

**無線網路概論**

**Intro. to Wireless Internet**

**Lecture 14 –**

**Visible Light Communications**

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**YZU CSE**

# Lecture Material

- Partial from Princeton COS 463: Wireless Networks
  - <https://www.cs.princeton.edu/courses/archive/spring18/cos463/index.html>
- “Visible Light Communication: Concepts, Applications and Challenges,” IEEE Communications Surveys & Tutorials, Vol. 21, No. 4, pp. 3204-3237, 2019.
- “A framework for simultaneous message broadcasting using CDMA-based visible light communications,” IEEE Sensors Journal, Vol. 15, No. 12, pp. 6819-6827, 2015.

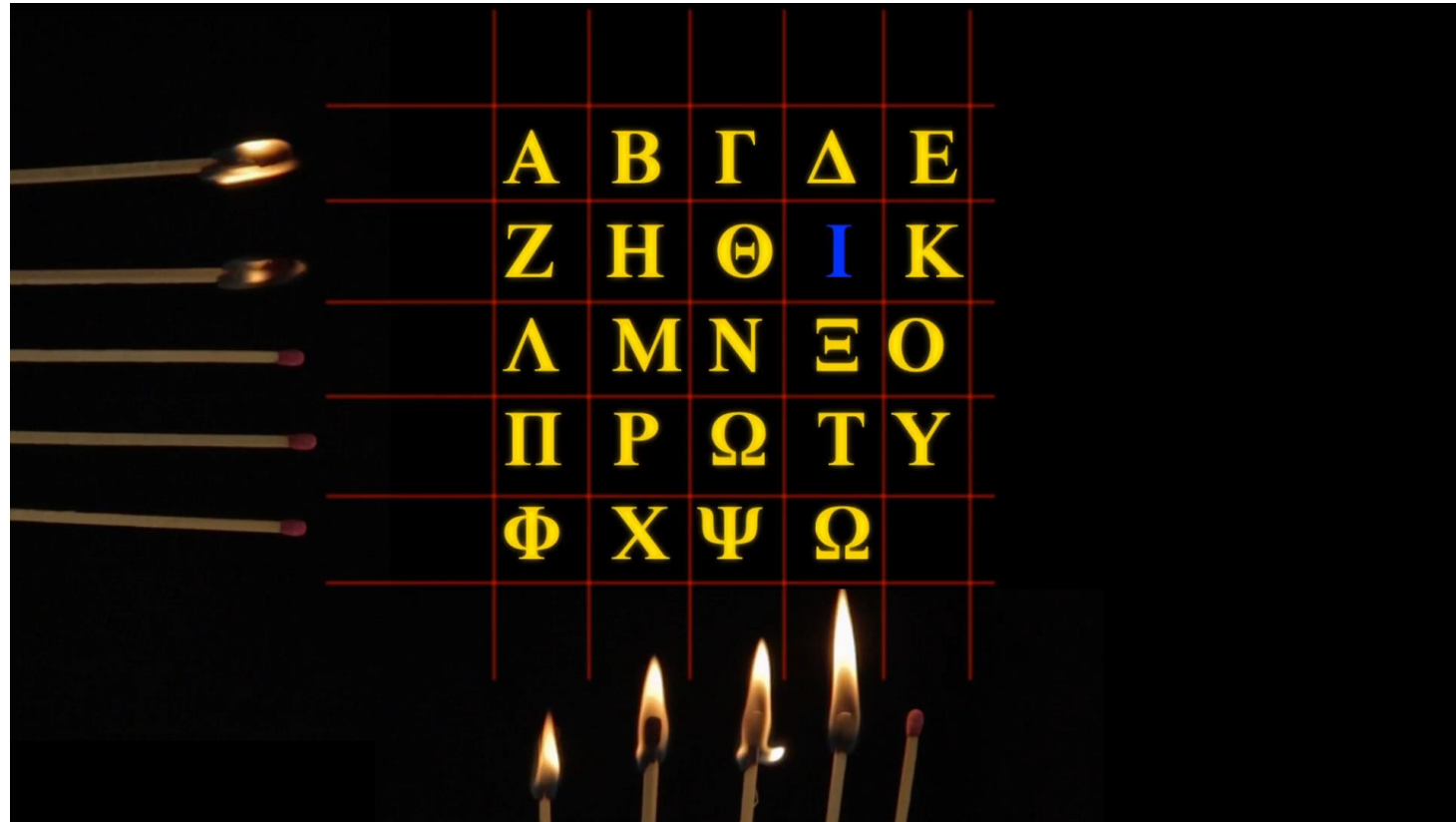
# VLC

- <https://youtu.be/iHWIZsIBj3Q>



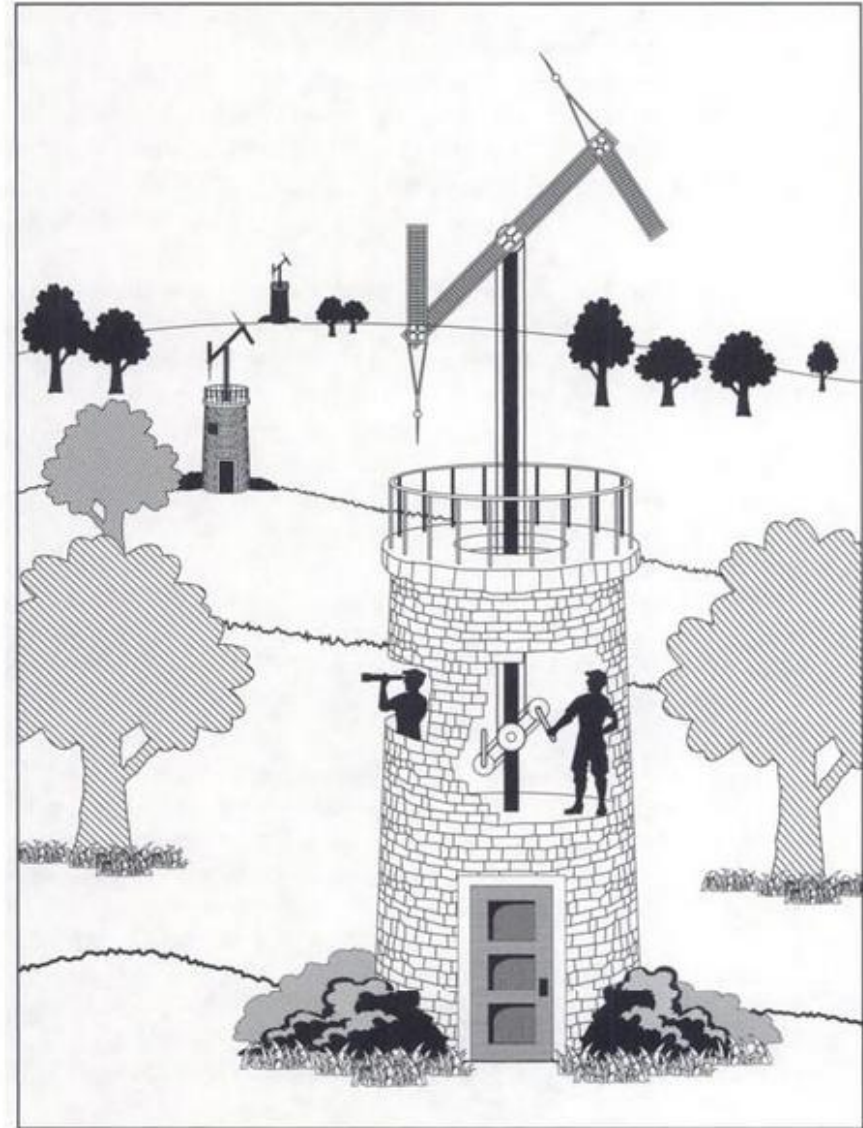
# History

- Visual telegraphy - the Polybius square
  - <https://youtu.be/WrNDeYjcCJA>



# History

- Optical telegraph by Charles Chappe
  - 92 combinations of the regulator and indicators

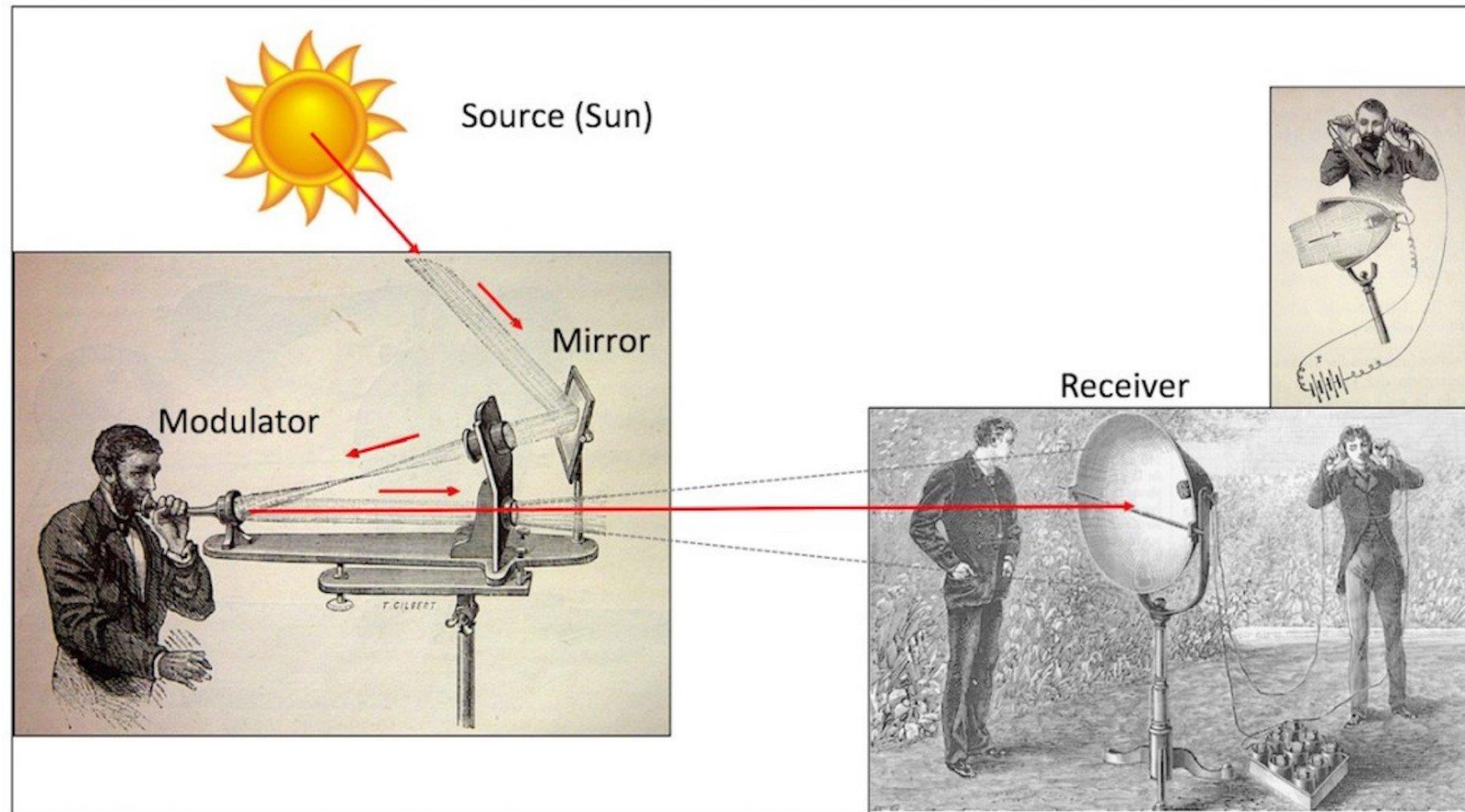


**Figure 19.** Semaphore towers. Previous to Claude Chappe's series of evenly spaced semaphore towers, communication was no faster than it was during antiquity. But with a little practice, Chappe's semaphore operators learned to transmit a simple sign over many miles in just a matter of minutes.



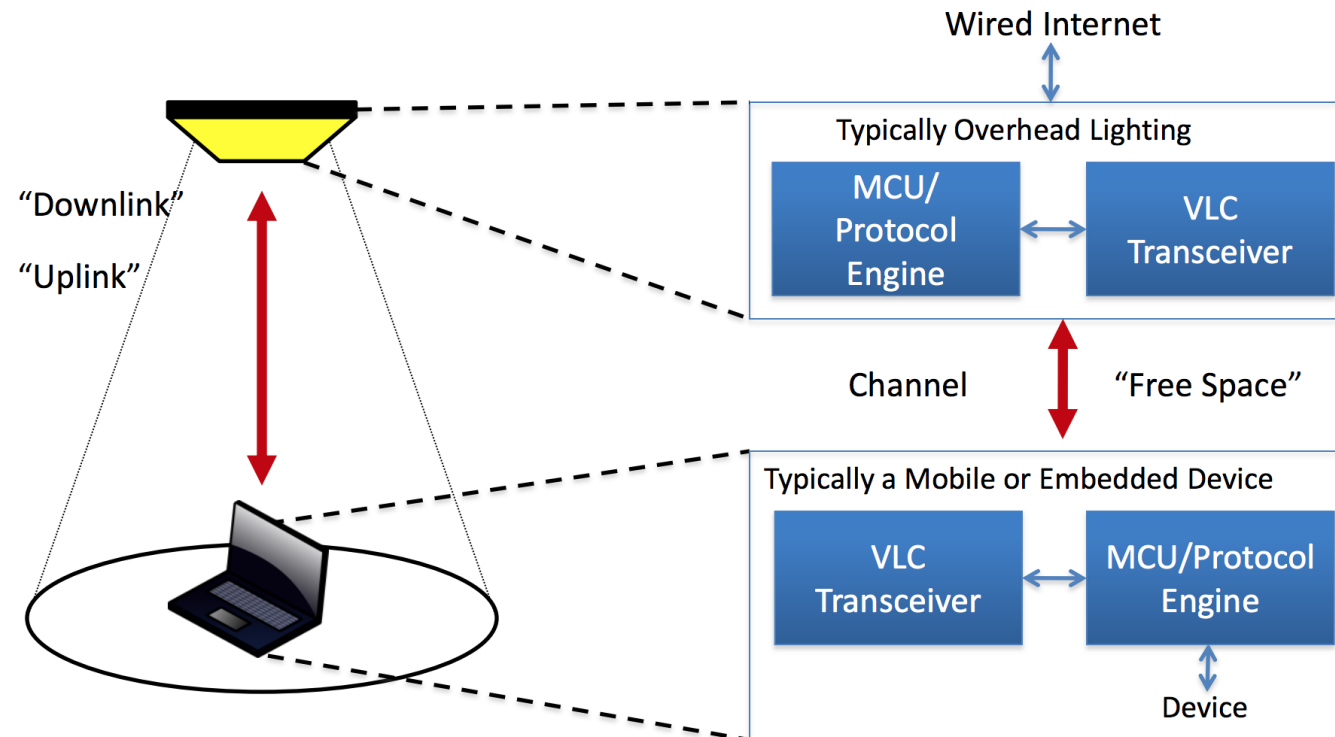
# History

- Photophone invented by Alexander Graham Bell



# What is VLC

- Visible light communication (VLC)
  - visible light source as a signal transmitter
  - air as a transmission medium
  - appropriate photodiode as a signal receiving component



# What is VLC

- Key idea behind VLC
  - Eye cannot detect fast light switching but semiconductor- based photodetector can do





# What is VLC – Light Source



## Incandescent bulb

- First industrial light source
- 5% light, 95% heat
- Few thousand hours of life

Lumens/W: 10-18

Efficiency

5%

Power  
usage

> 40%



## Fluorescent lamp

- White light
- 25% light
- Lifetime ~10,000s hours

Lumens/W: 35-100

25%

20%



## Light emitting diode (LED) – since 1990s

- Compact and 50% light
- Uses 2-17 watts of electricity
- More than 100,000 hours lifespan

Lumens/W: 35-150

80%  
60%

10%

# What is VLC — Light detector

- **PIN photodiode**

- low cost, large area
- limited sensitivity



- **Image sensors**

- **Charge-Coupled Device (CCD):** low cost, slow due to serial read-out



# Motivation of VLC

- Privacy-preserving
- Resilient to Interference
- Radio spectrum crunch
  - Ever-growing user demands meet limited radio spectrum

