

**HAMAMATSU**

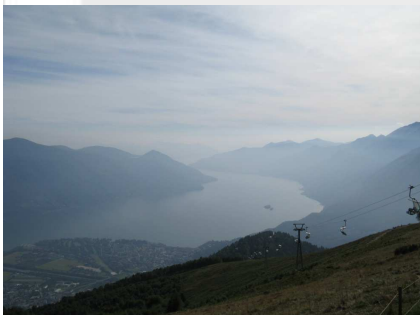
# Quantum Cascade Lasers Development at HAMAMATSU, and Their Applications

● T.Edamura, N.Akikusa, A.Sugiyama, T.Ochiai, K.Fujita,  
S.Furuta, A.Ito, M.Yamanishi, and H.Kan

**HAMAMATSU**

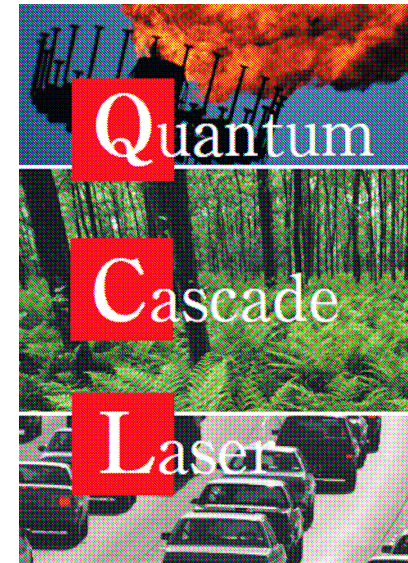
Central Research Laboratories, HAMAMATSU PHOTONICS

IQCLSW2008, Monte Verita, Sep./14-19/2008

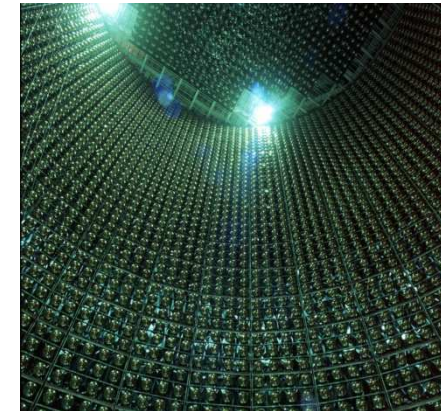


# Today's outline

- ◆ Commercial QCL products
  - QCL selection guide
  - MOVPE growth
- ◆ Recent progress
  - SPC with simple ridge structure
  - Indirect-pump (IDP) scheme
  - Fiber out module
- ◆ Applications (Laser Absorption Spectroscopy)
  - Movie 1) pure N<sub>2</sub>O, 2) exhaust gas(diesel engine): NO
  - ambient air @Hamamatsu
- ◆ Summery





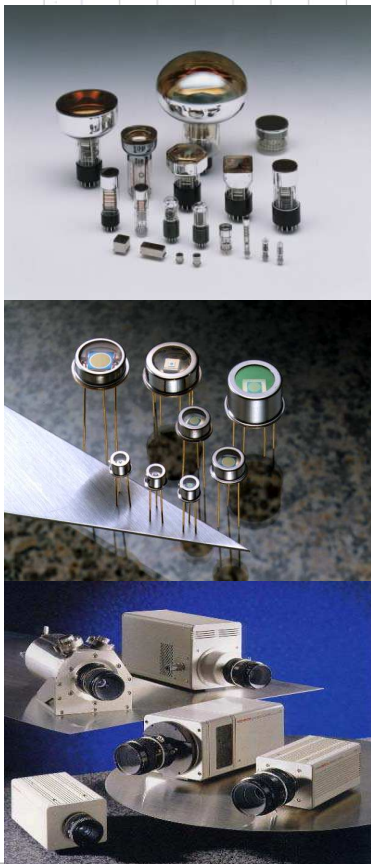


Super-KAMIOKANDE (20inch PMT)  
Neutrino Cherenkov detector

# Where is HAMAMATSU

Nagoya Tokyo  
Osaka

between Tokyo and Osaka

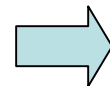


# Our QCL History

start @2002



QC laser chip



cryogenic temperature

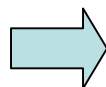


TE cooler type  
Palm-top size

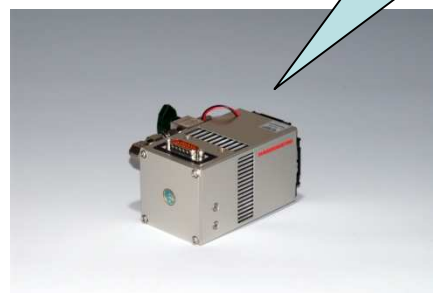
1st GEN



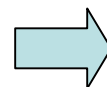
Metal-dewar  
77K-pulsed, CW  
FP(multi-mode)



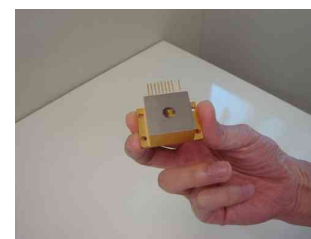
2nd GEN



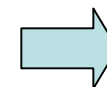
TE-cooled CW  
DFB(single-mode)



