



Active Infrared Metasurfaces: Strong Coupling, Spectral Tuning and Optical Nonlinearities

Igal Brener

Sandia National Labs &
Center for Integrated Nanotechnologies (CINT)

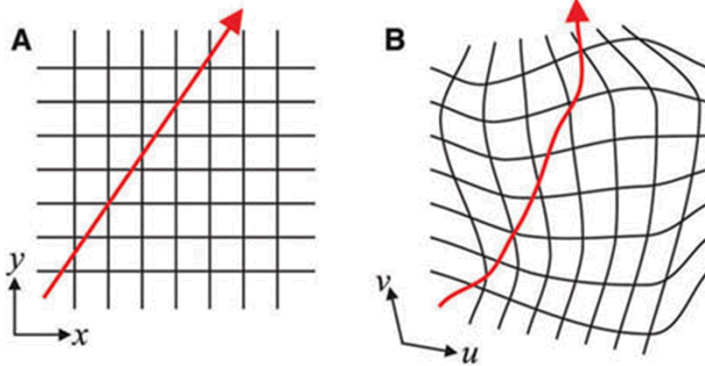
ibrener@sandia.gov, (505) 844-8097



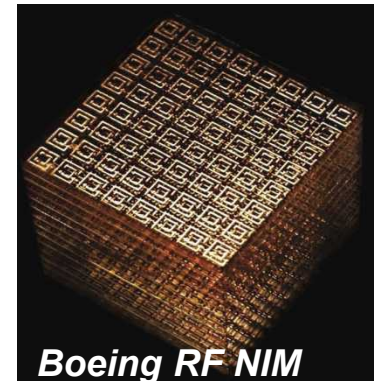
Outline

- **Electrically tunable metasurfaces**
 - Depletion: THz
 - Scaling to mid IR
 - Tuning by controlling coupling
 - Coupling to “epsilon near zero modes”
 - Coupling to intersubband transitions
- **Enhanced optical nonlinearities**

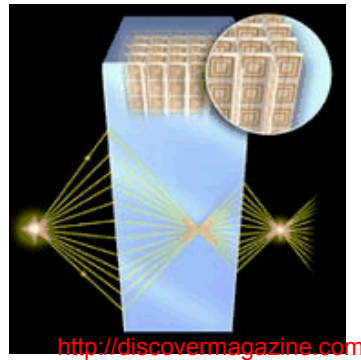
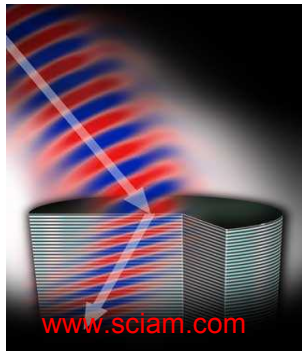
Metamaterials



Sir John Pendry
David Smith, etc



Negative Refraction & Perfect Lensing



http://www.multitel.be/newsletter/mn72005/images/nl3_Metamaterials_type1.jpg

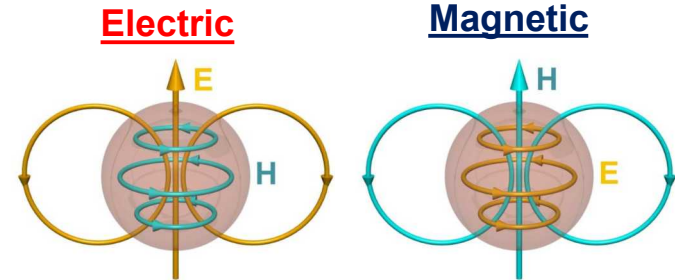
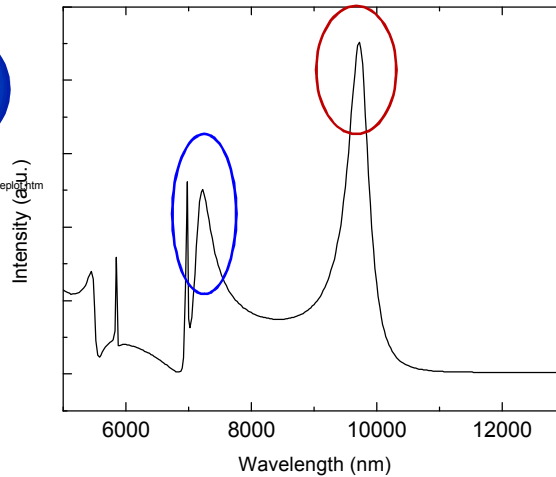
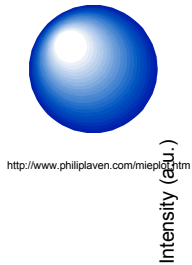
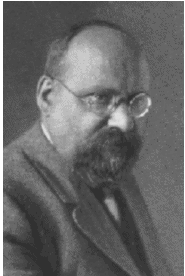
The promise of (IR) applications was great:

- Wavefront control (Conformal optics, novel illuminators)
- Sub- λ Field Concentration
- Absorption / Emission engineering
- “Flat” optics (thin, lightweight)

- For RF ($\sim 3\text{GHz}$), $\lambda \sim \text{cm}$
- We need to create sub-wavelength “inductors” and “capacitors”

A Non-Metallic Path to Low Loss Metamaterials: Dielectric Resonators

Gustav Mie



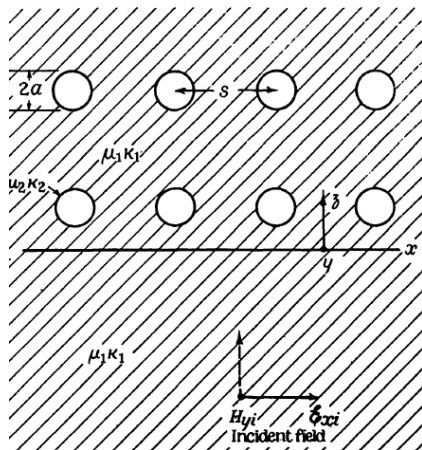
First (Primary) resonance is **magnetic dipole** for most materials; **Second** is **electric dipole**

Images: A. Miroshnichenko

THE ELECTRICAL CONSTANTS OF A MATERIAL LOADED WITH SPHERICAL PARTICLES*

By L. LEWIN.†

(The paper was first received 4th March, and in revised form 27th September, 1946.)



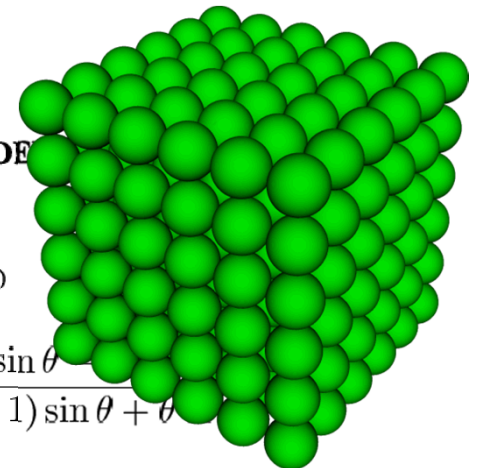
$$\mu'_{re} = \mu_{r1} \left(1 + \frac{3v_f}{\frac{F(\theta) + 2b_m}{F(\theta) - b_m} - v_f} \right)$$

$$\epsilon'_{re} = \epsilon_{r1} \left(1 + \frac{3v_f}{\frac{F(\theta) + 2b_e}{F(\theta) - b_e} - v_f} \right)$$

$$F(\theta) = \frac{2(\sin \theta - \theta \cos \theta)}{(\theta^2 - 1) \sin \theta + \theta}$$

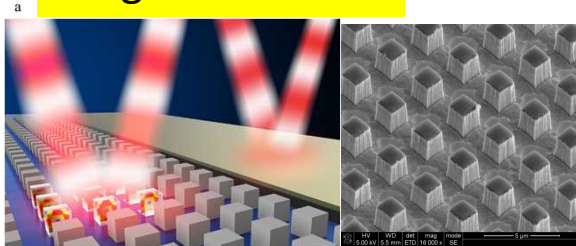
$$\theta = k_0 a \sqrt{\epsilon'_{r2} \mu'_{r2}}$$

$$b_e = \frac{\epsilon_1}{\epsilon_2}, \quad b_m = \frac{\mu_1}{\mu_2}$$



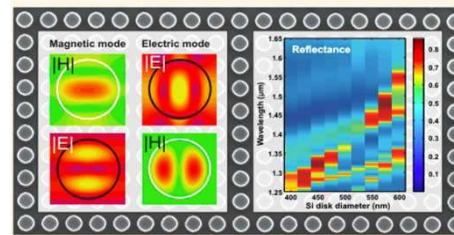
Some Recent Results with Dielectric Metasurfaces (Linear)

Magnetic mirror

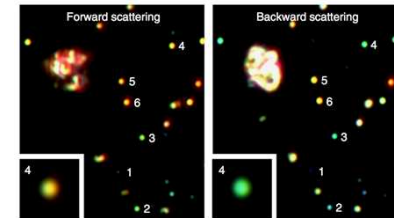


Optica 2015

Tailoring scattering

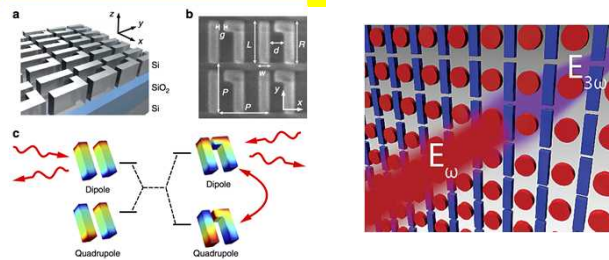


ACS Nano 7, 7824 (2013)



Nat. Comm. 4, 1527 (2013)

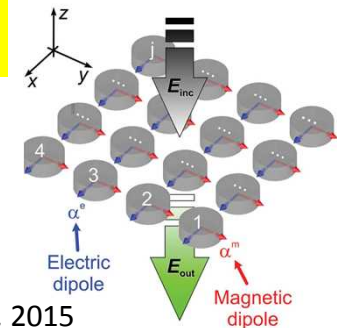
Fano resonances



Nature Comm. 2014.

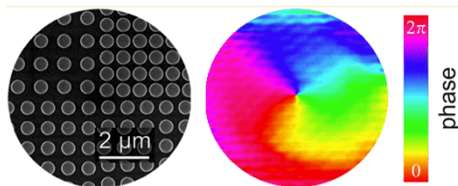
Nano Lett. 15, 7388 (2015)

Huygens Metasurfaces

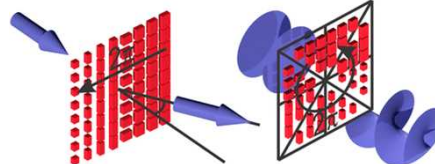


Adv. Optical Mater. 2015

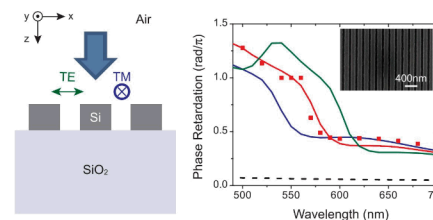
Phase-front manipulation



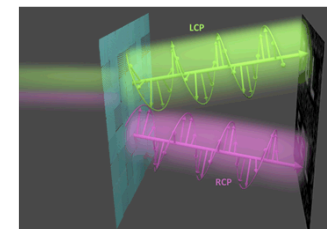
Nano Lett. 15, 5369 (2015)



Nano Lett. 15, 6261 (2015)



Science 345, 2015

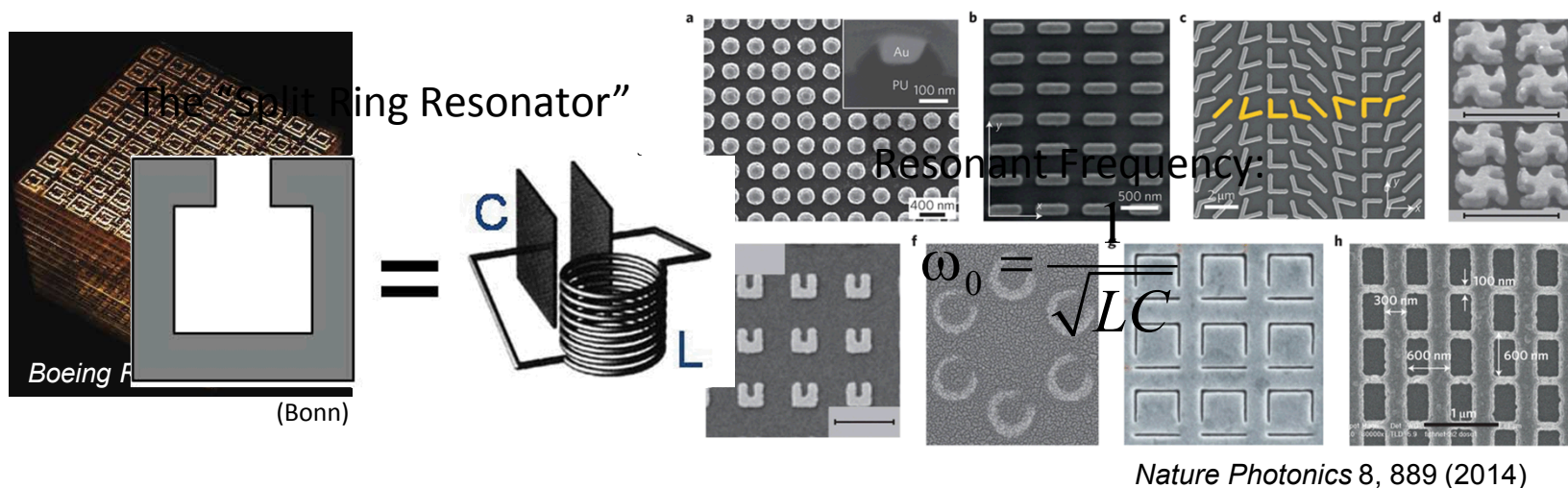


Opt. Express 23, 22611 (2015)

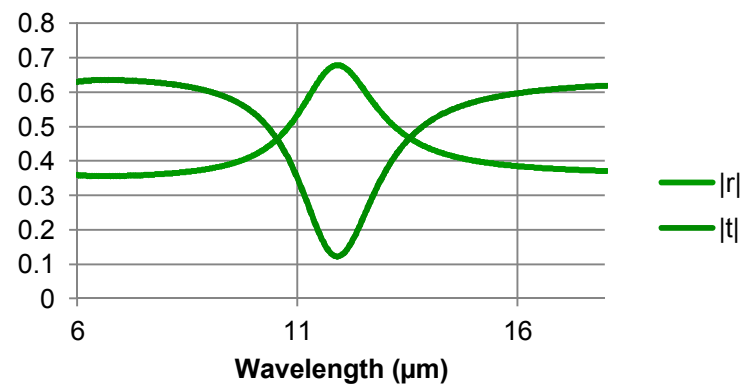
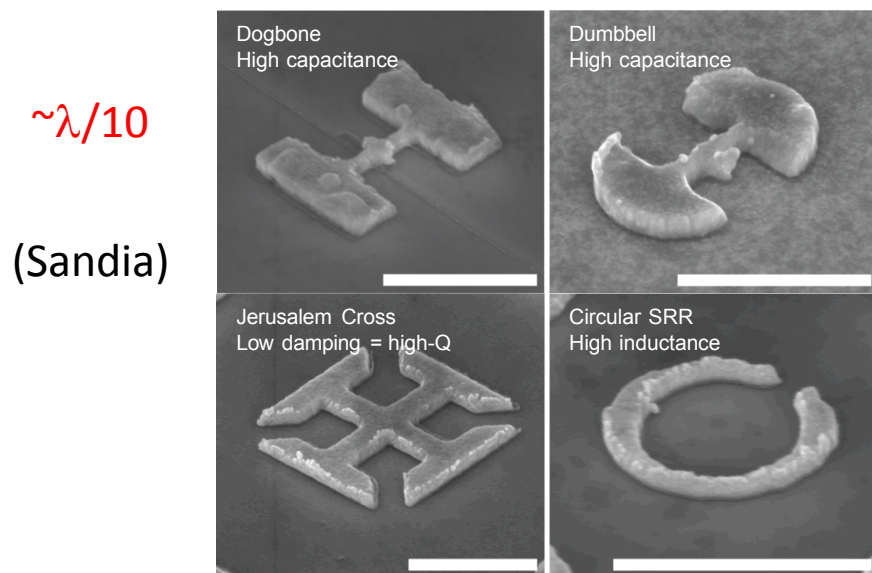


2D Metallic Metamaterials (“Metasurfaces”)

