

NONLINEAR OPTICS

2nd ORDER NONLINEARITIES

- Frequency generation - Parametric processes
 - optical parametric fluorescence and amplification
 - optical parametric oscillation : OPO
- Quasi-phase matched materials

Lecture 5 /7 : learning outcomes

By the end of this lecture, students will be able to...

- Evaluate nonlinear interaction performances/efficiencies under approximations that should be specified, explained and justified (T2)

By the end of this lecture, students will be skilled at...

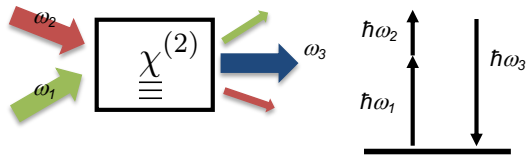
- deriving and solving the nonlinear wave equation in a parametric situation under the undepleted pump approximation (S3)
- Determining the phase matching conditions for a given nonlinear interaction and achieving/fulfilling this condition by exploiting birefringence properties of materials and/or QPM technique (S2)
- Calculating nonlinear interaction performances/efficiencies in situations governed by analytical solutions or expressions (S4)

By the end of this lecture, students will understand ...

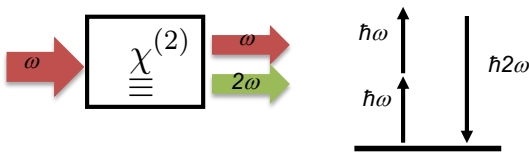
- Nonlinear effects are a key points in the development of many applications in photonics (especially in relation with laser physics) (U1)
- Nonlinear interactions lead to energy transfer between optical beams, and/or between matter and beams, enabling in some cases the realization of nonlinear optical amplification and/or oscillation (U3)

Three-wave Mixing Interactions

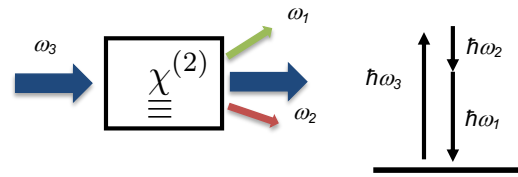
Sum-Frequency Generation (SFG)



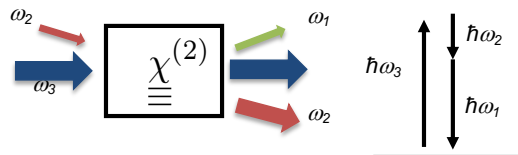
Second Harmonic Generation (SHG)



Optical Parametric Fluorescence

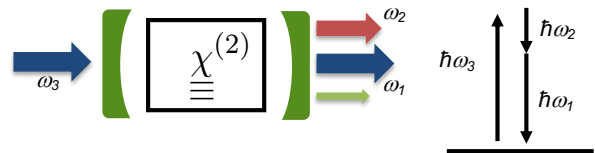


Optical Parametric Amplification (APO)



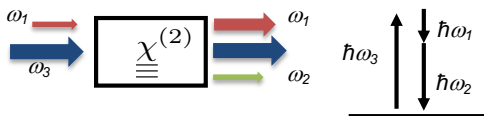
Today's Lecture

Optical Parametric Oscillation (OPO)



3 - Optical Parametric Amplification and Oscillation

Difference frequency generation



1. Parametric Amplification

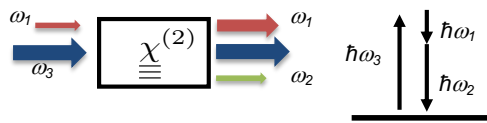
$$\frac{dA_1}{dz} =$$

$$\frac{dA_2}{dz} =$$

Undepleted pump
approximation: $A_3(z) = \text{Cste}$

3 - Optical Parametric Amplification and Oscillation

Difference frequency generation



$$\omega_2 = \omega_3 - \omega_1$$

Idler Pump Signal

1. Parametric Amplification

Undepleted pump
approximation: $A_3(z) = \text{Cste}$

$$\frac{dA_1}{dz} = \frac{i\omega_1}{2n_1c} \chi_{\text{eff}}^{(2)} A_3 A_2^* e^{i\Delta k z}$$

$$\frac{dA_2}{dz} = \frac{i\omega_2}{2n_2c} \chi_{\text{eff}}^{(2)} A_3 A_1^* e^{i\Delta k z}$$

$$\Delta k = k_3 - k_2 - k_1$$

$$\chi_{\text{eff}}^{(2)} = 2 \times e_1 \cdot \chi^{(2)}(\omega_1; \omega_3, -\omega_2) e_3 e_2 = 2 \times e_2 \cdot \chi^{(2)}(\omega_2; \omega_3, -\omega_1) e_3 e_1$$

3 - ...Parametric Amplification ...

Resolution

$$a_1(z) = \sqrt{\frac{n_1}{\omega_1}} A_1(z) e^{-i\Delta k z/2}$$

$$a_2^*(z) = \sqrt{\frac{n_2}{\omega_2}} A_2^*(z) e^{+i\Delta k z/2}$$

$$a_3(z) = \sqrt{\frac{n_3}{\omega_3}} A_3(z)$$

$$\frac{da_1}{dz} + i\frac{\Delta k}{2} a_1 = i\gamma_0 a_2^*,$$

$$\frac{da_2^*}{dz} - i\frac{\Delta k}{2} a_2^* = i\gamma_0^* a_1,$$

$$\gamma_0 = \frac{\chi_{\text{eff}}^{(2)}}{c} \sqrt{\frac{\omega_1 \omega_2}{n_1 n_2}} A_3$$

$$\frac{d^2 a_{1,2}}{dz^2} - \gamma^2 a_{1,2} = 0$$

$$\gamma^2 = |\gamma_0|^2 - \left(\frac{\Delta k}{2}\right)^2$$

3 - ...Parametric Amplification ...

