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Coupling between subwavelength nano-slit lattice modes and metal-insulator-graphene cavity modes: a semi-analytical model

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Abstract: We present a semi-analytical model of the resonance phenomena occurring in a hybrid system made of a 1D array of periodic subwavelength slits deposited on an insulator/graphene layer. We show that the spectral response of this hybrid system can be fully explained by a simple semi-analytical model based on weak and strong couplings between two elementary sub-systems. The first elementary sub-system consists of a 1D array of periodic subwavelength slits viewed as a homogeneous medium. In this medium lives a metal-insulator-metal lattice mode interacting with surface and cavity plasmon modes. A weak coupling with surface plasmon modes on both faces of the perforated metal film leads to a broadband spectrum while a strong coupling between this first sub-system and a second one made of a graphene-insulator-metal gap leads to a narrow band spectrum. We provide a semi-analytical model based on these two interactions thus allowing efficient access of the full spectrum of the hybrid system.

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1. Introduction

Extraordinary optical transmission (EOT) [1] through an opaque metallic film perforated with subwavelength slits has received great interest over the past decade because of its numerous applications in optoelectronics such as mid-infrared spatial light modulators, linear signal processing or biosensing. Many theoretical and experimental works were carried out in order to understand and predict EOT and, especially, to highlight the role of surface waves [2–5]. More recently we provided, in [6], a simple and versatile model, for this phenomenon, involving a specific mode living in an equivalent homogeneous medium and a phase correction to account for surface waves. The proposed semi-analytical model is valid from the visible to the infrared frequencies ranges. On the other hand, significant efforts have been made to create active or tunable plasmonic devices operating from THz to mid-infrared frequencies. Thanks to its extraordinary electronic and optical properties, graphene, a single layer of arranged carbon atoms has attracted much attention in the last years. This material can support both TE and TM surface plasmons and can exhibit some remarkable properties such as flexible wide band tunability that can be exploited to build new plasmonic devices. The main challenge when designing a graphene-plasmon-based device is how to efficiently excite graphene surface plasmons with a free space electromagnetic wave since there is a huge momentum mismatch between the two electromagnetic modes. Generally two strategies are used. The first one consists in patterning the graphene sheet into nano-resonators [7–19]. In this case a surface plasmon of the obtained structure which is very similar to the graphene surface plasmon is excited and an absorption rate

close to 100% can be reached. In particular in [19], the authors presented an electrically tunable hybrid graphene-gold Fano resonator which consists of a square graphene patch and a square gold frame. They showed that the destructive interference between the narrow- and broadband dipolar surface plasmons, which are induced respectively on the surfaces of the graphene patch and the gold frame, leads to the plasmonic equivalent of electromagnetically induced transparency (EIT). However patterning a graphene sheet requires sophisticated processing techniques and deteriorates its extraordinary mobility. The second strategy consists in using a continuous graphene sheet instead of undesirable patterned graphene structure [20–25]. In this approach, the graphene sheet is coupled with nano-scatterers such as nano-particles, or nano-gratings. Gao *et al.* proposed [23] to use diffractive gratings to create a guided-wave resonance in the graphene film that can be directly observed from the normal incidence transmission spectra. In [22] Zhao *et al.* studied a tunable plasmon-induced-transparency effect in a grating-coupled double-layer graphene hybrid system at far-infrared frequencies. They used a diffractive grating to couple a normal incident wave and plasmonic modes living in a system of two graphene-films separated by a spacer. Zhang *et al.* [25] investigated optical field enhancements, in a wide mid-infrared band, originating from the excitation of graphene plasmons, by introducing a dielectric grating underneath a graphene monolayer. Usually, the optical response of all the grating-graphene based structures listed above is performed thanks to the finite difference time domain method (FDTD) or to the finite element method (FEM). However the features of these hybrid graphene-resonators devices is often linked to a plasmon resonance phenomenon. Therefore a modal method allowing for a full modal analysis of the couplings occurring in these plasmonic systems seems more suitable.

In this paper, we investigate an optical tunable plasmonic system involving two fundamental phenomena: an EOT phenomenon and a metal-insulator-graphene cavity plasmon mode excitation. We propose a semi-analytical model allowing to fully describe the spectrum behaviour of an hybrid plasmonic structure, made of a 1D periodic subwavelength slits array deposited on an insulator/graphene layers. The spectrum of the proposed hybrid system exhibits Lorentz and Fano-like resonances and also other broadband and narrow band resonances that are efficiently captured by our simplified model. In order to explain the origin of this particular behaviour, we first split the hybrid system into a couple of sub-systems. Second, thanks to a modal analysis through the polynomial modal method (PMM: one of the most efficient methods for modeling the electromagnetic properties of periodic structures) [26–29], we demonstrate that the scattering parameters of each sub-system can be computed through a concept of weak and strong couplings. Finally we provide analytical expressions of the reflection and transmission coefficients of the structure and describe the mechanisms leading to Lorentz and Fano resonances occurring in it.

