

Discrete Photonics in Waveguide Arrays

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<http://fisica.ciencias.uchile.cl/nonopt/NLOG.html>
<http://www.cefop.cl/>





Discrete photonics



Why study physics of discrete systems?

Testbed to test general phenomenology

Richer physics than continuous counterpart

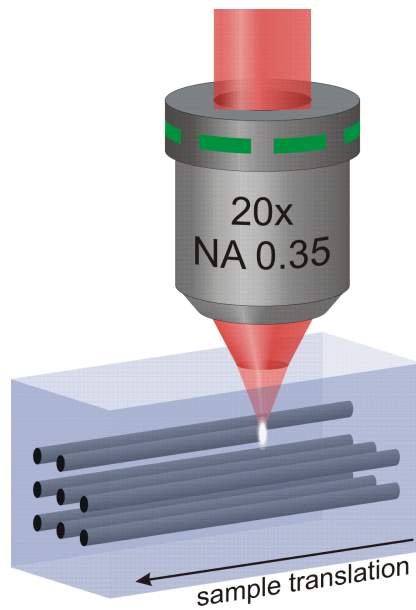
Greater potential for applications



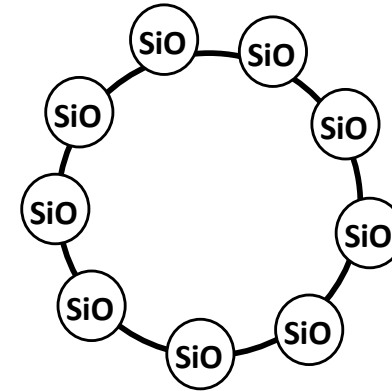
Waveguides in fused silica



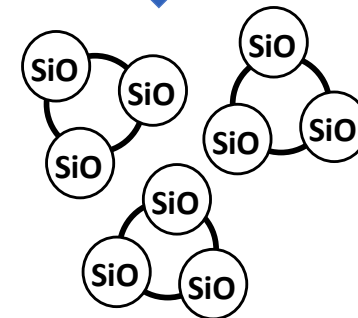
A. Szameit et al, Opt. Express 13,10552 (2005).



9-ring structure

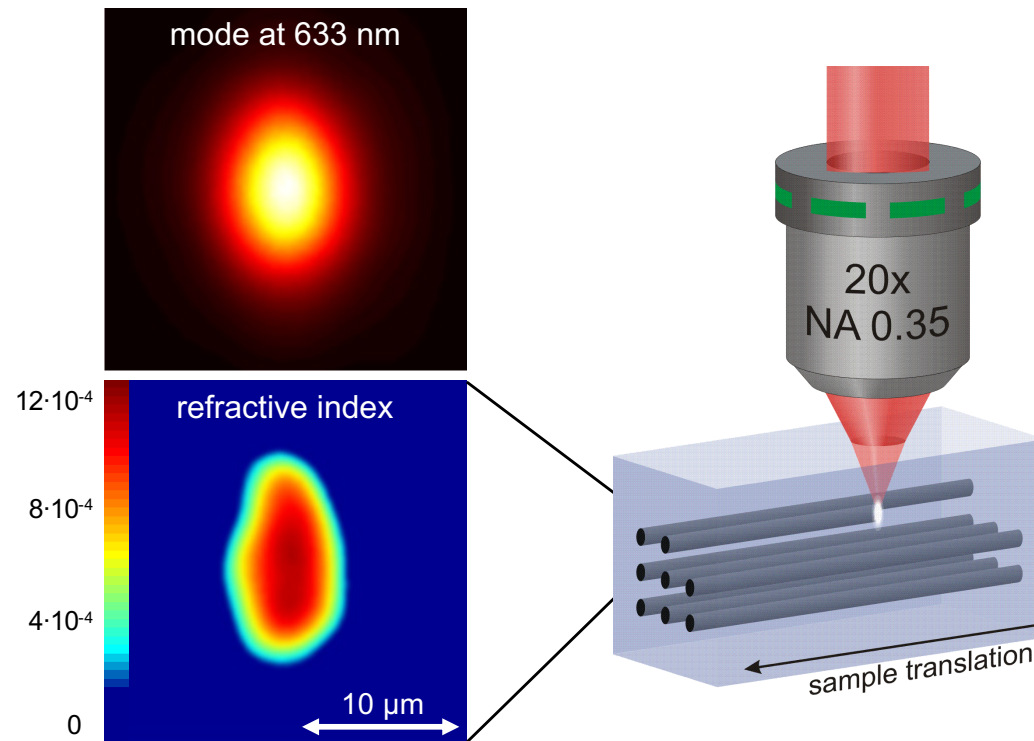


3-ring structures
(densification,
refractive index increase)





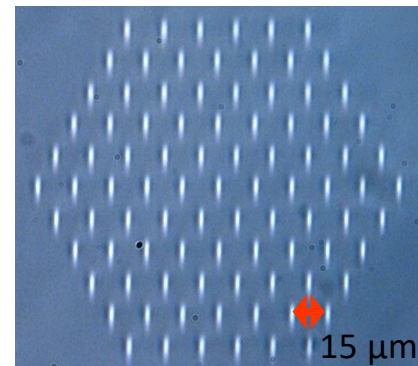
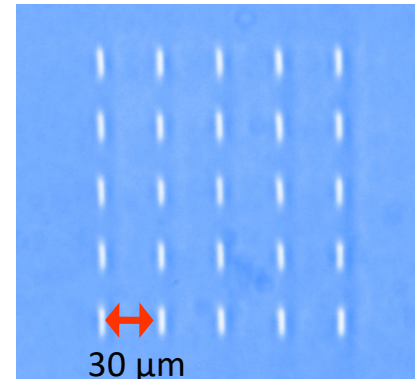
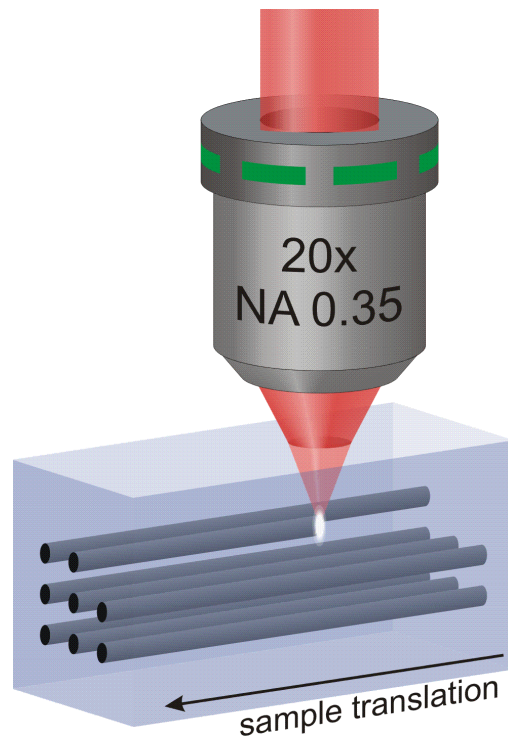
Waveguides in fused silica