Resolution

$$\frac{d^2 a_{1,2}}{dz^2} - \gamma^2 a_{1,2} = 0 \quad \gamma^2 = |\gamma_0|^2 - \left(\frac{\Delta k}{2}\right)^2$$

- $\gamma^2 < 0$: strong phase miss-matching - oscillating solution
=> no amplification

- $\gamma^2 > 0$: solution of the form

$$a_{1,2}(z) = C_{1,2} \exp(-\gamma z) + D_{1,2} \exp(+\gamma z)$$

Boundary conditions :

$$a_1(z=0) = \sqrt{\frac{n_1}{\omega_1}} A_1(0) \text{ and } a_2(z=0) = \sqrt{\frac{n_2}{\omega_2}} A_2(0)$$

3 - ...Parametric Amplification ...

Solutions :

Signal & Idler

$$A_{1,2}(z) = A_{1,2}(0) \left[\cosh(\gamma z) - \frac{i\Delta k}{2\gamma} \sinh(\gamma z) \right] e^{i\Delta k z/2} + i \frac{K_{1,2}}{\gamma} A_{2,1}^*(0) \sinh(\gamma z) e^{i\Delta k z/2}$$

$$K_{1,2} = \frac{\omega_{1,2}}{n_{1,2}c} \chi_{\text{eff}}^{(2)} A_3$$

Comments :

- For a given wavevector mismatch, one can set the pump intensity to a threshold value in order to achieve $\gamma^2 = 0$:

$$I_{3th} = \frac{(\Delta k)^2 n_1 n_2 n_3 c^3 \epsilon_0}{2(\chi_{\text{eff}})^2 \omega_1 \omega_2}$$

- I_{3th} is minimum for $\omega_1 = \omega_2 = \frac{\omega_3}{2}$

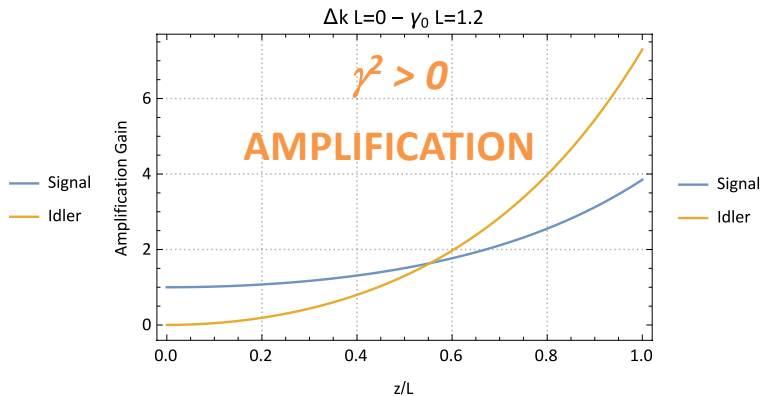
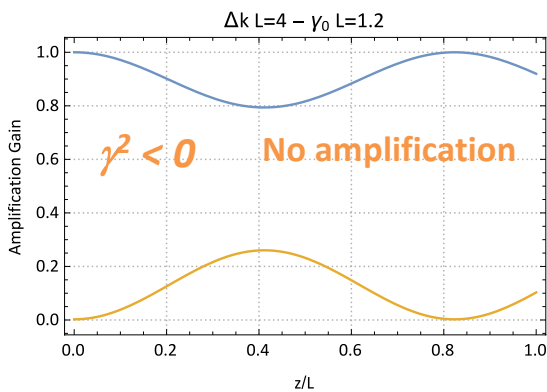
- and equal to 0 for $\Delta k=0$

3 - ...Parametric Amplification ...

Solutions : Signal & Idler

$$A_{1,2}(z) = A_{1,2}(0) \left[\cosh(\gamma z) - \frac{i\Delta k}{2\gamma} \sinh(\gamma z) \right] e^{i\Delta k z/2} + i \frac{K_{1,2}}{\gamma} A_{2,1}^*(0) \sinh(\gamma z) e^{i\Delta k z/2}$$

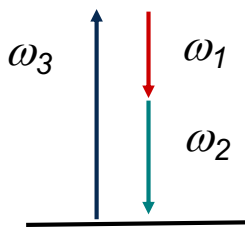
$$K_{1,2} = \frac{\omega_{1,2}}{n_{1,2}c} \chi_{\text{eff}}^{(2)} A_3$$



3 - ...Parametric Amplification ...

2. Parametric Fluorescence

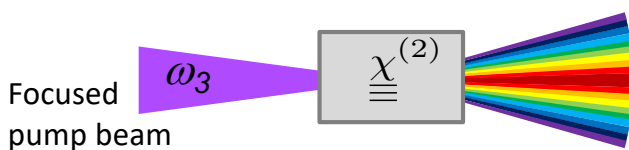
Boundary conditions : $A_1(0) = 0, A_2(0) = 0$



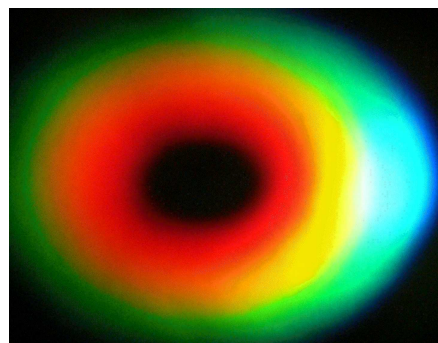
$\Rightarrow$ Solutions : $A_1(z) = 0, A_2(z) = 0$

$\Rightarrow$ No generation of signal and idler is expected

$\Rightarrow$ in contradiction with the experimental observation



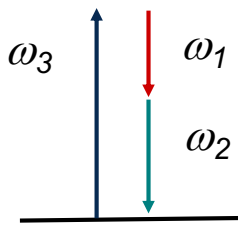
Spontaneous emission of signal and idler photons through a parametric fluorescence effect



3 - ...Parametric Amplification ...

