

“OPTICAL DIAGNOSTICS”

**A new EUREKA Project E!4473
(2008.07 – 2011.06)**

Partners:

- 1. Vilnius University (Lithuania)**
- 2. SME EKSPLA UAB (Lithuania)**
- 3. AIXTRON Company, Germany**

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FULL TITLE:

**Novel optical measurement technologies
and devices for diagnostics of advanced
semiconductors**

A PRINCIPAL GOAL:

Implement **novel** measurement technologies
and **tools** for characterization of advanced
semiconductor materials and for ***ex-situ***
evaluation of their fabrication technologies

Approach: Production and exploitation of new scientific knowledge.

Such an approach is essential to tackle the "European paradox".

The European paradox is that there is a strong science base but weak innovation performance (exploitation).

Question: Do we need novel techniques?

YES !

Knowledge of **carrier dynamics** is the key issue in most technologically important materials. Therefore techniques able to provide important **electronic** parameters, which reflect a material quality and may predict its operation as a device, are on demand.

Solution: characterize the fast electronic properties of a semiconductor by optical means

The standard techniques- electrical, linear optical spectroscopy and photoluminescence are not well suited for monitoring fast processes: they need contacts, *are time-integrated, or has no radiative PL signal !*

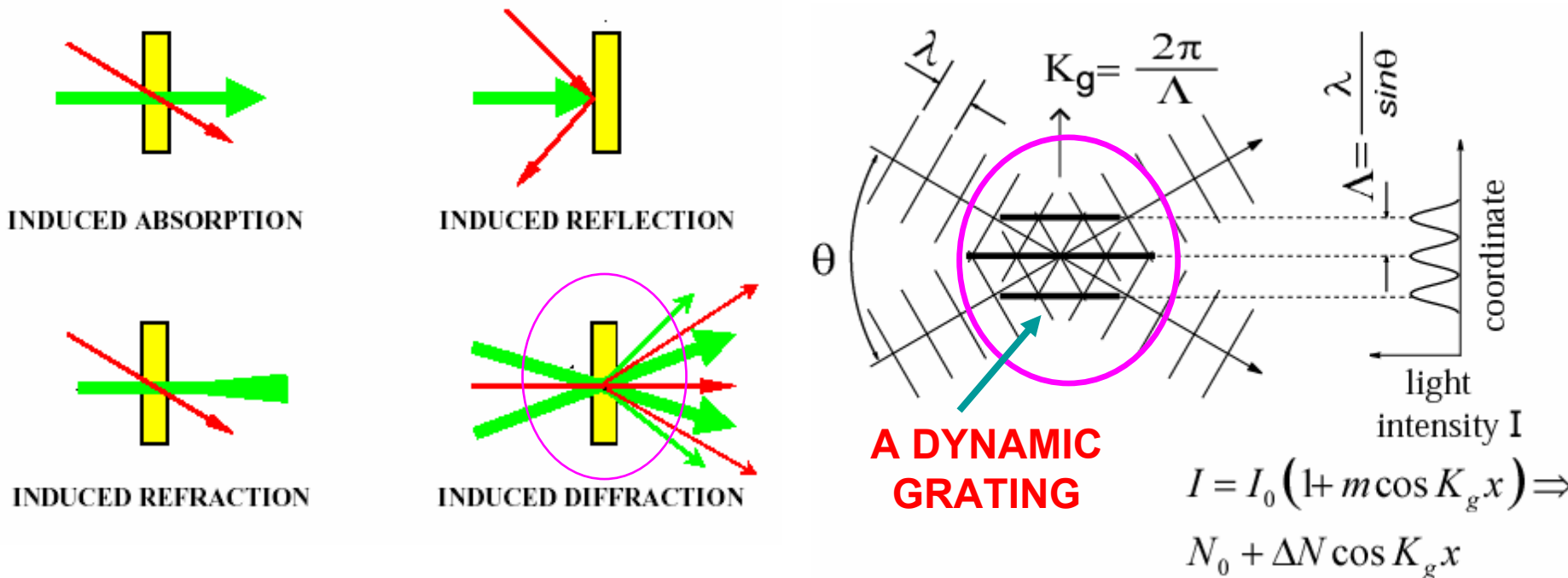
A problem: **HOW** to implement a potential of Time-Resolved techniques?

Answer: By using laser-assisted “pump-probe” *techniques*, which are based on a light-induced **modulation of electronic and optical properties**, and subsequent monitoring of relaxation processes by optical means.

