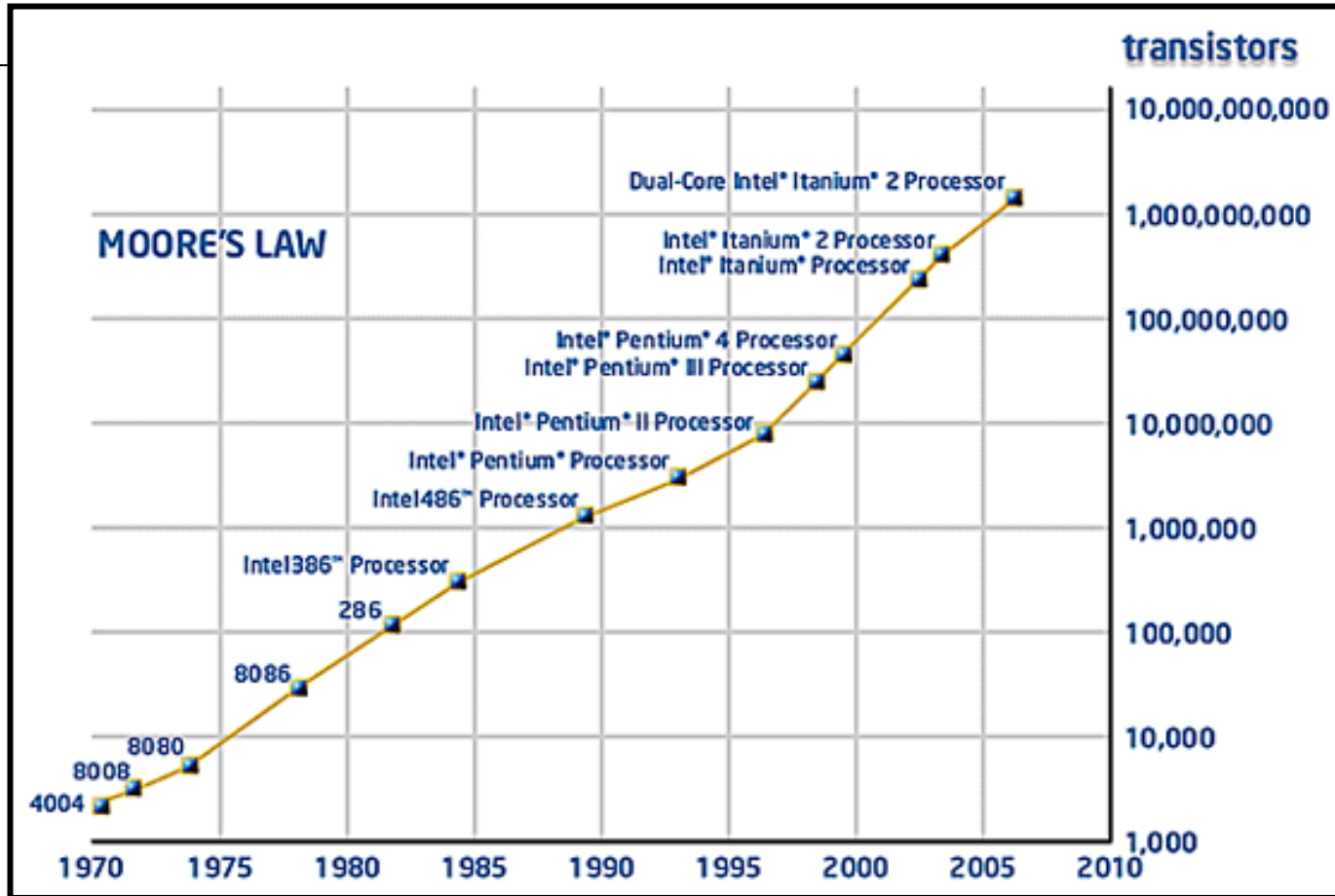

Part 2:

Plasmonic

Nanophotonics

Motivation – Device densities



www.intel.com

- Device densities are exponentially increasing

Why not electronics?

As **data rates** AND component packing **densities** INCREASE, electrical interconnects become progressively limited by **RC**-delay:



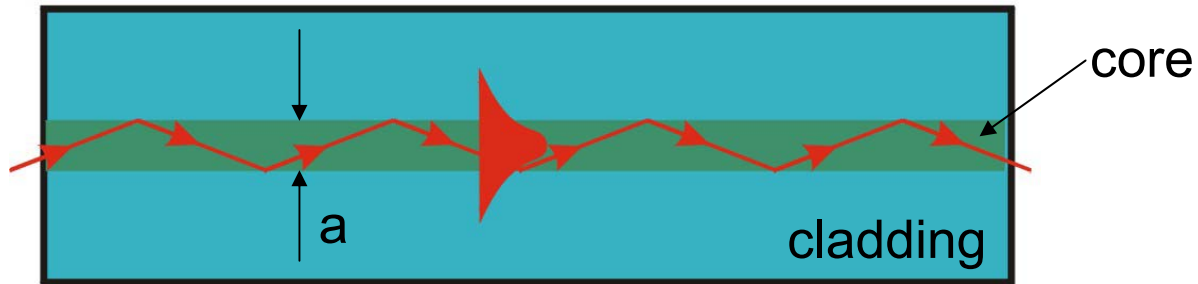
$$R \propto L / A \oplus C \propto L \Rightarrow B_{\max} \propto \frac{1}{RC} \propto \frac{A}{L^2}$$
$$\Rightarrow B_{\max} \leq 10^{15} \times \frac{A}{L^2} \text{ (bit/s)} (A \ll L^2 !)$$



Electronics is aspect-ratio limited in speed!

Why not photonics?

The bit **rate** in optical communications is fundamentally limited **only** by the carrier frequency: $B_{\max} < f \sim 100 \text{ Tbit/s (!)}$,
but **light propagation is subjected to diffraction**:



$$n_{core} = n_{clad} + \delta n = n + \delta n \Rightarrow V = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} a \sqrt{n_{core}^2 - n_{clad}^2} \cong \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} a \sqrt{2n\delta n}$$

well-guided mode: $V \propto \pi \Rightarrow a \cong \lambda / 2\sqrt{2n\delta n}$ – mode size: $\delta n \ll 1 (!)$



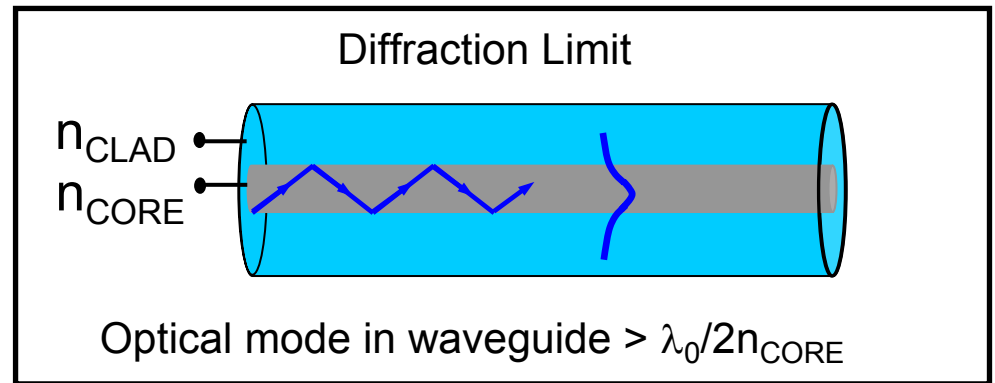
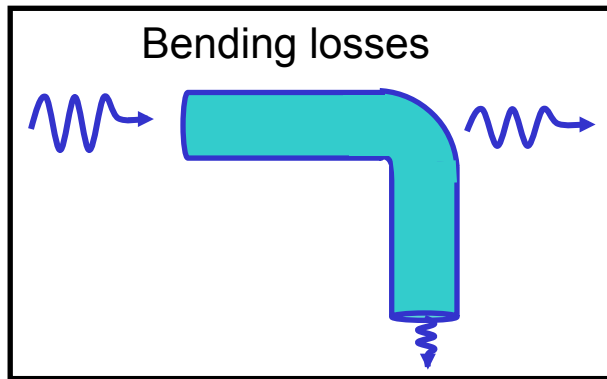
Photonics is diffraction- limited in size!

Metal Optics: An Introduction

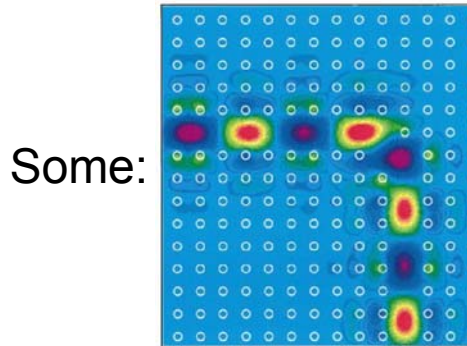
Majority of optical components based on dielectrics

- High speed, high bandwidth (ω), but...
- Does not scale well \Rightarrow Needed for large scale integration

Problems



Solutions ?



Some fundamental problems!

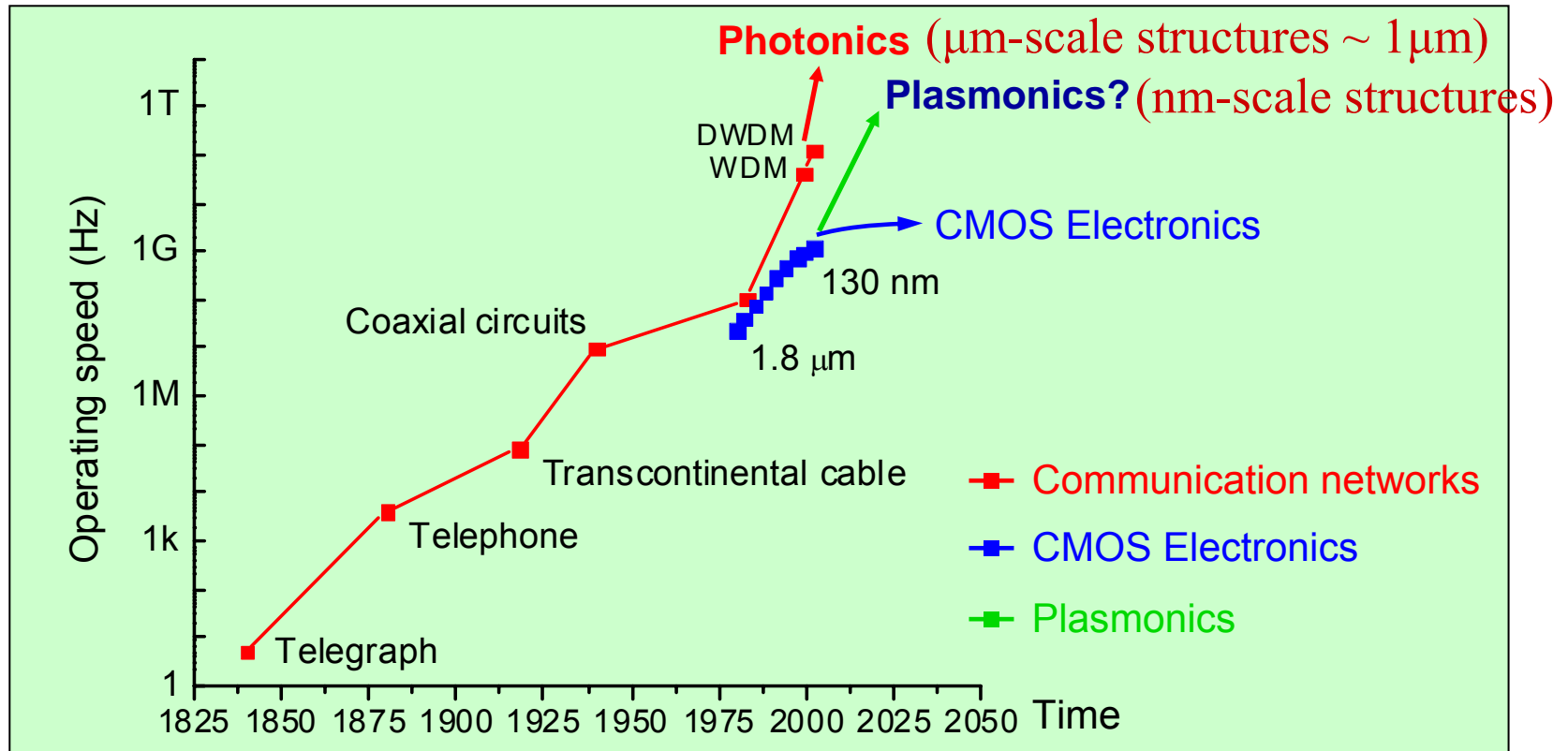


Photonic functionality based on metals?!

J. D. Joannopoulos, et al, Nature, vol.386, p.143-9 (1997)

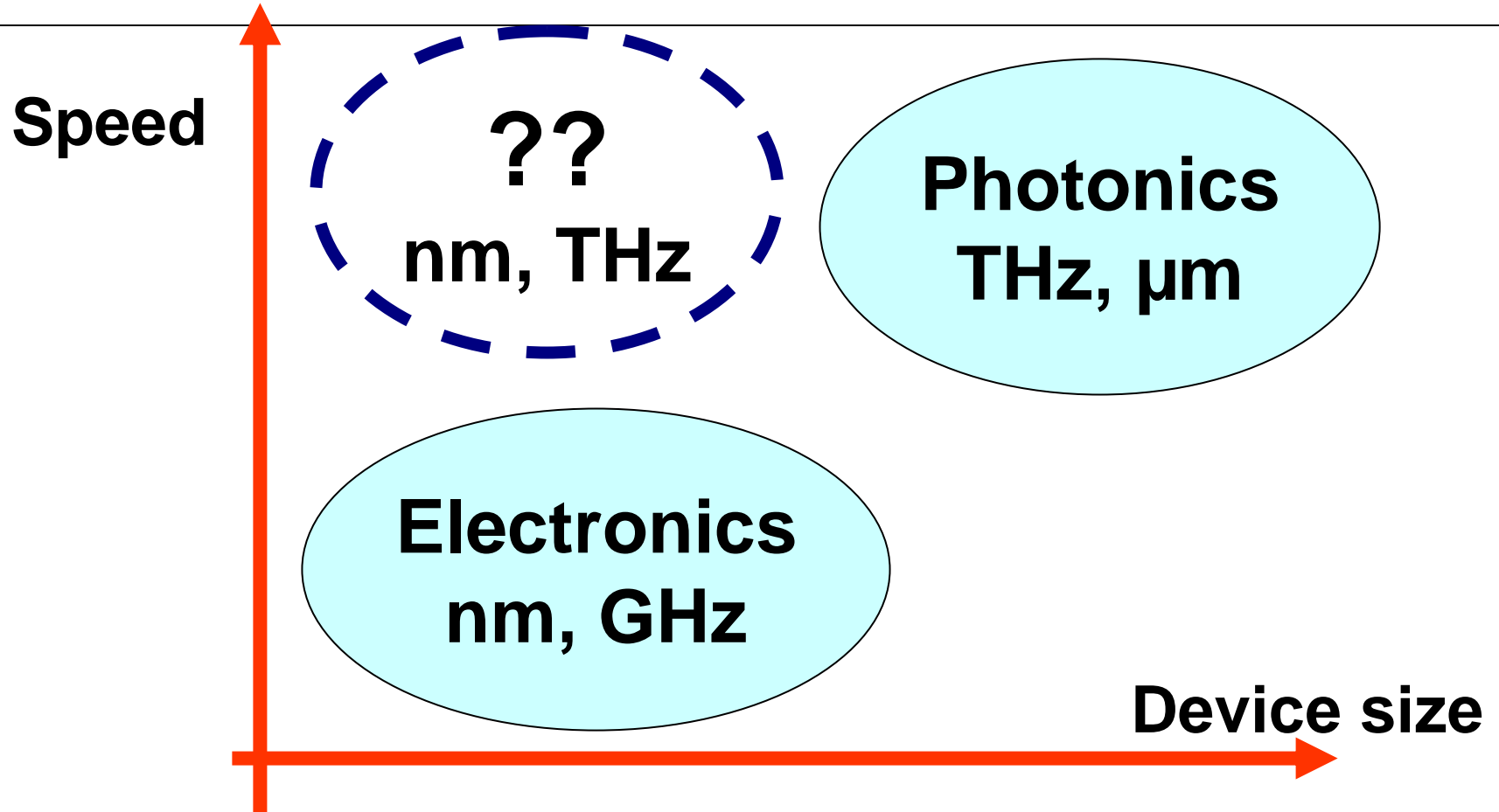
Nanophotonics with Plasmonics: A logical next step?

- The operating speed of data transporting and processing systems



- ♦ The ever-increasing need for faster information processing and transport is undeniable
- ♦ Electronic components are running out of steam due to issues with RC-delay times

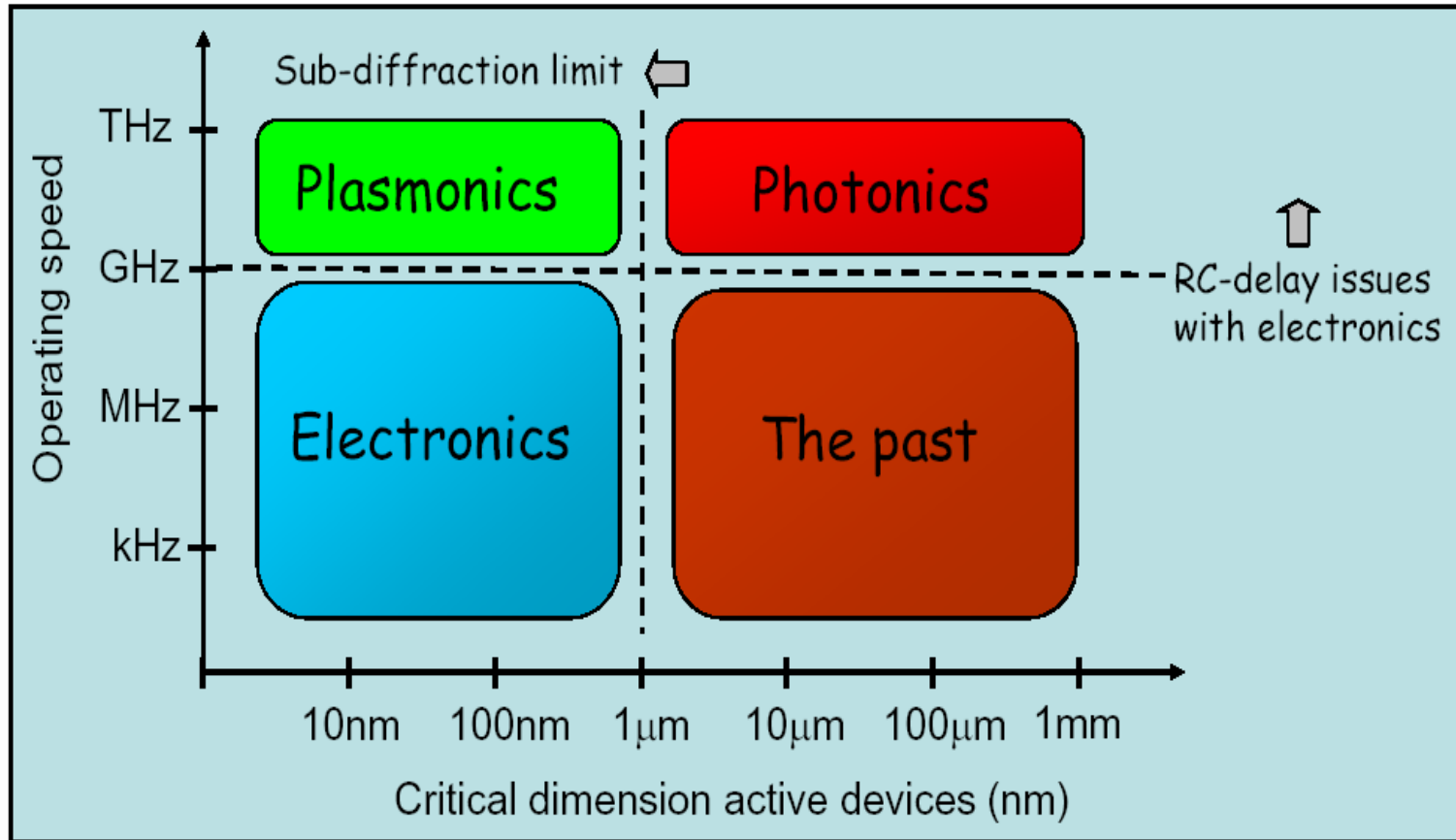
Motivation – nm scale THz speed



- **Something with best of both worlds?**

Why nanophotonics needs plasmons?

