

The role of Nanostructures in Integrated Photonics

James S. Harris

Department of Electrical Engineering

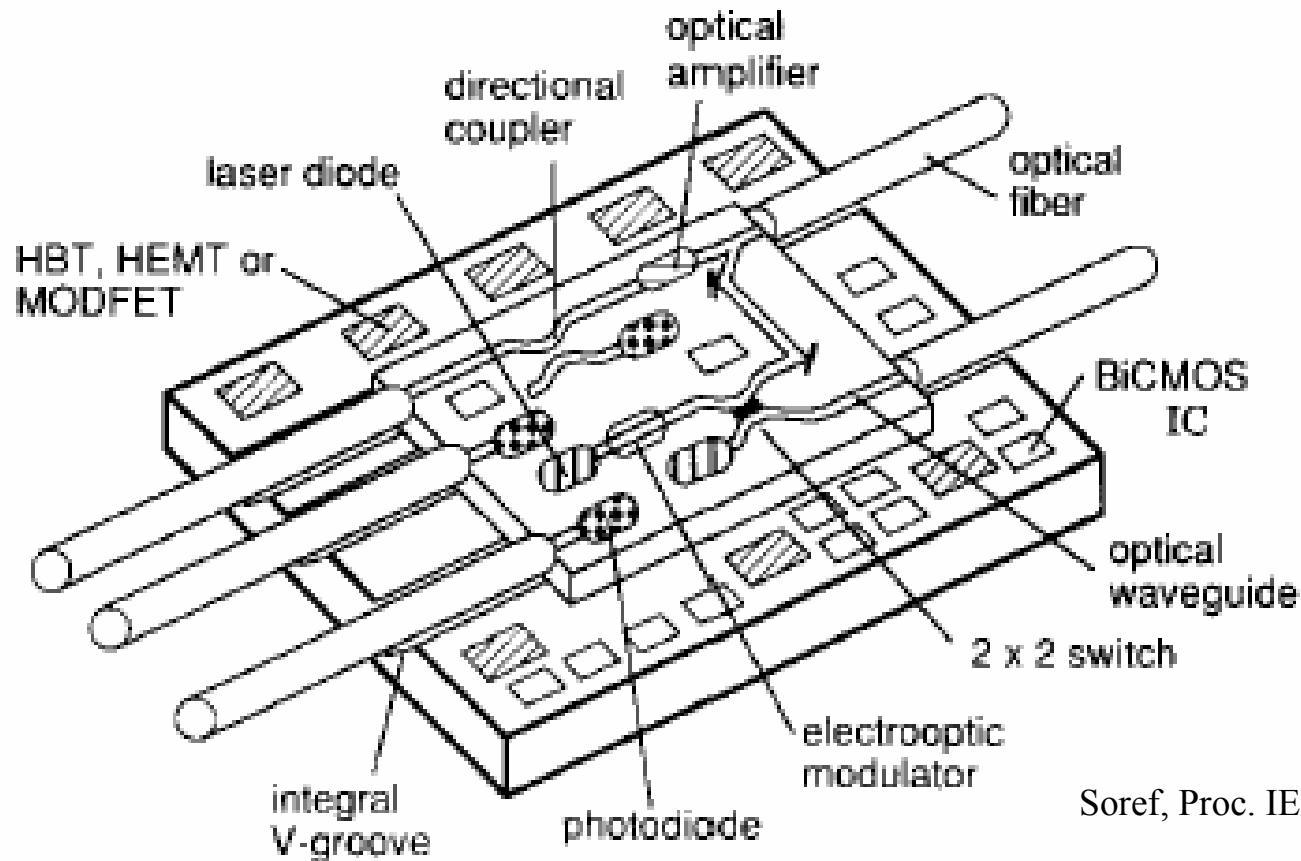
Stanford University

3rd U.S.-Korea Forum on Nanotechnology

Seoul, Korea

April 3 & 4, 2006

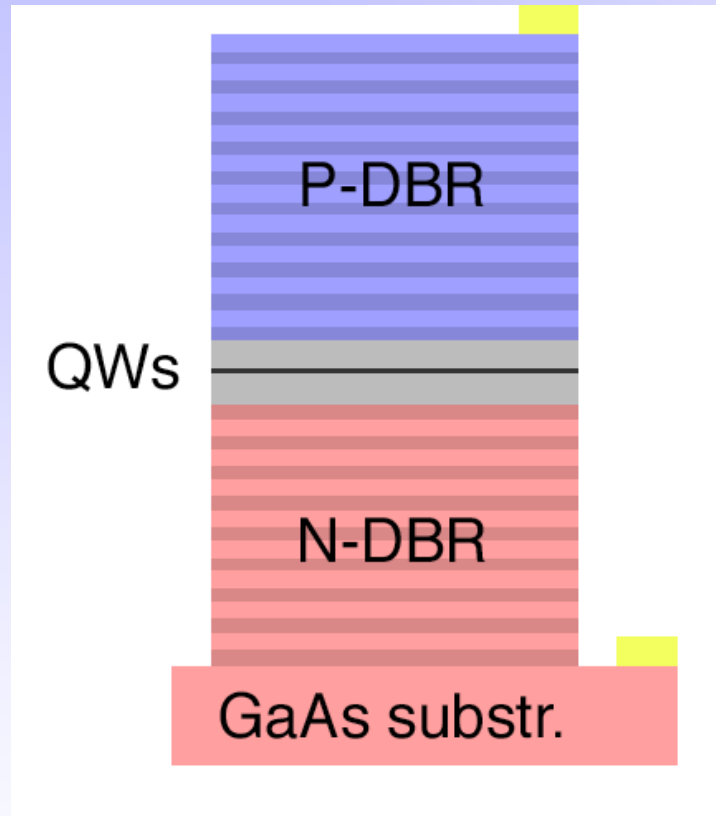
1993 Photonic Integrated Circuit



Soref, Proc. IEEE, 1687 (1993)

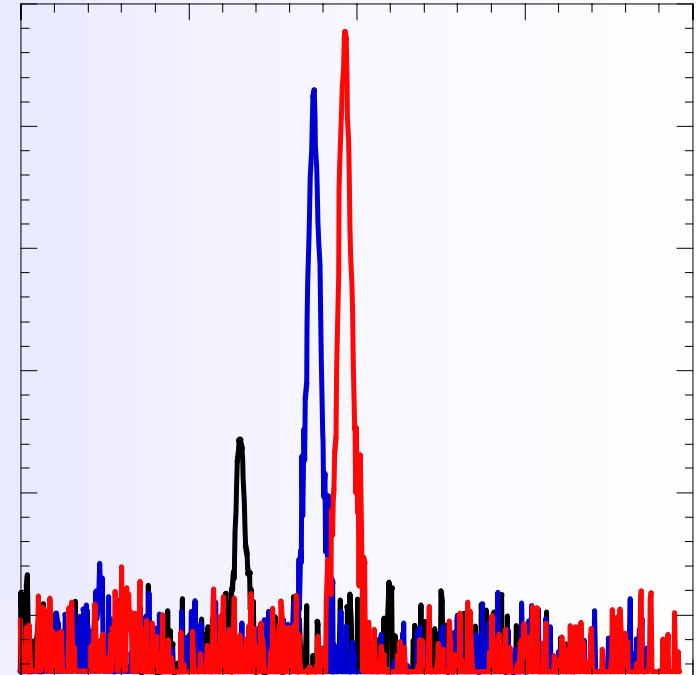
- Waveguide architecture with butt coupled fibers and edge emitting lasers
- Hybrid bonding (non-monolithic) of different structures
- Mostly III-V devices, very little electronics

