

The 3rd Advanced Lasers and Photon Sources (ALPS'14), ALPS3-5

Pacifico Yokohama, Yokohama, Japan

Apr. 23, 2014, 10:15-10:30

RF noise measurement of a microcavity Kerr comb generated by dual pumping

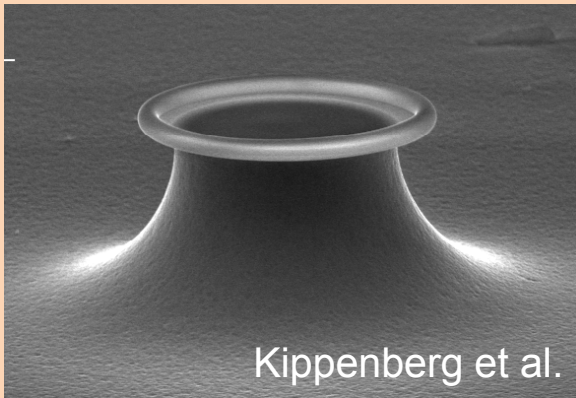
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Faculty of Science and Technology, Keio University



Kerr comb

Microcavity



- ✓ On chip
- ✓ High repetition rate
(10GHz-1THz)
- ✓ Low cost
- ✓ Low pump threshold

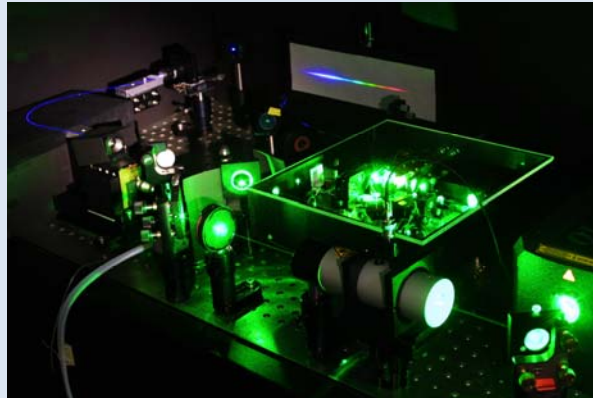
Threshold pump power of
degenerate four-wave mixing

$$P_{threshold} \propto \frac{V}{Q^2}$$

V : mode volume, Q : quality factor

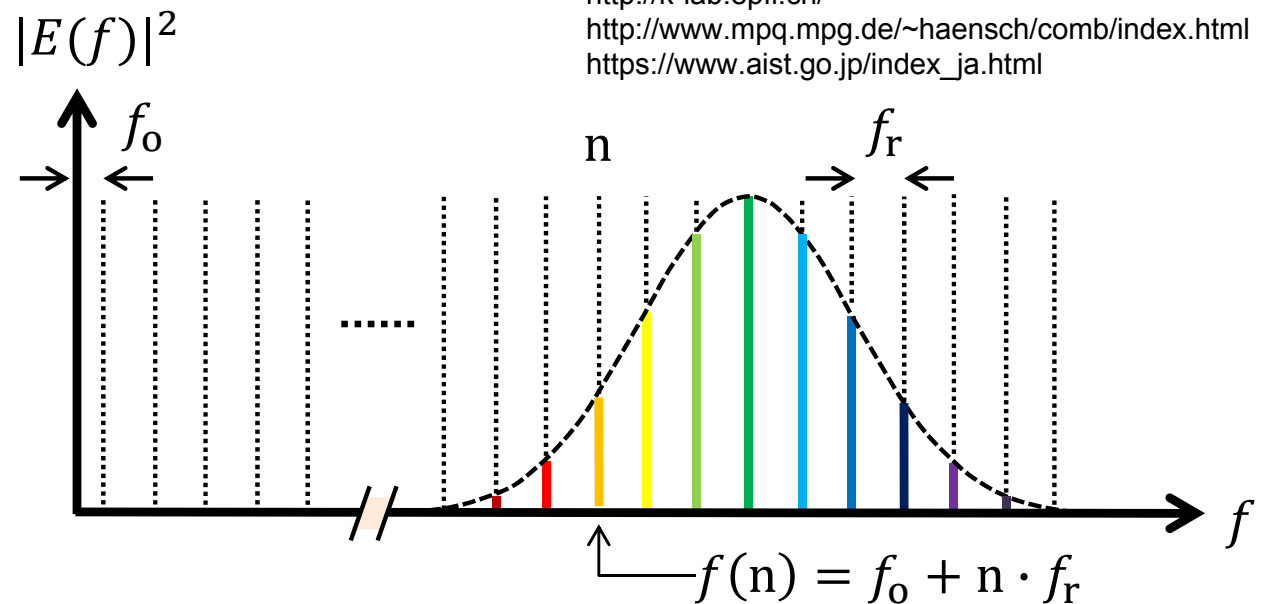
Frequency comb

Ti:Sapphire laser



Large & expensive

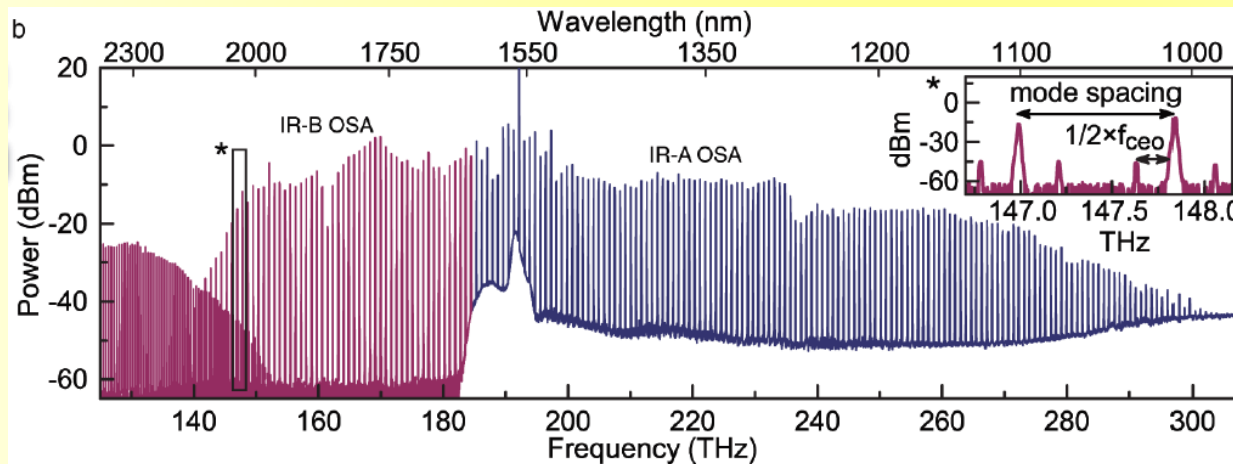
Fiber laser





▶ Octave spanning Kerr comb

P. Del'Haye et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **107**, 063901 (2011)



- ✓ Silica toroid microcavity
- ✓ Pump power = 2.5 W
- ✓ No highly non-linear fiber

Kerr comb has been observed, but a f - $2f$ self referencing is not achieved yet, due to,

- 1) low stability of the generated comb
- 2) unknown mechanism on mode-locking in microcavities

