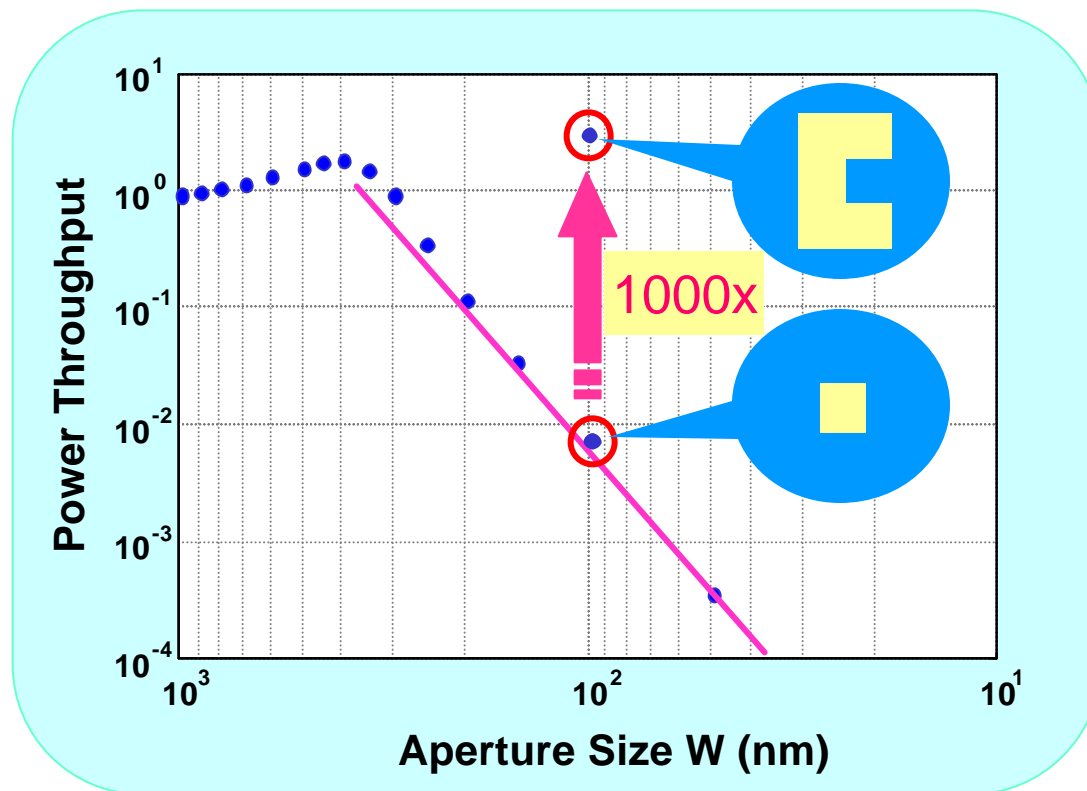




A Nano-aperture with 1000x Power Throughput Enhancement for VSAL



Xiaolei Shi, Robert L. Thornton, Lambertus Hesselink

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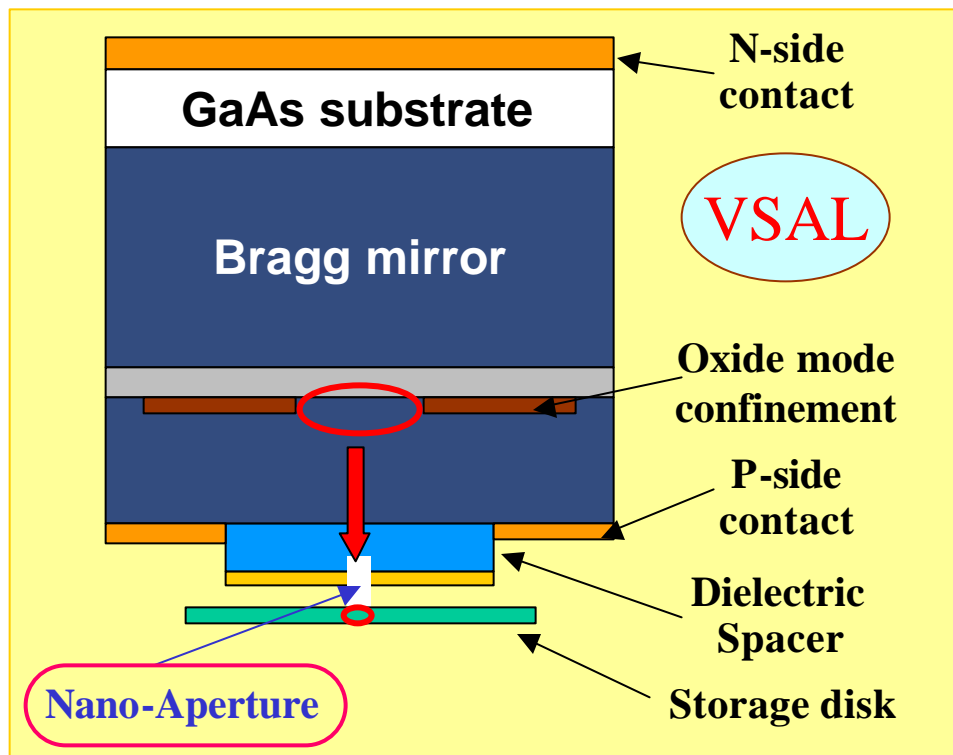
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Introduction: VSAL

- VSAL: Very Small Aperture Laser system
