

溯源至 SI 基本单位的 200 kW 超高功率光纤激光器功率测量

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摘要 建立了一套基于光压原理的超高功率激光测量装置,对 200 kW 工业级光纤激光器的输出功率进行了测量,功率测量重复性优于 0.1%,0~100% 功率响应时间小于 3 s。依据测量不确定度评定导则和蒙特卡罗方法,分别对激光功率的测量不确定度进行了评定和计算,在 10~200 kW 功率范围内,激光功率的测量不确定度优于 0.76% (置信因子 $k=2$),实现了溯源至国际单位制(SI)基本单位(千克)的高准确度激光功率测量。

关键词 测量; 超高功率激光; 光纤激光; 光压; 溯源测量; 测量不确定度

中图分类号 O432.1

文献标志码 A

DOI: 10.3788/CJL241251

高功率光纤激光器近年来发展迅速,在工业加工领域中得到广泛应用。功率的精确测量是高功率激光应用的基础,对于保证激光加工产品的质量至关重要。随着光纤激光技术的进步,工业级光纤激光器的最高输出功率纪录不断刷新,在 2013 年达到 100 kW^[1],并于 2017 年进一步提升至 120 kW。在此之后,国内光纤激光企业奋起直追,2024 年多家国内企业推出了 150 kW 的工业级超高功率光纤激光器^[2]。

高功率激光测量一直以来主要是基于量热方法。受限于吸收材料的损伤阈值,测量的功率越高,需求的探测器体积就越大,且响应时间通常需要数十 s 至数百 s。商用热量型激光功率计的功率测量上限目前仅为 120 kW^[3],无法满足光纤激光器快速增长的高功率测量需求。基于光压原理的激光功率计(LPPM)利用光子具有动量的特性,可以实现激光功率的快速、准确测量,并极大拓展了功率测量上限,适用于高功率激光的测量。该方法将激光功率直接溯源至国际单位制(SI)基本单位(千克),保证了测量结果的溯源性和准确性。美国国家标准技术研究院基于光压法在 2019 年实现了 50 kW 的激光功率测量,测量不确定度为 1.7%^[4],在 2023 年实现了 140 kW 的激光功率测量,测量不确定度为 0.94%^[5]。中国计量科学研究院在 2021 年实现了基于光压称重法的激光功率测量^[6],之后对测量不确定度进行了详细评定,1~6 kW 功率范围内的测量不确定度为 2.00%~0.78%^[7],2024 年实现了

150 kW 超高功率光纤激光器的功率测量^[2]。

本文建立了超高功率光纤激光器的功率测量系统,如图 1 所示。整个系统包括激光光源、LPPM 以及激光吸收器。光源为超高功率光纤激光器,工作波长为 1080 nm。该激光器采用功率合束技术,对多个 6 kW 高亮度光模块进行高功率激光合成,每个光模块内部均集成了自制的高功率拉曼光栅,实现了激光的光谱线宽压缩及受激拉曼散射的高效抑制。高功率信号合束器采用绝热拉锥技术和无损熔接技术,解决了合束效率低、光束质量劣化等技术难题。此外,为解决超高功率激光传输时光纤的发热问题,采用环绕式水冷结构设计,提高了水冷散热与光纤传输之间的热交换。最终采用纤芯直径为 300 μm 的光纤,实现了最大功率为 200 kW 的激光输出,光束质量因子 $M^2 \approx 35.7$,拉曼抑制比为 ≥ 45 dB,并支持距离为 ≥ 30 m 的激光传输。

激光束经镜头组输出后先聚焦后以小角度发散入射到 LPPM 中,经 LPPM 输出后由激光吸收器接收。LPPM 内装有三片具有超高反射率、高损伤阈值的镜片,其在 950~1100 nm 波段范围内的反射率高于 99.995%。其中两片长方形反射镜以 110° 的夹角被安装在顶部,另一片直径为 90 mm 的反射镜被水平安装在底部传感器上。传感器使用的是分辨力为 10 μg 的商业化称重模块,根据激光入射角度可求得质量-功率转换因子为 1.567 kW/mg。称重模块通过标准砝码进

收稿日期: 2024-10-09; 修回日期: 2024-11-04; 录用日期: 2024-11-18; 网络首发日期: 2024-12-06

基金项目: 国家重点研发计划(2023YFF0715603)、质量技术基础能力建设专项(ANL2005)