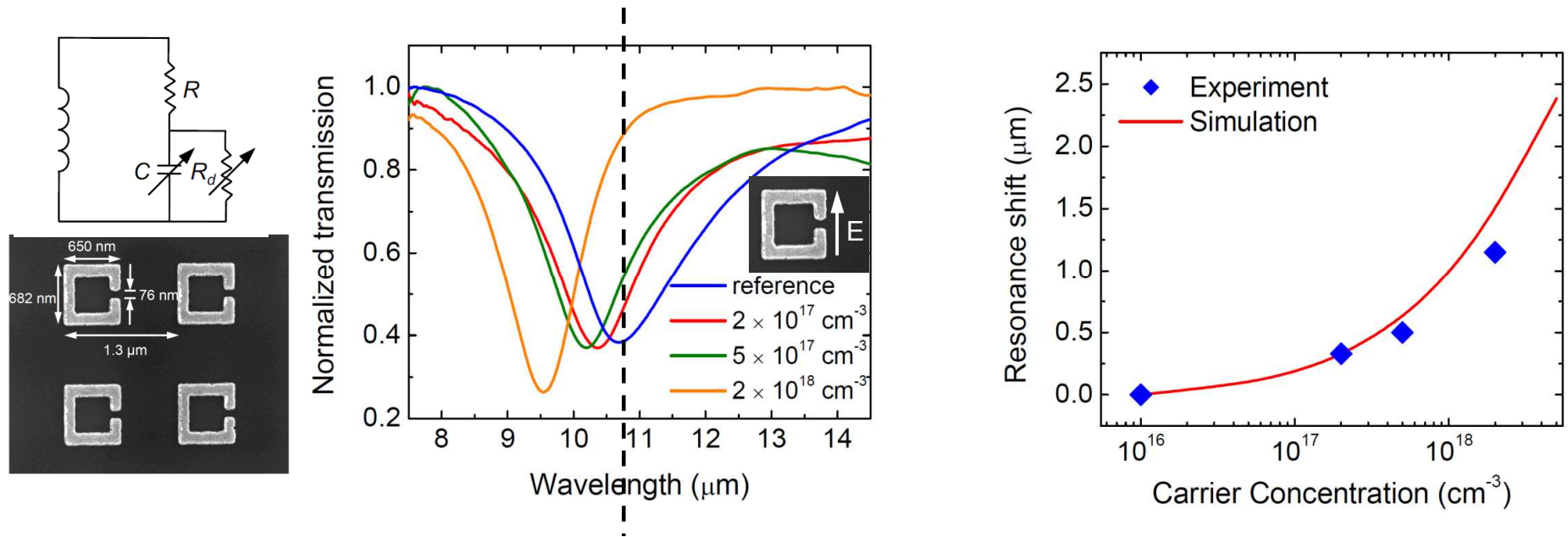
(for some applications, loss is a good thing)



Even for different shapes, many metallic resonators behave like LCR circuits (or “antennas”)



Tuning Metasurfaces Using Semiconductors

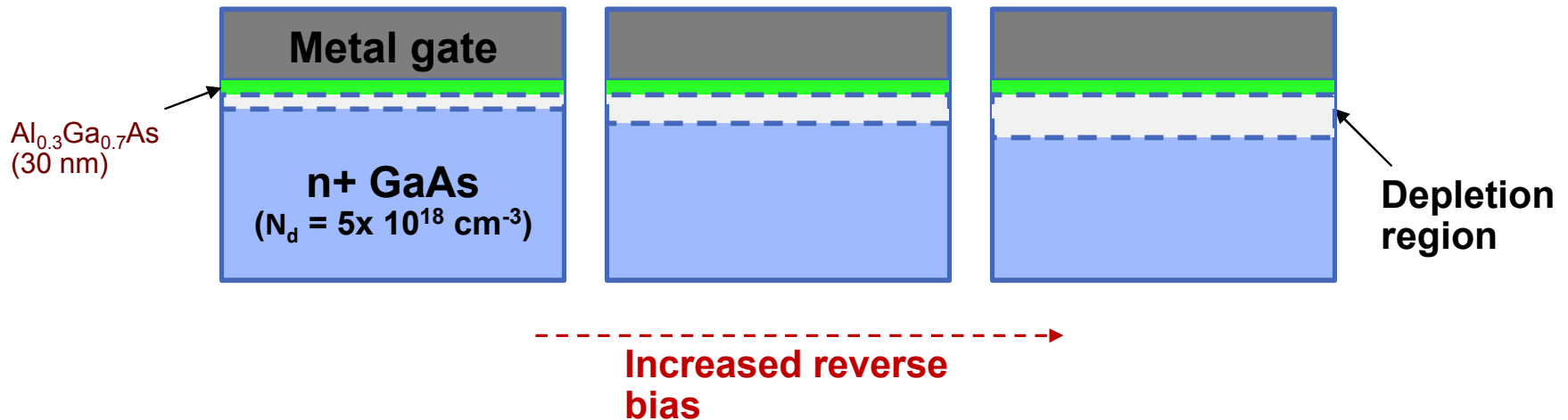
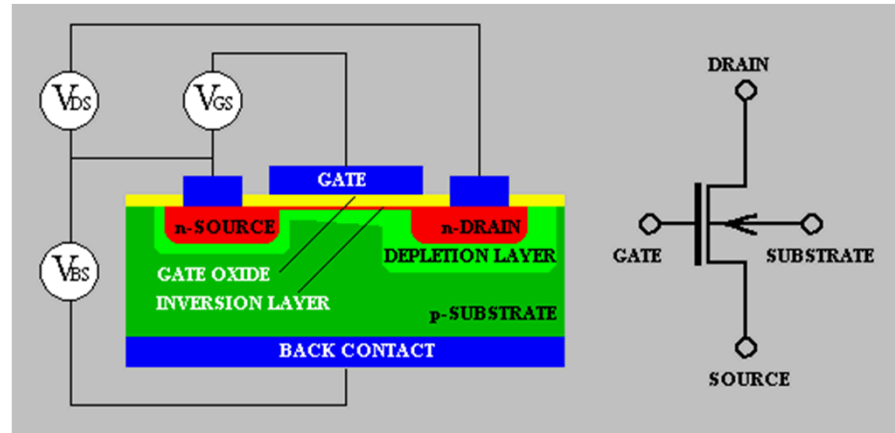


- SRRs made on InSb substrates with different doping
- Experimentally observed doping dependent resonance with no appreciable damping.
 - A resonance shift of 1.15 μm ($1 \times 10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-3} \rightarrow 2 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$)

$$\Delta\lambda/\lambda \approx 10.8\%$$

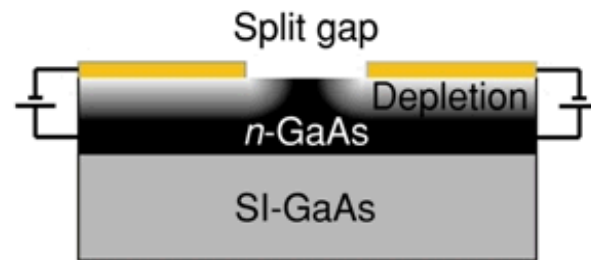
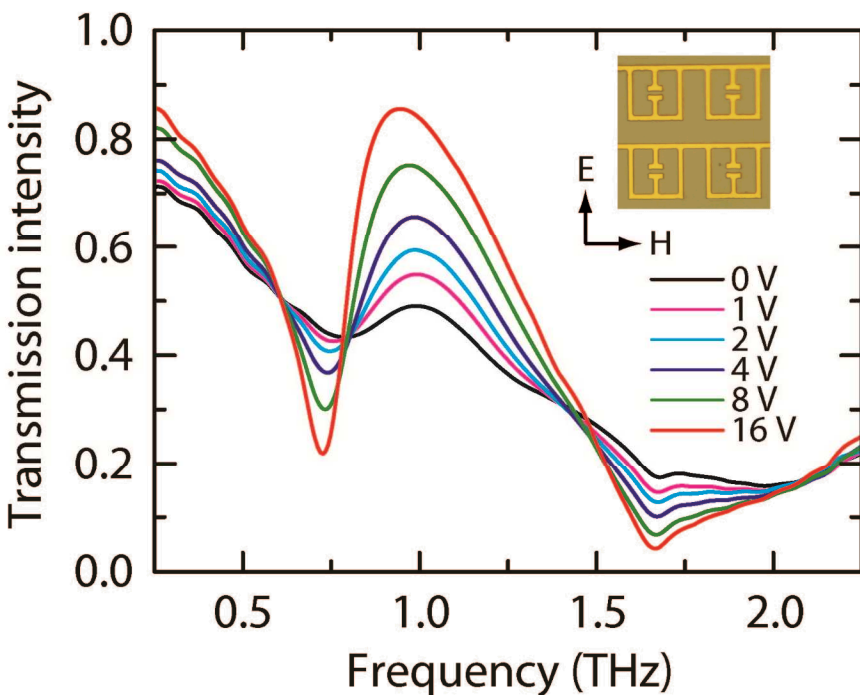
Tuning the Spectral Response by Depletion

(<http://ecee.colorado.edu/~bart/book/mosintro.htm>)





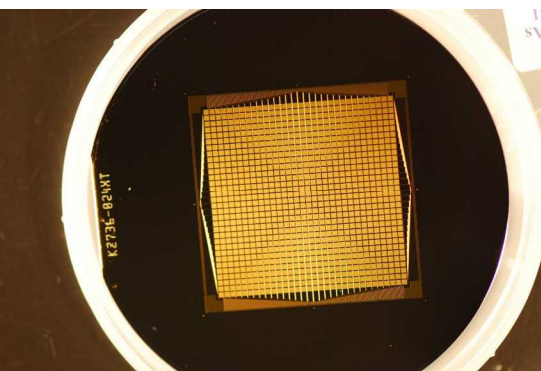
Electrically Switchable THz Metamaterials



This works by increasing the damping (ϵ_2). Plasma frequency of doped layer needs to match the MM resonance frequency

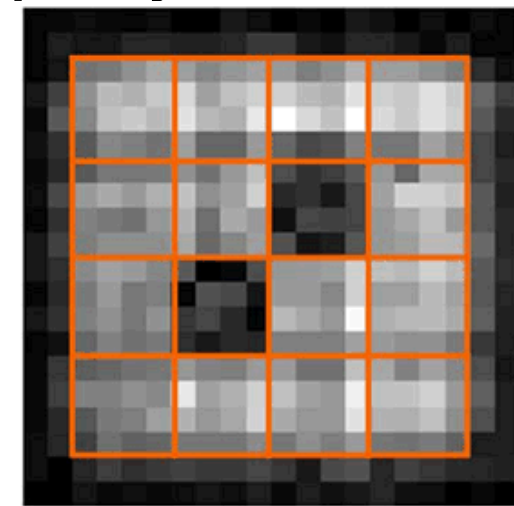
Nature 444, 597 (2006).

0.36 THz, 4x4 SLM



Bigger arrays

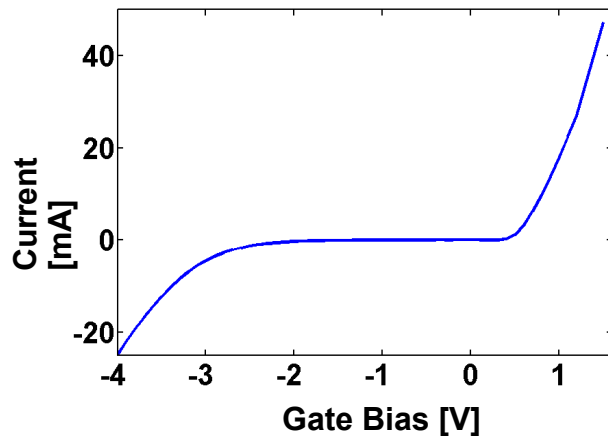
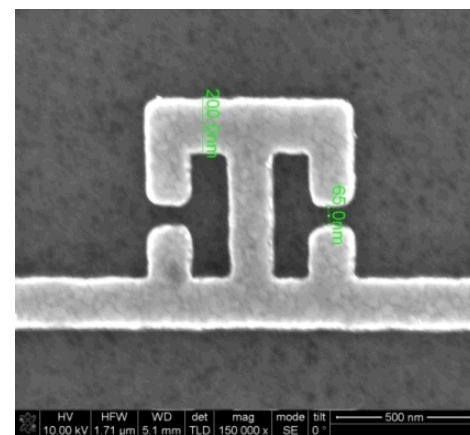
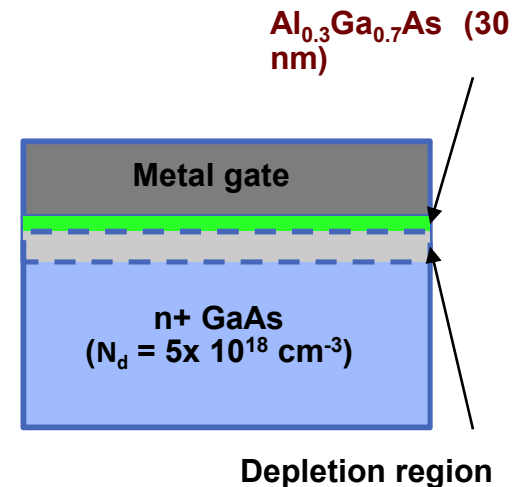
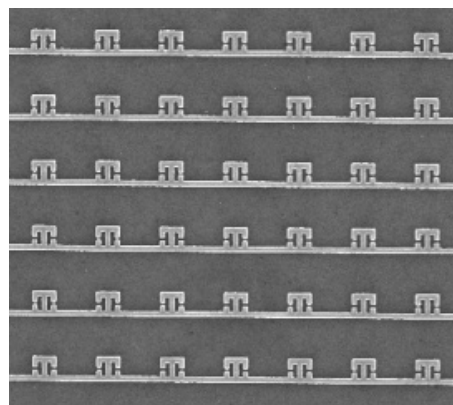
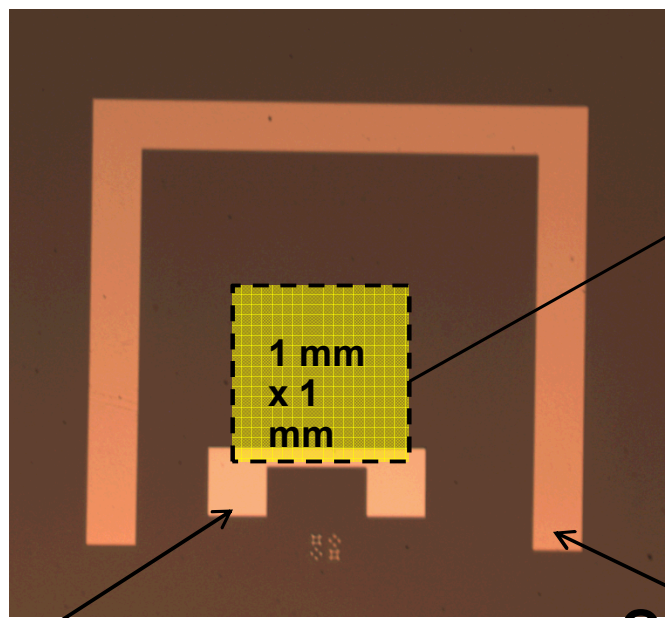
Appl. Phys. Lett. 94, 213511 (2009)



16 mm

An Attempt to Scale These Active MMs to the mid-IR (from 1THz to 30THz)

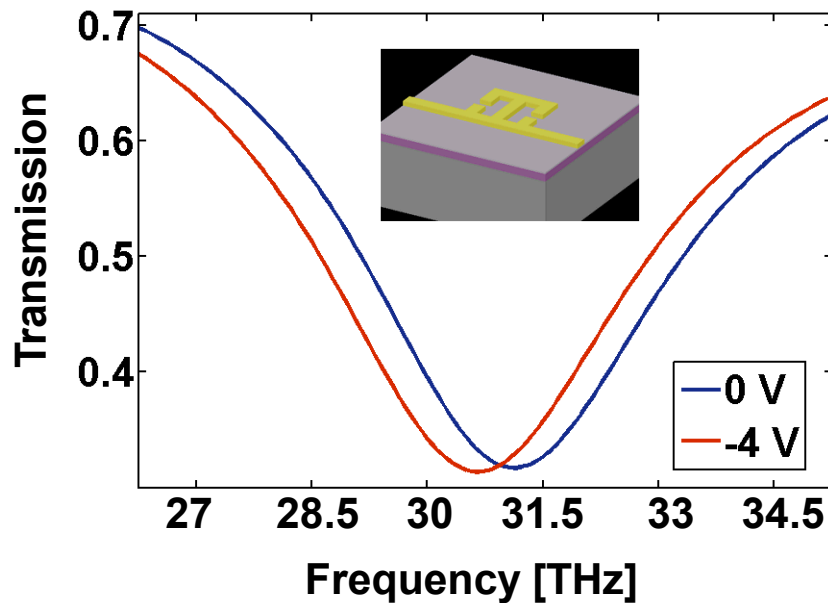
* Metal contacts patterned by optical lithography



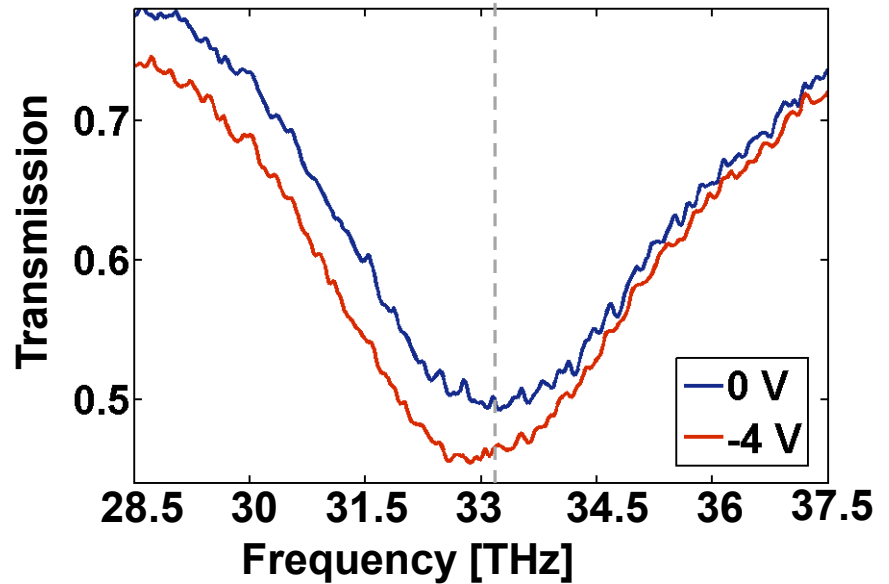
* SRR array patterned by E-beam lithography (connected to Metal gate)

Experimental Results

Theory



Experiment



- Metamaterial transmission spectrum red-shifts with external bias (small..)

