DEVELOPMENT OF INFRARED TRANSMITTER USING VERTICAL CAVITY SURFACE EMITTING LASER

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MASTER OF SCIENCE UNIVERSITY PUTRA MALAYSIA

2004

DEVELOPMENT OF INFRARED TRANSMITTER USING VERTICAL CAVITY SURFACE EMITTING LASER

By

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Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia, in Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science

September 2004

In The Name Of Attah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful



My Beloved Brother

Abstract of the thesis presented to the Senate of University Putra Malaysia in fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science

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Developing good IR transmitter shall consider its complexity and type of emitter. Light emitting diode (LED) which is the most commonly used as an emitter is challenged by emerging technology called vertical cavity surface emitting laser (VCSEL). However, the use of VCSEL for infrared signaling has not been reported before. VCSEL is claimed to be easier and more efficient than LED.

This research is focusing on development of an infrared transmitter using vertical cavity surface emitting laser (VCSEL) instead of LED. Several design options, which are based on simple gates, MAXIM chips and microprocessor, were explored. Finally, test and analysis were carried out to evaluate the suitability of VCSEL as an infrared transmitter. By comparing the output power of VCSEL and LED; it was obtained that VCSEL can provide efficient power utilization.

Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi sebahagian keperluan untuk ijazah Master Sains

PEMBANGUNAN TRANSMITER INFRARED MENGGUNAKAN 'VERTICAL CAVITY SURFACE EMITTING LASER' Oleh

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Untuk membangunkan transmisi IR yang baik, tahap kerumitan rekabentuk dan jenis emitter yang sesuai perlu dikaji. Emiter jenis LED yang digunakan secara meluas untuk tujuan ini kini mendapat saingan daripada teknologi baru berasaskan 'vertical cavity surface emitting laser' (VCSEL). VCSEL dipercayai lebih murah, mudah dan cekap.

Kaji selidik ini menumpukan kepada kajian terhadap rupa bentuk VCSEL dan kebarangkalian kepada penggunaannya dalam alat transmisi IR. Beberapa rekabentuk dengan tahap kekompleksan yang berbeza untuk alat transmisi IR dengan berasaskan 'gate' biasa, cip MAXIM dan mikroprosesor dipersembahkan dalam tesis ini sebagai asas pembangunan transmisi IR. Seterusnya penyelidikan ini menguji dan menganalisa kesesuaian dan kelebihan VCSEL dalam alat transmisi IR. Hasil kajian yang menunjukkan lengkok ambang arus VCSEL jauh lebih rendah daripada LED, telah membuktikan hakikat kelebihan ini.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The highest praise and gratefulness to ALLAH who is the Most Magnificent Light of the universe, the Creator of all things, who shines my soul towards truth and faith with His Light, and fills my heart and mind with knowledge and wisdom; safe me from darkness and perversion.

It is such a great honor to work under Dr. Mohammad Khazani's supervision who guides me throughout this research with his patient, dedication, and wisdom.

Special thanks to committee members, Dr. Mohd Adzir Mahdi and Mr. Mohd Hanif Bin Yaacob for their guidance, advice and encouragement.

There is not any word could express my gratitude to Mr. Mohd Suhaimi Bin Selamat for all his taintless helps and encouragement.

I highly appreciate assistants and supports from all colleagues in Photonics Lab, which contributed directly or indirectly to this work, especially Mr. Ahmad Ashrif Bin A. Bakar for all his kindness.

And, I would never ever forget Mr. Hisham Zuhudy for his true belief.

Special thanks to my parents and beloved brother for all the love, supports and encouragement.

I certify that an Examination Committee met on 20 September 2004 to conduct the final examination of Fatima Lina Ayatollahi on her Master of Science thesis entitled "Development of Infrared Transmitter Using Vertical Cavity Surface Emitting Laser (VCSEL)" in accordance with Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Act 1980 and Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Regulations 1981. The committee recommends that the candidate be awarded the relevant degree. Members of the Examination Committee are as follows:

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the thesis is based on my original work except for quotations and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted for any other degree at UPM or other institutions.

