

## Femtosecond-laser micromachining of transparent materials: an enabling tool for physics on a chip *Roberto Osellame*

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MILAN - ITALY



#### **Nobel Prize in Physics 2018**





#### Outline

 Introduction to femtosecond laser micromachining of transparent materials

- Optical manipulation of particles
  - Optical cell stretcher and sorter
  - Integrated rheometer
- Quantum Supremacy
  - Boson Sampling
  - Quantum device validation



### Femtosecond laser micromachining (FLM)

- Nonlinear absorption of femtosecond laser pulses → structural modifications
- Devices can be fabricated by translation of the sample







## Waveguide writing in glass







### **Microfluidic channel fabrication in glass**





### **Two-Photon Polymerization**

Femtosecond laser pulses are focused inside a UV photosensitive resin.

Two-photon

polymerization

Polymerized region

Photocurable film

Focused beam

**Objective lens** 

Near-IR laser pulses undergo two-photon absorption

Single-photon

polymerization

#### Two-photon absorption:

- Absorption is proportional to the square of the intensity
- It's a process with a <u>threshold</u>

#### **Resolution well below the diffraction limit**



100nm



#### **Two-Photon Polymerization**









### **Optofluidic single-particle manipulation**





### **Optical Stretcher: Principle**



2 counter-propagating laser beams

not focused beams

cell suspension
flowing in between

#### How does it work?

 ✓ reflected and refracted light at the cell surface provide optical forces for TRAPPING and STRETCHING

J. Guck et al., Biophys. J., 88, 3689-3698 (2005)

## Deformability of cell cytoskeleton is a reliable marker of the cell status

detect illnesses from a small amount of sample



### **Integrated Optical Stretcher: Concept**



MAIN advantages:

➤ fine alignment

enhanced robustness

further on-chip
 functionalities
 (fluorescence and Raman
 analyses, cell sorting)



#### **fs-Laser Microfabrication**





### **Cell Optical Stretching**



Cell: HL-60 leukemic white blood cells

Power of the laser = 5.5 W

Power per side at the channel = 618 mW

Step stimulus: 2 s - 4 s - 2 s

N. Bellini et al., Biomed. Opt. Express 3, 2658 (2012)







#### **Integrated Optical Sorter**



Ilaria Cristiani Paolo Minzioni







#### **Integrated Optical Sorter**





llaria Cristiani Paolo Minzioni

T. Yang et al., Lab Chip 15, 1262 (2015)



#### **Microrheology: Optical shooting**



#### 

Equation of motion  $m\ddot{x} = F_0 - F_V$ 

Neglecting the inertial  $F_O(x)$  contribution





## **Microrheology: Results**

- Various standard netwonian fluids were measured at different temperatures.
- All the trajectories could be fitted using calculated F(x) and constant  $\eta$
- Viscosities in agreement with the literature ones





#### From Newtonian to non-Newtonian fluids





## Integrated Photonic Circuits for Boson Sampling Experiments





Prof. Fabio Sciarrino

#### The quantum computer revolution

French Advances / My Doctor Fired Me / Love App-tually

IT PROMISES TO SOLVE SOME OF HUMANITY'S MOST COMPLEX PROBLEMS. IT'S BACKED BY JEFF BEZOS, NASA AND THE CIA. EACH ONE COSTS \$10,000,000 AND OPERATES AT 459° BELOW ZERO. AND NOBODY KNOWS HOW IT ACTUALLY WORKS

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#### **Basics: Qubits**

Classical bits can be either o or 1



A quantum bit (qubit) is in a superposition state:  $|\Psi\rangle = \alpha |0\rangle + \beta |1\rangle$ where  $|\alpha|^2 + |\beta|^2 = 1$ 



A qubit can take advantage of peculiar properties of quantum mechanics (quantum interference, entanglement,...) to implement much faster algorithms

A **photonic qubit** is implemented by taking as quantum system **a single-photon** and encoding the information in one of its degrees of freedom





## **Factoring large numbers**

- Factoring large numbers is believed to be a computationally hard problem
- All current cryptography is based on this assumption
- 1994 Peter Shor's proposed a quantum algorithm that could factor large numbers in polynomial time
- Demonstration of quantum supremacy by Shor









## **Boson Sampling Problem**

 Scott Aaronson proposed a problem that could demonstrate quantum supremacy with resources close to what we already have:

#### **Boson Sampling**

Aaronson, S. & Arkhipov, A., In Proceedings of the 43rd annual ACM symposium on theory of computing, 333–342 (ACM Press, 2011)





#### **Boson Sampling in a nutshell**



#### **Quantum supremacy at hand**

#### **Classical computer**

Calculate the matrix permanent #P-complete (computationally very hard)

Repeat calculation  $\binom{m}{n}$  times to estimate the output probability distribution

Sample from this distribution

#### Specialized photonic quantum computer



Quantum supremacy could be already achieved with 50 photons in a 1000 modes interferometer



#### **Integrated Quantum Photonics**





#### **Practical implementations**



Photonic Boson Sampling in a Tunable Circuit Matthew A. Broome *et al. Science* **339**, 794 (2013); DOI: 10.1126/science.1231440



#### Boson Sampling on a Photonic Chip Justin B. Spring *et al. Science* **339**, 798 (2013); DOI: 10.1126/science.1231692