Depletion Region is Thin (because we work in IR)

Large changes in ϵ happen
near the plasma frequency

$$\omega_P \propto \sqrt{\frac{N_e}{m^*}}$$

$$W_{depletion} = \left[\frac{2\epsilon_{GaAs}\epsilon_0}{qN_D} (-\phi_s) \right]^{1/2}$$

• Large N implies thin $W_{depletion}$, *Interaction* ↓

Where ϕ_s is a surface potential which
is related to the gate voltage:

$$V_G = \phi_s - \frac{\epsilon_{GaAs}}{\epsilon_{AlGaAs}} W_{barrier} \left[\frac{2qN_D}{\epsilon_{GaAs}\epsilon_0} |\phi_s| \right]^{1/2}$$

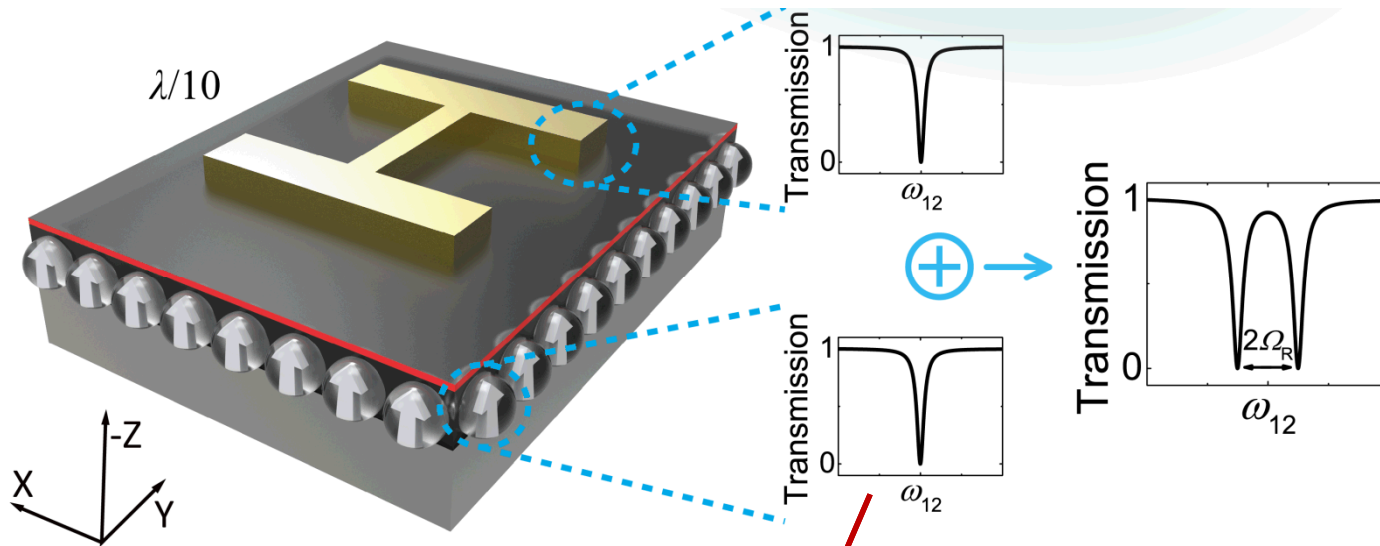
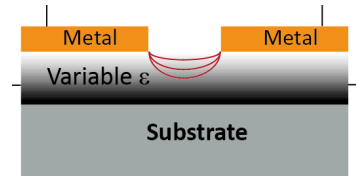


Outline

- **Electrically tunable metasurfaces**
 - Depletion: THz
 - Scaling to mid IR
 - Tuning by controlling coupling
 - Coupling to “epsilon near zero modes”
 - Coupling to intersubband transitions
- **Enhanced optical nonlinearities**

More Tuning Options: Coupling

MM resonators create strong optical fields that lead to strong coupling

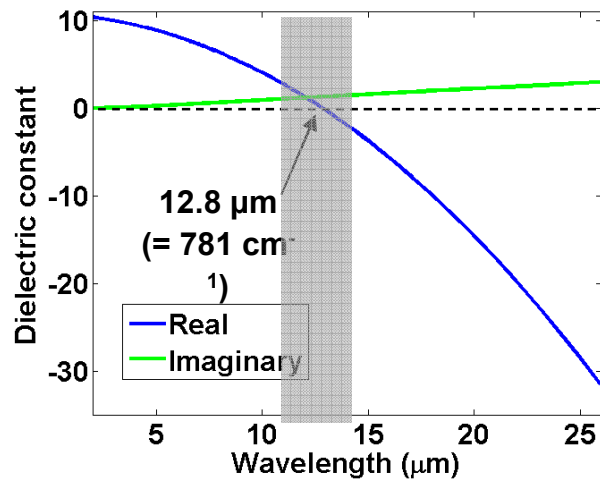
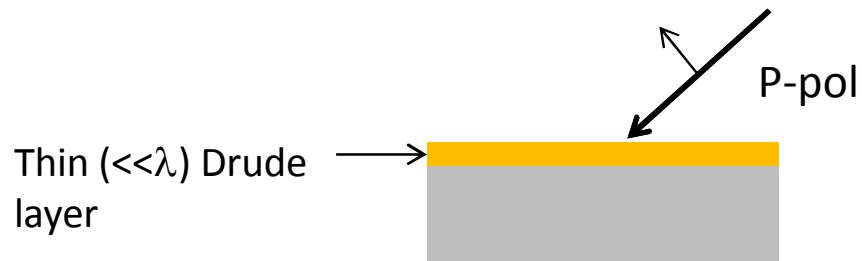


Optical Phonons: Nano Letters 11, 2104 (2011)

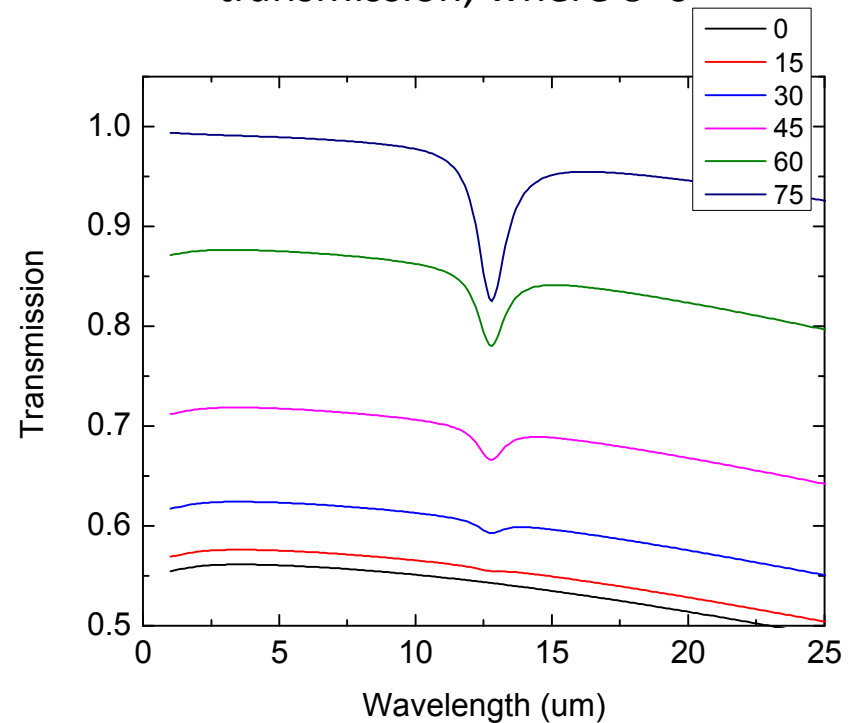
Epsilon Near Zero modes: Nano Letters 13, 5391 (2013)

Intersubband Transitions: Nature Communications 4, (2013)

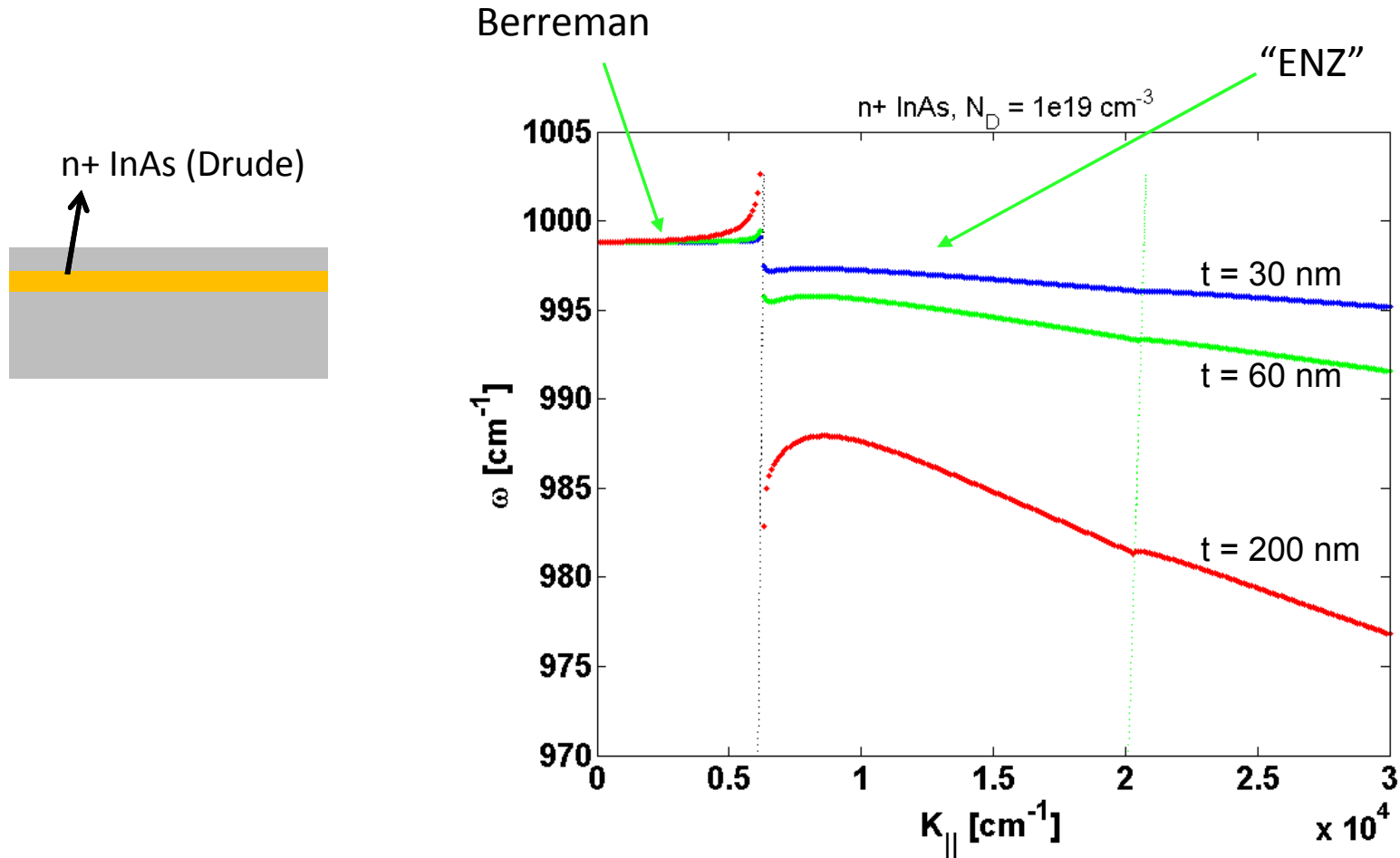
Coupling Between Metamaterial Resonators and “Epsilon Near Zero” Waves



Transmission vs angle (p-pol):
A sharp dip is observed in transmission, where $\epsilon \sim 0$

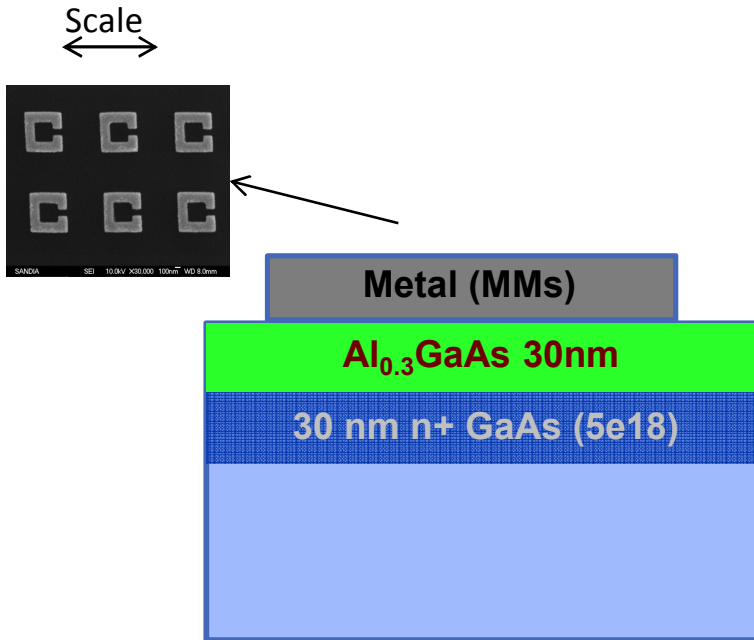


(“Berreman” dip)

