

Plasmonics

Fundamentals & Applications

Photonics
(ELEC-E3240)

Zhipei Sun

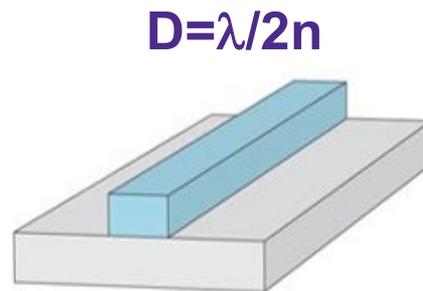
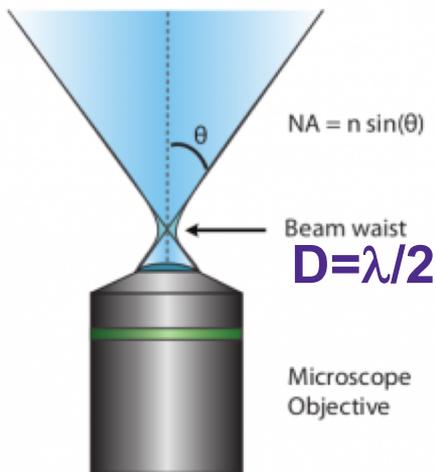
Photonics Group
Department of Electronics and Nanoengineering
Aalto University

What is plasmonics?

Technological limits of photons

Diffraction limit

Absorption limit



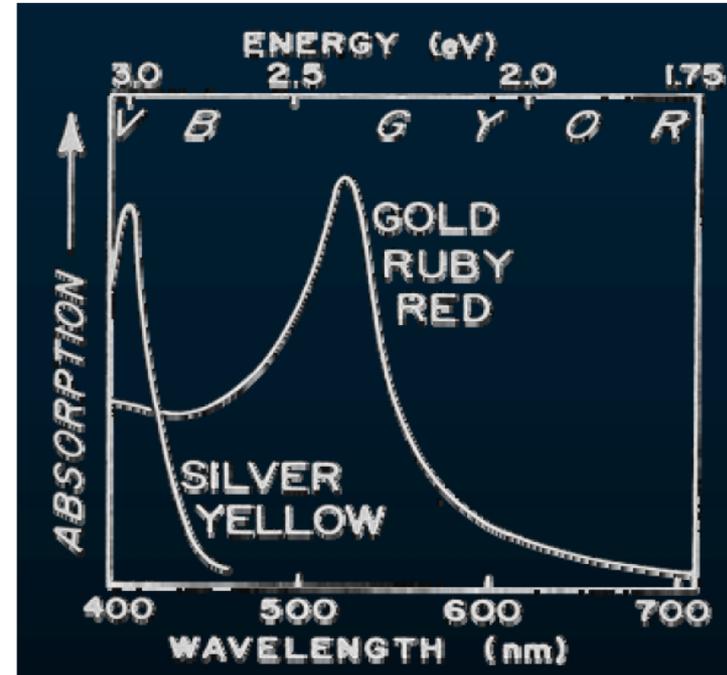
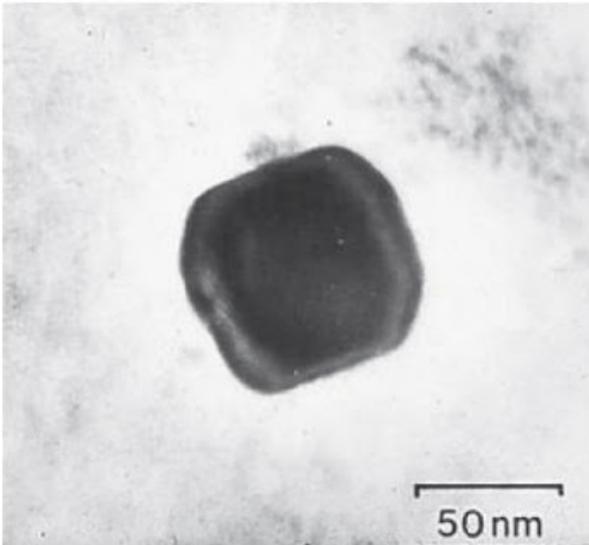
The unique properties of metallic particles



The unique properties of metallic particles

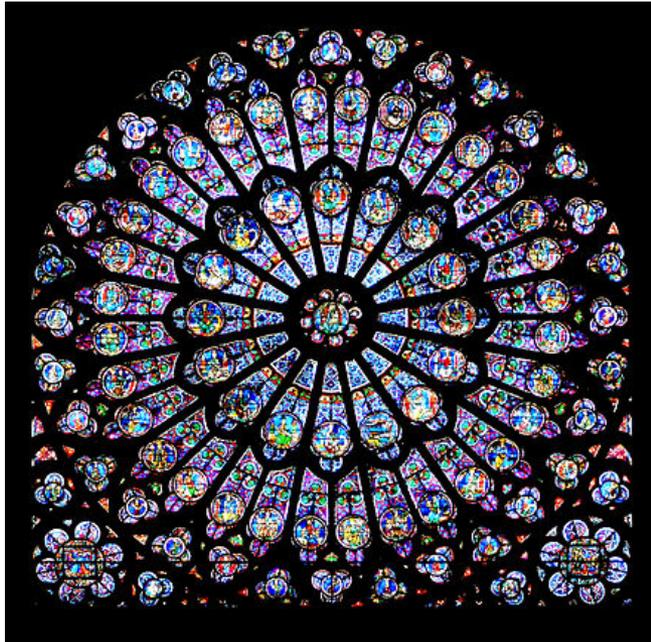
Figure 4

Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) image of a silver-gold alloy particle within the glass of the Lycurgus Cup [21]. © The Trustees of the British Museum.



Au nanoparticles for red coloration
Ag nanoparticles for yellow coloration

The unique properties of metallic particles

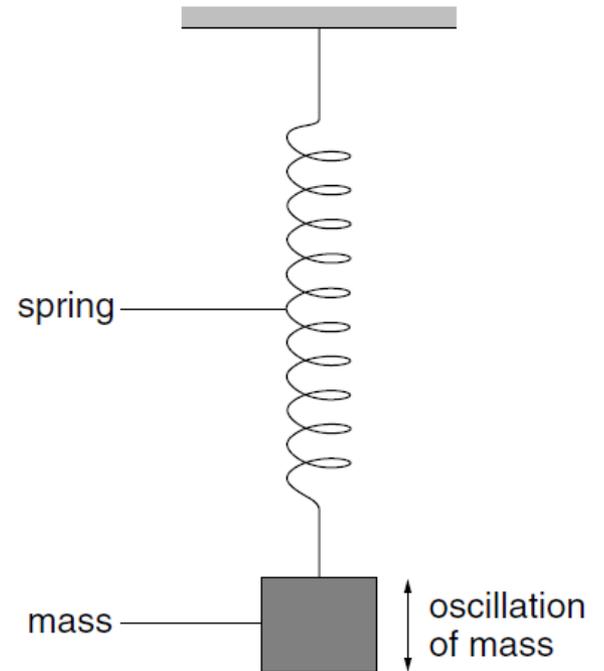
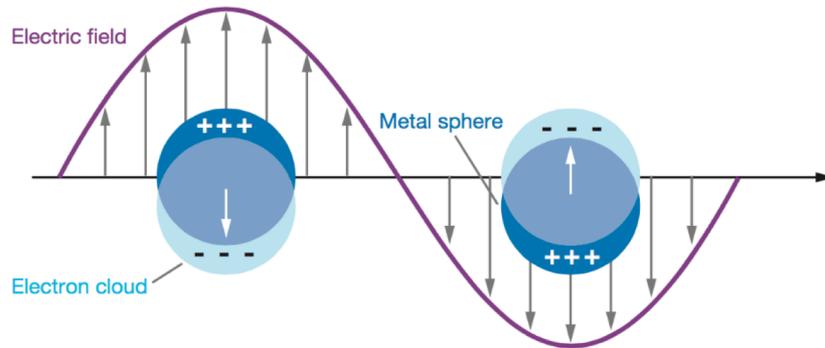


Gothic stained glass rose window of Notre-Dame de Paris. (13th century A.D.)



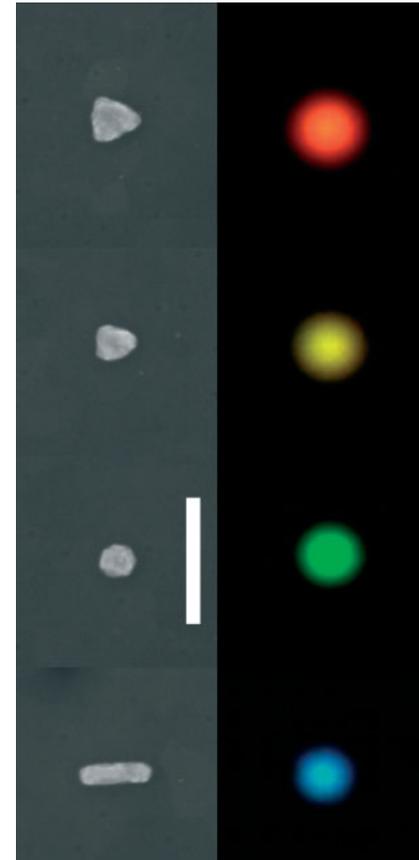
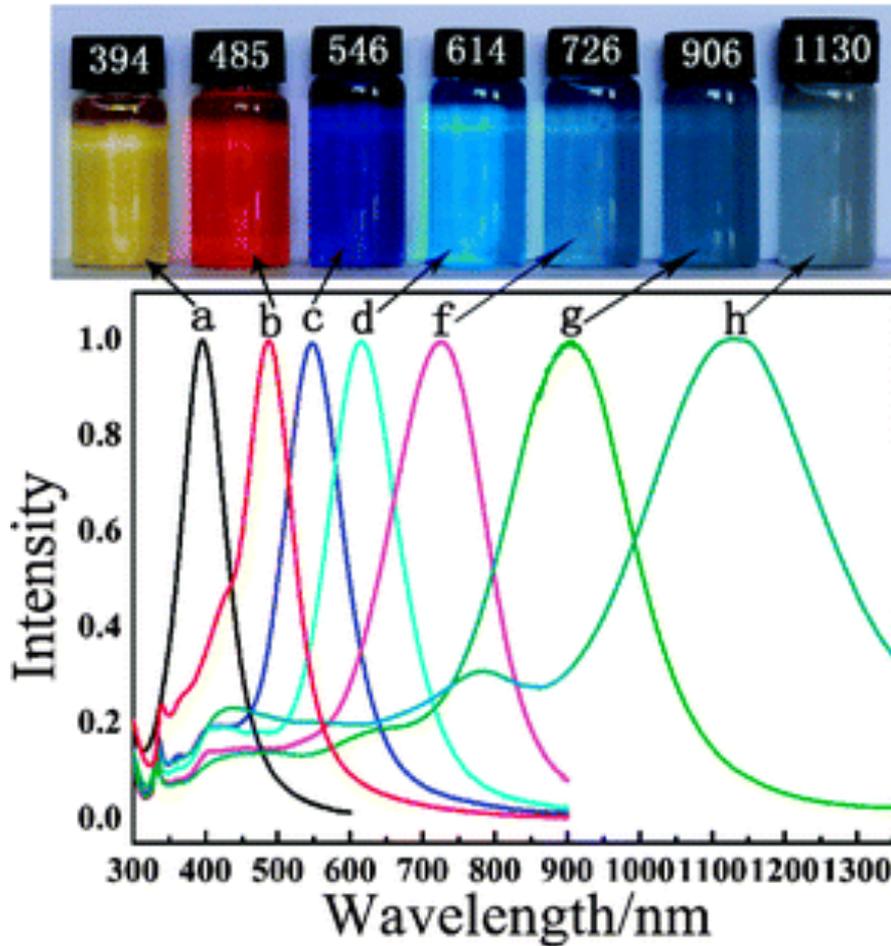
Gold colloidal suspension made by Michel Faraday in 1857

