

# 温度自补偿的级联式光纤表面等离子体共振折射率 传感器

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**摘要**提出并制备了一种温度自补偿的光纤表面等离子体共振(SPR)折射率传感器,用于实现温度和折射率(RI)的同时测量。该传感器利用细芯光纤(TCF)与多模光纤(MMF)构成 MMF-TCF-MMF 双通道级联结构,通道1涂覆银膜实现折射率传感,通道2涂覆复合膜(Ag-ITO)以及聚二甲基硅氧烷(PDMS)膜来实现温度传感,进而达到温度补偿的目的。当折射率和温度变化时,两个共振波长将发生变化,通过监测两个共振波谷的波长偏移可以同时测量折射率和温度。实验结果表明,两个通道在1.333~1.357 RIU(RIU为折射率单位)范围内的折射率灵敏度分别为 3141.85 nm/RIU和0 nm/RIU,40~80 ℃范围内的温度灵敏度分别为 -0.07 nm/℃和 -1.74 nm/℃。该传感器具有体积小、灵敏度高、易制作等优点,在生物医学、环境监测等领域具有一定的应用价值。

关键词 光纤光学;光纤传感器;表面等离子体共振;细芯光纤;折射率;温度 中图分类号 TP212 文献标志码 A

## 1引言

折射率(RI)测量在许多领域中发挥着重要的作 用,尤其在医疗诊断、工业制造和食品安全等领域 中<sup>[1-5]</sup>。光纤表面等离子体共振(SPR)传感器因其体 积小、结构紧凑、灵敏度高、抗电磁干扰性强等优点,受 到研究者们的极大关注<sup>[6]</sup>。由于 SPR 传感器具有很高 的灵敏度,对外界环境的变化十分敏感。光纤SPR传 感器的折射率与温度交叉敏感特性限制了传感器的准 确性,具有温度补偿的折射率传感器的研究有一定的 现实意义<sup>[7-10]</sup>。Liu等<sup>[11]</sup>利用不同的光纤研磨角度激发 不同的SPR现象,通过组合不同的研磨角度实现温度 补偿,但其传感器制作比较复杂,无法大规模生产。还 有一些研究者提出,通过光纤马赫-曾德尔(M-Z)干 涉、光纤法布里-珀罗(F-P)干涉以及光纤布拉格光栅 (FBG)与SPR效应结合,来实现温度补偿。例如, Gong 等<sup>[12]</sup>提出了一种 SPR 和 M-Z 干涉相结合的光纤 传感器, Chen等<sup>[13]</sup>提出了一种SPR和F-P干涉相结合 的光纤传感器,以及Hu等<sup>[14]</sup>提出了一种嵌入式的 FBG异质芯结构的光纤 SPR 传感器,用于同时测量折 射率和温度以达到温度补偿的目的。但此类温度补偿 式的 SPR 传感器常需要两个解调系统,解调过程相对 比较繁琐。

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本文提出并制作了一种温度自补偿的级联式光纤 SPR 折射率传感器,利用细芯光纤(TCF),与多模光 纤(MMF)构成 MMF-TCF-MMF 结构,采用级联方式 构成双通道传感。通道1的 TCF 上涂覆银膜实现折 射率的传感,通道2的 TCF 上涂覆银和氧化铟锡的复 合膜(Ag-ITO),并涂覆聚二甲基硅氧烷(PDMS)膜, 利用 PDMS 的热光效应实现温度的传感。此级联式 双通道传感器通过镀不同的金属膜,可以进一步避免 谐振波长的串扰,并利用 PDMS 膜实现温度补偿且灵 敏度较高。所提传感器在生物医学设备、农业发展、环 境监测等领域具有重要应用价值。

## 2 传感器的结构与仿真

温度自补偿的级联式光纤SPR折射率传感器的 结构如图1所示,利用TCF,构成MMF-TCF-MMF结 构,采用级联方式构成双通道传感。通道1是在TCF 上涂覆银膜,通道2是在另一段TCF上涂覆复合膜 (Ag-ITO)<sup>[15]</sup>,并涂覆温敏膜PDMS。利用熔接技术, 将两个通道级联起来。其中PDMS涂覆层不仅能防 止环境折射率接触金属膜,还具有热光效应。当外界 温度改变时,PDMS的折射率会改变,引起谐振波长的 漂移,进而实现对温度的测量。因此,通道2对折射率 的变化不敏感,而通道1对折射率和温度的变化敏感。

