

# UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

## FINAL EXAMINATION 2011

**TITLE OF PAPER:** TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS  
OPTICAL FIBRE AND MICROWAVE TRANSMISSION

**COURSE NUMBER:** ECO530

**TIME ALLOWED:** THREE HOURS

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### INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1) There are six questions in this paper. **Answer Question ONE and any other THREE questions.**
  - 2) Each question carries 25 marks
  - 3) Marks for different sections are shown on the right hand margin.
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**THIS PAPER HAS 7 PAGES INCLUDING THIS PAGE**

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**QUESTION 1 (COMPULSORY) (25 marks)**

- a. What are the terrestrial propagation models that are used in the design of line of sight systems? Which one is generally used and why?  
(5 marks)
- b. A 45-km hop operating at 3 GHz is to be implemented using a microwave system. The transmitter power is 1 W, total feeder loss is 6 dB and the required minimum received signal level is  $-70$  dBW with a fade margin of 10 dB. Calculate the total antenna gain for the link?  
(5 marks)
- c. A satellite link is operating with QPSK modems for TDMA signals at 140 Mb/s. The modems are within 2 dB of the theoretical QPSK modem. Due to link impairments, an additional 2 dB degradation in performance exists. If the theoretical  $E_b/N_o$  is 11.5 dB (to maintain the required probability of error) determine
- The required  $E_b/N_o$  and (2 Marks)
  - The C/N to be measured. (2 Marks)
- d. Calculate EIRP of a Line-of-Sight (LOS) microwave transmitting system consisting of a 1-W power output transmitter, a 22 m long wave guide with a loss of 0.05dB/m and an antenna of gain 30 dBi.  
(5 Marks)
- e. Calculate the received signal level (RSL) and the size of the dish for a 50-km link operating at 7 GHz with a transmitter output of 1 W, total antenna gain of 60dBi and total feeder loss of 6 dB.  
(6 Marks)

**QUESTION 2 (25 marks)**

- a. Draw a block diagram of a generic digital switch and list the 8 basic functions expected from a digital switch. **(10 marks)**
- b. Show your understanding of switching by explaining the differences between the following:
- a. Analogue switch and a digital switch **(1 mark)**
  - b. Circuit switching and packet switching **(1 mark)**
  - c. A space switch and a time switch. **(1 mark)**
  - d. Draw a diagram of an S-T-S switch. **(1 mark)**
- c. With the aid of a diagram, describe the basic steps involved in the conversion of an analogue signal into a PCM signal. **(6 marks)**
- d. An 8-MHz analogue signal is to be digitised for transmission over a digital link using advanced encoding techniques and 8 bits per sample European standard. What is the transmission rate? **(5 marks)**

**QUESTION 3 (25 marks)**

- a. i. Draw a four-node ring topology SDH Network, with two digital switches requiring more than 2000 circuits and the other two requiring less than 10 circuits.  
**(4 Marks)**
- ii. What is the most powerful tool in the SDH technology? Explain why it is so.  
**( 2 Marks)**
- i. What is STM-16 in terms of bandwidth (show your calculations)?  
**(2 Marks)**
- ii. What is STM-4 in terms of the number of circuits available (show your calculations)?  
**(2 Marks)**
- c. Explain the following terms as applied to SDH:
  - i) Virtual Container
  - ii) Tributary Unit
  - iii) Container
  - iv) Section Overhead
  - v) Concatenation**(5 marks)**
- d. In designing an optical fibre communication system what four basic system parameters have to be considered?. Explain why optical fibre has an advantage over other transmission media.  
**(6 Marks)**
- e. Light is launched into optical fibre with refractive indices for core and cladding of 1.47 and 1.45 respectively. What is the minimum acceptable core halfangle?  
**(4 Marks)**

**QUESTION 4 (25 marks)**

- a. Define ISDN and name two types of ISDN. **(2 Marks)**
- i) Show the calculations of the bandwidth for each of the two types of ISDN. **(4 Marks)**
- ii) List four types of services that can be carried on ISDN. **(2 Marks)**
- b. With the aid of a diagram, describe the ISDN reference model as prescribed in ITU-T Recommendations I.411 and I.430 by providing the configuration of ISDN user-network. **(7 Marks)**
- c. Give the structure of ITU No. 7 signalling which is compatible with ISDN and explain the function at each level and give two main reasons why channel associated signalling is not compatible with ISDN. **(10 Marks)**

**QUESTION 5 (25 marks)**

- a. Give the general structure of a cellular public land mobile network (PLMN) as standardized by the ITU. Explain the function of each component.  
**(10 marks)**
- b. Given that a micro cell GSM 900 network is designed based on three RF carriers per cell, each cell is  $1000\text{m}^2$ , and that each user generates 0.3 Erlangs. How many users per square kilometre may be served by the network:
- Assuming a 0.002 grade of service?
  - Assuming a 0.1 grade of service? (Erlang B table is attached at the end of paper)  
**(9 Marks)**
- c. What would be the propagation loss if the radial distance from the base station to the mobile station was 2000 m and the height of the tower was 20m and the height of the mobile was 1m?  
**(6 Marks)**

