

NETLAS NEWSLETTER 9-2021

Last newsletter of 2021

NETLAS COORDINATOR Prof. Adrian Podoleanu

Last newsletter of 2021

What a year I said last year!

However, this year end does not look much different.

However, there is a difference, and this is on the positive, we have managed to recruit fantastic fellows on all 15 positions, the 15th declaration planted on the portal on 28 October 2021, ie with 9 months delay. The delays were due to consulates not open for many months.

With this important milestone, which is Number 3 on the portal, we are facing a bright new year in 2022. Looking forward for all of us to meet in person beginning of March at DTU. Several secondments are already planned.

On this positive note, please enjoy the attached Greeting Card drawn by Maria (6y and a half), Ramona's daughter.

A Happy New Year and let us make NETLAS successful!





Science meetings

NETLAS PhD Student Alejandro Martinez and other members of the AOG team took the initiative to organize Science Meetings.

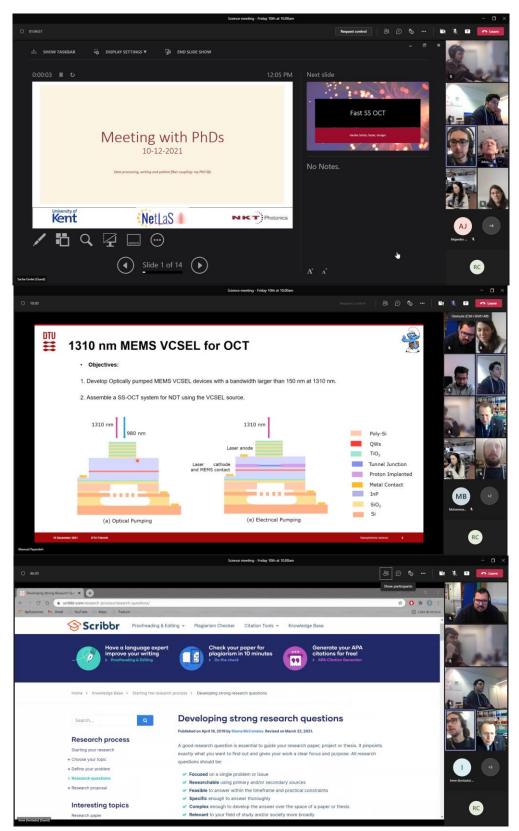
The idea is for the ESRs to present their work in a few slides starting with the background of their research, results they have obtained in the lab, and discuss problems and possible solutions. They plan to meet every two weeks on Friday mornings, 1st meeting took place on 26th November followed by a 2nd one on 10th December 10 am UK time. Next meeting is going to be scheduled for mid of January 2022.

Alejandro Martinez said: "I didn't expect to have almost all of NETLAS students participating at the 1st meeting and that was a nice surprise. I felt like this kind of meeting was productive for almost all of us".

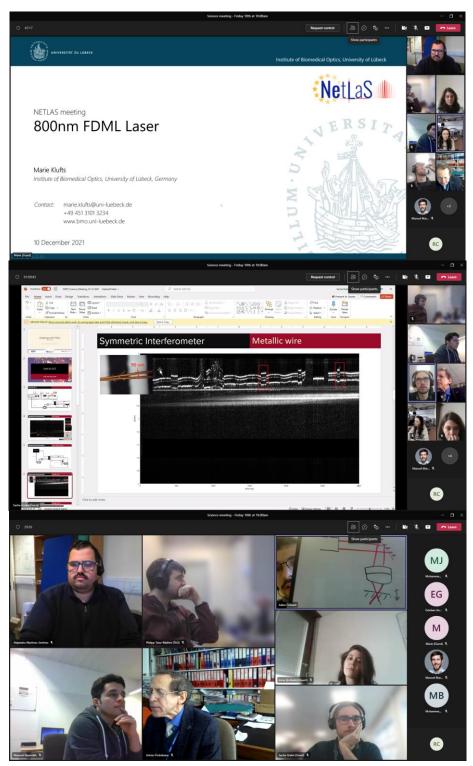
The students have full support from other AOG members and NETLAS Coordinator Prof. Adrian Podoleanu who said: "Communication is everything; This exercise determines you to make graphs and document the results you obtained in the lab; This also allows you to exercise how to quickly and directly explain a concept to people who although technically minded, are not familiar with your project; The next even more difficult step would be to explain it to someone non technically minded, example would be, to a child"!