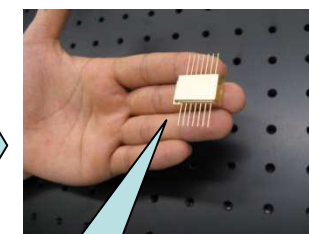
3rd GEN



HHL package



Next GEN

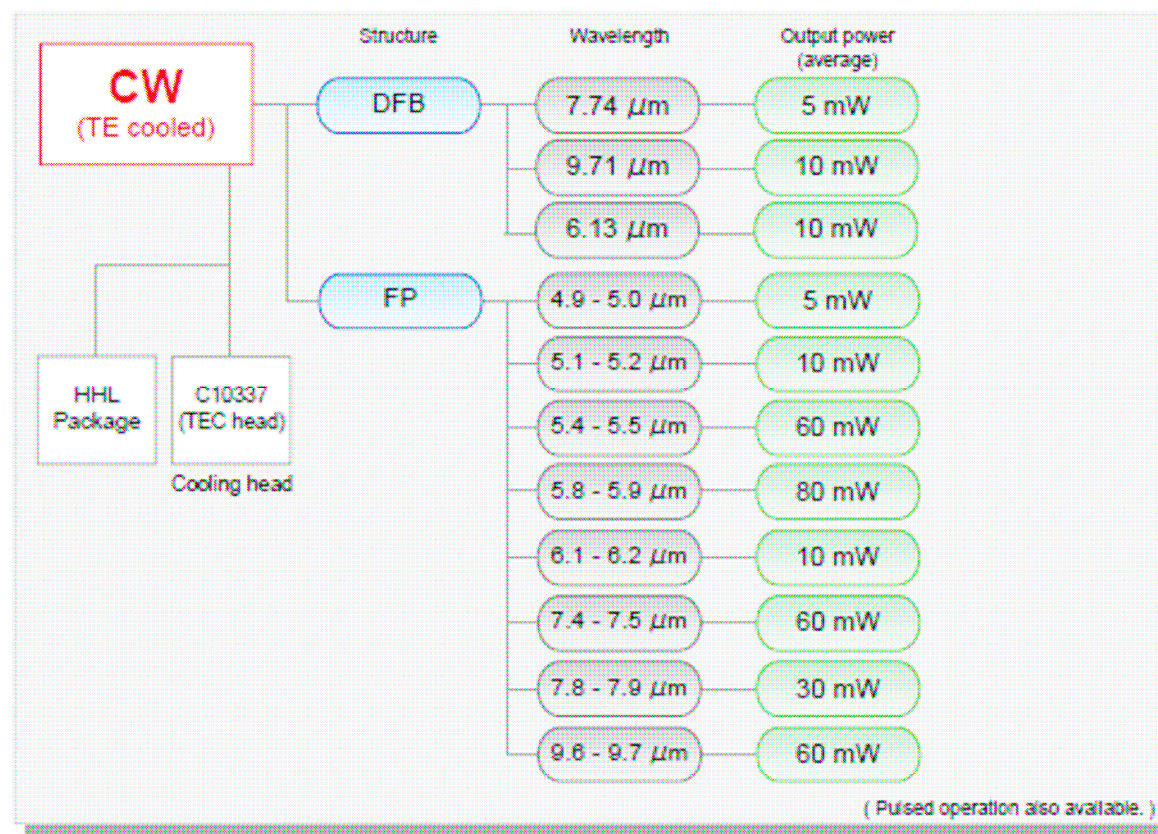


Butterfly

Finger-top size !!

# Commercial Products

## ◆ Selection guide (TE cooled CW-QCL)



pulsed operation also available

E-mail: [laser-g@lsr.hpj.co.jp](mailto:laser-g@lsr.hpj.co.jp)

FAX: (81)53-484-1302



# 9.7 $\mu\text{m}$ (1030 $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) CW-DFB

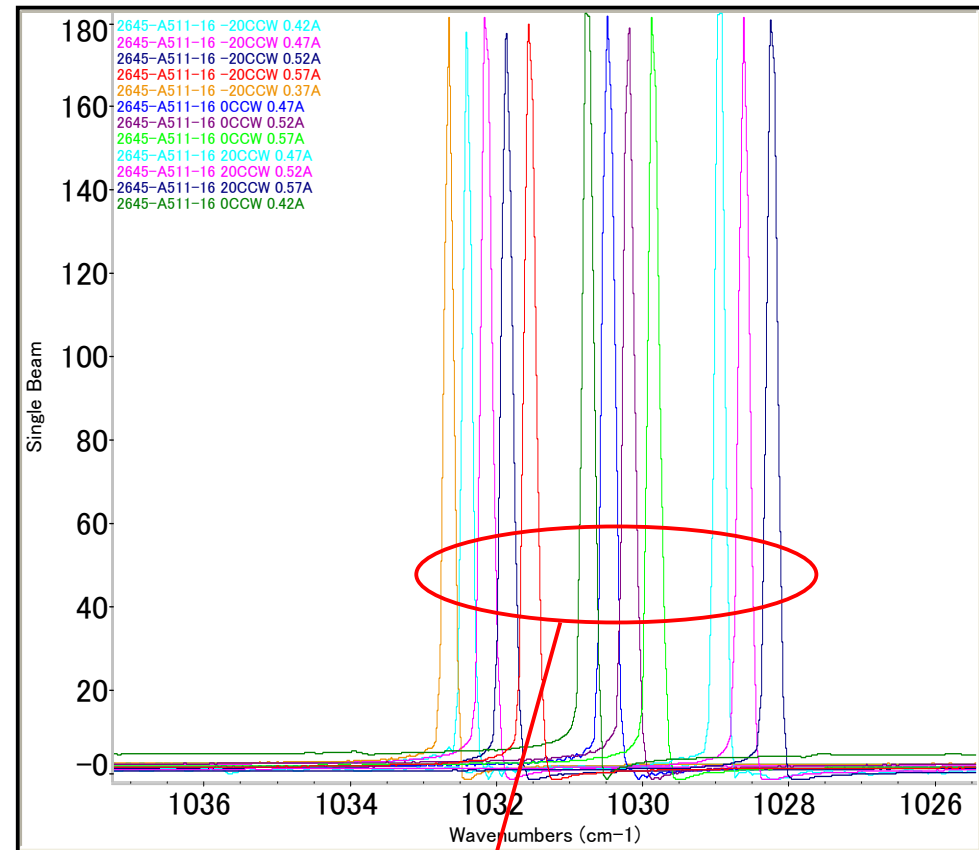
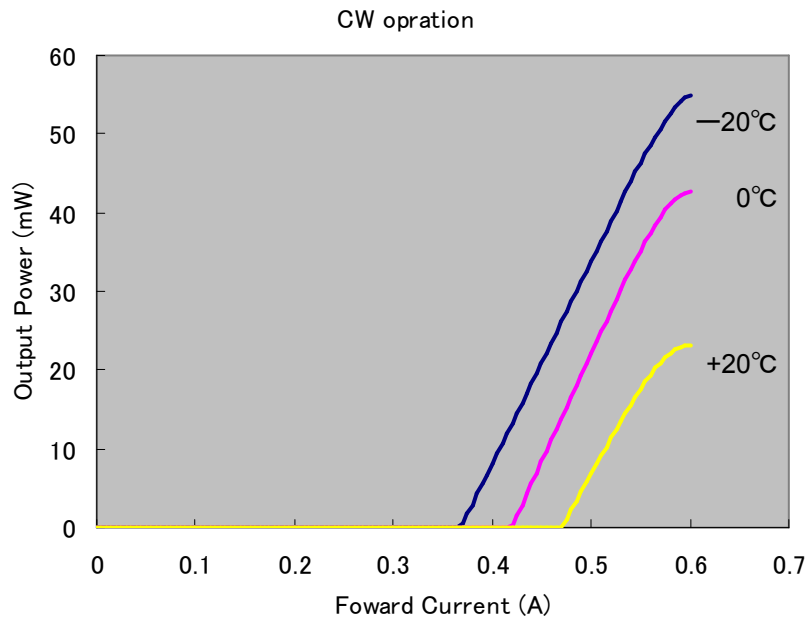
S/N;2645-A511-16

**Type of laser**

- Cleaved-Cleaved facet, DFB
- Center of emission wavelength = 9.70  $\mu\text{m}$ , single-mode

**Characteristics**

- Maximum output power at 20°C : 20mW
- Threshold current at 20°C : 0.47A



Data were taken by the use with FTIR, resolution: 0.125cm<sup>-1</sup>.

tuning range: ~5cm<sup>-1</sup> (-20 to +20°C)

