

# Cavity enhanced absorption spectroscopy with broadband lightsources: an overview

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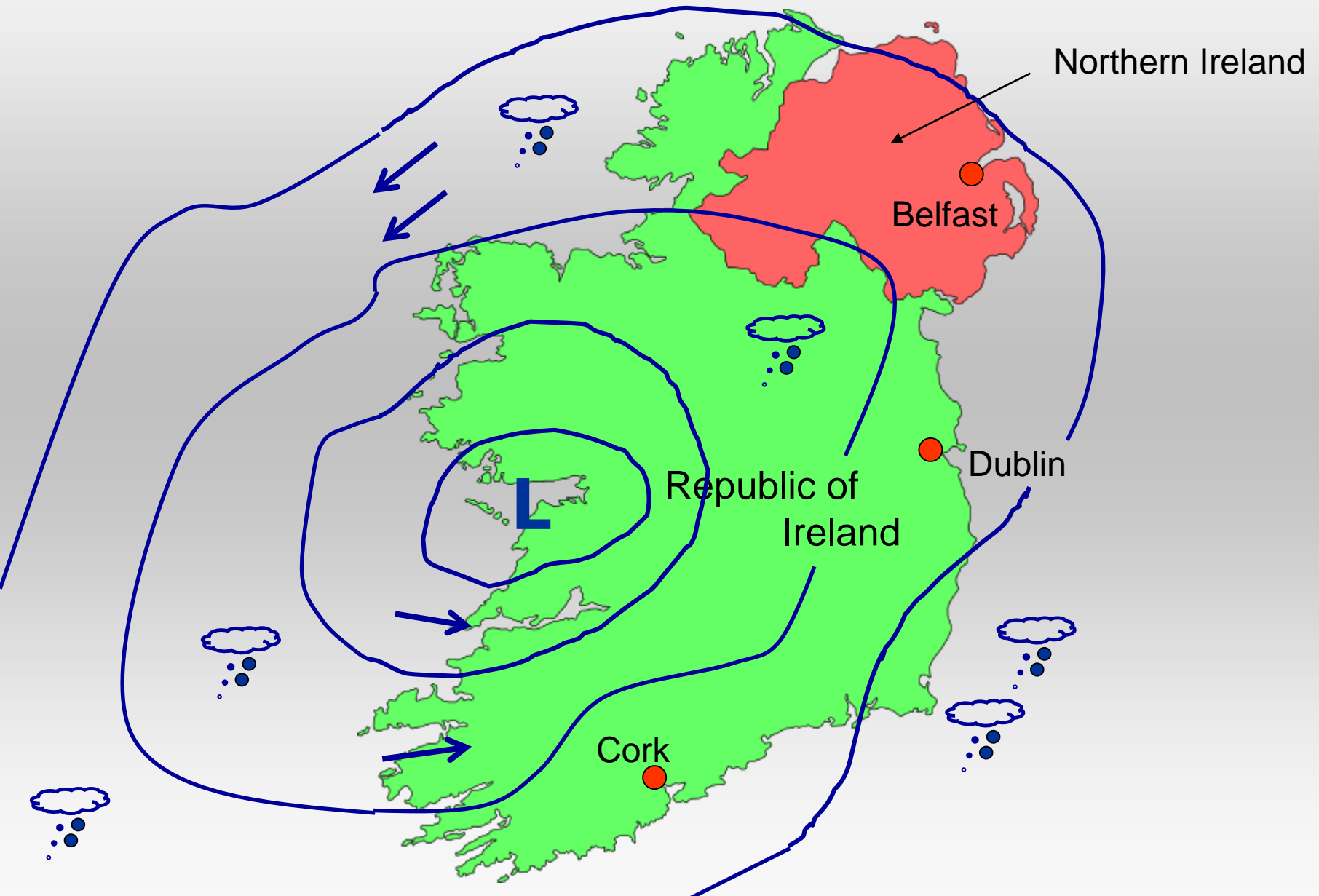
# University College Cork



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# Where is Cork?



# Outline

- (1) Motivation for broad band techniques
- (2) Experimental principles
  - (a) Cavity ring-down spectroscopy (CRDS)
  - (b) Cavity-enhanced absorption spectroscopy (CEAS/ICOS)
  - (c) Different experimental aspects
- (3) Light sources / detection schemes
- (4) Applications
  - (a) Gas phase spectroscopy (trace gas detection)
  - (b) Fourier transform detection
  - (c) Broadband evanescent wave cavity enhanced absorption
  - (d) Broadband mode-locked approaches
  - (e) Prism cavity and supercontinuum source

# **(1) Motivation**

**for broadband cavity-enhanced  
absorption techniques**

# Desirable features of a spectroscopic absorption experiment?

- **Sensitivity**      long (eff.) absorption path length
- **Selectivity**      unambiguous species identification
- **Speed**      high time resolution
- **Quantitative and Direct Methodology**
- **Simplicity / Robustness / Reliability**
- **Versatility**

# Why broad spectral coverage?

**Many systems exhibit genuinely broad extinction features.**

Examples:

- Absorption in liquids
- Absorption on surfaces/interfaces and in thin films
- Scattering losses
- Inherently broad gas phase absorptions  
(UV/vis region, dissociative states, high pressures ...)



# Why broad spectral coverage?

**It enables the identification of multiple contributions to the extinction on basis of the spectrum alone.**

- Several species detectable
- Loss processes easier identifiable

Depending on approach:

- **High time resolution possible** (enables kinetic studies)
- **High spectral resolution** (at the expense of speed)

# How broad is 'broadband'?

## Literature: extreme examples

- Free electron laser: 5.380 – 5.381  $\mu\text{m}$   
(scanned spectrometer) [Crosson et al. (2002)]
- Xe arc-lamp: 390 – 620 nm [Ruth & Lynch (2008)]

## Limitation:

- High reflectivity range of mirrors  
The higher the mirror reflectivity the narrower the range of high reflectivity
- Generally spectral resolution – trade off  
The higher the dispersion the narrower the range that can be detected  
(Exceptions: Fourier transform detection, Echelle spectrometer)

**New Approach:** Prism Cavity [Johnston & Lehmann 2008)]

## **(2) Experimental Principles**

# Broadband Cavity-Enhanced Methods

**General idea based on superposition principle:**

**See:** K.K. Lehmann, D. Romanini, J. Chem. Phys. **105** (1996) 10263-10277.

At any given time incoherent light (or spectrally broad light of limited temporal coherence) contains frequencies that correspond to eigenmodes of a cavity for a given geometry (i.e. for given cavity length, mirror radius of curvature, mirror diameter).

“The cavity lets the light in that can go in.”

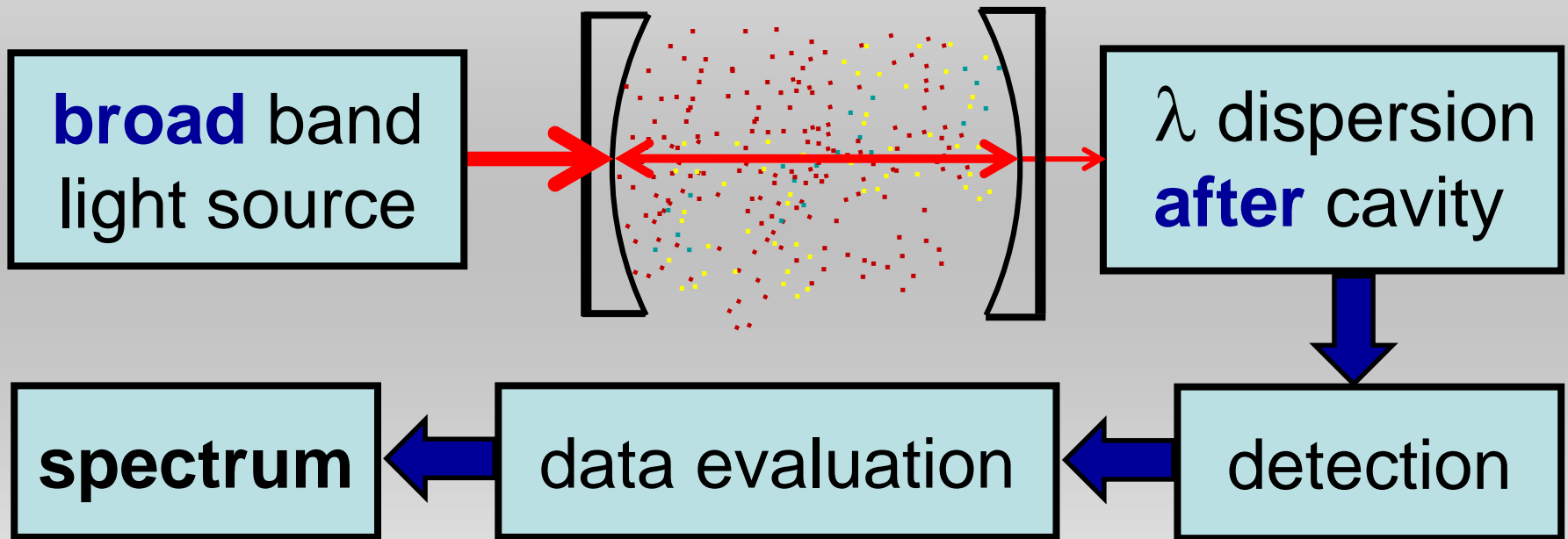
The coupling efficiency may be low.

# Broadband Cavity-Enhanced Methods

## Measurement principle:

(A) Spectrally **broad** light coupled into cavity

(B) Dispersion of wavelength **after** the cavity

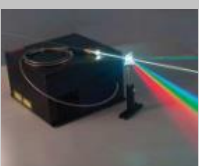


## Multiplexing advantage:

(A) No scanning of wavelength required (in principle)

(B) High time resolution for wide spectral ranges

# Overview of experimental components



1  
Arc lamp

2  
(S)LED

3  
Halogen lamp

4  
SC source

5  
BB dye laser

6  
Short Pulse laser

1  
CW

2  
CW (modulated)

3  
pulsed

1  
2-mirror

2  
folded

3  
prism

4  
other

1  
grating spectro-meter

2  
interfero-meter

3  
other

1  
CCD (standard)

2  
diode array

3  
CCD (clocked)

4  
photo multiplier

5  
photo diode

1  
trans-mission

2  
phase-shift

3  
ring-down

1  
gas

2  
solution

3  
surface layer

# Broadband methodologies

## Time dependent measurement:

Cavity ring-down spectroscopy (CRDS)

→ Light sources generally **pulsed**

## Intensity dependent measurement:

Cavity enhanced absorption (CEAS)

[Integrated cavity output spectroscopy (ICOS)]

→ Light sources generally **continuous wave (cw)**

## Phase dependent measurement:

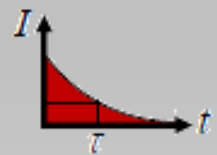
Cavity attenuated phase shift (CAPS) spectroscopy or (PS-CRDS)

→ Light sources **pulsed or modulated**

# Methodology overview

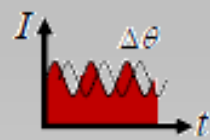
## Broadband cavity-enhanced absorption spectroscopy methods

Time – dependent  
(pulsed or cw-modulated)



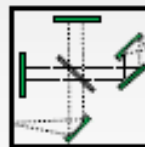
Cavity ring-down

$\lambda$  Dispersive

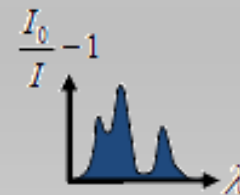


Phase shift

$\lambda$  Interferometric



Intensity – dependent  
(continuous wave)



$\lambda$  Dispersive





# (2a) Measurement Principle

## Broadband Cavity Ring-Down Spectroscopy (BB-CRDS)

Original idea and demonstration of CRDS:

