

光学学报

双波段能谷光子晶体的拓扑边界态传输特性

张金英^{1,2*}, 王炳楠^{1**}, 王瑞^{1***}, 王鑫野¹

¹精密光电测试仪器及技术北京市重点实验室, 北京理工大学光电学院, 北京 100081;

²北京理工大学长三角研究院, 浙江 嘉兴 314001

摘要 谷赝自旋是构筑光学拓扑绝缘体的重要手段, 其性质决定了光波拓扑传输特性。双波段能谷结构为同时调控多波段范围内的光波提供了重要平台。构筑了具有双波段能谷结构的光子晶体超胞, 研究了 zigzag 型和 armchair 型界面在两个波段内拓扑边界态的传输特性及鲁棒性。结果表明: 对于 zigzag 型界面, 对称型界面与反对称型界面的光波传输特性差异显著, 对称型界面允许平面波传输而反对称型界面大幅抑制平面波传输; 而对于 armchair 型界面, 对称型界面与反对称型界面的光波传输未表现出差异性。对于允许平面波传输的界面, 无论是 zigzag 型还是 armchair 型界面均对杂质、缺陷、尖锐拐角等具有良好的鲁棒性。双波段拓扑边界态传输特性的系统性研究对于拓展光学拓扑绝缘体的应用空间具有重要价值。

关键词 材料; 拓扑光子晶体; 能谷结构; 多波段; 界面类型; 拓扑边界态

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1 引言

凝聚态物理中的量子霍尔效应^[1]受到世界范围内众多科学家的广泛关注和深入研究^[2], 基于量子霍尔效应, 人们能够构建拓扑绝缘体^[3], 使其内部绝缘而表面有被拓扑保护的电子态。拓扑绝缘体^[4]自 2007 年被发现以来逐渐成为了凝聚态物理的一个新热点, 对于基础物理的理解以及半导体器件的应用都有很大价值^[5-6]。

类比于电子拓扑绝缘体, 光学拓扑绝缘体^[7]具有内部不透光而表面导光的独特性质, 利用其受拓扑保护的边界态可以制成对杂质和缺陷免疫的波导等^[8-10], 因此光学拓扑绝缘体在光子计算、光束定向传播、光学隐身等领域极具应用前景。光学拓扑绝缘体的边界态传输特性吸引了众多研究者的兴趣, 尤其在近几年得到了极大关注和发展^[11-15]。科研人员通过光量子霍尔效应、光量子自旋霍尔效应、光量子反常霍尔效应等构筑拓扑绝缘体, 开展了一系列具有开拓意义的研究工作^[16-17]。2016 年, 中山大学董建文教授团队^[18]将能谷的概念引入光子晶体, 通过打破空间反演对称性实现了谷量子霍尔效应, 为光学拓扑绝缘体提供了一种便捷的构筑平台。本文基于谷拓扑光子晶体平台研究拓扑边界态的传输特性。

利用拓扑结构控制光波传输, 理想情况该方式能

够对所有关注的波段范围内的光波起作用, 但以往报道的谷拓扑光子晶体的研究往往只是在光子晶体能带中打破一个简并点, 通过能带翻转实现拓扑相变, 获得单波段的谷拓扑边界态^[19-23]。但这仅能对极窄范围内的光波传输起作用, 无法实现更多波段范围的光波传输调控。2021 年 Jia 等^[15]报道了一种双波段谷声子晶体结构, 深入分析了散射体自旋引起的质量反演与拓扑相变, 为双波段谷光子晶体结构设计提供了思路。为了尽可能实现更宽波长范围内的光波传输调控, 本文研究双波段谷拓扑光子晶体的光波传输特性。所设计的光子晶体结构能带中具有两个简并点, 且能通过旋转散射体使得两个简并点同时打开, 在能带中产生两处带隙, 这样就能在两处带隙发生谷拓扑相变, 从而调控两个波长范围内的光波传输。以此为基础构筑具有拓扑边界态的超胞结构, 研究不同界面类型拓扑边界态的传输特性及鲁棒性, 以为双波段谷拓扑边界态的设计和应用提供依据。

2 超胞结构及其能带分析

2.1 原胞结构及其能带分析

本文设计的三角排列的弧切三角形单元 C_{3v} 对称性的二维光子晶体结构如图 1(a)所示, 光子晶体的原胞为正六边形结构, 晶格常数为 a , 背景材料为介质。每一个散射体(白色区域)是由一个边长为 d 的等边三

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通信作者: *jyzhang@bit.edu.cn; **3120215361@bit.edu.cn; ***3120190641@bit.edu.cn

角形在三个角分别截去圆心角为 60° 的扇形形成,其中,该扇形以三角形的顶点为圆心,半径为 r ,是与三角形相交的部分。其中, $a=\sqrt{3}\times10^{-6}$ m, $d=3\sqrt{3}a/10$, $r=d/10$ 。该光子晶体结构的能带中具有两个简并点,构成两个狄拉克锥结构,其能带结构如图1(d)所示。

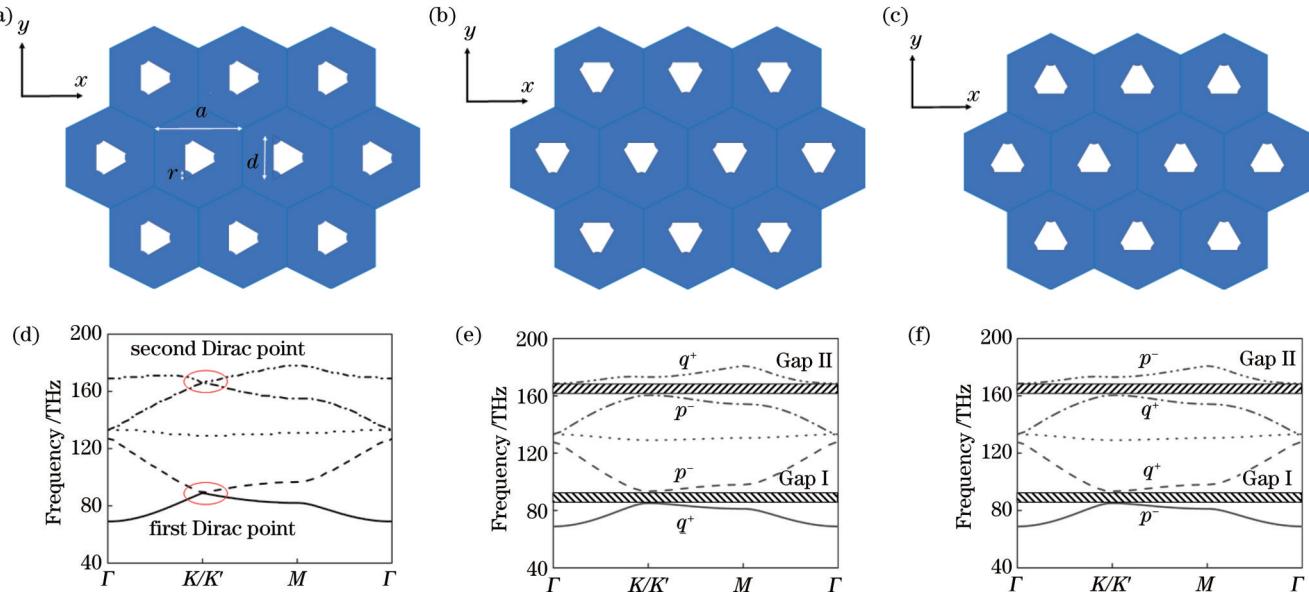


图1 三角排列的弧切三角形单元 C_{3v} 对称性的二维光子晶体结构示意图及其能带结构。(a) $\theta=0^\circ$ 的光子晶体结构示意图;(b) $\theta=30^\circ$ 的光子晶体结构示意图;(c) $\theta=-30^\circ$ 的光子晶体结构示意图;(d) $\theta=0^\circ$ 的光子晶体能带结构;(e) $\theta=30^\circ$ 的光子晶体能带结构;(f) $\theta=-30^\circ$ 的光子晶体能带结构

Fig. 1 Schematic diagrams of two-dimensional photonic crystal structure with C_{3v} symmetry of arc-cut triangular units arranged in triangle and its band structures. (a) Photonic crystal structure with $\theta=0^\circ$; (b) photonic crystal structure with $\theta=30^\circ$; (c) photonic crystal structure with $\theta=-30^\circ$; (d) photonic crystal band structure with $\theta=0^\circ$; (e) photonic crystal band structure with $\theta=30^\circ$; (f) photonic crystal band structure with $\theta=-30^\circ$

基于 $k \cdot p$ (k 为简约波矢, p 为动量算符)微扰方法[8,24],Gap I和Gap II下方能带的贝利曲率可以表示为

$$\Omega(\delta k) = m_i v_{Di} / \left[2 \left(\delta k^2 + m_i^2 + v_{Di}^2 \right)^{3/2} \right], \quad (1)$$

式中: v_{Di} 是在旋转角度 $\theta=0^\circ$ 时的狄拉克锥色散速度; δk 是布里渊区K点处的动量偏移量; m_i 表示有效质量, $m_i = (\omega_{q+}^i - \omega_{q-}^i) / (2v_{Di}^2)$ (其中 ω_{q+}^i 为逆时针能流状态下的边界态频率, ω_{q-}^i 为顺时针能流状态下的边界态频率),与两个本征态 ϕ_{q+}^i 和 ϕ_{q-}^i 之间的频率差成正比。谷陈数可通过对谷附近的贝利曲率数值积分得到:

$$C_K^i = (1/2\pi) \int \Omega(k) dk = (1/2) \text{sgn}(m_i). \quad (2)$$

如图1(e)和(f)所示,当 $\theta=30^\circ$ 和 $\theta=-30^\circ$ 时,其在Gap I和Gap II中有效质量的符号相反,因此由这两种具有相反谷霍尔相的光子晶体构成的边界态,其谷陈数之差是量子化的, $|\Delta C_K^i|=1$,这会确保在每个带隙中都存在一对沿界面传输的拓扑边界态。