2. Parametric Fluorescence

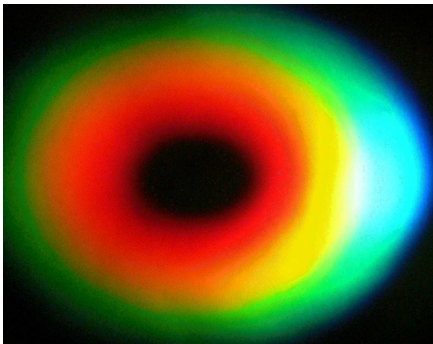
Boundary conditions : $A_1(0) = 0, A_2(0) = 0$



⇒ QUANTUM DESCRIPTION is required (*)

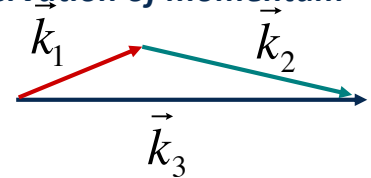
The annihilation of a photon @ ω_3 is accompanied by the creation **simultaneously** of one photon @ ω_1 **and** one photon @ ω_2

$\omega_3 = \omega_1 + \omega_2$: conservation of energy



$\vec{k}_3 = \vec{k}_1 + \vec{k}_2$: the phase-matching relation is a **VECTORIAL** relation and is interpreted as the **law of conservation of momentum**

This last relation indicates the directions of emission the signal and idler waves

