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General Method for Calculating the Response and Noise Spectra of Active Fabry–Perot Semiconductor Waveguides With External Optical Injection

Søren Blaaberg and Jesper Mørk

Abstract—We present a theoretical method for calculating small-signal modulation responses and noise spectra of active Fabry–Perot semiconductor waveguides with external light injection. Small-signal responses due to either a modulation of the pump current or due to an optical amplitude or phase modulation of the input field can be calculated. Both responses and noise spectra are given through semianalytical expressions taking into account the longitudinal extent and finite end-facet reflectivities of the active device. Different examples of responses and spectra are presented for semiconductor optical amplifiers and an injection-locked laser. We also demonstrate the applicability of the method to analyze slow and fast light effects in semiconductor waveguides. Finite reflectivities of the facets are found to influence the phase changes of the injected microwave-modulated light.

Index Terms—Fast light, Green function, injection locking, semiconductor lasers, semiconductor optical amplifiers (SOAs), slow light.

I. INTRODUCTION

MODULATION responses of optical semiconductor devices subject to injected light are of interest in, e.g., microwave photonics and in optical communications. Direct modulation of the current of injection-locked semiconductor lasers may be used for generation of pulse trains or for direct data encoding in optical communications. Direct phase modulation [1] and amplitude modulation with a suppressed magnitude of chirp [2] are well-known properties for injection-locked lasers. In addition, the modulation bandwidth in injection-locked semiconductor lasers can be enhanced compared with their solitary counterparts [3], and the frequency of the response resonance may be shifted [3], [4] due to the injection of light. Also, direct current modulation of SOAs has been investigated [5], [6]. Recently, there has been a growing interest in responses due to optical modulation of a signal injected into semiconductor devices. Slow and fast light effects in active semiconductor waveguides [7]–[9] can be utilized to impose phase changes on an injected RF-intensity modulated optical signal, suitable for applications in microwave photonics. Slow and fast light are caused by wave mixing in the semiconductor when a single RF-intensity modulated optical carrier signal is injected into an active waveguide.

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One can interpret slow and fast light as a phase shift of the RF envelope with a magnitude controlled by, e.g., the applied dc pump current or bias voltage.

Fluctuations due to spontaneous emission noise and charge carrier noise are potential sources for disturbances of the injected signal; see [10] for a recent detailed treatment. The relative intensity noise (RIN) spectrum can, e.g., be of importance in applications such as phase-arrayed devices. Shtaif *et al.* [11] calculated noise spectra for an SOA assuming perfectly anti-reflection (AR)-coated end facets.

Recently, there has been a renewed interest in the modulation response of injection-locked lasers. As already mentioned, the bandwidth properties of a semiconductor laser can be modified when injection-locked as a slave laser. When the injected field from the master laser has a frequency detuned from the cavity mode(s) of the slave laser, enhanced modulation response may be seen at modulation frequencies equal to the detuning of the master laser from the shifted cavity modes in the optical spectrum. Usually, when the slave laser is relatively short, only one cavity mode is relevant as the longitudinal mode spacing is too large for secondary modes to play a role. However, for relatively long slave lasers, more than one mode can become important. Commonly, theoretical work on injection-locked semiconductor lasers has been done using a lumped description of the slave laser [12]–[14] not resolving the laser axis and thus only including one cavity mode. Modulation responses both due to current modulation [15] and RF-intensity modulation of the injected optical signal [16] are of current interest. In [16], RF-phase shifts of intensity modulated signals in injection-locked slave VCSELS were investigated and large RF-phase shifts of 360 degrees were found, albeit not continuously tunable from 0 to 360 degrees.

The intention of this paper is to present a general method to obtain small-signal responses and noise spectra in active semiconductor devices with finite facet reflectivities and subject to injected light. The method allows for theoretical studies of devices where reflective end facets are necessary, e.g., injection-locked lasers and reflective SOAs [17], as well as devices where poorly AR-coated facets, may alter the performance of the device in an undesired way. A major part of the presented numerical examples concerning modulation responses address cases where the input field is optically modulated while holding the pump current constant. In coherent communications and RF photonics, the conversion from one optical modulation format to another, for example, phase to amplitude, is of interest [18]. As we discuss in this paper, a phase-modulated input signal will

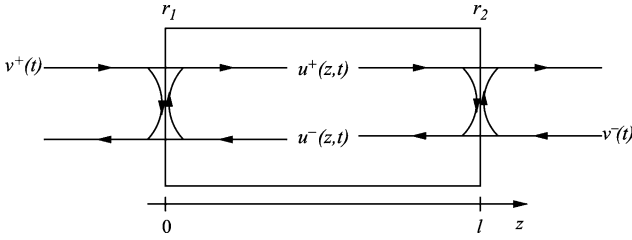


Fig. 1. Diagram of a Fabry–Perot amplifier or laser with external incident fields v^\pm and intra-cavity fields u^\pm . Amplitude reflectivities of end facets are denoted r_1 and r_2 .

only give rise to a device response if reflections occur at the facets.

This paper is organized as follows. In Section II, the basic equations for the field and carrier density are given. Then, in Section III, the mathematical formalism of the small-signal analysis are discussed. The small-signal analysis relies on the Green’s function method presented for DFB lasers in [19]. Due to injection of light into the active semiconductor waveguide the boundary conditions differ from the case of a solitary laser, implying modifications of the semianalytical solutions to the linearized field equations. In Section IV, expressions for modulation responses are given explicitly in terms of functions found in the previous section. Examples of calculated modulation responses for an SOA are presented in Section V. Noise spectra are formulated in Section VI and examples for SOAs given in Section VII. With sufficiently high end-facet reflectivities the active waveguide may act as an injection-locked laser for which examples of responses and spectra are given in Section VIII. Finally, Section IX presents the main conclusions.

II. BASIC EQUATIONS

We consider the generic structure in Fig. 1 consisting of a one-dimensional (1-D) active semiconductor waveguide of length l with end facets at $z = 0$ and $z = l$ with amplitude reflectivities r_1 and r_2 , respectively. The complex electric field $E(t, z)$ inside the waveguide is assumed to be a sum of a forward and a backward traveling wave, i.e., $E(t, z) = E^+(t, z) + E^-(t, z)$. Using envelope functions $u^\pm(t, z)$, the fields are written as $E^\pm(t, z) = u^\pm(t, z) \exp[j(\omega_s t \mp k_r z)]$ with the carrier frequency of the incident signal ω_s and a reference wavenumber $k_r = \omega_r n_r / c = 2\pi n_r / \lambda_r$, where ω_r (λ_r) is a reference frequency (wavelength), n_r is the modal refractive index at ω_r , and c is the vacuum speed of light. Incident on the end facets are the external fields v^+ and v^- .

In the time domain, the field equations for the signal inside the device are given as [19]

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} u^\pm(t, z) \pm \frac{1}{v_g} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u^\pm(t, z) \pm j(k - k_r) u^\pm(t, z) = f^\pm(t, z) \quad (1)$$

where $k(\omega, N, S)$ is the complex wavenumber, which is in general a function of optical frequency ω , carrier density N , and photon density S , here taken at the optical frequency ω_s as

$$k = k_r + \frac{1}{v_g} 2\pi \Delta + \frac{1}{2} (j - \alpha) g(\omega_s, N, S) - \frac{j}{2} \alpha_i. \quad (2)$$

Here, v_g is the group velocity, α is the linewidth enhancement factor, g is the modal gain, α_i is the internal loss, and $\Delta = (\omega_s - \omega_r) / 2\pi$ is the detuning. The Langevin noise terms f^\pm are due to spontaneous emission noise. In (2), it has been assumed that the signal is sufficiently narrowband for gain dispersion to be neglected. The particular gain model used for the example calculations in this paper is described in Appendix A. The boundary conditions for u^\pm at the end facets are given as

$$u^+(0, t) = r_1 u^-(0, t) + t_{lr} v^+(t) \quad (3a)$$

$$u^-(l, t) e^{jk_r l} = r_2 e^{-jk_r l} u^+(l, t) + t_{rl} v^-(t). \quad (3b)$$

where v^\pm are external fields incident on the left and right facets, r_1 (r_2) is the reflection coefficient of the left (right) facet, and t_{lr} (t_{rl}) is the transmission coefficient of the input field incident on the left (right) facet. Energy conservation implies $|t_{lr}|^2 = (1 - |r_1|^2) / n_r$ and $|t_{rl}|^2 = (1 - |r_2|^2) / n_r$. The relation between photon densities S^\pm and field envelopes u^\pm is

$$S^\pm(t, z) = \frac{2\epsilon_0 n_r n_g}{\hbar \omega A_{\text{ph}}} |u^\pm(t, z)|^2. \quad (4)$$

Neglecting beating and standing wave effects the total signal photon density S becomes $S(t, z) = S^+(t, z) + S^-(t, z)$. A_c is the transverse area of the active layer and the area $A_{\text{ph}} = A_c / \Gamma$ is the cross-sectional area of the transverse photon distribution with the confinement factor Γ . n_g is the effective group index. The fields $u^\pm(t, z)$ have unit V and the photon densities have unit m^{-3} .

We consider the general case where the carrier density varies along the z -axis, as it is the case when the amplifier is neither unsaturated nor completely saturated. The rate equation for the carrier density can be stated as

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} N = J - R_{\text{sp}} - R_{\text{st}} - R_{\text{ASE}} + F_N \quad (5)$$

where J is the pump rate, $R_{\text{sp}}(N)$ is the recombination rate due to spontaneous emission and nonradiative recombination, while R_{st} is the stimulated emission rate due to signal photons and F_N is the Langevin driving term representing the carrier noise. The recombination rates used here are

$$R_{\text{sp}} = AN + BN^2 + CN^3 \quad (6a)$$

$$R_{\text{st}} = v_g \frac{g(N, \omega_s, S)}{\Gamma} S. \quad (6b)$$

The term R_{ASE} is the stimulated emission rate due to amplified spontaneous emission (ASE) causing gain saturation and is described in Appendix A. R_{ASE} is significant only at low input

powers. The signal output powers P_L and P_R from the left and right facets are written as

$$P_L(t) = 2\epsilon_0 n_r c (1 - r_1^2) |u^-(0, t)|^2 + r_1^2 P_{\text{in}}^+(t) \quad (7a)$$

$$P_R(t) = 2\epsilon_0 n_r c (1 - r_2^2) |u^+(l, t)|^2 + r_2^2 P_{\text{in}}^-(t). \quad (7b)$$

Here, the effective index experienced by the signal has been approximated to be n_r , while the relation between the input fields v^\pm and the left and right input powers just outside the end facets are

$$P_{\text{in}}^+(t) = 2\epsilon_0 c |v^+(t)|^2 \quad (8a)$$

$$P_{\text{in}}^-(t) = 2\epsilon_0 c |v^-(t)|^2. \quad (8b)$$

For $f = F_N = 0$ and a steady pump distribution $J(t, z) = J_s(z)$, we can calculate stationary solutions $\{u_s^\pm(z), N_s(z)\}$ from the expressions (1) and (5) for given stationary input fields v_s^\pm using standard methods [20]. A small-signal analysis may then be performed around stable stationary solutions as described in subsequent sections.