如图1(b)和(c)所示,通过将散射体分别逆时针、顺时针旋转 30° ,打破空间反演对称性,使得两个简并点同时打开,在能带中产生两处带隙,其能带结构如图1(e)和(f)所示,将第一带隙记作Gap I,第二带隙记作Gap II。

2.2 超胞结构及其能带分析

本文以图1(b)和(c)所示的光子晶体结构为基础,通过拼接来构造受拓扑保护的边界态。一般来说,三角排列的光子晶体结构有两种类型的分界面,分别是zigzag型分界面和armchair型分界面,如图2所示。

2.2.1 zigzag型界面的超胞结构模型及其能带分析

构造一个具有zigzag型界面的超胞,如图3(a)所示。沿着y轴方向,上下两段是由 $\theta=30^\circ$ 的光子晶体组成,中间一段是由 $\theta=-30^\circ$ 的光子晶体组成。上段 $\theta=30^\circ$ 的光子晶体和中间段 $\theta=-30^\circ$ 的光子晶体的界面标记为I1,中间段 $\theta=-30^\circ$ 的光子晶体和下段 $\theta=30^\circ$ 的界面标记为I2。在计算超胞能带时,左右两侧使用周期性边界条件。为表达简洁,后文统一使用归一化频率,归一化频率数值为 $f=c/a=173.21$ THz。计算的超胞能带在第一边界态处的结构如图3(b)所示,其中 k_x 为x方向的波数, ω 为角频率, a 为晶格常数, c 为光速。体态由黑色实线表示,I1和I2界面在带隙中出现了边界态,I1界面的边界态用虚线表示,I2界面的边界态用点线表示。在图中实线所示的同一频率下,4

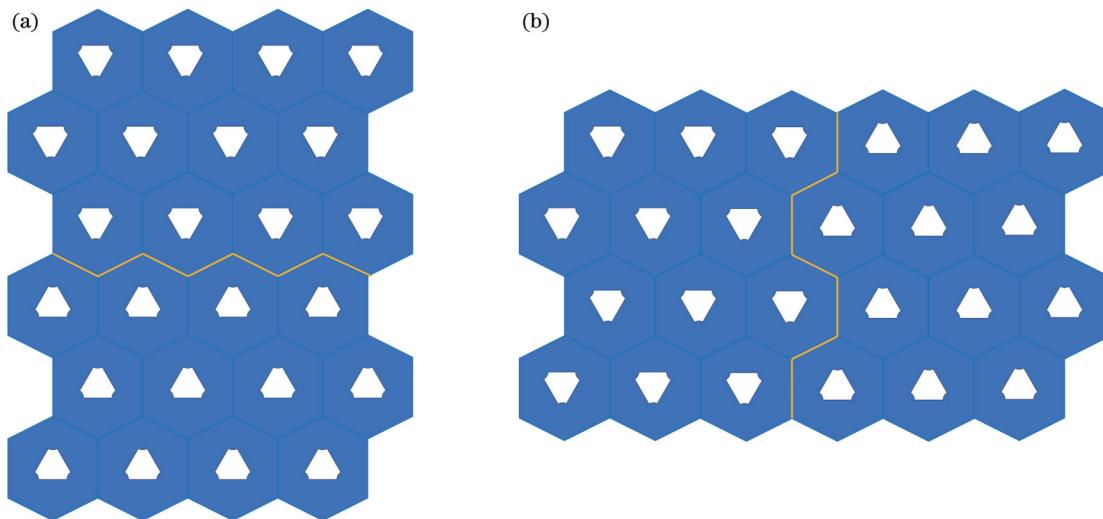


图2 三角排列的光子晶体结构两种类型分界面示意图。(a) zigzag型分界面;(b) armchair型分界面

Fig. 2 Schematic diagrams of two types of interfaces of photonic crystal structure arranged in triangle. (a) zigzag interface; (b) armchair interface

种边界态(实线与虚线、点线交点)的电场分布如图3(c)所示。可以看到,这些谷边界态被束缚在两种光子晶体的界面处。根据能流的方向,4种谷边界态被分为向前模式(ψ_1^+ 和 ψ_2^+)和向后模式(ψ_1^- 和 ψ_2^-)。I1界面支持 ψ_1^+ 和 ψ_1^- 态,I2界面支持 ψ_2^+ 和 ψ_2^- 态。

在计算第二谷拓扑边界态时,由于其所需要的能带数变多,应将模型减小以降低计算量。对于zigzag型界面,减小后的模型以及超胞能带在第二边界态处的结构如图4(a)、(b)所示。点线和点划线的界面态位于界面I1,虚线和实线的界面态位于界面I2。在图中直线所示的同一频率下,4种边界态(实线与虚线、点线交点)的电场分布及能流方向如图4(c)所示。将I1界面向右传播的模式记作 ψ_1^+ ,向左传播的模式记作 ψ_1^- ;将I2界面向右传播的模式记作 ψ_2^+ ,向左传播的模式记作 ψ_2^- 。可以看到能量均被局域在界面处,并且 ψ_1^+ 和 ψ_2^+ 向右传播, ψ_1^- 和 ψ_2^- 向左传播。可见,在这个频率,界面I1和界面I2都可以支持向右或者向左的传播模式。

2.2.2 armchair型界面的超胞结构模型及其能带分析

构造一个具有armchair型界面的超胞,如图5(a)所示,沿x轴方向,左右两段是由 $\theta=30^\circ$ 的光子晶体组成,中间段是由 $\theta=-30^\circ$ 的光子晶体组成。左段 $\theta=30^\circ$ 的光子晶体和中间段 $\theta=-30^\circ$ 的光子晶体的界面标记为I3,中间段 $\theta=-30^\circ$ 的光子晶体和右段 $\theta=30^\circ$ 的光子晶体的界面标记为I4。在计算超胞能带时,在上下边界使用周期性边界条件。计算的超胞能带如图5(b)所示,其中 k_y 为y方向的波数。谷体态由实线表示,I3和I4界面在带隙中出现了边界态,用点线和虚线表示。在图中直线所示的同一频率下,4种边界态(直线与虚线、点线交点)的电场分布及能流方向如图

6所示。同zigzag型分析方法类似,I3界面向上传播的模式记作 ψ_3^+ ,向下传播的模式记作 ψ_3^- ,I4界面向上传播的模式记作 ψ_4^+ ,向下传播的模式记作 ψ_4^- 。由图6可见,能量被紧紧地束缚在I3和I4界面处,I3界面支持 ψ_3^+ 和 ψ_3^- 态,I4界面支持 ψ_4^+ 和 ψ_4^- 态。可见,在这个频率,界面I3和界面I4都可以支持向上或者向下的传播模式。

与zigzag型超胞的第二边界态处能带计算所考虑的降低计算量一致,对于armchair型分界面,减小后的模型以及超胞能带如图7所示。可以看到,带隙中出现了6条边界态,I3界面的3条边界态与I4界面的完全重合。

在图7(b)中下面横线所示的同一频率下,1处实线界面I3对应的超胞电场分布及能流如图8(a)所示。1处虚线界面I4对应的超胞电场分布及能流如图8(b)所示。2处实线界面I3对应的超胞电场分布及能流如图8(c)所示,2处虚线界面I4对应的超胞电场分布及能流如图8(d)所示。4种边界态(交点1和2)的电场分布及能流方向如图9所示。可以看到能量都被局域在界面处,1处界面I3和I4的能流都向上,2处界面I3和I4的能流都向下。总之,I3和I4界面都能支持向上或者向下的传输模式,通过使用不同的手性源可以在I3和I4界面分别激发向上传播或者向下传播的模式。

在图7(b)中上面直线所示的同一频率下,8种边界态(交点3、4、5、6处I3界面以及I4界面)的电场分布及能流方向如图9所示。可见,能量被局域在分界面处,交点3处和5处分别对应的两个界面I3和I4的能流向下,交点4处和6处分别对应的两个界面I3和I4的能流向上。当 $k_y < 0$ ($k_y = -0.4, k_y = -0.08$)时I3和I4界面都可以支持向上或者向下传播的模式。当 $k_y > 0$ ($k_y = 0.08, k_y = -0.4$)时I3和I4界面也表现出