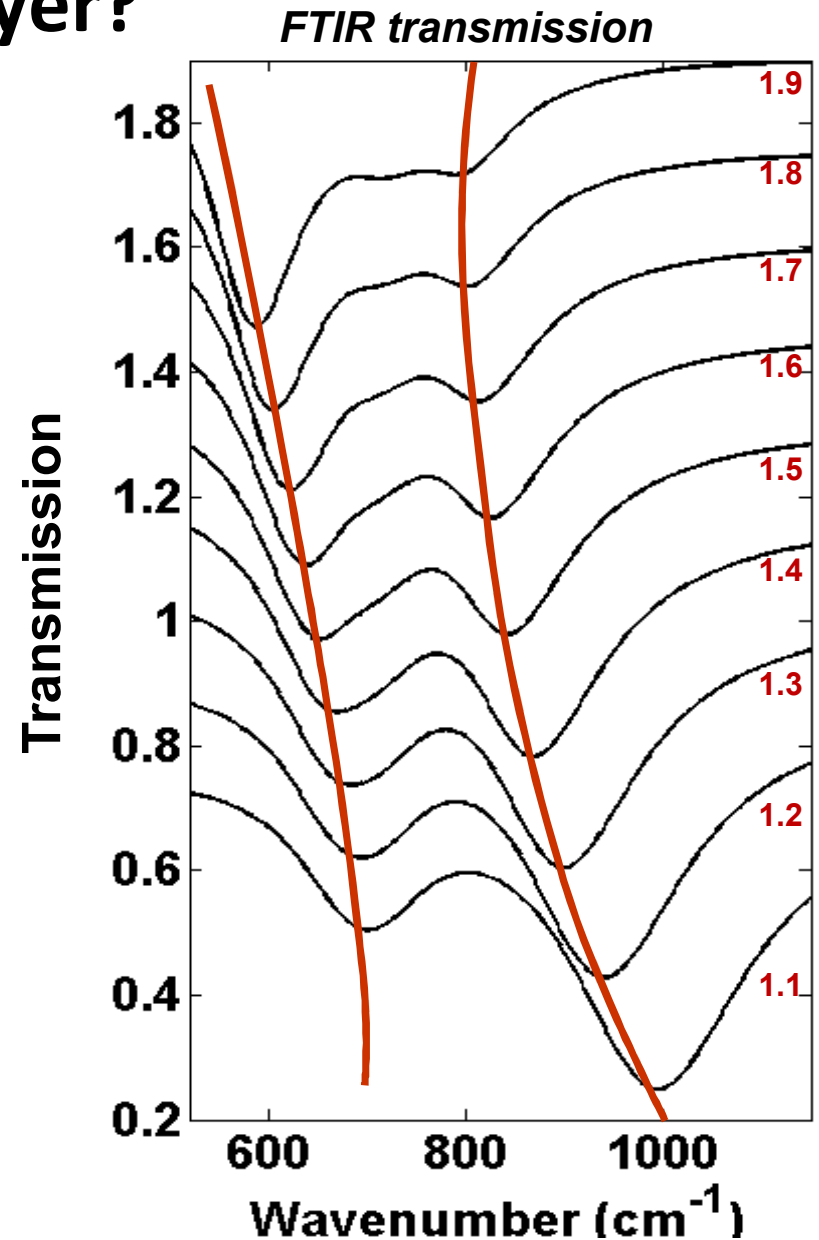


- Berreman mode is very flat for a thin doped layer and leaky into air
- ENZ mode does not couple to free space

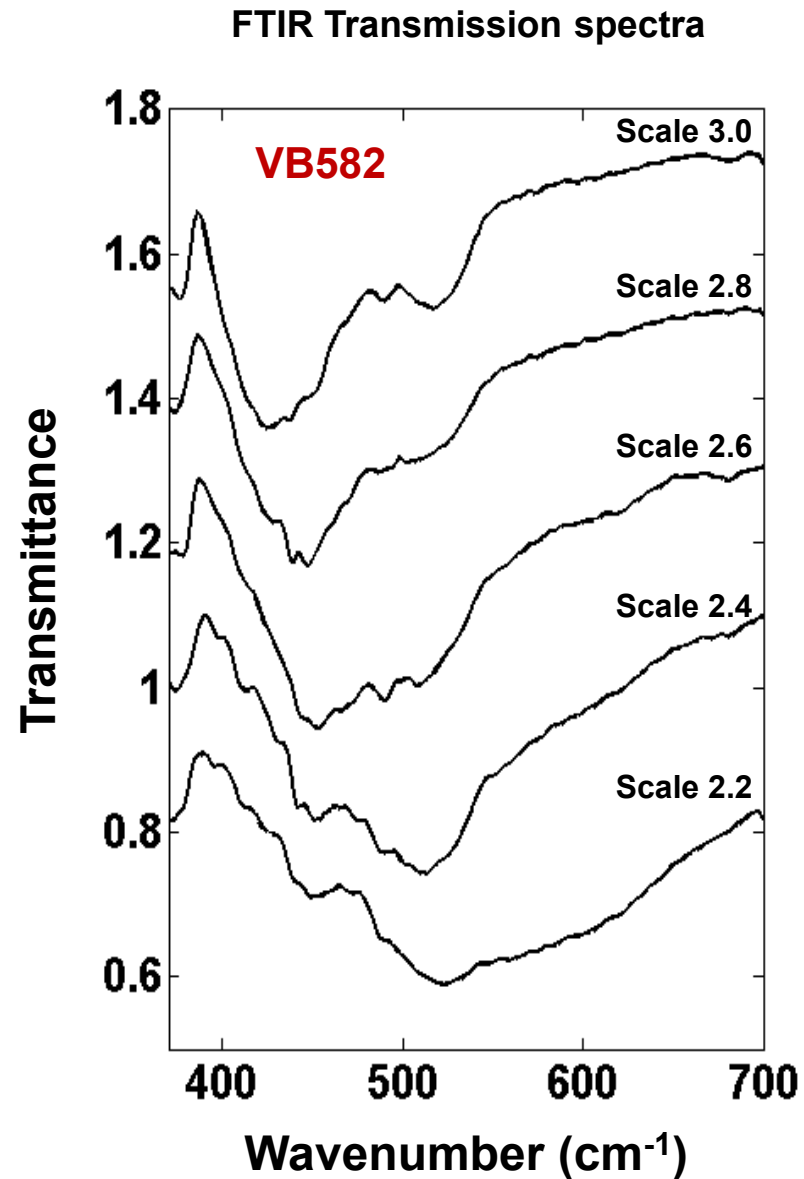
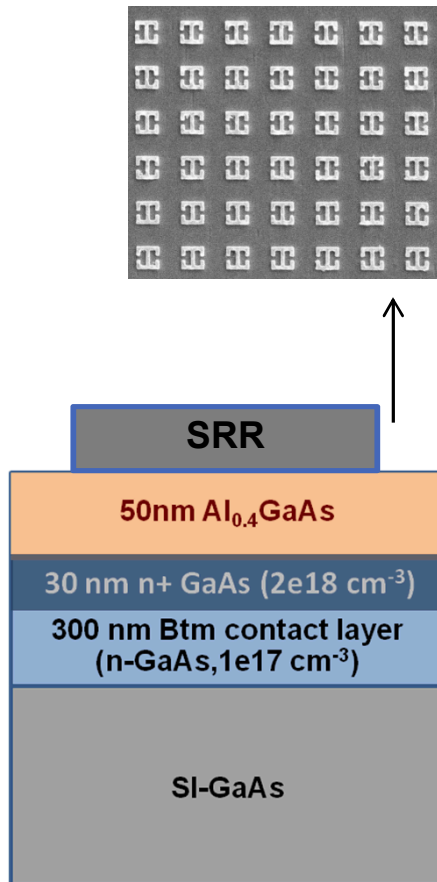
What Happens when MMs Resonate with $\epsilon \sim 0$ Layer?



- Strong coupling between the MM resonance and ENZ waves!

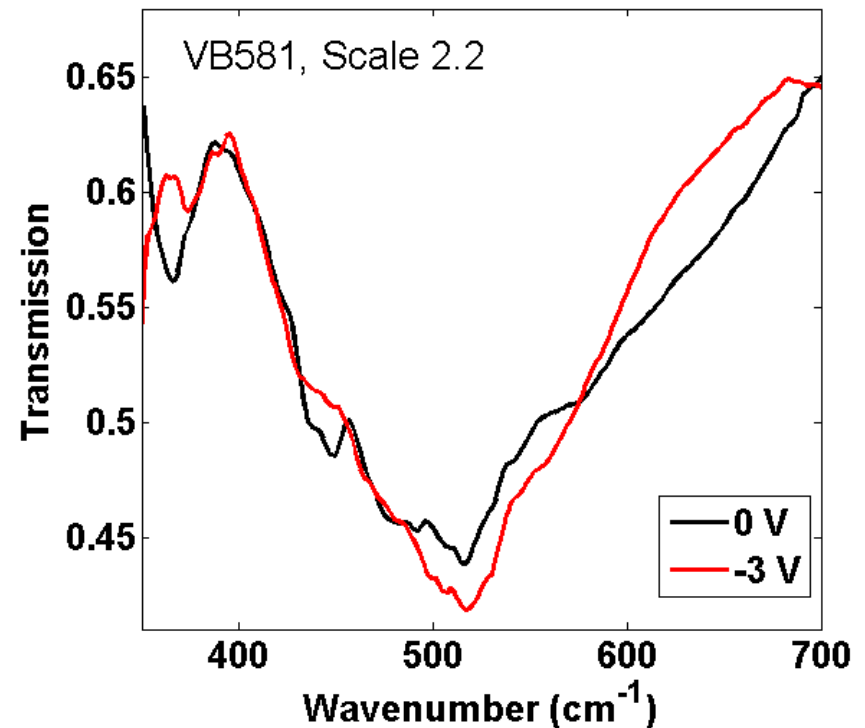
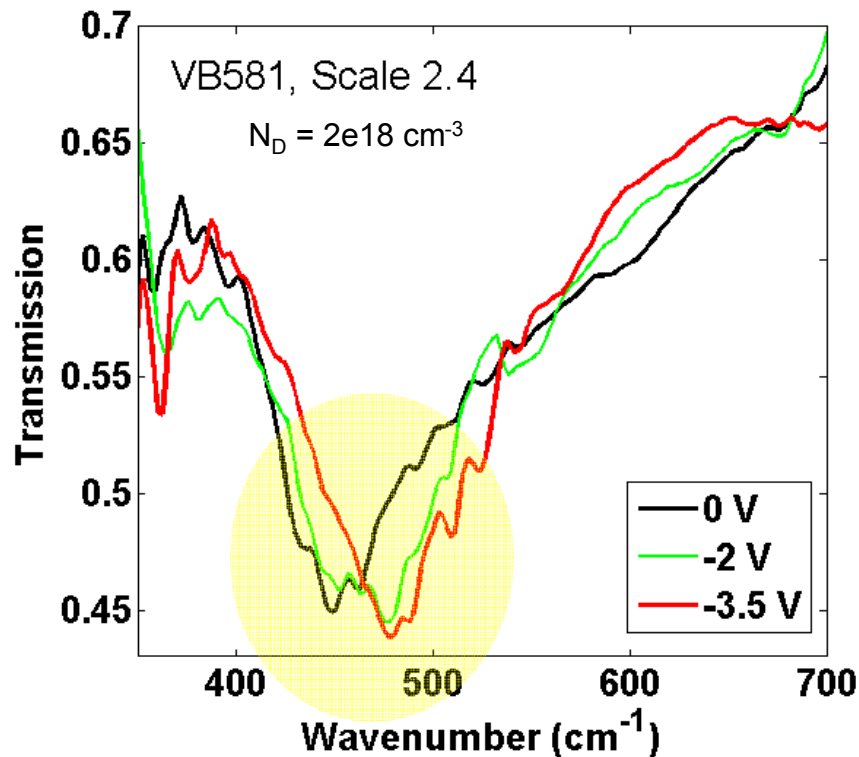


ENZ Strong Coupling ($N_D = 2e18 \text{ cm}^{-3}$)





Electrical Tuning the Coupling to the ENZ Mode



Fundamentally different than tuning just by changing a local permittivity!

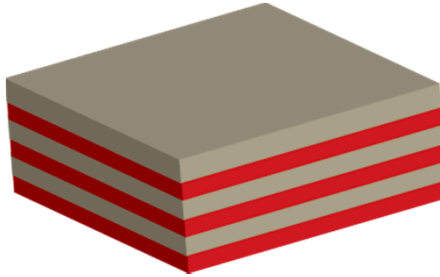
Strong Coupling to Inter-subband Transitions in Quantum Wells



Alex Benz

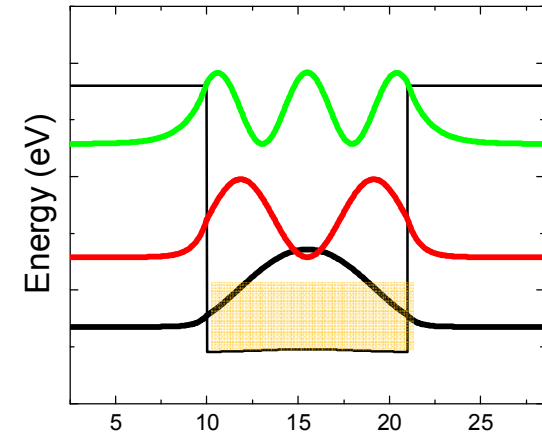
- Scalable (far IR to near IR), Mature, Versatile

Opt. Express 20, 6584 (2012),
APL 98, 203103 (2011)

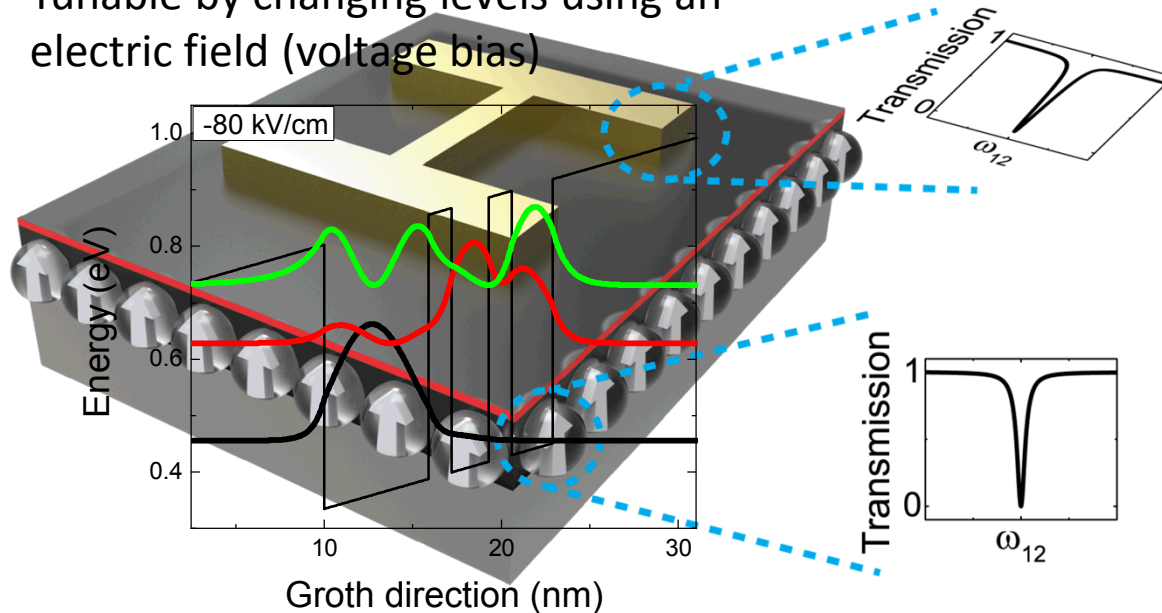


z

$$\epsilon_{xx} = \epsilon_{yy} \neq \epsilon_{zz}$$

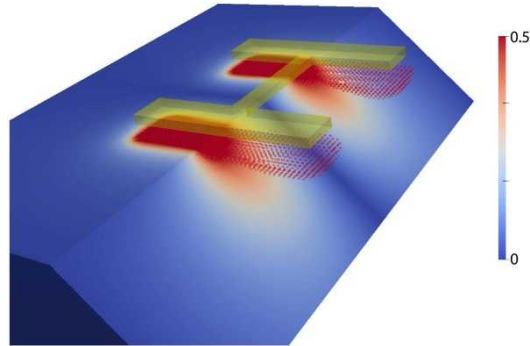
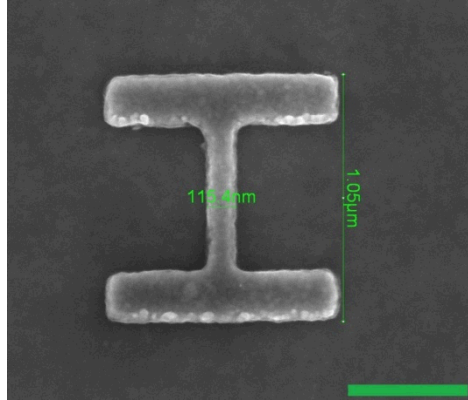


Tunable by changing levels using an electric field (voltage bias)

