

Visible Light Communications – Li-Fi

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**RF spectrum
shortage**

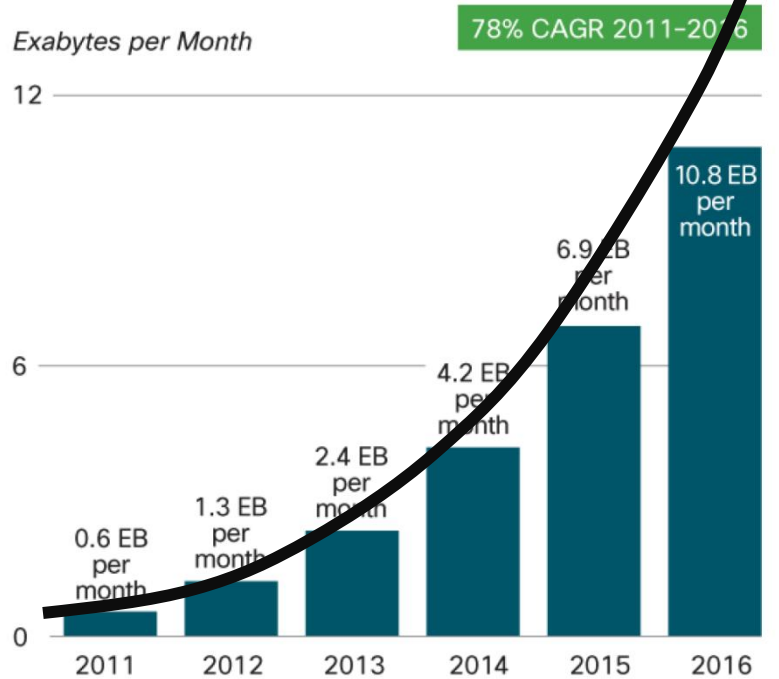
Accessibility

**CO₂
reduction**

**Secure
communica-
tions**

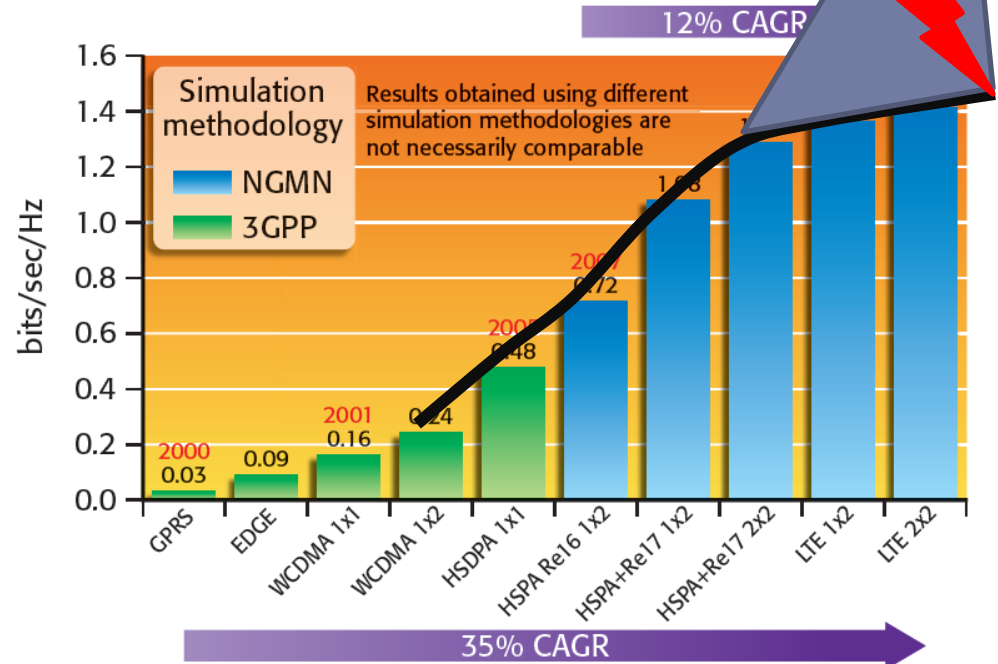
RF Spectrum Shortage

Global Mobile Data Traffic



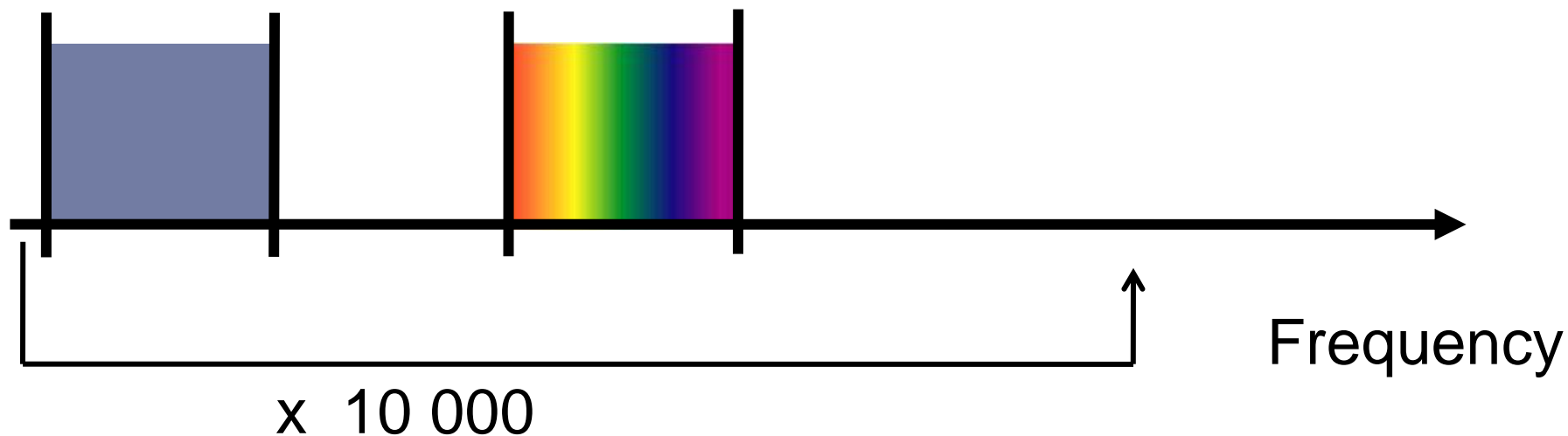
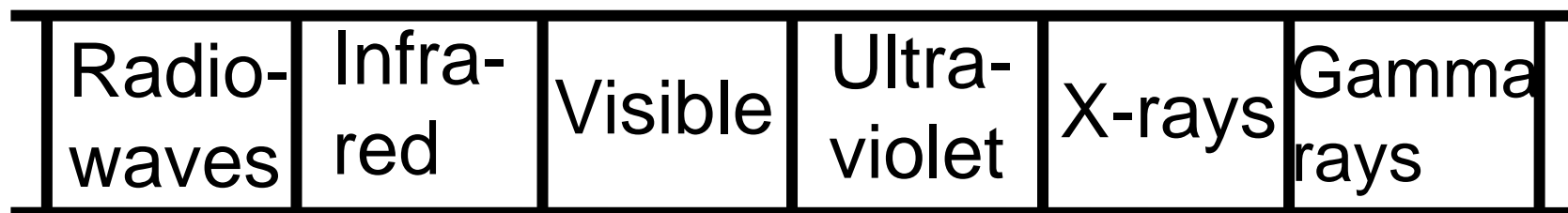
Source: Cisco VNI Mobile, 2012