This approach will bridge the **photoelectric properties and optical nonlinearities of a semiconductor**

A technique of dynamic holography has the highest metrological potential. To apply it, one must know how **to write** a dynamic hologram, how **to read** it, and how **to extract** information about a material properties

“Excite-probe” configurations for nonlinear optical experiments



Information about refractive index spatial and temporal modulation $\Delta n(x,t) \propto \Delta N(x,t)$ is read by light diffraction light and will provide electronic parameters τ and D

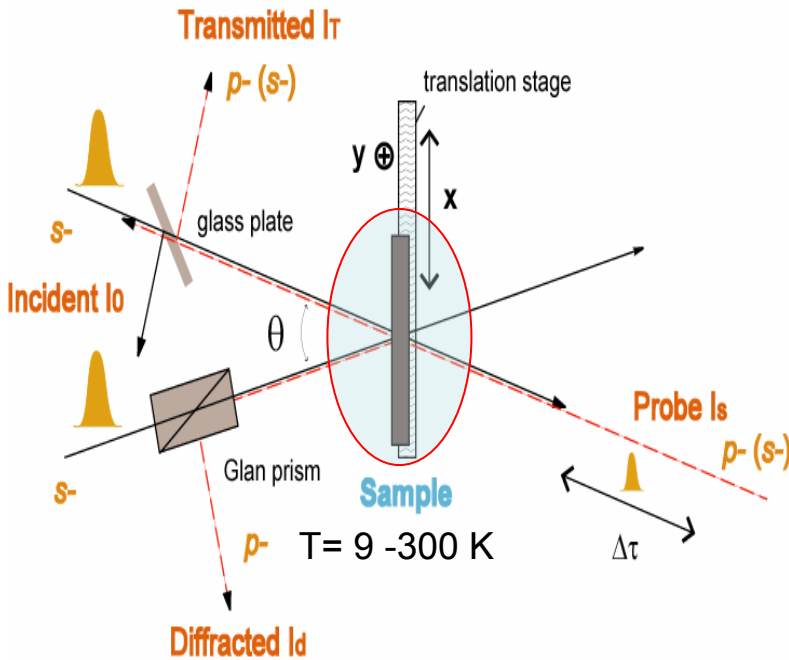
Transient gratings: a “bulk“ and “surface” cases

Experiments at excitation

below E_g , $\alpha d < 1$

e.g. GaAs, CdTe, Si (at 1064 nm)

