



Solid-state lighting and III-nitride semiconductors

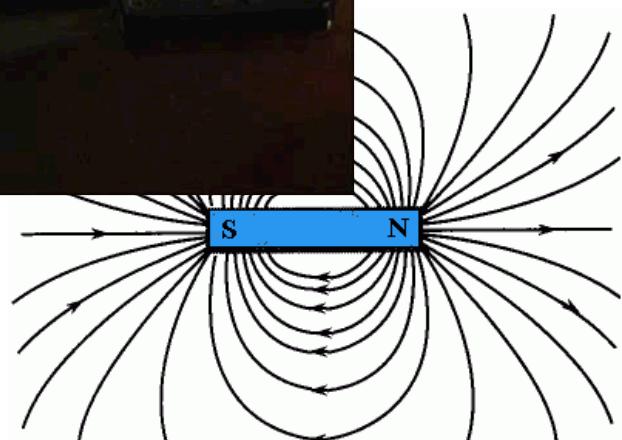
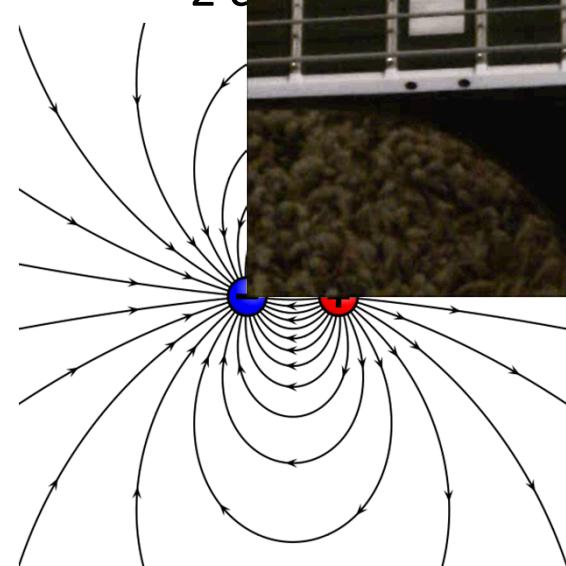
Igal Brener

Sandia National Labs &
Center for Integrated Nanotechnologies (CINT)
ibrener@sandia.gov

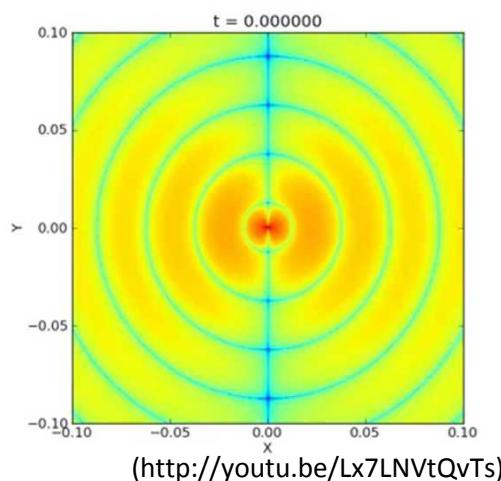
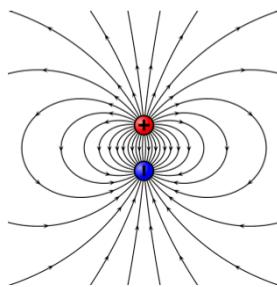
Outline

- **Lighting**
 - Life, vision, world economics
- **III-N LED's**
- **Nanowire Lasers**
- **Lasers for lighting**

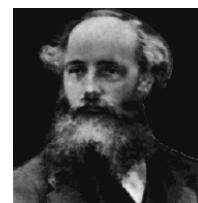
What Waves in Light?



Changing Fields Can Generate Waves



Unified
electromagnetics and
predicted waves



James Clerk Maxwell

Measured E&M
waves (1883)

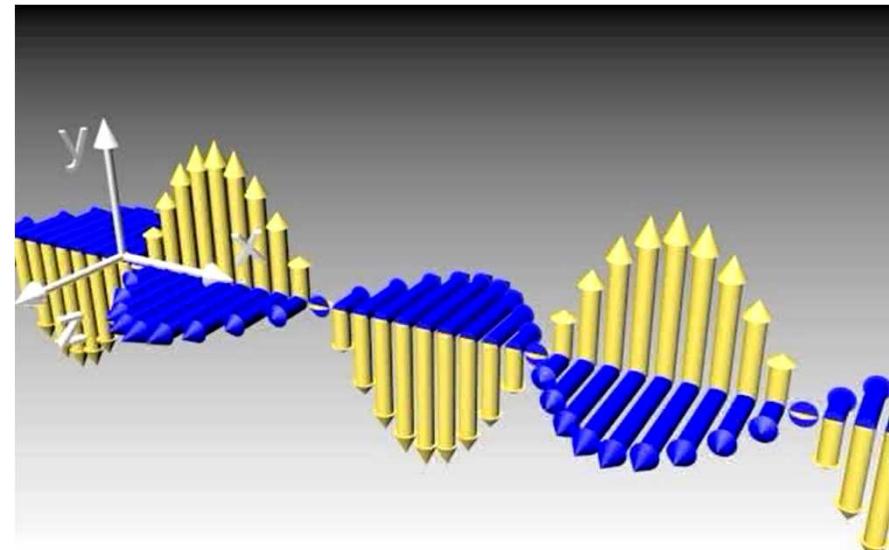
20-30 yrs



Heinrich Hertz

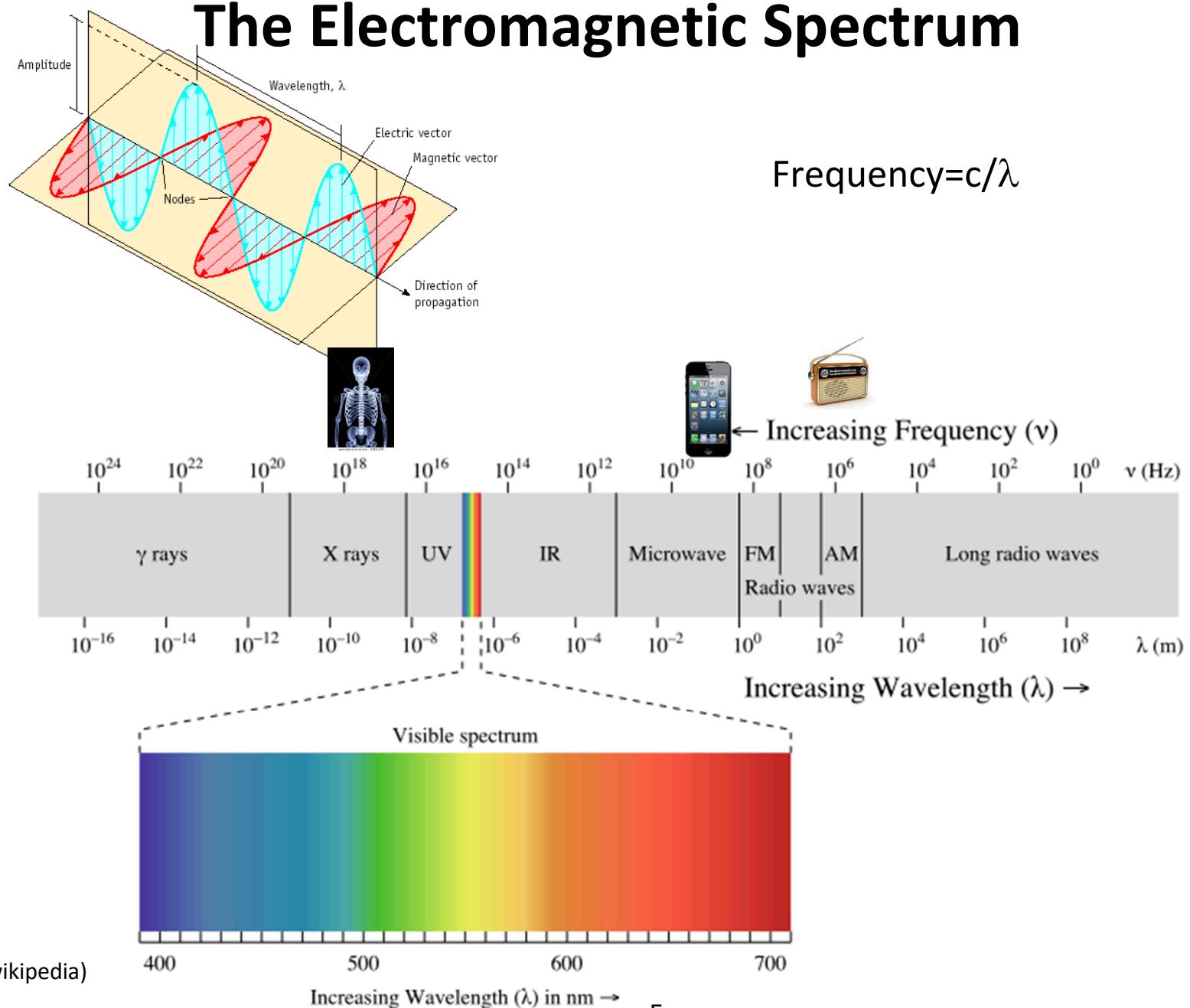
The Electromagnetic Wave

- Electric and magnetic fields go together and are perpendicular to the propagation direction
- They carry energy



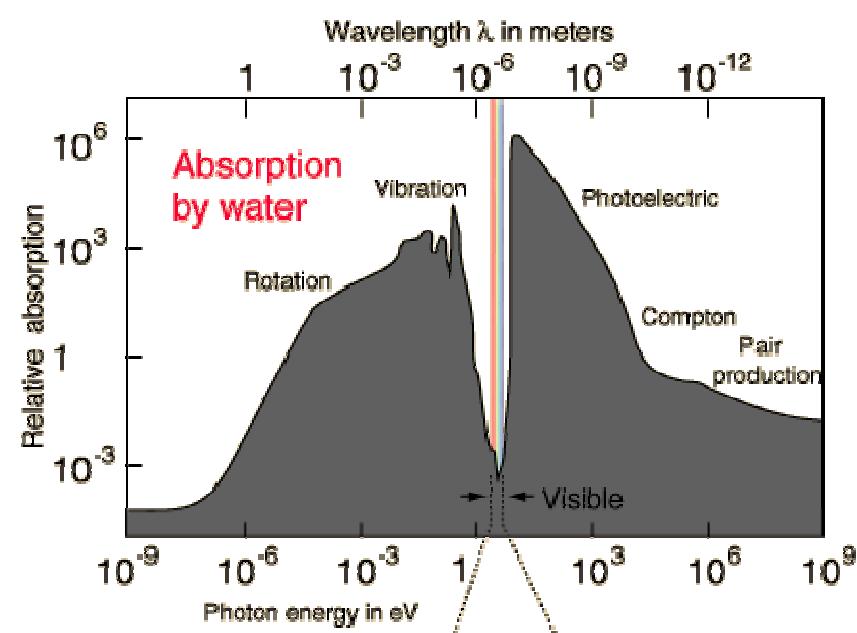
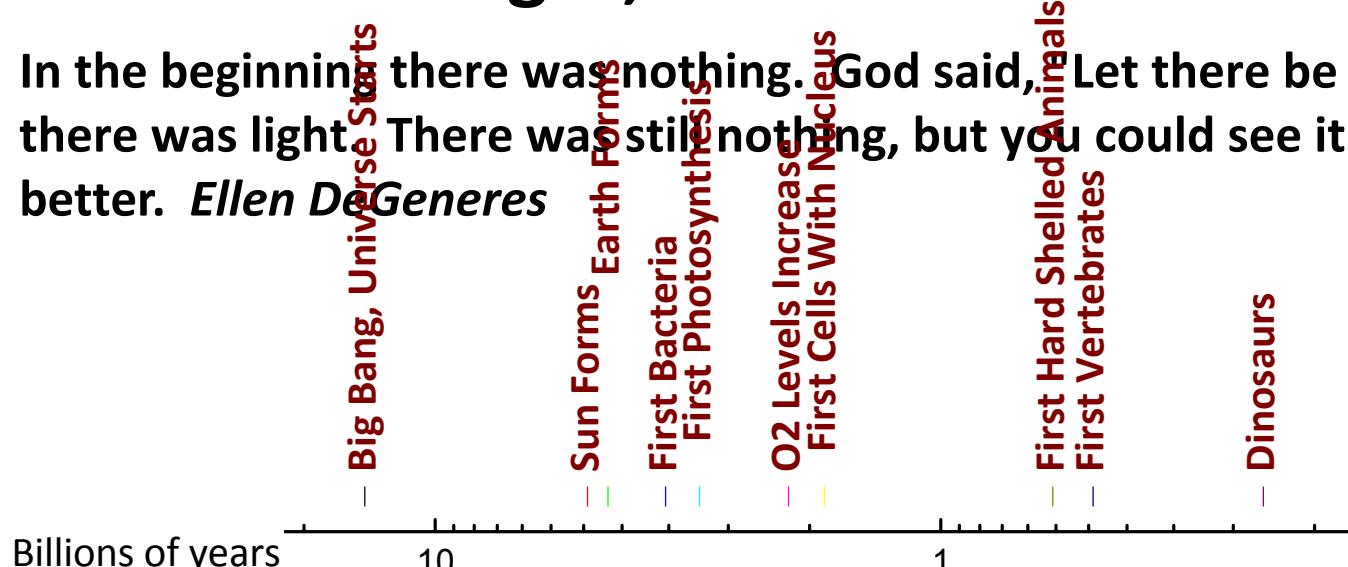
(MIT)

The Electromagnetic Spectrum



Light, Life and Vision

In the beginning there was nothing. God said, "Let there be light!" And there was light. There was still nothing, but you could see it a whole lot better. *Ellen DeGeneres*

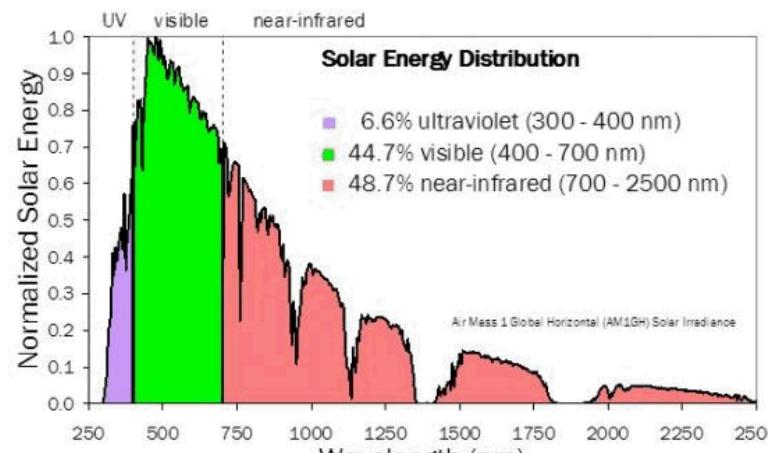


Light, Life and Vision

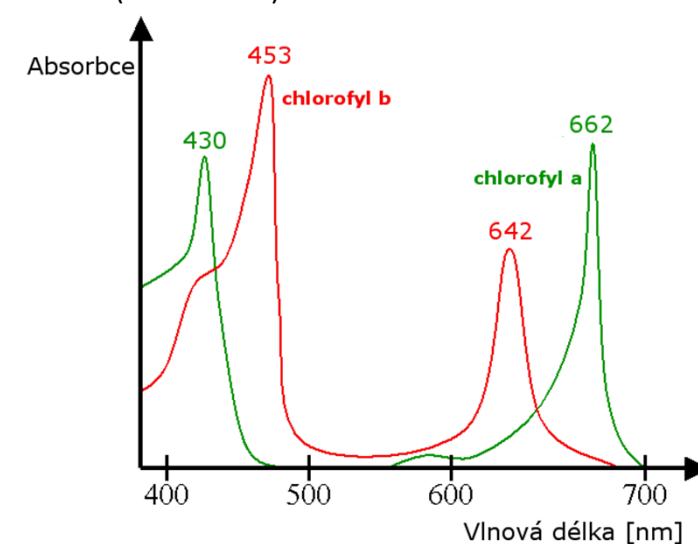
Why does photosynthesis use visible light?

Why do we see just visible light?

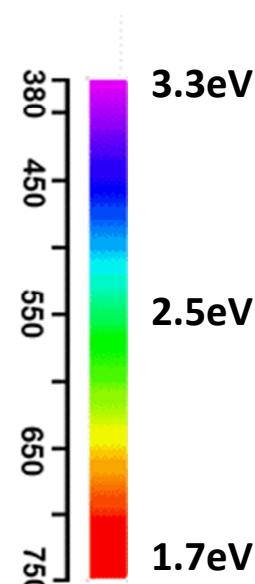
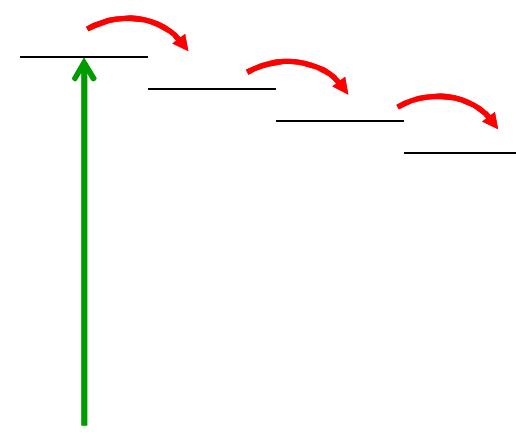
Solar Spectrum



(source: LBL)



Some molecule absorbs a photon and then energy is transferred and converted



Most organic molecules absorb in the visible. UV photons have too much energy and create free radicals. Infrared photons don't have enough energy to trigger reactions

Light from the Sun and Moon: Trilobites, Birds, Mammals, Primates, Humans



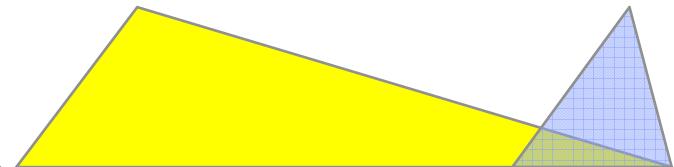
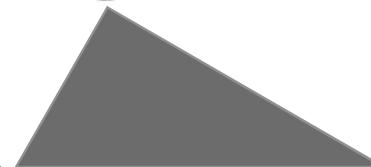
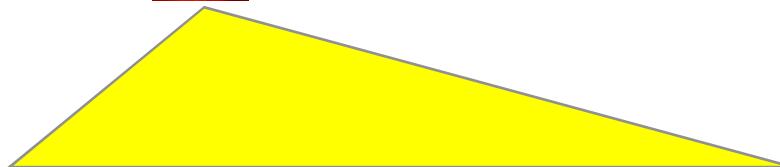
Full-disk view of the X-ray Sun and was produced by the Yohkoh solar observatory in 1991.
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Yohkoh_image.gif



Full moon view from Earth in Belgium, courtesy of Luc Viatour.
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Full_Moon_Luc_Viatour.jpg



Bridgelux Heleon Solid-State Lamp.
<http://www.bridgelux.com/products/heleon.html>



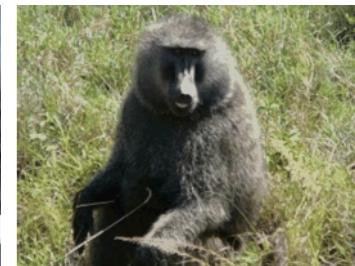
Asaphus species (Trilobite) picture taken by DanielCD.
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Asaphus_species_trilobite.jpg



Red Lory (Eos bornea) upper body preening feathers.
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Red_Lory_%28Eos_bornea%29-6.jpg



Gray wolf, canis lupus, courtesy of Chris Muiden.
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Canis_lupus_265b.jpg



Olive baboon in Kenya; courtesy of Ryan Harvey;
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Male_Olive_Baboon_2.jpg



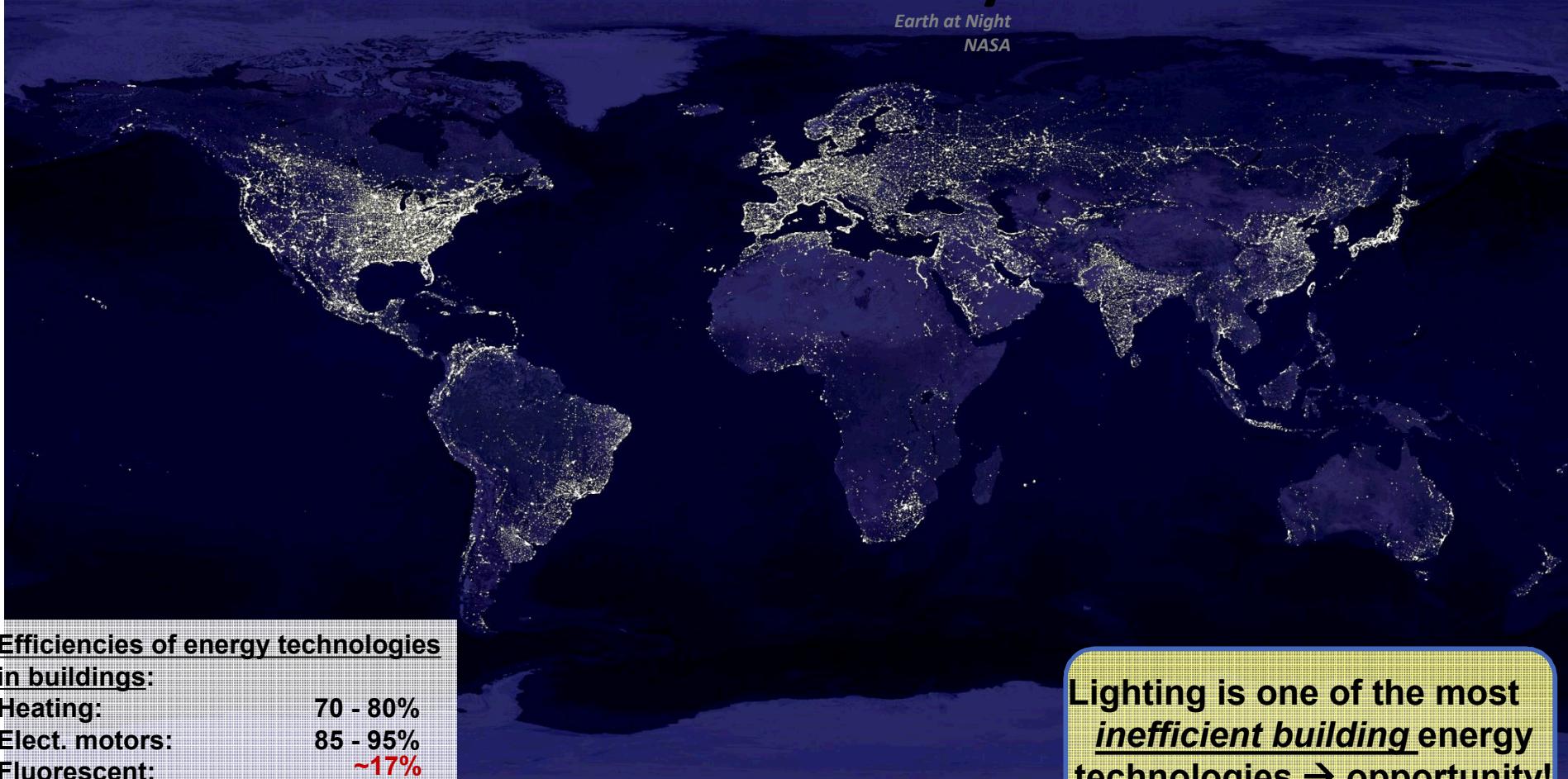
A baby wearing many items of winter clothing: headband, cap, fur-lined coat, shawl and sweater. Courtesy of Andrew Vargas, Clovis, United States.
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Well-clothed_baby.jpg



(wikipedia)

Mantis Shrimp: 16 different photoreceptor pigments, 12 for color sensitivity, others for color filtering, polarization, etc

Lighting: Large Fraction of Energy Use and Low Efficiency



- ~22% of US electricity is for general illumination (~1/15 world's energy, \$330B in 2005)
- Achieving 50% efficient lighting would have tremendous global impact



Holonyak in 1965 speculated that laser light sources were possible (in 10 years or more)



THE READER'S DIGEST

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a TV broadcast from the air and beaming it by invisible infrared light 275 feet to a receiver, with good reception. The bit of metal alloy they used was not a laser, for it did not comb the tangles out of the light beam, but its performance sparked a tremendous research drive. Last fall several outfits, including General Electric, IBM, RCA and Lincoln, produced metal lasers which emit "coherent" or tuned light. These appear to be destined for a great future in the communications field.

The latest dramatic laser discovery, made by General Electric, may someday make the electric light bulb obsolete. While the radiation from previous lasers was invisible, this one emits *visible* light in the red region of the spectrum. Research is continuing, and GE engineers hope to build lasers which will convert ordinary electric current into

white light with a high degree of efficiency.

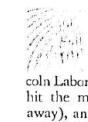
"We believe there is a strong possibility of developing the laser as a practical light source," says Dr. Nick Holonyak, head of General Electric's Advanced Semiconductor Laboratory. "Much more experimental work must be done, and it might be ten years or more before such a lamp could be ready for wide use. However, within a year we should have them ready for computer indicators and many other electronic devices, where they should be very useful because of the small size, and speed of action."

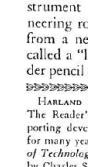
If these plans work out, the lamp of the future may be a speck of metal the size of a pencil-point which will be practically indestructible, will never burn out, and will convert at least ten times as much current into light as does today's bulb.

Light of Hope- Or Terror?

The present and potential uses of the laser—a new kind of light ray—sound like science fiction. In fact, the invention is one of the most amazing accomplishments of our time

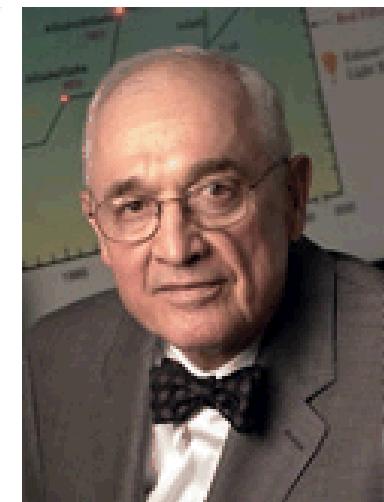
BY HARLAND MANCHESTER

 One evening last May, a thin streak of red light was shot through space from the roof of M.I.T.'s Lincoln Laboratory at Lexington, Mass., hit the moon (then 250,000 miles away), and bounced back to an instrument which recorded its pioneering round trip. The light came from a new kind of electric torch, called a "laser," which emits a slender pencil of regimented light unlike

 anything known before. The beam of an ordinary searchlight aimed at the moon would fan out to a circle 25,000 miles wide; its reflection would be too faint to record. The laser beam made a dot only two miles across.

