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Title:Broad gain in a bound-to-continuum quantum cascade laser with heterogeneous active region

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Abstract:We demonstrate the operation of heterogeneous terahertz quantum cascade lasers with broadened gain by optimising the sub-stacks to align at the same field. In single plasmon waveguides, we find two-colour operation for nearly the entire dynamic range of the lasers with similar performance to homogeneous lasers. Time domain spectroscopy measurements confirm that a flat gain spectrum is present and the sub-stacks align at the same time. When incorporated into metal-metal waveguides, we find that performance is consistent with the constituent sub-stacks and there is broadband operation over 380 GHz.

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