

## Communication

**Additive Manufacturing of High Refractive Index, Nano-architected Titanium Dioxide for 3D Dielectric Photonic Crystals**

Andrey Vyatskikh, Ryan C. Ng, Bryce Edwards, Ryan M. Briggs, and Julia R Greer

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3 **Additive Manufacturing of High Refractive Index, Nano-architected**  
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6 **Titanium Dioxide for 3D Dielectric Photonic Crystals**  
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9 Andrey Vyatskikh<sup>1</sup>, Ryan C. Ng<sup>2</sup>, Bryce Edwards<sup>1</sup>, Ryan M. Briggs<sup>3</sup>, and Julia R. Greer<sup>1,\*</sup>

10  
11 <sup>1</sup>Division of Engineering and Applied Science, California Institute of Technology, 1200 E.  
12  
13 California Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91125, USA  
14

15  
16 <sup>2</sup>Division of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, California Institute of Technology, 1200  
17  
18 E. California Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91125, USA  
19

20  
21 <sup>3</sup>Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, 4800 Oak Grove Dr,  
22  
23 Pasadena, CA 91109  
24

25 \*Correspondence to: [jrgreer@caltech.edu](mailto:jrgreer@caltech.edu)  
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28 **Abstract**  
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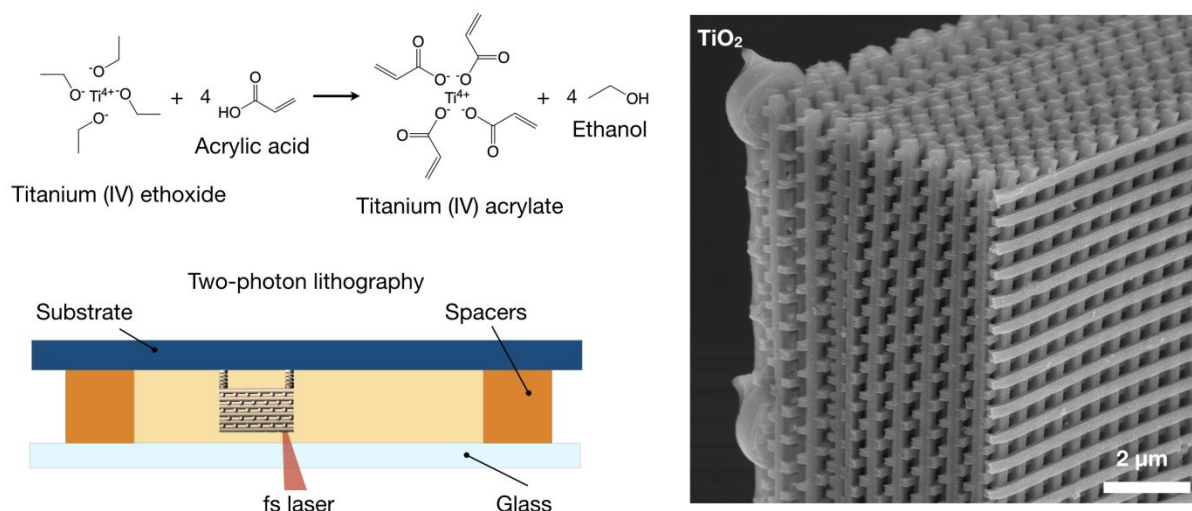
30 Additive manufacturing at small scales enables advances in micro- and nano-  
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32 electromechanical systems, micro-optics, and medical devices. Materials that lend themselves  
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34 to AM at the nano-scale, especially for optical applications, are limited. State-of-the-art AM  
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36 processes for high refractive index materials typically suffer from high porosity, poor  
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38 repeatability, and require complex experimental procedures.  
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42 We developed an AM process to fabricate complex 3D architectures out of fully dense  
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44 titanium dioxide (TiO<sub>2</sub>) with a refractive index of 2.3 and nano-sized critical dimensions.  
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48 Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM) analysis proves this material to be rutile phase of  
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50 nanocrystalline TiO<sub>2</sub>, with an average grain size of 110 nm and <1% porosity. Proof-of-  
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52 concept woodpile architectures with 300-600 nm beam dimensions exhibit a full photonic  
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54 bandgap centered at 1.8-2.9 μm, revealed by Fourier-transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR)  
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56 and supported by Plane Wave Expansion simulations. The developed AM process enables  
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58 advances in 3D MEMS, micro-optics, and prototyping of 3D dielectric PhCs.  
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**Keywords:** additive manufacturing, titanium dioxide, hybrid organic-inorganic material, two-photon lithography, high refractive index, photonic crystals