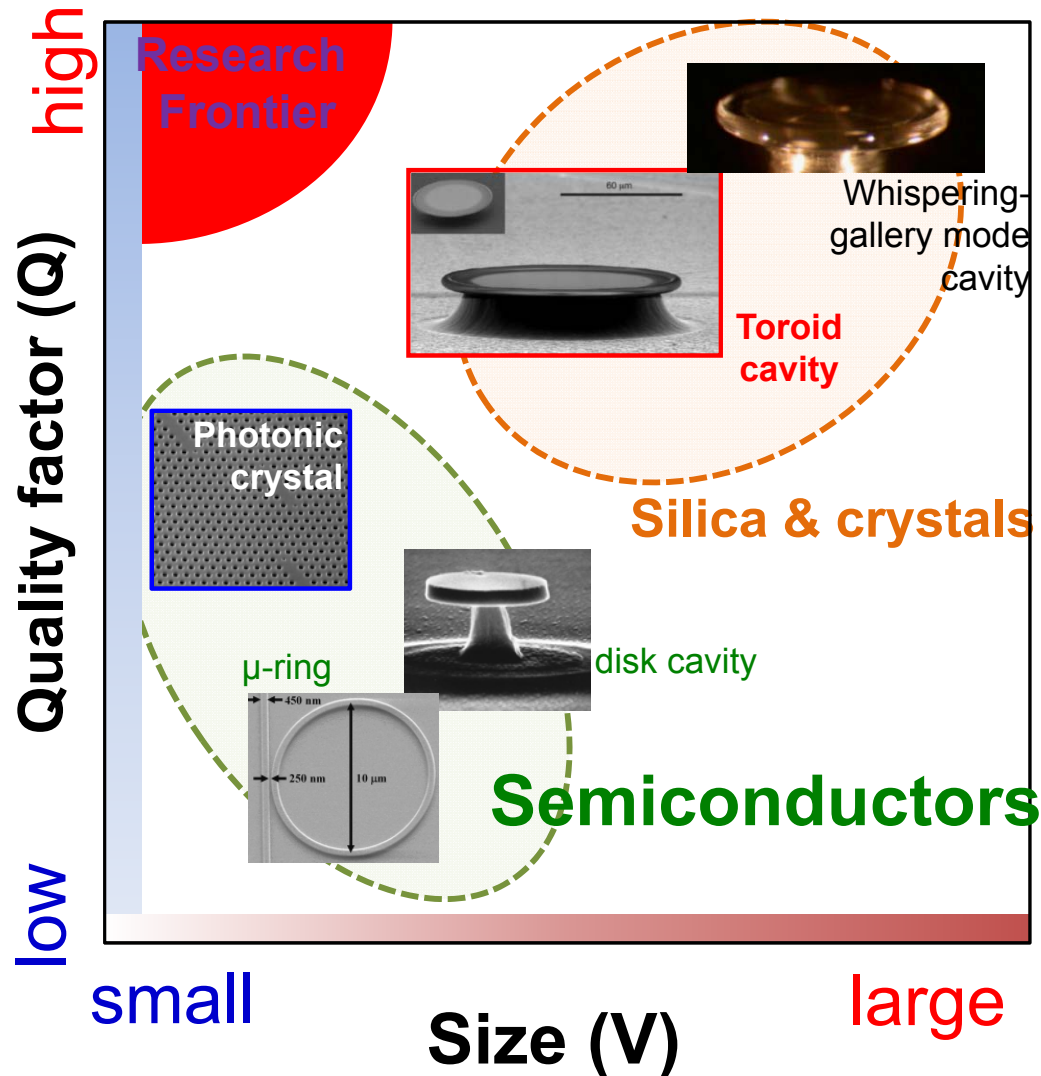
Motivation

- Understand the mode-locking mechanism
- Increasing the stability by dual pumping



▶ Various microcavities

▶ Quality factor and mode volume



◆ Q-factor

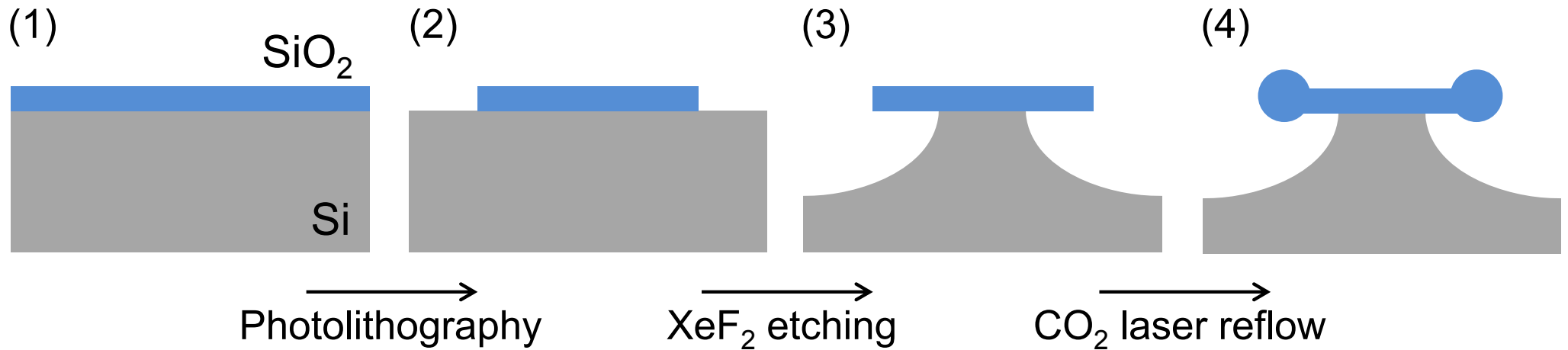
$$Q = \omega \times \frac{\text{stored energy}}{\text{power in/out}}$$

◆ Photon density

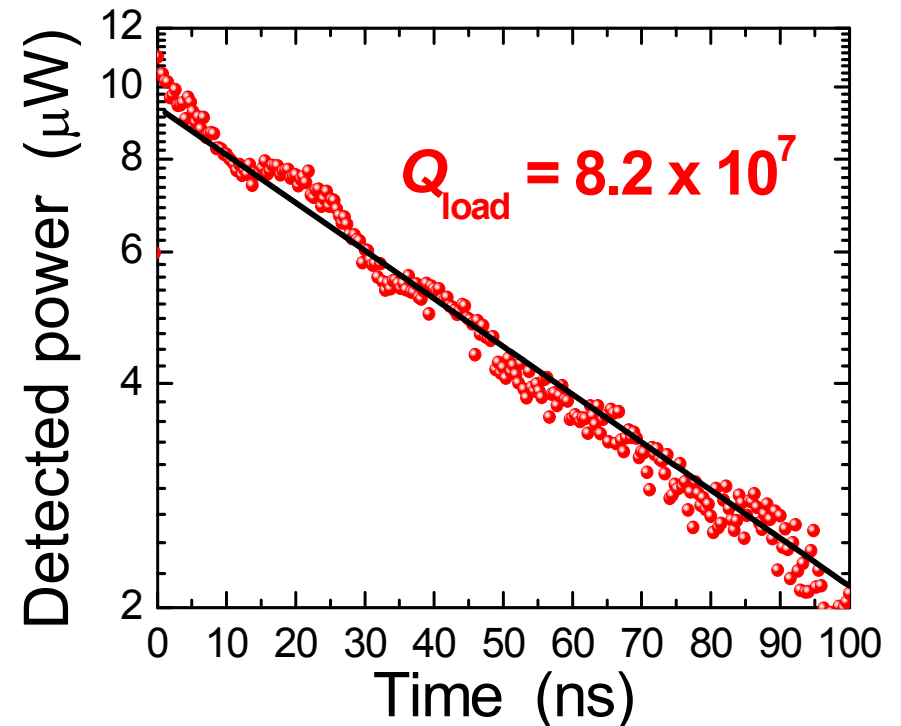
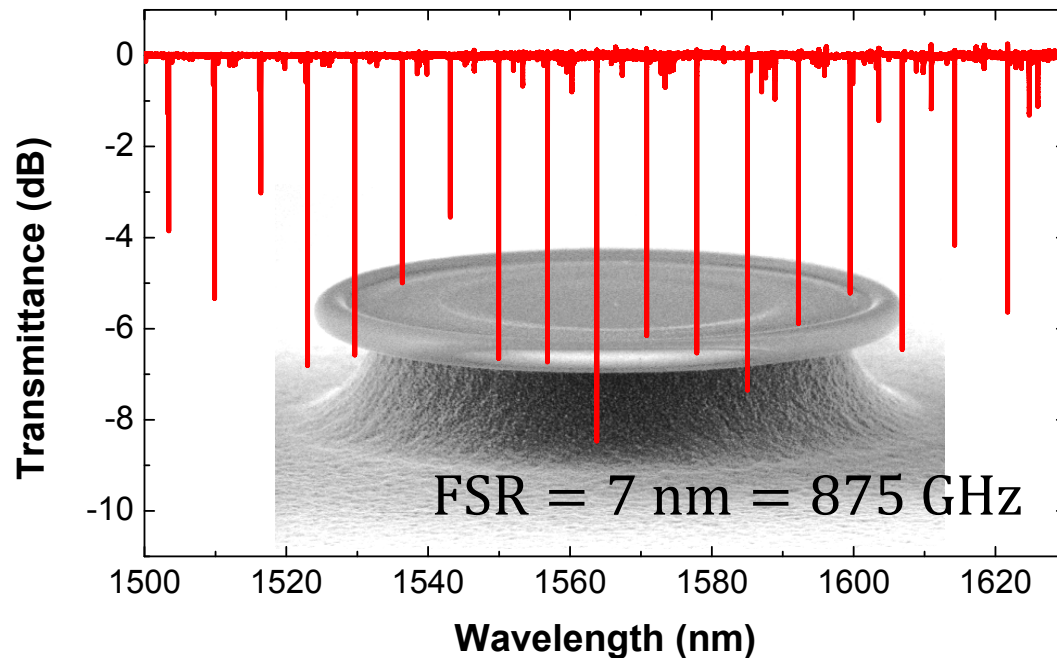
$$\propto \frac{Q}{V}$$

