TUTORIAL 03: OPTICAL COMMUNICATIONS

Exercise 1:

A silica optical fiber with a core diameter large enough to be considered by ray theory analysis has a core refractive index of **1.50** and a cladding refractive index of **1.47**.

Determine:

- (a) the critical angle at the core-cladding interface;
- (b) The NA for the fiber;
- (c) The acceptance angle in air for the fiber;

Exercise 2:

A multimode step index fiber with a core diameter of 80 μ m and a relative index difference of 1.5% is operating at a wavelength of $0.85~\mu$ m. If the core refractive index is 1.48,

Estimate:

- (a) The normalized frequency for the fiber;
- (b) The number of guided modes;
- (c) Estimate the maximum core diameter for single-mode;

(d) Determine the cutoff wavelength for a step index fiber to exhibit single-mode operation when the core refractive index and radius are 1.46 and 4.5 μm, respectively, with the relative index difference being 0.25%.

Exercise 3:

A graded index fiber has a core with a parabolic refractive index profile which has a diameter of $50~\mu m$. The fiber has a numerical aperture of 0.2.

- Estimate:

- (a) The total number of guided modes propagating in the fiber when it is operating at a wave- length of 1 µm.
- (b) New maximum core diameter for single-mode operation when the relative refractive index difference is reduced by a factor of 10.

Exercise 4:

When the mean optical power launched into an 8 km length of fiber is 120 μ W, the mean optical power at the fiber output is 3 μ W.

Determine:

- (a) the overall signal attenuation or loss in decibels through the fiber assuming there are no connectors or splices;
- (b) the signal attenuation per kilometer for the fiber;

- (c) the overall signal attenuation for a 10 km optical link using the same fiber with splices at 1 km intervals, each giving an attenuation of 1 dB;
- (d) the numerical input/output power ratio in (c);