

# Lighting Up Opaque Media

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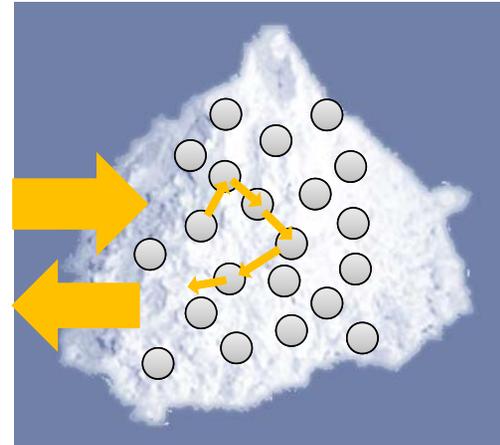
# Opaque Media

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**Glass**



**Ground Glass**



# Strong Scattering Media

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**Cloud**



**Fog**



**Biological tissue**

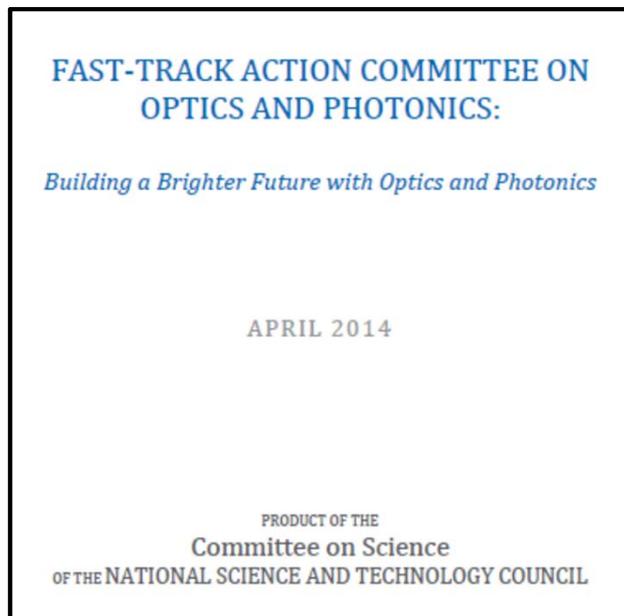


**Sand Storm**



# National Photonics Initiative

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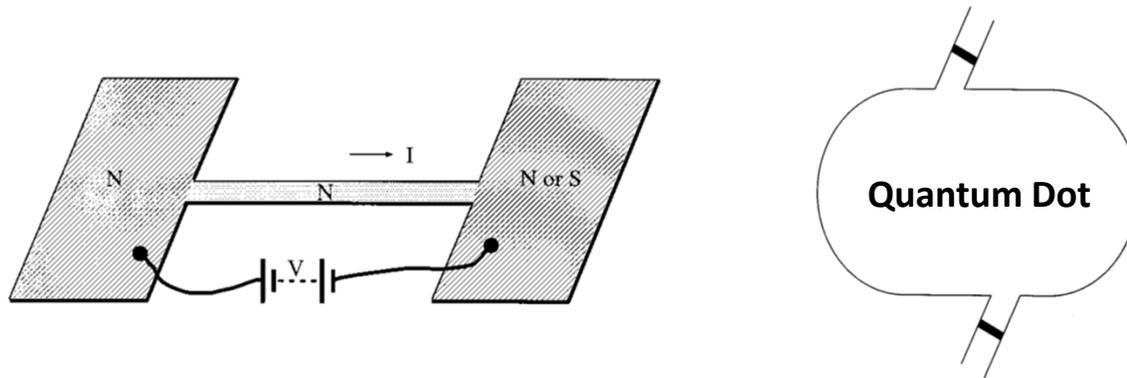
## Four research opportunities of high priority

### **Imaging through complex media**

To advance the science of light propagation and imaging through scattering, dispersive, and turbulent media

# Mesoscopic Electron Transport

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**Interference of coherent electron wave**



**Anderson localization**

**Universal conductance fluctuation**

# Mesoscopic Optics

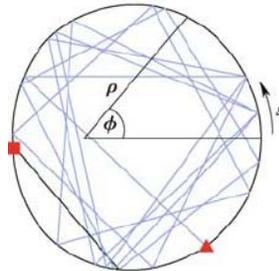
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Classical wave: light, microwave, acoustic wave

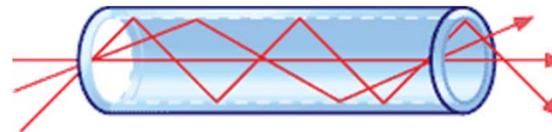
Scattering  
medium



Chaotic  
cavity



Multi-mode fiber



**How to enhance light transmission through strong-scattering medium?**

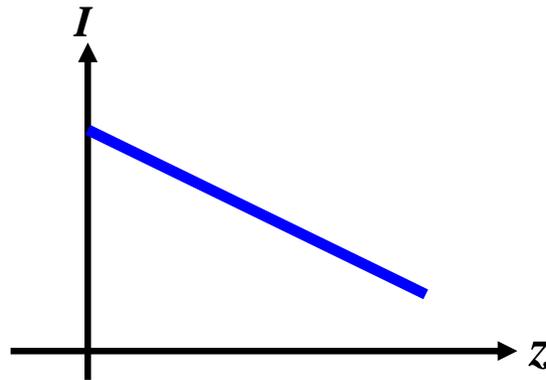
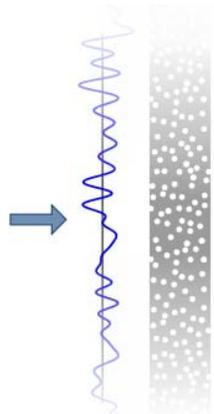


# Diffusion Model

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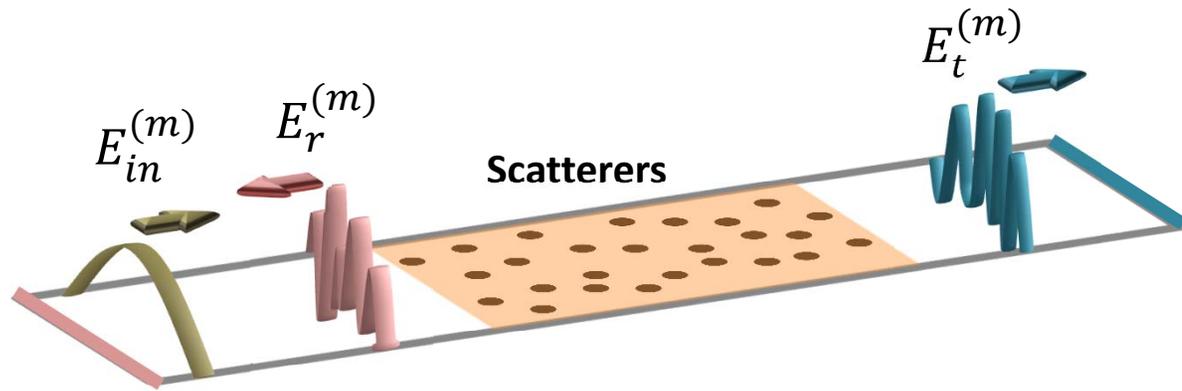
**Diffusion equation**  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} I(r, t) = D \nabla^2 I(r, t)$

**Diffusion coefficient**  $D = \frac{v}{3} l_t$



$$\langle T \rangle \approx \frac{l_t}{L} \ll 1$$

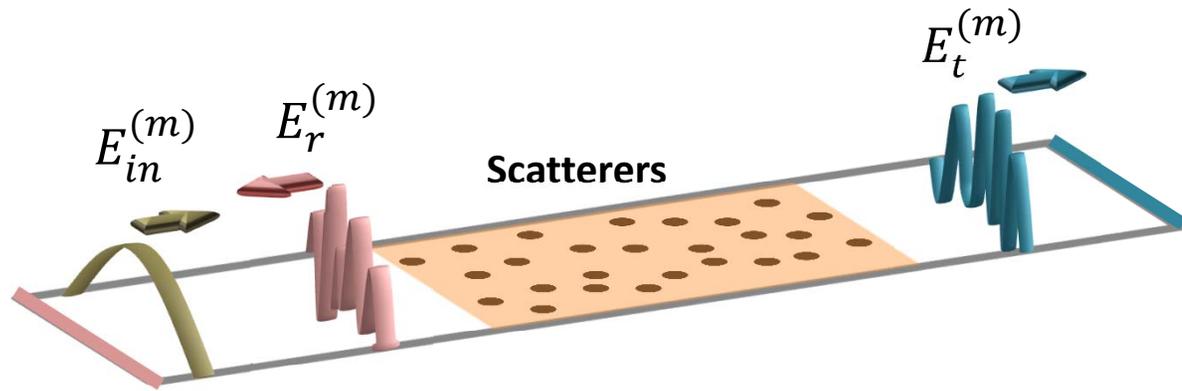
# Transmission Matrix



Field transmission matrix

$$\mathbf{t} = \begin{pmatrix} t_{11} & \cdots & t_{1N} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ t_{N1} & \cdots & t_{NN} \end{pmatrix}$$

# Transmission Matrix



$$\mathbf{t} = \begin{pmatrix} u_{11} & \dots & u_{1N} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ u_{N1} & \dots & u_{NN} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{T_1} & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{T_N} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_{11} & \dots & v_{1N} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ v_{N1} & \dots & v_{NN} \end{pmatrix}^\dagger$$

