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Noise Influence on Nanolaser Large Signal Modulation

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Objective: Increasing the modulation speed, minimizing thermal footprint, minimizing size and efficiency optimization

Issue: Nanolasers have strong fluctuations due to low photon numbers

$$\frac{\langle \Delta S \rangle}{\langle S \rangle} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{\langle S \rangle}}$$

Questions: A. Is a nanolaser better suited for data transmission?
B. How can we estimate it?
C. What is the maximum transmission speed to be expected?

Rate Equations model for dielectric devices [1]

$$\dot{S} = -\Gamma_c S + \beta\gamma N(S+1) + F_S(t),$$

$$\dot{N} = P - \beta\gamma NS - \gamma N + F_N(t),$$

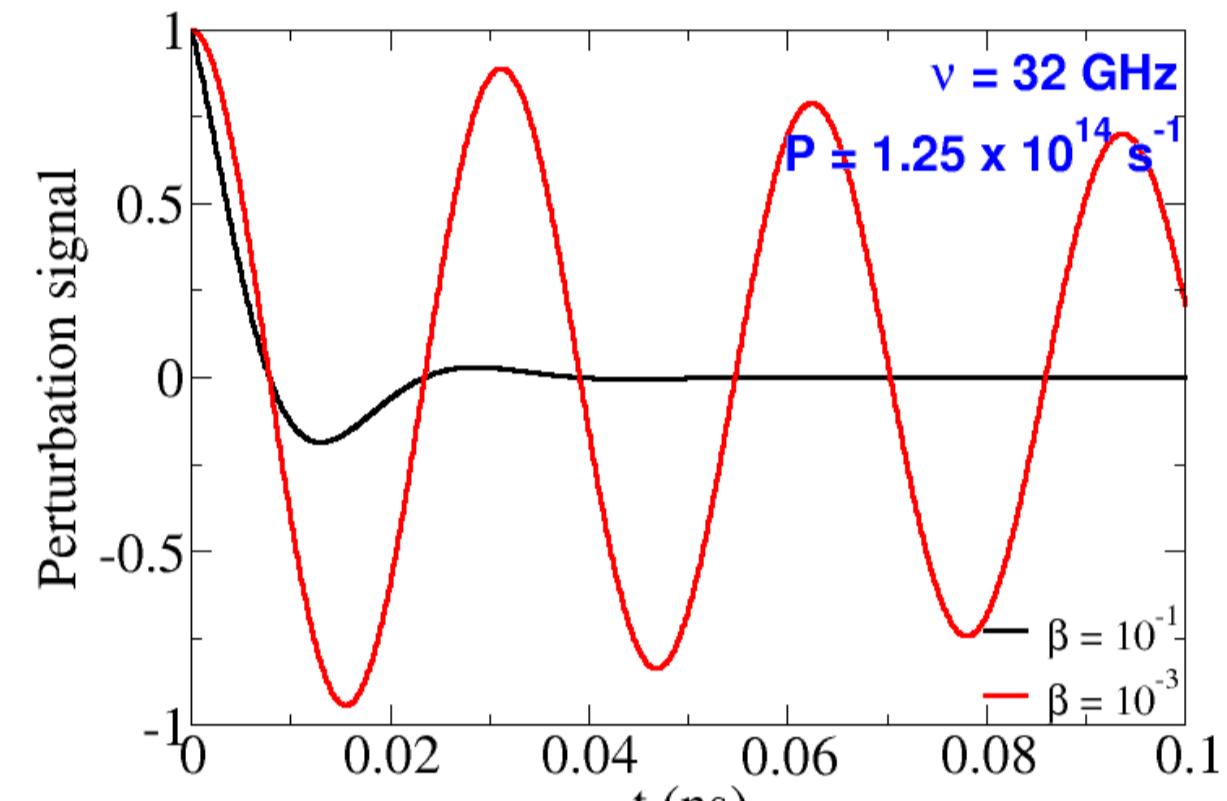
Langevin noise [2]

$$\langle F_i(t)F_j(t') \rangle = 2F_{ij}\delta(t-t')$$

Number of Photons: S	Relax. rate Γ_c : Cavity	Parameters β : % spont. em. in laser
Carriers: N	γ : Carrier	P : Pump rate

A. Nanolasers have more noise but stronger damping

Comparison of simulated perturbation at frequency ν and same pump (i.e., same photon flux)



Perturbations are more strongly damped in the nanolaser!

