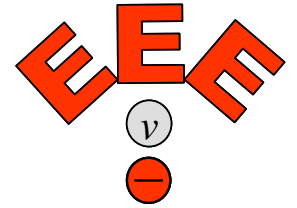




UCC

Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh, Éire
University College Cork, Ireland



Smart Indoor Optical Wireless - A Review

By
Nabeel A. Riza

School of Engineering
University College Cork (UCC), Ireland
Email: n.riza@ucc.ie <http://soe.ucc.ie>

Optical Wireless is also called :

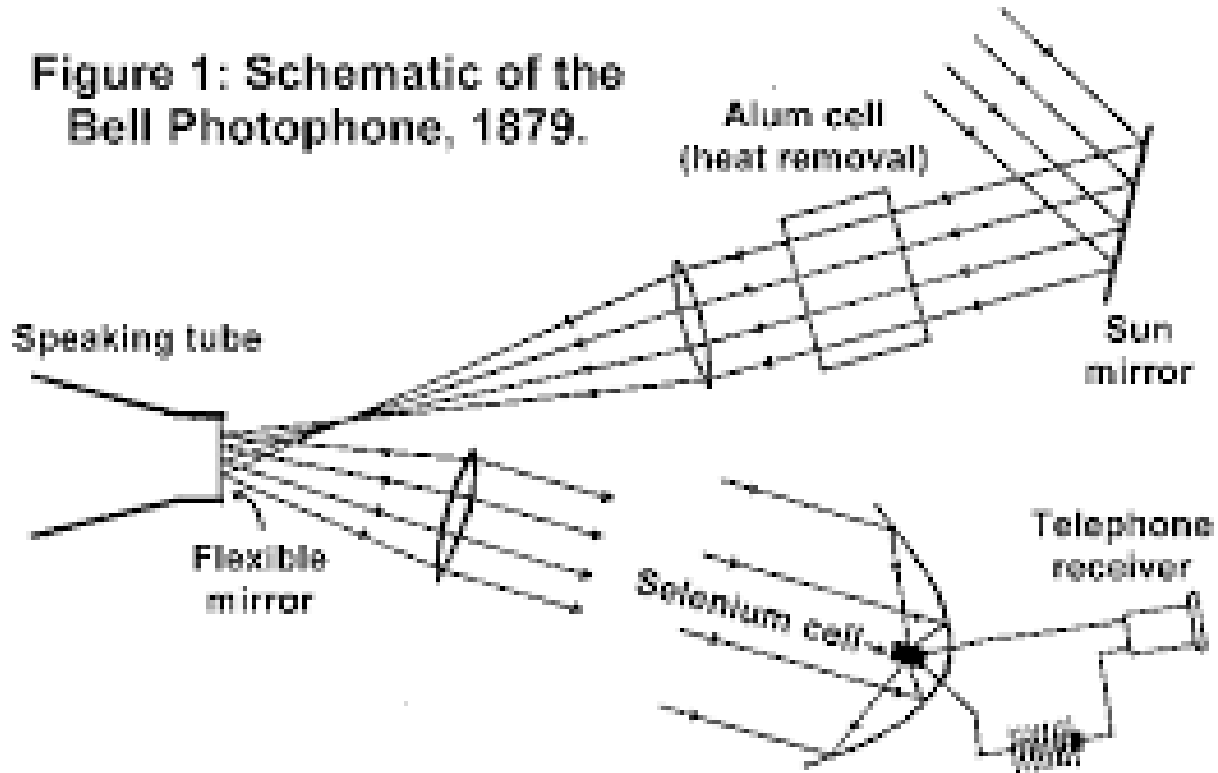
- **Free-space Optical (FSO) Communications (FSOC)**
- **Li-Fi**

1879: Earliest Optical Wireless

“The Photophone”

Alexander Graham Bell Invention Over
Over 130 Years Ago

Figure 1: Schematic of the
Bell Photophone, 1879.



Indoor Wireless: Optical versus RF

The Good News

Optical Wireless

- Large Bandwidth (Very High Carrier Frequency)
- Secure (Highly Directional)
- EMI Resistant
- Spectrum is License Free

RF Wireless

- Large Coverage Area
- Robust to Blocking

**Decision of Preferred Wireless Technology
is Application Dependent.**

Indoor Wireless: Optical versus RF

The Bad News

Optical Wireless

- Prone to Physical Blocking
- Poor Use of Limited Optical Energy
- Limited Link Range
- Requires Optically Clear Aperture for Light-to-Electrical Photo-Detection

RF Wireless

- EMI Sensitive
- Spectrum Licensing is Country Regulated
- Directionally Insecure Communication (so Easy to Eavesdrop)

1978: Early Indoor Optical Wireless History

1978 (IR LED –Diffused Light)

Diffused Infrared (DFIR) Optical Wireless

- F. R. Gfeller, H. R. Müller, and P. Vettiger, IEEE COMPCON 1978.
- F. Gfeller & U. Bapst, Proc. IEEE, 1979.

Robust to Blocking BUT Highly Energy Inefficient

1985 (IR Laser – LOS Light)

Line-of-Sight (LOS) infrared called

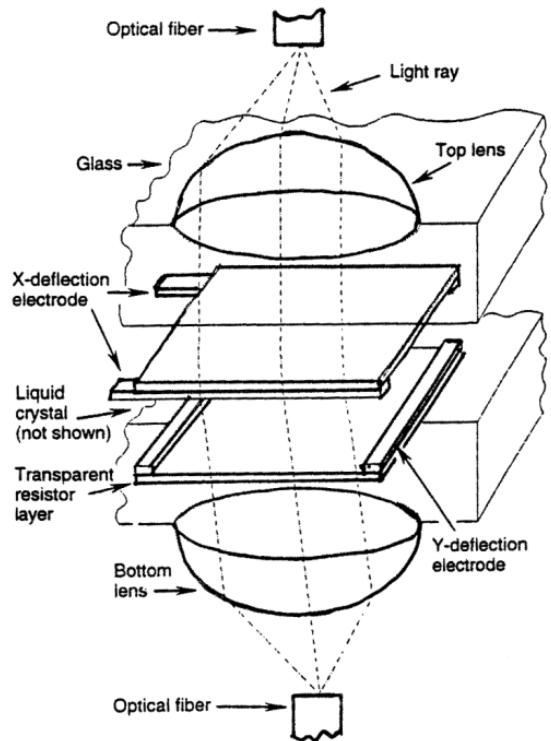
Directed Beam IR (DBIR) Optical Wireless

- C.S. Yen and R.D. Crawford, Proceeding of Globecom 1985.
- Y. Nakata, J. Kashio, T. Kojima, and T. Noguchi, Proc. of the Seventh International Conference on Computer Communications, 1985.

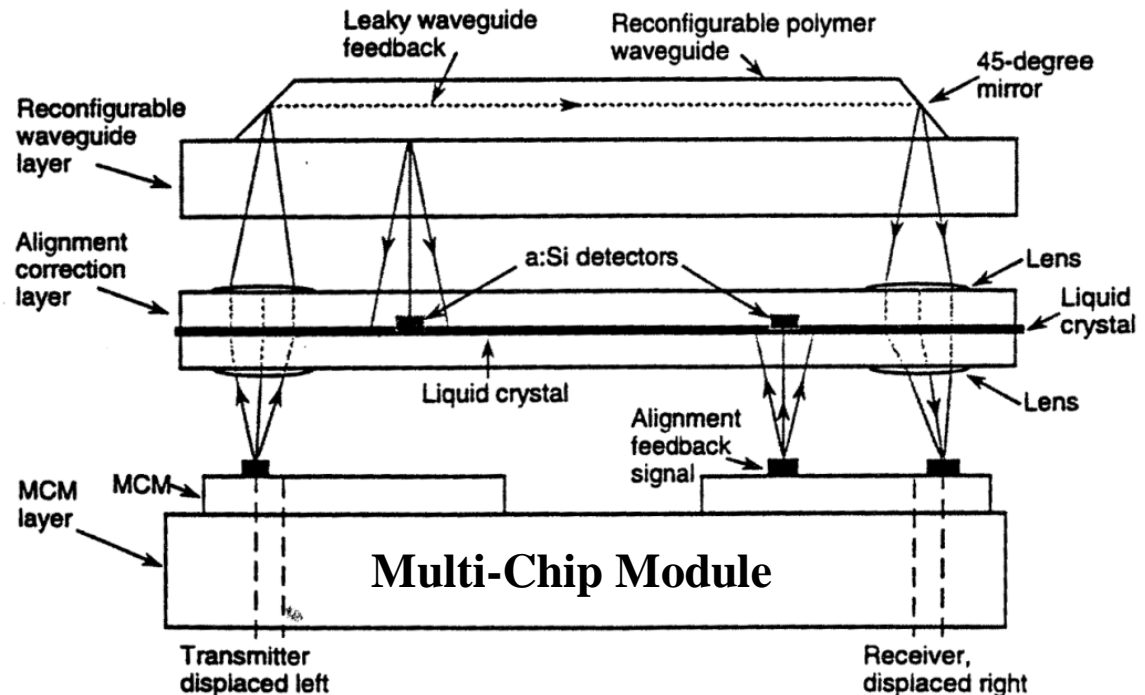
**Much Better Energy Efficiency BUT Highly Prone to Blocking
& Alignment Issues**

1994: First Use of Electronic Lens in Short Range Optical Wireless

Uses Electronic Lens for SMF-Freespace-SMF & TX-Freespace-RX Interconnects To Enable Robust Alignments for Low Loss Links



SMF-Freespace-SMF



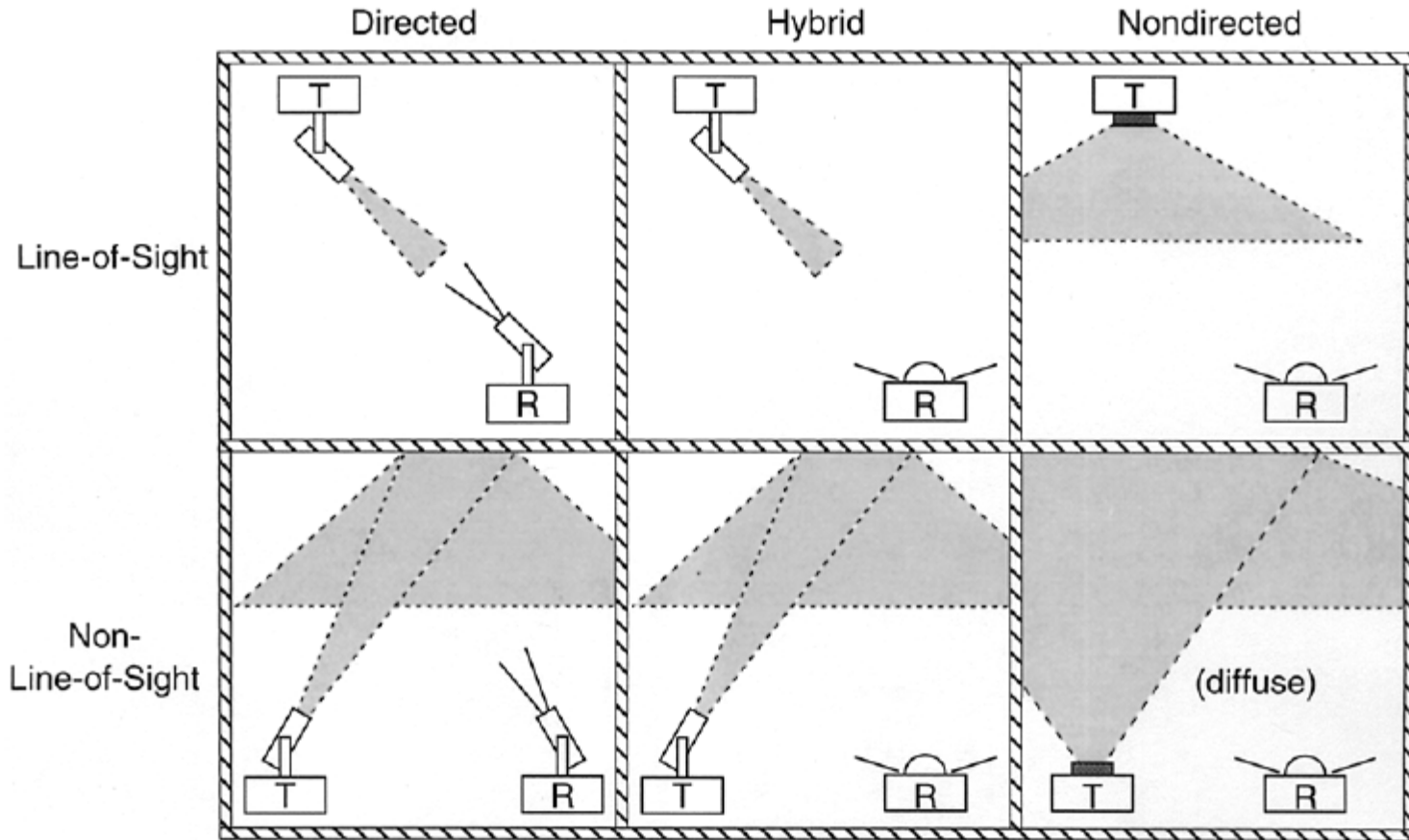
TX-Freespace-RX

N. A. Riza and M. C. DeJule, "A novel programmable liquid crystal lens device for adaptive optical interconnect and beamforming applications," Proceedings International Conference on Optical Computing, Edinburgh, Scotland, 22-25 August 1994.

N. A. Riza and S. Yuan, "Demonstration of a liquid-crystal adaptive alignment tweeker for high-speed infrared band fiber-fed free-space systems," SPIE Optical Engineering Journal, vol. 37, no. 6, pp. 1876-1880, 1998.

