

Abdus Salam International Center of Theoretical Physics, 2019

My research is focused on interaction of light with anisotropic, nonhomogeneous materials

- Nanostructured plasmonic solar cells
- Dyadic Green functions (Basic solutions of Maxwell equations in anisotropic mediums)
- Optics of one-dimensional photonic crystals
- Hyperbolic, zero-index, negative-phase velocity, metamaterials
- Surface plasmon-polariton waves guided by sculptured thin films
- Plasmonic optical sensor

Optics/Photonics outreach activities

- Optics School
- Optics lab being developed under HEC grant
- Outreach activities at primary/middle schools
- Active SPIE student chapter
- Seminars at ITU, Punjab University, Faisalabad Agriculture
- 4-days short course on plasmonics, 2014 (QAU)
- Nathiagalli invited speaker on plasmonics, 2014, 2015
- 4-days workshop on optics of anisotropic media (QAU), 2019

Syed Babar Ali School of Science & Engineering

The school on optics aims to train graduate students and early carrier professionals in contemporary research areas in optics being peacticed in Pakistan. The hope is to contribute to local efforts on enhancing research collaboration and student education in the area of optical sciences. This school will also serve as a test run for future expanded schools for thematic and more focused research training. This will also provide a networking opportunities for local scientists working in optics and related areas that can catalyze collaborative work to boost research in optical sciences.

SPIE. STUDENT LAHORE UNIVERSITY OF MANAGEMENT **SCIENCES (LUMS)**

Outline

- Canonical boundary-value problem of surface wave propagation
	- Dispersion equation
	- Numerical examples
- Prism-coupled problem for excitation of surface waves
	- SPP waves
	- Dyakonov—Tamm waves
	- Tamm waves
	- Uller—Zenneck waves
- Optical sensing

Surface waves

are guided by an interface of two dissimilar materials

Surface plasmon-polariton (SPP) waves

Bound to an interface of a metal and a dielectric material

Sensitive to changes in constitutive properties near interface

Wavelength of surface wave is (usually*) shorter than in either of the bulk materials

Applications of SPP waves

Chemical sensors

Communication

Solar cells

Taxonomy of surface waves

- Surface plasmon-polariton (SPP) waves ---metal/dielectric interface
- Dyakonov waves ---anisotropic-dielectric/dielectric interface
- Tamm waves ---isotropic-dielectric/isotropic-dielectric interface with one material being periodically nonhomogeneous
- Dyakonov—Tamm waves ---anisotropic-dielectric/dielectric interface with anisotropic dielectric being periodically nonhomogeneous
- Uller—Zenneck waves---the interface of two homogeneous dielectric material materials with at least on being lossy

Surface waves

are electromagnetic waves that

1. satisfy Maxwell equations in both materials, 2. satisfy boundary conditions at the interface, and 3. their fields must decay away from the interface

Surface plasmon-polariton (SPP) wave

Canonical boundary-value problem

A few numerical results

Canonical Boundary-Value Problem

Differentiating surface plasmon-polariton waves and waveguide modes guided by interfaces with one-dimensional photonic crystals

Muhammad Faryad¹

Fig. 3 SPP waves (left) Real and (right) imaginary of parts of the relative wavenumbers q/k_0 of SPP waves as a function of the period $\Lambda = 2d_1 = 2d_2$ of the PC with two layers of equal thicknesses in each period

Fig. 5 Spatial profiles of SPP waves The x-component of the time averaged Poynting vector P of SPP waves guided by the interface of aluminum and a PC with two layers in each period when $\Lambda = 1.2 \lambda_{0}$, $\lambda_0 = 633$ nm. For the computation, $B_m^{(p)} = 1$ and $B_s^{(s)} = 1$ V/m was set for p - and s-polarized SPP waves, respectively. The vertical black lines at $z = 0$ indicate the position of the metal/PC interface. The vertical axis has units of milliwatts per meter square

Multiple surface plasmon-polariton waves guided by the interface of a metal and a periodically nonhomogeneous magnetic material

 $\mu_r(z) = \left[\mu_{\text{avr}} + \Delta_\mu \sin\left(\pi \frac{z}{Q}\right)\right],$

 $\overline{2}$

1

 z/Ω

 $\overline{3}$

Δ

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$$
\lambda_0 = 633
$$
 nm, $\epsilon_r = 1$, $\mu_{\text{avr}} = 2$, and $\Delta_\mu = 0.5$.

