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# High Speed Visible Light Communication in Real-time

#### Fahim Nawabi



Fraunhofer Heinrich Hertz Institute, Einsteinufer 37, 10587 Berlin

www.hhi.fraunhofer.de

# Fraunhofer: Europe 's Leader in Applied Research

- 60 Institutes plus research institutions, working groups, branch labs and application center at 40 locations
- 20,000 staff
- Total budget: 2 billion €
- Approx. 80% raised through contract research





# Fraunhofer: Europe's Leader in Applied Research Research Areas

- Information and Communication Technology
- Life Sciences
- Microelectronics
- Surface Technology and Photonics
- Production
- Materials and Components
- Defense and Security





# Outline

Photonic Networks and Systems

- Classification of Optical Wireless
- Field of Applications
- Application Directions
- Current Projects
- Market Situation



# **Classification by Optical Frontend**

Photonic Networks and Systems





## **Attractive Application Fields**

#### Photonic Networks and Systems



IT Security



Hospitals (RF-sensitive)



Private Households



Underwater Communications



Mechanical Engineering



Tradeshows, Museums



Advertising, Messaging



In-flight Entertainment

## **Application Directions**

Photonic Networks and Systems



# **Point-to-Point Bidirectional VLC-Link**

#### Photonic Networks and Systems

#### Bidirectional link

- Light Source: any high-power LED (arbitrary color)
- Data rates: up to 1 Gbit/s
- I/O: Ethernet RJ45







# **Current Projects: SODALES/XHAUL**

#### Photonic Networks and Systems

- Low cost optical wireless link for the backhaul of Wi-Fi and LTE
  - Bidirectional data exchange
  - Improved link robustness due to rate adaptation
  - Very high availability at short distances
  - No active tracking needed
  - 500 Mbit/s @ 100 m







# **Current Peojects: Island of Mainau**

#### Photonic Networks and Systems

#### Conference room with Li-Fi

- Multiple access points
- Bidirectional optical wireless LAN
- Compatible with light dimming





- Phase 1: Optical wireless hotspots
- Phase 2: Multiuser multi-cell





# **Current Projects: OWICELLS**

Photonic Networks and Systems

#### Optical wireless field in industry

 M2M Communication with very high-speed (1 Gbs) and low latency (<1ms)</li>









#### Combining light and communications promises a future mass market

- But there is a long way to go
- Low-speed applications (indoor navigation, messaging) will appear first
- High-speed applications will probably follow

#### Next steps for high speed

- Reduced form factor
- Smaller analog driver, reduced energy consumption for battery-powered uplink
- Bidirectional multi-user and multi-cell capabilities, low latency
- IEEE 802.15.7r1 standard aims to support these new features



## New optical wireless standard

- Optical Camera Communications (OCC) for low speed
  - Using cameras in handsets or specific cameras in cars
  - Low-speed communications with angular resolution (via pixels)
  - High-density scenarios (e.g. traffic jam), localization using data base
- Many world records show potential for very high speed
  - Up to 5 Gb/s short distance so far using RGBY LEDs
  - Several 100 Mb/s single color in wide beams at 2-3 m distance
  - Short-range mobile scenarios

#### IEEE 802.15.7r1 standardisation is ongoing

- Efficient use of the available optical bandwidth
- High data rates (1 Mbit/s to 10 Gbit/s)
- Enhanced mobility support by adaptive transmission, handover, localization
- Call for Proposals was recently published





• Intent for proposal due Nov. 1, 2015, proposal due on Jan, 10



## Conclusions

- Combining light and communications promises a future mass market
  - New wireless technology, complementary besides radio
- R&D focus in HHI is on high-speed concepts in real-time
  - I Gbit/s per wavelength with only 2 ms latency was recently demonstrated
  - Future applications: Wireless backhaul, conference rooms, manufacturing
  - HHI actively supports the ongoing IEEE 802.15.7r1 standardization





#### Thank you very much for your attention.

### I am looking forward to answer your questions!

fahim.nawabi@hhi.fraunhofer.de

http://www.hhi.fraunhofer.de/vlc