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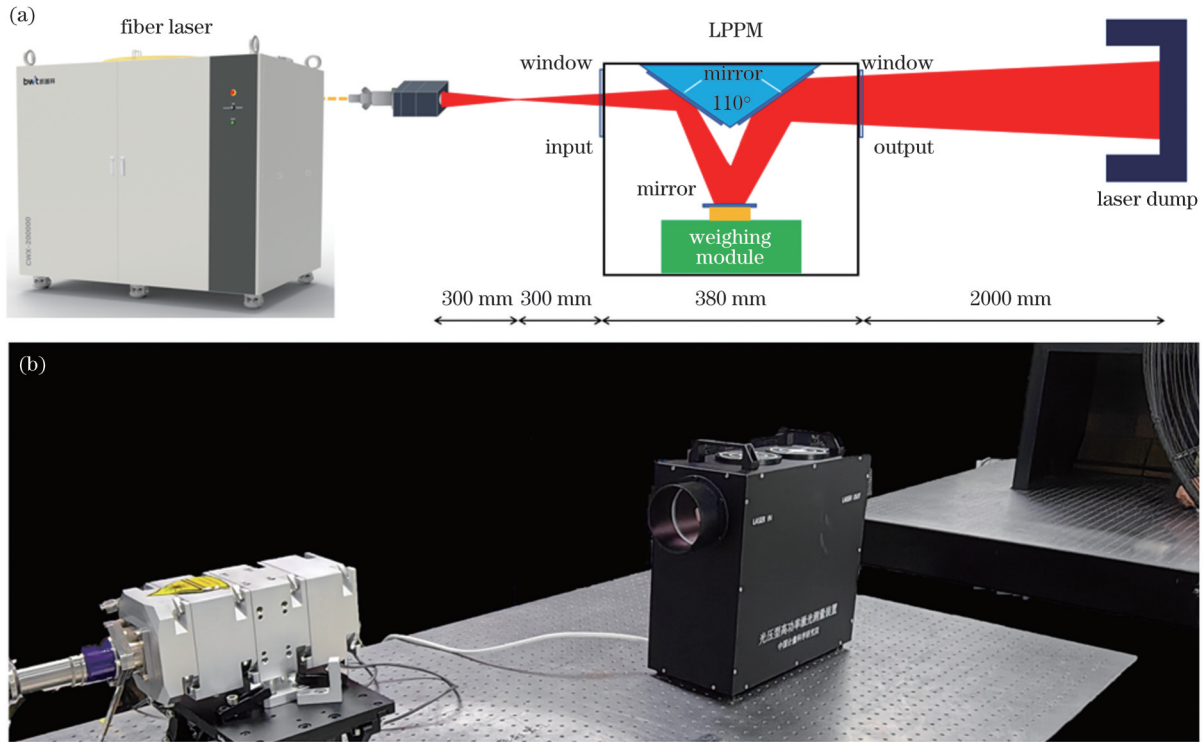


图 1 超高功率光纤激光器的功率测量系统。(a)示意图;(b)现场照片

Fig. 1 Power measurement system of ultra-high power fiber laser. (a) Schematic diagram;(b) on-site photo

行校准,可实现光功率至 SI 基本单位(kg)的溯源。在 LPPM 两侧装有直径为 100 mm、透过率大于 99.9% 的镜片,确保测量系统处于封闭状态,避免外部气流对质量测量的干扰。测量时 LPPM 进光处的光束直径约为 40 mm,出光处的光束直径约为 80 mm。

对激光器在不同出光情况下的输出功率进行了重复测量,如图 2(a)所示。50、100 和 150 kW 功率水平下三次测量结果的重复性均优于 0.1%(采用极差法计算),0~100% 功率响应时间均小于 3 s。激光器满功率输出时的功率测量结果达到 200.50 kW,响应时间

为 2.6 s,如图 2(b)所示。

激光功率(P)的扩展测量不确定度 $[U(P)]$ 主要来源于称重模块的质量测量不确定度 u_{mass} 和分辨力 u_{res} 、镜片反射率 u_{ref} 、激光入射角度 u_{angle} 以及测量结果的重复性 u_{rep} 与非线性 u_{nonlin} ,可表示为

$$U(P) = 2\sqrt{u_{mass}^2 + u_{res}^2 + u_{ref}^2 + u_{angle}^2 + u_{rep}^2 + u_{nonlin}^2} \quad (1)$$