- Near field optical data storage
- the minimum spot size is determined by the aperture size



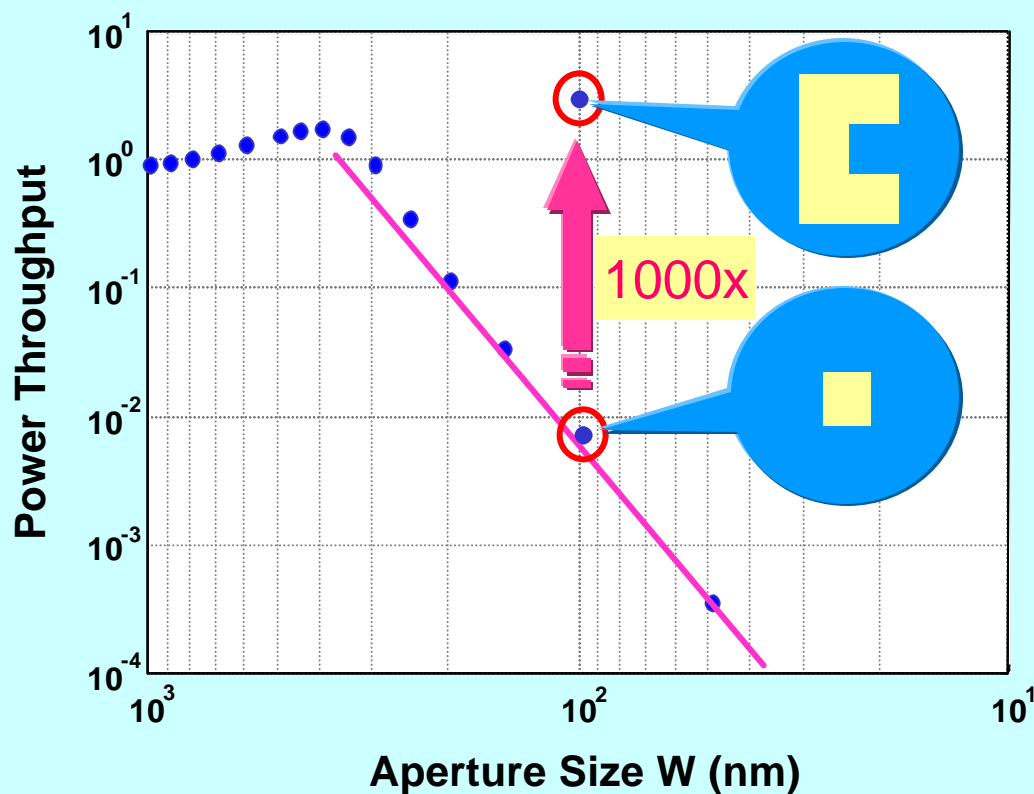
Spot size & Field Intensity

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Overview



- Problem:
Power throughput scales: $\sim (W/\lambda)^4$
- Solution:
C-aperture, $\sim 1000\times$ enhancement
- Physics:
Polarization & resonance effects

