

# Preparation, Properties and Applications of Chalcogenide Glasses

**Guorong Chen**

School of Materials Science and Engineering  
East China University of Science and Technology

# My Research Work

---



- **Non-oxide glasses: chalcogenide and chalcohalide glasses, their IR optical properties;**
- **Oxide glasses: scintillating glasses, luminescence glasses for LED lighting, quantum cutting effects;**
- **Radiation induced effects on glasses etc..**

**Tel : +86 21 64250189, +86 13701726294**

**E-mail : [grchen@ecust.edu.cn](mailto:grchen@ecust.edu.cn)**

**msn: [grchen54@hotmail.com](mailto:grchen54@hotmail.com)**



# References

---



- 1. A. Feltz, Amorphous Inorganic Materials and Glasses, VCH, 1993**
- 2. W. Vogel, Glass Chemistry, Springer-Verlag, 1992**
- 3. Journals: J. Non-Cryst. Solids, J. Am. Ceram. Soc., Chem. Phys. Lett., Chin. Phys. Lett., Appl. Phys. Lett., Opt. Lett., Opt. Express, Adv. Mater., etc.**

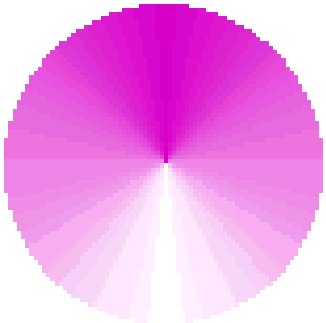


# Outline

---



- **Generality**
- **Preparation**
- **Structure and properties**
- **Thermal treatment**
- **Main applications in passive and active infrared optics**



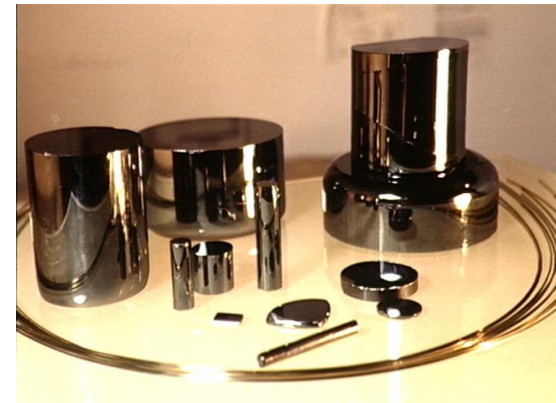
# 1. Generality

---




## The chalcogenide glasses (ChG)

- **Named after the chalcogen elements including sulfur, selenium and tellurium.**
- **To be combined with various others, such as germanium and arsenic, to form stable glasses.**



# Element Periodic Table







**Dmitry Mendeljeev**



■ remplissage des électrons s  
■ remplissage des électrons p  
■ remplissage des électrons d  
■ remplissage des électrons au niveau f

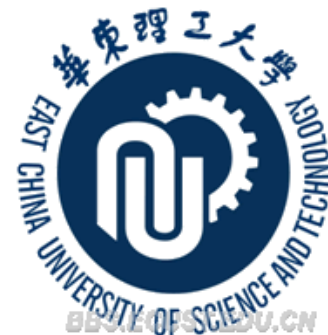
Tableau périodique des éléments

Ia	H	IIa						IIIa	IVa	Va	VIa	VIIa	VIIIa	IXa	Xa
1		2						5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Li	Be						B	C	N	O	F	Ne		
3		4						13	14	15	16	17	18		
	Na	Mg						Al	Si	P	S	Cl	Ar		
11		12						21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	K	Ca	IIIb		VIIb	VIIIb	Ib	IId							
19		20	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As
37		38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51
	Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb
	Cs	Ba	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83
55		56	Lu	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi
	Fr	Ra	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115
87		88	Lr	Rf	Db	Sg	Bh	Hs	Mt	Uun	Uuu	Uub	Uut	Uuq	Uup
			59	60	61	62	63								
			Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu								
			89	90	91	92	93	94	95						
			Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am								
			100	101											
			Fm	Md											



# Tracing Back

---



**1870's       $As_2S_3$  glass formed**

**1950's      ChG discovered as semiconductor**

**1960's      ChG used as IR transmitting materials (passive applications)**

**1990's      Active applications - interest for IR photonic technologies**



# Passive Optics

---



The passive applications utilize chalcogenide fibers as a light conduit from one location to another **without changing the optical properties.**



J. S. Sanghera, et al., *J. Non-Cryst. Solids*, 1999, 256-257:1-16



# Active Optics

---

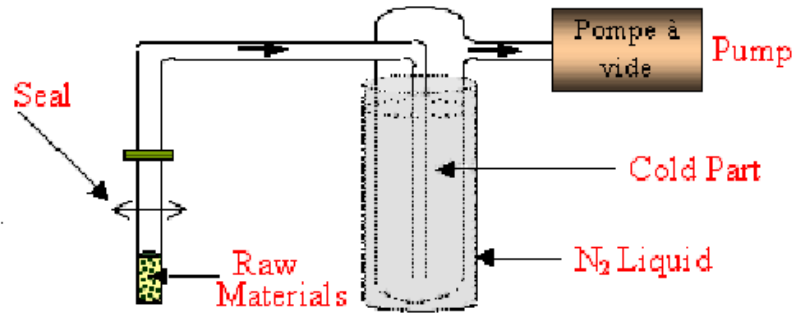


Active applications of chalcogenide glass fibers are where the initial light propagating through the fiber is modified by a process.

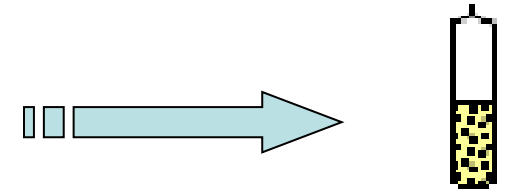


**J. S. Sanghera, et al., *J. Non-Cryst. Solids*, 1999, 256-257:1-16**

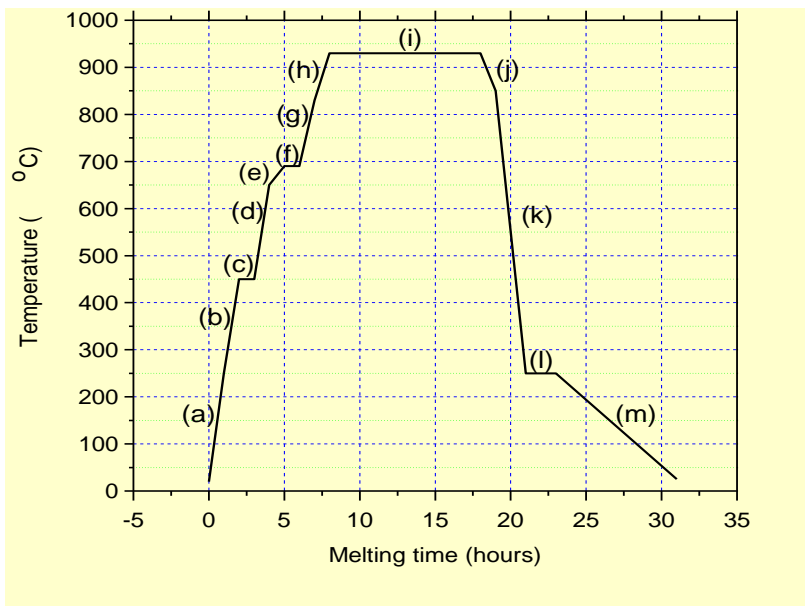
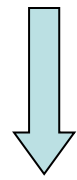
# 2. Preparation



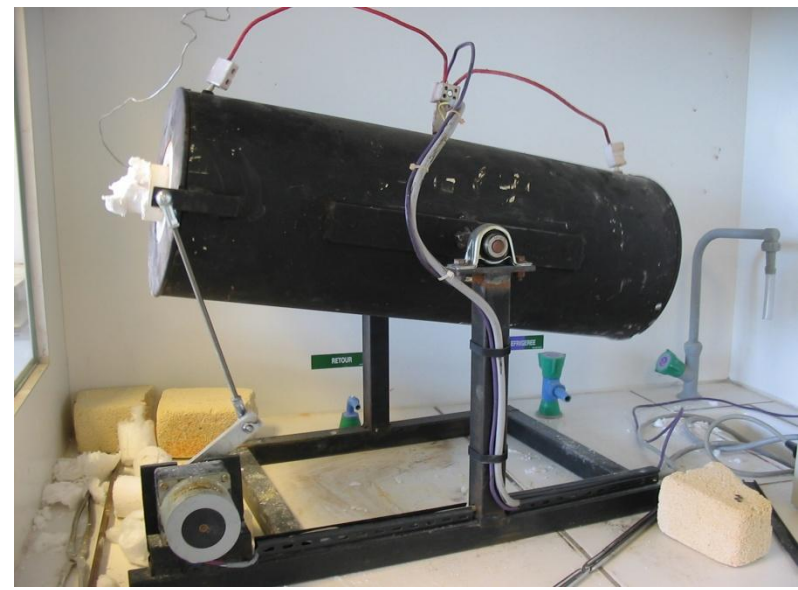
Vacuum sealing ( $10^{-3}$  Pa)



Quartz glass ampoule with batch



Melting process



Rocking furnace

# Purification

---

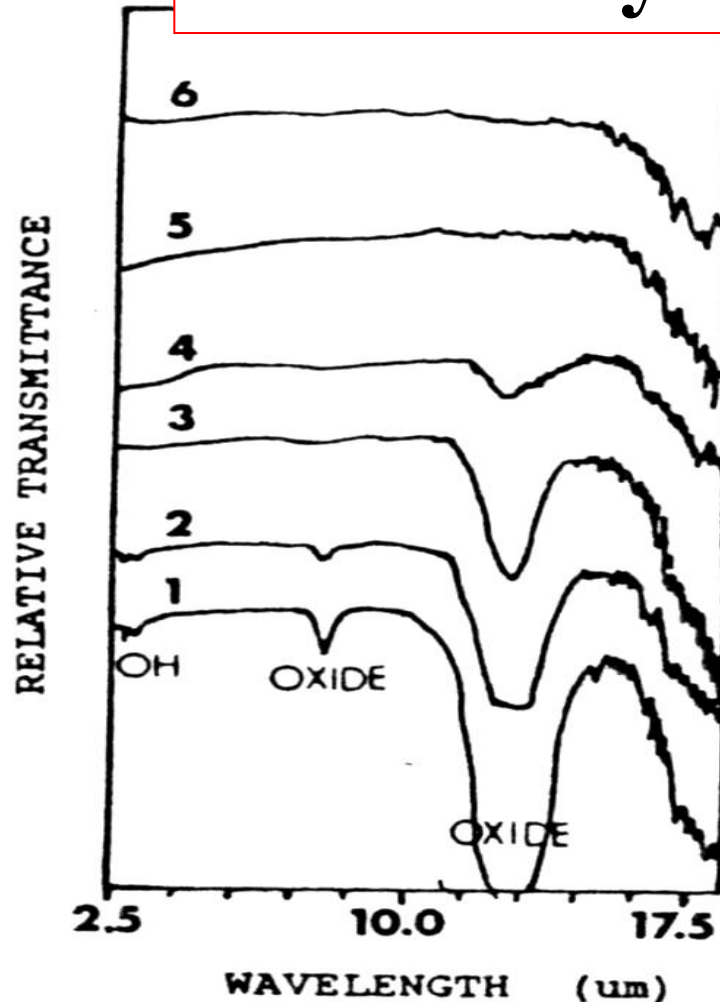


**Purification in order to remove impurities containing O, H and C**

- **Etching ampoule in hydrofluoric acid**
- **Distillations by heating the batch components in situ under vacuum**
- **Addition of oxygen getter for examples, Zr, Al, Mg, Ca, Gd)**



# An exa Naval Research Laboratory USA



IR transmission spectra  
of As-Ge-Se-Te system  
glass under different  
purification conditions

- 1 Unpurified
- 2 Se purified
- 3 As, Se purified
- 4 As, Se, Te purified
- 5 Glass (3) distilled
- 6 Glass (4) distilled

# Purification virus O<sub>2</sub> content



<b>Purification conditions</b>	<b>Abs. coefficient <math>\alpha</math> (cm<sup>-1</sup> at 10.6 <math>\mu</math>m)</b>	<b>Estimated O<sub>2</sub> content (ppm wt)</b>
<b>Ge-As-Se system</b>		
<b>1 Unpurified</b>	<b>0.2030</b>	<b>144.2</b>
<b>2 As, Se purified</b>	<b>0.0991</b>	<b>3.1</b>
<b>3 Glass distilled</b>	<b>0.0454</b>	<b>1.3</b>
<b>Ge-As-Se-Te system</b>		
<b>1 Unpurified</b>	<b>0.1814</b>	<b>103.4</b>
<b>2 Se purified</b>	<b>0.1160</b>	<b>66.7</b>
<b>3 As, Se purified</b>	<b>0.0893</b>	<b>17.4</b>
<b>4 As, Se, Te purified</b>	<b>0.0308</b>	<b>5.6</b>
<b>5 Glass (3) distilled</b>	<b>0.0209</b>	<b>0.8</b>
<b>6 Glass (4) distilled</b>	<b>0.0071</b>	<b>0.6</b>

# 3 Thermal Treatment



- **Shortcoming of ChG:**  
**weak bond strength**

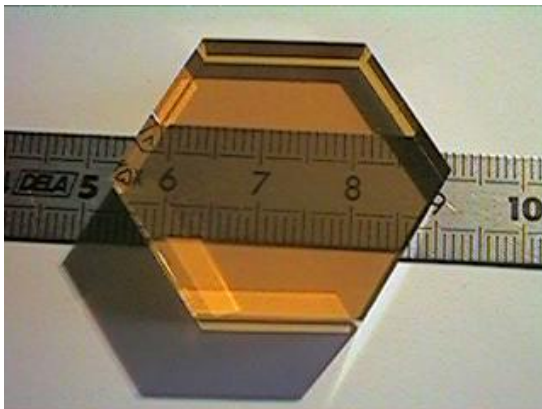
$$v = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{\kappa}{\mu}}$$

