

Quantum Efficiency Seminar und Colloquium

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Deep-subwavelength imaging of the modal dispersion of light

Central for modern nanophotonics is the interaction of a nano-sized light source with a rich and tailored optical mode, which is maximised only if the source is placed at large optical mode densities, as in the anti-nodes of a photonic crystal cavity mode or in the proximity of a metallic nanoantenna. Nanoscale mapping of the optical wave function is therefore of crucial importance to predict how energy is exchanged between matter and light.

I will discuss recent experiments on local density maps (LDOS) obtained by (i) Stochastic mapping of the Purcell effect in 3D random media¹, and (ii) Transient-dipole scanning microscopy, a combination of electron-beam scanning and optical spectroscopy, on 2D photonic membranes like photonic crystal cavities and random plasmonic films¹.

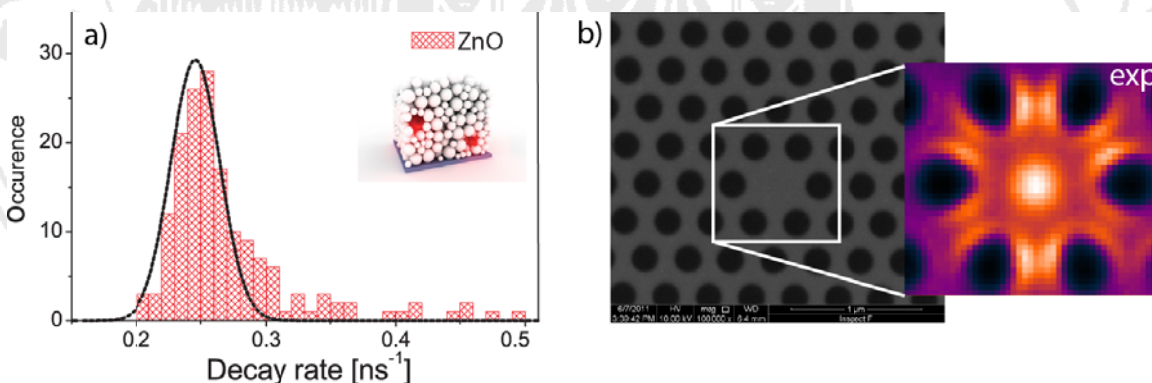


Figure: a) Long-tailed LDOS distribution measured in a ZnO random medium. b) 2D LDOS map measured by transient-dipole scanning microscopy

¹ Long-Tail Statistics of the Purcell Factor in Disordered Media Driven by Near-Field Interactions R. Sapienza, P. Bondareff, R. Pierrat, B. Habert, R. Carminati, and N. F. van Hulst, Phys. Rev. Lett. 106, 163902 (2011).

¹ Deep-subwavelength imaging of the modal dispersion of light, R. Sapienza et al. Submitted

Date: Tuesday, July 10th, 2012 15:45 pm
Location: Lecture Hall 1, Hermann-Herder-Str. 3, Freiburg

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