## Accessories

### ◆ Laser head and drivers



TE-cooling head with  
ZnSe collimate lens

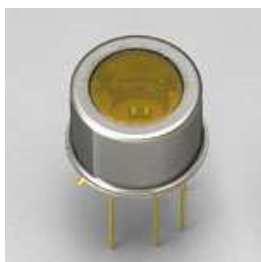


HHL package



Set-up example

### ◆ Mid-IR detectors: MCT(P3257 series) $\lambda = 2 \sim 11.5 \mu\text{m}$ , $\phi = 1\text{mm}$




TE-cooled type

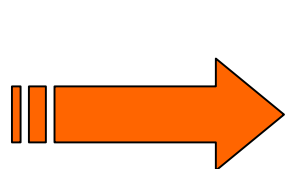
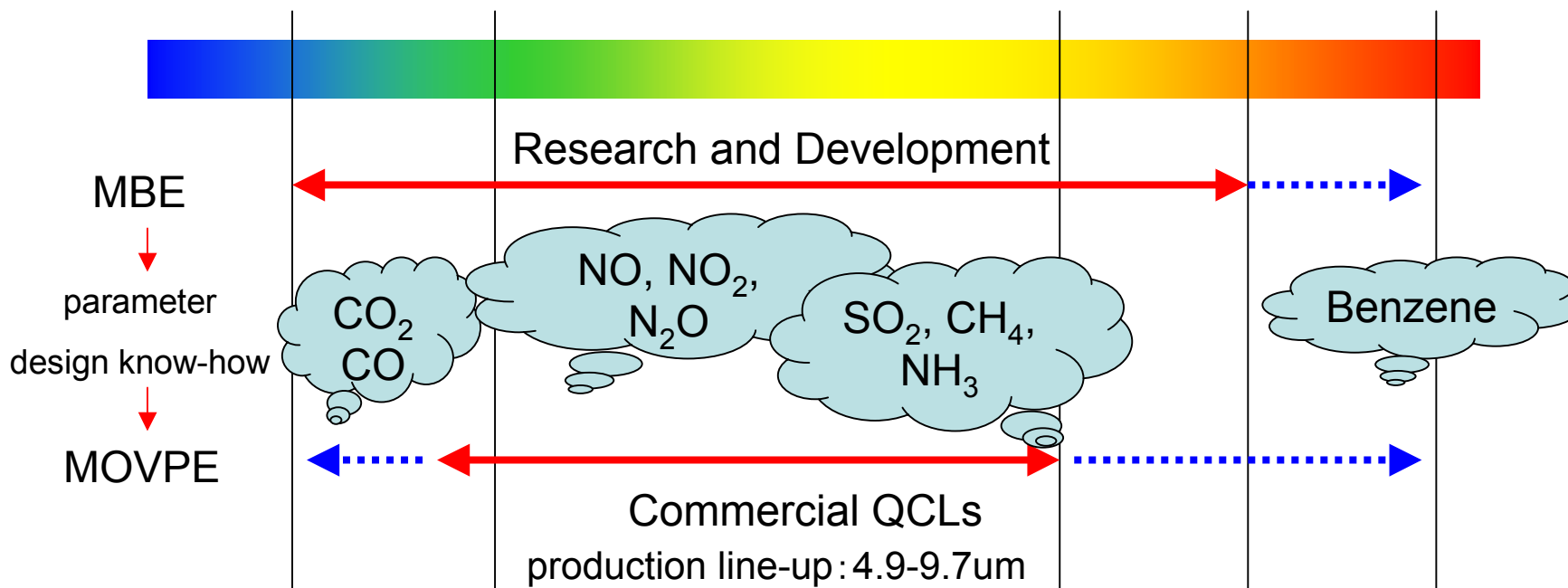


un-cooled type



amplifier module

MBE growth  MOVPE growth

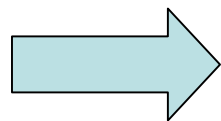
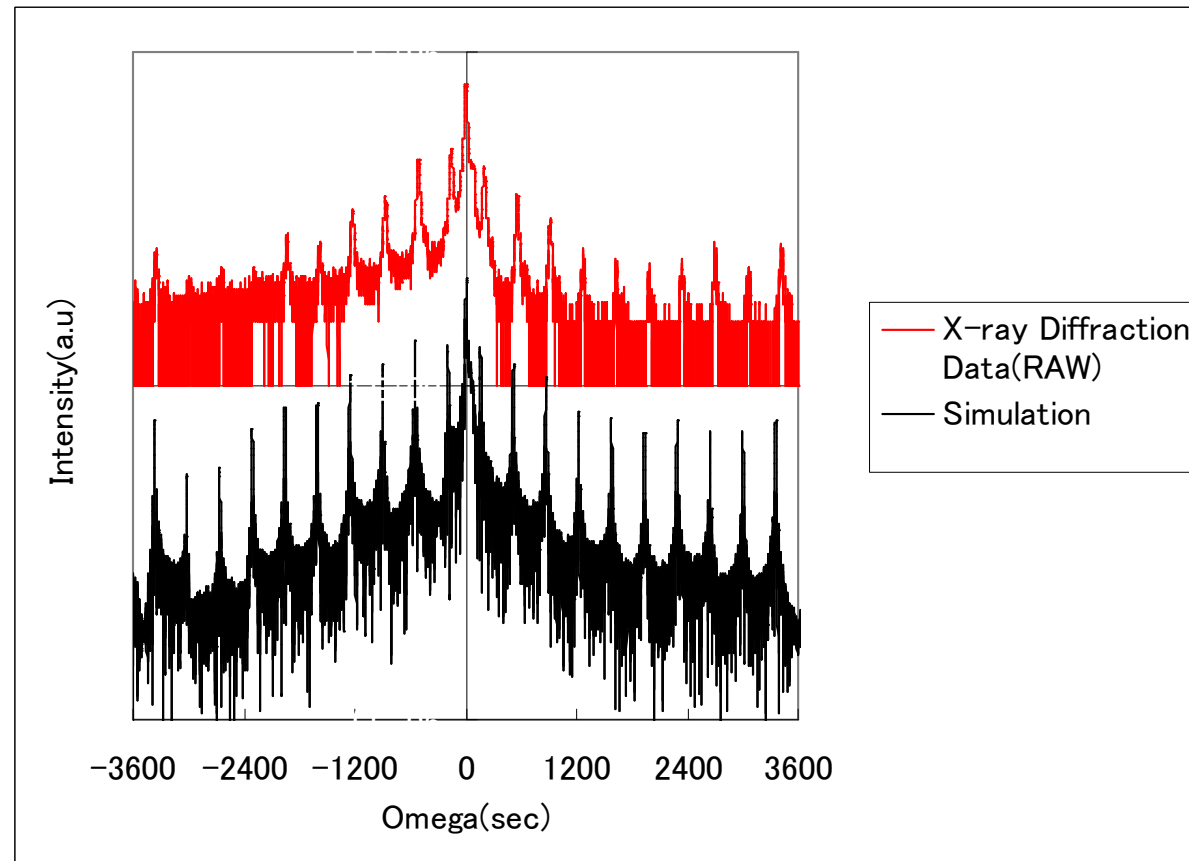


MBE: good "navigator"