$v$  = **vibration frequency**

$\kappa$  = **force constant**

$\mu$  = **reduced mass of the vibrating ions**

$$(\mu = m_c m_o / (m_c + m_o))$$

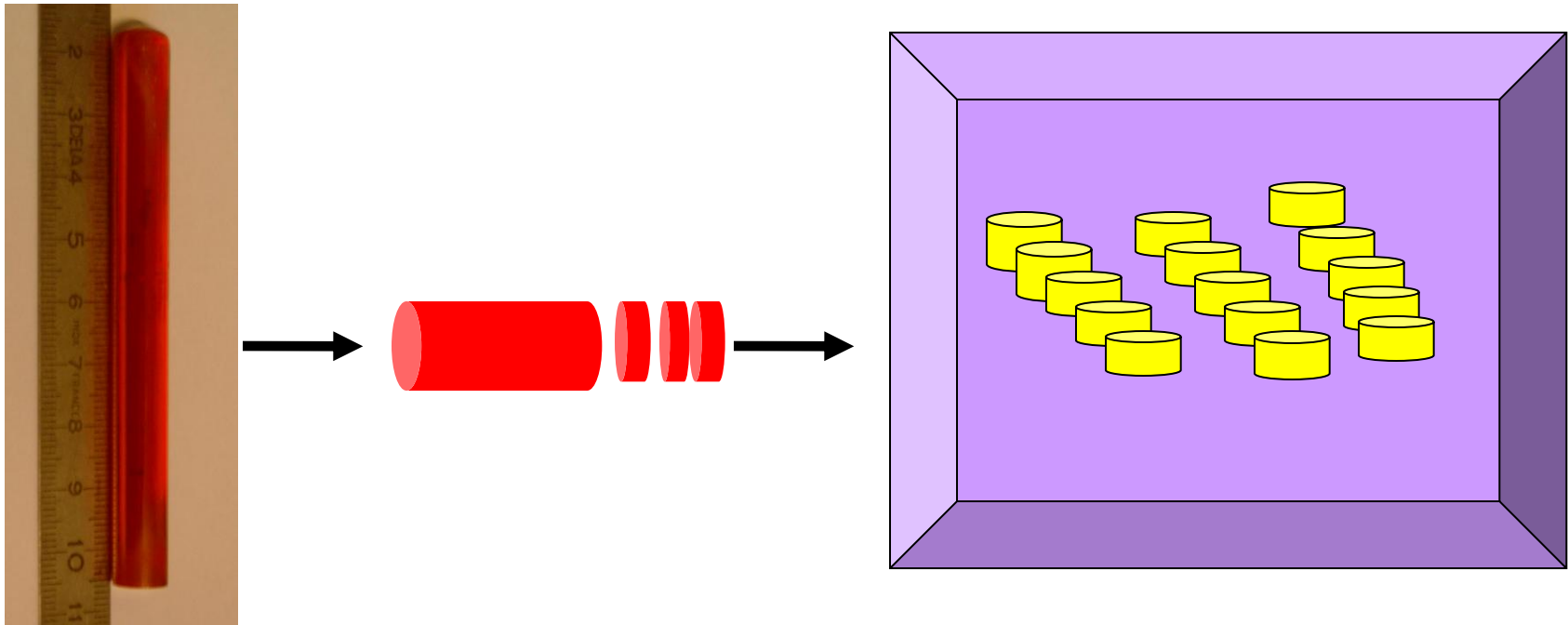


# Controlled crystallization

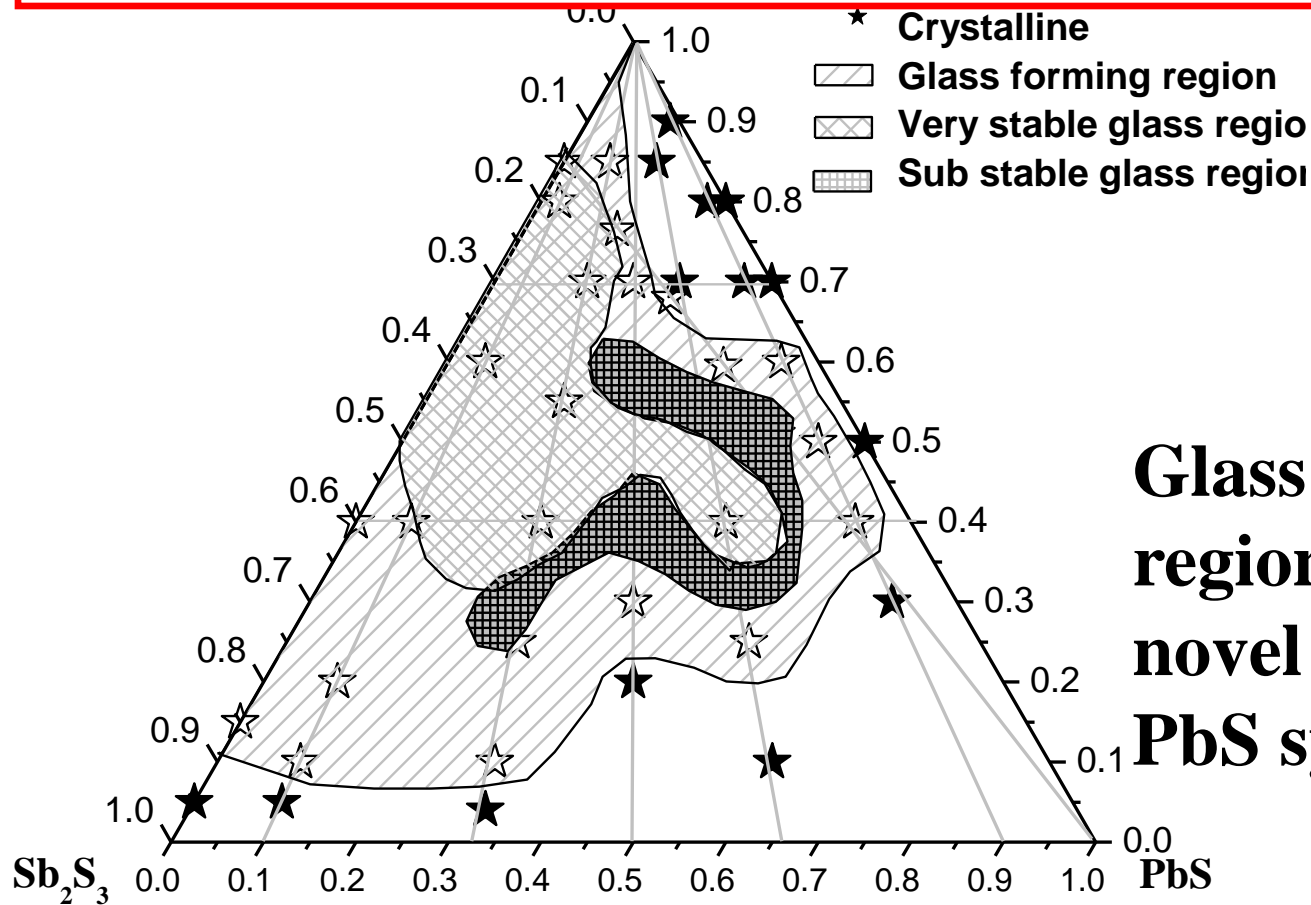
---

## Key points:

- Glass composition
- Thermal treatment conditions



# Université de Rennes 1, France ECUST, China



**Glass forming  
region of the  
novel  $\text{GeS}_2$ - $\text{Sb}_2\text{S}_3$ -  
 $\text{PbS}$  system**

Fang Xia, et al., *J. Am. Ceram. Soc.*, 2006, 89(7) 2154-57



# Crystallization ability

---



- **VSG region where glasses with larger  $\Delta T$  ( $> 170^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $T_c - T_g$ ), or no exothermal peak in DSC unable crystallized even for long time ( $>100$  h) heating .**
- **Glasses near the border of glass forming region not thermally stable and tended to crystallize but very difficult to control crystal growth thus affecting IR transmission of materials.**



# Controlled crystallization

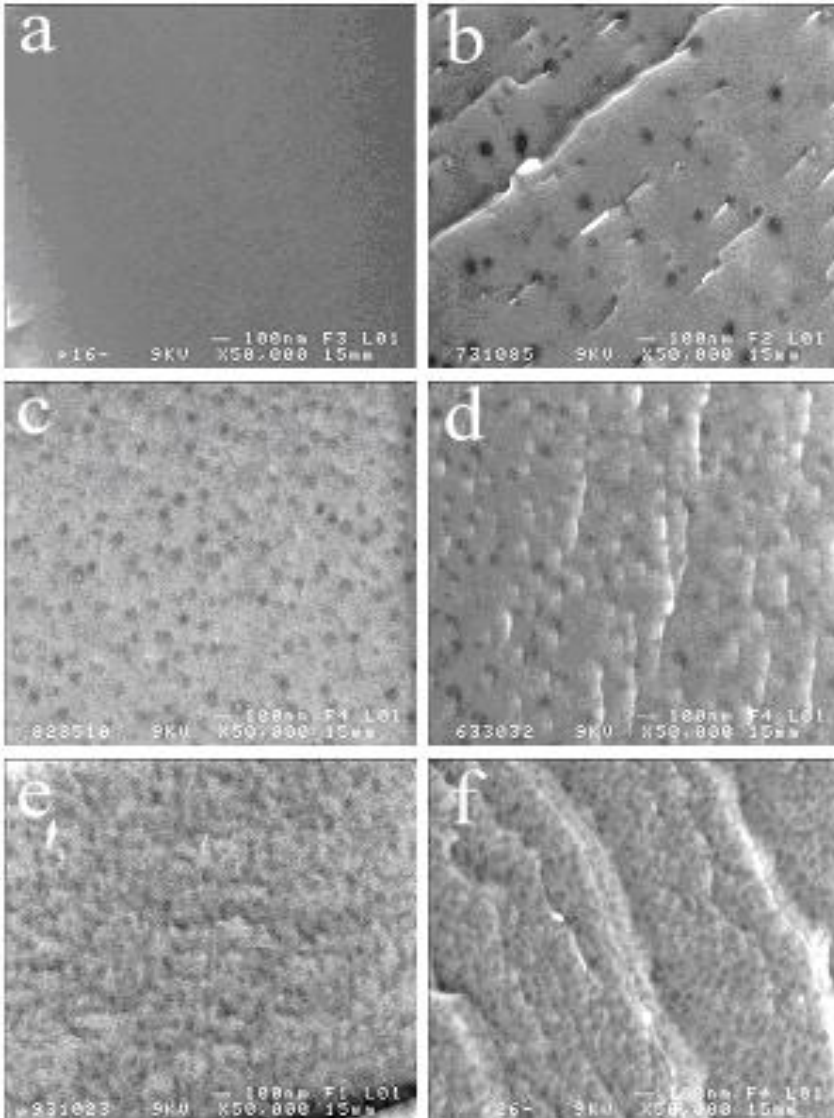
---



- **Compositions suitable for controlled crystallization fall into dark shadow area which is classified as sub-stable glasses (SSG) region.**
  - **With these glasses under proper annealing conditions, IR transmitting glass ceramics with improved properties can be obtained.**



# SEM results



- (a) P9 at 330°C for 163 h,
- (b) P7 at 300°C for 5 h,
- (c) P5 at 340°C for 15 h,
- (d) P5 at 310°C for 15 h,
- (e) P5 at 310°C for 32 h,
- (f) P5 at 310°C for 85 h.

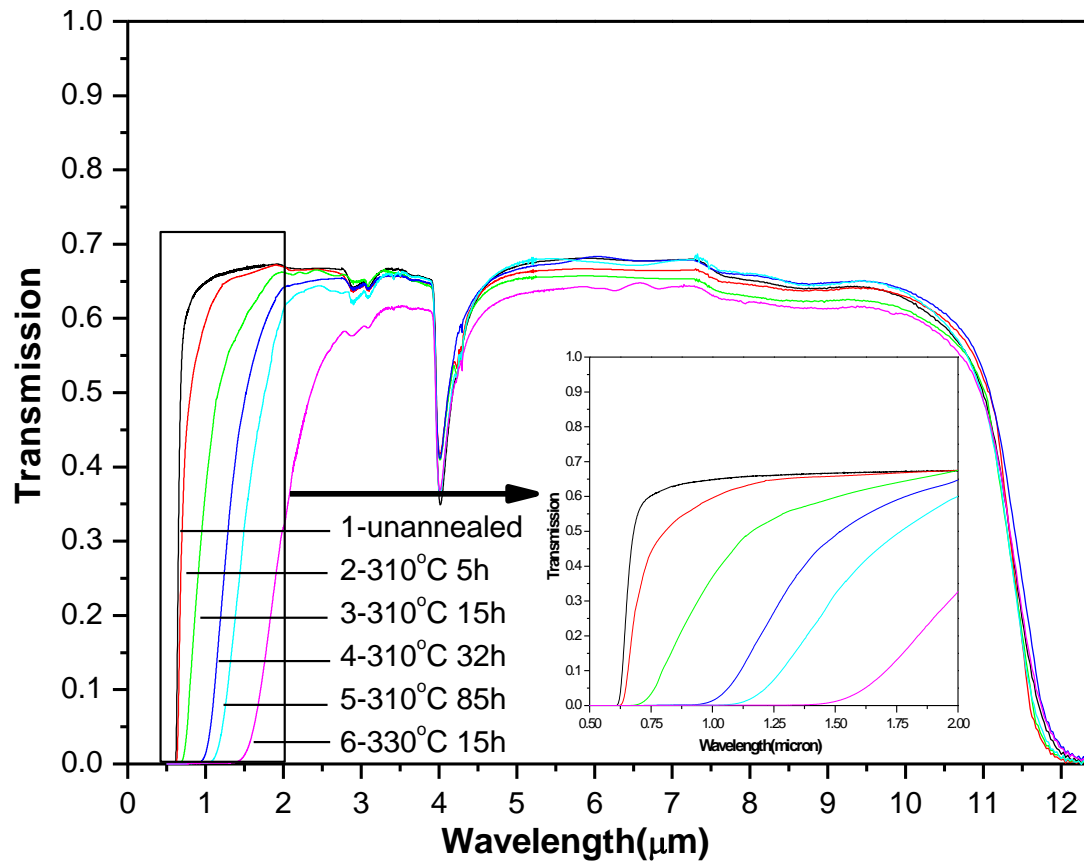
**P5: 51GeS<sub>2</sub>-9Sb<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>-40PbS**

**P7: 30GeS<sub>2</sub>-35Sb<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>-35PbS**

**P9: 55GeS<sub>2</sub>-30Sb<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>-15PbS**

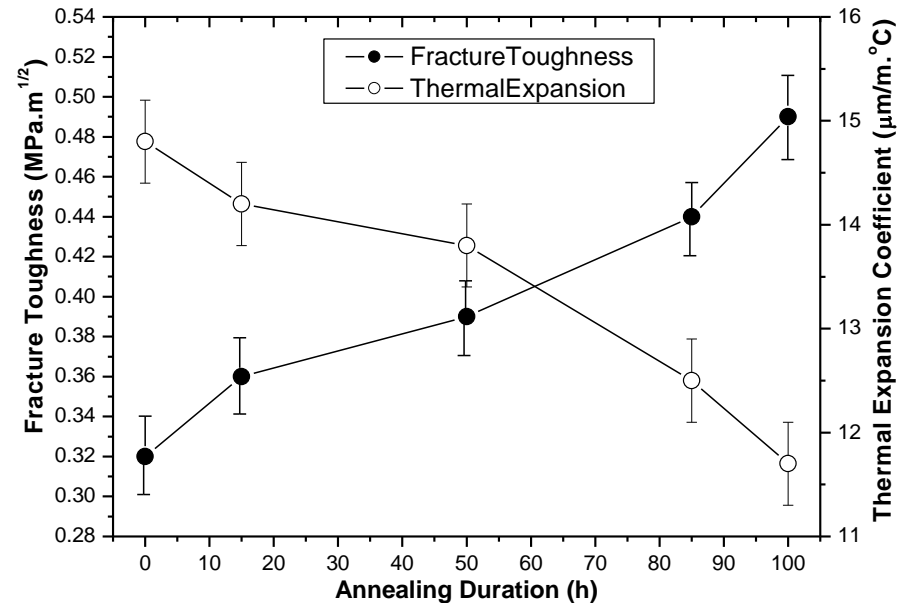
**Crystal size: < 100 nm**

# IR transmittance



**IR transmission of glass-ceramic beyond 2μm is nearly the same as the glass matrix.**

# Resistance to fracture

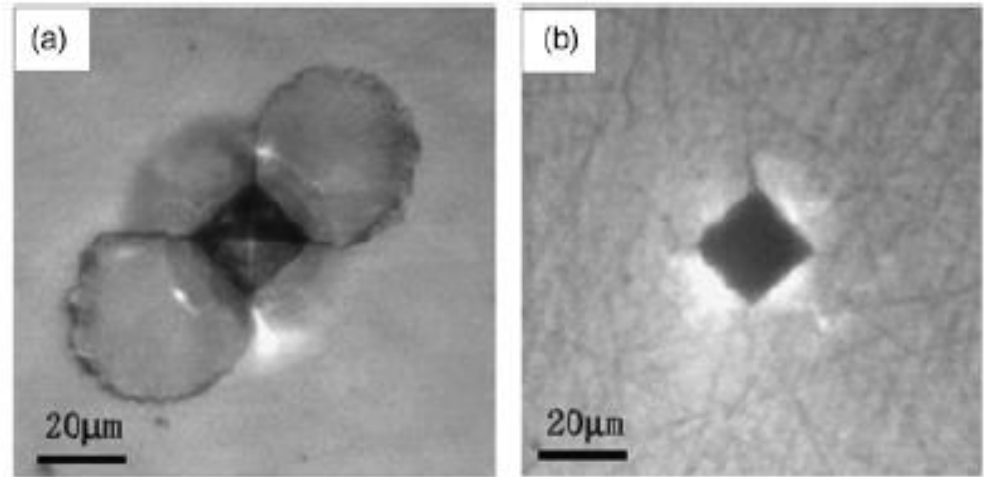
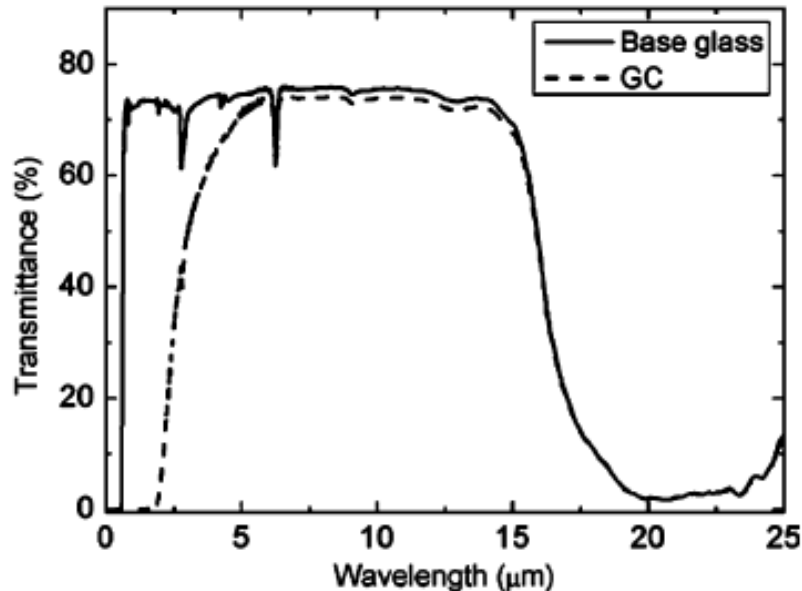