Localized plasmonic resonance



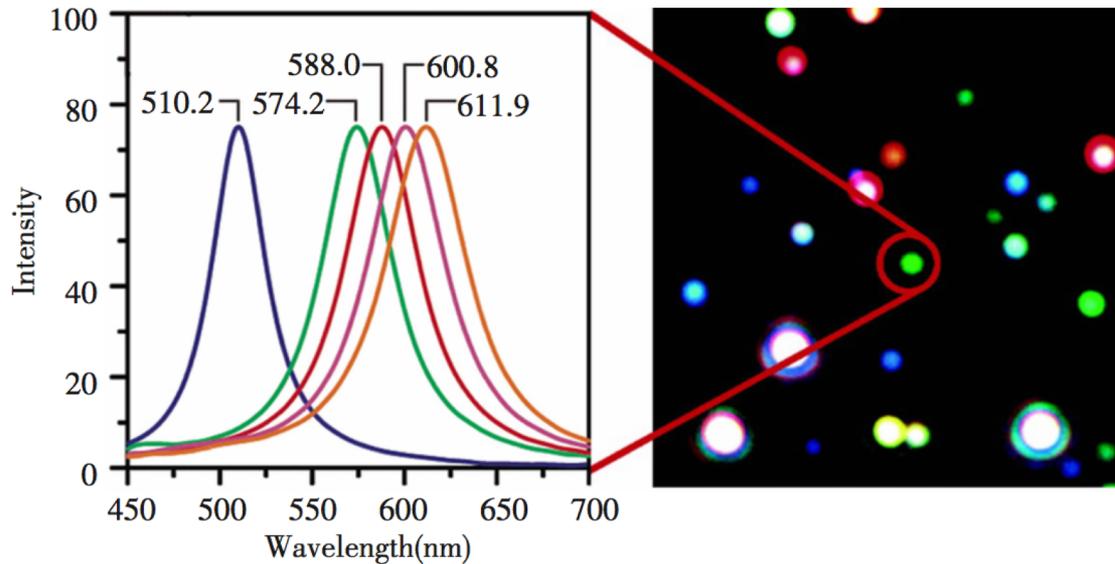
$$\omega_p = \sqrt{\frac{ne^2}{\epsilon_0 m_e}}$$

Localized plasmonic resonance



W. A. Murray, W. L. Barnes,
Adv. Mater. 19, 3771 (2007) .

Biosensing with plasmonics



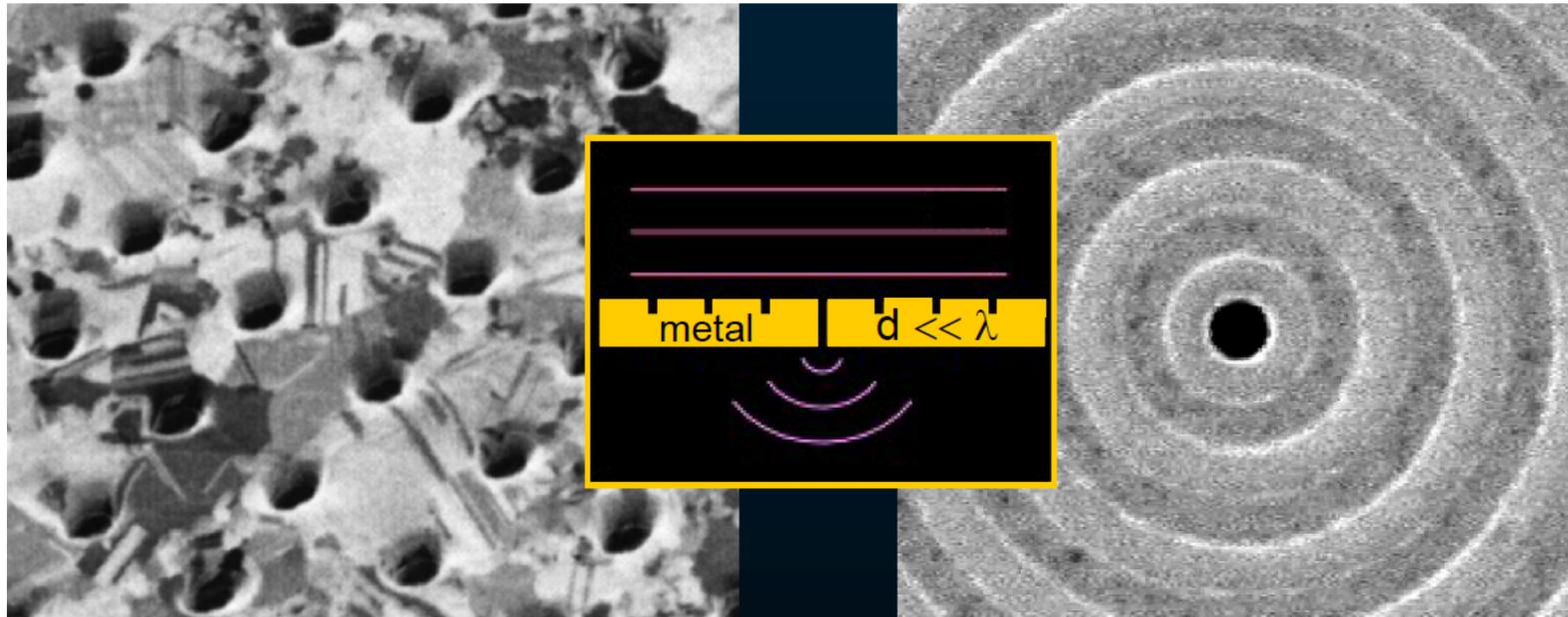
Single Ag nanoparticle resonant Rayleigh scattering spectrum in various solvent environments (left to right): nitrogen, methanol, 1-propanol, chloroform, and benzene .

Biosensing with plasmonics



Pregnancy tests (a *lateral flow assay*) detect human chorionic gonadotropin from urine (Also for ovulation.)

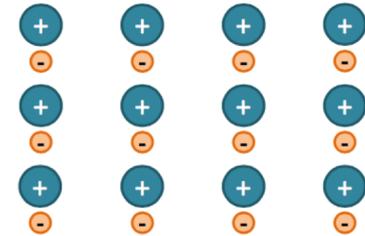
Localized Plasmonics Applications



What is plasmonics?

Plasmon

Collective oscillation of free electrons



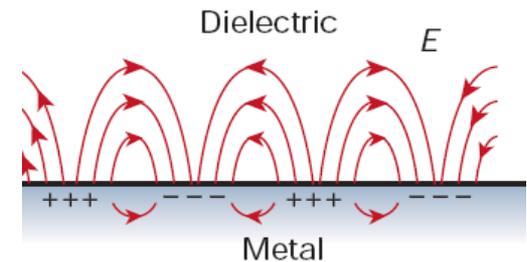
Surface

Collective oscillation of free electrons at surface

Surface Plasmon Polariton

Surface Plasmon + Photon

Polariton: quasi-particle resulting from coupling of EM waves with an electric or magnetic excitation.



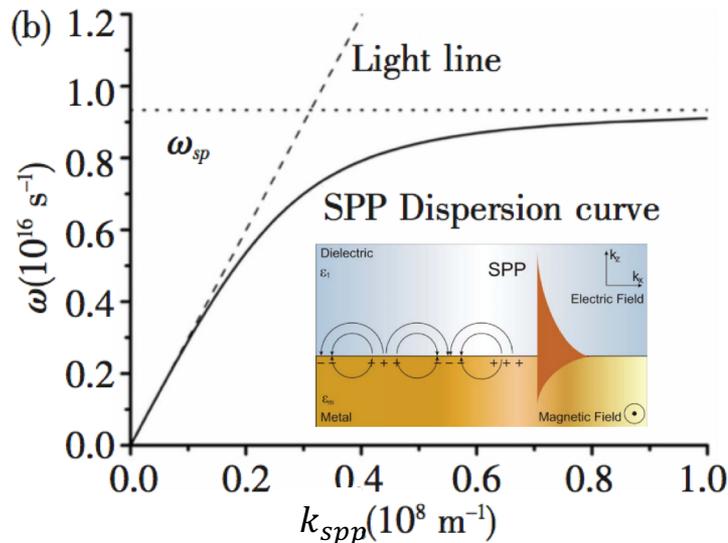
Dispersion and Properties

Maxwell's equations
Boundary conditions



Dispersion (Wavevector, frequency)

$$k_{spp} = k_x = \frac{\omega}{c} \left(\frac{\epsilon_1 \epsilon_m}{\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_m} \right)^{1/2}$$

