

# Mesoscopic Optics

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## Group members

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## Collaborators

**A. Douglas Stone, Chia-Wei Hsu**  
*Yale Univ.*

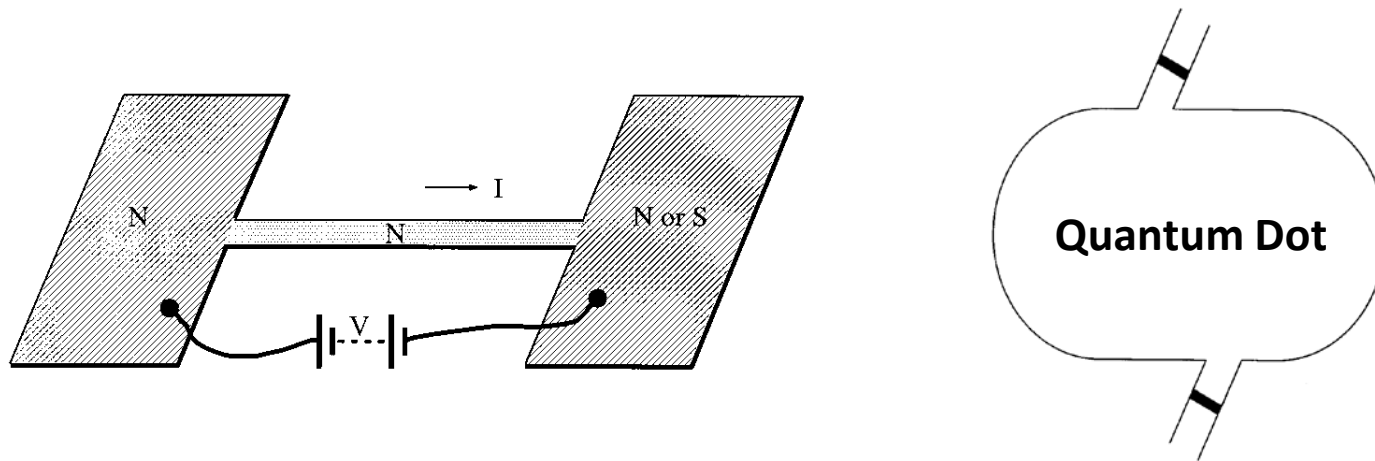
**Arthur Goetschy**  
*ESPCI, France*

**Alexey Yamilov, Sasha Petrenko**  
*Missouri Univ of Science & Technology*

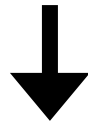
**Allard Mosk, Willem Vos**  
*Univ Twente, Netherlands*



# Mesoscopic Electron Transport



**Interference of coherent electron wave**



**Anderson localization**

**Universal conductance fluctuation**

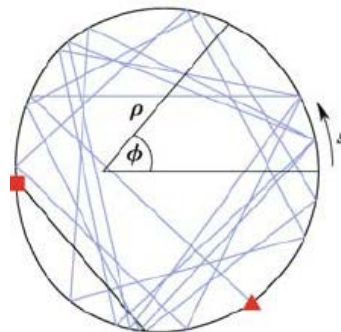
# Mesoscopic Optics

Classical wave: light, microwave, acoustic wave

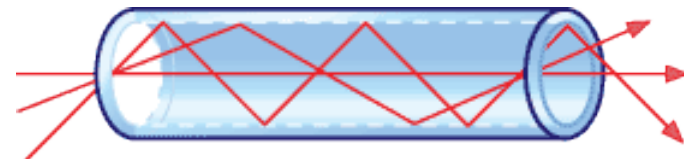
Scattering medium



Chaotic cavity



Multi-mode fiber



# Strong Scattering Media

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**Cloud**



**Fog**



**Biological tissue**



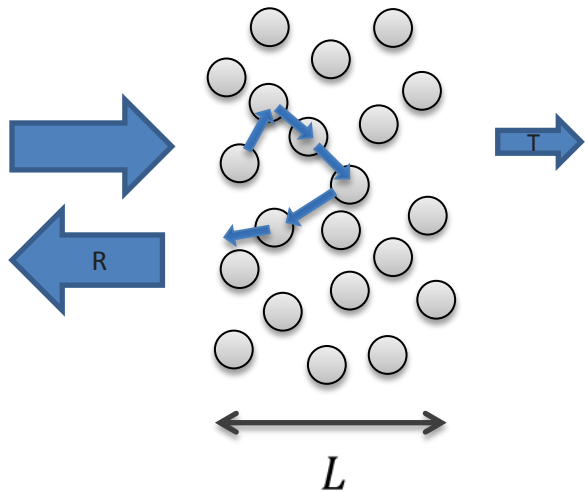
**Sand Storm**



# Transmission Through a Diffusive Medium

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Sample thickness  $L \gg$  Transport mean free path  $l_t$



$$\langle T \rangle \approx \frac{l_t}{L} \ll 1$$

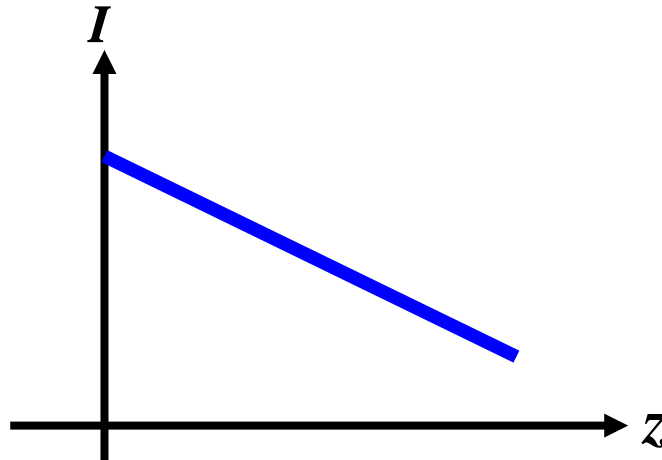
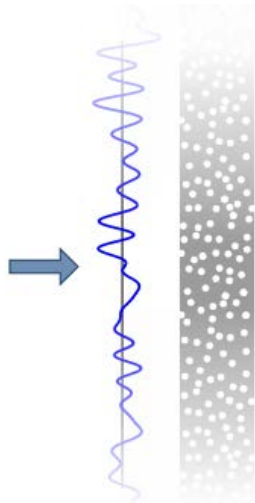
**How to enhance wave transmission?**

# Diffusion Model

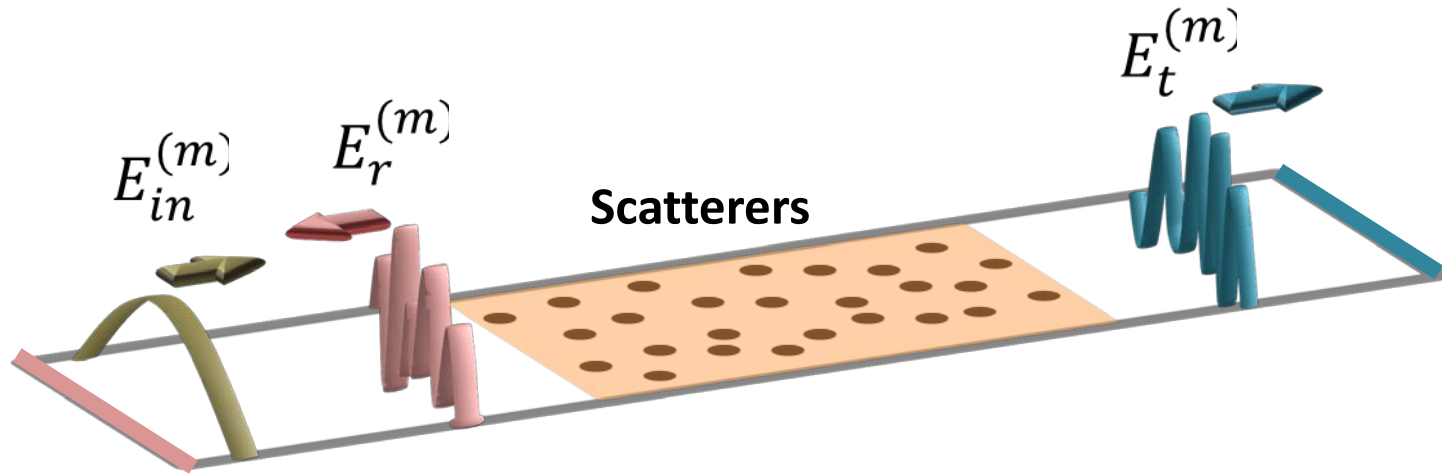
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**Diffusion equation**  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} I(r, t) = D \nabla^2 I(r, t)$

**Diffusion coefficient**  $D = \frac{v}{3} l_t$



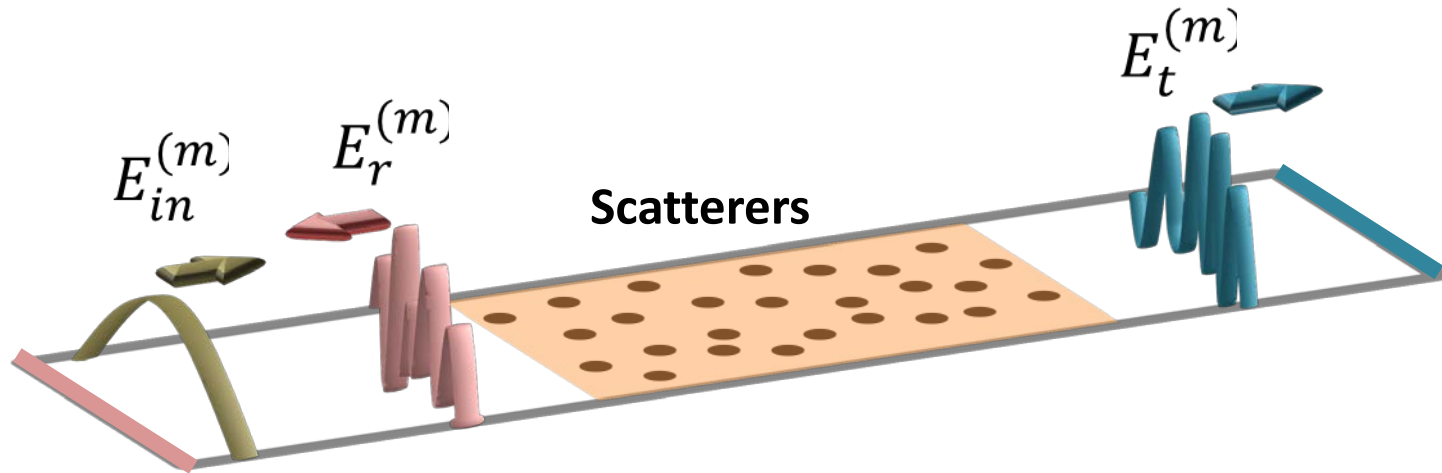
# Transmission Matrix



Field transmission matrix

$$\mathbf{t} = \begin{pmatrix} t_{11} & \cdots & t_{1N} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ t_{N1} & \cdots & t_{NN} \end{pmatrix}$$

# Transmission Matrix



$$\mathbf{t} = \begin{pmatrix} u_{11} & \cdots & u_{1N} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ u_{N1} & \cdots & u_{NN} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{\tau_1} & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{\tau_N} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_{11} & \cdots & v_{1N} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ v_{N1} & \cdots & v_{NN} \end{pmatrix}^\dagger$$



