

**DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF A NOVEL MULTIWAVELENGTH
BRILLOUIN-ERBIUM FIBER LASER**

By

MOHAMMED HAYDER AL-MANSOORI

**Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia, in
Fulfilment of Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science**

March 2004

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

Dedication to

My parents, my son Abd-Rahman,

And all of my family members

Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science

**DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF A NOVEL MULTIWAVELENGTH
BRILLOUIN-ERBIUM FIBER LASER**

By

MOHAMMED HAYDER AL-MANSOORI

March 2004

Chairman: Professor Borhanuddin Mohd. Ali, Ph.D.

Faculty: Engineering

Multi-wavelength laser sources with constant wavelength spacing are of great interest in dense wavelength division multiplexing (DWDM) communication and sensors systems. As the transmission capacity of optical communication systems is approaching a few Tb/s through WDM method in recent years, multiwavelength generation technology becomes more important, considering that the complexity and the cost of the source will increase as the number of WDM channel increases.

In this thesis, the design and development of a novel architecture of multi-wavelength Brillouin/Erbium fiber laser (BEFL) utilizing a linear cavity fiber loop technique is presented. Simultaneous and stable multiple wavelength lasing in a linear cavity have been achieved. The results are based completely on the experimental work. The requirement of internal feedback that is commonly used for multiple wavelengths Brillouin/Erbium fiber laser using a ring configuration is achieved by the proposed linear

cavity design. This design used only a single 980 nm pump laser for its multiple wavelengths operation. Based on the design parameters namely; 980 nm pump power, Brillouin pump power, Brillouin pump wavelength and single mode fiber (SMF) the performance of a novel BEFL is presented in terms of threshold power, Stokes signal peak power, number of Stokes generated, stability of the Stokes and tuning range. Throughout this work, three lengths of SMF-fiber are used, 1.9 km, 8.8 km and 25 km. The optimization of Brillouin pump wavelength, power and Erbium gain led to a maximum possible number of Stokes. Twenty-two stable output laser lines with 10.88 GHz (0.088 nm) line spacing were obtained at 1558 nm that was the peak of Erbium-doped fiber (EDF) gain. The injected Brillouin pump power into the 8.8 km SMF-fiber was set at 0.9 dBm and the EDF was pumped by 100 mW of 980 nm pump laser.

The most efficient cascaded Brillouin Stokes operation occurred at the peak of Erbium gain centered on 1558 nm. The number of Stokes decreased as the Brillouin pump increased in the highest region of Erbium gain. On the contrary, the number of Stokes was proportional to the intensity of the Brillouin pump power outside this wavelength range. The best performance and conversion efficiency of Brillouin pump to the BEFL signal occurs at the lower levels of injected Brillouin pump power. A low threshold of 4 mW pump power with 2.3 mW launched Brillouin pump into the 8.8 km of SMF-fiber at 1558 nm was obtained. The tuning range of the Stokes signal must be taken into account both the Brillouin and EDF pump powers, at a fixed EDF pump power the Stokes signal can be tuned wider at a higher Brillouin pump power while higher EDF pump power produces smaller tuning range.

Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai
memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Master Sains

**REKACIPTA DAN PEMBANGUNAN LASER FIBER ERBIUM-BRILLOUIN
PELBAGAI-PANJANG GELOMBANG BARU**

Oleh

MOHAMMED HAYDER AL-MANSOORI

Mac 2004

Pengerusi: Profesor Borhanuddin Mohd. Ali, Ph.D.

Fakulti: Kejuruteraan

Punca laser pelbagai-panjang gelombang dengan jedaan panjang gelombang yang tetap merupakan sesuatu yang diminati dalam sistem komunikasi Pemultipleksan Pembahagi Panjang-gelombang Padat (DWDM) dan sensor. Kapasiti penghantaran sistem komunikasi optik menghampiri Terabit/saat melalui cara WDM dalam beberapa tahun kebelakangan ini dan teknologi penghasilan pelbagai-panjang gelombang menjadi semakin penting, di mana kerumitan dan kos punca cahaya meningkat dengan peningakatan bilangan saluran WDM.

Dalam tesis ini, rekacipta dan pembangunan senibina baru laser fiber Brillouim/Erbium (BEFL) pelbagai-panjang gelombang menggunakan teknik gelung fiber kaviti linar dipersembahkan. Pelaseran pelbagai-panjang gelombang serentak dan stabil dalam kaviti linar telah berjaya dicapai. Keputusan adalah berdasarkan kepada ujikaji sepenuhnya.