A 1997 Classification Study of Infrared (Laser & LED: 850 -1550 nm)

Optical Wireless Links Classified on Degree of Directionality of Transmitter & Receiver and Whether LOS or Non-LOS Diffused Light Link is used



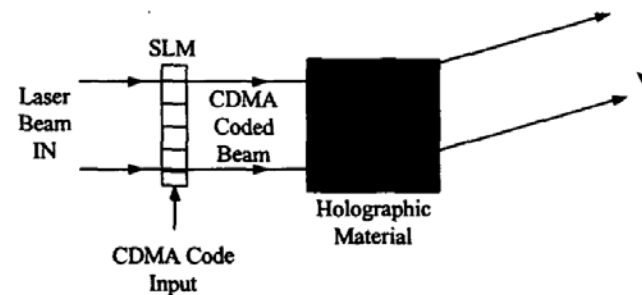
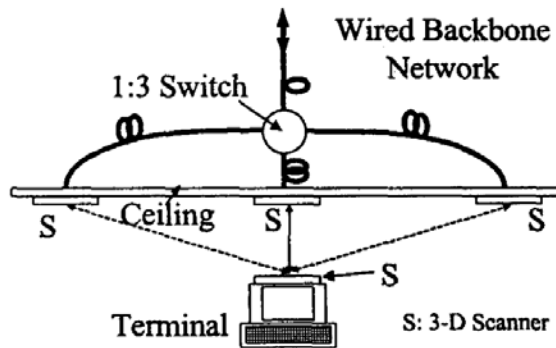
Hybrid Option 1: LOS with Directional Transmitter and Non-Directional Receiver

Hybrid Option 2: Non-LOS with Directional Transmitter and Non-Directional Receiver

1999: A New* Hybrid Indoor Wireless Method

Called Hybrid Diffused-LOS Optical Wireless Method

Uses Spatially Agile LOS Beams via Use of 3-D Optical Scanner
In Effect: DFIR+DBIR



Prevents Beam Blocking and Still Delivers High Data Rate LOS Links by:

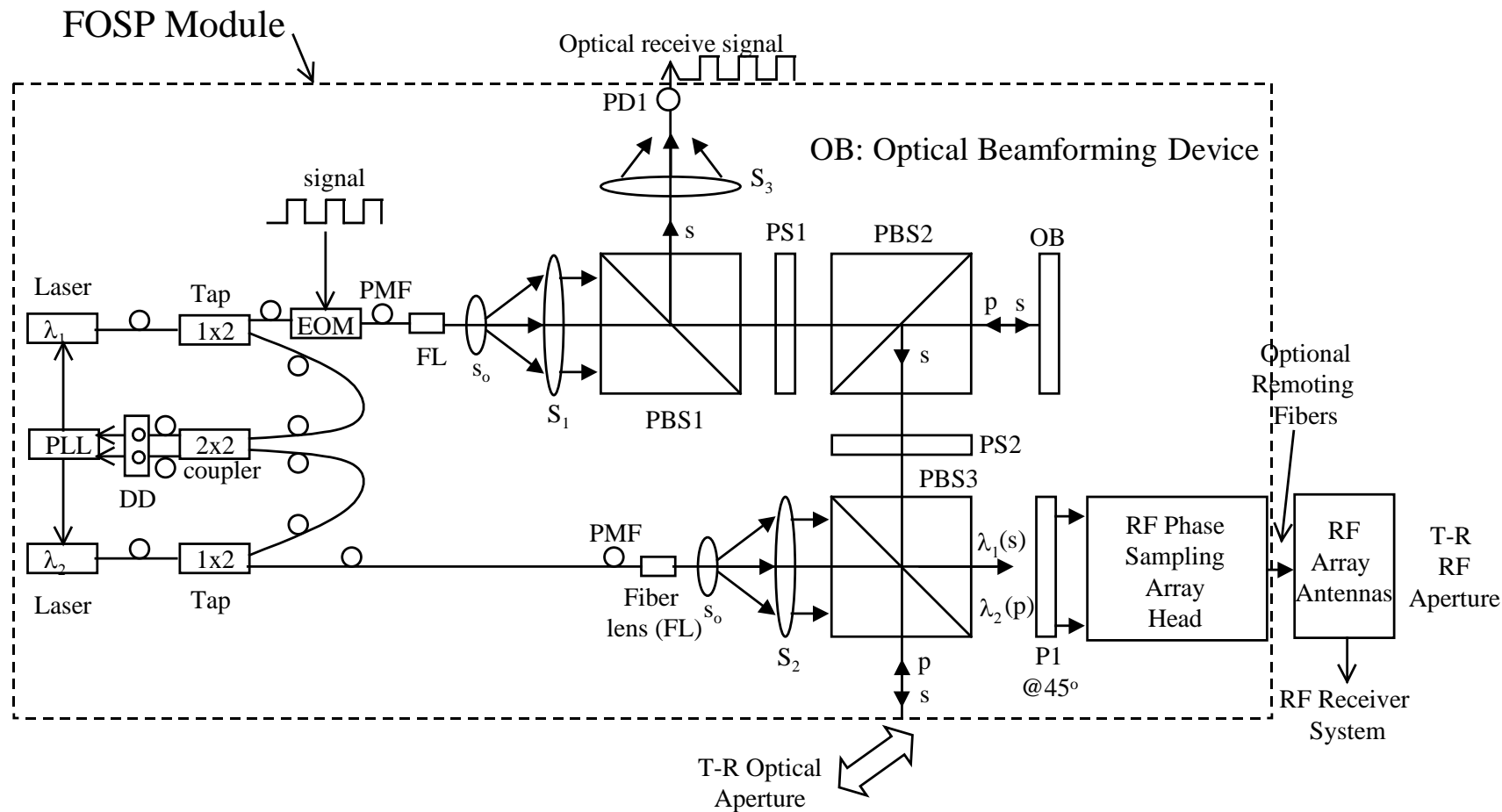
- Use of Scanned/Switched LOS Beams from Multiple Transmitters
- Use of 3D Beamforming to Create Multiple Simultaneous LOS Beams – 3-D scan is in 1-D, 2-D, or 3-D spatial directions using a variety of scanning methods

* N. A. Riza technique is Not the Hybrid Classification ([Narrow TX & Wide RX](#)) of the Kahn & Barry, IEEE Proc. 1997.

N.A. Riza, "Reconfigurable optical wireless," IEEE *Lasers and Electro- Optics Society 1999 12th Annual Meeting Proc.*, 1999.

N. A. Riza technique called Hybrid Diffused-LOS Method in paper by A. Mahdy and J. S. Deogun, IEEE Wireless Comm. and Networking Conf. 2004.

2001: * A New Flexible Agile Optical-RF Wireless T/R Aperture

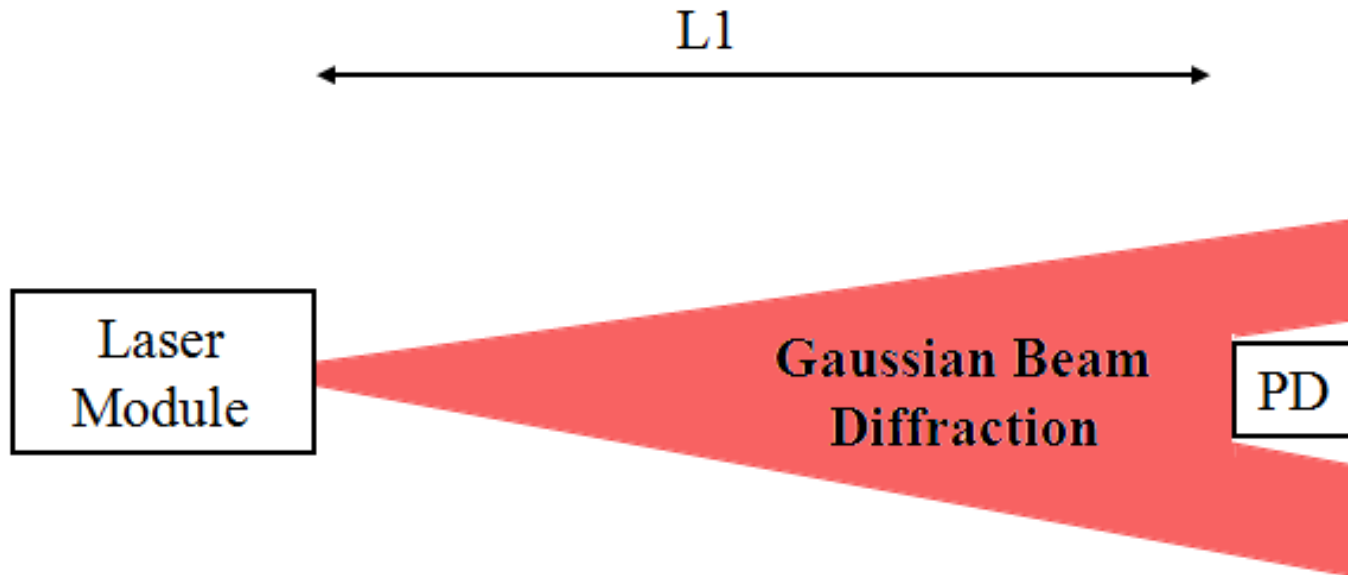


* N.A. Riza, US SBIR Proposal and Award on joint RF-EO Antenna System, 2001.

- N. A. Riza, "Flexible Agile Hybrid Optical-RF Antenna System for Communications and Radar," 19th IEEE International Conference on Microwaves, Radar & Wireless Communications, Warsaw, Poland, May 23, 2012.

Non-Smart Laser Optical Wireless Link

Unconditioned Laser Beam

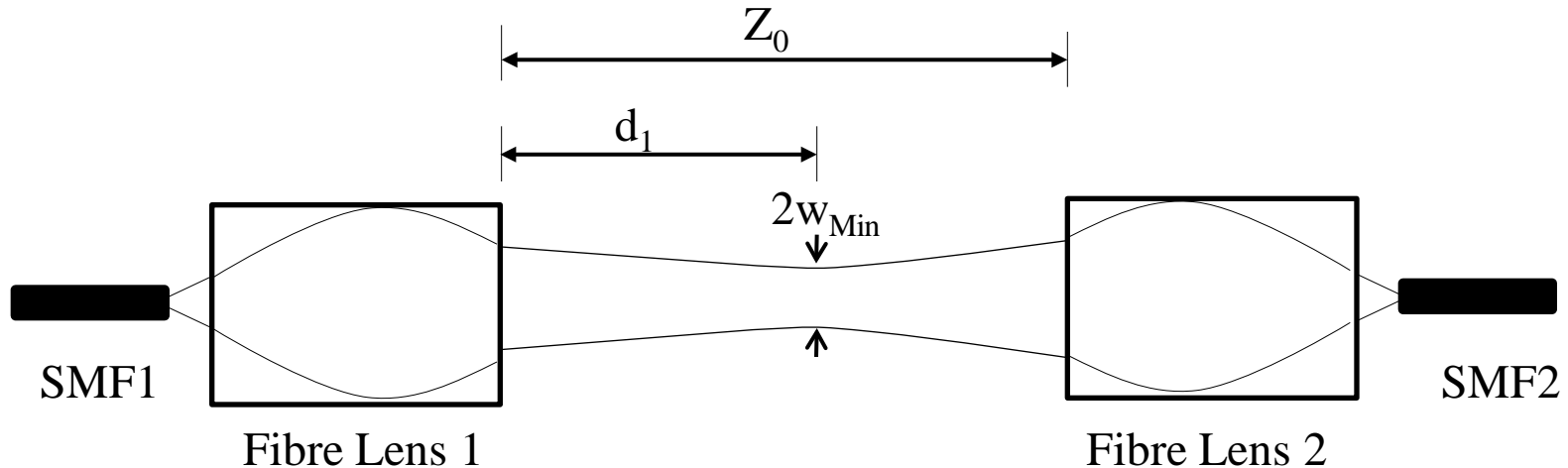


**Lots of Optical Power Wasted
& Increasing Loss with Increasing Link Range**

2003: The Energy Efficient Short Range (< 13 cm) Optical Wireless Link

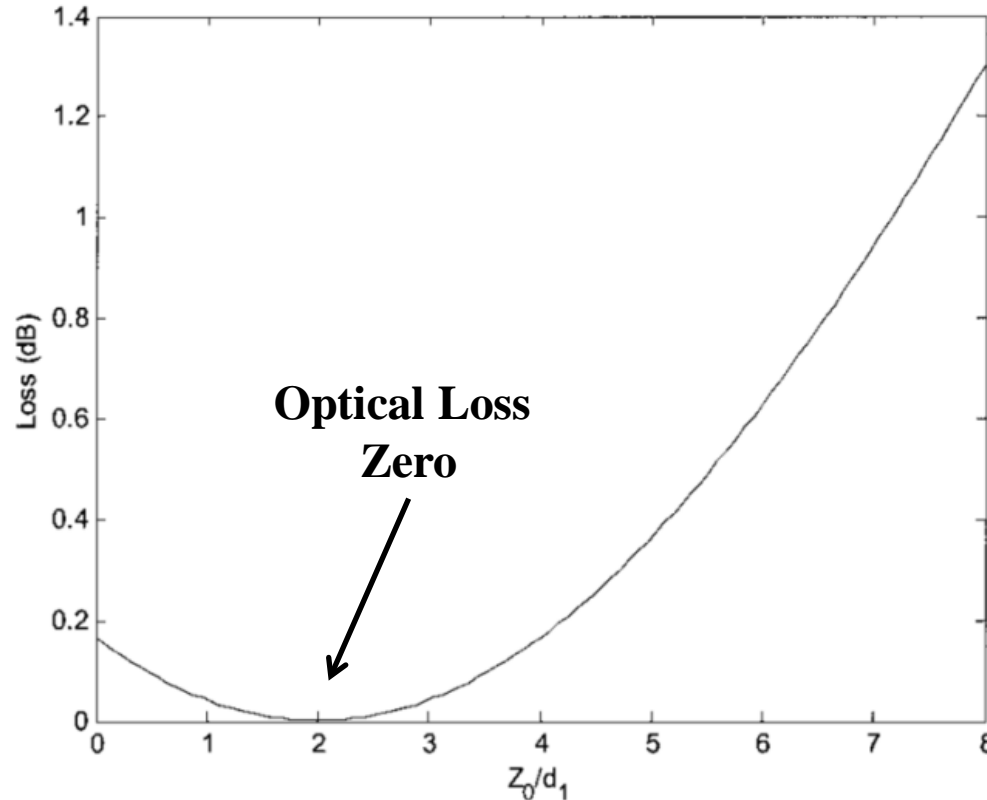
Free Space Optical Communications

The Problem: Optical Link Loss due to Laser Beam Propagation Increases as Square of Link Distance, Causing Significant Loss – e.g., Reduces Data Rate, Increases Link Cost, Size, Weight.