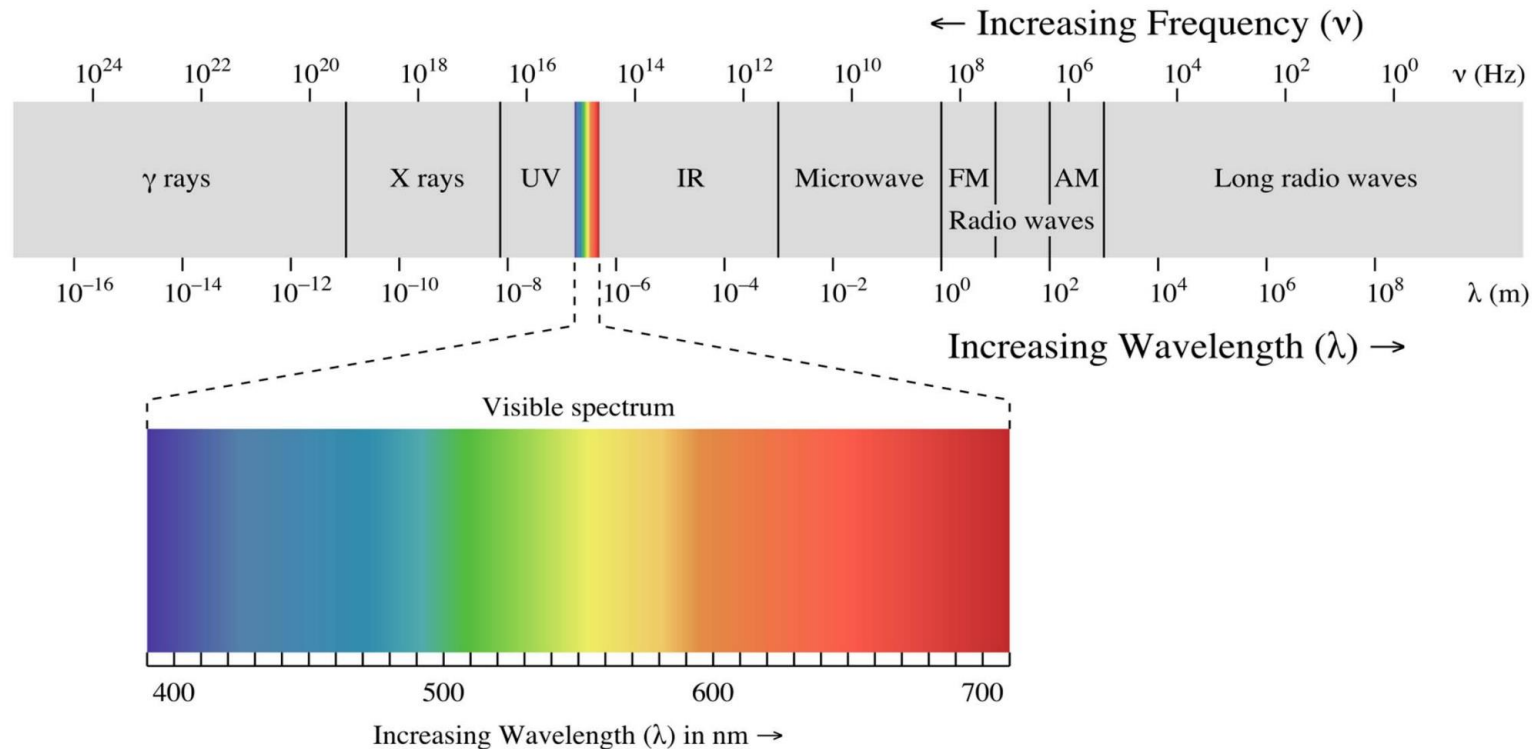


# Related Terms

- Visible Light Communication (VLC)
- Optical Wireless Communications (OWC)
  - infrared, visible or ultraviolet
- Free-Space Optical Communication
  - large-scale transmissions, such as communications between satellites and towers on Earth
- Light Fidelity (Li-Fi)
  - two-way multi-user communication and high speed

# Looking into VLC spectrum

- VLC has a large frequency band
  - 390 nm – 700 nm in wavelengths
  - 430 – 770 THz in frequency

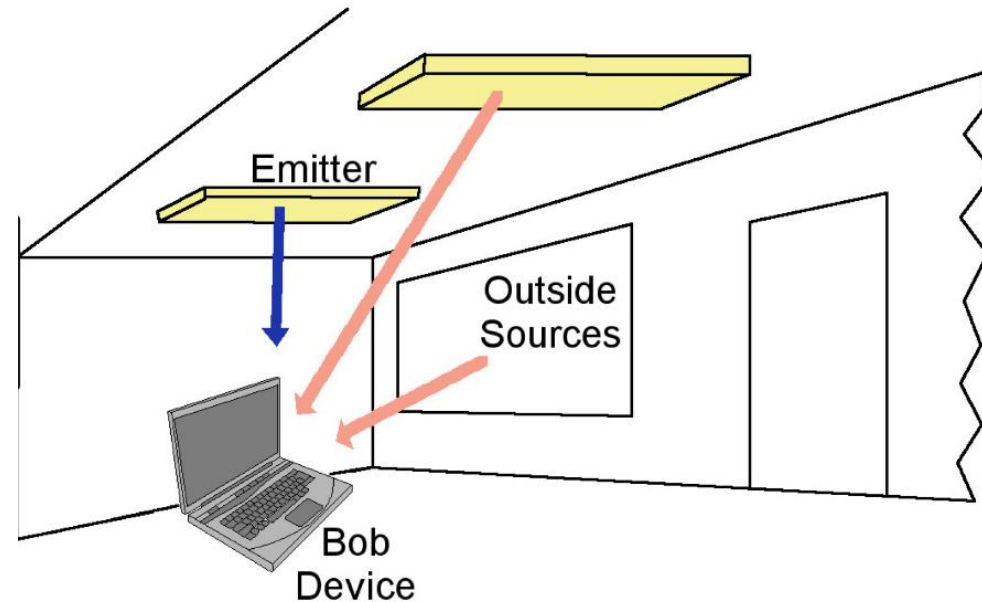
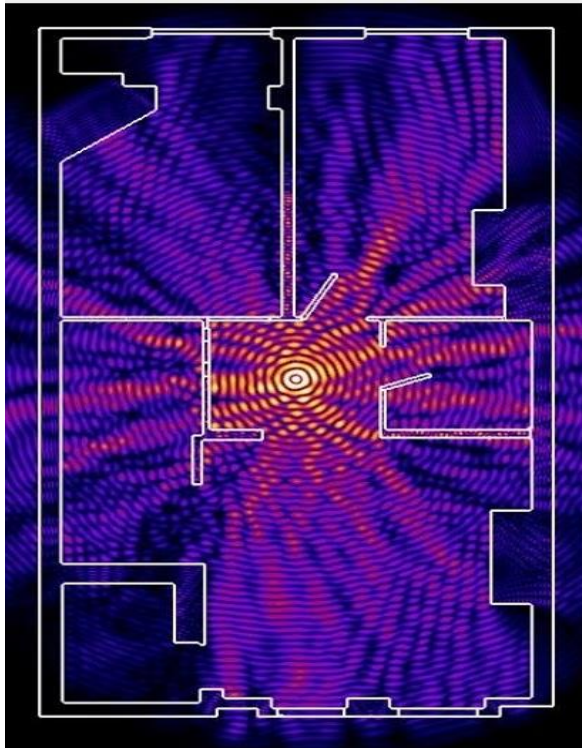




# Key Difference from RF

- RF communication works in a Non-line-of-sight environment
- VLC requires Line-of-sight between the transmitter and the receiver

RF signals



# RF vs. VLC

	Wi-Fi	NFC	Bluetooth	VLC
Spectrum	2.4 GHz / 5 GHz	13.56 MHz	2.4 GHz	~ 400~THz
Infrastructure	Access Point	Device	Device	Illumination
Ambient interference	Low	Low	Low	High
Security	Limited	Limited	Limited	High
Coverage	High	Low	Low	Limited
System complexity	High	High	High	Low
Electromagnetic interference	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

# VLC Advantages

- The use of existing infrastructure also to provide communication services.
- The size of the spectrum compared to radio frequency
  - The spectrum of visible light is totally free, generating diverse commercial and academic possibilities
- Light offers security advantages when compared to radio waves
- High frequency of waves (in the THz magnitude), which allows for very high data rate communication

# VLC Systems

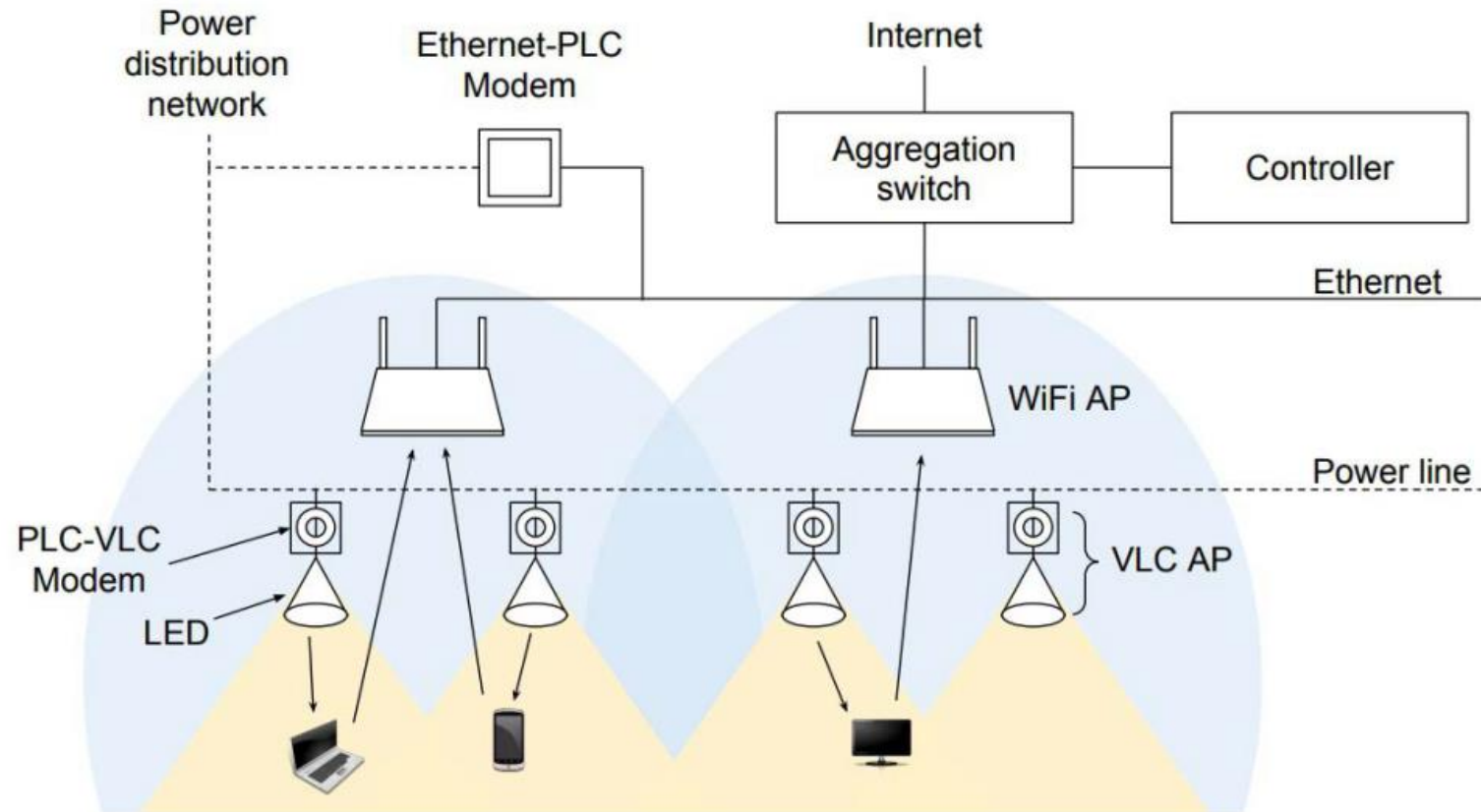
- LiFi-XC
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yzWNB9CkpmA>



# VLC Systems

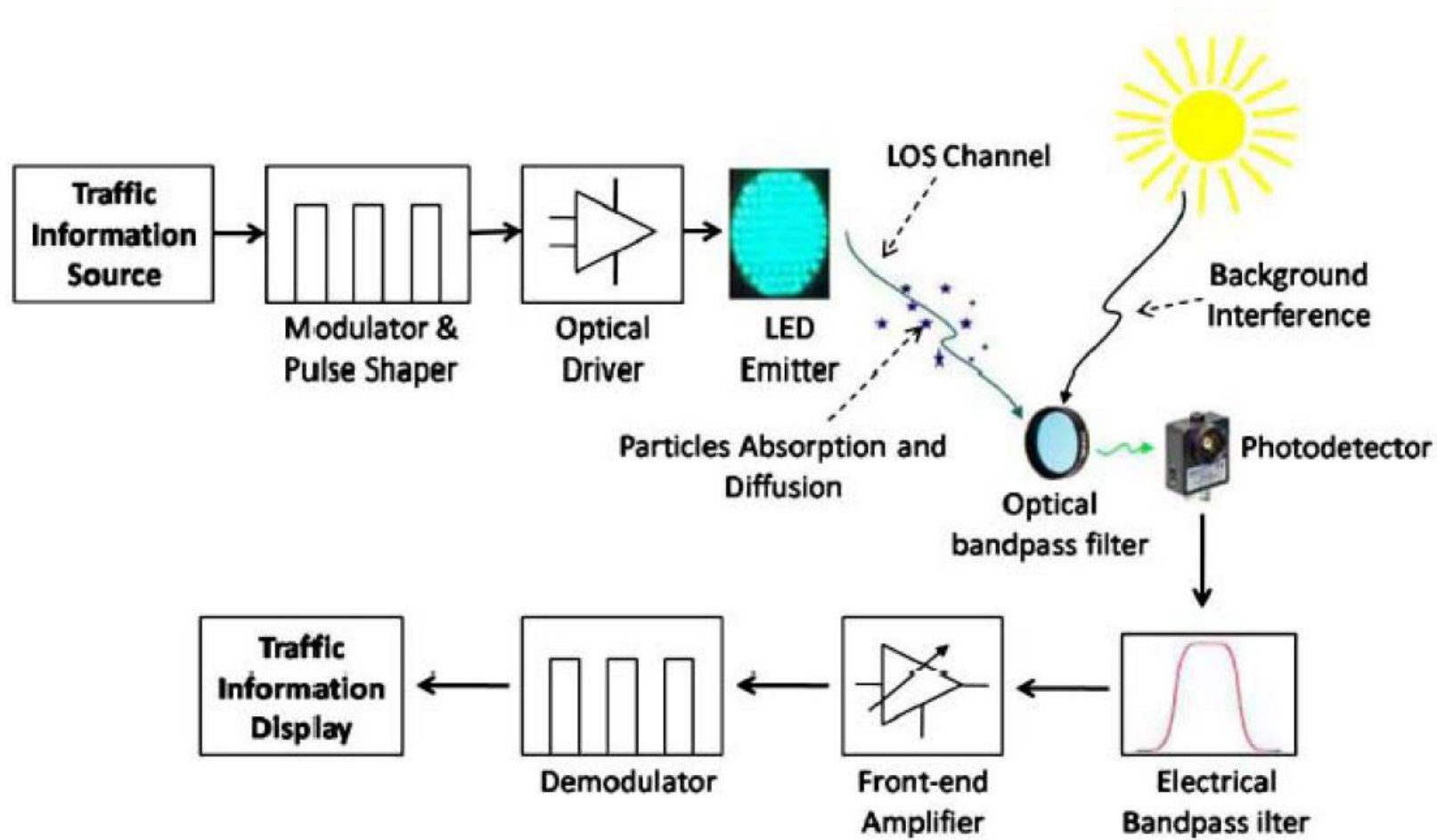
- PLifi

- The hybrid platform PLifi was created with the purpose of joining Wi-Fi to VLC, in an internal environment





