Contents

Introduction and objectives 1

1 Fundamentals of metamaterials 5
  1.1 Metamaterials as effective media ............... 7
  1.2 Artificial dielectrics .......................... 14
  1.3 Artificial magnetism ............................ 16

2 Negative index media 19
  2.1 Properties of negative index media ............ 22
  2.2 Applications .................................. 24
  2.3 Surface plasmon polaritons and extraordinary transmission ........................................... 28
  2.4 Our contribution (I): Towards low-loss NIMs in the visible ........................................... 31
  2.5 PAPER1. Negative refractive index metamaterials aided by extraordinary optical transmission . . 33
  2.6 PAPER2. Double-negative polarization-independent fishnet metamaterial in the visible spectrum . . 35
  2.7 PAPER3. Low-Loss multilayered metamaterial exhibiting a negative index of refraction at visible wavelengths .................................................. 37
  2.8 PAPER4. Dual-band double-negative-index fishnet metamaterial at millimeter-waves .............. 39
  2.9 Our contribution (II): Strong magnetism at visible frequencies and optical security ................ 41
  2.10 PAPER5. Low-loss single-layer metamaterial with negative index of refraction at visible wavelengths ................................. 43
  2.11 PAPER6. Metamaterials for optical security .......................... 45

3 Transformation optics 47
  3.1 Fundamentals ................................. 48
3.2 Examples of transformation-optics-based devices  51
3.3 Transmutation of singularities: optimizing the constitutive parameters (our contribution)  57
3.4 Reflectionless light squeezers and expanders and their applications (our contribution)  61
3.5 PAPER9. Exciting surface plasmons with transformation media  77
3.6 Quasi-conformal mappings  79
3.7 PAPER10. Engineering antenna radiation patterns via quasi-conformal mappings  87

4 General discussion of results and conclusions  89
4.1 Negative index media  89
4.2 Transformation optics  91

Bibliography  93