



Basic Research Needs for Solid State Lighting: LED Science

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Basic Research Needs for SSL LED Science Panel

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Special thanks to...

Jeff Tsao (SNL) Mary Crawford (SNL) Mike Coltrin (SNL) Eugene Haller (LBNL) Andreas Hangleiter (TU Braunschweig) Mike Krames (LumiLeds) David Norton (U of Florida) Jasprit Singh (U of Michigan) Jim Speck (UCSB) Stephen Streiffer (Argonne) Christian Wetzel (RPI)





Outline

- Metrics for LED performance
- Approach of the BRN-SSL LED Science Panel
- LED-relevant *Priority Research Directions* (PRDs)

LED PRDs

Cross-Cutting RDs

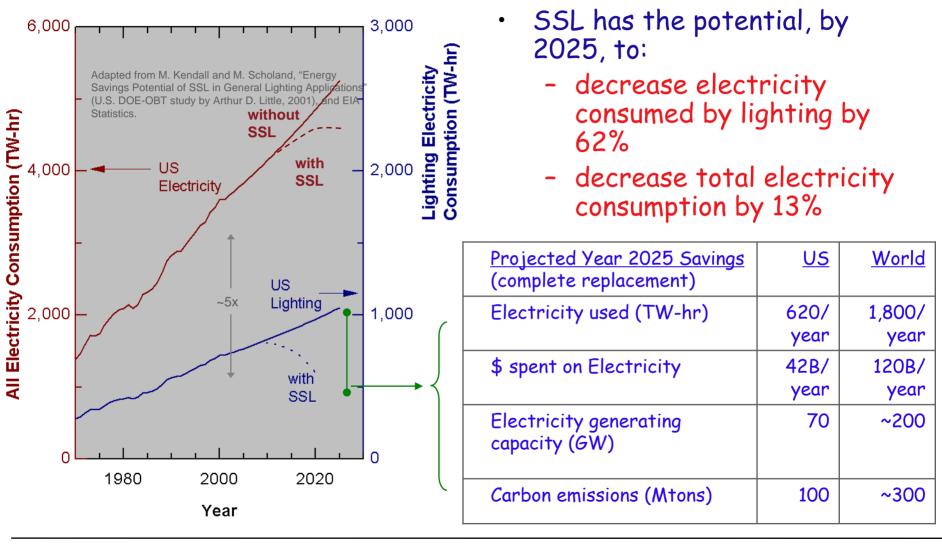


http://www.science.doe.gov/bes/reports/list.html





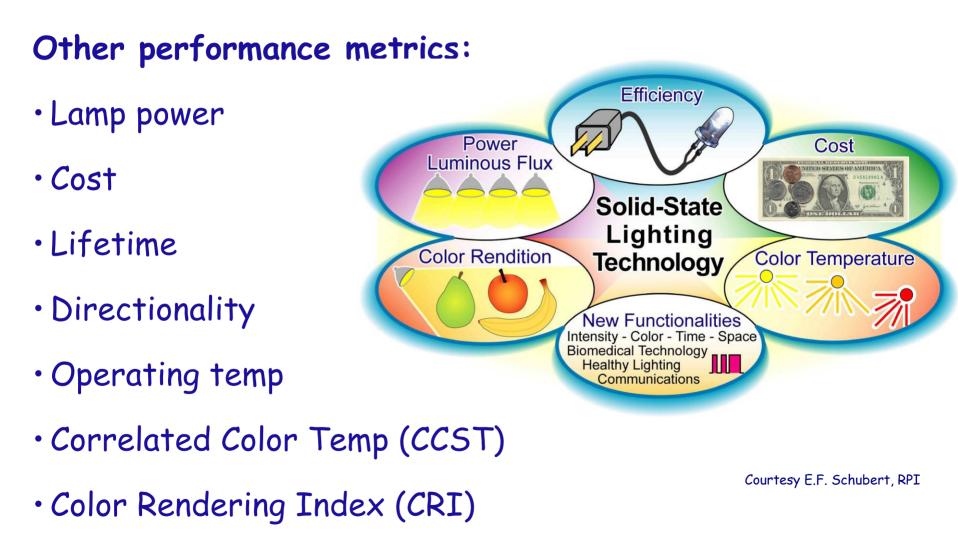
Effect of market adoption of 50% efficient SSL







Other metrics for SSL performance







Color Rendering Index (CRI) is a critical factor



"The color rendering index (CRI), is a measure of the ability of a light source to reproduce the colors of various objects being lit by the source (100 is the best CRI)."