# Communication Architecture



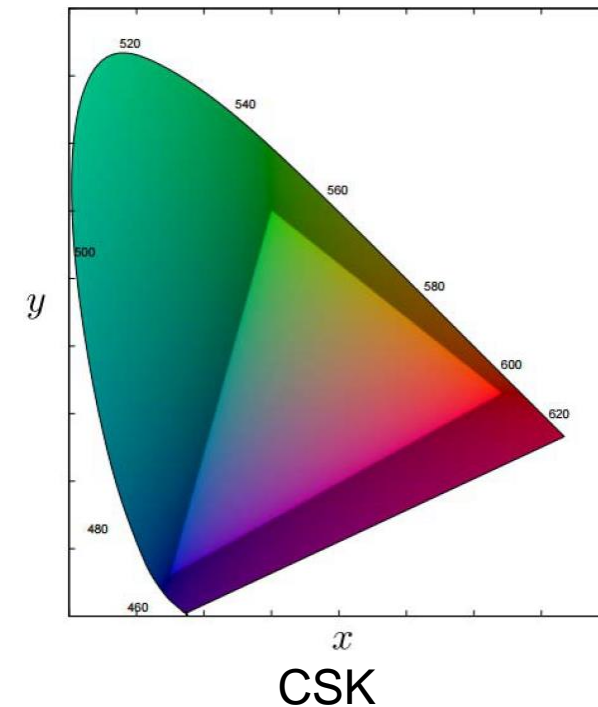
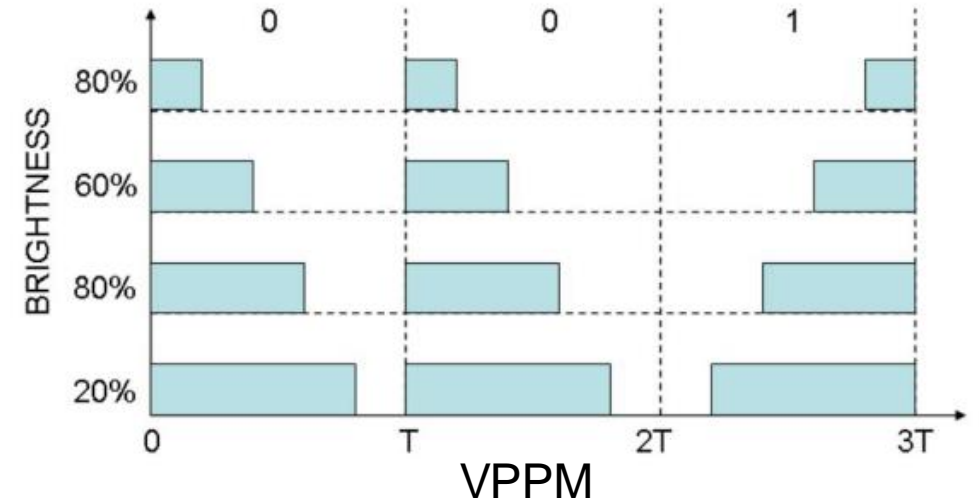
# VLC PHY

## ■ Modulation schemes

- OOK (On-Off Keying)
- Variable Pulse Position Modulation (VPPM) (PWM)
- CSK (Color Shift Keying)
- OFDM (Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing)