Laser stands for "light amplification by stimulated emission of radiation." Its invention is one of the most exciting events of this century. Since the new light first appeared three years ago, some 400 firms and universities have launched laser research projects, and an estimated 30 million dollars was spent last year in experimentation. Still in its early development stage, the laser prom-

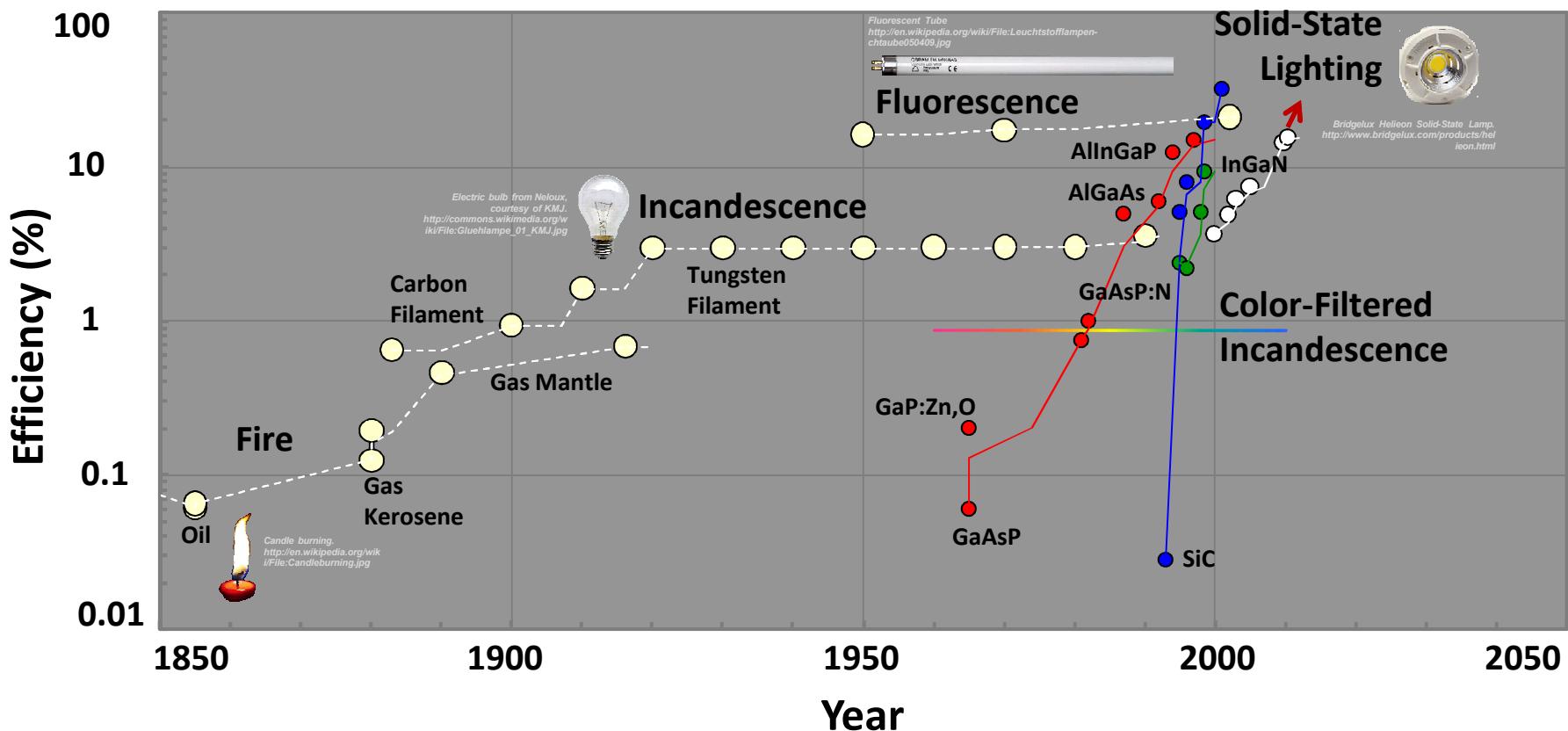
97



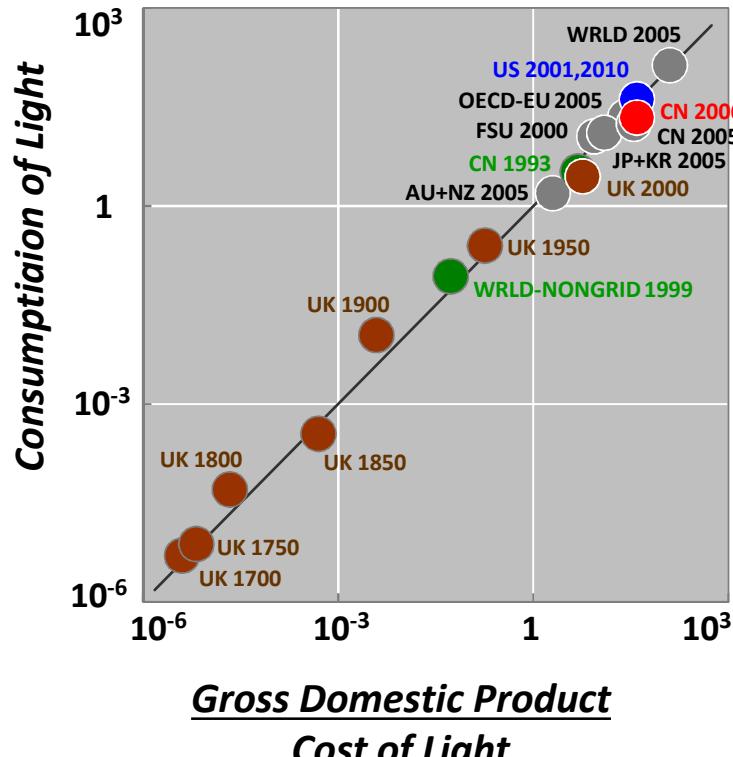
Nick Holonyak

- First visible laser in Oct of 1962.
- Made from GaAsP.
- A working laser diode suggested quantum efficiency was high.
- Further suggests efficient LED.

200 Years of Lighting Technology

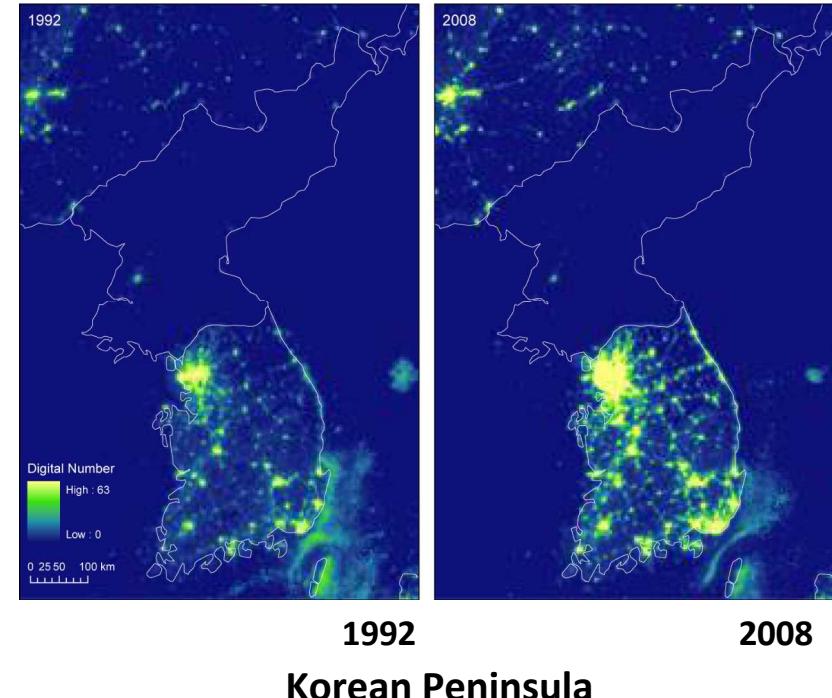


More light = More productivity



GDP \uparrow , Consumption \uparrow
Cost \downarrow , Consumption \uparrow

J.Y. Tsao and P. Waide, "The World's Appetite for Light: Empirical Data and Trends Spanning Three Centuries and Six Continents," LEUKOS 6, 259-281 (2010).



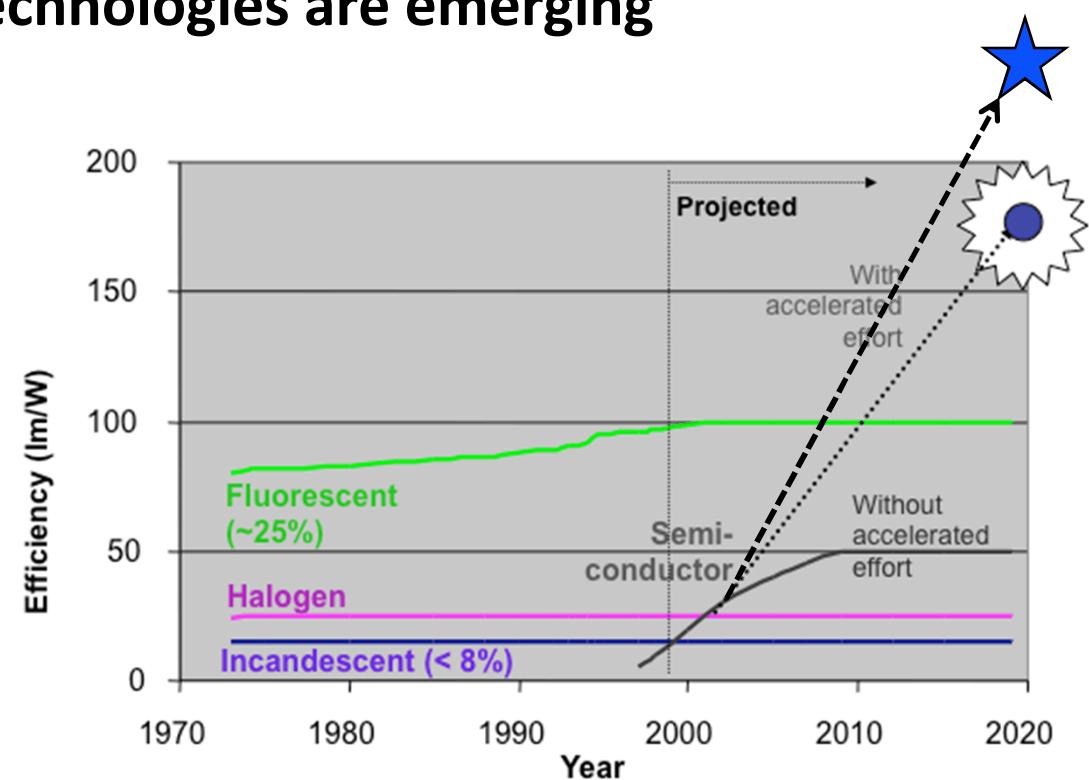
The more efficiently light is produced the more we consume and the more productive we are

J.V. Henderson, A. Storeygard, and D.N. Weil, "Measuring Economic Growth from Outer Space," Amer. Economic review 102, 994-1028 (2012).

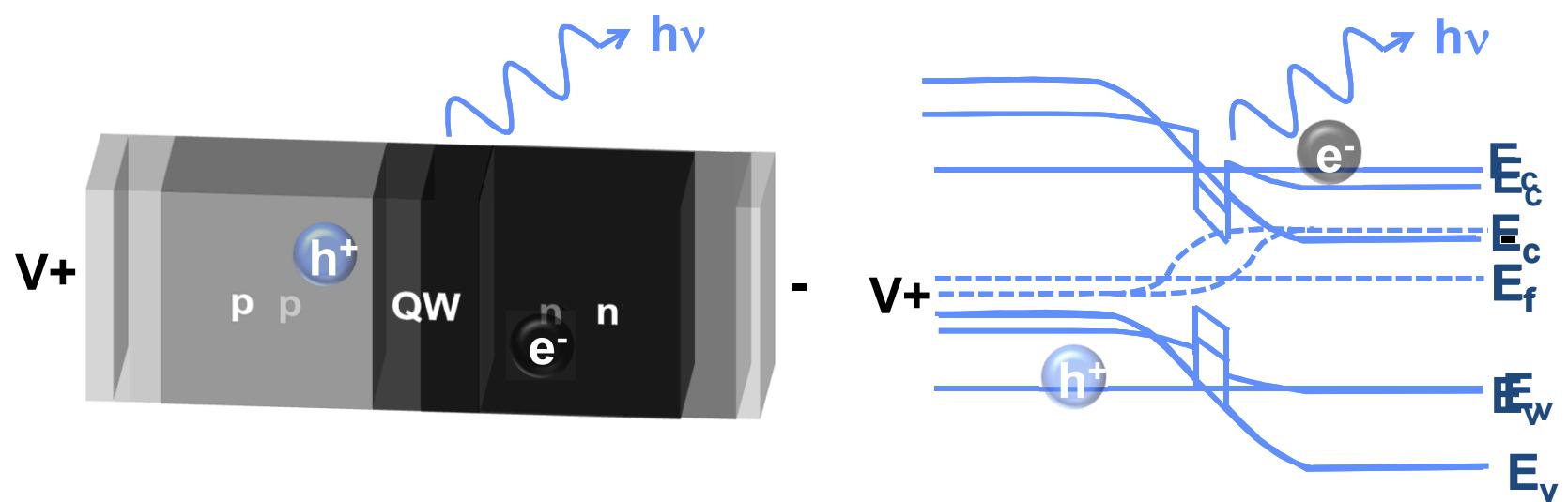
Blue LED Impacts

- Global electricity use will drop by ~10%
- Global savings will be ~\$140B per year
- Numerous spin-off technologies are emerging

**we *underestimated*
the impact of solid-
state lighting!**



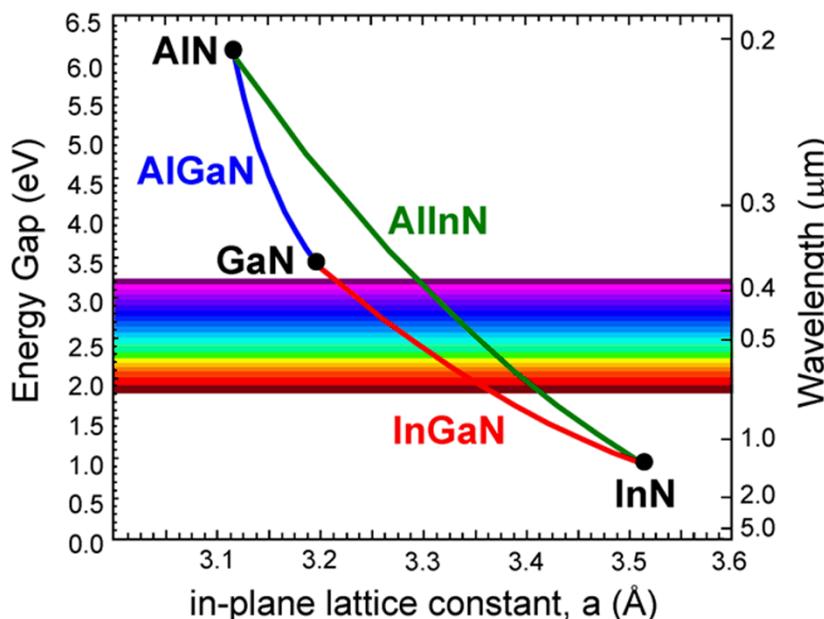
P-N junction light-emitters



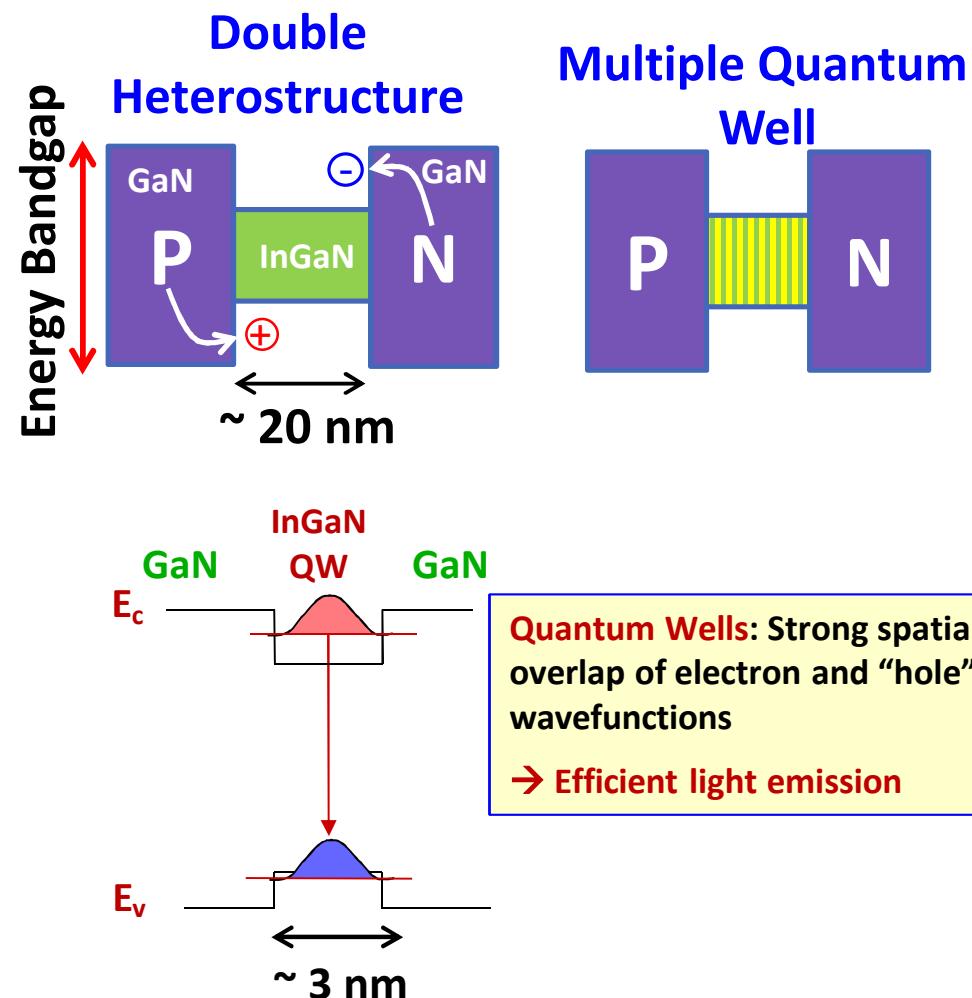
Importance of Alloys and Heterostructures

Alloys enable tunable properties and enhanced carrier confinement

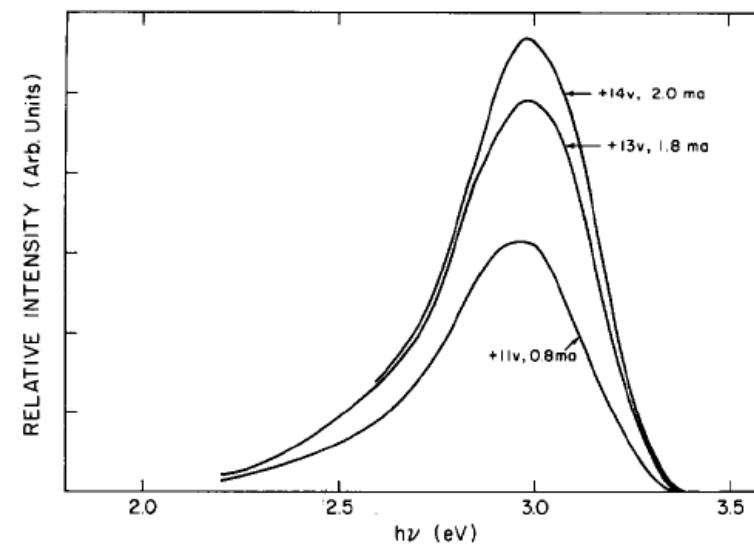
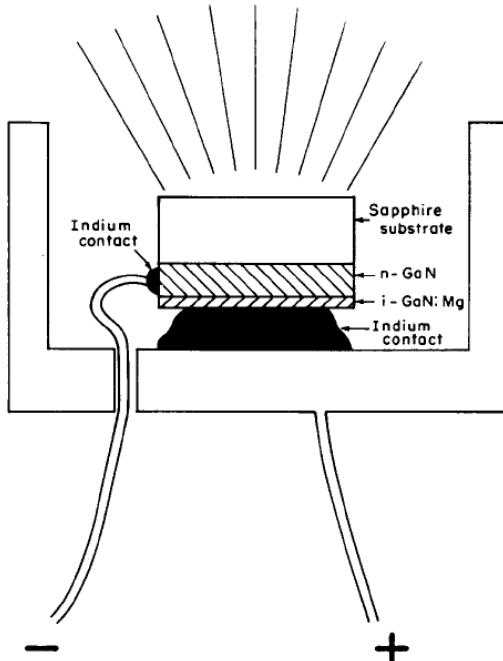
Bandgap vs. Lattice Constant



In_xGa_{1-x}N: potential for tuning emission through the entire visible spectrum!



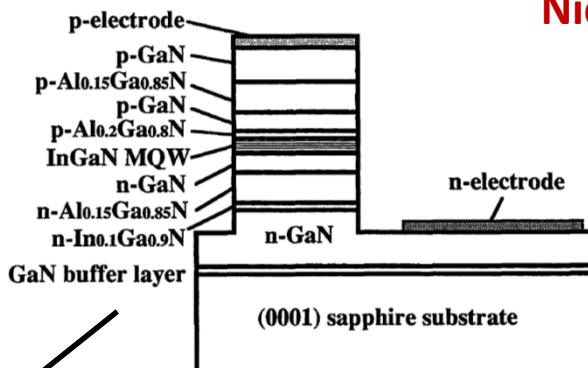
Early III-Nitride LEDs



- J. Pankove and H. Maruska at RCA Laboratories in 1968-74.
- First vapor phased growth of GaN.
- Produced near blue emission

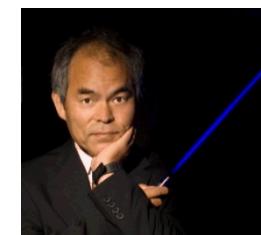
Astounding pace of follow-on breakthroughs

In_xGa_{1-x}N:
LEDs across the visible



Nichia Blue Laser Diode!

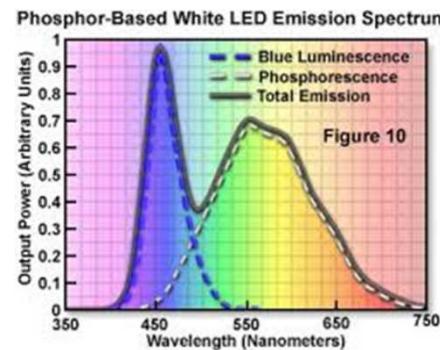
- > 10,000 hr lifetimes*
- Blu-Ray DVD (405 nm)



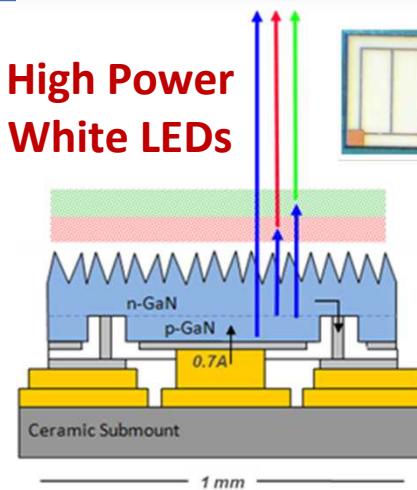
*ZnSe LDs never did achieve high reliability!

1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 2007 2015

First White LED:
Blue LED + YAG Phosphor



**High Power
White LEDs**



**Lumileds, OSRAM,
Cree, et al.**

Nakamura's Breakthrough

Candela-class high-brightness InGaN/AlGaN double-heterostructure blue-light-emitting diodes

Shuji Nakamura, Takashi Mukai, and Masayuki Senoh

Department of Research and Development, Nichia Chemical Industries, Ltd., 491 Oka, Kaminaka, Anan, Tokushima 774, Japan

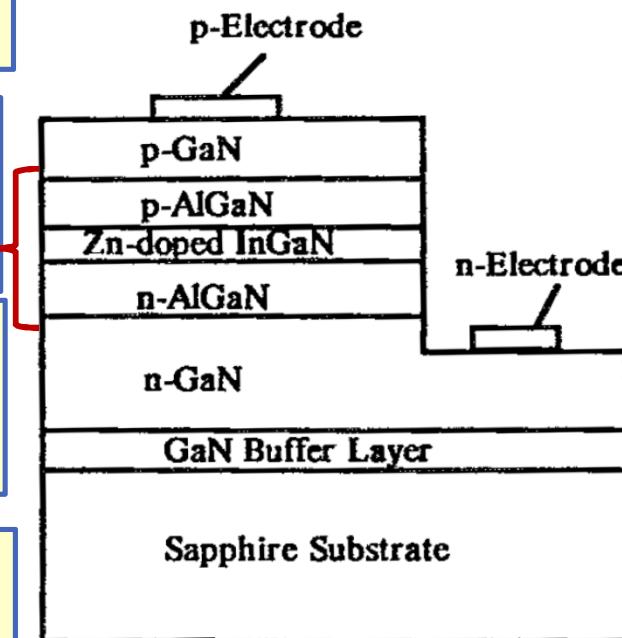
(Received 2 December 1993; accepted for publication 5 January 1994)

Thermally activated
P-type GaN

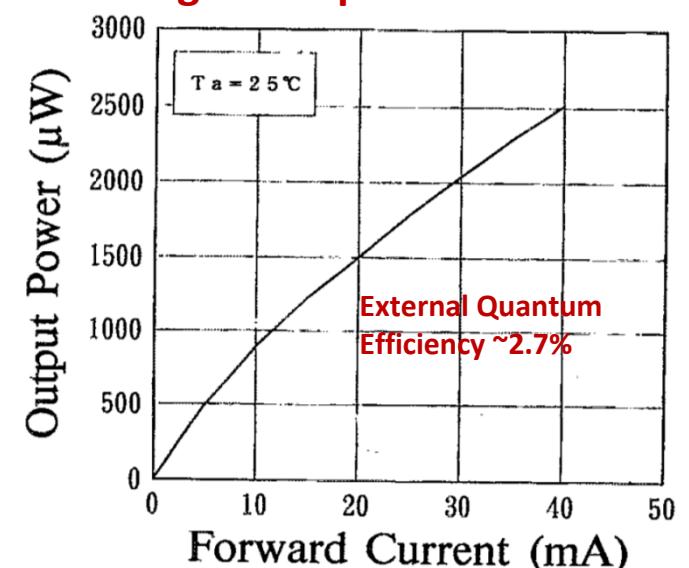
InGaN /AlGaN
alloys; Double
Heterostructure

Zn-doping of
InGaN for
enhanced emission

GaN Buffer Layer;
improved materials
quality



mW level output powers
Highest reported for Blue LEDs



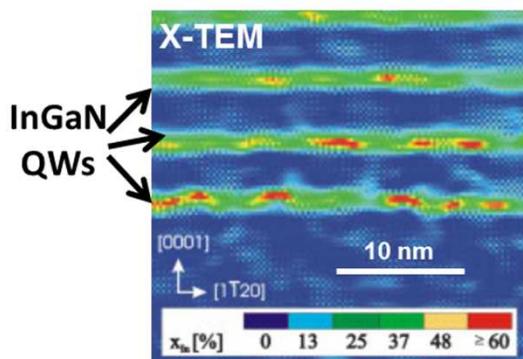
>10X more efficient than ZnSe LEDs but with ~10⁵ higher defect densities!??