A. O'Keefe and D. A. G. Deacon, Rev. Sci. Instrum. **59** (1988) 2544-2551.

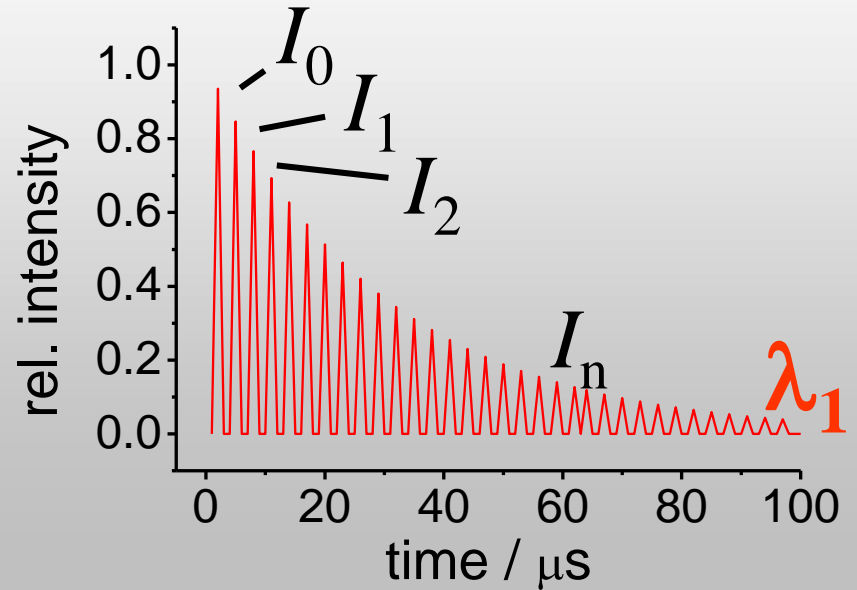
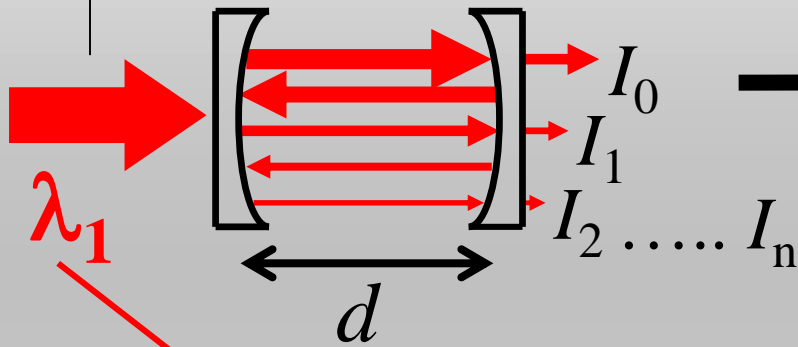
Early broadband demonstration:

- E. R. Crosson et al., Rev. Sci. Instrum. **70** (1999) 4-10.
- S. M. Ball et al., Chem. Phys. Lett. **342** (2001) 113-120.

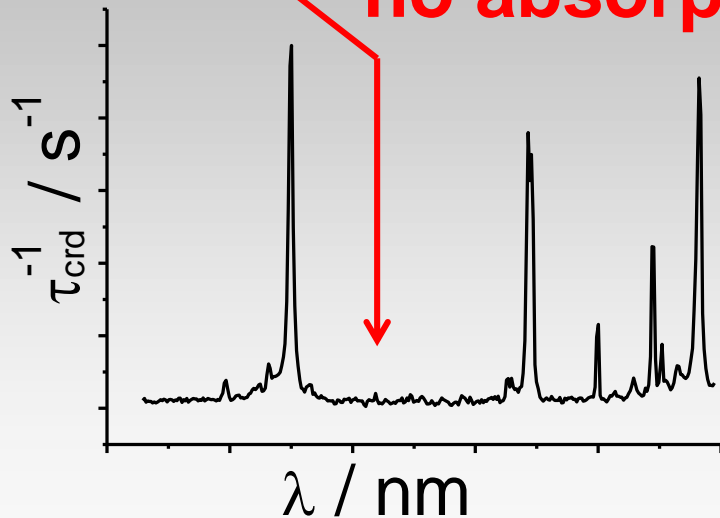
# Principle of CRD Spectroscopy

Light pulse

Mirrors ( $R > 0.999$ )



no absorption

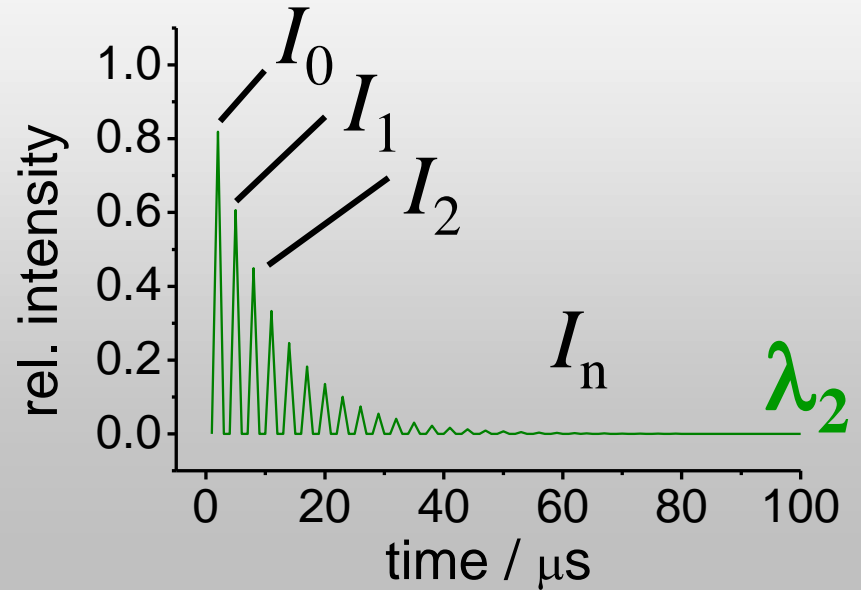
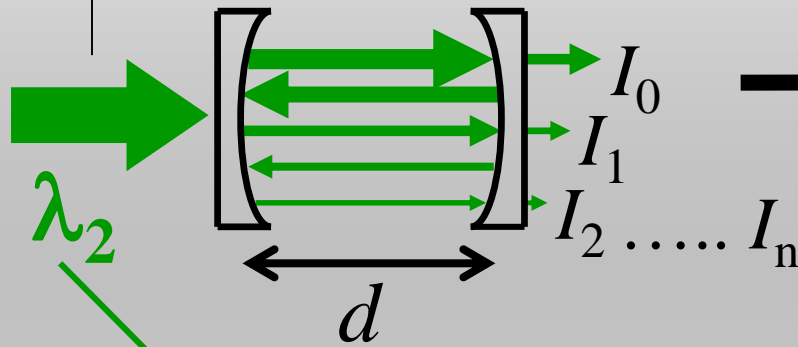


$$\text{fit} \quad I(t) = I_0 \exp\left(-\frac{t}{\tau_{\text{crd}}}\right)$$
$$\tau_{\text{crd}}^{-1} = \frac{(1-R)c}{d}$$

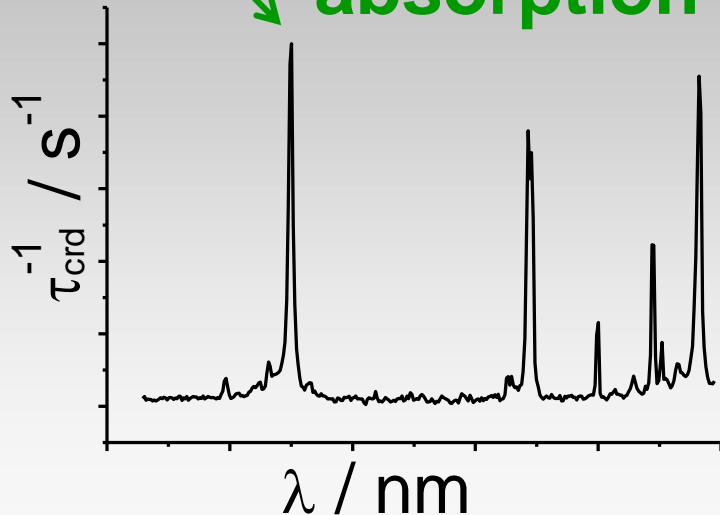
# Principle of CRD Spectroscopy

Light pulse

Mirrors ( $R > 0.999$ )



absorption

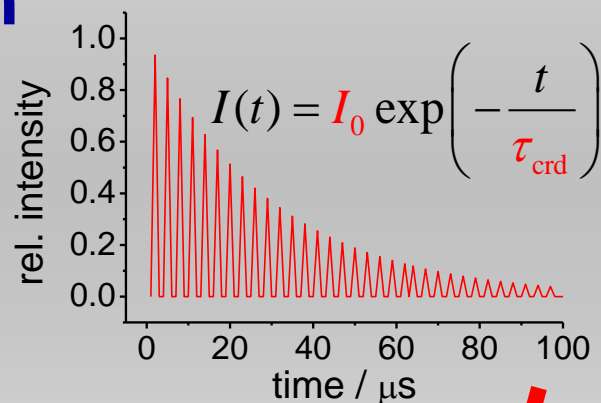
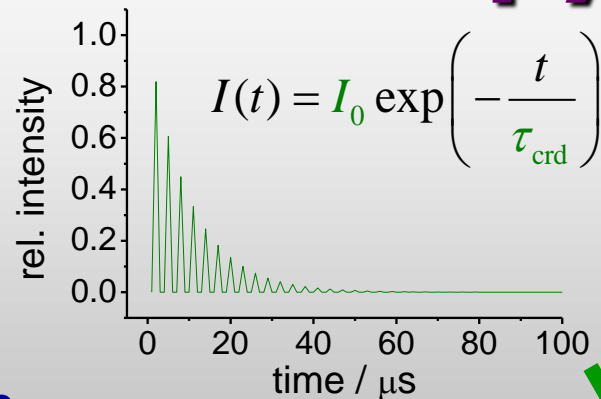
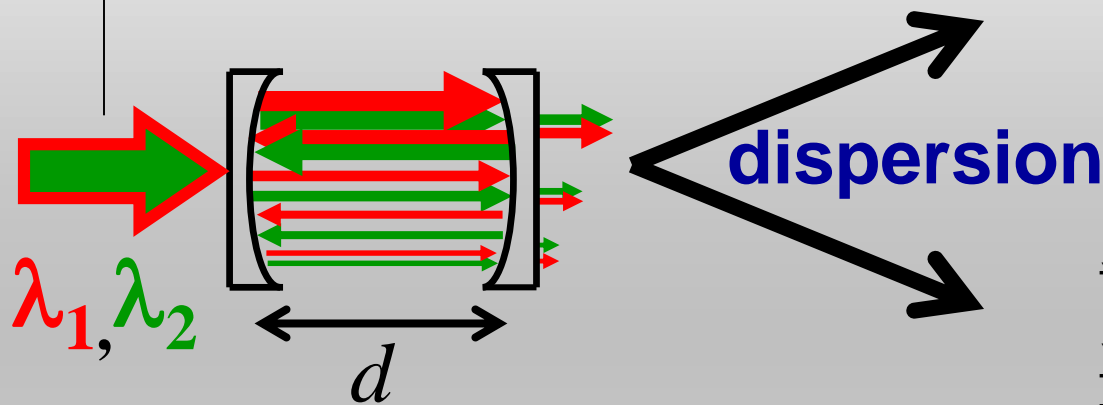


fit  $I(t) = I_0 \exp\left(-\frac{t}{\tau_{\text{crd}}}\right)$

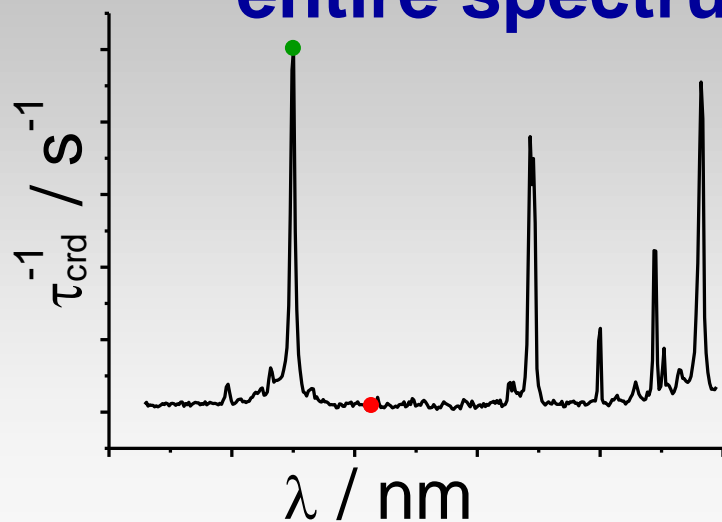
$$\tau_{\text{crd}}^{-1} = \frac{(1-R)c}{d} + \underline{\underline{\varepsilon(\lambda)c}}$$

