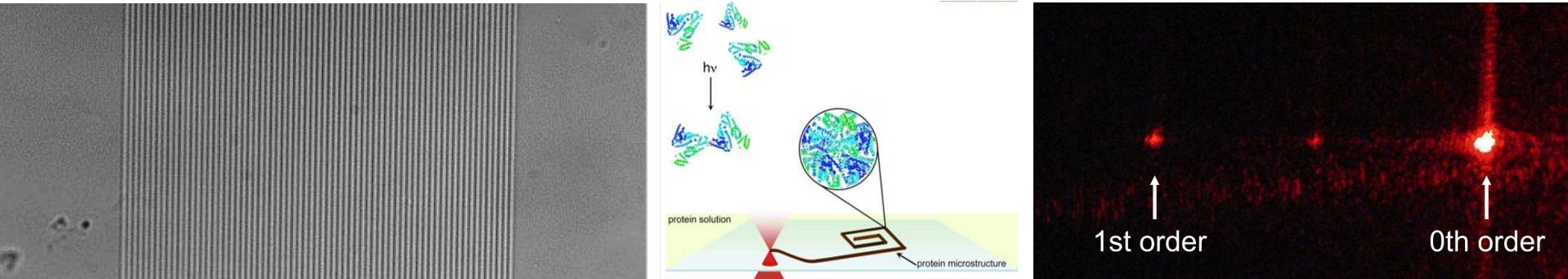


Exceptional service in the national interest



Direct-Write Graded Index Materials Realized In Protein Hydrogels

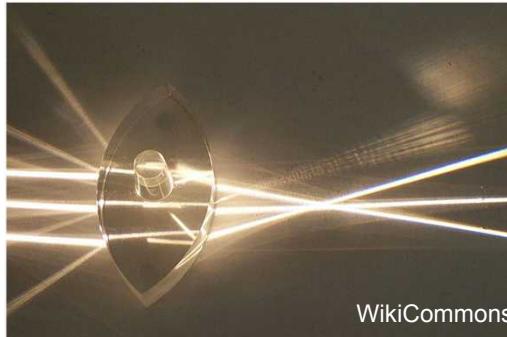
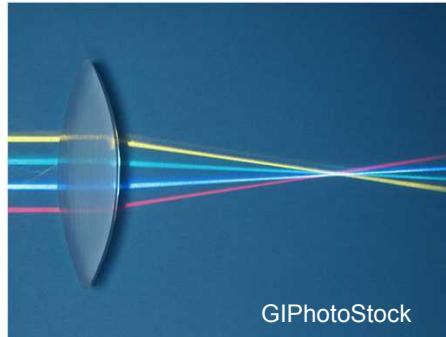
David Scrymgeour & Bryan Kaehr



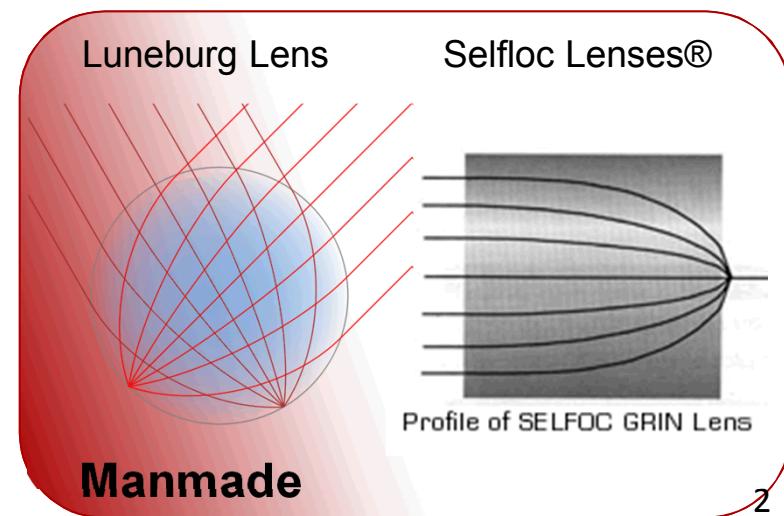
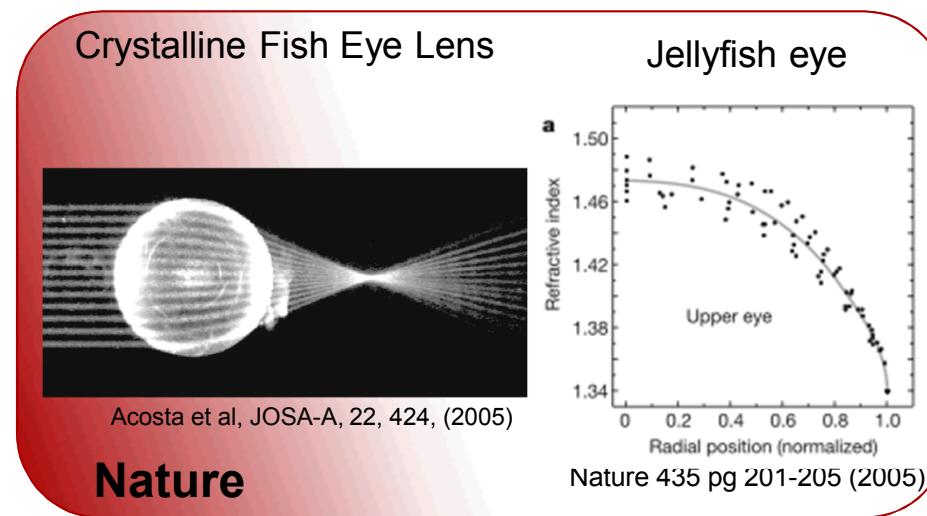
Sandia National Laboratories is a multi-program laboratory managed and operated by Sandia Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Lockheed Martin Corporation, for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000. SAND NO. 2011-XXXX