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### 研究论文

光从 MMF 传输至 TCF 时,由于纤芯失配<sup>[16]</sup>,导致部 分光泄露至 TCF 包层,随即产生的倏逝波<sup>[17]</sup>会穿透金 属膜从而存在于金属与待测介质的界面,引发金属膜 表面的电子振荡,即表面等离子体,在此过程中会产生 一种沿介质界面传播的横磁波(p偏振光),即表面等 离子体波,从而发生 SPR 现象。



图 1 传感器结构示意图 Fig. 1 Structure diagram of sensor

当入射波矢 $k_z$ 与表面等离子波矢 $k_{spw}$ 相匹配时,即满足

$$k_z = k_{\rm snw} \tag{1}$$

时,则会产生SPR现象。全反射的情况下,p偏振光的 总反射系数<sup>[3]</sup>为

$$r = \left| r_{012}^{\rm p} \right|^2 = \left| \frac{r_{01} + r_{12} e^{2k_{1z}d}}{1 + r_{01} r_{12} e^{2k_{1z}d}} \right|^2$$
(2)

本文中,通道1和通道2分别镀不同的金属膜。式(2) 中:ru为光纤与金属膜的p偏振光的反射系数;ru为金 属膜与待测介质的p偏振光的反射系数;k<sub>1z</sub>为金属膜 在z轴上的波矢分量。由于环境折射率的改变,影响 金属膜与待测介质的p偏振光的反射系数,从而影响p 偏振光的总反射系数。本文利用TCF构成双通道传 感,由于TCF的纤芯较细,更能激发出SPR 倏逝波,具 有较高的 SPR 效应。利用 Matlab 数值理论分析比较 了基于 TCF 构成双通道 SPR 传感器与基于单模光纤 构成双通道 SPR 传感器在相同温度 40 ℃[通道2环境 折射率为1.408 RIU(RIU为折射率单位)]下的透射 谱,设置通道1的环境折射率为1.333 RIU,对应的仿 真结果如图2所示。通道1是由Ag膜产生的,通道2 是由复合膜(Ag-ITO)产生的。从TCF与单模光纤 (SMF)的对比图可知,在相同条件下,基于TCF的双 通道 SPR 传感器的共振峰总体优于基于 SMF 的 SPR 传感器的共振峰,使其在测量时产生的共振峰更容易 被观察。

PDMS作为一种高分子有机硅化物,具有较高的 热光效应,且制作工艺简单,制作成本低,具有良好的 化学惰性和良好的透光性,非常适合作为光纤温度传 感器的温敏材料。PDMS材料的折射率随着温度变化 的关系式<sup>[18-19]</sup>为

 $n_{\text{PDMS}} = -4.5 \times 10^{-4} \times T + 1.4176$ 。 (3) 当温度升高时, PDMS的折射率随之线性降低。因此, 将影响金属膜与待测介质的 p 偏振光的反射系数,从 而影响 p 偏振光的总反射系数。



图 2 双通道传感器透射谱对比图 Fig. 2 Comparison of transmission spectra of dual channel sensor

# 3 传感器制作

利用熔接技术将 MMF 与 TCF 熔接在一起,将熔 接好的 TCF 另一端与 MMF 进行熔接,得到如图 3(a) 所示的结构。将制作好的光纤放入磁控溅射镀膜机, 在光纤上沉积一层 50 nm 的银膜,构成通道 1,如 图 3(b)所示。重复上述步骤,得到两个 MMF-TCF-MMF 的光纤。在其中一根光纤上镀一层 30 nm 氧化铟 锡(ITO)薄膜,如图 3(c)所示,再在光纤上涂覆一层 PDMS,构成通道 2,如图 3(d)所示。将通道 1和通道 2 利用熔接方式级联在一起,构成双通道传感,如图 3(e) 所示。所用的 MMF 和 TCF 为长飞公司生产的,MMF 的纤芯和包层直径分别为 62.5 µm 和 125 µm, TCF 的 纤芯和包层直径分别为 3.8 µm 和 125 µm。