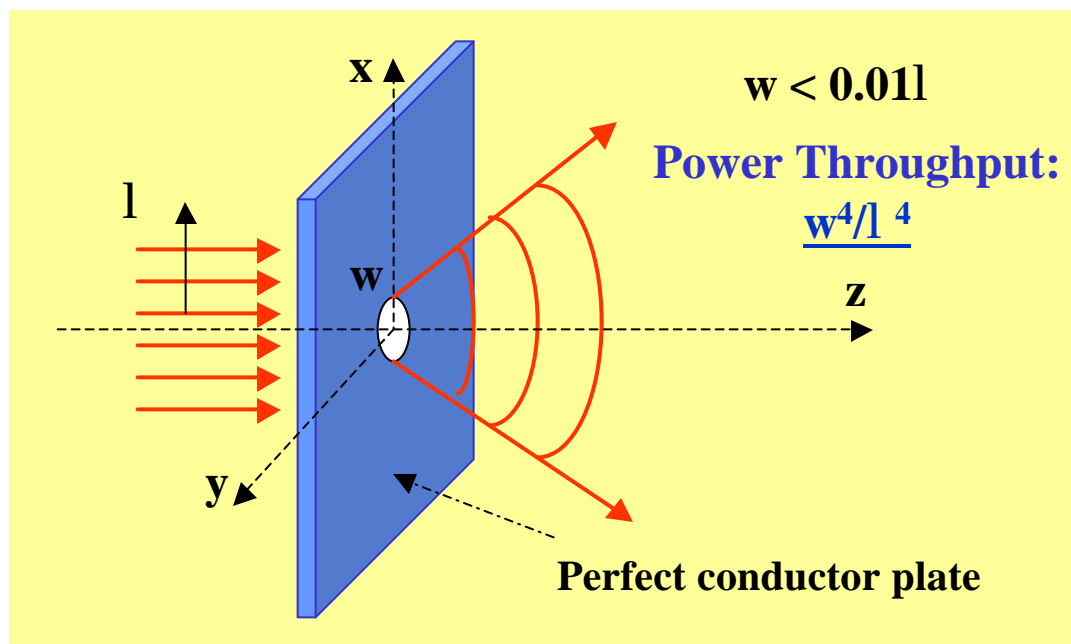


Introduction: Nano-apertures

- Bethe theory (1944) : radiation through circular aperture in perfect conducting plate



H.A. Bethe
1967 Nobel Prize
laureate in Physics.