typical $\Delta n = 10^{-3}$



Waveguides in fused silica



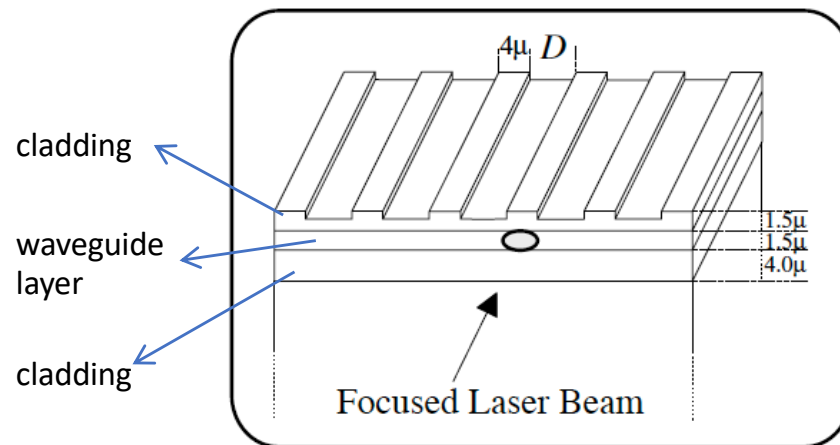
AS et al., Opt. Lett. **33**, 663 (2008).
AS et al., Appl. Phys. B **82**, 507 (2006).



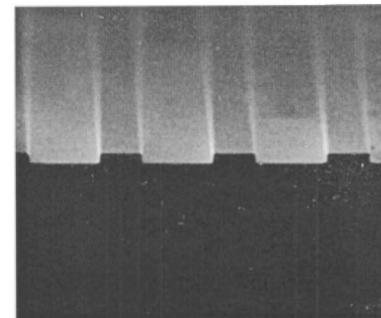
Semiconductor Waveguides



P. Millar, J.S. Aitchison, J.U. Kang, G.I. Stegeman, J. Opt. Soc. Am. B 14, 3224 (1997).

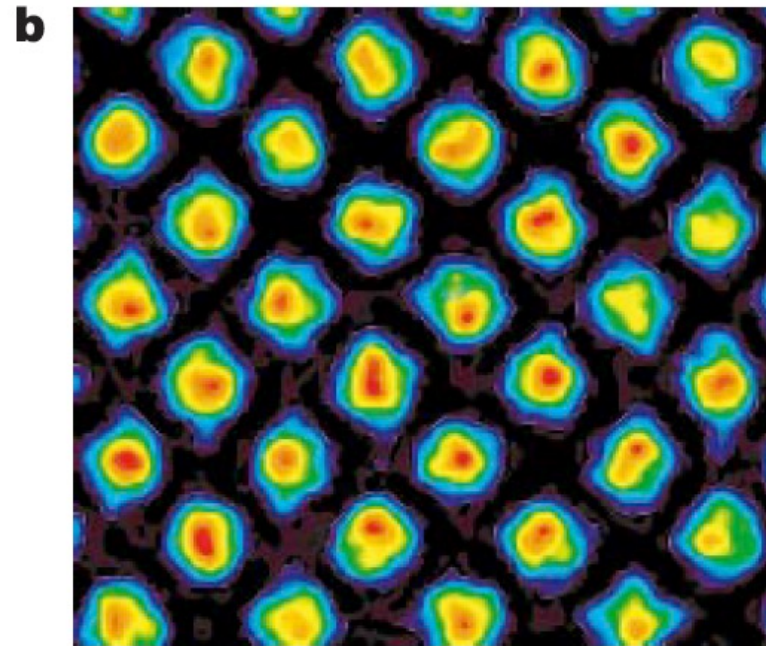
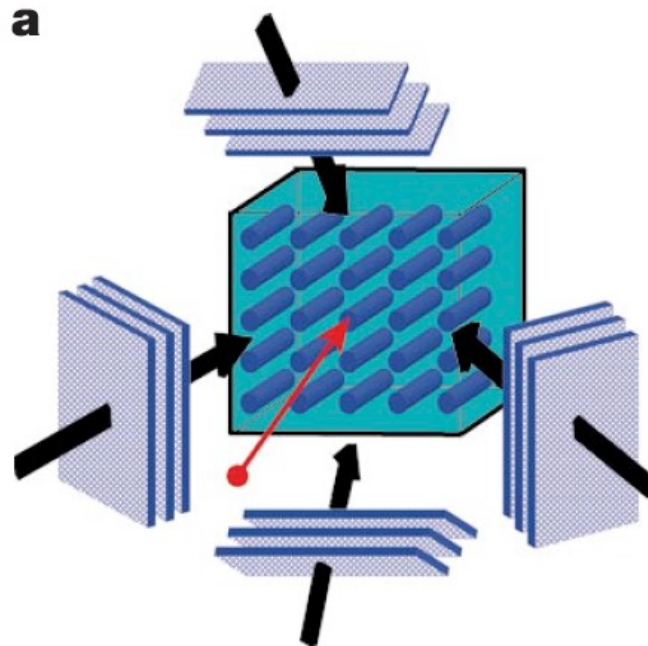


Substrate: Ga As
Cladding: $\text{Al}_{0.24}\text{Ga}_{0.76}\text{As}$
Waveguide layer: $\text{Al}_{0.18}\text{Ga}_{0.82}\text{As}$





Photorefractive Waveguides



Light $\rightarrow$ releases electrons $\rightarrow$ drift $\rightarrow$ local E
fields $\rightarrow$ electro-optic effect $\rightarrow$ distribution of refractive
indices



Coupled-modes theory

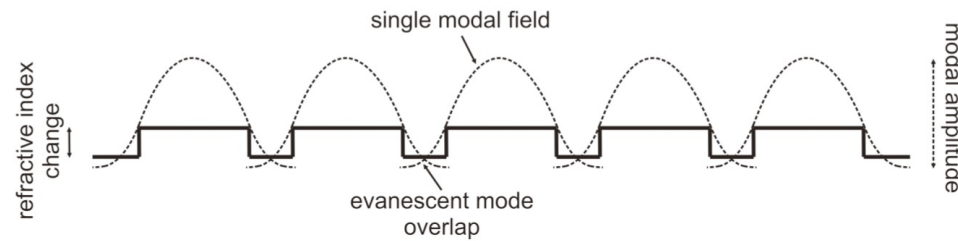


Maxwell:

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{D} &= 0 & \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} &= 0 \\ \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{H} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{D} & \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} &= -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{B} \\ \vec{D} &= \vec{E} + \vec{P} & \vec{H} &= \vec{B} + \vec{M} \\ \nabla^2 \vec{E} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2} &= \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{P}}{\partial t^2} \\ \vec{P} &= \chi^{(1)} \vec{E} + \chi^{(3)} |\vec{E}|^2 \vec{E}\end{aligned}$$



Teoría de modos acoplados



$$E(x, z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} C_n(z) \phi(x - x_n)$$

$$\left| \frac{d^2 C_n}{dz^2} \right| \ll k_0 \left| \frac{dC_n}{dz} \right| \quad n = n_0 + n_2 |E|^2 \quad \text{Kerr}$$

$$i \frac{dC_n}{dz} + V(C_{n+1} + C_{n-1}) + \gamma |C_n|^2 C_n = 0$$

Discrete nonlinear Schrodinger (DNLS) equation



Coupled-modes theory



$$\begin{aligned} P &= \sum_n |C_n|^2 \\ H &= \sum_n \{V(C_n C_{n+1}^* + C_n^* C_{n+1}) + (\gamma/2)|C_n|^4\} \end{aligned} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{aligned} P \\ H \end{aligned}} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{Conserved} \\ \text{quantities} \end{array}$$

$$C_n = u_n \exp(i\beta z) \quad \text{Stationary mode}$$

$$-\beta u_n + (u_{n+1} + u_{n-1}) + \chi |u_n|^2 u_n = 0$$

Nonlinear eigenvalue equation



Coupled-modes theory



Finding the localized nonlinear mode

$$-EC_n + V(C_{n+1} + C_{n-1}) + \chi|C_n|^2 C_n = 0$$

$$\lambda \equiv E/V, \quad \phi_n \equiv \sqrt{\chi/V} C_n$$

$$-\lambda\phi_n + (\phi_{n+1} + \phi_{n-1}) + |\phi_n|^2 \phi_n = 0$$

$$\vec{F}(\vec{\phi}) = 0 \quad \text{use Newton-Raphson}$$

Need good seed (anticontinuous limit)

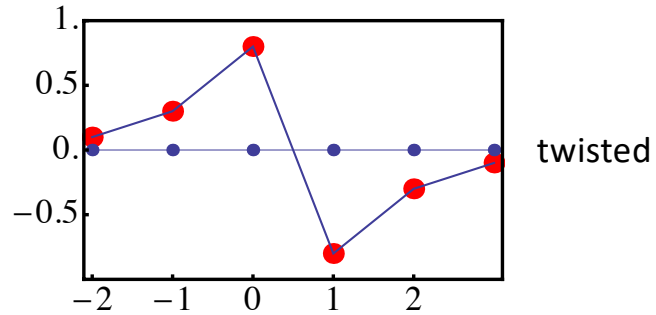
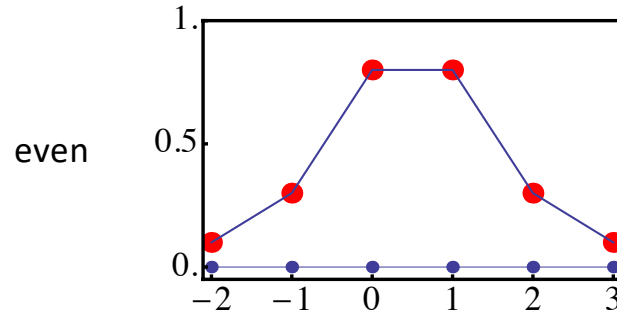
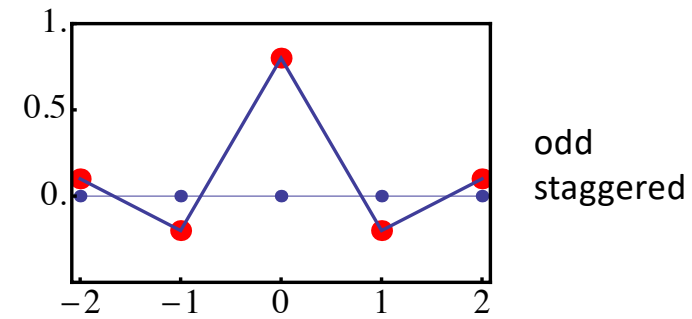
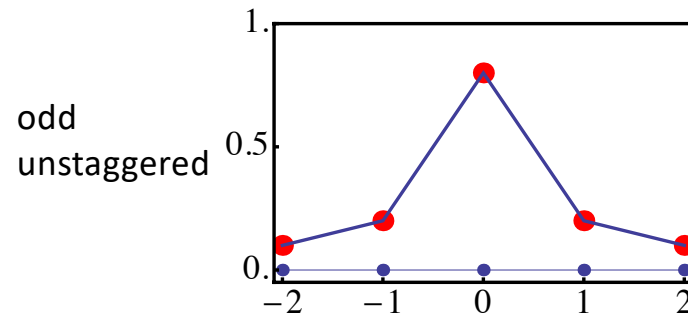
Find many solution families (characterized by power
vs prop.const. curve)



