3. Conclusion

In conclusion, we have demonstrated the efficient conversion of long (>300ps) short-wave infrared pulses in a two-stage wavelength converter / amplifier with over 30 dB net on-chip conversion efficiency. The setup consists of a compact silicon waveguide and standard pure silica PCF as well as small and low-cost sources used for generating the pump for the silicon waveguide converter/amplifier stage. Through further dispersion engineering of the silicon waveguide [14], the continuous wave optical parametric oscillator that was used in this proof-of-principle experiment could be replaced by cheap near-infrared laser sources allowing downconversion further into the mid-infrared.

We believe our results highlight the potential of combining silica fiber and silicon waveguides for nonlinear optics using pump sources around 2.3 um where the low linear losses of the silica PCF and the low nonlinear losses of the silicon waveguide allow for efficient four-wave mixing.

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