**QUESTION 6 (25 marks)**

- a. Name and define two types of attenuation found in silicon fibre  
**(4 Marks)**
- b. In order to use optical fibre for transmitting signals there has to be an optical source and a detector.
- i. Give two light sources and the advantage and disadvantage of each.  
**(3 Marks)**
- ii. Give two optic detectors and the advantage and disadvantage of each  
**(3 Marks)**
- c. Explain the theory of modal dispersion. How does it relate to bandwidth?  
**(4 marks)**
- d. Given that the refractive index of glass as 1.457 and the refractive index of the covering material as 1.343, find the critical angle.  
**(3 Marks)**
- e. In an optic fibre link budget, what are the three factors we should consider when assigning a dB value to the link margin.  
**(3 Marks)**
- f. An optic fibre with a bit rate of 622 Mb/s has a laser diode with an output of 0 dBm and APD-based receiver with a threshold of -40 dBm. Design a link around these parameters. What is the maximum length achievable without repeaters?  
**(5 Marks)**

=== END OF QUESTION PAPER, ERLANG B TRAFFIC TABLE FOLLOWS ===

### Erlang B Traffic Table

Maximum Offered Load Versus B and N  
B is in %

N/B	0.01	0.05	0.1	0.5	1.0	2	5	10	15	20	30	40
1	.0001	.0005	.0010	.0050	.0101	.0204	.0526	.1111	.1765	.2500	.4286	.6667
2	.0142	.0321	.0458	.1054	.1526	.2235	.3813	.5954	.7962	1.000	1.449	2.000
3	.0868	.1517	.1938	.3490	.4555	.6022	.8994	1.271	1.603	1.930	2.633	3.480
4	.2347	.3624	.4393	.7012	.8694	1.092	1.525	2.045	2.501	2.945	3.891	5.021
5	.4520	.6486	.7621	1.132	1.361	1.657	2.219	2.881	3.454	4.010	5.189	6.596
6	.7282	.9957	1.146	1.622	1.909	2.276	2.960	3.758	4.445	5.109	6.514	8.191
7	1.054	1.392	1.579	2.158	2.501	2.935	3.738	4.666	5.461	6.230	7.856	9.800
8	1.422	1.830	2.051	2.730	3.128	3.627	4.543	5.597	6.498	7.369	9.213	11.42
9	1.826	2.302	2.558	3.333	3.783	4.345	5.370	6.546	7.551	8.522	10.58	13.05
10	2.260	2.803	3.092	3.961	4.461	5.084	6.216	7.511	8.616	9.685	11.95	14.68
11	2.722	3.329	3.651	4.610	5.160	5.842	7.076	8.487	9.691	10.86	13.33	16.31
12	3.207	3.878	4.231	5.279	5.876	6.615	7.950	9.474	10.78	12.04	14.72	17.95
13	3.713	4.447	4.831	5.964	6.607	7.402	8.835	10.47	11.87	13.22	16.11	19.60
14	4.239	5.032	5.446	6.663	7.352	8.200	9.730	11.47	12.97	14.41	17.50	21.24
15	4.781	5.634	6.077	7.376	8.108	9.010	10.63	12.48	14.07	15.61	18.90	22.89
16	5.339	6.250	6.722	8.100	8.875	9.828	11.54	13.50	15.18	16.81	20.30	24.54
17	5.911	6.878	7.378	8.834	9.652	10.66	12.46	14.52	16.29	18.01	21.70	26.19
18	6.496	7.519	8.046	9.578	10.44	11.49	13.39	15.55	17.41	19.22	23.10	27.84
19	7.093	8.170	8.724	10.33	11.23	12.33	14.32	16.58	18.53	20.42	24.51	29.50
20	7.701	8.831	9.412	11.09	12.03	13.18	15.25	17.61	19.65	21.64	25.92	31.15
21	8.319	9.501	10.11	11.86	12.84	14.04	16.19	18.65	20.77	22.85	27.33	32.81
22	8.946	10.18	10.81	12.64	13.65	14.90	17.13	19.69	21.90	24.06	28.74	34.46
23	9.583	10.87	11.52	13.42	14.47	15.76	18.08	20.74	23.03	25.28	30.15	36.12
24	10.23	11.56	12.24	14.20	15.30	16.63	19.03	21.78	24.16	26.50	31.56	37.78
25	10.88	12.26	12.97	15.00	16.13	17.51	19.99	22.83	25.30	27.72	32.97	39.44
26	11.54	12.97	13.70	15.80	16.96	18.38	20.94	23.89	26.43	28.94	34.39	41.10
27	12.21	13.69	14.44	16.60	17.80	19.27	21.90	24.94	27.57	30.16	35.80	42.76
28	12.88	14.41	15.18	17.41	18.64	20.15	22.87	26.00	28.71	31.39	37.21	44.41
29	13.56	15.13	15.93	18.22	19.49	21.04	23.83	27.05	29.85	32.61	38.63	46.07
30	14.25	15.86	16.68	19.03	20.34	21.93	24.80	28.11	31.00	33.84	40.05	47.74
31	14.94	16.60	17.44	19.85	21.19	22.83	25.77	29.17	32.14	35.07	41.46	49.40
32	15.63	17.34	18.21	20.68	22.05	23.73	26.75	30.24	33.28	36.30	42.88	51.06
33	16.34	18.09	18.97	21.51	22.91	24.63	27.72	31.30	34.43	37.52	44.30	52.72
34	17.04	18.84	19.74	22.34	23.77	25.53	28.70	32.37	35.58	38.75	45.72	54.38
35	17.75	19.59	20.52	23.17	24.64	26.44	29.68	33.43	36.72	39.99	47.14	56.04
36	18.47	20.35	21.30	24.01	25.51	27.34	30.66	34.50	37.87	41.22	48.56	57.70
37	19.19	21.11	22.08	24.85	26.38	28.25	31.64	35.57	39.02	42.45	49.98	59.37
38	19.91	21.87	22.86	25.69	27.25	29.17	32.62	36.64	40.17	43.68	51.40	61.03
39	20.64	22.64	23.65	26.53	28.13	30.08	33.61	37.72	41.32	44.91	52.82	62.69
40	21.37	23.41	24.44	27.38	29.01	31.00	34.60	38.79	42.48	46.15	54.24	64.35
41	22.11	24.19	25.24	28.23	29.89	31.92	35.58	39.86	43.63	47.38	55.66	66.02
42	22.85	24.97	26.04	29.09	30.77	32.84	36.57	40.94	44.78	48.62	57.08	67.68
43	23.59	25.75	26.84	29.94	31.66	33.76	37.57	42.01	45.94	49.85	58.50	69.34