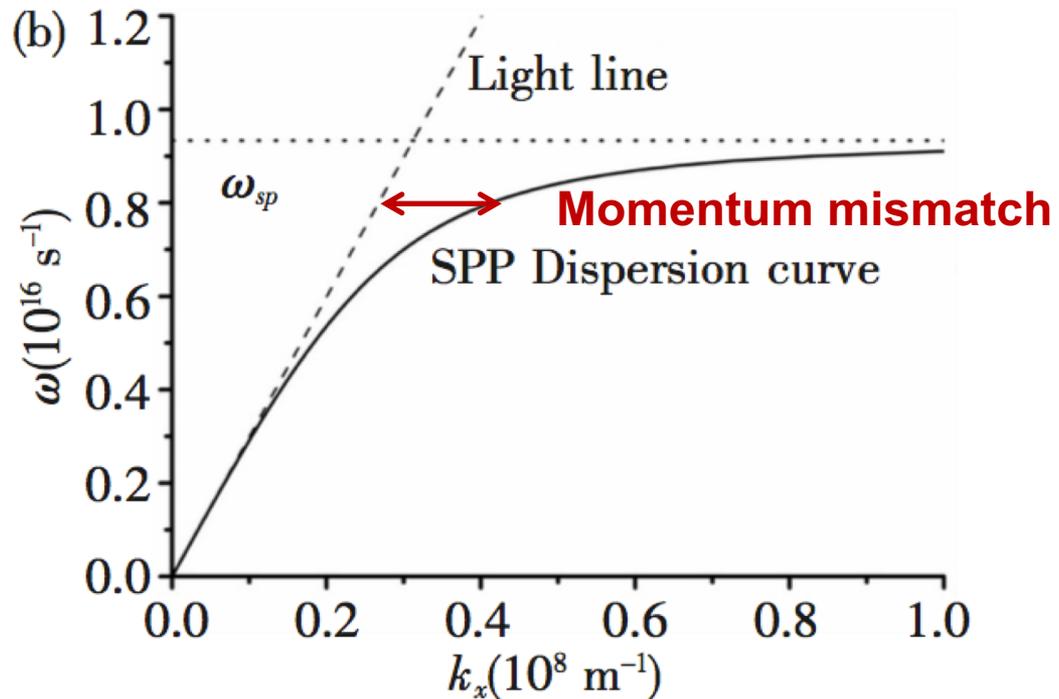


- **Subwavelength** $\lambda_{spp} = \frac{2\pi}{k_{spp}}$
- **Propagating** along the surface
- **Confinement** at the surface
- **Enhancement** of Optical fields

Excitation

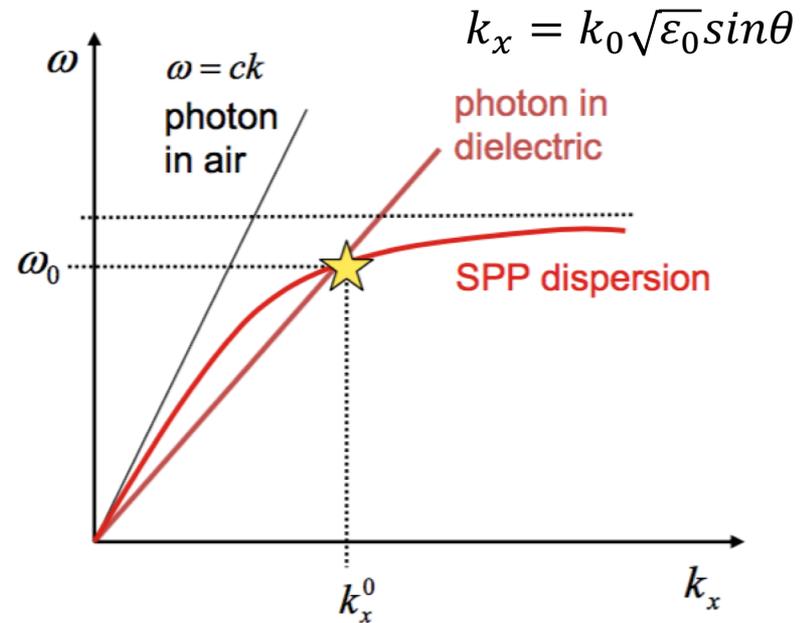
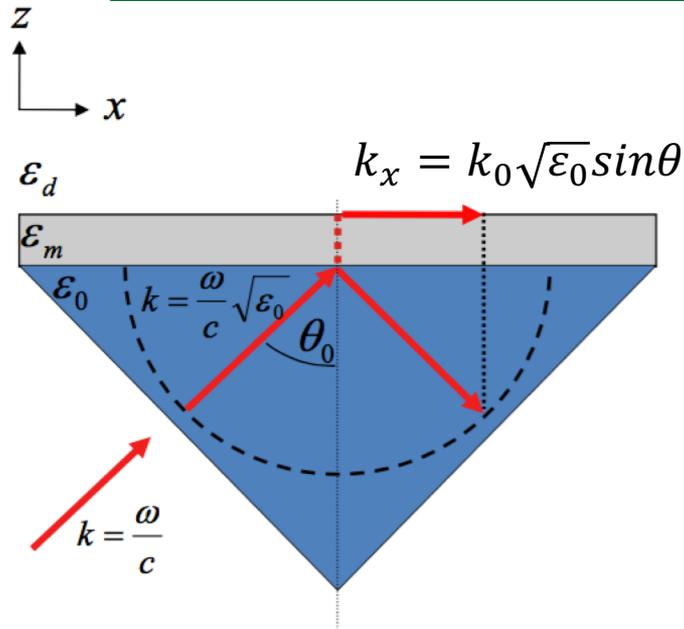
1. Energy Conservation

2. Momentum(k) Conservation



Excitation: Prism Coupling

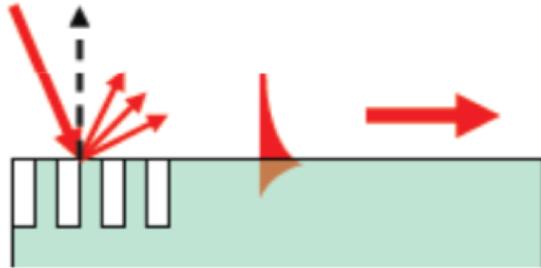
Kretschmann Configuration



Excitation condition:

$$k_{spp} = k_0 \sqrt{\epsilon_0} \sin \theta$$

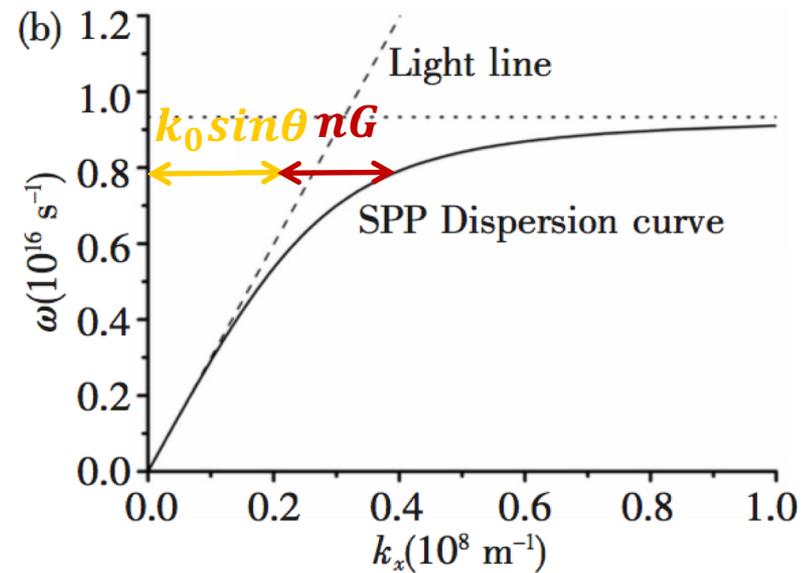
Excitation: Grating Coupling



Period: a

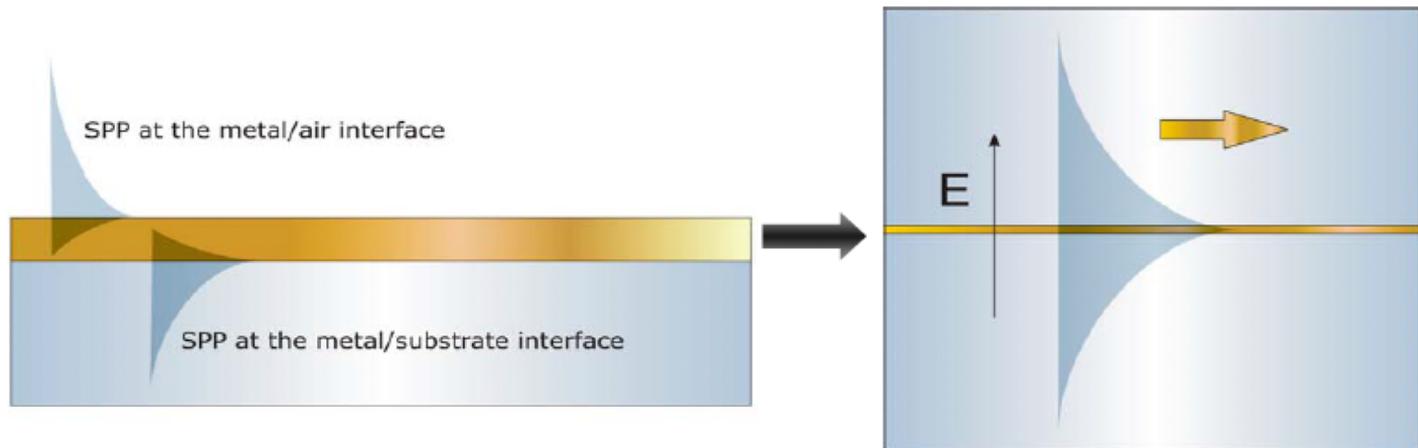
Reciprocal lattice vector

$$G = \frac{2\pi}{a}$$



Excitation condition: $k_{spp} = k_0 \sin \theta + nG$

Plasmonics waveguide



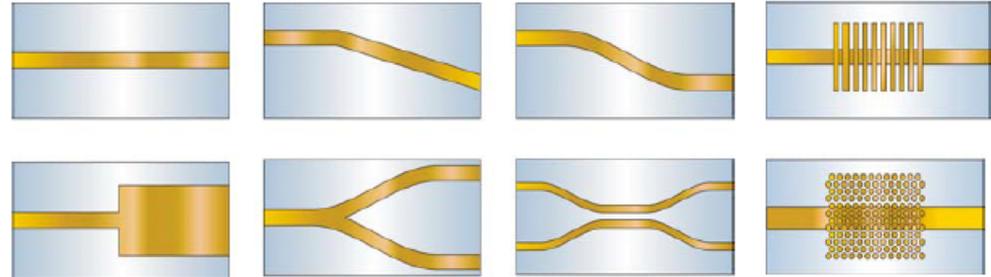
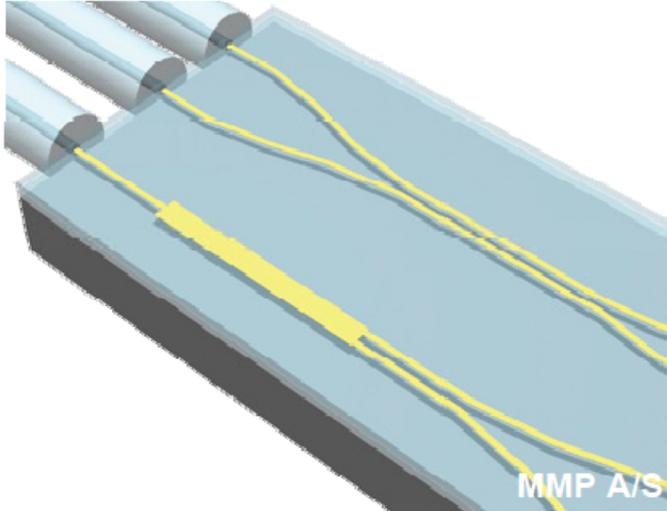
Propagation length:
Confinement:

