



50 anys del làser. Aplicacions quotidianes i científiques

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Campus de Terrassa (Barcelona)

50 anys del làser...



A) Introducció

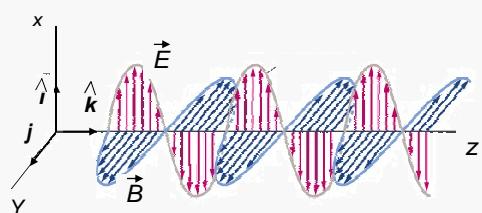
- Motivació
- Història; emissió estimulada.

B) L'interior del làser

- Parts d'un làser i principis de funcionament.
- Tipus de làser segons el medi amplificador: gas, líquid, estat sòlid, semiconductor, etc.
- Paper jugat pel ressonador òptic.

C) L'exterior del làser: radiació làser

- Dimensions dels làsers
- Propietats de la radiació làser

D) Aplicacions científiques i tècniques (present i futur)**Què és la llum ?**

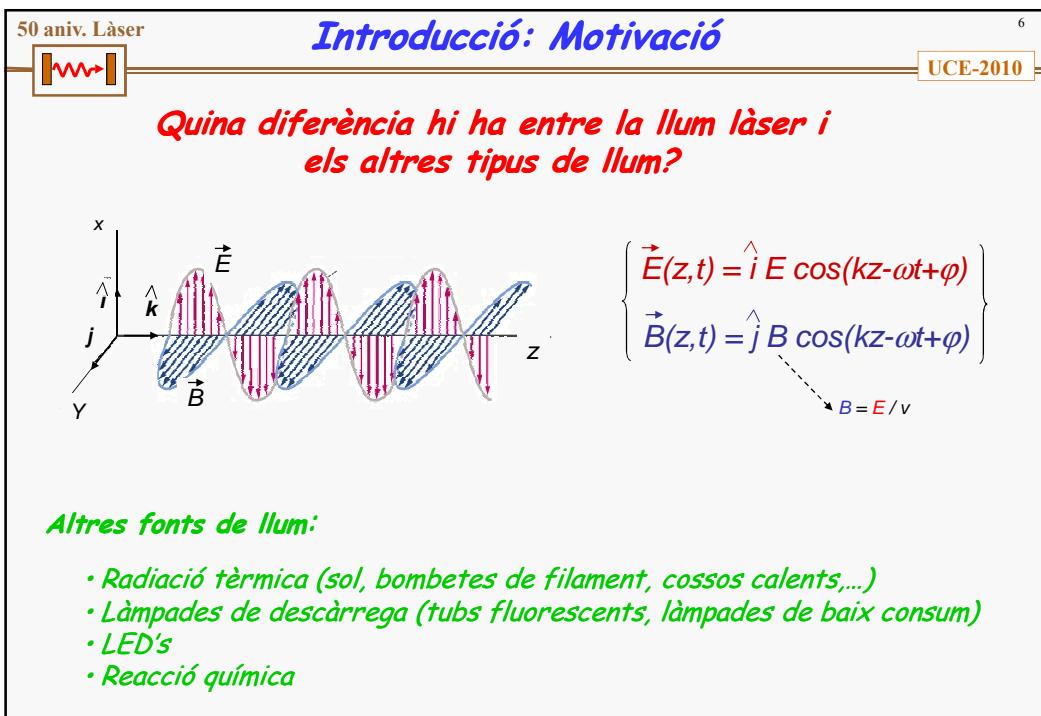
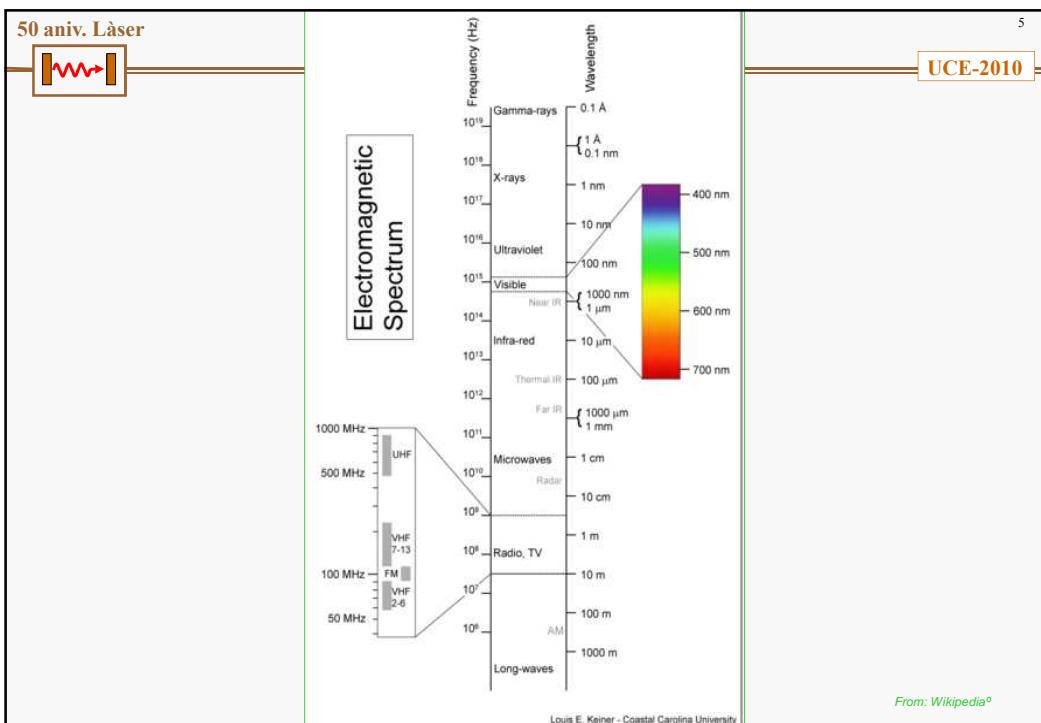
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \vec{E}(z,t) = \hat{i} E \cos(kz - \omega t + \varphi) \\ \vec{B}(z,t) = \hat{j} B \cos(kz - \omega t + \varphi) \end{array} \right. \quad \rightarrow B = E / v$$

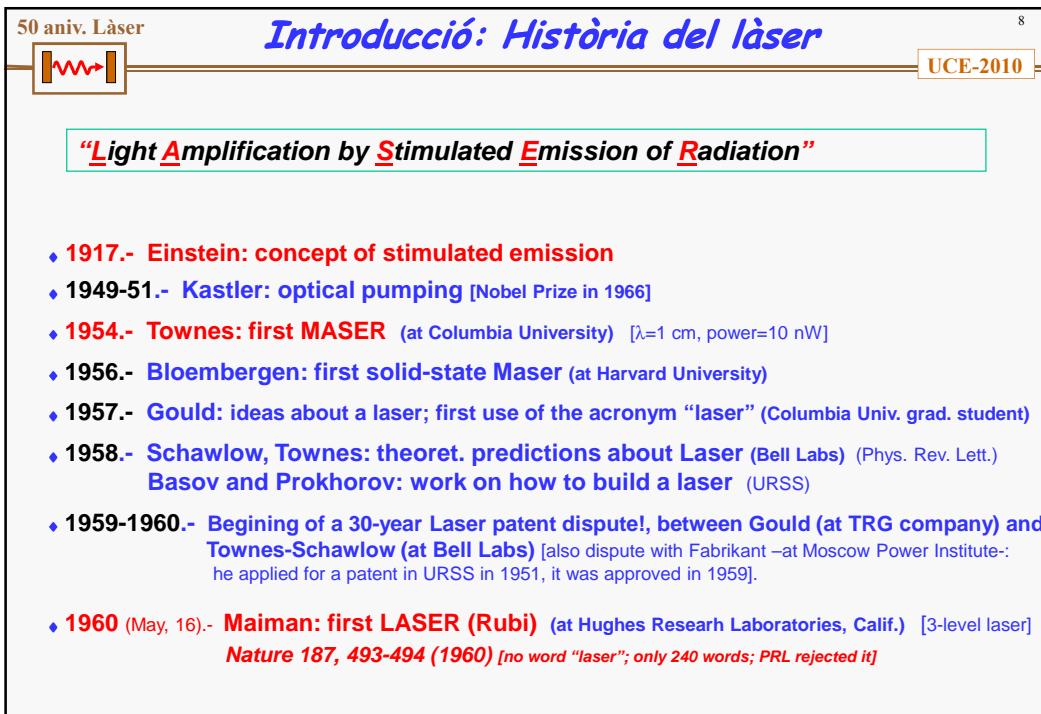
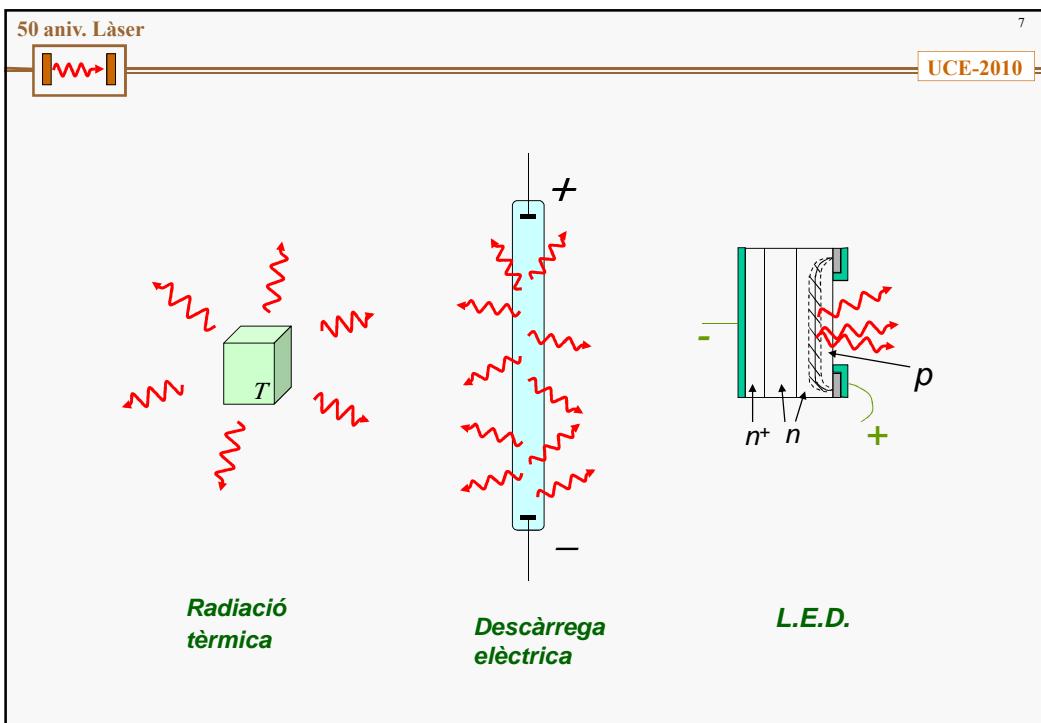
Space

- ❖ Wavelength: λ
 ❖ Wavenumber: $k = 2\pi/\lambda$

Time

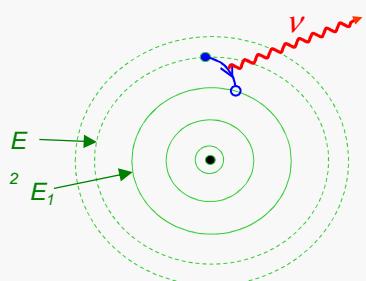
- ❖ Period: T
 ❖ Frequency: $\nu = 1/T$
 ❖ Angular frequency: $\omega = 2\pi\nu$
 ❖ Initial phase: φ



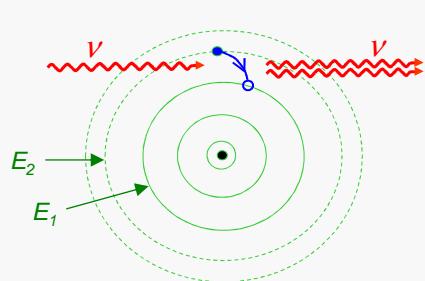


Fenòmens bàsics que permeten la generació de llum:

Emissió espontània



Emissió estimulada

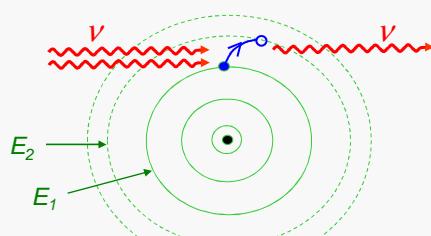


$$E_2 - E_1 = h \cdot \nu$$

$h \cdot \nu$ = energia d'un "fotó"

Fenòmen bàsic que permet la detecció de la llum:

Absorció



$$E_2 - E_1 = h \cdot \nu$$



"Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation"

- ◆ 1917.- Einstein: concept of stimulated emission
- ◆ 1949-51.- Kastler: optical pumping [Nobel Prize in 1966]
- ◆ 1954.- Townes: first MASER (at Columbia University) [$\lambda=1$ cm, power=10 nW]
- ◆ 1956.- Bloembergen: first solid-state Maser (at Harvard University)
- ◆ 1957.- Gould: ideas about a laser; first use of the acronym "laser" (Columbia Univ. grad. student)
- ◆ 1958.- Schawlow, Townes: theoret. predictions about Laser (Bell Labs) (Phys. Rev. Lett.)
Basov and Prokhorov: work on how to build a laser)
- ◆ 1959-1960.- Begining of 30-year Laser patent dispute! between Gould (at TRG) and
Townes-Schawlow (at Bell Labs)
- ◆ 1960 (May, 16).- Maiman: first LASER (Rubi) (at Hughes Research Laboratories, Calif.) [3-level laser]
Nature 187, 493-494 (1960) [no word "laser"; only 240 words; PRL rejected it]



- ◆ 1960 (May, 16).- Maiman: first laser (Rubi) (at Hughes Research Laboratories, Calif.) [3-level laser]
- ◆ 1960 (Nov).- Uranium laser :Sorokin & Stevenson (at IBM Research Center) [solid-state, 4-level]
- ◆ 1960 (Dec).- He-Ne Laser: Javan, Bennet, Herriot (at Bell Labs) [first cw laser, $\lambda=1.15 \mu\text{m}$]
- ◆ 1961.- Lasers appear in commercial market (Trion Instr., Perkin-Elmer, Spectra-Physics,...)
- ◆ 1961 (Nov).- Nd:Glass laser.- Snitzer (American Optical Co.)
- ◆ 1961 (Dec).- 1st medical treatment (destroying retinal tumor with a rubi laser)
- ◆ 1962.- Q-switching in rubi laser: Hellwarth, McClung (Hughes Research Labs) [theory in 1961]
- ◆ 1962.- GaAs Semiconductor laser (homojunction, cryogenically cooled) [GE, IBM & MIT's Lincoln Lab]
- ◆ 1962.- YAG laser (at Bell Labs.)
- ◆ 1962.- GaAsP visible-red laser diode (basis of present LEDs) (Holonyak at GE Co. Lab)
- ◆ 1962.- First paper on Nonlinear Optics (Armstrong, Bloembergen, Ducuing and Pershan)
- ◆ 1963.- First mode-locked laser (He-Ne laser with acousto-optic modulator)
- ◆ 1963.- \$1 million annual sales commercial laser market
- ◆ 1963.- Heterostructure semiconductor laser idea (Kroemer -Univ. California- & Alferov -Russia-).
Nobel Prize awarded later.
- ◆ 1963.- N₂ laser (confirm)

- 
- UCE-2010
- ◆ 1964.- Ar⁺ (pulsed), Kr⁺, CO₂, Nd:YAG (Bell Labs) ,
 - ◆ 1964.- Nobel Prize to Townes, Basov and Prokhorov
 - ◆ 1965.- Chemical laser (HCl, $\lambda=3.7\text{ }\mu\text{m}$)
 - ◆ 1966.- Dye laser (tunable)
 - ◆ 1970.- Excimer laser and cw room-temperature semiconductor laser
 - ◆ 1972.- Quantum-well semiconductor laser
 - ◆ 1976.- Free-electron laser
 - ◆ 1981.- Nobel Prize to Schawlow and Bloembergen (laser spectroscopy)
 - ◆ 1982.- Ti:Sapphire laser (tunable)
 - ◆ 1986.- Fibre laser (Er-doped, single-mode, cw)
 - ◆ 1994.- Quantum-cascade laser (multiple λ 's) , and quantum-dot laser
 - ◆ 1996.- Pulsed atom laser (matter instead of light)
 - ◆ 1996.- InGaN blue laser diode (semiconductor, $\lambda = 417\text{ nm}$)

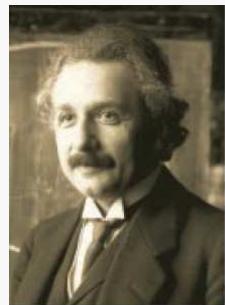
- 
- UCE-2010
- ◆ 2004-07.- Towards a Si laser: Si Raman laser and electr. powered hybrid Si laser, ...
 - ◆ 2009.- NIF (National Ignition Facility, at LLNL): 192 laser beams firing onto targets.
 - ◆ 2009-10.- Intel's Light Peak fiber optic technology.
 - ◆ 2009 (Dec.).- Prediction of 11% laser market growth for 2010; total revenue \$5.9 billion.
 - ◆ 2010 (Jan.).- NIF delivers enough laser energy to achieve fusion ignition: 1MJ in a few nanoseconds [peak power 500 times larger than any previous one in USA]
 - ◆ 2010 (March).- Single-atom laser (with and without threshold) [Univ. of Innsbruck]
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 -
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THUS TECHNICAL, AND EVEN FUNDAMENTAL, DEVELOPMENT CONTINUES...