Spectral Efficiency Gains are Slowing



Source: Qualcomm

The electromagnetic spectrum



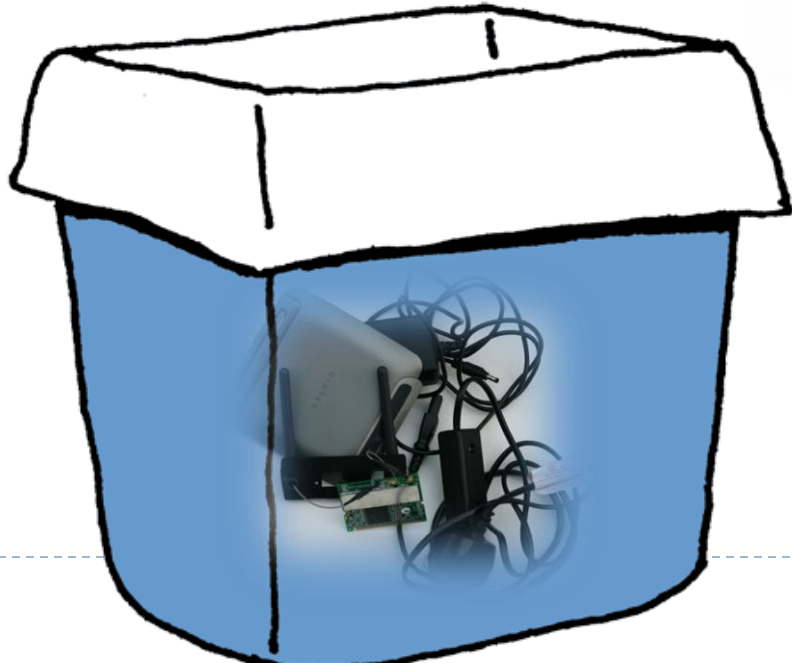
HD Video from an off-the-shelf LED



<http://bit.ly/tedvlc>

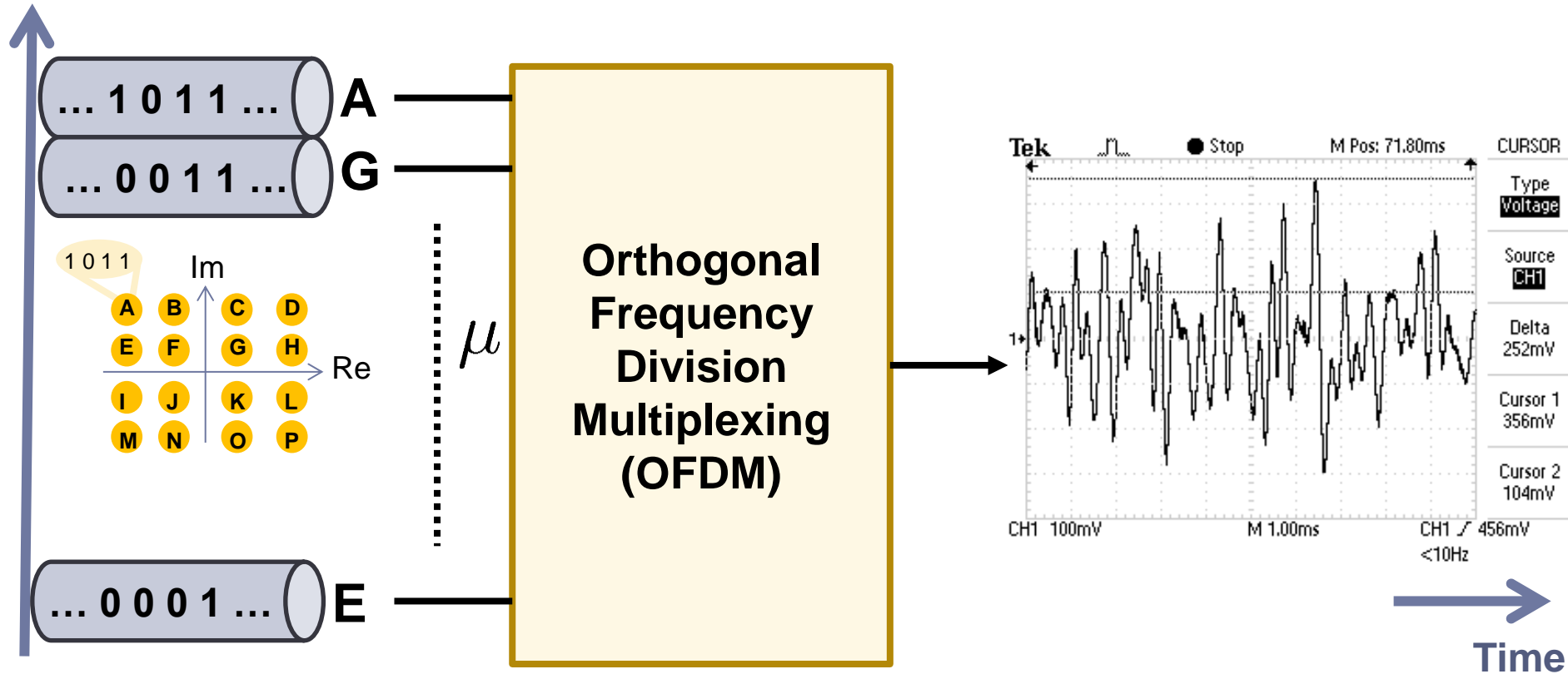
Common Misconceptions

- ▶ You cannot dim the lights.
- ▶ The lights flicker.
- ▶ This is for one direction only.
- ▶ There will be interference from sunlight.
- ▶ Lights need to be on so this is inefficient.
- ▶ You must have line-of-sight.
- ▶ This is a disruptive technology.

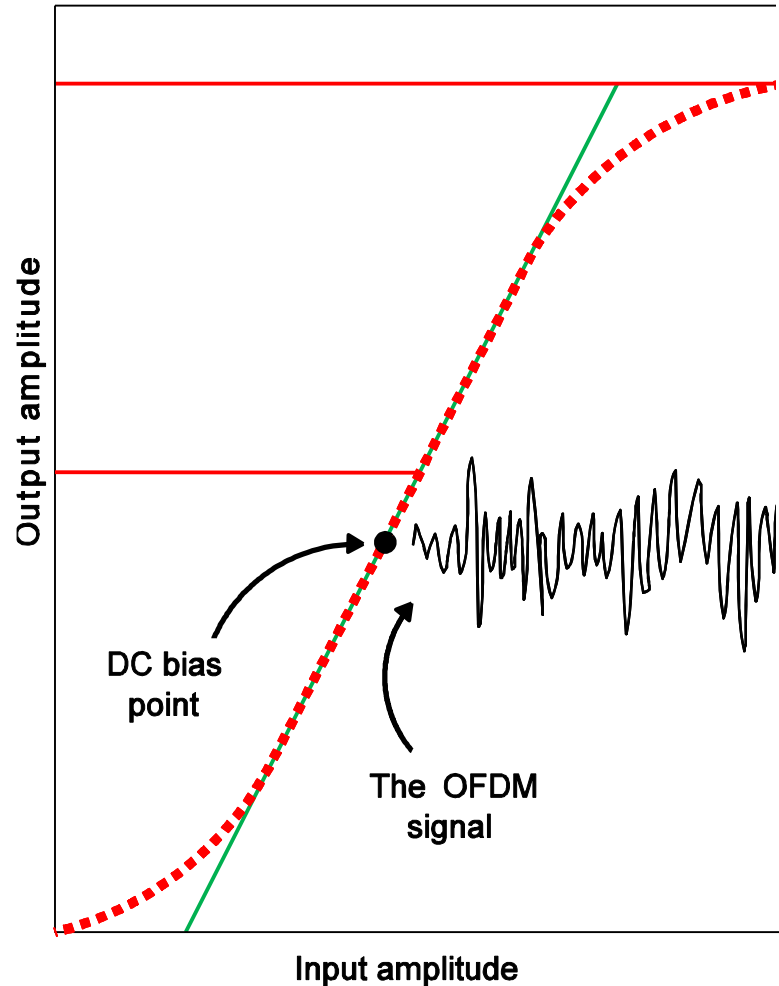


Digital Data Encoding (1)