MOVPE: suitable for mass production

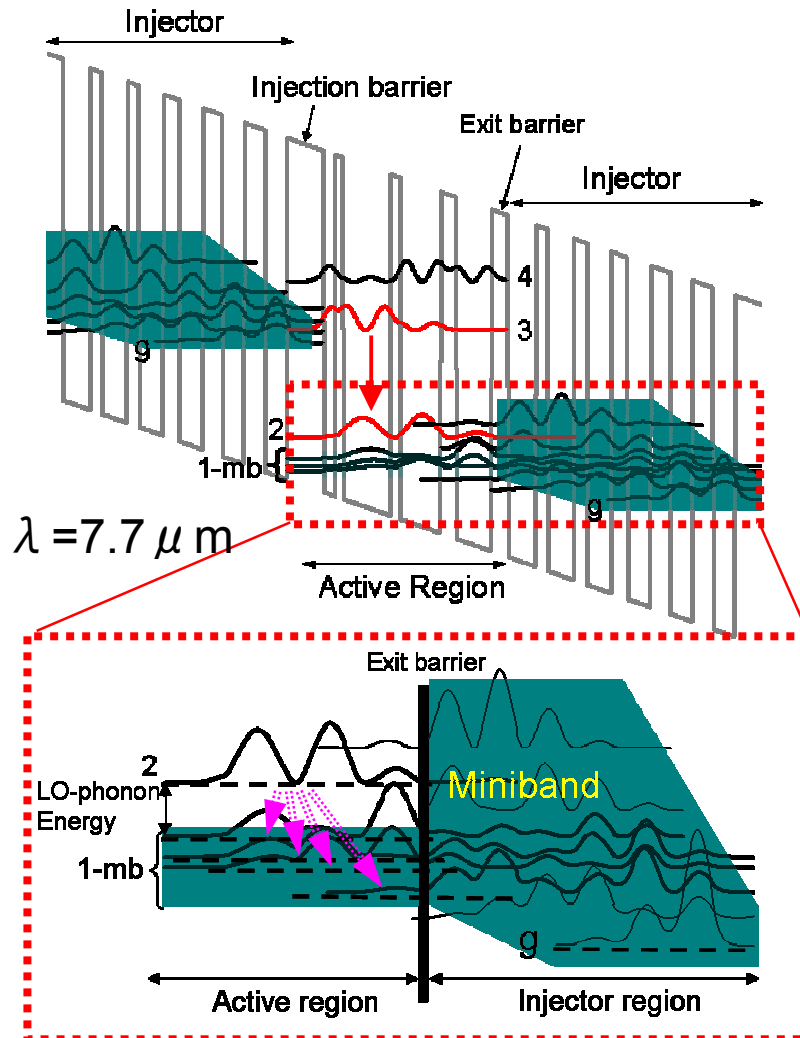


# XRD (strain-balanced structure): $5.2 \mu\text{m}$

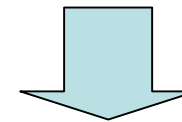


well controlled layer thickness, interface quality, material composition, and uniformity

# Single Phonon resonance - Continuum depopulation structure: *SPC*-depopulation structure



- bound to bound vertical transition
- electrons at lower lasing state 2 are very quickly depopulated to the mini band (1-mb)
  - via LO-phonon scatterings
  - $\tau_2 = 0.18\text{ps}$ ,  $\tau_3 = 1.45\text{ps}$
- efficient extraction to Injector miniband by miniband relaxation
  - ⇒ lead to good device performance
- The energy separation between subband 2 and miniband 1-mb is not always required to match strictly with LO-phonon energy.
  - ⇒ large allowance for thickness fluctuations



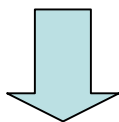
K.Fujita et al., *APL*91(2007)141121.

# SPC with simple ridge structure

## ◆ Optimized SPC design

### Simple ridge structure

- epi-side up mount / Cu heat-sink
- high-mesa ridge structure (no BH)
- without HR coating



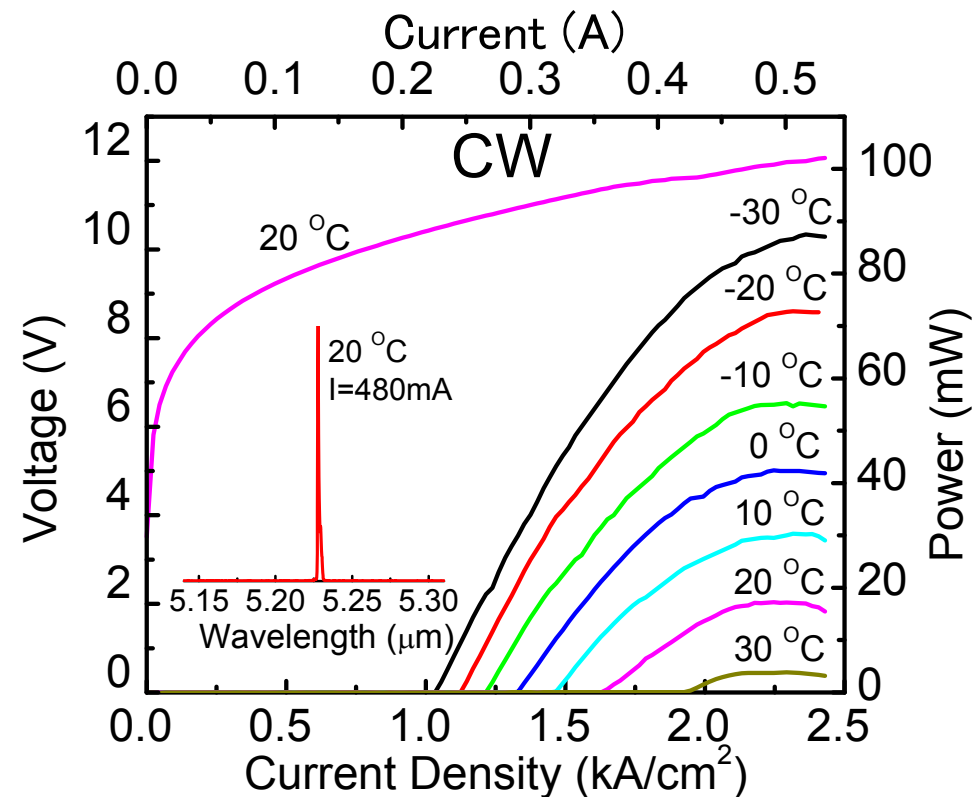
$\lambda = 5.2 \mu\text{m}$ ,  $+20^\circ\text{C}$ , CW operation

$J_{\text{th}} = 1.6 \text{ kA/cm}^2$ ,  $P = 17 \text{ mW}$

This simple structure saves us from complex processing steps such as InP re-growth and HR coatings.

