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Laurent Vivien
Seppo K. Honkanen
Lorenzo Pavesi
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Contents

xi	Conference Committee
xiii	Introduction

NONLINEAR INTEGRATED PHOTONICS

- 8431 04 **Silicon on sapphire and SOI photonic devices for mid-infrared and near-IR wavelengths (Invited Paper)** [8431-03]
O. Boyraz, Univ. of California, Irvine (United States) and Istanbul Sehir Univ. (Turkey);
Y. Huang, Univ. of California, Irvine (United States); X. Sang, Beijing Univ. of Posts and
Telecommunications (China)
- 8431 06 **Efficient four-wave-mixing-based wavelength conversion in silicon nanowire rings without
dispersion engineering** [8431-05]
N. Vermeulen, Vrije Univ. Brussel (Belgium); J. E. Sipe, Univ. of Toronto (Canada); Y. Lefevre,
C. Debaes, H. Thienpont, Vrije Univ. Brussel (Belgium)

NONLINEAR OPTICS

- 8431 08 **Energy efficient all-optical signal processing in SOI: nanowires or slow-light structures?**
[8431-07]
C. Husko, B. J. Eggleton, The Univ. of Sydney (Australia)

PHOTODETECTORS

- 8431 0A **40Gbit/s germanium waveguide photodetector on silicon** [8431-09]
L. Virost, Institut d'Electronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Univ. Paris-Sud (France) and
CEA-LETI-Minatec (France) and STMicroelectronics (France); L. Vivien, Institut d'Electronique
Fondamentale, CNRS, Univ. Paris-Sud (France); A. Polzer, Vienna Univ. of Technology
(Austria); D. Marris-Morini, J. Osmond, Institut d'Electronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Univ.
Paris-Sud (France); J. M. Hartmann, CEA-LETI-Minatec (France); P. Crozat, E. Cassan, Institut
d'Electronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Univ. Paris-Sud (France); C. Baudot,
STMicroelectronics (France); C. Kopp, CEA-LETI-Minatec (France); F. Boeuf,
STMicroelectronics (France); H. Zimmermann, Vienna Univ. of Technology (Austria);
J. M. Fédéli, CEA-LETI-Minatec (France)

LIGHT GUIDING AND COUPLING

- 8431 0D **Group IV photonic devices for the mid-infrared (Invited Paper)** [8431-12]
G. Z. Mashanovich, M. Nedeljkovic, Univ. of Southampton (United Kingdom);
M. M. Milosevic, Univ. of Surrey (United Kingdom); Y. Hu, F. Y. Gardes, D. J. Thomson,
T.-B. Masaud, E. Jaberansary, H. M. H. Chong, Univ. of Southampton (United Kingdom);
R. Soref, Univ. of Massachusetts at Boston (United States); G. T. Reed, Univ. of Southampton
(United Kingdom)

- 8431 OE **Grating couplers in thick rib SOI waveguides for TE and TM polarizations (Best Paper Award)** [8431-13]
C. Alonso-Ramos, A. Ortega-Moñux, R. Halir, L. Zavargo-Peche, I. Molina-Fernández, Univ. de Málaga (Spain); P. Cheben, D.-X. Xu, S. Janz, National Research Council Canada (Canada)
- 8431 OF **Reducing the temperature sensitivity of SOI waveguide-based biosensors** [8431-61]
K. B. Gylfason, Royal Institute of Technology (Sweden); A. Mola Romero, Royal Institute of Technology (Sweden) and Univ. of Barcelona (Spain); H. Sohlström, Royal Institute of Technology (Sweden)
- 8431 OG **Design, fabrication, and characterisation of fully etched TM grating coupler for photonic integrated system-in-package** [8431-15]
O. Gili-de-Villasante, P. Tcheg, Technische Univ. Berlin (Germany); B. Wang, A. Suna, Fraunhofer Institute for Reliability and Microintegration (Germany); G. Giannoulis, I. Lazarou, D. Apostolopoulos, H. Avramopoulos, National Technical Univ. of Athens (Greece); N. Pleros, Aristotle Univ. of Thessaloniki (Greece); M. Baus, M. Karl, AMO GmbH (Germany); T. Tekin, Technische Univ. Berlin (Germany) and Fraunhofer Institute for Reliability and Microintegration (Germany)
- 8431 OH **Fine tunable multi-cavity Si photonic crystal filters** [8431-16]
A. Baldycheva, Trinity College Dublin (Ireland); V. A. Tolmachev, Ioffe Physico-Technical Institute (Russian Federation); T. S. Perova, Trinity College Dublin (Ireland)
- 8431 OI **Narrow band forward coupling using Bragg reflectors** [8431-17]
A. Lupu, Institut d'Électronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Univ. Paris-Sud (France); K. Muhieddine, E. Cassan, CNRS (France); J.-M. Lourtioz, Institut d'Électronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Univ. Paris-Sud (France)

