

Describing the optical properties  
of astronomical dust analogs  
through numerical techniques

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From Dust to Galaxies, Paris, 06/30/2011



## Outline

- Introduction
  - The interstellar medium in the infrared
  - The quest for the optical constants

- 1.1 Introduction
  - Previous work
  - Methodology

- 1.2 Experimental data and apparatus
  - Experimental data and apparatus
  - Analytical outputs

- 1.3 Conclusions and future perspectives
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  - Future perspectives

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# The relation between dust and the infrared

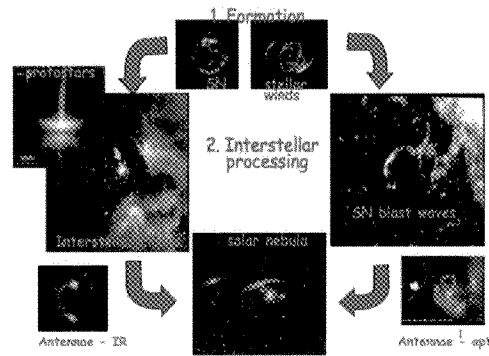


Figure: Formation, processing, and evolution of interstellar dust (Rinehart et al., 2008)

## Interstellar dust:

- plays a role in the birth of stars
- precursor material for the formation of planets
- hides astronomical objects from our view

Infrared observations are crucial to understanding the origins of the universe

## The relation between dust and the infrared

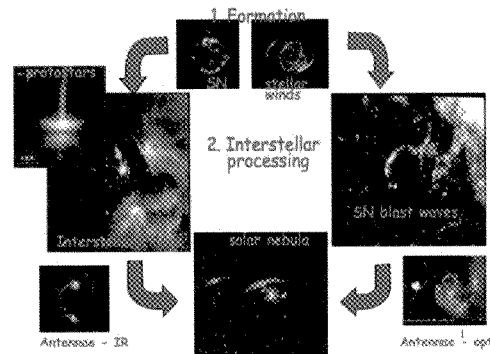


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## The importance of studying silicates

Spectral features attributed to:

- silicates
- carbonaceous grains
- PAHs

↳ depends on chemical and physical structure

Their spectra need be analyzed through laboratory experiments reproducing astrophysical environments (See Henning & Mutschke, 2010)



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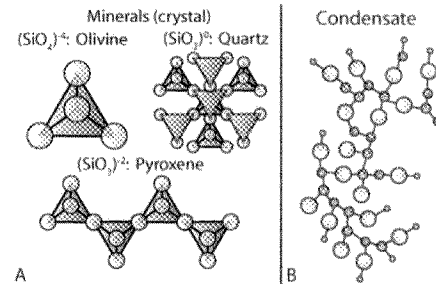


Figure: A) Silicates on Earth are ordered solids. B) In space their structure is chaotic. (Adapted from Rinehart et al., 2008)

## The optical constants as primary parameters

### Definition

Complex refractive index  $m = n + ik$

- The refractive index  $n$  determines the velocity of constant-phase waves.
- The extinction index  $k$  determines the attenuation of the wave as it propagates through the medium.

Dielectric constant  $\epsilon = (n + ik)^2 = \epsilon' - i\epsilon''$

→ In fact, the optical constants are not directly comparable

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Convenient, the optical constants are not directly measurable

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Problem: the optical constants are not directly measurable.

## Objectives of the OPASI-T program

- **Experimental apparatus and measurements**

- ▶ Development of a laboratory experiment for the computation of the optical constants as a function of wavelength and temperature
- ▶ Validation through application to *in-situ* measurements
- ▶ Analysis and interpretation of post-processed data
- ▶ Population of a library of optical properties in the far infrared regime

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## Hypotheses and mathematical models