### TOC graphic



### Introduction

Additive manufacturing (AM) represents a set of processes for layer-by-layer fabrication of 3D parts out of polymers, metals, and ceramics<sup>1–3</sup>. At the micro- and nano-scales, AM is poised to become the enabling technology for efficient 3D MEMS, micro-battery electrodes, electrically small antennae, and micro-optical components<sup>4–7</sup>. Facilitating these technologies requires a fabrication process to create a variety of functional materials in 3D, however the material choice for AM at the nano- and micro-scale is limited. This limitation is especially pronounced when particular material properties, including piezoelectric, magnetic, or optical, are required for the final application<sup>8–10</sup>.

A conspicuous example is a lack of AM processes for high refractive index ( $n$ ), low absorption materials with nano-sized dimensions<sup>11</sup>, which are typically required for micro-optics and device applications. Polymer materials that can be shaped using direct laser writing (DLW) methods, such as two-photon lithography (TPL), are limited to refractive indices below 1.8<sup>12</sup>. Hybrid materials for TPL that consist of inorganic silica-type networks

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3 with embedded heteroatoms, including Zr, Zn, and Ge, have been demonstrated, but their  
4 refractive indices were below 1.6<sup>13–16</sup>. Direct Laser Writing (DLW) of As<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> chalcogenide  
5 glasses with  $n$  between 2.45 and 2.53 in the infrared has been demonstrated by taking  
6 advantage of their photo-induced metastability<sup>9</sup>, but the high index mismatch between the  
7 lens and the printed material complicated the feature size control. Metal oxides with  
8 refractive indices  $n \sim 1.9$  have been nano-architected using DLW of aqueous metal-containing  
9 photopolymers followed by calcination, but the low metal ion loading in these resins led to  
10 linear shrinkage of up to 87%, which made it challenging to preserve complex 3D  
11 geometry<sup>8,17</sup>. TPL of organic-inorganic resists combined with post-lithography thermal  
12 treatment has shown promise to create 3D nanolattices of metals and ceramics, but the  
13 residual porosity of up to 20% within the beams reduces the effective refractive index<sup>18,19</sup>. An  
14 AM process that can repeatably and accurately produce 3D architectures with sub-micron  
15 geometrical features out of high refractive index, low absorption material is yet to be  
16 developed and would realize multiple micro-optical devices and three-dimensional (3D)  
17 dielectric photonic crystals (PhCs)<sup>10</sup>.

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19 3D dielectric PhCs have been a focus of extensive research for their unique ability to tailor  
20 and manipulate light<sup>20,21</sup>. 3D PhCs with a full photonic bandgap<sup>22,23</sup>, 3D chiral PhCs that  
21 control light polarization<sup>24</sup>, and all-angle negative refractive (AANR) index materials<sup>25</sup> have  
22 been demonstrated. Each of these devices is enabled by satisfying stringent optical material  
23 requirements and dimensional control. For example, obtaining a full photonic bandgap in  
24 woodpile architectures requires constituent materials with a refractive index  $n \geq 1.9$ <sup>26</sup>, and  
25 attaining AANR requires an effective index of  $n \geq 2.49$ <sup>27</sup>, with individual features smaller than  
26 the target wavelength. Creating nano-sized three-dimensional architectures out of high  
27 refractive index materials, such as silicon (Si), gallium arsenide (GaAs), and titanium dioxide  
28 (TiO<sub>2</sub>), can only be achieved via sophisticated experimental procedures. Examples include  
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3 micromanipulation of individually stacked layers<sup>28</sup> or single- or double-inversion of a  
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5 polymer templates that often result in features with up to 16% porosity<sup>10,23</sup>.  
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8 Titanium dioxide (titania, TiO<sub>2</sub>) represents a beneficial material choice for 3D dielectric PhCs  
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10 in the visible and the infrared because of its high refractive index and high transparency<sup>10</sup>.

