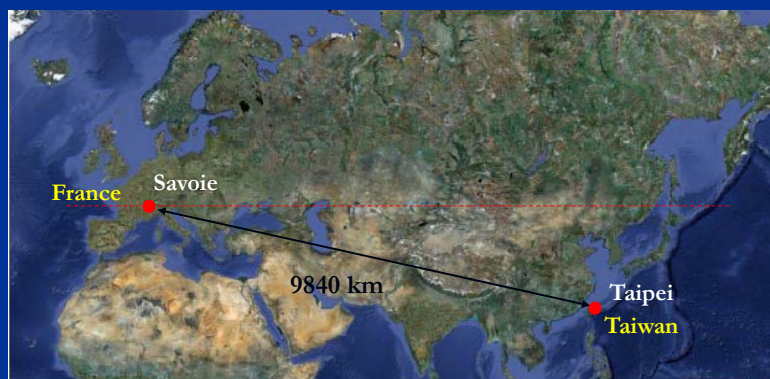




Where is Savoie?

Savoie = Savoy (in English)



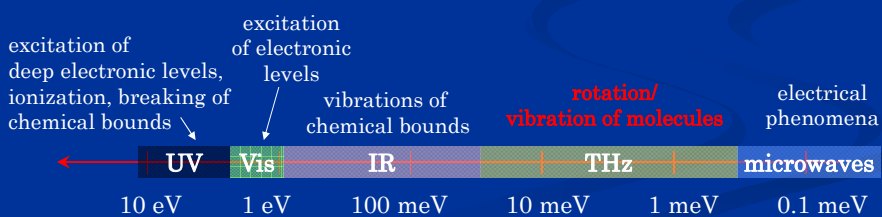
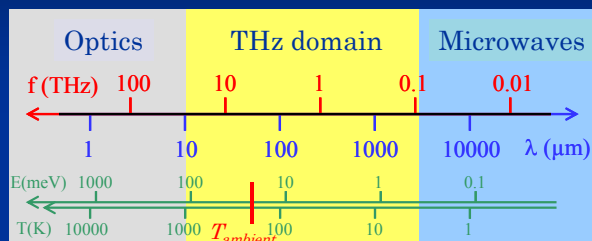
Where is Savoie?



Outline of the seminar

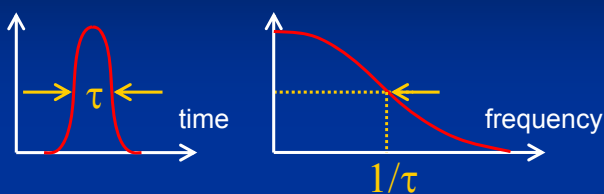
- What is the THz domain of the electromagnetic spectrum?
- Why is it so popular in present research works?
- Physics with THz
 - Techniques
 - Interaction matter-THz

THz Electromagnetic Waves spectrum = far infrared (FIR)

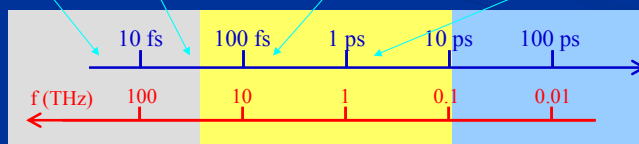


5

THz : picosecond temporal events



transition time between 2 electronic levels collision time of electrons in metals relaxation time of energy (phonon) duration of a chemical reaction (small molecules, ex : H_2O)



THz

6

Why THz EM waves are so interesting?

Some THz-related phenomena

- Electrons in highly-excited atomic Rydberg states orbit at THz frequencies
- Small molecules rotate at THz frequencies
- Collisions between gas phase molecules at room temperature last about 1 ps
- Biologically-important collective modes of proteins vibrate at THz frequencies
- Frustrated rotations and collective modes cause polar liquids (such as water) to absorb at THz frequencies
- Electrons in semiconductors and their nanostructures resonate at THz frequencies
- Superconducting energy gaps are found at THz frequencies
- An electron in Intel's THz transistor races under the gate in ~ 1 ps
- Gaseous and solid-state plasmas oscillate at THz frequencies
- Matter at temperatures above 10 K emits black-body radiation at THz frequencies...

Some involved techniques and technologies

- Solid-state electronics
- Vacuum electronics
- Microwave techniques
- Ultrafast visible and NIR lasers
- Single-mode continuous-wave NIR lasers
- Electron accelerators ranging in size from a few inches to a mile-long linear accelerator at SLAC
- Novel materials...

and Applications (see coming slides)!

From Report of a DOE-NSF-NIH Workshop held February 12 – 14, 2004, Arlington, VA
M. S. Sherwin, C. A. Schmuttenmaer, and P. H. Bucksbaum, Editors

7

Why studying the THz domain? Medicine

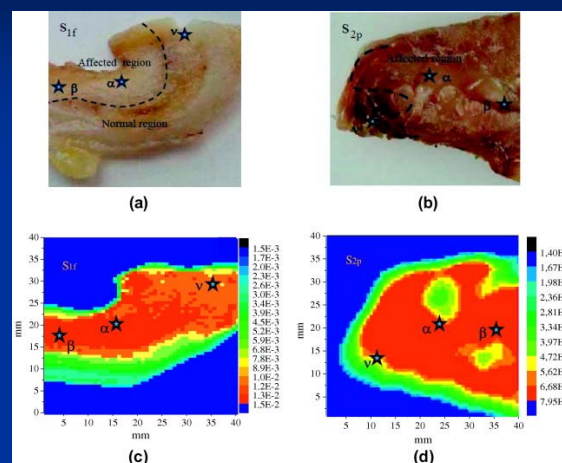
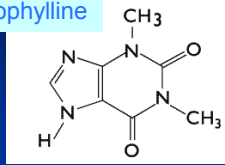


Fig. 6. Samples that have been imaged by CWTI at the wavelength $\lambda = 393 \mu\text{m}$ ($\nu = 0.76 \text{ THz}$): (a and b); CWTI absorption coefficient images of the samples: (c and d). The reddish areas, corresponding to stronger absorption, correlate well with the cancer affect regions previously determined by histological observation. The green-yellow spots in red area of (d) have smaller thickness caused by paraffin embedding process

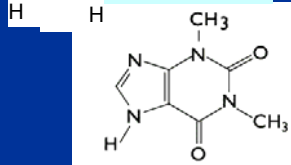
8

Why studying the THz domain? Chemical analysis

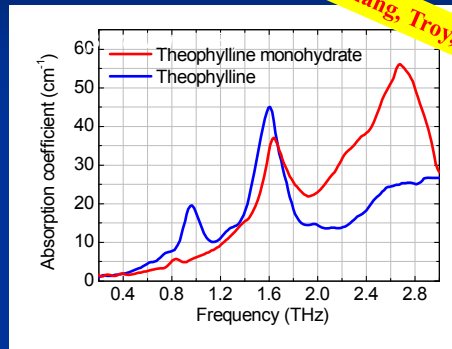
Theophylline



Theophylline monohydrate



Slide from X-C Zhang, Troy, USA



Theophylline is used as an oral bronchodilator for asthma therapy by millions of people everyday. However, it is always a difficulty to judge whether it is hydrated or anhydrous before companies sell it or patients take it (anhydrous drugs will transfer to hydrated ones when they are processed or stored in ambient air).

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Why studying the THz domain? Telecoms



The goal of THz telecoms as dreamed by Martin Koch, Marburg, Germany. Results from T. Nagatsuma, Osaka University

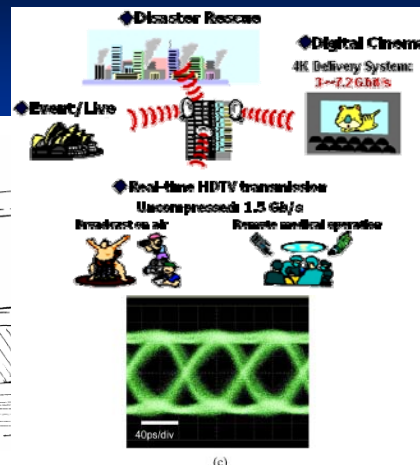


Fig. 3. (a) Experimental setup for data transmission link at 300 GHz (LD: laser diode; EOM: electrooptic modulator; PPG: pulse pattern generator; EDFA: erbium doped fiber amplifier; UTC-PD: uni-traveling photodiode; SBD: Schottky barrier diode; LNA: low noise amplifier; ED: error detector; OSC: oscilloscope). (b) Measured BERs. (c) Eye diagram at 16-Gb/s data rate.

