



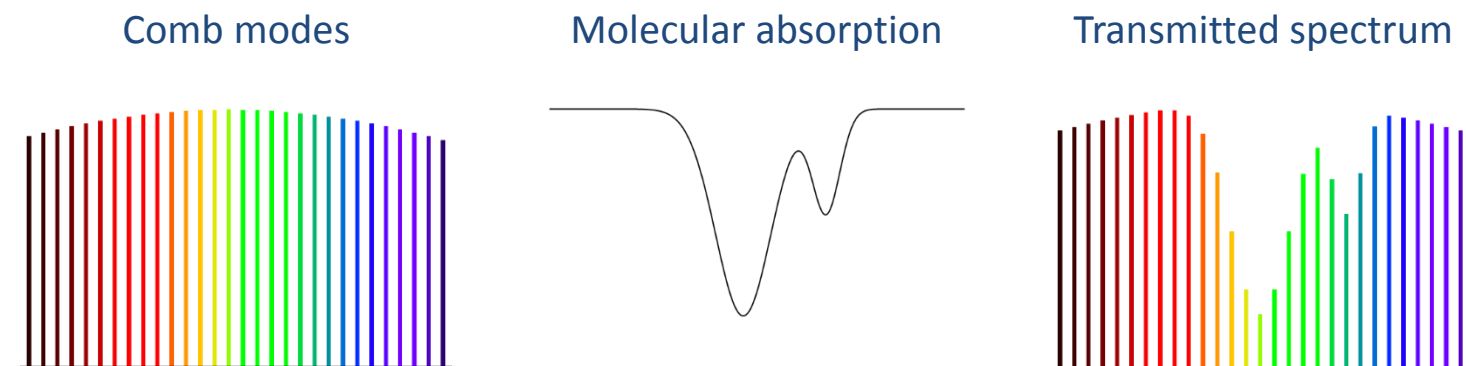
Cavity-Enhanced Optical Frequency Comb Spectroscopy

Aleksandra Foltynowicz

Department of Physics, Umeå University, Sweden

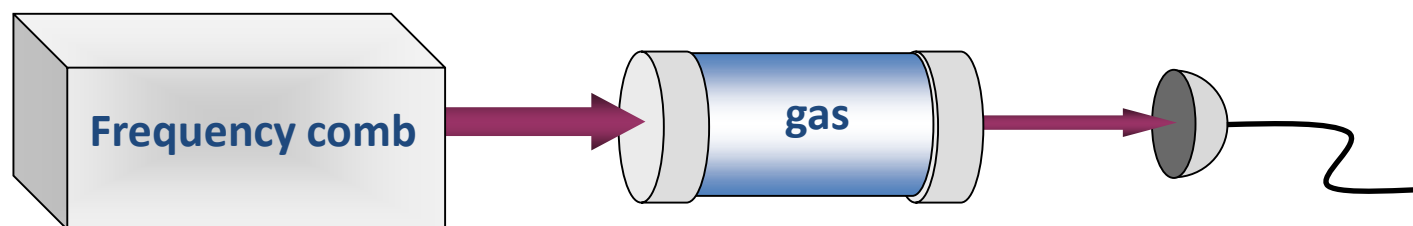
CES summer school, Boulder, CO, June 16, 2015

Cavity-Enhanced Optical Frequency Comb Spectroscopy



Acquisition of entire absorption bands
Multispecies detection

High sensitivity
Short acquisition times



Mode-locked laser

- broad bandwidth
- high resolution
- efficient coupling to cavity

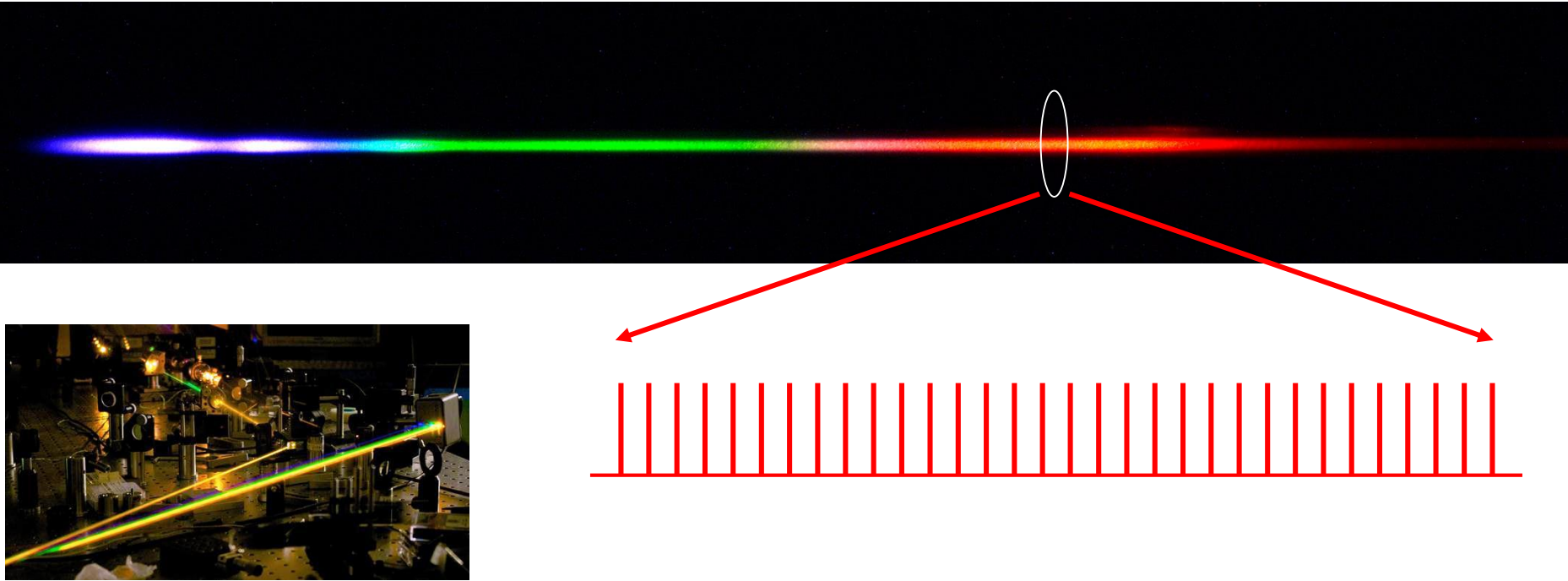
High-finesse optical cavity

- high sensitivity to absorption

Broadband detection

- rapid data acquisition
- broad bandwidth

Optical Frequency Comb



Thousands of synchronized laser lines!!

Nobel Prize 2005

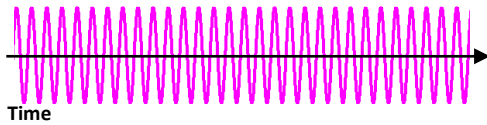
John Hall and Theodor Hänsch

‘for their contributions to the development of laser-based precision spectroscopy, including the optical frequency comb technique’

Optical Frequency Comb

Continuous wave laser

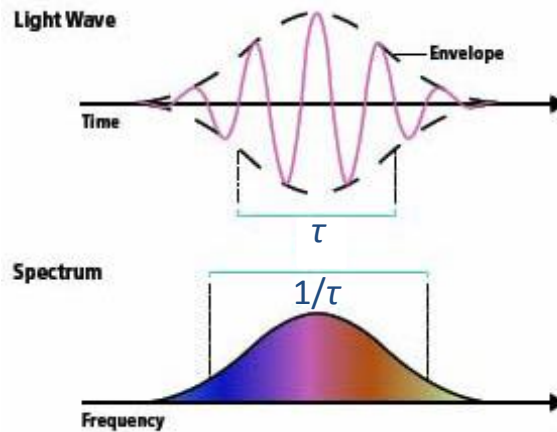
Time domain



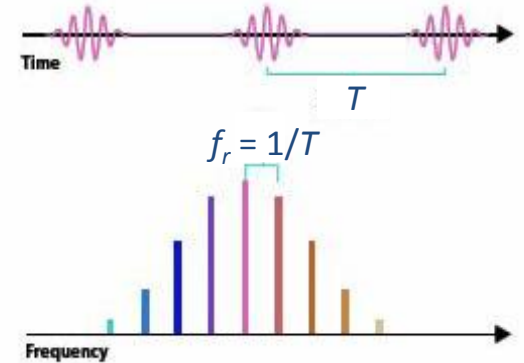
Frequency domain



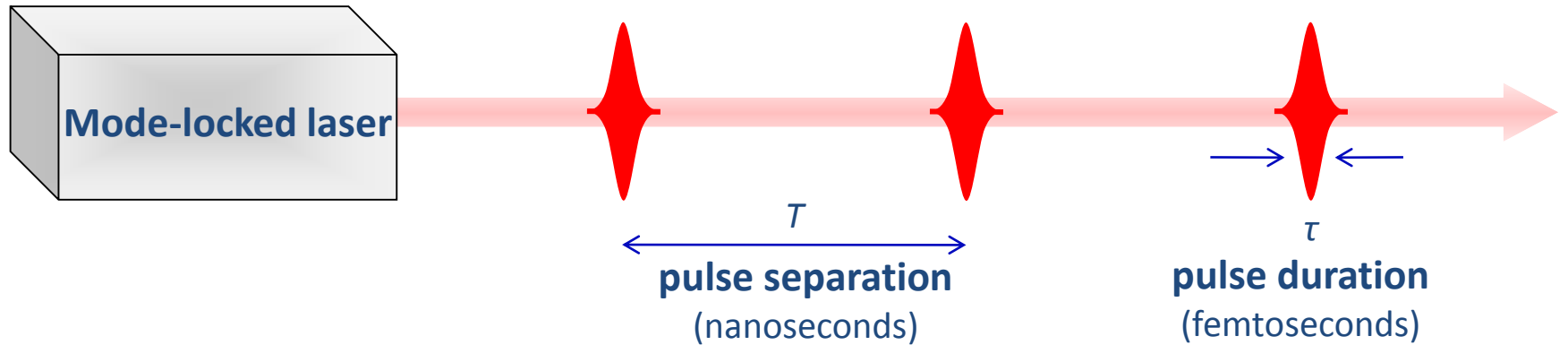
Single pulse



Train of mode-locked pulses



Optical Frequency Comb



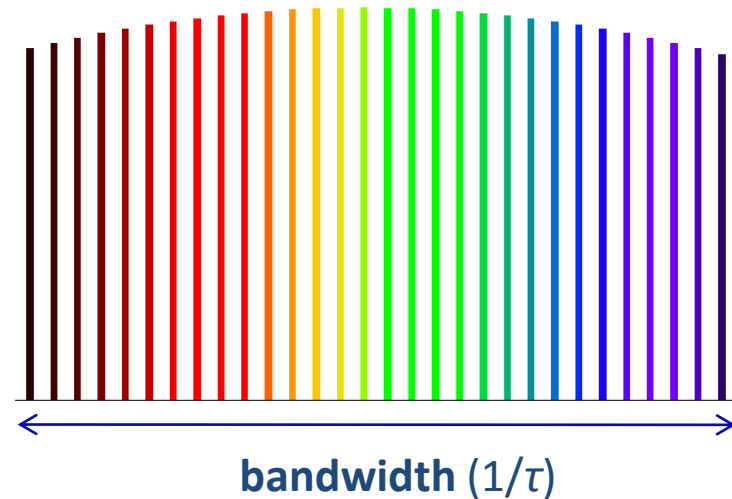
Frequency of the n^{th} comb mode

repetition rate ($f_r = 1/T$)

$$\nu_n = n f_r + f_o$$

mode number

offset frequency



Optical Frequency Comb

Two RF frequencies exactly determine all optical frequencies:

- repetition frequency f_r
- carrier envelope offset frequency f_o

Control

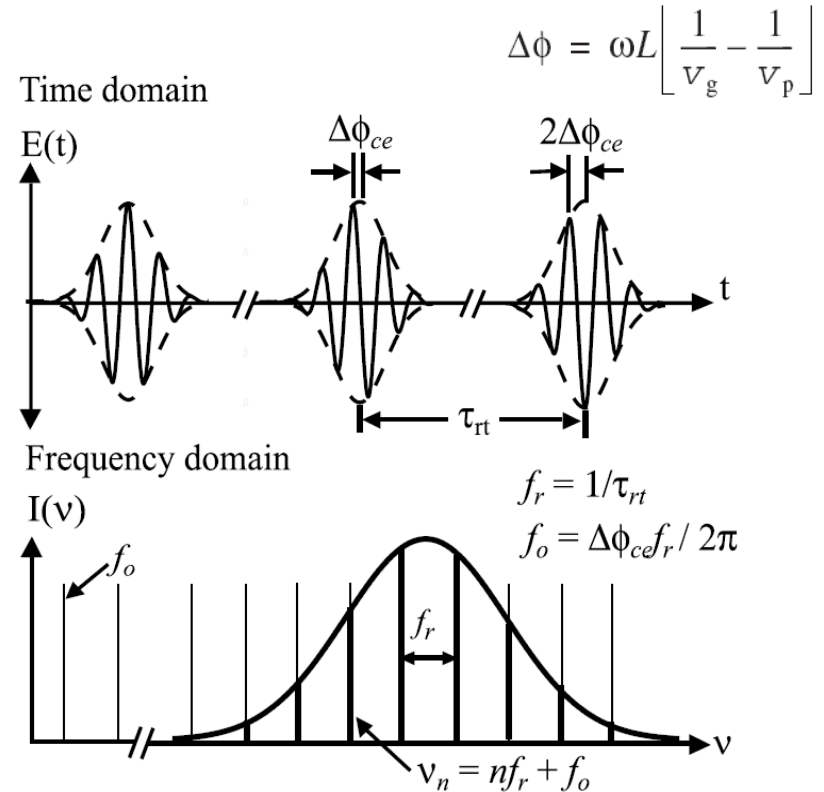
f_r - via laser cavity length

f_o - via pump power and cavity phase shifts

Measurement

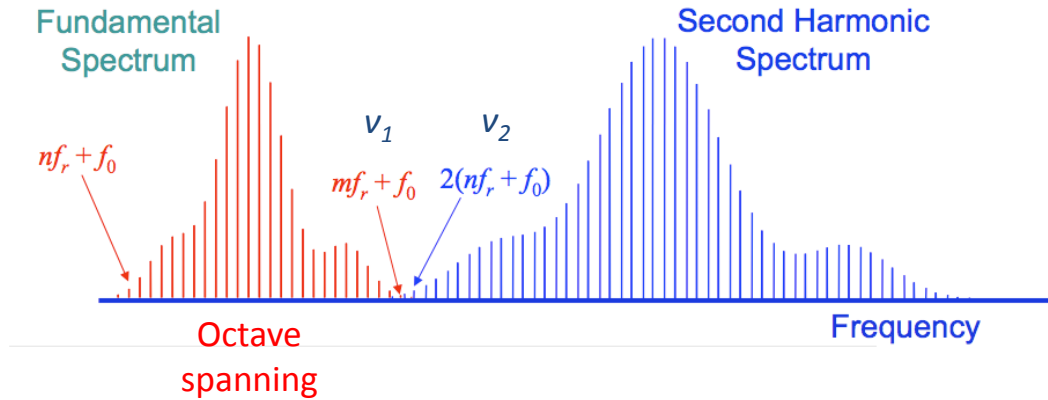
f_r - with fast detector

f_o - via f-2f interferometry



f - $2f$ Interferometry

Measuring f_0 via f - $2f$



$$m=2n$$

$$v_2 - v_1 = 2(nf_r + f_0) - (mf_r + f_0) = f_0$$

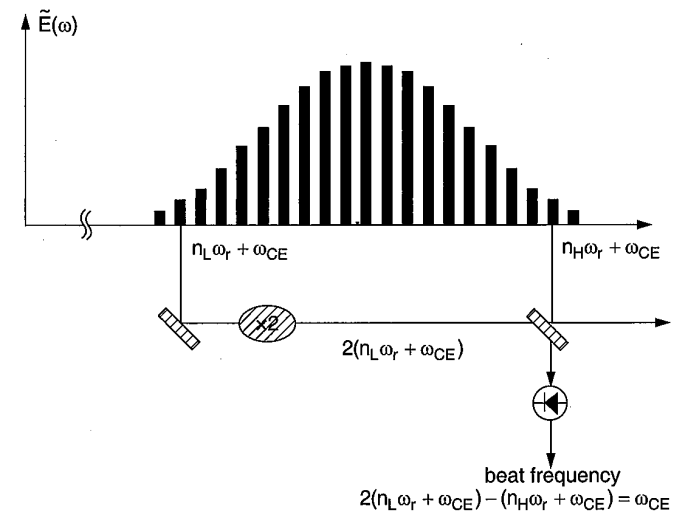


Fig.9.71. Self-referencing of optical frequencies [9.174]

Frequency Comb Sources

Ti:sapphire

- highest repetition rates
- solid state laser
 - free space components

Yb:fiber

- high-power capabilities
- fiber components

Er:fiber

- compact, easy to use
- fiber components

	Ti:Sapphire	Yb:Fiber	Er:Fiber
Wavelength range (directly)	0.7–0.9 μm	1.0–1.1 μm	1.4–1.6 μm
Wavelength range (supercontinuum)	0.4–1.2 μm	0.6–1.4 μm	1.0–2.2 μm
Maximum repetition rate	10 GHz	1 GHz	250 MHz
Output power (average)	<3 W	<50 W	<0.5 W
System design	Oscillator only	Oscillator and amplifier	Oscillator and amplifier
Octave spanning	With PCF or directly	With PCF	With HNF

^aAbbreviations: HNF, highly nonlinear fiber; PCF, photonic crystal fiber.

Frequency Comb Sources in the MIR

Direct comb sources

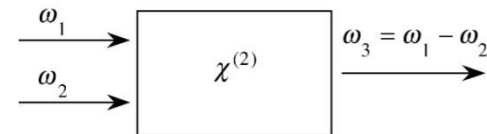
- Cr²⁺ ZnSe @ 2.4 μm
- Tm: fiber @ 2 μm

Other...

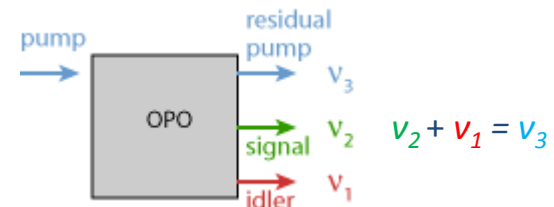
- *microresonators*
- *quantum cascade lasers*
- *towards XUV*
– *high harmonic generation*

Nonlinear frequency conversion

- Difference Frequency Generation (DFG)

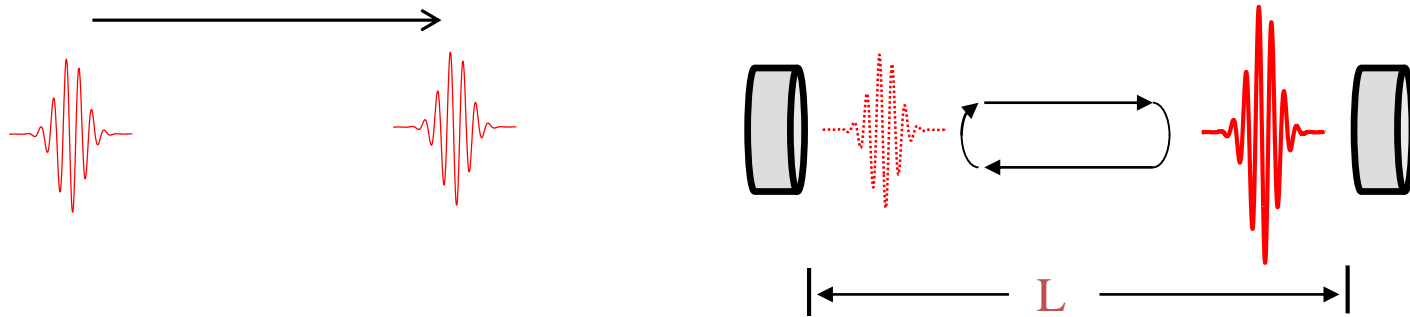


- Optical Parametric Oscillator (OPO)

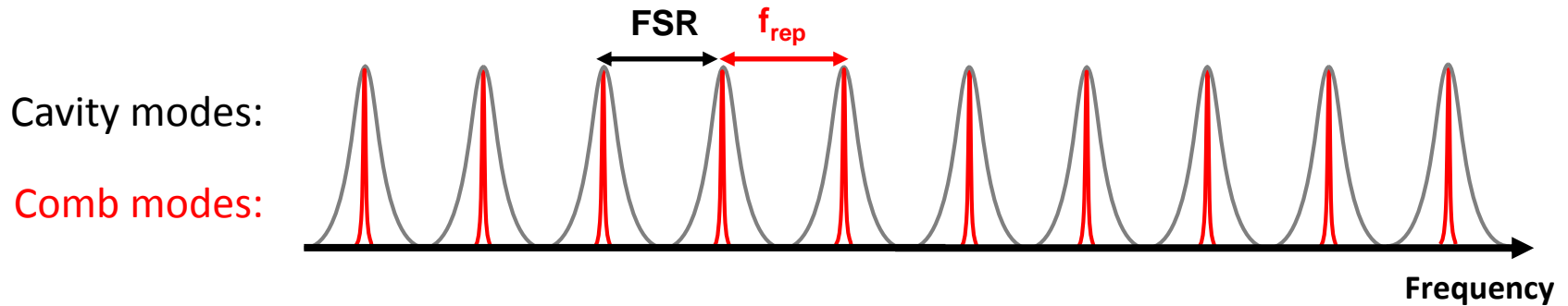


Comb-Cavity Coupling

Time domain



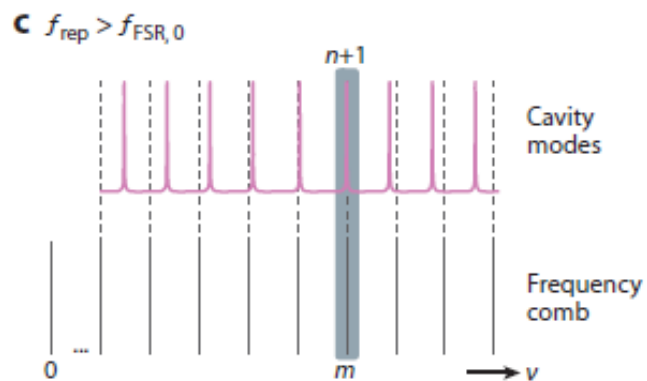
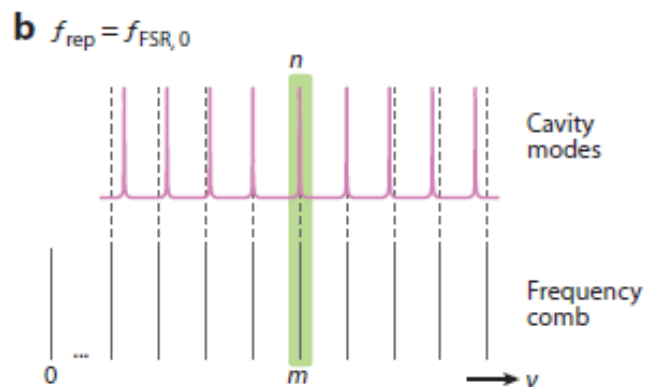
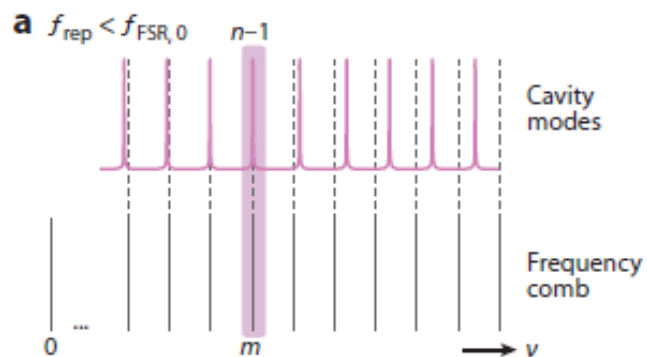
Frequency domain



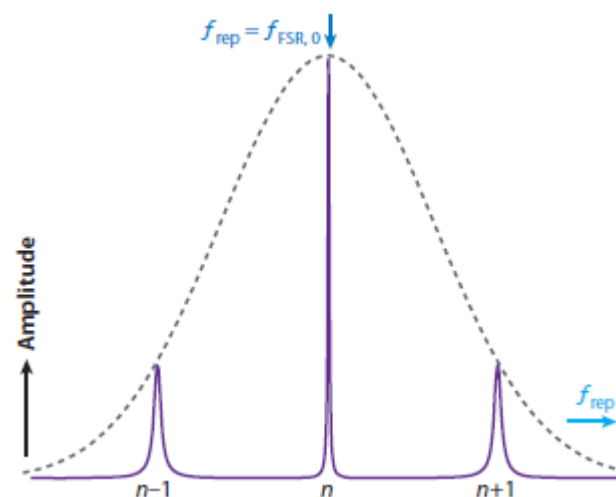
Dispersion...