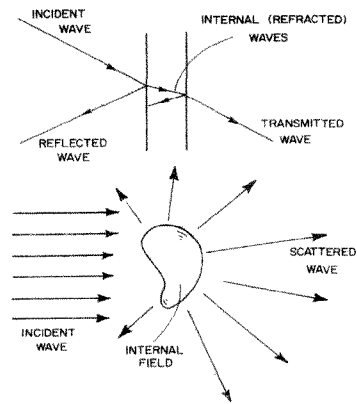


Figure: Analogy between scattering by a particle and transmission-reflection-absorption by a slab (Bohren and Huffman, 1983)

## Transmission-line approximation

- One-layer slab model (Bohren and Huffman, 1983)
- Beer's law (Hogben et al, 1986)

## Transmission modes

- Lorenz model

## Mixtures

- Maxwell Garnett formula (Maxwell Garnett, 1904)

## Hypotheses and mathematical models

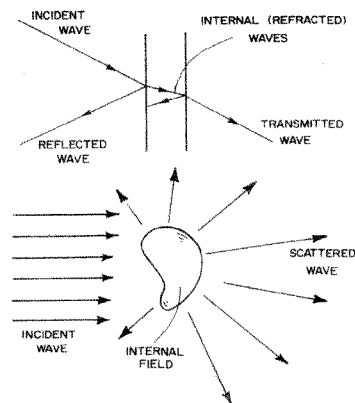


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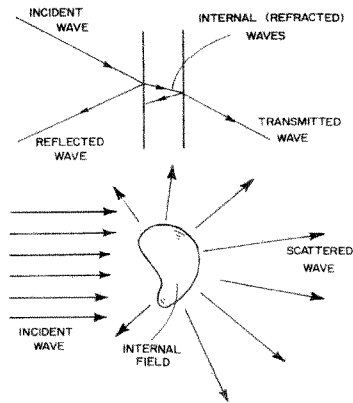


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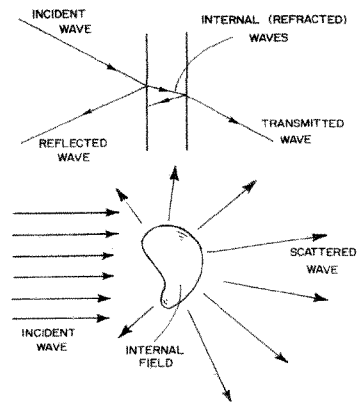


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## Constrained minimization as main working tool

## Definition (Least-Squares Nonlinear Fit)

$$\min_{DOFs} \chi_m^2 = \min_{DOFs} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N [T(DOFs, \lambda_j) - T_{measured}]^2$$

$$DOF_{min} \leq DOF \leq DOF_{max}$$

$N$  = number of data points

$\lambda$  = wavelength

Initial condition → Fit → DOFs →  $\begin{cases} T, R, A \\ \dots \end{cases}$

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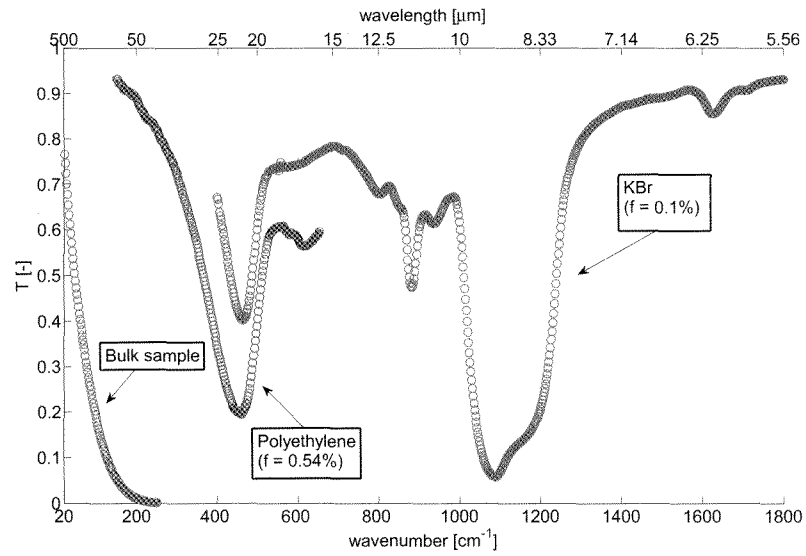
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$$\text{Initial condition} \rightarrow \text{Fit} \rightarrow DOFs \rightarrow \begin{cases} T, R, A \\ n, k, \varepsilon \end{cases} \forall \lambda_j$$



