

SPIE Photonics West
14:10-14:35 Feb. 15. 2016



Optical Kerr comb generation in a small toroidal microcavity

Takasumi Tanabe

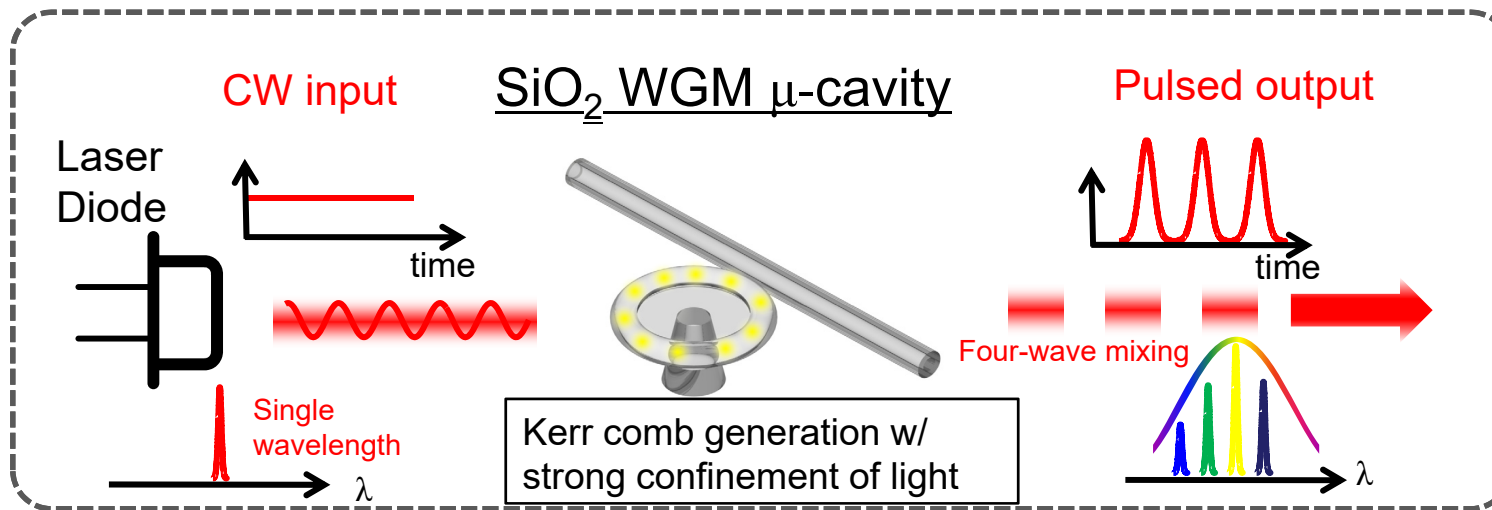
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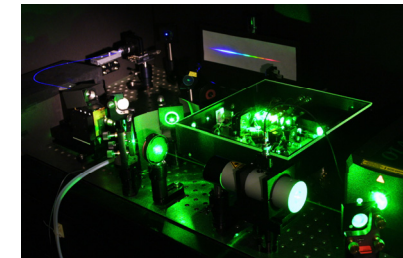


Kerr comb in microcavity system

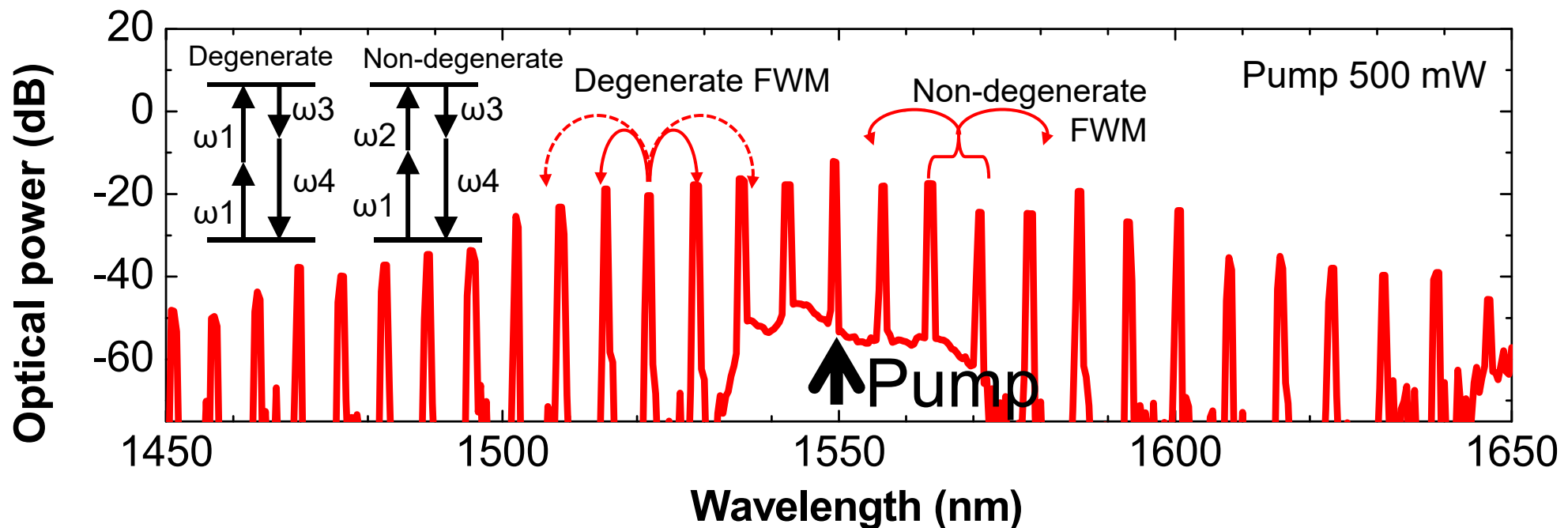
Convert CW laser to ultrashort pulse train w/ >600 GHz repetition rate



Ti:Sapphire laser based comb



large & expensive



Motivation



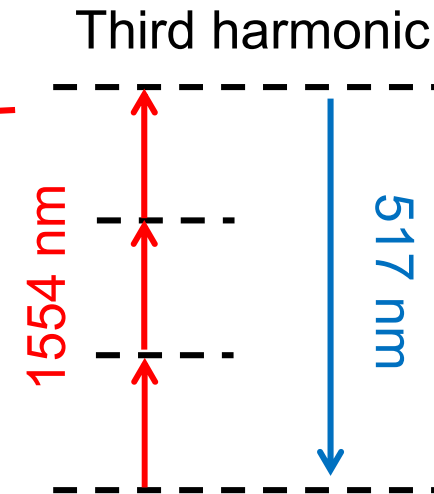
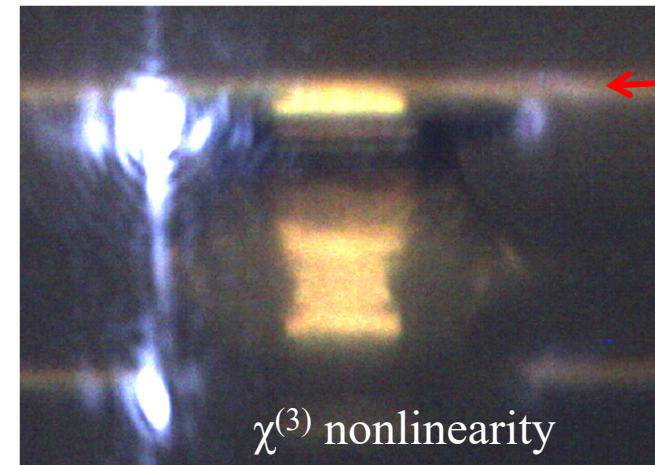
◆ Q-factor

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

◆ Photon density

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

▶ Example of optical nonlinearity in cavity



Small is good

Able to generate Kerr comb at small input power w/o EDFAs

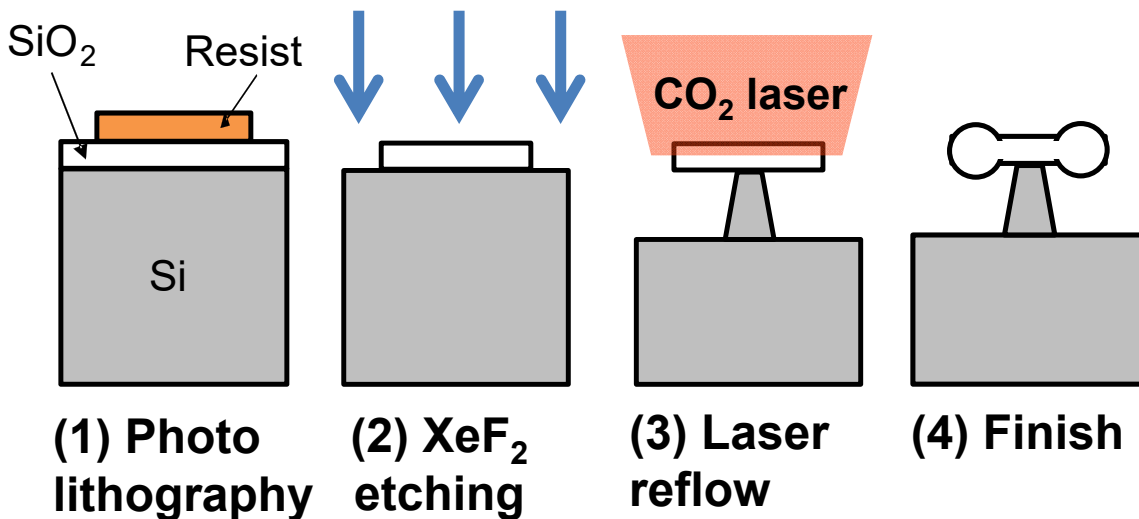
▶ Challenges...

- ✓ Normal dispersion
- ✓ Large cavity opto-mechanical coupling
- ✓ Strong CW/CCW mode coupling

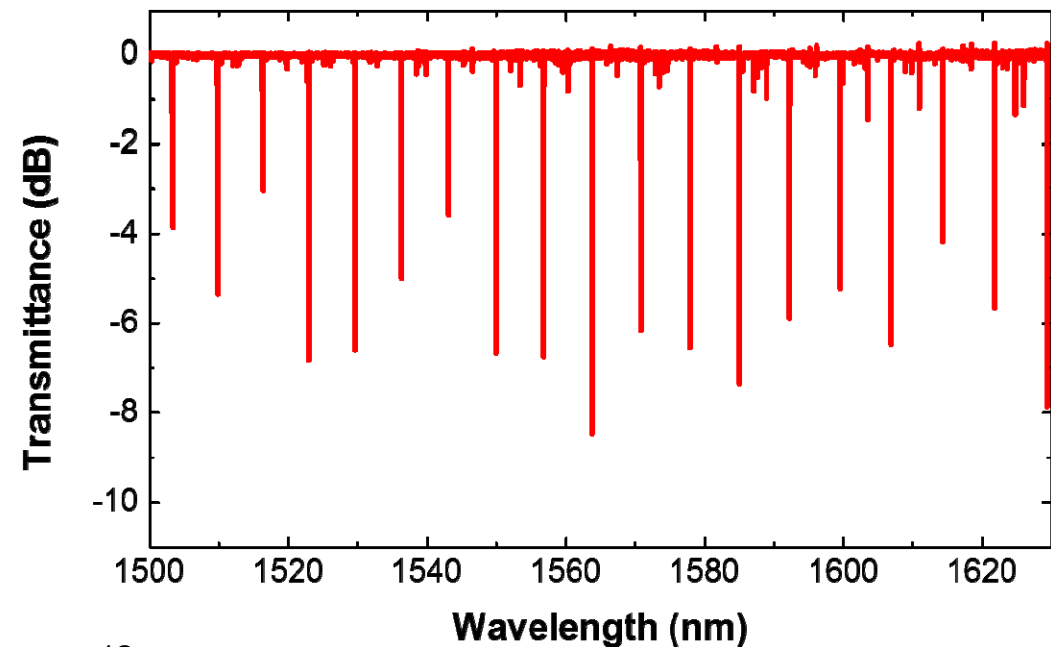
Ultra-high Q toroidal microcavity



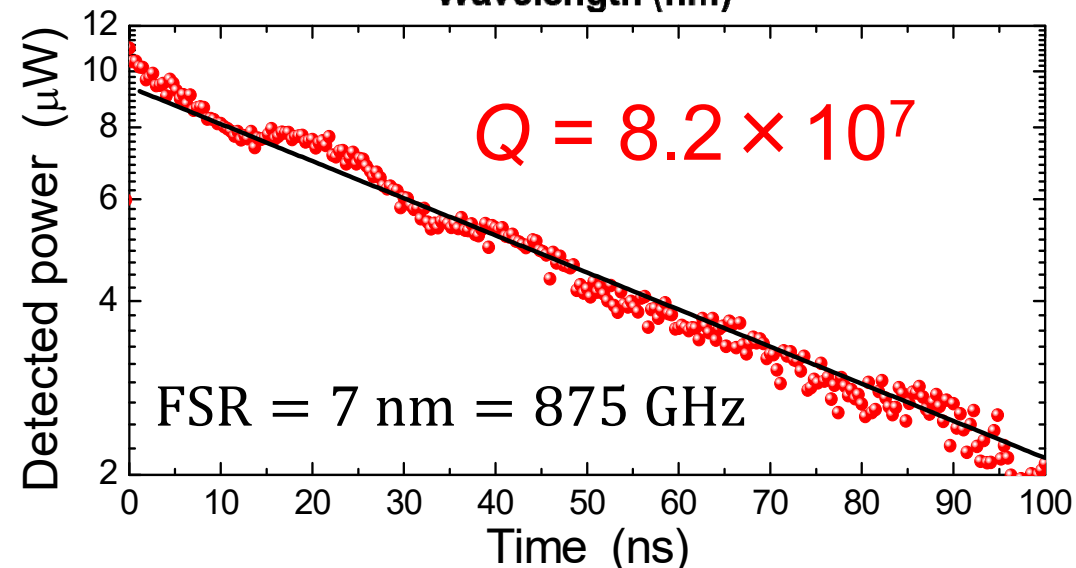
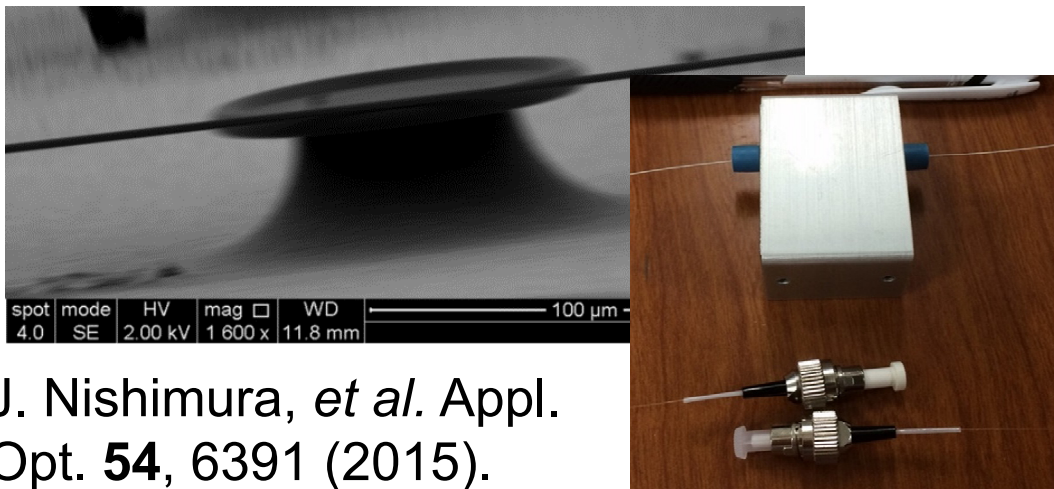
► Fabrication



