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**Jean Emmanuel Broquin
Gualtiero Nunzi Conti**
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Contents

- ix Conference Committee
- xi Introduction
- xiii *Spinoptics: Spin degeneracy removal in nanostructures (Plenary Paper) [8269-100]*
V. Kleiner, N. Shitrit, E. Hasman, Technion-Israel Institute of Technology (Israel)

SESSION 1 WAVEGUIDE ENGINEERING I

- 8264 03 **Magneto-optical mode conversion in a hybrid glass waveguide made by sol-gel and ion-exchange techniques [8264-02]**
F. Royer, H. Amata, Univ. de Lyon (France) and Univ. Jean Monnet Saint-Etienne (France); F. Parsy, IMEP-LAHC (France); D. Jamon, Univ. de Lyon (France) and Univ. Jean Monnet Saint-Etienne (France); E. Ghibaudo, J.-E. Broquin, IMEP-LAHC (France); S. Neveu, PECSA, CNRS, Univ. Pierre et Marie Curie (France)
- 8264 06 **Fabrication of barrier-type slab waveguides in Er³⁺-doped tellurite glass by single and double energy MeV N⁺ ion implantation [8264-05]**
I. Bányász, Wigner Research Ctr. for Physics (Hungary); Z. Zolnai, Research Ctr. for Natural Sciences (Hungary); S. Pelli, Istituto di Fisica Applicata Nello Carrara (Italy); S. Berneschi, Enrico Fermi Ctr. for Study and Research (Italy) and Istituto di Fisica Applicata Nello Carrara (Italy); G. Nunzi-Conti, Istituto di Fisica Applicata Nello Carrara (Italy); M. Fried, T. Lohner, P. Petrik, Research Ctr. for Natural Sciences (Hungary); M. Brenci, G. C. Righini, Istituto di Fisica Applicata Nello Carrara (Italy)

SESSION 2 AMPLIFIERS AND LASERS

- 8264 09 **1.55 μm hybrid waveguide laser made by ion-exchange and wafer bonding [8264-08]**
M. Casale, D. Bucci, L. Bastard, J.-E. Broquin, IMEP-LAHC (France)
- 8264 0B **Analytical modeling of mid-infrared silicon Raman lasers [8264-10]**
J. Ma, S. Fathpour, CREOL, The College of Optics and Photonics, Univ. of Central Florida (United States)

SESSION 3 PHOTONIC INTEGRATION

- 8264 0C **Hybrid silicon/III-V laser sources based on adiabatic mode transformers (Invited Paper) [8264-11]**
B. Ben Bakir, A. Descos, N. Olivier, D. Bordel, P. Grosse, J.-M. Fédéli, CEA-LETI (France)

- 8264 0F **Highly efficient coupling between a monolithically integrated photonic crystal cavity and a bus waveguide** [8264-14]
K. Debnath, K. Welna, M. Ferrera, Univ. of St. Andrews (United Kingdom); K. Deasy, D. Lidzey, The Univ. of Sheffield (United Kingdom); T. F. Krauss, L. O'Faolain, Univ. of St. Andrews (United Kingdom)
- 8264 0G **Polymer waveguides based on silicon optical benches** [8264-15]
C. T. Chen, P. K. Shen, C. C. Chang, J. Y. Li, H. L. Hsiao, National Central Univ. (Taiwan); Y. C. Lee, Centera Photonics Inc. (Taiwan); M. L. Wu, National Central Univ. (Taiwan)

SESSION 4 MODELING

- 8264 0H **A perturbation approach for the design of coupled resonator optical waveguides (CROWs)** [8264-16]
O. S. Ahmed, M. A. Swillam, M. H. Bakr, X. Li, McMaster Univ. (Canada)
- 8264 0I **Theoretical model for the effective nonlinearity of surface plasmons based on a Green function formalism** [8264-17]
I. De Leon, Univ. of Ottawa (Canada); J. E. Sipe, Univ. of Toronto (Canada); R. W. Boyd, Univ. of Ottawa (Canada) and Institute of Optics, Univ. of Rochester (United States)
- 8264 0J **Modeling and analysis of multiple ring resonator performance as optical filter** [8264-18]
S. Mandal, Indian School of Mines (India); S. Dey, College of Engineering and Management, Kolaghat (India)
- 8264 0K **Design of multilayered SiON strip waveguide for polarizer applications** [8264-19]
V. Priye, J. Prasad, Anamika, Indian School Of Mines (India)
- 8264 0L **Asymmetrically coupled bus with tunable ring resonators for multiple functionalities: Fano resonance, asymmetrical transmission, and wavelength shifting** [8264-20]
W. Ding, C. Qiu, National Univ. of Singapore (Singapore)

