

Guidelines to Measurement of UHP-LEDs with a Simple Laser Power Meters

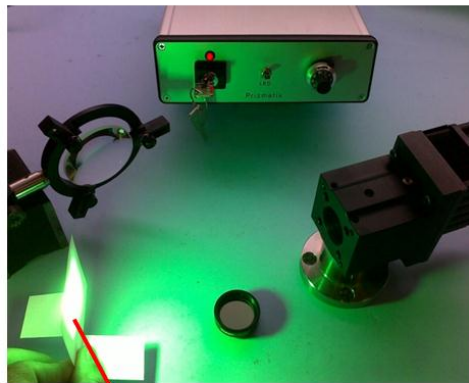
Introduction

The optical power of Ultra High Power (UHP) LEDs is in many cases beyond the measurement limits of the regular power meter. Also beam properties such as collimation and beam spot size need to be considered and taken into account during the measurement process to obtain correct data. This application note provides guidelines how to accurately measure Prizmatix UHP-Mic-LED-XXX sources.

Measurement Procedure

In order to do the power measurements we will need following:

- Power meter*
- Lens with diameter of ~50mm and focal length of ~50mm
- Neutral Density filter of about ND=1 (~10% transmission)
- UHP-Mic-LED



Collimated power of UHP-Mic-LED is far beyond the max. power most power meter can measure.

* For this example we used Ophir Optronics NOVA II with PD300UV sensor. More information on this power meter may be found at: www.ophiropt.com

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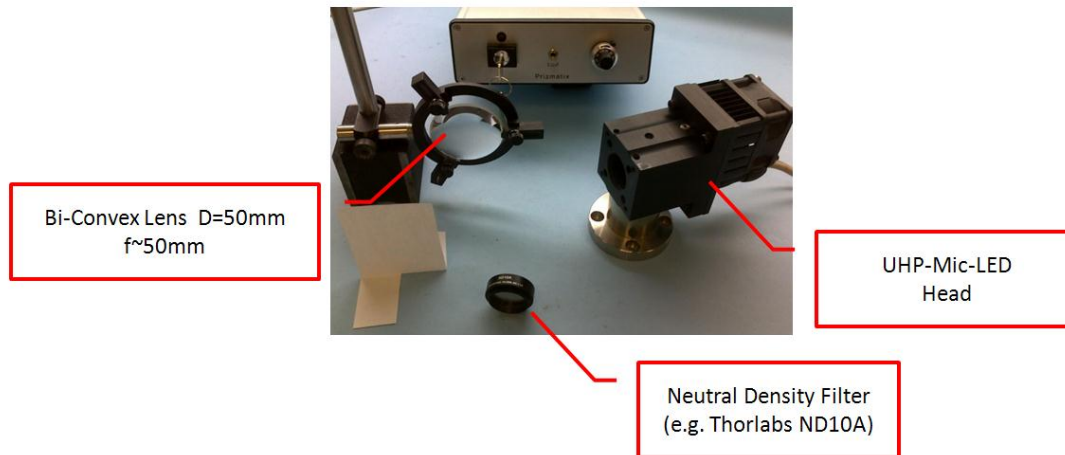
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The power data supplied in Prizmatix specification sheets of UHP-Mic-LED is provided based on a collimated position of the Z-Adjust lens. Therefore the first step shall be adjustment of the collimation of the UHP-Mic-LED.

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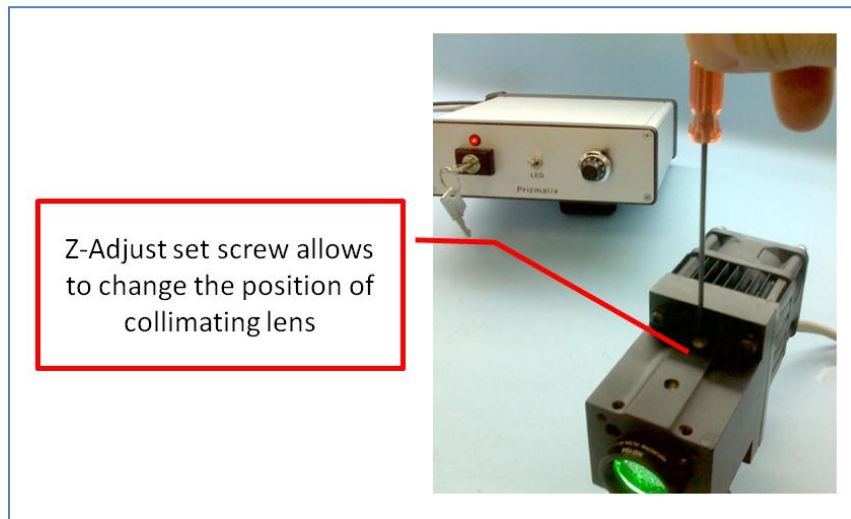
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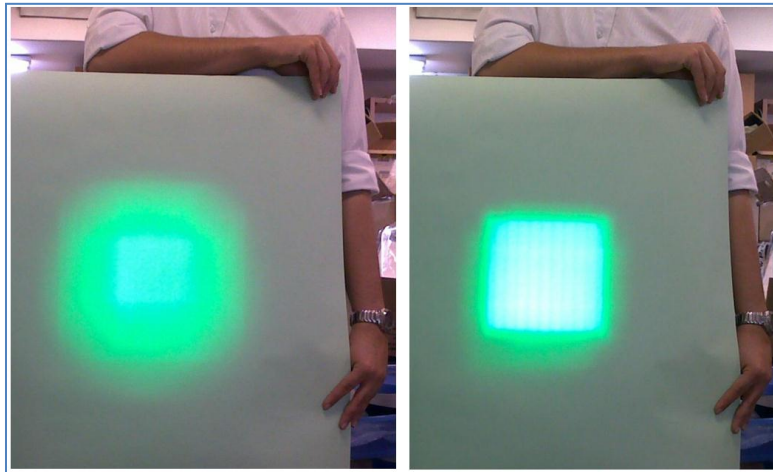
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The correctly collimated beam shall be checked at a far field (few meters from the LED head).