# $\text{SiO}_x$ : Measured transmission spectrum at room temperature



# SiO<sub>x</sub>: Sample characterization

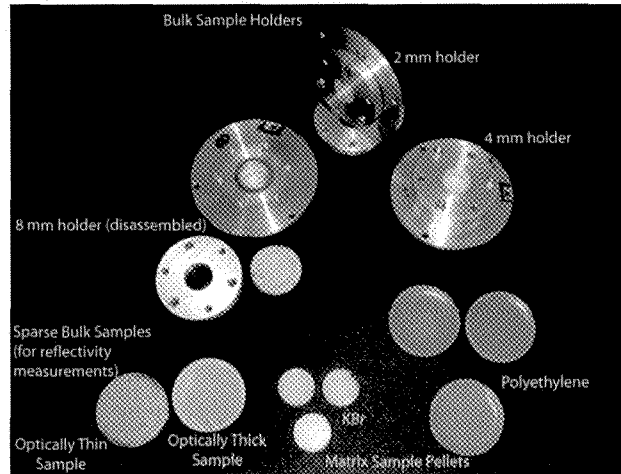


Figure: Various sample preparations are needed to cover the wide frequency range (Rinehart, Cataldo, et al., *Applied Optics*, in press).

## $SiO_x$ Sample characterization

Each sample preparation has a different optical depth, which allows us to obtain transmission values in the range of 0.2-0.8 as needed to determine the optical constants to high accuracy.

Sample type	Spectral coverage [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]
8-mm	300 – 1000
4-mm	100 – 500
2-mm	100 – 350
Polyethylene	15 – 100
KBr	1 – 25

$SiO_x$ : How to extract the optical constants (bulk samples)

## Beer's law

$$T = (1 - R)^2 \exp(-\alpha h)$$

$$R = \frac{(n-1)^2 + k^2}{(n+1)^2 + k^2}$$

$$k = \frac{a}{2\nu} = \frac{b}{2\pi} \left(\frac{\omega}{2\pi}\right)^{b-1}$$

$$\alpha = a \left(\frac{\omega}{2\pi}\right)^b$$

$h$  = sample thickness

$$T = T(n, a, b)$$

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# SiO<sub>x</sub>: How to extract the optical constants (mixtures)

## Maxwell-Garnett formula

$$\epsilon_{eff} = \epsilon_{eff}(f, \epsilon_b, \epsilon_i)$$

$$n^2 = (n - k)^2 = \epsilon_{eff} = \frac{\sum_i f_i \epsilon_i}{1 - \sum_i f_i \frac{\epsilon_i - \epsilon_b}{\epsilon_i + 2\epsilon_b}}$$

$$k = \sqrt{\epsilon''} = \sqrt{\sum_i f_i \text{DOF}_i(\omega)}$$

$$T = T(f, \epsilon_b, \epsilon_i, \text{DOF}_i)$$

## $SiO_x$ : How to extract the optical constants (mixtures)

### Maxwell-Garnett formula

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### Lorentz model

$$\epsilon_i = (n + ik)^2 = \epsilon_{i,\infty} + \sum_{j=1}^M b_m \frac{\omega_{pj}^2}{\omega_{0j}^2 - \omega^2 - i\omega\nu_j} = \epsilon_i(DOFs, \omega)$$

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### Modified Lorentz model (Sihvola, 1999)