# Broadband CRD Spectroscopy

Broadband light pulse



entire spectrum



fit

# Absolute measurement

with sample

$$\tau^{-1} = \frac{(1-R)c}{d} + \varepsilon(\lambda)c$$

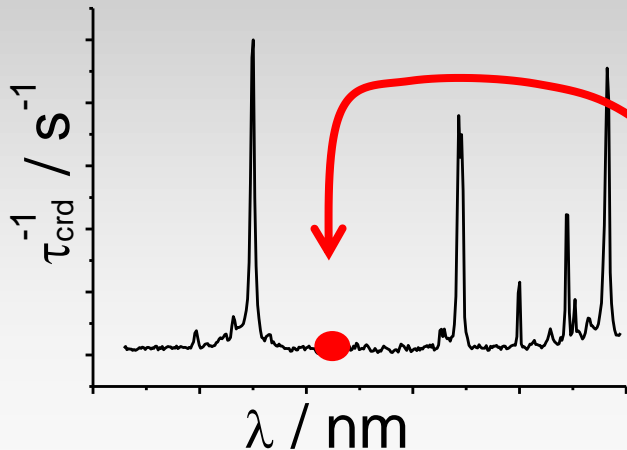
without sample

$$\tau_0^{-1} = \frac{(1-R)c}{d}$$

Hence:

$$\varepsilon(\lambda) = \frac{1}{c} \left( \frac{1}{\tau} - \frac{1}{\tau_0} \right)$$

Approach works fine for **enclosed cavities** !

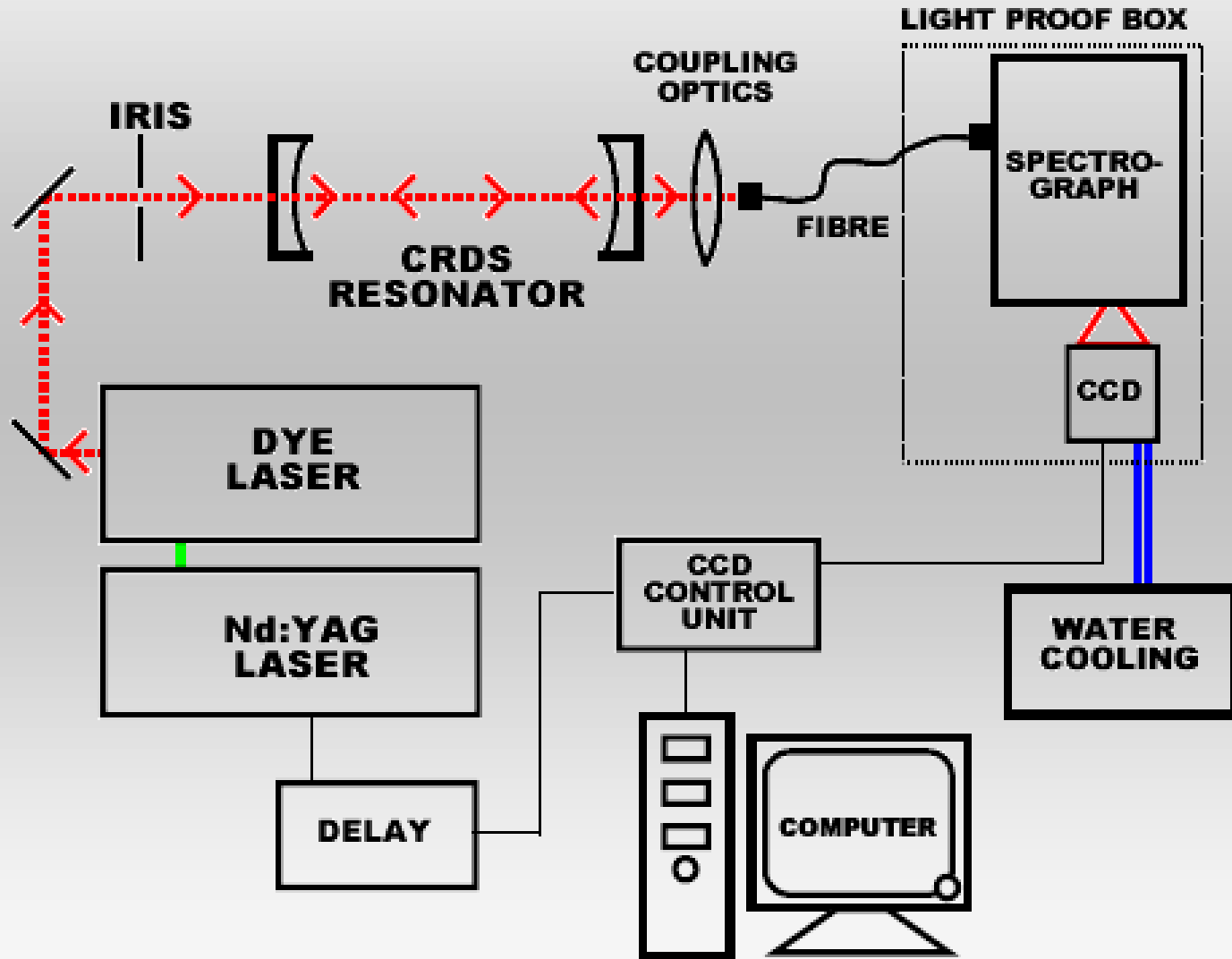


In **open path** studies absolute measurements are based on assumptions concerning the “reflectivity baseline”.

This point is not necessarily  $\tau_0^{-1}$

# Broadband CRDS setup schematic

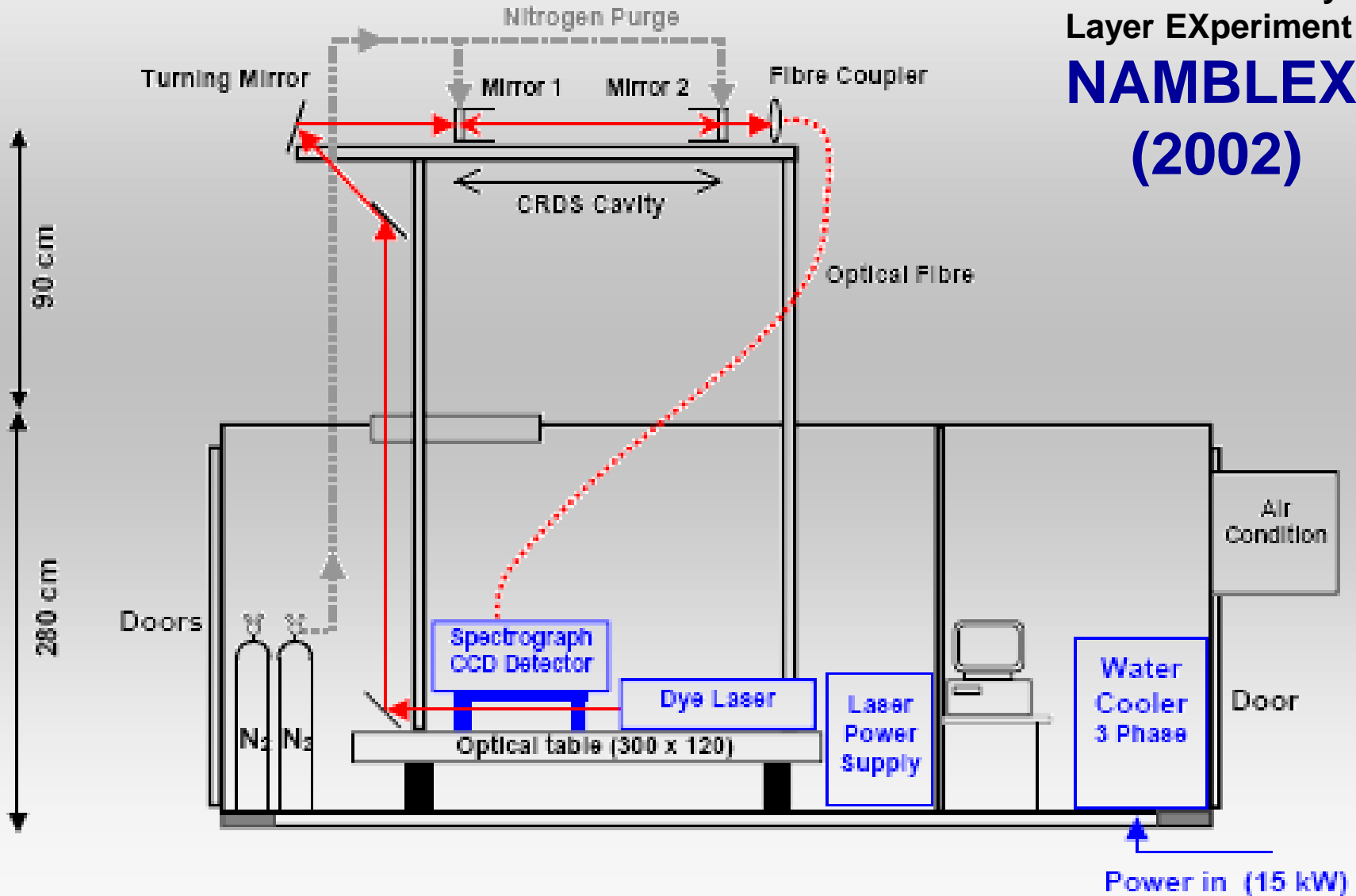
From: M. Bitter et al., Atmos. Chem. Phys. 5 (2005) 2547-2560.



# Broadband CRDS setup schematic

From: M. Bitter et al., Atmos. Chem. Phys. 5 (2005) 2547-2560.

