

# Laser Output Characteristics

---

**Module 2-2**

**Of**

**Course 2, *Laser Systems and Applications***

***2<sup>nd</sup> Edition***



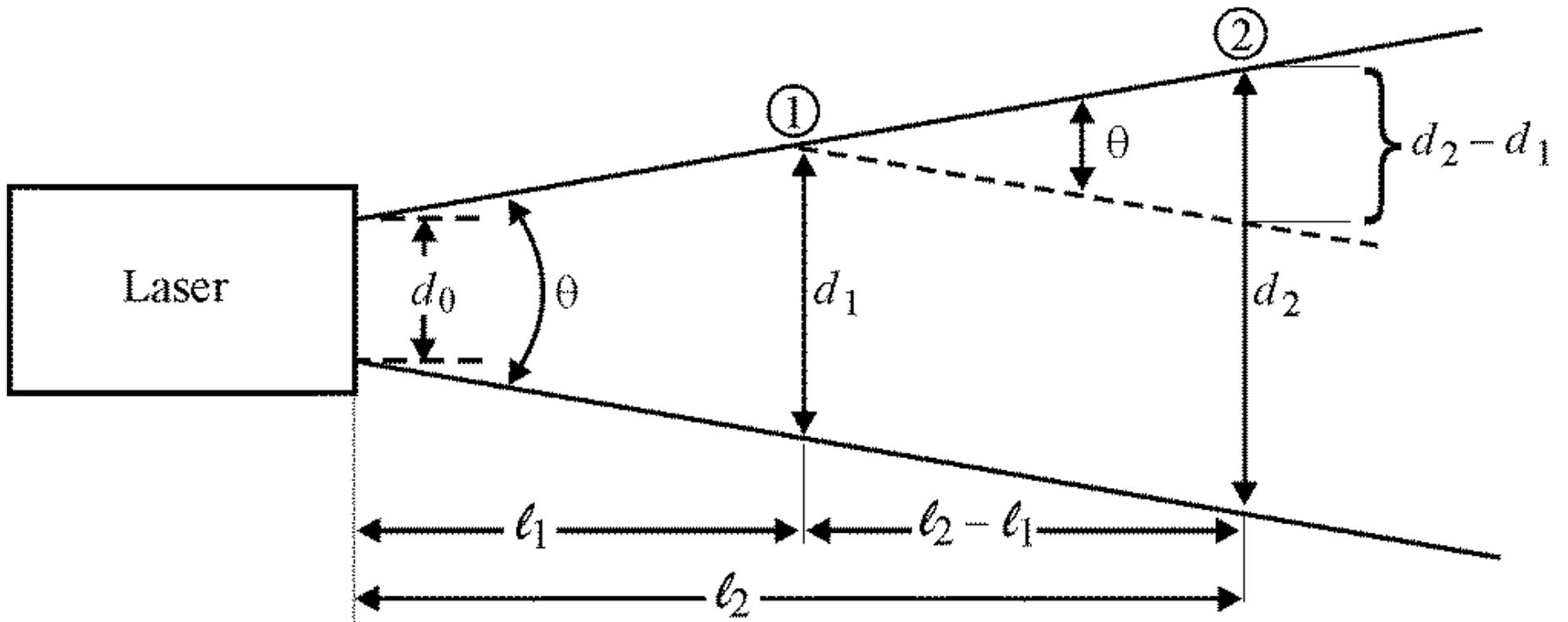
© 2018 University of Central Florida

This text was developed by the National Center for Optics and Photonics Education (OP-TEC), University of Central Florida, under NSF ATE grant 1303732. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

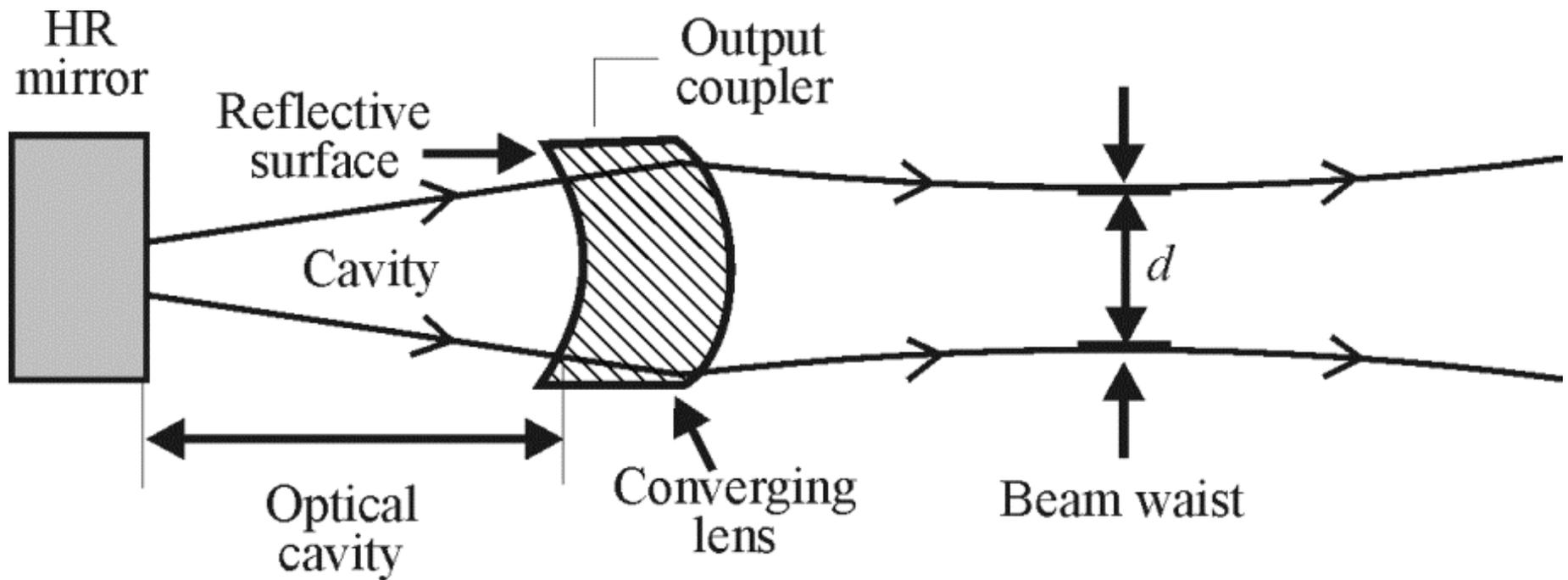
Published and distributed by  
OP-TEC  
University of Central Florida  
<http://www.op-tec.org>

**Permission to copy and distribute**

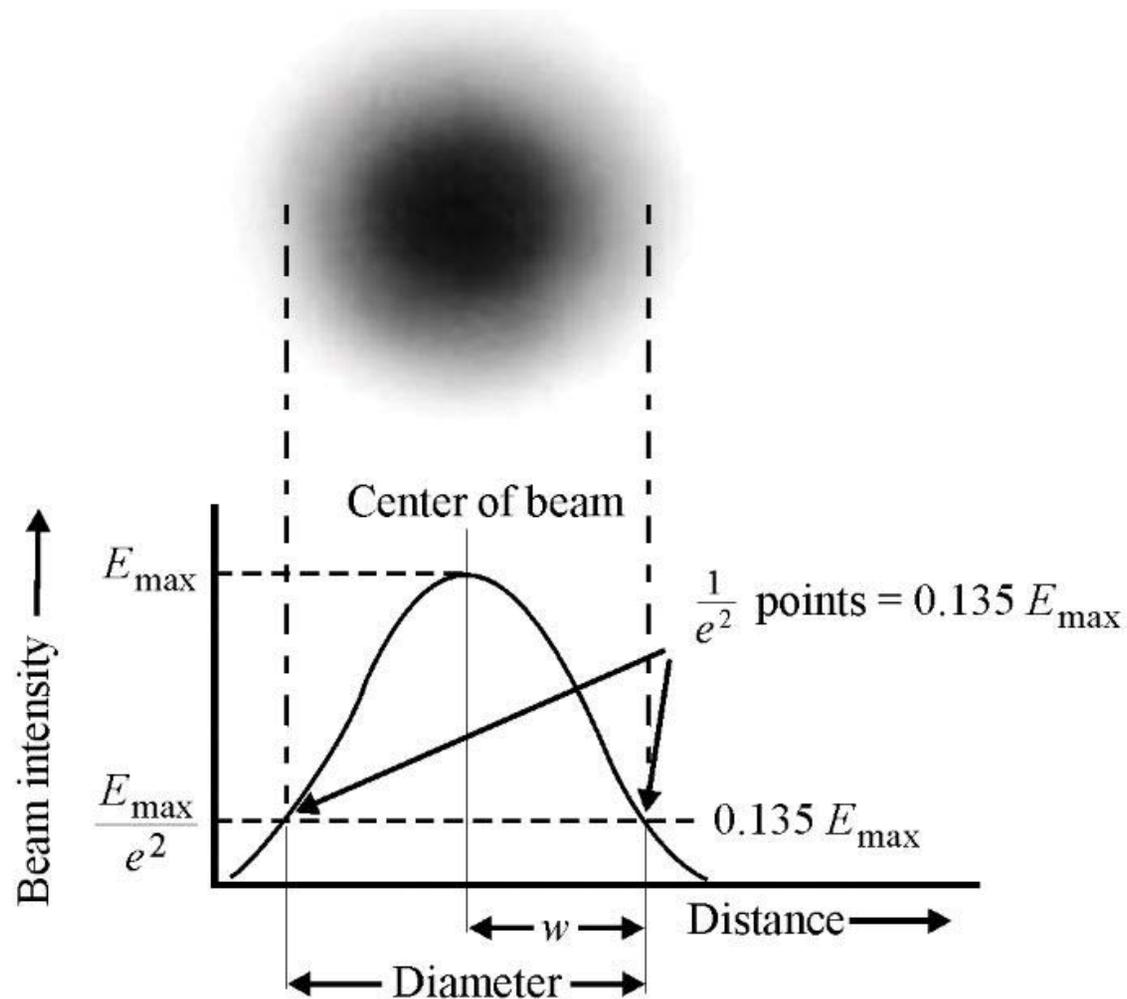
This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License. <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0>. Individuals and organizations may copy and distribute this material for non-commercial purposes. Appropriate credit to the University of Central Florida & the National Science Foundation shall be displayed, by retaining the statements on this page.