III. SMALL-SIGNAL ANALYSIS

A linear expansion of the field equation (1) and the carrier equation (5) around a stationary solution consisting of a stationary field distribution $u_s^\pm(z)$ and a stationary carrier distribution $N_s(z)$ forms the basis of the small-signal analysis [19]. Thus, $u^\pm(t, z) \simeq u_s^\pm(z) + \delta u^\pm(t, z)$ and $N(t, z) \simeq N_s(z) + \delta N(t, z)$. With real amplitudes $a^\pm(t, z)$ and phases $\varphi^\pm(t, z)$, the field envelopes are written as $u^\pm(t, z) = a^\pm \exp\{j\varphi^\pm\}$. The linearized field equation in the time domain reads

$$\frac{1}{v_g} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{\delta a^\pm}{a_s^\pm} + j\delta\varphi^\pm \right) + j\delta k \pm \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(\frac{\delta a^\pm}{a_s^\pm} + j\delta\varphi^\pm \right) = \frac{f^\pm}{u_s^\pm} \quad (9)$$

with the stationary solution $u_s^\pm(t, z) = a_s^\pm \exp\{j\varphi_s^\pm\}$. Linearization of the carrier equation yields

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \delta N = \delta J - \frac{\delta N}{\tau_R} - \frac{\partial R_{\text{st}}}{\partial S} \delta S + F_N. \quad (10)$$

For the stationary carrier density distribution $N_s(z)$, the stationary photon density distribution $S_s = S_s^+(z) + S_s^-(z)$, and, accordingly, the stationary wavenumber $k_s = k(\omega_s, N_s, S_s)$, the differentials in (10) are given as

$$\begin{aligned} \delta S &= 2 \left(S_s^+ \frac{\delta a^+}{a_s^+} + S_s^- \frac{\delta a^-}{a_s^-} \right) \\ \delta N &= N - N_s \\ \delta k &= k - k_s = \frac{\partial k}{\partial N} \delta N + \frac{\partial k}{\partial S} \delta S \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

while $\tau_R = [(\partial/\partial N)(R_{\text{sp}} + R_{\text{st}} + R_{\text{ASE}})]^{-1}$ is the local carrier lifetime.

In a notation similar to that used for the field envelopes $u^\pm(t, z)$, the incident fields just outside the facets are written as $v^\pm(t) = b^\pm(t) \exp\{j\theta^\pm(t)\}$, where $b^\pm(t)$ and $\theta^\pm(t)$ are real functions. The boundary conditions for the small-signal fields are found by linearizing (3). For later use, we separate into

real and imaginary parts. For $z = 0$, the linearized boundary conditions become

$$\frac{\delta a^+}{a_s^+} = \left(\frac{\delta a^-}{a_s^-} \right) \gamma_r^+ - \delta\varphi^- \gamma_i^+ + (\mathbf{v}_0)_1 \quad (12a)$$

$$\delta\varphi^+ = \left(\frac{\delta a^-}{a_s^-} \right) \gamma_i^+ + \delta\varphi^- \gamma_r^+ + (\mathbf{v}_0)_2. \quad (12b)$$

Similarly, for $z = l$, we have

$$\frac{\delta a^-}{a_s^-} = \left(\frac{\delta a^+}{a_s^+} \right) \gamma_r^- - \delta\varphi^+ \gamma_i^- + (\mathbf{v}_0)_3 \quad (13a)$$

$$\delta\varphi^- = \left(\frac{\delta a^+}{a_s^+} \right) \gamma_i^- + \delta\varphi^+ \gamma_r^- + (\mathbf{v}_0)_4. \quad (13b)$$

The coefficients γ_r^\pm and γ_i^\pm are real numbers defined through

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_r^+ + j\gamma_i^+ &= 1 - \frac{t_{lr} v_s^+}{u_s^+(0)} \\ &= r_1 \frac{u_s^-(0)}{u_s^+(0)} \end{aligned} \quad (14a)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_r^- + j\gamma_i^- &= 1 - \frac{t_{rl} v_s^- e^{-jk_r l}}{u_s^-(l)} \\ &= r_2 e^{-2jk_r l} \frac{u_s^+(l)}{u_s^-(l)}. \end{aligned} \quad (14b)$$

The stationary incident fields v_s^\pm are defined as $v_s^\pm = b_s^\pm \exp\{j\theta_s^\pm\}$. The four-dimensional vector \mathbf{v}_0 , which has real components in the time domain, is for later use defined in the Laplace domain

$$(\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0(s))_1 + j(\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0(s))_2 = \rho_L \widetilde{\delta v^+}(s) \quad (15a)$$

$$(\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0(s))_3 + j(\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0(s))_4 = \rho_R \widetilde{\delta v^-}(s) \quad (15b)$$

where $(\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0)_i$ denotes the i th component of $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0$ and ρ_R and ρ_L are given as

$$\rho_L = \frac{t_{lr}}{u_s^+(0)} \quad (16a)$$

$$\rho_R = \frac{t_{rl} e^{-jk_r l}}{u_s^-(l)}. \quad (16b)$$

A tilde above symbols indicates a function in the Laplace domain and the Laplace variable s is related to the baseband frequency Ω by $s = j\Omega$. The differential of v^\pm is seen to be

$$\widetilde{\delta v^\pm} = \widetilde{\delta b^\pm} e^{j\theta_s^\pm} + b_s^\pm e^{j\theta_s^\pm} j\widetilde{\delta\theta_s^\pm}. \quad (17)$$

Next, the linearized field (9) is separated into real and imaginary parts and then Laplace transformed. Also, the linearized carrier (10) is Laplace transformed and the resulting $\delta\tilde{N}(s, z)$ is inserted in the Laplace transformed linearized field (9). The Laplace transformed small-signal fields are then gathered in a vector $\mathbf{x} = (\delta a^+/a_s^+, \delta\varphi^+, \delta a^-/a_s^-, \delta\varphi^-)^T$, where the superscript "T" is the transpose. The components of \mathbf{x} then depend on s and z . A matrix equation for \mathbf{x} can accordingly be written as

$$\left(\mathbf{M}_0 + \mathbf{M}_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \mathbf{x} = \widetilde{\delta J} \mathbf{h}_N + \mathbf{f}. \quad (18)$$

The 4×4 matrices $\mathbf{M}_0(s, z)$ and $\mathbf{M}_1(z)$ along with the 4-D vectors \mathbf{h}_N and \mathbf{f} are given in Appendix B. \mathbf{f} is the Langevin noise vector function.

With unit vectors \mathbf{e}_i having components $(\mathbf{e}_i)_j = \delta_{ij}$, $i = 1, \dots, 4$, the boundary conditions for the small-signal fields in (12) and (13) may also be stated as

$$(\mathbf{e}_1^T - \gamma_r^+ \mathbf{e}_3^T + \gamma_i^+ \mathbf{e}_4^T) \mathbf{x}(s, 0) = (\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0(s))_1 \quad (19a)$$

$$(\mathbf{e}_2^T - \gamma_i^+ \mathbf{e}_3^T - \gamma_r^+ \mathbf{e}_4^T) \mathbf{x}(s, 0) = (\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0(s))_2 \quad (19b)$$

$$(\mathbf{e}_3^T - \gamma_r^- \mathbf{e}_1^T + \gamma_i^- \mathbf{e}_2^T) \mathbf{x}(s, l) = (\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0(s))_3 \quad (19c)$$

$$(\mathbf{e}_4^T - \gamma_i^- \mathbf{e}_1^T - \gamma_r^- \mathbf{e}_2^T) \mathbf{x}(s, l) = (\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0(s))_4. \quad (19d)$$

The differential operator $\mathbf{M}_0 + \mathbf{M}_1(\partial/\partial z)$ in (18) has the adjoint operator $\mathbf{M}_0^\dagger - \mathbf{M}_1^\dagger(\partial/\partial z)$, where the superscript “ \dagger ” indicates a Hermitian conjugation. The four-component Green’s vector functions $\zeta_i(s, z', z)$, $i = 1, \dots, 4$, for the adjoint differential operator are now defined as solutions to the equation

$$\left(\mathbf{M}_0^\dagger(s, z') - \mathbf{M}_1^\dagger(z') \frac{\partial}{\partial z'} \right) \zeta_i(s, z', z) = \mathbf{e}_i \delta(z' - z). \quad (20)$$

In order to obtain an explicit expression for $\mathbf{x}(s, z)$, ζ_i has to obey the following boundary conditions for $z = 0$ and $z = l$:

$$(\mathbf{e}_1^T \gamma_r^+ + \mathbf{e}_2^T \gamma_i^+ + \mathbf{e}_3) \mathbf{M}_1^\dagger(0) \zeta_i(s, 0, z) = 0 \quad (21a)$$

$$(-\mathbf{e}_1^T \gamma_i^+ + \mathbf{e}_2^T \gamma_r^+ + \mathbf{e}_4) \mathbf{M}_1^\dagger(0) \zeta_i(s, 0, z) = 0 \quad (21b)$$

$$(\mathbf{e}_1^T + \mathbf{e}_3^T \gamma_r^- + \mathbf{e}_4^T \gamma_i^-) \mathbf{M}_1^\dagger(l) \zeta_i(s, l, z) = 0 \quad (21c)$$

$$(\mathbf{e}_2^T - \mathbf{e}_3^T \gamma_i^- + \mathbf{e}_4^T \gamma_r^-) \mathbf{M}_1^\dagger(l) \zeta_i(s, l, z) = 0. \quad (21d)$$

It is further shown in Appendix C that, by calculating ζ_i , the vector $\mathbf{x}(s, z)$ can be found explicitly through

$$\begin{aligned} & (\mathbf{x}(s, z))_i \\ &= \int_0^l \zeta_i^\dagger(s, z', z) [\delta J(s, z') \mathbf{h}_N(s, z') + \mathbf{f}(s, z')] dz' \\ &+ \left([\mathbf{M}_1^\dagger(0) \zeta_i(s, 0, z)]^\dagger \right)_1 (\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0(s))_1 \\ &+ \left([\mathbf{M}_1^\dagger(0) \zeta_i(s, 0, z)]^\dagger \right)_2 (\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0(s))_2 \\ &- \left([\mathbf{M}_1^\dagger(l) \zeta_i(s, l, z)]^\dagger \right)_3 (\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0(s))_3 \\ &- \left([\mathbf{M}_1^\dagger(l) \zeta_i(s, l, z)]^\dagger \right)_4 (\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0(s))_4. \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

With (22), we can calculate $\mathbf{x}(s, z)$ for either a pump rate modulation $\delta J(s, z)$, an optical modulation through $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0(s)$, or for a nonzero Langevin noise vector $\mathbf{f}(s, z)$. It requires only that $\zeta_i(s, z', z)$ be calculated.

