Nonlinear and Electro-Optic Metal-Oxides for Active Photonic Devices

# **Rachel Grange**

ETH Zurich Department of Physics Institute for Quantum Electronics Optical Nanomaterial Group

<u>www.ong.ethz.ch</u> grange@phys.ethz.ch @rachel\_grange



Terror ETH Zurich / Stefan Weiss

### The Optical Nanomaterial Group ONG



Marc Reig

Escalé



**Vogler-N** 





Andrea Morandi

Sissi Wang



Saerens



**Karvounis** 



Weigand



Eric

Dénervaud



Wentao

Qiu





Andreas Maeder

Hanh Duong

Alumni: A. Sergeyev, N. Hendricks, C. Renaut, B. Jordaan, F. Richter, M. Timofeeva, Flavia Timpu, Romolo Savo, Jolanda Mueller, Franciele Henrique



#### **E** *H* zürich

#### Teidi Hostettler, D-PHYS

# Quadratic $\chi^{(2)}$ materials as toolbox at small scale

#### **Our focus**

- Nonlinear and electro-optic signals at the nanoscale
- Multipolar imaging tools to study nanomaterials
- Nanofabrication with unconventional materials
- Miniaturized multifunctional photonic devices



Nonlinear Imaging



**Integrated Photonics** 



Random Media

#### Metastructures

### Outline

Miniaturizing  $\chi^{(2)}$  materials

Nonlinear or electro-optic metasurfaces Pulsed laser deposited BaTiO<sub>3</sub> FIB and spin coated nanoparticles Sol-gel nanoimprinted metalens Miscellaneous photonic structures







### Why miniaturizing quadratic optical materials?

### Telecommunication



### Modulators



Reig Escalé, et al. OL 43(7) 2018 Pohl, et al. IEEE PTL 33 (2) 2020

### Traditional vs integrated modulator design





### **Mode Area > 30 μm<sup>2</sup>** <40 Gbit/s





100 Gbit/s

### Traditional vs integrated modulator design





**Mode Area > 30 μm<sup>2</sup>** <40 Gbit/s





**Mode Area < 1 μm<sup>2</sup>** 100 Gbit/s Parallelization

# Why miniaturizing quadratic optical materials?

### Telecommunication



Modulators



Reig Escalé, et al. OL 43(7) 2018 Pohl, et al. IEEE PTL 33 (2) 2020 Sensor



### Spectrometer



Pohl et al. Nature Photonics 14 (1) 2020

### Lithium Niobate Nano Spectrometer



# Why miniaturizing quadratic optical materials?

### Telecommunication



Modulators



Reig Escalé, et al. OL 43(7) 2018 Pohl, et al. IEEE PTL 33 (2) 2020

Sensor

Source



### Spectrometer



Pohl et al. Nature Photonics 14 (1) 2020

### Supercontinuum



Reig Escalé, et al. APL Photonics 5 (12) 2020

# Supercontinuum generation in LNOI





### 851 THz (352 nm) in a 14-mm long rib waveguide

#### **ETH** zürich

Reig Escalé et al. APL Photonics, 5, 12, 2020

# Supercontinuum generation in LNOI







#### **ETH** zürich

Reig Escalé et al. APL Photonics, 5, 12, 2020

# Supercontinuum generation in LNOI





#### **ETH** zürich

Reig Escalé et al. APL Photonics, 5, 12, 2020

# Why miniaturizing quadratic optical materials?



# Optical material with multifunctions

### Bulk crystal



### Lithium Niobate (LiNbO<sub>3</sub>) Barium Titanate (BaTiO<sub>3</sub>)

# Quadratic $\chi^{(2)}$ materials

### Centrosymmetric Non-0

### Non-Centrosymmetric





Silicon Diamond SiO<sub>2</sub> (crystalline quartz) Gallium arsenide (GaAs) Barium titanate (BaTiO<sub>3</sub>) Lithium niobate (LiNbO<sub>3</sub>)









• Electro-optic





Electro-optic

Change in the refractive index linearly proportional to the electric field

Electro-optic tensor  $\chi^{(2)}$  of LiNbO<sub>3</sub>

$$\begin{pmatrix} \Delta(1/n^2)_1 \\ \Delta(1/n^2)_2 \\ \Delta(1/n^2)_3 \\ \Delta(1/n^2)_4 \\ \Delta(1/n^2)_5 \\ \Delta(1/n^2)_6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -3.4 & 8.6 \\ 0 & 3.4 & 8.6 \\ 0 & 0 & 30.8 \\ 0 & 28 & 0 \\ 28 & 0 & 0 \\ -3.4 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} E_x \\ E_y \\ E_z \end{pmatrix}$$

# More properties of quadratic $\chi^{(2)}$ materials: LiNbO<sub>3</sub> Electric field

### Electro-optic

Change in the refractive index linearly proportional to the electric field

Electro-optic tensor  $\chi^{(2)}$  of LiNbO<sub>3</sub>  $d_{33}$ = 30.8 pm/V

BaTiO<sub>3</sub>

 $d_{42} = 923 \text{ pm V}^{-1}$ 

Abel, S., Nature Mater 18, 42-47 (2019).