The beam seen in the image on the right can be considered as collimated:



For the next steps we shall use the ND filter to decrease the light output. This should be fitted into the SM1 thread at the front of the UHP-Mic-LED.

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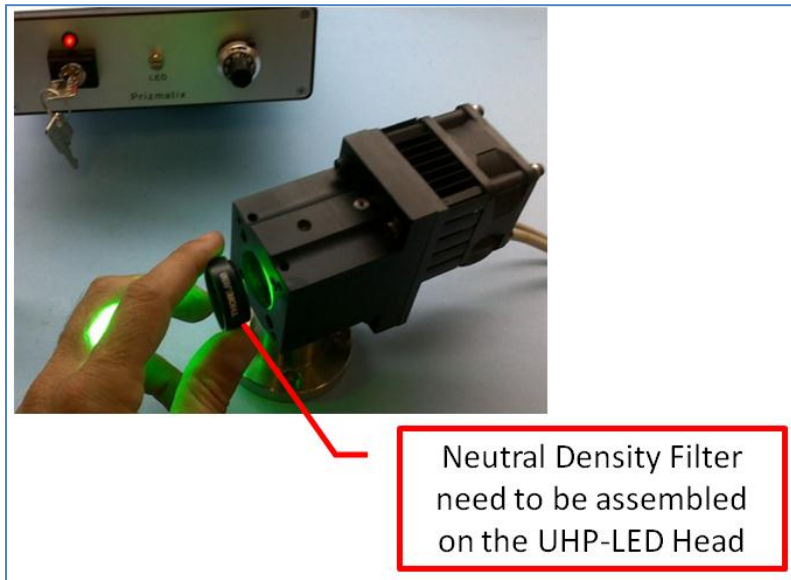
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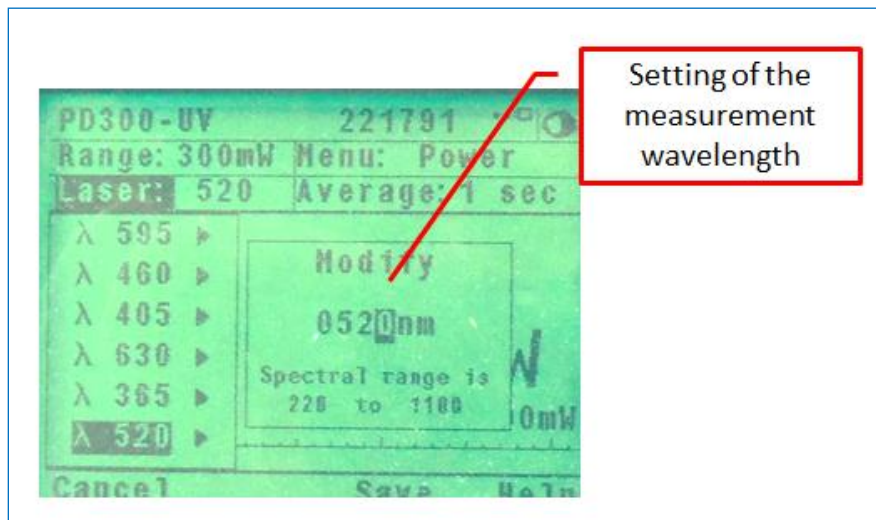
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Most laser power meters are calibrated for specific laser wavelengths. In order to get correct reading we need to set the laser wavelength on the power meter display.



