

SPIE #6987-33

Periodically structured plasmonic waveguides

W. M. Saj^{a,b}, S. Foteinopoulou^b, M. Kafesaki^b, C. M. Soukoulis^b, E. N. Economou^b

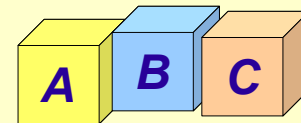
^aFaculty of Physics, University of Warsaw Pasteura 7, 02-093 Warsaw, Poland

***^bInstitute of Electronic Structure and Laser (IESL), Foundation of Research
and Technology-Hellas (FORTH), Heraklion, Crete 71110, Greece***



Outline

Plasmon-polariton waveguides



Numerical investigations of periodically modulated plasmonic waveguides:

- *band structure*
- *transport of energy and phase*
- *time evolution of field*

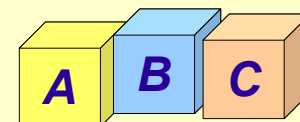
Conclusions

Surface plasmons-polaritons (SPP)

Coupled oscillations of electrons and electromagnetic field that may propagate along the conductor-dielectric interface with amplitude exponentially decreasing from the media interface

high field confinement (below dielectric diffraction limit)

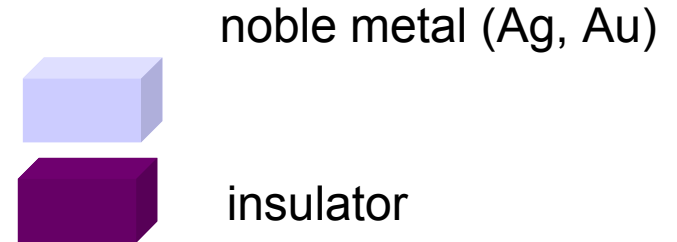
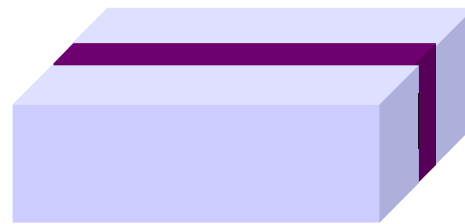
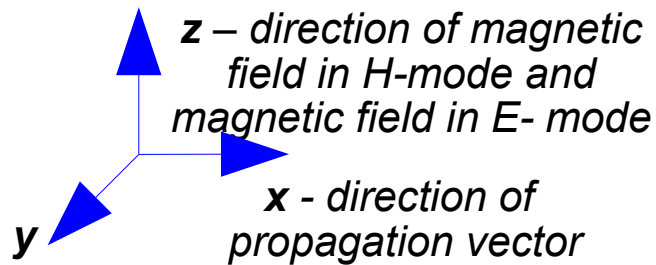
high local field amplitude



Nanometer size optical devices
Plasmonics

SPP waveguides

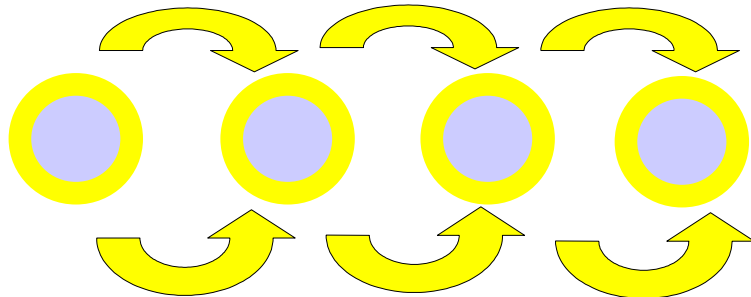
MIM (Metal-Insulator – Metal) waveguide



Coupled surface plasmons of metal walls

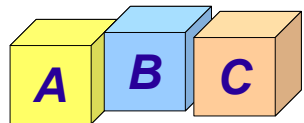
Dionne, J., Sweatlock, L., Polman, A., and Atwater, H., "Plasmon slot waveguides: Towards chip-scale propagation with subwavelength-scale localization," Phys. Rev. B 73, 035407 (2006).

Nanoparticle waveguide



Mie plasmon resonances of metal nanoparticles coupled through free space radiation

Maier, S. A, Kik, P. G., and Atwater, H. A., "Optical pulse propagation in metal nanoparticle chain waveguides," Physical Review B 67, 205402 (2003).

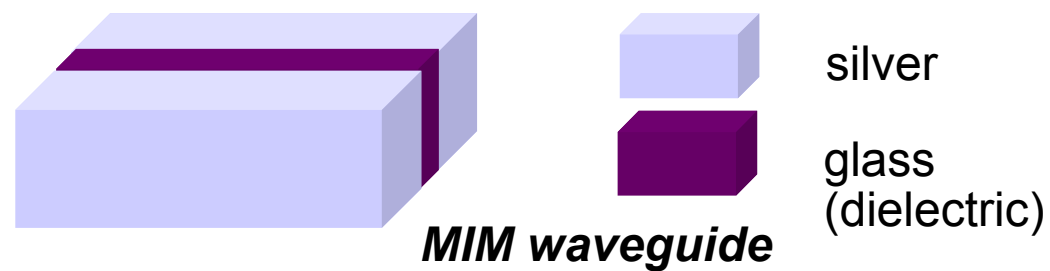
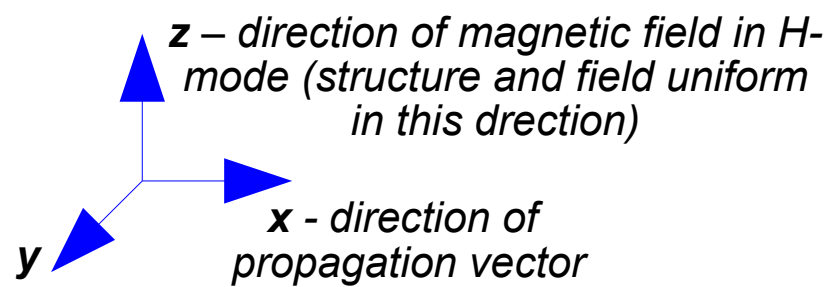