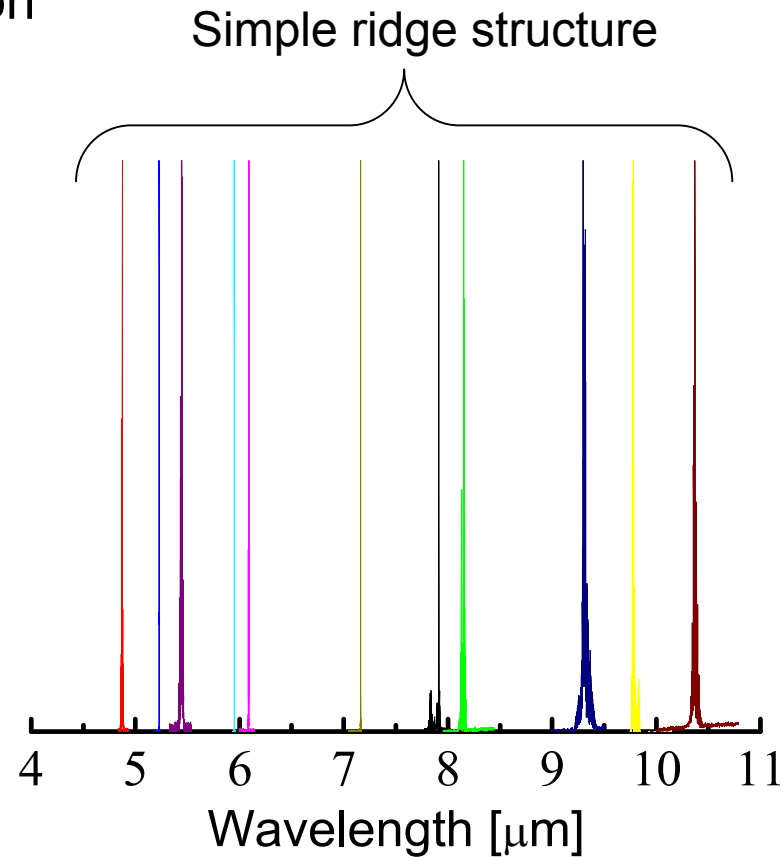


**suitable for mass production**



# The wavelength range of SPC-QC Lasers

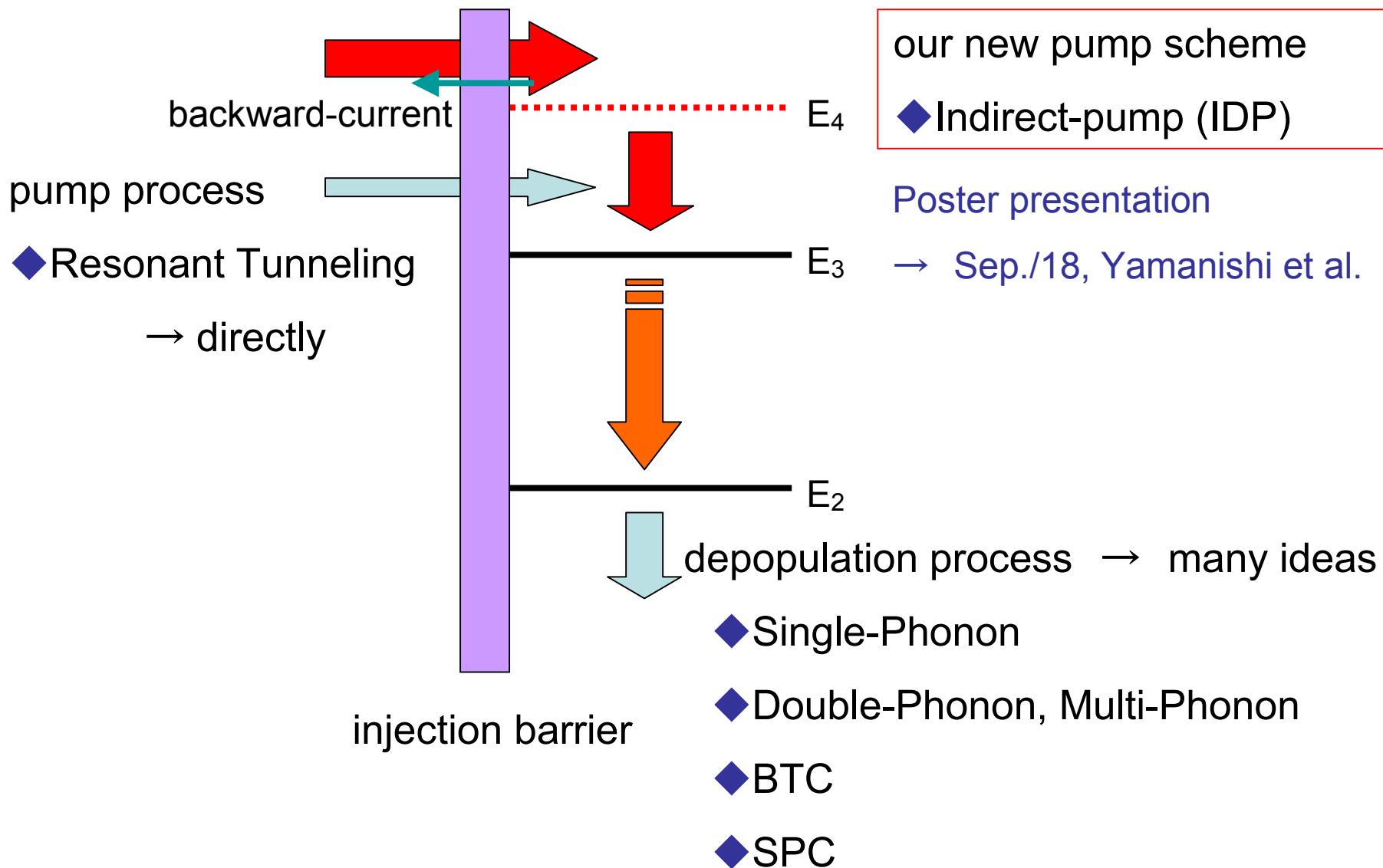
## ◆ RT-CW operation



We have achieved RT-CW operation in the wavelength range of 4.8 – 10.5  $\mu\text{m}$ , grown by MOVPE.

