Designing Photonic Crystals for Applications

 We want now to examine some in ways in which the described features can be used to build:

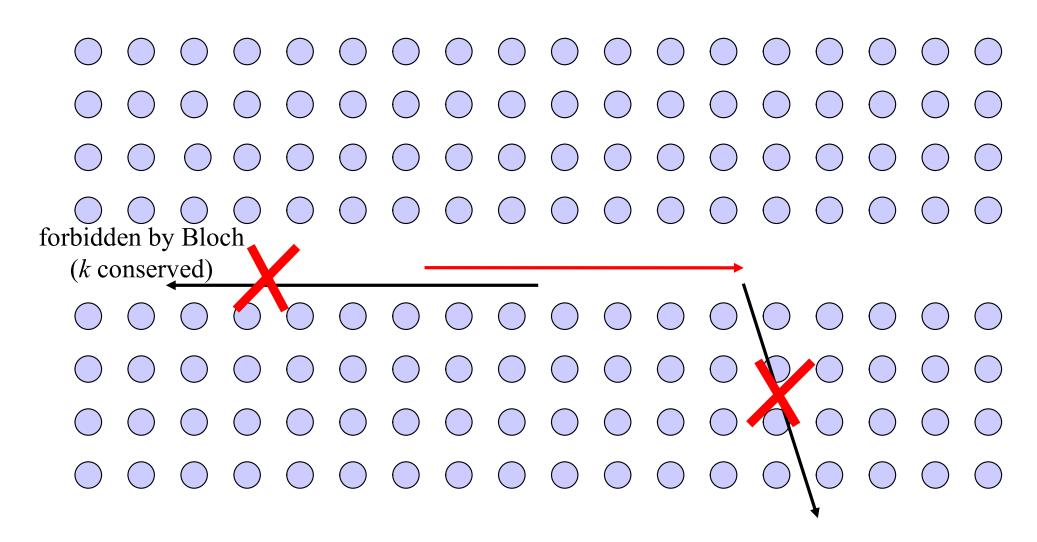
√ filters

√ waveguide bend

√ splitter

 All these devices can be easily explain with the temporal coupled-mode theory

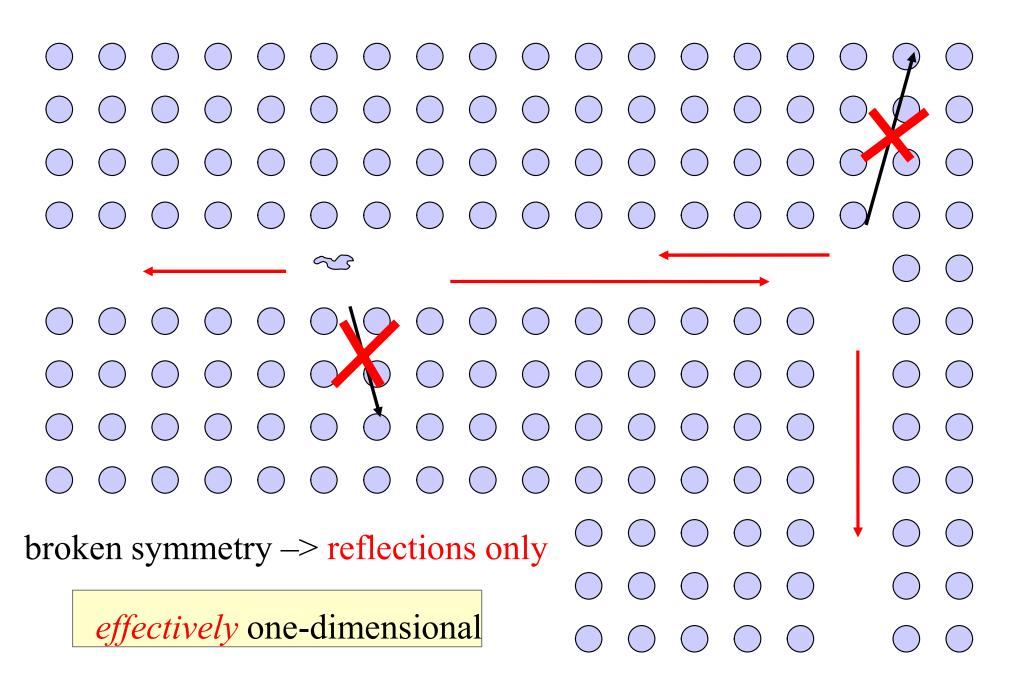
Review: Why no scattering?



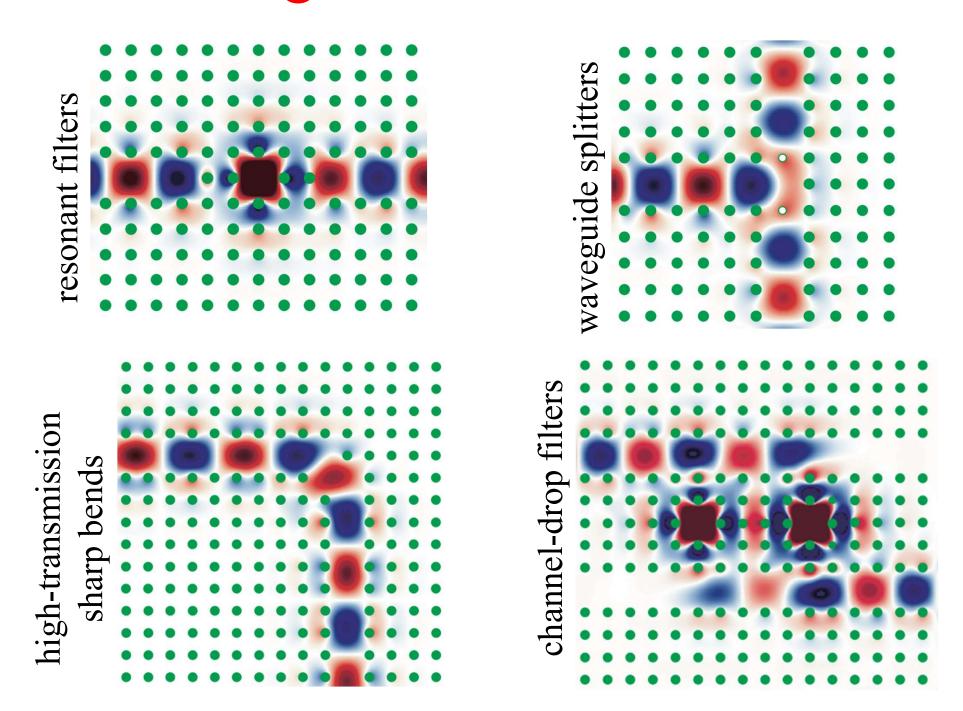
forbidden by gap

(except for finite-crystal tunneling)

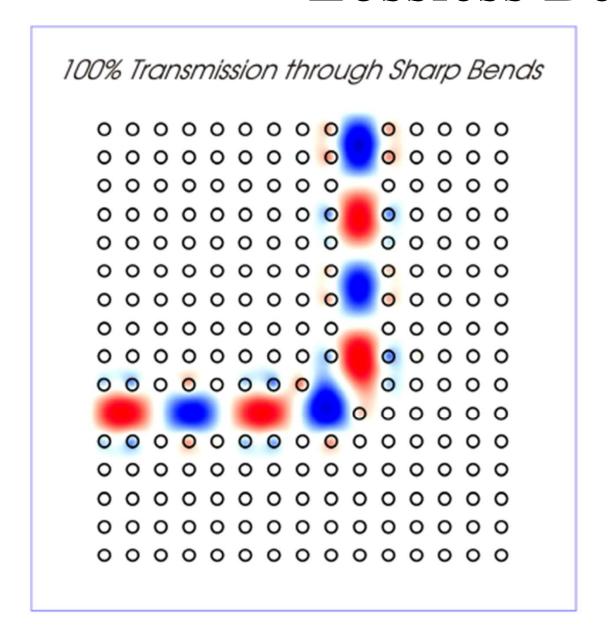
Benefits of a complete gap...

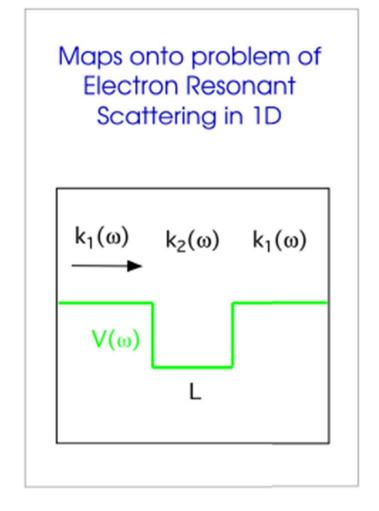


"1d" Waveguides + Cavities = Devices



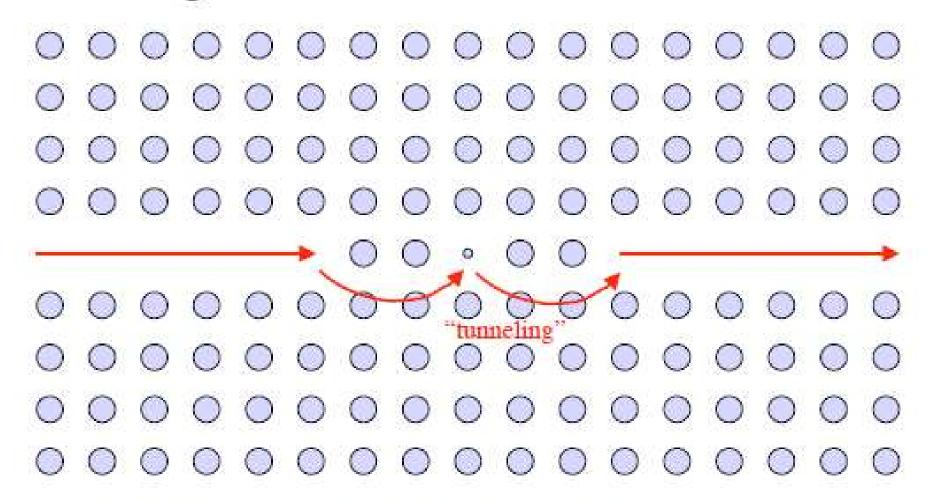
Lossless Bends





[A. Mekis *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **77**, 3787 (1996)]

Waveguides + Cavities = Devices



Ugh, must we simulate this to get the basic behavior?

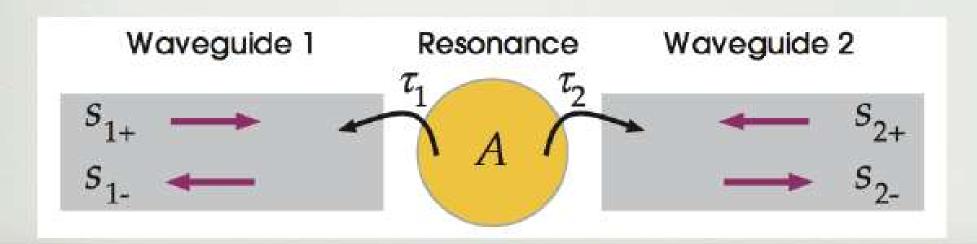
No! Use "coupling-of-modes-in-time" (coupled-mode theory)...

[H. Haus, Waves and Fields in Optoelectronics]

Temporal Coupled-Mode Theory

 In order to build a more sophysticated device one needs to describe a system in terms of a set of idealized components that are perturbed, or coupled, in some fashion —> temporal coupled theory:

✓ key assumption: the coupling among the various elements is weak



The temporal coupled-mode equations

- We derive a set of equations describing the coupling of the cavity to the waveguides, in terms of the field amplitudes in those components.
- Assumptions:

```
√ weak coupling
```

√ linearity

√ time-invariance

√ conservation of energy

√ time reversal invariance

The temporal coupled-mode equations

- In the cavity the filed is proportional to A. The two loss mechanisms are described by τ₁ and τ₂.
- $s_{l\pm}$ (l=1,2) are the modes in the waveguide.

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = -i\omega_0 A - \frac{A}{\tau_1} - \frac{A}{\tau_2} + \alpha_1 s_1 + \alpha_2 s_2$$

$$s_{l-} = \beta_l s_{l+} + \gamma_l A$$

The temporal coupled-mode equations

- We use the energy conservation to deduce the coefficients γι.
- From the time reversal symmetry we compute the coefficients α_I and β_I

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = -i\omega_0 A - \sum_{l=1}^{2} \frac{A}{\tau_l} + \sum_{l=1}^{2} \sqrt{\frac{2}{\tau_l}} s_{l+1}$$

$$s_{l-} = -s_{l+} + \sqrt{\frac{2}{\tau_l}} A$$

Temporal Coupled-Mode Theory

(one of several things called of "coupled-mode theory")

[H. Haus, Waves and Fields in Optoelectronics]

input
$$s_{1-}$$
 output s_{2-} output s_{2-} resonant cavity frequency ω_0 , lifetime τ $|s|^2 = \text{power}$ $|a|^2 = \text{energy}$

$$\frac{da}{dt} = -i\omega_0 a - \frac{2}{\tau} a + \sqrt{\frac{2}{\tau}} s_{1+}$$

$$s_{1-} = -s_{1+} + \sqrt{\frac{2}{\tau}} a, \quad s_{2-} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\tau}} a$$

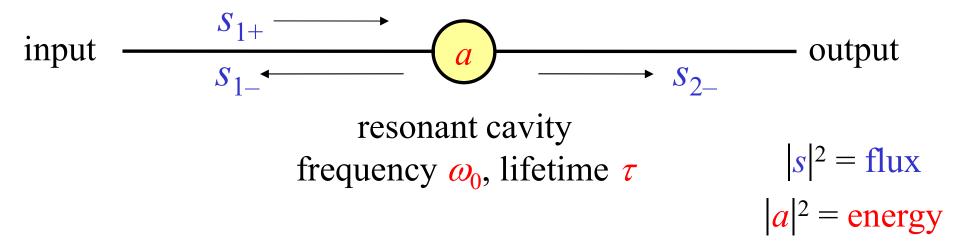
assumes only:

- exponential decay (strong confinement)
- conservation of energy
- time-reversal symmetry

Temporal Coupled-Mode Theory

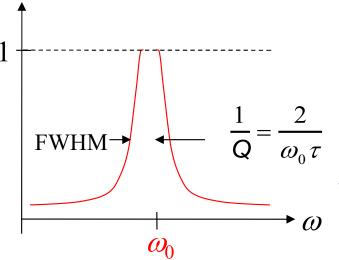
(one of several things called of "coupled-mode theory")

[H. Haus, Waves and Fields in Optoelectronics]



transmission T

$$= |s_{2-}|^2 / |s_{1+}|^2$$

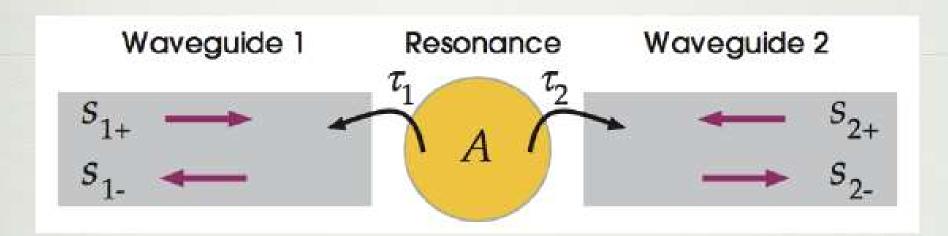


T =Lorentzian filter

$$=\frac{\frac{4}{\tau^2}}{\left(\omega-\omega_0\right)^2+\frac{4}{\tau^2}}$$

...quality factor Q

The filter trasmission



Trasmission spectrum (Lorentzain Peak):

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = -i\omega A$$

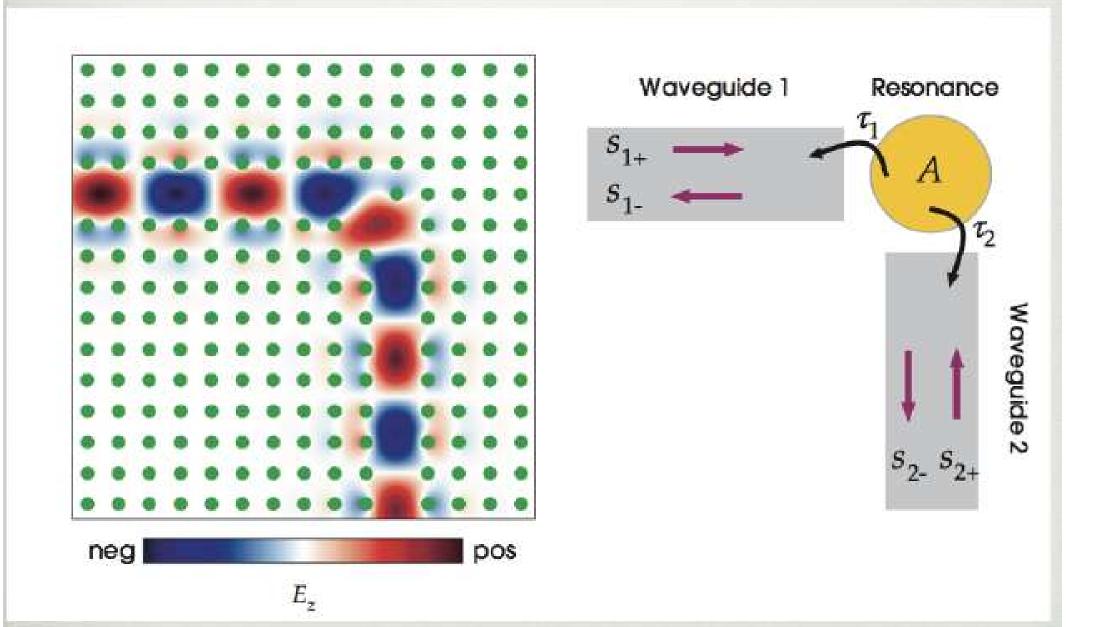
 $s_{2+} = 0$

$$T(\omega) = \frac{|s_{2-}|^2}{|s_{1+}|^2} = \frac{\frac{4}{\tau_1 \tau_2}}{(\omega - \omega_0)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{\tau_1} + \frac{1}{\tau_2}\right)^2}$$

