

Optoelectronic Terahertz Generation

Jean-François Lampin

Institute of Electronics, Microelectronics and Nanotechnology (IEMN)
UMR CNRS 8520, Lille University, B.P. 60069,
59652 Villeneuve d'Ascq Cedex, France

Outline



- Introducing me and my research group
- Some basic concepts
- The photomixing approach
- Photoconductors
- Photodiodes
- Applications of optoelectronic approach

Professional profile

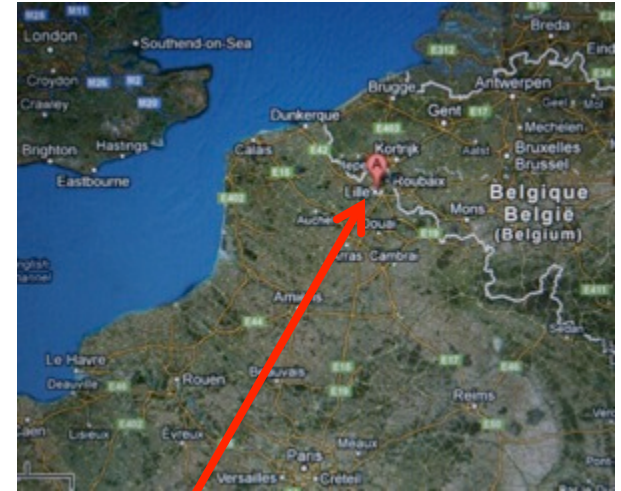
Dr. Jean-François Lampin

Academic researcher (Chargé de Recherche CNRS)



IEMN

Villeneuve d'Ascq



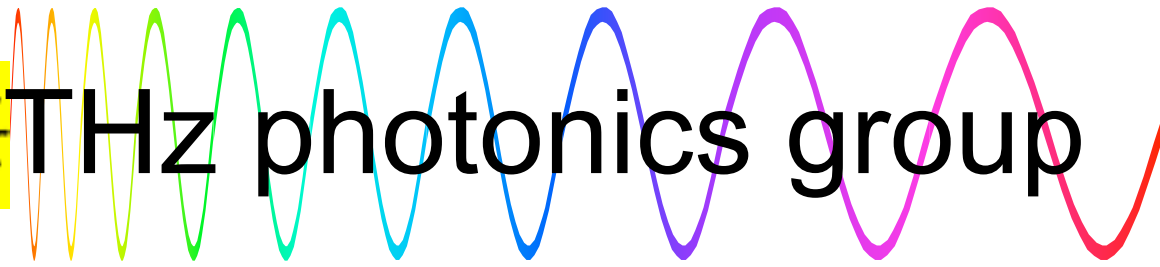
Lille, France

- 1994-1997 Master and PhD in Electronics (Lille University)
- 1997-1998 Post-doc Laboratoire d'Optique Appliquée (Polytechnique, Palaiseau)
- 1999: Permanent position at IEMN
- 2012: Head of THz Photonics Group

14 years of experience in the Terahertz domain



THz photonics group



Jean-François Lampin (CNRS)



Tahsin Akalin (Ass. Prof.)



Emilien Peytavit (CNRS)



Xiang-Lei Han (post-doc)



Guillaume Ducournau (Ass. Prof.)



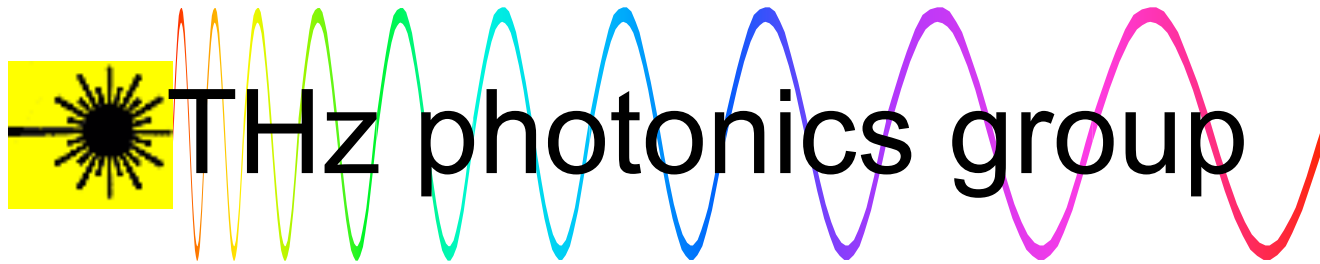
Mathias Vanwolleghem (CNRS)



Fabio Pavanello (PhD)



Philipp Latzel (PhD)

The logo for the THz photonics group features a yellow square on the left containing a black sunburst icon. To the right of the square, the text "THz photonics group" is written in a large, black, sans-serif font. A series of colorful, overlapping sine waves in shades of orange, yellow, green, cyan, blue, purple, and red are positioned behind the text, extending across the top of the slide.

THz photonics group

Research activities:

- Semiconductors for THz devices
- Integrated THz antennas and transmission lines
- THz communications
- THz spectroscopy (collaboration LPCA)
- Lasers for THz generation (collaboration PhLAM, IPR)

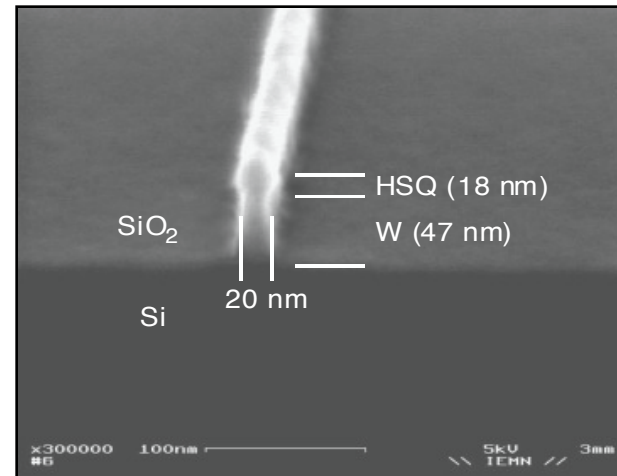
Set-ups:

- fs pump-probe and TDS
- 0.8 and 1.55 μm THz photomixing
- VNA up to 500 GHz (on-wafer probing)
- pwr meter, spectrum analyser up to 1 THz

Micro and Nano Clean room



III-V
Si

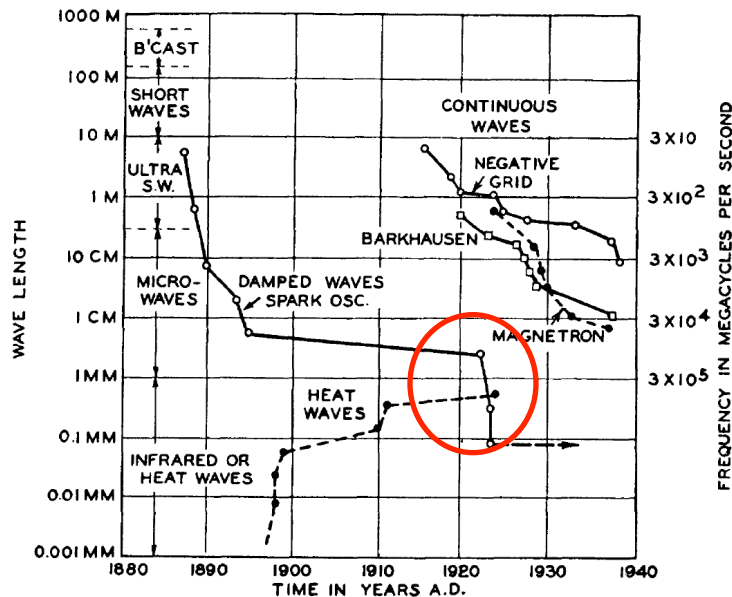


A brief historical introduction...

In the whole electromagnetic spectrum the Man can feel two ranges:

- 0.4 - 0.7 μm wavelength: the visible range (eye)
- 0.7 - $>1000 \mu\text{m}$ wavelength: the infrared range (skin)

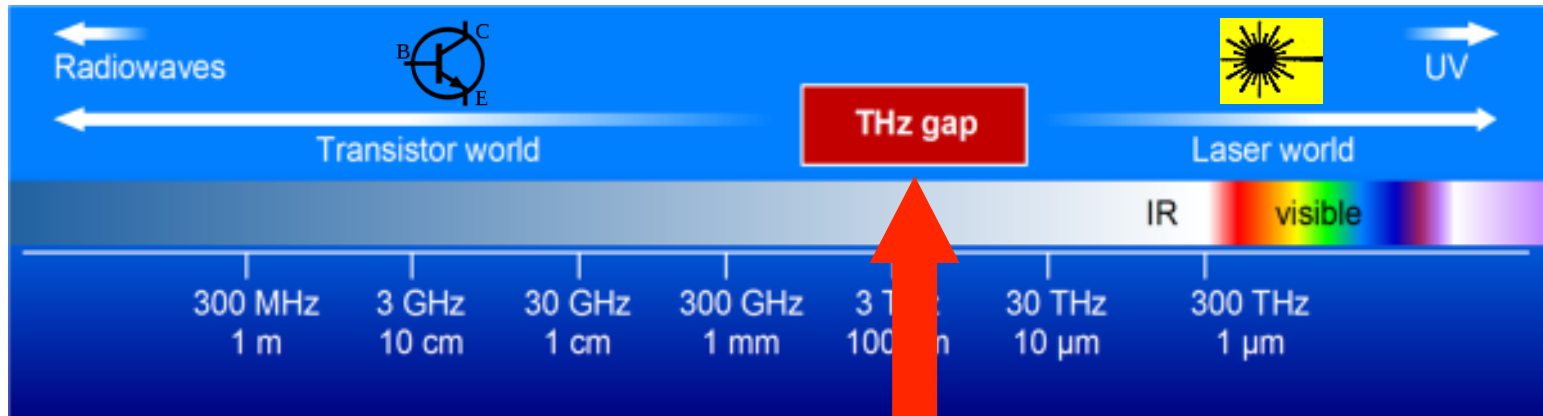
- Near-Infrared (radiant heat) was discovered by **W. Herschel** (1800)
- Mid and far-infrared were investigated by **H. Rubens** (1890-1922)
- **J.C. Bose** produced mm-waves using **Hertz's** technique (1896)



After the WWII:
Electronic tubes reach the
submmW at the end of the
50's

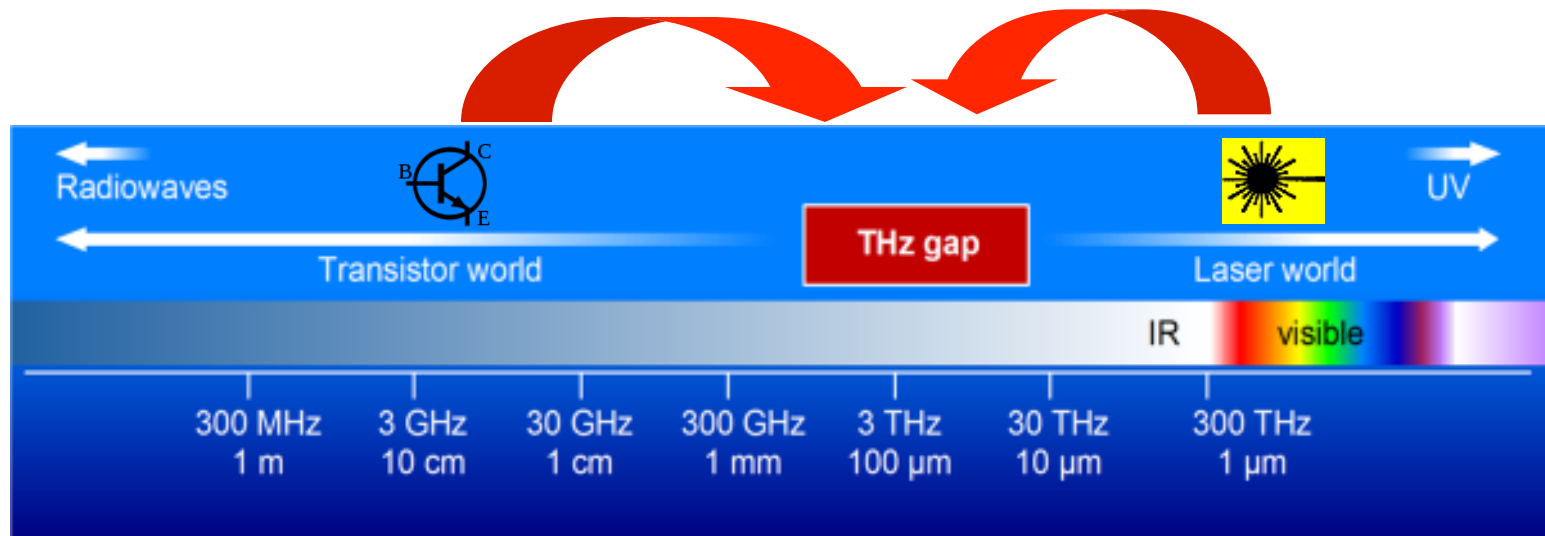
Solid state sources ?

Some basic concepts



THz generation : direct generation is difficult ! (ex: QCL)

Some basic concepts



⇒ Powerful source + non-linear phenomenon

- « Transistor world » source + harmonic generation
- « Laser world » source + ?

Non-linear optics

⇒ Transparent crystals

Electric field is large ⇒ electron clouds of atoms do not respond linearly

$$\vec{P} = \varepsilon_0 \left(\chi^{(1)} \vec{E} + \chi^{(2)} \vec{E}\vec{E} + \chi^{(3)} \vec{E}\vec{E}\vec{E} + \dots \right)$$

Electric field of light wave

$$\cos(\omega_1 t) \times \cos(\omega_2 t) = \frac{1}{2} \left[\cos((\omega_1 + \omega_2)t) + \cos((\omega_1 - \omega_2)t) \right]$$

Difference frequency

Example: $\lambda \approx 1 \mu\text{m}$, $\nu_1 = 301 \text{ THz}$, $\nu_2 = 300 \text{ THz}$, $\Delta\nu = 1 \text{ THz}$

Avantage: if the laser is tunable (a few %), the THz source is widely tunable !

Wave – particule duality

Particule



Photon

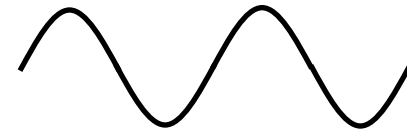
- Energy
- moment



$$E = h\nu$$

$$\vec{P} = \hbar\vec{k}$$

Wave

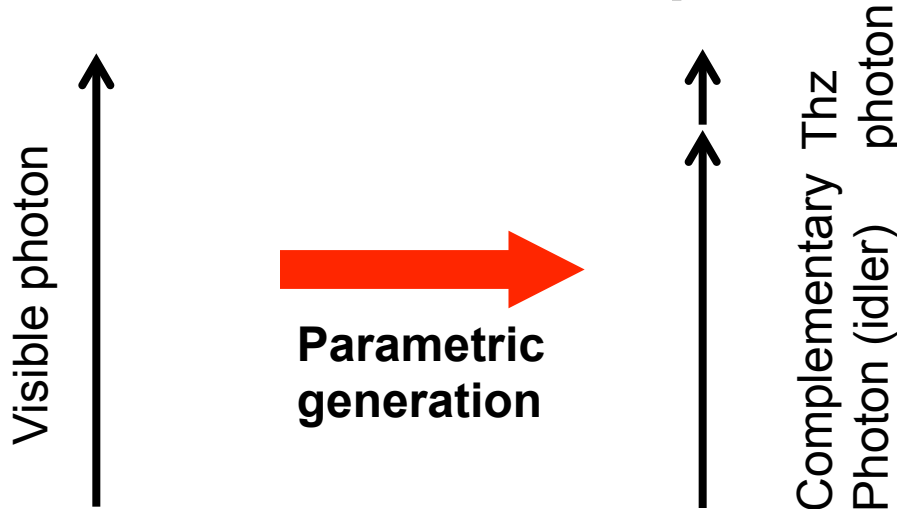


Electromagnetic Wave

- Frequency
- Wave vector

Two aspects of the same phenomenon...

Non-linear optics THz generation

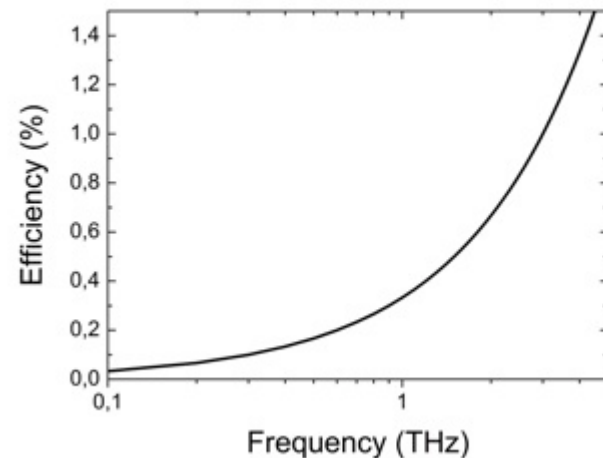


Non-linear dielectric (crystal)

Use the photon concept:

- $E = h\nu$
- Energy must be conserved

$$\lambda = 1 \mu\text{m}, \nu_{vis} = 300 \text{ THz}$$



1 visible photon \Rightarrow 1 THz photon
Maximum power efficiency:

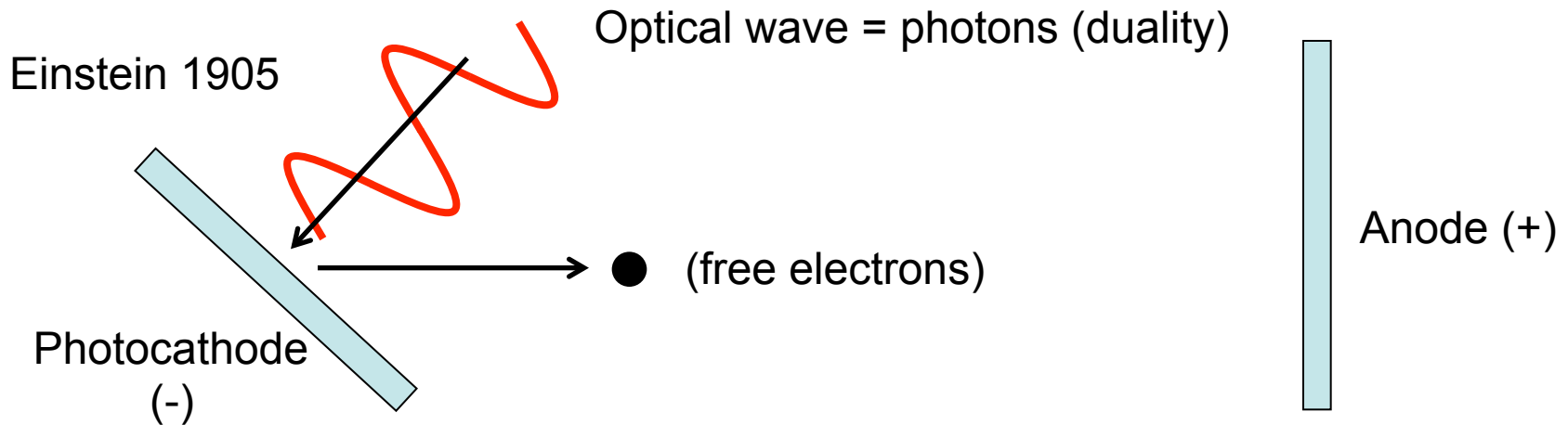
$$\eta = \frac{P_{THz}}{P_{vis}} = \frac{\nu_{THz}}{\nu_{vis}}$$

Manley-Rowe equation

- Efficiency is very low ($\ll 1\%$ @ 1THz)
- Non-linear crystal + high power pulsed laser

Optoelectronic approach

Photoelectric effect is intrinsically non-linear !



One photon \Rightarrow one free electron (if quantum eff.=1)

Photocurrent \propto Number of electrons \propto Number of photons \propto optical power $\propto |E|^2$

Non-linearity: photoelectric effect + Poynting vector

Electric field of light wave

Photoelectric mixing = Photomixing the Forrester experiment

On the Possibility of Observing Beat Frequencies between Lines in the Visible Spectrum

A. THEODORE FORRESTER, WILLIAM E. PARKINS,
AND EDWARD GERJUOY

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California

August 29, 1947

PHYSICAL REVIEW

VOLUME 99, NUMBER 6

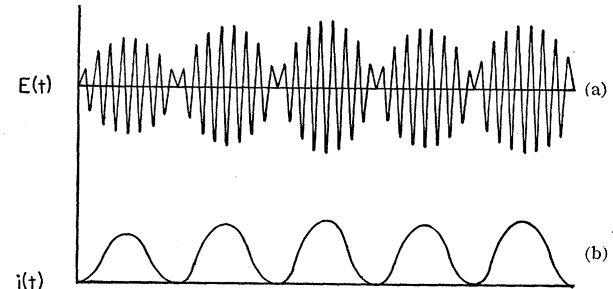
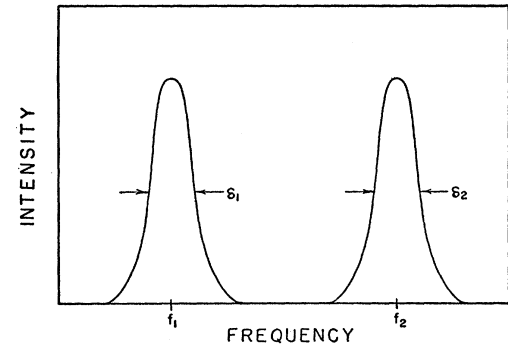
SEPTEMBER 15, 1955

Photoelectric Mixing of Incoherent Light*

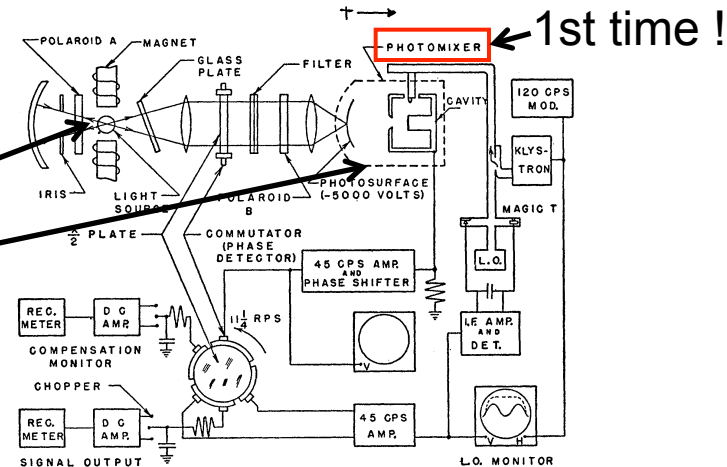
A. THEODORE FORRESTER,† RICHARD A. GUDMUNDSEN,‡ AND PHILIP O. JOHNSON§
University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California

(Received April 20, 1955)

Beats have been obtained between incoherent light sources by mixing Zeeman components of a visible spectral line at a photosurface. Periodicity in emission was observed through the excitation of a 3-cm cavity. Because of incoherence between the spectral lines and incoherence between the beats from different photocathode areas, the signal-to-shot-noise ratio at the cavity is only 3×10^{-3} but the beats were modulated optically, while maintaining constant total intensity and our receiver was able to yield a signal-to-noise ratio of two at the indicator. The basic idea is that, in the photoelectric process, the emission probability for electrons is proportional to the square of the resultant electric field amplitude, implying an interference between light originating in independent sources. This is a point of view which does not appear to be tested in any other experiment involving quantum effects. The experiment also demonstrates that any time delay between photon absorption and electron release must be significantly less than 10^{-19} second.



