

光学学报

高功率光纤激光器用关键无源器件研究进展

陈子伦^{1,2,3}, 李智贤^{1,2,3*}, 王蒙^{1,2,3}, 王泽峰^{1,2,3}, 许晓军^{1,2,3}, 陈金宝^{1,2,3}

¹国防科技大学前沿交叉学科学院, 湖南长沙 410073;

²国防科技大学南湖之光实验室, 湖南长沙 410073;

³脉冲功率激光技术国家重点实验室, 湖南长沙 410073

摘要 光纤无源器件是实现高功率光纤激光系统的重要组成单元, 其性能指标直接决定着系统的整体性能参数。本文综述了国防科技大学高能激光研究团队在高功率光纤激光器用关键无源器件方面的最新研究进展, 主要包括包层光滤除器、光纤端帽、信号泵浦合束器和信号合束器等无源器件, 重点介绍了光纤激光无源器件的工艺制作流程、工艺难点和性能指标。

关键词 激光; 光纤激光器; 无源器件; 光束质量

中图分类号 O436

文献标志码 A

DOI: 10.3788/AOS230956

1 引言

光纤激光器具有光束质量好、结构紧凑及可柔性传输等优点, 近几年得到了迅速发展, 已在金属切割、远程焊接、三维切割、激光打标等工业领域得到了广泛应用, 目前已经成为未来高功率激光发展的重要方向之一^[1-3]。随着高功率、高亮度激光二极管(LD)和双包层光纤制备工艺的迅速发展, 光纤激光器输出功率不断提高, 2009年, 美国IPG Photonics公司采用同带泵浦技术首次报道了10 kW单模结果, 并推出相关产品; 2013年, 该公司用半导体激光器进行端面泵浦, 实现了20 kW近单模($M^2 < 2$)激光输出^[4-5]。国内方面, 中国工程物理研究院、清华大学、国防科技大学基于同带泵浦方案, 相继实现了20 kW的高功率输出^[6-7], 但是光束质量仍然与国外存在较大差距。

除增益光纤作为光纤激光器核心原材料外, 光纤无源器件包括但不限于光纤光栅^[8-10]、包层光滤除器、光纤端帽、信号泵浦合束器和信号合束器的性能指标、研究进展也与光纤激光器的发展密切相关, 国防科技大学高能激光研究团队从事高功率光纤器件研究已有十几年的历程, 研制的部分光纤器件性能指标已达到国际先进水平, 并作为核心光纤无源器件应用于多项重大装备和科研任务中。本文详细介绍了部分高功率光纤无源器件的最新研究进展, 并重点介绍了光纤器件的关键工艺流程、技术难点以及提出了对未来光纤器件发展的一些思考。

2 包层光滤除器

在光纤激光系统中, 存在未被纤芯吸收的残留泵浦光及由于光纤弯曲和熔接等因素导致泄漏到包层中的部分信号光, 这部分光将在输出无源光纤内包层中传输, 如果和纤芯的信号激光一块输出, 不仅会导致输出激光的光束质量变差, 还会增加激光输出系统, 如光纤端帽和输出准直聚焦系统等受到损伤的风险, 直接关系到激光器能否安全、稳定地运行。而包层光滤除器能够有效滤除这些多余包层光, 保证高功率激光器的稳定性与高光束质量, 是光纤激光系统的关键元器件之一。

包层光滤除器是通过破坏光纤包层外边界的全反射条件, 使包层光通过折射、散射或吸收效应传输到包层外, 从而实现包层光的滤除^[11]。目前其制备的常用方法有表面涂覆法^[12]、表面腐蚀法^[13]等。表面涂覆法主要是通过在光纤外表面涂覆高折射率聚合物制备包层光滤除器, 表面腐蚀法是通过腐蚀光纤包层表面使其粗糙从而破坏表面的全反射条件, 使得包层光在该区域发生散射损耗, 从而实现包层光的滤除。相比于表面涂覆法, 表面腐蚀法是将包层光通过散射的方式滤除, 在滤除高功率包层光时具有极大的优势。此外, 表面腐蚀法还可以通过表面毛化逐渐变强的逐段腐蚀方式实现更高功率的包层光均匀滤除。然而在光纤激光的应用中, 部分回返光也会反向进入到输出光纤中并首先经过包层光滤除器, 如果返回的包层光首先进入到滤除器强的部分, 将在滤除器尾端极短的区域产

收稿日期: 2023-05-09; 修回日期: 2023-06-11; 录用日期: 2023-06-19; 网络首发日期: 2023-07-30

通信作者: *lizhixian_123@163.com

生剧烈的温升。

为消除上述隐患,本文作者研究团队设计了一种新的可实现双向滤除的弱-强-弱的包层光滤除器制备方案^[14],如图1(a)所示,在双包层光纤两侧毛化最弱区域各1 cm,再进入到中等毛化区域两侧各3 cm,最后在中间区域为最强毛化区域,长度为3 cm。具体的制备方案为:将长度为1 cm的纸板固定在夹具上,将腐蚀液滴涂在纸板上,将光纤腐蚀段#1在腐蚀液中腐蚀1 min;将长度为3 cm的纸板固定在夹具上,将腐蚀

液滴涂在纸板上,将光纤腐蚀段#2在腐蚀液中腐蚀2 min;将长度为3 cm的纸板固定在夹具上,将腐蚀液滴涂在纸板上,将光纤腐蚀段#3在腐蚀液中腐蚀5 min。基于该方案制备的包层光滤除器(CPS)在无主动制冷的情况下进行测试,单独分别正反向输入功率为2051 W时,CPS局部最高温度为31.2 °C,温升速率为3.5 °C/kW,滤除效率为20.1 dB。对CPS进行双向设计,可将光纤包层中的回光均匀滤除,进一步提高光纤激光器系统的安全性与可靠性。

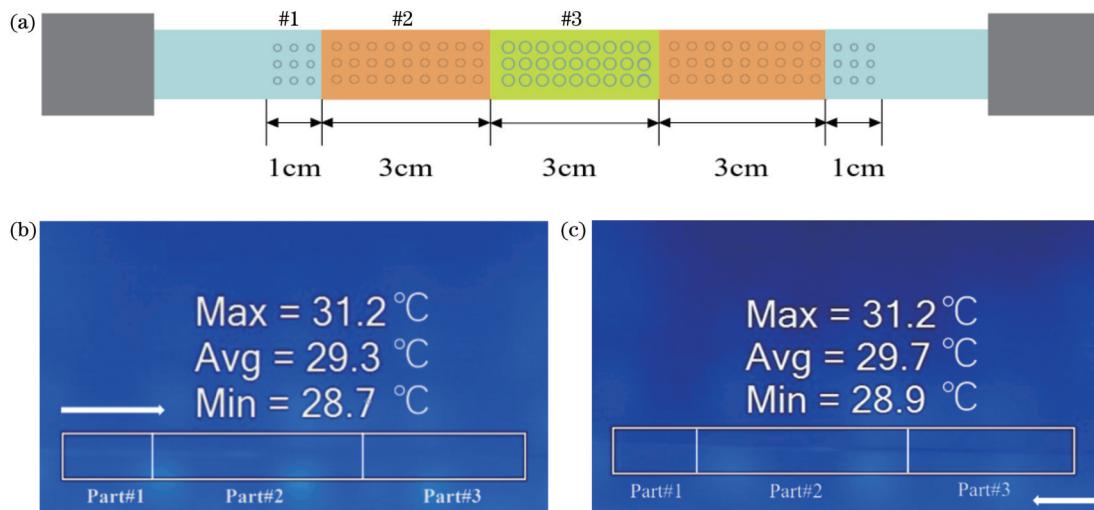


图1 设计的CPS^[14]。(a)双向设计CPS示意图;(b)CPS正向输入功率为2000 W时的温升测试图;(c)CPS反向输入功率为2000 W时的温升测试图

