



Dr. Lukas Krainer

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CEO

Real-world applications of intense light matter interaction beyond the scope of classical micromachining.

Management & Company



Company

- Based in Zürich, Switzerland
- Operational 2006, initial product release Photonic West 2007
- Class ~10'000 cleanroom facility
- Dec. 2008: Acquisition of Advanced Laser Diode Systems A.L.S. GmbH, Germany
- Operating a world wide distribution and sales representative network

Founders & owners

Dr. Gabriel Spühler, CTO

- PhD & Postdoc at ETH Zürich in high-power lasers
- GigaTera Inc.

Dr. Lukas Krainer, CEO

- PhD & Postdoc at ETH Zürich in high repetition rate lasers
- GigaTera Inc.
- EU FP6 / FP7 evaluation & reviewing

Light Matter Interaction



Intense light matter interaction

Interaction between a short optical pulse and any kind of material

- Destructive
- Non destructive

Product Portfolio



Femtosecond lasers

ORIGAMI

UV, visible, IR

Pulse durations 100 fs - 1 ps

Power up to 5 W, 5 µJ pulse energy

Pulse repetition rate: Pulse on demand – 1.25 GHz



Picosecond lasers

GENKI / KATANA

UV, visible, IR

Pulse durations 1 ps - 1 ns

Power up to 15 W, 20 µJ pulse energy

Pulse repetition rate: Pulse on demand – 200 MHz



- as easy to use as a laser pointer
- 24/7 operation
- plug & play life long
- full remote control
- compact, air cooled, light weight
- low power consumption

Target Markets



- Micromachining
- Seed lasers for high energy laser systems
- Security & defense (THz, optical sampling)
- Life science
- Optical clocks
- Academics

Applications



"Classical" applications in micromachining





Real world applications outside classical micromachining

Among zillion others...

- Vision correction
- THz science
- 3D lithography
- 2-photon microscopy

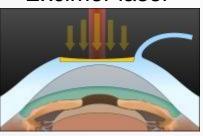
Vision Correction

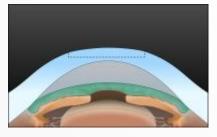


Bladeless LASIK: laser-assisted in situ keratomileusis with a femtosecond laser



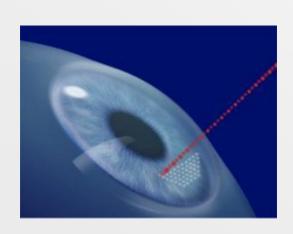






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Instead of a sharp knife, a femtosecond laser creats the corneal flap





- Tissue micromachining in transparent media
- High peak intensities in the focal point
- Low peak intensities on the retina

Advantages

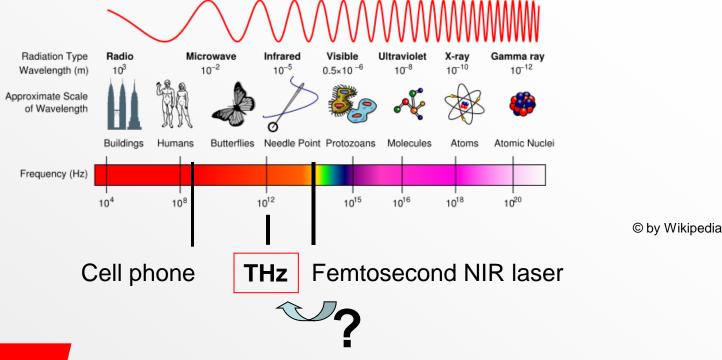
- Flap diameter
- Depth
- Hinge location and width
- Side-cut architecture

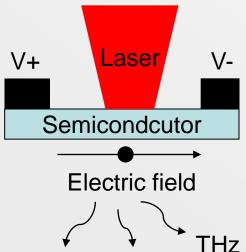
Vision Correction



- Destructive use of a femtosecond laser
- Wavelength NIR around 1 μm
- μJ pulse energies
- 100 1000 kHz repetition rate



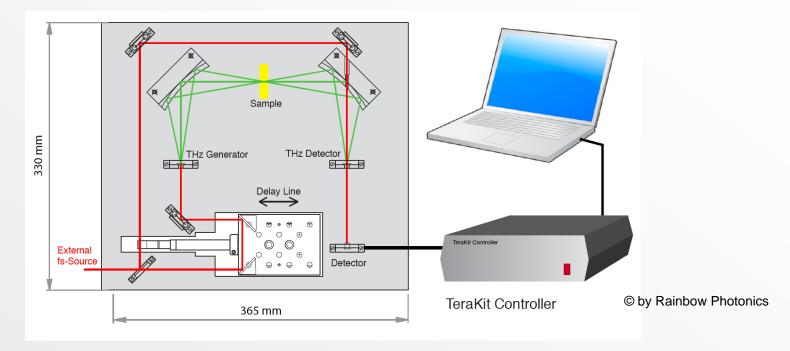




- Excitation of electrons in a semiconductor by an intense light pulse
- 2. Free electron acceleration by an electric field (voltage)
- 3. Accelerated electrons emit THz radiation