FATIMA LINA AYATOLLAHI

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

DEDICATION	ii
ABSTRACT	iii
ABSTRAK	iv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	V
APPROVAL	vi
DECLARATION	viii
LIST OF TABLES	xi
LIST OF FIGURES	xii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xiv
LIST OF NOTATIONS	xvii

CHAPTER

1	INTRODUCTION		1
	1.1	Background	1
	1.2	Motivation and Problem Statement	1
	1.3	Objectives	3
	1.4	Scope	4
	1.5	Methodology	6
	1.6	Thesis Organization	8

2 LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1	Introduction 9		9
2.2	Wirele	ss Optical Communication	10
	2.2.1	Essential Element of Wireless Optical Communication	10
	2.2.2	Understanding the Signal	11
	2.2.3	Error Detection	12
2.3	Netwo	rk Definition	13
2.4	Infrare	d Technology	14
	2.4.1	Infrared Light	16
	2.4.2	IrDA Standard	18
	2.4.3	IrDA Protocol Stack	20
	2.4.4	Required IrDA Protocols	21
	2.4.5	Optional Protocols	22
	2.4.6	Physical Layer and the Framer	23
	2.4.7	Physical layer (PHY)	23
2.5	RS232	Connectivity	25
	2.5.1	RS-232C	26
	2.5.2	DCE and DTE Devices	26
	2.5.3	9 to 25 Pin Adapters	30
	2.5.4	Bit Rate	31
	2.5.5	Synchronous and Asynchronous Communications	31
2.6	MAX3	3100	32

	2.7 2.8	MAX3131 ATMEL 89C52	33 34
	2.0	VCSEL	35
	2.9	2.9.1 Related Work on VCSEL	39
		2.9.2 VCSEL Light Emitting Characteristic	41
		2.9.3 VCSEL Wavelength	42
		2.9.4 VCSEL Advantages	42
	2.10	VCSEL, LED and LD Comparison	43
	2.11	Summary	45
3	MET	THODOLOGY	46
	3.1	Introduction	46
	3.2	Three Transmitter Designs	47
		3.2.1 Basic Design Using Gate	48
		3.2.2 Design Using MAXIM Chips	55
		3.2.3 Microcontroller Based Design	59
	3.3	VCSEL Analysis Methodology	67
		3.3.1 Design parameters	69 -
	2.4	3.3.2 Performance Parameters	70
	3.4	Summary	71
4	RES	ULT AND DISCUSSION	72
	4.1	Introduction	72
	4.2	Spectrum Analysis	72
	4.3	Total Power Result	75
		4.3.1 Optical Peak Power Result	77
	4.4	VCSEL Peak Power and Total Power Comparison	78
		4.4.1 Central Wavelength Result	78
	4.5	4.4.2 OSNR Result	80
	4.5	LD Optical Power and Comparison with VCSEL	81
	4.6	Summary	83
5	CON	CLUSIONS AND FUTURE WORK	84
	5.1	Conclusions	84
	5.2	Future Work	86
	FERENC		87
	PENDICI		92
BIO	BIODATA OF THE AUTHOR 122		

LIST	OF	TABL	ES
------	----	------	----

Table		Page
2.1	Link distance specifications	24
2.2	4PPM Data Encoding	25
2.3	25 Pin Connector on a DTE Device (PC Connection)	27
2.4	9 Pin Connector on a DTE Device (PC Connection)	29
2.5	9 to 25 Pin Adapters	30
3.1	RS-232 Port and MAXIM Conversion	58
3.2	RS-232 Port and MAXIM Connection	58
3.3	Write Configuration (D15, D14 = 1, 1)	64
3.4	Read Configuration (D15, D14 = $0, 1$)	65