Fig. 1 Designed CPS^[14]. (a) Schematic diagram of bidirectional designed CPS; (b) forward temperature rise test diagram of CPS with 2000 W input power; (c) backward temperature rise test diagram of CPS with 2000 W input power

3 光纤端帽

光纤端帽是针对高功率光纤激光器和放大器输出端面处理设计的高功率器件,通过对输出光纤的扩束降低输出端的光功率密度,保护光纤端面不受损坏,同时在玻璃锥棒输出面进行增透膜处理,避免回光对激光器或者放大器产生影响,最终实现大功率光纤激光的安全输出。光纤端帽是在石英光纤输出端熔接一段玻璃棒,通过扩大光场分布面积降低输出端面功率密度,同时玻璃棒输出端面镀增透膜提高激光透过率来解决输出端极易损伤的问题。国防科技大学高能激光研究团队在2014年设计搭建了端帽熔接系统,当时加热源为氢氧焰,设计了自动对准熔接系统,可实现不同形状端帽与光纤的熔接(图2)。基于此系统在2015年实现了3 kW单模光纤端帽、6 kW多模光纤端帽的研制^[15]。在后期的研究中进一步提高了光纤端帽制备的关键工艺,主要包括:光纤与端帽的精密对准、光纤与端帽的低损耗高强度熔接、光纤端帽的封装等关键技术。基于掌握的关键技术结合特殊设计的光纤端帽,目前制作的端帽可承载数万瓦的光纤激光输出,并成功应用于30 kW高功率光纤激光系统中(图2)。

4 信号泵浦合束器

信号泵浦合束器可分为正向和后向两种结构,因为正向结构信号泵浦合束器相对简单,本文不做赘述。而基于后向信号泵浦合束器实现的后向泵浦能够有效提高非线性效应和模式不稳定的阈值,可以实现更高输出功率而备受关注^[16-18]。后向信号泵浦合束器的作用是将多路泵浦光高效耦合进入双包层光纤的包层中,同时实现输入信号光纤的激光进入到输出光纤后经包层光滤除器和光纤端帽输出,因此输入输出信号光纤的熔接损耗和光束质量劣变是考量合束器的两个重要光学性能指标。目前主流的信号泵浦合束器按照制备方法可分为基于拉锥熔合法制备的侧面信号泵浦合束器及基于熔融拉锥光纤组束(TFB)法制备的端面信号泵浦合束器,本节对这两种信号泵浦合束器的研究进展分别进行介绍。

4.1 侧面信号泵浦合束器

侧面泵浦耦合技术是指将泵浦光直接从侧面耦合进入信号光纤的内包层,不需要对信号光纤进行如拉锥、腐蚀以及熔接等操作,在很大程度上能够保证信号光纤在制作过程中的“完整性”,从而保持系统的光束

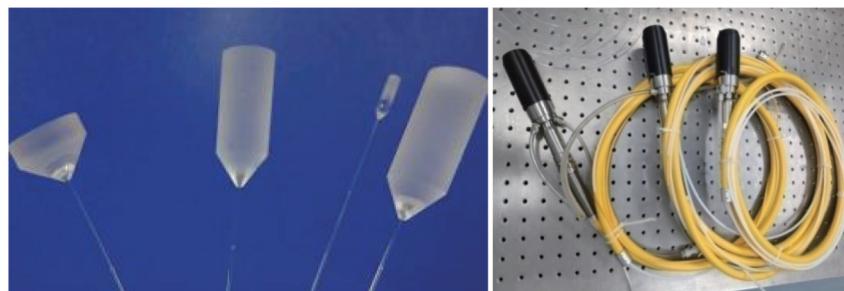


图2 不同形状的光纤端帽(左图)以及研制的封装30 kW高功率激光系统的光纤端帽(右图)的照片^[15]

Fig. 2 Pictures of fiber end caps with different shapes (left) and packaged fiber end caps developed for 30 kW high-power laser system (right)^[15]

质量以及减小插入损耗^[19-20]。除此之外,由于侧面泵浦技术不需要占用信号光纤的两端,理论上来说可以通过多点泵浦注入的方式实现分布式泵浦结构,从而提高系统的泵浦能力以及实现增益均匀化,减弱热效应带来的影响^[21-22]。

表1系统地总结了近年来基于拉锥熔合法制备的侧面泵浦合束器在光纤激光器中的性能表现。从表中

可以看出,随着合束器制作工艺的不断完善,其可承受的功率以及激光器总体输出功率在不断提升。基于拉锥熔合法制备的侧面泵浦合束器作为光纤激光器的一个关键器件,能够有效保证信号光传输的质量,为实现高功率、高光束质量、稳定可靠的激光器系统提供了一个有效的技术方案。

表1 侧面泵浦合束器在高功率光纤激光器系统中的性能表现
Table 1 Performance of side pumped combiner in high-power fiber laser systems

Year	Structure	Signal insertion loss	Input power /W	Output power /W	M^2
2012 ^[23]	(4+1)×1	< 3%	440	301	1.15 ± 0.05
2016 ^[24]	(1+1)×1	1%	1096	780	—
2017 ^[25]	(2+1)×1	< 3%	2882	2553	—
2018 ^[26]	(2+1)×1	0.19 dB	1264	1007	$1.34 @ 1 \text{ kW}$
2022 ^[27]	(2+1)×1	< 3%	7230	5960	$1.60 @ 6 \text{ kW}$

由于侧面信号泵浦合束器中信号光纤具备完整性,如图3所示的多点分布式侧面泵浦是拓展系统泵浦能力的一种潜在手段。然而,国防科技大学高能激光研究团队在对串联泵浦的侧面泵浦合束器进行理论和实验研究时发现,串联泵浦结构会使后级合束器内传输的泵浦光发散角度明显增大,当其发散角超过双包层泵浦光纤的全反射条件限制时,泵浦光会从信号光纤涂覆层台阶处泄漏,造成严重的温升,损坏合束器和激光器系统^[20]。因此,对于串联结构的侧面泵

浦合束器还需要进一步的优化来提升系统的安全性和稳定性。其中一种优化方式就是直接在掺杂增益光纤上制作串联泵浦的侧面泵浦合束器^[27],这种方法的优点在于耦合进入信号光纤中大角度的泵浦光能够快速地被增益光纤中的掺杂离子所吸收,进而转换成在纤芯内传输的信号光,不会再对下一级合束器带来额外热负担,能够有效地提升系统的安全性和稳定性。这也是未来侧面信号泵浦合束器一个重要的发展方向。

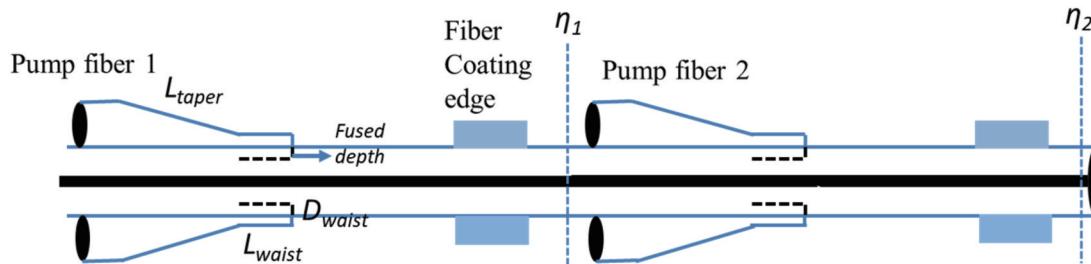


图3 两级串联侧面泵浦结构示意图^[20]
Fig. 3 Schematic diagram of two-stage cascaded side pump structure^[20]

