

Modeling of SPR ARROW Structures for Lab-On-a-Chip Application

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ABSTRACT

ARROW waveguides are the micro electro opto mechanical devices used in the bio medical application. Surface plasmon resonance ARROW waveguide is modelled and analyzed. These Photonic devices are based on light interaction on the waveguides. Visible wavelength is used for the modelling. These are integrated optical structure used to enhance the technology in the Lab-On-a-Chip market. The main parameter measuring with this device is Quality factor of the structure and transmission spectrum analysis.

Keywords—ARROW waveguide; SPR Bio sensor; Quality factor ; Transmission; Biosensor;

I. INTRODUCTION

Planar slab waveguides are the structures used in photonics sensing and biomedical applications. Silicon dioxide-based grating structures [1], slab dielectric waveguides [2-4], anti-resonant reflecting waveguide structures are used. These devices are also having application as modulator, optical switches, filter circuits, switched directional couplers, in communication system [2]. For modeling and analysis of these structure Eigne value theorem [5] and finite element method and Finite difference time domain methods are involved. These devices are the part of the integrated optics. Modelling of blood flow pulse rate is with the help of Non-invasive method. The different health issues such as internal bleeding hypovolemia may be detected using static magnetic field approach [6].

The ARROW waveguide are low loss devices formed on Glass or Silicon substrate. These devices can be integrated with optical and electrical components, and they are the micro opto electronic circuits [7]. Multilayer ARROW structures are also part of the electronics circuits. These devices use the high index substrate material and are suitable as a polarizer device [8], and as Photodetectors [9]. The large light confinement of light is possible with ARROW waveguide devices. Single mode propagation of light is possible effectively with ARROW structure [10]. Spectral characteristics of liquid core ARROW waveguides are analyzed and fabricating using the chemical vapor deposition method [13]. Analyzing leaky modes of these waveguides are part of the design and implementation. Photonic crystal fiber (PCF) based structures are implemented for sensing using magnetic fields [14].

Optofluidic chip are the sensing platform in the bio-medical application. The coupling of light is increased from 82% to 95% wit this article. The detection of fluorescent particle is carried out [15]. Efficient way of detection of colour change is possible with small nano or Pico liter capacity of liquid core waveguide (LCW). These structures are the hallow core ARROW devices. These are fabricated using multilayers of SiN/SiO₂ materials and these are part of the Lab-On-a-Chip sensor devices [16-19].

Micro opto electro mechanical devices are and its applications in application and classification is shown in figure 1. We can design sensor using passive components or as active components. Actuators, cantilever waveguides, resistive sensors, photo diodes, detector etc., The different examples are shown in figure below.