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure		Page
1.1	Block Diagram of Study Model	6
2.1	The Electromagnetic Spectrum	15
2.2	Block Diagram of one end of the overall SIR Link	19
2.3	Block Diagram of one end of the link for signaling rates up to 4.0 Mbit/s	19
2.4	IrDA Protocol Layers	21
2.5	IrDA Protocol Layers are integrated into an Embedded System	22
2.6	IR pulse duration	25
2.7	RS-232 Connector	26
2.8	Schematic Diagram of an Edge Emitting Laser Diode.	36
2.9	Schematic Diagram of a Vertical Cavity Laser.	37
2.10	Output Power vs. Forward Current of 850nm VCSEL. (OPTEK Technology	
	Incorporation, OPV210, OPV210Y technical datasheet)	43
2.11	Couple Power vs. Drive Current of 1300nm LED. (Appointech Incorporation	1
	1300nm LED Module technical datasheet)	44
2.12	Optical Output Power vs. Drive Current of 1310nm LD. (Appointech	
	Incorporation 1310nm LD Module technical datasheet)	44
3.1	Transmitter Design General Block Diagram	47
3.2	Emitter Block Diagram	48
3.3	Voltage Converter Circuit	49
3.4	Signal Generator. (Generates f_0 (100 KHz) & f_1 (50 KHz) signals)	49
3.5	Signal Logic Circuit	50
3.6	IR Emitter Circuit for LED	50
3.7	IR Emitter Circuit for VCSEL	51

xii

3.8	Completed Circuit for IR Emitter	52
3.9	Receiver Block Diagram	53
3.10	Completed Circuit for IR Receiver	54
3.11	Transceiver Design Using MAXIM Chips	57
3.12	Transceiver Design with Microprocessor	60
3.13	Power Supply Circuit	67
3.14	VCSEL Signal Generator Circuit	68
4.1	VCSEL Spectrum Image at R _L 155.10 Ohm	73
4.2	VCSEL Total Power Image at R_L 155.10 ohm	74
4.3	VCSEL Forward Current versus R_L	75
4.4	VCSEL Total Power versus R _L	75
4.5	VCSEL Total Power versus Forward Current	76
4.6	Graph of VCSEL Peak Power versus R _L	77
4.7	Graph of VCSEL Peak Power and Total Power Comparison	78
4.8	VCSEL Central Wavelength versus R_L	79
4.9	OSNR versus R _L for VCSEL	80
4.10	VCSEL Spectrum Image at R _L is 1184.00 ohm	81
4.11	LD Total Power versus R _L	81
4.12	LD Total Power versus Forward Current	82
4.13	Total Power versus Forward Current for LD and VCSEL	83

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ADC	Analog to Digital Converter
AAC	Augmentative and Alternative Communication
AEL	Accessible Emission Levels
AlGaAs	Aluminum Gallium Arsenide
ASCII	American Standard Code for Information Interchange
BRD	Baud-Rate Divisor
CD	Compact Disk
CD	Carrier Detect
CENELEC	European Committee For Electro Technical Standardization
CPU	Central Processing Unit
CR	Command Register
CRC	Cyclic Redundancy Check
CS	Chip Select
CTS	Clear To Send
DBR	Distributed Bragg Reflectors
DCE	Data Communications Equipment
DIN	Data Input
DOUT	Data Output
DSR	Data Set Ready
DSSS	Direct Sequence Spread Spectrum
DTE	Data Terminal Equipment
DTR	Data Terminal Ready
EBCDIC	Extended Binary Coded Decimal Interchange Code

ELF	Extremely Low Frequency
FCC	Federation of Communications Commission
FHSS	Frequency Hopping Spread Spectrum
FIFO	First-In/First-Out
FSK	Frequency Shift Keying
GaAs	Gallium Arsenide
IAS	Information Access Service
IC	Integrated Circuit
IEC	International Electro Technical Committee
InGaAsN	Indium Gallium Arsenide Nitride
IR	Infrared
IrCOMM	Infrared Serial and Parallel Port Emulation
IrDA	Infrared Data Association
IrLAN	Infrared Local Area Network Access
IrLAP	Infrared Link Access Protocol
IrLMP	Infrared Link Management Protocol
IrOBEX	Infrared Object Exchange Protocol
ISM	Instrumentation, Scientific, And Medical
LD	Laser Diode
LED	Light Emitting Diode
MOSFET	Metal Oxide Semiconductor Field Effect Transistor
MPE	Maximum Possible Exposure
NOS	Network Operating System
NRZ	Non-Return to Zero
OEM	Original Equipment Manufacturer