$$FSR(\omega) = \frac{c}{2L + c \frac{d\phi}{d\omega}}$$

Comb-Cavity Coupling

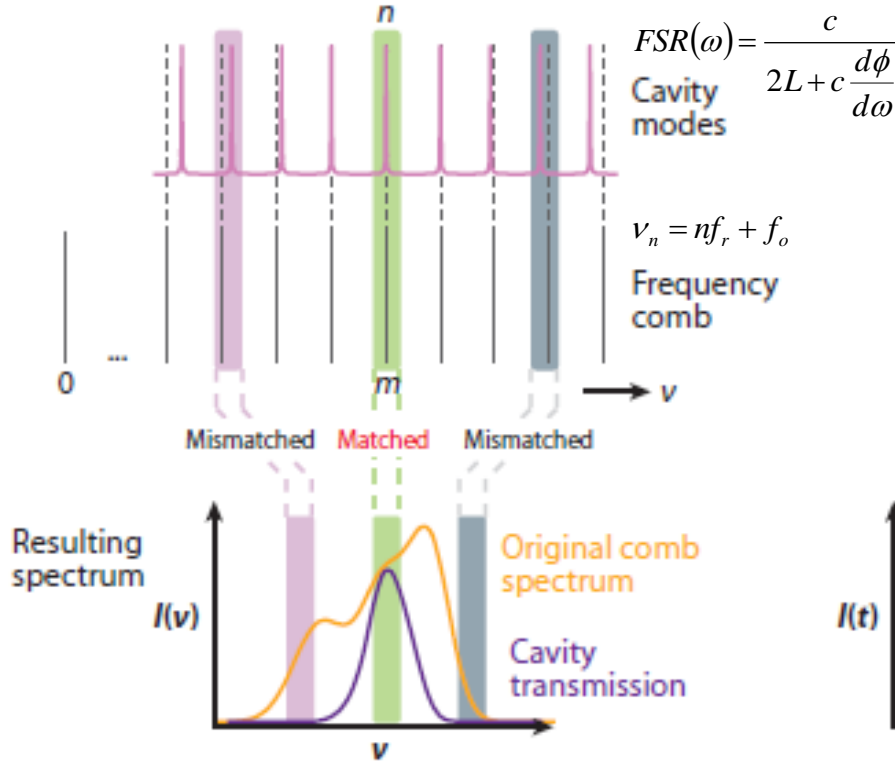


Cavity transmission - f_{rep} scan



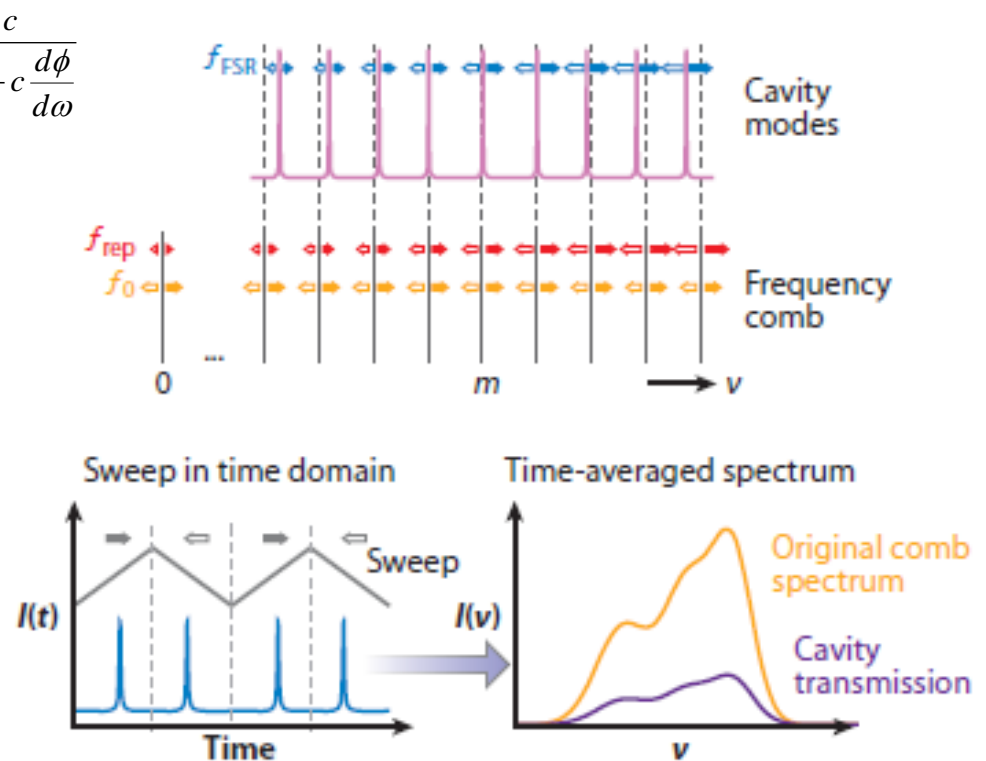
Comb-Cavity Coupling

a Locked coupling scheme



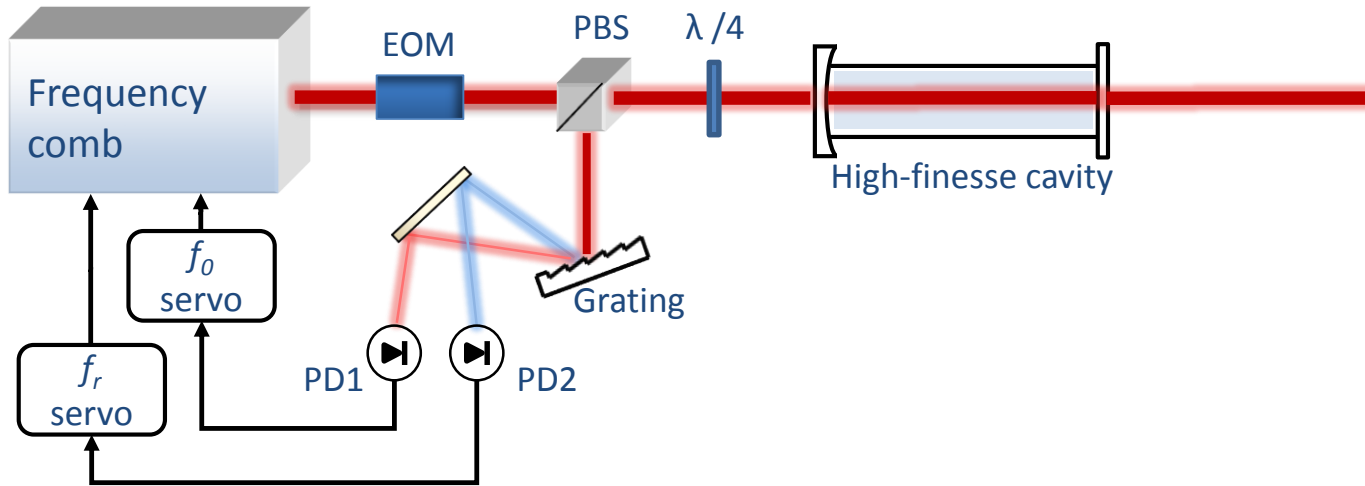
- Constant transmission
- Bandwidth limited by mirror dispersion
- Higher cavity enhancement
- Tight lock

b Swept coupling scheme



- Lower transmitted power
- Entire bandwidth transmitted
- Lower cavity enhancement
- Dither lock