50 aniv. Làser



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Albert Einstein



Charles H. Townes, 1954



Nikolai G. Basov



Alexander M. Prokhorov

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50 anys del làser...

Charles H. Townes, 1954

Arthur Schawlow

Theodore Maiman, 1960

Charles H. Townes, 2010

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Primer làser construit a Barcelona....

Làser de N₂, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, curs 1979-80



A) Introducció

- Motivació
- Història; emissió estimulada.

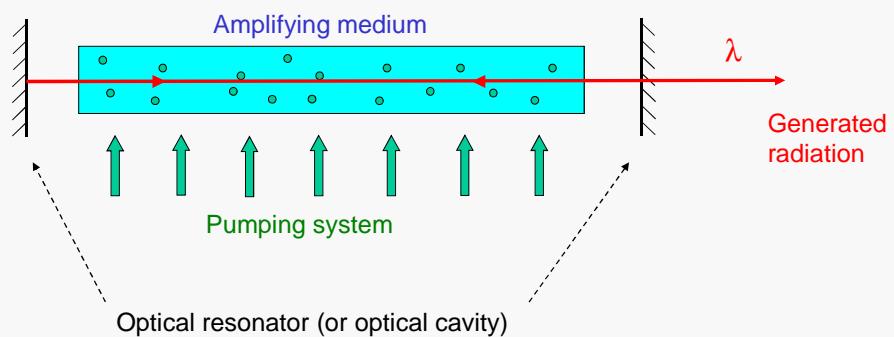
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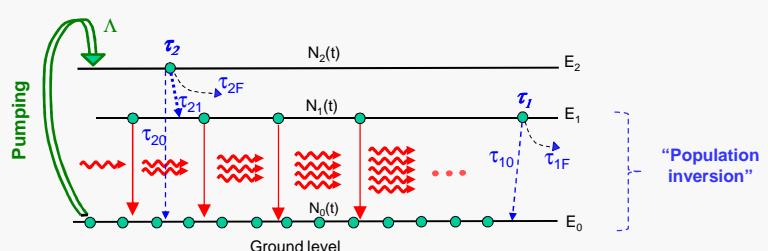
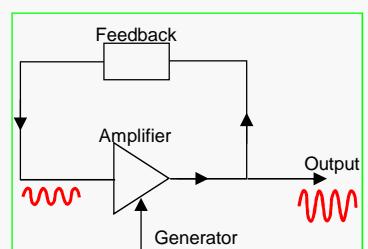
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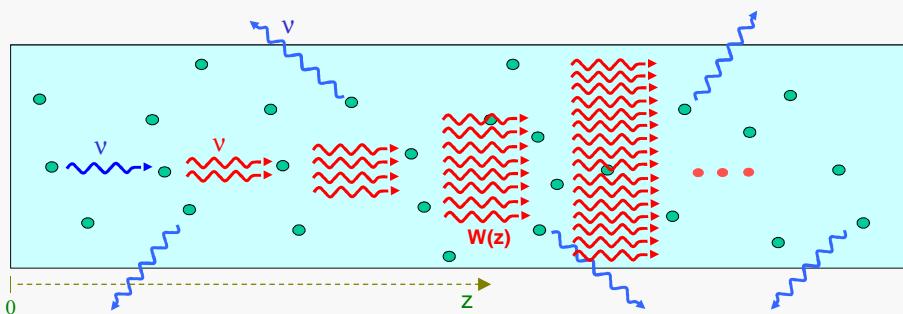
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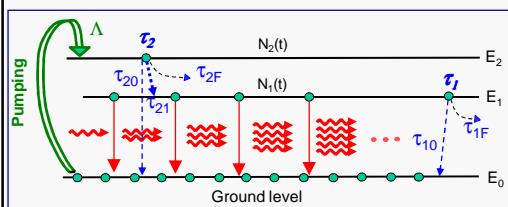


Similar to:

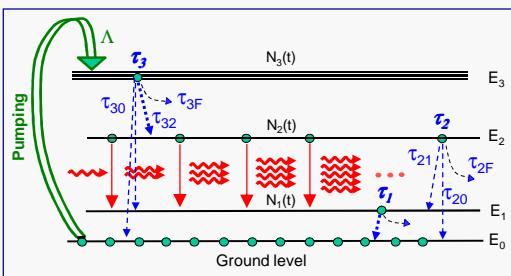


Who provides the first photon?

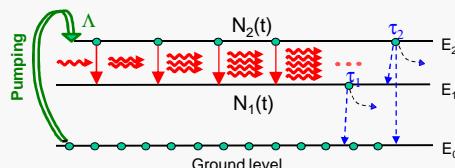


"Three-level" configurations

Conditions to achieve population inversion:
 $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \tau_{21} \ll \tau_{20}, \tau_{2F} \\ \tau_{21} \ll \tau_1 \end{array} \right.$

"Four-level" configuration

Conditions to achieve population inversion:
 $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \tau_{32} \ll \tau_{31}, \tau_{30}, \tau_{3F}, \tau_2 \\ \tau_1 \ll \tau_2 \text{ (for cw operation)} \end{array} \right.$

**LASERS: TYPES OF AMPLIFYING MEDIUM****a) GAS**

- Atoms: He-Ne, He-Cd, Cu.
- Ions: Ar⁺, Kr⁺.
- Molecules: Electronic (vibronic) transitions: **Excimer**, N₂.
Vibrational transitions: CO₂, CO, **chemical lasers**.
Rotacional transitions: NH₃, CH₃OH, CH₃F.

b) LIQUID

- Dye laser: Rhodamin 6G, coumarin,

c) SOLID STATE

- Doped crystal: Rubi, Nd:YAG, Nd:Glass, Ti:Saphire, Alexandrite
Microxips, **microlasers**
- Optical fiber: Er³⁺:Silicon (Er³⁺:SiO₂)
- Others: Color centres, ...

d) SEMICONDUCTOR (DIODE LASERS)

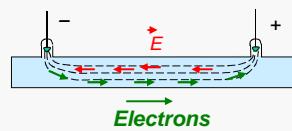
- Near infrared: AlGaAs, InGaAsP
- Visible: GaInP, AlGaNp, GaP
- Mid infrared: ...
- Other types: VCSEL's, "arrays", high power, ...

e) OTHERS

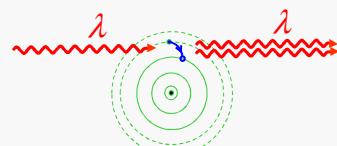
- Free electron laser, • X Ray, • Random lasers, • Quantum dot lasers, • Nanolasers,
• Single-atom lasers

B) GAS LASERS: Atomic or ionic

- Pumping: electrical discharge



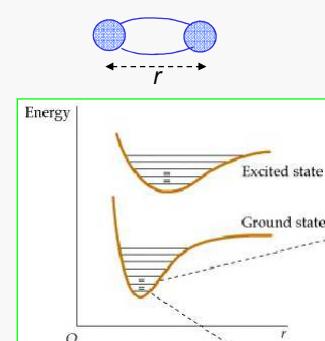
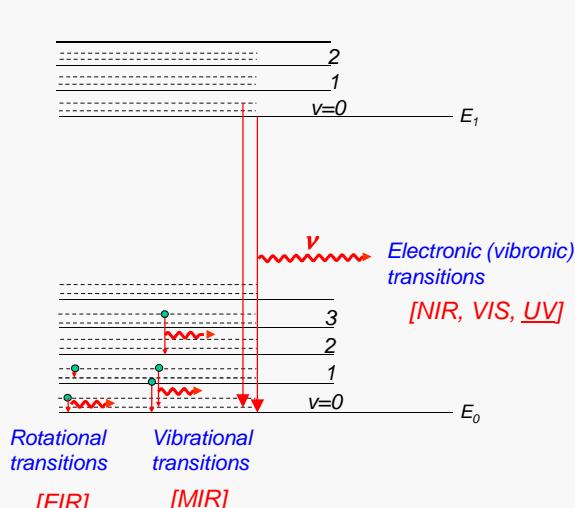
- Electronic transitions ($\lambda \sim \text{VIS, near IR}$)

**Examples:**

- <u>He-Ne laser</u> :	$\lambda = 632,8 \text{ nm (red)}$,	$\eta \leq 0.1\%$,	4-level scheme, reinforced
- <u>Cu laser</u> :	$\lambda = 510 \text{ nm (green)}$, 578 nm (yellow)	$\eta \sim 1 \%$,	3-level scheme (modified)
- <u>Ar⁺ laser</u> :	$\lambda = 488,0 \text{ nm (blue)}$, $514,5 \text{ nm (green)}$, ...	$\eta < 1\%$,	4-level scheme (modified)
- <u>Kr⁺ laser</u> :	$\lambda = 647,1 \text{ nm (red)}$,	$\eta < 0.1\%$	4-level scheme (modified)

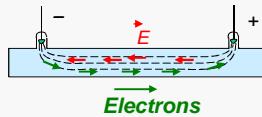
B) GAS LASERS: Molecular

Energy levels for a (simple) molecule :

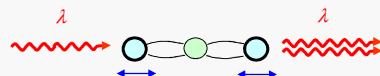


B) GAS LASERS: Molecular (vibrational transition)

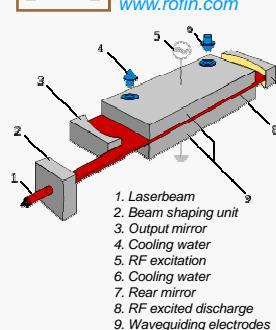
- Pumping: electrical discharge, or chemical reaction



$\lambda \sim MIR$

**Examples:**

- **CO₂ laser**: $\lambda = 10,6 \mu m$, $\eta \sim 10-25\%$, 4-level scheme, reinforced
- **CO laser**: $\lambda \sim 5 \mu m$, $\eta \sim 20-30\%$, 4-level scheme, modified
- **HF* laser**: $\lambda = 2.7-3.3 \mu m$, $\eta_{quim.} \sim high$, Chemical reaction: $F + H_2 \rightarrow HF^* + H$

CO₂ "Slab" laser

Excitation	ROFIN DC 010	ROFIN DC 015	ROFIN DC 020	ROFIN DC 025
Output power	1000 W	1500 W	2000 W	2500 W
Power range	100-1000 W	150-1500 W	200-2000 W	250-2500 W
Beam quality factor	$K > 0,9$	$K > 0,9$	$K > 0,9$	$K > 0,9$
Pulse frequency	0 or 2 up to 5000 Hz; cw	0 or 2 up to 5000 Hz; cw	0 or 2 up to 5000 Hz; cw	0 or 2 up to 5000 Hz; cw

Excitation	ROFIN DC 030	ROFIN DC 035	ROFIN DC 040	ROFIN DC 045
Output power	3000 W	3500 W	4000 W	4500 W
Power range	300-3000 W	350-3500 W	400-4000 W	450-4500 W
Beam quality factor	$K > 0,9$	$K > 0,9$	$K \geq 0,9$	$K \geq 0,9$
Pulse frequency	0 or 2 up to 5000 Hz; cw	0 or 2 up to 5000 Hz; cw	0 or 2 up to 5000 Hz; cw	-

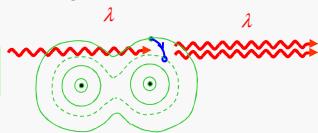
Excitation	ROFIN DC 050	ROFIN DC 060 W	ROFIN DC 080 W
Output power	5000 W	6000 W	8000 W
Power range	500-5000 W	1500-6000 W	800-8000 W
Beam quality factor	$K \geq 0,9$	$K \geq 0,9$	$K \geq 0,9$
Pulse frequency	-	-	-



Can it propagate through an optical fiber?: **No** (Why?)

B) GAS LASERS: Molecular (electronic transition)

- Pumping: electrical discharge (transverse) (make a drawing) →



- $\lambda \sim UV, VIS, NIR$

- Example: Excimer laser ($\eta \sim 1-10\%$, 3-level):

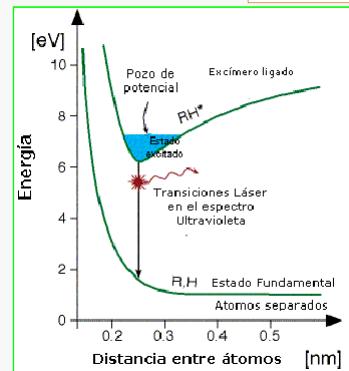
ArF $\lambda = 193 nm$ (UV)

KrF $\lambda = 248 nm$ (UV)

XeCl $\lambda = 309 nm$ (UV)

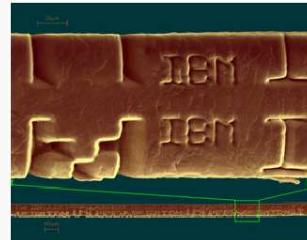
XeF $\lambda = 351 nm$ (UV)

Only pulsed emission (10-20 ns, MW peak power) Why ?



- Another Example: N_2 laser ($\lambda = 337.1 nm$; 4-level)

Only pulsed emission (5-10 ns, MW peak power)



Human hair !

B) Existing types of lasers according to the amplifying medium**LASERS: TYPES OF AMPLIFYING MEDIUM****a) GAS**

- Atoms: He-Ne, He-Cd, Cu.
- Ions: Ar⁺, Kr⁺.
- Molecules: Electronic (vibronic) transitions: Excimer, N₂. Vibrational transitions: CO₂, CO, chemical lasers. Rotacional transitions: NH₃, CH₃OH, CH₃F.

b) LIQUID

- Dye laser: Rhodamin 6G, coumarin,

c) SOLID STATE

- Doped crystal: Rubi, Nd:YAG, Nd:Glass, Ti:Saphire, Alexandrite Microxips, microlasers
- Optical fiber: Er³⁺:Silicon (Er³⁺:SiO₂)
- Others: Color centres, ...

d) SEMICONDUCTOR (DIODE LASERS)

- Near infrared: AlGaAs, InGaAsP
- Visible: GaInP, AlGaInP, GaP
- Mid infrared: ...
- Other types: VCSEL's, "arrays", high power, ...

e) OTHERS

- Free electron laser, X Rays, g rays, Random lasers, (etc.)

