On-chip source of polarized single photons with orbital angular momentum

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To obtain entanglement between orbital angular momentum (OAM) states and polarization states of single photons.

Color centers in nanodiamonds are sources of single photons at room temperature. We couple such singlephoton emitters (SPEs) to surface plasmon polaritons (SPPs) supported on silver surfaces, by spin-coating nanodiamonds dissolved in deionized (DI) water. We further make dielectric Archimedean spiral gratings around the pre-characterized nanodiamonds containing SPEs.

A room-temperature on-chip integrated orbital angular momentum (OAM) source that emits wellcollimated single photons carrying entangled polarization and OAM states is obtained. Two spatially separated entangled radiation channels with different polarization properties are generated. The OAMencoded single photons are generated due to efficient outcoupling of diverging surface plasmon polaritons, excited with a deterministically positioned single-photon emitter, via Archimedean spiral gratings.

Our OAM single-photon source platform bridges the gap between conventional OAM manipulation and nonclassical light sources, enabling high-dimensional and large-scale photonic quantum systems for quantum information processing.

References

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