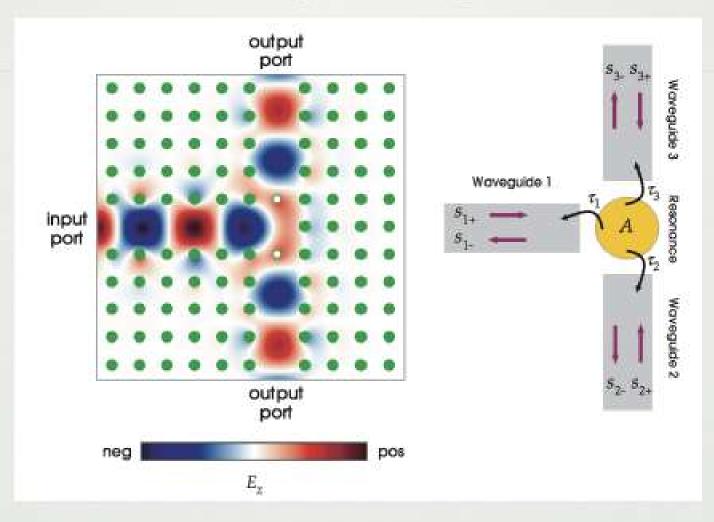
Reflection spectrum:

$$R(\omega) = \frac{|s_{1-}|^2}{|s_{1+}|^2} = \frac{(\omega - \omega_0)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{\tau_1} - \frac{1}{\tau_2}\right)^2}{(\omega - \omega_0)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{\tau_1} + \frac{1}{\tau_2}\right)^2}$$

A wave guide bend



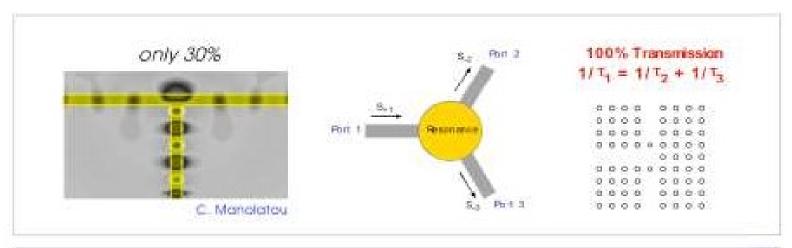
A waveguide splitter

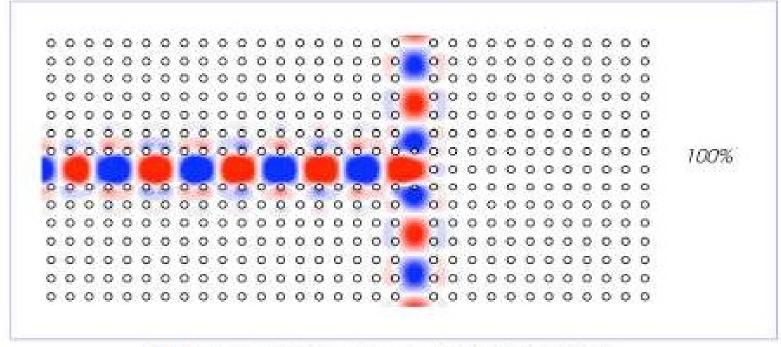


$$\frac{dA}{dt} = -i\omega_0 A - \sum_{l=1}^{3} \frac{A}{\tau_l} + \sum_{l=1}^{3} \sqrt{\frac{2}{\tau_l}} s_{l+1}$$

T-shaped splitter

Wide-angle Splitters





[S. Fan et al., J. Opt. Soc. Am. B 18, 162 (2001)]

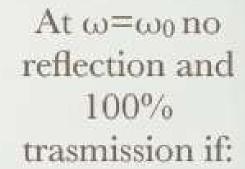
A waveguide splitter

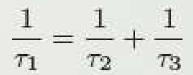
• Setting $s_{2+}=0$ e $s_{3+}=0$ we get:

$$R(\omega) = \frac{|s_{1-}|^2}{|s_{1+}|^2} = \frac{(\omega - \omega_0)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{\tau_1} - \frac{1}{\tau_2} - \frac{1}{\tau_3}\right)^2}{(\omega - \omega_0)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{\tau_1} + \frac{1}{\tau_2} + \frac{1}{\tau_3}\right)^2}$$

$$T_{1\to 2}(\omega) = \frac{|s_{2-}|^2}{|s_{1+}|^2} = \frac{\frac{4}{\tau_1 \tau_2}}{(\omega - \omega_0)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{\tau_1} + \frac{1}{\tau_2} + \frac{1}{\tau_3}\right)^2}$$

$$T_{1\to3}(\omega) = \frac{|s_{3-}|^2}{|s_{1+}|^2} = \frac{\frac{4}{\tau_1\tau_3}}{(\omega - \omega_0)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{\tau_1} + \frac{1}{\tau_2} + \frac{1}{\tau_3}\right)^2}$$



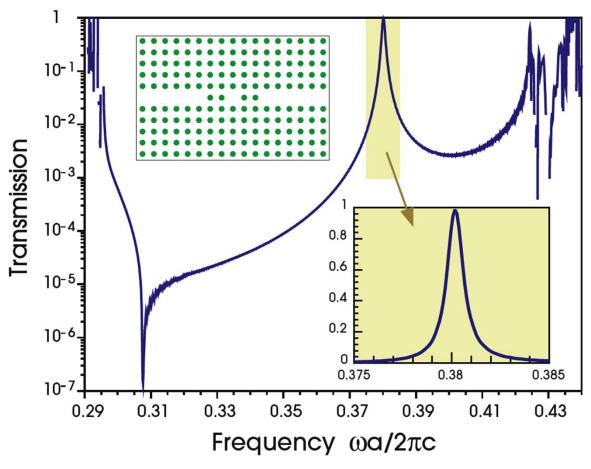


TE

$$\tau_2 = \tau_3 = \tau \Rightarrow \tau = 2\tau_1$$

we should add obstructions between the junction and the output ports to weaken their coupling!

Resonant Filter Example



Lorentzian peak, as predicted.

An apparent miracle:

~ 100% transmission at the resonant frequency

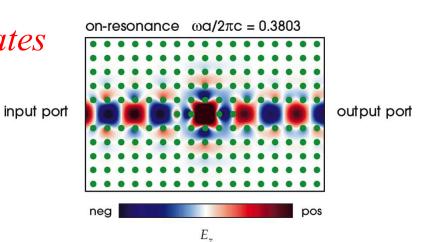
cavity decays to input/output with equal rates

⇒ At resonance, reflected wave

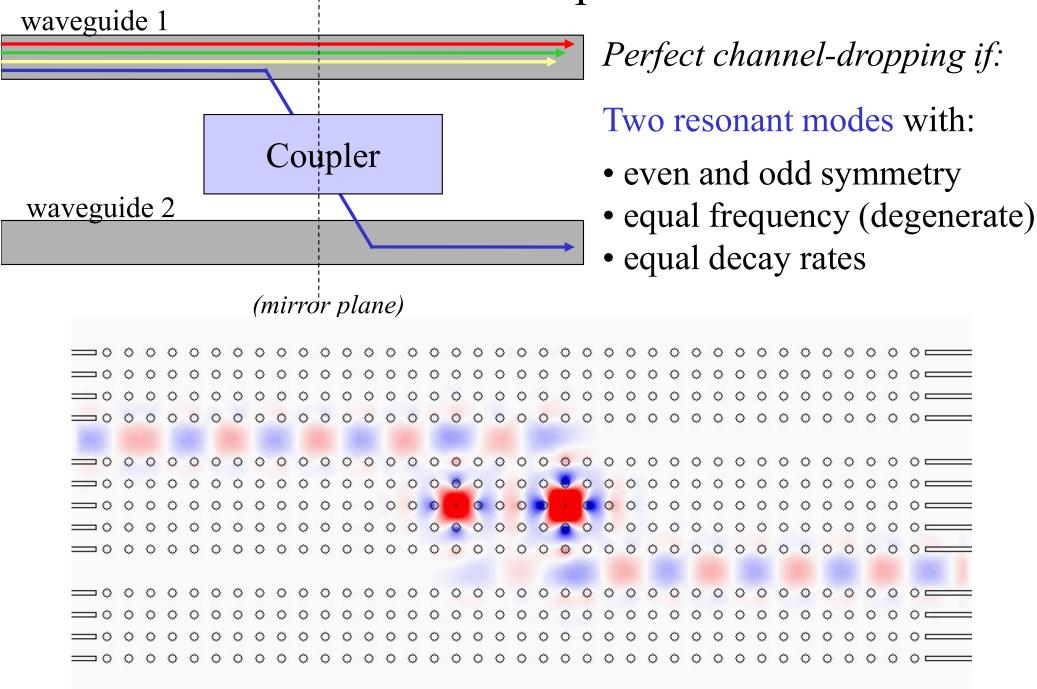
destructively interferes

with backwards-decay from cavity

& the two exactly cancel.

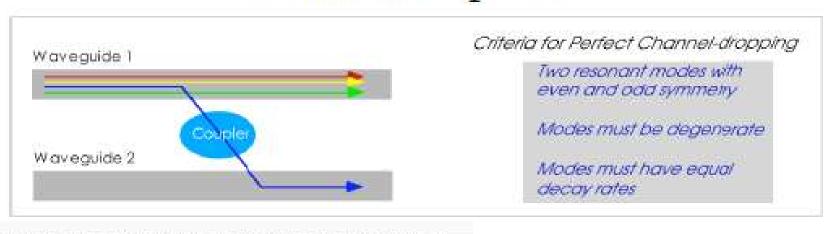


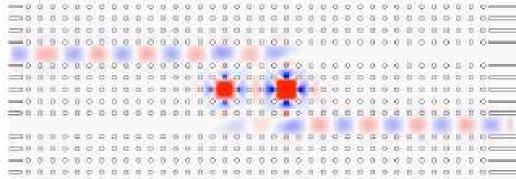


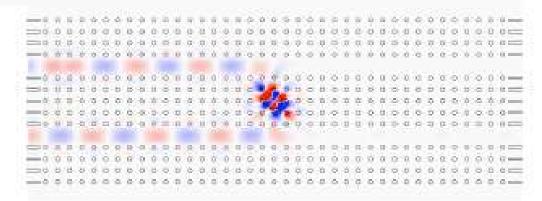


[S. Fan et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **80**, 960 (1998)]

Channel-Drop Filters

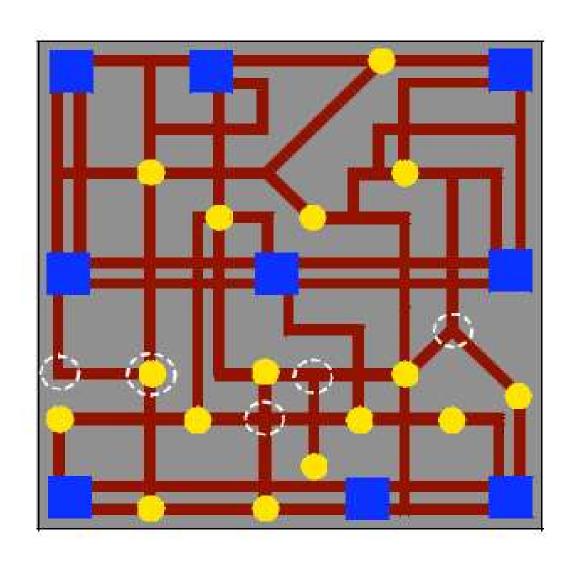






A Menagerie of Devices

λ 1.55 microns



Enough passive, linear devices...

Photonic crystal cavities:

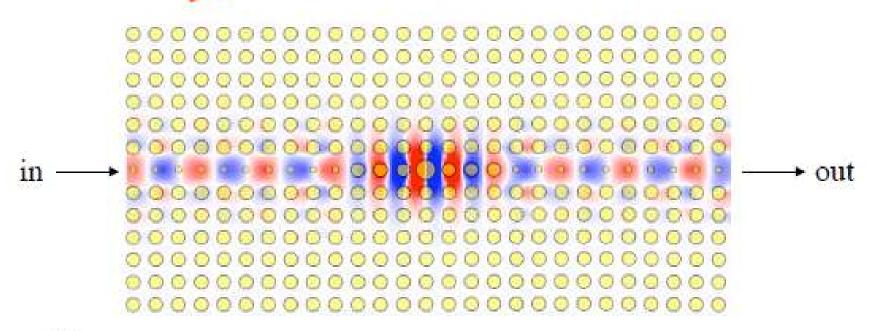
tight confinement ($\sim \lambda/2$ diameter)

+ long lifetime (high Q independent of size)

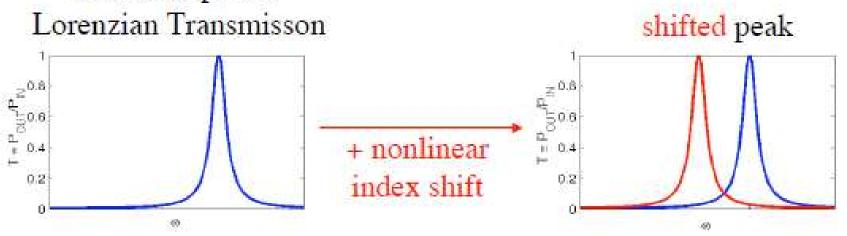
= enhanced nonlinear effects

e.g. Kerr nonlinearity, ∆n ~ intensity

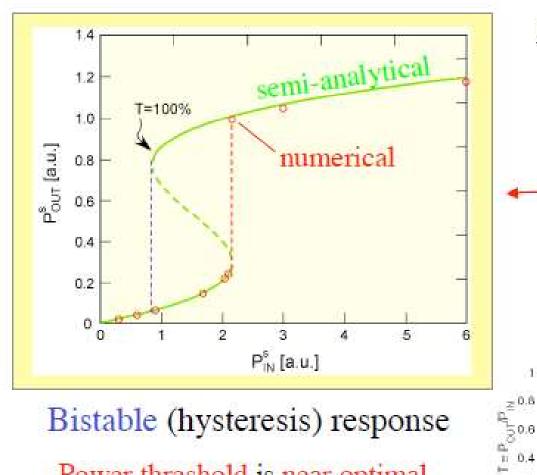
A Linear Nonlinear Filter



Linear response:



A Linear Nonlinear "Transistor"



Logic gates, switching, rectifiers, amplifiers, isolators, ...

+ feedback

shifted peak

0.2

Bistable (hysteresis) response

Power threshold is near optimal (~mW for Si and telecom bandwidth)

All-optical transistor action with bistable switching in a photonic crystal cross-waveguide geometry

Mehmet Fatih Yanik and Shanhui Fan

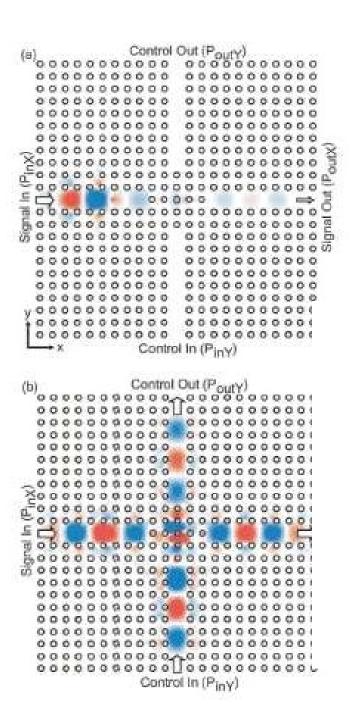
Ginzton Laboratory, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94304

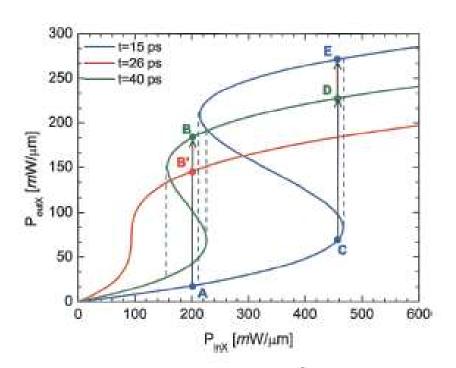
Marin Soljačić and J. D. Joannopoulos

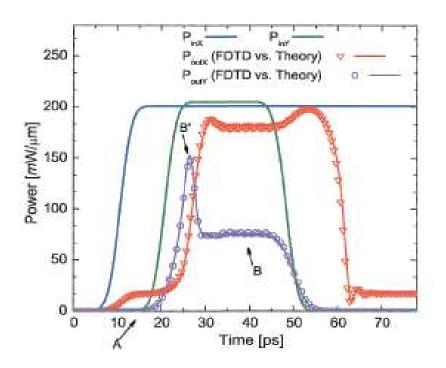
Department of Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Received July 1, 2003

We demonstrate all-optical switching action in a nonlinear photonic crystal cross-waveguide geometry with instantaneous Kerr nonlinearity, in which the transmission of a signal can be reversibly switched on and off by a control input. Our geometry accomplishes both spatial and spectral separation between the signal and the control in the nonlinear regime. The device occupies a small footprint of a few micrometers squared and requires only a few milliwatts of power at a 10-Gbit/s switching rate by use of Kerr nonlinearity in AlGaAs below half the electronic bandgap. We also show that the switching dynamics, as revealed by both coupled-mode theory and finite-difference time domain simulations, exhibits collective behavior that can be exploited to generate high-contrast logic levels and all-optical memory. © 2003 Optical Society of America OCIS codes: 130.4310, 190.1450, 230.4110, 230.5750, 130.3750.