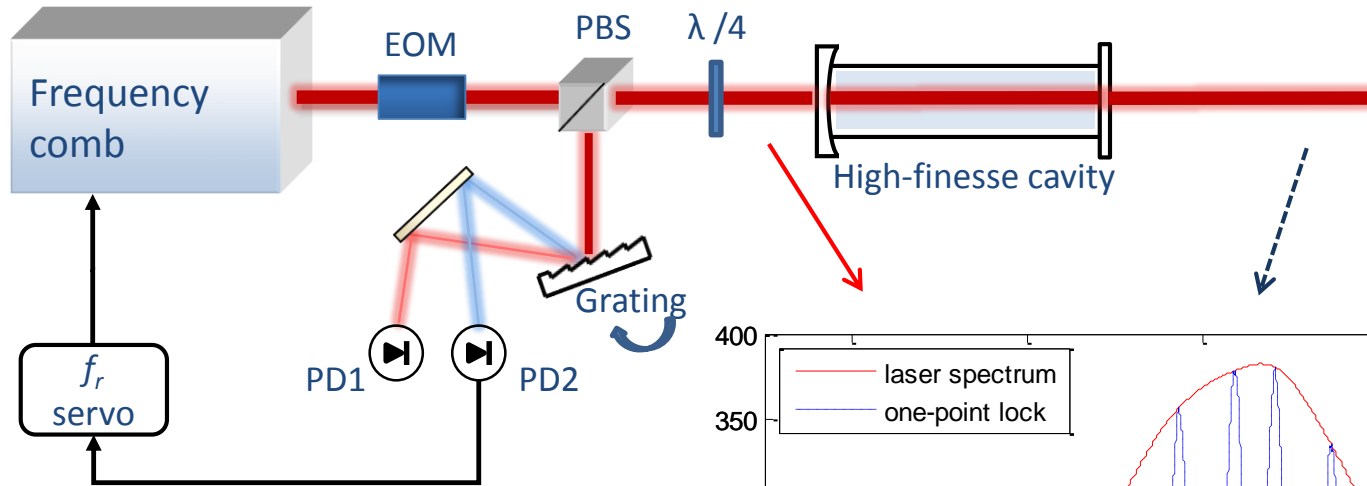
Two-Point Comb-Cavity Lock



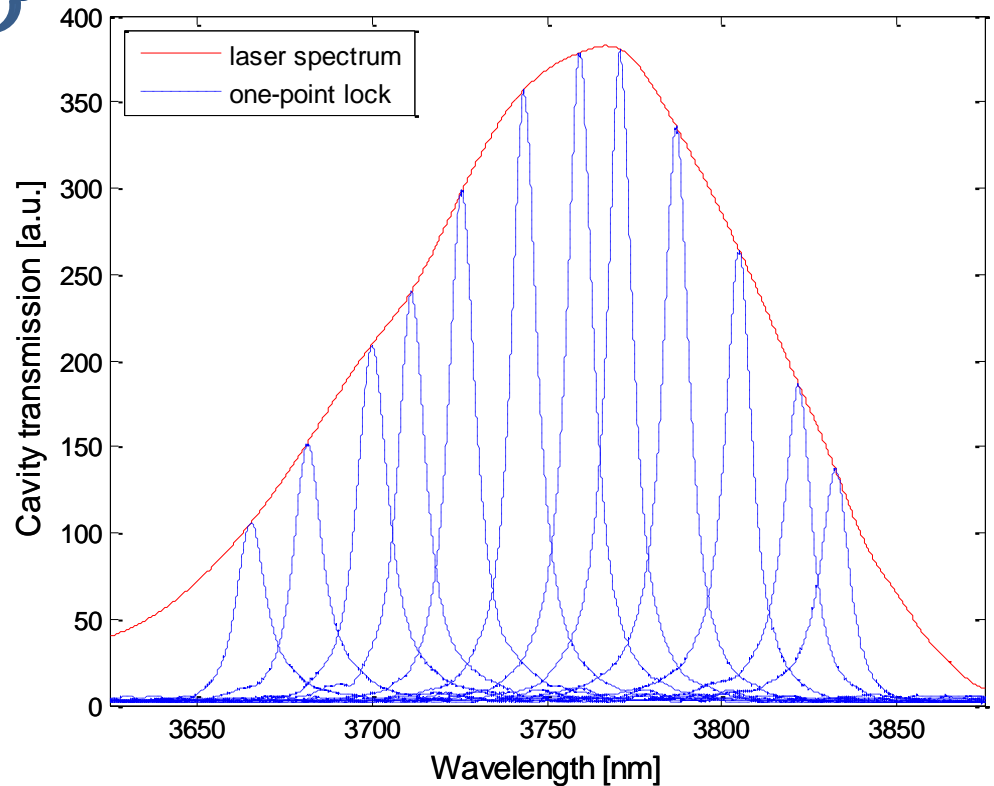
Two-point Pound-Drever-Hall locking

Lock both comb degrees of freedom to the cavity

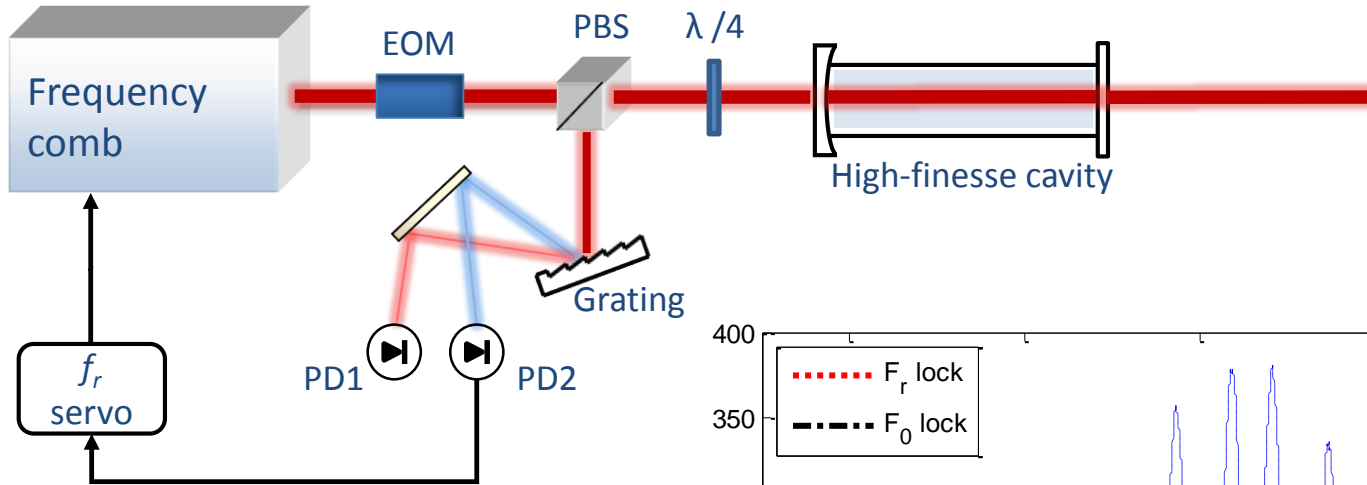
Two-Point Comb-Cavity Lock



Tuning of the locking point
Arbitrary combination of f_r and f_0

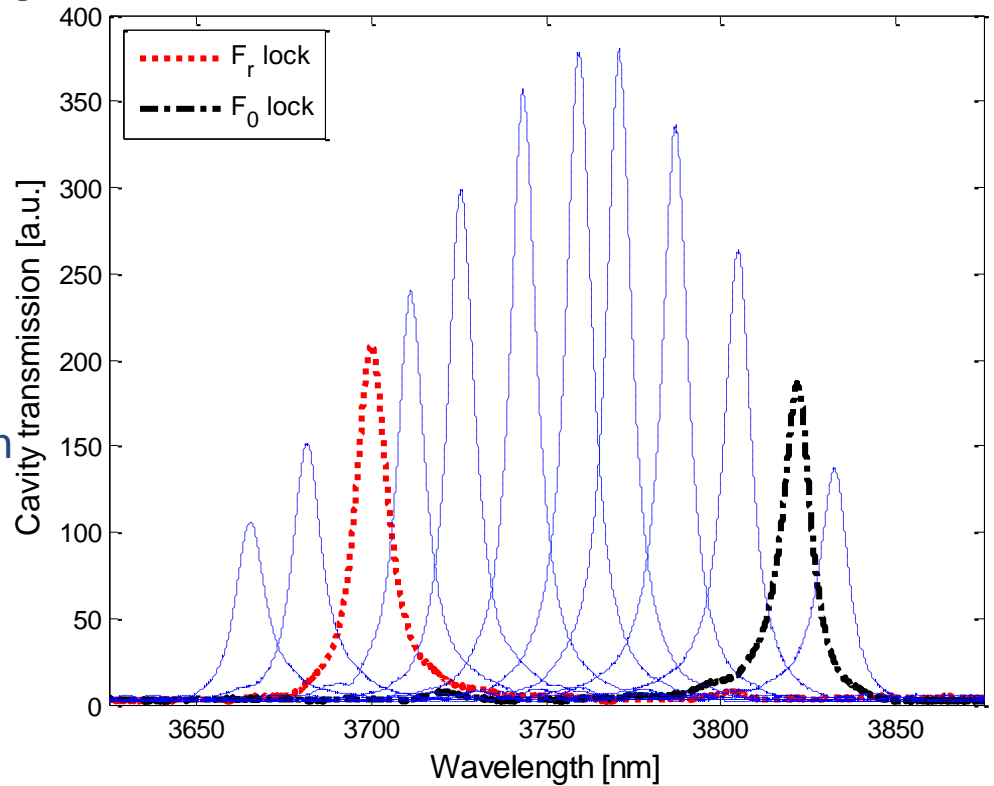


Two-Point Comb-Cavity Lock

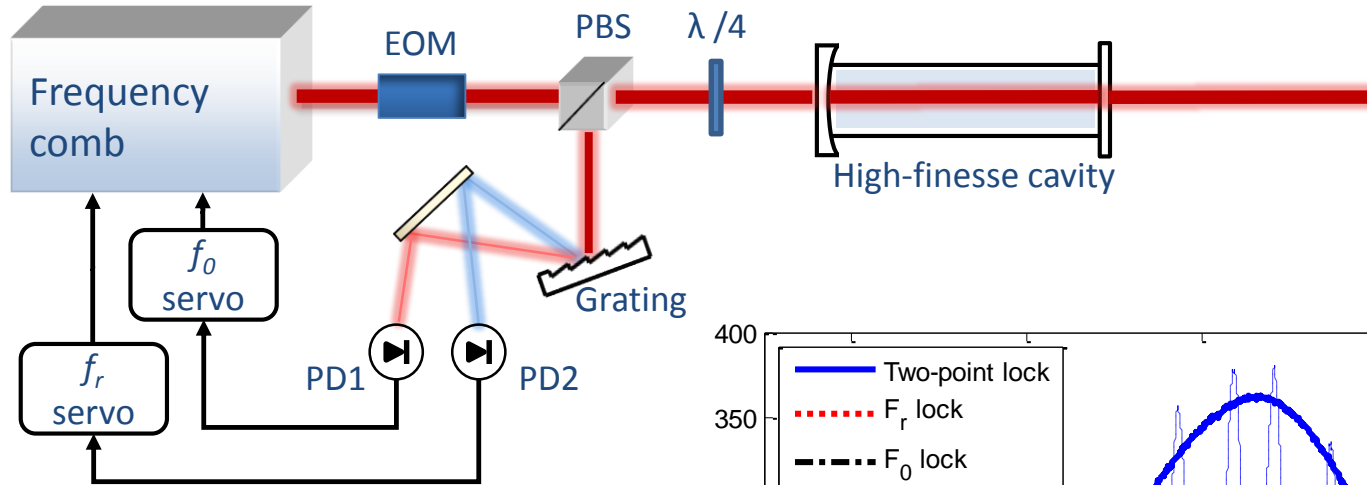


Two locking points

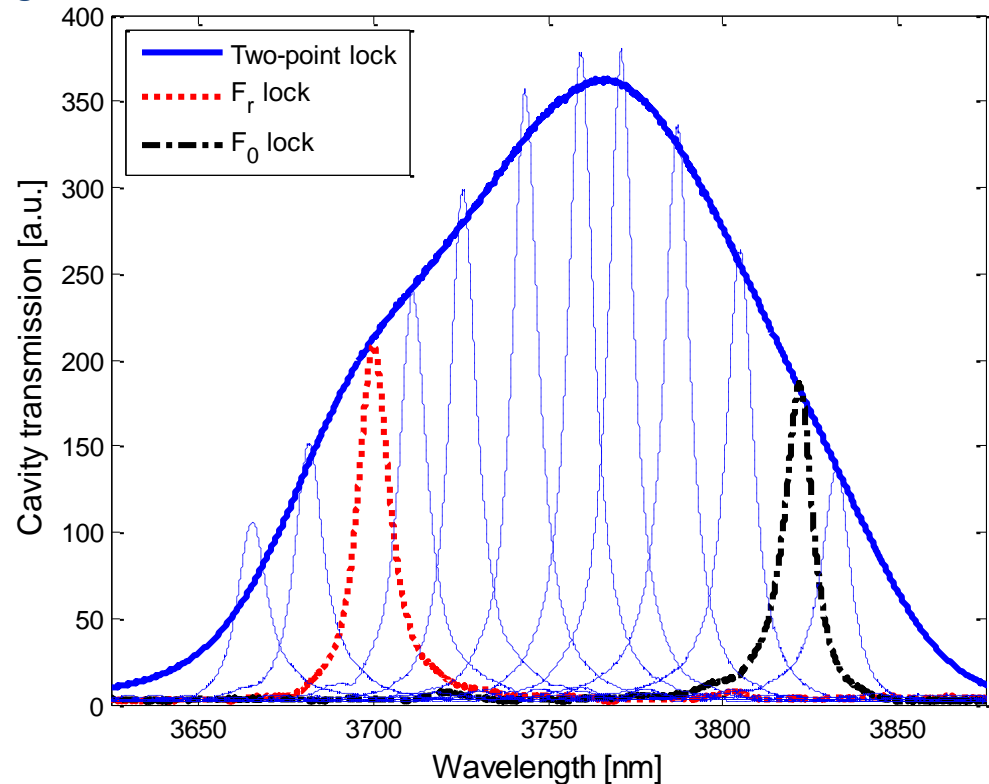
Separation limited by cavity dispersion



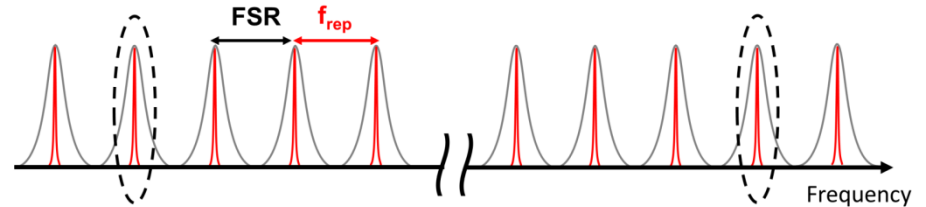
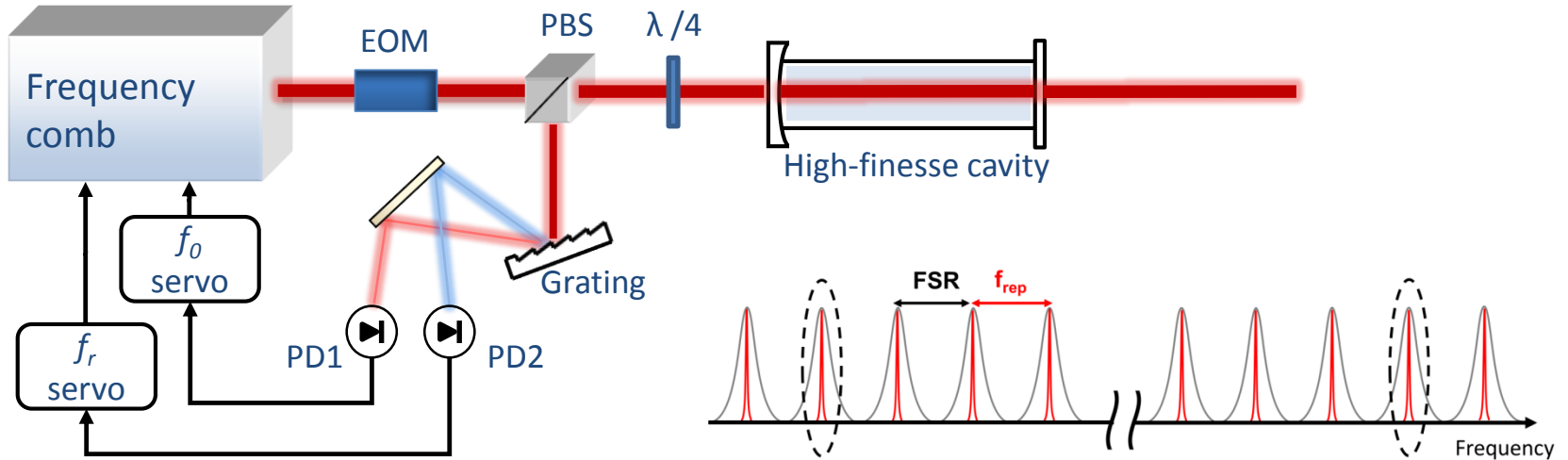
Two-Point Comb-Cavity Lock



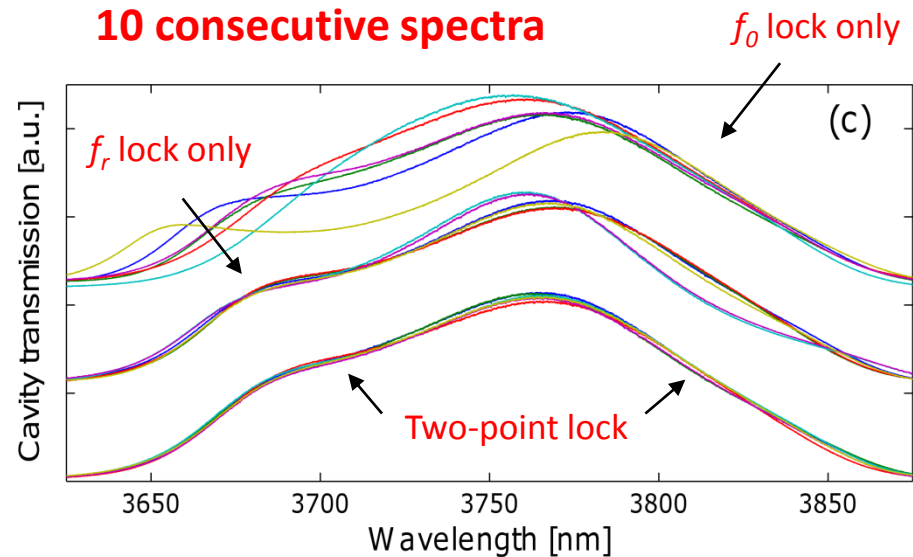
Two-point locking
Stable transmission
at and between the locking points



