

Optical Communication Systems (E012420)

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)
 Credits 6.0 Study time 180 h Contact hrs 60.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2017-2018

Offering	Language	Teaching Method	Hours
A (semester 2)	English	lecture	30.0 h
		seminar: coached	15.0 h
		exercises	
		practicum	15.0 h
B (semester 2)	Dutch	guided self-study	30.0 h
		seminar: coached	15.0 h
		exercises	
		practicum	15.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2017-2018

Morthier, Geert	TW05	lecturer-in-charge
Van Erps, Jurgen	VUB	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2017-2018

Programme	crdts	offering
Bridging Programme European Master of Science in Photonics	6	A
Bridging Programme Master of Science in Photonics Engineering	6	A
Master of Science in Electrical Engineering (main subject Communication and Information Technology)	6	A
Master of Science in Electrical Engineering (main subject Electronic Circuits and Systems)	6	A
Master of Science in Electrical Engineering	6	B
European Master of Science in Photonics	6	A
Master of Science in Photonics Engineering	6	B

Teaching languages

Dutch, English

Keywords

optical fibre, communication links

Position of the course

To acquire an understanding of the physical layer aspects of optical communication. To get to know the main components and understand their operation. To be able to take into account the component properties in the derivation of the system performance. Understanding of physical layer aspects of optical networks.

Contents

- Optical communication systems: introduction: Historical perspective, Basic concepts, Introduction to noise
- Optical fibers: Geometry, fabrication and wave propagation, Dispersion and losses, Non-linear effects
- Optical transmitters: Basic concepts, LEDs, Semiconductor lasers, Noise and dynamics
- Optical receivers: Photo detectors, Receiver noise, BER and receiver sensitivity
- Optical amplifiers: Basic concepts, Semiconductor optical amplifiers, Raman and Doped Fiber Amplifiers, Noise of optical amplifiers
- Introduction to communication systems: Architectures and limiting factors
- Dispersion management: Pre- and post compensation, Dispersion compensation
- Multi channel systems: Modulation and multiplexing, WDM systems, WDM

- components, TDM (optical)
- Introduction to access networks: Overview
- Introduction to solitons
- Introduction to coherent communication

Initial competences

Electromagnetism, photonics

Final competences

- 1 Knowing and understanding the main components and system concepts that are used in optical communication.
- 2 Being able to calculate signal to noise ratios for optical links.
- 3 Being able to design simple optical communication links.
- 4 Being able to use CAD tools for designing optical communication links.
- 5 Having acquired measurements skills with respect to optical communication.
- 6 Interpreting the datasheets of the most common optical communication components.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Guided self-study, lecture, practicum, seminar: coached exercises

Learning materials and price

"Fiber-Optic Communication Systems" van G. P. Agrawal, Wiley series in Microwave and Optical Engineering, 2002, 3rd edition (ISBN 0-471-21571-6).

References

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Course content-related study coaching

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Written examination, open book examination, oral examination

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Open book examination

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Skills test

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

During examination period: written open-book exam complemented with oral examination. During semester: graded lab sessions. Frequency: 3 weeks.

Calculation of the examination mark