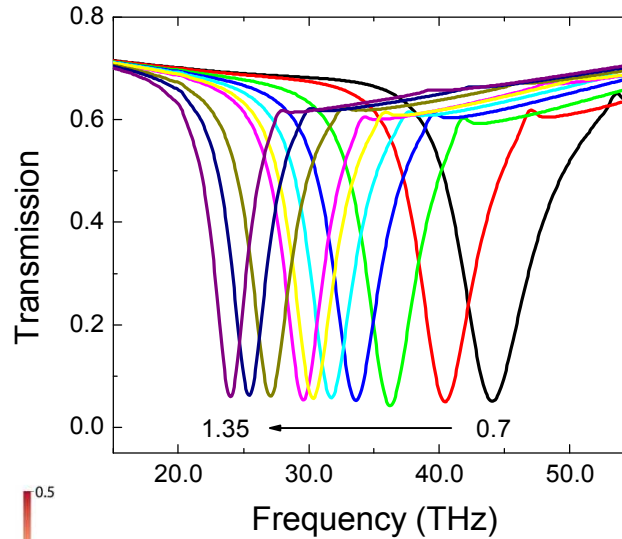


Strong Coupling Theory vs. Experiment

“Dogbone” resonators



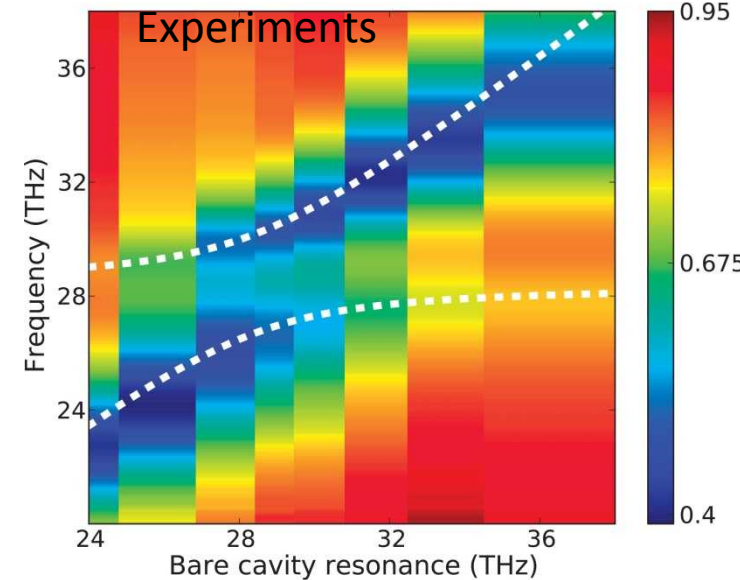
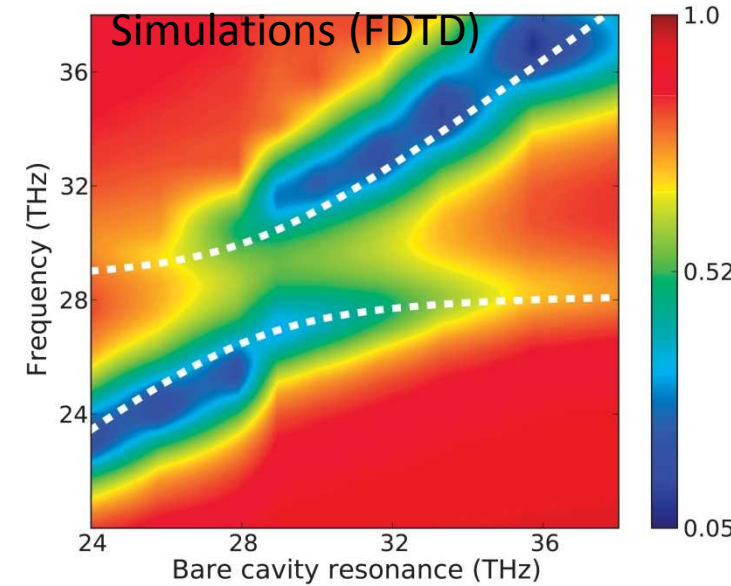
Rabi frequency depends on simple parameters



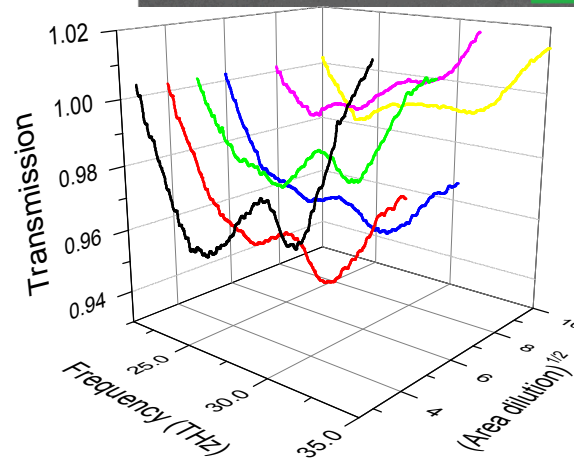
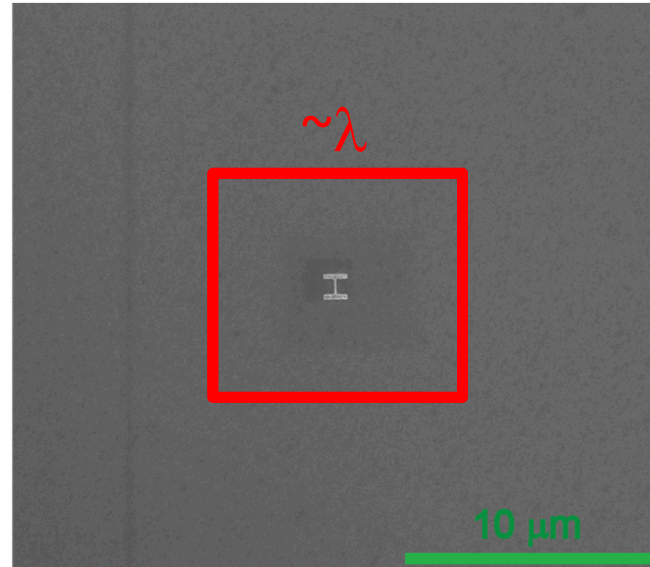
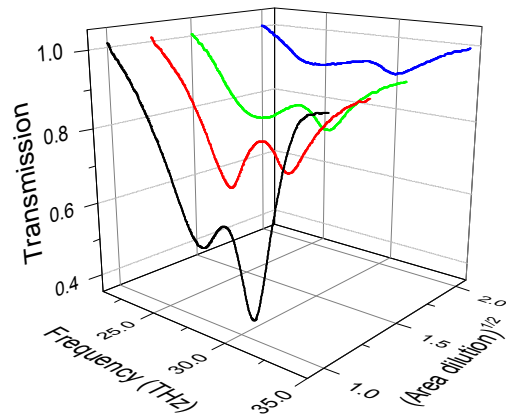
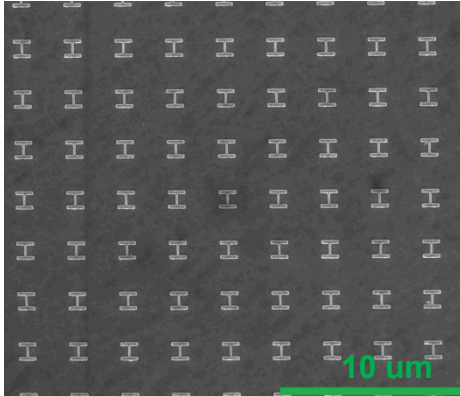
Plasma frequency

$$\Omega_R = \sqrt{f_W \omega_p} / 2$$

Geometry factor



This is a “Single Resonator” Behavior



Same Rabi splitting remains down to a single resonator!

Nature communications 4, (2013)

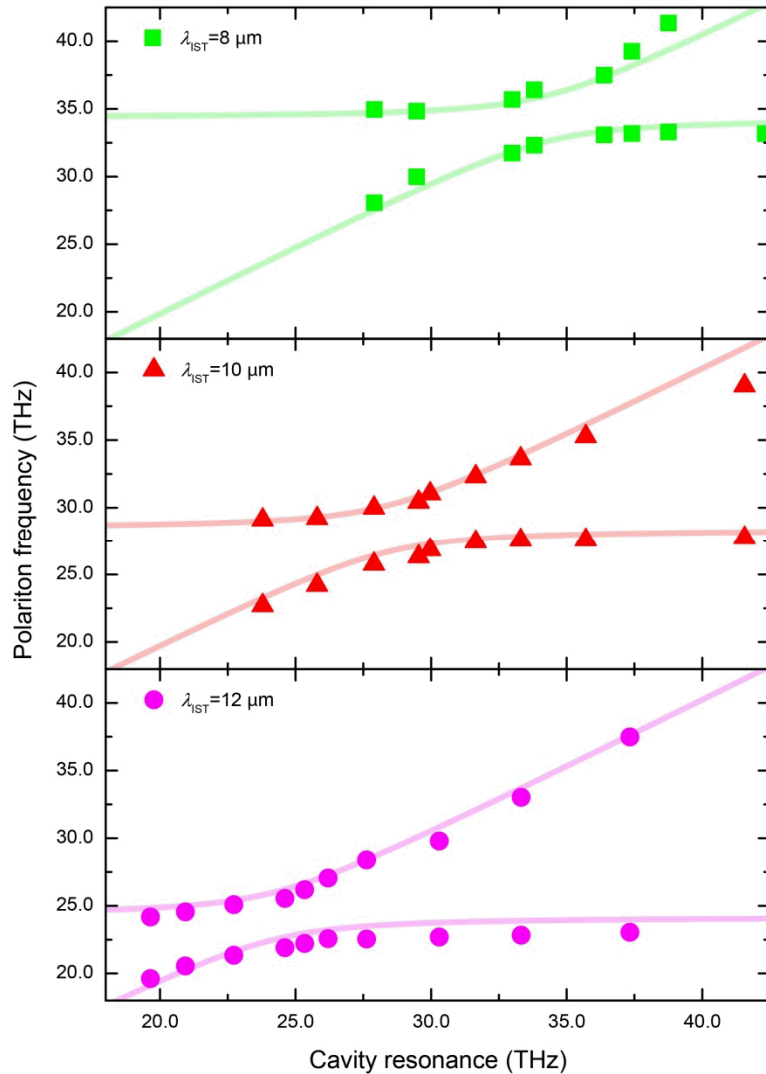
Area of a resonator * carrier density $\sim 1000\text{-}3000$ electrons!



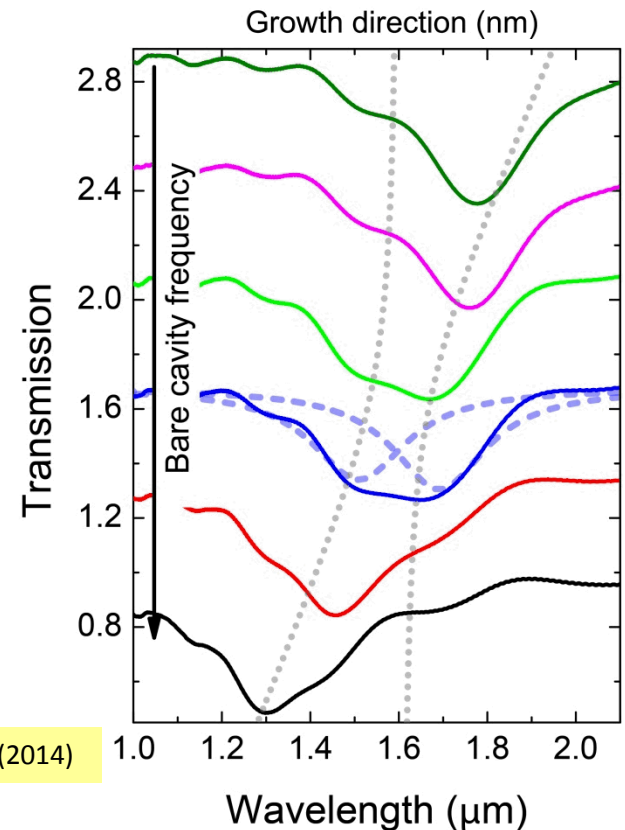
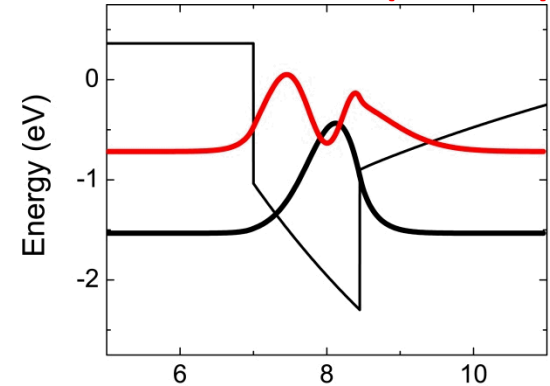
Alex Benz

From Mid-IR to Near IR

InGaAs QWs (mid IR)

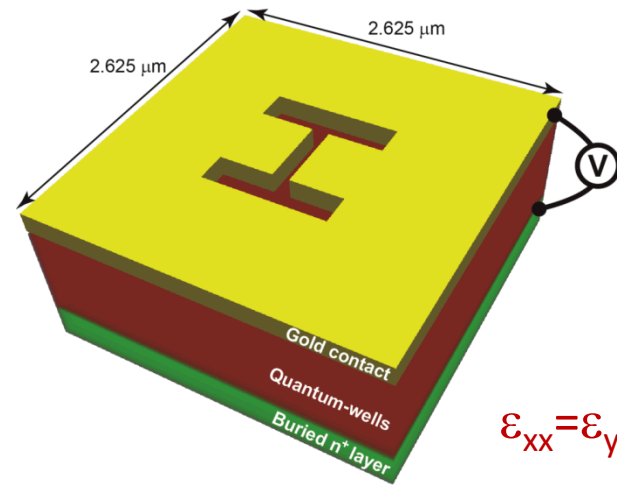


GaN QWs (near IR)

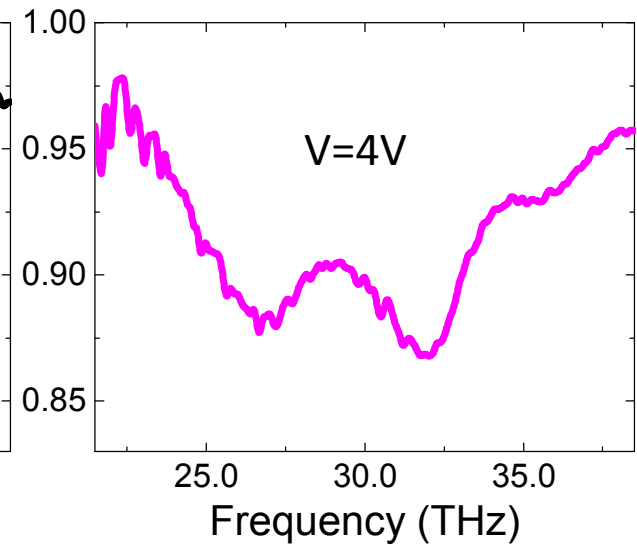
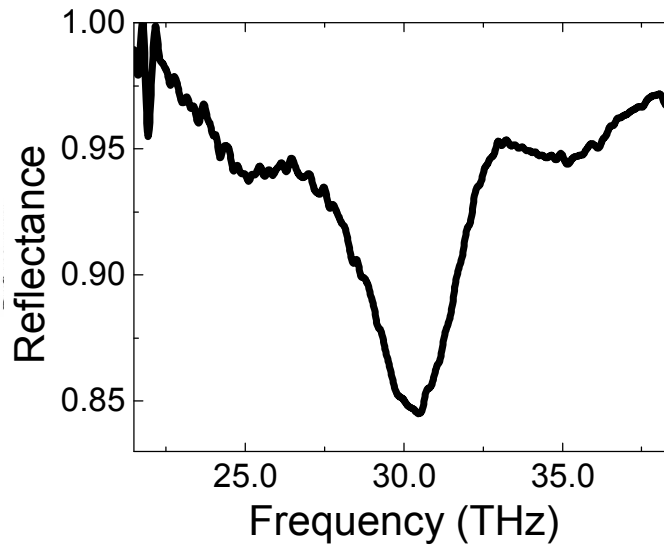
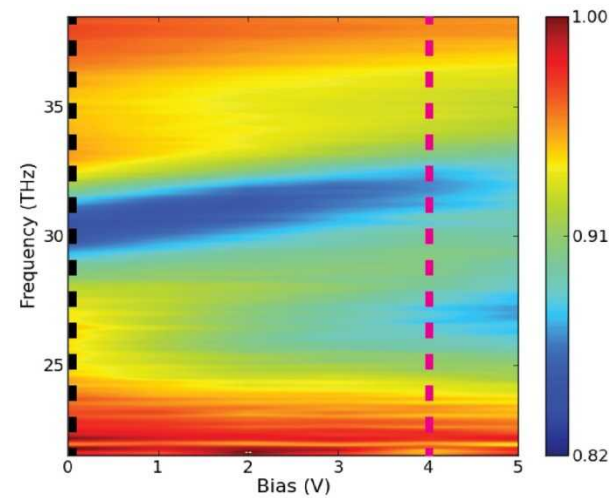
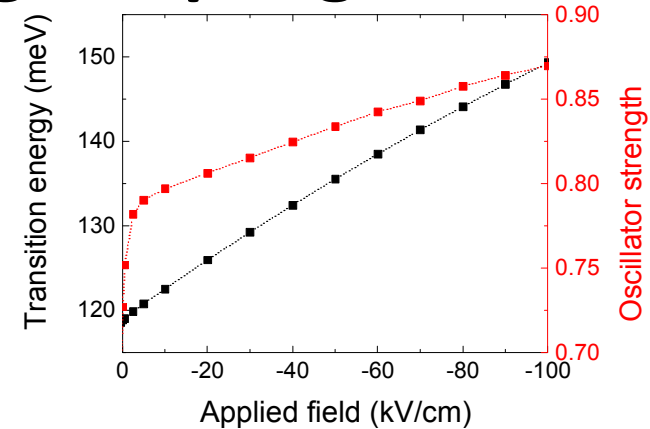
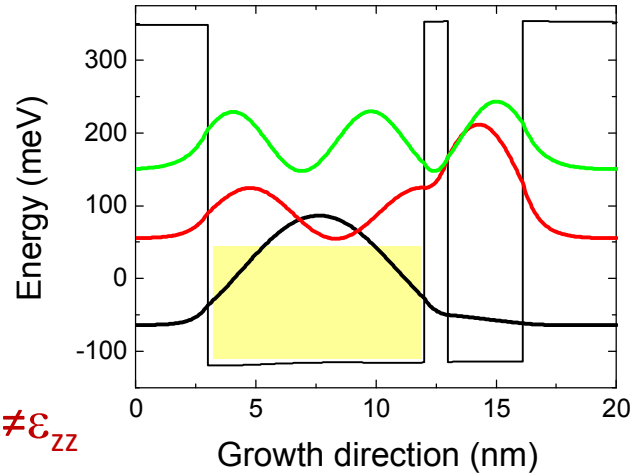