# Transmission Eigenchannel

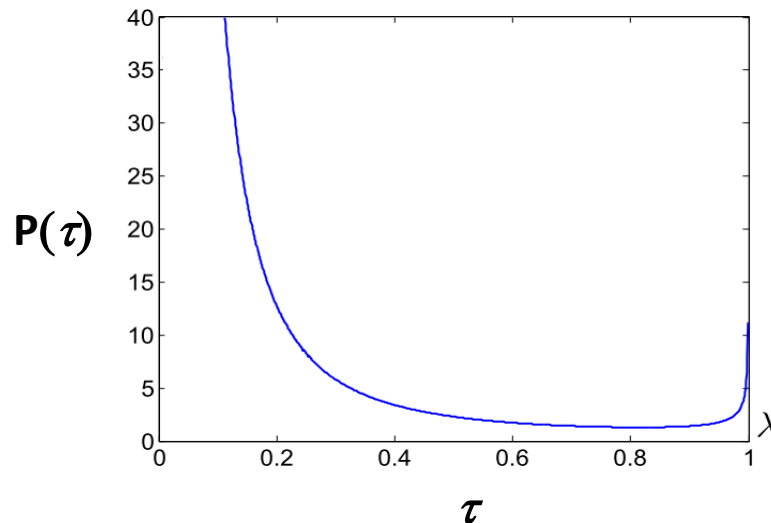
**Bimodal distribution of transmission eigenvalues**

$$\rho(\tau) \propto \frac{\langle \tau \rangle}{\tau \sqrt{1 - \tau}}$$

$$\langle \tau \rangle \ll 1$$

**Open channel  $\tau \sim 1$**

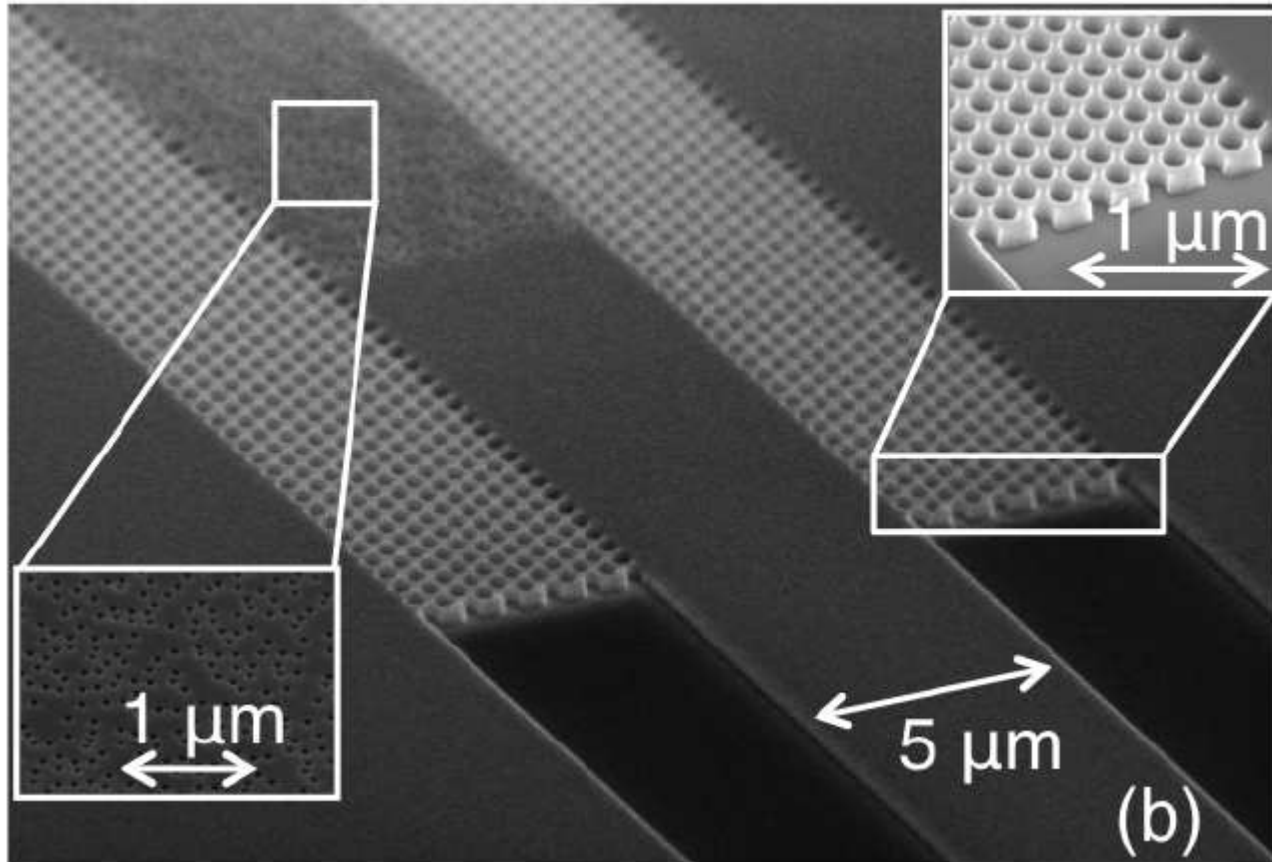
**Closed channel  $\tau \sim 0$**



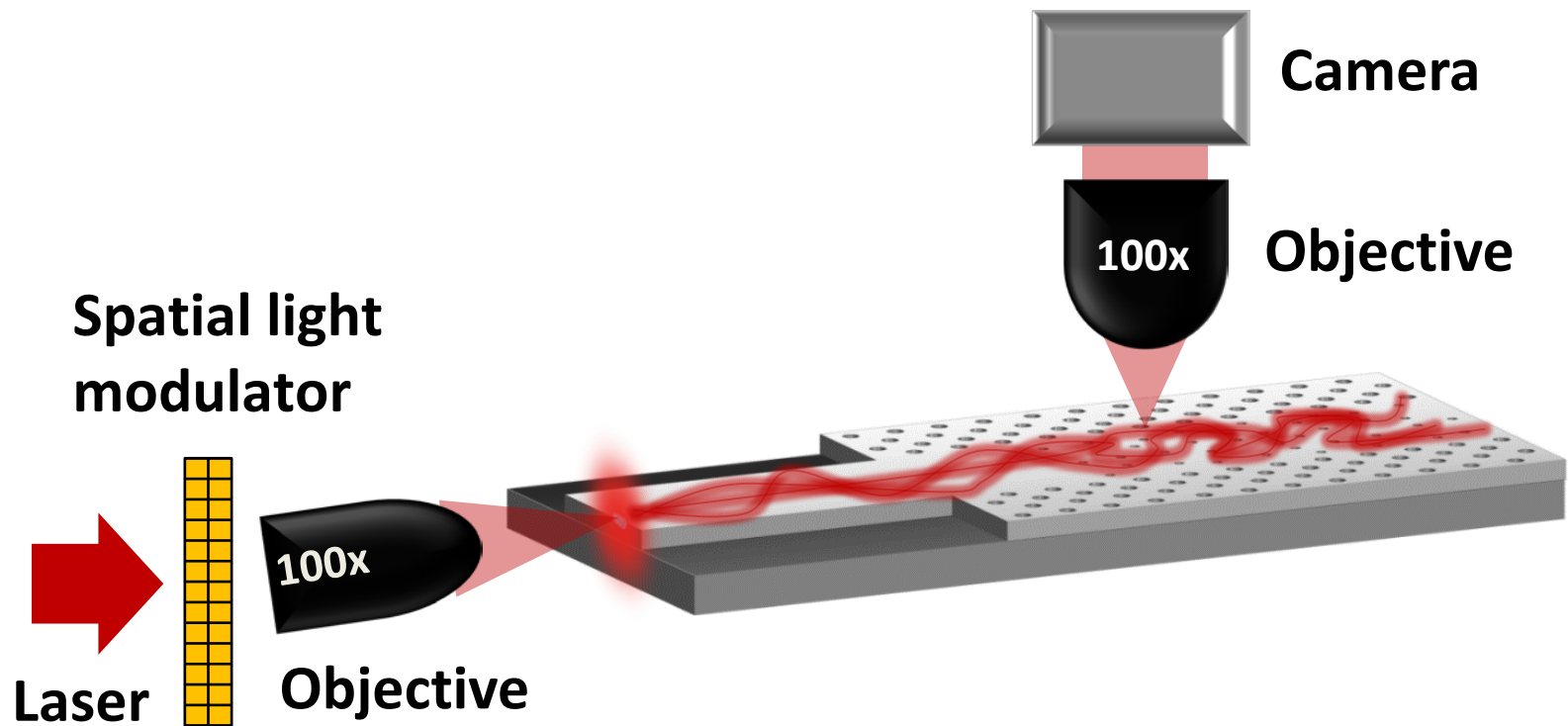
Dorokhov, Solid State Commun. **51**, 381 (1984)

Mello *et al.* Ann. Phys. **181**, 290 (1988)