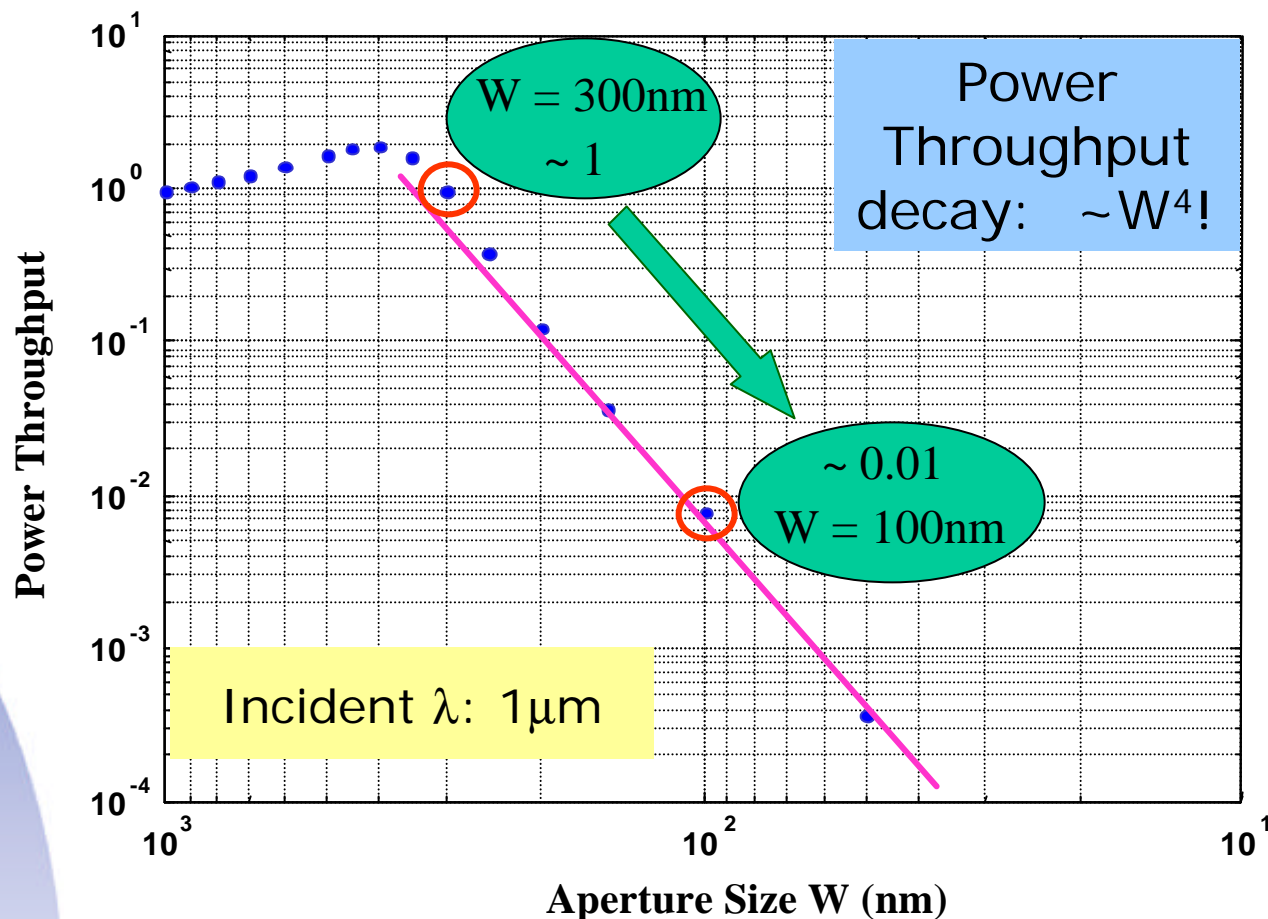


$$\text{Power Throughput} = \frac{\text{Total Transmitted Power}}{\text{Incident Power Over Aperture Area}}$$

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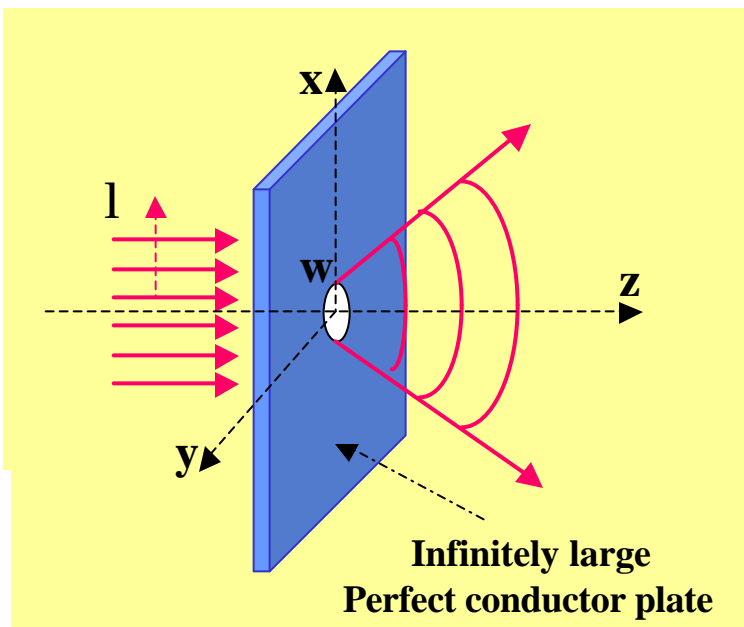
Introduction: Nano-Apertures