As in [19], we only evaluate \mathbf{x} at one of the end facets where the output is measured in an experiment. Here we choose $z = l$, i.e., at the right facet. In this limit, we use the shorthand notation $\zeta_i(s, z) \equiv \zeta_i(s, z, l^-)$ for $z < l$ and the limit of $\zeta_i(s, z)$ for $z \rightarrow l^-$ is denoted $\zeta_i(s, l)$. In this limit, (20) is a homogeneous equation. Defining vectors $\mathbf{y}_i(s, z) = \mathbf{M}_1^\dagger(z) \zeta_i(s, z)$ and

the matrix $\mathbf{M}(s, z) = [\mathbf{M}_1^{-1}(z) \mathbf{M}_0(s, z)]^\dagger$ we get the homogeneous equation for \mathbf{y}_i from (20)

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \mathbf{y}_i = \mathbf{M}(s, z) \mathbf{y}_i(s, z). \quad (23)$$

The boundary conditions for \mathbf{y}_i given in (21) become

$$\begin{aligned} & (\mathbf{e}_1^T + \mathbf{e}_3^T \gamma_r^- + \mathbf{e}_4^T \gamma_i^-) \mathbf{y}_i(s, l) \\ &= (\mathbf{e}_1^T + \mathbf{e}_3^T \gamma_r^- + \mathbf{e}_4^T \gamma_i^-) \mathbf{e}_i \end{aligned} \quad (24a)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & (\mathbf{e}_2^T - \mathbf{e}_3^T \gamma_i^- + \mathbf{e}_4^T \gamma_r^-) \mathbf{y}_i(s, l) \\ &= (\mathbf{e}_2^T - \mathbf{e}_3^T \gamma_i^- + \mathbf{e}_4^T \gamma_r^-) \mathbf{e}_i \end{aligned} \quad (24b)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & (\mathbf{e}_1^T \gamma_r^+ + \mathbf{e}_2^T \gamma_i^+ + \mathbf{e}_3) \mathbf{y}_i(s, 0) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (24c)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & (-\mathbf{e}_1^T \gamma_i^+ + \mathbf{e}_2^T \gamma_r^+ + \mathbf{e}_4) \mathbf{y}_i(s, 0) \\ &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (24d)$$

The vector function (23) with boundary conditions in (24) can then be solved, as described in the remainder of this section, to obtain \mathbf{y}_i and in turn the Green’s functions $\zeta_i(s, z)$.

Let $\bar{\mathbf{y}}_j$, $j = 1, \dots, 4$, be four linearly independent solutions to (23). Then, \mathbf{y}_i may be written as

$$\mathbf{y}_i(s, z) = \sum_j a_{ij}(s) \bar{\mathbf{y}}_j(s, z). \quad (25)$$

At the left boundary, $\bar{\mathbf{y}}_j$ is chosen to satisfy the condition

$$\bar{\mathbf{y}}_j(s, 0) = \mathbf{e}_j \quad (26)$$

for $j = 1, \dots, 4$. By starting at $z = 0$ with the conditions (26), the functions $\bar{\mathbf{y}}_j$ are calculated numerically by propagation to $z = l$ by the operator $\partial/\partial z - \mathbf{M}(s, z)$. Next, define the matrix \mathbf{Y} with column vectors $\bar{\mathbf{y}}_i$ by

$$\mathbf{Y} = \{\bar{\mathbf{y}}_1, \bar{\mathbf{y}}_2, \bar{\mathbf{y}}_3, \bar{\mathbf{y}}_4\} \quad (27)$$

and the vectors $\mathbf{a}_i(s)$ with components

$$(\mathbf{a}_i)_j = a_{ij}. \quad (28)$$

Calculating $(\mathbf{x}(s, l))_i$ for $i = 1, 2$ gives the small-signal deviations at the right facet. Then, we need to obtain ζ_i and hence \mathbf{y}_i for $i = 1, 2$ only. From the boundary conditions (24), vectors \mathbf{a}_i are obtained as

$$\mathbf{a}_i(s) = \mathbf{Q}^{-1}(s) \mathbf{e}_i, \quad i = 1, 2 \quad (29)$$

where \mathbf{Q} is the matrix

$$\mathbf{Q}(s) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (\mathbf{e}_1^T + \gamma_r^- \mathbf{e}_3^T + \gamma_i^- \mathbf{e}_4^T) \mathbf{Y}(s, l) \\ (\mathbf{e}_2^T - \gamma_i^- \mathbf{e}_3^T + \gamma_r^- \mathbf{e}_4^T) \mathbf{Y}(s, l) \\ (\gamma_r^+ \mathbf{e}_1^T + \gamma_i^+ \mathbf{e}_2^T + \mathbf{e}_3) \mathbf{Y}(s, 0) \\ (-\gamma_i^+ \mathbf{e}_1^T + \gamma_r^+ \mathbf{e}_2^T + \mathbf{e}_4) \mathbf{Y}(s, 0) \end{array} \right\}. \quad (30)$$

Having obtained \mathbf{a}_i and $\bar{\mathbf{y}}_i(s, z)$, we may calculate $\mathbf{y}_i(s, z)$ from (25). The Green’s functions $\zeta_i(s, z)$ to be used when obtaining $(\mathbf{x})_i$ in (22) are then found using $\zeta_i(s, z) = (\mathbf{M}_1^\dagger)^{-1} \mathbf{y}_i(s, z)$.

In the following, we only consider input from the left facet, i.e., $v^-(t) = 0$ and hence $(\mathbf{v}_0)_3 = (\mathbf{v}_0)_4 = 0$. It should be noted

that devices with multiple sections separated by reflective elements and/or with grating structures can be treated by following [19]. Here we have focused on waveguides without internal reflections or grating sections. Notably, however, the pump rate $\tilde{J}(s, z)$ can be varied along the z -axis.

IV. EXPRESSIONS FOR MODULATION RESPONSES

By calculating \mathbf{y}_i and hence ζ_i , we can obtain expressions for small-signal modulation responses at the right facet. Responses caused by either optical modulation of the incident field or by pump rate modulation may be obtained from (22) with $z = l$ and $\mathbf{f} = 0$. Since the responses are calculated in the Laplace domain, they are in general complex giving both a magnitude part and an argument.

A. Responses Due to Optical Modulation of Incident Field

The general procedure for deriving expressions for responses due to optical modulation of the incident field is described in the following. In (22) set $\delta\tilde{J}(s, z) = 0$ and $\mathbf{f} = 0$. The modulation format can be either an amplitude modulation $\delta\tilde{b}^+(s)$, a phase modulation $\delta\tilde{\theta}^+(s)$, or a frequency modulation $(s/2\pi)\delta\tilde{\theta}^+(s)$. Then, from (15) and (17), expressions for $(\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0)_1$ and $(\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0)_2$ in terms of $\delta\tilde{b}^+$ (for amplitude modulation) or $\delta\tilde{\theta}^+$ (for phase or frequency modulation) can be found. The response can be an amplitude response, a phase response, or a frequency response.

The output power P_R from the right facet is proportional to $(a^+)^2$ at $z = l$ and the power response follows as

$$\delta P_R(s) = 2P_R \frac{\delta a^+(s, l)}{a_s^+(l)} = 2P_R (\mathbf{x}(s, l))_1. \quad (31)$$

In the case of optical amplitude modulation, $\delta\tilde{b}^+(s)$, we have $\delta\tilde{\theta}^+(s) = 0$. Moreover, it is usually more practical to speak in terms of a modulation of the optical power. Using (8a), the optical power modulation may be written as

$$\delta P_{\text{in}}^+(s) = 2\sqrt{2\epsilon_0 c P_{\text{in}}^+} \delta\tilde{b}^+(s). \quad (32)$$

The output power response due to power modulation of the input signal outside the left facet follows from (15), (16), (17), (22), (31), and (32) as

$$\frac{\delta P_R}{\delta P_{\text{in}}^+}(s) = \frac{P_R}{\sqrt{P_{\text{in}}^+}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\epsilon_0 c}} \left[(\mathbf{y}_1^*(s, 0))_1 \text{Re} \left\{ \frac{t_{lr} e^{j\theta_s^+}}{u_s^+(0)} \right\} + (\mathbf{y}_1^*(s, 0))_2 \text{Im} \left\{ \frac{t_{lr} e^{j\theta_s^+}}{u_s^+(0)} \right\} \right]. \quad (33)$$

The magnitude of (33) then gives the amplification while the argument yields the phase change of the incident RF-envelope signal at the output as compared with the input. The latter, the RF-phase change, is used as a measure of slow/fast light in microwave photonics.

Similarly, we find that the optical phase response due to an optical power modulation of the incident signal, i.e., how φ^+ changes at the right facet when P_{in}^+ is varied, in units [rad/W] becomes

$$\frac{\delta\varphi^+}{\delta P_{\text{in}}^+}(s) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{P_{\text{in}}^+}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\epsilon_0 c}} \left[(\mathbf{y}_2^*(s, 0))_1 \text{Re} \left\{ \frac{t_{lr} e^{j\theta_s^+}}{u_s^+(0)} \right\} + (\mathbf{y}_2^*(s, 0))_2 \text{Im} \left\{ \frac{t_{lr} e^{j\theta_s^+}}{u_s^+(0)} \right\} \right]. \quad (34)$$

In the case of an optical phase modulation $\delta\tilde{\theta}^+$ of the incident field, then $\delta\tilde{b}^+ = 0$. The power response due to an optical phase modulation outside the left facet becomes

$$\frac{\delta P_R}{\delta\tilde{\theta}^+}(s) = 2P_R \sqrt{\frac{P_{\text{in}}^+}{2\epsilon_0 c}} \left[(\mathbf{y}_1^*(s, 0))_2 \text{Re} \left\{ \frac{t_{lr} e^{j\theta_s^+}}{u_s^+(0)} \right\} - (\mathbf{y}_1^*(s, 0))_1 \text{Im} \left\{ \frac{t_{lr} e^{j\theta_s^+}}{u_s^+(0)} \right\} \right] \quad (35)$$

with units [W/rad]. For the case $r_1 = r_2 = 0$, it is first seen that $\text{Im}(t_{lr} e^{j\theta_s^+}/u_s^+(0)) = 0$, and, second, it can be shown that $(\mathbf{y}_1(s, z))_2 = 0$. Then, according to (35), the optical power response to a phase modulation, $\delta P_R/\delta\tilde{\theta}^+$, is always zero. This is understandable as a phase fluctuation at the input is not “seen” by the semiconductor gain material. However, for finite r_1 and r_2 , $\text{Im}(t_{lr} e^{j\theta_s^+}/u_s^+(0))$ and $(\mathbf{y}_1(s, z))_2$ are in general finite and one can have a finite power response $\delta P_R/\delta\tilde{\theta}^+$.