► Spectrum & photon lifetime



► Packaging



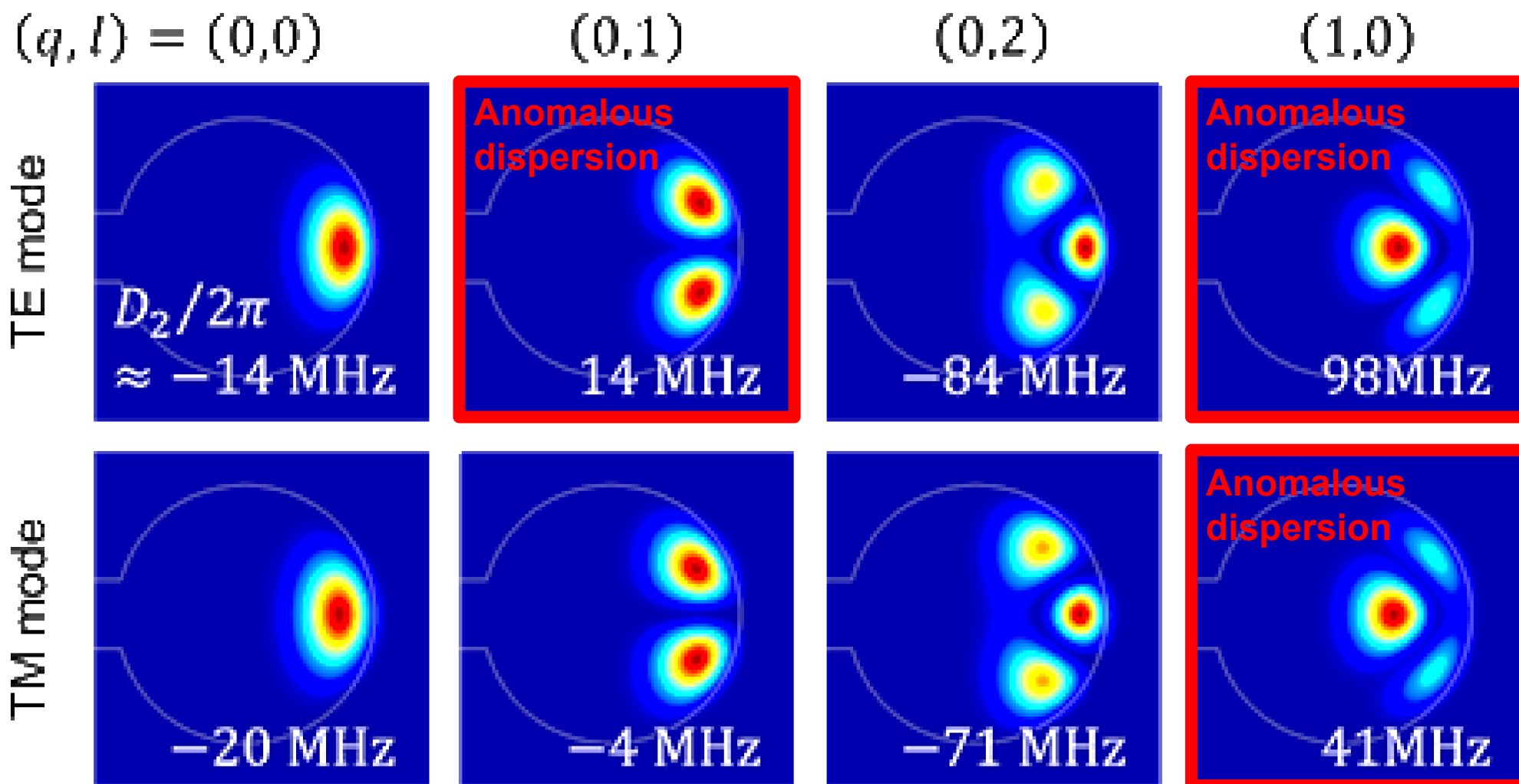
J. Nishimura, *et al.* Appl. Opt. **54**, 6391 (2015).

Outline



1. Dispersion in a small toroid microcavity
2. Effect of cavity opto-mechanics
3. Effect of CW/CCW mode coupling
4. Raman / FWM generation
5. Visible comb generation

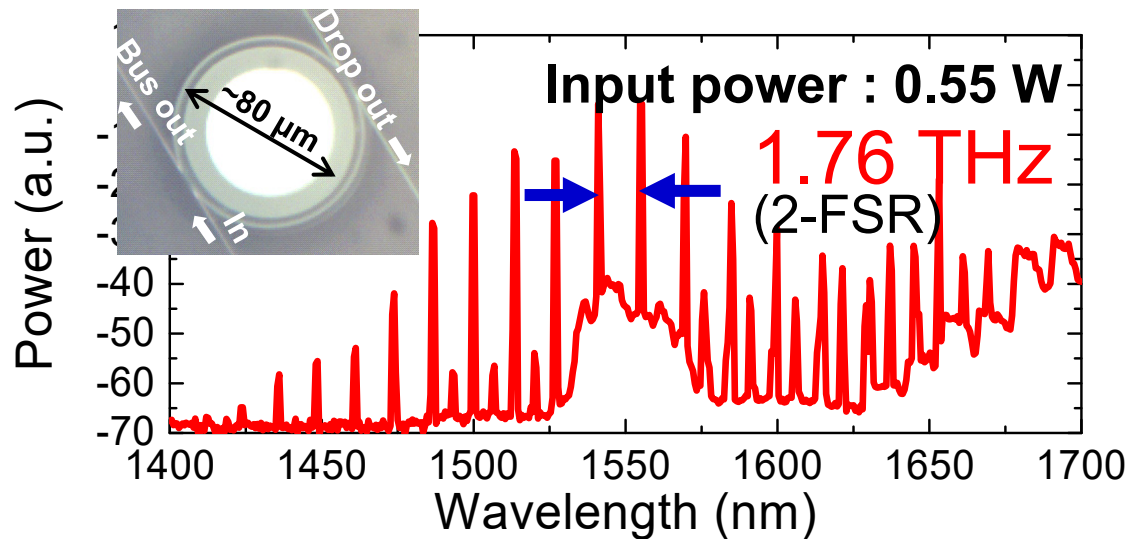
Dispersions in toroid microcavity ($r = 35 \mu\text{m}$)



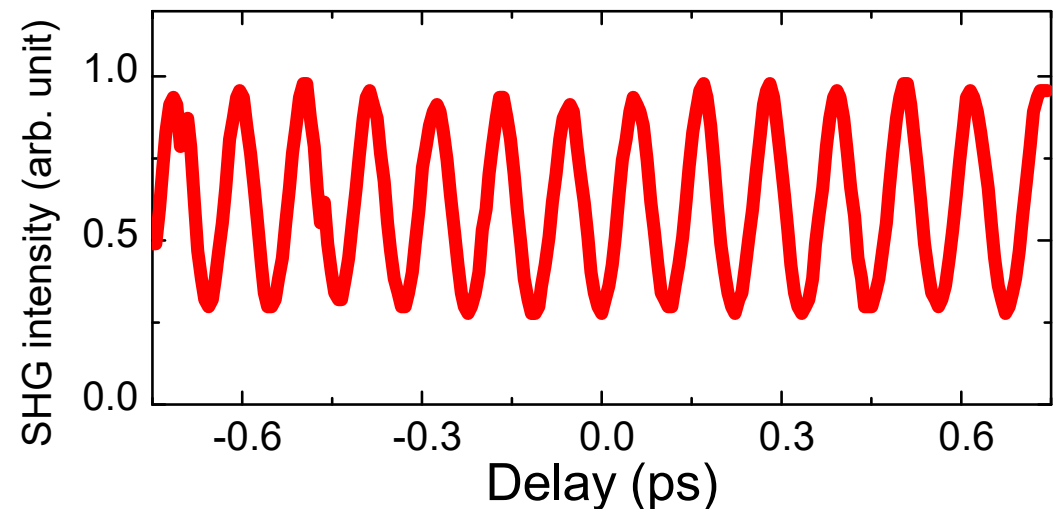
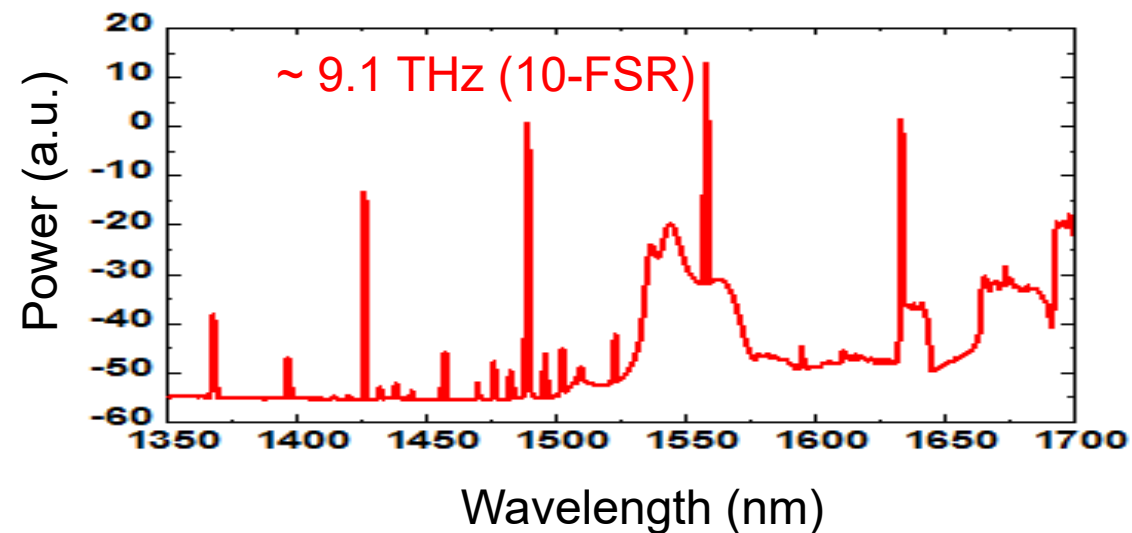
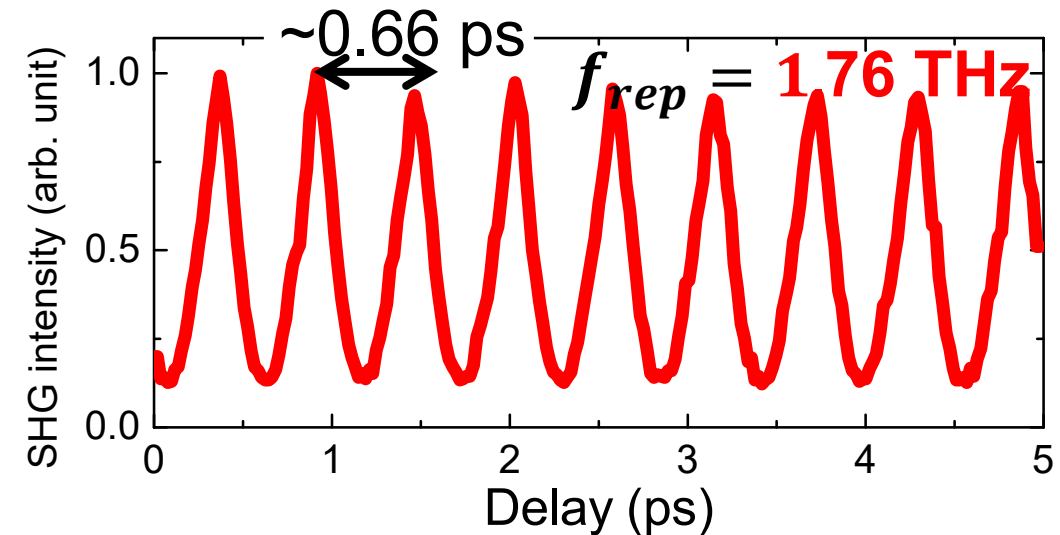
Ultrahigh repetition rate pulse generation