▶ Applications

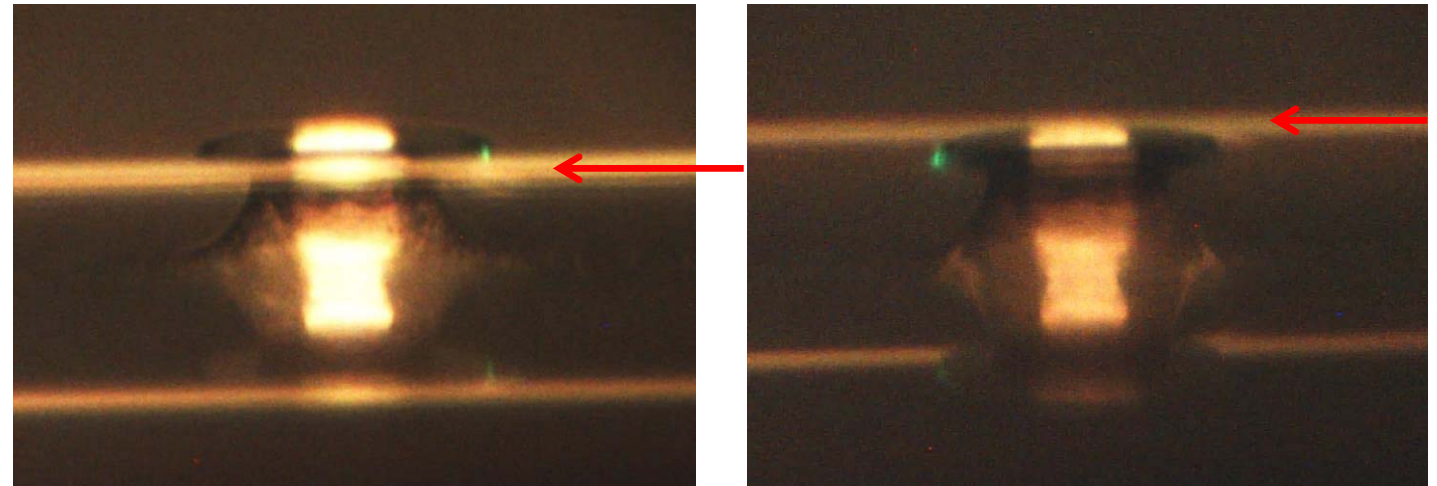
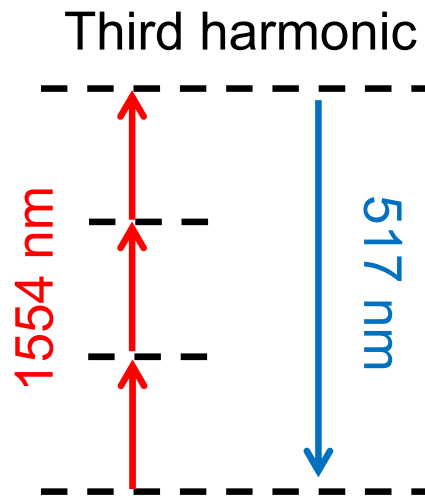
- ▶ All-optical switching
- ▶ Optical buffer
- ▶ Cavity QED devices
- ▶ Low-threshold lasers
- ▶ Optical sensors
- ▶ Optical frequency combs



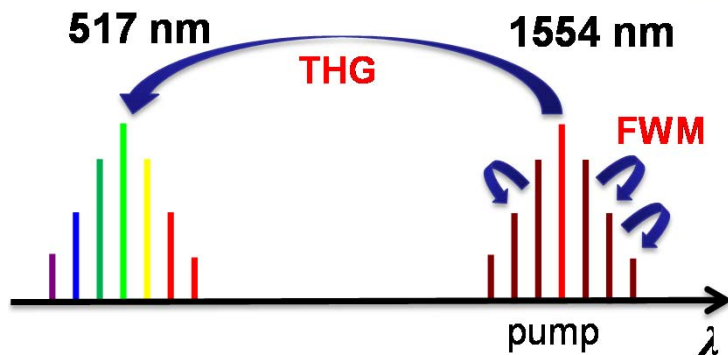
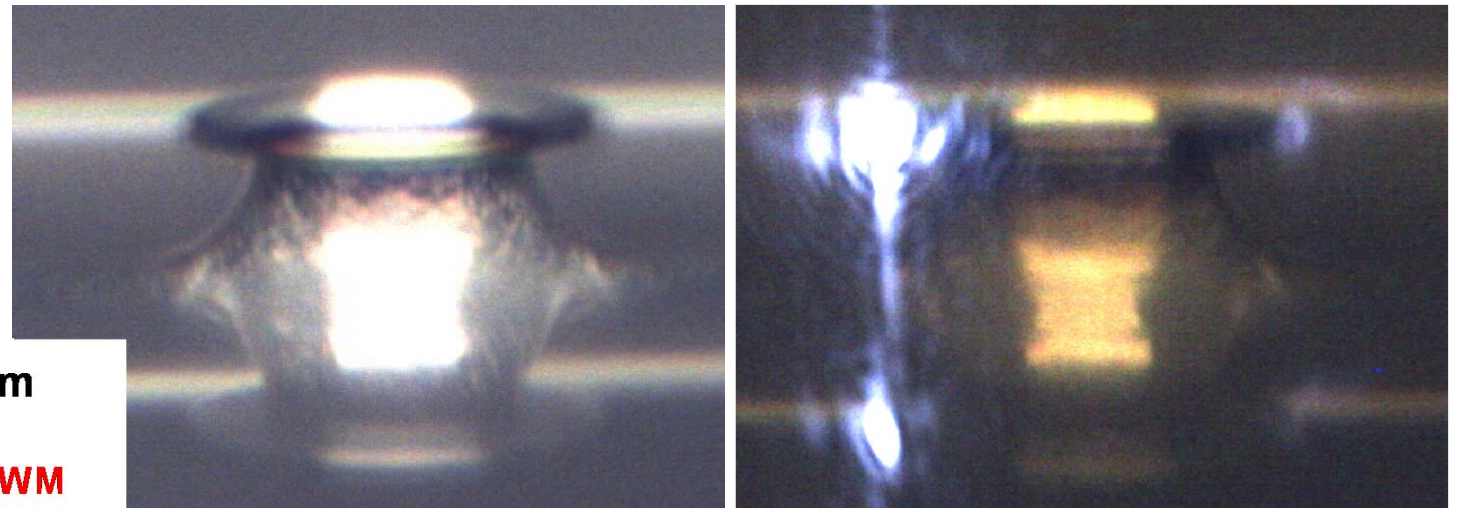
► Spectrum Measurement



Third harmonic generation



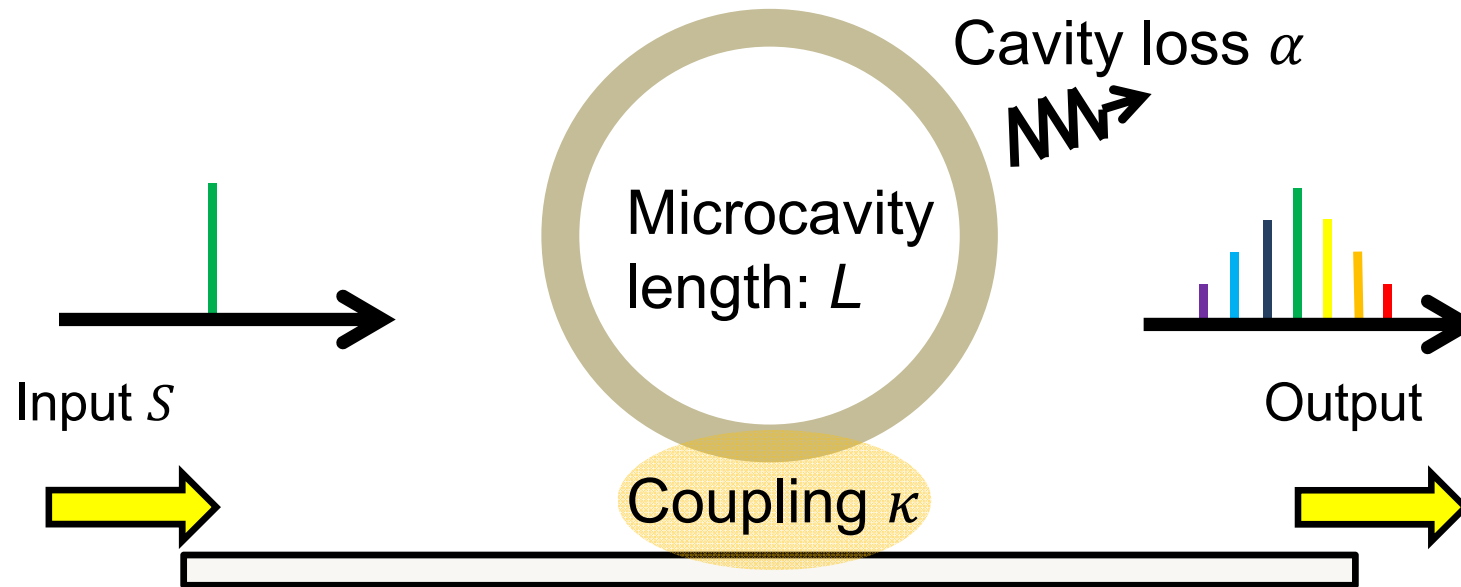
$\chi^{(3)}$ nonlinearity



Solving Lugiato-Lefever equation w/ split-step Fourier method

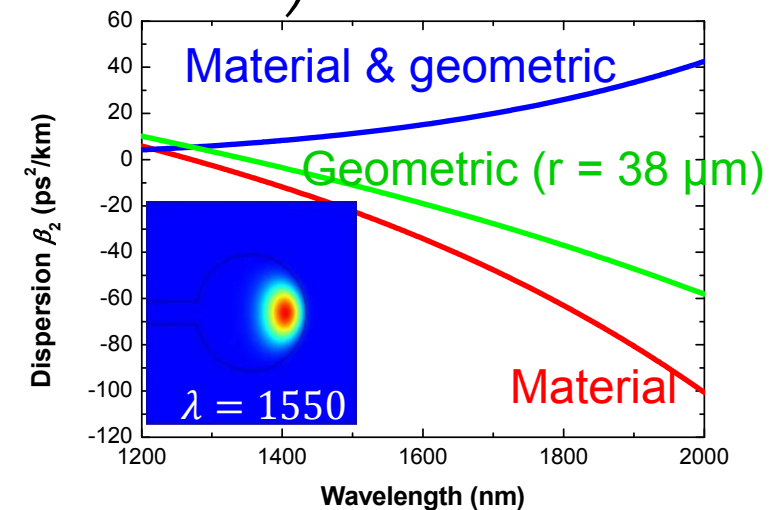


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$$t_R \frac{\partial E}{\partial r} = \left(-\frac{\alpha}{2} - \frac{\kappa}{2} - i\delta_0 + iL \sum_{k \geq 2} \frac{\beta_k}{k!} \left(i \frac{\partial}{\partial T} \right)^k + i\gamma L |E|^2 \right) E + \sqrt{\kappa} S$$