2. Physical system

The hybrid structure under study is presented in Fig. 1. It consists of two sub-systems. The first sub-system earlier studied in [6] is a sub-wavelength periodic array of nano-slits with height $h_1 = 800nm$, period $d = 165nm \ll \lambda$ and slits-width $s = 15nm$. The relative permittivity of the material filling the slits is denoted by $\varepsilon^{(s)}$ while the dispersive relative permittivity of the metal (gold) is denoted by $\varepsilon^{(m)}$ and described by the Drude-Lorentz model [31,32]. See Ref. [6] for the numerical parameters used for $\varepsilon^{(m)}$ description. This first sub-structure is deposited on a dielectric spacer (with relative permittivity $\varepsilon^{(2)} = 1.54^2$ and height $h_2 = 10nm$) itself deposited on a continuous graphene sheet. The monolayer graphene optical properties are modeled with an equivalent layer with thickness Δ and permittivity $\varepsilon(\omega)$ [30] :

$$\varepsilon(\omega) = 1 + i \frac{\sigma(\omega)}{\varepsilon_0 \omega \Delta} \quad (1)$$

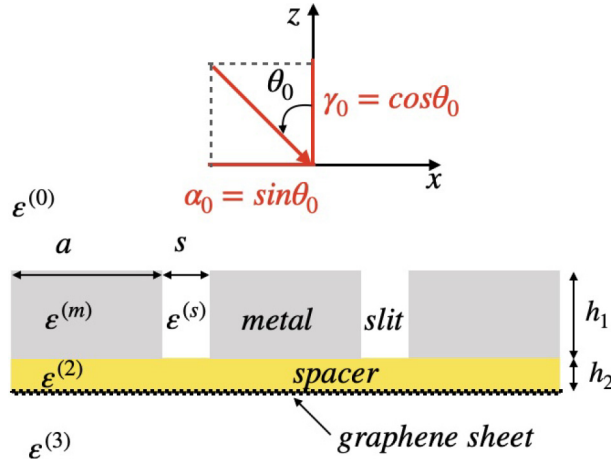


Fig. 1. Sketch of hybrid structure made of a dispersive metal film perforated with a subwavelength periodic array of 1D nano-slits deposited on a dielectric spacer ended by a continuous graphene sheet.

where the optical conductivity of graphene

$$\sigma(\omega) = \sigma_{inter} + \sigma_{intra} \tag{2}$$

includes both the interband and intraband contributions. The first term of Eq. (2) i.e. the interband contribution σ_{inter} has the form $\sigma_{inter} = \sigma'_{inter} + i\sigma''_{inter}$, where

$$\begin{cases} \sigma'_{inter} = \sigma_0 \left[1 + \frac{1}{\pi} \operatorname{atan} \left(\frac{\hbar\omega - 2\mu_c}{\hbar\Gamma} \right) - \frac{1}{\pi} \operatorname{atan} \left(\frac{\hbar\omega + 2\mu_c}{\hbar\Gamma} \right) \right] \\ \sigma''_{inter} = \frac{\sigma_0}{2\pi} \ln \left[\frac{2\mu_c - \hbar\omega}{2\mu_c + \hbar\omega} \right]. \end{cases} \tag{3}$$

$\sigma_0 = \pi e^2/2h$ is the universal conductivity of the graphene, $1/\Gamma$ is the relaxation time (throughout this work, we will take $\Gamma = 2.10^{12} \text{s}^{-1}$) and μ_c is the Fermi level. The second term σ_{intra} of Eq. (2) describes a Drude model response for intraband processes:

$$\sigma_{intra} = \sigma_0 \frac{4\mu_c}{\pi} \frac{1}{\hbar\Gamma - i\hbar\omega}. \tag{4}$$

This hybrid structure is excited, from the upper medium (having relative permittivity $\epsilon^{(0)}$) by a TM polarized plane wave (the magnetic field is parallel to the y axis). The wave vector of the incident wave is denoted by $\mathbf{K}_0 = k_0 (\alpha_0 \mathbf{e}_x + \beta_0 \mathbf{e}_y + \gamma_0 \mathbf{e}_z)$, where $k_0 = 2\pi/\lambda = \omega/c$ denotes the wavenumber, λ being the wavelength and c the light velocity in vacuum. The relative permittivity of the lower region is denoted by $\epsilon^{(3)}$. We report in Figs. 2(a) and (b), the spectra of the hybrid structure for two values of the chemical potential: $\mu_c = 1 \text{eV}$ Fig. 2(a) and $\mu_c = 1.5 \text{eV}$ Fig. 2(b). These curves display both broadband and narrow bands resonance phenomena. It has been shown in [6] that a Lorentz-like resonance corresponding to an EOT phenomenon can occur in the first sub-system i.e. the dispersive metal film perforated with a subwavelength periodic array of 1D nano-slits excited by a plane. In the current case, this EOT occurs around $\lambda = 3.37 \mu\text{m}$ and as pointed out in [6] it is related to the excitation of a particular eigenmode of the slit grating structure : the so-called lattice mode. One can easily conceive that the broadband resonance is related to the EOT phenomenon outlined later, while the narrow band resonance phenomena are due to Fabry-Perrot-like resonances of a cavity mode living in the metal/spacer/graphene