- Graph of the operating regimes of different technologies



- ♦ Plasmonics will enable an improved synergy between electronic and photonic devices
 - ➡ Plasmonics naturally interfaces with similar size electronic components
 - ➡ Plasmonics naturally interfaces with similar operating speed photonic networks

Optical Properties of an Electron Gas (Metal)

Dielectric constant of a free electron gas (no interband transitions)

- Consider a time varying field:

$$\mathbf{E}(t) = \text{Re} \{ \mathbf{E}(\omega) \exp(-i\omega t) \}$$

- Equation of motion electron (no damping)

$$\left. \begin{aligned} m \frac{d^2 \mathbf{r}}{dt^2} &= -e \mathbf{E} \\ \mathbf{p}(t) &= -e \mathbf{r}(t) \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow m \frac{d^2 \mathbf{p}}{dt^2} = e^2 \mathbf{E}$$

- Dipole moment electron

- Harmonic time dependence

$$\mathbf{p}(t) = \text{Re} \{ \mathbf{p}(\omega) \exp(-i\omega t) \}$$

- Substitution \mathbf{p} into Eq. of motion:

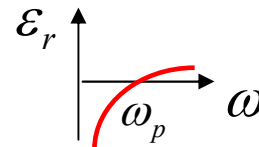
$$-m\omega^2 \mathbf{p}(\omega) = e^2 \mathbf{E}(\omega)$$

- This can be manipulated into:

$$\mathbf{p}(\omega) = -\frac{e^2}{m} \frac{1}{\omega^2} \mathbf{E}(\omega)$$

- The dielectric constant is:

$$\epsilon_r = 1 + \chi = \frac{N \mathbf{p}(\omega)}{\epsilon_0 \mathbf{E}(\omega)} = 1 - \frac{N e^2}{\epsilon_0 m} \frac{1}{\omega^2} = 1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2}$$



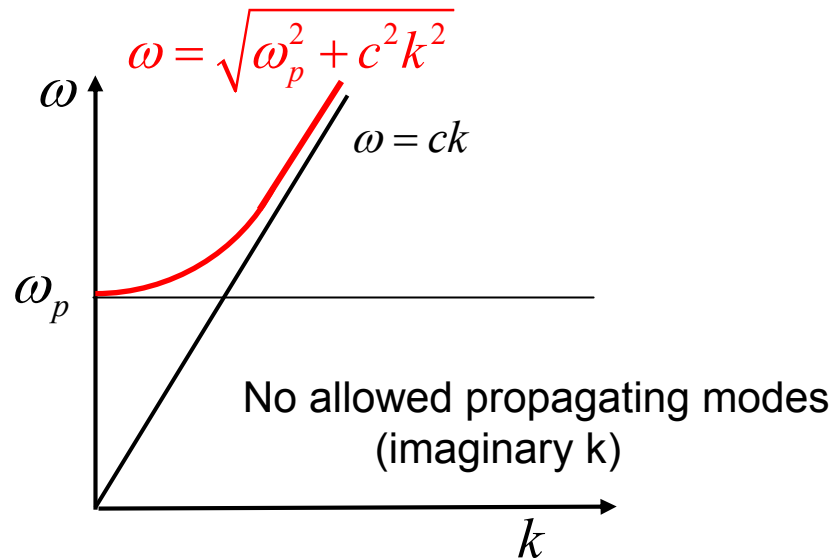
Dispersion Relation for EM Waves in Electron Gas

Determination of dispersion relation for bulk plasmons

- The wave equation is given by:
$$\frac{\epsilon_r}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t)}{\partial t^2} = \nabla^2 \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t)$$
- Investigate solutions of the form:
$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \text{Re} \{ \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) \exp(i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - i\omega t) \}$$

$\Rightarrow \left. \begin{aligned} \omega^2 \epsilon_r &= c^2 k^2 \\ \epsilon_r &= 1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2} \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \omega^2 \left(1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2} \right) = \boxed{\omega^2 - \omega_p^2 = c^2 k^2}$

- Dispersion relation:



Note1: Solutions lie above light line

Note2: Metals: $\hbar\omega_p \approx 10$ eV; Semiconductors $\hbar\omega_p < 0.5$ eV (depending on dopant conc.)

Plasmon-Polaritons

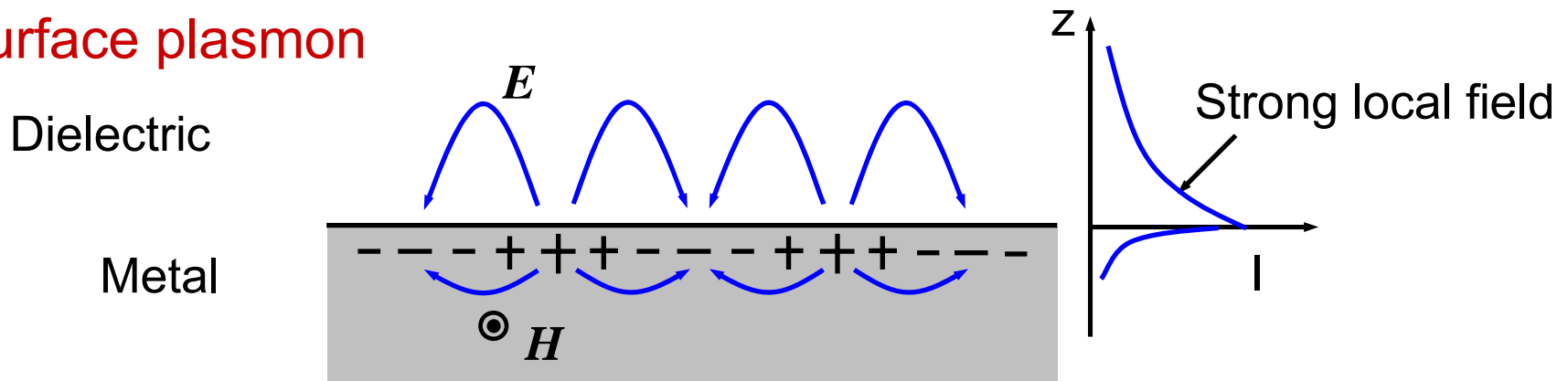
What is a plasmon ?

- Compare electron gas in a metal and real gas of molecules
- Metals are expected to allow for electron density waves: plasmons

Bulk plasmon

- Metals allow for EM wave propagation above the plasma frequency
- They become transparent!

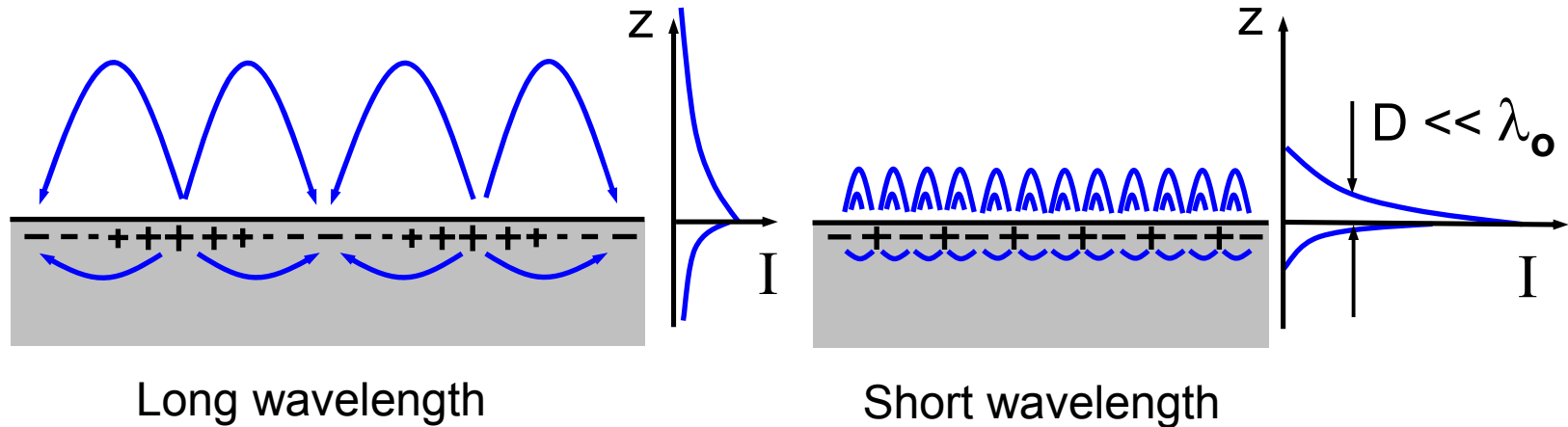
Surface plasmon



Note: This is a TM wave

- Sometimes called a surface plasmon-polariton (strong coupling to EM field)

Local Field Intensity Depends on Wavelength



- Characteristics plasmon-polariton**
- Strong localization of the EM field
 - High local field intensities easy to obtain

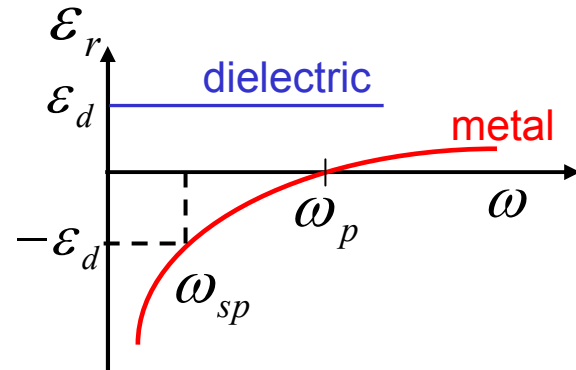
- Applications:**
- Guiding of light below the diffraction limit (near-field optics)
 - Non-linear optics
 - Sensitive optical studies of surfaces and interfaces
 - Bio-sensors
 - Study film growth
 -

Dispersion Relation Surface-Plasmon Polaritons

Plot of the dispersion relation

- SPP dispersion:
$$k_x = \frac{\omega}{c} \left(\frac{\epsilon_m \epsilon_d}{\epsilon_m + \epsilon_d} \right)^{1/2}$$

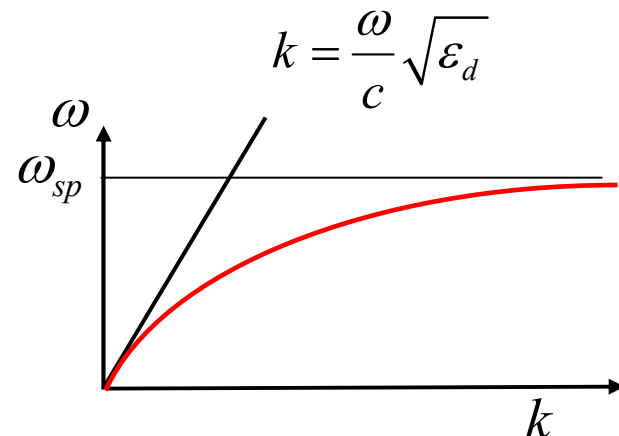
- Plot dielectric constants



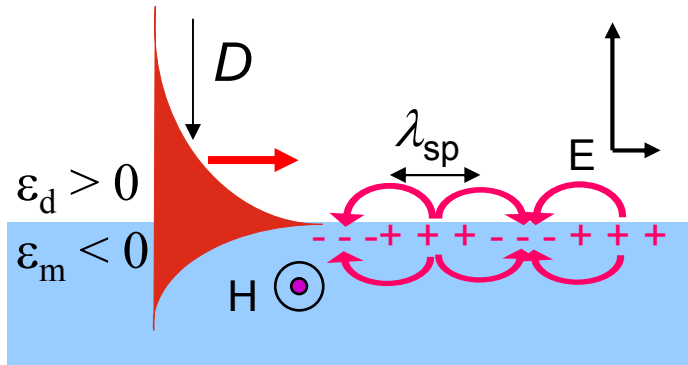
- Low ω :
$$k_x = \frac{\omega}{c} \lim_{\epsilon_m \rightarrow -\infty} \left(\frac{\epsilon_m \epsilon_d}{\epsilon_m + \epsilon_d} \right)^{1/2} \approx \frac{\omega}{c} \sqrt{\epsilon_d}$$

- At $\omega = \omega_{sp}$ (when $\epsilon_m = -\epsilon_d$): $k_x \rightarrow \infty$

- Note: Solution lies below the light line

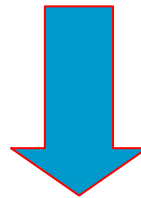
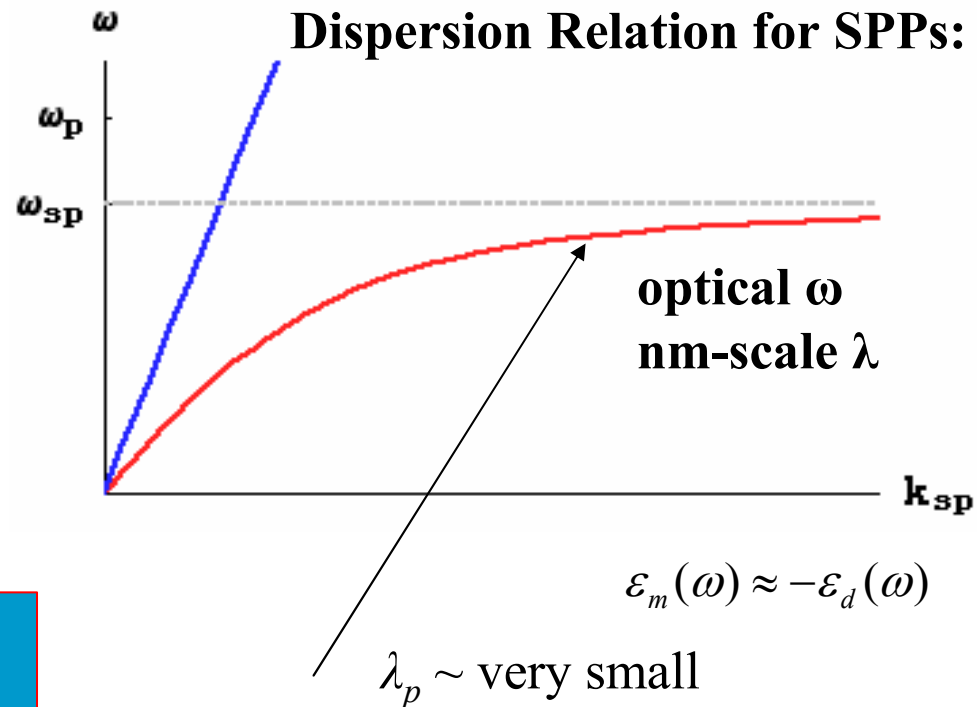


Why Plasmonics?



$$k_{sp} = \frac{\omega}{c} \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_m \epsilon_d}{\epsilon_m + \epsilon_d}}$$

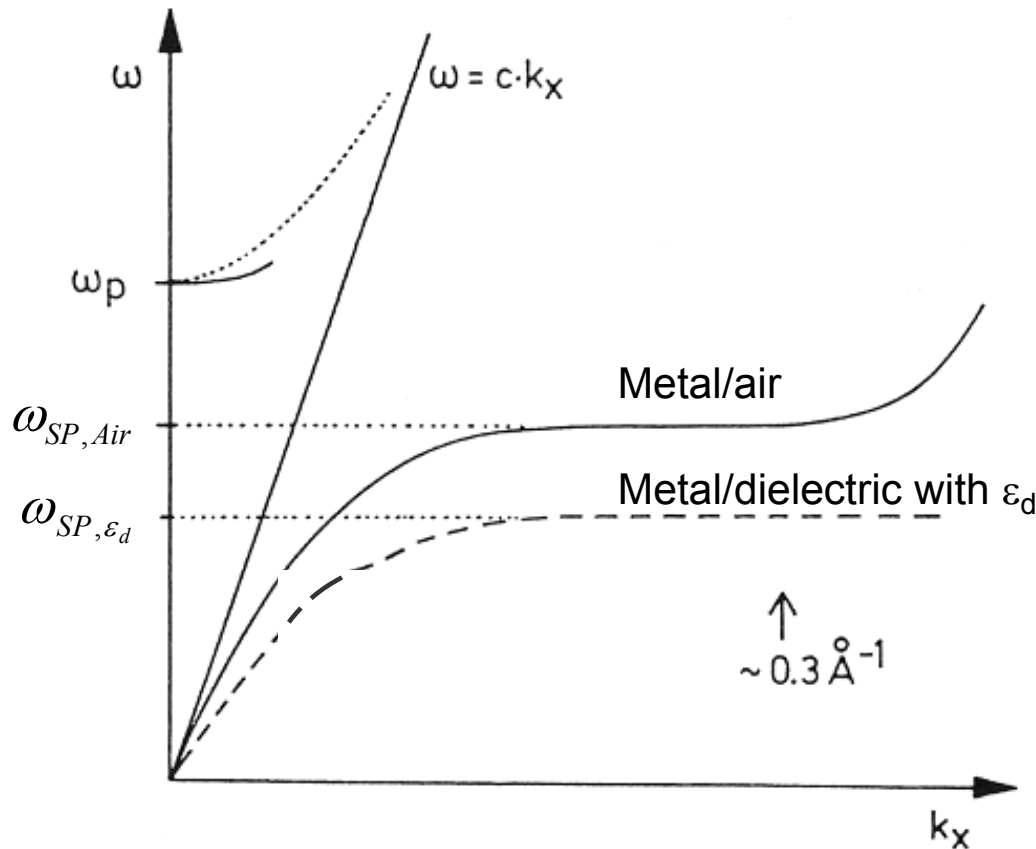
Dispersion Relation for SPPs:



SP wavelengths can reach nanoscale at optical frequencies!
SPPs are “x-ray waves” with optical frequencies

Dispersion Relation Surface-Plasmon Polaritons

Dispersion relation plasma modes and SPP



- Note: Higher index medium on metal results in lower ω_{sp}

$$\omega = \omega_{sp} \text{ when: } \epsilon_m = 1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2} = -\epsilon_d \Rightarrow \omega^2 - \omega_p^2 = -\epsilon_d \omega^2 \Rightarrow \omega^2 = \frac{\omega_p^2}{1 + \epsilon_d} \Rightarrow \omega = \frac{\omega_p}{\sqrt{1 + \epsilon_d}}$$

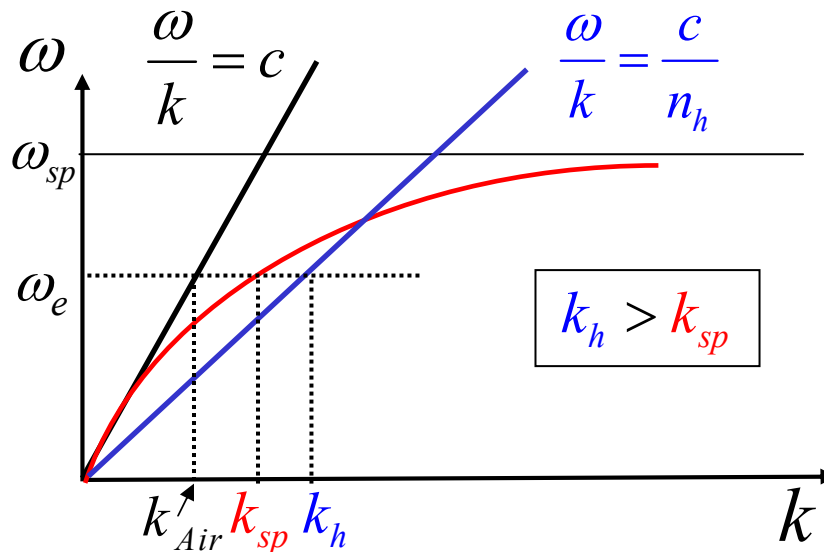
Excitation Surface-Plasmon Polaritons (SPPs) with Light

