

Bi-doped fibers module

Bi-doped fibers is a new optical material providing possibilities of broadband optical amplification in the near IR range where other active fibers doped with Rare Earth elements are inefficient. The core glass composition allows one to obtain luminescence and gain associated with Bismuth active centers (BAC-Al, BAC-P, BAC-Si, BAC-Ge) in several diapasons within the SiO₂ fibers transmission window in the range 1.1-1.8 μ m.

Each type of BACs have their own absorption, luminescence and gain spectra and require a pump wavelength range. Typically, Bi-doped fibers can be pumped only in the fiber core but possibility of cladding pumping near 0.8 μ m is also under consideration.

Bi-doped fibers have SiO₂ or GeO₂-based core and a pure SiO₂ cladding thus they can be spliced with standard silica-based fibers (SMF-28, Flexcore etc) using standard telecom splicing machines.

There are several possible applications of such active fibers including:

- 1) Wideband and ultrabroadband fiber telecom systems with wavelength division multiplexing (including dense and coarse) where bismuth-doped fiber amplifiers (BDFA) help to increase reach and capacity in several times;
- 2) Widely tunable lasers for various applications including spectroscopy, sensing, metrology
- 3) Wideband and ultrawideband superfluorescent fiber sources for OCT, telecom etc.
- 4) Short and Ultrashort pulse fiber lasers in sub-ps, -ps and -ns ranges in diapason 1.1-1.8 μ m. variety of applications including spectroscopy, metrology, sensing etc.

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