► Kerr comb generation



► SHG autocorrelation trace



Outline

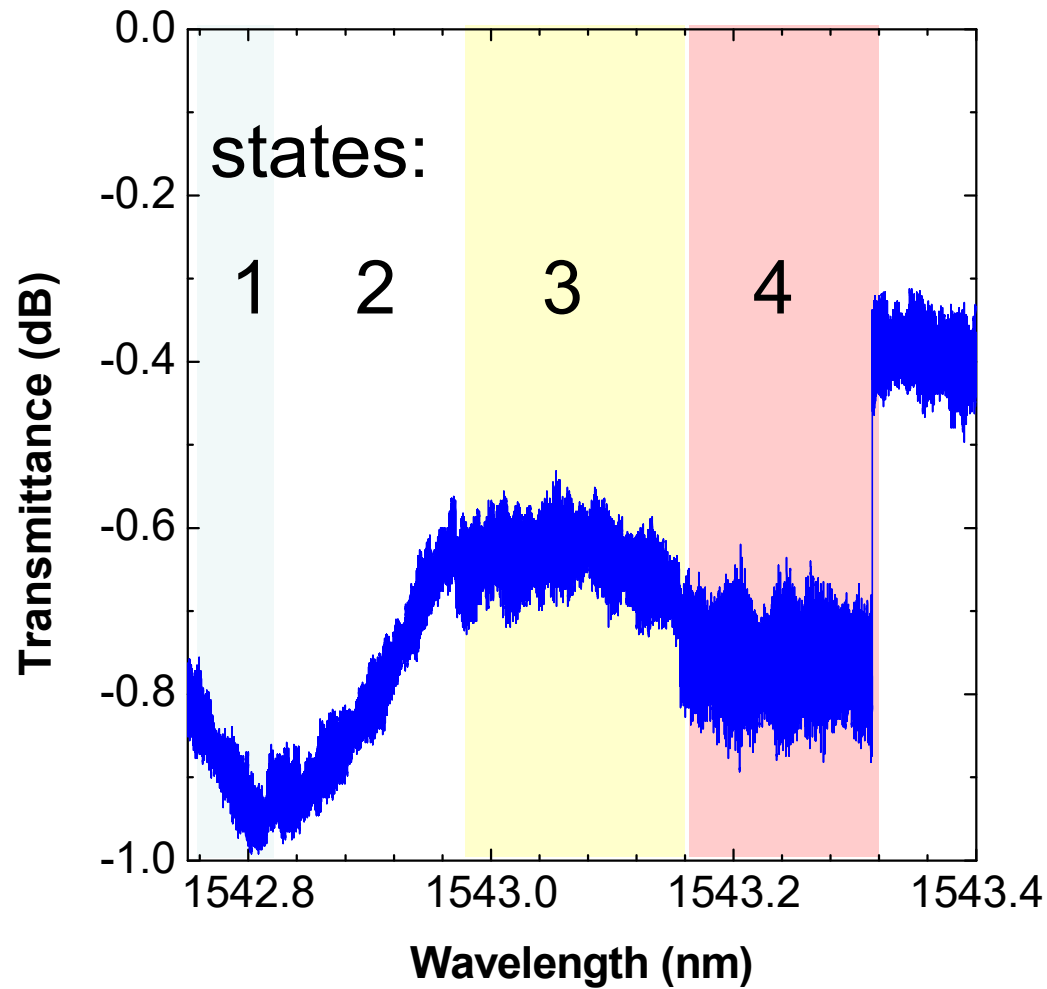


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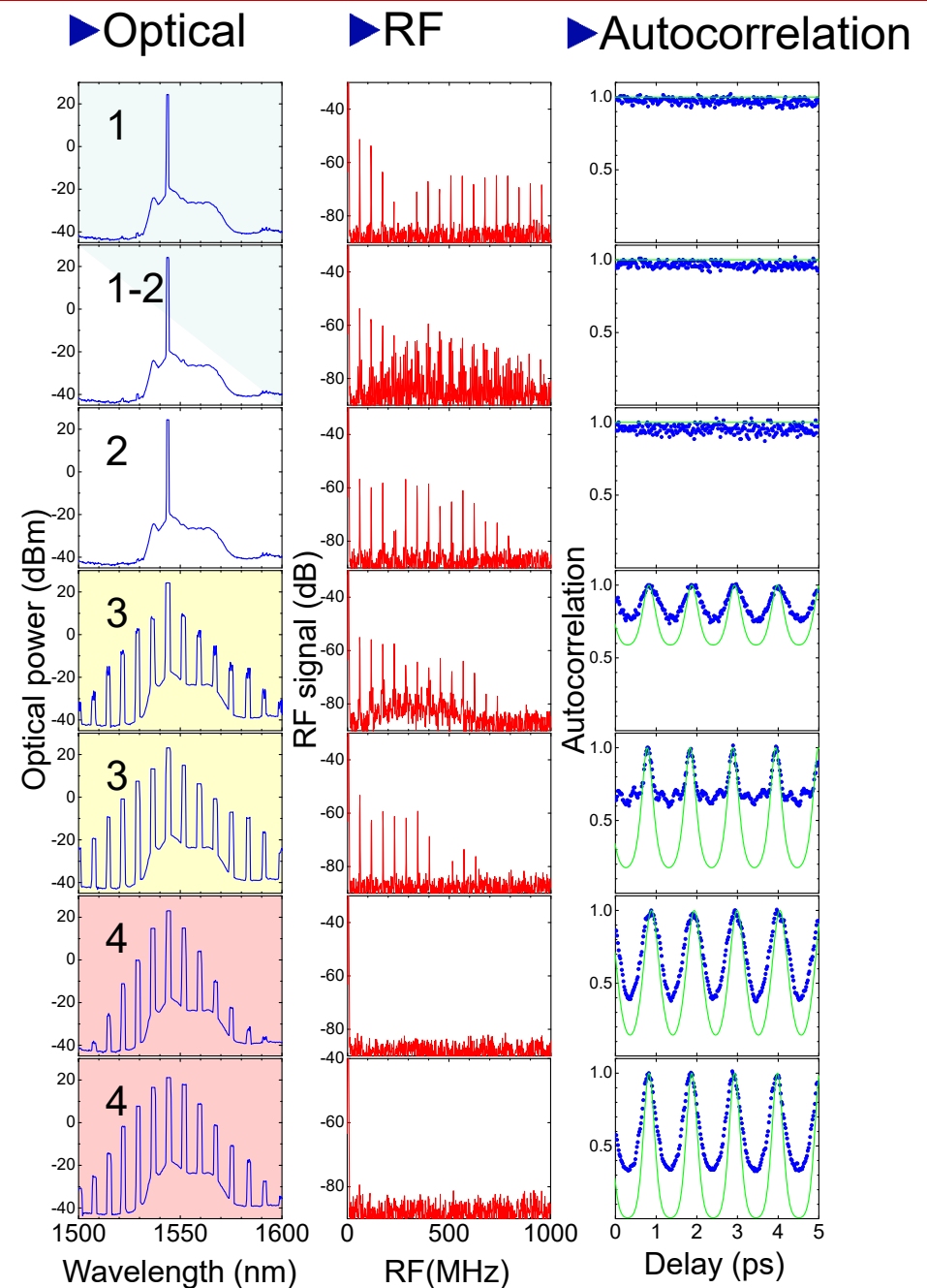


Wavelength scan with toroid microcavity

► Transmittance spectrum



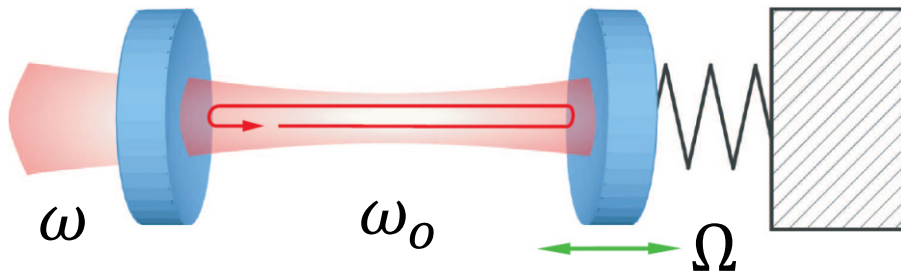
Different states appear
(opto-mechanics?)



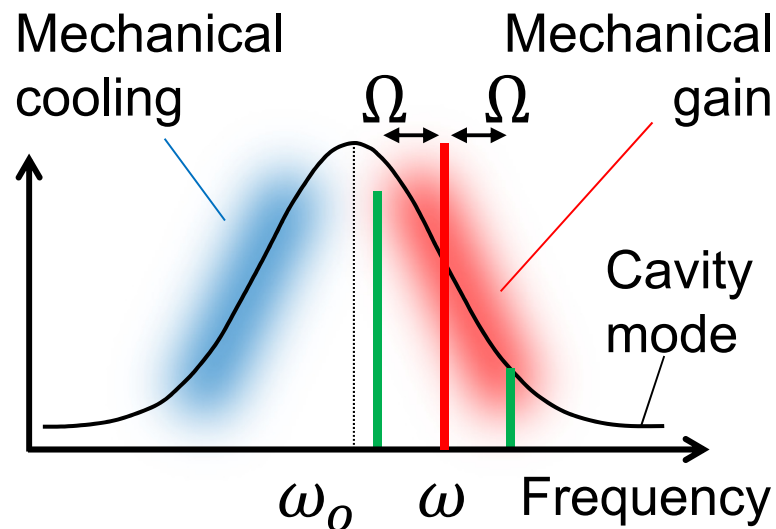
RF noise measurement (effect of cavity opto-mechanics)



▶ Cavity opto-mechanics



T. Kippenberg & K. Vahala, Opt. Express **15**, 17172 (2007).



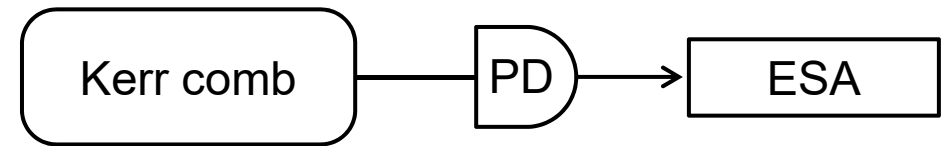
ω : pump frequency

ω_0 : optical resonance (≈ 193 THz)

Ω : mechanical resonance

Detuning: $\omega - \omega_0 \approx 0$, or < 0

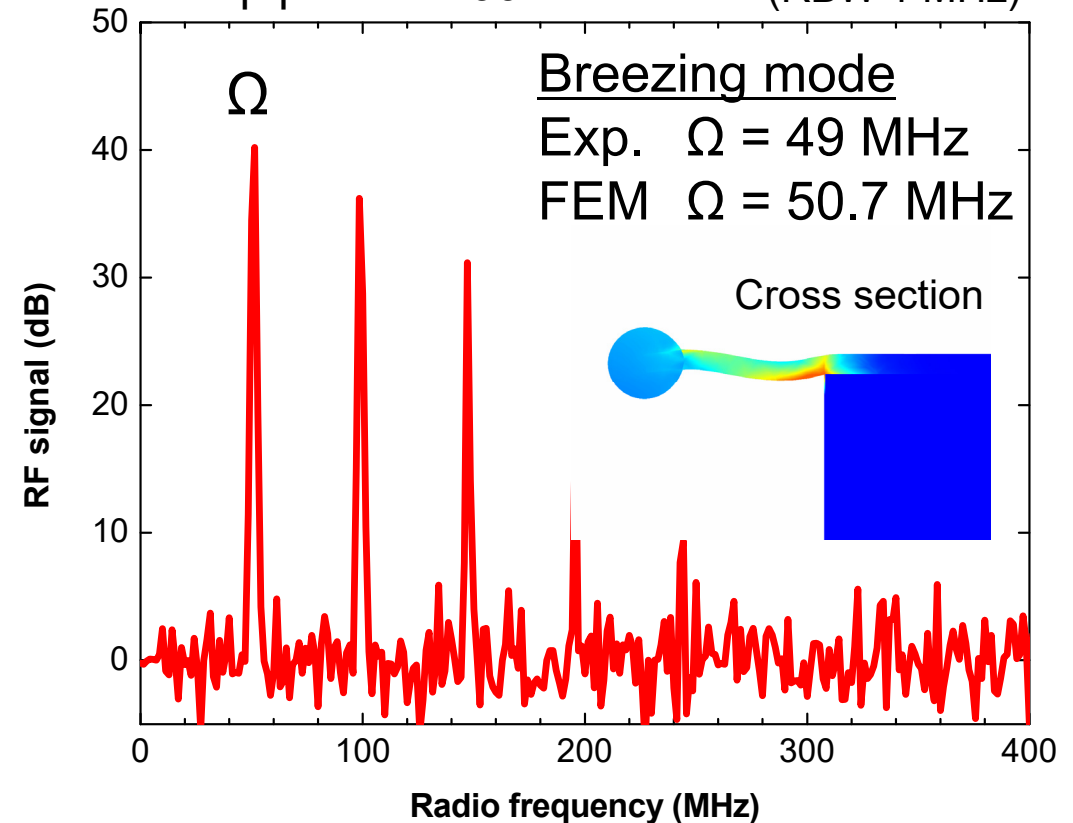
→ Can we reduce mechanical oscillation?



Detuning: $\omega - \omega_0 > 0$

Pump power: 400 mW

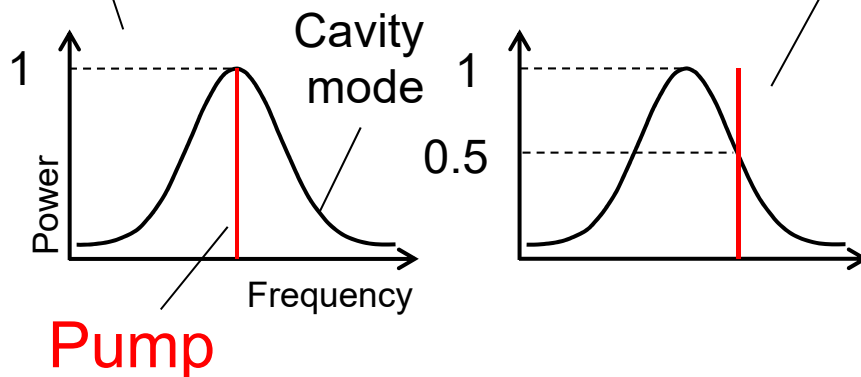
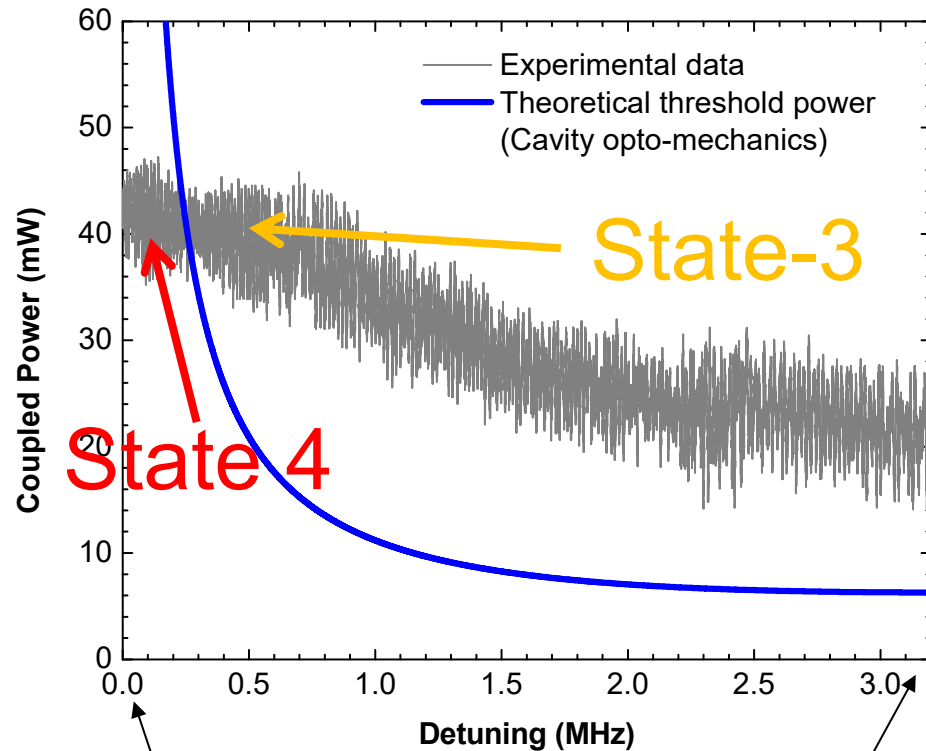
(RBW 1 MHz)



