

# Photonics Group

- Harness the photon – Fundamentals to Applications
- Photonics is pervasive → impacts all High Tech areas
- Optical Communications
- Biophotonics and BioMedicine
- Display
- Solar Energy
- Complementing Electronics → Plasmonics
- New materials: “Cloak of Invisibility”
- Fast Moving Technology
- World Class Facilities: Fabrication, Integration, Test
- Collaborative: academics and industry partnership

About 55 graduate students, PostDocs, Research Associates



# Photonics vs. Electronics



*Miniaturization!*

*Fast Speed!*

PLC (few hundred elements)

U. Eindhoven



Pentium 4 (42 mill. transistors)

Intel Corp.



*Integration!*

# Photonics: Graduate Courses

## Fall Term

ECE1448F	Quantum Mechanics for Engineers	S. Dmitrevsky
ECE1467F	Integrated Optical Circuit Design	J.S. Aitchison
ECE1473	Micro and Nano Fabrication Technologies for compound semiconductors.	A. Helmy
ECE1471F	Photonics Fabrication and Packaging	P. Herman

## Spring Term

ECE527S	Photonics I	L. Qian
ECE 1468	Electronic and Optical Properties of Quantum Dots	E. H. Sargent
ECE1450S	Photonics II	P.W.E. Smith

## More Information On-Line

<http://photonics.light.utoronto.ca/>

# Photonics Research Group

- Prof. J. Stewart Aitchison
- Prof. Amr Saher-Helmy
- Prof. P. R. Herman
- Prof. N. Kherani
- Prof. M. Mojahedi
- Prof. L. Pavel
- Prof. L. Qian
- Prof. H. Ruda
- Prof. E. H. Sargent
- Prof. S. Dmitrevsky
- Prof. K. Izuka
- Prof. P. W. E. Smith
- Prof. S. Zukotynski



**Prof. J.S. Aitchison**

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**Brief Research Description**

Nonlinear Guided waves: Spatial and temporal solitons, All-optical switching and signal processing, Optical frequency conversion and parametric interactions. Novel optoelectronic materials and photonic microstructures for linear and nonlinear applications. Optoelectronic Integration: Hybrid Integration, monolithic Integration and integrated bio-sensors for lab-on-a-chip applications.



**Prof. A. Helmy**

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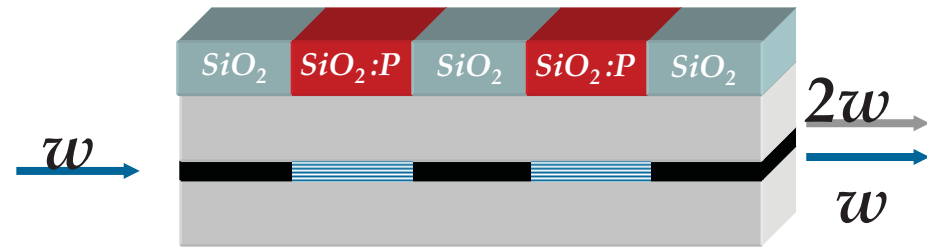
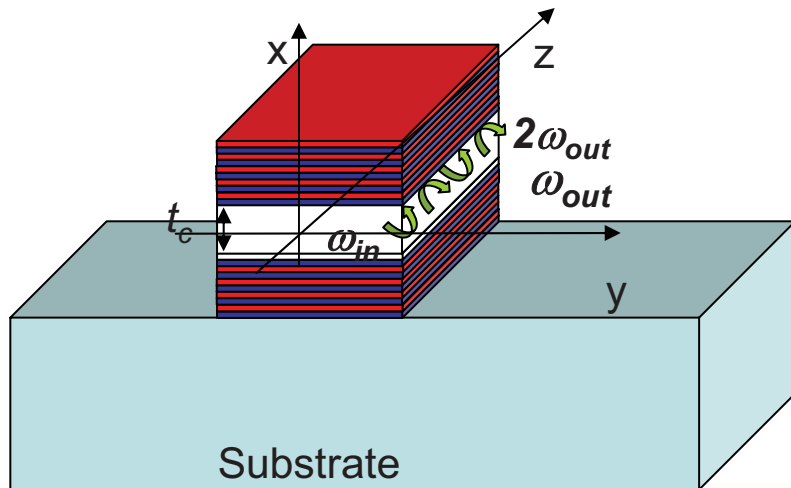
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**Brief Research Description**

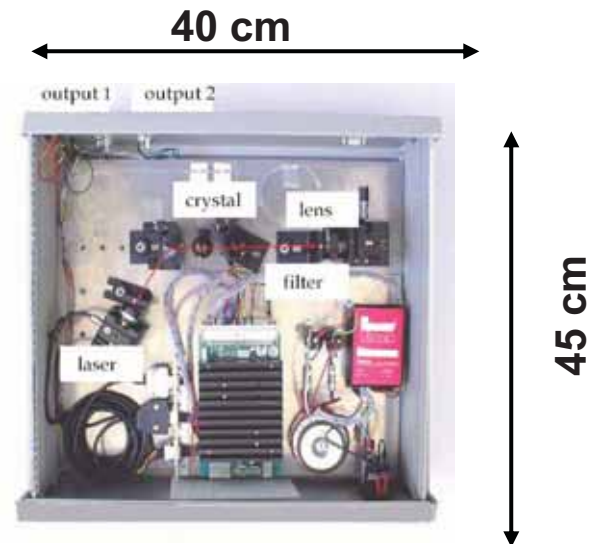
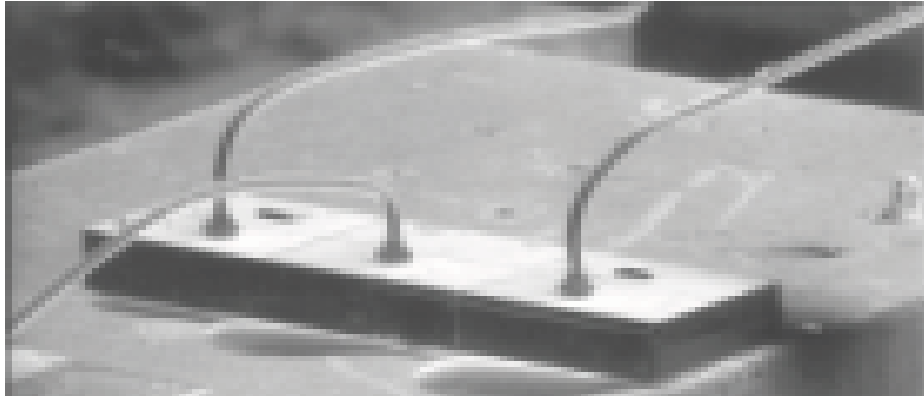
Photonic device physics and characterization techniques (lasers, modulators, amplifiers, switches), non-linear optics in III-V semiconductors (second and third order ultrafast nonlinearities), applied optical spectroscopy for III-V optoelectronic devices and materials (spatially and temporally resolved photoluminescence and Raman), III-V fabrication and monolithic integration techniques (dry etching, quantum well intermixing, oxidation).

# Example 1: NLO

- Semiconductors do not allow the use of some non-linear coefficients due to symmetry
  - One example is the  $\chi^{(2)}$  coefficient which is responsible for mixing frequencies
    - ✱ Materials could however be engineered to have a finite  $\chi^{(2)}$  coefficient through nano-structuring



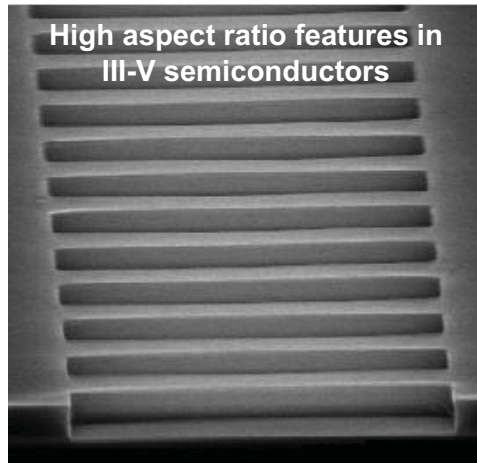
# Outcome: OPO Chip



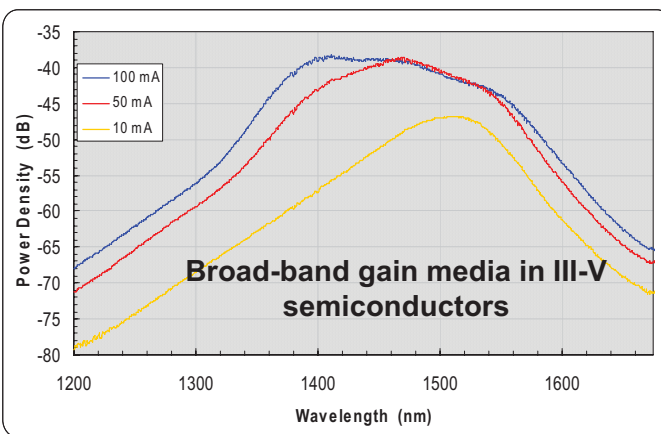
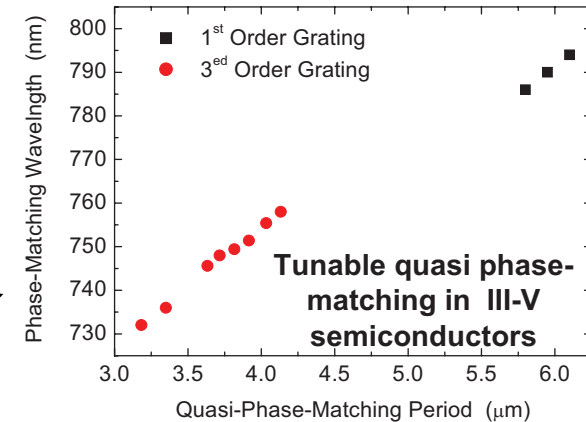
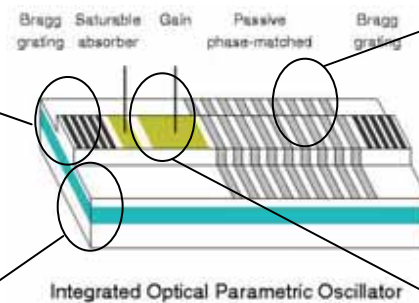
*GAP Optique Geneva*



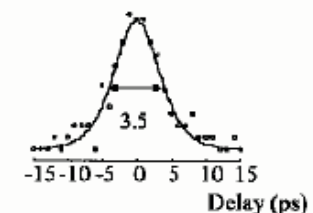
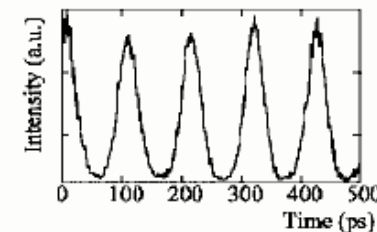
# Coherent Sources



Rugged, efficient coherent sources for 1-17  $\mu\text{m}$  radiation based on GaAs linear + non-linear integrated devices