其中, PDMS是由主剂与固化剂两种液体以10:1 的质量比混合,均匀搅拌,静置20min消除其中的气 泡。光纤熔接机对MMF和TCF进行熔接时,为了防 止产生融塌现象,需要设置放电参数:清洁放电时间为 150ms、放电功率设置为标准、放电时间为2200ms、 推进量为13μm。



- 图 3 双通道传感的光纤制作步骤。(a)MMF-TCF-MMF结构图;(b)通道1结构图;(c)在TCF上镀Ag和ITO膜结构图;(d)通道 2的结构图;(e)双通道的光纤结构图
- Fig. 3 Optical fiber fabrication steps for dual channel sensing. (a) Structure diagram of MMF-TCF-MMF; (b) structure diagram of channel 1; (c) structure diagram of Ag + ITO plating on TCF; (d) structure diagram of channel 2; (e) structure diagram of dual channel fiber

# 4 实验结果与讨论

卤钨灯光源(HL2000),通过MMF适配器耦合到传感器上,并使用光谱仪(海洋USB2000+)进行监测,其 波段范围为400~1000 nm。

## 4.1 实验测试

实验装置的示意图如图4所示。利用海洋公司的



图4 实验测试装置图

Fig. 4 Experimental test device diagram

首先,测试了级联式 SPR 折射率传感器在空气中 的温度响应。设置温度从 40 ℃升高至 80 ℃。由于通 道1不工作,所以在透射光谱中只有一个共振波谷,是 由通道 2 产生的。随着环境温度的升高,PDMS 的折 射率降低,导致共振波长显著蓝移,如图 5(a)所示。 级联式光纤 SPR 折射率传感器在空气中的线性拟合 图如图 5(b)所示,通道 2 的共振波长从 711.92 nm 漂 移到 640.20 nm, 蓝移了 71.72 nm, 温度灵敏度为 -1.77 nm/℃。

当在通道1中滴入去离子水,透射光谱将出现两 个共振波谷,其中,较小的共振波谷波长λ<sub>1</sub>是由通道1 产生的,较大的共振波谷波长λ<sub>2</sub>是由通道2产生的。 图 6(a)测试了相同温度40℃的情况下,环境折射率范 围在1.333~1.357 RIU变化时透射光谱的变化。实



图 5 级联式传感器在空气中的温度响应特性。(a)通道 2的共振波长随温度变化的透射图;(b)通道 2的共振波长随温度变化的线性拟合图

Fig. 5 Temperature response characteristics of cascaded sensors in air. (a) Transmission diagram of resonant wavelength of channel 2 as a function of temperature; (b) linear fitting diagram of resonant wavelength variation with temperature in channel 2

验结果显示,随着环境折射率的增加,通道1所对应的 共振波长逐渐红移,而通道2所对应的共振波长由于 温度保持不变而几乎不变。从图6中可以看出,当环 境折射率从1.333 RIU变化到1.357 RIU时,通道1的 共振波长虽然红移,但是两个通道之间的差距比较明 显,不会发生串扰现象。双通道传感器的RI传感的线 性拟合图如图 6(b)所示。当样品折射率从 1.333 RIU 增加至 1.357 RIU 时,通道1的共振波长 $\lambda_1$  从 501.46 nm 红移到 578.80 nm,通道2的共振波长 $\lambda_2$ 在 703.10 nm 保持不变。通道1和通道2的折射率灵敏 度分别为 3141.85 nm/RIU和0 nm/RIU。



图 6 双通道传感实验图。(a) 1.333~1.357 RIU范围 RI测试;(b) RI测试线性拟合图;(c) 40~80 ℃范围温度测试;(d)温度测试线 性拟合图

Fig. 6 Experimental diagram of dual channel sensing. (a) RI test in a range from 1. 333 to 1. 357 RIU; (b) linear fit in RI test;
 (c) temperature test in a range from 40 to 80 ℃; (d) linear fit in temperature test