**Glass-ceramics derived from SSG possess higher fracture toughness and lower thermal expansion coefficients.**

# Shanghai Institute of Ceramics, China Université de Rennes 1, France

物理工

UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF CHINA



**Controlled crystallization of  $\text{GeSe}_2\text{-Ga}_2\text{Se}_3\text{-CsI}$  ChGs during molding: (left) IR transmission spectra; (right) Resistance to crack propagation of (a) the base glass and (b) glass-ceramic**

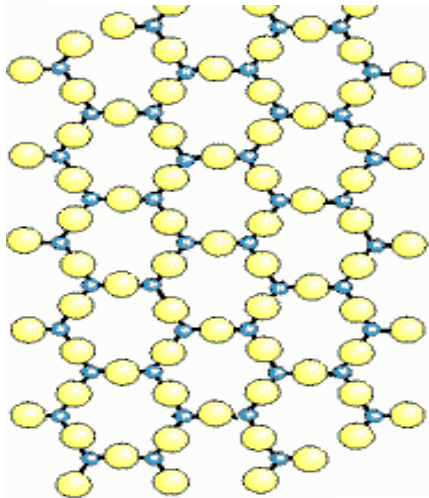
# 4 Structure and Properties

---

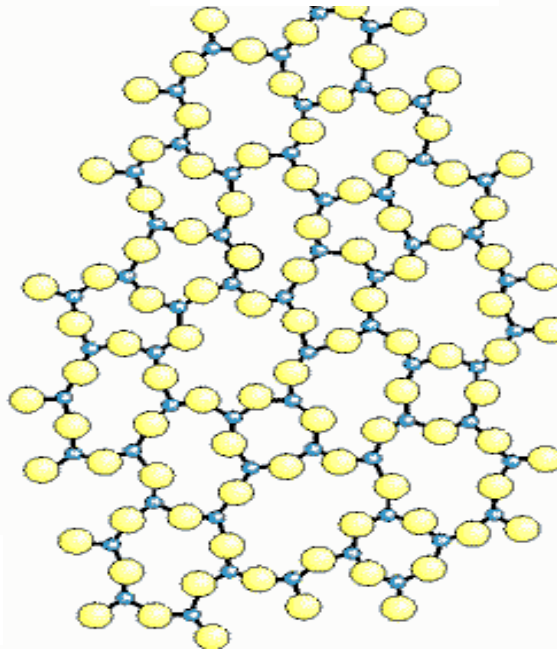


**A comparison of glassy-like  $A_2B_3$  structure with crystalline one after Zachariasen**

**Crystalline**



**Glassy**



**Feature of glass network:  
Short-range in order, long-range disorder**

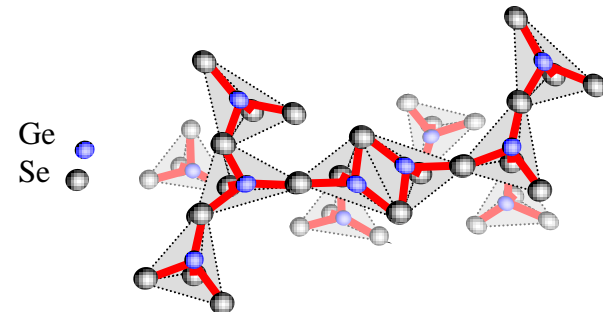
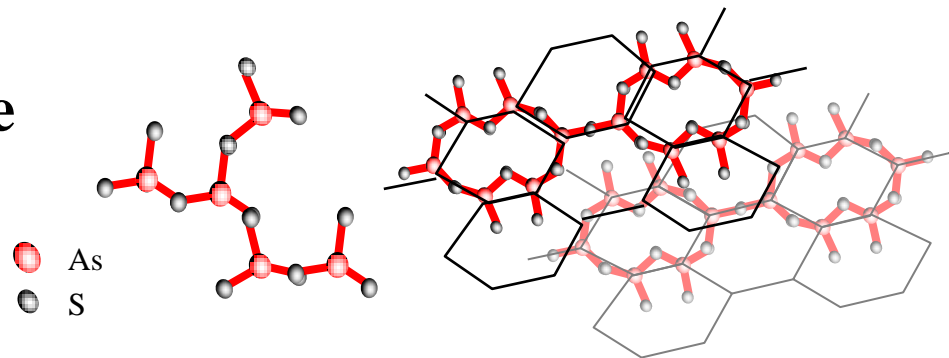
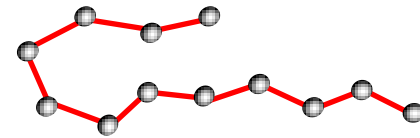


# ChG: Structural models



ChG can be classified by reference to dimensionality

- 1D spaghetti-type, such as Se glass made of infinite chains
- 2D distorted planar glasses such as  $\text{As}_2\text{S}_3$  made from connections of 2 coordinated S atoms and 3 coordinated As atoms
- 3D glasses, such as  $\text{GeSe}_2$  being result of  $\text{GeSe}_4$  tetrahedra connections



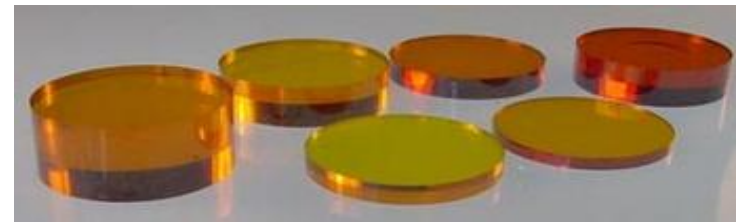


# Properties

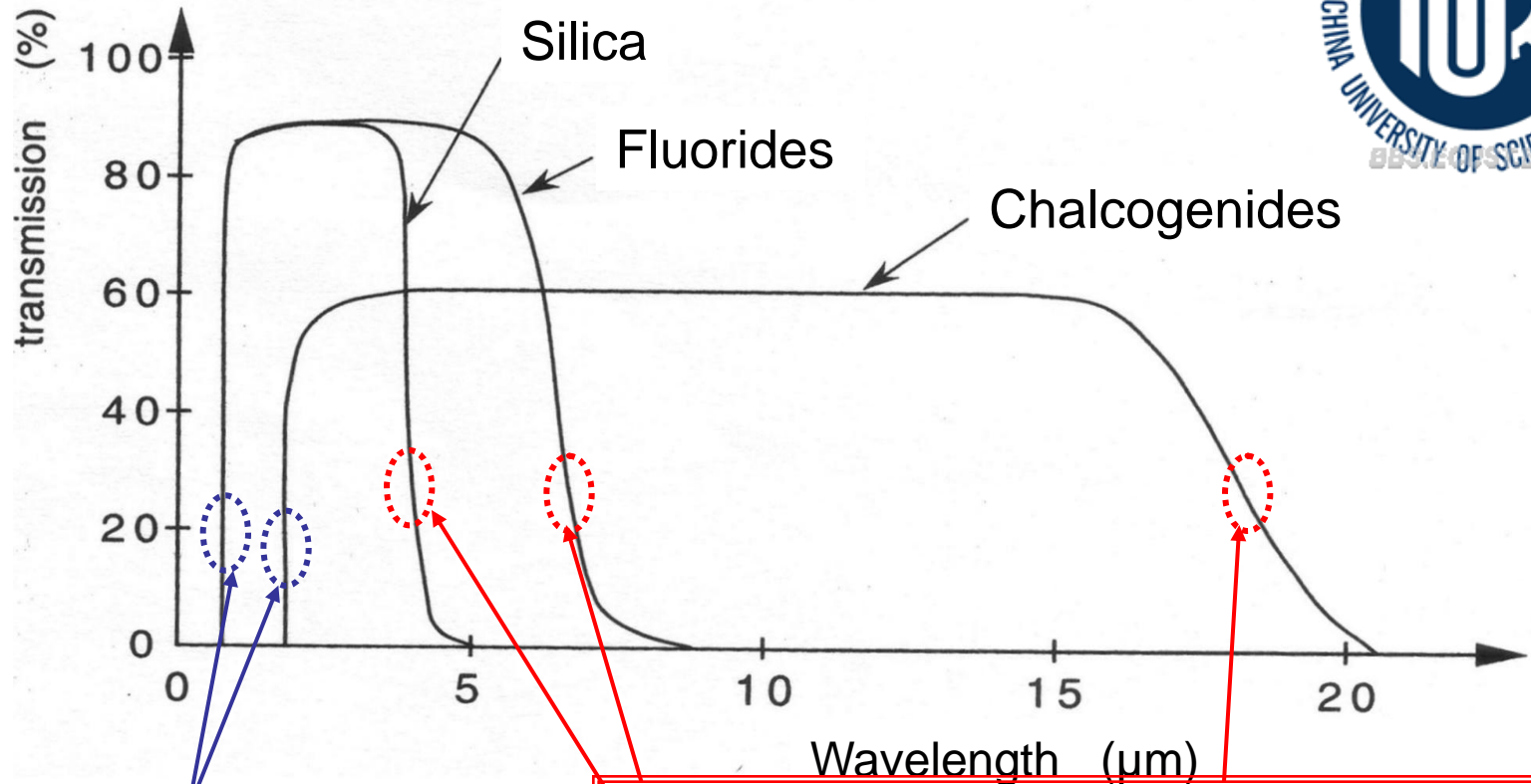
---

## Different from oxide glasses

- **Narrower bandgap (1-3 eV)**
  - **semi-conducting**
- **Lower phonon energy (<350 cm<sup>-1</sup>)**
  - **IR transmittance**
- **Photo-induced effects**



# Optical transmission



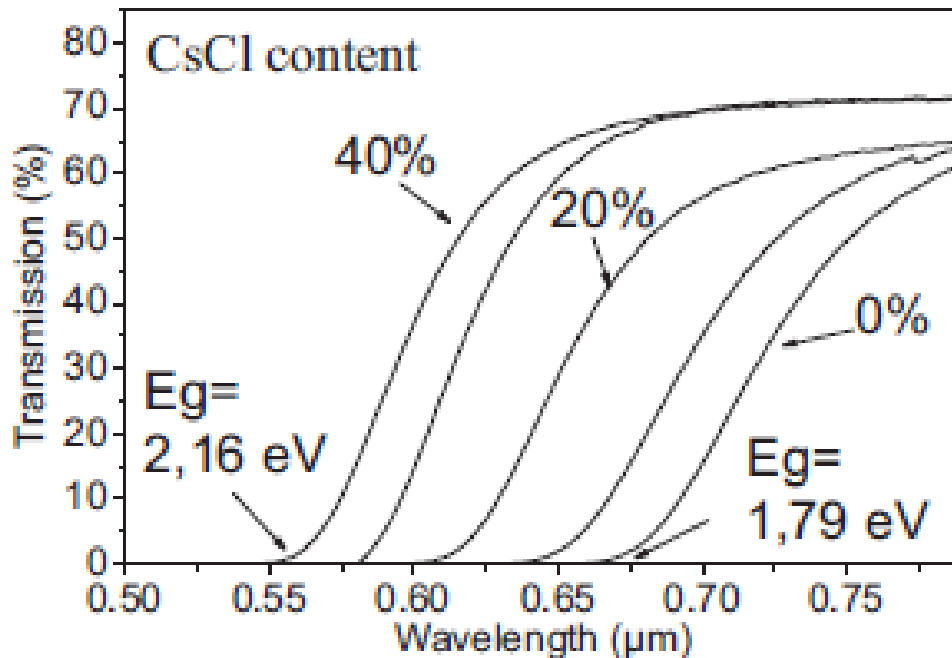
Absorption due to electronic transitions between VB and CB

Absorption of light due to vibration modes between atoms :

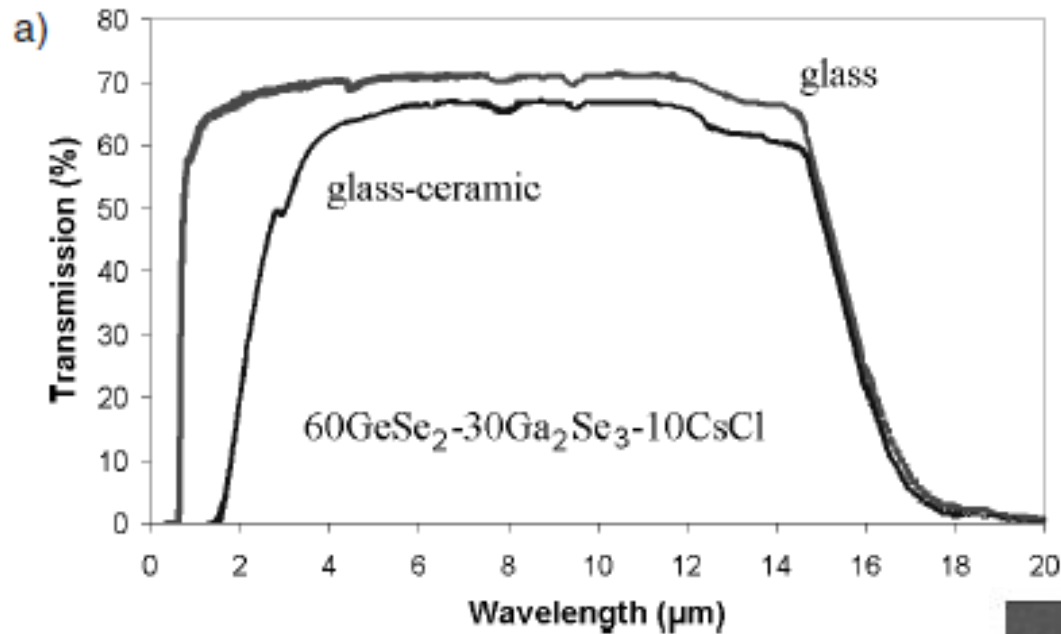
Silica:	Si-O : 1100 cm <sup>-1</sup>
Fluorozirconates:	Zr-F : 580 cm <sup>-1</sup>
Sulphides:	Ge-S : 350 cm <sup>-1</sup>
Selenides, Tellurides	< 300 cm <sup>-1</sup>

# Université de Rennes 1, France

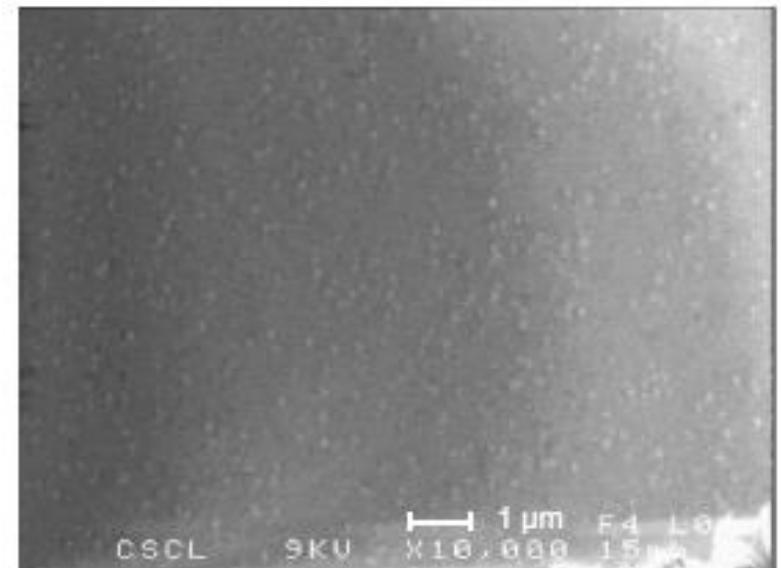
An example



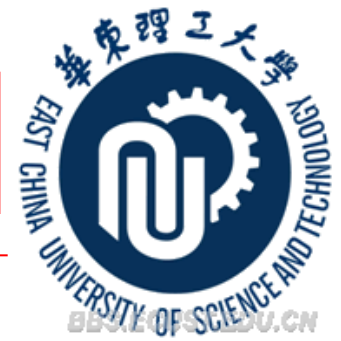
Evolution of the bandgap energy for  $\text{GeSe}_2$ - $\text{Ga}_2\text{Se}_3$ -CsCl glasses with 0, 10, 20, 30, and 40 mol% CsCl.



