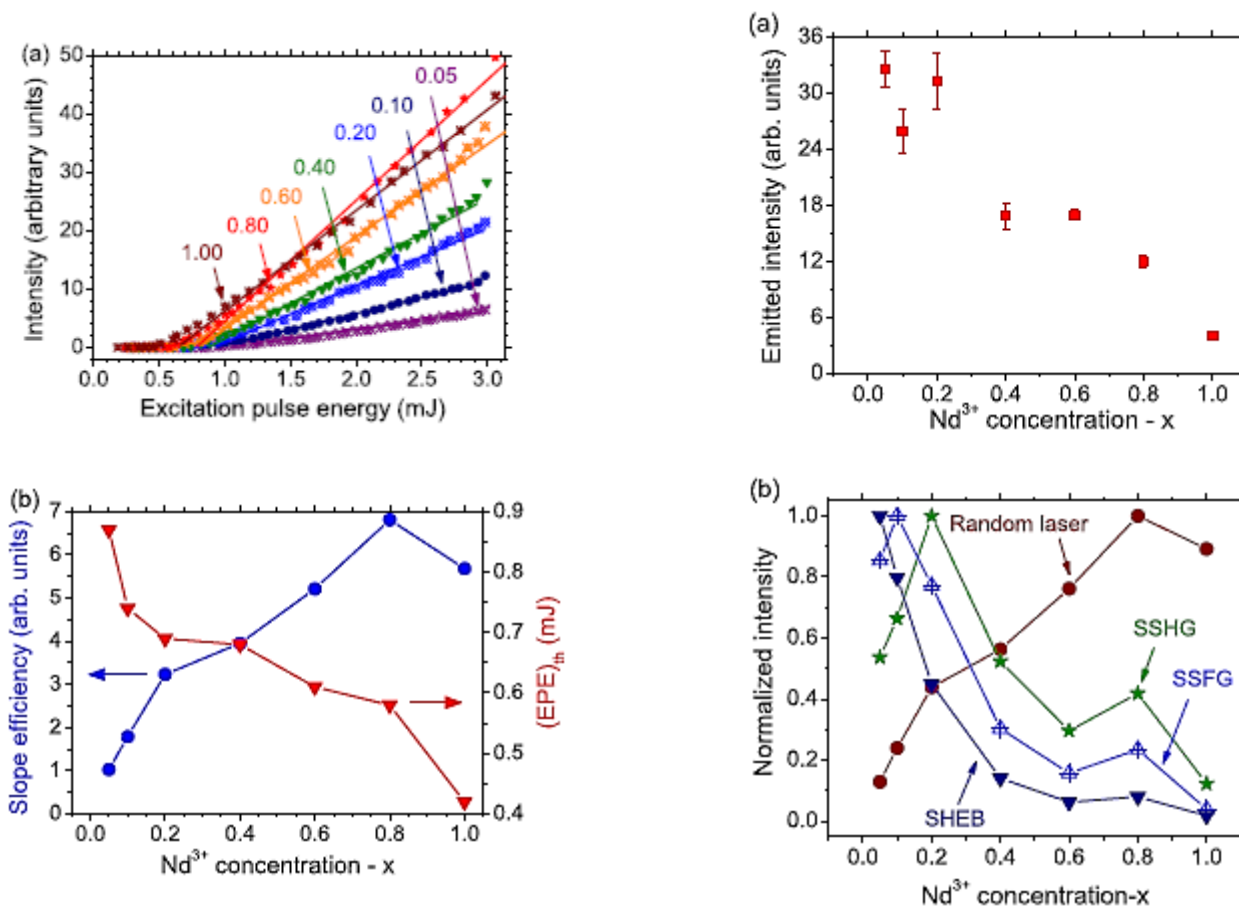


Optical Materials 54 (2016) 262–268

Interplay between random laser performance and self-frequency conversions in $\text{Nd}_x\text{Y}_{1.00-x}\text{Al}_3(\text{BO}_3)_4$ nanocrystals powders