# Transmission Eigenchannel

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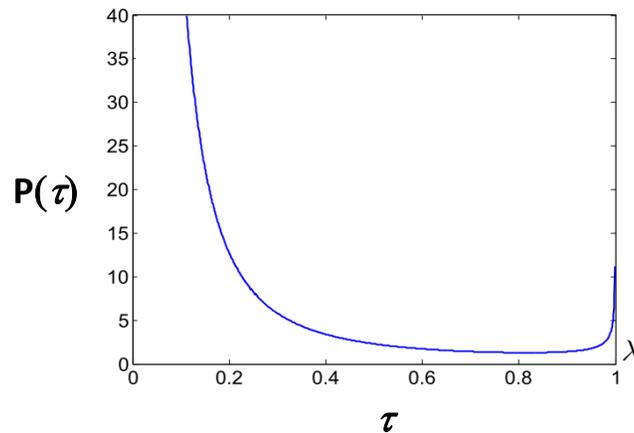
**Bimodal distribution of transmission eigenvalues**

$$\rho(\tau) \propto \frac{\langle \tau \rangle}{\tau \sqrt{1 - \tau}}$$

$$\langle \tau \rangle \ll 1$$

**Open channel  $\tau \sim 1$**

**Closed channel  $\tau \sim 0$**



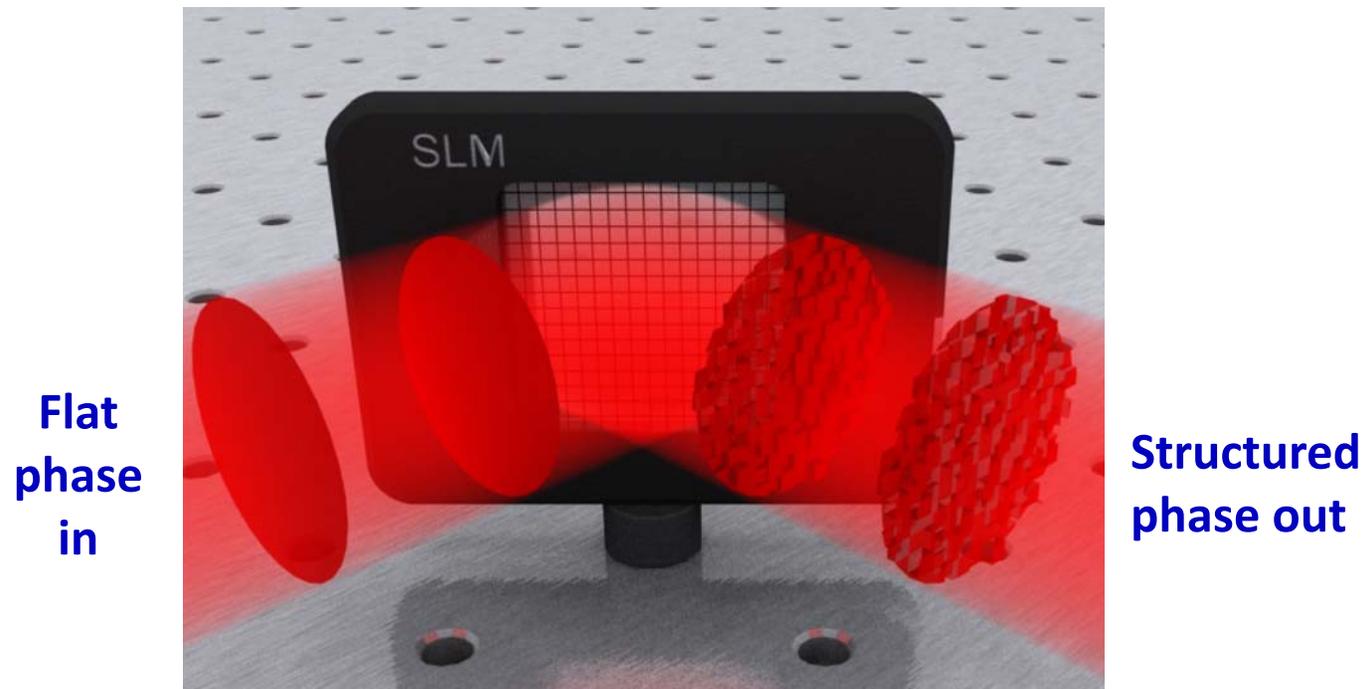
Dorokhov, *Solid State Commun.* **51**, 381 (1984)

Mello *et al.* *Ann. Phys.* **181**, 290 (1988)

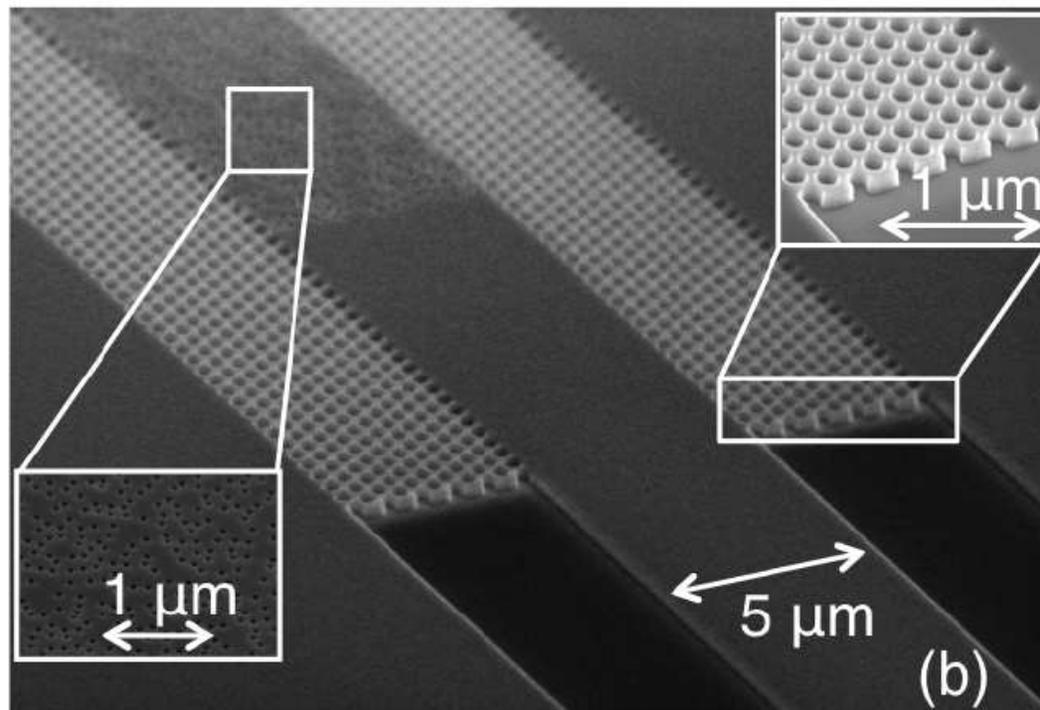
# Optical Wavefront Shaping

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## Spatial light modulator (SLM)



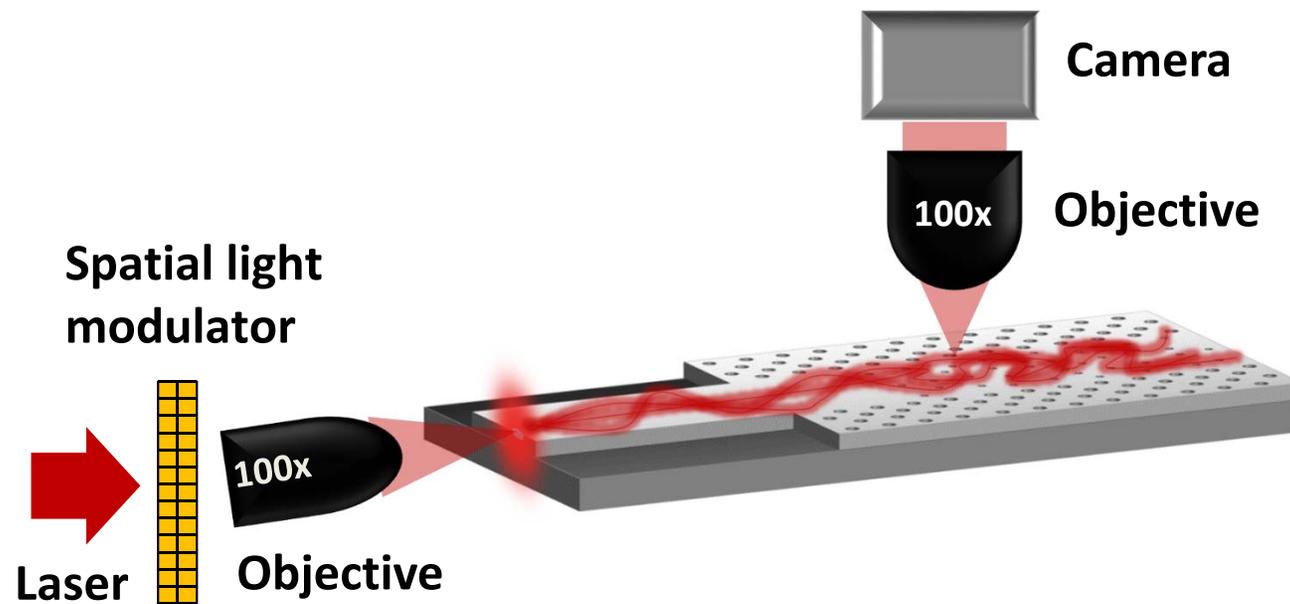
# Silicon Waveguide



Yamilov *et al*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 112, 023904 (2014)

# Direct Probing of Light Propagation inside quasi-2D Disordered Structure

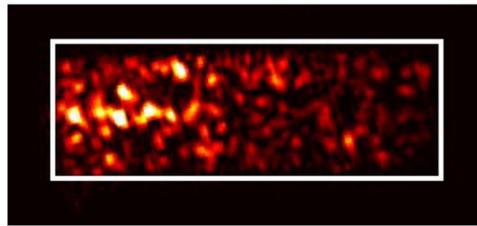
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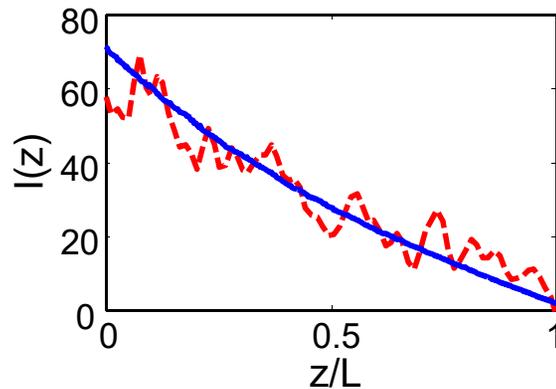
Yamilov *et al*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 112, 023904 (2014)