So, why are nitrides relatively tolerant of defects?

X Hypothesis: Threading dislocations are **not** non-radiative centers in InGaN

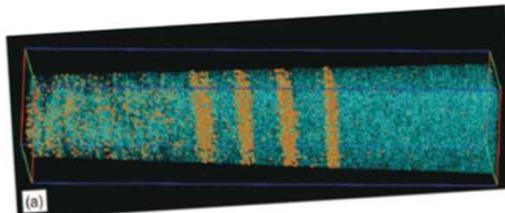
Hypothesis: Carriers are spatially localized in the plane of the quantum well, which reduces their interaction with extended defects

Nanoscale: Indium composition fluctuations



But, can easily be caused by e-beam damage!

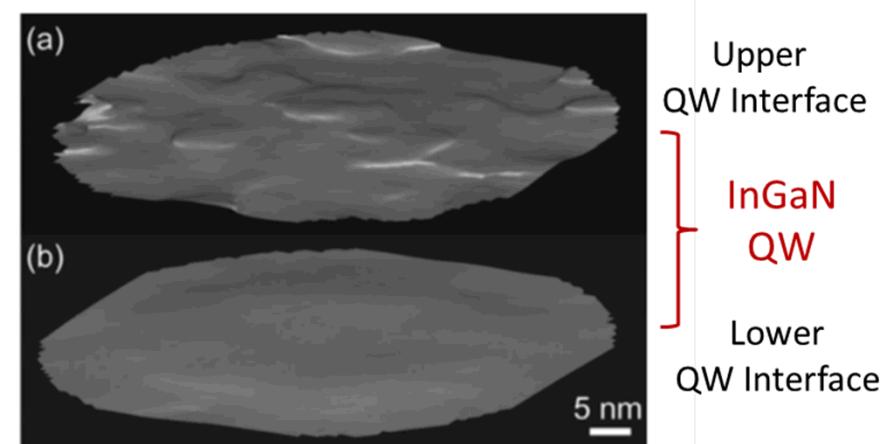
Atom probe of InGaN MQW: InGaN QW is uniform (random alloy with no gross compositional variations)!



...at least for blue and green QWs

Nanoscale: Quantum Well Width Fluctuations

Atom probe of Green QW: iso-concentration surface



$\Delta E \sim 58 \text{ meV} > \text{Room Temp } kT (\sim 26 \text{ meV})$

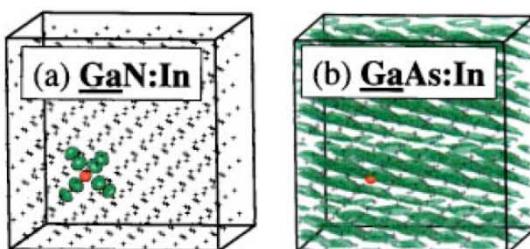
So, why are nitrides relatively tolerant of defects?

Hypothesis: Carriers are spatially localized in the plane of the quantum well, which reduces their interaction with extended defects

Atomic Scale: Spatially-localized hole wavefunctions

Hole wavefunction for In atom in GaN vs. GaAs

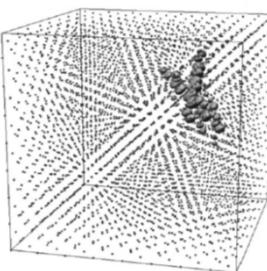
Isosurface of wavefunction at VBM



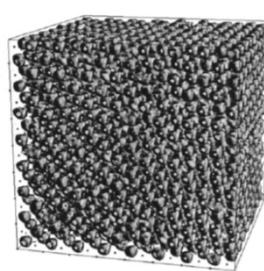
Bellaiche et al. APL 1999

Wavefunctions of uppermost VB and lowest CB states

(a) $\text{In}_{0.20}\text{Ga}_{0.80}\text{N}$ VBM wave function



(b) $\text{In}_{0.20}\text{Ga}_{0.80}\text{N}$ CBM wave function

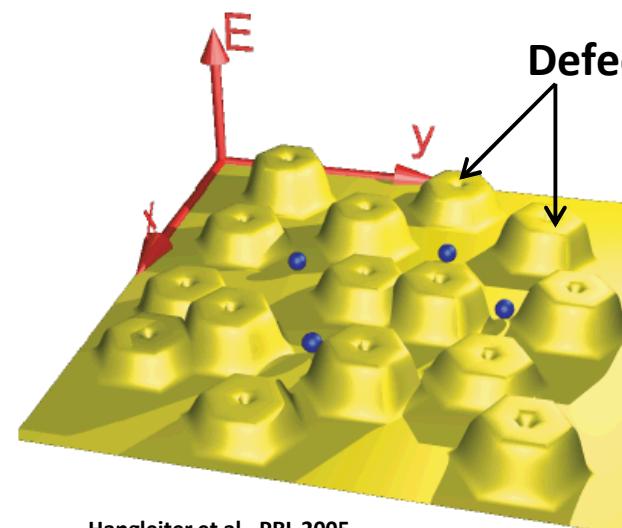


Kent et al. APL 2001

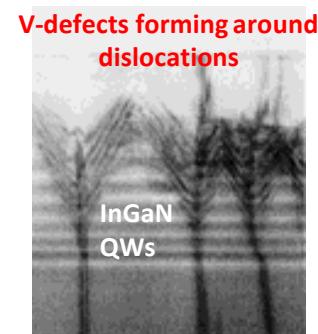
→ Hole localization in random alloy InGaN

Microscale: Screening of Defects

Defects Potential in plane of QW



Hangleiter et al., PRL 2005

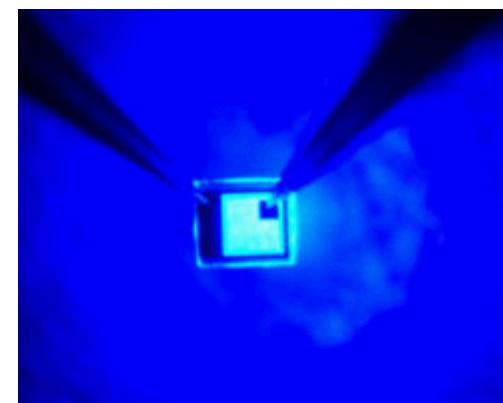
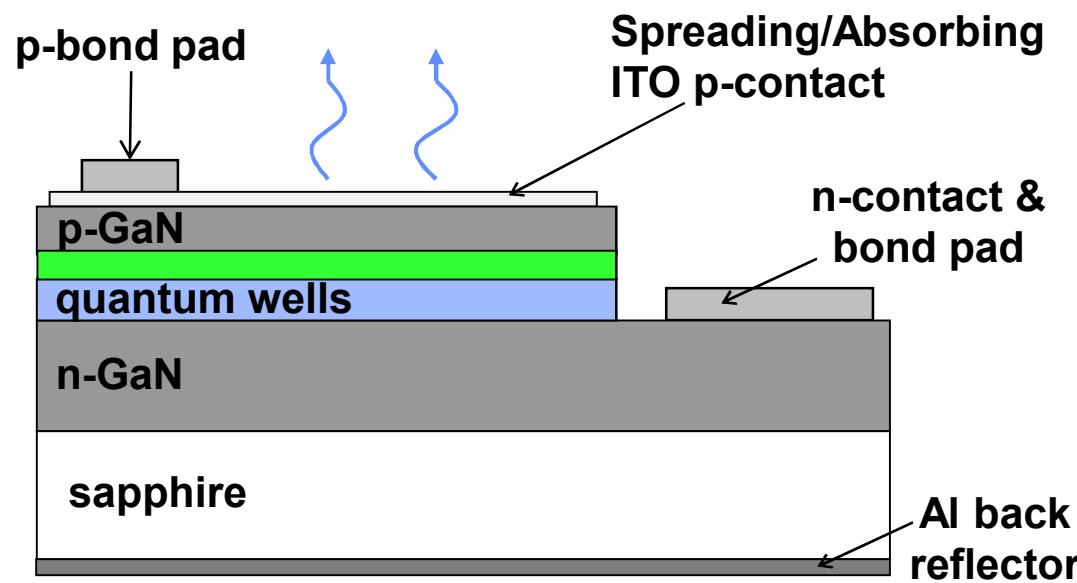
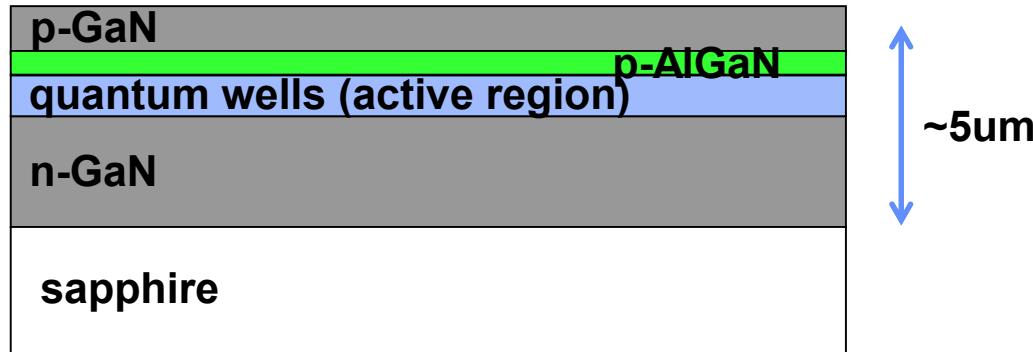


Scholz et al., PSSA 2000

Proposed microstructure for shielding defects:

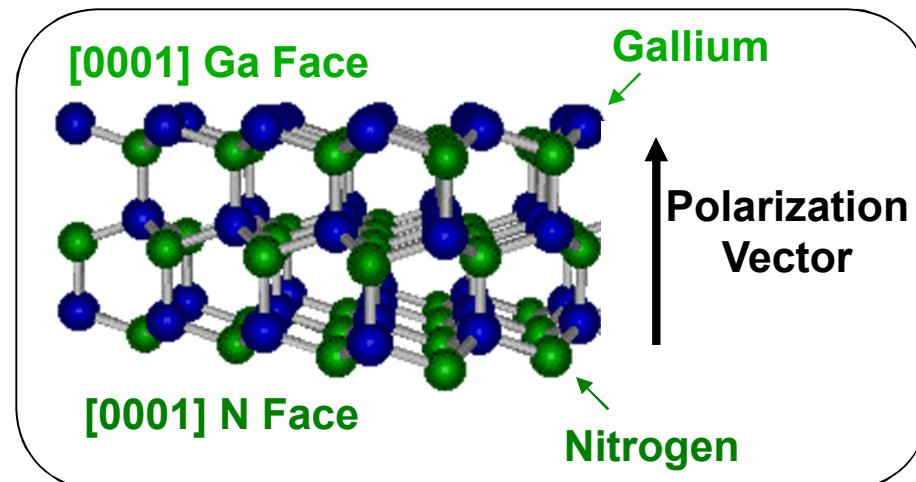
- "V-defects" around dislocations
- Change of QW composition or thickness in proximity of dislocation

Anatomy of an blue III-nitride LED

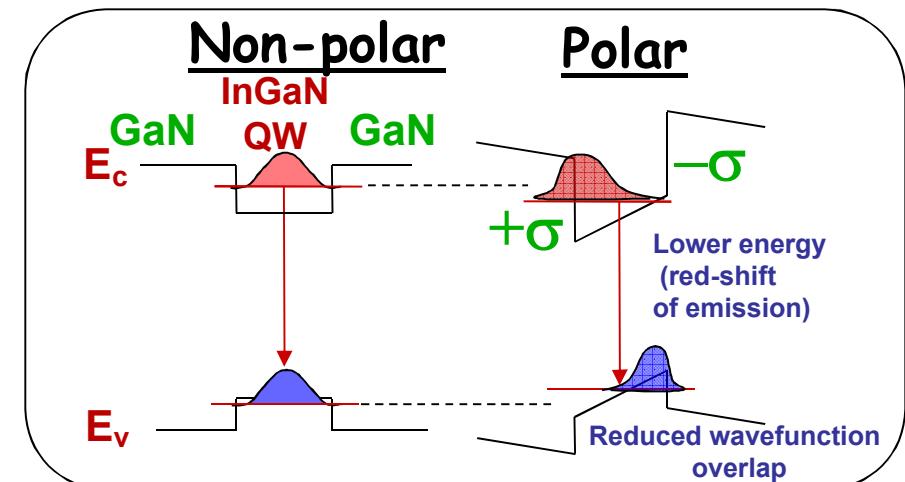


Polarization effects in InGaN LEDs

Hexagonal (Wurzite) GaN crystal structure



Effect on InGaN quantum well



- Dominated by piezoelectric (strain-driven) polarization for InGaN QWs on GaN
- Internal E-fields cause reduced electron-hole overlap → reduced radiative efficiency
- E-fields shift emission to longer wavelengths; → blue-shifts with current
- Significant band-bending creates barriers to carrier flow and/or reduced carrier confinement

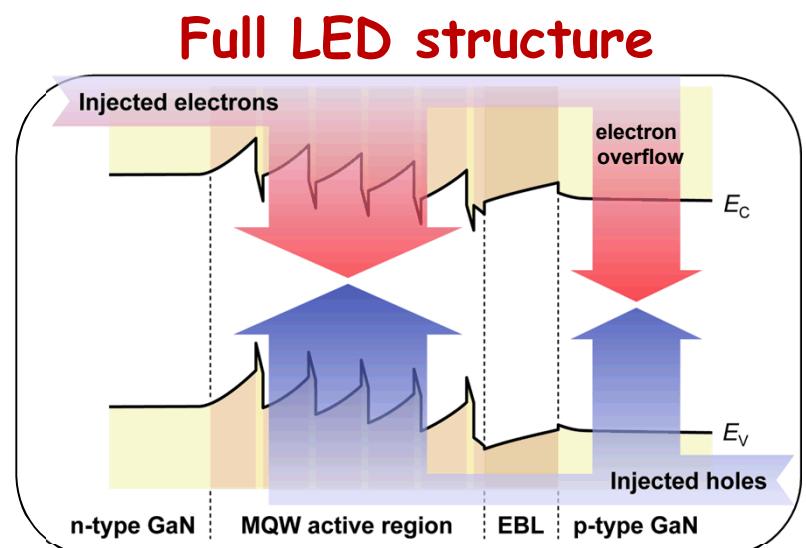
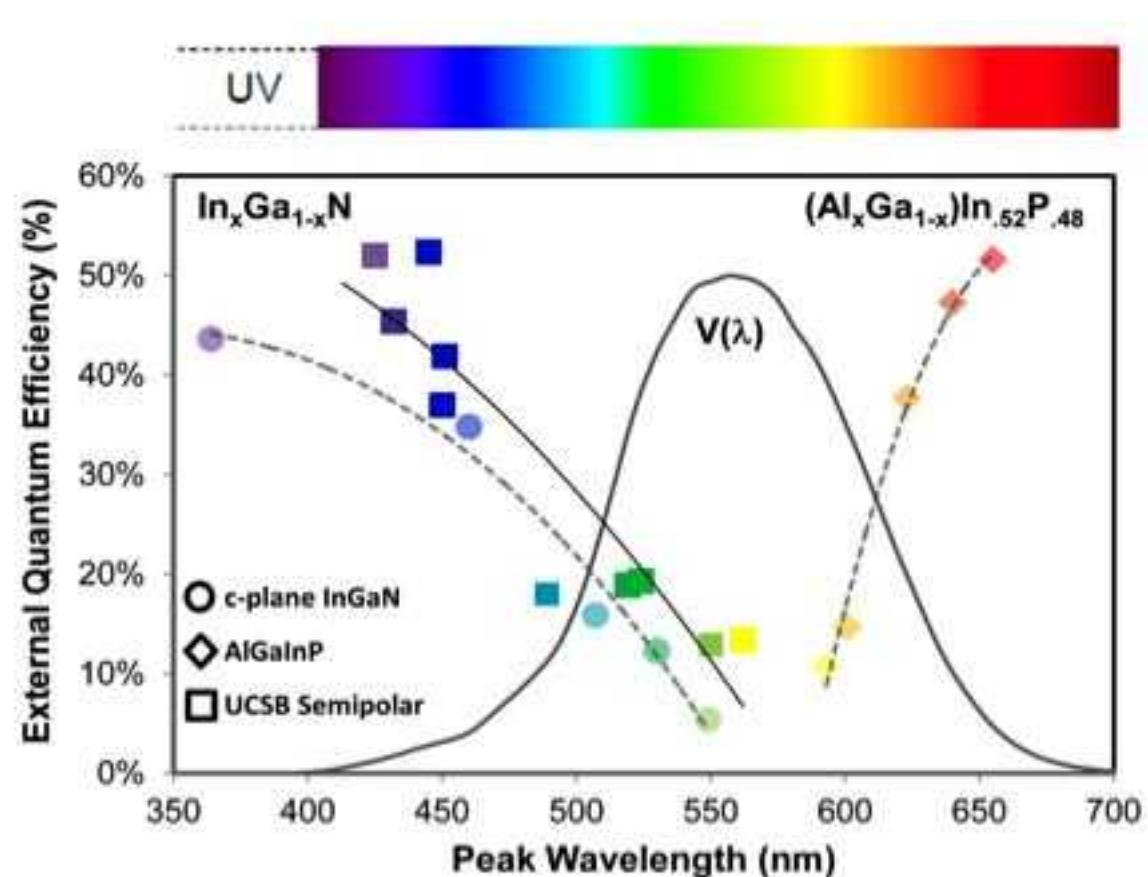
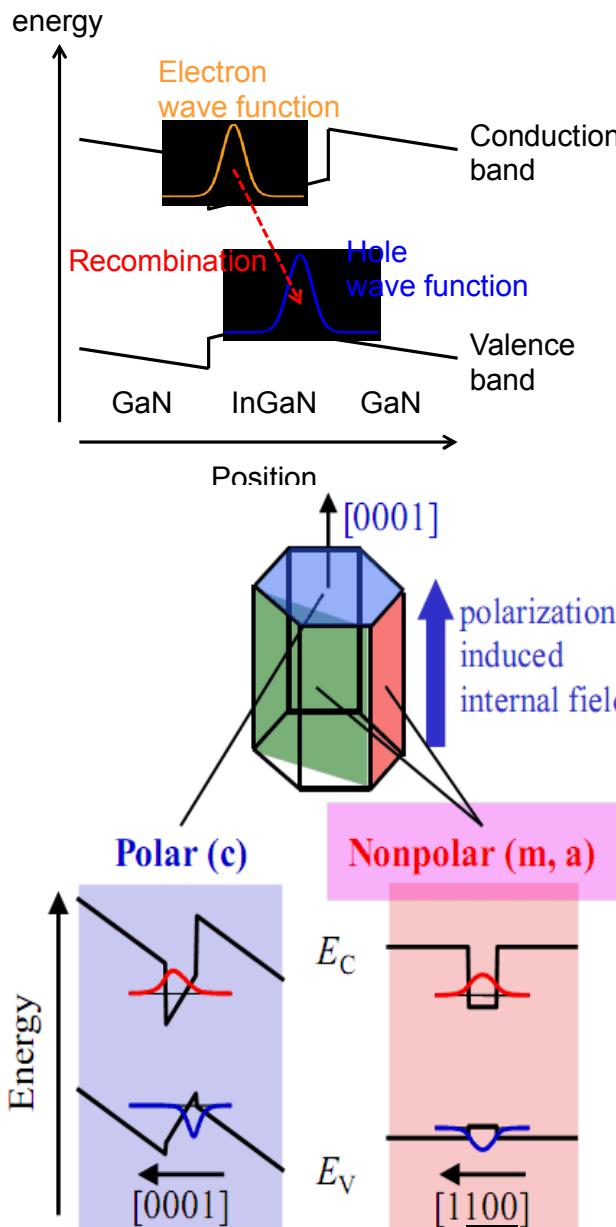


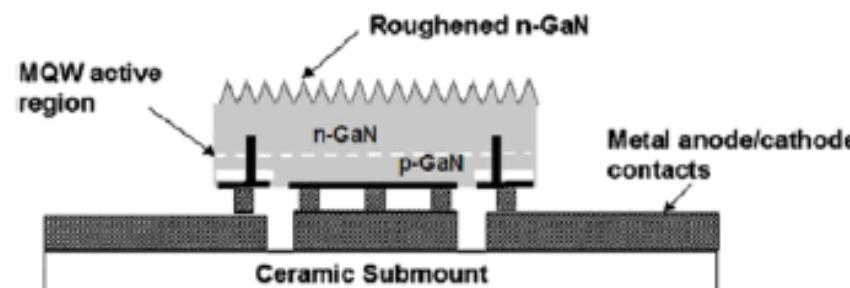
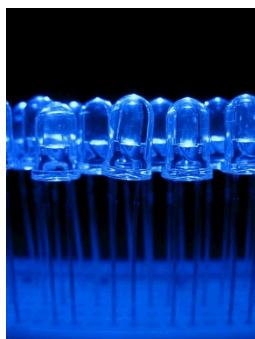
Figure: E. F. Schubert (RPI)

The “Green Gap”



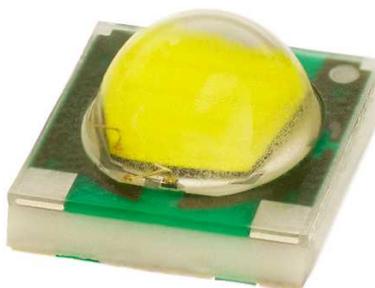
The Anatomy of a White LED

Blue LED

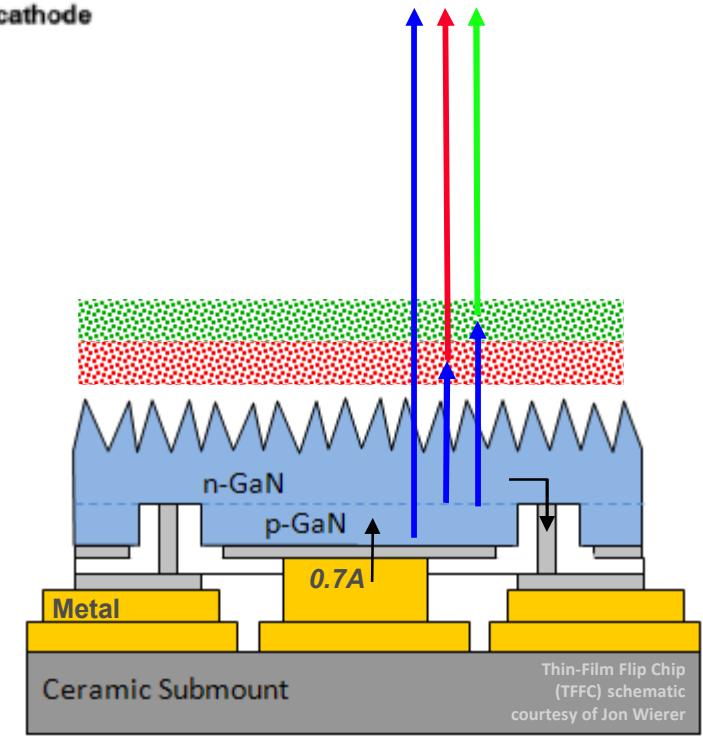


Where do we get the other 2 colors?
We use 2 phosphors for green and red

Cree

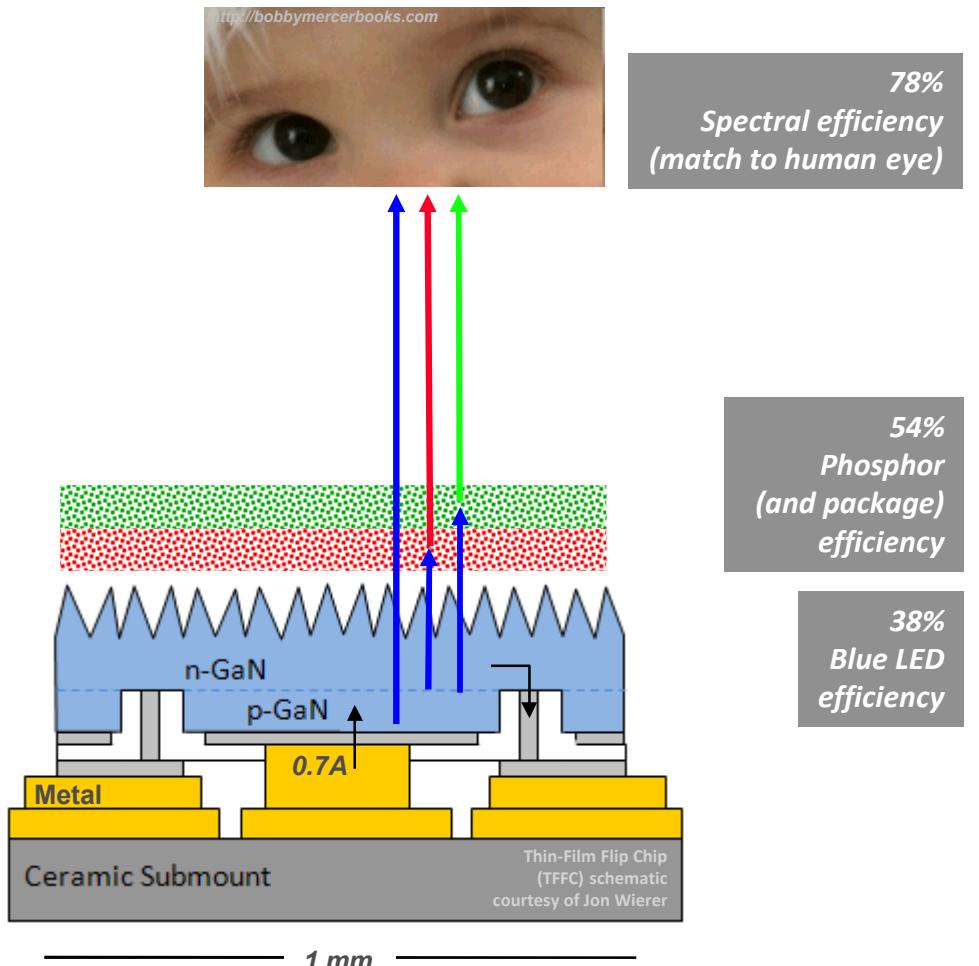


Lumileds



Y.S. Lin and J. A. Yeh, Appl. Phys. Express, vol4, p092103, 2011

How Can We Improve the Efficiency of Solid State Lighting?