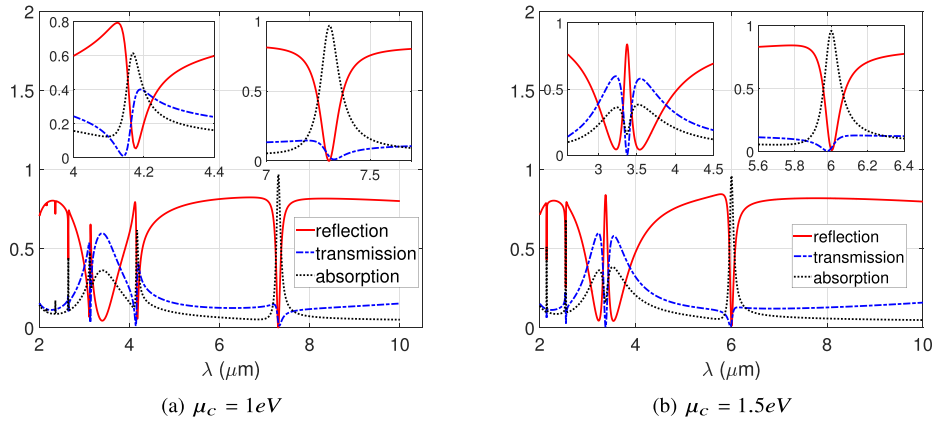


Fig. 2. Reflection, transmission and absorption spectra of the hybrid system for $\mu_c = 1eV$ (Fig. 2(a)) and $\mu_c = 1.5eV$ (Fig. 2(b)). The hybrid structure exhibits both broadband and tunable narrow band resonances with respect to the chemical potential. Parameters: $\epsilon^1 = \epsilon^3 = \epsilon^{slit} = 1$, incidence angle = 0° , $h = 800nm$, $d = 165nm$, $a = 15nm$.

gap. For example, for $\mu_c = 1eV$, a first two narrow resonances are observed around $\lambda = 4.17\mu m$ and $\lambda = 7.3\mu m$. The real parts of the magnetic field plotted in Fig. 3(a) at $\lambda = 4.17\mu m$ and in Fig. 3(b) at $\lambda = 7.30\mu m$, for $\mu_c = 1eV$, support the fact that the narrow band resonances are linked to the resonance of a cavity mode of the horizontal metal/insulator/graphene sub-system. As the effective index of this mode strongly depends on the chemical potential μ_c , the resonance frequencies of this hybrid cavity mode shift with increasing μ_c . Comparing the reflection spectrum of the first sub-system with that of the hybrid structure, we can interpret the latter spectral response as a weak or strong coupling between the lattice mode of the former sub-system with the cavity mode of the metal/insulator/graphene gap. We propose in the following, a simple single mode model allowing to efficiently describe, and understand the mechanism of this vertical-to-horizontal cavity modes coupling.

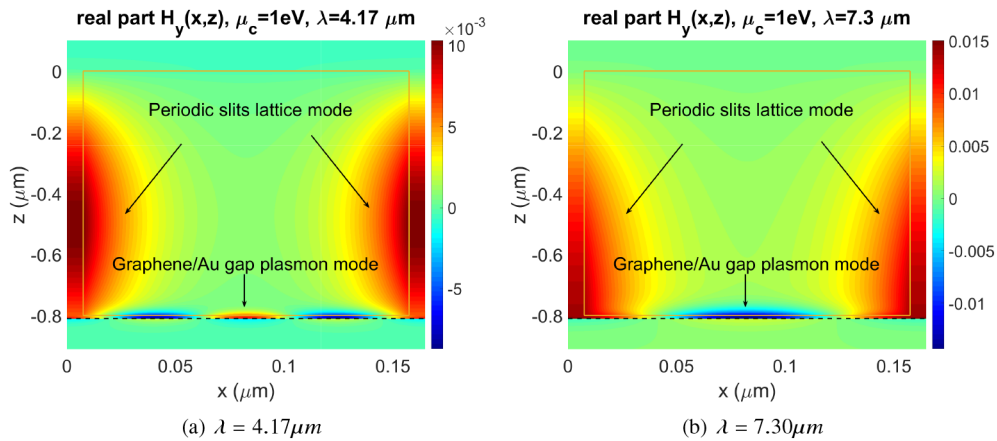


Fig. 3. Real part of the magnetic field $H_x(x, z)$ at $\lambda = 4.17\mu m$ (Fig. 3(a)) and at $\lambda = 7.30\mu m$ (Fig. 3(b)). Parameters: $\epsilon^1 = \epsilon^3 = \epsilon^{slit} = 1$, incidence angle = 0° , $h = 800nm$, $d = 165nm$, $a = 15nm$.

3. Modal analysis of the system

The sketch of vertical-to-horizontal cavity modes coupling outlined in the previous section is presented in Fig. 4, where $\gamma_0^{(1)}$ denotes effective index of the periodic slits array lattice mode in the z -direction while $\alpha_0^{(3)}$ denotes that of the metal/insulator/graphene cavity mode in the x -direction. The effective indices $\alpha_0^{(1)}$ and $\alpha_0^{(2)}$ will be introduced later. Modal methods are very suitable to deal with the current problem since it is related to mode resonances. Thus, all required effective indices are computed as eigenvalues of the generic operator $\mathcal{L}^{(k)}$:

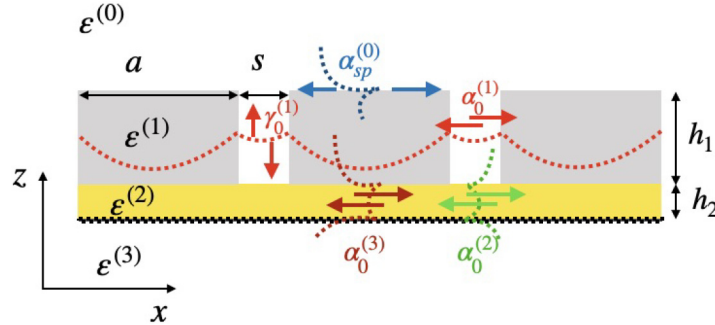


Fig. 4. Sketch of the mechanism of the coupling between cavity lattice modes of the periodic array of nano-slits and the metal/insulator/graphene gap plasmon modes. Strong and weak couplings between three modes are responsible of the resonance phenomena of the hybrid structure.