α

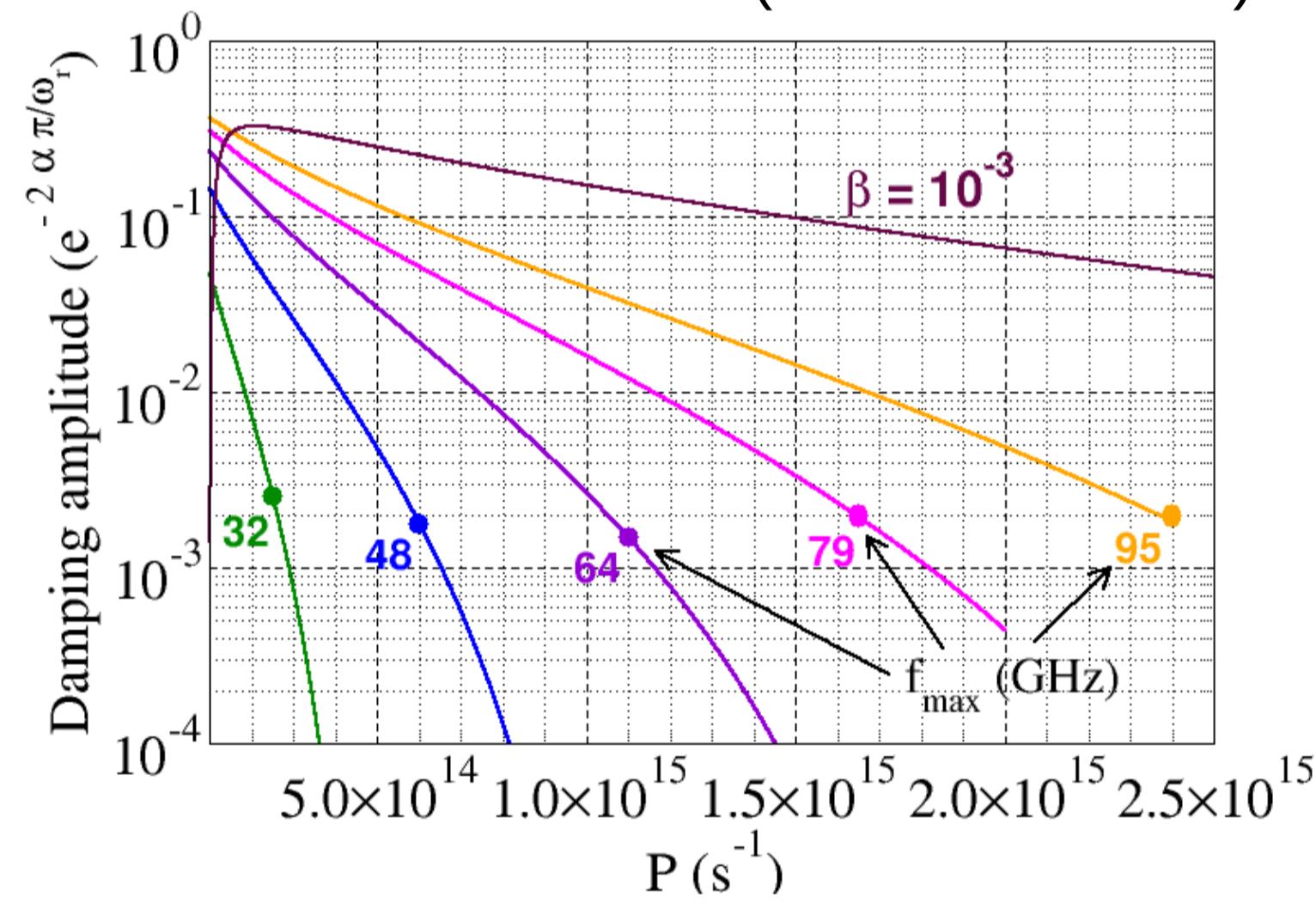
Linear stability

Perturbation decay

$$x(t) = x_0 + \xi e^{\lambda t} \\ = x_0 + \xi e^{\pm i\omega_r t} e^{\alpha t}$$