Typical system layout

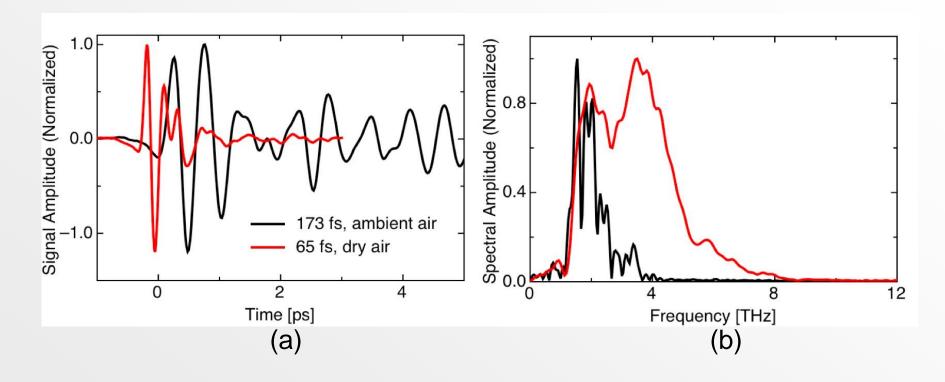


Commercial system provided by





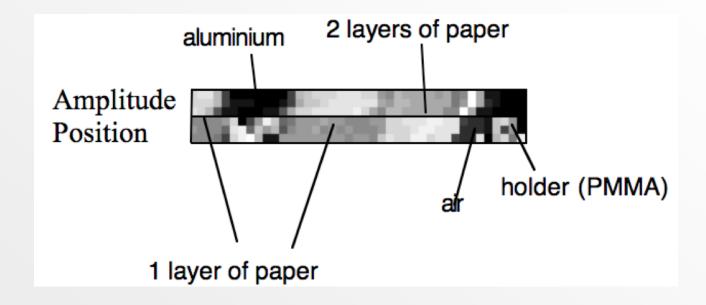
Time domain THz signal



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Spectroscopic image



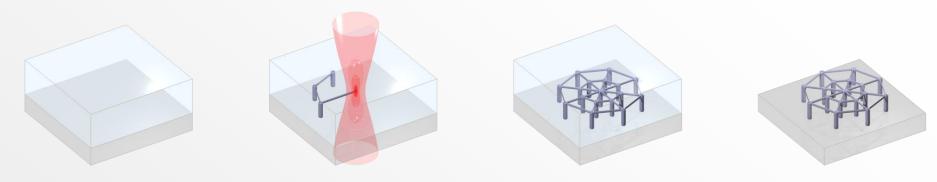
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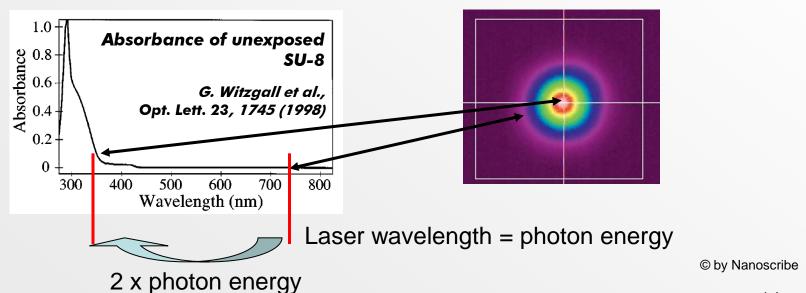
- Non destructive use of a femtosecond laser
- Wavelength 780 nm up to 1.5 μm
- nJ pulse energies
- 100 MHz repetition rate



Principle: Material absorbs light and and becomes solid (polymerization)