$$\mathcal{L}^{(k)}(\omega)|H_q^{(k)}(\omega)\rangle = (\gamma_q^{(k)}(\omega))^2|H_q^{(k)}(\omega)\rangle \tag{5}$$

with

$$\mathcal{L}^{(k)}(x, \omega) = \left(\frac{c}{\omega}\right)^2 \varepsilon^{(k)}(x, \omega) \partial_x \frac{1}{\varepsilon^{(k)}(x, \omega)} \partial_x + \varepsilon^{(k)}(x, \omega).$$

Figure 5 illustrates the different configurations used for the computation of the required effective

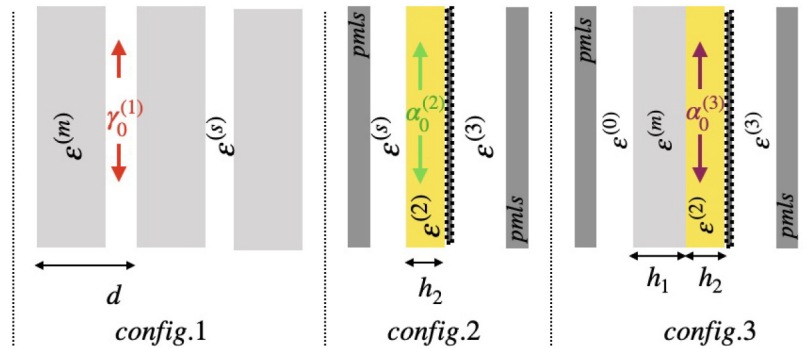


Fig. 5. Configurations used for the computation of the required effective indices (eigenvalues of Eq. (5)). *config.1* is used for the computation of the modes of periodic arrays of nano-slits in general and in particular for the computation of the cavity lattice mode effective index $\gamma_0^{(1)}$. *config.2* is used for the computation of the effective index $\alpha_0^{(2)}$ of the plasmon mode. The gap plasmon mode effective index $\alpha_0^{(3)}$ is computed thanks to *config.3*.

indices. Recall that these effective indices are computed as eigenvalues of Eq. (5). The first

configuration (*config.1*) is used for the computation of the modes of periodic arrays of nano-slits in general and particularly for the computation of the cavity lattice mode effective index $\gamma_0^{(1)}$. The second configuration (*config.2*) is used for the computation of the plasmon mode effective index $\alpha_0^{(2)}$ while the cavity plasmon mode effective index $\alpha_0^{(3)}$ is computed thanks to the third configuration (*config.3*). Practically, the PMM is used to solve numerically the eigenvalue equation Eq. (5). For that purpose, the structure is divided into sub-intervals $I_x^{(k)}$, in the x -direction: $k \in \{1, 2\}$ for *config.1* while $k \in \{1, 6\}$ for *config.2* and *config.3*. At this stage, we split the hybrid system into two coupled sub-systems:

- a weakly coupled sub-system sketched in Figs. 6 and 7 which leads to the broadband resonances.
- a strongly coupled sub-system sketched in Figs. 9 and 10 leading to a narrow bands dispersion curves.

Let us now analyse each coupled sub-system and provide semi-analytical models allowing to describe them.

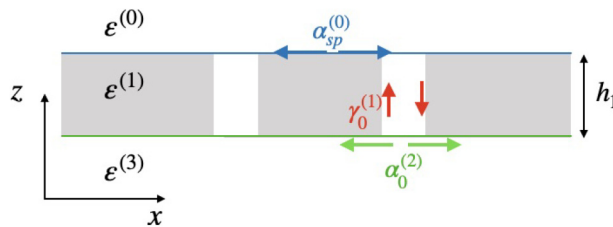


Fig. 6. Sketch of the weak coupling sub-system consisting of a periodic array of nano-slits encapsulated between $\epsilon^{(0)}$ and $\epsilon^{(3)}$ media. The lattice mode $\gamma_0^{(1)}$ is assumed to live in an $\sqrt{\epsilon^{(1)}}$ effective homogeneous medium. Two plasmon modes $\alpha_{sp}^{(0)}$ and $\alpha_0^{(2)}$ ensure the phase matching with the plane waves in media $\epsilon^{(0)}$ and $\epsilon^{(3)}$.

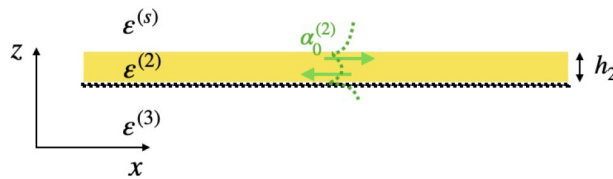


Fig. 7. The sketch of $\alpha_0^{(2)}$ plasmon mode computation.

3.1. Weakly coupled sub-system

A semi-analytical model for the weakly coupled system has been already described in [6]. This system consists of a periodic array of subwavelength nano-slits encapsulated between media with relative permittivities $\epsilon^{(0)}$ and $\epsilon^{(3)}$. As pointed out in [6], the electromagnetic response of the system to an incident plane wave excitation, in the static limit ($d \ll \lambda$), is equivalent to that of a slab with equivalent permittivity $\epsilon^{(1)} = \langle 1/\epsilon^{(m,s)}(x) \rangle^{-1}$ and height h_1 . Its reflection and

transmission coefficients R_{12} and T_{12} are then given by :

$$R_{12} = \frac{r_1 + \phi_1 r_2 \phi_2}{1 + r_1 \phi_1 r_2 \phi_2} \quad (6)$$

and

$$T_{12} = \frac{t_1 t_2 \phi_2}{1 + r_1 \phi_1 r_2 \phi_2} \quad (7)$$

where r_1, t_1 and r_2, t_2 are the Fresnel coefficients at the interfaces $\epsilon^{(0)}/\epsilon^{(1)}$ and $\epsilon^{(1)}/\epsilon^{(3)}$ under TM polarization:

$$r_1 = \frac{1 - n_{01}(\omega)}{1 + n_{01}(\omega)}, \quad r_2 = \frac{1 - n_{13}(\omega)}{1 + n_{13}(\omega)}, \quad (8)$$

$$t_1 = \frac{2}{1 + n_{01}(\omega)}, \quad t_2 = \frac{2}{1 + n_{13}(\omega)}. \quad (9)$$

where

$$n_{01}(\omega) = \frac{\gamma_0^{(1)}(\omega)/\epsilon^{(1)}(\omega)}{\gamma_0^{(0)}(\omega)/\epsilon^{(0)}(\omega)}, \quad \text{and} \quad n_{13}(\omega) = \frac{\gamma_0^{(3)}(\omega)/\epsilon^{(3)}(\omega)}{\gamma_0^{(1)}(\omega)/\epsilon^{(1)}(\omega)}, \quad (10)$$

and

$$\phi_1 = e^{-ik_0 \gamma_0^{(1)} h_1 \phi_c^{(0)}}, \quad \phi_2 = e^{-ik_0 \gamma_0^{(1)} h_1 \phi_c^{(2)}} \quad (11)$$

with

$$\phi_c^{(0)} = e^{-ik_0 \alpha_{sp}^{(0)} a^{(0)}}, \quad \phi_c^{(2)} = e^{-ik_0 \alpha_0^{(2)} a^{(2)}}. \quad (12)$$

Phase correction terms are introduced in order to take into account the phase matching between the lattice mode with effective index $\gamma_0^{(1)}$ and the incident plane wave (see [6]). In equation

Eq. (12), $\alpha_{sp}^{(0)} = \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon^{(0)} \epsilon^{(m)}}{\epsilon^{(0)} + \epsilon^{(m)}}}$ is the effective index of the surface plasmon propagating along the

upper interface, $a^{(1)} = \frac{a}{4} \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon^{(0)}}{\epsilon^{(s)}}}$ and $a^{(2)} = \frac{a}{4} \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon^{(3)}}{\epsilon^{(s)}}}$. We compare in Fig. 8(a) the spectrum of

the reflectivity $|R_{12}|^2$, with the reflectivity of the hybrid system. As expected, the $|R_{12}|^2$ curve perfectly matches the broadband resonance of the hybrid structure. The impact of the phase correction terms $\phi_c^{(0),(2)}$ on the results is not significant since the omission of these terms only induces a little shift of the $|R_{12}|^2$ curve. This is why we consider the coupling between the $\gamma_0^{(1)}$ -effective index-slit-mode and the $\alpha_0^{(2)}$ -effective index-plasmon-mode as a weak coupling.

3.2. Strongly coupled system

Consider now the strongly coupled system sketched in Figs. 9 and 10. Since the transverse geometrical parameters of the grating are smaller than the incident field wavelength λ ($d \ll \lambda$), we can introduce for the lattice mode an effective index $\alpha_0^{(1)}$ along the x -axis as follows:

$$\alpha_0^{(1)} = \sqrt{\epsilon^{(1)} - \gamma_0^{(1)2}}, \quad (13)$$

where $\alpha_0^{(1)}$ has a positive real part and a negative imaginary part. The S -parameters of the equivalent two ports network of Fig. 9 are then given by :

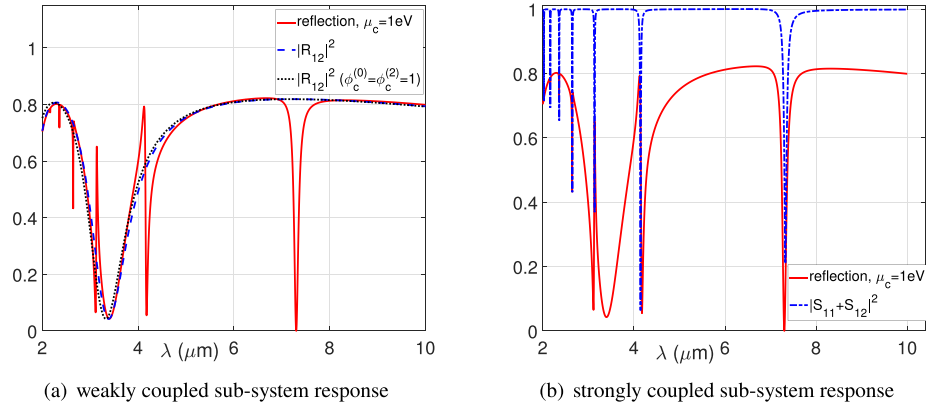


Fig. 8. Comparison between the reflection spectrum of the hybrid structure and the responses of the weakly coupled sub-system (a) and the strongly coupled sub-system (b). As expected, the weakly coupled sub-system reflection spectrum $|R_{12}(\lambda)|^2$ perfectly matches the broadband resonances of the hybrid structure. On the other hand, the strongly coupled sub-system spectrum characteristic function $|S_{11}(\lambda) + S_{12}(\lambda)|^2$ perfectly matches the narrow band resonances of the hybrid structure. Parameters: $\lambda \in [2, 10]\mu\text{m}$, $\epsilon^{(1)} = \epsilon^{(3)} = \epsilon^{(s)} = 1$, $\epsilon^{(2)} = 1.54^2$, incidence angle = 0° , $\mu_c = 1\text{eV}$.

