

# Feedback Sensitivity of Detuned DBR Semiconductor Lasers

Vasile Tronciu, Nils Werner, Hans Wenzel, Hans-Jürgen Wünsche

<https://doi.org/10.1109/JQE.2021.3101216>

## Abstract

A distributed Bragg reflector (DBR) laser represents a simple realization of a semiconductor laser operating in a single longitudinal mode. We present a so far missing theoretical study how its reflection tolerance depends on the detuning between lasing wavelength and maximum of the DBR reflectivity. The generic Lang-Kobayashi equations for lasers subject to optical feedback are extended to include the detuning parameter on base of the round-trip condition for stationary states. As a consequence, a well established formula for estimating the feedback tolerance is modified for detuned DBR lasers, too. Bifurcation analysis of the Lang-Kobayashi equations confirms the modified formula. Properly adapting the parameters of the DBR, the calculations yield a possible tolerance of the simple DBR laser against nearly 100 % feedback.

*Keywords: distributed Bragg reflector lasers, lasers, semiconductor laser, Bragg reflectors, optical feedback*

## References

1. K. Vahala and A. Yariv, "Detuned loading in coupled cavity semiconductor lasers—Effect on quantum noise and dynamics", *Appl. Phys. Lett.*, vol. 45, no. 5, pp. 501-503, Sep. 1984.  
[CrossRef](#)  
[Google Scholar](#)
2. K. Vahala, J. Paslaski and A. Yariv, "Observation of modulation speed enhancement frequency modulation suppression and phase noise reduction by detuned loading in a coupled-cavity semiconductor laser", *Appl. Phys. Lett.*, vol. 46, no. 11, pp. 1025-1027, Jun. 1985.  
[CrossRef](#)  
[Google Scholar](#)
3. D. Che, Y. Matsui, X. Chen, R. Schatz and P. Iannone, "400-Gb/s direct modulation using a DFB+R laser", *Opt. Lett.*, vol. 45, no. 12, pp. 3337-3339, 2020.  
[CrossRef](#)  
[Google Scholar](#)
4. Y. Matsui, R. Schatz, D. Che, F. Khan, M. Kwakernaak and T. Sudo, "Low-chirp isolator-free 65-GHz-bandwidth directly modulated lasers", *Nature Photon.*, vol. 15, no. 1, pp. 59-63, Jan. 2021.  
[CrossRef](#)  
[Google Scholar](#)

**IEEE Journal of Quantum Electronics**  
**2021, Volume 57, Issue 5, Art. Nr. 2100107**

5. U. Troppenz and J. Kreissl, "Designs break bandwidth record", *Nature Photon.*, vol. 15, no. 1, pp. 4-5, Jan. 2021.

[CrossRef](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

6. J. Helms and K. Petermann, "A simple analytic expression for the stable operation range of laser diodes with optical feedback", *IEEE J. Quantum Electron.*, vol. 26, no. 5, pp. 833-836, May 1990.

[View Article Full Text: PDF \(322KB\)](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

7. N. Werner, G. Blume, D. Feise, F. Bugge, K. Paschke and G. Tränkle, "Spectral mode hop characteristics of ridge waveguide lasers with distributed Bragg-reflector", *IEEE Photon. Technol. Lett.*, vol. 29, no. 24, pp. 2183-2186, Dec. 2017.

[View Article Full Text: PDF \(891KB\)](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

8. N. Werner et al., "Comparison of distributed Bragg reflector ridge waveguide diode lasers and monolithic master oscillator power amplifiers", *Proc. SPIE*, vol. 10553, Feb. 2018.

[CrossRef](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

9. N. Werner, J. Wegemund, D. Feise, K. Paschke and G. Tränkle, "Emission behavior of distributed Bragg-reflector ridge waveguide lasers exposed to strong optical feedback", *Appl. Opt.*, vol. 59, no. 28, pp. 8653-8660, 2020.

[CrossRef](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

10. H. Wenzel, R. Güther, A. M. Shams-Zadeh-Amiri and P. Bienstman, "A comparative study of higher order Bragg gratings: Coupled-mode theory versus mode expansion modeling", *IEEE J. Quantum Electron.*, vol. 42, no. 1, pp. 64-70, Jan. 2006.