The North Atlantic  
Marine Boundary  
Layer EXperiment  
**NAMBLEX**  
(2002)



# **(2b) Measurement Principle**

## **(Incoherent) Broadband Cavity Enhanced Absorption Spectroscopy (IBB-CEAS)**

Early CEAS idea of absorption amplification before CRDS:

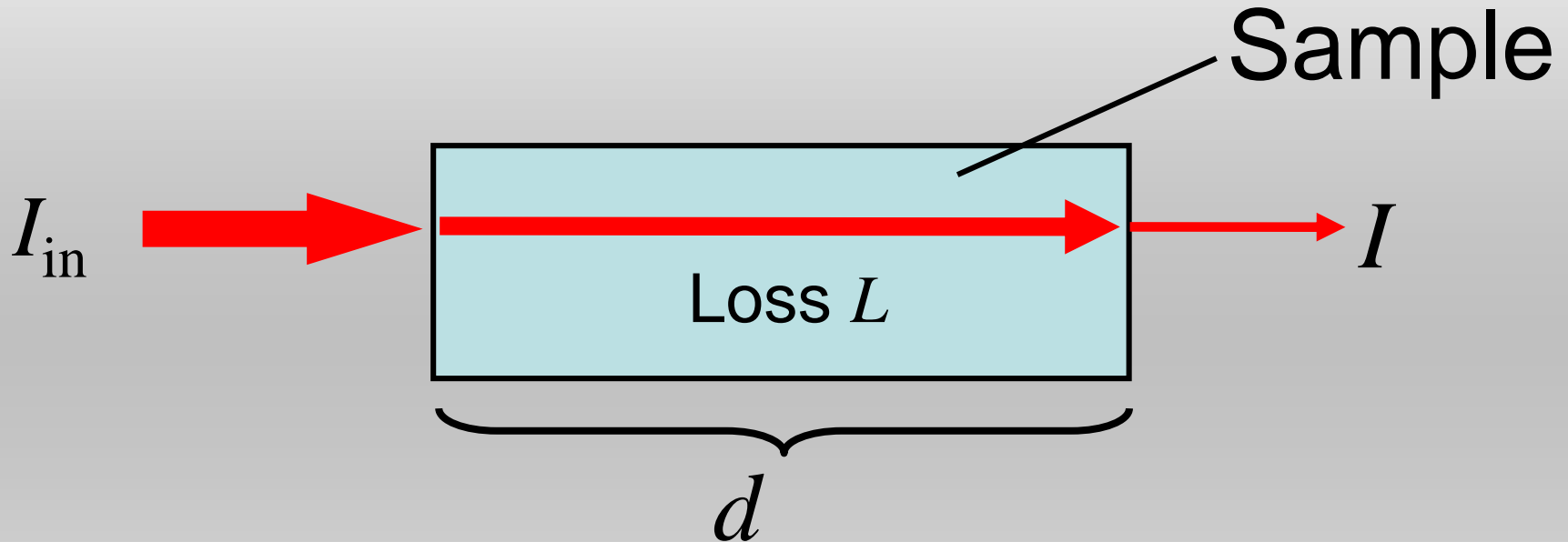
P. K. Dasgupta and J. S. Rhee, *Anal. Chem.* **59** (1987) 783-786.

Experimental demonstration:

S. E. Fiedler et al., *Chem. Phys. Lett.* **371** (2003) 284-294.



# Conventional Absorption-spectroscopy



One Pass  $I = I_{in} (1 - L)$

$$I = I_{\text{in}} (1 - L)$$

↓ Lambert-Beer absorption loss

$$I = I_{\text{in}} \exp(-\varepsilon d) \quad \varepsilon = \text{Extinction (Abs. \& Sca.)}$$

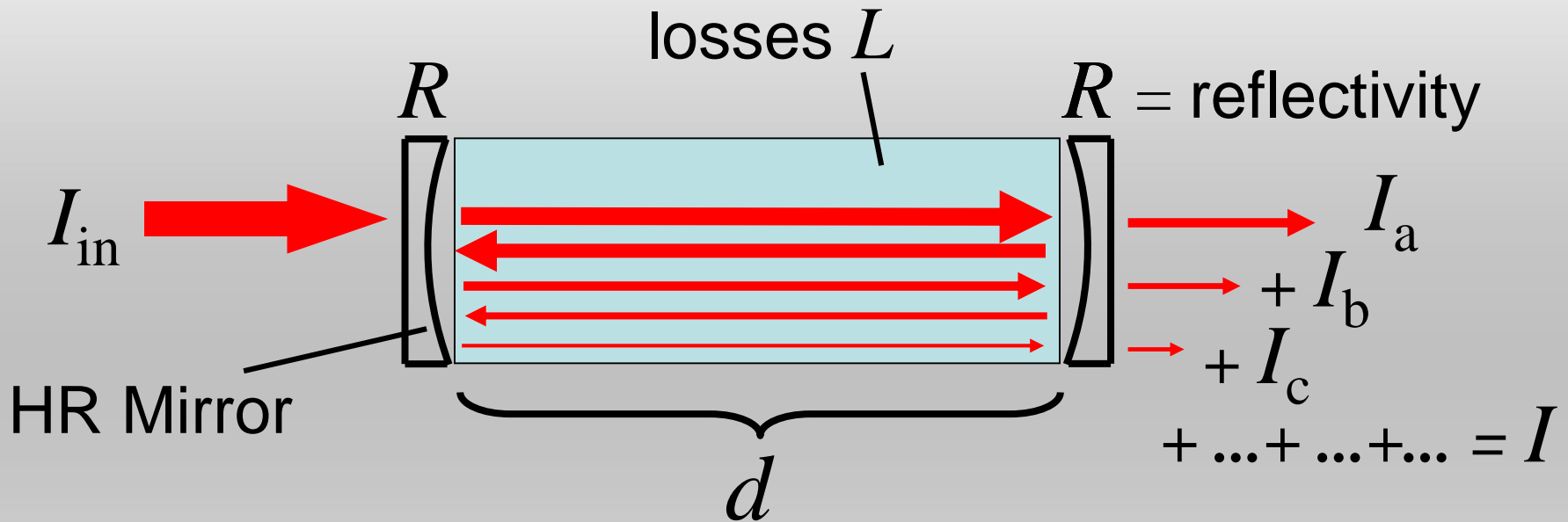
↓ absorption losses very small

$$I \approx I_{\text{in}} (1 - \varepsilon d)$$

↓  $I_{\text{in}} \approx I_0 =$  transmitted intensity without sample

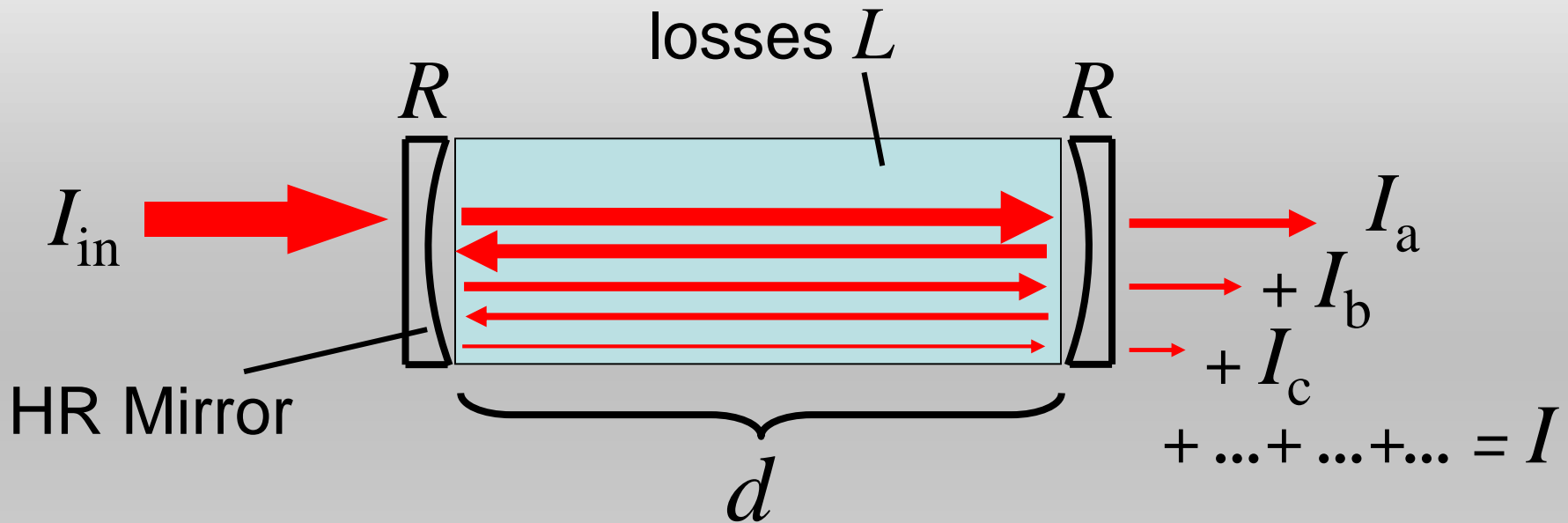
$$I \approx I_0 (1 - \varepsilon d) \quad \text{absorption losses very small} \quad \rightarrow \quad \varepsilon(\lambda) \approx \frac{1}{d} \left( \frac{I_0}{I} - 1 \right)$$

# Absorption spectroscopy using optical cavities



$$\begin{aligned}
 I = & I_{in} (1-R) (1-L) (1-R) + \dots - \text{three passes } I_a \\
 & I_{in} (1-R) (1-L) R (1-L) R (1-L) (1-R) + \dots \\
 & I_{in} (1-R)^2 R^{2n} (1-L)^{2n+1} + \dots - n \text{ passes } I_n
 \end{aligned}$$

# Absorption spectroscopy using optical cavities



geometrical series

$$I = I_{in} (1 - R)^2 (1 - L) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} R^{2n} (1 - L)^{2n}$$

converges for  $R < 1$ ,  $L < 1$ :

$$I = I_{in} \frac{(1 - R)^2 (1 - L)}{1 - R^2 (1 - L)^2}$$

$$I = I_{\text{in}} \frac{(1-R)^2(1-L)}{1-R^2(1-L)^2}$$



Lambert-Beer Absorption Losses

$I, I_0$ : transmitted intensity with, without sample

$$\varepsilon = \frac{1}{d} \left| \ln \left( \frac{1}{2R^2} \left( \sqrt{4R^2 + \left( \frac{I_0}{I} (R^2 - 1) \right)^2} + \frac{I_0}{I} (R^2 - 1) \right) \right) \right|$$

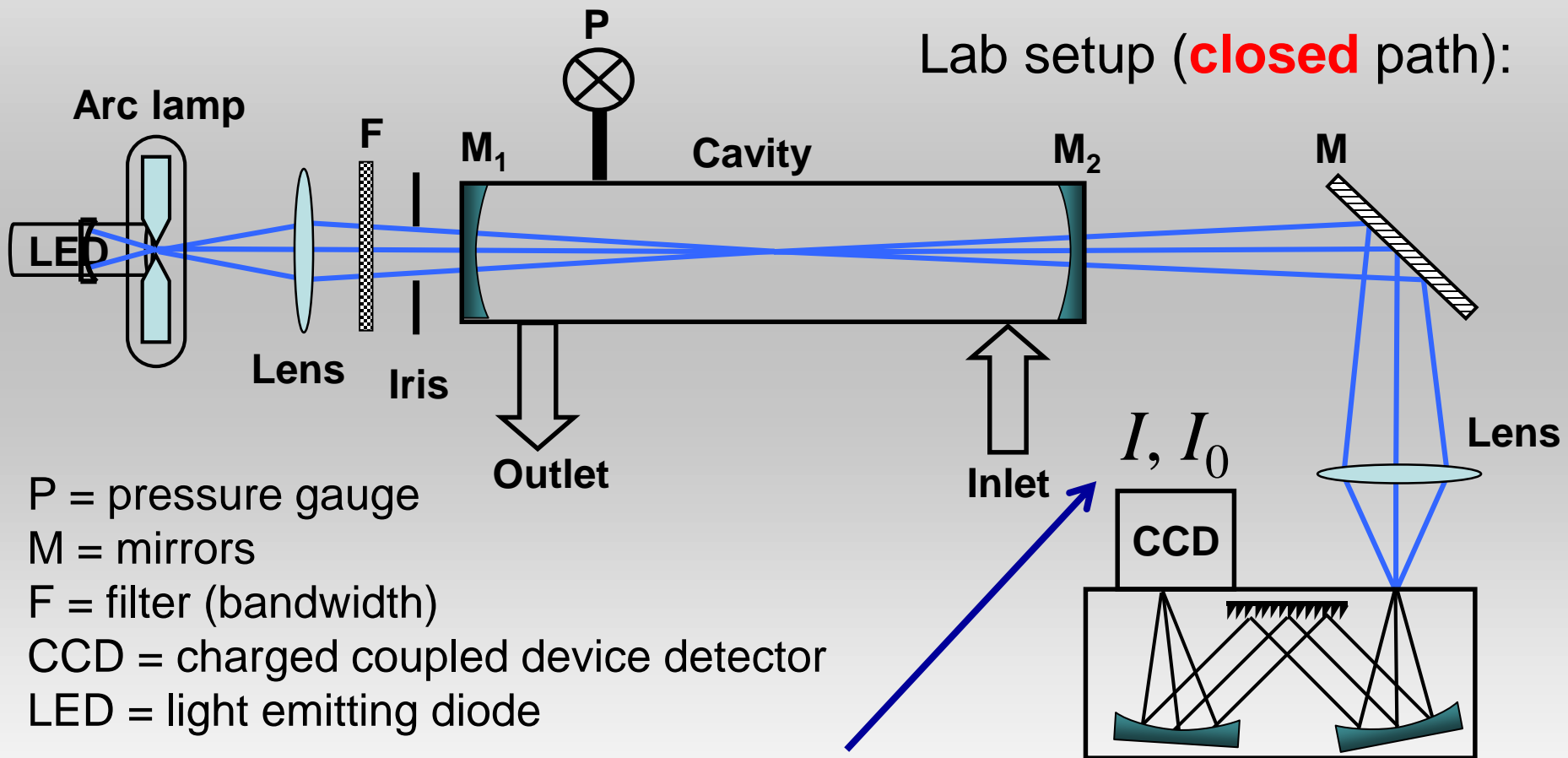


Absorption losses very small.

