
Formation specifics and properties of gold particle thin films and arrays deposited on the surface of opal films

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We present a technology for depositing thin films and regular arrays of gold nanoparticles on the surface of opal films. We supply the results of studying the relief parameters in the samples of the resulting structures using a spectrophotometer, an atomic-force microscope and a Raman spectrometer. We determine that by varying the time of depositing the gold it is possible to form on the opal surface either nanometre-scale particle arrays or a continuous gold film following the relief of the opal matrix. We found out that the particle arrays formed have plasmonic structure properties, demonstrating effects of amplifying surface enhanced Raman scattering. The results presented may aid in developing a technology for forming various layered structures and particle systems on the surface of opal matrices, for instance, in manufacturing photonics devices, gas sensor detectors, substrates amplifying surface enhanced Raman scattering, and emission devices.

Keywords: opal, opal matrix, thin films, nanoparticle arrays, plasmonic nanostructures, physical vapour deposition

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