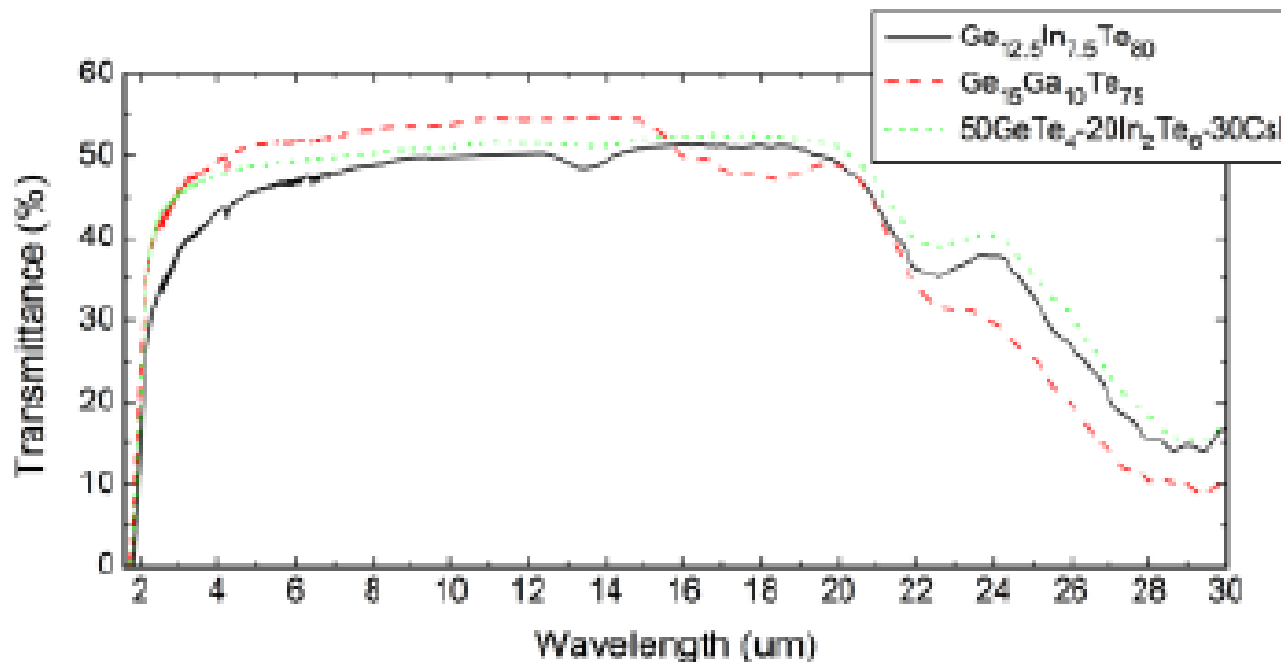
**Grains homogeneous (ca. 100 nm) with uninfluenced FIR transmittance and the same  $\alpha$ , and almost doubled toughness from 0.227 to 0.425.**



# University of Arizona, USA



Tellurium based glasses have excellent transmission in 3-20  $\mu\text{m}$ . Especially, Ge-As-Te system exhibits the best stability, more amenable for larger scale production.

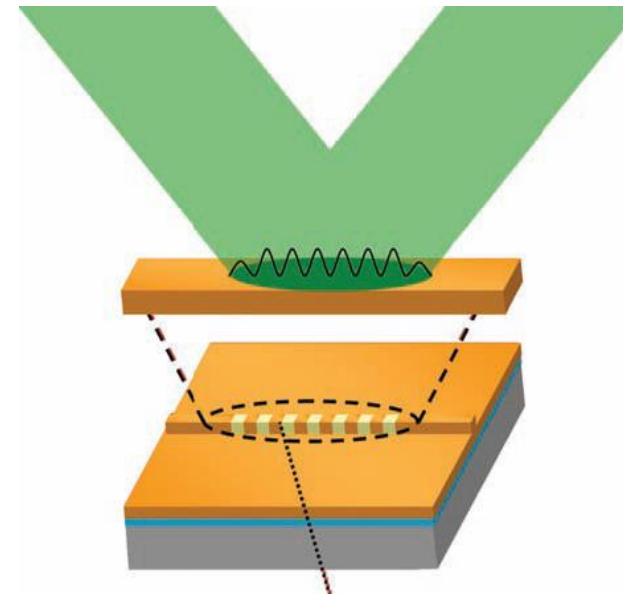


P. Lucas, et al., *J. Am. Ceram. Soc.*, 2009, 92, 2920

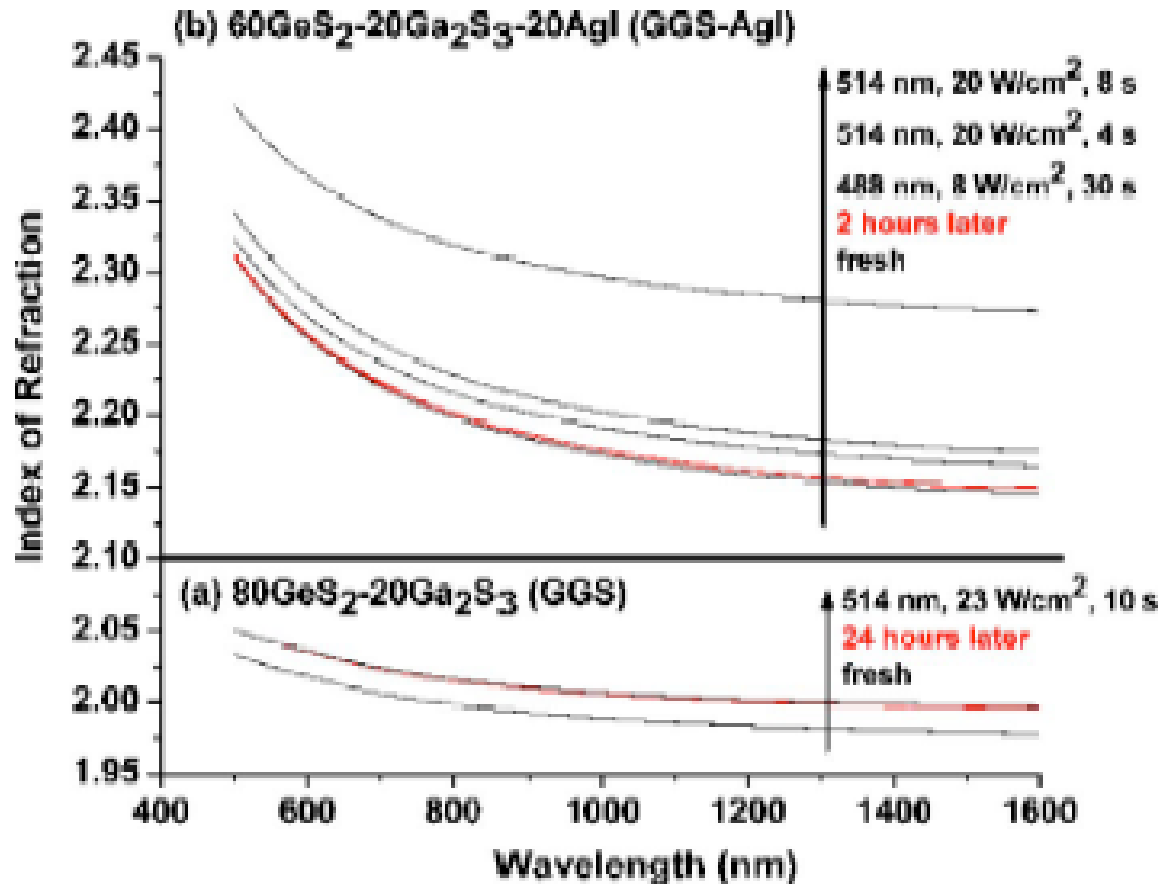
# Photo-induced (PI) effects

---

- **PI dissolution (doping)**
- **PI refractive index (RI) change**
- **PI phase change**
- **PI bandgap energy change (darkening or bleaching)**
- **PI contraction**
- .....



$$\Delta n > 6\%$$



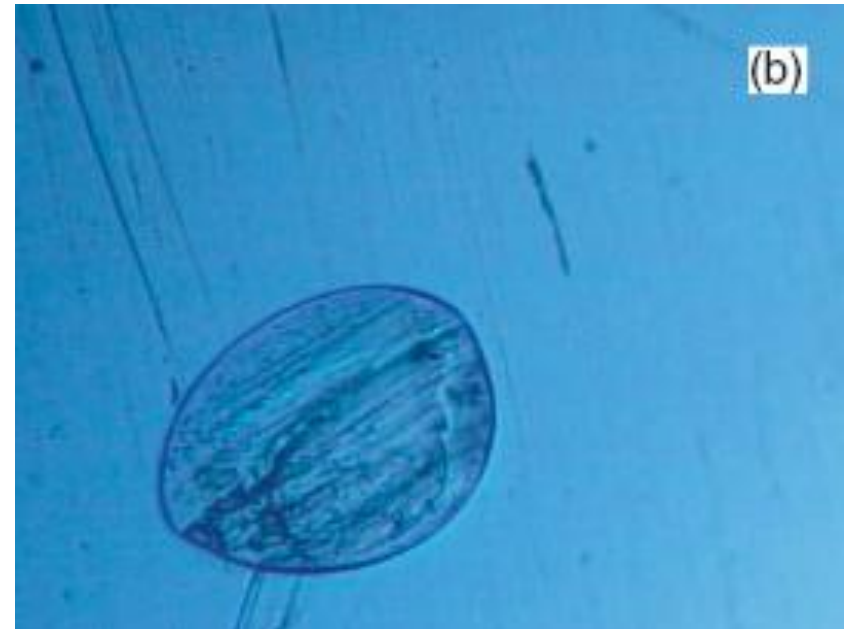
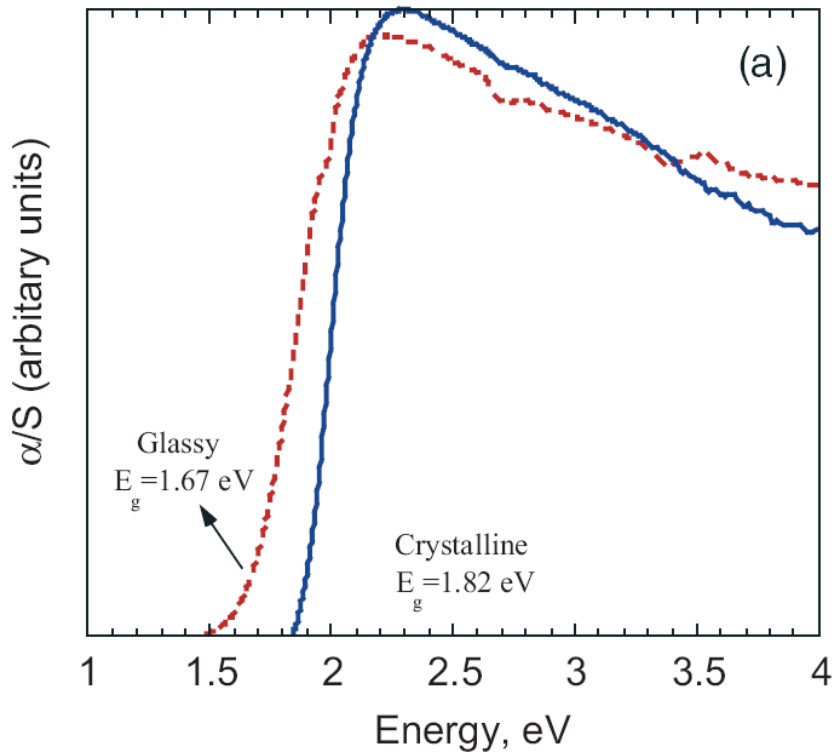
**Changes of RIs of GeGaS (a) and GeGaS-AgI (b) before and after laser exposing. The red curves are obtained 24 h and 2 h later after the laser exposing**

# Michigan State University, USA

# Aristotle Univ. of Thessaloniki, Greece

UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE  
BEST OF SCIENCE

1.82 eV  $\rightleftarrows$  1.67 eV



**Schema of photo-induced phase change material  $\text{KSb}_5\text{S}_8$**

**T. Kyratsi, et al., *Adv. Mater.*, 2003,15(17):1429**



# Lehigh AECUS

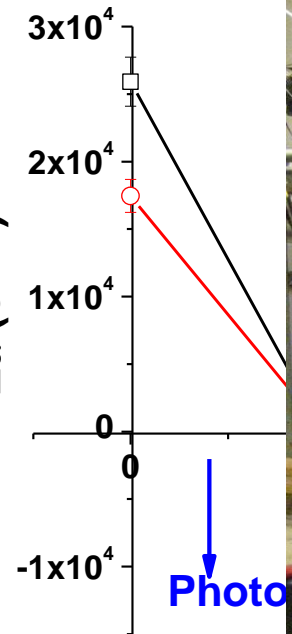
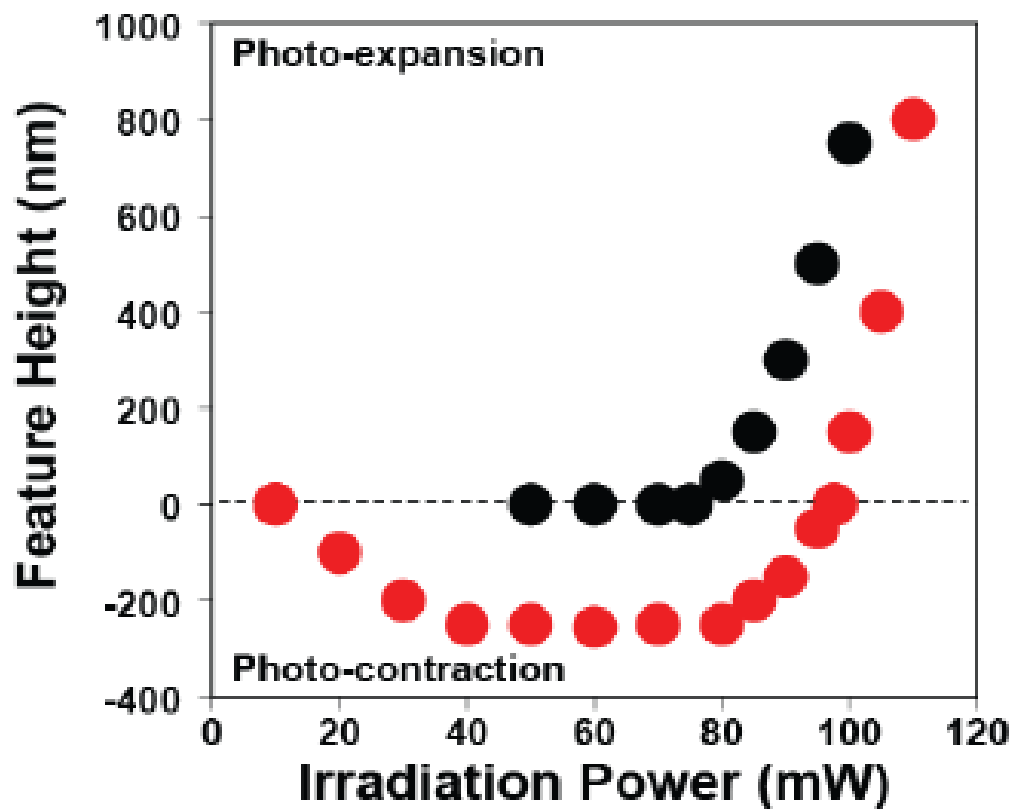
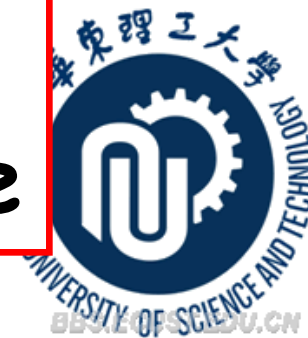


photo-stable  
Se<sub>55</sub> films

Variation  
( $\Delta\alpha$ ) vs. C  
system

Guang Yang, et al., *Opt. Express*, 2008,16:10565

University of Arizona, USA  
Université de Rennes 1, France



**Effect of intensity on PI volume change in GeAsSe<sub>13</sub> glass. The annealed glass (black) shows PE, the quenched (red) PC. For large intensity, the latter eventually expansion.**

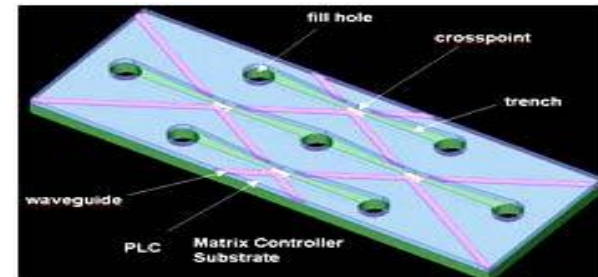
**L. Calvez, et al., *Opt. Express*, 2009,17:18581**