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Why studying the THz domain? Environment

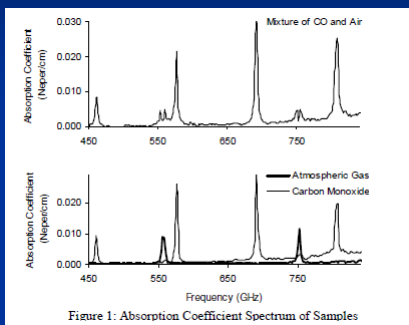


Figure 1: Absorption Coefficient Spectrum of Samples

Identification of Pollutant Gases from an Atmospheric Mixture Using High Resolution Dispersive Fourier Transformation Spectroscopy
 Nawaf N. Almosayed¹, Student Member, IEEE, Galam R. Khan², Student Member, IEEE, Mohammed N. Asfar³, Fellow, IEEE

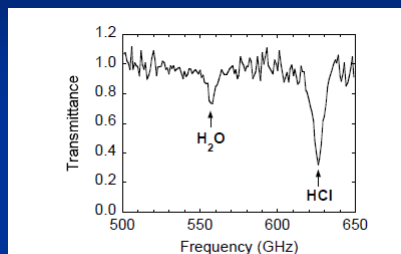
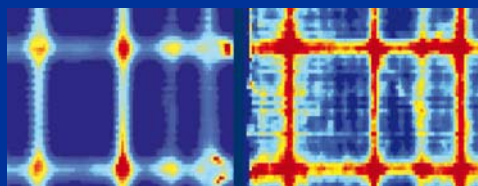


Fig. 3: Absorption spectrum of smoke produced from PVC heated to 350 degree Celsius.

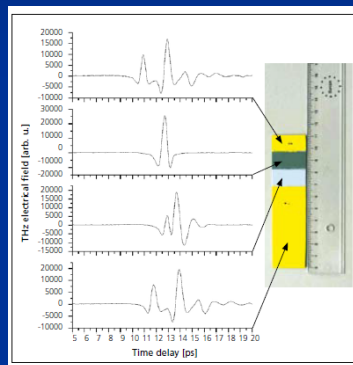
Absorption spectra of hydrogen chloride and carbon monoxide in smoke
 Naofumi Shimizu¹, Ken Matsuizuma², and Isao Hosaka³

Why studying the THz domain? Industry



Fraunhofer Institute in Kaiserslautern

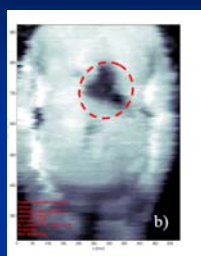
Why studying the THz domain? Industry



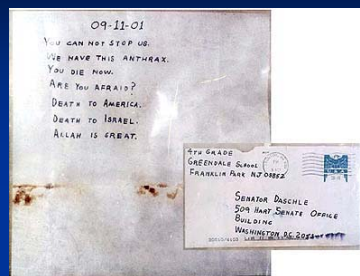
Analysis of the paint coating of airplane propellers
Fraunhofer Kaiserslautern

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Why studying the THz domain? Security



0.1-1 THz
Image
VTT Finland



300-GHz imaging system

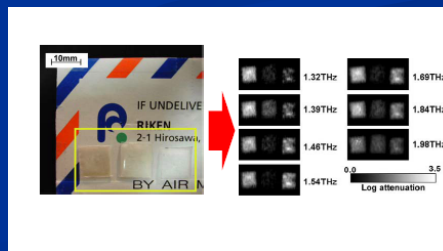
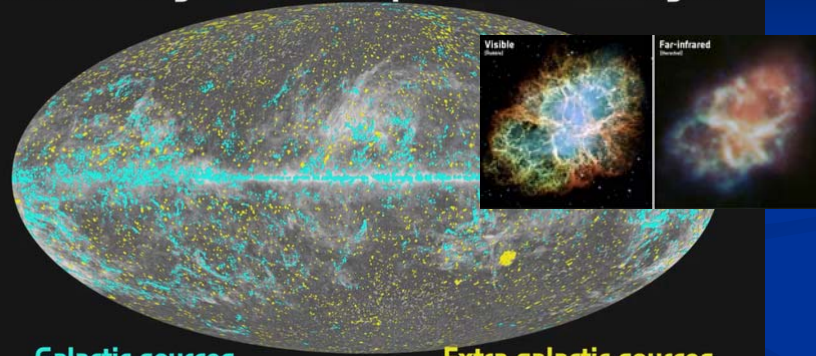


Image Kodo Kawase, RIKEN, Sendai

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Why studying the THz domain? Astrophysics

Planck Early Release Compact Source Catalogue



Galactic sources

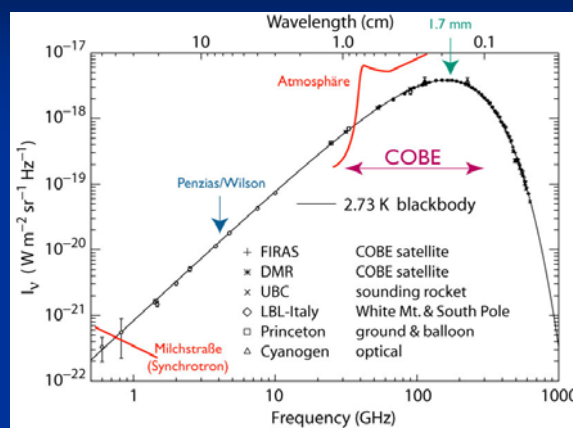
Extra galactic sources

The 15 000 objects in the “Early Release Compact Source Catalogue”, where galactic objects – mainly compact dust clouds – are shown in green, and extragalactic objects – mainly radio galaxies and galaxies with a large thermal emission from dust – are shown in yellow. The larger yellow blob to the lower right is the Large Magellanic Cloud, a dwarf galaxy orbiting the Milky Way.

© ESA / Planck Collaboration

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Why studying the THz domain? Astrophysics



Cosmic Microwave Background Radiation (CMB)

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Modern physics in the THz domain

- Techniques
- Interaction of THz EM waves with matter

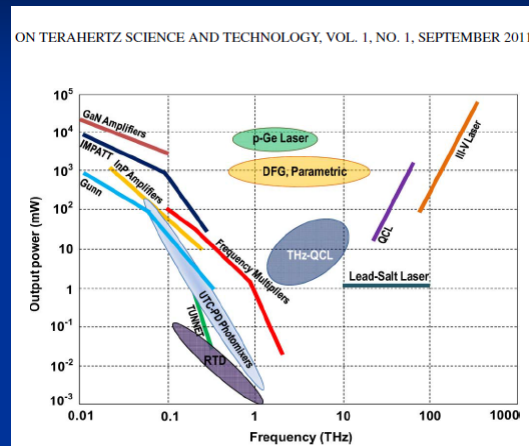
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Sources : The Holy Grail !