Sandra J.M. Carreño^a, André L. Moura^{a,b,*}, Pablo I.R. Pincheira^a, Zanine V. Fabris^c, Lauro J.Q. Maia^c, Anderson S.L. Gomes^a, Cid B. de Araújo^a



SCIENTIFIC REPORTS



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Tunable ultraviolet and blue light generation from Nd:YAB random laser bolstered by second-order nonlinear processes

Received: 18 March 2016

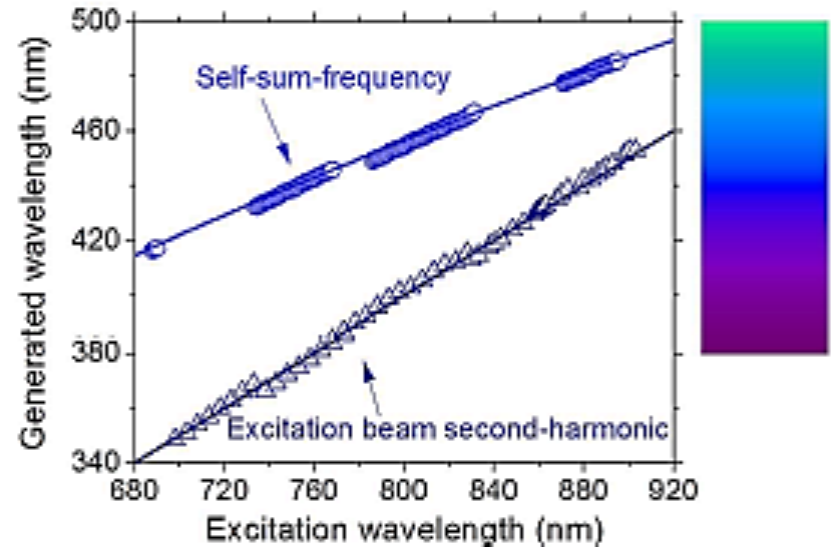
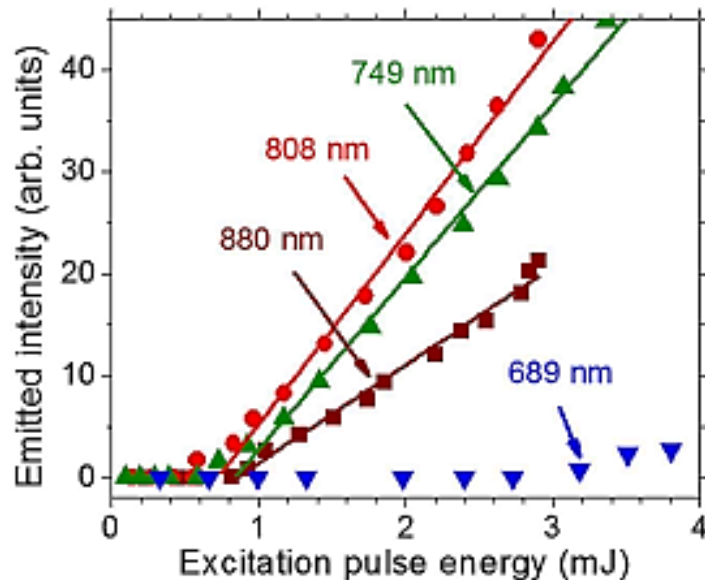
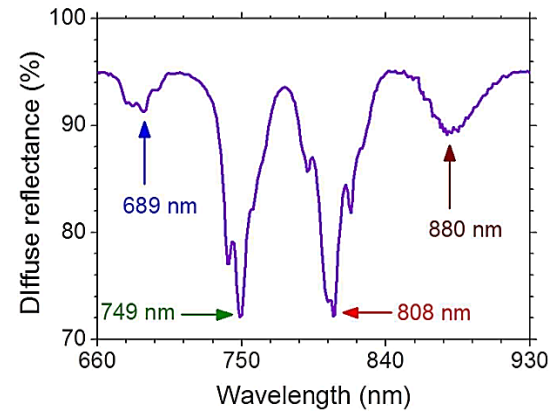
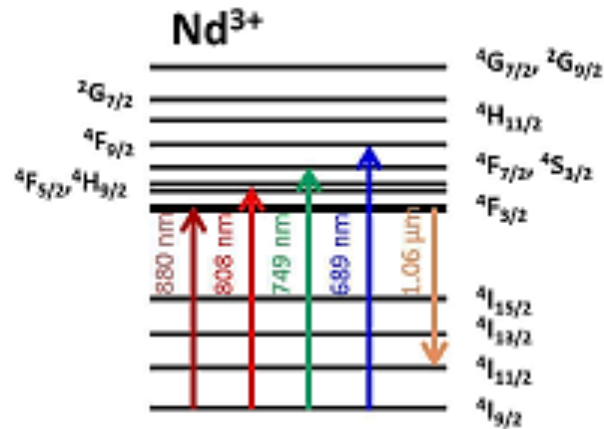
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Published: 01 June 2016