# Silicon Waveguide

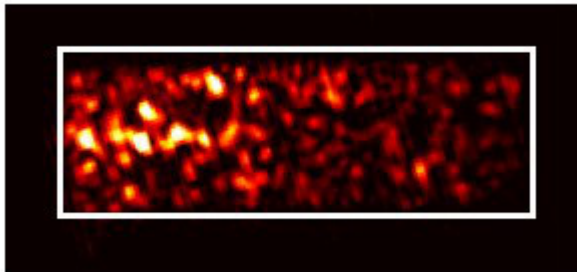


# Direct Probing of Light Propagation inside quasi-2D Disordered Structure

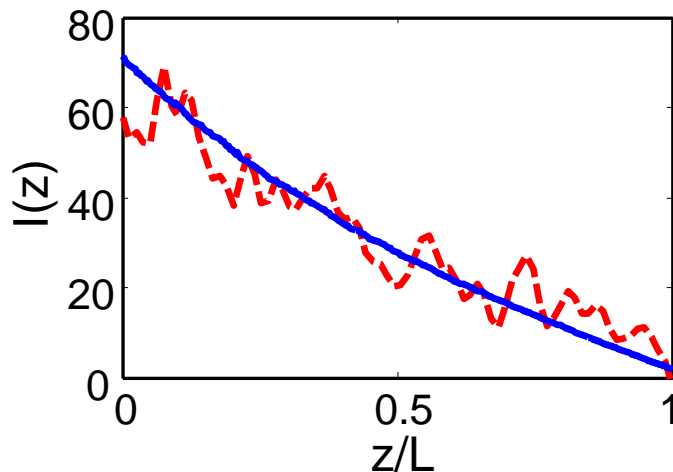


# Maximizing Transmission

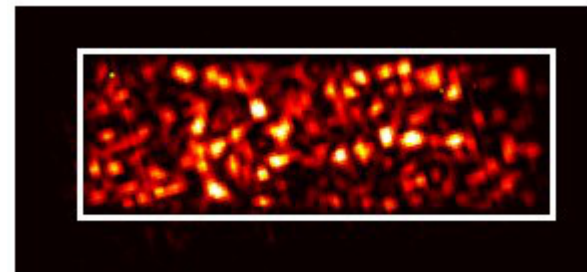
Arbitrary Input



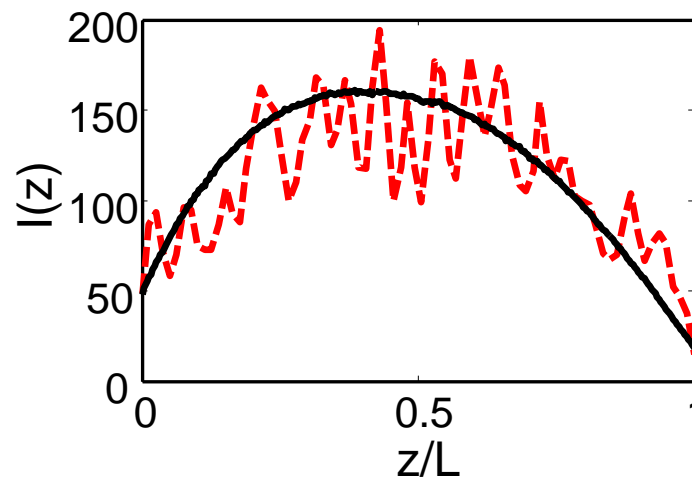
$T = 4.7\%$



Optimized Input

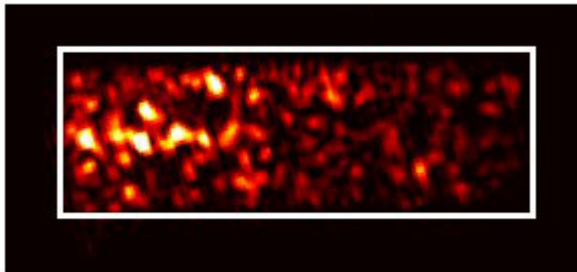


$T = 48\%$

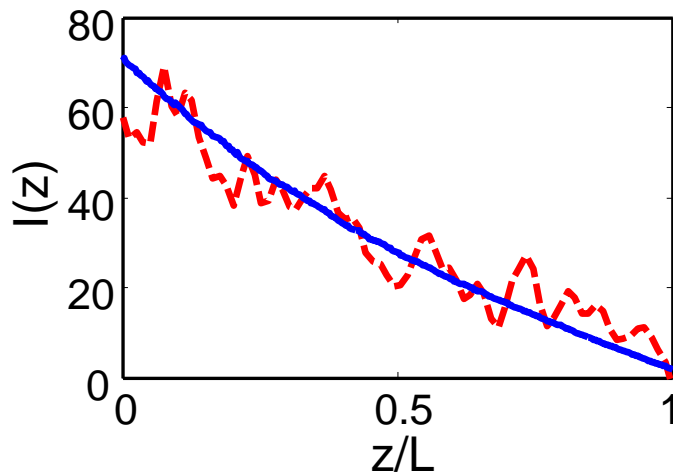


# Minimizing Transmission

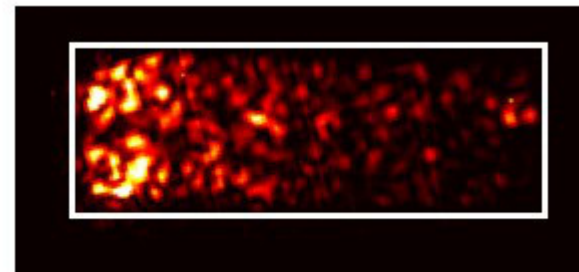
Arbitrary Input



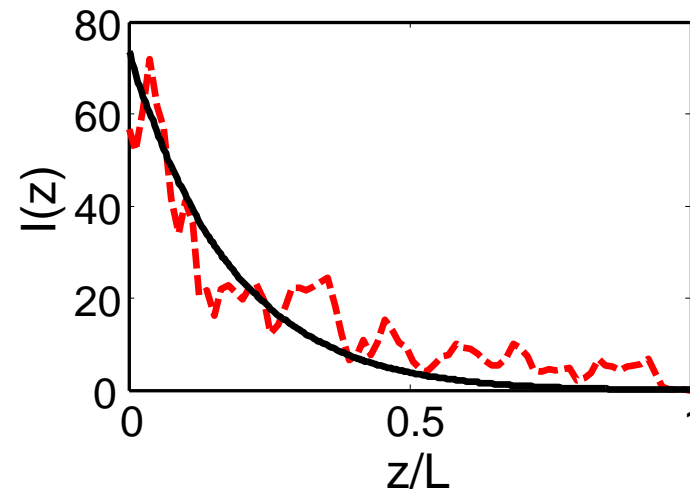
$T = 4.7\%$



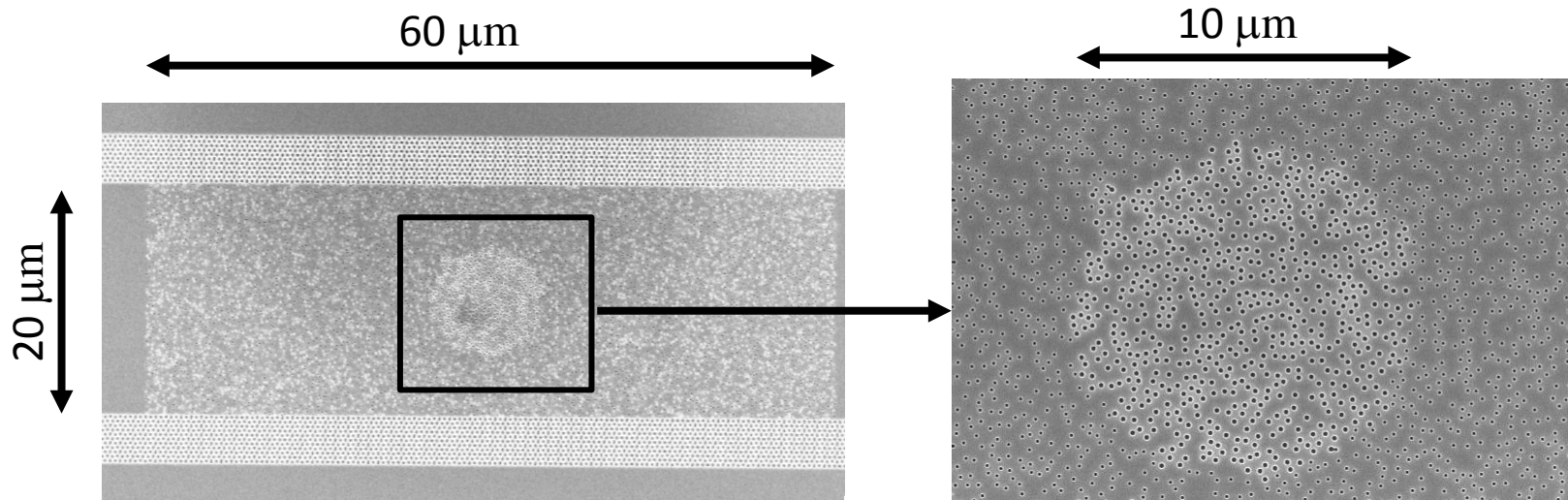
Optimized Input



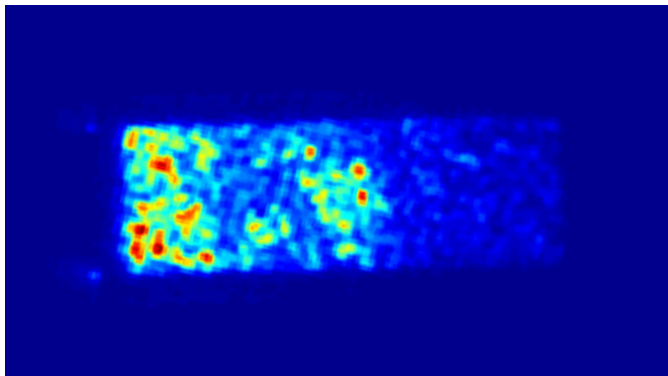
$T = 0.1\%$



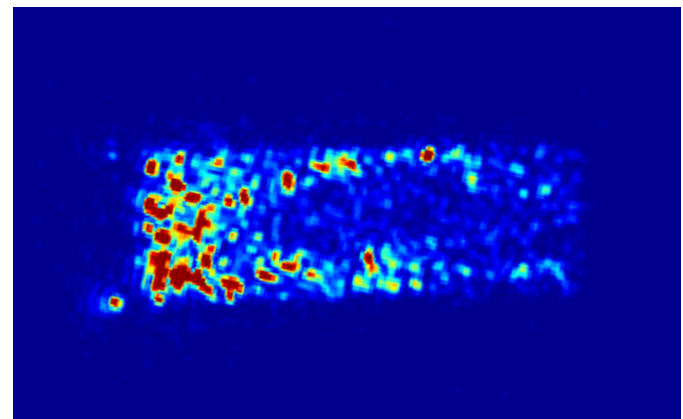
# Inhomogeneous Scattering



**Before optimization**



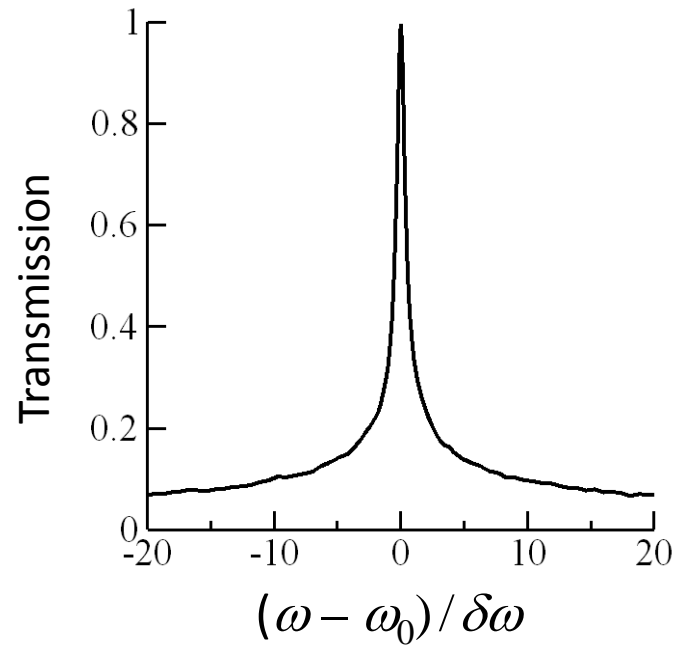
**After optimization**



# Spectral Bandwidth

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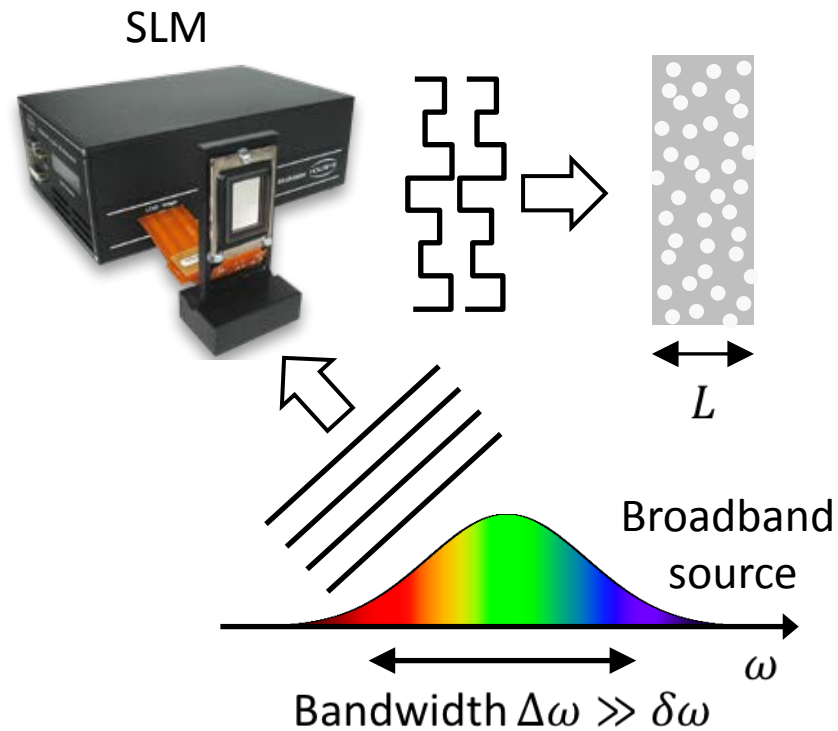
Open channel at  $\omega_0$



**Correlation width**

$$\delta\omega \sim 1/\Delta t \sim D/L^2$$

# Coherent Control of Broadband Light





# Broadband Transmission

Number of independent spectral channels

$$M_s \sim \frac{\Delta\omega}{\delta\omega} + 1$$

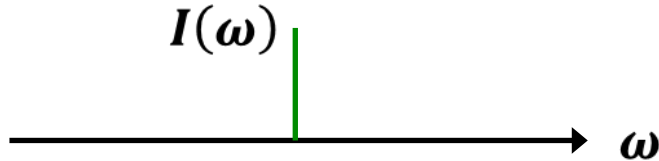
Total transmission

$$T_0 \sim \frac{1 + \bar{T}(M_s - 1)}{M_s}$$

$$M_s \gg 1 \quad T_0 \rightarrow \bar{T}$$

# Broadband Transmission

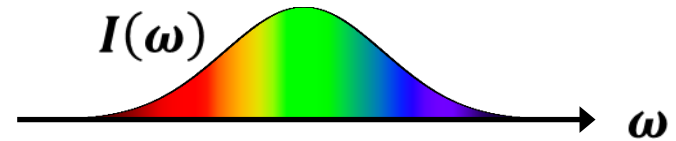
Monochromatic light



$$T = \frac{\langle \psi_{in} | \tilde{t}^\dagger \tilde{t} | \psi_{in} \rangle}{\langle \psi_{in} | \psi_{in} \rangle}$$



Broadband light



$$T = \frac{\langle \psi_{in} | A | \psi_{in} \rangle}{\langle \psi_{in} | \psi_{in} \rangle}$$