~ tens of μm
~ hundreds of μm

~ mm
~ several μm

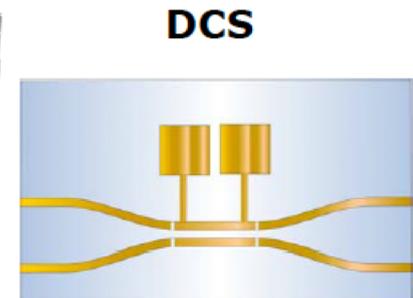
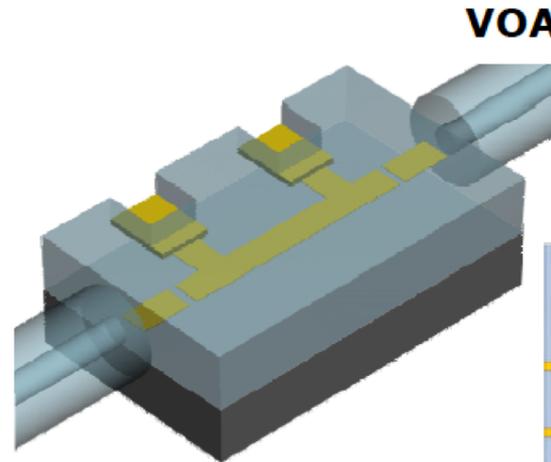
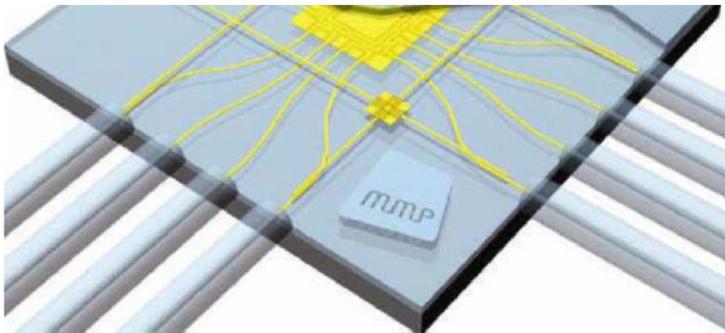
Plasmonics devices

Interfacing with external world

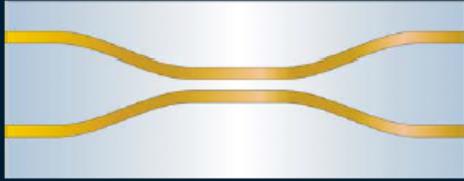


Passive components

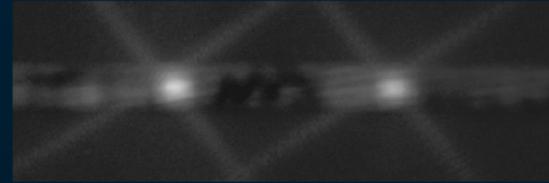
Active components



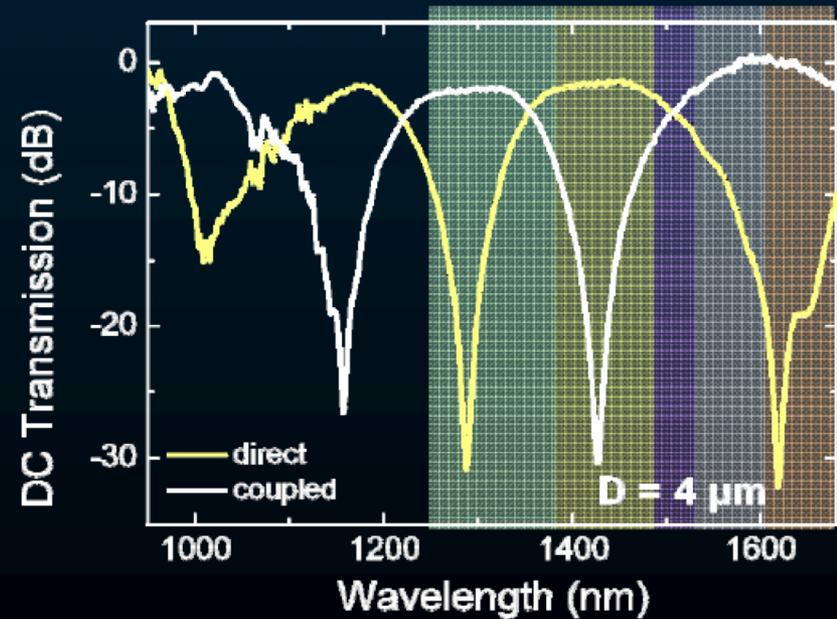
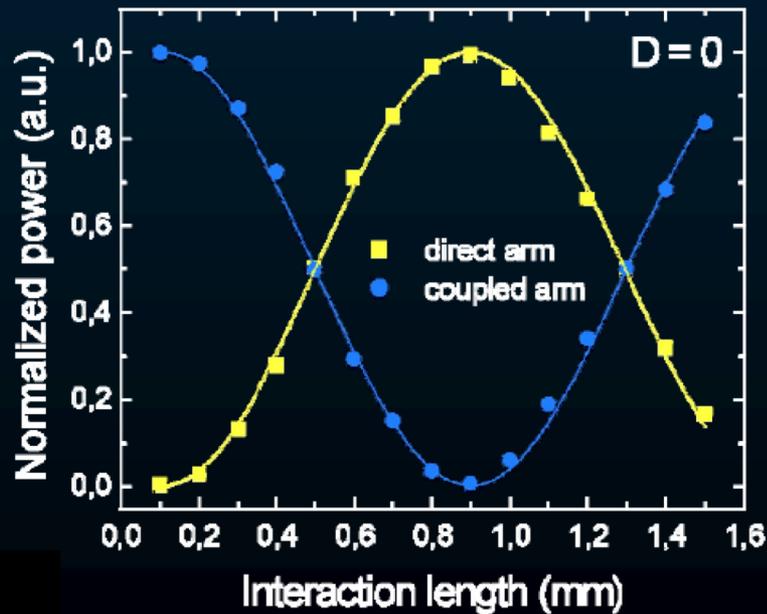
Directional Couplers



Coupling length 0.8 mm



Separation 4 μm

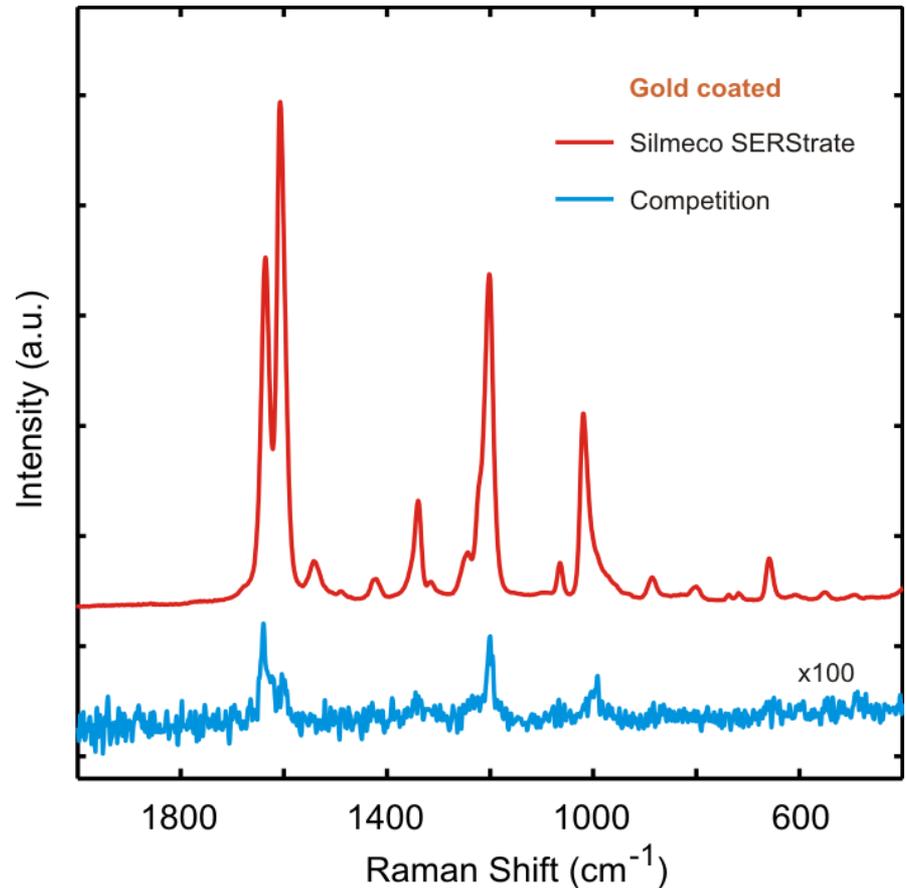
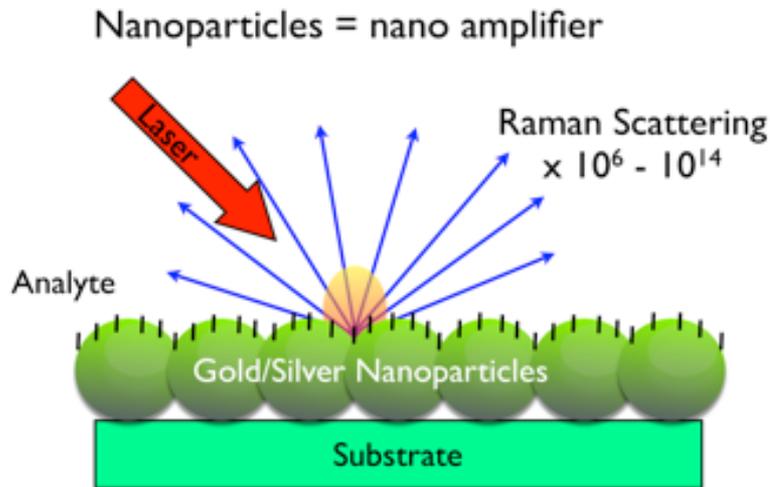


