
Near-field optical imaging of Plasmonic Waveguides

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Abstract

The goal of the present work concerns the development of innovative Surface Plasmon-Polariton (SPP) components operating in the telecom spectral domain near a wavelength of $1.55 \mu\text{m}$. Different dielectric-loaded SPP waveguides based on structured polymer layer on the top of thin gold film have been processed by e-beam lithography. The optical properties are experimentally characterized using a scanning near-field optical microscope (SNOM) operating by laser feedback interferometry. This experimental setup gives access simultaneously to the sample topography and the spatial distribution of the optical field of the SPP with a subwavelength spatial resolution.

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