## ■ Requirements

- dimming
- flickering

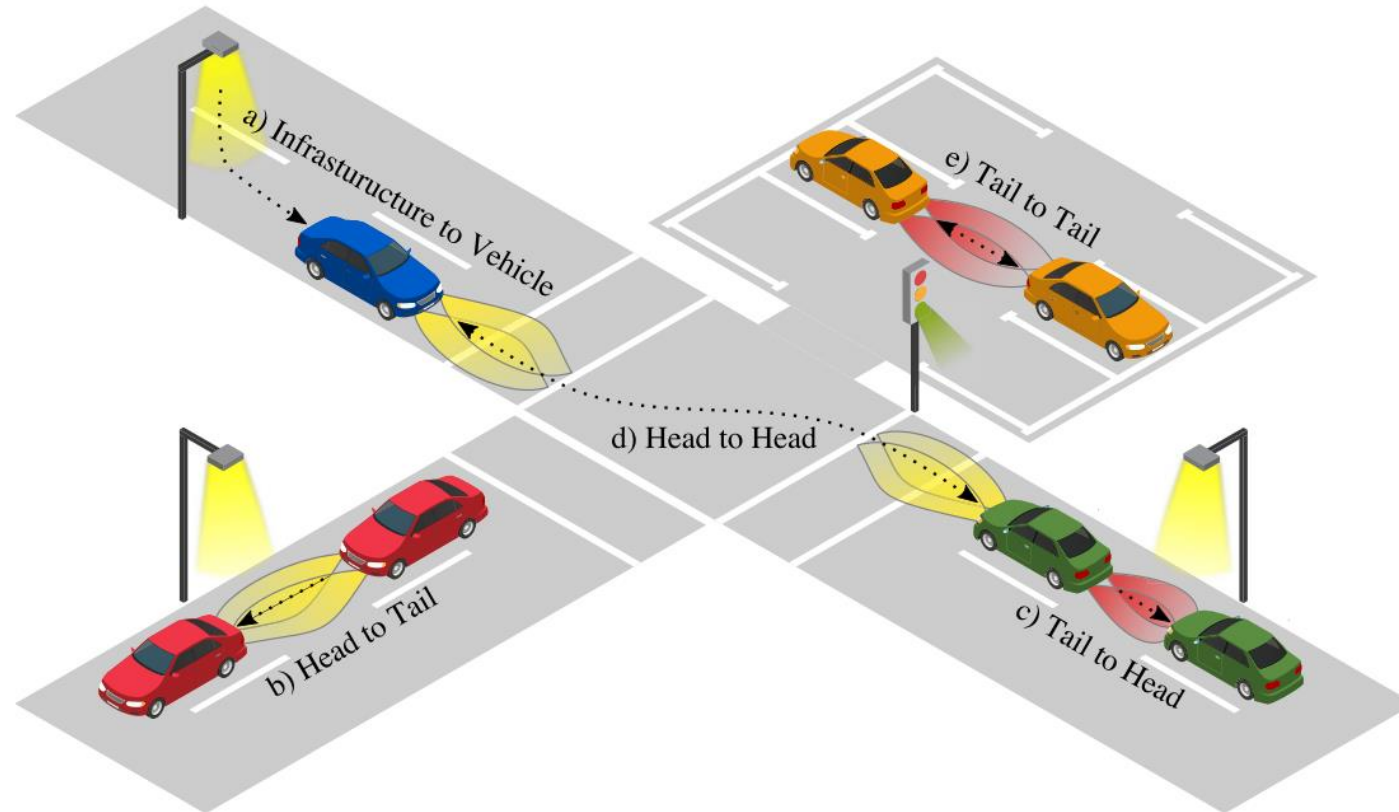


# VLC MAC

- TDMA
- SDMA
- CSMA
- OFDMA
- CDMA

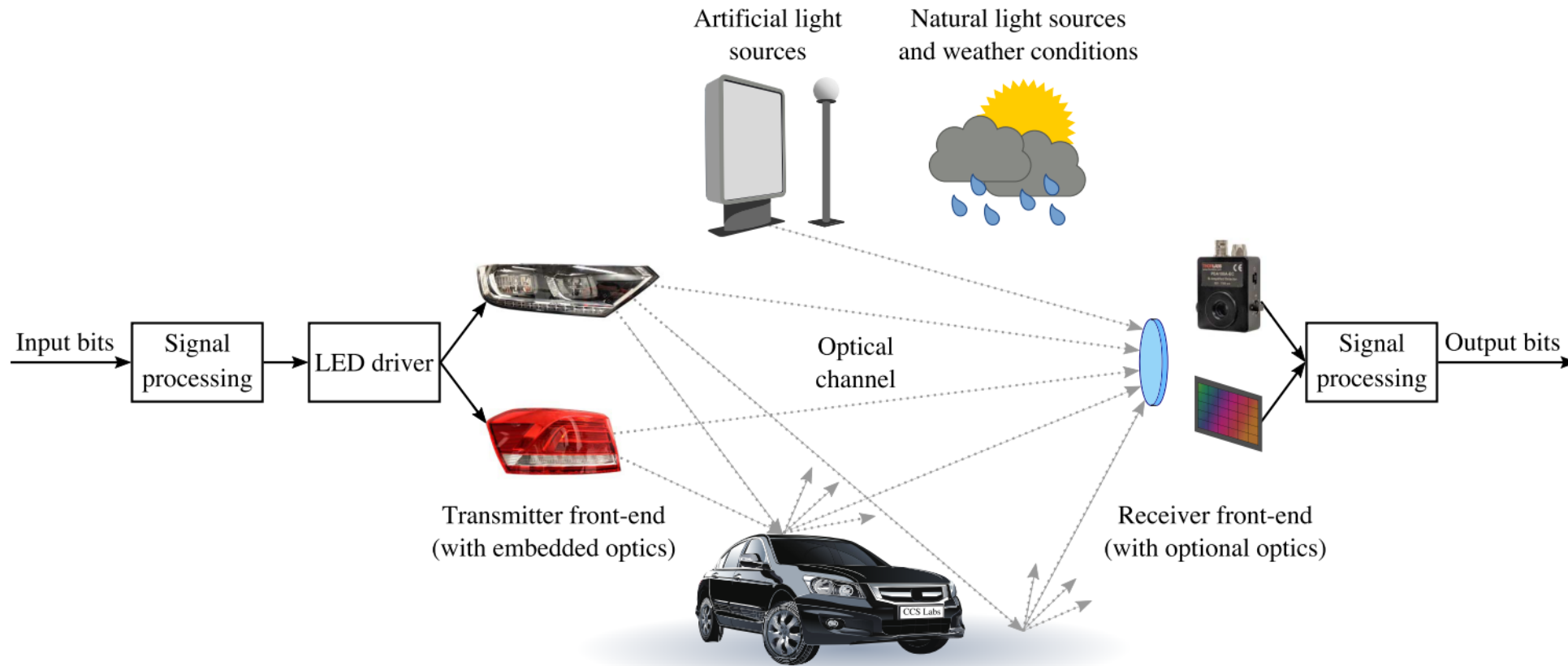
# VLC Applications

- Vehicular VLC



# VLC Applications

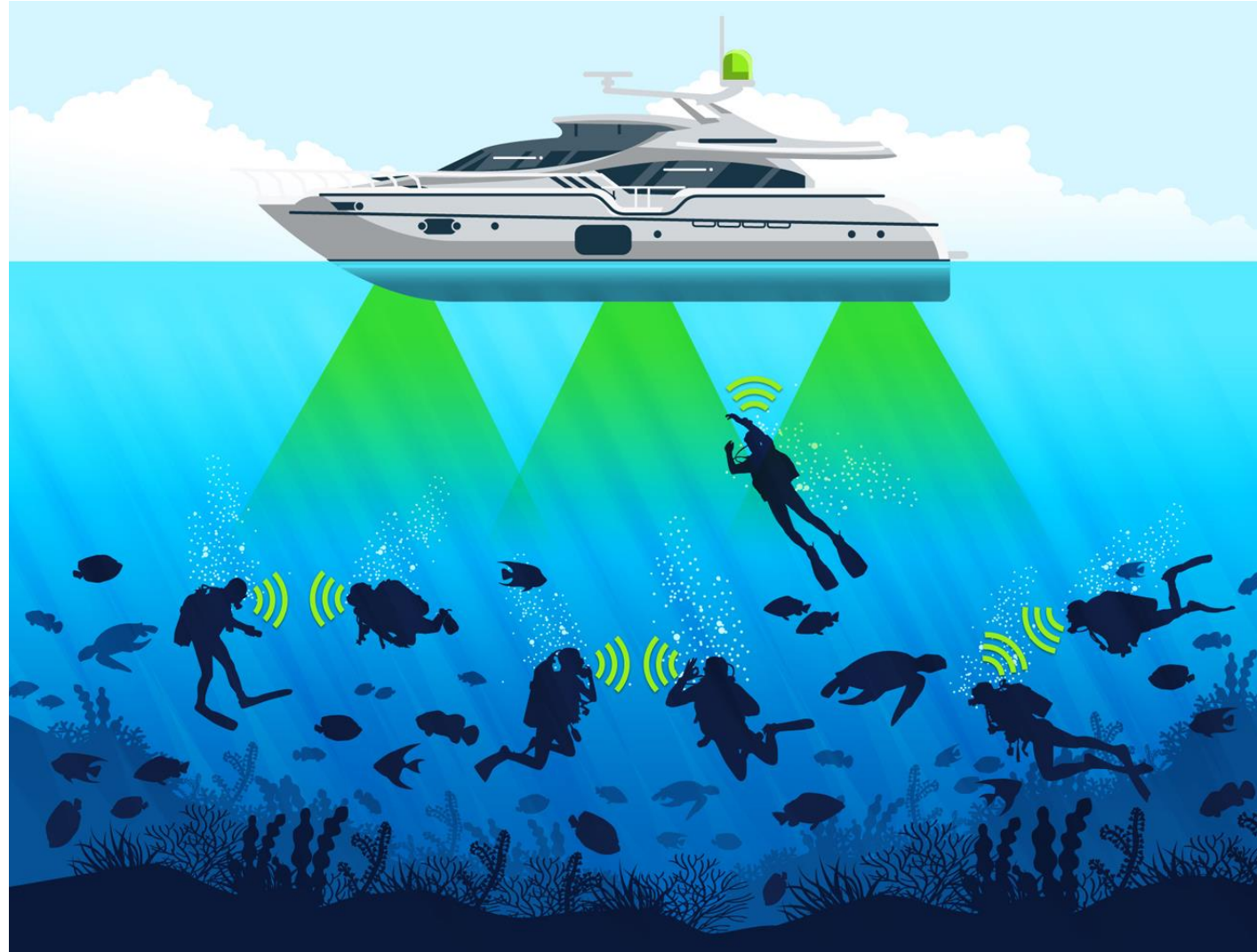
## ■ Vehicular VLC





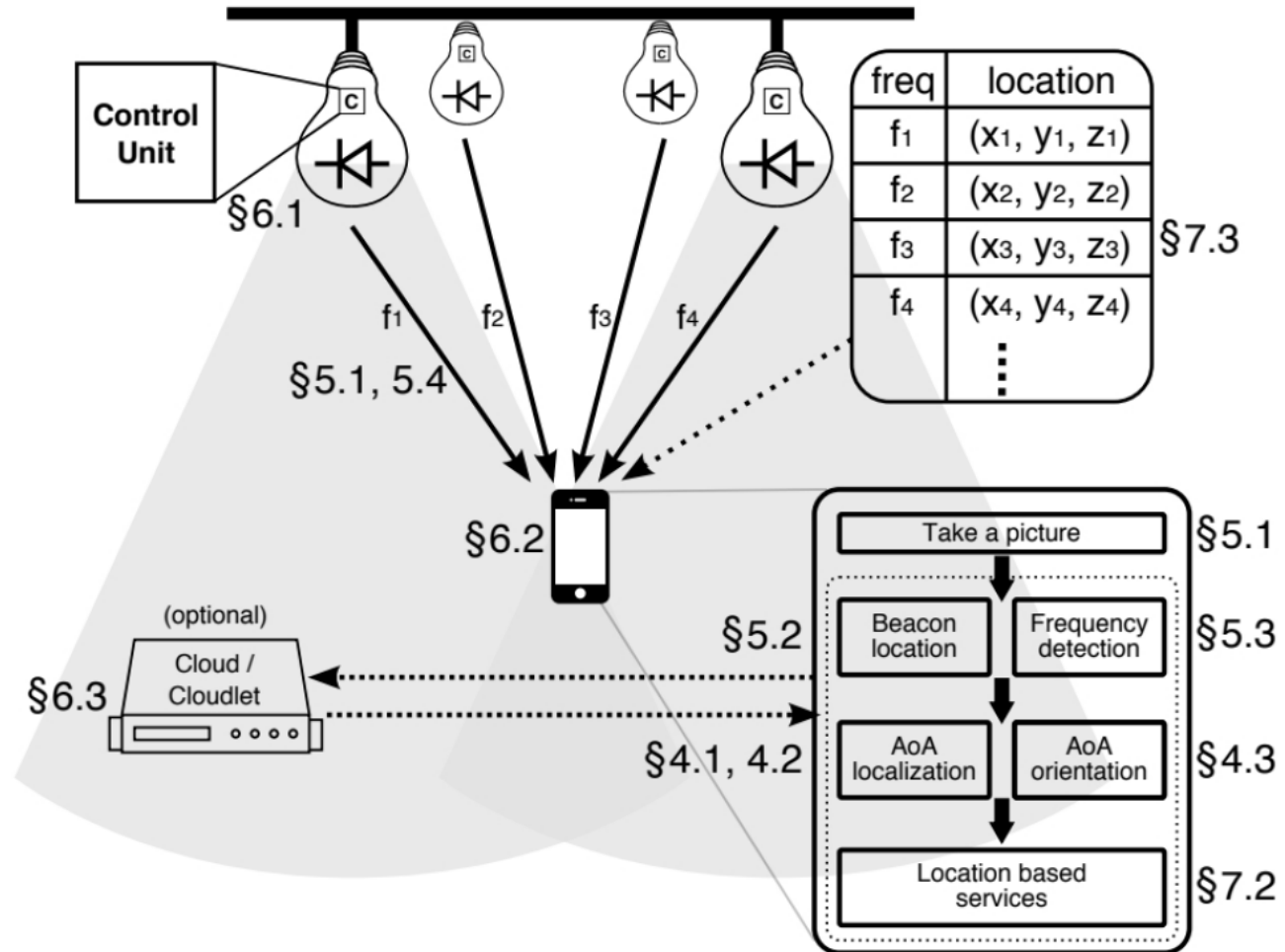
# VLC Applications

- Underwater VLC



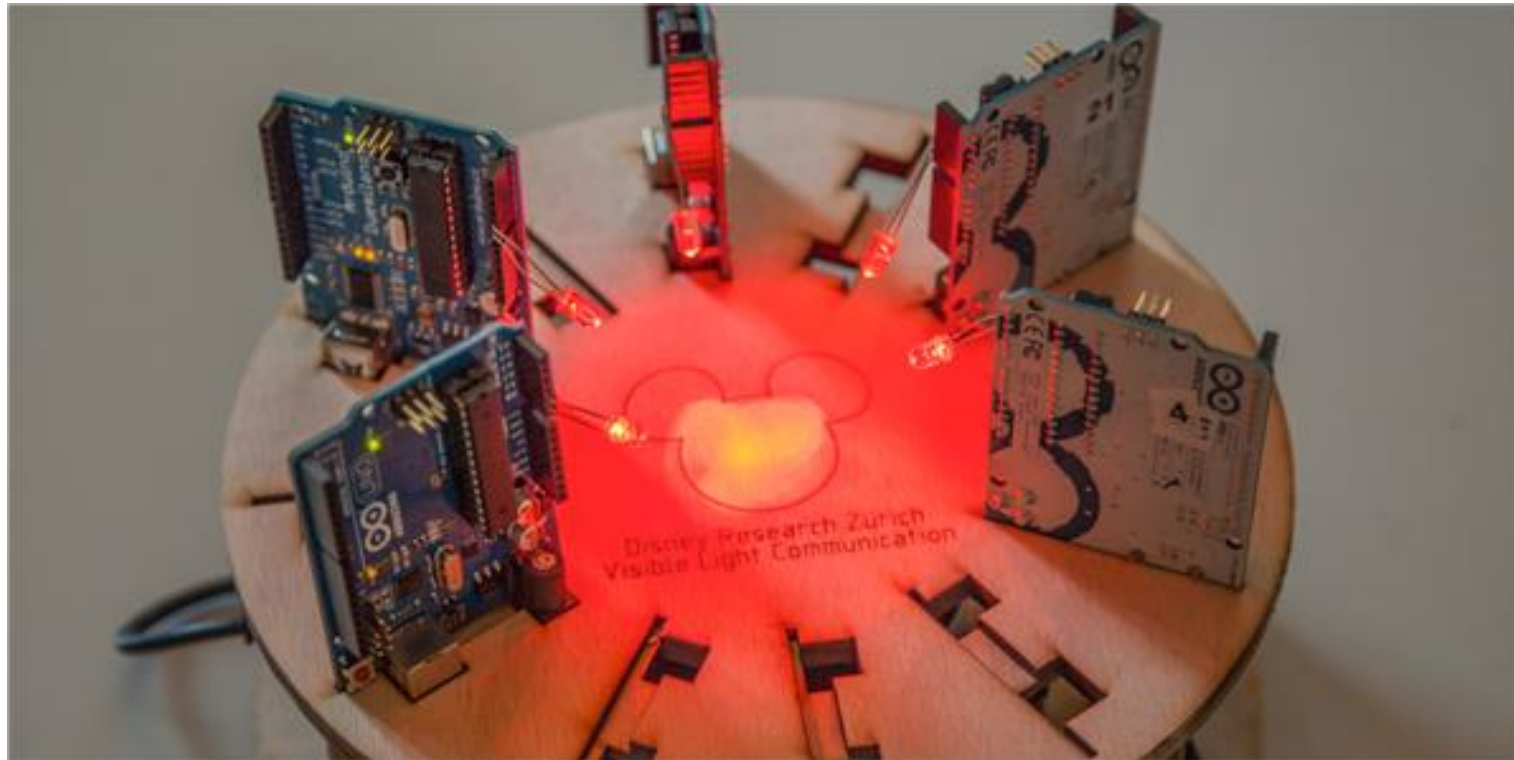
# VLC Applications

## Indoor Positioning



# Other Schemes

- LED-to-LED communications

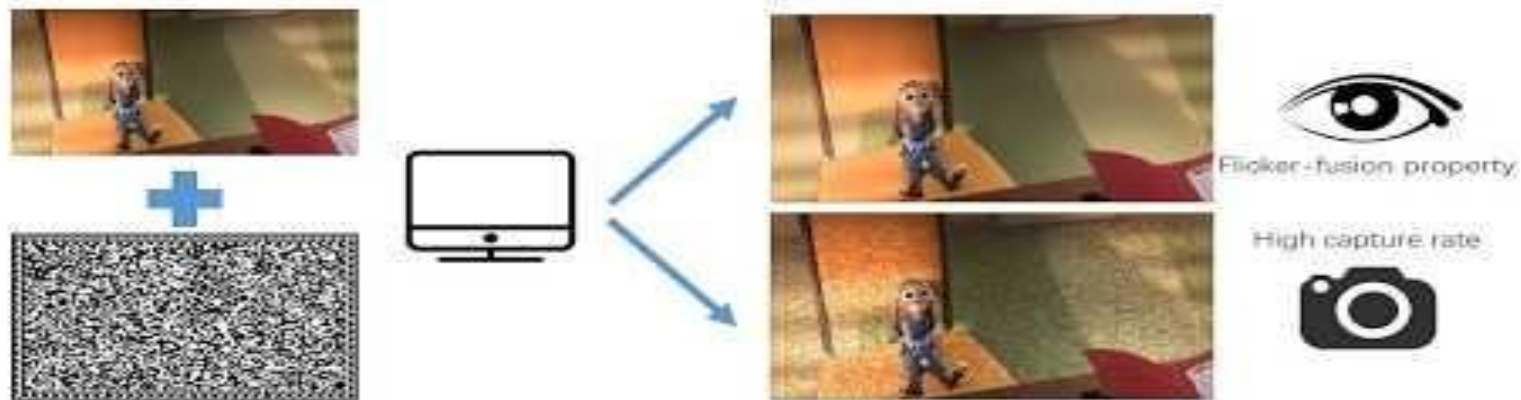


# Other Schemes

- Screen-to-camera communications
- <https://youtu.be/WmkyRoM4Ja4>

## Hidden Screen-Camera Channel

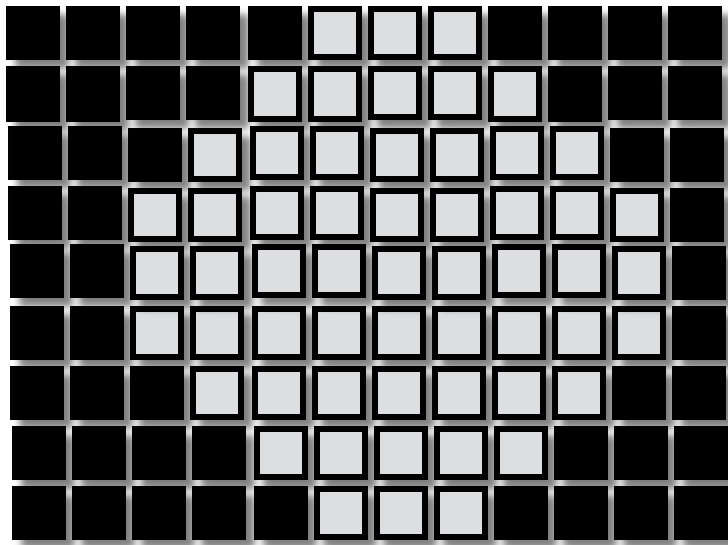
Embed data into high frame rate primary videos **unobtrusively**