Demonstrated Zero Link Beam Propagation Loss via Self-Imaging Fiber Lenses For Short Range SMF-Freespace-SMF Link

2003: The Energy Efficient Short Range Optical Wireless Link (<13 cm)

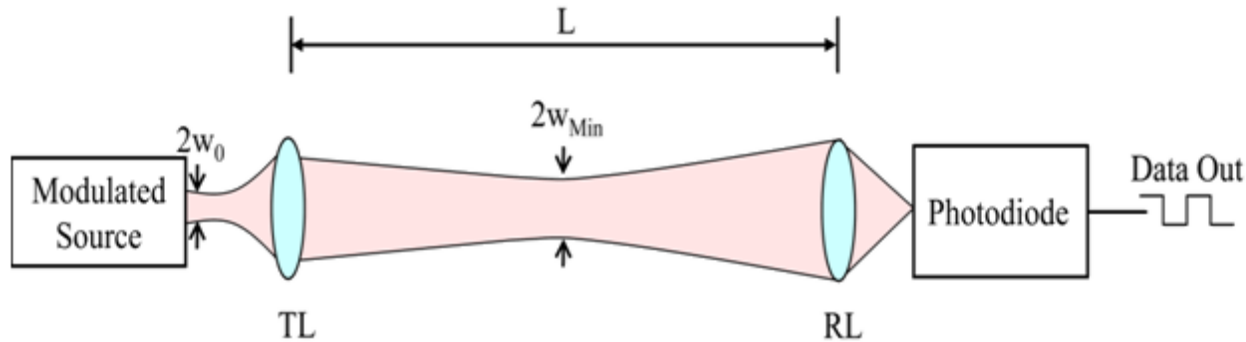


**Demonstrated Zero Link Beam Propagation Loss via Self-Imaging Fibre Lenses
For Short Range SMF-Freespace-SMF Link**

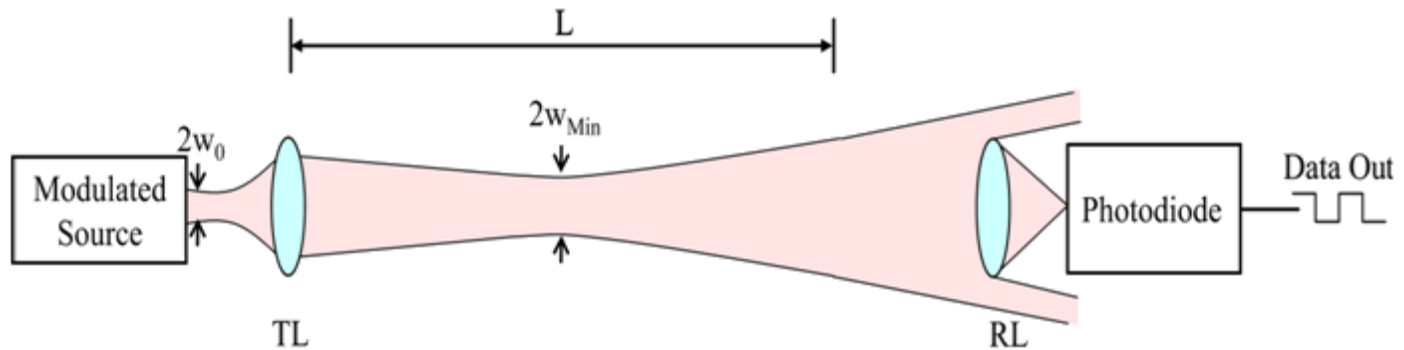
Non-Smart Efficient Link (Fixed Range)

Free Space Optical Communications

**In Range
Efficient Link**

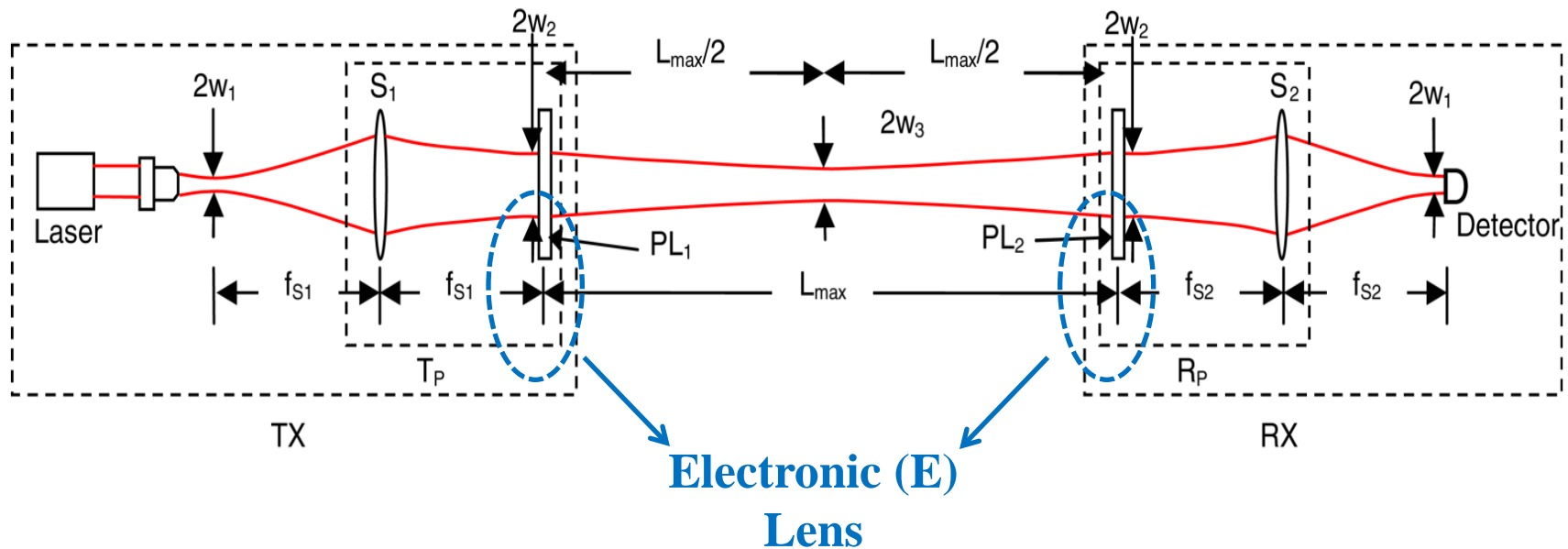


**Out of Range
Non-Efficient
Link**



Lots of Optical Power Wasted when Not in Range

Low Loss Laser Communications using E-Lens



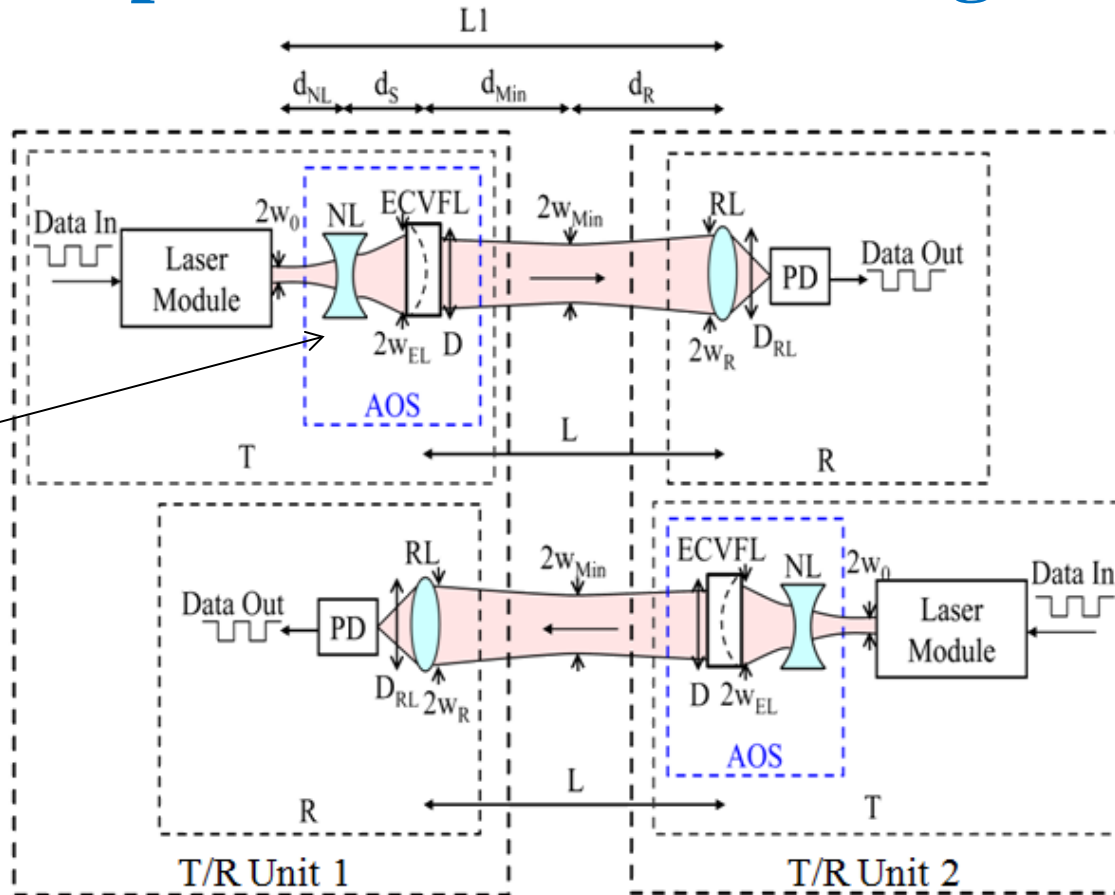
Ability to Adapt for Changing Link Length

Major Reduction in Propagation Loss for Indoor and Space Based Links

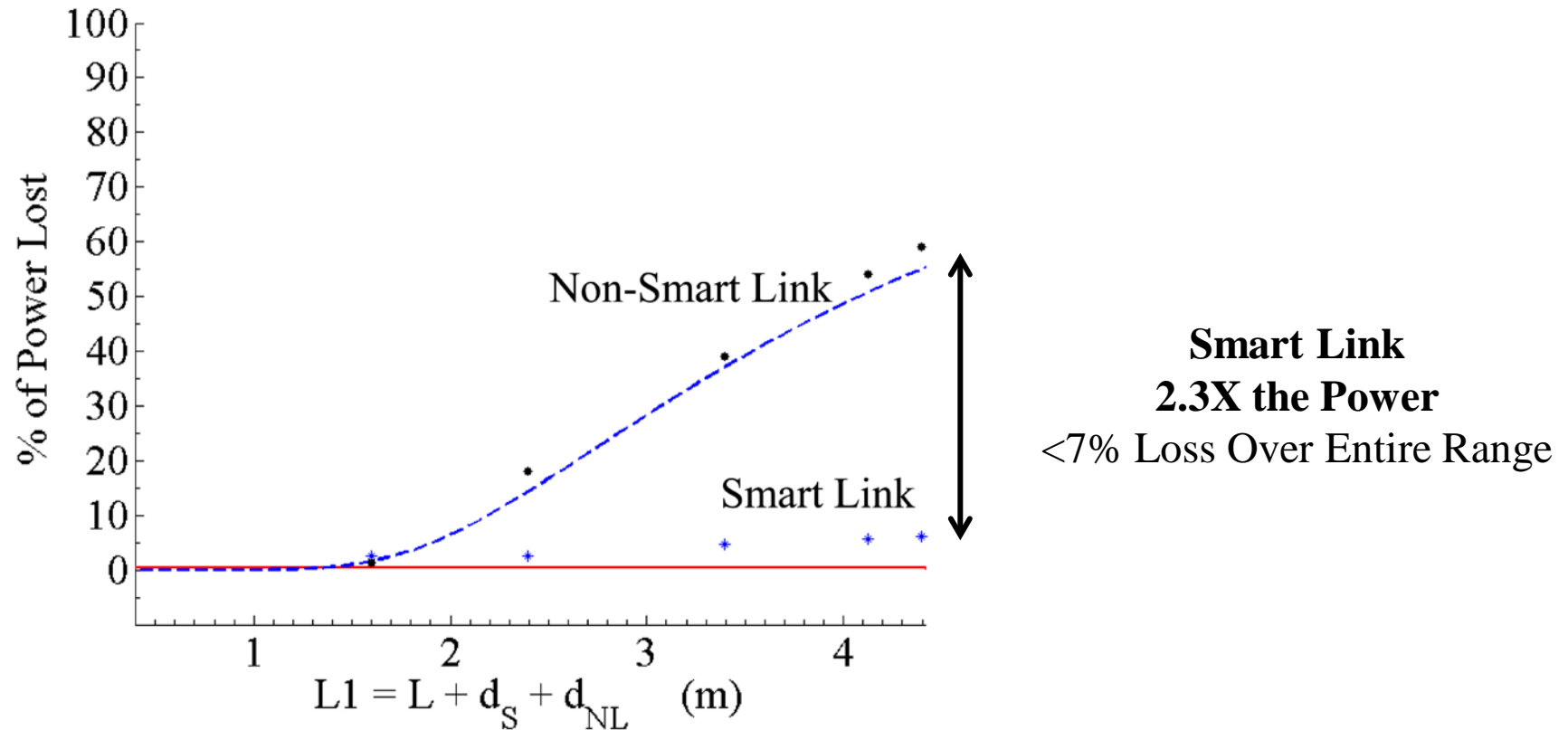
2011: The Smart Visible Wireless Link

Separated T/R Link Design

Concave Lens (NL) Expands Beam



2011: Demonstration of Low Loss Visible Smart Link Using a Single Mode Laser



5.29X SNR Improvement
>1.3×10⁶X BER Improvement (Q changes from 3 to 6)