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12 The highest refractive index, between 2.45 and 3.03 for 500-1500 nm wavelengths, is  
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14 attained in the rutile phase of TiO<sub>2</sub><sup>29</sup>. The processes for AM of titania demonstrated to date  
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16 suffer from high porosity, low refractive index of the constituent material, and poor  
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18 repeatability. An ideal AM process for titania would have to repeatably and accurately  
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20 produce 3D structures with sub-micron features out of fully dense rutile TiO<sub>2</sub>. Several  
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22 previous studies have described AM processes for TiO<sub>2</sub>. Direct Ink Writing (DIW) of sol-gel  
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24 inks followed by calcination has been shown to produce TiO<sub>2</sub> features with sub-micron  
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26 dimensions that are ~10% porous and contained about a half of a lower-index anatase phase,  
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28 which lowered their effective refractive index by at least 10%<sup>30</sup>. Femtosecond laser  
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30 processing of liquid TiO<sub>2</sub> precursors has been used to selectively introduce insoluble regions  
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32 into the patterned material by breaking chemical bonds, but the poor adhesion between the  
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34 sample and the substrate led to the loss of heat-treated 3D structures<sup>18</sup>. Laser-induced  
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36 decomposition of sol-gel precursors enabled 2D patterning of TiO<sub>2</sub>/carbon composites with  
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38 typical feature widths of 3 μm for crystalline TiO<sub>2</sub> and has not been extended to three  
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40 dimensions<sup>31</sup>. Using hybrid organic-inorganic materials in AM has been demonstrated for a  
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42 stereolithography (SLA)-based patterning to create architected titania with 150 μm feature  
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44 sizes. This process could not be extended to sub-micron features due to the resolution limit of  
45  
46 SLA<sup>32</sup>. We previously showed feasibility of AM of 3D nano-architected titania using two-  
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48 photon lithography; this approach did not achieve precise dimensional control required for  
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50 the emergence of a full photonic bandgap<sup>33</sup>.  
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3 We demonstrate an AM process capable of repeatably and accurately producing 3D nano-  
4 architected titanium dioxide, with critical feature dimensions between 150 and 600 nm and  
5 <1% porosity. We synthesize a hybrid organic-inorganic precursor to formulate a pre-ceramic  
6 TiO<sub>2</sub> resist. We use two-photon lithography to pattern the designed 3D shapes and pyrolyze  
7 them at 750-900°C in air. This process shrinks the dimensions of originally patterned 3D  
8 nano-architectures by 60% to produce fully dense nanocrystalline TiO<sub>2</sub> replicas. As a proof of  
9 concept, we created 3D dielectric PhCs using this process by fabricating rutile TiO<sub>2</sub> patterned  
10 into woodpile face-centered tetragonal (FCT) architectures with beam dimensions of 300-600  
11 nm and lateral periods of 0.8-1.5 μm. We use Plane Wave Expansion (PWE) simulations and  
12 Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR) to demonstrate the full photonic bandgaps  
13 centered at 1.8-2.9 μm. AM process for fabricating 3D nano-architected fully dense TiO<sub>2</sub> will  
14 be crucial for rapid prototyping and manufacturing of 3D PhCs and micro-optical devices.  
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## 31 **Results**