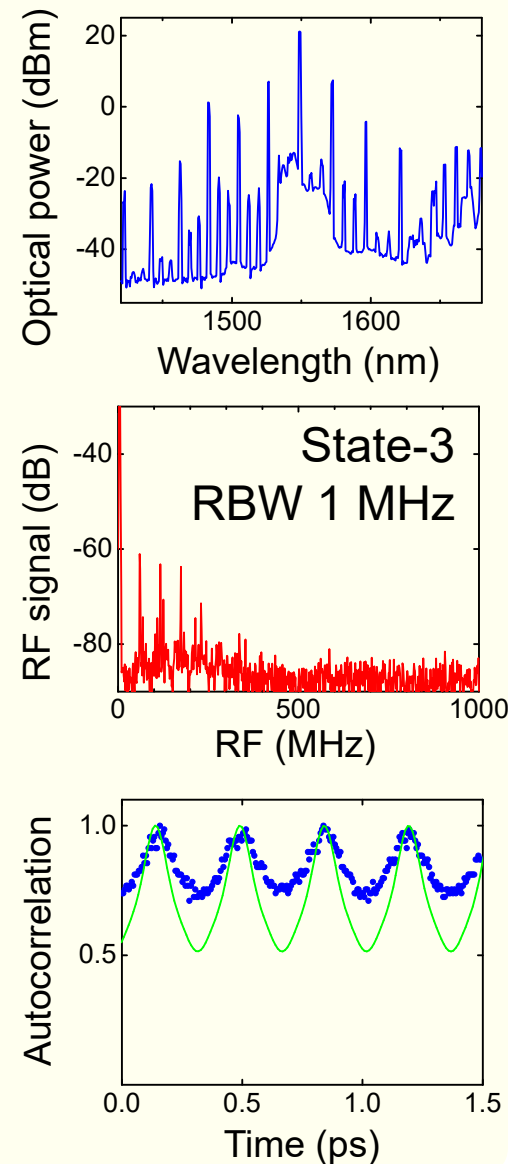


Cavity opto-mechanics & mode-locking

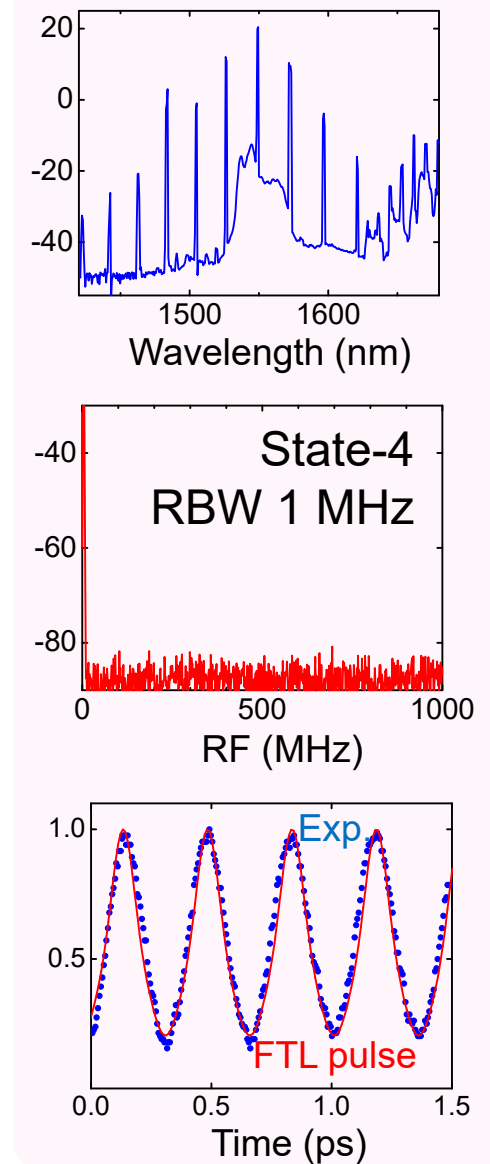
▶ Detuning vs. Threshold power



▶ State-3 (OM)



▶ State-4 (no OM)



Outline

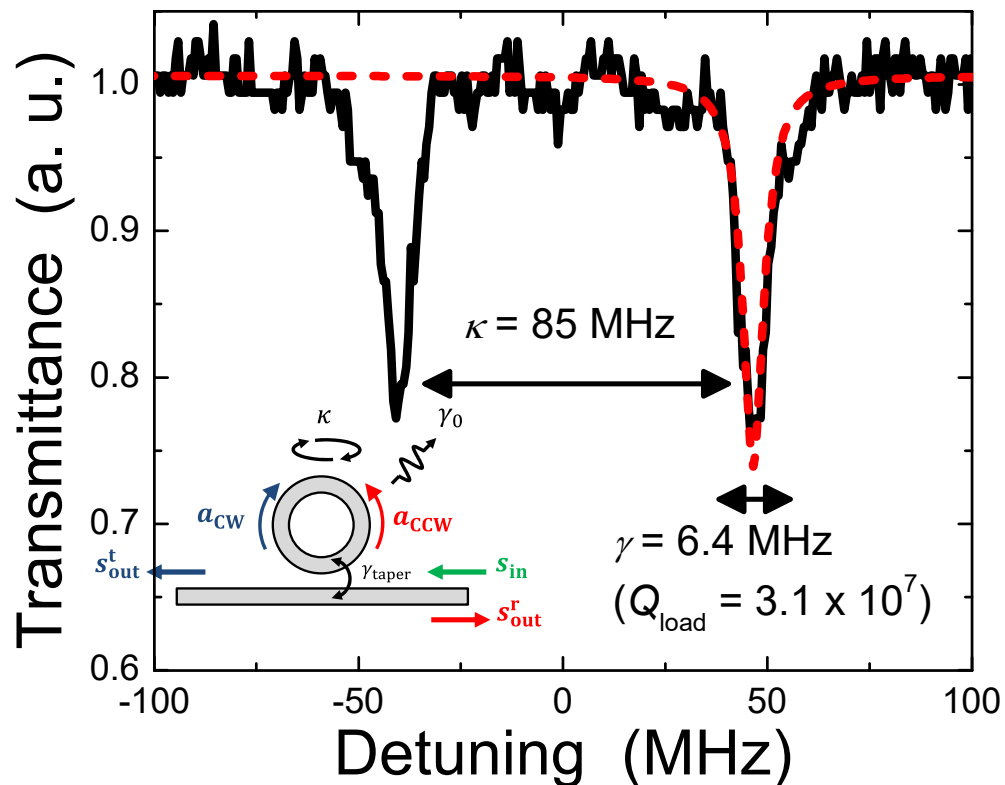


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Strong coupling between CW/CCW with small cavity

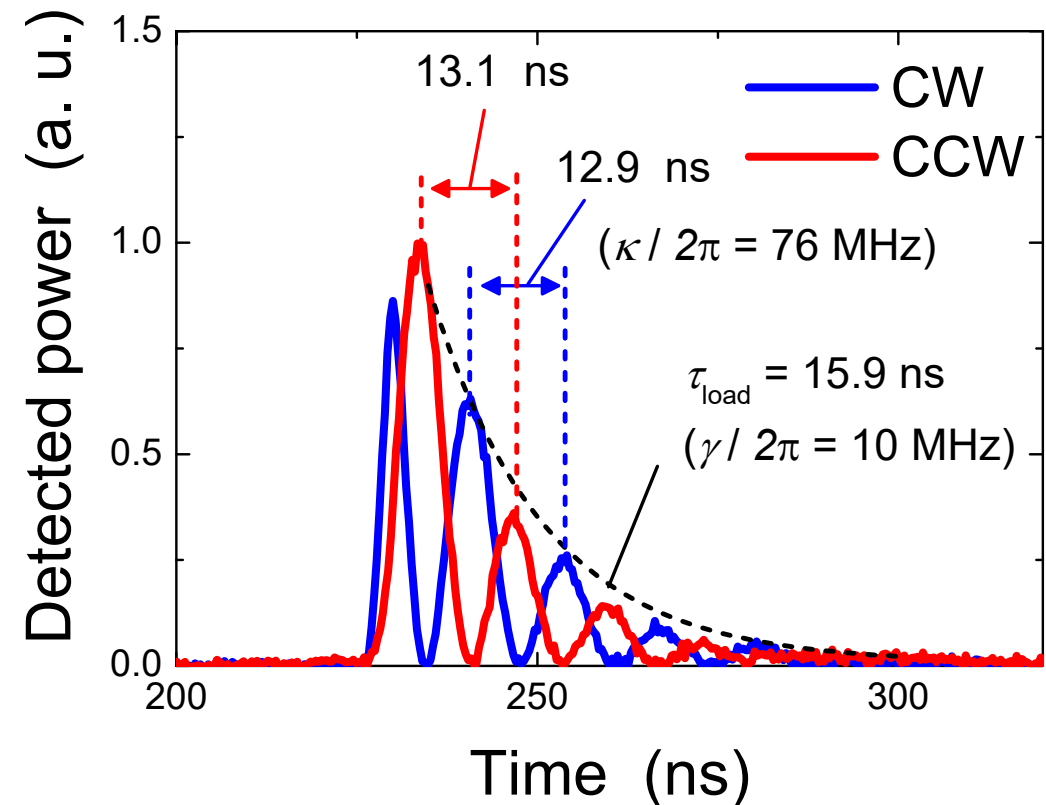
W. Yoshiki, *et al.* Opt. Express, **23**, 30851 (2015).

► Resonance splitting (Freq. domain)



- Coupling rate: κ
- Decay rate: $\gamma = (\gamma_0 + \gamma_{\text{taper}})$

► Energy oscillation (Time domain)

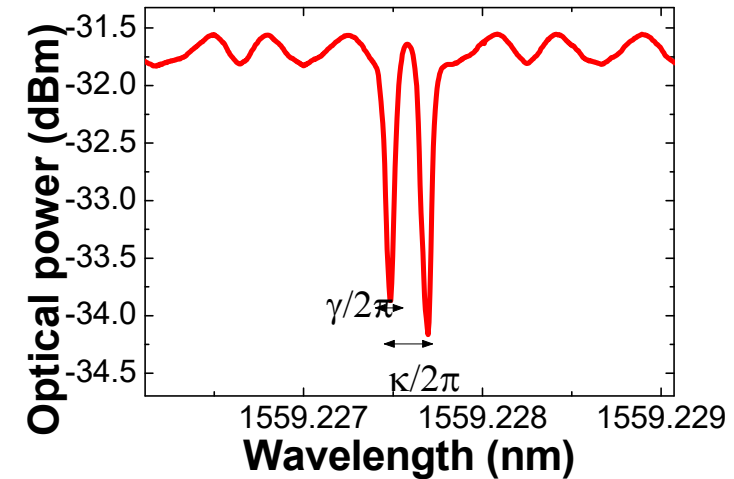
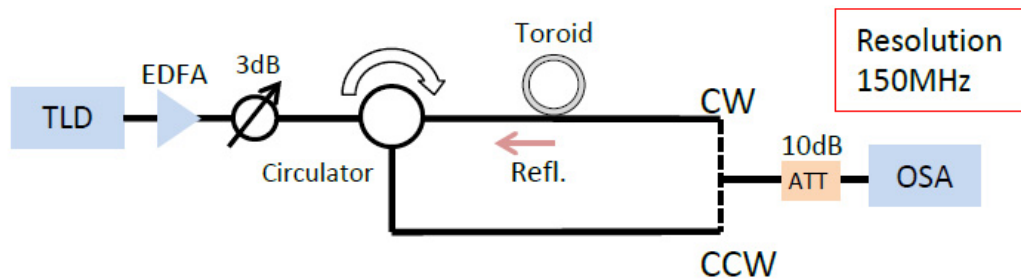


$\kappa/2\pi = 85 \text{ MHz}$, $\gamma/2\pi = 6.4 \text{ MHz}$
 $\rightarrow \Gamma \approx 13$

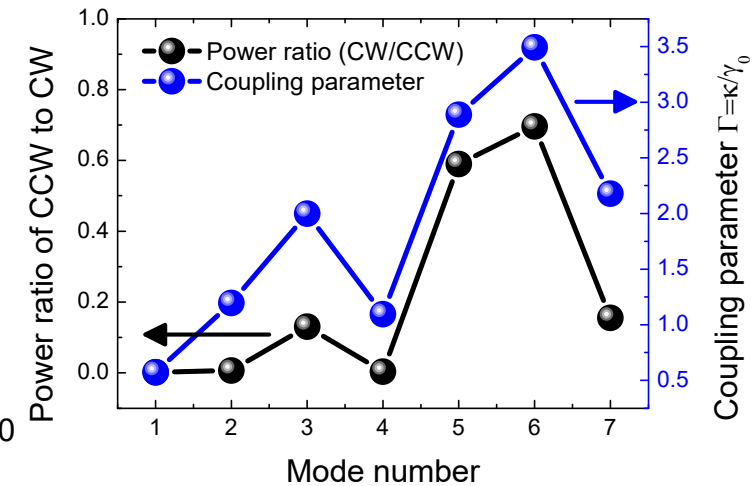
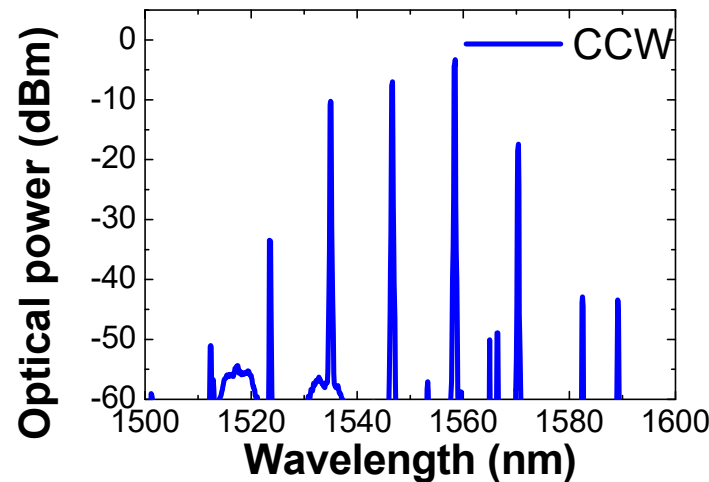
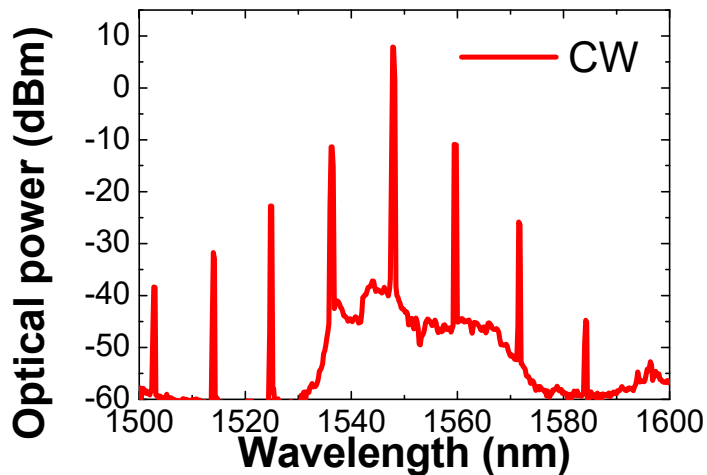


