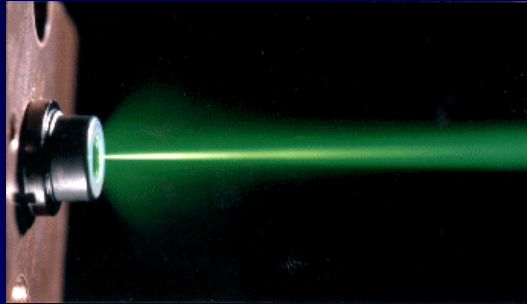


# Lasers

LASER:

“Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation”



What if you don't have an atom that emits the color you want?  
“Make” one (e.g., by stressing the crystal lattice).

Did you know:

Semiconductors don't naturally emit in the red. Charles Henry (UIUC '65) discovered how to combine layers of different semiconductors to make a 'quantum well' (essentially a 1-D 'box' for electrons). By adjusting the materials, one could shift the emission wavelengths into the visible. Nick Holonyak (UIUC ECE Prof) used this to create the first visible LEDs & visible laser diodes.