For both of these structures backward waves existence were reported

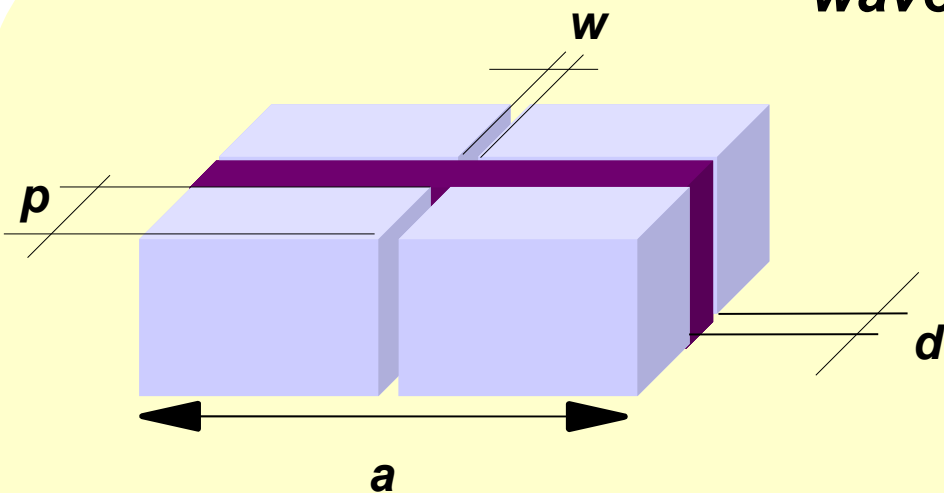
.....

Both structures are very simple and the number of parameters that can be adjusted is small

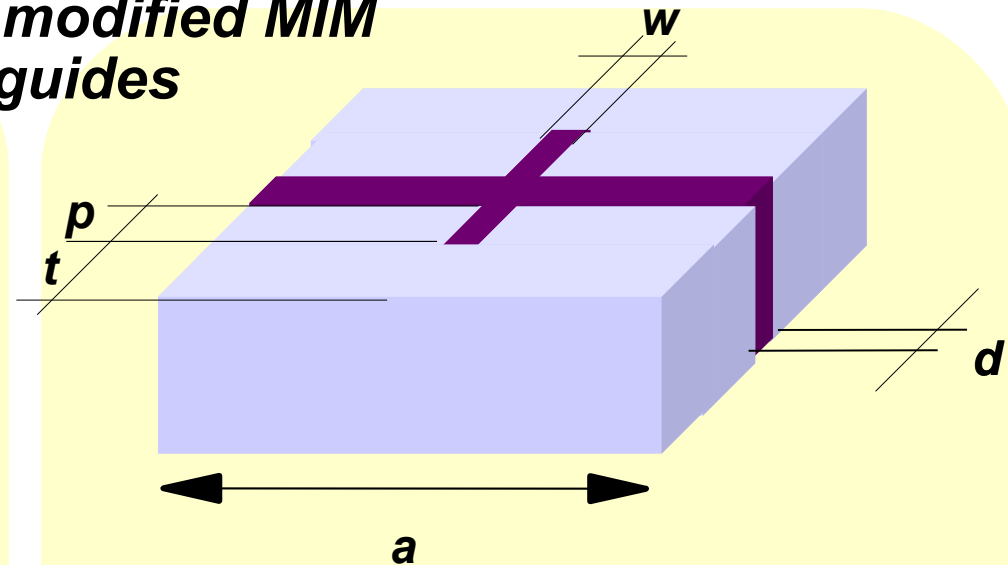
Looking for more design freedom : modified MIM waveguides with introduced periodicity along its lengths



Unit cells of modified MIM waveguides

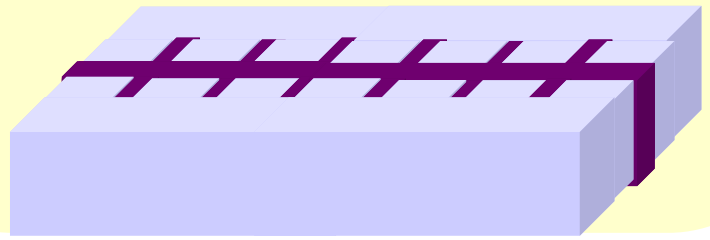
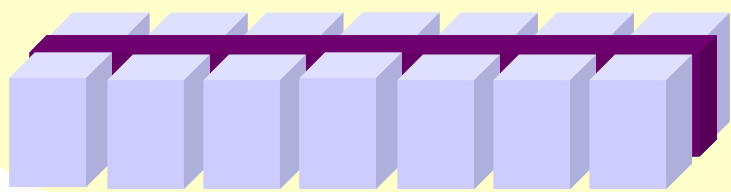


Structure with open slits



Structure with closed slits

$a = 500 \text{ nm}$, $d = 200 \text{ nm}$
 $w = 50 \text{ nm}$, $p = 200 \text{ nm}$
 $t = 200 \text{ nm}$



Waveguides

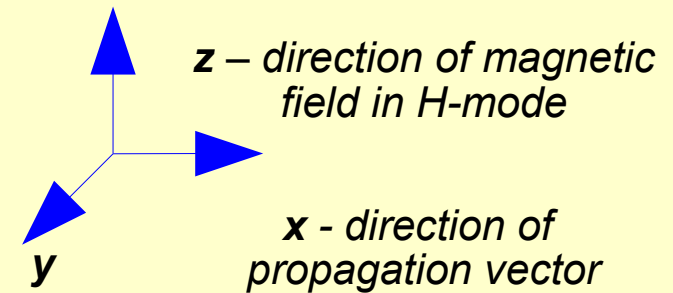
Methodology

Silver is modeled with Drude equation :

$$\epsilon(\omega) = 1 - \omega_p^2 / (\omega^2 + i\gamma\omega)$$

with $\omega_p = 1.29 \times 10^{16}$ Hz and $\gamma = 1.14 \times 10^{14}$ Hz

we investigate H-polarized modes using Finite Difference Time Domain (FDTD) method on the 2D computational grid with space discretization step 2 nm and time discretization step equal 6.67×10^{-18} s, both for propagation simulation and examination of modal structure