B. Quantitative (relative) damping analysis

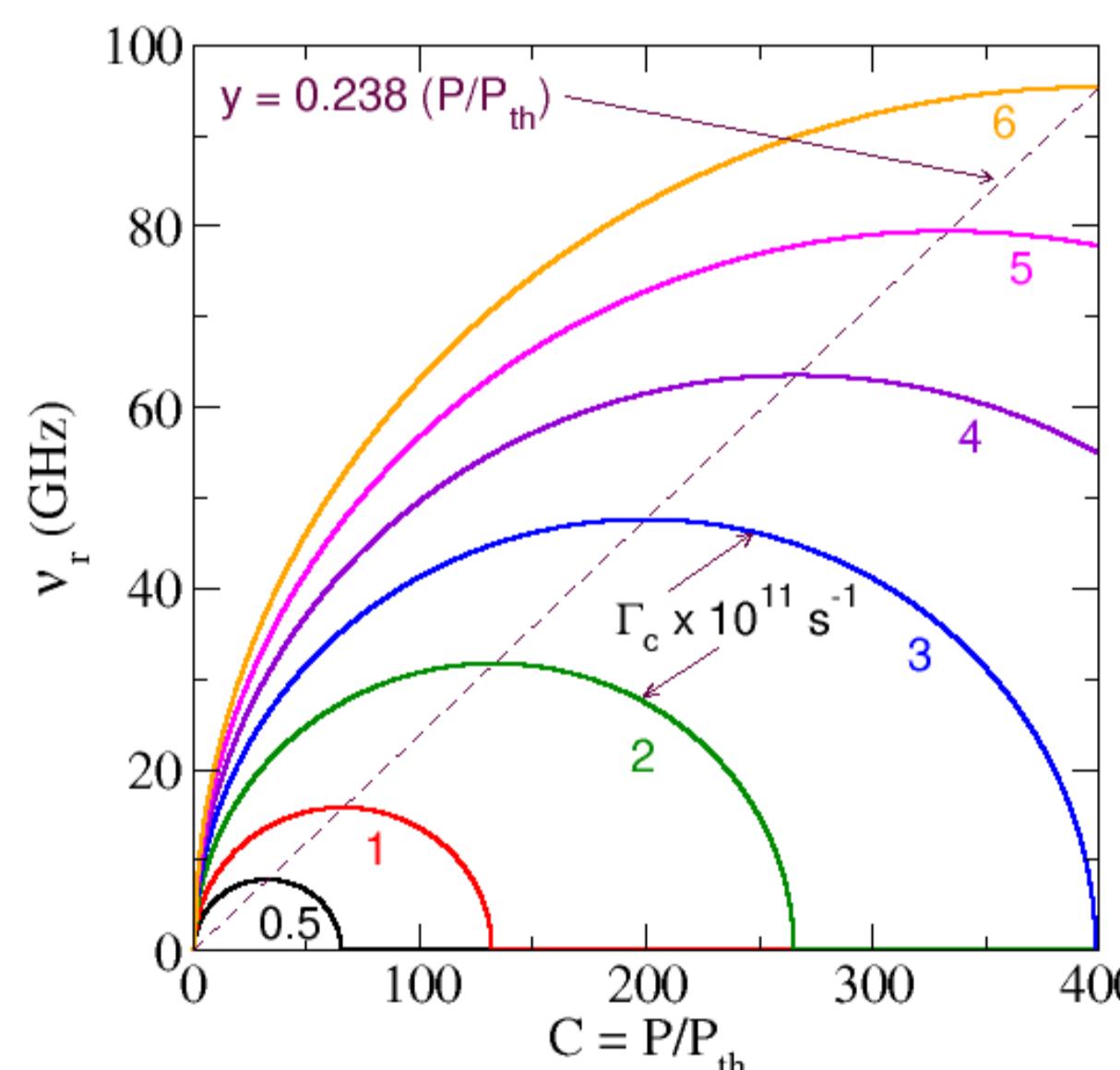
Comparing damping for different cavity losses and for different lasers (micro- vs. nano-)



ω_r

C. Maximum transmission speed

- The temporal response depends on the internal time constant T
- Depending on C , the maximum response speed changes, so does noise damping
- The response is a function of cavity losses
- Increasing the maximum speed (bandwidth) is very costly in terms of necessary pump (slope < 0.25)