The Key Strength of Plasmonics

- Light concentration below the diffractive limits
- Simple building blocks offer tremendous design flexibility
- Scalable fabrication routes
- Simultaneous electrical and optical functionalities
- Light guiding and manipulation well below the diffraction limit

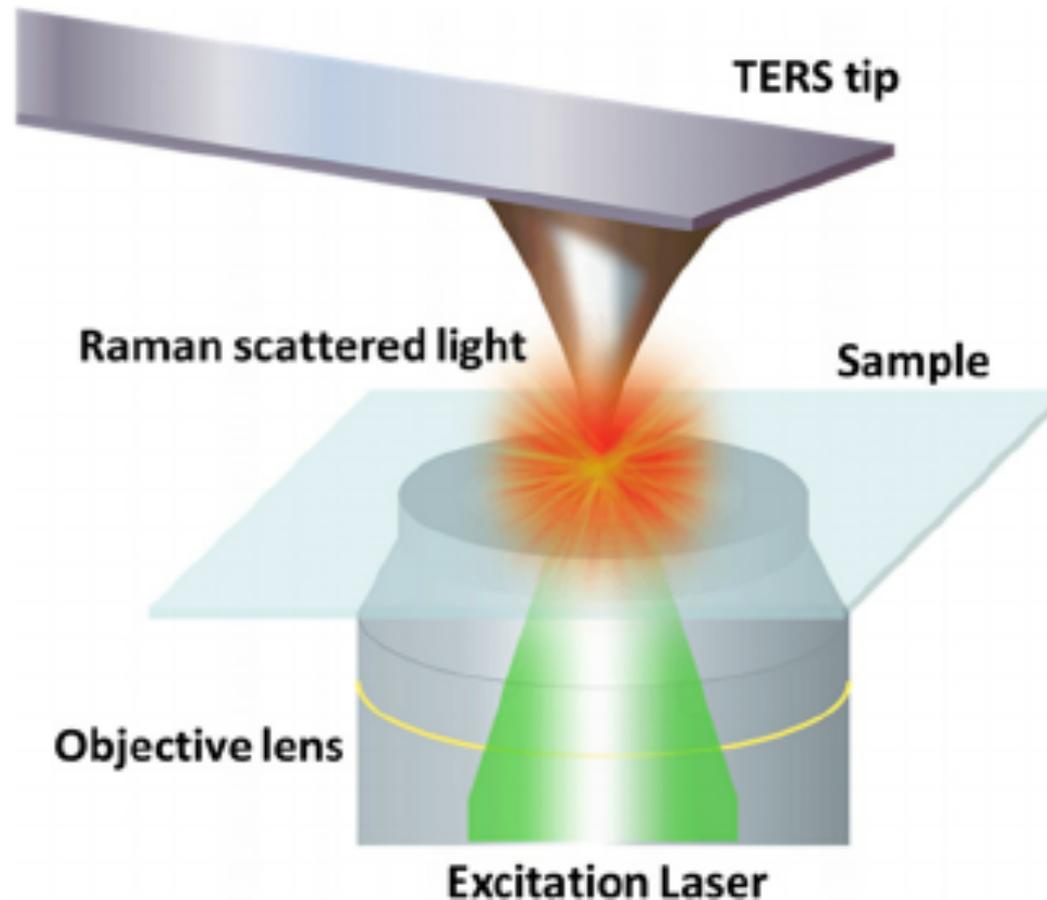
Light concentration below the diffractive limits

Surface enhanced Raman spectroscopy (SERS)

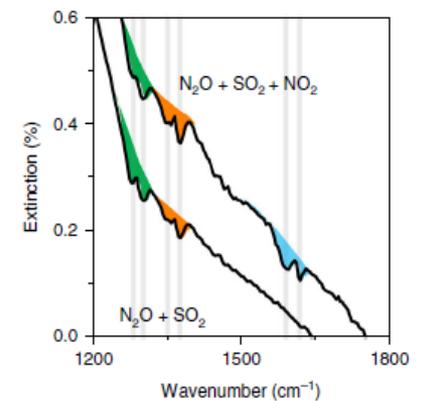
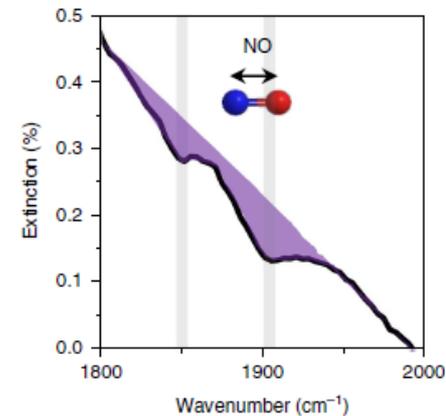
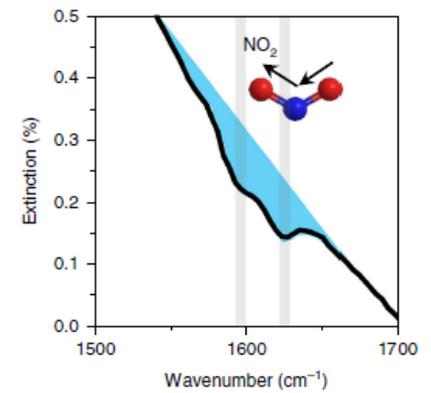
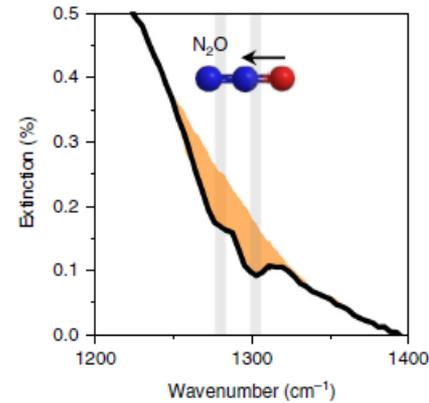
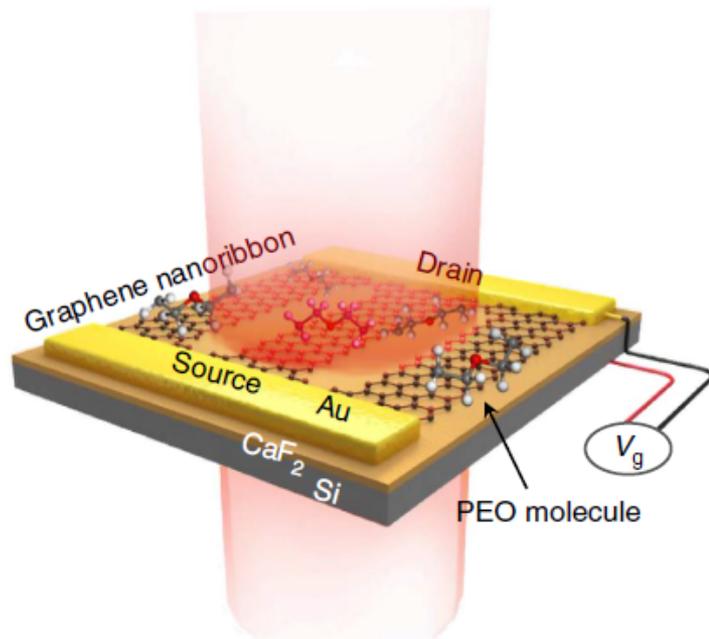


Light concentration below the diffractive limits

Tip-enhanced Raman spectroscopy (TERS)