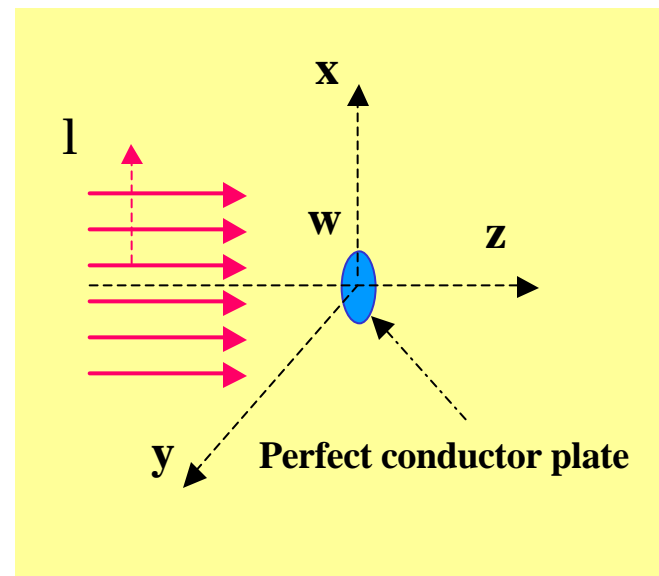
Need new aperture design to enhance power throughput!!



Simulation Setup



- XFDTD simulation
- Babinet's principle



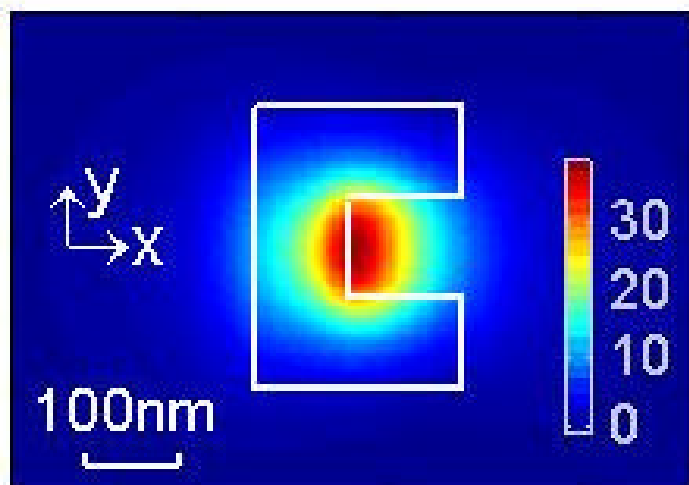
- incident $\lambda = 1\mu\text{m}$ (geometry scales with λ)
- linearly polarized planewave
- aperture in perfect conductor plate