The optical phase response at the output caused by an optical phase modulation of the incident field is written as

$$\frac{\delta\varphi^+}{\delta\tilde{\theta}^+}(s, l) = \sqrt{\frac{P_{\text{in}}^+}{2\epsilon_0 c}} \left[(\mathbf{y}_2^*(s, 0))_2 \text{Re} \left\{ \frac{t_{lr} e^{j\theta_s^+}}{u_s^+(0)} \right\} - (\mathbf{y}_2^*(s, 0))_1 \text{Im} \left\{ \frac{t_{lr} e^{j\theta_s^+}}{u_s^+(0)} \right\} \right]. \quad (36)$$

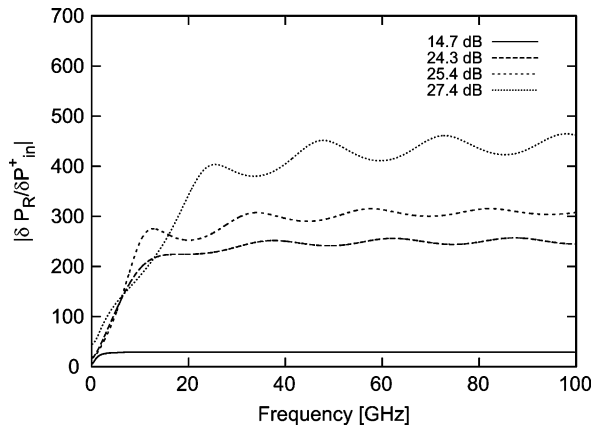
On the right-hand sides of (31)–(36), “ P_R ” and “ P_{in}^+ ” denote the stationary output and input powers, respectively. Again, when $r_1 = r_2 = 0$, there is no resonant response now implying a unity phase response $|\delta\varphi^+/\delta\tilde{\theta}^+(s)| = 1$. Nevertheless, finite reflectivities r_1 and r_2 will in general lead to magnitudes that can differ from unity.

In measurements of responses, one will often perform a reference measurement to calibrate the experimental setup. For example, when using a network analyzer to measure responses at a range of modulation frequencies, one can do a reference measurement at the transparency point of an SOA, to which other measurements can be compared.

Next, the expressions for responses due a modulation of the current are given from [19]. They are the same for an SOA or a laser subject to optical injection as for a laser without light injection. The modulation current per unit length is given as $\delta I_z(s, z) = eA_c \delta\tilde{J}(s, z)$. When modulating the current over

TABLE I
 LIST OF PARAMETER VALUES

Parameter	Symbol	Value	Unit	Ref.
Ridge width	w	2.0	μm	[21]
Active layer thickness	h_a	29	nm	[21]
Confinement factor	Γ	0.02		[21]
Internal loss	α_i	8.5	cm^{-1}	[22]
Recombination coefficient	A	$1 \cdot 10^8$	s^{-1}	[20]
Recombination coefficient	B	$2.5 \cdot 10^{-17}$	s^{-1}	[20]
Recombination coefficient	C	$9.4 \cdot 10^{-41}$	s^{-1}	[20]
Nonlinear gain coefficient	ϵ	$2 \cdot 10^{-23}$	m^3	[19]
Linewidth enhancement factor	α	5.0		
Effective refractive index	n_r	3.5		
Effective group index	n_g	4.0		
Reference wavelength	λ_r	1530	nm	


 Fig. 2. Magnitude of SOA power response due to power modulation of the incident field, see (33), for four different chip gains. The SOA has length $l = 1.5$ mm and facet reflectivities $r_1^2 = r_2^2 = 10^{-4}$.

the length of the amplifier, the power output power response, phase response, and frequency response are given as

$$\delta P_R(s) = \frac{2P_R}{eA_c} \int_0^l \zeta_1^\dagger(s, z) \widetilde{\delta I}_z(s, z) \mathbf{h}_N(s, z) dz \quad (37a)$$

$$\delta \varphi(s) = \frac{1}{eA_c} \int_0^l \zeta_2^\dagger(s, z) \widetilde{\delta I}_z(s, z) \mathbf{h}_N(s, z) dz \quad (37b)$$

$$\delta f(s) = \frac{s}{2\pi eA_c} \int_0^l \zeta_2^\dagger(s, z) \widetilde{\delta I}_z(s, z) \mathbf{h}_N(s, z) dz. \quad (37c)$$

As exemplified in [19] the allowed z -dependence of the current modulation can be used for the study of multi-electrode devices. In all examples of calculated responses in this paper we regard one-electrode devices and moreover set $\theta_s^\pm = 0$. All shown example calculations share the parameter values listed in Table I.

V. EXAMPLES OF SOA MODULATION RESPONSES

Figs. 2 and 3 show examples of the magnitude and the argument, respectively, of the power response due to a power modulation of the optical input given in (33) for an SOA with end-facet reflectivities $r_1^2 = r_2^2 = 10^{-4}$. The stationary input power is fixed at $P_{\text{in}}^+ = 0.3$ mW while the pump rate is varied giving different chip gains. Here, the chip gain is defined as

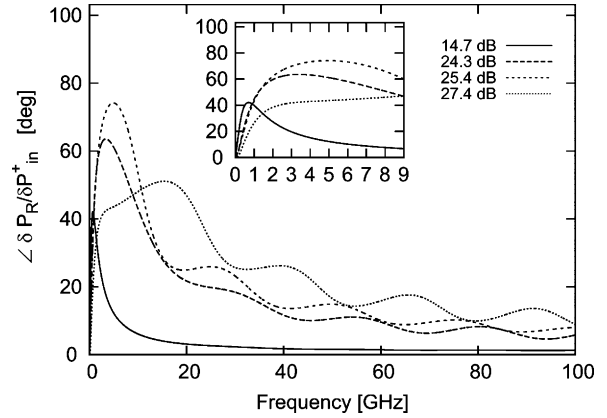


Fig. 3. Argument of SOA power response due to power modulation of the incident field, see (33). Same cases as in Fig. 2. Inset shows close-up for lower frequencies.

P_R/P_{in}^+ . For low values of the chip gain (when the amplifier is unsaturated), one sees the expected characteristics in the high- and low-frequency limits of the magnitude in Fig. 2: for low modulation frequencies, the response is inhibited by the carrier-density dynamics of the gain material [11], [23]. In the high-frequency limit, the response approaches the chip gain of the stationary solution since the carrier density cannot follow the rapid fluctuations of the field. With increasing chip gain and thus increasing intra-cavity intensity, the carrier lifetime decreases giving a wider dip in the response for the lower frequencies. Moreover, as the chip gain is increased the response curves become increasingly modulated. The modulation period of 25 GHz corresponds to the spacing between the Fabry–Perot modes of the cavity, i.e., $c/(2n_g l)$, with $l = 1.5$ mm. The argument of the response shown in Fig. 3 is the phase shift of the injected RF-envelope signal and can be interpreted as slow or fast light depending on the sign. Positive values yield fast light, as seen in an SOA with positive modal gain [7]. The RF-phase shift here has an optimum of about 74 degrees and is clearly affected by the reflections at high gain values.

Examples of calculated optical phase responses caused by a power modulation of the incident field are displayed in Fig. 4. The finite optical phase responses due to a power modulation occur as intensity fluctuations cause carrier fluctuations which in turn induce fluctuations in optical phase through a nonzero α . Finite facet reflectivities in the SOA are found to modify the phase-response curves but are not imperative to have responses of finite magnitude. In contrast, responses caused by fluctuations in the optical phase of the incident signal in an active waveguide with zero reflectivities have the magnitudes $|\delta P_R/\delta \theta^+| = 0$ and $|\delta \varphi^+/\delta \theta^+| = 1$, i.e., the phase modulation will neither be amplified/attenuated nor cause fluctuations in power. When the facets have finite values, however, the situation may be different. An incident phase modulated field will travel through the device and be partly reflected at the right facet. The left traveling field being reflected at the left facet will interfere with the injected field and thus cause an intensity fluctuation in the total field. The magnitude and argument of $\delta P_R/\delta \theta^+$ for different chip gains are shown in Fig. 5(a) and (b), respectively. Similarly, in Fig. 6, the magnitude and argument of the

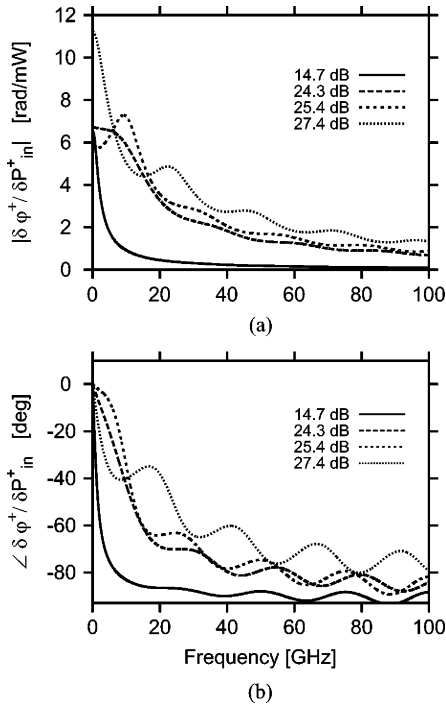


Fig. 4. SOA optical phase responses due to power modulation of the incident signal calculated from (34). (a) Magnitude. (b) Argument. Same cases as in Fig. 2.

