

Self-assembly of Si- and SiGe-based dielectric Mie resonators via templated solid-state dewetting

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Abstract – Dielectric Mie resonators have attracted a great deal of attention over the past few years thanks to their remarkable capabilities in manipulating light propagation at the nanoscale^{1,2,3}. However, the practical implementation of technological products is still elusive. Important limits are the absence of a high-performing material and a fabrication method that can be easily integrated into modern micro-electronic devices at affordable costs. Here, we provide theoretical and experimental evidence of solid state dewetting of ultra-thin silicon and silicon-germanium films on insulators as an alternative fabrication method and semiconductor material for dielectric Mie resonator applications⁴⁻⁷. These dielectric resonant particles can be obtained over very large surfaces⁴ on arbitrary silica substrates⁵. Remarkably, this self-assembly process is independent on the sample size. Furthermore, the Si(Ge) islands can be precisely organised in uniform arrays and complex oligomers arrangements⁶ featuring low size dispersion. Their composition profile can be controlled *a posteriori* via a Ge condensation process to form core-shell Si/SiGe islands^{7,8} and their diffusion spectrum can be electrically tuned by changing the refractive index of the environment. As an example, we demonstrate SiGe-based Mie resonator arrays functioning as colour pass-band filters across the full visible spectral range⁹. The filters function both in transmission and diffusion and are fabricated using a methodology compatible with CMOS technology. We note that the use of SiGe-based alloys in novel electronic devices, such as FET and CMOS transistors, is nowadays extremely important. Because of this, opening the field of dielectric MRs to SiGe-based semiconductor alloys is an important step forward towards the integration of photonics with electronic devices.

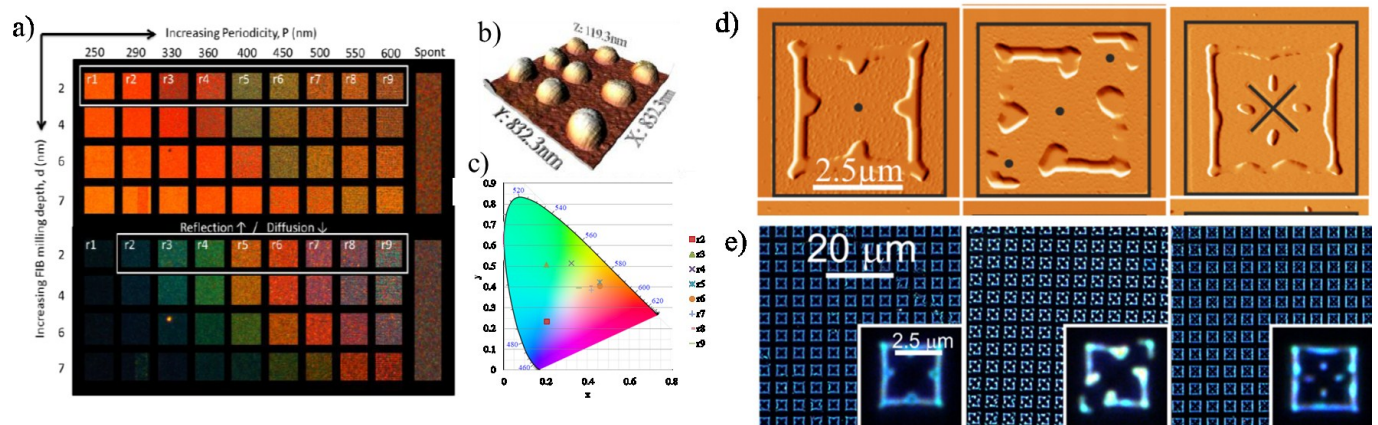


Fig. 1. a) Top (bottom) panel: Bright (Dark)-field microscope images of reflection (diffusion) from SiGe-based Mie resonators obtained via solid state dewetting of 50 nm Si_{0.8}Ge_{0.2}. b) AFM image of pattern r8 of a). c) CIE chromaticity gamut of light diffusion from the patterns shown in a). d) AFM images of e-beam and RIE assisted solid state dewetting of patches etched on 12 nm Si on SiO₂. e) Optical dark-field images of arrays of dewetted patches.

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