B.c) SOLID-STATE LASERS: doping with Impurity ions

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- Pumping: flash, or diode lasers

- Electronic transitions in impurity ions

- $\lambda \sim \text{NIR, VIS}$

Examples:

- **Nd:YAG laser:** $\lambda = 1064 \text{ nm (NIR)}$, $\eta \sim 1\text{-}10\%$, 4-level scheme
- **Rubi laser:** $\lambda = 694.3 \text{ nm (red)}$, $\eta \sim 0.1\%$, 3-level scheme
- **Ti:sapphire laser:** $\lambda \sim 660\text{-}990 \text{ nm (NIR)}$, tunable, 4-level scheme modified

B.c) SOLID-STATE LASERS: Impurity ions

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Rubi laser ($\text{Cr:Al}_2\text{O}_3$)

Nd:YAG laser ($\text{Nd:Y}_2\text{Al}_5\text{O}_{12}$)

"3-level" laser scheme

PUMPING (With light)

"4-level" laser scheme

B.c) SOLID-STATE LASERS: Nd:YAG laser

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Excitation	Laser diodes	Laser diodes
Output power (@collimator)	100 - 1000 W	150 - 1500 W
Beam parameter product	12 mm*mrad	12 mm*mrad
Fiber diameter	300 µm	300 µm

Excitation	Laser diodes	Laser diodes	
Output power (@collimator)	200 - 2000 W	300 - 3000 W	400 - 4000 W
Beam parameter product	25 mm*mrad	25 mm*mrad	25 mm*mrad
Fiber diameter	600 µm	600 µm	600 µm

High power: MOPA configuration

Trumpf: up to 16 kW, BPP- 2-8 mm·mrad

www.rofin.com

www.trumpf-laser.com

Also (new): disk series

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B) SOLID-STATE LASERS: Nd:YAG laser

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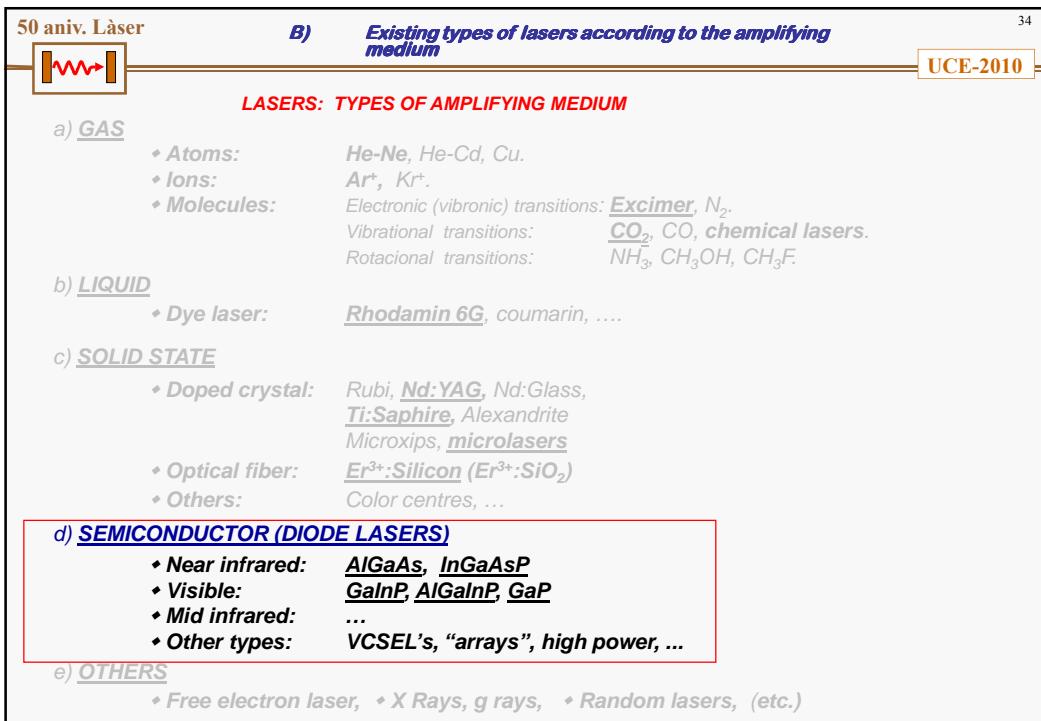
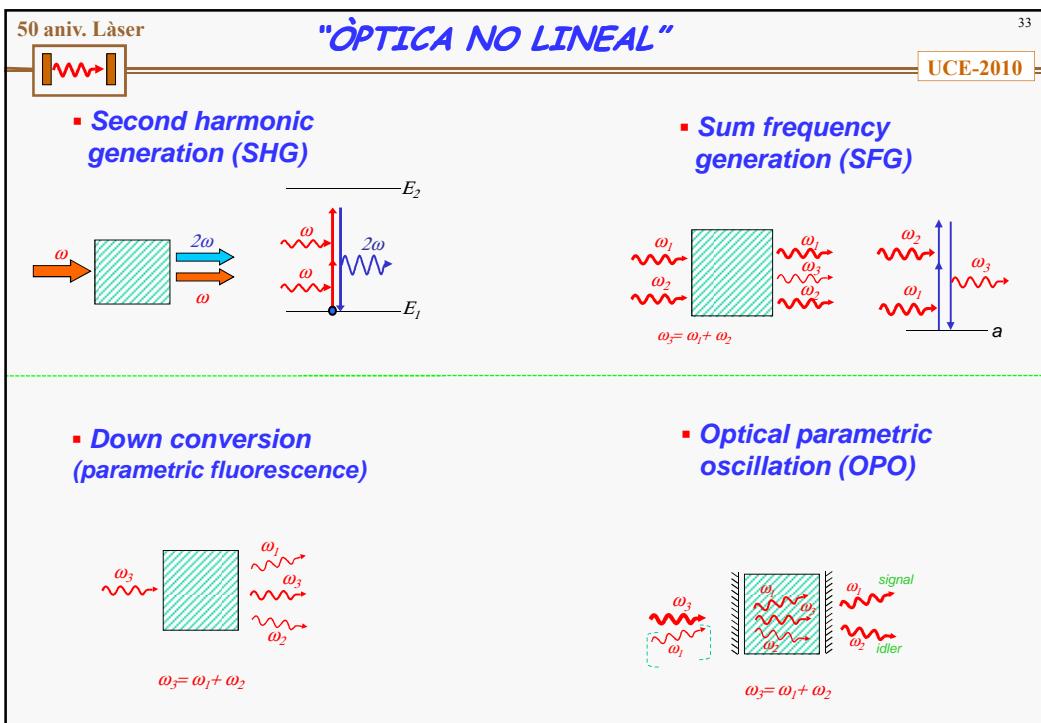
Important features:

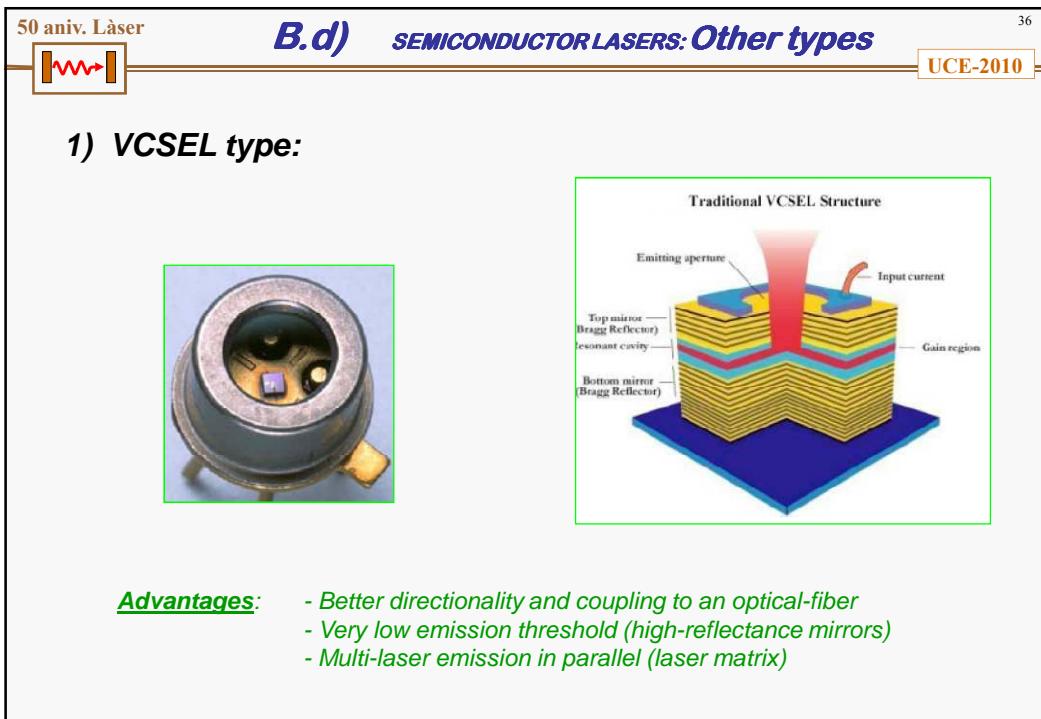
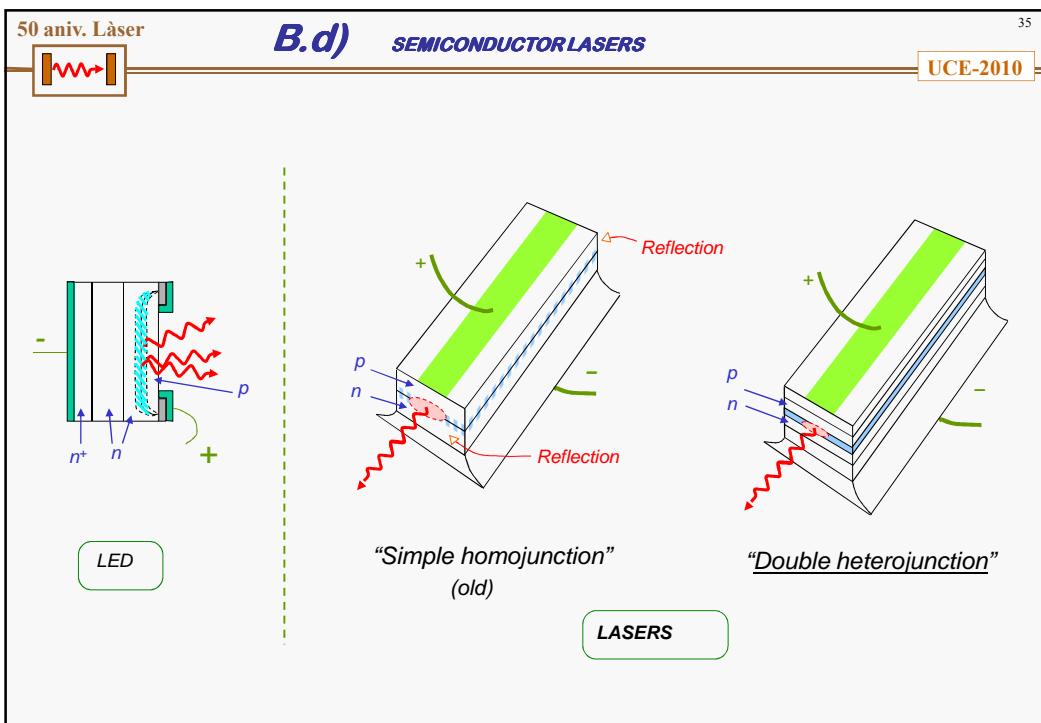
- 1) **It can propagate through an optical fiber**
- 2) **Pulsed regimes: cw, ms, µs, ns, ps**
 - cw ↔ up to 10 W (and up to 4 kW in MOPA config.)**
 - ns ↔ “Q-switching” ~ 10^8 W peak power**
 - ps ↔ “Mode locking” ~ 10^9 W peak power**

Cold processing with picosecond pulses on a match-head.

- 3) **Nonlinear effects: SHG, THG, FHG, OPO ⇒ Generation of new frequencies!**

SHG







2) High-power lasers:

- Battery of edge-emitting lasers, of larger dimensions
- Up to 2 kW
- Low beam quality (BPP large): good for welding of different types of materials.

3) Quantum-cascade lasers:

4) Near future: Silicon lasers ? (Si photonics)

Si lasers, or more likely, hybrid Si lasers, would the ideal step to combine microelectronics and photonics !! (for integrated computing at terabit levels, extending Moore's law; etc.)

a) GAS

- ♦ Atoms: He-Ne, He-Cd, Cu.
- ♦ Ions: Ar⁺, Kr⁺.
- ♦ Molecules: Electronic (vibronic) transitions: Excimer, N₂.
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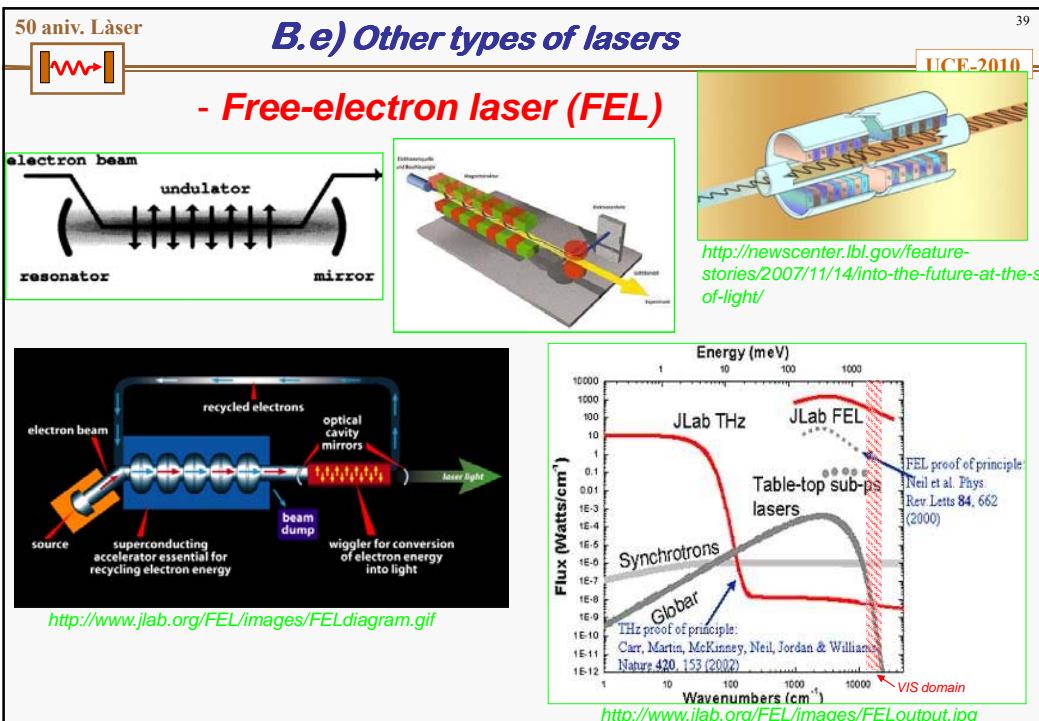
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- ♦ Others: Color centres, ...

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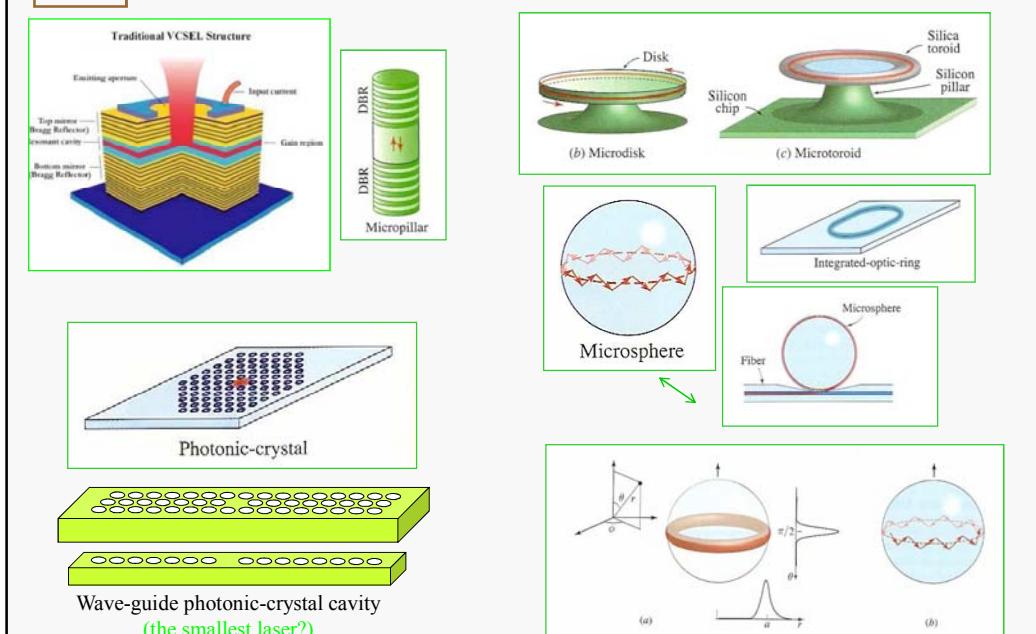
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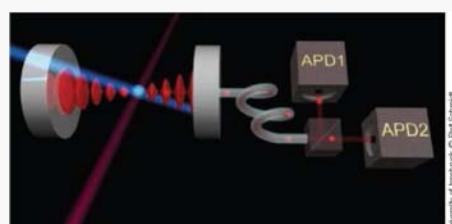
- ♦ Free electron laser, ♦ X Ray, ♦ Random lasers, ♦ Micro- and nano-lasers (microdisc, microsphere, quantum dot, guided-wave photonic crystal,...), ♦ Single-atom lasers



Micro- and nano-optical resonators



Single-atom laser



A high-finesse optical cavity consisting of two mirrors traps and accumulates the photons emitted by the ion into a mode. The ion is excited cyclically by an external laser and at each cycle a photon is added to the cavity mode, which amplifies the light.