ACS Photonics (2014)

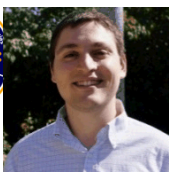
Electrically Tunable Strong Coupling



$$\epsilon_{xx} = \epsilon_{yy} \neq \epsilon_{zz}$$



Upper polariton shifted by 2.5 THz (~8% of center frequency)

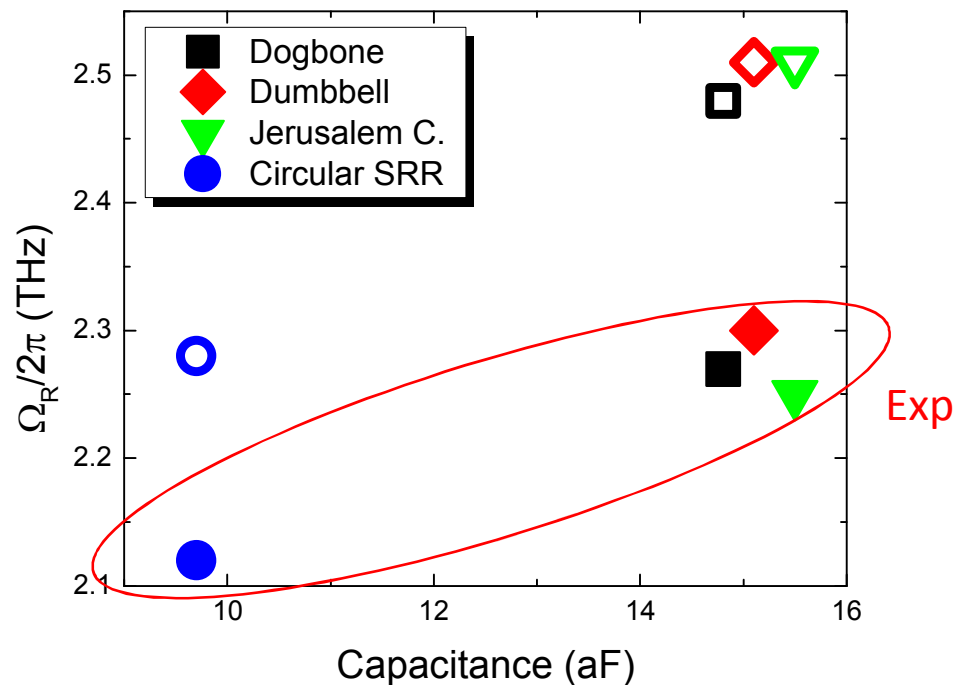
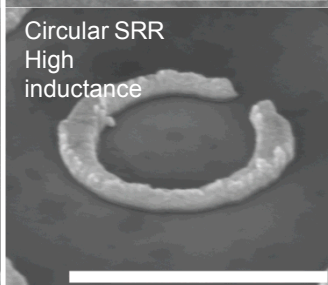
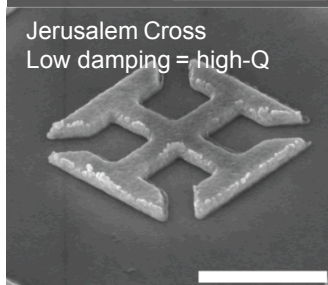
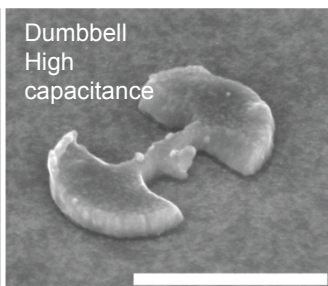
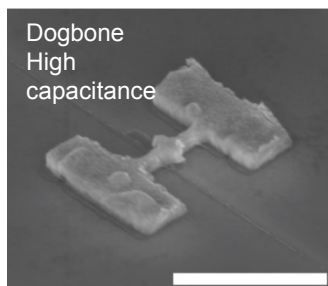
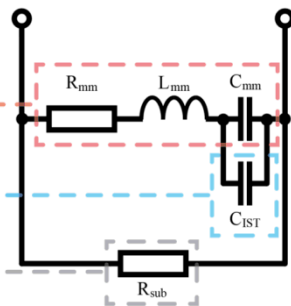
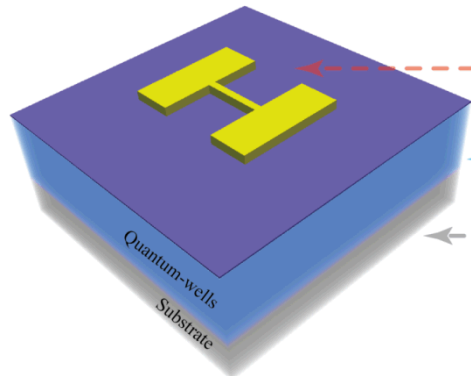


Salvo



Alex

Rabi Frequency vs. Geometry



Physical Review B89, 165133 (2014)
NanoLetters (2015)

- Larger capacitance leads to larger Rabi splitting



Outline

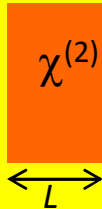
- **Electrically tunable metasurfaces**
 - Depletion: THz
 - Scaling to mid IR
 - Tuning by controlling coupling
 - Coupling to “epsilon near zero modes”
 - Coupling to intersubband transitions
- **Enhanced optical nonlinearities**



How Metasurfaces on Semiconductors Can Be Used for Enhanced Optical Nonlinearities

Conventional SHG, perfect phase-matching

$$I_{2\omega} \sim (I_{\omega} \chi^{(2)} L)^2$$

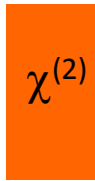


Increase I or L

Increase $\chi^{(2)}$

Cavity-enhanced

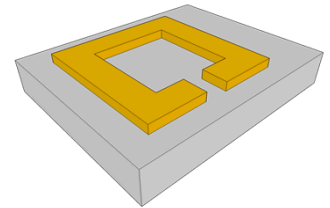
$$I_{2\omega} \sim Q^2$$



$$\chi^{(2)}$$



Coherent Inc.

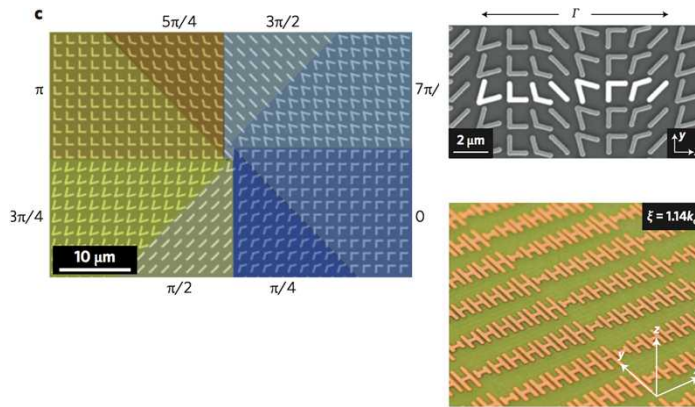


Use resonant $\chi^{(2)}$ with semiconductor heterostructures $\sim 10^4$ enhancement in $\chi^{(2)}$

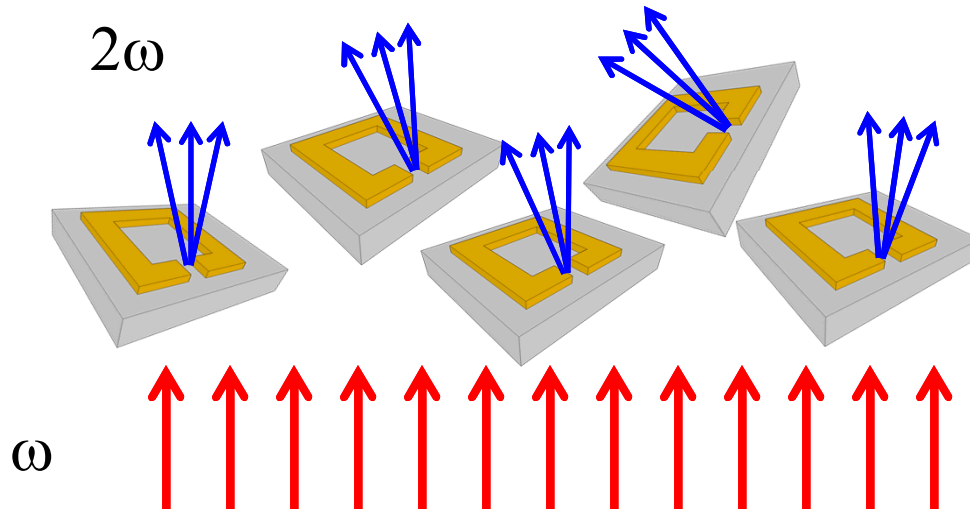


Metasurfaces Provide New Functionality for Harmonic Generation

Metallic Metasurfaces have been used extensively for beam/phasefront/polarization manipulation: *this is all degenerate*

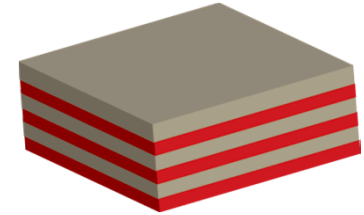
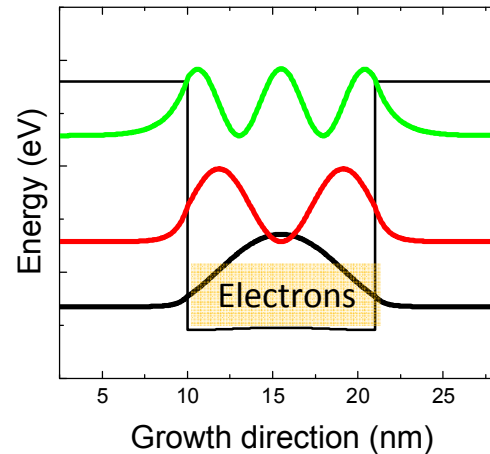


(Shalaev, Capasso, Zhou, Zheludev, etc..)

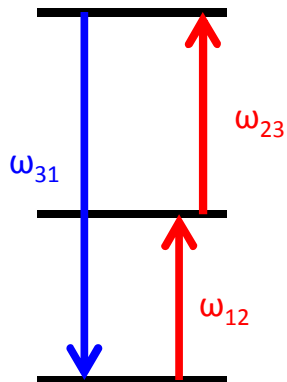


Resonant Optical Nonlinearities: Intersubband Transitions in Quantum Wells

Electronic levels and wavefunctions can be engineered with semiconductor heterostructures



Resonant optical nonlinearities can be engineered too:

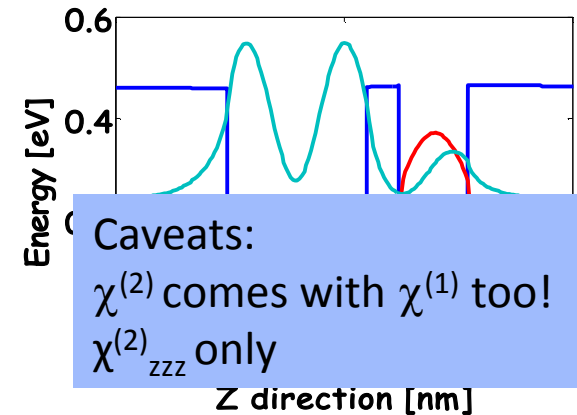


$$\chi^{(2)}(\omega) \propto \frac{N \cdot z_{12} z_{23} z_{13}}{(\omega - \omega_{12} - i\Gamma_{12})(2\omega - \omega_{13} - i\Gamma_{13})}$$

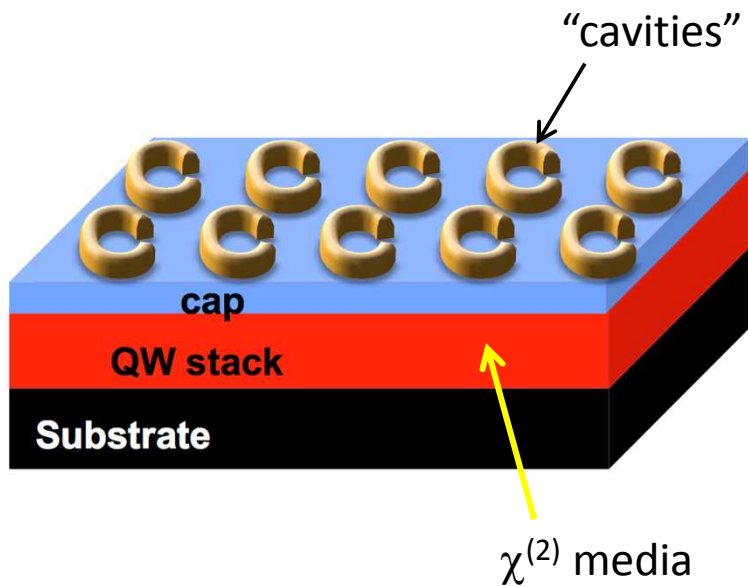
$$z_{ij} \propto \langle \Psi_i | \vec{R} | \Psi_j \rangle$$

~250 nm/V - QWs

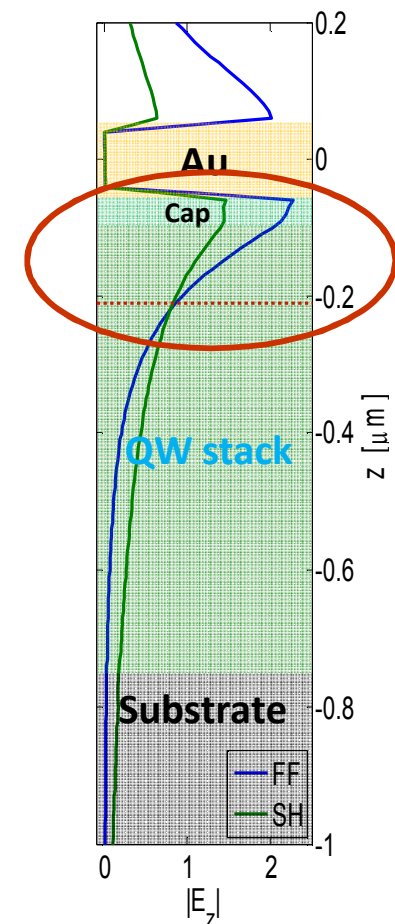
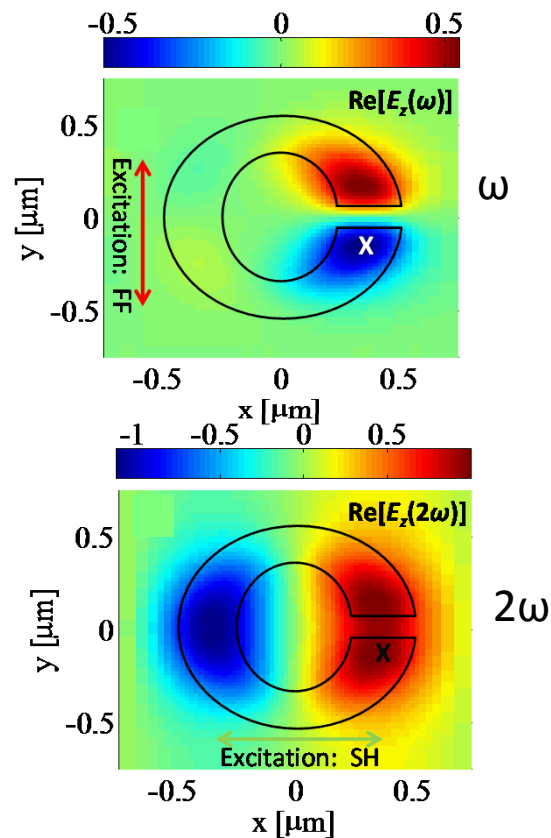
10s of pm/V - LiNbO₃



