Session: TH1D

High Speed Lightwave Communication Systems

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There has been significant progress in Lightwave Communication Systems. Terrestrial long-haul systems at 2.5 and 5 Gbps are now commercially available, with 10 Gbps systems in field trials.

The introduction of the Erbium Doped Fiber Amplifier has revolutionized system design and makes the system, to a large degree, line rate independent. The capacity of these already high capacity systems may be further increased through Wavelength Division Multiplexing which, when combined with dispersion management of the cable plant, also increases the repeater spacing. This same technology enables the distribution of broadband, multi-media information.

The military applications of fiber systems are spawning as well, due to the advantages of light weight and immunity to electromagnetic interference.

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Room 134