Light source	CRI
Sunlight	100
W filament incandescent light	100
Fluorescent light	60 - 85
Existing Phosphor-based white LEDs/OLEDs	60 - 90
Na vapor light	40

Courtesy F. Schubert (RPI) and G. Jabbour (ASU)





Lifetime

"Old LEDs never die; they simply fade away."



With apologies to General Douglas C. MacArthur

Lifetimes of many commercially available LEDs are rated at 50,000 hours. "Lifetime" is defined as time to 70% of original lumen output.





SSL-LED Technology Roadmap Targets

TECHNOLOGY	SSL-LED	SSL-LED	SSL-LED	SSL-LED	Incande-	Fluore-
	2002	2007	2012	2020	scent	scent
Luminous Efficacy (lm/W)	25	75	150	200	16	85
Lifetime (hr)	20,000	>20,000	>100,000	>100,000	1,000	10,000
Flux (lm/lamp)	25	200	1,000	1,500	1,200	3,400
Input Power (W/lamp)	1	2.7	6.7	7.5	75	40
Lumens Cost (\$/klm)	200	20	<5	<2	0.4	1.5
Lamp Cost (\$/lamp)	5	<5	<5	<3	0.5	5
Color Rendering Index (CRI)	75	80	>80	>80	95	75

Taken from the 2002 DOE/OIDA LED Technology Roadmap

The SSL community is just about on target in 2007.

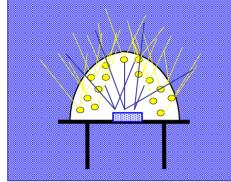




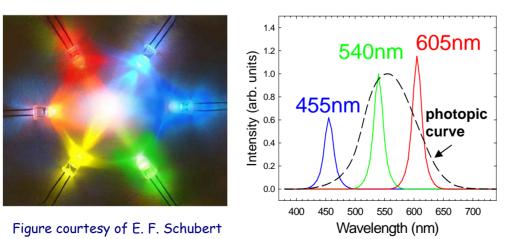
How to make a white LED

• UV/Blue InGaN LED-pumped phospors

Emission from "White" Leds Emission from blue LED chip Luminescence from the phosphor 400 500 600 700 800 Wavelength (nm)



Multi-chip/ multi-color LEDs (RGB)



Commercial approach to date (Up to 150 lm/W achieved*) ...relatively low cost * Nichia

> CRI of blue LED + yellow phosphor is ~70

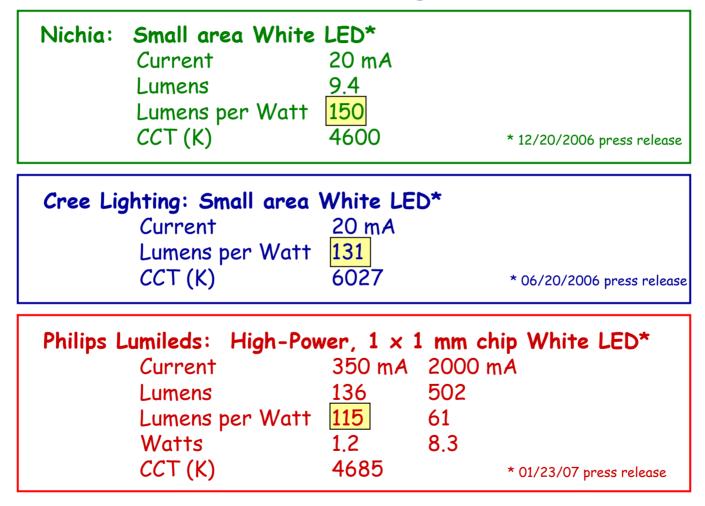
Potentially most efficient, highest quality white lighting approach ...but high cost





Current State of the Art

Commercial White LEDs are breaking the 100 lm/W barrier



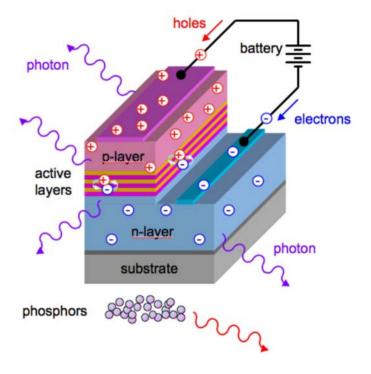




Approach of the LED Science Panel

Consider the life-cycle of a "white LED Photon":

- What stages in the life-cycle are poorly understood and/or poorly controlled?
- Where might increased understanding lead to improved SSL technology?