Two-Point Comb-Cavity Lock



Two-point Pound-Drever-Hall locking
Stability of 1-point vs 2-point lock



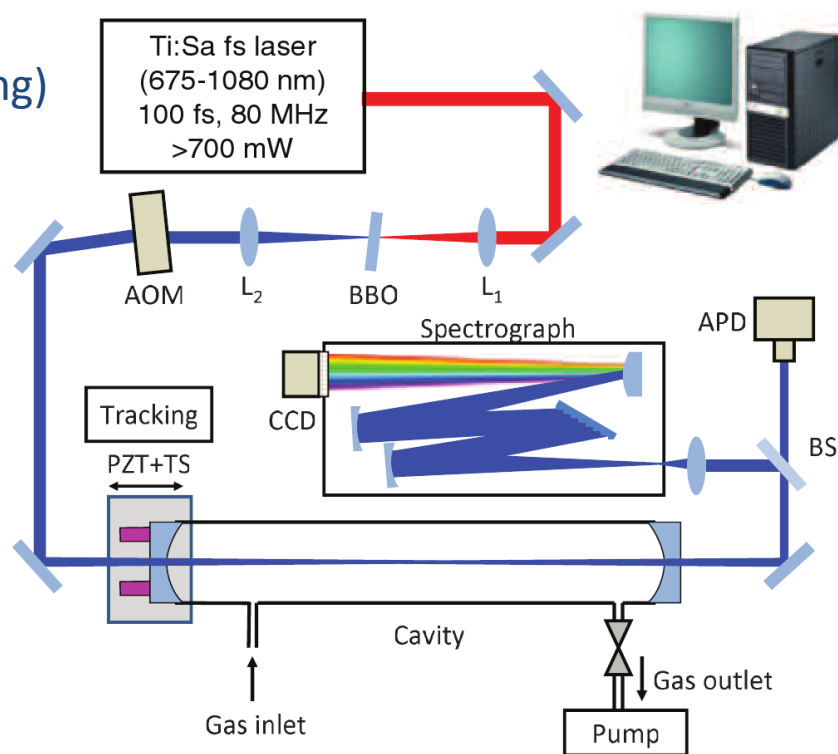
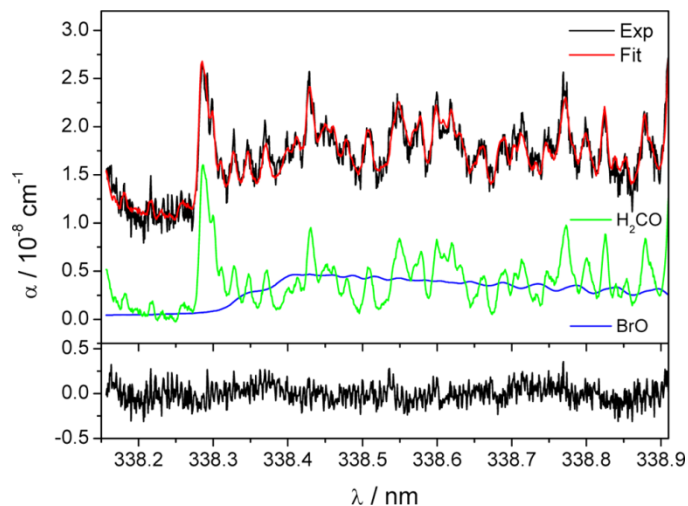
Detection Methods

- Dispersion element
 - 1D - spectrograph
 - 2D - VIPA
- Comb-cavity filtering
 - Vernier spectroscopy
- Fourier transform spectroscopy
 - Mechanical FTS
 - Dual comb spectroscopy
- Resolution
 - Comb lines resolved?
- Bandwidth
 - Entire comb bandwidth?
- Acquisition time
- Frequency calibration
 - Given by the comb?
- Sensitivity
- Stability
 - robustness
 - simplicity
 -

Spectrograph

1D dispersion

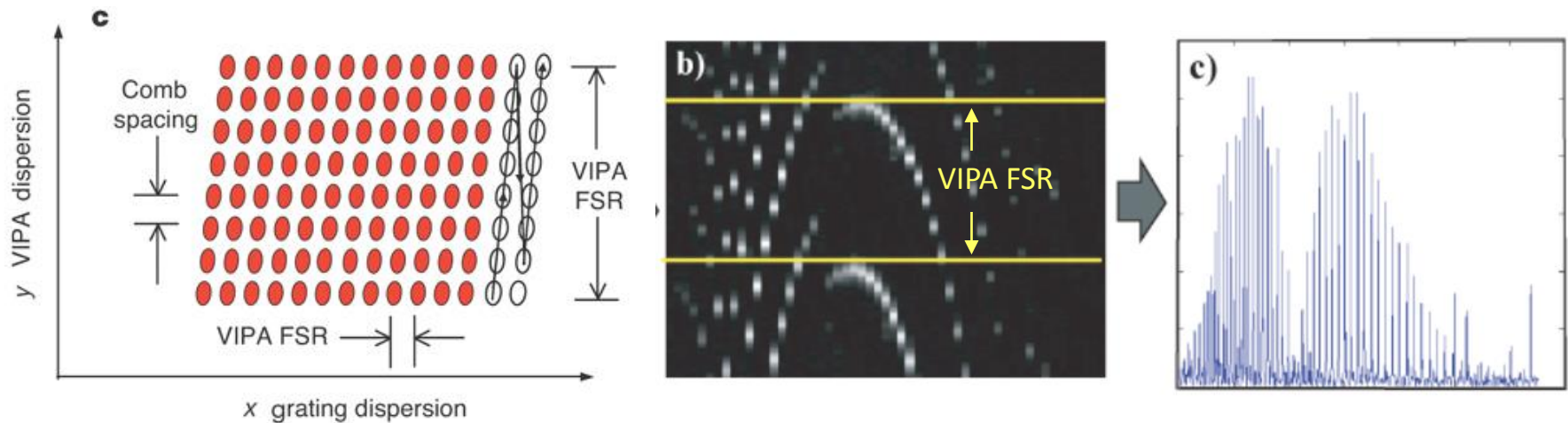
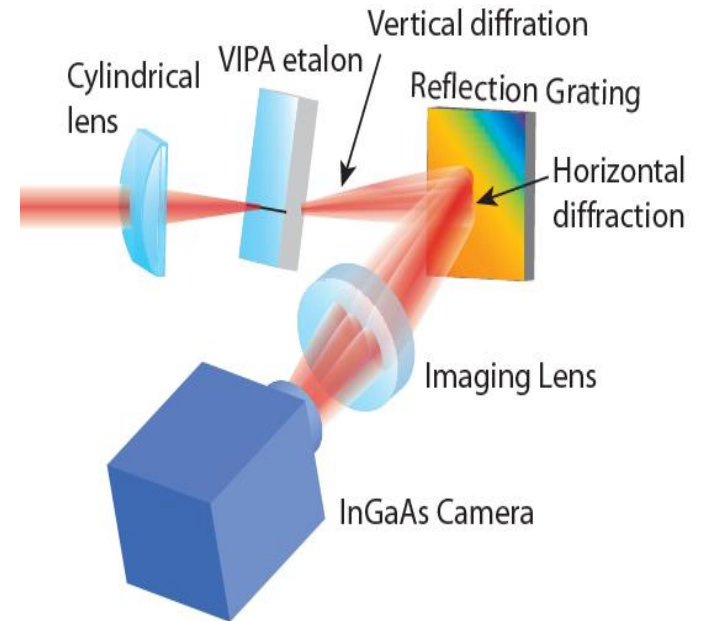
- Grating spectrograph
- Dither lock
- Resolution - few GHz (limited by the grating)
- Frequency calibration needed
- Spectral coverage - few nm (limited by detector array size)
- Fast acquisition times – ms



VIPA

2D detection system

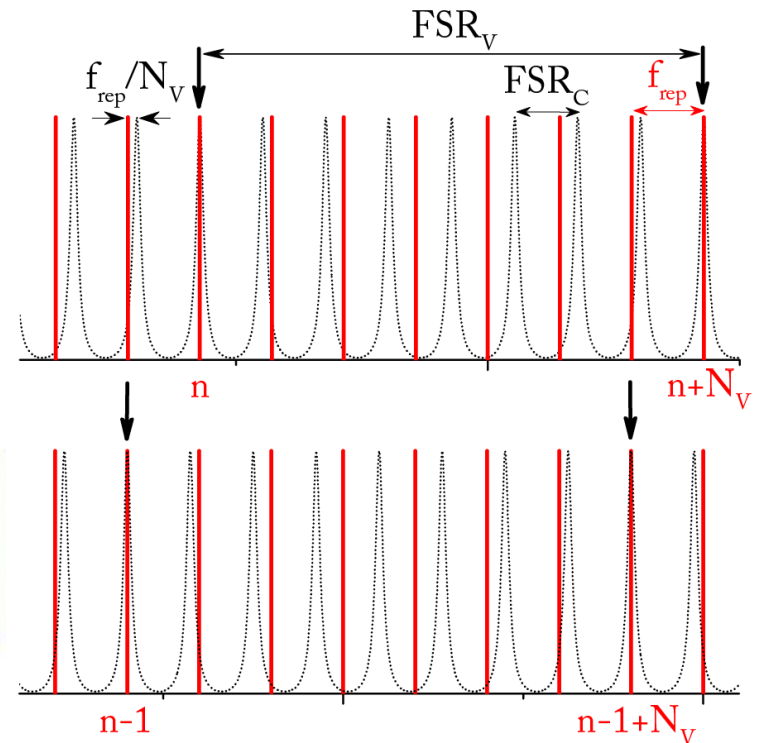
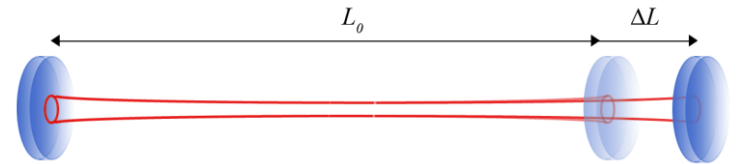
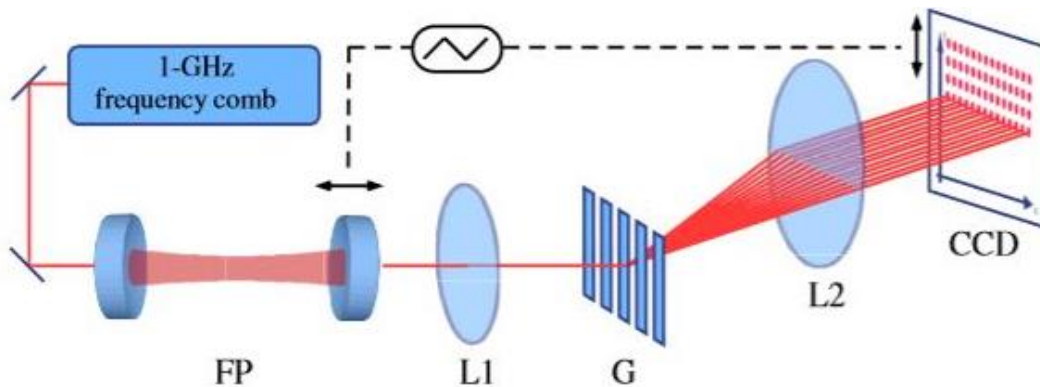
- Virtually imaged phased array (VIPA etalon) + grating cross-disperser (grating) + CCD camera
- Dither lock
- Resolution - sub-GHz (limited by the VIPA)
- Frequency calibration needed unless comb lines are resolved
- Spectral coverage - few tens of nm (limited by detector array size)
- Fast acquisition times – ms



Vernier Coupling

High-resolution filter

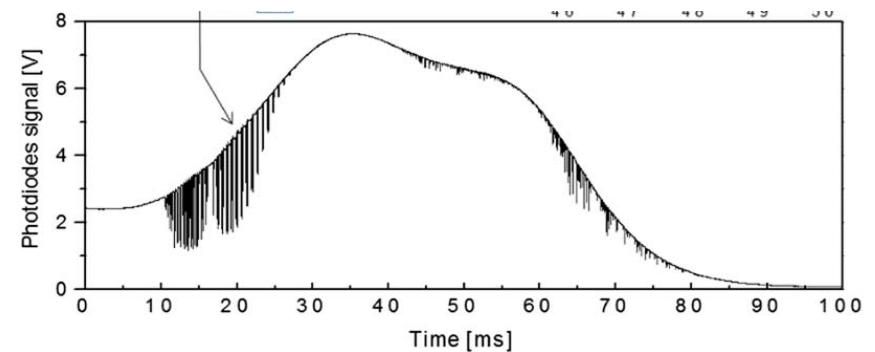
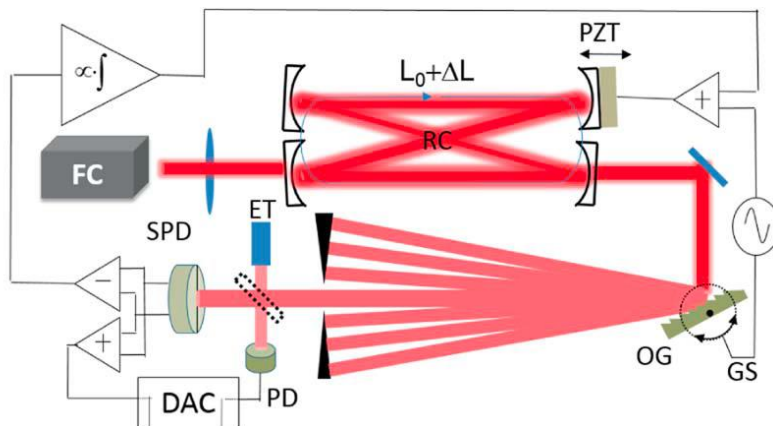
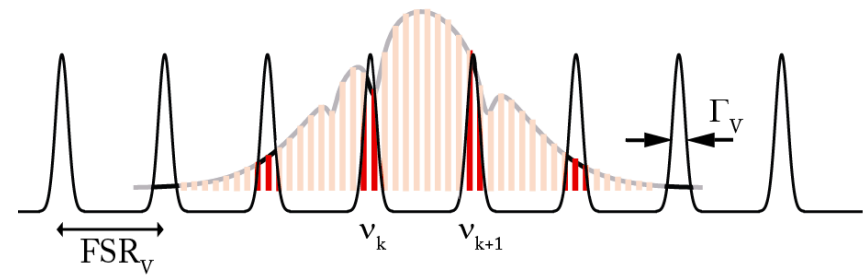
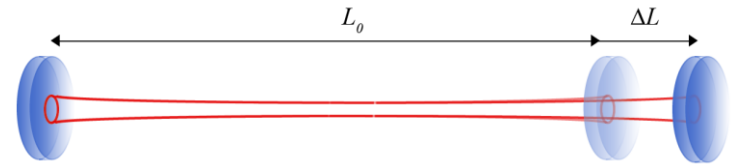
- Comb-cavity filtering
Mode-by mode measurement
- Separated by grating, recorded with CCD
- Resolution - comb lines resolved
- Spectral coverage - few nm
(limited by detector array size)
- Acquisition time - ms
- Low sensitivity