First Photonic Crystal Device



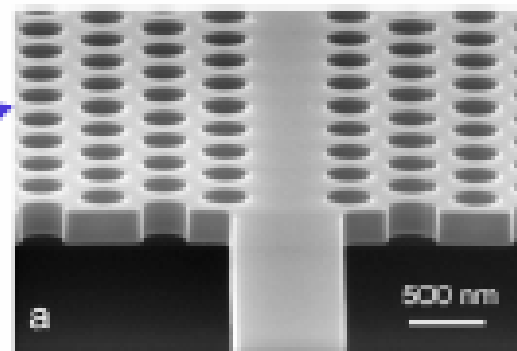
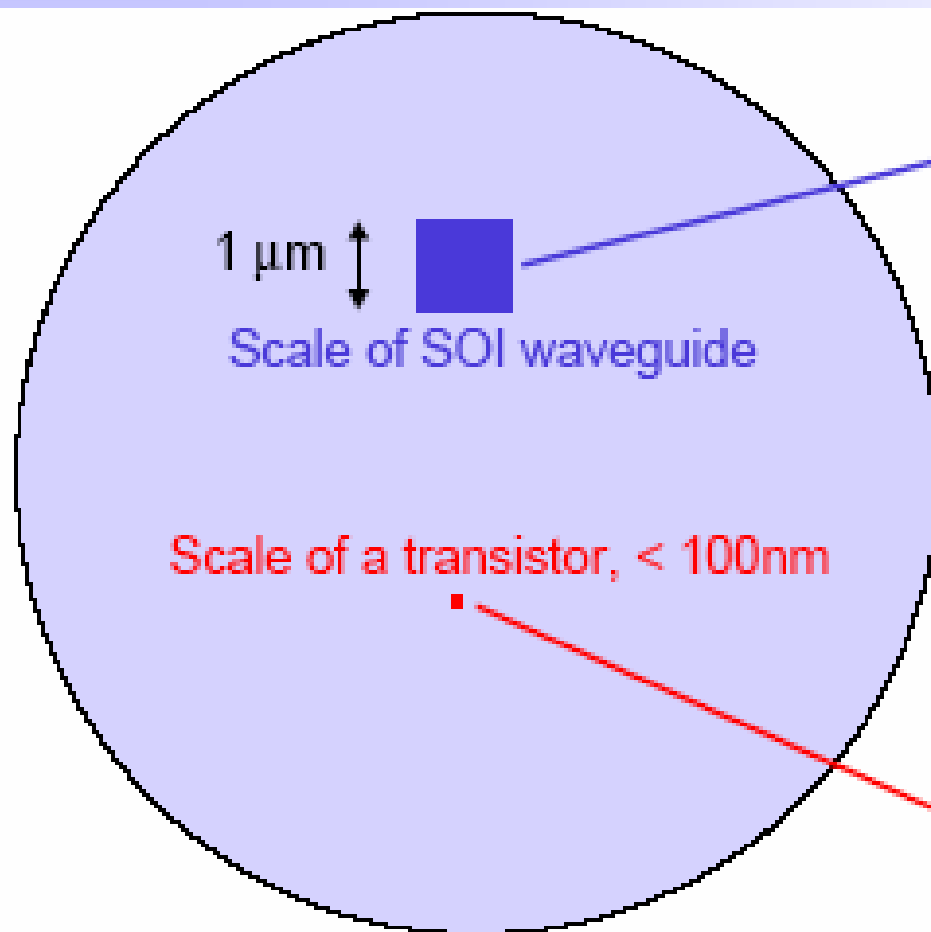
DBR (Distributed Bragg Reflector)

- 20-40 quarter wavelength different index layers (~70 nm)
- One-dimensional photonic crystal

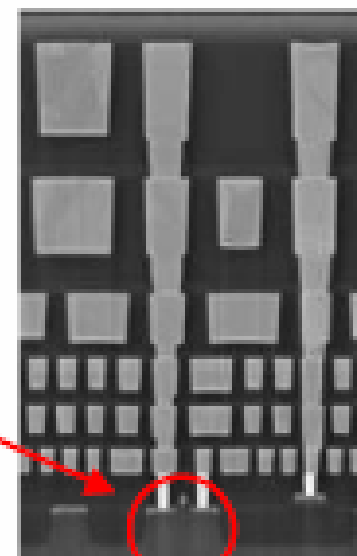


- Single longitudinal mode emission, independent of temperature and current injection
- Circular beam pattern
- Vertical emission--2-D array

Dimensional Mismatch Between Optics and Electronics

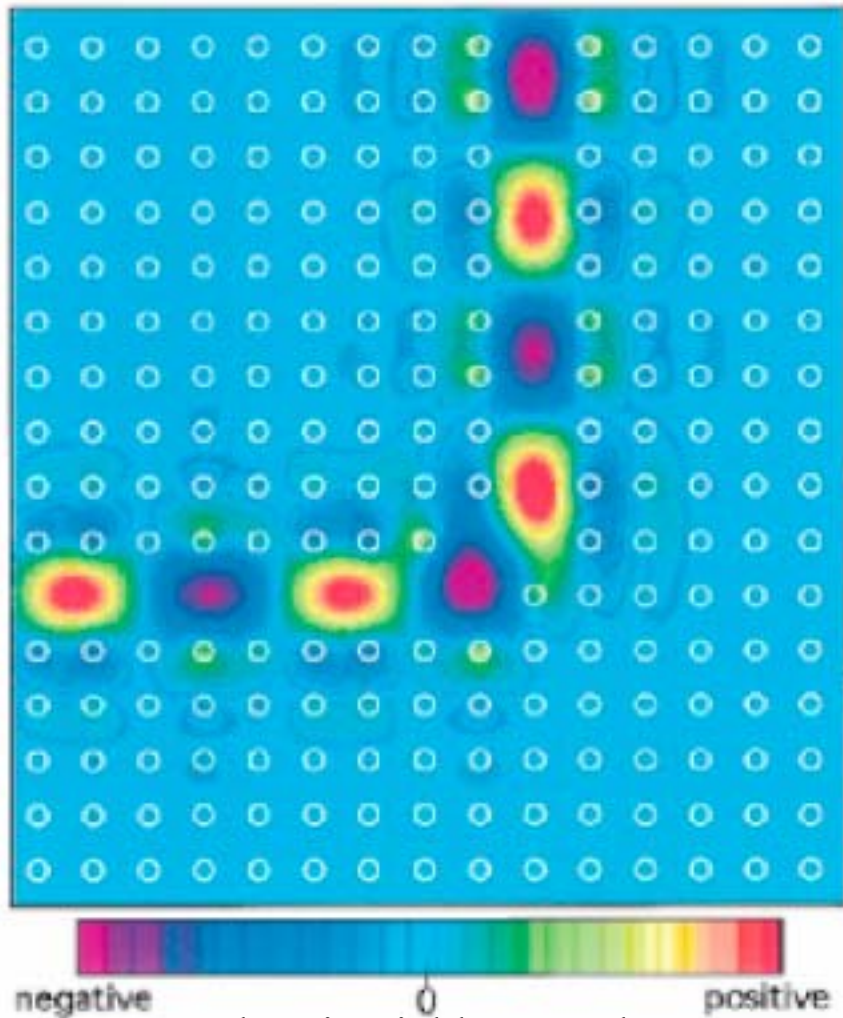


Vlasov et al, IBM, 2004

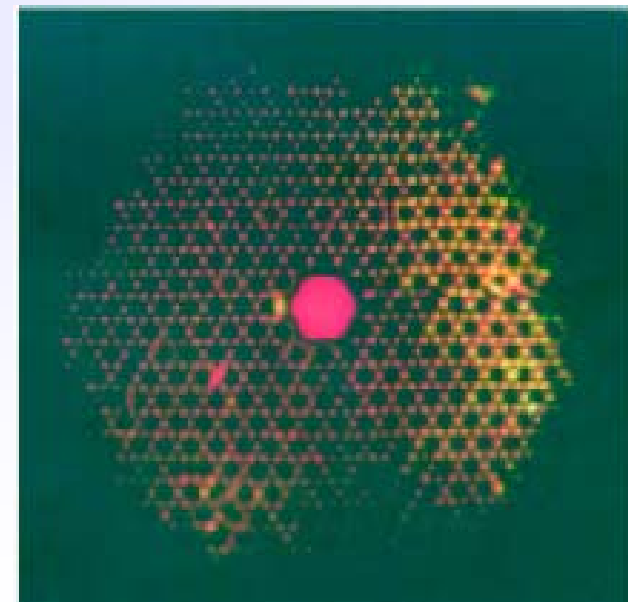
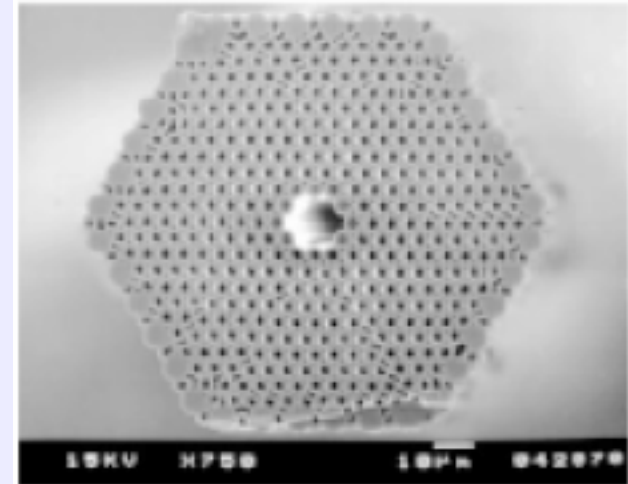