Metasurfaces Coupled to Resonant $\chi^{(2)}$

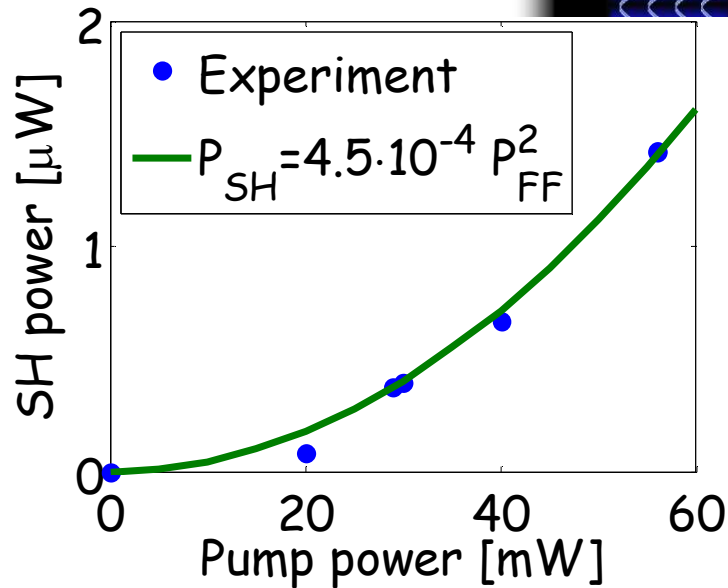
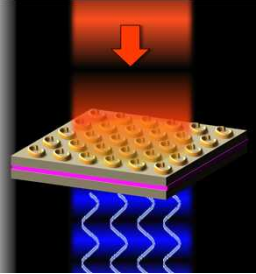


Resonators are designed to have resonances at 30 & 60 THz (5 & 10 μm)

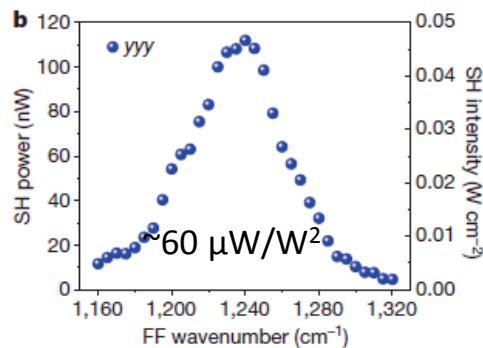
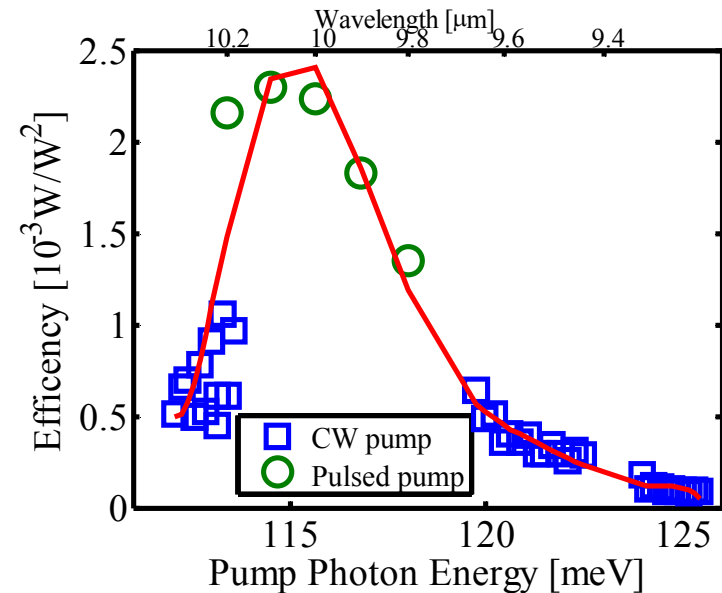


SHG: Power and Frequency Dependence

Pump: CW CO₂ laser



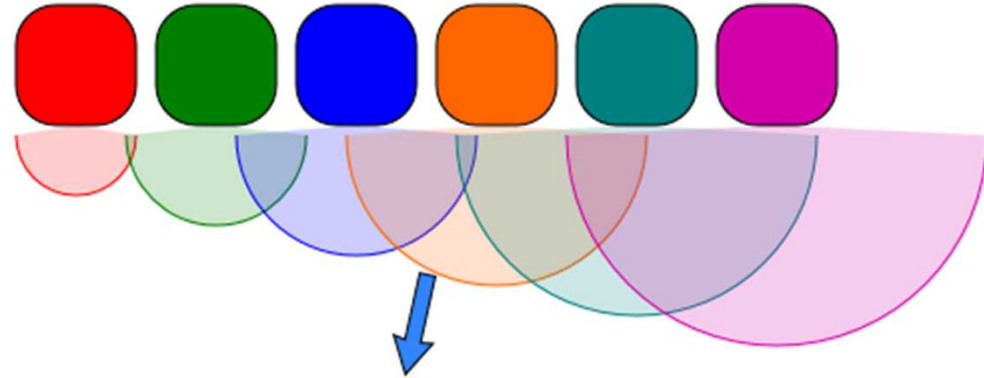
max efficiency: $\sim 2.3 \text{ mW/W}^2$



- Saturation is an issue
- Max. conversion efficiencies of few % are possible
- Added functionality is the advantage



Phased Arrays



Identical point sources

+

Radiating with controllable phase difference

==

Full control over beam direction and shape



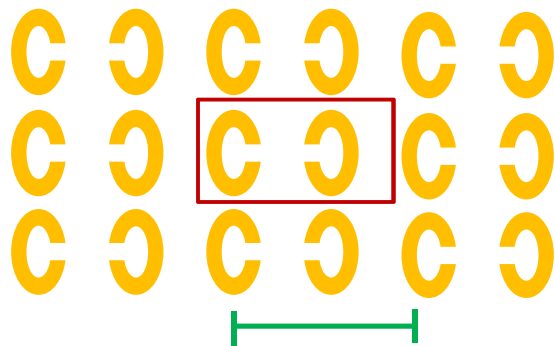
Omri

Salvo

SHG Beam Manipulation



flipping induces π phase shift



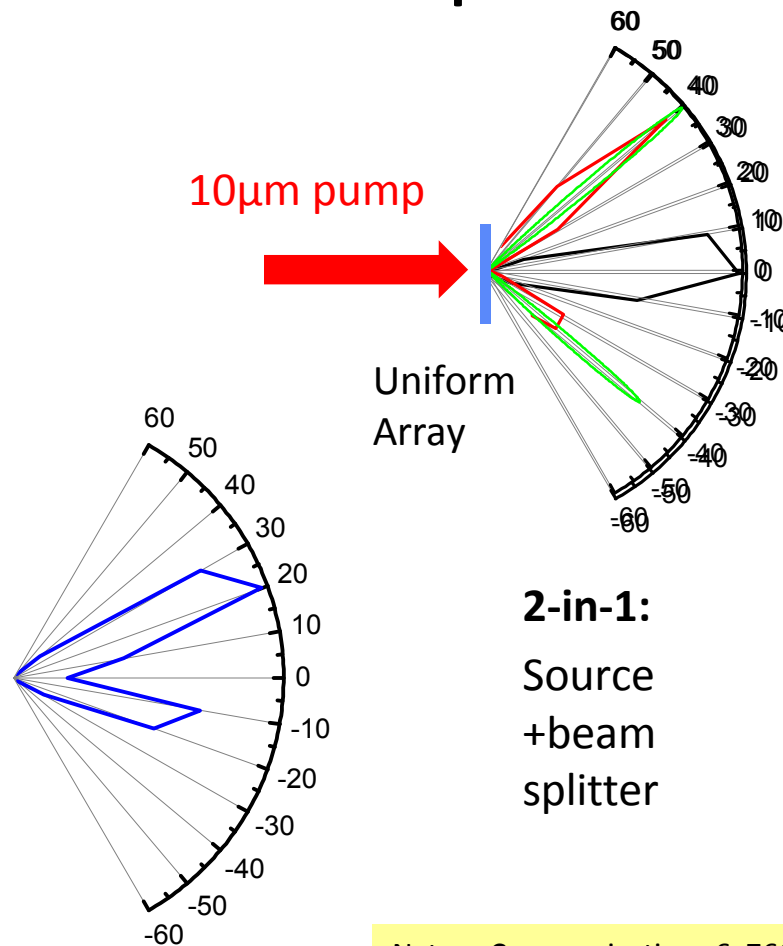
Period determines angular separation

10 μ m pump



Uniform Array

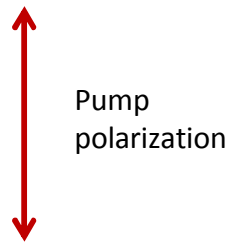
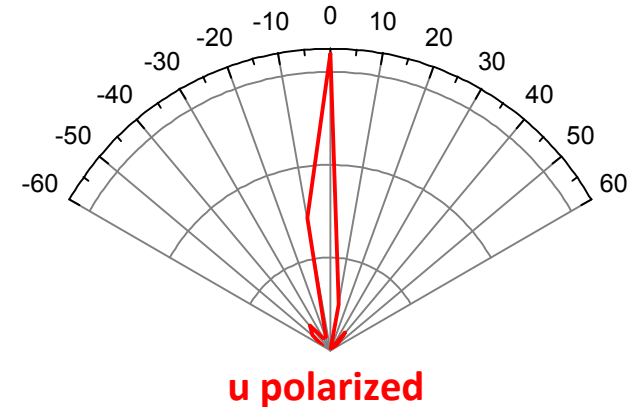
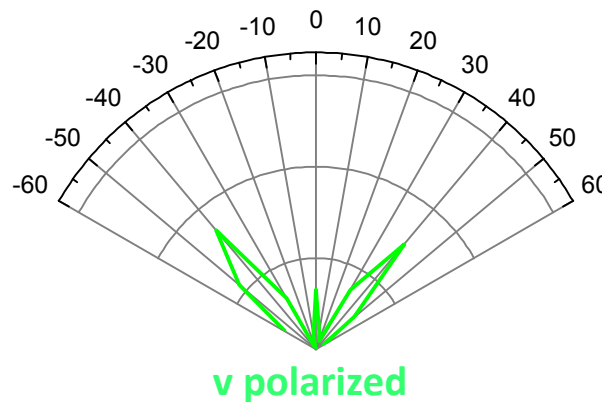
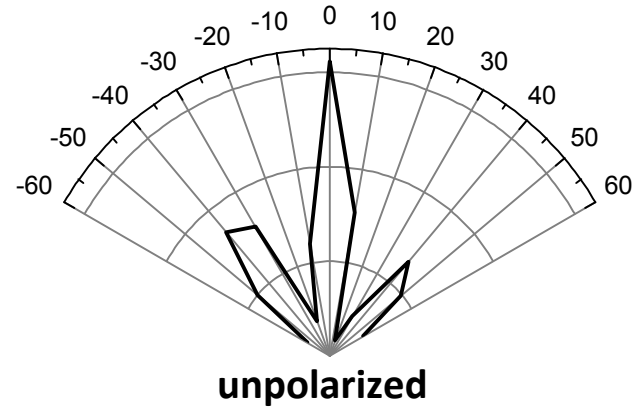
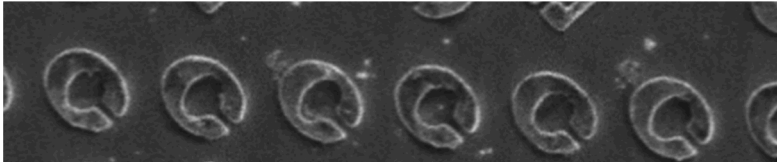
5 μ m beam



2-in-1:
Source
+beam
splitter

SHG Beam Manipulation II

- Cavities radiate polarized light

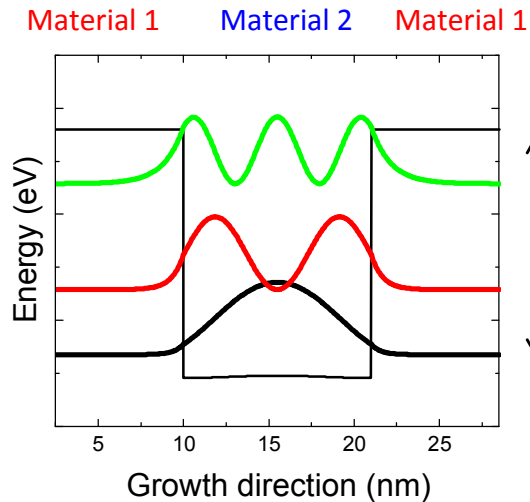


3-in-1:

**Source +
Polarizer + Beam
Splitter**



Scaling This Approach to Shorter Wavelengths



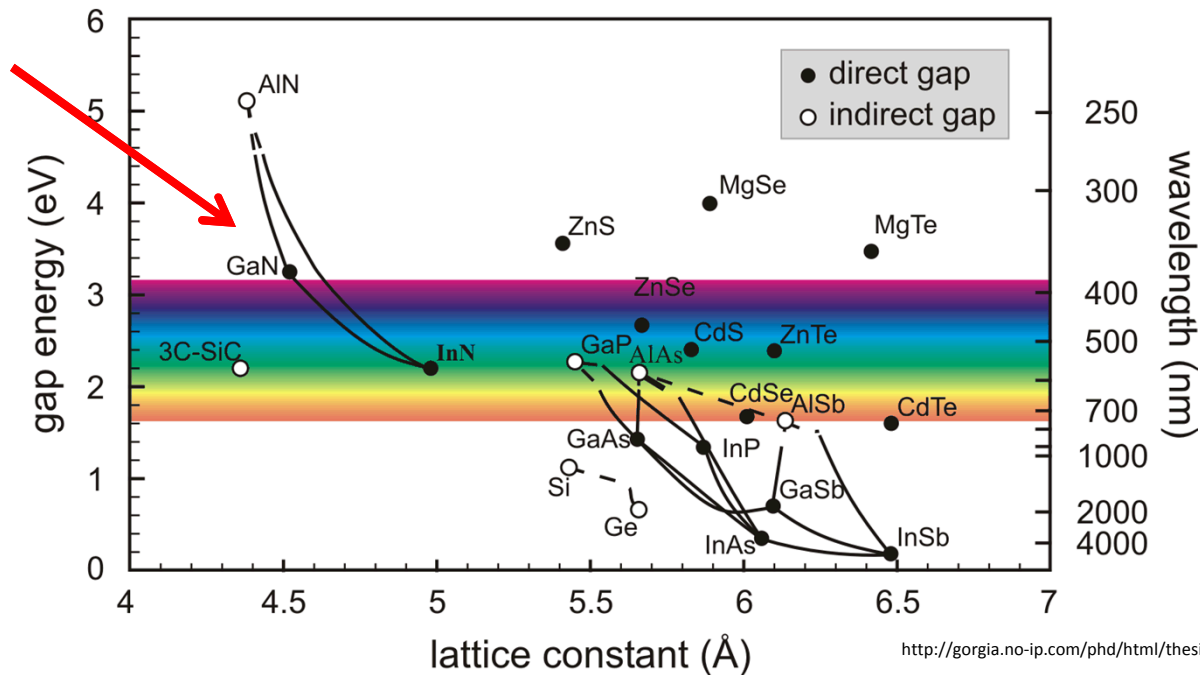
10 μ m to 5 μ m: AlInAs barriers
InGaAs wells

$$2\omega \sim 0.24\text{eV}$$

How about 1.55 μ m to 0.75 μ m?

This requires a conduction band offset of $\sim 1.6\text{eV}$!!