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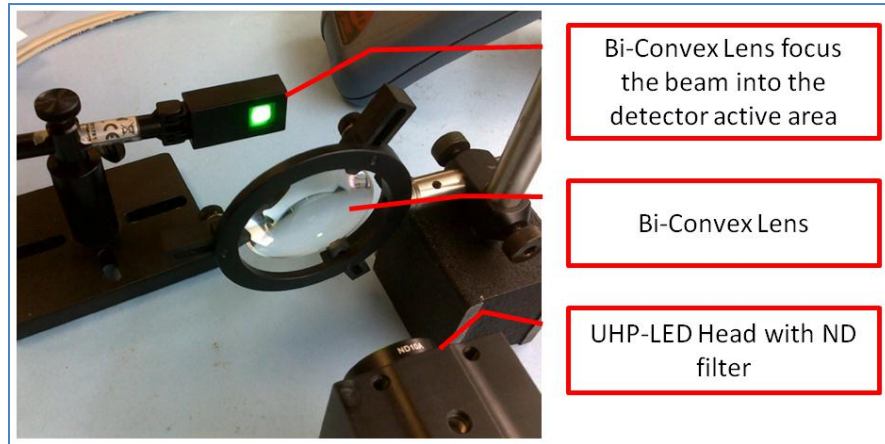
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The lens is used to focus the beam into the active area of the power meter sensor.



Most power meters can measure power up to only few 100 milli-watts (mW).

Therefore in order to measure over 0.5Watt of power we first need to calibrate the ND filter and then to use the attenuation factor to calculate the actual power.

The steps of the procedure are as follows:

- Reduce the LED current to a minimum by turning the numerical dial counter-clockwise.
- Remove the ND filter and align the optical system in such way that the beam will under fill (beam spot is smaller than detector active area) the power meter sensor.
- Adjust the LED current to get high measurable reading on the power meter (see left image below).
- Insert the ND filter without changing the setup.
- Calculate the ND Attenuation Factor (in this example $F_{ND} = 200.2/26.5 = 7.55$)

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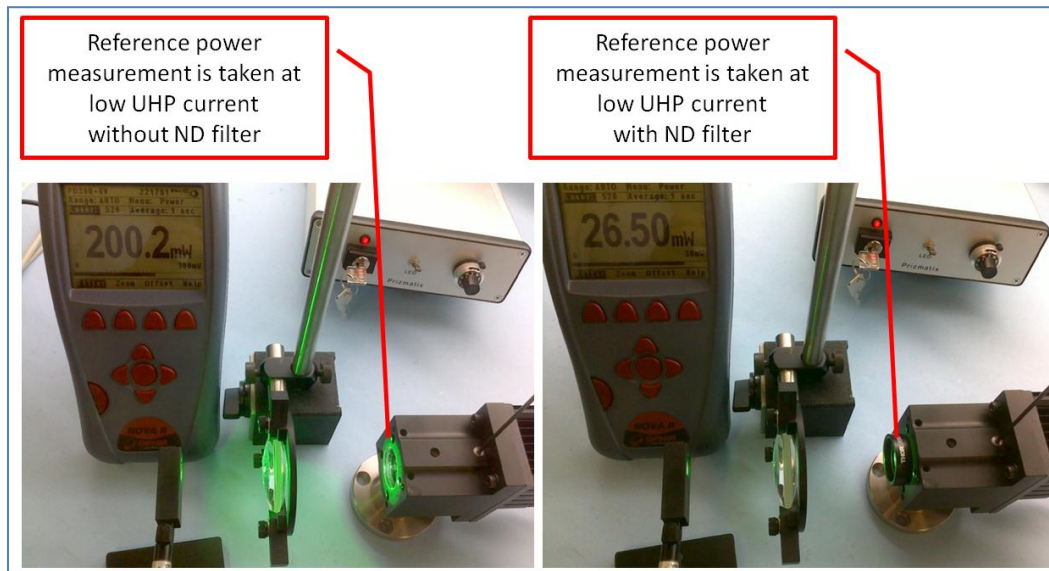
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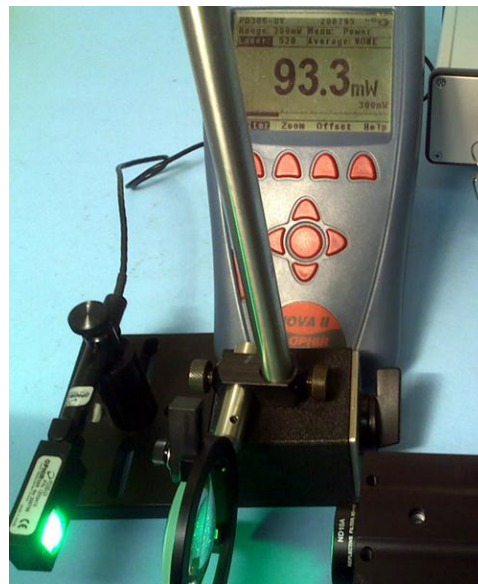
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- f) Increase the power dial to maximum current and take the attenuated power measurement.



Calculate the actual power:

$$\text{Power} = \text{Attenuated Power} \times F_{ND}$$

In this example: **Collimated Power = 93.3 x 7.55= 704.4 mW**

for the UHP-Mic-LED-520nm

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