Photonic Micro- and Nano-Structures for Enhancing Infrared Detection

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Content

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Fabrication and Testing
- 3. FDTD simulation
- 4. Integration with a QDIP Detector
- 5. Other promising designs

Our Objective is to Achieve Light Focusing at Sub- λ at the Near Field Without Using a Conventional Lens.





IR Sensing & Tracking

Objective

Field concentration at sub- λ Compact / integrated design

Task Maximize transmission (T) Minimize area (A) Maximize Flux: (**T/A**) >200%



Chip Processing

Most of The Research of Light Focusing at Sub- λ , $(\lambda/d)>>2$, is Focused On The Visible and Near-Infrared.

Extraordinary transmission through a 2D array (Ebbesen et al, *Nature* **391**, p.668, 1998)



A Brief Summary of Some of the Representative Works on 2D Hole Array

						Figure-of-Merit				Лerit
		Metal	λ	d	a _o	t	Δλ	(λ /d) **	$\Delta\lambda/\lambda$	Т
Nature*	'98	Ag	1.4µm	150nm	0.9µm	200nm	100nm	9	0.08	5%
JOSA-B*	'99	Cr	1.4µm	0.5µm	1µm	100nm	800nm	2.8	0.6	40%
APL*	'00	Ag, Ni	900nm	400nm	750nm	300nm	200nm	2.2	0.25	43%
PRL*	'01	Ag	800nm	280nm	750nm	320nm	150nm	2.8	0.2	14%
JAP	'06	Au	700nm	350nm	1µm	120nm	80nm	2	0.1	40%
(aperiodic)										
This work		Au	7.5µm	1.3µm	2.5µm	50nm	800nm	6	0.1	>60%

 \bullet Trade-off ($\lambda/d)$ and T

*reprint by all or part of the list: Ebbesen, Lezec, Ghaemi, Thio, Wolf, Pendry, etc

**(λ /d)>2-3: beyond the waveguide cutoff transmission.

Sample Fabrication and Optical Testing

Key Facilities At Rensselaer Micro-Clean-Room (MCR)



EVG Aligner and Bonder



GCA Stepper



Temescal EBeam



IPEC/Westech CMP



Suss Probe Station



Rensselaer's Nano-Fabrication Facilities

EVG NanoImprint





Adixen DRIE



Applied PECVD



Zeiss SEM / EBeam

Process Flow For Fabricating 2D Hole Metallic Array.



The SEM Image Shows Perfect Round Holes and Uniform Au Deposition.





A Clear, Sharp Transmission Peak Is Observed In The Infrared Wavelength.



Sample Parameters: a=2.48-3.72 μm, d=1.3μm, t=50nm





Our Structure Is Promising in Enhancing Transmission Flux (i.e. Transmission Amplitude / F.F.) to Much Greater Than 100%.

Table 1. Summary of sample geometries and measured transmission results, where a is lattice constant, d is hole diameter, t is thickness, F.F. is filling fraction, λ max is the wavelength of maximal transmission, T is transmission.

Sample	a (µm)	d (µm)	t (nm)	F.F.(%)	λmax (µm)) T (%)	T/F.F.
1	2.480	1.3	50	24.90	7.58	79	3.17
2	2.728	1.3	50	20.58	8.40	42	2.04
3	2.976	1.3	50	17.29	9.12	34	1.97
4	3.224	1.3	50	14.73	9.82	20	1.36
5	3.472	1.3	50	12.70	10.46	7.7	0.61
б	3.720	1.3	50	11.06	11.37	3.9	0.35

Finite Difference Time Domain (FDTD) Simulation

- Mode @ Au-Silicon Interface
- Origin of Field Concentration

(1) Results of FDTD Shows That The Fields Are Strongly Concentrated Near the Au-Air and Au-Si Interface.



- Au-Silicon resonance
- Light bends at the "corner"
- Focusing w/o lens, QD/QW/PV

(2) Results of FDTD Shows That The Fields Are Strongly Concentrated Near the Au-Air and Au-Si Interface.



(E_x Profile)



FDTD Summary

- Field concentration is induced at the metal corners.
- The resonance occurs at the Au-Si interface
- The 2D mode propagates along x with a wavevector, k_{sp} =G.

Integration with a QDIP Detector

- → Quantum Dot Sample Growth (UNM)
- → Sample Processing (RPI)
 - Testing

A High Quality QD Infrared Photodetector Sample With a Dual Band Response Was Grown at U New Mexico.



30 Periods Quantum Dot (QD)

Spectral response for the QD infrared photodetector at 77K.

Mask Layout For Enhancing Infrared Response at λ =5µm and 8.5µm Wavelengths.



Our Process Development Is Almost Complete For 2DHA and QDIP Integration .



Conclusion

- Extended 2DHA focusing to the infrared (λ =3-10 μ m).
- Demonstrated a flux enhancement (>300%) at sub- λ .
- Discovered the role of metal corner for light focusing.
- Integrate 2DHA with a QD infrared photodetector.

Appendix: Other Designs for Field Enhancement

2.3D metallic mesh design
3D metallic photonic crystal

1. 2D Metallic Mesh Design



2. 3D Metallic Photonic Crystal at Visible Wavelengths.



This 3D photonic-crystal has the shortest operating wavelength in the world. Its feature size is the smallest ever been produced in such a multi-layer nanostructure.

An experimental reflectance data taken at different incident angles. The band edge is at λ ~650nm.

The EM field is strongly enhanced, >200%, when excited at the resonant frequency

(Optics Express 15, 8428 (2007).