

# EE213 Term Project Pre-Design Report

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# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction and Project Objective</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Proposal 1</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1	Linear Approach . . . . .	3
2.1.1	Light Intensity and Distance Relation . . . . .	3
2.1.2	The LDR Component . . . . .	3
2.2	Preliminary Measurements . . . . .	4
2.3	Calibration Process . . . . .	4
2.4	Distance Measurement Calculations . . . . .	4
<b>3</b>	<b>Proposal 2</b>	<b>4</b>
3.1	Time of Flight Approach . . . . .	4
3.1.1	Different Case . . . . .	4
3.1.2	Limitations . . . . .	5
3.2	Preliminary Results . . . . .	5
3.2.1	Time Difference . . . . .	5
3.3	Calibration Process . . . . .	5
3.3.1	Time Constant Calibration . . . . .	5
3.3.2	Supply Voltages and Resistances Calibration . . . . .	6
3.4	Distance Measurement Calculations . . . . .	6
<b>4</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>6</b>

# 1 Introduction and Project Objective

In this document, the design approaches proposed for given term project of EE213. The term-project requirements can be basically summarized that, students are expected to design an experiment to measure the distance of a light source. It is given that the component "LDR (Light Dependent Resistor)" will be used as the sensor element. Also the basic passive components, Op-Amps and laboratory equipments are in the scope of use. The physical appearance of a photoresistor is given in the Figure 1. As students, we are expected to prepare a proper experiment procedure including Pre-Lab work and testing phases. There are two measurement solutions to be proposed. The first one is constructed on the basic working principle of the photoresistor and properties of constant light sources. The second one is based on modified version of the Time of Flight solution which widely used in industrial distance measurement devices. Both proposals share the same objective of to be able to characterize light dependent resistor. Also the preliminary measurements and experiment results for the both approach is reported.

## 2 Proposal 1

In this section the first proposal is described.

### 2.1 Linear Approach

In this approach, the linear behavior of the LDR component against light intensity is aimed to be used. The setup simply includes a light source, an LDR and a multimeter connected to that LDR. The circuit schematic is given in the Figure 2.

#### 2.1.1 Light Intensity and Distance Relation

From the fundamentals of physics it is stated that the the light intensity caused by a single light source drops by inverse square of its distance. This is also illustrated in Figure 3. This relation also mathematically modelled by the equation:

$$lightintensity = \frac{1}{distance^2}$$

#### 2.1.2 The LDR Component

The Light Dependent Resistor(frequently abbreviated as LDR), is a semiconductor component so that its resistance changes when the illumination on its surface change. The resistance curve of an LDR is given in the Figure 4. Although it seems this linear curve makes process pretty straightforward, real life conditions (which we can not omit the daylight and ambient light) makes the calibration process crucial.

## 2.2 Preliminary Measurements

Preliminary measurements constitutes the base for the Equation given in the section 2.3 . The setup given in the Figure 2 is set. Then bunch of different resistance measurements are done while the light source is placed on the known distance. Then obtained data plotted. The plot is given in the Figure 5. An equation is fitted to this curve. The equation variables are analyzed then the calibration parameters are determined. The equation is given in the section 2.2.

## 2.3 Calibration Process

This measurement technique requires a calibration procedure since the light source conditions may differ as well as surrounding light conditions. So, for this process a ruler is needed. Using a ruler the light source should be placed a certain point (e.g. 10 centimeter, this value needed to be fixed before lab manual preparation) and the measurement should be made and recorded using multimeter. This value probably would not match the original calculation plot. So the necessary shift needed to be done to continue the measurement only with resistance value.

## 2.4 Distance Measurement Calculations

The measurements are ready to be made after necessary data is collected in the calibration phase. Distance data can be obtained from the equation.

# 3 Proposal 2

In this section the second proposal is described.

## 3.1 Time of Flight Approach

The Time of Flight approach ,usually abbreviated as ToF, is a widely used technique in industrial object distance detection sensors. Those sensors includes a laser light source and a photodiode (or another type of fastswitching photodetector sensor). The illustration for the sensors is given in the Figure 6. A pulsed signal is propagated from the laser and the returning beam is detected by the sensor. Then the time difference between the transmitted and received pulse is used to calculate the distance by the equation. In real world products, this approach is pretty useful , requires a lot less time to calibrate ,and measures quite accurately.

### 3.1.1 Different Case

Since we need to create an experiment which students measures the distance of the light source, not the object that reflects light, it is necessary not using same equation. The new equation is now became,

### 3.1.2 Limitations

There are plenty of different limitations that makes this approach tricky to adapt. Firstly, the LDR component is not a fast switching, responsive component. Secondly, the LDR component is working with visible light which makes the ambient light important for the measurements. Those limitations needed to be eliminated. Therefore the signal needed to be processed and speed of light parameter in the calculation needed to be converted a time constant that should be pinned in the calibration procedure. The new equation is now became,

## 3.2 Preliminary Results

To create an experiment setup with the approach of Time of Flight, the circuit given in the Figure 7 is constructed.

To obtain best signal representations and test the circuit, data are captured with different distances and resistances. The plot of first capture is given in the Figure 8. The variables of the first capture is given in the Table 1.

The plot of second capture is given in the Figure 9. The variables of the second capture is given in the Table 2.

The plot of third capture is given in the Figure 10. The variables of the third capture is given in the Table 3.

These preliminary results shows us that to compare the generated signal with the obtained signal a filter should be applied because the amplitude and the waveform of the received signal is variable. So using matlab a threshold which equates the lower values to 0 and the higher values to  $V_{peak}$  of the signal generator output needed to be used in order to have a proper square waveform. Half of the sum of minimum and maximum values can be used as the threshold value of one distance measurement.

### 3.2.1 Time Difference

To calculate time difference, the time difference of the falling edges of the both signal needed to be calculated on the processed signal via MATLAB.

## 3.3 Calibration Process

This calibration process includes two parts. The first one is the time constant calibration the second one is the circuit supply voltages.

### 3.3.1 Time Constant Calibration

The light source should be placed using a ruler. Then the time difference should be obtained via MATLAB. Then using the equation, the time constant should be determined.

### 3.3.2 Supply Voltages and Resistances Calibration

This calibration procedure is not a proper step. Once the values are determined by the instructor the values can be fixed. The supply voltage and the pot value of the resistive circuit should be adjusted so that the voltage portion of LDR relatable with the  $V_{peak}$  of the signal generator output in order to compare it visually in oscilloscope screen. Also  $V_{peak}$  of the signal generator output should be adjusted so that the light source (LED) is at its maximum power setting, so the illumination on the LDR would be maximum.

### 3.4 Distance Measurement Calculations

After the calibration step, the setup is ready to measure the distance of a light source using the equation, To summarize this approach and the experiment sequence, student will use the signal generator , oscilloscope , computer and the MATLAB instruments and will have a chance to characterize LDR component.

## 4 Conclusion

To conclude,