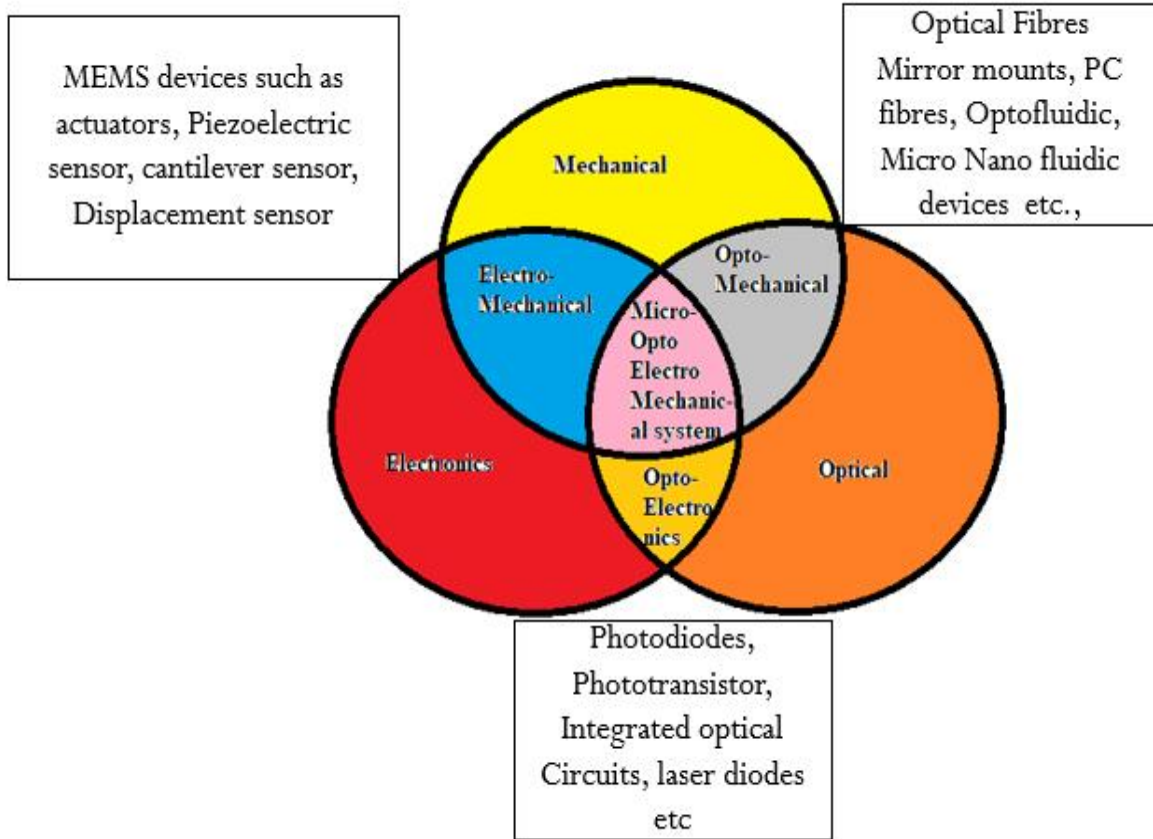


Figure 1: Micro Opto Electro Mechanical System based devices classification

Variational FDTD uses time domain Maxwell's equations to solve various optical modal parameters of waveguide structures. The times varying Maxwell's equations are discussed. The equation (1) is called as Gauss law intended for electric fields. Magnetic field in the electromagnetics is given by Gauss law for magnetic fields as shown in equation (2). Faradays law is shown in equation (3) and equation (4) shows the Ampere Maxwells law.

$$\nabla \cdot E = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0} \quad (1)$$

$$\nabla \cdot B = 0 \quad (2)$$

$$\nabla \times E = -\frac{\partial B}{\partial t} \quad (3)$$

$$\nabla \times B = \mu_0 j + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} \quad (4)$$

II. SPR ARROW WAVEGUIDE STRUCTURE

The ARROW waveguide devices contain high index core and first cladding and low index second cladding and a Silicon semiconductor substrate [9]. The first cladding thickness for ARROW SPR waveguide is calculated using below equation (5) [9-12].

$$d_1 = \frac{\lambda}{4n_1} \left[1 - \left(\frac{n_c}{n_1} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\lambda}{2n_c d_c} \right)^2 \right]^{-0.5} (2N+1) \quad (5)$$

Where d_1 is thickness of first cladding layer, λ is the wavelength, core thickness is d_c , core refractive index (RI) is n_c , n_1 is RI of first cladding and n_2 is RI of second cladding. The second cladding thickness is calculated using the below equation (6)

$$d_2 = \frac{d_c}{2} (2M + 1) \quad N, M = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad (6)$$

Solid core ARROW waveguides depends on the x and y polarization. It is used to calculate the loss in the device [18]. The intensity of device is given by the equation (7) below.

$$I_0 = I_i e^{-\alpha_x L} \cos^2(\theta) + I_i e^{-\alpha_y L} \sin^2(\theta) \quad (7)$$

Along with intensity the other parameters measured are transmission, FWHM and lateral displacements in radians [21]. The different structures are couplers, MZI based ARROW devices [22], vertical cavity ARROW device [23], and multi-mode interference ARROW device [24-25].