Single cell of waveguide

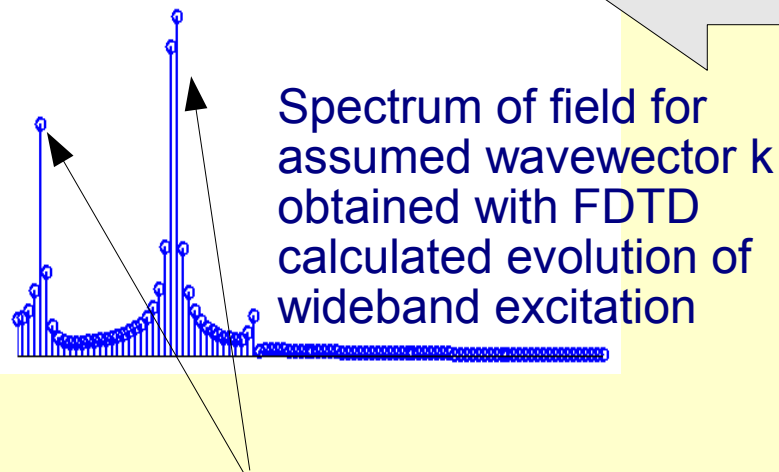
Absorbing boundary conditions

Broadband field excitation

Bloch boundary conditions applied in direction of propagation

FDTD simulation scheme for mode finding

FDTD calculations



Peak frequencies ω relate to modes with assumed wavevector k

Band structure of waveguide

Methodology

Silver is modeled

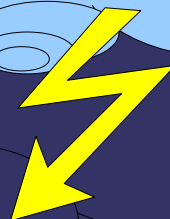
with ω_p

we involve
Time
grid
discretization

**Convergence tests
needed to reasonable
trade off between
space discretization
step and accuracy**



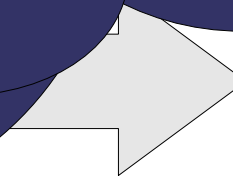
**Stability of boundary
conditions interacting
with evanescent
waves demands extra
computational area**



**FDTD simulation
scheme for mode
finding**

re
assum

**Band structure
of waveguide**



Methodology

Silver is modeled

with ω_p

we investigate
Time
grid
discretization

Convergence tests
needed to reasonable
trade off between
space discretization
step and accuracy

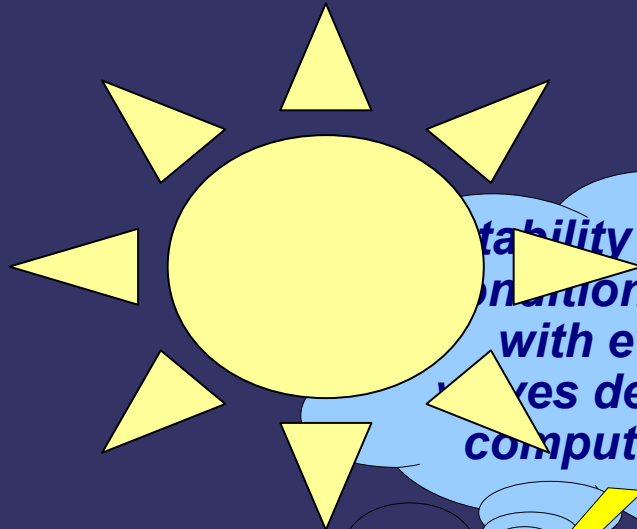
of magnetic
mode

stability of boundary
conditions interacting
with evanescent
waves demands extra
computational area

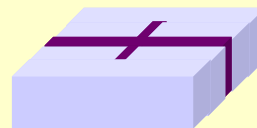
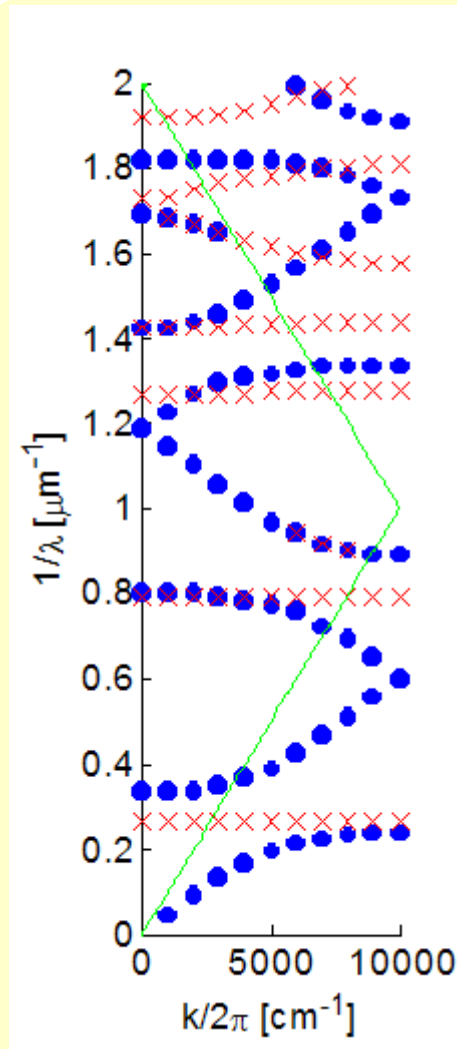
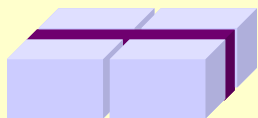
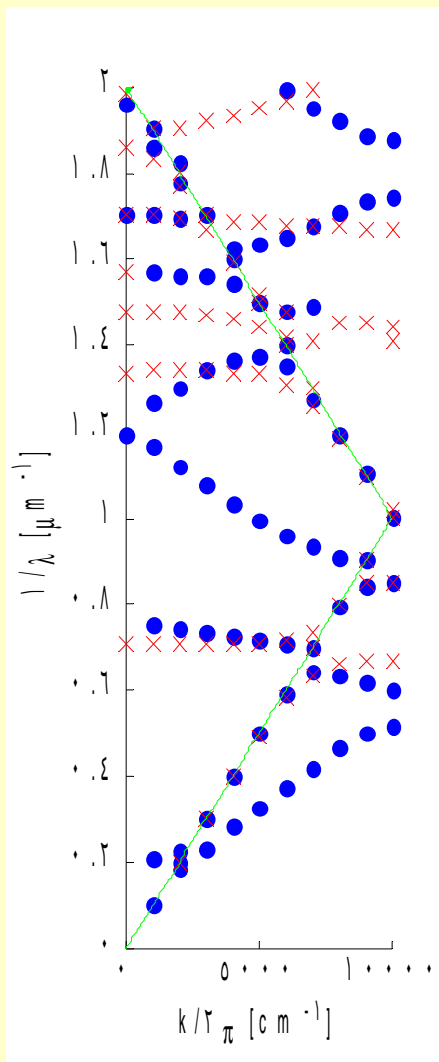
FDTD simulation
scheme for mode
finding