GRaded INdex materials give additional freedom for optical design

Traditional optical designs: uniform index of material + surfaces

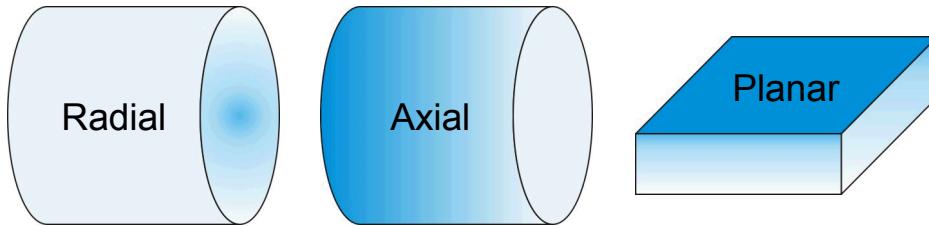


GRIN optical designs: non-uniform spatial variation of refractive index n with position



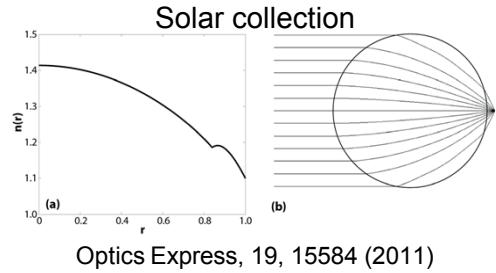
New fabrication techniques needed to create arbitrary GRIN distributions

Current GRIN Geometries – limited by fabrication techniques

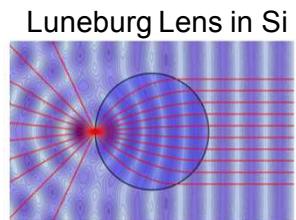


- Diffusion
- Ion exchange
- Polymerization
- Melt/drawing glasses/polymers

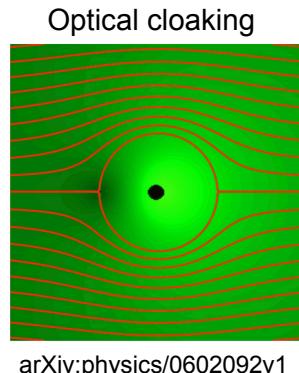
Arbitrary distributions allow many new applications → need new fabrication routes



Optics Express, 19, 15584 (2011)



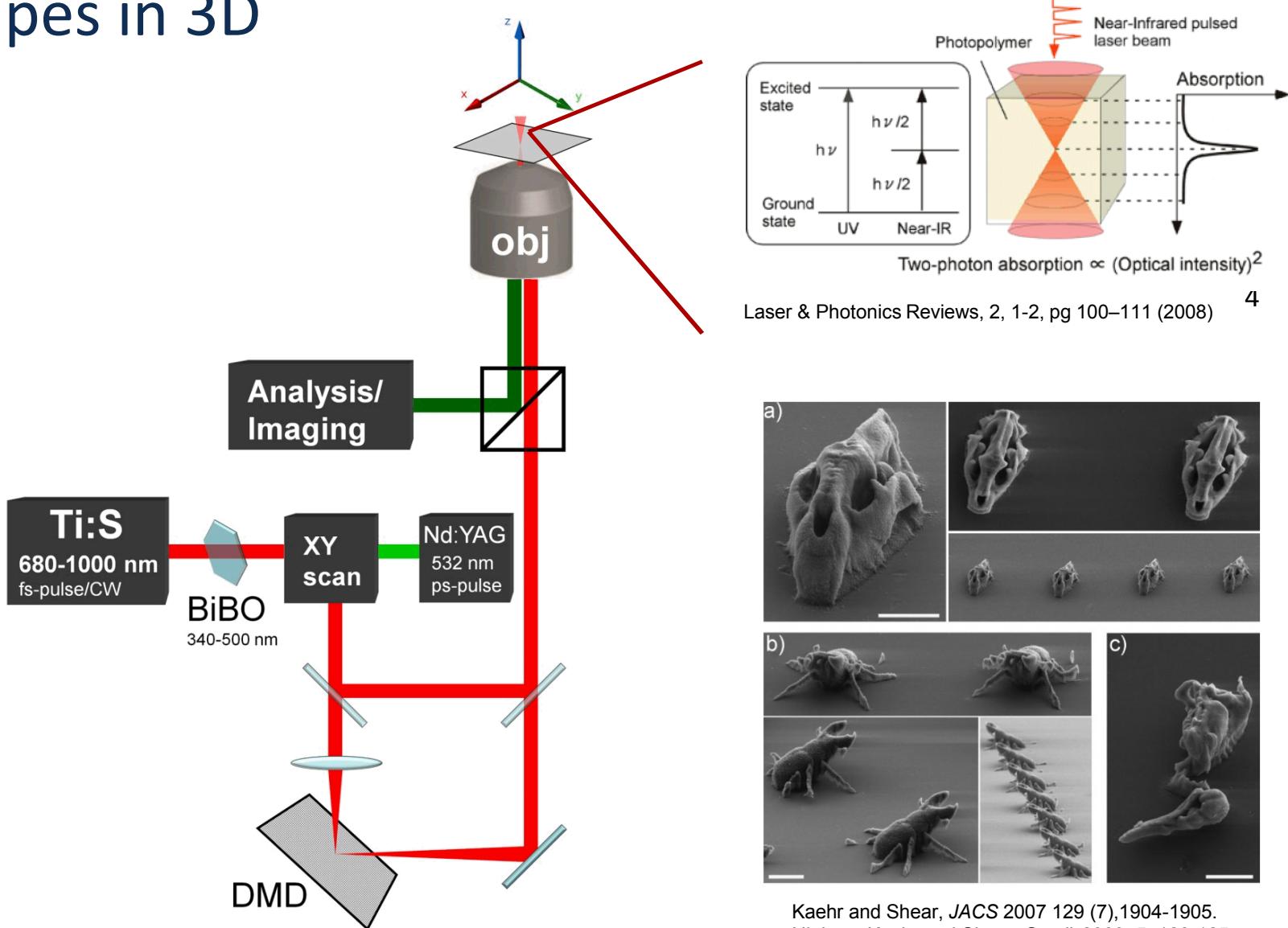
Optics Express, 19, 5156 (2011)