Effect of CW/CCW coupling to Kerr comb

Experimental setup



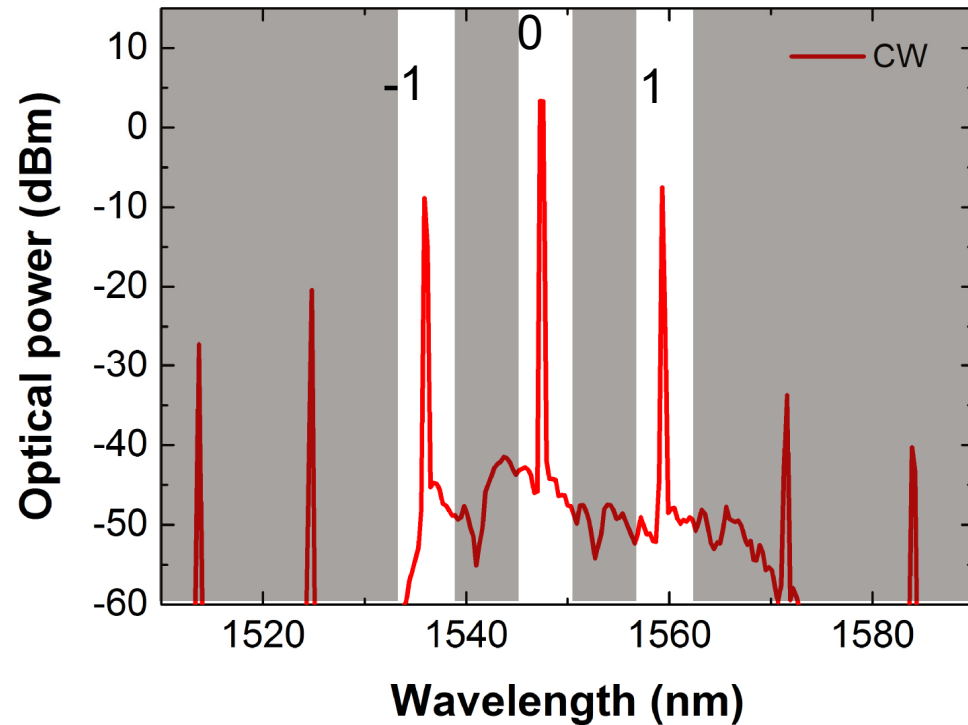
CW/CCW comb & coupling strength





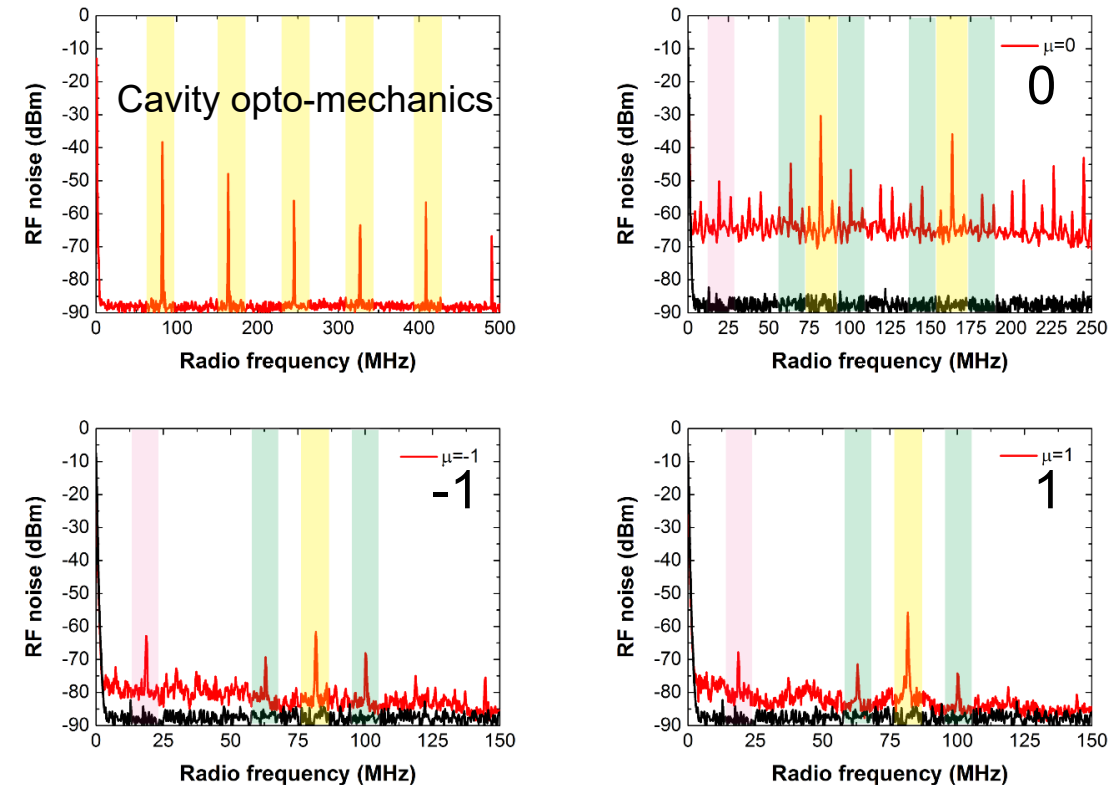
Effect of CW/CCW coupling: RF measurement

▶ RF noise measurement



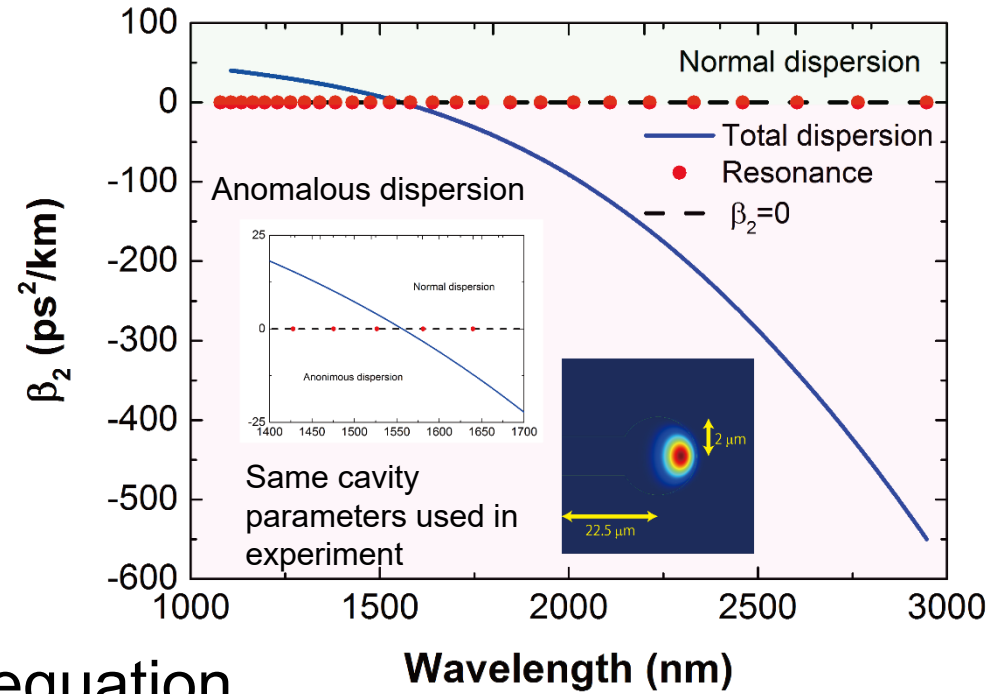
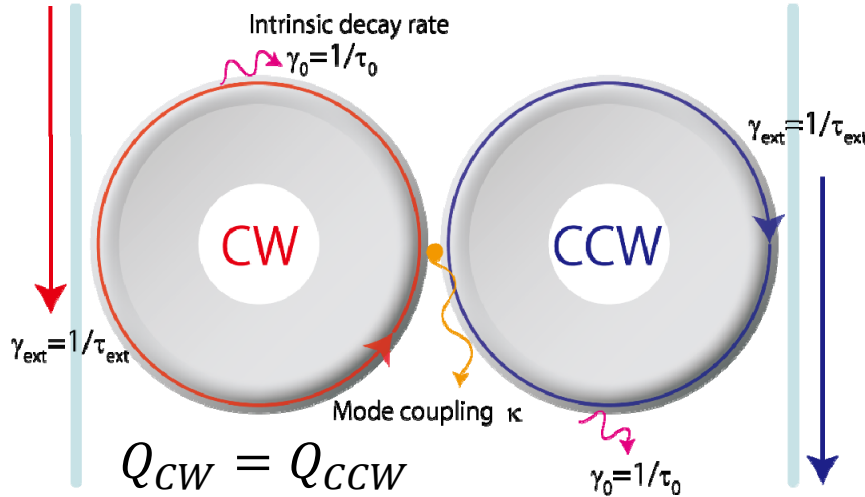
Each line is filtered out and the RF spectrum is measured

▶ RF spectrum



No mode splitting effect is observed (Only the effect of cavity-opto mechanics is present)

Numerical analysis of CW/CCW coupling based on nonlinear CMT equations



► Normalized nonlinear coupled mode equation

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{A}_\mu}{\partial t} = \underbrace{\frac{\gamma_{A_0}}{2} (-1 + i\Omega_{A_\mu}) \tilde{A}_\mu}_{\text{loss}} + \underbrace{\frac{\gamma_{A_0}}{2} \cdot i \sum_{\alpha, \beta, \gamma} \delta_{\mu - (\alpha - \beta + \gamma)} \tilde{A}_\alpha \tilde{A}_\beta^* \tilde{A}_\gamma}_{\text{FWM}} + \underbrace{i \delta_{\omega_{A_\mu} - \omega_{B_\theta}} \frac{\kappa_\theta}{2} \sqrt{\frac{g_A \gamma_{B_0}}{g_B \gamma_{A_0}}} \tilde{B}_\theta e^{i\{\omega_{A_\mu} - \omega_{B_\mu} - \mu(D_{1A} - D_{1B})\}t}}_{\text{CW/CCW mode coupling}} + \underbrace{\frac{\gamma_{A_0}}{2} \delta_\mu f_0}_{\text{input}}$$

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{B}_\mu}{\partial t} = \frac{\gamma_{B_0}}{2} (-1 + i\Omega_{B_\mu}) \tilde{B}_\mu + \frac{\gamma_{B_0}}{2} \cdot i \sum_{\alpha, \beta, \gamma} \delta_{\mu - (\alpha - \beta + \gamma)} \tilde{B}_\alpha \tilde{B}_\beta^* \tilde{B}_\gamma + i \delta_{\omega_{B_\mu} - \omega_{A_\theta}} \frac{\kappa_\theta^*}{2} \sqrt{\frac{g_B \gamma_{A_0}}{g_A \gamma_{B_0}}} \tilde{A}_\theta e^{i\{\omega_{B_\mu} - \omega_{A_\mu} - \mu(D_{1B} - D_{1A})\}t}$$

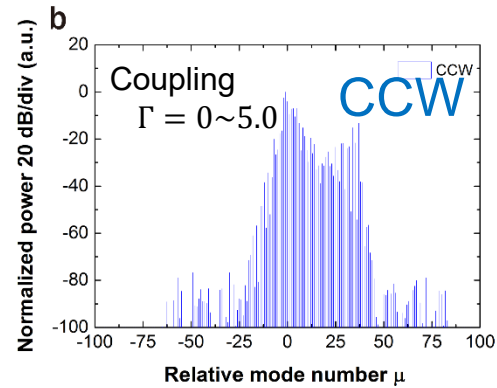
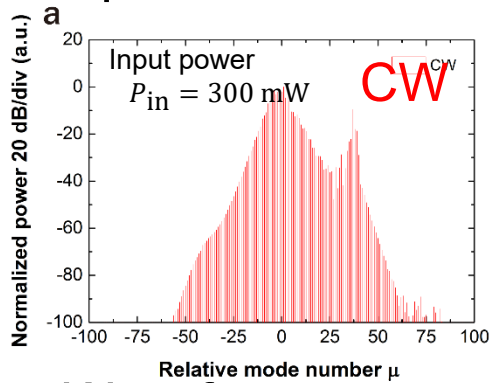
$$\tilde{A}_\mu = \sqrt{2g_A/\gamma_{A_0}} A_\mu e^{i(\omega_{A_\mu} - \omega_{in} - \mu D_{1A})t}, \Omega_{A_\mu} = 2(\omega_{A_\mu} - \omega_{in} - \mu D_{1A})/\gamma_{A_0}, f_0 = \sqrt{8g_A \gamma_{ext}/\kappa_{A_0}^3} A_{in}$$

$$\tilde{B}_\mu = \sqrt{2g_B/\kappa_{B_0}} B_\mu e^{i(\omega_{B_\mu} - \omega_{in} - \mu D_{1B})t}, \Omega_{B_\mu} = 2(\omega_{B_\mu} - \omega_{in} - \mu D_{1B})/\gamma_{B_0}$$

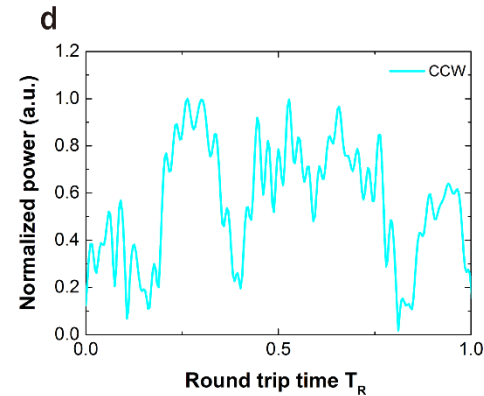
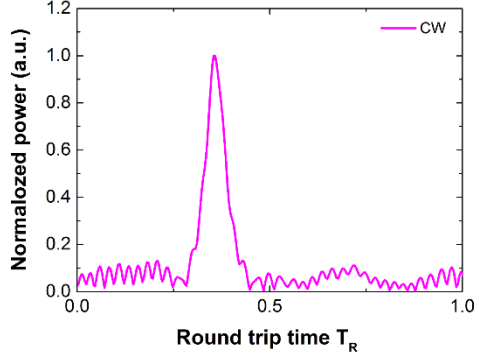
Soliton formation in CW/CCW mode coupled system