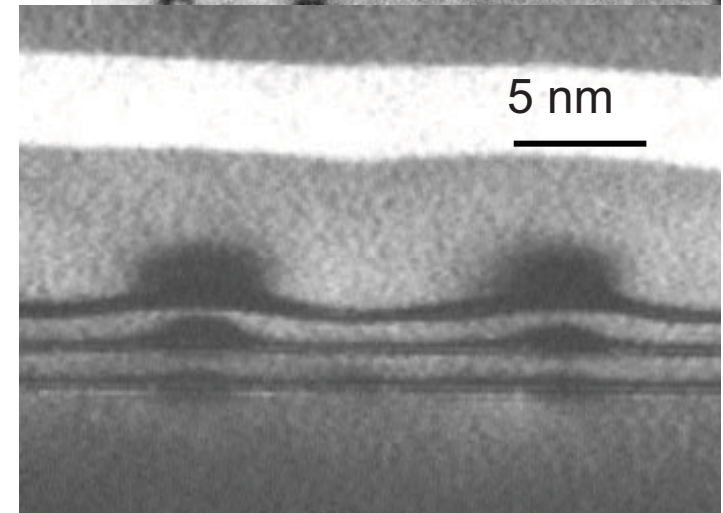
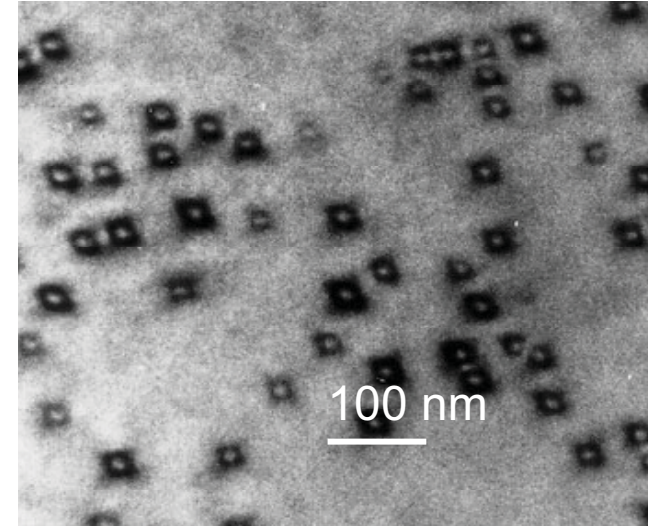


Integrated short-pulse mode-locked lasers



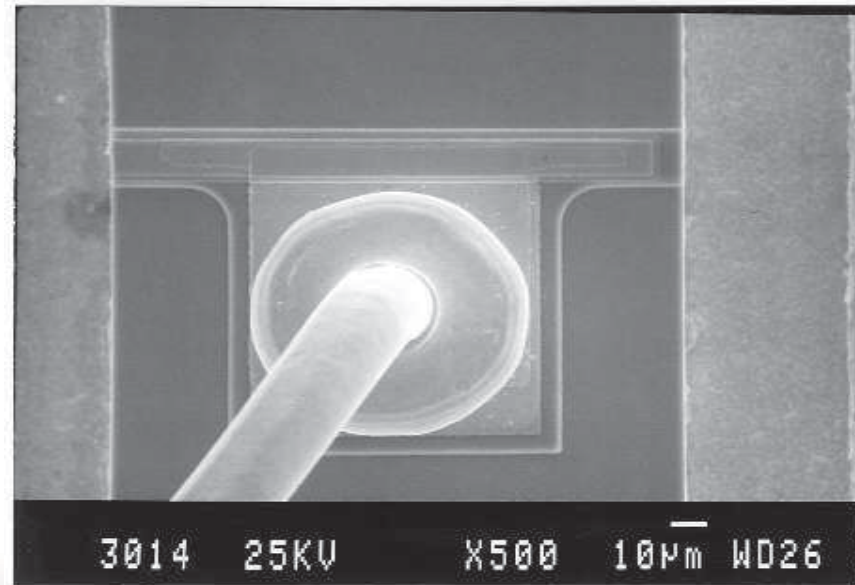
# Example 1: QDs

- Quantum dots in semiconductors are grown via strain effects
  - They have radii of a few nm
  - Their modified density of states offers benefits to
    - light emitters,
    - detectors,
    - biological sensors,
    - environmental monitors,
    - .....



# Quantum Dot Lasers

- Due to the 0-D like density of states offered by QDs
  - Can provide high power
  - High temperature of operation
  - Large modulation bandwidths
  - Emission wavelengths beyond what we have





**Prof. P.R. Herman**

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## **Brief Research Description**

Novel laser processing technology for photonic devices and optical circuits.

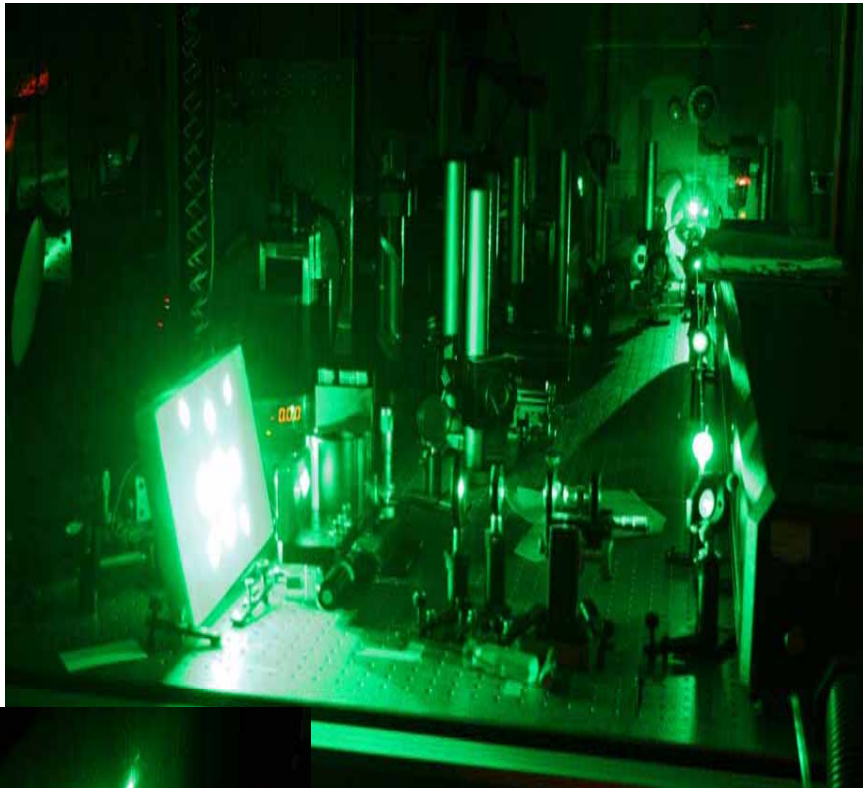
- 2-D and 3-D nanofabricated optical materials
- optical communication networks
- biophotonic lab-on-a-chip
- sensors

Three forefronts of laser technology

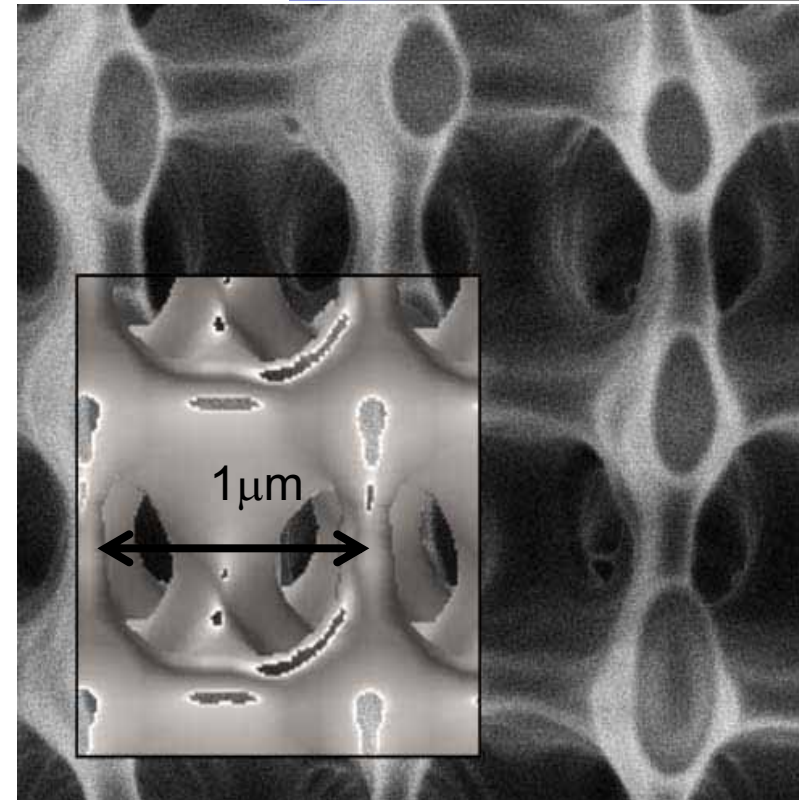
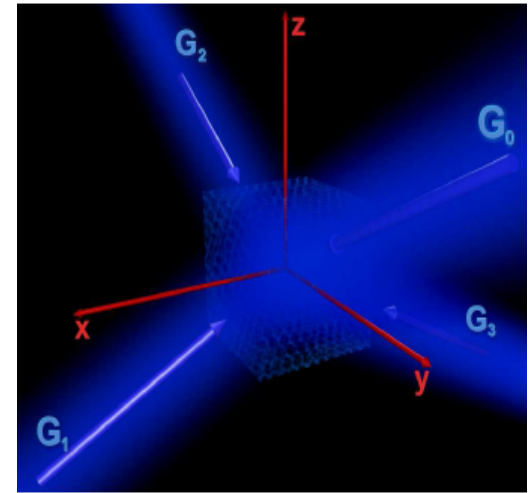
- shorter wavelength lasers in micro-structuring miniature optical devices directly inside optical fibers, optical circuits, and bulk 3-D glasses.
- ultra short-light pulses for *cutting and etching* or *trimming refractive index* in optically transparent materials → direct-write waveguides.
- 3-D laser holographic nanolithography: 3-D nanomolding of new optical materials/devices