- At the present time, no source exhibits simultaneously all the requested characteristics for actual applications:
reliability, compactness, low power consumption, efficiency, brightness, tunability, room temperature operation ...
- Different solutions and technologies are studied
- Strong competition between technologies and between laboratories

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The problem : example of CW sources



Limited by:

electrical transport
 RC, τ

optical transitions
 $h\nu/kT$

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Sources

- Blackbody sources
 - Mercury lamps, globar...
- Electronic tubes
 - Backward oscillators (BWO), klystrons...
- “Big” lasers and facilities
 - Free electron lasers, molecular lasers, synchrotrons...
- p:Ge lasers, nonlinear microwave lines...
- Quantum cascade lasers
- Electronic components: negative differential resistance
- ➔ ■ Optoelectronic sources

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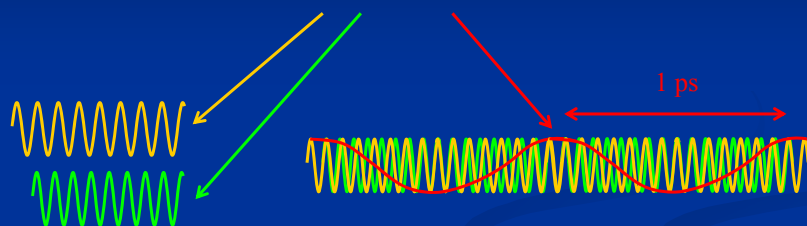
Optoelectronics sources

- Converting optical beams into THz beams
- Needed :
 - an optical source (laser)
 - a nonlinear device
- Pulsed and CW operations
- Advantages : using efficient laser sources and optical technologies

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CW : optical beating

- Optical beating ($\omega_1 - \omega_2 = \Omega$)

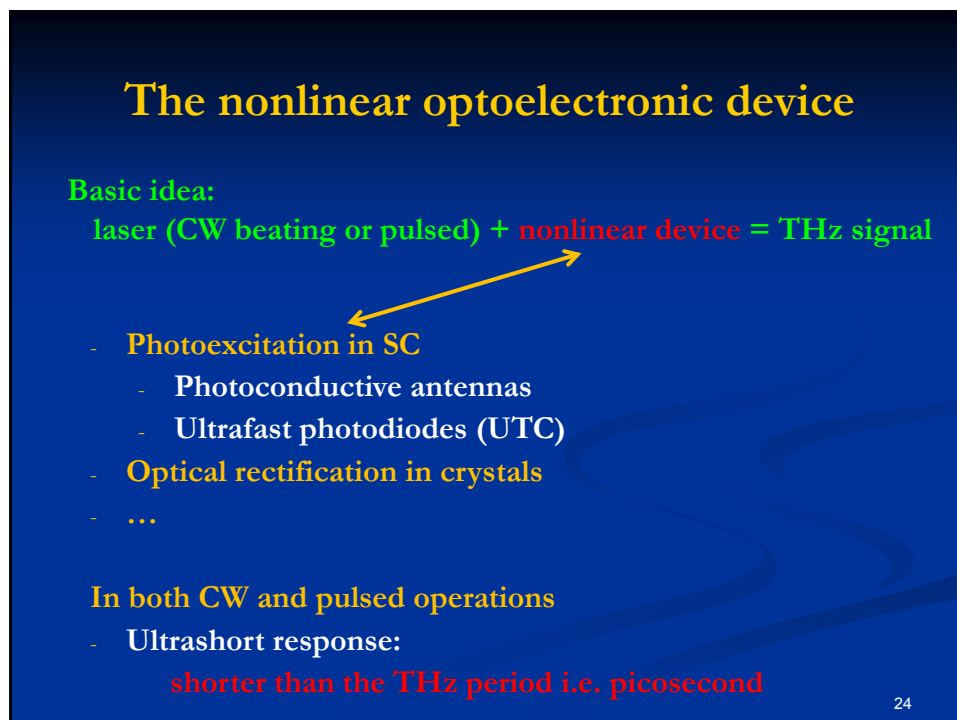
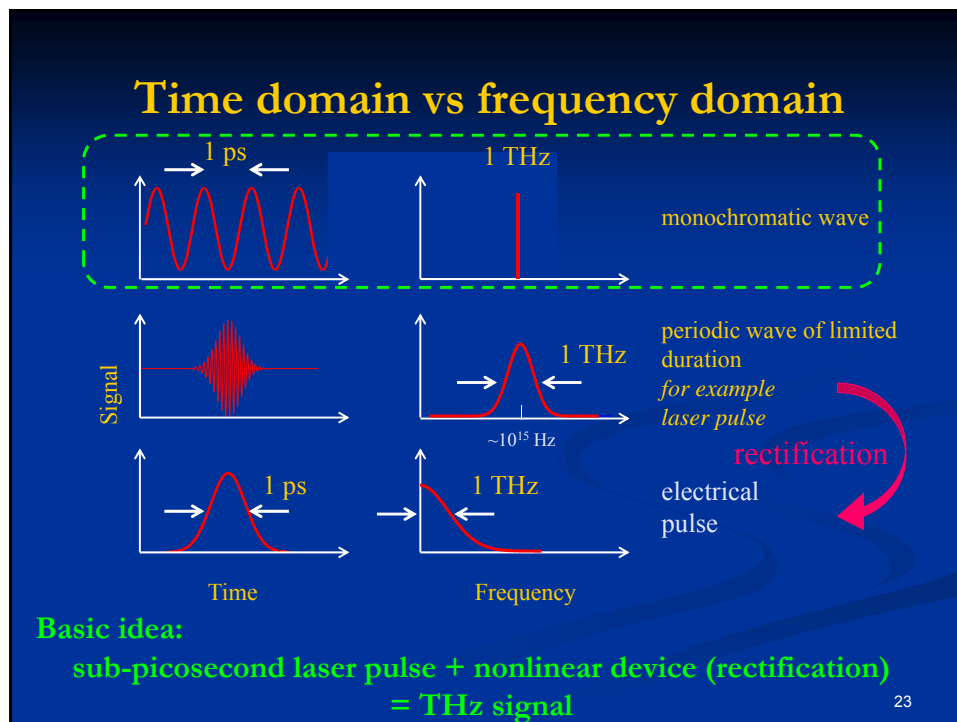


- $f_{\text{THz}} \sim 10^{12}$ Hz $f_{\text{laser1}} \sim f_{\text{laser2}} \sim 10^{15}$ Hz
 $\Delta f_{\text{laser}} / f_{\text{laser}} \sim 10^{-3}$
 f_{THz} stable ($\Delta f_{\text{THz}} \sim 1$ GHz), $\Delta f_{\text{laser}} / f_{\text{laser}} \sim 10^{-6}$

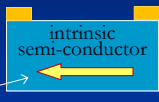
Basic idea :

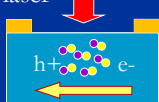
2 lasers with different colors + nonlinear device = THz signal


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Photoconduction

before excitation

no current

during excitation

Current
(displacement, conduction)

after excitation

no current

All charges must have disappeared in ~ 1 ps

- by reaching the electrodes = high mobility, short gap width
- by capture by traps (defects) in the SC = **LT grown, ion-implanted, damaged**

