Simple Room Temperature Method for Polymer Optical Fibre Cleaving - DTU Orbit (08/11/2017)

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In this paper, we report on a new method to cleave polymer optical fibre. The most common way to cut a polymer optical fibre is chopping it with a razor blade; however, in this approach both the fibre and the blade must be preheated in order to turn the material ductile, and thus, prevent crazing. In this paper, we make use of the temperature-time equivalence in polymers to replace the use of heating by an increase of the cleaving time and use a sawing motion to reduce fibre end face damage. In this way, the polymer fibre can be cleaved at room temperature in seconds with the resulting end face being of similar quality to those produced by more complex and expensive heated systems.

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