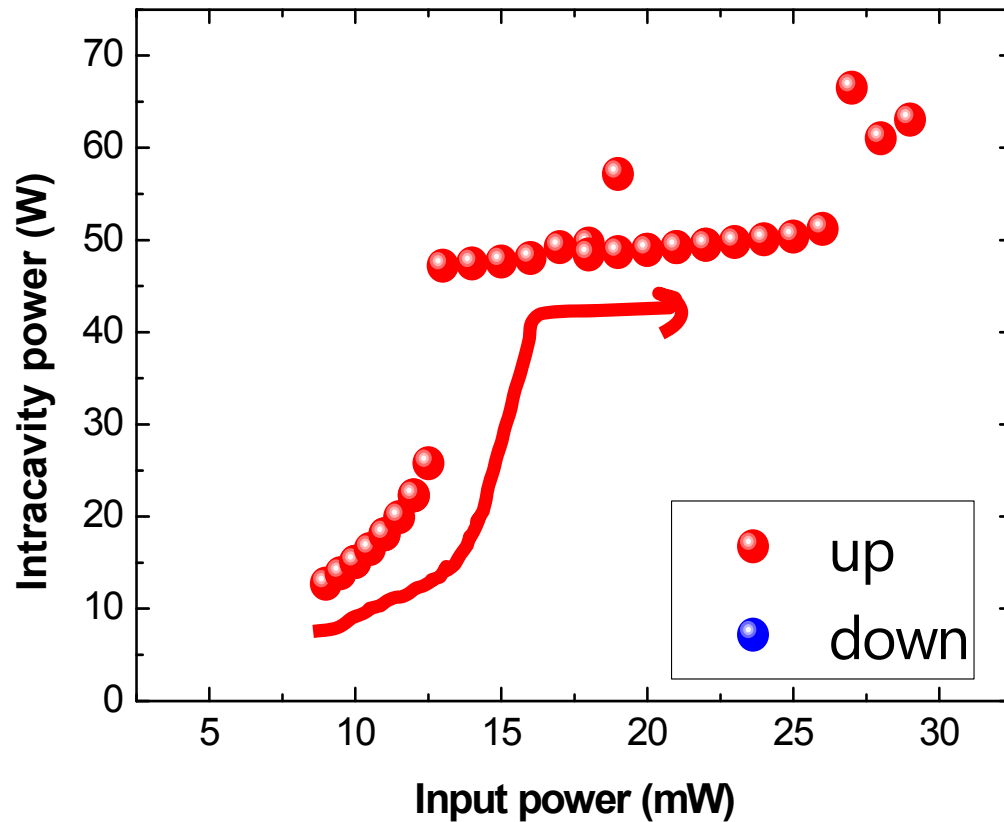
r : round trip number β : dispersion parameter
 t_R : round trip time γ : nonlinear parameter
 δ_0 : detuning of input





$$Q_{\alpha} = 7.0 \times 10^6 \quad \Delta = 2 \text{ (detuning)}$$

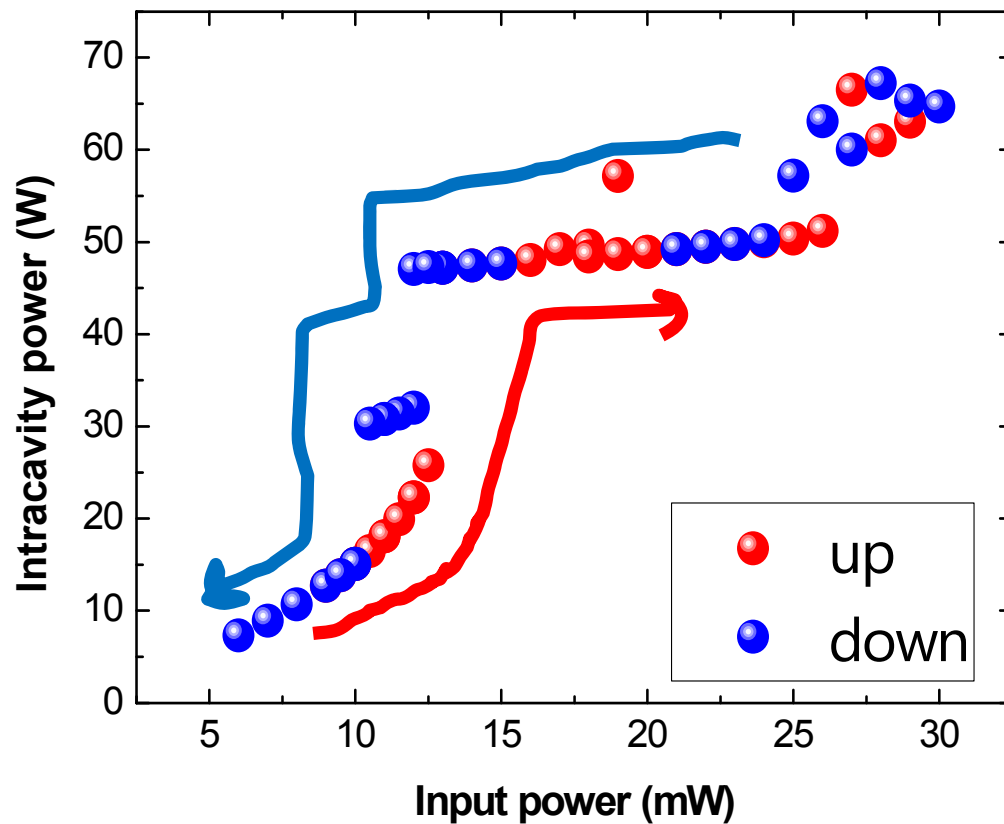
$$Q_{\kappa} = 7.0 \times 10^6$$





$$Q_{\alpha} = 7.0 \times 10^6 \quad \Delta = 2 \text{ (detuning)}$$

$$Q_{\kappa} = 7.0 \times 10^6$$



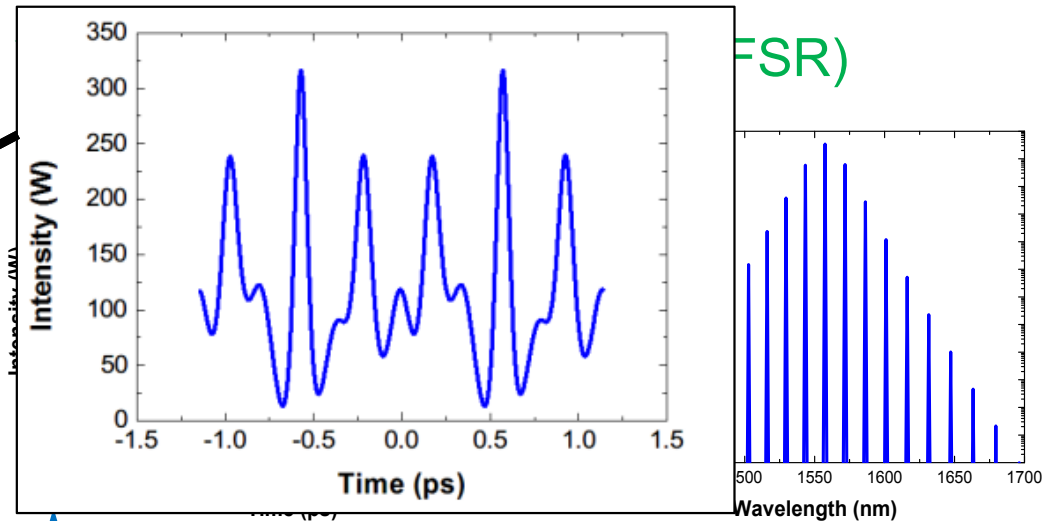
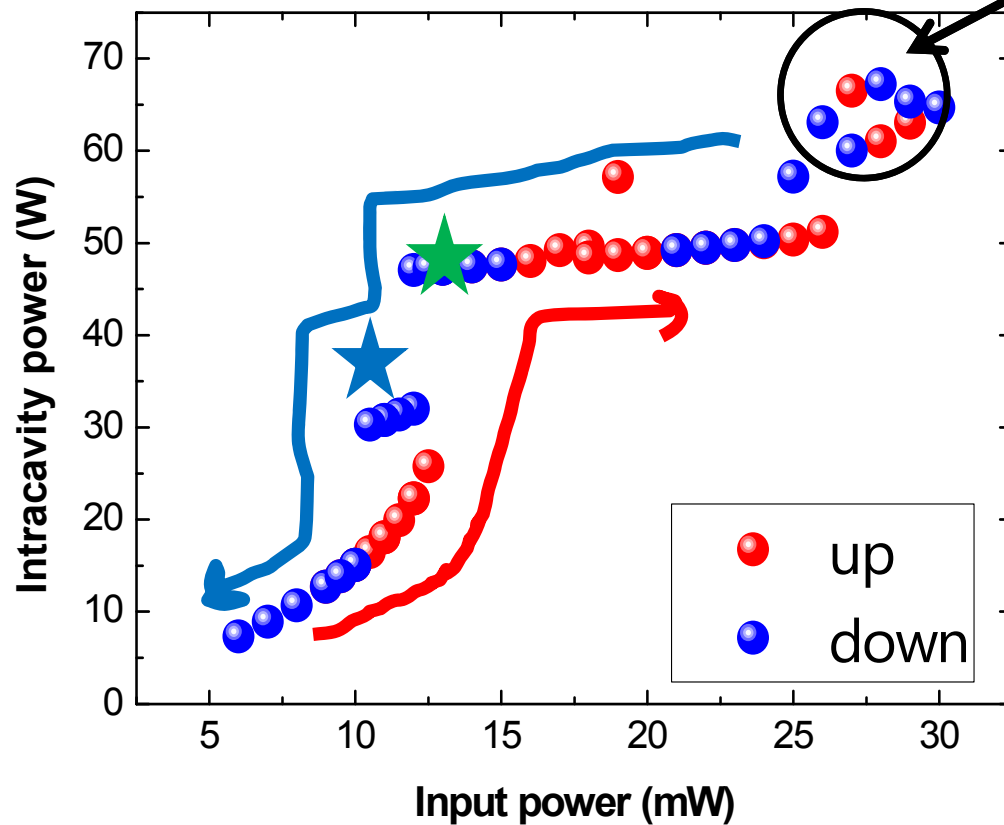
Simulation: harmonic to fundamental mode-locking



