

High Power Lasers for Future GW Detectors

Maik Frede

Laser Zentrum Hannover

GWADW
Elba 06

Lasers for GW Detectors

Single frequency operation

(kHz line width)

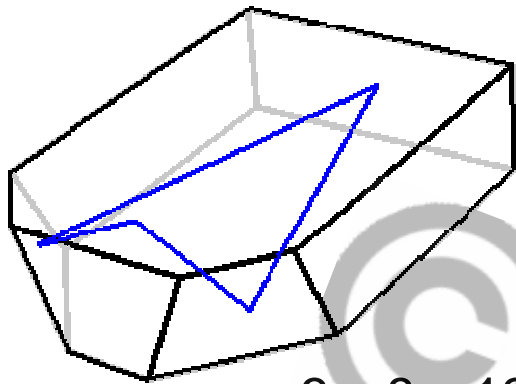
TEM_{0,0} fundamental mode operation

Linearly polarized light

Low noise and high reliability

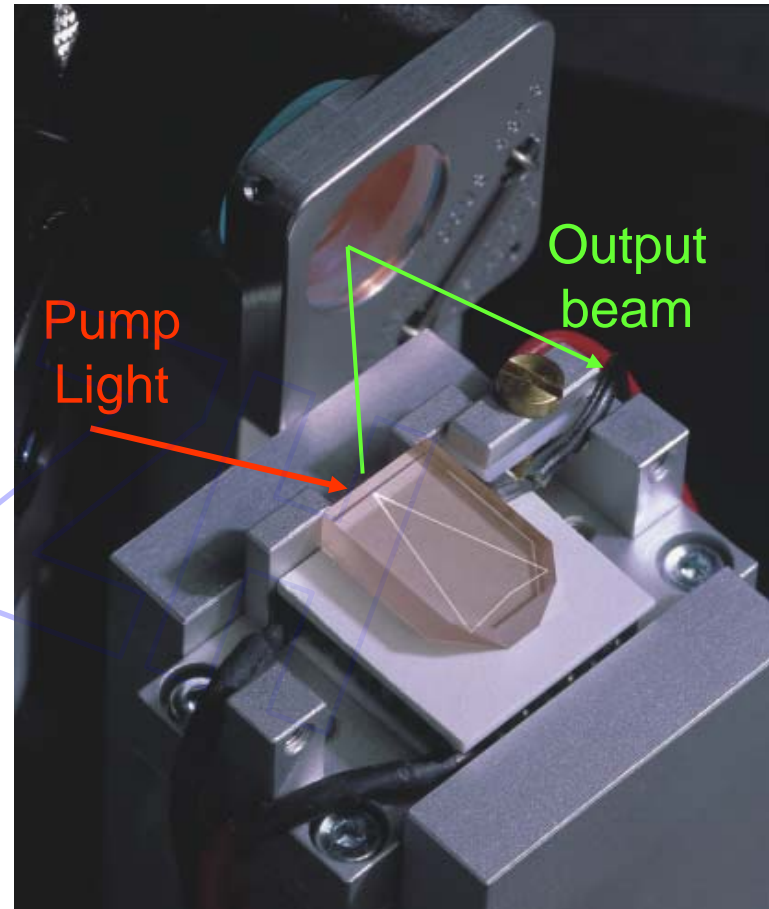
NPRO

NonPlanarRingOscillator



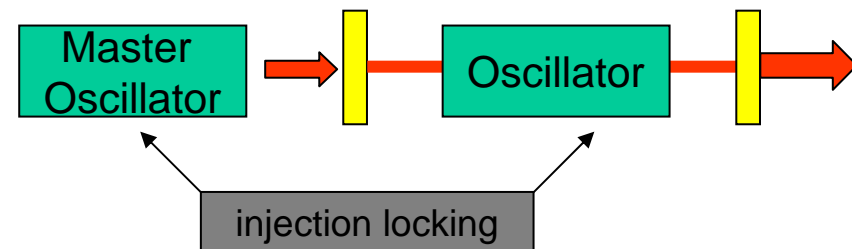
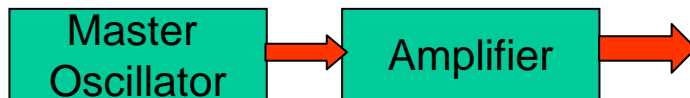
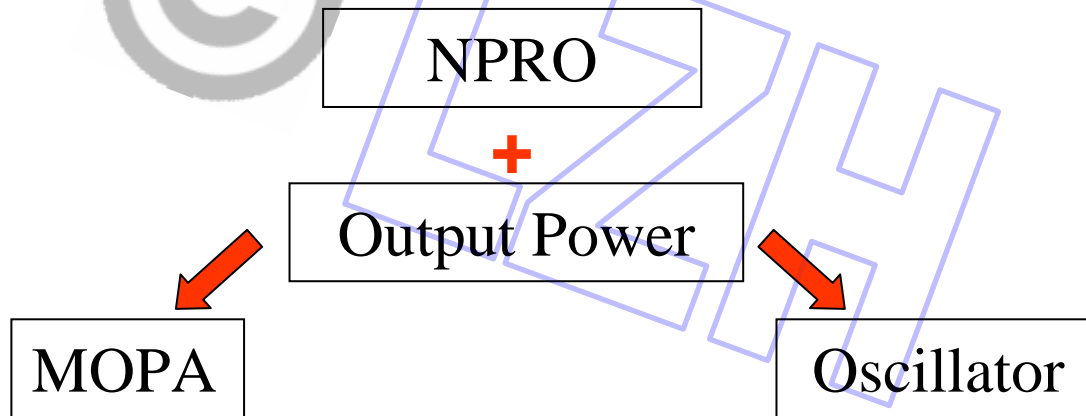
3 x 8 x 12 mm

- Output power: 0.5 - 2 W
- Beam quality ($M^2_{x,y}$): < 1.1
- Single frequency
- Line width: \sim kHz / 100ms