# Other Schemes

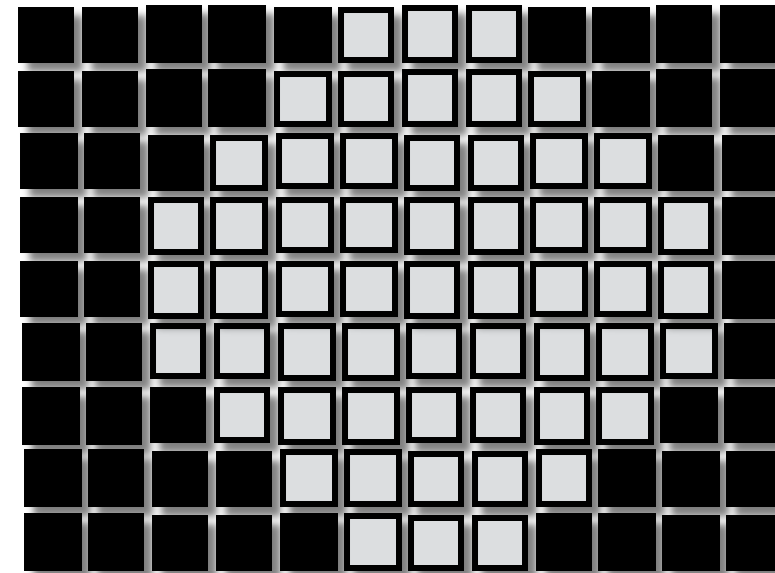
- Smartphone-based

## Global Shutter



Pixels exposed  
SIMULTANEOUSLY

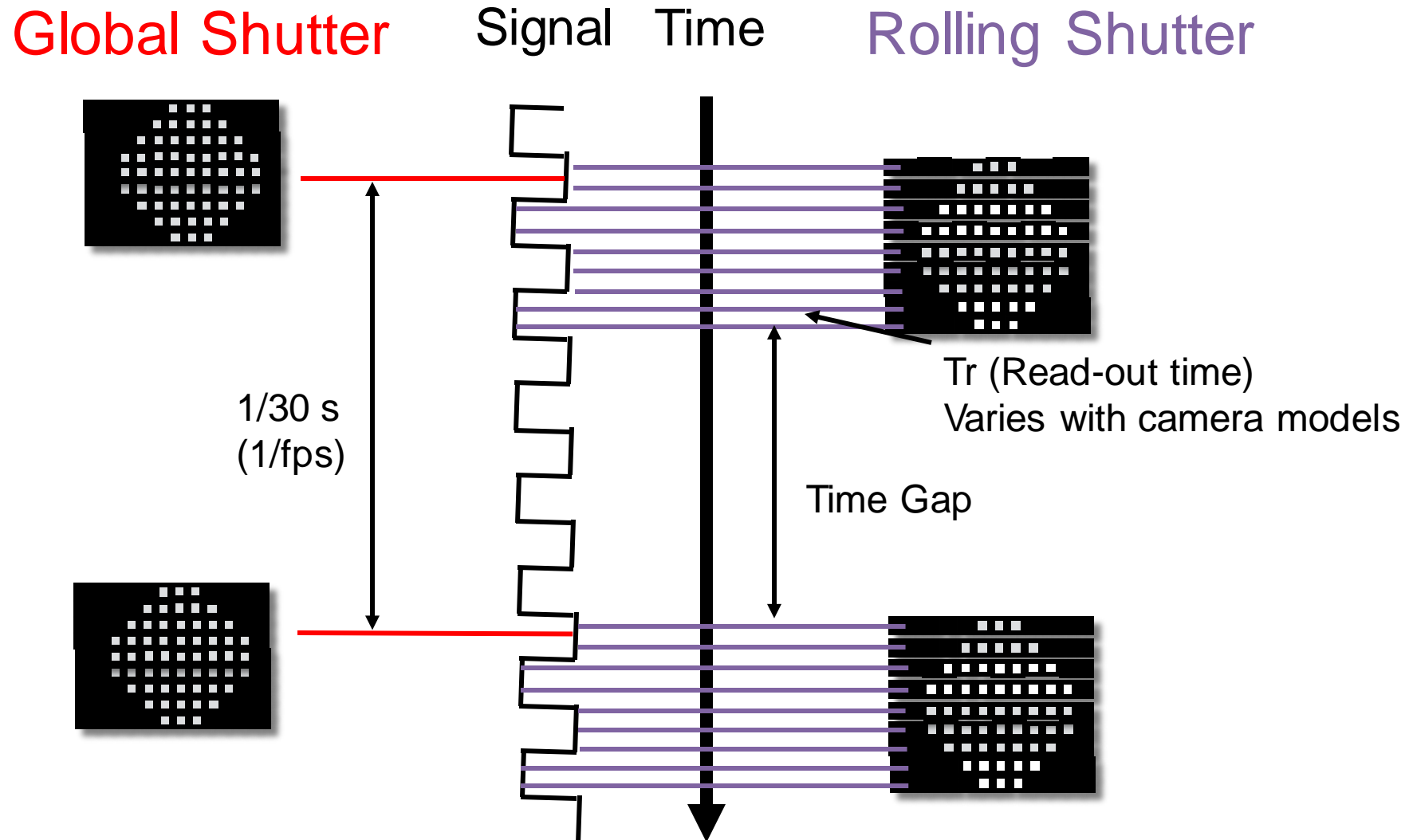
## Rolling Shutter

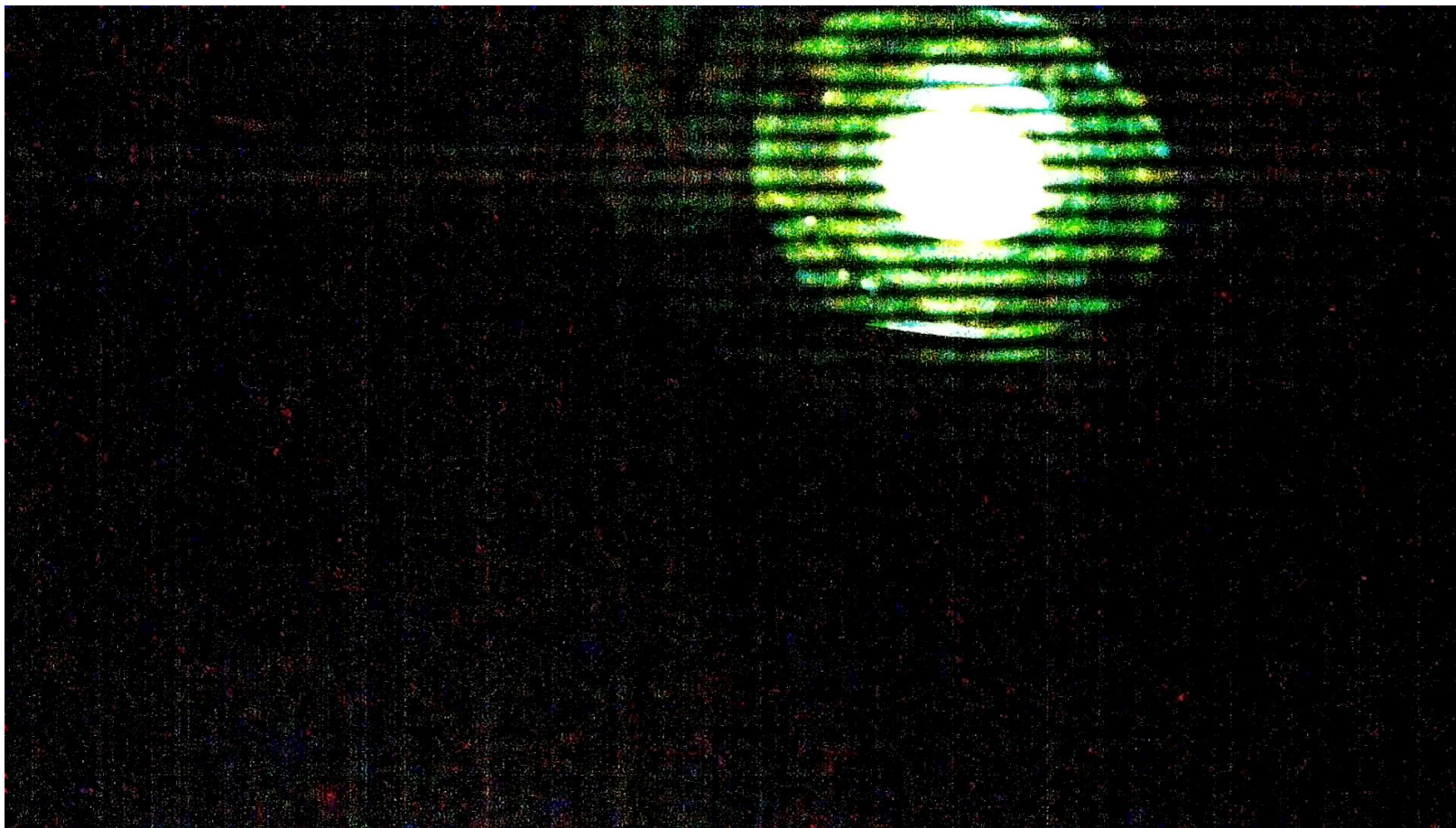


Pixels exposed  
ROW BY ROW

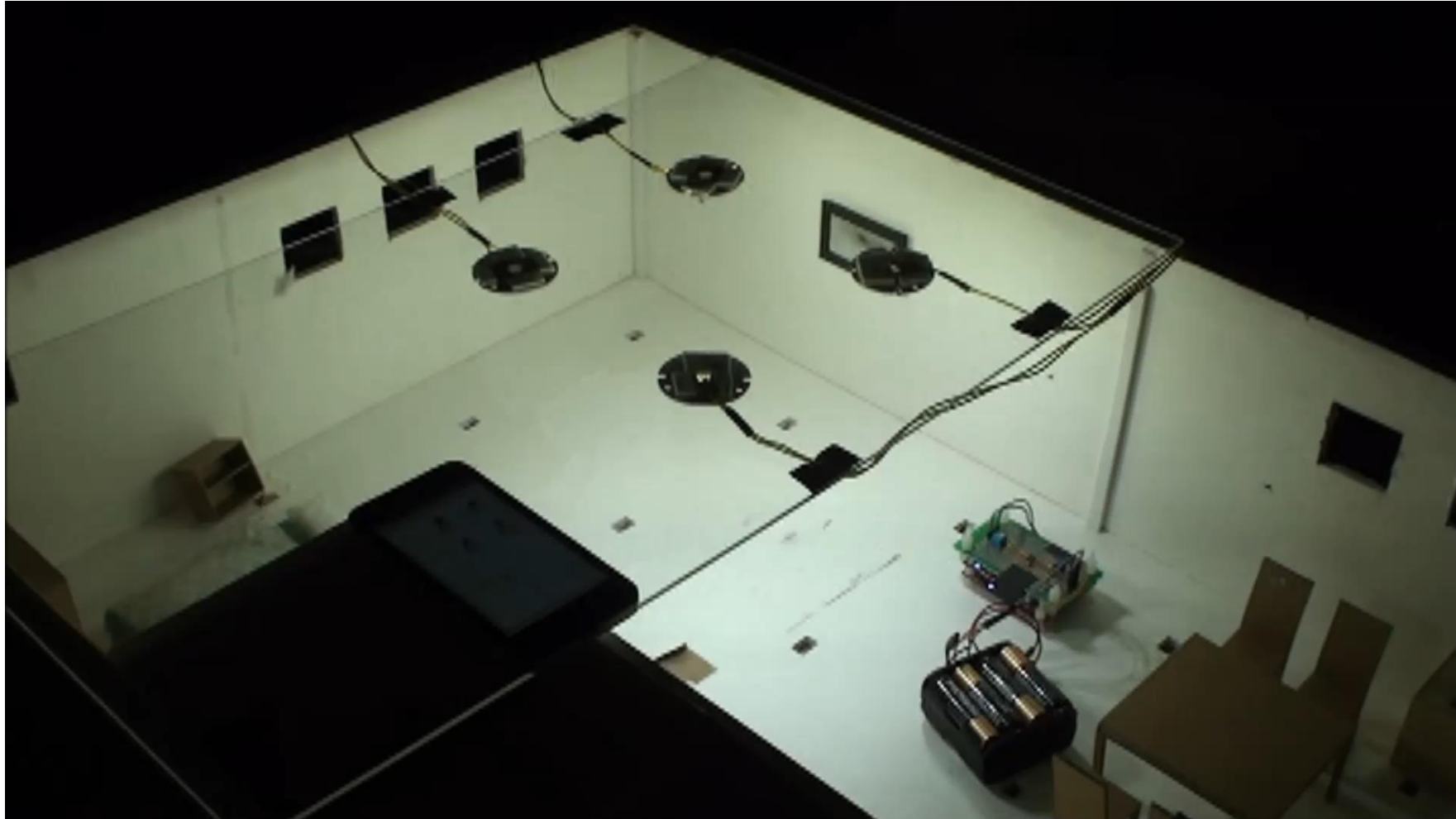


# How rolling shutter works ?





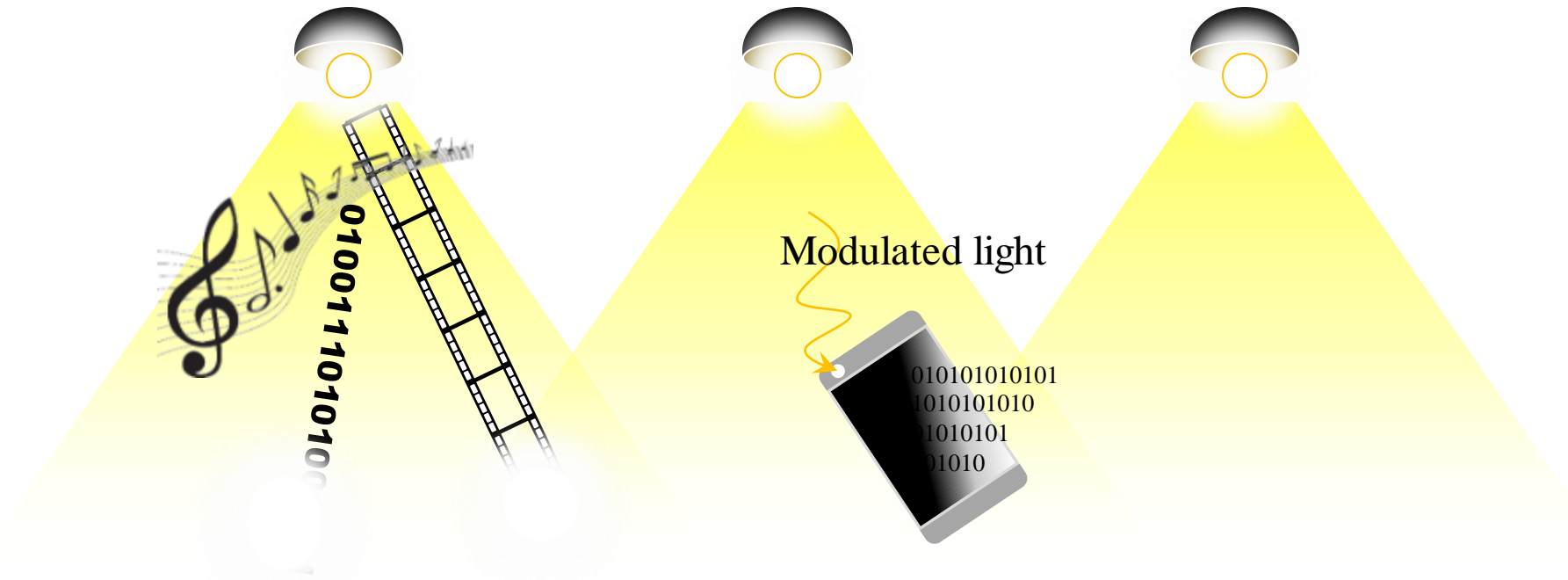
# VLC LBS & Broadcasting System



# INTRODUCTION

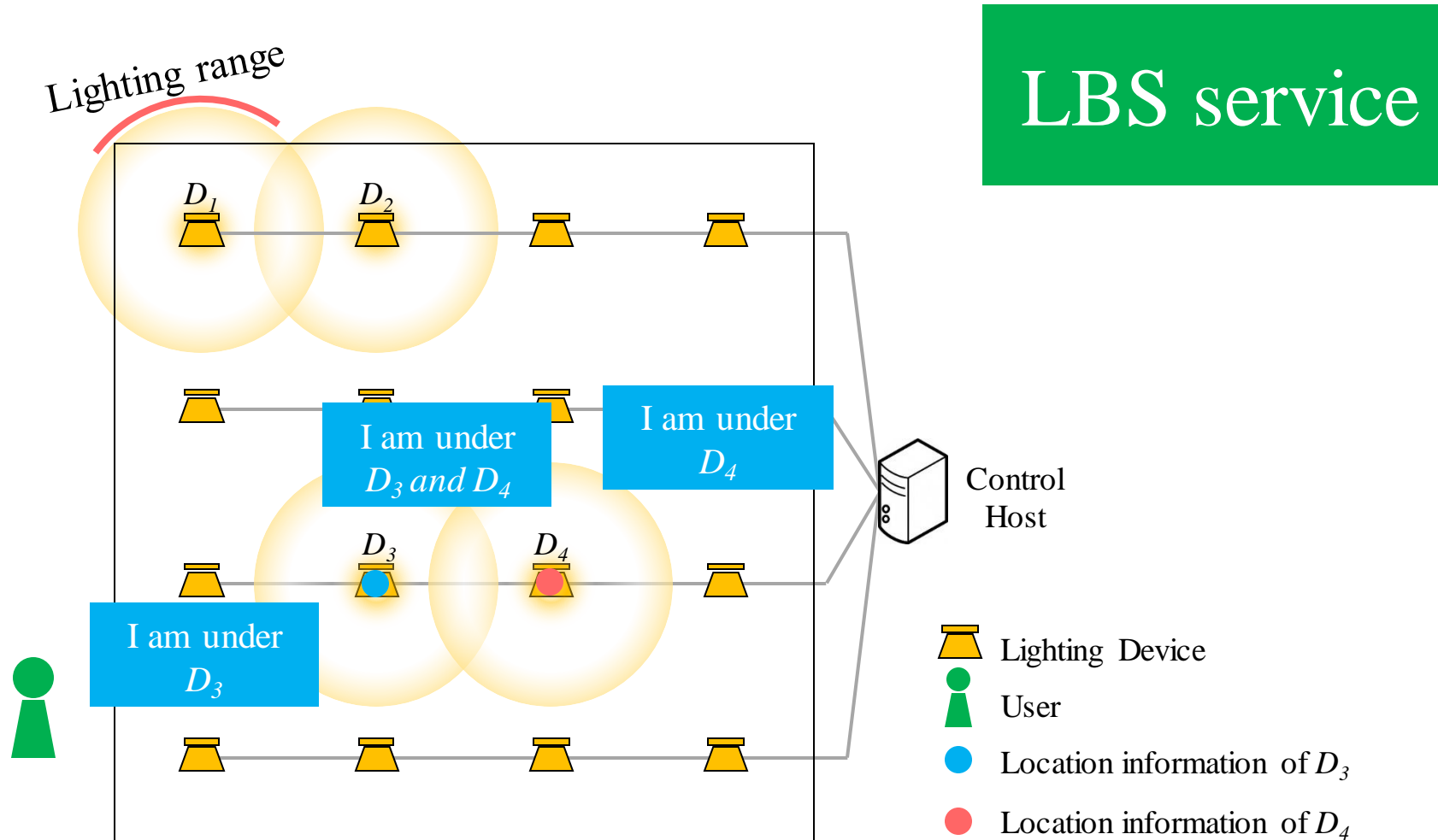
## GOAL

- Construct an indoor *Visible Light Communication* system to provide essential information for applications through **broadcasting**
  - Utilize devices with **LEDs** to transmit information
  - Utilize devices with **Photodiode** to receive information



# INTRODUCTION

## GOAL



- **CDMA** is a well-known spread spectrum technique in radio communications
  - Interference **Avoidance**
  - Sources are allowed to **simultaneously** send data over a **common channel**
  - Each source is assigned a unique **code**
    - The code is **different** from source to source
    - All codes are **orthogonal**
  - Receivers will receive the **multiplexed signal** of multiple sources
    - Individual data can be extracted by computing inner product of the code  $c_i$  and the received signal

$c_1$	$(1, -1, 1, -1)$
$c_2$	$(1, -1, -1, 1)$

$(1, -1, 1, -1) \cdot (1, -1, -1, 1) = 0$

orthogonal



# INTRODUCTION

## CDMA BASICS

- Given any two different codes  $c_i$  and  $c_j$ , the following **orthogonal properties** must hold:

$$c_i \cdot c_j = 0 \quad c_i \cdot \bar{c}_j = 0$$

$\tilde{c}_j$  means  $c_j$  or  $\bar{c}_j$

Guarantee any two codes will not interfere each other

If data bit = '1', using  $\bar{c}_i$ .

$$\begin{aligned} c_i \cdot \underline{x} &= c_i \cdot (\tilde{c}_i + \dots + \tilde{c}_{i-1} + \tilde{c}_i + \tilde{c}_{i+1} + \dots + \tilde{c}_n) \\ &= \cancel{c_i \cdot \tilde{c}_i} + \dots + \cancel{c_i \cdot \tilde{c}_{i-1}} + c_i \cdot c_i + \cancel{c_i \cdot \tilde{c}_{i+1}} + \dots + \cancel{c_i \cdot \tilde{c}_n} \\ &= 0 + \dots + c_i \cdot c_i + \dots + 0 \\ &= \|c_i\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Property ①&②