除了分布式串联泵浦,通过提高泵浦源的亮度,使用级联同带泵浦的方案也是拓展系统输出功率的有效

手段。相比于传统的半导体激光器,用于同带泵浦的1018 nm光纤激光器的亮度要高2~3个数量级,大大

增加了系统的整体泵浦能力^[28]。但是国防科技大学高能激光研究团队通过理论仿真和实验测试发现,侧面泵浦合束器的泵浦光通过率受入射泵浦光源亮度的影响很大,相同制作参数的合束器在使用不同亮度的泵浦源时表现可能完全不同^[29]。通过改变泵浦臂在信号臂上的贴合位置,能够提升侧面泵浦合束器在高亮度光纤激光器级联泵浦条件下的泵浦耦合效率以及信号光通过率,优化后的合束器单臂在通过2737 W的泵浦功率测试时,耦合效率大于99%,温升系数仅为6.5 °C/kW,为实现高功率同带侧面泵浦放大器打下了坚实的基础。

基于拉锥熔合法制备的侧面信号泵浦合束器的优点在于信号光传输质量较好、后向隔离度高。但是目前市场上常见的侧面泵浦合束器均为(2+1)×1型,即每个合束器泵浦臂的个数仅为2个,虽然说侧面泵浦合束器的泵浦点个数具有一定的拓展性,但是在具体应用中还是存在制作难度大、泵浦耦合效率低等困难,无法显著提高系统的泵浦能力。

4.2 端面信号泵浦合束器

相比于目前市场上常见的(2+1)×1型号的侧面信号泵浦合束器,端面信号泵浦合束器拥有更多的泵

浦臂,在泵浦能力上更加突出。但是由于在反向端面信号泵浦合束器的制作过程中,需要对信号光纤进行腐蚀、拉锥、切割、熔接等一系列复杂操作,容易引入信号光的熔接损耗和光束质量劣变,这也是目前端面信号泵浦合束器的制作难点所在。

目前,全光纤结构端面信号泵浦合束器主要是通过TFB技术^[30]来实现的,它是指将多根光纤排列在一起,在高温下通过熔融拉锥产生锥形过渡区、锥腰区,其中锥腰区直径需要与输出光纤尺寸相匹配,然后在锥腰区的合适位置切断,并与输出光纤进行熔接。典型的TFB合束器的结构如图4所示。这种方法工艺成熟、泵浦光通过率较高、便于封装,在光纤激光器中得到广泛应用。表2给出了近年来报道的全光纤端面泵浦/信号合束器的结构、主要性能指标及制作方法。从表中可以看到,随着制作工艺的不断完善,基于TFB方法制作的端面信号泵浦合束器的承载功率逐步提升,已经达到了数千瓦的量级。而对于端面信号泵浦合束器内信号光传输质量的保持,研究者们也尝试了一系列方法,比如说使用过渡光纤、采用模场适配器,以及加热扩芯的方式等等,这些手段确实在一定程度上减小了信号光在传输过程中的光束质量劣变比例。

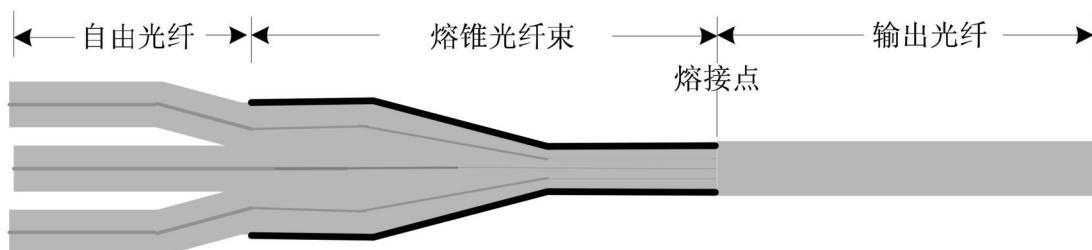


图4 端面泵浦/信号合束器结构示意图^[30]

Fig. 4 Schematic diagram of end pump/signal combiner structure^[30]

2015年,国防科技大学报道了借助加热扩芯技术来减小信号插损的一种端面信号泵浦合束器^[32]。实验中用到的泵浦光纤为六根尺寸为105/125 μm的光纤,输入信号光纤为单模SMF28光纤,输出光纤尺寸为25/250 μm。合束器的泵浦耦合效率大于96%,但由于合束器输入输出信号光纤纤芯尺寸差别巨大,其信号通过率只有51%。为了提高合束器信号光通过率,研究人员使用氢氧焰对信号纤加热30 min,使SMF28光纤纤芯明显扩大,然后再进行相应的组束拉锥过程,如图5(a)和5(b)所示,扩芯后合束器的信号通过率上升到94%,为后续输入输出光纤纤芯尺寸不同的端面泵浦/信号合束器的制作提供了一个有效解决方案。

2019年,国防科技大学课题组^[37]利用多个模场适配结构,实现了从10 μm输入纤芯到50 μm输出纤芯传输的信号泵浦合束器制备,其具体结构如图6所示。合束器的泵浦光纤尺寸为105/125 μm,输入信号光纤尺寸为30/125 μm,而输出光纤尺寸为50/400 μm,因此需要在熔接前将输出光纤拉锥到特定尺寸使其与合

束器的输入光纤纤芯匹配。此外由于放大器的种子输出光纤尺寸为10/125 μm,需要将合束器的输入信号光纤拉锥,使其纤芯和放大器种子输出光纤匹配,通过两个内建的模场适配器,实现了种子功率放大的同时保持了系统良好的光束质量,最终通过1018 nm激光级联泵浦的结构,在3000 W注入功率的情况下输出2340 W的信号功率, M^2 为2.83。

2022年,国防科技大学高能激光研究团队使用腐蚀-穿管法来进一步提升端面信号泵浦合束器的性能参数指标。如图7所示,在合束器具体制备过程中,首先将六根泵浦光纤与外部玻璃管共同拉锥,形成如图7(a)所示的带有中间孔隙的光纤束,然后根据中间孔隙的大小对信号光纤进行腐蚀。将腐蚀好的信号光纤穿入光纤束中,随后放电加热,使信号光纤与周围的泵浦光纤熔合在一起便于切割。由于整个过程中没有对信号光纤进行任何的拉锥操作,有效保持了信号光的光束质量。