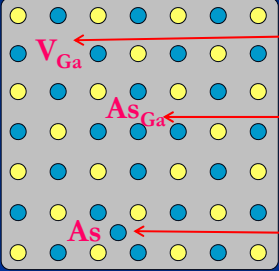
25


LT-GaAs

GaAs epitaxy at
 $T=200\sim 250$ °C

GaAs

arsenic in excess



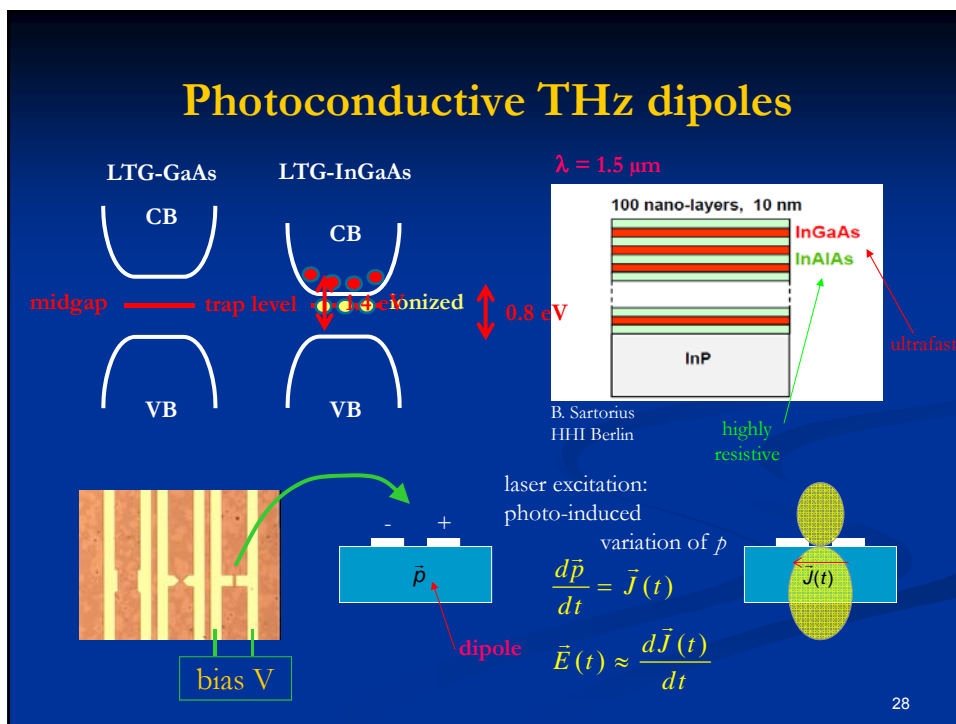
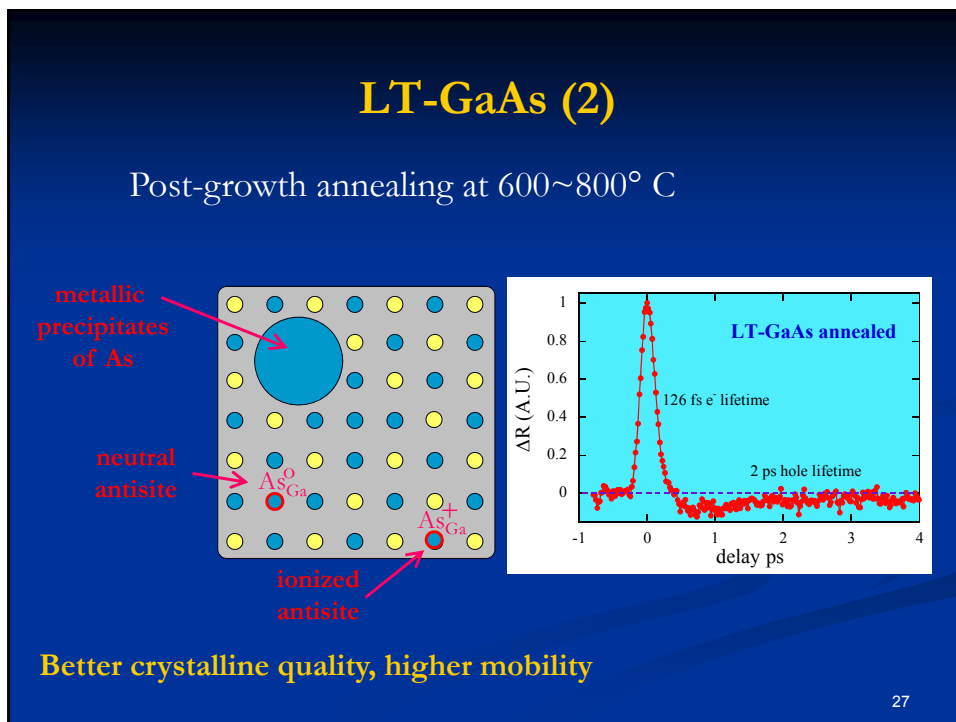


ultrafast non radiative trap level

electrons trapped by ionized As antisites and interstitial As defects
holes trapped by gallium vacancies V_{Ga}

$\tau = 40\text{-}500$ fs
bad structural quality, low mobility (diameter As > diameter Ga)

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Nonlinear optical techniques

$$\vec{P} = \epsilon_0 \left(\chi_L \vec{E}_{laser} + \tilde{\chi}_{NL}^{(2)} : \vec{E}_{laser} \cdot \vec{E}_{laser} + \tilde{\chi}_{NL}^{(3)} : \vec{E}_{laser} \cdot \vec{E}_{laser} \cdot \vec{E}_{laser} \dots \right)$$

$$\vec{E}_{laser} = \vec{E}_1 e^{j\omega_1 t} + \vec{E}_2 e^{j\omega_2 t}$$

$$\tilde{\chi}_{NL}^{(2)} : \vec{E}_{laser} \cdot \vec{E}_{laser} \rightarrow \tilde{\chi}_{NL}^{(2)} : \vec{E}_1 \cdot \vec{E}_2 e^{j(\omega_1 + \omega_2)t}$$

Advantages

- no charge transport
- almost instantaneous nonlinear polarization
- Ultra wideband frequency spectrum**
- no need for microwave-line structure

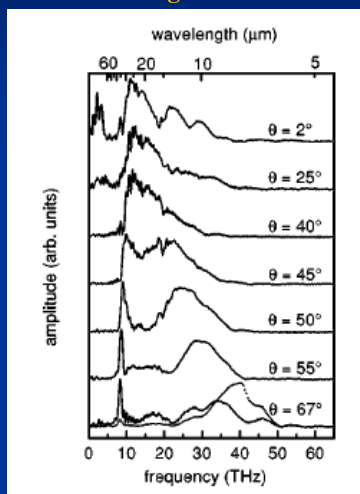
But, as a nonlinear optical process, it requires

- high optical pump power
- phase matching, i.e. same velocities of optical and THz waves
- efficient NL crystal transparent in both optical and THz domains

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EO generation

Phase matching in GaSe



Huber *et al.*, APL 76, 3191 (2000)

EO THz generation in DAST

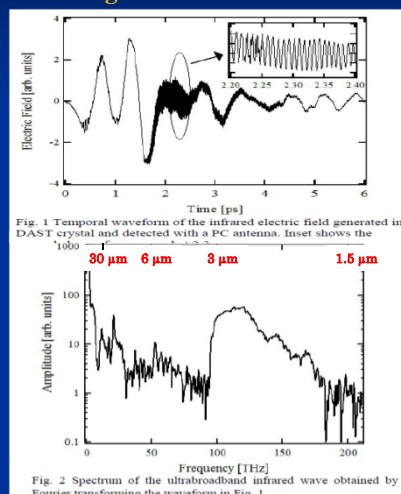


Fig. 1 Temporal waveform of the infrared electric field generated in a DAST crystal and detected with a PC antenna. Inset shows the

Fig. 2 Spectrum of the ultrabroadband infrared wave obtained by Fourier transforming the waveform in Fig. 1.

Eiichi Matsubara *et al.*, IRMMW 2010

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Detectors

■ Detectors of power-energy

- slow** response: they integrate the signal

** as compared to the THz period

■ Detectors of field amplitude

- ultrafast = sub-ps

- no electronics is today able to read in real time the delivered signals → time-equivalent sampling techniques

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Basic definitions

■ Sensitivity

$$S(V/W) = \frac{V}{P}$$

■ Signal over noise ratio

$$SNR = \left(\frac{\bar{V}}{\sigma}\right)^2$$

■ Noise Equivalent Power $NEP = \text{power} \Leftrightarrow SNR = 1$

$$NEP = \frac{V_{noise}}{S}$$

■ NEP in watt, but NEP of many detectors in the FIR

$$NEP \propto \sqrt{S \times \Delta f} \quad S = \text{sensitive area}, \Delta f = \text{bandwidth}$$

■ Thus NEP measured for $\Delta f = 1 \text{ Hz}$ and given in $W/Hz^{1/2}$

■ Noise equivalent differential temperature $NETD$ (passive imaging)

variation of temperature at the scene which induces a variation of signal equal to the NEP

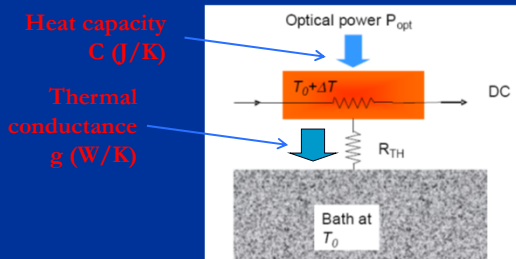
32

Bolometers

Samuel Langley (1880)



Absorption of EM waves
 Increase of temperature
 Thermometer (thermistor, supercond.,...)
 Signal ↔ EM wave energy

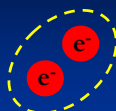


$$\frac{\Delta R}{R} \propto P_{THz} \frac{\alpha}{g}, \quad \alpha = \frac{1}{R} \frac{dR}{dT}$$

Sensitive bolometers:
 α (thermal coefficient of the resistance) **large**: the best are superconductors.
 g (thermal conductance) **small**: low T, vacuum, suspended membranes...