Hg Lamp + Zeeman effect
Photoelectric tube
Generation of ultra-low power at 10 GHz !



J.-F. Lampin

History: photomixing with lasers

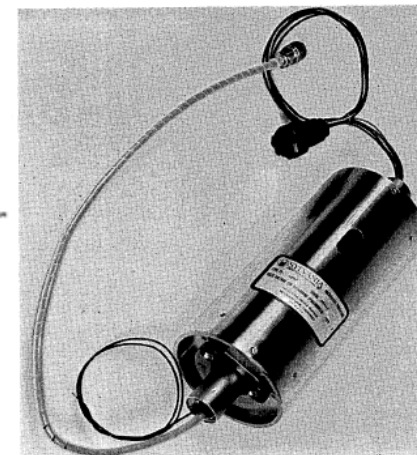
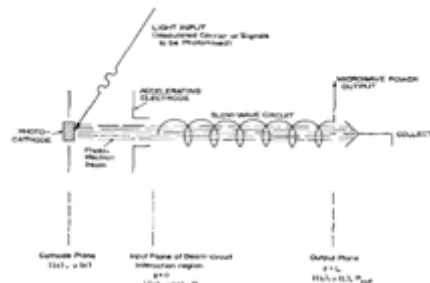
1960: The ruby LASER is invented by T. Maiman

Photomixing Experiments with a Ruby Optical Maser and a Traveling-Wave Microwave Phototube

B. J. McMurtry and A. E. Siegman

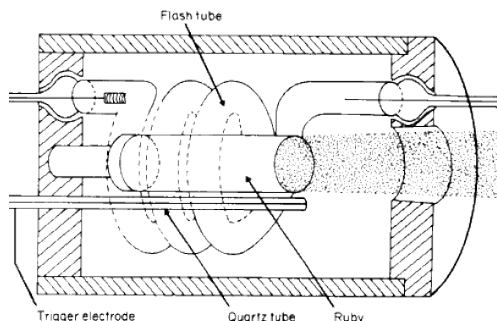
1962

A standard oxide-cathode S-band traveling-wave tube has been used as an improvised microwave phototube to study the coherent light output from a ruby optical maser (laser). The laser's output consists of simultaneous, discrete optical components separated by the mode interval of 600 Mc/s between axial modes in the 12.5 cm laser rod. These components heterodyne in the TWT cathode to produce easily observed microwave outputs within the TWT bandwidth, corresponding to photobeats between third-through seventh-nearest-neighbor axial modes. This technique is a powerful tool for the study of optical masers, and also has important implications for communications via microwave-modulated light.



Sylvania SY4302
Microwave Phototube (1962)

Beating of modes of a ruby laser:
1-5 GHz



- Not CW !
 - Pulsed output with huge peak power
 - Not monomode
- ⇒ Several frequency that can beat

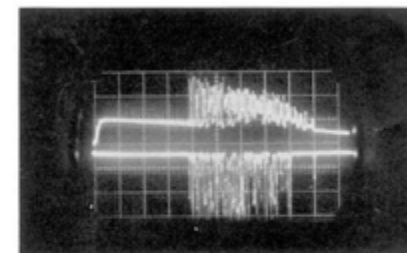
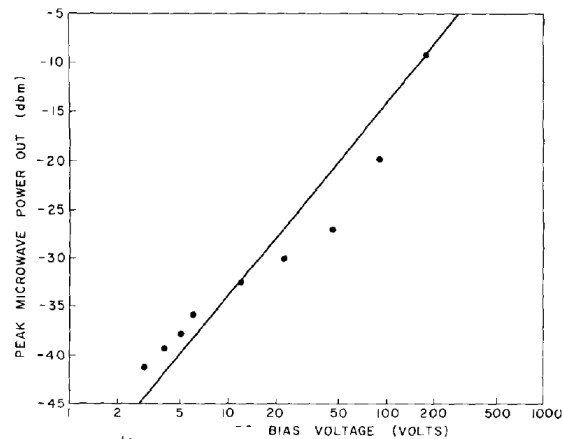


Fig. 1. Upper trace: light output from the laser. Lower trace: microwave output from the TWT helix. Sweep speed: 100 μ sec/div. Sweep triggers at start of laser pumping flash.

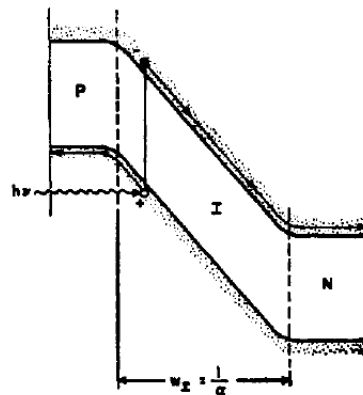
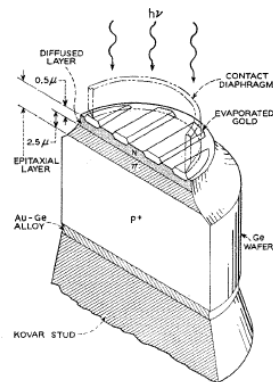
Solid-state photomixing

Semiconductors: photons with enough energy can create free carriers (similar to photoelectric effect)



Di Domenico (1962):

- Ruby laser + CdSe photoconductor
- A few GHz



In the 1960s:

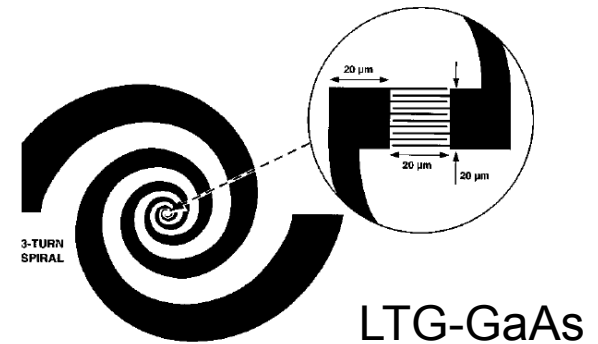
- First demonstrations of Ge pin photodiodes
- Photomixing with He-Ne lasers at few GHz

The THz range ?

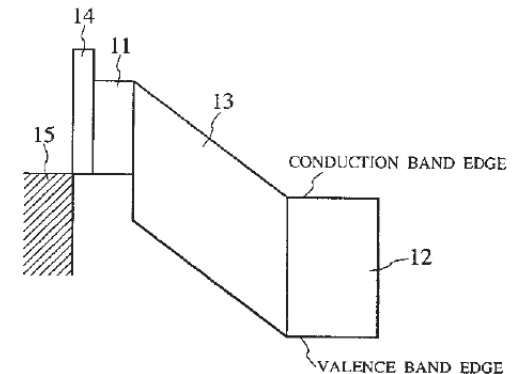
THz generation using photomixing is possible but:
A robust THz bandwidth photodetector is needed !

Two approaches:

- Photoconductor: Elliott Brown et al. (1995)



- New photodiodes: Tadao Ishibashi et al. (1997)

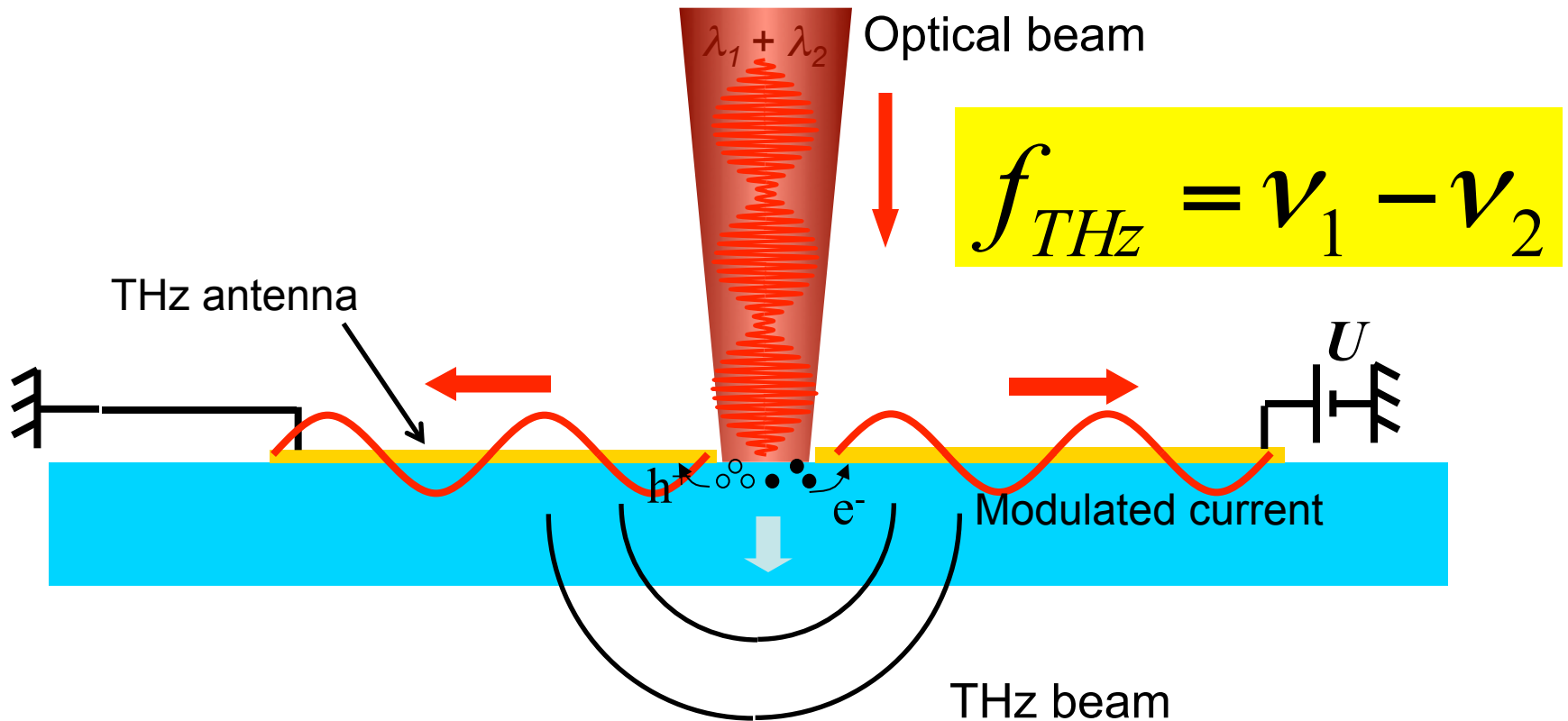


- 11... p-TYPE LIGHT ABSORPTION LAYER
- 12... n-TYPE ELECTRODE LAYER
- 13... CARRIER TRAVELING LAYER
- 14... p-TYPE CARRIER BLOCK LAYER
- 15... ANODE ELECTRODE
- 16... CATHODE ELECTRODE
- 17... SEMI-INSULATING SUBSTRATE

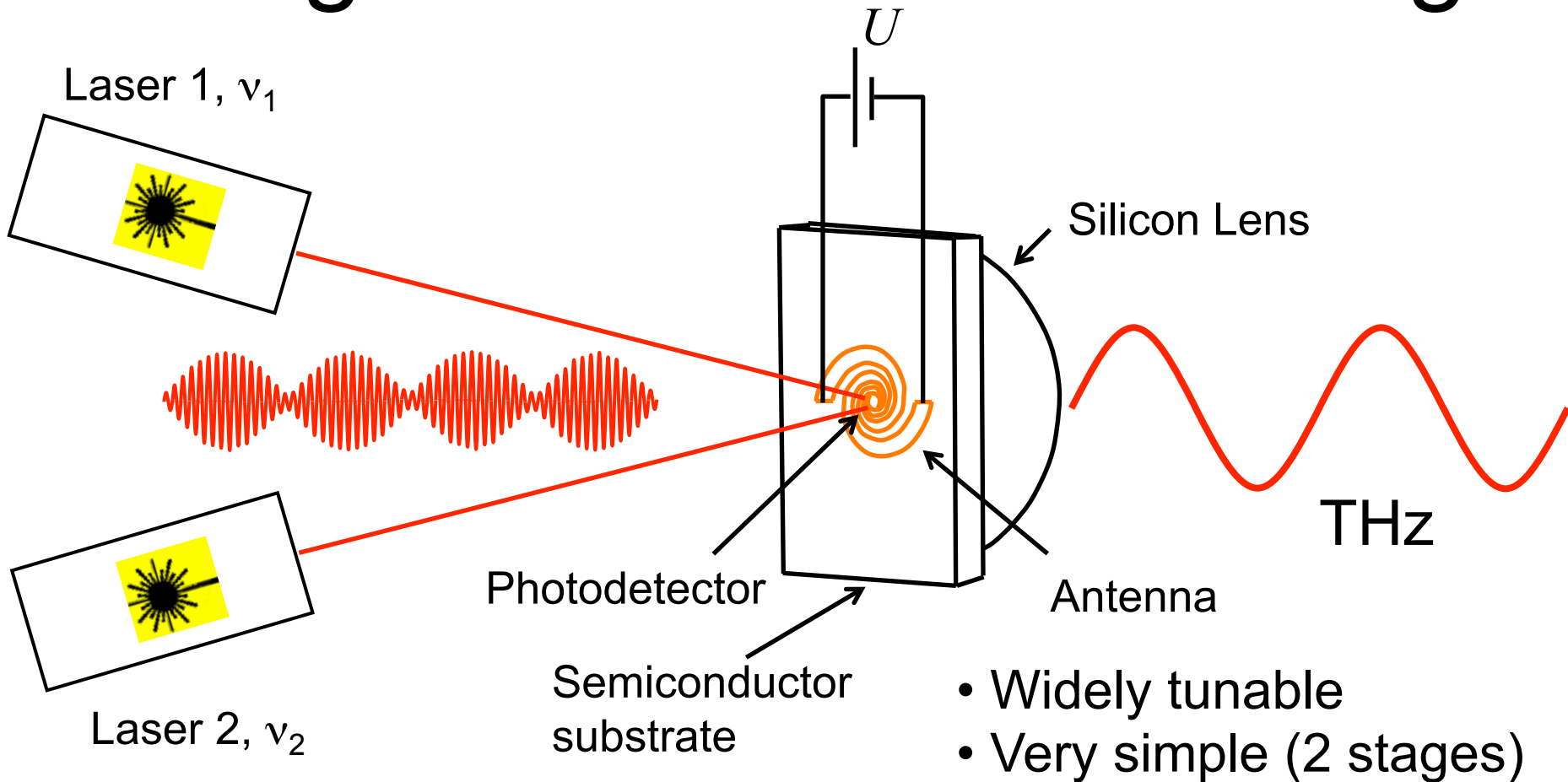
UTC-PD

Semiconductor THz photomixer

- The photodetector generates a photocurrent modulated at the beating frequency
- At THz frequencies, λ_{THz} is small, an antenna can be directly integrated



THz generation: Photomixing

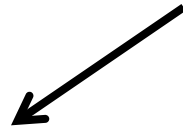


Difference with non-linear optics: free carriers are accelerated !

Photodetectors

THz photodetectors:

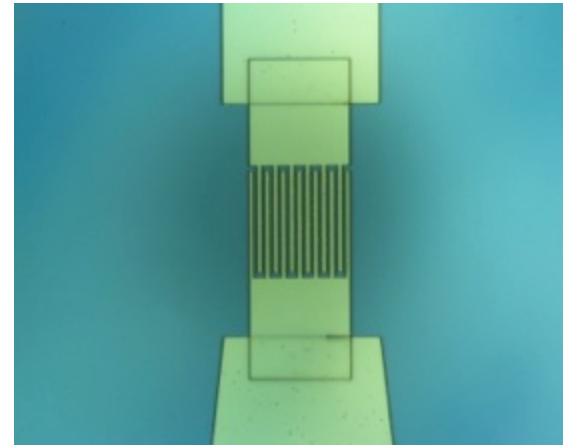
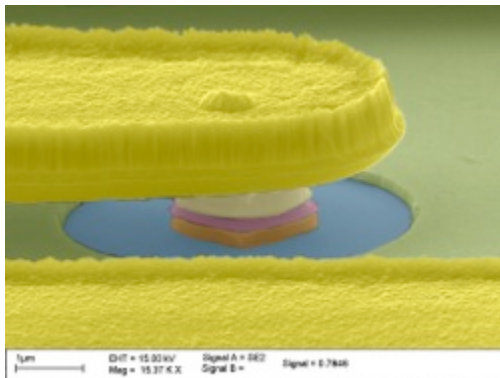
2 families: **Photodiodes** and **Photoconductors**



- Internal electric field (pin)
- Limited by transit-time and RC

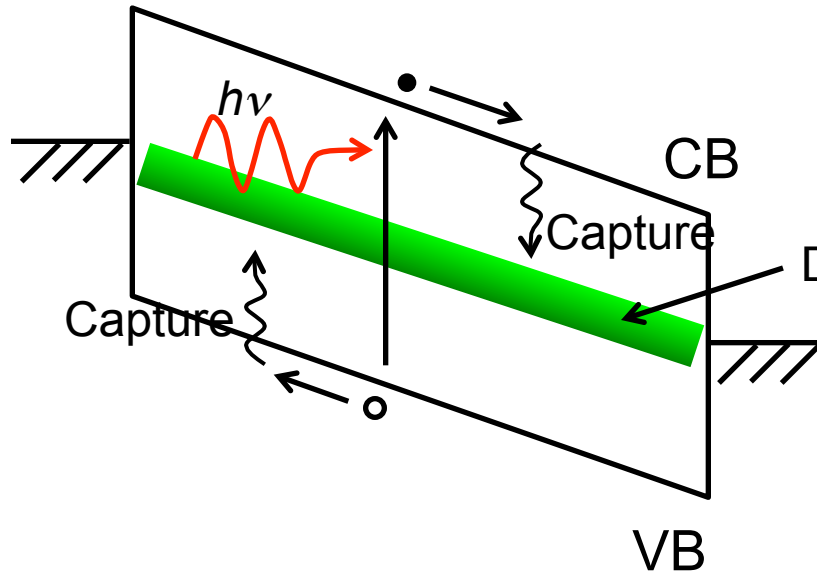


- No internal electric field
- Limited by lifetime and RC
- Usable also for detection



Photoconductors

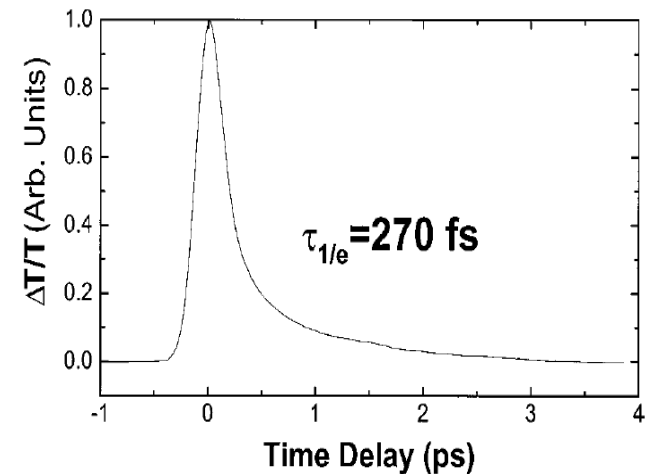
Low-temperature-grown GaAs is the preferred material