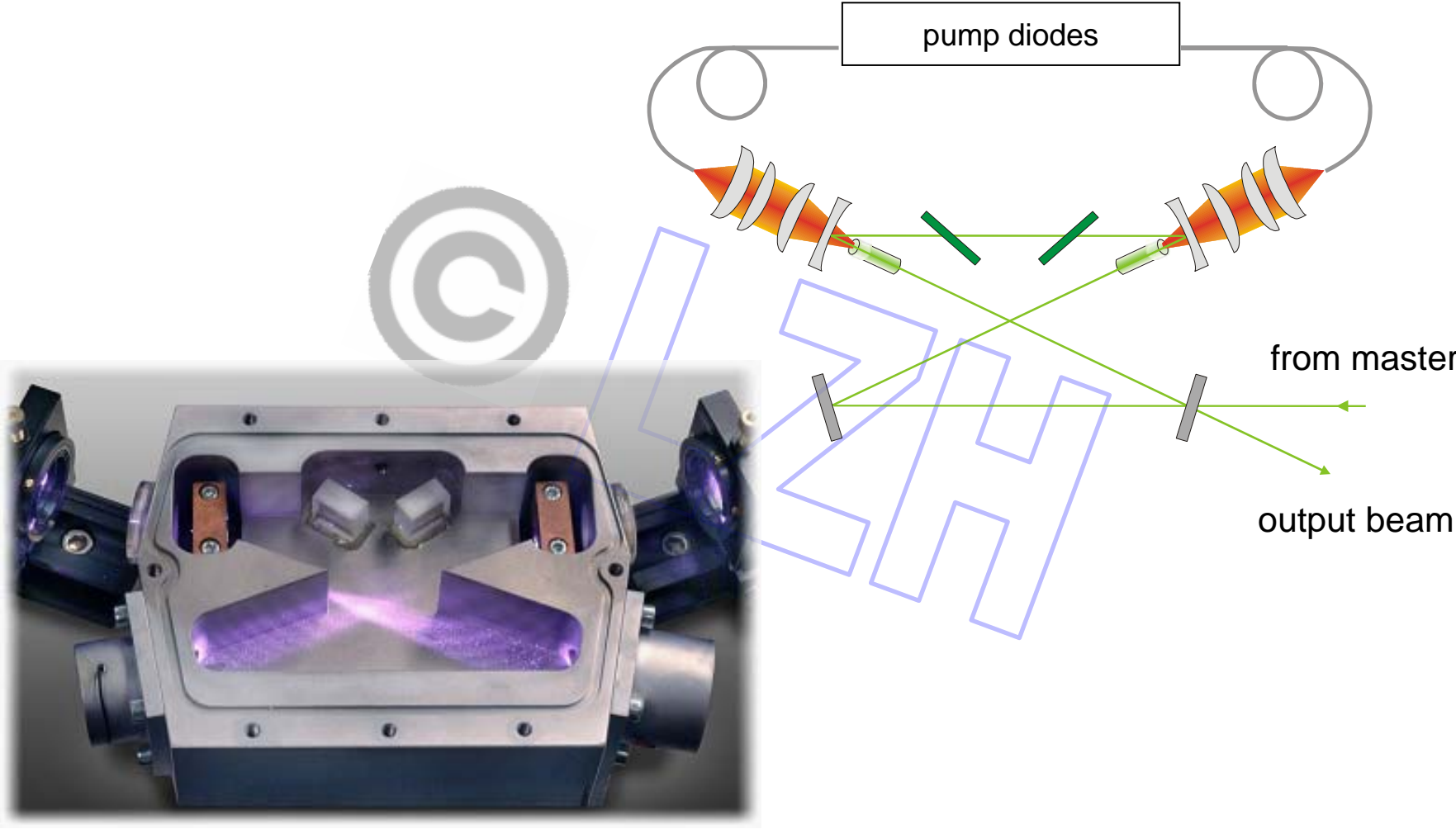


Lasers for GW Detectors

Single frequency operation
(kHz line width)
TEM_{0,0} fundamental mode operation
Linearly polarized light
Low noise and high reliability



Medium Power Oscillators



Medium Power Oscillators

GEO 600 Laser System

Laser Medium: Nd:YAG

Output power: 12 W

Beam quality ($M^2_{x,y}$): < 1.1

Opt-Opt. Efficiency: $> 35\%$

Linearly polarized $> 100:1$

VIRGO Laser System

Laser Medium: Nd:YVO₄

Output power: 24 W

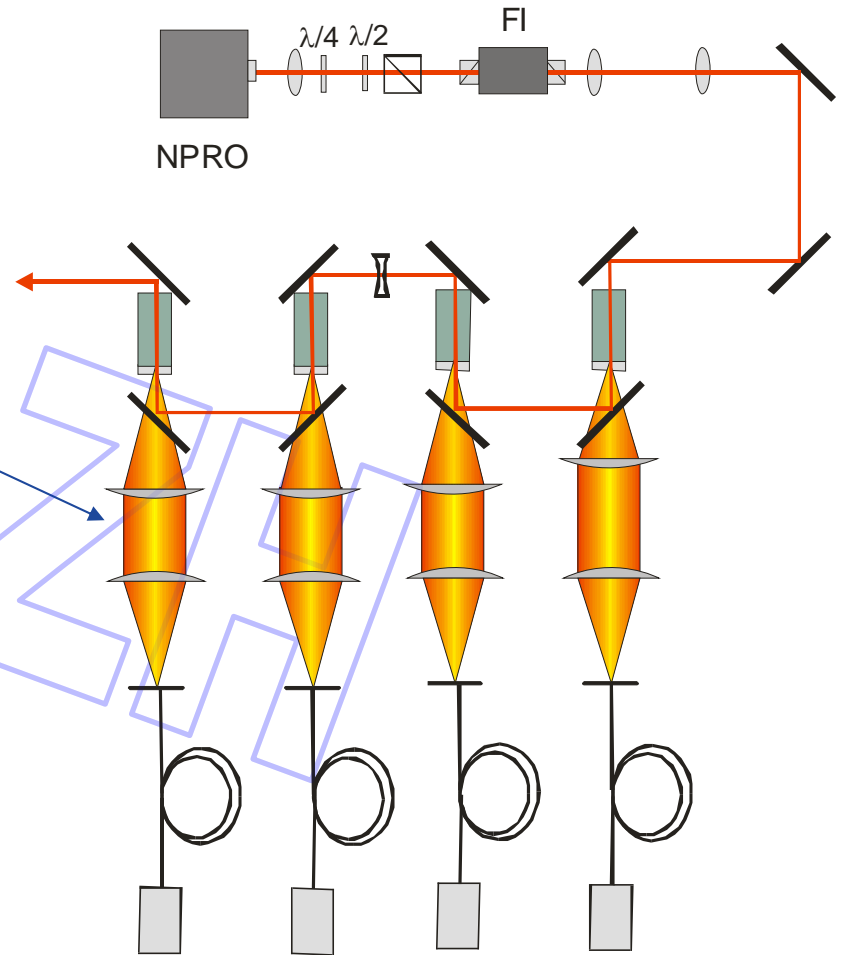
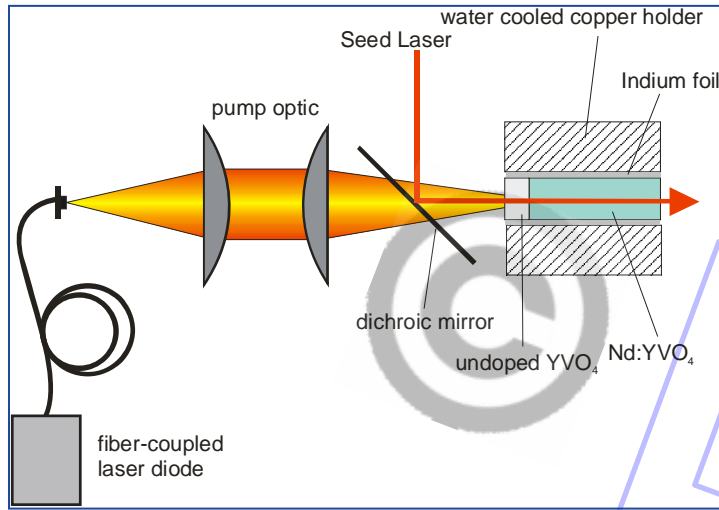
Beam quality ($M^2_{x,y}$): < 1.1