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Superconducting bolometers



Cooper pair
 $R=0$
 $E=3.5 k_B T_C$ (BCS theory)
 T_C normal-to-superconductor transition T

Hot electron bolometer (HEB):
 Heating by direct illumination of the superconductor.

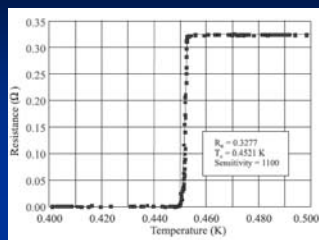
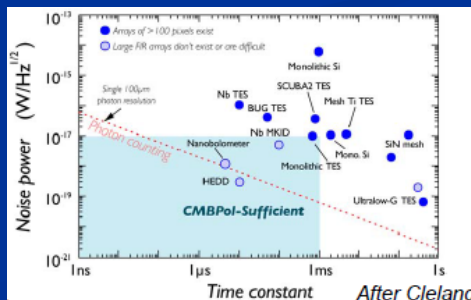
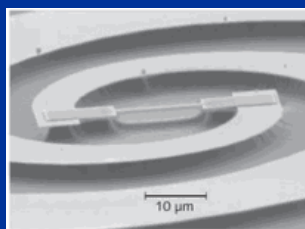
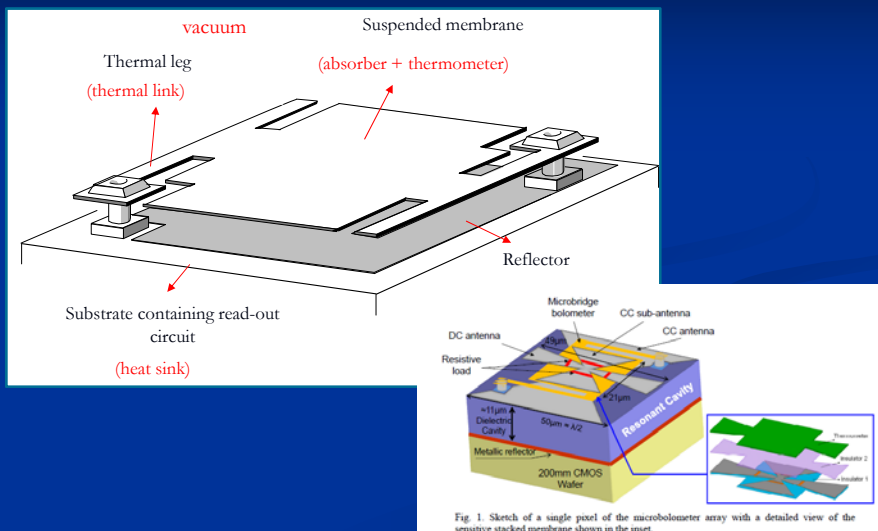


Fig. 23. Superconducting transition at 452 mK for a Mo/Au bilayer [150].



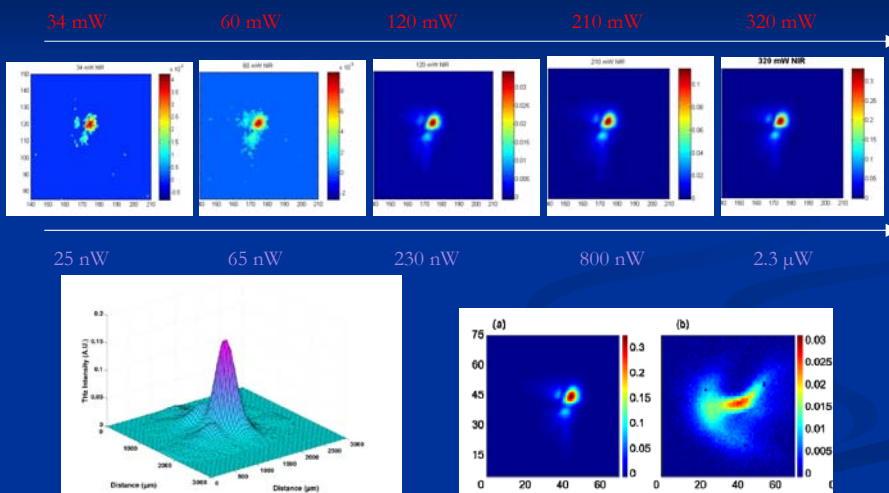
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Room temperature microbolometers



D. T. Nguyen, PhD thesis, Grenoble 35

TDS system characterization with the LETI-CEA camera



Imaging of broadband terahertz beams using an array of antenna-coupled microbolometers operating at room temperature

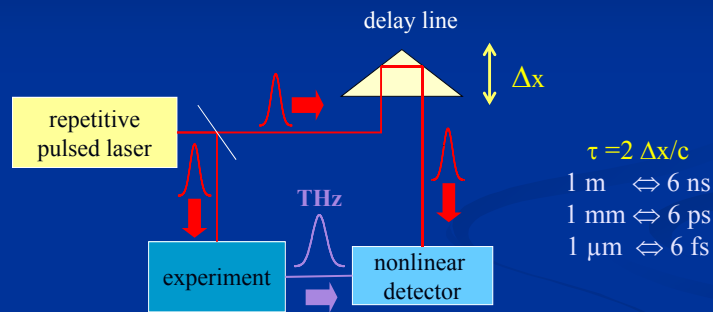
Jonathan Ochoa,¹ Jerome Meillon,² Jeremy Lalanne-Dera,² Jean-François Roux,^{3,7} Frédéric Gaver,² Jean-Louis Coutaz,² and François Simeoni²

25 February 2013 / Vol. 21, No. 4 / OPTICS EXPRESS 4817

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Optoelectronics sampling techniques

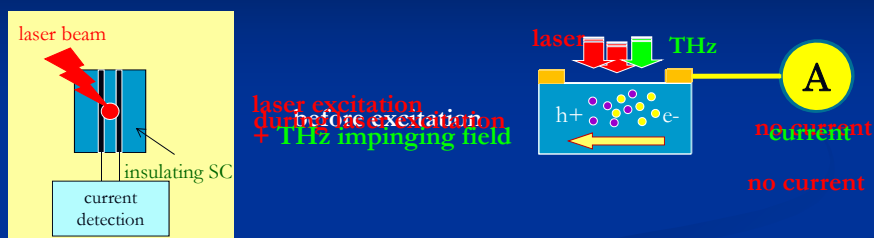
Repetitive signals (mode-locked fs lasers)
main advantage : the use of a slow detector



$$S(\tau) \approx \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} S_{\text{signal}}(t' - \tau) S_{\text{probe}}(t) \eta_{\text{nonlinearity}}(t - t') dt dt'$$

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Detection by photoconduction



$$J(t) = N(t)q \frac{\partial}{\partial t} E_{THz}(t) = \left(\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \eta I_{\text{laser}}(t-t') dt' \right) q \frac{\partial}{\partial t} E_{THz}(t)$$

- field detector
- no signal (noise) between laser pulses
laser = triggering the receiver

EO detection

EO (Pockels) effect

$$\frac{x^2}{n_x^2} + \frac{y^2}{n_y^2} + \frac{z^2}{n_z^2} = 1$$

THz field

$$x^2 \left(\frac{1}{n_x^2} + r_{1j} E_j \right) + y^2 \left(\frac{1}{n_y^2} + r_{2j} E_j \right) + z^2 \left(\frac{1}{n_z^2} + r_{3j} E_j \right) + 2r_{4j} E_j yz + 2r_{5j} E_j xz + 2r_{6j} E_j xy = 1$$