Thin-Film Flip-Chip Architecture

16%
Overall efficiency
(luminous efficacy $\eta_\phi = 66 \text{ lm/W}$)

@
Color rendering index (CRI) 85
Color temperature (CCT) 3,100 K
Current density 70 A/cm²

BREAKING BARRIERS
Cree leads the industry in LED efficacy and innovation. We were the first company to hit these industry-leading performance milestones and we're not stopping!



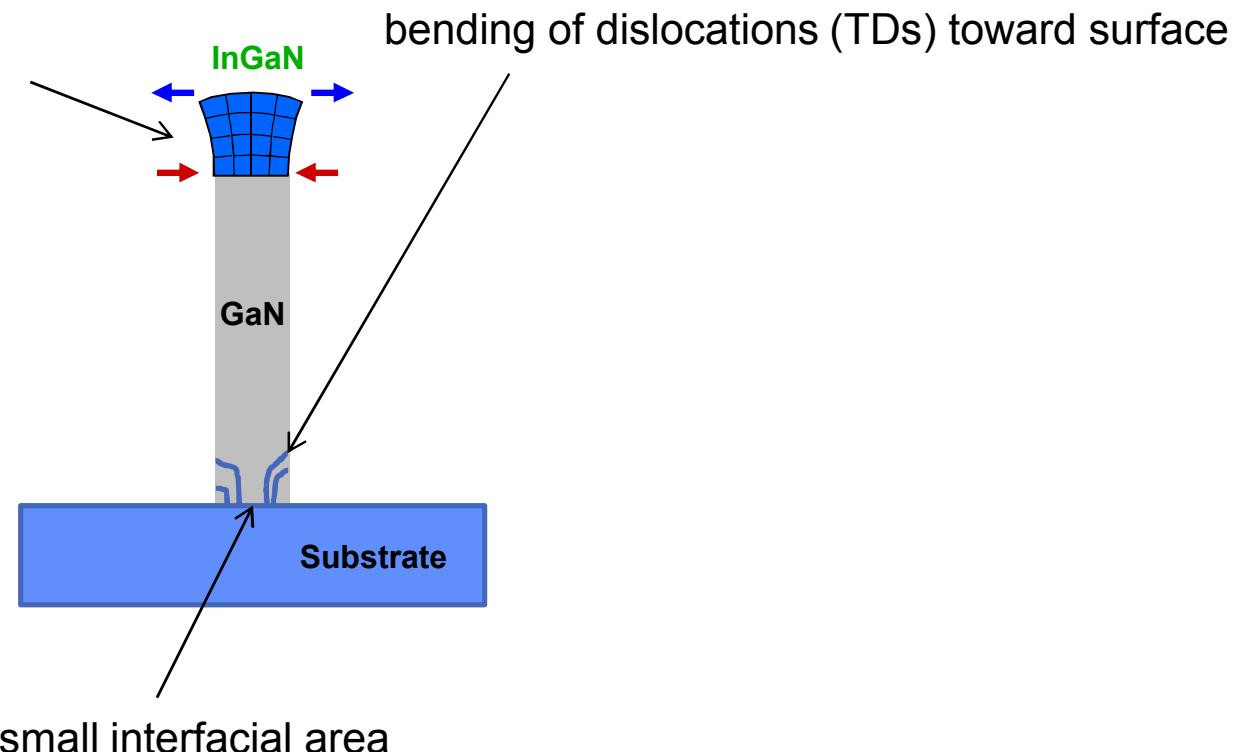
303
LUMENS PER WATT

CREE

Nanowire Lasers

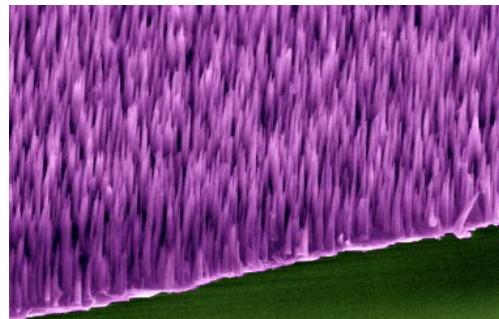
Why Nanowires Are a Good Idea

elastic strain relaxation at surface

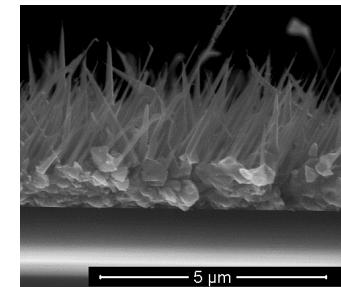


Nanowires

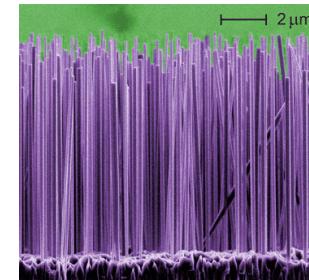
Nanowires can be grown (“bottom up”):



GaN NWs Sandia

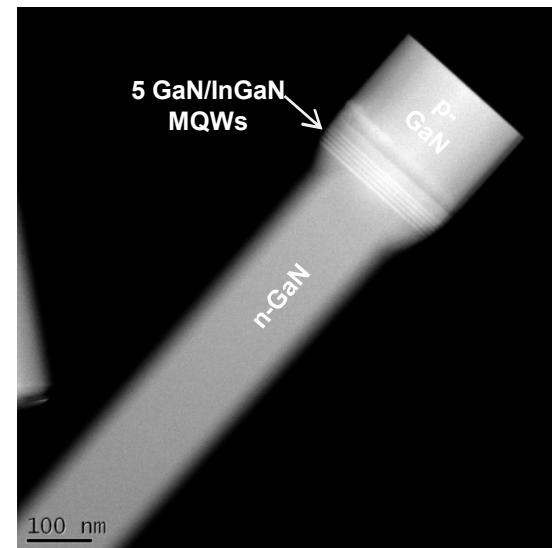
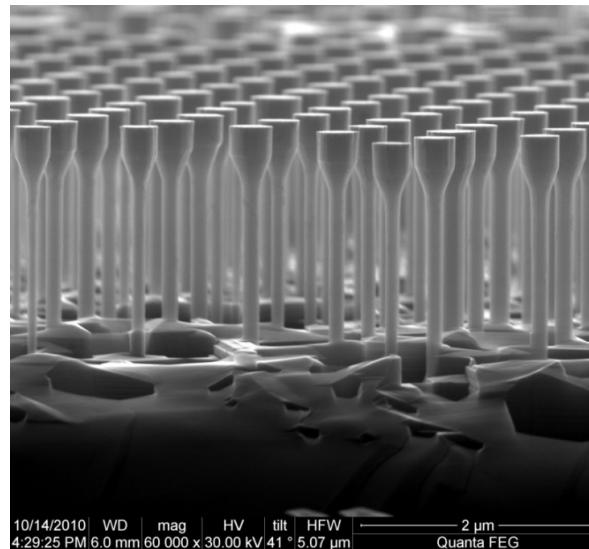


GaN NWs on tungsten foil - Sandia



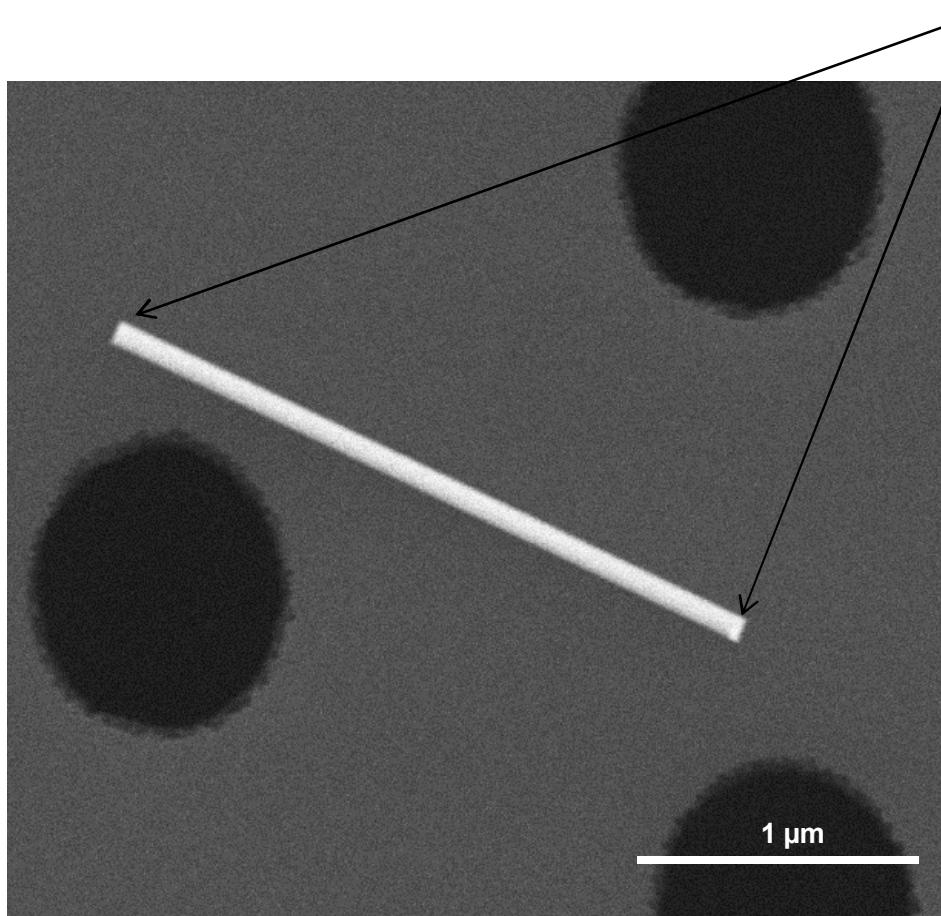
GaN NWs on Si - NIST

Nanowires can be fabricated (“top down”):

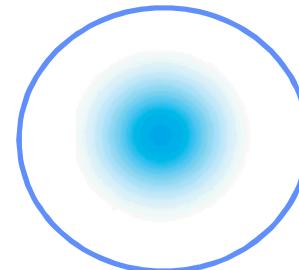


“nano LED”

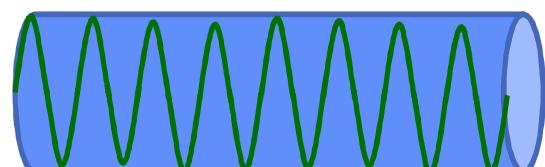
Nanowire Lasers



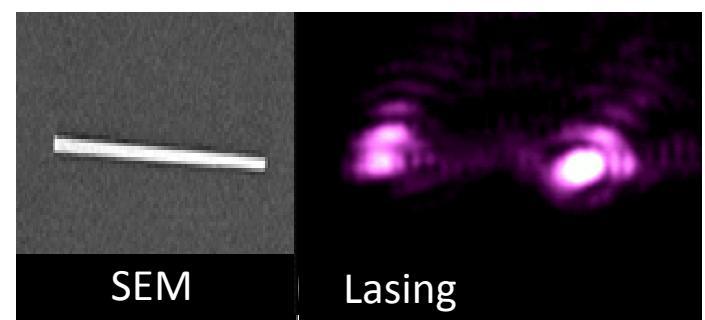
Two end-facets act as the mirrors



Light is confined in the cross-section

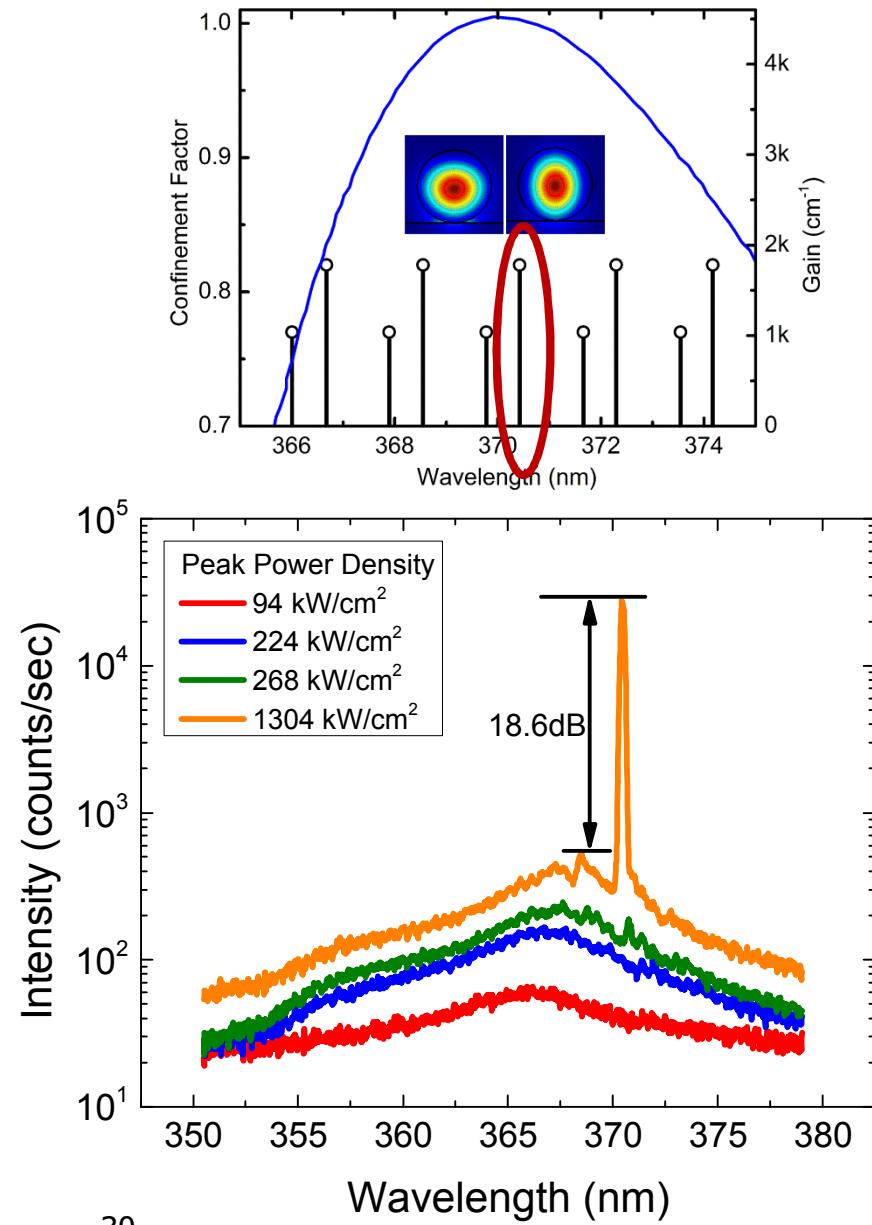


Light oscillates along the length of the nanowire



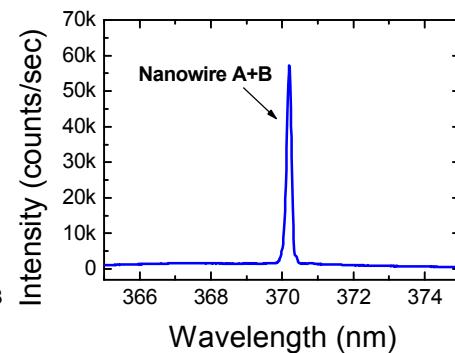
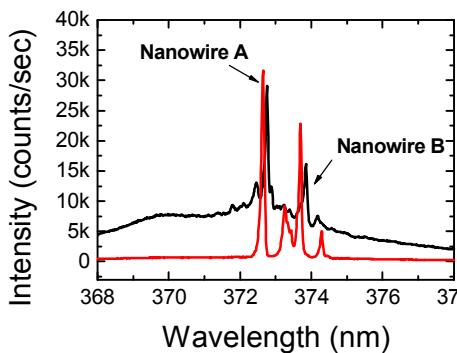
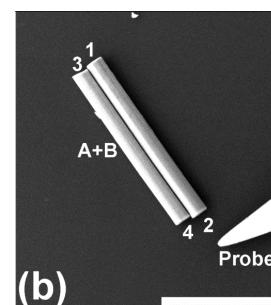
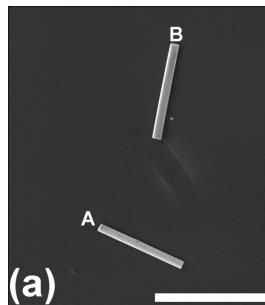
Nanowire Lasers – Achieving single-mode

- **Very small cavities**
- If a laser is made small enough, there is only one possible lasing mode
- GaN nanowires can come very close to these small dimensions
- Due to the strong mode competition in such small lasers, only one mode reaches a lasing threshold



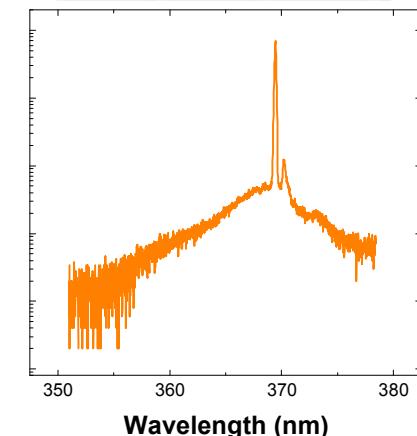
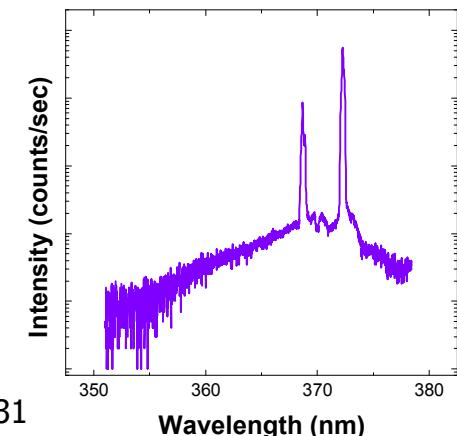
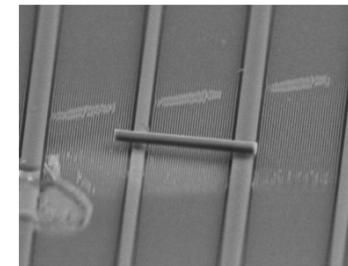
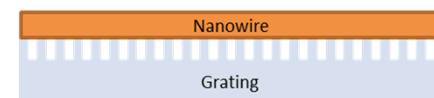
Nanowire Lasers – Achieving single-mode

- Coupled nanowires
- Two nanowires separated act as individual lasers
- When brought together they act as a single laser with only one lasing mode



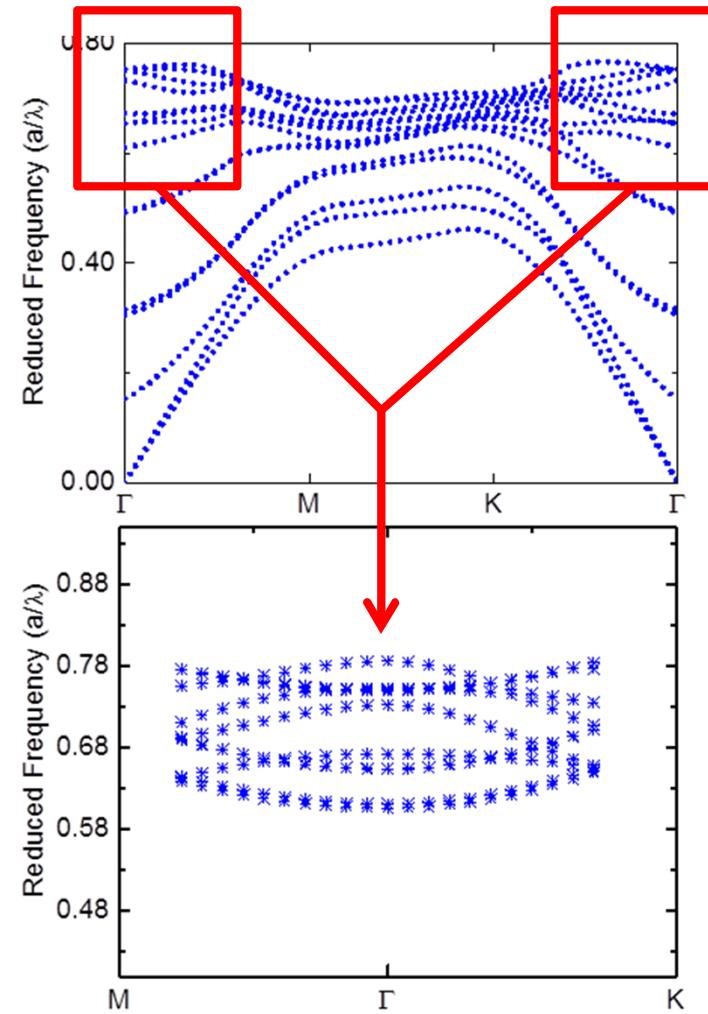
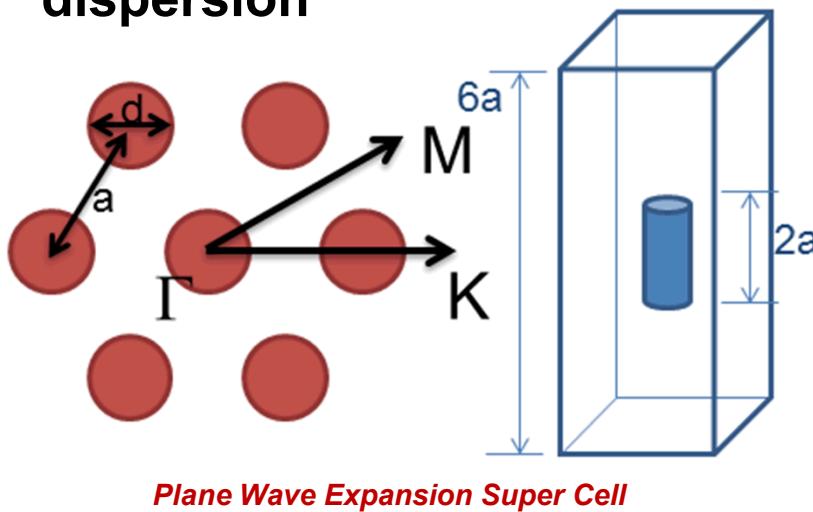
Distributed feedback

- Small reflections are placed along the entire cavity
- A reflection band is formed
- Single mode lasing occurs near the reflection band



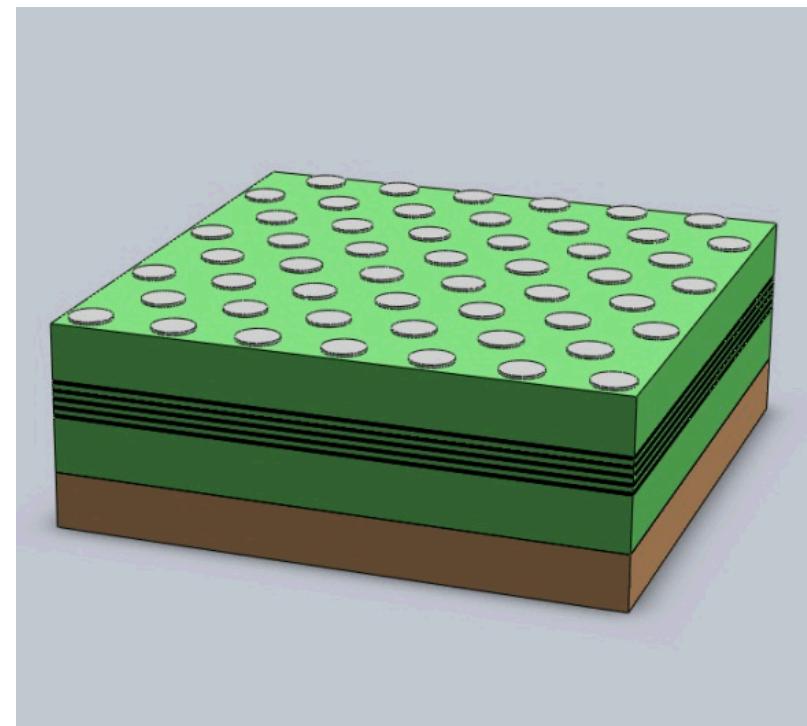
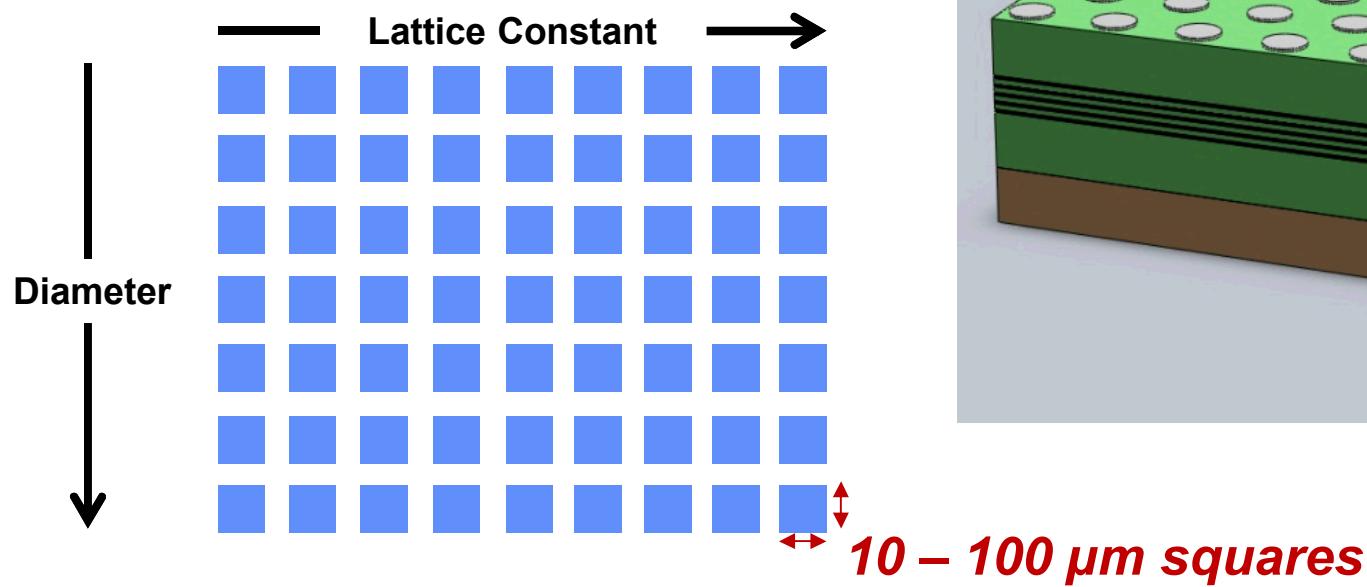
Designing vertically emitting photonic crystal lasers.