► Spectrum



► Waveform

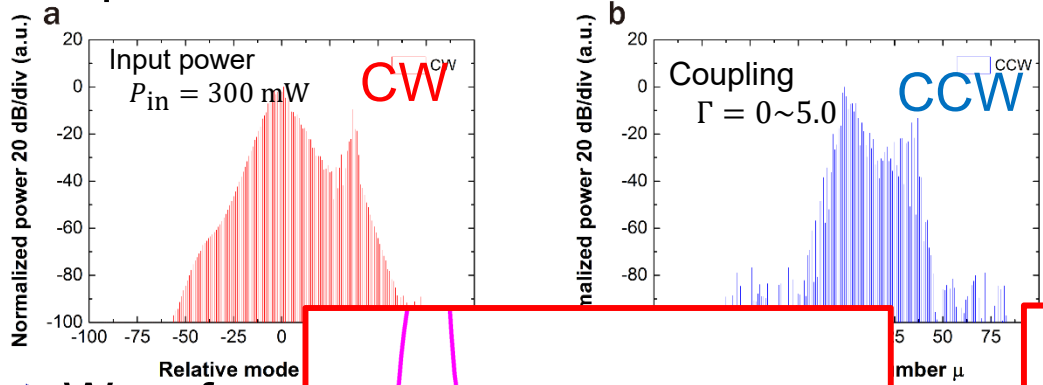


Soliton formed in CW only

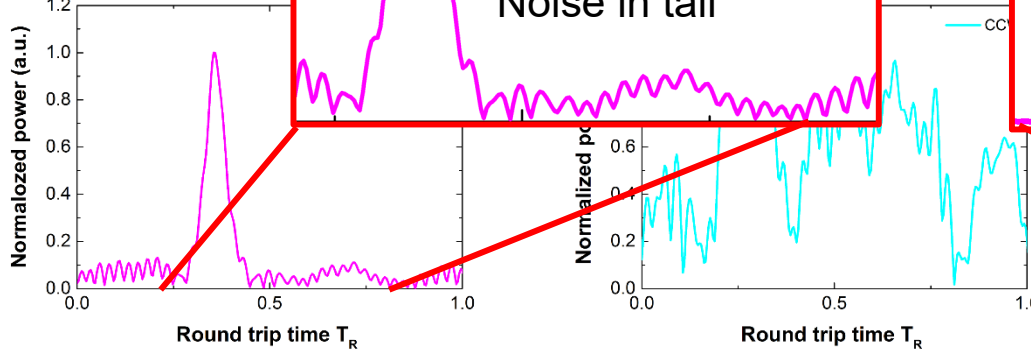
Soliton formation in CW/CCW mode coupled system



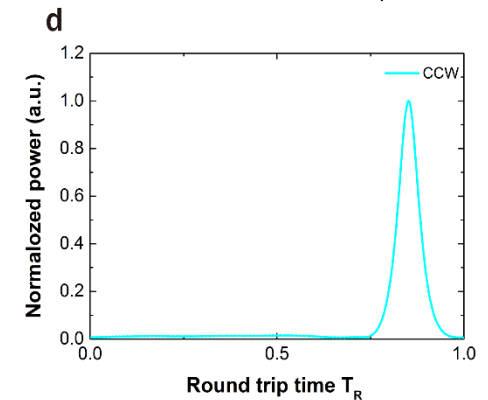
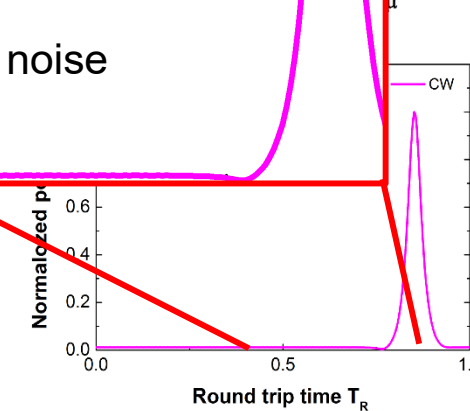
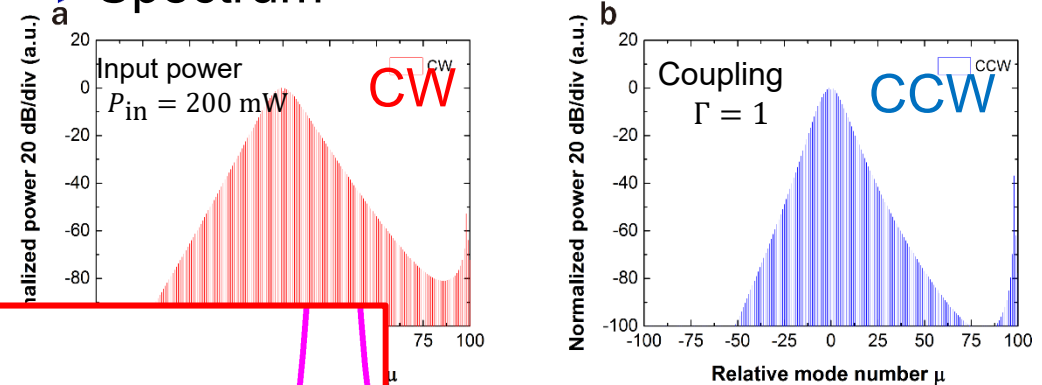
► Spectrum



► Waveform



► Spectrum



Soliton formed in CW only

Soliton formed in CW/CCW modes

No noise appears when both CW/CCW modes are in soliton state

Outline

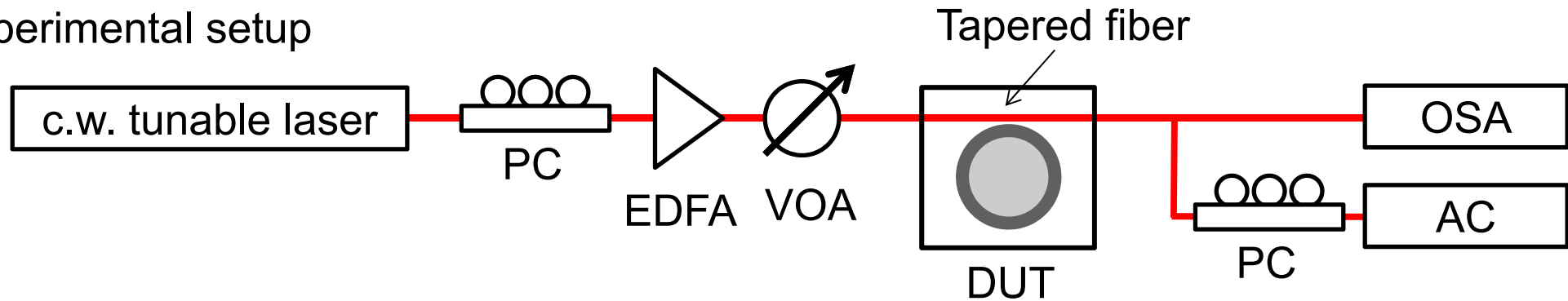


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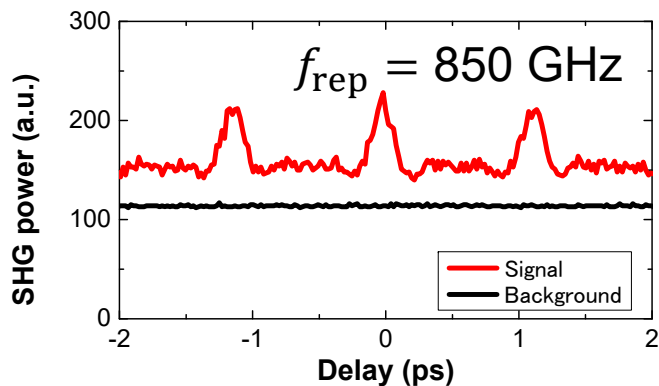
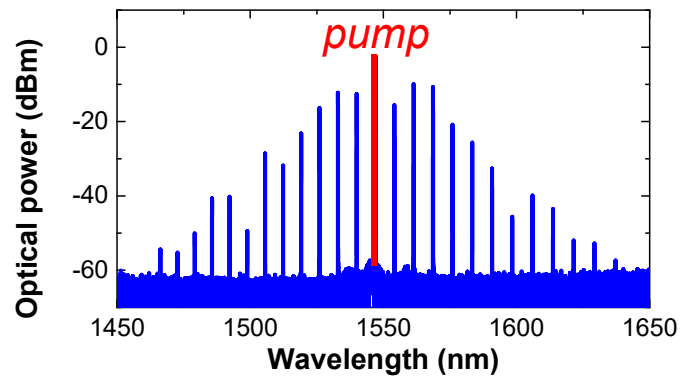


Kerr comb in a silica toroidal microcavity

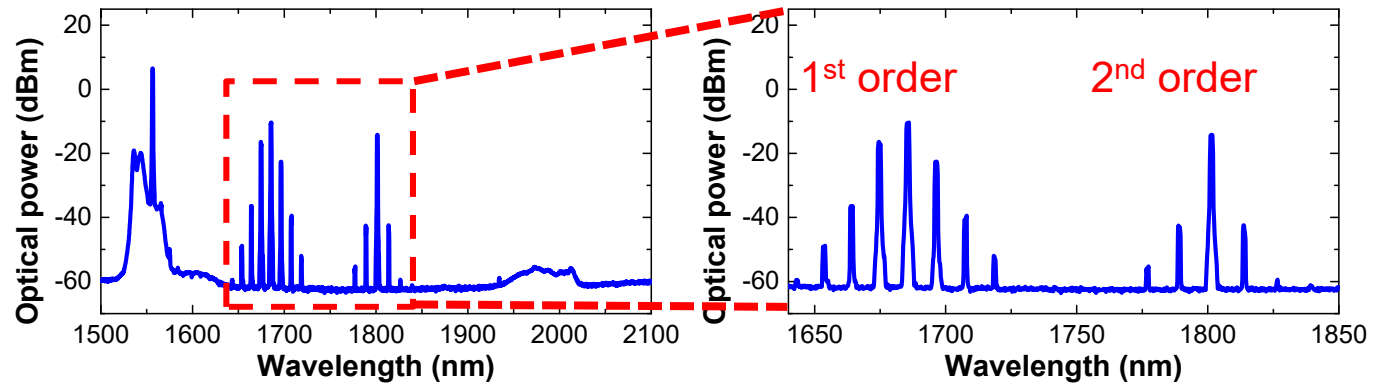
Experimental setup



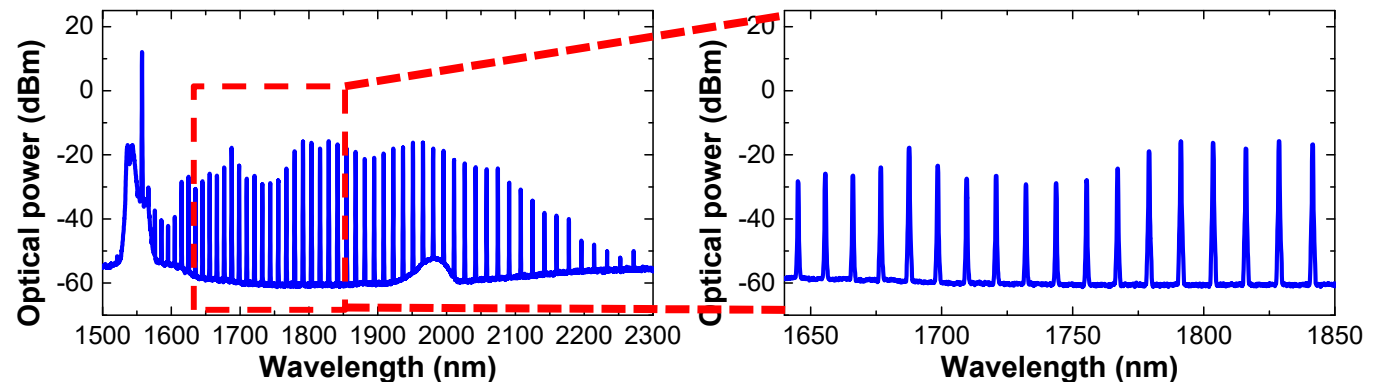
FWM only



Raman (Pump: 1556.4 nm, 250 mW)



Hybrid (FWM+Raman) (Pump: 1557.3 nm, 580 mW)

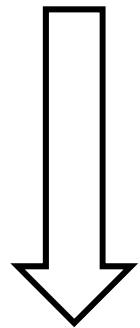


Explanation of competition between Raman & FWM gain

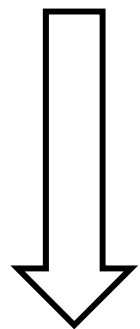


Input power

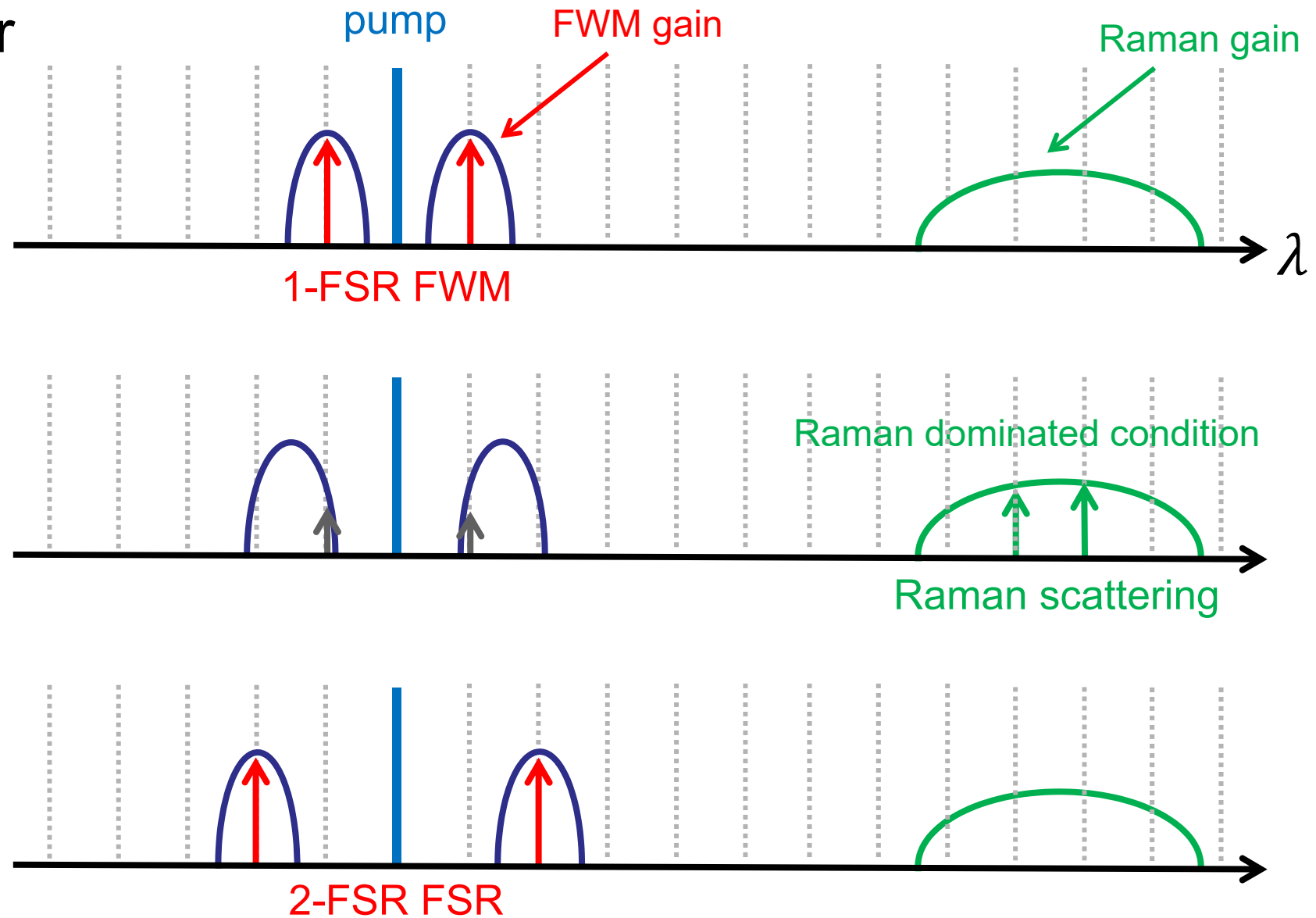
low



medium



high





Four-Wave Mixing gain in a resonator

$$g(\Omega) = \sqrt{(\gamma L P_0)^2 - (\delta_{\text{miss}})^2}$$

$$\delta_{\text{miss}} = \delta_0 - \frac{\beta_2 L \Omega^2}{2} - 2\gamma L P_0$$