A) Introducció

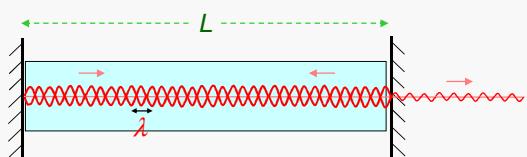
- Motivació
- Història; emissió estimulada.

B) L'interior del làser

- Parts d'un làser i principis de funcionament.
- Tipus de làser segons el medi amplificador: gas, líquid, estat sòlid, semiconductor, etc.
- Paper jugat pel ressonador òptic.

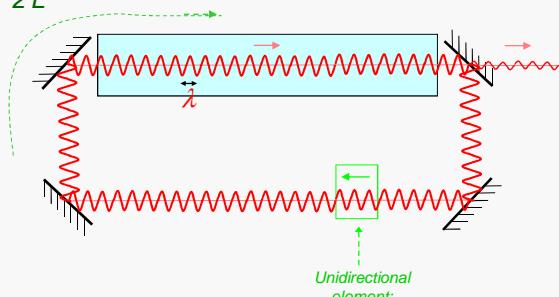
C) L'exterior del làser: radiació làser

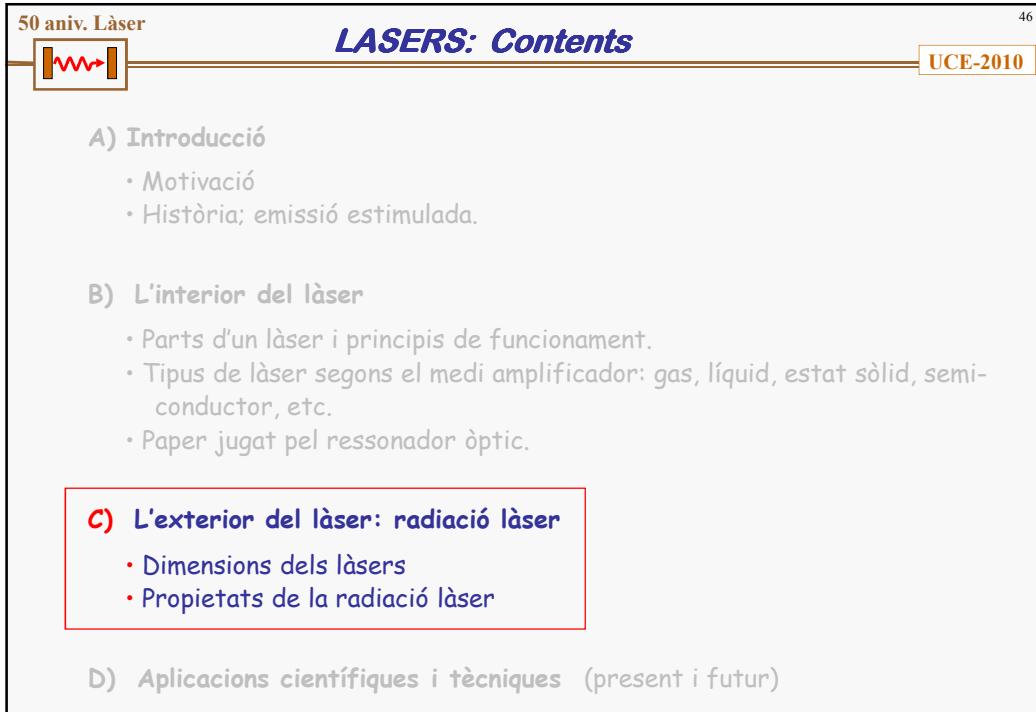
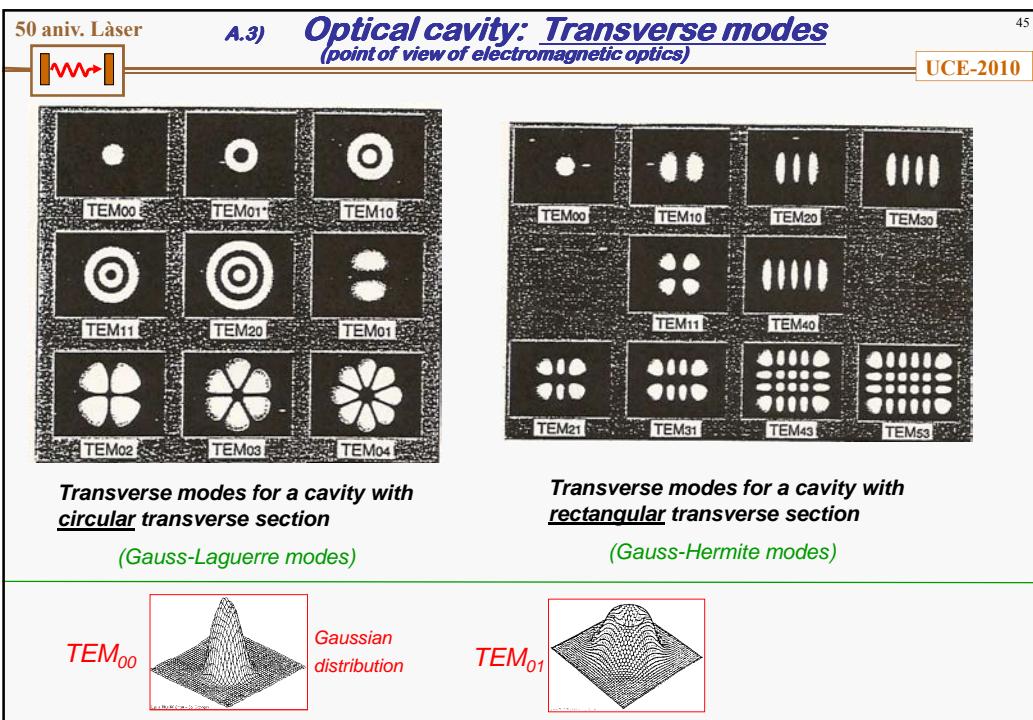
- Dimensions dels làsers
- Propietats de la radiació làser

D) Aplicacions científiques i tècniques (present i futur)**"Fabry-Perot" cavity****Resonance condition:**

$$2L = m \lambda = m v/\nu$$

$$\nu_m = m \frac{v}{2L}$$

*Frequency of the longitudinal mode of order m***"Ring" cavity**

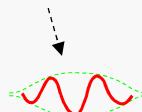


1) FREQUENCY (ν)

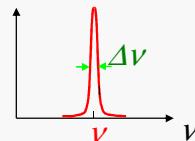
LASERs + nonlinear crystals (SHG, OPO): ~ cover most of the spectral optical domain

2) DURATION (Δt)

CW - ms - μ s - ns - ps - fs - (as)



To go below ~100 fs special pulse compression techniques are needed

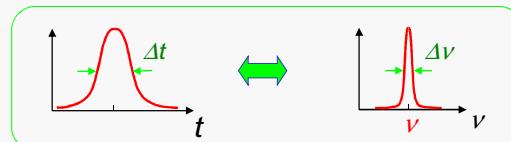
3) MONOCHROMATICITY ($\Delta\nu$)**► cw regime:**

- Typical values (commercial lasers): $\Delta\nu/\nu \sim 10^{-3} - 10^{-5}$

- Record values: $\Delta\nu/\nu \sim 10^{-12} - 10^{-14} !!$

► Pulsed regime:

$$\Delta t \cdot \Delta\nu \geq 2\pi$$



• Pump modulation: ms, μ s

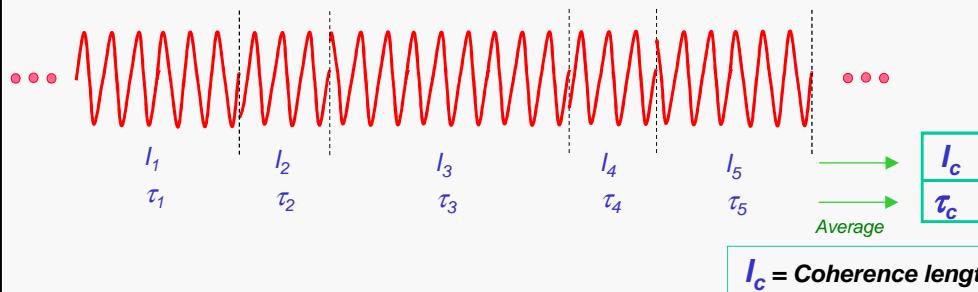
• Q-switching: ns

• Mode-locking: ps

• Additional manipulations: fs, as.

}



4) TEMPORAL COHERENCE (or LONGITUDINAL COHERENCE)

- Typical values (commercial lasers): $I_c \sim 1 - 10 - 100 \text{ cm}$

- Record values: $I_c \sim 10^3 \text{ km} !!$

- Values for other light sources: $I_c \geq 10 \mu\text{m}$ (record: 30 cm)

5) SPATIAL COHERENCE (or TRANSVERSAL)

For a laser:
Maximum possible
value (for single-mode
transverse emission)

6) DIRECCIONALITY:

$$\theta \approx \frac{\lambda M^2}{\pi W_0}$$



Only limit:
difracción

Example: impact over the Moon < 1 km of diameter (if initial diameter enlarged with the objective lens of a telescope)

(\Rightarrow measurement of distance moon-earth with precision: $\sim 20 \text{ cm} !!$)

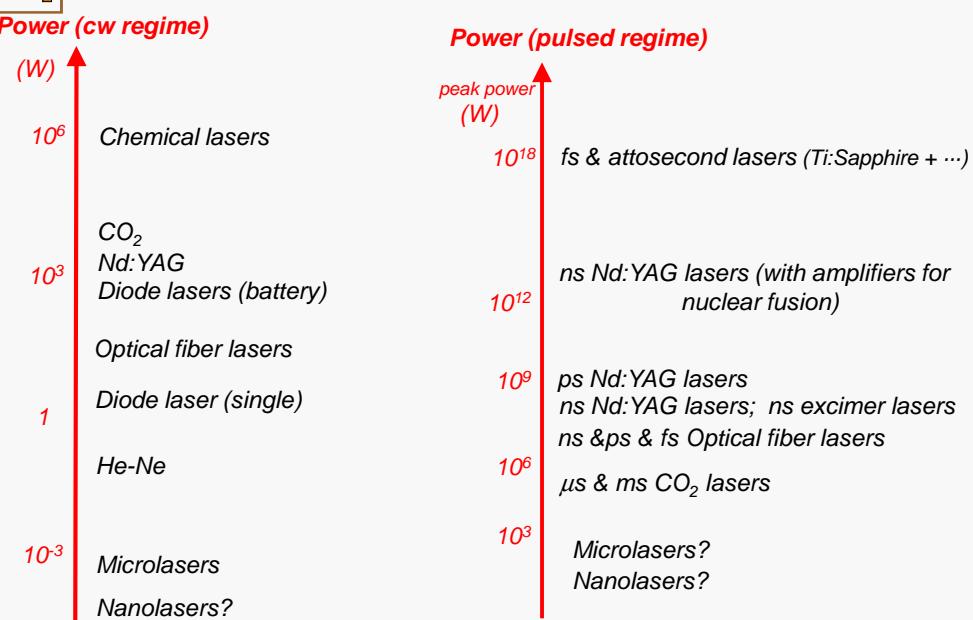
7) POWER

- Limited by: **Capacity of heat extraction !**
- Pulsed lasers: *shorter duration* \Rightarrow *higher peak power*

➤ Typical powers:	He-Ne	0.5 a 50 mW
	Diode láser	0.5 mW to 2 kW
	CO₂	1 W to 20000 W
	Nd:YAG	0.1 a 4000 W (cw or long pulses) $< \sim 10^8$ W (peak power) ("Q-switched") $< \sim 10^9$ W (" " ") ("mode-locked")

- Record powers:

cw	→	2 MW !! (chemical laser)
Pulses 10⁻⁹ s	→	10 TW !! (nuclear fusion)
Pulses fs, as		> PW !! (with amplification out of the cavity)





Aplicacions científiques i tècniques dels làsers



A) Introducció

- Motivació
- Història; emissió estimulada.

B) L'interior del làser

- Parts d'un làser i principis de funcionament.
- Tipus de làser segons el medi amplificador: gas, líquid, estat sòlid, semiconductor, etc.
- Paper jugat pel ressonador òptic.

C) L'exterior del làser: radiació làser

- Dimensions dels làsers
- Propietats de la radiació làser

D) Aplicacions científiques i tècniques

From: FOTONICA 21

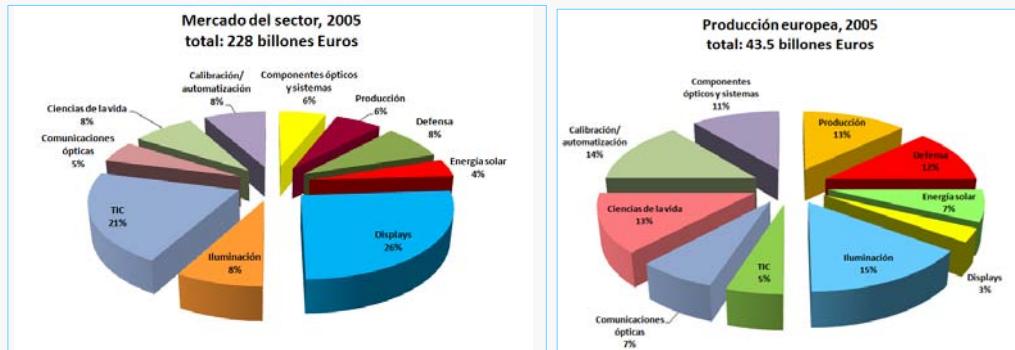


Figura 4: Mercado del sector (Fuente: Optech Consulting, Octubre 2007)

Figura 5: Producción europea del sector (Fuente: Optech Consulting, Octubre 2007)

Làsers: Aplicacions científiques i tècniques

Gran

Mitjana

Petita

POTÈNCIA ↑

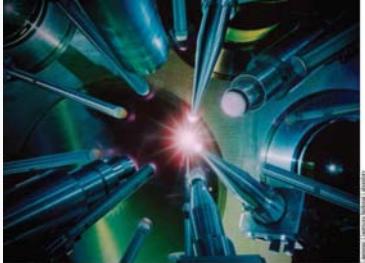
- Fusió nuclear
- Làser d'electrons lliures, làser de raigs X
- Làsers de Terawatt: generació d'altres freqüències i de pulsos ultra-curts (atto-segons), aplicacions a Física Atòmica i Nuclear, acceleració de partícules.
- Transport d'energia a distància (futur)
- Aplics. militars
- Processat de materials: tall, soldadura, perforació, marcatge, tractaments de superfície, prototipat 3D (100 nm resol amb femtosecond 2-photon), ...
- Espectacles lluminosos
- Fotoquímica: estimulació i control de reaccions químiques (fins i tot unir atoms freds), foto-dissociació, foto-ionització, ...
- Òptica no lineal, per a diverses aplicacions (incloent la generació de extrem UV -13.5 nm- per a dissenyar petites estruct. electròniques i extender Moore's law, informació quàntica,...)
- Biofotònica, aplicacions mèdiques
- Control remot: LIDAR, control de l'atmosfera
- Arts gràfiques, impressores, memòries (CD, DVD),... [Futur: projectors, imatges color]
- Holografia, interferometria, Òptica en general (futurs displays, projectors?)
- Espectroscòpia: ànalisi de materials, de contaminants, etc.
- Comunicacions òptiques; comunicacions quàntiques (criptografia quàntica, etc.)
- Atrapament i refredament d'àtoms, condensació de Bose-Einstein (BEC)
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**NIF (National Ignition Facility)
LLNL, Lawrence Livermore Nat. Lab., California**

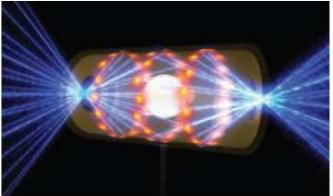
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The international inertial confinement fusion community, including LLNL researchers, uses the OMEGA laser at the University of Rochester's Laboratory for Laser Energetics to conduct experiments and test target designs and diagnostics. The 60-beam OMEGA laser at the University of Rochester has been operational since 1996.