- We desire low group velocity
 - enhances the light matter interaction
 - forms standing waves within the gain medium
 - First described by Sakoda (1999)
- We designed high order bands designed to have low dispersion



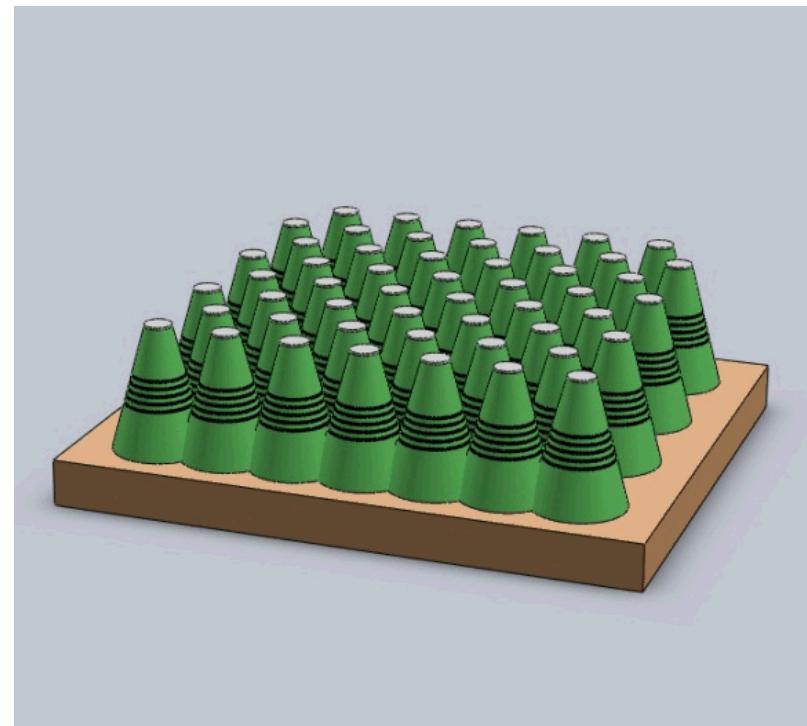
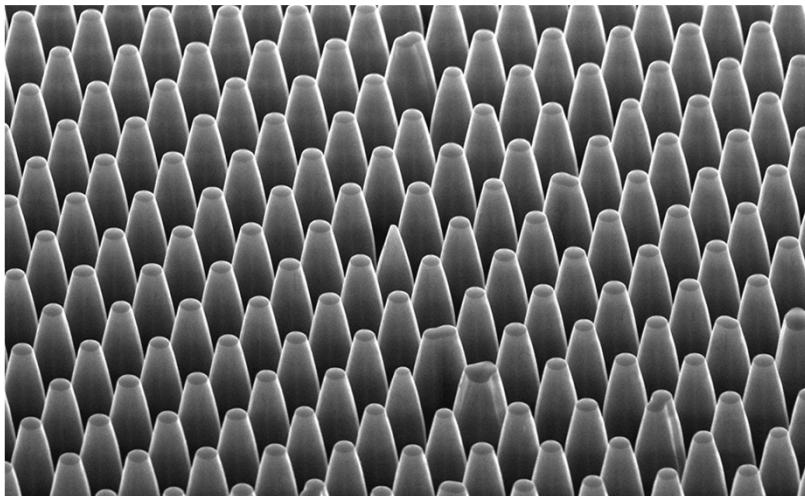
Fabrication | Patterning of 2DPC using e-beam

- E-beam Patterning
- Triangular Lattice of Ni Dots
- 9x7 array



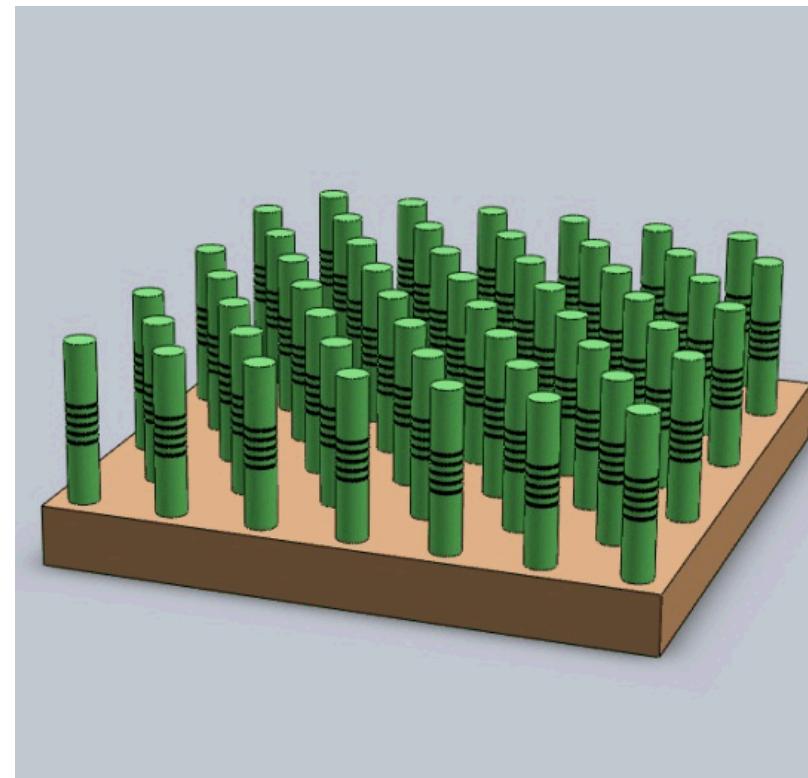
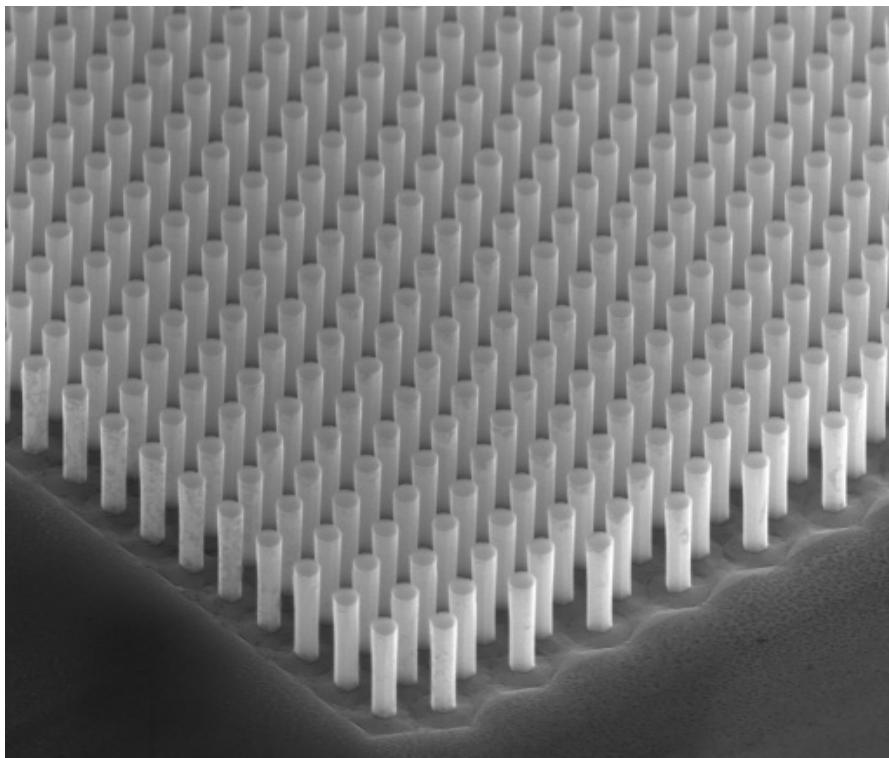
Fabrication | top-down 2-step etch process

- Same process as our top-down nanowires
- Dry (ICP) followed by wet (KOH) process



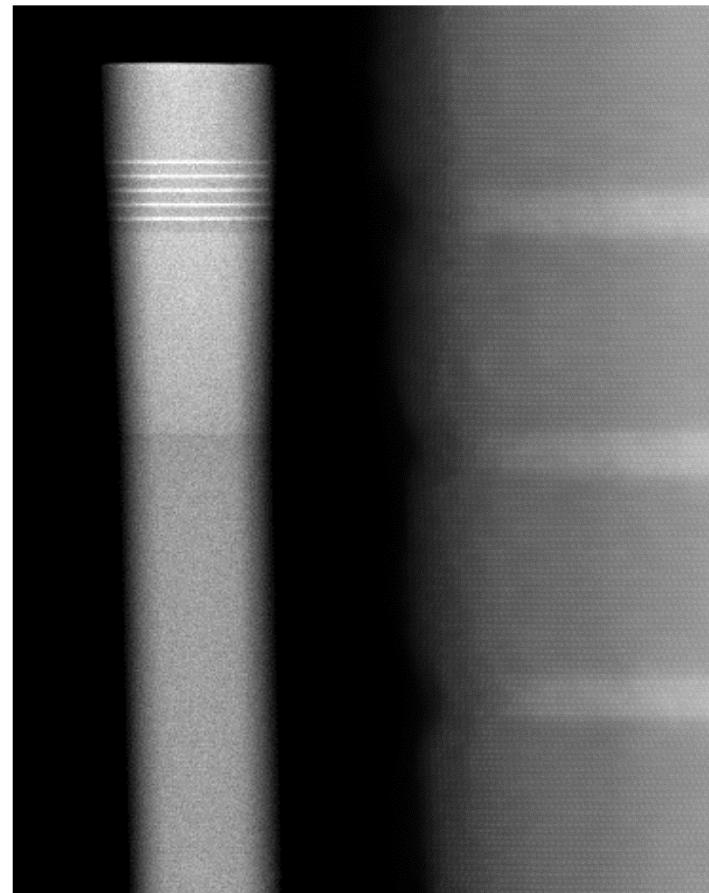
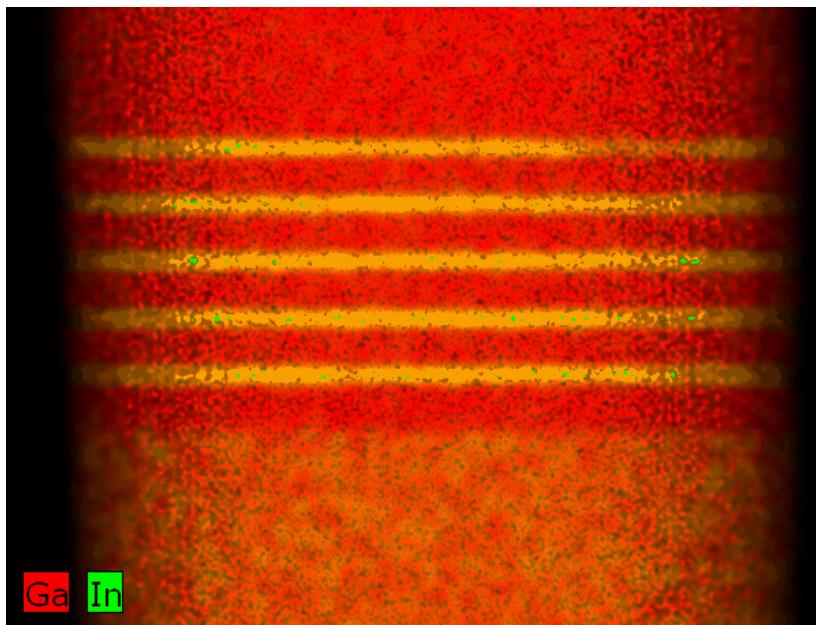
Li, Q. et al. *Optical performance of top-down fabricated InGaN/GaN nanorod light emitting diode arrays*. *Opt. Express* 19, 25528-25534 (2011).
Li, Q. et al. *Single-mode GaN nanowire lasers*. *Opt. Express* 20, 17873-17879 (2012).

Fabrication | Ordered arrays of anisotropic nanowires



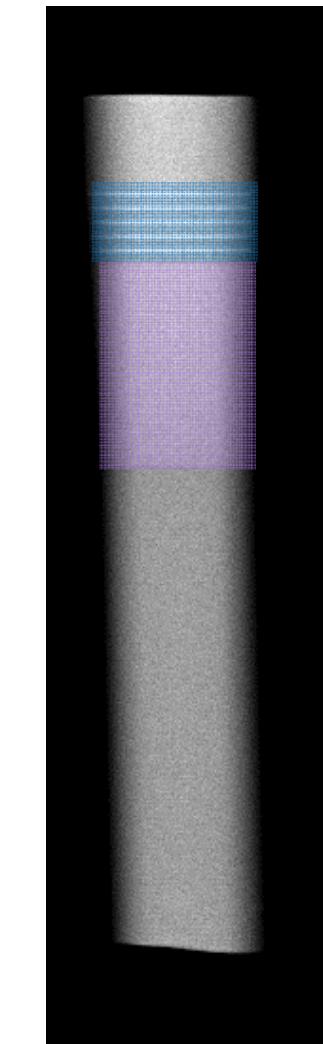
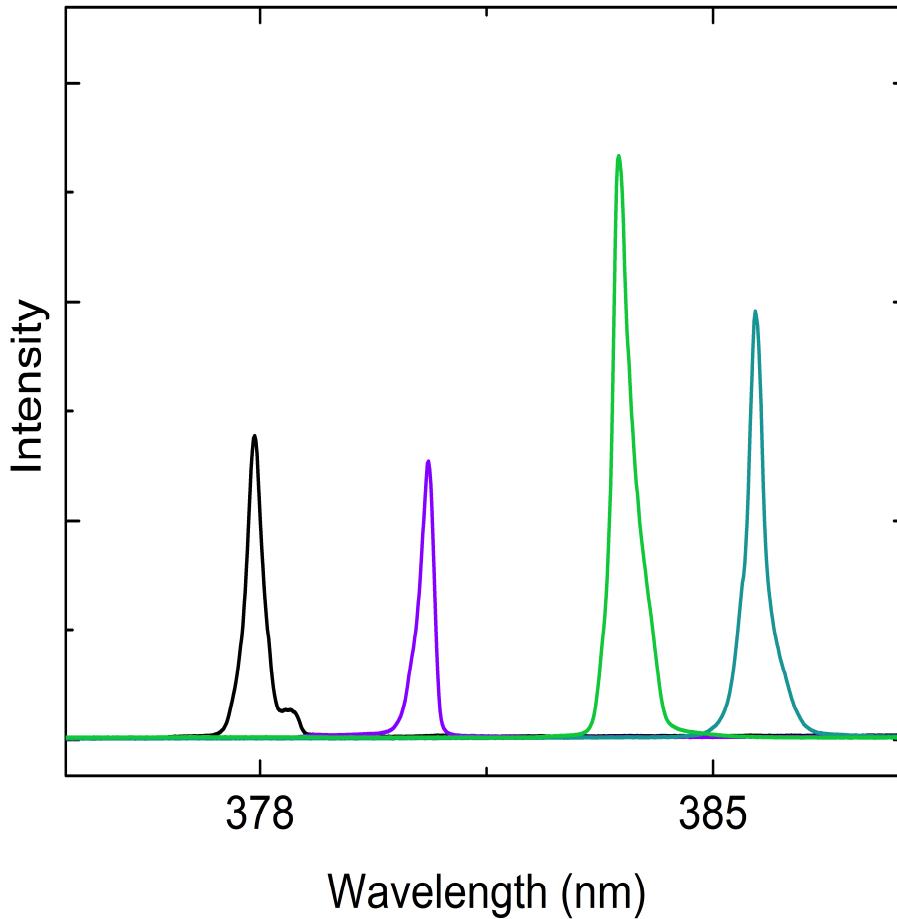
TEM of a single nanowire taken from an array

- 5x MQW InGaN Emission Centered at 430nm
- 2% In underlayer
- Slight taper from the InGaN quantum wells



Ping Lu, Sandia

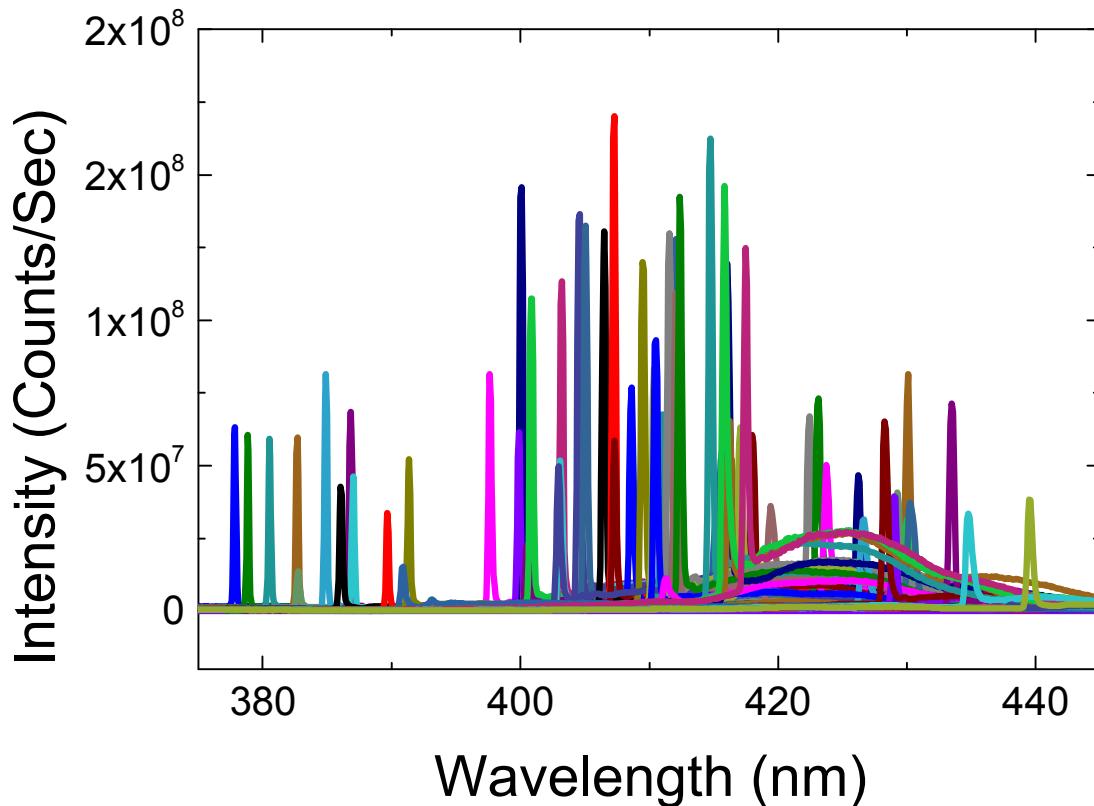
Gain from multiple sections



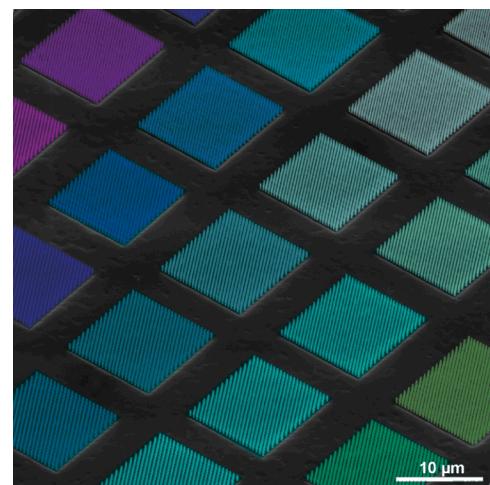
*MQW Gain
Section*

*Underlayer Gain
Section*

Multi-color Laser Array



- Spectral Coverage from 380-440nm.
- Thresholds are reasonable compared to other optically pumped III-N nanowire devices. (<500kW/cm² for all devices)



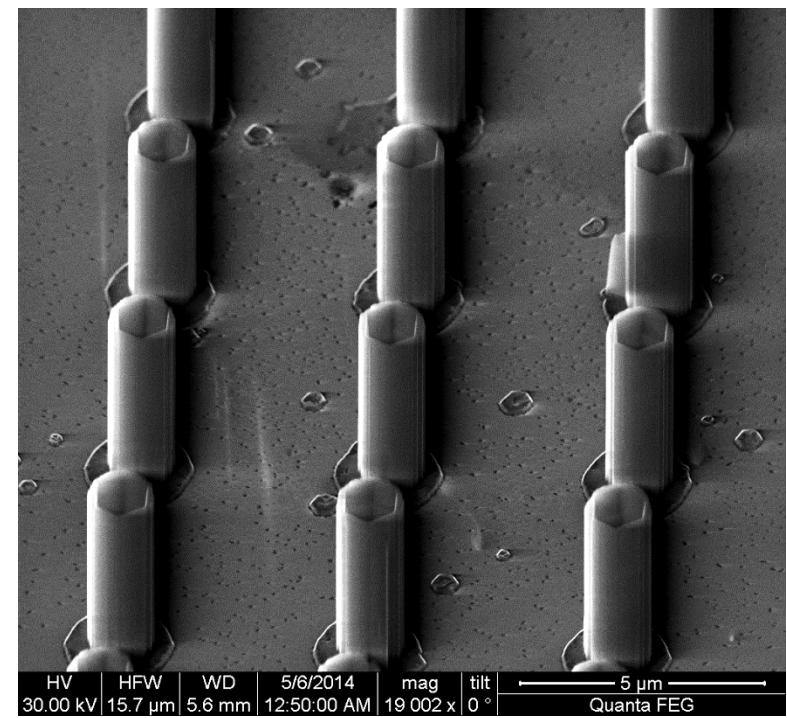
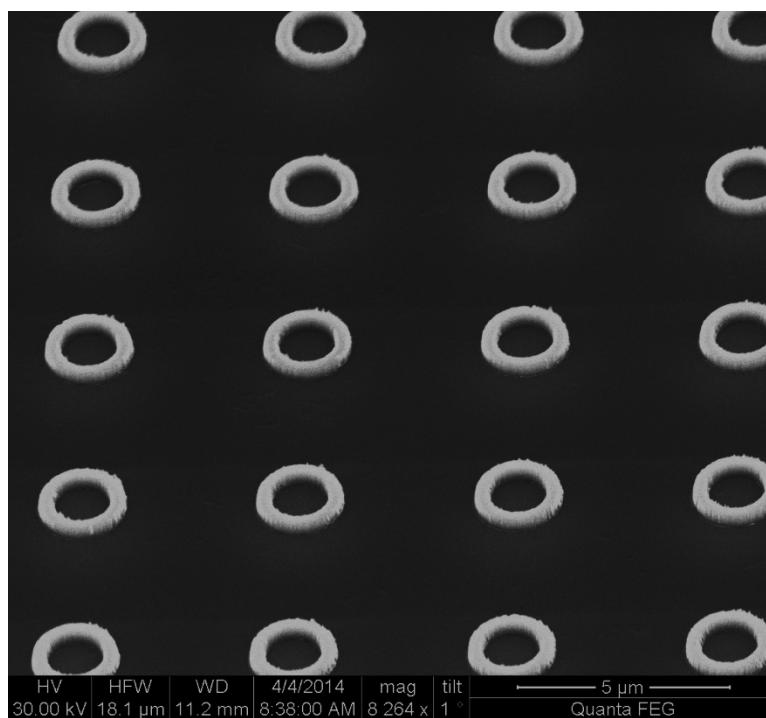
Other geometries for top down nanolasers

Nanotubes

“Ridges”