Biased photoconductor

MBE growth at low temperature ($\approx 200^\circ\text{C}$)
 \Rightarrow Defects

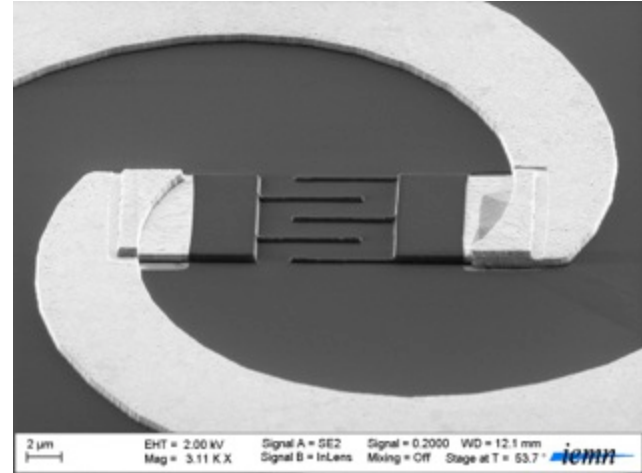
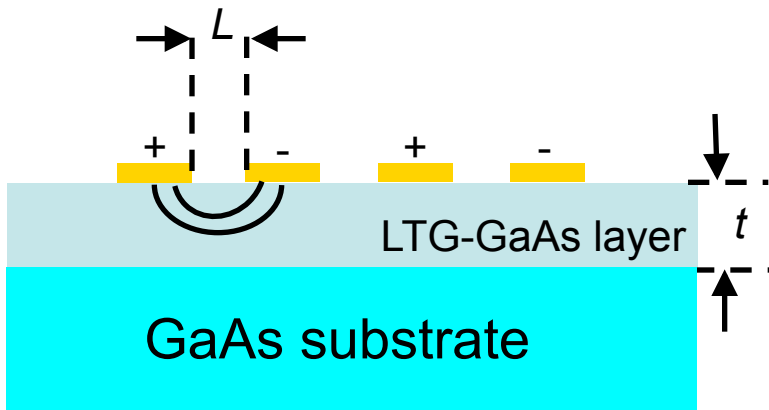
Defect states (semi-insulating)



Time resolved pump-probe measurement
(Carrier lifetime)

Planar photoconductors

Standard approach:
Interdigitated structure



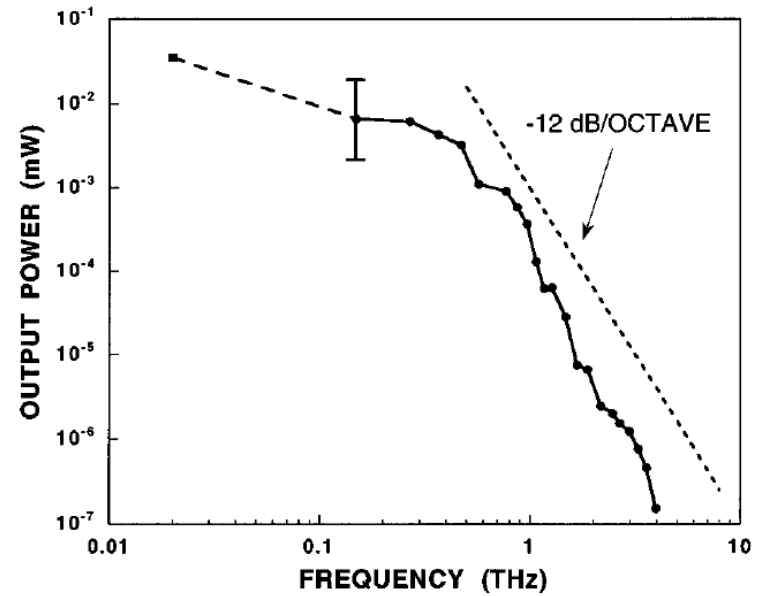
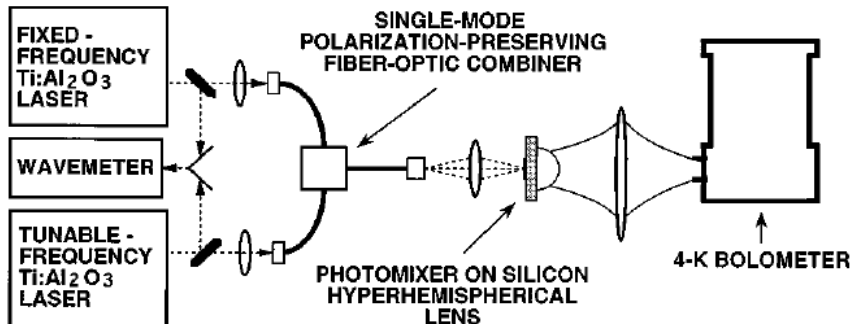
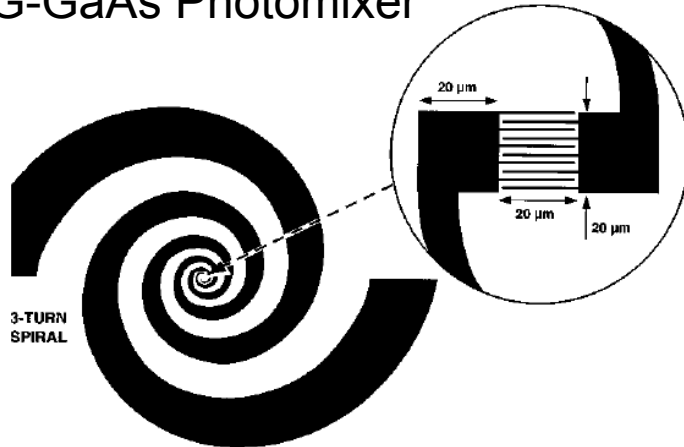
$t \approx 1\text{-}2 \mu\text{m}$ (absorption in GaAs)
 L : same order

- Easy process
- Low capacitance
- Almost 100% light absorbed (AR coating)

For 1 ps lifetime:
Responsivity \approx **0.01 A/W at 10 V**
Quite low !

First THz photomixers

LTG-GaAs Photomixer



Brown *et al.* (1995)
 Efficiency $\approx 10^{-3} \%$ @ 1 THz !
 Second order roll-off:

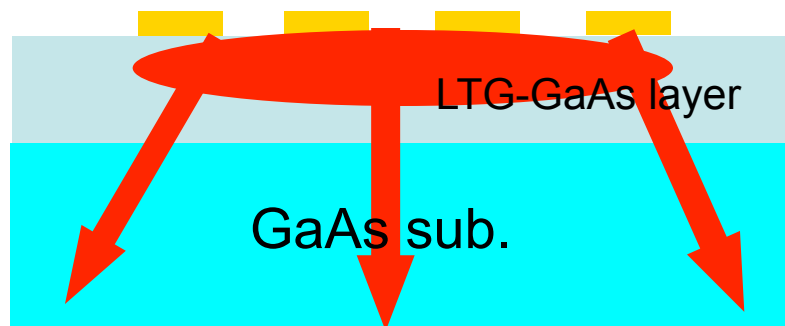
- Carrier lifetime
- RC time constant

Thermal aspects

Maximum output power is limited by **thermal destruction** !

Thermal conductivity of GaAs: 45 W/m/K (Si: 150 W/m/K !)

Thermal conductivity of LTG-GaAs: ≈ 20 W/m/K



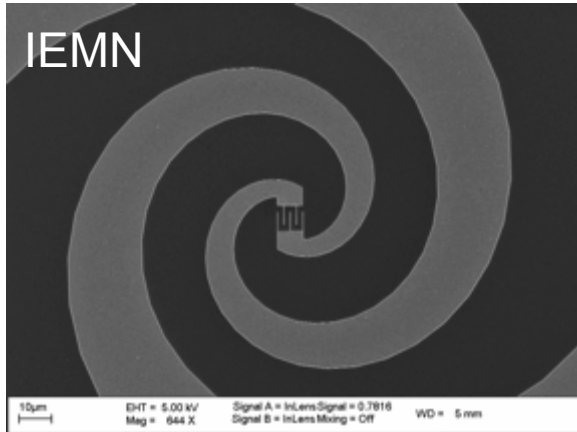
- Spreading of heat through a thick and low thermal conductance layer
- Low thermal conductivity substrate

≈ 100 mW is generally the maximum for $10 \times 10 \mu\text{m}^2$ photoconductor

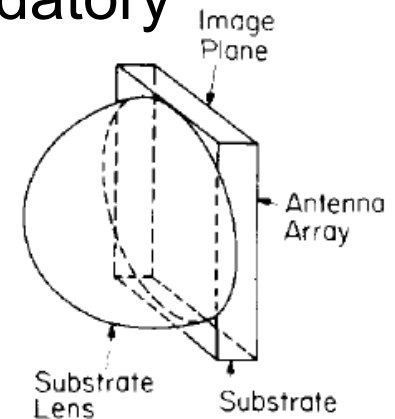
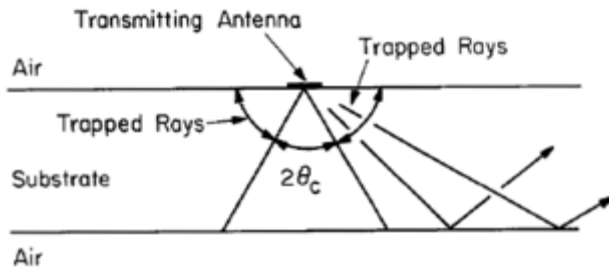
\approx **100 kW/cm²**

\Rightarrow 1-2 mA maximum at 10-15 V $\Rightarrow V_0/I_0 \approx$ **5-10 k Ω**

Self-complementary spiral antenna



- Self-complementary spiral antenna:
- Compact and simple geometry
 - Circular polarization
 - Widely used with LTG-GaAs THz photomixers
 - Silicon lens mandatory



$$Z_{Ant} Z_{Comp} = \frac{Z_0^2}{4}$$

$$Z_{SC} = \frac{Z_0}{2} = 188.5\Omega$$

71 Ω on GaAs
 << source impedance

Impedance of the ∞ antenna is purely resistive

Power delivered to the antenna

If $V_0/I_0 \gg R_L$ the source can be considered as a current source :

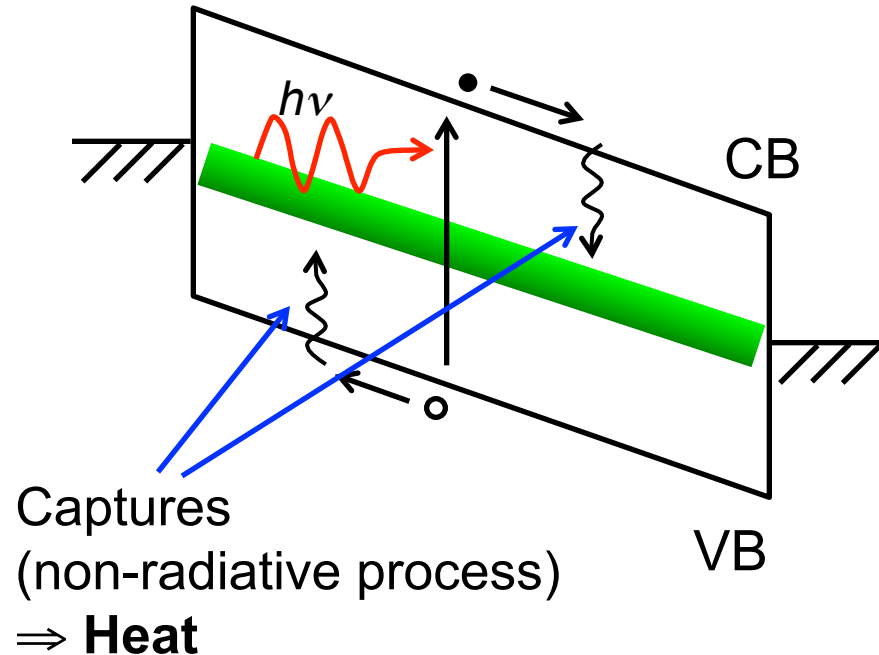
$$P_L = \frac{1}{2} R_L I_0^2 \frac{1}{(1 + \omega^2 \tau_c^2)(1 + \omega^2 R_L^2 C^2)}$$

More power:

- Increase R_L and I_0
- Decrease τ_c and C

- *Increase I_0 , decrease C , τ_c : thermal limit ...*
- *The antenna impedance (R_L) is always small (for large bandwidth antennas)*

Efficiency



We need the lasers photons to create free carriers but the energy provided is totally transformed in **heat** !

- If the bias voltage is zero \Rightarrow no THz (free carriers are not accelerated)
- In the fact the only the DC power is partially transformed to THz !

$$\eta_{elec,max} = \frac{P_L}{P_{dc}} = \frac{1}{8} \times \frac{4}{3} = \frac{1}{6}$$

16.67% if impedance matching is achieved

$$\eta_{total,max} = \frac{P_L}{P_{dc} + P_{opt}}$$

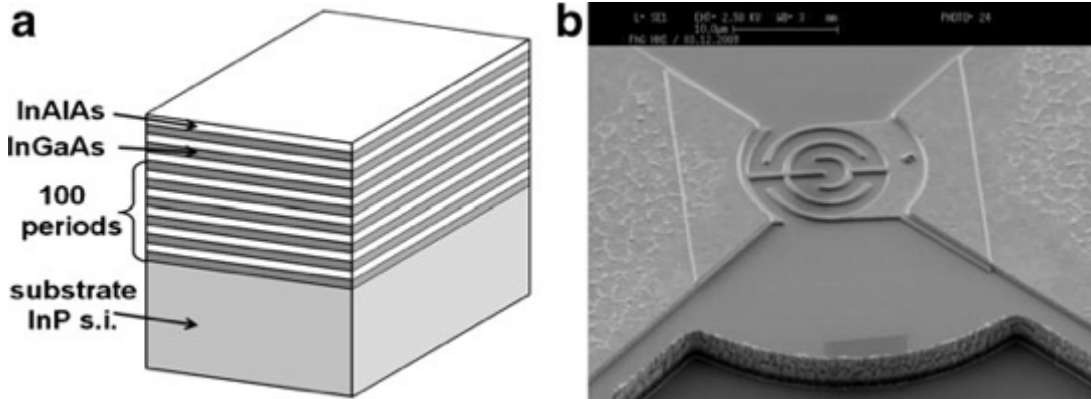
1.55 μm photoconductors

Why ?

- Longer wavelength: more photons/W (efficiency increased)
- Telecom wavelength

LTG-GaAs is not suitable

The gap of InGaAs : Mobility of carriers is higher



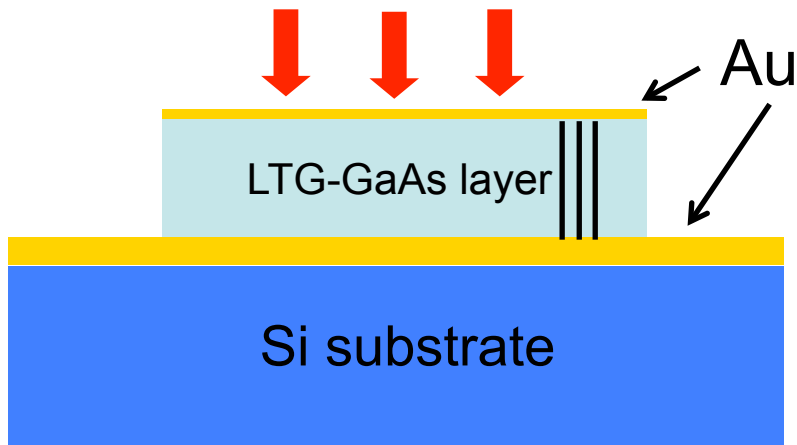
4.5 μW @500 GHz
 $P_{opt} = 20 \text{ mW}$

Stanze *et al.* (2010)

Increasing efficiency: vertical PC

IEMN new photomixer concept:

Vertical structure + Fabry-Perot resonance



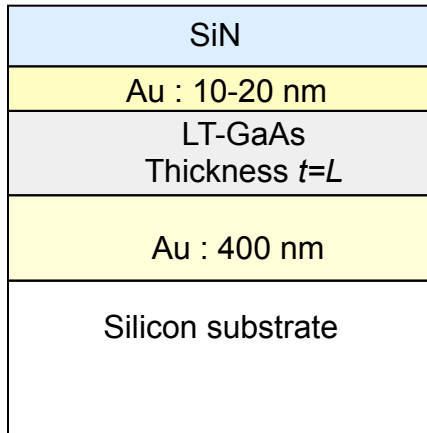
Advantages:

- Higher responsivity
- More uniform (E-field)
- Higher thermal conductivity

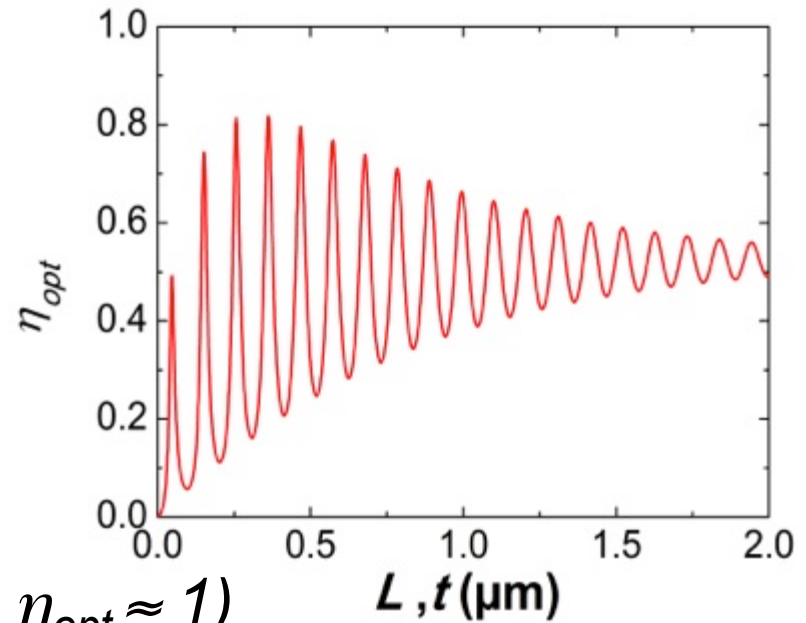
Drawbacks:

- Higher capacitance per unit area
- Bonding process (1 more step)

The vertical resonant photodetector



Bias electrodes
AND
Mirror cavity



Thickness can be reduced (but with $\eta_{opt} \approx 1$)

⇒ same number of carriers in smaller volume ⇒ increase of conductance

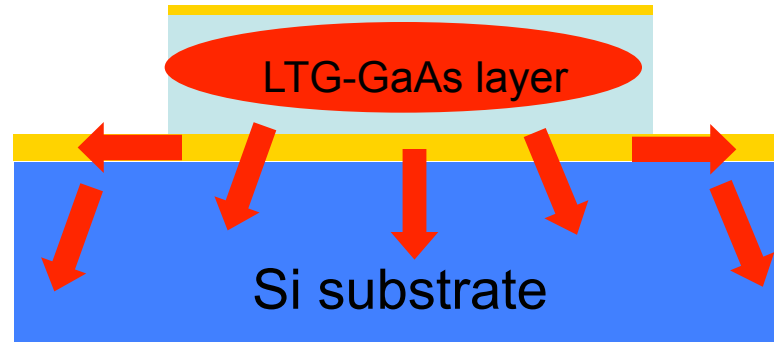
⇒ **Responsivity is higher (more current)**

⇒ Electric field is higher for the same voltage

⇒ **Responsivity is higher at a lower voltage**

Lower impedance !

Thermal aspects

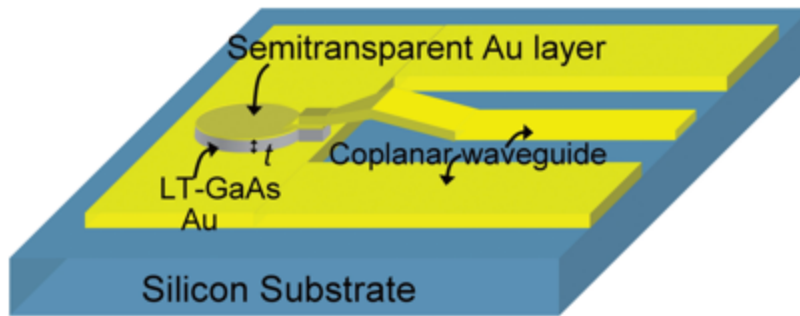


- LTG-GaAs layer is **thinner**
- Silicon substrate has a **higher thermal conductivity**
- Gold layer can also acts as a **heat spreader**
- Non-absorbed optical power is **reflected**

⇒ Vertical structure is far better

We have obtained destruction for $> 600 \text{ kW/cm}^2$!

