

# Contents

---

<b>1. Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1.1 State of the art and motivation</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1.1 Polymer optical fibers	1
1.1.2 Polymer fiber gratings	4
1.2 Objectives	6
1.3 Structure of the thesis	7
1.4 References	8
<b>2. Optimization of fabrication process</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>2.1 Bragg gratings inscription in POF with a single pulse</b>	<b>13</b>
2.1.1 Introduction	13
2.1.2 Experimental setup	14
2.1.3 Results and discussion	15
2.1.4 Conclusion	18
<b>2.2 Bragg gratings inscription in POFs made of different materials</b>	<b>19</b>
2.2.1 Introduction	19
2.2.2 Experimental results	20
2.2.3 Results and discussion	22
2.2.4 Conclusion	25
<b>2.3 Bragg gratings inscription in TS doped PMMA POF</b>	<b>27</b>
2.3.1 Introduction	27
2.3.2 Bragg grating fabrication	27
2.3.3 Bragg grating performance	30
2.3.4 Conclusion	32
<b>2.4 Bragg grating inscription with low pulse energy in doped mPOF</b>	<b>33</b>
2.4.1 Introduction	33
2.4.2 Bragg grating fabrication	34
2.4.3 Conclusion	38

2.5 Bragg grating inscription in CYTOP POF .....	39
2.5.1 Introduction .....	39
2.5.2 Bragg grating fabrication .....	40
2.5.3 Temperature and strain characterization .....	41
2.5.4 Discussion and Conclusion .....	43
2.6 References .....	44
<b>3. Fabrication of different types of gratings .....</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>3.1 Moiré phase-shifted fiber Bragg gratings .....</b>	<b>49</b>
3.1.1 Introduction .....	49
3.1.2 Phase-shifted Moiré FBG fabrication .....	50
3.1.3 Strain and temperature characterization .....	52
3.1.4 Conclusion .....	53
<b>3.2 Tunable chirped mPOF Bragg gratings .....</b>	<b>55</b>
3.2.1 Introduction .....	55
3.2.2 Basics of chirped Bragg grating using tapered fibers .....	55
3.2.3 Experimental chirped fiber Bragg grating with etched technology .....	56
3.2.4 Strain and temperature response of chirped fiber Bragg grating .....	59
3.2.5 Conclusion .....	62
<b>3.3 Hot water-assisted fabrication of Chirped mPOF Bragg grating .....</b>	<b>64</b>
3.3.1 Introduction .....	64
3.3.2 Polymer optical fiber Bragg grating fabrication .....	65
3.3.3 Gradient thermal annealing .....	65
3.3.4 Characterization of POF chirped FBG .....	69
3.3.5 Conclusion .....	71
<b>3.4 Long period gratings .....</b>	<b>72</b>
3.4.1 Introduction .....	72
3.4.2 Long period grating fabrication .....	72
3.4.3 Strain and temperature characterization .....	75
3.4.4 Conclusion .....	78
<b>3.5 References .....</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>4. Novel applications of polymer fiber gratings .....</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>4.1 Strain sensing .....</b>	<b>85</b>

4.1.1 Introduction .....	85
4.1.2 Strain response .....	86
4.1.3 Temperature response .....	87
4.1.4 Humidity response .....	89
4.1.5 Conclusion .....	91
4.2 Thermal profile detection .....	92
4.2.1 Introduction .....	92
4.2.2 mPOF CFBG inscription and interrogation .....	93
4.2.3 Experiment .....	96
4.2.4 Conclusion .....	100
4.3 Dispersion compensation .....	101
4.3.1 Introduction .....	101
4.3.2 Grating device fabrication .....	101
4.3.3 Dispersion measurement .....	102
4.3.4 Conclusion .....	105
4.4 References .....	106
<b>5. General discussion of the results .....</b>	<b>111</b>
5.1 Gratings fabrication .....	111
5.2 Different types of gratings .....	111
5.3 Gratings applications .....	113
5.4 References .....	115
<b>6. Conclusions and future research lines .....</b>	<b>117</b>
6.1 Conclusions .....	117
6.1.1 Gratings fabrication .....	117
6.1.2 Devices and applications .....	118
6.2 Future research lines .....	119
<b>Annex: List of publications .....</b>	<b>120</b>
A.1 Journal publications included in the compendium .....	120
A.2 Journal and conference publications related but not included .....	121