Vernier Coupling

Low-resolution filter

- Comb-cavity filtering
A few modes at a time
- Single detector
- Resolution - low GHz
- Frequency calibration needed
- Spectral coverage - entire comb bandwidth
- Acquisition time - hundreds of ms



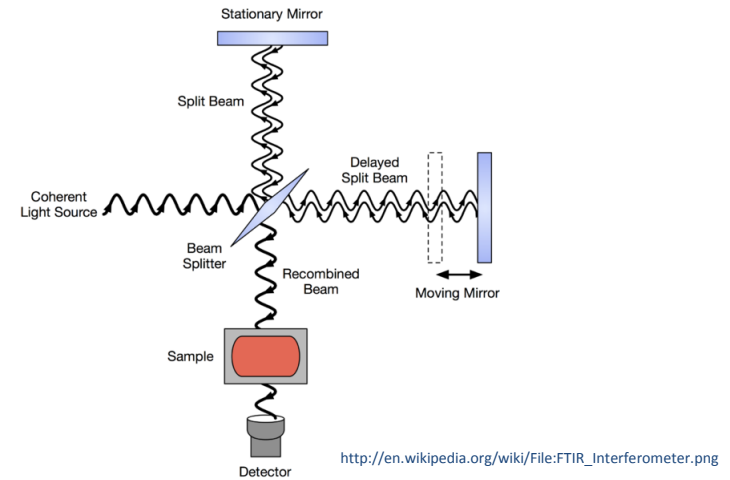
Fourier Transform Spectroscopy

Time-domain measurement

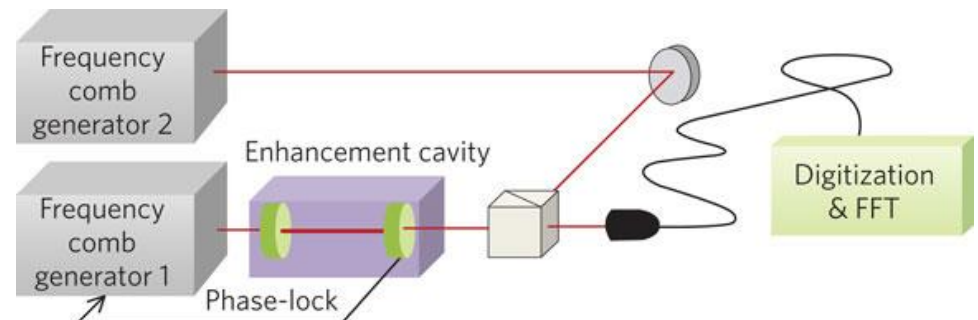
- Interferogram + FFT
- Single detector
- Spectral coverage
- entire comb bandwidth
- Tight comb-cavity cavity lock

Mechanical FTS

Michelson interferometer



Dual comb spectroscopy FTS without moving parts



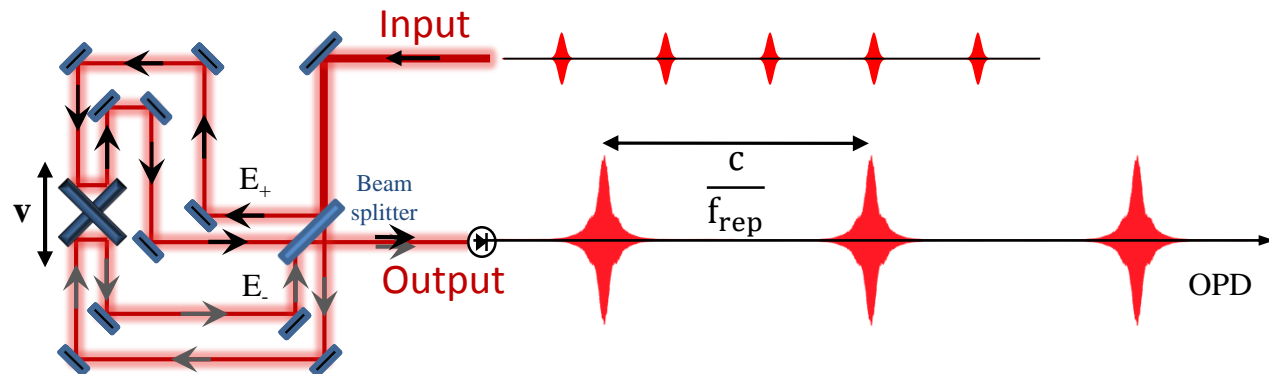
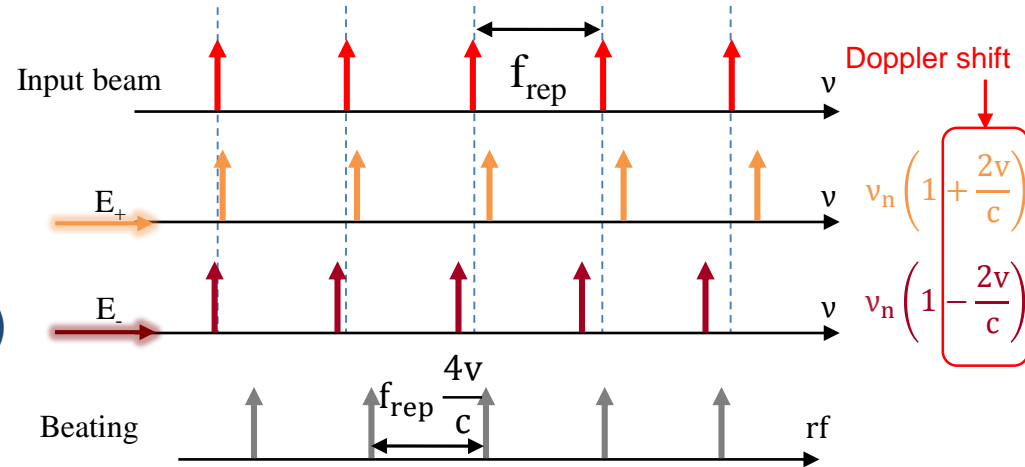
Fourier Transform Spectroscopy

Time-domain measurement

- Interferogram + FFT
- Single detector
- Spectral coverage - entire comb bandwidth
- Tight comb-cavity cavity lock
- Resolution - hundreds of MHz (inverse of the optical path difference)
- Optical path difference calibrated by a cw laser
- Comb lines can be resolved
- Acquisition times - s

Mechanical FTS

Michelson interferometer



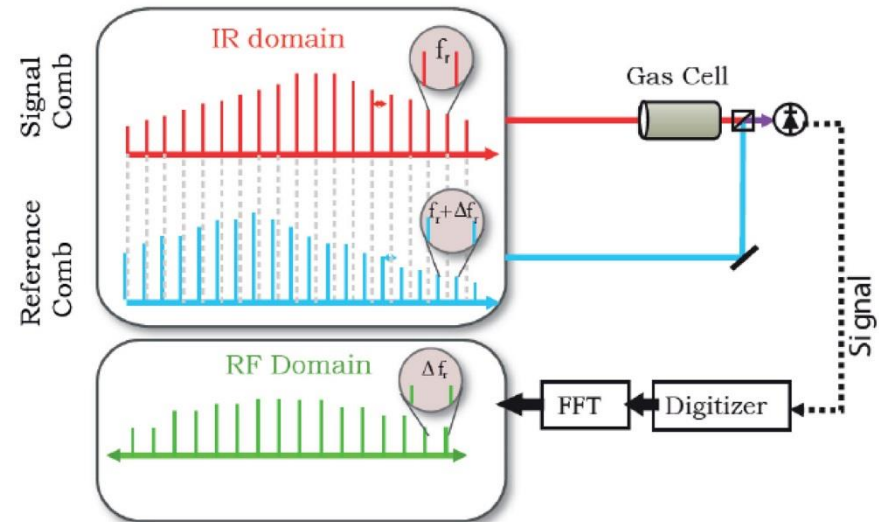
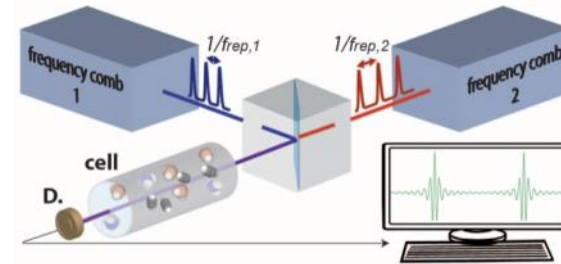
Fourier Transform Spectroscopy

Time-domain measurement

- Interferogram + FFT
- Single detector
- Spectral coverage
- entire comb bandwidth
- Tight comb-cavity cavity lock
- Two combs with different repetition rates
- Requires comb stabilization or adaptive sampling with reference cw lasers
- Comb lines can be resolved (not shown with a cavity)
- Acquisition times - μ s-ms

Dual comb spectroscopy

FTS without moving parts



Sensitivity of CE-OFCS

Noise equivalent absorption (NEA)

- Standard deviation of the noise on the baseline, σ
- Cavity enhancement kFL/π , $k = 1\dots 2$, depending on comb-cavity coupling

$$\alpha_{\min} = \sigma \left(\frac{kFL}{\pi} \right)^{-1} T^{1/2} \quad [\text{cm}^{-1} \text{ Hz}^{-1/2}]$$

or

$$\alpha_{\min} = \sigma \left(\frac{kFL}{\pi} \right)^{-1} @ T \quad [\text{cm}^{-1}] \text{ in a given measurement time}$$

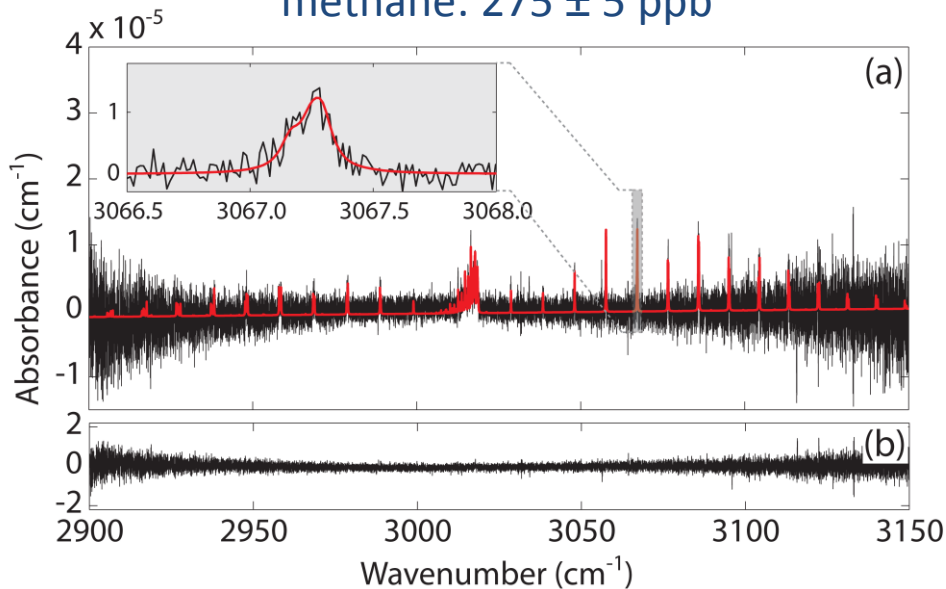
Sensitivity per spectral element (figure of merit)

- Normalized to the number of spectral element, M , to reflect the broadband advantage

$$\text{sensitivity} = \alpha_{\min} M^{-1/2} \quad [\text{cm}^{-1} \text{ Hz}^{-1/2}]$$