# 5 Main applications

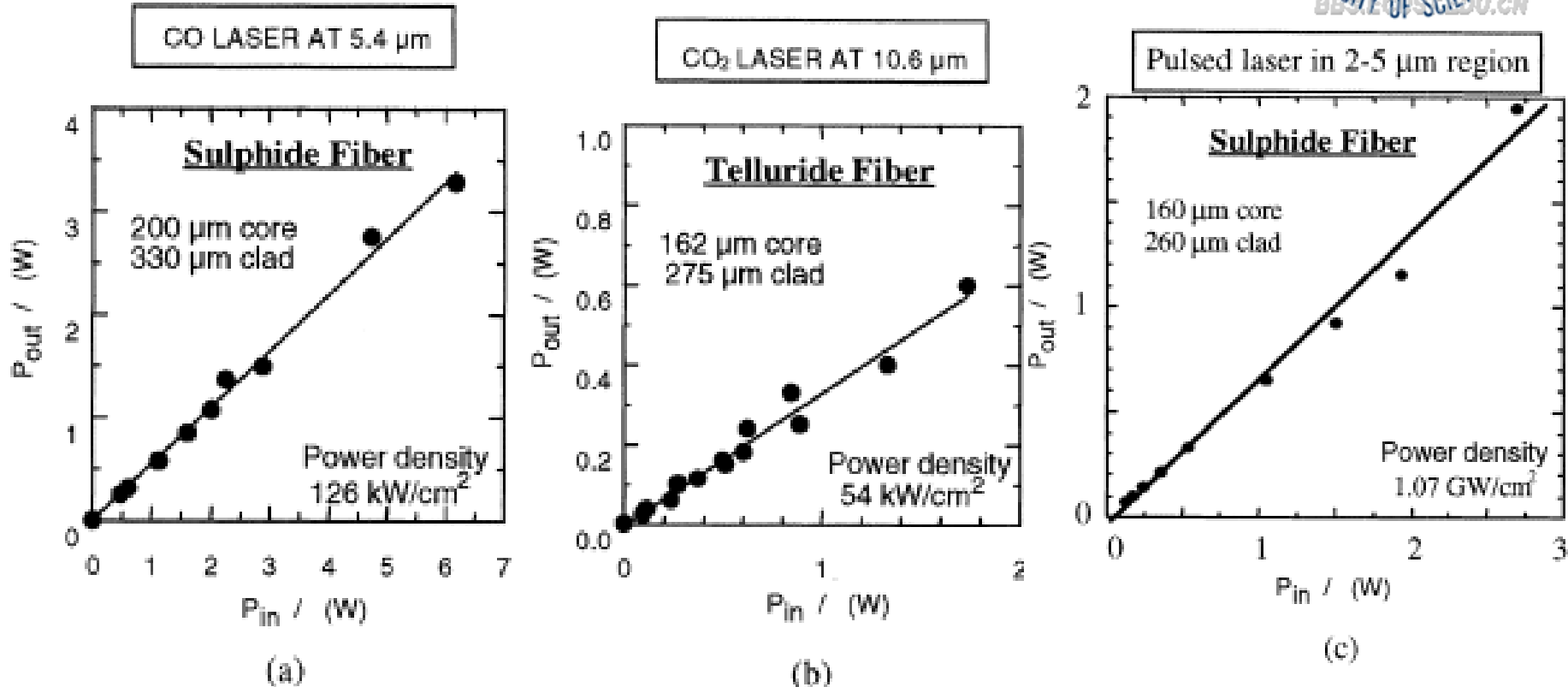
---



- **Passive optics**
  - **Laser transmission**
  - **Thermal imaging**
- **Active optics**
  - **Non-linear optics**
  - **IR amplifier**



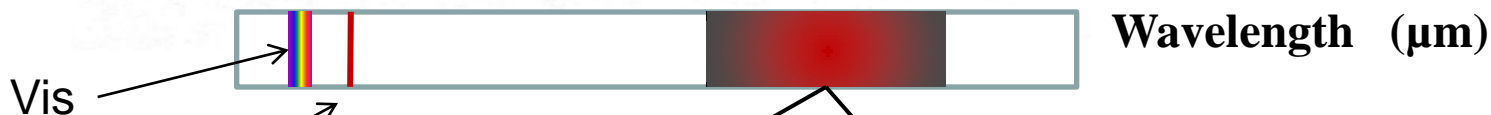
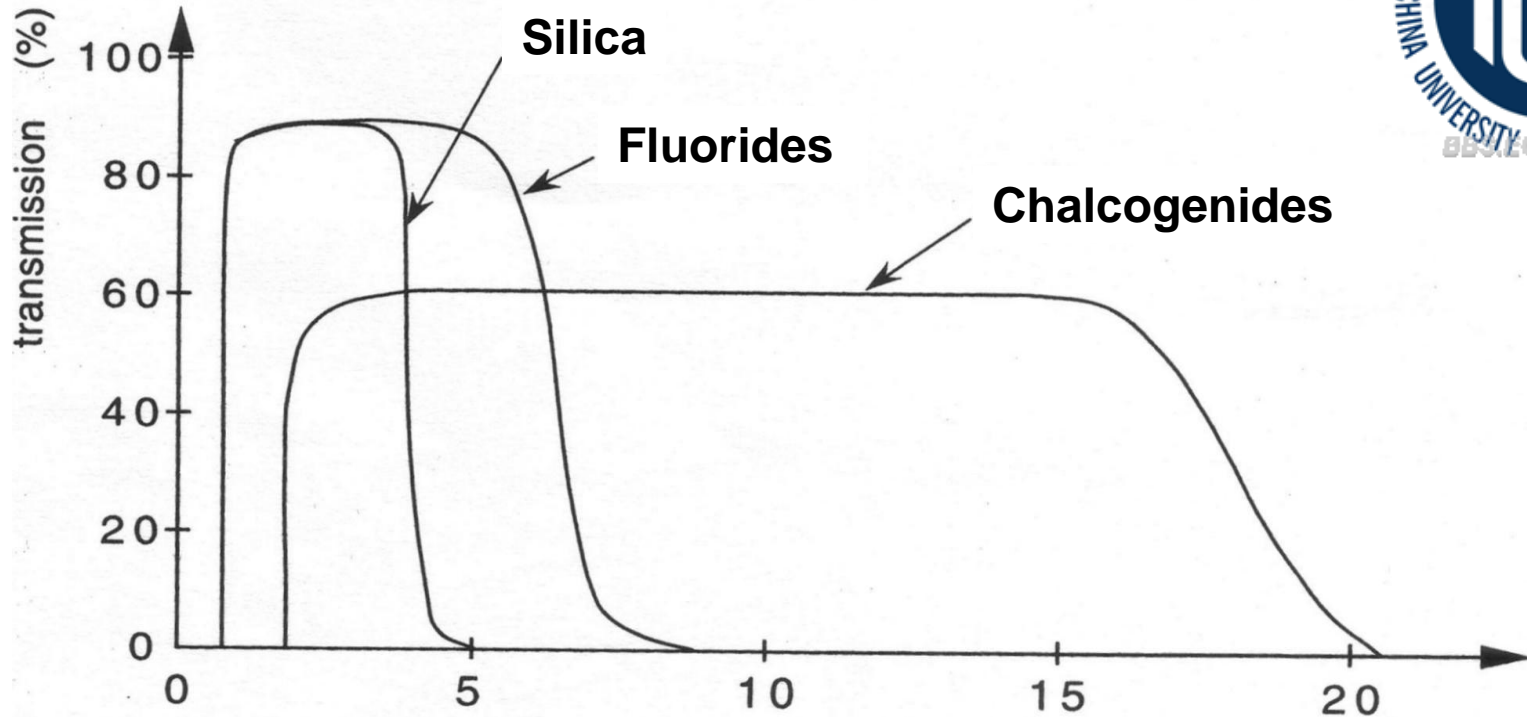
# Laser power delivery



(a) CO laser transmission, (b) CO<sub>2</sub> laser transmission and (c) pulsed high energy laser transmission in the 2-5  $\mu\text{m}$  region ( $\pm 0.01$  mW)

J. S. Sanghera, *J. Non-Cryst. Solids*, 1999, 256-257:6

# Thermal imaging



Telecom  
(1.55 μm)

Transparence  
of atmosphere



Maximum  
emission of  
black bodies  
at RT



IR optics  
for thermal  
imaging

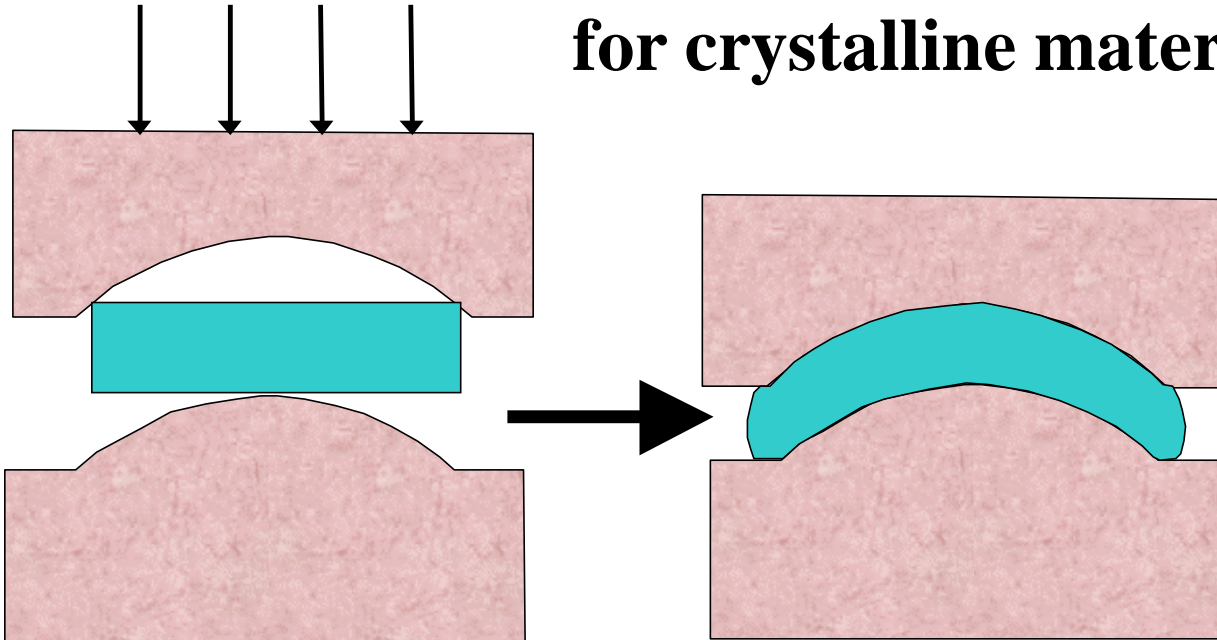


# Advantage of ChG

---



- **Lower cost production by moulding compared with single-point diamond turning process for crystalline materials, e.g. Ge**



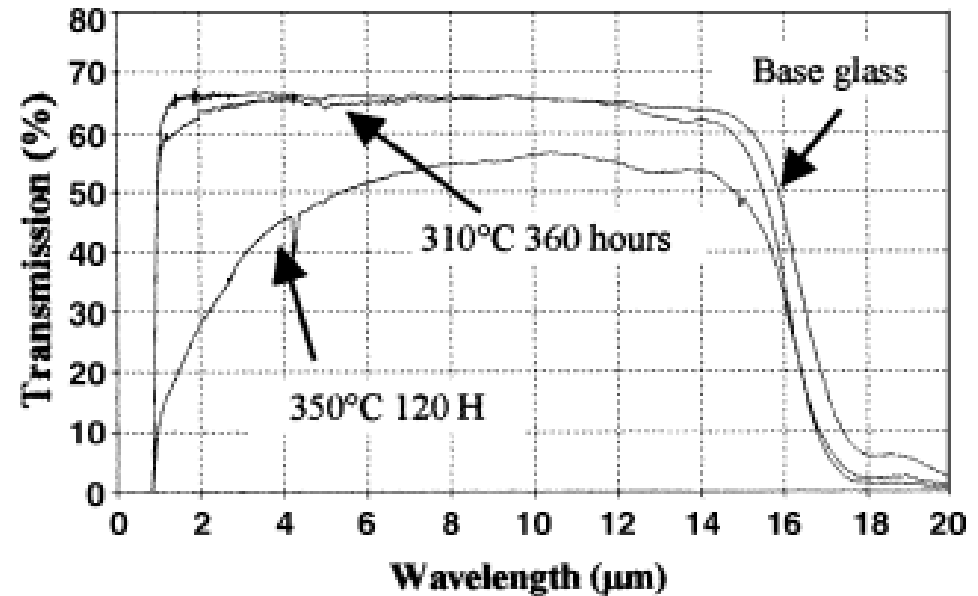
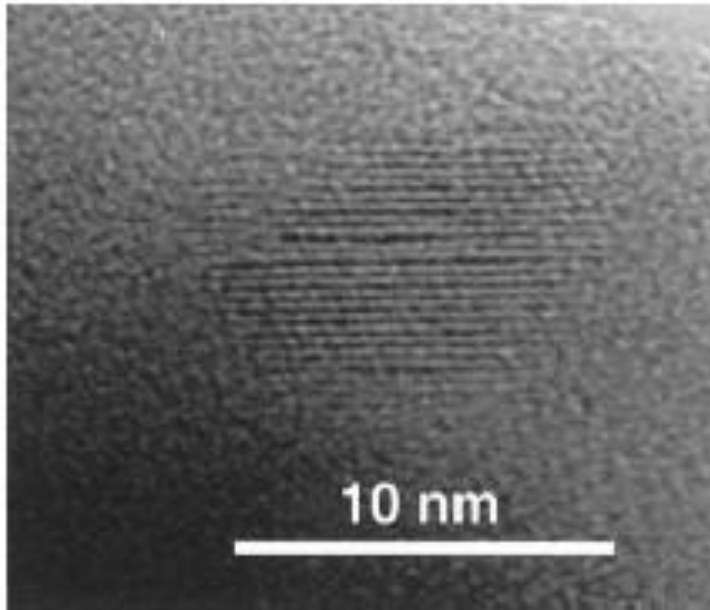
# Night-vision car

---



**New 2006 BMW Series equipped with IR night-vision system with molded chalcogenide glass optics**

# Université de Rennes 1, France



Crystal size: ~ 10 nm

IR transmission of GCs compared with  $\text{Ga}_5\text{Sb}_{10}\text{Ge}_{25}\text{Se}_{60}$  glass