# Maximizing Transmission

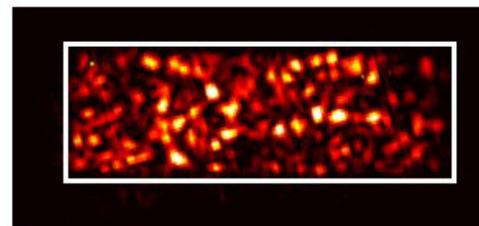
Arbitrary Input



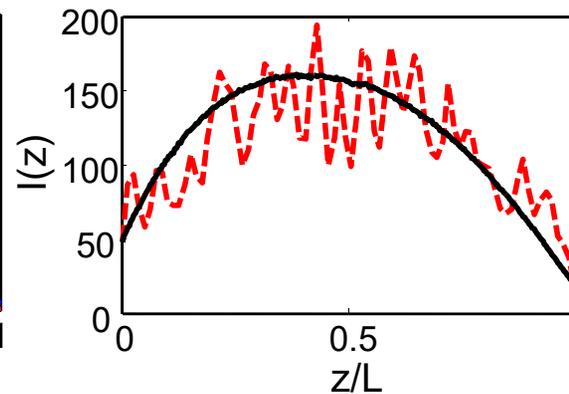
$T = 4.7\%$



Optimized Input

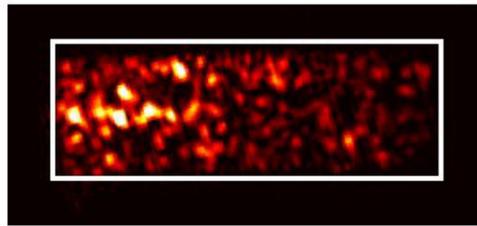


$T = 48\%$

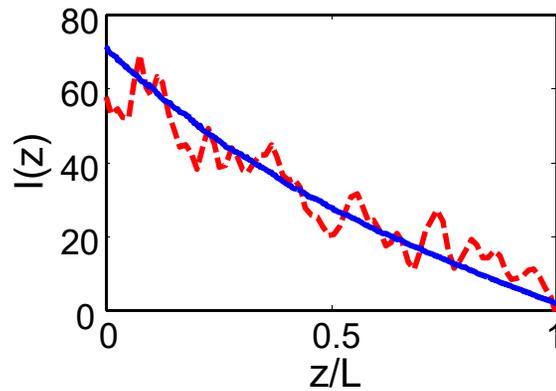


# Minimizing Transmission

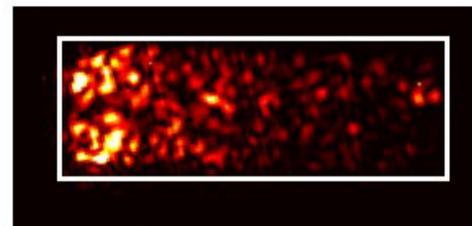
Arbitrary Input



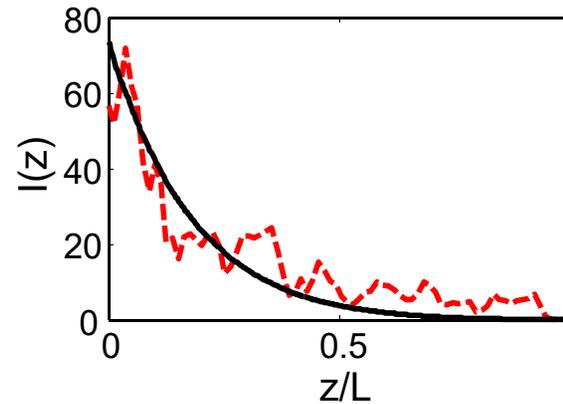
$T = 4.7\%$



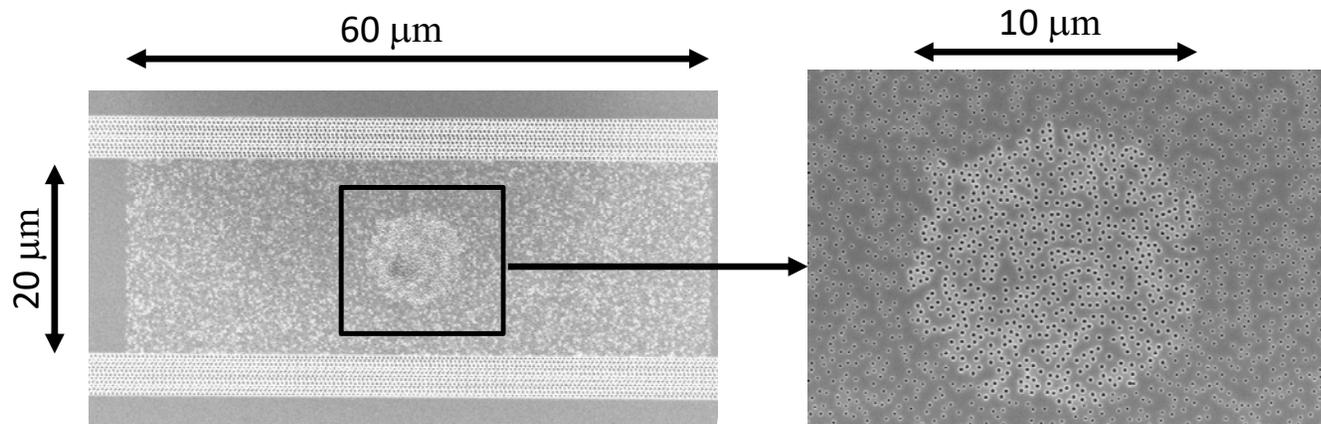
Optimized Input



$T = 0.1\%$

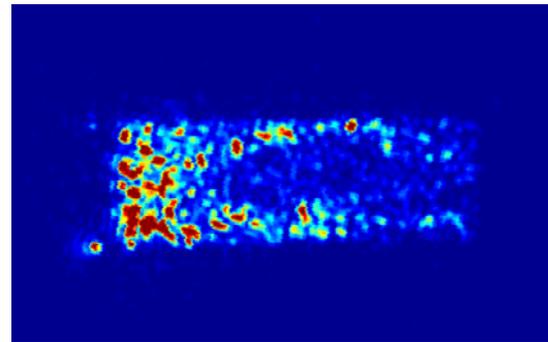
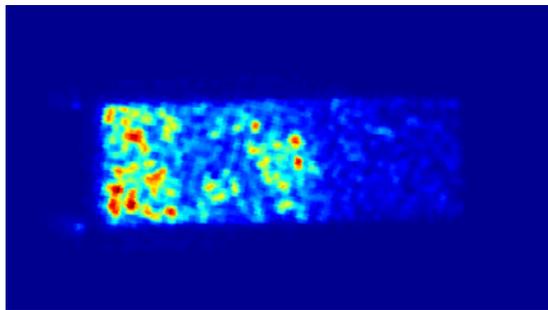


# Inhomogeneous Scattering

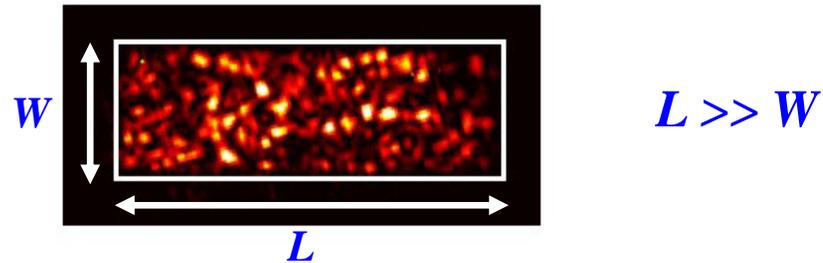


**Before optimization**

**After optimization**

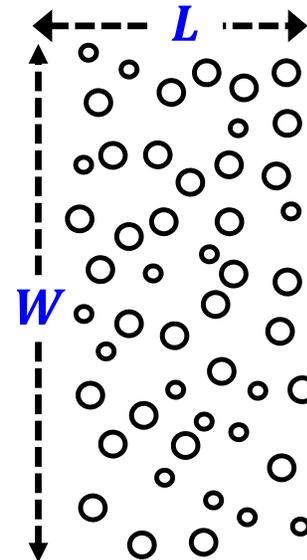


## Quasi-1D waveguide, reflecting sidewall



## Wide slab, open boundary

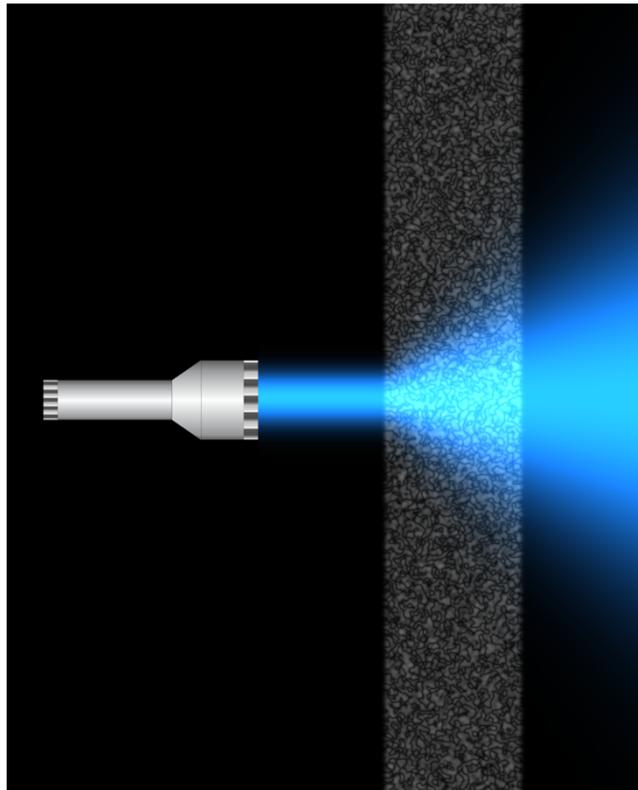
$$W \gg L$$



Choi et al, *Phys. Rev. B* **83**, 134207 (2011)  
Ojambati et al, *Opt. Express* **24**, 18525 (2016)