$$A = \int d\omega I(\omega) \tilde{t}^\dagger(\omega) \tilde{t}(\omega)$$

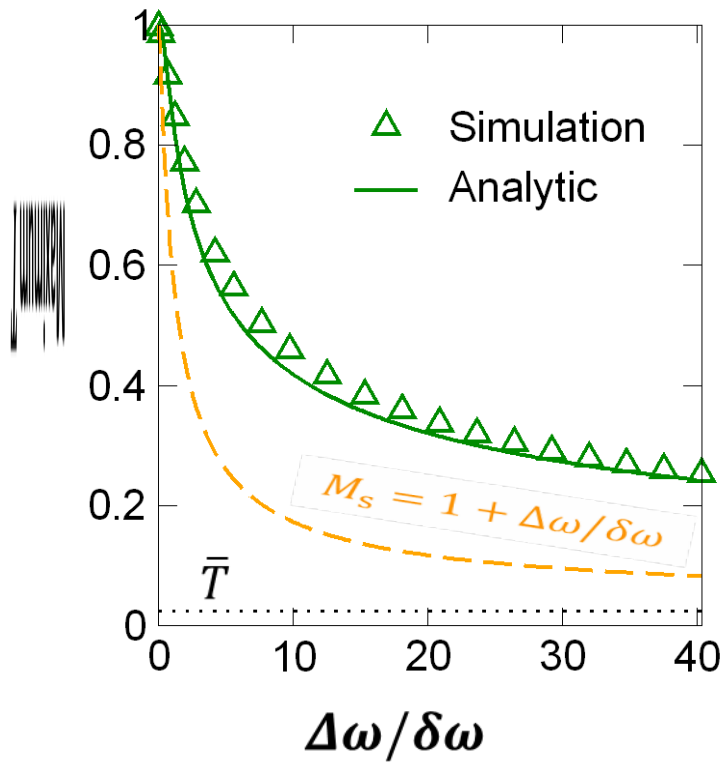
Maximum transmission



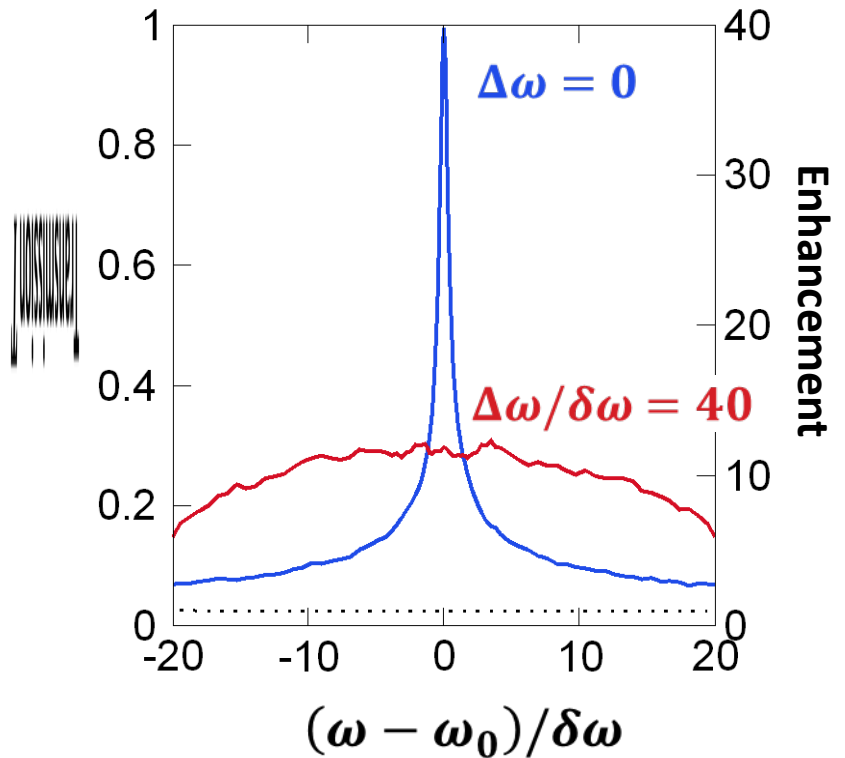
Largest eigenvalue of  $A$

# Broadband Open Channel

## Maximal transmission



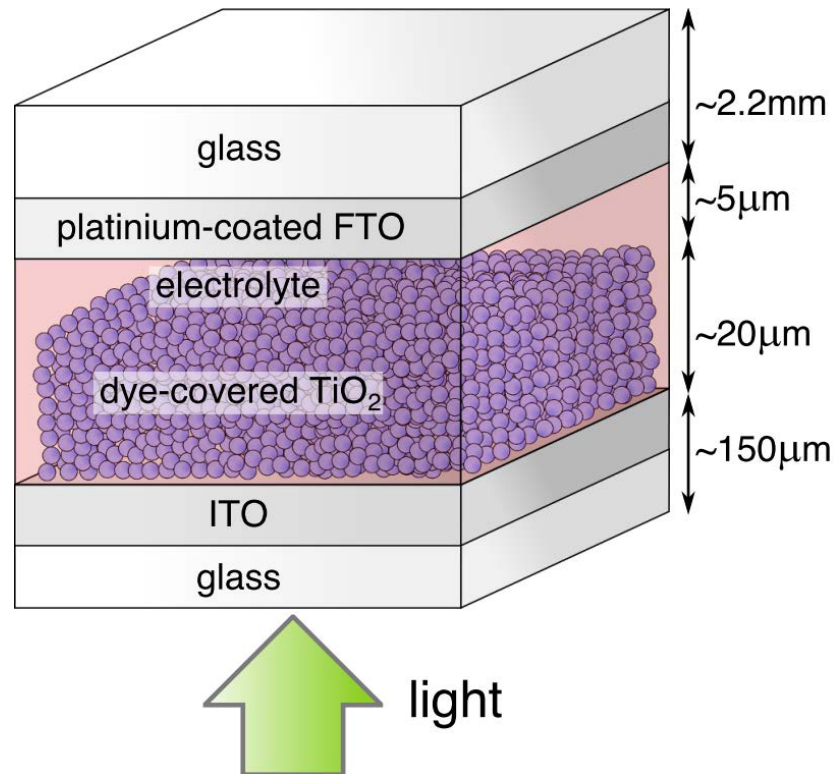
## Broadband transmission



# Coherent Control of Optical Absorption

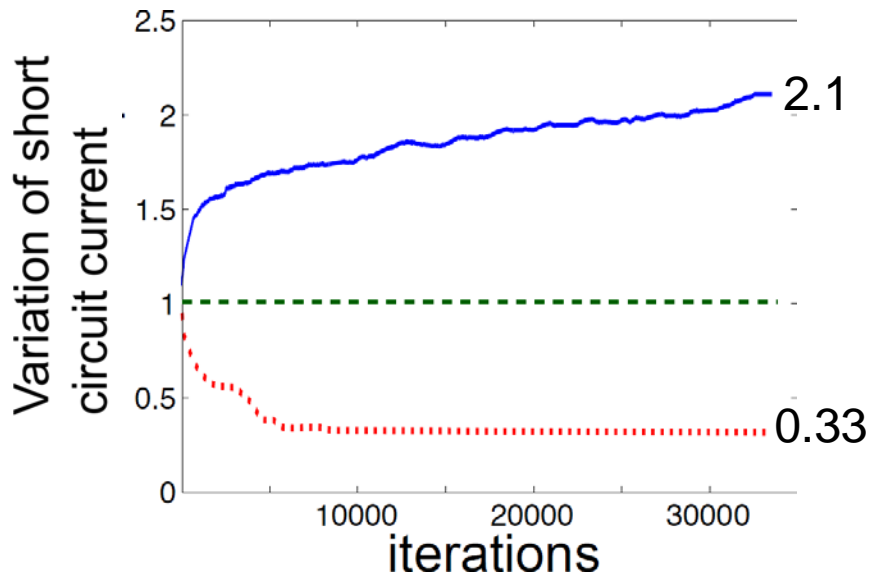
## Dye-sensitized solar cell

- **Scattering**
- **Absorption**

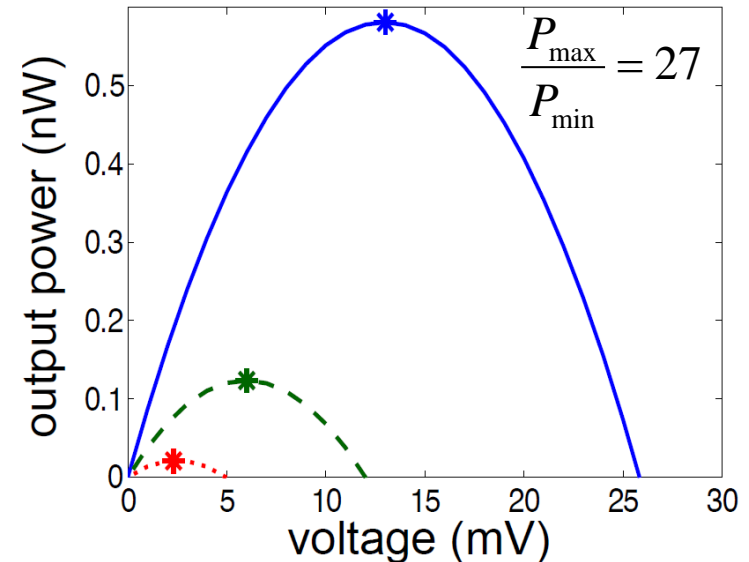


# Coherent Control of Optical Absorption

## Light-induced current



## Light-induced electric power



# Summary

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- **Coherent control of light propagation and absorption in a strong-scattering medium by shaping incident wavefront of a laser beam**
- **Manipulate wave interference effects to break incoherent diffusion limit and achieve diverse transport behavior**

# Distinction between Electron Transport and Photon Transport

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**Stimulated emission of photons adds a new dimension to mesoscopic physics**

**Combination of scattering and amplification leads to lasing action**

HC, Optics & Photonics News **16**, 24 (2005)

Wiersma, Nat. Phys. **4**, 359 (2008)

# Laser Illumination

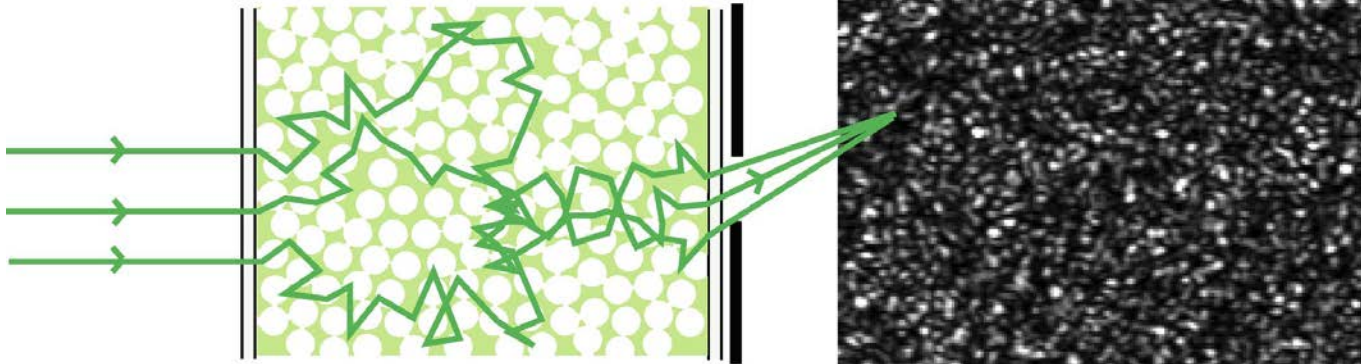
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## Advantages

- **Brightness**
- **Directionality**
- **Power consumption**
- **Spectral control**

## Applications

- **Full-field Imaging**
- **Laser projectors**
- **Photolithography**
- **Holography**

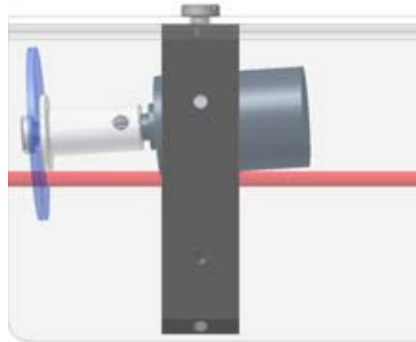




# Removing Speckle

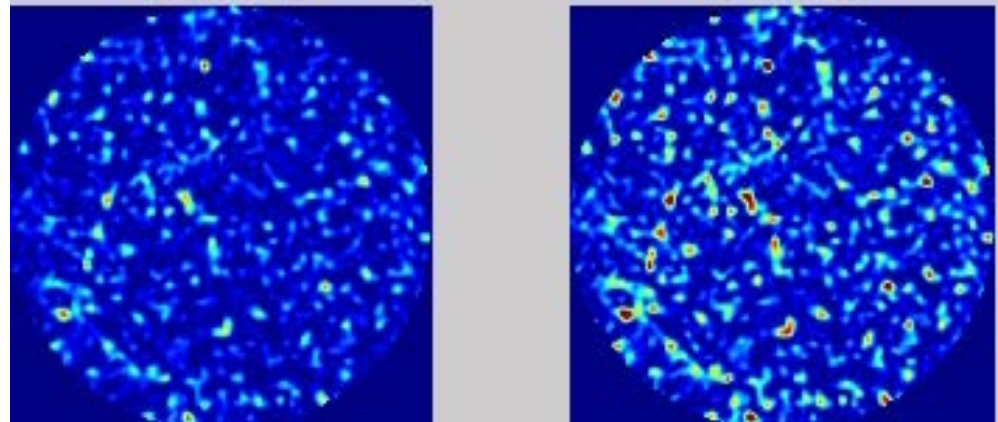
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**Rotating  
diffuser**



**Speckle contrast**

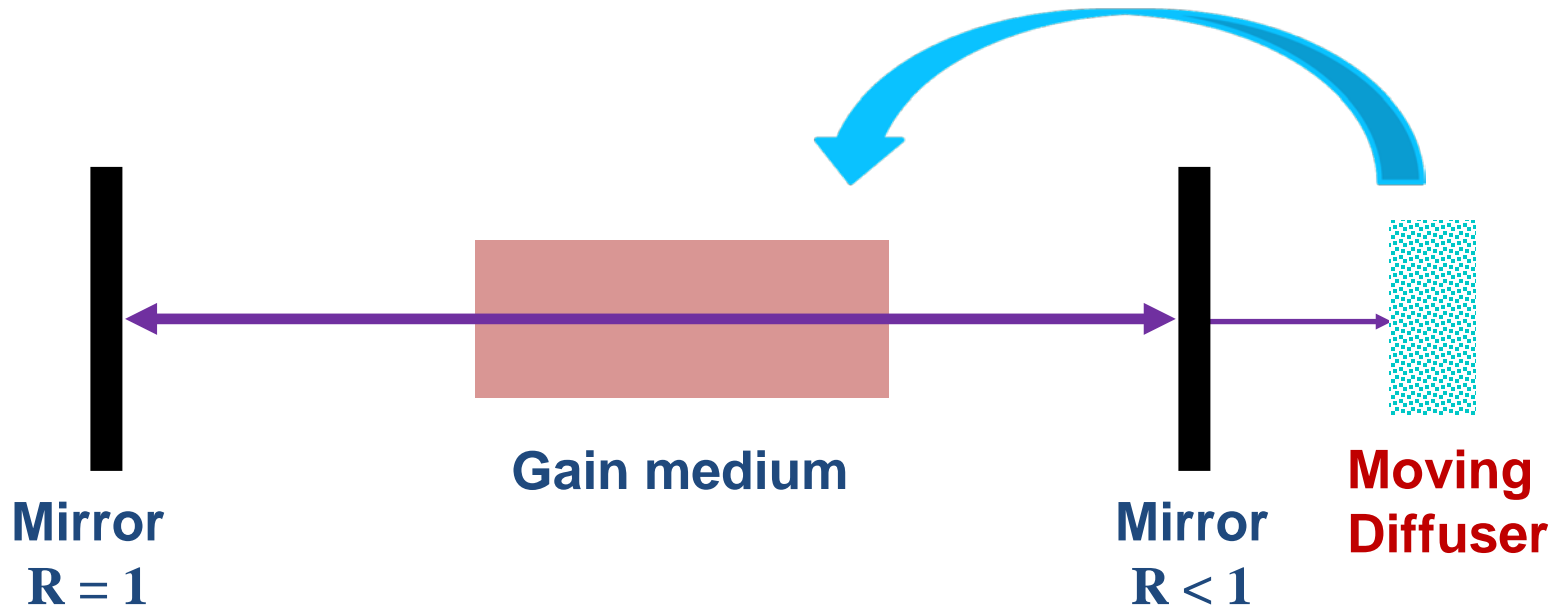
$$C \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$$