# Laser Holographic 3-D Lithography



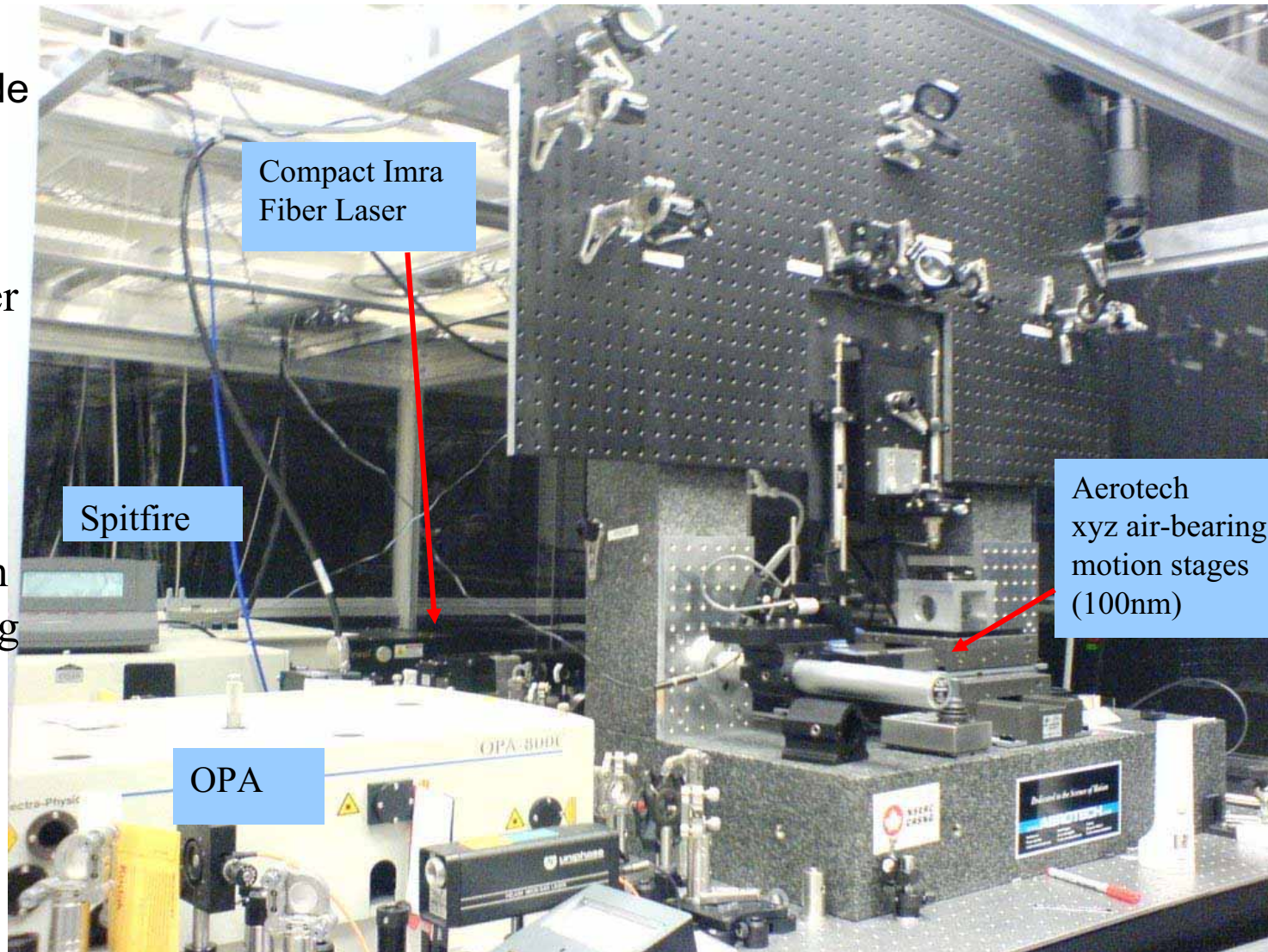
3-D Photonic  
Crystals





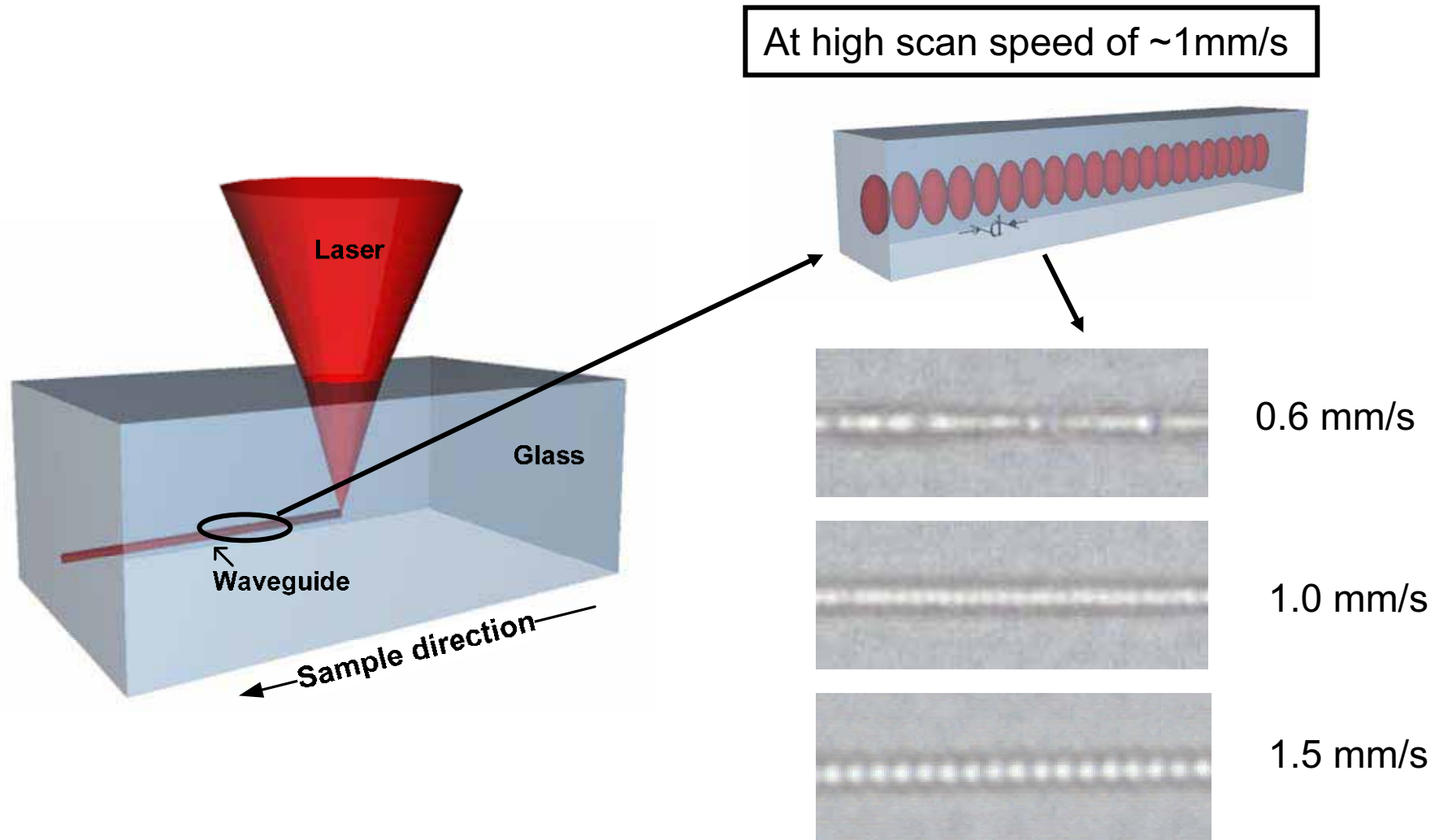
# Burst Ultrafast Laser 3-D Nanofabrication

- Modified burst-mode kHz laser (Spitfire)
- Compact fiber-amplified MHz laser (Imra America)
- High resolution optical processing station with 100-nm precision air-bearing xyz positioning stages



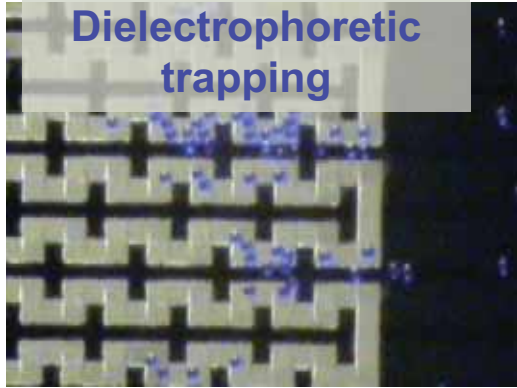
# Bragg Grating Filter- Light Circuits

Type II waveguide writing scheme

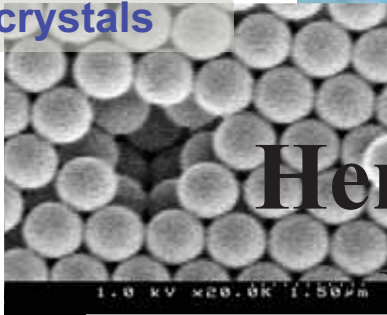
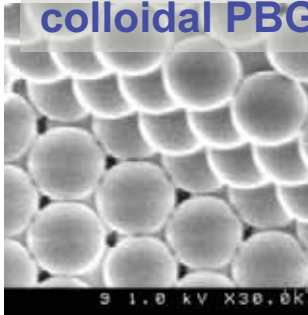