在传感器的通道1上滴入去离子水,然后将传感 器置于小型加热台上,使温度从40℃升高至80℃,每 10℃记录一次透射光谱,如图6(c)所示。可以看出, 由于 PDMS具有较高的热光效应,随着温度的升高, PDMS的折射率降低,所以通道2的共振波长显著蓝移。同时,水的折射率和光纤的折射率会随着温度的改变而变化,导致通道1的共振波长略有蓝移。双通道传感器的温度传感的线性拟合图如图6(d)所示。

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当温度从 40 ℃升至 80 ℃时,通道1的共振波长从 514.98 nm 漂移到 512.19 nm, 蓝移了 2.79 nm。通道 2的共振波长从 677.92 nm 漂移到 605.16 nm, 蓝移了 72.76 nm。通道1和通道2的温度灵敏度分别为 -0.07 nm/℃和-1.74 nm/℃。

## 4.2 实验分析

上述实验结果表明,通道1的共振波长 $\lambda_1$ 的偏移 受环境 $\Delta R_{RI}$ 和温度 $\Delta T$ 的影响,而通道2的共振波长 $\lambda_2$ 的偏移仅受温度 $\Delta T$ 的影响。因此,利用两个通道的 波长变化的矩阵<sup>[20-21]</sup>可描述为

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Delta \lambda_1 \\ \Delta \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S_{\text{SPR1-RI}} & S_{\text{SPR1-T}} \\ S_{\text{SPR2-RI}} & S_{\text{SPR2-T}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta R_{\text{RI}} \\ \Delta T \end{bmatrix}_{\circ}$$
(4)

因此,把上述实验结果代入式(4),可以得到温度自补 偿的光纤 SPR 折射率传感器的传感矩阵,其可以表 示为

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Delta R_{\rm RI} \\ \Delta T \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3.18 \times 10^{-4} & -1.28 \times 10^{-5} \\ 0 & -5.75 \times 10^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta \lambda_1 \\ \Delta \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix}, (5)$$

式中: $\Delta\lambda_1$ 和 $\Delta\lambda_2$ 分别为通道1和通道2的共振波长偏移 量; $\Delta R_{\rm RI}$ 为折射率的变化量; $\Delta T$ 为温度的变化量;  $S_{\rm SPRI-RI}$ 和 $S_{\rm SPR2-RI}$ 分别为通道1和通道2的折射率灵敏 度; $S_{\rm SPR1-T}$ 和 $S_{\rm SPR2-T}$ 分别为通道1和通道2的温度灵敏 度。最后,通过灵敏度矩阵来计算折射率和温度的变 化,从而达到温度补偿的目的。

为了验证传感矩阵的准确性,同时改变温度和折 射率,利用两个共振波长的变化得到温度和折射率变

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化。设置在40℃、折射率为1.338 RIU下为基准,将 温度升高至60℃,折射率降低至1.333 RIU,观察传感 器的透射谱变化。如图7所示,通道1的共振波长从 526.07 nm 漂移到508.04 nm,蓝移了18.03 nm,通道 2的共振波长从667.92 nm 漂移到631.75 nm,蓝移了 36.17 nm。将通道1的偏移量 $\Delta\lambda_1$ 、通道2的偏移量  $\Delta\lambda_2$ ,代入到传感矩阵关系式(5)中,其中, $\Delta\lambda_1$ 为 -18.03 nm, $\Delta\lambda_2$ 为 -36.17 nm,得到 $\Delta R_{RI}$ 为 -0.00527 RIU, $\Delta T$ 为20.8℃。根据设置的标准值, 对实验结果进行误差分析,通道1的折射率变化误差 为0.2%,通道2的温度变化误差为1.3%,表明利用该 传感矩阵具有一定的实用性。