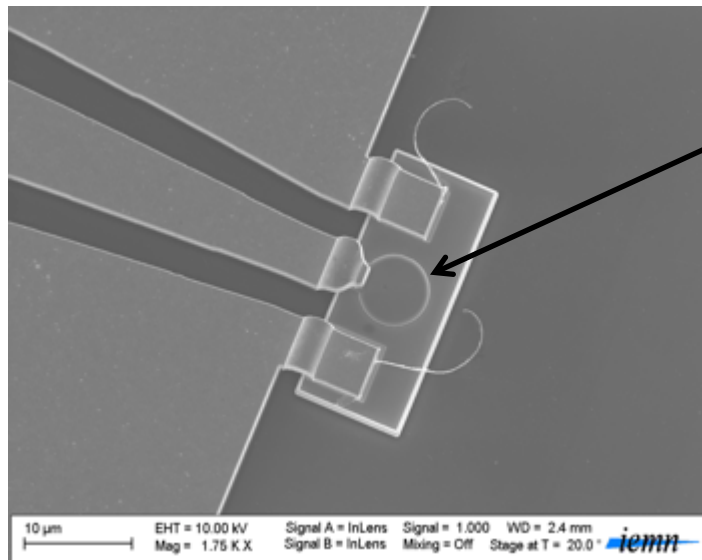
Technological realization



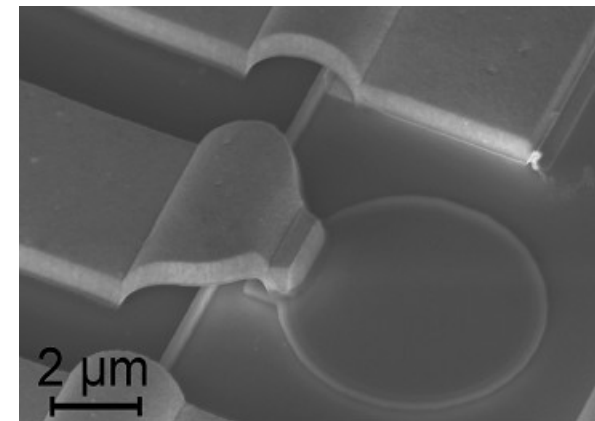
$$C = 13 \text{ fF}$$

$$\tau_c = 500 \text{ fs}$$

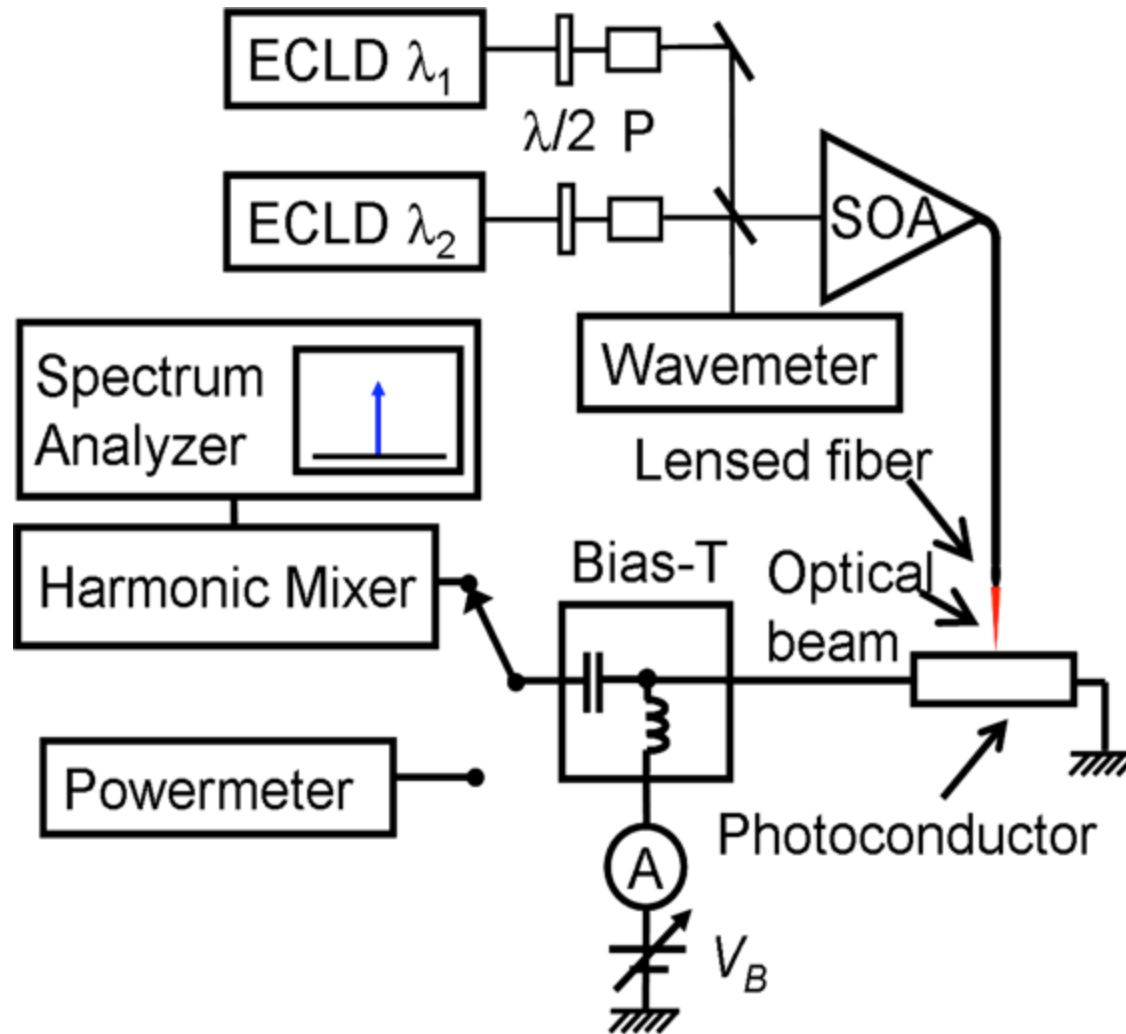
$$t = 280 \text{ nm (3rd absorption peak)}$$



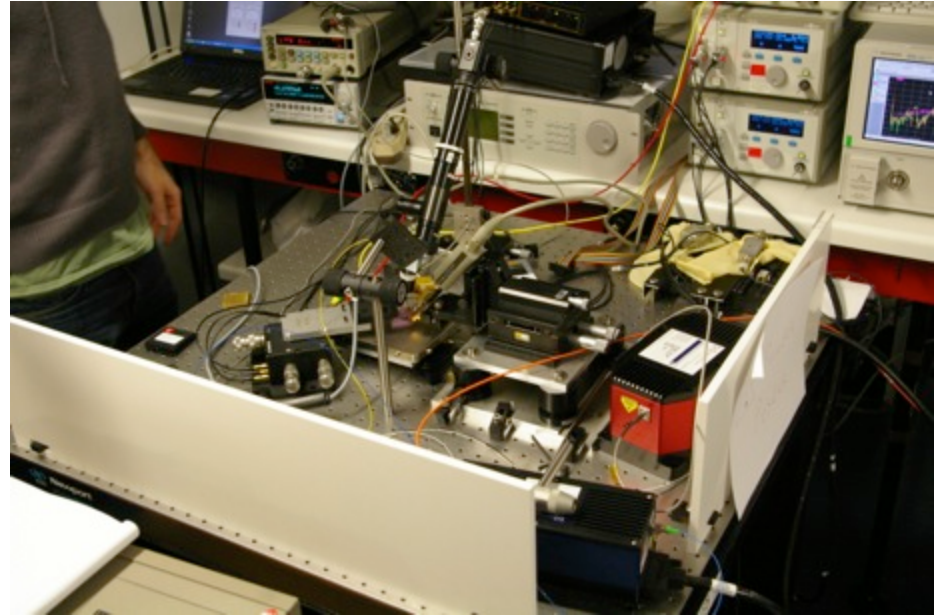
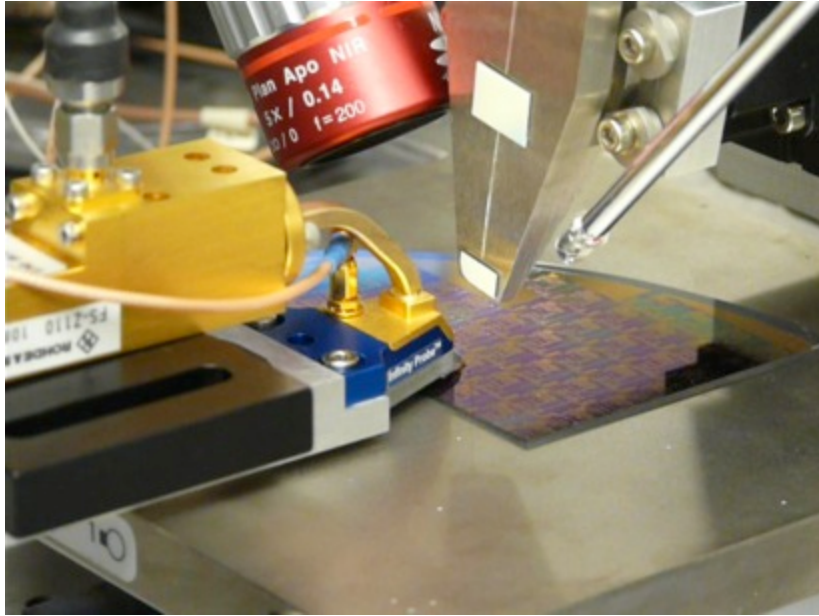
6 μm diameter photoconductor



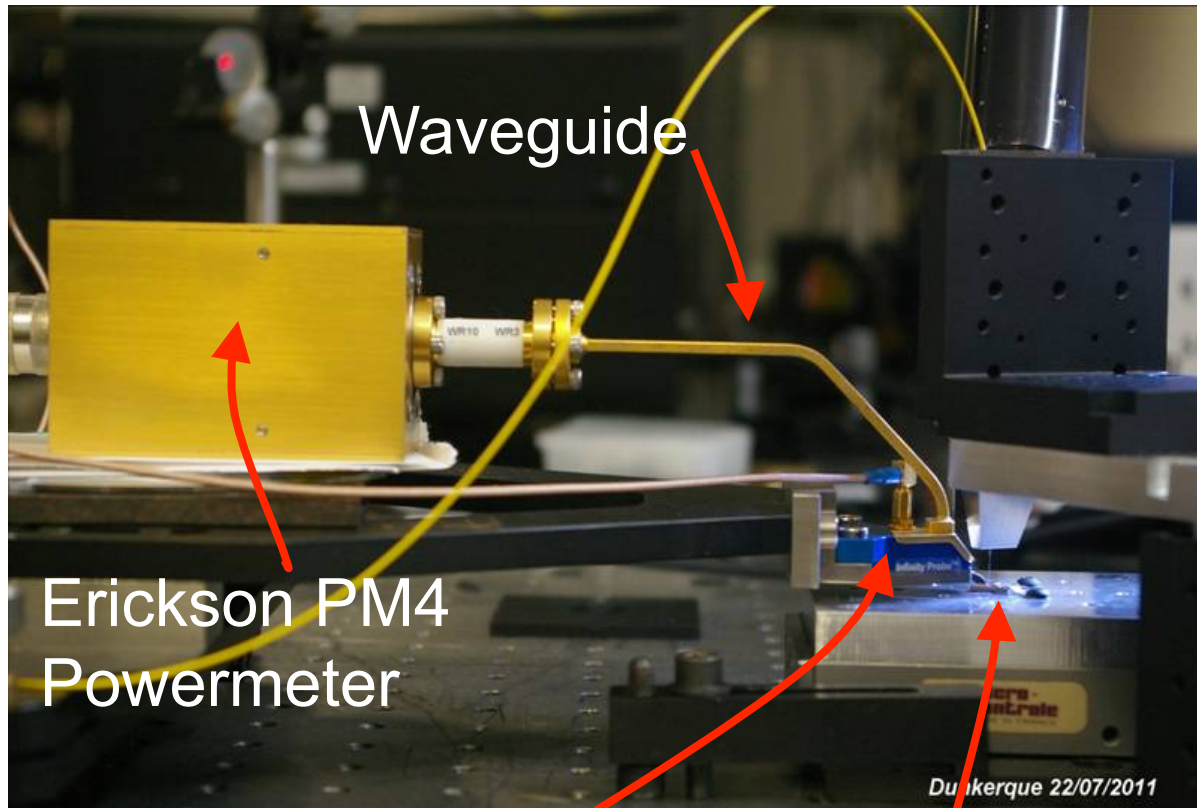
Experimental Set-up



Experimental set-up



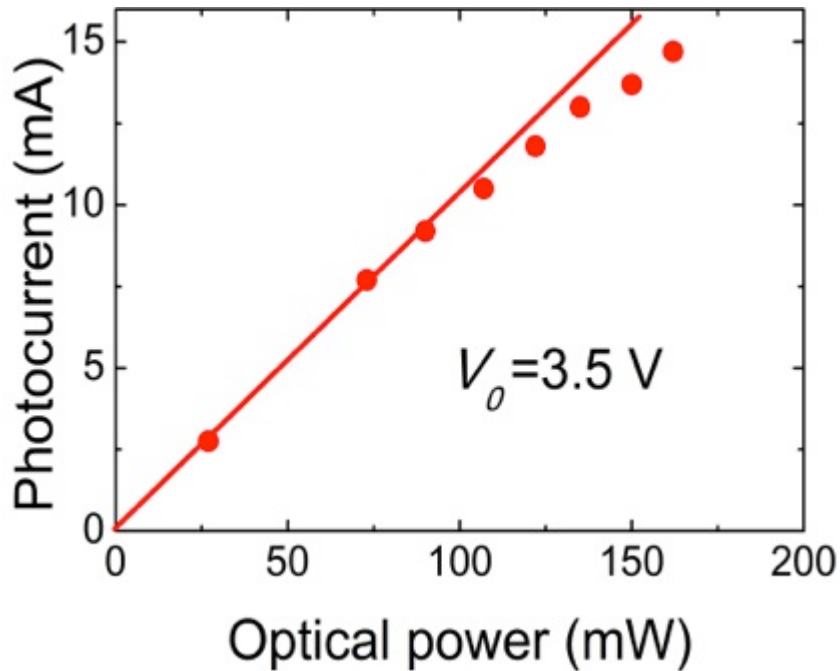
Experimental Set-up



220-325 GHz
50 Ω coplanar probe

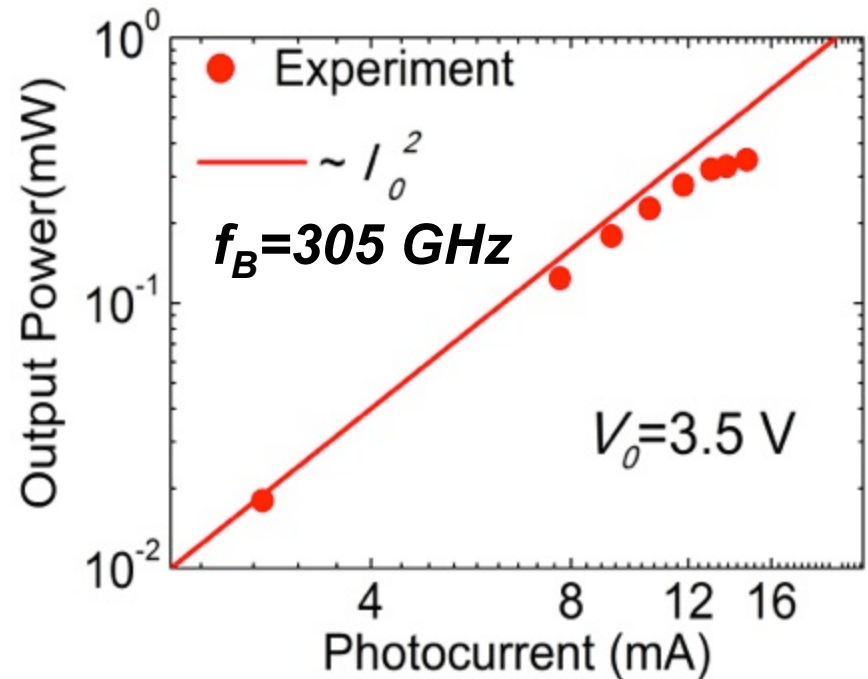
Device under test

Results



$$I_{0max} = 14.7 \text{ mA } (0.1 \text{ A/W}) @ V_0 = 3.5 \text{ V}$$

$$1/G_{0max} = 240 \Omega !!$$



Maximum power : 350 μW !

About 100 \times previous values

1.2 mW @50 GHz ($I_0 = 14 \text{ mA}$ and $V_0 = 6 \text{ V}$)

Efficiency

- $f = 50$ GHz:

RF power: 1.2 mW

dc power: $6 \text{ V} \times 14 \text{ mA} = 84 \text{ mW}$

$$\eta_{\text{elec}} = 1.4 \%$$

- $f = 300$ GHz:

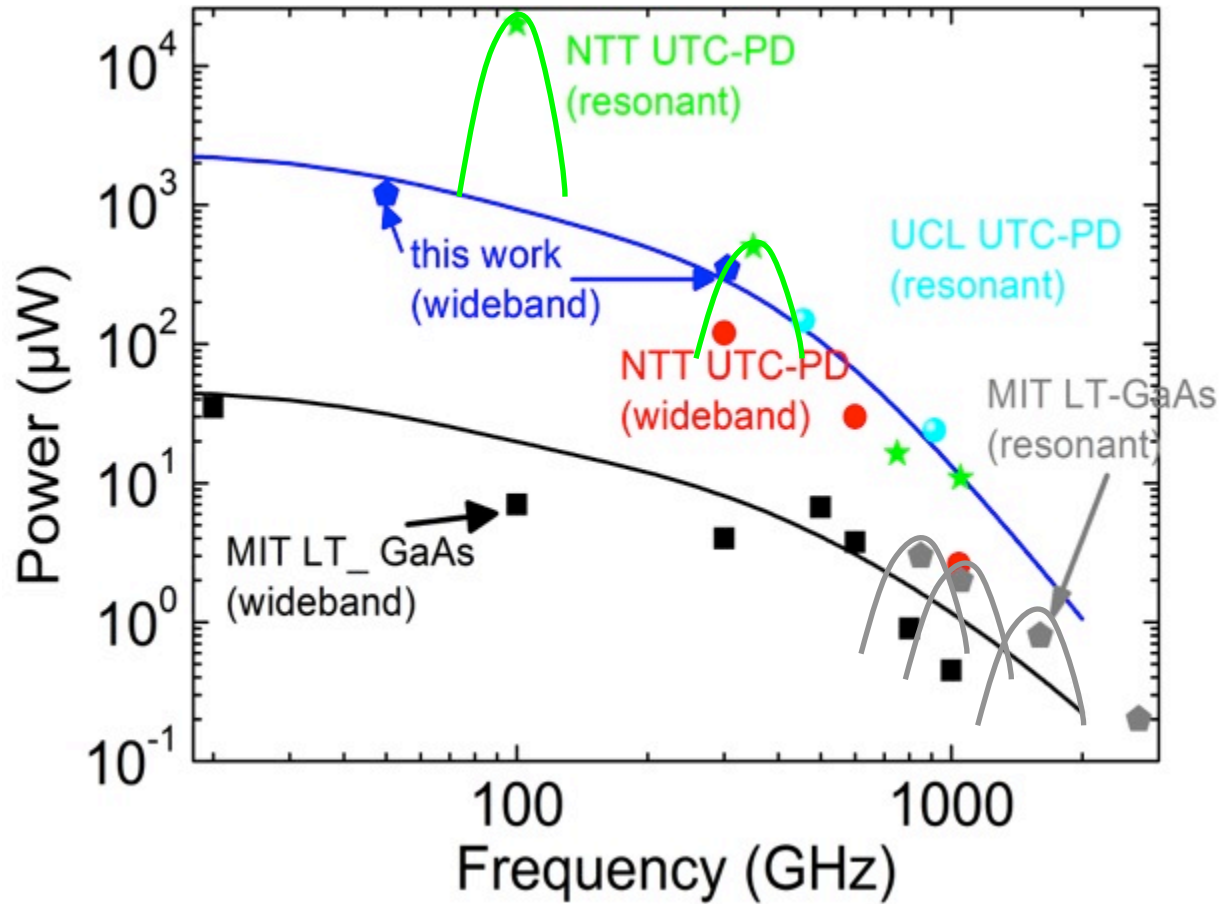
RF power: 0.35 mW

dc power: $3.5 \text{ V} \times 15 \text{ mA} = 52 \text{ mW}$

$$\eta_{\text{elec}} = 0.7 \%$$

- 16 % is not reached ...
- Not matched: $240 \Omega \neq 50 \Omega$, no LC resonator
- but efficiency is about **100** \times better than standard LTG-GaAs photomixers

State of the art



Ongoing works

- Integration with a **wideband antenna** for higher frequencies measurements

60 μW @600 GHz and 13 μW @1THz are expected with $R_L=25 \Omega$

- **Thermal management:**

- active cooling (Peltier cooler)

- SiC substrate (490 W/m/K) instead of Si (150 W/m/K)

- Vertical photoconductor **as a detector**

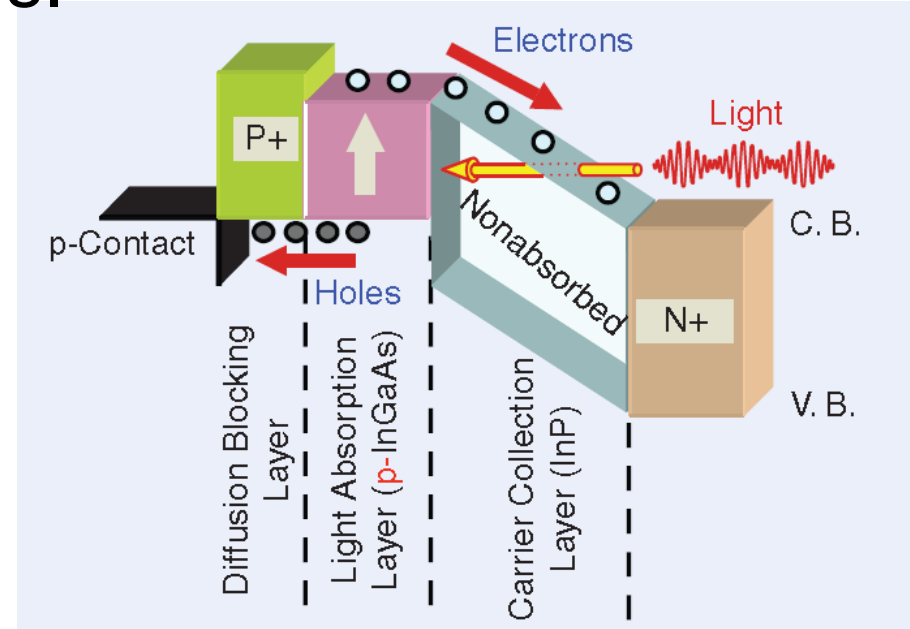
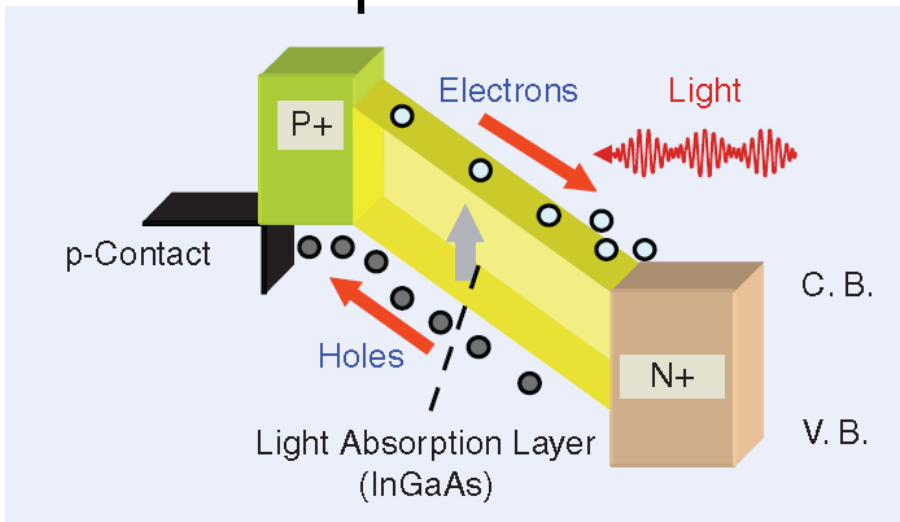
Acknowledgements: ANR-JST WITH

The other way: Uni-travelling-carrier photodiodes (UTC-PD)

pin-PD

Vs.