OSNR	Optical Signal-To-Noise Ratio
PC	Personal Computer
PPM	Pulse Position Modulation
QSOP	Quarter Size Outline Package
RD	Received Data
RF	Radio Frequency
RI	Ring Indicator
RL	Load Resistor
RTS	Request To Send
RTZ	Return to Zero Inverse
SIR	Serial Infrared
SPI	Serial Peripheral Interface
TD	Transmitted Data
TinyTP	Tiny Transport Protocol
TTL	Transistor-Transistor Logic
TV	Television
TX	Transmit
UART	Universal Asynchronous Receiver Transmitter
US	United State
VCR	Videocassette recorder
VCSEL	Vertical Cavity Surface Emitting Laser
WAN	Wide Area Network
WDM	Wavelength Division Multiplexing

LIST OF NOTATIONS

λ	Wavelength
λ_{σ}	Central Wavelength At Normal Incidence
$\lambda_{ heta}$	Central Wavelength At The Off-Normal Angle θ
θ	Angle
Ω	Ohm
Hz	Hertz
KHz	Kilo Hertz
MHz	Mega Hertz
GHz	Giga Hertz
nm	Nanometer
μs	Micro Second
bps	Bit Per Second
Kbps	Kilo Bit per Second
Mbps	Mega Bit per Second
Gbps	Giga Bit per Second
ns	Nanosecond
V	Volt
mA	Milli Ampere
nF	Nano-Farad
μF	Micro Farad
dBm	Decibels Referred to 1 Milli Watt

Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Developing good IR transmitter shall consider its complexity and type of emitter. LED which is the most commonly used emitter is challenged by emerging technology called vertical cavity surface emitting laser (VCSEL). However the use of VCSEL for infrared signaling has not been reported before. VCSEL is claimed to be easier and more efficient than LED.

This research is focusing on development of infrared transmitter using vertical cavity surface emitting laser (VCSEL) instead of LED. Several design options, which are based on simple gates, MAXIM chips and microprocessor, were explored. Finally, the test and analysis carried out for its VCSEL suitability as an IR transmitter. This includes spectrum and power measurements by comparing the VCSEL properties with LED; it is found that VCSEL can provide efficient power utilization.

1.2 Motivation and Problem Statement

Infrared (IR) systems use very high frequencies, just below visible light in the electromagnetic spectrum, to carry data. Like light, IR cannot penetrate opaque objects; it is either directed (line-of-sight) or diffuse technology. Inexpensive directed systems provide limited range of approximately 3 feet and typically are

used for personal area networks. Occasionally directed systems are used in specific wireless LAN applications (Stallings, 1999).

High performance directed IR is impractical for mobile users and is therefore used only to implement fixed sub-networks. Diffuse or reflective IR wireless LAN systems do not require line-of-sight, but cells are limited to individual rooms (Stallings, 1999).

The distance over which IR waves can communicate is a function of product design (including transmitted power and receiver design) and the propagation path, especially in indoor environments. Interactions with typical building objects, including walls, metal, and even people, can affect how energy propagates, and thus what range and coverage a particular system achieves (Stallings, 1999). Solid objects block infrared signals, which impose additional limitations. Most wireless LAN systems use RF because radio waves can penetrate most indoor walls and obstacles. The range (or radius of coverage) for typical wireless LAN systems varies from under 100 feet to more than 300 feet.

The following situations are the most suitable condition where infrared transmission network solution shall be considered:

- When the building has lots of potential radio interference. Infrared transmission is not affected by radio frequency.
- Infrared is great for setting up a wireless network quickly. It also does not require FCC licensing.

- Another advantage of infrared transmission is high security. The signals do not leave the building because they do not penetrate walls.
 Infrared technology costs less than radio-based devices.
- If there is an open office environment, line-of-sight infrared transmission gives great speed and reliability when there are no obstructions.

Almost all indoor IR transmitter uses LED. LED Power is low and radiation pattern is broad, so it limits transmission within 2 feet and sensitive to interference.

More advance type of light source such as LD which is less sensitive to interference, and could cover longer distance is required, however LD is expensive. VCSEL, which has similar capability with LED and cheaper then LD, could replace LED. This will open new business opportunity because of its low cost. By using VCSEL, wireless transmission implementation could be more effective and economical, comparing to LED.