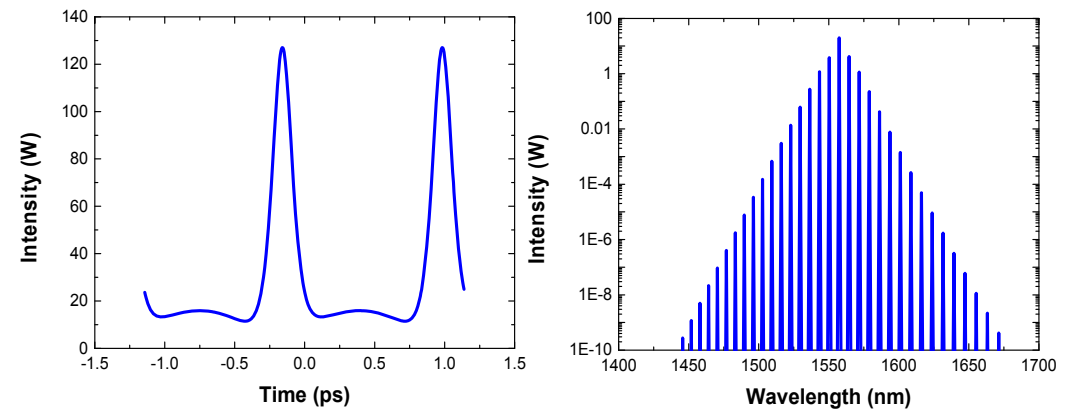
10

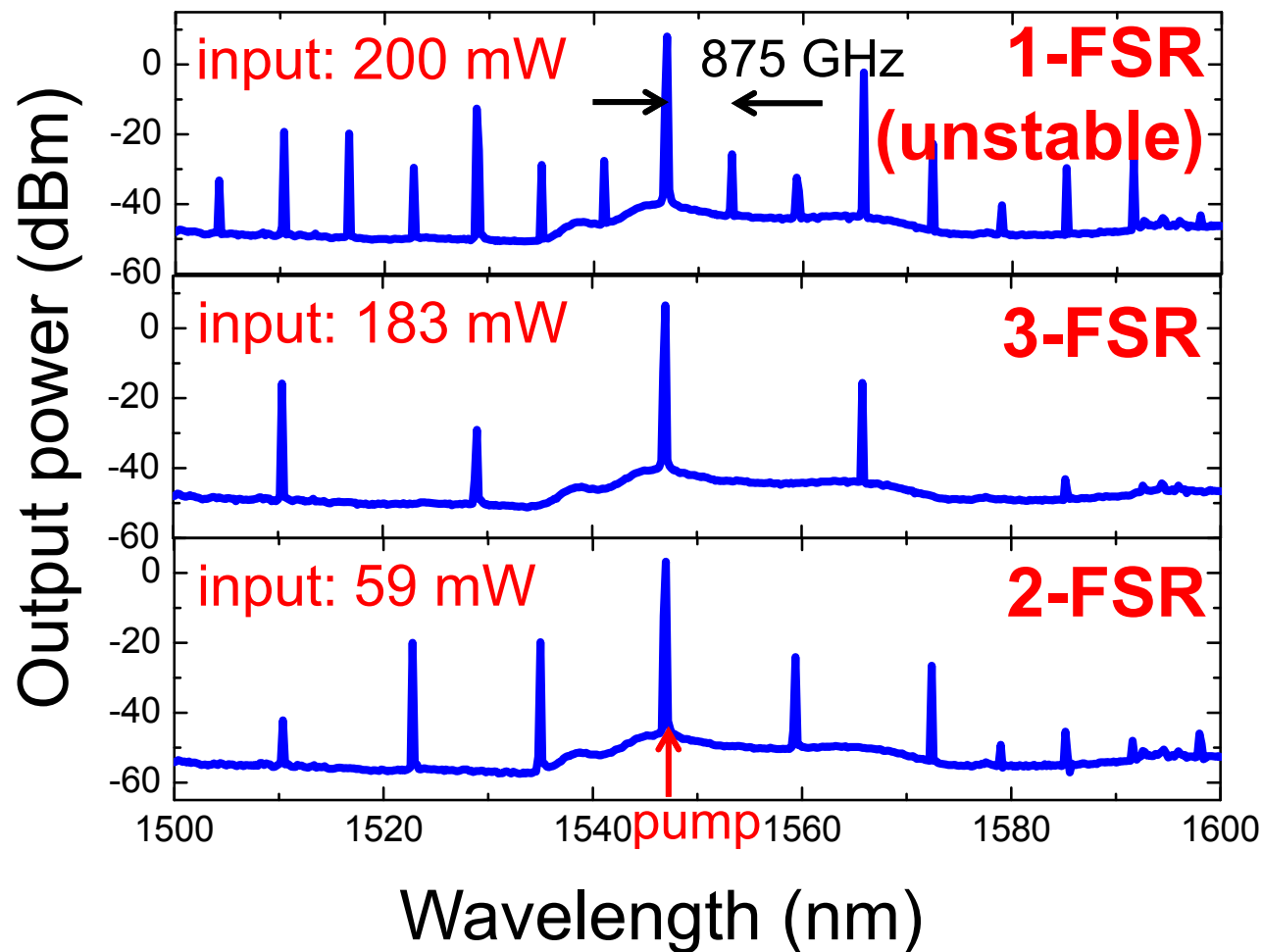
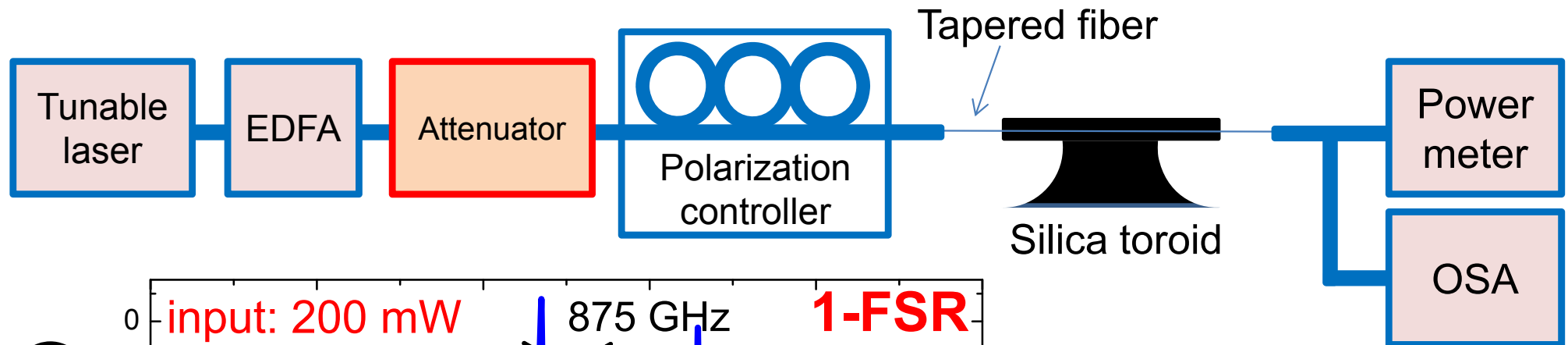
$$Q_{\alpha} = 7.0 \times 10^6 \quad \Delta = 2 \text{ (detuning)}$$

$$Q_{\kappa} = 7.0 \times 10^6$$



★ Mode locking(1-FSR)