LETTERS

PUBLISHED ONLINE: 12 MAY 2013 | DOI: 10.1038/NPHOTON.2013.102

#### photonics

#### **Experimental boson sampling**

Max Tillmann<sup>1,2</sup>\*, Borivoje Dakić<sup>1</sup>, René Heilmann<sup>3</sup>, Stefan Nolte<sup>3</sup>, Alexander Szameit<sup>3</sup> and Philip Walther<sup>1,2</sup>\*

nature photonics

PUBLISHED ONLINE: 26 MAY 2013 | DOI: 10.1038/NPHOTON.2013.112

#### Integrated multimode interferometers with arbitrary designs for photonic boson sampling

Andrea Crespi<sup>1,2</sup>, Roberto Osellame<sup>1,2</sup>\*, Roberta Ramponi<sup>1,2</sup>, Daniel J. Brod<sup>3</sup>, Ernesto F. Galvão<sup>3</sup>\*, Nicolò Spagnolo<sup>4</sup>, Chiara Vitelli<sup>4,5</sup>, Enrico Maiorino<sup>4</sup>, Paolo Mataloni<sup>4</sup> and Fabio Sciarrino<sup>4</sup>\*



#### **Arbitrary transformation in a circuit**





#### **Experimental setup**



A. Crespi et al., Nature Photonics 7, 545, 2013



### Scaling up to 13 modes



N. Spagnolo et al., Nature Photonics 8, 615, 2014



#### **Quantum validation of a Photonic computer**

#### photonics

#### LETTERS PUBLISHED ONLINE: 22 JUNE 2014 | DOI: 10.1038/NPHOTON.2014.13

# Experimental validation of photonic boson sampling

Nicolò Spagnolo<sup>1</sup>, Chiara Vitelli<sup>1,2</sup>, Marco Bentivegna<sup>1</sup>, Daniel J. Brod<sup>3</sup>, Andrea Crespi<sup>4,5</sup>, Fulvio Flamini<sup>1</sup>, Sandro Giacomini<sup>1</sup>, Giorgio Milani<sup>1</sup>, Roberta Ramponi<sup>4,5</sup>, Paolo Mataloni<sup>1</sup>, Roberto Osellame<sup>4,5\*</sup>, Ernesto F. Galvão<sup>3\*</sup> and Fabio Sciarrino<sup>1\*</sup>

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#### Suppression law of quantum states in a 3D photonic fast Fourier transform chip

Andrea Crespi<sup>1,2</sup>, Roberto Osellame<sup>1,2</sup>, Roberta Ramponi<sup>1,2</sup>, Marco Bentivegna<sup>3</sup>, Fulvio Flamini<sup>3</sup>, Nicolò Spagnolo<sup>3</sup>, Niko Viggianiello<sup>3</sup>, Luca Innocenti<sup>3,4</sup>, Paolo Mataloni<sup>3</sup> & Fabio Sciarrino<sup>3</sup>



### **Simple algorithms for validation**



Tichy, M. C., Mayer, K., Buchleitner, A. & Molmer, K. Stringent and efficient assessment of Boson-Sampling devices. Phys. Rev. Lett. 113, 020502 (2014).



## fs-laser writing of photonic circuits

<sup>3</sup> 3D photonic circuit implementing a quantum Fast Fourier Transform



#### **Quantum device characterization**



Reconstruction of the unitary transformation of the devices, by measuring single-photon distributions and two-photon coincidences ( $\lambda = 785$  nm).



## **Experiment validation**

4 modes

- Two-photon states in different input states with cyclic symmetry are injected in the interferometers.
- Output events are recorded and violations of the suppression law are counted as a function of the delay between the photons.

V<sub>OBS</sub> = N<sub>forbidden</sub> / N<sub>tot</sub>

8 modes

 Reducing the delay between the photons they become more indistinguishable: explanations with classical (distinguishable -D) particles or light in a mean-field (MF) state are progressively ruled out.



#### **Next step for Quantum validation**



#### **Tuneable circuits are needed!**





#### Reconfigurable photonic circuits Fabrication

- Photonic circuits are laser written, then a thin gold layer is deposited
- fs-laser ablation is used to define the thermal shifters



F. Flamini et al., Light Science & Applications 4, e354 (2015)



#### Reconfigurable photonic circuits Characterization

Suitably driving the surface resistors induces highly controllable phase shifts



#### Conclusions

- Femtosecond laser micromachining can produce both optical waveguides and microchannels, with excellent prototyping and 3D capabilities
- Application to integrated optofluidic devices and integrated quantum photonic circuits have been presented
- Several more applications can benefit from this powerful microfabrication technique







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# Fourier multi-port splitters

- For more than two ports, several non-equivalent balanced splitters exist.
- An extension of the HOM effect has been formalized for Fourier multiports.



Multi-port splitters can be decomposed in combinations of regular beamsplitters.



Reck et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. (1994); Carolan et al. Science (2015)



Tichy et al.

# Mastering 3D circuits



Unique capability to fabricate waveguide circuits and arrays in three-dimensions.





Crespi et al. New J. Phys. 15, 013012 (2013). Corrielli et al. Nat. Commun. 4, 1555 (2013).

## **Device fabrication**





FOOTPRINT OF THE CENTRAL PART OF THE INTERFEROMETERS (excluding fan-in and fan-out)
4-modes FFT: 50 μm x 50 μm x 9 mm
8-modes FFT: 95 μm x 95 μm x 15 mm

- Two different chips have been fabricated in borosilicate glass (EAGLE 2000 Corning).
- Waveguides yield single-mode behaviour at 785 nm wavelength.



### Improved scalability





Reduction in the complexity of the circuits with respect to conventional planar implementations