A few print screens from the 2nd meeting are presented below.











CONFERENCES

1st International Conference Advances in 30M: Opto-Mechatronics, Opto - Mechanics and Optical Metrology

The Conference was held in the beautiful city of <u>Timisoara – 2021</u>
<u>European Capital of Culture</u>, in the Western part of Romania,
honouring 2021 International Day of Light (IDL) and celebrating 100 years
of the Polytechnic University of Timisoara.



Opto-Mechatronics, Opto-Mechanics and Optical Metrology
13-16 December 2021
Timisoara, Romania



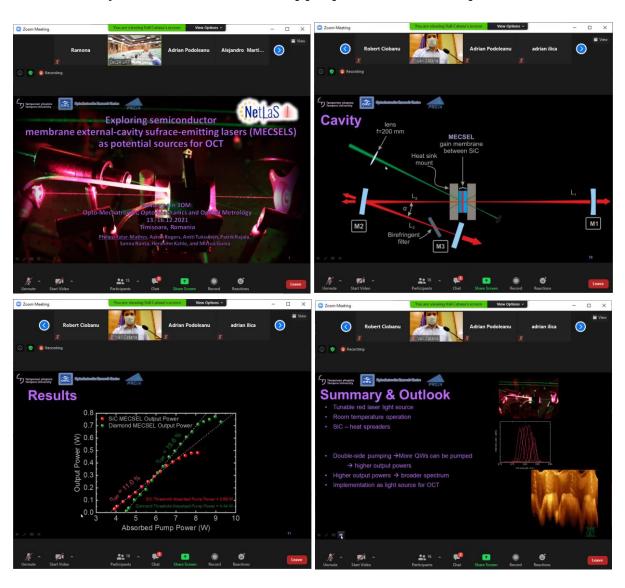


CONFERENCE PROGRAM

The Framework of the Conference Program can be found **here**. The detailed Conference Program can be found **here**.



NETLAS PhD Student Philipp Tatar-Mathes, currently hosted by Tampere University in Finland, attended the conference in person with an oral presentation "**Exploring MECSELs as potential sources for OCT**" (Paper 30M100-10). Print screens of Phillipp's presentation are presented below.





Other presentations from the NETLAS teams to 1st International Conference Advances in 30M: Opto-Mechatronics, Opto - Mechanics and Optical Metrology

Monday 13th December 2021

Paper 30M100-53

9³⁰ - 10³⁰: **Optical coherence tomography (OCT)** (Plenary Presentation)

Author: **Adrian Podoleanu**, University of Kent (United Kingdom)

Paper 30M100-53

11⁴⁰ - 12²⁰: Progress towards designs for customizable swept sources operating in multiple wavebands for coherence imaging (Keynote Presentation)

Author: **George M. Dobre**, University of Kent (United Kingdom)

Paper 30M100-

16⁴⁰ – 17²⁰: **Combining Photoacoustic and Optical Coherence Tomography Imaging for Non-destructive testing applications** (Keynote Presentation)

Author: Adrian Bradu, University of Kent (United Kingdom)

Tuesday 14th December 2021

Paper 30M100-66

11⁰⁰ - 12⁰⁰: **Frontiers in the development of semiconductor lasers: new technologies and applications** (Plenary Presentation)

Author: Mircea Guina, Tampere University (Finland)



PUBLICATIONS

Thermal management analysis of a membrane externalcavity surface-emitting laser (MECSEL)

Hoy-My Phung; **Philipp Tatar-Mathes**; Aaron Rogers; Patrik Rajala; Sanna Ranta; **Hermann Kahle**; **Mircea Guina**