A major focus is the InGaN materials system.

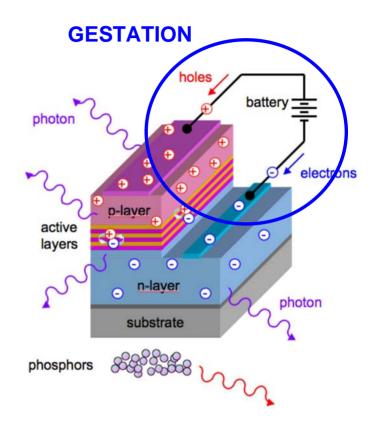




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(1) Injection and transport of charge carriers (injection efficiency E_{inj})

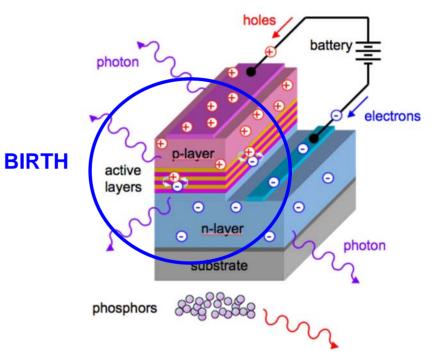






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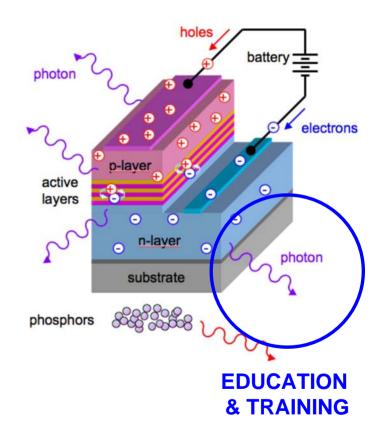




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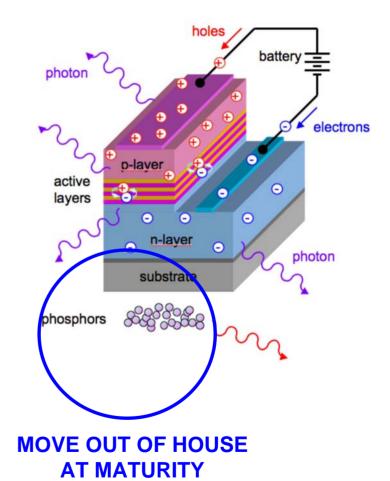




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- (4) Color conversion and multi-color mixing (optical element & Stokes shift losses)







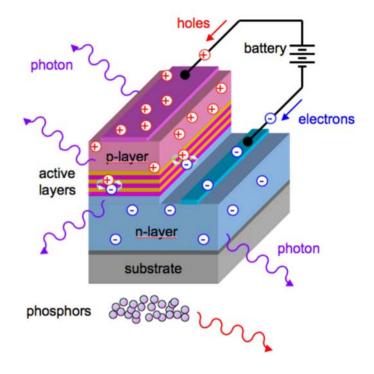
Gestation: Charge injection and transport

Challenges for wide bandgaps (GaN)

- Acceptor energy levels are very deep (0.2 - 0.3 ev)
- Tendency for dopant compensation
- Low p carrier concentrations:
 - p = mid 10¹⁸ cm-3
 - n = mid 10¹⁹ cm-3
- Low p mobilities:
 - p = ~10 cm²/Vs
 - n = ~1000 cm²/Vs