$$\kappa P_{\text{input}} = (\gamma L)^2 P_0^3 - 2\delta_0 \gamma L P_0^2 + (\delta_0^2 + \alpha_{\text{tot}}^2) P_0$$

γ : nonlinear coefficient

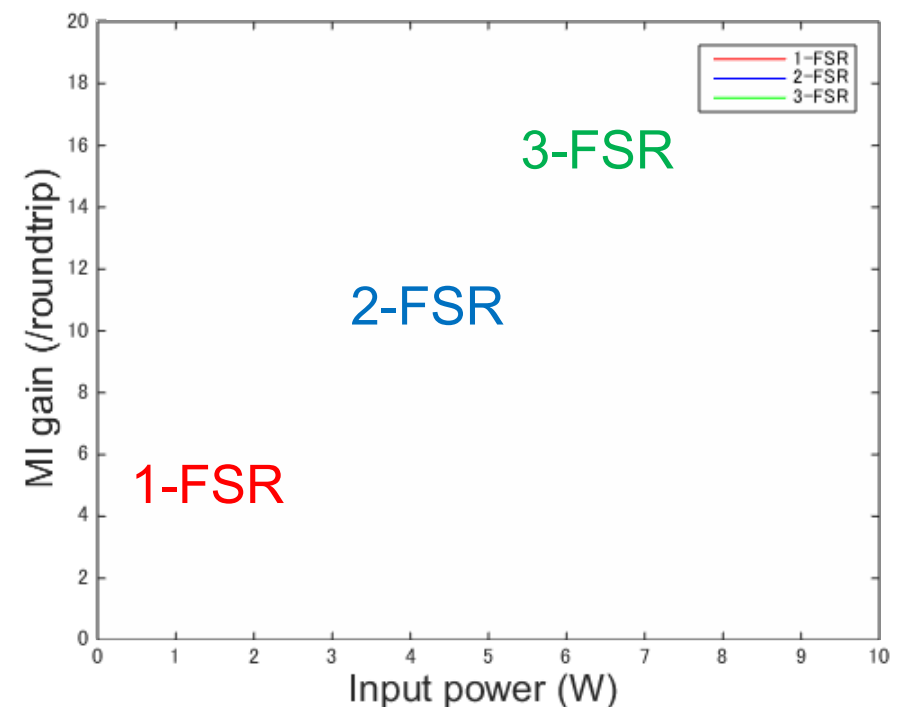
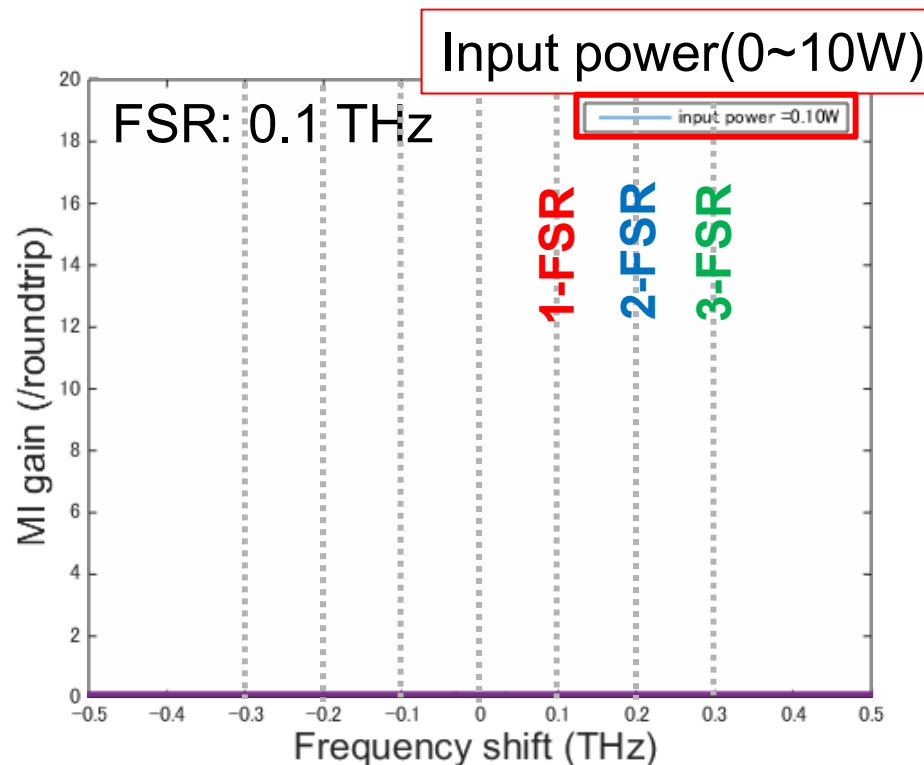
β_2 : second-order dispersion

δ_0 : detuning of input

L : cavity length

κ : coupling coefficient

α_{tot} : total loss





Numerical simulation model

► Lugiato-Lefever equation

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

$$N = i\gamma L \left(E \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} R(t') |E(t-t')|^2 dt' \right)$$

$$R(t) = (1 - f_R) \delta(t) + f_R h_R(t)$$

$$h_R(t) = \frac{\tau_1^2 + \tau_2^2}{\tau_1 \tau_2^2} \exp\left(-\frac{t}{\tau_2}\right) \sin\left(\frac{t}{\tau_1}\right)$$

$$\tau_1 = 12.2 \text{ fs}$$

$$\tau_2 = 32 \text{ fs}$$

$$f_R = 0.18$$

r : round trip number

t_R : round trip time

δ_0 : detuning

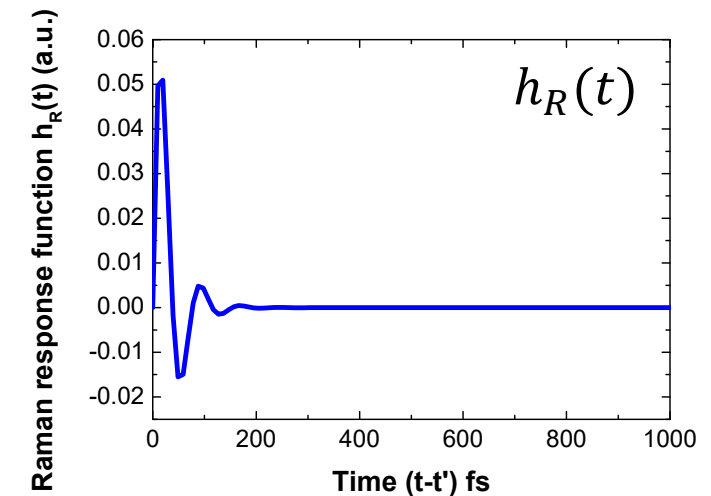
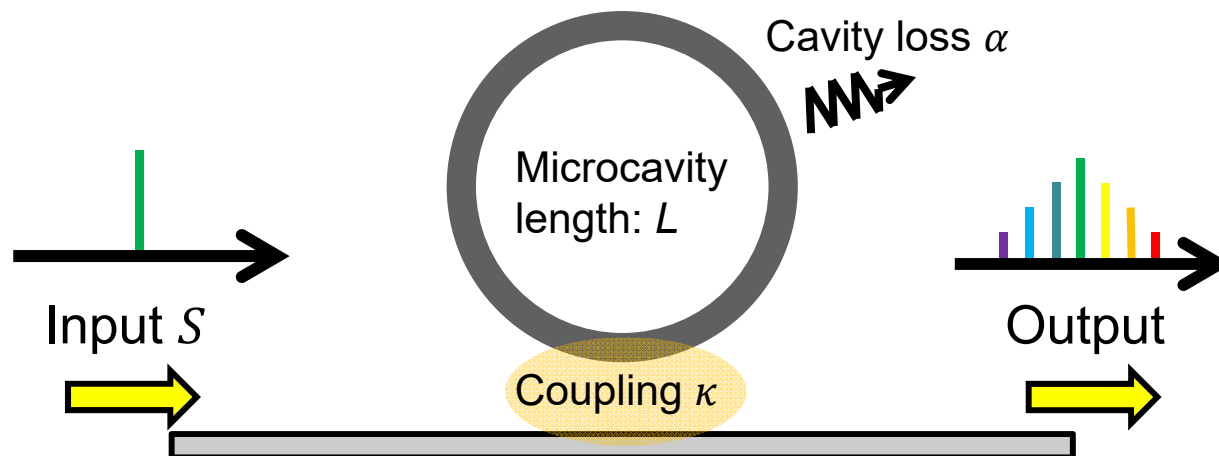
α : cavity loss

κ : coupling loss

L : cavity length

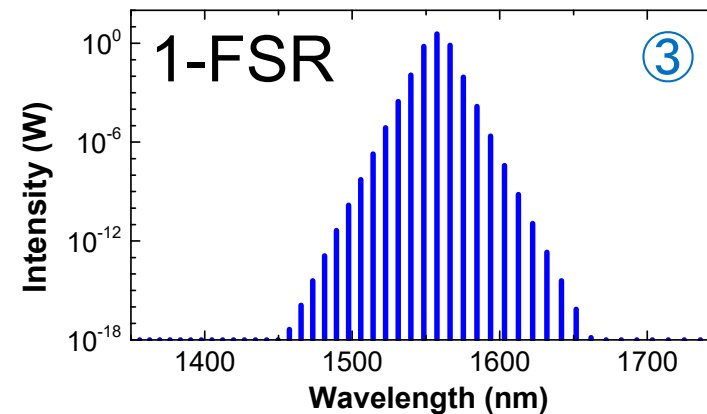
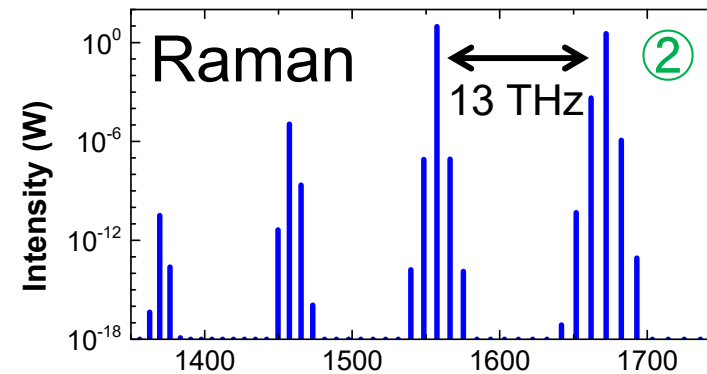
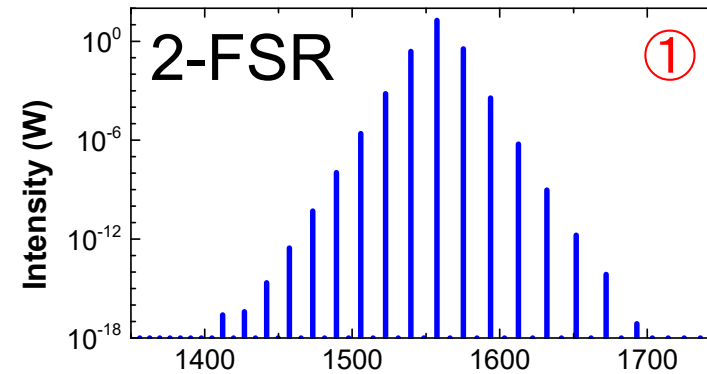
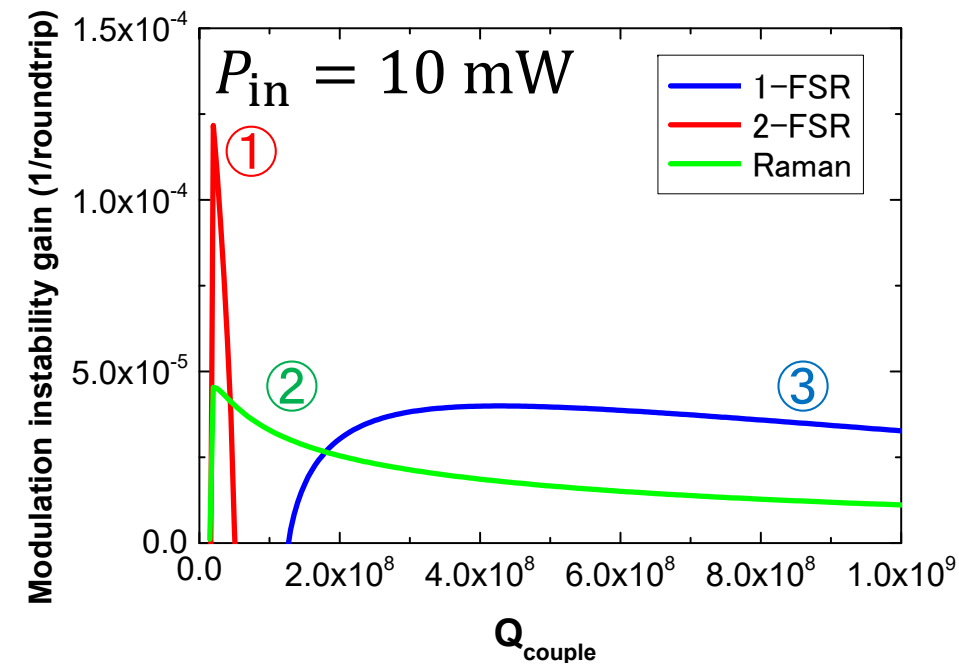
β : dispersion