Outline

- Preliminaries: waves in periodic media
- Photonic crystals in theory and practice
- Intentional defects and devices
- Index-guiding and incomplete gaps
- Photonic-crystal fibers
- Perturbations, tuning, and disorder

The advantages of light over electrons in information communicating

- The speed (travel much faster in dielectric material than electron in metallic wire)
- The frequency each can carry (bandgap) information density (optical fiber terahertz 10^12, wire 10^5Hz
- save energy (electrons strongly interact, lose energy) Miniaturization of electron circuits results increased resistance and power dissipation

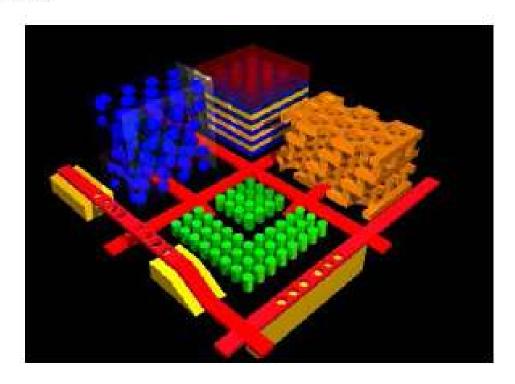




A bundle of optical fibers

 In order to achieve a better system performance and integration, instead of electrons, researchers are turning to light, or photon as the information carrier, and working on constructing photon circuits.



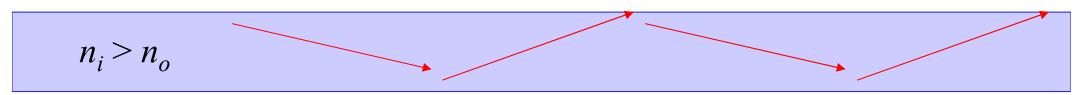


Guide light along narrow channel and around tight comers

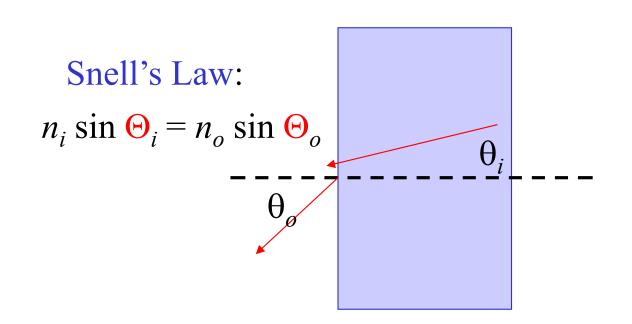
How else can we confine light?

Total Internal Reflection

 n_o



rays at shallow angles $> \Theta_c$ are totally reflected



$$\sin \Theta_c = n_o / n_i$$

< 1, so Θ_c is real

i.e. TIR can only guide within higher index unlike a band gap

Total Internal Reflection?

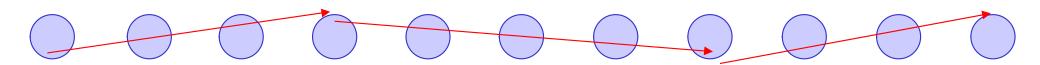
 n_o



rays at shallow angles $> \Theta_c$ are totally reflected

So, for example,

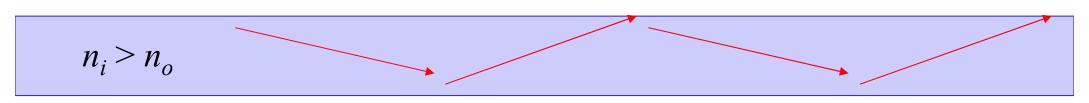
a discontiguous structure can't possibly guide by TIR...



the rays can't stay inside!

Total Internal Reflection?

 n_o



rays at shallow angles > \ c are totally reflected

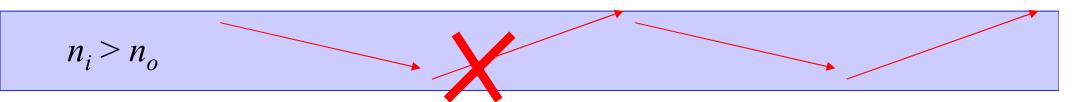
So, for example, a discontiguous structure can't possibly guide by TIR...



or can it?

Total Internal Reflection Redux

 n_o



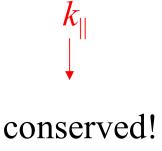
ray-optics picture is invalid on λ scale (neglects coherence, near field...)

Snell's Law is really conservation of k_{\parallel} and ω :

$$|k_i| \sin \Theta_i = |k_o| \sin \Theta_o$$

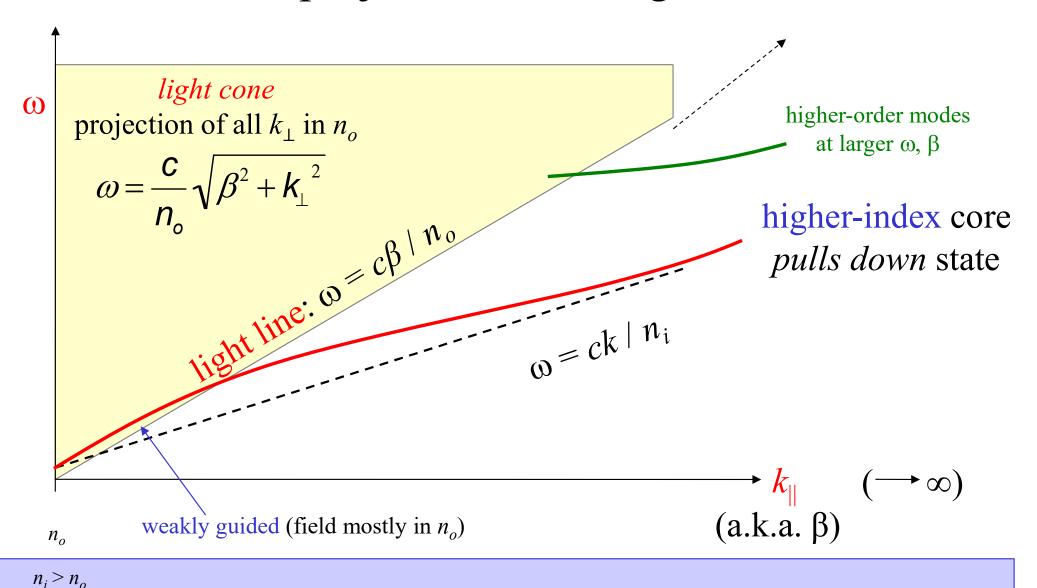
$$|k| = n\omega/c$$
(wavevector) (frequency)

 Θ_i translational symmetry k_{\parallel}



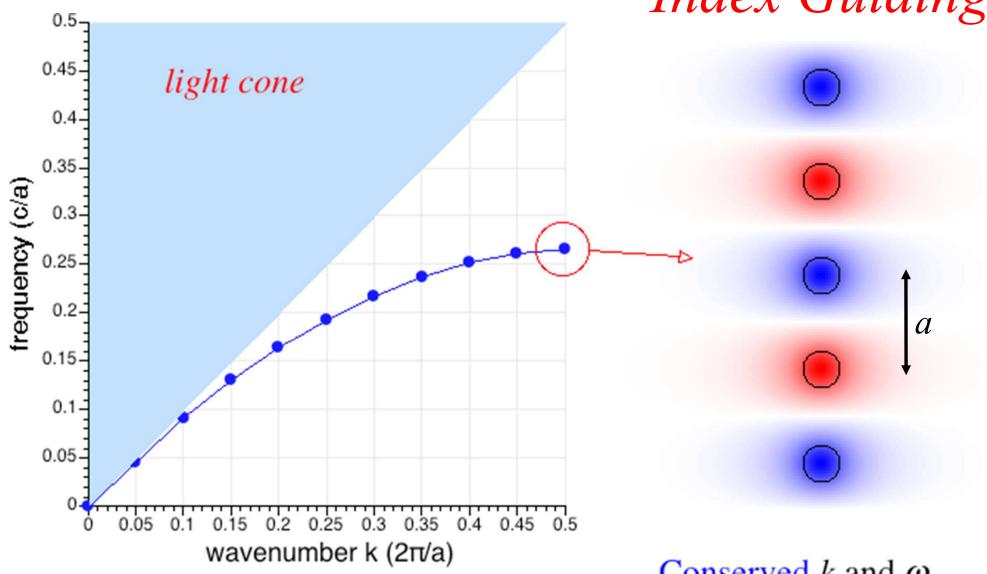
Waveguide Dispersion Relations

i.e. projected band diagrams



Strange Total Internal Reflection

*Index Guiding



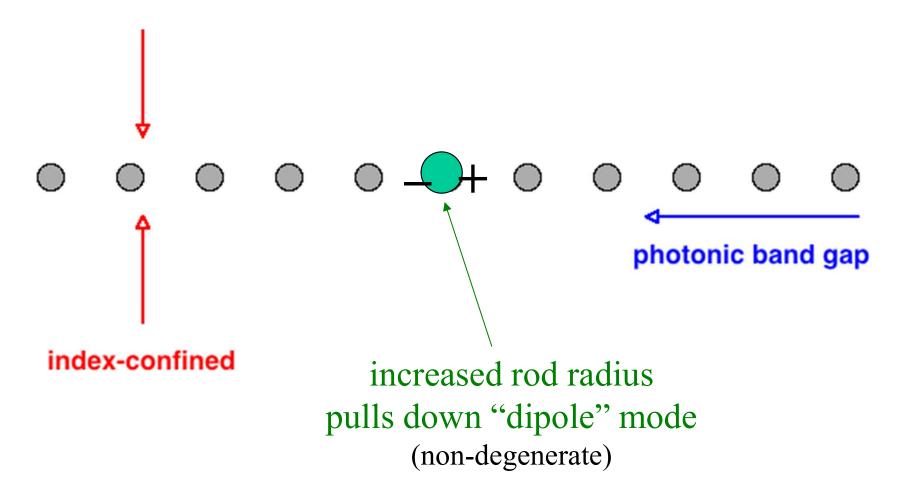
Conserved k and ω + higher index to pull down state = localized/guided mode.

A Hybrid Photonic Crystal:

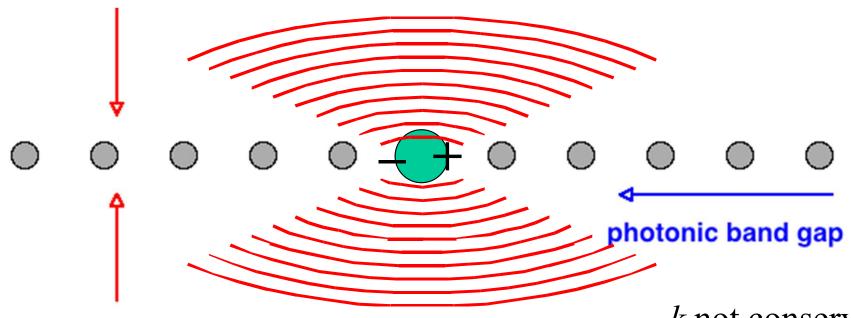
1d band gap + index guiding



A Resonant Cavity

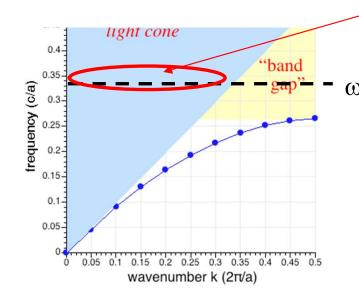


A Resonant Cavity



index-confined

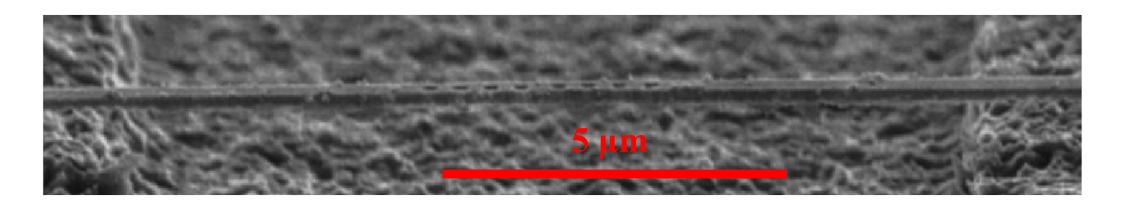
The trick is to keep the radiation small... (more on this later)



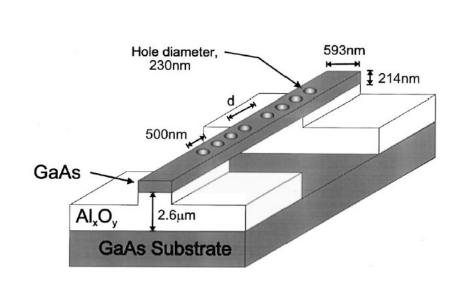
k not conserved so coupling to light cone:

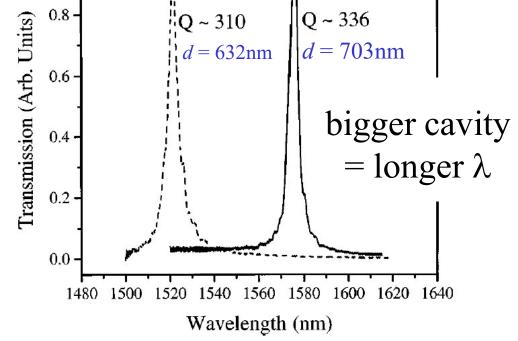
radiation

Meanwhile, back in reality... Air-bridge Resonator: 1d gap + 2d index guiding



1.0 -



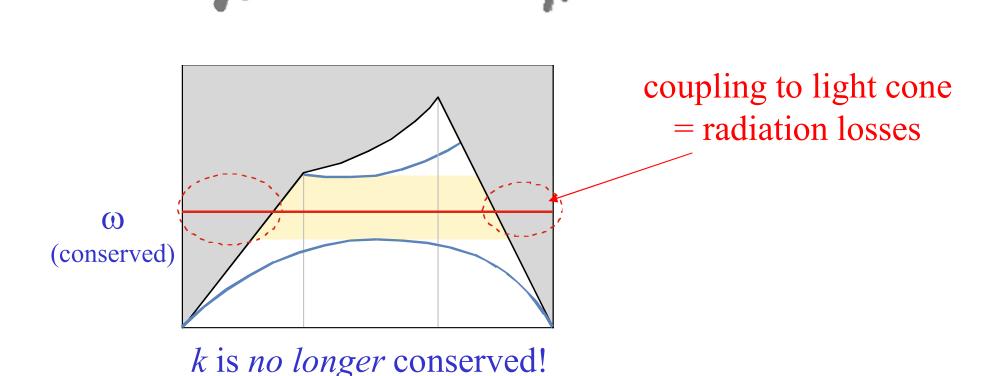


[D. J. Ripin et al., J. Appl. Phys. 87, 1578 (2000)]

Inevitable Radiation Losses

whenever translational symmetry is broken

e.g. at cavities, waveguide bends, disorder...



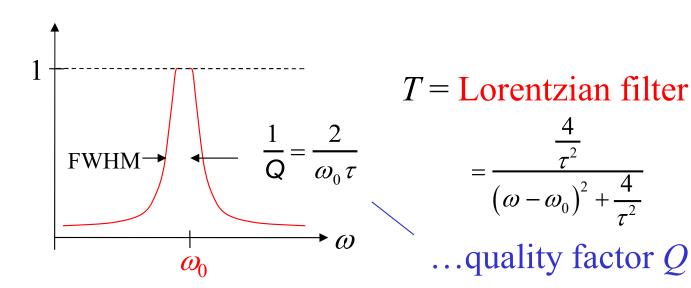
Dimensionless Losses: Q

quality factor Q = # optical periods for energy to decay by $\exp(-2\pi)$

energy $\sim \exp(-\omega t/Q)$

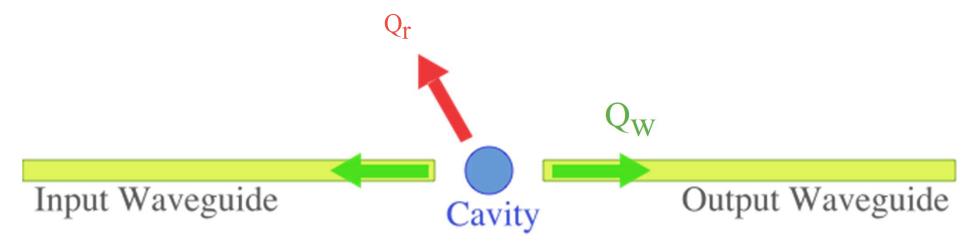
in frequency domain: 1/Q = bandwidth

from last time: (coupling-ofmodes-in-time)