Problem SPP modes lie below the light line

- No coupling of SPP modes to far field and vice versa (reciprocity theorem)
- Need a “trick” to excite modes below the light line

Trick 1: Excitation from a high index medium

- Excitation SPP at a metal/air interface from a high index medium $n = n_h$

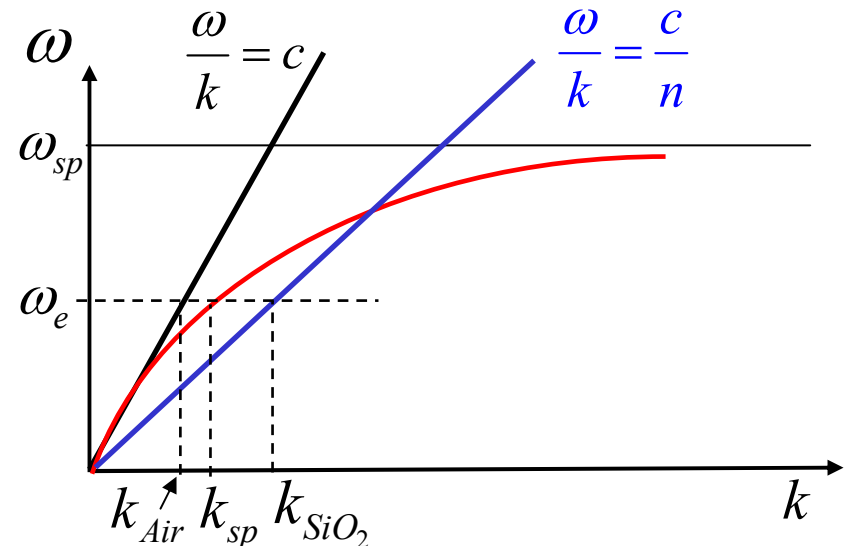
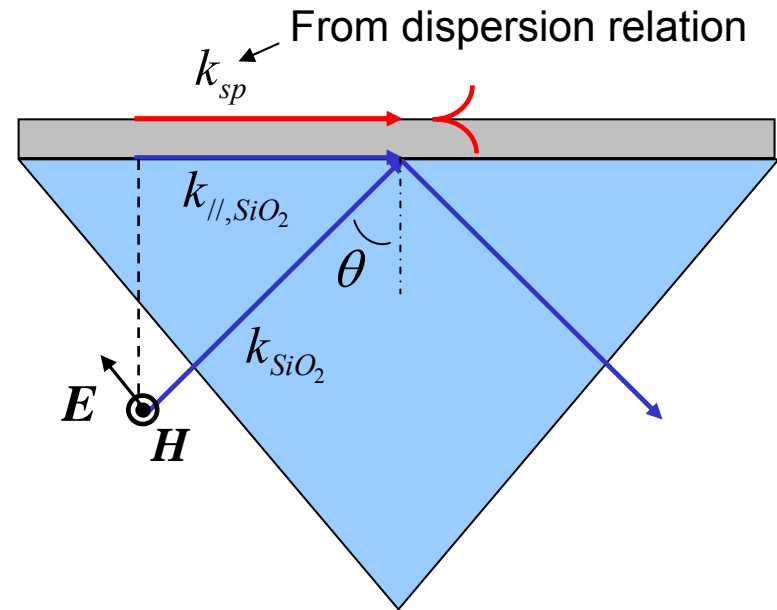


- SPP at metal/air interface can be excited from a high index medium!
- How does this work in practice ?

Excitation Surface-Plasmon Polaritons with Light

Kretschmann geometry (Trick 1)

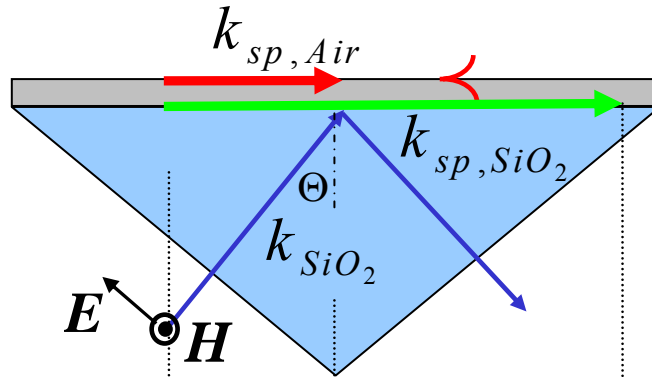
- Makes use of SiO_2 prism
 - Create evanescent wave by TIR
 - Strong coupling when $k_{\parallel, \text{SiO}_2}$ to k_{sp}
- ↓
- Reflected wave reduced in intensity



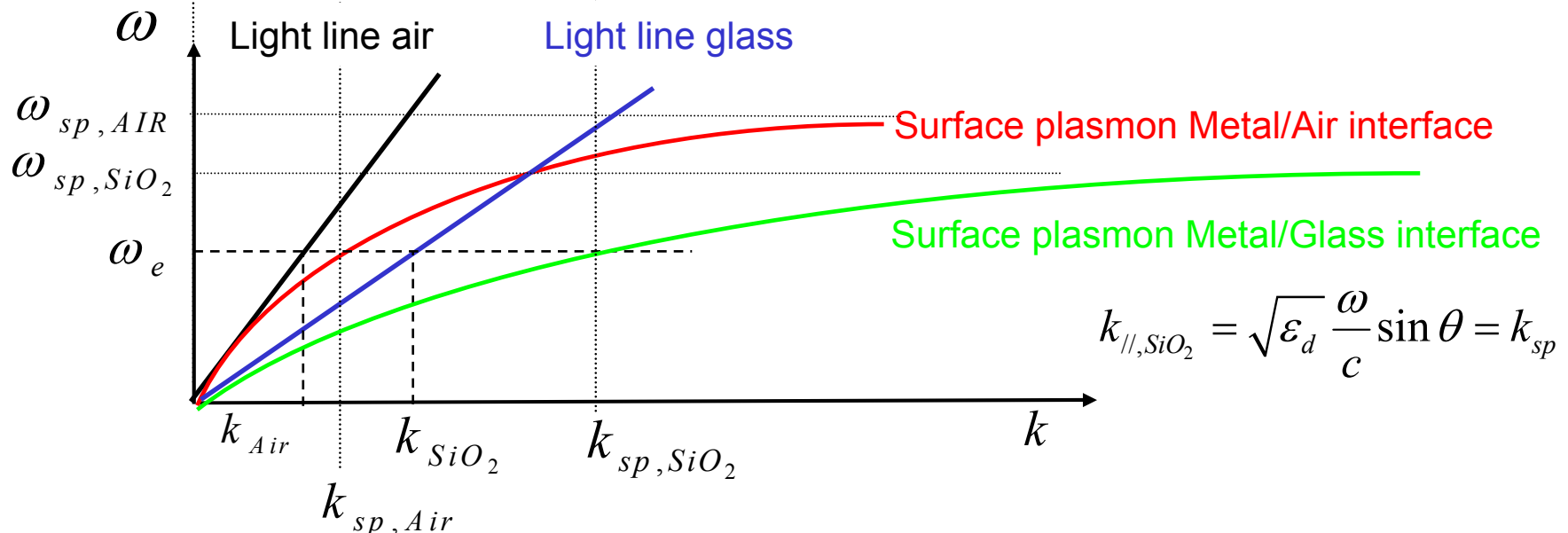
Note: we are matching energy and momentum

Surface-Plasmon is Excited at the Metal/Air Interface

Kretschmann geometry



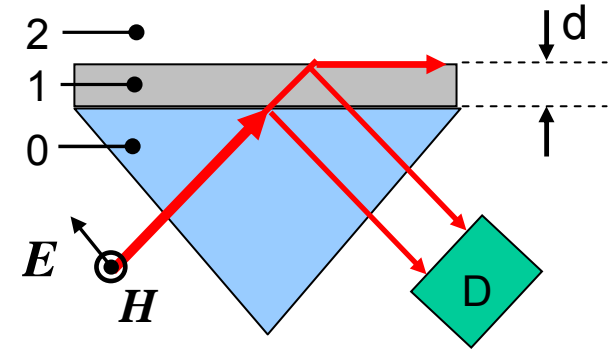
- Makes use of SiO_2 prism
- Enables excitation surface plasmons at the Air/Metal interface
- Surface plasmons at the metal/glass interface can not be excited!



Quantitative Description of the Coupling to SPP's

Calculation of reflection coefficient

- Solve Maxwell's equations for
- Assume plane polarized light
- Find case of no reflection



- Solution (e.g. transfer matrix theory! 😊)

$$R = \left| \frac{E_r^p}{E_0^p} \right|^2 = \left| \frac{r_{01}^p + r_{12}^p \exp(2ik_{z1}d)}{1 + r_{01}^p r_{12}^p \exp(2ik_{z1}d)} \right|^2$$

where r_{ik}^p are the amplitude reflection coefficients

Plane polarized light

$$r_{ik}^p = \left(\frac{k_{zi}}{\epsilon_i} - \frac{k_{zk}}{\epsilon_k} \right) / \left(\frac{k_{zi}}{\epsilon_i} + \frac{k_{zk}}{\epsilon_k} \right)$$

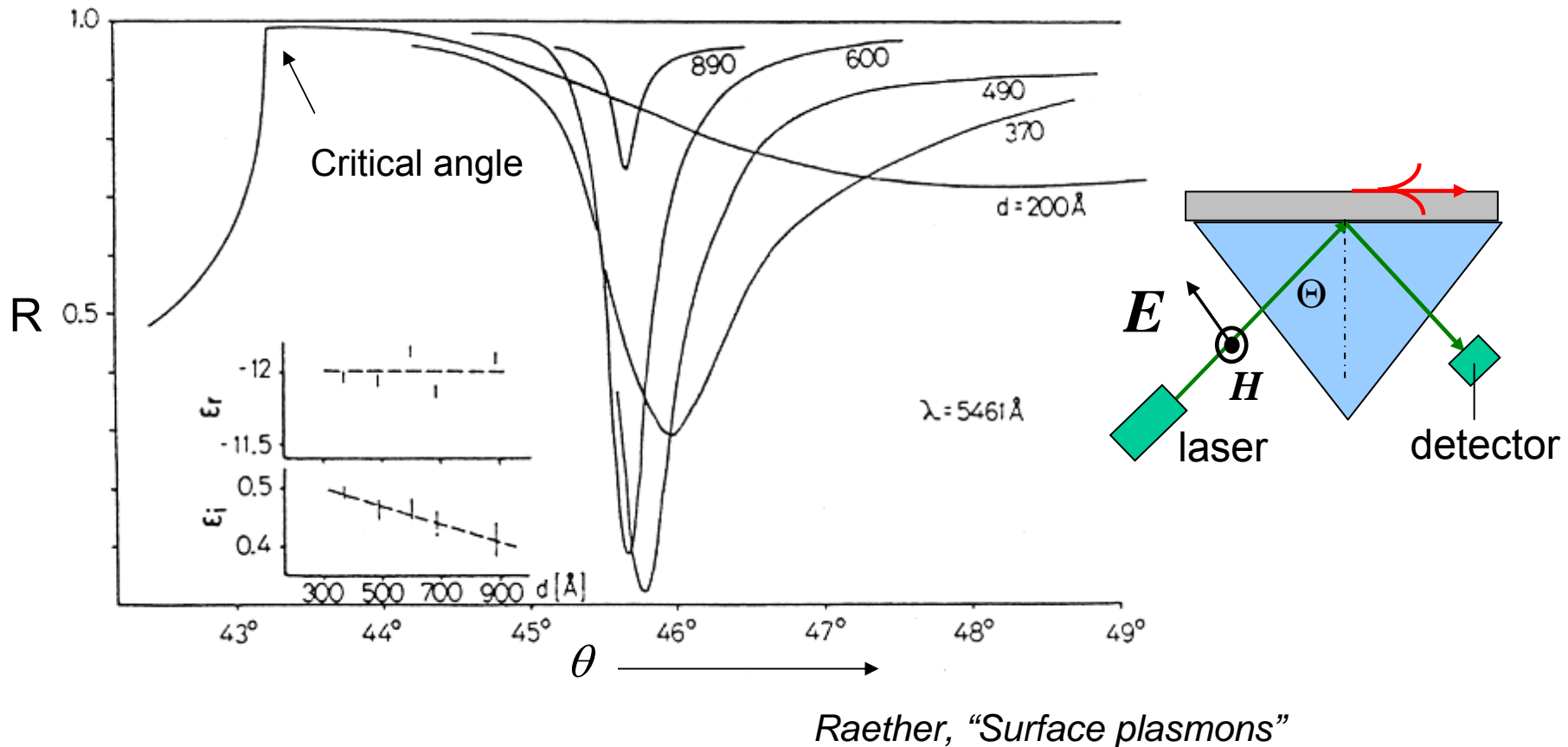
Also known as Fresnel coefficients (p 95 optics, by Hecht)

Notes: Light intensity reflected from the back surface depends on the film thickness

There exists a film thickness for perfect coupling (destructive interference between two refl. beams)

When light coupled in perfectly, all the EM energy dissipated in the film)

Dependence on Film Thickness



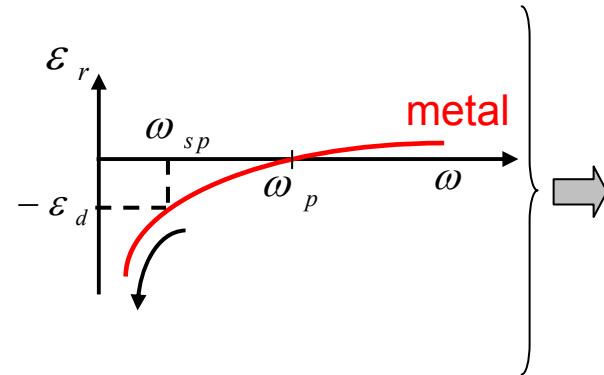
- Width resonance related to damping of the SPP
- Light escapes prism below critical angle for total internal reflection
- Technique can be used to determine the thickness of metallic thin films

Quantitative Description of the Coupling to SPP's

Intuitive picture: A resonating system

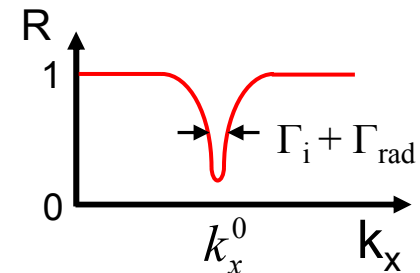
- When $|\epsilon'_m| \gg 1$...well below ω_{sp} :

- and $|\epsilon''_m| \ll |\epsilon'_m|$...low loss...



➡ Reflection coefficient has Lorentzian line shape (characteristic of resonators)

$$R = 1 - \frac{4\Gamma_i \Gamma_{rad}}{\left[(k_x - k_x^0)^2 + (\Gamma_i + \Gamma_{rad})^2 \right]}$$



Where Γ_i : Damping due to resistive heating

Γ_{rad} : Damping due to re-radiation into the prism

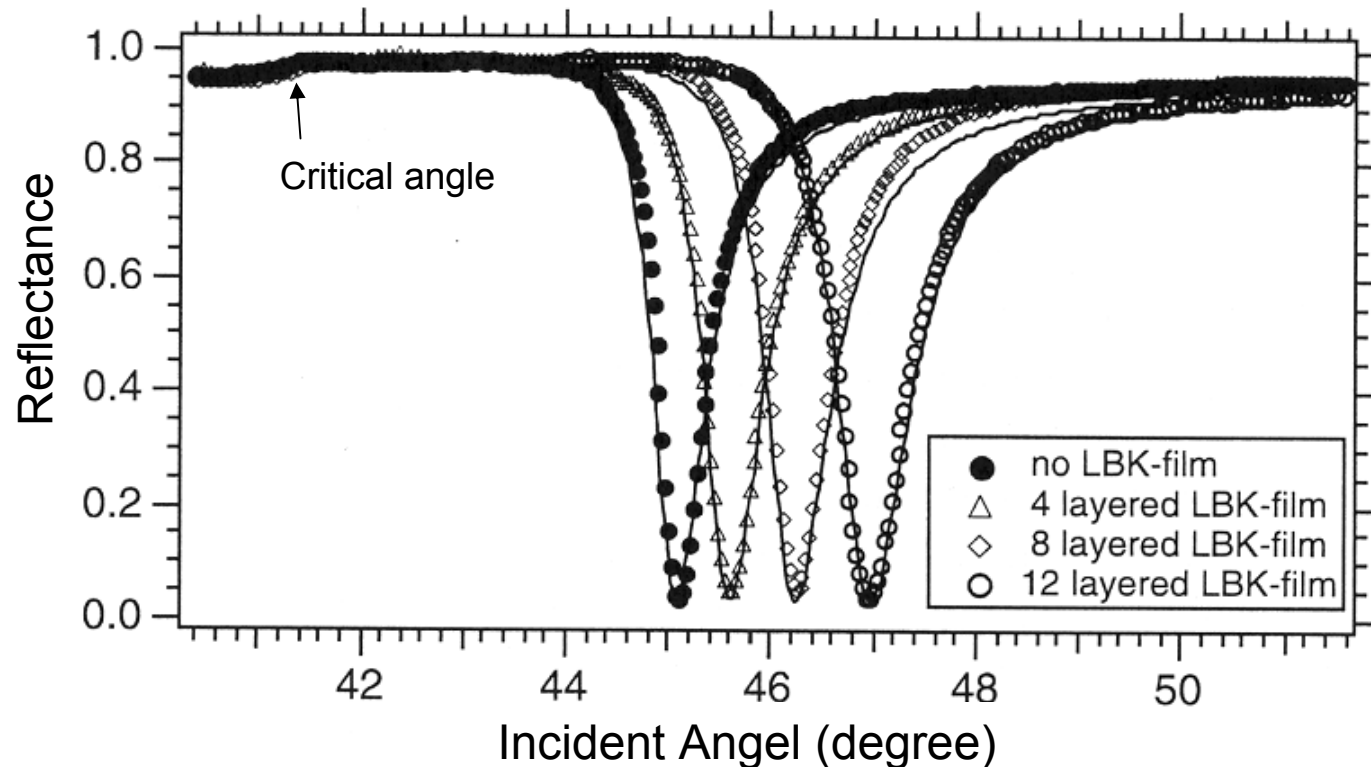
k_x^0 : The resonance wave vector (maximum coupling)