p-type contacts have high resistance

- p: 10⁻² 10⁻⁵ Ω-cm²
- n: 10⁻⁵ 10⁻⁸ Ω -cm²

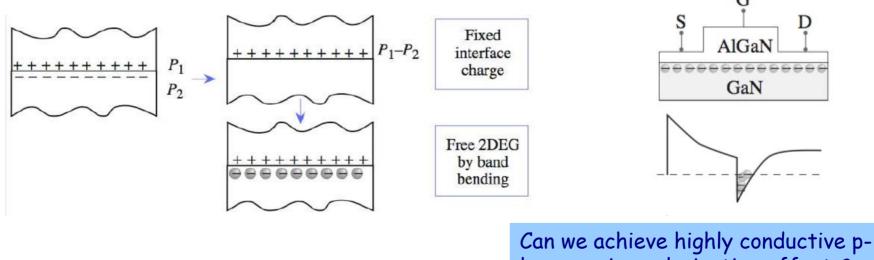






PRD: Polar Materials and Heterostructures

- Because bandgaps tend to increase with bond polarity, most known inorganic wide bandgap semiconductors (including InGaN) are polar. This property is dramatically different from most other III-V materials.
- This Priority Research Direction (PRD) proposes a concerted effort aimed at *manipulating and understanding the electronic and optoelectronic properties of polar materials and heterostructures.* (Includes GaN and others, e.g. ZnO.)



layers using polarization effects?

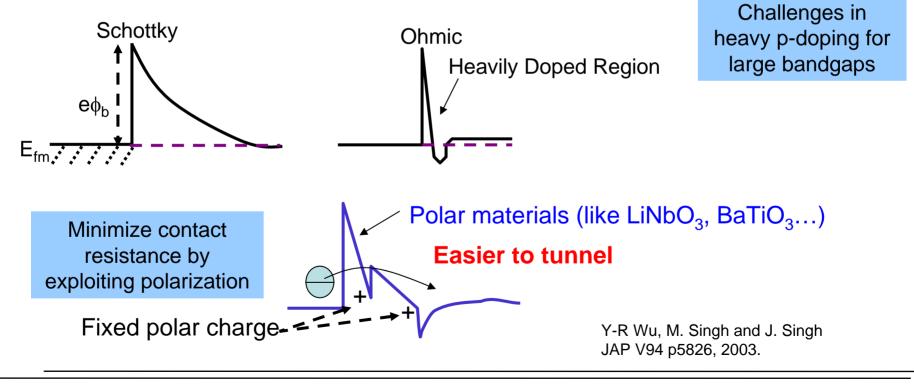




PRD: Polar Materials and Heterostructures

Science questions and opportunities

- Can polarization be used for doping and lower resistance p-type contacts and to enhance majority transport?
- Can charge be channeled into the active region under high injection conditions?



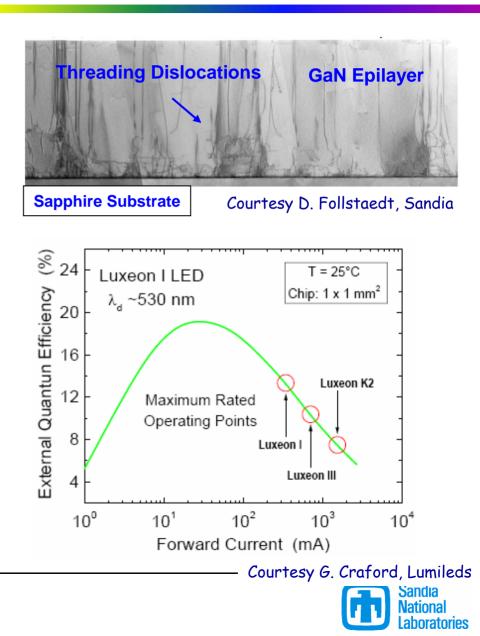




Birth: Radiative & non-radiative recombination

Challenges:

- InGaN LED operation in presence of high defect densities (~10⁹ cm⁻²) little understood. (Why do they work at all?)
- Rollover of efficiency with high current densities little understood and of great importance

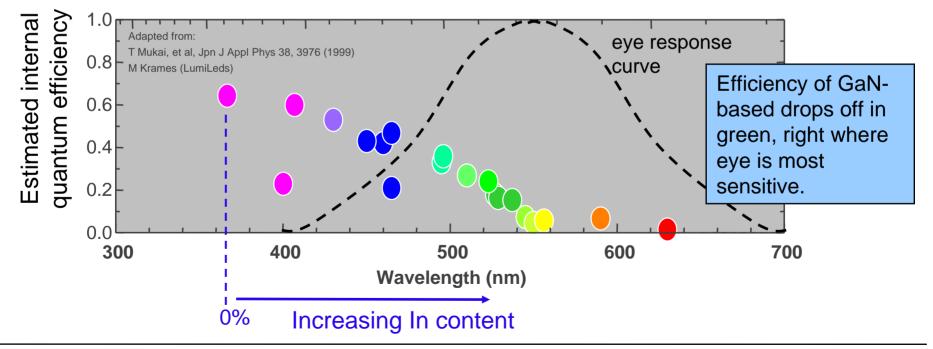




Birth: Radiative & non-radiative recombination

Another Challenge:

 Internal quantum efficiencies of high-In (green and yellow) LEDs are poor



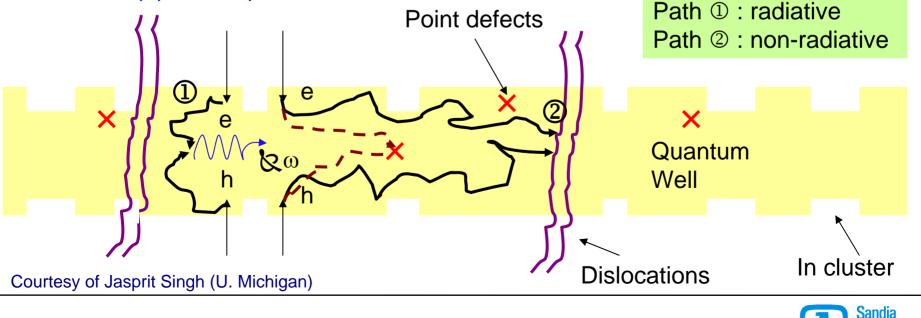




PRD: Luminescence efficiency in InGaN

Need to understand how radiative recombination is affected by the complex interplay of:

- charge carrier transport
- quantum confinement
- polarization and strain-induced fields
- point & extended defects
- In alloy phase separation

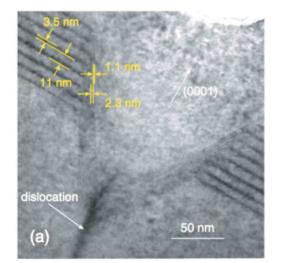


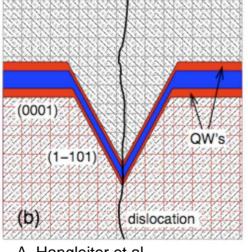


PRD: Luminescence efficiency in InGaN

Science Questions:

(1) Could the "V-defects"that decorate dislocationsbe producing energy maximathat repel carriers?





A. Hangleiter et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 95, 127402 (2005)

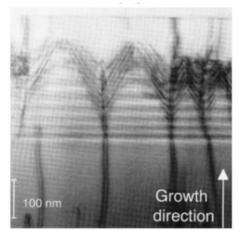
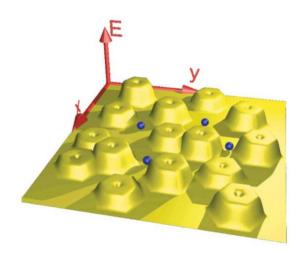


Figure from Scholz et al., Mat Sci Eng B 50, 238 (1997)







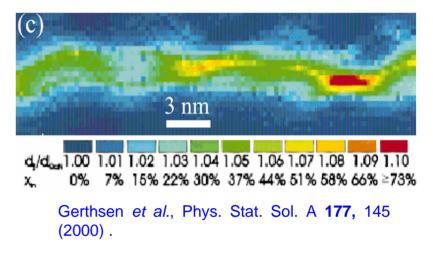
PRD: Luminescence efficiency in InGaN

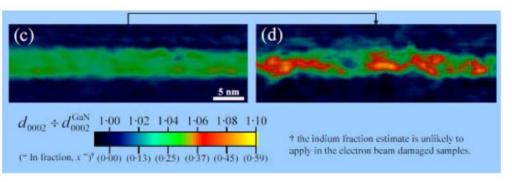
Science Questions:

(2) How does increasing In content affect luminescence? Could In compositional clustering localize carriers away from dislocations and point defects?

This is critical to understanding the green-yellow performance gap!

Reports of In composition variations





Smeeton et al., APL 83, 5419 (2003).

But recent reports demonstrate In and strain variations caused by TEM materials damage. Are In composition variations in InGaN QWs real?