All Is Not Lost

A simple model device (filters, bends, ...):



$$\frac{1}{Q} = \frac{1}{Q_r} + \frac{1}{Q_w}$$

Q = lifetime/period

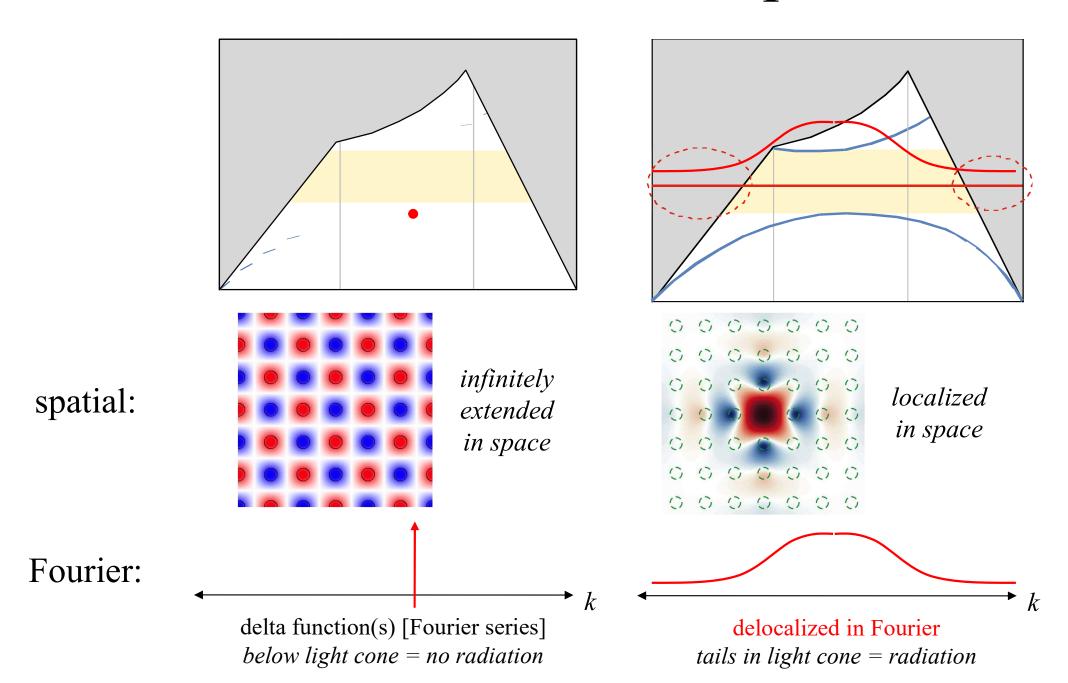
= frequency/bandwidth

We want: $Q_r >> Q_w$

 $1 - transmission \sim 2Q / Q_r$

worst case: high-Q (narrow-band) cavities

Radiation loss: A Fourier picture

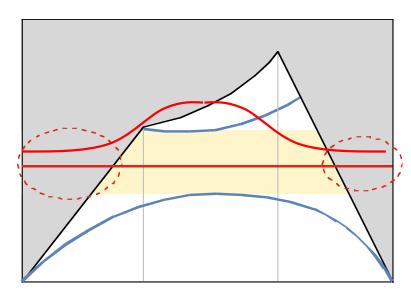


A tradeoff: Localization vs. Loss

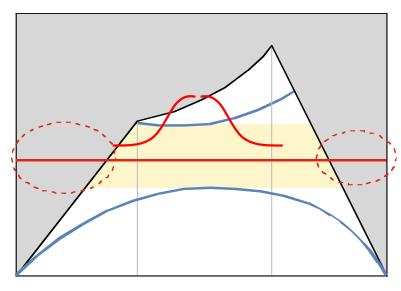
"Uncertainty principle:"

less spatial localization = *more Fourier* localization

= less radiation loss

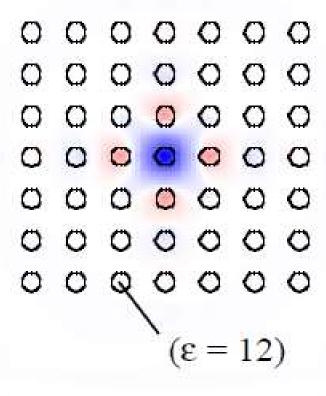


stronger spatial localization

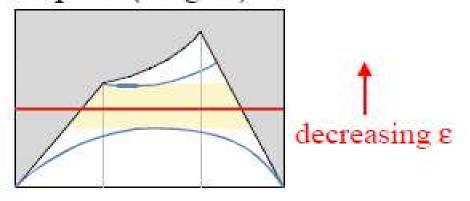


weaker spatial localization

Monopole Cavity in a Slab

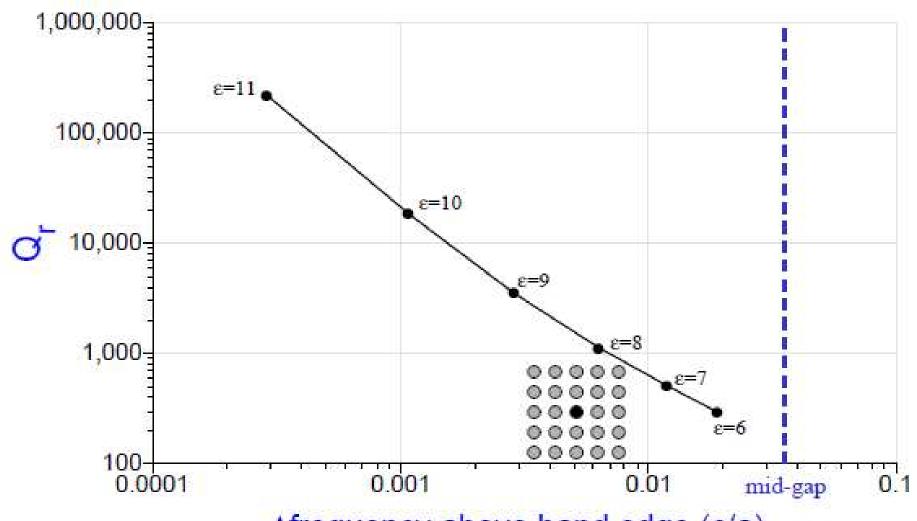


Lower the ε of a single rod: push up a monopole (singlet) state.



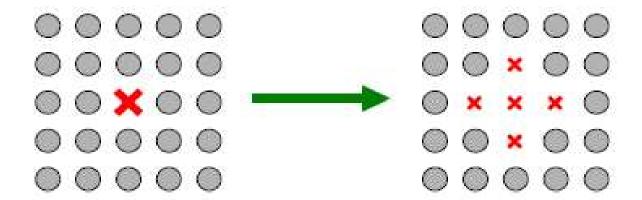
Use small Δε: delocalized in-plane, & high-Q (we hope)

Delocalized Monopole Q



∆frequency above band edge (c/a)

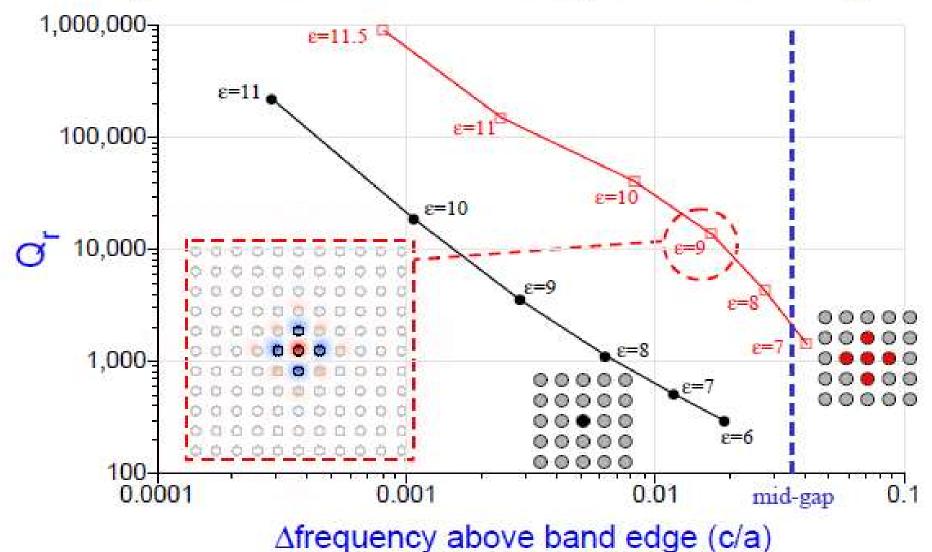
Super-defects



Weaker defect with more unit cells.

More delocalized at the same point in the gap (i.e. at same bulk decay rate)

Super-Defect vs. Single-Defect Q

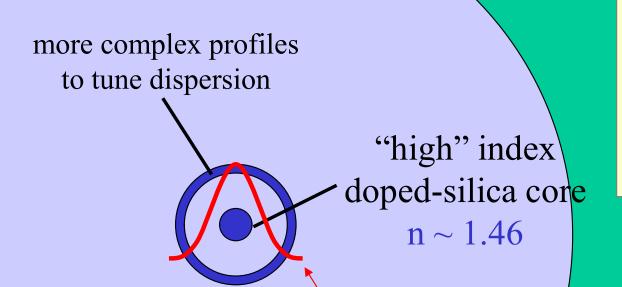


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Optical Fibers Today

(not to scale)



losses ~ 0.2 dB/km at $\lambda=1.55\mu m$ (amplifiers every 50–100km)

silica cladding $n \sim 1.45$

confined mode field diameter $\sim 8 \mu m$

protective polymer sheath

but this is ~ as good as it gets...

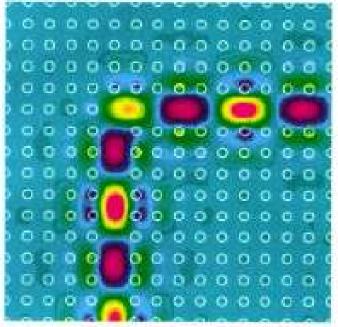
Advantages over optical fiber

To control light, optical fiber uses total internal reflection

The disadvantage of normal optical fiber is the interface must be

smooth respect to the wavelength of light





photonic crystal is totally a different mechanism, based on bandgap

The Glass Ceiling: Limits of Silica

```
Loss: amplifiers every 50–100km
```

...limited by Rayleigh scattering (molecular entropy)

...cannot use "exotic" wavelengths like 10.6µm

Nonlinearities: after ~100km, cause dispersion, crosstalk, power limits

(limited by mode area ~ single-mode, bending loss)

also cannot be made (very) large for compact nonlinear devices

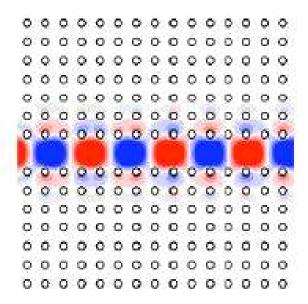
Radical modifications to dispersion, polarization effects?

...tunability is limited by low index contrast



Advantages over optical fiber

Guiding is NOT possible through air for optical fiber



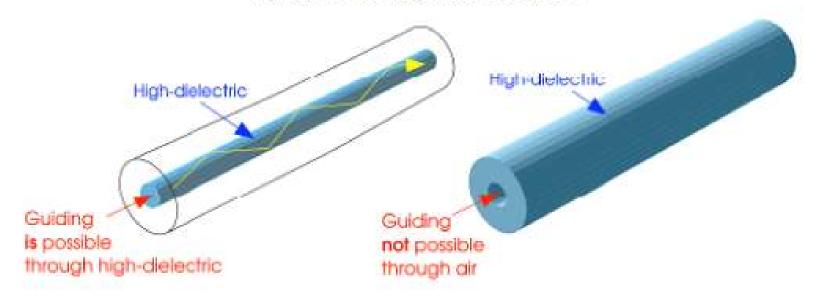
Guiding Optical Light through Air

Reduction of Absorption Losses

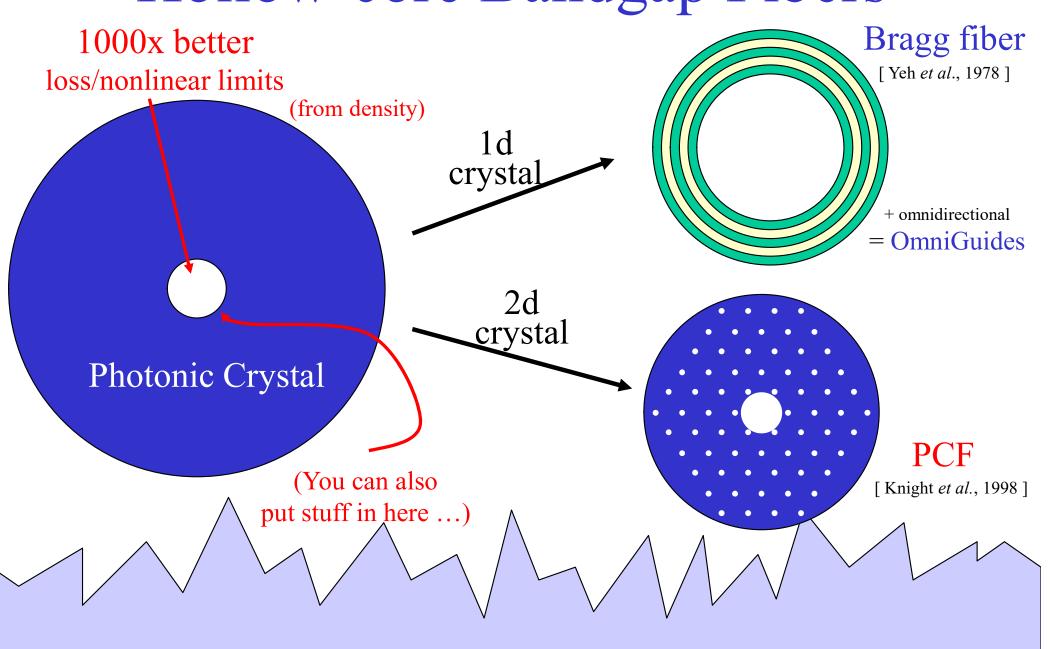
Reduction of Non-Linearity Effects

High Power Transmission

Total Internal Reflection



Breaking the Glass Ceiling: Hollow-core Bandgap Fibers



Hollow fiber core

P. Russel Science 299, 358 (2003) for a review

Fabrication techniques:

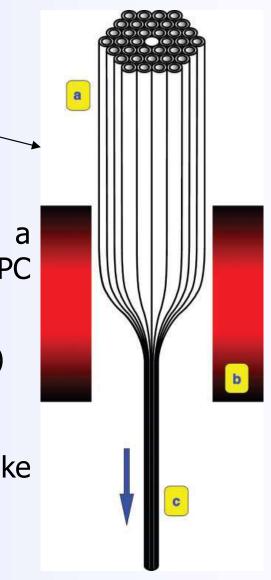
a stack of glass tube, is constructed as a macroscopic "preform" with the desired PC structure (a)

the silica glass is soften in a fornace 1800-2000° C (b)

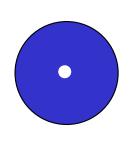
drawn down in fiber (c)

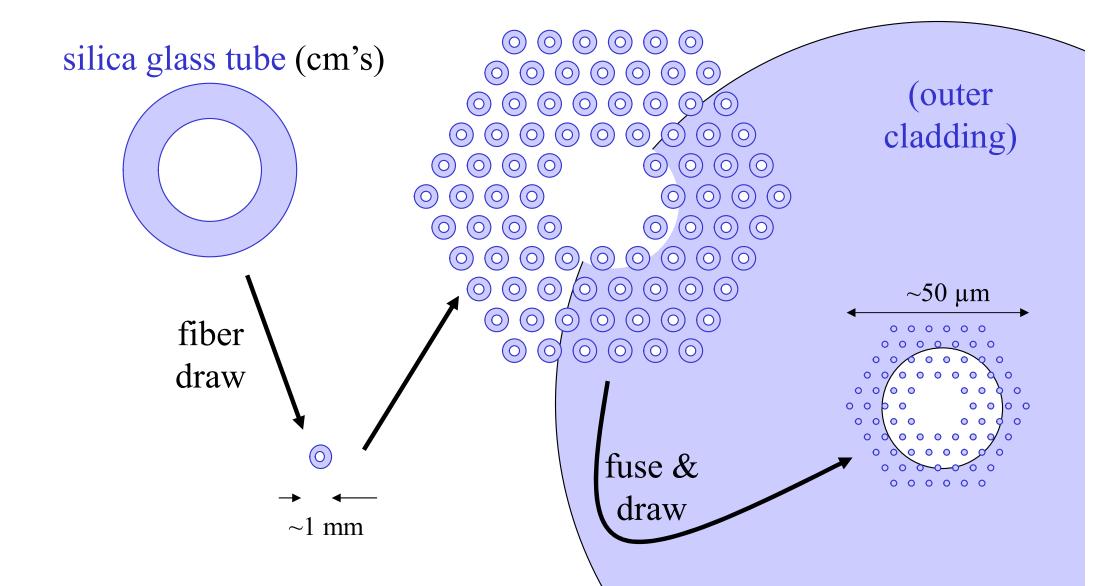
(first used in III century BC by Egyptians to make mosaic glass)

R. J. Tonucci, B. L. Justus, A. J. Campillo, C. E. Ford, Science 258, 783 (1992).

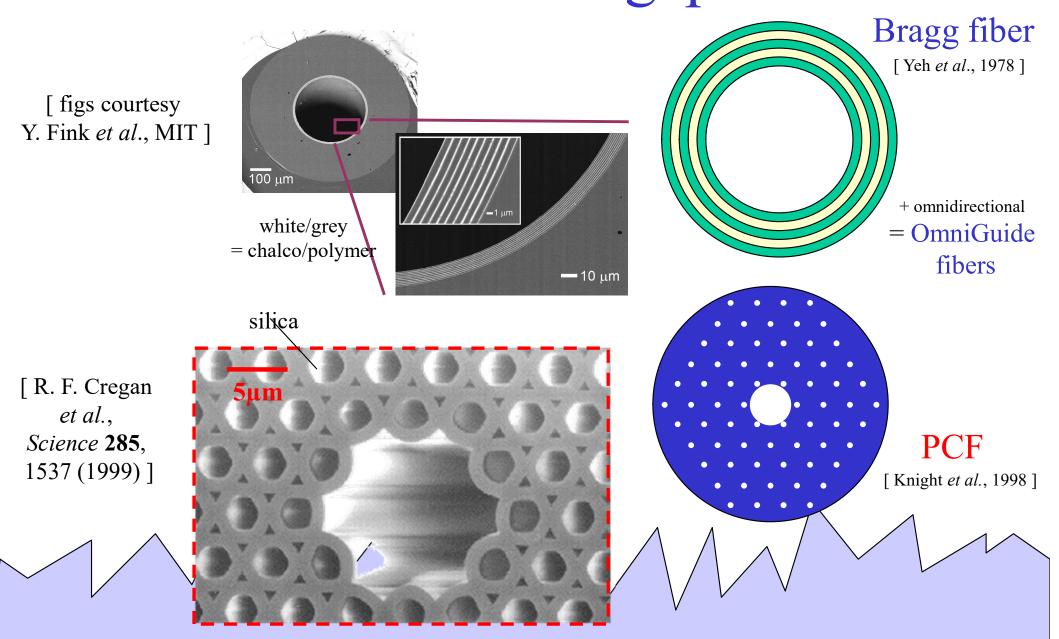


Experimental Air-guiding PCF Fabrication (e.g.)