### 32 Process for AM of 3D nano-architected titania

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34 To prepare titania pre-ceramic photopolymer, we first used a ligand exchange reaction  
35 between titanium (IV) ethoxide and acrylic acid in 1:4 molar ratio to synthesize titanium (IV)  
36 acrylate (Fig. 1A). The reaction was conducted in a glovebox to minimize exposure to  
37 oxygen and water. The resulting hybrid organic-inorganic TiO<sub>2</sub> precursor can be embedded in  
38 a polymer network during free-radical polymerization. When combined with an acrylic  
39 monomer, pentaerythritol triacrylate, the solution becomes clear and orange. A two-photon  
40 photoinitiator, 7-diethylamino-3-thenoylcoumarin (DETC), was then dissolved in  
41 dichloromethane and added to the solution (see Methods); the resulting liquid photoresist was  
42 drop cast onto a silicon substrate and 3D printed in a TPL system (Photonic Professional GT,  
43 Nanoscribe GmbH). Architected samples were designed to rest on top of a 2D lattice layer  
44 supported by a spring-and-pillars array that decoupled the architecture from the substrate  
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3 during pyrolysis and minimized its distortion during shrinkage<sup>19,33</sup> (Figs. 1B, C). Non-  
4 polymerized resist was washed away, and free-standing architectures were pyrolyzed in air at  
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6 900°C for 1 hr (see Methods) to create replicas of the original structures, with a concomitant  
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9 ~60% reduction in dimensions, made entirely out of titanium dioxide (Fig. 1D).

### 12 13 Feature dimensions

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15 To ensure high accuracy of geometric dimensions in devices fabricated using this AM  
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17 process, we carefully studied the influence of process parameters on the size of individual  
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19 features. Previous studies<sup>34–36</sup> reported strong non-linear dependence of the dimensions of the  
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21 polymerized material, or voxel, on the laser power (LP) and the exposure time (ET) in two-  
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23 photon lithography, which is unique for each photopolymer. We used ascending scan  
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25 experiments<sup>34</sup> to evaluate the voxel width and height for this hybrid photoresist for LP  
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27 between 12.5 and 20 mW and ET between 0.5 and 10 ms. Fig. S1 shows that for ET between  
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29 1 ms and 10 ms at 20 mW, the voxel width varied from 440 to 560 nm, its height changed  
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31 from 1.6 to 3.2  $\mu\text{m}$ , and the voxel aspect ratio varied from 3.8 to 5.3.

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33 To predict and reliably control the feature size for 3D photonic crystal fabrication, we  
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35 adopted a model by Serbin et al.<sup>35</sup> that links the voxel dimensions in a two-photon  
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37 lithography process to the laser exposure parameters (see Supporting Information). Voxel  
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39 height  $L$  (Equation (1)) and voxel width  $d$  (Equation (2)) can be expressed as  
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$$45 \quad L = 2z_R \sqrt{\sqrt{\alpha t P^2} - 1}, \quad (1)$$

$$46 \quad d = w_0 \sqrt{\log[\alpha t P^2]}, \quad (2)$$

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48 where  $z_R$  is the Rayleigh distance of the objective [m],  $w_0$  is the laser beam waist [m], and  
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50  $\alpha t P^2$  is a non-dimensional parameter, where  $t$  is the exposure time [s],  $P$  is the laser power  
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52 [W], and  $\alpha$  is a constant that depends on the exposure pattern and the photopolymer  
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54 formulation (see Supporting Information). Figure S1 demonstrates that experimentally  
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3 measured voxel dimensions are in good agreement with this model, which provides a  
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5 quantifiable way to tailor the laser exposure parameters to achieve target feature dimensions.  
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### 8 Accuracy and repeatability of geometric features

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10 We demonstrate the efficiency of this approach by fabricating 3D architectures with  
11  
12 tetragonal woodpile geometry that has overall dimensions of 220 x 220  $\mu\text{m}$ , a lateral period  
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14  $x_L$  of 3.7  $\mu\text{m}$ , an axial factor (defined as the ratio of the axial period  $x_a$  to the lateral period  
15  
16  $x_L$ ) of 1.1, and rectangular beams with 1.3 x 1.5  $\mu\text{m}$  cross-sections. Figure 1(F, G) shows  
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18 SEM images of a representative woodpile structure after pyrolysis that contains 60 periods in  
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20 the lateral direction and 9 periods in the axial direction. The beams in this sample had 530 x  
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22 600 nm rectangular cross-sections, a lateral period of 1.47  $\mu\text{m}$ , and overall lateral dimensions  
23  
24 were 95 x 95  $\mu\text{m}$ . The features appeared to be uniform, and the shrinkage post-pyrolysis  
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26 appeared to be isotropic.  
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32 To quantify the effect of shrinkage on geometrical distortions within the structure, we  
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34 analyzed the variability of geometric dimensions in axial (Fig. S2) and lateral directions in  
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36 the woodpile using SEM measurements (Table S1). We found that in the axial direction the  
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38 lateral period did not vary by more than 5%, with no statistically significant deviations in the  
39  
40 average beam width (Fig. S2). In the lateral direction, we analyzed the variability of the  
41  
42 lateral period using nested variance analysis<sup>37</sup>, which revealed a total variability of 25 nm, or  
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44 1.7% of the target dimension, across the entire sample (Table S2). We also found that the  
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46 contribution of spatial variability of the lateral period was only 13 nm, or less than 1% of the  
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48 target (Table S2).  
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### 52 Material characterization