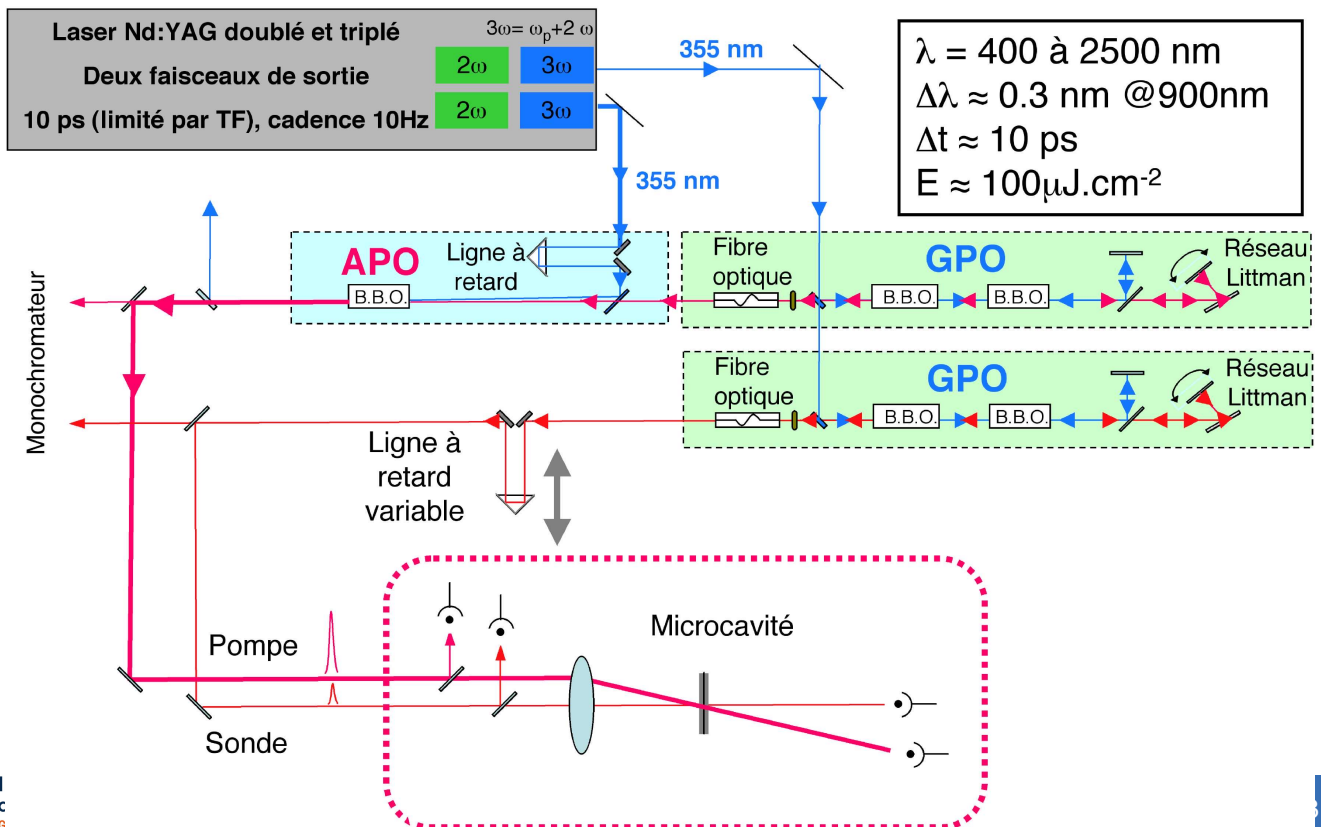


(*) : see Quantum Optics course of next year

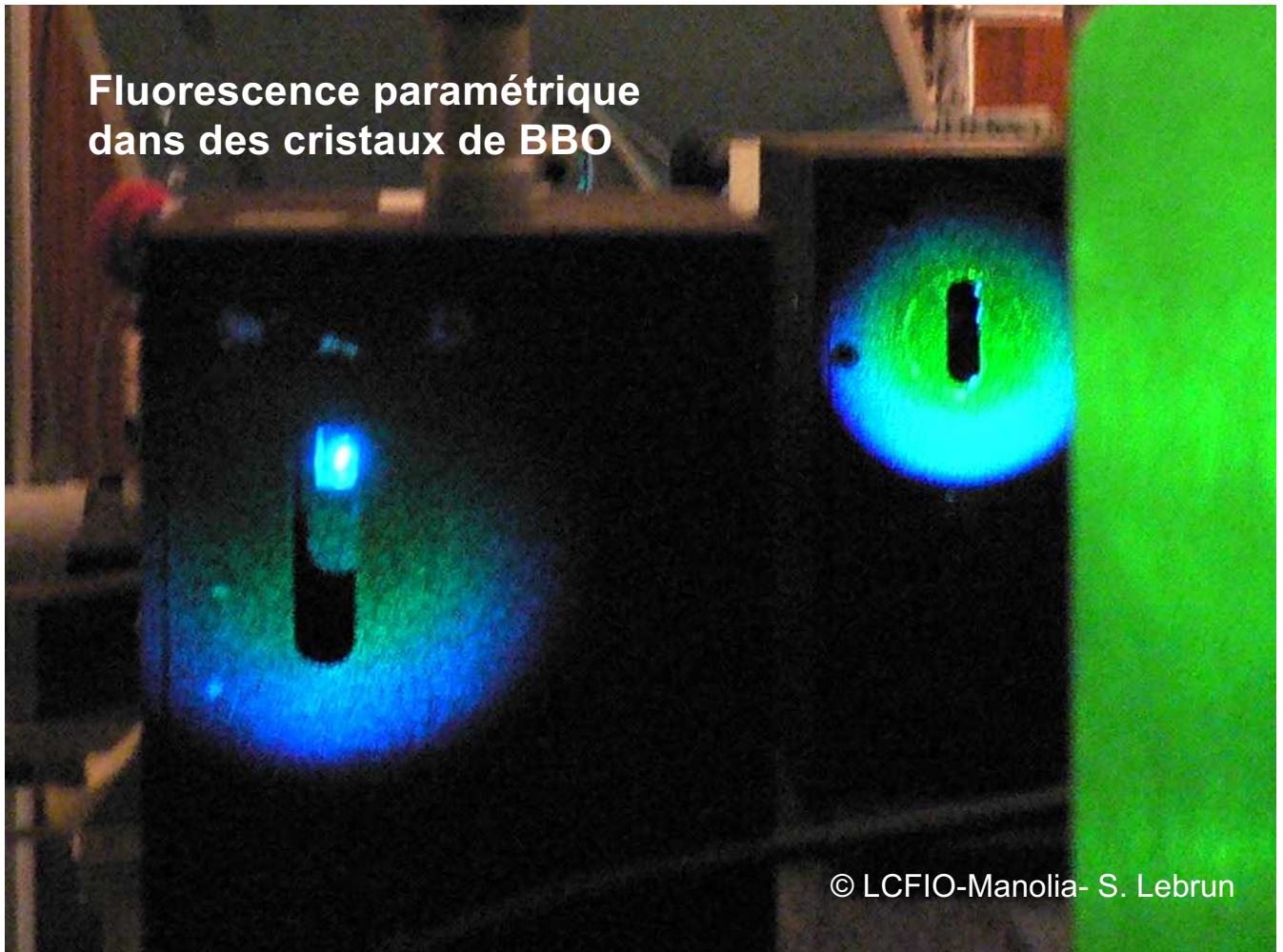
Cône de fluorescence paramétrique



Optical Parametric Generation



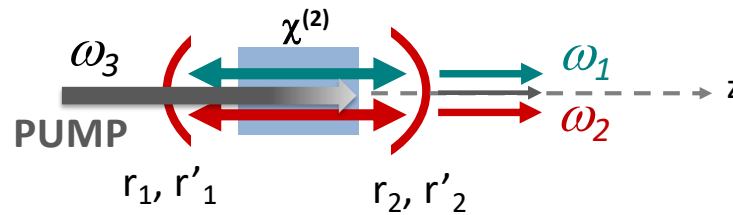
**Fluorescence paramétrique
dans des cristaux de BBO**



3 - Optical Parametric ... Oscillation

Considering a 2nd order NL medium placed inside an optical cavity - The amplification is realized through pumping @ ω_3

Schematic
OPO cavity



- Mirrors with high reflectivity @ ω_1 and ω_2 & antireflection coating @ ω_3 (PUMP)
- Pump beam propagates only along the forward direction (+z)
- Amplification occurs only if the phase matching condition is satisfied

→ Phase matching condition ?

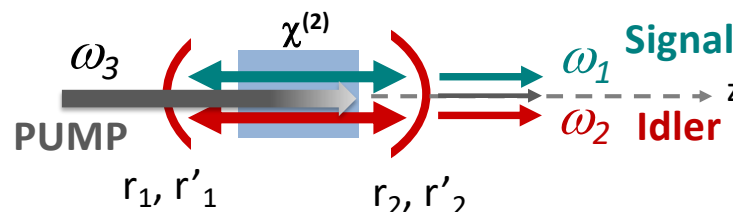
→ Threshold condition ?