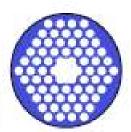


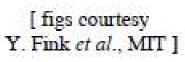
Breaking the Glass Ceiling: Hollow-core Bandgap Fibers

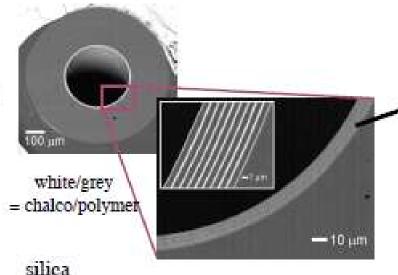




Breaking the Glass Ceiling: Hollow-core Bandgap Fibers







Guiding @ 10.6µm

(high-power CO₂ lasers)

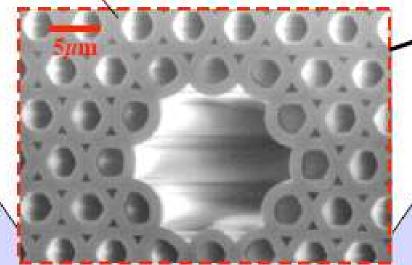
loss < 1 dB/m

(material loss ~ 104 dB/m)

[Temelkuran et al., Nature 420, 650 (2002)]

SHIR

[R. F. Cregan et al., Science 285, 1537 (1999)]

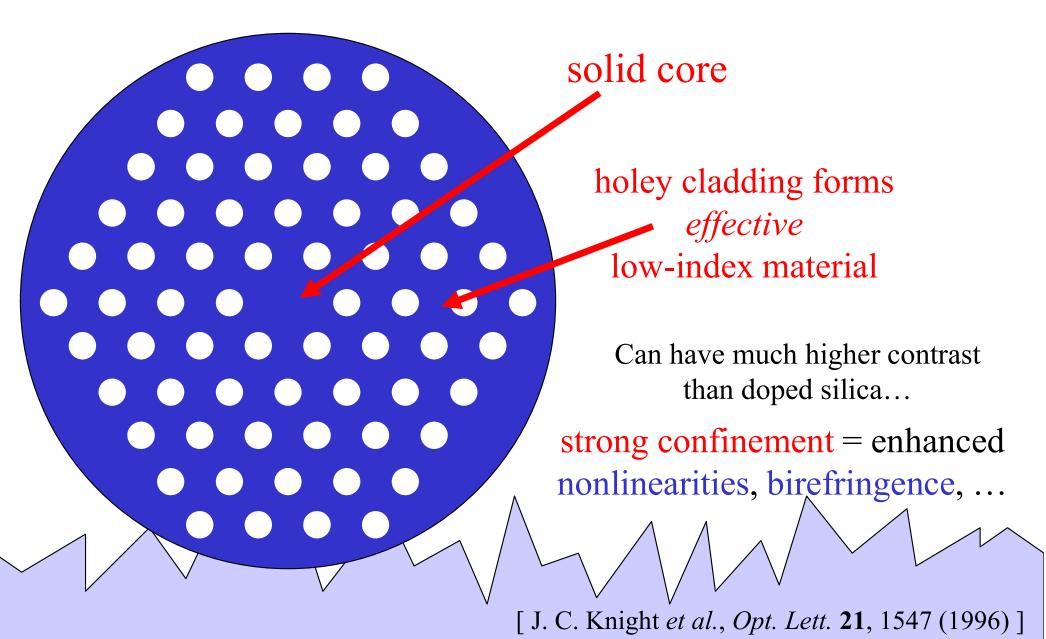


Guiding @ 1.55 µm loss ~ 13dB/km

[Smith, et al., Nature 424, 657 (2003)]

OFC 2004: 1.7dB/km BlazePhotonics

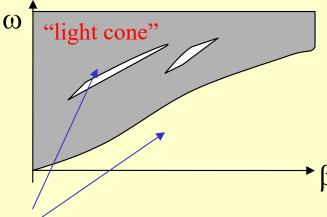
Breaking the Glass Ceiling II: Solid-core Holey Fibers





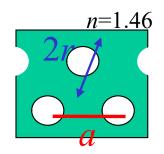
Sequence of Analysis

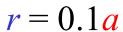
1 Plot all solutions of infinite cladding as ω vs. β

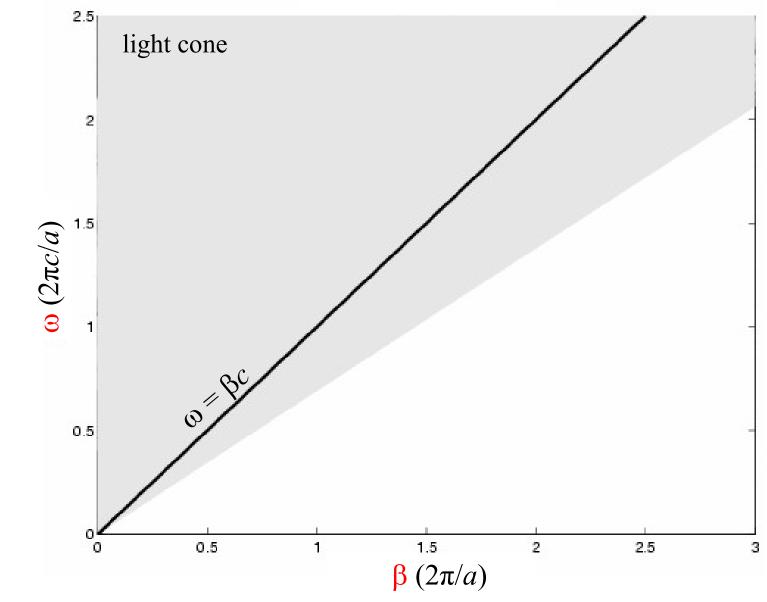


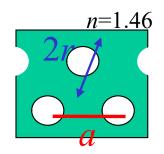
empty spaces (gaps): guiding possibilities

- Core introduces new states in empty spaces plot $\omega(\beta)$ dispersion relation
 - 3 Compute other stuff...