Kobrinisky et al, Intel, 2004

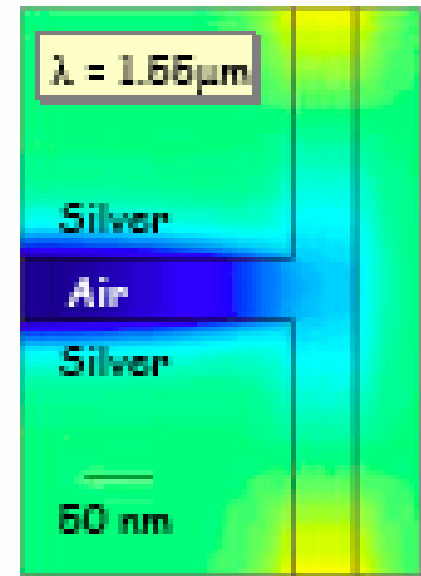
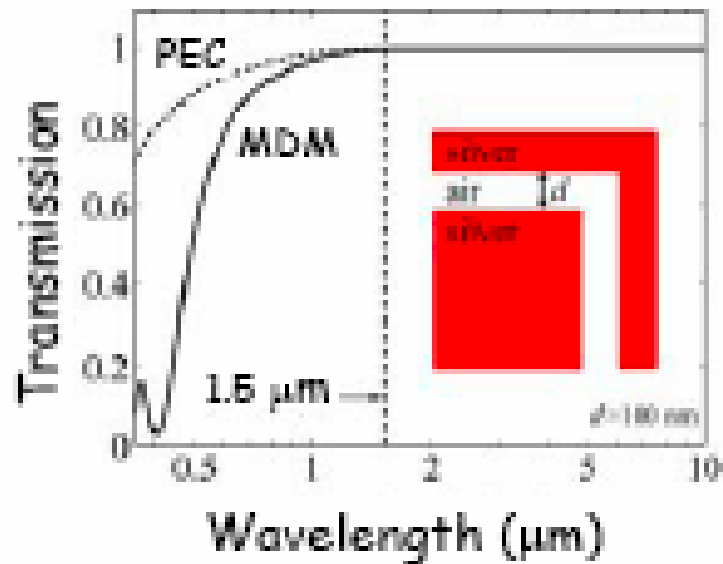
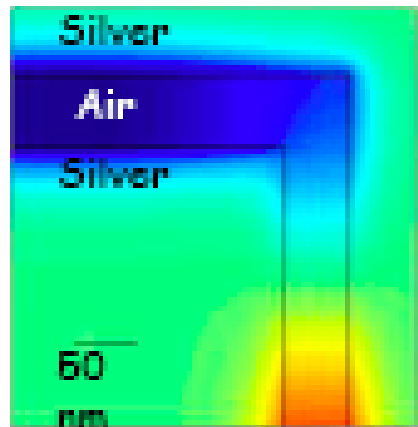
Unique Photonic Crystal Functionality



Electric Field Strength



Nanoscale Plasmonic Waveguides



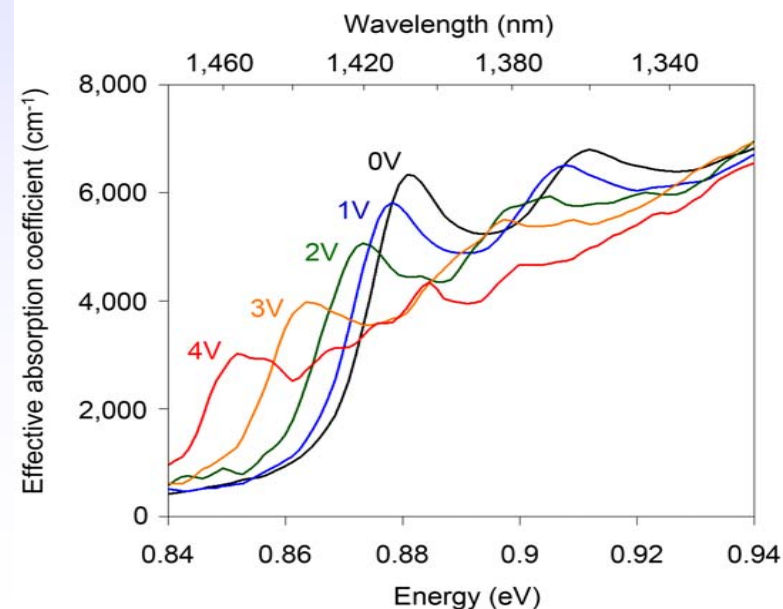
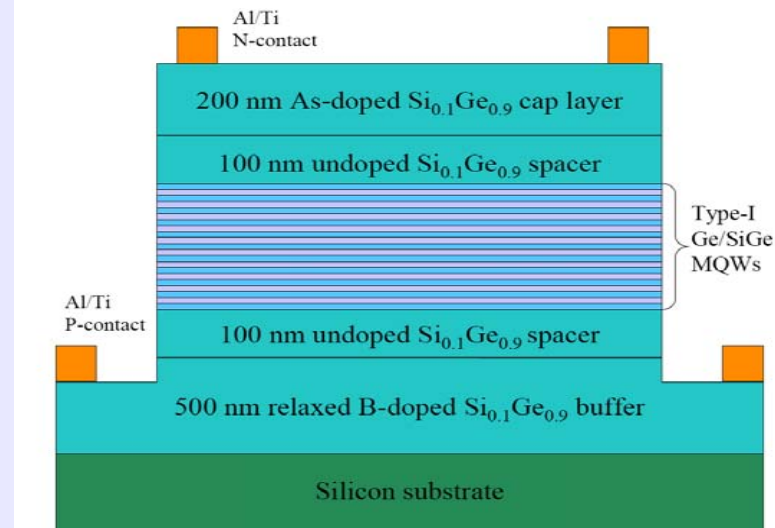
- 90° bends and splitters can be designed with 100% transmission from microwave to optical frequencies
- Provides bridge between dimensions of electronics and photonics
- Provides design flexibility for optoelectronic ICs

A New Si-Based Optical Modulator



Quantum-confined Stark effect (QCSE)

- Strongest high-speed optical modulation mechanism
 - Used today for high-speed, low power telecommunications optical modulators but in III-V semiconductors
- QCSE in germanium quantum wells on silicon substrates
- Fully compatible with CMOS fabrication
- **Surprises**
 - works in “indirect gap” semiconductor actually better than in III-V
 - higher speed (100 GHz) possible



Y. H. Kuo, Y. Lee, Y. Ge, S. Ren, J. E. Roth, T. I. Kamins,
D. A. B. Miller & J. S. Harris, *Nature* **437**, 1334 (2005)