Note: R goes to zero when $\Gamma_i = \Gamma_{rad}$

Current Use of the Surface Plasmon Resonance Technique

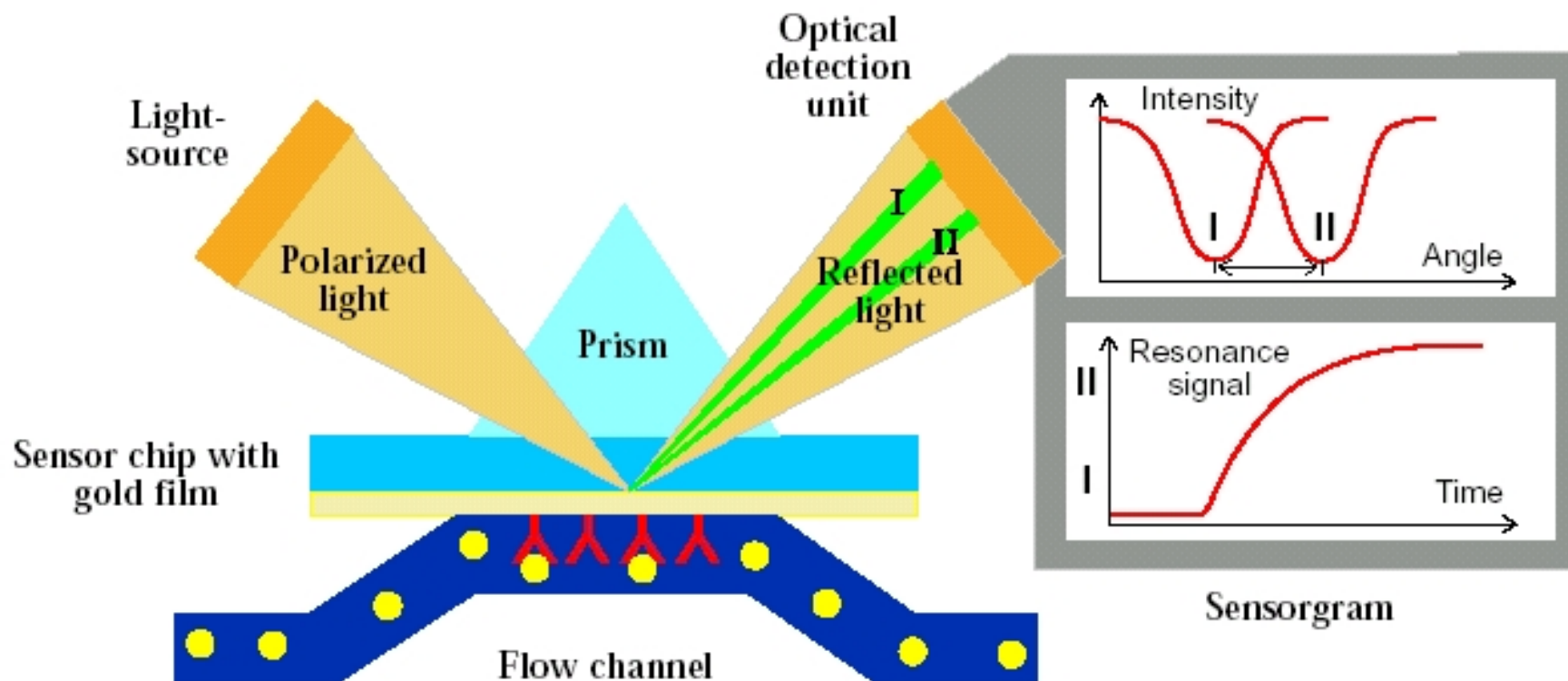
Determination film thickness of deposited films

- Example: Investigation Langmuir-Blodgett-Kuhn (LBK) films



- Coupling angle strongly dependent on the film thickness of the LBK film
- Detection of just a few LBK layers is feasible

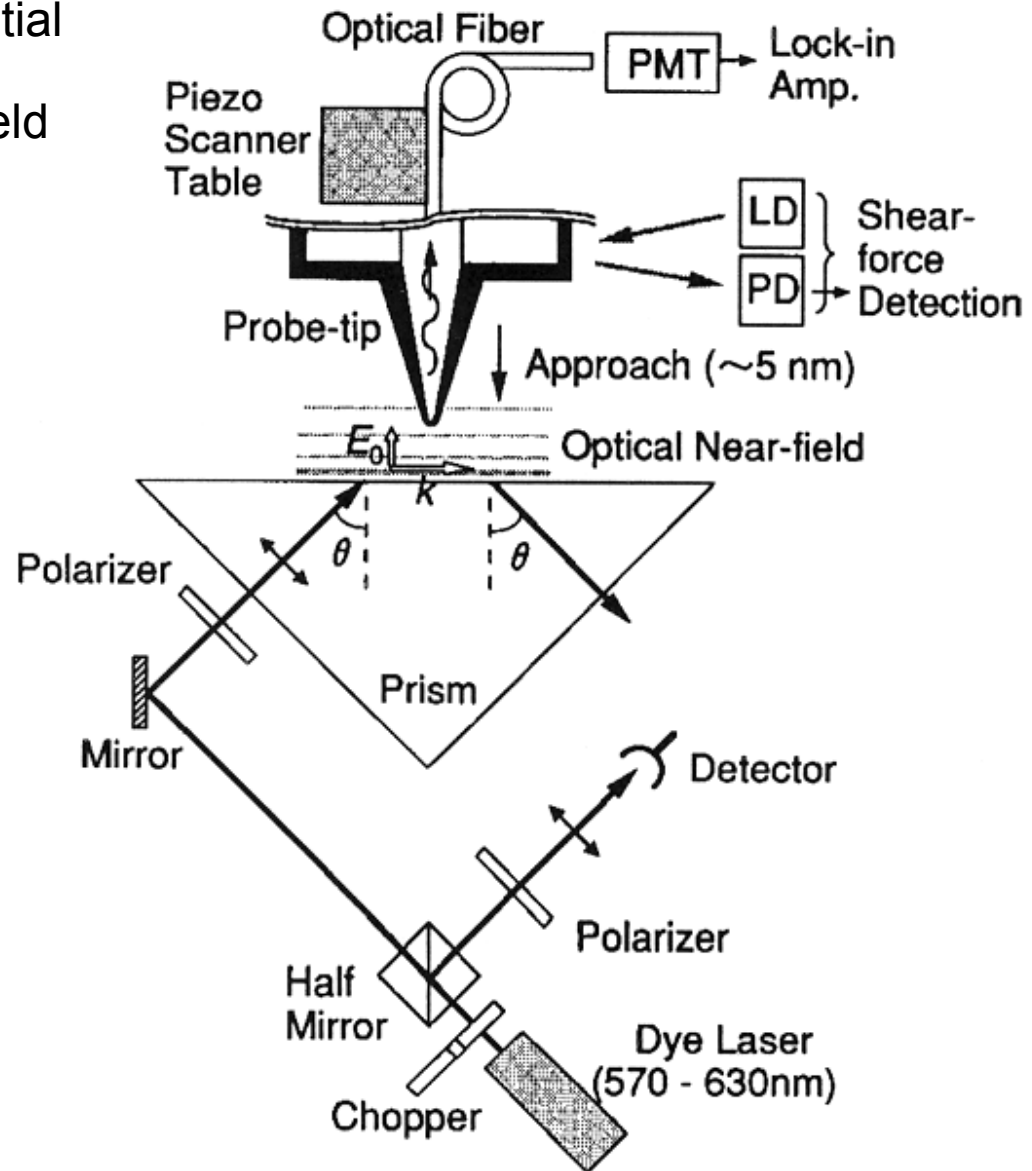
Surface Plasmon Sensors



- Advantages
- Evanescent field interacts with adsorbed molecules only
 - Coupling angle strongly depends on ϵ_d
 - Use of well-established surface chemistry for Au (thiol chemistry)

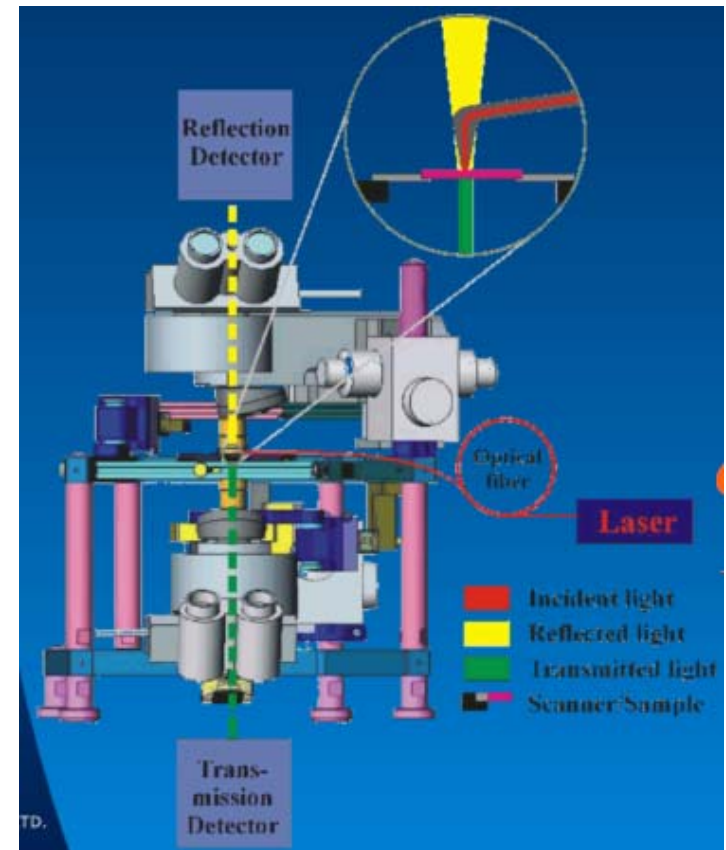
Imaging SPP waves

- Near-field optics is essential
- Tip “taps” into the near-field



Purdue Near-Field Optical Microscope

- Nanonics MultiView 2000
- NSOM / AFM
- Tuning Fork Feedback Control
 - Normal or Shear Force
- Aperture tips down to 50 nm
- AFM tips down to 30 nm
- Radiation Source
 - 532 nm



Picture taken from Nanonics

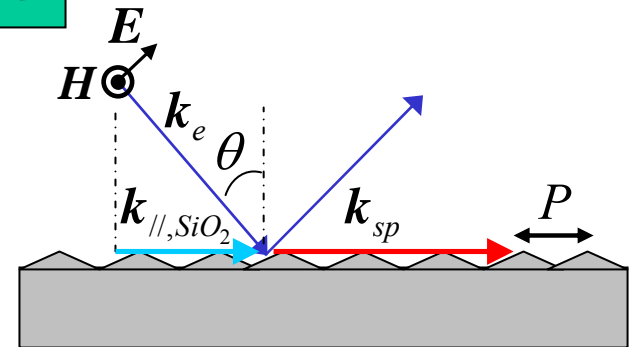
Excitation Surface-Plasmon Polaritons with Gratings (trick 2)

Grating coupling geometry (trick 2)

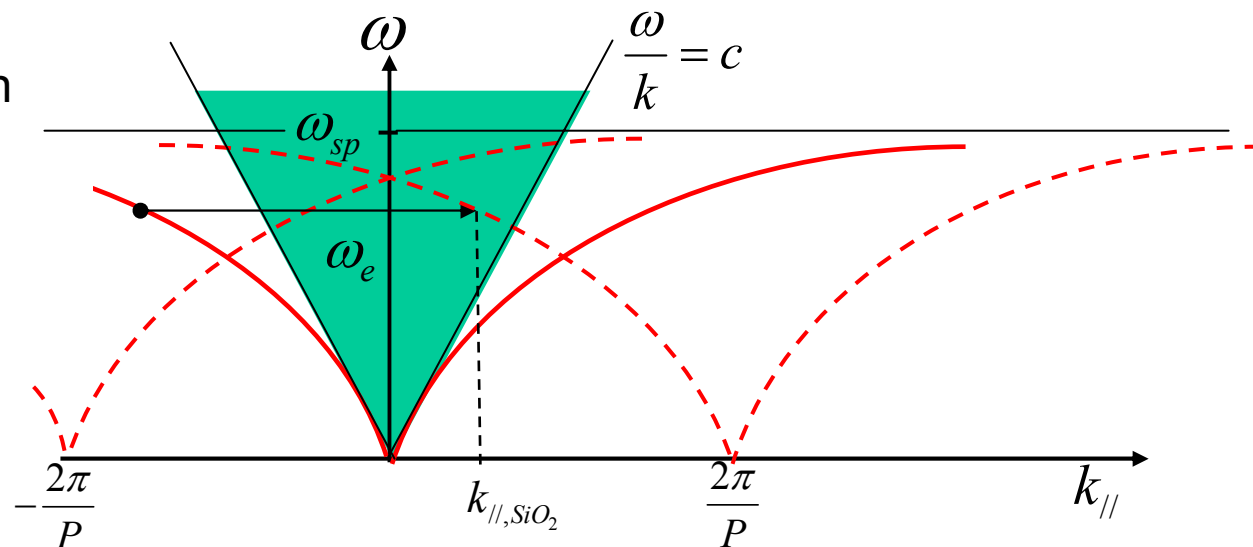
- Bloch: Periodic dielectric constant couples waves for which the k-vectors differ by a reciprocal lattice vector G

- Strong coupling occurs when $k_{//,SiO_2} = k_{sp} \pm mG$

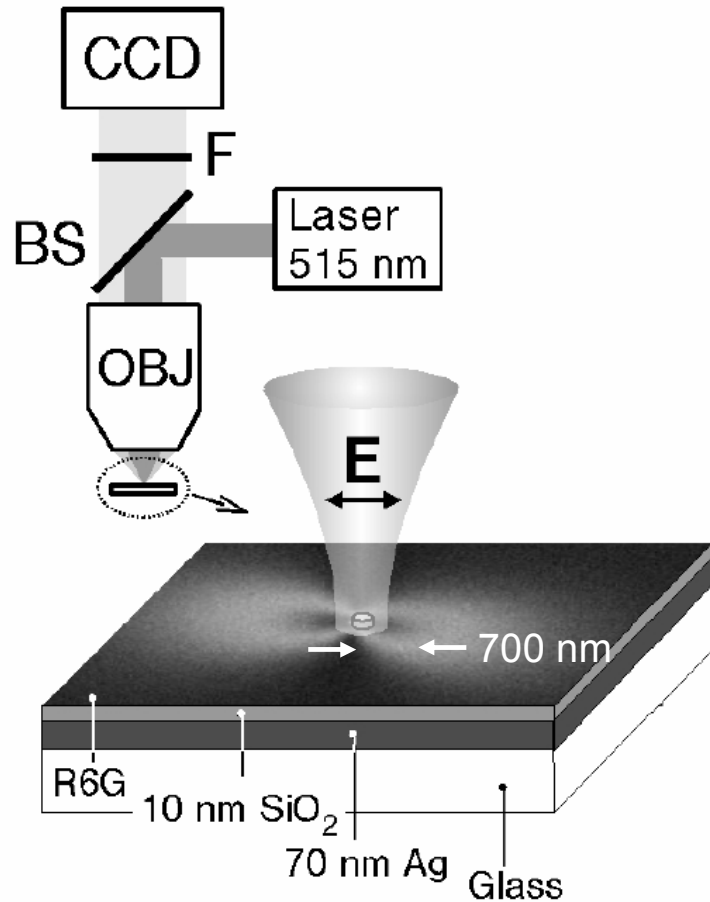
where:
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} k_{//,SiO_2} = |\mathbf{k}_e| = \sqrt{\epsilon_d} \frac{\omega}{c} \sin \theta \\ k_{sp} = \frac{\omega}{c} \left(\frac{\epsilon_m \epsilon_d}{\epsilon_m + \epsilon_d} \right)^{1/2} \\ |\mathbf{G}| = 2\pi/P \end{array} \right.$$



- Graphic representation



Excitation Surface-Plasmon Polaritons with Dots (Trick 3)

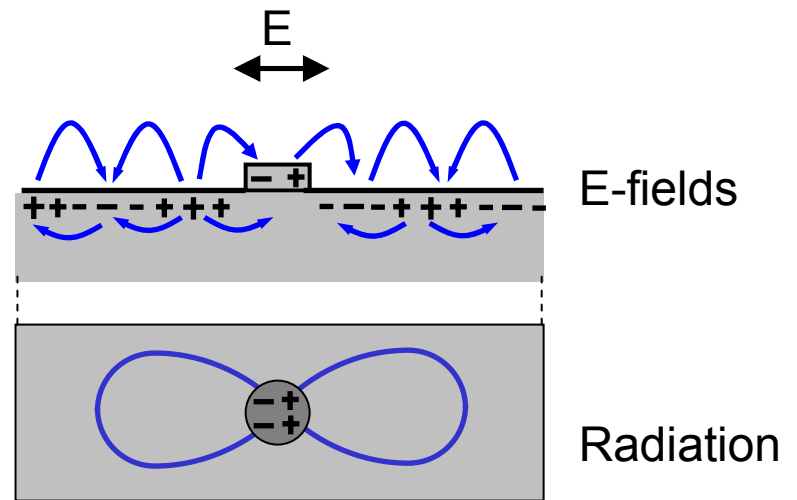
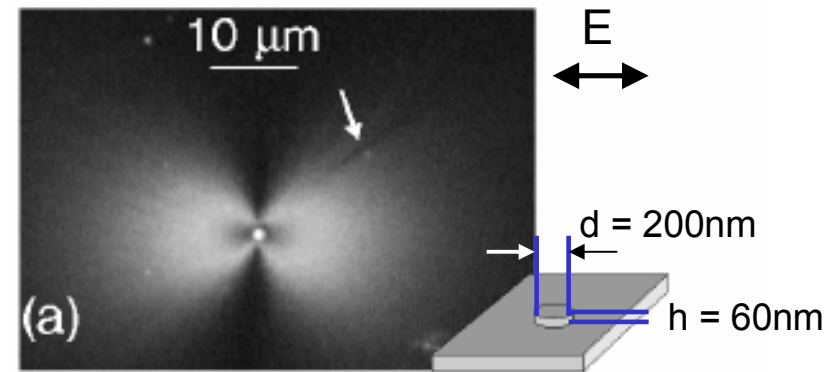


- Strong coupling: $k_{||, \text{SiO}_2} = k_{sp} \pm \Delta k_{dot}$

Spatial Fourier transform of the dot contains significant contributions of Δk_{dot} values upto $2\pi/d$

H. Ditlbacher, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **80**, 404 (2002)

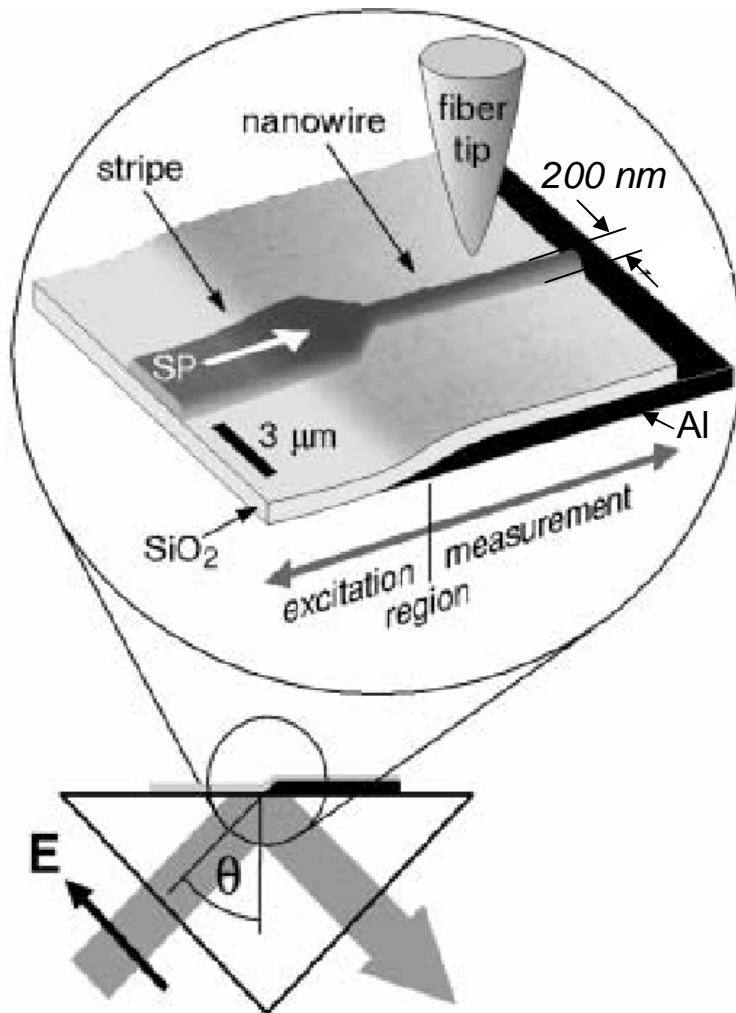
Dipolar radiation pattern



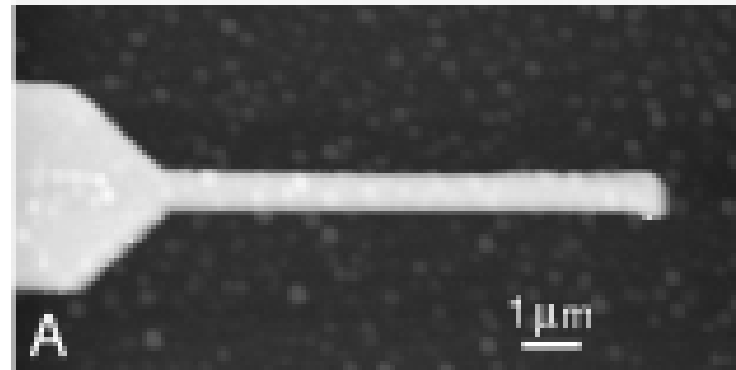
- Dipole radiation in direction of charge oscillation!
- Reason: Plasmon wave is longitudinal