EO crystal

laser

THz field

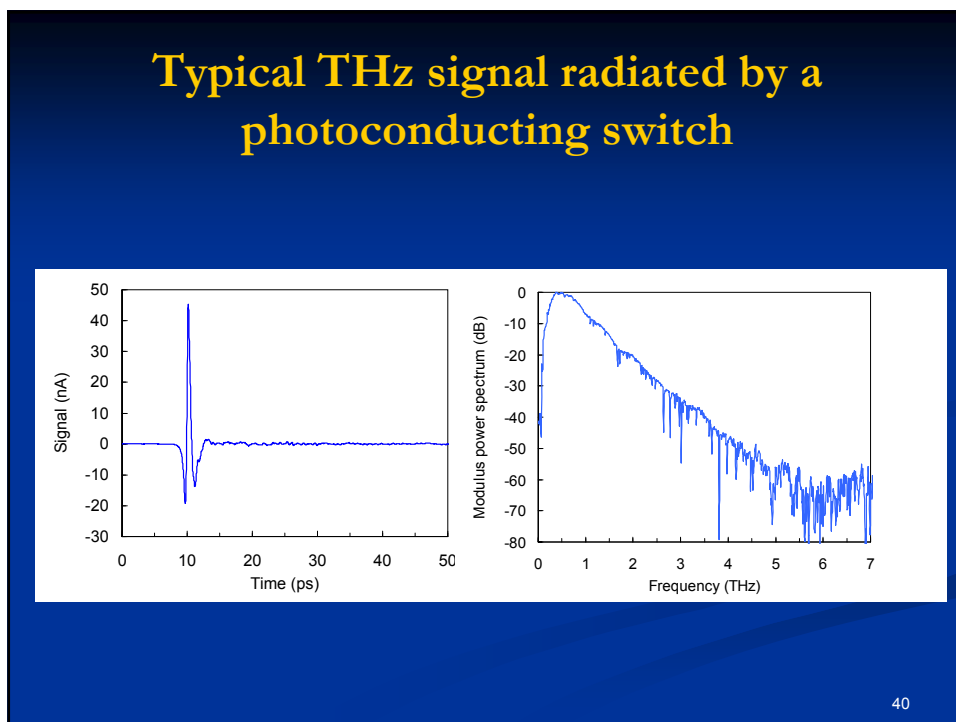
laser

Polarizing prism
e.g. Wollaston


$$\phi \equiv \int_{\text{thickness}} r_{ij} E_{\text{THz},j} dx$$

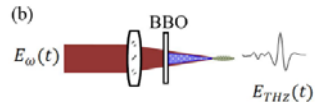
- field detector
- no signal (noise) between laser excitation

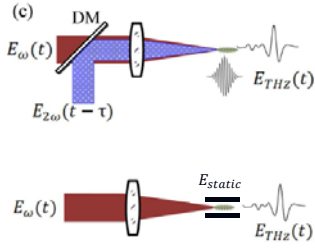
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Generation in air/gas

(a) 

(b) 

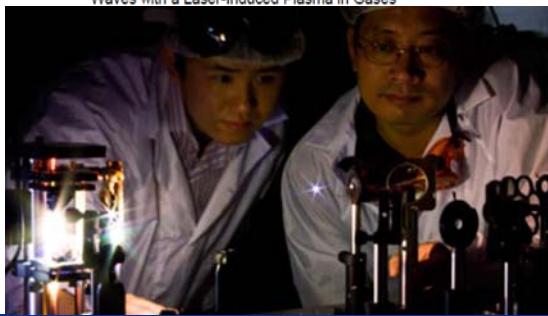
(c) 

1993 **H. Hamster, et al.** – Subpicosecond, electromagnetic pulses from intense laser-plasma interaction

2000 **D.J. Cook, et al.** – Intense terahertz pulses by four-wave rectification in air

2005 **T. Bartel, et al.** – Generation of single-cycle THz transients with high electric-field amplitudes

2006 **X. Xie, et al.** – Coherent Control of THz Wave Generation in Ambient Air; **J. Dai, et al.** – Detection of Broadband Terahertz Waves with a Laser-Induced Plasma in Gases



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Generation in air/gas: how?

Four-wave mixing

D. J. Cook, R. M. Hochstrasser, Opt. Lett. 25, 1210 (2000) $\omega_{\text{THz}} = \omega + \omega - 2\omega$
 too weak effect

Asymmetric transient current of ionized electrons


M. Kress, et al., Opt. Lett. 29, 1120 (2004)

Nonlinear optics in the strong field regime

(\neq Bloembergen's perturbation theory)

N. Karpowicz and X.-C. Zhang, Phys. Rev. Lett. 102, 093001 (2009)

Nonlinear THz optics




Applications of Strong THz fields

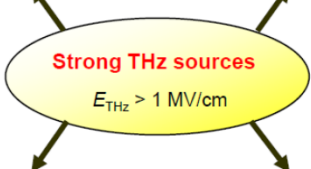
THz pump experiments

- THz pumping of metals, insulators, and correlated electron materials.
- Coherent band-gap distortion & phase transition.
- THz-pump optical-probe experiments.
- THz coherent control

Rapid THz imaging

- Biomedical and security imaging





Strong THz sources
 $E_{\text{THz}} > 1 \text{ MV/cm}$

Nonlinear THz Optics

- THz 2nd, 3rd nonlinear effects.
- Extreme nonlinearity with ponderomotive energy > photon energy
- THz-optical nonlinear mixing

High magnetic field effects

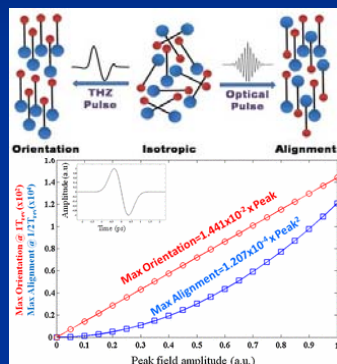
- $1 \text{ MV/cm} \rightarrow 0.3 \text{ T}$
- Pulsed electron spin resonance
- THz spintronics

$$B = \frac{E}{c} = \frac{1 \text{ MV/cm}}{c} = \frac{10^8}{3 \times 10^8} = 0.3 \text{ T}$$

* M. S. Sherwin et al., DOE-NSF-NIH Workshop on Opportunities in THz Science

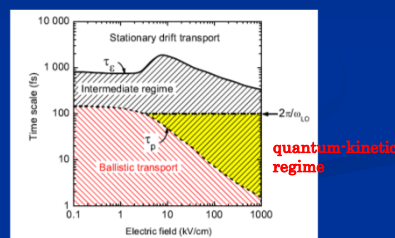
Nonlinear THz optics (2)

Orientation of gas phase molecules by THz fields, Keith Nelson's team, MIT



Molecular orientation and alignment by single-cycle THz pulses, S. Fleischer, Y. Zhou, R.W. Field, and K.A. Nelson, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **107**, 163603 (2011).

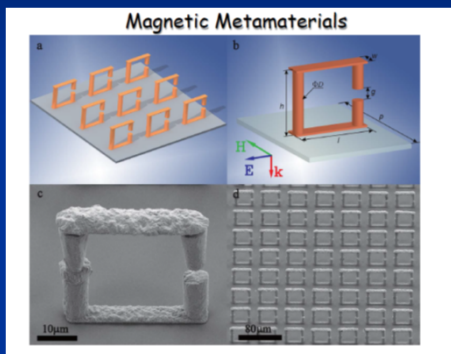
Quantum-kinetic regime of conduction in GaAs, Thomas Elsaesser, Berlin



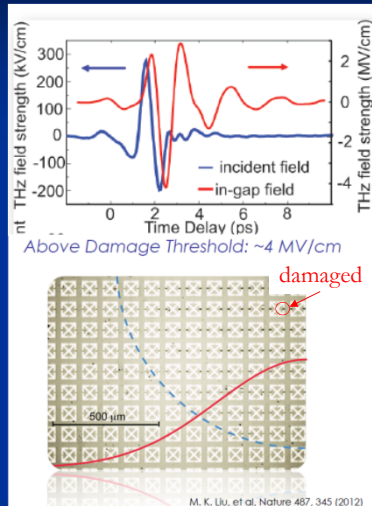
Coherent ballistic motion of electrons in a periodic potential
W. Kuehn, P. Gaal, K. Reimann, M. Woerner, T. Elsaesser and R. Hey, *PRL* **104**, 146602-1-4 (2010)

Nonlinear THz optics (3)

THz metamaterials, Rick Averitt, UCLA

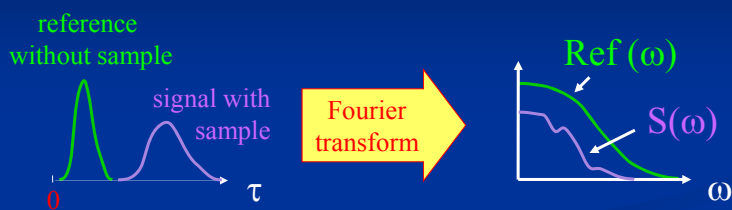


Tesla magnetic field without superconducting coil
cryogenic magnet



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THz time-domain spectroscopy