Band structure
of waveguide

reassessing
assumptions

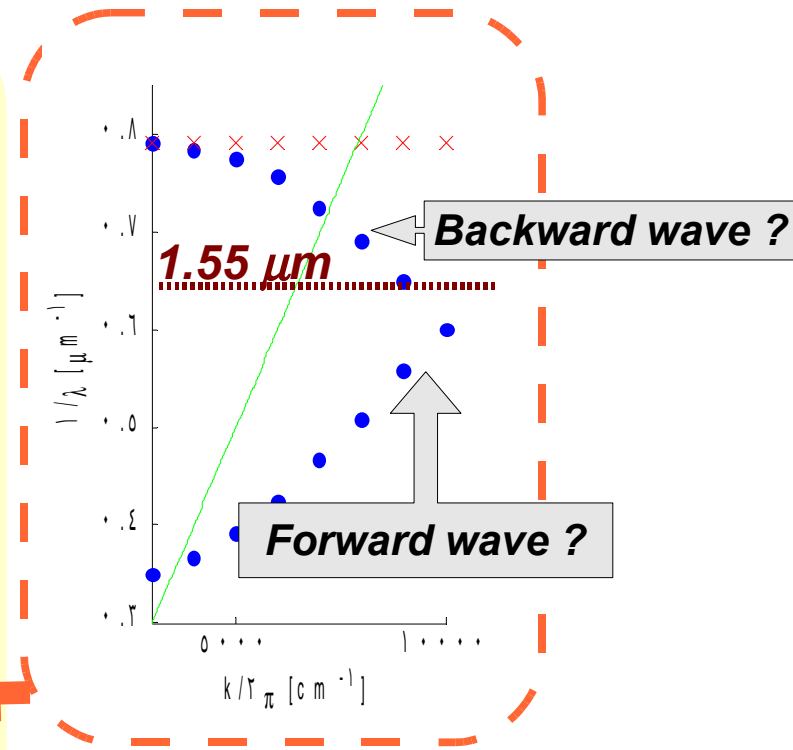
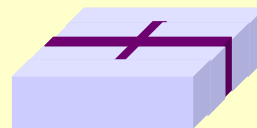
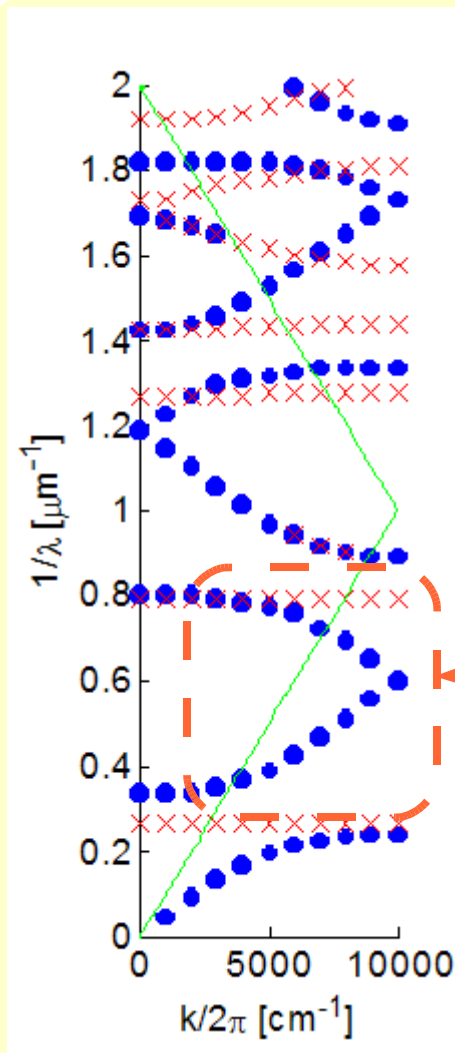
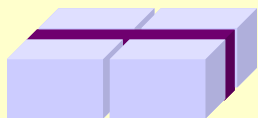
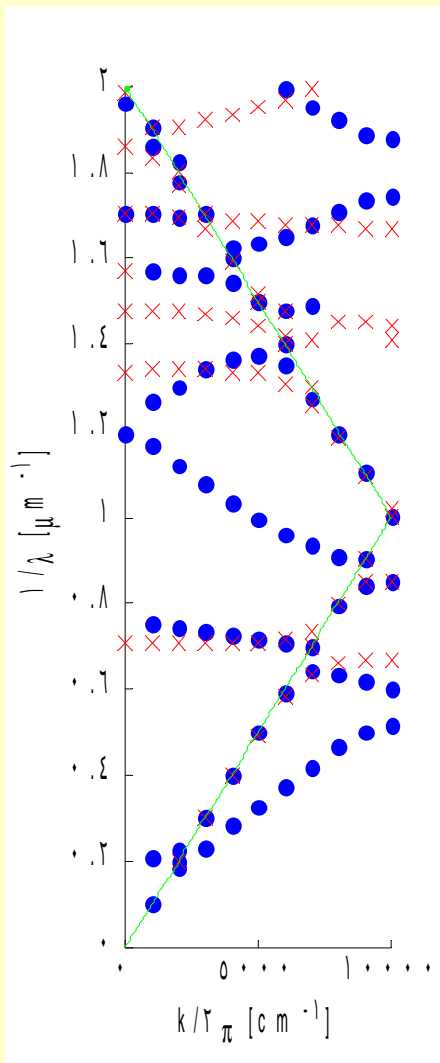


Band structures of modified MIM waveguides (part 1)



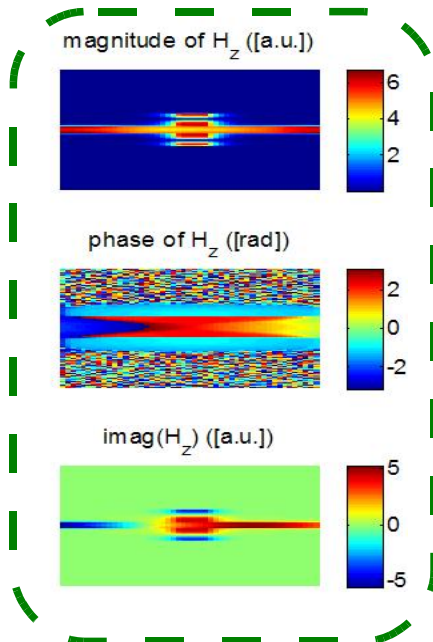
- symmetric H_z
- × antisymmetric H_z
- light line

Band structures of modified MIM waveguides (part 1)