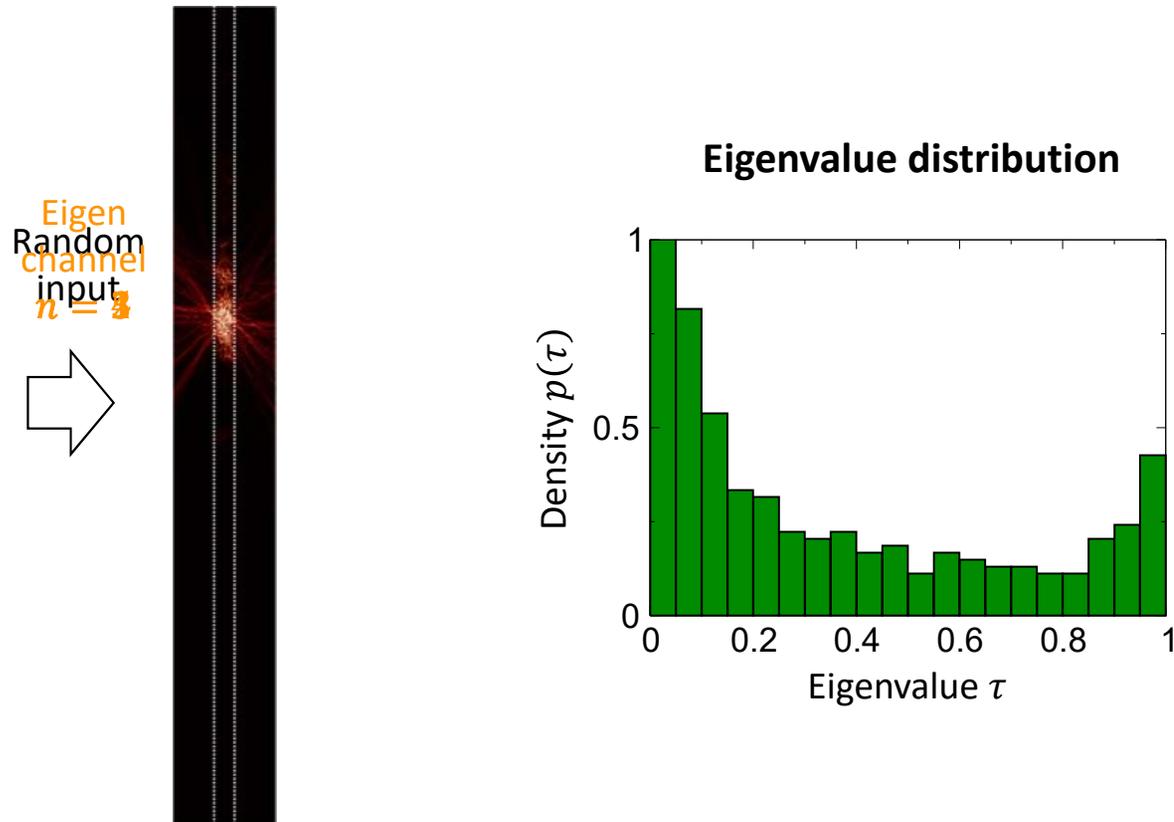
# Lateral Spreading of Light

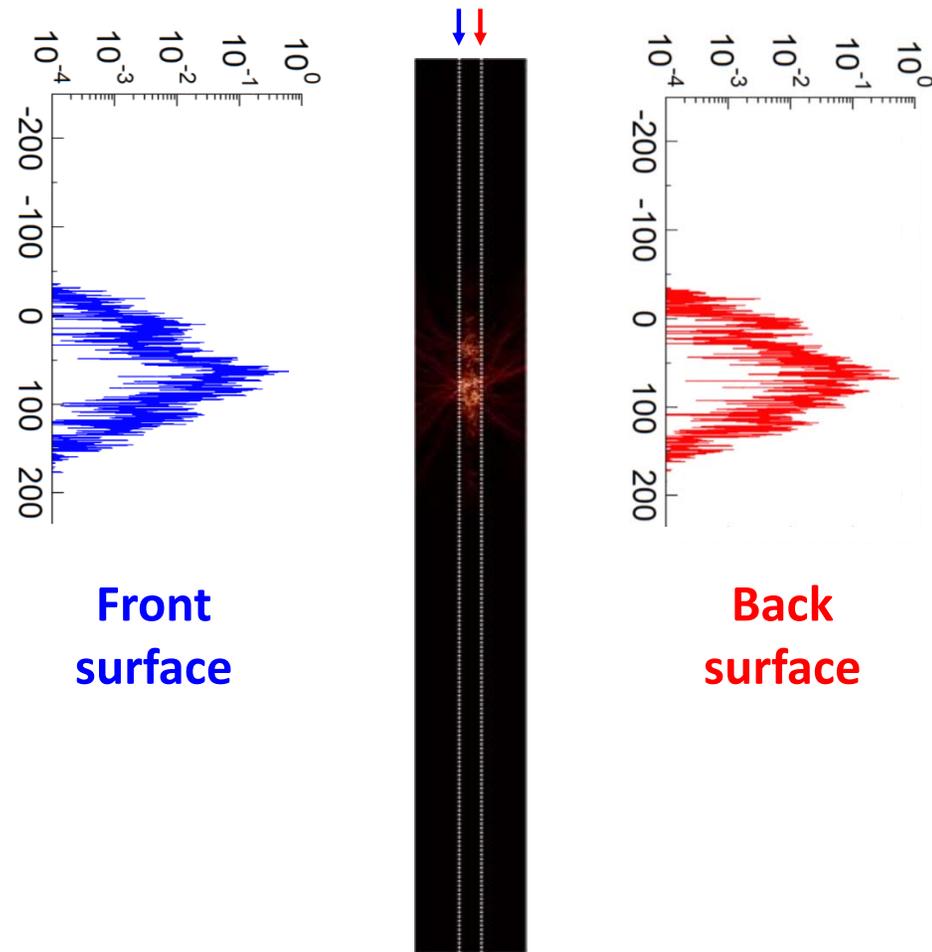
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# Transmission Eigenchannel

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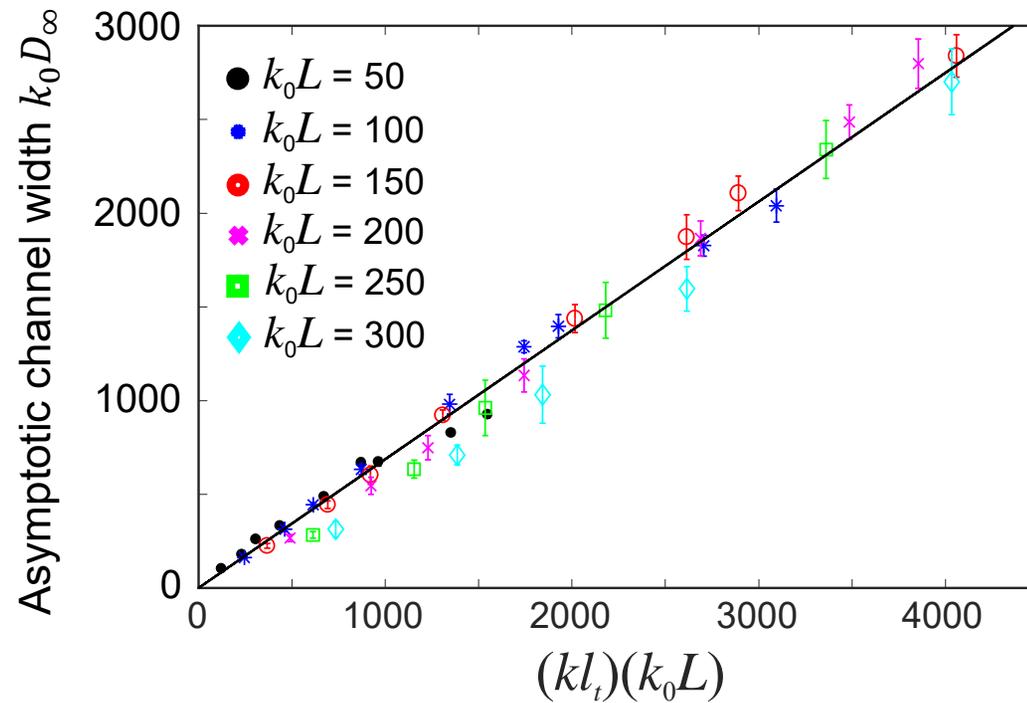




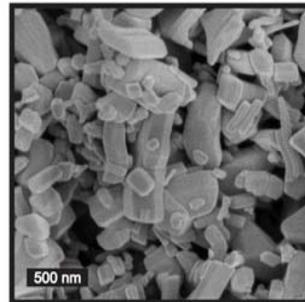
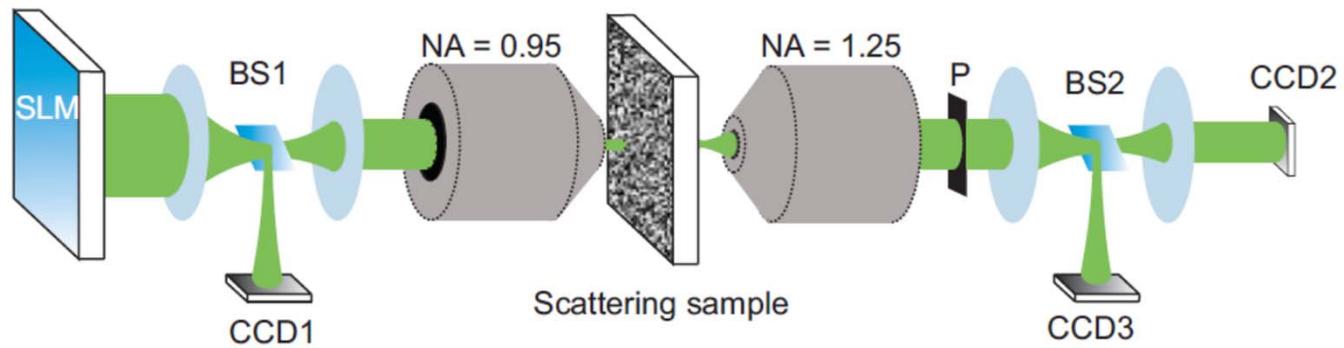
Yilmaz et al, *Nat. Photon.* 13, 352 (2019)