arXiv:physics/0602092v1

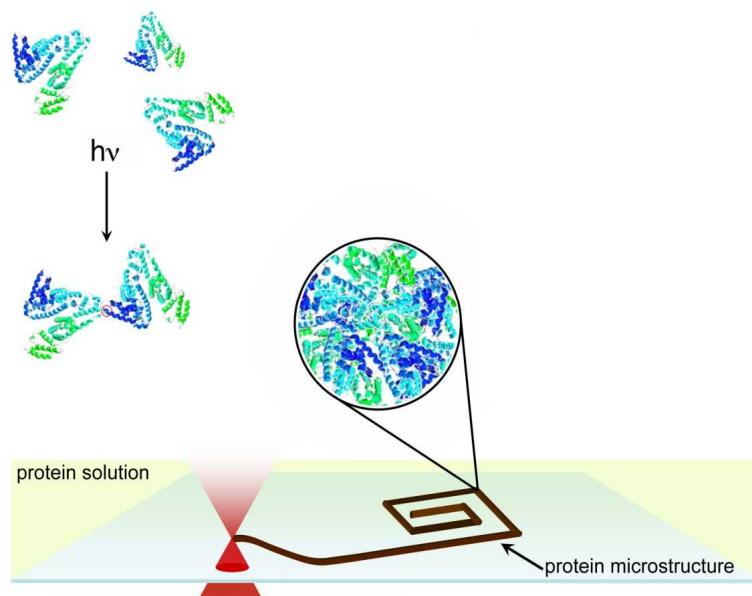
- Reduced weight, size, and complexity
- Next generation optical designs
- Combine optical functions (imaging – spectroscopy)
- Transformational/cloaking optics

Multiphoton Lithography can create arbitrary shapes in 3D



Structures were created in protein hydrogels because they have non-binary responses

1. Hydrogels from photocrosslinked proteins have variable densities
 - exposure time/ reactant concentrations
2. Compatible with conversion/functionalization chemistries



Hydrogel preparation:

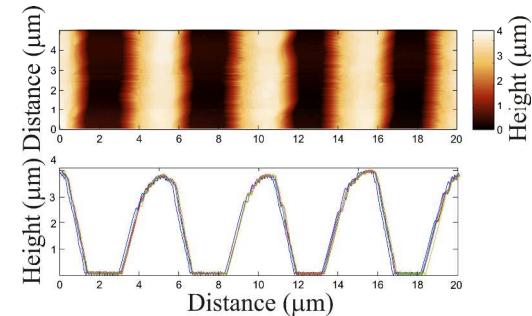
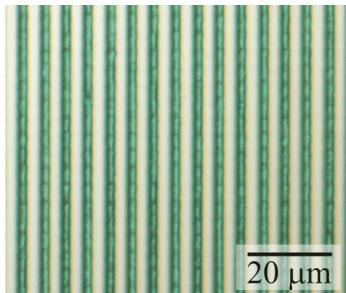
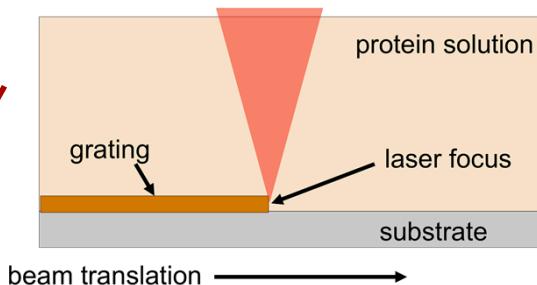
- Dissolved bovine serum albumin (BSA) in buffered phosphate saline
- Sensitizer - ammonia persulfate
- Photosensitizer - $[\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})^3]^{2+}$
- Flood illuminate broad band source 1 min
- **Hydrogel is ready for MPL**