→ Differences between LASERS & OPO ?

3 - Optical Parametric ... Oscillation

Considering a 2nd order NL medium placed inside an optical cavity - The amplification is realized through pumping @ ω_3

Schematic
OPO cavity



→ Phase matching condition ?

- Forward waves interaction



$$\vec{k}_3 = \vec{k}_1 + \vec{k}_2 \Rightarrow \Delta\vec{k} = 0$$

- Backward waves interaction

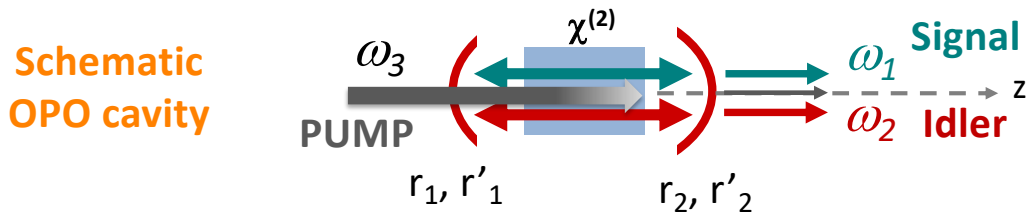


$$\vec{k}_3 = -\vec{k}_1 - \vec{k}_2 \Rightarrow \Delta\vec{k} \neq 0$$

Amplification only for forward signal and idler waves

3 - Optical Parametric ... Oscillation

Considering a 2nd order NL medium placed inside an optical cavity - The amplification is realized through pumping @ ω_3



→ **Threshold condition ?**
(assuming a perfect phase matching condition)

Singly resonant cavity (@ ω_1)

$$r_1 r'_1 \cosh(\gamma_0 L) = 1$$

(see exercise
on eCampus)

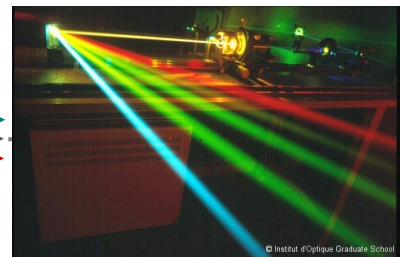
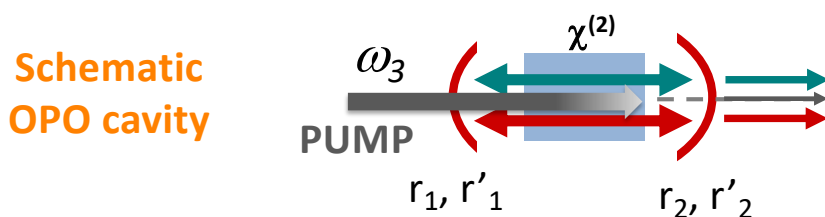
Doubly resonant cavity (@ ω_1 and ω_2)

$$\cosh(\gamma_0 L) = \frac{1 + r_1 r'_1 r_2 r'_2}{r_1 r'_1 + r_2 r'_2}$$

with $\gamma_0 = \frac{\chi_{\text{eff}}^{(2)}}{c} \sqrt{\frac{\omega_1 \omega_2}{n_1 n_2}} A_3$
(parametric gain) ↖ Pump amplitude

3 - Optical Parametric ... Oscillation

Considering a 2nd order NL medium placed inside an optical cavity - The amplification is realized through pumping @ ω_3



→ **Differences between LASERS & OPO ?**

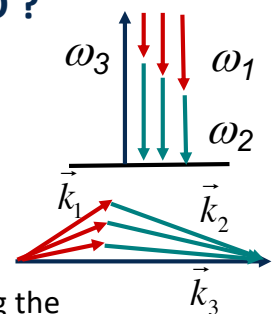
LASERS

Generation of a coherent optical beam

- Amplification = stimulated emission of radiation
- Resonant interaction with active medium = HIGH efficiency
- Limited tunability (limited by the gain linewidth)
- One output beams

OPO

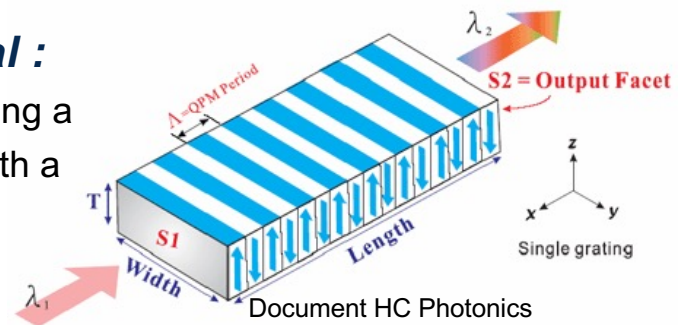
- Amplification = parametric down conversion
- NON-Resonant interaction with NL material = LOW efficiency
- **Wide tunability** assisted by tuning the phase matching condition
- Generation of two output beams : signal + idler with two distinct frequency values



4 - Quasi-Phase Matched Materials

Periodically poled material :

c-axis is alternatively oriented along a positive and negative direction with a period $\Lambda = 2 \times \text{Coherent Length}$

