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Title:Ferroelectric nanotubes for THz emitters, energy harvesters

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Abstract:Researchers at Georgia Institute of Technology have developed a soft template infiltration technique for fabricating free-standing piezoelectrically active ferroelectric nanotubes and other nanostructures from lead zirconate titanate (PZT). This is important because PZT has a large piezoelectric response. The technique allows fabrication of ferroelectric nanostructures with user-defined shapes, location and pattern variation across the same substrate. For example, the piezoelectric effect could permit fabrication of 'nano-muscle' tubes that would act as tiny pumps when an electric field is applied to them. The fields could also be used to tune the properties of photonic crystals, or to create structures whose size can be altered slightly to absorb electromagnetic energy of different wavelengths.

Abstract type:(Edited Abstract)

Main heading:Ferroelectricity

Controlled terms:Electric fields - Electromagnetic waves - Nanotubes - Photonic crystals - Piezoelectricity - Semiconducting lead compounds

Uncontrolled terms:Energy Harvester - Ferroelectric nanostructures - Ferroelectric nanotubes - Georgia Institute of Technology - Infiltration techniques - Lead zirconate titanate - Pattern variation - Piezoelectric response - PZT - Soft template - THz emitters

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