Published in: 2021 27th International Semiconductor Laser Conference (ISLC)

DOI: 10.1109/ISLC51662.2021.9615757

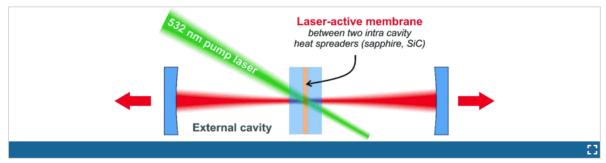
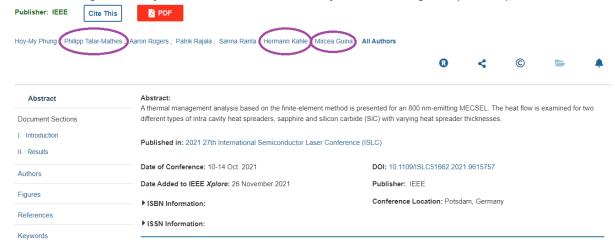


Fig. 1.

Schematic drawing of the MECSEL with a linear cavity. Double-side cooling with two transparent intra cavity heat spreaders made of SiC or sapphire enables a more efficient, symmetric cooling of the laser-active membrane.

Thermal management analysis of a membrane external-cavity surface-emitting laser (MECSEL)





Resonant and off-resonant designs of membrane externalcavity surface-emitting lasers emitting at 800 nm

Philipp Tatar-Mathes; Hoy-My Phung; Aaron Rogers; Patrik Rajala; Sanna Ranta; **Hermann Kahle; Mircea Guina**

Published in: 2021 27th International Semiconductor Laser Conference (ISLC)

DOI: <u>10.1109/ISLC51662.2021.9615818</u>

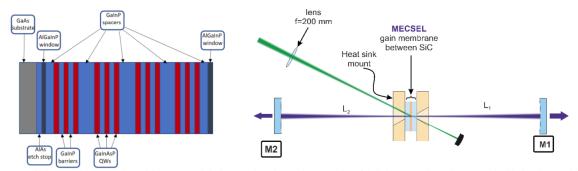


Fig. 1. Left: Schematic illustration of the structural design. Both active regions consist of 4x3 GaInAsP QWs that are embedded and spaced in GaInP barriers and spacers, respectively. The investigated structures differ in the thickness of the outermost spacer layers. Right: Schematic illustration of the linear cavity. M2 is HR (R=99.8%), r=200 mm, M1 is R=97%, r=75 mm. The distances are L_1 =73mm, L_2 =198 mm.

Resonant and off-resonant designs of membrane external-cavity surface-emitting lasers emitting at 800 nm Publisher: IEEE Cite This Abstract We present our latest results of two MECSELs emitting around 800 nm for the investigation on the impact of the outermost spacing layer thickness to Document Sections overall performance of the device under same conditions. The structures both consist of GalnAsP quantum wells embedded in GalnP spacers II. Results Date of Conference: 10-14 Oct. 2021 DOI: 10.1109/ISLC51662.2021.9615818 Authors Date Added to IEEE Xplore: 26 November 2021 Conference Location: Potsdam, Germany ISBN Information: References ▶ ISSN Information: Keywords



Membrane external-cavity surface-emitting lasers for high power broadband emission in the 1 µm range

Hermann Kahle; Hoy-My Phung; **Philipp Tatar-Mathes**; Patrik Rajala; **Mircea Guina**

Published in: 2021 27th International Semiconductor Laser Conference (ISLC)

DOI: <u>10.1109/ISLC51662.2021.9615904</u>

Abstract:

A membrane external-cavity surface-emitting laser (MECSEL) with a gain element consisting of an intra-cavity heat spreader sandwiched InGaAs quantum well structure is presented. The quantum well structure is optimized for high-power (> 100 mW) continuous wave broadband tunability of more than 25 THz.