## Levitation and Dielectrophoretic trapping

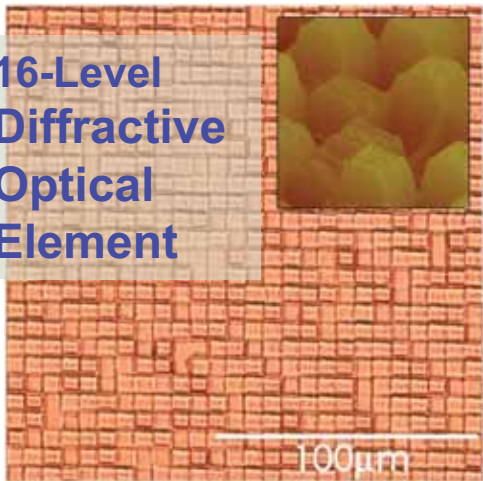


## Laser 'Defect' Etching in colloidal PBG crystals

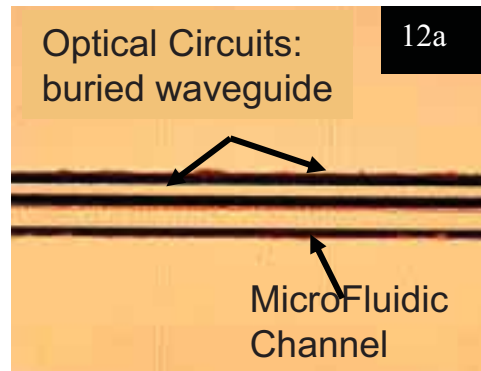


# Herman Group Expertise

## 16-Level Diffractive Optical Element

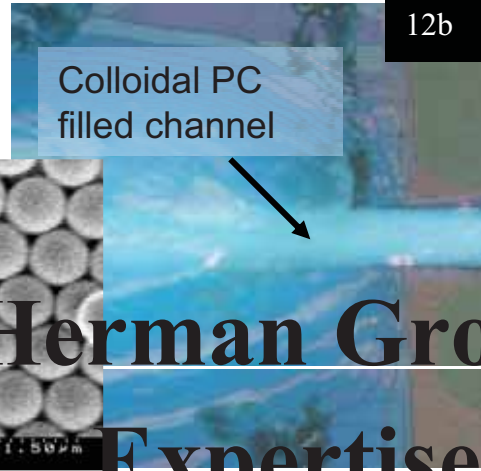


## Optical Circuits: buried waveguide

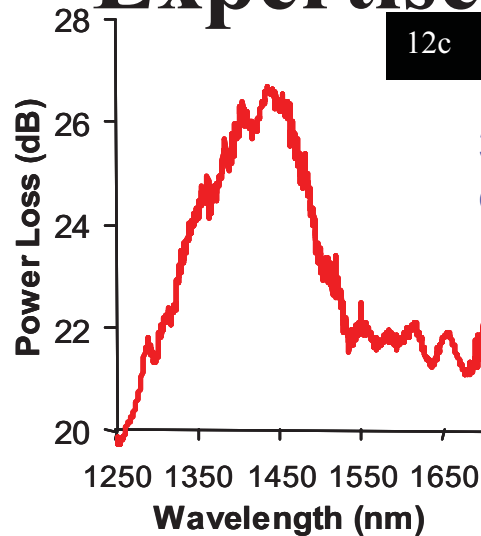


MicroFluidic Channel

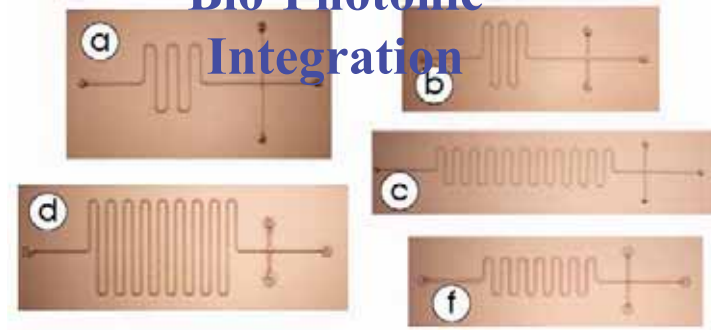
## Colloidal PC filled channel



12c

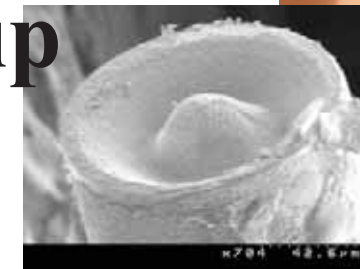


## Bio-Photonic Integration

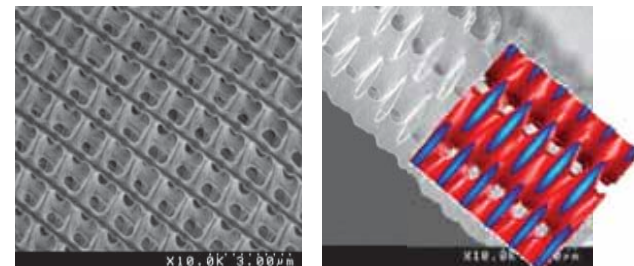


## Microfluidic Channels

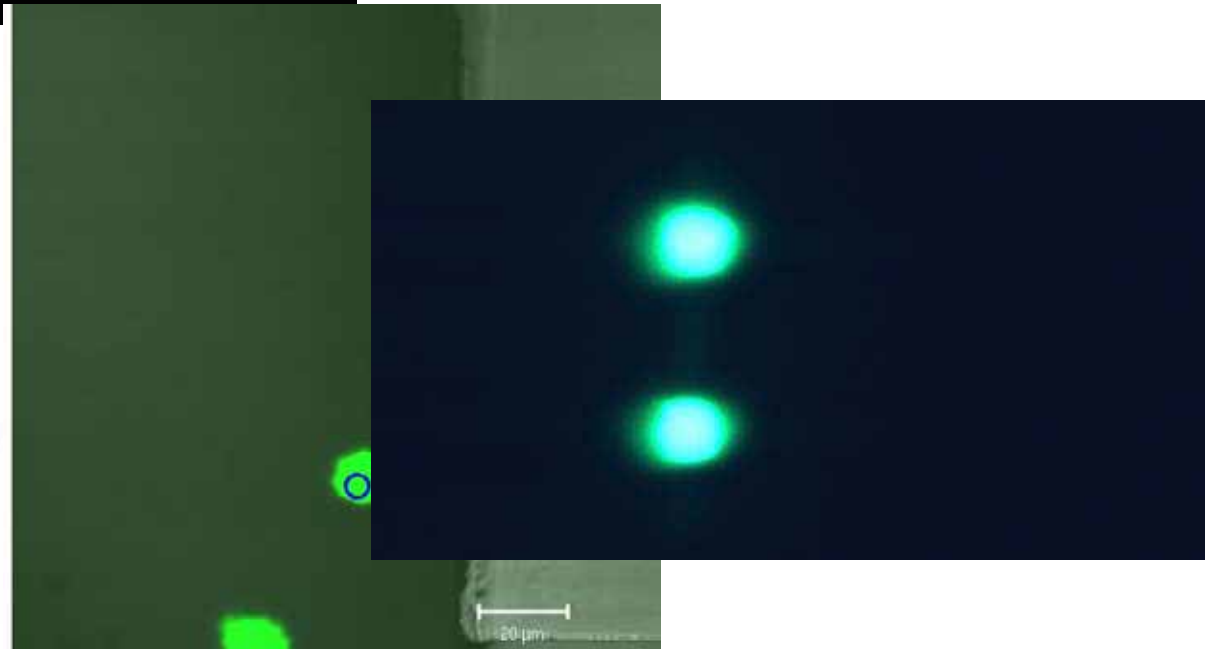
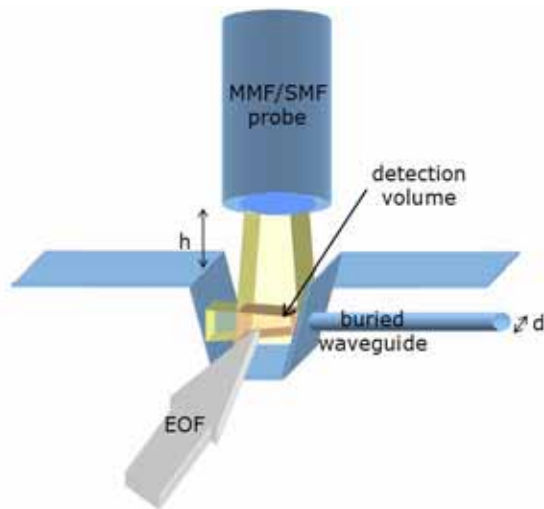
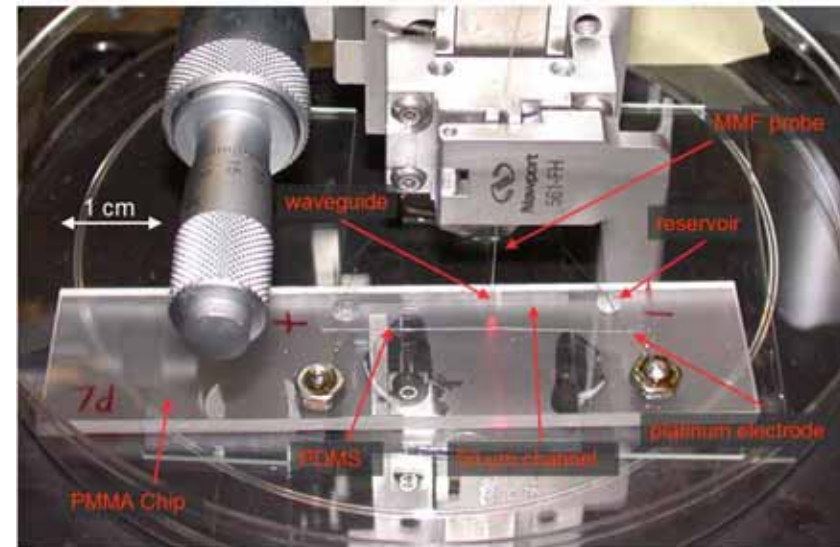
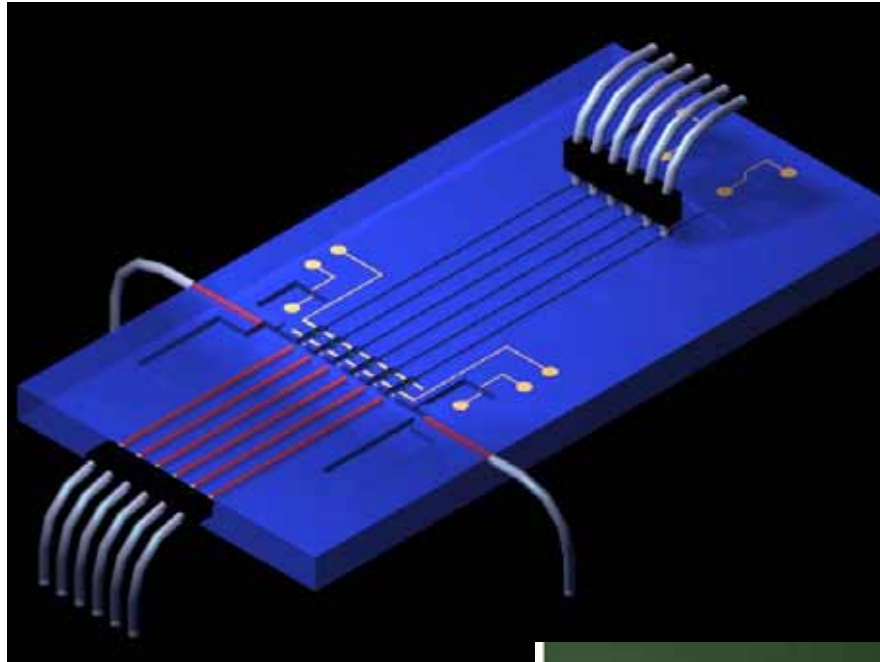
## MicroOptics



## 3-D Holographic Laser Interference: designing Photonic Bandgap Circuits



# Biophotonic lab-on-a-chip: with BioMed Physics, UofT





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**Brief Research Description**

Materials and devices research and development program in the areas of thin film amorphous silicon and carbon and emerging nanocrystalline materials for application in the fields of renewable-sustainable energy (photovoltaics and hydrogen as an energy vector) and micro-opto-electronics (rigid and flexible substrates).





**Prof. M. Mojahedi**

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<http://www.waves.utoronto.ca/prof/mojahedi/mo.htm>

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**Brief Research Description**

Matter wave interactions, meta-materials, photonic crystals, dispersion engineering, abnormal velocities, quantum dots and wells, band engineering, fundamental electromagnetic theory, efficient antennas with periodic substrates, macro and nano-scale microwave and photonic systems.



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**Brief Research Description**

Application of system theory and control to optical communication networks. Novel techniques and methods for dynamical compensation of optical transmission impairments. Dynamics and transient control for optical amplifiers, dynamic filters, interconnected optical network. Advanced control methods (robust and adaptive control, real-time optimization) applied to agile optical networks.



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### **Brief Research Description**

Photonic material, devices, and components - Novel semiconductor materials, ultrafast optical phenomena in semiconductors, ultrafast optical switching devices, micro-optical packaging; Advanced optical amplifier technology - extended bandwidth amplification, transient gain control, module integration and miniaturization, high concentration erbium-doped fibre amplifier modeling.