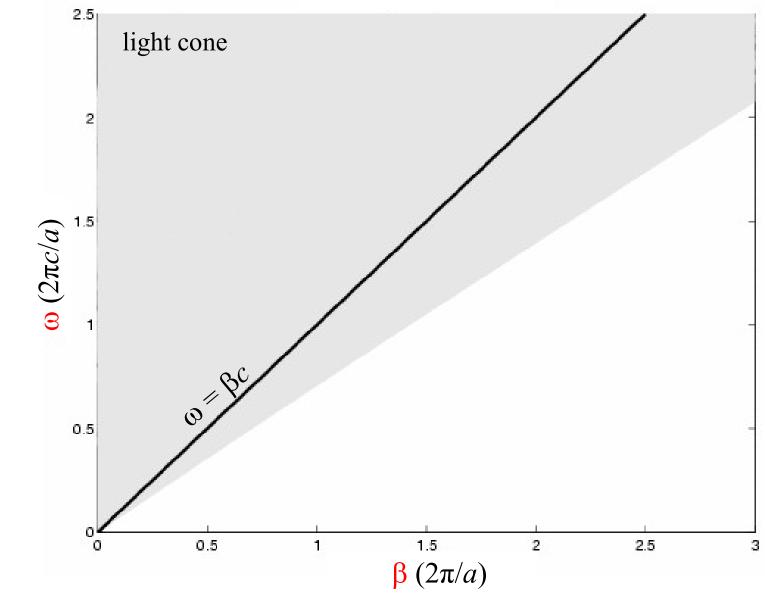


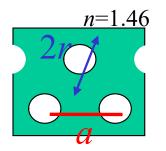




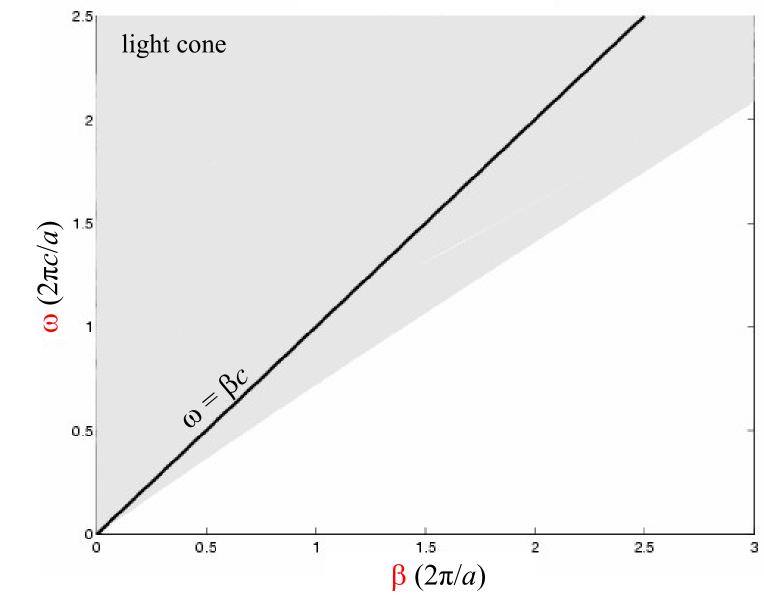


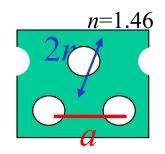
r = 0.17717a



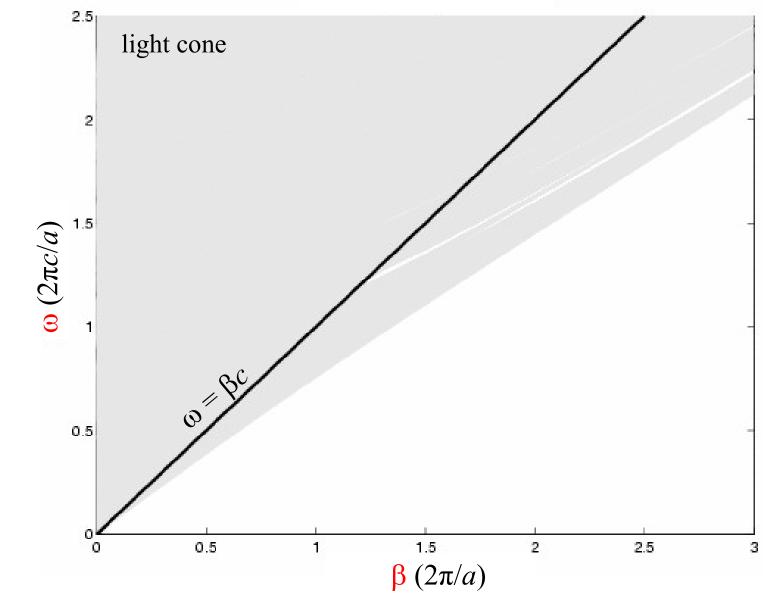


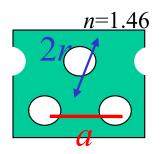
r = 0.22973a



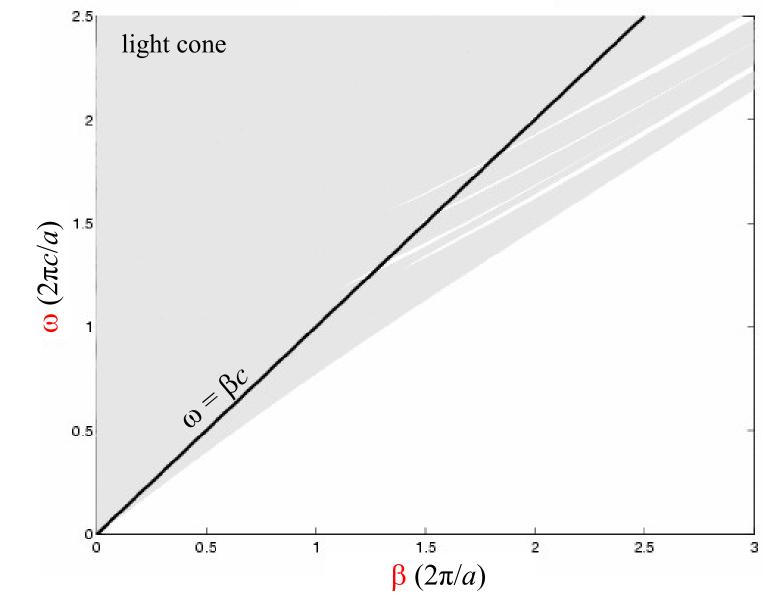


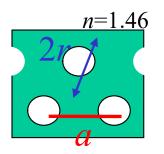
r = 0.30912a



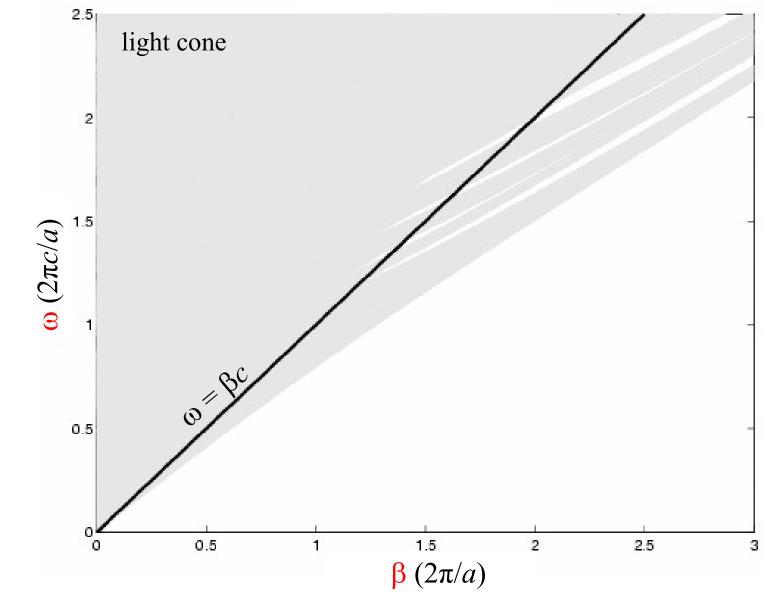


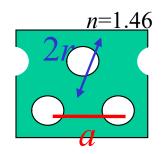
r = 0.34197a



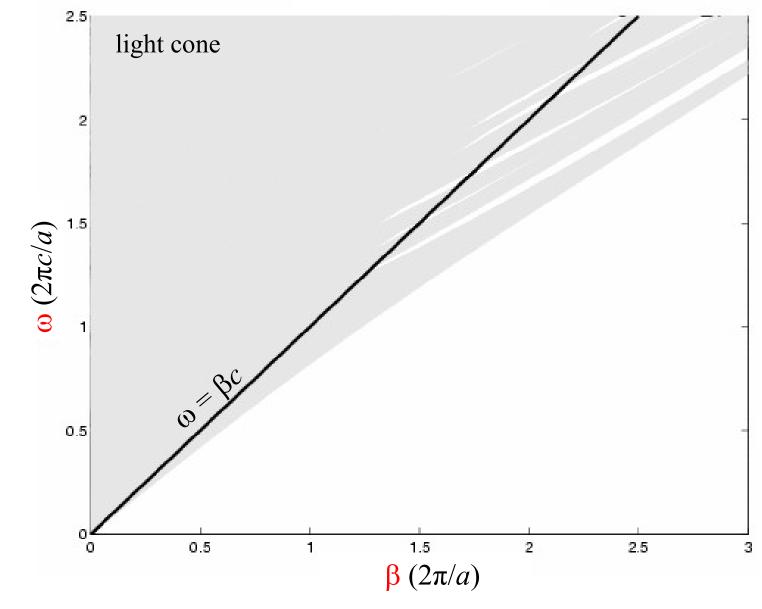


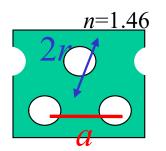
r = 0.37193a



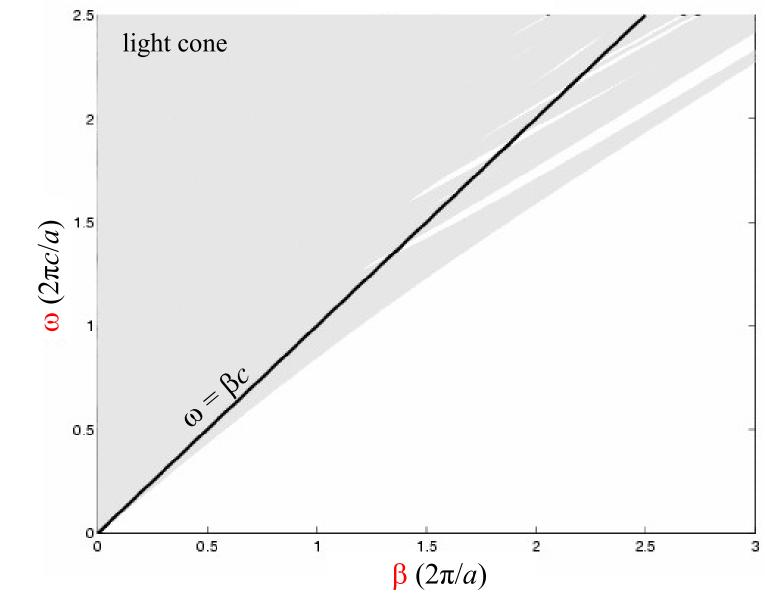


$$r = 0.4a$$

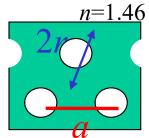


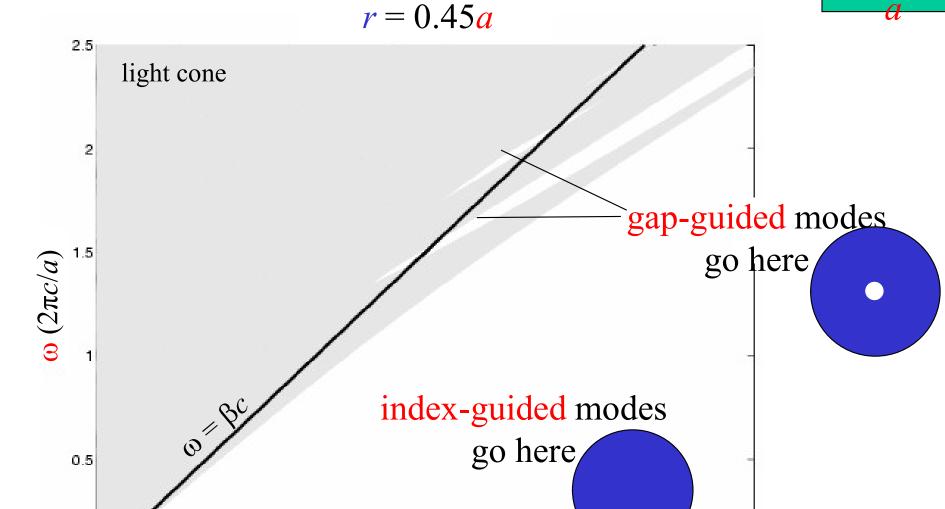


r = 0.42557a



0.5





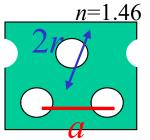
2

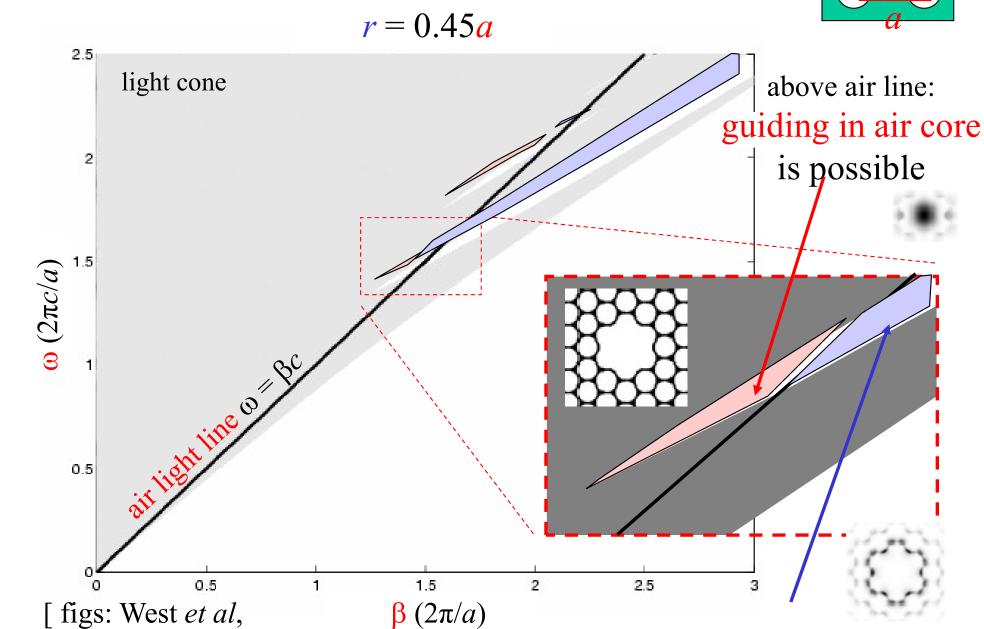
2.5

3

1.5

 $\beta (2\pi/a)$





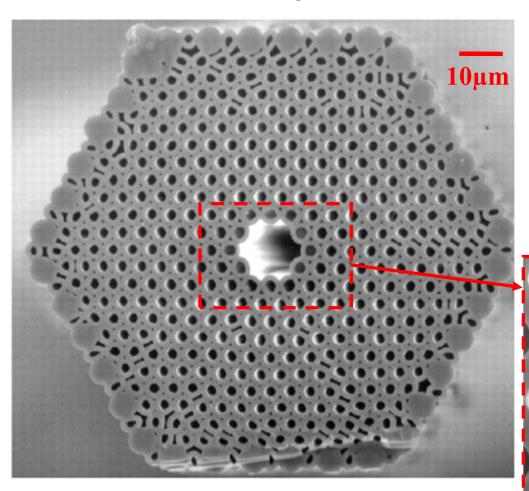
Opt. Express **12** (8), 1485 (2004)]

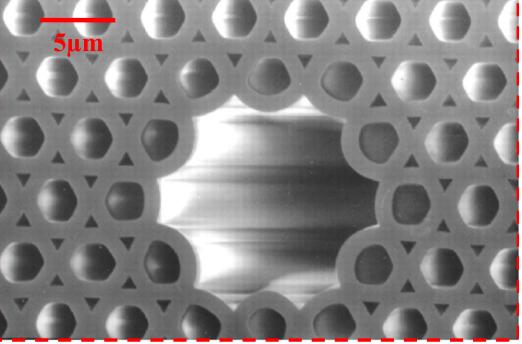
below air line: surface states of air core

Experimental Air-guiding PCF

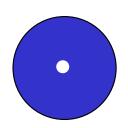


[R. F. Cregan et al., Science 285, 1537 (1999)]



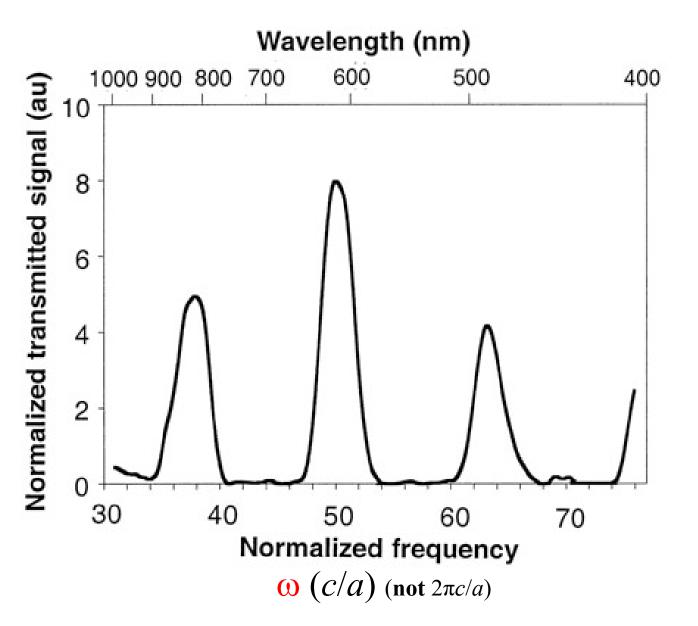


Experimental Air-guiding PCF



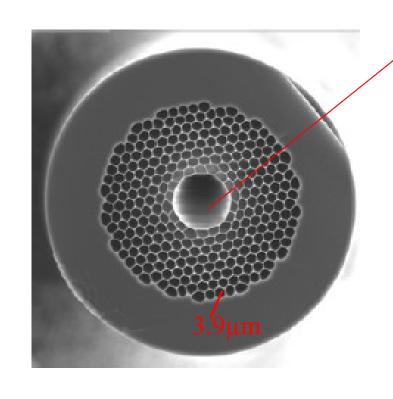
[R. F. Cregan et al., Science 285, 1537 (1999)]

transmitted intensity after ~ 3cm



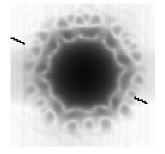
A more recent (lower-loss) example

[Mangan, et al., OFC 2004 PDP24]



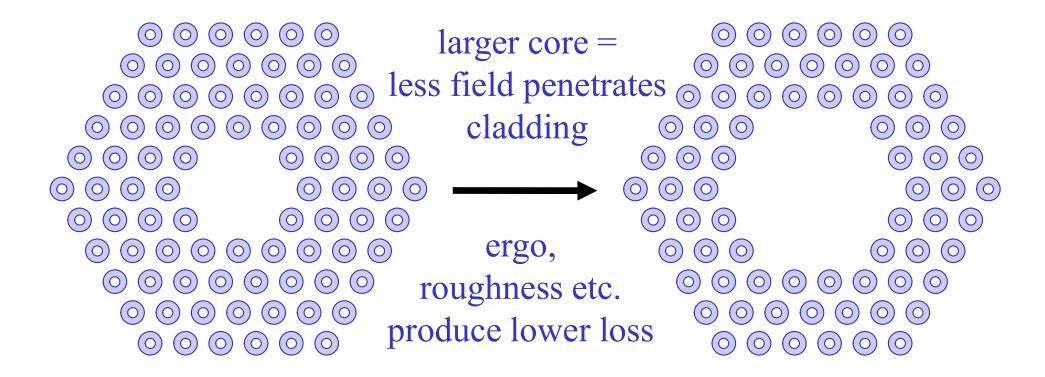
hollow (air) core (covers 19 holes)

guided field profile: (flux density)



 $\frac{1.7 dB/km}{\text{BlazePhotonics}}$ over ~ 800m @1.57 μm

Improving air-guiding losses



13dB/km

Corning

over $\sim 100 \text{m} \ \text{@} 1.5 \text{µm}$

[Smith, et al., Nature 424, 657 (2003)]

1.7dB/km

BlazePhotonics

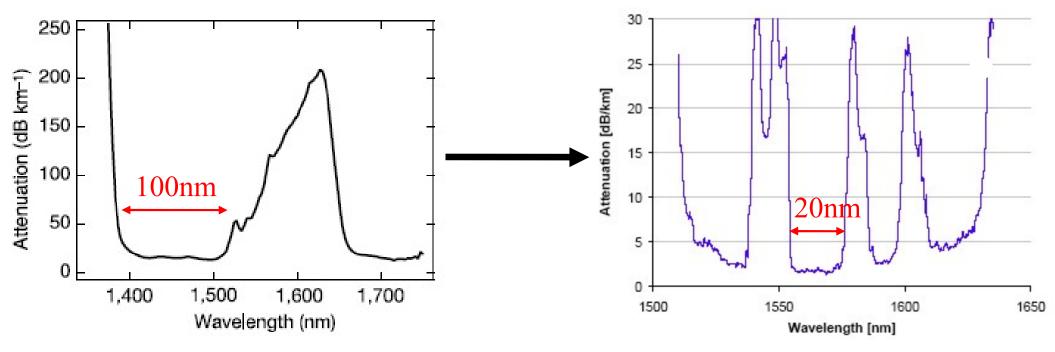
over $\sim 800 \text{m} \ \text{@} 1.57 \text{µm}$

[Mangan, et al., OFC 2004 PDP24]

State-of-the-art air-guiding losses

larger core = more surface states crossing guided mode

... but surface states can be removed by proper crystal termination [West, Opt. Express 12 (8), 1485 (2004)]



13dB/km

Corning

over $\sim 100 \text{m} \ \text{@} 1.5 \text{µm}$

[Smith, et al., Nature 424, 657 (2003)]

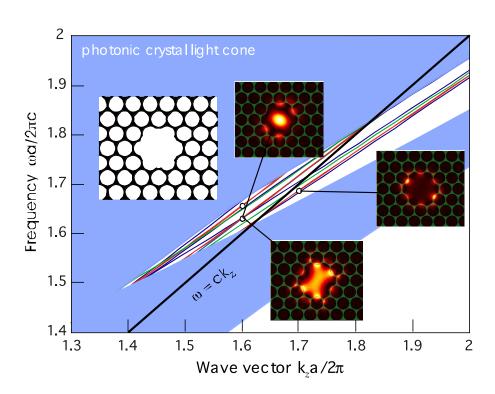
1.7dB/km

BlazePhotonics

over $\sim 800 \text{m} \ @1.57 \mu \text{m}$

[Mangan, et al., OFC 2004 PDP24]

Surface States vs. Termination

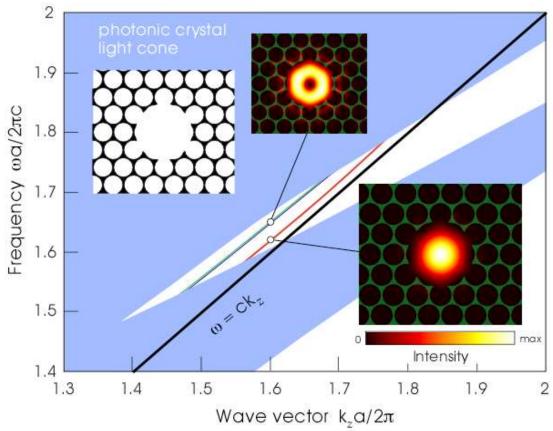


[West, Opt. Express 12 (8), 1485 (2004)]

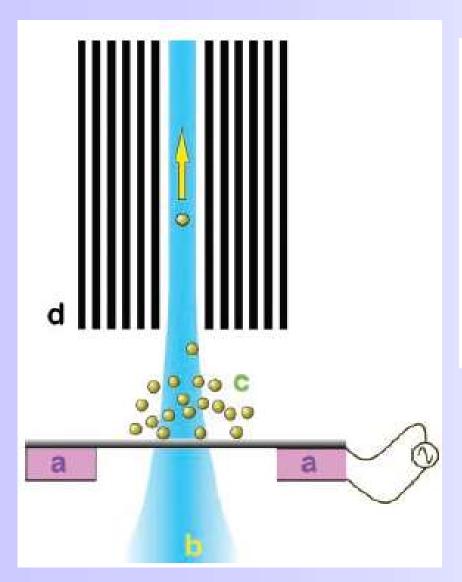
[Saitoh, Opt. Express 12 (3), 394 (2004)]

[Kim, Opt. Express 12 (15), 3436 (2004)]

changing the crystal termination can eliminate surface states



Particle levitation and guidance in hollow- core photonic crystal fiber.



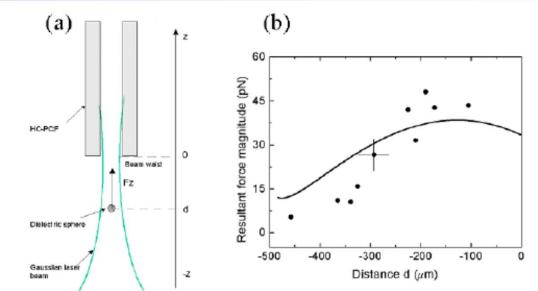


Fig. 3. (a) The schematic of the particle levitation (b) The axial force as a function of the distance waist-particle. The power is 80 mW, the solid circle represent the experimental data.

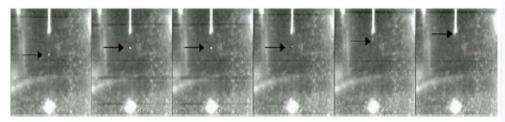
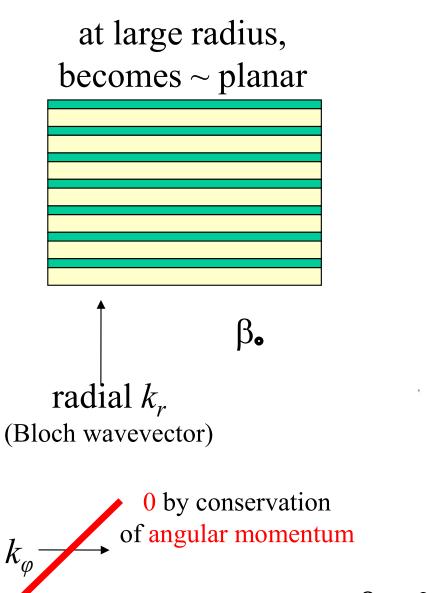


Fig. 4. A sequence of a polystyrene particle (pointed out by an arrow) being levitated. The time spacing between consecutive frames is 67 ms, and each frame corresponds to a captured scene size of 2.5x2.5 mm². The sequence is extracted from the movie (2.24 MB) (see fig. 5) of levitated particles and coupled to the fiber.

F. Benabid et al., Opt. Express 10, 1195 (2002).



Bragg Fiber Cladding



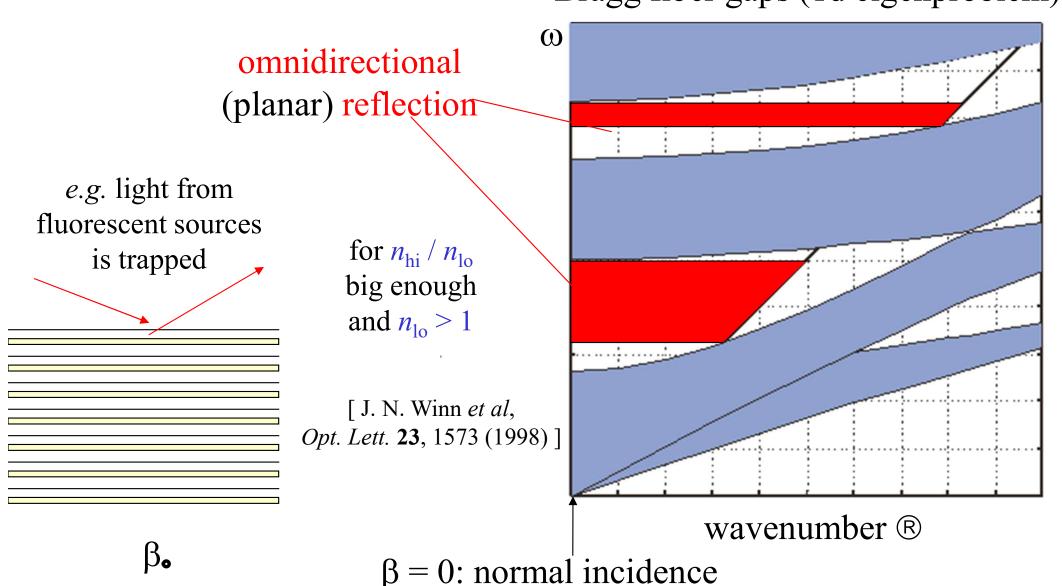
Bragg fiber gaps (1d eigenproblem) wavenumber ®