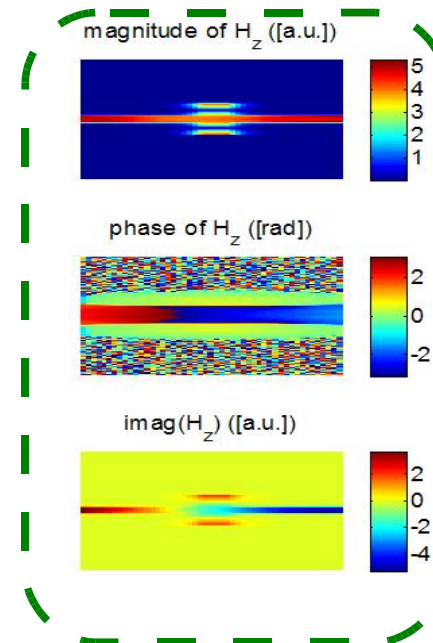


- symmetric H_z
- × antisymmetric H_z
- light line

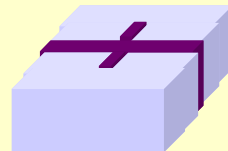
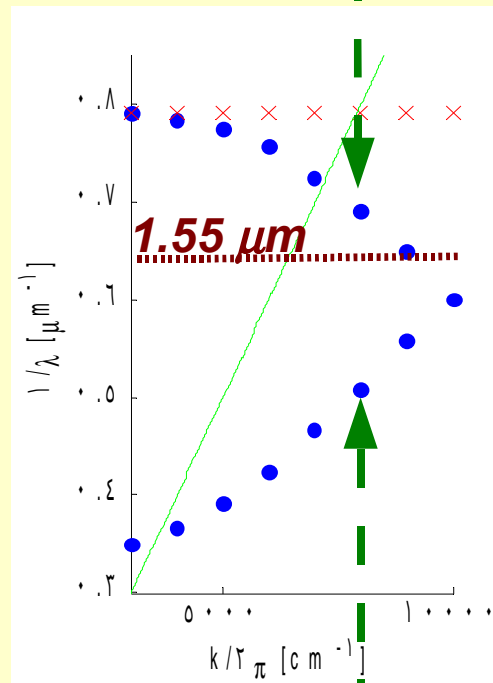
Band structure of modified MIM waveguide (part 2)



Negative band slope mode at 1445 nm



Positive band slope mode at 1966 nm



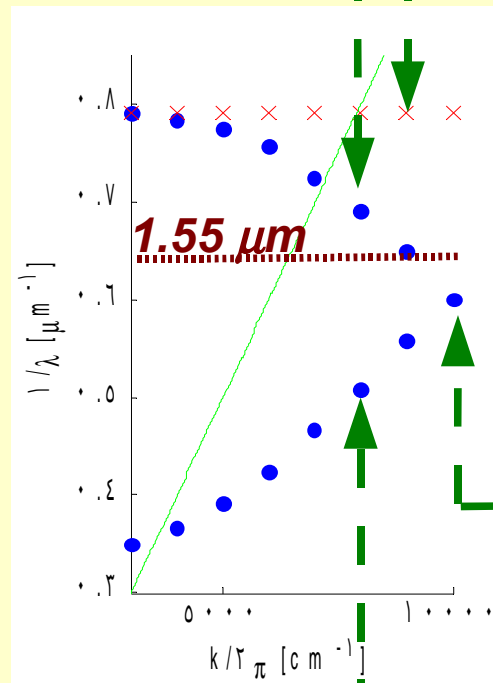
Band structure of modified MIM waveguide (part 2)

Negative band slope mode at 1445 nm

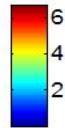
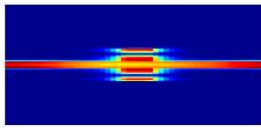
Stationary mode at 1262 nm (antisymmetric H_z)

BZ edge mode at 1665 nm

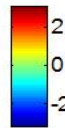
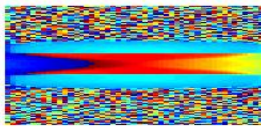
Positive band slope mode at 1966 nm



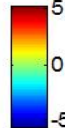
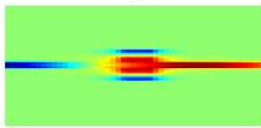
magnitude of H_z ([a.u.])



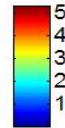
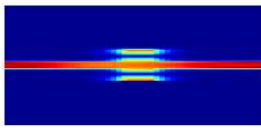
phase of H_z ([rad])



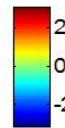
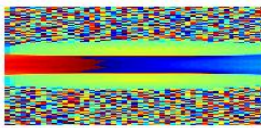
imag(H_z) ([a.u.])



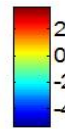
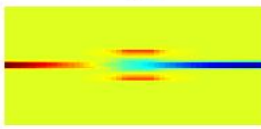
magnitude of H_z ([a.u.])



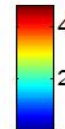
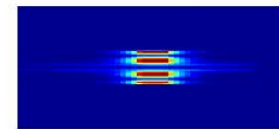
phase of H_z ([rad])



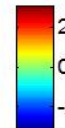
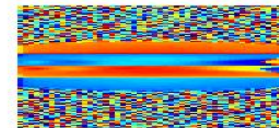
imag(H_z) ([a.u.])



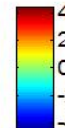
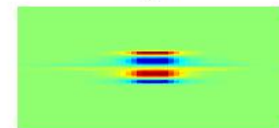
magnitude of H_z ([a.u.])



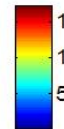
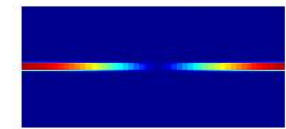
phase of H_z ([rad])



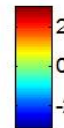
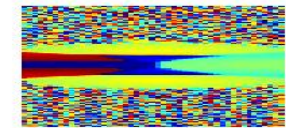
imag(H_z) ([a.u.])



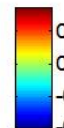
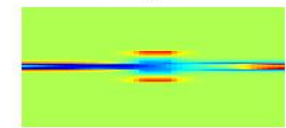
magnitude of H_z ([a.u.])