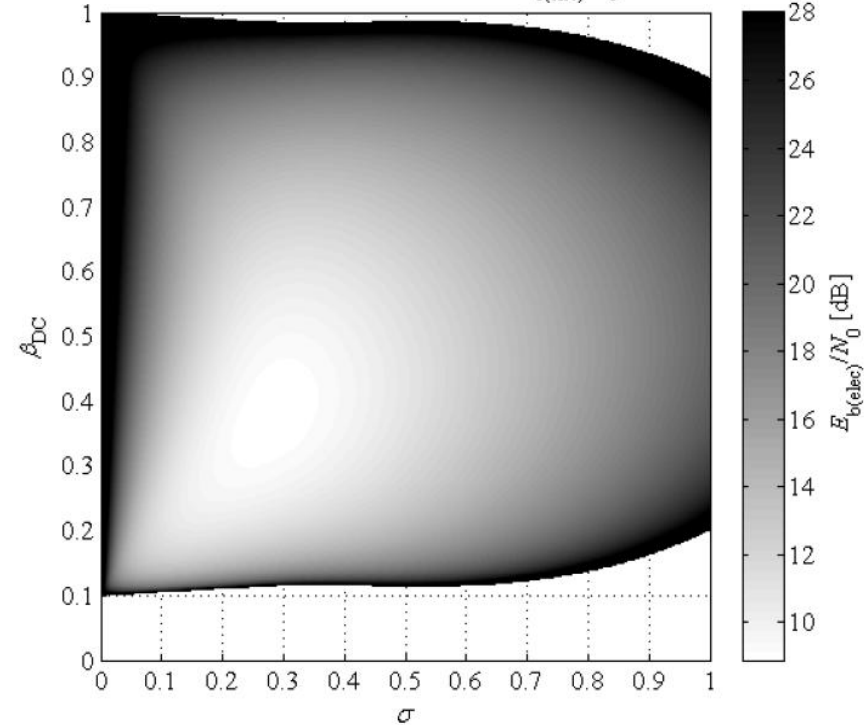
Frequency



Digital Data Encoding (2)

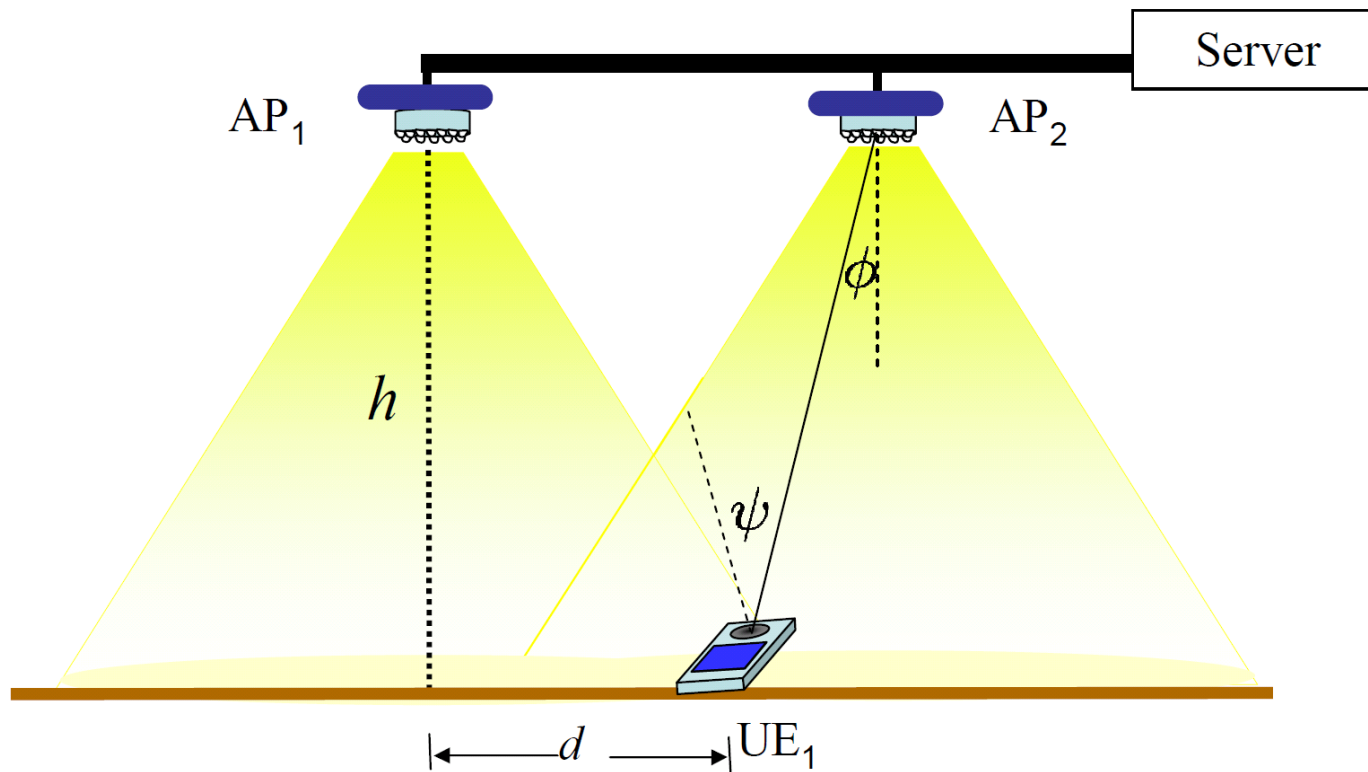


Optimum region in DCO-OFDM with the minimum $E_{b(\text{elec})}/N_0$ for a capacity of 1 bit/s/Hz