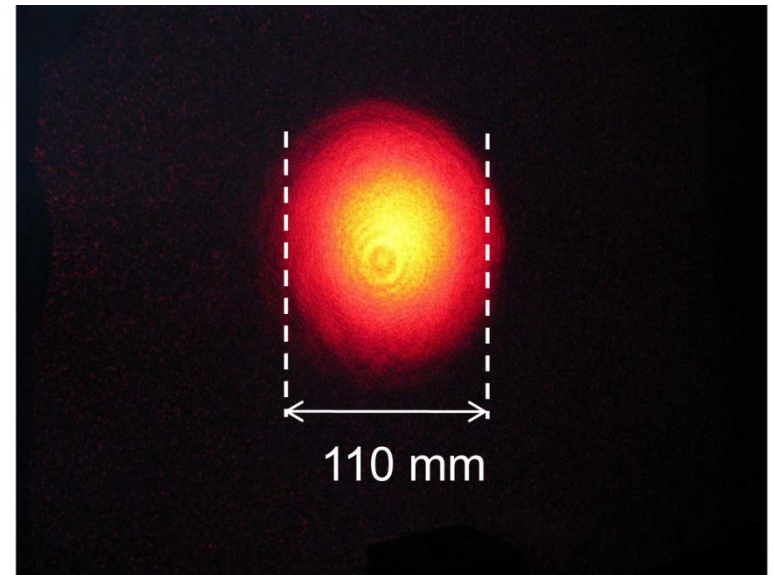
2011: Visible Single Mode Laser Smart Link in Search Beam Mode

Non-Smart

29.33 cm



Smart

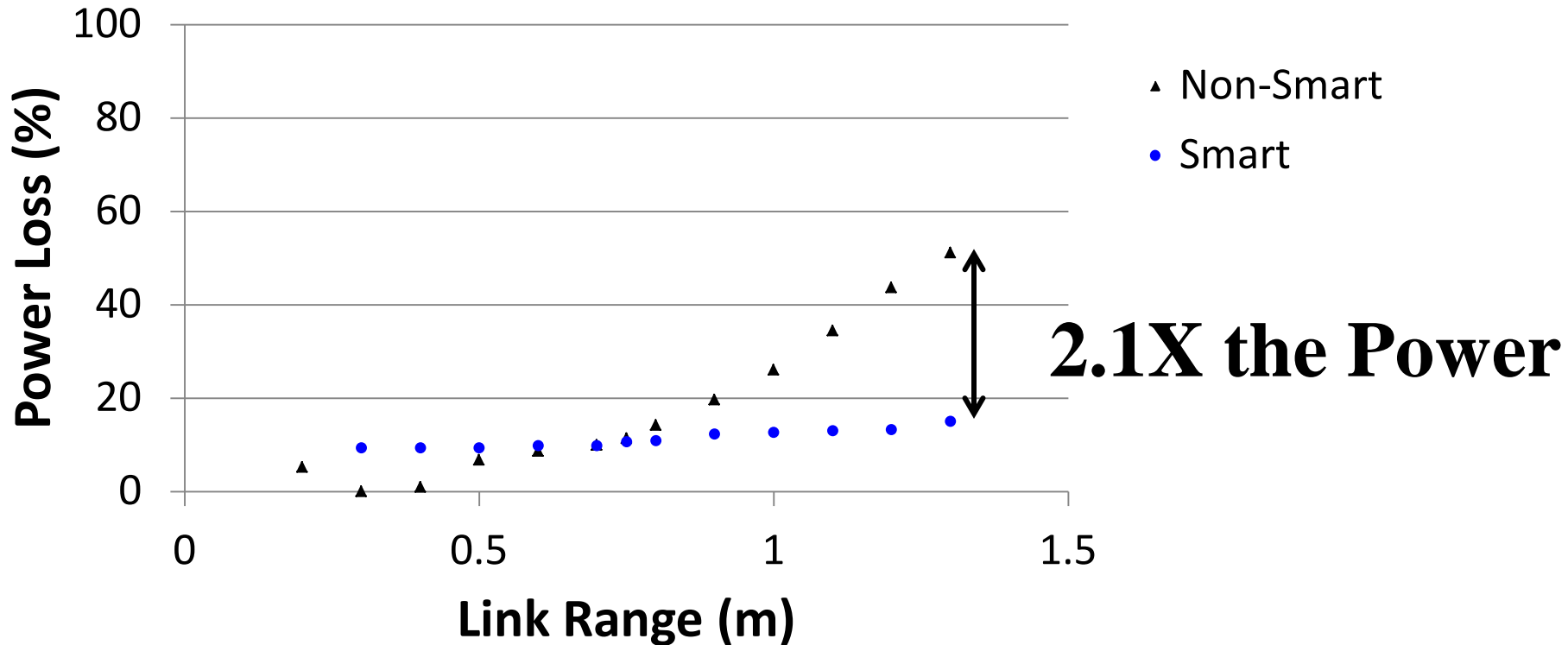


18 Times Larger!

Visible Multi-Mode Laser Link

50 MHz Laser Link

Received Optical Power



2.1X the Power

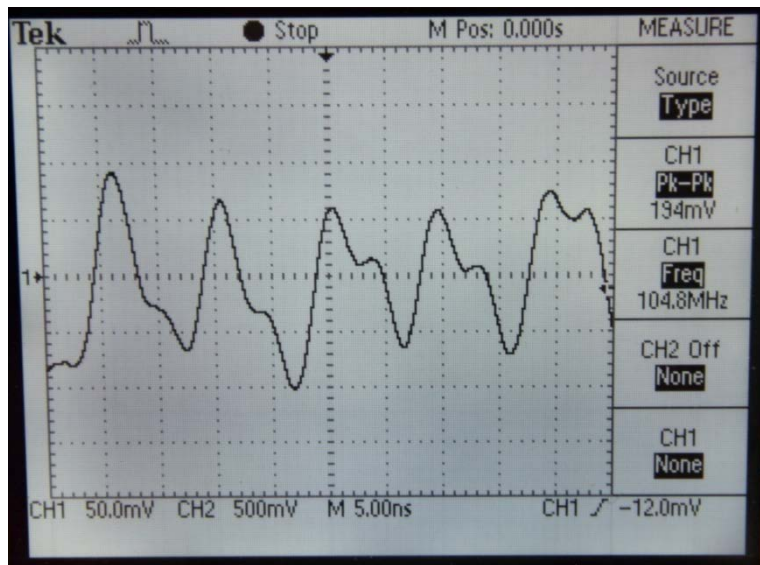
4.41X SNR Improvement

Visible LED Link

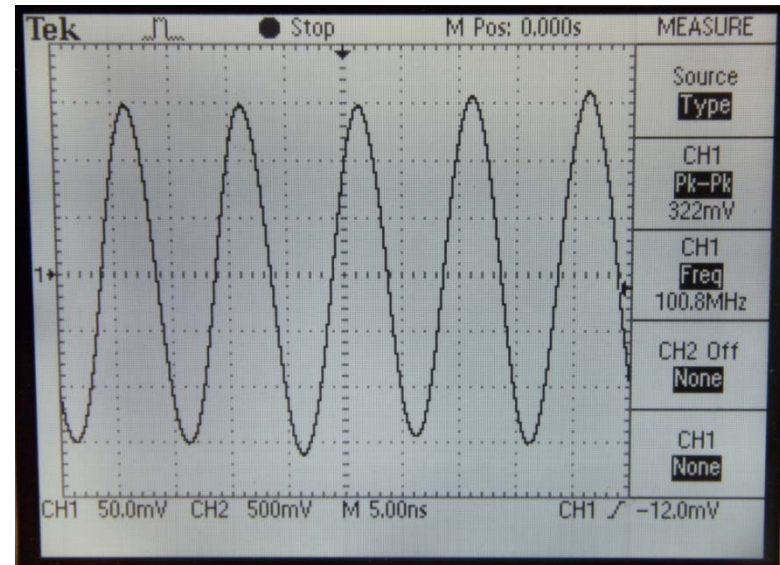
Photo-Detected RF Signals Benefit from Smart Link