Coupled-modes theory



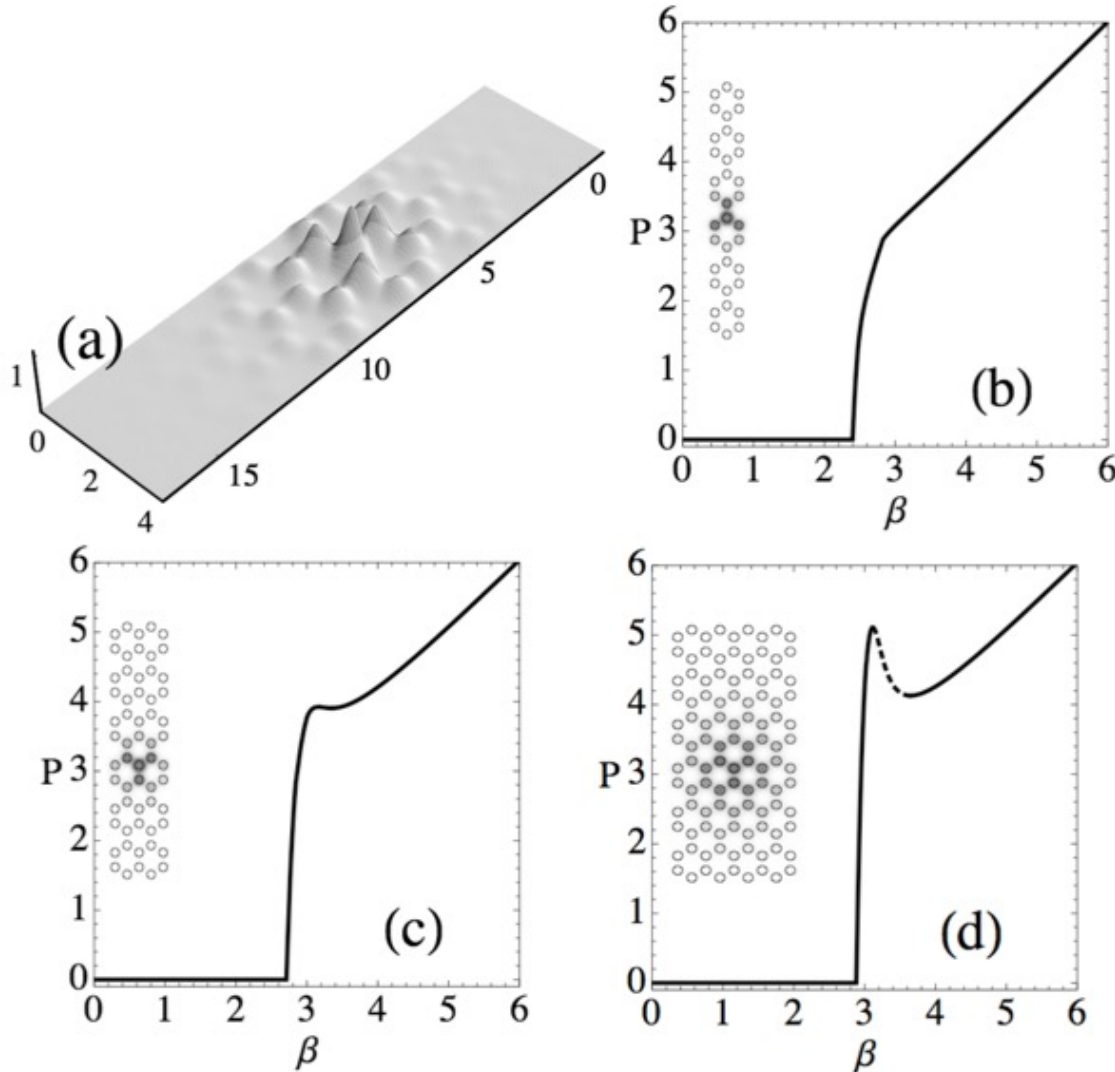
Pure 1D CASE



$$E(x, z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \sqrt{V/\chi} \phi_n(z) \psi(x - x_n)$$



Coupled-modes theory



**Example:
Graphene ribbon**



Coupled-modes theory



Linear stability

$$C_n(z) = \phi_n e^{-i\lambda z} \quad \text{sol. of DNLS}$$

$$C_n(z) \rightarrow (\phi_n + \delta\phi_n) e^{-i\lambda z}, \quad |\delta\phi_n/\phi_n| \ll 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Equation for } \delta\phi_n = \delta u_n + i\delta v_n$$

$$\text{define } \delta\vec{u} = (\delta u_1, \delta u_2, \dots, \delta u_N), \quad \delta\vec{v} = (\delta v_1, \delta v_2, \dots, \delta v_N)$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{nm} = \delta_{n,m+1} + \delta_{n,m-1} + (\lambda + \phi_n^2)\delta_{n,m}$$

$$\mathcal{B}_{nm} = \delta_{n,m+1} + \delta_{n,m-1} + (\lambda + 3\phi_n^2)\delta_{n,m}$$

$$\boxed{\delta\ddot{\vec{U}} + \mathcal{B}\mathcal{A} \delta\vec{U} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \delta\ddot{\vec{V}} + \mathcal{A}\mathcal{B} \delta\vec{V} = 0}$$



Coupled-modes theory



$\{m\}$ =eigenvalues of $\mathcal{A}\mathcal{B}$ = eigenvalues of $\mathcal{B}\mathcal{A}$

instability gain

$$G^* = \text{Max} \left\{ \sqrt{(1/2)(-\text{Re}[m] + \sqrt{\text{Re}[m]^2 + \text{Im}[m]^2})} \right\}$$

