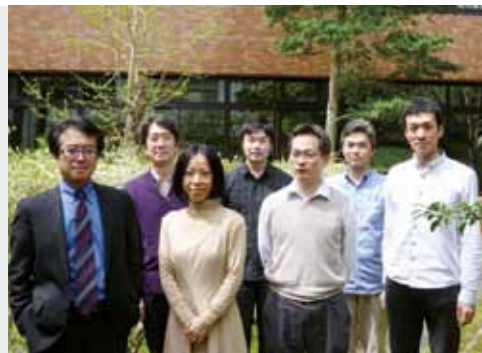


Laser Research Center for Molecular Science

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OHSHIMA, Yasuhiro	Professor
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KAWAI, Shigeko	Secretary
MASUDA, Michiko	Secretary



The Center aims to develop new experimental apparatus and methods to open groundbreaking research fields in molecular science, in collaboration with the Department of Photo-Molecular Science. Those new apparatus and methods will be served as key resources in advanced collaborations with the researchers from the community of molecular science. The main targets are (1) advanced photon sources covering wide energy ranges from terahertz to soft X-ray regions; (2) novel quantum-control schemes based on intense and ultrafast lasers; and (3) high-resolution optical imaging and nanometric micros-

copy. The center also serves as the core of the joint research project "Extreme Photonics" between IMS and RIKEN.

Two of full-time associate professors and their research groups belong to the Center. The groups promote research projects targeting mainly on developments of novel laser light sources for molecular science. The Center also possesses several general-purpose instruments for laser-related measurements, and lends them to researchers in IMS who conduct laser-based studies, so as to support and contribute to their advanced researches.

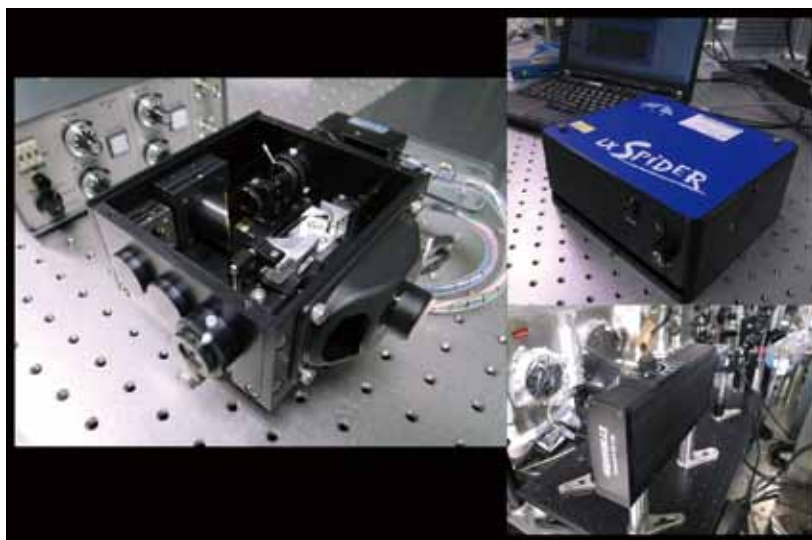


Figure 1. (left) A Fringe-Resolved Autocorrelation (FRAC) apparatus for sub-10 fs pulse characterization designed in the Center. (upper right) Spectral Phase Interferometry for Direct Electric-Field Reconstruction (SPIDER) and (lower right) Frequency-Resolved Optical Gating (FROG) apparatuses for general-purpose ultrashort pulse characterization.