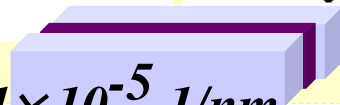
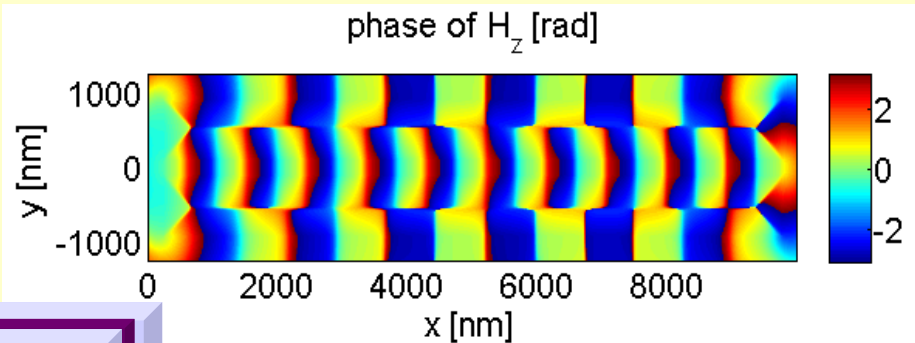
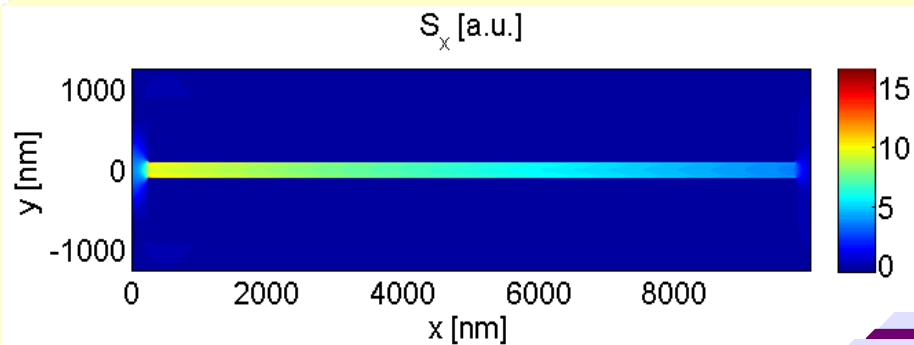
phase of H_z ([rad])



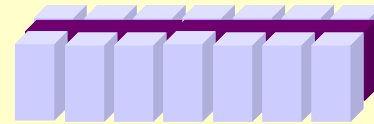
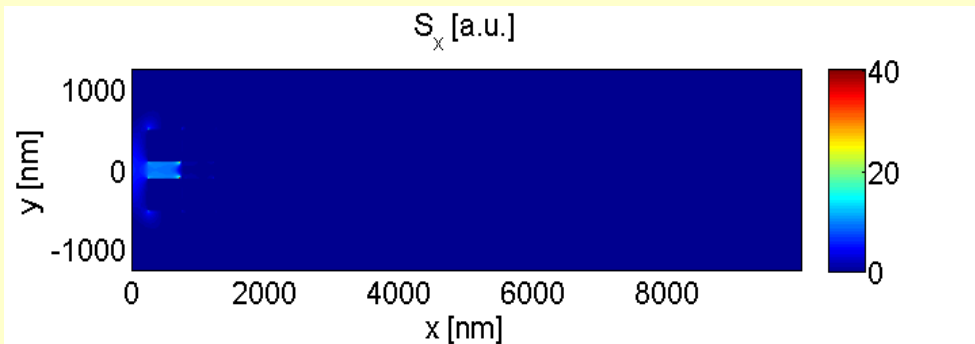
imag(H_z) ([a.u.])



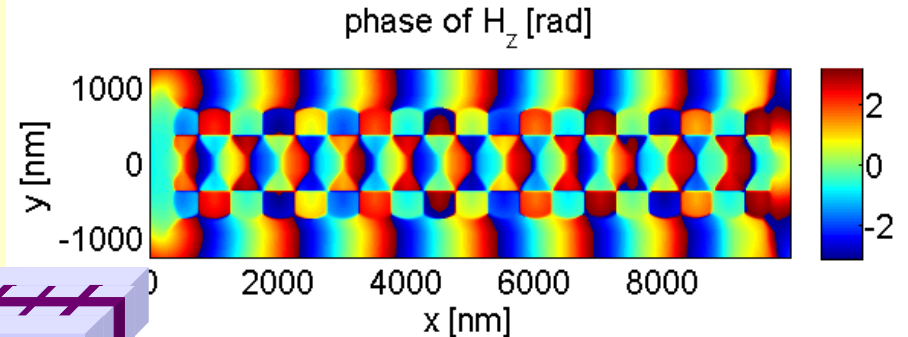
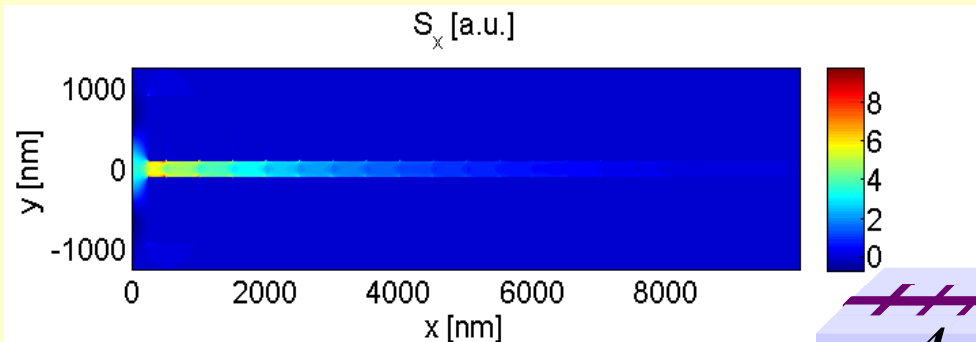
Propagation results : gaussian beam CW back shot excitation, wavelength 1550 nm , steady state values of Poynting vector in x – direction and phase of magnetic field component