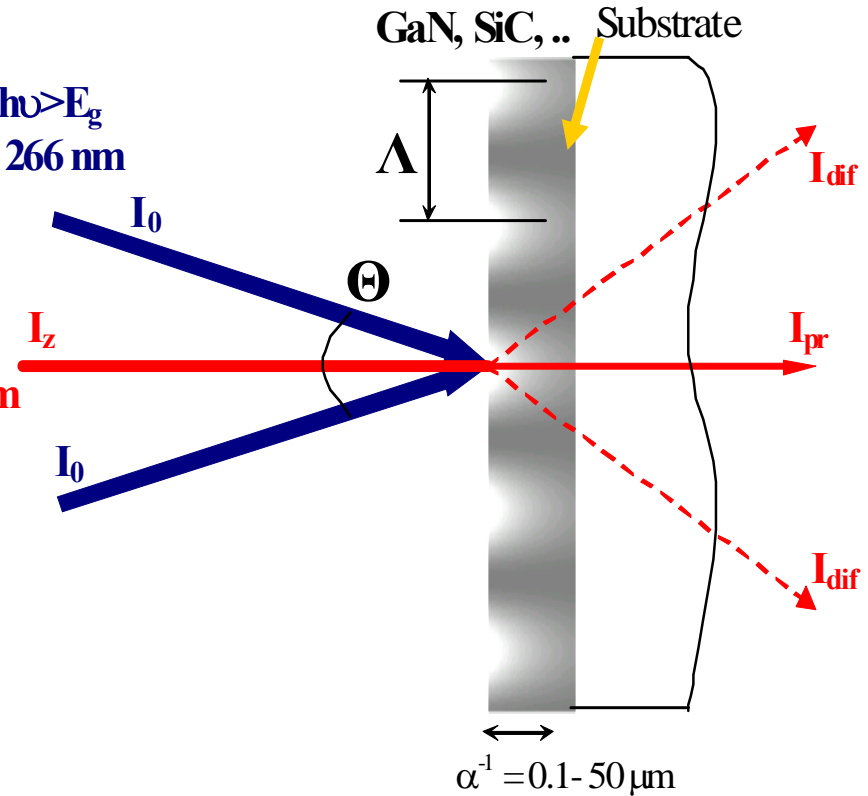
or GaN, SiC at 2.34 eV



Pump at $h\nu > E_g$
 $\lambda = 355$ or 266 nm

Probe at I_z
 $\lambda = 1064 \text{ nm}$

pump at $\alpha d \gg 1$



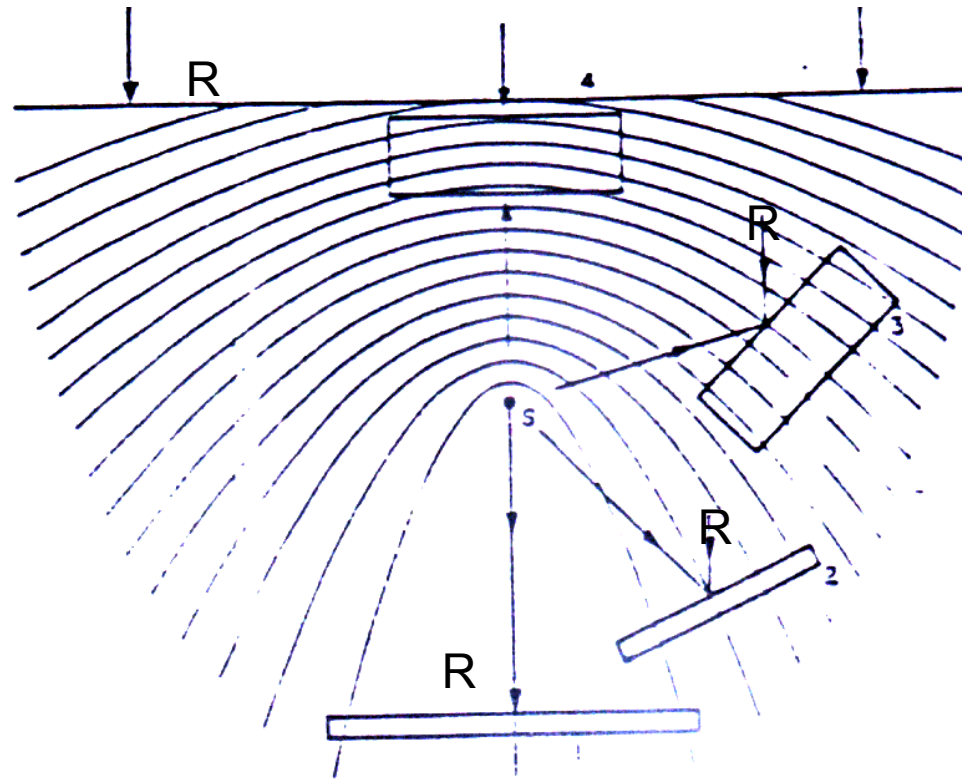
$$\tau_e = f(\Lambda^{-2}): \frac{1}{\tau_e} = \frac{1}{\tau_R} + \frac{1}{\tau_D} \Rightarrow \tau_R, D;$$

$$\eta = f(I_0): \eta \sim (\Delta N)^2 \sim I_0^\gamma$$

$$\Lambda \approx \lambda / \sin \Theta$$

$$\Theta [2 \dots 7^\circ] \Rightarrow \Lambda [20 \dots 3 \mu\text{m}]$$

Optical geometries for hologram recording

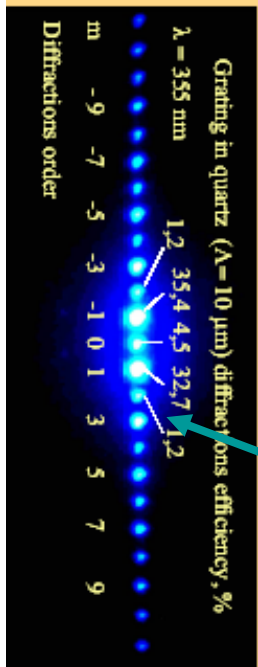
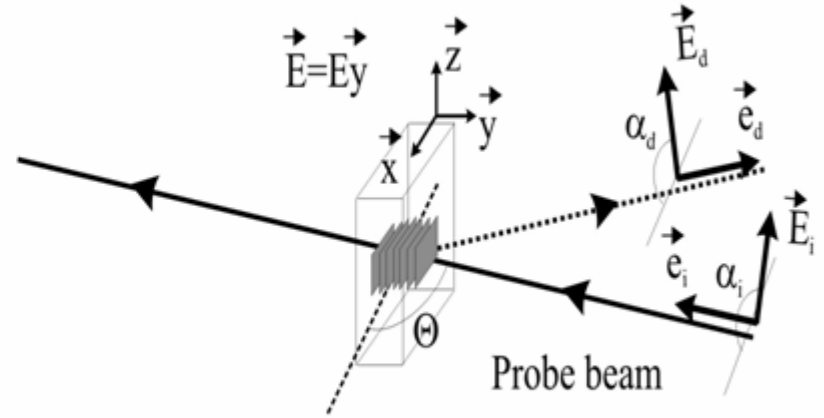
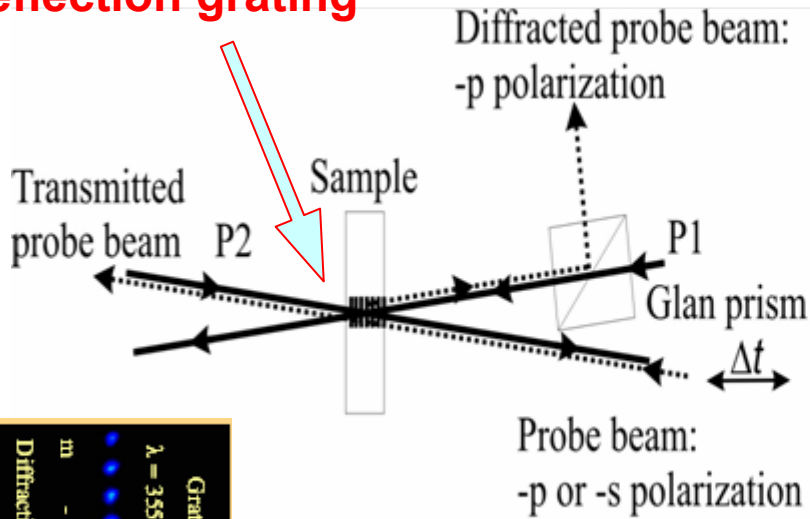