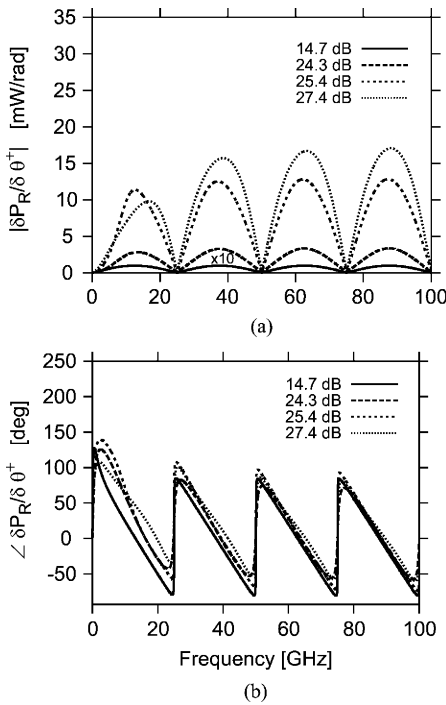


Fig. 5. (a) Magnitude and (b) argument of the SOA power response due to optical phase modulation calculated from (35). The 14.7-dB plot has been magnified ten times for clarity. Same cases as in Fig. 2.

optical phase response due to a phase modulation $\delta\varphi^+/\delta\theta^+$ can be seen. The magnitude is greater than unity.

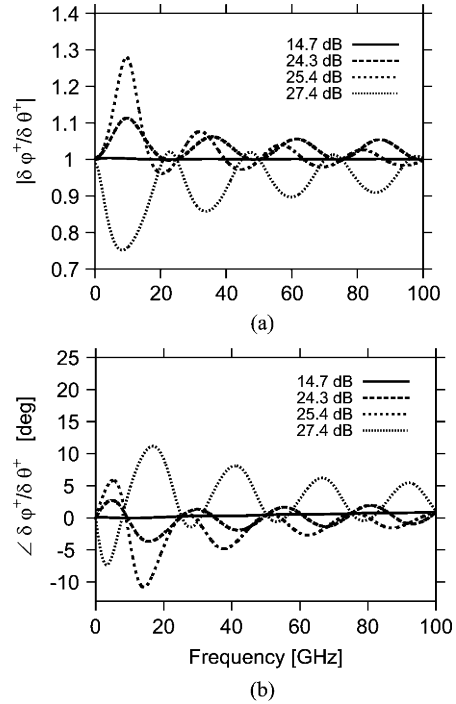


Fig. 6. (a) Magnitude and (b) argument of the SOA optical phase response due to optical phase modulation calculated from (36). Same cases as in Fig. 2.

VI. EXPRESSIONS FOR NOISE SPECTRA

Output noise spectra are calculated through (22) with $z = l$ and $\delta J(s, z) = 0$. For this purpose, the diffusion matrix \mathbf{D} gives the magnitudes of the Langevin forces in the correlation relation for $\tilde{\mathbf{f}}(s, z)$ as

$$\langle \tilde{\mathbf{f}}(s, z) \tilde{\mathbf{f}}^\dagger(s', z') \rangle = 2\mathbf{D}(s, z) \delta(z - z') 2\pi \delta(\Omega - \Omega') \quad (38)$$

where “ $\langle \rangle$ ” denotes an ensemble average. The diffusion matrix \mathbf{D} is given as [19]

$$2\mathbf{D} = \frac{v_g g n_{sp}}{2A_{ph}} \mathbf{H} + 2D_{NN} \mathbf{h}_N \mathbf{h}_N^\dagger - \frac{v_g n_{sp}}{A_c} [\mathbf{h}_N (\mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{e}_3)^\dagger + (\mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{e}_3) \mathbf{h}_N^\dagger]. \quad (39)$$

In (39) the three terms on the r.h.s. stem from spontaneous emission noise, carrier fluctuations, and from the cross-correlation between the carrier fluctuations and the spontaneous emission noise, respectively. The matrix \mathbf{H} is diagonal with elements $(\mathbf{H})_{11} = (\mathbf{H})_{22} = 1/S_s^+$ and $(\mathbf{H})_{33} = (\mathbf{H})_{44} = 1/S_s^-$. The diffusion coefficient D_{NN} is stated in Appendix B. The spectral density of two functions $X(t)$ and $Y(t)$ may be written as

$$S_{X,Y}(\Omega) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2T} \langle \tilde{X}(s) \tilde{Y}^*(s) \rangle \equiv \{ \tilde{X}(s) \tilde{Y}^*(s) \}_{av}. \quad (40)$$

Here, $\tilde{X}(s)$ is the Fourier transform of $X(t)$ over a time interval going from $-T$ to T .

The output RIN spectrum at the right facet, $\text{RIN}(\Omega)$, is then given by

$$\text{RIN}(\Omega) = 4 \{ |(\mathbf{x})_1(s, l)|^2 \}_{av}. \quad (41)$$

Similarly, the output phase noise spectrum $S_{\varphi,\varphi}(\Omega)$ can be written as

$$S_{\varphi,\varphi}(\Omega) = \{ |(\mathbf{x})_2(s, l)|^2 \}_{\text{av}}. \quad (42)$$

From (22) and (38), the general cross-correlation spectra involving \mathbf{x}_i and \mathbf{x}_j for $i = 1, 2$ and $j = 1, 2$ are given as

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ (\mathbf{x}(s, l))_i (\mathbf{x}(s, l))_j^* \}_{\text{av}} \\ &= \int_0^l \zeta_i^\dagger(s, z) 2\mathbf{D}(s, z) \zeta_j(s, z) dz \\ &+ \{ |(\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0(s))_1|^2 \}_{\text{av}} (\mathbf{y}_i(s, 0))_1^* (\mathbf{y}_j(s, 0))_1 \\ &+ \{ |(\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0(s))_2|^2 \}_{\text{av}} (\mathbf{y}_i(s, 0))_2^* (\mathbf{y}_j(s, 0))_2 \\ &+ \{ (\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0(s))_1 (\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0(s))_2^* \}_{\text{av}} (\mathbf{y}_i(s, 0))_1^* (\mathbf{y}_j(s, 0))_2 \\ &+ \{ (\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0(s))_2 (\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0(s))_1^* \}_{\text{av}} (\mathbf{y}_i(s, 0))_2^* (\mathbf{y}_j(s, 0))_1. \end{aligned} \quad (43)$$

The terms on the r.h.s. of (43) outside the integral are due to fluctuations on the signal incident on the left facet. For a coherent input signal, i.e., a pure CW signal, these terms vanish. The autocorrelations involving $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0$ follow as

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ |(\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0)_1(s)|^2 \}_{\text{av}} \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \text{RIN}_{v^+}(s) \text{Re}^2 \{ \rho_L v_s^+ \} + S_{\delta\theta^+, \delta\theta^+}(s) \text{Im}^2 \{ \rho_L v_s^+ \} \\ &- 2 \text{Re} \left\{ S_{\delta b^+ / b_s^+, \delta\theta^+}(s) \right\} \text{Re} \{ \rho_L v_s^+ \} \text{Im} \{ \rho_L v_s^+ \} \end{aligned} \quad (44)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ |(\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0)_2(s)|^2 \}_{\text{av}} \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \text{RIN}_{v^+}(s) \text{Im}^2 \{ \rho_L v_s^+ \} + S_{\delta\theta^+, \delta\theta^+}(s) \text{Re}^2 \{ \rho_L v_s^+ \} \\ &+ 2 \text{Re} \left\{ S_{\delta b^+ / b_s^+, \delta\theta^+}(s) \right\} \text{Re} \{ \rho_L v_s^+ \} \text{Im} \{ \rho_L v_s^+ \} \end{aligned} \quad (45)$$

while the cross correlations read

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ (\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0)_1(s) (\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0)_2^*(s) \}_{\text{av}} \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \text{RIN}_{v^+}(s) \text{Re} \{ \rho_L v_s^+ \} \text{Im} \{ \rho_L v_s^+ \} \\ &- S_{\delta\theta^+, \delta\theta^+}(s) \text{Re} \{ \rho_L v_s^+ \} \text{Im} \{ \rho_L v_s^+ \} \\ &+ S_{\delta b^+ / b_s^+, \delta\theta^+}(s) \text{Re}^2 \{ \rho_L v_s^+ \} \\ &- S_{\delta\theta^+, \delta b^+ / b_s^+}(s) \text{Im}^2 \{ \rho_L v_s^+ \}. \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

Here, $\text{RIN}_{v^+}(s)$ is the RIN of the incident signal given by

$$\text{RIN}_{v^+}(\Omega) = 4 \left\{ \left| \frac{\delta \tilde{b}^+(s)}{b_s^+} \right|^2 \right\}_{\text{av}}. \quad (47)$$

Further, $S_{\delta\theta^+, \delta\theta^+}$ is the input phase noise spectrum

$$S_{\delta\theta^+, \delta\theta^+}(\Omega) = \left\{ |\delta \tilde{\theta}^+(s)|^2 \right\}_{\text{av}} \quad (48)$$

and $S_{\delta b^+ / b_s^+, \delta\theta^+}$ is the input cross-correlation spectrum

$$S_{\delta b^+ / b_s^+, \delta\theta^+}(\Omega) = \left\{ \frac{\delta \tilde{b}^+(s)}{b_s^+} (\delta \tilde{\theta}^+(s))^* \right\}_{\text{av}}. \quad (49)$$

As previously mentioned in Section IV, for the case of perfectly AR-coated facets ($r_1 = r_2 = 0$) we have $(\mathbf{y}_1(s, z))_2 = 0$ and $\text{Im}(\rho_L v_s^+) = 0$. In this case, e.g., the RIN simplifies to

$$\begin{aligned} \text{RIN}(\Omega) &= 4 \int_0^l \zeta_1^\dagger(s, z) 2\mathbf{D}(s, z) \zeta_1(s, z) dz \\ &+ \text{RIN}_{v^+}(s) |(\mathbf{y}_1(s, 0))_1|^2. \end{aligned} \quad (50)$$

In (50), the first term is due to the intensity noise of the device while the second term represents the RIN of the input signal being transferred to the right facet by a function depending on the baseband frequency in agreement with [11]. In correspondence with the discussion regarding the power response due to a phase modulation, the input phase-noise spectrum does not enter in (50) because the nonlinearity of the gain material does not depend on the phase of light.