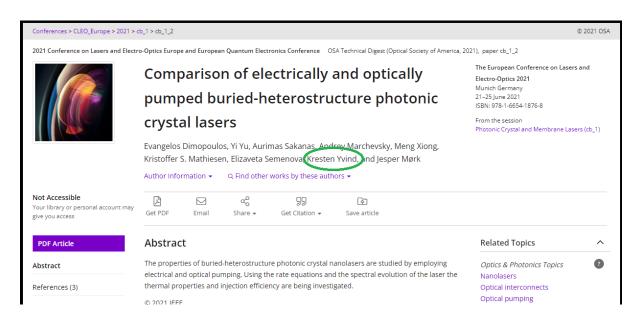


Comparison of electrically and optically pumped buried-heterostructure photonic crystal lasers

Evangelos Dimopoulos, Yi Yu, Aurimas Sakanas, Andrey Marchevsky, Meng Xiong, Kristoffer S. Mathiesen, Elizaveta Semenova, **Kresten Yvind**, and Jesper Mørk

2021 Conference on Lasers and Electro-Optics Europe and European Quantum Electronics Conference

OSA Technical Digest (Optical Society of America, 2021)





2-µm-band Coherent Transmission of Nyquist-WDM 16-QAM Signal by On-chip Spectral Translation

D. Kong, Y. Liu, Z. Ren, Y. Jung, C. Kim, Y. Chen, N. Wheeler, M. Pu, K. Yvind, M. Galili, L. Oxenløwe, D. Richardson, and H. Hu,

Conference on Lasers and Electro-Optics, Technical Digest (Optical Society of America, 2021), paper SF1C.1.

Published in: 2021 Conference on Lasers and Electro-Optics (CLEO)

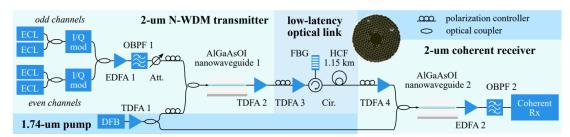
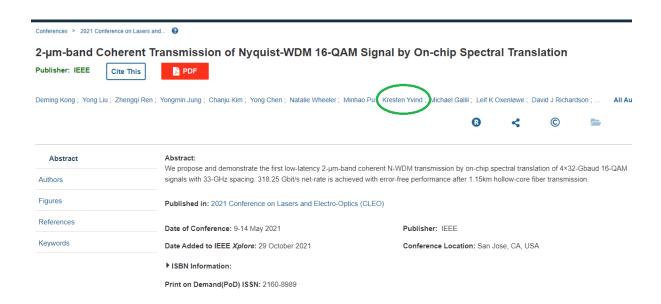


Fig. 1: Experiment setup. (ECL: external cavity laser; EDFA: erbium-doped fibre amplifier; Att.: attenuator, Cir.: circulator; DFB: distributed feedback laser.)





Broadband Terahertz Photonic Integrated Circuit with Integrated Active Photonic Devices

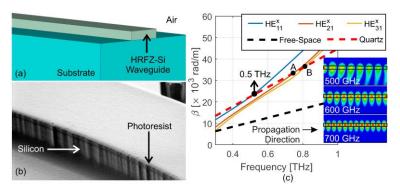


Figure 1. (a) Topology of the designed dielectric waveguides. (b) Microscopic image of an etched waveguide. The photoresist mask is visible on top of the waveguides. Side-wall irregularities are caused due to the pixelated nature of the lithographic mask. (c) Simulated values of the propagation constant (β) of the first 3 modes.