Plane reference wave R interacts with the scattered by object wave S :

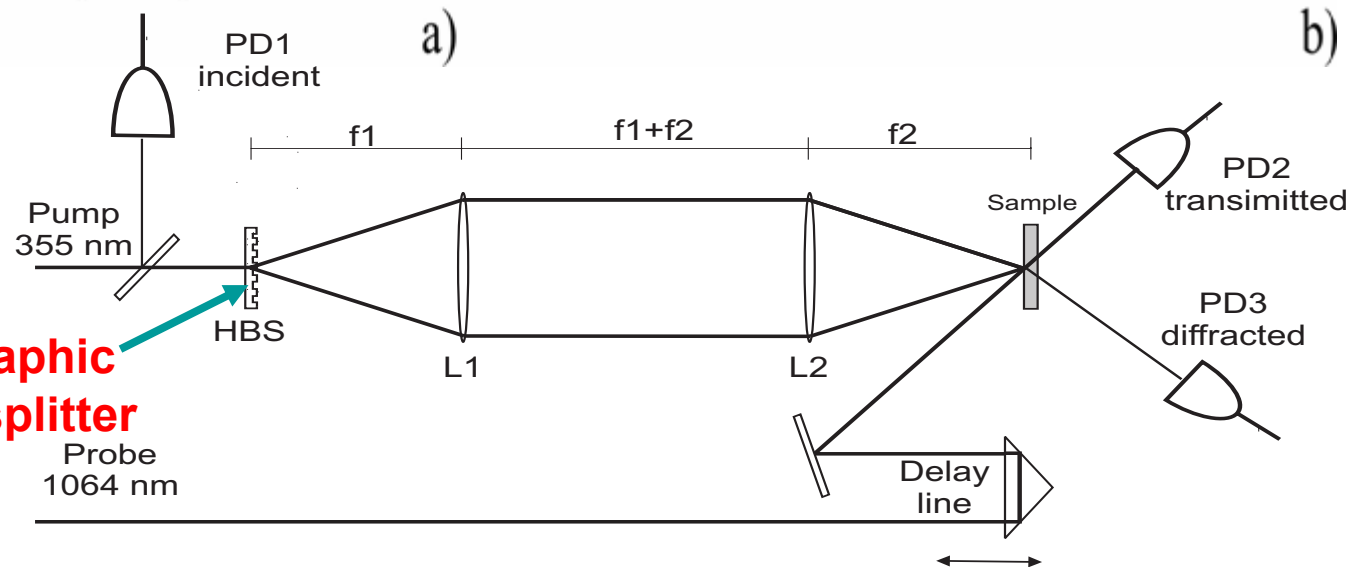
1 – axial geometry (D. Gabor/1951); 2 - Leith - Upatnieks (1962), $d < \Lambda$, thin grating ; 3 – thick grating, $d > \Lambda$, Bragg difrakction; 4 – reflection grating ($d \gg \Lambda = \lambda/2$); here d is the thickness of a recording material