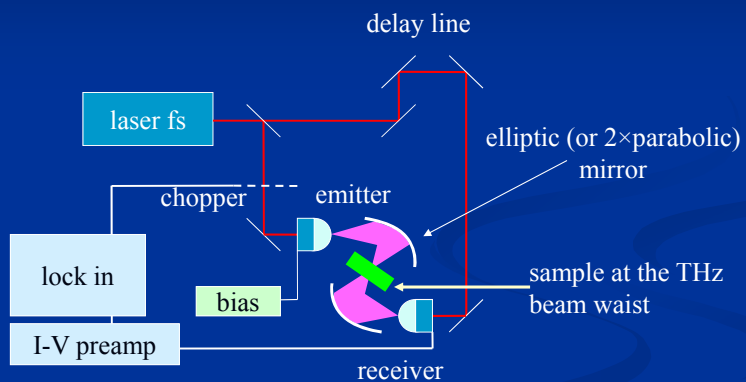


$$T(\omega) = S(\omega) / \text{Ref}(\omega)$$

2 inputs: $\tau=0$, $S(\tau) \rightarrow S(\omega)$ complex
 $\rightarrow T(\omega)$ complex $\rightarrow n(\omega), \alpha(\omega)$

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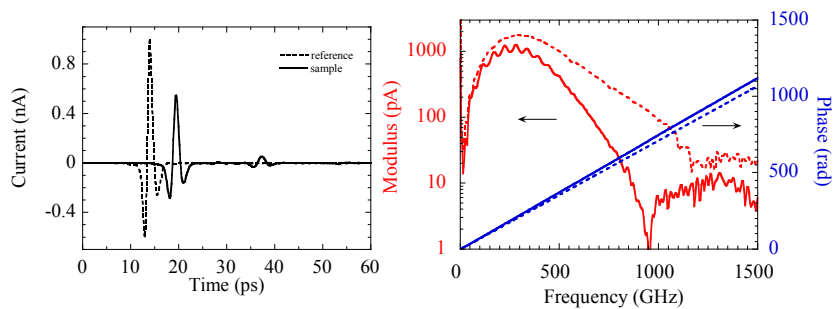
THz TDS : experimental set up



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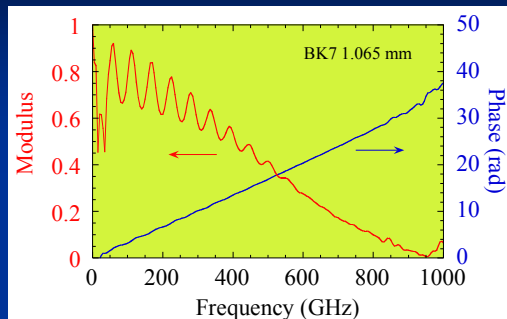
Temporal signals with samples

Schott BK7 glass, 1.065 mm thick



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Transmission coefficient



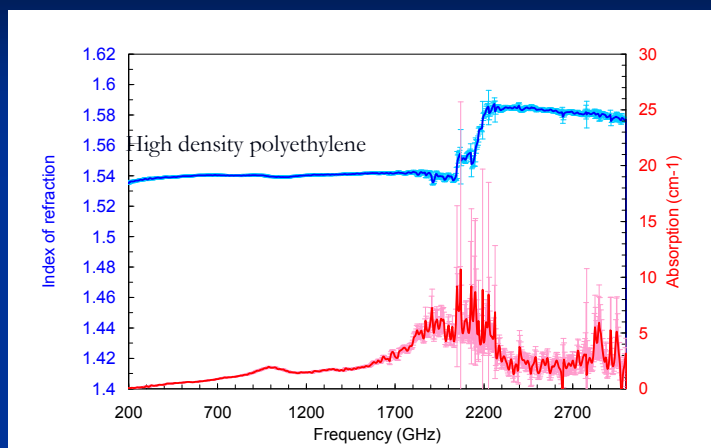
$$T(\omega) = \frac{4\tilde{n}}{(1+\tilde{n})^2} \times \frac{\exp\left[-i(\tilde{n}-1)\frac{\omega d}{c}\right]}{1 - \left(\frac{\tilde{n}-1}{\tilde{n}+1}\right)^2 \exp\left[-2i\tilde{n}\frac{\omega d}{c}\right]} \quad \tilde{n} = n - ik$$

Inverse electromagnetic problem

See for example L. Duvaillaret, F. Garet and J.-L. Coutaz, *IEEE JSTQE* 2, 739-746 (1996)

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Example : HDPE



frequency resolution $\Delta f = 1/\Delta T_{\text{record}} \sim 3-10 \text{ GHz}$

$\Delta n/n \sim 0.1 \%$ $\Delta \alpha \sim 0.1 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ $\Delta L/L \sim 1 \%$

L. Duvaillaret et al., *Applied Optics* 38, 409 (1999)

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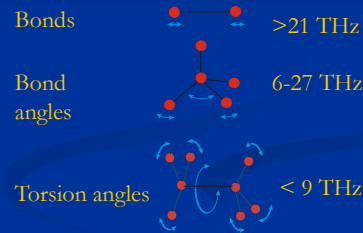
Interaction of THz with matter

Energy \sim meV

→ excitation of:

- molecular rotations
 - especially polar molecules (water)
- Phonons (crystals)
- Localized vibrations (amorphous)
- Free carriers (metal, doped SC)
- Cooper pairs in superconductors
- Intraband energy levels in quantum wells

Vibrations of



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Vibration of molecules

- Simple di-atomic molecule

$$E = \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right) h\nu_o - \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 h\nu_o + BJ(J+1) - DJ^2(J+1)^2$$

↑ electronic levels ↑ anharmonicity ↑ rotation ↑ centrifugal force

$$\Delta E_{J \rightarrow J+1} = h\nu_{J \rightarrow J+1} \approx 4B \quad \text{Spectrum} = \text{periodic comb}$$

- Actual molecules

- more complicated model
- modes of vibration-rotation
 - stretching modes (inter atomic distance)
 - angular modes

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Vibration of molecules (2)

■ Ex: H₂S₂

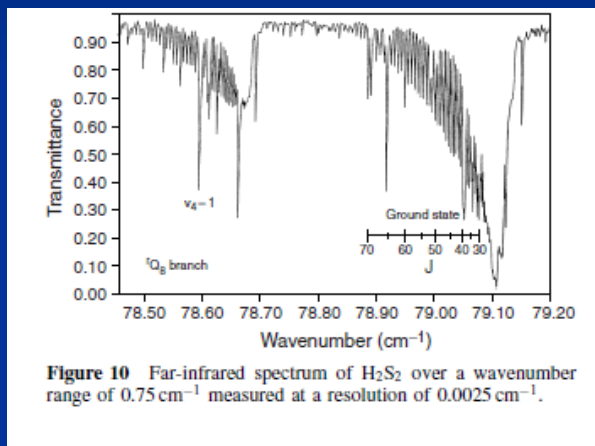


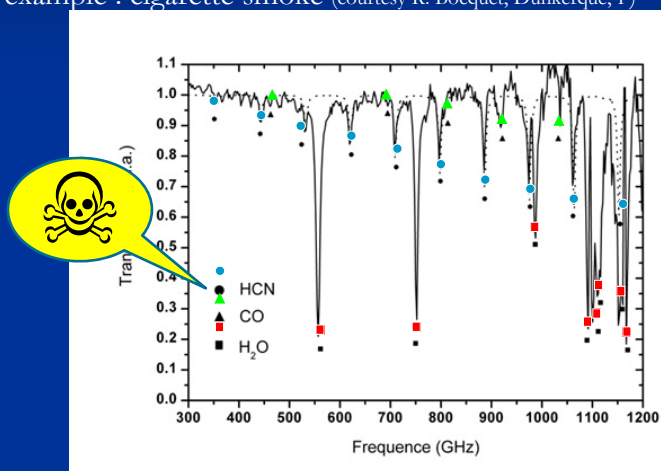
Figure 10 Far-infrared spectrum of H₂S₂ over a wavenumber range of 0.75 cm⁻¹ measured at a resolution of 0.0025 cm⁻¹.