Opt-Opt. Efficiency: $> 50\%$

Linearly polarized $> 100:1$

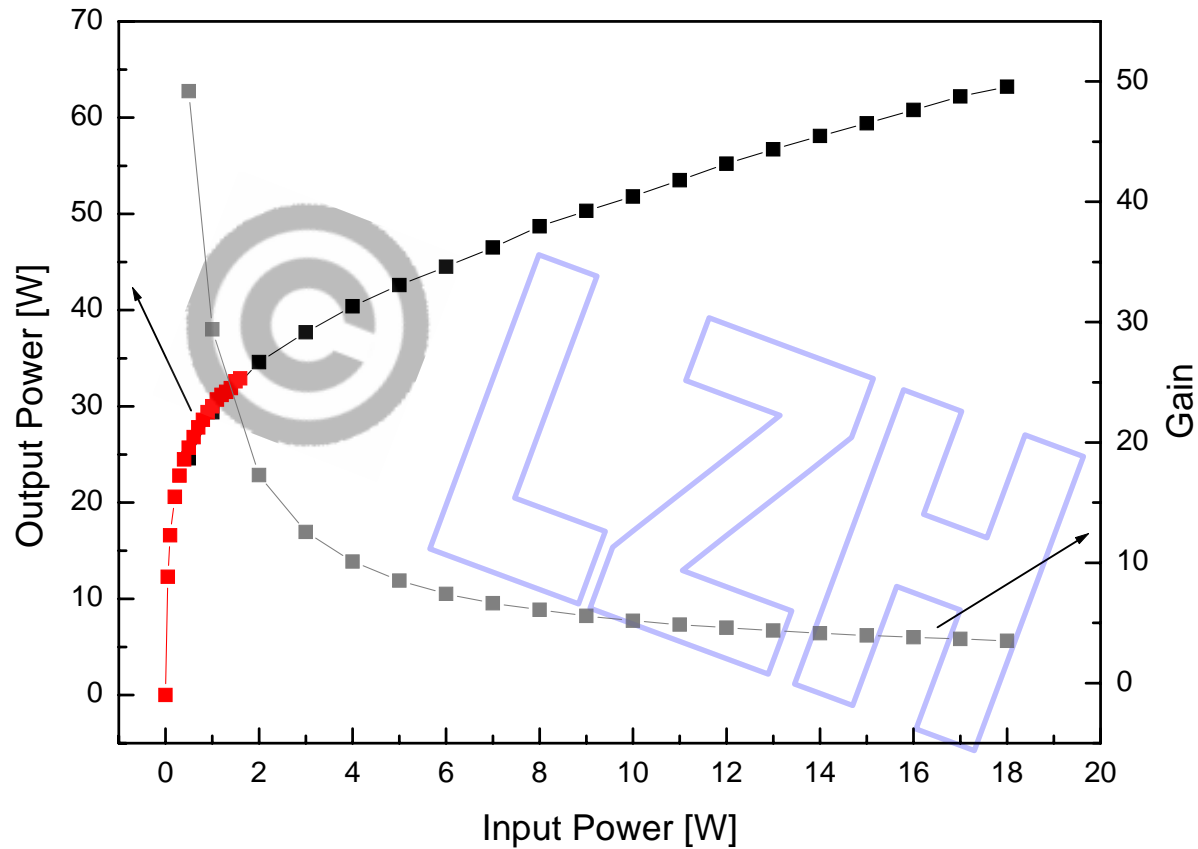
⇒ continuously runtime > 2 years

Medium Power Amplifier



- Master: 2 W NPRO
- Output power : 35 W
- $M^2 : < 1,1$

Medium Power Amplifier

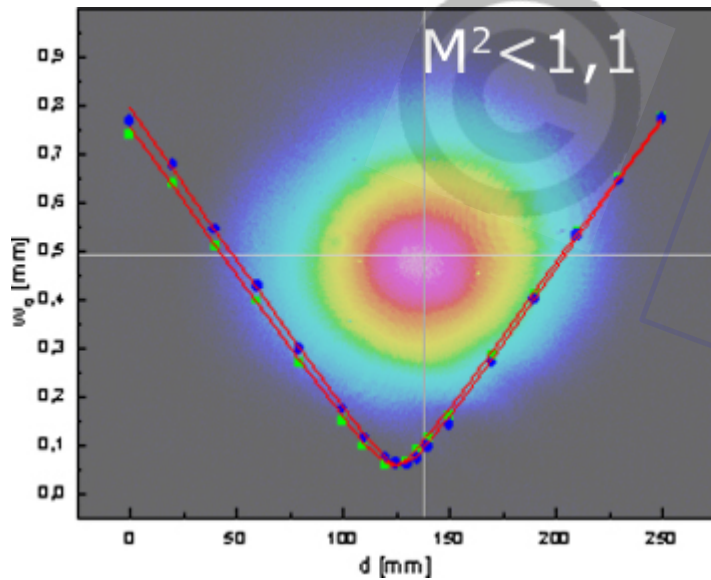


⇒ 35 W @ 2 W __ 52 W @ 10 W __ 64 W @ 18 W