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54 To characterize the chemical composition of as-fabricated material, we conducted energy-  
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56 dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS) on a representative sample with in-plane dimensions of  
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3 95 x 95  $\mu\text{m}$  and a lateral period of 1.5  $\mu\text{m}$  (Fig. 2A). SEM EDS maps (Fig. 2B-D) show a  
4 uniform distribution of Ti and O throughout the structure with no apparent segregations into  
5 titanium- or oxygen-rich phases. EDS spectrum taken from a 20 x 20  $\mu\text{m}$  area in the center of  
6 the sample (Fig. 2E) reveal the chemical composition to be 66.8 at% oxygen and 33.2 at%  
7 titanium. Silicon substrate was excluded from the composition estimate.

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10 To evaluate the phase composition, Raman spectra were collected from the as-fabricated 3D  
11 architectures using a 514 nm laser focused through a 50x microscope objective. Fig. 2F  
12 shows a representative Raman spectrum along with the reference spectra collected from rutile  
13 and anatase samples (see Methods). The Raman signature revealed peaks at 145  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , 448  
14  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , and 613  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  that match the rutile reference spectrum.

15 We analyzed the atomic-level microstructure of as-fabricated  $\text{TiO}_2$  structures using  
16 Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM) and electron diffraction. We prepared a 100 nm-  
17 thick cross-section of a sample whose beams had 960 x 150 nm elliptical cross-sections,  
18 lateral periodicities of 1090 nm, and a footprint of 70 x 70  $\mu\text{m}$  using Focused Ion Beam (FIB)  
19 lift out procedure (Fig. 3A). High-resolution (Fig. 3B) and dark-field (Fig. 3C) TEM images  
20 reveal that a typical beam cross-section is >99% dense and is comprised of nanocrystallites  
21 with a mean size of 110 nm (see Figs. 3D, S3, and S4). Electron diffraction pattern (Fig. 3B,  
22 inset) confirms the crystalline phase of  $\text{TiO}_2$  to be rutile.