New optical schemes under development

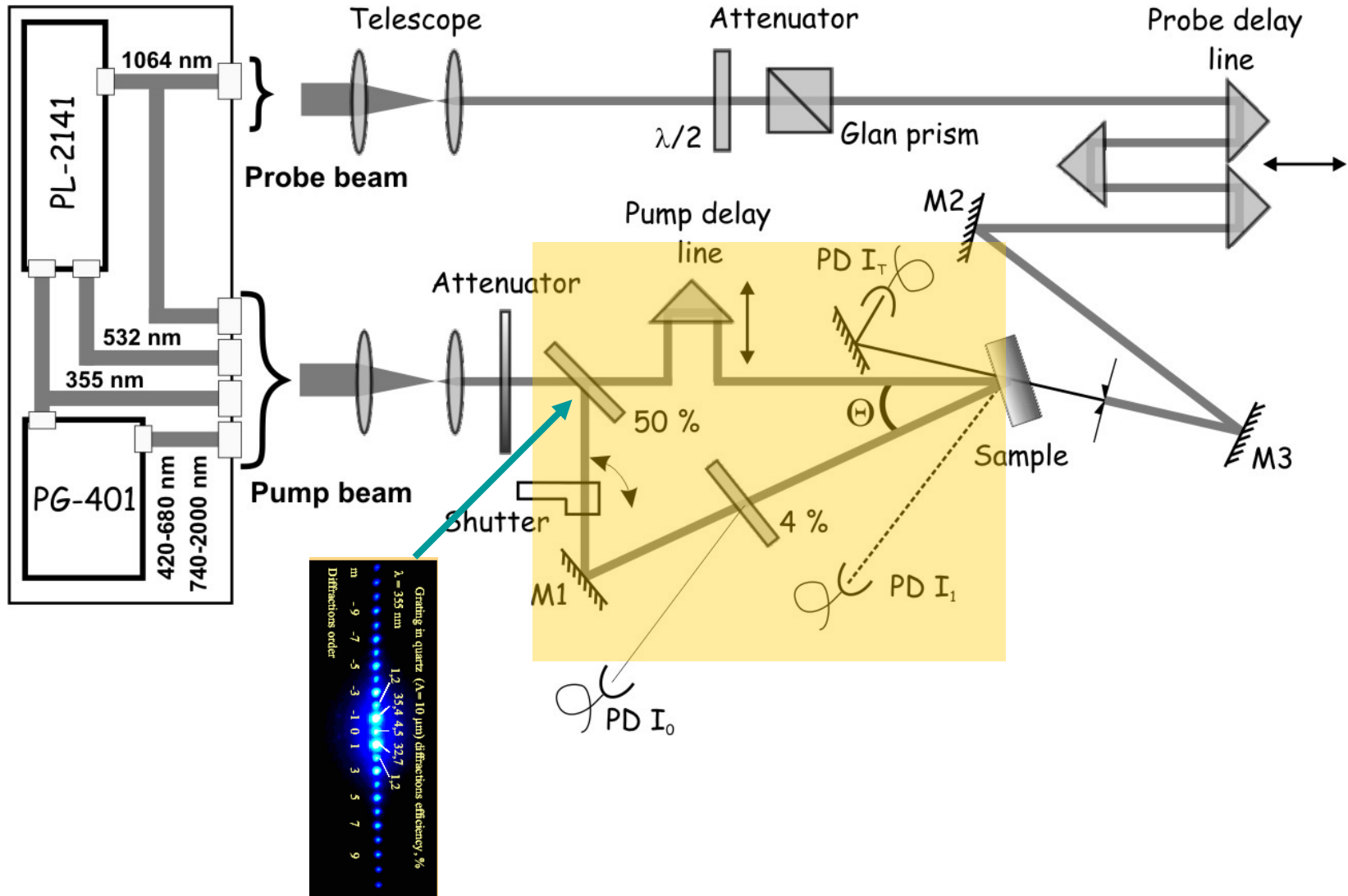
Reflection grating



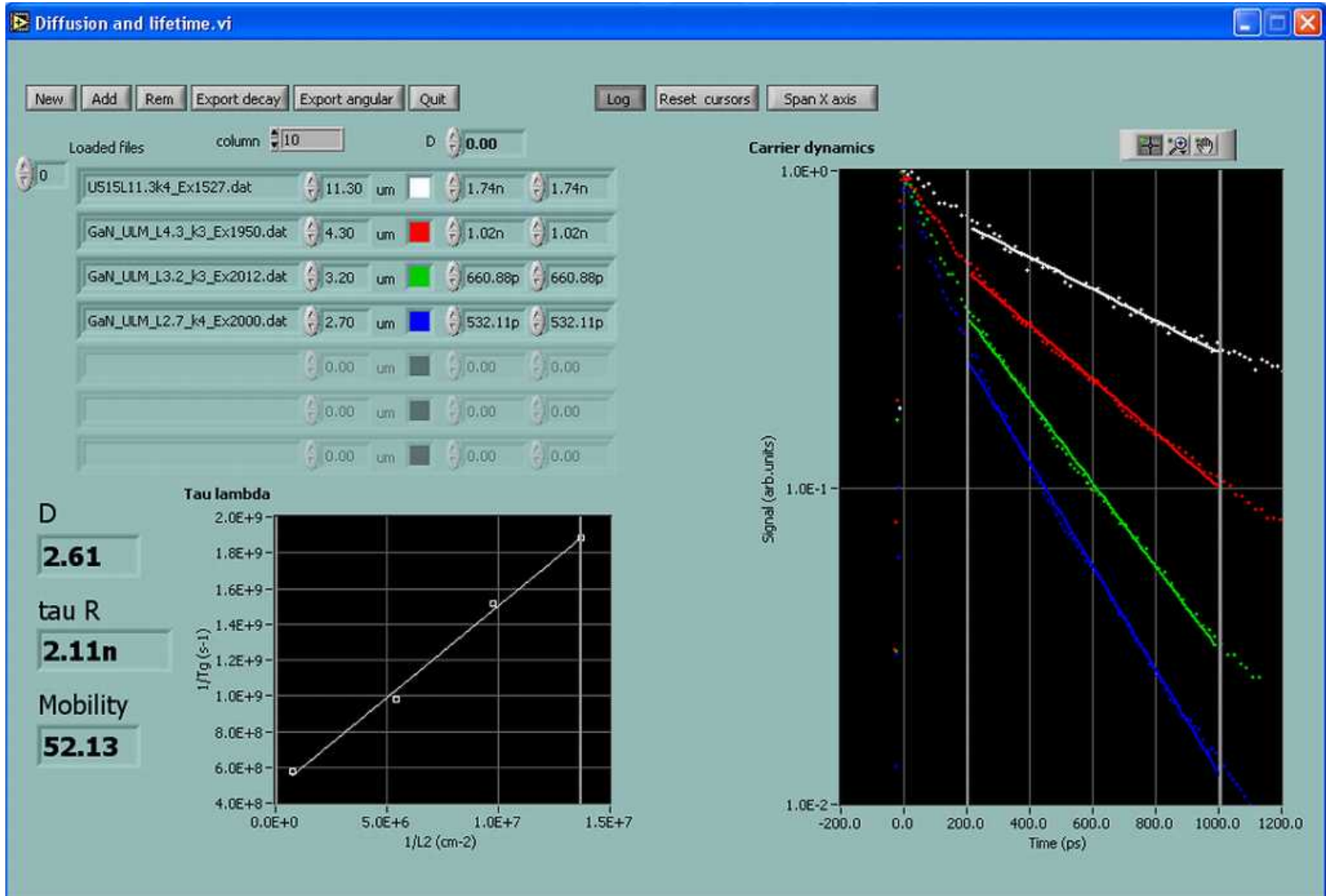
Holographic beam-splitter