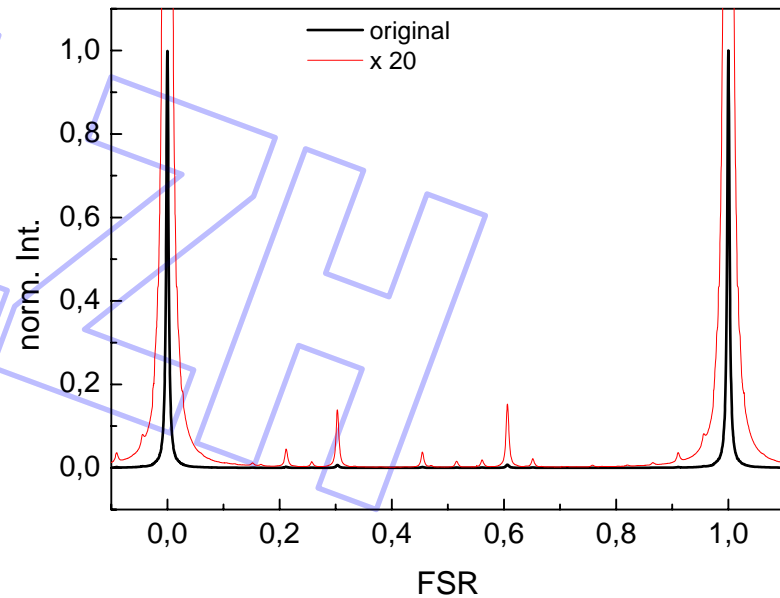
Medium Power Amplifier

Beam-Quality

CCD and M²-measurement

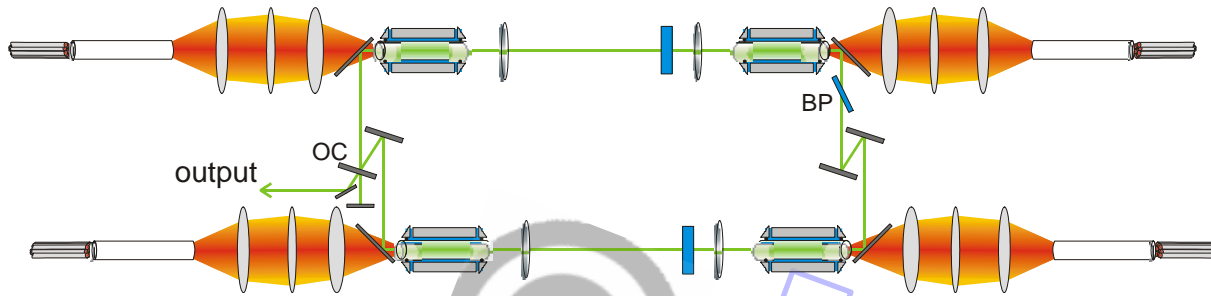


PMC- measurement

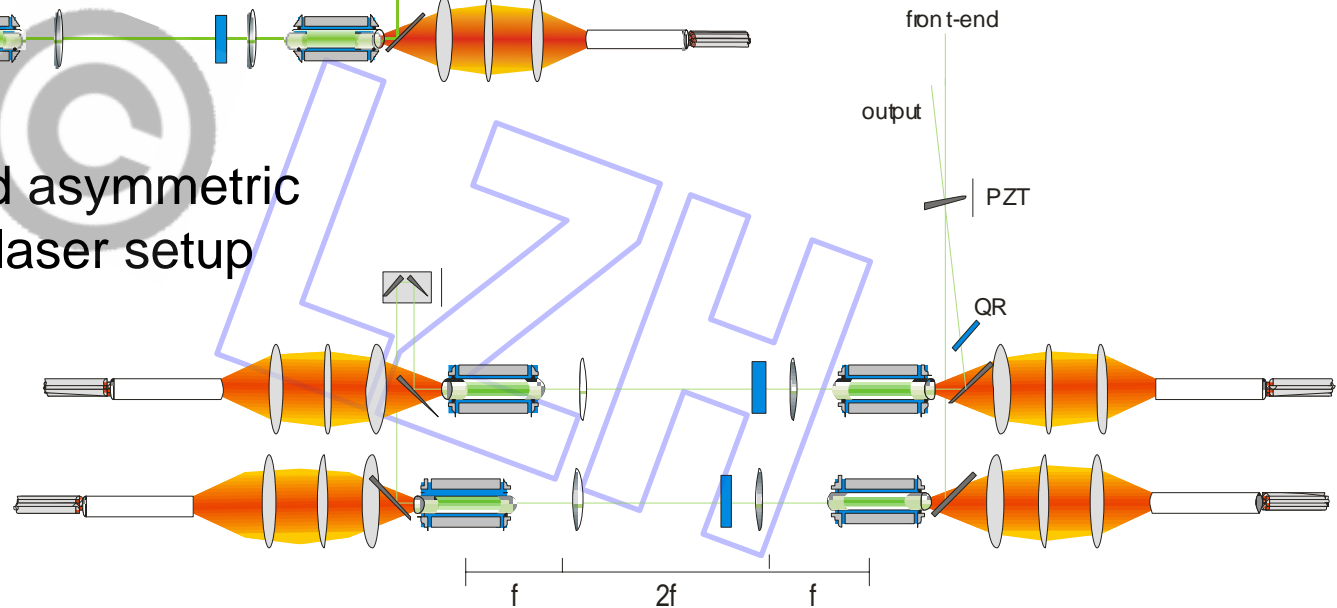


> 95% in TEM_{0,0} (for NPRO input)

High Power Oscillators



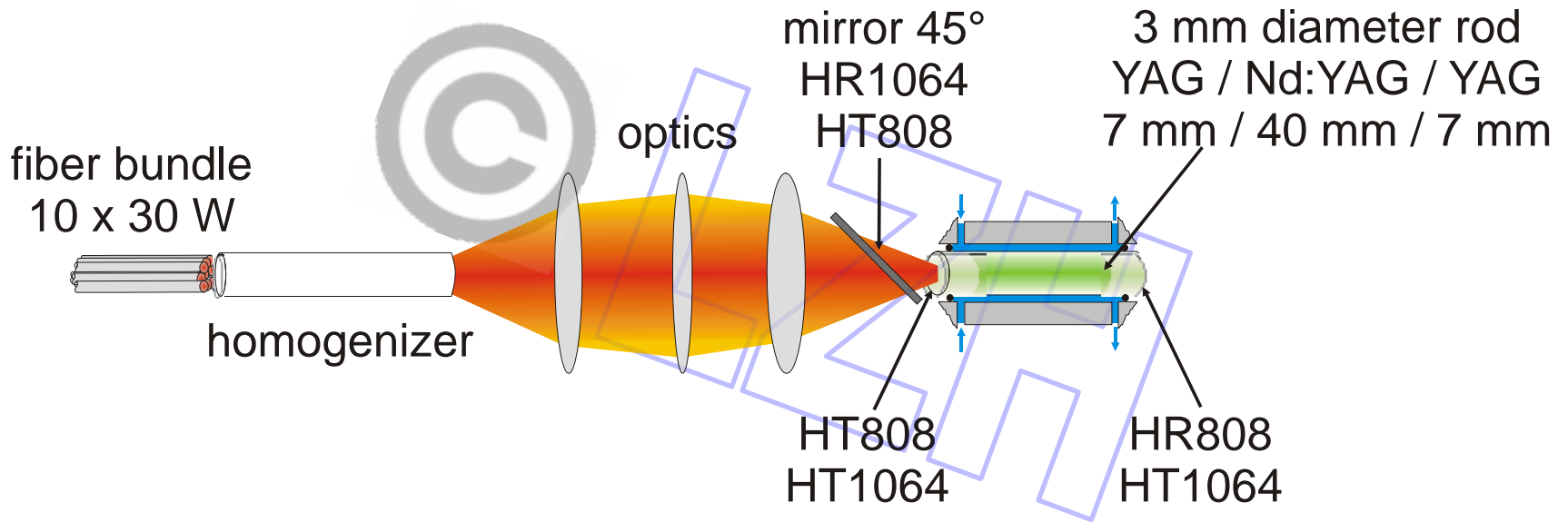
Symmetric and asymmetric high power laser setup