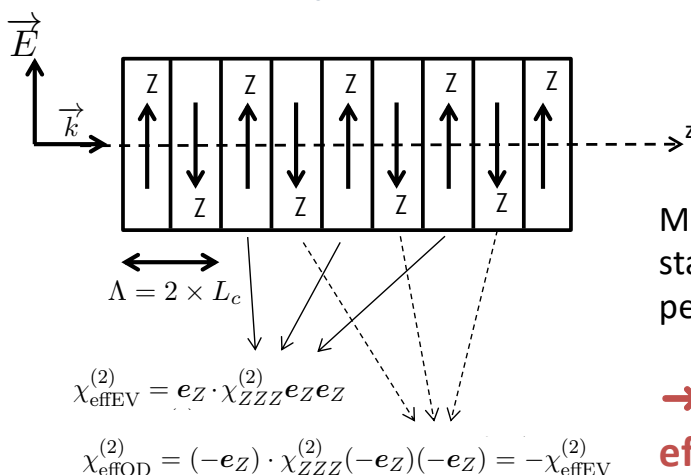


Achievement of a quasi-phase matching condition :

- in materials for which birefringent phase matching can not be achieved
- OR enables configuration along a large nonlinear coefficient, $\chi_{ZZZ}^{(2)}$ for which all the waves must be polarized in the same direction

4 - Quasi-Phase Matched Materials

Periodically poled material :



Material poling is achieved by applying a static field between electrodes, leading to a permanent domain reversal of the material.

→ Periodic inversion of the effective NL susceptibility sign

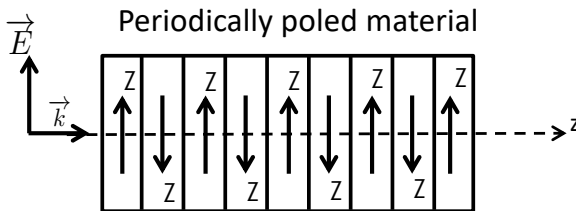
4 - Quasi-Phase Matched Materials

Illustration : SHG in a configuration that exploits the strong NL coef $\chi_{ZZZ}^{(2)}$

Nonlinear wave equation @ 2ω

$$\frac{dA_{2\omega}(z)}{dz} = \frac{i(2\omega)}{2n_{2\omega}c} \chi_{\text{eff}}^{(2)} A_{\omega}^2 e^{i\Delta\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{z}}$$

with $\chi_{\text{eff}}^{(2)} = e\mathbf{z} \cdot \chi_{ZZZ}^{(2)} e\mathbf{z} e\mathbf{z}$



→ Introduction of a periodic spatial

variation : $\chi_{\text{eff}}^{(2)}(z) = \chi_{\text{eff},0}^{(2)} \cos(Kz)$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dA_{2\omega}(z)}{dz} &= \frac{i(2\omega)}{2n_{2\omega}c} \chi_{\text{eff},0}^{(2)} A_{\omega}^2 \cos(Kz) e^{i\Delta\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{z}}, \\ &= \frac{i(2\omega)}{2n_{2\omega}c} \chi_{\text{eff},0}^{(2)} A_{\omega}^2 \frac{e^{iKz} + e^{-iKz}}{2} e^{i\Delta\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{z}} \end{aligned}$$

→ A quasi-phase matched (QPM) situation is achieved since

$$K = \Delta\mathbf{k} = 2\mathbf{k}_{\omega} - \mathbf{k}_{2\omega}$$

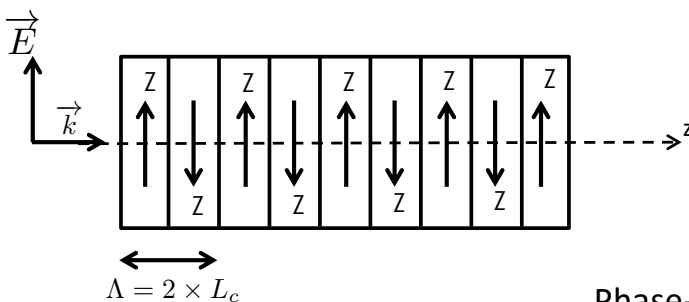
→ CONCLUSION : a periodic inversion of the sign the NL susceptibility, with a period

$$\Lambda = 2 \times L_c$$

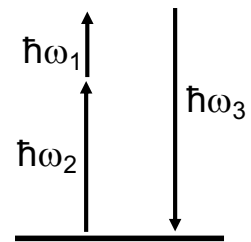
leads to a growth in the intensity @ 2ω

4 - Quasi-Phase Matched Materials

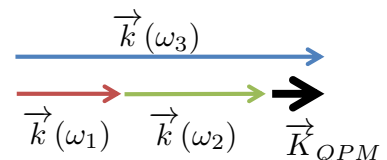
3 wave mixing configuration



Energy conservation



Phase-matching condition under QPM



Estimation of QPM efficiency consists in developing the effective nonlinear susceptibility with a square wave function $S(z)$ of period $\Lambda = 2 \times L_c$

Using the Fourier expansion $S(z) = \frac{4}{\pi} \sum_p \frac{1}{2p+1} \sin((2p+1)2\pi z/\Lambda)$

the effective nonlinear susceptibility is then equal to $i \frac{\chi_{\text{eff}}^{(2)}}{\pi/2}$