图 7 传感矩阵测试图 Fig. 7 Test diagram of sensing matrix

表1	与本文工作性质相似的传感器性能比较	

Sensor type	$S_{ m RI}$ /(nm·RIU <sup>-1</sup> )	Range /RIU	$S_{\scriptscriptstyle \mathrm{T}}  / (\mathrm{nm} \boldsymbol{\cdot}  \mathbb{C}^{-1})$	Range /°C
SPR-FBG <sup>[14]</sup>	2556.80	1.333-1.380	0.172	30-65
SPR-MZI <sup>[12]</sup>	1899.00	1.3311-1.3736	-1.400	27-43
SPR-FPI <sup>[13]</sup>	1648.23	1.3276-1.4203	-0.322	20-60
SPR-D <sup>[20]</sup>	2260.10	1.333-1.410	-2.410	20-60
SPR-POF <sup>[21]</sup>	1174.00	1.335-1.370	-0.700	30-80
Proposed	3141.85	1.333-1.357	-1.740	40-80

Table 1 Performance comparison of sensors with similar working properties

将本文所提的 SPR 传感器与其他实现温度补偿 的不同类型的传感器进行比较,如表1所示。比较的 性能包括折射率的测量范围、折射率的灵敏度、温度的 测量范围以及温度的灵敏度。从表1可以看出,与 FBG、MZI、FPI和 SPR 相结合的传感器相比,所提的 SPR 传感器具有更高的温度灵敏度。与类似的其他 SPR 传感器相比,虽然本文 SPR 传感器的折射率的测 量范围比较小,但其折射率灵敏度高,温度测量范围及 其灵敏度相近。

## 5 结 论

本文提出并实验验证了温度自补偿的级联式光纤 SPR折射率传感器,该传感器可以实现折射率和温度 的同时测量,从而达到温度补偿的目的。该传感器是 由双通道级联构成 MMF-TCF-MMF 的结构,通道1 在 TCF上镀 50 nm 的 Ag 膜,该通道对环境折射率以 及温度敏感,通道2是在 TCF上分别镀 50 nm 的 Ag 膜 和 30 nm 的 ITO 膜的复合膜,并涂覆一层 PDMS 膜, 该通道仅对环境温度敏感。该传感器同时测量折射率 和温度,实现温度补偿,降低温度对折射率测量的串 扰。其中 TCF 长度约为 10 nm。在 1.333~1.357 RIU 的 折 射 率 范 围 内,折 射 率 灵 敏 度 高 达 3141.85 nm/RIU,在40~80℃的温度范围内,温度灵 敏度高达-1.74 nm/℃。此外实验结果表明,两个传 感通道之间的串扰可以忽略不计。本文所提的传感器 具有制作简单、成本低、结构稳定等优点,在环境监测、 生物化学等领域具有潜在的应用价值。

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# Cascaded Fiber-Optic Surface Plasmon Resonance Refractive Index Sensor with Temperature Self-Compensation

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#### Abstract

**Objective** Refractive index (RI) measurement plays an important role in many fields, especially in medical diagnosis, industrial manufacturing, and food safety. The fiber-optic surface plasmon resonance (SPR) sensor has attracted much attention from researchers owing to its advantages of small size, compact structure, high sensitivity, and strong antielectromagnetic interference. It is highly sensitive to changes in the external environment due to its high sensitivity. The cross-sensitivity of the fiber-optic SPR sensor to the RI and temperature limits the accuracy of the sensor. Therefore, research of a RI sensor with temperature compensation has certain practical significance. Some researchers used different grinding angles to produce different SPR phenomena and achieved temperature compensation by combining different grinding angles. Nevertheless, the sensors that they adopted were complicated to manufacture and could not be mass-produced. Others have proposed temperature compensation through fiber Mach-Zehnder (M-Z) interference, fiber Fabry-Perot (F-P) interference, and the combination of fiber Bragg Gratings (FBGs) with the SPR effect. However, this kind of SPR sensor with temperature self-compensation often needs two demodulation systems, and the demodulation process is relatively complicated. This study proposes and implements a cascaded fiber-optic SPR RI sensor with temperature self-compensation of the RI and temperature to achieve the purpose of temperature compensation.