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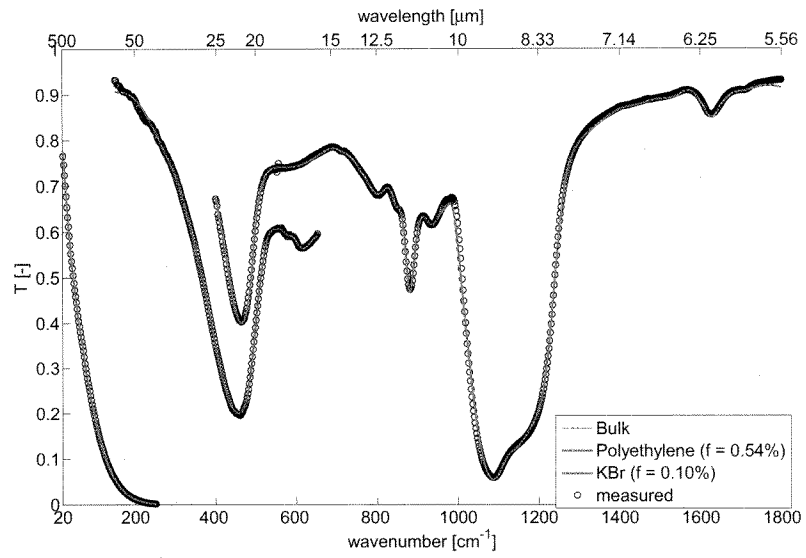
### Modified Lorentz model (Sihvola, 1999)

$$\varepsilon_{eff} = \varepsilon_{eff}(f, \varepsilon_b, DOFS_i, \omega)$$

### One-layer slab model (averaged)

$$T = T[f, \varepsilon_b, (4M + 1)DOFS_i, \omega]$$

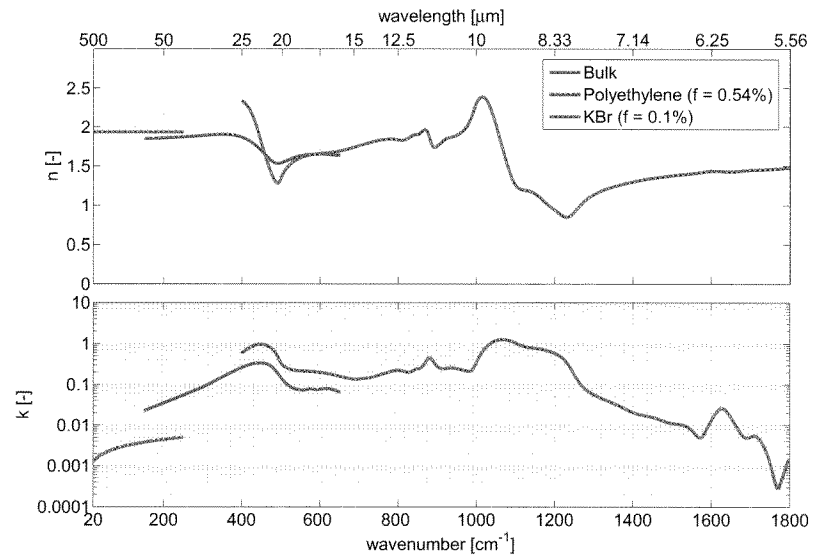
# SiO<sub>x</sub>: Fit and output parameters (Cataldo et al., in prep.)