# Fiber Optics – Trillion-Dollar Industry

Most wide-spread commercial applications in Photonics



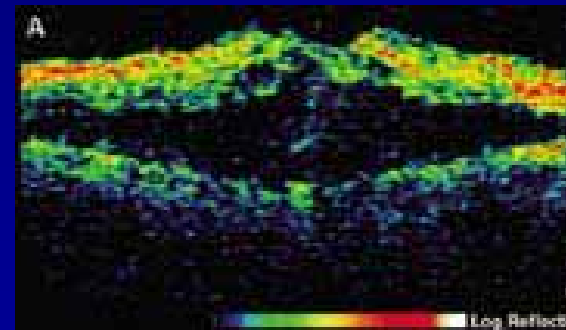
Communications



Sensing



High-power cutting/welding



Medical Imaging

**Largest Employment in Photonics is in Fiber Optics !**

# Join Qian's Fiber Optics Group

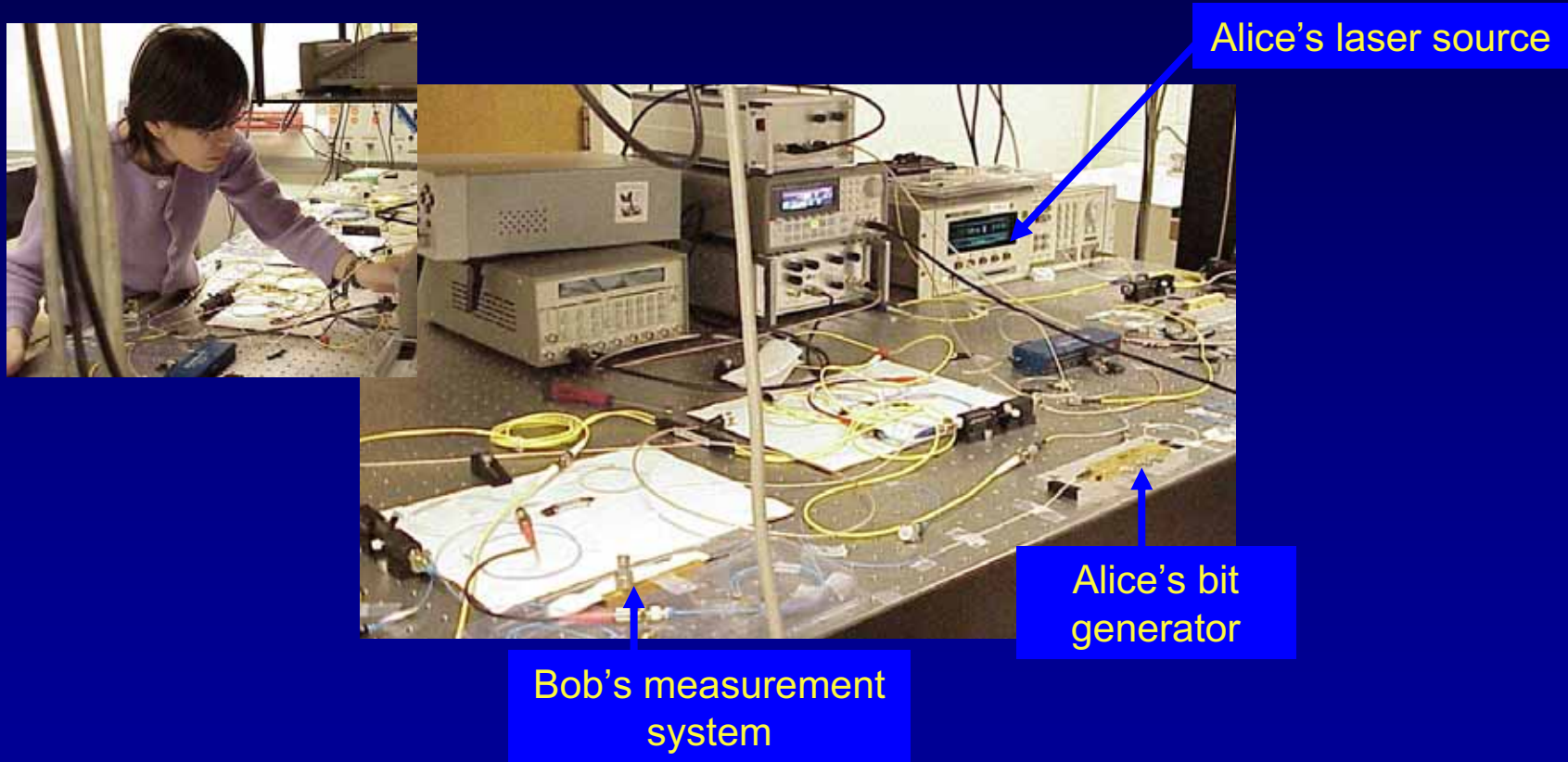
Experimental Quantum Communication  
Ultrafast Photonics / Nonlinear Photonics  
Measurements & Instrumentation

**Prof. Li Qian**  
Canada Research Chair in  
Photonic Technologies and Applications



# Research Area I – Experimental Quantum Key Distribution (QKD)

Quantum communication = The most secure way to communicate



Our Goal: Making Quantum communication practical = implementing in fiber

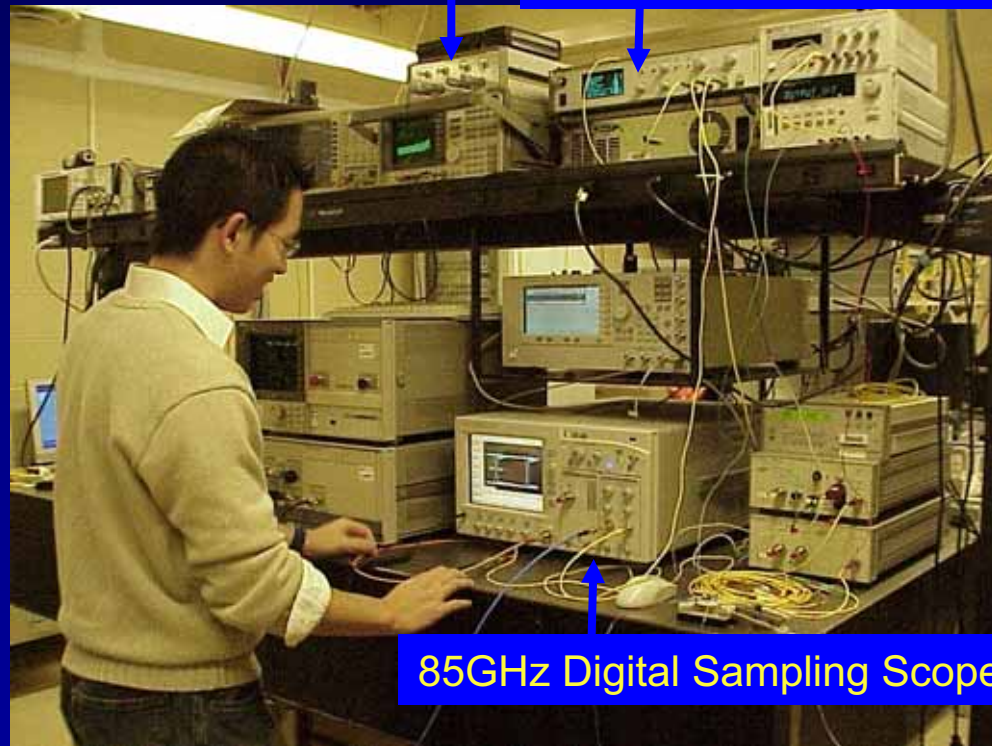
# Research Area II – Ultrafast/Nonlinear Photonics

Optical signal processing = The fastest way to process signals

Optical rep rate multiplier 20G→ 80G

Picosecond modelocked laser

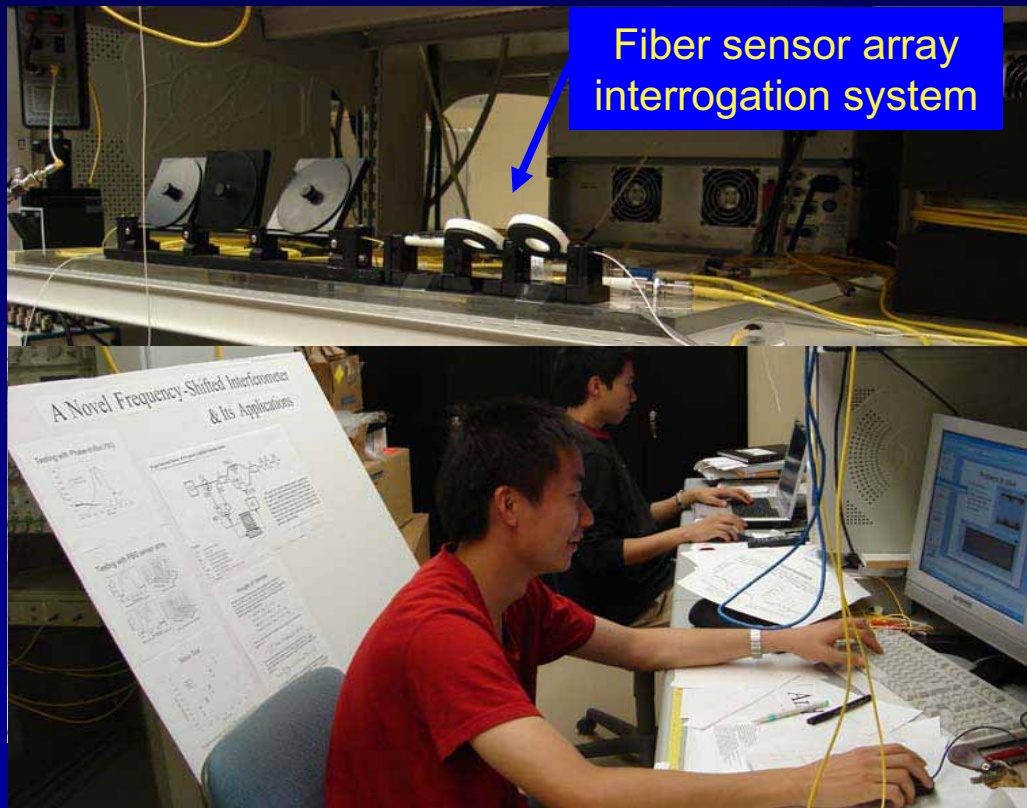
- Pulse shaping
- High-speed (80Gb/s) optical time domain demultiplexing
- Nonlinear optics – Mid-IR generation in fiber



Our Goal: Making optical signal processing competitive = implementing in fiber

# Research Area III – Optical Measurements & Instrumentation

Optical measurement = The most accurate way to measure



- Low-cost dispersion measurement
- Fiber sensor array interrogation

Our Goal: Making precision optical measurement cheap = implementing in fiber



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**Brief Research Description**

Molecular beam epitaxy of optoelectronic materials and devices; scanning probe based nanolithography; optical and electronic properties of quantum heterostructure including quantum boxes, wires and wells; influence of surfaces and interfaces on performance of photonic/electronic devices; virtual reality artificial intelligence system for atomic level manufacturing of nano-devices; microelectromechanical systems for photonics.