### 23 Optical behavior

24 We used Plane Wave Expansion (PWE) simulations and Fourier Transform Infrared  
25 Spectroscopy (FTIR) measurements to investigate the optical behavior of  $\text{TiO}_2$  woodpiles.  
26 We chose experimentally-equivalent geometric parameters extracted from images in Fig.  
27 1(F,H) and a refractive index of 2.3, obtained by ellipsometry measurements on as-fabricated  
28 films (Fig. S5) for PWE simulations. Figure 4A shows the band diagram with the  
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3 corresponding Brillouin zone (inset) calculated for an FCT woodpile architecture with these  
4 properties, which exhibits a full photonic bandgap between frequencies of  $0.465(2\pi c/x_L)$   
5 and  $0.474(2\pi c/x_L)$  (see Fig. S6), where  $x_L$  is the lateral period of the woodpile and  $c$  is the  
6 speed of light. Woodpiles with  $x_L$  of  $1.47\ \mu\text{m}$  have gap edges at  $3.10$  and  $3.16\ \mu\text{m}$  (Table S2).  
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12 To probe the simulation results experimentally, we measured the reflectance and  
13 transmittance of the as-fabricated woodpiles using FTIR with a Cassegrain objective with an  
14 angle range between  $16^\circ$  and  $35.5^\circ$  within a  $30 \times 30\ \mu\text{m}$  area at the center of the sample.  
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17 Previous experimental studies revealed that the position of FTIR reflectance bands is  
18 influenced by the stop-band positions that are being probed simultaneously at off-normal  
19 light incidences<sup>23</sup>. We calculated the expected stop-band edges from the woodpile band  
20 diagram probed along X'-U'-L and X'-W'-K' at experimental off-normal incidence angles to  
21 be between  $0.418(2\pi c/x_L)$  and  $0.544(2\pi c/x_L)$ , which corresponds to the wavelengths of  $2.7$   
22 to  $3.5\ \mu\text{m}$  (Table S2). Fig. 4B contains FTIR spectra that reveals a high reflectance/low  
23 transmittance band centered at  $\sim 2.9\ \mu\text{m}$ , plotted along with the computed position of a full  
24 photonic bandgap (gray rectangle) and the range of stop-band positions for the  $16^\circ$ - $35.5^\circ$   
25 incidence angles (vertical dash lines). The position of the high reflectance band was found to  
26 be within 7% from the expected full photonic bandgap.  
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43 Varying the  $\text{TiO}_2$  precursor loading in the photopolymer enables control over the amount of  
44 post-pyrolysis linear shrinkage and of the structural feature sizes, which enables access to  
45 multiple wavelengths. We fabricated 3D photonic crystals with reduced lateral periods of  
46  $1.12$ ,  $1.03$ , and  $0.84\ \mu\text{m}$  by starting with the same pre-ceramic 3D sample and varying the  
47  $\text{TiO}_2$  precursor loading by 50-83% (Fig. 4C). These structures were replicas of the titania  
48 woodpiles with  $x_L=1.47\ \mu\text{m}$  shown in Fig. 1F. Figure 4D shows FTIR reflectance spectra for  
49 these samples, as well as the computed bandgap positions, that revealed high reflectance  
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3 bands centered at 1.8  $\mu\text{m}$ , 2.2  $\mu\text{m}$ , and 2.4  $\mu\text{m}$ , which are within 0.3%, 4.8%, and 3.0% of the  
4 target full photonic bandgap positions (Table S2).  
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## 7 8 **Discussion** 9

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11 We developed an AM process to produce three-dimensional networks of fully dense sub-  
12 micron features out of a transparent, high refractive index material that can be used to  
13 fabricate 3D dielectric photonic crystals. Compositional and microstructural analysis suggests  
14 that as-fabricated material is comprised of fully dense nano-crystalline rutile  $\text{TiO}_2$  with  
15 minimal carbon content. EDS revealed the chemical composition of 33.2 at% Ti and 66.8 at%  
16 O, which corresponds to a 1:2 atomic ratio of Ti to O characteristic of titanium dioxide. It is  
17 not possible to accurately determine C content using EDS because of its low sensitivity to  
18 light elements and because of inevitable carbon contamination in the SEM chamber<sup>38</sup>.  
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21 Inclusion of the carbon peak in the EDS spectrum fit did not result in the fit improvement,  
22 which further corroborates extremely low at% C. Processes based on laser-driven formation  
23 of  $\text{TiO}_2$ /carbon composites yielded a substantial amount of carbon<sup>31</sup> that can lower the  
24 material transparency.  
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28 TEM electron diffraction and Raman spectroscopy identified  $\text{TiO}_2$  to be in its rutile phase.  
29 Raman spectrum taken from a representative architected sample revealed peaks that are in  
30 good agreement with first-order vibration modes found in rutile titania<sup>39</sup> ( $B_{1g}$  at 145  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ,  $E_g$   
31 at 448  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , and  $A_{1g}$  at 613  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ), as well as with characteristic second-order scattering  
32 around 240  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (see Fig. 2F). This finding is also consistent with other works that studied  
33 phase transformation in sol-gel derived titanium dioxide<sup>30,40</sup>. For example, dry sol-gels of  
34  $\text{TiO}_2$  were found to convert from anatase into rutile at 550°C, with full transformation  
35 occurring at 800°C<sup>40</sup>. These studies suggest rutile as the predominant expected phase of  
36 titania resulting from a heat treatment at 900°C. Previous attempts to develop a titania AM  
37 process resulted in partially converted  $\text{TiO}_2$  (e.g., rutile/anatase mix of 47 wt%/53 wt% in  
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3 ref.<sup>30</sup>) and porous features with 10-16% air content<sup>10,30</sup>, which lowered the effective  
4 refractive index of individual features.  
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8 The ability to predict and reliably control the feature size based on the exposure parameters  
9 was critical for fabrication of 3D photonic crystals. Estimating polymerization volume in  
10 two-photon lithography generally requires numerical simulations that take into account  
11 radical generation and inhibition, oxygen diffusion, local heating, and many other factors<sup>36</sup>.  
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14 We studied the dependence of the voxel dimensions on the exposure parameters by  
15 examining polymerization kinetics inside the voxel volume at millisecond time scales.  
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18 Mueller et al.<sup>41</sup> experimentally showed that at exposure times between 1 and 10 ms two-  
19 photon polymerization is primarily driven by radical generation. Uppal et al. found that the  
20 generated radicals remain mostly confined to the voxel volume during the exposure<sup>36</sup>.  
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23 Mueller et al.<sup>42</sup> has demonstrated that the temperature inside the polymerizing voxel did not  
24 increase by more than 5K at 20 mW laser power. These previous studies allowed us to adopt  
25 a closed-form solution by Serbin et al. for an isothermal system with no diffusion to predict  
26 the voxel dimensions in our system.  
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29 FTIR reflectance and transmittance spectra of four woodpile samples (Fig. 4B, D) revealed  
30 that the observed high reflectance peaks were centered within 0.3% to 7% from the expected  
31 position of full photonic bandgaps predicted by PWE (Fig. 4A). The observed deviations can  
32 be attributed to (i) the variability of geometric dimensions throughout the sample and (ii) the  
33 uncertainty of the refractive index measured by ellipsometry and used in PWE simulations.  
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36 The SEM measurements and nested variance analysis showed ~1% in-plane (Table S1) and  
37 ~5% out-of-plane (Fig. S2) deviations of the lateral period throughout the woodpile, and the  
38 measured refractive index of a TiO<sub>2</sub> film of 2.3 is 4-15% lower than the expected index of  
39 2.40-2.71 for rutile TiO<sub>2</sub> within a 1500-3000 nm range<sup>29</sup>. This could be caused by some  
40 inherent porosity in the TiO<sub>2</sub> film (Fig. S5, left) used for ellipsometry measurements; the  
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3 beams that comprise TiO<sub>2</sub> PhCs are fully dense. Uncertainty in the geometrical dimensions of  
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5 up to 5% and in the refractive index of up to 15% can contribute to the observed deviations  
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8 between experimental and simulated peak positions.  
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10 In summary, we developed an additive manufacturing process to create 3D nano-architected  
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12 titania with a sub-micron resolution. We demonstrate the feasibility and efficiency of this  
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14 process using a woodpile FCT architecture with individual feature widths of 150 nm as a  
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16 model system. The as-fabricated material is carbon-free and consists homogeneous, fully  
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18 dense nanocrystalline rutile TiO<sub>2</sub>. Taking advantage of the high refractive index and  
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20 transparency of titania, we prototyped several PhCs with sub-micron lateral periods and full  
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22 photonic bandgaps centered at 1.8-2.9 μm, consistently confirmed by PWE simulations and  
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24 FTIR measurements. Fabricating PhCs with full photonic bandgaps in the visible requires  
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26 lateral periods of ~300 nm<sup>10</sup>, which can be achieved by modulating precursor loading. We  
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28 showed that using lower concentrations of TiO<sub>2</sub> precursor allows for two times smaller  
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30 features due to higher post-pyrolysis linear shrinkage. The developed freeform AM process  
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32 is not limited to woodpile geometries and can be applied to directly fabricate a broad range of  
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34 3D architectures. This nano-scale AM process is also not limited to TiO<sub>2</sub>: other hybrid  
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36 organic-inorganic-based photopolymers can be formulated to print a variety of materials,  
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38 including other dielectrics, metals, and semiconductors. AM of 3D nano-architected titania is  
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40 poised to enable facile fabrication of components for a much broader set of applications,  
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42 including micro-optics, 3D MEMS, and minimally invasive tools and procedures.  
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### 50 **Supporting Information**