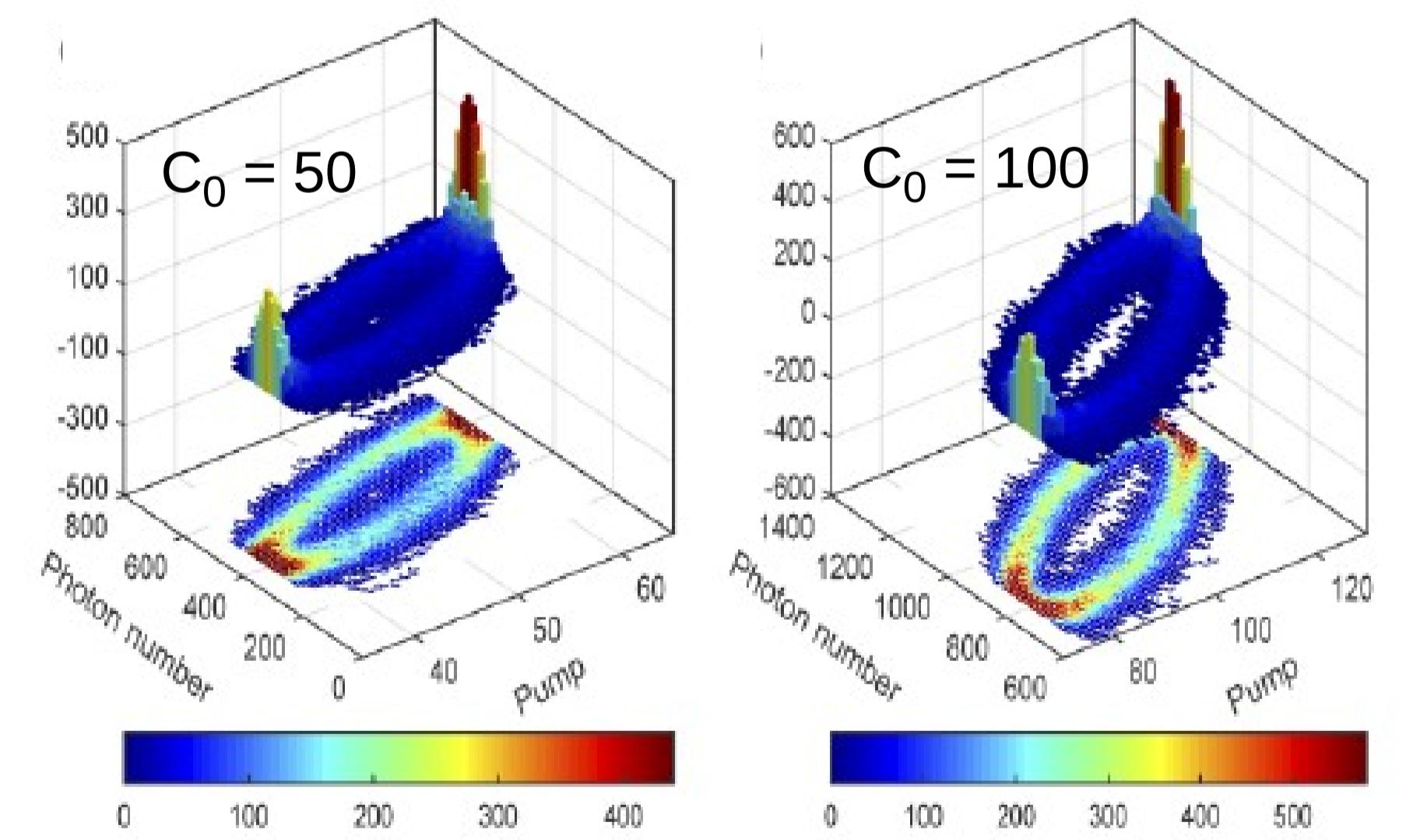
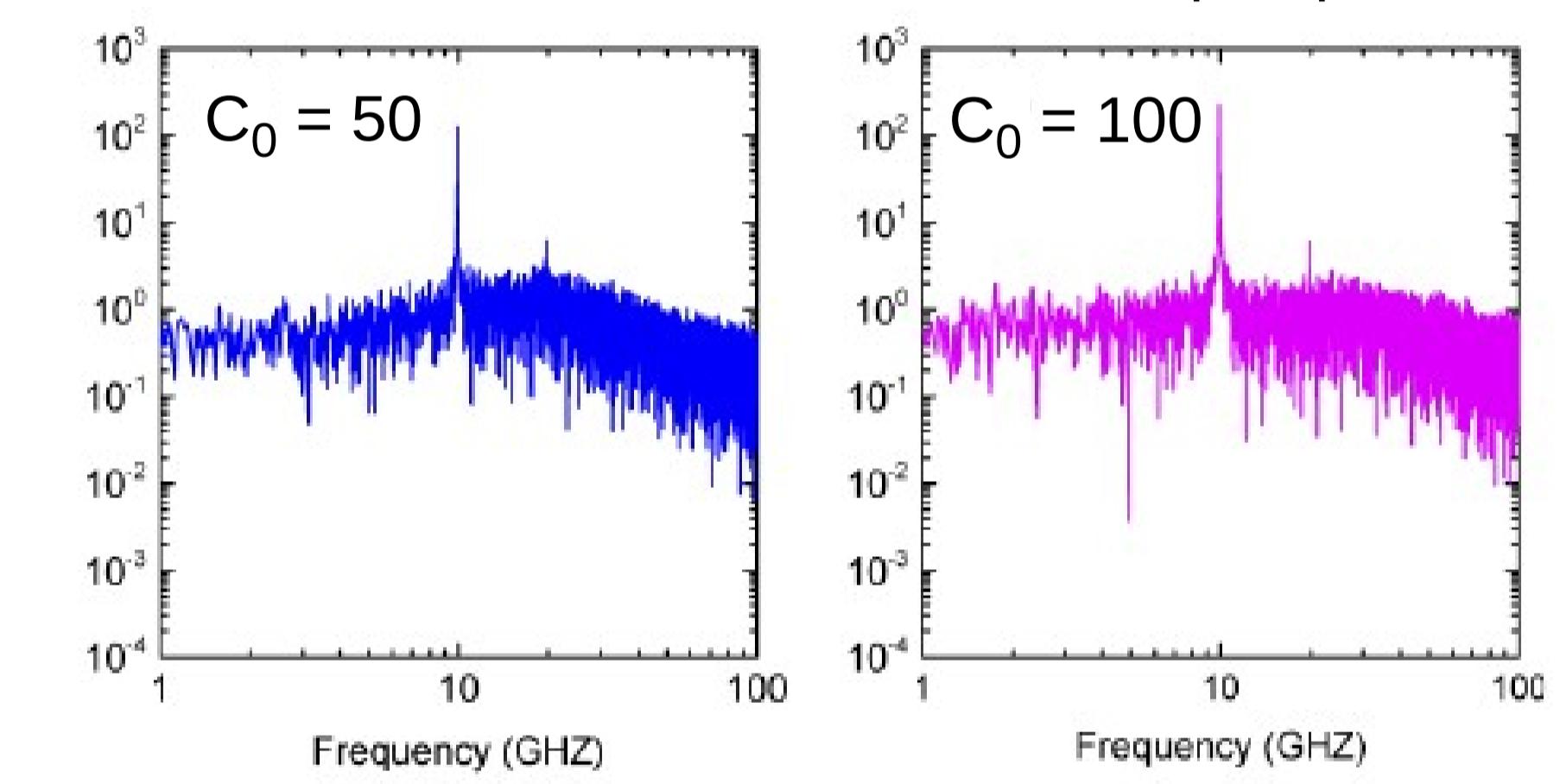
$v_r > v$

$$\Gamma_c = 1 \times 10^{11}$$

Larger C_0 smaller noise

Direct simulation

Nanolaser ($\beta = 0.1$) response to sinusoidal modulation at $\nu = 10$ GHz for different normalized pump values



$$C(t) = C_0 + C_m \cos(2\pi\nu t), \quad C_m = \frac{C_0}{4}$$

Numerical integration: Euler-Maruyama method [3]

Conclusions:

The topological analysis permits an a priori assessment of the potential for communication speed both in terms of maximum attainable values and of expected noise influence. The debate [4,5] on actual transmission speed attainable can be supported by these arguments.

Nanolasers hold promise for better performance (for same photon flux) as long as technological issues relative to current densities can be solved[6].

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