Femtosecond laser micromachining



Ultrafast and Ultrasmall: Part I 2008 ITRI Femtosecond Laser International Forum Tainan, Taiwan, 14 October 2008



- femtosecond laser micromachining
- femtosecond laser doping
- nonlinear optics at the nanoscale

Femtosecond laser micromachining



Ultrafast and Ultrasmall: Part I 2008 ITRI Femtosecond Laser International Forum Tainan, Taiwan, 14 October 2008



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and also....

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My message







Opt. Soc. Am. B/Vol. 13, No. 1/January 1990 Control C J. Opt. Soc. Am. B/Vol. 13, No. 1/January 1996

[and] ... no bulk dan der Linde and H. Schüler [and] ... no bulk dan der Linde and H. Schüler Institut für Laser- und Plasind F. Begen Could in be 1995 producted Institut für Laser- und Plasind F. extract microscopy, we heal reflectivity as observer Institut Jun Andrew Institut

The interaction of intense femtosecond laser pulses with solids offers the possibility of producing a new class of 1. INTRODUCTION plasmas having approximately solid-state density and plasmas having approximately solid-state density and enotial density scale lengths much emotion then the more plasmas having approximately some-state density and spatial density scale lengths much smaller than the wave-longth of light Those bigh-density plasmae with orspatial density scale lengths much smaller unan the wave-spatial density scale lengths much smaller unan the wave-length of light. These high-density plasmas with extengen of ugue. These ingu-uensity prasmas with ex-tremely sharp density gradients are currently of great von der Linde, et al., J. Soch der Linde, et al., Soch der Linde, et al., J. Soch der Linde, et al., e

peak value in a time much shorter reas value in a vince much should read the specificatio. anty background or of the acceptable and Trules requires some knowledge of into a dense

One of the key points in the research of Bloembergen Une of the Key points in the research of Divergence sen and his co-workers was the use of very tightly focused anu ms co-workers was use use or very ugnuy nocuseu laser beams, which allowed them to reach the breakdown

laser peans, which anowed men w reach we preaknown the staying well below the threshold of the materials while staying is one of the threshold of the materials while staying is one of the will compare the materials will be staying well below the staying well below the oritical power of self-focusing. Self-focusing is one of built brook arm cilical power of Self-weights. Self-weights breakdown major problems in the measurement of bulk breakdown threakable. To a more recent remining Collect et al 5 corre thresholds. In a more recent review Soileau et al.⁵ carethresholds. In a more recent review Dolleau et al. care-turesholds. In a more recent review Dolleau et al. care-fully examined the role of self-focusing in experiments fully examined the role of self-focusing fourth diplecting maneasuring laser-induced breakdown of bulk dielectric ma-toriale They concluded that the breakdown end acmeasuring laser-mouced breakdown or punk delectric ma-terials. They concluded that the breakdown and damuerials. They concluded that the preakdown and dam-age thresholds are also strongly influenced by extrinsic

Thus far, the issue of breakdown thresholds in fem-Inus Iar, une Issue of preaktown unreshous in rein-tosecond laser-solid interaction has barely been touched. tosecona laser-solia interaction has varely veen wuched break-Very recently, Du et al.⁶ carried out laser-induced break-down amoniments on fused cilies with pulses renging in

very recently, Du et al. carried out laser-muuted break-down experiments on fused silica with pulses ranging in duration from 7 no to as low of 150 free more reported un caperiments on insee since with puises ranging in duration from 7 ns to as low as 150 fs. They reported an interesting dependence of the function threshold on an interesting particularly a processing dependence of the fluence threshold on un mucresume acpendence or une nuclue amesadon on pulse duration, particularly a pronounced increase of the threehold with decreasing pulse duration below 10 m threshold with decreasing pulse duration below 10 ps. will will acurasing runse auranon very in ps. way model In related research, Stuart



focus laser beam inside material



Opt. Lett. 21, 2023 (1996)



	photon energy < bandgap \longrightarrow nonlinear interaction														





Some applications:

- data storage
- waveguides
- microfluidics



Outline

- femtosecond micromachining
- low-energy machining
- applications

Dark-field scattering



block probe beam...



... bring in pump beam...



... damage scatters probe beam













vary numerical aperture





fit gives threshold intensity: $I_{th} = 2.5 \times 10^{17} \text{ W/m}^2$



vary material...



...threshold varies with band gap (but not much!)



what prevents damage at low NA?