 $\beta = 0$: normal incidence



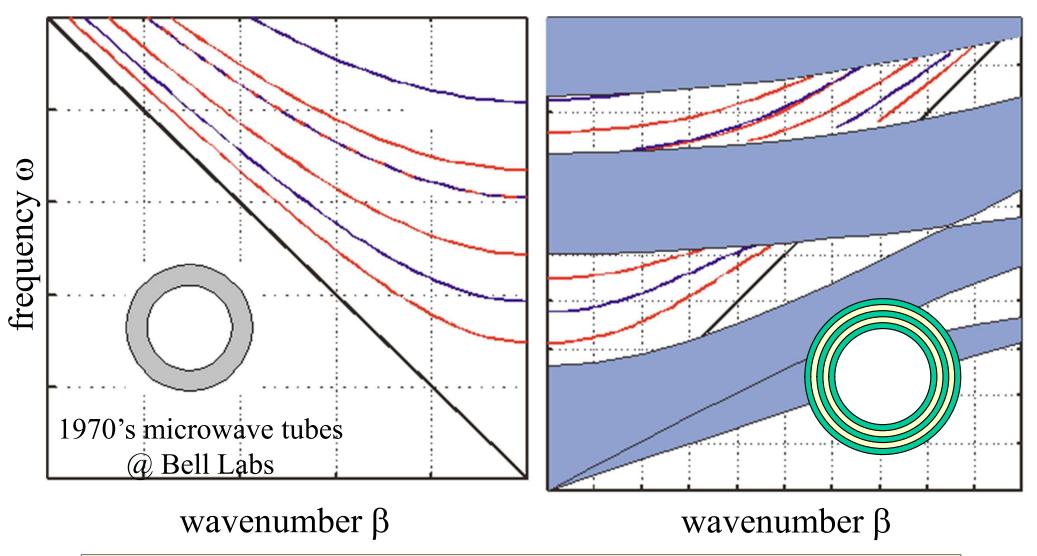
Omnidirectional Cladding

Bragg fiber gaps (1d eigenproblem)



Hollow Metal Waveguides, Reborn

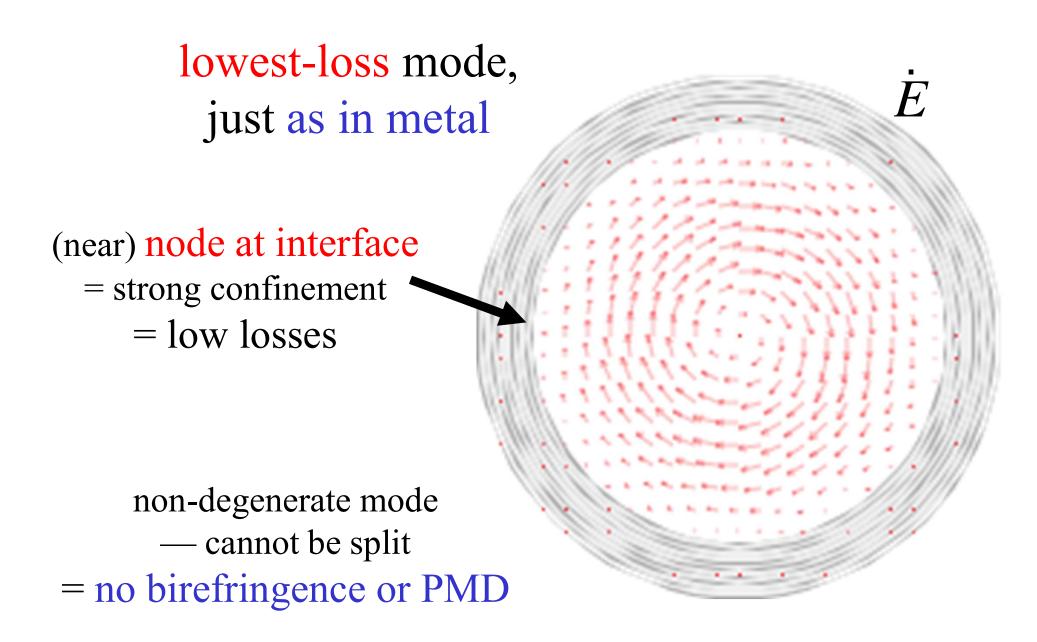
metal waveguide modes OmniGuide fiber modes



modes are directly analogous to those in hollow metal waveguide



An Old Friend: the TE₀₁ mode



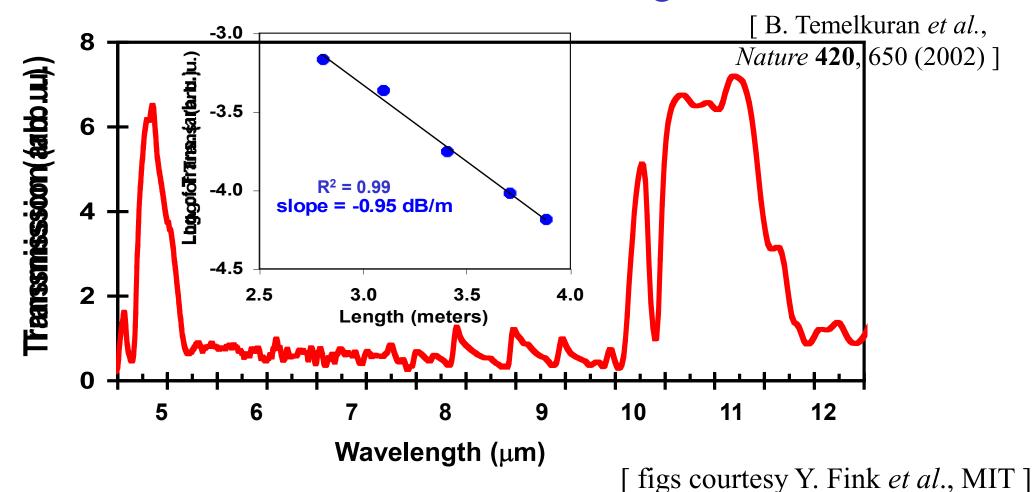
High-Power Transmission



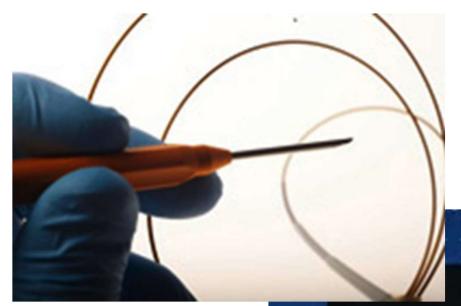
at 10.6µm (no previous dielectric waveguide)

Polymer losses @ $10.6\mu m \sim 50,000 dB/m...$

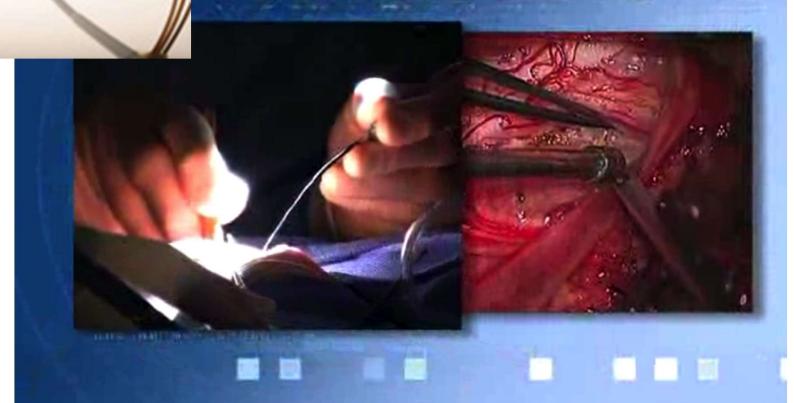
...waveguide losses < 1dB/m



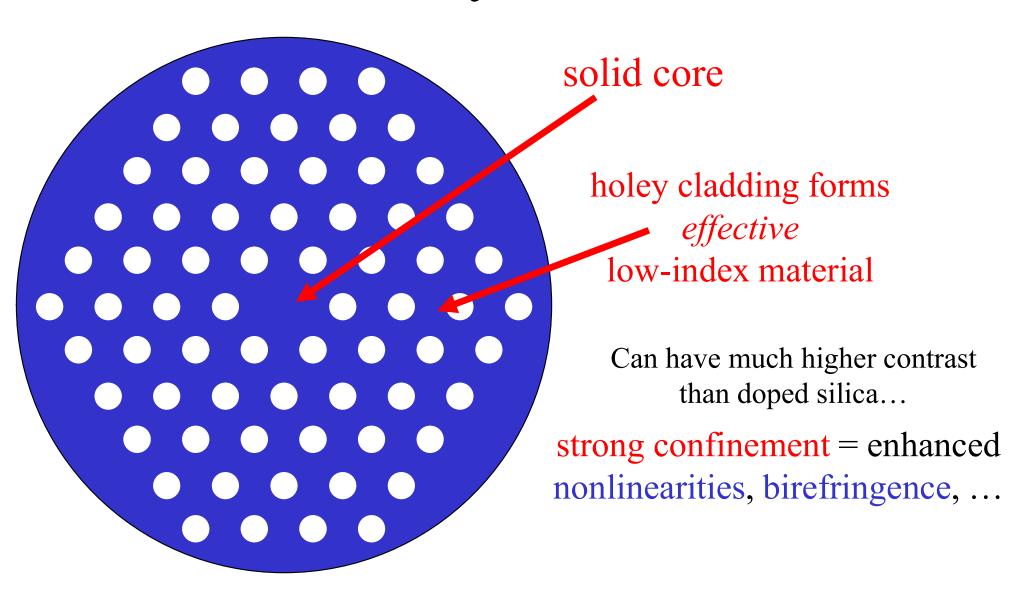
Application: Laser Surgery



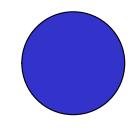
[www.omni-guide.com]

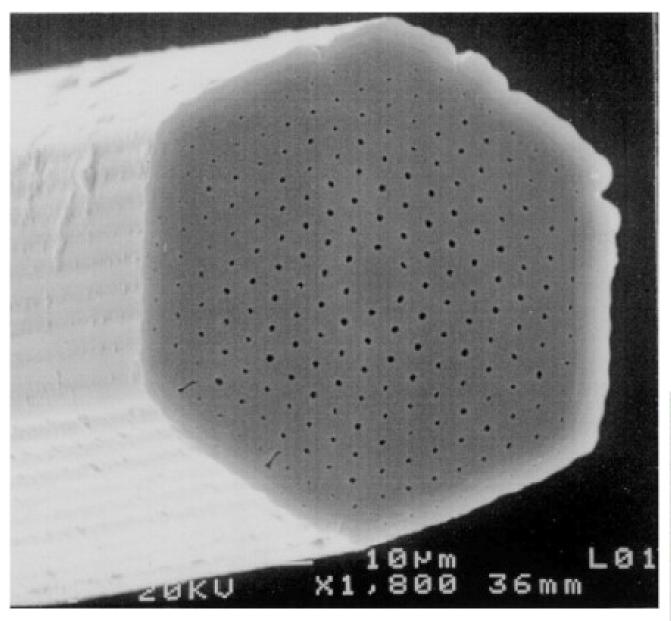


Index-Guiding PCF & microstructured fiber: Holey Fibers



Endlessly Single-Mode [T. A. Birks et al., Opt. Lett. 22, 961 (1997)]

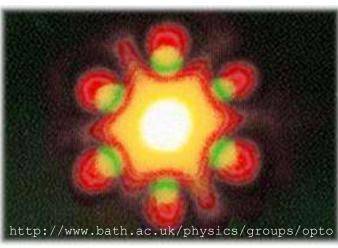




at higher ω (smaller λ), the light is more concentrated in silica

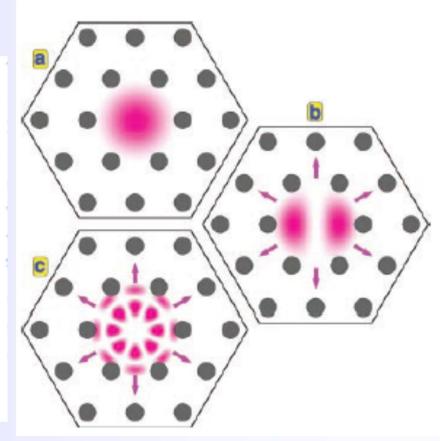
> ...so the effective index contrast is less

...and the fiber can stay single mode for all λ !



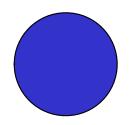
Mode selection

Fig. 4. In a solid-core PCF, the pattern of air holes acts like a modal sieve. In (a), the fundamental mode is unable to escape because it cannot fit in the gaps between the air holes—its effective wavelength in the transverse plane is too large. In (b) and (c), the higher order modes are able to leak away because their transverse effective wavelength is smaller. If the diameter of the air holes is increased, the gaps between them shrink and more and more higher order modes become trapped in the "sieve."



P. Russel Science 299, 358 (2003)

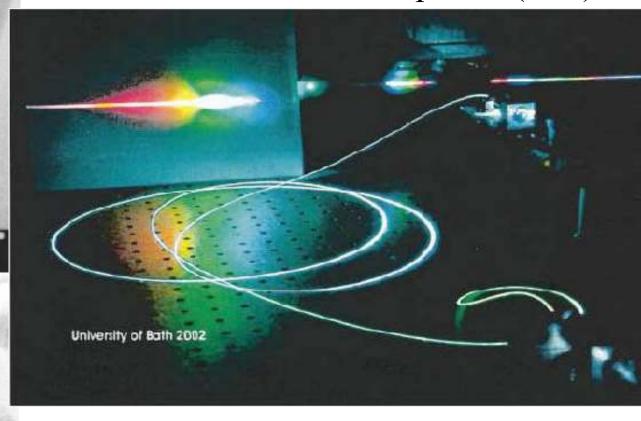
Nonlinear Holey Fibers:

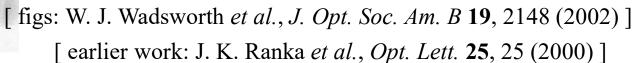


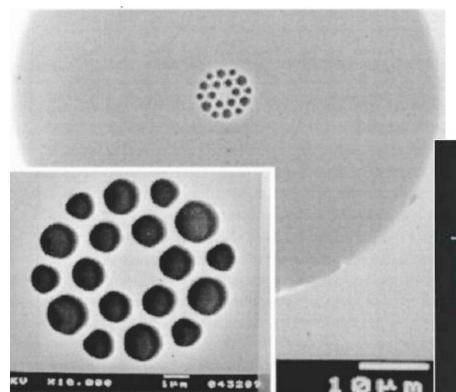
Supercontinuum Generation

(enhanced by strong confinement + unusual dispersion)

e.g. 400–1600nm "white" light: from 850nm ~200 fs pulses (4 nJ)



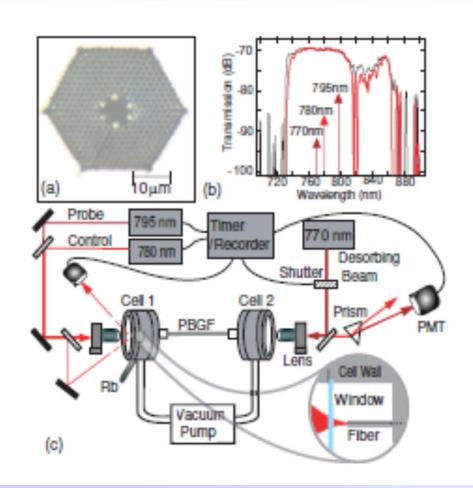


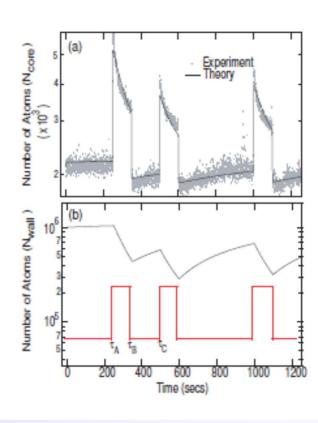


Low-Light-Level Optical Interactions with Rubidium Vapor in a Photonic Band-Gap Fiber

Saikat Ghosh, Amar R. Bhagwat, C. Kyle Renshaw, Shireen Goh, and Alexander L. Gaeta*
School of Applied and Engineering Physics, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14853, USA

Brian J. Kirby





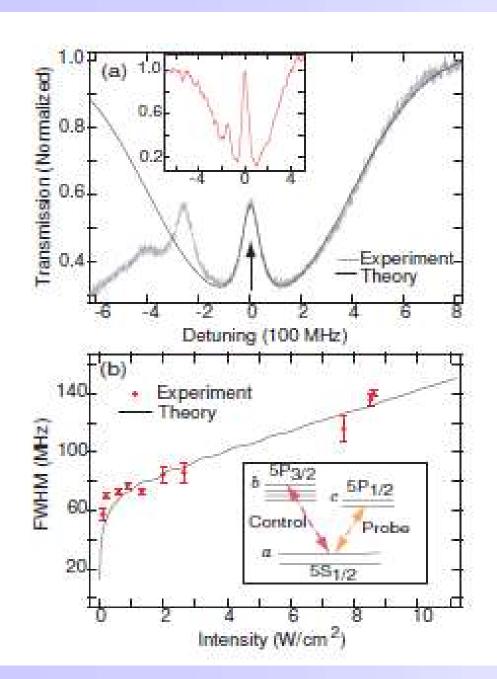
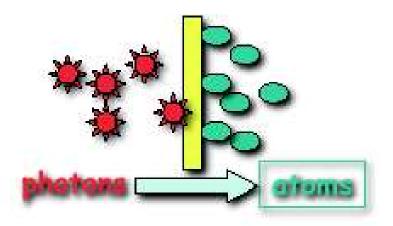


FIG. 4 (color online). (a) Transmission spectra of the probe field in the presence of a 361-nW control field. The arrow shows the transparency window due to EIT. The inset shows transparency larger than 90% for a probe scanned over $5S_{1/2}$, $F = 1 \rightarrow 5P_{1/2}$, F' = 1 with a 2.65 μ W control field tuned to $5S_{1/2}$, $F = 1 \rightarrow 5P_{3/2}$, F' = 1 transition. (b) Experimental and theoretical variation of the EIT linewidth as a function of control intensity.