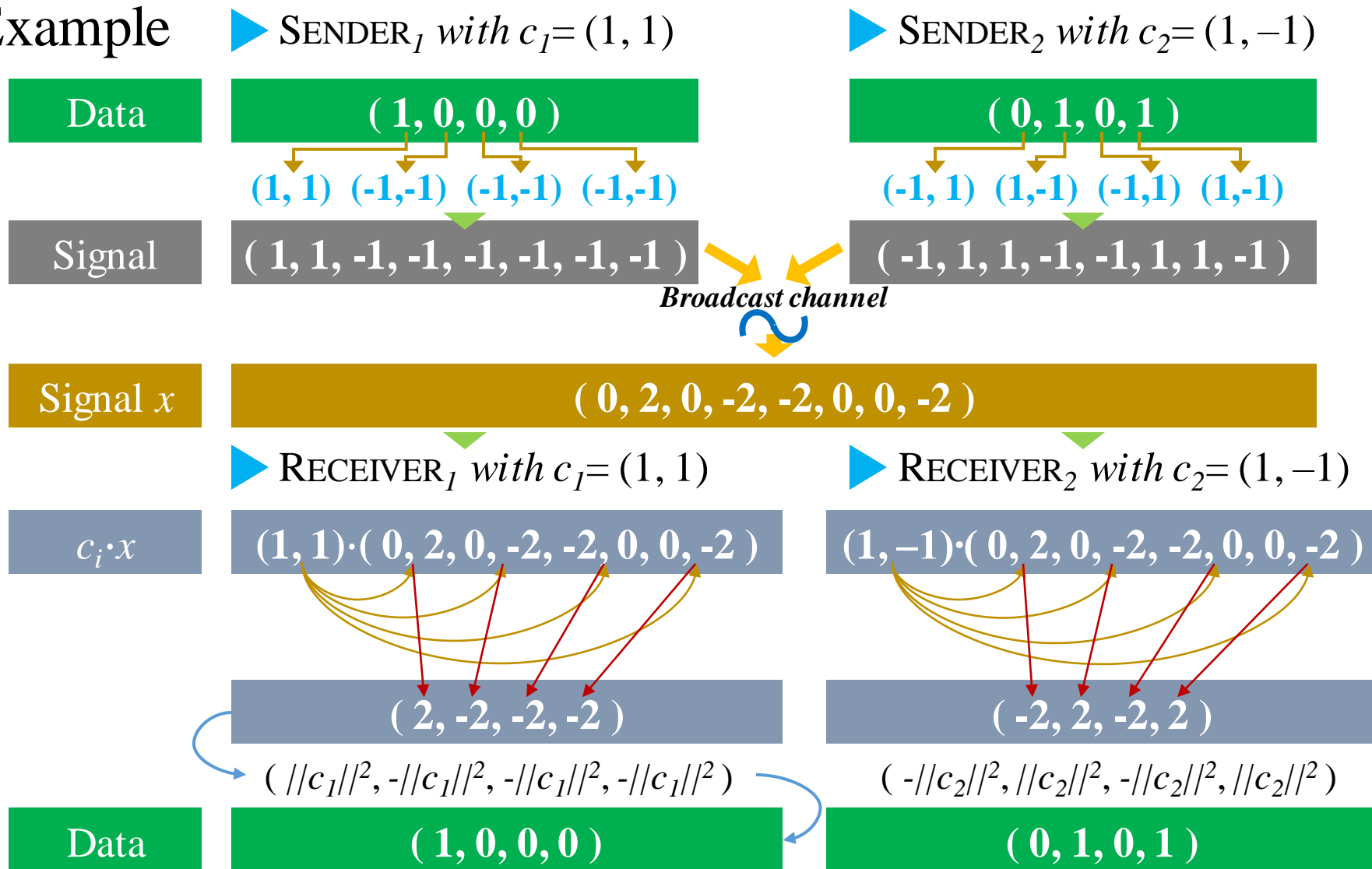
If data bit = '0', using  $\bar{c}_i$ .

$$\begin{aligned} c_i \cdot \underline{x} &= c_i \cdot (\tilde{c}_i + \dots + \tilde{c}_{i-1} + \bar{c}_i + \tilde{c}_{i+1} + \dots + \tilde{c}_n) \\ &= \cancel{c_i \cdot \tilde{c}_i} + \dots + \cancel{c_i \cdot \tilde{c}_{i-1}} + c_i \cdot \bar{c}_i + \cancel{c_i \cdot \tilde{c}_{i+1}} + \dots + \cancel{c_i \cdot \tilde{c}_n} \\ &= 0 + \dots + c_i \cdot \bar{c}_i + \dots + 0 \\ &= -\|c_i\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

# INTRODUCTION

# CDMA BASICS

## • Example



- Although CDMA is **suitable** for radio communications
  - It cannot be directly applied to VLC
    - Code in CDMA is a sequence of '1's and '-1's

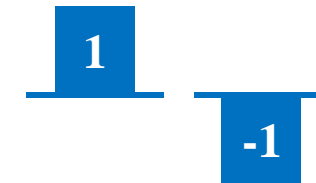
$c_1$  ( 1, -1, 1, -1 )

$c_2$  ( 1, -1, -1, 1 )

- CDMA is designed for **bipolar** systems
- In VLC, we need to use 'light on' and 'light off' to distinguish data.

- The generated signal is unipolar
  - No **negative components** ('-1's)

► BIPOLAR SYSTEMS



► UNIPOLAR SYSTEMS



# INTRODUCTION

# OBSERVATION

- Drawbacks without negative components
  - Orthogonal properties

VLC			
$c_1$	$(1, 1)$	➤	$(1, 1)$
$\overline{c_1}$	$(-1, -1)$	➤	$(0, 0)$
$c_2$	$(1, -1)$	➤	$(1, 0)$
$\overline{c_2}$	$(-1, 1)$	➤	$(0, 1)$



$$c_i \cdot c_j = 0$$

Any two codes will interfere with each other

$$c_1 \cdot c_2 = (1, 1) \cdot (1, 0) \neq 0$$



$$c_i \cdot c_i = \|c_i\|^2$$

Transmit of bit '1' is unaffected

$$c_1 \cdot c_1 = (1, 1) \cdot (1, 1) = 2$$



$$c_i \cdot \overline{c_i} = -\|c_i\|^2$$

The role of  $\overline{c_i}$  cannot be correctly defined

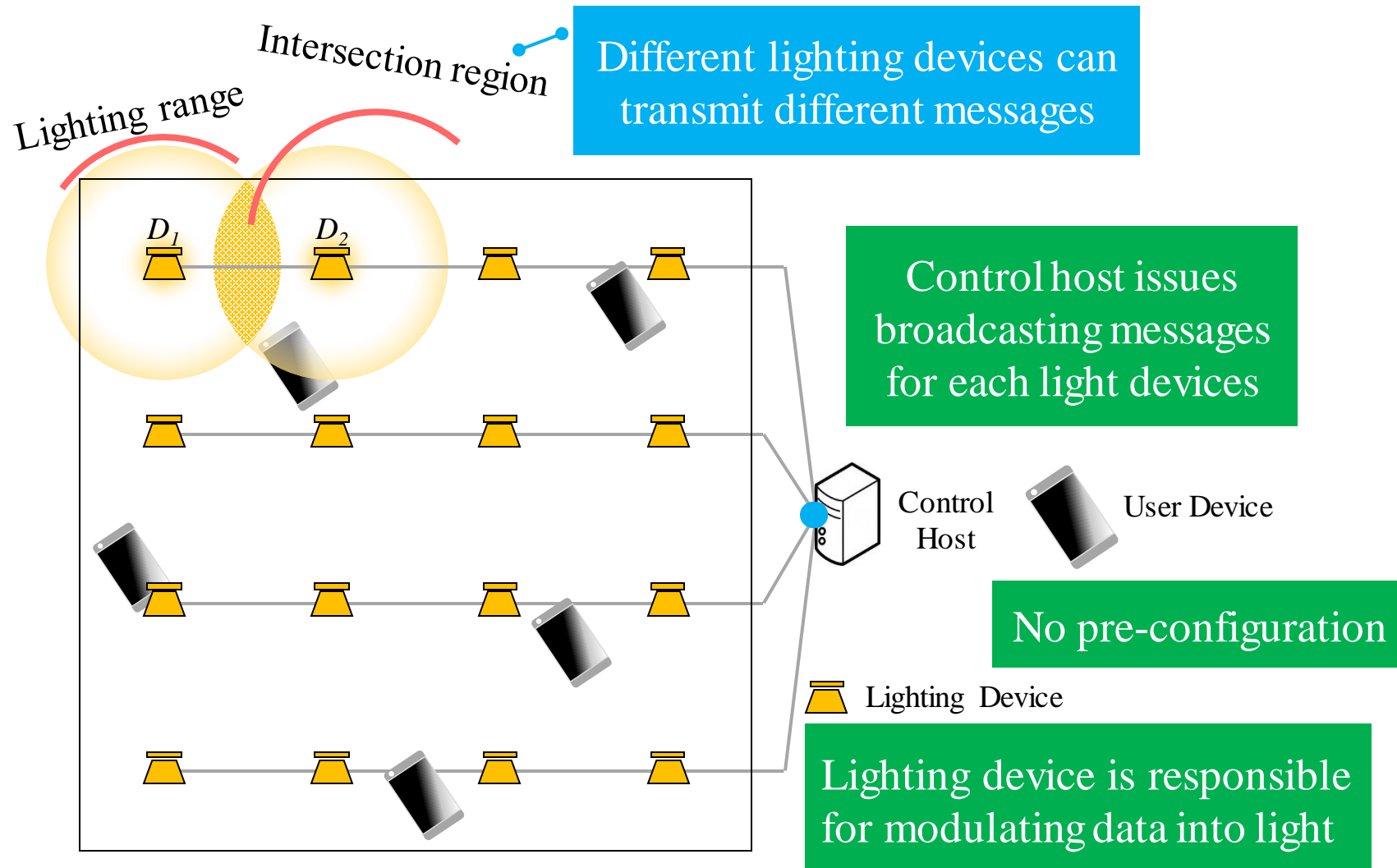
$$c_1 \cdot \overline{c_1} = (1, 1) \cdot (0, 0) \neq -2$$

Lack of  
bit '0'

# CONTRIBUTION

- Propose a CDMA-based message broadcasting system to deal with the **interference problem** in indoor VLC
  - Deal with **multi-source interference**
  - A **Modified CDMA** encoding and decoding schemes are proposed to adapt unipolar systems
  - A **broadcasting frame structure** is designed to realize our system
- Our system can support **various types of applications**, which need unidirectional messages.
- **Prototyping**

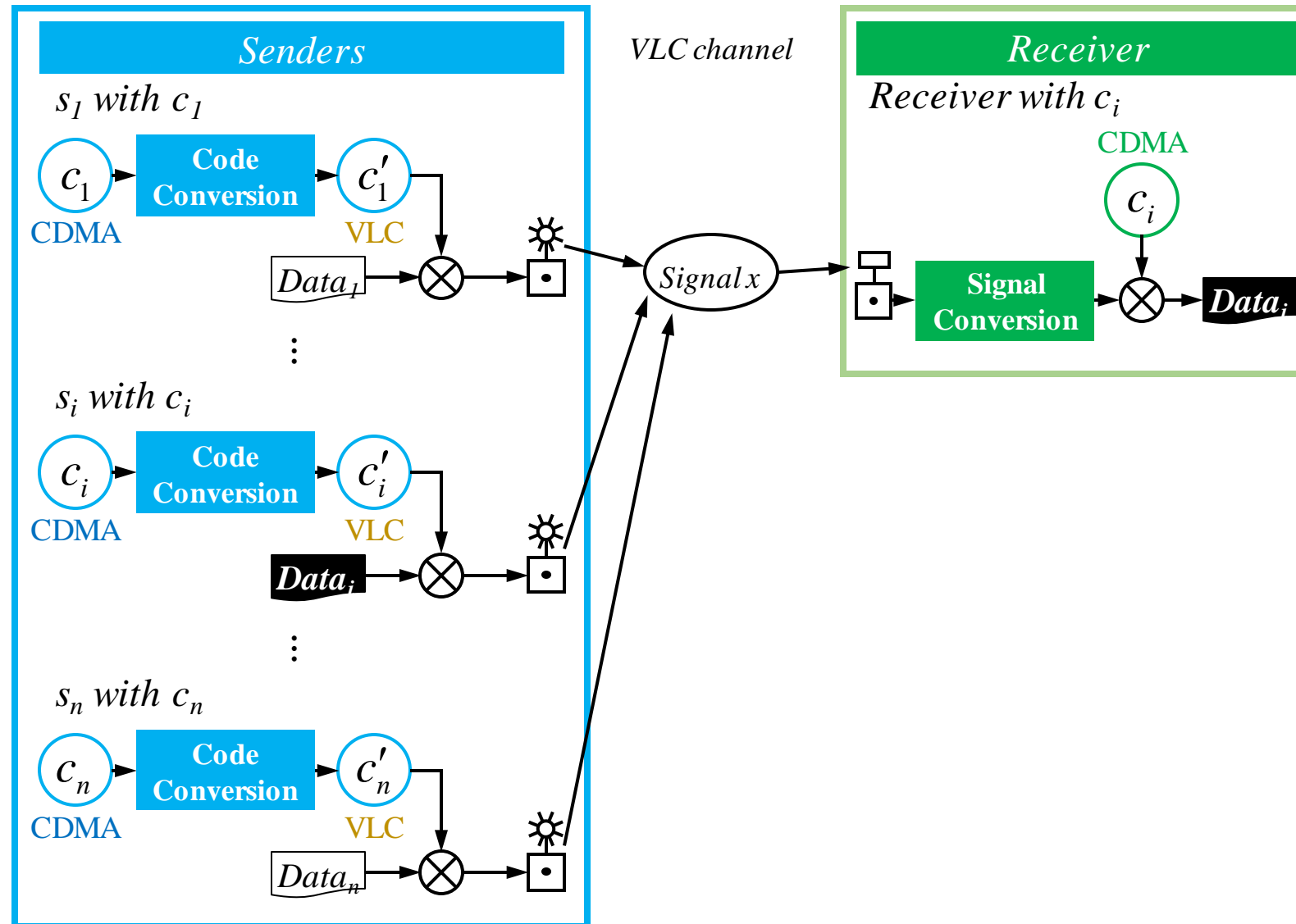
# SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE





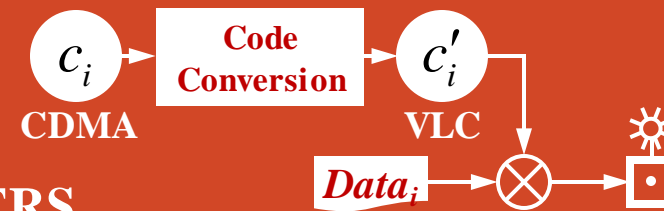
# SYSTEM DESIGN

# MODIFIED CDMA FLOW CHART



# SYSTEM DESIGN

## SENDERS

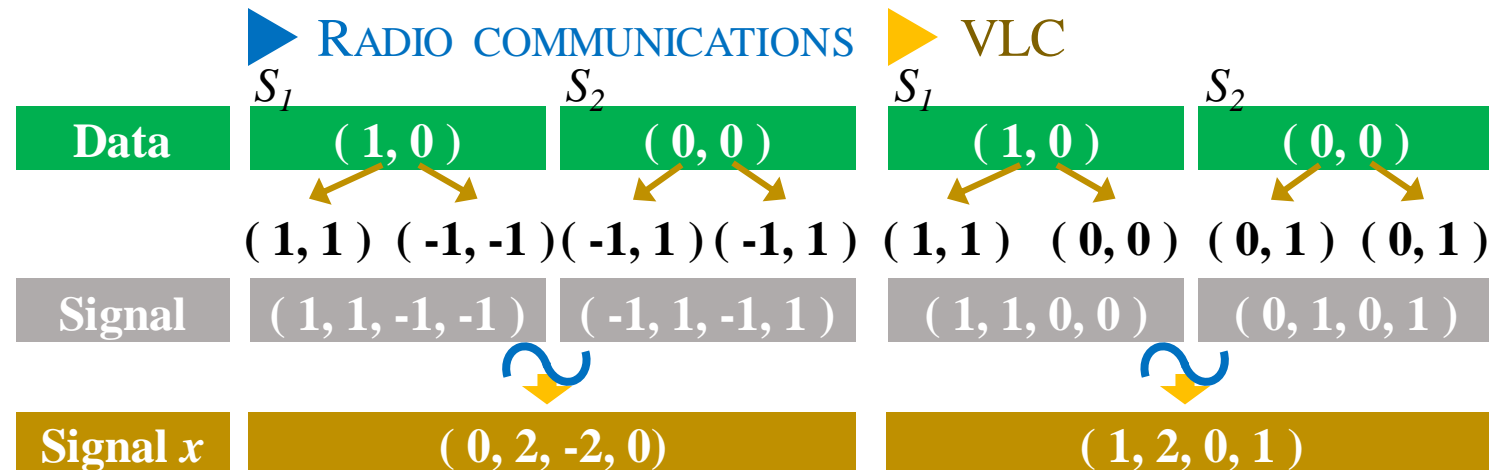


- Convert code  $c_i$  to  $c'_i$  by replacing each '-1' in  $c_i$  by '0'
- Introduces the unipolar property to VLC