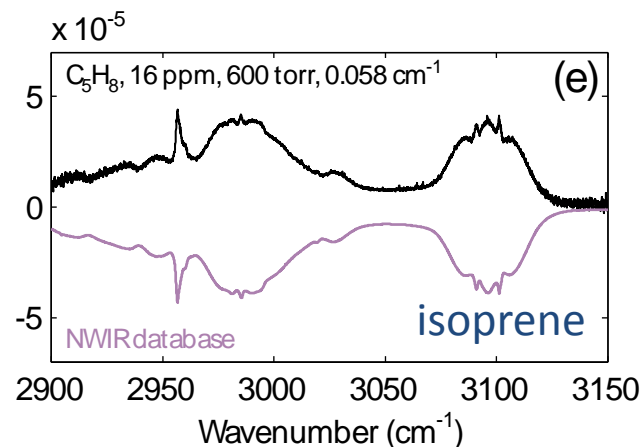
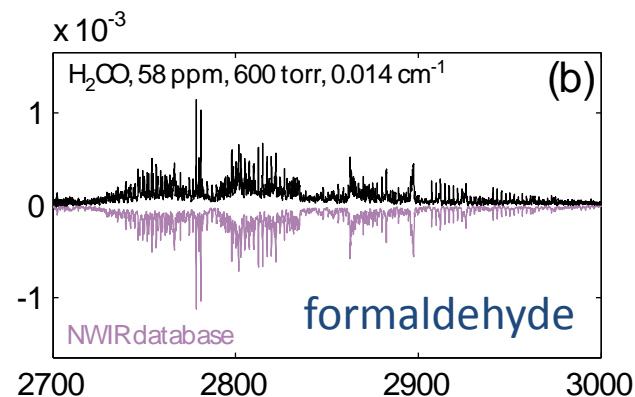
Multiline Fitting

methane: 275 ± 5 ppb



Sensitivity improvement
proportional to integrated absorption

$$S_N = \frac{\sigma_\alpha}{\left[\sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_T^2(v_i) \right]^{1/2}}$$



Molecule	Band center (cm ⁻¹)	Noise Equivalent Concentration (ppb)	Detection Limit (ppb)
CH ₄	3020	22	5
H ₂ CO	2780	54	9
C ₅ H ₈	3000	370	7

Technique Comparison

	FoM [cm ⁻¹ Hz ^{-1/2}]	Finesse	α_{\min} [cm ⁻¹]	Acq. Time	Resolution	Spectral Coverage
CRDS M. J. Thorpe et al., Science, 311 (2006)	1.5 x 10 ⁻¹¹ *	4 500	2.5 x 10 ⁻¹⁰	1 s	25 GHz	15 nm detector
High-resolution Vernier C. Gohle et al. PRL, 99 (2007)	8 x 10 ⁻⁹ *	3 000	5 x 10 ⁻⁶	10 ms	1 GHz *	10 nm detector
VIPA M. J. Thorpe et. al. Opt. Exp. 16 (2008)	7.4 x 10 ⁻¹¹ *	28 000	8 x 10 ⁻¹⁰	30 s	800 MHz *	25 nm detector
Dual comb B. Bernhardt et al. Nat. Phot. 4 (2010)	7 x 10 ⁻¹¹ *	1 200	3 x 10 ⁻⁸	18 μ s	4.5 GHz	20 nm cavity
FT Spectrometer A. Foltynowicz et al. PRL 107 (2011)	3.4 x 10 ⁻¹¹	8 000	1.4 x 10 ⁻⁹	6 s	380 MHz	30 nm cavity
Spectrograph R. Grilli et al. PRA 85 (2012)	1.5 x 10 ⁻¹¹	32 000	3 x 10 ⁻⁹	12 ms	10 GHz	1.5 nm detector
Low-resolution Vernier L. Rutkowski et al. Opt. Lett. 39 (2014)	4 x 10 ⁻¹¹	3 000	7 x 10 ⁻⁹	1.5 s	2 GHz	75 nm laser
NICE-OFCS A. Khodabakhsh et al. APB 119 (2015)	6.4 x 10 ⁻¹¹	9 000	4 x 10 ⁻⁹	1 s	750 MHz	30 nm cavity

* not quoted
or quoted incorrectly

* comb lines resolved

Environmental Monitoring

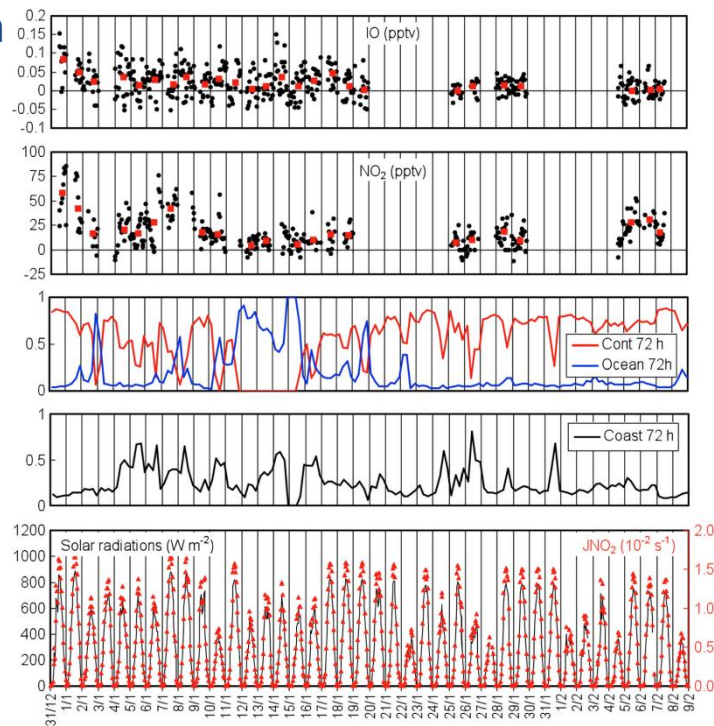
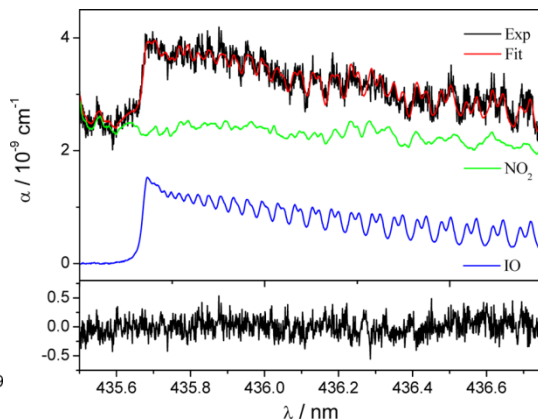
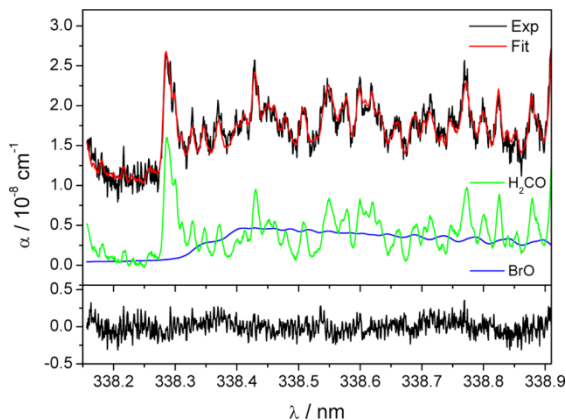
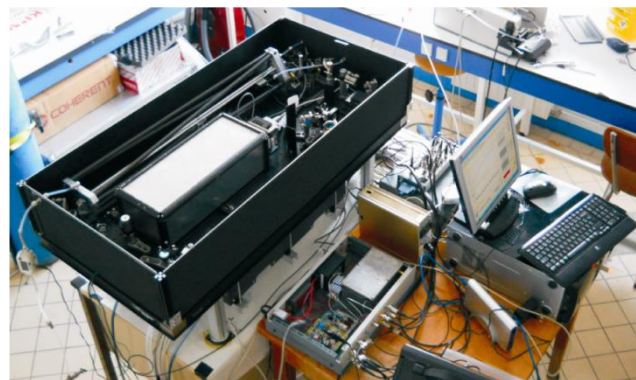
Detection of highly reactive halogenated radicals, formaldehyde and nitrogen dioxide

Field campaigns:

- at the Marine Boundary Layer in Roscoff (North West Atlantic coast of France)

- at Dumont d'Urville (East Antarctic coast)

- Frequency-doubled Ti:Sapph: 338 and 436 nm
- Compact spectrograph: echelle grating + CCD camera
- Two parallel cavities (BrO + H₂CO and IO + NO₂)
- Sensitivity $1.3 \times 10^{-11} \text{ cm}^{-1} \text{ Hz}^{-1/2}$ per sp. el.
- 20 ppq of IO in 5 min



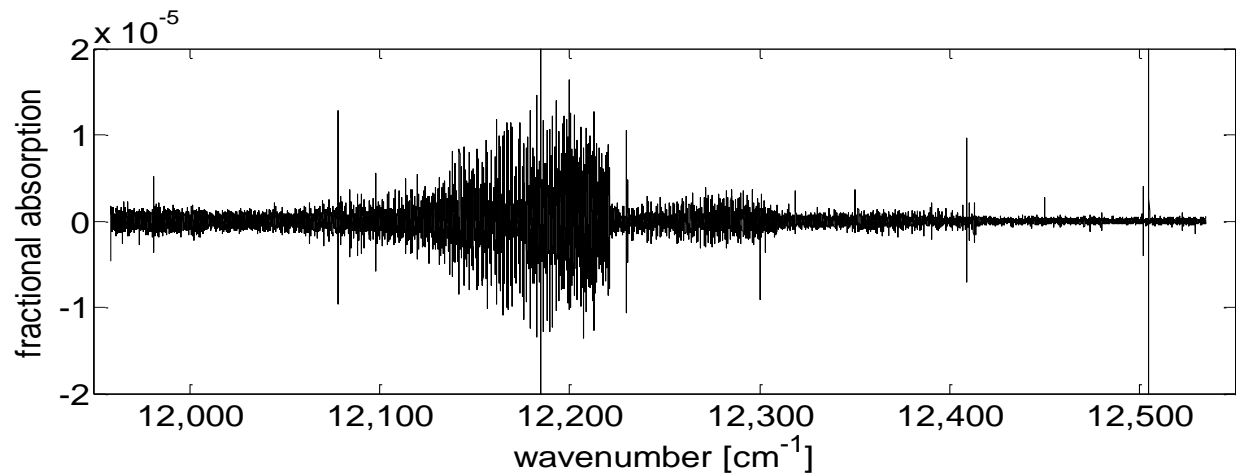
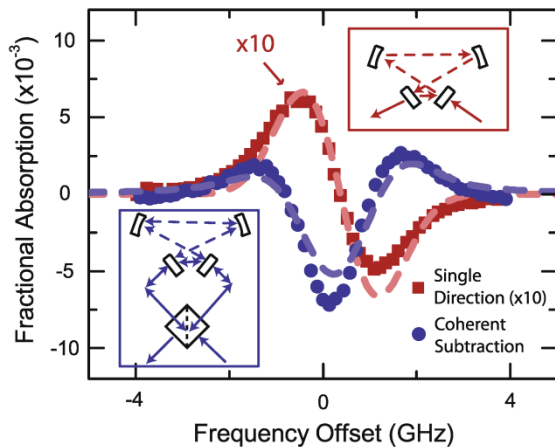
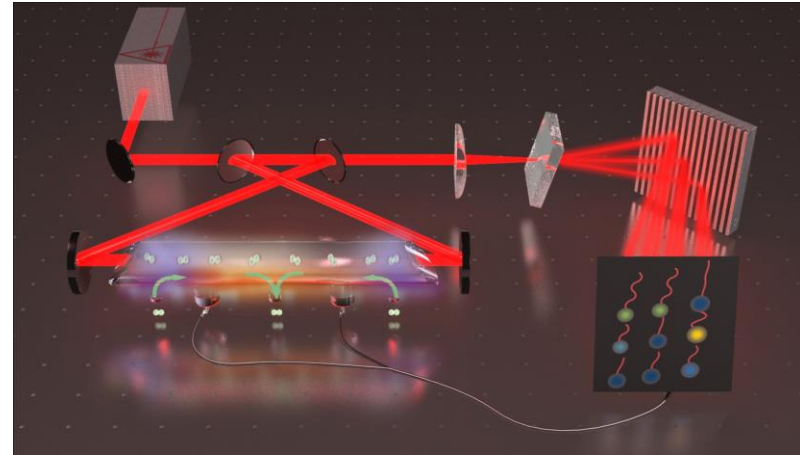
Ion Selective Detection