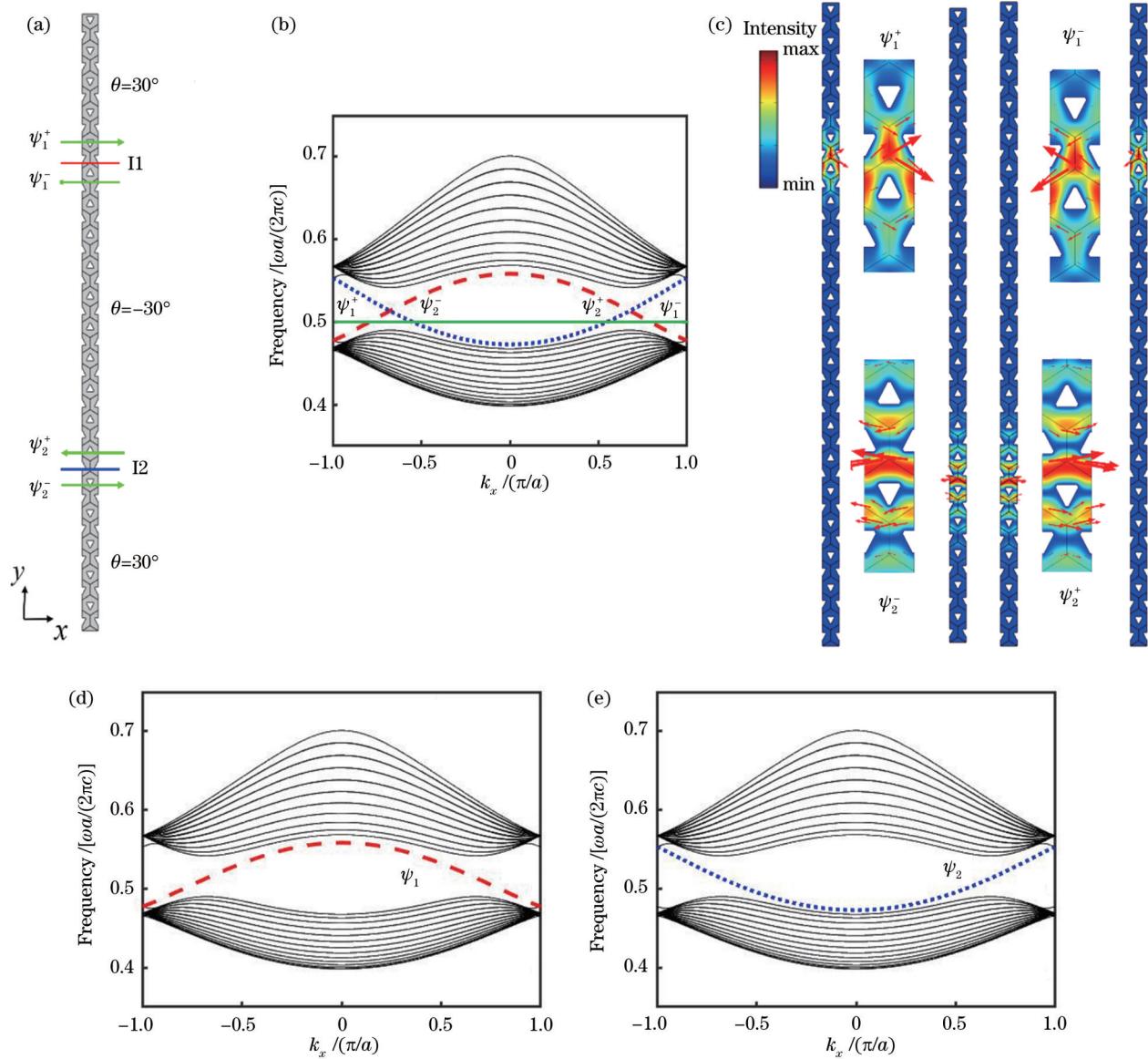


图3 第一谷拓扑边界态 zigzag 型界面的超胞结构模型及其能带分析。(a)第一谷拓扑边界态 zigzag 型界面的超胞结构模型示意图,界面 I1 和 I2 分别持向前传播的模式 ψ_1^+ 、 ψ_2^+ 和向后传播的模式 ψ_1^- 、 ψ_2^- ; (b) zigzag 型界面的超胞的第一谷拓扑边界态能带计算结果,实线表示体态,虚线和点线分别代表 I1 和 I2 谷边界态;(c)同一频率下 4 种谷边界态的电场分布及能流方向(用箭头表示),4 个插图是在界面 I1 和 I2 处的放大图;(d)界面 I1 的第一谷拓扑边界态;(e)界面 I2 的第一谷拓扑边界态

Fig. 3 Supercell structure model and band analysis of zigzag interface of the first valley topological edge state. (a) Schematic of supercell structure model of zigzag interface of the first valley topological edge state (the forward propagation modes are ψ_1^+ and ψ_2^+ for interfaces I1, and the backward propagation modes are ψ_1^- and ψ_2^- for interfaces I2); (b) calculation results of energy band at the first valley topological edge state of supercell with zigzag interface (solid line represents body state, and dashed line and dotted line represent I1 and I2 valley edge states, respectively); (c) electric field distributions and energy flow directions (indicated by arrow) of four valley edge states at the same frequency (four insets are enlarged views of I1 and I2); (d) the first valley topological edge state of I1; (e) the first valley topological edge state of I2

与 $k_y < 0$ 时相同的特性,即支持向上或者向下传播的模式。

3 拓扑边界态的传输特性及其鲁棒性分析

3.1 第一拓扑边界态的传输特性及其鲁棒性分析

首先构造直波导,研究 I1、I2、I3 和 I4 4 种界面处

电磁波的传输行为。对于 zigzag 型分界面 I1 和 I2,采用平面波进行激发,电磁波从左边交界面处入射,如图 10 所示。可以看到,在 I1 界面处激发了向右传输的谷拓扑边界态,I1 界面能够很好地支持电磁波的传播,但在 I2 界面处的电磁波则无法传播,这是由于 I2 界面是反对称界面,因而谷态无法被激发,该结果与文献[8-9, 20]所报道的结论一致。

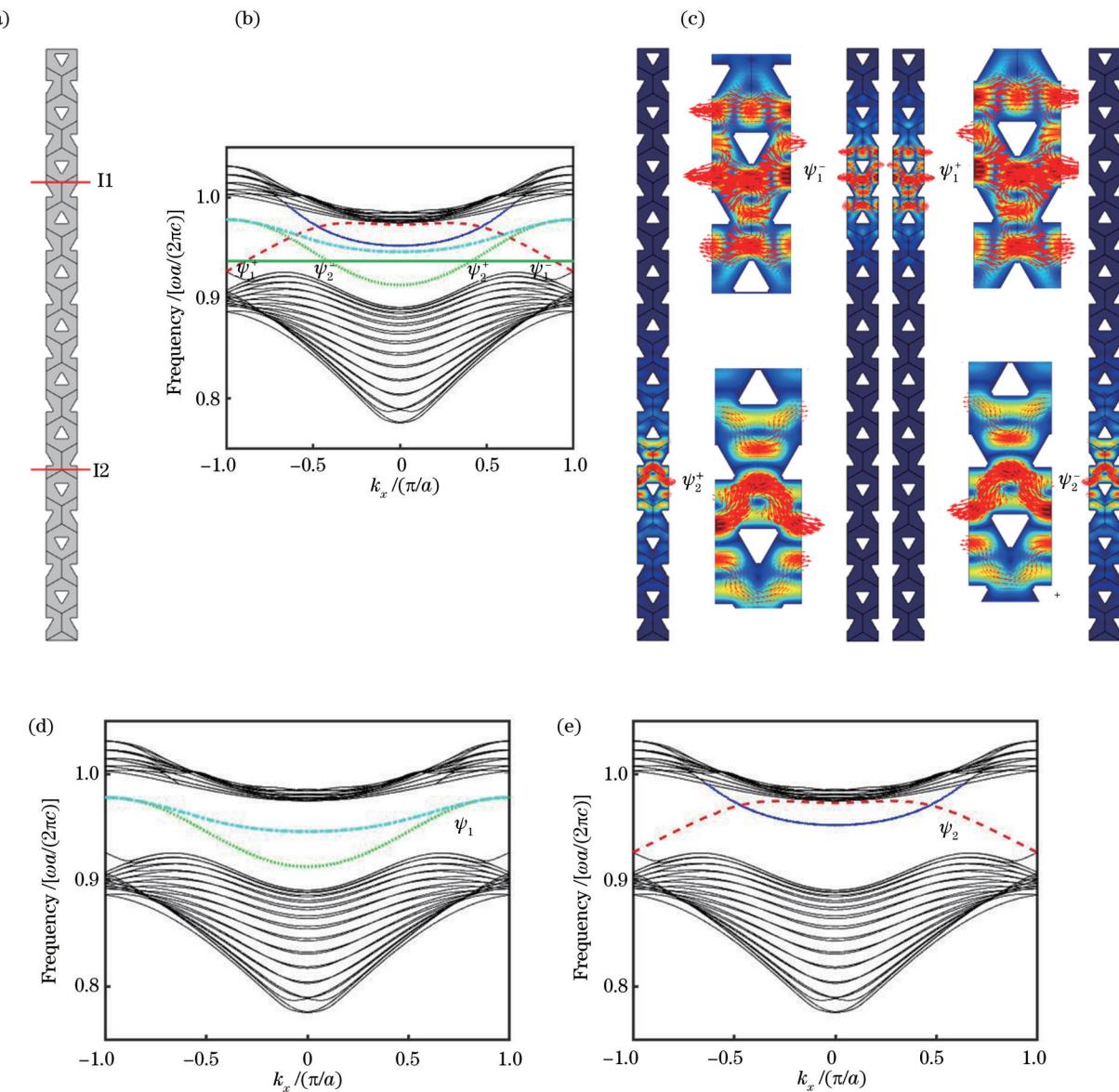


图4 第二谷拓扑边界态 zigzag 型界面的超胞结构模型及其能带分析。(a)第二谷拓扑边界态 zigzag 型界面的超胞结构模型示意图;(b) zigzag 型界面的超胞的第二边界态处能带计算结果;(c)同一频率下4种谷拓扑界面态的电场分布及能流方向(用箭头表示),4个插图是在界面I1和I2处的放大图;(d)界面I1的第二谷拓扑边界态;(e)界面I2的第二谷拓扑边界态

Fig. 4 Supercell structure model and band analysis of zigzag interface of the second valley topological edge state. (a) Schematic diagram of supercell structure model of zigzag interface of the second valley topological edge state; (b) calculation results of energy band at the second edge state of supercell of zigzag interface; (c) electric field distributions and energy flow directions (indicated by arrows) of four valley topology interface states at the same frequency (four insets are enlarged views of I1 and I2); (d) the second valley topological edge state of I1; (e) the second valley topological edge state of I2