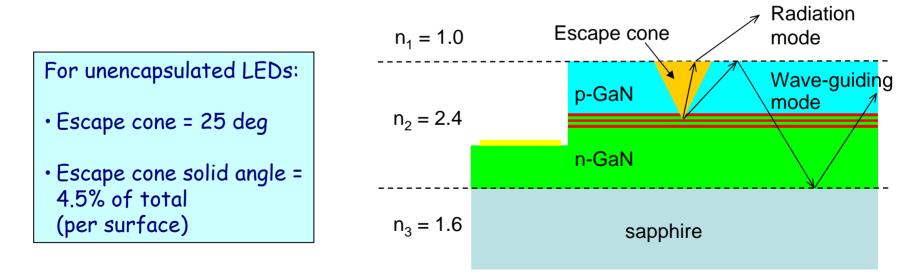




Ed & Training: Device physics and light extraction

Challenges:

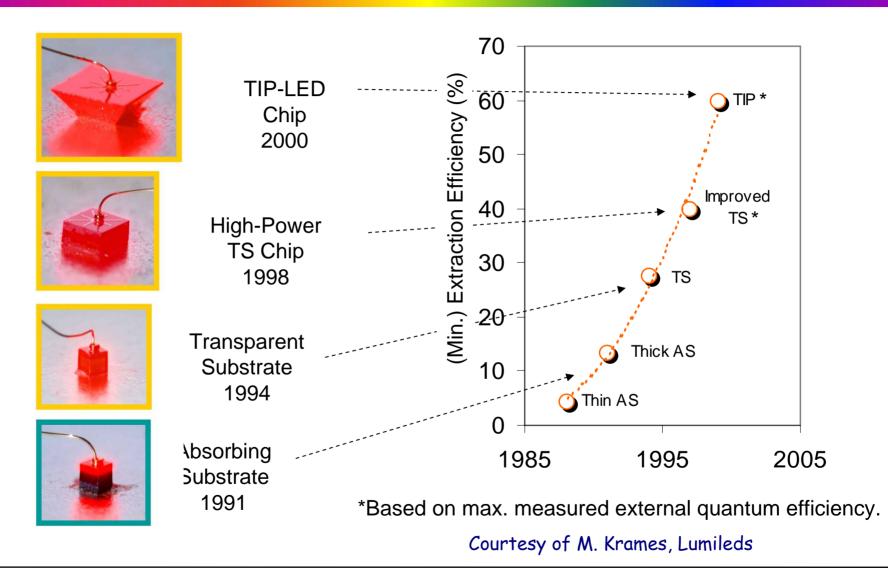
- Photons are trapped inside high index layer (total internal refection). Reflect until absorbed.
- LED light extraction efficiencies remain surprising low: typical state-of-art is at 50-60%







Ed & Training: Device physics and light extraction







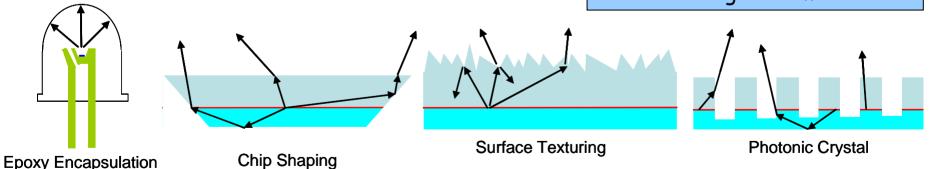
CCRD: Innovative Photon Management

A PREVIEW: Photonic Crystal LEDs

Science Questions:

 (1) How might nanoscale photonic structures be used to increase light extraction efficiency through geometric effects?

Use photonic crystal to Braggscatter waveguided modes





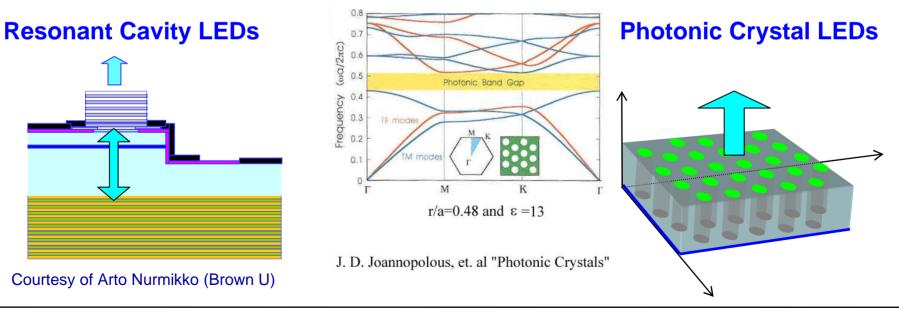


CCRD: Innovative Photon Management

Science Questions:

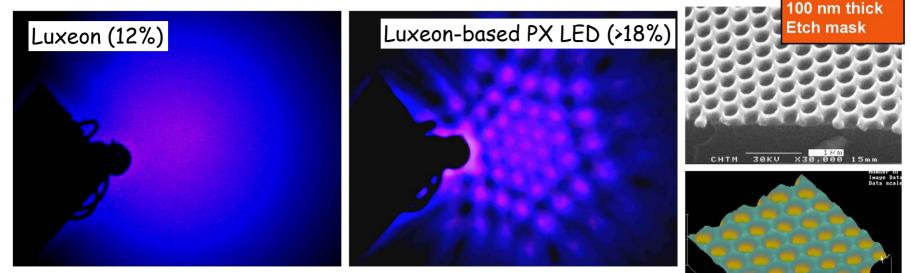
(2) Can the photon modes and photonic density of states be manipulated to control the direction of emission? (Avoid waveguiding modes in the first place.)

(3) Can the internal quantum efficiency be modified?





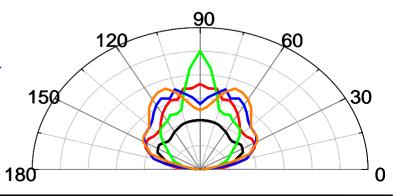
CCRD: Innovative Photon Management



Lumileds, Sandia, and UNM (Wierer et. Al., APL 84, 3885 (2004)

- First ever large area (1mm²) III-Nitride photonic crystal LED. (Interferometric litho by S. Brueck.)
- Far field pattern is modified
- External Quantum Efficiency increased by >50%.

Changes in spontaneous emission rates (Purcell Effect) could further increase efficiency



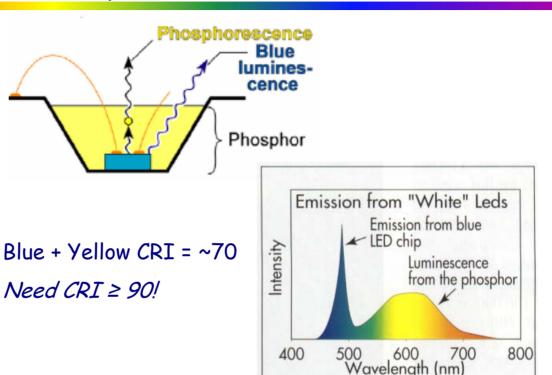




Move out at Maturity: Photon Conversion

Challenges:

- Phosphors (developed over decades) for fluorescent lighting absorb near 250 nm and are *unsuitable for SSL*
- Phosphors for SSL have substantial room for efficiency improvements, *especially red.*
- Need fast photoluminescence lifetimes (no saturation), high-T operation, low cost, nontoxic, compatibility with encapsulants, and long lived under high UV flux



Backscattering of light by large phosphor particles is a significant loss!





PRD: Photon Conversion Materials

Potential Research Approaches

Bulk phosphor materials:

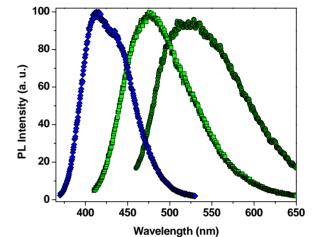
- Eu²⁺ and Ce³⁺ are the only common rare earths with 4f - 5d transitions that are parity allowed, and hence intense
- Chemical synthesis of novel oxide & nitride host structures
- First principles design, not combinatorial methods

New encapsulants/binder matrices

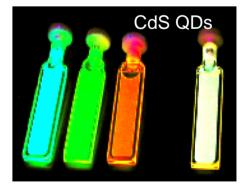
- Should survive high temps and UV/blue irradiation
- Low-temperature deposited *inorganic* encapsulants (e.g. silica)

Nanocrystalline QDs

- Tunable through size and surface ligand coverage
- Reduced light back-scattering
- Issues of long-term stability, high-T operation
- Need non-toxic materials!