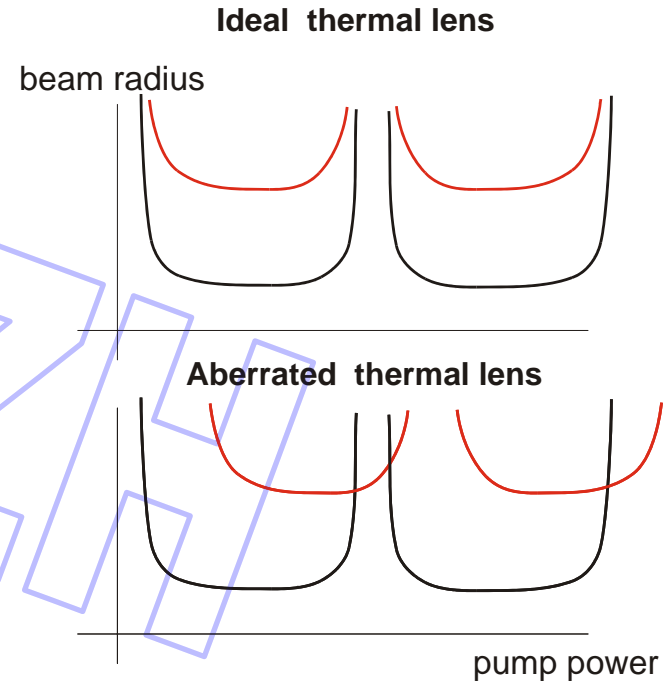
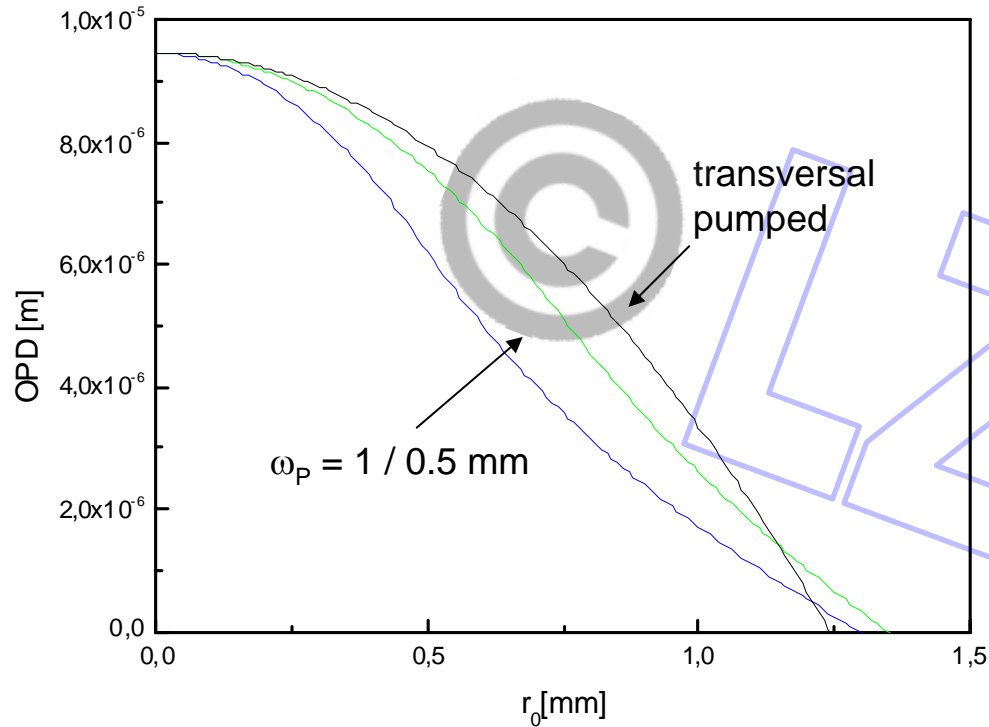
- Output powers: 180 - 200W
- Fundamental mode operation: $M^2 < 1.3$

High Power Oscillator

End-Pumped Laser Head

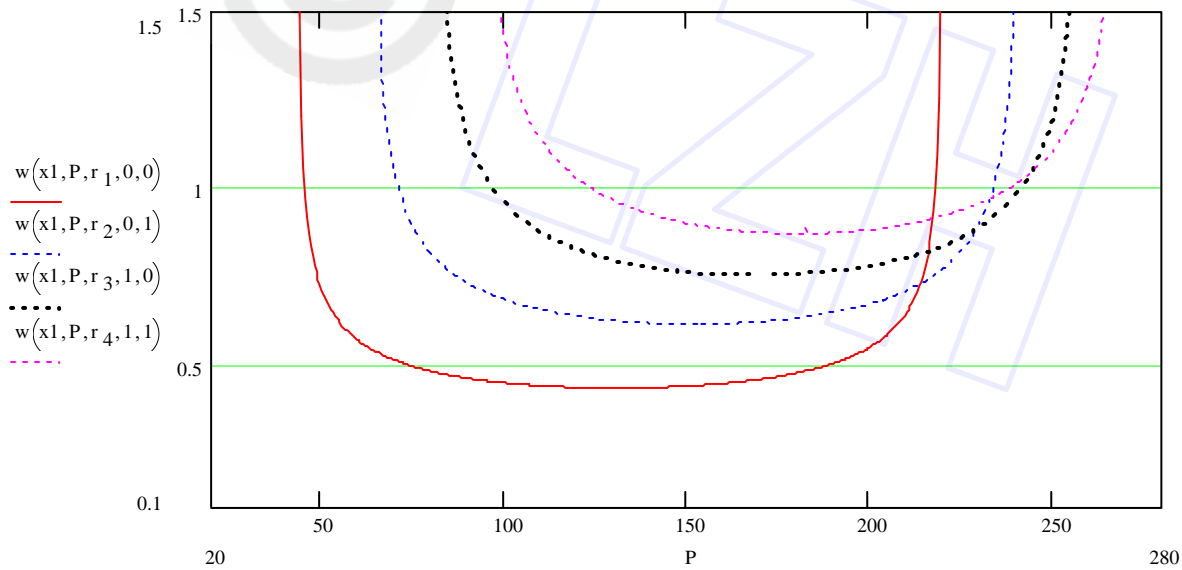
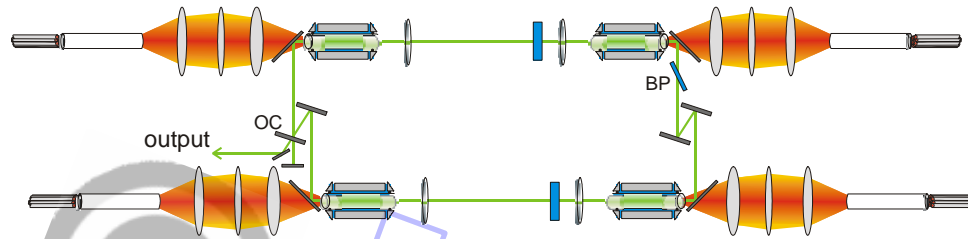