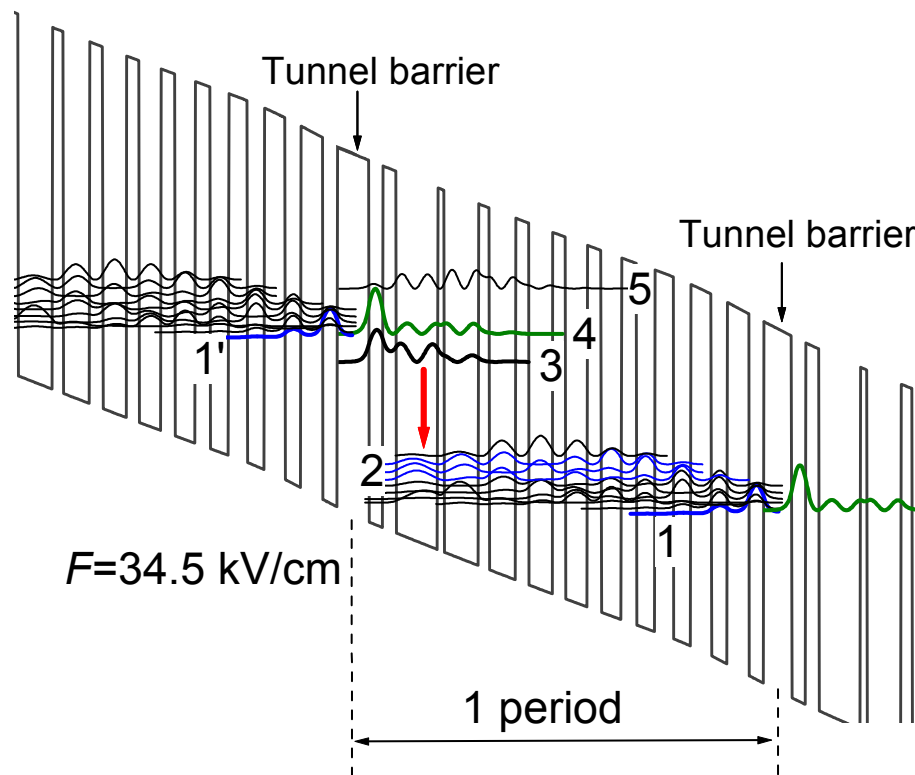


# Indirect-pump (IDP) scheme



# IDP structure

## ◆ Energy band diagram



$$\hbar\Omega_{41'} = 7.0 \text{ meV}$$

$$E_{43} \sim 40 \text{ meV}$$

$$E_{32} \sim 160 \text{ meV} (\lambda \sim 8 \mu\text{m})$$

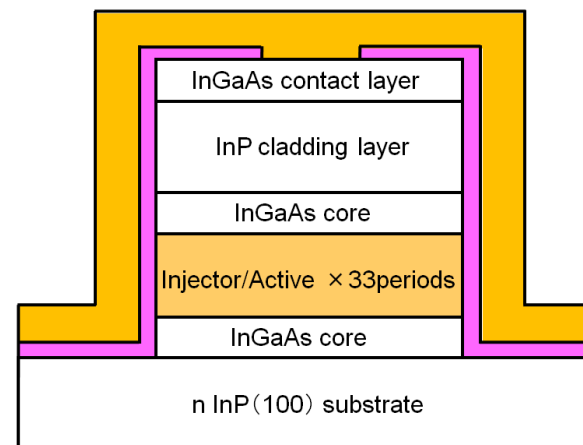
$$E_{21} \sim 60.0 \text{ meV}$$

$$\tau_{420} = 3.0 \text{ ps} (\ll \tau_{410})$$

$$\tau_{430} = 0.27 \text{ ps}$$

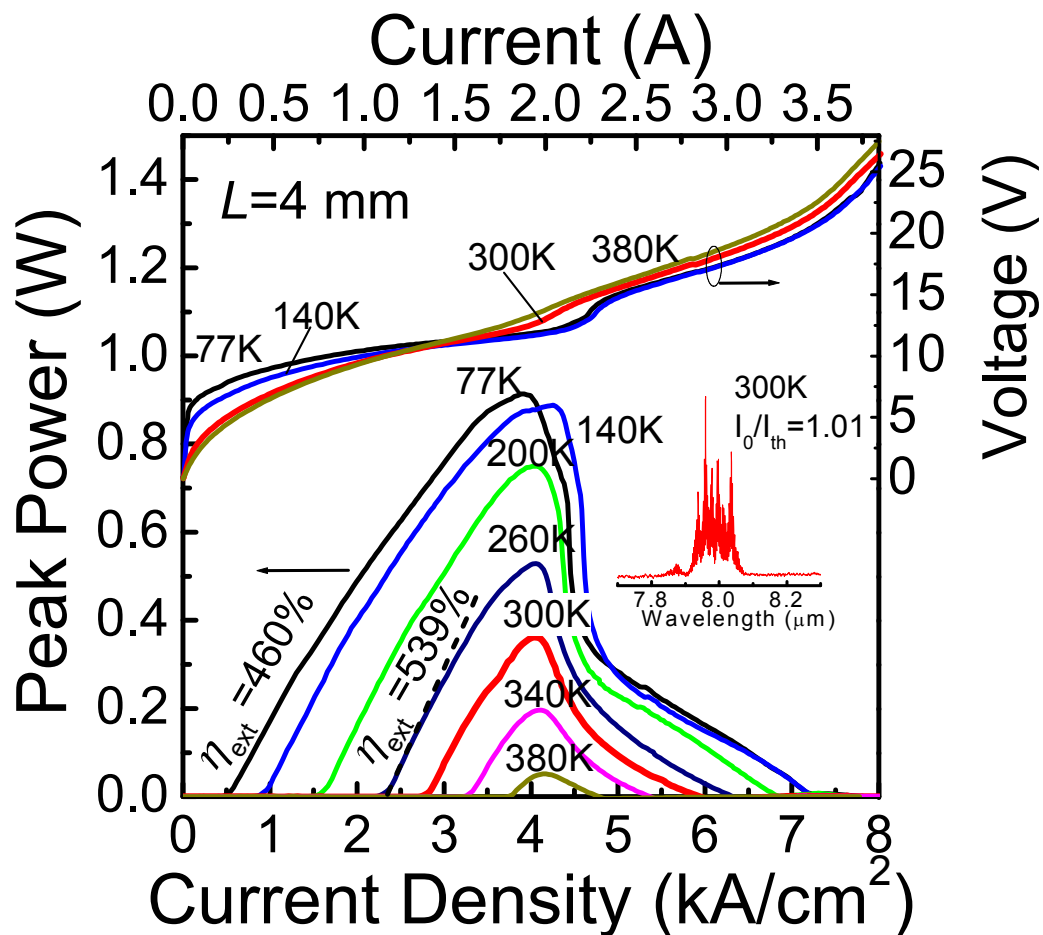
$$\tau_{30} = \tau_{320} = 1.5 \text{ ps}$$

## ◆ Device structure



- epi-side up mount
- high-mesa ridge structure
- without HR-coating

## I-V-L (pulsed operation)



$L=4$ mm,  $w=12$   $\mu$  m

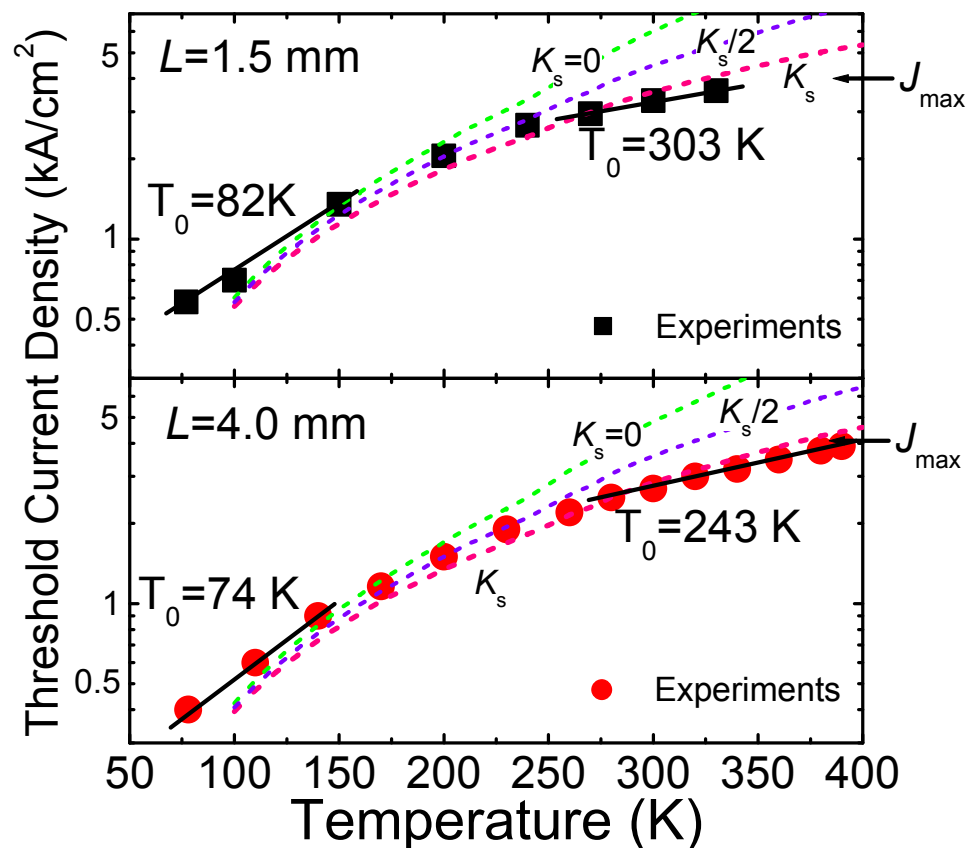
50ns/1kHz pulsed operation

$J_{\text{th}}=2.7$  kA/cm<sup>2</sup> @300K

$P_{\text{peak}}=362$  mW @300K

Low threshold current density and high peak output power

# High $T_0$ -values



$L=1.5 \text{ mm} \rightarrow T_0=303 \text{ K}$

$L=4.0 \text{ mm} \rightarrow T_0=243 \text{ K}$



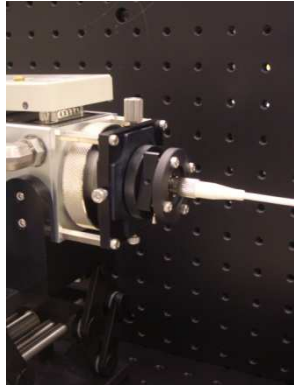
Very weak temperature dependence of the threshold current !!