This artist's rendering shows an NIF target pellet inside a hohlraum capsule with laser beams entering through openings on either end. The beams compress and heat the target to the necessary conditions for nuclear fusion to occur. Ignition experiments on NIF will be the culmination of more than 30 years of inertial confinement fusion research and development, opening the door to exploration of previously inaccessible physical regimes. Credit is given to Lawrence Livermore National Security LLC, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and the US Department of Energy, under whose auspices this work was performed.





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Làsers d'alta potència

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ELI: “Extreme Light Infrastructure”

Megalasers to pulse in several new EU countries

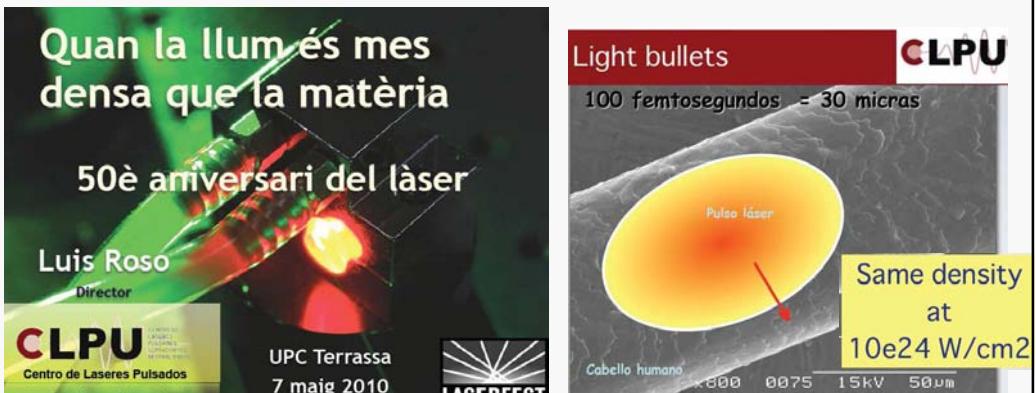
As the world celebrates 50 years since the invention of the laser, a European facility approaching exawatt power is expected to stimulate new research areas and communities.

Lasers planned for the Extreme Light Infrastructure*					
Country	Facility focus	Power (PW)	Pulse energy (J)	Pulse width (fs)	Rep rate (Hz)
Romania	Nuclear physics	10 (x2)	200	20	0.1
Hungary	Attosecond physics	1	5	5	1000
		20	400	20	0.1
Czech Republic	Secondary beam radiation, high-energy particles	1	10	10	10
		5	50	10	10
		10 (x2)	200	20	0.1
To be determined	High intensity	10 beams of 10–20 PW each, phased and combined to create total power of 100–200 PW			

*Laser parameters still subject to change.

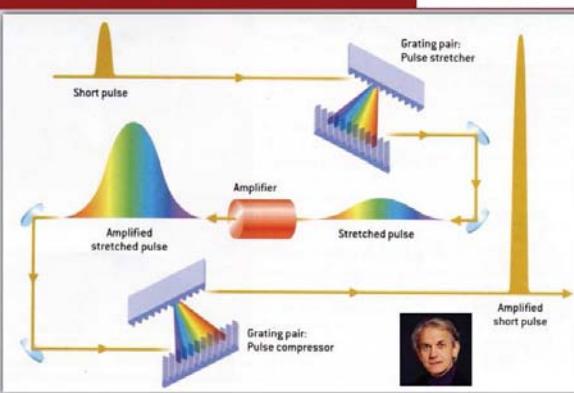
Terawatt short-pulse lasers

"Table Top Terawatt" laser (T^3)



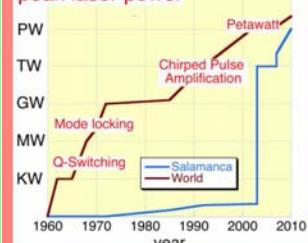
Copy of transparencies from Prof. Luis Roso, Salamanca)

Modern CPA system



Evolution in time

peak laser power



Salamanca big Lasers

First laser 0,5 TW March 2003

Second Laser 20 TW Sept 2007

"Table Top Terawatt" laser (T^3)

Multi-Terawatt laser at Salamanca

Copy of transparencies from Prof. Luis Roso, Salamanca)



laser beams transferred energy to places that are hard to reach or access by conventional methods. Examples include supplying energy to remote military camps or to a zeppelin (airship) stationed above a specific area for observation tasks.

The space elevator is another project on

only to have laser pointers in a Swiss Army knife, we could even try to replace the stainless steel blade with a laser blade. Just imagine the possibilities for a moment. You could cut down that tree in your backyard with a laser.

Now that we've speculated about the

tree, it's time to say that it is a pretty safe bet that lasers will be around long after I'm gone.

Meet the author

Jochen Delle is the manager of new laser products for Trumpf Inc. in Farmington, Conn.; e-mail: jochen.delle@us.trumpf.com



Photonics Spectra July 2010

PHOTONICS MEDIA

Power beaming

UCE-2010

9

Traslladat energia a llocs llunyans o inaccessibles.

- Un petitet avió ha sigut propulsat des de terra!
- Elevador espacial
- Comunicacions inter-planetàries
- Captar energia dalt i enviar-la cap a la terra (o a l'inrevés)

50 aniv. Làser



Aplics. militars?

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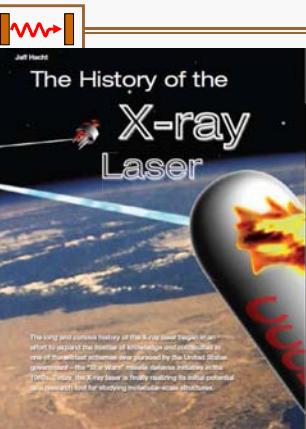
10

James Bond ...



Is Mazinger possible?

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*Cold-war fever in
the 1980s...*

Lockheed aerospace engineer Maxwell Hunter put forth the boldest plans—a fleet of 18 orbiting chemical laser battle stations, which he claimed could block a surprise attack by thousands of Soviet nuclear missiles. [Around year 1980]

Làsers: Aplicacions científiques i tècniques

POTÈNCIA ↑

Gran

- Fusió nuclear
- Làser d'electrons lliures, làser de raigs X
- Làsers de Terawatt: generació d'altres freqüències i de pulsos ultra-curts (atto-segons), aplicacions a Física Atòmica i Nuclear, acceleració de partícules.
- Transport d'energia a distància (futur)
- Aplics. militars

Mitjana

- Processat de materials: tall, soldadura, perforació, marcatge, tractaments de superfície, prototipat 3D (100 nm resol amb femtosecond 2-photon), ...
- Espectacles lluminosos
- Fotoquímica: estimulació i control de reaccions químiques (fins i tot unir atoms freds), foto-dissociació, foto-ionització, ...
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Petita

- Comunicacions òptiques; comunicacions quàntiques (criptografia quàntica, etc.)
- Atrapament i refredament d'àtoms, condensació de Bose-Einstein (BEC)
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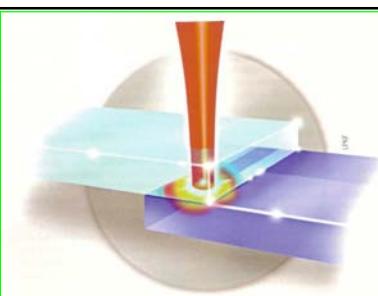
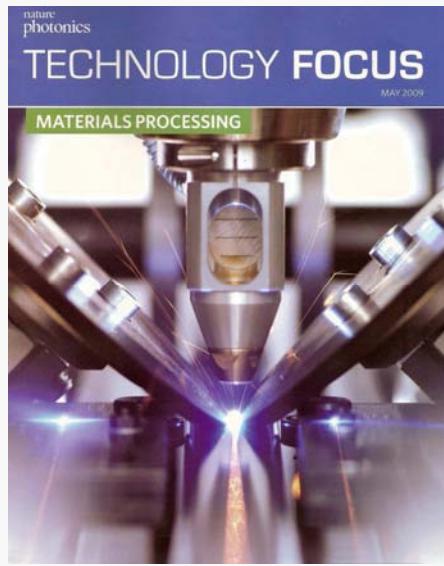
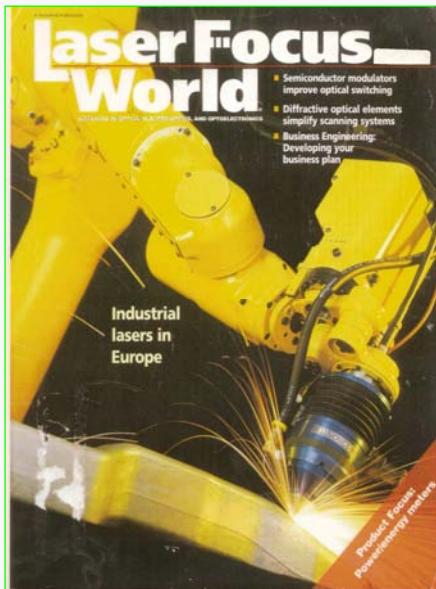


Figure 1 | Principle of laser transmission welding of two plastic components. The laser beam passes through the upper plastic layer but is absorbed by the lower one, generating heat that fuses the two components together, which then cool and harden.



Figure 2 | Example of high-quality laser welding of transparent plastic parts using the Clearweld technology. A light-absorbing dye is sandwiched between the components to be joined. On illumination with a laser it heats up, melting the interface between the parts. Advantageously, the dye becomes colourless in the process leaving a weld seam that is invisible to the naked eye.



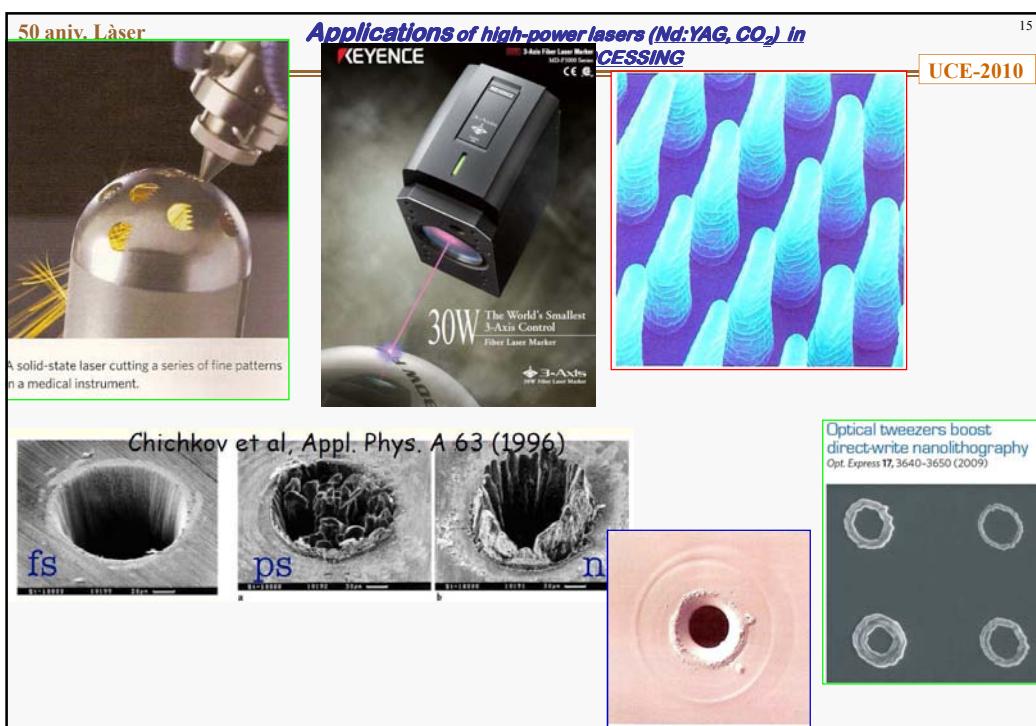
Figure 4 | A hybrid system with an example application of an automotive tail light.



Figure 5 | Electric shaver welded by laser.



Nature Photonics, May 2009



Làzers: Aplicacions científiques i tècniques



Gran



Mitjana



Petita



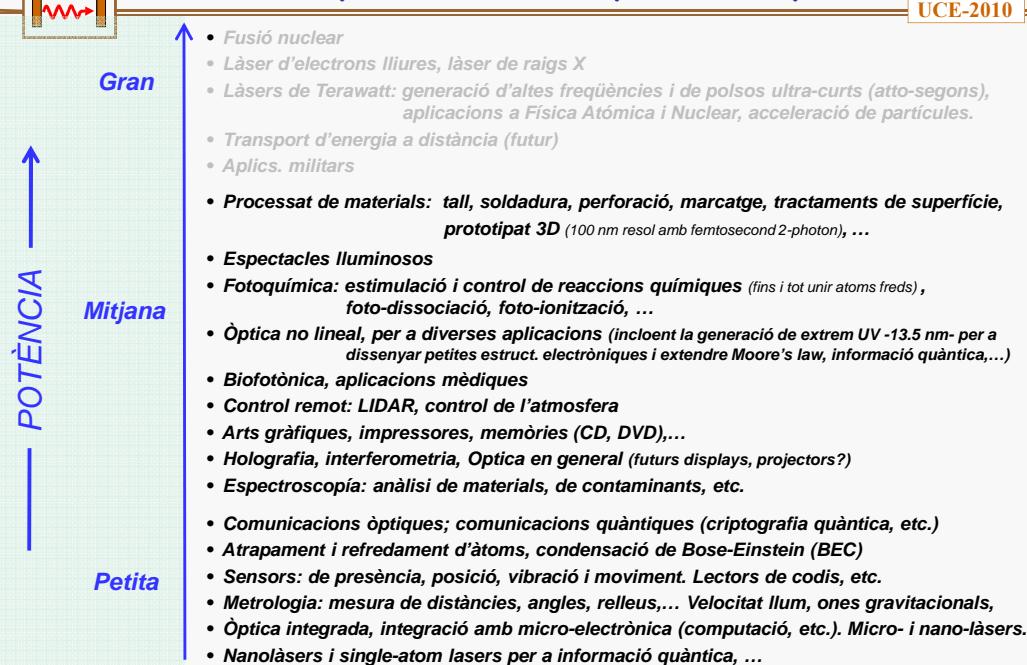
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See the light

Artist Hiro Yamagata linked science with art at his "Photon 999" exhibition, where multiple laser systems immersed the viewers in a moving-light show.