Thermal Lens in End-Pumped Rods



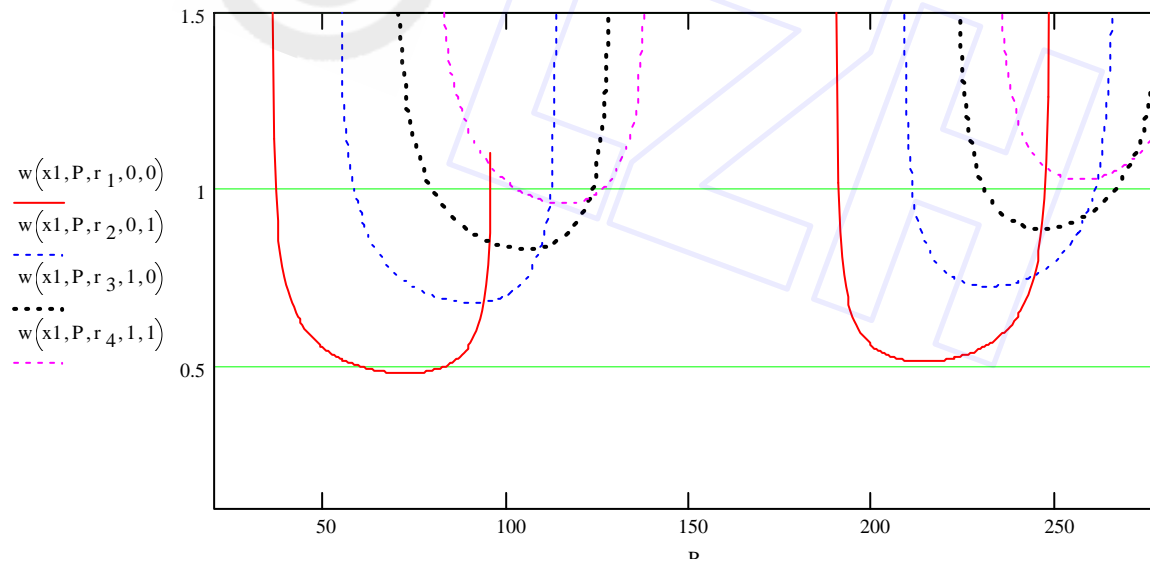
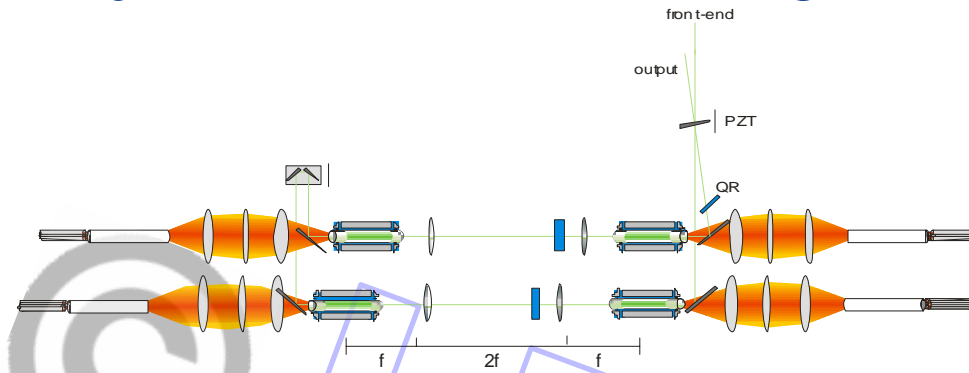
Mode Control