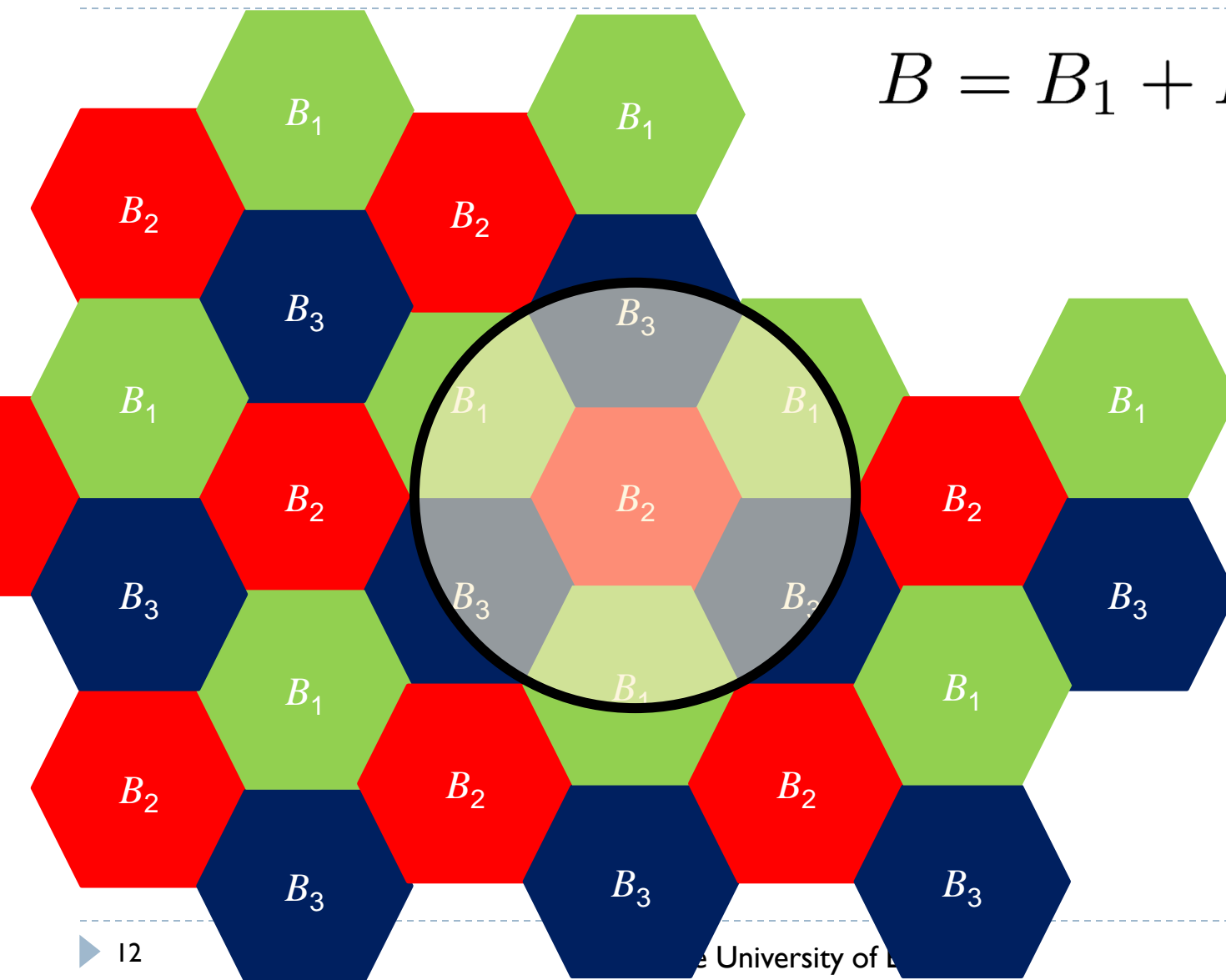
130 Mbps real-time and from off-the-shelf LED