Experiment condition

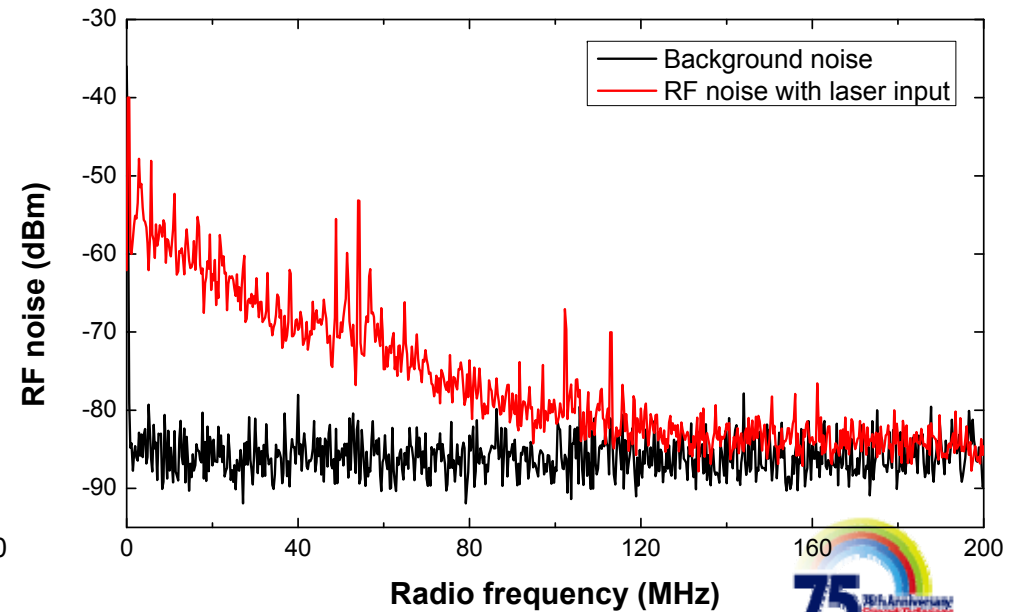
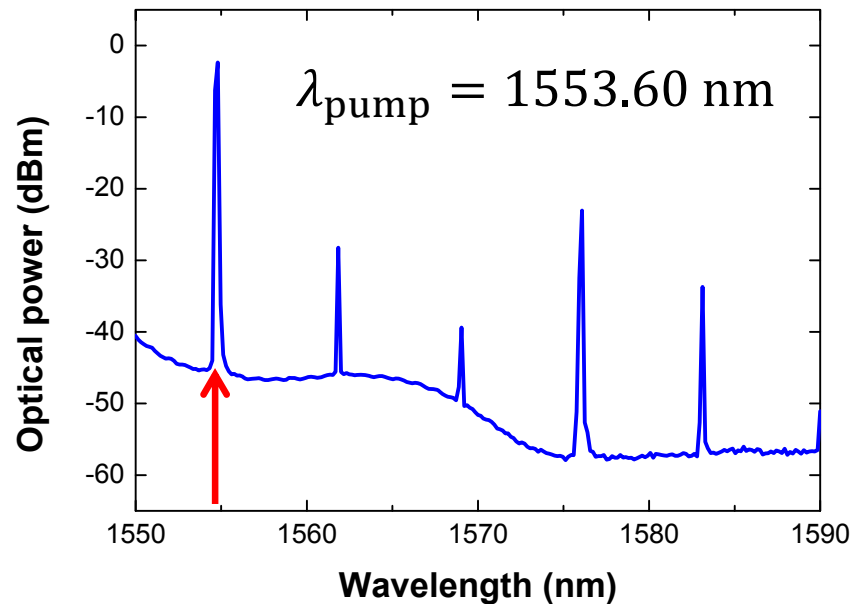
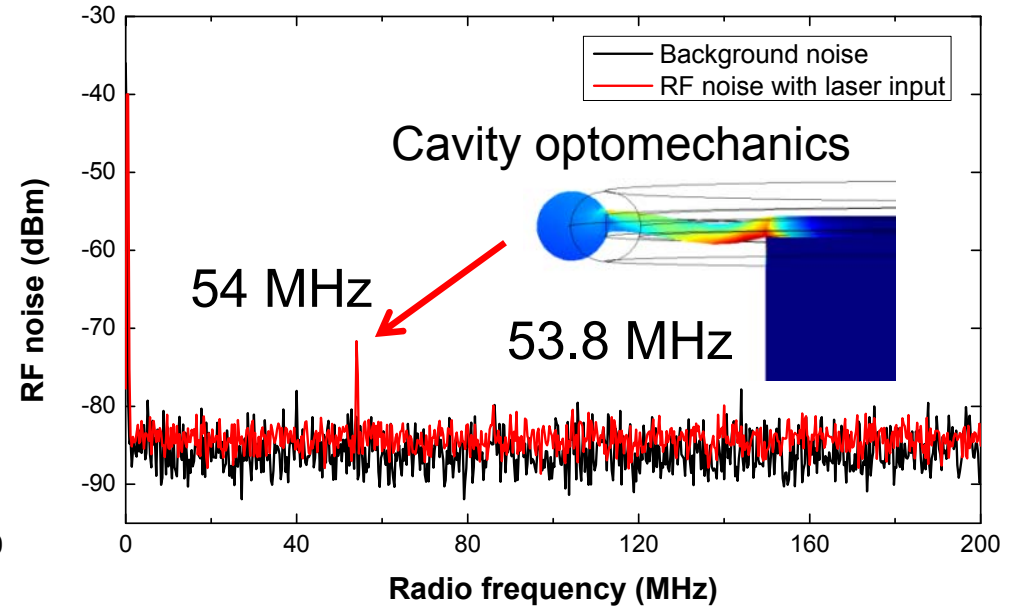
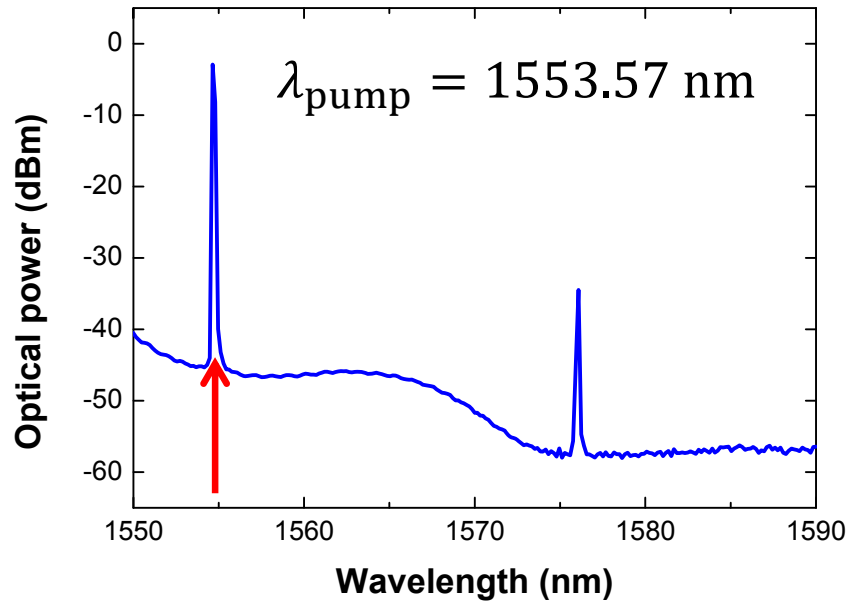
Pump linewidth = 100 kHz
 Pump power = 200 mW
 Tapered fiber $\phi \sim 1 \mu\text{m}$