# More properties of quadratic $\chi^{(2)}$ materials: LiNbO<sub>3</sub>



- Electro-optic
- Large band gap: 3-4 eV
- Refractive index > 2
- Very inert

- $\rightarrow$  Modulation
- $\rightarrow$  Highly transparent 0.3 5  $\mu m$
- → Waveguiding of light
- → Robust in harsh environment

### Does this material exist at a small scale?

### Bulk crystal



### At small scale?





### Thin films or powders?

### Does this material exist at a small scale?

### Bulk crystal



### At small scale?



Rabiei, P.; Gunter, P. *Applied Physics Letters* **2004**, *85* (20).



Kim, E.; ... Grange, R. ACS Nano **2013**, 7 (6).

### Challenges of miniaturization



Reig Escalé, et al. OL 43(7) 2018





Pohl, et al. IEEE PTL 33 (2) 2020

Extinction ratio from -12 dB to more than **-30 dB** 

Propagation losses < 0.1 dB/cm

Nanofabrication at BRNC and FIRST clean rooms

### Challenges of miniaturization



Reig Escalé, et al. OL 43(7) 2018





Pohl, et al. IEEE PTL 33 (2) 2020

100 Gbit/s BER = 1.3×10<sup>-5</sup>



### Outline

Miniaturizing  $\chi^{(2)}$  materials

Nonlinear or electro-optic metasurfaces Pulsed laser deposited BaTiO<sub>3</sub> FIB and spin coated nanoparticles Sol-gel nanoimprinted metalens Miscellaneous photonic structures





### 200 nm thick polycrystalline film of BaTiO<sub>3</sub>





Collaboration with M. Trassin and M. Fiebig at ETH

200 nm thick polycrystalline film of BaTiO<sub>3</sub>



Ellipsometry

Collaboration with M. Trassin and M. Fiebig at ETH

Height (nm)

200 nm thick polycrystalline film of BaTiO<sub>3</sub>



### Crystalline structure: Cubic or tetragonal



Collaboration with M. Trassin and M. Fiebig at ETH

### Nonlinear optical characterization



- SHG anisotropy change between 120°C and 130°C
- Phase change from tetragonal to cubic crystal structure at T<sub>c</sub>
- Tetragonal crystal structure present at room temperature

Collaboration with M. Trassin and M. Fiebig at ETH

# Top-down etching of the thin film



### SEM image of a BaTiO<sub>3</sub> metasurface



Timpu, ...Grange. Advanced Optical Materials 2019, 7 (22).

#### **E** *H* zürich

### Barium titanate metasurface down to the near UV



### SEM image of a BaTiO<sub>3</sub> metasurface.



Timpu, ...Grange. Advanced Optical Materials 2019, 7 (22).

### Barium titanate metasurface down to the near UV



Timpu, ...Grange. Advanced Optical Materials 2019, 7 (22).

#### Linear optical transmittance



Calculation of the SHG conversion efficiency

### Barium titanate metasurface down to the near UV



Measured SHG signal



Timpu, ...Grange. Advanced Optical Materials 2019, 7 (22).

### Calculation of the SHG conversion efficiency

### Outline

Miniaturizing  $\chi^{(2)}$  materials

Nonlinear or electro-optic metasurfaces Pulsed laser deposited BaTiO<sub>3</sub> FIB and spin coated nanoparticles Sol-gel nanoimprinted metalens Miscellaneous photonic structures







### Particle-based photonic structures: advantages

- Simplify the fabrication : avoid etching process of metal-oxides
- Use powder instead of high quality crystal : test new compounds



Serrano, ...Goldner. All-Optical Control of Long-Lived Nuclear Spins in Rare-Earth Doped Nanoparticles. *Nat Commun* **2018** 

### Particle-based photonic structures: advantages

- Simplify the fabrication : avoid etching process of metal-oxides
- Use powder instead of high quality crystal : test new compounds
- Useful for nonlinear optics: relaxing the phase matching condition, broadband





Second-order signal? Electro-optic effect?