SILICON AND GERMANIUM MODULATOR

- 8431 OJ **Ring resonator silicon optical modulator based on interleaved PN junctions** [8431-18]
M. Ziebell, D. Marris-Morini, G. Rasigade, Institut d'Electronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Univ. Paris-Sud (France); J.-M. Fédéli, CEA, LETI, Minatec (France); E. Cassan, L. Vivien, Institut d'Electronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Univ. Paris-Sud (France)
- 8431 OK **Slow light enhanced carrier depletion modulators with 1V drive voltage** [8431-19]
A. Brimont, Univ. Politècnica de Valencia (Spain); D. J. Thomson, Univ. of Southampton (United Kingdom); J. Herrera, Univ. Politècnica de València (Spain); F. Y. Gardes, Univ. of Southampton (United Kingdom); J. M. Fedeli, CEA, LETI, Minatec (France); G. T. Reed, CEA, LETI, Minatec (United Kingdom); J. Martí, P. Sanchis, Univ. Politècnica de València (Spain)
- 8431 OM **The effects of strain on indirect absorption in Ge/SiGe quantum wells** [8431-21]
L. Lever, Z. Ikonić, R. W. Kelsall, Univ. of Leeds (United Kingdom)

- 8431 ON **Electroabsorption based on quantum-confined Stark effect from Ge/SiGe multiple quantum wells** [8431-22]
P. Chaisakul, D. Marris-Morini, Institut d'Électronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Univ. Paris-Sud (France); G. Isella, D. Chrastina, Lab. for Epitaxial Nanostructures on Silicon and Spintronics (Italy); M.-S. Rouifed, Institut d'Électronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Univ. Paris-Sud (France); J. Frigerio, Lab. for Epitaxial Nanostructures on Silicon and Spintronics (Italy); E. Gatti, Univ. degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca (Italy); X. Le Roux, S. Edmond, E. Cassan, J.-R. Coudeville, L. Vivien, Institut d'Électronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Univ. Paris-Sud (France)

CMOS PHOTONICS FOR THERANOSTICS

- 8431 OO **Real-time and low-cost biosensors based on photonic bandgap structures (Invited Paper)** [8431-23]
J. García-Rupérez, J. G. Castelló, V. Toccafondo, P. Pérez-Millán, Univ. Politécnica de Valencia (Spain)
- 8431 OP **Interferometric waveguide biosensors based on Si-technology for point-of-care diagnostic (Invited Paper)** [8431-24]
D. Duval, A. B. González-Guerrero, S. Dante, CIN2 (Spain) and CIBER-BBN (Spain); C. Domínguez, Ctr. Nacional de Microelectrónica (Spain); L. M. Lechuga, CIN2 (Spain) and CIBER-BBN (Spain)
- 8431 OQ **CMOS photonics for optical manipulation of particles and biosensing (Invited Paper)** [8431-25]
A. W. Poon, H. Cai, Hong Kong Univ. of Science and Technology (Hong Kong, China)
- 8431 OS **On-chip multiplexing concept for silicon photonic MZI biosensor array (Best Paper Award)** [8431-27]
P. Muellner, R. Bruck, AIT Austrian Institute of Technology GmbH (Austria); M. Baus, M. Karl, T. Wahlbrink, AMO GmbH (Germany); R. Hainberger, AIT Austrian Institute of Technology GmbH (Austria)