44	24.33	26.53	27.64	30.80	32.54	34.68	38.56	43.09	47.09	51.09	59.92	71.01
45	25.08	27.32	28.45	31.66	33.43	35.61	39.55	44.17	48.25	52.32	61.35	72.67
46	25.83	28.11	29.26	32.52	34.32	36.53	40.55	45.24	49.40	53.56	62.77	74.33
47	26.59	28.90	30.07	33.38	35.22	37.46	41.54	46.32	50.56	54.80	64.19	76.00
48	27.34	29.70	30.88	34.25	36.11	38.39	42.54	47.40	51.71	56.03	65.61	77.66
49	28.10	30.49	31.69	35.11	37.00	39.32	43.53	48.48	52.87	57.27	67.04	79.32
50	28.87	31.29	32.51	35.98	37.90	40.26	44.53	49.56	54.03	58.51	68.46	80.99
51	29.63	32.09	33.33	36.85	38.80	41.19	45.53	50.64	55.19	59.75	69.88	82.65
52	30.40	32.90	34.15	37.72	39.70	42.12	46.53	51.73	56.35	60.99	71.31	84.32
53	31.17	33.70	34.98	38.60	40.60	43.06	47.53	52.81	57.50	62.22	72.73	85.98
54	31.94	34.51	35.80	39.47	41.51	44.00	48.54	53.89	58.66	63.46	74.15	87.65
55	32.72	35.32	36.63	40.35	42.41	44.94	49.54	54.98	59.82	64.70	75.58	89.31
56	33.49	36.13	37.46	41.23	43.32	45.88	50.54	56.06	60.98	65.94	77.00	90.97
57	34.27	36.95	38.29	42.11	44.22	46.82	51.55	57.14	62.14	67.18	78.43	92.64
58	35.05	37.76	39.12	42.99	45.13	47.76	52.55	58.23	63.31	68.42	79.85	94.30
59	35.84	38.58	39.96	43.87	46.04	48.70	53.56	59.32	64.47	69.66	81.27	95.97
60	36.62	39.40	40.80	44.76	46.95	49.64	54.57	60.40	65.63	70.90	82.70	97.63
61	37.41	40.22	41.63	45.64	47.86	50.59	55.57	61.49	66.79	72.14	84.12	99.30
62	38.20	41.05	42.47	46.53	48.77	51.53	56.58	62.58	67.95	73.38	85.55	101.0
63	38.99	41.87	43.31	47.42	49.69	52.48	57.59	63.66	69.11	74.63	86.97	102.6
64	39.78	42.70	44.16	48.31	50.60	53.43	58.60	64.75	70.28	75.87	88.40	104.3
65	40.58	43.52	45.00	49.20	51.52	54.38	59.61	65.84	71.44	77.11	89.82	106.0
66	41.38	44.35	45.85	50.09	52.44	55.33	60.62	66.93	72.60	78.35	91.25	107.6
67	42.17	45.18	46.69	50.98	53.35	56.28	61.63	68.02	73.77	79.59	92.67	109.3
68	42.97	46.02	47.54	51.87	54.27	57.23	62.64	69.11	74.93	80.83	94.10	111.0
69	43.77	46.85	48.39	52.77	55.19	58.18	63.65	70.20	76.09	82.08	95.52	112.6
70	44.58	47.68	49.24	53.66	56.11	59.13	64.67	71.29	77.26	83.32	96.95	114.3
71	45.38	48.52	50.09	54.56	57.03	60.08	65.68	72.38	78.42	84.56	98.37	116.0
72	46.19	49.36	50.94	55.46	57.96	61.04	66.69	73.47	79.59	85.80	99.80	117.6
73	47.00	50.20	51.80	56.35	58.88	61.99	67.71	74.56	80.75	87.05	101.2	119.3
74	47.81	51.04	52.65	57.25	59.80	62.95	68.72	75.65	81.92	88.29	102.7	120.9
75	48.62	51.88	53.51	58.15	60.73	63.90	69.74	76.74	83.08	89.53	104.1	122.6
76	49.43	52.72	54.37	59.05	61.65	64.86	70.75	77.83	84.25	90.78	105.5	124.3
77	50.24	53.56	55.23	59.96	62.58	65.81	71.77	78.93	85.41	92.02	106.9	125.9
78	51.05	54.41	56.09	60.86	63.51	66.77	72.79	80.02	86.58	93.26	108.4	127.6
79	51.87	55.25	56.95	61.76	64.43	67.73	73.80	81.11	87.74	94.51	109.8	129.3
80	52.69	56.10	57.81	62.67	65.36	68.69	74.82	82.20	88.91	95.75	111.2	130.9
81	53.51	56.95	58.67	63.57	66.29	69.65	75.84	83.30	90.08	96.99	112.6	132.6
82	54.33	57.80	59.54	64.48	67.22	70.61	76.86	84.39	91.24	98.24	114.1	134.3
83	55.15	58.65	60.40	65.39	68.15	71.57	77.87	85.48	92.41	99.48	115.5	135.9
84	55.97	59.50	61.27	66.29	69.08	72.53	78.89	86.58	93.58	100.7	116.9	137.6
85	56.79	60.35	62.14	67.20	70.02	73.49	79.91	87.67	94.74	102.0	118.3	139.3
86	57.62	61.21	63.00	68.11	70.95	74.45	80.93	88.77	95.91	103.2	119.8	140.9
87	58.44	62.06	63.87	69.02	71.88	75.42	81.95	89.86	97.08	104.5	121.2	142.6
88	59.27	62.92	64.74	69.93	72.82	76.38	82.97	90.96	98.25	105.7	122.6	144.3
89	60.10	63.77	65.61	70.84	73.75	77.34	83.99	92.05	99.41	107.0	124.0	145.9
90	60.92	64.63	66.48	71.76	74.68	78.31	85.01	93.15	100.6	108.2	125.5	147.6