利用腐蚀-穿管法,国防科技大学高能激光研究团

表2 端面泵浦/信号合束器性能指标
Table 2 Performance indicators of end pump/signal combiner

Year	Structure	Input pump fiber	Input signal fiber	Output signal fiber	Pump/signal transmission	Handling power / kW
2013 ^[31]	(8+1)×1/ TFB, special fiber employed	105/125 μm, NA=0.15	100/200 μm, NA=0.054/0.46	100/400 μm, NA=0.054/0.46	96.8%/98.0% ($M^2 \sim 10$)	0.18
2015 ^[32]	(6+1)×1/ TFB, TEC ^①	105/125 μm, NA=0.15	8.2/125 μm, NA=0.14	25/250 μm, NA= 0.06/0.46	96%-99%/94%	0.35
2017 ^[33]	(6+1)×1/ TFB, built-in mode field adapter	105/125 μm, NA=0.22	10/125 μm, NA= 0.08/0.46	20/400 μm, NA= 0.06/0.46	98.60%/ 87.52% ($M^2 \sim 1.2$)	—
2017 ^[34]	(6+1)×1/ TFB, chemical corrosion	200/220 μm, NA=0.22	20/400 μm, NA= 0.06/0.46	20/400 μm, NA= 0.06/0.46	98.0%/97.7%	1.20
2018 ^[35]	(6+1)×1/ TFB, TEC	105/125 μm, —	20/125 μm, NA= 0.08/—	25/300 μm, NA= 0.09/—	97.8/78.0%	—
2018 ^[36]	(6+1)×1/ TFB, special fiber employed	200/220 μm, NA=0.22	30/220 μm, NA=0.06/—	30/600 μm, NA= 0.06/—	94.83% ($M^2 = 1.41$)	2.90
2019 ^[37]	(6+1)×1/ TFB, intermediate fiber employed	105/125 μm, NA=0.22	10/130 μm, NA= 0.06/—	50/400 μm, NA= 0.06/0.46	~98%/~98% ($M^2 = 2.83$)	3.40
2021 ^[38]	(6+1)×1 TFB built-in mode field adapter	220/242 μm, NA=0.22	30/250 μm, NA=0.06/0.46	20/400 μm, NA= 0.06/0.46	~98.0%/ ~96.4%	2.95
2021 ^[39]	(6+1)×1 TFB	220/242 μm, NA=0.22	25/250 μm, NA=0.06/0.46	25/400 μm, NA= 0.06/0.46	98.2%/ ~98.6%	5.05

Note: ^①TEC: thermally diffused expanded core.

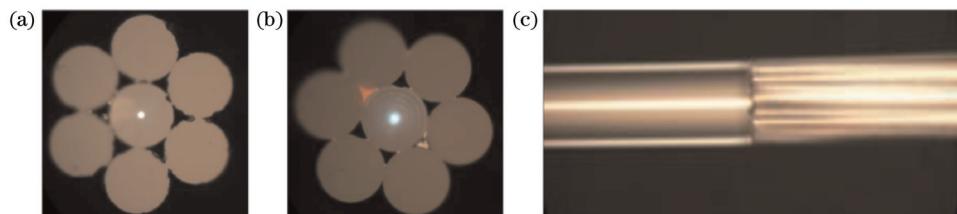


图5 基于加热扩芯技术制作的端面泵浦/信号合束器^[32]。(a) 加热扩芯前光纤束端面;(b) 加热扩芯后光纤束端面;(c) 合束器熔接后侧面显微镜图

Fig. 5 End pump/signal combiner based on heating core expansion technology^[32]. (a) End face of fiber bundle before core expansion;
(b) end face of fiber bundle after core expansion; (c) microscopic view of side face after fusion of combiner

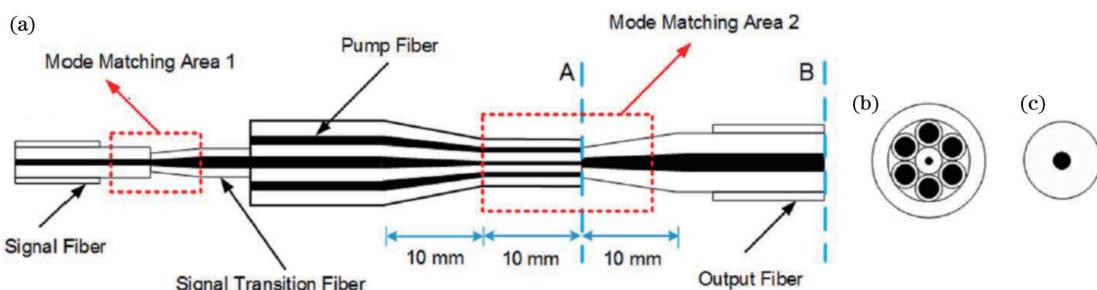


图6 附带多个模场适配器结构的端面泵浦/信号合束器^[37]。(a)合束器整体结构示意图;(b)光纤束端面结构示意图;(c)输出光纤结构示意图

Fig. 6 End pump/signal combiner with multiple mode field adapter structures^[37]. (a) Schematic diagram of overall structure of combiner; (b) schematic diagram of end face structure of fiber bundle; (c) schematic diagram of output fiber structure

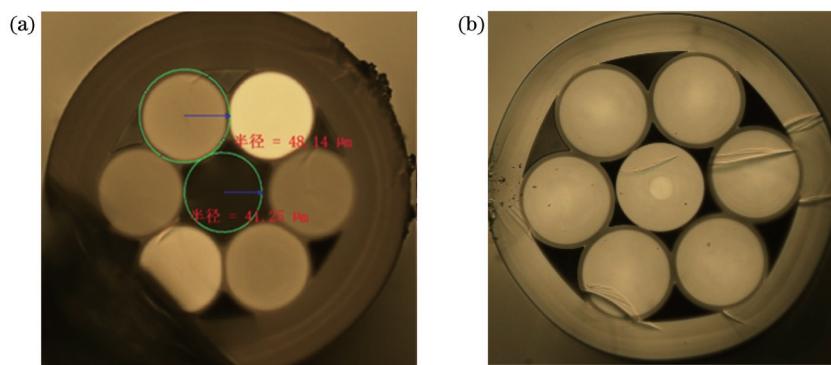


图7 光纤束横向截面图^[40]。(a) 带有孔隙的光纤束示意图;(b) 穿入信号光纤后的光纤束示意图

Fig. 7 Cross sectional view of fiber bundle^[40]. (a) Schematic diagram of fiber bundle with pores; (b) schematic diagram of fiber bundle after penetrating signal fiber

队高质量地实现了对(6+1)×1后向端面信号泵浦合束器的制备,其中泵浦光和信号光的通过效率均超过98%,对于25/400 μm尺寸的信号光纤,合束器中信号光的 M^2 退化比例为2.2%,而对于50/400 μm大芯径尺寸的信号光纤,合束器中信号光的 M^2 退化比也仅为5.1%,均为已有报道的最小值。此外,该团队还利用自研的信号泵浦合束器分别搭建了4 kW LD后向泵浦放大器^[40]以及20 kW同带后向泵浦放大器^[41],在高功率激光器系统中验证了合束器的良好性能。

随着信号泵浦合束器制作工艺的改善,基于TFB技术的端面信号泵浦合束器的承载功率正在逐年提升,信号光光束质量的保持性也越来越好。下一步可以考虑适当增加泵浦臂数目,以腐蚀-穿管法制备(9+1)×1、(18+1)×1、(36+1)×1等型号的合束器,拓展泵浦能力。