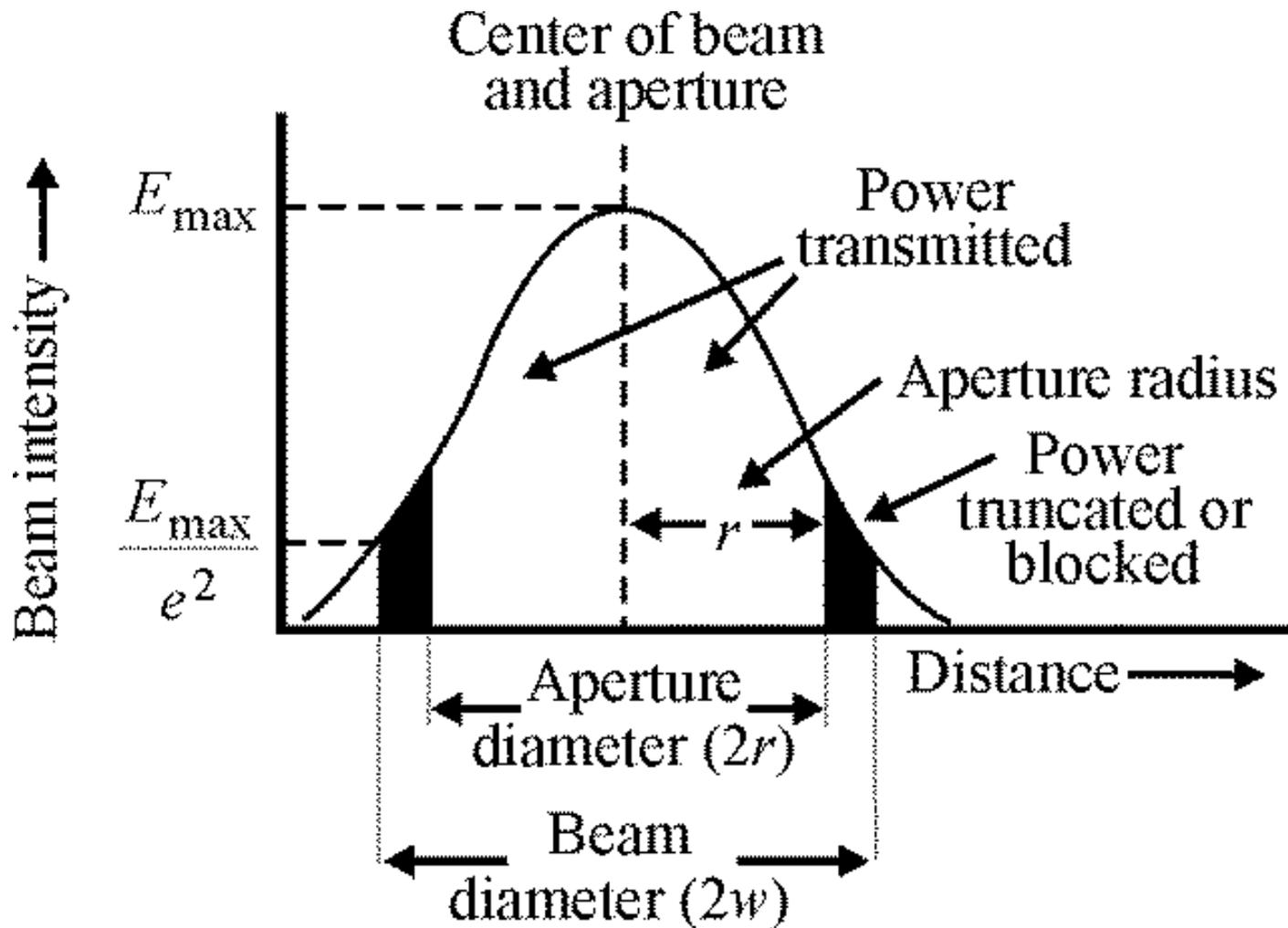
**Figure 2-1** *Beam divergence of a laser beam*



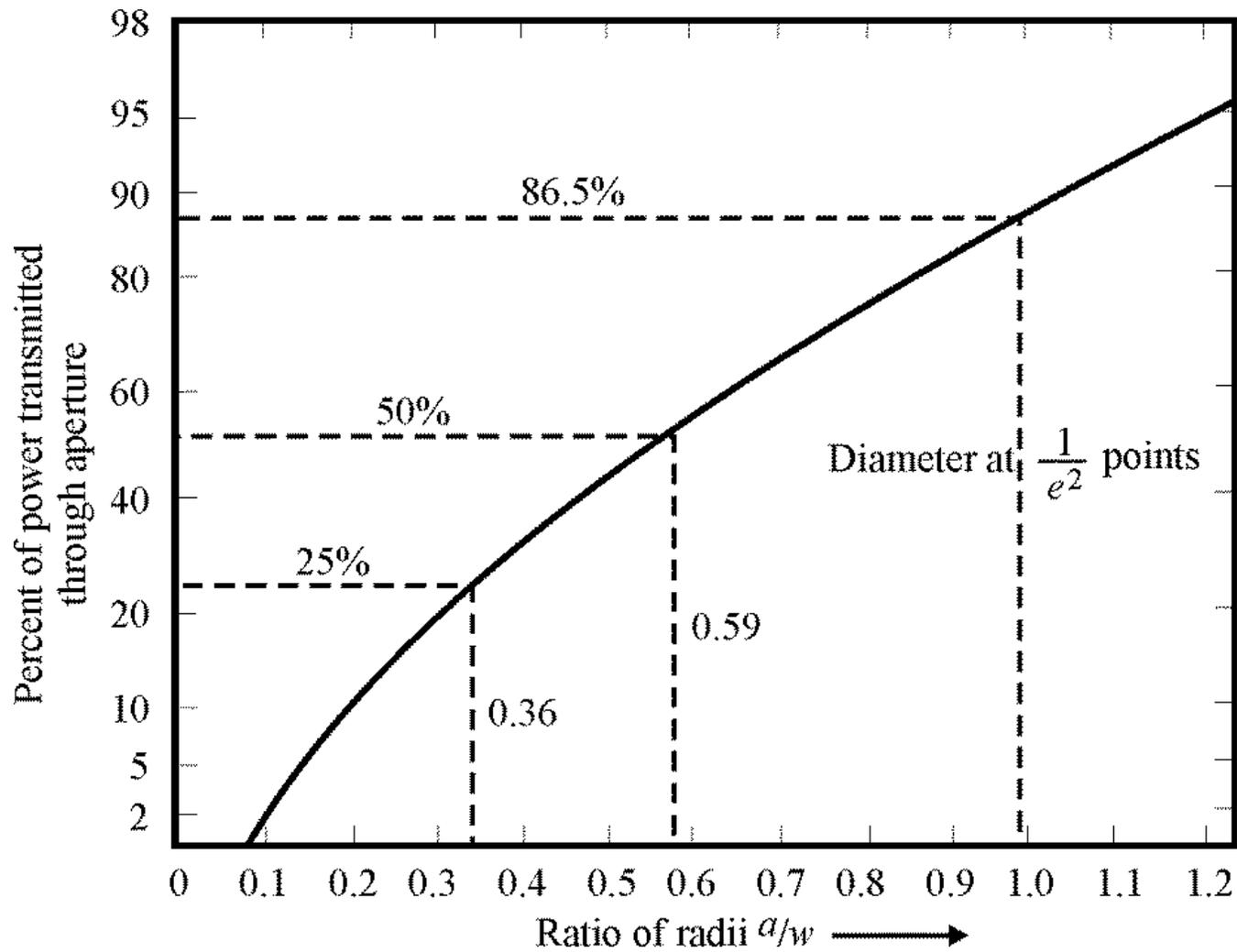
**Figure 2-2** *Collimation of a laser beam by a mirror/lens output coupler*



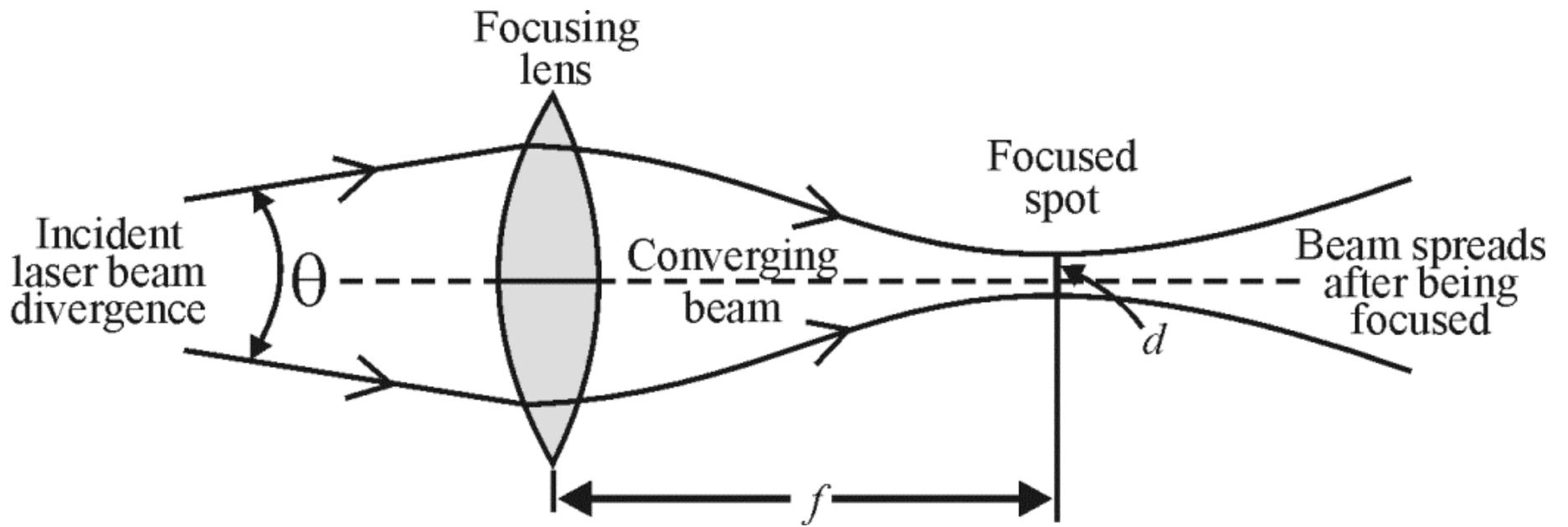
**Figure 2-3** *Width of a  $TEM_{00}$  laser beam at the  $1/e^2$  points*



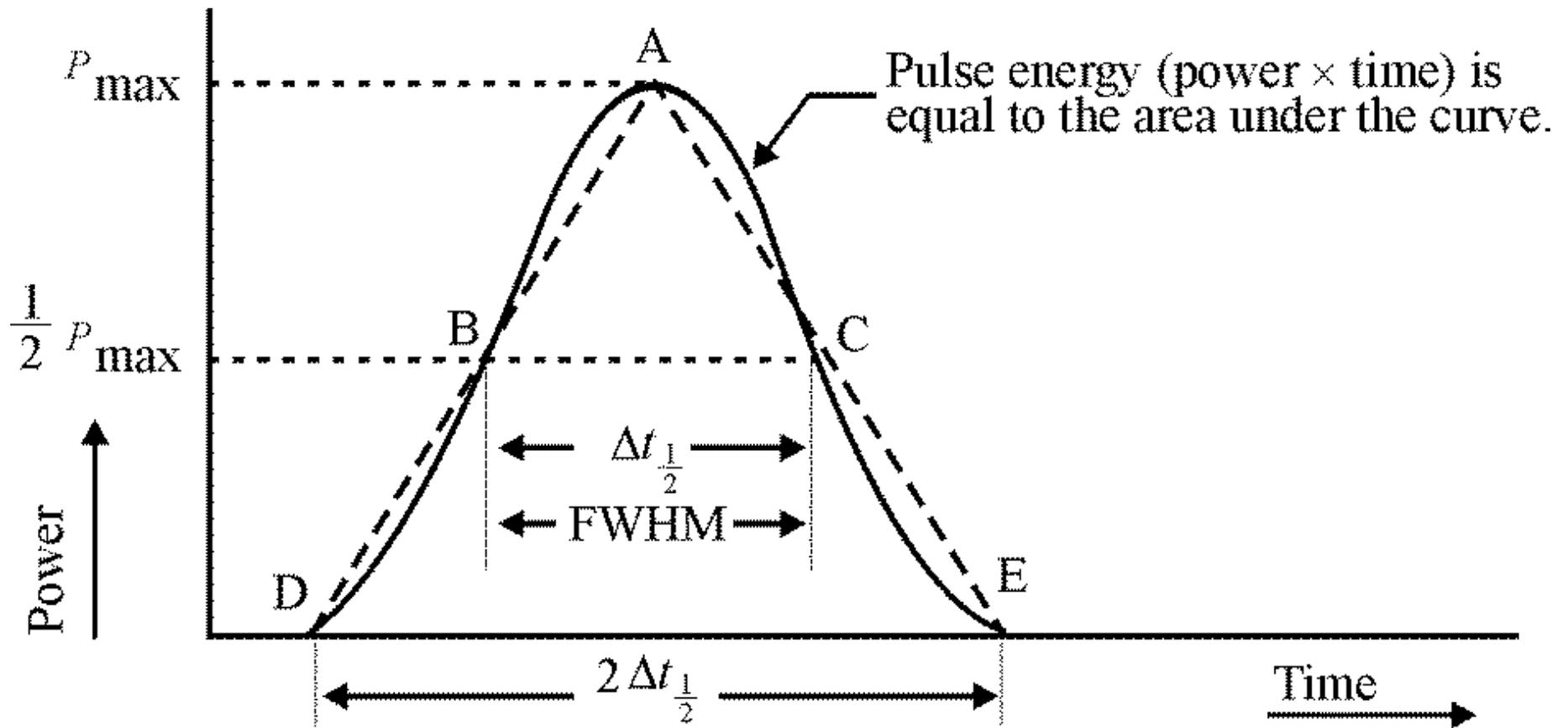
**Figure 2-4** *Transmission of a  $TEM_{00}$  laser beam through an aperture smaller than the beam diameter.*