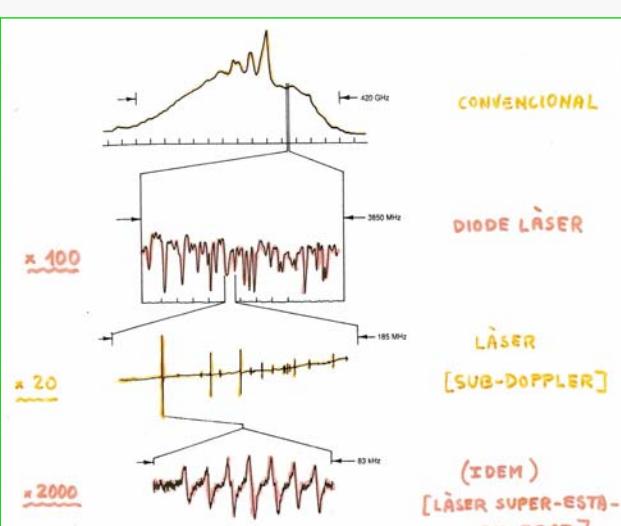
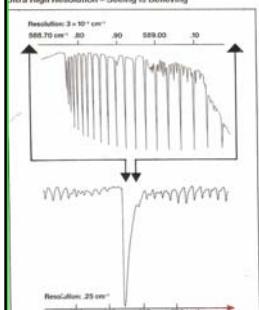
Làsers: Aplicacions científiques i tècniques

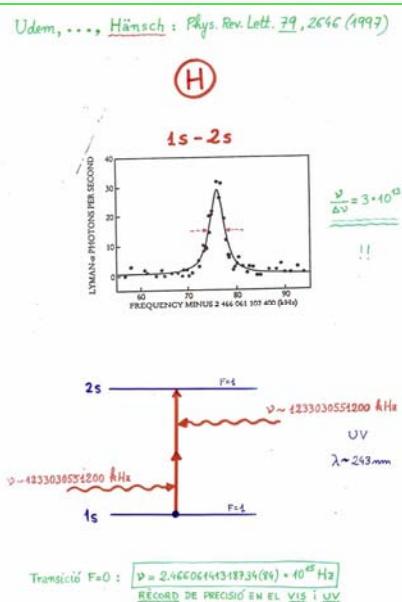


Application of laser monochromatically to Spectroscopy

Laser Source Spectrometer

Ultra High Resolution – Seeing is Believing



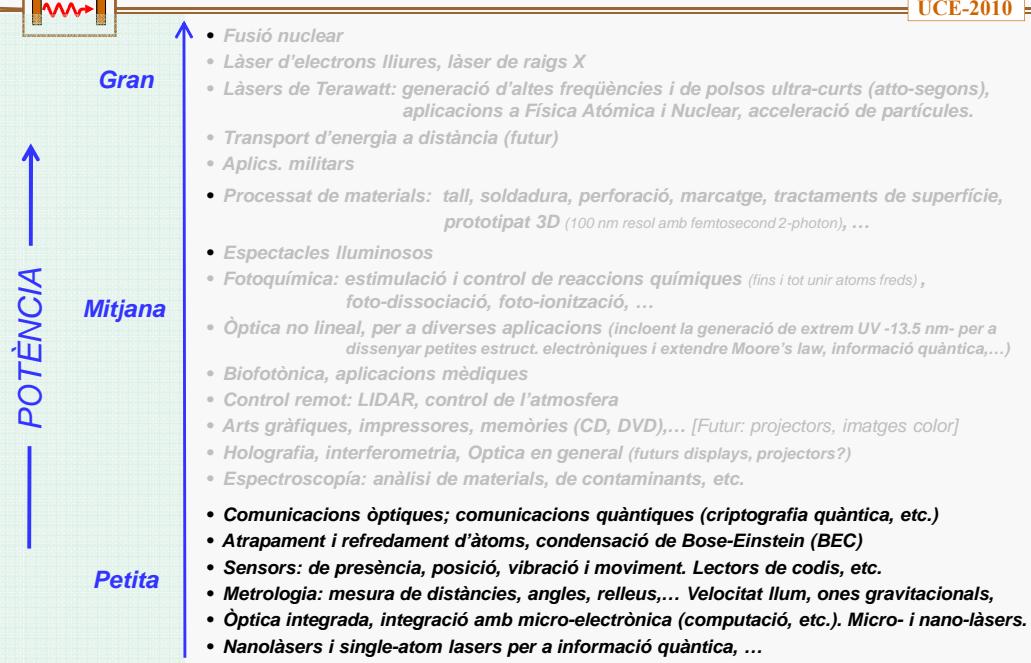


Applications even in
Cosmology...

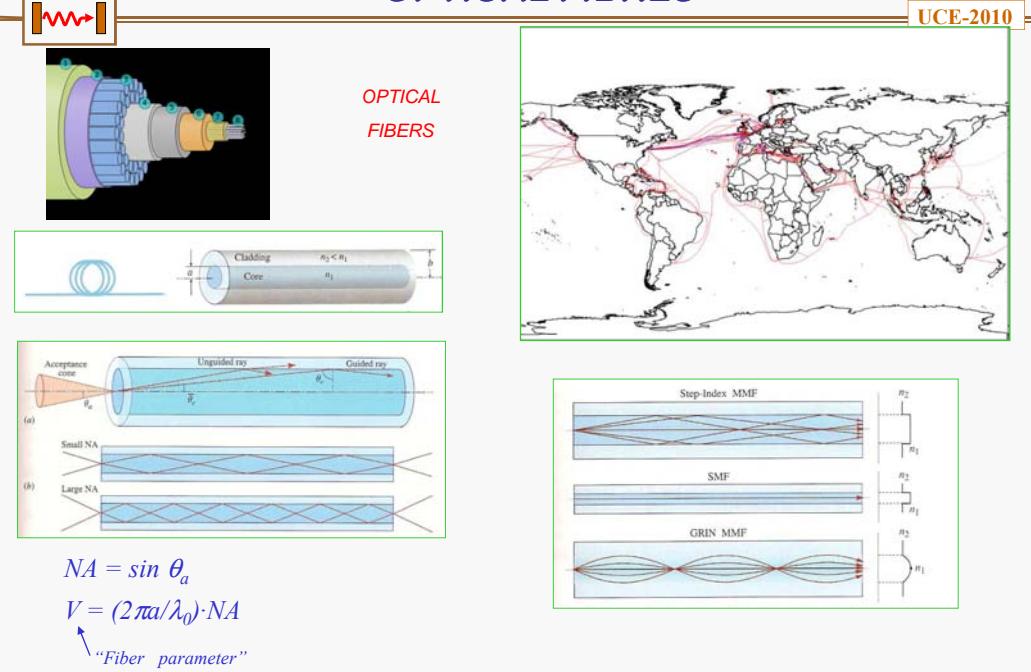
Control remot:

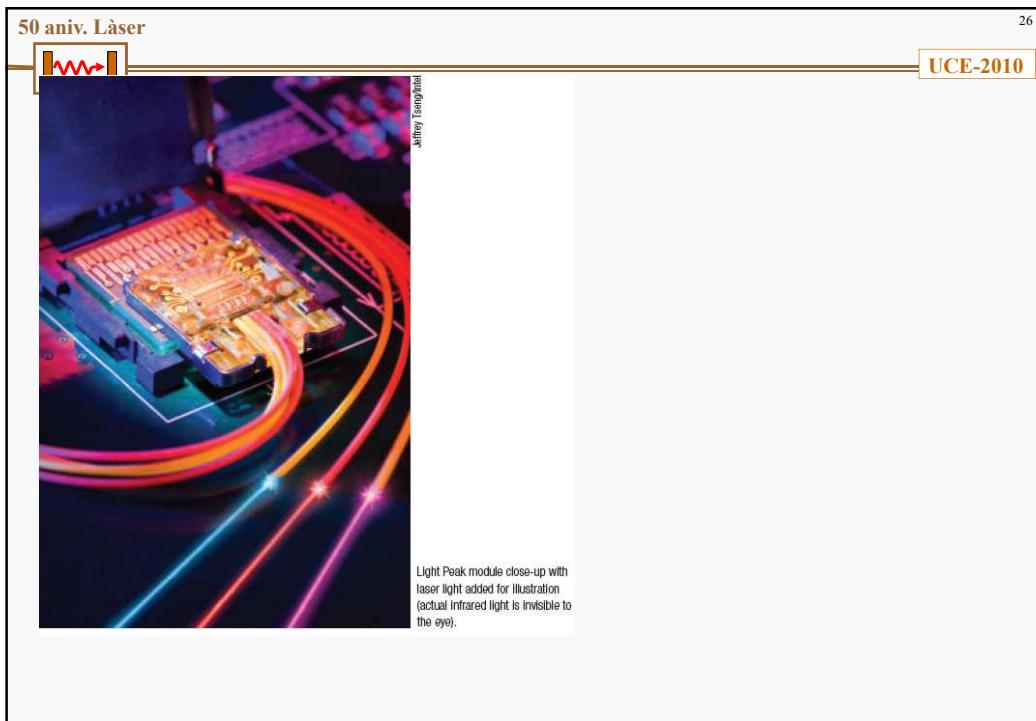
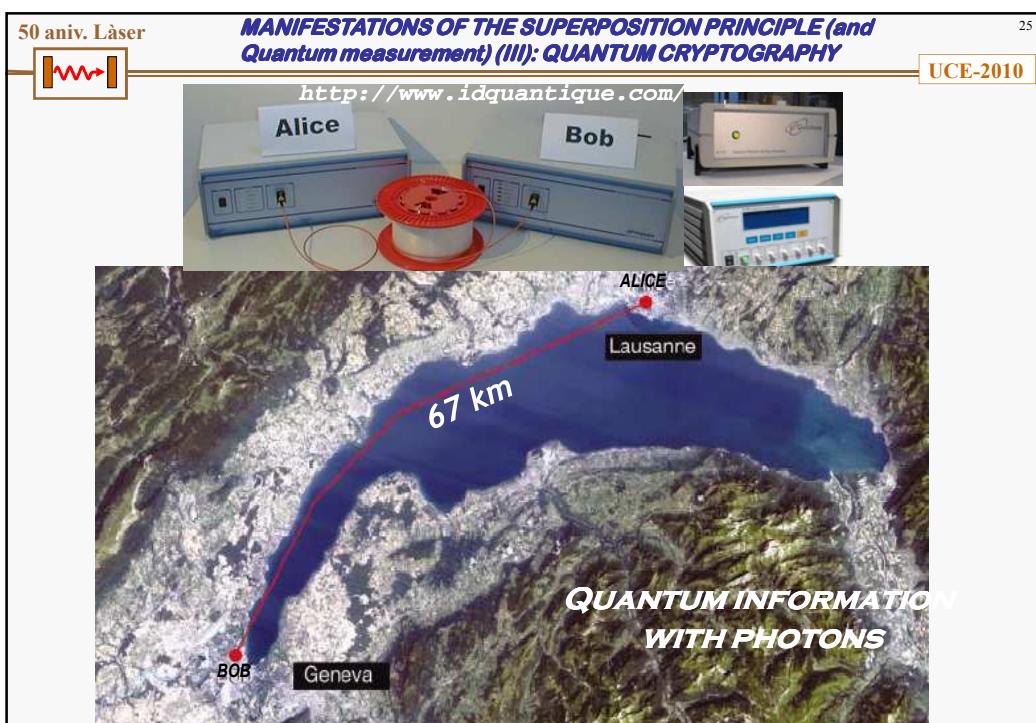
- LIDAR,
- Control de l'atmosfera, ...

Làsers: Aplicacions científiques i tècniques



OPTICAL FIBRES

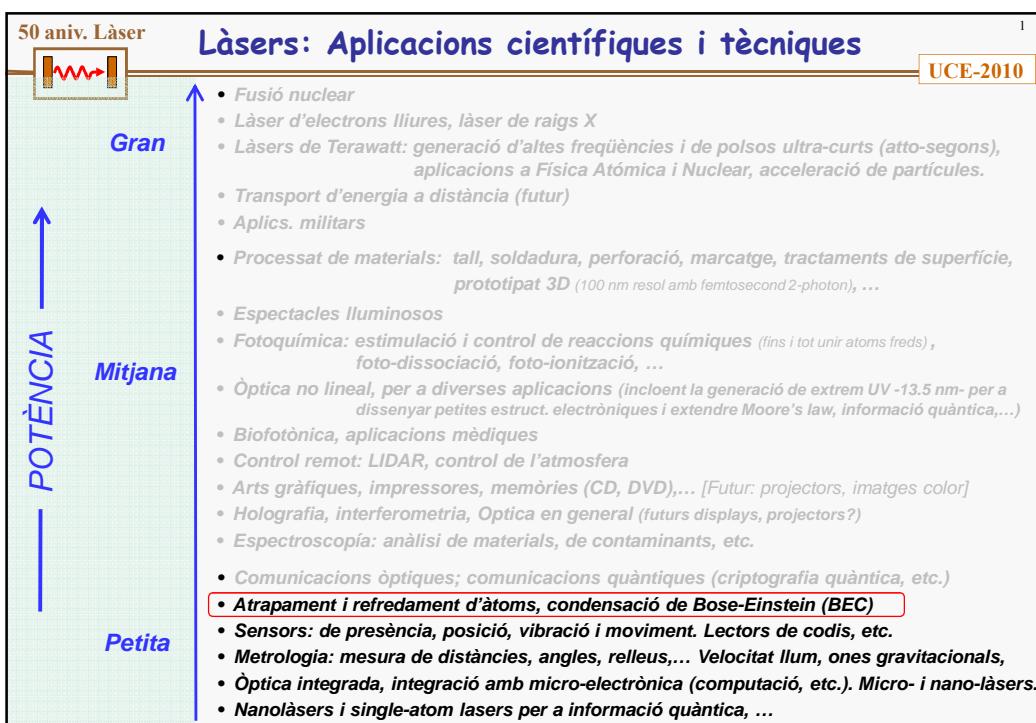






Applications in biology (biophotonics) and medicine:

- **Vision: LASIK, retina problems in diabetes, ...**
- **Skin**
- **Rheumatism**
- **Laser thermotherapy –by heat-, photodynamic therapy –by light activated drugs-: Remove obstructions in arteries and veins, ulcers, tumors (cancer),... (use of drugs, fluophores, plasmon particles,...)**
- **Surgery: laser scalpel**
- **Measurement of blood concentration of particles, velocities, tissue coagulation (by light scattering, Doppler shift,...)**
- **Analysis of cells and tissues by: single-photon spectroscopy (helped with fluophores,...)
two-photon spectroscopy,
Optical coherence tomography (OCT),
etc.**
-
-
-



50 aniv. Làser

Action over the center of mass of the atoms:

Controlling the movement of atoms with laser light

- **Cooling and trapping of atoms**
- **Bose-Einstein condensation (BEC)**

2

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PHYSICS NOBEL PRIZE 1997

UCE-2010



Steven Chu



Claude Cohen-Tannoudji



William D. Phillips

"For development of methods to cool and trap atoms with laser light"

50 aniv. Låser

PHYSICS NOBEL PRIZE 2001

UCE-2010



University of Colorado at Boulder

Eric A. Cornell

JILA and NIST
Boulder, CO, USA

Born in 1961 (Palo Alto)
PhD 1990 (MIT)



EPA/FRB

Wolfgang Ketterle

MIT
Cambridge, MA, USA

Born in 1957 (Heidelberg)
PhD 1986 (Universität München and Max-Planck-Institut für Quantenoptik, Garching)



University of Colorado at Boulder

Carl E. Wieman

JILA and Univ. of Colorado
Boulder, CO, USA

Born in 1951 (Oregon)
PhD 1977 at Stanford University

For the achievement of Bose-Einstein condensation in dilute gases of alkali atoms, and for early fundamental studies of the properties of the condensates



**Forces over an object
(atom,...), from an
electromagnetic wave :**

• **Radiation pressure:**

Longitudinal force, due to the **photon momentum**, usually in the propagation direction (if photon is absorbed)

$$\vec{F} = \vec{p}_{\text{1 photon}} \cdot \frac{dn}{dt}$$

n = number of photons/sec absorbed

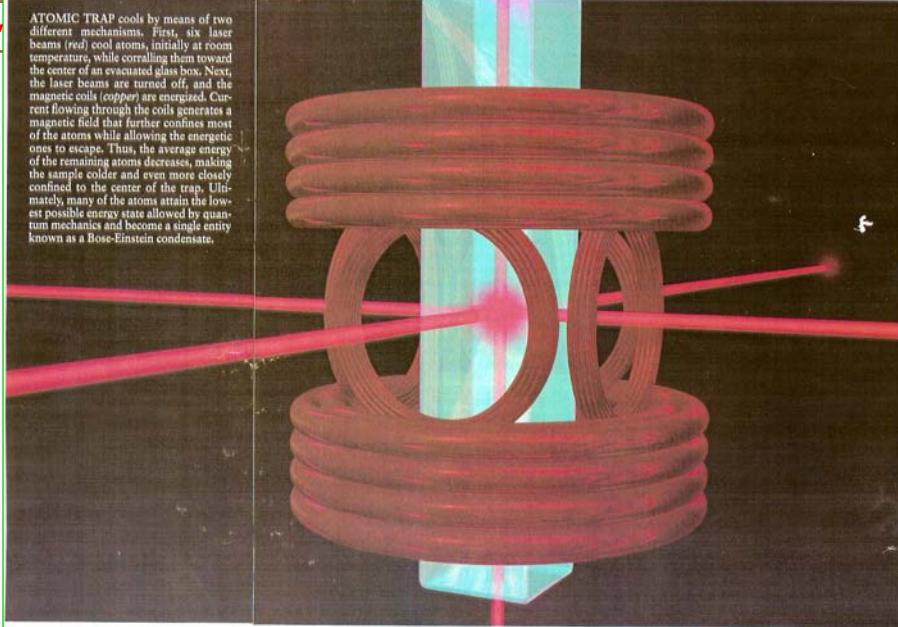
• **Dipolar (if $\lambda > a$) or momentum-exchange (if $\lambda \ll a$) :**