# GROUP PROFILE

## FACILITIES: Fabricn., Process. & Characterisn.

### EPITAXY AND PROCESSING

#### MBE

ATC-EP3  
MBE System

UHV SPM-  
Based  
Nanolithography  
System



#### Class 100/1000 PROCESSING

##### LITHOGRAPHY

Karl Suss  
Double Sided  
Mask Aligner

Raith e-Beam  
Lithography



##### DEPOSITION

Solution  
Synthesis of  
Quantum Dots

SolGel  
Processing

RF Plasma  
Ferroelectric  
Deposition

Thermal  
Evaporator for  
Metallization

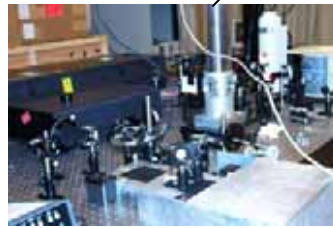
Electron- Beam  
Metallization

##### ETCHING, RTA, AND BONDING

RTA

K&S Wire  
Bonder and  
Wafer Scribe

Samco Load-  
Locked Plasma  
Etcher



### CHARACTERIZATION

#### OPTICAL CHARACTERIZATION

Polarization-  
Resolved LT  
 $\mu$ -PL Imaging

SPV

PR and ER

Ultrafast system :  
Mira 900  
Ti:Sapphire &  
OPO



#### ELECTRICAL CHARACTERIZATION

Hall Effect System

IV & Variable  
Frequency CV

DLTS

Radiant Ferroelectric  
Test System

Omicron VT  
Deflection AFM

Oxford Kelvinox  
Dilution Fridge  
Magneto-Transport  
System



**PMG**

University of Toronto

*electronic-photonics materials group*



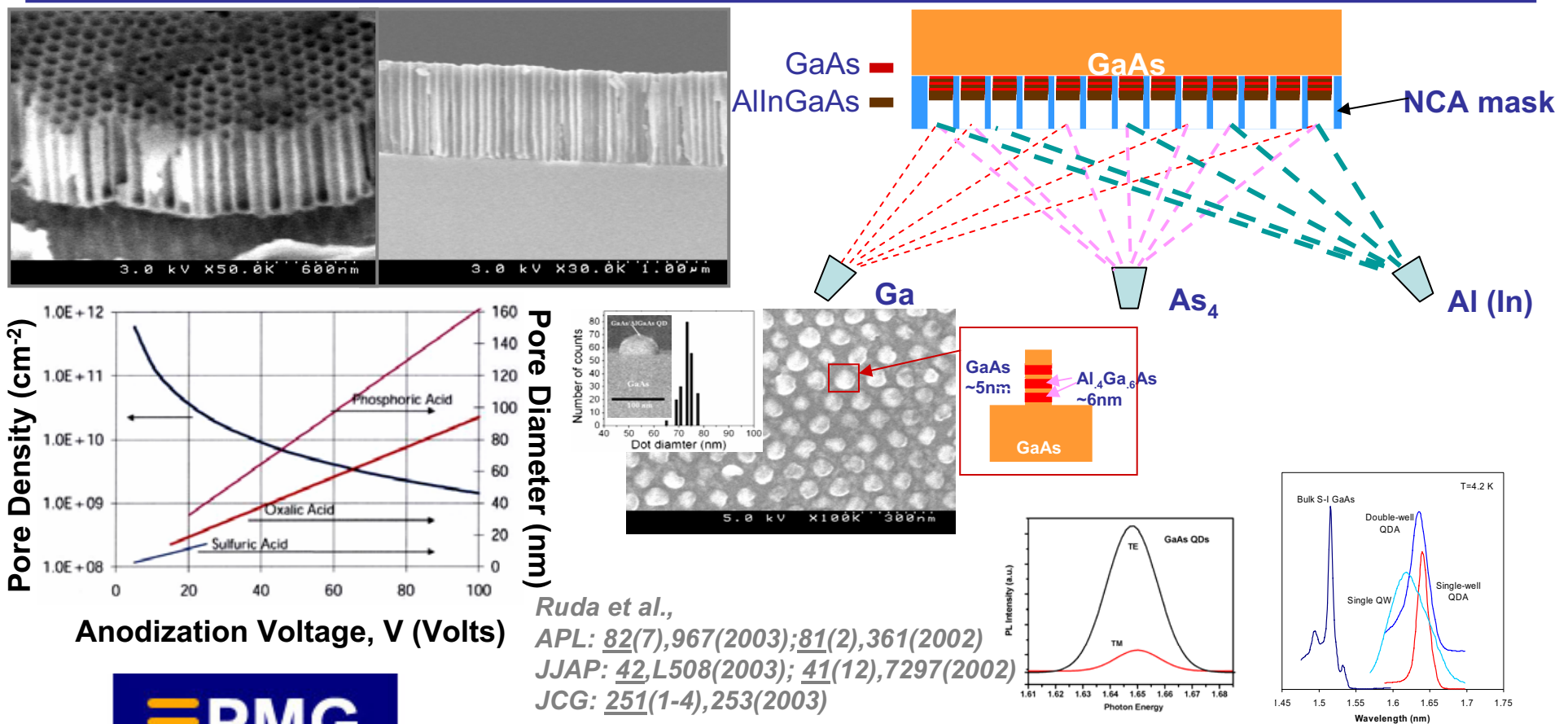
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# GROUP PROFILE

## PROJECT AREAS: 1. QD Heterostructure Arrays



Ruda et al.,  
 APL: 82(7),967(2003);81(2),361(2002)  
 JJAP: 42,L508(2003); 41(12),7297(2002)  
 JCG: 251(1-4),253(2003)



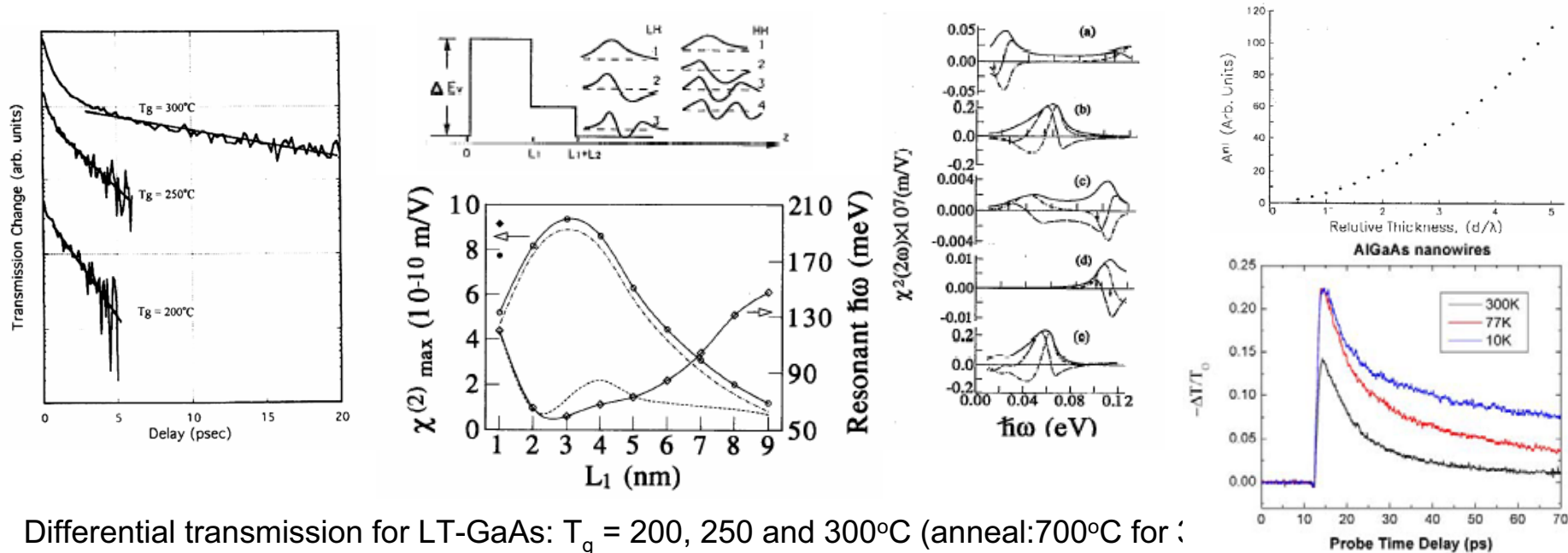
electronic-photonic materials group

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# GROUP PROFILE

## PROJECT AREAS: 4. Ultrafast/Nonlinear Nanostr



Differential transmission for LT-GaAs:  $T_g = 200, 250$  and  $300^\circ\text{C}$  (anneal:  $700^\circ\text{C}$  for :  
Corresponding carrier lifetimes: 1.5, 2.2 and 12 ps.

AQWs: SHG (interband, intraband), FDM in 2d and 1d

Ruda et al. in:

- *Phys. Rev. B* **63**(8), pp.5203-5207(2001); *B* **50**(8), pp.5703-5706(1994)
- *APL*: **62**, (16), pp.1946-1998(1993); **65**(25), pp.3176-3178(1994)
- *JAP*, **75**, (1), pp.54-57(1994)
- *IEEE J. Quant. Electron.*, **31**(2), pp.228-231(1995)
- *Bull. Amer. Phys. Soc.*, **44**, pp.195-199(1999)
- *Nanotechnology* **12**, pp.523-528(2001)



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# GROUP PROFILE

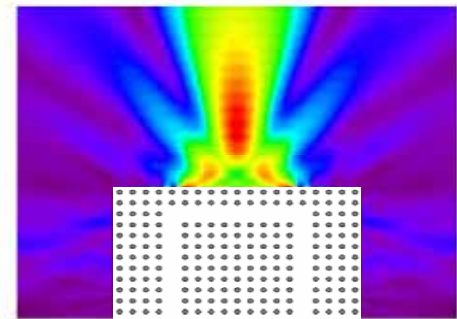
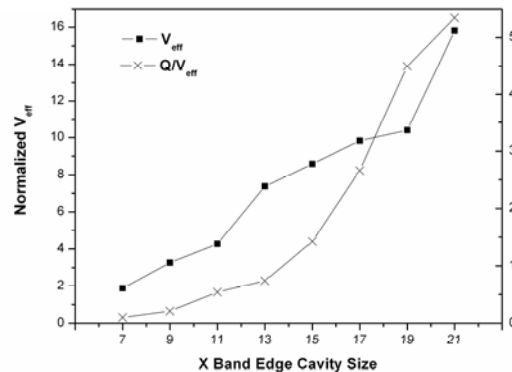
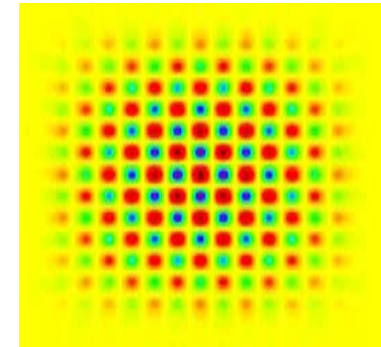
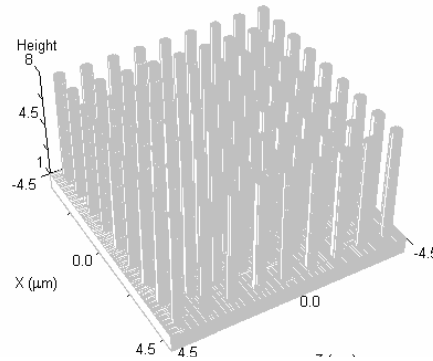
## PROJECT AREAS: 4. Cavities & Laser Arrays

**Interaction of light & matter dramatically altered by presence of microcavity** – depends on photon lifetime in cavity ( $Q$ ) and spatial localization ( $V_{\text{eff}}$ ) [i.e., energy density of field]: Great importance for  $\mu$ lasers  $\Leftrightarrow$  enhanced spontaneous emission: Purcell factor  $\sim Q/V_{\text{eff}}$ :

**Nanowire  $\mu$ cavities** based on a defect mode in a photonic crystal band gap, or operating around the band edge, **can have high  $Q$  values and extremely small  $V_{\text{eff}}$** .

**Currently working on fabricating nanowire array  $\mu$ cavities** – calculated Purcell factors  $>50$

(1,1) Mode



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# OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW STUDENTS

## SOME AVAILABLE TOPICS

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- Using selected area MBE growth for nanoscale laser/photodetectors
- Developing a nanoscale single photon source
- Spin-based optical devices using nanowires
- Using 3d nanoscale heterostructures for non-linear and ultra-fast switching devices
- Studying excitons in arrays of coupled nanosystems
- Integration of nanoscale emitters/detectors with Photonic Crystals
- Nanoscale optical imaging and processing with UHV VT-AFM

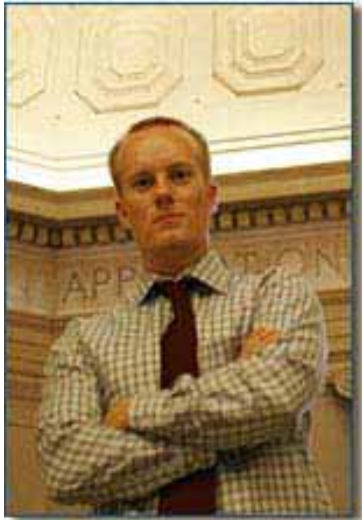


*electronic-photonic materials group*

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**Prof. E.H. Sargent**

**Sjoerd Hoogland**

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### **Brief Research Description**

Nanotechnology applied in energy, health, and information technology. Solution-processed semiconductor quantum dots emitting, sensing, and modulating light in the infrared spectral region. Monolithic integration of quantum dot detectors with silicon to produce infrared-sensitive focal plane arrays. Solution-processed photovoltaics sensitive in the infrared for efficient solar cells and for thermophotovoltaics. Light-emitting nanoparticles for biomedical imaging and early disease detection.