若在界面 I1 左侧的整个边界上设置向右传播的平面波,会发现电磁波也只能沿着 I1 边界传播,如图 11 所示,说明入射的电磁波频率位于上下两种光子晶体的带隙内,因而不能传播,而在 I1 界面处,该频率的光波具有拓扑保护的谷边界态,可以很好地传播。

对于 armchair 型分界面 I3 和 I4,也采用相同的平面波进行激发,电磁波从界面的下边界处入射,如图 12 所示,I3 和 I4 界面处都激发了向上传输的谷拓扑边界态,电磁波可以沿着界面很好地传播。

相比于普通的波导,拓扑边界态具有对缺陷、杂质、尖锐拐角等不敏感的突出优势。本节验证 zigzag 型和 armchair 型界面的谷拓扑边界态的鲁棒性。前文提到在 zigzag 型分界面,只有界面 I1 处能激发谷拓扑边界态,而界面 I2 处谷拓扑边界态被抑制,因此只研究界面 I1 处的光波传输鲁棒性。在 zigzag 型分界面处引入缺陷、杂质和尖锐的拐角。从界面 I1 左侧边界处入射平面波,图 13(a)是仿真模型结构示意图,在界面 I1 处移掉 6 个散射体。图 13(b)是移掉 6 个散射体之

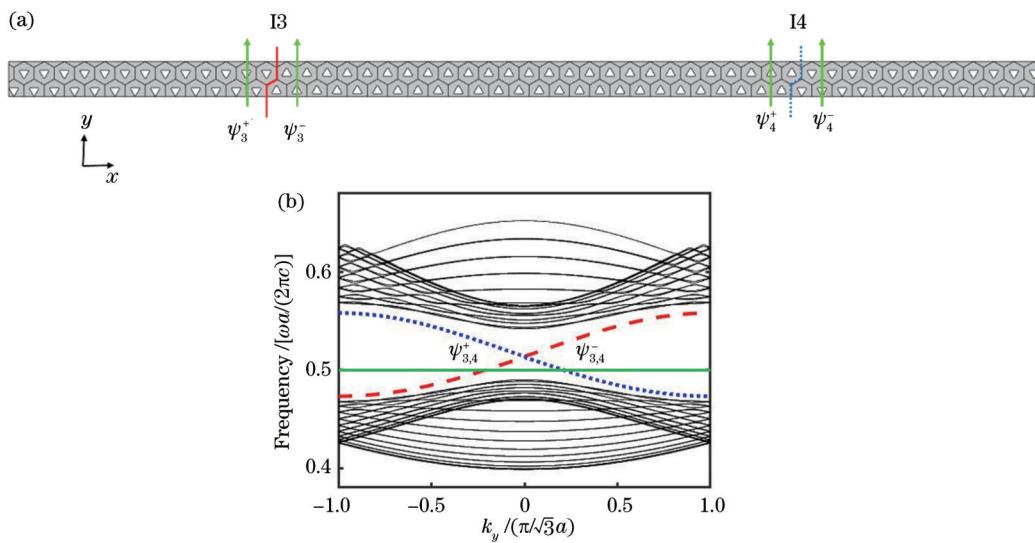


图 5 第一谷拓扑边界态 armchair 型界面的超胞结构模型及其能带分析。(a) armchair 型界面的超胞模型示意图, 界面 I3 和 I4 分别持向前传播的模式 ψ_3^+ 、 ψ_4^+ 和向后传播的模式 ψ_3^- 、 ψ_4^- ; (b) armchair 型界面的超胞的第一边界态处能带计算结果, 实线表示体态, 虚线和点线分别代表 I3 和 I4 谷边界态

Fig. 5 Supercell structure model and band analysis of armchair interface of the first valley topological edge state. (a) Schematic of supercell model of armchair interface (forward propagation modes are ψ_3^+ and ψ_4^+ for interface I3, and backward propagation modes are ψ_3^- and ψ_4^- for interface I4); (b) calculation results of energy band at the first edge state of supercell with armchair interface (solid lines represent body state, and dashed line and dotted line represent I3 and I4 valley edge states, respectively)

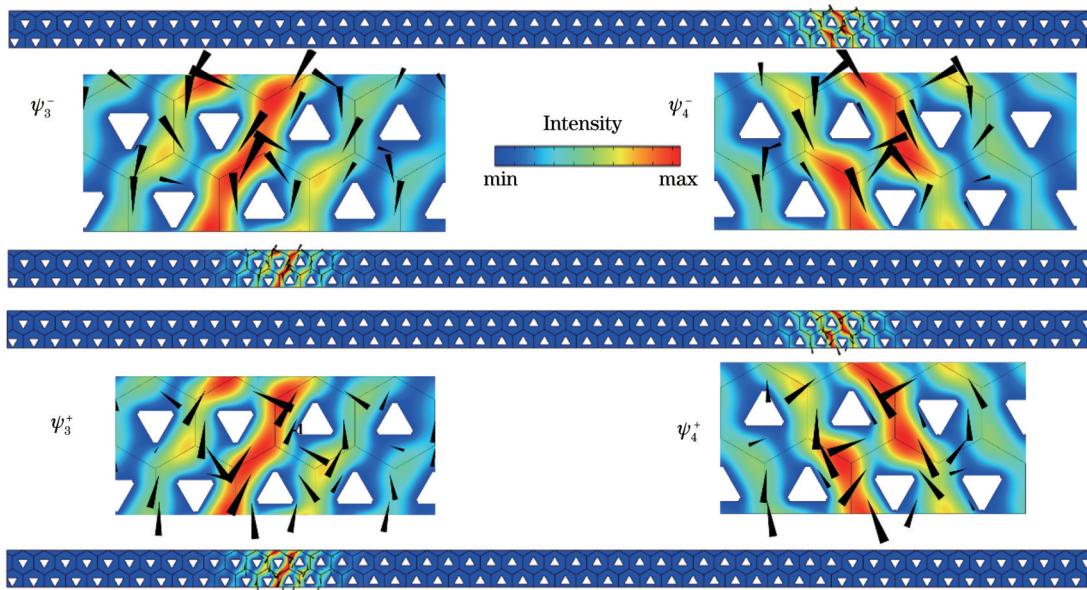


图 6 对应在同一频率下 4 种谷边界态的电场分布及能流方向(用锥体箭头表示), 4 个插图是在界面 I3 和 I4 处的放大图
Fig. 6 Electric field distributions and energy flow directions indicated by cone arrows of four valley edge states at the same frequency (four insets are enlarged views of I3 and I4)

后的电场分布计算结果, 可见即使有缺陷存在, 电磁波仍然能够在界面处很好地传播, 显示出良好的传输性能。图 13(c)是在界面 I1 处引入杂质, 将其中 4 个散射体的折射率改为 1。图 13(d)是引入杂质之后的电场分布, 可以看到, 杂质的引入几乎不影响电磁波的传播, 能量能够穿越杂质并继续向右传播。以上计算结果表明本文构造的谷拓扑光子晶体波导具有对缺陷和杂质不敏感的能力。

为了进一步验证谷拓扑边界态对缺陷的鲁棒性, 在直波导中加入随机微扰, 改变界面 I1 处 6 个散射体的结构参数, 即将 3 个扇形的半径 r 分别设置为 $r = 0.3d$ 、 $r = 0.4d$ 、 $r = 0.5d$ 作为第一种微扰体, 将 3 个扇形的半径设置为 $r = 0.5d$ 作为第二种微扰体, 两种微扰体各 3 个。在界面处用 6 个微扰体替换原来的散射体, 如图 14(a)所示。图 14(b)是在界面左侧边界入射平面波时的电场分布仿真结果, 可以看到由于谷拓

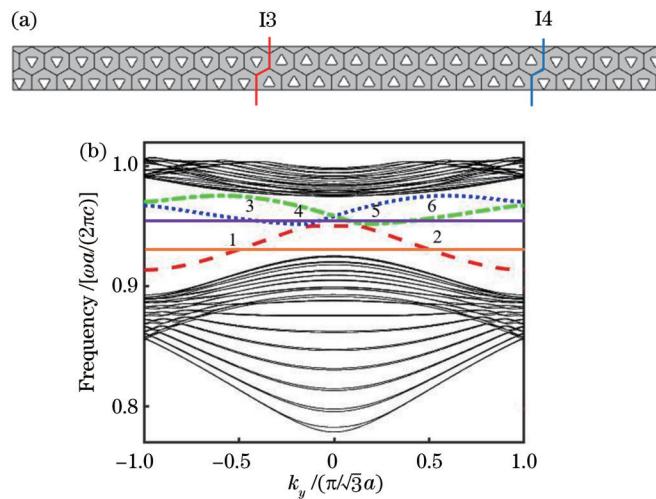


图7 第二谷拓扑边界态armchair型界面的超胞结构模型及其能带分析。(a)第二谷拓扑边界态armchair型界面的超胞结构模型示意图;(b) armchair型界面的超胞的第二谷拓扑边界态处能带计算结果,实线表示体态,虚线和点线、点划线代表I3和I4界面的谷界面态

Fig. 7 Supercell structure model and band analysis of armchair interface of the second valley topological edge state. (a) Schematic of supercell structure model of armchair interface in the second valley topology edge state; (b) calculation results of energy band at the second valley topological edge state of supercells with armchair interface (solid lines represent body state, and dashed line, dotted line, and dash-dotted line represent valley interface states of I3 and I4 interfaces)