# Laser

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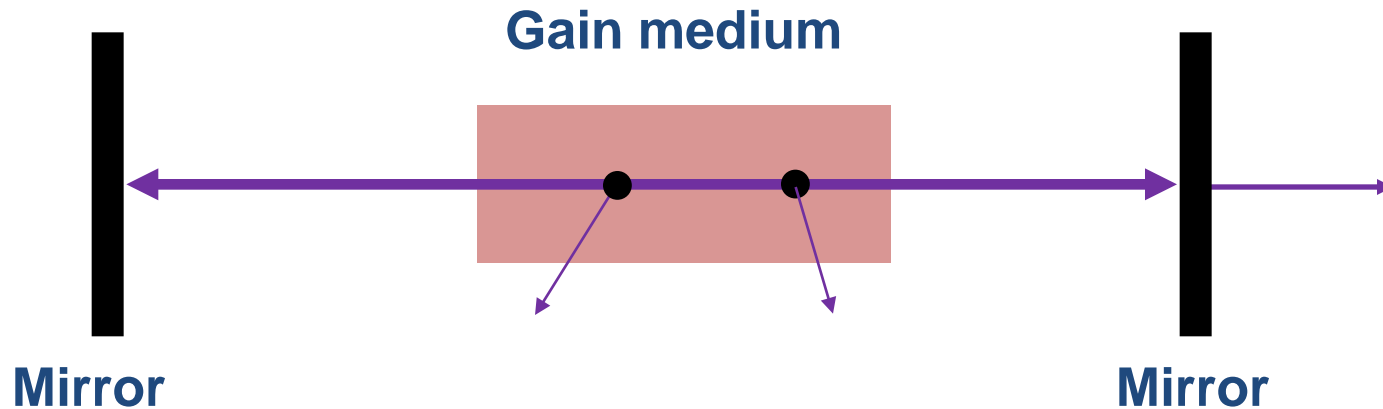
Put Diffuser inside Laser?



# Weak Scattering

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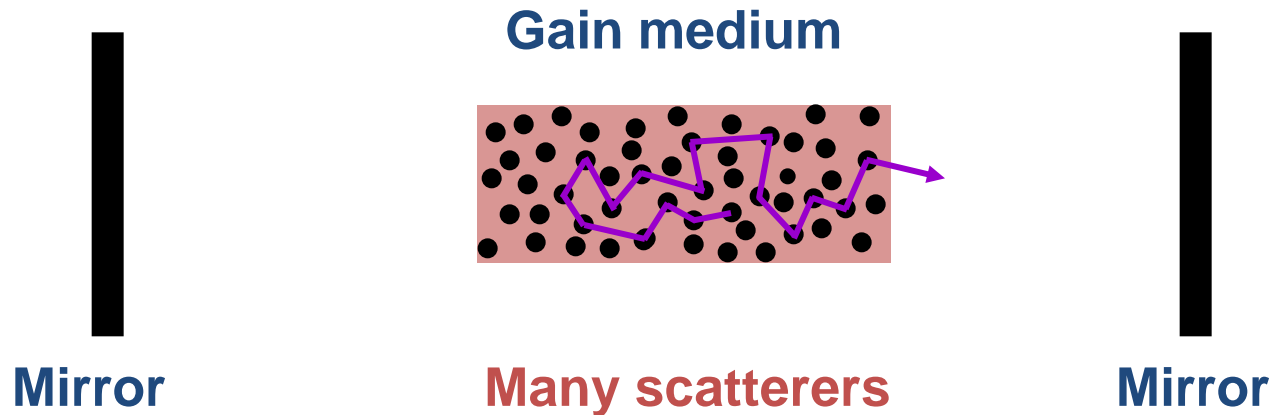
Weak scattering of light inside the laser cavity causes additional loss, increasing lasing threshold



# Strong Scattering

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Multiple scattering increases path length of light inside gain medium, enhancing amplification

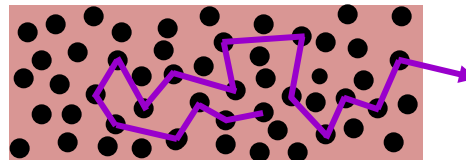


# Mirrorless Laser

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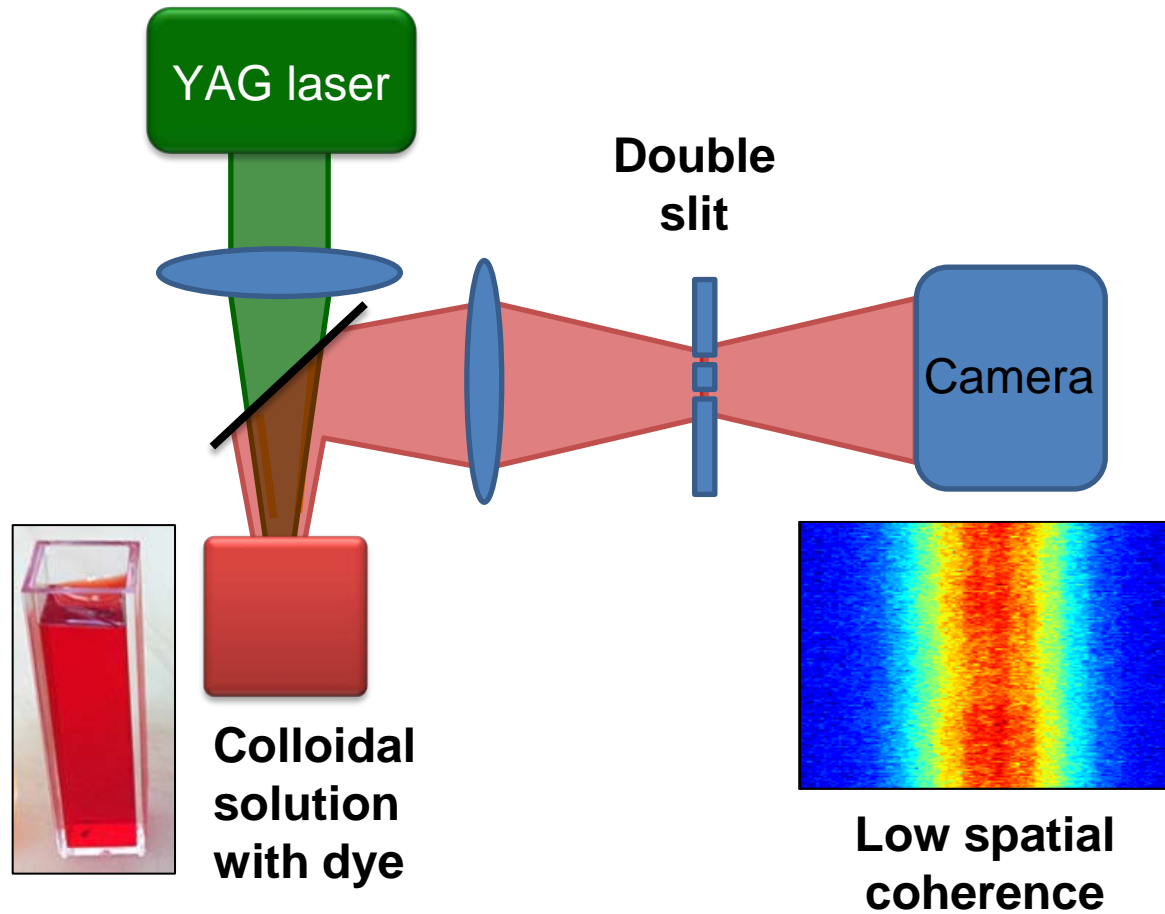
Light is trapped inside gain medium without mirrors

Gain medium

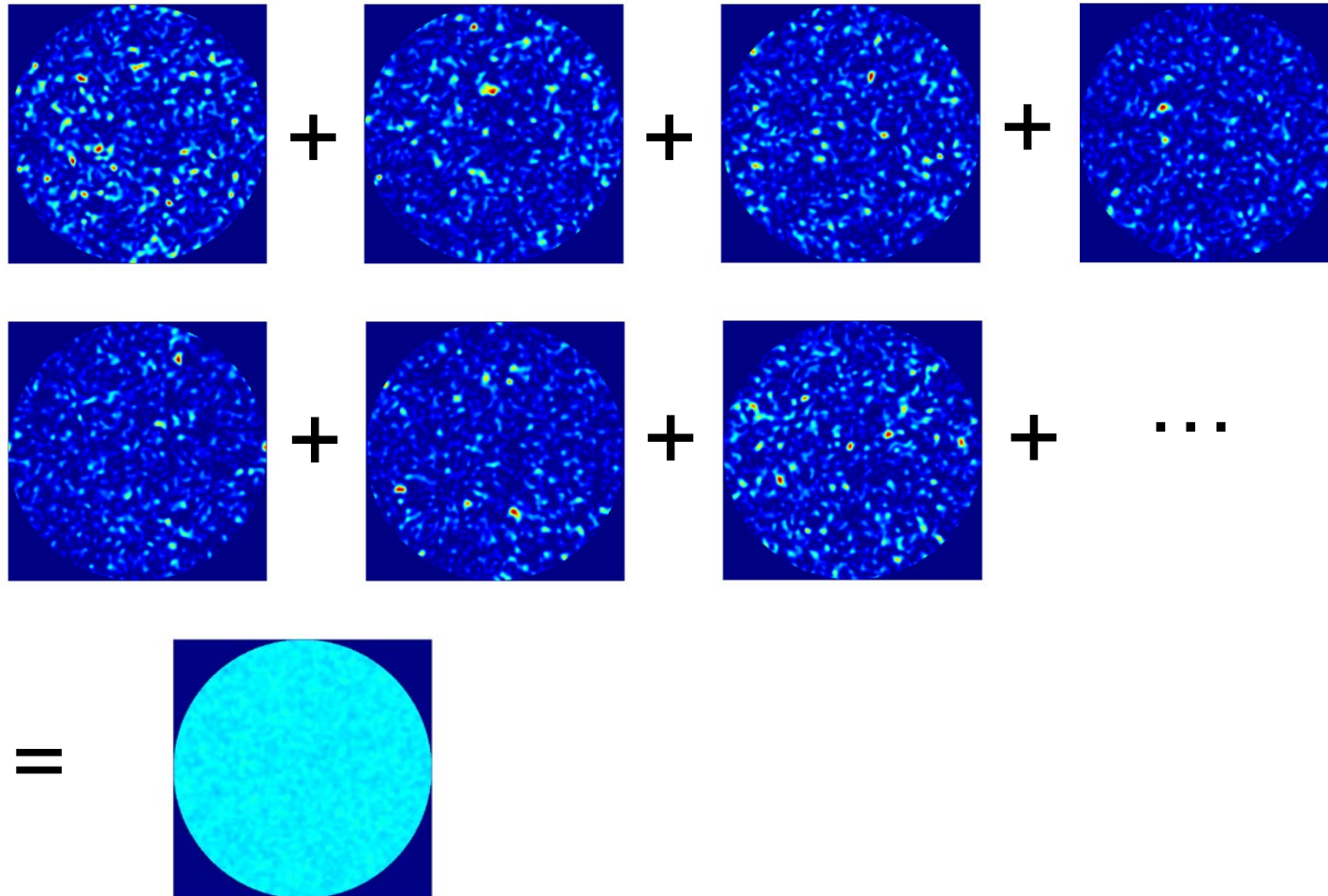


Multiple scattering

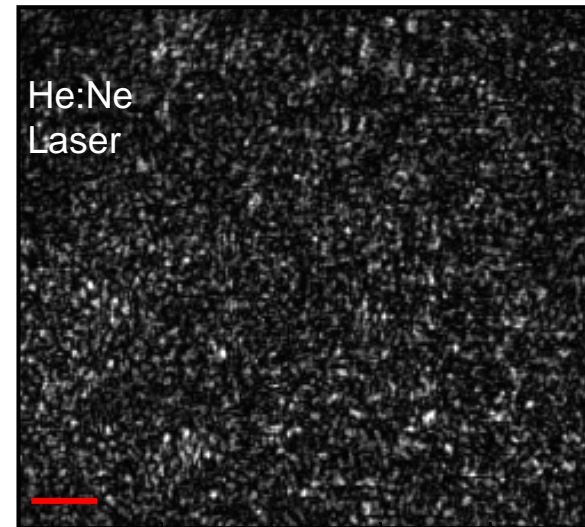
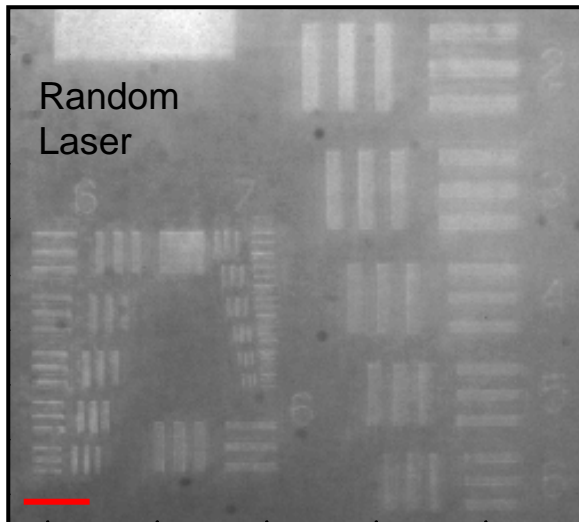
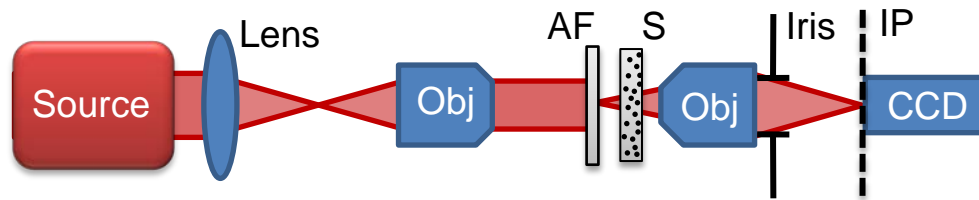
# Low Spatial Coherence