$$G^* = 0 \quad \text{stable}$$

$$G^* > 0 \quad \text{unstable}$$

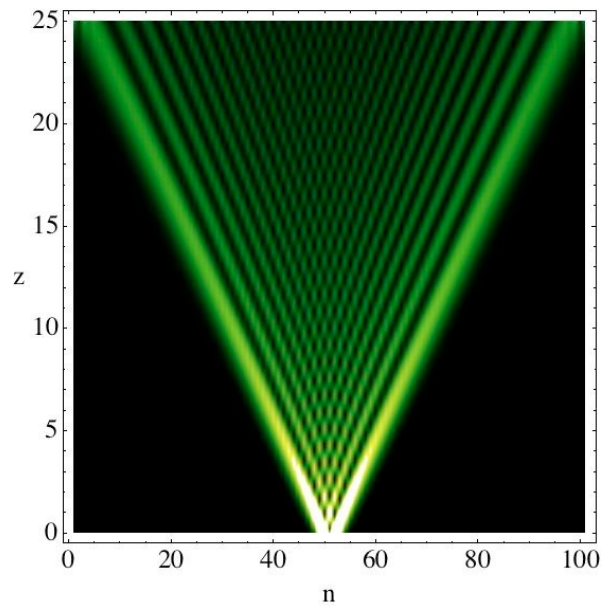


Coupled-modes theory

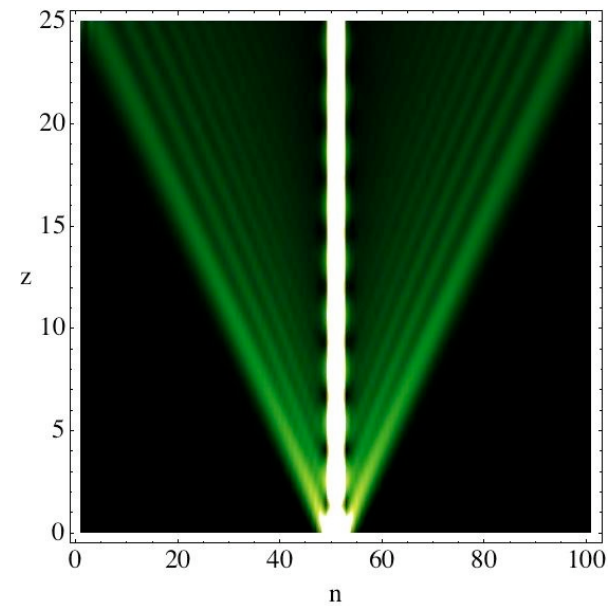


Numerical propagation

Discrete diffraction

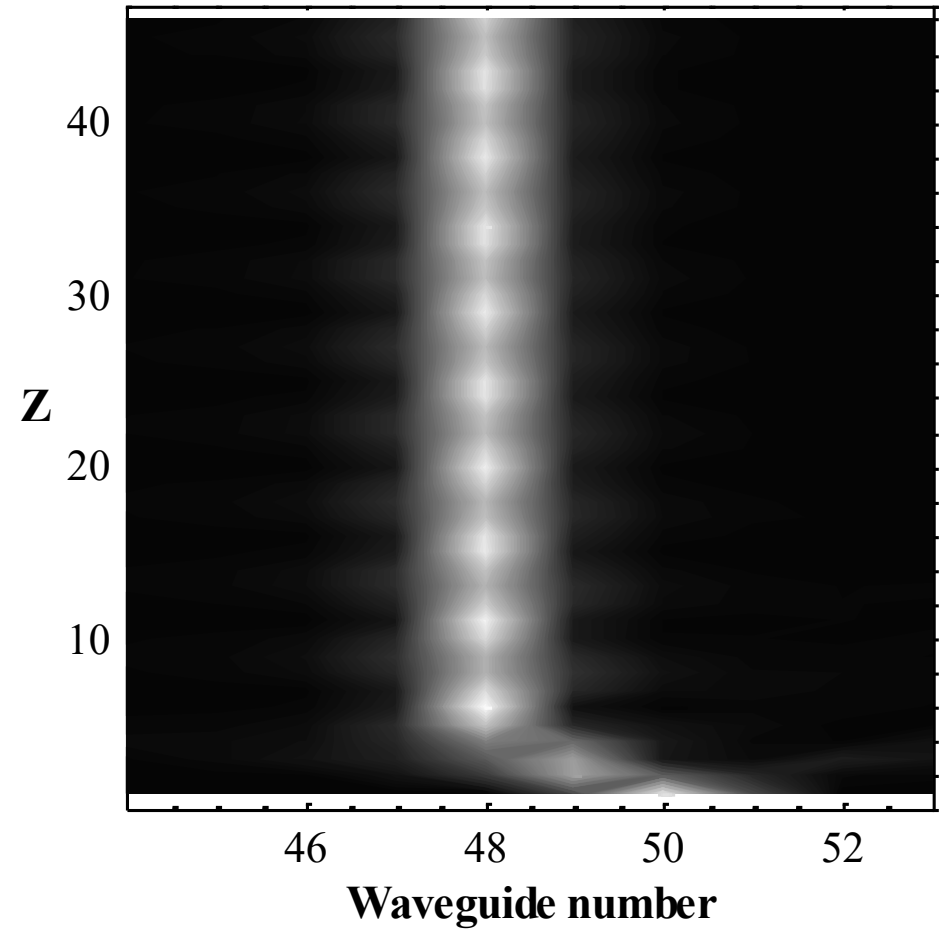
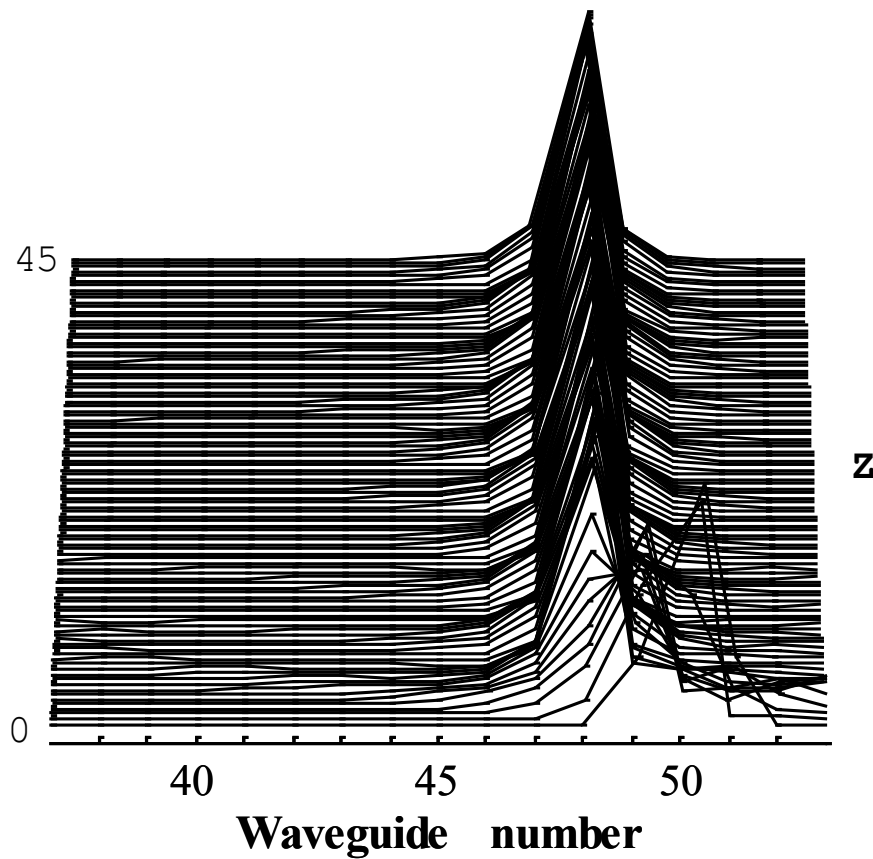