Transverse (and longitudinal) component, associated usually to focused beams, with a **gradient of intensity**. Example for $\lambda \gg a$:

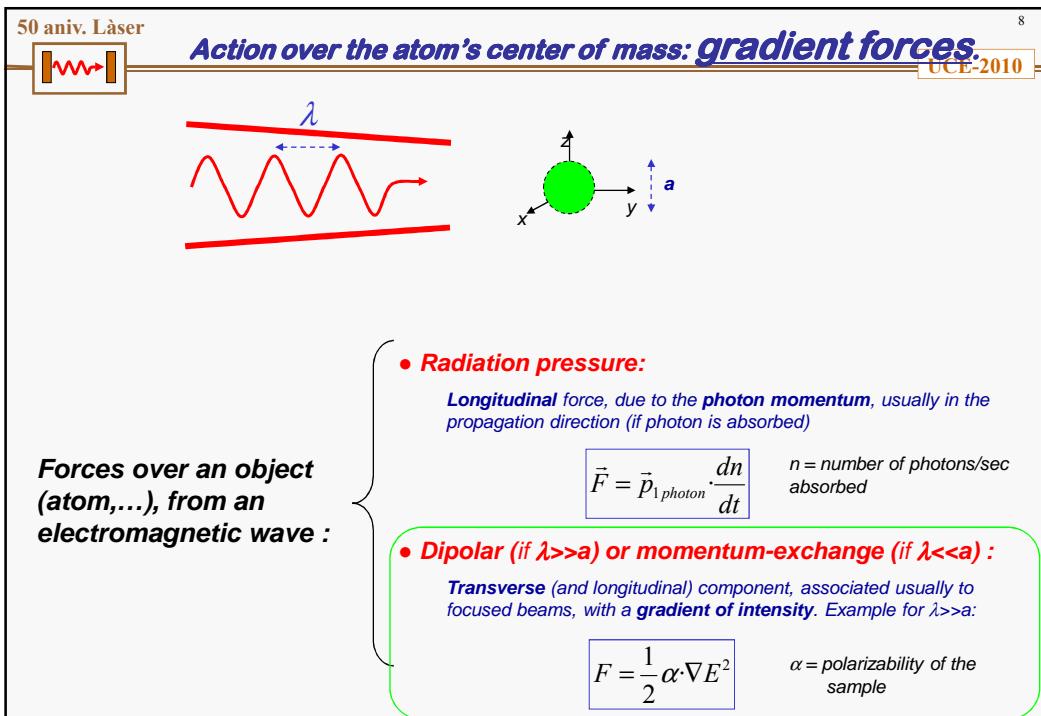
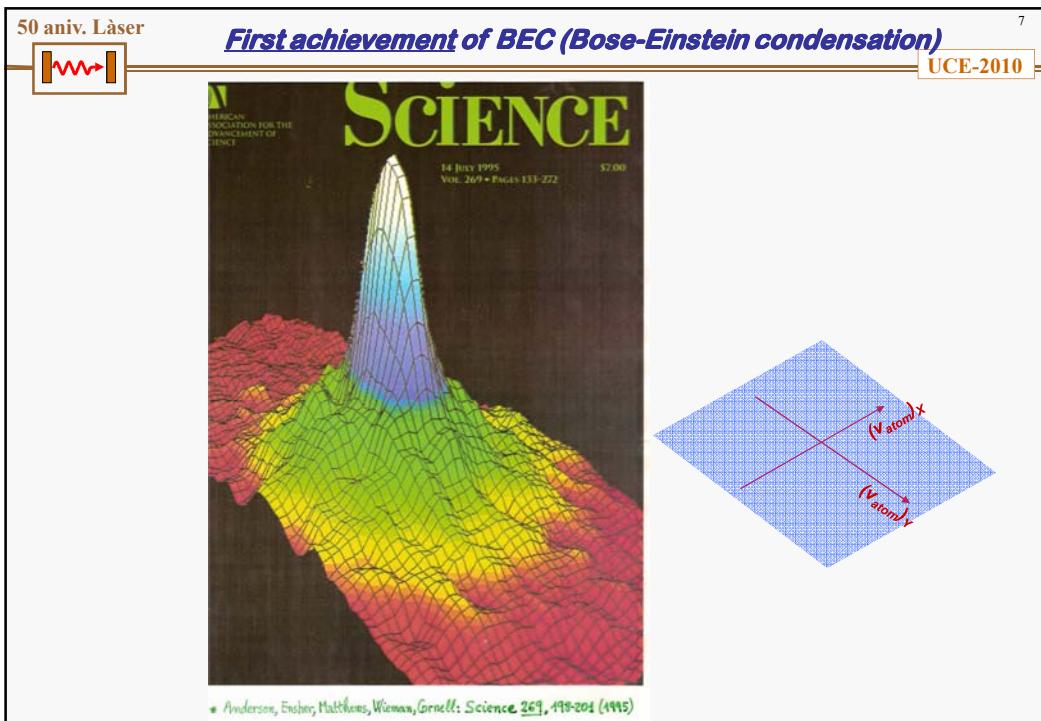
$$F = \frac{1}{2} \alpha \cdot \nabla E^2$$

α = polarizability of the sample

ATOMIC TRAP cools by means of two different mechanisms. First, six laser beams (red) cool atoms, initially at room temperature, while corralling them toward the center of an evacuated glass box. Next, the laser beams are turned off, and the magnetic coils (copper) are energized. Current flowing through the coils generates a magnetic field that further confines most of the atoms while allowing the energetic ones to escape. Thus, the average energy of the remaining atoms decreases, making them even cooler and more tightly confined to the center of the trap. Ultimately, many of the atoms attain the lowest possible energy state allowed by quantum mechanics and become a single entity known as a Bose-Einstein condensate.



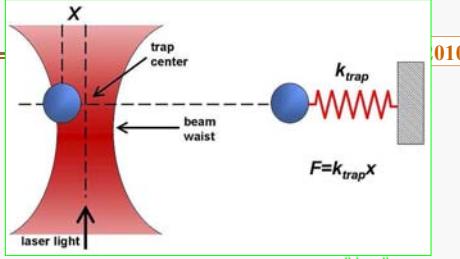
E. A. Cornell, C. E. Wieman : Sci. Am. (March 1998), p. 26



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Optical tweezers

Two regimes:



9 010

www.wikipedia.org

a) **Rayleigh regime:** $\lambda \gg a$ (a = radius sphere) The gradient force is the force of a non-uniform field over an induced dipole: "dipolar force". (It applies in particular to atoms)

$$F = \frac{1}{2} \alpha \cdot \nabla E^2$$

α = polarizability of the sample

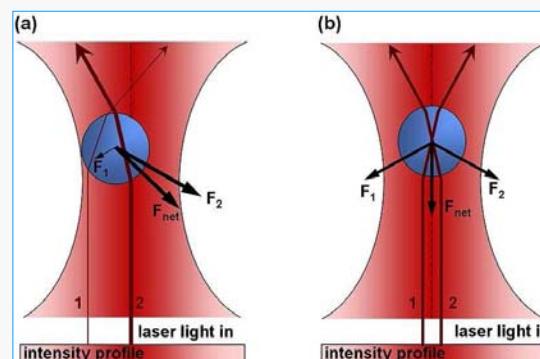
b) (General Mie regime): $\lambda \ll a$. The gradient forces is dominated by the momentum reaction to the light deviation by refraction inside the sphere (if it is transparent), on the walls: "Momentum-exchange" force. (Many applications in biology)

- Forces are, typically, in the pico-Newton range
- Ashkin was able to trap larger particles (10 to 10,000 nanometers in diameter) but it fell to Chu to extend these techniques to the trapping of neutral atoms (0.1 nanometers in diameter) utilizing resonant laser light and a magnetic gradient trap.

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Optical tweezers

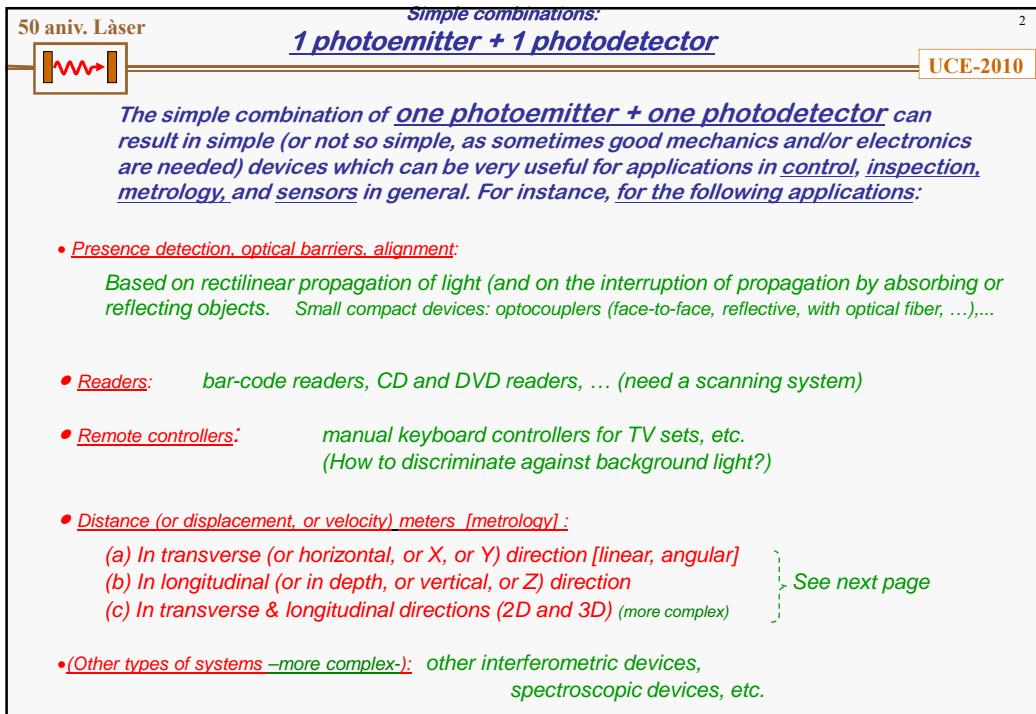
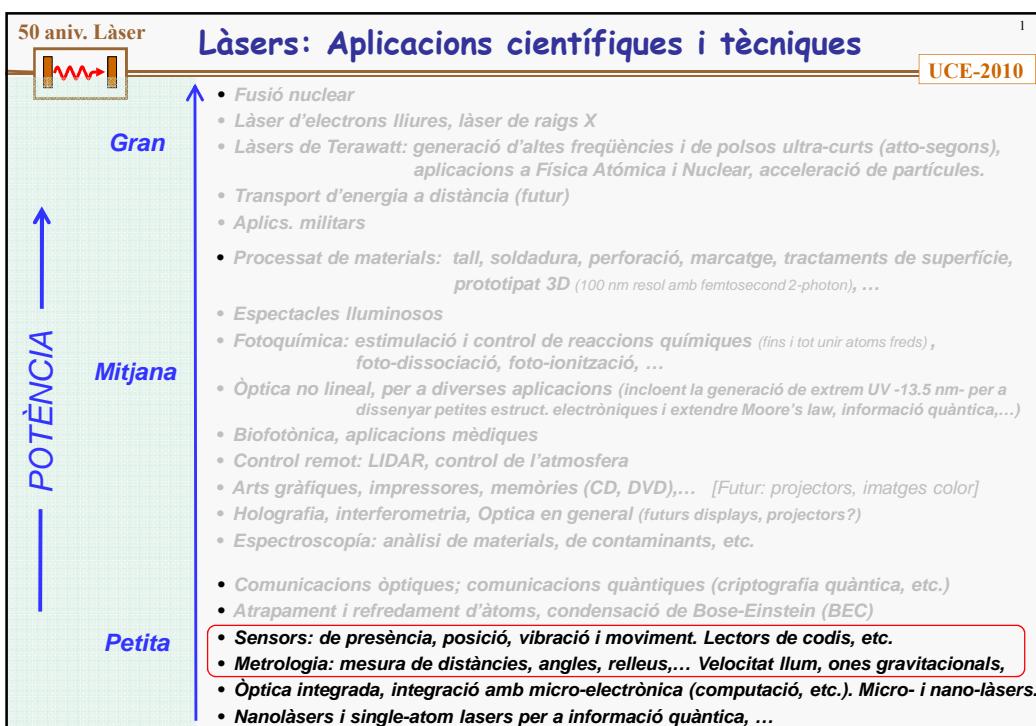
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Ray-optics and linear-momentum explanation:

When the bead is displaced from the beam center, as in (a), the larger momentum change of the more intense rays cause a net force to be applied back toward the center of the trap. When the bead is laterally centered on the beam, as in (b), the net force points toward the beam waist.
www.wikipedia.org



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*Some EXAMPLES of combinations of
one photoemitter + one photodetector*

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Distance meter in the transverse direction:

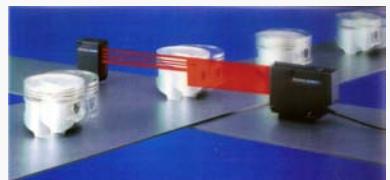
- *Diameter or gap measurements by “light curtain” (gaging, laser micrometer)*

Need a scanning system, and/or a CCD detector.





www.keyence.com



Laser micrometer (for gaging)

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*Some EXAMPLES of combinations of
one photoemitter + one photodetector*

UCE-2010 4

Distance meter in the transverse direction:

- **LASER DOPPLER VELOCIMETRY (OR ANEMOMETRY)**

For measuring velocities of particles in suspension in a fluid, moving in transverse direction

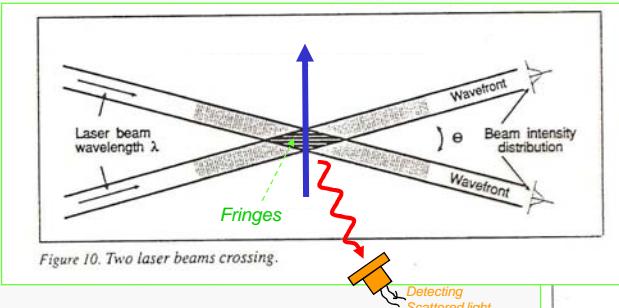


Figure 10. Two laser beams crossing.

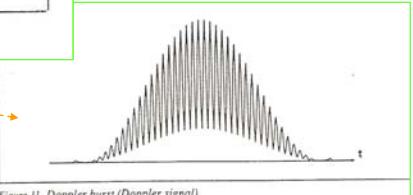


Figure 11. Doppler burst (Doppler signal).