The LIAD effect



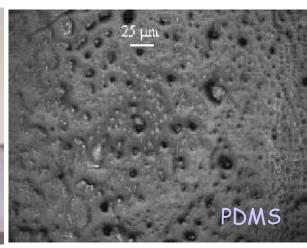
Light even nonresonant, weak and incoherent

Alkali-metal atoms: Na, Rb, Cs, K (Na2, Ca)

Adsorbing surfaces: organic coatings, glass, quartz, Vycor, porous glass, porous alumina, stainless steel, sapphire





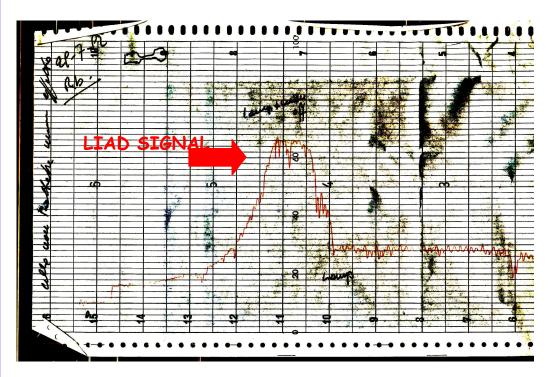


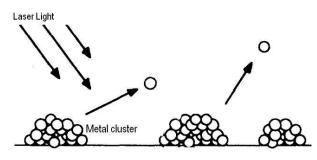
First experiments on LIAD

1988 - Photodesorption from metal nanoparticles, Hoheisel et al.

1993 - Na photodesorption from PDMS, Gozzini et al.

1994 - Rb photodesorption from PDMS, Meucci et al.



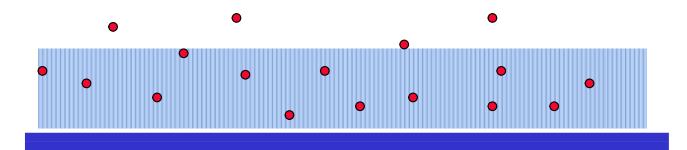


LiF single crystal



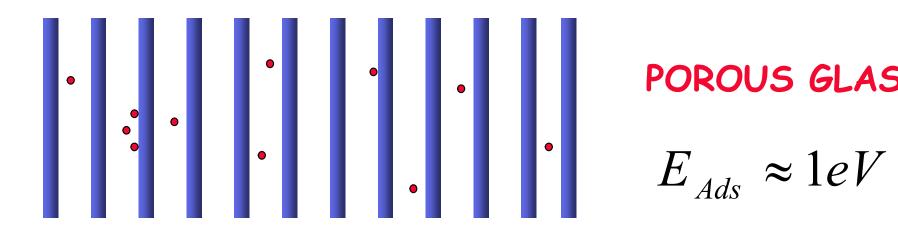
1999 - Na photodesorption from SiO₂ Yakshinskiy and Madey

Surface-Atom Interaction



PDMS

$$E_{Ads} \approx 0.1 eV$$

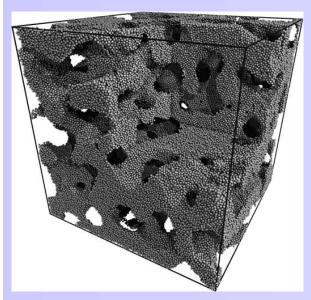


POROUS GLASS

$$E_{Ads} \approx 1eV$$

Surface Atomic Density

$$\sigma = \frac{n}{4} v_T \tau_0 e^{\frac{E_{Ads}}{kT}}$$



www.npaci.edu website

Porous glass

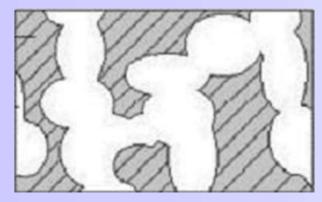
We use as host matrix for atoms and nanoparticles porous silica with a mean pore diameter of 17 nm and a free volume of about 50% of the whole silica mass.

Pore volume: 500mm³/g

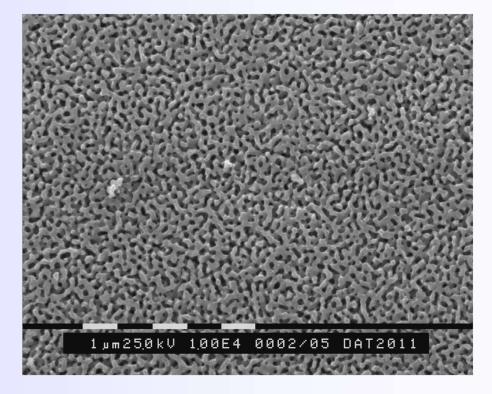
Pore surface: 100m²/g

Mean pore diameter: 17nm

SiO₂>96%



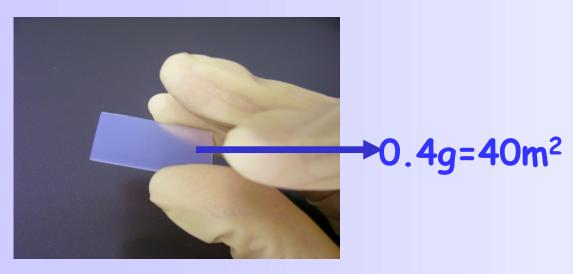
~17nm



REM picture - VitraBio

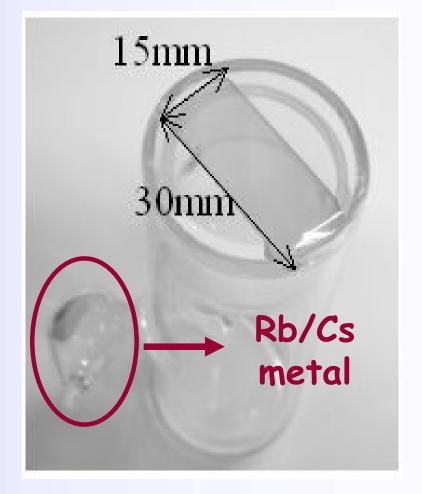
The porous glass sample used is a rectangular plate $30 \times 15 \times 1 \text{mm}^3$ in size. It is placed inside a Pyrex resonance cell, kept at room temperature, and filled with rubidium.

Sample and alkali vapor cell



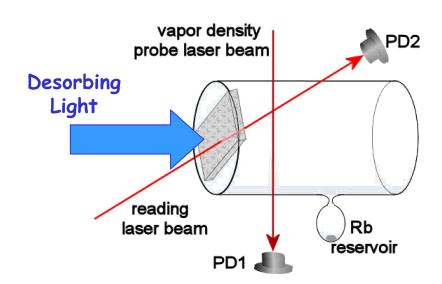
The sample is fixed close to one of the cell windows by a Pyrex Ring sealed to the cell body

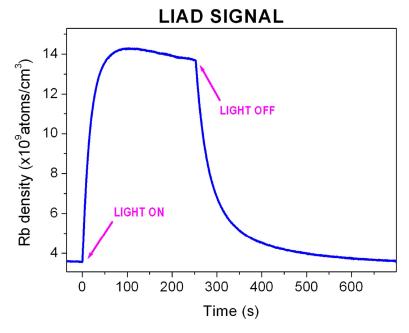


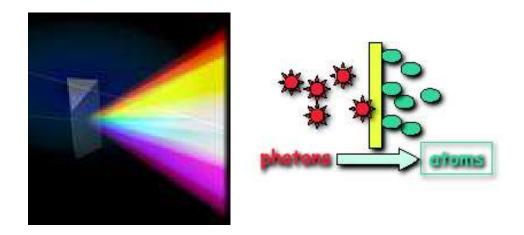


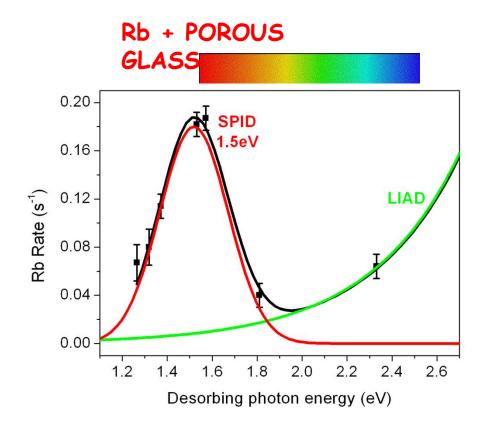
LIAD set-up

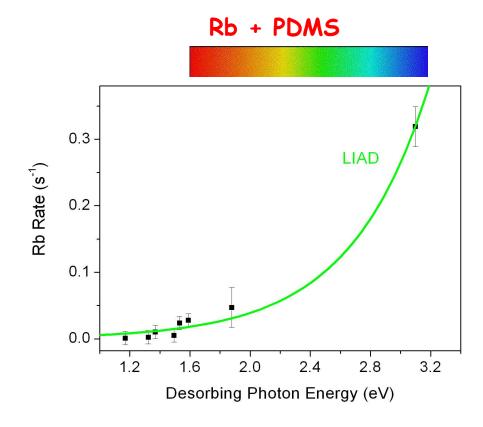




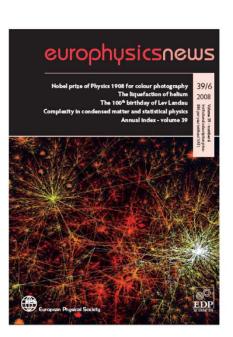












Optical response of Rb and Cs nano-particles in porous silica

Adsorption, desorption and nanoparticle formation processes are of great importance in the study of surface interactions. The possibility to understand and to modify the underlying mechanisms has a remarkable impact on fundamental physics as well as on technological applications. Indeed, the ability to control the adsorption/desorption and nucleation rates opens the way for the fabrication of nano-structured surface layers and nano-particle arrays.

glass.

We studied the influence of optical radiation on adsorption/desorption and cluster growth of Rb and Cs alkali metals confined at the nano-scale. Atomic layers and quasi-spherical nano-particles are formed in a nano-porous glass template by vapour diffusion in the dark. As light hits the porous matrix, the equilibrium inside the nano-pores between nano-particles, atomic layers and vapor phase, is suddenly shifted. In fact light, depending on its frequency and intensity, detaches atoms either from clusters or atomic layers. A small part of the desorbed atoms diffuses out of the porous sample, while the others, trapped in the glass matrix, re-condense on the pore



▲ Dragon's picture recorded on porous glass loaded with Rb. The sample region exposed to light becomes blue due to the increase of the number of Rb nano-particles with respect to the equilibrium condition in the dark.

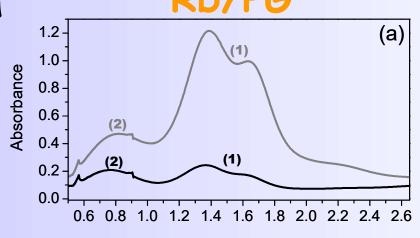
walls, forming either nano-particles or layers. Therefore light moves atoms from layers to clusters and vice versa. The shift direction is clearly visible as particle formation induces a deep bluish coloration of the porous sample (Fig.).

Furthermore, we found that the nanoparticles formed in the dark, as well as the ones grown by light, are almost identical in size and shape. Therefore light increases or decreases the number of nano-particles dispersed in the porous sample without substantially affecting their structural properties. This result provides clear evidence that the confinement geometry imposes tight conditions on the equilibrium configuration of the existing clusters.

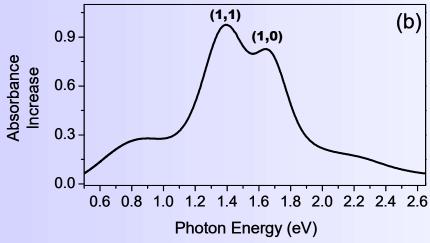
A. Burchianti, A. Bogi, C. Marinelli, C. Maibohm, E. Mariotti, S. Sanguinetti and L. Moi, 'Optical characterization and manipulation of alkali metal nanopartides in porous silica, Eur. Phys. J. D 49, 201 (2008)

Phase transformations induced by UV-visible light:

Cluster growth







Hg Lamp
10 mW/cm²: 2 min

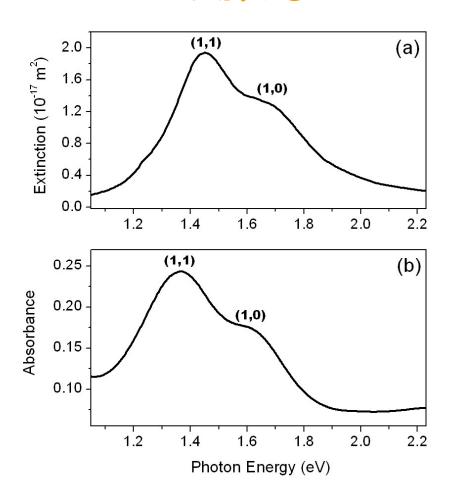


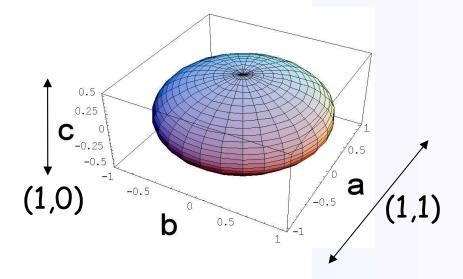
Light decreases the sample transmission in the red-NIR region. The sample turns blue

Optics Express 16, 1377 (2008)

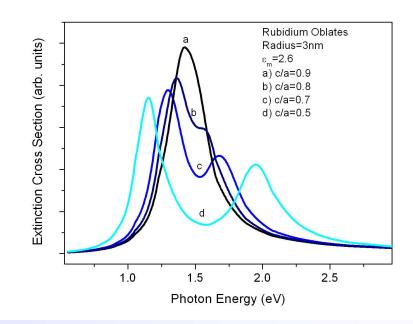
Phys. Rev.Lett. 97 157404 (2006)

Rb/PG

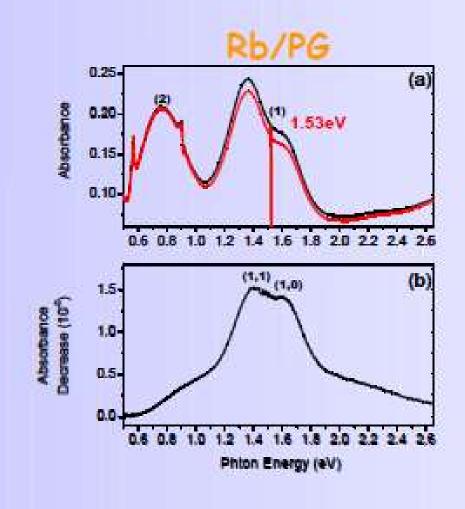








Phase transformations induced by NIR light: Competition between cluster evaporation and growth



Diode laser at 1.53eV 180mW/cm²; 3min

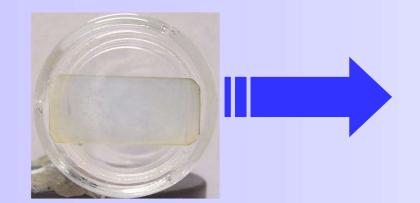
Sample bleaching



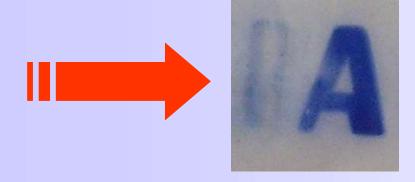
1.53 eV (808 nm) 240 mW/10mm²

Storing and erasing images in Rb loaded PG

Optics Express 16, 1377 (2008)



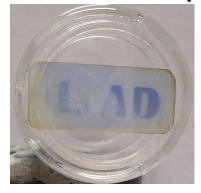
20mW/cm² at 2.3eV; 2min

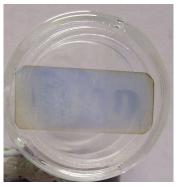


2.5W/cm² at 1.5eV; 30s

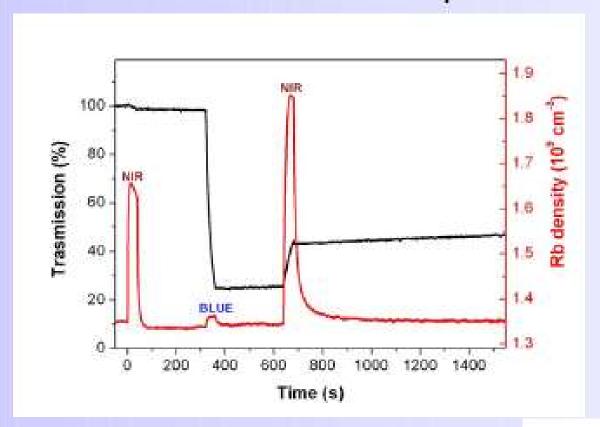








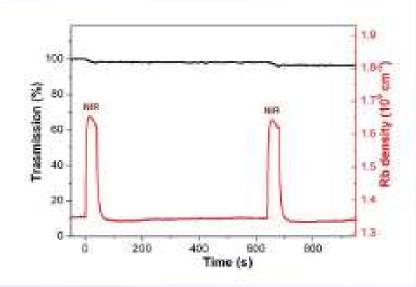
NIR-BLUE-NIR sequence of colours



488nm 5.6mW/cm² illuminated area 0.3 cm²

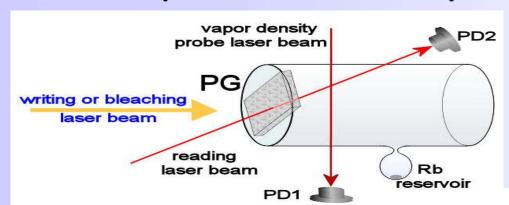
808nm 2W/cm²
illuminated area 0.1 cm²

Double NIR illumination

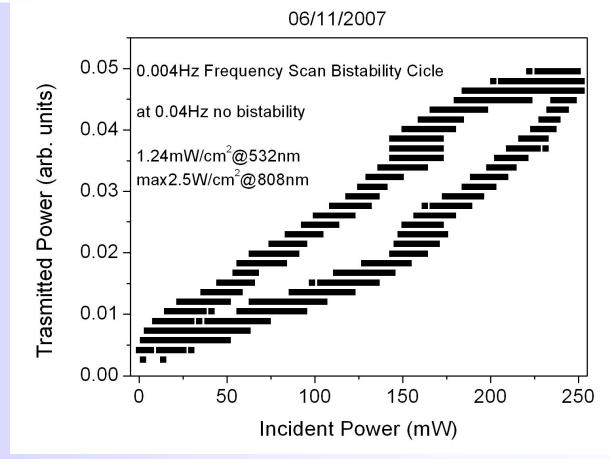


Optical bistability in Rb loaded porous glass

Experimental set-up



preliminary



Work in progress.... thanks for your attention