Excitation SPPs on stripes with $d < \lambda$

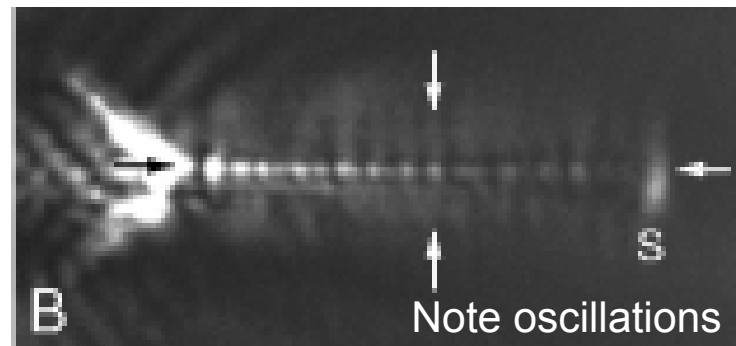
Excitation using a launch pad



Atomic Force Microscopy image



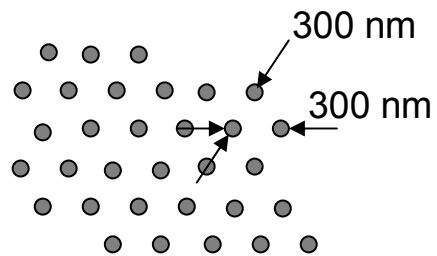
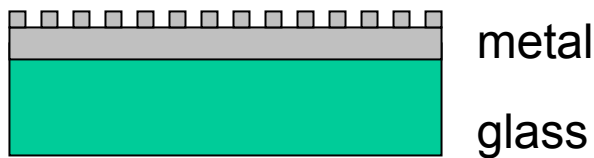
Near Field Optical Microscopy image



2D Metallo-dielectric Photonic Crystals

Full photonic bandgap for SPPs

- Hexagonal array of metallic dots



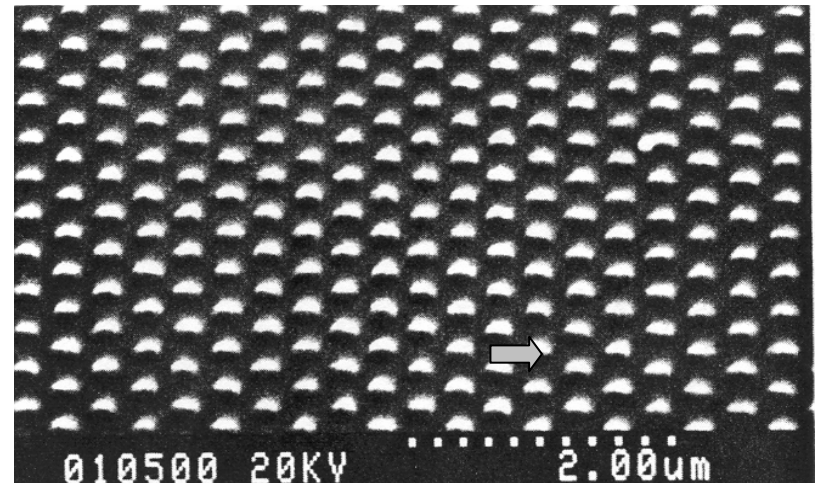
- Array causes coupling between waves for which:

$$k_{sp} = \pi/P \text{ or } \lambda_{sp} = 2\pi/k_{sp} = 2P$$

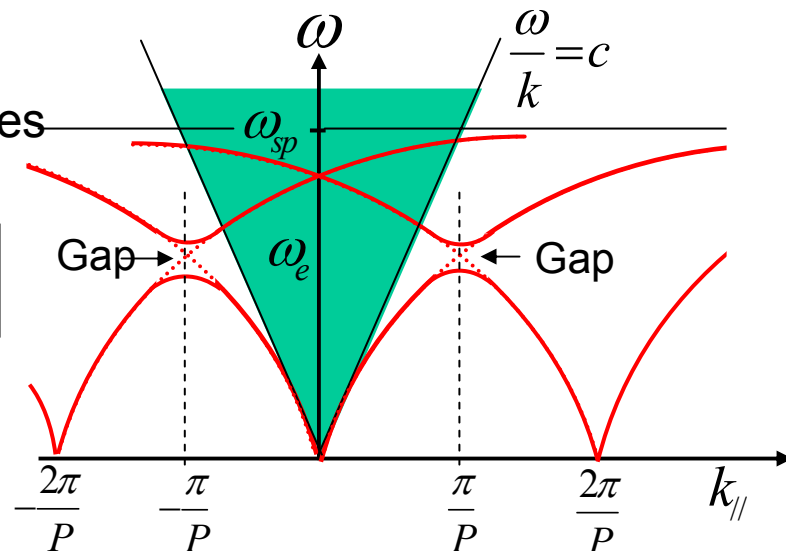


- Gap opens up at the zone boundary

Scanning Electron Microscopy image (tilted)



S.C. Kitson, *Phys Rev Lett.* **77**, 2670 (1996)

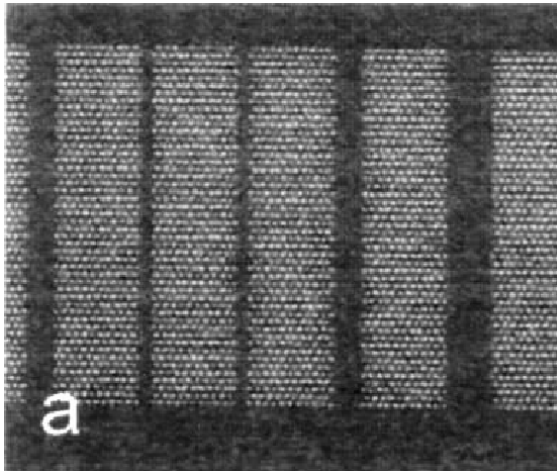


Guiding SPPs in 2D metallo-dielectric Photonic Crystals

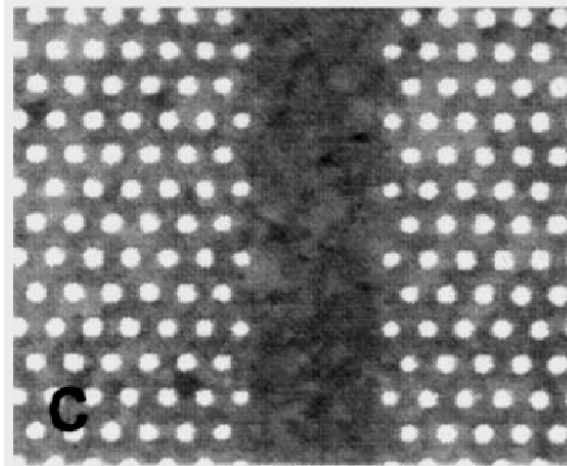
Guiding along line defects in hexagonal arrays of metallic dots (period 400 nm)

- Scanning electron microscopy images

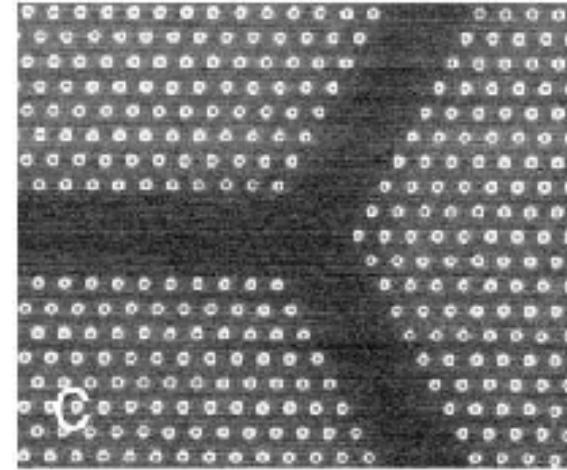
Linear guides



Close-up



Y-Splitter



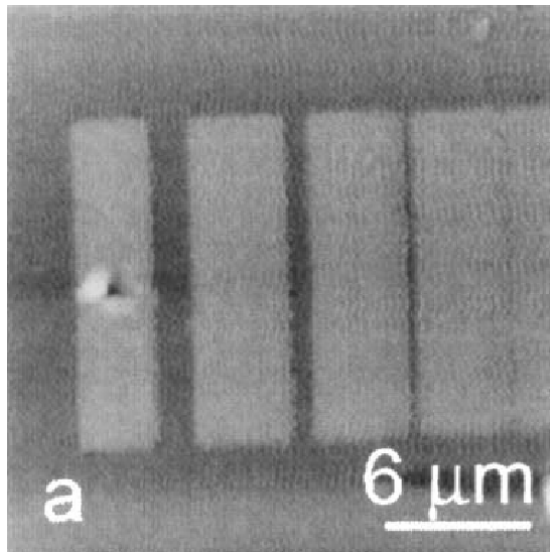
- SPP is confined to the plane
- Full photonic bandgap confines SPP to the line defect created in the array

Guiding SPPs in 2D metallo-dielectric Photonic Crystals

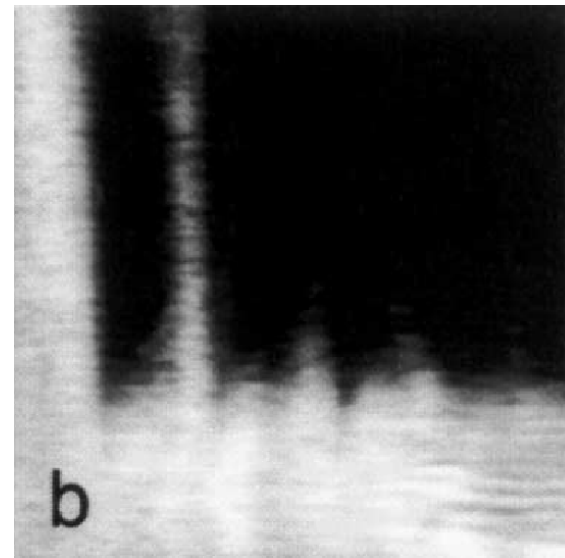
First results

- Scanning electron microscopy images

Atomic Force Microscopy image



Near-field Optical Microscopy image



Dot spacing: $d = 380 \text{ nm}$

Excitation: $\lambda_e = 725 \text{ nm}$

SPP: $\lambda_{sp} = 760 \text{ nm} = 2d$

Intermediate Summary

Coupling light to surface plasmon-polaritons

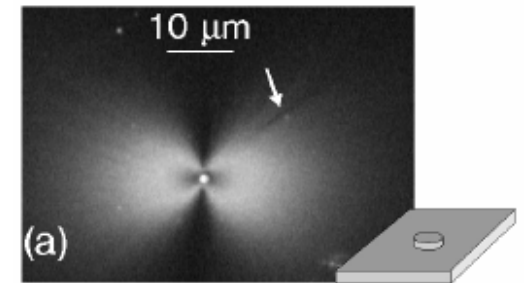
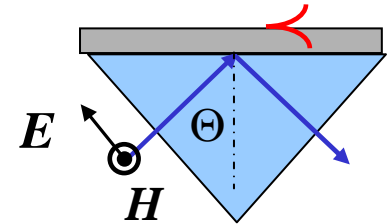
- Kretschman geometry

$$k_{//, \text{SiO}_2} = \sqrt{\epsilon_d} \frac{\omega}{c} \sin \theta = k_{sp}$$

- Grating coupling

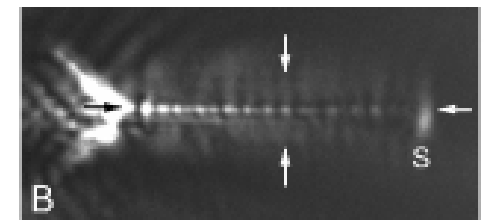
$$k_{//, \text{Air}} = k_{sp} \pm mG$$

- Coupling using a metal dot (sub- λ structure)



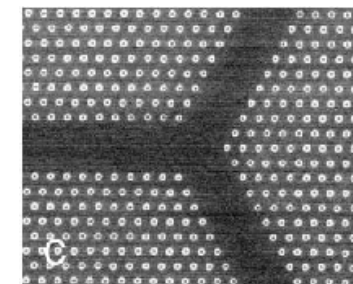
Guiding geometries

- Stripes and wires



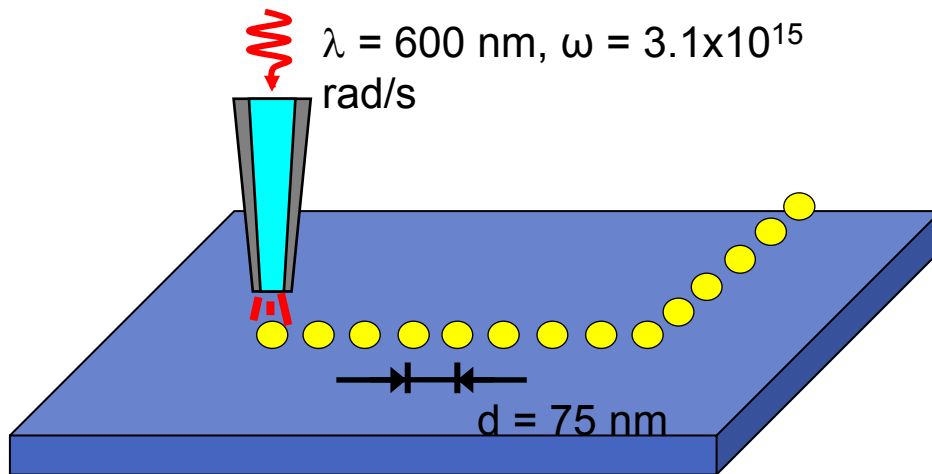
- Line defects in hexagonal arrays (2d photonic crystals)

- Next lecture: nanoparticle arrays

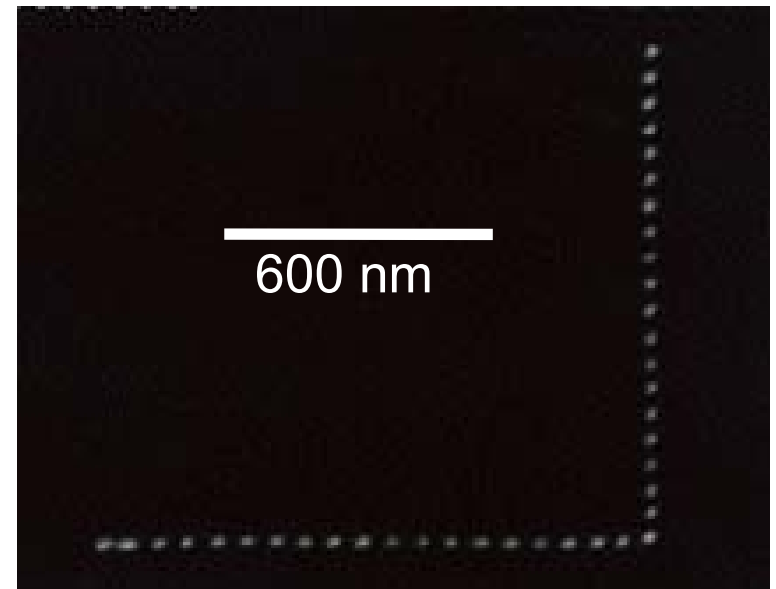


Guiding of light along an array of Au nanoparticles ?

- Near field optical excitation

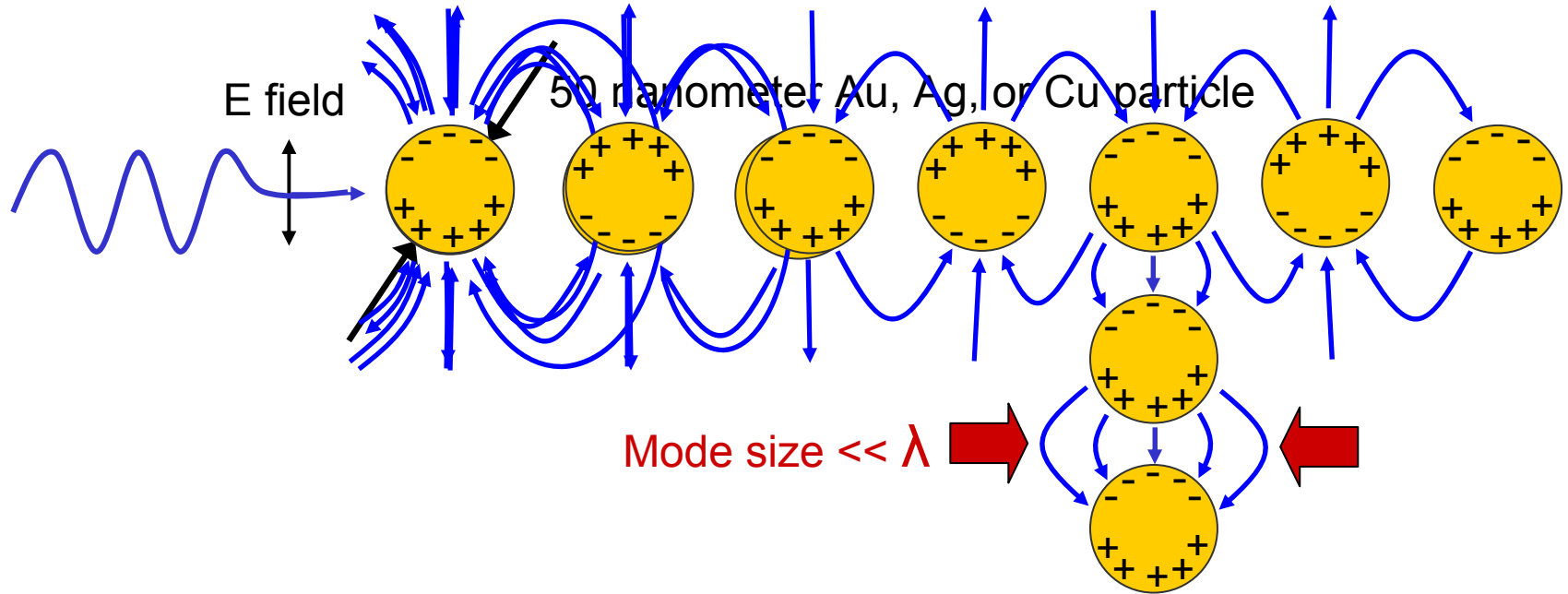


- SEM of array of 50 nm Au particles



- Light and microwaves are electromagnetic waves described by Maxwell's equations

EM Near-field Interaction between Nanoparticles



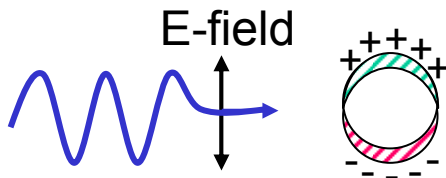
- Light can penetrate metallic nanoparticles and set the electrons in motion
- This collective electron motion is called a plasmon
- **Plasmonics**: Guiding “light” along metallic nanostructures
- Loss per unit length $\approx 3 \text{ dB}/\mu\text{m}$ Loss per device may be manageable