5 信号功率合束器

光纤功率合束器可将多个中等功率的光纤激光进行功率合成,以获得更高功率的光纤激光输出,同时具有结构紧凑、可靠性高、成本低、稳定性好等优势,是实现高功率光纤激光输出的核心元器件之一。从光纤功率合束器的发展历程来看,其制作方法主要分为两大类:扭转法和套管法。早期的光纤功率合束器制作主要是基于扭转法来实现的,但报道的输出功率都不太高。近些年来,光纤功率合束器普遍采用套管法结合低折射率玻璃管的制作方法。光纤功率合束器的制作流程主要有四个步骤:多根光纤的组束熔融拉锥、组束拉锥光纤的切割、与输出光纤的熔接,以及合束器的封装^[42]。要完成一个可承载高功率的高效率光纤功率合束器,每一个步骤都非常关键,其中关键的工艺有:高纤芯占空比的多根光纤的紧密排布;组束光纤的超低损耗、任意直径拉锥技术;组束拉锥切割后光纤束与输出光纤的低损耗熔接技术;输出光纤的包层光高效滤除技术;实现高效制冷封装合束器的技术等。

目前文献报道的工业用高功率光纤激光系统,均

是利用信号功率合束器合束实现的,信号功率合束器结构参数的设计以及制备工艺的优化对于合束系统至关重要^[43-44]。美国IPG Photonics公司早在2016年就已经推出了工业用的120 kW多模光纤激光系统,先经19×1的信号合束器将19台单模块激光器耦合进入100 μm纤芯的输出光纤后,再经7×1的信号合束器进行二级合束,最终输出光纤的纤芯直径为300 μm,光束质量 M^2 约为40^[5]。2022年,国内武汉锐科激光有限公司和南华大学联合推出了国产100 kW高功率光纤激光系统,先经7×1的信号合束器合束进入到100 μm纤芯后,再经7×1的信号合束器进行二级合束,最终输出光纤的纤芯直径为400 μm,光束质量 M^2 为56^[45]。在工业加工领域,对功率的关注度要高于光束质量。然而国防科技大学高能激光研究团队重点关注合成后的光束质量指标,为了提升合束激光的光束质量,主要通过降低输出光纤的纤芯直径和数值孔径来实现,其中纤芯直径选择为50 μm,数值孔径主要有以下两种:

1) 数值孔径为0.22的50/70/360 μm的三包层光纤

2018年,基于自研的7×1信号功率合束器和7台2 kW、输出光纤尺寸为20/400 μm的激光器实现了14 kW的光纤激光合成,光束质量为5.37,这也是50 μm芯径首次实现大于10 kW的合成激光输出(图8)^[46]。2019年,基于3×1的合束器和3台4.5 kW、输出光纤尺寸为30/250 μm的激光器实现了大于13 kW的光纤激光输出,由于单元模块的光束质量较差, M^2 约为2,合成后的光束质量也相对较差, M^2 约为6,但这是50 μm芯径实现的单臂最高功率的激光合成^[47]。

2) 数值孔径为0.12的50/400 μm的双包层光纤

为了进一步提高合束激光的光束质量,经过优化关键制备工艺,实现了将数值孔径由原来的0.22变为0.12的信号功率合束器的制作。2019年,基于自研的3×1光纤合束器和3台2 kW、输出光纤尺寸为20/400 μm的光纤激光器实现了6 kW的高光束质量光纤

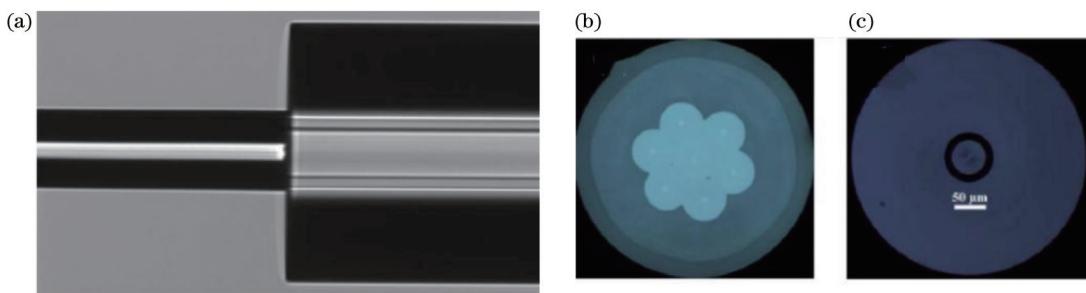


图8 输出光纤纤芯为 $50\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ 对应的 7×1 光纤功率合束器结构图^[47]。(a)合束器整体结构示意图;(b)光纤束端面结构示意图;(c)输出光纤结构示意图

Fig. 8 Structure diagram of 7×1 fiber power combiner with $50\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ output core diameter^[47]. (a) Schematic diagram of overall structure of combiner; (b) schematic diagram of end face structure of fiber bundle; (c) schematic diagram of output fiber structure

激光合成,光束质量 M^2 约为 3.5 ^[48]。2021年,基于自研的 4×1 光纤合束器和4台 3 kW 、输出光纤尺寸为 $20/400\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ 的光纤激光器实现了 12 kW 的高光束质量光纤激光合成,光束质量 M^2 小于4,这是国际首次报道的合成激光大于 10 kW 的最优光束质量^[49]。2022年,又基于自研的 7×1 光纤合束器和7台 3 kW 、输出光纤尺寸为 $20/400\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ 的光纤激光器实现了 20 kW 的高光束质量光纤激光合成,光束质量 M^2 小于4.5,这是目前报道的 $50\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ 纤芯尺寸中合成激光的最高功率^[50]。

随着合成激光的光束质量和功率的进一步提升,激光在输出光纤传输时的拉曼效应将越来越严重,导致输出光纤越来越热,如何实现高效制冷和拉曼抑制将是合束激光功率进一步提升的关键所在。

6 光纤器件未来的发展展望

1) 光束质量保持特性进一步提升

光束质量是衡量光纤激光性能的主要参数,光纤激光系统要实现好的光束质量,所采用的光纤器件要具有好的光束质量保持特性,其中模场适配器就是两根纤芯不同的光纤熔接时,通过引入过渡区域而使光束质量尽量保持的器件。在光纤激光器的无源器件中,包层光滤除器对纤芯没有引入变量从而光束质量基本不受影响;光纤端帽在熔接过程中只要保证光纤形变量小,光束质量退化也会比较小;反向泵浦信号合束器相对于其他光学器件来说,信号光纤要经历腐蚀、加热拉锥、切割、熔接和封装等处理工艺,每一步都有可能引入光束质量退化,因此要实现光束质量保持的合束器制备,制作方案选择将比较重要,方案中必须要确保每一步处理工艺都不会使信号光纤产生微弯形变或受到挤压,从而保证信号损耗低、光束质量退化小,而本文介绍的腐蚀穿管拉锥法原理上可以实现信号光纤的不变形,通过精细控制,光束质量退化可以做到非常小。

2) 一体化光纤器件

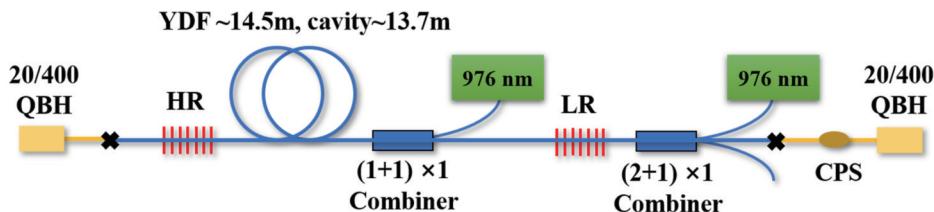
光纤熔接是研制光纤激光器的基本操作步骤,但是如果系统能够控制少于1个或2个熔点将会大大减