Field profiles are in accordance with Floquet theory

(a) $\Omega = 0.394\lambda_0(s1)$, (b) $\Omega = 0.394\lambda_0(s1)$, (c) $\Omega = 0.947 \lambda_0(s3)$, (d) $\Omega = 0.947 \lambda_0(s3)$.

Multiple surface-plasmon-polariton waves guided by a chiral sculptured thin film grown on a metallic grating

SEMA ERTEN,¹ MUHAMMAD FARYAD,² AND AKHLESH LAKHTAKIA^{1,*} ®

Fig. 4. Real and imaginary parts of the calculated relative wavenumbers of SPP waves propagating parallel to $\pm u_x$. The constitutive parameters of the metal and the chiral STF are provided at the beginning of Section 2.D.

Prism-coupled configuration

Turbadar—Kretschmann—Raether Turbadar—Otto

A few examples

Prism-coupled configurations

On multiple surface-plasmon-polariton waves guided by the interface of a metal film and a rugate filter in the Kretschmann configuration

Muhammad Faryad, Akhlesh Lakhtakia *

Fig. 1. Schematic of the Kretschmann configuration.

Fig. 3. Absorptance A_p as function of the incidence angle θ in the Kretschmann configuration, when λ_0 = 633 nm, n_e = 2.58, L_m = 30 nm, and Ω = 1.5 λ_0 . Solid red line is for $N_p = 3$ and dashed blue line is for $N_p = 4$. Others parameters are given at the beginning of Section 3.

Journal of Modern Optics, 2013

Prism-coupled excitation of multiple Tamm waves

Husnul Maab^{a,b}, Muhammad Faryad^{b*} and Akhlesh Lakhtakia^b

Sharper reflectance dips for Tamm waves offer more sensitive chemical sensors than SPP waves!

Parametric investigation of prism-coupled excitation of Dyakonov-Tamm waves

Drew Patrick Pulsifer, Muhammad Faryad, and Akhlesh Lakhtakia*

Fig. 1. Schematic of the prism-coupled configuration. The half-space $z < 0$ is occupied by the prism material and the half-space $z > L_{\Sigma}$ is occupied by another homogeneous isotropic material, both assumed to have negligible dissipation.

Dyakonov–Tamm waves guided by the planar surface of a chiral sculptured thin film

Reflected light Incident light n_{prism} Prism $z = 0$ Dyakonov-Tamm wave Air $z = L$ **Chiral STF** $z = L_{\Sigma}$ – n_{ℓ} **Transmitted light**

Fig. 5. Schematic of the prism-coupled configuration to study the excitation of the Dyakonov-Tamm waves. Since $n_{\text{prism}} \sin \theta_{\text{inc}} =$ n_{ℓ} sin θ_{tr} , $n_{prism} > 0$, $n_{\ell} > 0$, and $\theta_{inc} \in [0^{\circ}, 90^{\circ})$, it is possible that θ_{tr} is a complex angle.

Optics Communications 294 (2013) 192-197 Prism-coupled excitation of Dyakonov-Tamm waves

Muhammad Faryad*, Akhlesh Lakhtakia

Observation of the Dyakonov-Tamm Wave

 1.0 0.8 $\mathsf{R}(\theta)/\mathsf{R}_{o}(\theta)$ 0.6 0.4 0.2 p polarization 0.0 40 45 50 55 60 35 65 θ (deg) 0.10 P_{x} $P_{(x,y,z)}^{(x)}$ 0.08
 $P_{(x,y,z)}^{(x)}$ 0.04 0.08 Air |Chiral STF 0.02 0.00 12 2 6 8 10 0 4 Z/Ω

Not all surface waves can be excited in the prism coupled configuration

Uller—Zenneck surface waves

(a) Canonical boundary-value problem

Guided by the interface of two homogeneous dielectric materials!