The field power spectrum is the Fourier transform of the field autocorrelation function

$$S_{E,E}(\Omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \langle E^*(t, l) E(t + \tau, l) \rangle e^{-j\Omega\tau} d\tau. \quad (51)$$

We use the following approximate expression for $S_{E,E}(\Omega)$ (see [24] and [25]):

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{S_{E,E}(\Omega)}{|u_s^+(l)|^2} &\simeq L(\Omega) + \left[\frac{S_{\dot{\varphi}, \dot{\varphi}}(\Omega) - 2\pi\Delta\nu}{\Omega^2} \right. \\ &+ 2\text{Im} \left\{ S_{\delta a^+ / a_s^+, \varphi}(\Omega) \right\} \\ &\left. + \frac{1}{4} \text{RIN}(\Omega) \right] \otimes L(\Omega). \end{aligned} \quad (52)$$

The symbol “ \otimes ” means convolution in the frequency domain, and the function $L(\Omega)$ is the Lorentzian

$$L(\Omega) = \frac{2\pi\Delta\nu}{\Omega^2 + (\pi\Delta\nu)^2}. \quad (53)$$

For a solitary laser without an optical input, the amplitude phase cross-spectral density $S_{\delta a^+ / a_s^+, \varphi}(\Omega)$ diverges for $\Omega \rightarrow 0$. However, this is not the case when an optical input is present.

Furthermore $S_{\dot{\varphi}, \dot{\varphi}}$ is the frequency spectrum

$$S_{\dot{\varphi}, \dot{\varphi}}(\Omega) = \Omega^2 \{ |(\mathbf{x}(s, l))_2|^2 \}_{\text{av}} \quad (54)$$

whose low frequency limit gives the spectral linewidth $\Delta\nu = S_{\dot{\varphi}, \dot{\varphi}}(0)/2\pi$.

In the case of zero linewidth, the field power spectrum of the output signal becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{S_{E,E}(\Omega)}{|u_s^+(l)|^2} &\simeq \delta(\Omega) + \left[S_{\varphi,\varphi}(\Omega) \right. \\ &\left. + 2\text{Im} \left\{ S_{\delta a^+ / a_s^+, \varphi}(\Omega) \right\} + \frac{1}{4} \text{RIN}(\Omega) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (55)$$

where the Dirac delta function on the r.h.s. is due to the static part of the field.

VII. EXAMPLES OF SOA NOISE SPECTRA

In the examples of noise spectra for an SOA we assume the input signal to be a noiseless CW signal. Maintaining a fixed

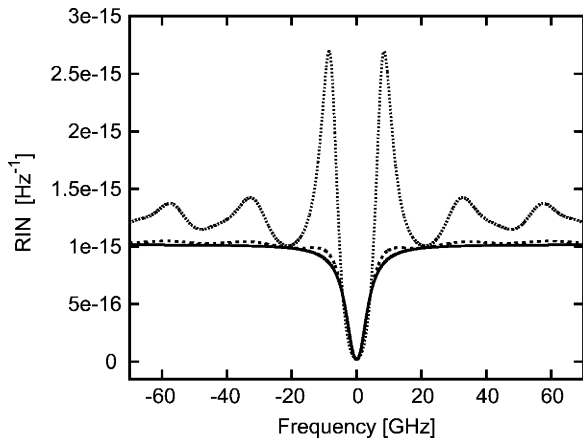


Fig. 7. SOA RIN calculated for different end-facet reflectivities when the chip gain equals 20 dB. Full line $r_1^2 = r_2^2 = 0$, dashed line $r_1^2 = r_2^2 = 10^{-4}$, and dotted line $r_1^2 = r_2^2 = 10^{-3}$.

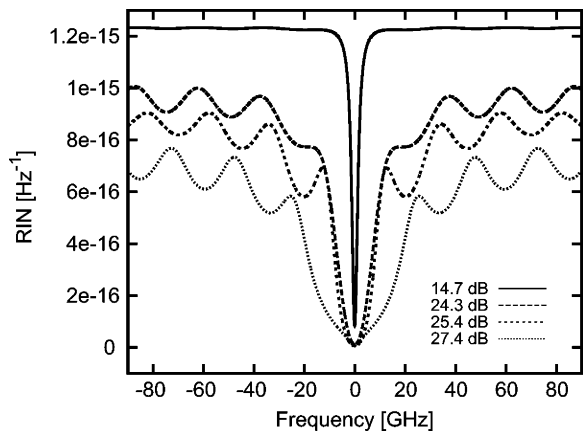


Fig. 8. SOA RIN for $r_1^2 = r_2^2 = 10^{-4}$ and $l = 1.5$ mm. RIN is symmetric in baseband frequency but is for clarity shown for both positive and negative frequencies.

chip gain of 20 dB and a fixed input power $P_{in}^+ = 0.3$ mW, the RIN spectra in Fig. 7 reveal a growing ripple when increasing values of the end-facet reflectivities of the 1.5-mm-long device. Cases with power reflectivities 10^{-5} and 10^{-6} (neither shown) give RINs practically identical to the case of $r_1^2 = r_2^2 = 0$.

The RIN spectra shown in Fig. 8 where $r_1^2 = r_2^2 = 10^{-4}$ clearly show how signatures of the Fabry–Perot cavity become pronounced as the chip gain is increased for a fixed input power. Four different cases for different values of chip gain are shown. When increasing the chip gain, the level of the RIN becomes lower while the dips, caused by the nonlinear response of the SOA [11], around $\Omega = 0$ become shallower and wider. The former effect is due to the increased intensity while the broadened dip is caused by the shortening of the carrier lifetime, in turn also caused by the increasing intensity following the increasing gain. The bandwidth over which the gain material can suppress the intensity fluctuations is governed by the reciprocal carrier lifetime.

Phase noise in an SOA is, in contrast to RIN, enhanced at lower frequencies since the carrier density fluctuations inhibiting intensity noise, cause phase fluctuations through a

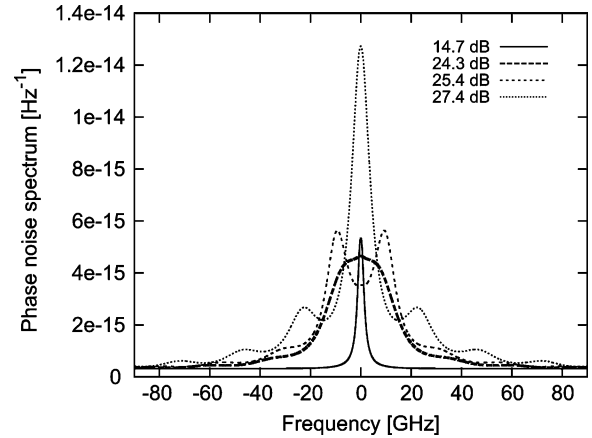


Fig. 9. SOA phase noise spectra for $r_1^2 = r_2^2 = 10^{-4}$ and $l = 1.5$ mm. The phase noise spectrum is symmetric in baseband frequency but is for clarity shown for both positive and negative frequencies.

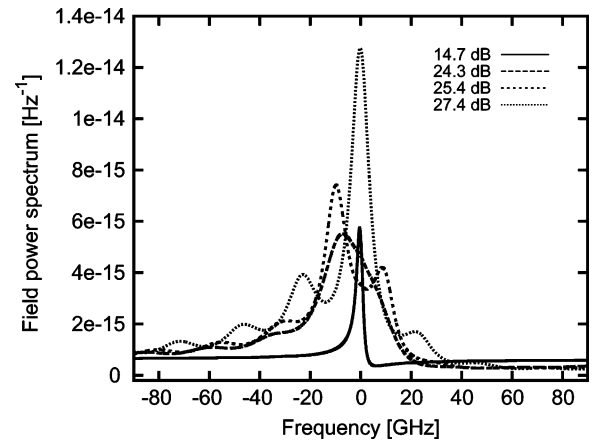


Fig. 10. SOA field power spectra for $r_1^2 = r_2^2 = 10^{-4}$ and $l = 1.5$ mm.

nonzero α -parameter. The phase noise spectra in Fig. 9 overall show increased broadening as the chip gain is increased in correspondence with the RIN.

As in [11], [23] we have omitted the dc part of the output when calculating the field power spectrum for an SOA. When calculating field power spectra for an injection-locked laser in Section VIII, we shall include an input with a finite spectral linewidth and preserve the dc part of the spectra. Fig. 10 displays the field power spectra corresponding to Figs. 8 and 9. The field power spectra for the lowest gain case of 14.2 dB has an asymmetric shape in agreement with [11], while broadened and more complicated structure is seen for increasing values of chip gain, partly as a consequence of the reflections at the facets.

VIII. INJECTION-LOCKED LASER

When the end-facet reflectivities become sufficiently high, an active waveguide subject to injection of light can act as an injection-locked laser. Here, we show examples of responses and field power spectra for a laser with light injection. When injecting light into a semiconductor laser the cavity modes of the solitary laser will be shifted because of a change in carrier density and the frequency of the shifted cavity mode need not be identical to the frequency of the injected signal for locking to

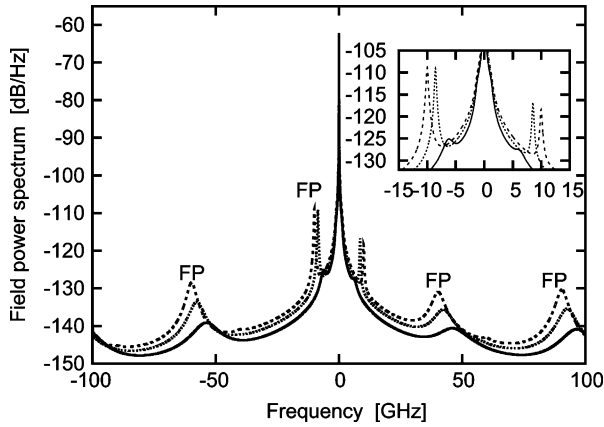


Fig. 11. Normalized field power spectrum, $S_{E,E}(\Omega)/|u_s^+(l)|^2$. The curves are for detunings $\Delta = 35$ GHz (solid), $\Delta = 9$ GHz (dashed), and $\Delta = 1$ GHz (dotted). Slave laser has reflectivities $r_1^2 = r_2^2 = 10^{-2}$ and length $l = 750 \mu\text{m}$. “FP” denotes groups of each three cavity modes. Inset shows close-up: structure visible for positive frequencies are due to four-wave mixing.

occur. It has been demonstrated that a resonance in the modulation response can be achieved at a baseband frequency equal to the difference in frequency between the injected signal and the nearest shifted cavity mode, when the cavity mode is on the red side of the injected signal [4], [15]. Equivalently, the carrier dynamics can be modified by the injected light potentially giving a modulation-resonance frequency higher than in the absence of injected light [26]. Moreover, injection of an RF-intensity modulated optical signal with an optical carrier detuned from the cavity frequency into a VCSEL has been seen to give rise to RF-phase shifts of 360 degrees [16].