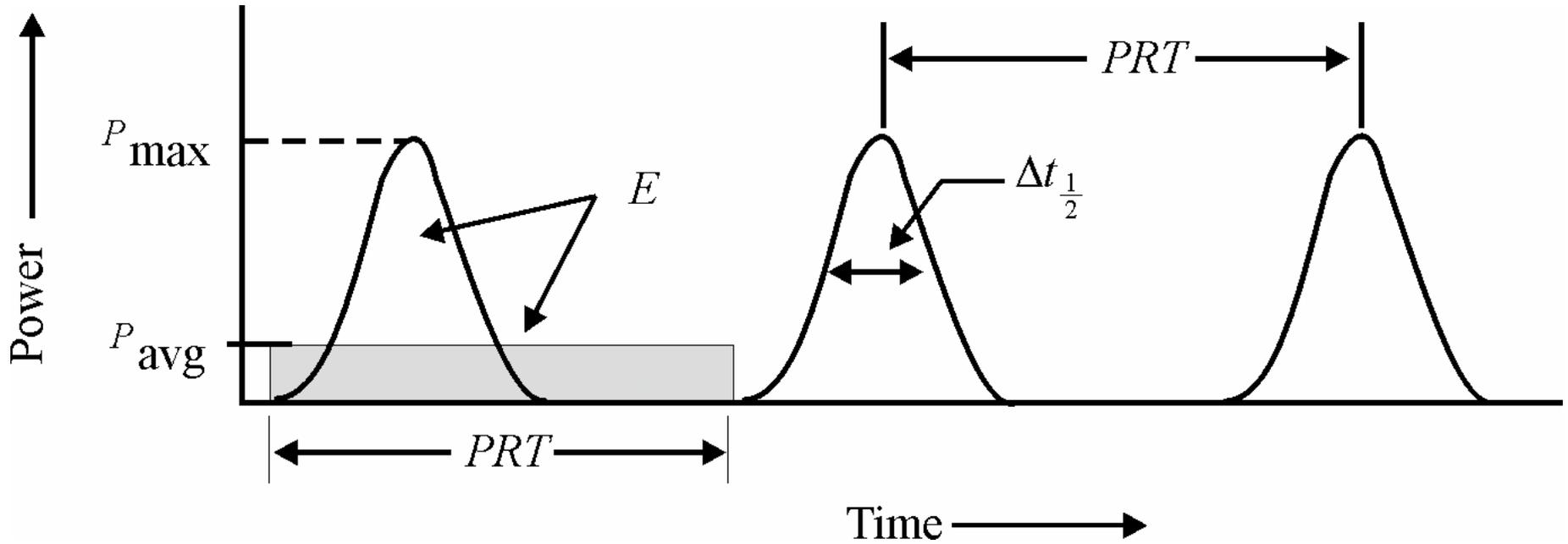
**Figure 2-5** Graph showing percent of beam power transmitted versus the ratio of aperture radius to beam radius for a  $TEM_{00}$  beam



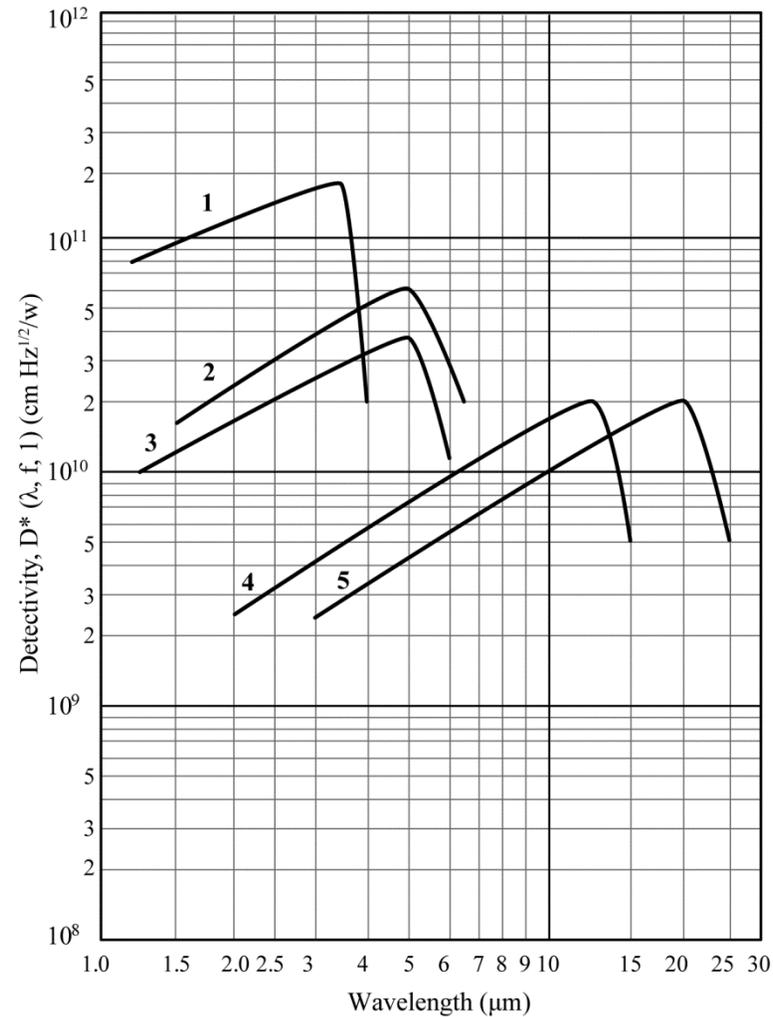
**Figure 2-6** *Focusing a laser beam*



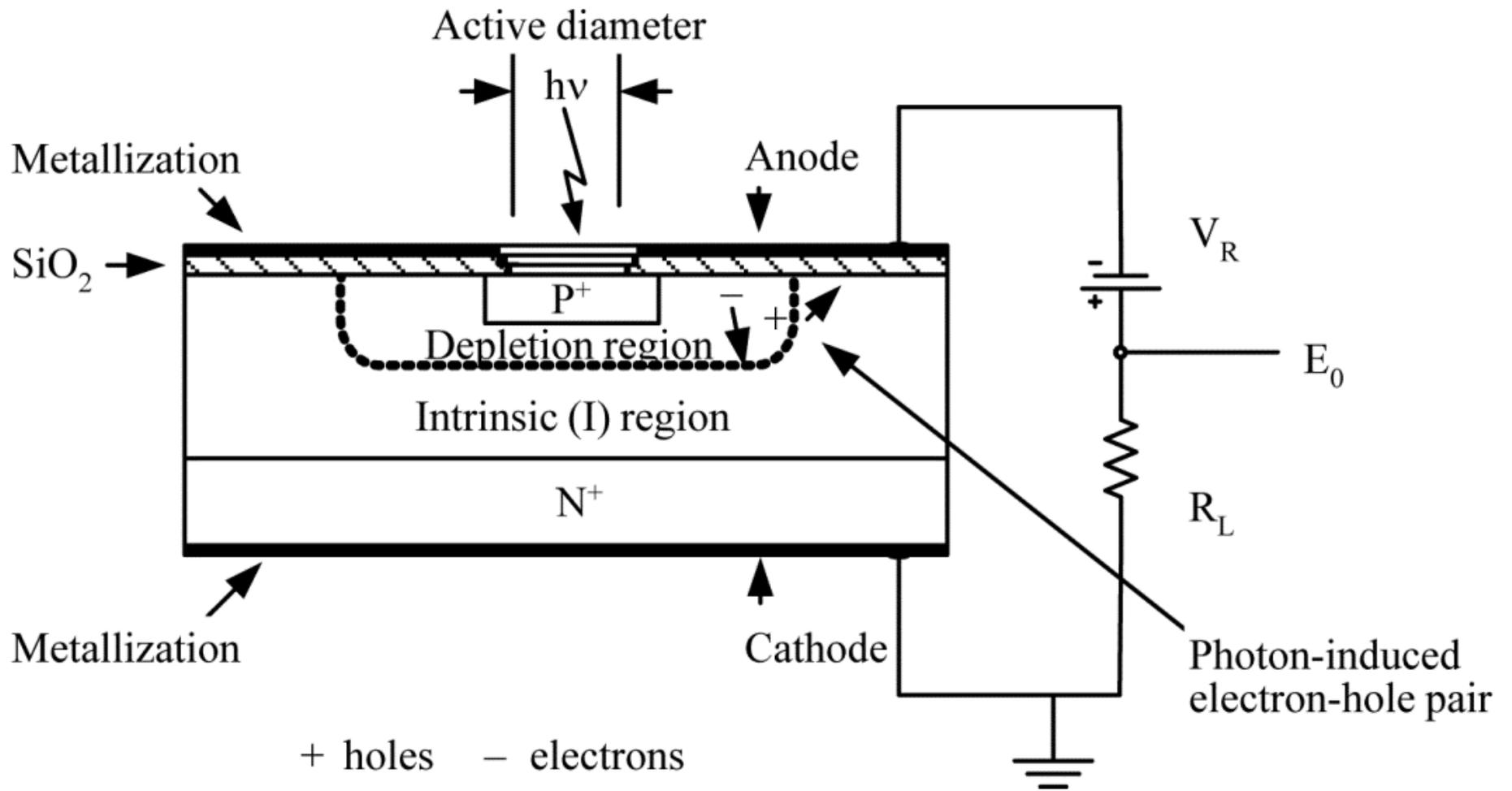
**Figure 2-7** *Energy in a laser pulse*