少熔点带来的损耗和光束质量退化,同时使系统更加稳定可靠,尤其是在输出功率越高、光束质量越好的光纤系统中,一体化器件的优势将表现得更加明显。结合包层光滤除器和光纤端帽的制作工艺,国防科技大学高能激光研究团队实现了 2 kW 双向包层光滤除器和 20 kW 光纤端帽的一体化器件研制,并应用在单链路 20 kW 的光纤放大模块中和 20 kW 的基于信号合束器的合束系统中作为输出单元,使系统变得更加紧凑、可靠^[51]。

2022年,该团队尝试在有源增益光纤上刻写光纤光栅和制作侧面泵浦合束器,结合一体化包层光滤除器和光纤端帽,搭建了如图9所示的一体化全光纤振荡器^[27]:实验中用到的增益光纤长度为 14.5 m ,在增益光纤两端分别刻写了高反和低反光纤光栅,并在低反光栅前后各制作一个侧面泵浦合束器进行后向泵浦,后级合束器的输出尾纤连接一体化的包层光滤除器和光纤端帽。在串联泵浦注入 1490 W 泵浦功率的情况下,振荡器实现了最高 1052 W 的信号光功率输出,功率达到目前报道的同类结构的最高值。一体化全光纤振荡器的好处一方面在于:一方面能够有效减少有源光纤和传能光纤之间不必要的熔点,增加系统在高功率工作时的安全性和稳定性;另一方面通过直接在增益光纤上制备侧面泵浦合束器的方式,有望实现多点分布式侧面泵浦结构,进一步拓展系统的输出功率水平。

7 总 结

光纤无源器件是实现高功率光纤激光系统的重要组成部分,本文介绍了国防科技大学高能激光研究团队在高功率光纤激光器用关键无源器件的最新研究进展。主要包括 2 kW 的双向包层光滤除器、 30 kW 的光纤端帽、单臂承载功率大于 2 kW 的 $(2+1)\times 1$ 侧面信号泵浦合束器、光束质量退化小的端面信号泵浦合束器,以及 20 kW 的高光束质量信号合束器等无源器件。利用其自研的高性能光纤器件,分别实现了LD泵浦的 20 kW 和同带泵浦的 20 kW 的光纤激光系统。

图9 千瓦量级一体化振荡器结构示意图^[27]Fig. 9 Structure diagram of kilowatt level integrated oscillator^[27]

下一步,该团队将针对光纤器件制备的关键工艺,提出更好的设计思路和实现更高的精度控制,以提高光纤无源器件的性能参数,为实现更高性能的光纤激光系统提供重要的技术和器件支撑。

参 考 文 献

- [1] Jauregui C, Limpert J, Tünnermann A. High-power fibre lasers [J]. *Nature Photonics*, 2013, 7(11): 861-867.
- [2] Zervas M N, Codemard C A. High power fiber lasers: a review [J]. *IEEE Journal of Selected Topics in Quantum Electronics*, 2014, 20(5): 219-241.
- [3] 王小林, 张汉伟, 杨保来, 等. 高功率掺镱光纤振荡器: 研究现状与发展趋势[J]. 中国激光, 2021, 48(4): 0401004. Wang X L, Zhang H W, Yang B L, et al. High-power ytterbium-doped fiber laser oscillator: current situation and future developments[J]. *Chinese Journal of Lasers*, 2021, 48(4): 0401004.
- [4] IPG Photonics offers world's first 10 kW single-mode production laser[EB/OL]. (2009-06-17) [2023-02-03]. <http://www.laserfocusworld.com/articles/2009/06/ig-photonics-offers-worlds-first-10-kw-single-mode-production-laser.html>.
- [5] Shiner B. The impact of fiber laser technology on the world wide material processing market[C]//2013 Conference on Lasers and Electro-Optics (CLEO), June 9-14, 2013, San Jose, California. Washington, D.C.: Optica Publishing Group, 2013: AF2J.1.
- [6] 林傲祥, 肖起榕, 倪力, 等. 国产 YDF 有源光纤实现单纤 20 kW 激光输出[J]. 中国激光, 2021, 48(9): 0903002. Lin A X, Xiao Q R, Ni L, et al. Domestic YDF active fiber realizes single fiber 20 kW laser output[J]. *Chinese Journal of Lasers*, 2021, 48(9): 0903002.
- [7] 肖虎, 潘志勇, 陈子伦, 等. 基于自研光纤和器件实现 20 kW 高光束质量激光稳定输出 [J]. 中国激光, 2022, 49(16): 1616002. Xiao H, Pan Z Y, Chen Z L, et al. Stable output of 20 kW high beam quality laser based on self-developed optical fiber and device[J]. *Chinese Journal of Lasers*, 2022, 49(16): 1616002.
- [8] 孙静, 邹淑珍, 陈寒, 等. 高功率包层光剥离器最新研究进展 [J]. 激光与光电子学进展, 2017, 54(11): 110001. Sun J, Zou S Z, Chen H, et al. Recent progress of high-power cladding light stripper[J]. *Laser & Optoelectronics Progress*, 2017, 54(11): 110001.
- [9] 李宏业, 武柏屹, 王蒙, 等. 飞秒激光刻写 FBG 实现 3.2 kW 单模光纤振荡器[J]. 中国激光, 2022, 49(3): 0315002. Li H Y, Wu B Y, Wang M, et al. 3.2 kW single-mode fiber oscillator based on FBGs inscribed by femtosecond laser[J]. *Chinese Journal of Lasers*, 2022, 49(3): 0315002.
- [10] 李昊, 叶新宇, 王蒙, 等. 飞秒激光刻写光纤布拉格光栅实现 8 kW 光纤振荡器[J]. 中国激光, 2022, 49(23): 2316001. Li H, Ye X Y, Wang M, et al. Realization of 8 kW fiber oscillator by femtosecond laser writing fiber Bragg grating[J]. *Chinese Journal of Lasers*, 2022, 49(23): 2316001.
- [11] 李昊, 王蒙, 武柏屹, 等. 基于飞秒激光制备的啁啾倾斜布拉格光纤光栅[J]. 光学学报, 2023, 43(5): 0536001. Li H, Wang M, Wu B Y, et al. Fabrication of chirped and tilted fiber Bragg gratings with femtosecond laser[J]. *Acta Optica Sinica*, 2023, 43(5): 0536001.
- [12] Guo W, Chen Z L, Zhou H, et al. Cascaded cladding light extracting strippers for high power fiber lasers and amplifiers[J]. *IEEE Photonics Journal*, 2014, 6(3): 1501106.
- [13] Yin L, Yan M J, Han Z G, et al. High power cladding light stripper using segmented corrosion method: theoretical and experimental studies[J]. *Optics Express*, 2017, 25(8): 8760-8776.
- [14] 袁纬仪, 付敏, 李智贤等. 2kW 级双向光纤包层光滤除器[J/OL]. 激光与光电子学进展:1-13[2023-08-02]. <http://kns.cnki.net/kcms/detail/31.1690.TN.20221031.1606.084.html>. Yuan W Y, Fu M, Li Z X, et al. 2kW bidirectional fiber cladding power stripper[J/OL]. *Laser & Optoelectronics Progress*: 1-13[2023-08-02]. <http://kns.cnki.net/kcms/detail/31.1690.TN.20221031.1606.084.html>.
- [15] 周旋风, 陈子伦, 侯静, 等. 高功率光纤端帽实现 6 kW 激光输出[J]. 强激光与粒子束, 2015, 27(12): 120101. Zhou X F, Chen Z L, Hou J, et al. High power fiber end-cap with 6 kW output power[J]. *High Power Laser and Particle Beams*, 2015, 27(12): 120101.
- [16] Jauregui C, Otto H J, Stutzki F, et al. Simplified modelling the mode instability threshold of high power fiber amplifiers in the presence of photodarkening[J]. *Optics Express*, 2015, 23(16): 20203-20218.
- [17] Tao R M, Ma P F, Wang X L, et al. Theoretical study of pump power distribution on modal instabilities in high power fiber amplifiers[J]. *Laser Physics Letters*, 2017, 14(2): 025002.
- [18] Chen H, Cao J Q, Huang Z H, et al. Experimental investigations on TMI and IM-FWM in distributed side-pumped fiber amplifier[J]. *IEEE Photonics Journal*, 2020, 12(3): 1502413.
- [19] Lei C M, Chen Z L, Leng J Y, et al. The influence of fused depth on the side-pumping combiner for all-fiber lasers and amplifiers[J]. *Journal of Lightwave Technology*, 2017, 35(10): 1922-1928.
- [20] Lei C M, Chen Z L, Gu Y R, et al. Loss mechanism of all-fiber cascaded side pumping combiner[J]. *High Power Laser Science and Engineering*, 2018, 6(4): e56.
- [21] Zhang F, Wang C C, Ning T G, et al. Multi-point side pumping scheme of fiber lasers for high-power diode arrays[J]. *Optics Communications*, 2009, 282(16): 3325-3329.
- [22] Tan Q R, Ge T W, Zhang X X, et al. Cascaded combiners for a high power CW fiber laser[J]. *Laser Physics*, 2016, 26(2): 025102.
- [23] Theeg T, Sayinc H, Neumann J, et al. Pump and signal combiner for bi-directional pumping of all-fiber lasers and amplifiers[J]. *Optics Express*, 2012, 20(27): 28125-28141.
- [24] Gu Y R, Lei C M, Liu J, et al. Side-pumping combiner for high-power fiber laser based on tandem pumping[J]. *Optical Engineering*, 2017, 56(11): 116109.
- [25] Wu J, Ma Y, Yan H. High power $(2+1) \times 1$ taper-fused all-fiber side-pumped combiner[J]. *Proceedings of SPIE*, 2018,