These SPR ARROW bio sensor are the devices used as a Lab-on-a-chip application. These are applicable in the optofluidic microsensors. The transfer electric and magnetic field is analyzed in this design. The fabrication methods are PECVD, atomic layer deposition (ALD) [28-31]. Plasmonic structures are used as the refractive index sensor [26-27]. Surface Plasmon Resonance (SPR) ARROW waveguide is shown in figure 2. The Design parameters and its materials are listed in table 1.

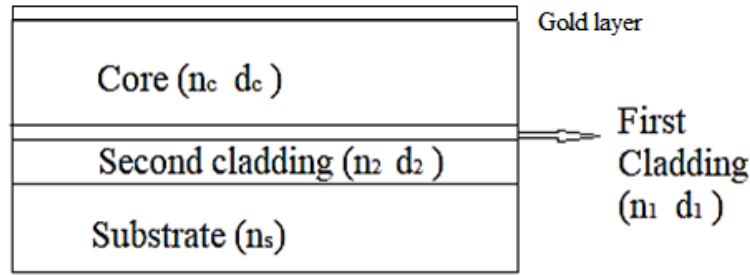


Figure 2: SPR ARROW Waveguide structure

Table 1: Design parameters of SPR ARROW-B waveguide [7]

Layer	RI	Material Used	RI Value
Core and Second cladding	$n_c = n_2$ greater than n_1	As ₂ S ₃	1.87
		NA45 glass	1.54
		C7059	1.54
		TiO ₂	2.3
		Si ₃ N ₄	2.0
		ZnO	1.98
		Al ₂ O ₃	1.65
		ZrO ₂	1.92
First Cladding	$n_1 \ll n_c$	SiO ₂	1.46
		CaF ₂	1.43
Substrate	$n_s \gg (n_1, n_c, n_2)$	Si, Ge, GaAs, InP other semiconductors	--

The propagation constant of the SPW at the metal dielectric layer is given by below equation (8) [32]

$$k_{SPW} = k_0 \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_m X \epsilon_d}{\epsilon_m + \epsilon_d}} \quad (8)$$

Where k_0 is the optical wave free space wave number, ϵ_m is metal permittivity and ϵ_d is the dielectric permittivity. The result and discussion are elaborated in below section.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

SPR ARROW waveguide transmission spectrum is shown in figure 3. The different materials are used for the simulation are listed in table 1 with corresponding Refractive Index. For Aluminum dioxide the transmission percentage is more compared to all other materials.