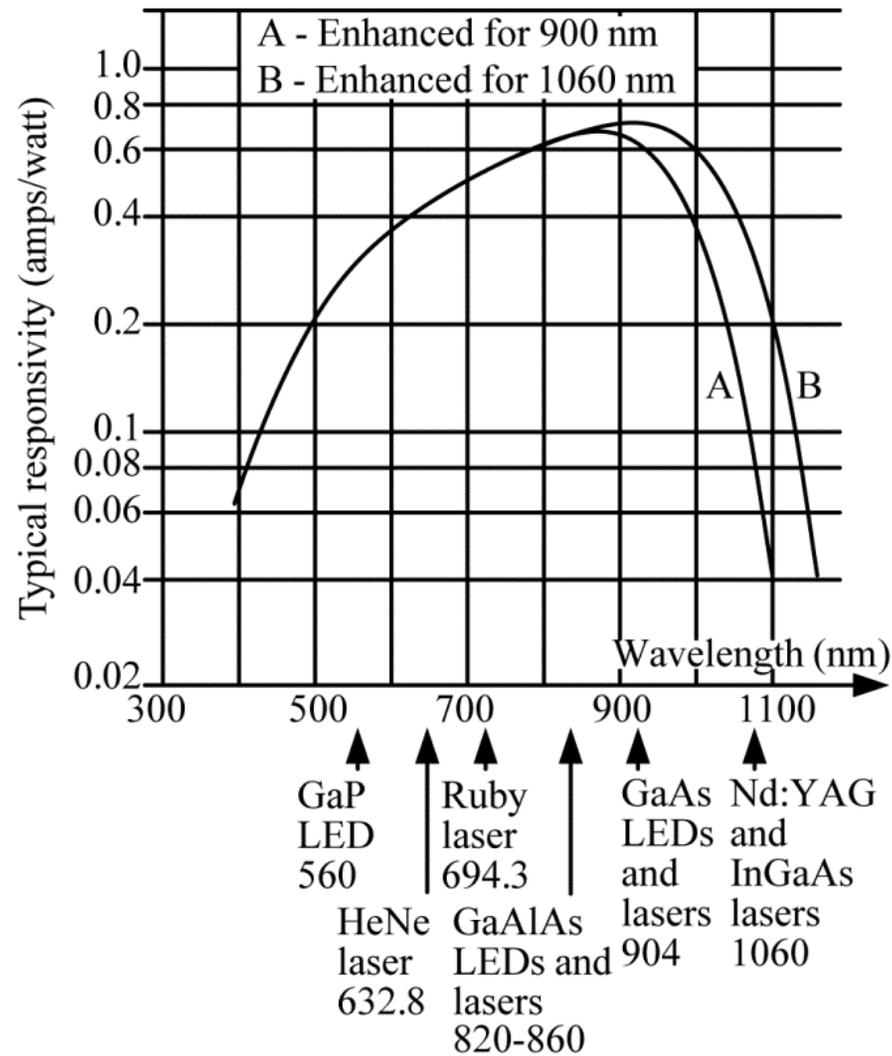
**Figure 2-8** *Average power and pulse repetition time of a pulse in a pulse train*



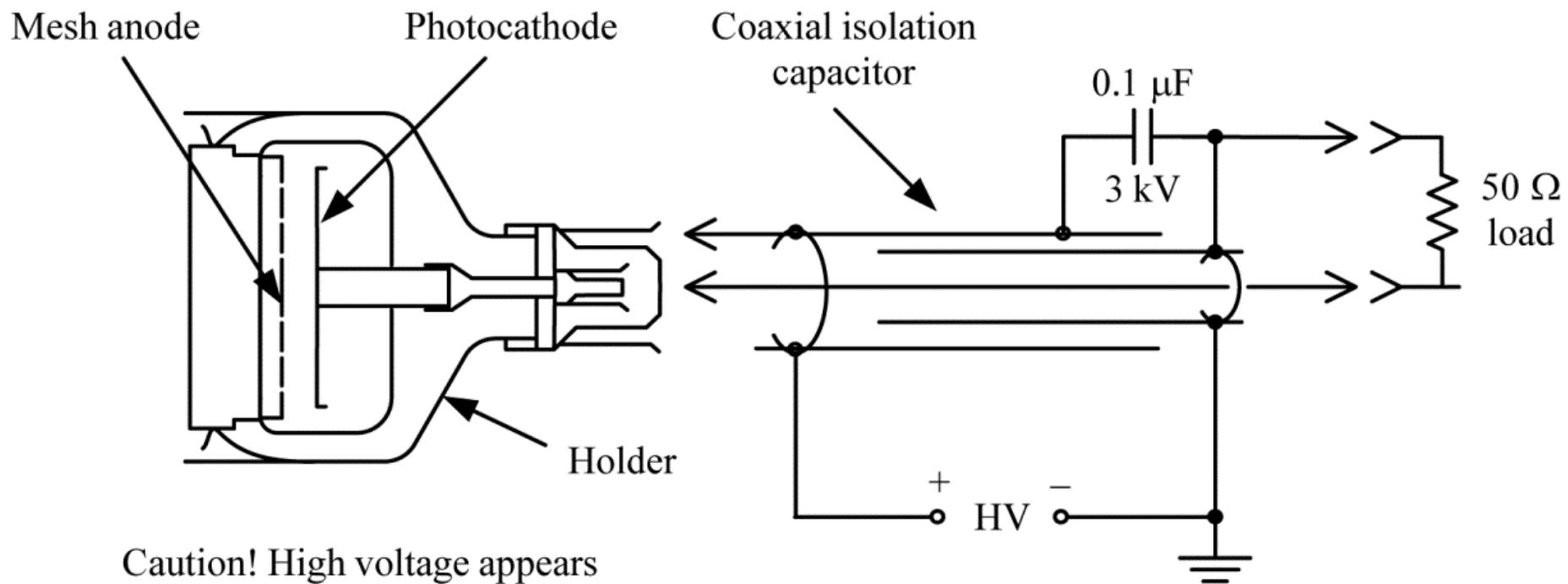
**Figure 2-9** *Detectivity of photoconductive detectors as a function of wavelength 1. PbS, 77K. 2. InSb, 77K. 3. PbSe, 77K. 4. Hg<sub>0.8</sub>Cd<sub>0.2</sub>Te, 77K. 5. Ge:Cu, 4K.*



**Figure 2-10** *Cross section of PIN diode*

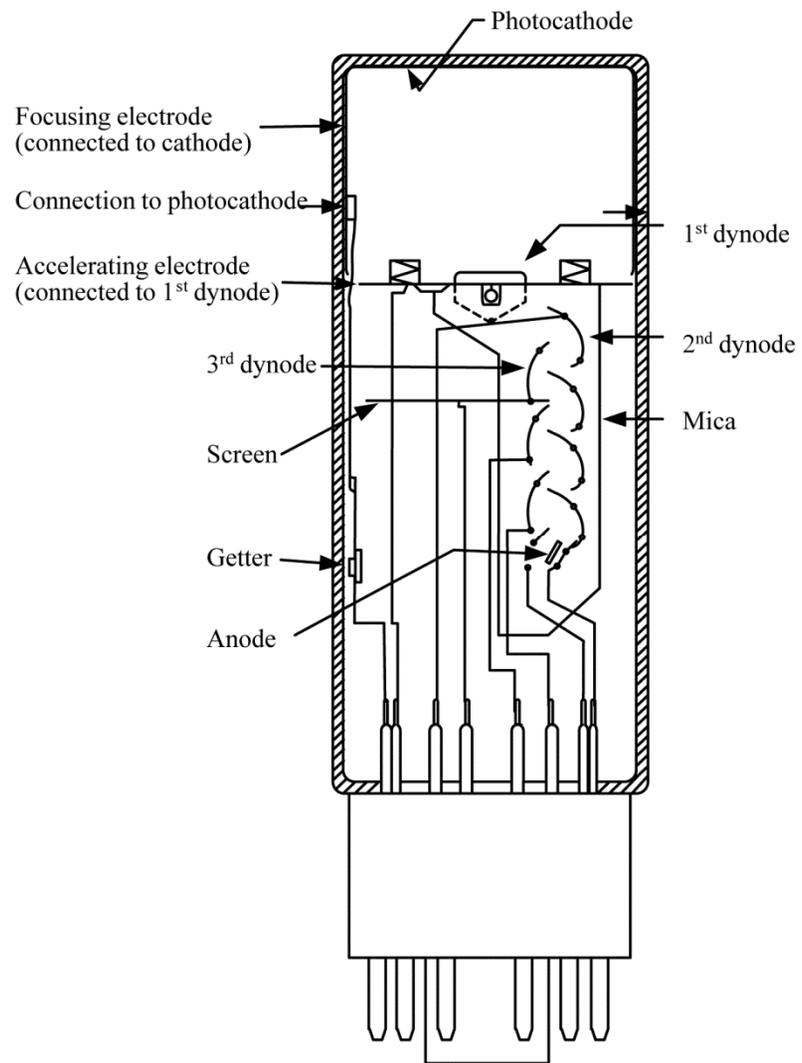


**Figure 2-11** *Spectral responsivity of PIN photodiodes*

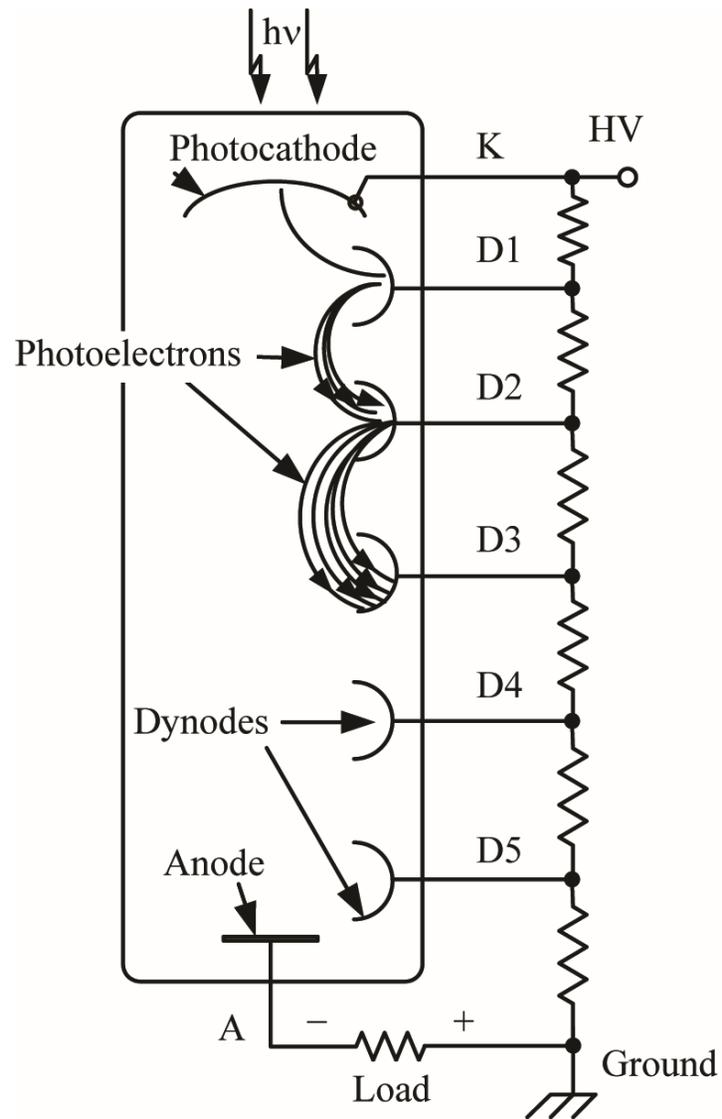


Caution! High voltage appears on the holder in this circuit.