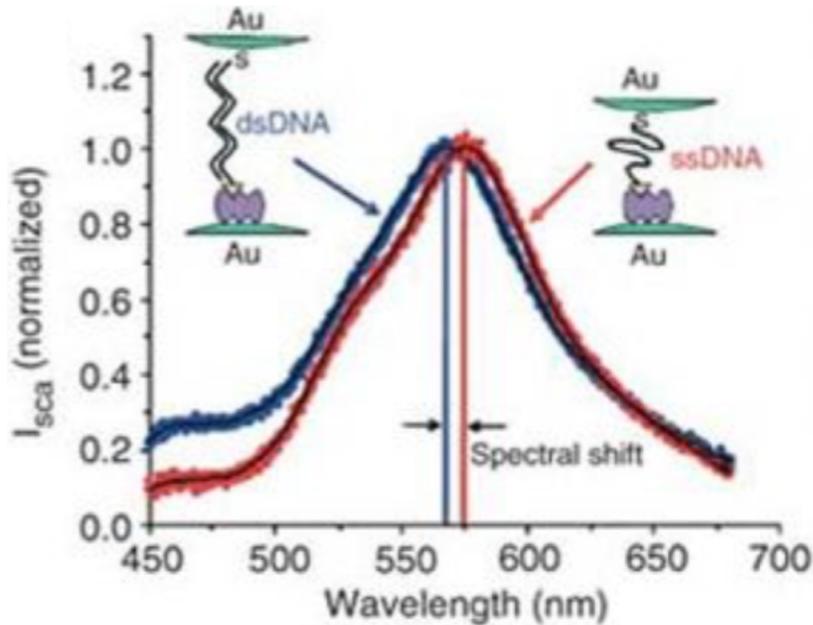


On-chip gas sensing

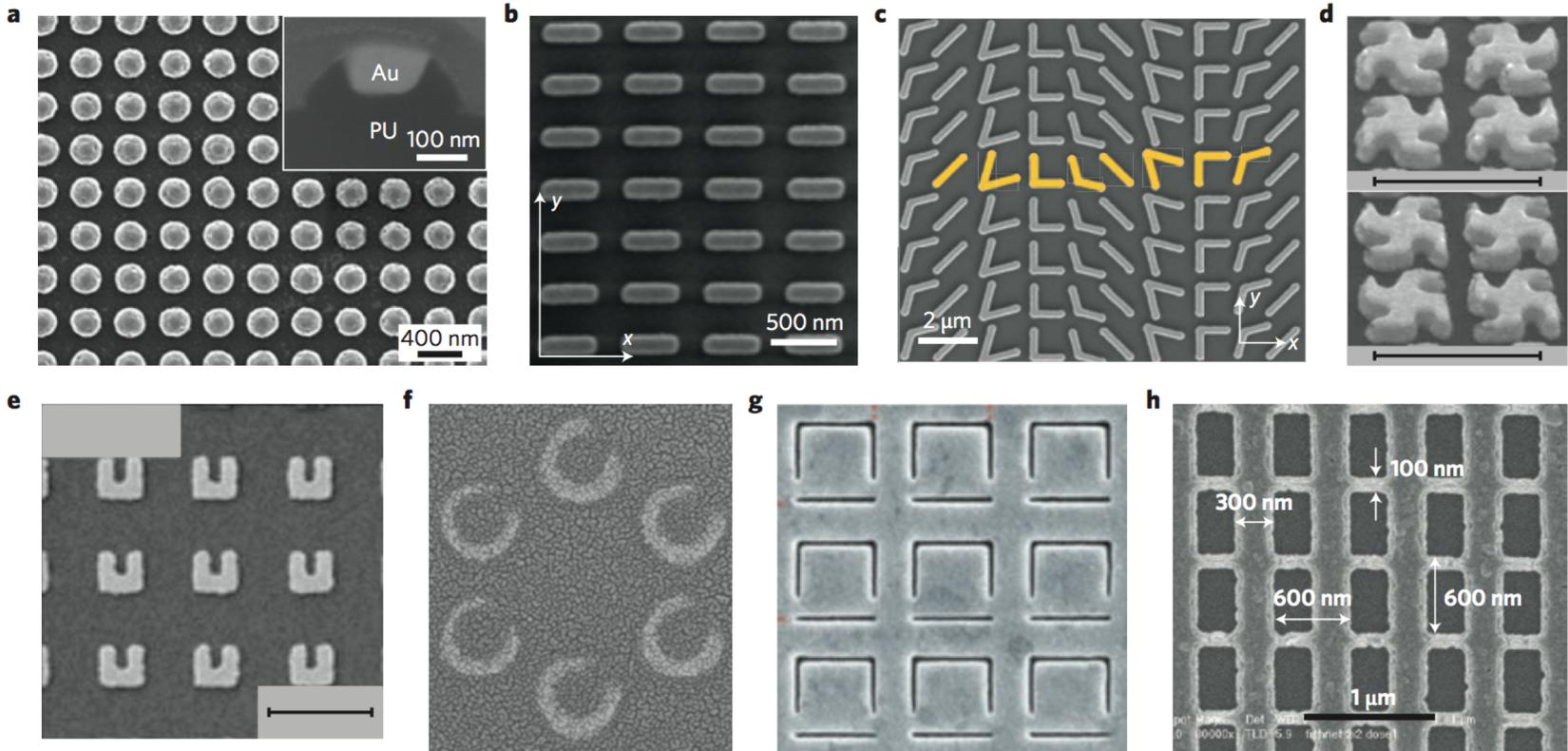


Simple building blocks offer tremendous design flexibility

Plasmonic rulers



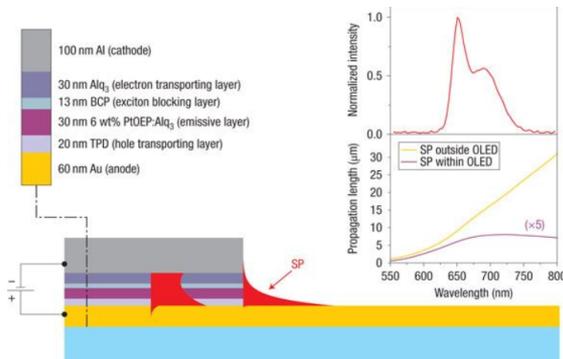
Scalable fabrication routes



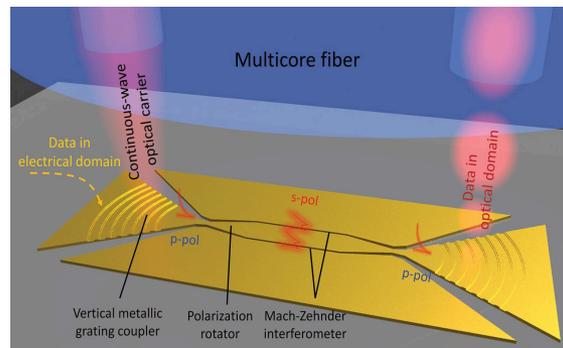
Simultaneous electrical and optical functionalities

Is it possible to simultaneously conduct electricity and manipulate light?

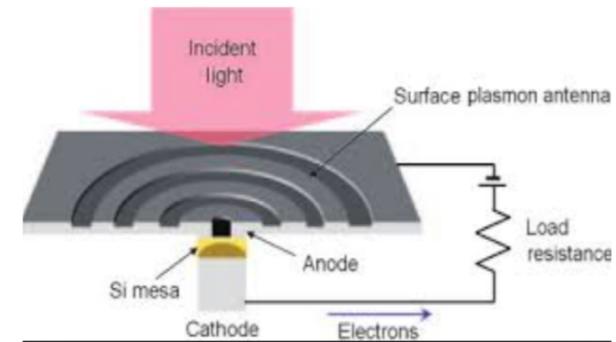
Electrically switchable surface plasmon source



Electrooptic Plasmonic Modulators

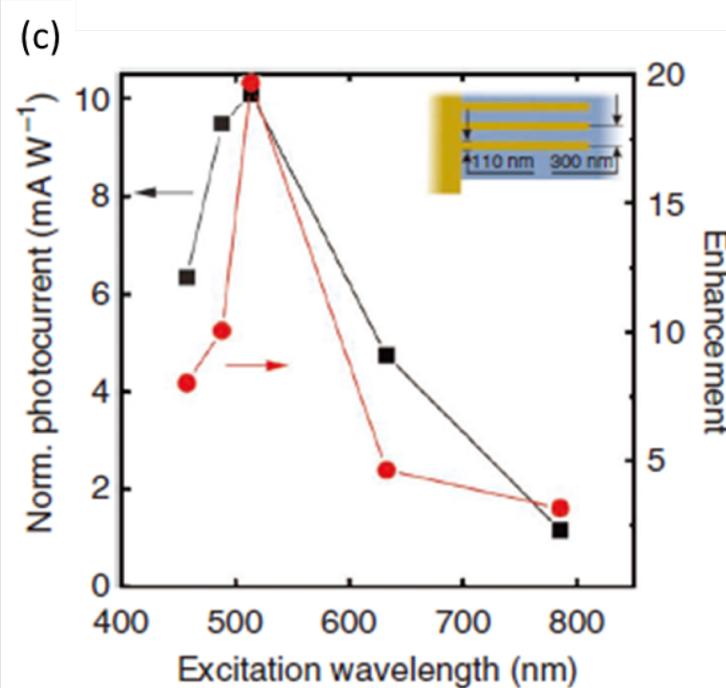
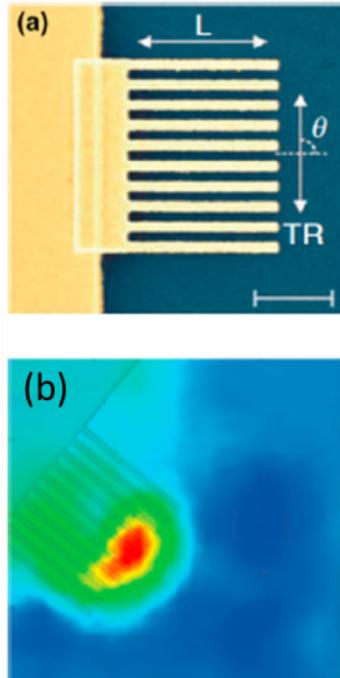


Plasmonic Photodetector



Plasmon enhanced photocurrents

Graphene photodetector:
weak interaction with light due to thickness less than 1 nm

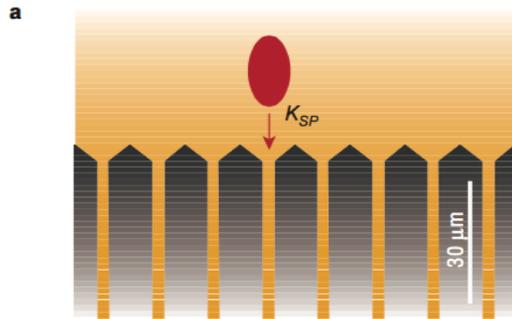


Enhancement of photocurrents is obtained at the plasmon resonant frequency.

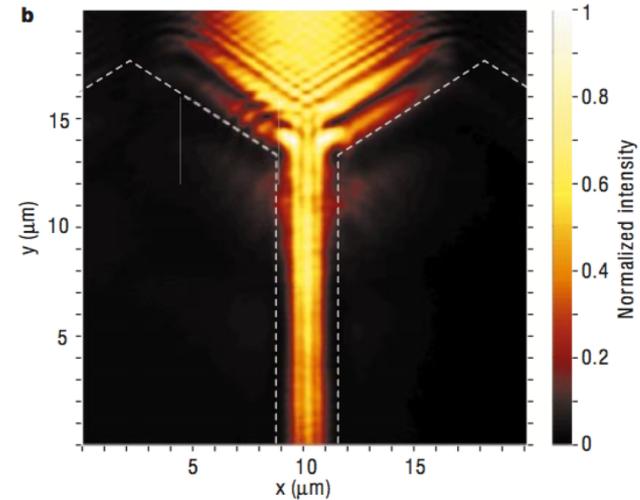
Light guiding and manipulation well below the **diffraction limit**