# Many Independent Random Lasing Modes



# Speckle-free Full-Field Imaging





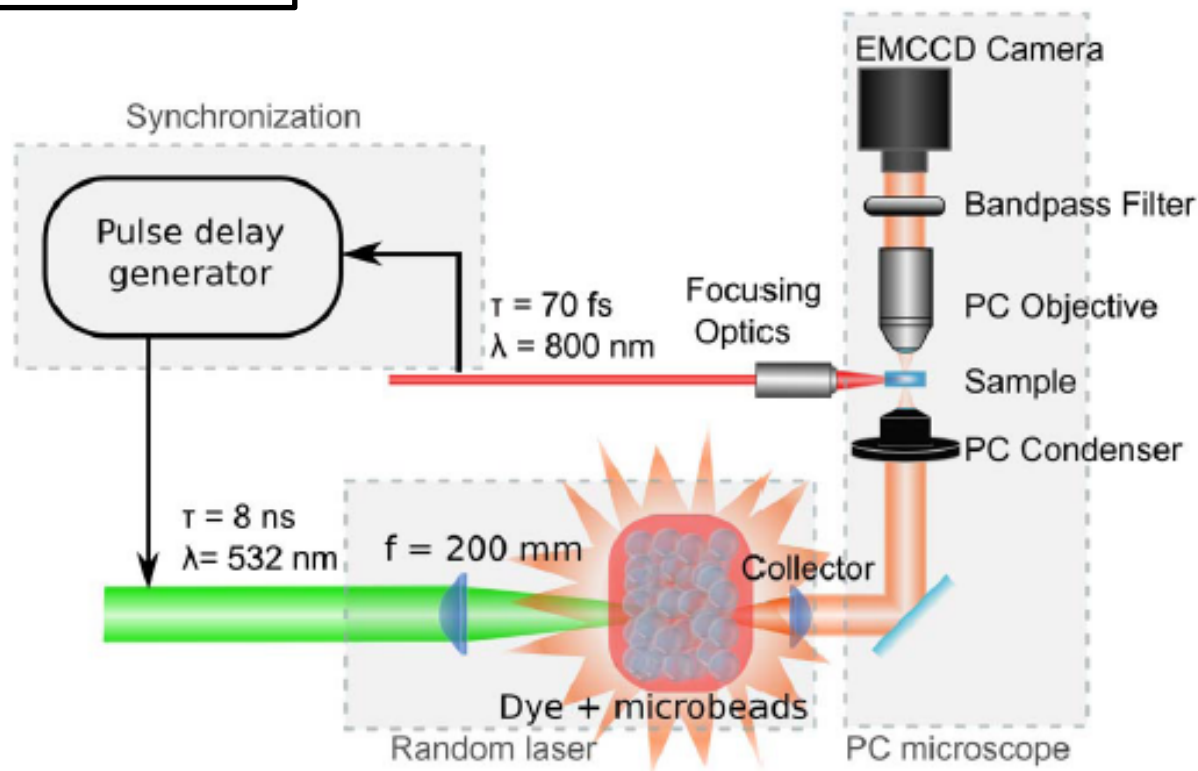
# Time-resolved microscopy with random lasers

Alexandre Mermillod-Blondin,\* Heiko Mentzel, and Arkadi Rosenfeld

Max-Born-Institut für Nichtlineare Optik und Kurzzeitspektroskopie, Max-Born-Straße, D-12489 Berlin, Germany

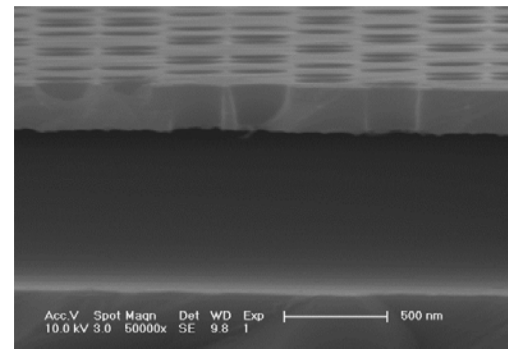
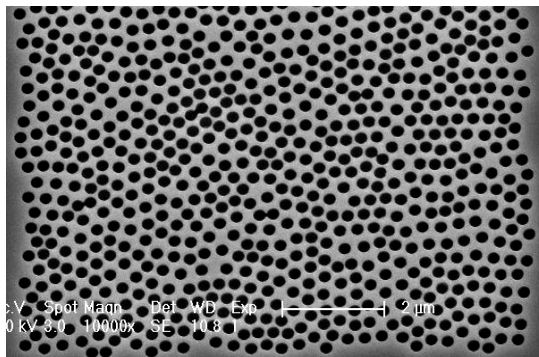
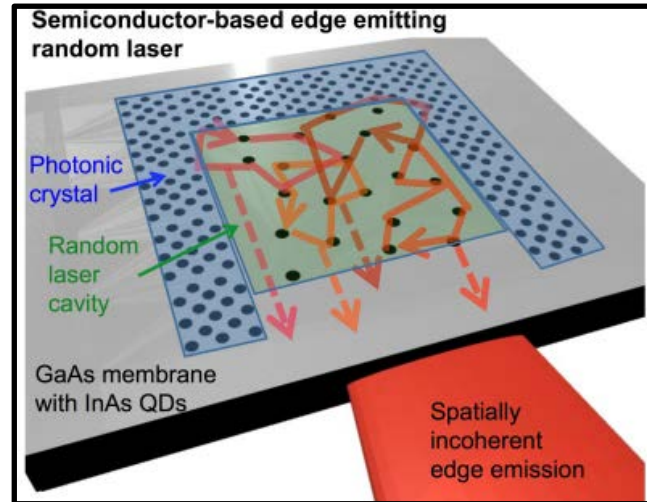
\*Corresponding author: mermillod@mbi-berlin.de

**10 ns Speckle-Free Images**



# Practical Random Laser

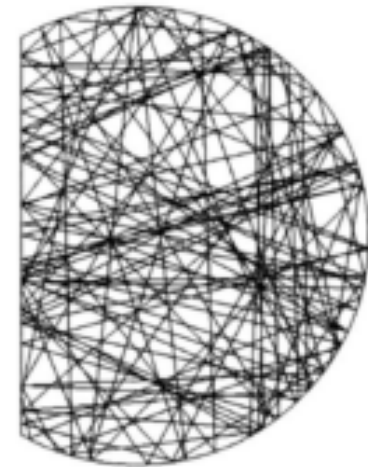
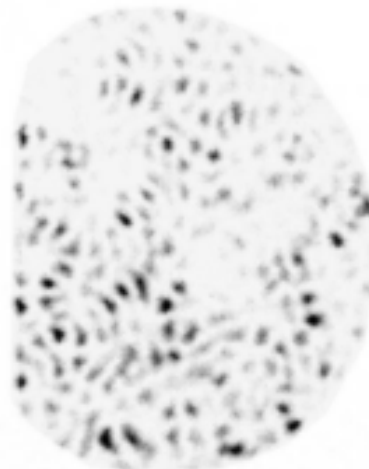
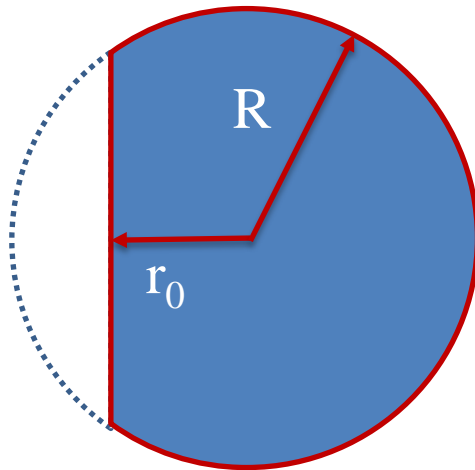
Compact, electrically pumped, low-cost, long lifetime...



# Low Spatial Coherence Laser

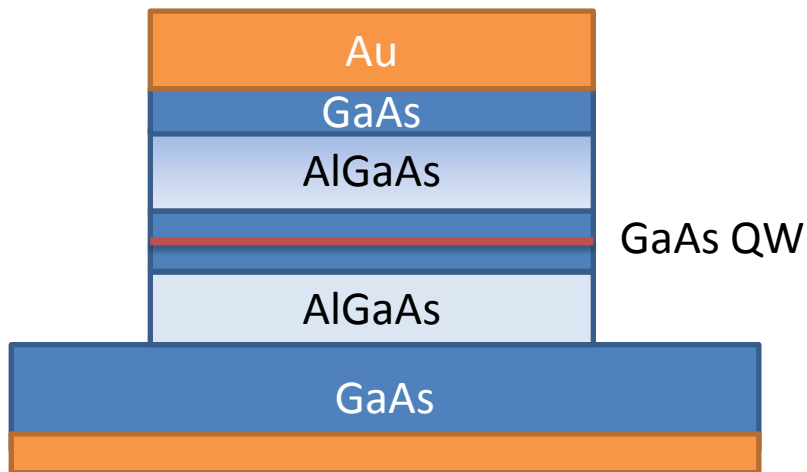
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- Many modes of similar Q factor
- Minimal gain competition
- Speckled emission pattern

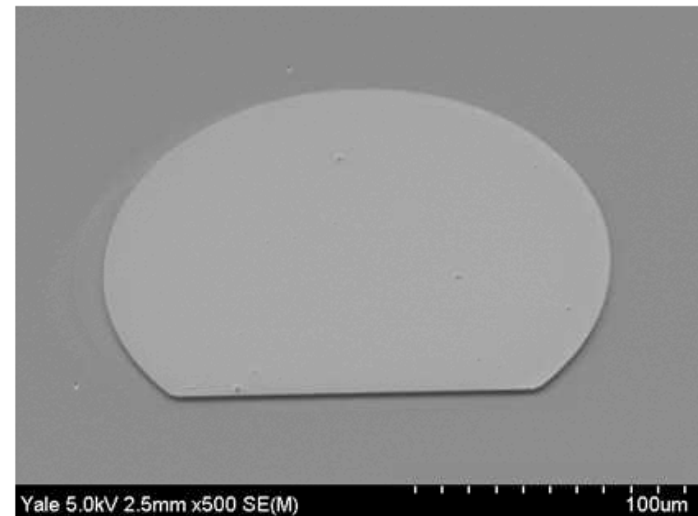


# D-shaped Semiconductor Microcavity

Commercial epi wafer



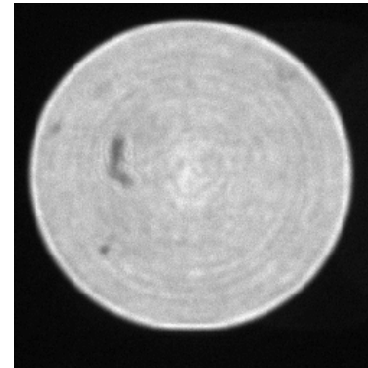
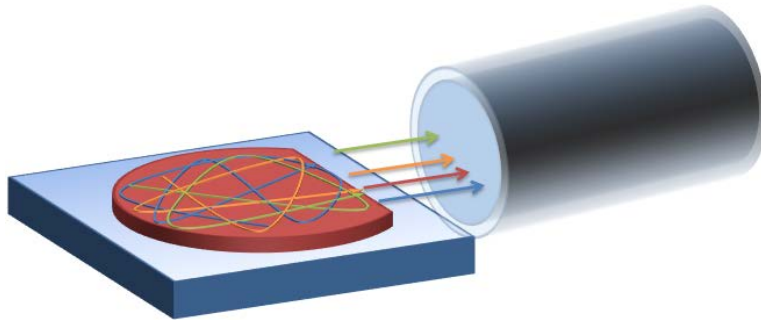
Photolithography  
Wet etching