Mirror reflectivity very high ( $R \rightarrow 1$ )

$$\varepsilon(\lambda) \approx \frac{1}{d} \left( \frac{I_0}{I} - 1 \right) (1-R) \quad \leftarrow \text{Single pass}$$

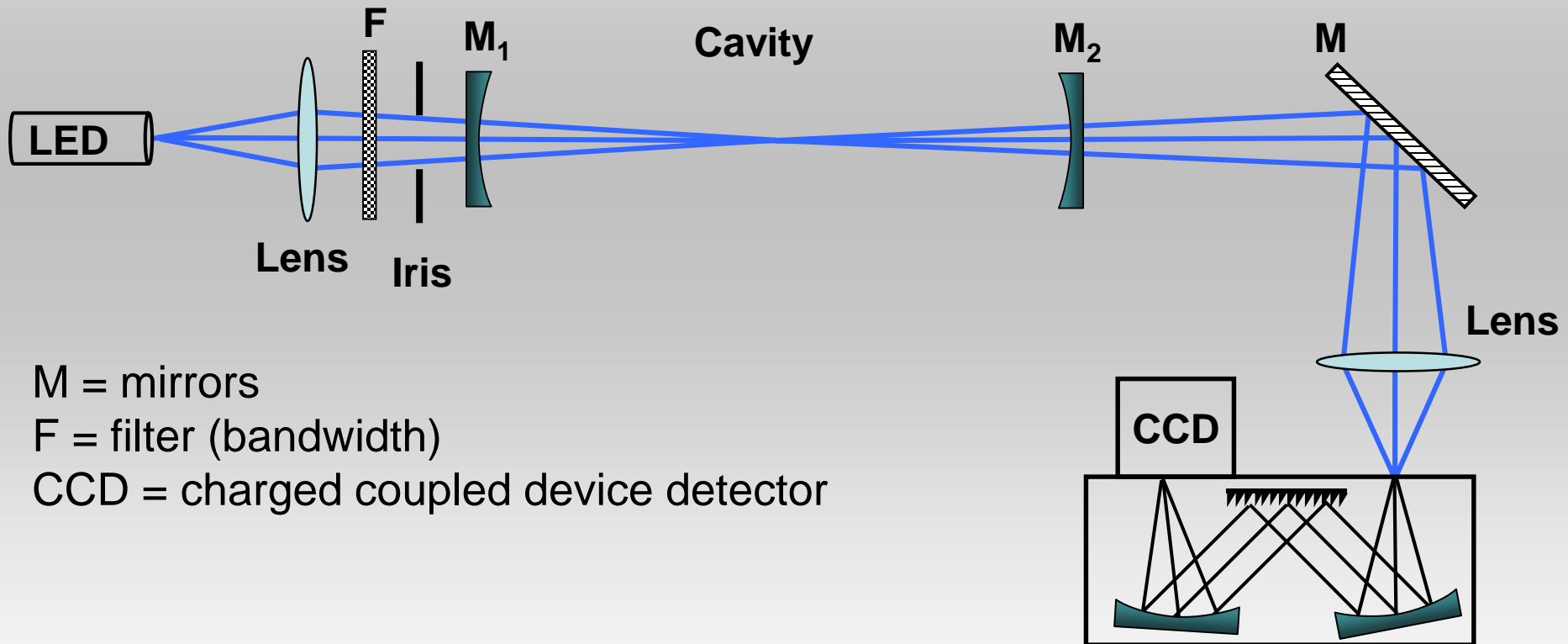
# Incoherent broadband CEAS setup schematic



Calibration of  $R$  via gas of known pressure and cross-section !

# Incoherent broadband CEAS setup schematic

Field setup (**open** path):

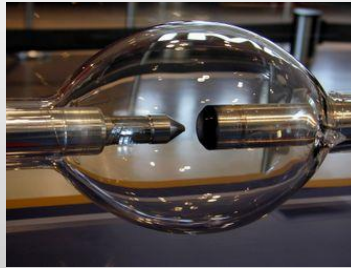


## **(3) Light sources**

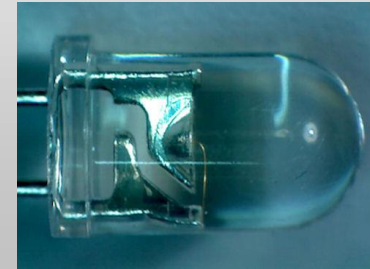


# Light sources

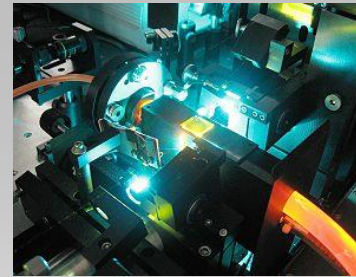
(A) Lamps



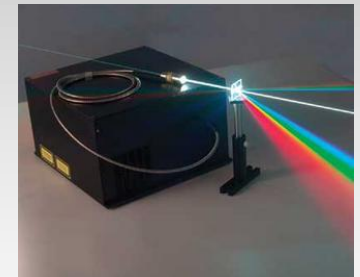
(B) Light emitting diodes



(C) Pulsed lasers



(D) Super continuum sources



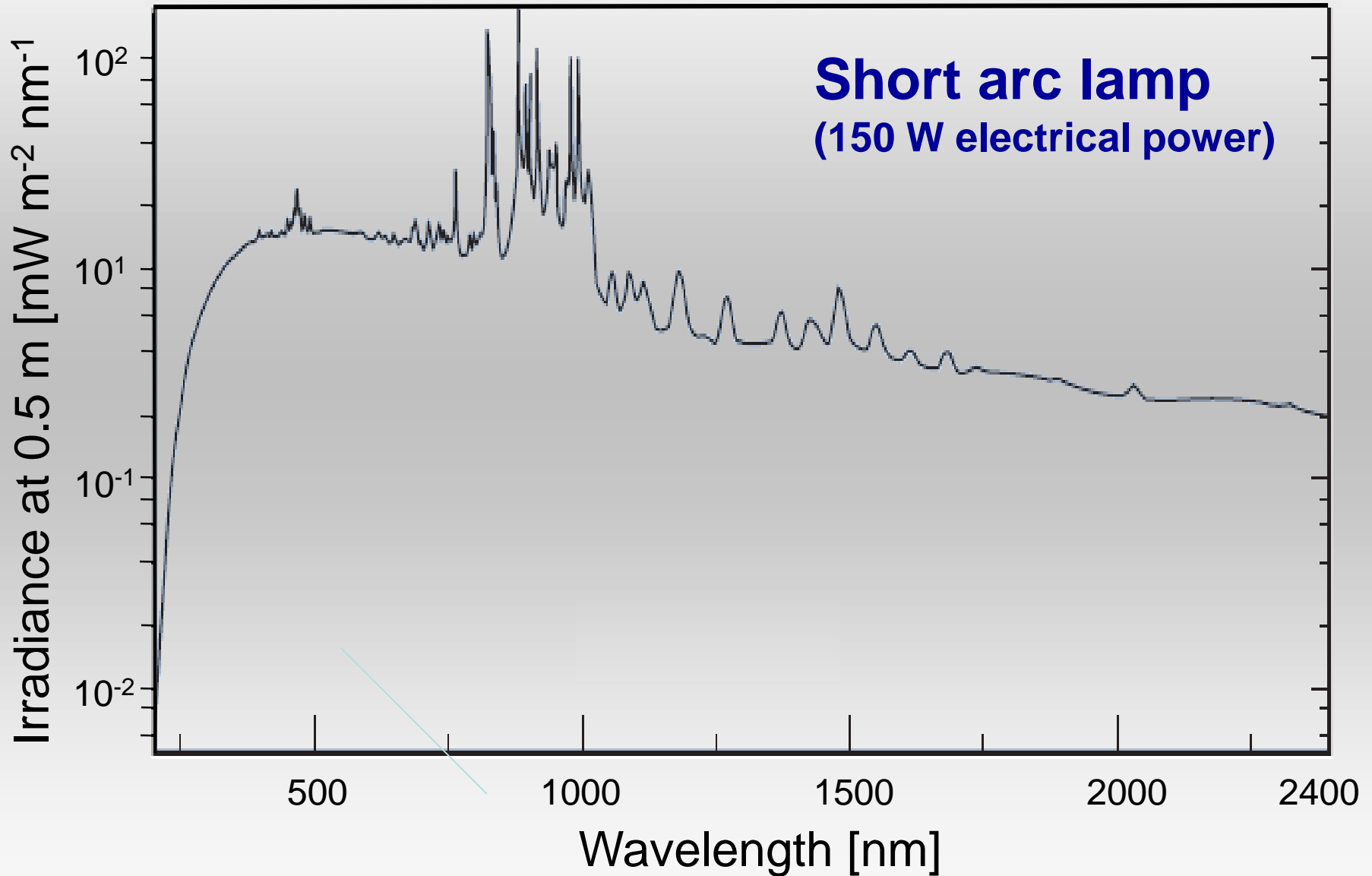
[ (E) Frequency combs ]

# (A) Lamps

## Short-arc (Xe), tungsten, halogen lamps

- ⊕
  - Very wide spectral coverage: UV to IR
  - High flexibility / tunability
  - Good intensity stability (1-2 %)
  - Reasonably compact
  - Power consumption (if low)
- ⊖
  - Non directional (requires imaging)
  - Extended light source
  - Brightness (depending on lamp)
  - Rigorous spectral filtering required
  - May have emission lines (depending on lamp)
  - Power consumption (if high) / water cooling