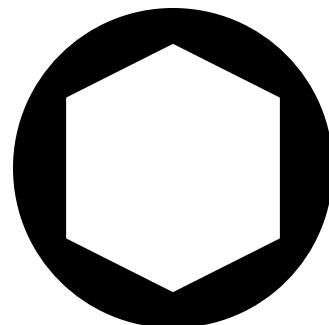
Etc

GaN Nanotube Lasers

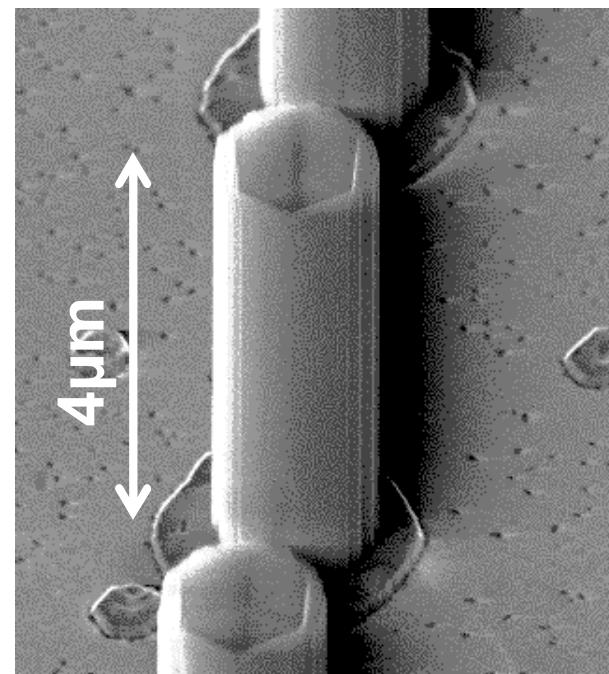


Fabricated GaN nanotube

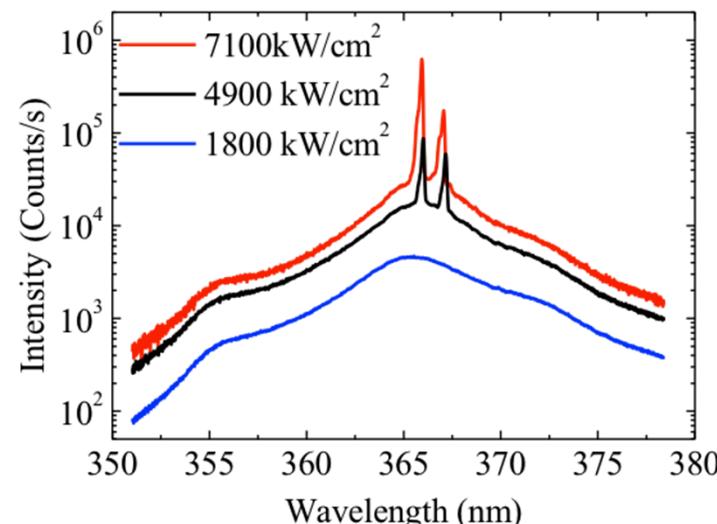
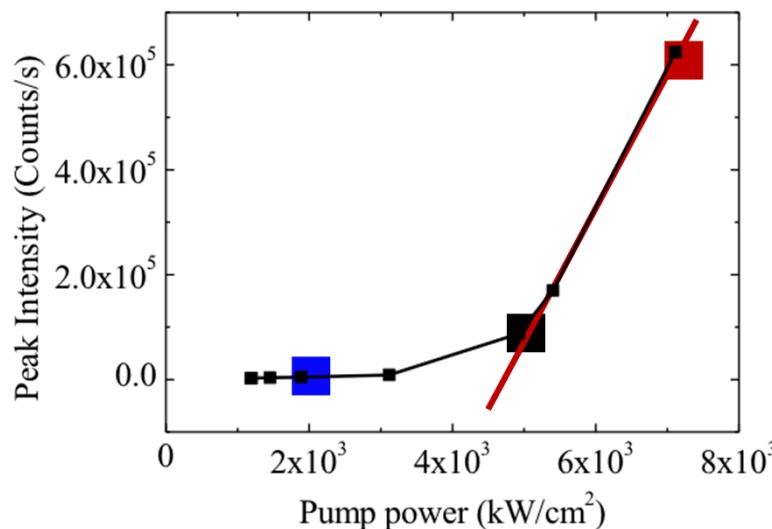
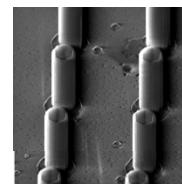
- Length: $4\mu\text{m}$
- Outer Diameter: $1.3\mu\text{m}$
- Thickness: 150nm



Hexagonal
opening



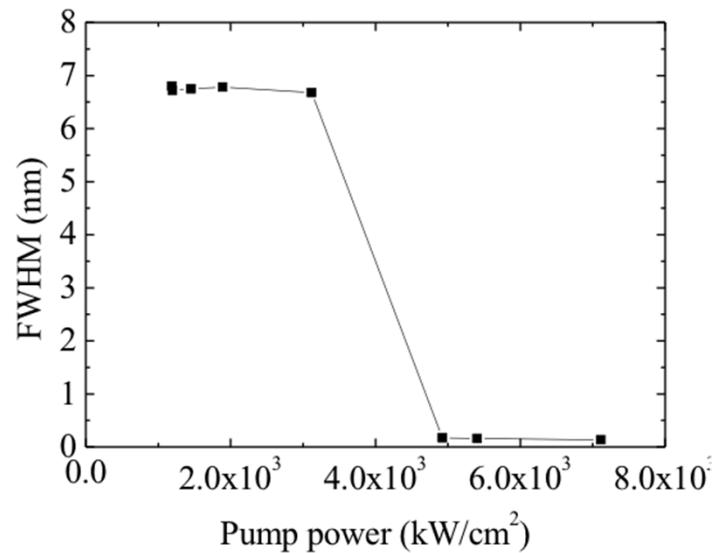
Lasing Spectra and L-L Curve



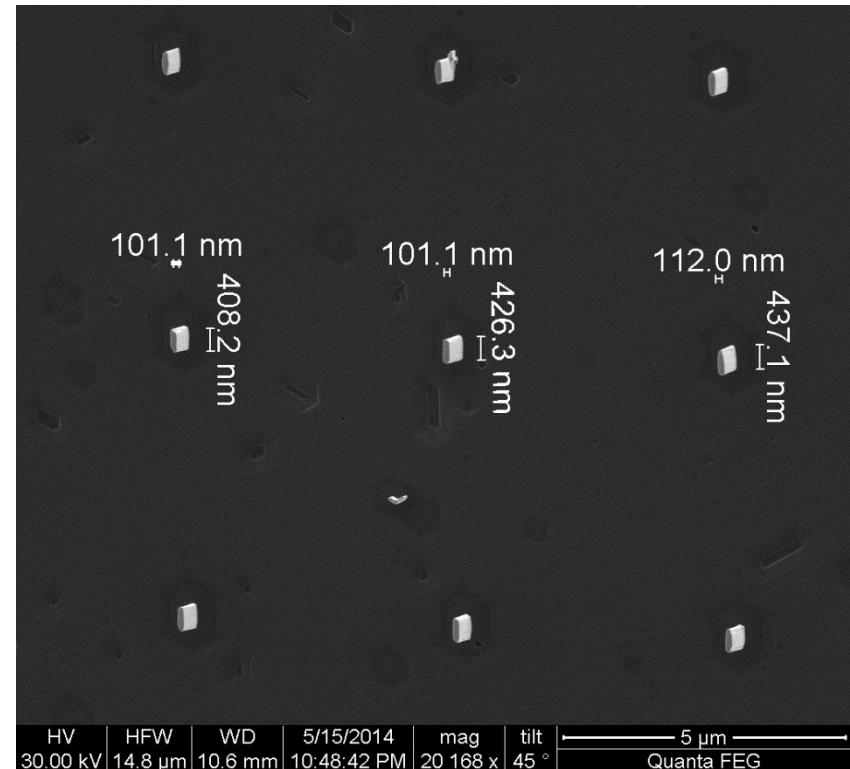
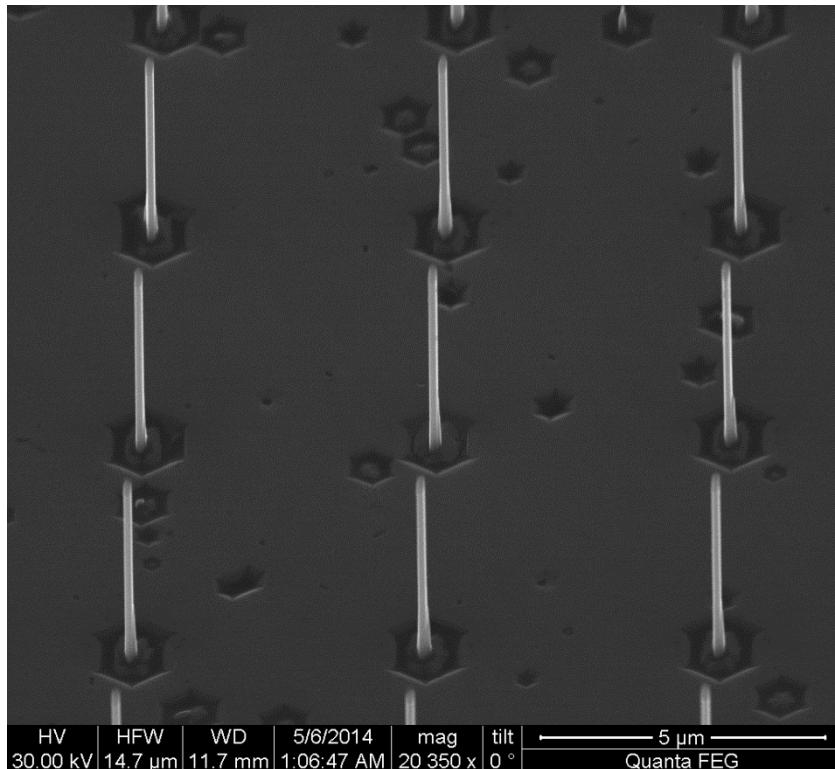
Threshold pump density = 4600 kW/cm^2

FWHM decreases to 0.13 nm as the nanotube laser is pumped above threshold

FWHM is limited by the resolution of the spectrometer

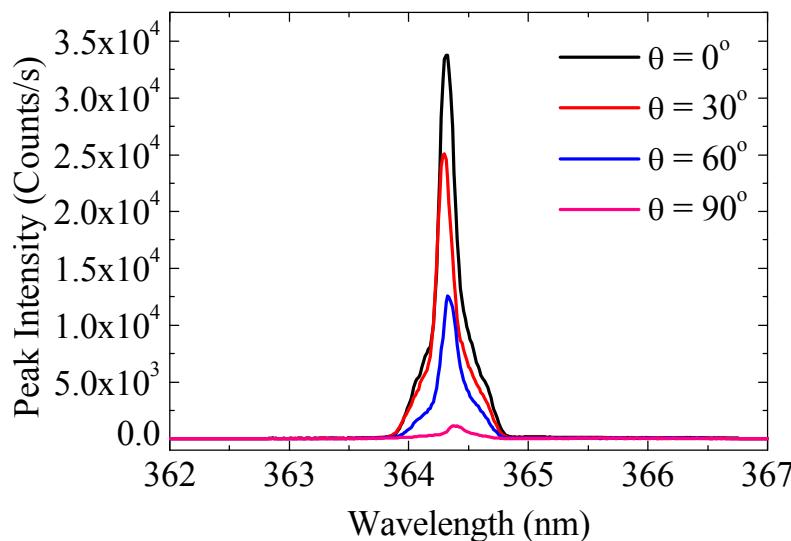


SEM images of rectangular cross-sectional GaN nanowire lasers



Length: 430 – 450nm
Width: 100 – 150nm
Height: 4 μ m

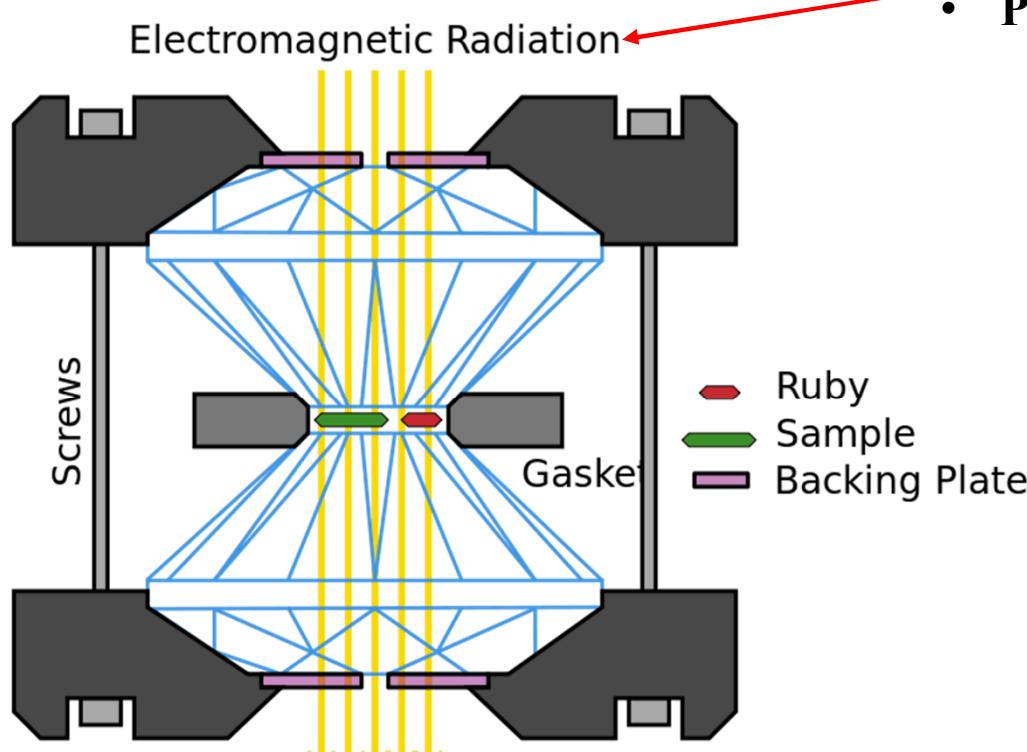
Polarization of lasing from rectangular cross-sectional nanowire lasers



Wire number	Extinction ratio
1	40:1
2	30:1
3	15:1
4	15:1

NW Lasing Under Pressure

- X-ray diffraction
- PL excitation and collection

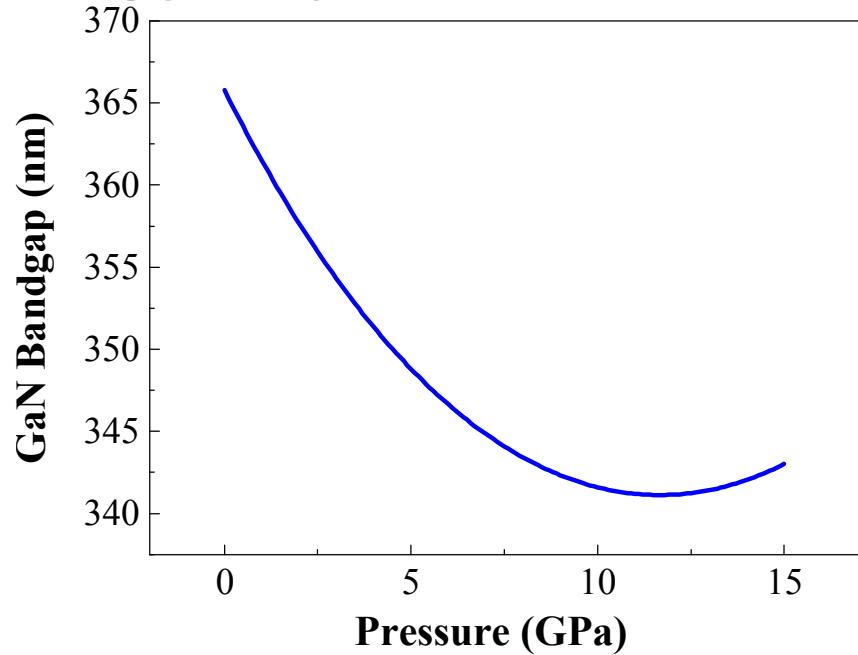
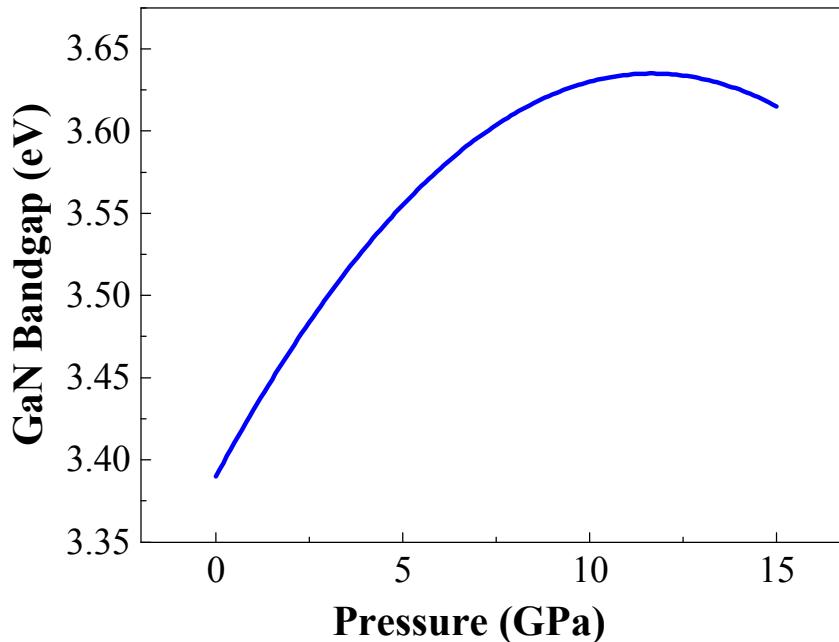


- GaN nanowire lasers
- Pressure measured using typical Ruby signature photoluminescence line
- Hydrostatic pressure medium (silicone) transmits pressure isotropically

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diamond_anvil_cell

DAC: Diamond anvil cell

GaN bandgap energy vs pressure

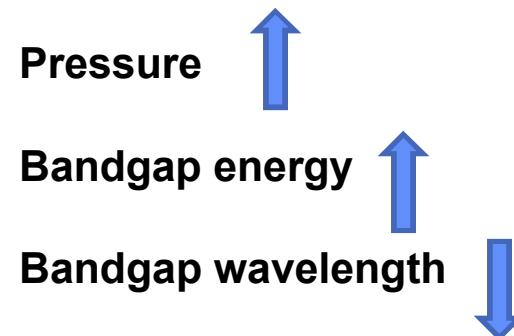


$$E_g = E_g(0) + 4.2 \times 10^{-3}P - 1.8 \times 10^{-5}P^2 \text{ (eV)}$$

where P is pressure in kbar

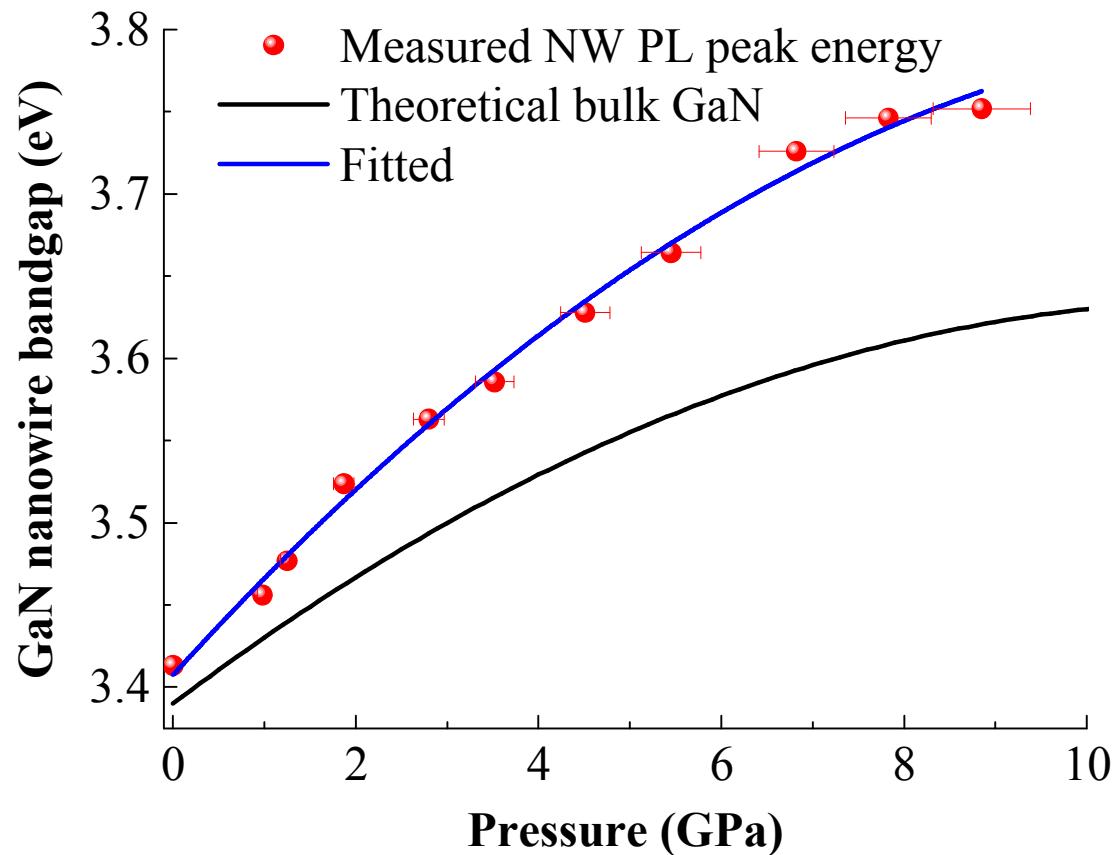
$$Eg(0)=3.39\text{eV}=365\text{nm}$$

$$10 \text{ kilobars} = 1 \text{ GPa}$$



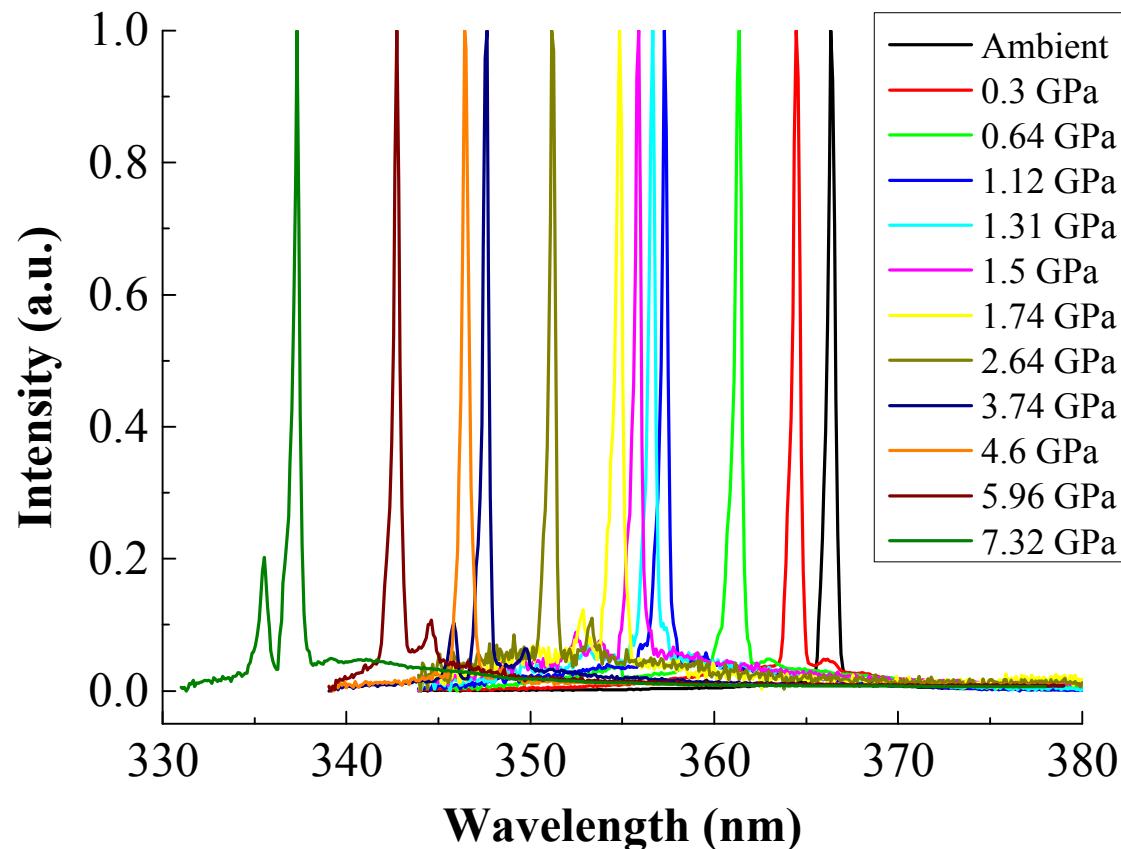
<http://www.ioffe.rssi.ru/SVA/NSM/Semicond/GaN/bandstr.html#Dependence>
Pressure

Pressure coefficients of **single** GaN nanowire



- Larger pressure coefficients of GaN nanowires

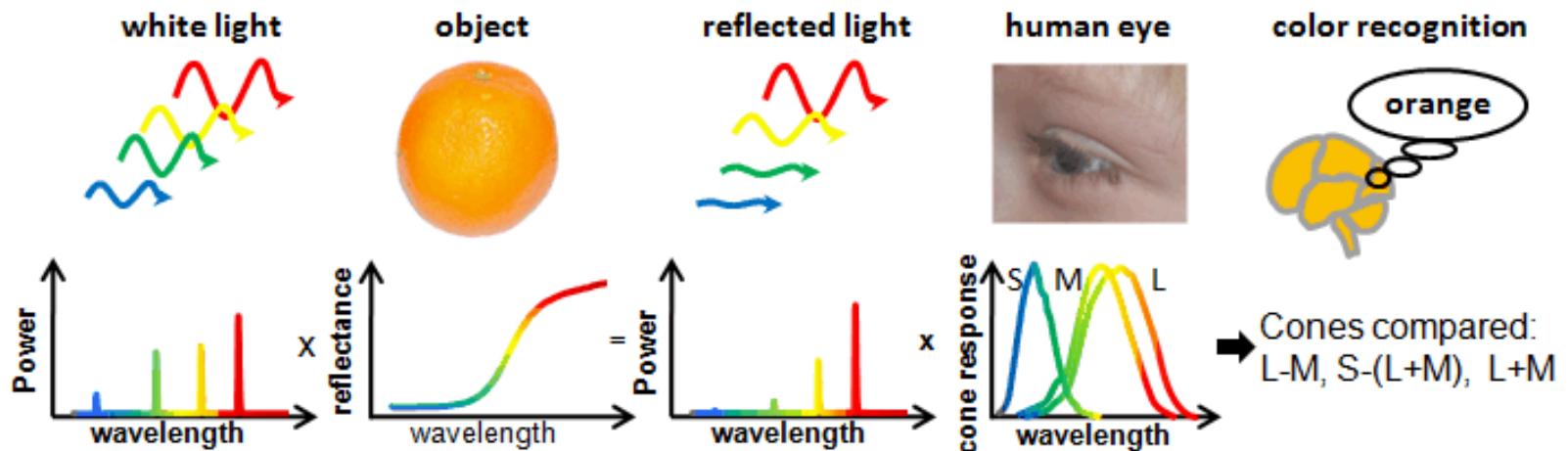
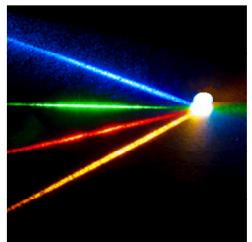
Lasing tuning of **single** GaN nanowire laser at different hydrostatic pressures



- **Continuous tuning**
- **~30nm lasing tuning**
- **Potentially >35nm lasing tuning**
- **Well defined fine tuning (<0.1nm)**
- **Multi-mode lasing as pump power increases**