X. Zhang, et al., *J. Non-Cryst. Solids*, 2004, 336: 49

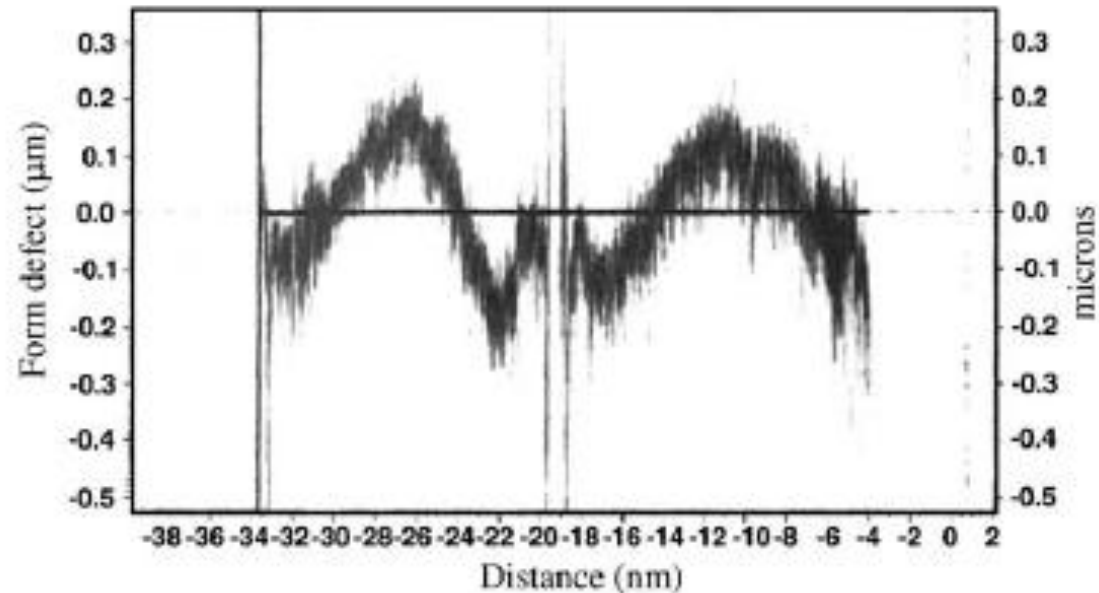


# Molded lens

---



**A molded GC lens  
(D=30 mm)**

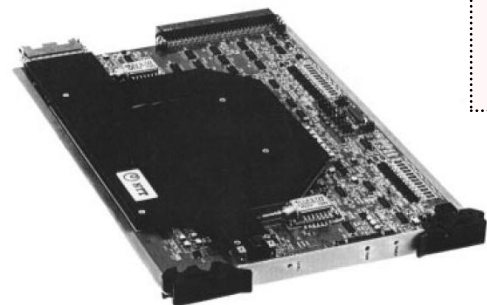
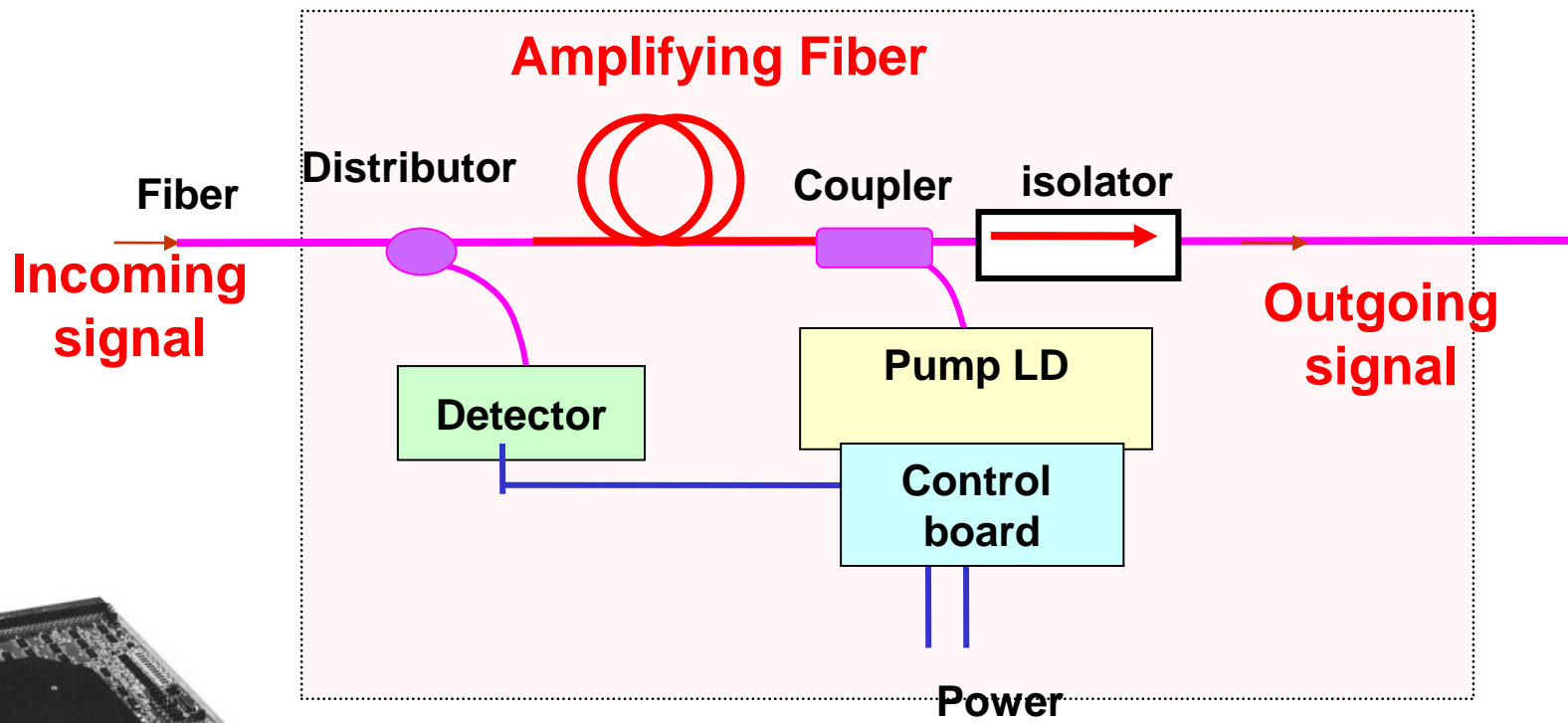


**Molding precision: form defect of molded lenses by comparing the designed profile and the measured profile of the lens is  $< 0.5 \mu\text{m}$ .**

# Amplifier for telecommunication



light/fiber/amplifier/fiber/light

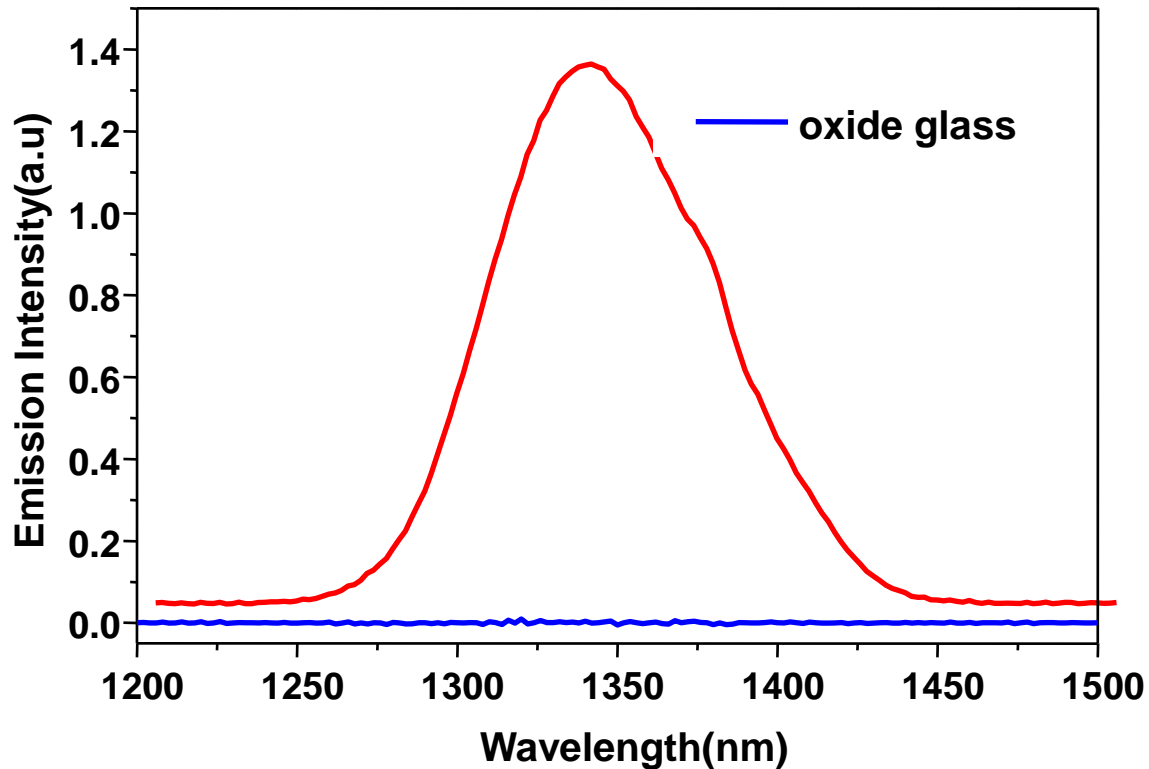


A close look at the amplifying application

# Matrix material is a key

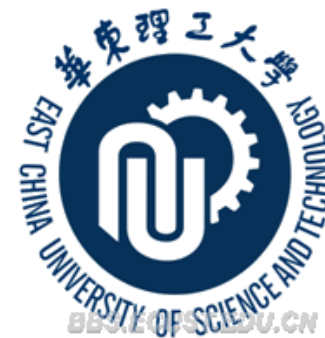


## $\text{Pr}^{3+}$ 1.32 $\mu\text{m}$ emission



**Comparison of emission spectra between Ge-Ga-S glass and oxide glass doped with  $\text{Pr}^{3+}$  ions**

# Multiphonon relaxations (MPR)



- **Total probability of de-excitation:**

$$W_{\text{tot}} = W_{\text{rad}} + W_{\text{MP}} + W_{\text{ET}} + \dots$$

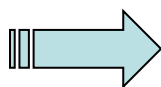
  
Radiative    Multiphonon    Energy Transfer

- **Quantum efficiency:**

$$\eta = \frac{W_{\text{rad}}}{W_{\text{rad}} + W_{\text{MP}} + W_{\text{ET}}}$$

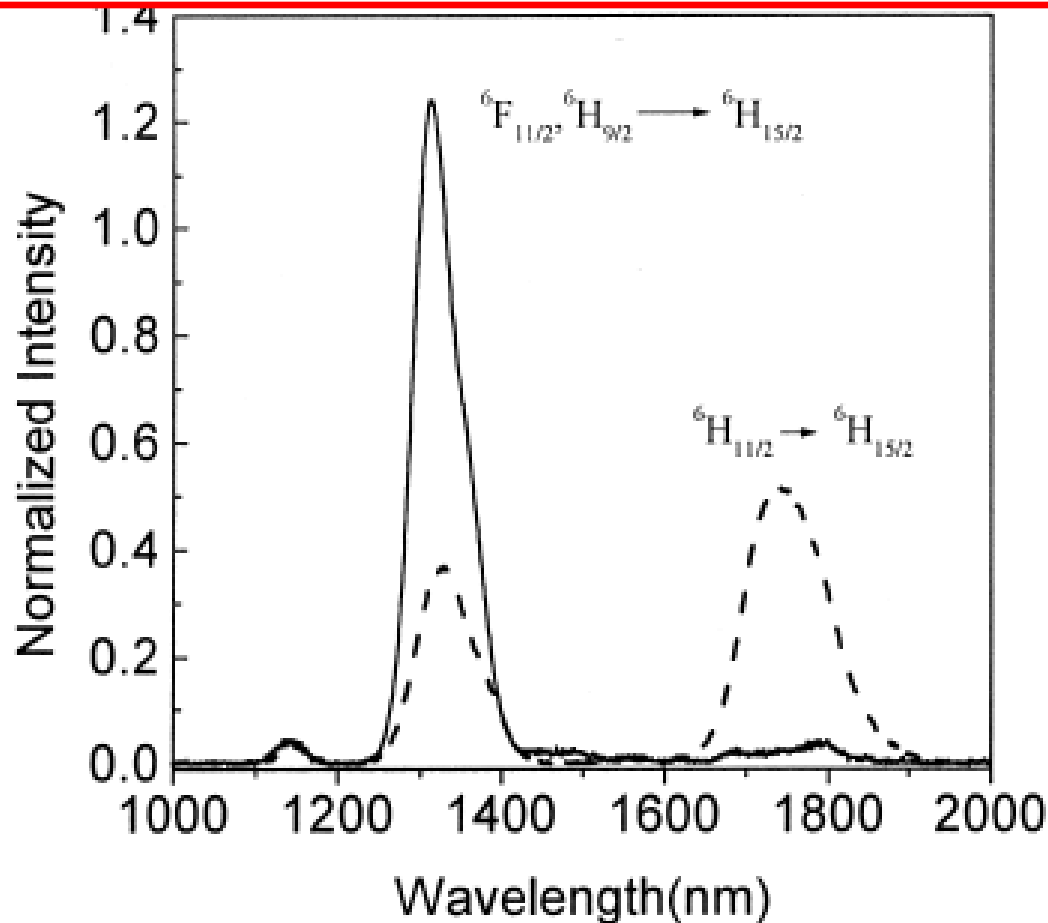
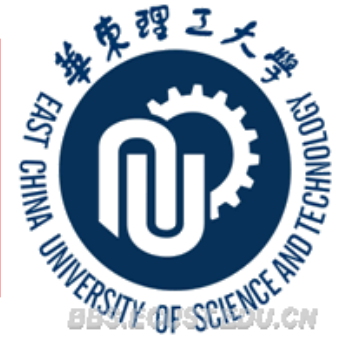
$W_{\text{MP}} \uparrow$  with  $\uparrow$  phonon energy of the host

$W_{\text{mp}} \downarrow 1/1000$



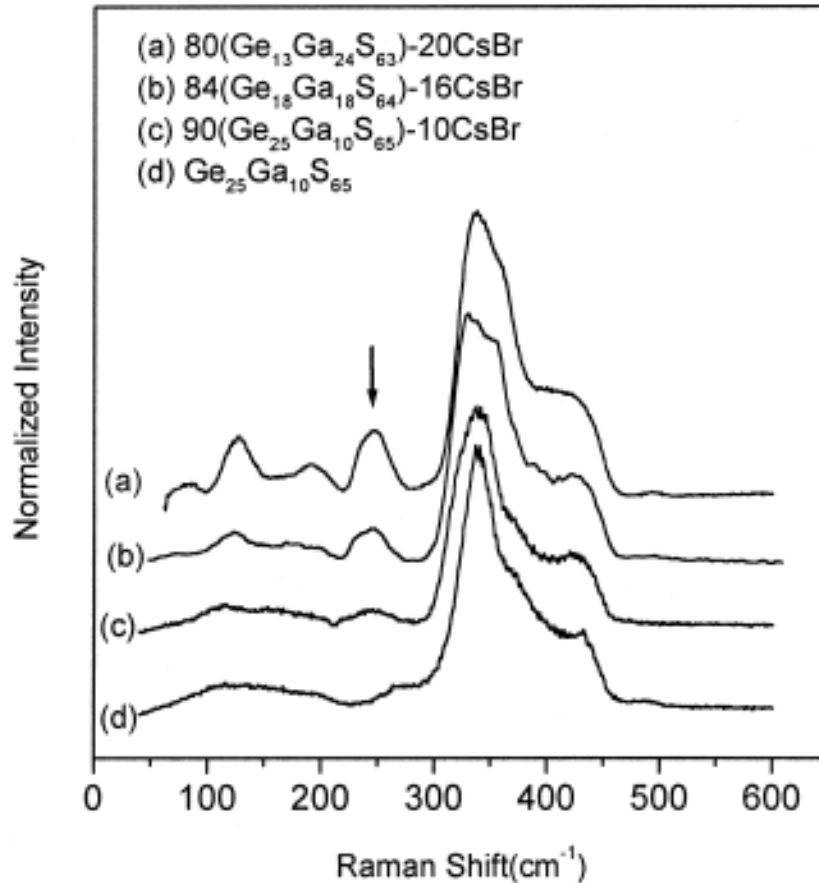
Higher quantum efficiency  
in chalcogenide glasses

# Pohang University of Science and Technology, Korea



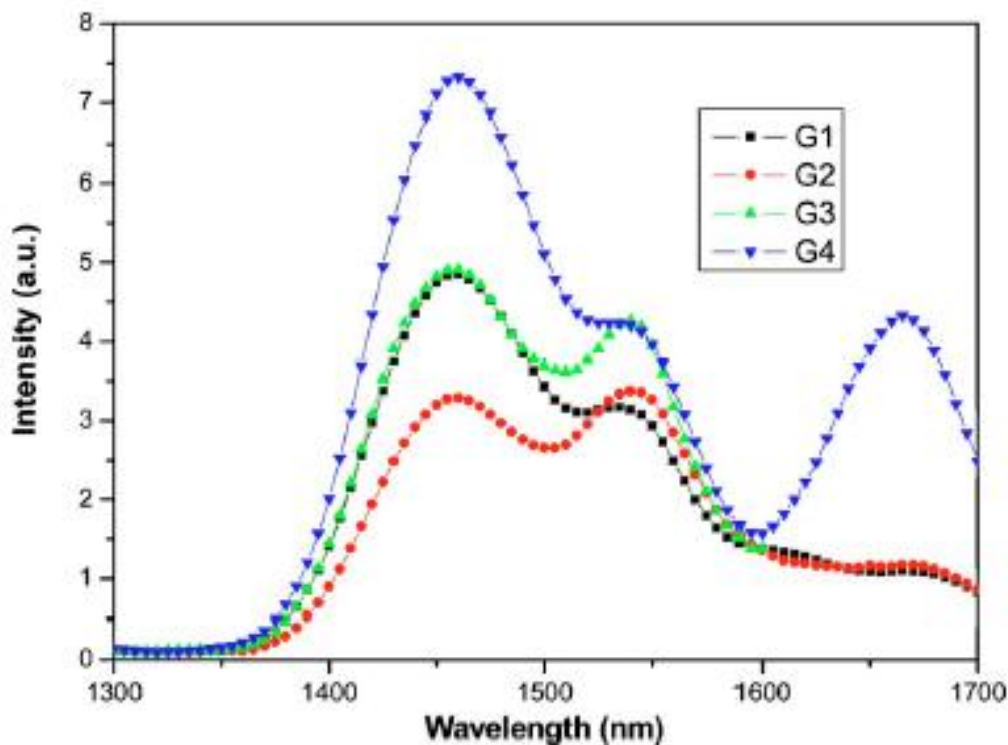
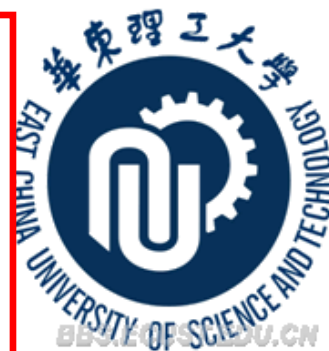
**Emission Spectra of Ge-Ga-S (dashed) and Ge-Ga-S-CsBr glasses doped with  $Dy^{3+}$  ions**