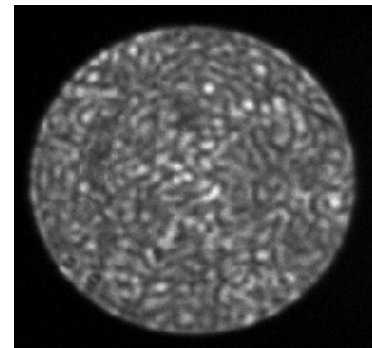
# Speckle-Free Laser

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- Electrical current injection
- Room temperature lasing

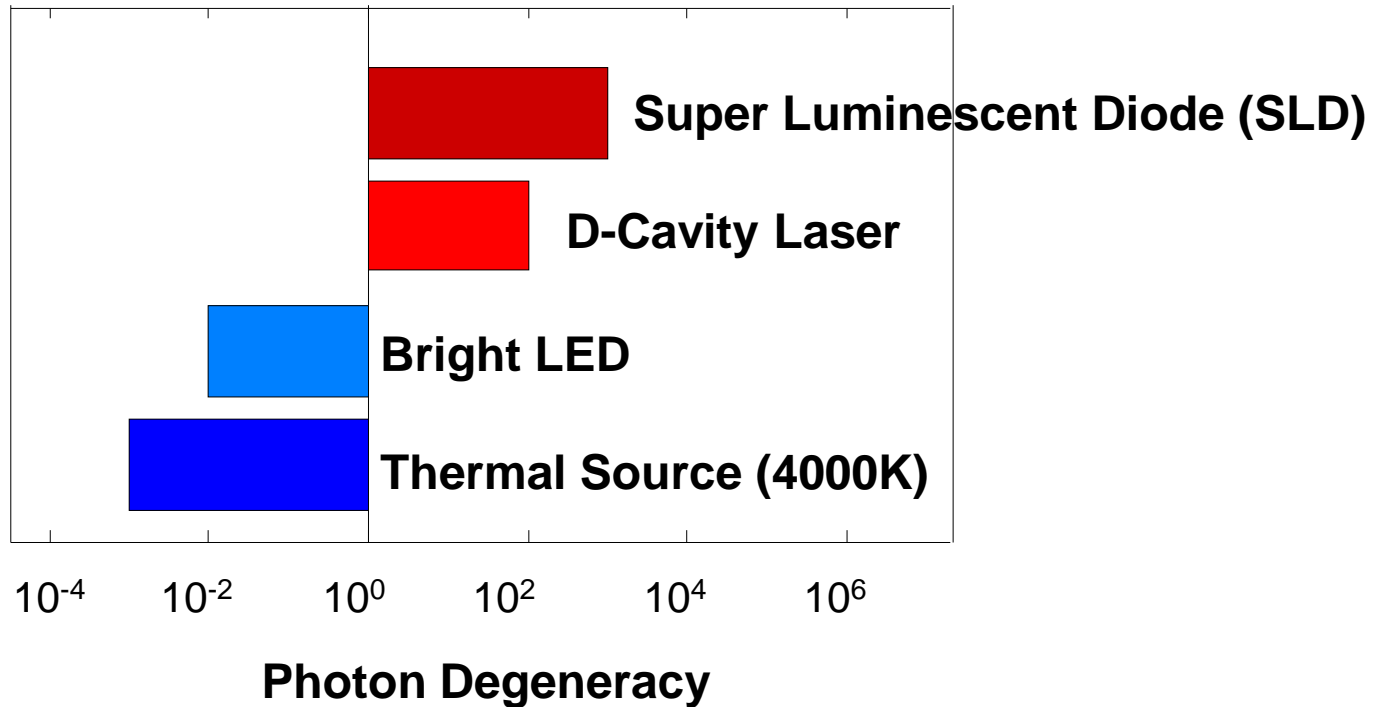


**Circular microdisk laser**



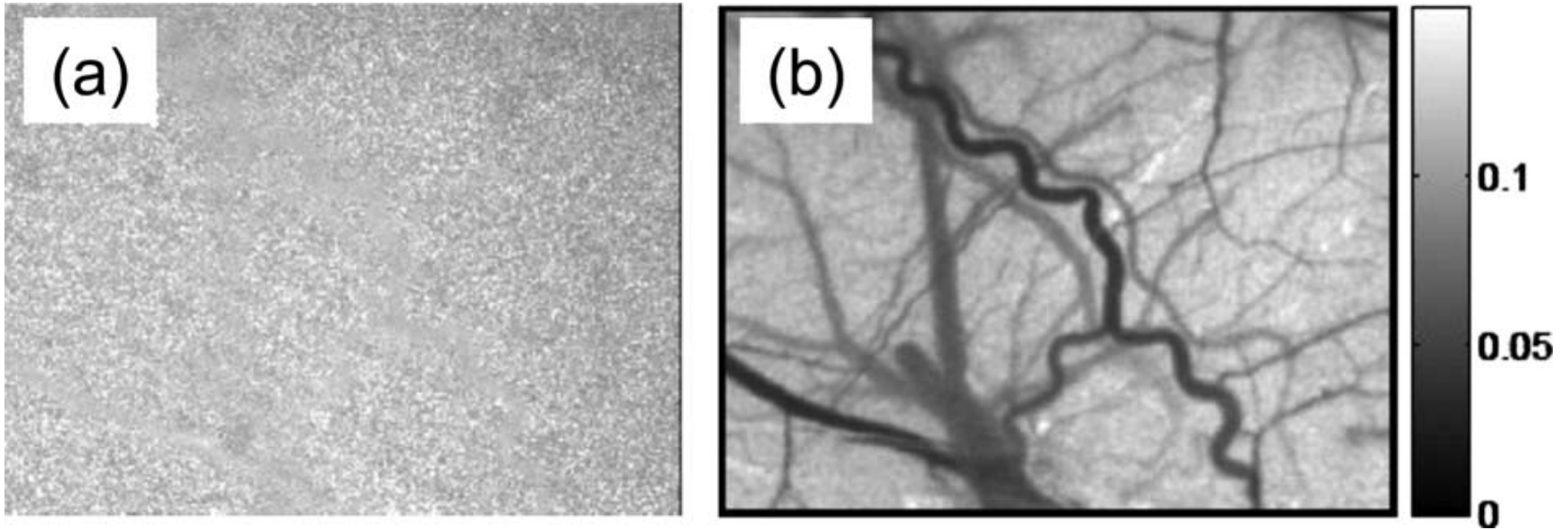
# Source Brightness Comparison

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# Laser Speckle Contrast Imaging

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# Bimodality Imaging

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**Switch spatial coherence of a laser**

**low spatial coherence -> structural image**

**high spatial coherence -> dynamic process**

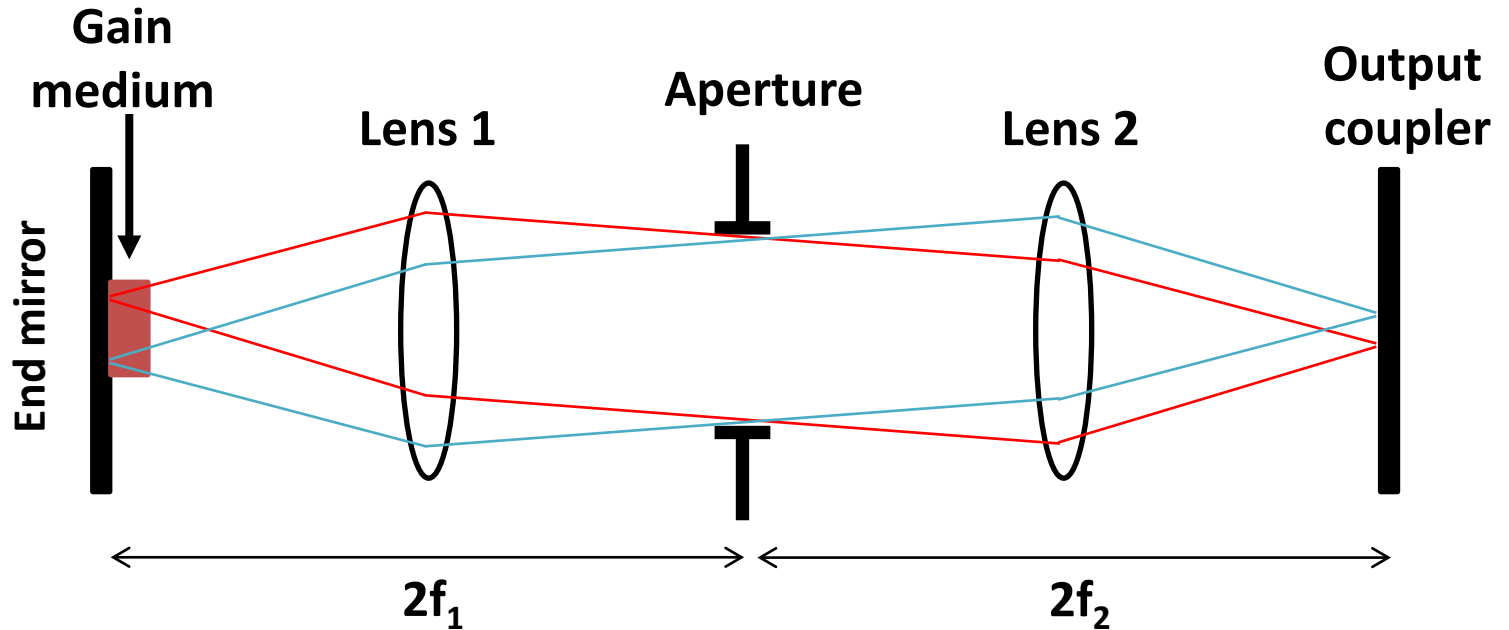
**Challenges**

**constant emission power**

**same output direction**

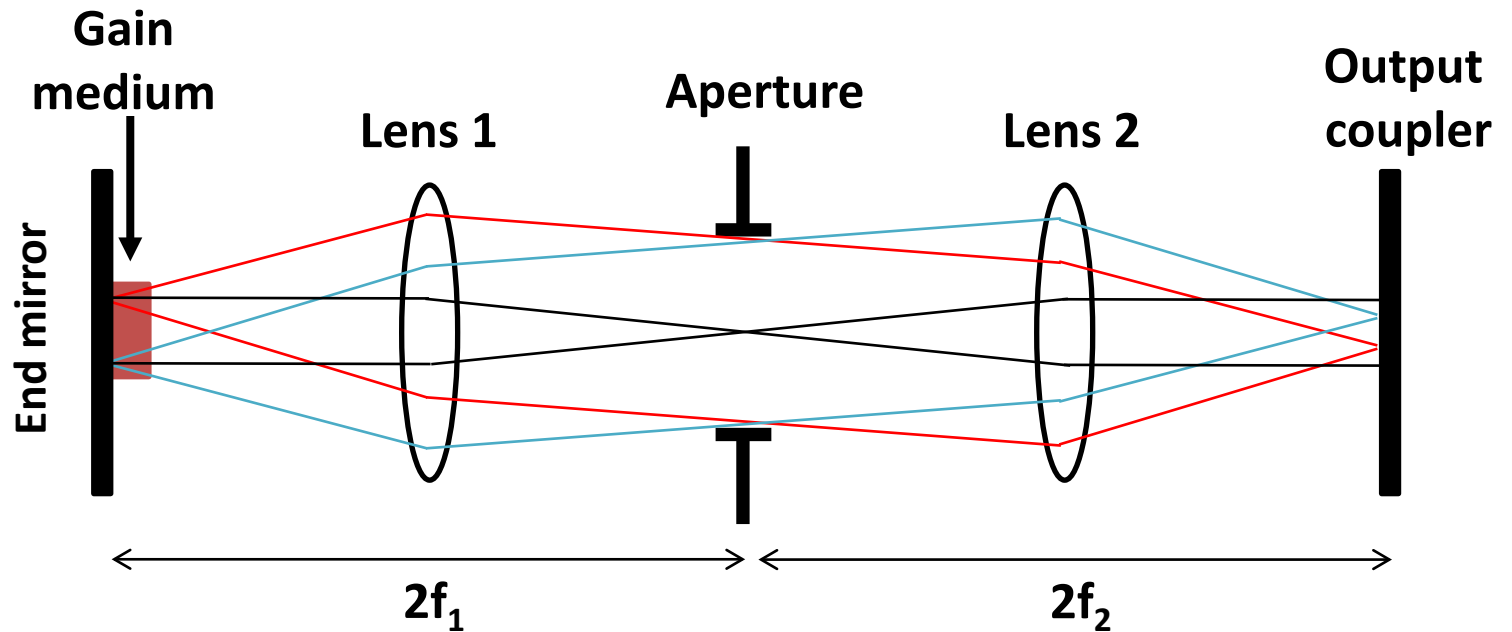


# Degenerate Laser Cavity



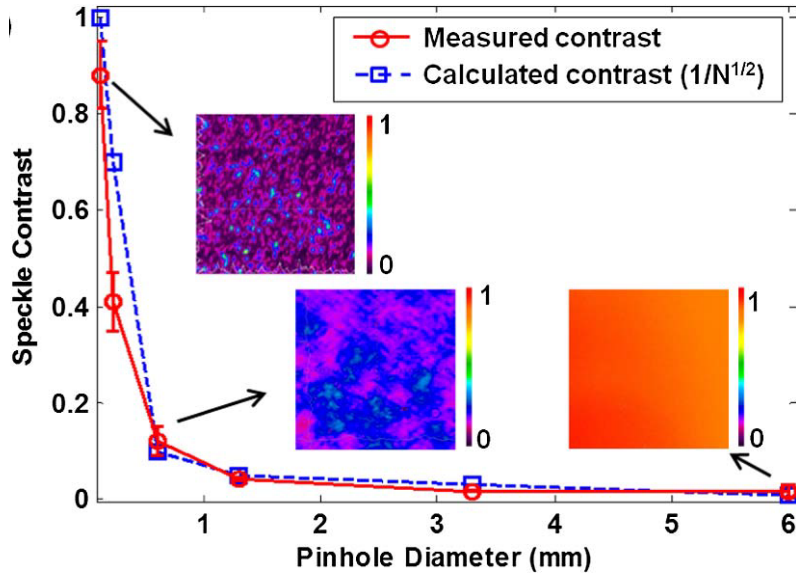
**Multiple transverse modes lasing, low spatial coherence**