# Channel Width

$$D \propto (kl_t)L$$



# Experimental Setup

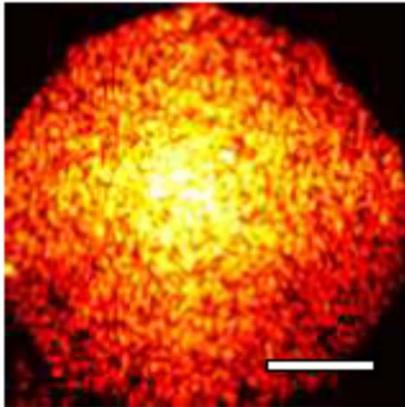


$W = 1 \text{ cm}$   
 $L = 10 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$   
 $l_t = 1.5 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$

# High Transmission Eigenchannel

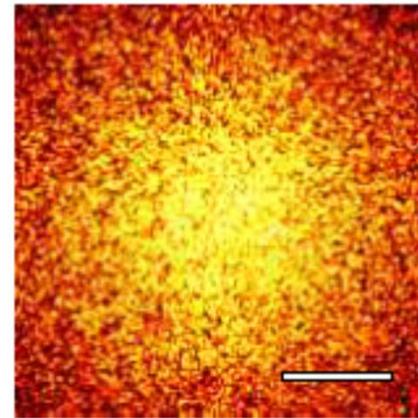
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Front surface

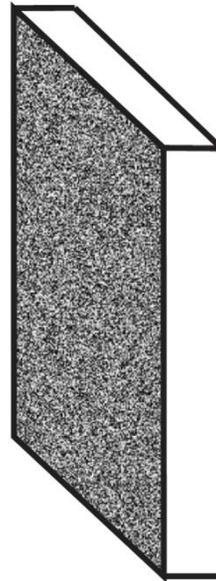


$$D_{in} \propto 10 \mu\text{m}$$

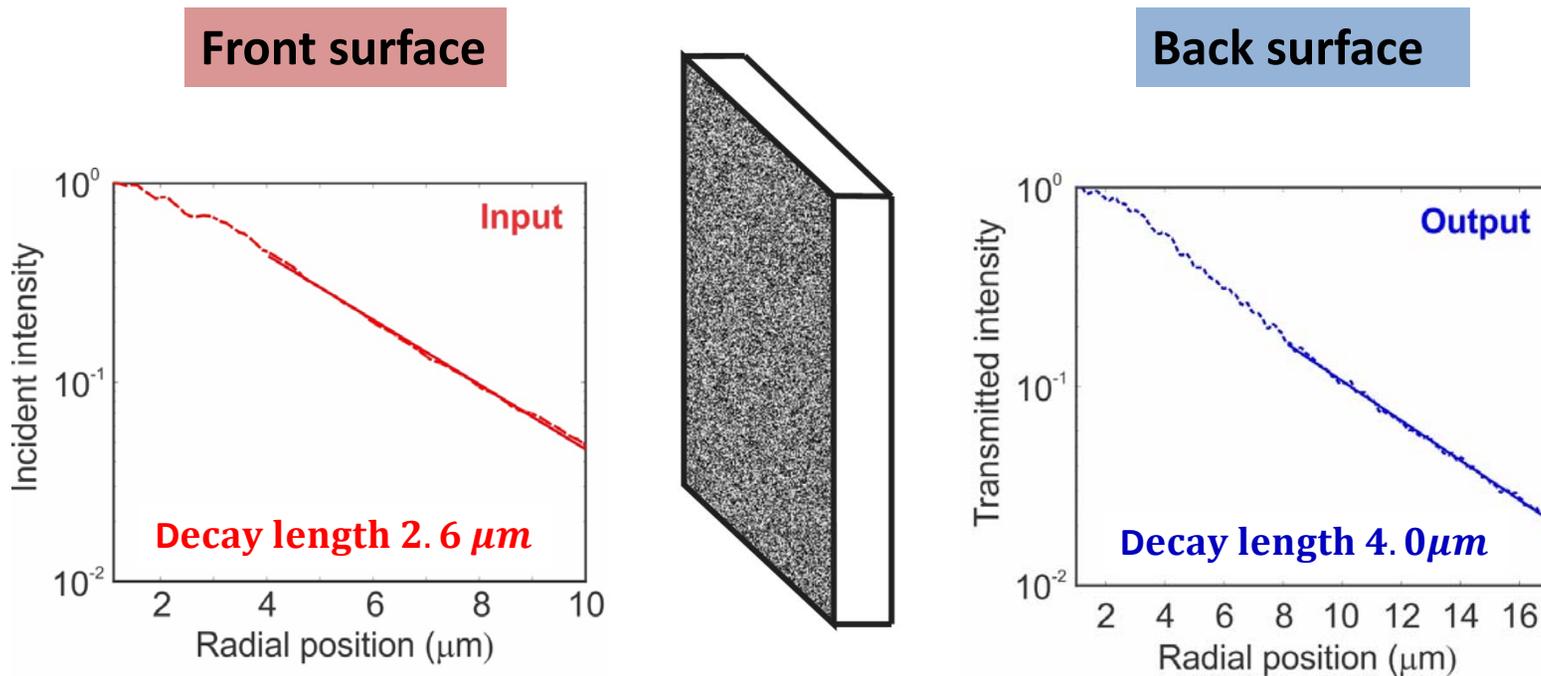
Back surface



$$D_{out} \propto 14 \mu\text{m}$$



# Transverse Localization



Yilmaz et al, *Nat. Photon.* 13, 352 (2019)

# Intensity Enhancement

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Random  
input  
(diffusion)

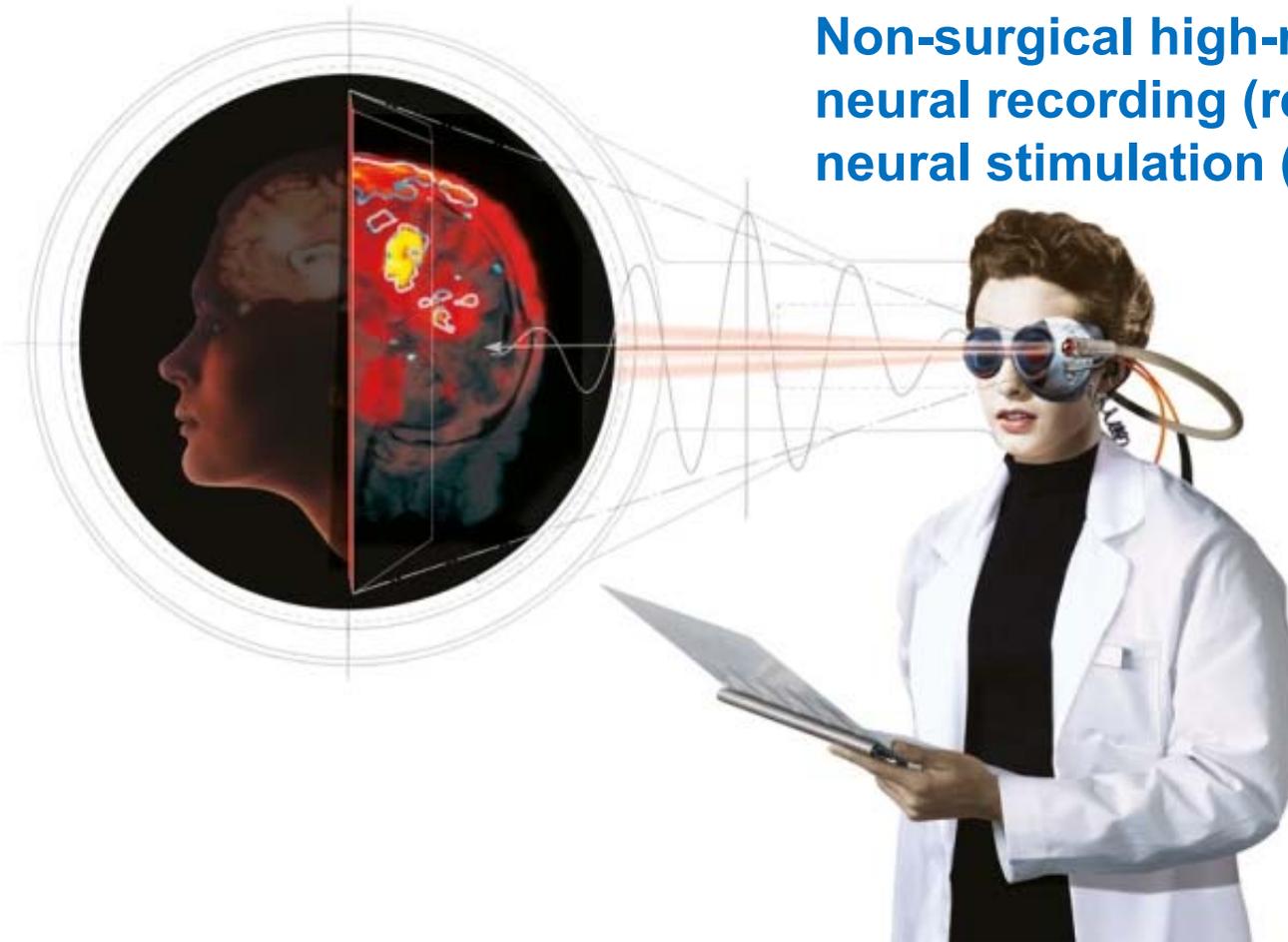


High  
transmission  
eigenchannel



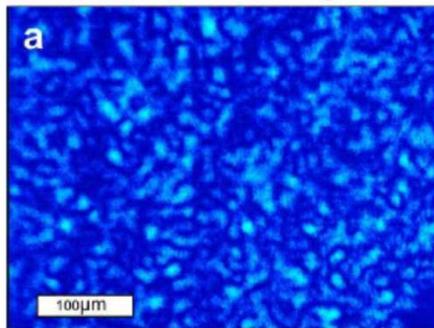
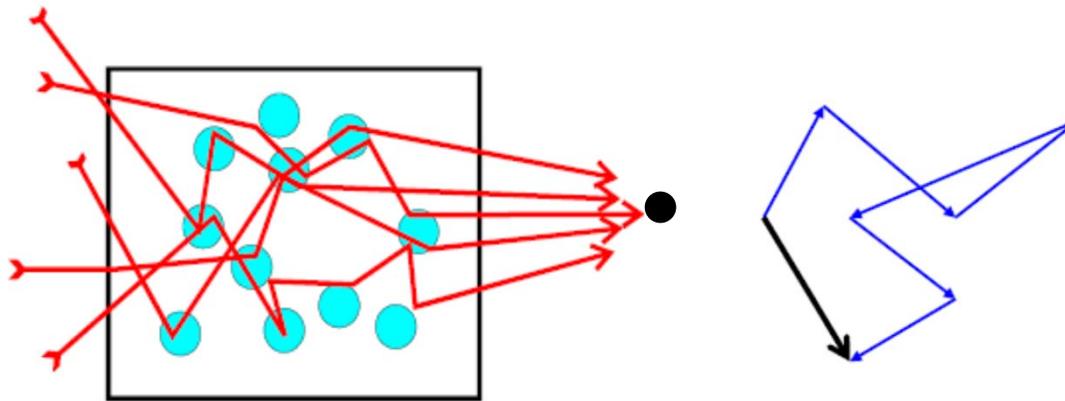
$$\frac{\rho(E_{\text{high}})}{\rho(E_{\text{rand}})} = \frac{\tau_{\text{max}} D_{\text{rand}}^2}{\langle \tau \rangle D_{\text{high}}^2} = 4.4$$

