Lab 5: Visible Light Data Communication

SUMMER CHALLENGE COURSE SMART LIGHTING

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Optical Modulation:

Intensity-Modulation (IM) and Direct-Detection (DD)









Ambient light: refers to sources of light that are already available naturally (e.g. the sun) or artificial (e.g. to light a room).



Free Space Optical Communication

Air, outer space, vacuum, …

- Alternatives:
 - Optical fiber, transmission line
- Check out "heliograph" (wiki)







LED Bias











Visible Light Spectrum, Spectrum Analyzer

- Simple spectrometer:
 - Using a CD
- Spectrum analyzer:
 - Magnitude vs. frequency
 - What frequencies can you transmit well in your VLC setup?
 - Power, gain?
 Gain = 10 log (Pout/Pin) dB