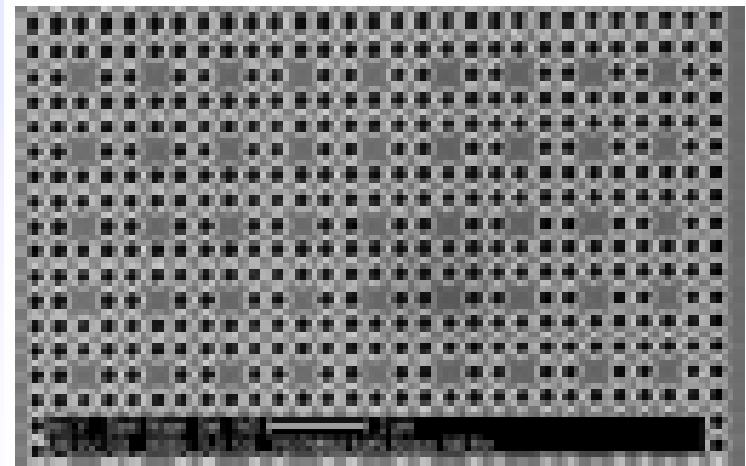
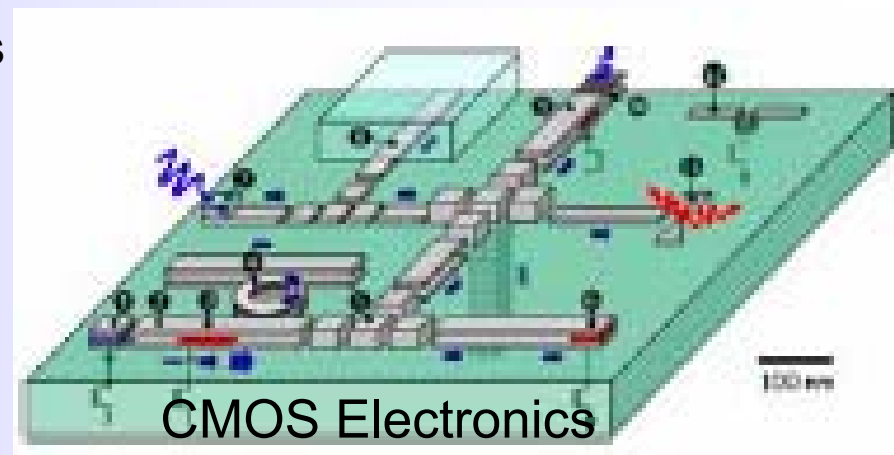
Integrated Optoelectronics on Si Platform Looks Feasible



- Silicon waveguides and integration with CMOS process now demonstrated
- Germanium-based detectors viable and integrable with CMOS
- Working modulators in silicon
 - carrier density index change modulators
- Quantum-confined Stark effect in Ge quantum wells on silicon demonstrated
 - much stronger absorption mechanism → smaller devices, higher speed and lower power
- Many opportunities in nanophotonics for enhanced and new devices

Integrated Optoelectronics

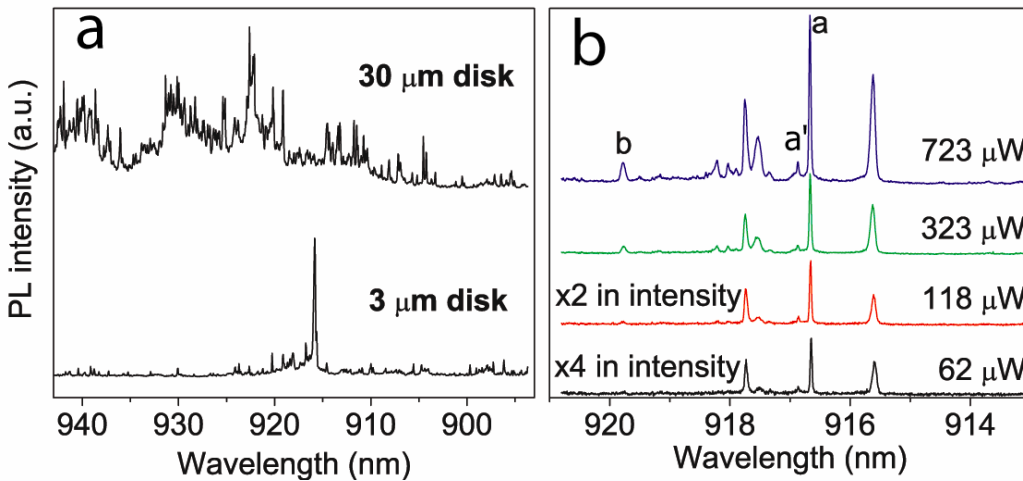
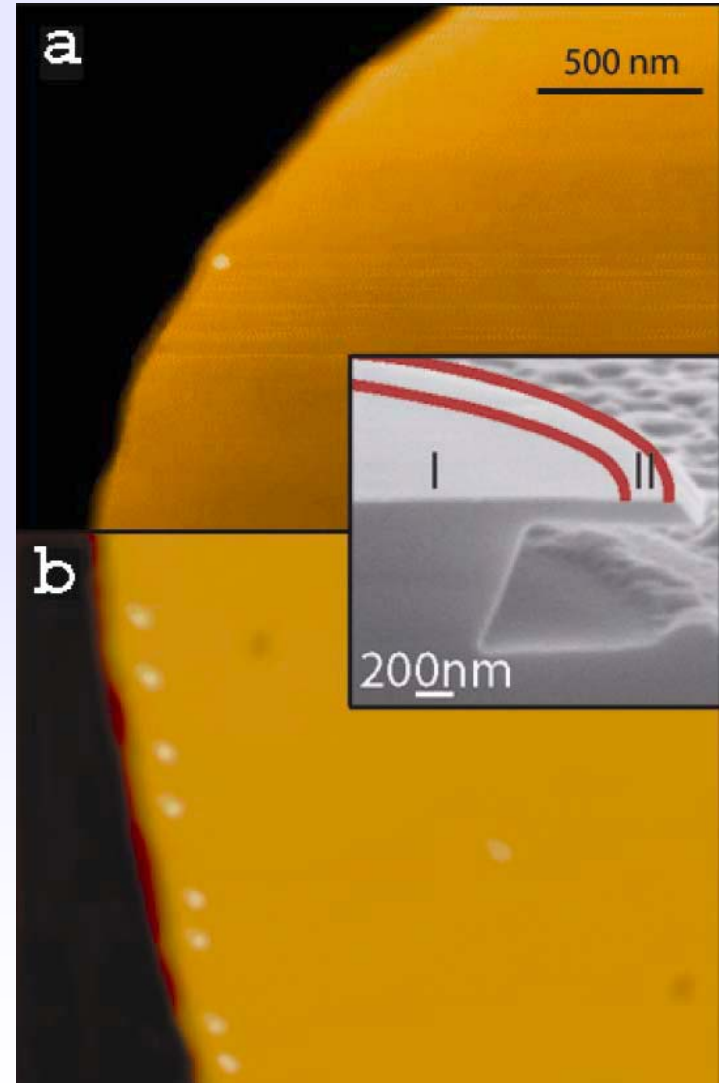
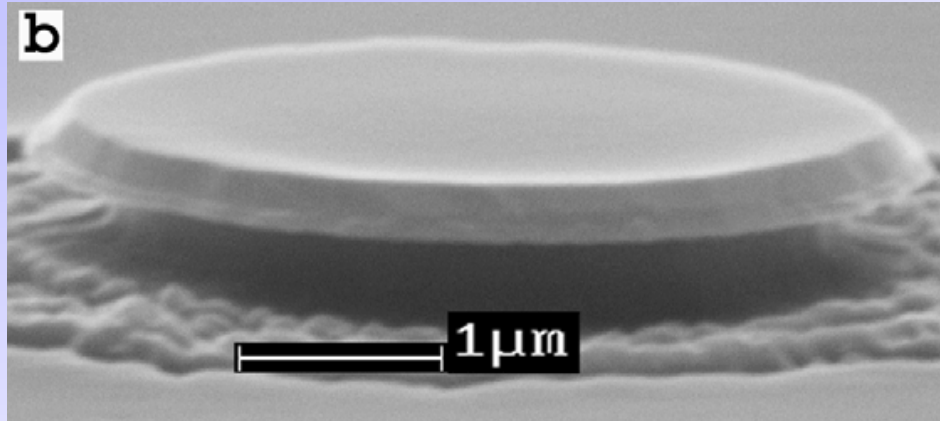
- **Mostly Electronics**, many “optical” functions done electronically--transistors are **FREE** ($< 1\mu\text{€}$ ea)
- Multi-layered nanometer deposition of compatible compatible high index of refraction materials
 - Si on Oxide (SOI)
 - GaAs/AlAs(AlO_x)
- Dielectric, semiconductor, and metal lithographic fabrication at deeply sub-wavelength scales
 - Silicon CMOS compatible processes
- Excellent quantum optoelectronic phenomena demonstrated in Si based devices
 - Ge quantum wells on silicon
- A platform, based on CMOS technology
 - Electronics
 - Optoelectronics
 - Optics



Photonic Crystal Passive elements

- waveguides
- resonators

Quantum Dot Microdisk Laser



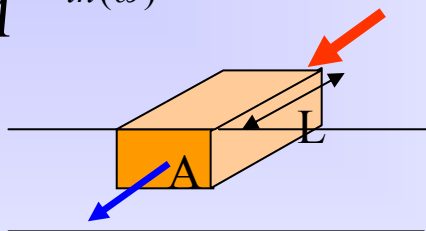
A ZERO threshold laser possible?