# Raman spectra



**Addition of CsBr resulted in a new low-phonon band at 245  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , associated with the Ga-Br bonds vibration, a major phonon mode determining the MPR process.**

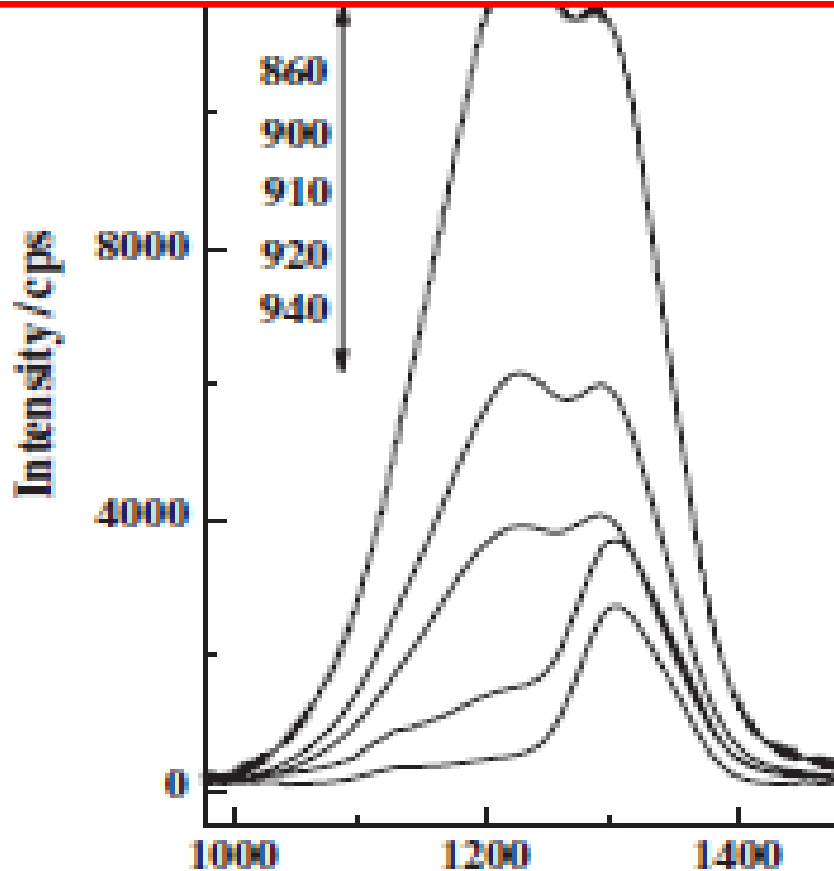
# Shanghai Institute of Optics and Fine Mechanics, China ECUST, China



**Broad NIR  
emission from  
 $\text{Er}^{3+}$ - $\text{Tm}^{3+}$  co-  
doped  $70\text{GeS}_2$ -  
 $20\text{In}_2\text{S}_3$ - $10\text{CsI}$   
glasses**

Yinsheng Xu et al., *Opt. Lett.*, 2008, 33(20):2293

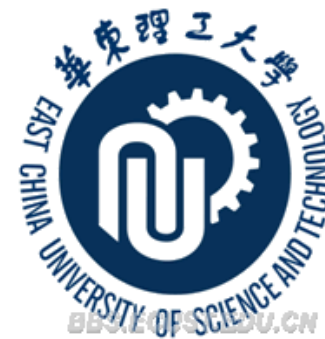
# Shanghai Institute of Optics and Fine Mechanics, China ECUST, China



Emission spectra of  
Bi-Dy co-doped  
 $70\text{GeS}_2-9.5\text{Ga}_2\text{S}_3 -$   
 $20\text{KBr}$  chalcohalide  
glasses melted at the  
different temperature

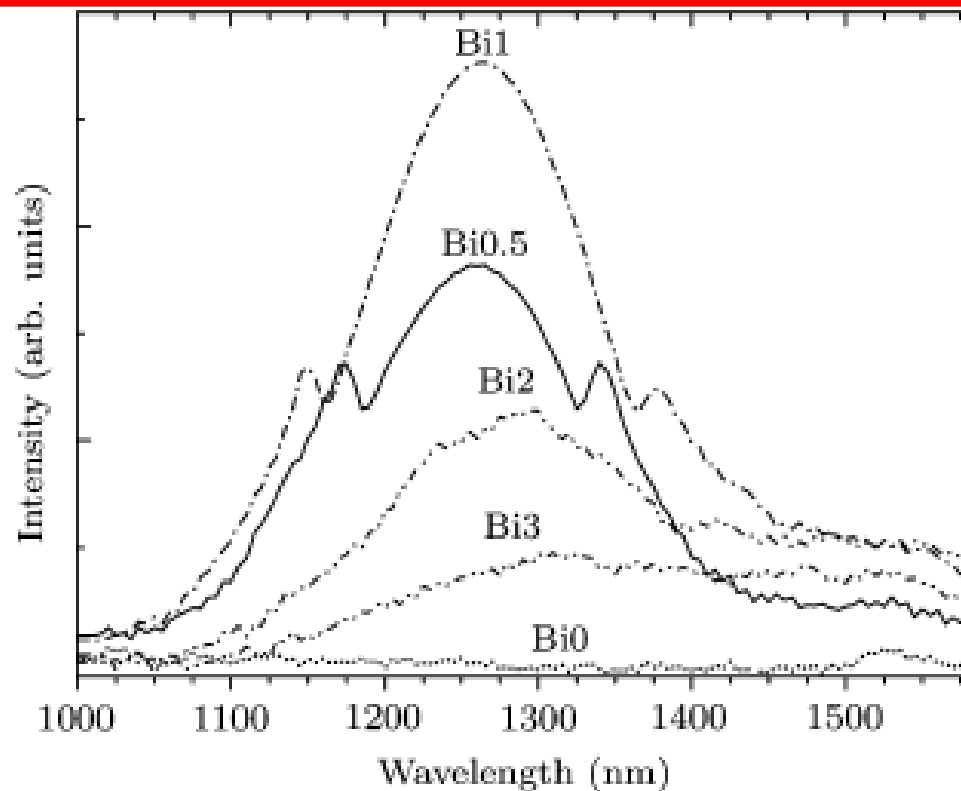


# Shanghai Institute of Optics and Fine Mechanics, China Zhejiang University, China



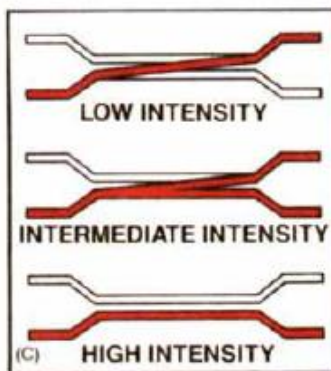
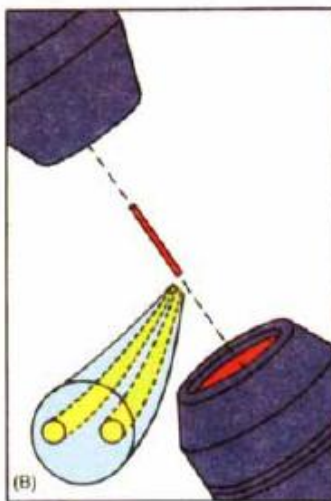
**Emission spectra  
of Bi-doped  
 $80\text{GeS}_2\text{-}20\text{Ga}_2\text{S}_3$   
chalcogenide  
glasses**

**FWHM ~ 200 nm**



**Jianrong Qiu, et al., *Chin. Phys. Lett.*, 2008, 25:1891**

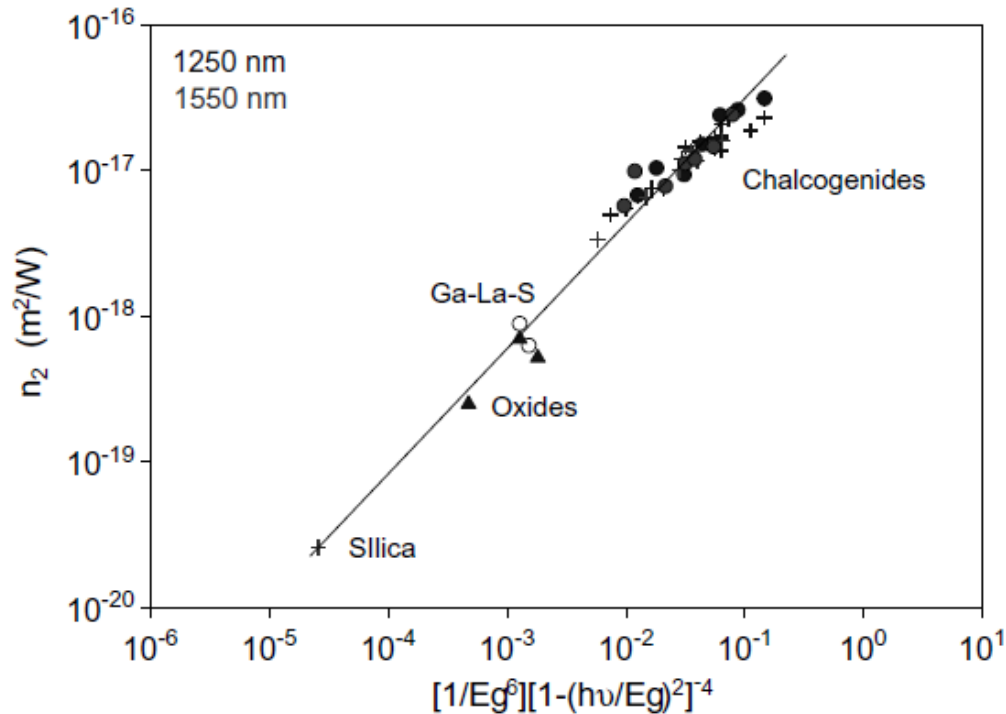
# All-optical device (AOD)



All-optical dual core coupler (A) setup, (B) schematic dual core SiO<sub>2</sub> fiber, (C) two single-mode cores as waveguides.

**Intensity of incoming light controls coupling from one core to the other.**

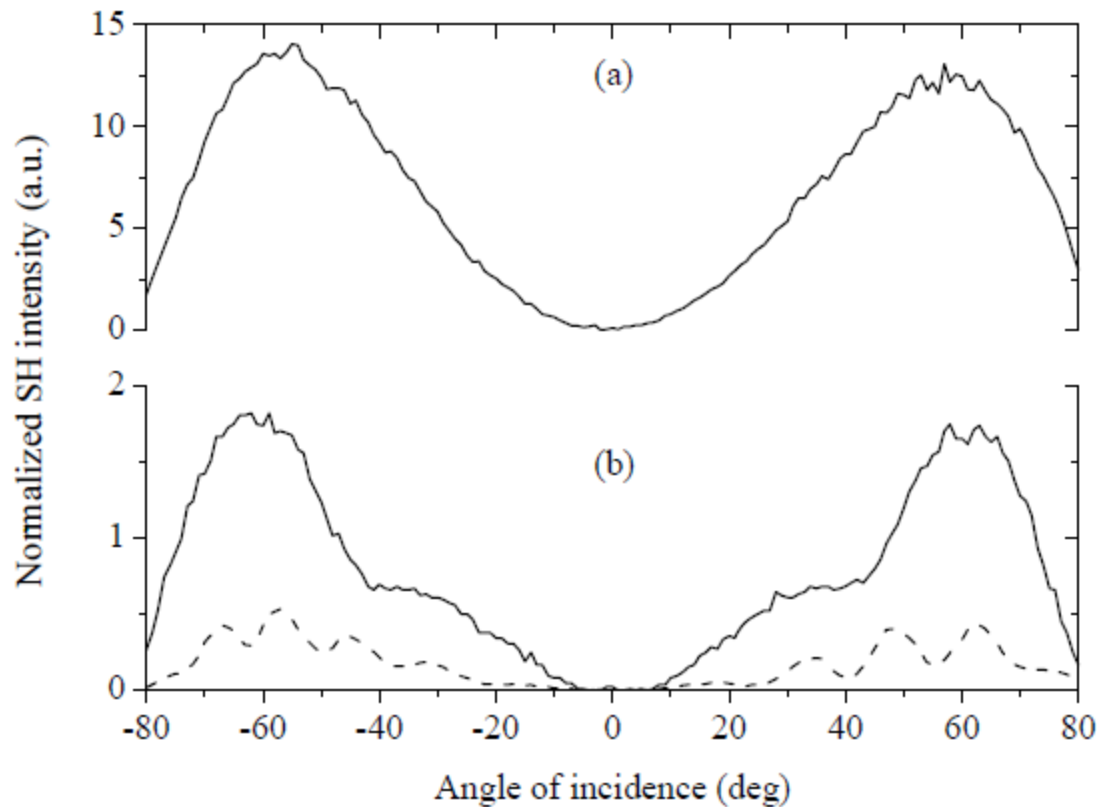
# Optical nonlinearity



**With the higher susceptibility  $\chi^{(3)}$  and SHG  $\chi^{(2)}$ , ChG photonic chips allow all-optical signal processing.**

**Plot of  $n_2$  versus the term containing the normalized photon energy**

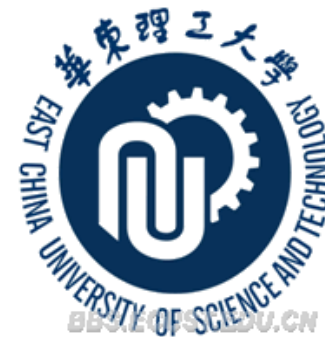
**J. S. Sanghera, et al., *J. Non-Cryst. Solids*, 2008, 354:462**



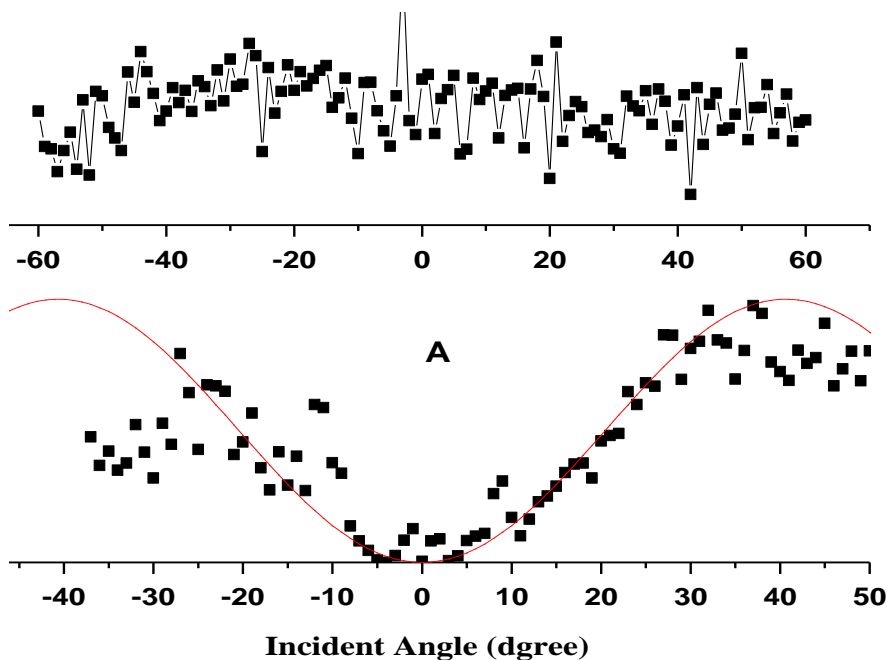
$$n^{(2)} = 8.0 \text{ pm/V}$$

MF patterns of thermal poled Ge-Sb-S samples recorded for three temperatures: (a) 170°C and (b) 230°C (full line) and 310°C (dashed lines)