SILICON MODULATORS

- 8431 OU **CMOS-compatible electro-optical Mach-Zehnder modulator based on the amorphous silicon technology** [8431-29]
S. Rao, Univ. degli Studi Mediterranea di Reggio Calabria (Italy); G. Coppola, M. A. Gioffrè, Institute for Microelectronics and Microsystems, CNR (Italy); F. G. Della Corte, Univ. degli Studi Mediterranea di Reggio Calabria (Italy) and Institute for Microelectronics and Microsystems, CNR (Italy)
- 8431 OV **High-speed silicon optical modulator based on a PIPIN diode** [8431-30]
M. Ziebell, D. Marris-Morini, G. Rasigade, Institut d'Electronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Univ. Paris-Sud (France); J.-M. Fédéli, CEA, LETI, Minatec (France); E. Cassan, Institut d'Electronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Univ. Paris-Sud (France); G.-H. Duan, III-V Lab (France); L. Vivien, Institut d'Electronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Univ. Paris-Sud (France)
- 8431 OW **Low-voltage high-speed Si Mach-Zehnder optical modulator with multi-cascade p/n junctions along waveguides** [8431-31]
R. Furutani, Y. Amemiya, M. Fukuyama, S. Yokoyama, Hiroshima Univ. (Japan)

SILICON PHOTONICS INTEGRATION

- 8431 14 **Co-integration of Ge detectors and Si modulators in an advanced Si photonics platform** [8431-39]
P. Verheyen, G. Lepage, J. Van Campenhout, M. Pantouvaki, P. Absil, IMEC (Belgium);
P. De Heyn, W. Bogaerts, P. Dumon, S. Selvaraja, Ghent Univ. (Belgium)
- 8431 15 **New integration concept of PIN photodiodes in 0.35 μ m CMOS technologies** [8431-40]
I. Jonak-Auer, J. Teva, J. M. Park, S. Jessenig, M. Rohrbacher, E. Wachmann,
austriamicrosystems AG (Austria)

SOURCE ON SILICON

- 8431 16 **Er- and Nd-implanted MOS light emitting devices and their use for integrated photonic applications** [8431-41]
L. Rebohle, R. Wutzler, S. Germer, J. Lehmann, M. Helm, W. Skorupa, Helmholtz-Zentrum
Dresden-Rossendorf e. V. (Germany)
- 8431 17 **Carbon nanotube for photonics: light emission in silicon and optical gain** [8431-42]
N. Izard, Institut d'Electronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Univ. Paris-Sud (France); E. Gauffrès,
Institut d'Electronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Univ. Paris-Sud (France) and Univ. Montréal
(Canada); A. Beck, A. Noury, X. Le Roux, L. Vivien, Institut d'Electronique Fondamentale,
CNRS, Univ. Paris-Sud (France)
- 8431 18 **Opto-electrical characterization of erbium-doped slot waveguides** [8431-43]
A. Tengattini, D. Gandolfi, A. Marconi, A. Anopchenko, N. Prtljaga, Univ. degli Studi di Trento
(Italy); J. M. Ramirez, F. Ferrarese Lupi, Y. Berencen, D. Navarro Urrios, B. Garrido, Univ. de
Barcelona (Spain); J.-M. Fedeli, P. Rivallin, K. Surana, CEA-LETI-Minatec (France); L. Pavesi,
Univ. degli Studi di Trento (Italy)
- 8431 19 **Room temperature direct-gap electroluminescence in Ge/SiGe quantum well waveguides (Best Student Paper Award)** [8431-44]
P. Chaisakul, D. Marris-Morini, Institut d'Électronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Univ. Paris-Sud
(France); G. Isella, D. Chrastina, J. Frigerio, Lab. for Epitaxial Nanostructures on Silicon and
Spintronics (Italy); M. S. Rouifed, N. Izard, X. Le Roux, S. Edmond, J.-R. Coudeville, L. Vivien,
Institut d'Électronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Univ. Paris-Sud (France)
- 8431 1B **Optically active μ -disks resonators-based sensor for refractive index variation detection** [8431-46]
F. Ferrarese Lupi, MIND-IN2UB, Univ. de Barcelona (Spain); D. Navarro-Urrios, Catalan
Institute of Nanotechnology, CIN2-CSIC (Spain); J. Rubio-Garcia, Institut de Recerca en
Energia de Catalunya (Spain); J. Monserrat, C. Domínguez, Instituto de Microelectrónica de
Barcelona-Ctr. Nacional de Microelectrónica (Spain); B. Garrido, MIND-IN2UB, Univ. de
Barcelona (Spain)