Competing nonlinear effects:

- multiphoton absorption
- supercontinuum generation
- self-focusing

why the difference?



very different confocal length/interaction length



high NA: interaction length too short for self-focusing

threshold for supercontinuum generation


Femtosecond micromachining

threshold for damage



Femtosecond micromachining

Points to keep in mind:

- threshold critically dependent on NA
- surprisingly little material dependence
- avalanche ionization important

Outline

- femtosecond micromachining
- low-energy machining
- applications

threshold decreases with increasing numerical aperture



less than 10 nJ at high numerical aperture!



amplified laser: 1 kHz, 1 mJ



heat diffusion time: $\tau_{diff} \approx 1 \ \mu s$

long cavity oscillator: 25 MHz, 25 nJ



heat diffusion time: $\tau_{diff} \approx 1 \ \mu s$



High repetition-rate micromachining:

- structural changes exceed focal volume
- spherical structures
- density change caused by melting





the longer the irradiation...



the longer the irradiation...



the longer the irradiation...



the longer the irradiation...



... the larger the radius



at high-rep rate: internal "point-source of heat"

Outline

- femtosecond micromachining
- low-energy machining
- applications

waveguide micromachining



Opt. Lett. 26, 93 (2001)

waveguide micromachining





Opt. Lett. 26, 93 (2001)











photonic fabrication techniques

	fs micromachining	other
loss (dB/cm)	< 3	0.1–3
bending radius	36 mm	30–40 mm
Δn	2 x 10 ⁻³	10 ⁻⁴ – 0.5
3D integration	Y	Ν

photonic devices



all-optical sensor



all-optical sensor



all-optical sensor



all-optical sensor



all-optical sensor



all-optical sensor



all-optical sensor



all-optical sensor




sensor gap



Appl. Phys. Lett. 87, 051106 (2005)

Applications

calibration



Appl. Phys. Lett. 87, 051106 (2005)

Applications

sensor response to 100 Hz acoustic wave



Appl. Phys. Lett. 87, 051106 (2005)



ideal tool for ablating (living) tissue



- standard biochemical tools: species selective
- fs laser "nanosurgery": site specific

Applications

Q: can we probe the dynamics of the cytoskeleton?



actin fiber network of a live cell





cut a single fiber bundle





cut a single fiber bundle





gap widens with time



Applications

dynamics provides information on in vivo mechanics



Summary

great tool for

• "wiring light"

micromanipulating the machinery of life

Summary

- important parameters: focusing, energy, repetition rate
- nearly material independent
- two regimes: low and high repetition rate
- high-repetition rate (thermal) machining fast, convenient

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- important parameters: focusing, energy, repetition rate
- nearly material independent
- two regimes: low and high repetition rate
- high-repetition rate (thermal) machining fast, co photo

Nature Photonics 2, 219 (2008)

Femtosecond laser doping







Eric Mazur



Mark Winkler



Eric Diebold



Brian Tull

and also....

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Prof. Michael Aziz Prof. Cynthia Friend Prof. Li Zhao (Fudan)



irradiate with 100-fs 10 kJ/m² pulses





"black silicon"



absorptance (1 - R - T)



absorptance (1 - R - T)





multiple reflections enhance absorption



multiple reflections enhance absorption



electronic band structure changes



band structure changes: defects and/or impurities

Outline

00

high photon flux doping

1/24/03

- photoelectron generation
- photoconductive gain












Introduction

sulfur required for below band gap absorption

other chalcogens yield similar results



other chalcogens yield similar results



other chalcogens yield similar results



















cross-sectional Transmission Electron Microscopy

M. Wall, F. Génin (LLNL)

μm



crystalline Si core



electron μm diffraction



- 300-nm disordered surface layer
- undisturbed crystalline core

• surface layer: nanocrystalline Si with 1.6% sulfur

μm

1 part in 10⁶ sulfur introduces states in gap



Janzén et al., Phys. Rev. B 29, 1907 (1984)

at high concentration states broaden into band



absorption extends into infrared



donor or acceptor states, depending on Fermi level



Things to keep in mind

- new chemical structure and electronic properties
- nanocrystallinity: quantum confinement effects
- absorption happens in nanocrystalline layer

Outline

00

150

high photon flux doping

1/24/03 9 kJ/m 17 500

- photoelectron generation
- photoconductive gain



join acceptor and donor type Si...



non-conducting layer at junction











IV characteristics





depletion layer can convert light into electric energy



incident photon knocks out electron...



... creating an electron-hole pair



E-field separates eh-pair, causing current

IV characteristics


IV characteristics











Things to keep in mind

- can turn absorption into photoelectrons
- very high responsivity in VIS and IR
- quantum efficiency larger than one

Outline

00

high photon flux doping

1/24/03 9 kJ/m 17 500

- photoelectron generation
- photoconductive gain



apply electric field...



...and so depletion zone expands



incident photon generates electron-hole pair



incident photon generates electron-hole pair



hole is trapped, electron accelerates...



hole is trapped, electron accelerates...



hole is trapped, electron accelerates...