Optical Cellular Networks

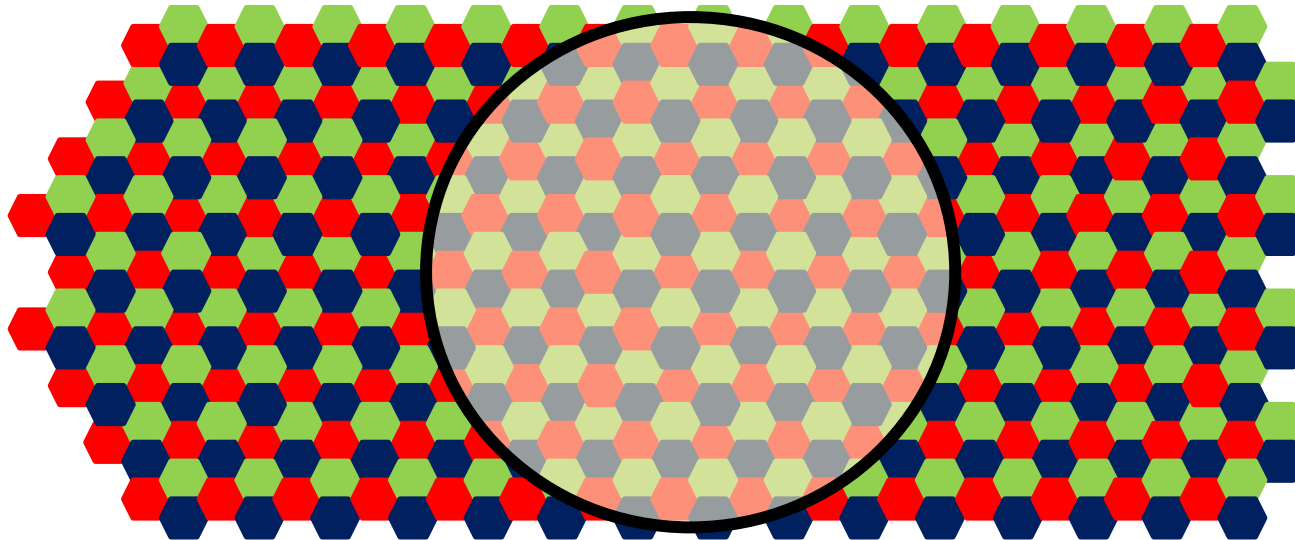


„Simple“ frequency reuse concept

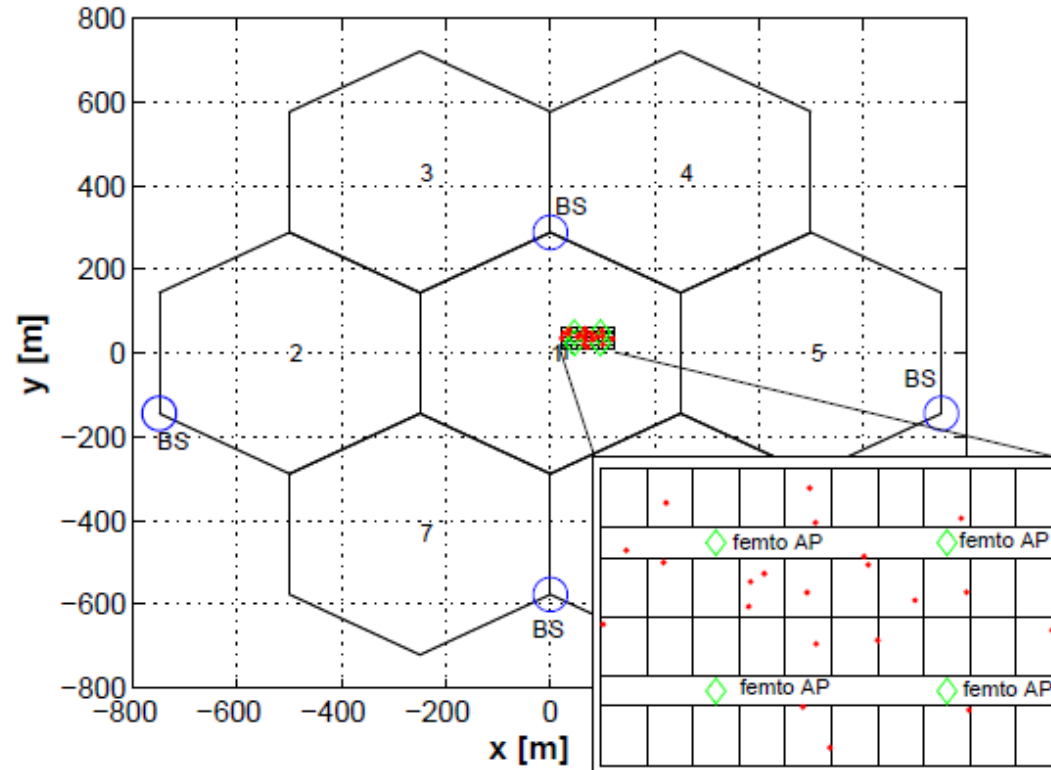
$$B = B_1 + B_2 + B_3$$



„Simple“ frequency reuse concept