Keperluan terhadap suapbalik dalaman yang biasanya digunakan dalam laser fiber Brillouin/Erbium pelbagai-pantang gelombang menggunakan konfigurasi gelang telah dicapai melalui rekacipta kaviti linar yang dicadangkan. Rekacipta ini menggunakan hanya satu laser pam 980 nm untuk operasi pelbagai-pantang gelombangnya. Berdasarkan parameter rekacipta iaitu kuasa pam, panjang gelombang dan kuasa pam Brillouin, dan Fiber Mod Tunggal (SMF), prestasi BEFL dipersembahkan dari segi kuasa ambang, kuasa puncak isyarat Stokes, bilangan Stokes yang terhasil, kestabilan Stokes dan julat pelarasian.

Di sepanjang kajian ini, pelbagai pantang SMF digunakan, iaitu 1.9 km, 8.8 km, dan 25 km. Pengoptimaan pantang gelombang pam Brillouin, kuasa dan gandaan Erbium menghasilkan bilangan Stokes semaksima mungkin. Dua puluh dua garisan laser keluaran yang stabil dengan jedaan pantang-gelombang sebanyak 10.88 GHz (0.088 nm) pada 1558 nm iaitu gandaan puncak fiber terdop-Erbium (EDF) telah didapati. Kuasa pam Brillouin yang dimasukkan ke dalam SMF 8.8 km disetkan pada 0.9 dBm dan EDF itu dipam oleh laser pam 980 nm dengan kuasa sebanyak 100 mW.

Operasi Brillouin Stokes adalah paling berkesan berlaku pada puncak gandaan Erbium pada 1558 nm. Nombor Stokes berkurang apabila pam Brillouin ditingkatkan kepada ruang tertinggi gandaan Erbium. Secara mutlaknya, nombor Stokes adalah seiring dengan ketumpatan kuasa pam Brillouin diluar julat pantang-gelombang. Prestasi yang terbaik dan kebolehan penukaran pam Brillouin kepada isyarat BEFL terjadi di peringkat rendah di mana kuasa pam Brillouin di berikan. Kuasa pam ambang rendah iaitu 4 mW dengan

pam Brillouin dilancarkan 2.3 mW, SMF 8.8 km pada 1558 nm telah dihasilkan. Julat pelarasan bagi isyarat Stokes mestilah diambil kira untuk kedua-dua kuasa; Brillouin dan kuasa pam EDF, pada kuasa pam EDF yang telah ditetapkan isyarat Stokes boleh ditala dengan lebih luas pada kuasa pam Brillouin yang lebih tinggi sementara pada kuasa pam EDF yang lebih tinggi menghasilkan julat talaan yang lebih kecil.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all, I would like to express my greatest gratitude to Allah the almighty, for his help and support during the course of life and moment of truth. Alhamdullilah.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to my supervisor, Professor Dr. Borhanuddin Mohd. Ali. I feel privilege to have him as my advisor. I am profoundly grateful for his tremendous support, comments, encouragement, quick response and mentoring through my research.

My special thanks go to my committee members, Associate Professor Dr. Mohamad Khazani Abdullah and Associate Professor Dr. Mohd Adzir Mahdi for their help, wise council, guidance, encouragements, quick response and valuable suggestions. I feel honored to have been a part of their research groups for the last year, I am sure that example will continue to inspire me in the future. Thank you for continual support, endless encouragement and patience towards completing the research. Without all that nothing would have been accomplished.

Special thanks extended to all members of Photonics and Wireless Laboratory who has contributed to the successful completion of this study.

I would like to thank my colleagues, Bouzid Belloui, Suhairi, Hisham Zuhdi, Mohammed Mekhlafi, Mohammed Howieg, Naseer Matrood, Mohammed Hamarsheh, and Aiman Kaser for their friendship, support, and encouragement.

Last, but definitely not least, I would like to thank my father and my mother-the best that anybody could have-for their unconditional love and continual support that made me strong in completing this thesis. Also, I would like to thank my wife, my family, my friend Talib and my brothers Abas and Ali for their constant support and encouragement throughout my life. I could not have done without their help!

I certify that an Examination Committee met on 1st March 2004 to conduct the final examination of Mohammed Hayder Al-Mansoori on his Master of Science thesis entitled “Design and Development of a Novel Multiwavelength Brillouin-Erbium Fiber Laser” in accordance with Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Act 1980 and Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Regulations 1981. The Committee recommends that the candidate be awarded the relevant degree. Members of the Examination Committee are as follows:

Khairi Yusuf, Ph.D.

Faculty of Engineering
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Chairman)

Syed Javaid Iqbal, Ph.D.

Faculty of Engineering
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Member)

Elshadiq Ahmed Mohammed Babiker, Ph.D.

Faculty of Engineering
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Member)

Farid Ghani, Ph.D.

Professor
School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering
Faculty of Engineering
Universiti Sains Malaysia
(Member)

GULAM RUSUL RAHMAT ALI, Ph.D.
Professor/Deputy Dean
School of Graduate Studies
Universiti Putra Malaysia

Date:

This thesis submitted to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia has been accepted as fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science. The members of the Supervisory Committee are as follows:

Borhanuddin Mohd. Ali, Ph.D.