$Q = 5 \times 10^6$
 $V \sim 1000 \mu\text{m}^3$
 Cavity FSR = 875 GHz

Experiment: Kerr comb spectra vs RF noise



Increasing pump power in microcavity



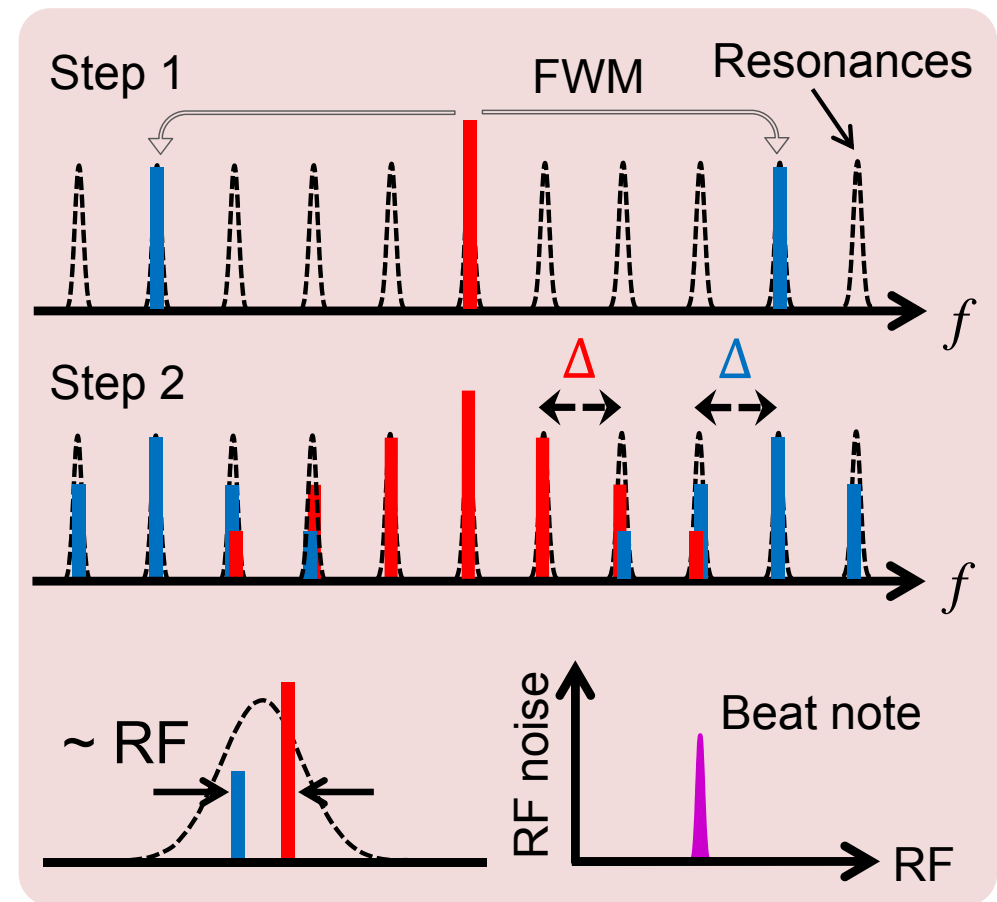
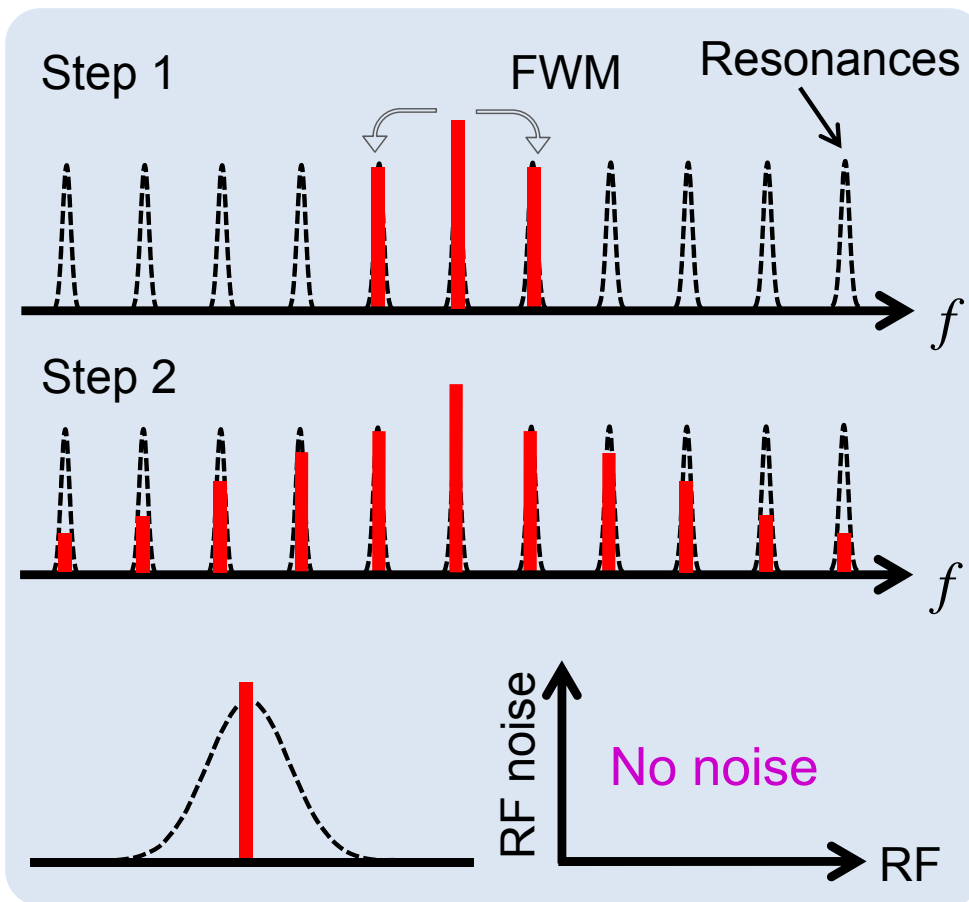
Cause of RF noise (1)



(1) different comb lines overlap in a single resonance

Type1: Low power pumping (low noise)

Type2: High power pumping (large noise)

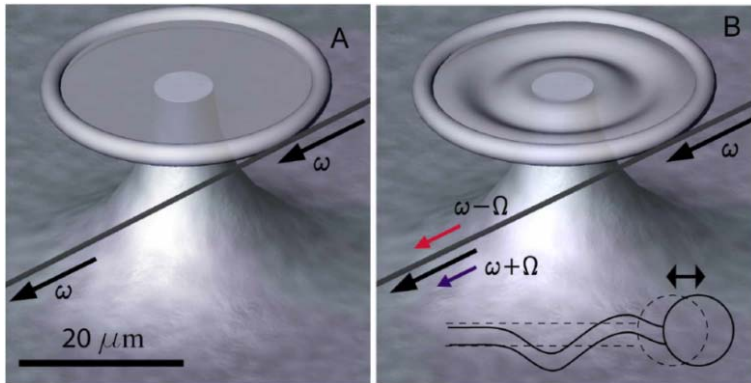


Type2: Owing to different spacing (Δ , Δ), different comb lines overlap in a single resonance.

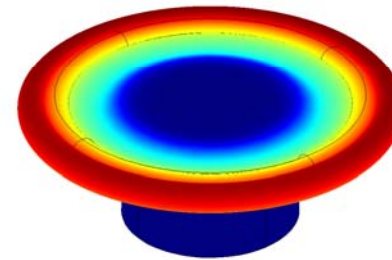


(2) Cavity Optomechanics

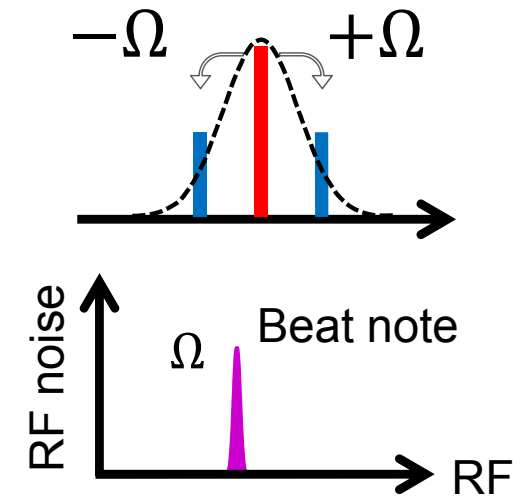
Interaction between light and mechanical objects



H. Rokhsari et al., Opt. Express **13**, 5293-5301 (2005).



Breezing mode



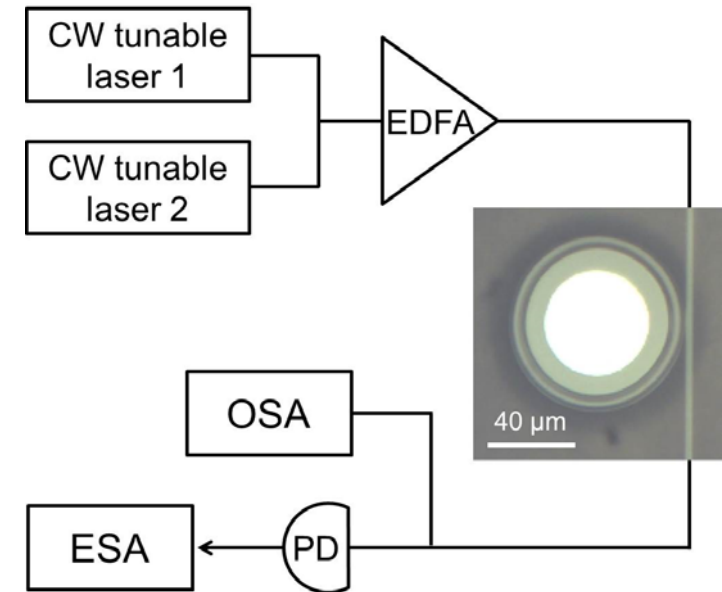
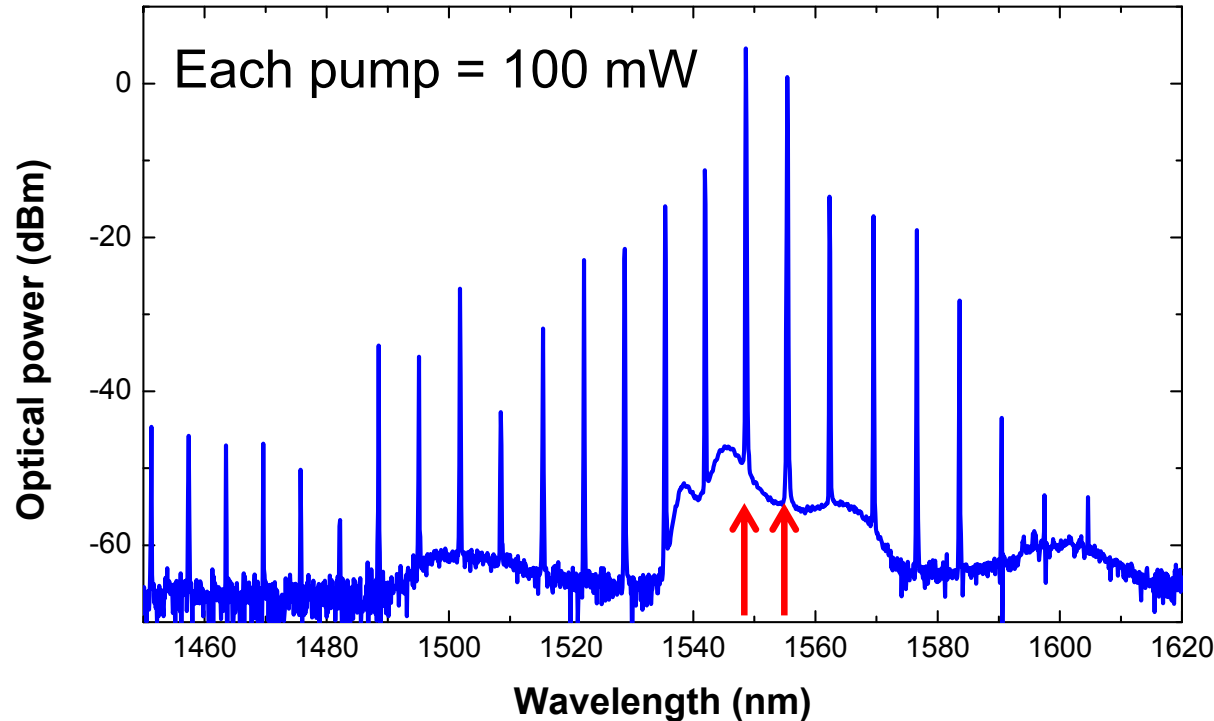
Solution

High power pumping is required for broadband Kerr comb,
but it generates large noise.