Distance of 1.1 m

Non-Smart



Smart



Non-Smart versus Smart

>2X Range Extension for Visible LED Link

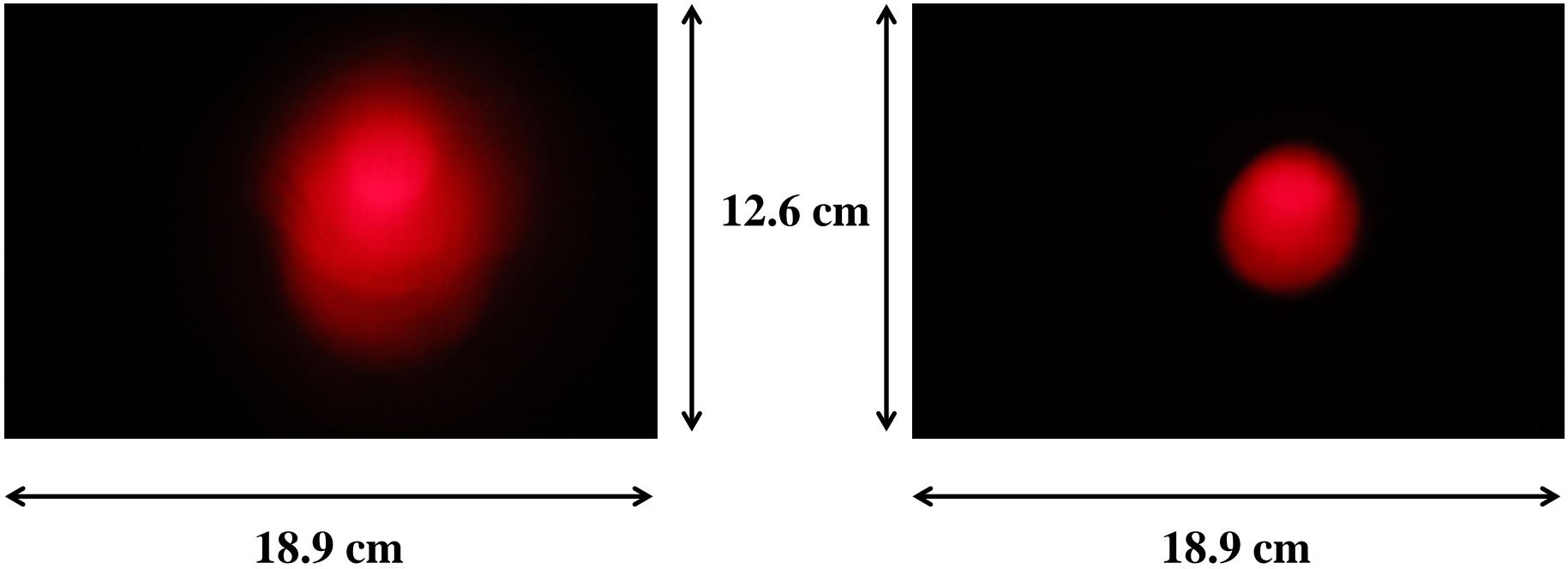
Visible LED Link

Camera Beam Profile of Received Beam

Distance of 0.45 m

Non-Smart

Smart



Same Scale and Exposure

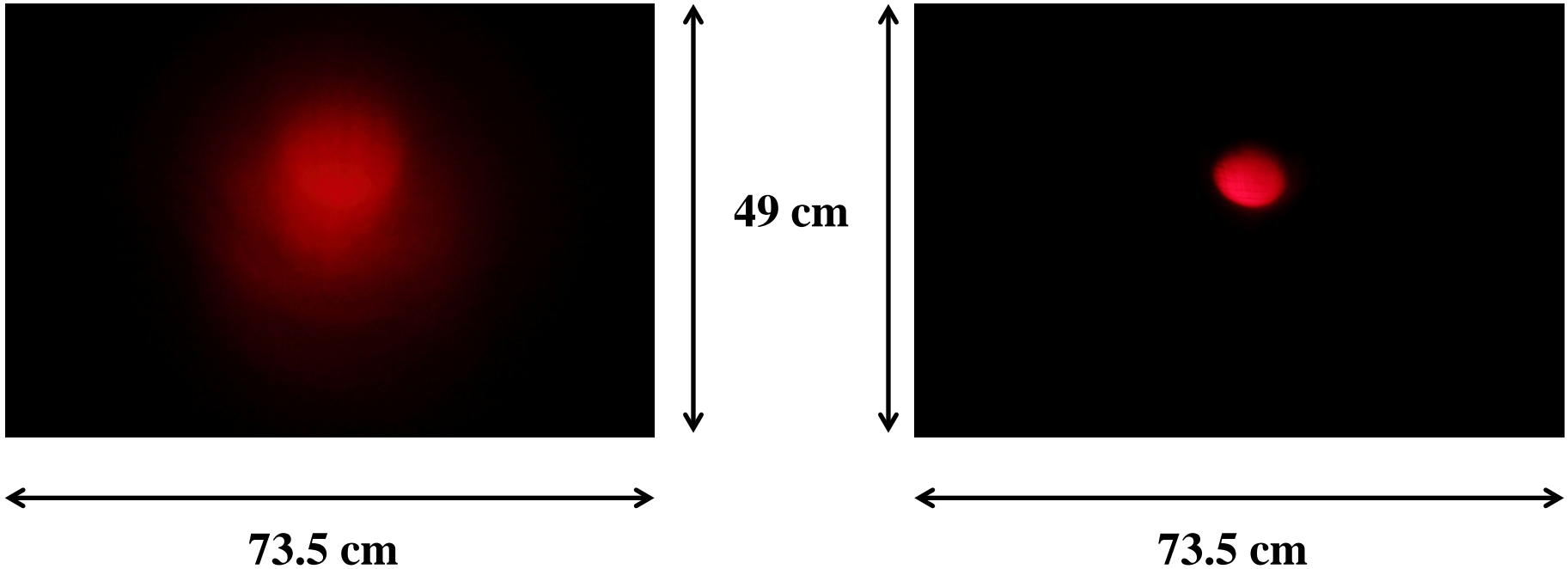
Visible LED Link

Camera Beam Profile of Received Beam

Distance of 2.5 m

Non-Smart

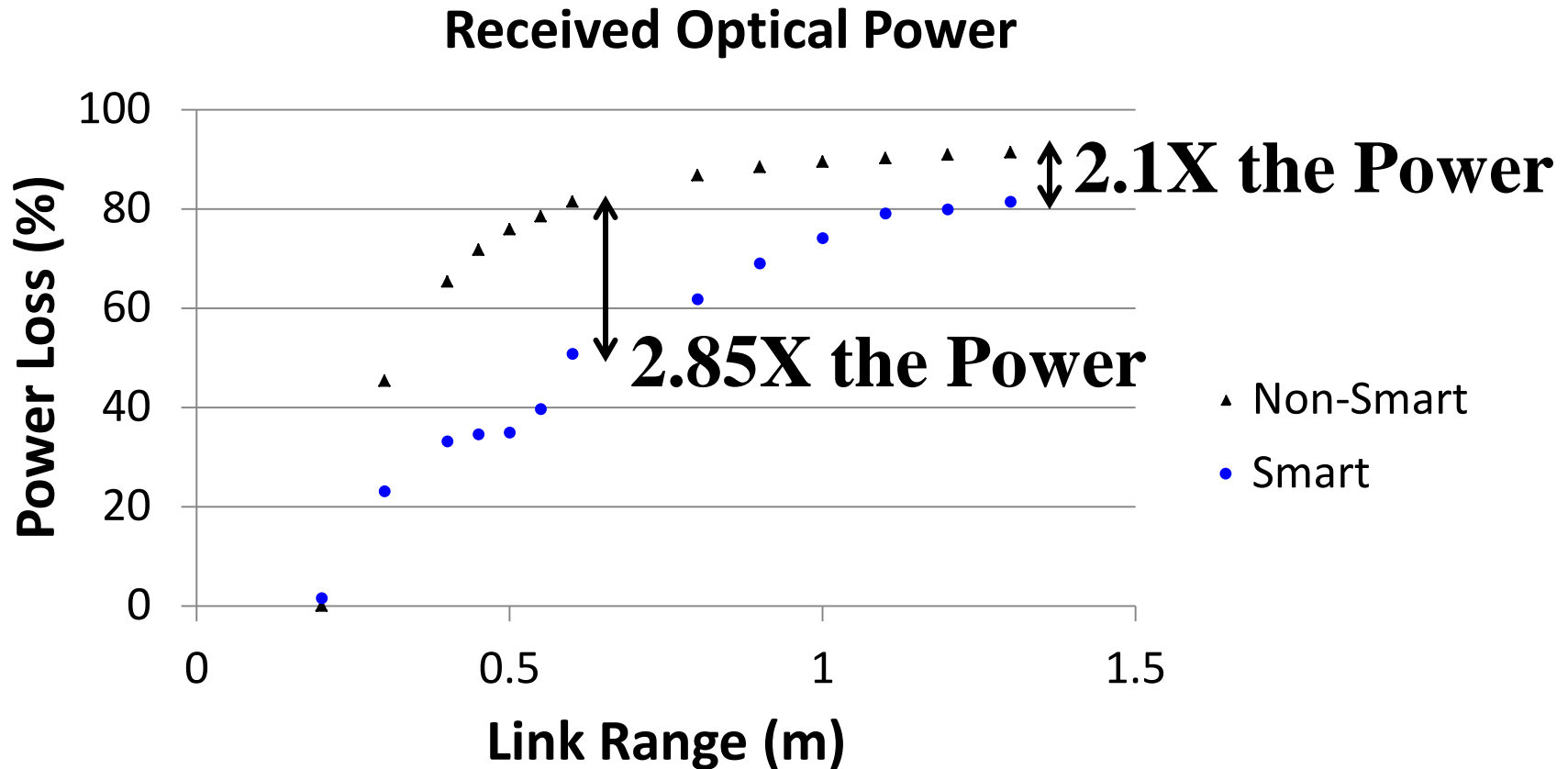
Smart



Same Scale and Exposure

Visible LED Link

100 MHz LED Link



>4.41X SNR Improvement

2012: Proposed Dual Mode Smart Link

Motivation

LOS

- High Data Rates
- Highly Prone to Physical Blocking
- Poor Use of Limited Light Energy (Non-Smart)

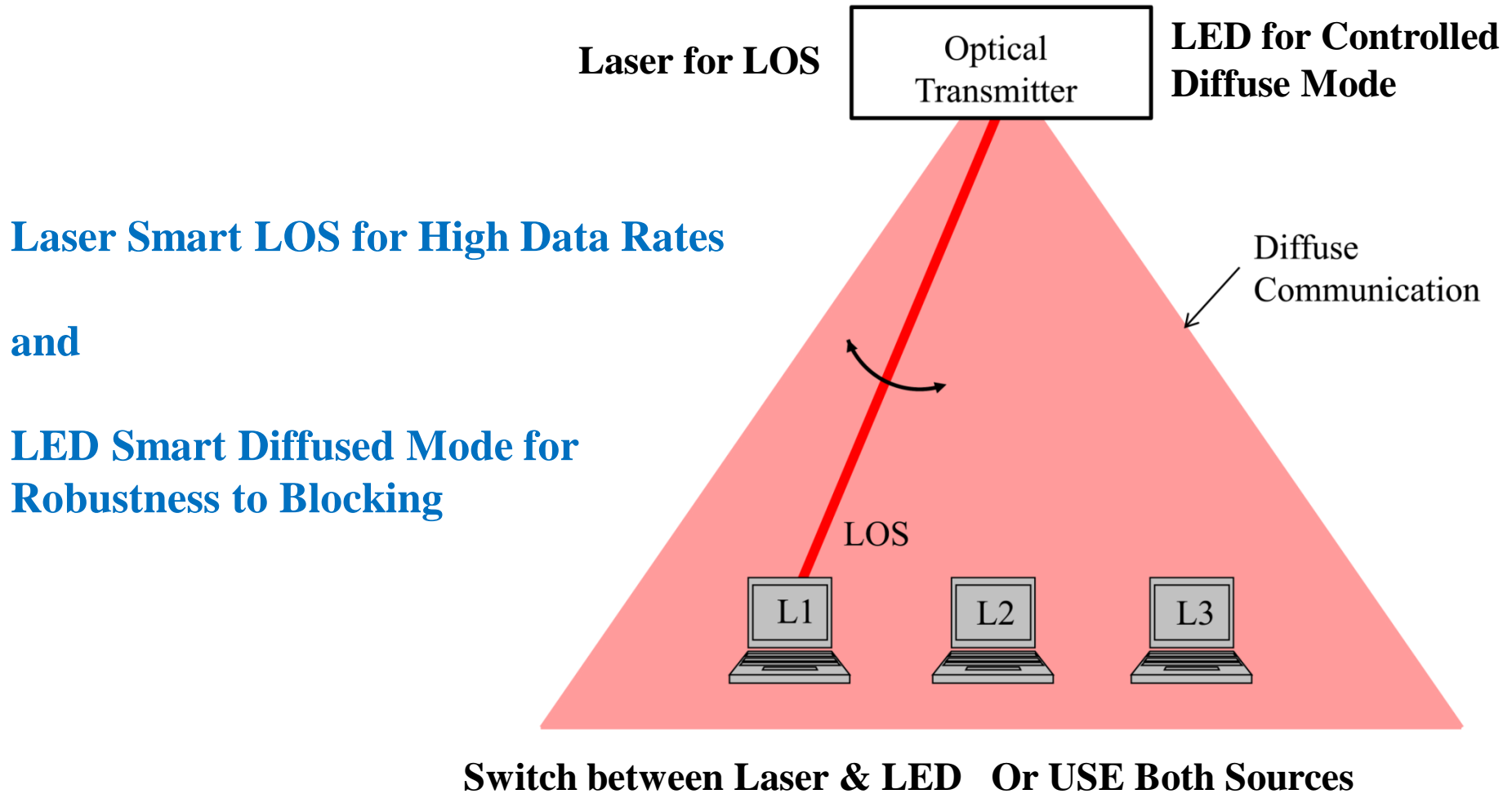
Diffuse

- Low Data Rates (Due to Multipath Effects)
- Robust to Physical Blocking
- Poor Use of Limited Light Energy (Non-Smart)

Want to Achieve Fast Data Rates, Robustness to Physical Blocking, and Energy Efficiency

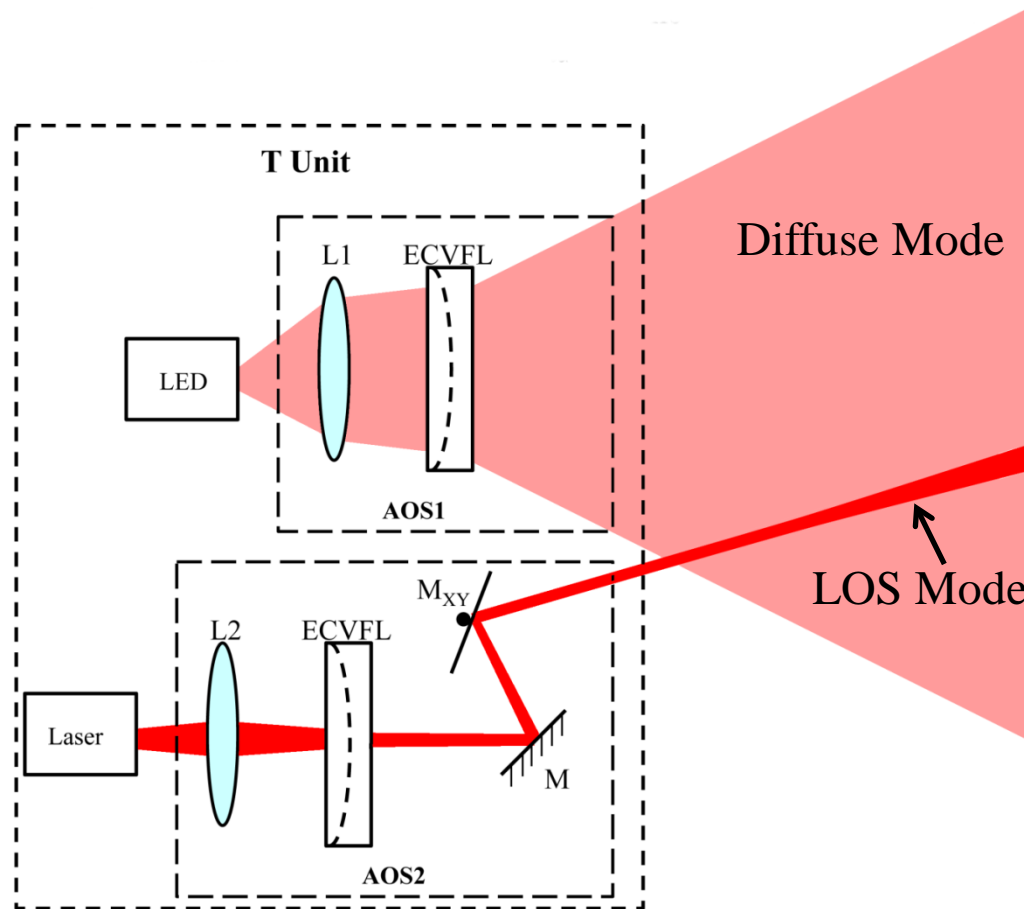
2012: Proposed Smart Visible Dual Mode Link