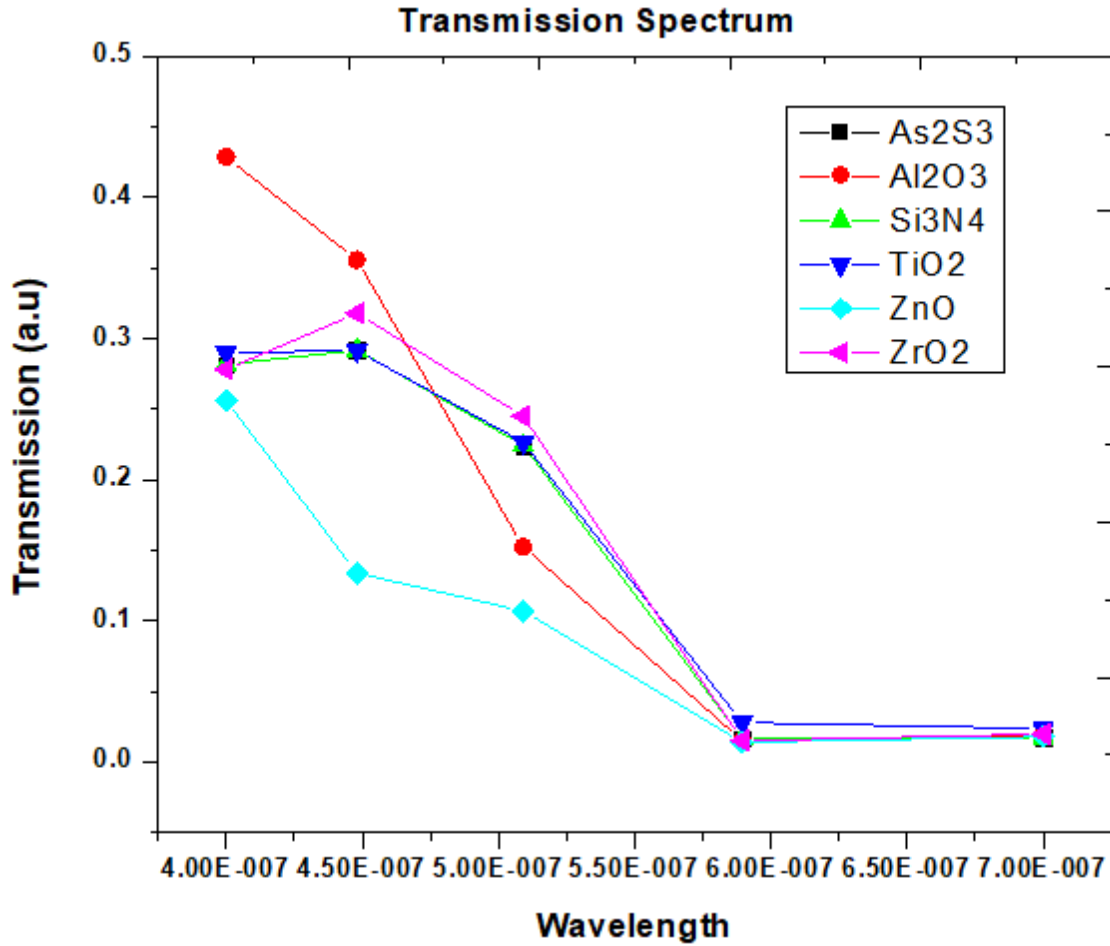


Figure 3: Transmission Spectrum of ARROW-B Waveguide

Quality factor for ARROW-B waveguide is defined by the formula which is shown in equation (9) [33]

$$Q = \frac{-2\pi f_r * \log_{10} e}{2n} \quad (9)$$

f_r is the decaying signal resonant frequency, and n is the signal slope. Alternate equation used to find the Q-factor is given in equation (10). Table 3 list the wavelength and corresponding quality factor for two different resonance 1 and resonance 2.

$$Q = \frac{2\pi f_r}{FWHM} \quad (10)$$

Where, FWHM is the full width half maximum of the resonant spectrum. The values of quality factors for different core material of the ARROW materials are listed below.

Table 3: Quality factor values

Material	Resonance 1		Resonance 2	
	Wavelength (nm)	Q	Wavelength (nm)	Q
As_2S_3	594.02	66.13	464.14	66.51
Al_2O_3	464.82	79.74	480.31	94.66
Si_3N_4	465.38	73.19	481.75	64.71
ZnO	462.03	58.96	477.70	61.72
ZrO_2	470.14	110.32	477.58	108.52
TiO_2	545.85	97.50	486.23	285.24

IV. CONCLUSION

SPR ARROW structure are promising structure used as a refractive index-based sensor. The variation of the ARROW waveguide is SPR ARROW waveguide for bio sensing application. In this work variation in RI results in the changes in resonant wavelength. The sensitivity is the ratio of the changes in the peak wavelength to the RI variation. The modeled SPR ARROW waveguide has effective index of $1.9+2.4 \times 10^{-6}$ and minimal loss reported is 0.00034 dB/cm. The quality factor is measured for various core materials.

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