NON-SILICON INTEGRATED OPTICAL DEVICES

- 8431 1C **Sol-gel thin films for photonic application (Invited Paper)** [8431-47]
J. J. Jasieniak, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (Australia);
A. Martucci, Univ. degli Studi di Padova (Italy)

- 8431 1D **Lithium niobate-on-insulator (LNOI): status and perspectives (Invited Paper)** [8431-48]
H. Hu, J. Yang, Shandong Univ. (China); L. Gui, W. Sohler, Univ. Paderborn (Germany)
- 8431 1F **Erbium-activated silica-tin oxide glass ceramics for photonic integrated circuits: fabrication, characterisation, and assessment** [8431-50]
T. T. V. Tran, LASIR, CNRS and CERLA, Univ. Lille 1 (France) and National Univ. of HoChiMinh (Viet Nam); C. Kinowski, O. Cristini, B. Capoen, PhLAM, CNRS and CERLA, Univ. Lille 1 (France); A. Chiasera, D. Ristic, M. Ferrari, Istituto di Fotonica e Nanotecnologie, CNR, CSMFO Lab. (Italy); S. Turrell, LASIR, CNRS and CERLA, Univ. Lille 1 (France)
- 8431 1G **Tuning the emission wavelength of semiconductor ring lasers with on-chip filtered optical feedback** [8431-51]
G. Verschaffelt, Vrije Univ. Brussel (Belgium); I. V. Ermakov, Univ. Catholique de Louvain (Belgium); S. Beri, Tyco Electronics (Belgium); M. Ashour, J. Danckaert, Vrije Univ. Brussel (Belgium); B. Docter, EFFECT Photonics BV (Netherlands); J. Bolk, X. Leijts, Eindhoven Univ. of Technology (Netherlands)
- 8431 1H **High index contrast optical platform using gallium phosphide on sapphire: an alternative to SOI?** [8431-52]
D. O'Mahony, M. N. Hossain, J. Justice, E. Pelucchi, A. O'Riordan, B. Roycroft, B. Corbett, Tyndall National Institute (Ireland)

PLASMONICS ON SILICON

- 8431 1I **Light propagation in metallic nanoparticle chains on SOI waveguide (Invited Paper)** [8431-53]
M. Février, P. Gogol, A. Aassime, R. Megy, A. Bondi, Institut d'Électronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Univ. Paris-Sud (France) and Ctr. National de la Recherche Scientifique (France); A. Chelnokov, CEA-LETI-Minatec (France); A. Apuzzo, S. Blaize, G. Lerondel, LNIO, ICD, CNRS-FRE, Univ. de Technologie Troyes (France); J.-M. Lourtioz, B. Dagens, Institut d'Électronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Univ. Paris-Sud (France) and Ctr. National de la Recherche Scientifique (France)
- 8431 1K **Proposal of a silicon optical modulator based on surface plasmon resonance** [8431-55]
T. Tabei, S. Yokoyama, Hiroshima Univ. (Japan)