Amlan Kusum Mukherjee, Mingjun Xiang, Sascha Preu

Photonics **2021**, 8(11),

492; https://doi.org/10.3390/photonics8110492

Open Access Article

Broadband Terahertz Photonic Integrated Circuit with Integrated Active Photonic Devices

by ⚠ Amlan Kusum Mukherjee * ☑ ◎ , ♠ Mingjun Xiang ☑ ◎ and ♠ Sascha Preu ☑ ◎

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Photonics 2021, 8(11), 492; https://doi.org/10.3390/photonics8110492

Received: 29 September 2021 / Revised: 28 October 2021 / Accepted: 1 November 2021 / Published: 3 November 2021

(This article belongs to the Special Issue Frontiers in Terahertz Technology and Applications)

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Abstract

Darmstadt, Germany

Present-day photonic terahertz (100 GHz–10 THz) systems offer dynamic ranges beyond 100 dB and frequency coverage beyond 4 THz. They yet predominantly employ free-space Terahertz propagation, lacking integration depth and miniaturisation capabilities without sacrificing their extreme frequency coverage. In this work, we present a high resistivity silicon-on-insulator-based multimodal waveguide topology including active components (e.g., THz receivers) as well as passive components (couplers/splitters, bends, resonators) investigated over a frequency range of 0.5–1.6 THz. The waveguides have a single mode bandwidth between 0.5–0.75 THz; however, above 1 THz, these waveguides can be operated in the overmoded regime offering lower loss than commonly implemented hollow metal waveguides, operated in the fundamental mode. Supported by quartz and polyethylene substrates, the platform for Terahertz photonic integrated circuits (Tera-PICs) is mechanically stable and easily integrable. Additionally, we demonstrate several key components for Tera-PICs: low loss bends with radii ~2 mm, a Vivaldi antenna-based efficient near-field coupling to active devices, a 3-dB splitter and a filter based on a whispering gallery mode resonator. View Full-Text





American Journal of Ophthalmology

Available online 27 November 2021 In Press, Journal Pre-proof (?)



ADVANCED OCT ANALYSIS OF BIOPSY PROVEN VITREORETINAL LYMPHOMA: OCT findings in vitreo-retinal lymphoma

Francesco Pichi ^{1, 2} A M, Rosa Dolz-Marco ³ Jasmine H Francis ^{4, 5}, Adrian Au ⁶, Janet L Davis ⁷, Amani Fawzi ⁸, Sarra Gattousi ^{9, 10}, Debra A Goldstein Pearse A Keane ¹ Elisabetta Miserocchi ¹², Alessandro Marchese ¹³, Kyoko Ohno-Matsui ¹³, Mandeep S Sagoo ^{11, 14}, Scott D Smith ^{1, 2}, Ethan K Sobol ^{4, 5}, Anastasia Tasiopoulou ¹¹, Xialou Yang ¹⁵, Carol L Shields MD ¹⁵ ... David Sarraf ^{6, 18}

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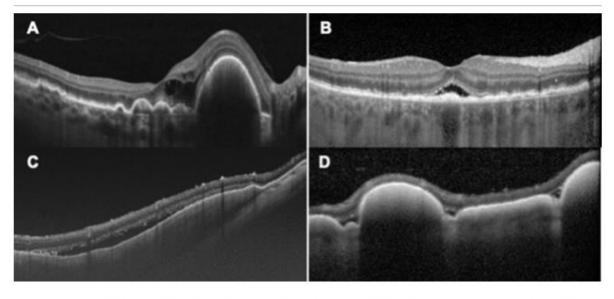


Figure 4. Optical coherence tomography (OCT) showing intraretinal and subretinal fluid in cases of vitreo-retinal lymphoma.

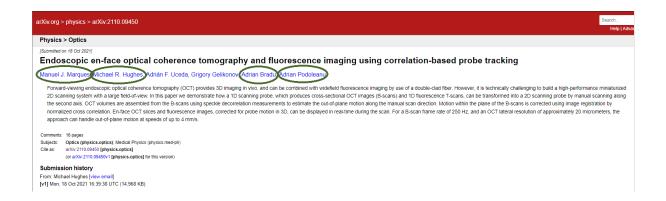


Endoscopic en-face optical coherence tomography and fluorescence imaging using correlation-based probe tracking

Manuel J. Marques, Michael R. Hughes, Adrián F. Uceda, Grigory Gelikonov, Adrian Bradu, Adrian Podoleanu