Symmetric Resonator Design

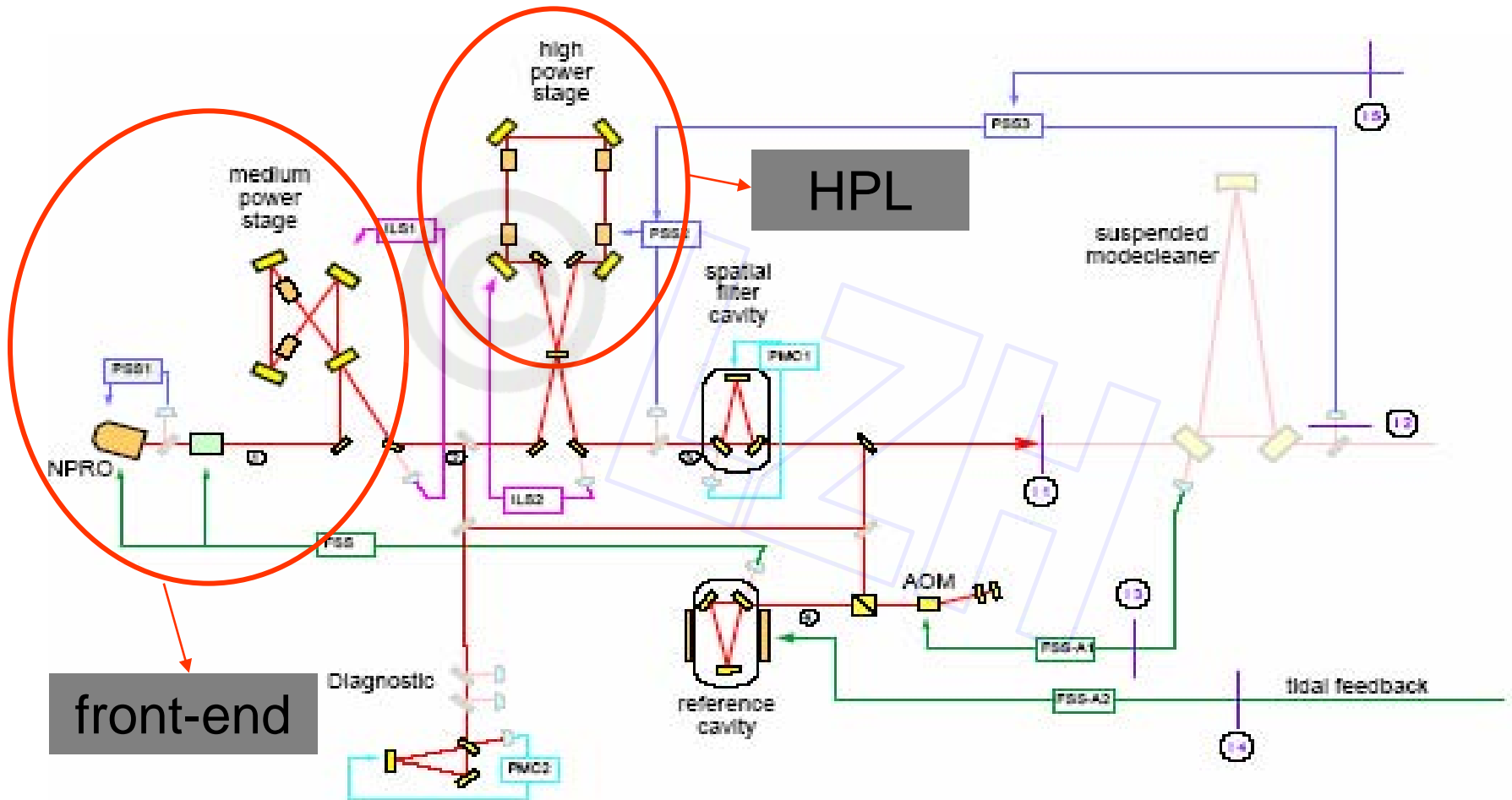


Mode Control

Asymmetric Resonator Design

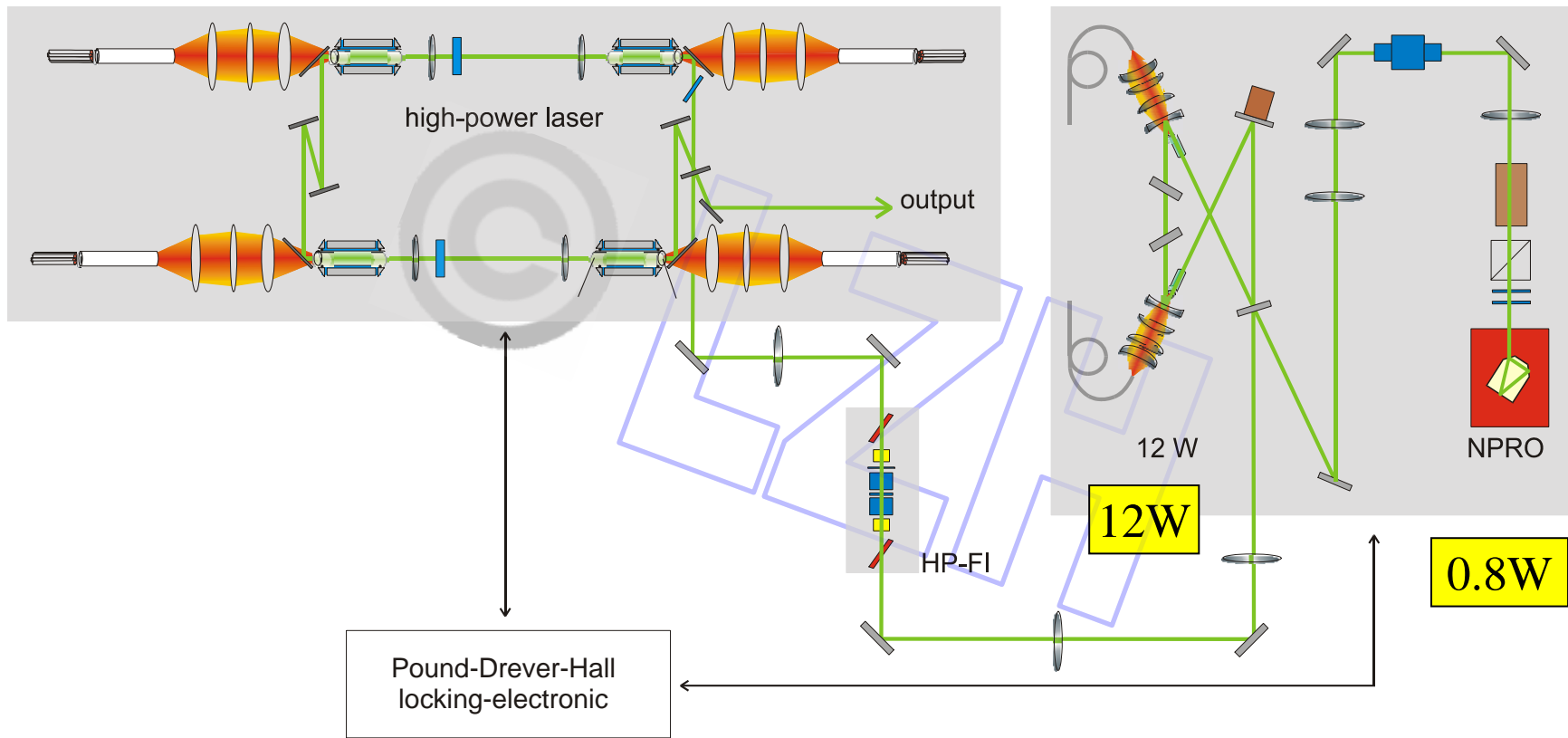


Advanced LIGO PSL



High Power Laser

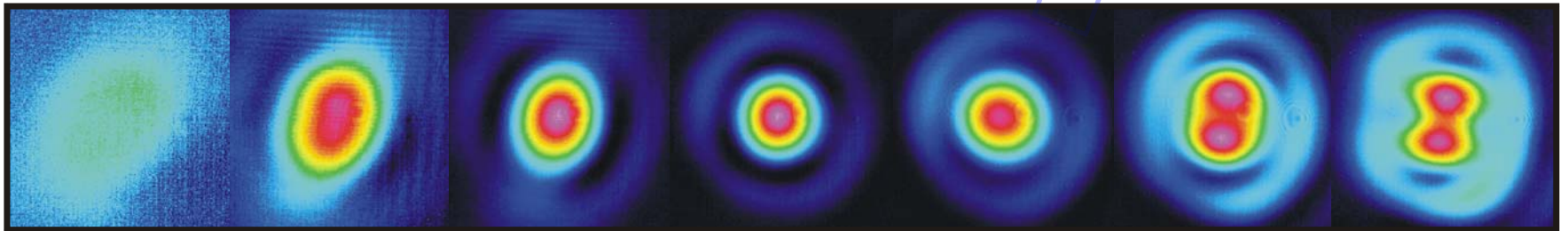
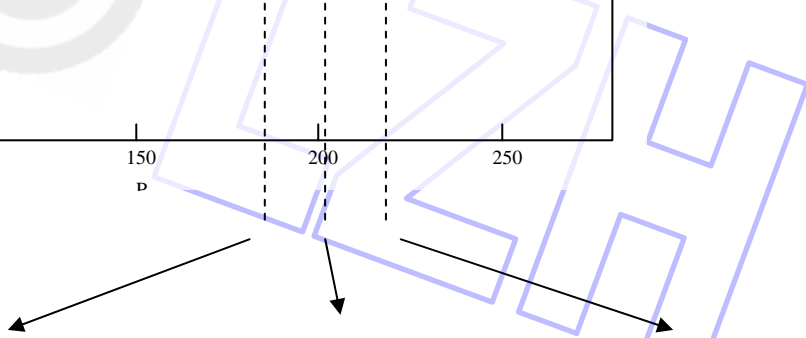
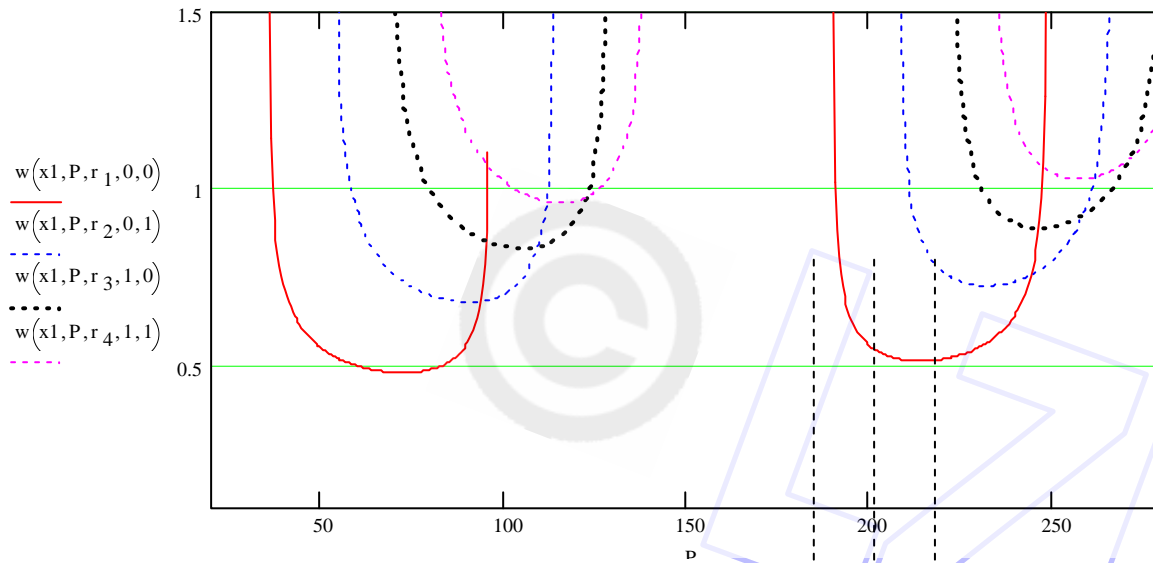
1st Approach