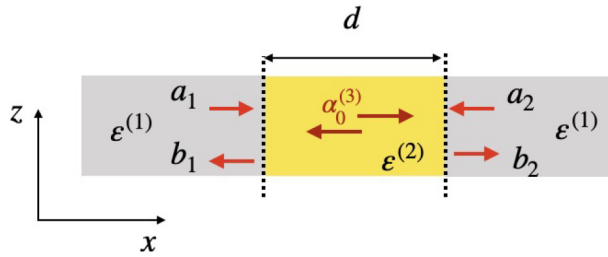


Fig. 9. Sketch showing the strong coupling between the gap plasmon mode $\alpha_0^{(3)}$ living in an $\sqrt{\epsilon^{(2)}}$ homogeneous medium and $\alpha_0^{(1)}$ lattice mode in an $\sqrt{\epsilon^{(1)}}$ effective homogeneous medium.

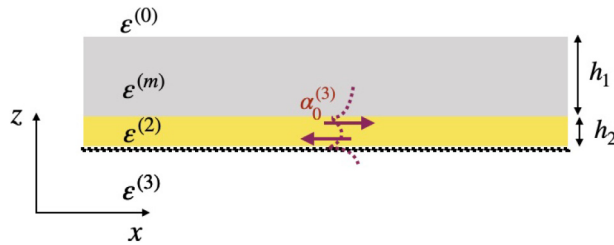


Fig. 10. The sketch of $\alpha_0^{(3)}$ plasmon mode computation.

$$\begin{bmatrix} S_{11} & S_{12} \\ S_{21} & S_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (14)$$

where

$$\begin{cases} S_{11}(\omega) = S_{22}(\omega) = \frac{[1 - n^2(\omega)] [1 - \phi^2(\omega)]}{[1 + n(\omega)]^2 - [1 - n(\omega)]^2 \phi^2(\omega)} \\ S_{12}(\omega) = S_{21}(\omega) = \frac{4n(\omega)\phi(\omega)}{[1 + n(\omega)]^2 - [1 - n(\omega)]^2 \phi^2(\omega)} \end{cases}, \quad (15)$$

with

$$\begin{cases} n(\omega) = \frac{\alpha_0^{(3)}(\omega)/\varepsilon^{(3)}(\omega)}{\alpha_0^{(1)}(\omega)/\varepsilon^{(1)}(\omega)} \\ \phi = e^{-ik_0\alpha_0^{(3)}d} \end{cases}, \quad (16)$$

The dispersion relation of this system is obtained by finding the zeros of the determinant $\Delta(\omega)$ of the matrix $S(\omega)$ of equation Eq. (14) :

$$\Delta(\omega) = S_{11}(\omega)S_{22}(\omega) - S_{12}(\omega)S_{21}(\omega) = [S_{11}(\omega) - S_{12}(\omega)] [S_{11}(\omega) + S_{12}(\omega)] = 0. \quad (17)$$

Then we have two classes of solutions:

$$\begin{cases} S_{11}(\omega) - S_{12}(\omega) = 0 \\ \text{or} \\ S_{11}(\omega) + S_{12}(\omega) = 0 \end{cases}. \quad (18)$$

As shown Fig. 8(b) the resonance frequencies defined by the class of solutions satisfying to $S_{11}(\omega) + S_{12}(\omega) = 0$ match with the narrow band resonances of the hybrid structure. Let us set

$$r_{13}(\omega) = -(S_{11}(\omega) + S_{12}(\omega)). \quad (19)$$

Coefficient r_{13} corresponds to the reflection coefficient of the strongly coupled system where the output and input ports are excited by two fields of equal amplitudes $a_1 = a_2$. Therefore the reflection spectrum of the whole system can take the following form :

$$R = \frac{r_1 + \phi_1 r_{13} r_2 \phi_2}{1 + r_1 \phi_1 r_{13} r_2 \phi_2} \quad (20)$$

and

$$T = \frac{t_1 r_{13} t_2 \phi_2}{1 + r_1 \phi_1 r_{13} r_2 \phi_2}. \quad (21)$$

By using the approximate model of Eqs. (20) and (21), we provide some numerical simulations (In Figs. 11(a), (b), (c) and (d)) for different values of μ_c . In these figures, we compare the spectra of the hybrid-structure with the reflection and transmission curves obtained from rigorous PMM computations. The chemical potential is set to $\mu_c = 1eV$, in Figs. 11(a) and (b), while $\mu_c = 1.5eV$, in Figs. 11(a) and (b). All these results fit very well the rigorous numerical simulations obtained with the PMM. Our model captures very well all resonances phenomena occurring in the hybrid system namely Lorentz and Fano resonances and thus confirms that couplings between some fundamental modes of elementary sub-structures are of fundamental importance in these phenomena. Armed with this model, we are now ready to deepen the explanation of the dispersion curves of Figs. 2(a) and (b).

