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Title:Intersubband absorption with difference-frequency generation in GaAs asymmetric quantum wells

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Abstract:An asymmetric quantum well (AQW) is designed to emit terahertz (THz) waves by using difference frequency generation (DFG) with the structure of GaAs/Al_{0.2}In_{0.8}As/Al_{0.5}In_{0.5}As. The characteristics of absorption coefficients are analysed under the parabolic and non-parabolic energy-band conditions in detail. We find that the absorption coefficients vary with the two pump optical intensities, and they reach the maxima when the pump wavelengths are given as $\lambda_{p1} = 9.70 \mu\text{m}$ and $\lambda_{p2} = 10.64 \mu\text{m}$, respectively. Compared with non-parabolic conditions, the total absorption coefficient under parabolic conditions shows a blue shift, which is due to the increase in the energy difference between the ground and excited states. By adjusting the two pump optical intensities, the wave vector phase-matching condition inside the AQW is satisfied. © 2012 Chinese Physical Society and IOP Publishing Ltd.

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