Control of excitation and emission energies by manipulation of host structure and chemistry Sr_{2-x}Ba_xSiO/N₄;Ce³⁺ (Le Toquin and Cheetam, pending)



Single Color

Multicolor/White





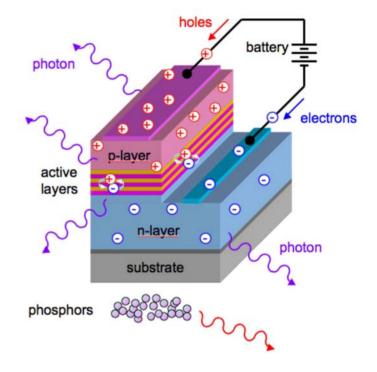
Materials Synthesis

Challenges:

Bright GaN LEDs are fairly new (early 1990's). It is surprising that it has progressed so rapidly.

Could other better materials be out there? But can we atomically engineer a new material that could be even better?

- •Non-polar?
- Self-assembled nanoscale components?
- Engineered high conductivity layers?
- •Built-in QWs?





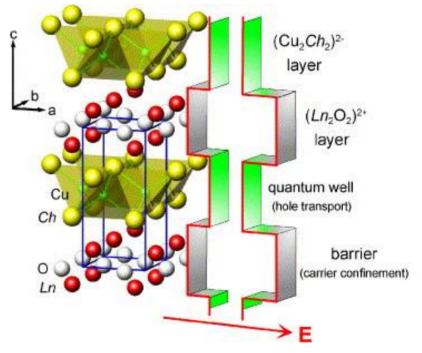


PRD: Unconventional Light-emitting Semiconductors

Approaches:

- Designing semiconductors with specific transport and optical properties
 - -Use computational design rather than combinatorial methods
- Self-assembly of inorganic nanostructured materials

Example: layered 2D oxychalcogenide crystal structures - self assembled inorganic nanostructed material

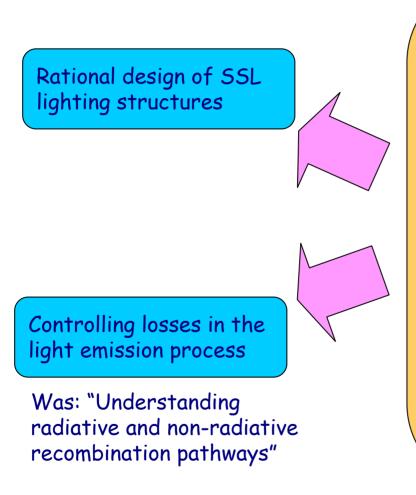


K. Ueda et al., *Thin Solid Films* **496**, 8, (2006)





Where we've been: PRDs, CCRDs, and GCs



LED PRDs:

Polar materials and heterojunctions Luminescence efficiency of InGaN structures Unconventional light-emitting semiconductors Photon conversion materials

OLED PRDs:

Managing and exploiting disorder in OLEDs Understanding degredation in OLEDs Integrated approach to OLED design

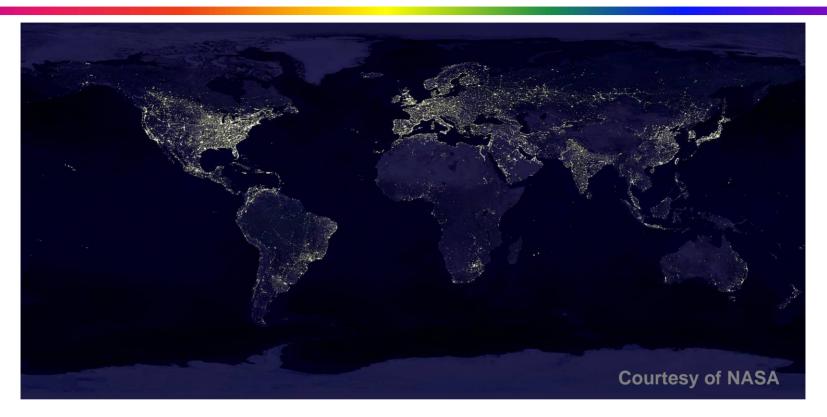
Cross-Cutting RDs:

New functionality through heterogeneous nanostructures **Innovative photon management** Enhanced light-matter interactions Multiscale modeling for SSL Precision nanoscale characterization





Science and SSL



- 50% Energy Efficient Solid State Lighting will replace all conventional lighting in the next 25 years or so.
- This will result in a 10% reduction in global electricity use.
- Much of this revolution will be enabled by *discovery-class science*.