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52 Supporting information is available online and includes Materials and Methods, voxel shape  
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54 modeling, additional figures and tables.  
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### 58 **Figure captions**

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3 **Figure 1.** Process for nanoscale additive manufacturing (AM) of titanium dioxide and SEM  
4 characterization of as-fabricated TiO<sub>2</sub> 3D architectures. (A) Ligand exchange reaction  
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6 characterization of as-fabricated TiO<sub>2</sub> 3D architectures. (A) Ligand exchange reaction  
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8 between titanium (IV) ethoxide and acrylic acid is used to synthesize a liquid TiO<sub>2</sub> precursor  
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10 in the photopolymer. (B) Titania pre-ceramic photopolymer is used in a two-photon  
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12 lithography process to fabricate pre-ceramic 3D architectures. (C) Schematic of a pre-ceramic  
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14 woodpile architecture supported by a set of springs that decouple it from the substrate. (D)  
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16 Titania woodpile structure is formed by calcination of the pre-ceramic part. (E,G)  
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18 Representative SEM images of pre-ceramic woodpile architectures. (F, H, I) Representative  
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20 TiO<sub>2</sub> woodpile architectures after calcination at 750-900°C. Scale bars are 50 μm for (E), 20  
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22 μm for (F), 2 μm for (G), 1 μm for (H), and 2 μm for (I)  
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27 **Figure 2.** Characterization of chemical composition and phase of TiO<sub>2</sub> using SEM EDS and  
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29 Raman spectroscopy. (A-D) SEM EDS mapping of a representative woodpile architecture  
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31 fabricated on a silicon substrate reveals uniform distribution of titanium and oxygen. (E)  
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33 Estimation of chemical composition from a representative EDS spectrum shows 1:2 at%  
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35 ratio of titanium to oxygen consistent with TiO<sub>2</sub>. (F) Raman spectrum of as-fabricated TiO<sub>2</sub>  
36  
37 compared to reference spectra of rutile and anatase. Scale bars are 50 μm for (A-D)  
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41 **Figure 3.** TEM characterization of as-fabricated TiO<sub>2</sub> 3D architectures. (A) Low-  
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43 magnification TEM image showing a 100 nm thick cross-section of a TiO<sub>2</sub> woodpile structure  
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45 prepared using FIB lift-out procedure. (B) HRTEM image of a cross-section of an individual  
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47 beam, an electron diffraction pattern (inset), and (C) a corresponding dark-field TEM image  
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49 reveal that the beams consist predominantly out of nanocrystalline rutile TiO<sub>2</sub>. (D) Grain size  
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51 histogram for n=100 particles measured from an SEM image showing 95% confidence  
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53 intervals on the mean grain size ( $\mu$ ) and the standard deviation ( $\sigma$ ). Scale bars are 2 μm for  
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55 (A), 5 nm for (B, C), and 2 nm<sup>-1</sup> for (B, inset).  
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**Figure 4.** Optical characterization of 3D photonic crystals fabricated using the developed nanoscale AM process (A) Calculated band structure of the fabricated woodpile FCT architecture. Grey band shows the position of a full photonic band gap. (B) FTIR reflectance and transmittance spectra taken from a woodpile structure showing the emergence of high reflectance and low transmittance bands centered at 2.9  $\mu\text{m}$ . (C) Schematic of a woodpile unit cell and SEM of representative woodpile structures with 1120 nm, 1030 nm, and 840 nm lateral periods fabricated using the developed AM method. (D) FTIR reflectance spectra for as-fabricated woodpile structures with varying periodicities showing passive tuning of the reflectance band position between 1.8 and 2.4  $\mu\text{m}$ . Scale bars are 1  $\mu\text{m}$  for (C).

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