γ : nonlinear coefficient





Simulation result for Kerr comb generation



$$Q_{\text{coup}} = 3 \times 10^7$$



$$Q_{\text{coup}} = 1 \times 10^8$$



$$Q_{\text{coup}} = 9 \times 10^8$$

Good agreement with the gain analysis result

Outline

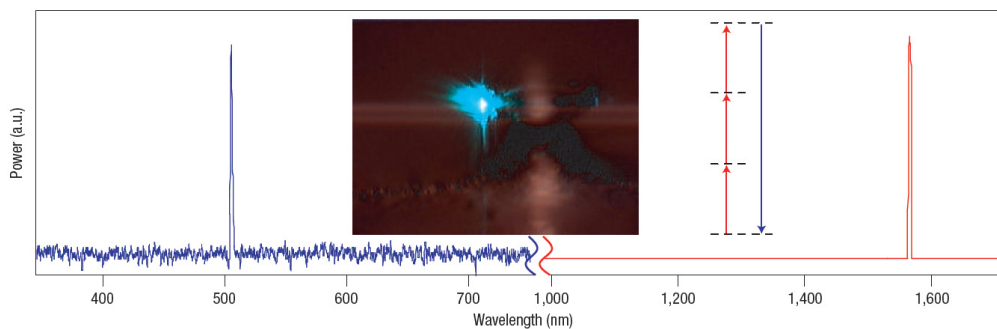


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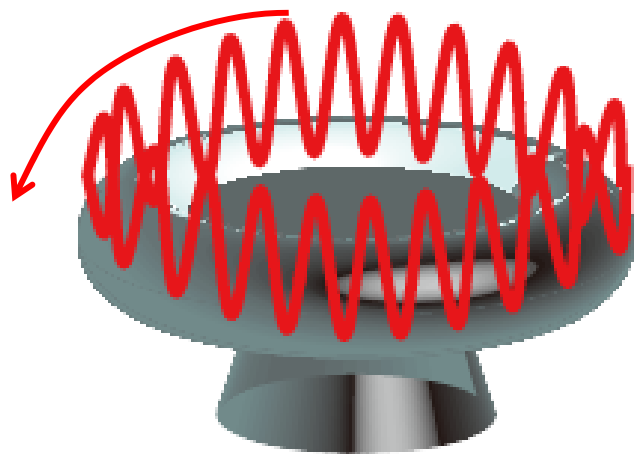
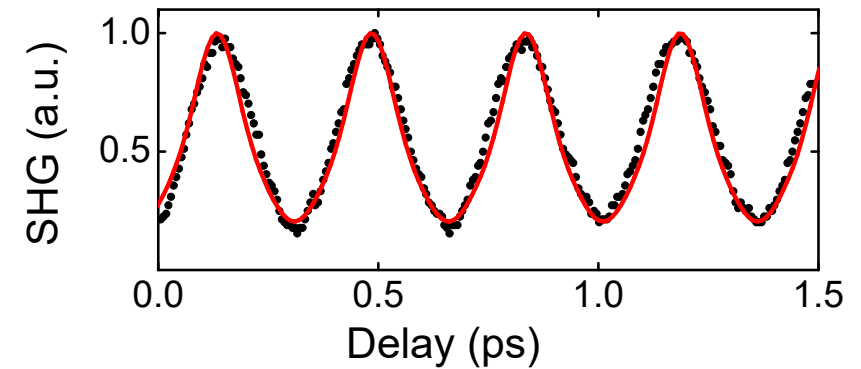
Visible comb generation with soliton pulse

▶ Efficient third-harmonic generation CW mode

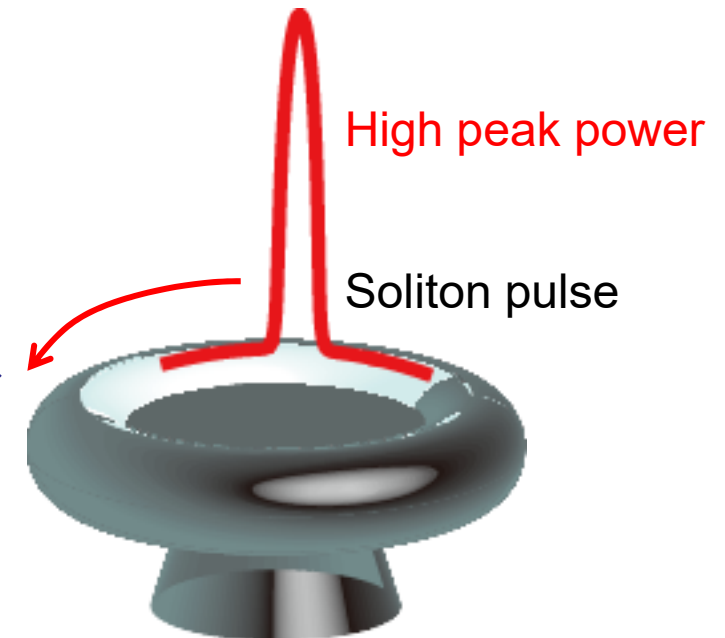


T. Carmon & K. Vahala, Nat. Phys. 3, 430 (2007).

▶ THG with pulsed mode



THG generation
with soliton pulse

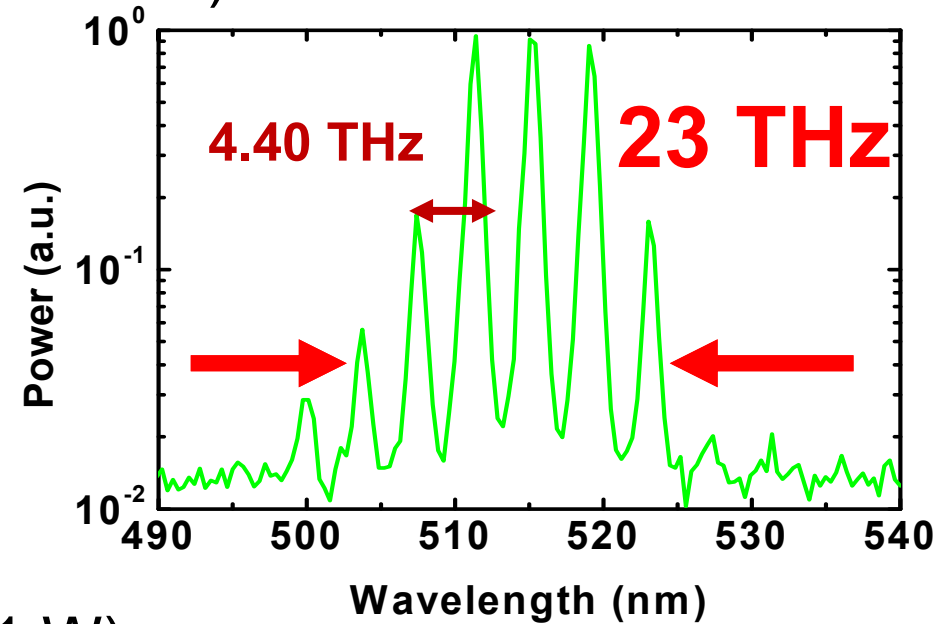
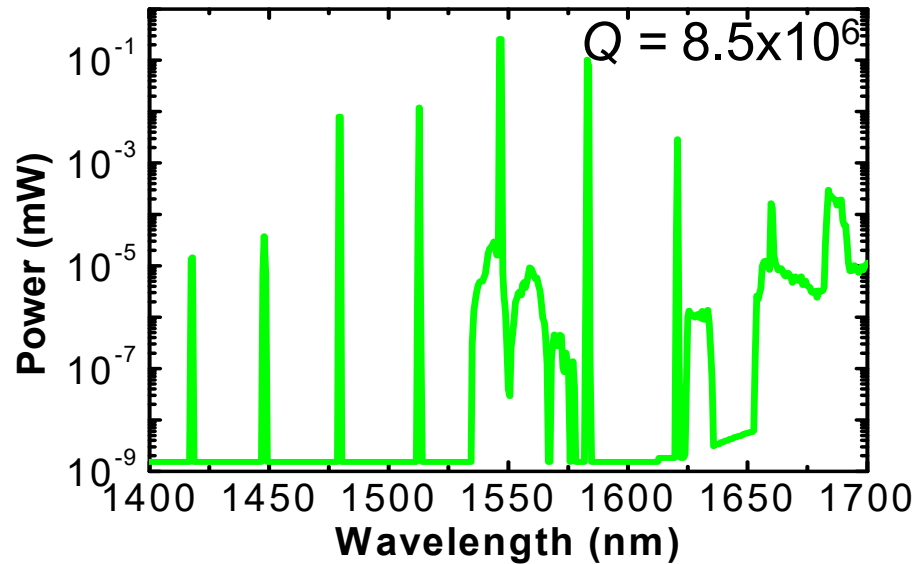


Potential for improving THG efficiency

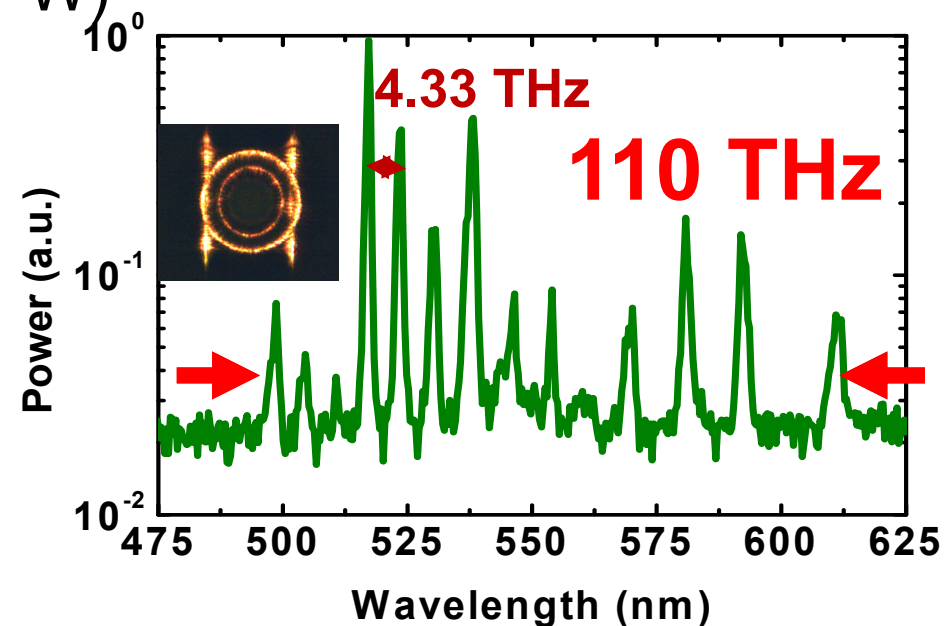
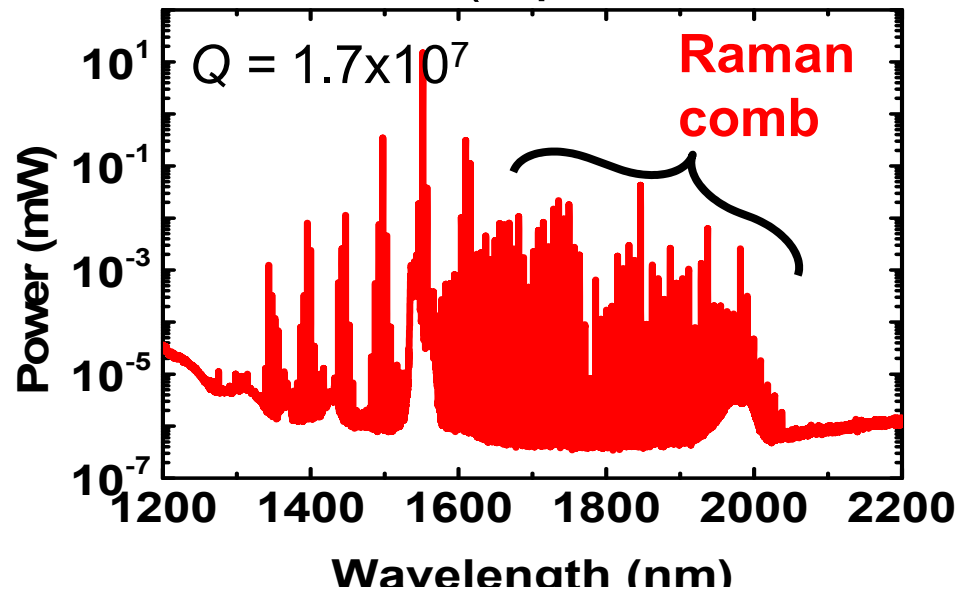


Broad bandwidth generation

► w/o Raman comb (Input: 1545.93 nm, 0.94 W)



► w/ Raman comb (Input: 1551.59 nm, 1 W)

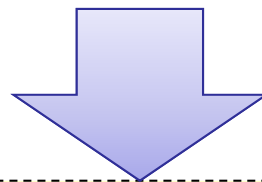


Summary



Solving problems of small WGM cavities

1. Dispersion: Anomalous dispersion is possible by using higher order modes
2. Cavity opto-mechanics: Suppressed by sweeping the wavelength (in same direction used to generate soliton pulses)
3. CW/CCW mode coupling: Small noise present from CCW mode scattering, but this can be suppressed by choosing right parameters.



Small cavity can enhance nonlinearity

- ✓ Broad bandwidth comb generation via Raman assisted FWM
- ✓ Broad bandwidth THG light generation



Acknowledgement

▶ The team



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 Mr. Ryo Suzuki (cavity opto-mechanics)
 Mr. Wataru Yoshiki (CW/CCW coupling)
 Mr. Shun Fujii (CW/CCW mode coupled FWM)
 Mr. Akitoshi C.-Jinnai (THG generation)
 Mr. Tomoya Kobatake (LL calculation)
 Mr. Yusuke Okabe (nonlinear CMT calculation)
 Ms. Misako Kobayashi (packaging)

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▶ Support



Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology (MEXT),
 Japan, KAKEN #15H05429



Strategic Information and Communications R&D Promotion Programme
 (SCOPE), from the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications