

Motivation

There have been many attempts to use a "new" frequency range, the terahertz (THz)-range, for various high-frequency applications. We have developed a photomixer module as a THz-wave generator that employs an ultra-high-speed photodiode (UTC-PD), which is original NTT technology.

Originality

The fabricated photomixer module simultaneously exhibits a high output power (-2.7 dBm@350 GHz) and an extremely wide bandwidth (120 GHz@3-dB down). The module package is compact, lightweight, and easy to use.

Impact

Because THz-waves have singular features compared with electric waves and lightwaves, they are being actively investigated for application to various systems including ultra-high capacity wireless links, non-destructive inspection and imaging, a local signal supply for radio telescope, and spectroscopic sensing.

The photomixer module is the key to realizing these THz-wave systems.

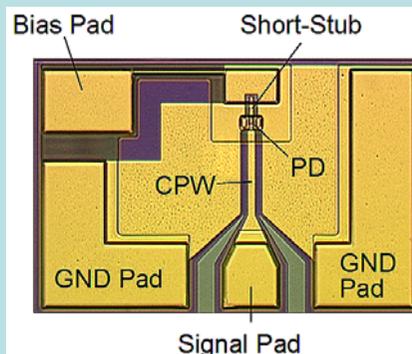
Development of "New" Frequency Range

Microwaves mm waves **Terahertz-waves (100 GHz–10 THz)** IR Visible UV X-ray

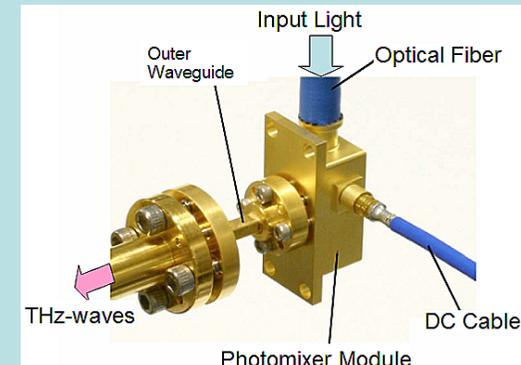
Electric-waves

Boundary

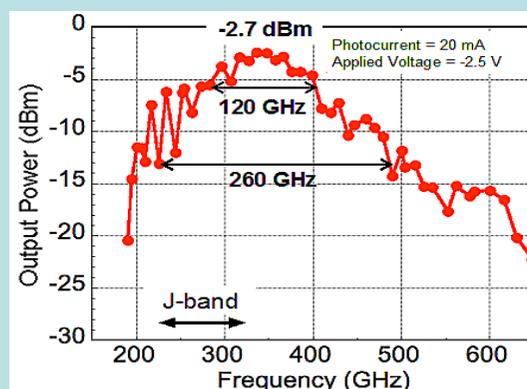
Lightwaves



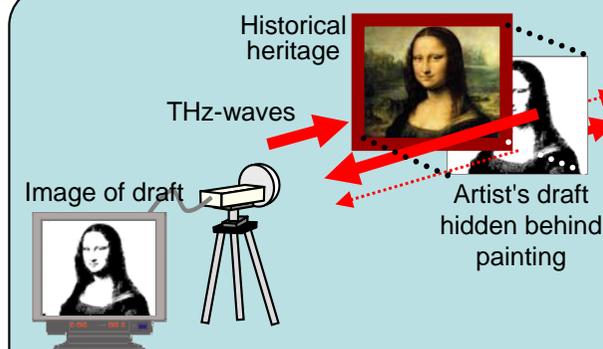
Ultra-high speed photodiode (UTC-PD) chip



Fabricated photomixer module



Output power dependence on frequency



Example of non-destructive inspection