Combining Smart LOS and Smart Diffuse Optical Wireless



Visible Dual Mode Smart Link

Using 3D Optical Beam Forming

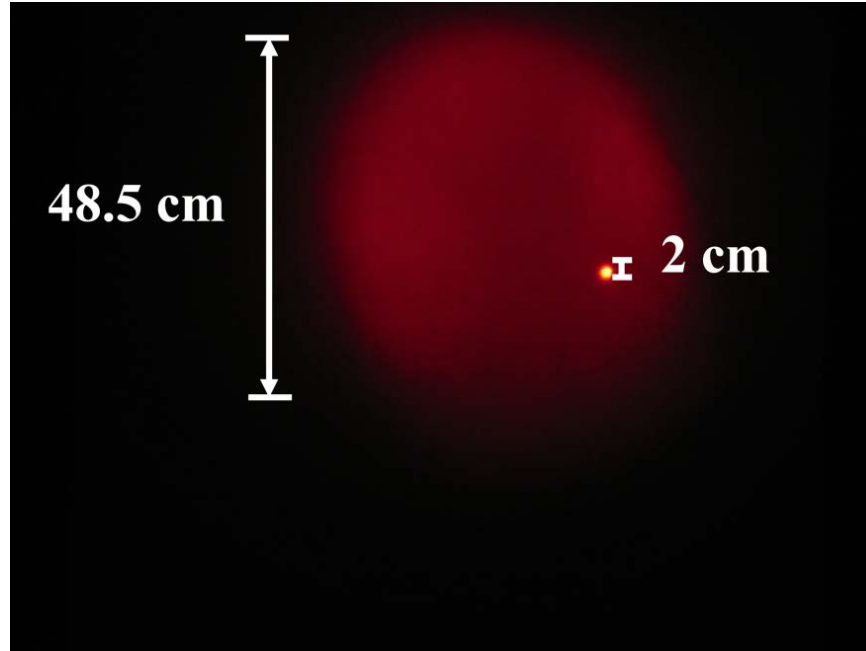


High Data Rates, Robust to Blocking, and Energy Efficient

Visible Dual Mode Non-Smart Link

LED and Single Mode Laser Operation Experiment

Distance of 3.35 m



~ Half a Meter Diameter LED Beam at 3.35 m Range

LED Beam Coverage \gg Laser LOS Coverage

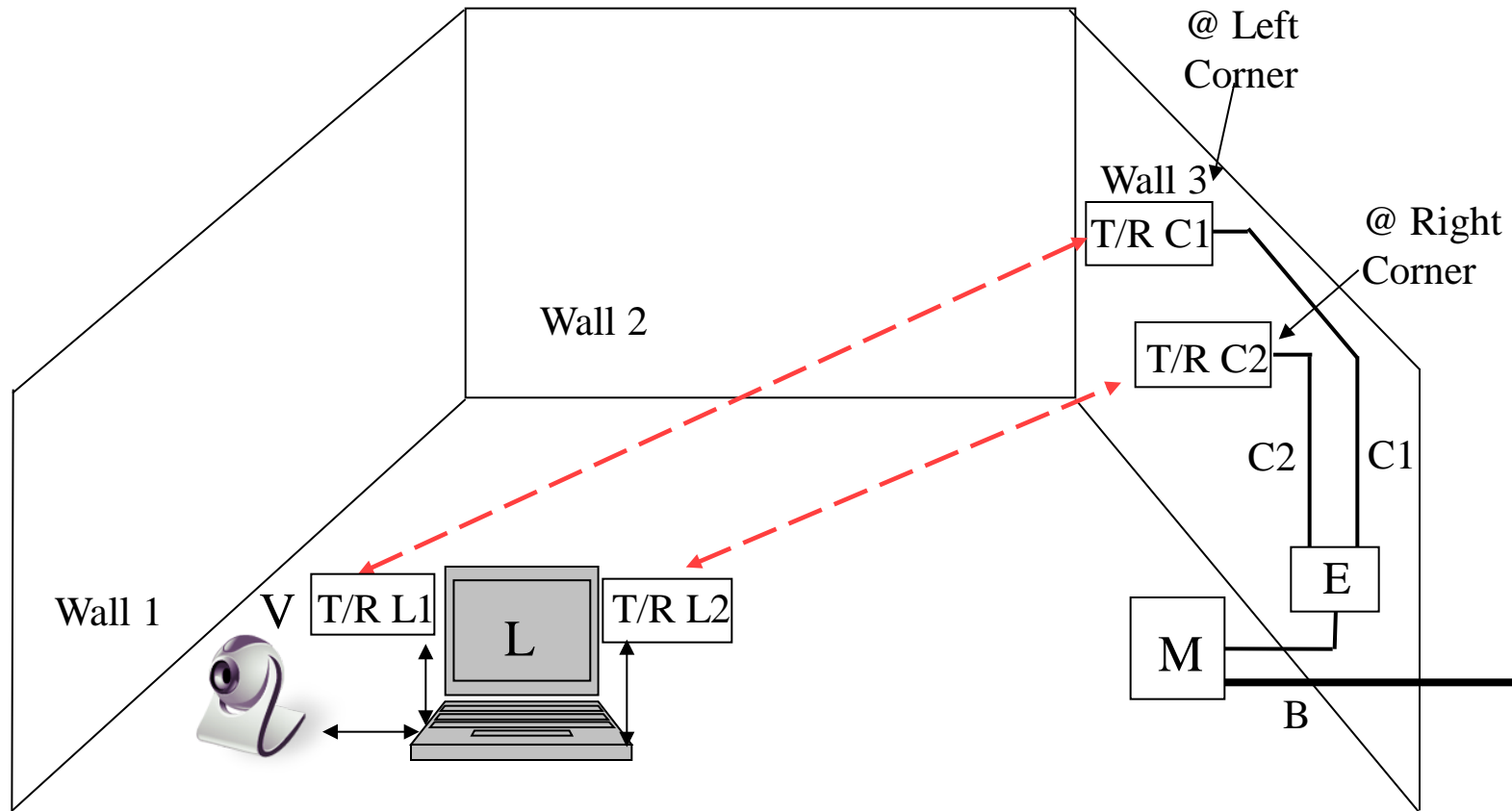
Received LED Beam Power/Area \ll Received Laser Beam Power/Area

Solved Coverage versus Received Power Problem.

Applications for the Indoor Smart Optical Wireless Links

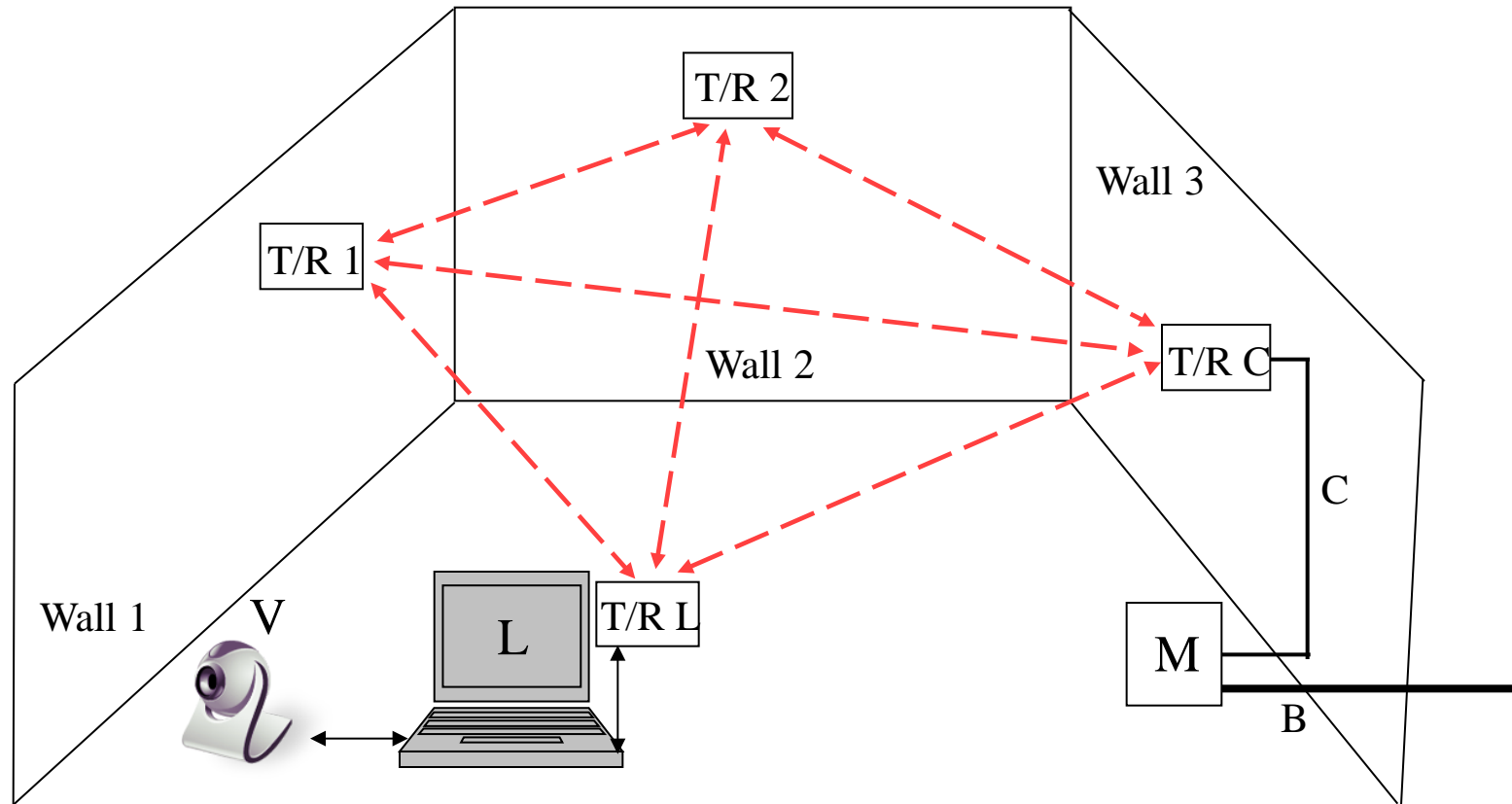
N. A. Riza and P. J. Marraccini, " Power Smart In-door Optical Wireless Link Applications," 8th IEEE International Wireless Communications and Mobile Computing Conference (IWCMC), Limassol, Cypress, August 27-31, 2012.