UTC-PD



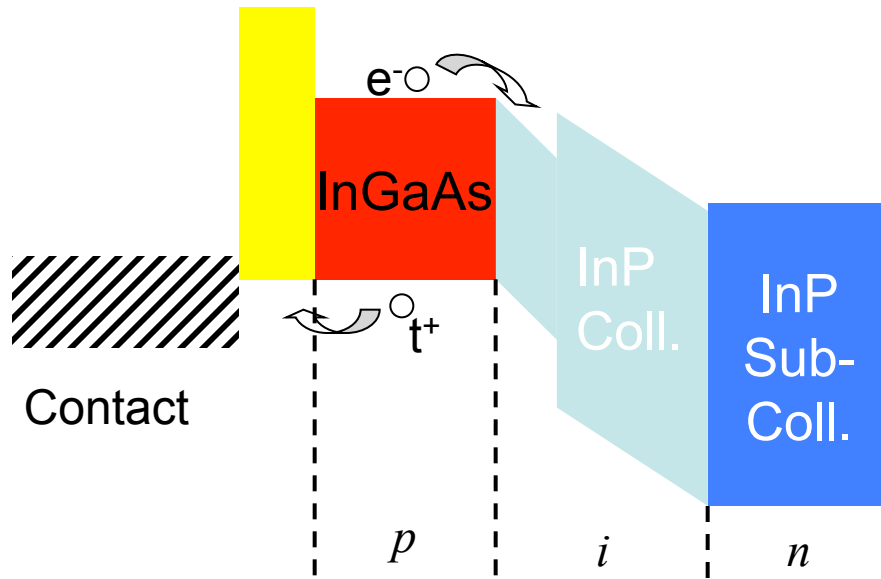
Holes are slow !

- Low cut-off frequency
- Saturation

Initially proposed by
NTT in 1996

Figures: T. Nagatsuma *et al.*, IEEE Microwave mag. (2009)

Frequency response of UTC-PD



⇒ No short carrier lifetime materials

⇒ Structure close to HBT

- Cut-off frequency fixed only by **electrons**
- Compatible with $\lambda=1.55 \mu\text{m}$
- Good response
- High saturation photocurrent

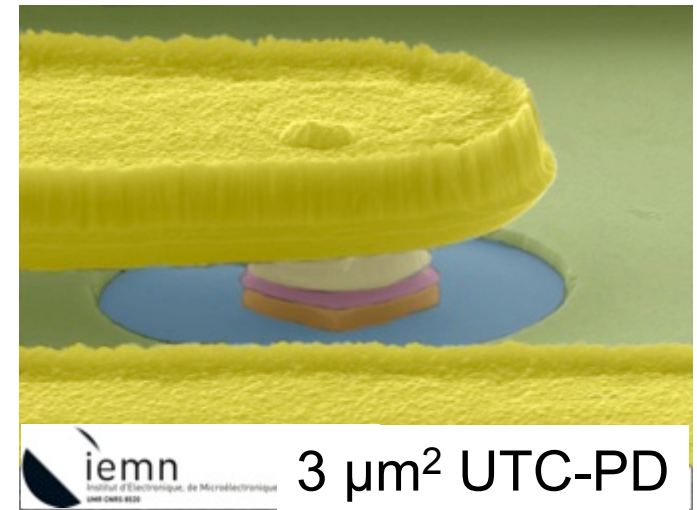
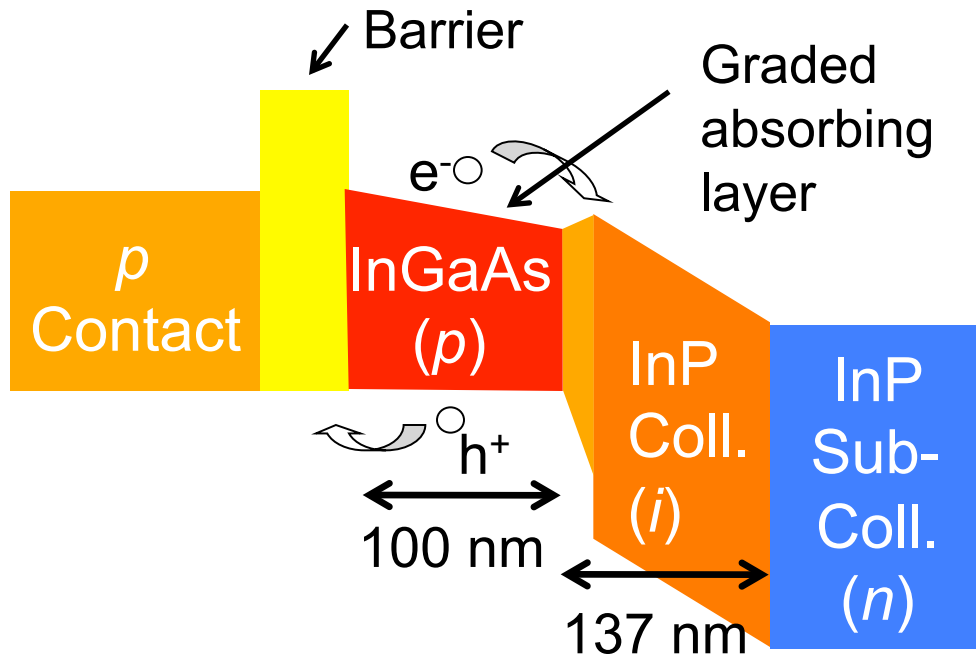
$$|i(\omega)| = \frac{I_0}{\sqrt{1 + (\omega T_a)^2} \sqrt{1 + (\omega T_c)^2}} \left| \frac{\sin(\omega T_t/2)}{\omega T_t/2} \right|$$

Diffusion time
in absorbing layer

RC time constant

Transit-time
in collector

Graded absorber UTC-PD

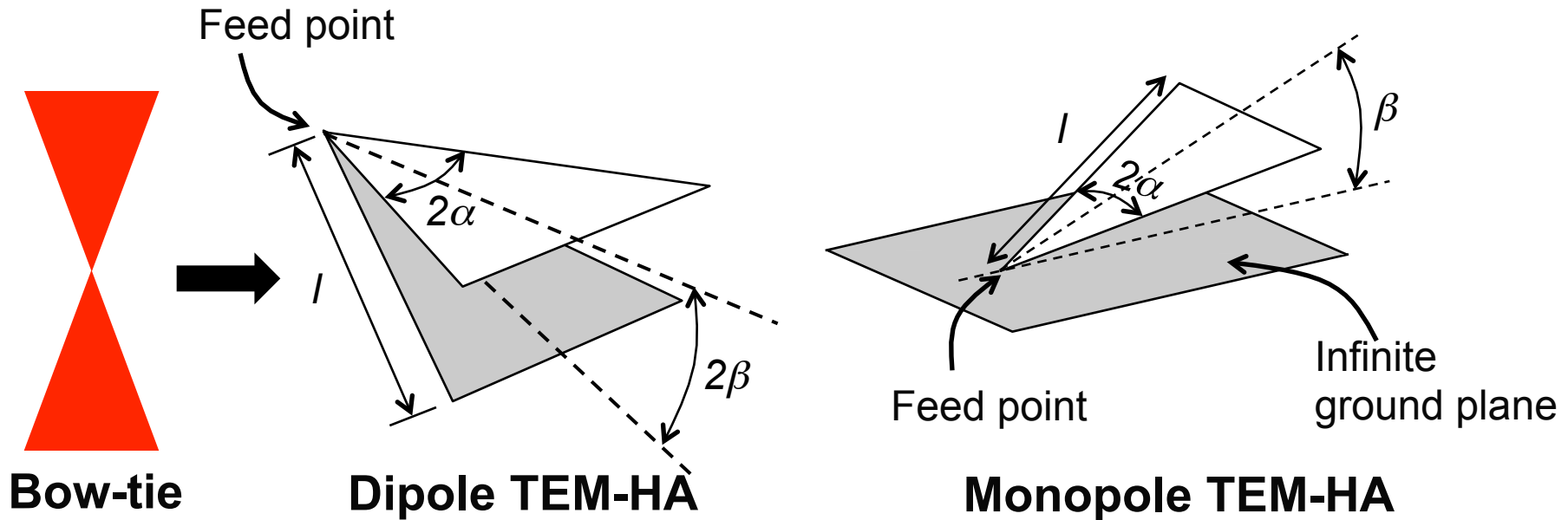


To increase cut-off frequency:

- Short collector (137 nm)
- Small area (3 μm^2)
- Pseudo-field in absorbing layer: 46 % \Rightarrow 60 % Indium

No window: 1.55 μm beam through the substrate

The TEM-horn antenna (TEM-HA)



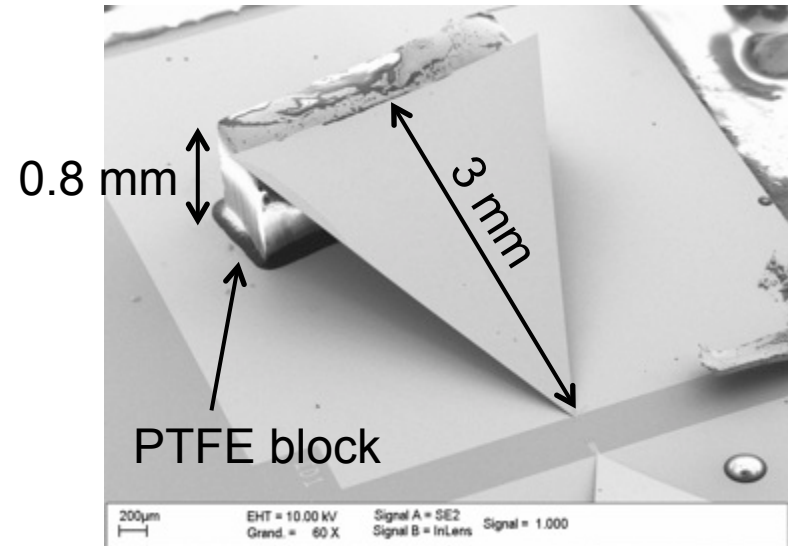
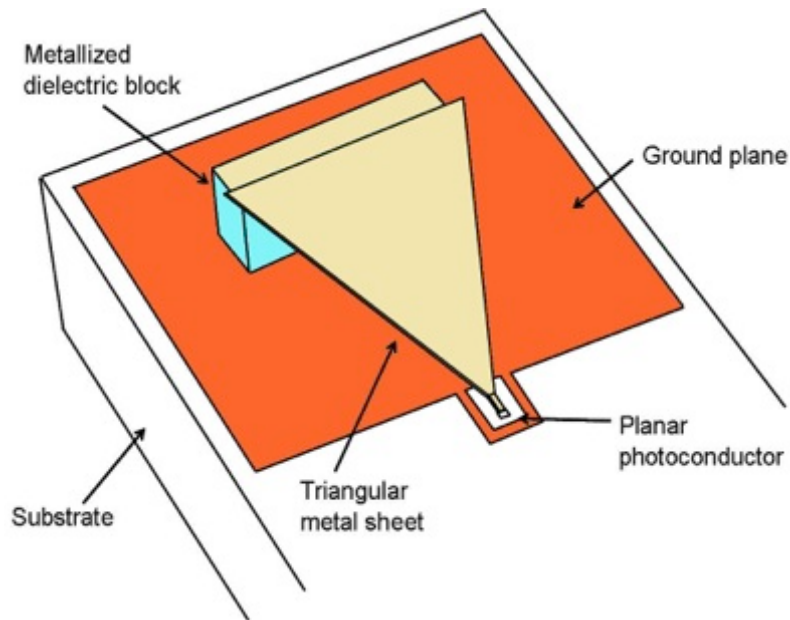
TEM-HA is a wideband antenna:

Infinite antenna verify the Rumsey's principle (defined only by angles)

The monopole TEM-HA is particularly interesting for THz:

- Wideband and low dispersion
- No substrate losses, no Si lens (ground plane)

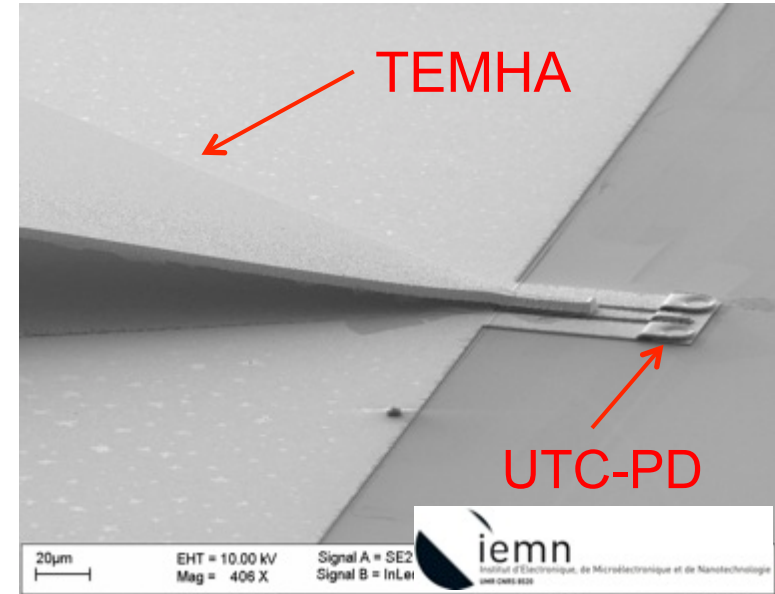
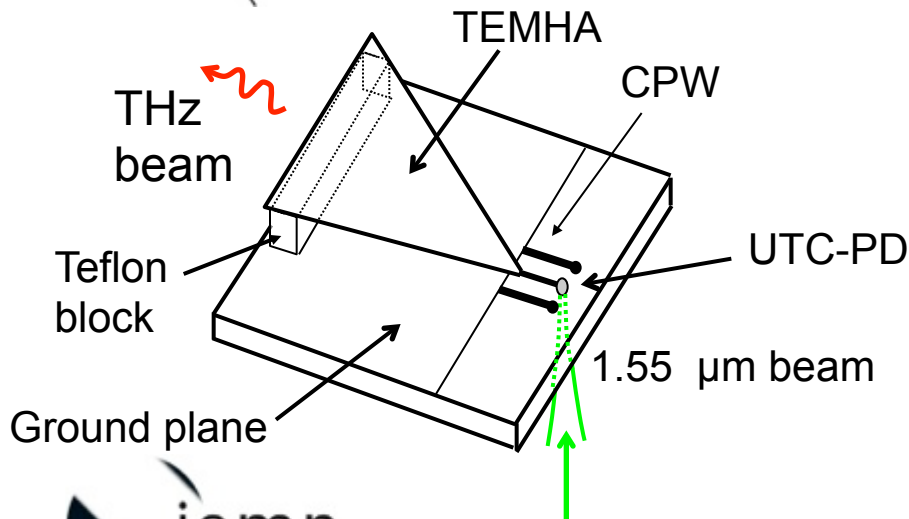
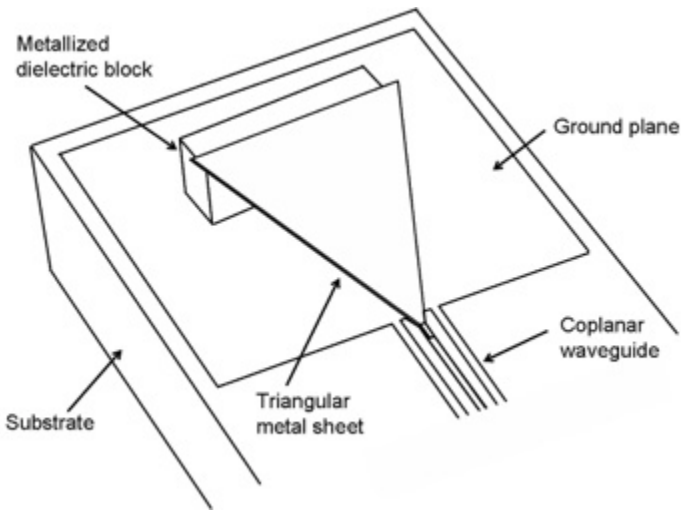
Design of the THz TEM-HA



SEM view of TEM-HA on LTG-GaAs

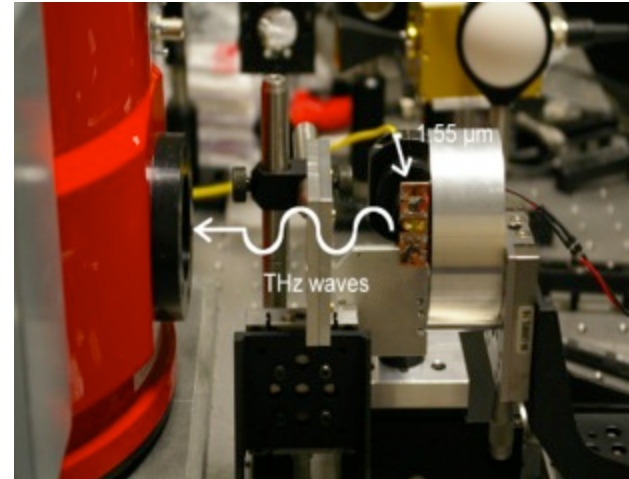
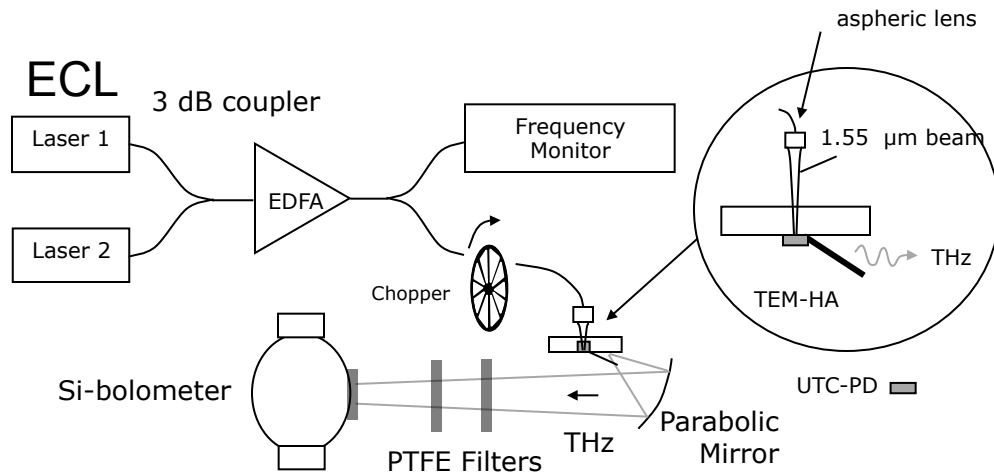
Peytavit *et al.*, APL **93**, 111108 (2008)

Integration of UTC-PD with TEMHA



UTC-PD + TEMHA :
Natural separation of the 1.55 μm beam and the THz beam.