Since the spatial extent of the cavity is included in the calculations presented here, the presence of multiple longitudinal modes can be seen in spectra and response curves. For three different values of the detuning Δ [see (2)] leading to three different detunings between the injected signal and the nearest shifted cavity mode, we show the field power spectrum in Fig. 11 as calculated from (52). Here the injected signal has the baseband frequency $\Omega/2\pi = 0$. The carrier signal has an input power of $P_{\text{in}}^+ = 0.1$ mW. The linewidth of the incident signal from the master laser is taken to be finite, namely 60 MHz. The noise spectra of the master laser is assumed to be the spectra of a single mode semiconductor laser with its frequency noise spectrum [27] being dominant. In Fig. 11 the full line denotes the case of $\Delta = 35$ GHz where the nearest shifted cavity mode lies 6.2 GHz below the master frequency, the dashed curve represents $\Delta = 9$ GHz for which the nearest cavity mode is 10.0 GHz, and finally for $\Delta = 1$ GHz the nearest shifted cavity mode is at 8.5 GHz below the injected signal frequency (dotted line). Three other cavity modes are present in the shown parts of the spectra for each value of Δ . In Fig. 11, the cavity modes lie in groups of three each marked “FP” for Fabry-Perot. The length of the slave laser is here $l = 750 \mu\text{m}$ corresponding to a mode spacing of 50 GHz. Other small spikes are four-wave mixing images of the cavity modes. Note that since no gain dispersion is considered, the system is periodic as a function of Δ , where the frequency of periodicity is given

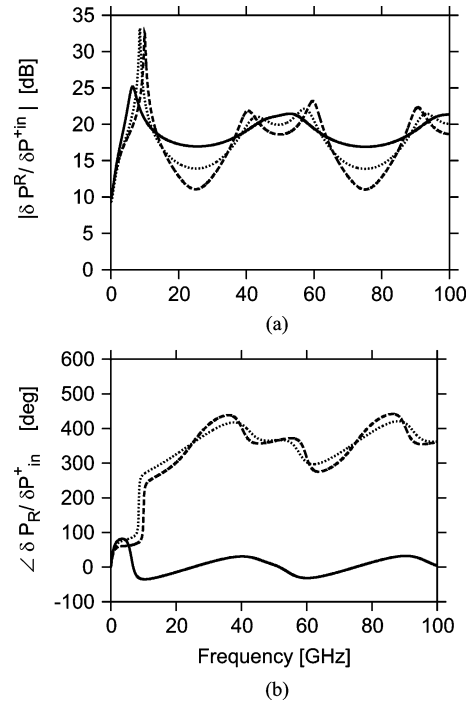


Fig. 12. Modulation responses for cases in Fig. 11. (a), (b) Magnitude and argument of the power response due to optical power modulation. The curves are for $\Delta = 35$ GHz (solid), $\Delta = 9$ GHz (dashed), and $\Delta = 1$ GHz (dotted).

by the mode spacing. Here, $\Delta = 35$ GHz is thus equivalent to $\Delta = -15$ GHz. It should also be noted that in this paper we do not state the condition for phase-locking. Instead, we leave such an analysis of the locking bandwidth for future work.

For a single-mode laser, the cavity mode of the freely running laser is shifted towards lower frequencies when light is injected into the laser. It has been shown that, when the difference in frequency between the injected signal and the cavity mode is positive, then under current modulation of the injected-locked signal there can be a resonance at a modulation frequency corresponding to this frequency difference [15], [26]. It has been argued that, of the two symmetric sidebands generated due to a modulation, the one on the red side of the injected signal is more strongly amplified when located at the frequency of the cavity mode [28]. Examples of modulation responses for the three different detunings in Fig. 11 are shown in Figs. 12–14. First, in Figs. 12–13 responses due to modulation of the optical input signal are given. The magnitude $|\delta P_R/\delta P_{\text{in}}^+|$ displays resonance resonances at 6.2, 8.5, and 10.0 GHz for the respective three detunings in correspondence with the spectrum in Fig. 11(a), where the cavity mode nearest the injected signal has negative baseband frequencies. This resonance is related to the interaction between the charge carriers and photon population. The next resonance appears around 40 GHz (for $\Delta = 1$ GHz and $\Delta = 9$ GHz). This is a higher order resonance whose location is given by the beat frequency of the difference between the master frequency and the nearest cavity mode (here for the two clearest cases 8.5 GHz and 10.0 GHz) and the mode-spacing (here 50 GHz). The next higher frequency resonances are given by the sum of the detuning and the cavity mode spacing (here for the two clear cases have peaks around 60 GHz). For $\Delta =$

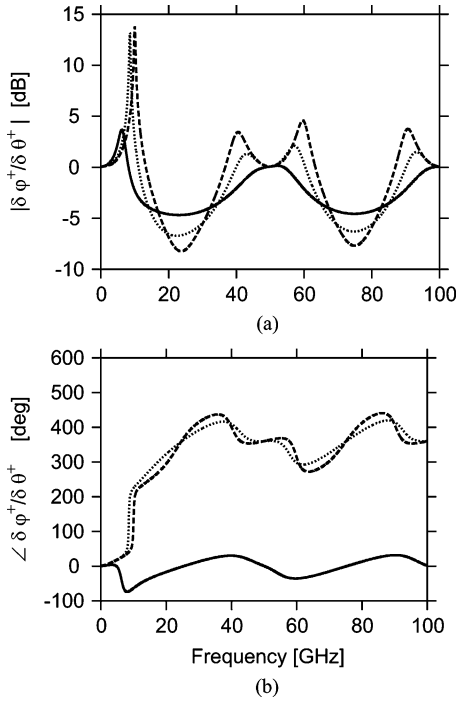


Fig. 13. Modulation responses for cases in Fig. 11. (a) and (b) Magnitude and argument of the optical phase response due to optical phase modulation. The curves are for $\Delta = 35$ GHz (solid), $\Delta = 9$ GHz (dashed), and $\Delta = 1$ GHz (dotted).

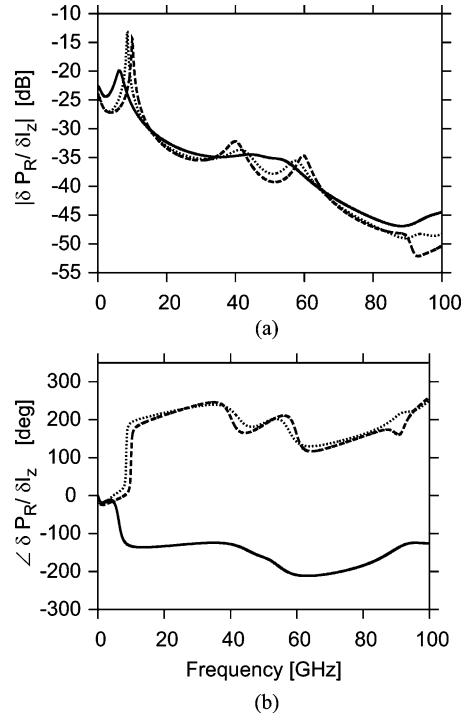


Fig. 14. Modulation responses for cases in Fig. 11. (a), (b) Magnitude and argument of the power response due to a uniform current modulation. The curves are for $\Delta = 35$ GHz (solid), $\Delta = 9$ GHz (dashed), and $\Delta = 1$ GHz (dotted).

35 GHz the beat frequency is 43.8 GHz and the two soft resonances (here the other one at 56.2) merge into one broad peak with maximum around 53 GHz. Finally, the resonances around 90 GHz can be understood as beat frequencies involving two times the mode spacing (i.e., 100 GHz). The higher order resonances are thus related to the round-trip time of the photons in the cavity. Similar higher order modulation resonances can be found in long cavity DBR lasers without optical injection [29], [30].

The behavior of the response $|\delta\varphi^+/\delta\theta^+|$ in Fig. 13(a) is qualitatively very similar to Fig. 12(a). Modulating the optical phase θ^+ thus gives rise to a response in optical phase at the output, which can be greater than 0 dB. In Fig. 14(a), the magnitude of the power response following a current modulation $|\delta P_R/\delta I_z|$ has resonances at the same modulation frequencies as seen for the optical modulation formats.

The corresponding arguments of the responses are displayed in Figs. 12(b)–14(b). By changing the detuning Δ it possible to obtain a RF-phase change of 360 degrees for modulation frequencies above the lowest resonance frequencies. The behavior of the response $\angle\delta P_R/\delta P_{in}^+$ shown in Fig. 12(b) has been observed in a VCSEL [8]. In Fig. 13(b), we see a very similar similar appearance of the response $\angle\delta\varphi^+/\delta\theta^+$. The main qualitative difference is apparent at low frequencies where in Fig. 12(b) a significant positive argument due to carrier fluctuations is seen as opposed to Fig. 13(b) where the argument is close to zero degrees. Finally, in Fig. 14(b), even in the case of a current modulation uniformly distributed over $z = 0$ to $z = l$, we see the possibility of a change in argument of 360 degrees when varying Δ .

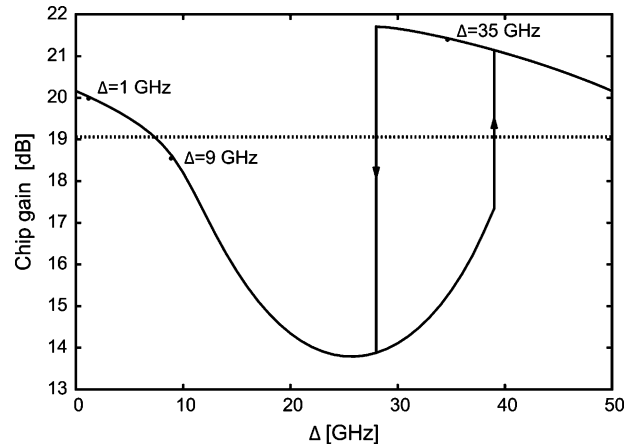


Fig. 15. Calculated stable stationary solutions for a laser with light injection depicted as curves in the chip gain versus detuning plane. The three bullets correspond to the stationary solutions used for computing responses in Figs. 12–14. The horizontal dotted line indicates the threshold gain of the solitary slave laser.

While the modulation responses in Figs. 12–14 show pronounced resonance peaks whose frequencies are given by the relaxation oscillation frequency and its beating with multiples of the cavity resonance frequency, the strongest features of the responses for an SOA shown in Figs. 2–5 are chiefly a product of the carrier lifetime albeit modified by the reflections at the mirrors.

The three stationary solutions with Δ -values of 1, 9, and 35 GHz are represented by the bullets in the chip gain versus Δ curve in Fig. 15. The laser exhibits bistability as the detuning Δ is varied for the fixed injection level. Bistable behavior of

semiconductor lasers with light injection can be found both experimentally and theoretically [31], [32]. Here we find that stationary solutions with chip gain relatively close to the threshold gain of the solitary slave laser may yield large positive RF-phase shifts, here exemplified by $\Delta = 1$ GHz and $\Delta = 9$ GHz. Stationary solutions with chip gain relatively far from the threshold gain, here exemplified by $\Delta = 35$ GHz, tend to have small positive or negative RF-phase shifts.

