

Towards integrated liquid sensor based on LSPR and SH-SAW devices using 36YX-LiTaO₃ substrate

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1. Introduction

Localized surface plasmon resonance (LSPR) sensor has several advantages such as robust against bulk refractive index changes, vibration or mechanical noise, easy to manufacture, and small size [1,2]. Furthermore, another liquid sensor with excellent performance is the shear-horizontal surface acoustic wave (SH-SAW) sensor. SH-SAW sensor usually developed using piezoelectric material based on the 36YX-LiTaO₃ substrate [3,4].

As an initial stage, to combine LSPR liquid sensor with SH-SAW liquid sensor, we investigated the LSPR sensor using gold nanoparticles (AuNPs) on 36YX-LiTaO₃ substrate, which usually uses glass as a substrate. The effect of the 36YX-LiTaO₃ substrate for the LSPR sensor was investigated based on reflectance performance. Furthermore, Fig 1(a), (b), (c), and (d) show reflectance results of the LSPR sensor with thin-film, without thin-film, and it is reflectance response for ethanol, respectively.

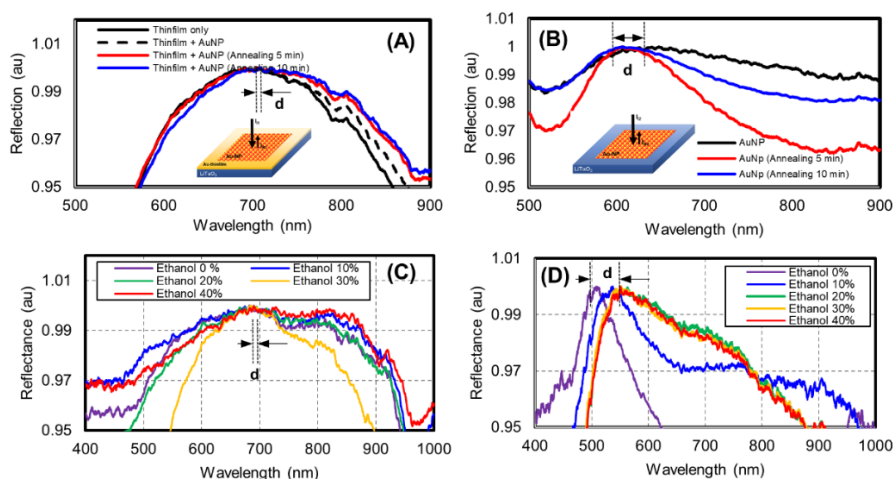


Figure 1. (a) LSPR sensor with thin-film, (b) LSPR sensor without thin-film, reflectance response for ethanol (c) with thin-film, and (d) without thin-film

2. Experimental Procedures and Result

The LSPR was fabricated on a 36YX-LiTaO₃ substrate, as shown in Fig. 1(a) and (b). For the LSPR with thin-film, the AuNP should be deposited on a 36YX-LiTaO₃ two times with different amounts. Furthermore, the optical reflection data response was taken by USB4000 UV-V is spectrophotometer (Ocean Optics, Inc., USA), and data were collected using Op-wave + software. As a result, the LSPR with thin-film generates a low Q factor/broadband spectrum with insignificant shifting, as shown in Fig 1(c). In contrast, the LSPR sensor with good Q factor and high sensitivity/shifting was successfully developed using the 36YX-LiTaO₃ substrate without thin-film, as shown in Fig 1(d). In future work, we will develop and investigate the interdigital transducer (IDT) to this structure. Therefore the integrated liquid sensor based on LSPR and SH-SAW will be fully implemented.

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