Energy attenuation ratio $|a| = 9.51 \times 10^{-5} \text{ 1/nm}$

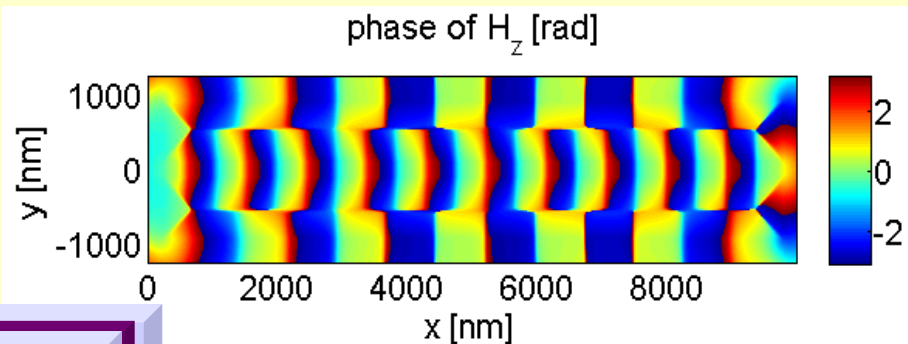
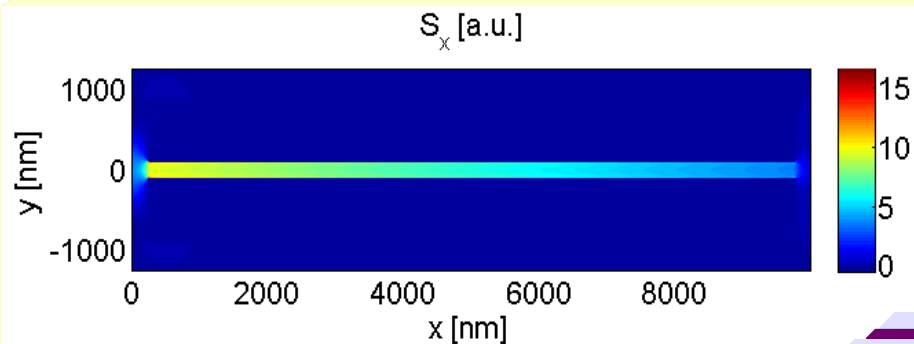


Energy loss much higher than in other structures... other excitation method needed ?

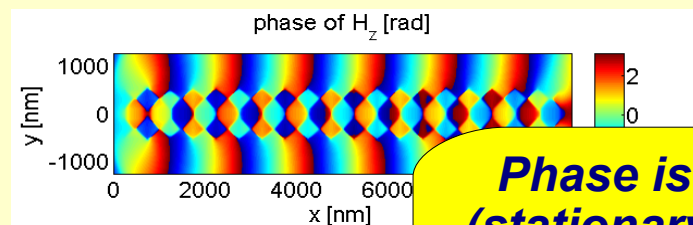
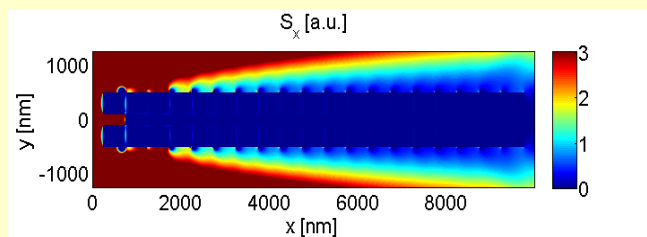


Energy attenuation ratio $|a| = 4.24 \times 10^{-4} \text{ 1/nm}$

Propagation results : gaussian beam CW back shot excitation, wavelength 1550 nm , steady state values of Poynting vector in x – direction and phase of magnetic field component

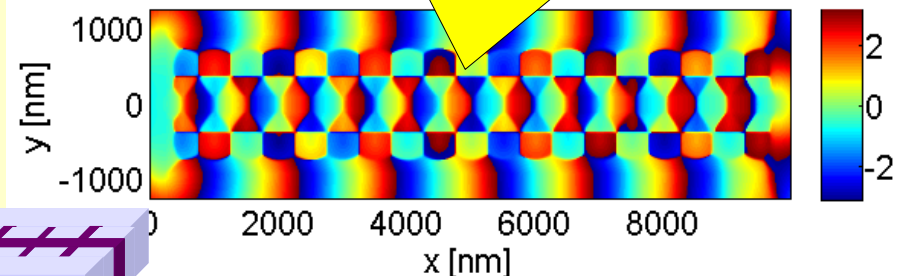
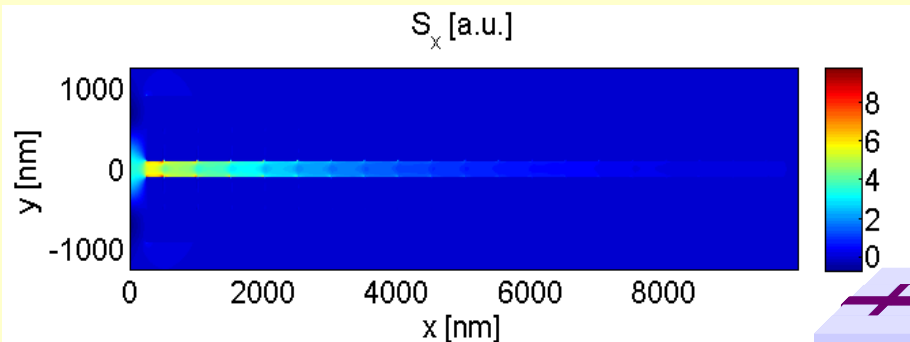