*SiO<sub>x</sub>*: Fit and output parameters

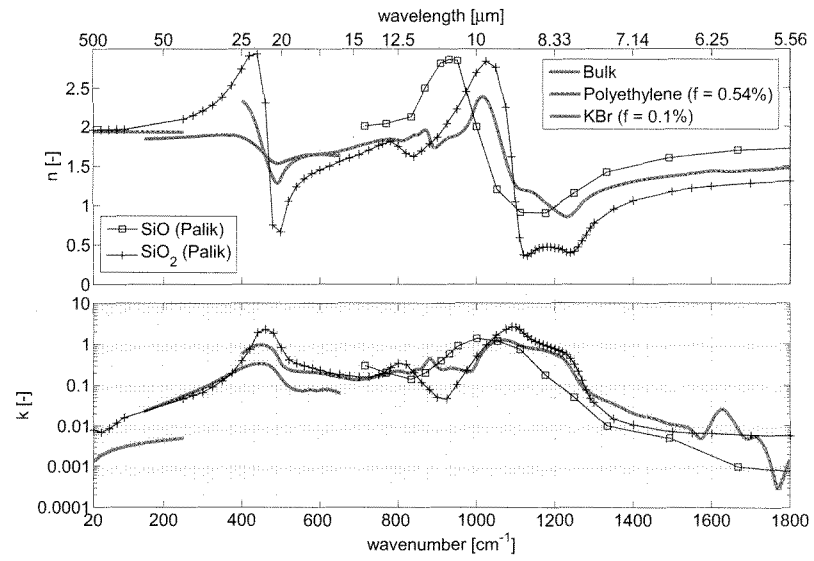
		Bulk (4-mm)	Polyethylene	KBr
DOFs		3	53 (13 LOs)	153 (38 LOs)
Residual	average	0.32	0.62	0.25
$\Delta T$ [%]	maximum	2.68	3.93	1.47
$\chi_m^2$		$2.55 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$11.12 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$1.29 \cdot 10^{-5}$
$\sigma$		0.005	0.012	0.008
$\chi^2$		109.89	239.81	146.26
$\chi_\nu^2$		0.93	1.15	0.25

# $SiO_x$ : The optical constants in the FIR and MIR

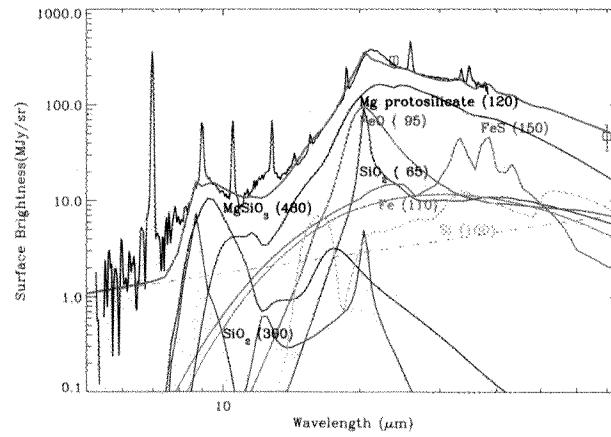




# $SiO_x$ : The optical constants in the FIR and MIR





# $SiO_x$ : The optical constants in the FIR and MIR



(Adapted from Rho et al., 2008)

## Our sample description

	Advantages	Disadvantages
Bulk sample	$n$ consistent with other measurements $a = 0.003$ , $b = 1.552$ (Agladze et al., 95;...)	$n$ not well constrained Need for data at longer wavelengths
Mixture	$n - k$ independent from filling fraction  $x \approx 1.5$ DOFs well constrained Outputs for mix and particles 	$n - k$ dependent on matrix Fine-tuning of starting guess Uncertainty in measurements

## Next steps

- Measured reflectance data (TOP PRIORITY)
  - Amorphous dependence (Cataldo et al., in prep.)
  - Development of more sophisticated models
    - Layered structures: pyroxenes, Fe- and Mg-rich silicates (Kinzer, Cataldo et al., in prep.)
    - Scattering
      - Multiple-layered structures
      - Unparallelized facets and roughness
  - Application to new upcoming laboratory data and observations

## Next steps

- Measured reflectance data (TOP PRIORITY)
- Temperature dependence (Cataldo et al., in prep.)
- Development of more sophisticated models
  - More mineral providers (Fe and Mg rich silicates (Kittner, Cataldo, et al., in prep.))
  - Porosity
  - Multiple-layered structures
  - Unparallel faces and roughness
- Application to new upcoming laboratory data and observations

## Next steps

- Measured reflectance data (TOP PRIORITY)
- Temperature dependence (Cataldo et al., in prep.)
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  - Metal-enriched powders: Fe- and Mg-rich silicates (Kinzer, Cataldo, et al., in prep.)
  - Scattering
  - Multiple-layered structures
  - Unparalleled faces and roughness