Nonlinear Optical Processes

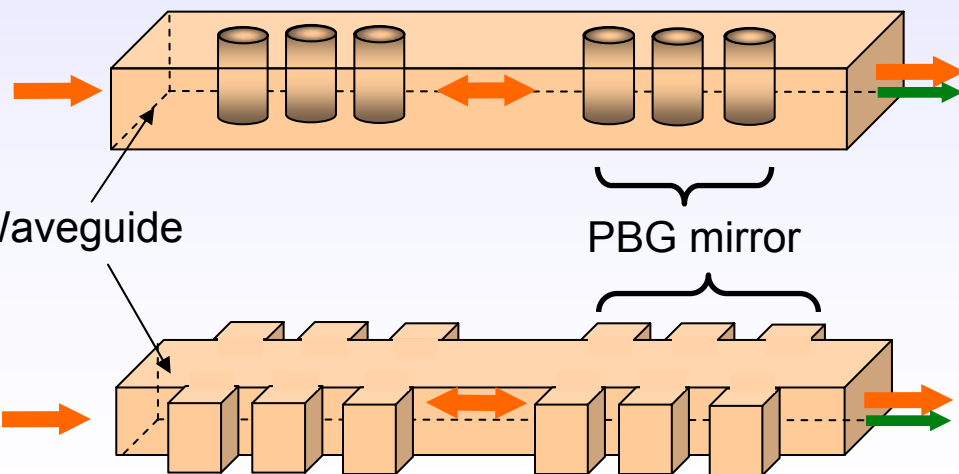
How to increase the conversion efficiency?

$$\frac{P_{out(2\omega)}}{P_{in(\omega)}} \propto \frac{L^2}{A} P_{in(\omega)} F^2$$

$$F = Q \frac{\lambda}{L}$$



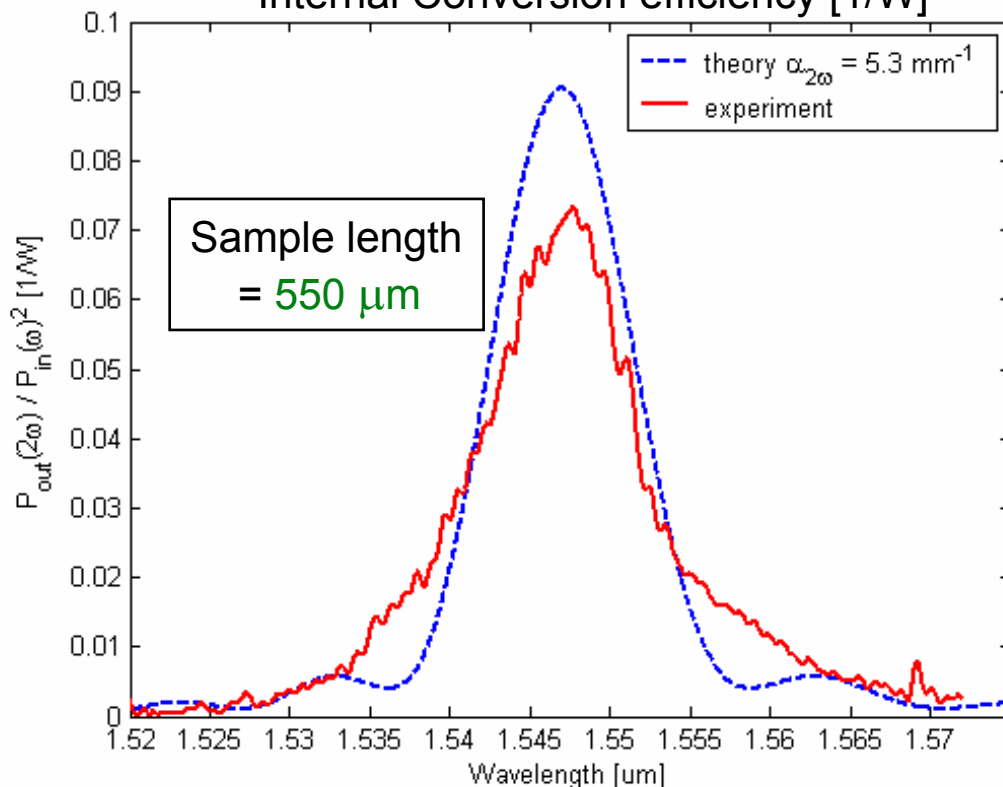
- Tightly confining waveguide
- High-Finesse (F) cavity, resonant at the fundamental frequency, increases the circulating power
- High- F cavity can be realized in tightly confining waveguides using photonic bandgap crystal (PBG) structures
- Cavity design Length $\sim 200 \mu\text{m}$
Finesse ~ 60
→ enhancement of a factor ~ 400
- Achievable internal conversion efficiency $\sim 4000 \% / \text{W}$ (comparable to current 5-cm-long state-of-the-art PPLN waveguides)



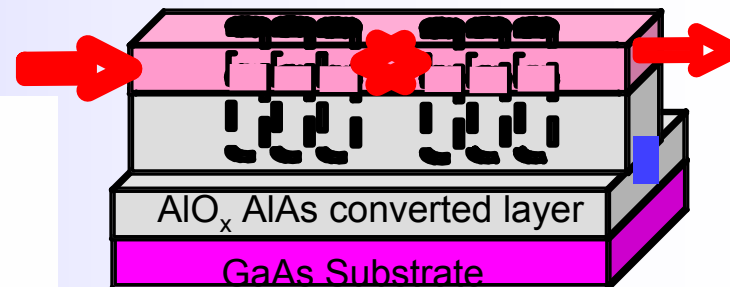
Second Harmonic Generation

$$P_{out}(2\omega) / P_{out}(\omega)^2$$

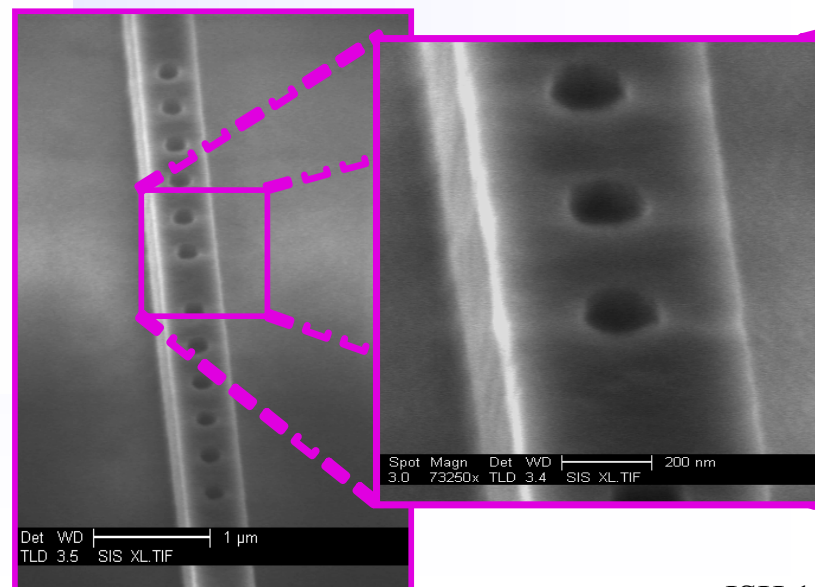
Internal Conversion efficiency [1/W]