# Example: Xe lamp spectrum



# (B) Light emitting diodes

## High power LEDs or small arrays super luminescence LED



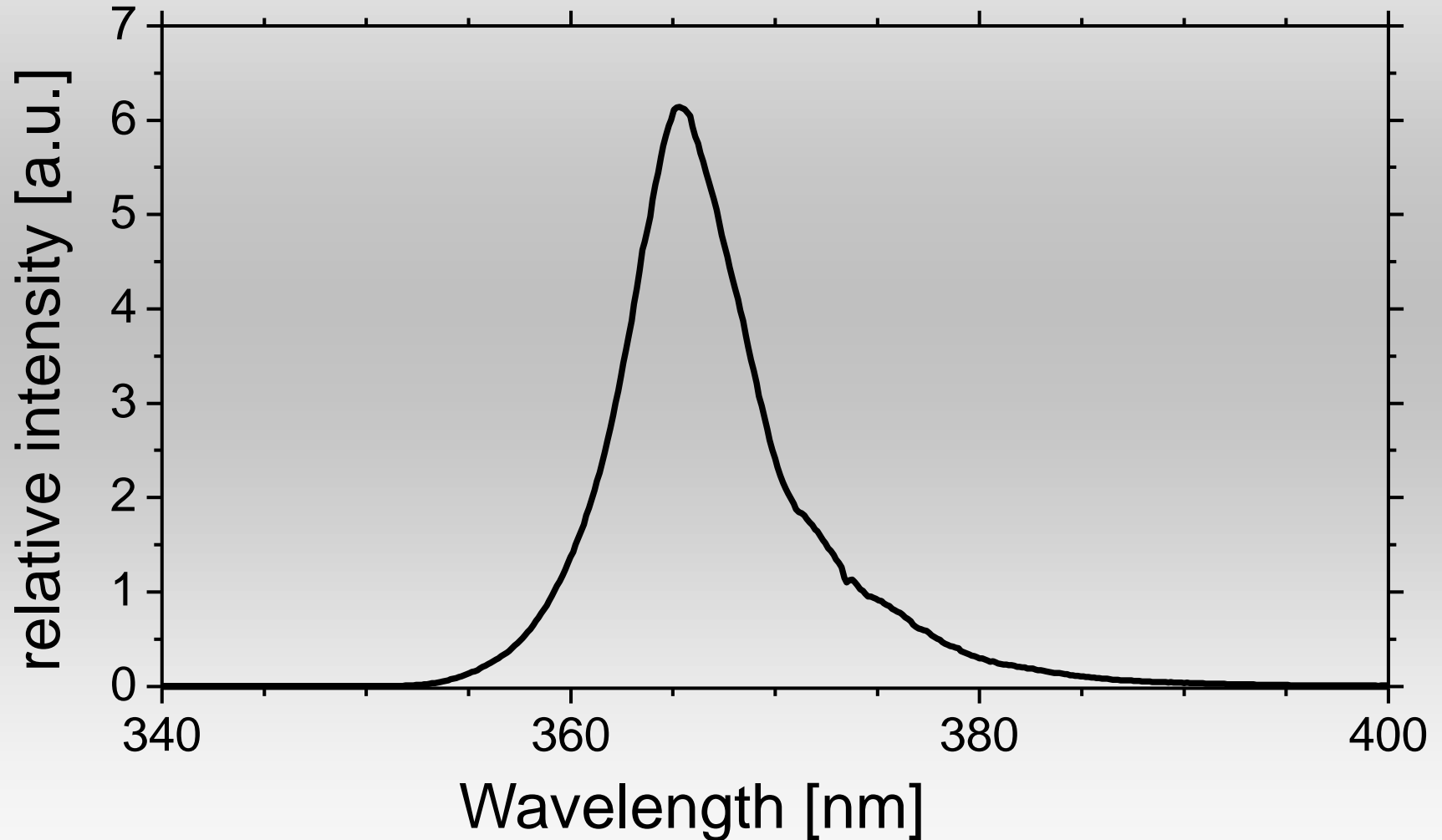
- Very compact / robust
- Cheap
- Low power consumption
- Low spectral filtering constraints



- Low brightness
- Very large divergence
- Extended light source requires imaging
- Rather limited spectral coverage
- Limited UV applications
- Not particularly wide spectral range

# Example: UV LED Spectrum

Total optical output power: ca. 60 mW



# (C) Pulsed Lasers

## Amplified spontaneous emission (ASE) dye laser Short pulse (fs) sources



- Directional
- High power density
- No rigorous spectral filtering required



- Shot-to-shot fluctuations
- Not applicable in cw available
- Generally not compact
- Generally expensive
- Low flexibility (dye changes)
- Not particularly wide spectral range

# (D) Super Continuum Sources

## Laser pumped nonlinear crystal fibre

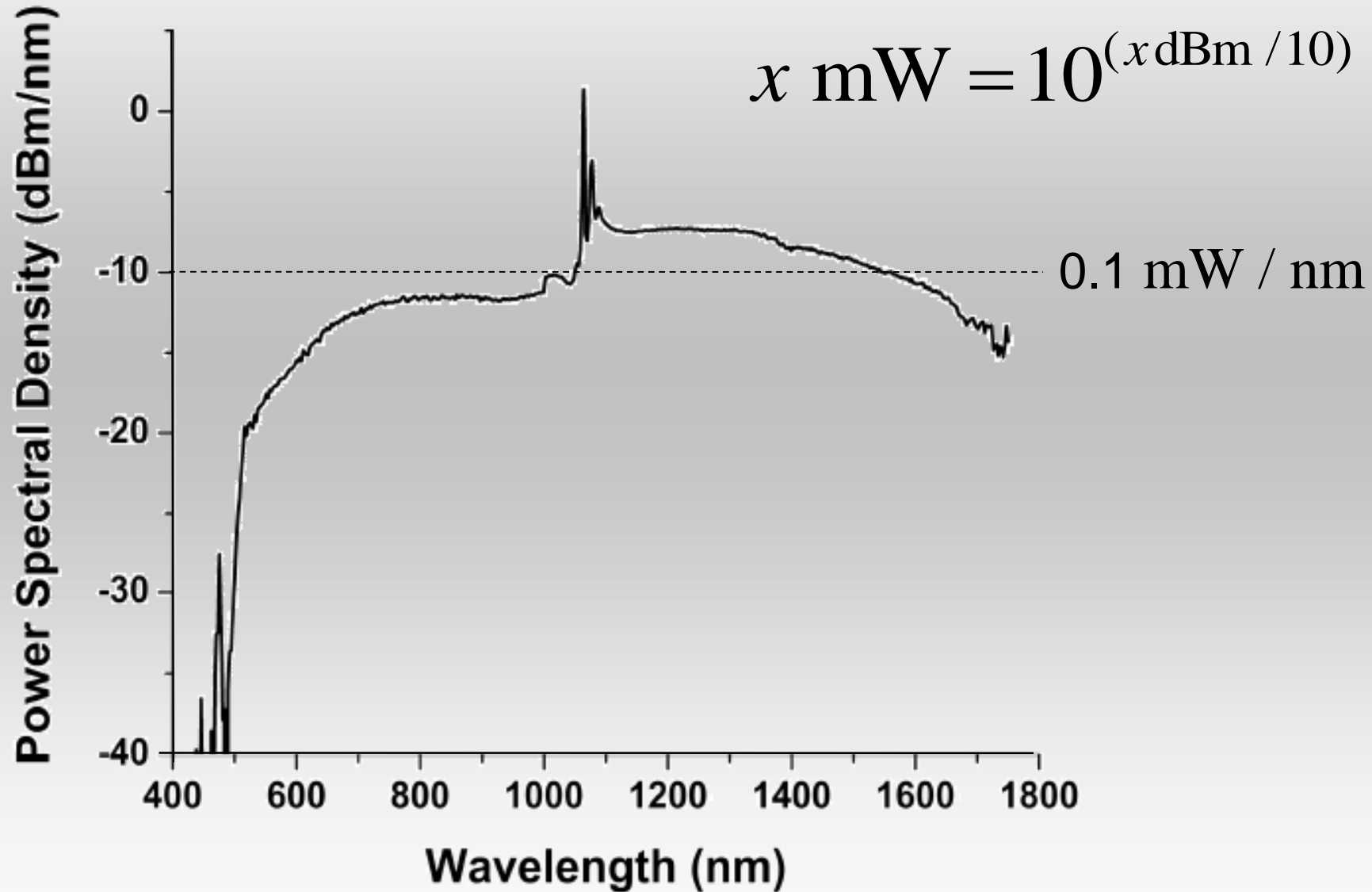


- Directional
- High power density
- Wide spectral coverage



- Large shot-to-shot fluctuations / very noisy
- Not in cw-available (yet)
- No deep blue or UV available (yet)
- Still rather expensive
- Rigorous spectral filtering required
- Operation critical around seed wavelength

# Example: Super Continuum Spectrum





# General detection schemes

Determines the spectral and temporal resolution

## CEAS:

- Monochromator / Charged Coupled Device (CCD)
- Fourier Transform detection

## CRDS:

- Monochromator / clocked or gated CCD
- Fourier Transform detection

## CAPS:

- Lock-in amplifier
- Fourier transform detection

Vernier spectroscopy !

## **(4) An Applications**

**Broad band cavity-enhanced total  
internal reflection spectroscopy**

# Publications

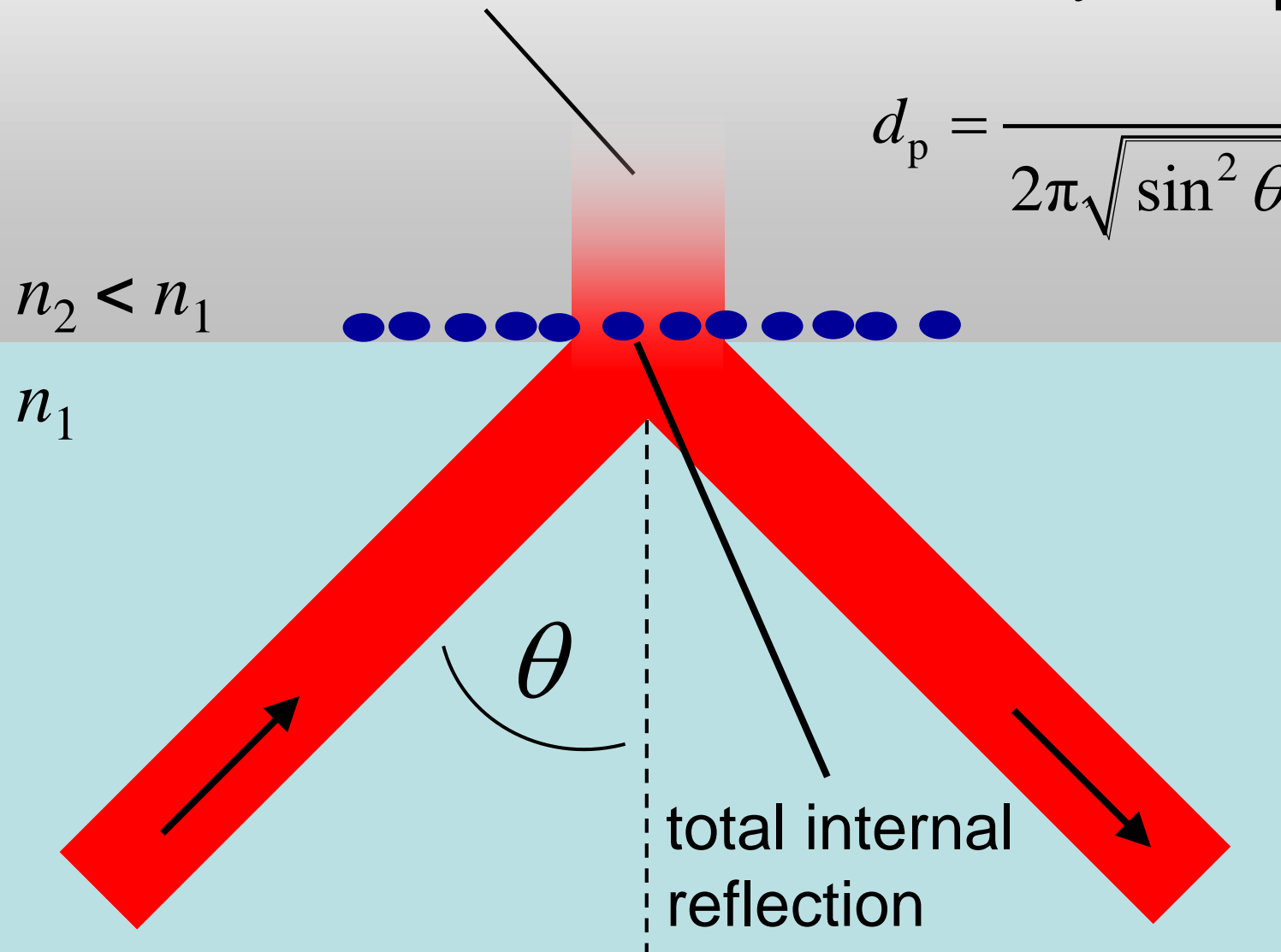
## Broadband evanescent wave spectroscopy:

1. A. A. Ruth and K. T. Lynch, Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. **10** (2008) 7098-7108.
2. M. Schnippering et al., Electrochem. Comm. **10** (2008) 1827-1830.

