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Accession number:20113014170843

Title:Compact single mode tunable laser using a digital micromirror device

Authors:Havermeyer, Frank (1); Ho, Lawrence (1); Moser, Christophe (2)

Author affiliation:(1) Ondax Inc., 850 E. Duarte Road, Monrovia, CA 91016, United States; (2)

Laboratory of Applied Photonics Devices, School of Engineering, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland

Corresponding author:Moser, C.(christophe.moser@epfl.ch)

Source title:Optics Express

Abbreviated source title:Opt. Express

Volume:19

Issue:15

Issue date:July 18, 2011

Publication year:2011

Pages:14642-14652

Language:English

E-ISSN:10944087

Document type:Journal article (JA)

Publisher:Optical Society of America, 2010 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20036-1023, United States

Abstract:The wavelength tuning properties of a tunable external cavity laser based on multiplexed volume holographic gratings and a commercial micromirror device are reported. The 3x3x3 cm<sup>3</sup> laser exhibits single mode operation in single or multi colors between 776 nm and 783 nm with less than 7.5 MHz linewidth, 37 mW output power, 50  $\mu$ s rise/fall time constant and a maximum switching rate of 0.66 KHz per wavelength. The unique discrete-wavelength-switching features of this laser are also well suited as a source for continuous wave Terahertz generation and three-dimensional metrology. &copy; 2011 Optical Society of America.