Improvement of Upconversion Process using Metamaterial Mirror

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In general, semiconductor opticaldevices can be operated only at specific target wavelength range due to finiteband gap of its composed materials. Upconversion (UC) process is one ofalternative way to use the wasted photons by converting near-infrared (NIR) tovisible. Consequently, UC process extends spectral operation range of device. The NaYF₄ codoped Yb³⁺ and Er³⁺, known asone of best UC materials, absorbs photons around 970 nm and emits lights with660 nm. However, the efficiency of UC process, the NIR absorption and visible emission efficiency, is still low not enough to apply practical devices. In this research, we suggest a nanostructure, called by metamaterial mirror, forimproving the efficiency of the UC process in a layer with a thickness of 100nm. The concentrated electric fields in thin UC layer by the metamaterialmirror increase the light-matter interactions and eventually improving the absorption of NIR (970 nm) light 5.26 times. In addition, surface plasmonpolariton (SPP) modes induced at wall of the grooves enhance the SE rate 106times by Purcell enhancement, showing the enhanced emission of visible light. Finally, a metamaterial mirror that improves UC process efficiency by 558 times can beapplied to optical devices using visible light such as solar cells.