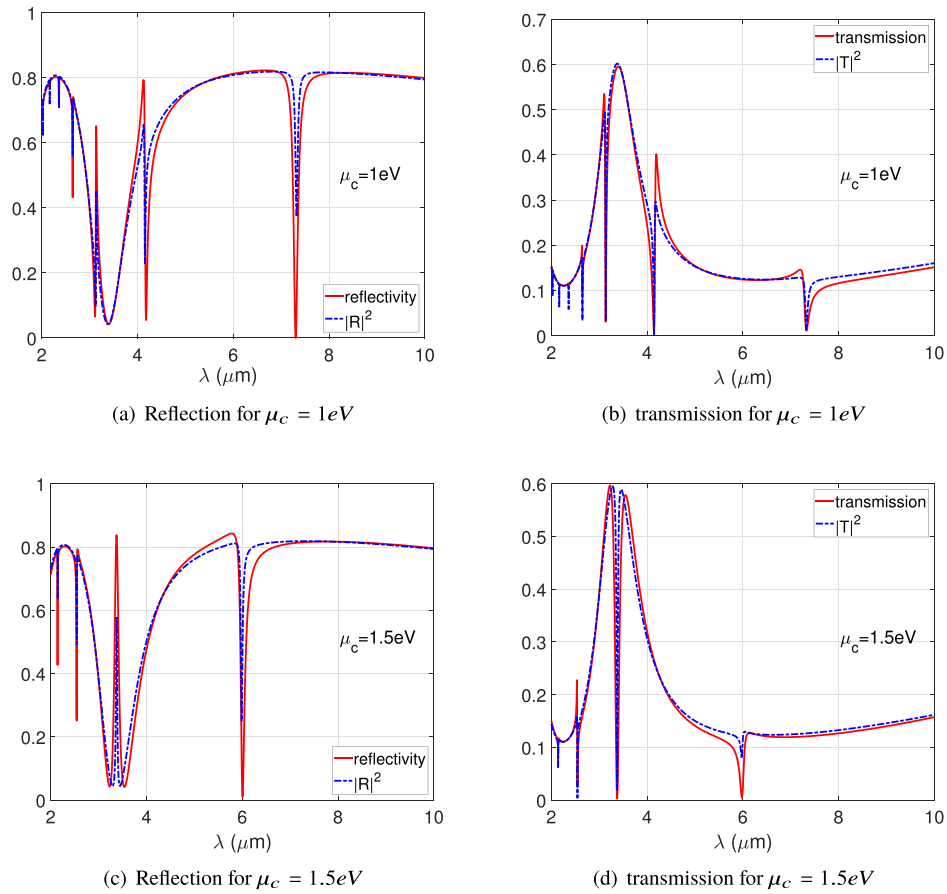


Fig. 11. Comparison between the spectra of the hybrid-structure with the reflection and transmission curves obtained from the PMM for two values of the chemical potential μ_c . The chemical potential is set to $\mu_c = 1eV$, in Figs. 11(a) and (b), while $\mu_c = 1.5eV$, in Figs. 11(c) and (d). All these results fit very well with the rigorous numerical simulations obtained with the PMM. Our model captures very well all resonances occurring in the hybrid system namely Lorentz and Fano ones. Parameters: $\lambda \in [2, 10]\mu m$, $\epsilon^{(1)} = \epsilon^{(3)} = \epsilon^{(s)} = 1$, $\epsilon^{(2)} = 1.54^2$, incidence angle = 0° .

4. Analysis of the Lorentz and Fano resonances of the system

Analysing the reflection $|R|^2$, transmission $|T|^2$ from Eqs. (20), (21), it is possible to provide justifications for the curves shapes in Figs. 2(a) and (b). From these figures, we remark that:

1. In the frequency range close to the resonance frequencies of the weak sub-system, the reflection and transmission spectra generally exhibit asymmetric Fano-like shapes while the absorption presents Lorentz-like shapes (left inserts of Figs. 2(a) and (b)).
2. When the resonance frequency of both strongly and weakly coupled systems match each other, it results in an exaltation of the reflection and annihilation of both transmission and absorption. This can be seen as a sort of induced reflection.
3. In the frequency range far from the resonance frequencies of the weakly coupled sub-system, a Lorentz-like absorption enhancement can be observed (right inserts of Figs. 2(a) and (b)). The scattering efficiency vanishes and the absorption takes its maximum value close to unity.

Before commenting on the first point raised above, let us recall that, in general, the Fano resonance occurs when a narrow band resonance sub-system interferes with a continuum or a broadband resonance sub-system. The signature of this resonance in the spectrum is the presence of two closed critical points corresponding to a vanishing value of the amplitude followed or preceded by an enhancement. In the current case, the zeros of the transmission T , in Eq. (21), are the zeros of the coefficient r_{13} and these frequency values are always followed or preceded by great or little transmission enhancements. Therefore the Fano resonance shape becomes obvious.

For the second point, let us recall the resonance condition of the first sub-system. It is obtained from the zeros of the reflection coefficient R_{12} , in Eq. (6), as soon as:

$$\phi_1 r_2 \phi_3 \simeq -r_1 \text{ and } 1 + r_1 \phi_1 r_2 \phi_2 \neq 0, \quad (22)$$

There is an extinction of the reflection without any annihilation of the transmission. Knowing that the resonance condition of the strongly coupled system is given by

$$r_{13}(\omega) \simeq 0, \quad (23)$$

when the latter resonance condition Eq. (23) meets the former Eq. (22), it results

$$r_{13} \phi_1 r_2 \phi_3 \simeq 0 \quad (24)$$

which leads to an exaltation of reflection, and an annihilation of the transmission (see Eq. (21)) and the absorption. The spectral responses of the structure are shown to be highly tunable by changing a gate voltage applied to the graphene sheet. The height h_2 of the horizontal cavity influences the system through the effective index $\alpha_0^{(3)}$. The dispersion curves of the effective index $\alpha_0^{(3)}$ are plotted in Fig. 12(a) for different values of h_2 while μ_c is kept constant and equal to 1eV . It can be seen that increasing h_2 leads to a decrease of the real part of $\alpha_0^{(3)}$. Since the x dependance of the electromagnetic field in the cavity may be approximated by $H_y(x) = A^+ \exp(ik\alpha_0^{(3)}x) + A^- \exp(-ik\alpha_0^{(3)}x)$, ($k = 2\pi/\lambda$), for a given d -length cavity, the resonance wavelengths can be approximately obtained through a phase condition on the term $A^\pm \sin(2\pi d\alpha_0^{(3)}/\lambda_r)$. When $\alpha_0^{(3)}$ decreases, the resonance wavelength λ_r brought by the strongly coupled sub-system also decreases. Consequently increasing spacer height pushes the resonance wavelengths resulting from the strongly coupling sub-system towards the visible wavelengths range. The same behavior can be observed when the height h_2 is kept constant while increasing the chemical potential μ_c (see Fig. 12(b)). This time it is μ_c that influences the system through