- 10710: 107103K.
- [26] Wu H S, Song J X, Ma P F, et al. Bidirectional tandem-pumped high-brightness 6 kW level narrow-linewidth confined-doped fiber amplifier exploiting the side-coupled technique[J]. *Optics Express*, 2022, 30(12): 21338-21348.
- [27] 李昊, 李宏业, 李智贤, 等. 千瓦级一体化全光纤激光振荡器[J]. *光学学报*, 2022, 42(23): 2306002.
- Li H, Li H Y, Li Z X, et al. Kilowatt-class integrated all-fiber laser oscillator[J]. *Acta Optica Sinica*, 2022, 42(23): 2306002.
- [28] 肖虎, 冷进勇, 周朴, 等. 高功率级联抽运掺镱光纤激光器研究进展[J]. *中国激光*, 2017, 44(2): 0201007.
- Xiao H, Leng J Y, Zhou P, et al. High power tandem-pumped Yb-doped fiber laser[J]. *Chinese Journal of Lasers*, 2017, 44(2): 0201007.
- [29] Li Z X, Fu M, Zhao X F, et al. Fabrication of side pump combiners when pumping with a laser diode and a fiber laser[J]. *Chinese Optics Letters*, 2022, 20(2): 021401.
- [30] 彭博, 张海涛, 同平, 等. 熔融拉锥技术在光纤耦合传输中的应用[J]. *激光技术*, 2009, 33(5): 470-472.
- Peng B, Zhang H T, Yan P, et al. Fused taper technique for fiber coupling applications[J]. *Laser Technology*, 2009, 33(5): 470-472.
- [31] Xiao Q R, Yan P, Ren H C, et al. Pump-signal combiner with large-core signal fiber feed-through for fiber lasers and amplifiers [J]. *Applied Optics*, 2013, 52(3): 409-414.
- [32] Zhao K, Chang X Z, Chen Z L, et al. Fabrication of high-efficiency pump and signal combiner based on a thermally expanded core technique[J]. *Optics & Laser Technology*, 2015, 75: 1-5.
- [33] Liu K, Zhao C, Yang Y F, et al. Low beam quality degradation, high-efficiency pump and signal combiner by built-in mode field adapter[J]. *Applied Optics*, 2017, 56(10): 2804-2809.
- [34] Zou S Z, Chen H, Yu H J, et al. High-efficiency $(6+1) \times 1$ pump-signal combiner based on low-deformation and high-precision alignment fabrication[J]. *Applied Physics B*, 2017, 123(12): 288.
- [35] Stachowiak D, Kaczmarek P, Abramski K M. Application of self-fabricated passive fiber components in all-fiber high-power laser and amplifiers systems[J]. *Proceedings of SPIE*, 2018, 10974: 1097403.
- [36] Zheng J K, Zhao W, Zhao B Y, et al. High pumping-power fiber combiner for double-cladding fiber lasers and amplifiers[J]. *Optical Engineering*, 2018, 57(3): 036105.
- [37] Gu Y R, Lei C M, Yang H A, et al. High-beam-quality signal and pump combiner with large-mode-area fiber for high-power fiber laser and amplifier[J]. *Applied Optics*, 2019, 58(6): 1336-1340.
- [38] Liu Y L, Liu K, Yang Y F, et al. High power pump and signal combiner for backward pumping structure with two different fused fiber bundle designs by means of pretapered pump fibers [J]. *Optics Express*, 2021, 29(9): 13344-13358.
- [39] Liu Y, Huang S, Wu W J, et al. 5-kW-level Bi-directional high-efficiency pump and signal combiner with negligible beam quality degradation[J]. *IEEE Photonics Journal*, 2022, 14(1): 7108806.
- [40] Li Z X, Fu M, Tian X, et al. Fabrication of a bi-directional pump/signal combiner and application in a 4 kW fiber amplifier [J]. *Optics & Laser Technology*, 2023, 157: 108699.
- [41] Li Z X, Fu M, Xiao H, et al. Designation of pump-signal combiner with negligible beam quality degradation for a 15 kW tandem-pumping fiber amplifier[J]. *Photonics*, 2022, 9(9): 644.
- [42] 陈子伦, 周旋风, 王泽峰, 等. 高功率光纤激光器功率合束器的研究进展(特邀)[J]. *红外与激光工程*, 2018, 47(1): 0103005.
- Chen Z L, Zhou X F, Wang Z F, et al. Review of all-fiber signal combiner for high power fiber lasers(Invited)[J]. *Infrared and Laser Engineering*, 2018, 47(1): 0103005.
- [43] Li Y, Yan D L, Zhao P F, et al. High-robustness good-beam-quality 3×1 signal combiner device for 10-kW all-fiber laser combining applications[J]. *Proceedings of SPIE*, 2022, 12169: 121696G.
- [44] Zhou Y Y, Yang A B, Yang G H, et al. 3×1 fiber signal combiner with high beam quality Gaussian-like beam for a 10kW-level fiber laser[J]. *Optics Express*, 2023, 31(2): 2780-2791.
- [45] Sun J P, Liu L E, Han L H, et al. 100 kW ultra high power fiber laser[J]. *Optics Continuum*, 2022, 1(9): 1932-1938.
- [46] Lei C M, Gu Y R, Chen Z L, et al. Incoherent beam combining of fiber lasers by an all-fiber 7×1 signal combiner at a power level of 14 kW[J]. *Optics Express*, 2018, 26(8): 10421-10427.
- [47] Wu W J, Chen Z L, Wang Z F, et al. Beam combining of fiber lasers by a 3×1 signal combiner at a power >13 kW[J]. *Optical Fiber Technology*, 2020, 54: 102109.
- [48] Wu W J, Chen Z L, Wang Z F, et al. Novel 3×1 signal combiner with high-power fiber laser output of high beam quality [J]. *Optik*, 2021, 225: 165353.
- [49] Fu M, Li Z X, Wang Z F, et al. Research on a 4×1 fiber signal combiner with high beam quality at a power level of 12 kW [J]. *Optics Express*, 2021, 29(17): 26658-26668.
- [50] 陈子伦, 付敏, 宁禹, 等. 新型光纤合束器实现 20 kW 高质量激光输出[J]. *中国激光*, 2022, 49(20): 2016002.
- Chen Z L, Fu M, Ning Y, et al. A new type of optical fiber combiner realizes 20 kW high quality laser output[J]. *Chinese Journal of Lasers*, 2022, 49(20): 2016002.
- [51] 袁纬仪, 付敏, 李智贤, 等. 一体化光纤滤除器和端帽实现 20 kW 激光输出[J]. *强激光与粒子束*, 2022, 34(11): 111001.
- Yuan W Y, Fu M, Li Z X, et al. Integrated optical fiber filter and end cap realize 20 kW laser output[J]. *High Power Laser and Particle Beams*, 2022, 34(11): 111001.