PASSIVE AND RESONANT PHOTONIC DEVICES

- 8431 1M **Low-nonlinearity and low-loss silicon slot waveguides with ALD-grown thin films** [8431-57]
L. Karvonen, A. Säynätjoki, Aalto Univ. (Finland); X. Tu, T. Y. Liow, A*STAR Institute of Microelectronics (Singapore); M. Hiltunen, J. Hiltunen, VTT Technical Research Ctr. of Finland (Finland); A. Tervonen, Aalto Univ. (Finland); G. Q. Lo, A*STAR Institute of Microelectronics (Singapore); S. Honkanen, Aalto Univ. (Finland) and Univ. of Eastern Finland (Finland)
- 8431 1O **Silicon-based monolithically integrated whispering-gallery mode resonators with buried waveguides** [8431-59]
M. Ghulinyan, Fondazione Bruno Kessler (Italy); F. Ramiro Manzano, R. Guider, N. Prtljaga, Univ. of Trento (Italy); G. Pucker, Fondazione Bruno Kessler (Italy); L. Pavesi, Univ. of Trento (Italy)

- 8431 1P **Whispering gallery modes in coated silica microspheres** [8431-60]
D. Ristić, A. Chiasera, IFN-CNR, CSMFO Lab. (Italy); E. Moser, Trento Univ. (Italy); P. Féron, ENSSAT-FOTON, CNRS (France); G. Cibiel, Ctr. National d'Études Spatiales (France); M. Ivanda, Institut Ruder Boskovic (Croatia); G. C. Righini, IFAC-CNR, MDF Lab. (Italy); M. Ferrari, IFN-CNR, CSMFO Lab. (Italy)

BIOSENSING

- 8431 1Q **A single-lithography SOI rib waveguide sensing circuit with apodized low back-reflection surface grating fiber coupling** [8431-14]
V. J. Dubois, M. Antelius, H. Sohlström, K. B. Gylfason, Royal Institute of Technology (Sweden)
- 8431 1R **Low-loss single mode light waveguides in polymer** [8431-62]
H. Sieber, H.-J. Boehm, U. Hollenbach, J. Mohr, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (Germany); U. Ostrzinski, K. Pfeiffer, micro resist technology GmbH (Germany); M. Szczurowski, W. Urbanczyk, Wroclaw Univ. of Technology (Poland)
- 8431 1S **Slot ring biosensors using silicon nitride waveguides with small temperature coefficient** [8431-63]
A. Hirowatari, T. Taniguchi, T. Ikeda, M. Fukuyama, Y. Amemiya, A. Kuroda, S. Yokoyama, Hiroshima Univ. (Japan)

POSTER SESSION

- 8431 1T **A diode-based bolometer implemented on micromachined CMOS technology for terahertz radiation detection** [8431-64]
M. Perenzoni, S. Domingues, Fondazione Bruno Kessler (Italy)
- 8431 1U **Arrayed waveguide gratings beyond communication: utilization of entire image-plane of output star-coupler for spectroscopy and sensing** [8431-65]
H. N. J. Fernando, A. Stoll, J. C. Boggio, R. Haynes, M. M. Roth, Leibniz-Institut für Astrophysik Potsdam (Germany)
- 8431 1V **Simulation of polymeric integrated Young interferometer sensor** [8431-66]
M. Kusko, National Institute for Research and Development in Microtechnologies (Romania)
- 8431 1X **Approximate model of a DBR/F-P laser based on Raman effect in a silicon-on-insulator rib waveguide** [8431-68]
A. Tyszka-Zawadzka, Warsaw Univ. of Technology (Poland); P. Szczepański, Warsaw Univ. of Technology (Poland) and National Institute of Telecommunications (Poland); M. Karpierz, A. Mossakowska-Wyszyńska, M. Bugaj, Warsaw Univ. of Technology (Poland)
- 8431 1Y **Effect of rapid thermal annealing on Nd-SiO_x thin film properties** [8431-69]
C.-H. Liang, J. Cardin, L. Khomenkova, F. Goubilleau, CIMAP (CNRS/CEA/ENSICAEN/UCBN) (France)