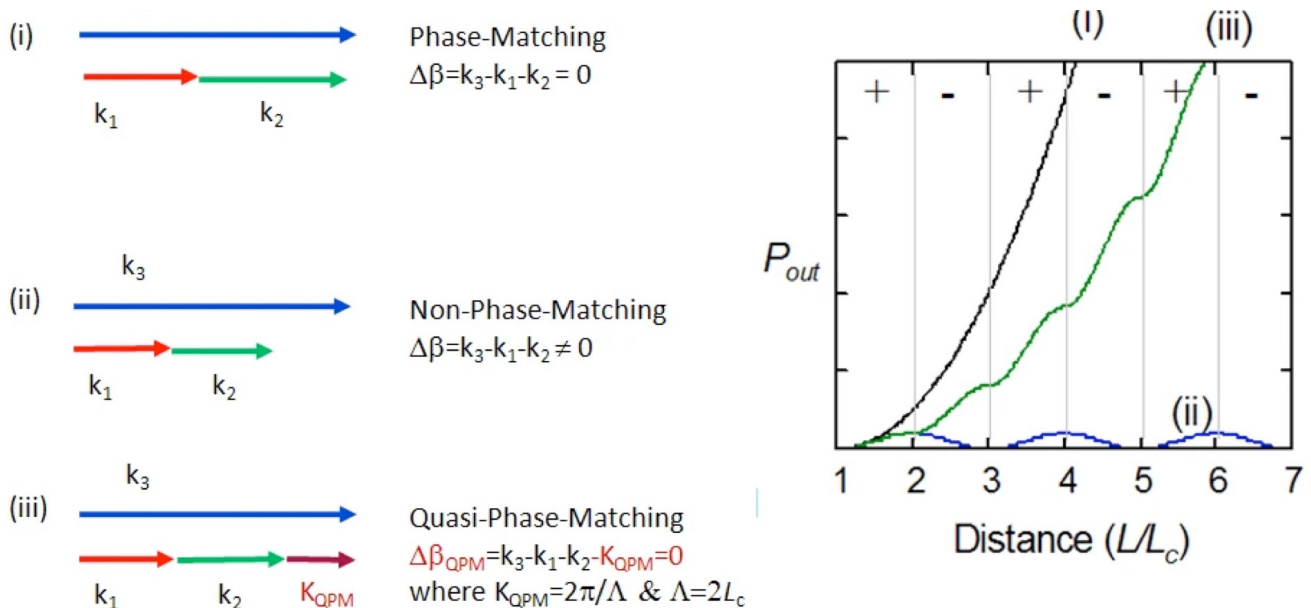
Conclusion :

A QPM can be considered a a bulk material

with an effective susceptibility set to $2\chi^{(2)}/\pi$

4 - Quasi-Phase Matched Materials

Comparison in the power evolution under perfect phase matching (i), non-phase matching (ii) and quasi-phase matching (iii) situations. The signs represent the sign of the effective nonlinear susceptibility

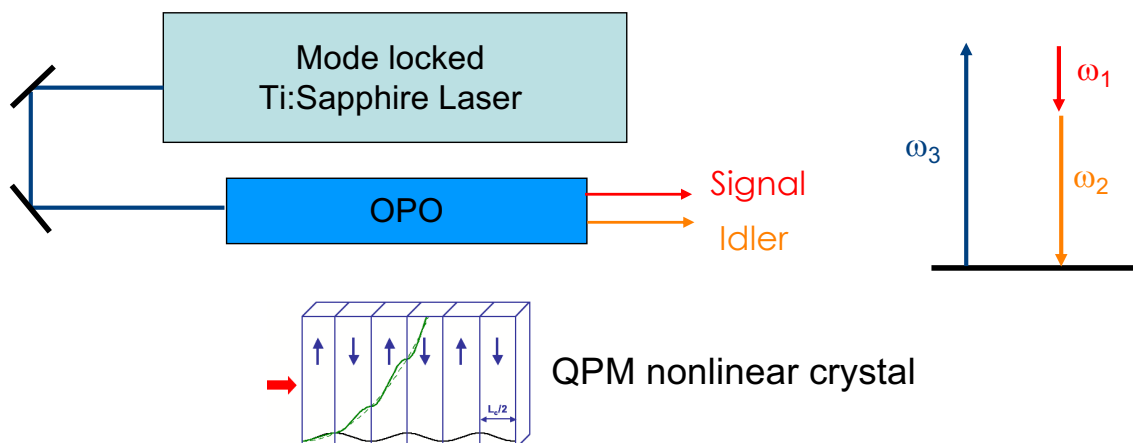


Document HC Photonics - <https://www.hcphotonics.com/ppln-guide-overview>

EXAMPLE : Singly resonant OPO cavity

Development of a tunable Optical Parametric Oscillator (OPO) @ 1550 nm

- short pulse (1-10ps) with narrow spectral linewidth
- high repetition rate
- Tunable : [1530-1600 nm]



A. Rysanyanskiy, et al. JEOS. RP 3 :08037, 2008.

EXAMPLE : Singly resonant OPO cavity

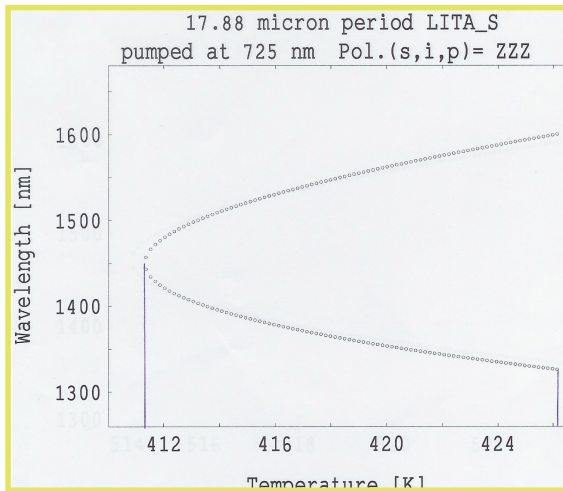
Quasi phase matching + Temperature tuning

QPM crystal : PP-SLT

Lower nonlinear coefficient d_{33} than PPLN
BUT higher refractive damage resistance