Discrete soliton formation

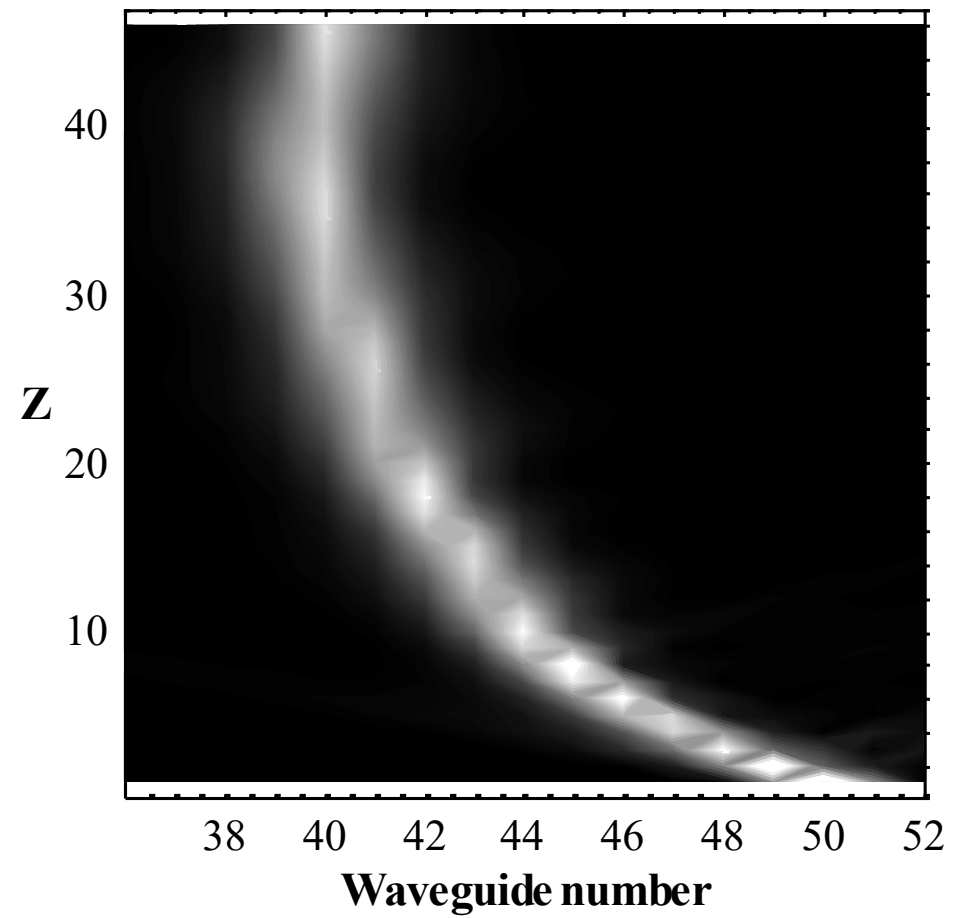
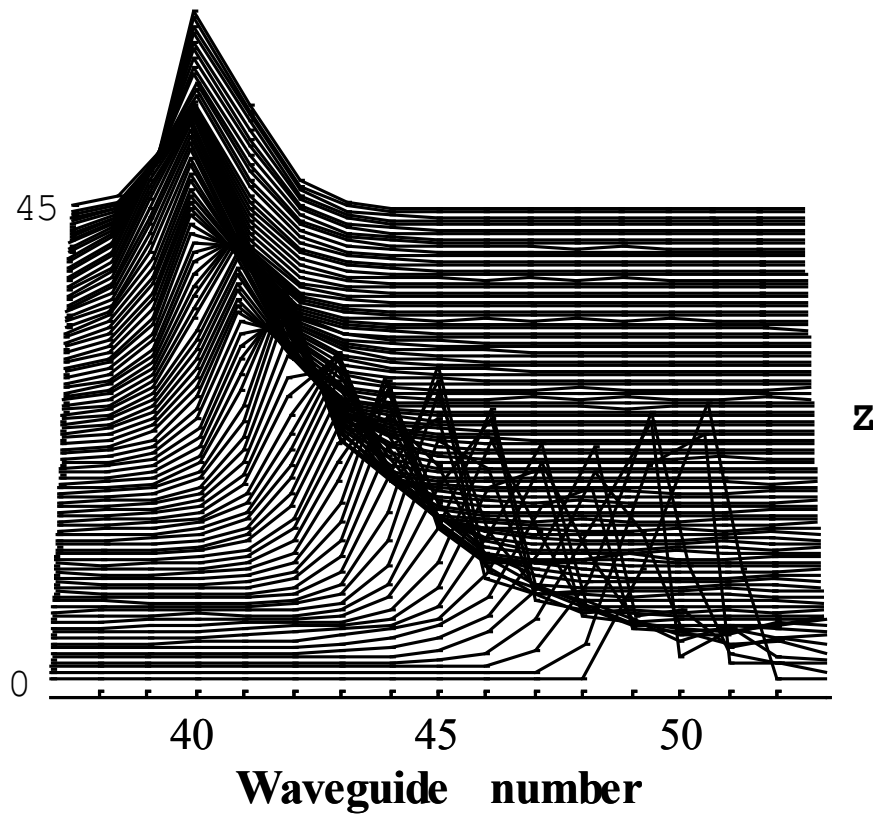


Arreglos cúbicos: Switching a 2 guías

$$u_n(0) = \Phi_n e^{-ik(n-n_c)}$$

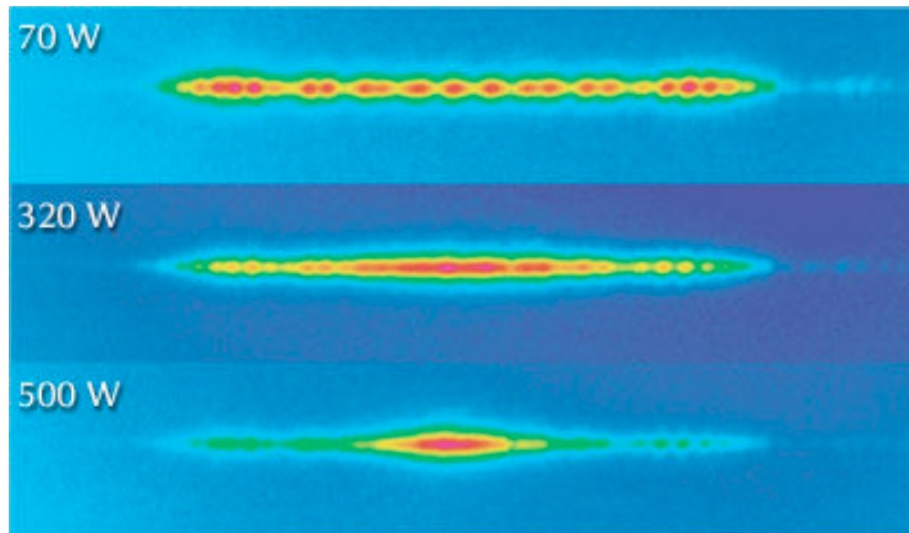


Arreglos cúbicos: Switching a 10 guías





First experimental observation of discrete soliton



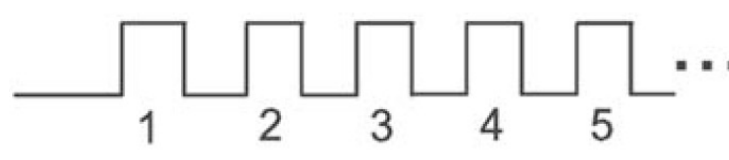
Difraccion discreta

Soliton discreto

H. Eisenberg et al, PRL 81, 3383 (1998).



Surface Solitons



$$i \frac{dE_1}{dz} + \alpha E_1 + E_2 + \gamma |E_1|^2 E_1 = 0,$$

$$i \frac{dE_n}{dz} + \alpha E_n + (E_{n+1} + E_{n-1}) + \gamma |E_n|^2 E_n = 0$$