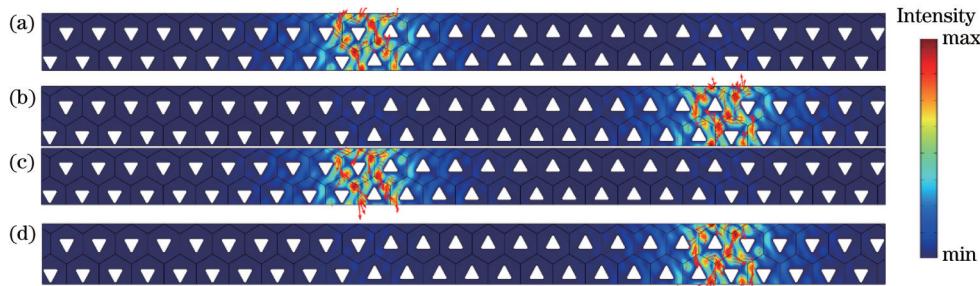


图8 同一频率下4种谷拓扑界面态对应的电场分布及能流方向。(a)对应1处I3界面;(b)对应1处I4界面;(c)对应2处I3界面;(d)对应2处I4界面

Fig. 8 Electric field distributions and energy flow directions corresponding to four valley topological interface states at the same frequency. (a) I3 interface at point 1; (b) I4 interface at point 1; (c) I3 interface at point 2; (d) I4 interface at point 2

拓扑边界态被激发,电磁波能够通过微扰体传播,说明谷拓扑光子晶体波导具有对缺陷不敏感的传输性能。

为了验证谷拓扑边界态对尖锐拐角的鲁棒性,如图14(c)所示,将两个光子晶体拼接起来,用界面I1构成一个Z字型波导,折线表示I1界面,界面两侧分别是 $\theta=30^\circ$ 的光子晶体和 $\theta=-30^\circ$ 的光子晶体,I1界面的电场强度分布仿真结果如图14(d)所示,可以看到电磁波均可高效地通过两个界面的拐角处传播。综上,该zigzag型界面的谷拓扑边界态对缺陷、杂质和尖锐拐角均具有良好的鲁棒性。

为了验证armchair型界面的谷拓扑边界态的鲁棒性,仿真研究了界面I3和I4的谷拓扑边界态对拐角和杂质界面的传输特性。仿真结构示意图如图15(a)所示,其中I是无杂质的 30° 拐角界面,Ⅱ是有杂质的 30° 拐角界面。对于Ⅱ结构,在拐角之后引入杂质,具体为

在交界面处挖出一个 $4a \times 0.8a$ 的矩形,将其折射率设置为1。从仿真结果[图15(b)和(c)]中可以看出,该频率的电磁波在界面I3和I4处既能通过拐角波导传播,也能在含有杂质的拐角波导中传播,表明armchair型界面的谷拓扑边界态具有良好的鲁棒性。

3.2 第二拓扑边界态的传输特性及其鲁棒性分析

同3.1节,继续构造直波导研究界面I1、I2、I3和I4处的光波传输特性。对于zigzag型分界面I1和I2,采用平面波进行激发,平面波的频率采用图4(b)中虚线所对应的频率。该平面波从界面左侧边界处入射。如图16所示,界面I1和I2均激发了向右传输的谷拓扑边界态,能够很好地支持电磁波的传输,这与第一边界态的特性非常不同。界面I1和I2由于局域对称和局域反对称的不同特性,对于第一边界态的激发具有显著差异,即界面I1可高效激发第一边界态,而界面I2

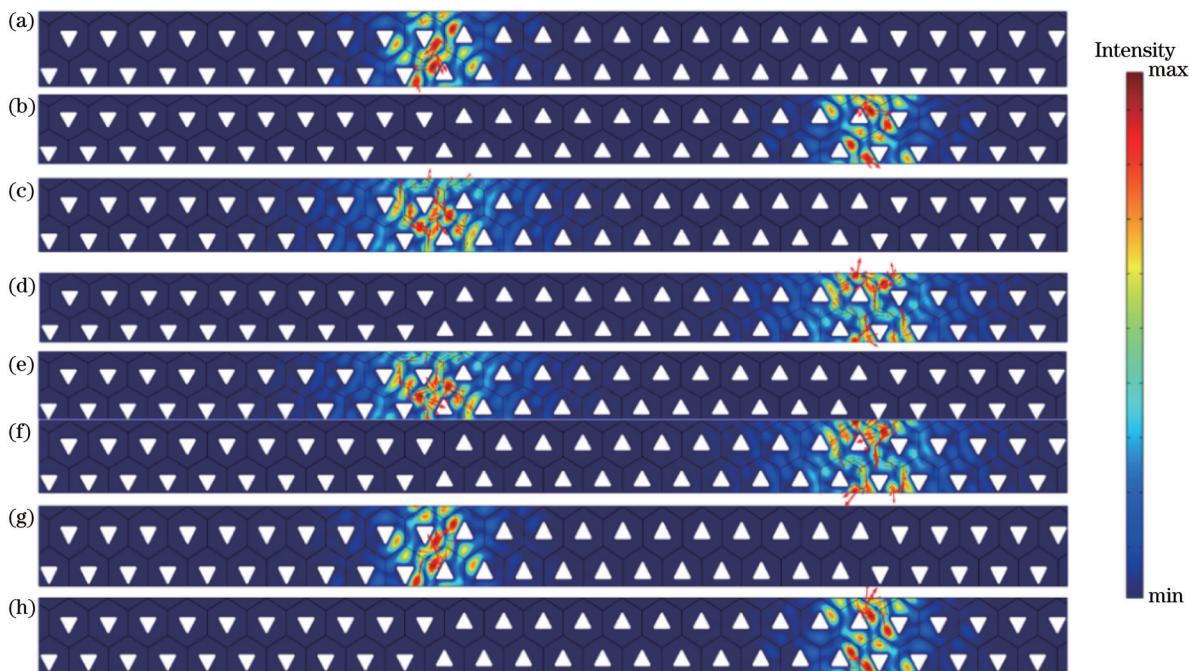


图9 同一频率下8种谷拓扑界面态对应的电场分布及能流方向。(a)对应3处I3界面;(b)对应3处I4界面;(c)对应4处I3界面;(d)对应4处I4界面;(e)对应5处I3界面;(f)对应5处I4界面;(g)对应6处I3界面;(h)对应6处I4界面

Fig. 9 Electric field distributions and energy flow directions corresponding to eight valley topological interface states at the same frequency. (a) I3 interface at point 3; (b) I4 interface at point 3; (c) I3 interface at point 4; (d) I4 interface at point 4; (e) I3 interface at point 5; (f) I4 interface at point 5; (g) I3 interface at point 6; (h) I4 interface at point 6

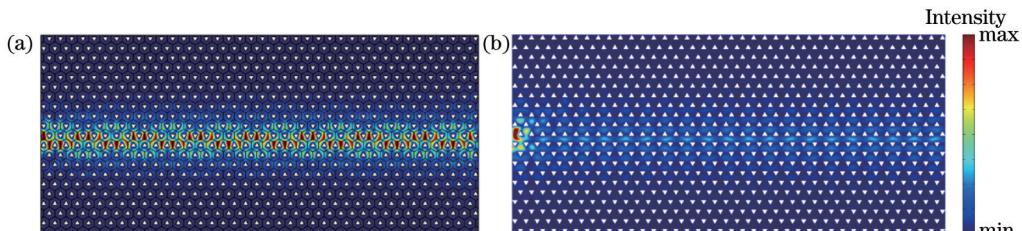


图10 在界面左侧边界处设置向右传播的平面波入射时的电场分布。(a)在界面I1处可激发第一谷拓扑边界态;(b)在界面I2处无法激发第一谷拓扑边界态

Fig. 10 Electric field distributions when rightward propagating plane wave is incident at left edge of interface. (a) First valley topological edge state can be excited at interface I1; (b) first valley topological edge state cannot be excited at interface I2

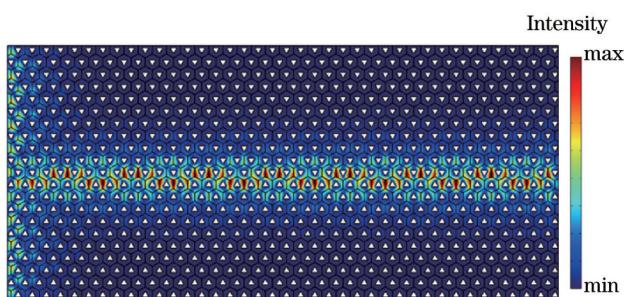


图11 在界面I1左侧整条边界上设置向右传播的平面波入射时的电场分布

Fig. 11 Electric field distribution when rightward propagating plane wave is incident on whole left side of interface I1

则大幅抑制第一边界态;对于第二边界态,界面I1和I2均表现出了高效激发的特性。

对于第二谷拓扑边界态,为了验证在尖锐拐角下的传输情况,构造如图17所示的Z字型波导,其中图17(a)为利用I1界面构造的波导,图17(b)为利用I2波段构造的波导。可以看到,电磁波在界面I1和I2处均能经过拐角很好地传播,表明第二谷拓扑边界态对拐角不敏感。

对于armchair型界面I3和I4,分别采用归一化频率为0.93、0.95、0.97的平面波进行激发,平面波从界面下边界处入射。图18中能量被很好地局域在界面I3处,由于受到拓扑保护,界面I3能够很好地支持电磁波的传输。如图19所示,界面I4也能够很好地支持电磁波的传输。

