Periodiškai nanostruktūrizuotos optinės dangos, skirtos lazerio šviesos valdymui

Periodically nanostructured optical coatings for the manipulation of laser radiation

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In micro-lasers, especially in high power emission regimes, the spatial quality of laser light beam deteriorates, i.e. the energy distribution deviates from the Gaussian form. Typically, a confocal arrangement of lenses with a diaphragm in the focal plane is used for intracavity spatial filtering. Such conventional filtering requires access to the far-field domain. In microlasers, however, conventional filtering is impossible due to the lack of space in micro-resonators to access the far-field. Therefore, a novel concept for more compact and efficient spatial filtering is necessary.

In this study, we propose and demonstrate a conceptually novel mechanism of spatial filtering in the near-field domain, by a nanostructured multilayer coating - a 2D photonic crystal structure with a periodic index modulation along the longitudinal and transverse directions to the beam propagation (see Fig.1) [1]. The structure is built on a nano-modulated substrate, which provides the transverse periodicity. The physical vapor deposition of materials with different refractive indexes is used for the self-repeating modulation in the longitudinal direction.

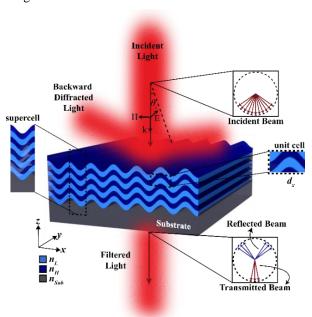


Fig. 1 The schematic representation of designed Photonic Crystal with angular selectivity

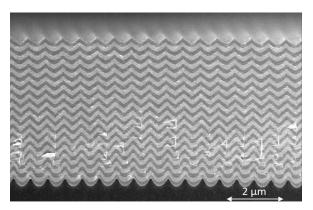


Fig. 2 SEM image of the cross-section of the fabricated structure

We experimentally demonstrate a 5 μ m thick photonic multilayer structure composed of nanostructured layers of alternating high- and low-index materials (Nb₂O₅ and HfO₂, respectively) providing angular selectivity in the near-infrared frequencies with 2° low angle passband. The proposed 2D photonic structure can be considered as a promising component for intracavity spatial filtering even in high power microlasers systems.

In the presentation, the investigation of different technologies for the single layer and multilayer coating deposition on nanostructured surfaces will be reviewed. The focus will be on the possibility to form the dielectric structures with periodic modulation of optical constants by Ion Beam Sputtering technology together with the application of angular filtering of light [1,2].

Key words: optical coatings, ion beam sputtering, nanostructured surface, angular and frequency selectivity.

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Literature

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