[View Article Full Text: PDF \(211KB\)](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

11. D. M. Kane and K. A. Shore, *Unlocking Dynamical Diversity: Optical Feedback Effects on Semiconductor Lasers*, Hoboken, NJ, USA: Wiley, 2005.

[CrossRef](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

12. B. Tromborg and J. Mork, "Nonlinear injection locking dynamics and the onset of coherence collapse in external cavity lasers", *IEEE J. Quantum Electron.*, vol. 26, no. 4, pp. 642-654, Apr. 1990.

[View Article Full Text: PDF \(1269KB\)](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

13. R. Lang and K. Kobayashi, "External optical feedback effects on semiconductor injection laser properties", *IEEE J. Quantum Electron.*, vol. QE-16, no. 3, pp. 347-355, Mar. 1980.

[View Article Full Text: PDF \(3170KB\)](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

14. K. Petermann, "External optical feedback phenomena in semiconductor lasers", *IEEE J. Sel. Topics Quantum Electron.*, vol. 1, no. 2, pp. 480-489, Jun. 1995.

[View Article Full Text: PDF \(997KB\)](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

15. F. Grillot et al., "Physics and applications of quantum dot lasers for silicon photonics", *Nanophotonics*, vol. 9, no. 6, pp. 1271-1286, Jun. 2020.

[CrossRef](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

16. X.-Y. MaXueer et al., "  $1.3\text{-}\mu\text{m}$  p-modulation doped InGaAs/GaAs quantum dot lasers with high speed direct modulation rate and strong optical feedback resistance ", *Crystals*, vol. 10, no. 11, pp. 980, Oct. 2020.

[CrossRef](#)

**IEEE Journal of Quantum Electronics**  
**2021, Volume 57, Issue 5, Art. Nr. 2100107**

17. T. Hirono, T. Kurosaki and M. Fukuda, "Transition from the lowest linewidth mode operation to coherence collapse in a semiconductor laser with feedback from a distant reflector", *IEEE J. Quantum Electron.*, vol. 32, no. 5, pp. 829-834, May 1996.

[View Article Full Text: PDF \(661KB\)](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

18. A. Argyris et al., "Chaos-based communications at high bit rates using commercial fibre-optic links", *Nature*, vol. 438, no. 7066, pp. 343-346, 2005.

[CrossRef](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

19. L. Wang et al., "Scheme of coherent optical chaos communication", *Opt. Lett.*, vol. 45, no. 17, pp. 4762-4765, 2020.

[CrossRef](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

20. A. Uchida et al., "Chaos-based communications at high bit rates using commercial fibre-optic links fast physical random bit generation with chaotic semiconductor lasers", *Nature Photon.*, vol. 2, no. 11, pp. 728-732, 2008.

[CrossRef](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

21. E. Detoma, B. Tromborg and I. Montrosset, "The complex way to laser diode spectra: Example of an external cavity laser strong optical feedback", *IEEE J. Quantum Electron.*, vol. 41, no. 2, pp. 171-182, Feb. 2005.

[View Article Full Text: PDF \(609KB\)](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

22. J. Sieber, K. Engelborghs, T. Luzyanina, G. Samaey and D. Roose, "DDE-BIFTOOL manual—Bifurcation analysis of delay differential equations", *arXiv:1406.7144*, 2016, [online] Available: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1406.7144>.

[Google Scholar](#)

23. S. M. V. Lunel and B. Krauskopf, "The mathematics of delay equations with an application to the Lang–Kobayashi equations", *Proc. AIP Conf.*, vol. 548, pp. 66-86, 2000.

[CrossRef](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

24. B. Krauskopf, "Bifurcation analysis of lasers with delay" in *Unlocking Dynamical Diversity: Optical Feedback Effects on Semiconductor Lasers*, West Sussex, U.K.:Wiley, pp. 147-183, 2005.

[CrossRef](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

25. J. Mork, B. Tromborg and J. Mark, "Chaos in semiconductor lasers with optical feedback: Theory and experiment", *IEEE J. Quantum Electron.*, vol. 28, no. 1, pp. 93-108, Jan. 1992.

[View Article Full Text: PDF \(1777KB\)](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

26. Y. Matsui, R. Schatz, D. Che, F. Khan, M. Kwakernaak and T. Sudo, "Isolator-free >67-GHz bandwidth DFB+R laser with suppressed chirp", *Proc. Opt. Fiber Commun. Conf.*, 2020.

[CrossRef](#)

[Google Scholar](#)