依据测量不确定度评定导则(GUM)和蒙特卡罗方法(MCM),分别对激光功率的测量不确定度进行了评定和计算^[7],结果如图 3 所示。在 3~10 kW 功率

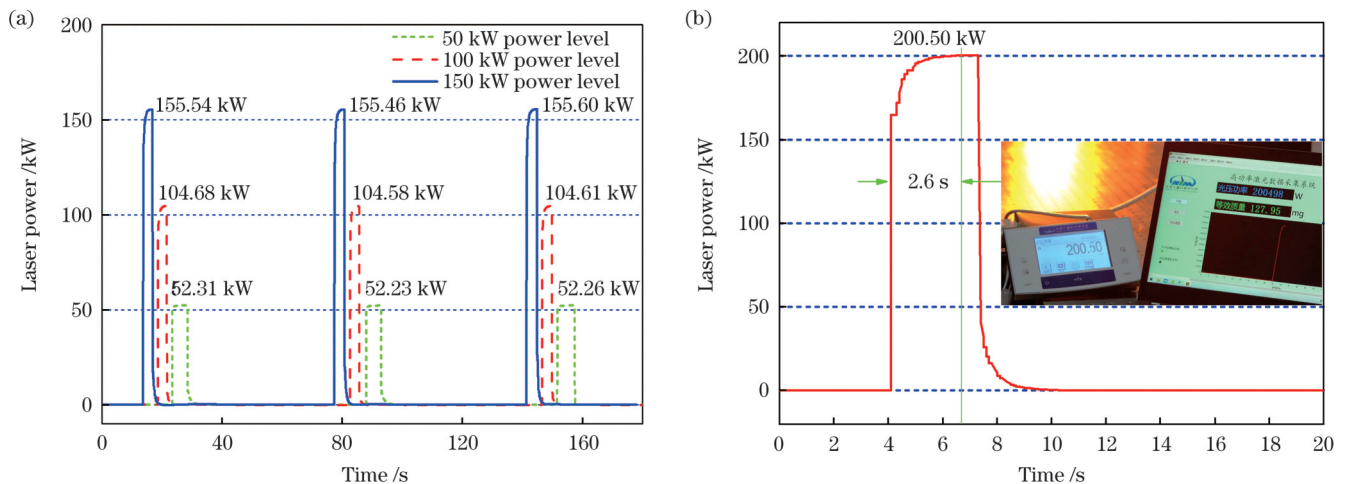


图 2 不同功率水平下的测量结果。(a)50~150 kW 激光功率水平下的重复测量结果;(b)200 kW 激光功率水平下的测量结果,插图 为最高功率测试结果的截图

Fig.2 Measurement results under different power levels. (a) Repeated measurement results under 50-150 kW laser power levels; (b) measurement result under 200 kW laser power level with highest power test result shown in inset

范围内测量不确定度快速下降,这主要是由于随着被测功率的增大,质量测量不确定度分量和分辨力对测量不确定度的贡献逐渐减小。当激光功率大于 10 kW 时,测量不确定度的变化趋于稳定,均优于 0.76% (置信因子 $k=2$)。

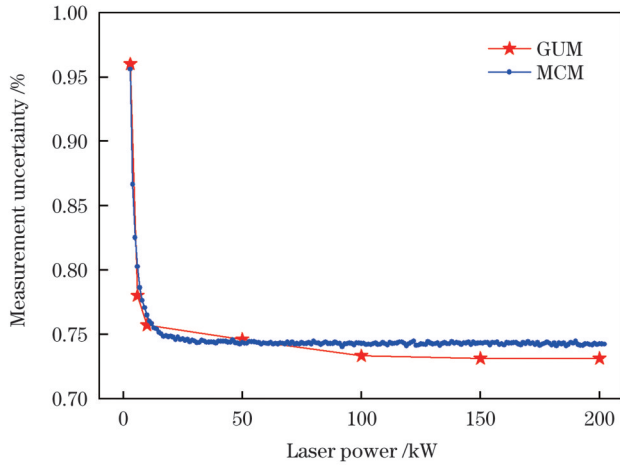


图 3 不同激光功率下的测量不确定度

Fig. 3 Measurement uncertainty values under different laser powers

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Power Measurement of 200 kW Ultrahigh-Power Fiber Laser Traceable to SI Basic Unit

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Abstract

Objective Accurate power measurement is the basis of high-power laser applications, and ensuring the quality of laser-processed products is crucial. Owing to the progress in fiber-laser technology, the maximum output power afforded by industrial-grade fiber lasers has increased continually. A set of ultrahigh-power laser-measurement devices based on the principle of light pressure was established to measure the output power of a 200 kW industrial-grade fiber laser.

Methods In this study, a focused laser beam was incident at a small angle to a light-pressure power meter (LPPM) after being output from the lens set; furthermore, it was absorbed by the laser dump after being output from the LPPM, as shown in Fig. 1. The LPPM was equipped with three ultrahigh-reflectance, high-damage-threshold mirrors, whose reflectance exceeds 99.995% in the 950–1100 nm waveband. Two rectangular mirrors were mounted on the top of the LPPM at an angle of 110°, and another 90-mm-diameter mirror was connected to the weighing module.

Results and Discussions We performed power measurements at different levels, as shown in Fig. 2(a). The measurement repeatability is better than 0.1% (calculated using the polar deviation method), and the response time of 0%–100% power is less than 3 s. The full-power output is 200.50 kW, with a response time of 2.6 s, as shown in Fig. 2(b). The measurement uncertainty of the laser power was evaluated and calculated based on the guide to the uncertainty in measurement (GUM) and the Monte Carlo method

(MCM), as shown in Fig. 3. The rapid decrease in the measurement uncertainty in the power range of 3–10 kW is primarily caused by the gradual decrease in the contributions of the mass-measurement uncertainty component and resolving power to the measurement uncertainty as the measured power increases. When the laser power exceeds 10 kW, the variation in the measurement uncertainty stabilizes and is better than 0.76% (confidence factor $k = 2$).

Conclusions We report the power for industrial-grade fiber lasers measured by an LPPM. This LPPM realizes highly accurate laser power measurements traceable to the Système International (SI) basic unit (kg).

Key words measurement; ultra-high power laser; fiber laser; light pressure; traceable measurement; measurement uncertainty