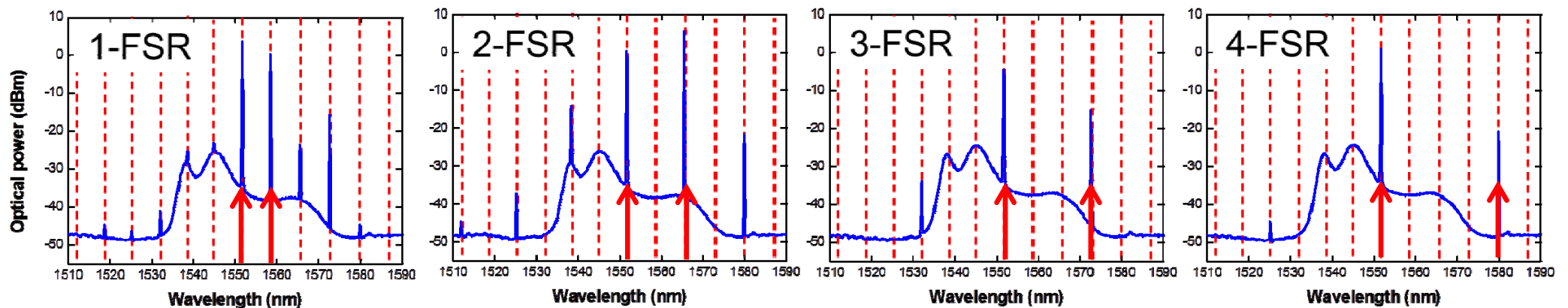


By dual pumping,

- ✓ generating Type 1 comb intentionally
 - ✓ reducing FWM threshold power
- } reducing RF noise



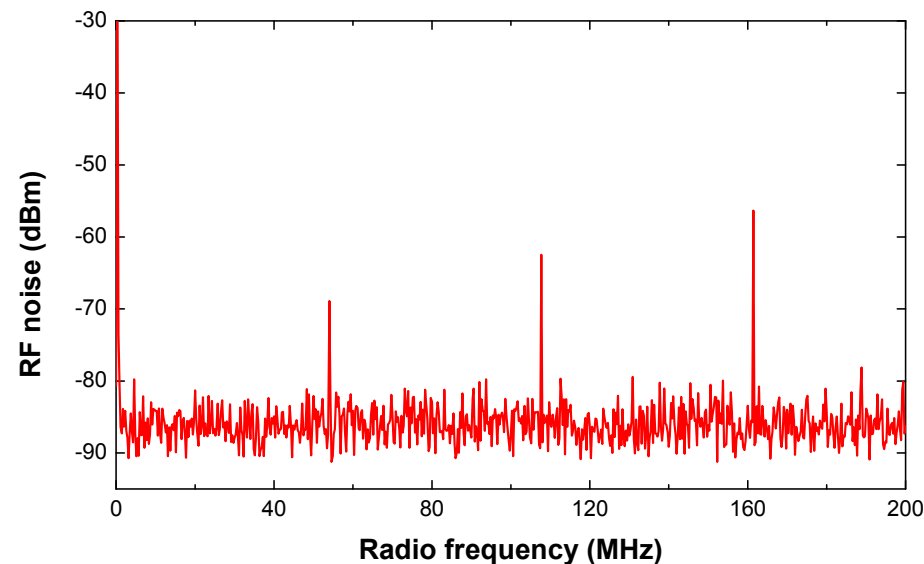
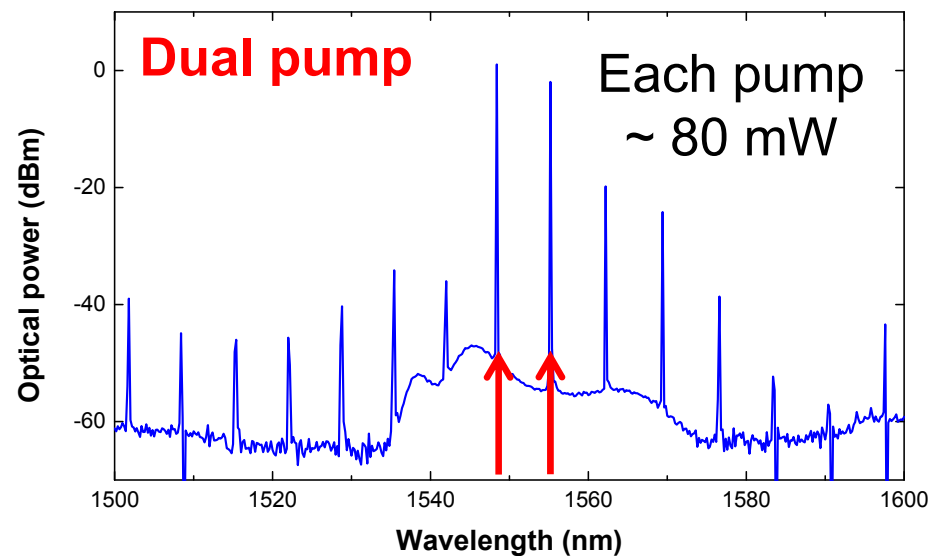
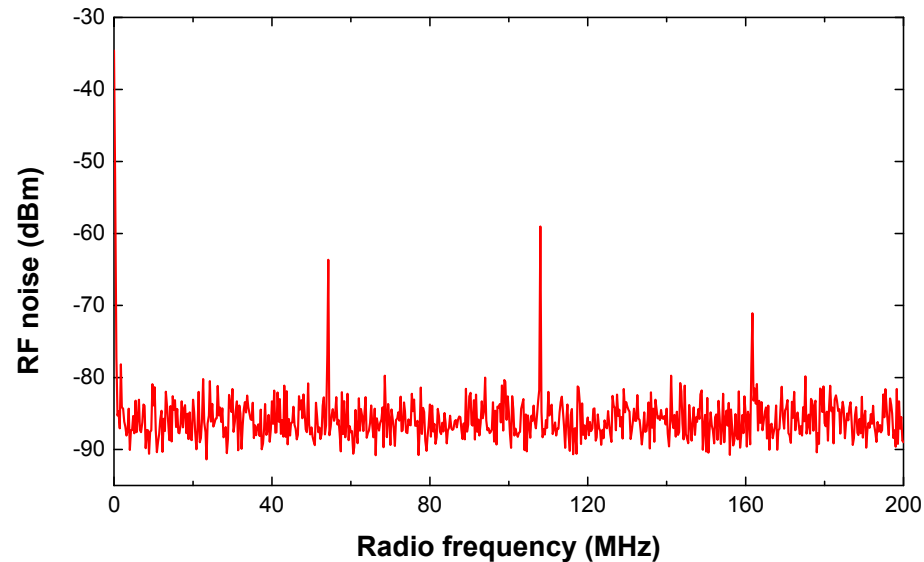
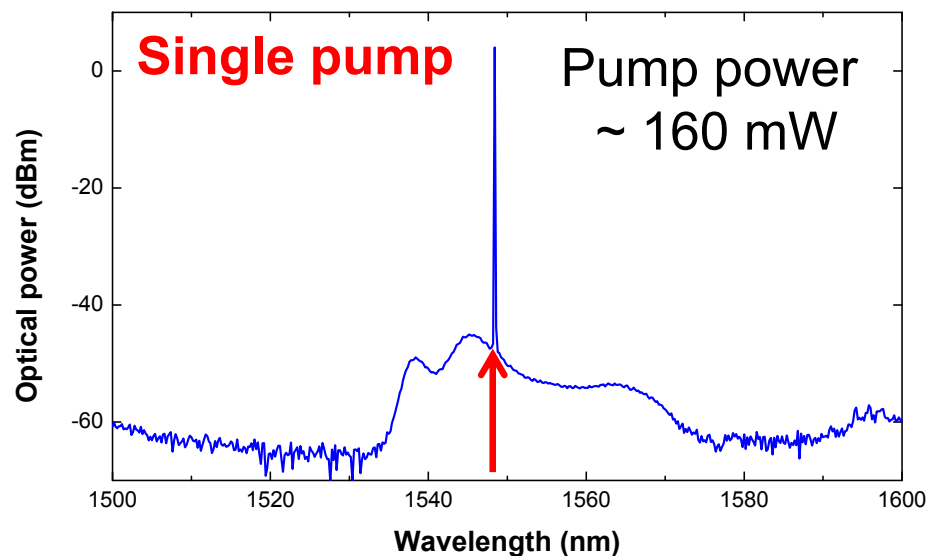
► Controllable mode spacing: generating Type1 (low noise) comb intentionally





Dual pump reduces FWM threshold power

RF noises show same pattern because pump powers are 160 mW both.





- ✓ Kerr comb at 850-GHz spacing is generated
- ✓ 2-FSR mode locking is achieved with 60-mW power
- ✓ We found **decreasing the input** is essential to obtain mode locking
- ✓ We demonstrate lower RF noise by pumping the cavity with **two wavelength**