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Spatio-temporal dynamics of plasmons on a metal cone ALEJAN-DRO RODRIGUEZ PEREZ, JOONHEE LEE, SHAWN M. PERDUE, V. ARA AP-KARIAN, Department of Chemistry, University of California, Irvine — Localized surface plasmons (LSP) and propagating plasmon modes (PPM) field emit at the singularity of the metallic tip apex upon ultrafast optical excitation. Interferometric measurements, using frequency modulation-demodulation techniques, allow the characterization of the time profile of the optical field emission and the space-time profile of the propagating modes. A pump pulse launches a plasmon that oscillates on the cone and coherently interferes with a time-delayed probe pulse which is cross-polarized with respect to the pump. We present a simple model that accurately describes the experimental results. However, the observations of trapped propagating modes, their lifetime, and their polarization are not predicted by current theories, which describe tip-plasmons as strictly transverse magnetic modes.

Joonhee Lee Department of Chemistry, University of California, Irvine

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