


Personal Information

Full name	Ritesh Agarwal	
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Organization	University of Pennsylvania	
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Short Biography

Ritesh Agarwal is a Professor in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering at the University of Pennsylvania. He earned his undergraduate degree from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur in 1996, and a master's degree from the University of Chicago. He received his PhD in physical chemistry from University of California at Berkeley in 2001 researching liquid and protein solvation and photosynthesis via nonlinear optical techniques. After completing his PhD., Ritesh was a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard where he studied the photonic properties of semiconductor nanowires. His current research interests include structural, chemical, optical and electronic properties of low-dimensional systems. Some of his key research accomplishments include nanowire injection lasers (Nature, 2003), nanowire phase change memory (Nature Nano, 2007; Science, 2012, Nature Communications, 2016), large Purcell enhancements in plasmonic nanocavities (Nature Materials, 2011; Nature Photonics, 2013), all optical switching in nanowires (Nature Nano, 2012), photon spin dependent photocurrents in Silicon (Science, 2015), and optics of 2D excitonic materials (Nature Comm, 2015; Nano Letters, 2016). Ritesh is the recipient of the NSF CAREER award in 2007, NIH Director's New Innovator Award in 2010 and the SPIE Nanoengineering Pioneer Award in 2014.