...exits sample...



...and source supplies a new electron



...and source supplies a new electron

responsivity at zero bias



doubled quantum efficiency around 1.1 µm



Things to keep in mind

- photoconductive gain at room temperature!
- significant promise as photovoltaic material

http://www.sionyxinc.com



- low-voltage, high-responsivity detectors
- silicon-based IR detectors
- higher QE photovoltaic cells





Summary

high photon flux doping produces new class of material

Nonlinear optics at the nanoscale



Ultrafast and Ultrasmall: Part III 2008 ITRI Femtosecond Laser International Forum Tainan, Taiwan, 14 October 2008





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and also....

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supercontinuum generation

optical logic gates

Contraction of the Westmann



Nature, 426, 816 (2003)







20 *µ*m
Poynting vector profile for 200-nm nanowire













minimum bending radius: 5.6 *µ*m



aerogel

420 nm

420 nm

Nanoletters, 5, 259 (2005)



in

out

Nanoletters, 5, 259 (2005)



Nanoletters, 5, 259 (2005)

use tapered fibers to couple light to nanoscale objects

ZnO:non-toxic, wide bandgap semiconductor

vapor transport grown ZnO nanowires





80–400 nm diameter, up to 80 µm long

best of both worlds

ZnO	silica
bottom-up	top-down
semiconductor	glass
active photonic devices	passive waveguides
electrical operation	link to macroworld



















FDTD simulation



ab-initio.mit.edu/wiki/index/Meep







large diameter: multimode



small diameter: single mode

Points to keep in mind:

- low-loss guiding
- convenient evanescent coupling
- attached to ordinary fiber



supercontinuum generation

optical logic gates








nonlinear dispersion: $n = n_0 + n_2 I$



strong confinement \longrightarrow high intensity

mode field diameter (λ = 800 nm)



M.A. Foster, et al., Optics Express, 12, 2880 (2004)

mode field diameter (λ = 800 nm)



M.A. Foster, et al., Optics Express, 12, 2880 (2004)

nonlinear parameter



M.A. Foster, et al., Optics Express, 12, 2880 (2004)

dispersion important!

waveguide dispersion



Optics Express, 12, 1025 (2004)

waveguide dispersion



Optics Express, 12, 1025 (2004)

nanowire continuum generation



nanowire continuum generation



nanowire continuum generation



nanowire continuum generation



nanowire continuum generation



nanowire continuum generation



nanowire continuum generation



energy in nanowire < 100 pJ!

- picojoule nonlinear optics
- optimum diameter for silica 500–600 nm
- low dispersion



supercontinuum generation

optical logic gates











output = transmitted cw + ccw power



input electric field amplitude E_{in}



coupling parameter: ρ



phase accumulation over path length of loop L



coupling parameter: ρ



output is sum of transmitted cw and ccw



accumulated phase:

$$\phi = k_o n$$

accumulated phase:

$$\phi = k_o n$$

nonlinear index:

$$n = n_o + n_2 I = n_o + n_2 \frac{P_i}{A_{eff}}$$

accumulated phase:

$$\phi = k_o n$$

nonlinear index:

$$n = n_o + n_2 I = n_o + n_2 \frac{P_i}{A_{eff}}$$

nonlinear parameter:

$$\gamma = n_2 \frac{k_o}{A_{eff}}$$

power-dependent output:

$$\frac{E_{out}^2}{E_{in}^2} = 1 - 2\rho(1-\rho)\{1 + \cos[(1-2\rho)\gamma P_o L]\}$$

power-dependent output:

$$\frac{E_{out}^2}{E_{in}^2} = 1 - 2\rho(1-\rho)\{1 + \cos[(1-2\rho)\gamma P_o L]\}$$

for 50-50 coupler:

$$\rho = 0.5$$
Manipulating light at the nanoscale

power-dependent output:

$$\frac{E_{out}^2}{E_{in}^2} = 1 - 2\rho(1-\rho)\{1 + \cos[(1-2\rho)\gamma P_o L]\}$$

for 50-50 coupler:

$$\rho = 0.5$$

no transmission:

$$\frac{E_{out}^2}{E_{in}^2} = 0$$

when $\rho \neq 0.5$:



































for NAND gate need ouput with no input



for NAND gate need ouput with no input



for NAND gate need ouput with no input



universal NAND gate



universal NAND gate



universal NAND gate



mesoporous silica

Sagnac loop



output

mesoporous silica

Sagnac loop

very preliminary data



light-by-light modulation!

very preliminary data



very preliminary data









- several nanodevices demonstrated
- large γ permits miniature Sagnac loops
- switching energy < 10 pJ



Funding:

Harvard Center for Imaging and Mesoscopic Structures National Science Foundation

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