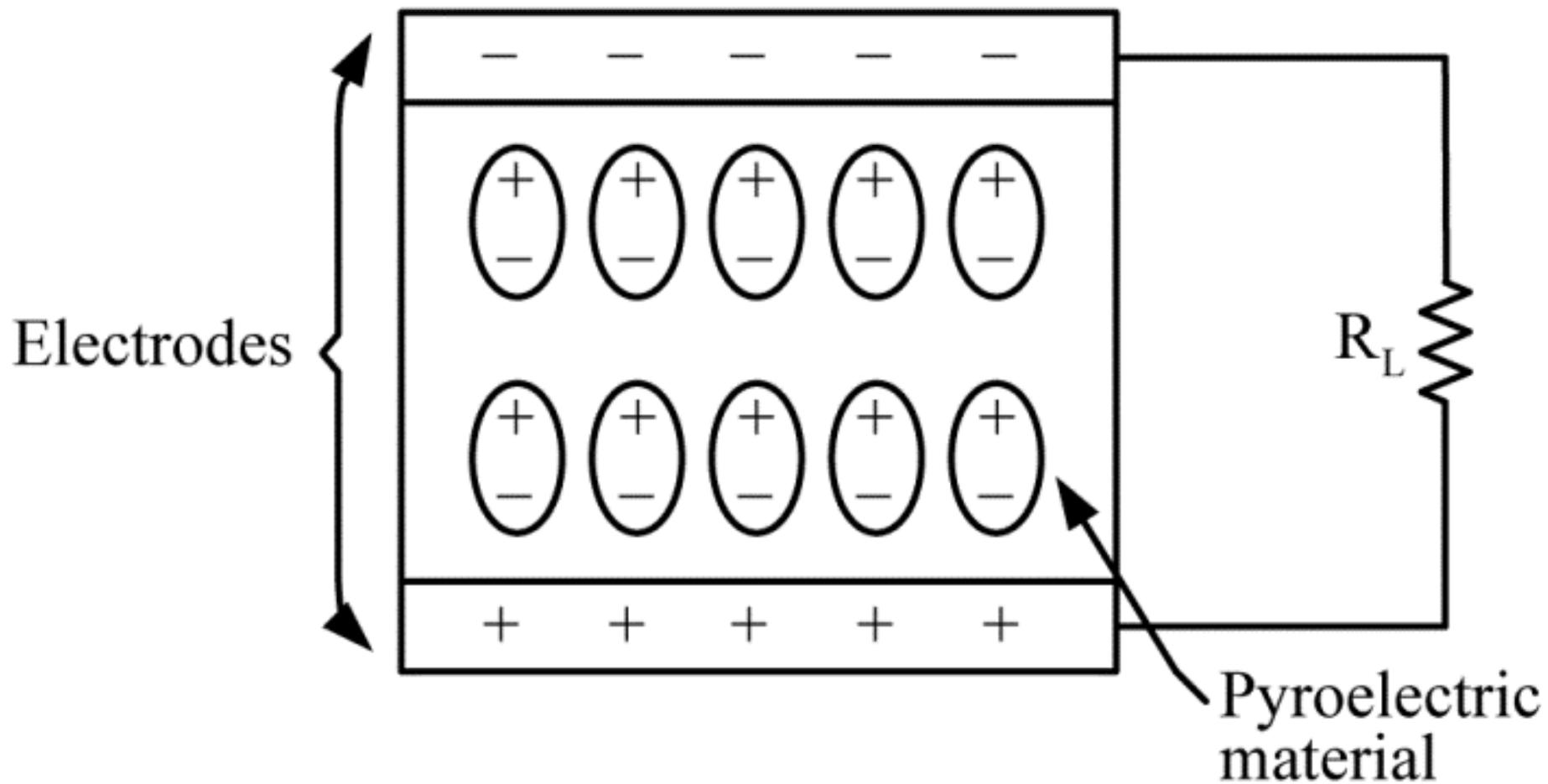
**Figure 2-12** *Basic vacuum photodiode*



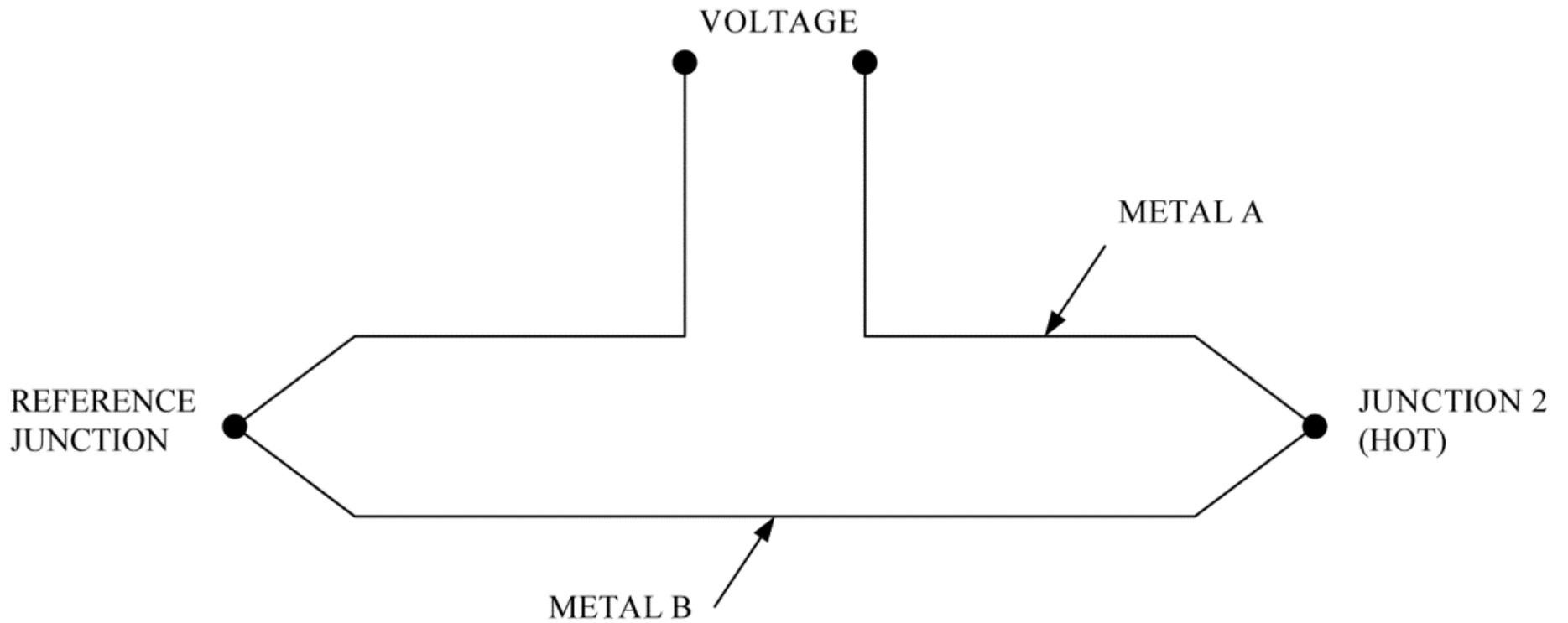
**Figure 2-13** *Photomultiplier structure*



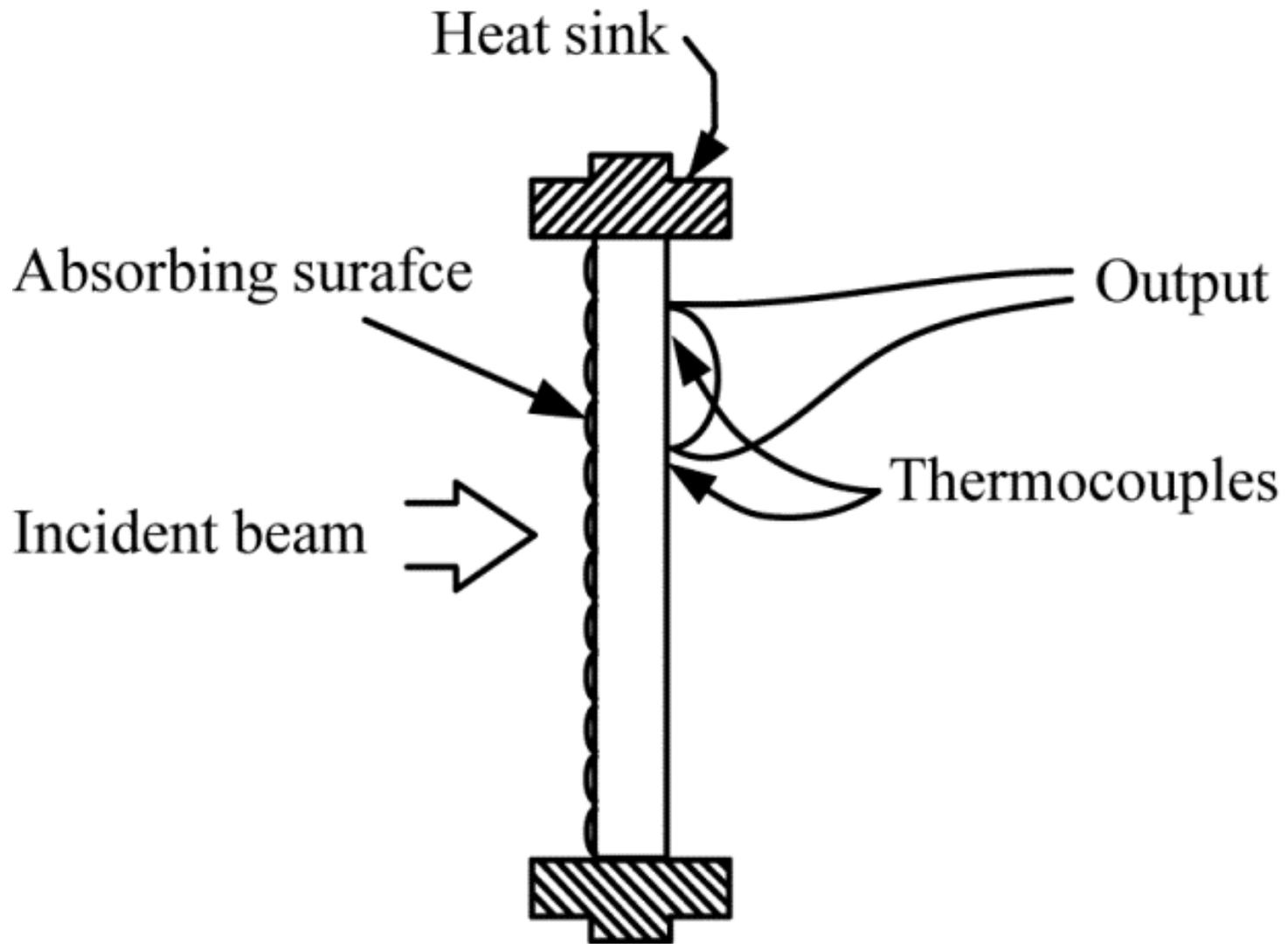
**Figure 2-14** *Photomultiplier tube in principle*