IX. CONCLUSION

We have presented a method for calculating small-signal modulation responses and noise spectra of an active Fabry–Perot semiconductor waveguide subject to external injection of light. The method includes the longitudinal variation of carrier density in the device and reflections from end facets. By using a Green’s function technique, semi-analytical small-signal expressions were derived for responses and spectra. As examples of the versatility of the method, responses and noise spectra were calculated for SOAs. For instance, the modulation-frequency dependence of the RF-phase shift in an SOA (slow/fast light) was susceptible to modifications due to reflections at the facets. It was also demonstrated how a phase modulated optical input signal can cause nontrivial responses in an active waveguide when the end-facet reflectivities are finite. Further, the method was used to calculate spectra and responses of a laser with light injection, something that is usually done using a lumped model of the slave laser. Inspection of the calculated field power spectra led to an understanding of the resonances seen in the responses. When varying the detuning between the master and the slave laser, large RF-phase shifts of 360 degrees, previously seen in VCSELS with light injection, was found for a much longer edge-emitting device.

APPENDIX A GAIN MODEL

For the example calculations presented in this paper, a model describing gain in quantum wells has been utilized. The usual expression for material gain for a two-level system (see [27, eq. (4.37)]) is supplemented by a secant lineshape function $L(\Delta E) = \eta\tau/2\hbar\text{sech}^2(\eta\tau/\hbar\Delta E)$ where ΔE is the deviation from the transition energy, η is the relative half width $\eta = \log(3 + 2\sqrt{2})$, and τ is the dephasing time (here taken as 50 fs). The two-level gain function is convolved with the lineshape function to obtain the material gain including lineshape broadening (see [27, eq. (4.40)]). The considered 2-QW structure consists of wells of thickness 7 nm, with effective hole mass $0.37 m_0$ and effective electron mass $0.045 m_0$, and a transition matrix element of $7.83 \cdot 10^{-49}$ J · kg [27]. Only two bands are considered. The Fermi energies are calculated for the lowest order discrete energy level of the valence band and conduction band, respectively.

Nonlinear gain is introduced in the relation between the modal gain g and the material gain g_m where the confinement factor Γ and the nonlinear gain coefficient ϵ are used as follows:

$$g(\omega, N, S) = \frac{\Gamma g_m(\omega, N)}{1 + \epsilon S}. \quad (56)$$

The power due to ASE entering the carrier equation is said to be divided into a number of frequency intervals of bandwidth Δf [20]. Each interval around frequency f_j is governed by equations for the forward and backward traveling ASE governed by the equations (one for each direction)

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} P_{\text{sp}}^{\pm}(f_j) = \pm(\Gamma g_m - \alpha_i) P_{\text{sp}}^{\pm}(f_j) + \Gamma h f_j g_m(\omega, N) n_{\text{sp}}(f_j, N) \Delta f \quad (57)$$

where n_{sp} is the population inversion factor and Δf is the optical bandwidth. At the end facets, the boundary conditions for P_{ASE}^{\pm} are expressed as

$$P_{\text{ASE}}^+(0) = |r_1|^2 P_{\text{ASE}}^-(0) + (1 - |r_1|^2) P_{\text{ASE},\text{in}}^+ \quad (58a)$$

$$P_{\text{ASE}}^-(l) = |r_2|^2 P_{\text{ASE}}^+(l) + (1 - |r_2|^2) P_{\text{ASE},\text{in}}^- \quad (58b)$$

The recombination rate in connection with stimulated emission due to ASE is written

$$R_{\text{ASE}} = v_g \sum_{i=1,2} \sum_j K_i g_m(N, f_j) S_{\text{ASE}}(f_j). \quad (59)$$

The photon density S_{ASE} is given as $S_{\text{ASE}} = (P_{\text{ASE}}^+ + P_{\text{ASE}}^-)/(v_g \hbar \omega A_{\text{ph}})$. The constants K_i with $i = 1$ for TE and $i = 2$ for TM polarization are weights for the two different polarizations of light. For bulk material they are unity for both polarizations, while for QWs the gain is strongly polarized giving different weights. For QWs it is fair to make the approximation $K_1 = 1$ and $K_2 = 0$.

APPENDIX B MATRICES

The Laplace transform of the differential $\delta N(t, z)$ in (10) may be written as

$$\widetilde{\delta N}(s, z) = \frac{\tau_R}{1 + s\tau_R} \left[\widetilde{\delta J}(s, z) + F_N - \left(\frac{\partial R_{\text{st}}}{\partial S} + \frac{\partial R_{\text{ase}}}{\partial S} \right) \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{x} \right] \quad (60)$$

where the vector \mathbf{b} is defined as $\mathbf{b} = 2(S_s^+, 0, S_s^-, 0)^T$. The matrix \mathbf{M}_0 in (10) follows as

$$\mathbf{M}_0 = \left[\left(\frac{\partial R_{\text{st}}}{\partial S} + \frac{\partial R_{\text{ase}}}{\partial S} \right) \mathbf{h}_N - \mathbf{h}_S \right] \mathbf{b}^T + s \mathbf{M}_\omega \quad (61)$$

where

$$\mathbf{h}_N = \frac{v_g}{2} \frac{\partial g}{\partial N}(z) \frac{\tau_R}{1 + s\tau_R} (1, \alpha, 1, \alpha)^T \quad (62)$$

and

$$\mathbf{h}_S = \frac{v_g}{2} \frac{\partial g}{\partial S}(z) (1, \alpha_S, 1, \alpha_S)^T. \quad (63)$$

In (62), $\alpha = -\text{Re}(\partial k/\partial N)/\text{Im}(\partial k/\partial N)$ is the linewidth enhancement factor. It has been assumed that $\alpha_s = -\text{Re}(\partial k/\partial S)/\text{Im}(\partial k/\partial S) = 0$. When the signal experiences no gain dispersion, the matrix \mathbf{M}_ω is simply the unit matrix. Further, the matrix \mathbf{M}_1 is diagonal matrix with $(\mathbf{M}_1)_{11} = (\mathbf{M}_1)_{22} = -(\mathbf{M}_1)_{33} = -(\mathbf{M}_1)_{44} = v_g$. The

partial derivatives $\partial g/\partial N$ and $\partial g/\partial S$ in general depend on z . Finally, the Langevin driving vector function in (18) becomes

$$\tilde{\mathbf{f}} = (\tilde{F}_r^+, \tilde{F}_i^+, \tilde{F}_r^-, \tilde{F}_i^-)^T + \mathbf{h}_N \tilde{F}_N \quad (64)$$

where F_r and F_i are given by

$$F_r^\pm = \frac{v_g}{2} \left\{ \frac{f^\pm}{u_s^\pm} + \text{c.c.} \right\} \quad (65)$$

$$F_i^\pm = \frac{v_g}{2j} \left\{ \frac{f^\pm}{u_s^\pm} - \text{c.c.} \right\}. \quad (66)$$

The diffusion coefficient for carrier density fluctuations D_{NN} in the correlation relation for F_N

$$\langle F_N(s, z), F_N(s', z') \rangle = 2D_{NN}(z)\delta(z - z')2\pi\delta(\Omega - \Omega') \quad (67)$$

is given by

$$2D_{NN} = \frac{1}{A_c} \{ \xi J + R + (2n_{\text{sp}} - 1)R_{\text{st}} \}. \quad (68)$$

Here, ξ describes the noise of the current pump source. For $\xi = 1$ the pump source exhibits shot noise behavior, while for $\xi < 1$ it behaves sub-Poissonian. In this paper, $\xi = 1$ is used.

APPENDIX C

GREEN'S FUNCTION $\zeta_i(s, z', z)$

The expression (18) is obtained using partial integration and by choosing the appropriate conditions for the vector Green's function $\zeta_i(s, z', z)$ as shown in this appendix. Partial integration gives

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^l \zeta_i^\dagger(s, z', z) \left[\mathbf{M}_0(s, z') + \mathbf{M}_1(z') \frac{\partial}{\partial z'} \right] \mathbf{x}(s, z') dz' \\ &= \int_0^l \left\{ \left[\mathbf{M}_0^\dagger(s, z') - \frac{\partial}{\partial z'} \mathbf{M}_1(z') \frac{\partial}{\partial z'} \right] \zeta_i(s, z', z) \right\}^\dagger \\ & \quad \times \mathbf{x}(s, z') dz' + \left[\left(\mathbf{M}_1^\dagger(z') \zeta_i(s, z', z) \right)^\dagger \mathbf{x}(s, z') \right]_0^l \\ &= \int_0^l \delta(z' - z) \mathbf{e}_i^T \mathbf{x}(s, z') dz' \\ & \quad + \left[\left(\mathbf{M}_1^\dagger(z') \zeta_i(s, z', z) \right)^\dagger \mathbf{x}(s, z') \right]_0^l \\ &= \mathbf{x}(s, z) + \left[\left(\mathbf{M}_1^\dagger(z') \zeta_i(s, z', z) \right)^\dagger \mathbf{x}(s, z') \right]_0^l \quad (69) \end{aligned}$$

Boundary conditions for \mathbf{x} in (19) and ζ_i in (21) at $z = 0$ and $z = l$ give the relations

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\mathbf{M}_1^\dagger(0) \zeta_i(s, 0, z) \right]^\dagger \mathbf{x}(s, 0) \\ &= \left(\left[\mathbf{M}_1^\dagger(0) \zeta_i(s, 0, z) \right]^\dagger \right)_1 (\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0)_1 \\ & \quad + \left(\left[\mathbf{M}_1^\dagger(0) \zeta_i(s, 0, z) \right]^\dagger \right)_2 (\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0)_2 \quad (70a) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\mathbf{M}_1^\dagger(l) \zeta_i(s, l, z) \right]^\dagger \mathbf{x}(s, l) \\ &= \left(\left[\mathbf{M}_1^\dagger(l) \zeta_i(s, l, z) \right]^\dagger \right)_3 (\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0)_3 \\ & \quad + \left(\left[\mathbf{M}_1^\dagger(l) \zeta_i(s, l, z) \right]^\dagger \right)_4 (\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_0)_4. \quad (70b) \end{aligned}$$

Then, by multiplying both sides of (18) by $\zeta_i^\dagger(s, z', z)$ and integrating from $z = 0$ to $z = l$, utilizing (69) and (70) leads to the explicit expression for \mathbf{x} in (22).

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