Research Progress on Key Passive Devices for High-Power Fiber Lasers

Chen Zilun^{1,2,3}, Li Zhixian^{1,2,3*}, Wang Meng^{1,2,3}, Wang Zefeng^{1,2,3}, Xu Xiaojun^{1,2,3},
Chen Jinbao^{1,2,3}

¹College of Advanced Interdisciplinary Studies, National University of Defense Technology, Changsha 410073, Hunan, China;

²Nanhu Laser Laboratory, National University of Defense Technology, Changsha 410073, Hunan, China;

³State Key Laboratory of Pulsed Power Laser Technology, Changsha 410073, Hunan, China

Abstract

Significance Fiber lasers feature sound beam quality, compact structure, and flexible transmission. In recent years, they have developed rapidly and have been widely applied in industrial fields, such as metal cutting, remote welding, 3D cutting, and laser marking. With the rapid development of high-power and high-brightness laser diode (LD), and fabrication technologies of double clad fibers, the output power of fiber lasers continues to increase. In addition to gaining fibers as the core raw material of fiber lasers, the performance indicators and research progress of fiber passive devices, including but not limited to fiber Bragg gratings, cladding optical filters, fiber end caps, end pump/signal combiners, and signal combiners, are also closely related to the development of fiber lasers. The cladding light filter is employed to filter the cladding light by breaking the total reflection condition of the outer boundary of the fiber cladding, which causes the cladding light to be transmitted outside the cladding through refraction, scattering, or absorption effects. The fiber end cap is a high-power device designed for processing the output end face of high-power fiber lasers and amplifiers. By expanding the core of the output fiber to reduce the optical power density at the output end, the fiber end face is protected from damage. Additionally, an anti-reflective film is applied to the output surface of the glass cone rod to avoid the back light from ruining the laser or amplifier. The function of the end pump/signal combiner is to efficiently couple several pump beams and one signal beam into the double clad fiber spontaneously. Therefore, the fusion loss and signal quality deterioration rate are two important optical performance indicators for this combiner. The signal combiner is designed to combine multiple medium power fiber lasers to obtain higher-power fiber laser output, with the advantages of compact structure, high reliability, low cost, and sound stability.

We introduce the latest research progress of the high-energy laser research team at the National University of Defense Technology (NUDT) on key passive devices adopted in high-power fiber lasers. 2 kW bidirectional cladding optical filter, 30 kW fiber end cap, end pump/signal combiner with low beam quality degradation rate, and 20 kW signal combiner with high beam quality are mainly included.

Progress 1) **Cladding power filter:** In 2022, the NUDT research team designed a new preparation scheme for a weak-strong-weak cladding power filter that can achieve bidirectional filtering. The weakest textured area on both sides of the double clad fiber is 1 cm, and then it enters the medium textured area by 3 cm on both sides. Finally, the strongest textured area is located in the middle area, with a length of 3 cm. The fabricated cladding power filter is tested under 2051 W input power, of which the temperature rise rate is 3.5 °C/kW and the filtration efficiency is 20.1 dB.

2) **Fiber end cap:** The NUDT research team designed and built an end cap fusion system in 2014. The heating source is a hydrogen oxygen flame, and an automatic alignment fusion system is designed to achieve the fusion of different shapes of end caps and optical fibers. Based on this system, the development of 3 kW single mode fiber end caps and 6 kW multimode fiber end caps was achieved in 2015. Based on the key technologies and specially designed fiber end caps, the current fabricated end caps have been successfully applied in a 30 kW high-power fiber laser system.

3) **End pump/signal combiner:** By changing the fusion position of the pump arm on the signal arm, the NUDT research team improves the pump coupling efficiency of the side pump combiner under high-brightness fiber laser pumping. The optimized combiner single arm passes the pump power test of 2737 W, with a coupling efficiency greater than 99% and a temperature rise coefficient of only 6.5 °C/kW. In 2015, the NUDT research team reported a type of end face signal pump combiner that utilized heating and core expansion technology to reduce signal insertion loss. Through this technology, the combiner's pass rate was increased from 51% to 94%. In 2019, the NUDT research team utilized multi-mode field adaptive structures to achieve a transformation of core size from 10 to 50 μm. In 2022, the NUDT research team employed the corrosion-threading method to improve the performance of the signal pump combiner. The combiner prepared through this scheme maintains sound signal beam quality, the signal degradation ratio of which is only 2.2% for 25/400 μm fiber and 5.1% for 50/400 μm fiber.

4) **Signal combiner:** In 2018, the NUDT research team developed a 7×1 signal power combiner with the maximum output power of 14 kW and the beam quality of 5.37. To further improve the beam quality of the combined laser, the key preparation process has been optimized to produce a signal power combiner that changes the numerical aperture of the fiber core from 0.22 to 0.12. In 2019, based on a self-developed 3×1 signal combiner with an output signal fiber of 50/400 μm ($NA=0.12/0.46$), the combined beam quality M^2 was optimized to about 3.5 under 6 kW output power. In 2021, based on a self-developed 4×1 signal combiner with an output signal fiber of 50/400 μm ($NA=0.12/0.46$), the maximum output power was about 12 kW with the beam quality M^2 of less than 4, which is the ever-reported optimal beam quality for synthetic lasers greater than 10 kW. In 2022, the NUDT research team fabricated a 7×1 signal power combiner and achieved more than 20 kW output power with M^2 less than 4.5, which is the highest reported power in similar synthetic laser systems in the size of the 50 μm fiber core.

Conclusion and Prospect The NUDT research team has been engaged in research on high-power fiber optic devices for over a decade. Some of the developed devices have reached international advanced performance indicators and applied as core fiber optic passive devices in multiple major equipment and scientific research tasks. This review provides a detailed introduction to the latest research progress of high-power fiber optic passive devices, including key process methods, technical difficulties, and some considerations for the future development of fiber optic devices. There are two potential directions of fiber optic passive devices, containing further improvement in beam quality retention characteristics and implementation of integrated fiber optic devices.

Key words laser; fiber laser; passive device; beam quality