Wavelength dependent light trapping in a chirped 3D photonic crystal made by two-photon lithography

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ABSTRACT

The so called "rainbow trapping" effect (wavelength dependent light localization) is demonstrated in a chirped 3D woodpile photonic crystal in the visible and near infrared regimes. By varying the period in the propagation direction, the 3D structure is designed to progressively slow down the incident wave and to localize different wavelengths at different positions. A first experiment in the visible range shows good qualitative results, with green localizing near the beginning of the crystal and red propagating deeper. The measurements in the infrared regime show strong localization between 1400nm and 1700nm. This localization goes deeper into the crystal as the wavelength increases, agreeing nicely with our numerical simulations.

3D CHIRP WOODPILE STRUCTURE

SCHEMATIC REPRESENTATION

THE BAND STRUCTURE



 $a \approx 0.9 \ \mu m$; $b \approx 1.8 \ \mu m$; $c = 0.5 - 0.9 \ \mu m$ $\Delta x \approx 0.3 \ \mu m$; $\Delta y \approx 0.78 \ \mu m$

Chirping (slowly changing) the period will shift the location of the gap. By shifting the location of the gap along the propagation direction, each λ is localized at a different position in the crystal.









RESULTS



CONCLUSIONS

- Successful light localization measure as a function of position and wavelength in a chirped 3D PC in visible and IR range.
- Very good agreement between experiment and numerical simulation. •

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Study of the effect of polarization on this kind of phenomena.

Future work: application in sensing or new light sources.

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