# Kyoto University, Japan ECUST, China

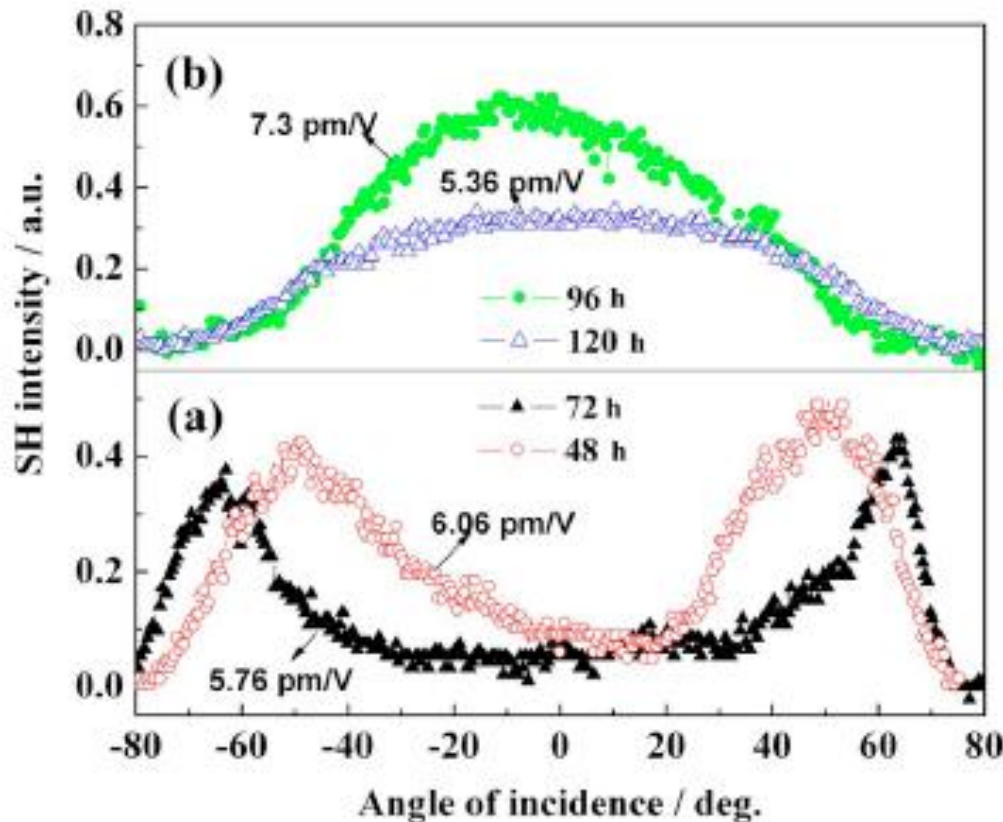


$$n^{(2)} = 7.0 \text{ pm/V}$$



Maker fringe of  
 $60\text{GeS}_2\text{-}20\text{Ga}_2\text{S}_3\text{-}$   
 $20\text{KBr}$  glass with  
higher alkali  
content after  
thermal poling

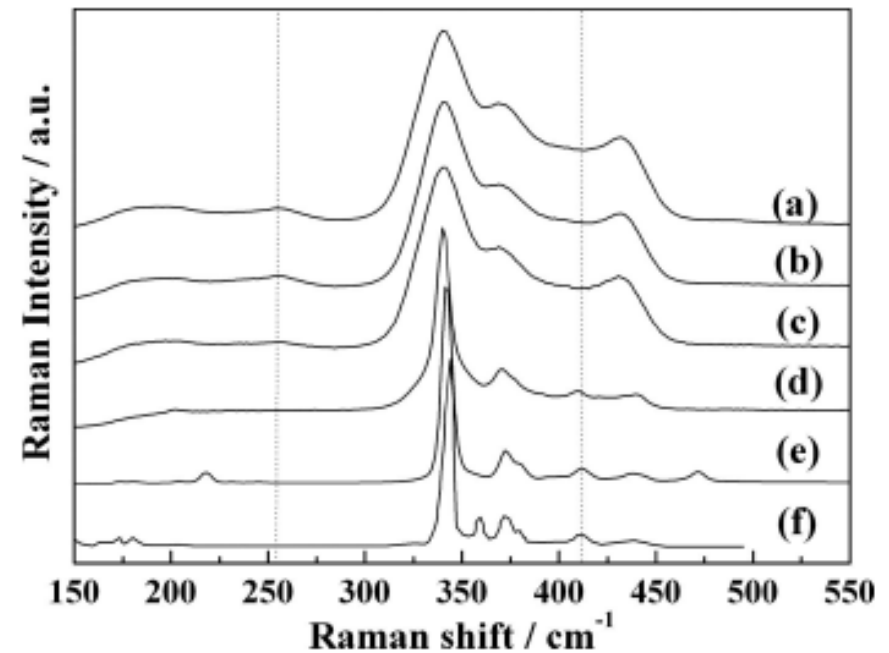
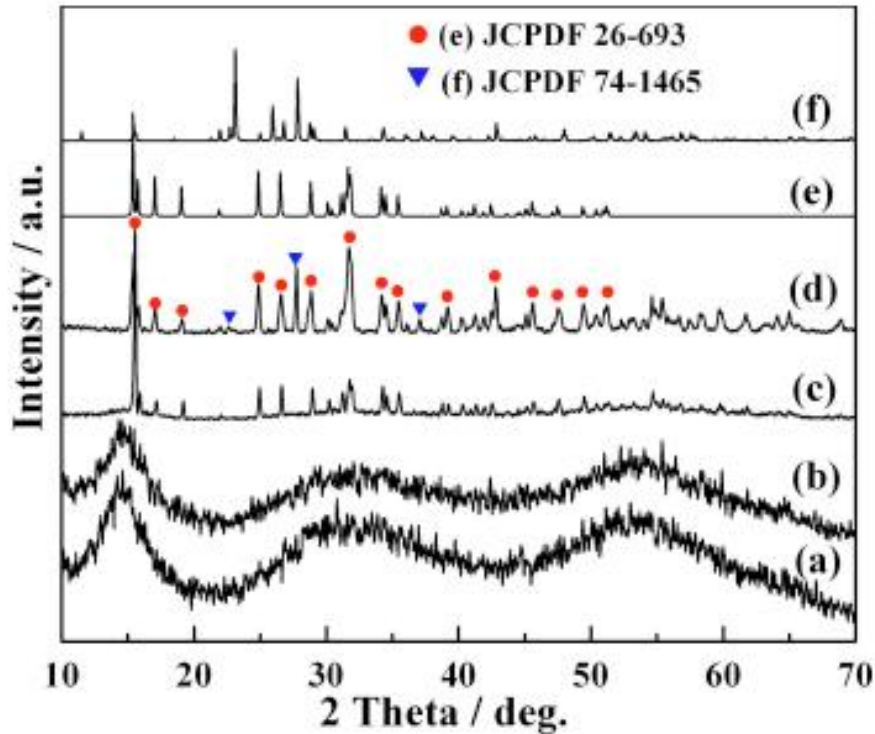
# Wuhan University of Technology, China



$$n^{(2)} = 5.36-7.3 \text{ pm/V}$$

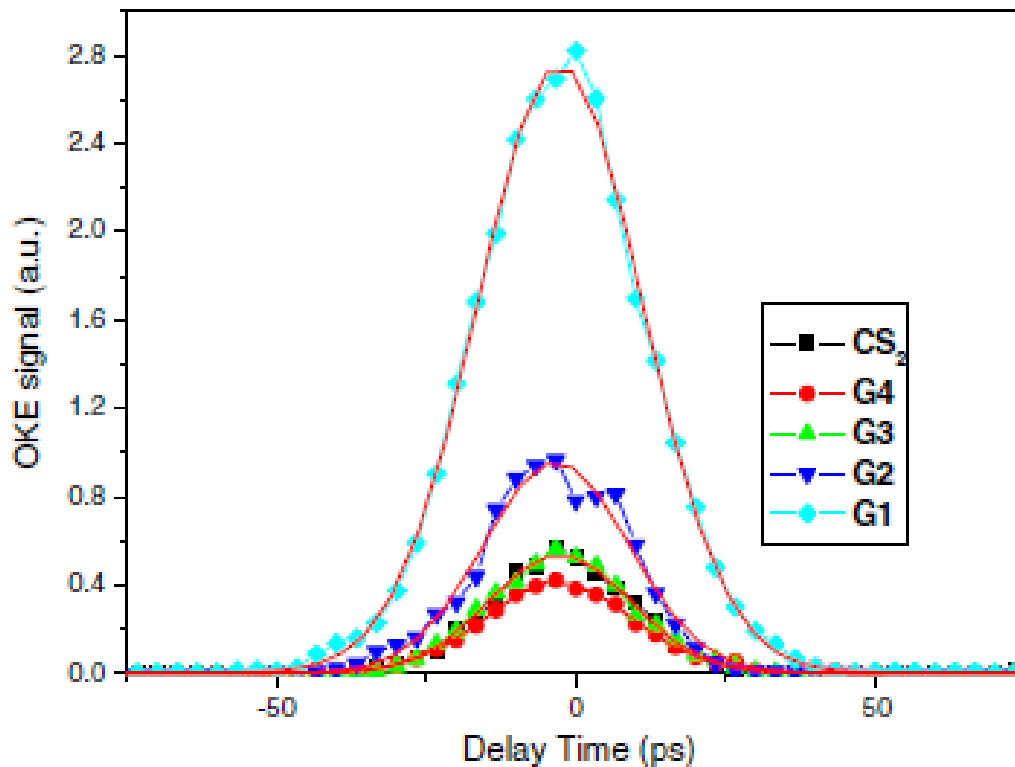
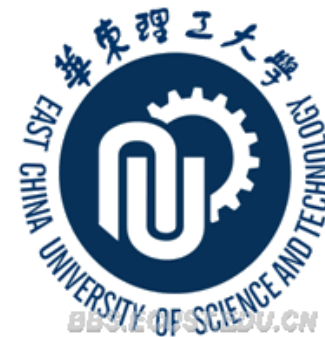
Maker fringe patterns of the  $\beta$ -GeS<sub>2</sub> crystallized glasses without poling treatment

# XRD and Raman spectra





Fudan University, China  
ECUST, China



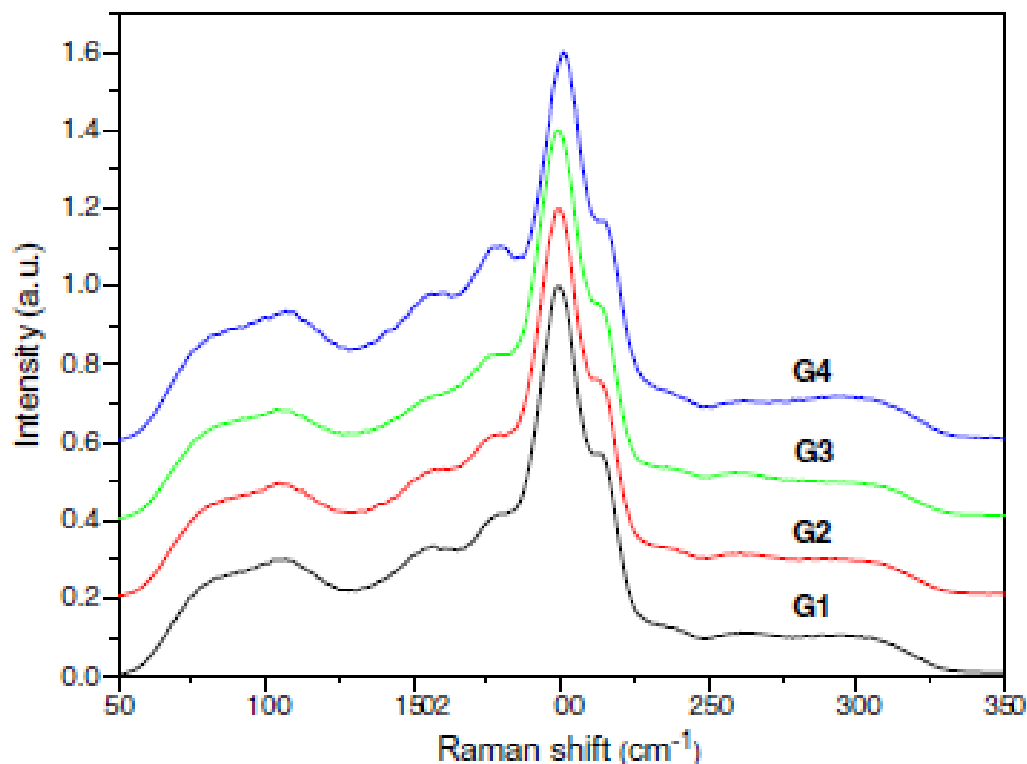
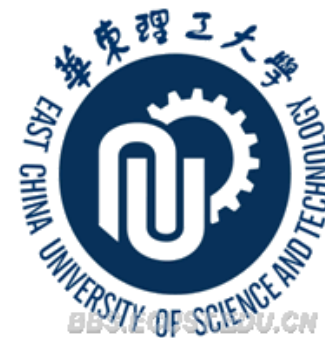
$$\chi^3 = 10.07 \times 10^{12} \text{ esu}$$

**Optical Kerr Effect  
Signal of GeSe<sub>2</sub>-  
In<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>-CsI glasses**

Yinsheng Xu, *et al.*, *Phy. Chem. Lett.*, 2008, 462, 69-71



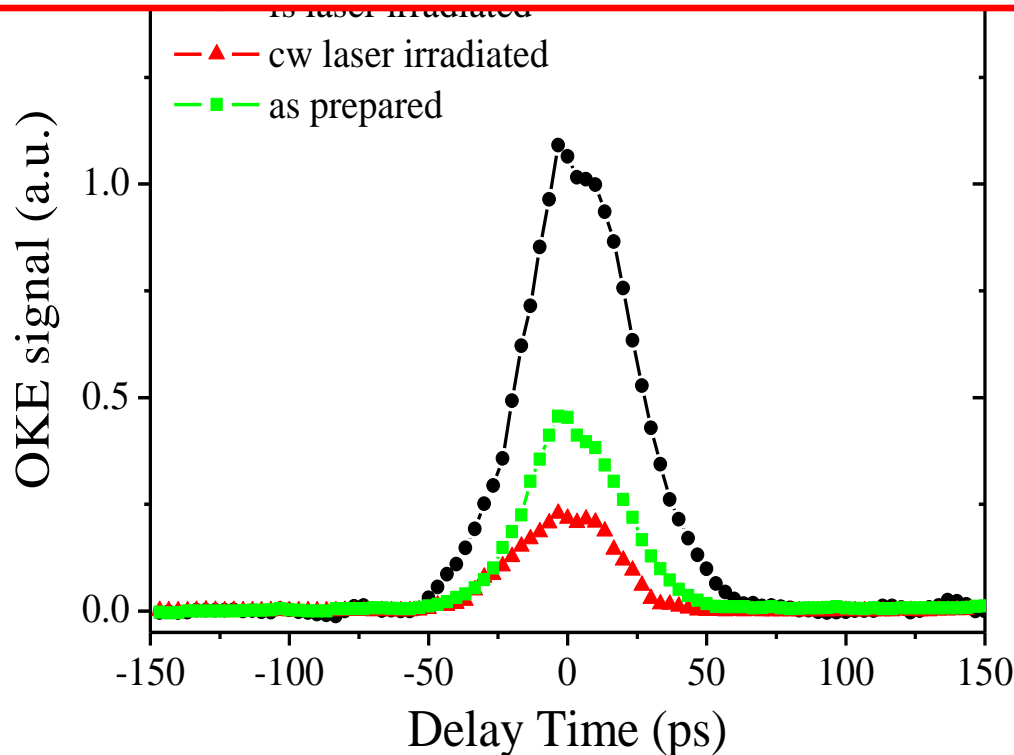
# Raman spectra



**[GeSe<sub>4</sub>] at 200 cm<sup>-1</sup>  
and [InSe<sub>4</sub>] at 154  
cm<sup>-1</sup> are the main  
structural units  
while the increasing  
CsI does not cause  
clear structural**

# Fudan University, China

## ECUST, China



**Laser radiation  
induced  
enhancement of  
 $\chi^3$  on  $\text{As}_2\text{S}_3$  glass**

**Optical Kerr Effect Signal of  $\text{As}_2\text{S}_3$  glass  
before and after laser radiation**

**Lei Xu, *et al.*, *Appl. Phys. Lett.*, 2007, 91, 181917**



# Summary

---

- **Purification is an important procedure for synthesis of high purity ChGs.**
- **Controlled crystallization is an effective way to improve mechanical and thermal properties of ChGs.**
- **Different from oxide glasses, ChGs have narrower bandgap, lower phonon energy, and are photosensitive.**
- **ChGs are potential for applications in active optics due to unique IR optical properties.**



# Thank You for Your Attention

---