	Radio		VLC	
$c_1$	$(1, 1)$	▶	$(1, 1)$	$c'_1$
$\bar{c}_1$	$(-1, -1)$	▶	$(0, 0)$	$\bar{c}'_1$
$c_2$	$(1, -1)$	▶	$(1, 0)$	$c'_2$
$\bar{c}_2$	$(-1, 1)$	▶	$(0, 1)$	$\bar{c}'_2$

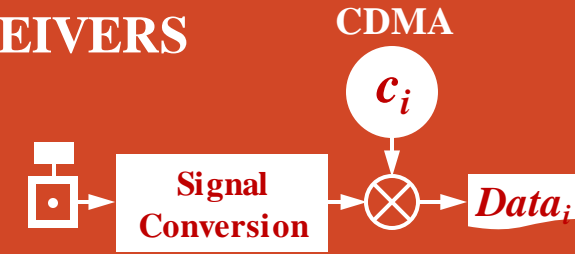
$S_1$  with code  $c_1$   
 $S_2$  with code  $c_2$

$S_1$  with code  $c'_1$   
 $S_2$  with code  $c'_2$



# SYSTEM DESIGN

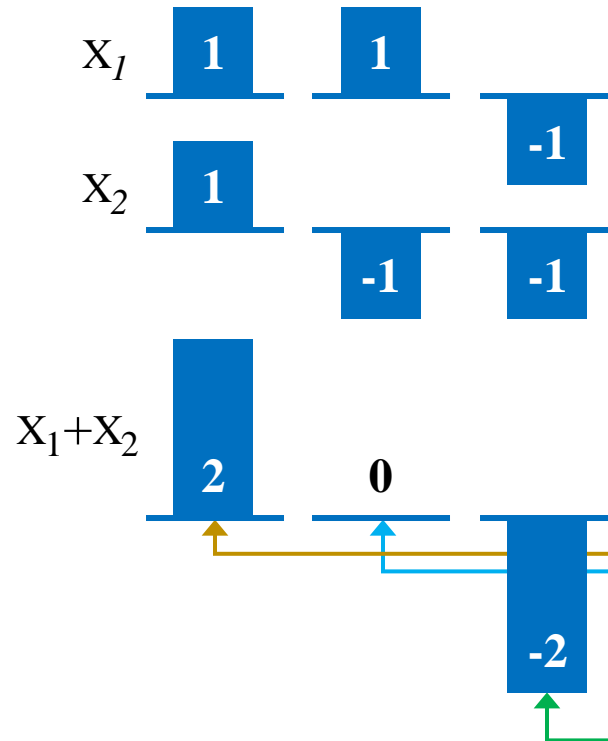
## RECEIVERS



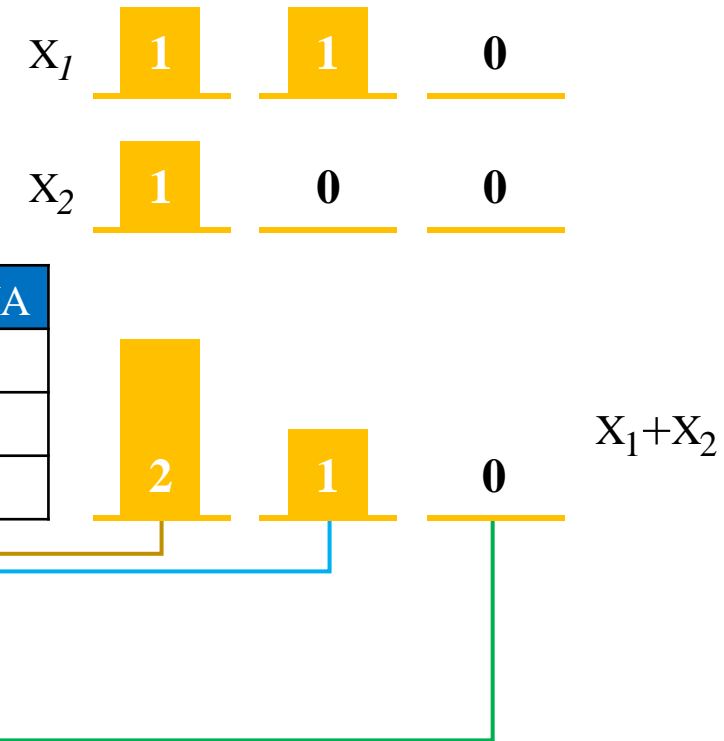
- Observation

- VLC signals could be transformed to the bipolar system.

### ► RADIO COMMUNICATIONS



### ► VLC



VLC	CDMA
2	2
1	0
0	-2

# SYSTEM DESIGN



- Three sources and four sources

*Combination*

$x_1$	1	0	0	0
$x_2$	1	1	0	0
$x_3$	1	1	1	0
$sig \rightarrow$	3	2	1	0

FOR THREE SOURCES

$s_1$	1	-1	-1	-1
$s_2$	1	1	-1	-1
$s_3$	1	1	1	-1
	3	1	-1	-3

*Combination*

$x_1$	1	0	0	0	0
$x_2$	1	1	0	0	0
$x_3$	1	1	1	0	0
$x_4$	1	1	1	1	0
$sig \rightarrow$	4	3	2	1	0

FOR FOUR SOURCES

$x_1$	1	-1	-1	-1	-1
$x_2$	1	1	-1	-1	-1
$x_3$	1	1	1	-1	-1
$x_4$	1	1	1	1	-1
	4	2	0	-2	-4

$$1 = (1) \times 1 + (0) \times (4 - 1)$$

$$(1) \times 1 + (-1) \times (4 - 1) = -2$$

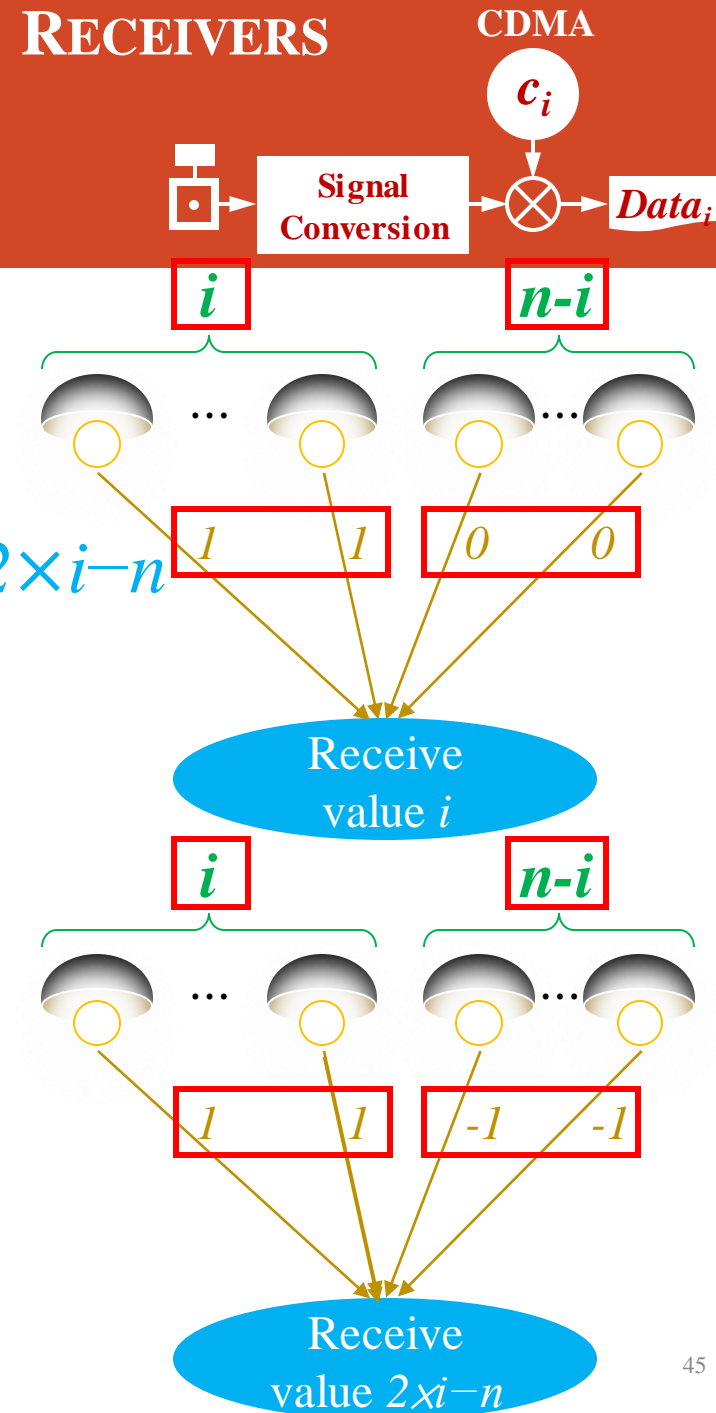
# SYSTEM DESIGN

- Generic transformation method
  - Works for any  $n$  sources
- Transform each signal  $i$  in VLC to  $2 \times i - n$ 
  - $i$  '1's and  $(n - i)$  '0's in VLC

$$\rightarrow \underline{i \cdot (1)} + \underline{(n - i) \cdot (0)} = \underline{i}$$

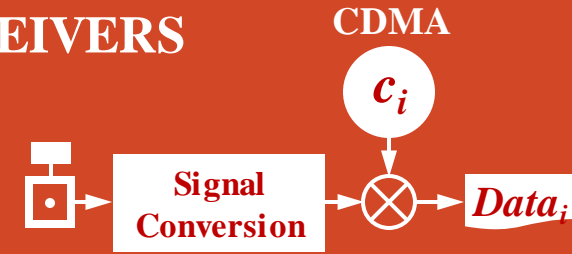
- $i$  '1's and  $(n - i)$  '-1's in CDMA

$$\rightarrow \underline{i \cdot (1)} + \underline{(n - i) \cdot (-1)} = \underline{2 \times i - n}$$



# SYSTEM DESIGN

## RECEIVERS



- Mapping the element  $i$  in VLC to a element in CDMA

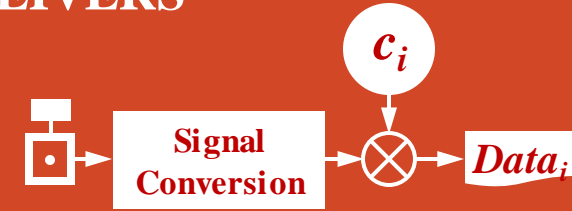
VLC		CDMA
0	→	$-n$
1	→	$-n+2$
2	→	$-n+4$
...		...
$i$	→	$2i - n$
...		...
$n$	→	$n$

$$i = f(i) = (i) \times (1) + (n - i) \times (-1) = 2i - n$$

$$i \times 1 + (n - i) \times 0$$



# SYSTEM DESIGN

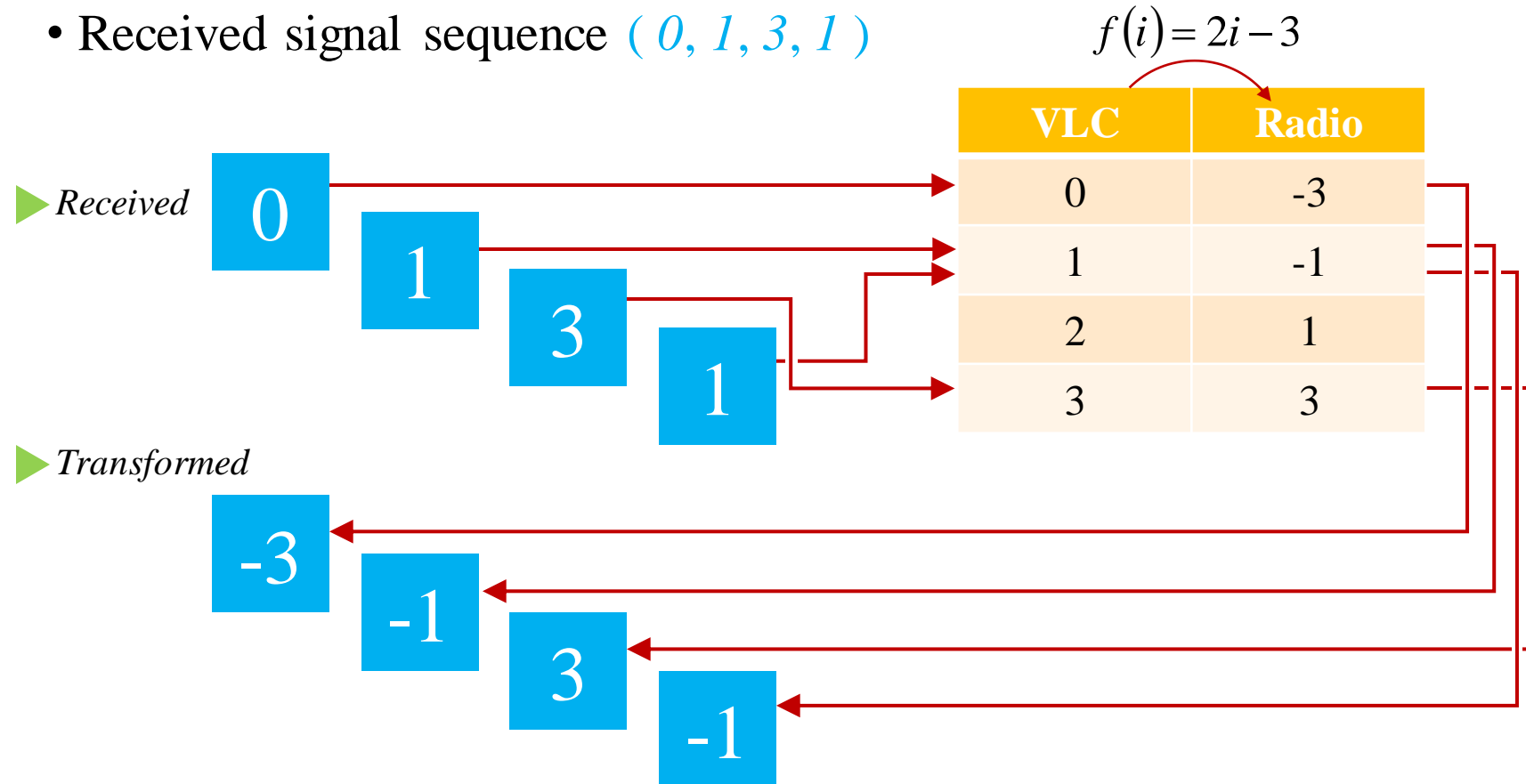


- Example

- 3 sources

- Received signal sequence ( 0, 1, 3, 1 )