Suppressions of electron populations in the injector regions  
 (quenching of the injector-loss)



# Fiber-out module (Ag-coated hollow fiber)

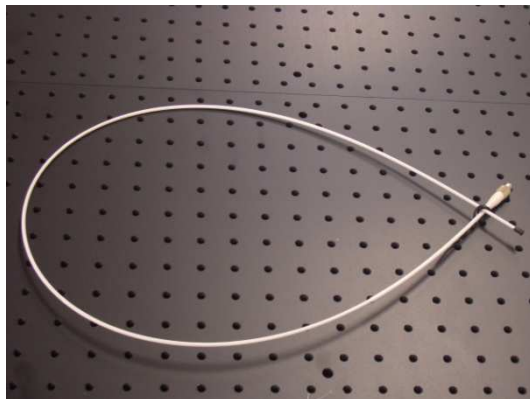


$\lambda = 9.5 \mu\text{m}$  (TE-cooled, duty : 35%)

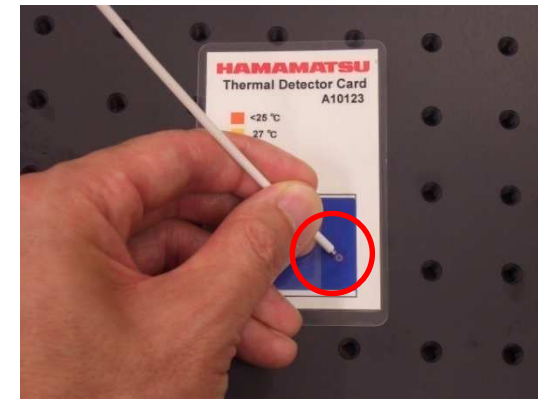
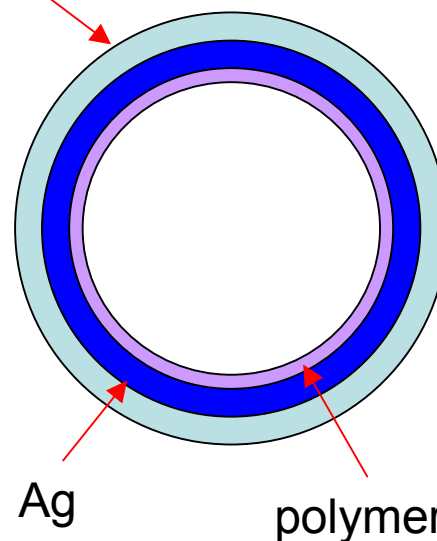
with ZnSe collimate lens and FC style connector

average output power : 10mW

flexible glass-tubing



$L=1\text{m}$ ,  $\phi = 700 \mu\text{m}$



“Thermal Detector Card”

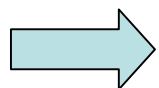
Doko Engineering <http://do-ko.jp/products.html>

Hitachi Cable <http://www.hitachi-cable.co.jp/products/optical/laser/index.html>

# Applications

## Laser Absorption Spectroscopy (Environmental Gas Monitoring)

- ◆ Green-House Gas:  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{CH}_4$
- ◆ Air Pollution:  $\text{NO}_x$ ,  $\text{SO}_x$
- ◆ Security Field: ???



“real time” “portable”



## Bio-Medical Sensing

- ◆ Breath Analysis
- ◆ Glucose Monitoring

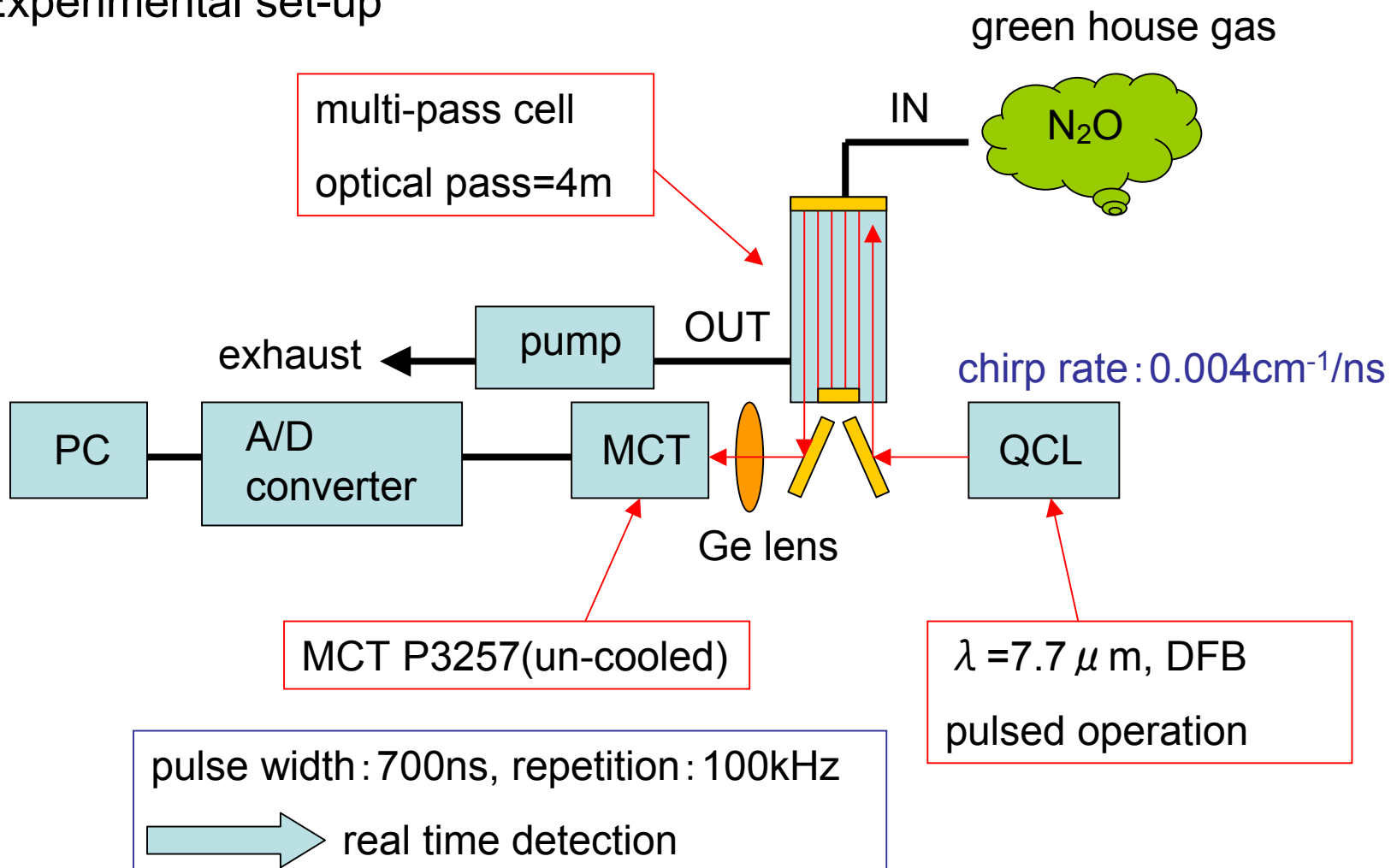


## High Speed Communication

- ◆ Free-Space Communication → 2nd atmospheric window ( $\lambda = 8-13 \mu\text{m}$ )