D. Fancy et al. PNAS, 96, (1999) pp. 6020–6024

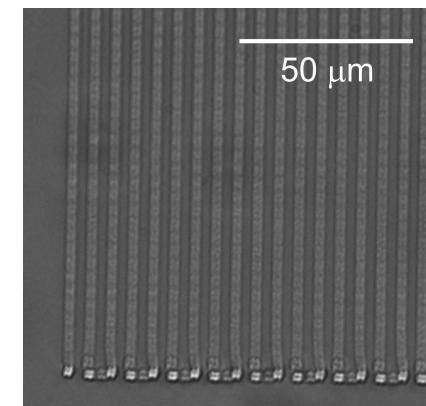
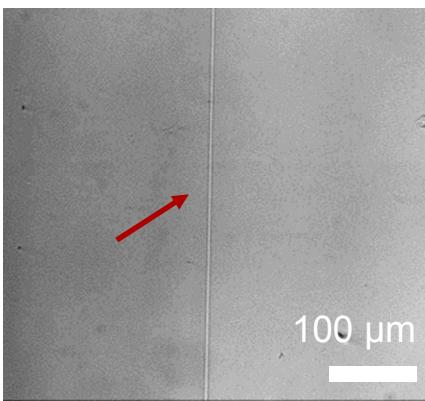
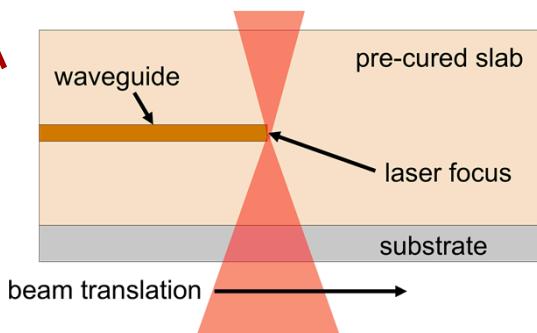
Variable density + 3D writing MPL = arbitrary GRIN structures

Gratings and line structures were written by rastering beam focus

Surface gratings

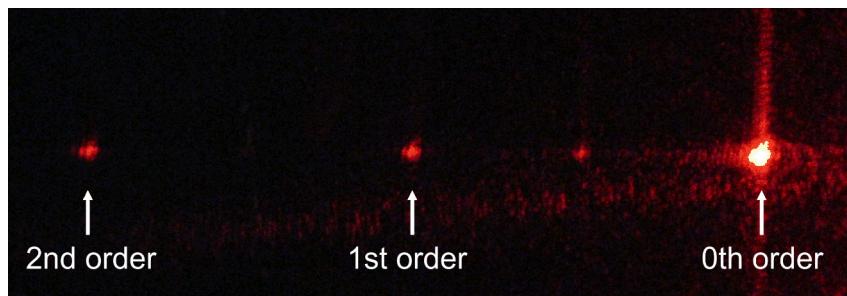
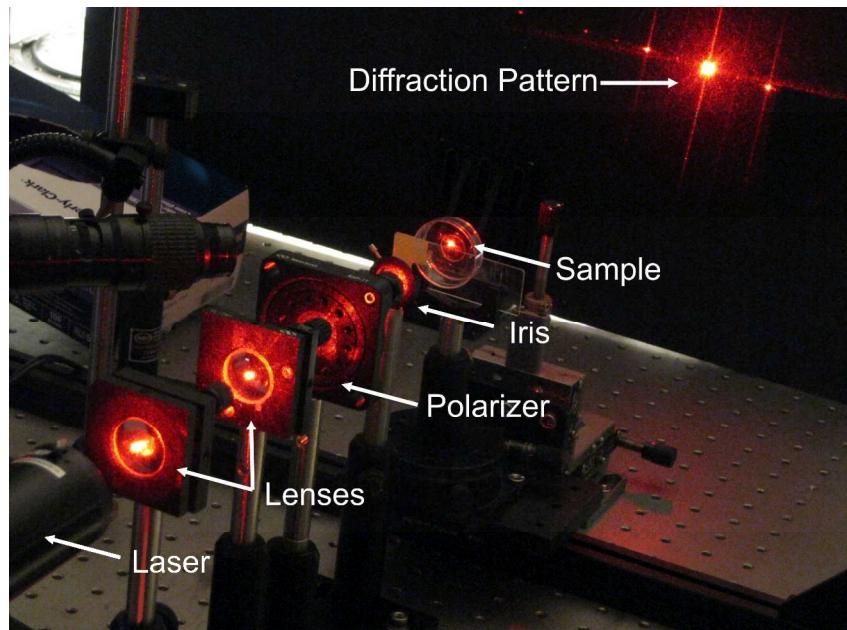
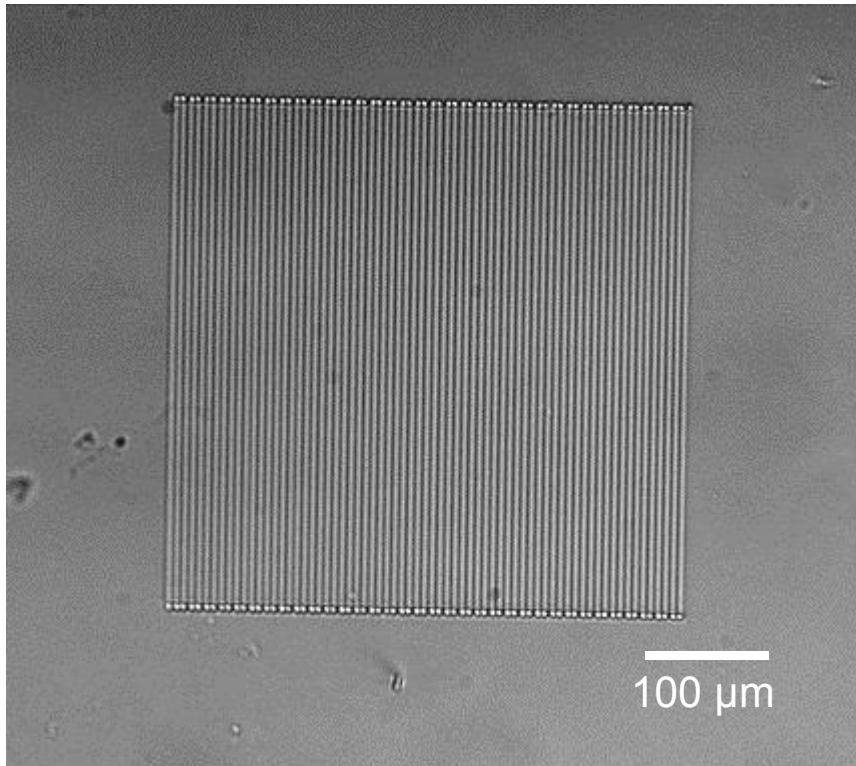