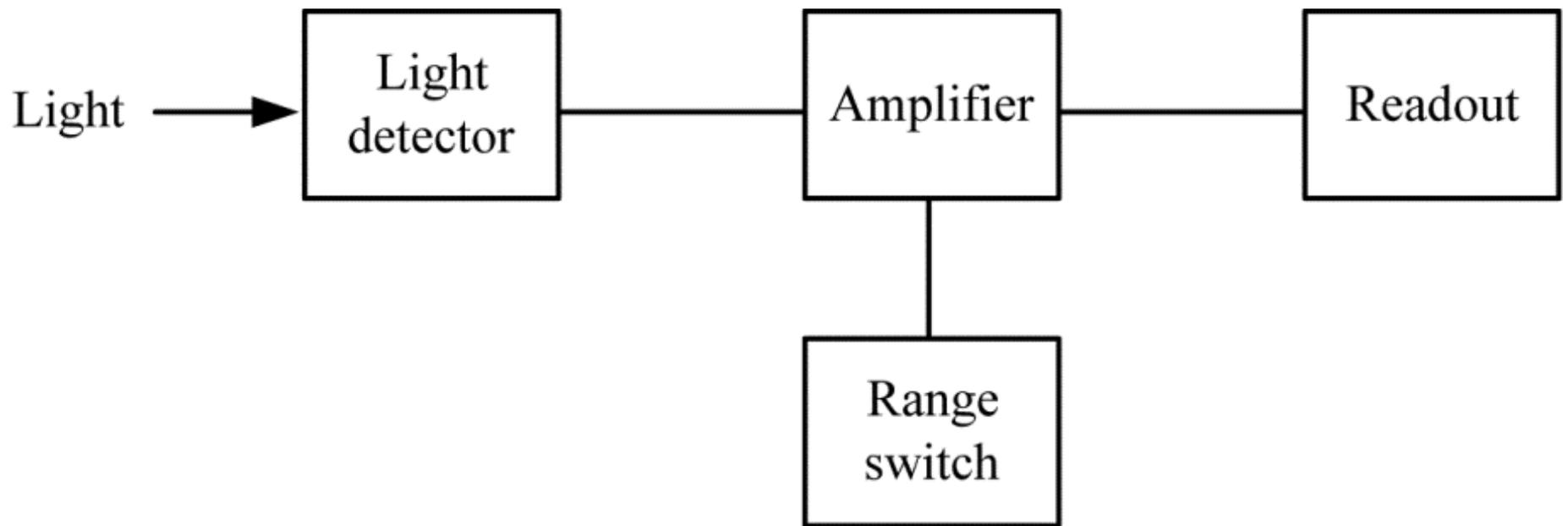
**Figure 2-15** *Basic construction of a pyroelectric detector*



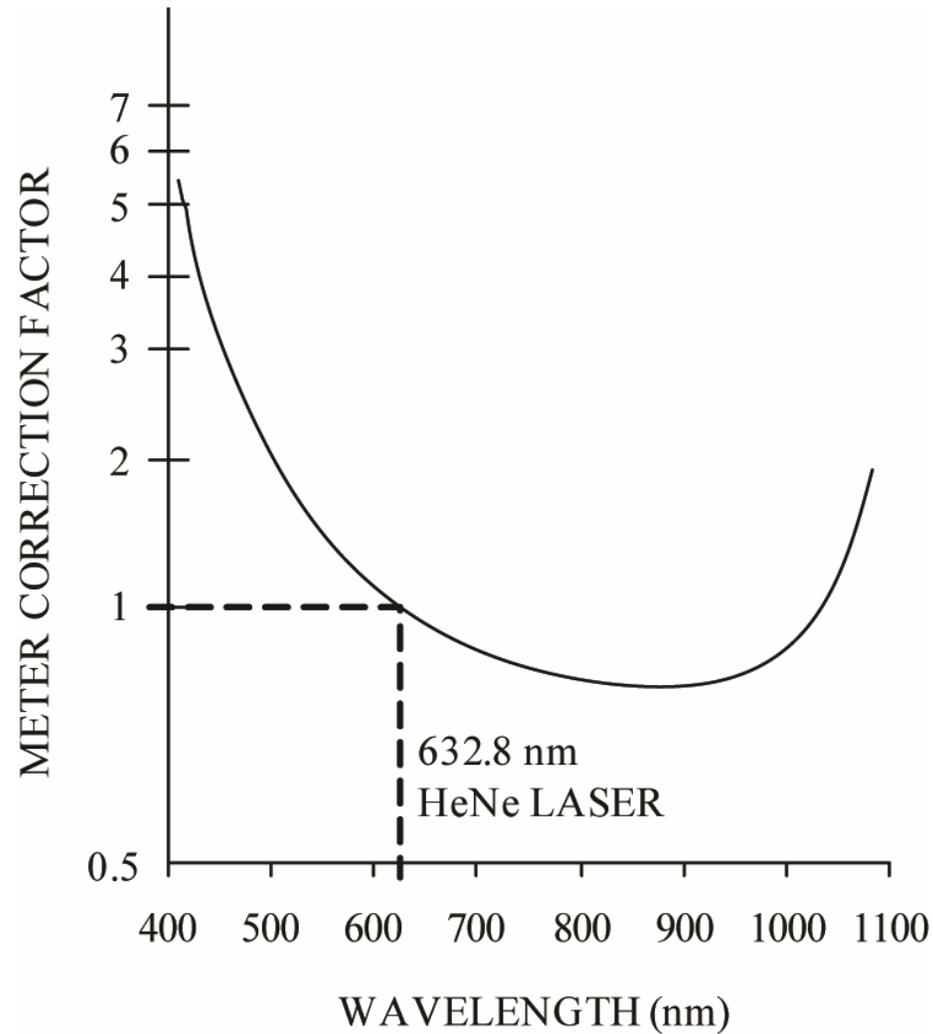
**Figure 2-16** *A thermocouple*



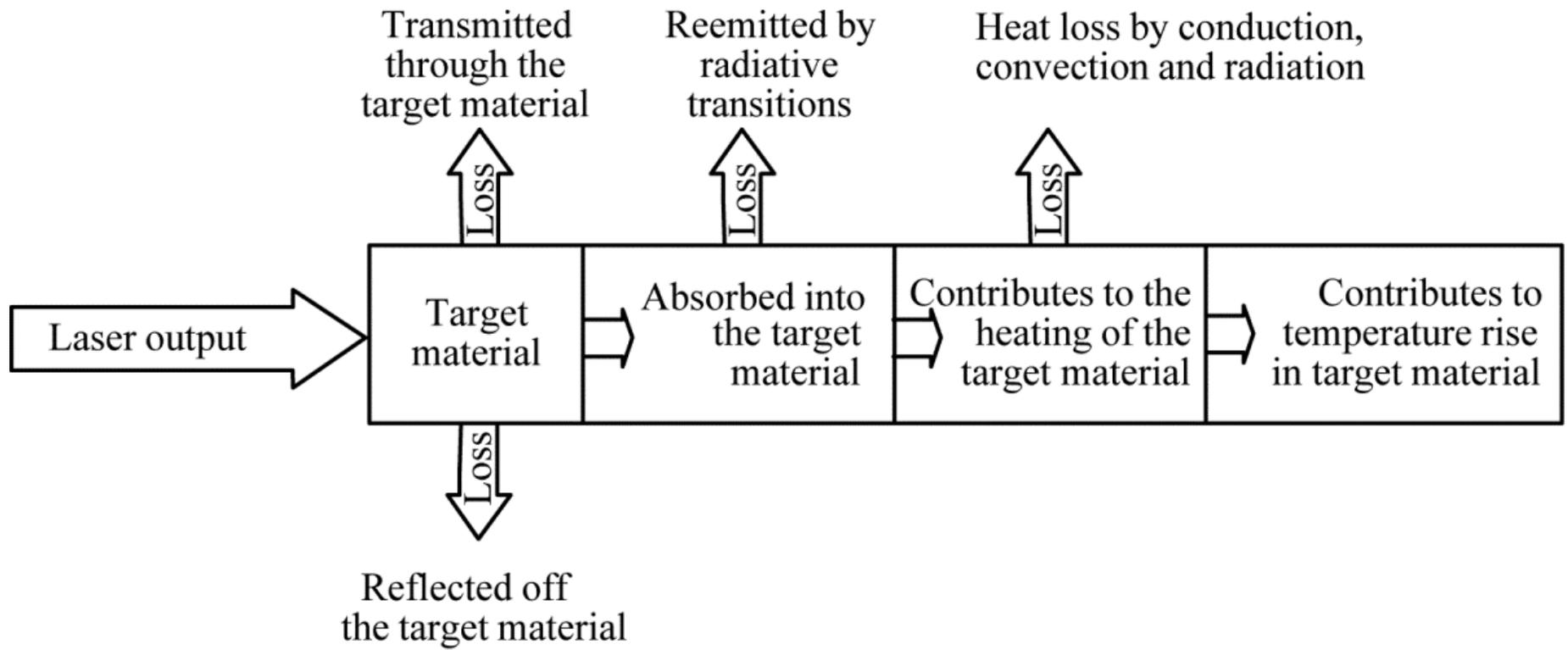
**Figure 2-17** *Thermopile for CW power measurement*



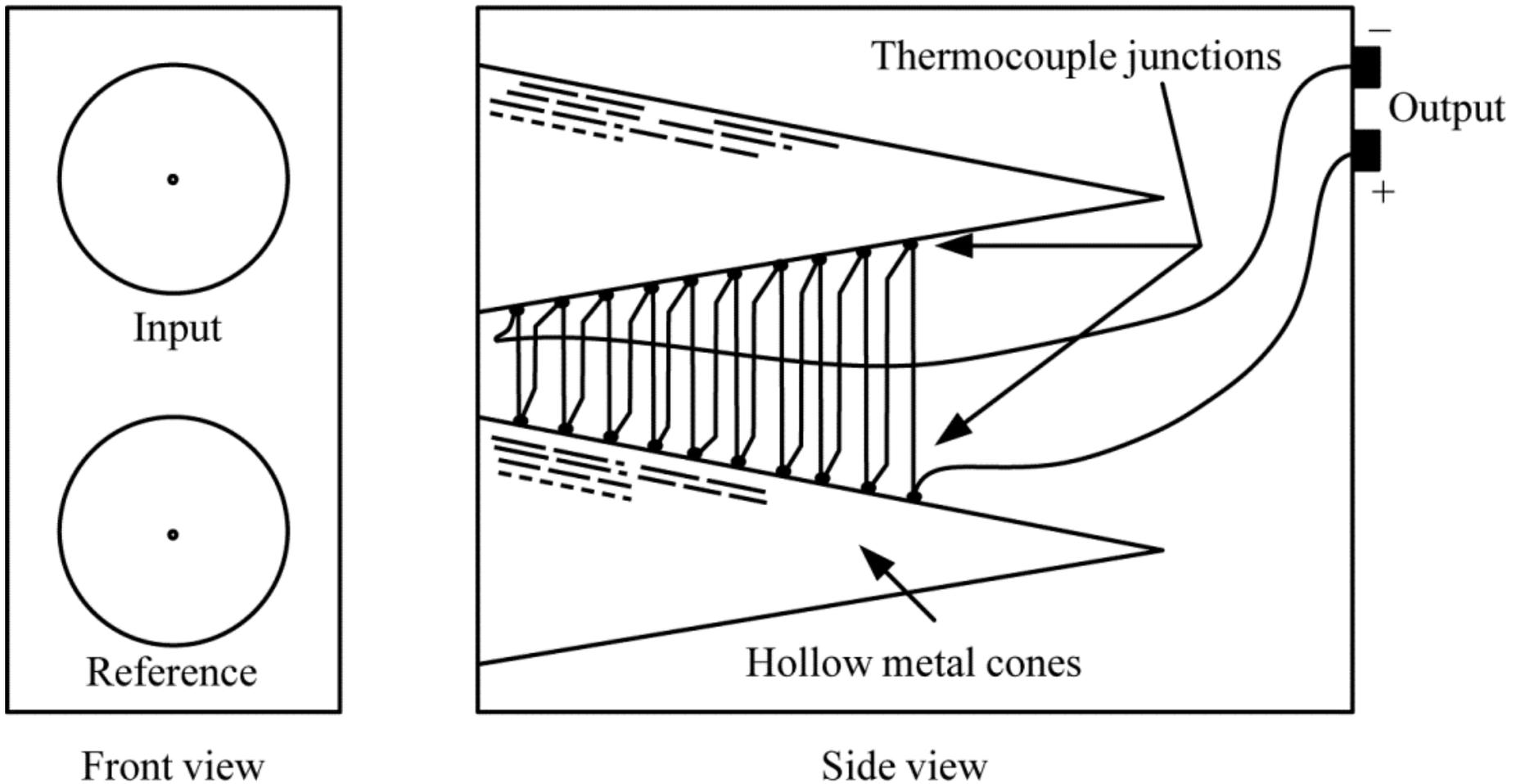
**Figure 2-18** *Basic components of an optical power meter*