Excitation of a Single Metal Nanoparticle

Particle

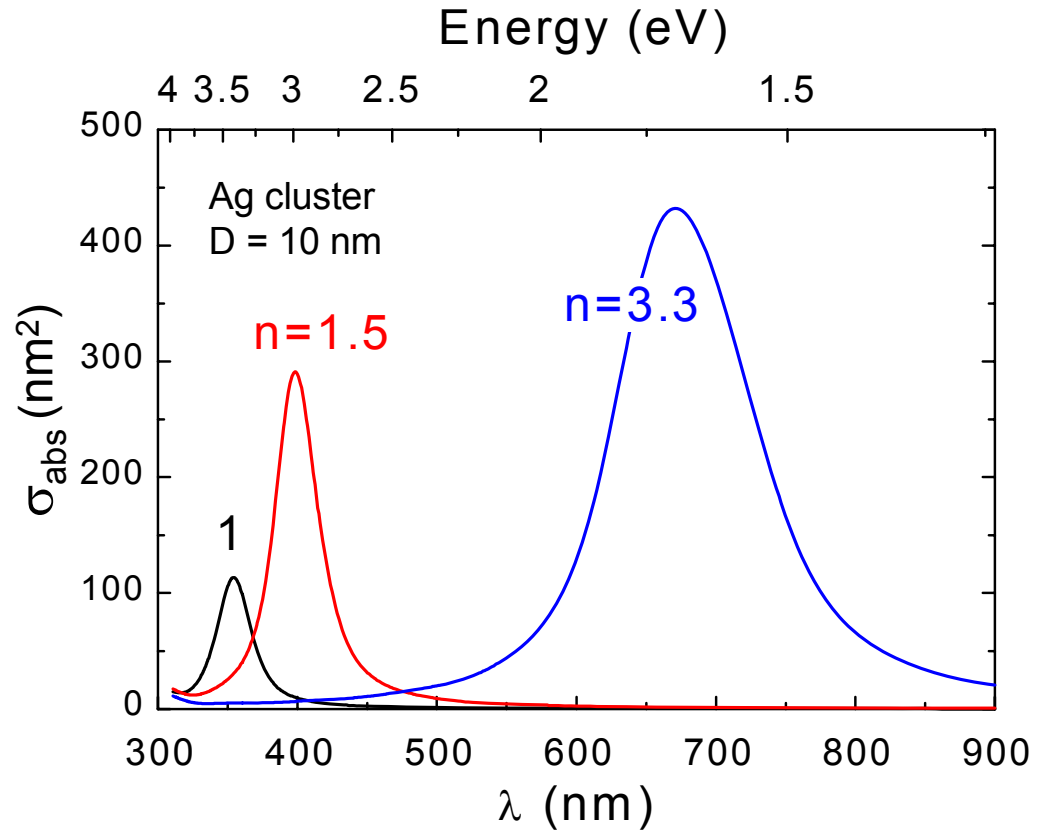
$$\text{Volume} = V_0$$

$$\epsilon_M = \epsilon_{1,M} + i\epsilon_{2,M}$$



Host matrix

$$\epsilon_H = \epsilon_{1,H} = n_H^2$$



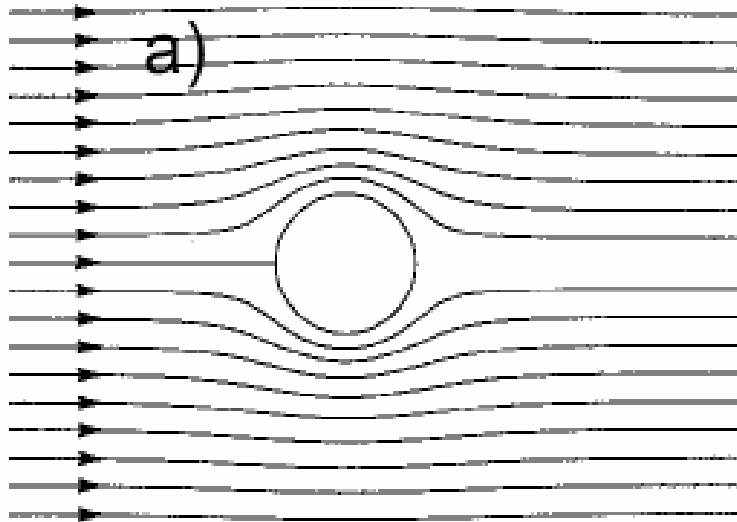
$$\sigma_{abs}(\omega) = 9 \frac{\omega}{c} \epsilon_H^{3/2} V_0 \frac{\epsilon_{1,M}(\omega)}{\left[\epsilon_{1,M}(\omega) + 2\epsilon_H \right]^2 + \epsilon_{2,M}(\omega)^2}$$

Origin Enhanced Absorption Cross-section

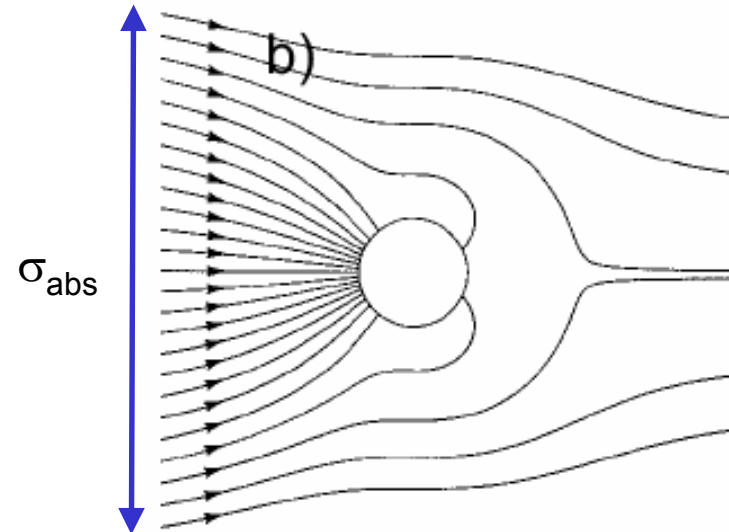
Poynting vector

Energy flux (Poynting vector) for a plane wave incident on a metallic nanoparticle

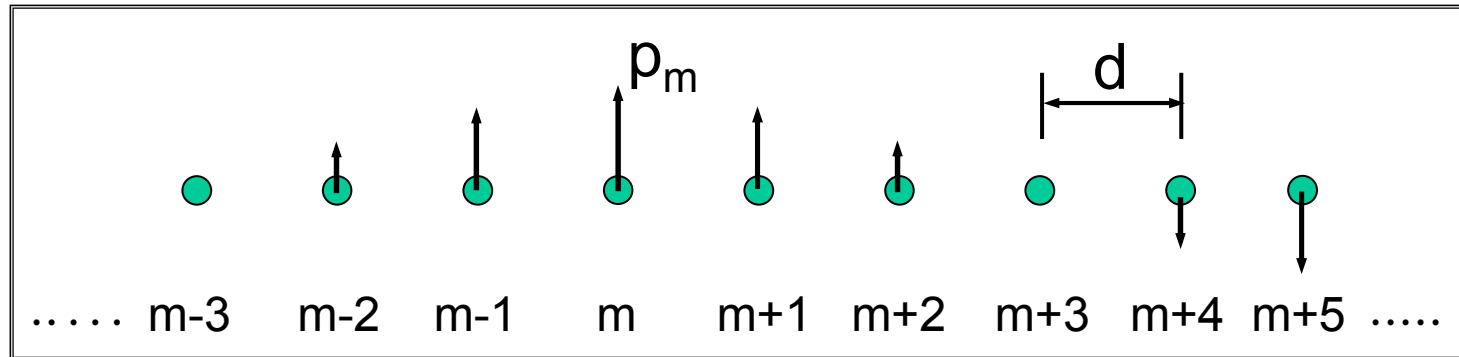
Off resonance



On resonance



Properties of a Chain of Metal Nanoparticles



- Near-field interaction sets up dipole (plasmon) waves
- Two types: Transverse (T) & Longitudinal (L) modes
- Interaction strength related to dipole field E_p

$$E_p = E_F + E_M + E_R \quad \text{Where} \quad \begin{array}{ll} E_F \propto R^{-3} & \text{Förster field} \\ E_M \propto R^{-2} & \\ E_R \propto R^{-1} & \text{Radiation field} \end{array}$$

When $d \ll \lambda$ Förster field dominant \Rightarrow n.n. interaction dominates

Dispersion Relation for Plasmon Modes

Equation of motion of dipole at m:

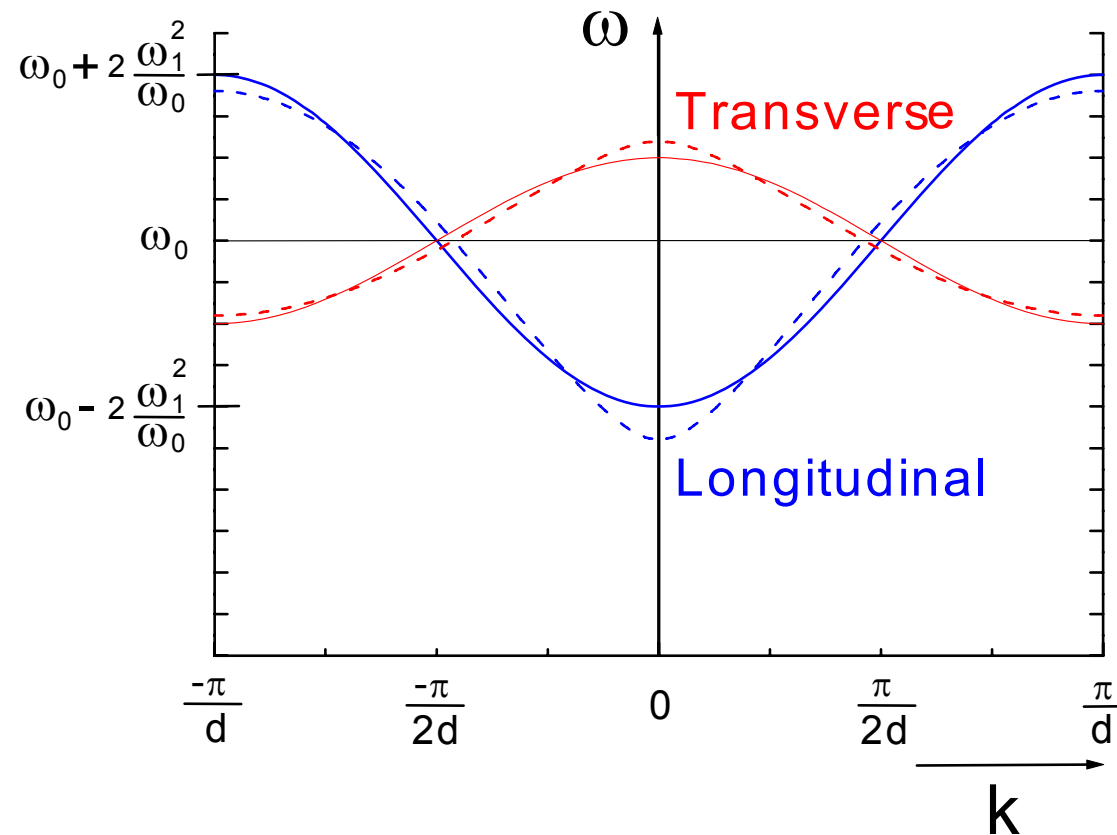
$$\ddot{p}_{i,m}(t) = -\omega_0^2 p_{i,m}(t) - \gamma_i \omega_1^2 [p_{i,m-1}(t) + p_{i,m+1}(t)]$$

Where $\omega_1^2 = \frac{\rho V e}{4\pi\epsilon_0 m_e n^2 d^3}$

$\gamma \equiv$ a polarization dependent constant $\begin{cases} \gamma_T = 1: & \begin{array}{cc} \uparrow p_{T,m} & \uparrow p_{T,m+1} \end{array} \\ \gamma_L = -2: & \begin{array}{cc} \longrightarrow p_{L,m} & \longrightarrow p_{L,m+1} \end{array} \end{cases}$

Propagating wave solution: $p_{i,m}(t) = P_i \exp i(\omega t \pm kmd)$

Dispersion Relation for Plasmon Modes



$$\omega = \omega_0 + \gamma_i \frac{\omega_1^2}{\omega_0} \cos(kd)$$

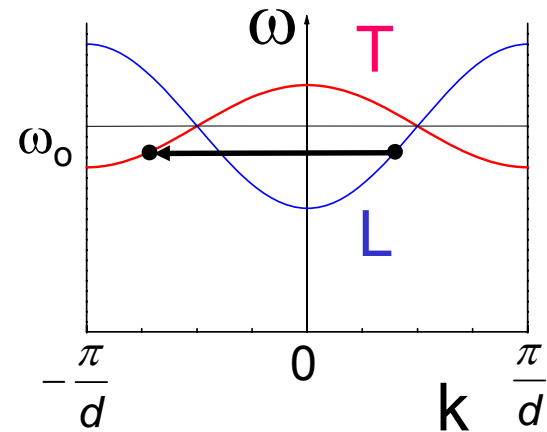
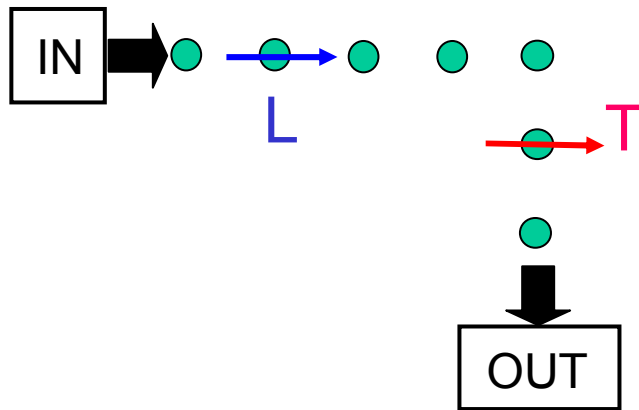
$$\text{Where } \omega_1^2 = \frac{\rho V e}{4\pi\epsilon_0 m_e n^2 d^3}$$

$$v_{g,i} = \frac{d\omega}{dk} = -\gamma_i \frac{\omega_1^2}{\omega_0} d \sin(kd)$$

Example: Ag particles, $R = 10 \text{ nm}$
 $d = 40 \text{ nm}; \quad n = 1.5$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} v_{g,T} = 3.4 \times 10^6 \text{ m/s} \\ \Delta\omega_T = 1.8 \times 10^{14} \text{ s}^{-1} (E = 115 \text{ meV}) \end{cases}$$

Propagation Through Corners

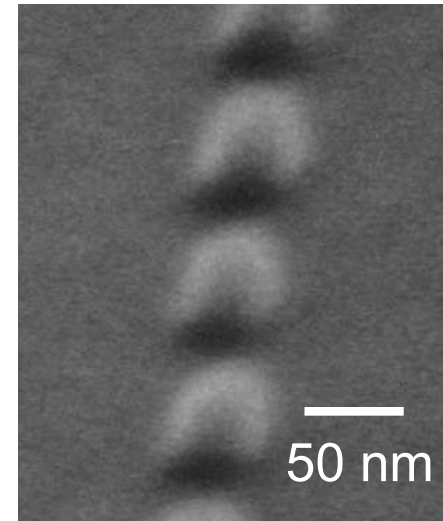
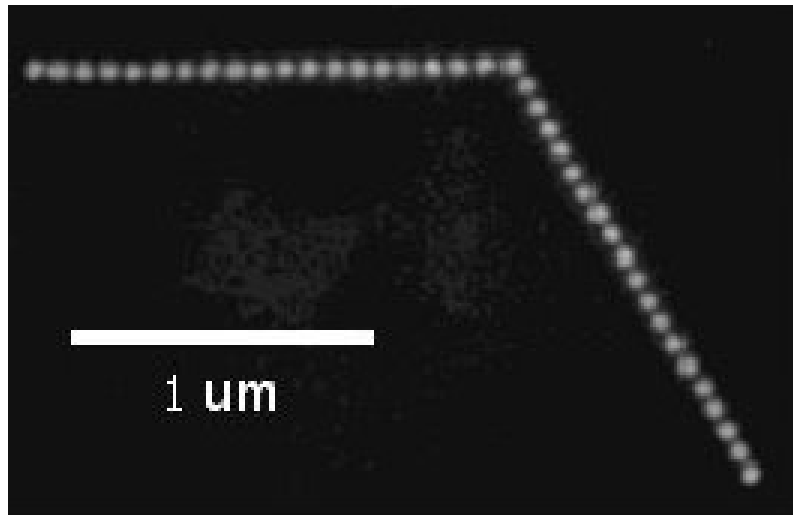


Calculation of power transmission coefficient, $\eta_T(\omega, \text{pol})$:

- Continuity amplitude of plasmon wave
- Continuity energy flux in plasmon wave

Maximum η_T at ω_0

SEM Images of Nanoparticle Arrays

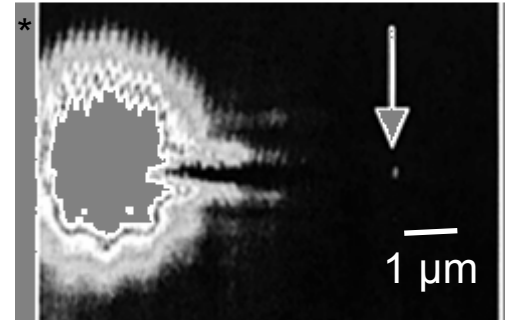
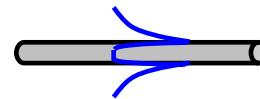
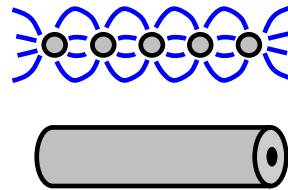


- Array of 50 nm diameter Au dots spaced by 75 nm
- Good control over particle size, shape, interparticle spacing