The first type of surface wave investigated by Uller (1903) and Zenneck (1907)!

Canonical problem shows the existence of Uller— Zenneck surface waves

Silicon/air interface

Observation of Uller—Zenneck surface waves with planar interfaces has been problematic

Grating-coupled excitation of the Uller-Zenneck surface wave in the optical regime

J. Opt. Soc. Am. B / Vol. 31, No. 7 / July 2014

Muhammad Faryad and Akhlesh Lakhtakia*

Observation of the Uller-Zenneck wave

Muhammad Faryad^{1,2} and Akhlesh Lakhtakia^{1,*}

(left) Measured specular reflectance of two replicated samples (right) Theoretical predictions from canonical problem

Optical Sensing

The basic principle of sensing with surface wave is:

The change in the wavenumber of the surface wave due to small change in the refractive index of the partnering materials resulting in change in the excitation angle

Surface plasmonic polaritonic sensor using a dielectric columnar thin film

Stephen E. Swiontek,* Muhammad Faryad, and Akhlesh Lakhtakia

Multiplasmonic Optical Sensor Using Sculptured Nematic Thin Films

Journal of Nanophotonics

Theory of optical sensing with Dyakonov-Tamm waves

Akhlesh Lakhtakia^{a,*} and Muhammad Faryad^b

Sensing with SPP waves Sensing with Dyakonov--Tamm waves

Sensing using Dyakonov—Tamm waves **Configuration 1**

- 1. ~58 deg /RIU for n_e ~1.333 to ~88 deg /RIU for n_e ~1.5 on the higher- v_p branch of DT waves, and
- 2. ~82 deg /RIU for n_e ~1.333 to ~171 deg /RIU for n_e ~1.467 on the lower- v_p branch of DT waves.

An optical-sensing modality that exploits **Dyakonov-Tamm waves**

Farhat Abbas,¹ Akhlesh Lakhtakia,² Qaisar A. Naqvi,¹ and Muhammad Faryad^{3,*}

Enhancement of sensitivity of multiple surface-plasmonicpolaritonic sensor using metallic nanoparticles

Farhat Abbas · Muhammad Faryad · Stephen E. Swiontek · Akhlesh Lakhtakia

A highly sensitive multiplasmonic sensor using hyperbolic chiral sculptured thin films

Farhat Abbas and Muhammad Faryad^{a)}

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FIG. 1. Schematic diagrams: Schematic representations of (a) the canonical boundary-value problem and (b) the prism-coupled configuration.

FIG. 6. Prism-coupled configuration: Sensitivity ρ as a function of the refractive index n_{ℓ} in the prism-coupled configuration computed via Eq. (8). Each branch corresponds to a branch in Fig. 2.

The sensitivity increases because of the higher field enhancement when hyperbolic medium is used

FIG. 9. Prism-coupled configuration: The components of the time-averaged Poynting vector as a function of z in (a) the metallic film and (b) the hyperbolic chiral STF, when $n_{\ell} = 1.127$, $\theta_{\text{inc}} = 42.02^{\circ}$, $L_{STF} = 4\Omega$, $n_p = 2.6$, and $L_m = 15$ nm in the prism-coupled configuration for the p-polarized incident plane wave with the magnitude of the electric field of the incident wave as 1 V m^{-1} . P_1 is along the direction of propagation, P_2 is perpendicular to the direction of propagation but lies in the interface plane, and P_z is perpendicular to the interface. The angle of incidence $\theta_{inc} = 42.02^\circ$ corresponds to one of the peaks in Fig. 8.

FIG. 10. Prism-coupled configuration: Same as Fig. 9 except for θ_{inc} $= 61.32$ °.

Conclusions

- Periodically nonhomogeneous dielectric material can support a wide variety of surface electromagnetic waves
- Multiple SPP waves, Dyakonov—Tamm waves, and Tamm waves can be excited in the prism coupled configuration
- Sculptured thin films can be used to optically sense a fluid infiltrating it using surface waves to design highly sensitive and more reliable sensors

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