the effective index of the horizontal cavity. Increasing μ_c decreases $\alpha_0^{(3)}$ and thereby leads to a decrease of the resonance wavelengths. By tuning the potential μ_c , one can realize the condition of Eq. (24) leading to an induced reflection phenomenon. For the last point raised, the Lorentz resonance shape of the absorption is provided by the poles of the scattering parameters of the system i.e. when $1 + r_1\phi_1r_{13}r_2\phi_2 \approx 0$ leading to weak values of both reflection and transmission. Besides, the exaltation of the absorption always occurs around frequencies where both reflection and transmission are weak and equal and these frequencies are different from the zeros of the coefficient r_{13} . Therefore in the frequency range far from the resonance frequency of the EOT sub-system, the hybrid structure behaves as a tunable perfect absorber.

Finally, it is worth noticing that the present model works very well for normal incidence and reasonably well for angles of incidence up to twenty degrees. For large angles of incidence, some new resonances appear in the spectra and are not captured by our model.

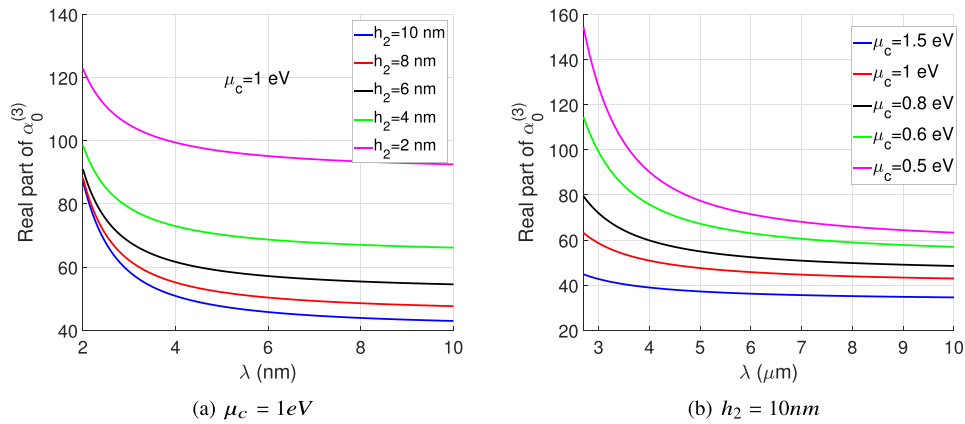


Fig. 12. Dispersion curves of the effective index $\alpha_0^{(3)}$ for different values of h_2 , ($\mu_c = 1\text{eV}$) (Fig. 12(a)) and for different values of μ_c ($h_2 = 10\text{nm}$) (Fig. 12(b)). Increasing the chemical potential μ_c or the spacer width h_2 , the real part of $\alpha_0^{(3)}$ decreases. Parameters: $\varepsilon^2 = 1.54^2$.

5. Conclusion

In conclusion, we have proposed a simple model, allowing to deepen the comprehension of the resonance phenomena involving the EOT phenomenon and a metal/insulator/graphene gap plasmon excitation. We consider a hybrid structure that consists of a 1D array of periodic subwavelength slits ended by a metal/insulator/graphene gap. For our analysis, this hybrid structure is split into two sub-systems. Each sub-system is driven by eigenmodes operating in an appropriate coupling regime. The study of the first sub-system, characterised by modes operating in a weak coupling regime, allows to understand the broadband resonance of the hybrid system. We provided an analytical expression of the reflection and transmission coefficients of this first sub-system. The behavior of the second sub-system, characterized by modes acting in a regime of strong coupling allows to understand the narrow-band nature of the hybrid system. Here, the resonance frequencies directly depend on the metal-insulator-graphene horizontal Perot Fabry cavity effective index. Since the real part of this effective index decreases by increasing the graphene sheet chemical potential, the resonance wavelengths of the system become perfectly tunable; better yet an induced reflection phenomenon or perfect absorption can be achieved with suited values of the graphene sheet Fermi level. We proposed a spectral function allowing not only to characterize the resonance frequencies of this second sub-system, but also showed that introducing this spectral function into the reflection and transmission coefficients of the first

sub-system, we obtain an analytical expression of the reflection and transmission coefficients of the global hybrid system which are successfully compared with those obtained with rigorous numerical simulations (through the PMM approach). Finally, armed with these analytical expressions, we provided a full description of the resonance phenomena occurring in the system. Our analysis in terms of simple modes couplings can be extended to study the coupling of the lattice modes with a substrate made by a non-reciprocal photonic topological materials, of particular interest for energy management and transport [33] and for atomic manipulation [34]. The analysis of such complex hybrid configurations involving diffraction gratings coupled to hybrid graphene multilayer structures could also be applied to study and to estimate more complicated phenomena, like the Casimir effect [35] and the radiative heat transfer [36].

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