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Towards a monolithic, multi-gigahertz mode-locked Ti:Sa laser

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We demonstrate a design for a monolithic, multi-gigahertz soft-aperture Kerr-lens mode-locked Ti:Sa laser. First experiments did not show mode-locking but cw laser operation with power fluctuations of less than 0.04% rms. We discuss possible obstacles to mode-locking in monolithic lasers like spatial-hole burning or a standing-wave of the pump beam.

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