Plasmonic waveguide

SP waveguide



40 nm thick, $2.5\ \mu\text{m}$ wide gold stripe.
wavelength=800 nm



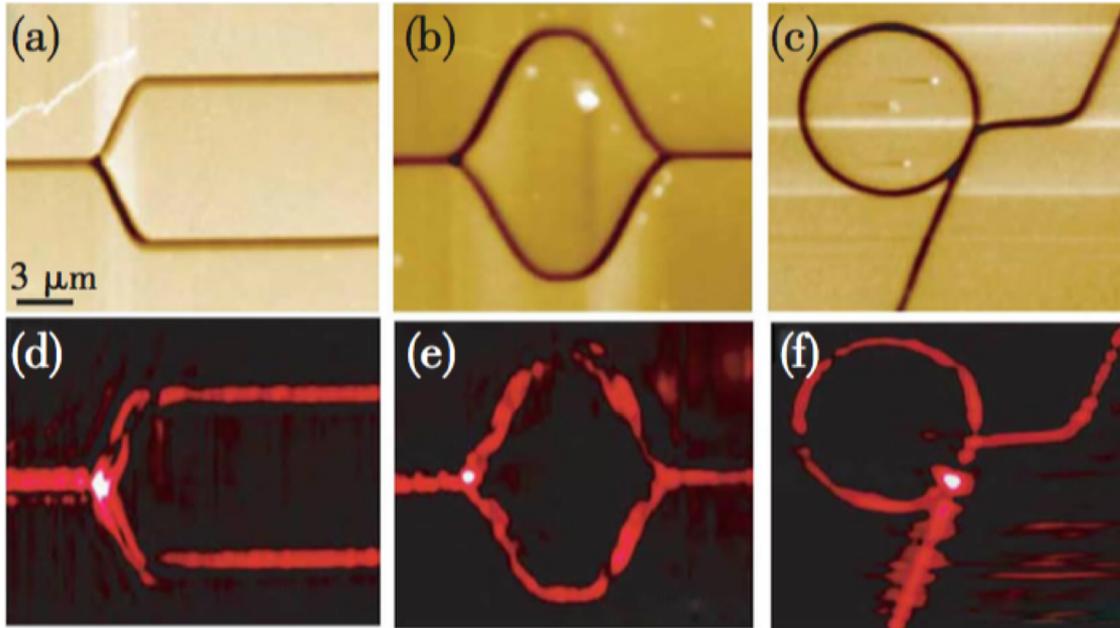
- Plasmonic waveguide mode is much better confined to the guiding material than would be the case in dielectric-based waveguides.

Light guiding and manipulation well below the **diffraction limit**

Integrated photonic chips

Metal split

Width 50nm Propagation length 10 μm



$\lambda=1\ 600\ \text{nm}$

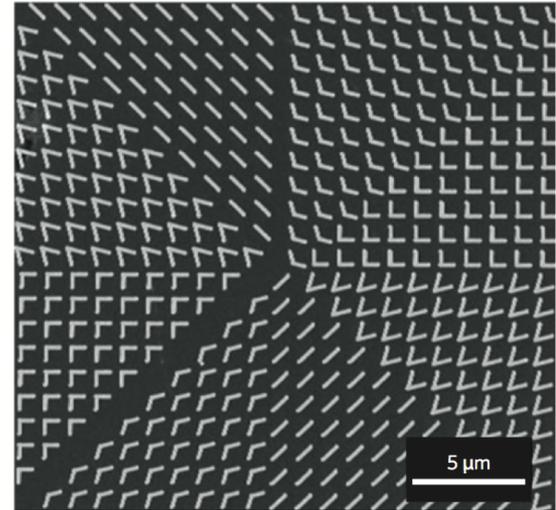
$\lambda=1\ 600\ \text{nm}$

$\lambda=1\ 525\ \text{nm}$

Splitter

interferer

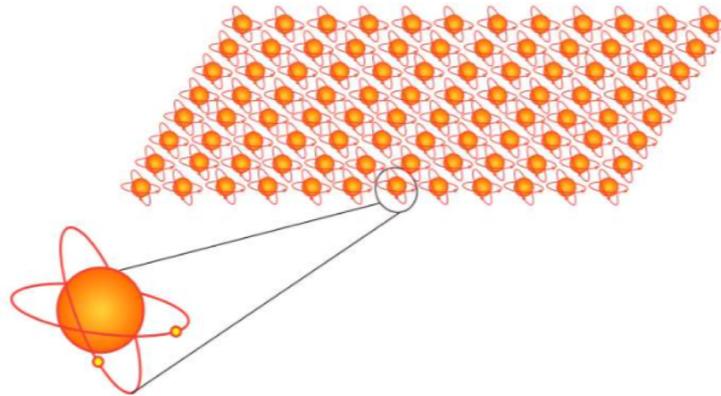
harmonic resonator



Metamaterial

Metamaterial

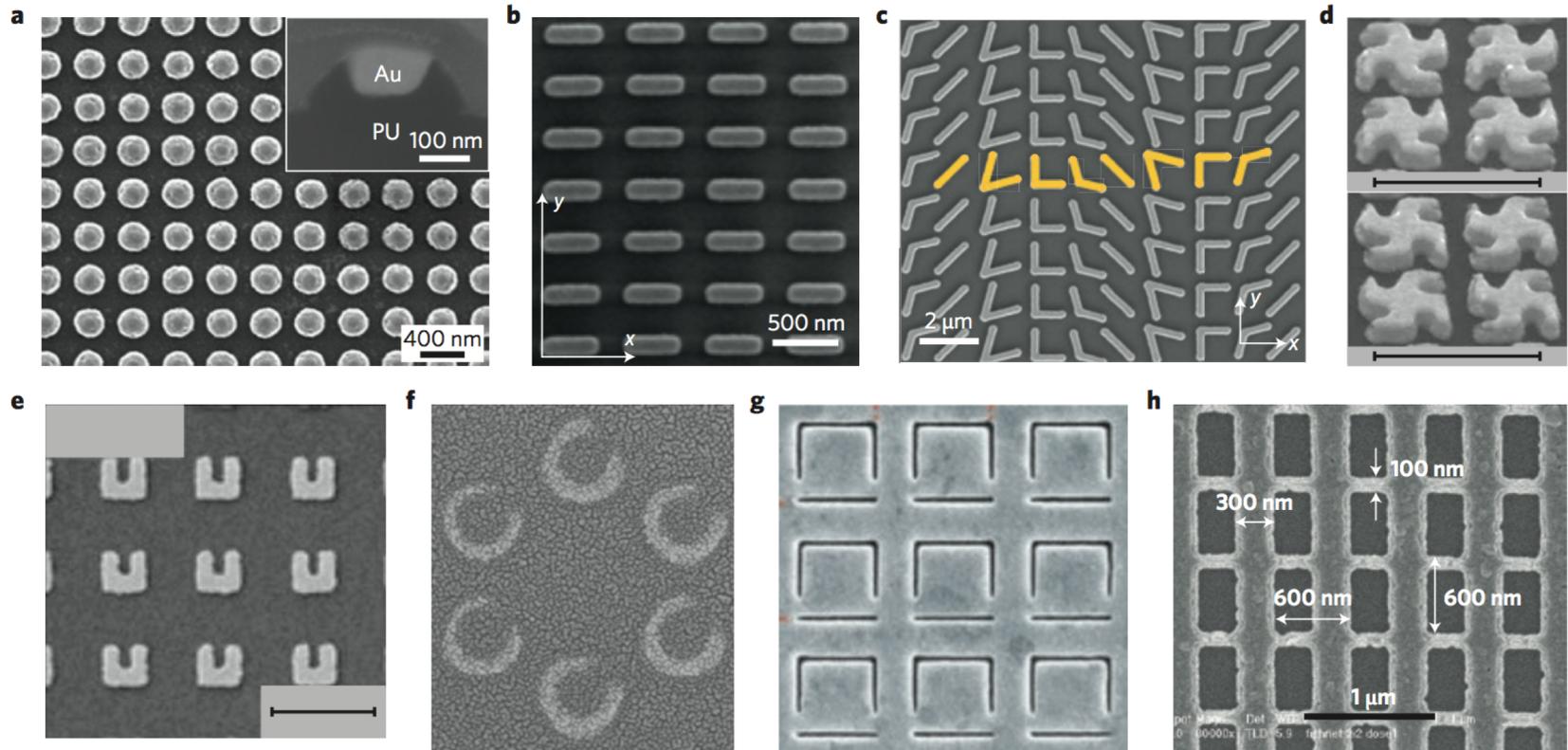
Greek word *Meta* means *beyond*



- Metamaterials are composed of subwavelength structures (called meta-atoms).
- Electromagnetic response of metamaterials can be described via *effective permittivity* $\epsilon(\omega)$ and *permeability* $\mu(\omega)$, which are different from the base materials.

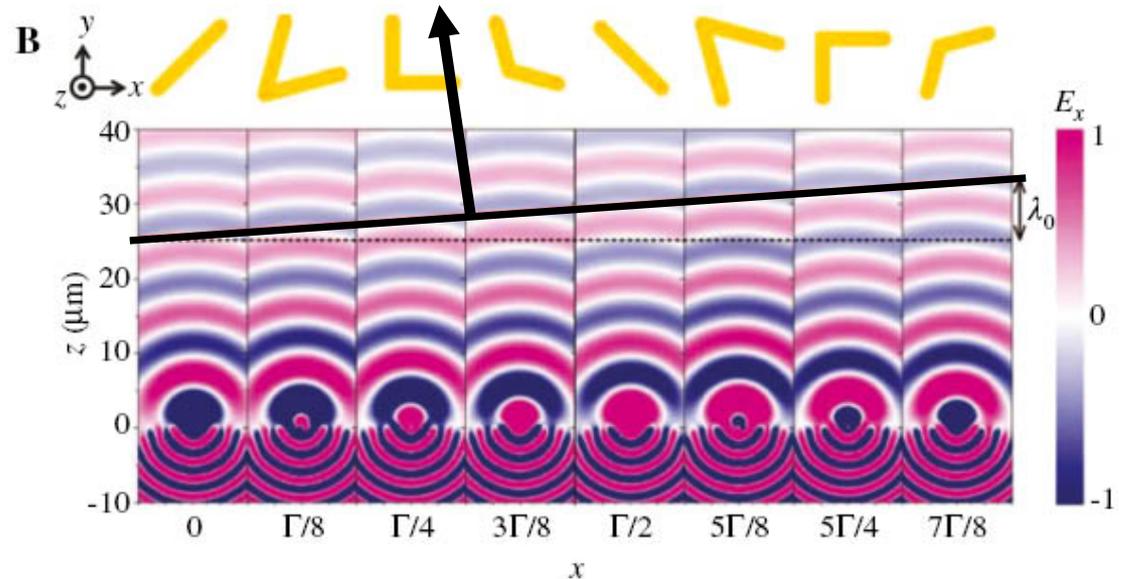
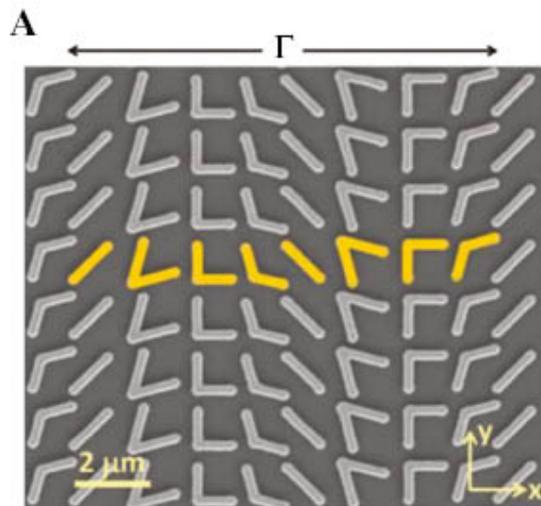
Plasmonic metasurfaces