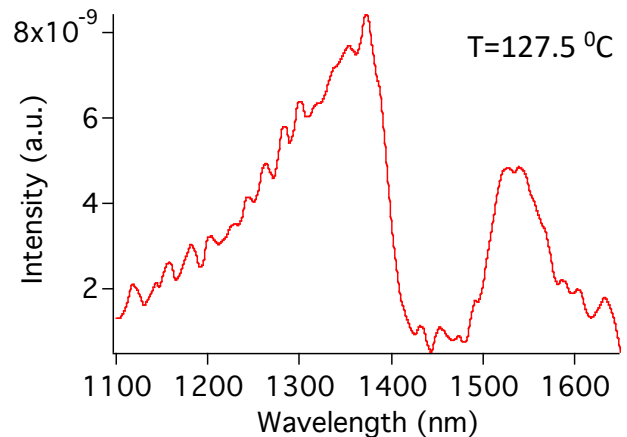
$$\lambda_{\text{pump}} = 725 \text{ nm}$$

- Crystal length 20 mm
- period : 18 μm



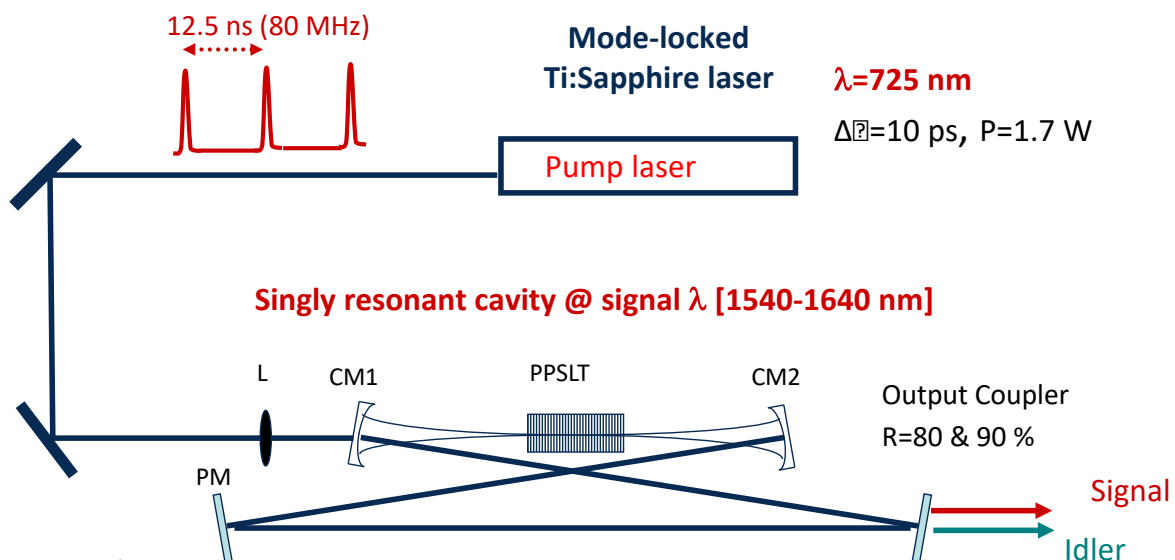
Data from SNLO software

Fluorescence spectrum



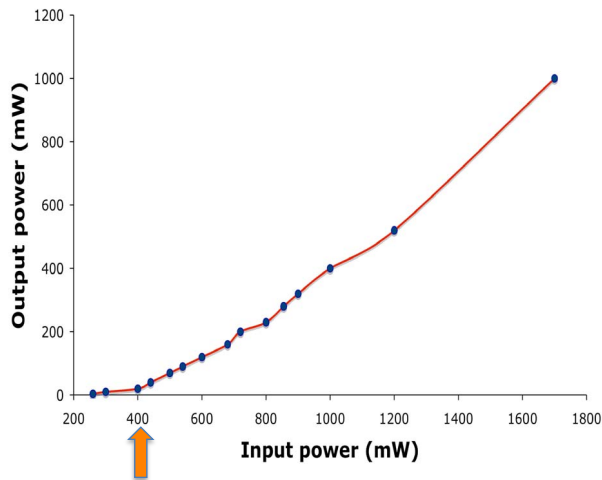
EXAMPLE : Singly resonant OPO cavity

- Stable bow tie singly resonant cavity
- Synchronously pumped cavity : cavity round trip matches the repetition rate of the pump laser $L_{\text{OPO}} = 3.75 \text{ m}$
(radius of curvature of the concave mirrors : 25.9 cm)



EXAMPLE : Singly resonant OPO cavity

- OPO characteristics



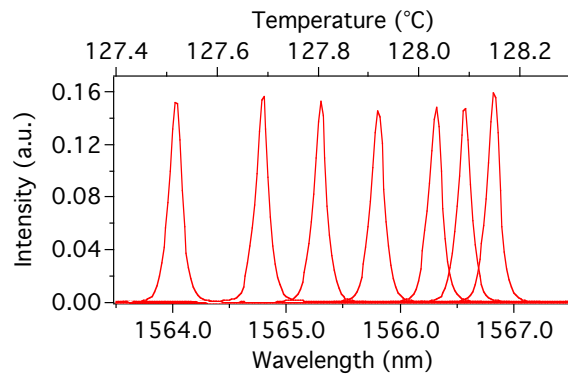
Threshold power :

$P_{th}=400$ mW (Averaged Power)

Peak-power = $\times 1000$

- Tuning range : Signal [1530-1640 nm] & Idler [1300-1375 nm]
- Keeping pulse duration around 10 ps

"Fine" T° tuning



A. Rysanyanskiy, et al. JEOS. RP 3 :08037, 2008.