Stationary mode: $E_n(z) = \exp(i\beta z) E_n$

$$\gamma=0 : \quad E_n \sim \sin(kn) \quad \beta = \alpha + 2 \cos(k) \quad k = \frac{m\pi}{N+1}$$

NO SURFACE MODE



Surface Solitons



$$\gamma \neq 0$$

Use Newton-Raphson + judicious
initial condition (antiadiabatic limit)

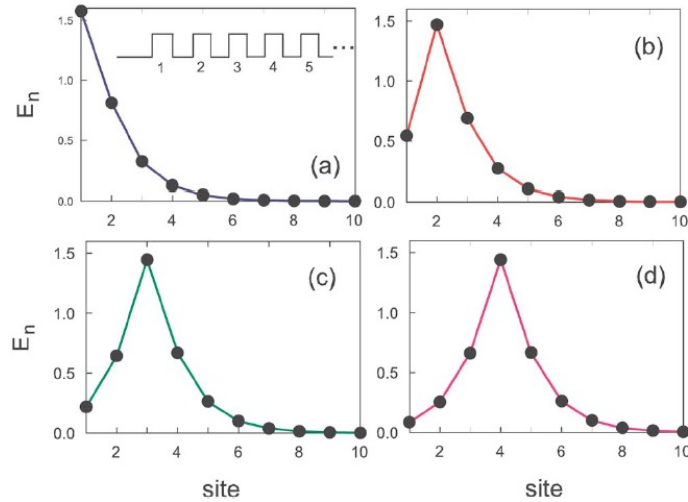


Fig. 1. (Color online) Examples of surface localized modes at $\beta=3$ in an array of focusing waveguides ($\gamma=+1$) centered at distances d of (a) 0, (b) 1, (c) 2, (d) 3 from the array edge.

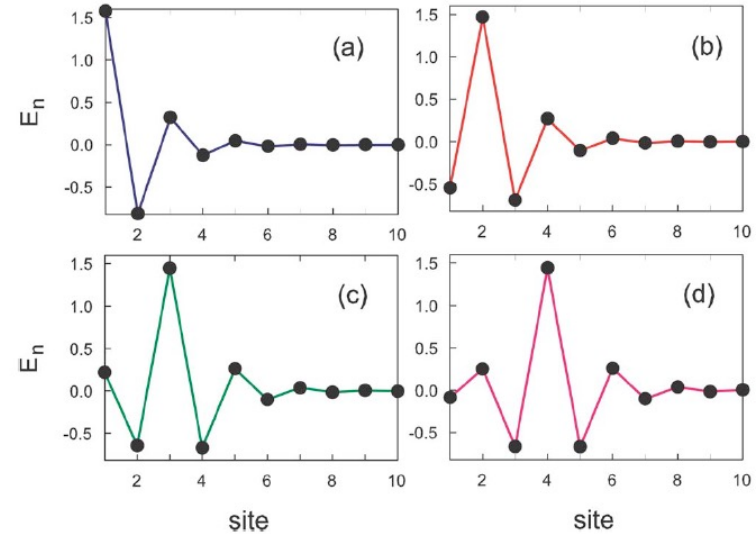


Fig. 2. (Color online) Examples of localized surface modes at $\beta=-3$ in an array of defocusing waveguides ($\gamma=-1$) located at distances d of (a) 0, (b) 1, (c) 2, (d) 3 from the array edge.



Surface Solitons

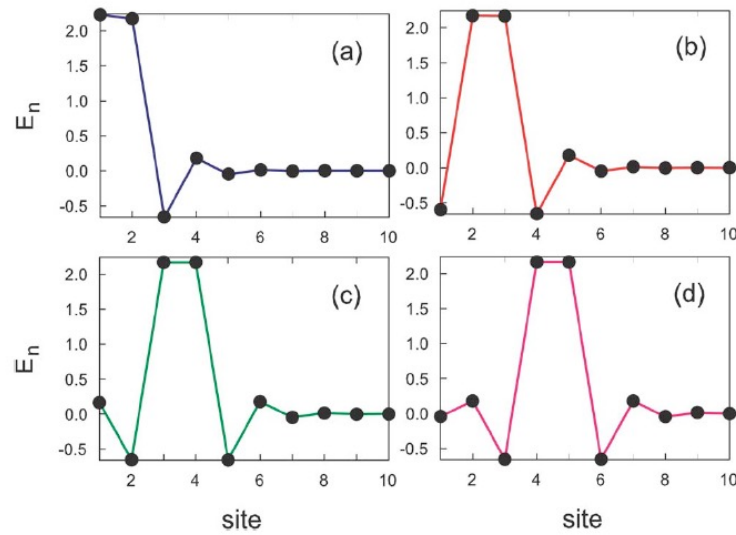


Fig. 5. (Color online) Examples of stable flat-topped localized surface modes at $\beta = -4$ in the array of defocusing waveguides ($\gamma = -1$) centered between various sites near the edge.

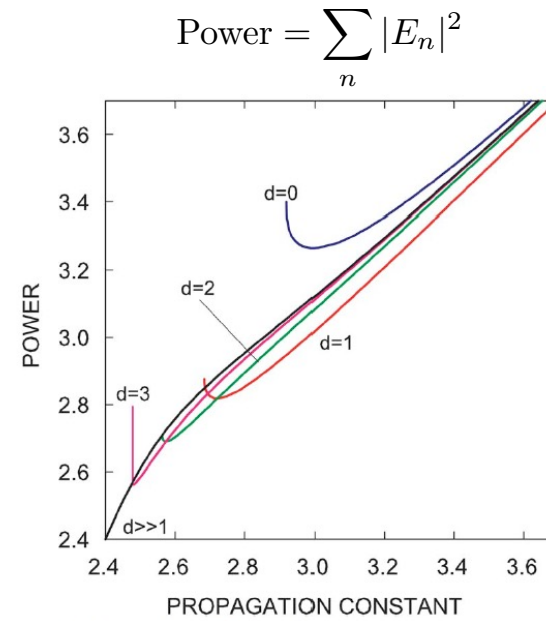


Fig. 3. (Color online) Normalized power versus propagation constant β for the surface modes shown in Fig. 1 located at distances $d = 0, 1, 2, 3$ from the surface. The darkest curve corresponds to the discrete soliton in an infinite array.