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Simulation Results

C - aperture

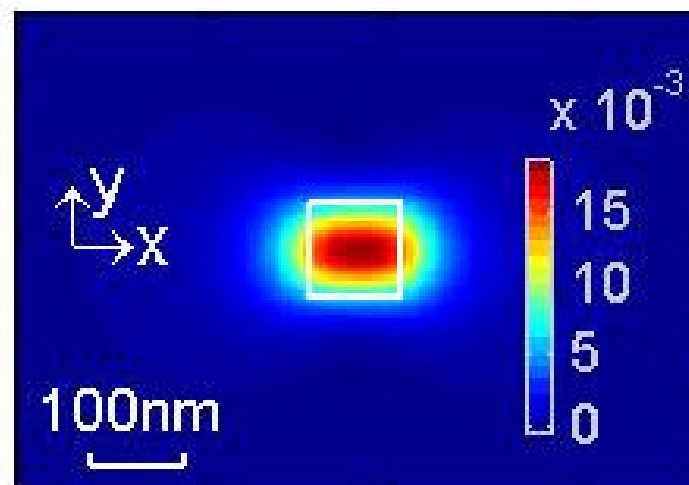


Peak Intensity at 48nm: 36

Power throughput: 4.41

Spot Size (FWHM): 128nm \times 136nm*

100nm Square aperture



Peak Intensity at 48nm: 0.019

Power throughput: 0.0078

Spot Size (FWHM): 140nm \times 80nm

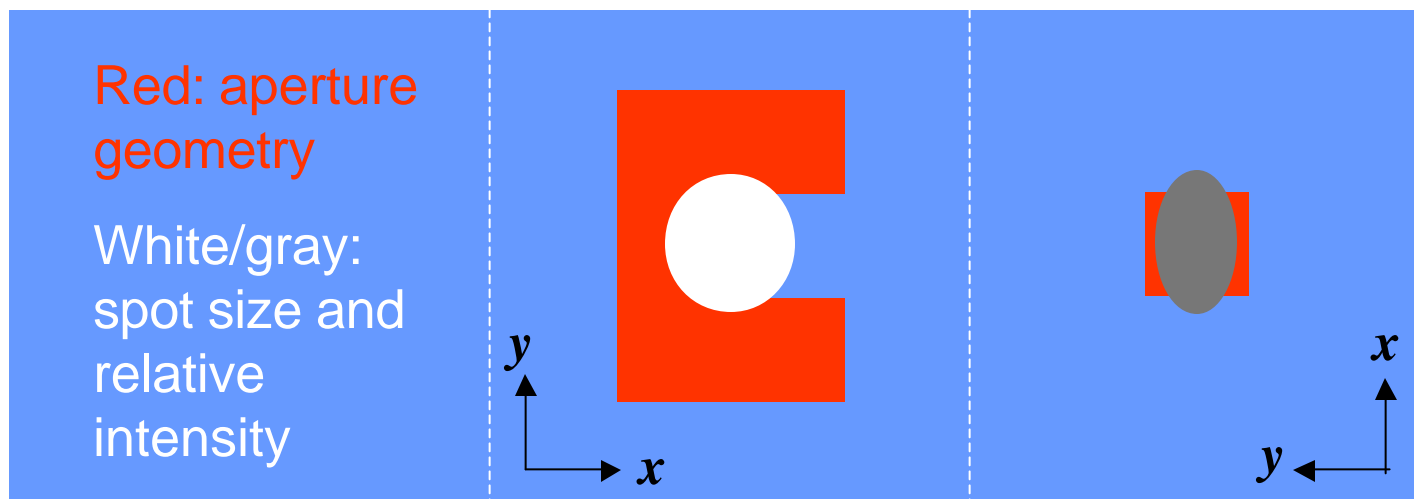
Incident light polarized in x direction, $\lambda = 1\mu\text{m}$

*Spot size can be smaller

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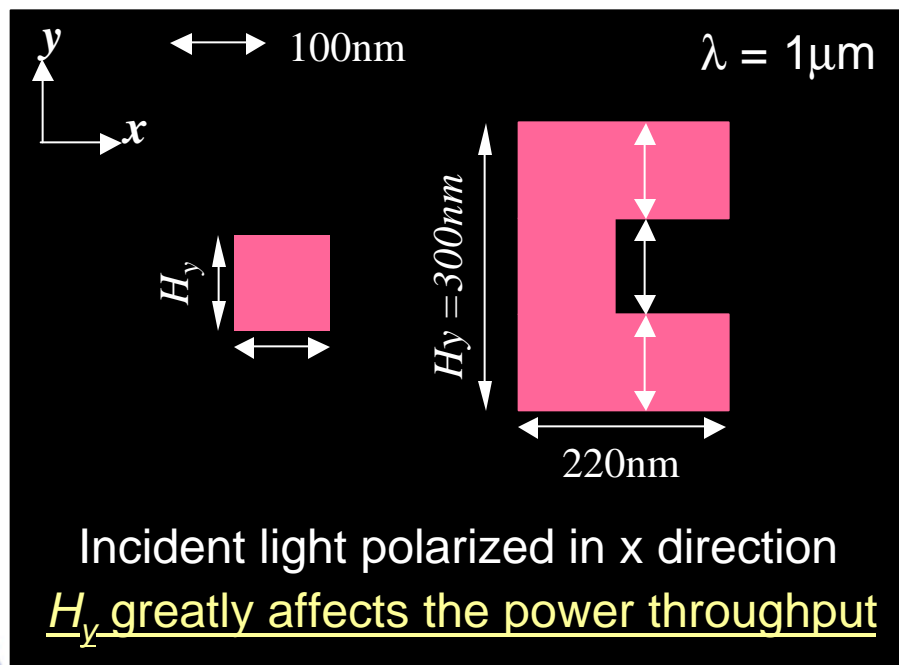
C-aperture vs. 100nm square aperture



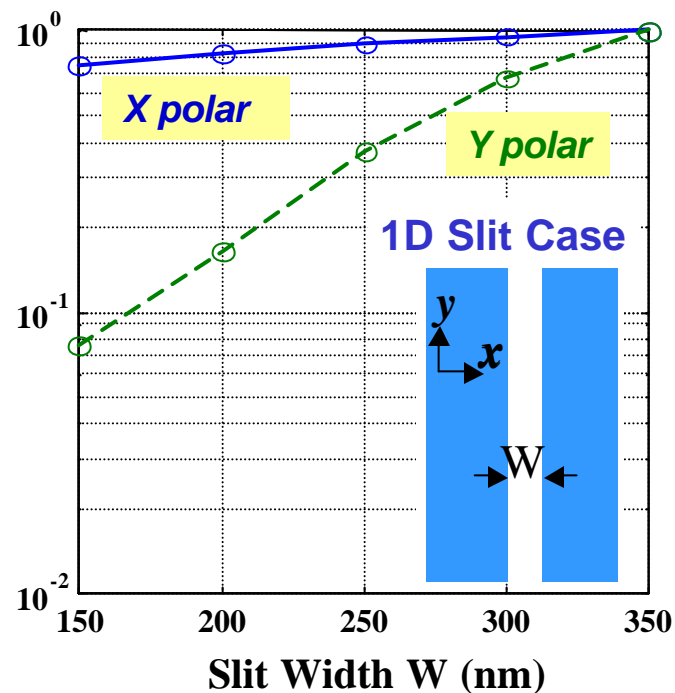
Near field spot size is comparable
Power throughput is enhanced by ~1000 times



Polarization Effect



Power Throughput vs. Slit width



Polarization effect:

Aperture size in the direction that perpendicular to the incident polarization direction greatly affects the power throughput.

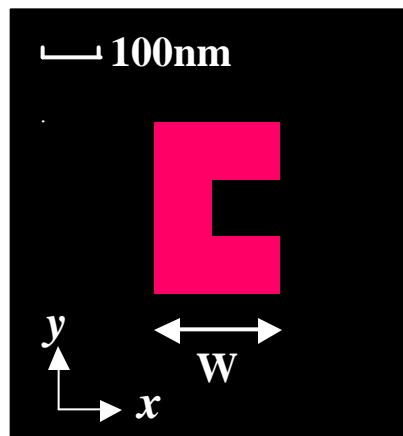
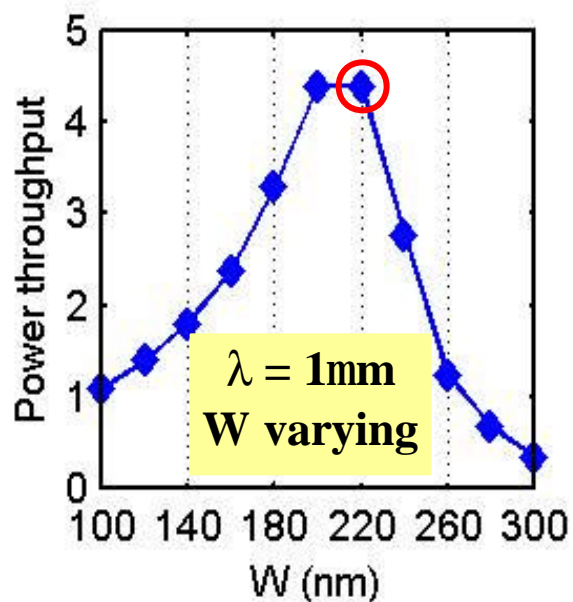
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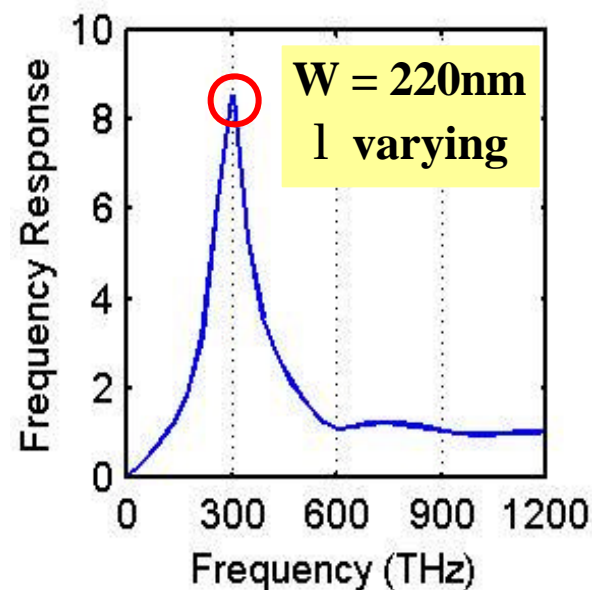
Resonance Effect