UTC-PD Photomixing experiment

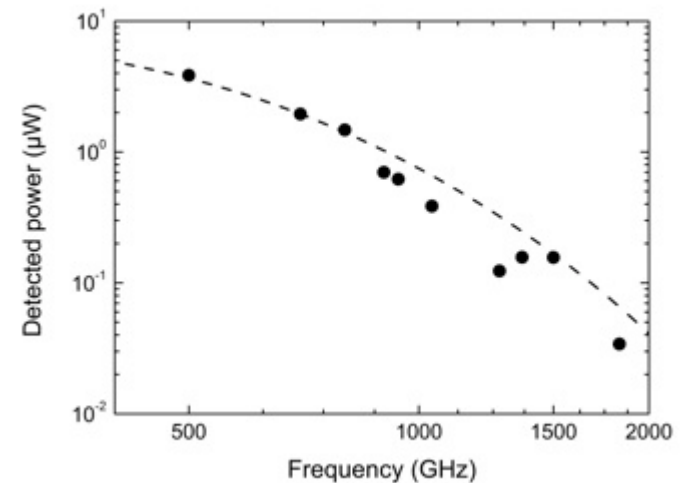


- Max power: 1.13 μW @ 0.94 THz
Optical power = 50 mW

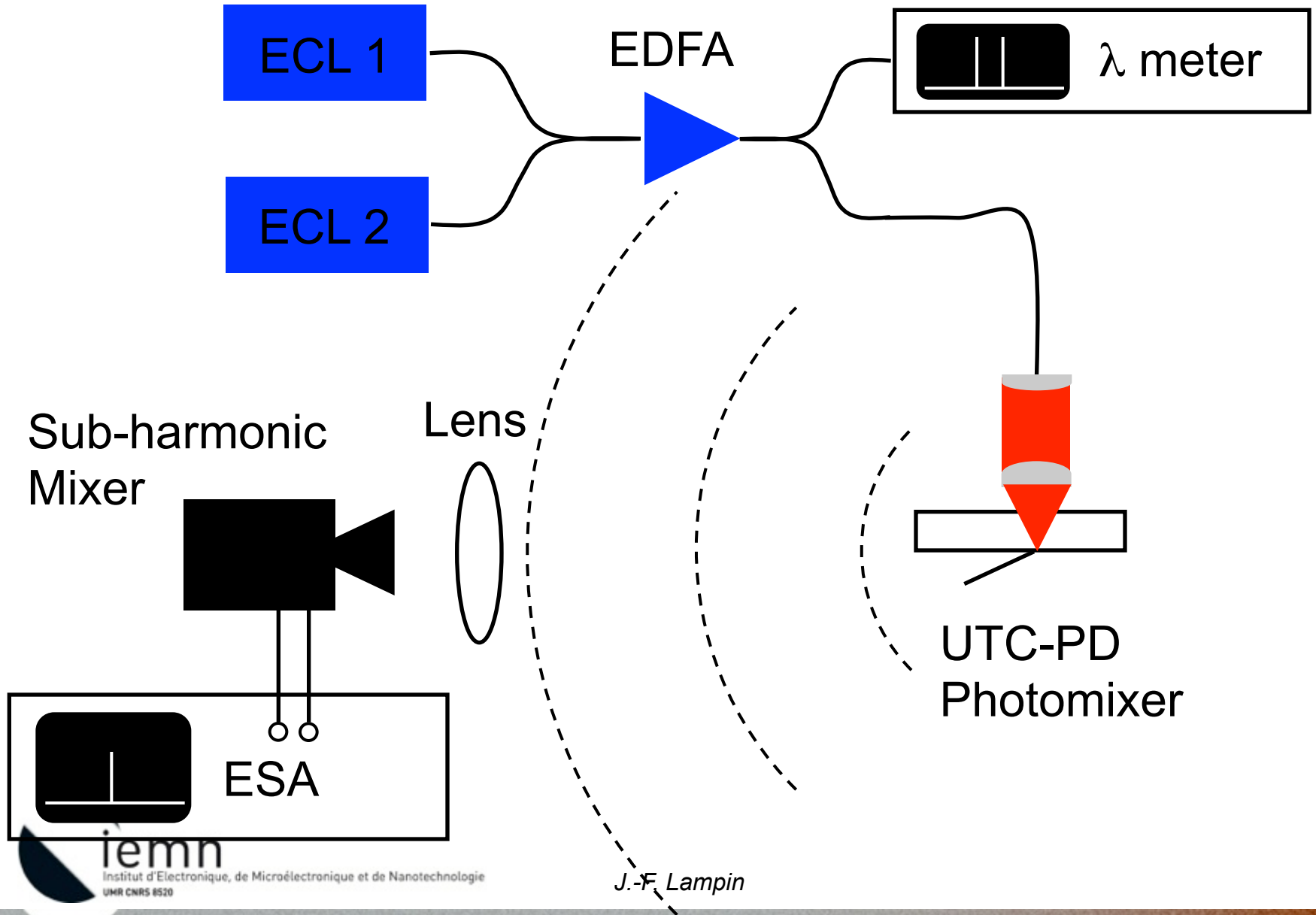
- >10 times higher efficiency:
0.46 μW @ 1.04 THz for 50 mW (IEMN)

Collaboration with LPCA (Dunkerque)

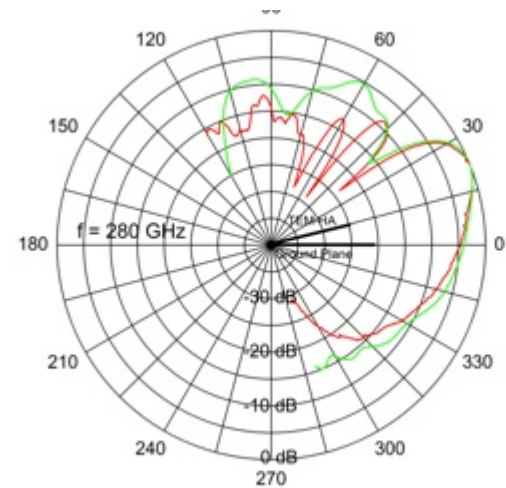
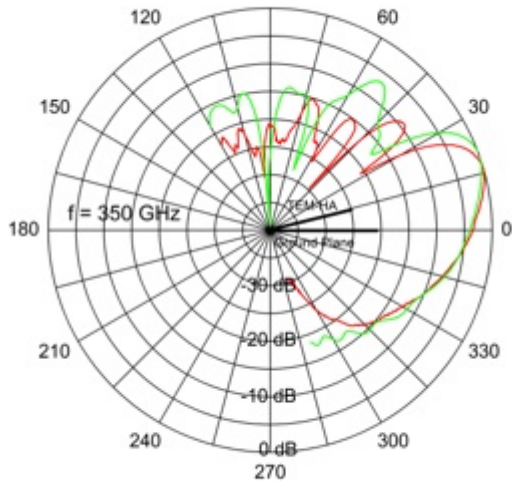
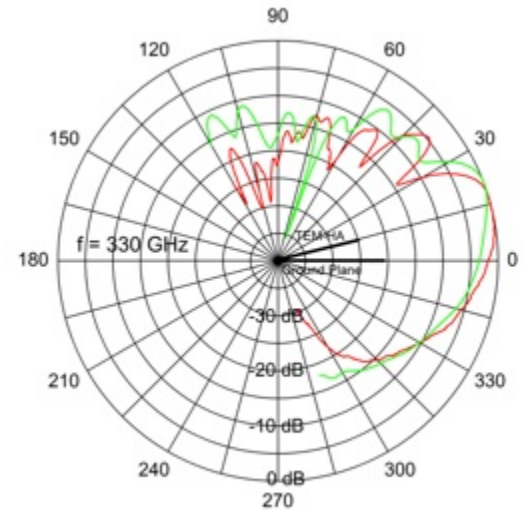
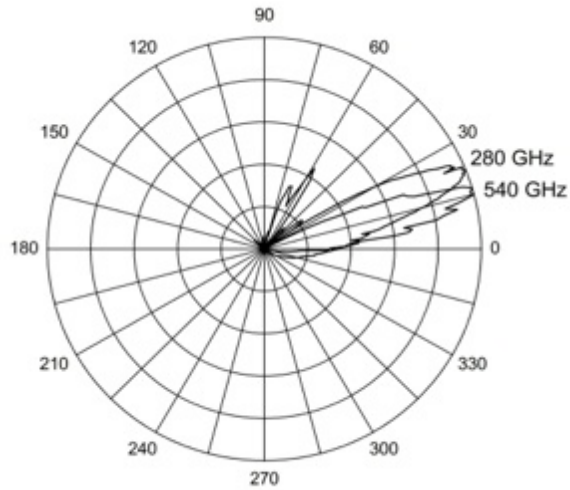
Beck *et al.*, *El. Lett.* **44**, 1320 (2008)



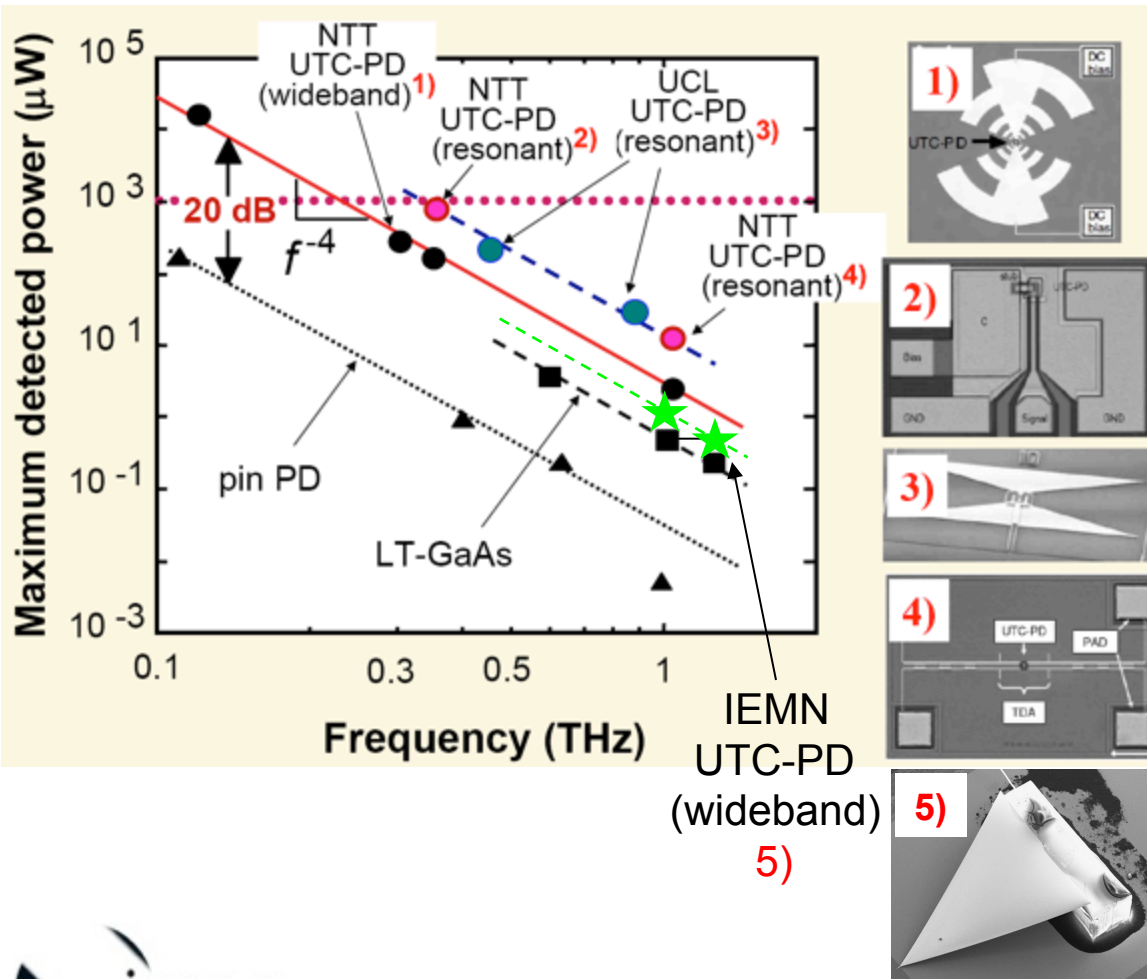
Heterodyne detection



Radiation patterns

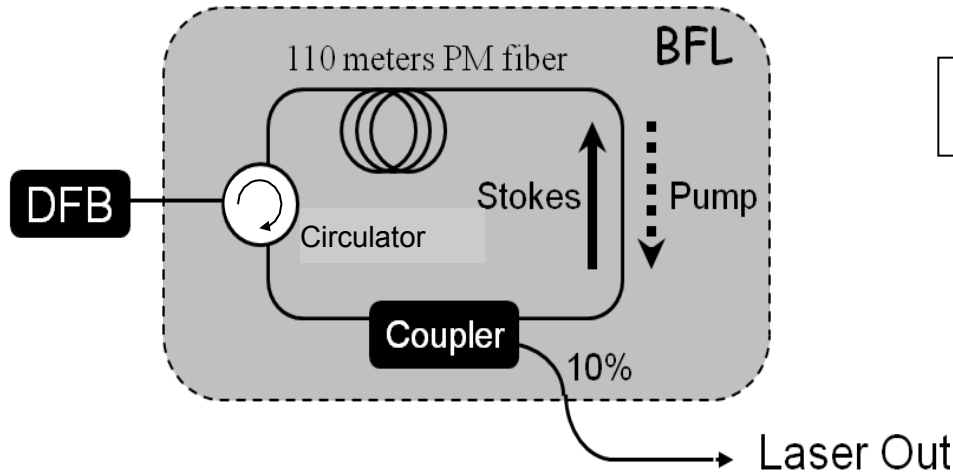


UTC-PD: State of the art



- Wideband antenna $\approx 1\text{-}2 \mu\text{W @ 1 THz}$
- Resonant antenna $\approx 10\text{-}20 \mu\text{W @ 1 THz}$
 $\approx 500 \mu\text{W @ 350 GHz}$

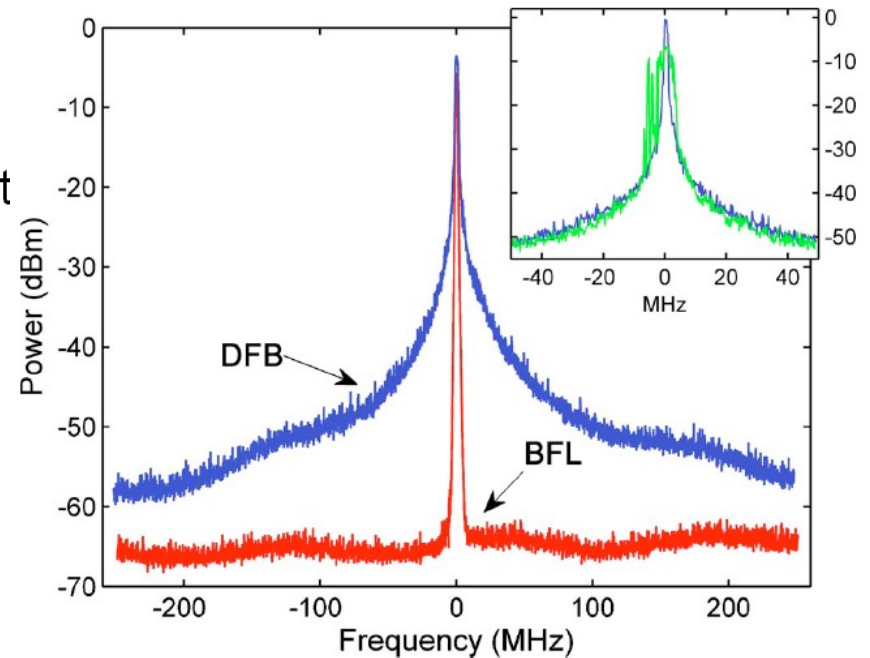
Brillouin Fiber Laser: from MHz to kHz



$$\text{FSR}_{\text{expected}} = c/n.L \approx 1.75 \text{ MHz}$$

Pump: not resonant
thanks to the circulator

DFB: FWHM ≈ 1 MHz



Collaboration with PhLAM

F. Mihelic *et al.*, Opt. Lett., 35, p. 432 (2010)

Photomixing Results with BFL

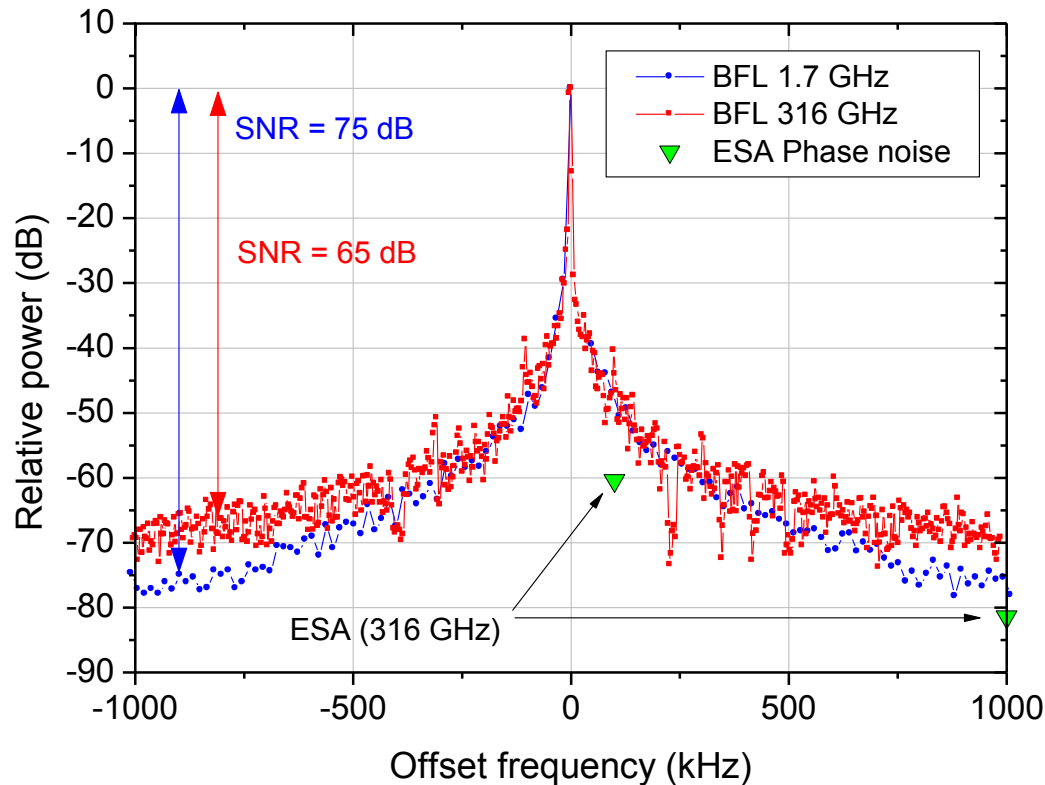
G. Ducournau et al. OPTICS LETTERS /
Vol. 36, No. 11 / June 1, 2011

SNR = 70 dB

RBW = 1 kHz

FWHM ~1 kHz

- Same performance (FWHM) between 1.7 GHz and 316 GHz
- Comparison with the spectrum analyzer electrical phase noise
- ESA O.L. is (at 316 GHz) only 10 dB better @ 100 kHz offset carrier



Advantage: No $20 \cdot \log(N)$ factor

Photomixing: pros and cons

Pros :

- Widely tunable, high res. compared to TDS
- Can be modulated at high frequency
- Small and lightweight
- Easy to separate laser source and THz source

Cons:

- Power still low (mW possible)
- Linewidth poor compared to multiplication (standard lasers)
- Sophisticated lasers for high spectral purity (< 1 MHz)



Clean spectrum far from the carrier

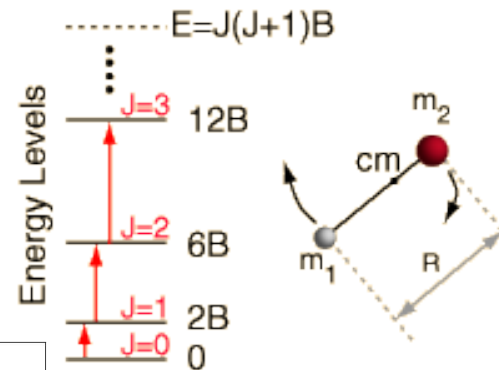
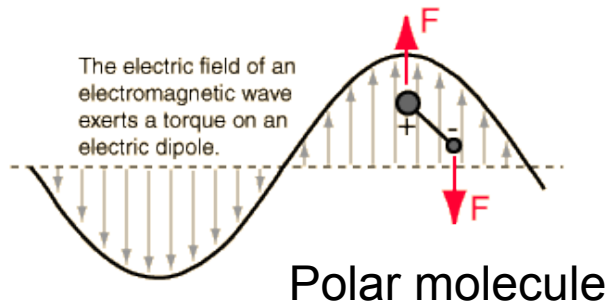
- Almost no spurious
- Low phase noise

Applications of photomixing

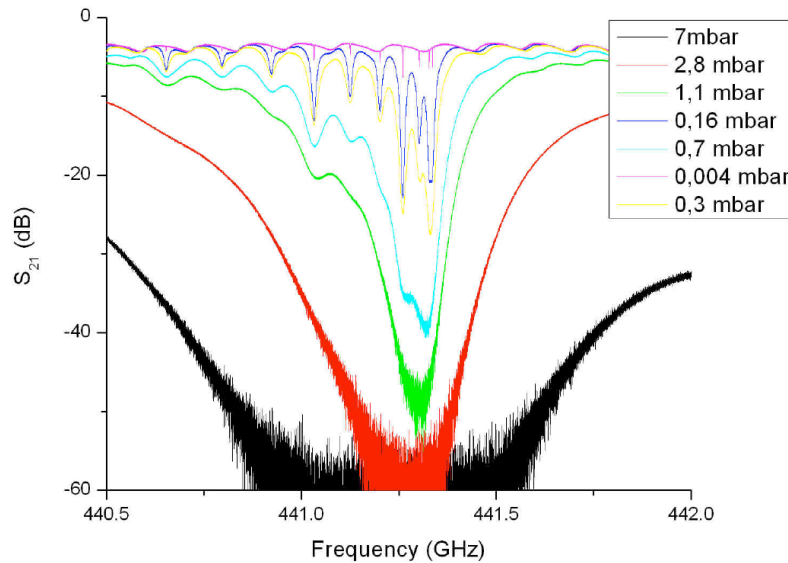
- Spectroscopy
⇒ Security, astrophysics
- Telecommunications
⇒ Short range, high data rate
- Imagery ?

Gas spectroscopy

Gas molecules are THz top !