• Application to (i.e. improving laboratory data and observations)

## Next steps

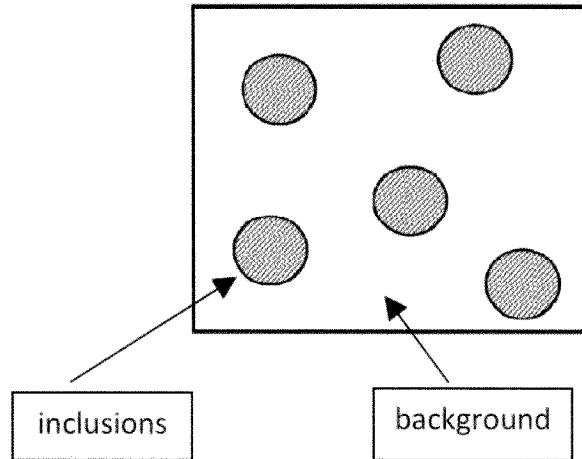
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Thanks!  
Questions?

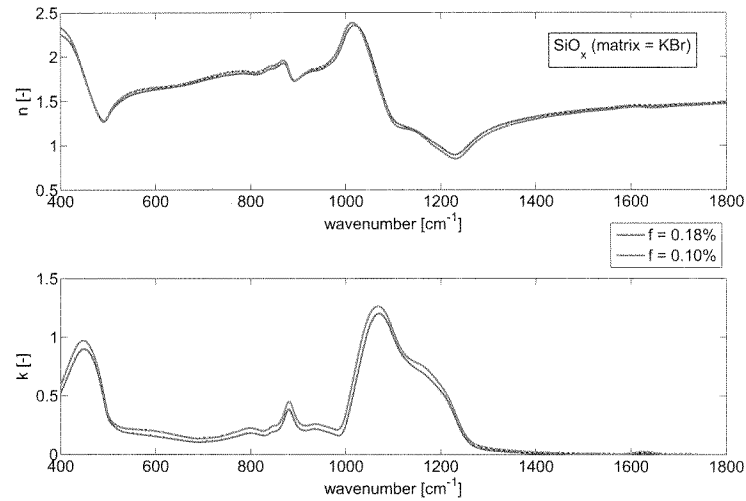


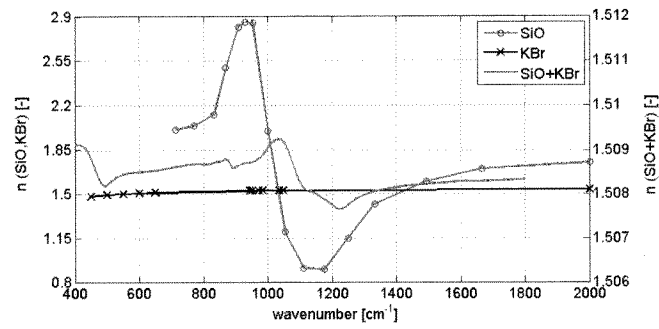
# The effective medium structure

18/20



## The optical constants as a function of filling fraction

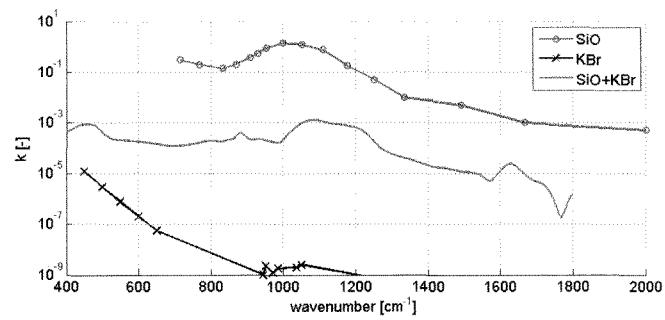


The optical constants for the  $SiO_x - KBr$  mixture

(Rinehart, Cataldo, et al., *Applied Optics*, in press)

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E123

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