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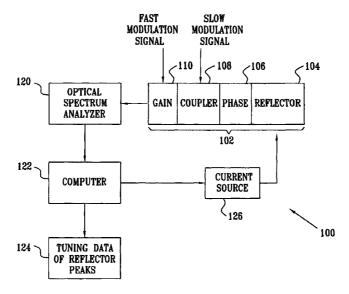
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(54) Title: CHARACTERIZATION OF MULTIPLE SECTION SEMICONDUCTOR LASERS



(57) Abstract: A method for characterizing tunable semiconductor laser diodes in which the laser is stimulated in a way that discloses the optical properties and tuning current dependency of the individual sections of the laser, separately for each section, and independently of the other sections. A section of the laser is current modulated in order to excite a continuum of modes related to the spectral response of other sections. This process is observed by viewing the overall spectral response at an integration time significantly longer than the modulation time. The spectral positions of the modes and their dependence on the tuning current, are used to determine the tuning characteristic of that particular section. This method substantially reduces the time required for characterization of such lasers in comparison with prior art methods.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 H01S5/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) $IPC \ 7 \ H01S$

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

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A	WO 99 40654 A (ALTITUN AB ; ANDERSSON LARS (SE); BROBERG BJOERN (SE)) 12 August 1999 (1999-08-12) cited in the application the whole document	1-30

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	χ Patent family members are listed in annex.
Special categories of cited documents: 'A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance 'E' earlier document but published on or after the international filling date 'L' document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) 'O' document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means 'P' document published prior to the international filling date but later than the priority date claimed	 *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. *&* document member of the same patent family
Date of the actual completion of the international search 24 March 2003	Date of mailing of the international search report 02/04/2003
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016	Authorized officer Claessen, L

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