**Non-surgical high-resolution  
neural recording (read out),  
neural stimulation (write in)**



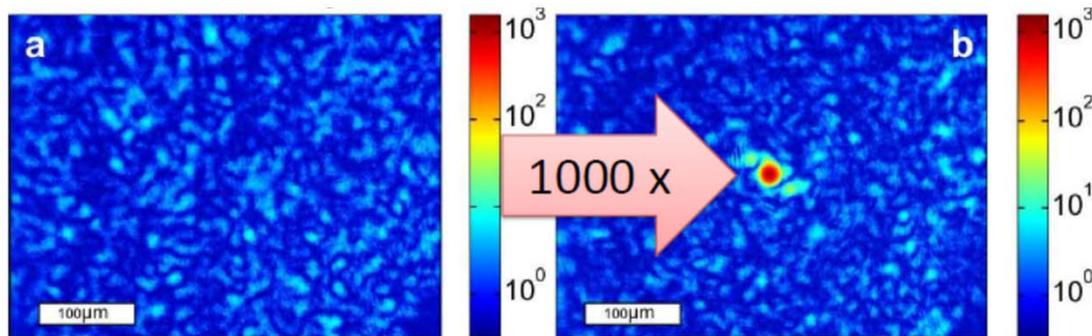
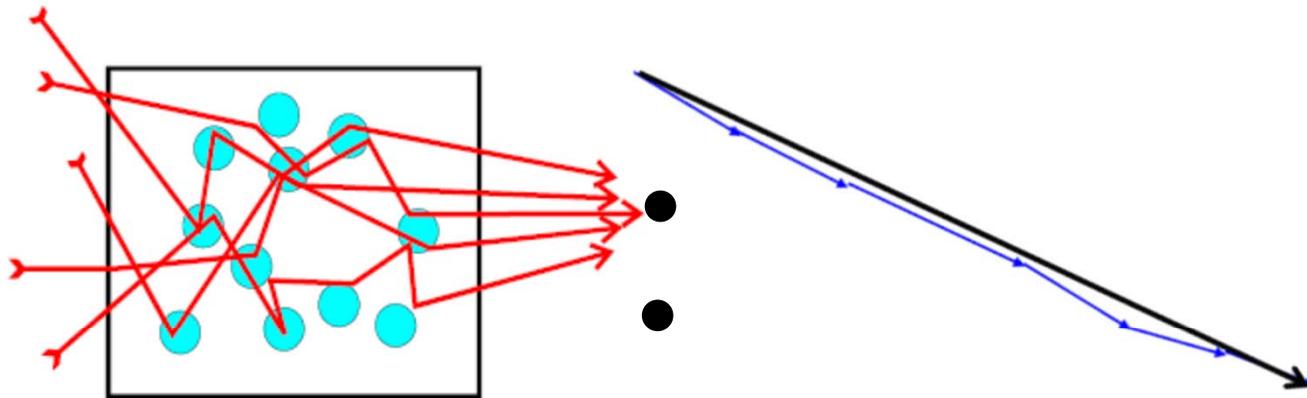
# Focusing through Scattering Medium

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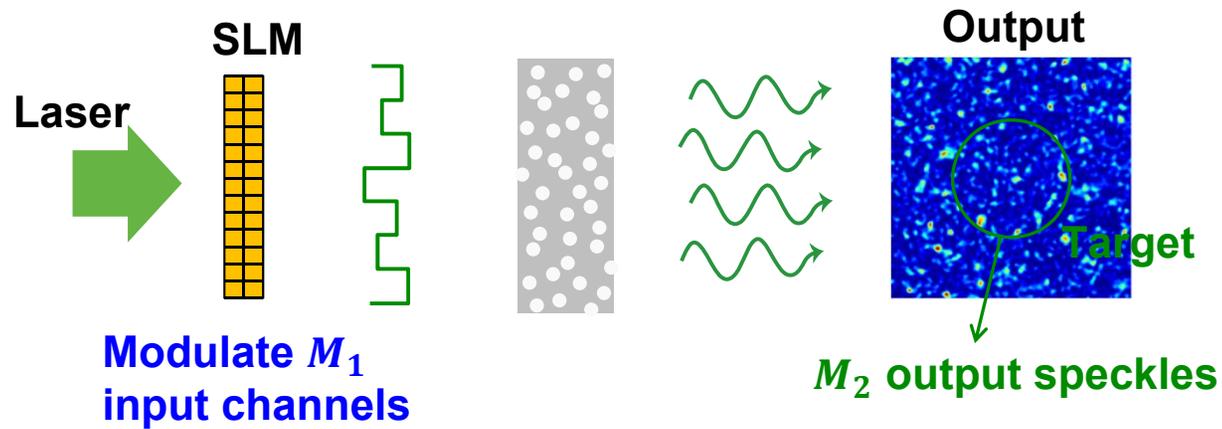
Vellekoop & Mosk, *Opt. Lett.* **32**, 2309 (2007)

# Focusing through Scattering Medium



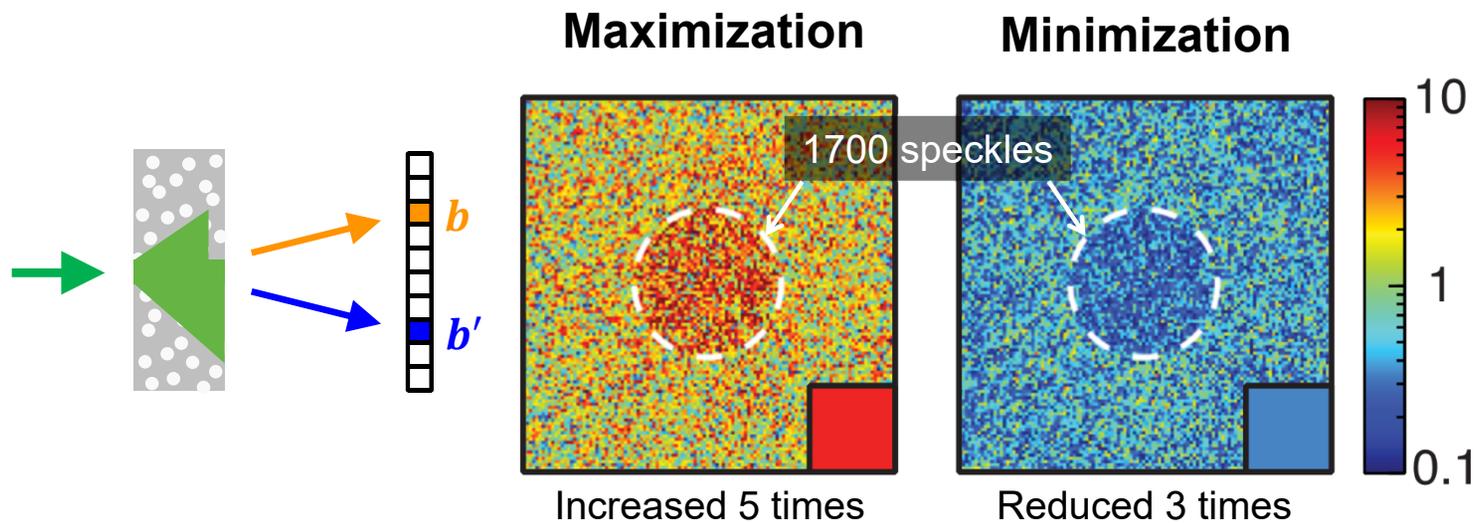
Vellekoop & Mosk, *Opt. Lett.* **32**, 2309 (2007)

# Focusing to Multiple Speckles

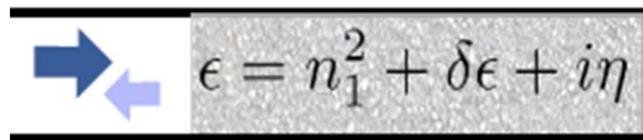


$$\begin{array}{c} M_2 \text{ output speckles} \\ \uparrow \\ |\psi_{\text{out}}\rangle = \tilde{t} |\psi_{\text{in}}\rangle \\ \downarrow \\ M_1 \text{ input channels} \end{array}$$

