

Supplement Information

Broadband Slow Light in One – Dimensional Logically Combined Photonic Crystals

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Bloch mode decomposition technique

Here, we will describe the details of the Bloch mode decomposition technique. This technique is used to calculate the Bloch mode expansion coefficient, a_n . [see Figure 2(e)]. The modes of PC1 are Bloch modes. Each of the Bloch mode can be identified with a pair of indices that denote the band index, n , and the wavevector, k . The Bloch mode, $\phi_{n,k}(x)$, of PC1 with frequency $\omega_{n,k}$, satisfy the 1D time – independent Maxwell's equation,

$$\left[\frac{d^2}{dx^2} + \frac{\omega_{n,k}^2}{c^2} \varepsilon_1(x) \right] \phi_{n,k}(x) = 0 \quad [\text{S1}],$$

where $\varepsilon_1(x)$ is the dielectric function of PC1. The Bloch modes of PC1 obey the orthogonalization condition,

$$\frac{1}{a} \int_{-a/2}^{a/2} \phi_{m,k'}^*(x) \varepsilon_1(x) \phi_{n,k}(x) dx = \delta_{mn,kk'} \quad [\text{S2}].$$

Let us expand the electric field, $E(x)$, in the LCPC using the complete set of PC1's Bloch modes:

$$E(x) = \sum_{n,k} a_{n,k} \phi_{n,k}(x) \quad [\text{S3}].$$

This electric field obeys the 1D time – independent Maxwell's equation,

$$\left[\frac{d^2}{dx^2} + \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \varepsilon(x) \right] E(x) = 0 \quad [\text{S4}],$$

where $\varepsilon(x)$ is the dielectric function of the LCPC. Expressing $\varepsilon(x) = \varepsilon_1(x) + \varepsilon_p(x)$, and using Eqns. S1 – S3, we can transform Eqn. S4, into a system of linear equations,

$$\frac{1}{a_s} \sum_{n,k} a_{n,k} \int_{-a_s/2}^{a_s/2} \phi_{m,k'}^*(x) \varepsilon_p(x) \phi_{n,k}(x) dx = \left(\frac{\omega_{m,k'}^2}{\omega^2} - 1 \right) a_{m,k'} \quad [\text{S5}].$$

Writing $\frac{1}{a_s} \int_{-a_s/2}^{a_s/2} \phi_{m,k'}^*(x) \varepsilon_p(x) \phi_{n,k}(x) dx$ as $\langle \phi_{m,k'}^* | \varepsilon_p | \phi_{n,k} \rangle$, and re-arranging Eqn. S5, we arrive

at the following symmetrical eigenvalue problem,

$$\sum_{n,k} \frac{\langle \phi_{m,k'}^* | \varepsilon_p | \phi_{n,k} \rangle + \delta_{mn,kk'}}{\omega_{m,k'} \omega_{n,k}} [a_{n,k} \omega_{n,k}] = \frac{c^2}{\omega^2} a_{m,k'} \omega_{m,k'} \quad [\text{S6}],$$

with the eigenvalues c^2/ω^2 .

Before proceeding, let us examine the term, $\langle \phi_{m,k'}^* | \varepsilon_p | \phi_{n,k} \rangle$, in Eqn. S6. This term describes the coupling of PC1's Bloch mode due to the perturbation, $\varepsilon_p(x)$. Since, the period of $\varepsilon_p(x)$ is equal to $a_s = Ra$, the conservation of the translational symmetry requires $k - k'$ to be multiples of $g = 2\pi/a_s = 2\pi/Ra$. This means, different Bloch modes of PC1 will couple to each other, only if their wavevectors differ by multiples of g . [i.e., $\langle \phi_{m,k'}^* | \varepsilon_p | \phi_{n,k} \rangle \neq 0$, only when $k - k'$ is a multiple of g]. At such, it is useful to consider a folded band structure of PC1 [see the main text for the details]. In the folded band structure, the wavevectors of the adjacent bands differ exactly by g .

For a given wavevector, k , within the first BZ of the LCPC, the Bloch modes in the same folded cannot couple to each other. Only modes with the same k , but in different folded bands can couple. Therefore, for a given k , we can re-write Eqn. S6 using a single index subscript,

$$\sum_n \frac{\langle \phi_m^* | \varepsilon_p | \phi_n \rangle + \delta_{mn}}{\omega_m \omega_n} [a_n \omega_n] = \frac{c^2}{\omega^2} a_m \omega_m \quad [\text{S7}].$$

Here, n is the index of the folded band. Eqn. S7 can be written in a matrix form as $\hat{B}\mathbf{v} = [c^2 / \omega^2]\mathbf{v}$, where $\mathbf{v} = [a_1\omega_1 \quad a_2\omega_2 \quad \dots]^T$. Inverting this matrix equation we have,

$$\hat{B}^{-1}\mathbf{v} = [\omega^2 / c^2]\mathbf{v} \quad [\text{S8}].$$

Solving the eigenvalue problem in Eqn. S8, the expansion coefficients $[a_n]$ can be found. One can also use Eqn. 8 to obtain the band structure of the LCPC. Please take note that, if we express both ϕ_n and ε_p in the plane wave basis (i.e., using a Fourier series), then Eqn. S8 will revert to the standard equations that describes the well-known plane wave expansion technique [17]. However, the information on a_n will be lost in the plane wave basis.