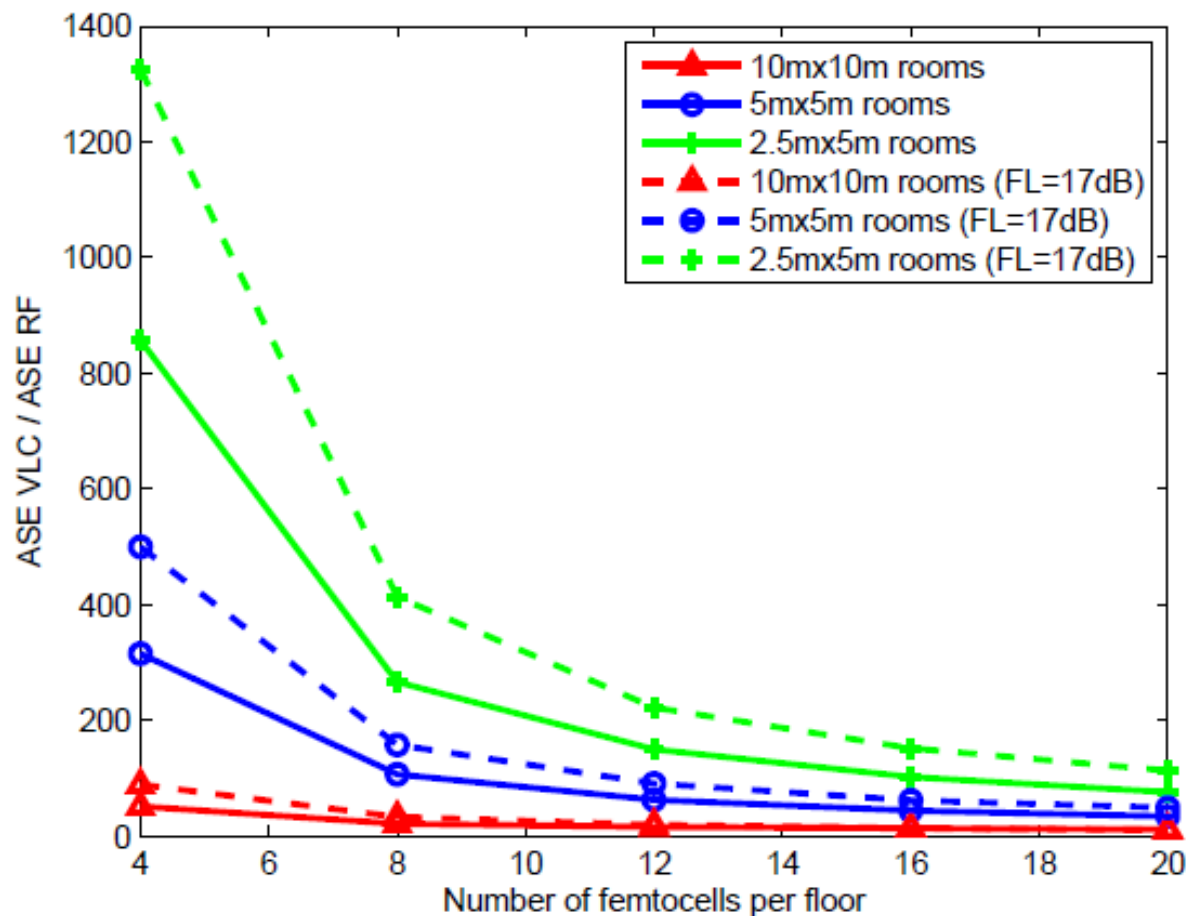
Area Spectral Efficiency



Rooms: 10 x 10 x 3 m
Corridors: 5 x 100 x 3 m

- Indoor users
- ◇ Femto Access Point (AP)
- Macrocell Base Station (BS)