# Correlation-Enhanced Focusing to Large Area

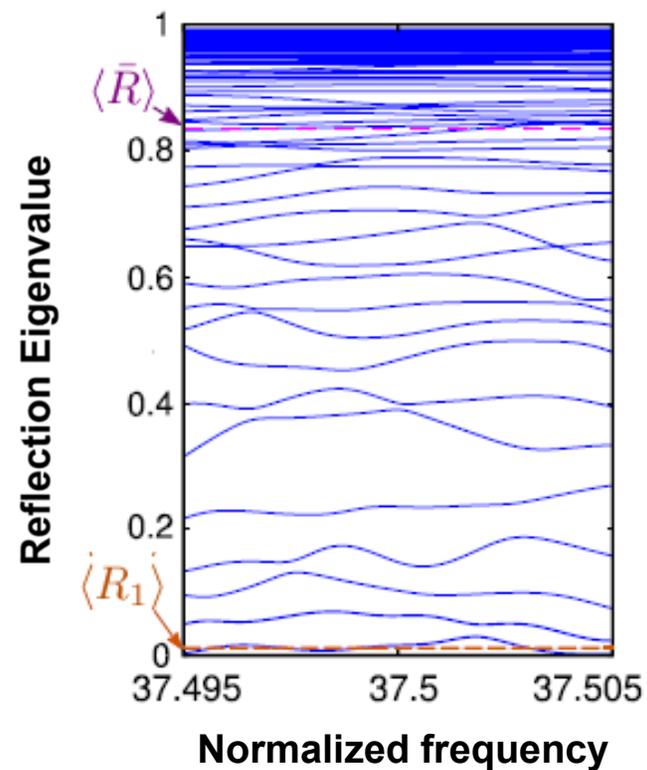


# Coherent Control of Optical Absorption



**Strong scattering**

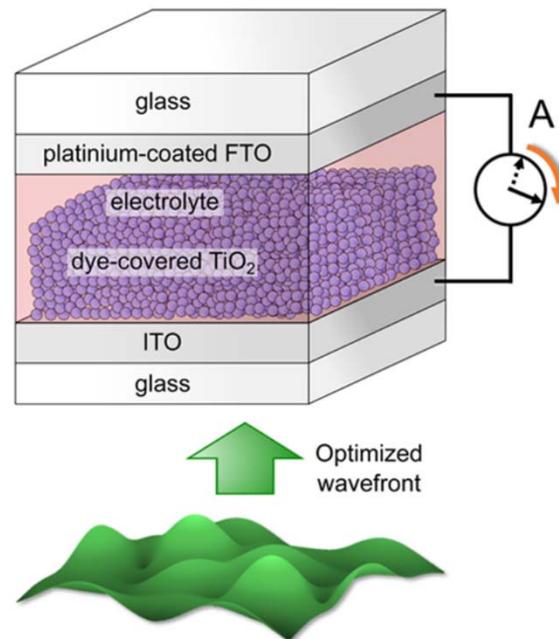
**Weak absorption**



# Coherent Control of Optical Absorption

## Dye-sensitized solar cell

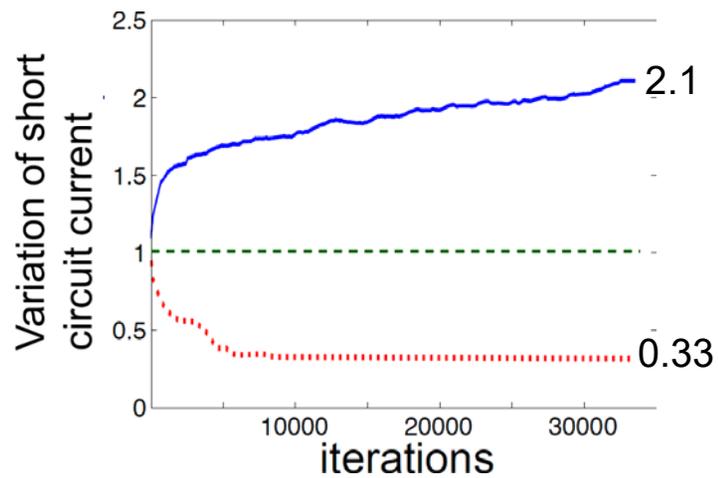
- **Scattering**
- **Absorption**



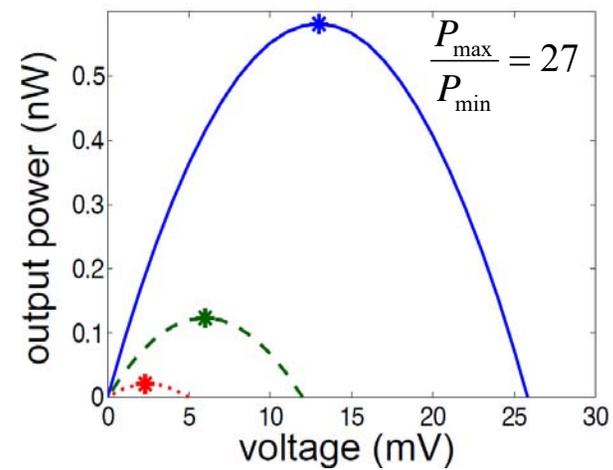
Liew *et al*, *ACS Photon.* 3, 449 (2016)

# Coherent Control of Optical Absorption

Light-induced current



Light-induced electric power



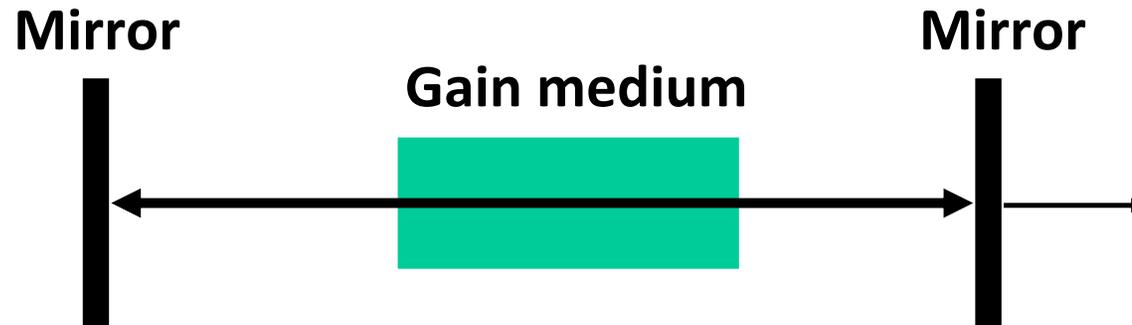


# Conventional Laser

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Essential components for a laser

- Gain medium
- Cavity



# Multiple Scattering

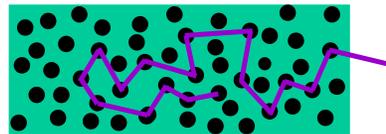
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Multiple scattering increases pathlength of light inside gain medium, enhancing amplification

Mirror



Gain medium



Mirror



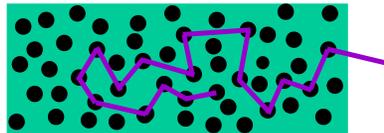
Many scatterers

# Mirrorless Laser

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**Light is trapped inside the gain medium  
without mirrors**

**Gain medium**

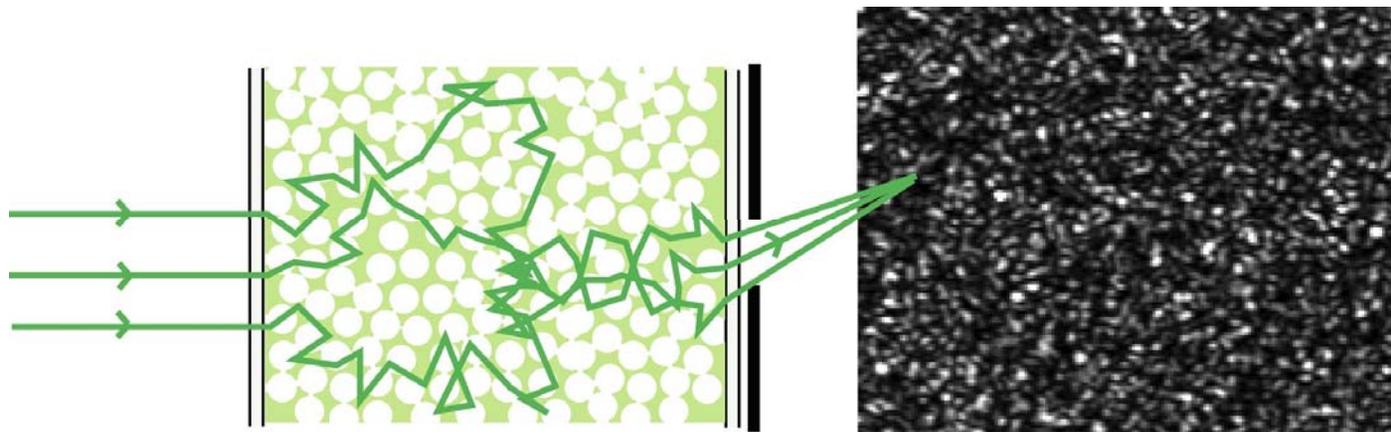


Michael Choma

HC, *Progress in Optics* 45, 317 (2003)

# Laser Speckle

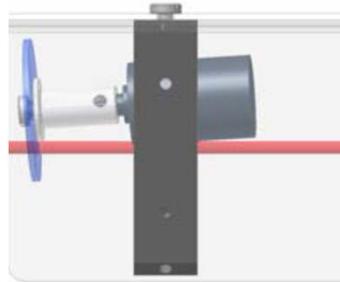
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# Averaging Out Speckle

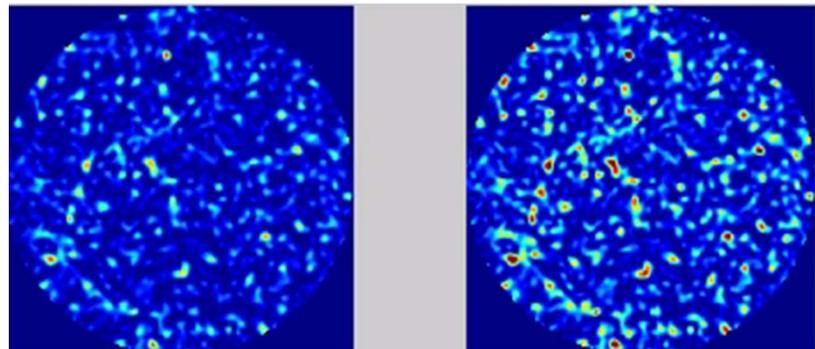
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Rotating  
diffuser