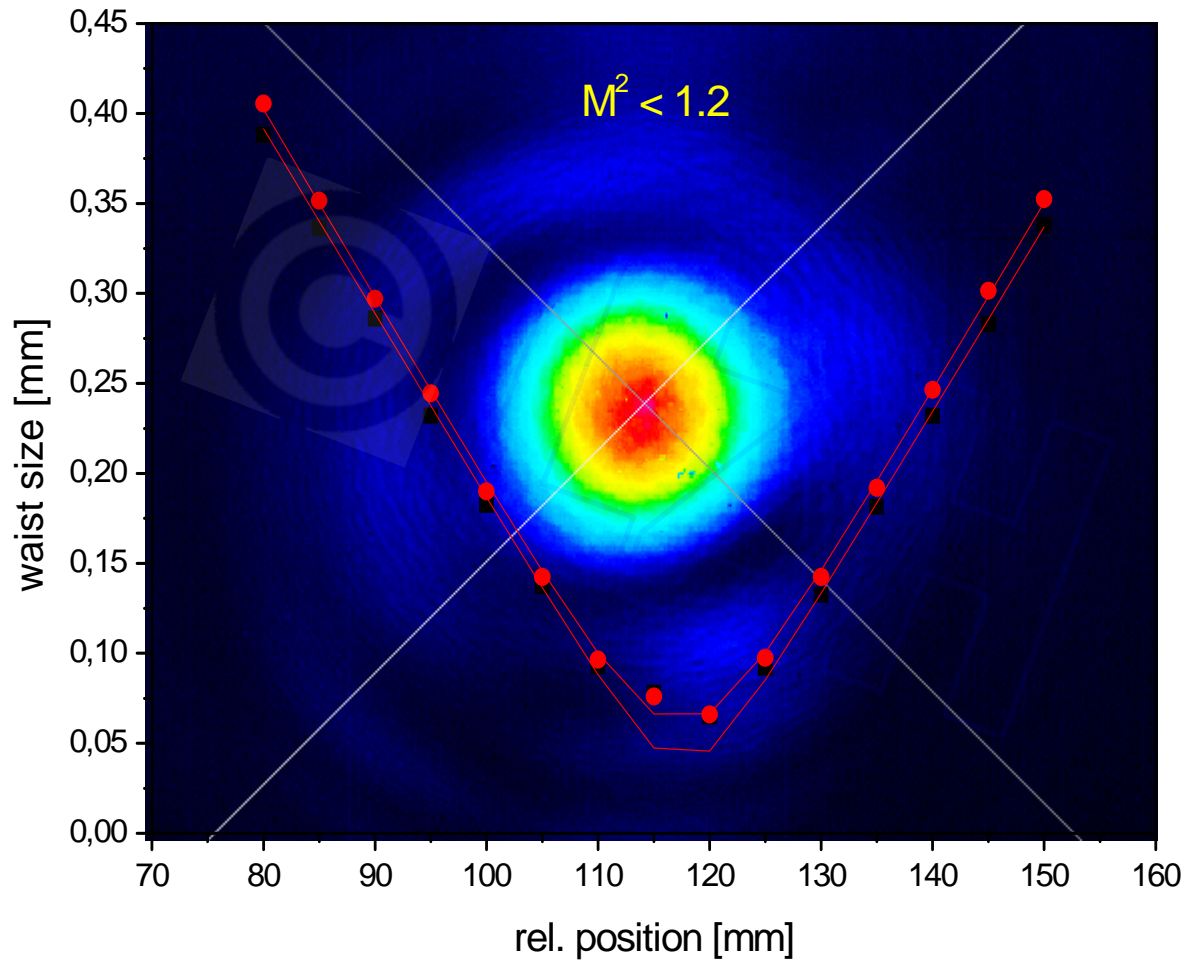
⇒ 195 W single-frequency output power demonstrated

Optimized Mode Control

$TEM_{0,0}$ Operation



Beam Quality



Summary

- 12 - 65 W medium power lasers
 - GEO / VIRGO and VIRGO+ / LIGO+
- ~ 190 W high power laser
 - Advanced LIGO
- Stable locking
- Beam quality $M^2 < 1.1$ to 1.3
- High reliability