Embedded waveguides and gratings

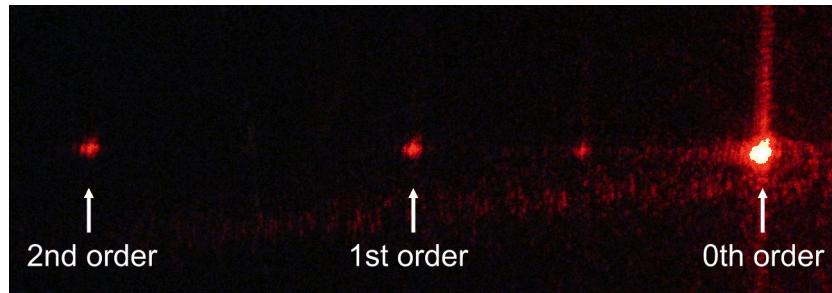


Optical properties were estimated from diffraction efficiency of the gratings

Quantify Δn and $\Delta n/\Delta x$



Optical properties were estimated from the diffraction efficiency of the gratings



Index of refraction of given order:

$$\eta_l = (\pi \Delta n_l T / \lambda_o \cos \theta_B)$$

Δn_l = index change of l order
 η_l = efficiency of l order
 T = grating thickness
 θ_B = diffraction angle
 λ = illuminating wavelength

Change of index distribution:

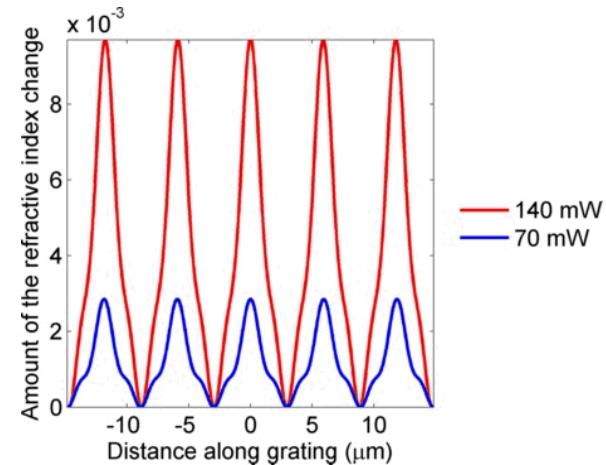
$$n(x) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{l=1}^m \Delta n_l \cos \left(\frac{2l\pi x}{\Lambda} \right)$$

Δn_l = index change of l order
 l = order
 x = spatial extent || grating
 Λ = grating period
 λ = illuminating wavelength

Kogelnik, H., Bell System Technical Journal, 1969. **48**(9): p. 2909
Toma, T., Y. et al., Optical Review, 2000. **7**(1): p. 14-17.