SESSION 5 SENSORS I

- 8264 0M **Enhancing gradient optical force in silicon photonic devices (Invited Paper)** [8264-21]
H. Li, J. Noh, Y. Chen, M. Li, Univ. of Minnesota, Twin Cities (United States)
- 8264 0N **Array of subwavelength rectangular structures in palladium for optical hydrogen detection** [8264-24]
E. Maeda, T. Matsuki, I. Yamada, J.-J. Delaunay, The Univ. of Tokyo (Japan)
- 8264 0O **The development of a novel monolithic spectrometer chip concept** [8264-22]
S. J. Sweeney, Y. Zhang, I. D. Goodyer, ZiNIR Ltd. (United Kingdom)
- 8264 0P **On-chip interrogation of a silicon-on-insulator microring resonator-based ethanol vapor sensor with an arrayed waveguide grating (AWG) spectrometer** [8264-23]
N. A. Yebo, W. Bogaerts, Z. Hens, R. Baets, Univ. Gent (Belgium)

SESSION 6 SENSORS II

- 8264 0Q **Amorphous photonic membranes for broadband chemical sensing applications (Invited Paper)** [8264-25]
S. P. Abbey, R. D. Whaley, Jr., Ohio Univ. (United States)
- 8264 0R **Foil-based optical technology platform for optochemical sensors** [8264-26]
S. Kalathimekkad, J. Missinne, Univ. Gent (Belgium); J. D. Arias Espinoza, Holst Ctr. (Netherlands); B. Van Hoe, E. Bosman, Univ. Gent (Belgium); E. Smits, R. Mandamparambil, Holst Ctr. (Netherlands); G. Van Steenberge, J. Vanfleteren, Univ. Gent (Belgium)
- 8264 0S **Compact static Fourier transform spectrometer in glass integrated optics in the NIR and visible domain** [8264-27]
A. Creux, A. Morand, P. Benech, IMEP-LAHC (France); B. Martin, Institut de Planétologie et d'Astrophysique de Grenoble (France); G. Grosa, IMEP-LAHC (France); E. Le Coarer, P. Kern, Institut de Planétologie et d'Astrophysique de Grenoble (France)
- 8264 0T **Development of a slow-light spectrometer on a chip** [8264-28]
S. Murugkar, I. De Leon, Univ. of Ottawa (Canada); Z. Shi, Institute of Optics, Univ. of Rochester (United States); G. Lopez-Galmiche, J. Salvail, E. Ma, Univ. of Ottawa (Canada); B. Gao, A. C. Liapis, J. E. Vornehm, Institute of Optics, Univ. of Rochester (United States); R. W. Boyd, Univ. of Ottawa (Canada) and Institute of Optics, Univ. of Rochester (United States)

SESSION 7 WAVEGUIDE ENGINEERING II

- 8264 0W **Broad-area laser diode with stable single-mode output and wavelength stabilization** [8264-31]
T. Nappiez, Thales Avionics S.A. (France); E. Ghibaudo, IMEP-LAHC (France); P. Rondeau, J.-P. Schlotterbeck, Thales Avionics S.A. (France); J.-E. Broquin, IMEP-LAHC (France)
- 8264 0X **Photonic nanojet-induced modes: fundamentals and applications** [8264-32]
A. Darafsheh, The Univ. of North Carolina at Charlotte (United States); A. Lupu, Institut d'Electronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Univ. Paris-Sud 11 (France); S. A. Burand, T. C. Hutchens, N. M. Fried, V. N. Astratov, The Univ. of North Carolina at Charlotte (United States)
- 8264 0Z **Polymer optical waveguides with reduced in-plane bend loss for electro-optical PCBs** [8264-58]
R. Pitwon, Xyratex Technology Ltd. (United Kingdom); C. Smith, Univ. of Southampton (United Kingdom); K. Wang, Univ. College London (United Kingdom); J. Graham-Jones, Plymouth Univ. (United Kingdom); D. R. Selviah, Univ. College London (United Kingdom); M. Halter, Vario-optics AG (Switzerland); A. Worrall, Xyratex Technology Ltd. (United Kingdom)