# Professor Ted Sargent's group

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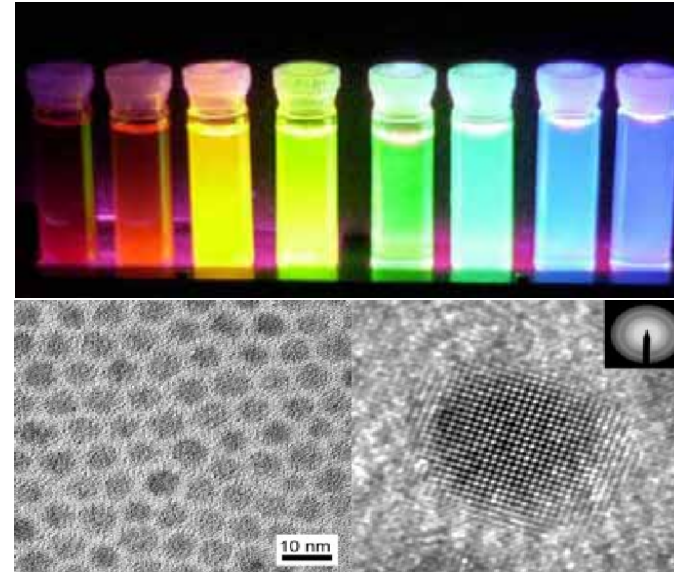
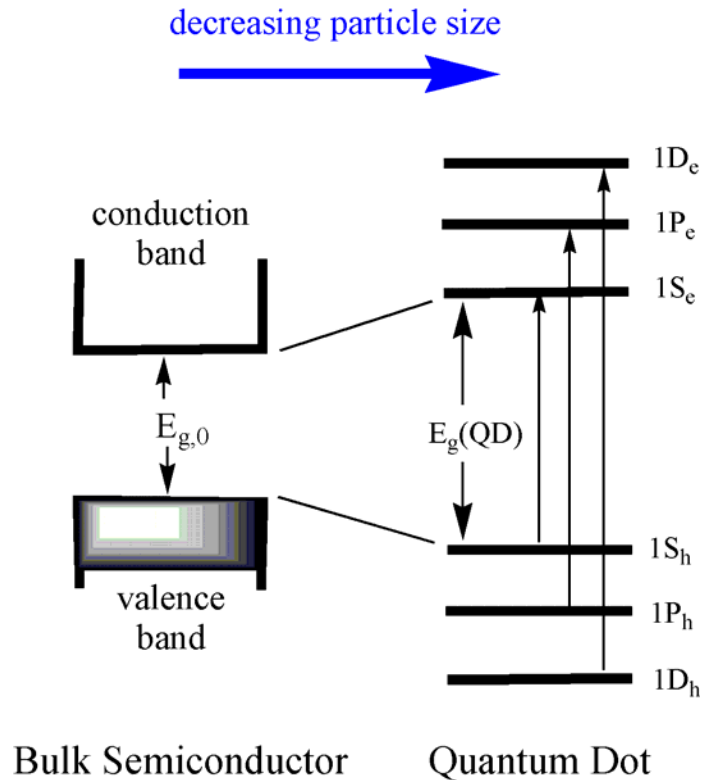
## Nanotechnology:

“changing the world of optoelectronics  
from the bottom up”

**Ted Sargent group - ECE**

# Nanocrystals

‘artificially changing material properties’



Material systems:

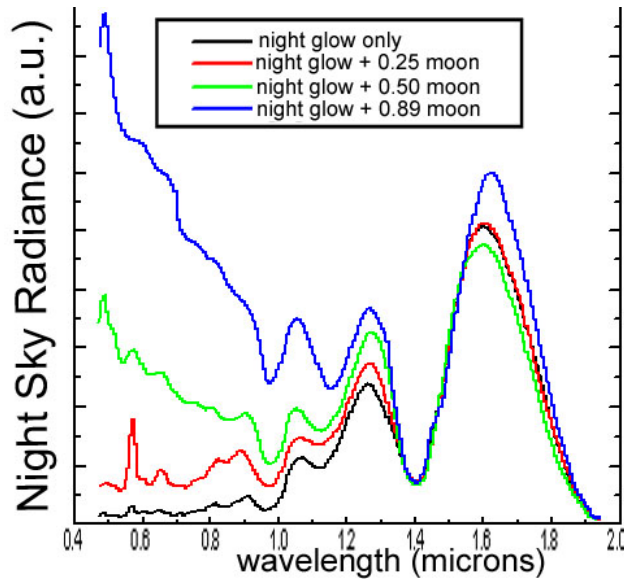
- Visible: CdS, CdSe
- Infrared: PbSe, **PbS**

Ted Sargent group - ECE

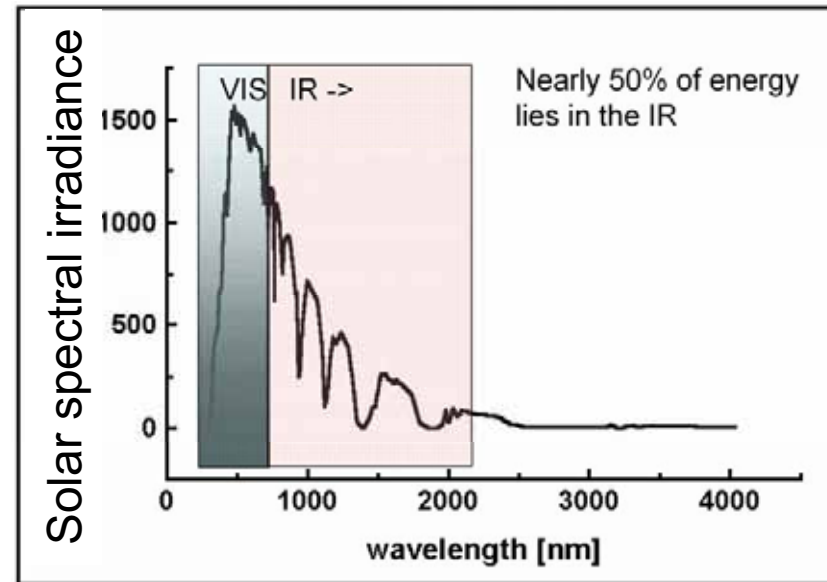
- 3 dimensional quantum confinement
- Discrete, atom-like energy levels  
=> artificial building blocks of matter
- Optical/electrical properties size-tunable
- Cheap, easy synthesis
- Solution processible

# Applications of near-infrared solution processable materials

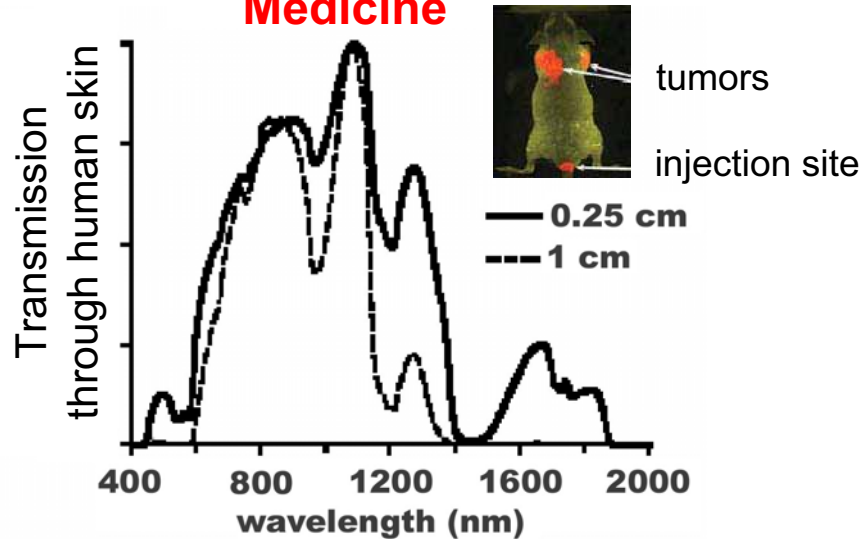
## Night vision



## Photovoltaics



## Medicine



## Optical interconnects

“Holy Grail in laser technology is a Silicon compatible coherent light source to save a multi-billion dollar industry”

Ted Sargent group - ECE

## *Daily tasks of a student in Ted Sargent's group*

- Characterize nanocrystals received from group's chemists
  - => electrical properties (conductivity, photo response, photovoltaic effect)
  - => optical properties (absorption/emission spectrum, emission quantum efficiency)
- Make special electrodes in cleanroom
- Use optical setups to measure radiative lifetime (single photon counting system), excited carrier dynamics (ultrafast laser system), dynamical chemical properties of nanocrystals
- Perform chemical procedures to alter chemical surface of nanocrystal
- Make multilayer structures for electrical devices (spin coat nanocrystals, sputter/evaporate metal)



**Prof. P.W.E. Smith**      **[Stefan Myrskog]**

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### **Brief Research Description**

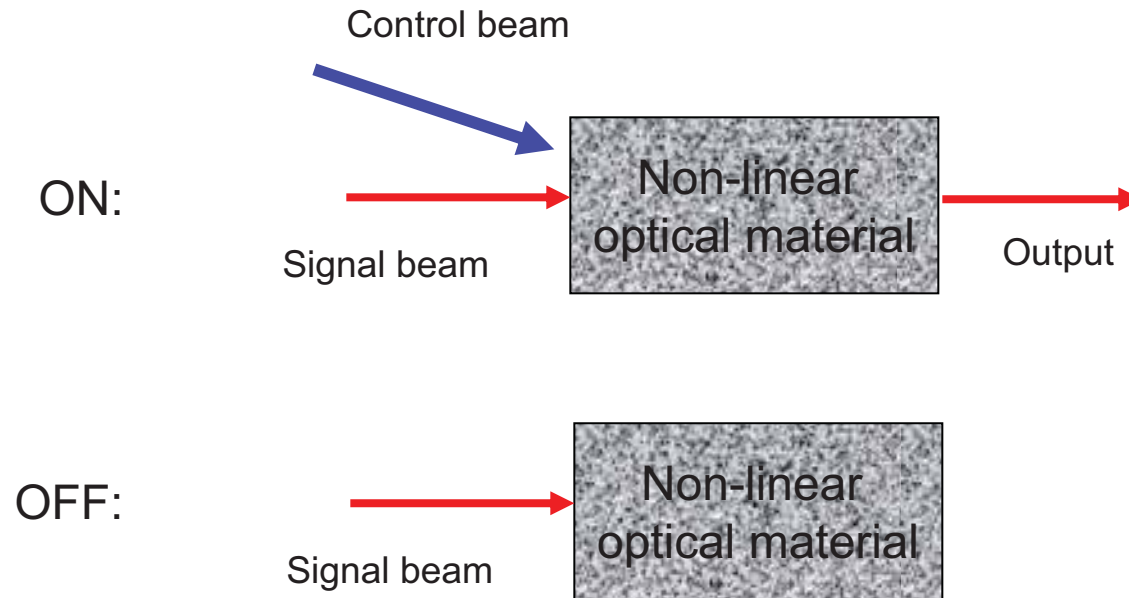
Photonics; non-linear optical devices and phenomena; optical components for signal processing and communications systems.