Instrumentation for Far-infrared Spectroscopy
Peter R. Griffiths¹ and Christopher Homes²

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Vibration of molecules: applications

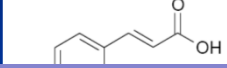
- remote chemical analysis
- example : cigarette smoke (courtesy R. Bocquet, Dunkerque, F)



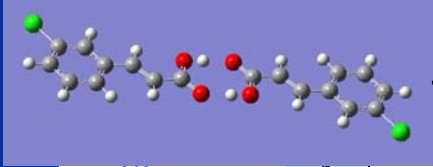
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Vibration of bigger molecules

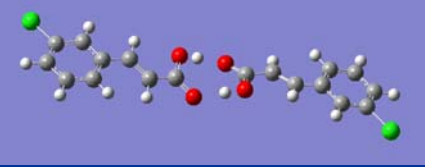
- Chlorocinnamic acid structural isomer

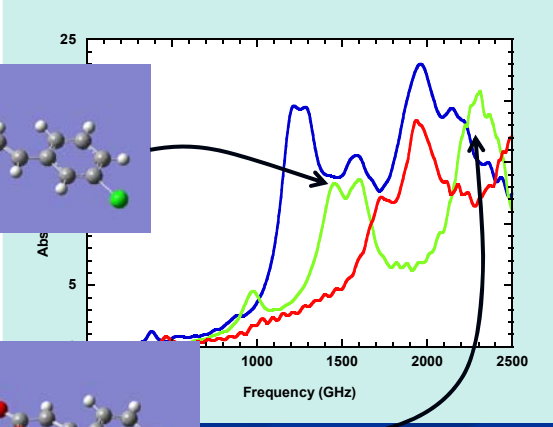


m-Cl



Colla





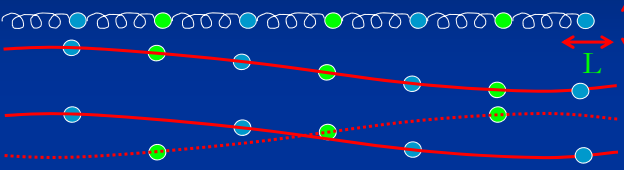
Abs

Frequency (GHz)

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Phonons

- quantified vibration of the crystalline structure



T

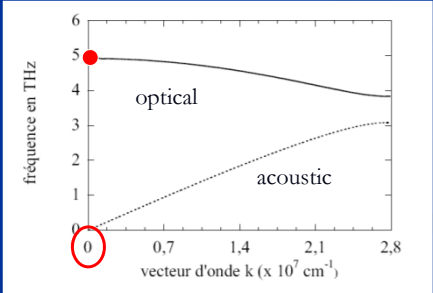
L

acoustic TA

optical TO

$$\omega^2 = C \left[\frac{1}{M} \pm \sqrt{\frac{1}{M^2} - 4 \frac{\sin^2(ka)}{m_1 m_2}} \right]$$

$k_{\text{photon}} \sim 0$ (photon = massless)
 $k_{\text{atom}} \neq 0$ (atom = heavy)



fréquence en THz

optical

acoustic

vecteur d'onde k ($\times 10^7 \text{ cm}^{-1}$)

FIG. 2.12 - Courbe théorique de dispersion des phonons pour NaCl.

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Phonons : exemple NaCl

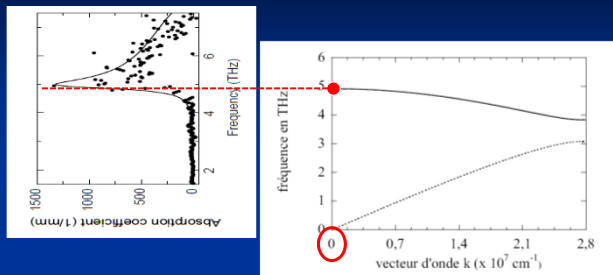
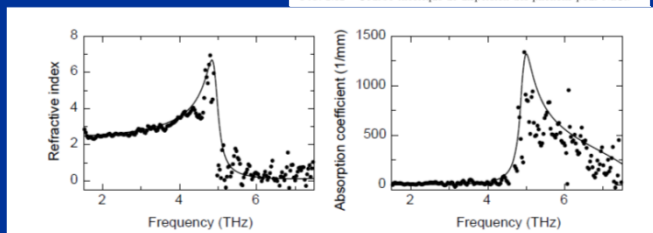


FIG. 2.12 - Courbe théorique de dispersion des phonons pour NaCl.

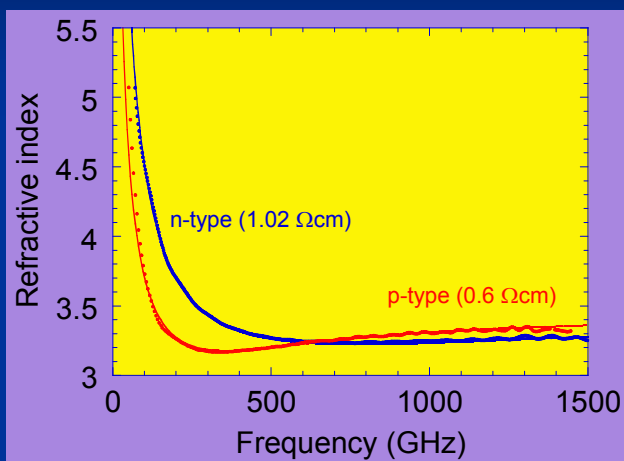


Cristal	DAST	CdTe	NaCl	InSb	ZnTe	GaSe	ZnSe	GaAs	InP	ZnO
$f_{\text{phonon}}(\text{THz})$	1.13	4.20	4.92	5.21	5.31	6.33	6.45	8.00	9.12	12.41

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Free carriers : Drude model

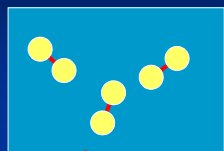
Metal, doped SC: example of doped Si



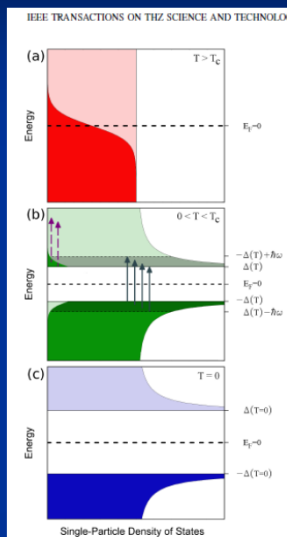
J.-L. Coutaz et al., SPIE Proceedings 3795, 457 (1999)

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Superconductors



Cooper pairs = bosons
Phonon-assisted binding

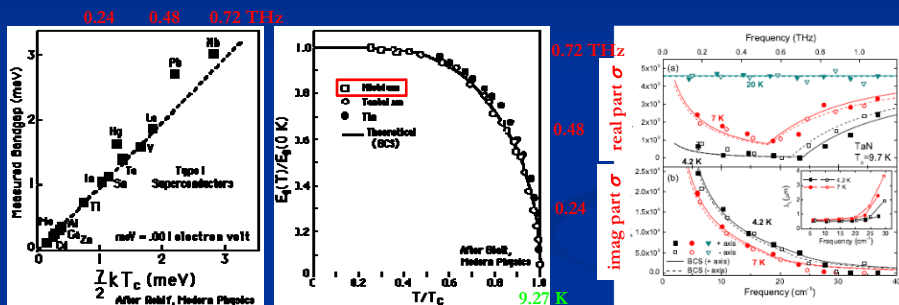


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Superconductors

$E_{\text{pairing}} = 3.5 kT_c$ (Bardeen Cooper Schrieffer)

Energy to break a Cooper pair = $E_{\text{gap}}(T)$ $E_{\text{gap}}(T=0) = E_{\text{pairing}}$



Uwe S. Pracht et al., IEEE Terahertz 2013

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Conclusion

I hope I was able to convince you that:

- Physics, Optics and Electronics with THz electro-magnetic waves are very interesting research topics.
even if I was not able to present here all the aspects of THz science and technology
- Applications are numerous and will be certainly fruitful even for today life.
- There are still many unresolved questions to be solved and technology improvements to be performed.

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