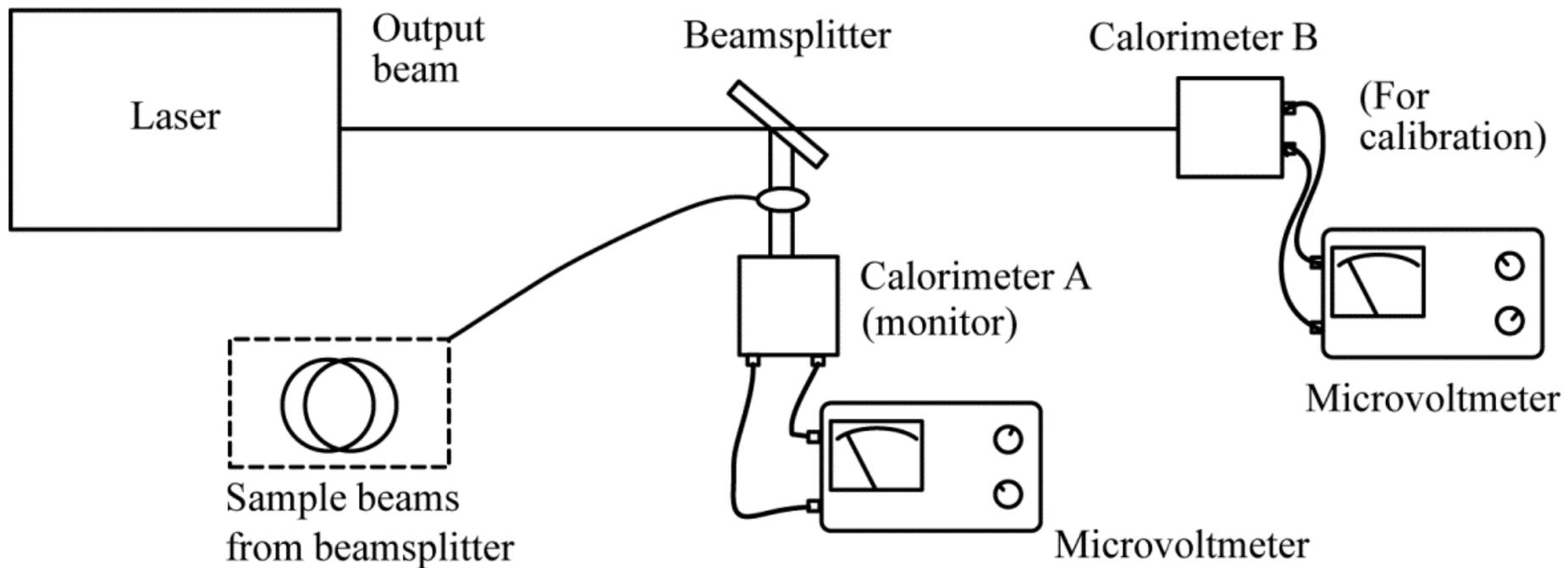
**Figure 2-19** *Meter calibration curve for a typical silicon-based photoelectric power meter*



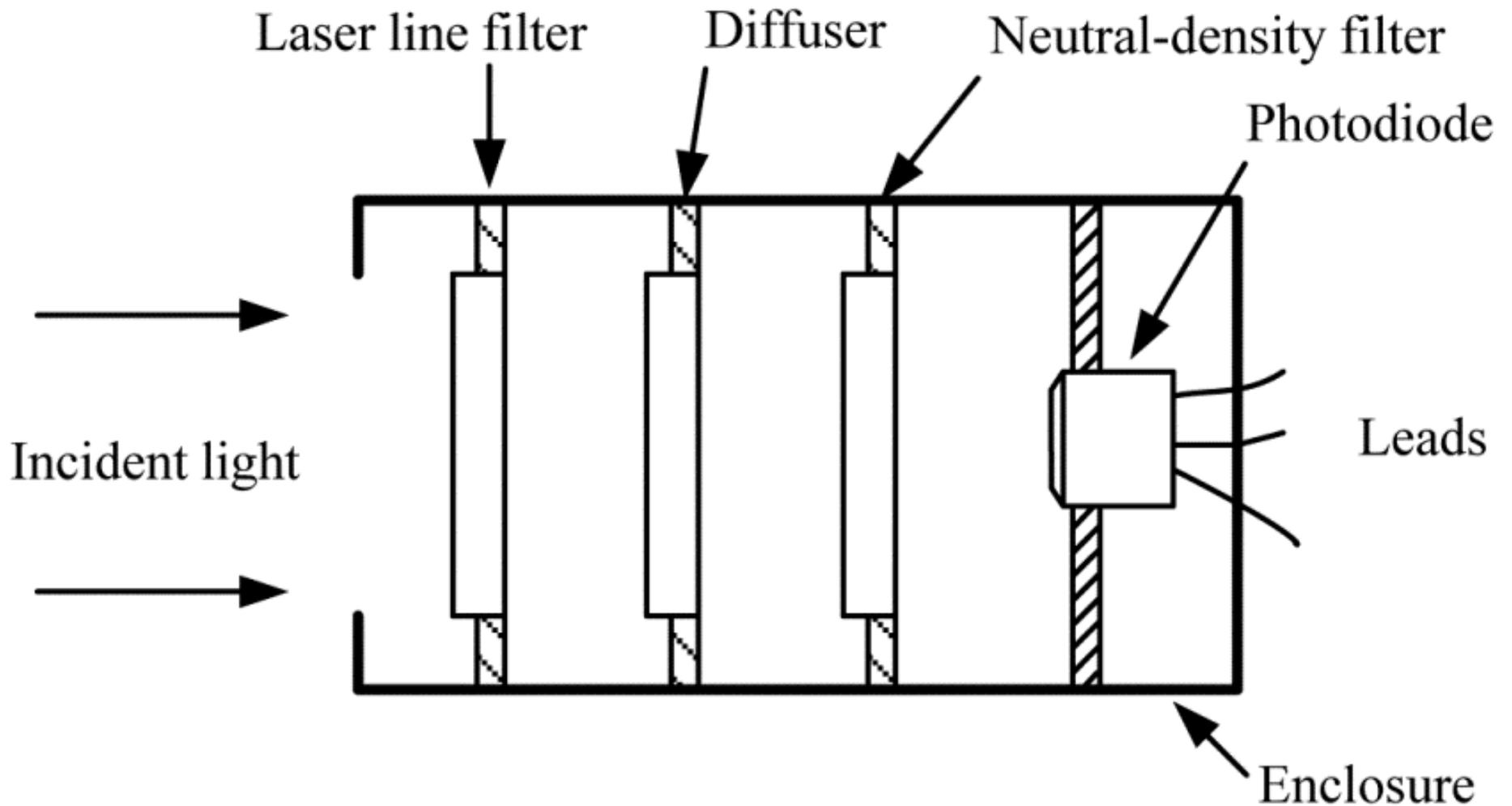
**Figure 2-20** “Flow” diagram showing how laser energy incident on a target material causes a temperature rise in the target material



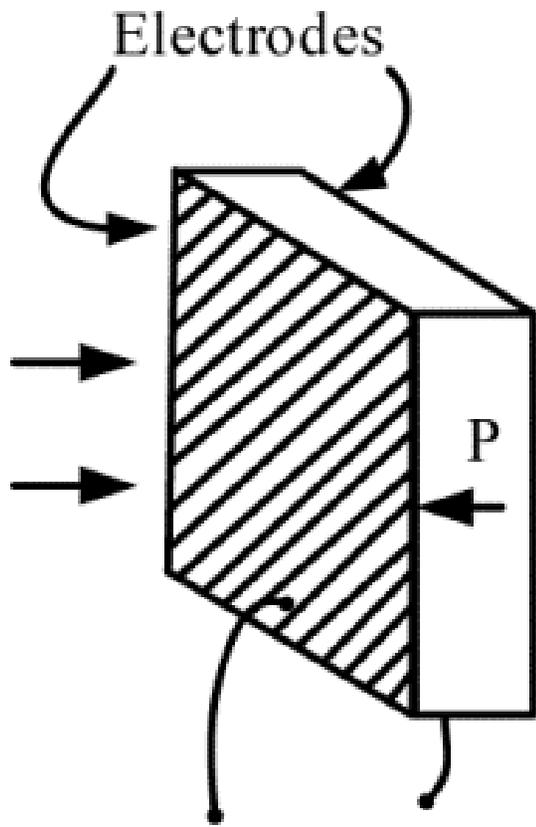
**Figure 2-21** *Diagram of a thermoelectric calorimeter*



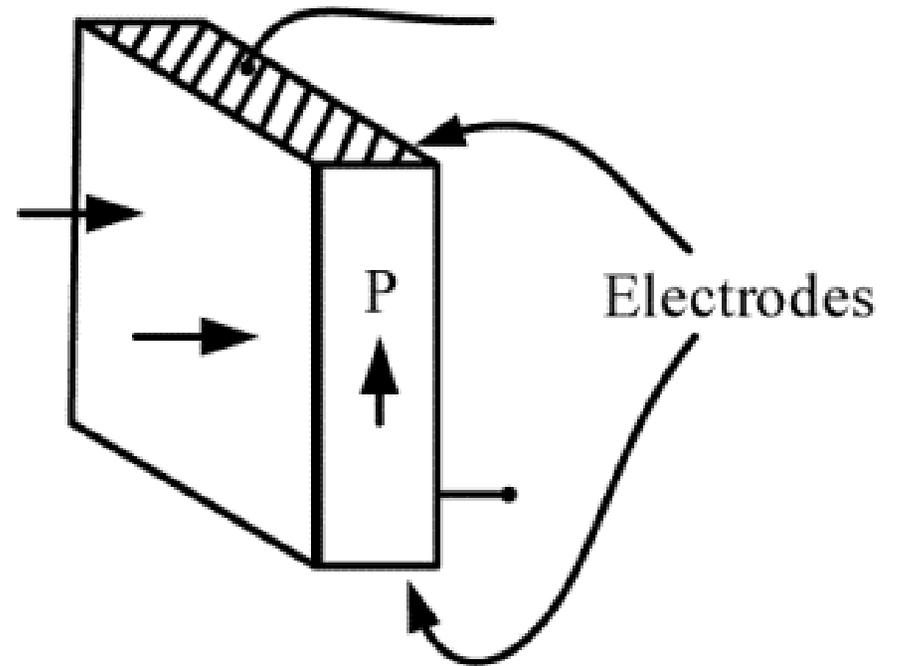
**Figure 2-22** *Experimental arrangement for calibration of an energy or power monitor (top view)*