# All Optical switching in nano-crystals

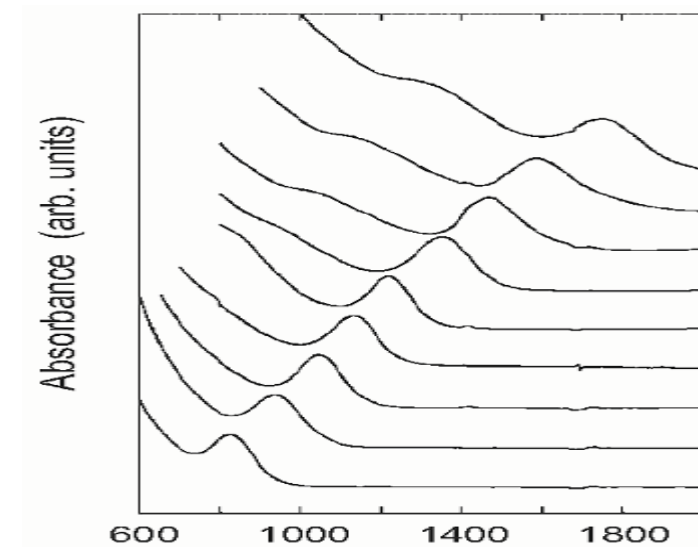
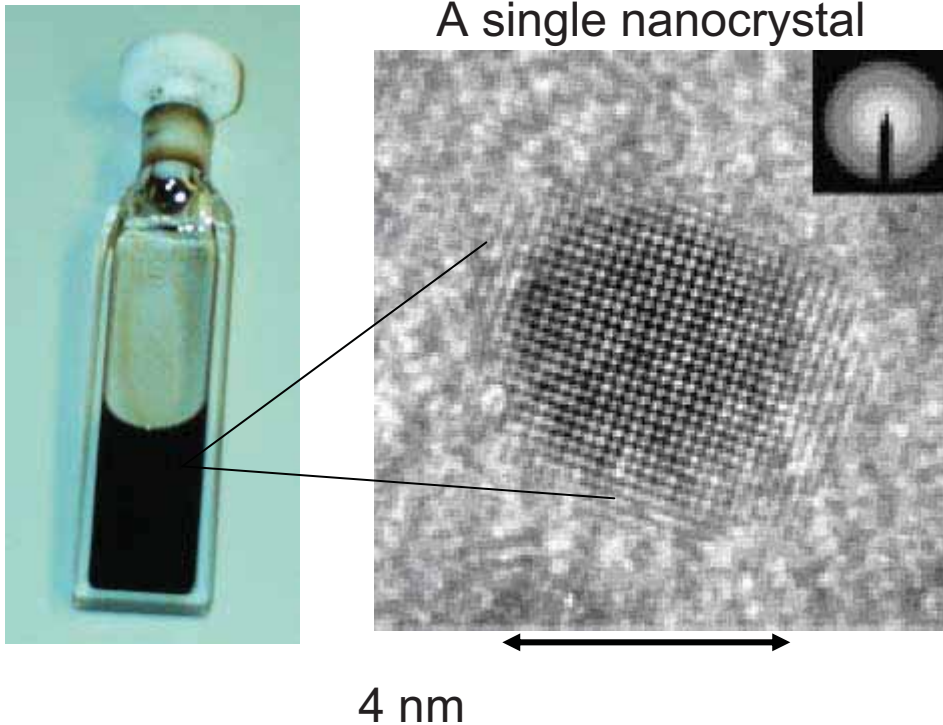
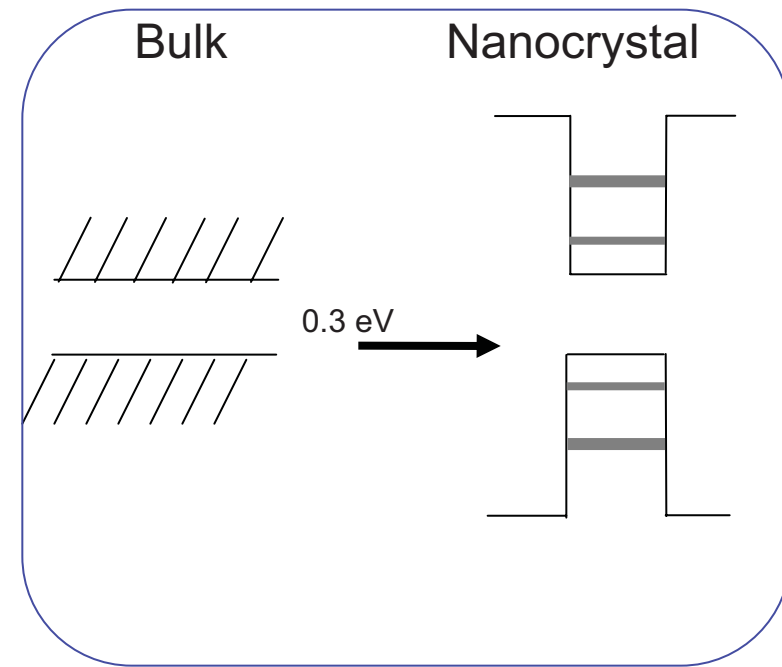
Stefan Myrskog



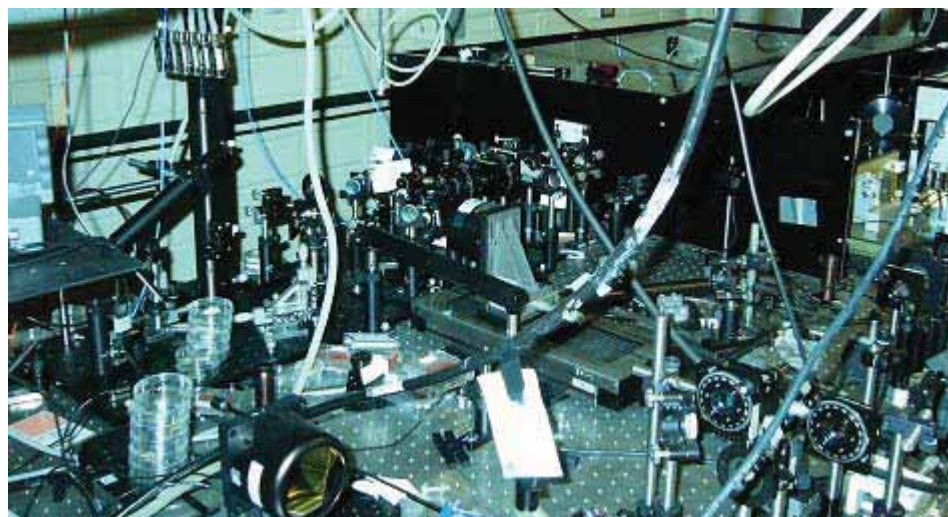
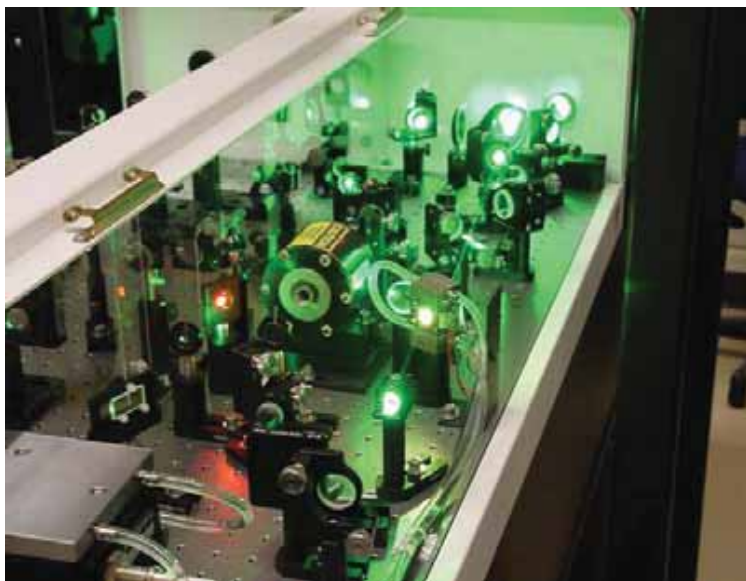
Supervisor: Prof. Peter Smith  
in collaboration with  
Prof. Ted Sargeant

# Project

- **All optical switching**
  - all optical networks
  - optical computing
  - quantum computing/ quantum cryptography
- **Why nanocrystal?**
  - band gap/spectral response tuned by size
  - solution processable

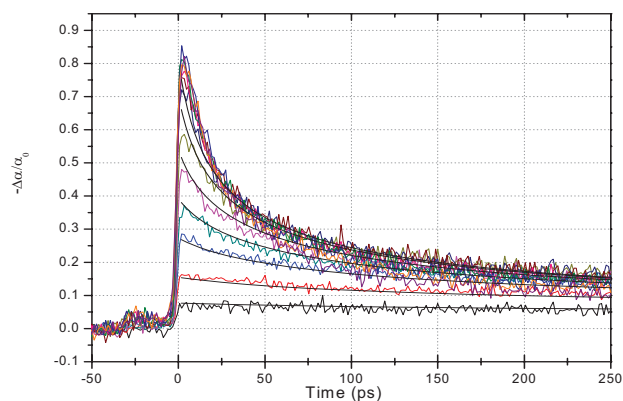
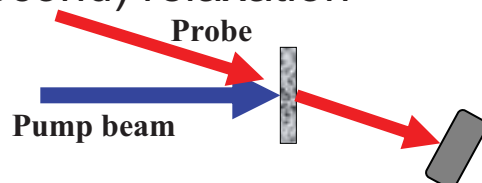


# Organic and Polymer Optoelectronics Lab

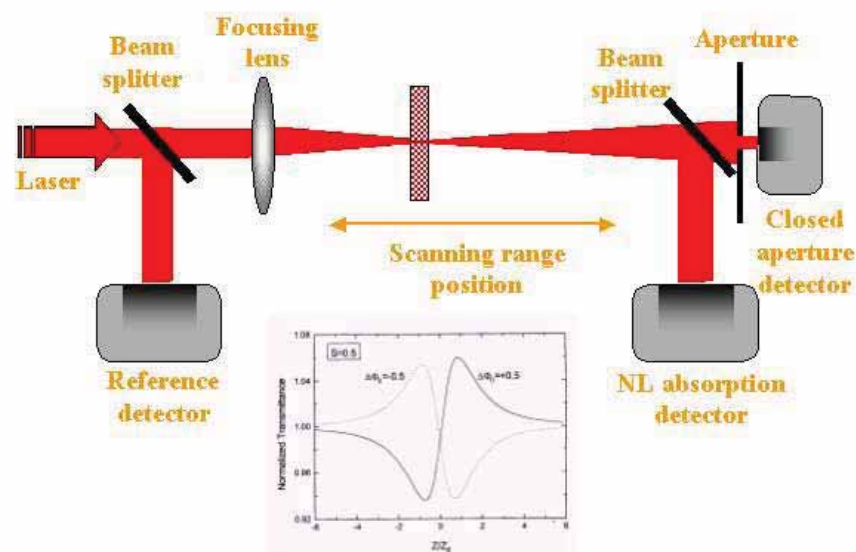


## Transient absorption

- fast (picosecond) relaxation



## Z-Scan: Nonlinear response

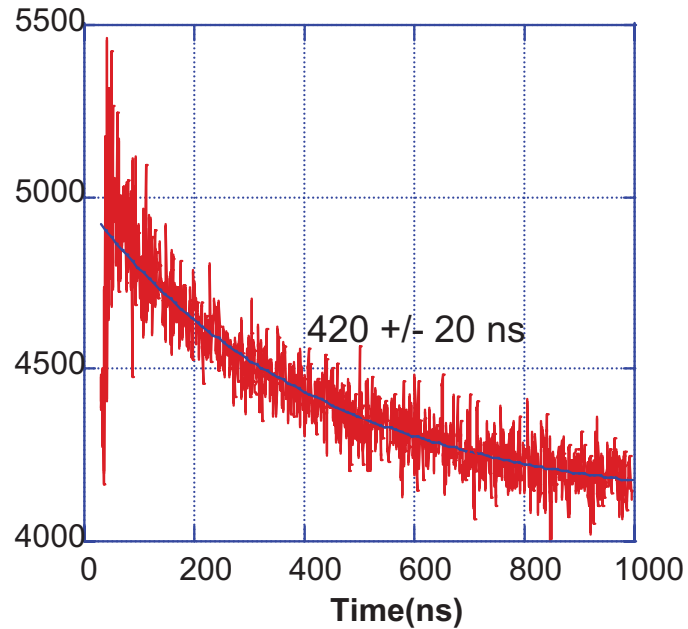


# Photo-Luminescence

## Time-correlated single photon counting

- Observe individual decay events on picosecond to second timescales

## Time resolved Photo-luminescence



### Current Work:

Identify trap states

Engineering nanocrystal surface

- photoconductively, charge separation, charge transport

Device design