1.3 Objectives

The aim of this research ("Research on Development of Infrared Transmitter Using VCSEL") is to explore several options of wireless LAN transceiver design and analyze suitability of VCSEL utilization as signal transmission media. In summary the objectives of this research are:

- To explore several design options of wireless transceiver.
- To implement transmitter driver circuit.

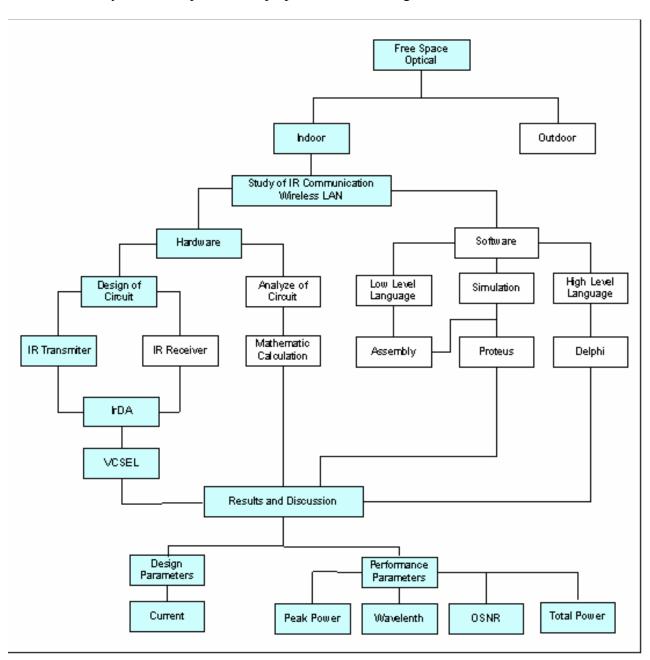
- To analyze VCSEL with driver circuit.
- To collect data on VCSEL characteristics (power, central wavelength, and OSNR).
- To analyze VCSEL characteristics.
- To investigate advantages of VCSEL compare to LD.
- To analyze suitability utilization as signal transmission media and advantages of VCSEL.

1.4 Scope

The research project focuses on the study of an indoor wireless communication; which focuses on the design and analyses of the IR transmitter and IR receiver. The study is done only on the physical layer of the Infrared Data Association (IrDA). The physical layer is responsible for the definition of hardware transceivers for the data transmission.

The Physical layer includes the optical transceiver, and deals with shaping and other characteristics of infrared signals including the encoding of data bits, and some framing data such as begin and end of frame flags (BOFs and EOFs) and cyclic redundancy checks (CRCs). This layer must be at least partially implemented in hardware, but in some cases is handled entirely by hardware.

The research is considering utilization of VCSEL for the wireless transmission implementation. VCSEL is considered because of several advantages over LED. It is easier to handle the test, and perform more efficiently. It is also requires less electrical current to produce a given coherent energy output. Physical characteristics of VCSEL are studied and its spectrum is analyzed. The result of this analysis is described in Chapter 4.



The study model adopted in this project is shown in Figure 1.1.

Figure 1.1: Block Diagram of Study Model

1.5 Methodology

The design of the VCSEL transmitter is divided into three stages. The first stage is the design by using a simulation and design software. The second stage is the design by hardware implementation or laboratory experimental setup. The third stage is writing the program with high level programming software to support the hardware for connecting to the computers.

Simulation software approach was chosen in the first stage because of few reasons. The main motive was that the work result must in the product form. It consists of optoelectronics and electronics components. With limit source and equipments, straight forward implementation of the theory into the laboratory hands on, will incur wastage in term of time and material if the circuit malfunction since the suitability of the selected components cannot be verified at the early stage. However, using the simulation software, the performance of the circuit and the selection of the components can be verified earlier on as to whether the theory was valid or otherwise. This will save costs as the suitability and functionality of the components can be identified virtually before making any acquisitions.

The other motive is that the flexibility of the design using software allows extensive study on the design. The results from the simulation will be the reference when the experiment is setup. Although irregularity might occur between the simulation result and the experiment result, it should be understood that the simulation mostly done under ideal conditions while laboratory experiment is exposed to many factors such as noise, material imperfection and inaccurate equipments and devices. Since the