为了验证armchair型界面的谷拓扑边界态的鲁棒性,设置拐角及杂质等界面,仿真研究其传输特性。图

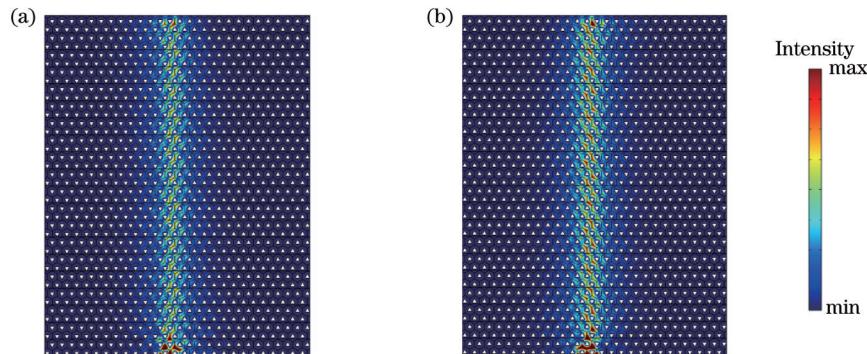


图12 在界面的下边界处设置向上传播的平面波入射时的电场分布。(a)在界面I3处可激发谷拓扑边界态;(b)在界面I4处可激发谷拓扑边界态

Fig. 12 Electric field distributions when upward propagating plane wave is incident at bottom edge of interface. (a) Valley topological edge state can be excited at interface I3; (b) valley topological edge state can be excited at interface I4

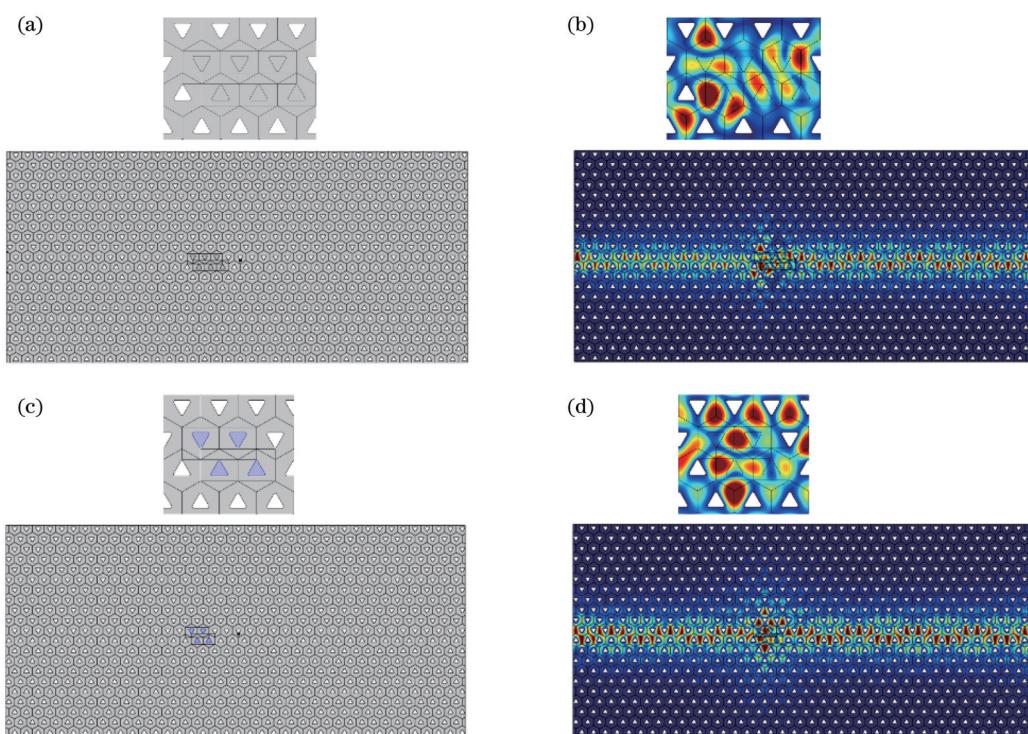


图13 zigzag型界面I1的谷拓扑边界态的鲁棒性。(a)在界面I1处移掉6个散射体的结构示意图,插图表示移掉散射体处的结构放大图;(b)图13(a)结构的电场分布仿真图,插图是移掉散射体附近电场分布的放大图;(c)引入杂质,将4个散射体的折射率设置为1的结构示意图;(d)图13(c)的电场分布仿真图

Fig. 13 Robustness of valley topological edge state of zigzag interface I1. (a) Structure of interface I1 with six scatterers removed, and inset is enlarged view of removed scatterers; (b) calculated electric field distribution of structure in Fig. 13(a), and inset is enlarged view of electric field distribution near removed scatterers; (c) structure of interface I1 with four scatterers of index 1; (d) calculated electric field distribution of structure in Fig. 13(c)

图20(a)~(c)是由界面I3构成的30°拐角波导的电场分布计算结果,图20(d)~(f)是含有杂质的I3界面构成的30°拐角波导的电场分布计算结果。电磁波在界面I3处既能通过拐角波导,也能在含有杂质的拐角波导中传播,说明第二谷拓扑边界态在armchair型界面具有良好的鲁棒性。

图21是由I4界面构成的30°拐角波导的电场分布计算结果,同界面I3情况相似,电磁波能很好地通过

拐角传播,表明界面I4的谷拓扑边界态具有良好的鲁棒性。

4 结 论

拓扑边界态是光学拓扑绝缘体的本质特征之一,拓展拓扑边界态的波段范围对光学拓扑绝缘体走向实际应用具有重要作用。以三角排列的二维光子晶体为平台,构筑了具有双波段能谷结构的谷拓扑光子晶体,

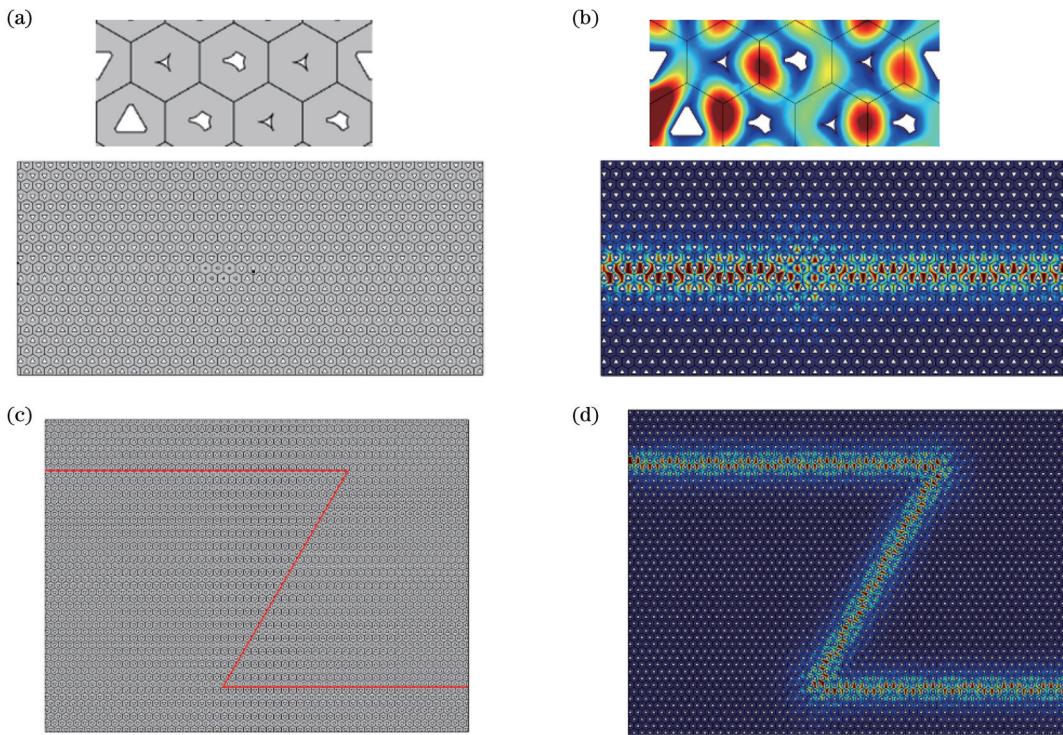


图 14 zigzag 型界面 I1 的谷拓扑边界态的鲁棒性。(a)在界面 I1 处具有 6 个微扰体的结构示意图,插图是微扰体附近的结构放大图;(b)图 14(a)的电场分布仿真图,插图是微扰体附近电场分布的放大图;(c)用界面 I1 构成的 Z 字型波导结构示意图,折线表示 I1 界面;(d)Z 字型波导结构的电场分布仿真图

Fig. 14 Robustness of valley topological edge state of zigzag interface I1. (a) Structure of interface I1 with six deformed scatterers, and inset is enlarged view of deformed scatterers; (b) calculated electric field distribution of structure in Fig. 14(a), and inset is enlarged view of electric field distribution near deformed scatterers; (c) schematic of Z-shaped waveguide structure composed of interface I1, and broken line represents I1 interface; (d) calculated electric field distribution of Z-shaped waveguide structure