# How to relax phase matching?



### Phase mismatch due to dispersion





Ground state

Second-Harmonic Generation SHG

 $\frac{1}{2}$ 

$$\vec{P} = \varepsilon_0 \chi^{(1)} \vec{E} + \varepsilon_0 \chi^{(2)} \vec{E}^2 + \cdots$$

**ETH** zürich

Boyd, Robert W. Nonlinear optics. 2003

# How to relax phase matching?

#### Random Quasi-Phase-Matching



Raybaut et al., Nature 432, 374–376 (2004)

ZnSe grains with 10s of microns in sizes



Chen and Gaume, Opt. Mater. Express 9, 400-409 (2019)

$$I_{\rm SH} \propto N^2 \propto V^2 \longrightarrow I_{\rm SH} \propto N \propto V$$

# Bottom up assemblies : emulsion driven technique

#### BaTiO<sub>3</sub> nanoparticles in solution Typical diameter 50 nm



L. Isa, D-MATL, ETHZ M. Niederberger, D-MATL, ETHZ S. Pratsinis, D-MAVT, ETHZ

#### Droplets act as a template for spherical assemblies



### Barium titanate disordered microspheres



ETHzürich

Savo et al. Nat. Photonics 14, 740–747 (2020)

### Random Quasi Phase Matching





**ETH** zürich

Savo et al. Nat. Photonics 14, 740–747 (2020)

### Random Quasi Phase Matching



- New platform to study nonlinearities in disordered materials
- No need to match the length of a crystal with the laser source



### Electro-optic Metasurface with BaTiO<sub>3</sub> Nanoparticles





# BaTiO<sub>3</sub> nanoparticles film and FIB nanostructuring







<u>1 cm</u>

# BaTiO<sub>3</sub> nanoparticles film and FIB nanostructuring



### Linear optical properties



### Nonlinear optical properties



# BaTiO<sub>3</sub> nanoparticles film and FIB nanostructuring



Platinum  $f = \frac{1}{2} s = \frac{1}{2} Batio_3$ 

P=550nm

**ETH** zürich

Karvounis, et al, Adv. Opt. Mat., 8, 17, 2020

Quartz

# BaTiO<sub>3</sub> nanoparticles-based electro-optic metasurface

#### **Optical field**



#### Static electric field







# BaTiO<sub>3</sub> nanoparticles-based electro-optic metasurface



#### **E** *H* zürich

Karvounis, et al, Adv. Opt. Mat., 8, 17, 2020

### Outline

Miniaturizing  $\chi^{(2)}$  materials

Nonlinear or electro-optic metasurfaces Pulsed laser deposited BaTiO<sub>3</sub> FIB and spin coated nanoparticles Sol-gel nanoimprinted metalens Miscellaneous photonic structures







# Sol-gel nanoimprint





### Solution-processed Barium Titanate Nonlinear Woodpile Photonic Structures





**ETH** zürich

Solution-processed Barium Titanate Nonlinear Woodpile Photonic Structures



Very large surface area



### Solution-processed Barium Titanate Nonlinear Woodpile Photonic Structures



4 layers



The diffraction pattern proves that there is an underlying cubic photonic crystal structure.

**E** *H* zürich

Vogler-Neuling, et al., *Phys. status solidi* **2020**, 1900755.

### Solution-processed Barium Titanate Nonlinear Woodpile Photonic Structures





### Solution-processed Barium Titanate Nonlinear Woodpile Photonic Structures





#### **ETH** zürich

Vogler-Neuling, et al., *Phys. status solidi* **2020**, 1900755.

### Outline

Miniaturizing  $\chi^{(2)}$  materials

Nonlinear or electro-optic metasurfaces Pulsed laser deposited BaTiO<sub>3</sub> FIB and spin coated nanoparticles Sol-gel nanoimprinted metalens Miscellaneous photonic structures







# Electro-Optic Lithium Niobate Metasurfaces in the Visible



Enhancement of modulation amplitude by 2 orders of magnitude compared to the substrate



Weigand, Vogler-Neuling et al. Arxiv: http://arxiv.org/abs/2106.12232

# Electro-Optic Lithium Niobate Metasurfaces in the Visible



Modulation based on **linear electro-optic effect** enhanced at the resonance for **AC voltages below 1 V**<sub>pp</sub>.

(Compatible with CMOS micro-controllers) Modulation speeds of **2.5 MHz** could be detected





Weigand, Vogler-Neuling et al. Arxiv: http://arxiv.org/abs/2106.12232

#### **ETH** zürich

r= 89 nm, 113 nm, 135 nm, 154 nm

## Conclusion

### Original assemblies and the material quest is not over

- → Relaxing fabrication and new materials
- $\rightarrow$  Not only SHG but electro-optic



Karvounis, et al, Adv. Opt. Mat., 8, 17, 2020



**REVIEW:** Karvounis et al, Adv. Opt. Mat., Nov. 20 doi.org/10.1002/adom.202001249



Savo et al. Nat. Photonics 14, 740-747 (2020)

### Outlook

*******				
			********	
*******			*******	
			*******	
		******	********	
*******		******		
			********	
*******				
*******	**********		********	
	*********	*******	********	********
		*****		
*******	*********		********	********
		****		
			*******	
	*********		*******	
	*********		*******	
	**********		********	********
*******	**********	******		adaggecce
		*****		deserve e e e





### Bottom up metasurface

### Random network

### Corrosion imaging

ong.ethz.ch

grange@phys.ethz.ch