**Some EXAMPLES of combinations of
one photoemitter + one photodetector**

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Measuring distances in Z (longitudinal) direction, by TRIANGULATION (1D)

KEYENCE

Ultra High-Speed/High-Accuracy CMOS Laser Displacement Sensor LK-G500 Series

November 2009

BEST SPECIFICATIONS IN THE WORLD

faster in the world highest accuracy in its class highest repeatability in its class

392 Hz ±0.02% 0.0004 mm [0.01 μm]

Triangulation (1D)

Triangulation (2D)

www.keyence.com

**Some EXAMPLES of combinations of
one photoemitter + one photodetector**

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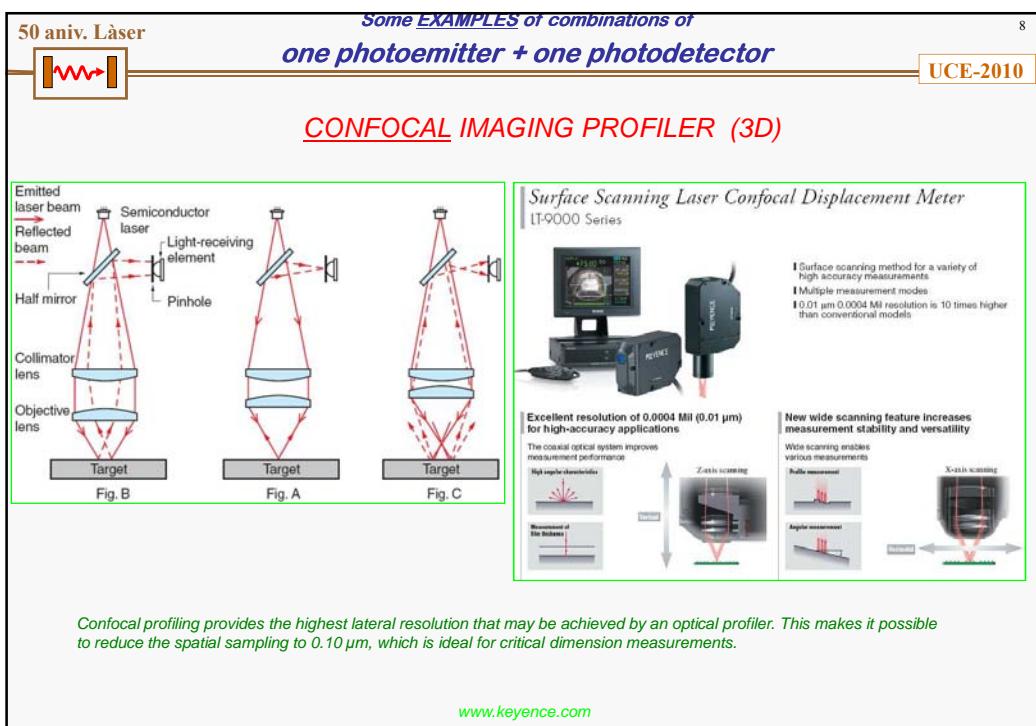
Measuring distances in Z (longitudinal) direction, by TRIANGULATION (1D)

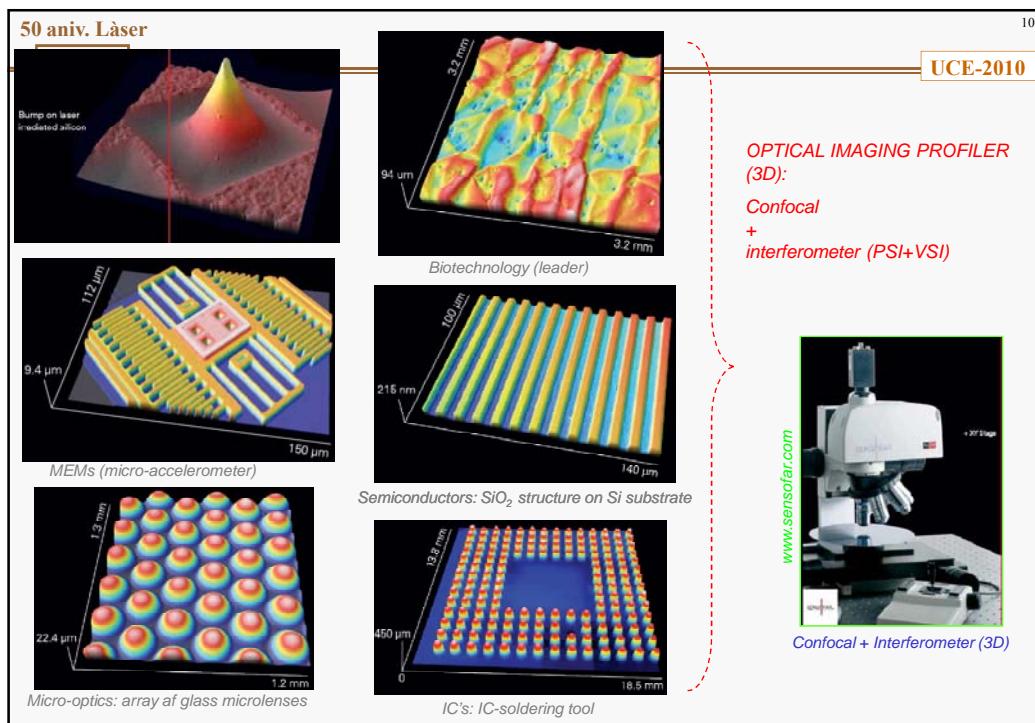
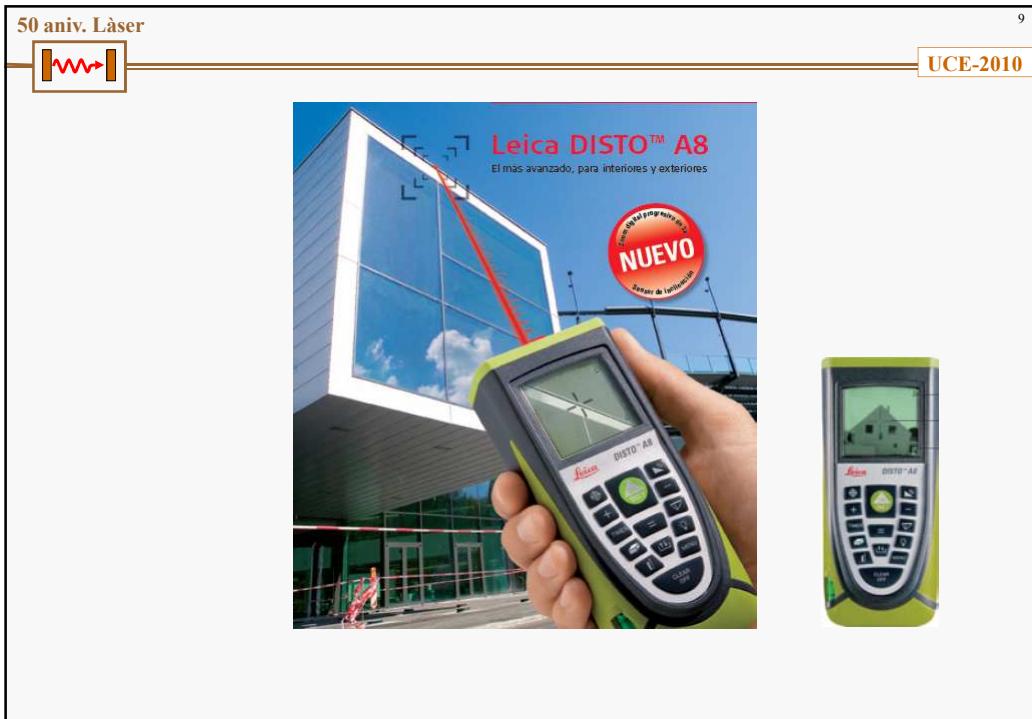
ABLE
ABLE intelligently controls the three elements of the laser system: laser power, beam path, and beam position. "ABLE" = Active Balanced Laser control Engine

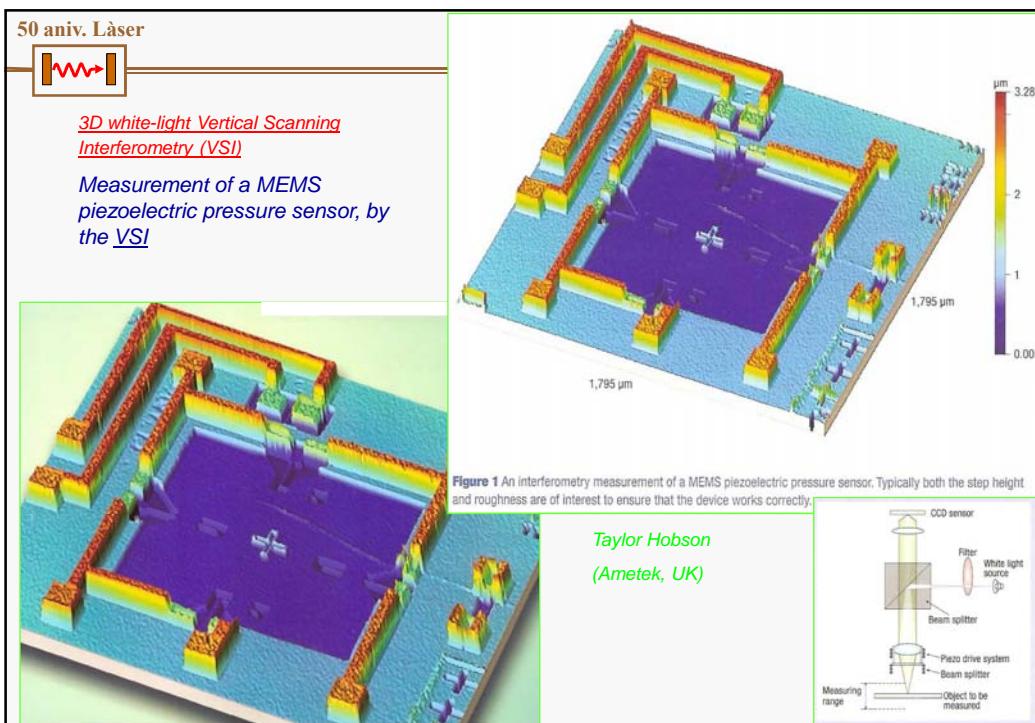
LK
Laser Position detector Lens Diffusive surface

See previous transparency: Nov-2009: CMOS

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LIDAR (measuring distances, controlling atmosphere pollution, etc.)

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A FASOR used at the Starfire Optical Range for LIDAR and laser guide star experiments is tuned to the sodium D2a line and used to excite sodium atoms in the upper atmosphere



Chet Gardner, Univ. of Illinois

Also on earth, mobile (with a van), to measure air pollution near a factory, etc.)



The lidar operating at Davis with an aurora in the background.
Photo: David Correll



While orbiting the moon, the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter will take pictures and gather information about the moon's surface.

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Simple combinations:

1 photoemitter + 1 photodetector

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The simple combination of one photoemitter + one photodetector can result in simple (or not so simple, as sometimes good mechanics and/or electronics are needed) devices which can be very useful for applications in control, inspection, metrology, and sensors in general. For instance, for the following applications:

- Presence detection, optical barriers, alignment:

Based on rectilinear propagation of light (and on the interruption of propagation by absorbing or reflecting objects. Small compact devices: optocouplers (face-to-face, reflective, with optical fiber, ...),...

- Readers: bar-code readers, CD and DVD readers, ... (need a scanning system)

- Remote controllers: manual keyboard controllers for TV sets, etc.
(How to discriminate against background light?)

- Distance (or displacement, or velocity) meters [metrology] :

- In transverse (or horizontal, or X, or Y) direction [linear, angular]
- In longitudinal (or in depth, or vertical, or Z) direction
- In transverse & longitudinal directions (2D and 3D) (more complex)

See next page

- (Other types of systems -more complex-): other interferometric devices, spectroscopic devices, etc.

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**Some EXAMPLES of combinations of
1 photoem. + 1 photodet. :
Spectroscopic devices**

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Simple device to mesure the % of oxigenation of blood:

Figure 1
Overlay of typical LED-emitted light spectrum and relative light absorption spectra of oxygenated and deoxygenated hemoglobin. The dashed purple line indicates the spectra of 50%-saturated blood, with the relative absorbance in the red and IR indicated by the black circles.

Figure 2
Red and IR light signals at high and low arterial oxygen saturation. At high saturation, the red "pulse amplitude" (AC/DC) is smaller than in the IR. At low saturation, the ratio of relative amplitudes is reversed.

A Technology Overview of the Nellcor® OxiMax® Pulse Oximetry System

Nellcor Technical Staff

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Làsers: Aplicacions científiques i tècniques

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Gran

- Fusió nuclear
- Làser d'electrons lliures, làser de raigs X
- Làsers de Terawatt: generació d'altres freqüències i de pulsos ultra-curts (atto-segons), aplicacions a Física Atòmica i Nuclear, acceleració de partícules.
- Transport d'energia a distància (futur)
- Aplics. militars

Mitjana

- Processat de materials: tall, soldadura, perforació, marcatge, tractaments de superfície, prototipat 3D (100 nm resol amb femtosecond 2-photon), ...
- Espectacles lluminosos
- Fotoquímica: estimulació i control de reaccions químiques (fins i tot unir atoms freds), foto-dissociació, foto-ionització, ...
- Òptica no lineal, per a diverses aplicacions (incloent la generació de extrem UV -13.5 nm- per a dissenyar petites estruct. electròniques i extender Moore's law, informació quàntica,...)
- Biofotònica, aplicacions mèdiques
- Control remot: LIDAR, control de l'atmosfera
- Arts gràfiques, impressores, memòries (CD, DVD),... [Futur: imatges color i projectors, il·lum.]
- Holografia, interferometria, Òptica en general (futurs displays, projectors?)
- Espectroscòpia: ànalisi de materials, de contaminants, etc.

Petita

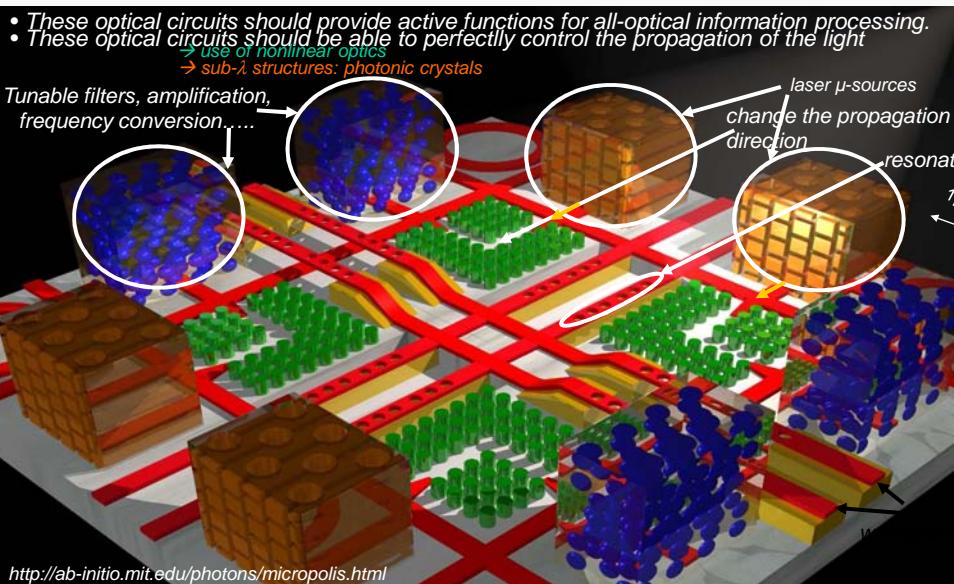
- Comunicacions òptiques; comunicacions quàntiques (criptografia quàntica, etc.)
- Atrapament i refredament d'àtoms, condensació de Bose-Einstein (BEC)
- Sensors: de presència, posició, vibració i moviment. Lectors de codis, etc.
- Metrologia: mesura de distàncies, angles, relleus,... Velocitat llum, ones gravitacionals,
- **Òptica integrada, integració amb micro-electrònica (computació, etc.). Micro- i nano-làsers**
- Nanolàsers i single-atom lasers per a informació quàntica, ...

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Photonic circuits: the dream.....

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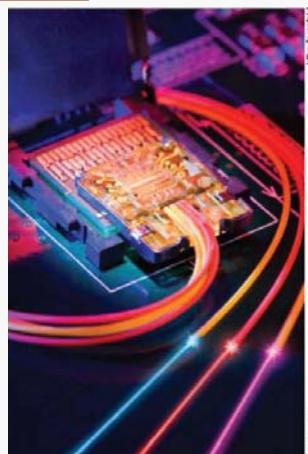


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Integrated photonics

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After Intel photo

Light Peak module close-up with laser light added for illustration (actual infrared light is invisible to the eye).

Future: Si photonics ?



Futur ...?

- Millora eficiències, en tots tipus de làsers i aplicacions
- Micro- i nano-lasers: sensors, integració electrònica-fotònica, computació, comunicacions
- Més progrés en biofotònica (aplics. en biologia i medicina)
- Imatge, projecció
- Comunicacions a l'espai, a molt llarga distància
- "Power beaming"
- Fusió nuclear controlada?
- Informació quàntica? (criptografia, simulació, computació, teleportació,...)
- ? ? ?