Bragg grating induced cladding mode coupling due to asymmetrical index modulation in depressed cladding fibers

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measured phase delay error for a similar but apodized grating. As expected, apodization decreased the ripples.

Although this technique was demonstrated on short commercial gratings, it is better suited to resolve the phase ripples in long dispersion-compensating gratings.


TuA6 12:15pm

Bragg grating induced cladding mode coupling due to asymmetrical index modulation in depressed cladding fibers

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UV-written Bragg gratings find wide spread use as wavelength selective components. In reflection high extinction ratios is routinely obtained. However, coupling to cladding modes gives excess loss on the short wavelength side of the main reflection. Different fiber-designs have been proposed to reduce this problem.1–3 Neither of these designs seems to give complete solutions. In particular, the otherwise promising depressed cladding design gives a pronounced coupling to one LPm mode, this has been referred to as a Ghost grating.4

To find the modes of the fiber we have established a numerical modesolver based on the staircase-approximation method. The Bragg grating causes coupling between the fundamental LP01 mode and higher order LPm modes that satisfy phasematching. The coupling strength is determined by the overlap integral of the LP01, the LPm mode, and the UV-induced index perturbation. For LP01 the index perturbation is set to one in the core and zero elsewhere. For LPm it is simplified to the worst case, i.e., opposite sign of the field.

Figure 1 shows measured transmission spectrums along with normalized overlap integrals (NOI) calculated for the fiber index profile. The fiber used has a high core index (15 · 10−3) and a depressed cladding ring of depth −5 · 10−3 and width 5 μm. To fit the measured spectrum the depth of the cladding ring was set to −6 · 10−3.

At 1° blaze of the phasemask a large dip is seen 4 nm from the Bragg wavelength. This corresponds to the calculated LP10, LP11 cladding modes. Changing the depth and width of the depressed cladding ring shifts the Ghost dip to other mode numbers but the size and spectral position is virtually unaltered. When the blaze is reduced to 0° ± 0.02° this dip is reduced to six percent of the Bragg dip. This behavior was further investigated by writing four gratings under identical conditions except for blaze angels ([Fig. 2]).

The UV-induced index change was deduced assuming cosine squared longitudinal index modulation, blaze angle θ and exponential attenuation (coefficient γ) of the UV-beam entering the fiber core from the side;

$$n_{UV}(r, \phi, z, \theta) = n_{UV_{max}} \cdot \exp(-\gamma \left( r^2 - (r \cdot \sin(\phi))^2 + r \cdot \cos(\phi) \right) \cdot \alpha_{\text{Blaze}}(r, \phi, z, \theta)$$

$$\alpha_{\text{Blaze}}(r, \phi, z, \theta) = \frac{a + r \cdot \sin(\phi)}{2a} \cos^2 \left( \frac{\pi z}{L - \frac{2a}{\tan(\theta)}} \right)$$

TuA6 Fig. 1. Measured cladding mode coupling spectra and calculated NOI.

TuA6 Fig. 2. Measured Ghost dip relative to Bragg dip as a function of blaze angle.

TuA6 Fig. 3. Asymmetrical index volume (ASIV) as a function of blaze angle, left trace: 800 dB/mm, right trace: 50 dB/mm (note zero slope for zero blaze). Insert shows distribution of UV-induced index perturbation in a fiber cross section.
where $n_{UV,max}$ is the maximum UV-induced index change, $A$ is the grating period and $a$ is the core radius.

The volume integral of $n_{UV}$ subtracted a cosine squared index modulation is proportional to the NOI, assuming no radial field variation and step azimuthal variation, in the core. This integral we denote as the asymmetrical index volume (ASIV).

The analysis indicate two regimes [(Fig. 3)], namely a blaze-dominated $LP_{01}$ coupling for small UV attenuation ($<100$ dB/mm) and a side illumination dominated behavior for large UV attenuation. The measurement in Fig. 2 seems to fall in between these extremes. For the fiber used, we estimate an UV attenuation of 400 dB/mm. Comparing this result with the residual Ghost dip for zero blaze and published measurements of index profiles after UV-sidewriting, we conclude that asymmetry arising from side illumination is very important for the understanding of $LP_{01}$ coupling. Design of fibers and writing setups, with the aim of reducing cladding mode coupling must be based on this new understanding.

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**TuB1 (Invited) 11:00am**

**Fusion bonding for vertical-cavity surface-emitting lasers**

Dubravko Babic, Hewlett-Packard Laboratories, Palo Alto, California, 94304; E-mail: babic@hpl.hp.com

This talk summarizes current efforts in fusion bonding and the application of this technology to vertical-cavity surface-emitting lasers at Hewlett-Packard Laboratories. We discuss electrical characteristics, carrier-concentration profiling and SIMS analyses through InP/GaAs junctions, and the development of 1300 nm VCSELs.