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Accession number:20123415357049

Title:Surface plasmon waves on noble metals at optical wavelengths

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Source title:International Journal of Computer Science Issues

Abbreviated source title:Int. J. Comput. Sci. Issues

Volume:8

Issue:3 3-2

Issue date:May 2011

Publication year:2011

Pages:485-490

Language:English

E-ISSN:16940814

Document type:Journal article (JA)

Publisher:International Journal of Computer Science Issues (IJCSI), Doolar Lane, Mahebourg, Republic of Mauritius, Mauritius

Abstract:In this paper the variation of the propagation constant, the attenuation coefficient, penetration depth inside the metal and the dielectric has been evaluated. The propagation characteristics of Surface Plasmon Waves (SPWs) which exists on noble metals like gold (Au), silver (Ag) and aluminium (Al) due to the formation of Surface Plasmon Polaritons (SPPs), have been evaluated theoretically and simulated. It has been found that highly conducting metals Au and Ag provide a strong confinement to the SPWs than Al at optical frequencies. The comparative study reveals that metal having higher conductivity can support a more confined SPW, having a lower penetration depth than metals of lower conductivity at terahertz frequencies when its dielectric constant assumes a negative value.

Number of references:17

Main heading:Metals

Controlled terms:Electromagnetic wave polarization - Penetration depth (superconductivity) - Plasmons - Silver

Uncontrolled terms:Attenuation coefficient - Comparative studies - Negative values - Optical frequency - Optical wavelength - Propagation characteristics - Propagation constant - Spp - Spw - Strong confinement - Surface plasmon polaritons - Surface plasmon waves - Terahertz frequencies

Classification code:531 Metallurgy and Metallography - 547.1 Precious Metals - 708.3 Superconducting Materials - 711 Electromagnetic Waves - 712.1 Semiconducting Materials Database:Compendex

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