Indoor Non-Blocking Scenario



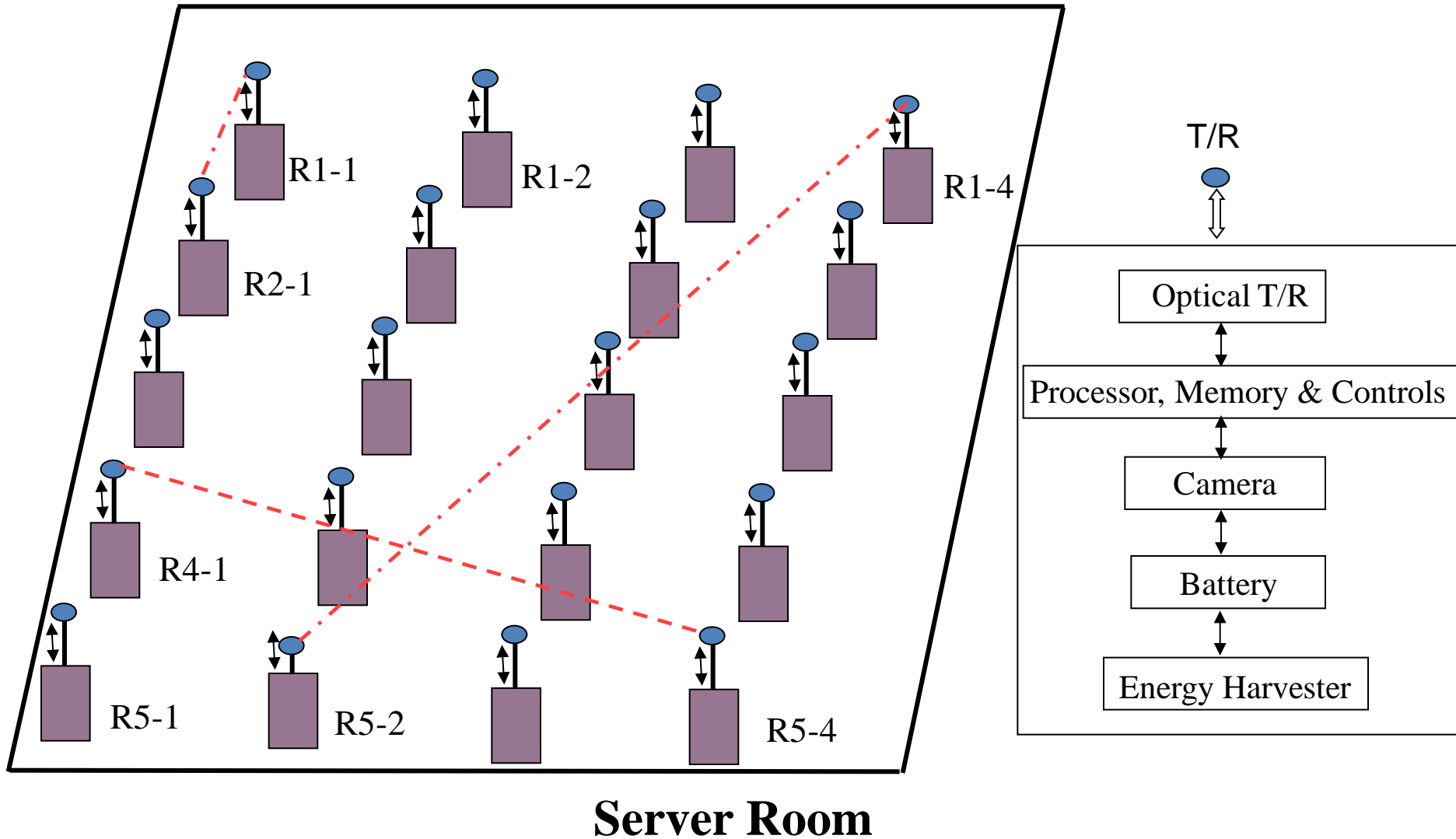
Simultaneous Beams

Indoor Non-Blocking Scenario



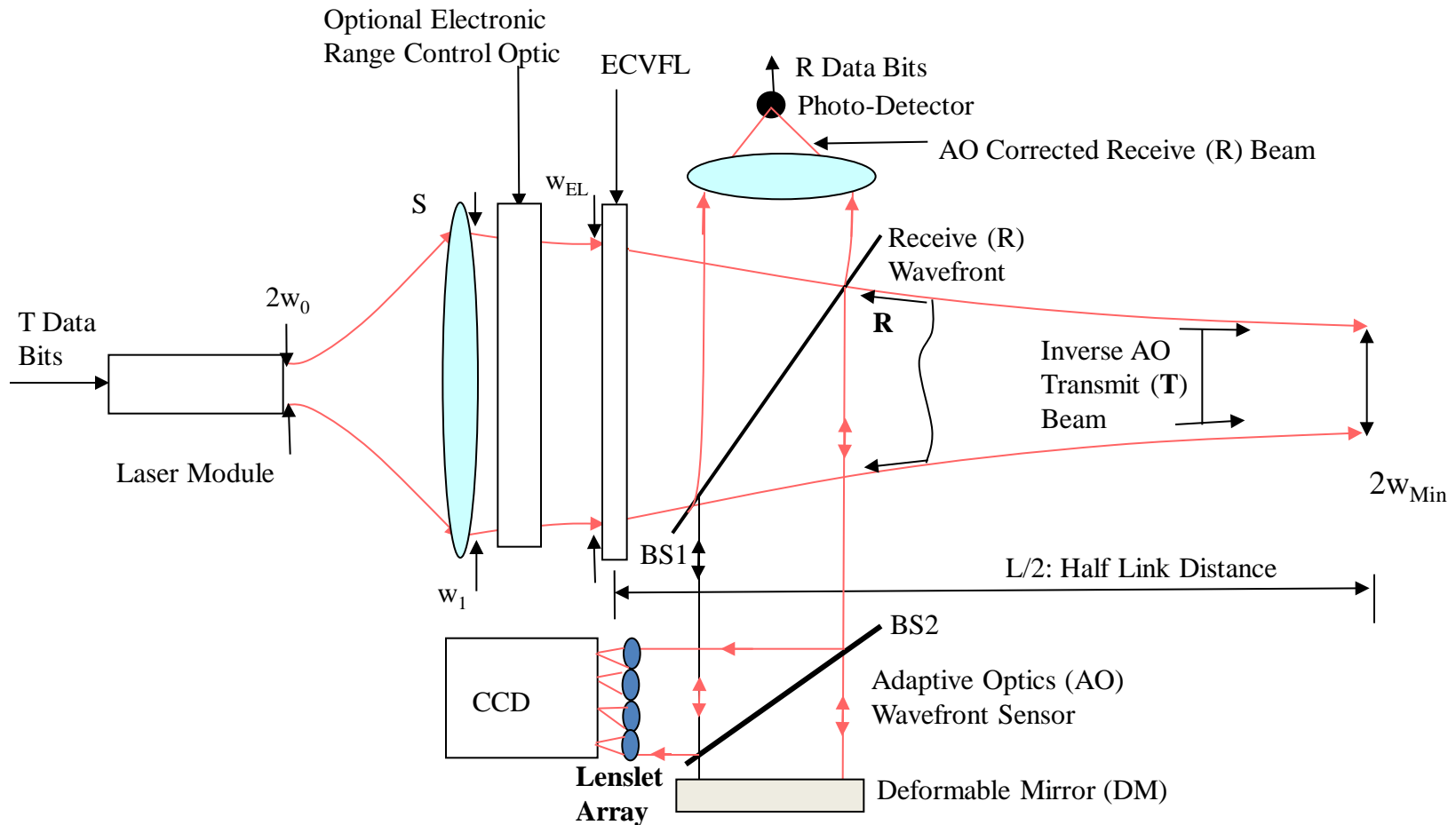
Relaying via Multiple T/R Units

Indoor Applications



Server Room

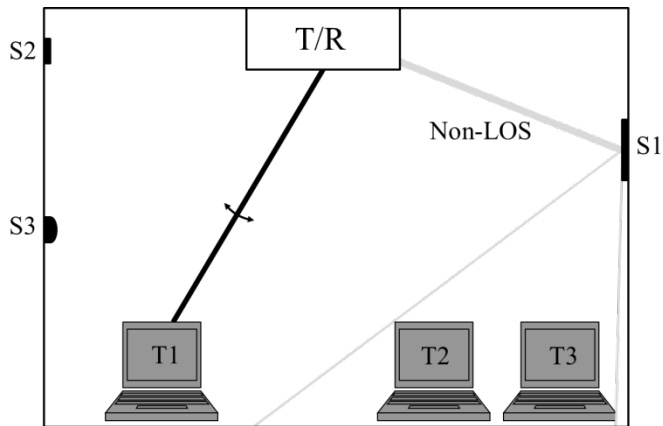
Outdoor Smart Optical Wireless System



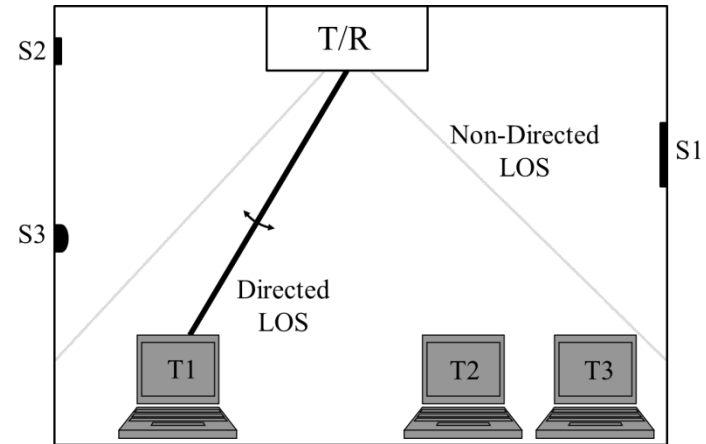
N. A. Riza, "Enabling the Ultimate in Optical Wireless Communications: The Zero Propagation Loss Design," IEEE Communications Society 3rd Int. Symp. on High Capacity Optical Networks and Enabling Technologies (HORNET) 2006 Conference, Charlotte, USA, Sept. 6-8, 2006.

N. A. Riza and P. J. Marraccini, "Power Smart In-door Optical Wireless Link Applications," 8th IEEE International Wireless Communications and Mobile Computing Conference (IWCMC), Limassol, Cypress, August 27-31, 2012.

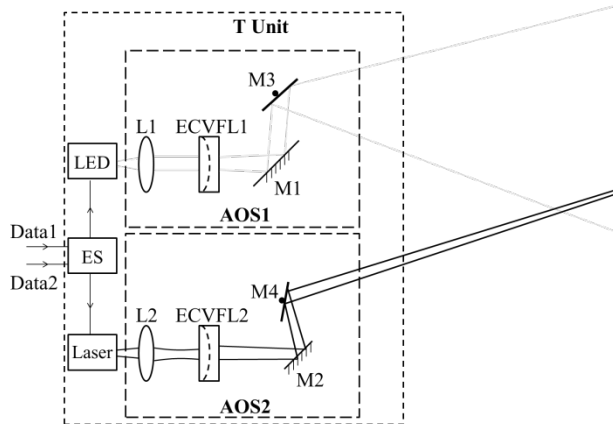
Smart Indoor Optical Wireless System



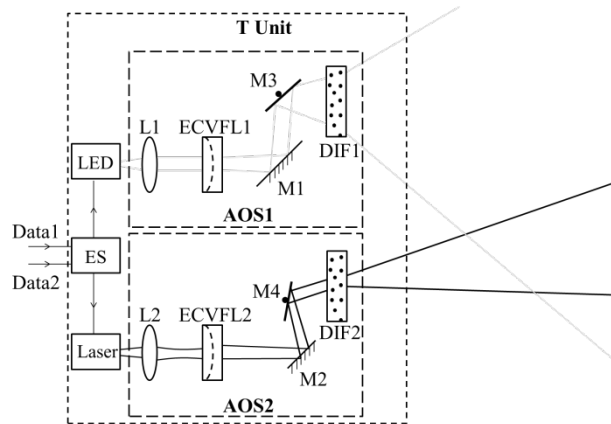
(a)



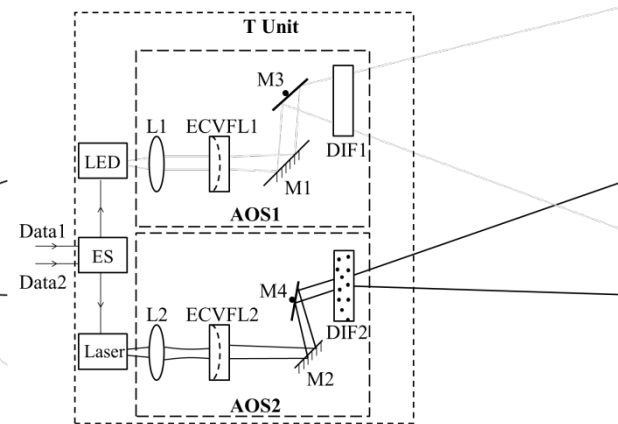
(b)



(c)



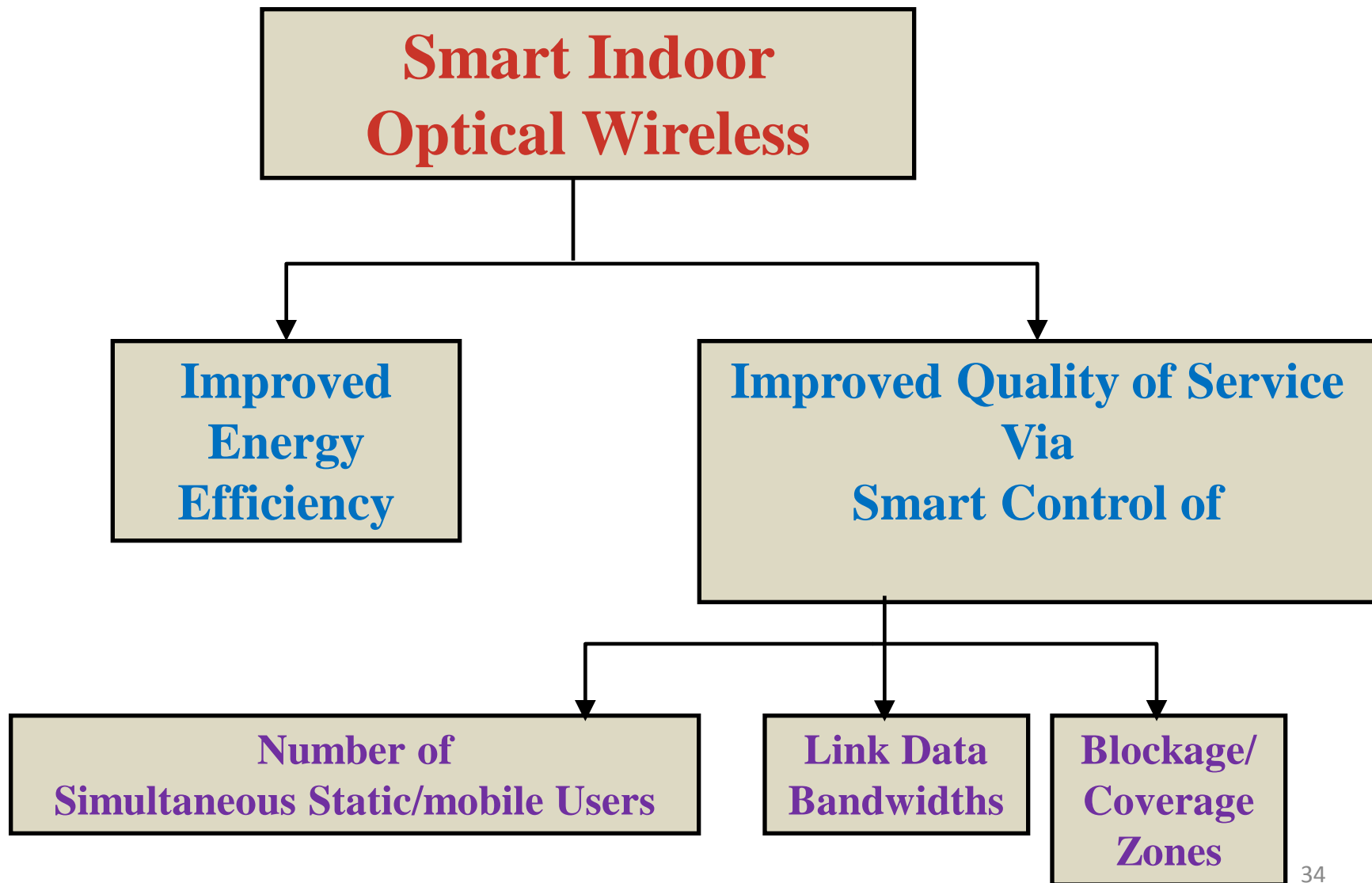
(d)



(e)

Shown is the proposed smart multi-mode indoor optical wireless approach. Wireless operations are shown using (a) non-LOS diffuse mode and directed LOS mode and (b) directed LOS mode and non-directed LOS mode. (c) A dual-mode transmitter design is shown using a laser, LED, ECVFLs and scan mirrors. (d) and (e) show advanced dual-mode transmitter designs using electronic diffusers. In (d), both electronic diffusers are on and diffuse the light while in (e) only DIF2 is on and diffusing light.