Extracted Δn of BSA gratings equivalent to laser densified glass

	Order	Diffraction efficiency	Refractive index change ($\times 10^{-3}$)
70 mW grating $\Lambda = 5.93 \mu\text{m}$	1	1.2×10^{-3}	2.34
	2	7.7×10^{-3}	0.58
	3	6.1×10^{-3}	0.50
140 mW grating $\Lambda = 5.89 \mu\text{m}$	1	1.6×10^{-3}	8.34
	2	6.6×10^{-3}	1.36
	3	4.6×10^{-3}	1.11



BSA system:

$$\Delta n @ 70 \text{ mW} \sim 2.5 \times 10^{-3}$$

$$\Delta n @ 140 \text{ mW} \sim 1 \times 10^{-2}$$

$$\Delta n / \Delta x \sim 1.5 \times 10^{-3} / \mu\text{m}$$

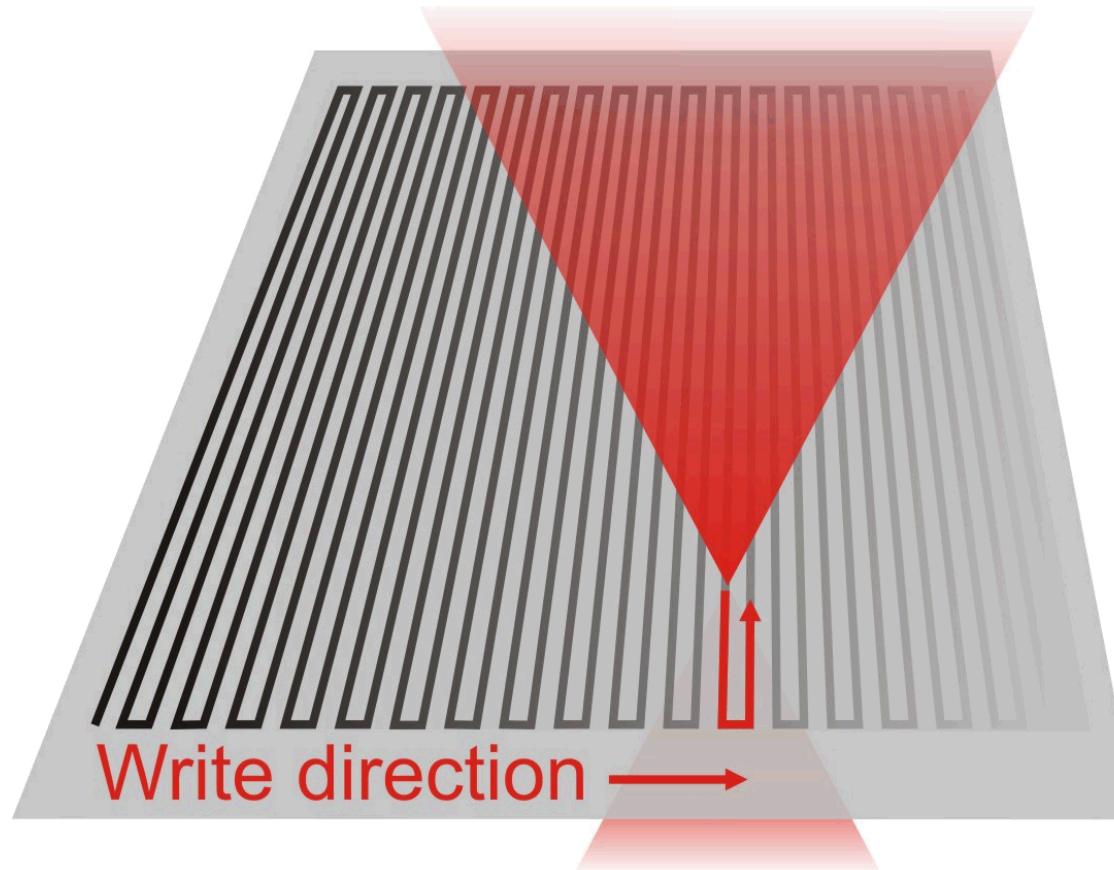
Other systems:

Laser densified glass $\sim 1.5-10 \times 10^{-3}$

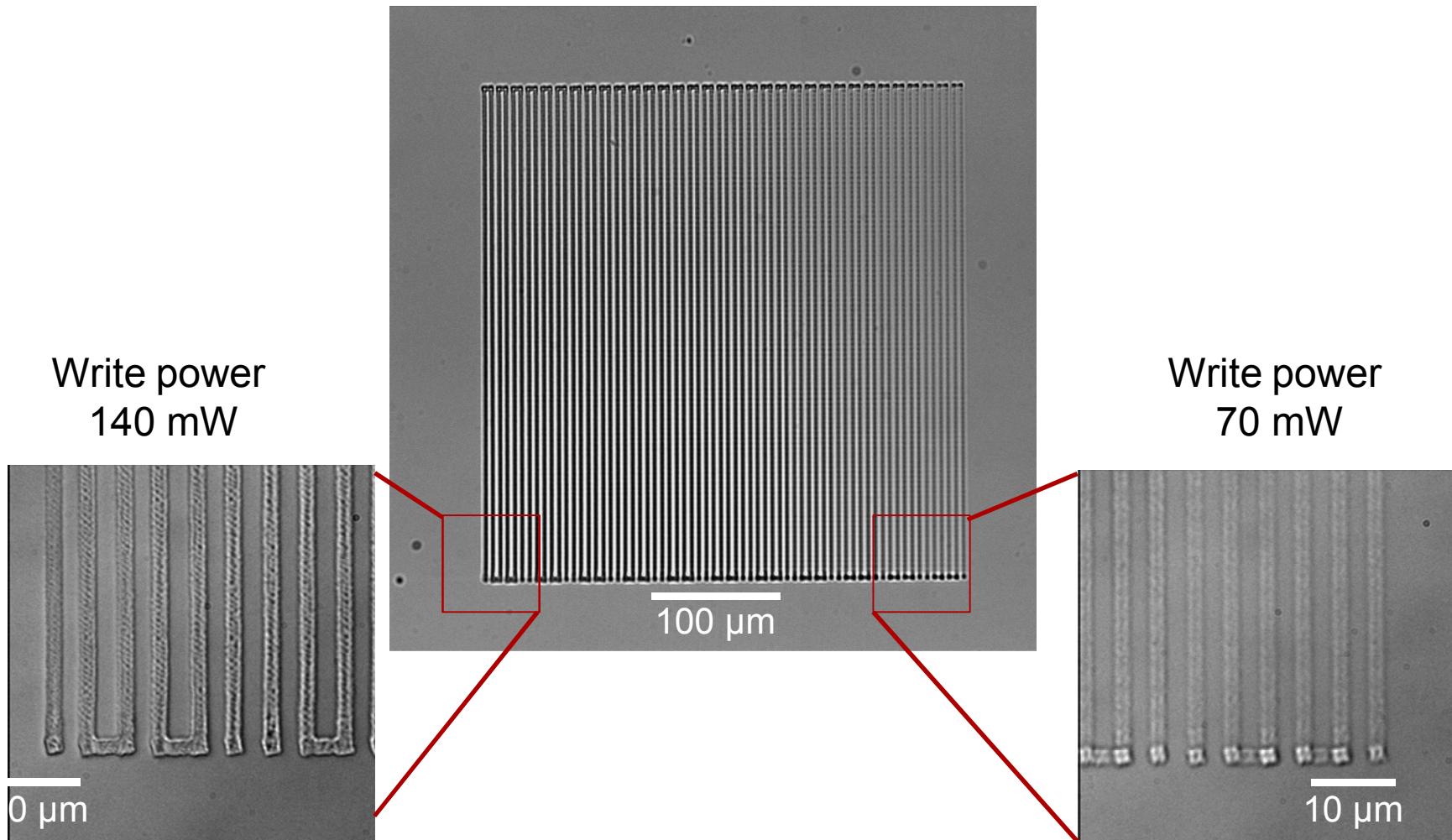
Other polymer systems $\sim 1 \times 10^{-2}$

Varying the write power while writing structures yields graded materials

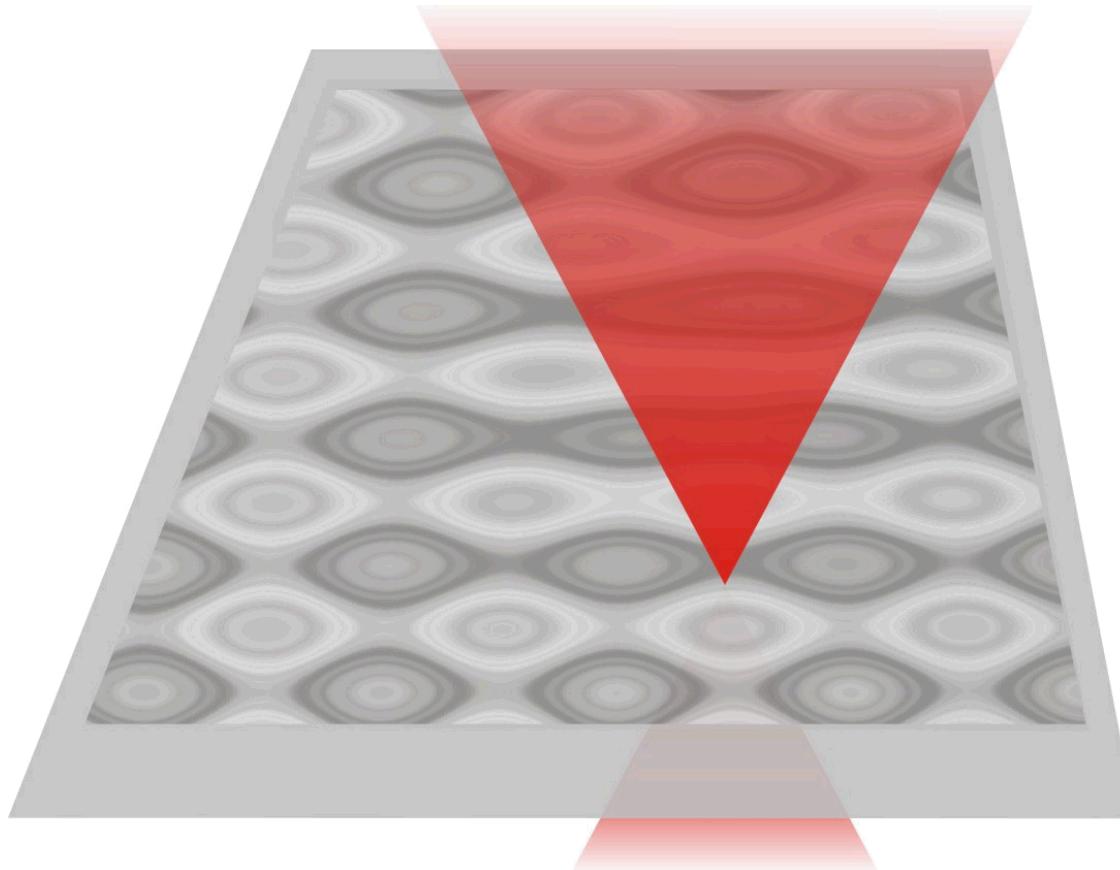
Beam power is continually varied from start of line creation to end