91	61.75	65.49	67.36	72.67	75.62	79.27	86.04	94.24	101.8	109.4	126.9	149.3
92	62.58	66.35	68.23	73.58	76.56	80.24	87.06	95.34	102.9	110.7	128.3	150.9
93	63.42	67.21	69.10	74.50	77.49	81.20	88.08	96.43	104.1	111.9	129.8	152.6
94	64.25	68.07	69.98	75.41	78.43	82.17	89.10	97.53	105.3	113.2	131.2	154.3
95	65.08	68.93	70.85	76.33	79.37	83.13	90.12	98.63	106.4	114.4	132.6	155.9
96	65.92	69.79	71.73	77.24	80.31	84.10	91.15	99.72	107.6	115.7	134.0	157.6
97	66.75	70.65	72.61	78.16	81.25	85.07	92.17	100.8	108.8	116.9	135.5	159.3
98	67.59	71.52	73.48	79.07	82.18	86.04	93.19	101.9	109.9	118.2	136.9	160.9
99	68.43	72.38	74.36	79.99	83.12	87.00	94.22	103.0	111.1	119.4	138.3	162.6
100	69.27	7~.25	75.24	80.91	84.06	87.97	95.24	104.1	112.3	120.6	139.7	164.3

N is the number of servers. The numerical column headings indicate blocking probability B in %. Table generated by Dan Dexter