Spectroscopic data for ${}^3\Delta_1$ metastable state of HfF^+ and ThF^+

high sensitivity for electron electric dipole moment (eEDM) search

Frequency comb velocity modulation spectroscopy

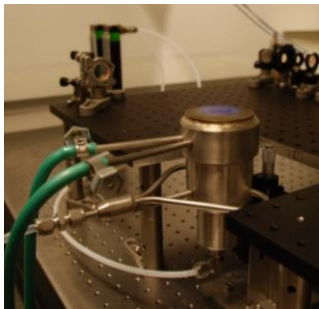
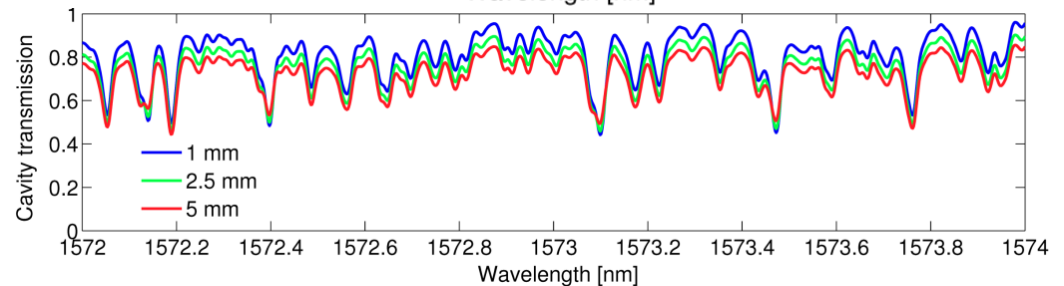
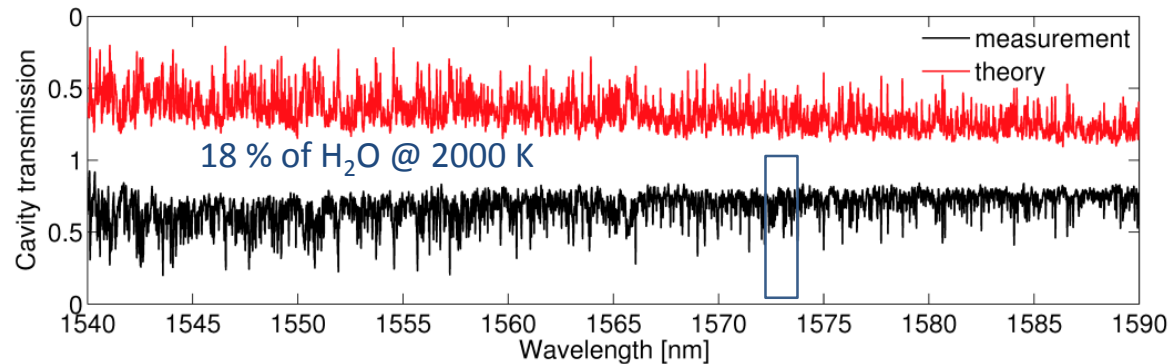
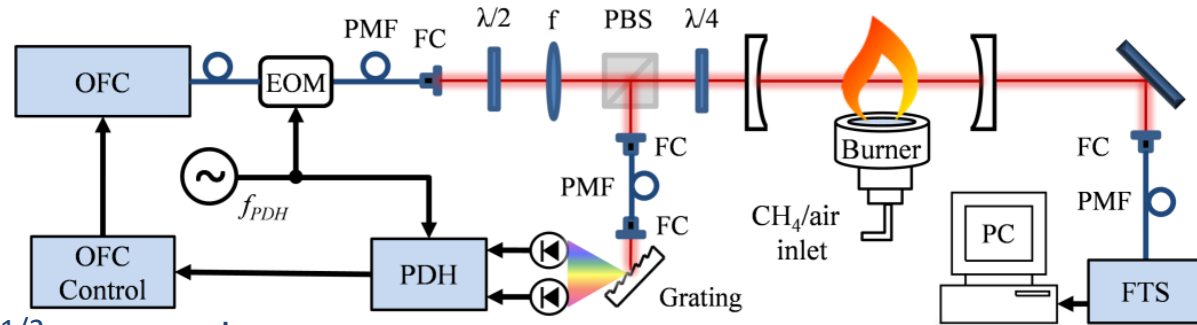
- 3 GHz Ti:Sapph laser
- VIPA etalon + grating + Heliotis lock-in camera
- Alternating current discharge inside a ring cavity - produces and modulates the ions (Doppler shift)
- Lock-in detection on every comb tooth
- Sensitivity $4 \times 10^{-8} \text{ Hz}^{-1/2}$ per sp. el.
- 150 cm^{-1} in under an hour



Combustion Analysis

High-temperature water spectra in premixed methane/air flat flame concentration and temperature characterization

- Er: fiber laser: 1.5 μm
- Fast-scanning FTS with autobalanced detection
- Two-point Pound-Drever-Hall comb-cavity lock
- Sensitivity $4.2 \times 10^{-9} \text{ cm}^{-1} \text{ Hz}^{-1/2}$ per sp. el.
- 50 nm of bandwidth with 1 GHz resolution in 0.4 s
- Premixed methane/air flat flame burner, dia 3.8 cm

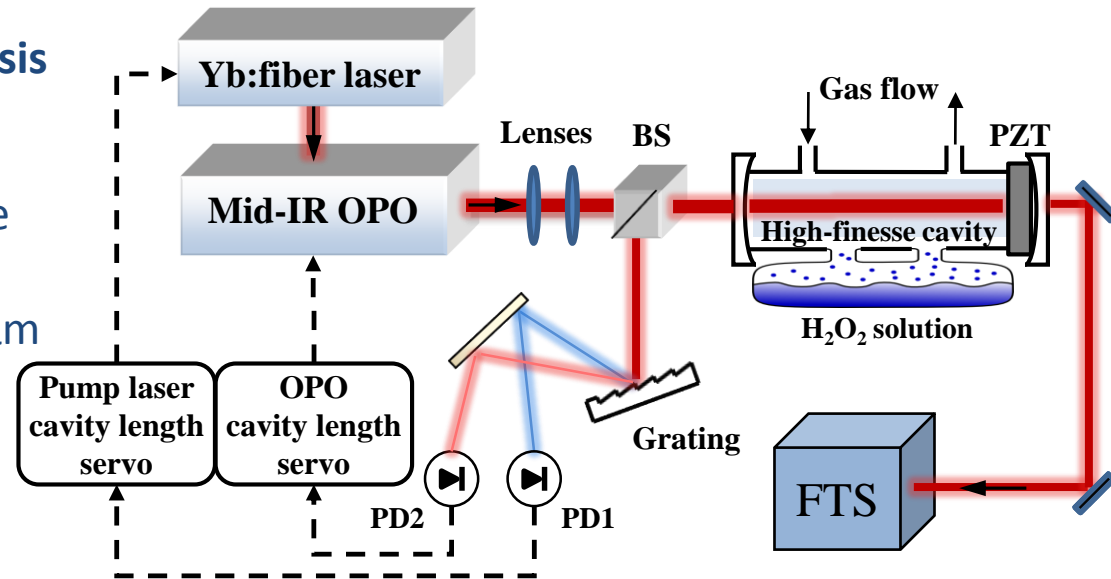


Hydrogen Peroxide Detection

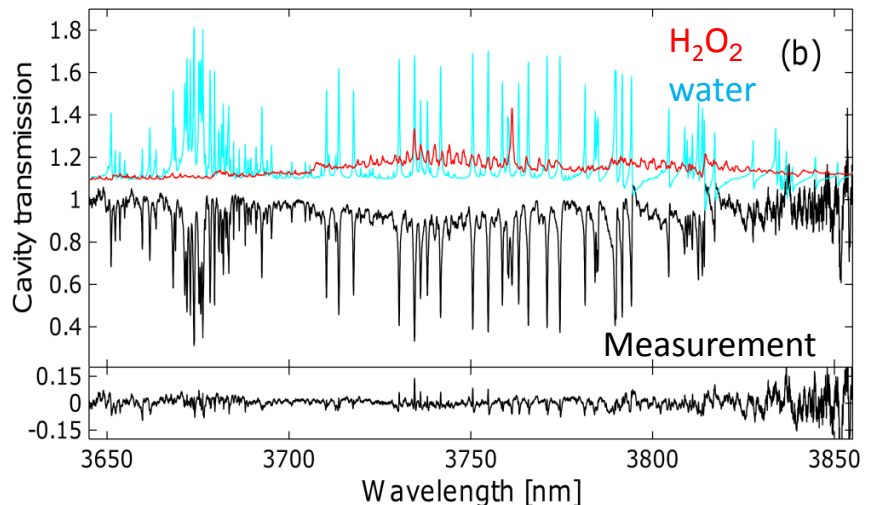
Potential applications in breath analysis
 marker for

oxidative stress in the lungs, asthma
 chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
 acute respiratory distress syndrome

- Yb: fiber pumped OPO: 2.8 to 4.8 μm
- Fast-scanning FTS with autobalanced detection
- Two-point Pound-Drever-Hall comb-cavity lock
- Sensitivity $6.9 \times 10^{-11} \text{ cm}^{-1} \text{ Hz}^{-1/2}$ per sp. el.
- Detection of H_2O_2 in the presence of % level of water
- Concentration detection limit 130 ppb of H_2O_2 in 3% of water in 1 s



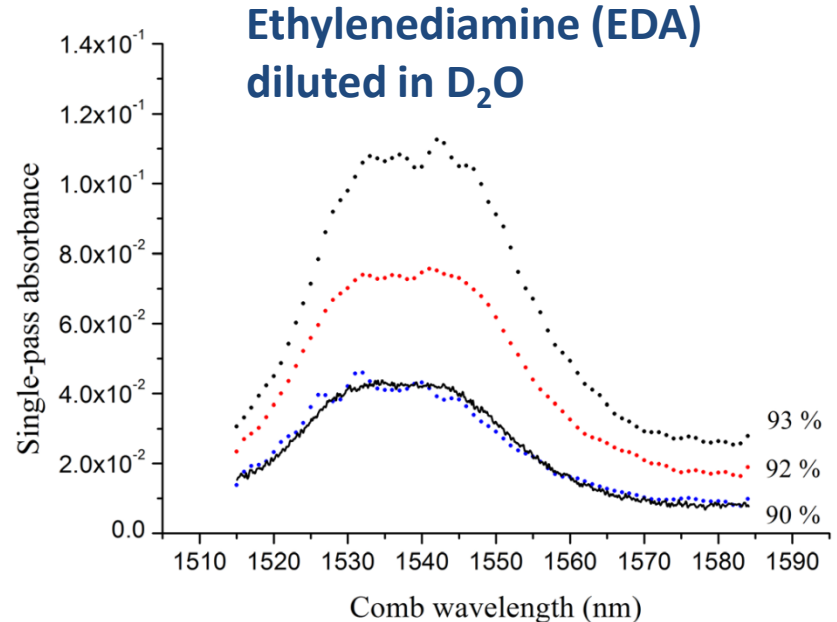
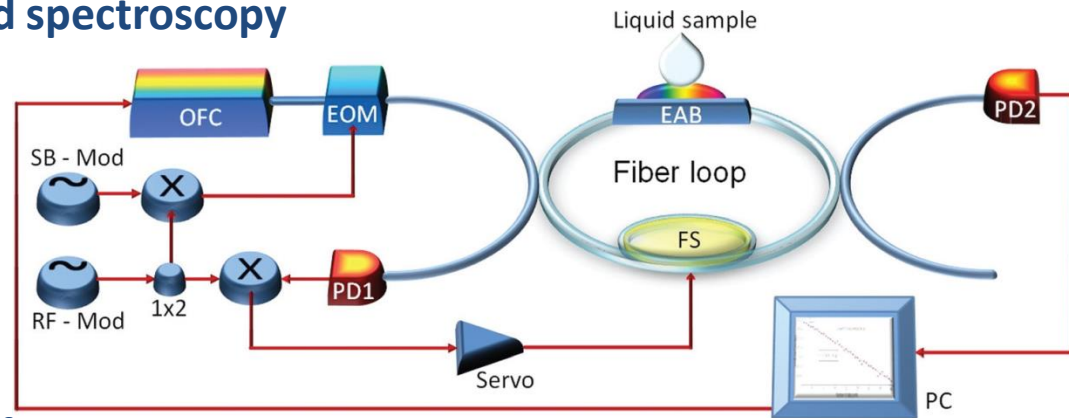
5 ppm of H_2O_2 in 1.2 % of H_2O @ 37 °C



Fiber Sensing of Liquids

Evanescent-wave fiber cavity-enhanced spectroscopy sensing of liquids

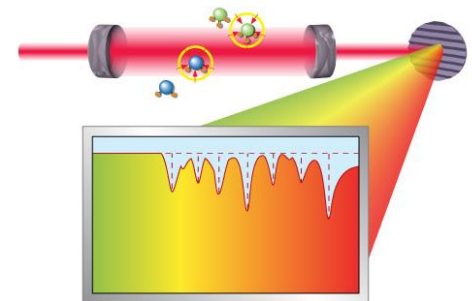
- All-fiber setup
- Er:fiber laser: 1.5 μm
- fiber-loop cavity with evanescent-wave access block
- Cavity-comb PDH lock
- Comb filtering by cavity dispersion, f_{rep} sweep
- Cavity ringdown measurement
- Sensitivity $3 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1} \text{ Hz}^{-1/2}$ per sp. el.
- Detection of liquid polyamines
- Full spectrum recorded in 120 s



Summary

Simultaneous measurement with thousands of synchronized narrow laser lines

- Broad spectral bandwidth for multispecies detection and acquisition of entire absorption bands
- High resolution for identification and quantitative analysis of individual spectral features
- Fast acquisition for time dependence
- High sensitivity for trace gas detection





Questions?