# Movie 1) sample gas: N<sub>2</sub>O

## ◆ Experimental set-up



## Movie 2) sample gas : exhaust gas (NO)

MCT P3257

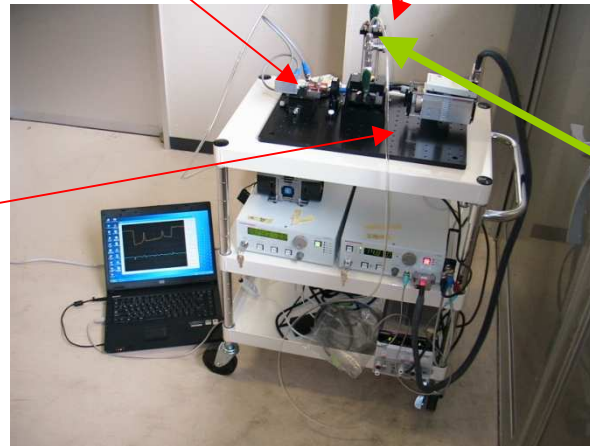
multi-pass cell

QCL

$\lambda = 5.2 \mu\text{m}$ , DFB

pulsed operation

(500ns/100kHz)



air pollutant

exhaust gas (diesel engine)

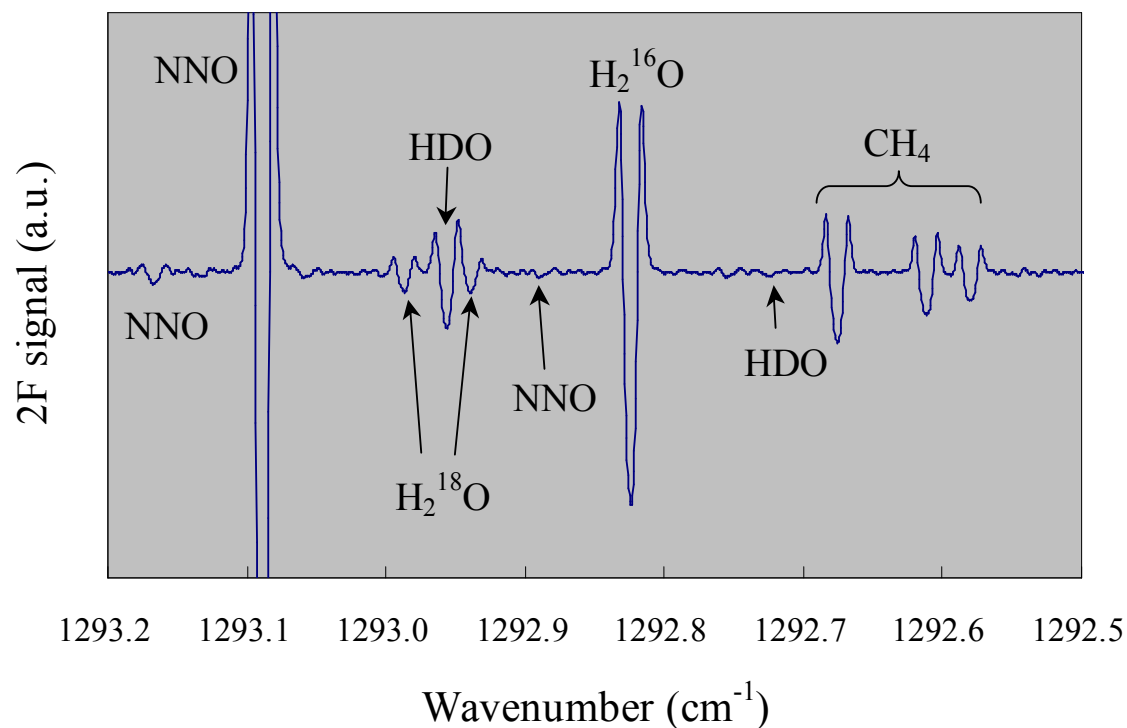
“real-time and portable” detection



# Ambient air

◆ CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, H<sub>2</sub>O

(collaborate with Prof. Uehara, KEIO Univ.)



CH<sub>4</sub>: 1.7ppm    N<sub>2</sub>O : 0.3ppm

QCL

$\lambda = 7.7 \mu\text{m}$ , DFB

TE-cooled CW operation

$T_{\text{op}} = 0^\circ\text{C}$

Sample gas

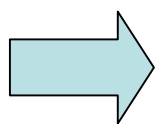
ambient air@Hamamatsu

optical pass = 100m

Modulation

sin-wave,  $F = 100\text{kHz}$

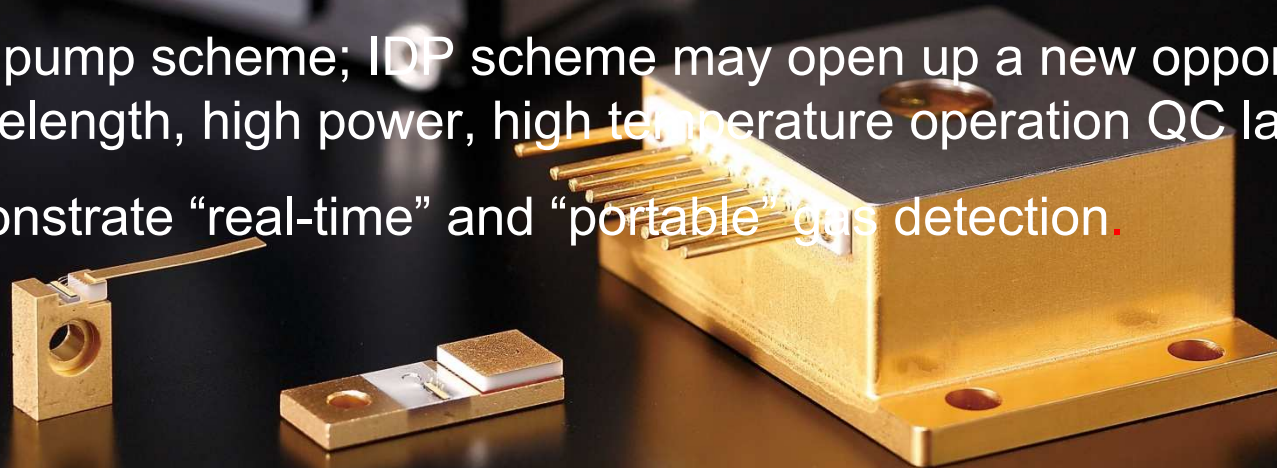
lock-in detection technique



- good agreement with the HITRAN data base
- isotopes (H<sub>2</sub>\_16O, H<sub>2</sub>\_18O, HDO) are clearly resolved

# Summary

1. The MOVPE-grown QCL configuration is obviously very preferable for industrial device- production.
2. We have achieved RT-CW operation QC lasers based on SPC depopulation structure, in the wavelength range of 4.8-10.5  $\mu$  m.
3. The new pump scheme; IDP scheme may open up a new opportunity for long-wavelength, high power, high temperature operation QC lasers.
4. We demonstrate “real-time” and “portable” gas detection.



Thank you for your attention !!

Please contact our web-site or laser group sales.

<http://www.hamamatsu.com> E-mail:[laser-g@lsr.hpj.co.jp](mailto:laser-g@lsr.hpj.co.jp) FAX:(81)53-484-1302