- 8431 12 **Quantum well intermixing in AlInGaAs QW structures through the interdiffusion of group III atoms** [8431-70]
K.-H. Lee, K. Thomas, A. Gocalinska, M. Manganaro, H. Yang, E. Pelucchi, Tyndall National Institute (Ireland); F. H. Peters, Tyndall National Institute (Ireland) and Univ. College Cork (Ireland); B. Corbett, Tyndall National Institute (Ireland)
- 8431 21 **A photo-sensor on thin polysilicon membrane embedded in wafer level package LED** [8431-72]
J. K. Kim, H. C. Lee, KAIST (Korea, Republic of)
- 8431 22 **Design of rare-earth doped chalcogenide microspheres for mid-IR optical amplification** [8431-73]
F. Prudenzano, L. Mescia, P. Bia, A. Di Tommaso, M. De Sario, Politecnico di Bari (Italy); M. Ferrari, IFN-CNR, CSMFO Lab. (Italy); G. C. Righini, IFAC-CNR (Italy)
- 8431 23 **Direct laser writing of 3D micro/nanostructures on opaque surfaces** [8431-74]
S. Rekštytė, A. Žukauskas, V. Purlys, Vilnius Univ. (Lithuania); Y. Gordienko, G. V. Kurdyumov Institute for Metal Physics (Ukraine); M. Malinauskas, Vilnius Univ. (Lithuania)
- 8431 24 **Improved integrated resonators in polymer technology for tunable filter** [8431-75]
A. Maalouf, C. Bastianelli, Lab. Foton, CNRS, Univ. Européenne de Bretagne (France) and Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Sciences Appliquées et de Technologie (France); F. Mahé, Lab. IRMAR, CNRS, Univ. Européenne de Bretagne (France) and Univ. de Rennes (France); A. Belmiloudi, Lab. IRMAR, CNRS, Univ. Européenne de Bretagne (France) and INSA Rennes (France); M. Gadonna, Lab. Foton, CNRS, Univ. Européenne de Bretagne (France) and Télécom-Bretagne (France); D. Bosc, Lab. Foton, CNRS, Univ. Européenne de Bretagne (France) and Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Sciences Appliquées et de Technologie (France)
- 8431 26 **A new type of sensitive semiconductor detectors of terahertz radiation** [8431-77]
D. E. Dolzhenko, Lomonosov Moscow State Univ. (Russian Federation); A. V. Nicorici, Institute of Applied Physics (Moldova); L. I. Ryabova, D. R. Khokhlov, Lomonosov Moscow State Univ. (Russian Federation)
- 8431 27 **High quality factor dielectric multilayer structures fabricated by rf-sputtering** [8431-79]
A. Chiasera, IFN-CNR, CSMFO Lab. (Italy); S. Valligatla, IFN-CNR, CSMFO Lab. (Italy), Univ. di Trento (Italy), and Univ. of Hyderabad (India); S. Varas, IFN-CNR, CSMFO Lab. (Italy); N. Bazzanella, Univ. di Trento (Italy); D. N. Rao, Univ. of Hyderabad (India); G. C. Righini, Ctr. Fermi (Italy) and IFAC-CNR (Italy); M. Ferrari, IFN-CNR, CSMFO Lab. (Italy)
- 8431 29 **Low-frequency noise and microplasma measurements as a faster tool to investigate the quality of monocrystalline-silicon solar cells** [8431-81]
Z. Chobola, M. Luňák, V. Juránková, J. Vanek, Brno Univ. of Technology (Czech Republic); R. Barinka, Solartec, s.r.o. (Czech Republic)

Author Index

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Danxia Xu, National Research Council Canada (Canada)
Koji Yamada, Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation (Japan)
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Session Chairs