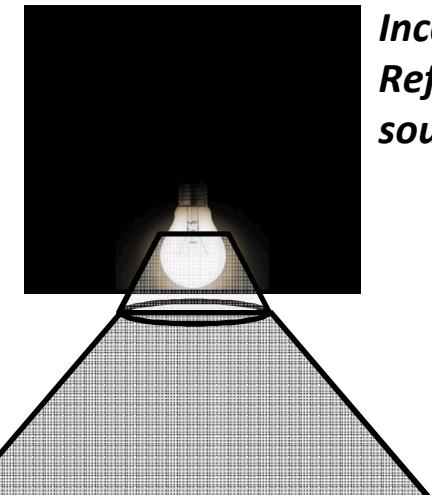
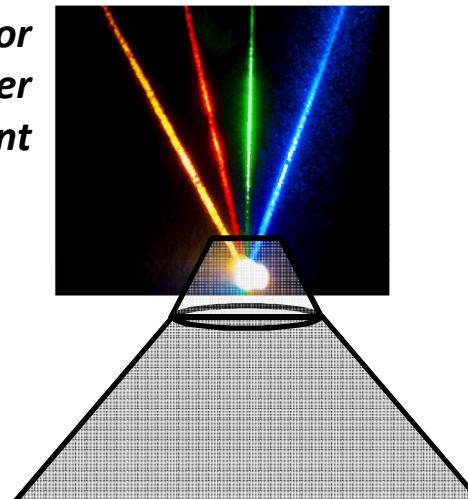
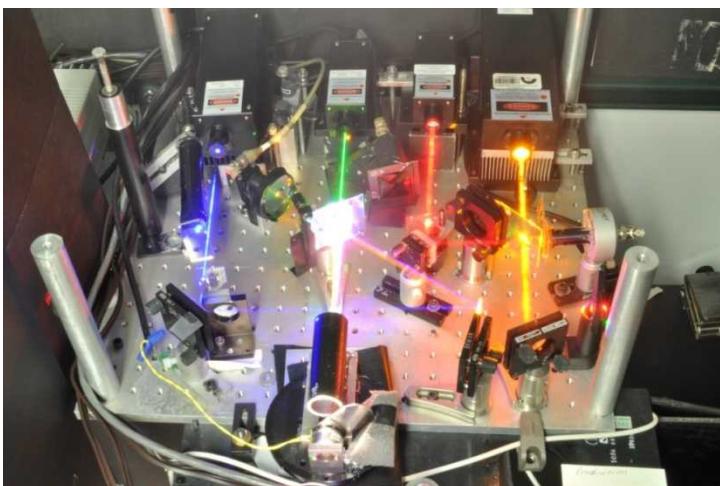
Lasers for Solid State Lighting

Could I use Lasers to Create White Light? ("Spikey" White Spectrum)

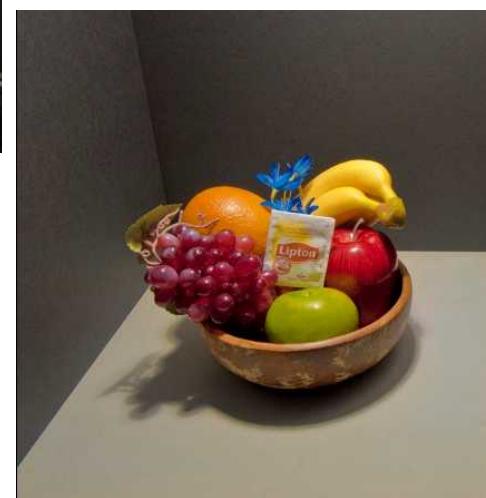


Spiky spectra have excellent color rendering: e.g., a 4-color laser illuminant

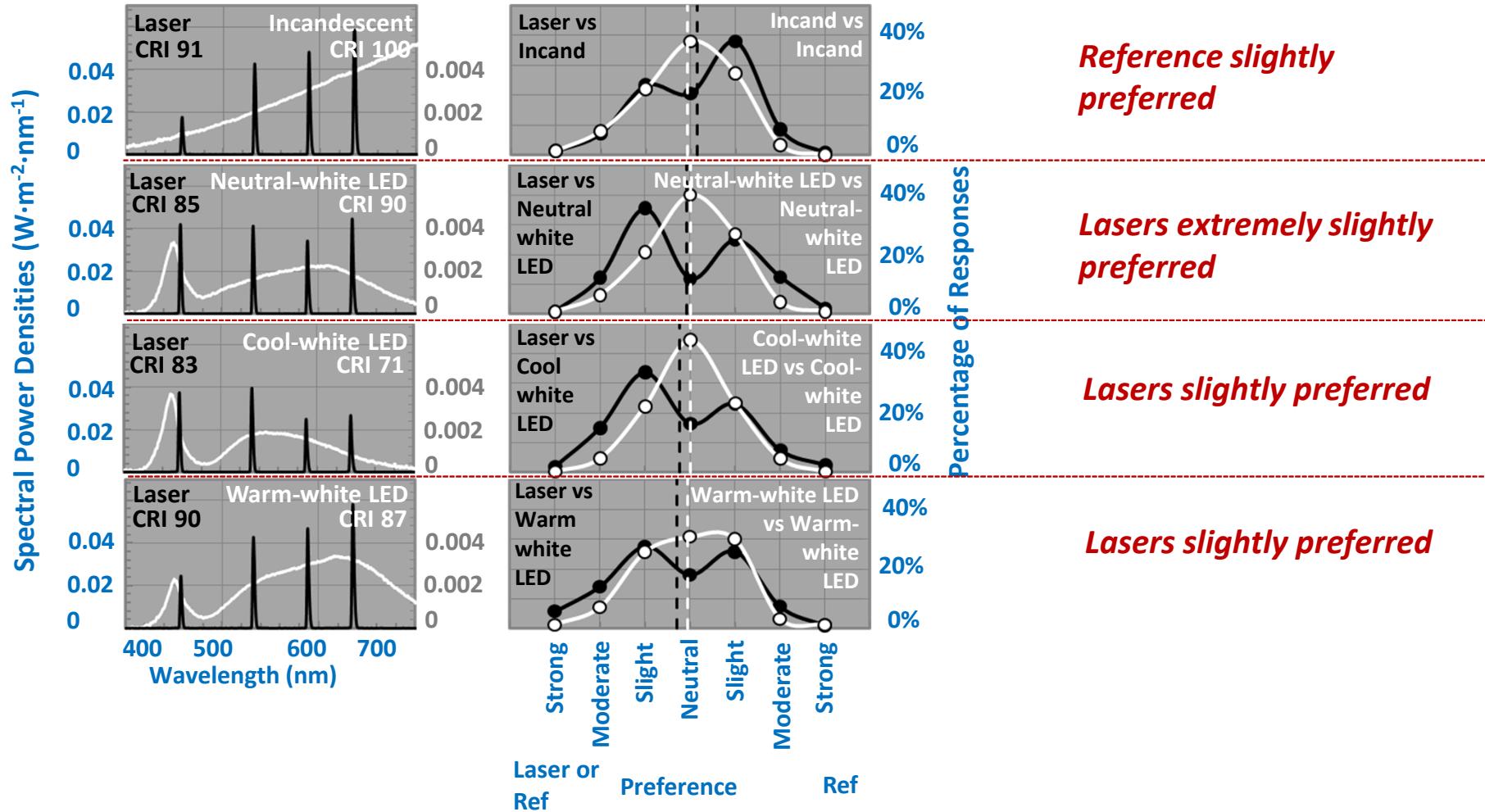
*4-Color
Laser
Illuminant*



*Incandescent
Reference
sources*

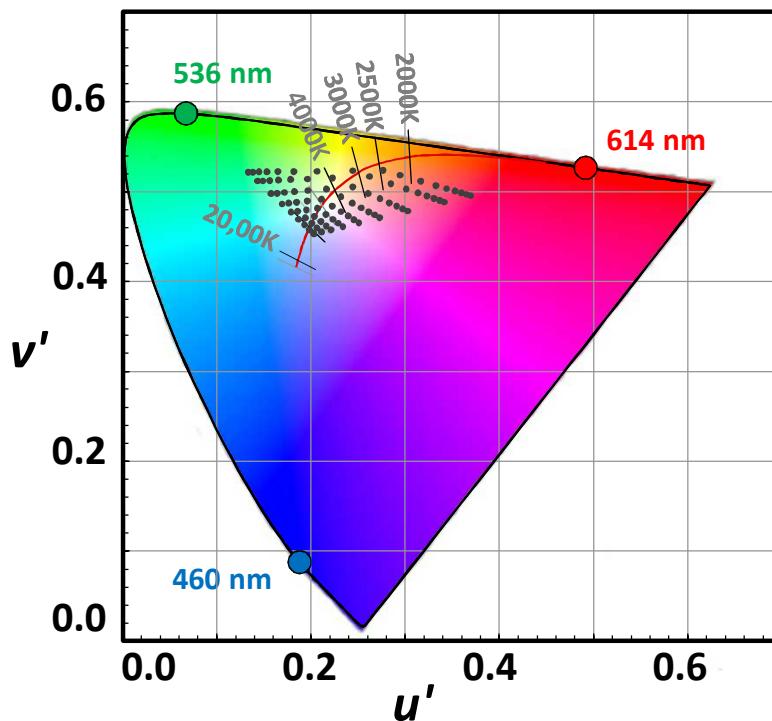


Result: RYGB laser and reference illuminants are nearly indistinguishable

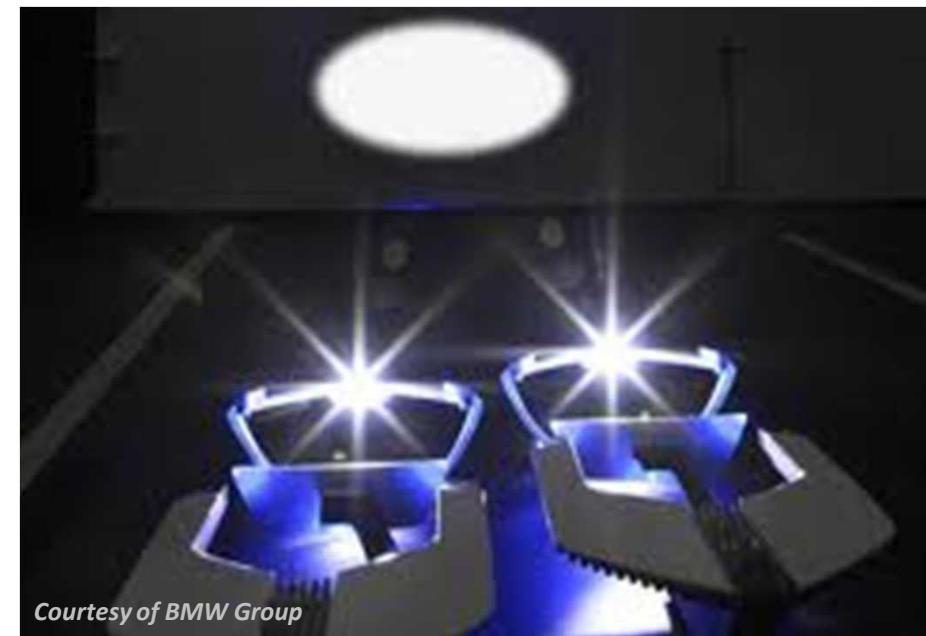


RYGB lasers: the ultimate smart, ultra-efficient SSL source

Wide color gamut



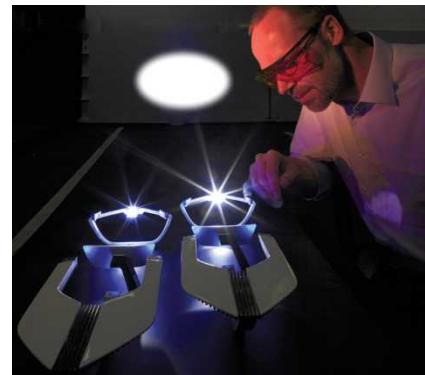
*and easy integration with optics for
directing light*



Courtesy of BMW Group

Future of Lighting: Lasers for Illumination...

Headlights,
BMW



Movies



Laser
Projector

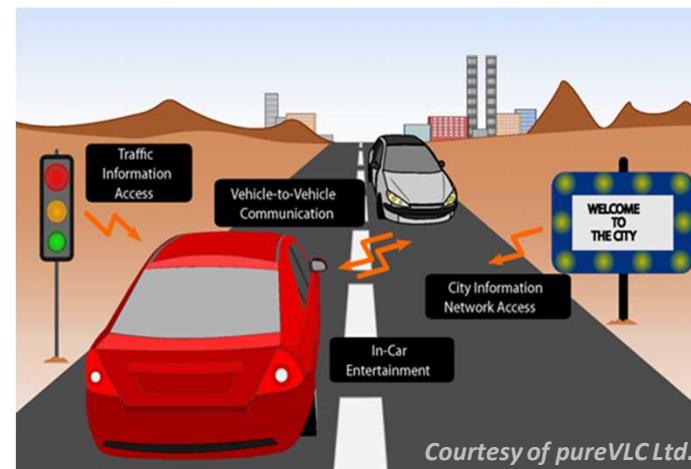


Future of Lighting: “Smart” Lighting

“2nd Wave Lighting: Smart Integrated Illumination and Feature Rich and Displays



Human Health, Well Being and Productivity



Agriculture

Communication

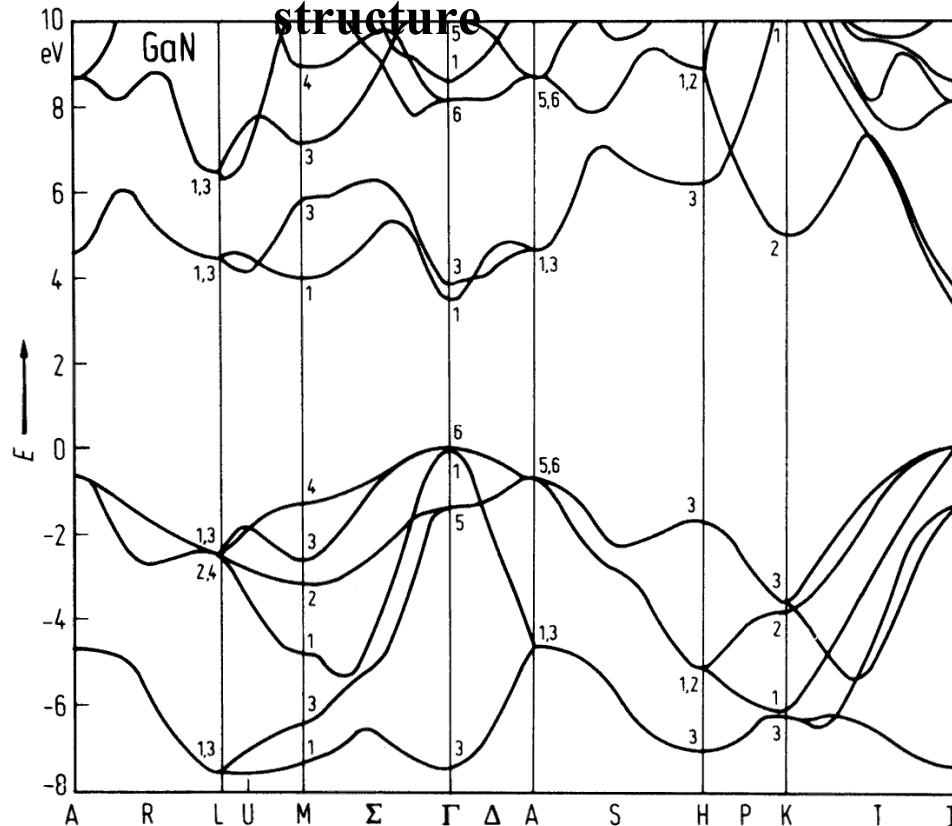
Light-Field Mapping

END

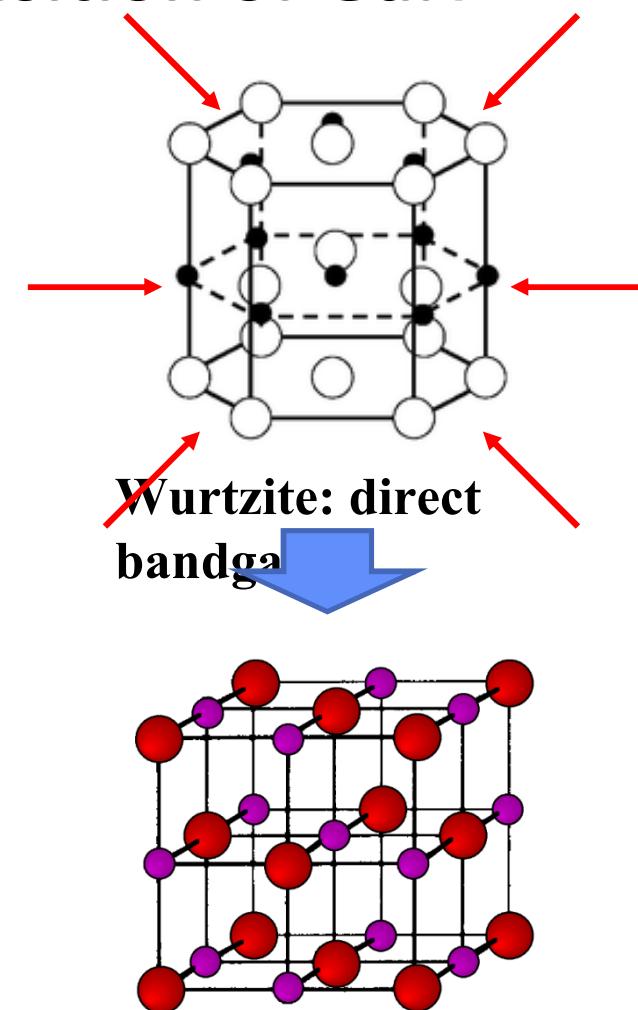
Crystal structure transition of GaN

GaN band

~~structure~~



<http://www.ioffe.ru/SVA/NSM/Semicond/GaN/bandstr.html>



Rock salt: indirect bandgap

Good news:

Transition of GaN wurtzite → rock salt doesn't occur until >40 GPa

Slide 57

IB1 doesn't it make more sense to show slides 5&6 after 9?a

Brener, Igal, 6/19/2014

III-nitride breakthroughs

Renewed interest in late 1980's, but there were three problems to be solved.

1. No GaN substrates.

- Need a **substrate** and **how to grow on that** on sapphire substrates with **lower defect density** layers of GaN. (1986)

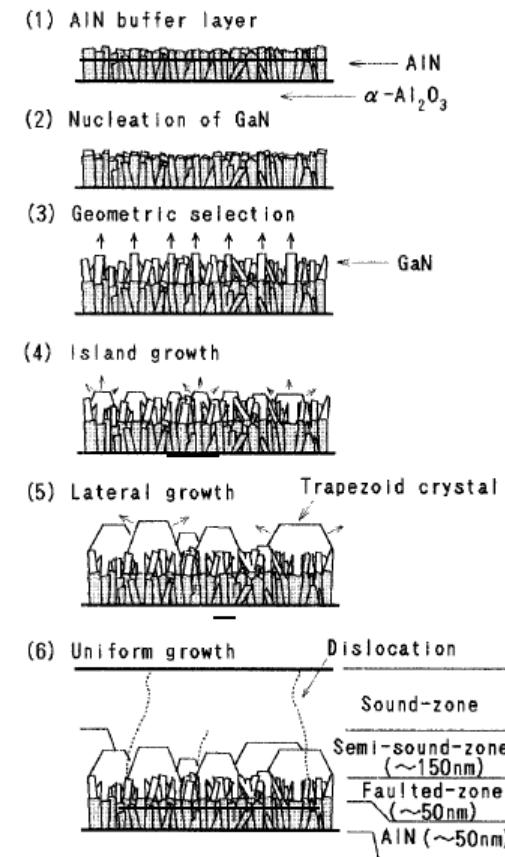
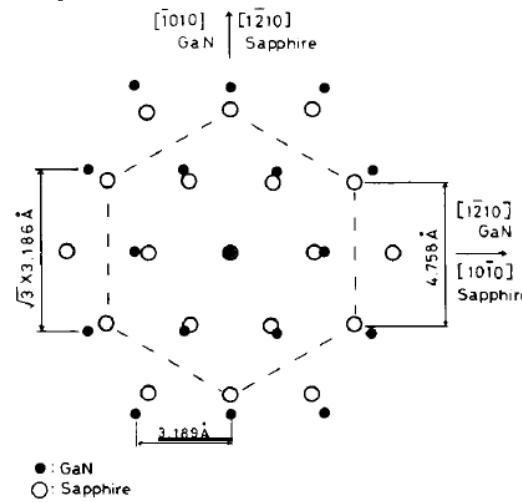


Fig. 6. Schematic diagrams showing the growth process of GaN on the AlN buffer layer as the cross sectional views.

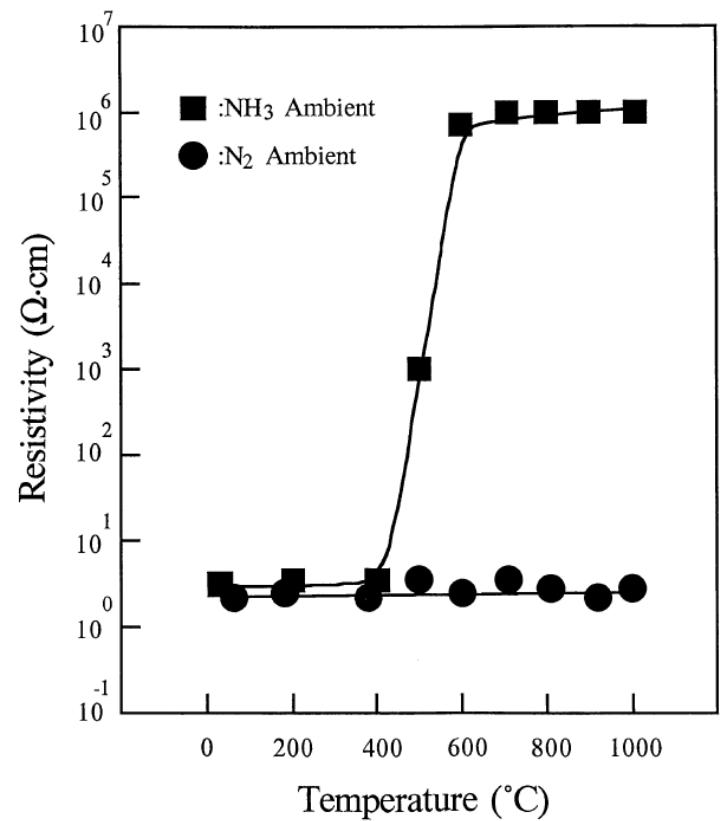
I. Akasaki, H. Amano, et al. J. Crys. Growth, 98, 209, 1989.

III-nitride breakthroughs

Renewed interest in late 1980's. But there were three problems to be solved.

2. No p-type doping.

- Mg doped GaN was not producing p-type conductivity. Why?
- Amano (1989) showed electron beam irradiation creates active Mg.
- Nakamura (1992) demonstrated that Hydrogen passivates Mg acceptors

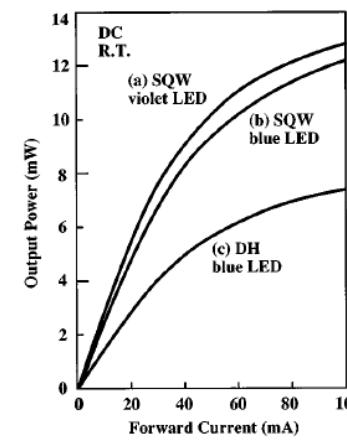
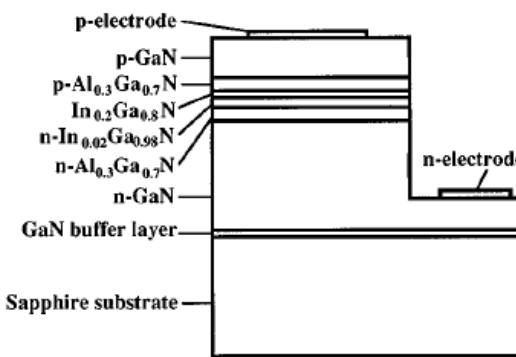


III-nitride breakthroughs

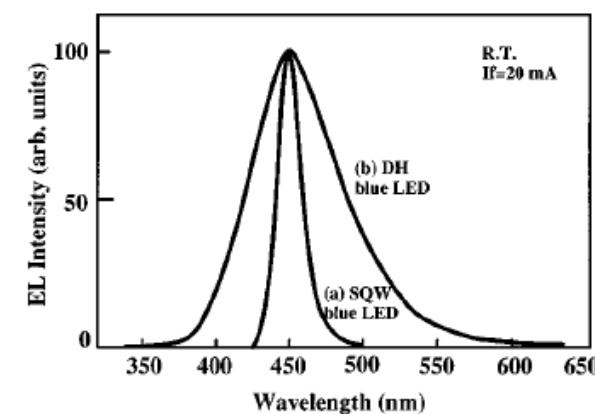
Renewed interest in late 1980's. But there were three problems to be solved.

3. GaN emission is in the near-UV, not the visible.

- Need to learn how to grow lower energy InGaN material.
- Nakamura (1995) demonstrated blue LEDs with ~10% quantum efficiency.