Surface Solitons



Existence and stability: The constraint method

$$H = - \sum_n (E_n E_{n+1}^* + E_n^* E_{n+1}) - (1/2) \sum_n |E_n|^4$$

$$X = \sum_n n |E_n|^2 / \sum_{n, E_n \neq 2} |E_n|^2$$

- (1) Compute an odd mode centered at n . Obtain all $\{E_n\}$ and power P
- (2) Fix amplitude at $n+1$ to be $E_{n+1} + \epsilon$
- (3) Solve all NR equations for E_m ($m \neq n+1$) keeping power fixed at P , arriving to intermediate state centered between n and $n+1$.
- (4) Obtain X and H for intermediate state.
- (5) increase ϵ and repeat procedure until amplitudes at sites n and $n+1$ coincide (even mode).

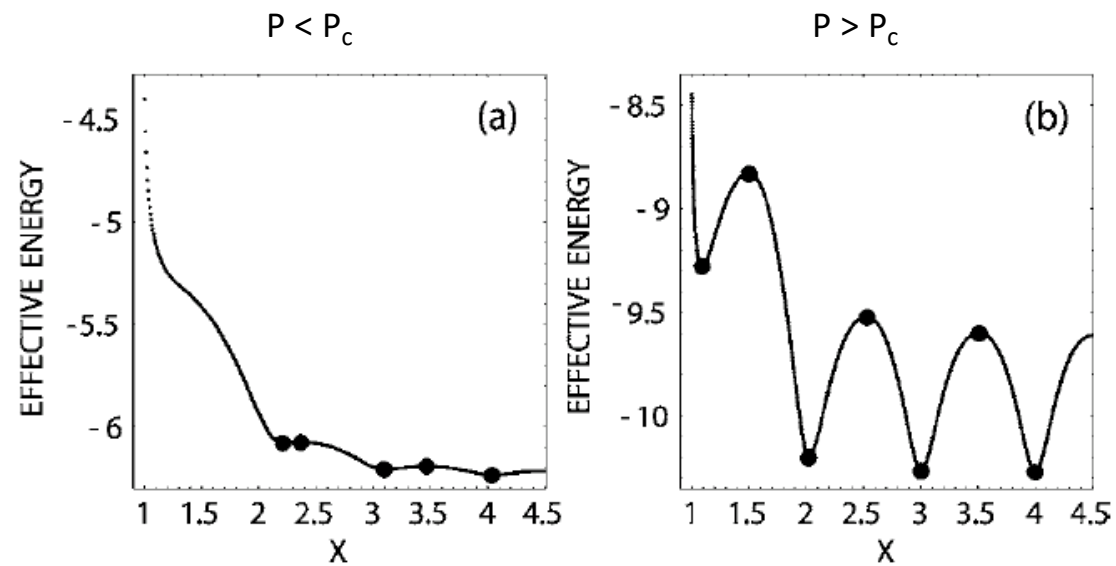
$$U_{\text{eff}} = H(X)$$

$$dH/dX=0$$

Stationary solutions



Surface Solitons



$P < P_c$: surface is repulsive
even modes unstable



Surface solitons

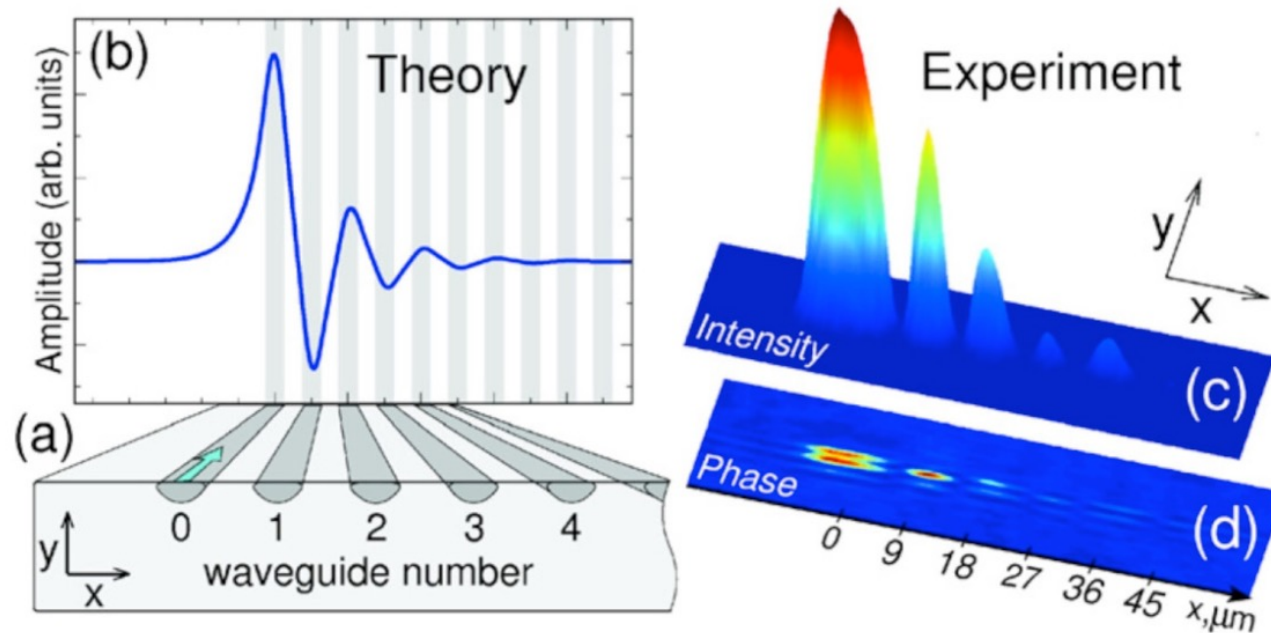


Fig.2: Theoretical prediction (a, b) and experimental observation (c, d) of nonlinear Tamm states in a truncated photonic lattice. (a) Schematic of the waveguide array geometry; (b) theoretical profile of a nonlinear Tamm state surface gap soliton. (c) three-dimensional representation of the nonlinear surface state observed above the localization threshold. (x,y) are the horizontal and vertical sample coordinates, respectively. (d) Experimental plane-wave interferogram demonstrating the staggered phase structure of the nonlinear Tamm state (from M. I. Molina and Y. S. Kivshar, ref [14]).