Methods In the cascaded fiber-optic SPR RI sensor with temperature self-compensation, thin-core fiber is used to obtain a multimode fiber-thin-core fiber-multimode fiber (MMF-TCF-MMF) structure, and the cascade mode is adopted to achieve dual-channel sensing. When the light is transmitted from the MMF to the TCF, part of the light leaks to the TCF cladding due to fiber core mismatch. The evanescent wave generated immediately penetrates the metal film and reaches the interface between the metal and the medium to be measured, triggering electronic oscillation on the surface of the metal film. Surface plasma is thereby generated. In this process, a kind of transverse magnetic wave (p-polarized light), namely, a surface plasmon wave, propagates along the interface of the medium. As a result, the SPR phenomenon occurs. Channel 1 is obtained by coating the TCF with a silver film, while channel 2 is composed of another section of TCF coated with a composite film (Ag-ITO) and a thermosensitive polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS) film. The two channels are cascaded together by welding technology. The PDMS coating not only prevents the ambient RI from contacting the metal film but also has a thermo-optical effect. When the external temperature changes, the RI of the PDMS changes accordingly, causing a resonant wavelength shift. Temperature measurement can thereby be achieved. In summary, channel 2 is insensitive to changes in the RI, while channel 1 is sensitive to changes in both the RI and temperature. Finally, the sensitivity matrix is used to calculate the changes in the RI and temperature and study to achieve the purpose of temperature compensation. To verify the accuracy of the sensor matrix, this ultimately changes temperature and the RI simultaneously and obtains their changes from the changes in the two resonant wavelengths. The set standard values are used to analyze the errors in the experimental results. The analysis shows that the error of channel 1 under RI changes is 0.2%, and that of channel 2 under temperature changes is 1.3% (Fig. 7). Clearly, the sensor matrix has certain practicability.

**Results and discussions** At the same temperature of 40  $^{\circ}$ C, the ambient RI ranges from 1.333 to 1.357 RIU, and the transmission spectrum changes are tested (Fig. 6). As the ambient RI increases, the resonant wavelength corresponding to channel 1 gradually red-shifts, while the one corresponding to channel 2 is almost constant because the temperature remains unchanged. The RI sensitivities of channel 1 and channel 2 are 3 141.85 nm/RIU and 0 nm/RIU, respectively. After deionized water is dribbled onto channel 1 of the sensor, the sensor was placed on a small heating table to increase its temperature from 40 to 80  $^{\circ}$ C, and the transmission spectrum is recorded every 10  $^{\circ}$ C (Fig. 6). Due to the high thermo-optical effect of the PDMS, its RI decreases as temperature rises. As a result, the resonant wavelength corresponding to channel 2 blue-shifts significantly. Moreover, since the RIs of water and optical fiber change with temperature, the resonance wavelength corresponding to channel 1 blue-shifts slightly. The temperature sensitivities of channel 1 and

channel 2 are  $-0.07 \text{ nm/}^{\circ}$ C and  $-1.74 \text{ nm/}^{\circ}$ C, respectively.

**Conclusions** This study proposes and experimentally verifies a cascaded fiber-optic SPR RI sensor with temperature selfcompensation. The proposed sensor can measure the RI and temperature simultaneously to achieve the purpose of temperature compensation. It has a dual-channel cascaded MMF-TCF-MMF-TCF-MMF-MMF structure. Channel 1 is obtained by coating TCF with a 50 nm Ag film and is sensitive to the ambient RI and temperature. Developed by coating TCF with a composite film of 50 nm Ag and 30 nm ITO and another layer of PDMS film, channel 2 is only sensitive to ambient temperature. The sensor measures RI and temperature simultaneously to achieve temperature compensation and reduce the temperature crosstalk in RI measurement. The length of the TCF is about 10 mm. The RI sensitivity is as high as 3141. 85 nm/RIU in the RI range from 1. 333 to 1. 357 RIU, and the temperature sensitivity can reach -1.74 nm/°C in the temperature range from 40 to 80 °C. In addition, the experimental results reveal that the crosstalk between the two sensing channels is negligible. With the advantages of simple manufacture, low cost, and stable structure, the proposed sensor has potential practical value in the fields of environmental monitoring and biochemistry.

Key words fiber optics; fiber-optic sensor; surface plasmon resonance; thin-core fiber; refractive index; temperature