André L. Moura¹, Sandra J. M. Carreño², Pablo I. R. Pincheira², Zanine V. Fabris³,
Lauro J. Q. Maia³, Anderson S. L. Gomes² & Cid B. de Araújo²

Sci. Reports 6 (2016) 27107

$\text{Nd}_{0.10}\text{Y}_{0.90}\text{Al}_3(\text{BO}_3)_4$



Glassy Behavior of Light

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(Received 22 September 2005; published 16 February 2006)

We study the nonlinear dynamics of a multimode random laser using the methods of statistical physics of disordered systems. A replica-symmetry breaking phase transition is predicted as a function of the pump intensity. We thus show that light propagating in a random nonlinear medium displays glassy behavior; i.e., the photon gas has a multitude of metastable states and a nonvanishing complexity, corresponding to mode-locking processes in random lasers. The present work reveals the existence of new physical phenomena, and demonstrates how nonlinear optics and random lasers can be a benchmark for the modern theory of complex systems and glasses.

Experimental evidence of replica symmetry breaking in random lasers

N. Ghofraniha^{1,2,3}, I. Viola^{2,4}, F. Di Maria^{5,6}, G. Barbarella⁵, G. Gigli^{4,7}, L. Leuzzi^{1,2} & C. Conti²

Spin-glass theory is one of the leading paradigms of complex physics and describes condensed matter, neural networks and biological systems, ultracold atoms, random photonics and many other research fields. According to this theory, identical systems under identical conditions may reach different states. This effect is known as replica symmetry breaking and is revealed by the shape of the probability distribution function of an order parameter named the Parisi overlap. However, a direct experimental evidence in any field of research is still missing. Here we investigate pulse-to-pulse fluctuations in random lasers, we introduce and measure the analogue of the Parisi overlap in independent experimental realizations of the same disordered sample, and we find that the distribution function yields evidence of a transition to a glassy light phase compatible with a replica symmetry breaking.

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Observation of Lévy distribution and replica symmetry breaking in random lasers from a single set of measurements

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Published: 13 June 2016

Anderson S. L. Gomes¹, Ernesto P. Raposo², André L. Moura^{1,3}, Serge I. Fewo⁴,
Pablo I. R. Pincheira¹, Vladimir Jerez⁵, Lauro J. Q. Maia⁶ & Cid B. de Araújo¹

Letter

Vol. 41, No. 15 / August 1 2016 / Optics Letters

3459

Optics Letters

Observation of photonic paramagnetic to spin-glass transition in a specially designed TiO₂ particle-based dye-colloidal random laser

PABLO I. R. PINCHEIRA,¹ ANDRÉA F. SILVA,² SERGE I. FEWO,³ SANDRA J. M. CARREÑO,¹
ANDRÉ L. MOURA,^{1,4,*} ERNESTO P. RAPOSO,⁵ ANDERSON S. L. GOMES,¹ AND CID B. DE ARAÚJO¹

From the basic point of view:
disordered media are complex nonlinear
systems

Excellent platform to study
mesoscopic transport, laser physics,
nonlinear optics, quantum optics,
statistical physics, quantum chaos,
nonlinear dynamics, atomic physics,...

Thank you for your attention

Our work has been supported by the Brazilian agencies

