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Artist’s rendering of the film-nanoparticle plasmonic system. Spherical gold nanoparticles are coupled to a gold film substrate by means of an ultrathin layer that prevents the particles from directly touching the film. Electromagnetic ultrahot spots are excited in the gaps. The system enables the exploration of light interactions occurring on a scale of a few tenths of a nanometer, the diameter of a typical atom. See page 1072.

Image: Sebastian Nicosia and Cristian Ciraci

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