→ efficiency limited by SH loss ←

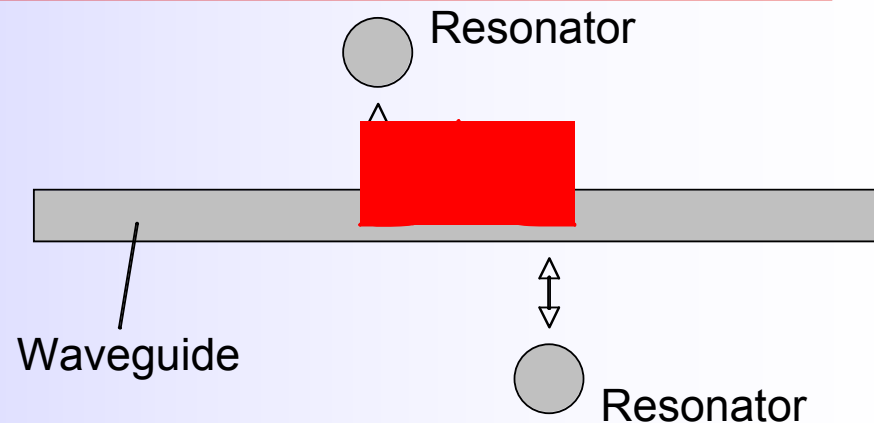


AlO_x AIAs conversion critical processing technology and unique to GaAs based systems

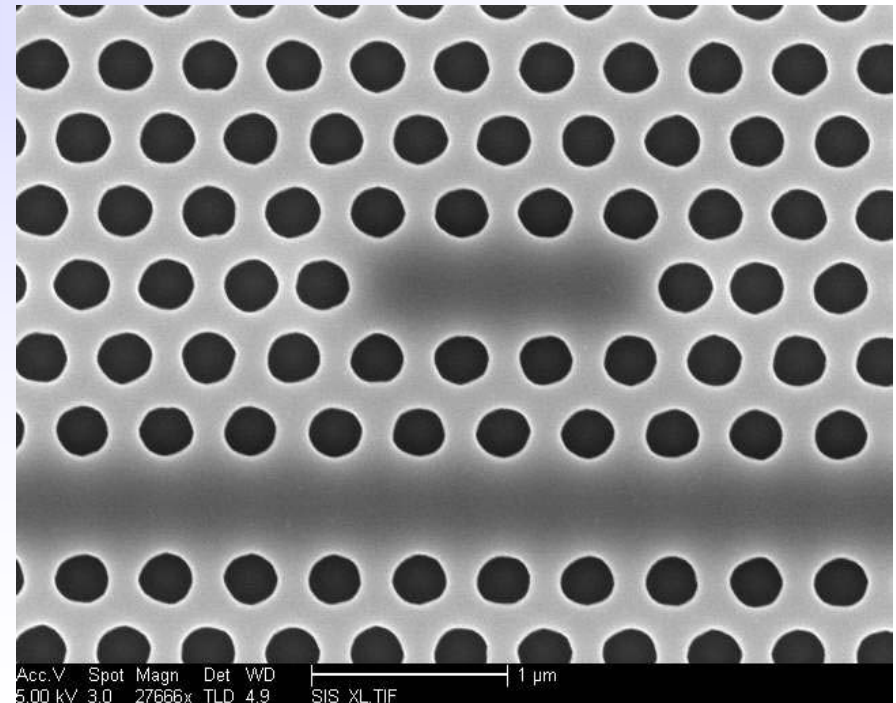
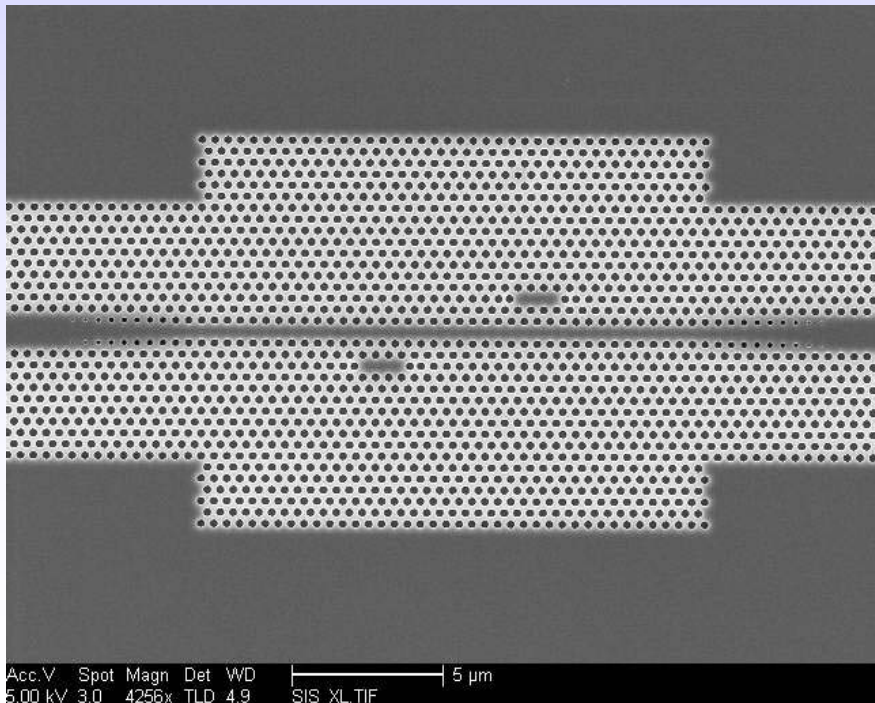


Stopping Light All-Optically

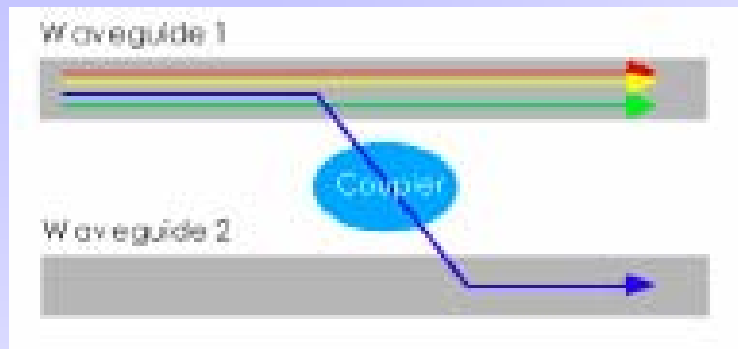
Light pulses can be **stopped** and **stored** coherently using a system of coupled waveguide and high-Q cavities.