Experiment 1



Incident light:
 x polarized,
wavelength λ

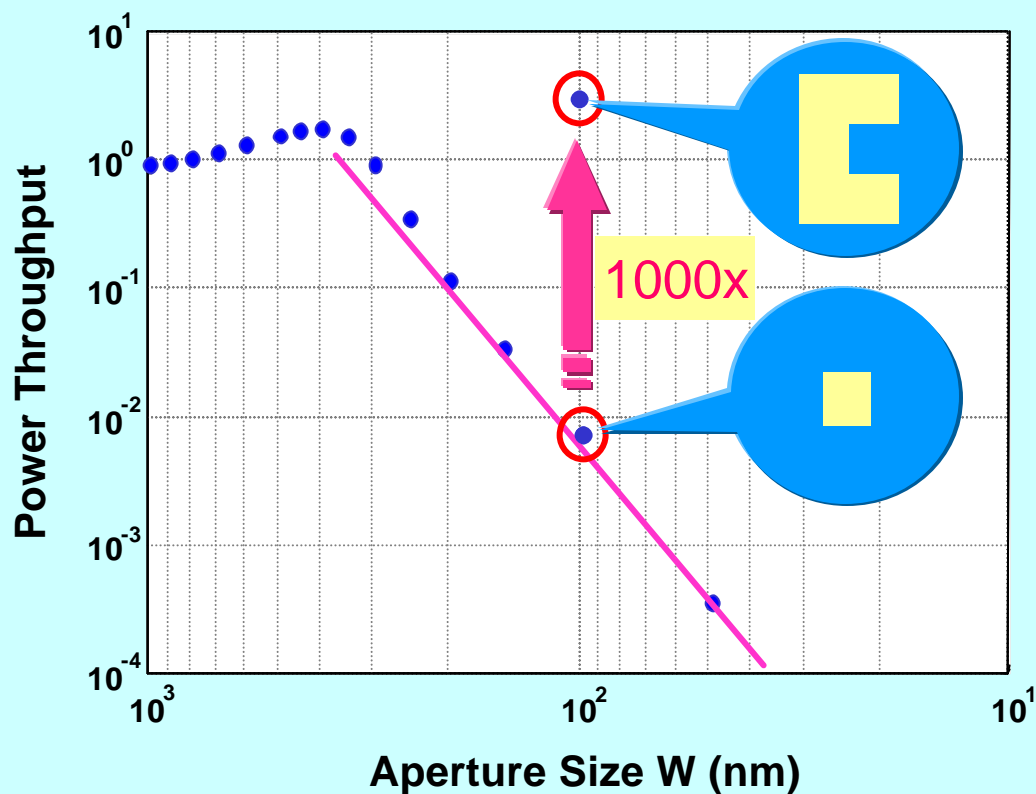
Experiment 2



Numerical tests show the existence of resonance



Summary



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