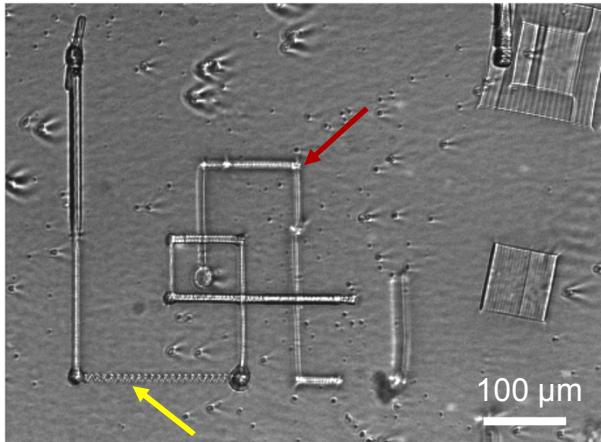
Varying the write power while creating structures yields graded materials



Arbitrary GRIN created by 3D raster and beam power control



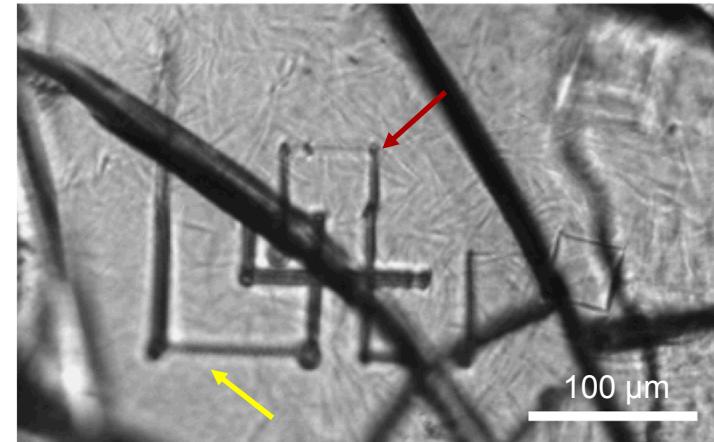
BSA structures were successfully converted to silica preserving write features



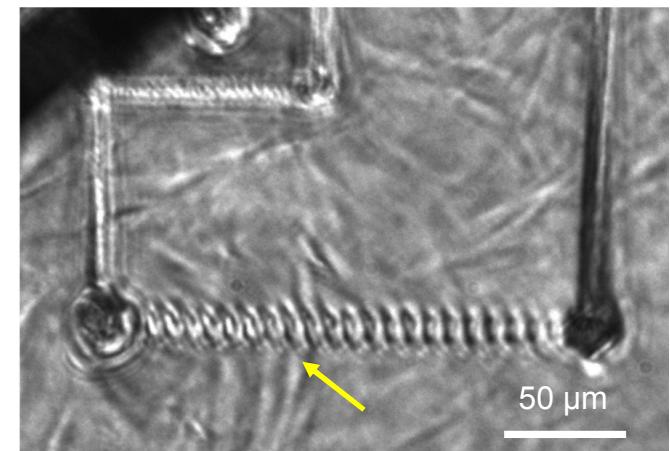
Silicification
Calcination



0.1 M silicic acid pH 3 (48 hours)
450°C (4 hours)

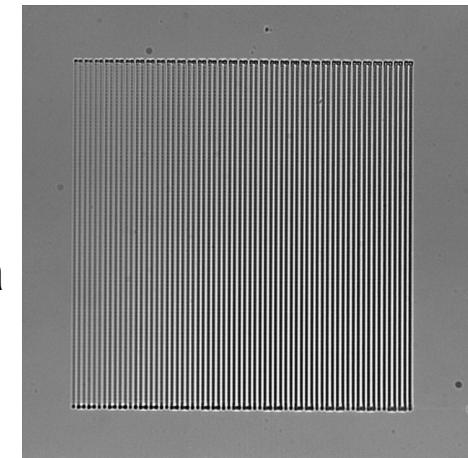


Process needs refinement, cracking a problem in converted structure



Conclusions/Future Work

- Demonstrated GRIN materials in protein hydrogels
- Achieved a maximum index change of 1×10^{-2}
- Demonstrated chemical route to preserve structures in silica
- Path forward for arbitrary GRIN material fabrication



Future work:

- Residual stress/strain in structures
- Alternative MPL write materials
- Preserving written structures via conversion/replacement chemistries



The End