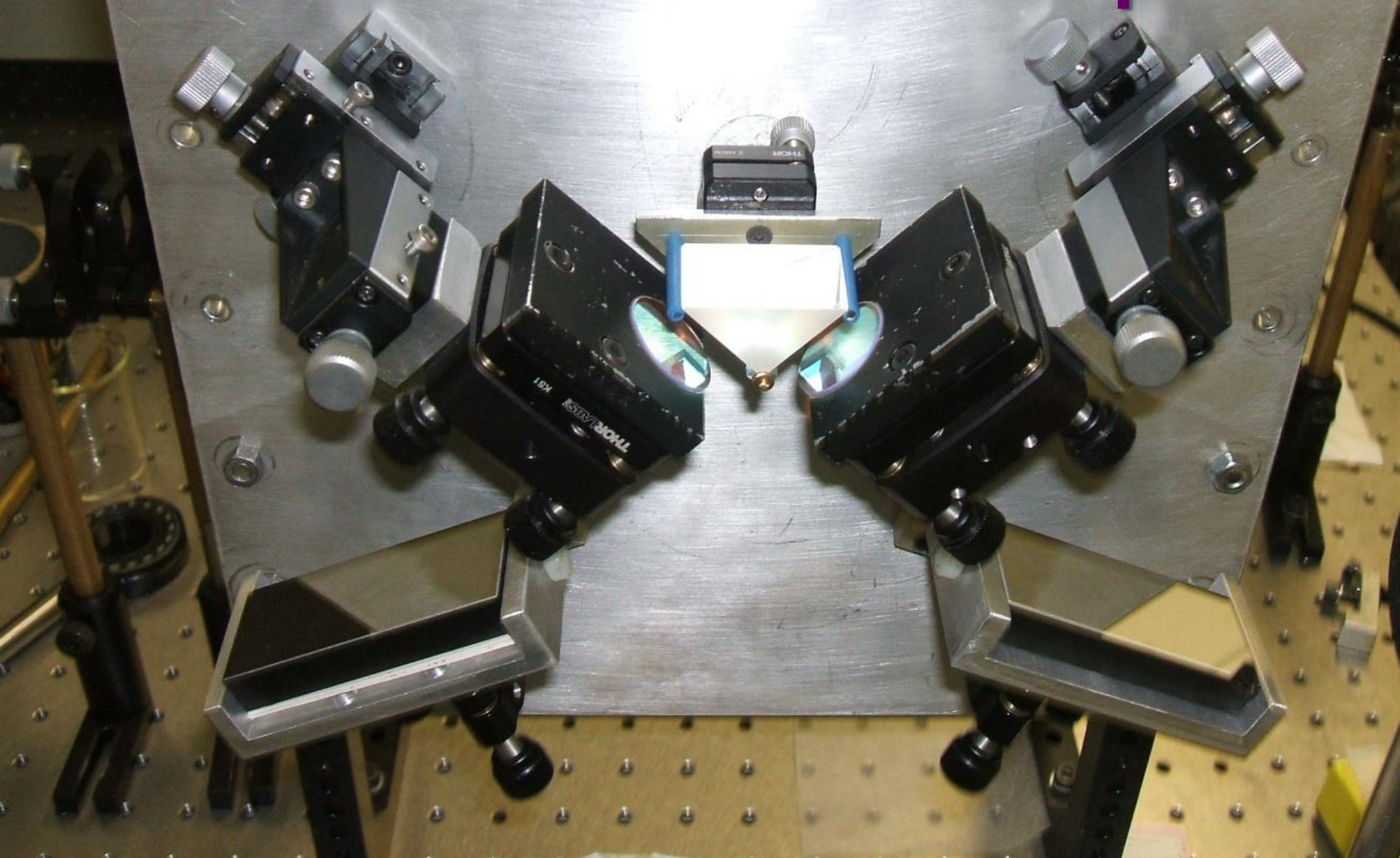
# Evanescent wave absorption

Evanescent wave can be absorbed by surface species

$$d_p = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi\sqrt{\sin^2\theta - (n_2/n_1)^2}}$$



# Broad band cavity-enhanced total internal reflection setup



# The sample loss $L$ in a folded cavity

(1) Measurement **without** sample on prism –  $I_1$  :

$$L_1 = L_{\text{prism}} = \left( \frac{I_0}{I_1} - 1 \right) (1 - R)$$

$I_0$  is a fictitious intensity of an empty cavity

(2) Measurement **with** sample on prism –  $I_2$  :

$$L_2 = L_{\text{prism}} + L_{\text{sample}} = \left( \frac{I_0}{I_2} - 1 \right) (1 - R)$$

Combining eq. (1) and (2) yields:

$$L_{\text{sample}} = \left( \frac{I_1}{I_2} - 1 \right) (L_{\text{prism}} + 1 - R)$$

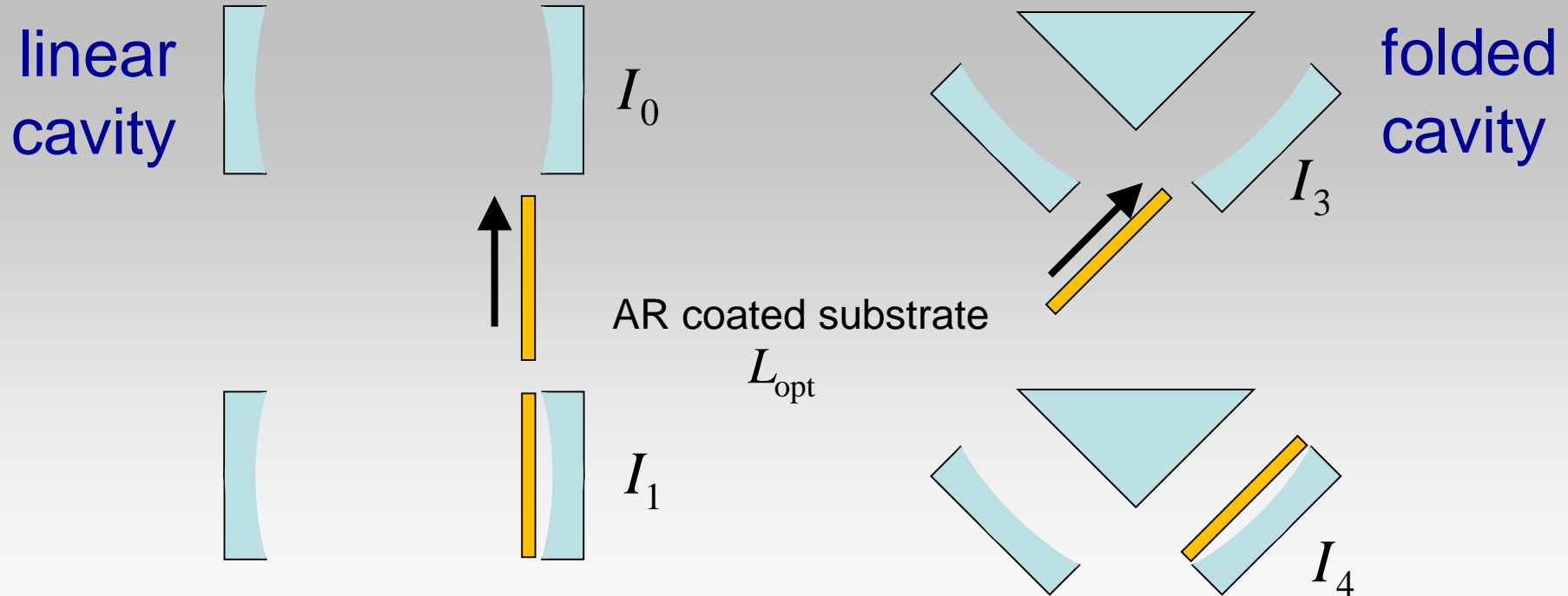
The prism loss  $L_{\text{prism}}$  and  $R$  must be independently established !

# Measurement of $R$ and $L_{\text{prism}}$

- (A) Reflectivity determined directly in UV/vis absorption spectrometer (since  $0.99 < R < 0.995$ ).
- (B) Measurement of  $L_{\text{prism}}$  by low loss optic approach:

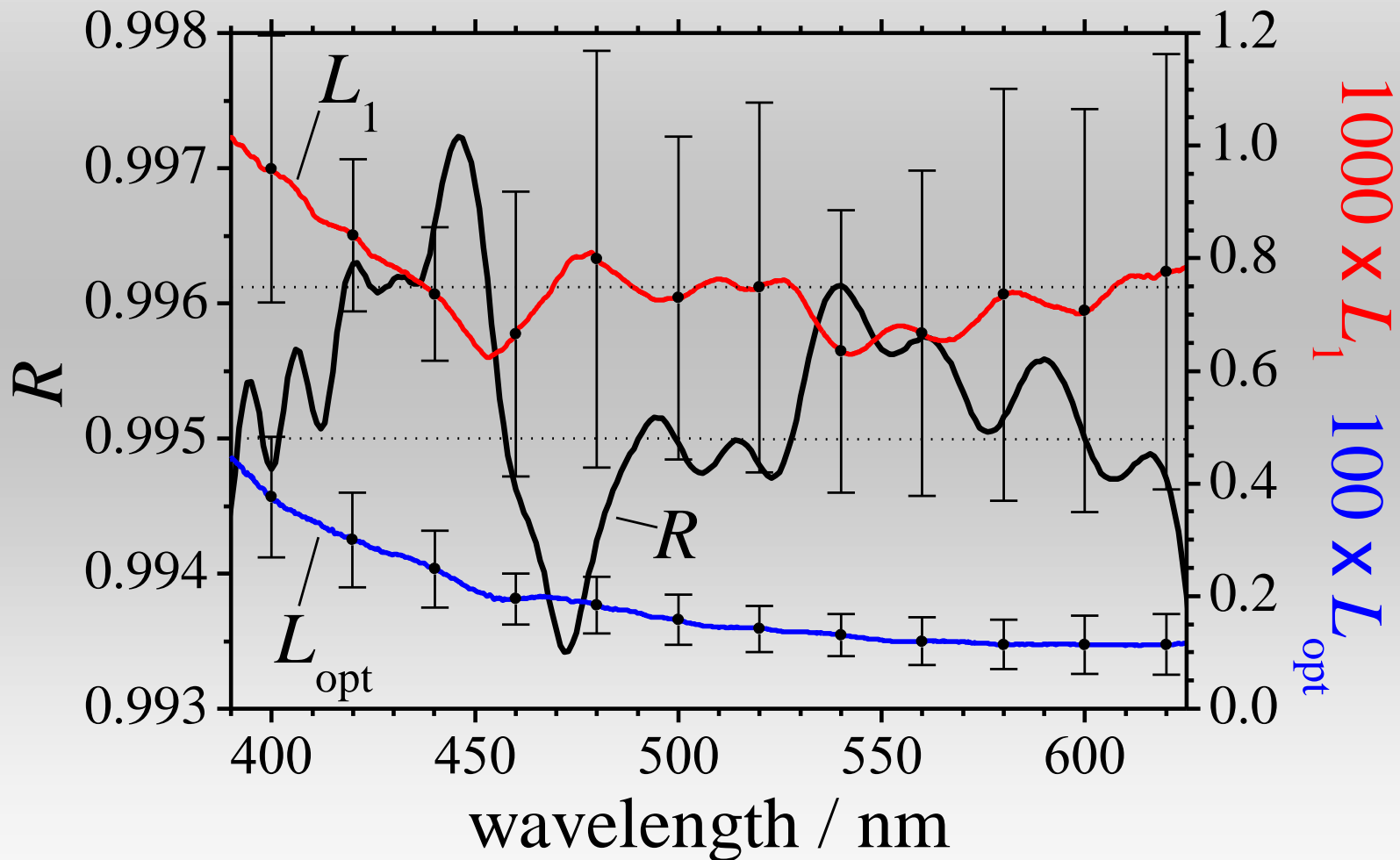
$$L_{\text{opt}} = \left( \frac{I_0}{I_1} - 1 \right) (1 - R)$$

$$L_{\text{prism}} = \frac{L_{\text{opt}}}{\left[ \left( I_3 / I_4 \right) - 1 \right]} - (1 - R)$$