Energy attenuation ratio $|a| = 9.51 \times 10^{-5} \text{ 1/nm}$

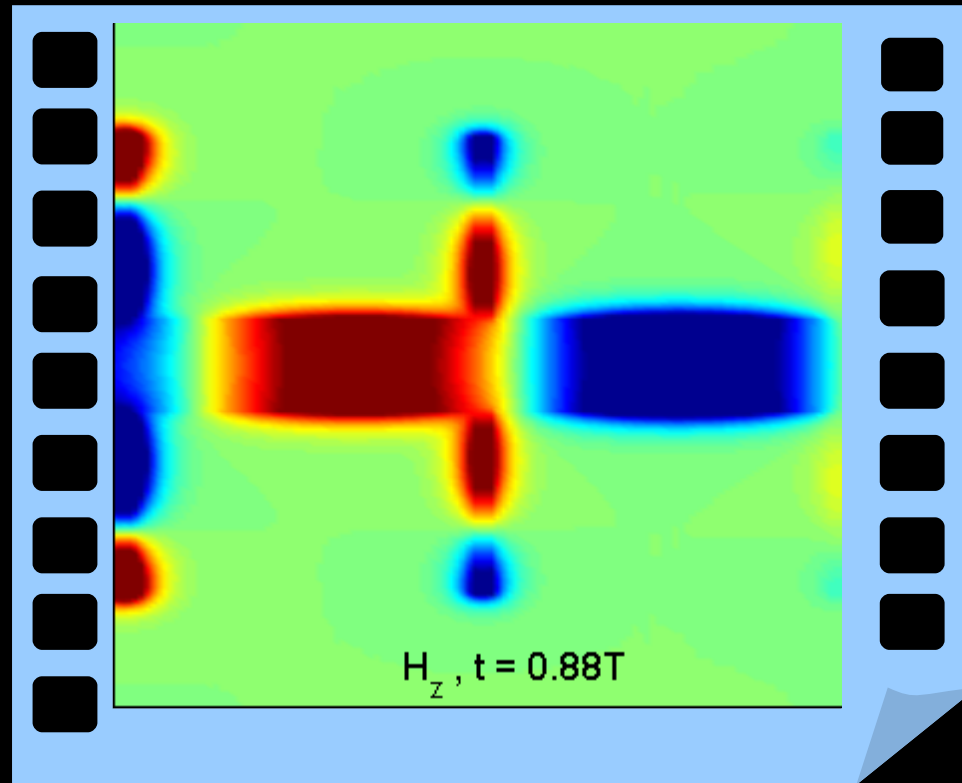


Plane Wave illumination results

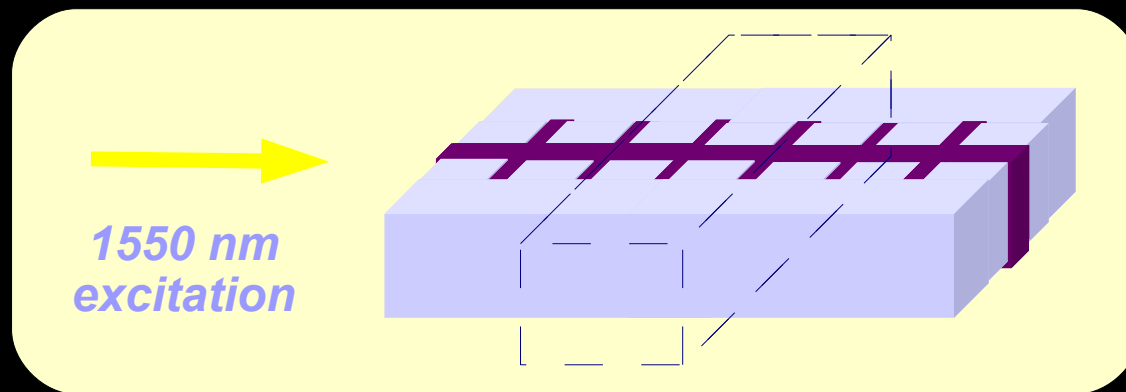
**Phase is discrete
(stationary plasmon
coupling ?) and
make locally
„negative” jumps**



Energy attenuation ratio $|a| = 4.24 \times 10^{-4} \text{ 1/nm}$



Time evolution of magnetic field in modified MIM waveguide during one period of wave



Tuning the band structure

Waveguiding mechanism could be approximately described as transfer of energy between coupled stationary slit plasmons

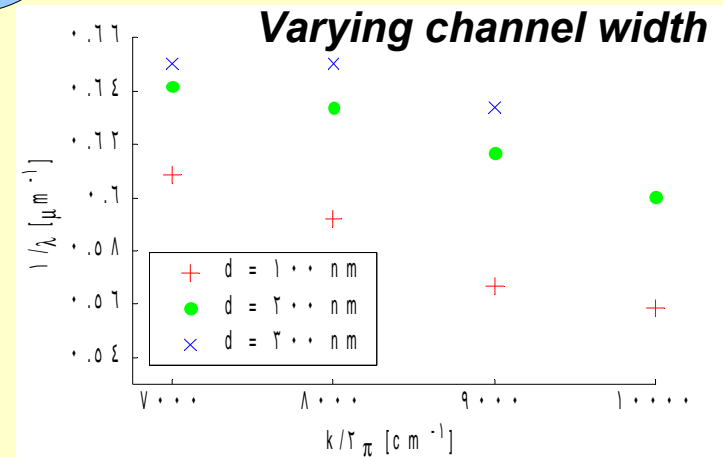
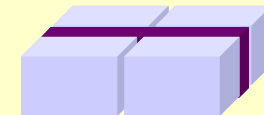
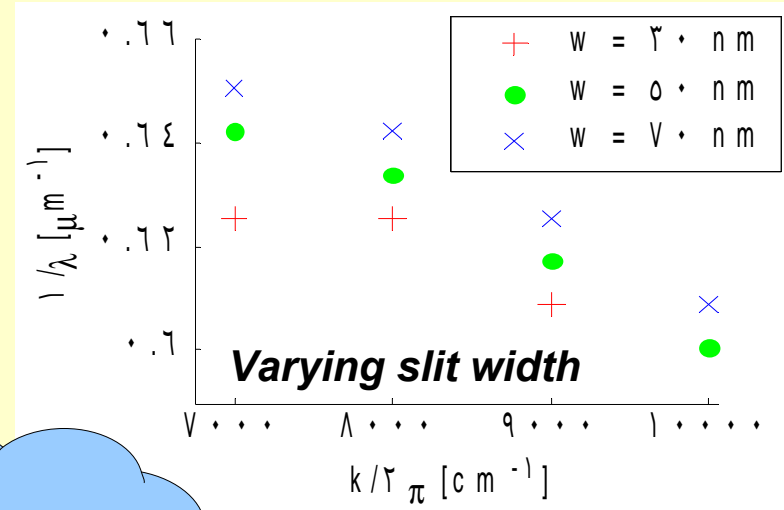
so...

Design hints:

resonance frequency of slit should position the band (range of work frequencies)

the channel parameters should influence the coupling (so the band slope etc.)

It is only an approximation....



Comparison with other designs

	Present work	Maier et al 2003*	Dionne et al. 2006**
Structure	MIM waveguide with periodic structuring: a) periodic indentations in silver claddings (open slit structure) b) periodic enlargements of spacer dielectric core (closed slit structure)	metal nanoparticles	Metal-insulator-metal layers (MIM)
Waveguiding mechanism	Coupling between nano-slits (closed or open)	Coupling between Mie-plasmons	Propagation of the coupled SPP from the two silver cladding layers
Work frequencies	set by geometry	close to nanoparticle Mie-plasmon resonances	close to SPP frequency of metal plane-insulator interface

***Maier, S. A, Kik, P. G., and Atwater, H. A., "Optical pulse propagation in metal nanoparticle chain waveguides," *Physical Review B* 67, 205402 (2003).**

****Dionne, J., Sweatlock, L., Polman, A., and Atwater, H., "Plasmon slot waveguides: Towards chip-scale propagation with subwavelength-scale localization," *Phys. Rev. B* 73, 035407 (2006).**

Conclusions

- Bands with both negative and positive dispersion slope exists in MIMs waveguide with periodic modulation (*forward and backward waves* ?)
- Plasmonic resonators coupled with guided wave may be a promising solution for optical range metamaterial

Acknowledgments

This work was supported by Polish Project N51503931/1295 and the EU FP6 Network of Excellence METAMORPHOSE.