Professor

Faculty of Engineering
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Chairman)

Mohammed Khazani Abdullah, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

Faculty of Engineering
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Member)

Mohd Adzir Mahdi, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

Faculty of Engineering
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Member)

AINI IDERIS, Ph.D.

Professor/Dean

School of Graduate Studies
Universiti Putra Malaysia

Date:

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the thesis is based on my original work except for the quotations and citations, which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously or currently submitted for any other degree at UPM or other institutions.

MOHAMMED HAYDER AL-MANSOORI

Date:

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
DEDICATION	ii
ABSTRACT	iii
ABSTRAK	v
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	viii
APROVAL	x
DECLARATION	xii
LIST OF TABLES	xvi
LIST OF FIGURES	xvii
LIST OF ABBREVIATION	xx
 CHAPTER	
1 INTRODUCTION	
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Motivation and Problem Statement	4
1.3 Scope of the Work	5
1.4 Research Objectives	5
1.5 Organization of the Thesis	6
2 LITERATURE REVIEW	7
2.1 Introduction	7
2.2 Techniques in Multiple Wavelength Fiber Lasers System	7
2.2.1 Cooling	8
2.2.2 Gain Equalization	8
2.2.3 Spatial Multiplexing	9
2.2.4 Polarization Multiplexing	10
2.2.5 Frequency Shifting	10
2.2.6 Extracavity Spectral Slicing	11
2.2.7 Stimulated Brillouin Scattering	11
2.2.8 Summary of the Techniques	12
2.3 Review of the Multi-wavelength EDFL's	13
2.4 Critical Review of the Multi-wavelength BEFL's	15
3 BASIC PRINCIPLES AND THEORIES	22
3.1 Introduction	22

3.2	Optical Resonators for CW Fiber Lasers	22
3.2.1	Fabry Perot Cavity	23
3.2.2	Ring Cavity	23
3.3	Stimulated Brillouin Scattering	24
3.3.1	SBS in Optical Fibers	25
3.3.2	Brillouin Frequency Shifts of Optical Fibers	25
3.3.3	Stimulated Brillouin Scattering Gain	28
3.3.4	Stimulated Brillouin Scattering Threshold	29
3.3.5	Gain Saturation	31
3.3.6	Stimulated Brillouin Fiber Optic Ring Resonator	31
3.3.7	Stokes Waves Generation	33
3.3.8	SBS Application	35
3.3.9	Advantage and Disadvantage of SBS	35
3.4	Erbium-Doped Fiber Lasers	36
3.4.1	Pump and Gain	37
3.4.2	Laser Threshold Power	38
3.4.3	Tuning Range	39
3.5	Summary	40
4	METHODOLOGY	41
4.1	Introduction	41
4.2	Experimental Setup	42
4.3	Principle of Operation	44
4.4	Brillouin/Erbium Fiber Laser Parameters under Study	47
4.4.1	Design Parameters	47
4.4.1.1	Pump Power	48
4.4.1.2	Brillouin Pump Power	48
4.4.1.3	Brillouin Pump Wavelength	48
4.4.1.4	Single Mode Optical Fiber Length	49
4.4.2	Performance Parameters	49
4.4.2.1	The Stokes Signal Peak Power	50
4.4.2.2	Threshold Power	50
4.4.2.3	Number of Stokes Signal	51
4.4.2.4	Tuning Range	52
4.5	Components of Brillouin/ Erbium Fiber Laser	52
4.5.1	Brillouin Pump Power	53
4.5.2	Pump Power	53
4.5.3	Active Material and Splicing	54
4.5.4	Optical Coupler/Tapper	55
4.5.5	Optical Circulators	56
4.5.6	Wavelength Division Multiplexer (WDM)	57
4.6	Summary	58

5	RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	59
5.1	Introduction	59
5.2	Effect of 980 nm Pump Power	59
5.2.1	The Effect of 980 nm Pump Power on the Threshold	60
5.2.2	The Effect of 980 nm Pump Power on the Stokes Signal Peak Power	64
5.2.3	The Effect of 980 nm Pump on the Number of the Stokes	69
5.2.4	The Effect of 980 nm Pump Power on the Tuning Range	71
5.3	Effect of Brillouin Pump Power	73
5.3.1	The Effect of Brillouin Pump Power on the Stokes Signal Peak Power	74
5.3.2	The Effect of Brillouin Pump Power on the Total Stokes Power	76
5.3.3	The Effect of Brillouin Pump Power on the Number of the Stokes	78
5.3.4	The Effect of Brillouin Pump Power on the Tuning Range	82
5.4	Effect of Brillouin Pump Wavelength on the Number of the Stokes	84
5.5	Effect of the SMF Length	85
5.6	Summary	90
6	CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK	92
6.1	Conclusion	92
6.2	Future Works	94
	REFERENCES	95
	BIODATA OF THE AUTHOR	100