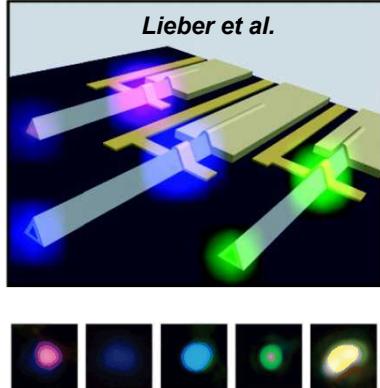


S. Nakamura, et al. ALP, 64, 1868, 1995.



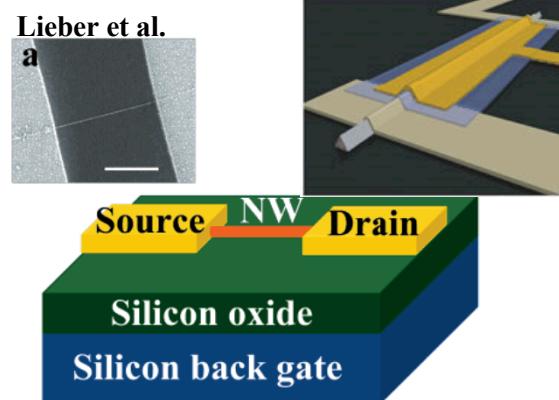
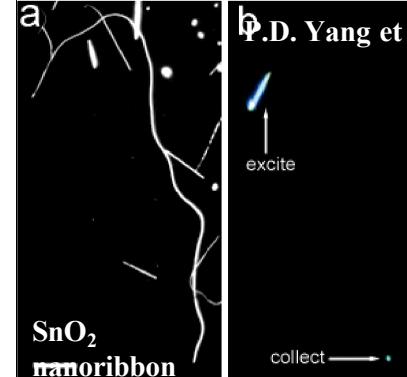
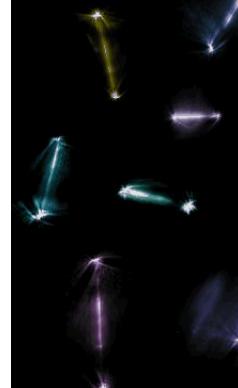


Reduced dimensionality, high crystalline quality, high atomic surface/bulk ratio, size (intersects physical characteristic length scales) can lead to enhanced & novel properties



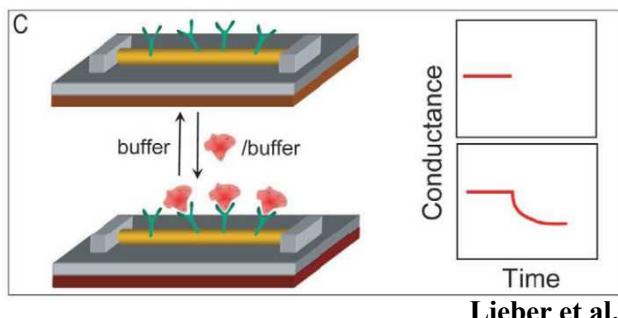
LEDs and lasers

- Nanosized light sources
- Higher efficiency due to lack of defects
- High light extraction



Transistors/HEMTs

- improved performance characteristics
- small size

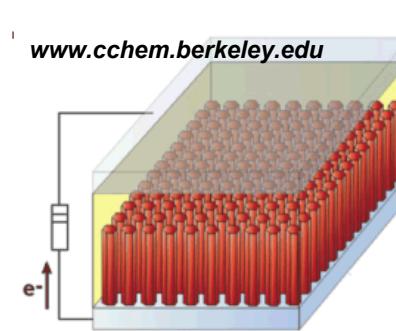


Chem/bio-sensors

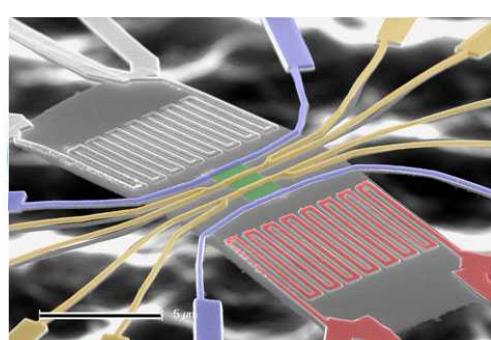
- large atomic surface/bulk ratio leads nanowire depletion & ultrahigh sensitivity

Waveguides and Filters

- coupled with nanowire light sources, building blocks for nanophotonics circuitry



Lieber et al.



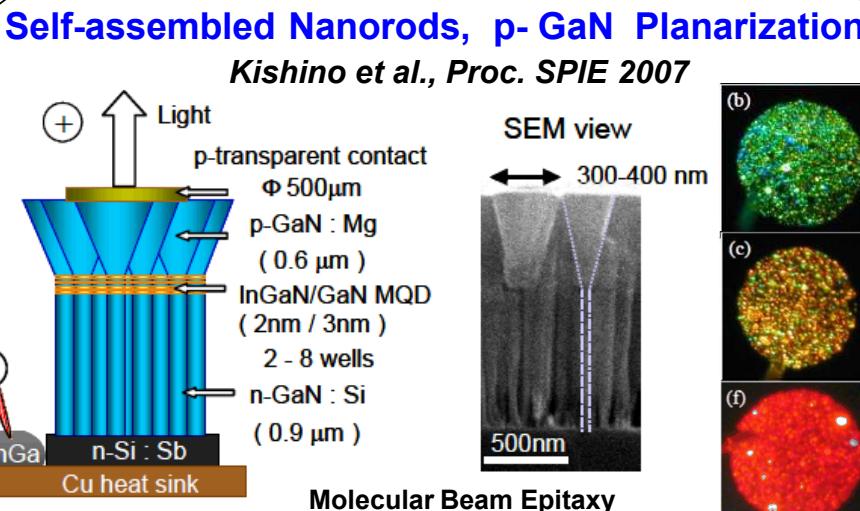
Heath et al.

Energy Harvesting

- Nanowire Photovoltaics
- Thermoelectrics
- Piezoelectric energy generation

Nanostructured InGaN LEDs

Axial LED Geometries



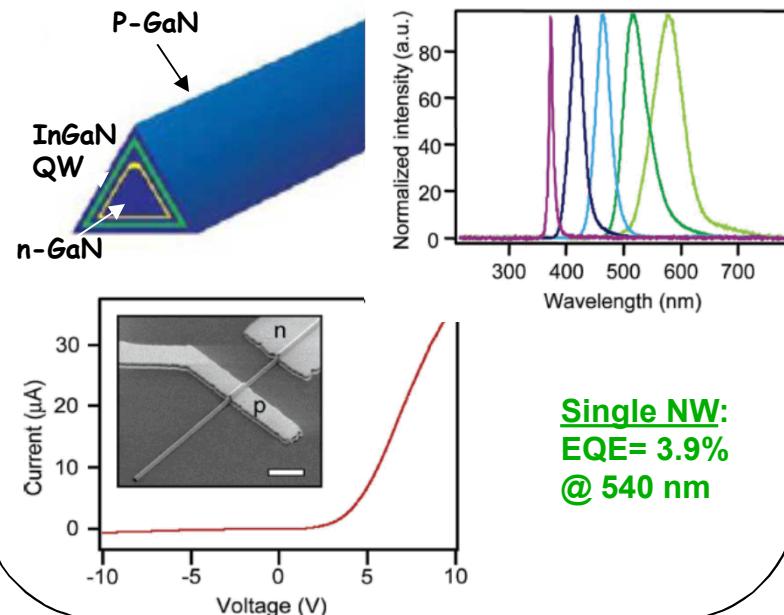
→ Indium composition variations between nanorods;
leads to broad spectra

Also, Spin-on-glass planarization
Kim et al., Nanolett. 2004

Radial (Core-Shell) LED Geometries

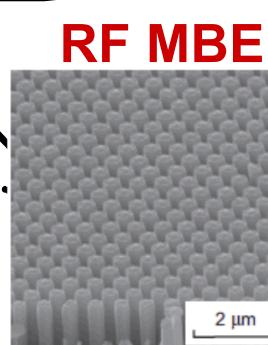
n-GaN/InGaN/p-GaN core/shell Nanowires

Qian et al., Nat Mat. 2005

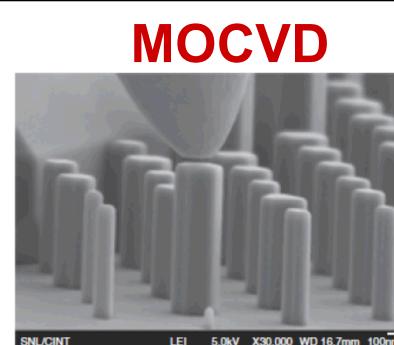


Outstanding Issues:

- NW uniformity for InGaN composition and color control
→ Selective area growth
- Device architectures

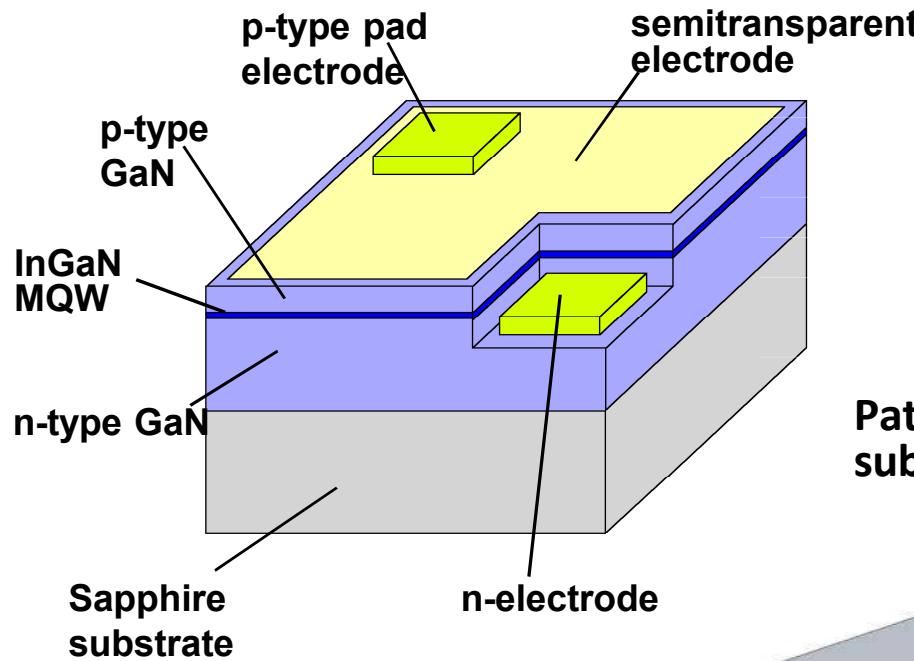


Kishino et al., JCG 2009
63

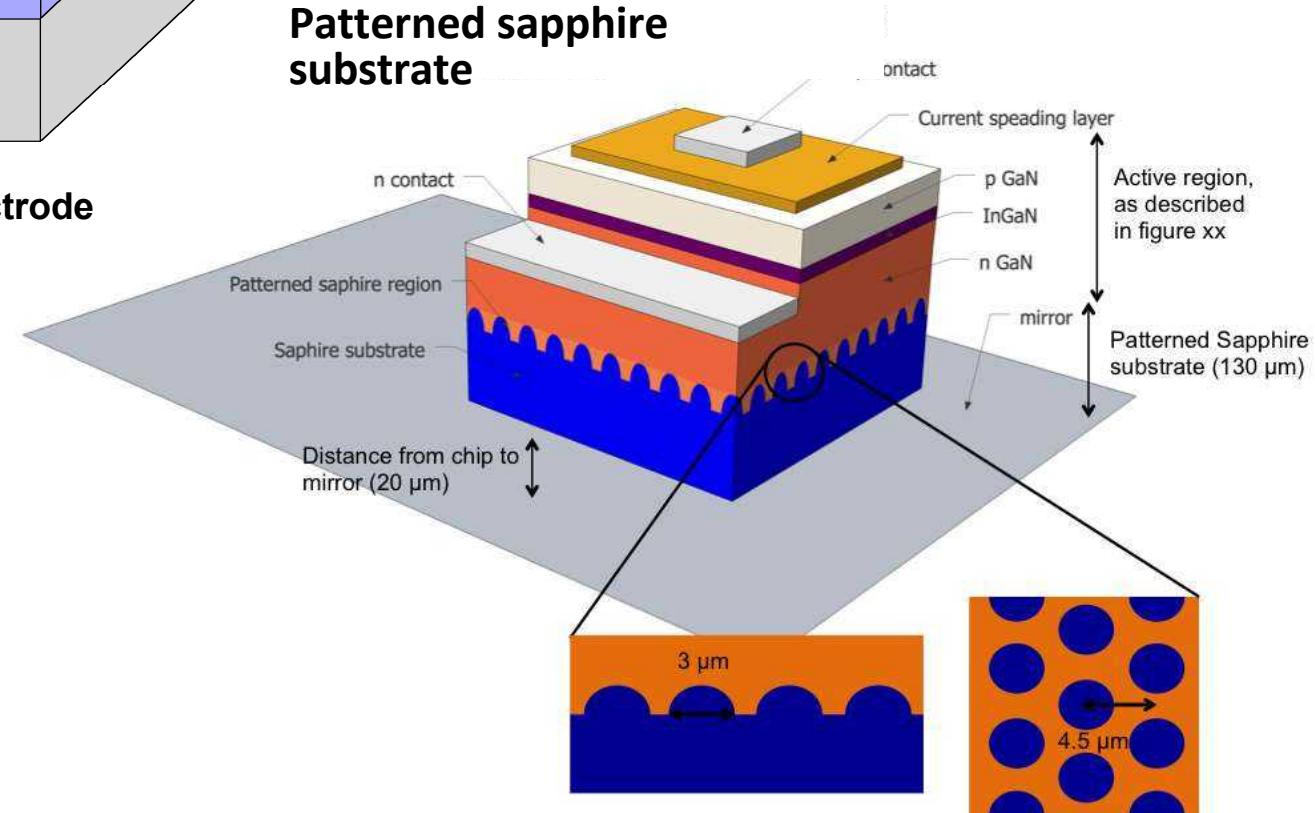


Hersee et al., Electron. Lett. 2009

Typical Blue LED Structure on Sapphire



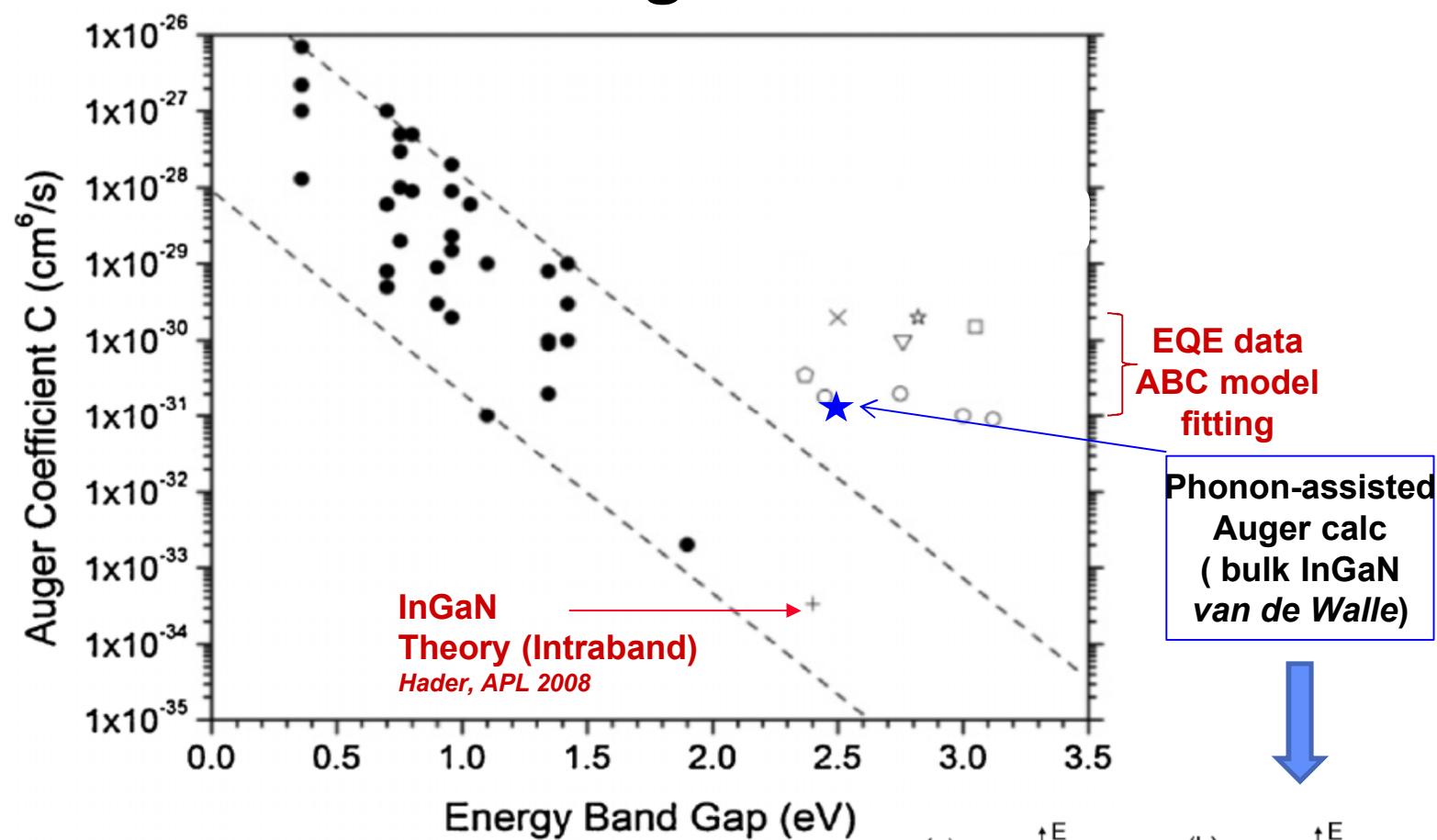
Patterned sapphire
substrate



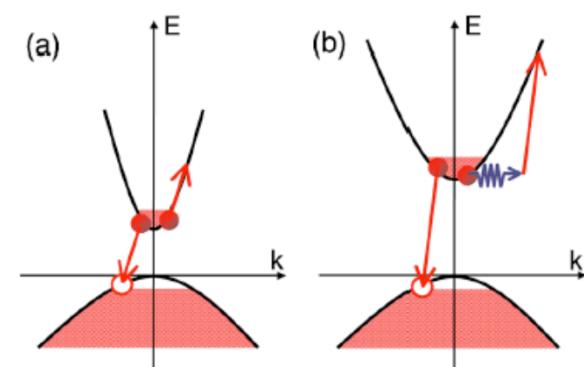
Weisbuch)

Auger

Piprek, PSSA, 2010

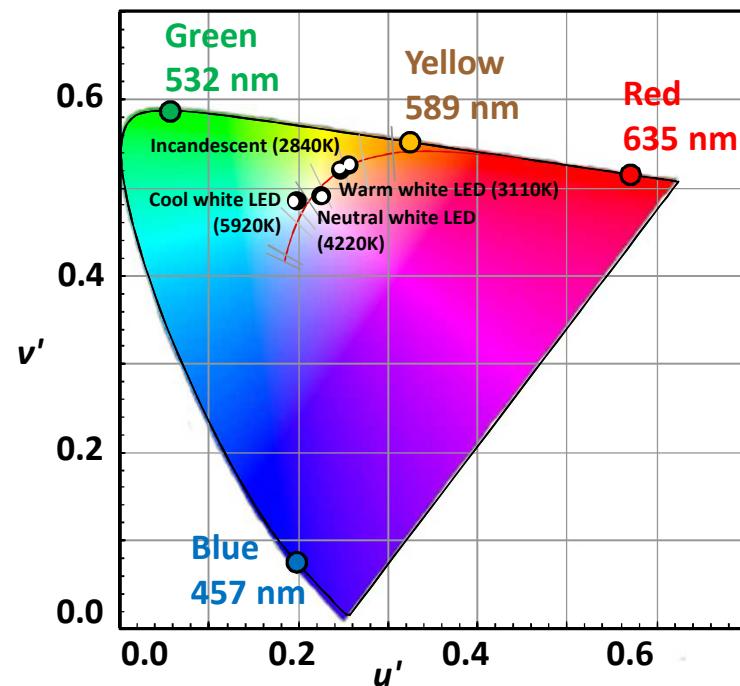


- recent paper: Auger creates high energy carriers which contribute to leakage (diplomatic solution)





Light “Temperature”, Chromaticity, etc

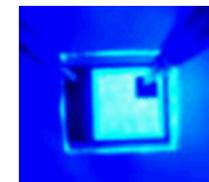


From indicators to illuminators

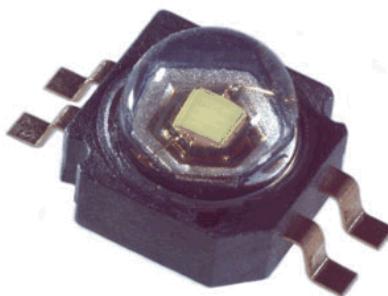


5mm LED:

~0.2 mm x 0.2 mm die area.
20mA max operating current.
Epoxy encapsulation.
10's of mW of optical power.

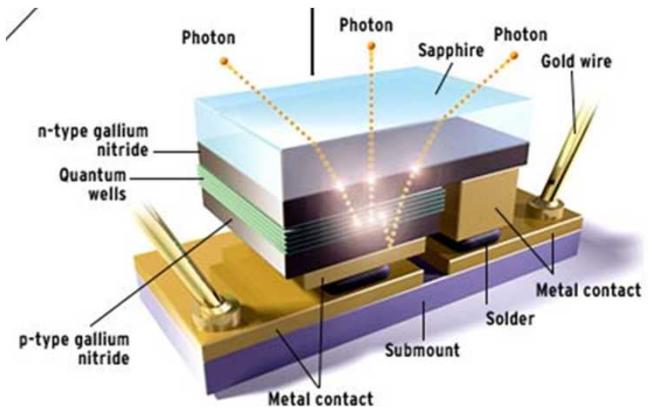


↓
~2000

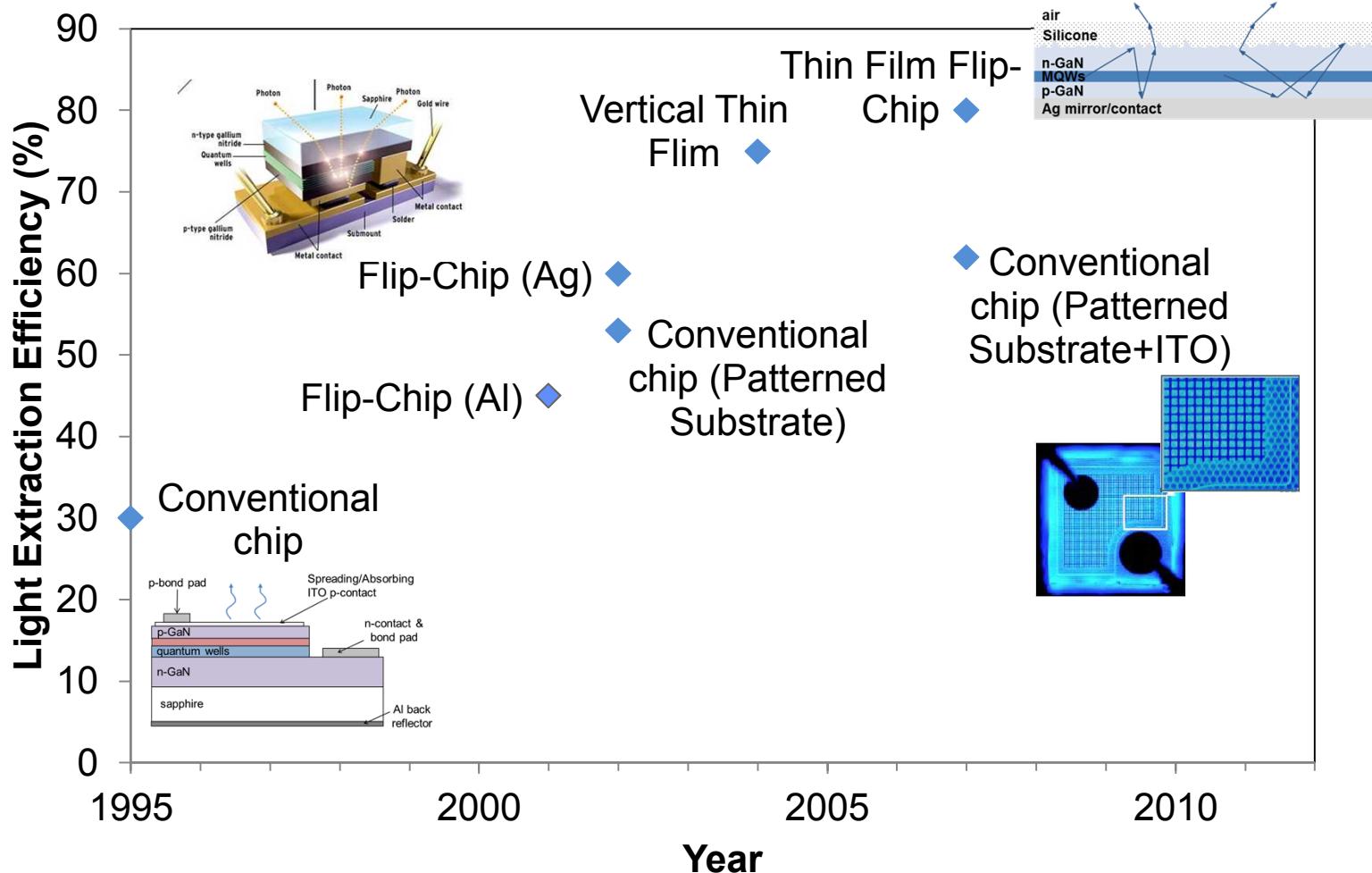


High power LED:

~1mm x 1mm die area
700mA-1A max operating current
silicone encapsulation
~1's of W of optical power.

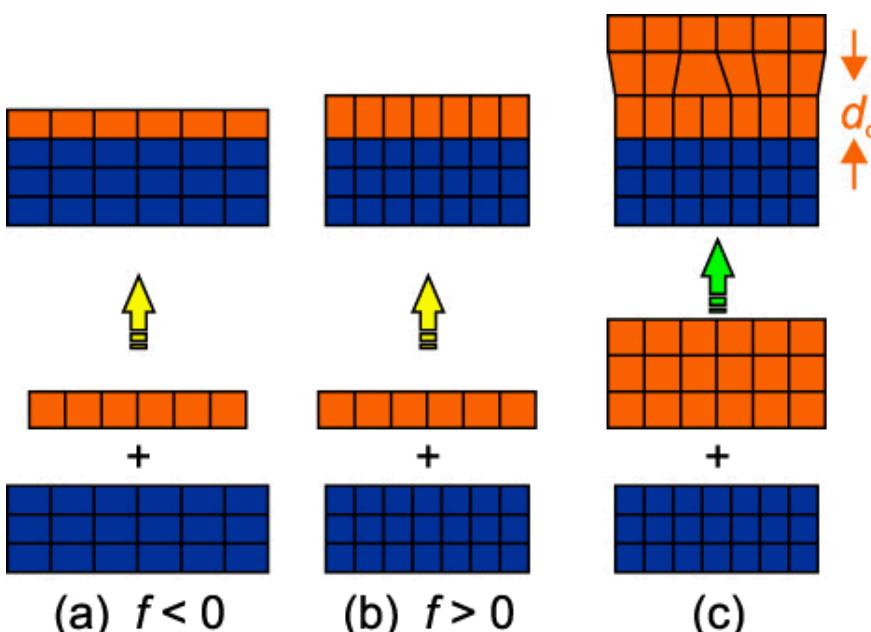


LED Extraction Efficiency Over Time



A Closer Look at III-Nitride Semiconductors: Defects!

What happens when 2 crystals don't have the same lattice constant and we try to grow one on top of the other



(iopscience.org)

Electron Micrograph (cross section)

