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【154】 Hybrid semiconductor-metal plasmonic waveguide for on-chip sensors in the longwave infrared

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The longwave-infrared holds various applications ranging from sensing and imaging to optical free-space communication. The increasing demand for miniaturized systems requires the development of compact photonic networks between on-chip optoelectronic components such as lasers, detectors and modulators. To resolve this challenging task, we introduce and experimentally demonstrate a novel type of broadband semiconductormetal surface-plasmon-polariton waveguide, consisting of a Ge-on-Au structure. It shows total waveguide losses as low as 10.5 dB/mm at 9.5 μ m, which remain <20 dB/mm for the entire spectral range between 6–12 μ m. This paves the way for a wide range of on-chip applications using novel longwave-infrared integrated systems.

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