- 1 Nonlinear Integrated Photonics
Laurent Vivien, Institut d'Électronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Université Paris-Sud (France)
- 2 Nonlinear Optics
Lorenzo Pavesi, Università degli Studi di Trento (Italy)
- 3 Photodetectors
Seppo K. Honkanen, University of Eastern Finland (Finland)
- 4 Light Guiding and Coupling
Giancarlo C. Righini, Istituto di Fisica Applicata Nello Carrara (Italy)
- 5 Silicon and Germanium Modulator
Maria-Pilar Bernal, FEMTO-ST, CNRS, Université de Franche-Comté (France)
- 6 CMOS Photonics for Theranostics
Lorenzo Pavesi, Università degli Studi di Trento (Italy)
- 7 Silicon Modulators
Laurent Fulbert, CEA-LETI (France)
- 8 Industry and Silicon Photonics
Lorenzo Pavesi, Università degli Studi di Trento (Italy)
- 9 Silicon Photonics Integration
Bert-Jan Offrein, IBM Zürich Research Laboratory (Switzerland)
- 10 Source on Silicon
Kazumi Wada, The University of Tokyo (Japan)
- 11 Non-Silicon Integrated Optical Devices
Stefano Pelli, Istituto di Fisica Applicata Nello Carrara (Italy)
- 12 Plasmonics on Silicon
Seppo K. Honkanen, University of Eastern Finland (Finland)
- 13 Passive and Resonant Photonic Devices
Béatrice Dagens, Institut d'Électronique Fondamentale (France)
- 14 Biosensing
Laurent Vivien, Institut d'Électronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Université Paris-Sud (France)

Introduction

This issue contains the papers presented at the third edition of the “Silicon Photonics and Photonic Integrated Circuits” Conference of Photonics Europe (2012). The conference was aimed to review and debate the hottest topics in integrated optical structures fabricated in silicon as well as in glasses, crystals, and polymers.

The conference was a success as was witnessed by the 81 submitted abstracts, a number which sharply rose above the 2010 edition. The conference success was also reflected in the high quality of the presentations, which in turn maintained the high interest of a large active audience.

The conference has shown that integrated optics, in particular silicon photonics, is able to provide technologies and devices suitable for industries or commercialization, while still keeping the style of a blue-sky research with the demonstration of interesting new phenomena. These new discoveries act as an innovation drive bound to be exploited by the industry in a longer time frame. This trend was particularly evident in the sessions devoted to sensing and to theranostics, where commercial achievements and novel approaches were concurrently illustrated.

The conference also caught a significant evolution of silicon photonics which moved from being a mostly datacom or interconnect oriented platform to a multipurpose platform for diverse applications, such as sensing, energetic, or medical applications.

This trend was evident in the four special sessions which covered:

- Nonlinear Integrated Photonics
- CMOS Photonics for Theranostics
- Industry and Silicon Photonics
- Non-Silicon Integrated Optical Devices.

We organized these special sessions mainly with invited presentations by experts who succeeded to efficiently highlight the most relevant research and industrial developments.

All sessions were well-attended, some exceptionally well, e.g., the one that focused on industry. They were all animated by many questions and comments from the participants, making them a valuable occasion for discussions and debates.

The Best Student Paper Award offered by SPIE for this conference was presented to Papichaya Chaisakul, Institut d'Électronique Fondamentale, CNRS, Univ. Paris-Sud (France) for the paper on "Room temperature direct-gap electroluminescence in Ge/SiGe quantum well waveguides" (8431-44).

In cooperation with SPIE, we awarded three prizes to the best contributed paper presentations, which at the end of the conference we were delighted to confer to:

- 1) Carlos Alonso-Ramos, Univ. de Málaga (Spain) for the paper on "Grating couplers in thick rib SOI waveguides for TE and TM polarizations" (8431-13)
- 2) Paul Muellner, AIT Austrian Institute of Technology GmbH (Austria) for the paper on "On-chip multiplexing concept for silicon photonic MZI biosensor array" (8431-27)
- 3) Alexandros Emboras, CEA-LETI-Minatec (France) for the paper on "CMOS integration of field effect plasmonic modulator" (8431-56).

The good outcome of this conference has been a result of a cooperative work and we thank the members of the Programme Committee and the authors for this, and SPIE for the smooth organization of the symposium.

Laurent Vivien
Seppo K. Honkanen
Lorenzo Pavesi
Stefano Pelli