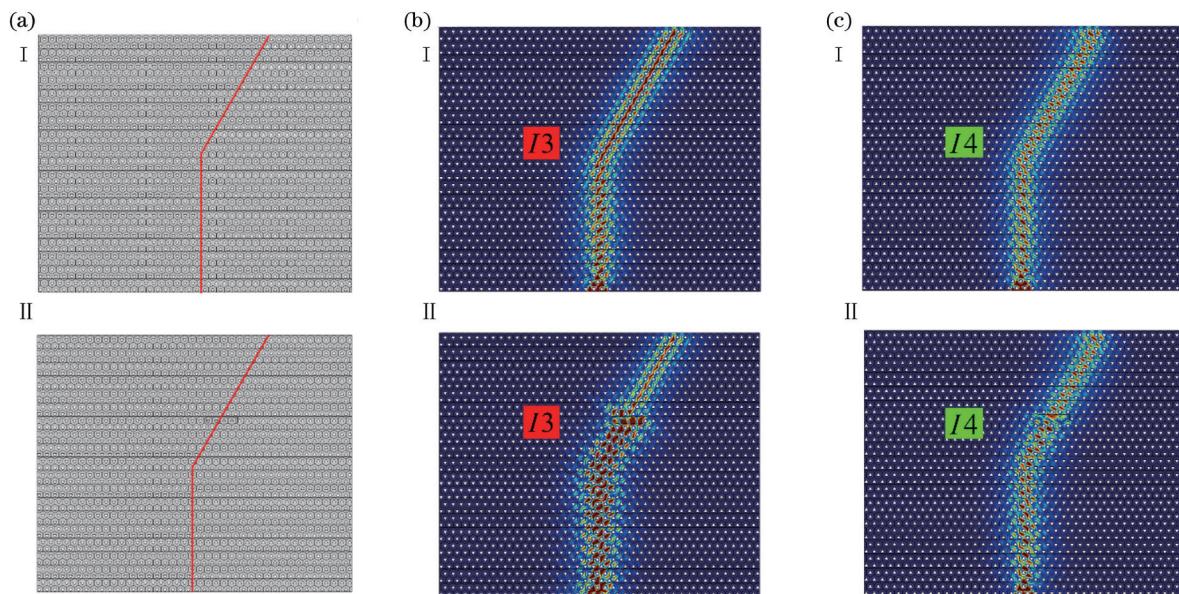


图 15 armchair 型界面 I3 和 I4 的谷拓扑边界态的鲁棒性。(a)无杂质(I)和有杂质(II)的 30°拐角界面结构示意图,折线两侧是不同类型的光子晶体;(b)图 15(a)I、II 中界面 I3 的电场分布仿真图;(c)图 15(a)I、II 中界面 I4 的电场分布仿真图

Fig. 15 Robustness of valley topological edge state of armchair interfaces I3 and I4. (a) 30° waveguide without defects in I and with defects in II, and two sides of broken line are different types of photonic crystals; (b) calculated electric field distributions of interface I3 in I and II of Fig. 15(a); (c) calculated electric field distributions of interface I4 in I and II of Fig. 15(a)

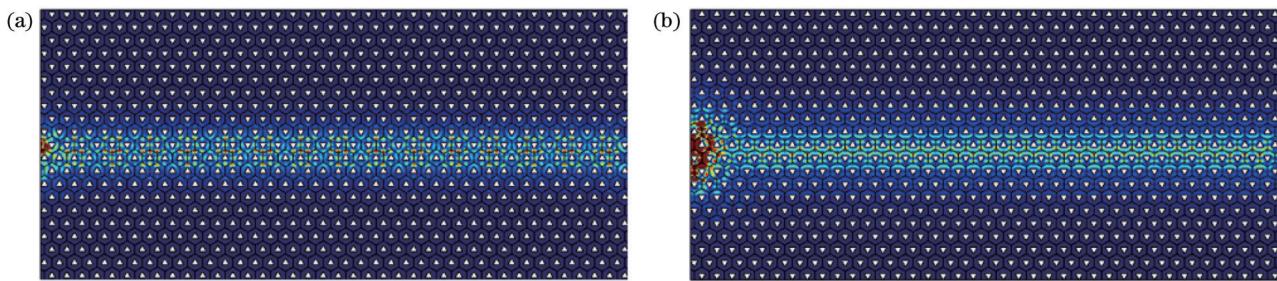


图16 在界面左侧边界处设置向右传播的平面波入射时的电场分布。(a)在界面I1处可激发第二谷拓扑边界态;(b)在界面I2处可激发第二谷拓扑边界态

Fig. 16 Electric field distributions when rightward propagating plane wave is incident at left edge of interface. (a) Second valley topological edge state can be excited at interface I1; (b) second valley topological edge state can be excited at interface I2

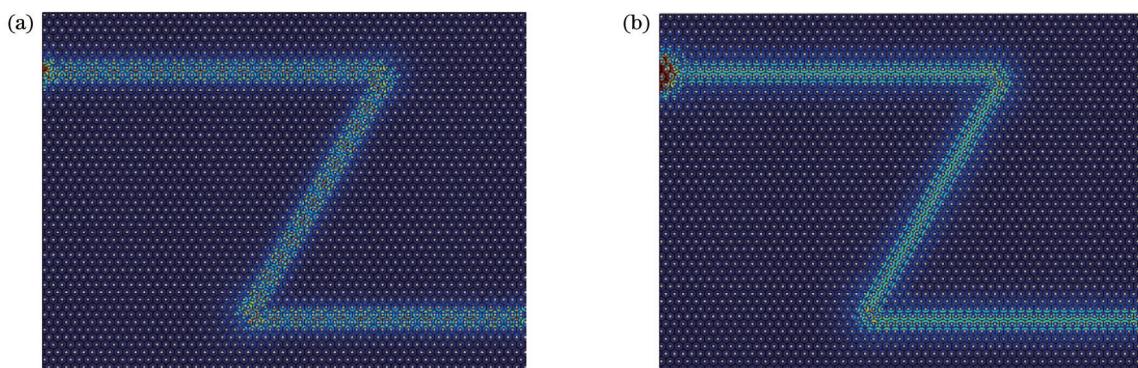


图17 zigzag型界面I1和I2的第二谷拓扑边界态的鲁棒性。(a)界面I1构成的Z字型波导;(b)界面I2构成的Z字型波导

Fig. 17 Robustness of the second valley topological edge state of zigzag interfaces I1 and I2. (a) Z-shaped waveguide formed by interface I1; (b) Z-shaped waveguide formed by interface I2

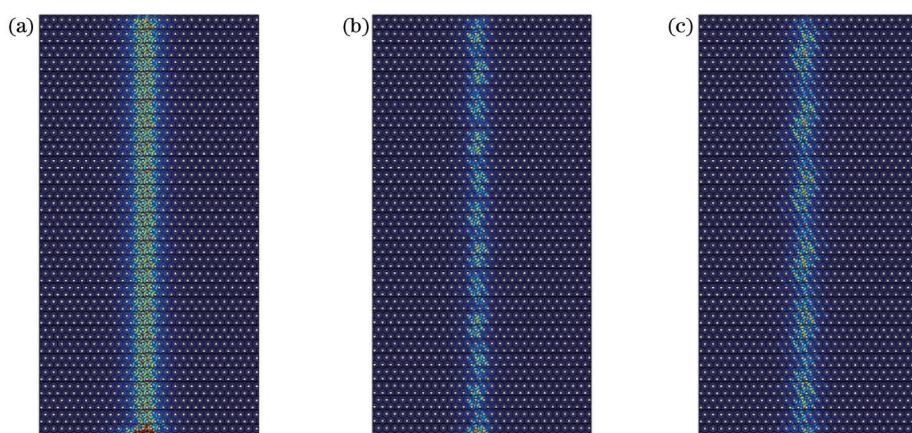


图18 armchair型界面I3的第二谷拓扑边界态传输特性。(a)归一化频率为0.93的平面波激发;(b)归一化频率为0.95的平面波激发;(c)归一化频率为0.97的平面波激发

Fig. 18 Transport characteristics of the second valley topological edge state of armchair interface I3. (a) Plane wave excitation with normalized frequency of 0.93; (b) plane wave excitation with normalized frequency of 0.95; (c) plane wave excitation with normalized frequency of 0.97

在此基础上建立了具有zigzag型、armchair型界面的光子晶体超胞,这两种结构在双波段能谷结构中均形成了拓扑边界态。采用有限元法仿真计算了多种拼接形式构筑的zigzag型和armchair型界面的拓扑边界态传

输特性,并通过设置杂质、缺陷、尖锐拐角等研究了拓扑边界态的鲁棒性。本文构筑的拓扑边界态可在两个波段范围内同时调控光波传输特性,将为拓展光学拓扑绝缘体的应用空间提供思路和参考。

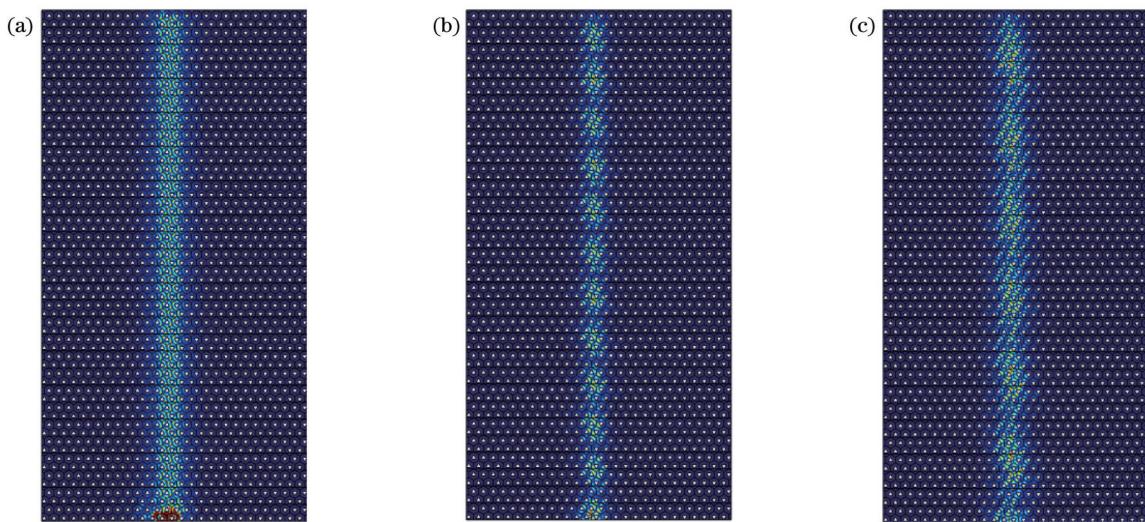


图 19 armchair型界面 I4 的第二谷拓扑边界态传输特性。(a)归一化频率为 0.93 的平面波激发;(b)归一化频率为 0.95 的平面波激发;(c)归一化频率为 0.97 的平面波激发