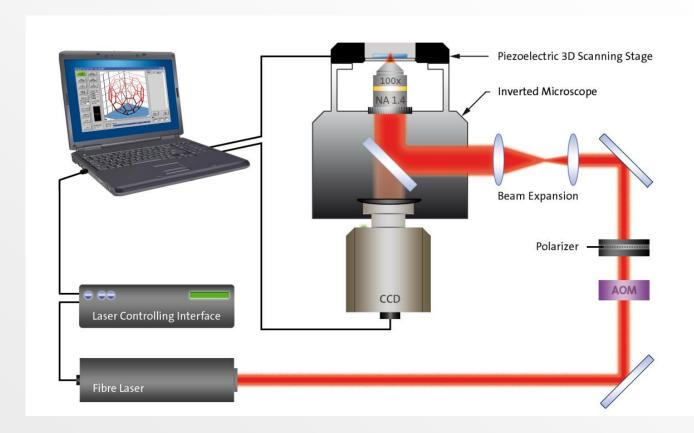
Trick: Using two photon absorption to increase resolution and accuracy in specially engineered materials



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Typical system layout



Commercial system provided by



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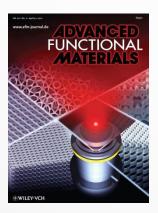


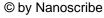


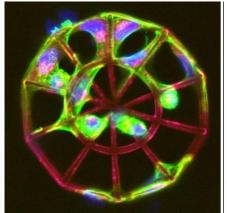
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- Life sciences / biotechnology
 - Stemm cell differentiation
 - Cell growth studies
 - Tissue engineering
 - Gecko- / Lotus-effect

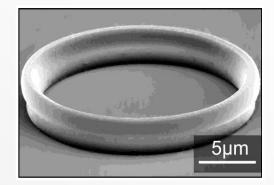


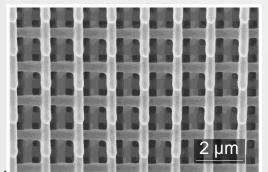


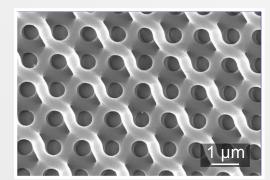


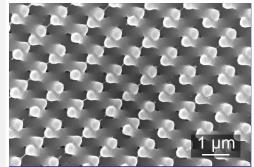
Photonics

- Micro optical devices
- Photonic crystals
- DFB Lasers including integrated optics











- Destructive use of a femtosecond laser
- Wavelength 532 nm 780 nm
- nJ pulse energies
- 100 MHz repetition rate

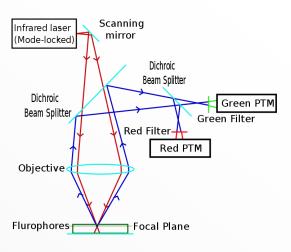
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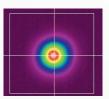
Fluorescence molecule is excited by 2 photons



Same principle than lithography, BUT light emission instead of material change

- High localization (no out of focus photons)
- Simple detection (red/blue separation)
- Suitable for thick samples (less scattering)





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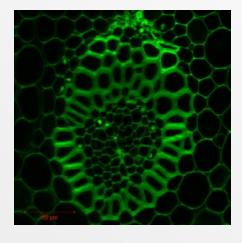


Scanner heads

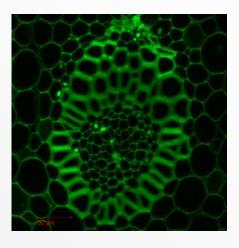
Ti:sapphire system



Convallaria (lily-of-the-valley)



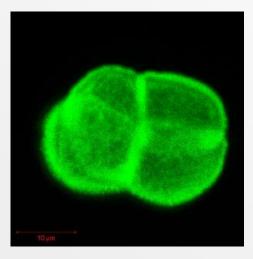
Ti-sapphire laser



Origami-10 laser

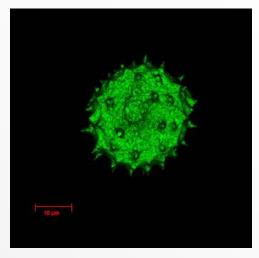


Pollen



Origami-10 laser

3D reconstruction



Origami-10 laser



- Non destructive use of a femtosecond laser
- Wavelength visible up to 1 μm (ideally tunable)
- nJ pulse energies
- 100 MHz repetition rate

Take Home Message



Real world applications outside classical micromachining

- Vision Correction
 - Destructive
 - μJ pulse energies, kHz rep rates
- THz Science
 - Non destructive
 - μJ pulse energies, MHz rep rates
- 3D Lithography
 - Destructive
 - nJ pulse energies, MHz rep rates
- 2-Photon Microscopy
 - Non destructive
 - > nJ pulse energies, MHz rep rates

Take Home Message



Ultrafast lasers are

- Disruptive tool
- Enabling technology
- Becoming pervasive devices
- Application space is vast and highly fragmented

Ultrafast lasers are NOT

- Simple
- Cheap
- Reliable (compared to consumer electronics)
- Compatible





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