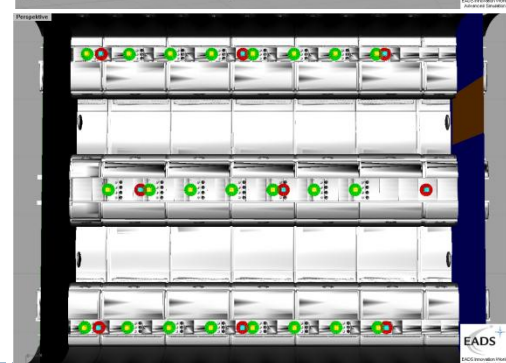
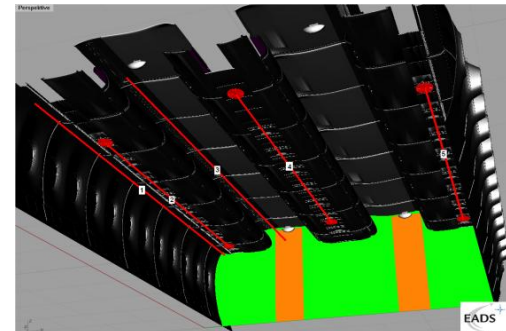
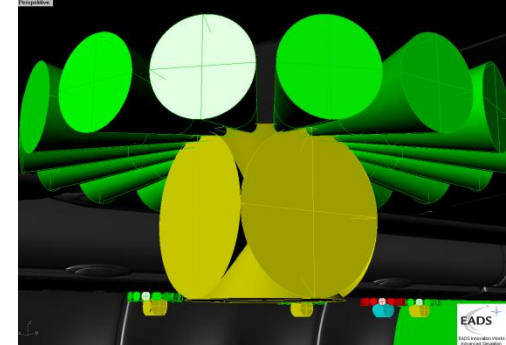
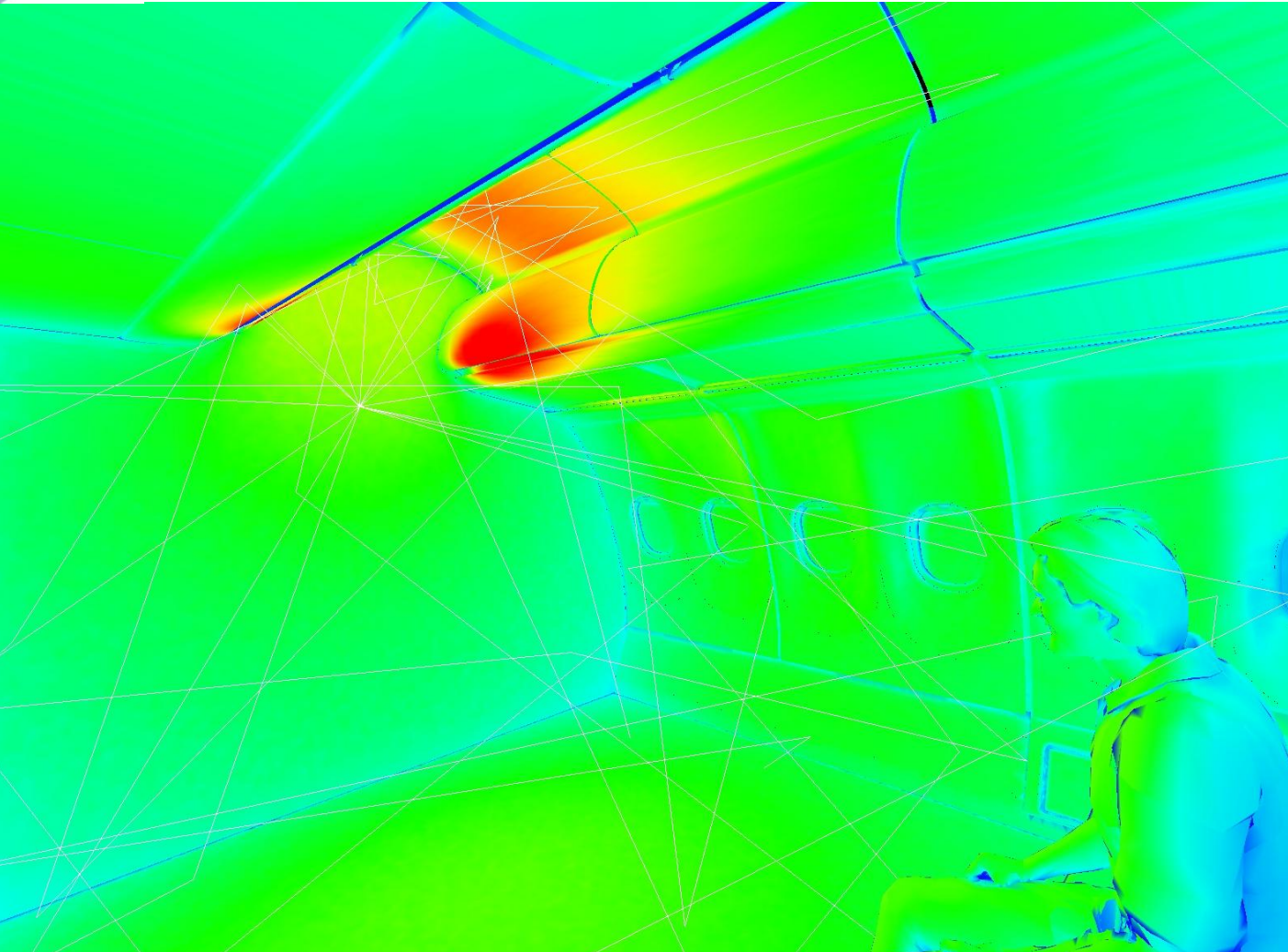
„Simple“ frequency reuse concept