Suspended Si waveguide on SOI

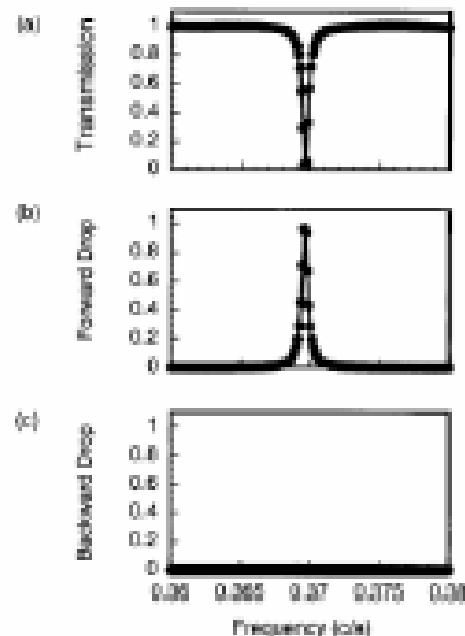
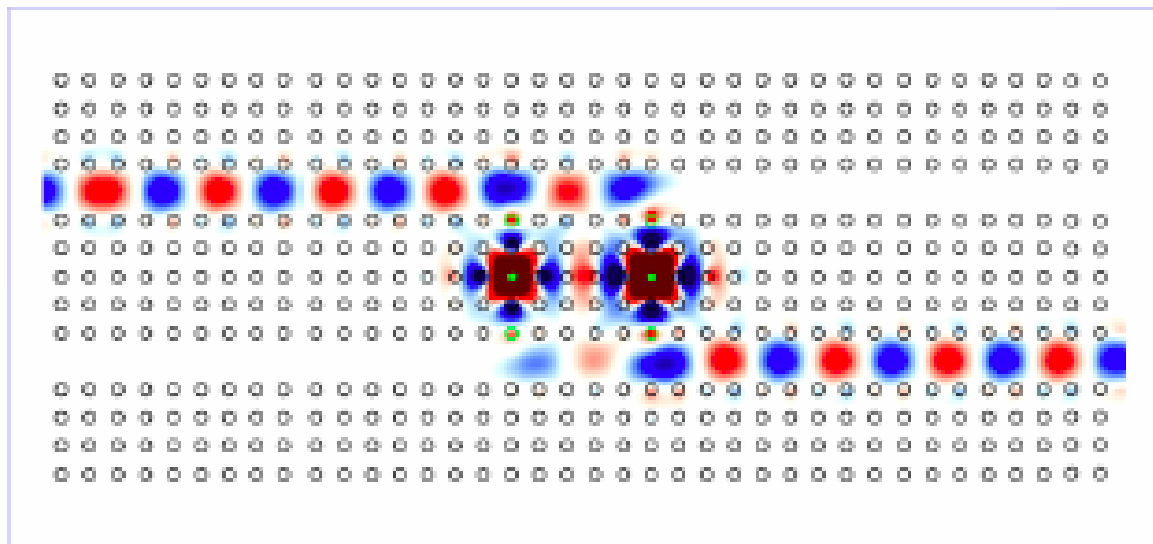


Photonic Crystal Add/Drop Filter



Two resonant modes with even and odd symmetry.

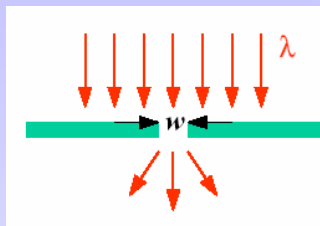
- Modes must be degenerate.
- Must have the same decay rate.



Nanometallic Enhancement of Photodiodes and Lasers

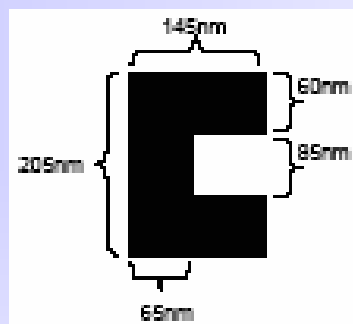


In a conventional aperture



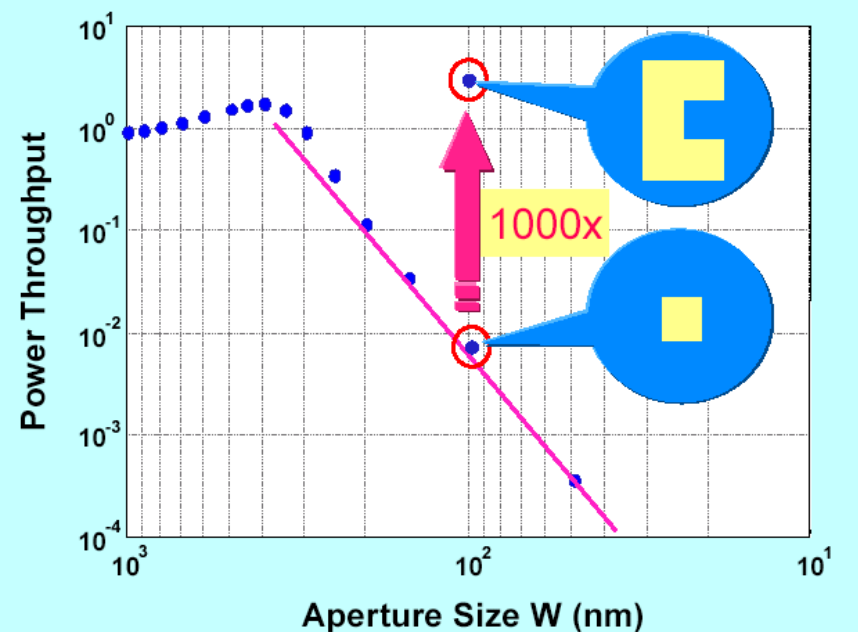
$$w \ll \lambda \Rightarrow PT \propto \left(\frac{w}{\lambda} \right)^4$$

C-aperture

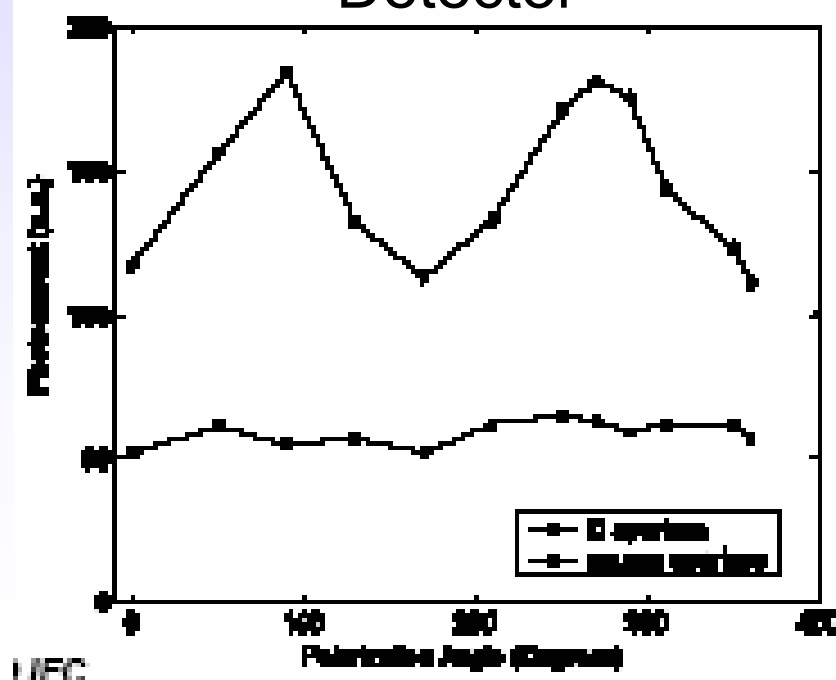


- Sub-wavelength ($0.01 \lambda^2$) C-shaped gold apertures
- Reduced device area
 - lower capacitance
 - higher speed
 - lower power