TASK: Modify a setup of picosecond transient gratings



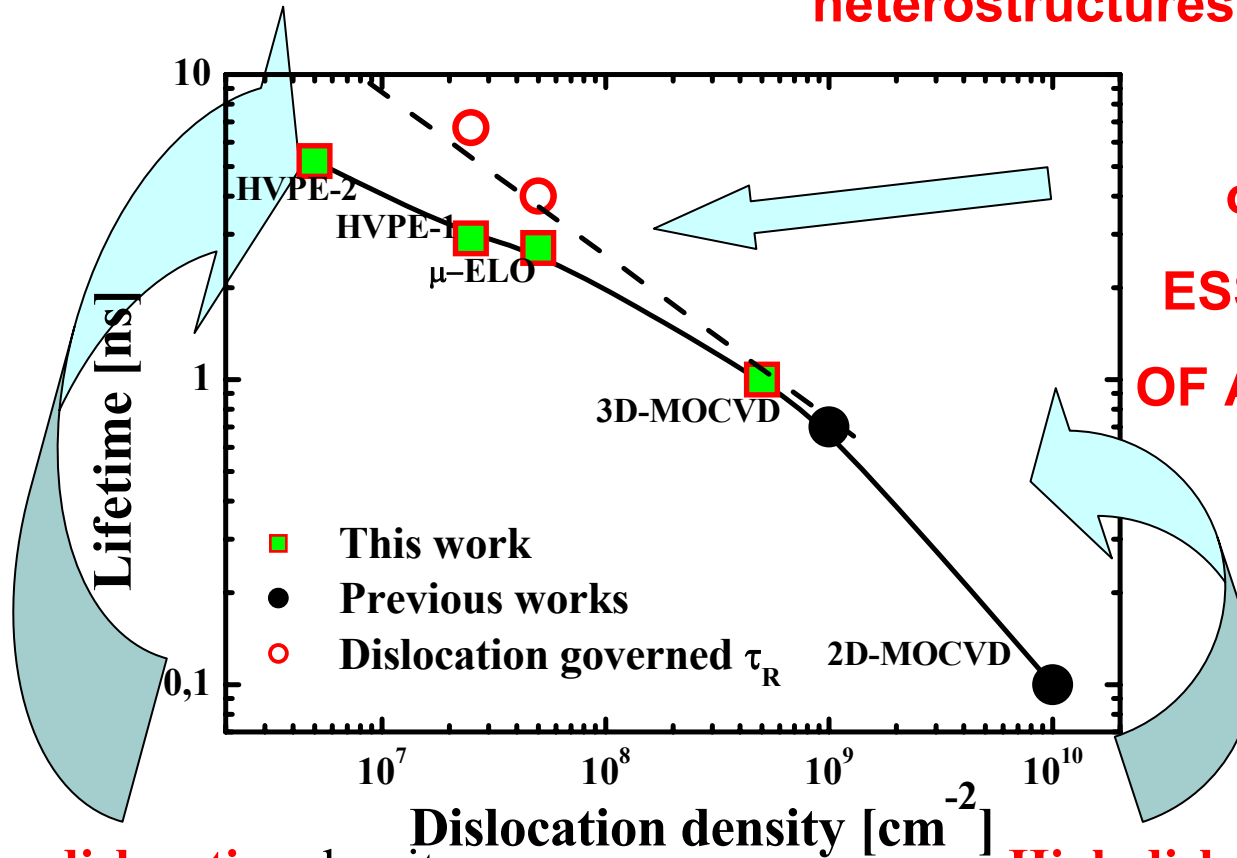
Data analysis by Labview



EXAMPLE: Competition of nonradiative and radiative recombination in LED materials