SESSION 8 PLASMONICS

- 8264 12 **Integration of nanostructures and waveguide core for surface enhanced Raman spectroscopy: a novel excitation method** [8264-38]
S. J. Pearce, M. D. B. Charlton, M. E. Pollard, S. Oo, R. Chen, Univ. of Southampton (United Kingdom)

- 8264 13 **Compact optical microcavity structures for enhancement of absorption and transmission cross sections of subwavelength plasmonic devices** [8264-39]
C. Min, Y. Huang, L. Yang, G. Veronis, Louisiana State Univ. (United States)

SESSION 9 OPTOFLUIDICS

- 8264 14 **Optofluidic SERS on inkjet-fabricated paper-based substrates (Invited Paper)** [8264-41]
I. M. White, Univ. of Maryland, College Park (United States)
- 8264 15 **Optofluidics: waveguides and devices (Invited Paper)** [8264-42]
G. Testa, Istituto per il Rilevamento Elettromagnetico dell'Ambiente, CNR (Italy); Y. Huang, Seconda Università di Napoli (Italy); L. Zeni, Technische Univ. Delft (Netherlands); P. M. Sarro, Seconda Università di Napoli (Italy); R. Bernini, Istituto per il Rilevamento Elettromagnetico dell'Ambiente, CNR (Italy)
- 8264 16 **Vertically coupled polymer microresonators for optofluidic label-free biosensors** [8264-43]
C. Delezoide, Lab. de Photonique Quantique et Moléculaire, CNRS, Ecole Normale Supérieure de Cachan (France); J. Lautru, Institut d'Alembert, Ecole Normale Supérieure de Cachan (France); J. Zyss, Lab. de Photonique Quantique et Moléculaire, CNRS, Ecole Normale Supérieure de Cachan (France) and Institut d'Alembert, Ecole Normale Supérieure de Cachan (France); I. Ledoux-Rak, C. T. Nguyen, Lab. de Photonique Quantique et Moléculaire, CNRS, Ecole Normale Supérieure de Cachan (France)
- 8264 17 **High Q silica microbubble resonators** [8264-44]
D. Farnesi, Istituto di Fisica Applicata Nello Carrara (Italy) and Univ. degli Studi di Firenze (Italy); A. Barucci, Istituto di Fisica Applicata Nello Carrara (Italy); S. Berneschi, Museo Storico della Fisica e Ctr. Studi e Ricerche Enrico Fermi (Italy) and Istituto di Fisica Applicata Nello Carrara (Italy); M. Brenni, F. Cosi, G. Nunzi Conti, S. Pelli, G. C. Righini, S. Soria, Istituto di Fisica Applicata Nello Carrara (Italy)

POSTER SESSION

- 8264 18 **Polymer waveguide grating couplers for low-cost nanoimprinted integrated optics** [8264-34]
M. E. Pollard, S. J. Pearce, R. Chen, S. Oo, M. D. B. Charlton, Univ. of Southampton (United Kingdom)
- 8264 19 **Sensor for optical characteristics of liquid using gapped waveguides: theory** [8264-45]
K. Baba, K. Nemoto, Sendai National College of Technology (Japan)
- 8264 1A **Design of multiple nanoring-based metallic nanophotonic superlens** [8264-46]
J. Choi, Y. Oh, D. Kim, Yonsei Univ. (Korea, Republic of)
- 8264 1B **Integrated surface plasmon resonance array sensor using semiconductor optical amplifier** [8264-47]
G.-Y. Oh, Chung-Ang Univ. (Korea, Republic of); D.-G. Kim, Korea Photonics Technology Institute (Korea, Republic of); H.-S. Kim, T.-K. Lee, B.-H. Lee, Y.-W. Choi, Chung-Ang Univ. (Korea, Republic of)