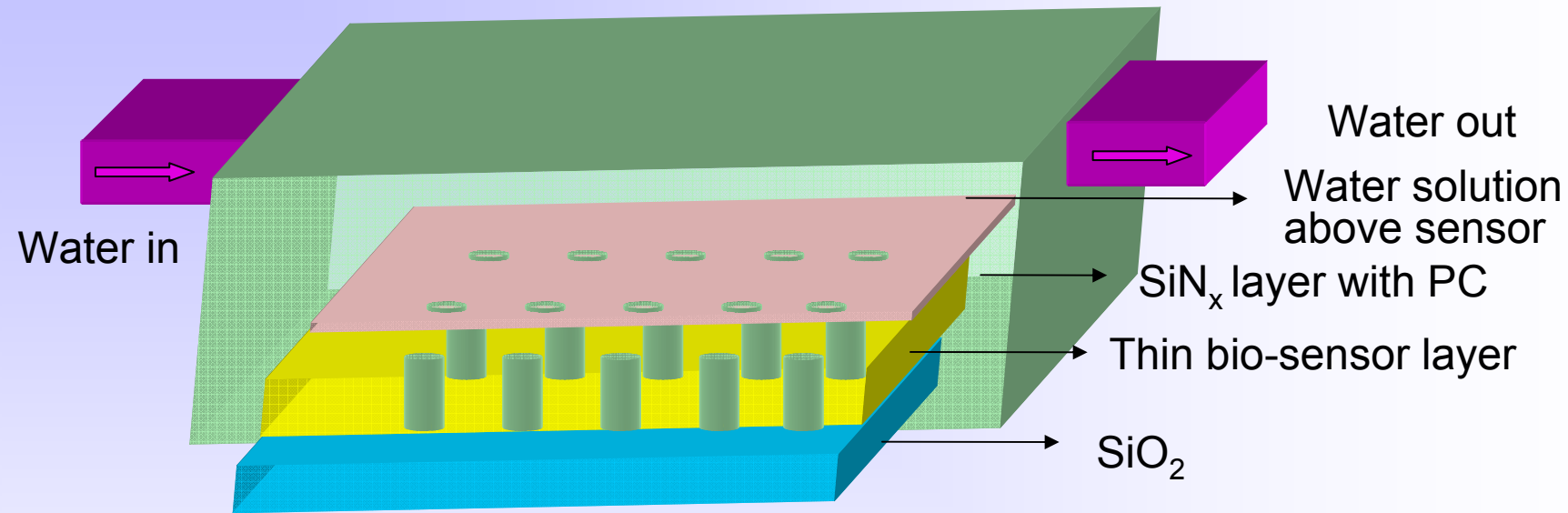
Laser



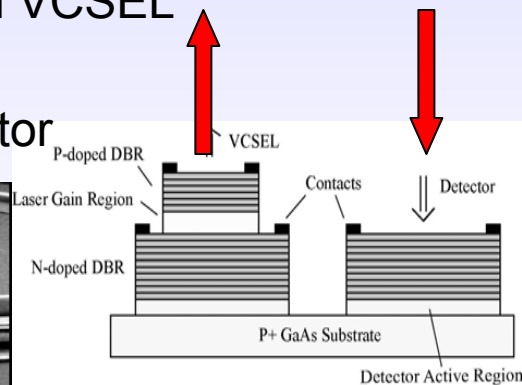
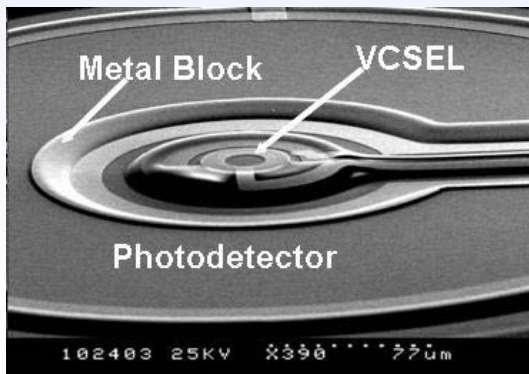
Detector



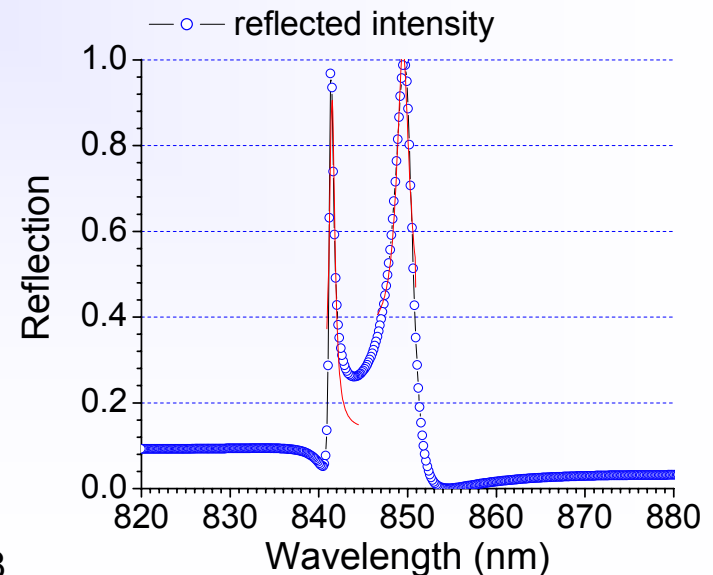
Integrated Photonic Crystal Resonant Filter Sensor



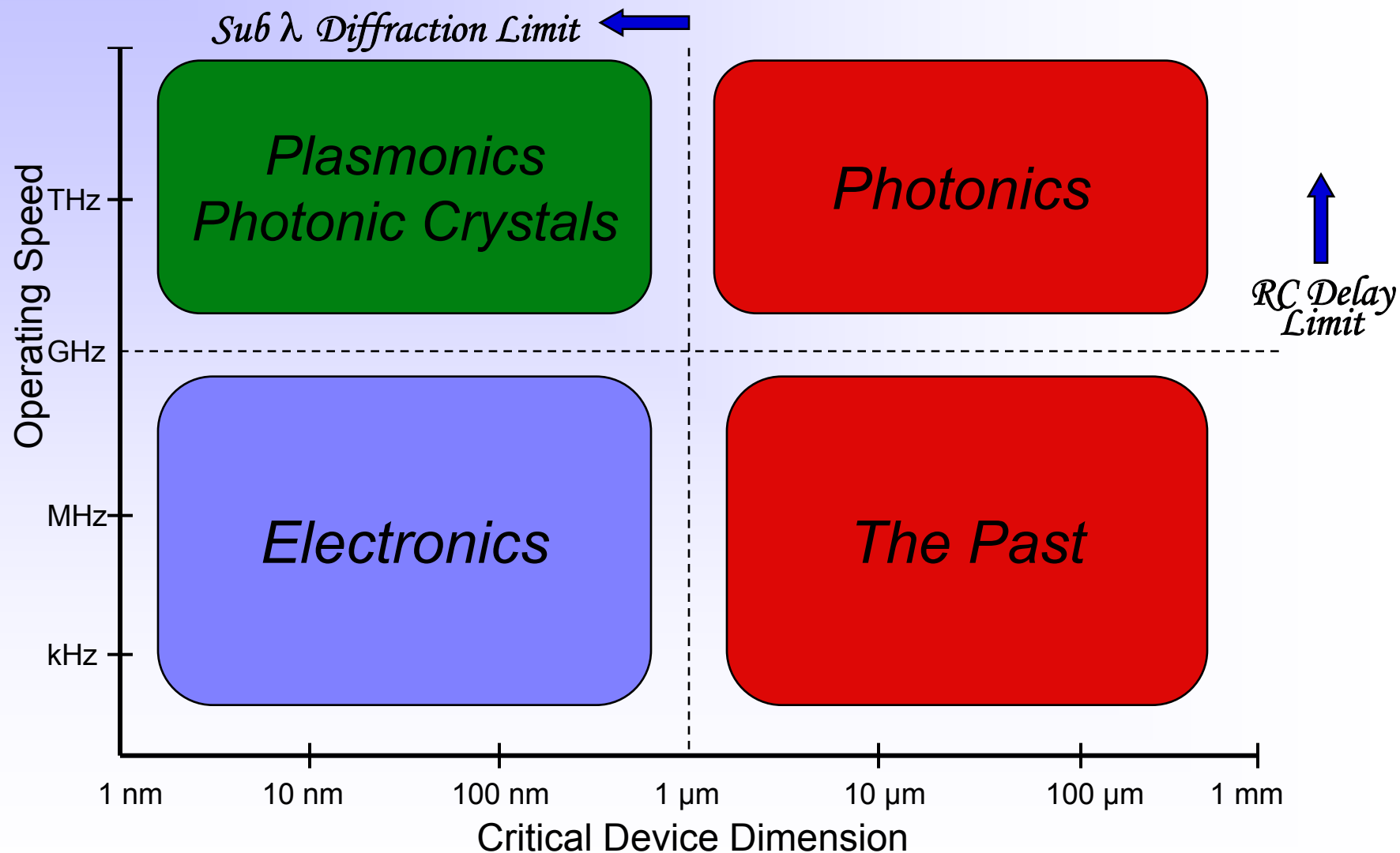
Integrated VCSEL/Detector



Peak width [FWHM]
at 850 nm = 2.7 nm Q= 314
at 841.3 nm = 0.8 nm Q= 1078



New Wave of Chip Scale Technologies



Opportunities for Nanophotonics



- **Compact, highly functional components**
 - Control and separate optical modes
 - Wavelength and space
- **Deep sub-wavelength field concentration**
 - very small photodetectors with high efficiency
 - match optical wave and electronic device sizes
- **Very high Q/V cavities**
 - enhance emission, optical nonlinear response
- **Slow light**
- **Negative refractive index**
 - metal-dielectric-metal structures
- **Integrated quantum information processing?**