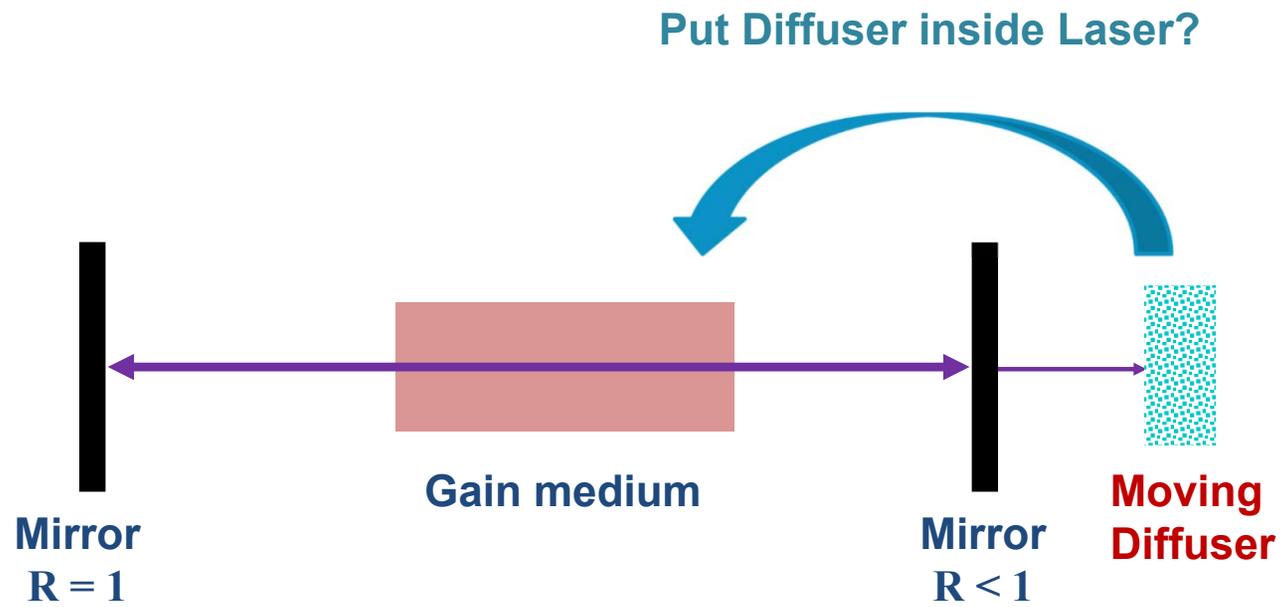
Speckle contrast

$$C \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$$

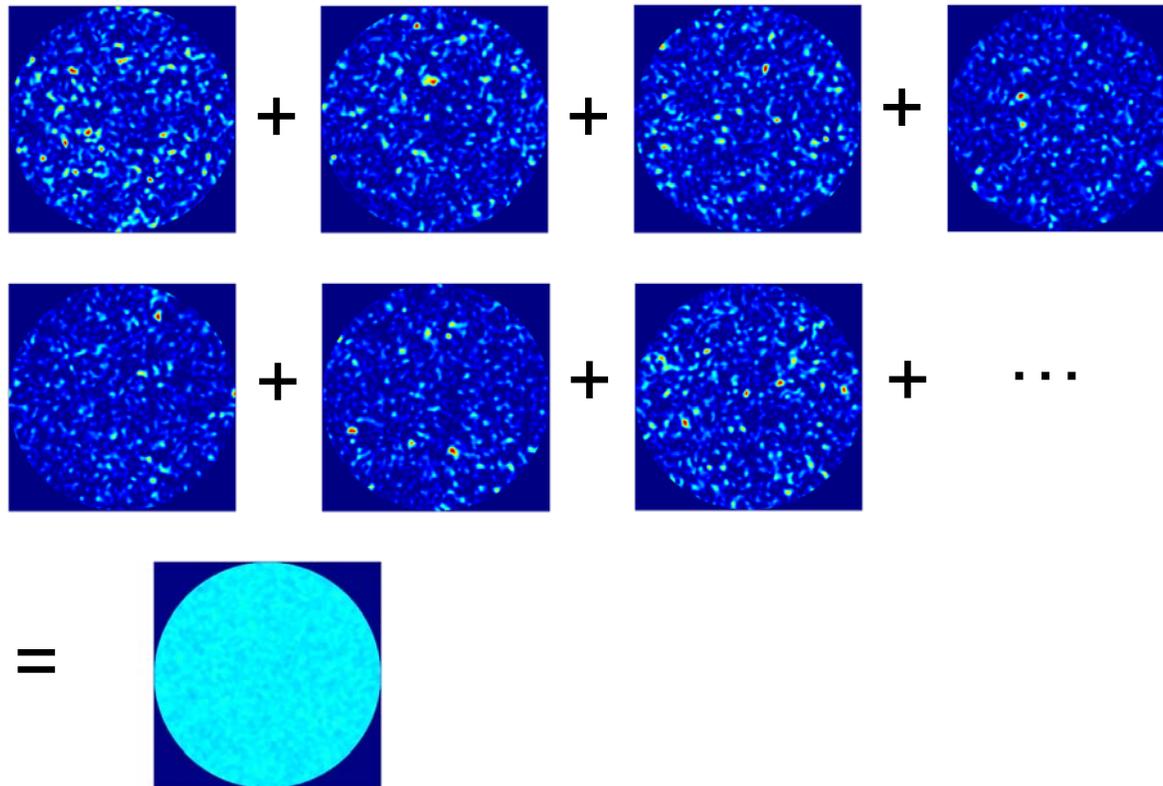


# Laser

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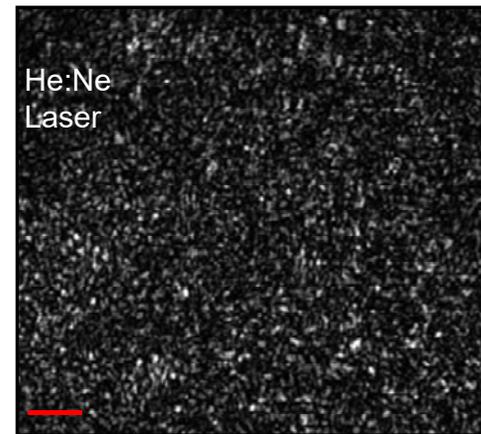
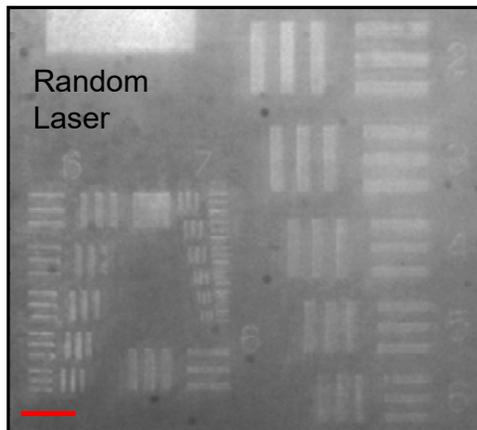
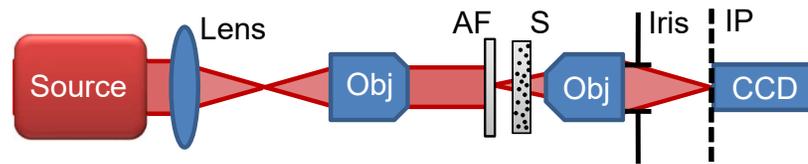
# Many Random Lasing Modes



Redding *et al*, *Opt. Lett.* 36, 3404 (2011)

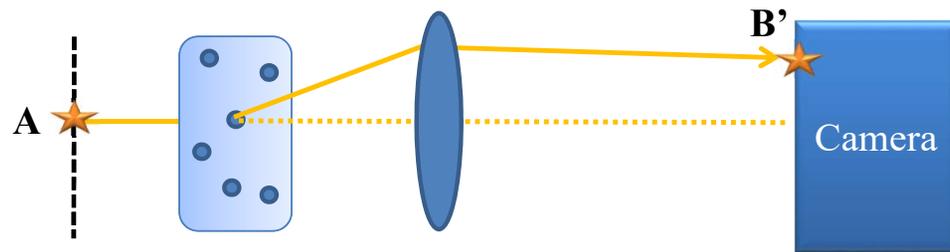
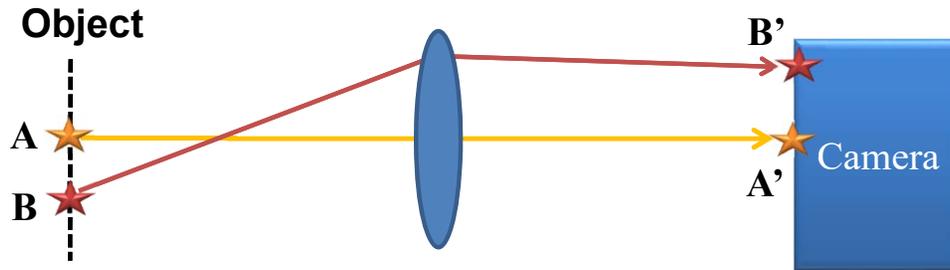
# Speckle-free Full-Field Imaging

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Redding *et al*, *Nature Photon.* 6, 355 (2012)

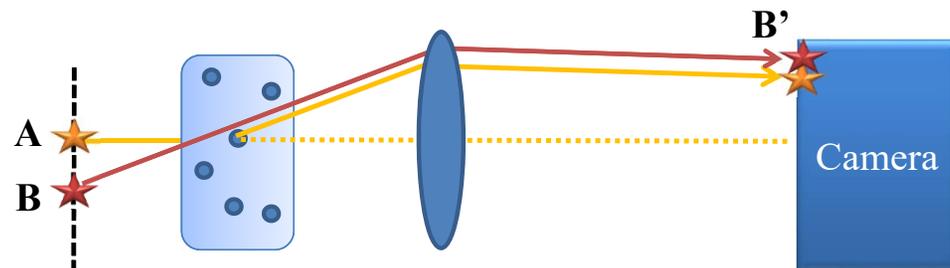
# Full Field Imaging



## Coherent illumination

$$I = |E|^2 = |E_0 + E_s|^2$$

$$= |E_0|^2 + |E_s|^2 + \underline{2E_0E_s \cos(\theta)}$$



## Incoherent illumination

$$I = I_0 + I_s$$

# Summary

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**Control light propagation and absorption in strong-scattering media by manipulating wave interference**

**Break the limit of incoherent diffusion to achieve extreme behaviour**

**Apply random laser to speckle-free full-field imaging**

# Acknowledgement

## Group Members

*Sebastien Popoff*  
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*Raktim Sarma*  
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*Yidong Chong*  
*Arthur Goetschy*

*Michael Choma*

*Charles Schmuttenmaer*  
*Stafford Sheehan*

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*Sasha Patrenko*