- 8264 1C **Experimental measurement of photonic/plasmonic crystal dispersion, applied to the investigation of surface plasmon dispersion for SERS sensing applications** [8264-48]
M. F. A. Muttalib, S. Z. Oo, M. D. B. Charlton, Univ. of Southampton (United Kingdom)
- 8264 1E **Analysis of total reflection mirror based on horizontal slot waveguide** [8264-50]
T.-K. Lee, H.-S. Kim, G.-Y. Oh, B.-H. Lee, Chung-Ang Univ. (Korea, Republic of); D.-G. Kim, Korea Photonics Technology Institute (Korea, Republic of); Y.-W. Choi, Chung-Ang Univ. (Korea, Republic of)
- 8264 1F **Visible and near infrared wavelength photonic crystal fiber splitter for multiwavelength spectral domain optical coherence tomography** [8264-51]
J. B. Eom, Korea Photonics Technology Institute (Korea, Republic of); E. J. Min, B. H. Lee, Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology (Korea, Republic of)
- 8264 1I **Evaluation of damping ratio in a glass-based guided-wave optical microphone with a diaphragm** [8264-54]
M. Ohkawa, K. Murata, T. Sato, Niigata Univ. (Japan)
- 8264 1L **Colorimetric resonant detection of biochemical agents in mesoporous silicon-based photonic crystals** [8264-57]
I. A. Kolmychek, S. E. Syakhovskiy, T. V. Murzina, Lomonosov Moscow State Univ. (Russian Federation); F. Baldini, G. Ghini, A. Giannetti, C. Trono, G. Nunzi Conti, S. Soria, Istituto di Fisica Applicata Nello Carrara (Italy)
- 8264 1M **Nanosensor technology based on semiconductor nanocrystals** [8264-59]
J. Martin, Fraunhofer-Institut für Elektronische Nanosysteme (Germany); U. Staudinger, E. Demir, Leibniz-Institut für Polymerforschung Dresden e.V. (Germany); C. Spudat, Fraunhofer-Institut für Elektronische Nanosysteme (Germany); P. Pötschke, B. Voit, Leibniz-Institut für Polymerforschung Dresden e.V. (Germany); T. Otto, T. Gessner, Fraunhofer-Institut für Elektronische Nanosysteme (Germany)

Author Index

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- 1 Waveguide Engineering I
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Pavel Cheben, National Research Council Canada (Canada)
- 4 Modeling
Stefano Taccheo, Swansea University (United Kingdom)
- 5 Sensors I
François Royer, University Jean Monnet Saint-Etienne (France)
- 6 Sensors II
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- 7 Waveguide Engineering II
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- 8 Plasmonics
Pierre Berini, University of Ottawa (Canada)
- 9 Optofluidics
Xudong Fan, University of Michigan (United States)

Introduction

Whether you are a confirmed scientist or a student, whether you are an academic or working for a company, you will find in these proceedings of the sixteenth Photonics West conference on Integrated Optics a picture of that still evolving, dynamic and exciting field.

This year's conference reflected that aspect by its diversity in terms of applications: telecom of course but also a huge diversity of sensors as well as nonlinear optics. Moreover, this variety of uses has also been completed by a great variety of technological and design approaches. From the well-known "silica-on-silicon" based waveguides to new plasmonic devices, from erbium-doped glass waveguides to polymer ones, our conference covered a technological spectrum as wide as possible since we believe that the cross-fertilization of ideas is one of the keys to major breakthroughs in science.

In these proceedings, the reader will therefore see a wide range of exciting advances ranging from new optofluidic devices to different approaches for obtaining magneto-optic waveguides, as well as state of the art photonic integration on silicon chips.

He will also find articles written by students, who quite often gave their first international talk at this conference, together with papers from renowned scientists of the field. It is indeed because today's students are tomorrow's scientific leaders that our conference always promoted their participation and will keep on doing so thanks to the SPIE student grant policy.

If "Integrated Optics: Technology, Devices and Materials" is now one of the oldest conferences of the SPIE Optoelectronics symposium, it is, of course, because of the quality of the scientific work that has been presented through the years, but it is also because of the dedication of all the members of the program committee who accept willingly to spend a part of their summertime in building this conference and finding all the exciting invited talks that we see every year.

To them, to all the speakers and authors, to all the SPIE staff who make the logistics run so smoothly, we would like to say thank you very much and we long to see you next year.

Jean Emmanuel Broquin
Gualtiero Nunzi-Conti