$$1/\tau_R = 1/\tau_{\text{nonRad}} + 1/\tau_{\text{Rad}}$$

Different growth-technologies of GaN heterostructures and substrates

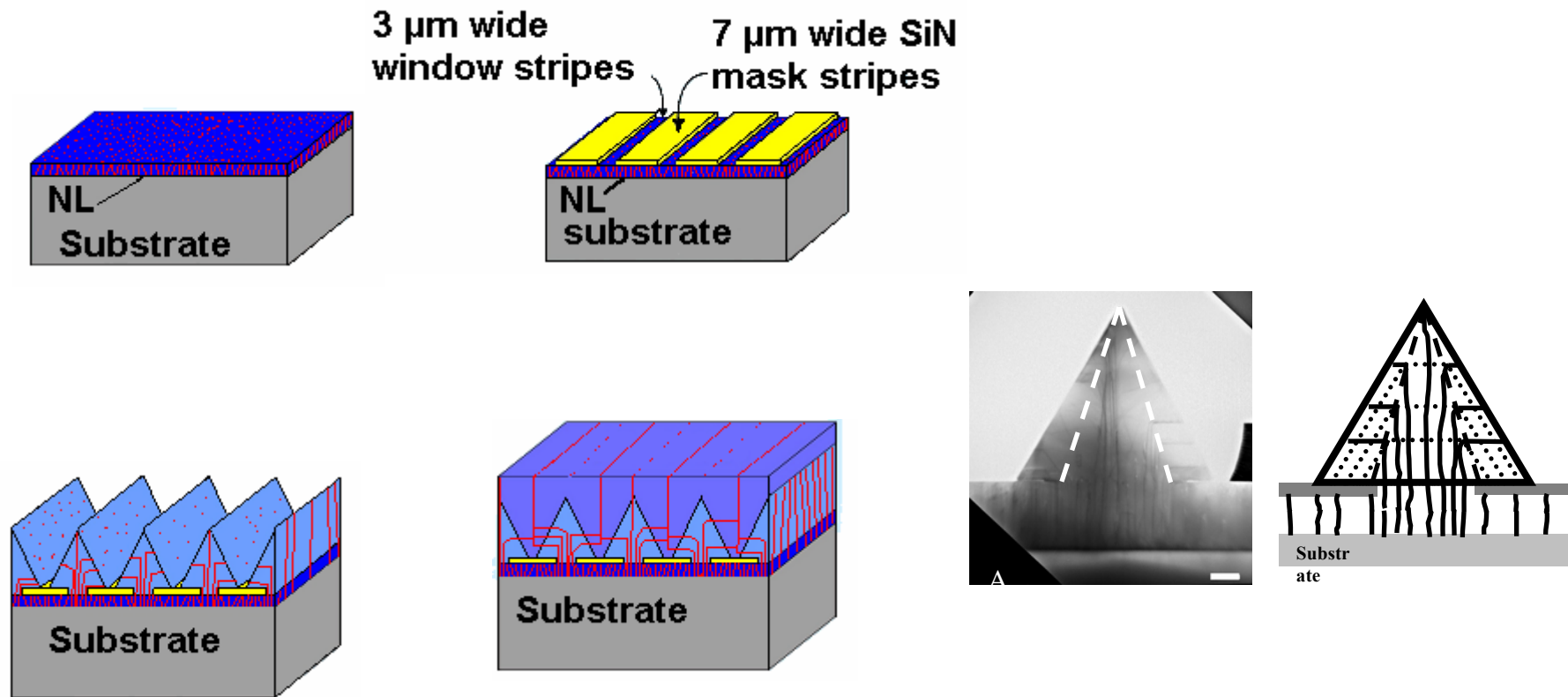


on sapphire,
on Si, on SiC
**ESSENTIAL ROLE
OF A BUFFER LAYER**

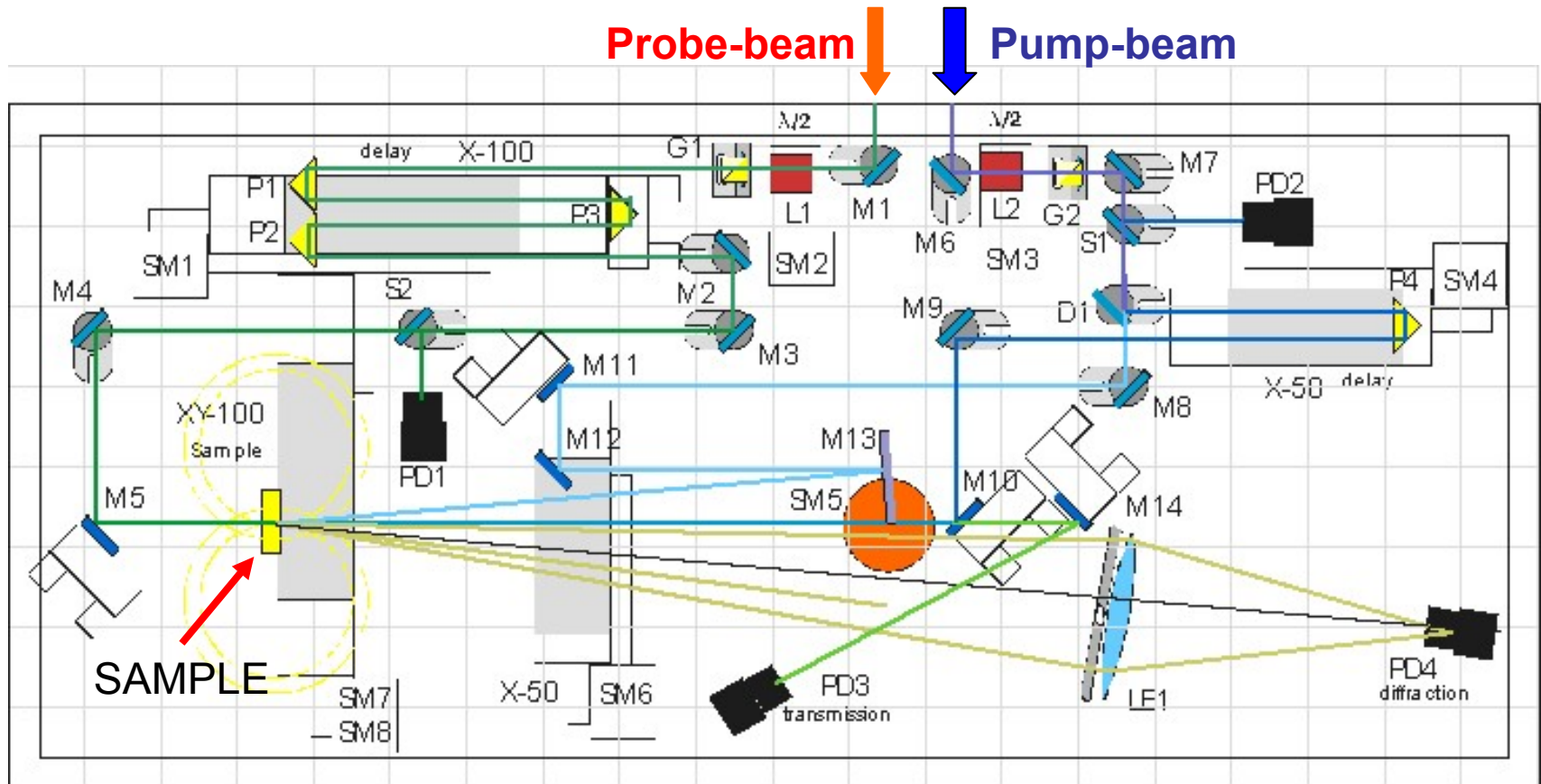
• **Low dislocation** density - radiative recombination is the contributing recombination channel

• **High dislocation** density case - lifetime is governed only by the nonradiative recombination

ELO growth: using a mask and advanced 3D-growth without a mask (growth in AIXTRON MOCVD reactor)



A pilot device: HOLO-module



Module HOLO-2 (Ekspla Co.), as a part of a measurement system at RPI (USA)



Metrological potential of HOLO-2 was demonstrated by optimizing the growth of a buffer layer for UV LED structure

SET Co, USA became a worldwide leader in fabrication of deep UV LEDs

EUREKA Project WORKPLAN

- 1. Scientific tasks:** Advanced all-optical characterization, modeling, and development of algorithms for materials characterization (GaN, InGaN, InN, AlGaN, SiC, ZnO, diamonds) ⇒ a **software** for a novel diagnostic tool
(We need partners who grow advanced materials for optoelectronics)
- 2. Technological tasks:** testing and implementation of a holographic beam splitters (HBS) and their arrays, optimized for the specific wavelengths
⇒ a **hardware** for a novel diagnostic tool
- 3. Engineering tasks:** Design and assembling of a pilot device

Thank you for attention!