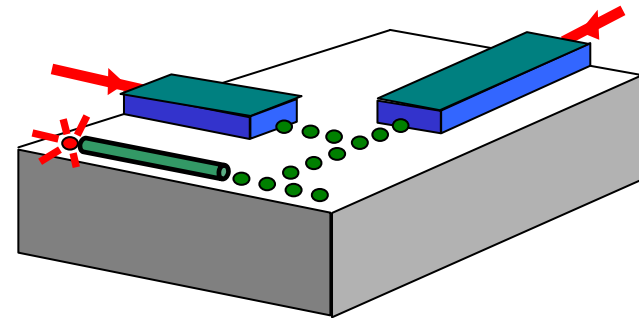
The Future of Metal Optics

Photonics

- Basic building blocks

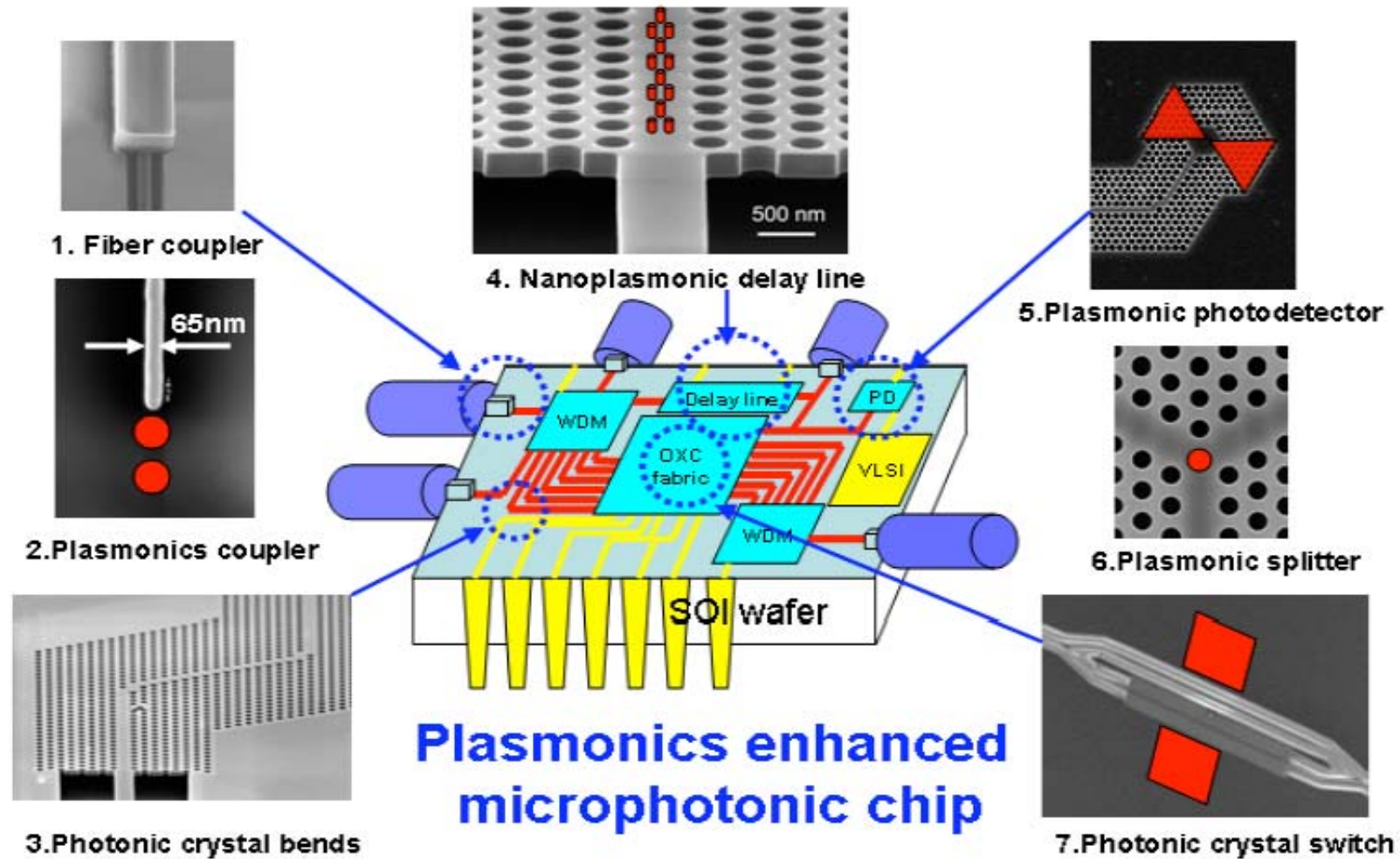


- More complex architectures



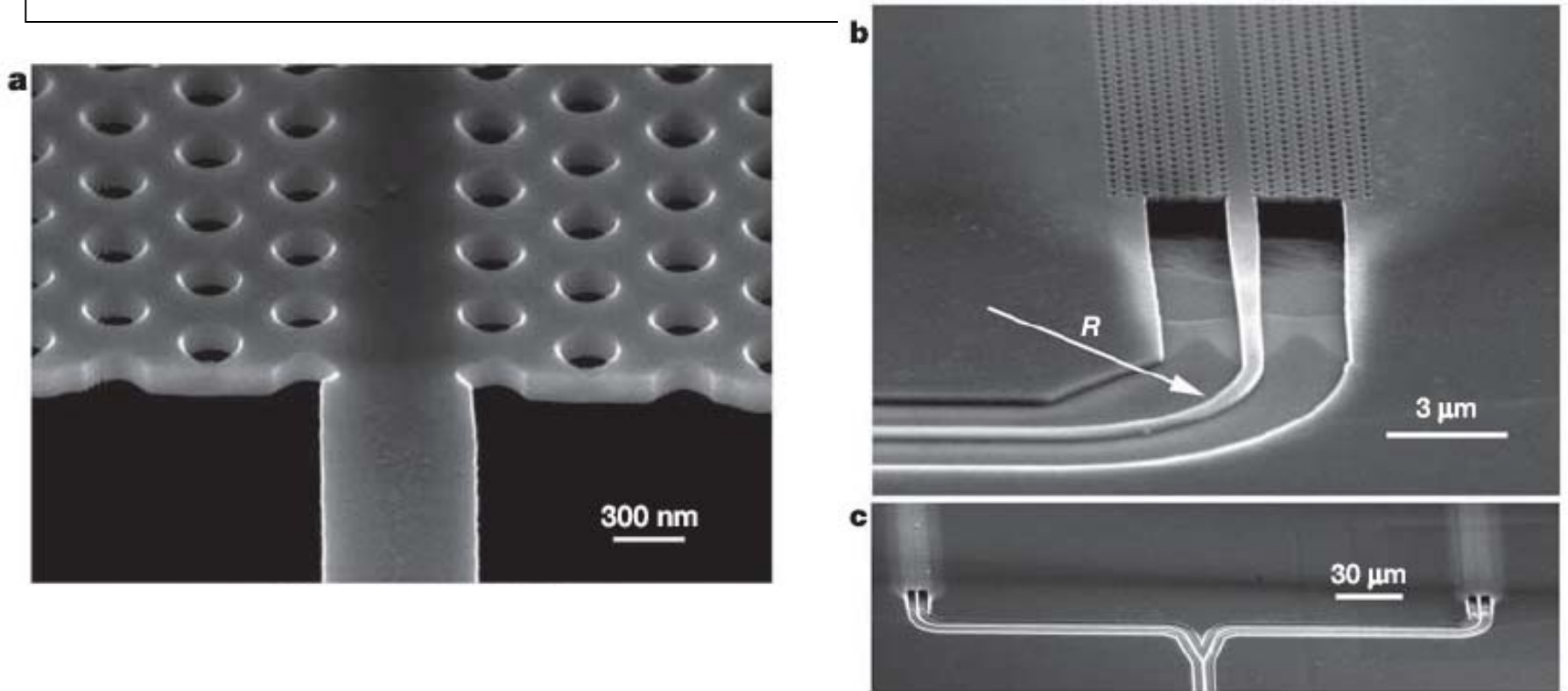
- Applications in biology for “Optical microscopy” ?
- Applications in high-density optical data storage ?
- Fundamental studies of light-matter interaction

Conceptual Si photonic chip



Y. A. Vlasov, IBM

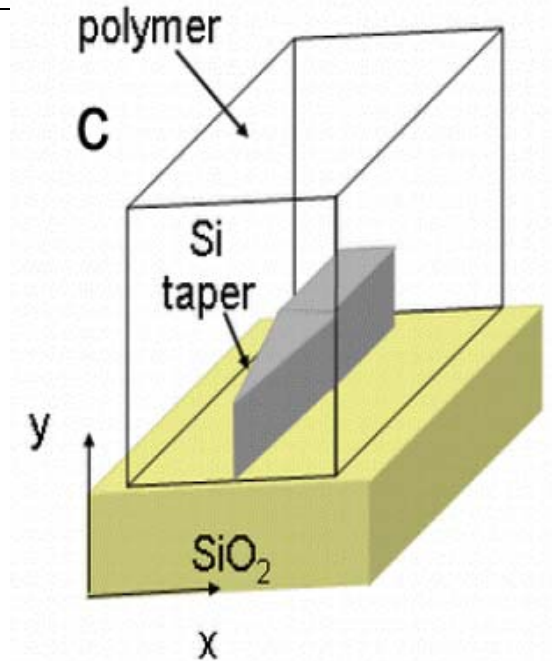
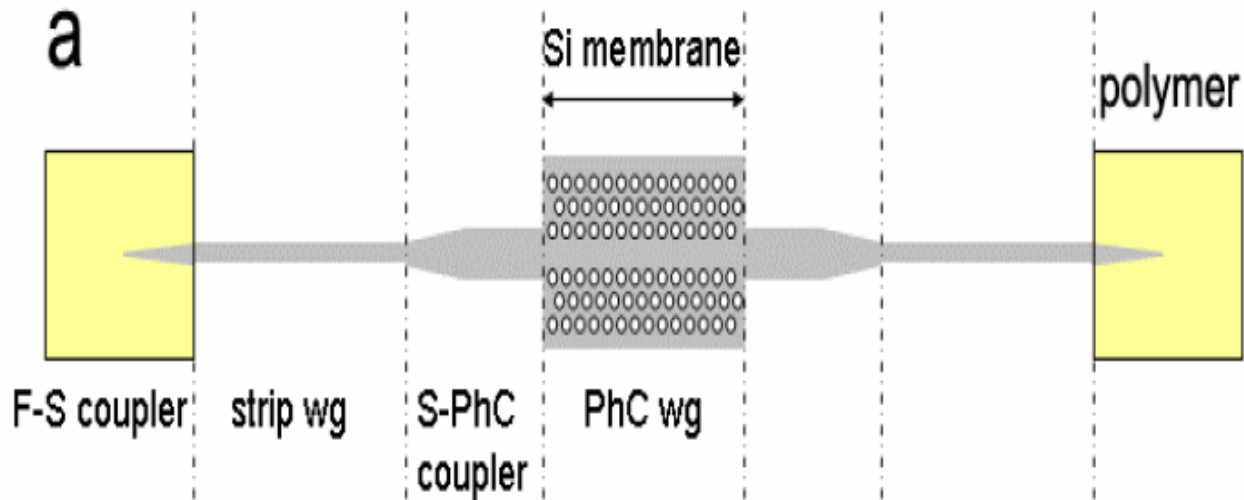
Si photonic crystal switch



Y. A. Vlasov, et al, *Nature*, 2005

➤ PC based Mach-Zehnder interferometer

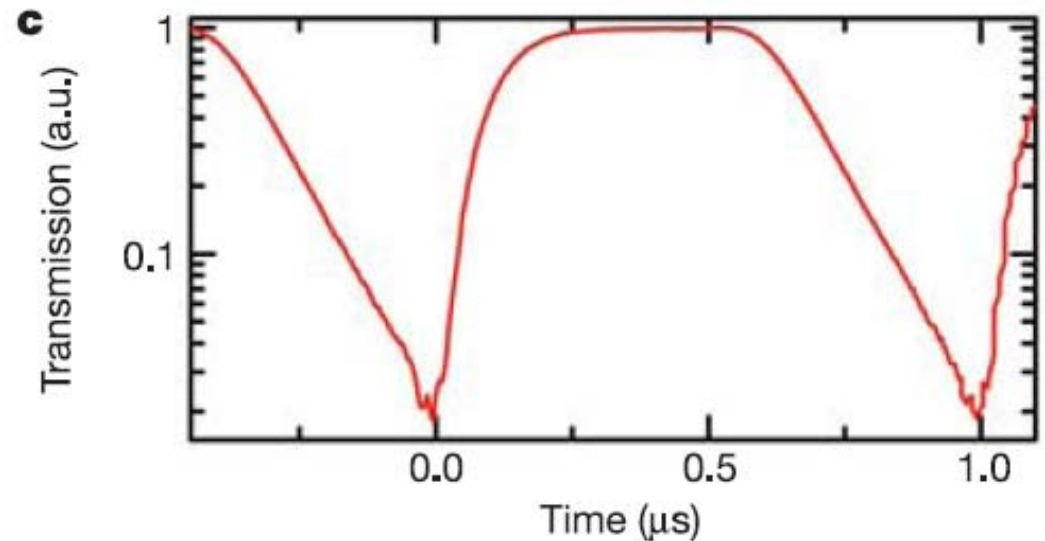
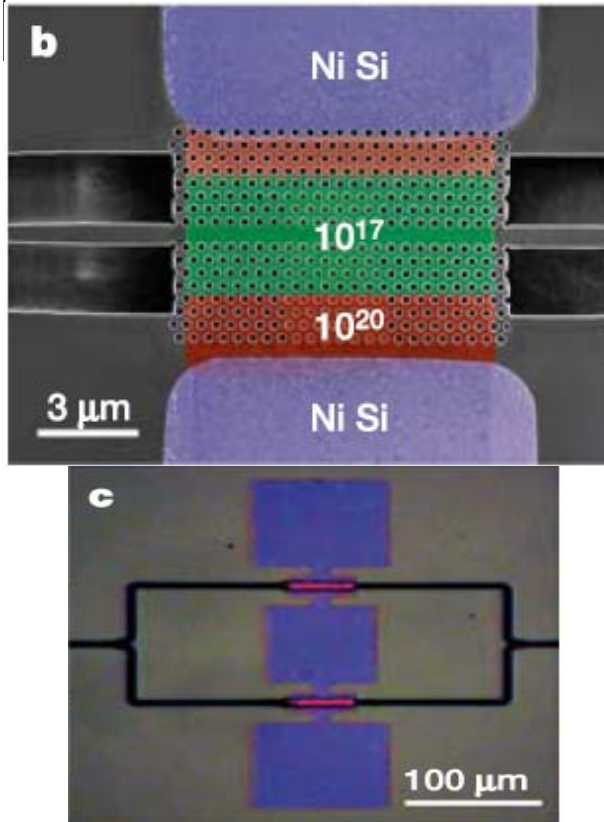
Fiber to Si-PC coupling



Y. A. Vlasov, et al, *Opt. Express*, 2003

- There can be 30dB loss due to geometrical mismatch
- Specialized fiber to Si coupling using polymer based coupler

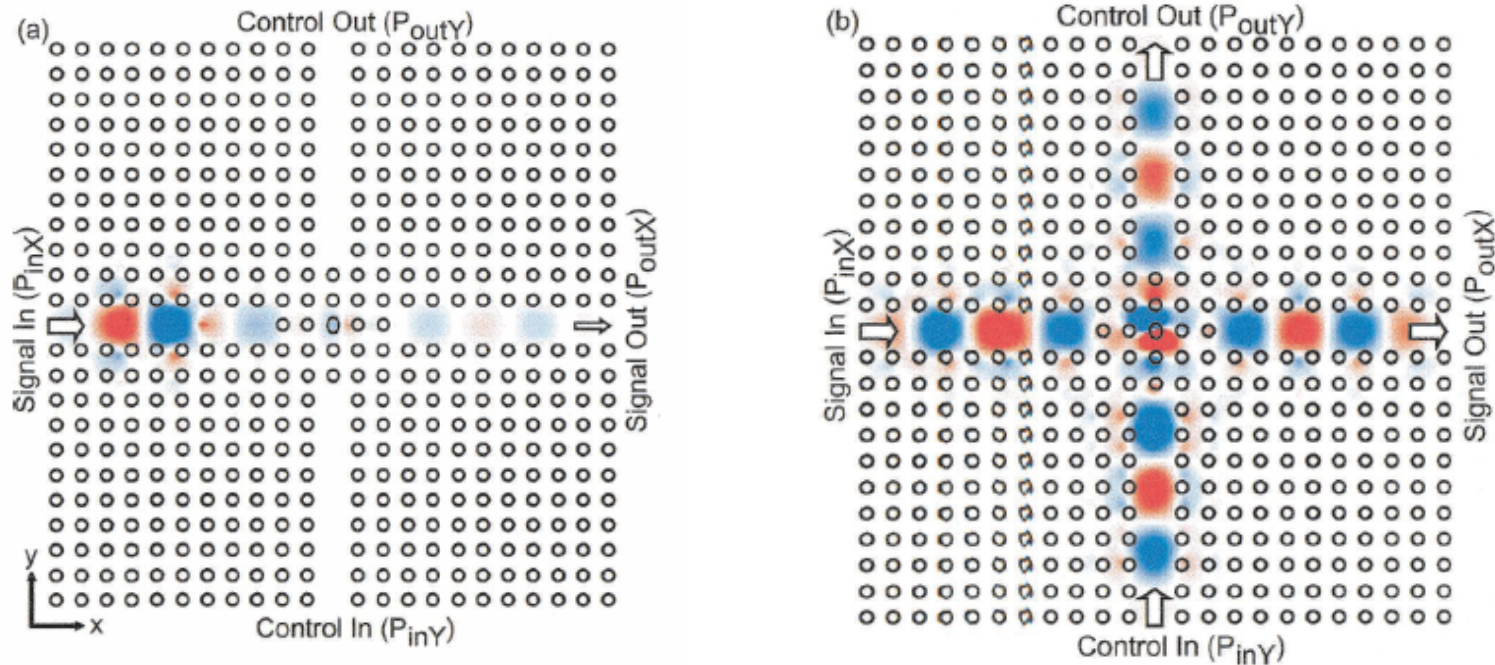
Si-PC switch operation



Y. A. Vlasov, et al, *Nature*, 2005

- Use thermo-optic effect to modulate transmission
- Switching speed $\sim 100\text{ns}$ ($\sim 10\text{MHz}$)
- Power $\sim 1\text{mW}$ ($\sim 10^5$ devices for 100W)

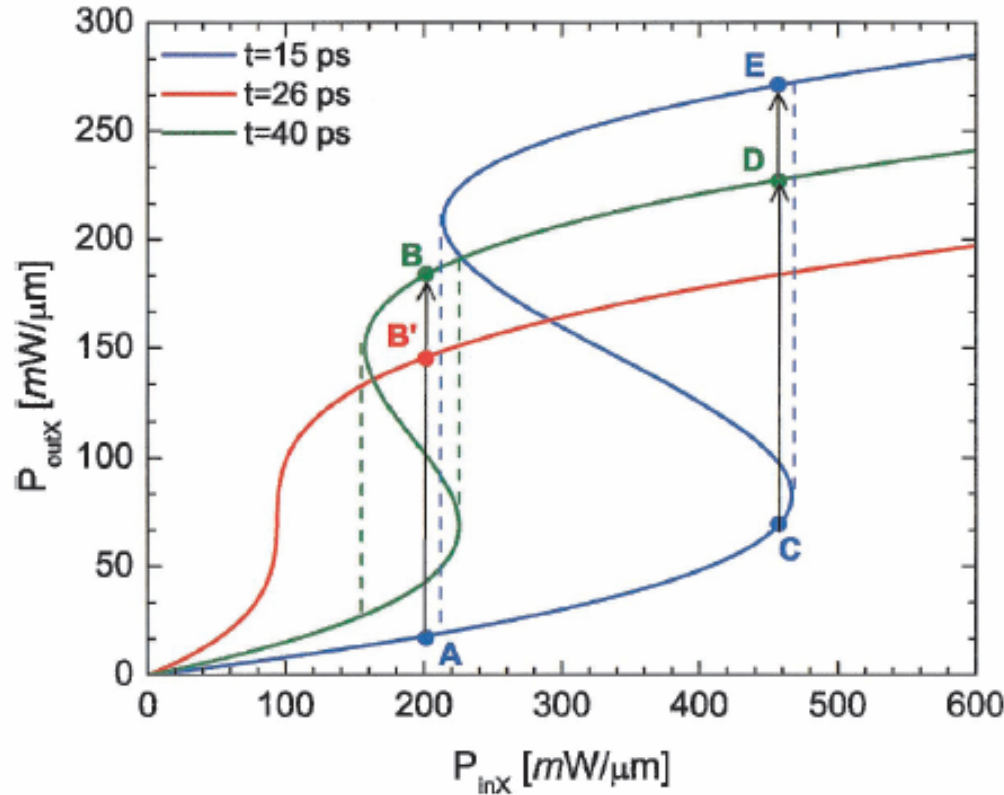
Controlling light with light



M. F. Yanik, et al, *Opt. Lett.*, 2003

- Two crossing PC waveguides
- Use Kerr nonlinearity to control the signal
- All-optical transistor operation