Phase control



Plasmonic metasurfaces

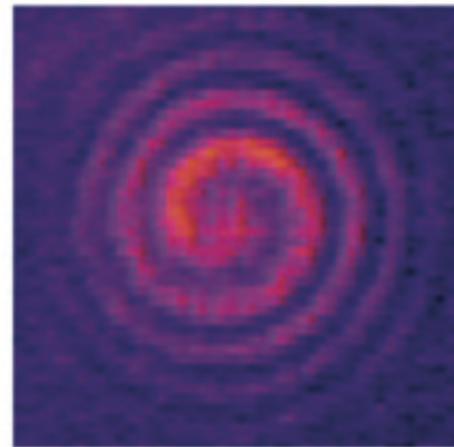
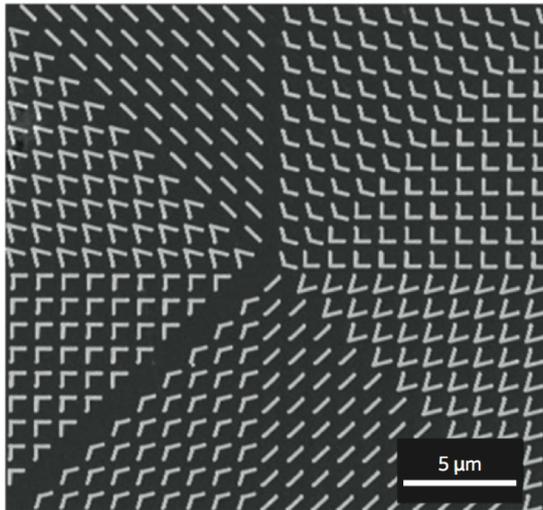
Phase shift \rightarrow Reshape of wavefront



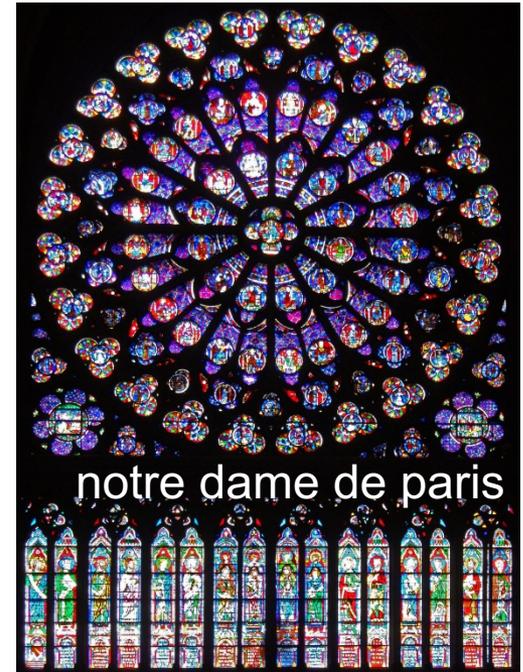
directed radiation

Plasmonic metasurfaces

Vortex beam generators
phase-gradient metasurface elements



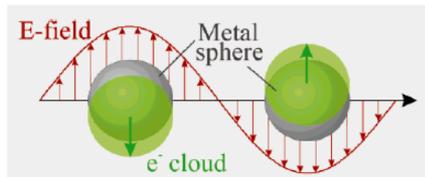
The generated vortex beam



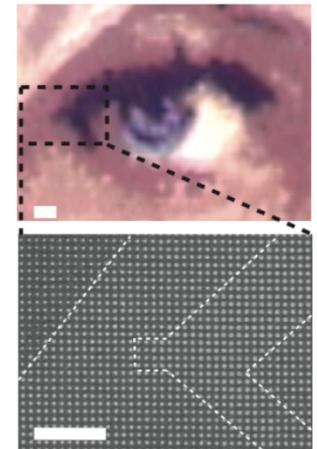
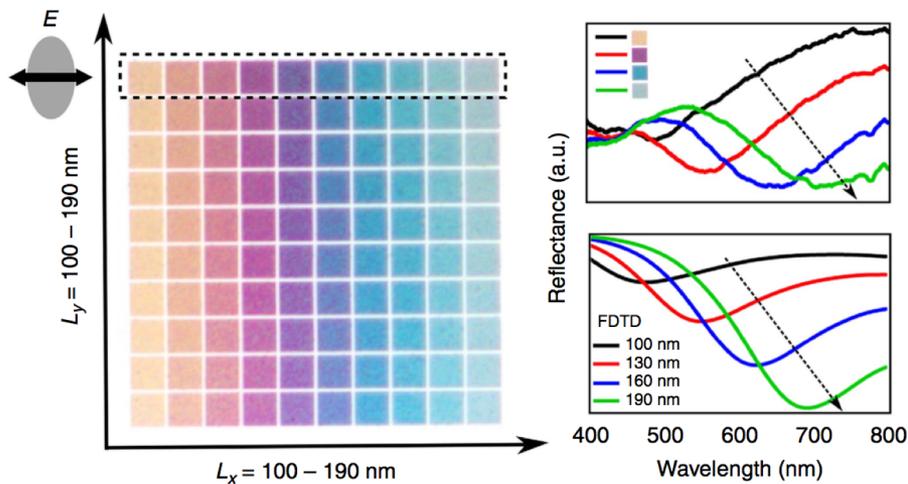
Plasmonic coloration

Plasmonics and plasmonic coloration

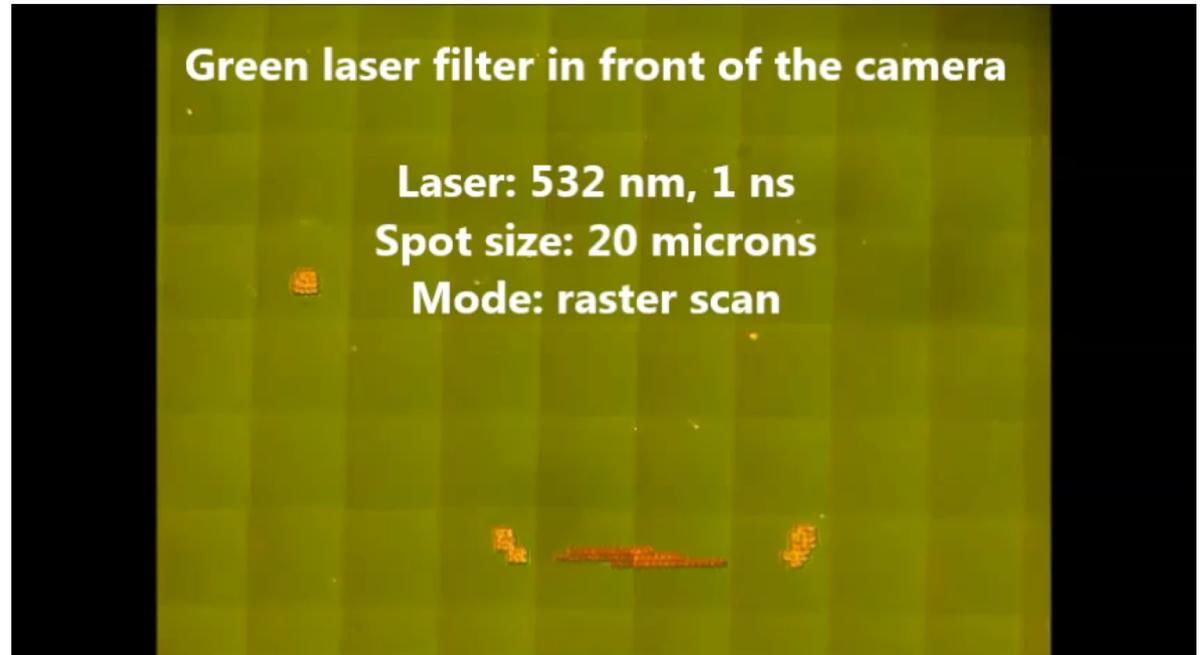
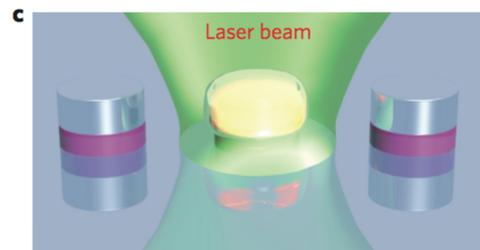
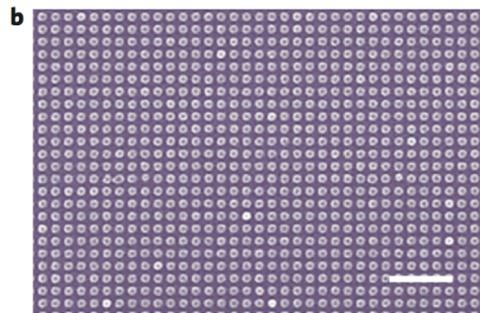
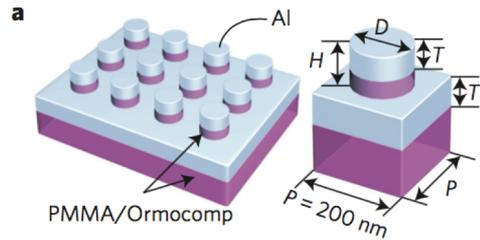
Interactions between light and metal nanostructures



High resolution



Plasmonic color laser printing



Plasmonics Color

Photonic structure colors

Properties: Iridescence, Metallic color, fadeless, tunable color.....

Artificial plasmonic colors

Properties: High resolution, active printing, tunable colors.....

- Nature takes the strategy of maximal achievement at minimal cost.
- Photonic structures in the biological world should be always optimal in the sense of functionality such as biological, physical, or even physiological functions.
- Natural photonic structures may have been a great source of inspiration in our design and fabrication of new optical materials and devices for future technological applications.

Plasmonics Vs Photonics