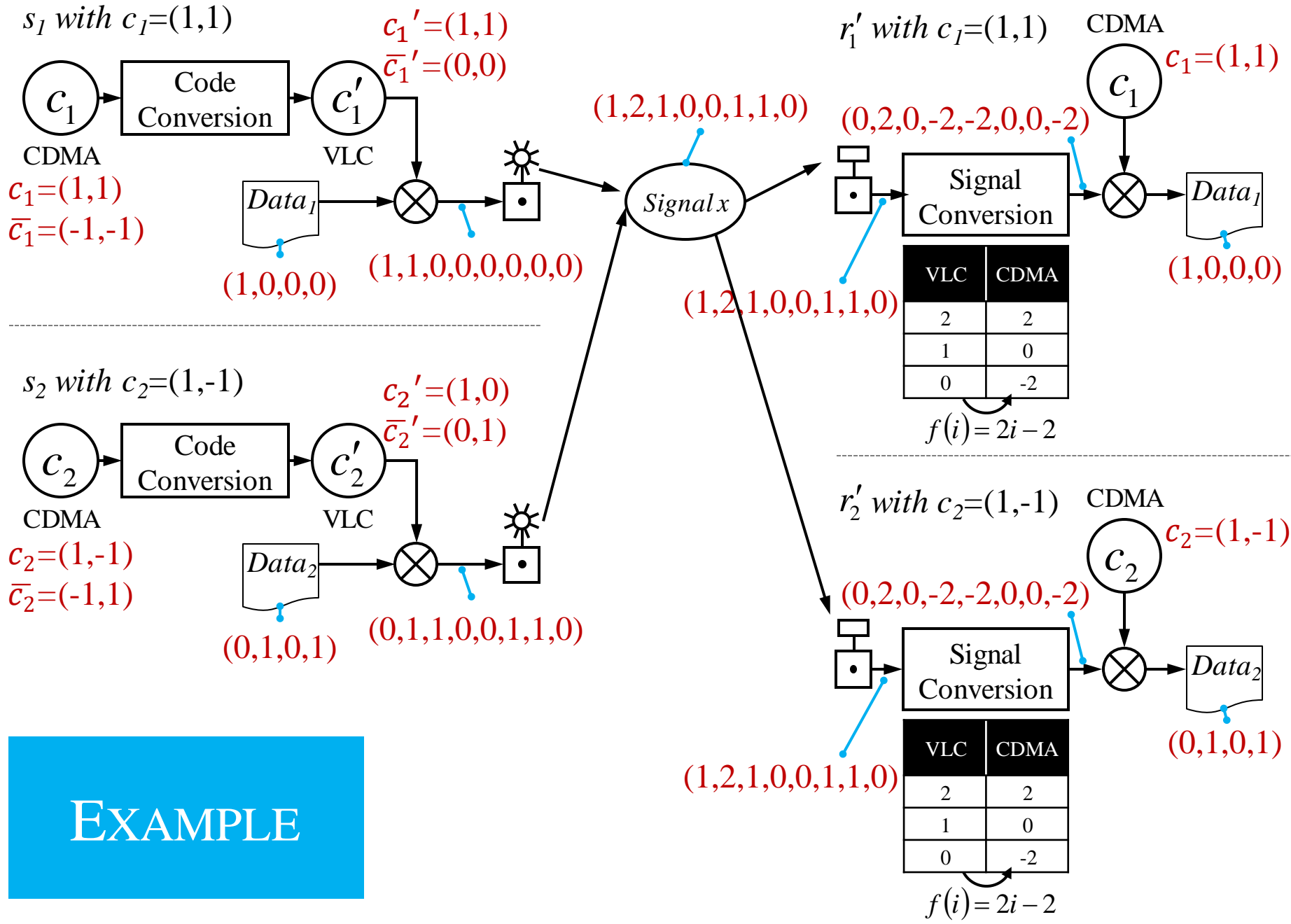
Sequence ( 0, 1, 3, 1 ) in VLC is related to sequence ( -3, -1, 3, -1 ) in radio communications



## Senders

## VLC channel

## Receivers

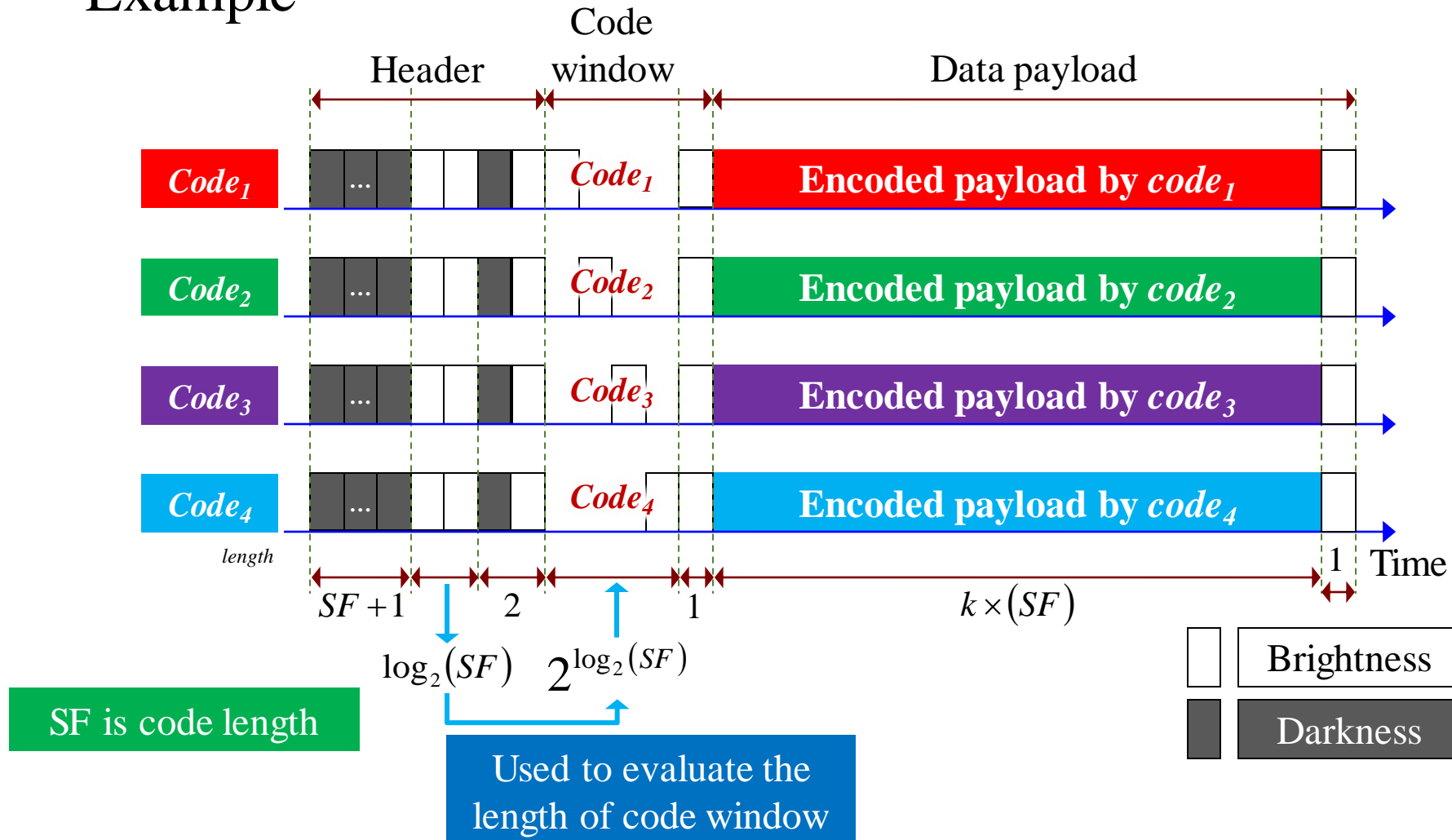


EXAMPLE

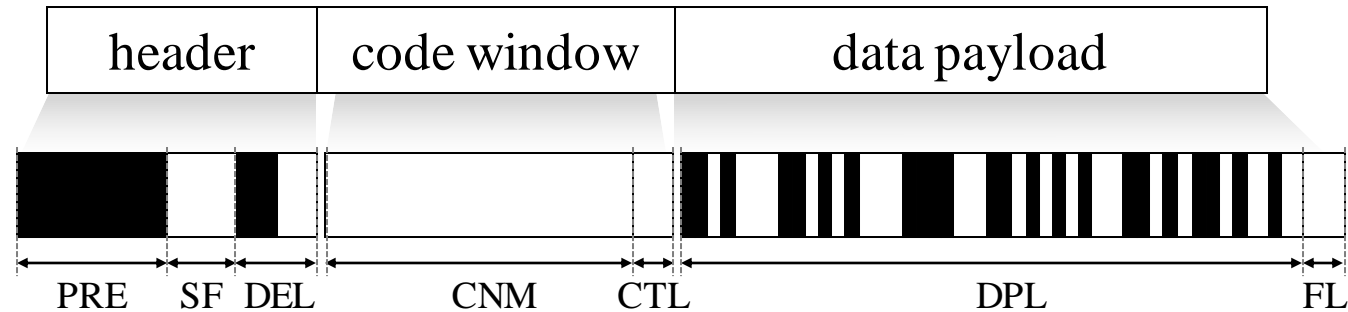
- In order to correctly transmit the information
  - A broadcasting frame structure design is proposed including
    - Header
      - Identify the **beginning** of a frame and code information for receiver
    - Code window
      - Notify receiver the core information -which **codes are used**
    - Data payload
      - Carry the main **message**, which is encoded by the CDMA encoding scheme.



- Example



- In order to correctly transmit the information
  - An unanimous frame structure design is proposed including
    - Header
    - Code window
    - Data payload



PRE	: Preamble
SF	: Spreading Factor
DEL	: Delimiter
CNM	: Code Notification Map
CTL	: Code window Trailer
DPL	: Data Payload
FL	: Frame Trailer

- Header

- Preamble (**PRE**)

- Appearance at the **beginning** of a frame
    - Continuous darkness

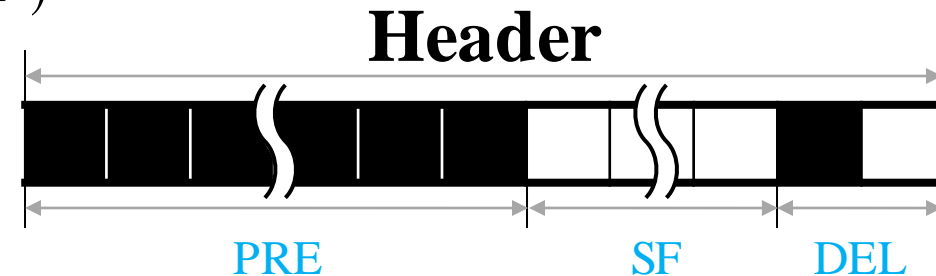
- Spreading Factor (**SF**)

- Indicate receiver the *spreading factor (SF)* number
    - The size of SFI  $N_{SFI} = \log_2(SF)$
    - Continuous brightness

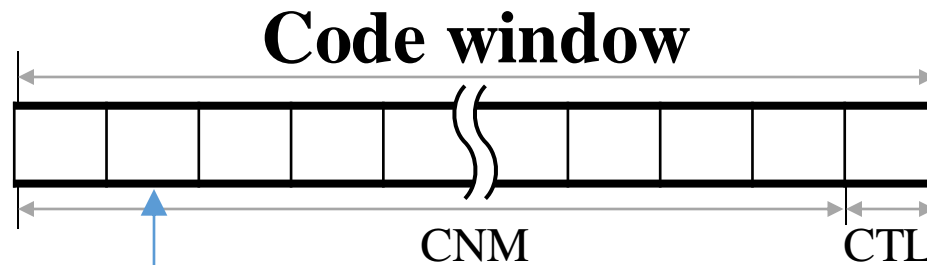
- Delimiter (**DEL**)

- The end of a header
    - 1 darkness & 1 brightness

Spread factor is the ratio  
of chip rate to bit rate



- Code window
  - Find the CDMA codes being used by the transmitters
  - Number of orthogonal codes
    - Used by signal conversion
  - The size of CNM is  $N_{CNM} = 2^{N_{SFI}}$



If source adopts second code, it sets second slot to brightness and sets the remaining slots to darkness.

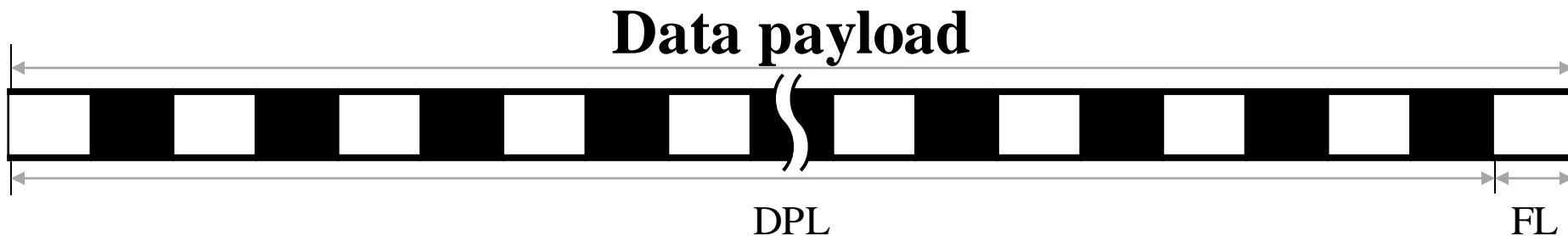
If the  $i$ -th slot is brightness, it means the  $i$ -th code is adopted.

Otherwise, if the  $i$ -th slot is darkness, it means the  $i$ -th code is unadopted.

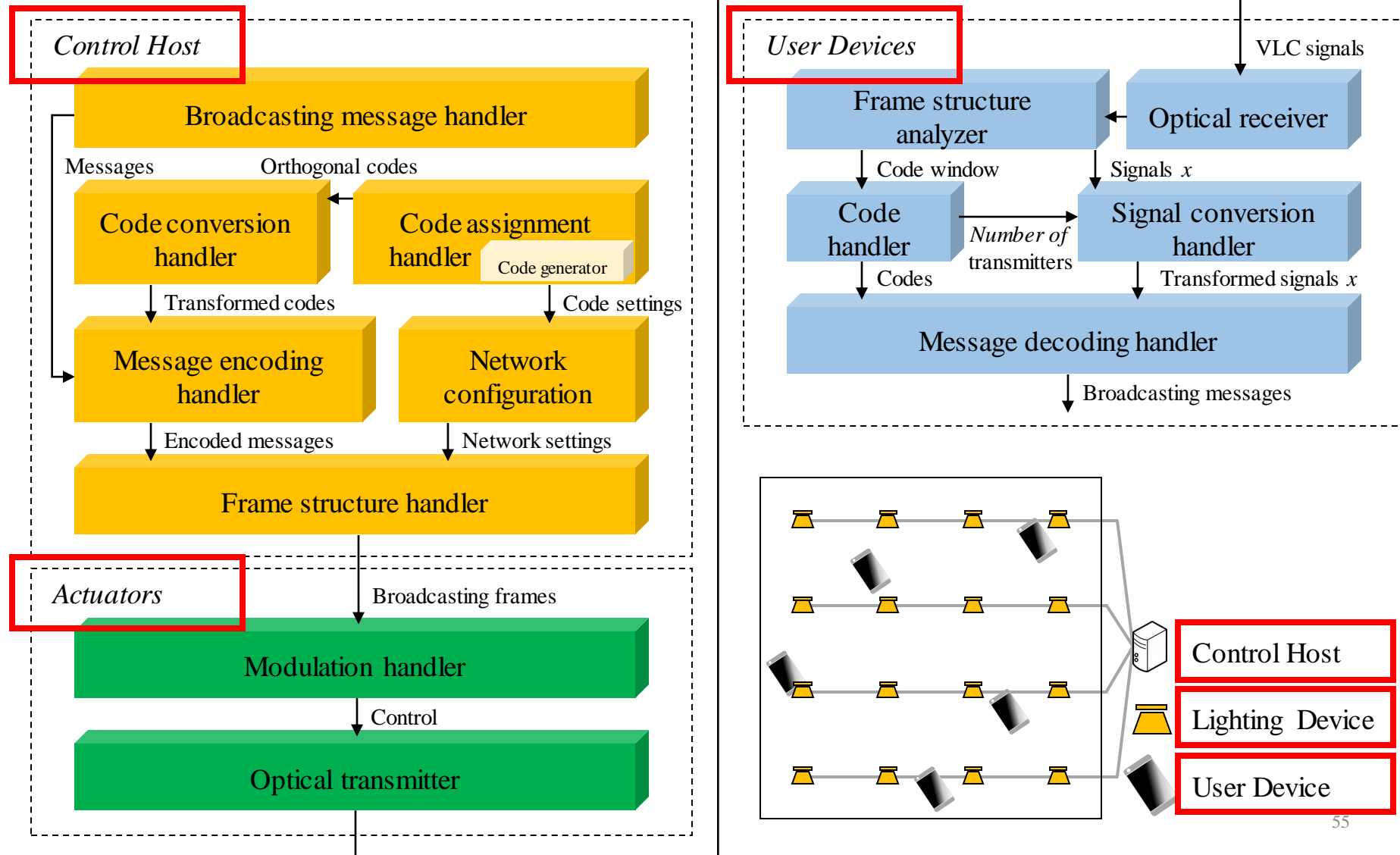


- Data payload
  - Carrying the actual data
  - Data is added into DPL after it has been encoded
    - Through normal CDMA encoding process
  - The size of DPL must satisfy

$$N_{DPL} \equiv 0 \pmod{SF}$$



# PROTOTYPING RESULTS



# PROTOTYPING RESULTS



*User Devices*