Forward-viewing endoscopic optical coherence tomography (OCT) provides 3D imaging in vivo, and can be combined with widefield fluorescence imaging by use of a double-clad fiber. However, it is technically challenging to build a high-performance miniaturized 2D scanning system with a large field-of-view. In this paper we demonstrate how a 1D scanning probe, which produces cross-sectional OCT images (B-scans) and 1D fluorescence T-scans, can be transformed into a 2D scanning probe by manual scanning along the second axis. OCT volumes are assembled from the B-scans using speckle decorrelation measurements to estimate the out-of-plane motion along the manual scan direction. Motion within the plane of the B-scans is corrected using image registration by normalized cross correlation. En-face OCT slices and fluorescence images, corrected for probe motion in 3D, can be displayed in real-time during the scan. For a B-scan frame rate of 250 Hz, and an OCT lateral resolution of approximately 20 micrometers, the approach can handle out-of-plane motion at speeds of up to 4 mm/s.

Cite: arXiv:2110.09450





AOG workshops

We all have skills to share, and we all have skills we would like to develop!

With that in mind, the Applied Optics Group (AOG) at the University of Kent started a series of informal internally run workshops on various topics such as software training (LabVIEW, ImageJ, Blender) and 3D printer use.

First workshop took place in October 2021 and was presented by Dr. Manuel Marques about 3-D modelling and printing. Its recorded version can be found on the following link:

<u>AOG workshop - 3D modelling & printing by Dr Manuel Marques -</u> YouTube

We hope this will be useful for all of you, as it will minimize the need for time-consuming and expensive workshop hours.





Webinars

We recommend our NETLAS PhD students to attend these upcoming webinars (part of the free Thorlabs webinar series). Thorlabs' Digital Webinars are covering a variety of topics, each with a dedicated live Q&A session, and have a common goal of providing educational, engaging, and valuable content.

Thorlabs Previously Recorded Webinars

Thorlabs' Digital Webinar series began in mid-2020. Each webinar and Q&A session is recorded and added to the archive on Thorlab's web page.

Miscellaneous

University of Kent alumnus and emeritus Professor Abdulrazak Gurnah wins Nobel Prize for Literature 2021

The Nobel Committee awarded this year's Prize to Professor Gurnah for 'his uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugee in the gulf between cultures and continents.'

Kent alumnus and emeritus professor Abdulrazak Gurnah was presented with his Nobel Prize for Literature medal and diploma by Swedish Ambassador Mikaela Kumlin Granit on Monday 6 December 2021. The presentation took place during a special ceremony at the Ambassador's Residence in London. A video of the presentation is available here.

This story was originally published on 7 October 2021.



Fun in spare time

Dr Manuel Marques AOG:

I saw this challenge on science twitter account where I generated artwork following the website https://app.wombo.art by putting a research topic as a title. Here's what OCT looks like. One could mistake this for a particularly beautiful OCT-A image...

PhD Student Sacha Grelet: This creates beautiful images! Let me introduce to you the supercontinuum. Here I can recognize the spectrogram, after supercontinuum generation ^^







AOG Christmas celebration

AOG has the tradition of gathering together every year to celebrate Christmas. This year was again challenging due to pandemic, but the team managed to find a local cosy pub with the top floor reserved to the AOG only. Like every year, the celebration ended with the traditional speech of the head of the group, Prof. Adrian Podoleanu, who highlighted the achievements of the year 2021.



Merry Christmas from AOG

AOG wishes everyone Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!





Night view of the Canterbury Cathedral November 2021



NETLAS PhD Student Alejandro Martines: Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer (Enjoy Motion film from 1964)



AOG Christmas celebration: part of the students' corner



NETWORK EVENTS

We invite all partners to communicate events and ideas to place in our newsletter

Please send any piece of news, on NETLAS activities or anything else happening that may be of interest to the NETLAS community, to Ramona Cernat: R.Cernat@kent.ac.uk and to Adrian Podoleanu: ap11@kent.ac.uk