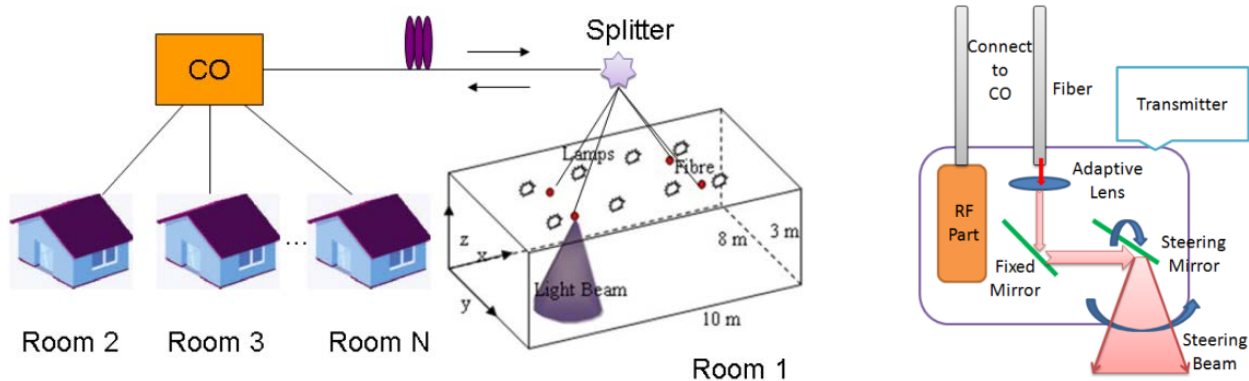
Summary of Smart Indoor Optical Wireless



2010: Recent Similar Work in the Context of 1999 Riza Works

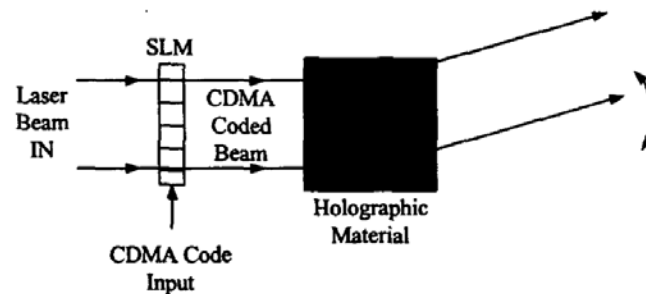
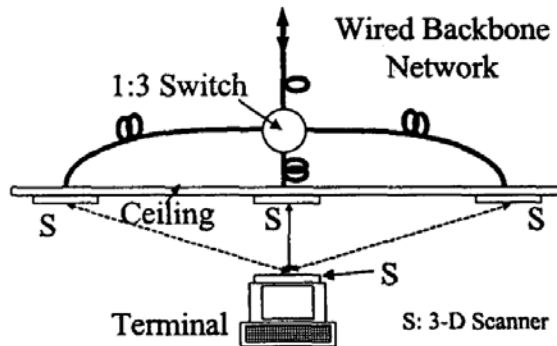
Prof. Skafidas Group, Univ. Melbourne, Australia

E-Lens for Constant Coverage Area by Using Spatially Agile LOS Beams (2010)¹



Reconfigurable Optical Wireless² Proposed by N. A. Riza (1999)

- Use of Scanned/Switched LOS Beams from Multiple Transmitters
- Use of 3D Beamforming to Create Multiple Simultaneous LOS Beams



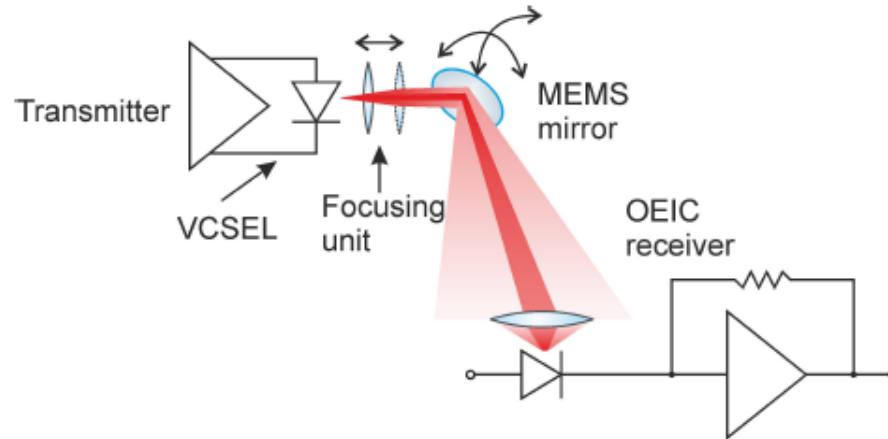
¹K. Wang, A. Nirmalathas, C. Lim, and E. Skafida, "Indoor Gigabit Optical Wireless Communication System for Personal Area Networks," 23rd Annual Meeting of the IEEE Photonics Society, Denver, 2010.

²N.A. Riza, "Reconfigurable optical wireless," IEEE Lasers and Electro-Optics Society 12th Annual Meeting Proc., 1999.

2013: Recent Similar Work in the Context of 1999 Riza Works

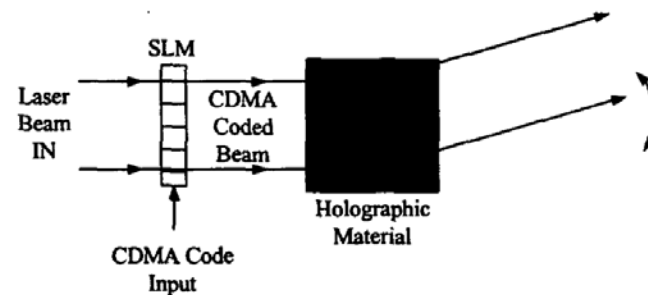
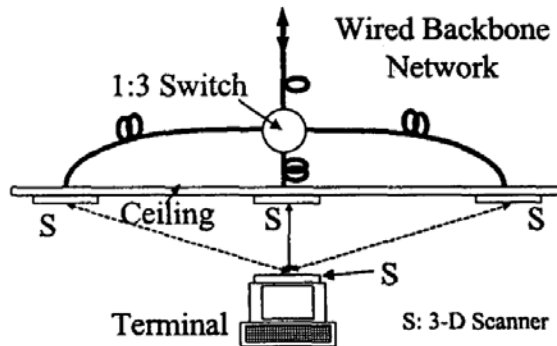
Prof. Zimmermann Group, TU Vienna, Austria

Adaptive-Lens and 2-D scan MEMS mirror for a Spatially Agile LOS Beam (2013)¹



Reconfigurable Optical Wireless² Proposed by N. A. Riza (1999)

- Use of Scanned/Switched LOS Beams from Multiple Transmitters
- Use of 3D Beamforming to Create Multiple Simultaneous LOS Beams



¹ P. Brandl, S. Schidl, A. Polzer, W. Gaberl, & H. Zimmermann, "Optical wireless communication with adaptive focus and MEMS-based beam steering," *IEEE Photonics Technology Letters*, 25(15), 1428-1431, 2013.

² N.A. Riza, "Reconfigurable optical wireless," *IEEE Lasers and Electro-Optics Society 12th Annual Meeting Proc.*, 1999.

2014: Recent Similar Work in the Context of 1999 Riza Works

Prof. Koonen Group,
TU Eindhoven, Netherlands

Scanning of LOS Multiple Beams
using Wavelength Tuning (2014)¹

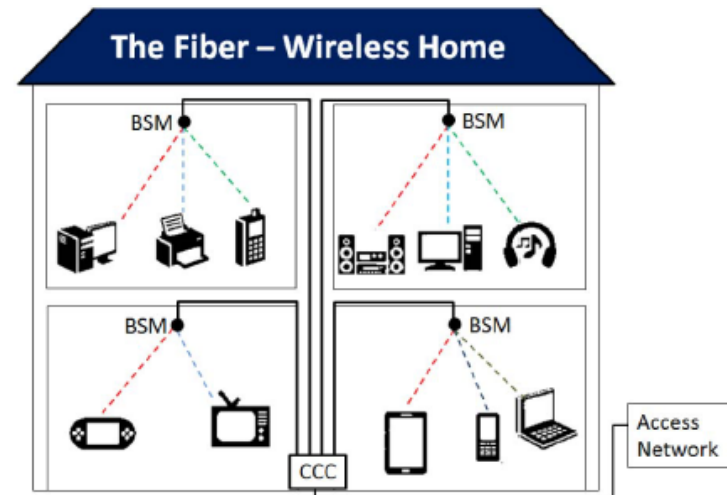
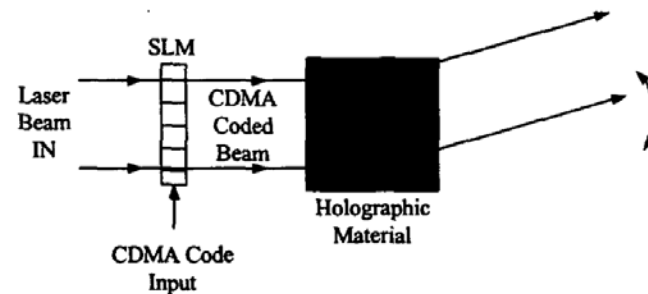
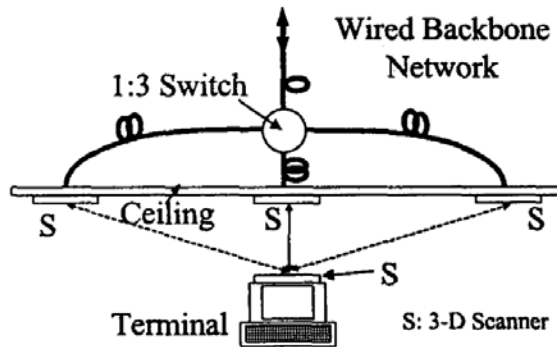


Fig. 1. Fiber-wireless-equipped home with beam-steering modules (BSM) at the access points and a central communication controller (CCC).

Reconfigurable Optical Wireless² Proposed by N. A. Riza (1999)

- Use of Scanned/Switched LOS Beams from Multiple Transmitters
- Use of 3D Beamforming to Create Multiple Simultaneous LOS Beams



S: Can be a W-MOS-Wavelength multiplexed optical scanner with 1-D, 2-D, & 3-D scan capabilities².

¹ C. Oh, E. Tangdionga, A. Koonen, "Steerable pencil beams for multi-Gbps indoor optical wireless communication," *Optics Letters*, 2014 and T. Koonen, et.al., "Reconfigurable free-space optical indoor network using multiple pencil beam steering," *Proc. 19th OECC/ Proc. 39th ACOFT*, 2014. 37

² N.A. Riza, "Reconfigurable optical wireless," *IEEE Lasers and Electro-Optics Society 12th Annual Meeting Proc.*, 1999.

First Works on Optical Wireless for Data Centers Cited in Table*

TABLE III: Summary of Major Wireless DCN Research Directions.

Wireless Technology	Highlights	Reference	Year	Simulation	Physical Topology	Logical Topology	Challenges
RF	First proposal of a wireless DCN in general, and using 60 GHz RF links in particular.	Ramachandran et al. [42]	2008	✗	NA	NA	NA
Hybrid RF	Motivate using Flyways, on-demand additional links (wired or wireless), added to provide additional capacity.	Kandula et al. [7]	2009	✓	Rows	Tree	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topology-independent model (a module can communicate with any module within its range.) • Non-configurable links with fixed capacity.
Pure RF	A preliminary study to propose the idea of emulation well-known existing topologies, such as Tree and Fat-tree using pure 60 GHz DCNs.	Vardhan et al. [43]	2010	✗	Cellular (hexagonal single cell)	Tree/Fat-tree	Limited scalability as a complete DCN is designed using a single hexagonal cell of racks.
Hybrid RF	Performance measurement and simulations are done using 60 GHz devices prototype to evaluate the viability of flyways [7] concept.	Halperin et al. [44]	2011	✓	Rows	Tree	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topology-independent model (a module can communicate with any module within its range.) • Non-configurable links with fixed capacity.
Hybrid RF	Addressing the design of a hybrid network architecture and formulating the provisioning of links in a hybrid RF DC into an optimization problem.	Cui et al. [17], [45], [46]	2011	✗	NA	NA	Topology-independent model (a WTU can communicate with any WTU in its range).
Hybrid RF	Guaranteed LOS links between adjacent rows of racks. Data is relayed row by row.	Katayama et al. [47]	2011	✗	Rows	NA	Poor performance with respect to packet delivery latency is expected due to the multihop communication.
FSO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose power smart indoor FSO link using electronically controlled variable focus lens (ECVFL). • Suggest the use of power smart links in DCNs. 	Marraccini and Riza [135]	2011	✗	NA	NA	NA
Hybrid RF	Propose and realize 3D beamforming 60 GHz links reflected off the ceil to overcome the LOS problem.	Zhang et al. [48]	2011	✗	Rows	Flexible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complexity of establishing a link.
Hybrid RF	Extend their work by establishing a small 3D beamforming testbed to evaluate the work in [48].	Zhou et al. [18]	2012	✗	Rows	Flexible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effect of ceil reflector's imperfection.
Pure RF	Pure 60 GHz DCN that features cylindrical racks arranged in semi-regular mesh and connected by a special Cayley Graph.	Shin et al. [32]	2012	✗	Cellular	Cayley	Cellular topology may lead to higher packet delivery latency due to multihop communication.
Hybrid FSO	Extend their work in [135] by discussing applications of power smart links and suggest the use of mechanical pedestals to establish LOS inter-rack links.	Riza and Marraccini [55]	2012	✗	Grid	NA	Mechanical systems present a risk of failure that may impact the availability and durability of the network.
Hybrid FSO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FSO links are configured using switchable mirrors and ceil mirror. • A configurable link is realized by choosing from a set of preconfigured links. 	Hamedazimi et al. [6]	2013	✓	Rows	Flexible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imperfection of the ceil mirror. • Manual preconfiguration can be time consuming, require specialized manpower, and impact the DCN availability.



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