Fig. 19 Transport characteristics of the second valley topological edge state of armchair interface I4. (a) Plane wave excitation with normalized frequency of 0.93; (b) plane wave excitation with normalized frequency of 0.95; (c) plane wave excitation with normalized frequency of 0.97

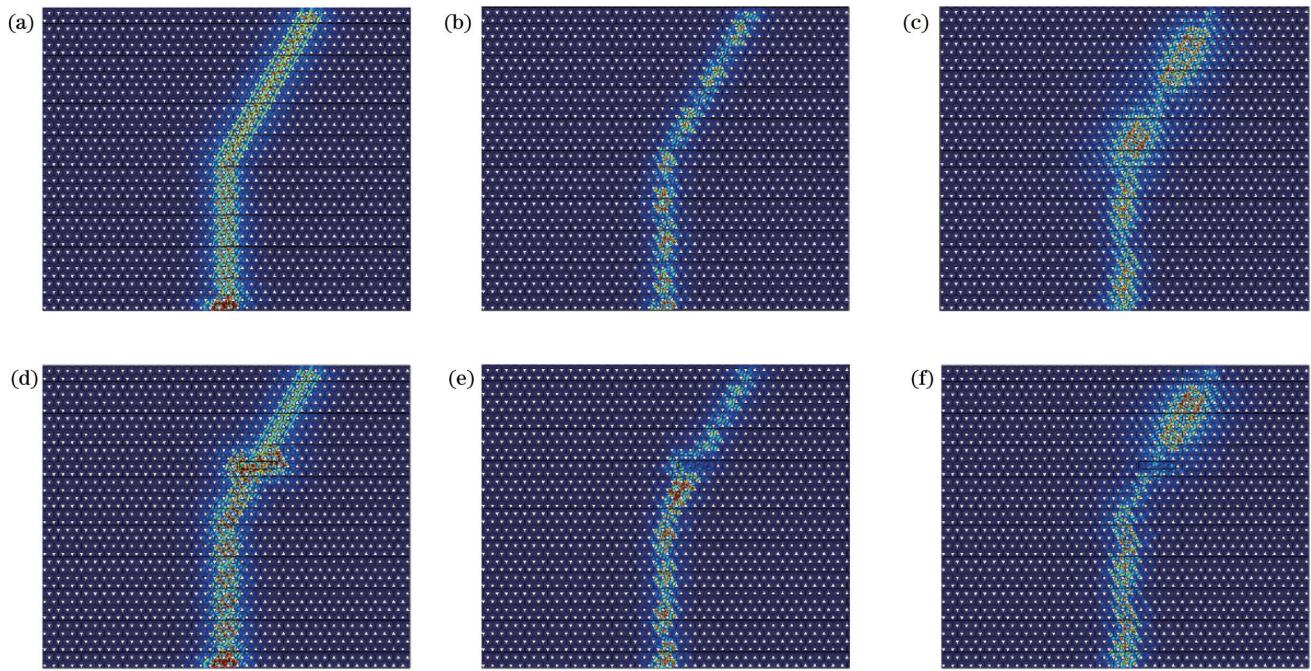


图 20 armchair型界面 I3 的第二谷拓扑边界态传输鲁棒性。(a)归一化频率为 0.93 的平面波激发,在 30°拐角波导中传输;(b)归一化频率为 0.95 的平面波激发,在 30°拐角波导中传输;(c)归一化频率为 0.97 的平面波激发,在 30°拐角波导中传输;(d)归一化频率为 0.93 的平面波激发,在含有杂质的 30°拐角波导中传输;(e)归一化频率为 0.95 的平面波激发,在含有杂质的 30°拐角波导中传输;(f)归一化频率为 0.97 的平面波激发,在含有杂质的 30°拐角波导中传输

Fig. 20 Transport robustness of the second valley topology edge state of armchair interface I3. (a) Plane wave with normalized frequency of 0.93 is excited and transmitted in 30° waveguide; (b) plane wave with normalized frequency of 0.95 is excited and transmitted in 30° waveguide; (c) plane wave with normalized frequency of 0.97 is excited and transmitted in 30° waveguide; (d) plane wave with normalized frequency of 0.93 is excited and transmitted in 30° waveguide with defects; (e) plane wave with normalized frequency of 0.95 is excited and transmitted in 30° waveguide with defects; (f) plane wave with normalized frequency of 0.97 is excited and transmitted in 30° waveguide with defects

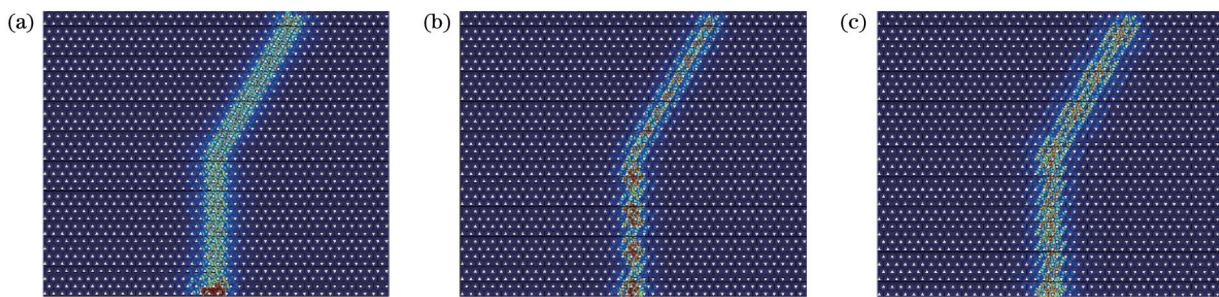


图21 armchair型界面I4的第二谷拓扑边界态传输鲁棒性。(a)归一化频率为0.93的平面波激发,在30°拐角波导中传输;(b)归一化频率为0.95的平面波激发,在30°拐角波导中传输;(c)归一化频率为0.97的平面波激发,在30°拐角波导中传输

Fig. 21 Transport robustness of the second valley topology edge state of the armchair interface I4. (a) Plane wave with normalized frequency of 0.93 is excited and transmitted in 30° waveguide; (b) plane wave with normalized frequency of 0.95 is excited and transmitted in 30° waveguide; (c) plane wave with normalized frequency of 0.97 is excited and transmitted in 30° waveguide

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Transport Characteristics of Topological Edge States in Dual-Band Valley Photonic Crystals

Zhang Jinying^{1,2*}, Wang Bingnan^{1**}, Wang Rui^{1***}, Wang Xinye¹

¹Beijing Key Laboratory for Precision Optoelectronic Measurement Instrument and Technology, School of Optics and Photonics, Beijing Institute of Technology, Beijing 100081, China;

²Yangtze Delta Region Academy of Beijing Institute of Technology, Jiaxing 314001, Zhejiang, China

Abstract

Objective Valley pseudospin is an important approach to construct optical topological insulators, and its properties determine the topological transmission characteristics. Using topological structures to control light transmission makes it ideal to control light waves in all concerned wavebands. However, the previously reported valley topology photonic crystal studies often break only one degeneracy point in photonic crystal bands, achieve topological phase transition through band inversion, and obtain valley topological edge states of single wavebands. This can only play a role in light propagation in a very narrow range but cannot modulate light propagation in more wave ranges. Thus, this paper researches the light transport characteristics of dual-band valley topological photonic crystals to modulate light propagation in a wider wavelength range as far as possible. The designed photonic crystal structure has two degeneracy points in the band and can make the two points open at the same time by rotating the scatterer to generate two band gaps. In this way, valley topological phase transitions can occur in two ranges, and the light propagation within the two wavelength ranges can be modulated. Finally, a supercell structure with topological edge states is constructed, and the transport characteristics and robustness of topological edge states with different interface types are investigated, which provides a basis for the design and application of dual-band valley topological edge states.

Methods In this paper, photonic crystal supercells with a dual-band valley structure are constructed. The transport characteristics and robustness of zigzag and armchair interface topological edge states in two bands are studied. The band structures of zigzag AB (interface I1), BA (interface I2), armchair AB (interface I3), and BA (interface I4) are calculated by the finite element method, and the electric field modes of light propagation corresponding to different interface topological edge states are compared and analyzed. The transport characteristics of plane waves along interfaces I1, I2, I3, and I4 are calculated in the first and second topological edge states. Finally, the disturbance of defects, impurities, and sharp corner structures on the transport characteristics of zigzag and armchair interfaces is investigated.

Results and Discussions For zigzag interfaces, the edge states of AB (interface I1) and BA (interface I2) are different, regardless of the first or second topological edge states. For armchair interfaces, the rule is quite different from the zigzag interface, and the edge states of AB (interface I3) and BA (interface I4) are completely identical. For zigzag interfaces, the light transport characteristics of symmetric interfaces are significantly different from those of antisymmetric interfaces. Symmetric interfaces allow plane wave transmission while antisymmetric interfaces greatly inhibit plane wave transmission. However, the light propagation does not show any difference for armchair interfaces. For the interfaces allowing plane wave transmission, both zigzag and armchair interfaces feature good robustness against impurities, defects, sharp corners, etc.

Conclusions Band range expansion of topological edge states is vital for the practical application of optical topological insulators. This paper constructs a photonic crystal supercell with a dual-band valley structure and compares the band structure and light transport characteristics of the interfaces I1, I2, I3, and I4. Different transmission phenomena of zigzag and armchair interfaces are discovered, and the robust transmission ability of topological edge states is verified. The constructed topological edge state can simultaneously modulate the light transport characteristics in two ranges, which will provide ideas and guidance for expanding the application fields of optical topological insulators. The physical mechanism of different interfaces exhibiting various transport characteristics needs to be further explored.

Key words materials; topological photonic crystal; valley structure; multiple bands; interface type; topological edge state