# Single Mode Lasing

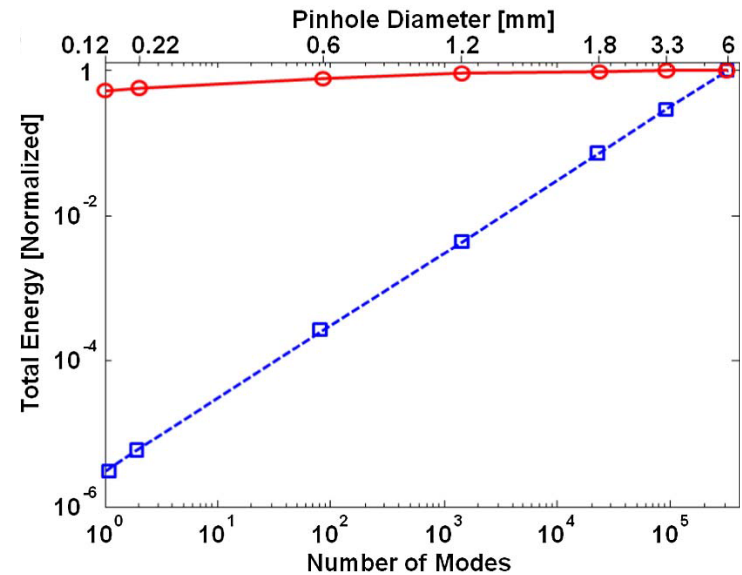


**Single mode lasing, high spatial coherence**

# Solid State Degenerate Laser



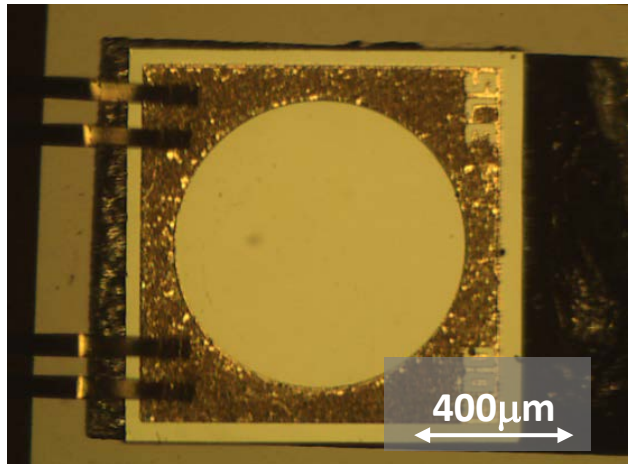
1 mode lasing ↔ 320,000 modes



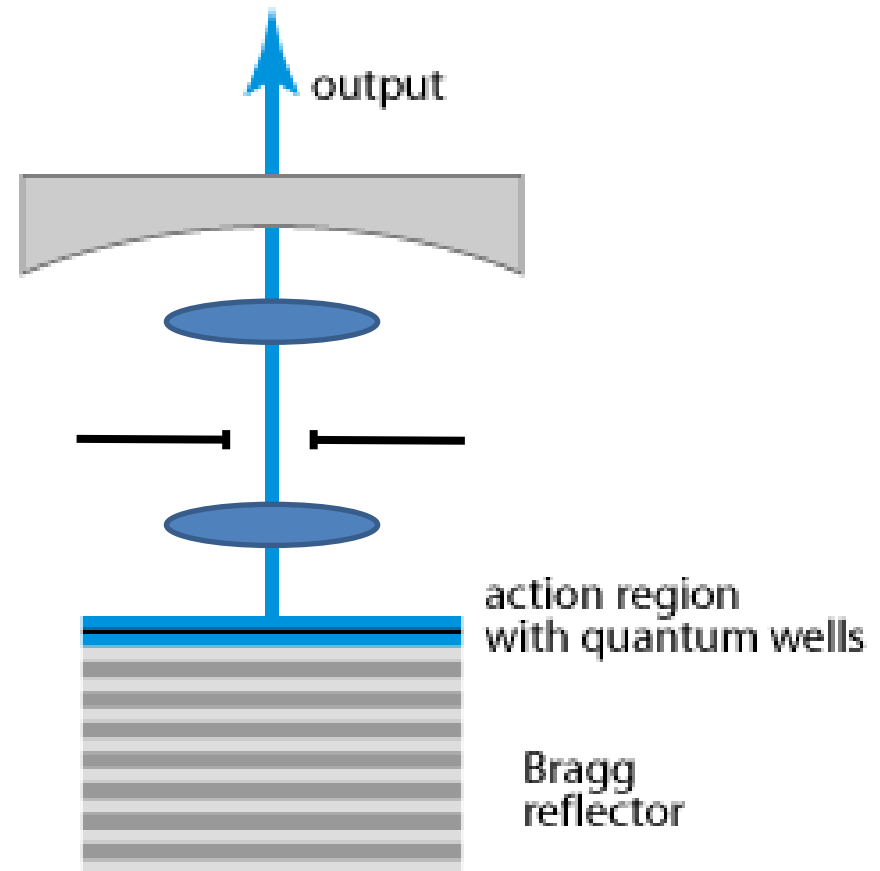
Less than 50% change in total output power

# Degenerate VECSEL

## Broad-area VECSEL

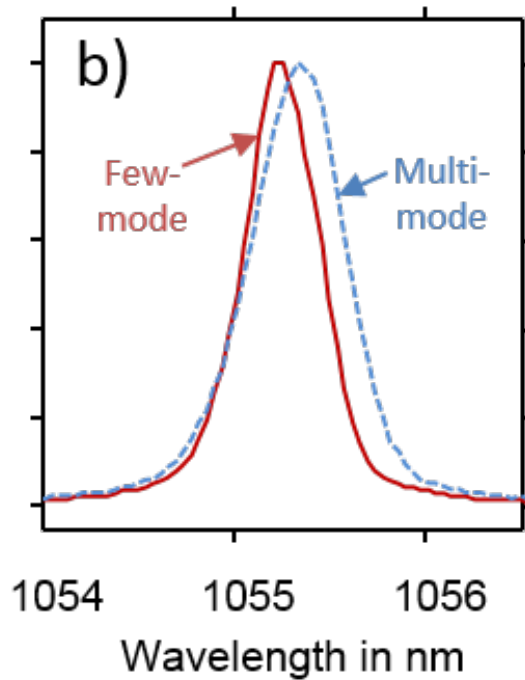


**Electrical pumping**  
**High power**

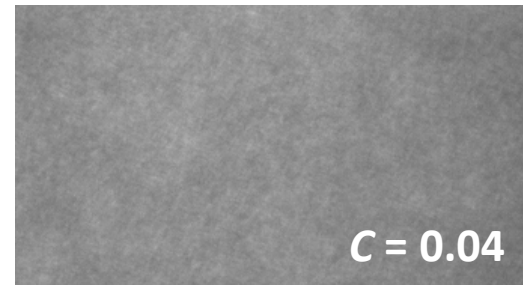


# Degenerate VECSEL

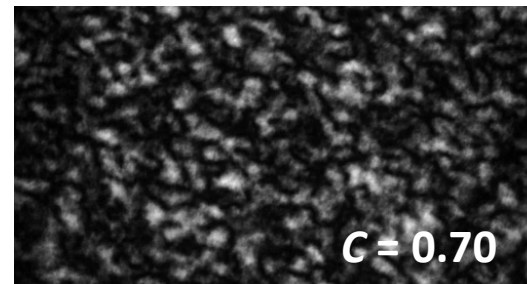
Lasing spectrum



Multi-mode



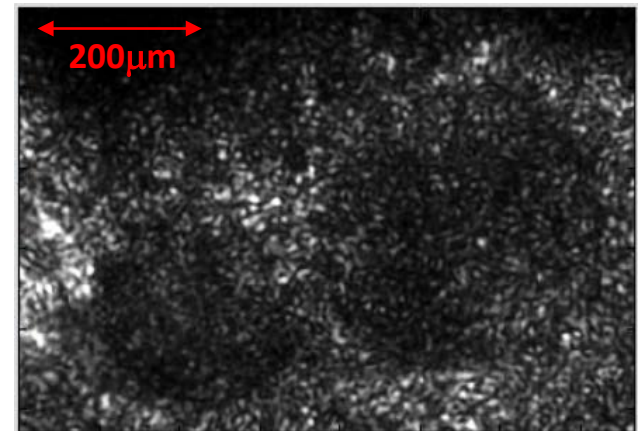
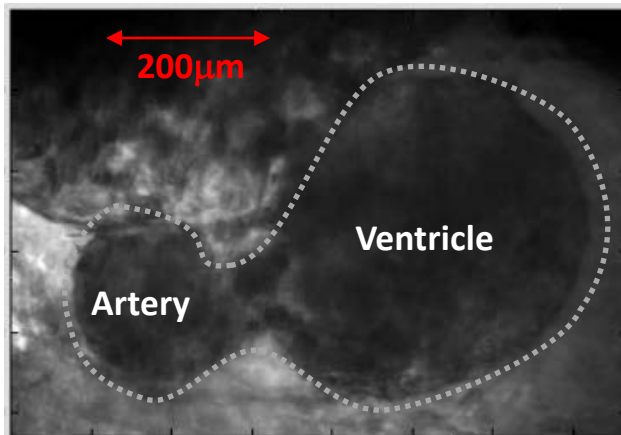
Few-mode



# Imaging Heartbeat of a Living Tadpole



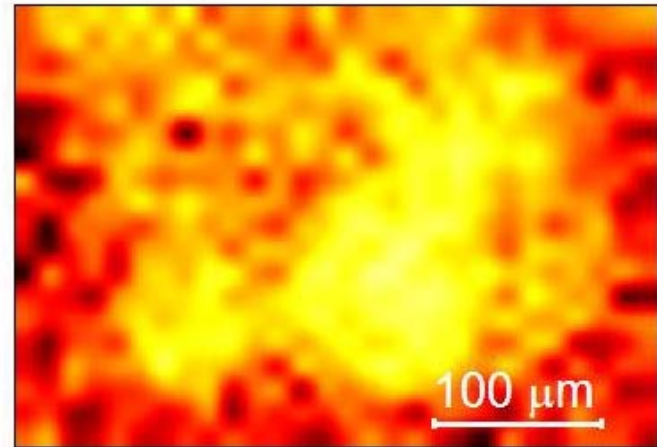
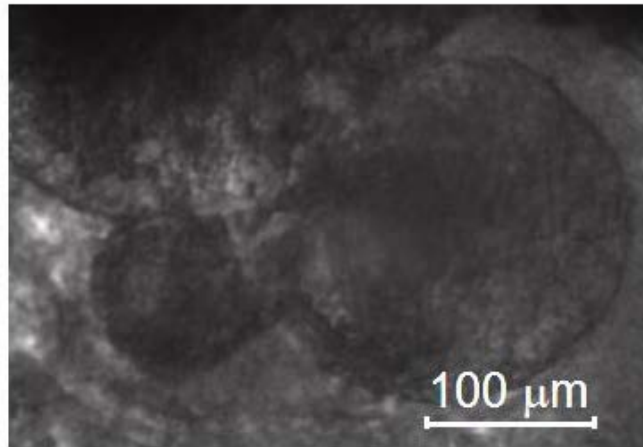
Tadpole



# Imaging Heartbeat of a Living Tadpole

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Time = 0 ms



# Summary

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- **Reduce spatial coherence of laser for speckle-free imaging**
- **Switch spatial coherence of laser for bimodality imaging**



# Acknowledgement

## Group Members

*Raktim Sarma*  
*Brandon Redding*  
*Sebastien Popoff*  
*Seng Fatt Liew*  
*Sebastian Knitter*  
*Heeso Noh*  
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