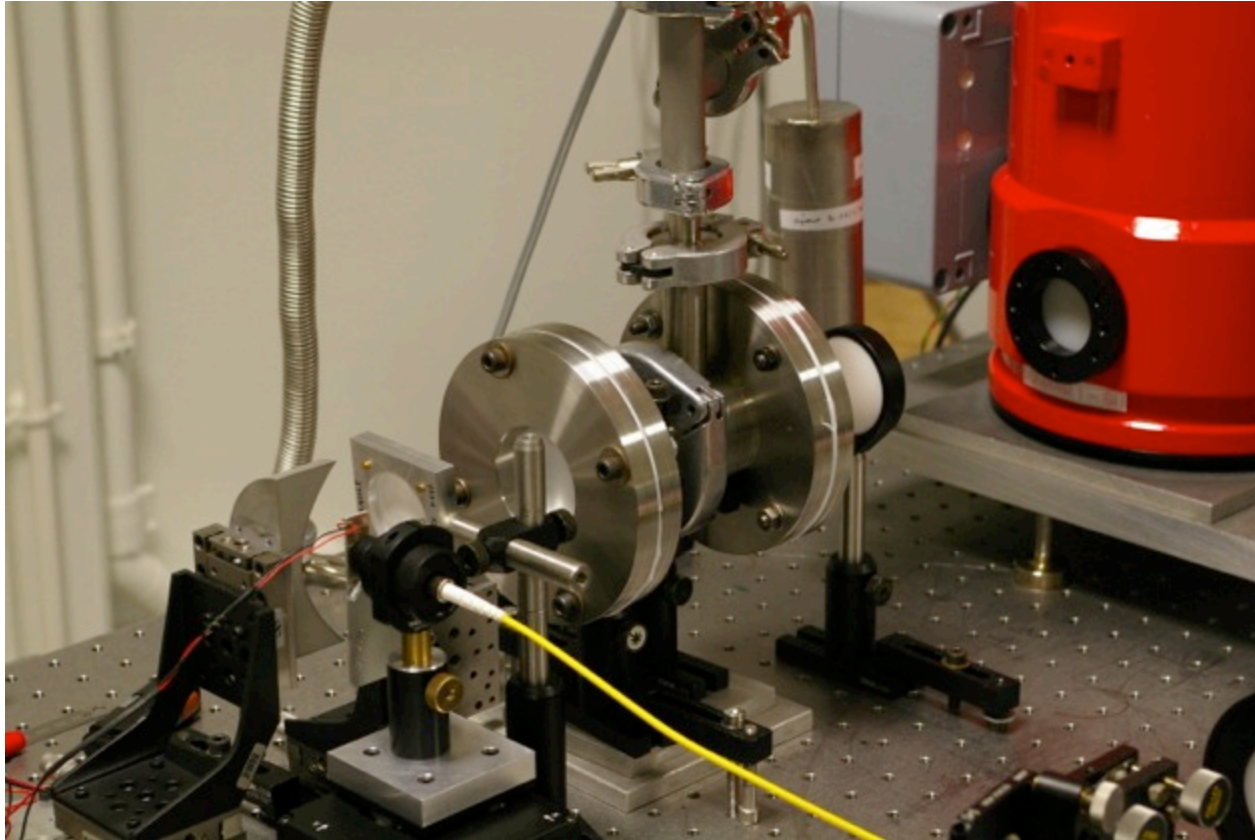


Rotation transitions



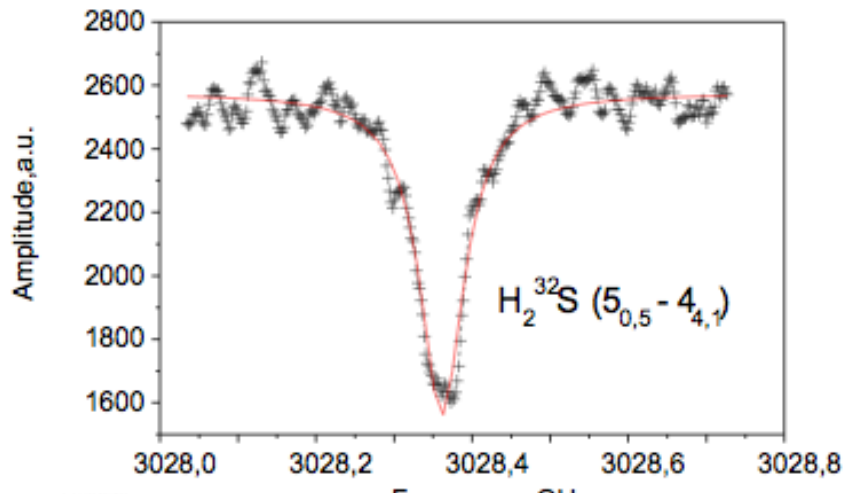
- Absorption lines are a few GHz wide at atmospheric pressure
- When the pressure is reduced the lines can be a few MHz wide ! \Rightarrow very selective

Gas spectroscopy experiment

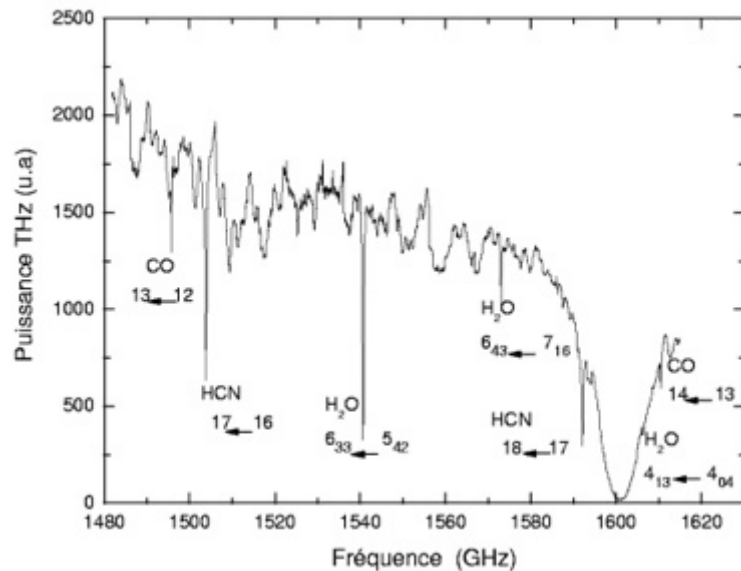


LPCA
Dunkerque

Gas spectra: applications

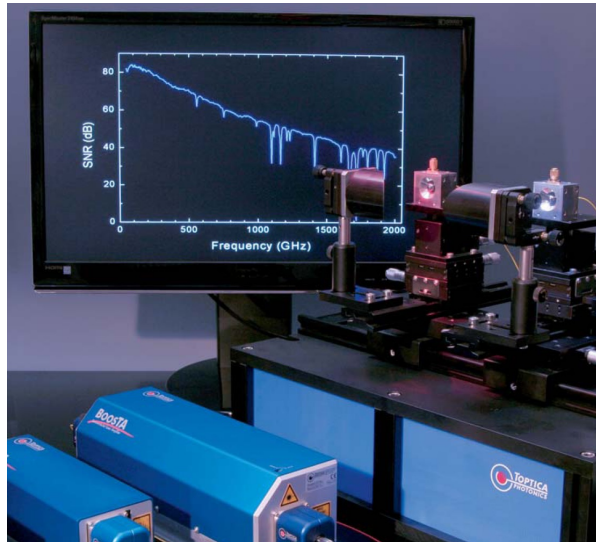
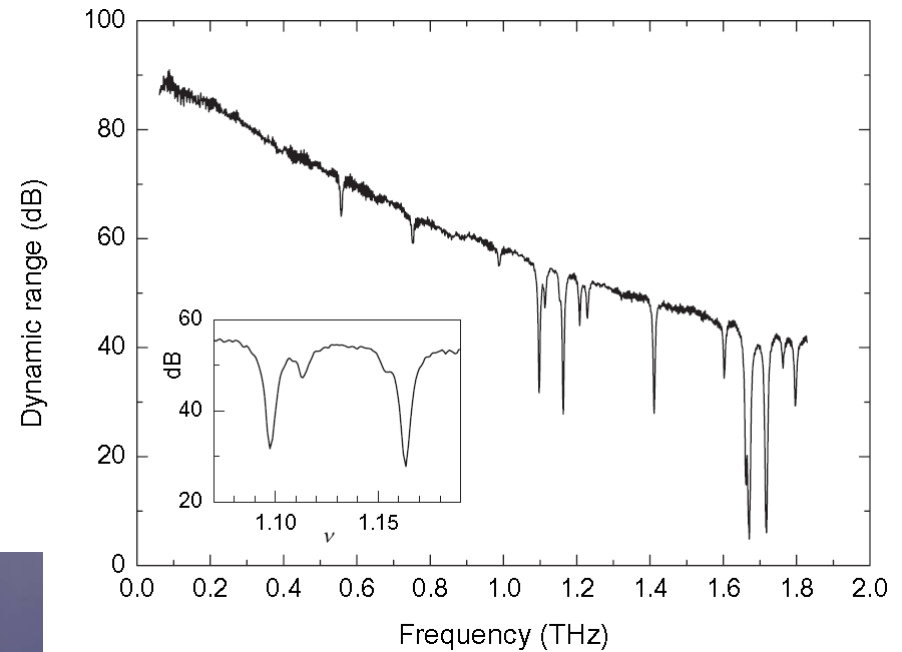
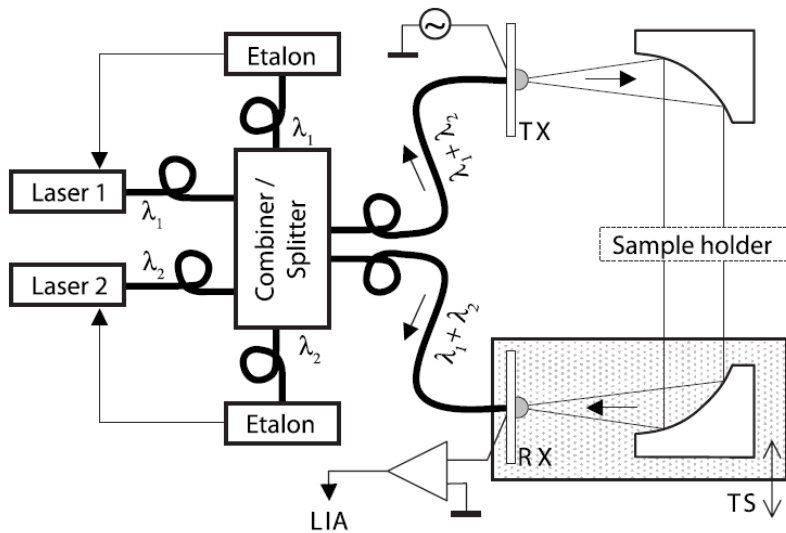


Absorption of H_2S
measured around 3 THz
thanks to photomixing
⇒ Pollutant detection,
security



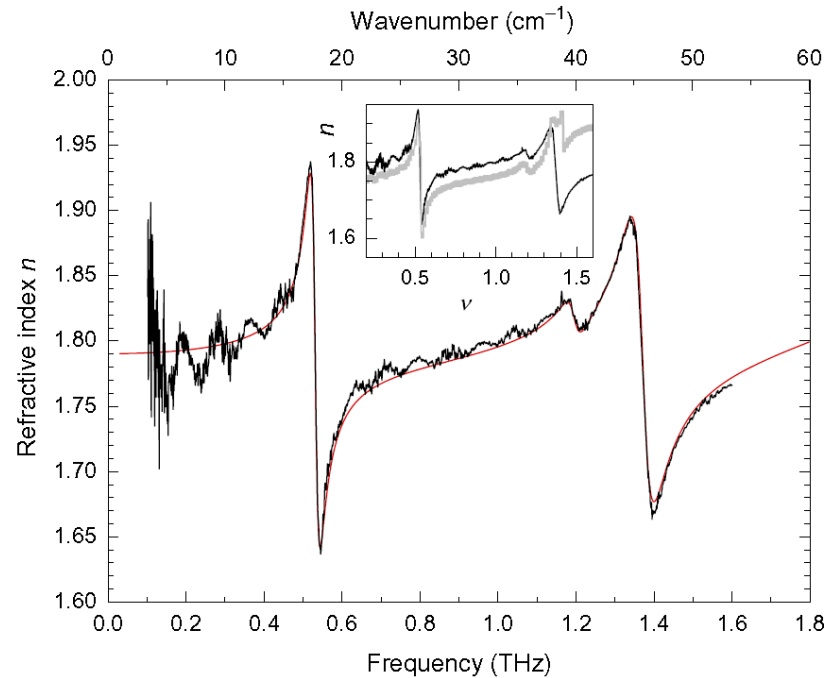
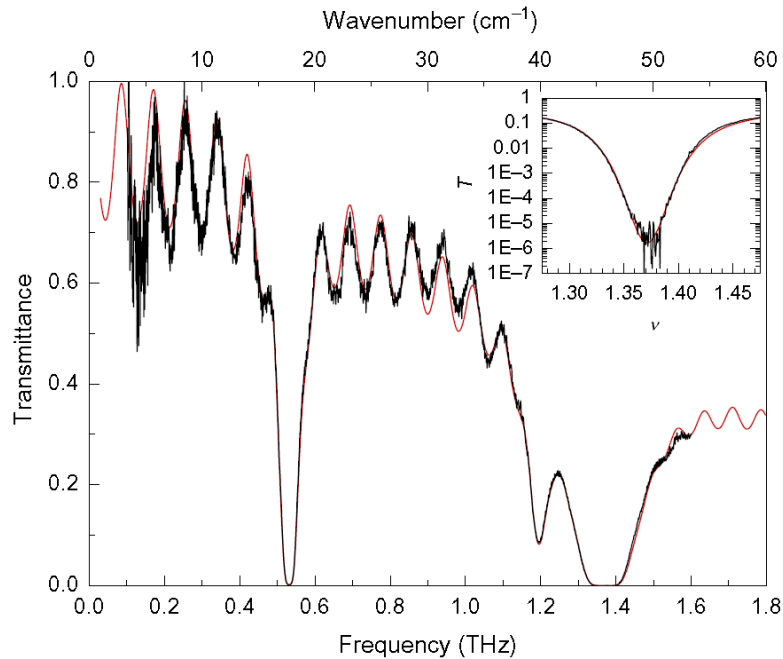
Detection of H_2O , CO and
HCN in cigarette smoke
(LPCA, Dunkerque)
⇒ Low sensitivity to diffusion

Homodyne detection

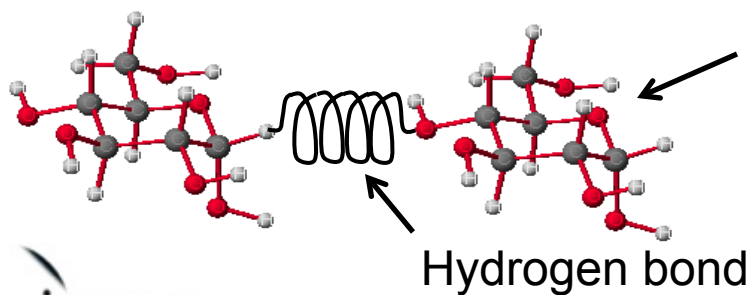


Spectrum obtained by the photomixing set-up from Toptica Photonics AG

Homodyne detection



Spectra of α -lactose monohydrate (Toptica Photonics AG)



Spectra very sensitive to crystal structure !
 \Rightarrow Pharmacy applications

Astrophysics applications

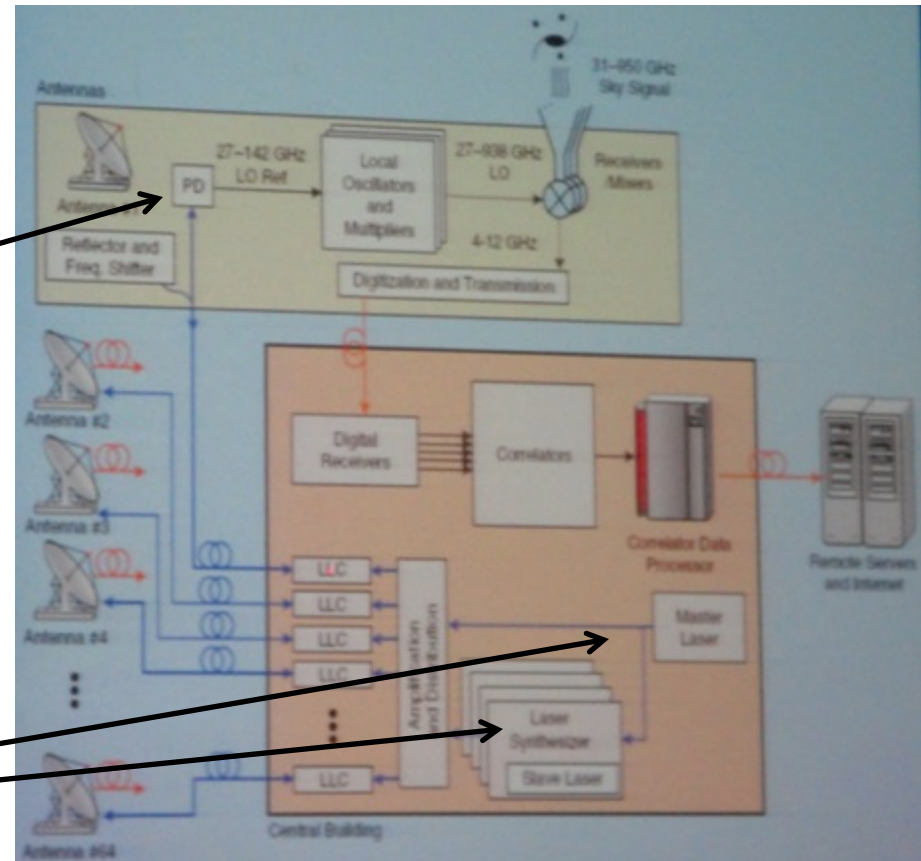
ALMA radiotelescope:

To distribute LO@100 GHz over kms ! \Rightarrow Photomixing

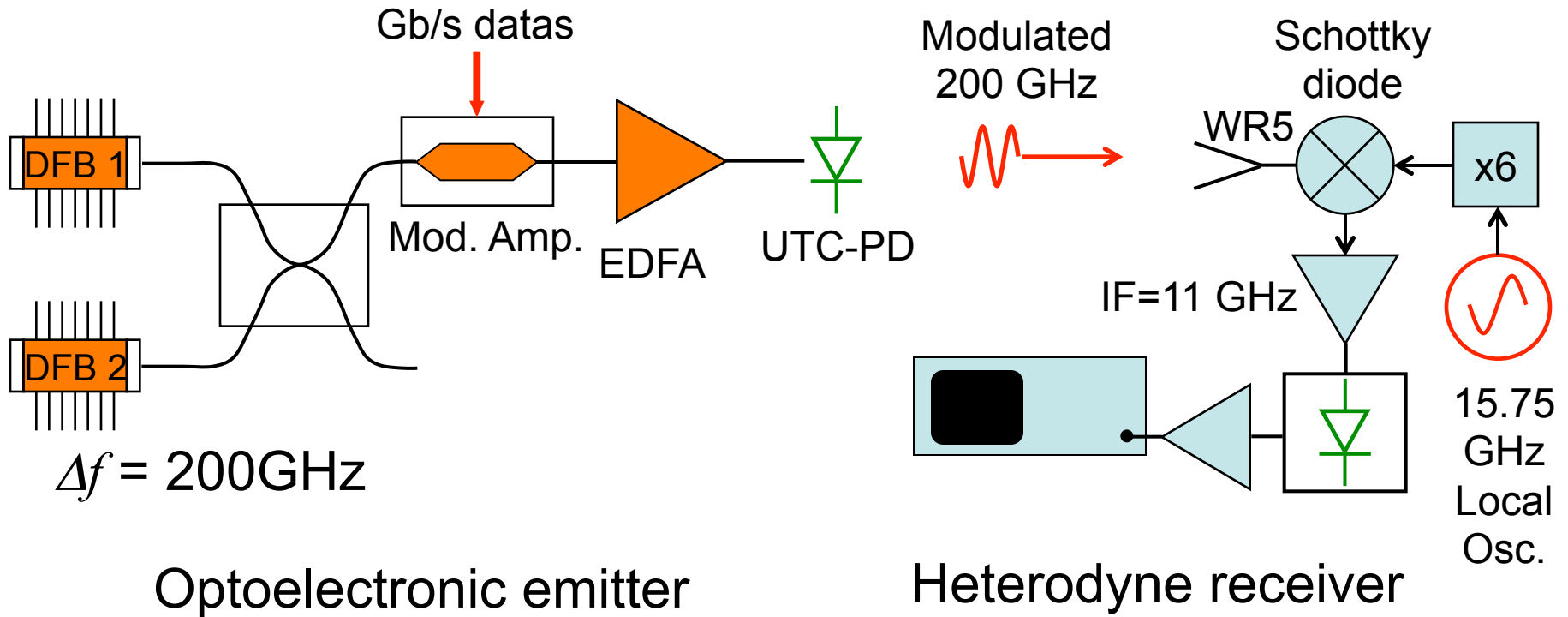
See J. Hesler Talk

Photodiode
(photomixer)
From RAL

Very stable lasers
@ 1.55 μm



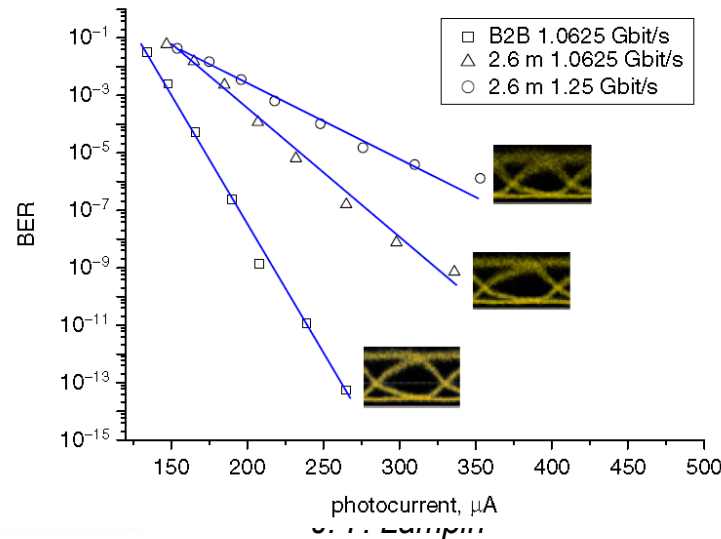
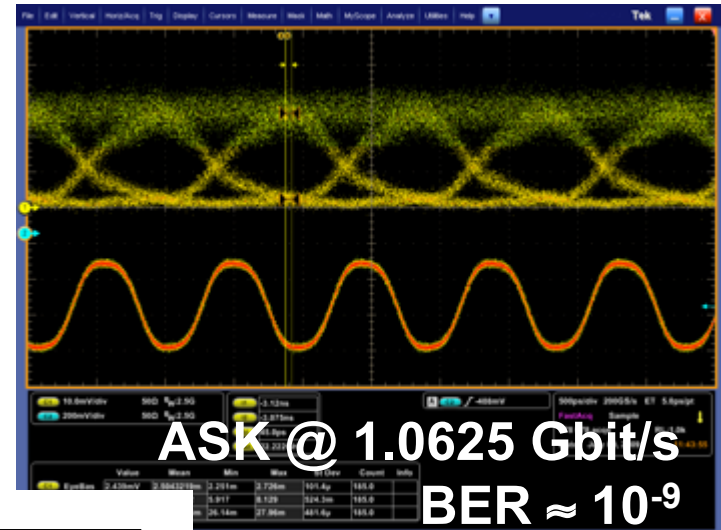
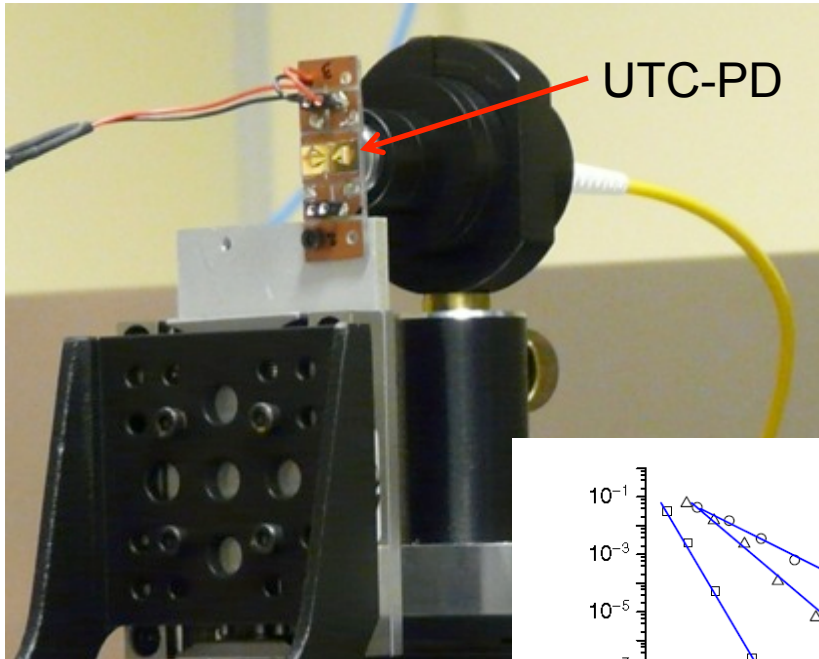
1 Gb/s transmission @ 200 GHz