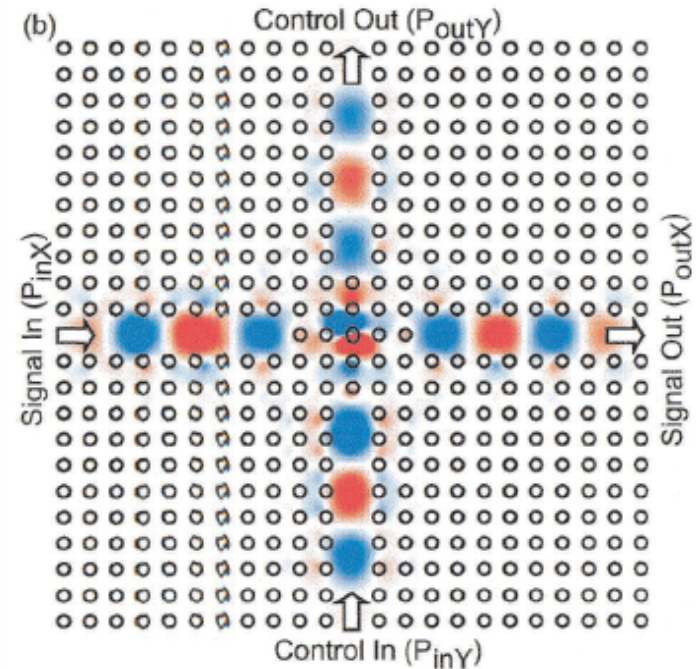
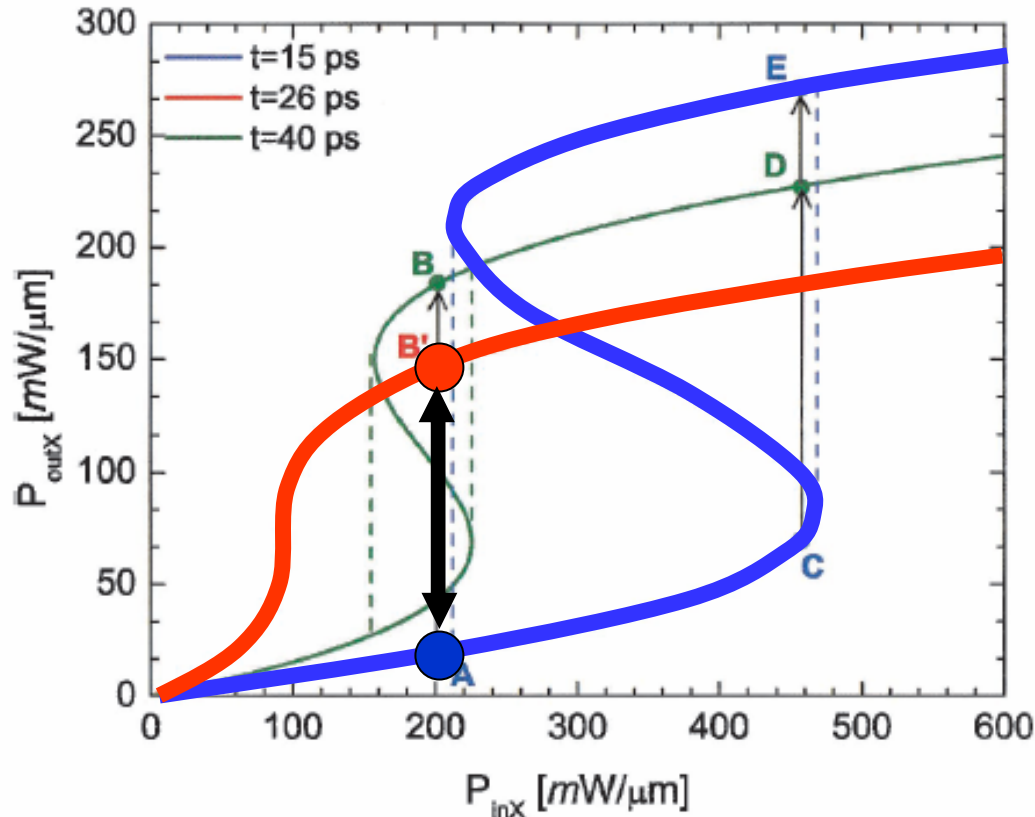
Optical bistability behavior



M. F. Yanik, et al, *Opt. Lett.*, 2003

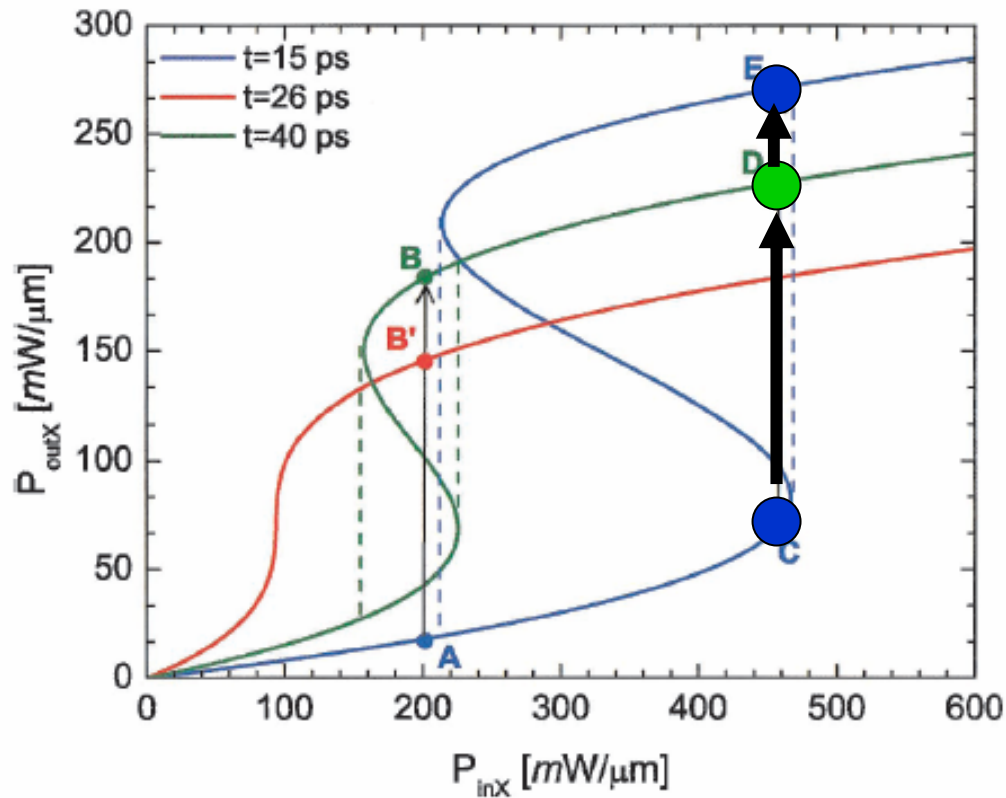
- Transistor and memory operation
- Coupling to the fiber can be done as earlier

Optical transistor operation



- **Size** $\sim \mu m^2$
- **Power** $\sim mW$ ($\sim 10^5$ devices for 100W)
- **Speed** $\sim 10GHz$

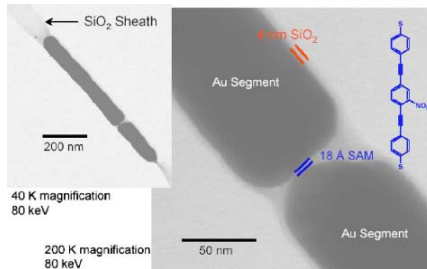
Optical memory effect



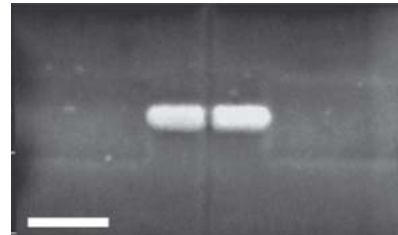
M. F. Yanik, et al, *Opt. Lett.*, 2003

➤ Information can be latched

- Nanoantenna: metal particles of nanometer scale, often paired



Aizpurua *et al.* Phys. Rev. B, 2005



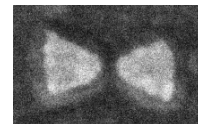
Hecht *et al.* Chimia, 2006



Jain *et al.* Nano Lett., 2007

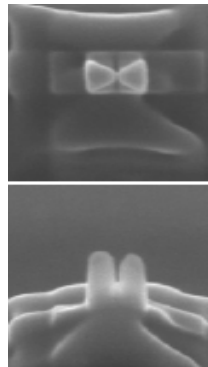


Søndergaard *et al.* Phys. Rev. B, 2007



Fromm *et al.* Nano Lett., 2004

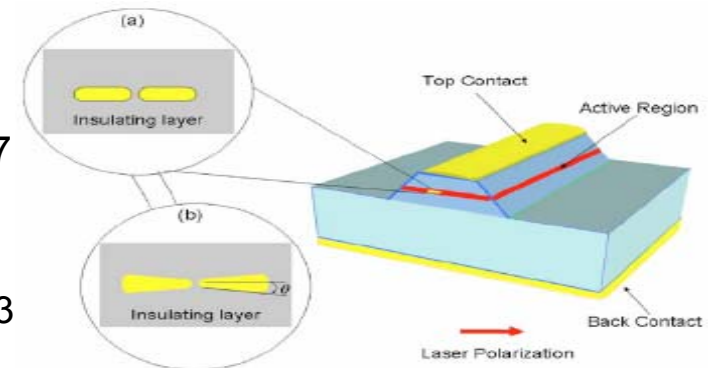
- Applications of nanoantenna: sensors, NSOM, etc.



Farahani *et al.*
Nanotechnology
2007

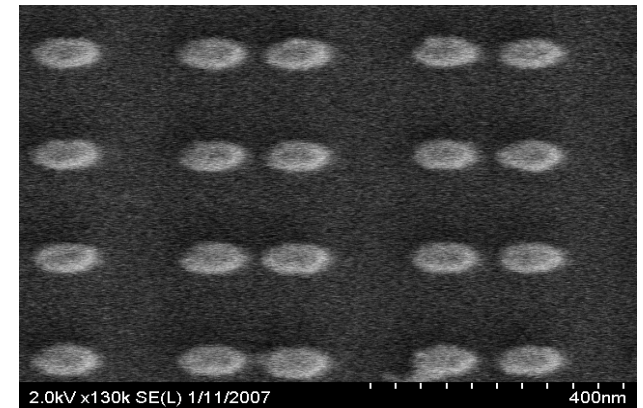
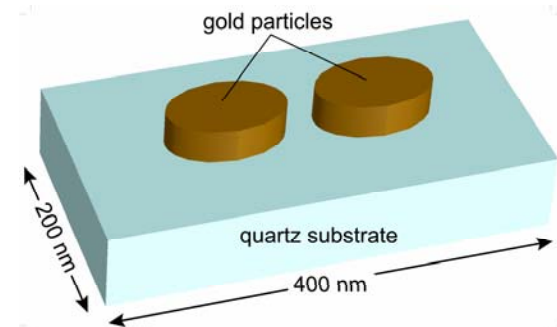
Cubukcu *et al.*
Appl. Phys. Lett., 2007

Bergman, Stockman
Phys. Rev. Lett., 2003



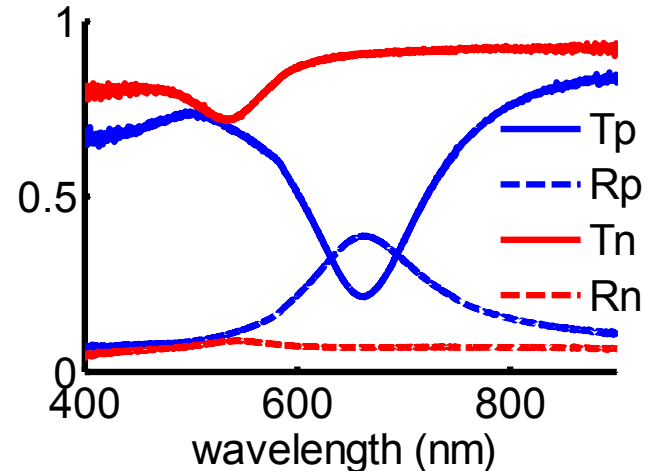
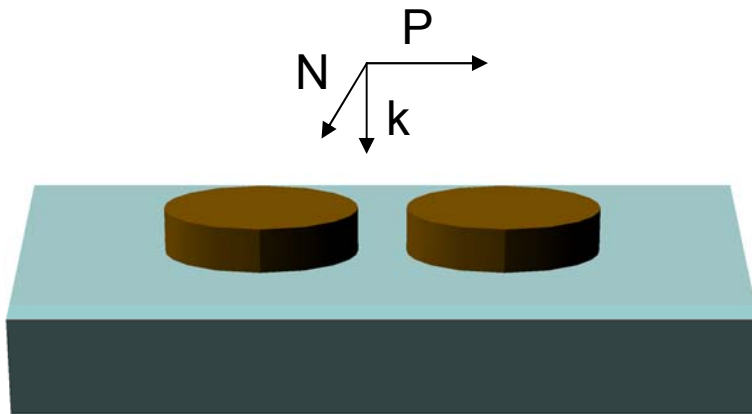
Fabrication and surface characterization

- Fabrication:
 - unit cell: $400\text{ nm} \times 200\text{ nm}$
 - Gold Thickness: 40 nm
 - Electron beam lithography
- Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) characterization
 - Major axis $\sim 110\text{ nm}$
 - Minor axis $\sim 55\text{ nm}$
 - Gap $\sim 17\text{ nm}$
- Atomic force microscopy (AFM)
 - Surface roughness $\sim 1\text{ nm}$



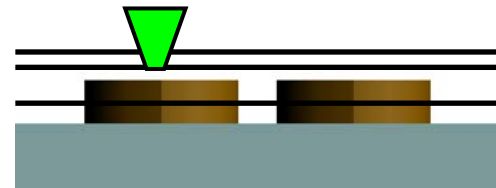
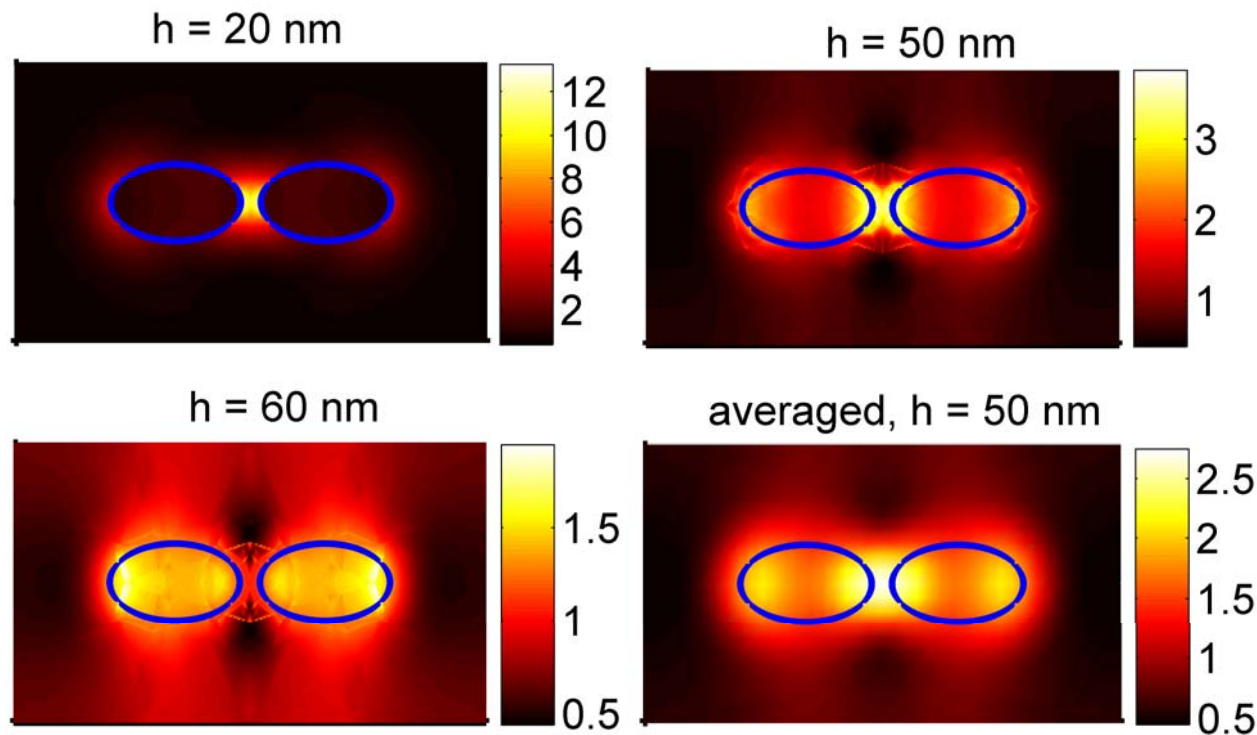
Far-field spectra measurement

- Far-field transmittance and reflectance measurement: normal incidence, two polarizations
 - Primary polarization (P): electric field parallel to the major axis
 - Secondary polarization (N): electric field normal to the major axis



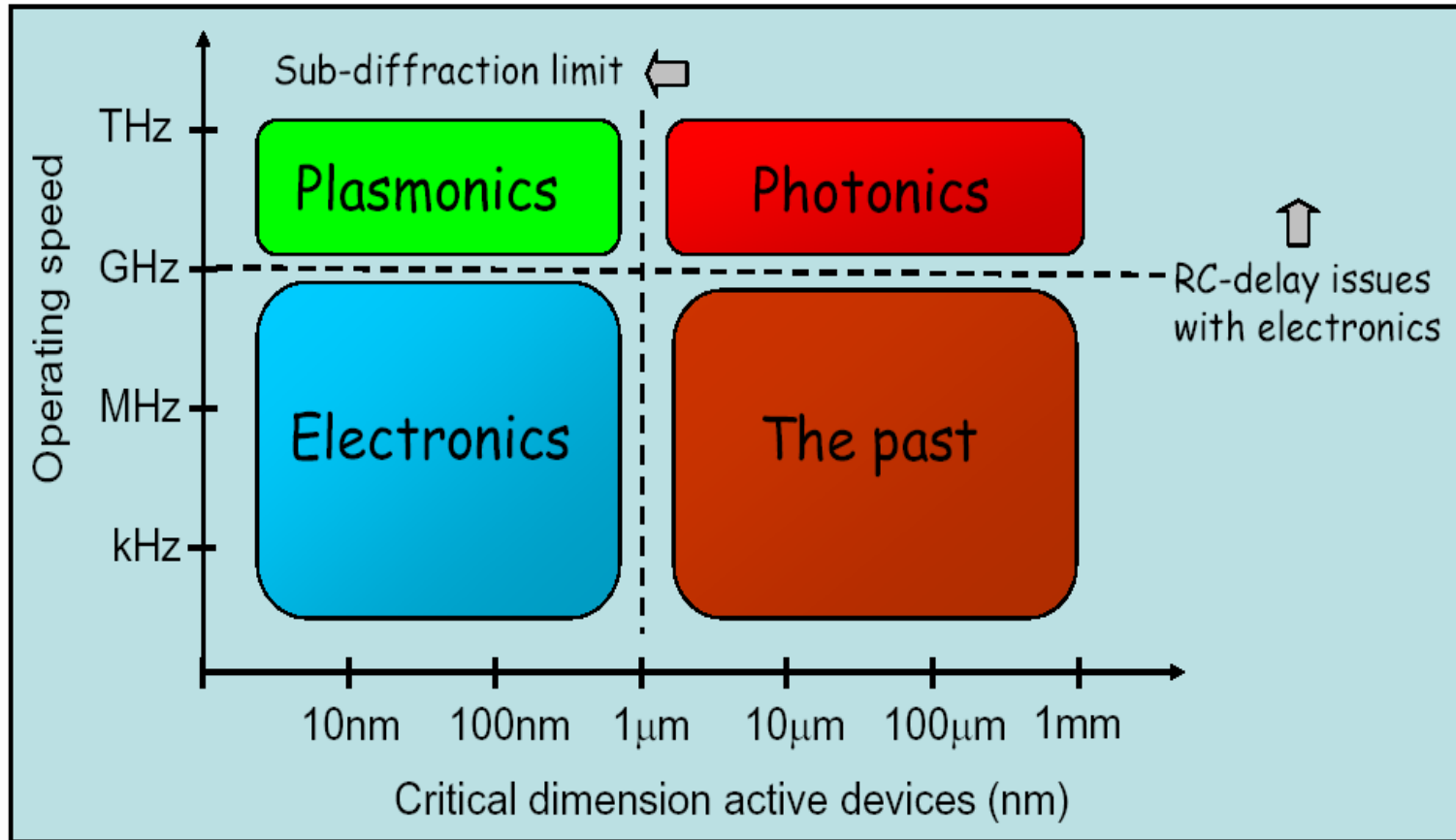
Near field characteristics of nanoantenna

- Field enhancement: strongly localized in 3-D space



Nanophotonics enabled by plasmonics

- Graph of the operating regimes of different technologies



- ♦ Plasmonics will enable an improved synergy between electronic and photonic devices
 - ➡ Plasmonics naturally interfaces with similar size electronic components
 - ➡ Plasmonics naturally interfaces with similar operating speed photonic networks