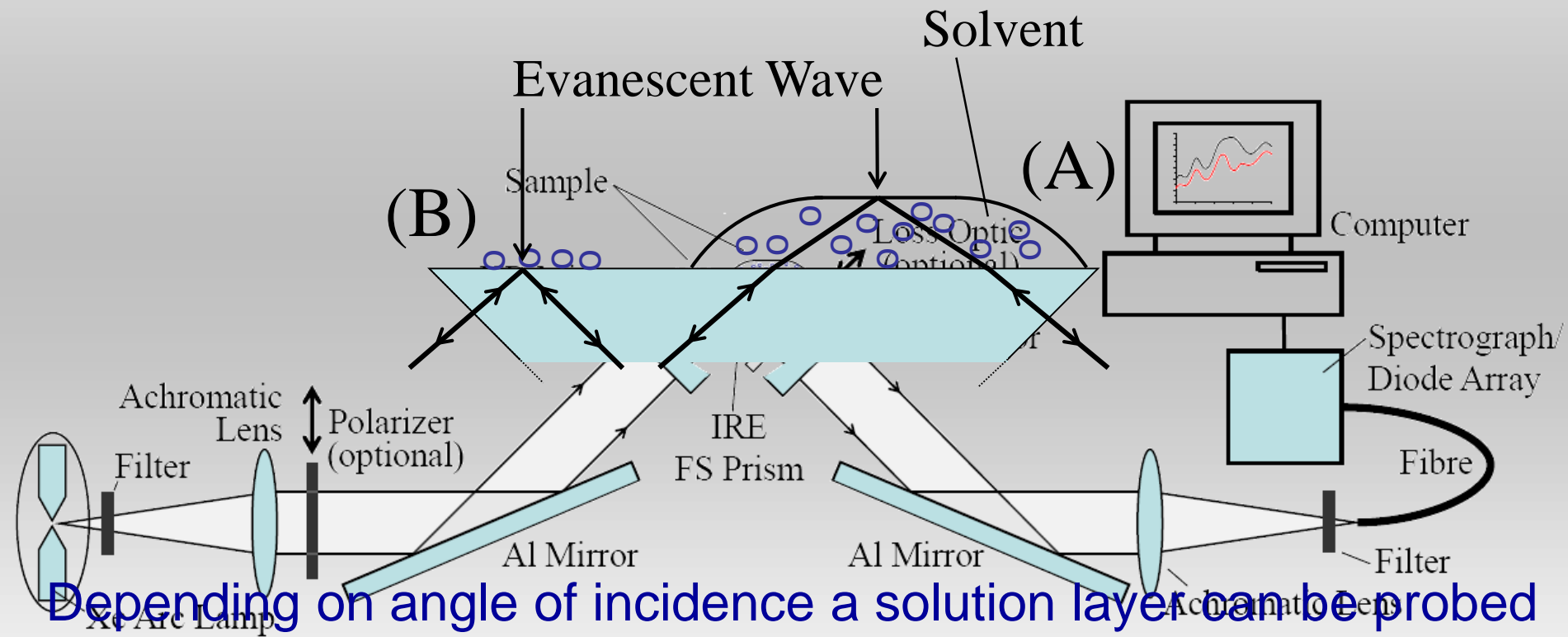
# Measurement of $R$ and $L_{\text{prism}}$

$$L_1 = L_{\text{prism}} \quad R = \sqrt{R_1 R_2}$$



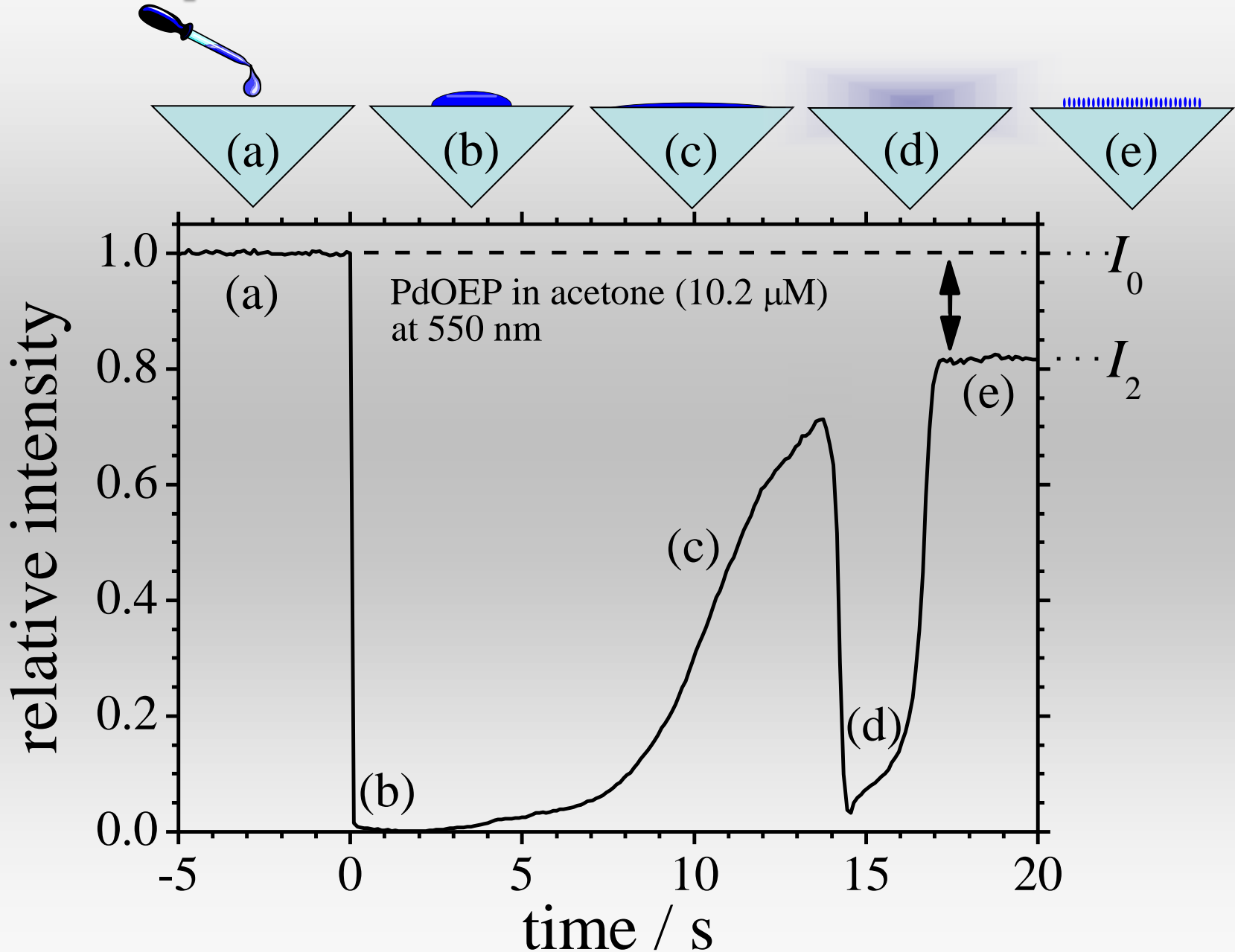


# Broad band cavity-enhanced total internal reflection setup

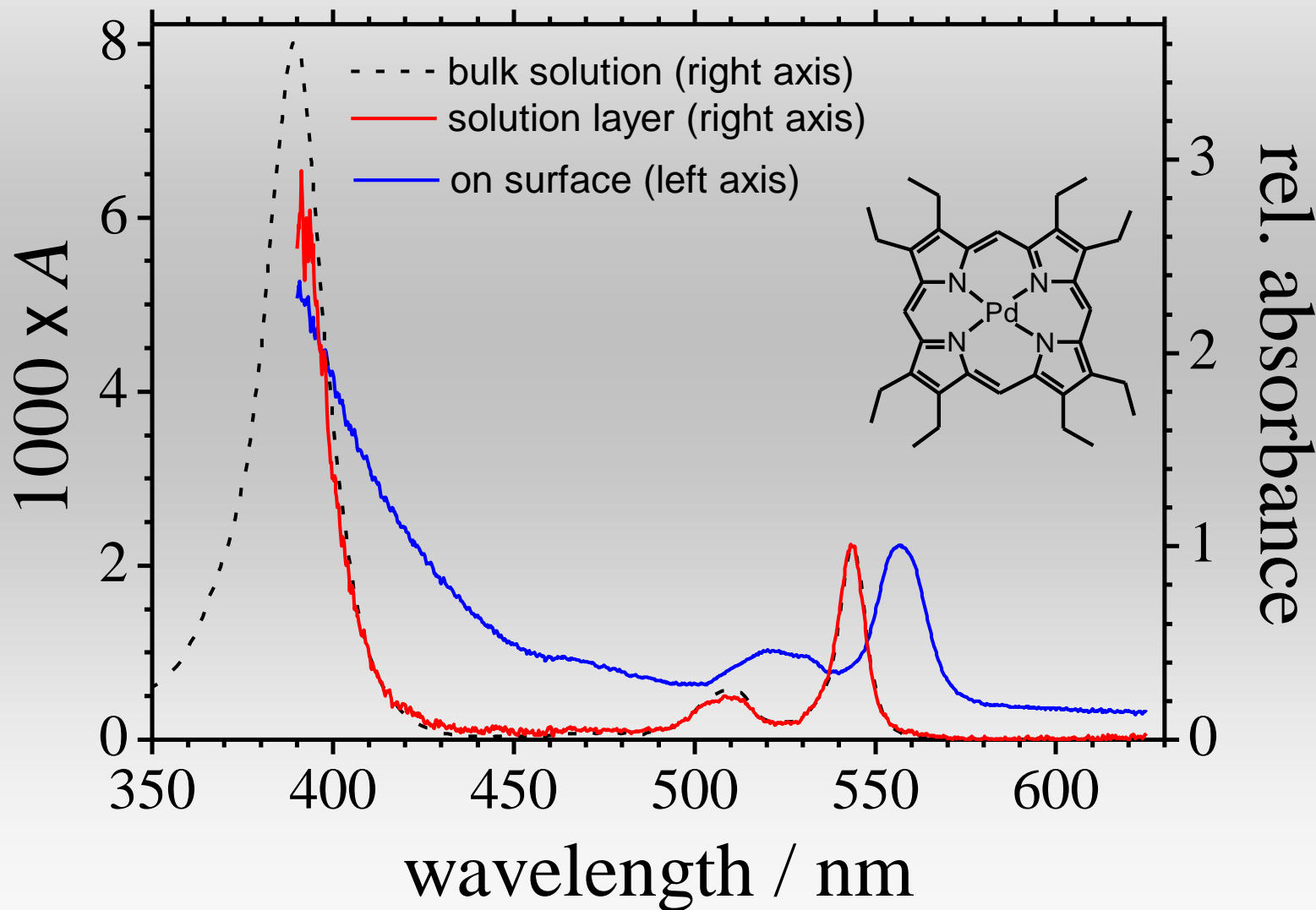


Depending on angle of incidence a solution layer can be probed or a functionalized surface !

# Evaporization of the solution



# Example of Pd-octaethyl porphyrin (PdOEP) in acetone



# Detection limit of the method

From: A. A. Ruth and K. T. Lynch, Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. **10** (2008) 7098-7108.