Ducournau *et al.*, *El. Lett.*, 2010

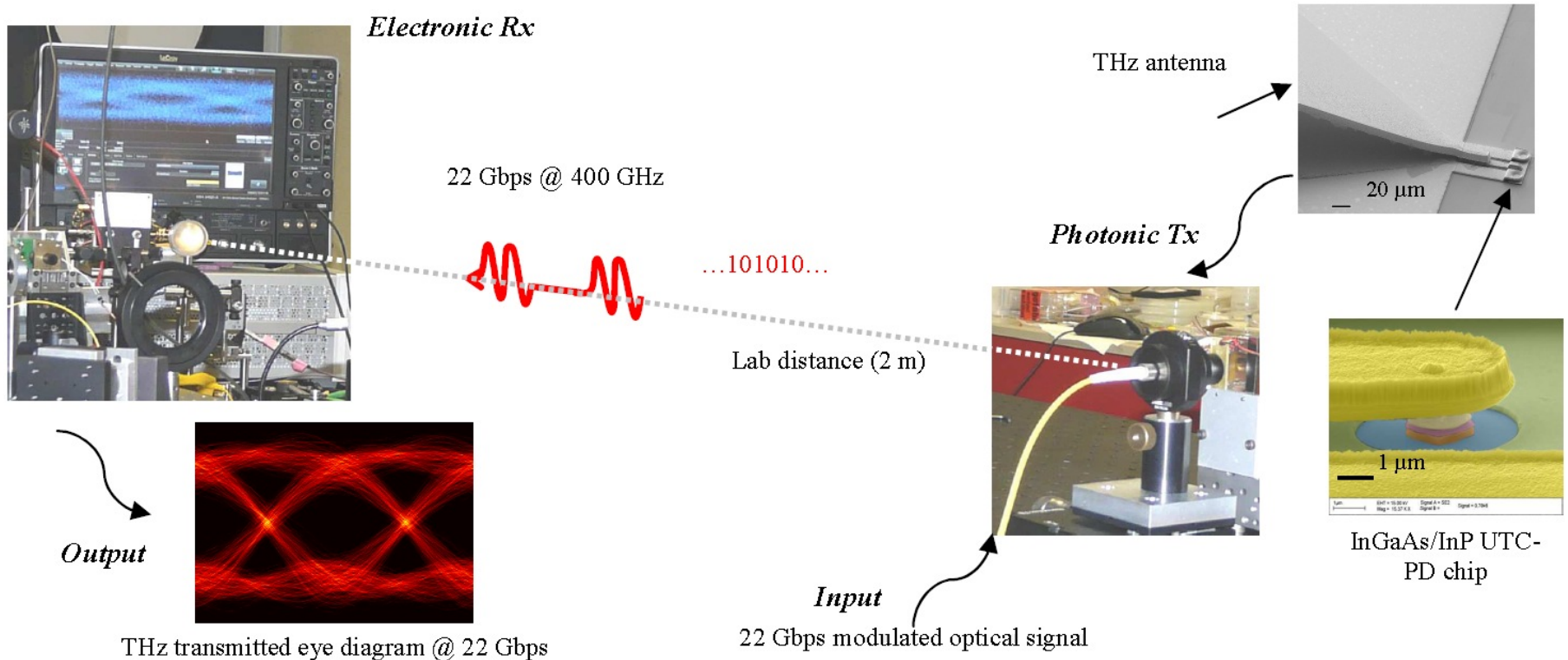
1 Gb/s transmission at 200 GHz

Optically powered (no bias)



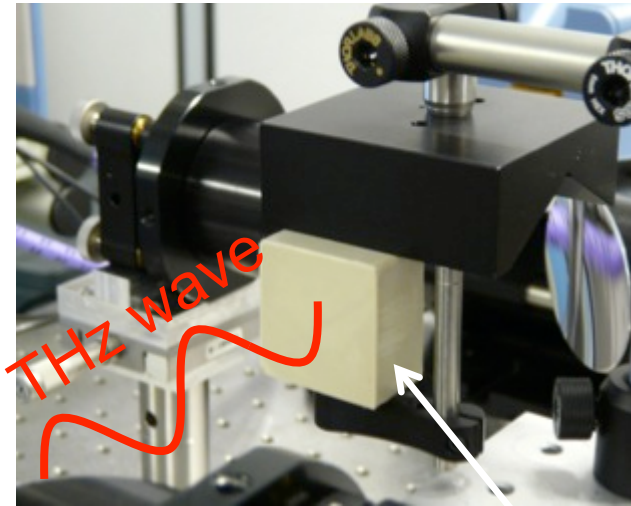
Remote wireless spot

22Gbps communications @ 400 GHz

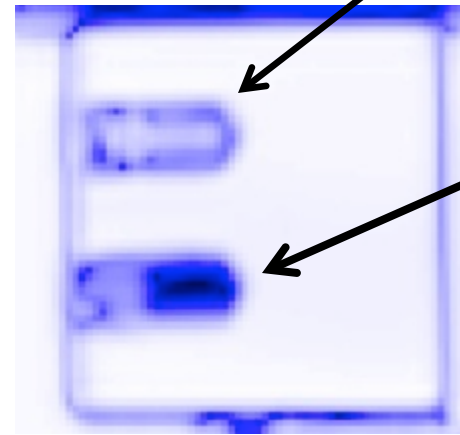
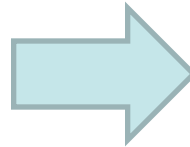


Ducournau *et al.*, 2013

Imagery ?



Plastic object



6 mm hole
(empty)

Water

Image obtained
@ 400 GHz

- Photomixing: power still low
- Acquisition time still too large

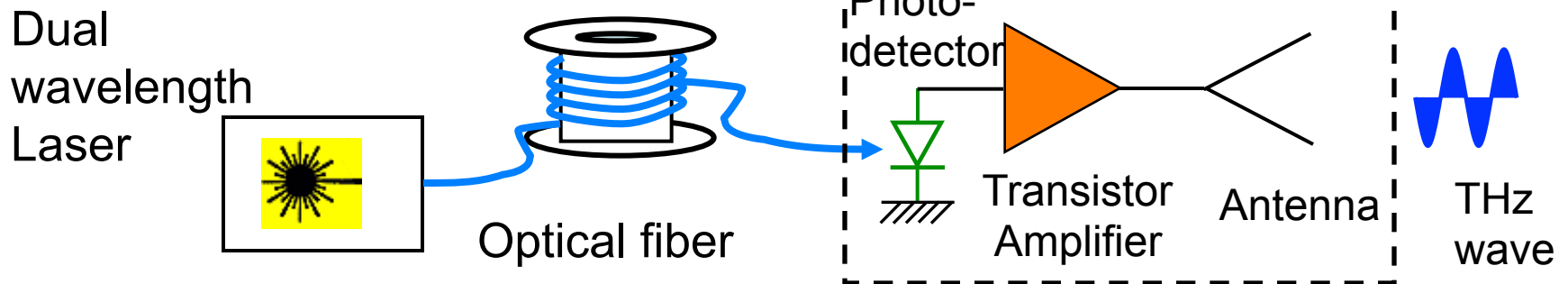
Future of THz optoelectronics

Research :

- Increasing power
- Decreasing cost (integration laser+ photomixer)
- 1.55 μm detectors

Markets opportunities :

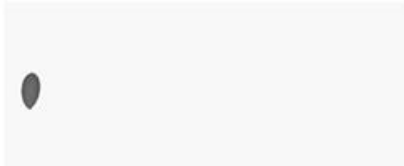
- Lab spectrometers
- « THz hot spots »
- Special app. (cryogenic...)



The end

Jean-francois.lampin@isen.fr

Simulated radiation patterns



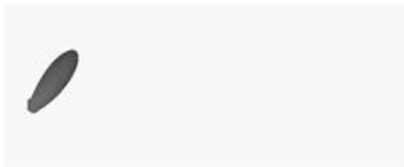
f=50GHz



f=250GHz



f=700GHz



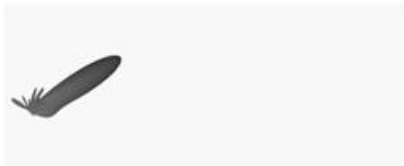
F=100GHz



f=350GHz



F=800GHz



f=200GHz



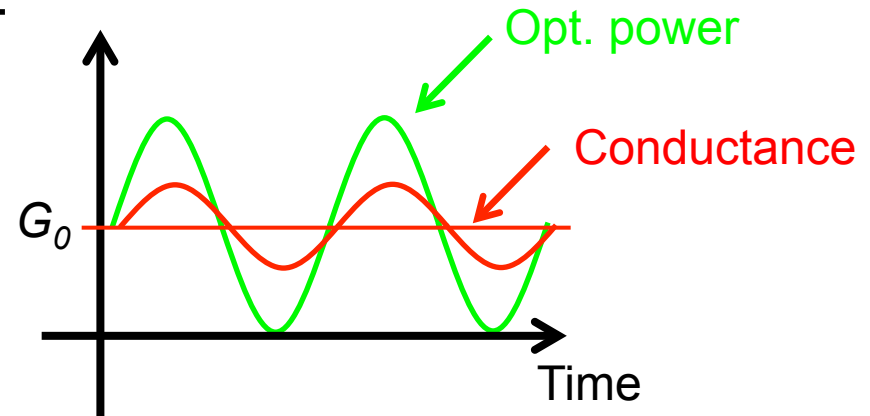
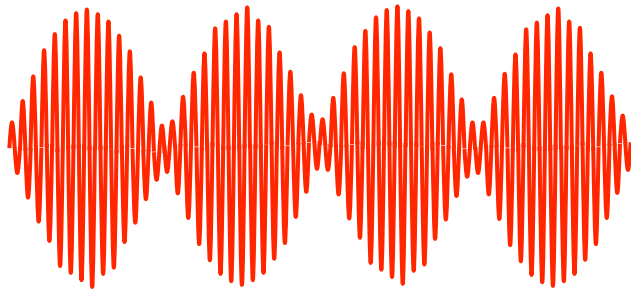
f=500GHz



f=1000GHz

Photomixing model

Beating of two optical frequencies:



Hypothesis:

- Photoconductor is modeled as perfect linear conductance
- Conductance is proportional to optical power with a time constant (carrier lifetime)
- Dark current negligible

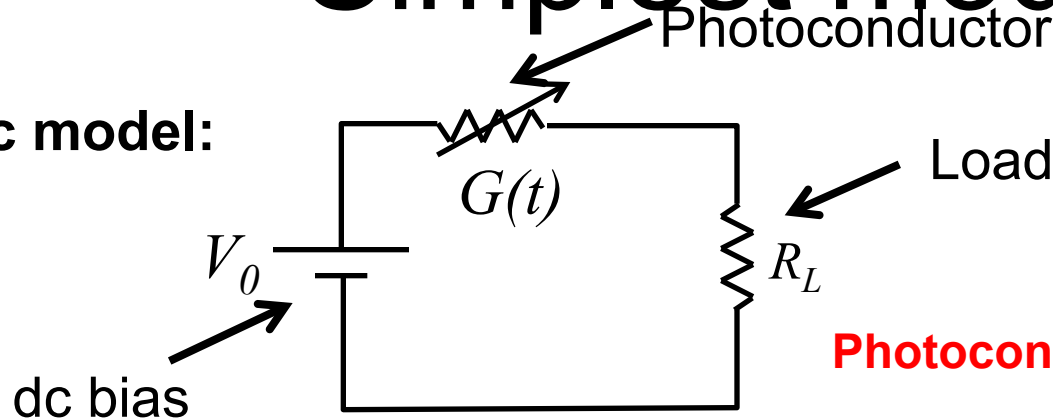
$$P(t) = P_0 (1 + \sin(\omega_B t))$$

$$G(t) = G_0 + G_1 \sin(\omega_B t)$$

$$G_1 = \frac{G_0}{\sqrt{1 + \omega_B^2 \tau_c^2}}$$

Simplest model

Basic model:

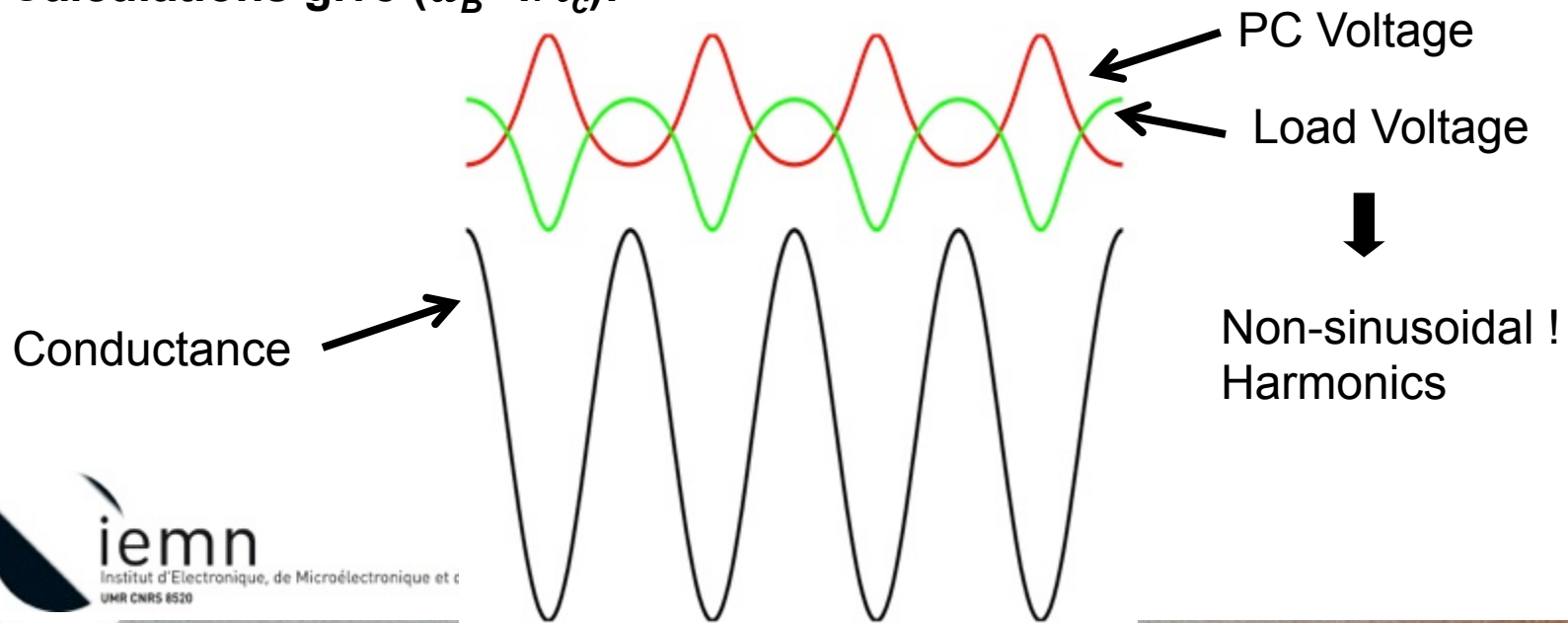


Photoconductor \equiv Parametric conductance

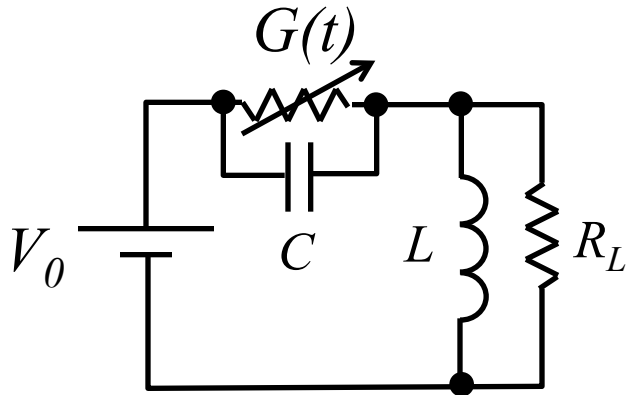


ac source

Calculations give ($\omega_B < 1/\tau_c$):



Analytical model

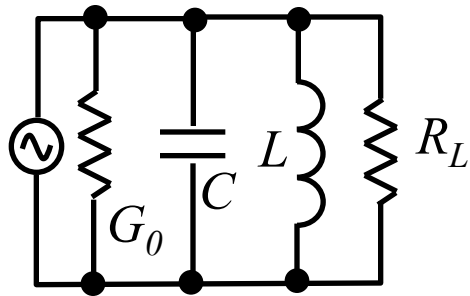


With a LC resonator:

We can consider that there is no harmonics

⇒ Calculation is simple

⇒ Effect of the capacitance is suppressed



ac schematic

Impedance
Matching term !

$$P_L = \frac{V_0^2 G_0^2}{2} \frac{G_L}{(G_0 + G_L)^2} \frac{1}{1 + \omega_B^2 \tau_c^2}$$

Results: two cases

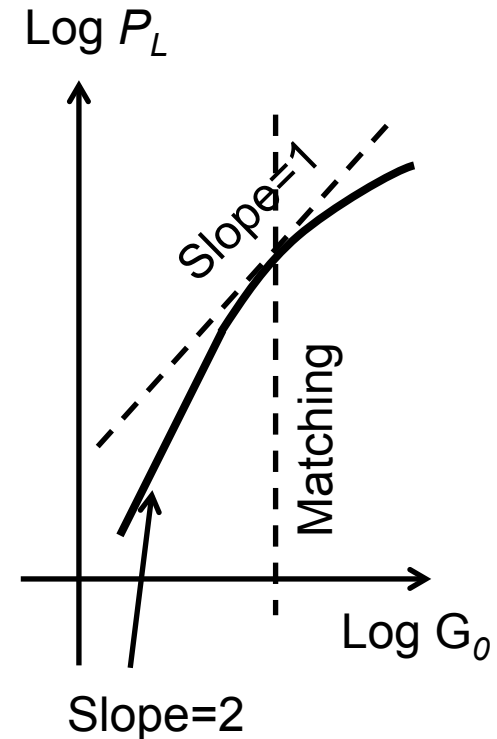
High impedance case, $G_0 \ll G_L$:

$$P_L = \frac{V_0^2 G_0^2}{2} R_L \frac{1}{1 + \omega_B^2 \tau_c^2}$$

Impedance matching case, $G_0 = G_L$:

$$P_L = \frac{V_0^2 G_0}{8} \frac{1}{1 + \omega_B^2 \tau_c^2}$$

For an antenna: $R_L \approx 20-100 \Omega$



Maximum efficiency ?

For matching condition ($G_L = G_0$):

We can demonstrate that:

$$P_{dc} = \frac{3}{4} V_0^2 G_0$$

If $\omega_B \ll \tau_c$:

$$\eta_{elec,max} = \frac{P_L}{P_{dc}} = \frac{1}{8} \times \frac{4}{3} = \frac{1}{6}$$

16,67 %, does not depend on the ratio between optical frequ. and THz frequ.

We can define also a total efficiency (electrical+optical):

$$\eta_{total,max} = \frac{P_L}{P_{dc} + P_{opt}}$$