III-Nitrides



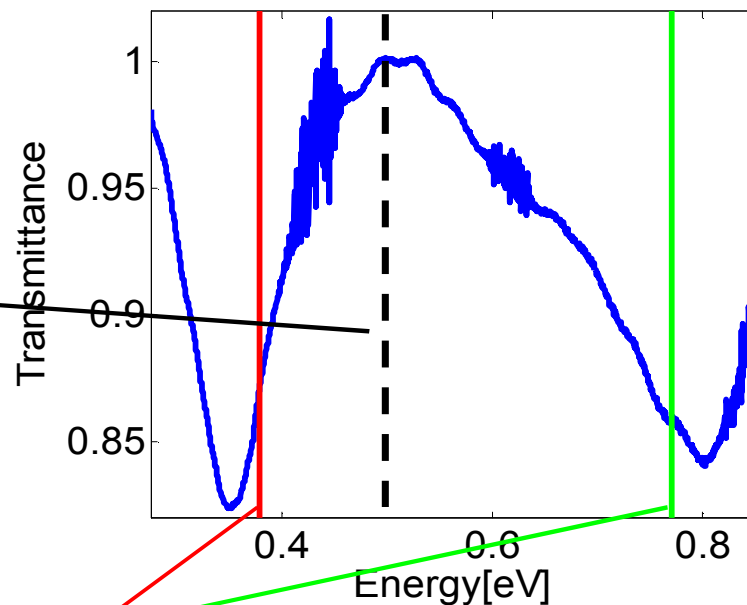
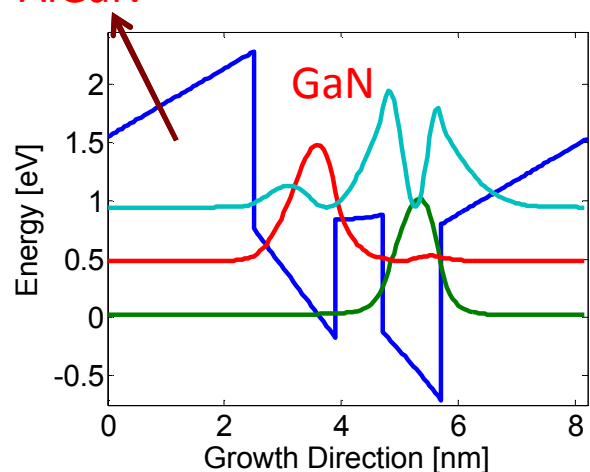


Omri Wolf

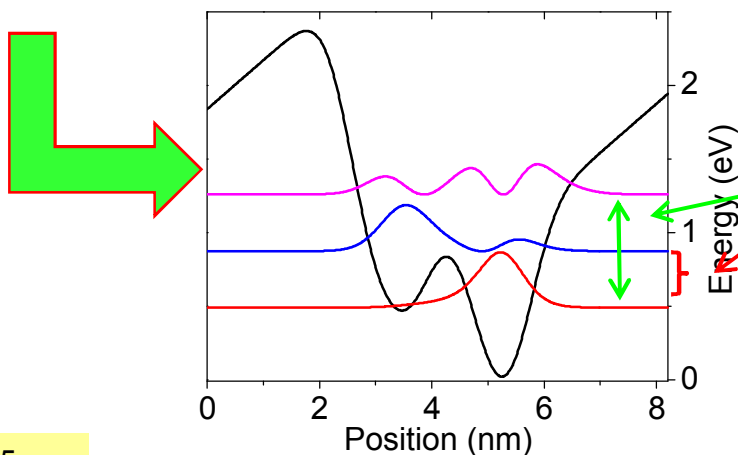
SHG ($3.2\mu\text{m} > 1.6\mu\text{m}$) Using AlGaN/GaN QWs

- Design: SHG $3\mu\text{m} \rightarrow 1.5\mu\text{m}$ ($0.4\text{ eV} \rightarrow 0.8\text{ eV}$)
- Traditional band structure calculation not enough

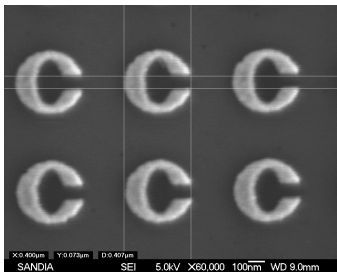
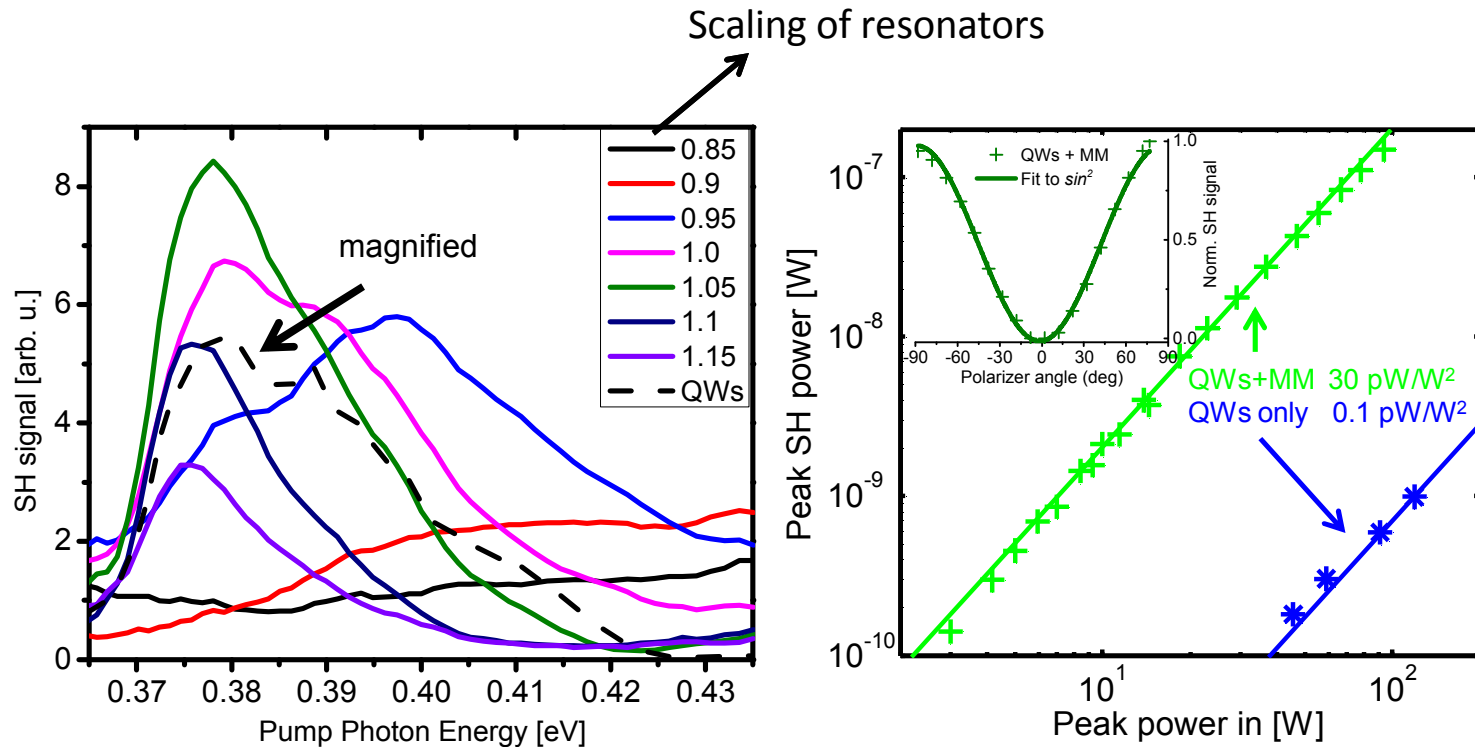
AlGaN – Over estimation of IST



Adding interface roughness



SHG ($3.2\mu\text{m} > 1.6\mu\text{m}$) Using AlGaIn/GaN QWs



In a III-N heterostructure, metamaterials increase efficiency by over 2 orders of magnitude



Summary & Acknowledgments

Metasurfaces in conjunction with semiconductor heterostructures can enhance and provide new functionality for linear and nonlinear optics:

- Field Concentration
- Electrically tunable spectral filters
- Enhanced and more functional optical nonlinearities

Postdocs: Salvo Campione, Omri Wolf, Sheng Liu

CINT + Sandia: John Reno, Mike Sinclair, Ines Montano, John Klem, Eric Shaner, Mike Wanke, Joel Wendt, Paul Clem, Jon Ihlefeld, Bruce Burckel, Jason Domingues, Andy Allerman, Sally Samora, Jon Wierer,

↑ GaAs

↑ InGaAs

↓ GaN

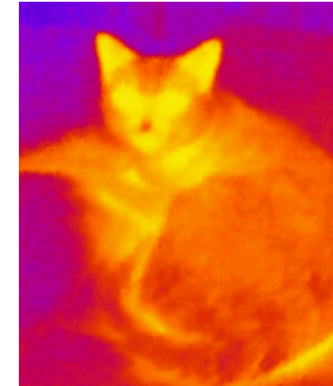
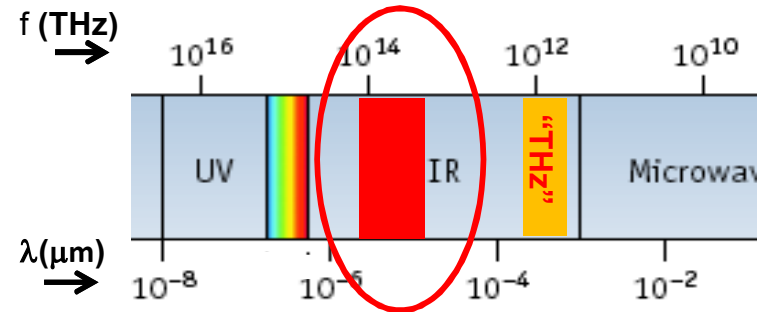


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

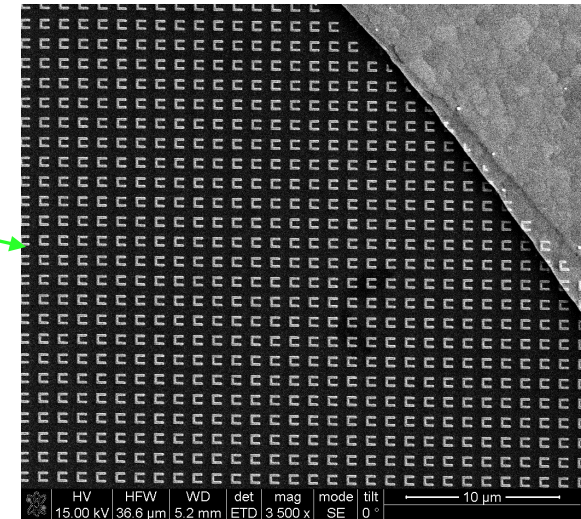
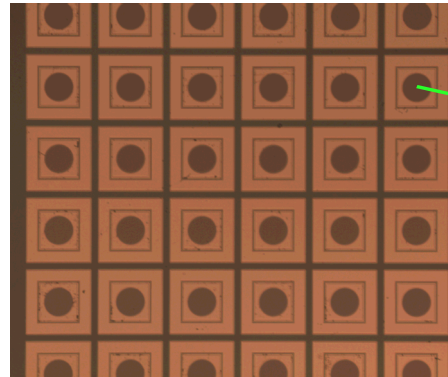
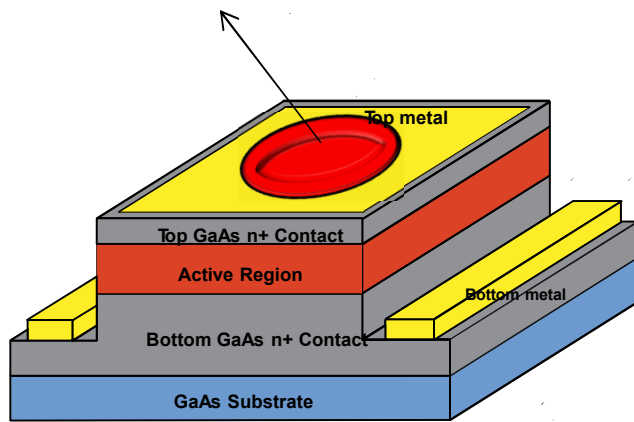
Office of
Science



Metasurfaces for Improved Infrared Detectors



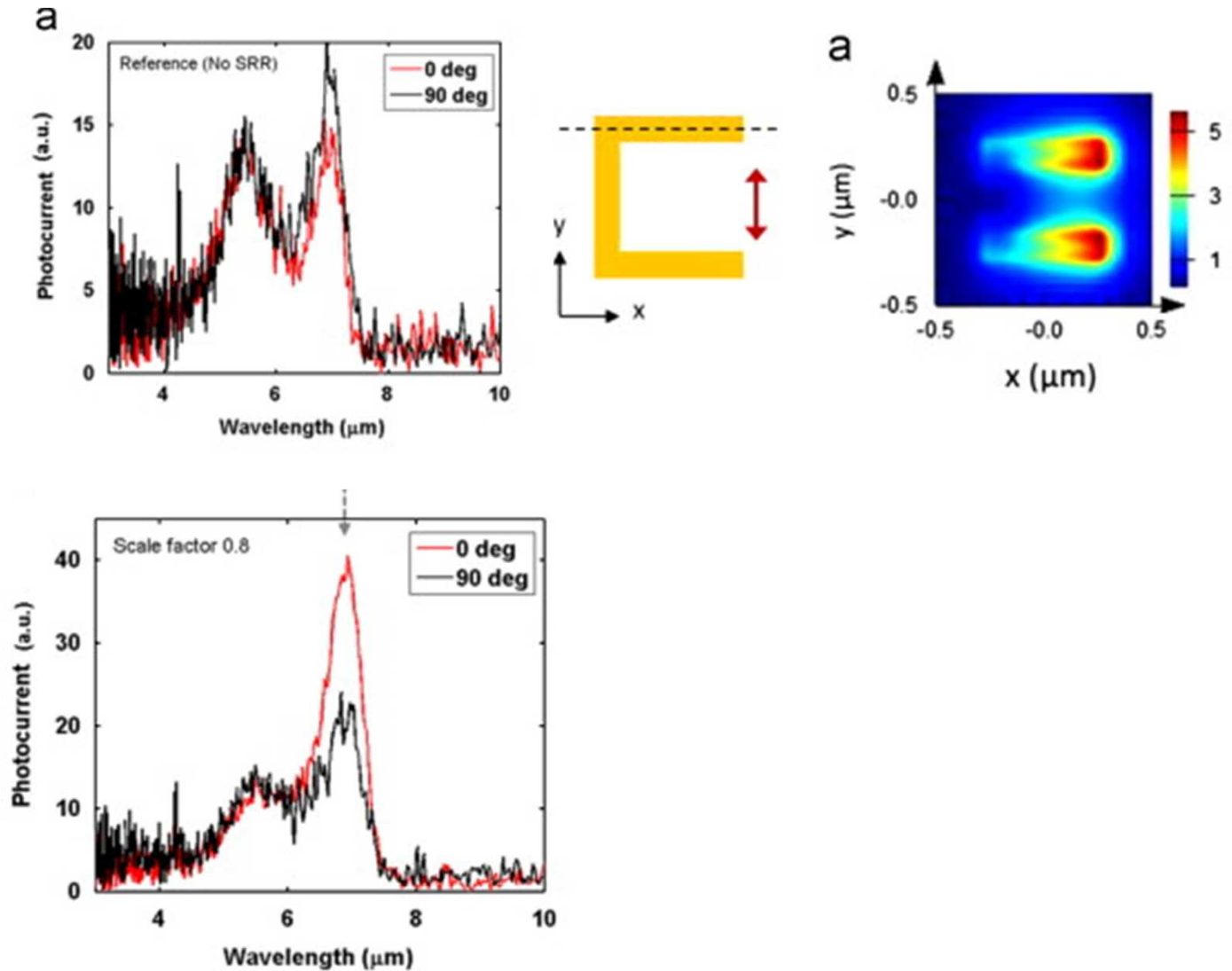
Metamaterials



UNM (Krishna) & Sandia

Optics Communications 312 (2014) 31–34

Improved IR Responsivity





Other Related Topics

- **Equivalent circuit model in the strong coupling regime:** Physical Review B89, 165133 (2014)
- **Strong coupling to intersubband transitions in the near IR:** ACS Photonics 2014, DOI: 10.1021/ph500192v
- **Maximizing strong coupling by changing the metallic resonators:** *Nano Letters* Article ASAP, DOI: 10.1021/nl504815c
- **Integration of MM resonators with IR detectors:** Optics Communications 312, 31-34, 2014
- **Enhancing strong coupling with a doped backplane:** Optics Express 21 (26), 32572-32581, 2013



Other Related Topics

- **Shaping PL from QDs:** ACS Photonics 2, 172-177 (2015) (with ANU)
- **Near field mapping of modes:** ACS Photonics 2014, Article ASAP, DOI: 10.1021/ph500232u (with ANU & UNM)
- **Tuning Dielectric metasurfaces with Liquid Crystals:** ACS Nano 2015, DOI: 10.1021/acsnano.5b00723, (with ANU)
- **Chiral and high Q Fano metasurfaces:** Nature Communications 5, (2014), doi:10.1038/ncomms4892 (with UT)
- **Third harmonic from Si metasurfaces:** ACS Photonics Article ASAP, DOI: 10.1021/acsp Photonics.5b00065, Nano Letters 14, 6488-6492 (2014). (with ANU+Moscow State)
- **Near field modes, THz Mie resonances:** Optics express 22, 23034 (2014) (with UCL)