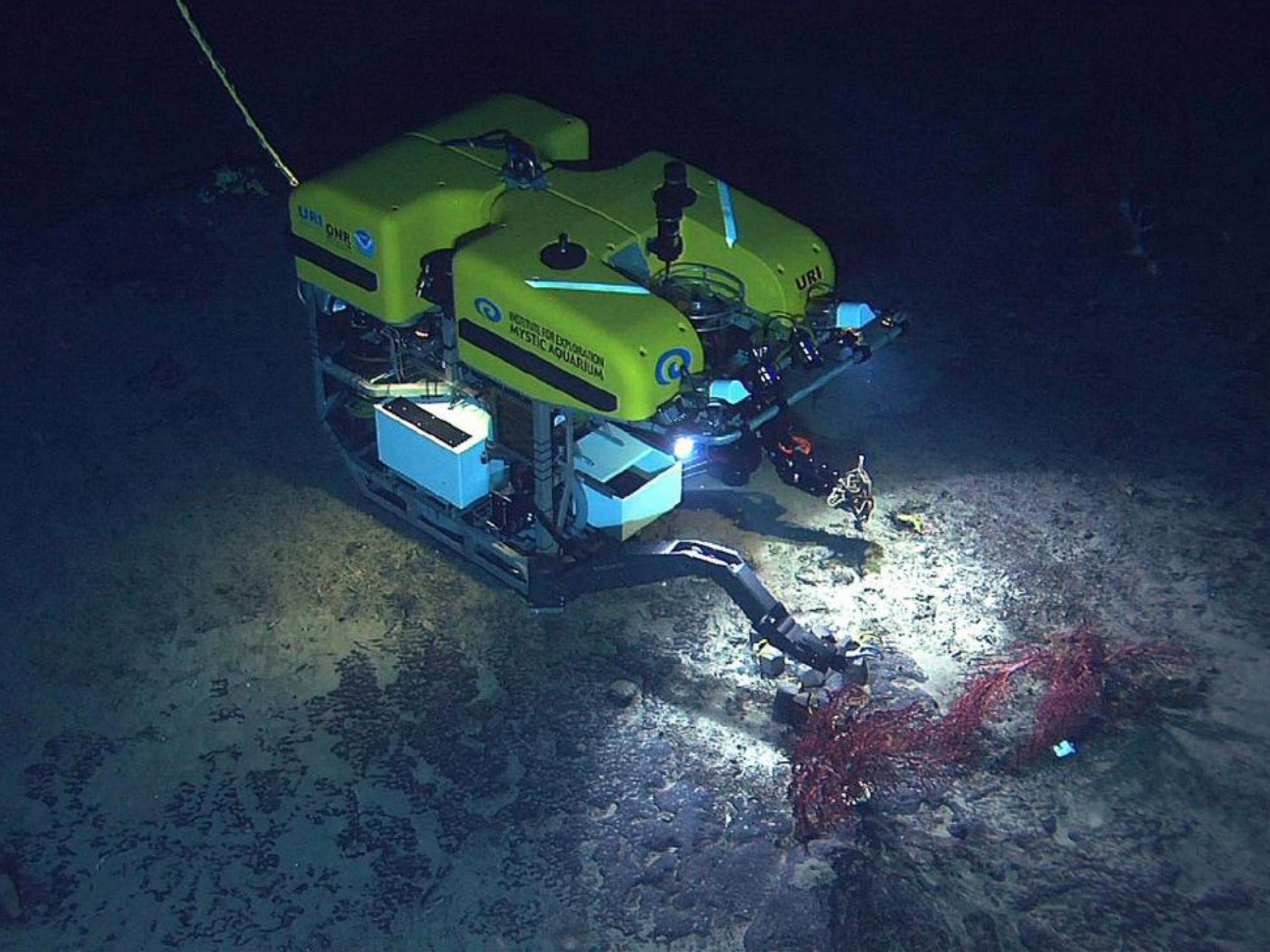


I. Stefan, et al., "Area Spectral Efficiency Performance Comparison between VLC and RF Femtocell Networks, ICC 2013"



Signal propagation in aircraft cabin















1010101

1110001

Concluding Remarks

- ▶ Li-Fi harnesses unregulated, unused and vast amount of electromagnetic spectrum for high speed wireless communication
- ▶ Li-Fi enables wireless communication in areas RF does not work
- ▶ Can Li-Fi enable the Internet of Things and machine-to-machine (M2M) communication?
- ▶ Will Li-Fi together with RF form the kernel of 5G?