**Figure 2-23** *Optical components used with photodiodes*

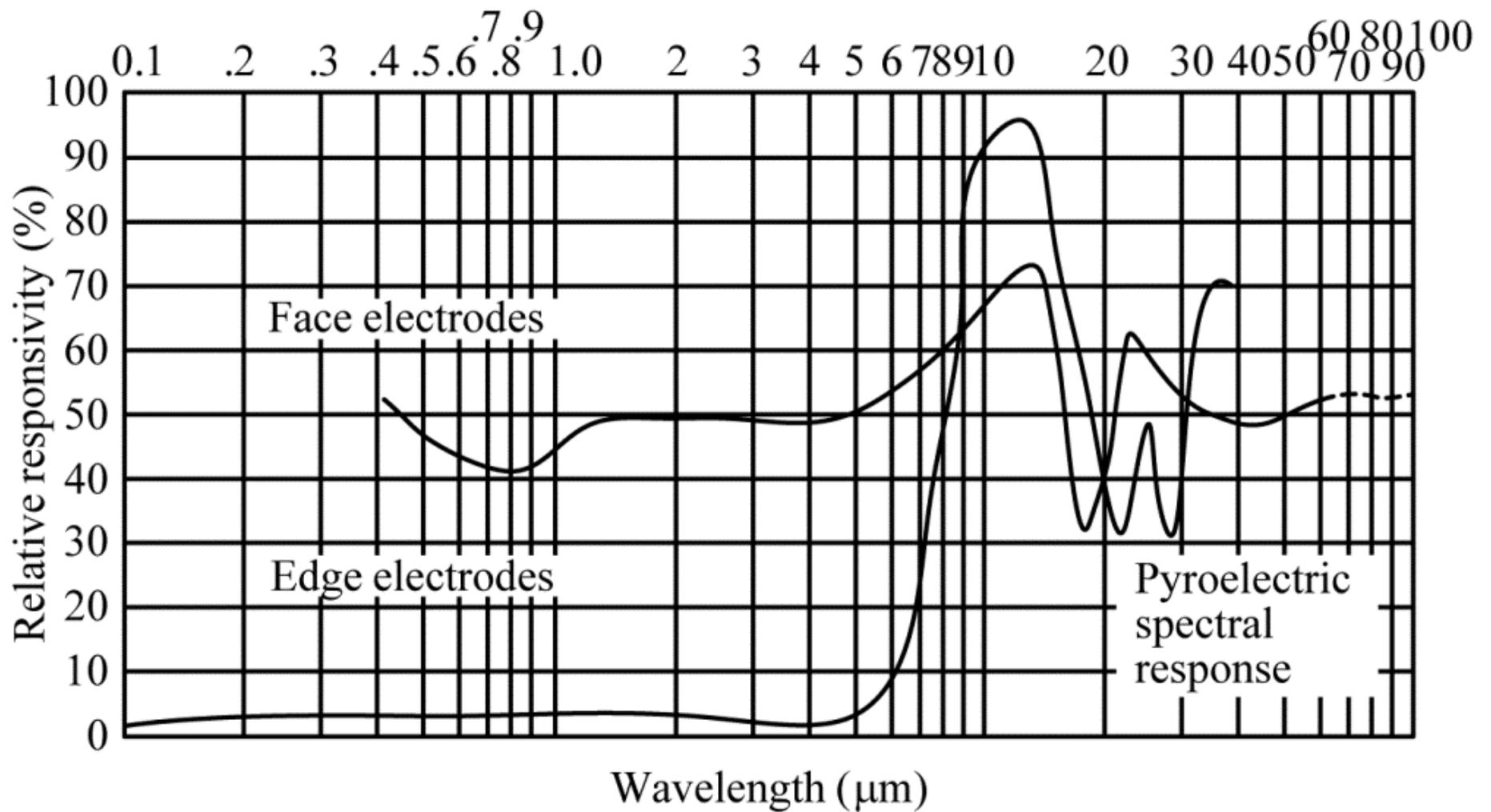


a. Face electrodes

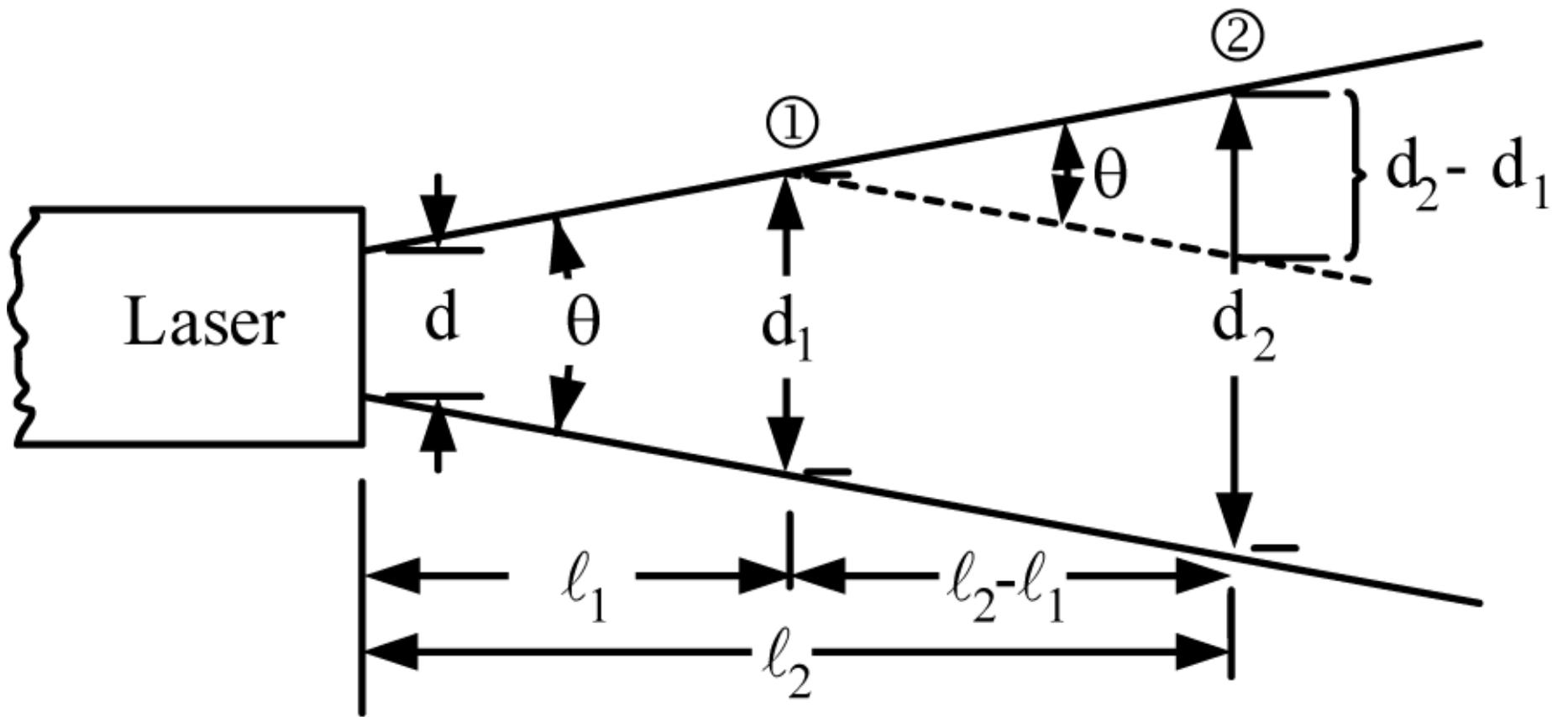


b. Edge electrodes

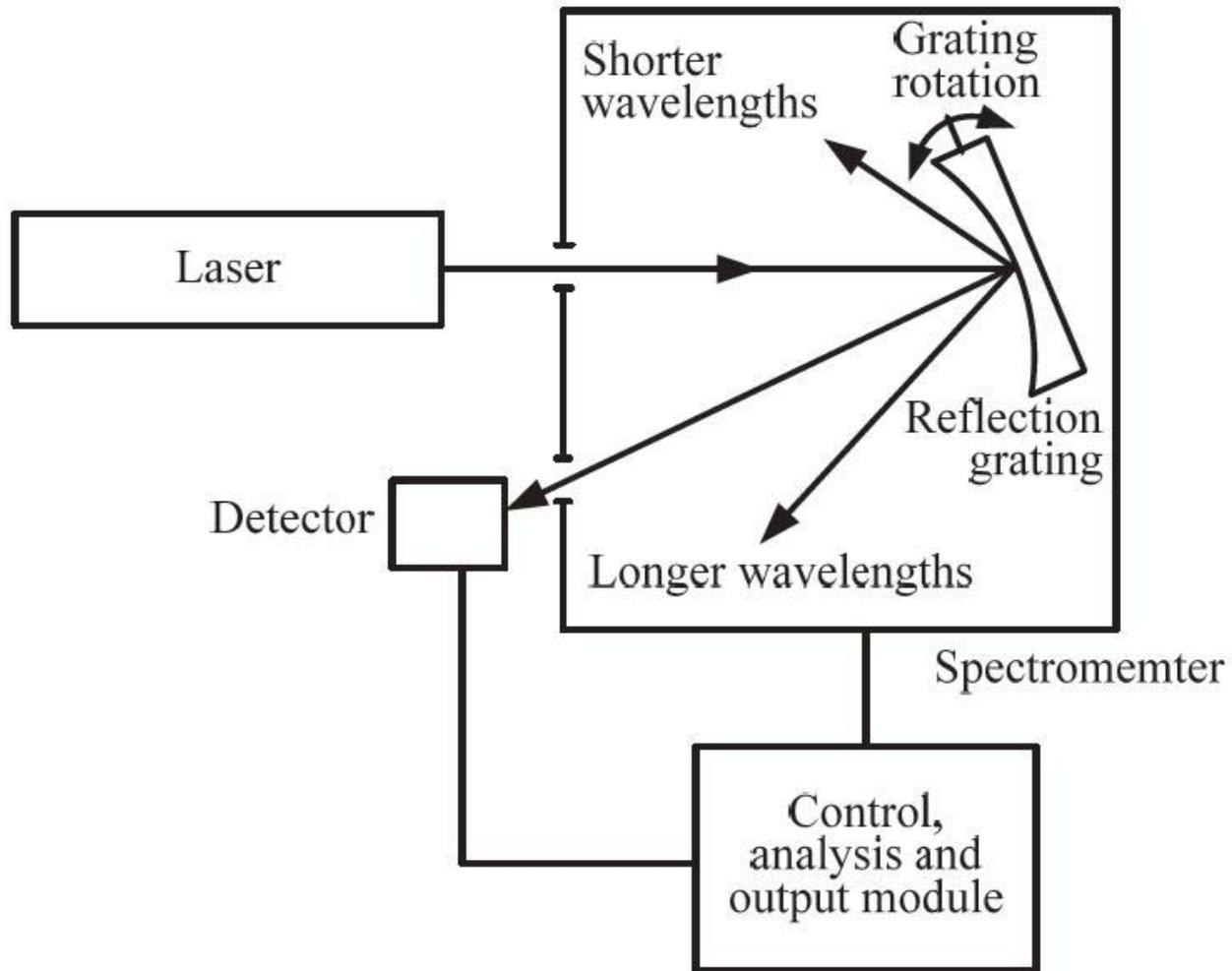
**Figure 2-24** *Pyroelectric detector types. P is the polarization vector.*



**Figure 2-25** *Pyroelectric detector spectral response*



**Figure 2-26** *Diffraction of light through a transmission grating*



**Figure 2-27** *Schematic of spectrograph that uses a reflection grating*