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Bright LED future for Scottish researchers

Steve Bush

Researchers at Strathclyde University's Institute of Photonics have made an array of blue micro-LEDs which it claims is brighter than competitive products.

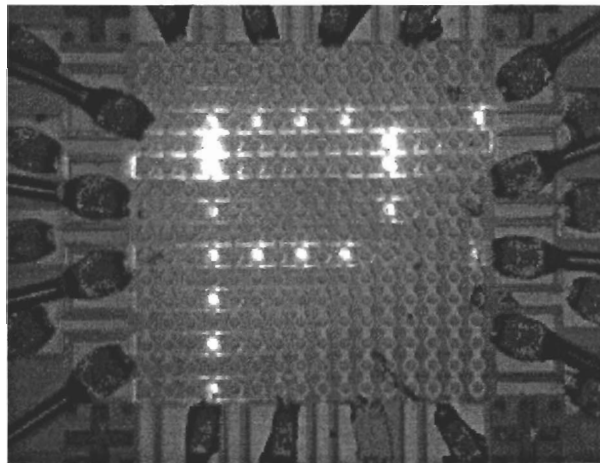
"We can get 100 μ W per element," said Tim Holt, business development manager at the Institute. This is bright enough for a display and might be bright enough for a projector."

The demonstrator has twelve thousand 3.5V 470nm leds in a 120x96 element, 3x3mm array. Matrix connections are made on the wafer.

Displays, using over-printed phosphors to get full-colour, are one proposed application, bio-tech analysis of fluorescent dyed material, for instance DNA, is another. "By printing a different reagents on each pixel, the array could be used to analyse a liquid flowing over it," said Holt.

The devices are also fast enough, claimed Holt, to replace lasers in fluorescence life-time analysis and could be used individually for chip-to-chip communications.

The Strathclyde work has been supported by the Scottish Enterprises Proof of Concept fund.



Strathclyde University's bright array of blue micro-LEDs.

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